

when all 3 jaeger species were seen on one pelagic trip Apr. 13. Along with 10 Pomarines during the trip, one **Parasitic Jaeger** was found 5 mi off Honolulu, and one **Long-tailed Jaeger** about 8 mi off Mails Pt., n.w. of Honolulu (†PP, †EV). The winter-plumaged Black Tern (accidental in Hawaii) wintering on Laysan I. was still there Apr. 15 (JM).

### Passerines

Red-whiskered Bulbuls (as opposed to the abundant Red-vented Bulbuls) have slowly spread throughout most of Honolulu proper, but have been reported only sparingly across the Ko'olau Mts. on the windward side of O'ahu, mostly in the Kailua-Kane'ohe area. This spring 2 observers reported sightings on the windward side. One was spotted Mar. 22 on Ko'olaupoko Trail back of Maunawili (LP), and ≤four were seen Mar. 19–23 in the Kokokahi area of Kane'ohe (LT). Both sites are in Kailua-Kane'ohe, not far from Ho'omaluhia Gardens, where a small population of Red-whiskered has been resident and breeding since the late 1980s (MM).

The continuing search for Elepaio on O'ahu (current candidate for *Endangered* listing) yielded an encouraging count of 25 and 2 nests in Pia Valley back of e. Honolulu Mar. 5, and 13 in Waikane Valley on the windward side May 2 (EV). In 3 one-week surveys in Alaka'i Swamp, K., during April and May, numerous encounters with Puaiohi (*Endangered*) were attributed to probably four separate adults, one juvenile, and one fledgling. One recently active nest and one old nest were found (TC, AL). The breeding season for Palila (*Endangered*) on Mauna Kea, H., was mediocre at best this year, in response to a mediocre crop of mamane flowers and pods. Nine nests with eggs or chicks were being followed at the end of May, with 3 additional nests awaiting eggs (*fide* TS).

Three Akiapolaau (*Endangered*) were reported in a kipuka on Powerline Rd. off of Saddle Rd., May 11 (DS), a good locality for this species. At least four and possibly six Akikiki (Kaua'i Creeper) observed on Alaka'i Swamp Trail, K., near the stream crossing (TS) represented an unusually high count for recent years. At Hakalau Forest N.W.R., H., Hawaii Akepa (*Endangered*) and Hawaii Creeper (*Endangered*) had poor nesting seasons ending earlier than normal, probably resulting from the prolonged drought conditions there (EV). Other endemic landbirds probably also had reduced nesting seasons, although Elepaio nesting seemed to be going normally at Hakalau (EV). Three Java Sparrows were reported during

March at a feeder e. of Kaunakakai, Moloka'i (HJ), an island not yet colonized by this species.

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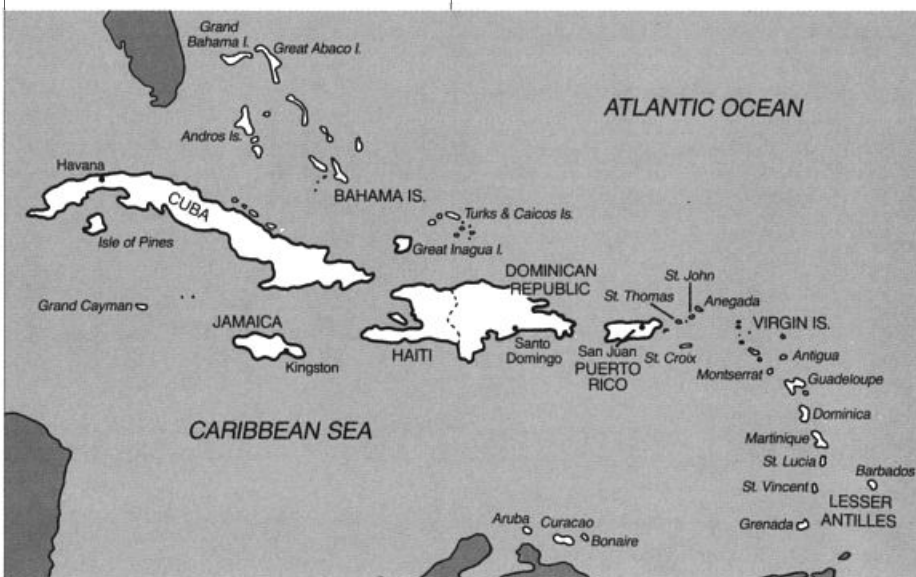
# West Indies Region

### ROBERT L. NORTON

Precipitation measured at Cruz Bay, St. John, United States Virgin Islands (100+ year POR) was 31 percent below average for the period: March -2 percent, April +52 percent, and May -76 percent. This deficit somewhat negates the winter period's above-average water balance. The six month period yield is up 4.5 percent, but the spring period water balance suggests a return of a drought cycle.

Reports were received from Bermuda and the Bahamas. From the Lesser Antilles, Keith sent in the first list of birds reported from Montserrat after (or, dare I say, during) continuous volcanic activity. Only 19 species of landbirds were counted in three days there. Resident landbird population status was also the focus of a brief, but buggy, survey of little visited South Andros Island, Bahamas, by Bainton and White. Breeding was in its initial stages there, and several migrants still found time to linger in the tropics. Also from the Bahamas, Bracey is beginning to see some troubling declines of West Indian Woodpeckers, formerly plentiful at Treasure Cay, Abaco.

Abbreviations: BA (Bahamas); BE (Bermuda); NP (New Providence, Bahamas); s. Andros (South Andros I., Bahamas); StL (St. Lucia, Lesser Antilles)



### Boobies to Terns

A Red-footed Booby, probably from the Redonda breeding colony (Halweyn and Norton 1984) was seen off StL Apr. 4 (ARK). An imm. White Ibis noted at Driggs Hill, s. Andros, April 16–18 (AB, TW) was molting into ad. plumage. A rare sighting of Red-tailed Hawk for the Bahamas was reported at Wellfields, NP, Apr. 20 (TW) for the 2nd record there. Broad-winged Hawks breed on Cuba, Puerto Rico, and in the Lesser Antilles, where Keith reported five from StL Apr. 3, one from Martinique Apr. 5, and one from Antigua Apr. 8 & 10, the most isolated population in the Antilles. American Kestrels were fairly common among 5 islands of the Lesser Antilles that Keith visited during early April, with five on StL Apr. 3, one on Guadeloupe Apr. 7, and six at Monserrat Apr. 10, where volcanic ash has blanketed much of the s. half of the island, especially around the capitol city of Plymouth. A Merlin was seen at Driggs Hill, s. Andros, Apr. 18 (AB, TW).

White-cheeked Pintails, a species of concern, were in good numbers (>200) at Antigua, where illegal hunting pressure from residents and visitors boating in from neighboring islands can reduce breeders dramatically. Two vagrant ♂ **Masked Ducks** found at Cable Beach pond, NP, Mar. 9 (PD) and seen by several others (*fide* TW) may represent the first record there since the 1960s (Brudenell-Bruce 1975). One of the few records of Am. Oystercatcher for the Bahamas was seen at Brown's Pt., NP, Apr. 22 (TW). **American Avocets** not only provided both Bermuda (AD) and the Bahamas with their first over-winter records, but remained until April on Bermuda and lingered (PD) at Wilson Pond, NP, to at least Mar. 8 (PD, TW). Singleton Solitary Sandpipers were noted at Antigua Apr. 10 (ARK) and at a blue hole near Driggs Hill, s. Andros, Apr. 18 (AB, TW). A ♂ Wilson's Phalarope was carefully studied at Antigua Apr. 10 (ARK). Eight Sandwich Terns were seen at StL Apr. 4 (ARK), and Sooty Terns, the most abundant seabird species in the Region, numbered >300 off StL Mar. 30 (ARK).

### Parrots to Orioles

Ten St. Lucia Parrots were noted Apr. 2 (ARK). White-crowned Pigeons were already breeding at Green Cay, s. Andros, by Apr. 16 when Bainton and White visited. Five Eared Doves were present at Vieux Fort, StL, Apr. 2. The endemic Bahama Woodstar may breed in any month, but April appears to be the main period. Nesting was already underway by

Apr. 17 when a single-egg nest was found at s. Andros (AB, TW). Cuban Emeralds (30) appeared to be more common at s. Andros during this brief survey (AB, TW), but no nests were reported. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird at Bermuda, first reported in December, survived the winter at least until March (AD). Keith recorded two of Martinique's endemic Blue-headed Hummingbirds Apr. 5 (ARK). And the endemic Guadeloupe Woodpecker was noted Apr. 6–7 (ARK).

The Tyrannidae is one of the most well-represented families in the Region, yet taxonomically still incompletely understood. Following landmark work on the Myiarchus (Stolid Flycatcher) group (Lanyon 1967), the Greater Antillean Pewee, *Contopus caribaeus*, complex was recently split (Reynard and Garrido 1994), which may bring new attention to the Lesser Antillean Pewee (*Contopus latirostris*) relatives. The St. Lucian form, which may be separated in the future from its close relatives in the Lesser Antilles and Puerto Rico, was seen Apr. 3 (ARK). At s. Andros, Bainton and White encountered Gray Kingbirds arriving daily in increasing numbers as they returned to breed. A LaSagra's Flycatcher Apr. 17 at Kemp's Bay, s. Andros, was a good find away from its favored pine forest habitat of n. Andros. A Fork-tailed Flycatcher carefully studied (ARK)

was spreading; *e.g.* Rock Dove at s. Andros Apr. 16–18 (AB, TW), Guadeloupe Apr. 6–7, Martinique Apr. 5–6, and St. Lucia Mar. 31–Apr. 4; Eur. Collared Dove on Guadeloupe Apr. 8; House Sparrow on Guadeloupe Apr. 6, Martinique Apr. 5, and St. Lucia Apr. 4 (all ARK).

### Corrigenda

Fulvous Whistling-Ducks reported from New Providence, BA in *AFN* 49 (5): 985 should read West Indian Whistling-Ducks.

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