

Corrigenda

The report of a ♂ Cinnamon Teal at St. Marks N.W.R. (AFN 49:136) was in error and should be deleted. The observer credit for the 40–50 Broad-winged Hawks near Atlanta (AFN 49:136) should read (SE).

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Florida Region

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Following a cool, moist spring, summer was typically hot but drier than normal, except in the north where rainfall was slightly above-average. Hurricane *Bertha* passed to the east with minimal effects; no other tropical weather systems threatened.

A wet summer in 1995 and dry winter in the Tampa area seemed to set the table for another excellent year for wading bird nesting, but springtime rains raised streamflows to 160% of normal (twice 1995 levels). Without the all-important dry-down to concentrate food resources, nesting numbers and productivity were reduced. Despite the winter drought, water levels in the Everglades were still too high for a large nesting effort there, although one observer reported excellent Reddish Egret nesting success in Florida Bay.

With some key observers out of the state, reports were scarcer than usual and coverage less complete. We thank Bill Pranty for sharing reports assembled for the *Florida Field Naturalist*.

Abbreviations: A.P. (*Aquatic Preserve*), A.P.A.F.R. (*Avon Park Air Force Range*), C.P. (*County Park*), G.F.C. (*Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission*), Jax (*Jacksonville*), R.S.R.S.R. (*Rock Springs Run State Reserve*), S.F. (*State Forest*), S.T.P. (*Sewage Treatment Plant*).

Loons to Pelicans

A Com. Loon in alternate plumage at Bird Keys, 2 mi. s. of the Crystal R. mouth, was late June 19 (RP, AS). Single Sooty Shearwaters were found off Turtle Mound, Canaveral National Seashore, June 1 (BR, TT), and on the beach at Archie Carr N.W.R., June 3 (SB). On July 3, an imm. brown-morph **Red-footed Booby** suddenly materialized overhead near Longboat Key and vanished into c. Sarasota Bay (RP, AS). A Leach's Storm-Petrel was

picked up on a *Duval* beach May 31 following days of easterly winds (PP; * to Florida Museum of Natural History). American White Pelicans appeared all summer at McKay Bay (*Hillsborough*), n. Jax (*Duval*), and Tomoka A.P. (*Volusia*) (m.ob.). Brown Pelican nesting success was poor at the Marco colonies (TB), but normal in Tampa Bay and Charlotte Harbor (RP, AS). Statewide, G.F.C. counted 9598 Brown Pelican nests (SN). A single Brown Pelican at L. Jackson June 30 provided the first *Leon* monthly record (GM).

Bitterns to Stork

Two Least Bitterns in L. McBride cattails June 2 represented rare *Leon* sightings (J&KM). Four colonies along the Indian R. Lagoon totaled >11,000 pairs of 8 wading bird species (CS). In the Central Everglades, nesting totaled 7233 pairs of waders, about 2000 more than 1993 or 1994, about 600 less than 1995, and considerably less than 1992's high of 22,097 pairs (PFR). Seven heron species at 5 Marco area colonies totaled 1300 pairs, a normal number. Nesting success was good for Great Egrets and Little Blues, but sub-par for Snowies, Tricoloreds, and Cattles (TB). Reddish Egrets have nested at Marco colonies since the mid-1970s, but still number just 6 pairs (TB). Reddish Egrets nested in June at 2 new (for this century) sites, Johns Pass, *Pinellas*, and Useppa Bird Key, *Lee* (AS, RP).

—Despite wet spring conditions, 8100 pairs of White Ibis nested at Alafia Bank,



with some 9500 in the Tampa Bay region; fewer young were noted than last year (RP, AS). Elsewhere, 3200 pairs of White Ibis were found in the Indian R. Lagoons (CS), and just 1013 pairs in the Central Everglades (PFR). Glossy Ibis nesting at Alafia totaled 525 pairs, close to the area high (RP, AS). Glossies increased at the Marco ABC colony, with 108 nests (TB), but only 19 pairs nested in the Central Everglades (PFR). One Glossy at L. Lafayette, *Leon*, July 20 (HH) was thought a southbound migrant (GM). Roseate Spoonbills again nested at 3 Tampa Bay colonies, totaling about 120 pairs, but nesting success was half last year's (RP, AS). Spoonbills numbered 15 pairs in the Central Everglades (PFR). Inland Roseates included four at L. Hancock June 9 (MM, BP), one at L. Wales June 16, (TP), and four at Paynes Prairie S.P. June 17–20 (JW). Another immature was well n. at St. Marks N.W.R., June 21–30 (JR, JP, LG). The escapee Eur. (=White) Spoonbill was again seen at McKay Bay, July 21 & 30 (A&RS). Wood Storks nested successfully at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, with 560 pairs producing ca. 2.3 young per pair (EC), the largest nesting effort in 5 years. The Myakka R. stork colony was abandoned, possibly due to freeze-damaged mangroves (BQ). Other reports of stork nesting included 75 pairs at the Dot-Dash colony, *Manatee* (AS), 225 pairs in the Everglades (PFR), and 200 pairs in the Indian R. Lagoon (CS).

Ducks to Hawks

Four–six Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks at Occidental W.M.A., *Hamilton*, through July seemed paired, but no young were found (JK, m.ob.). The White-cheeked Pintail at Merritt Island N.W.R., *Brevard*, remained (*fide* PS). Summering ducks included single Blue-winged Teal at L. Jackson July 2 (GM), two N. Shovelers and a Gadwall at Merritt Island N.W.R. through the season (*fide* PS, BS; m.ob.), a Lesser Scaup at McKay Bay June 23 (B&MH, RS), plus another Lesser and six Ruddy Ducks at Occidental W.M.A. throughout July (JH, DC, BR). Another Blue-winged Teal at the Kissimmee Prairie Sanctuary July 31 was considered a migrant (TD, BP).

Two Black Vulture nests on Terra Ceia Bird Key produced three downy young (RP, AS). Osprey nesting near Marco continued to increase (TB). One–two Swallow-tailed Kites in s.e. Jax in early June may have attempted to nest (NW, PP). Southbound Swallow-taileds staging at the Corkscrew roost peaked at 348 birds July 27 (RW). Two ad. White-tailed Kites were

at A.P.A.F.R., *Polk*, in June (TD, CC). One was along US 98 at the Istokpoga Canal, *Highlands*, July 19 (L&PG), while another was at the Corkscrew roost July 21 (RW). A flock of ca. 75 Mississippi Kites foraging over Tram Road S.T.P., *Leon*, June 5 may represent the largest county record (GM). In the flock were at least five Swallow-taileds (GM).

Bald Eagles showed very strong gains in Florida. The G.F.C. survey revealed 876 active territories, 725 successful nests, and 1113 young (SN). Unusual in Florida in summer, a brown-plumaged N. Harrier was found at Okeechobee June 2 (BC, JK, VM), while a male was flushed at Three Lakes W.M.A., July 15 (BP). Two Cooper's Hawks were carrying food in L. Wales (DSt). A juvenile ♂ Cooper's was banded July 23 at R.S.R.S.R., *Lake*, where they are considered rare (PS, EE, TW). A light-morph, juv. Short-tailed Hawk was near its nest near Kenansville, *Osceola*, July 14 (SB, MW), while single dark-morph birds were at Disney Wilderness Preserve June 26 (TP) and at A.P.A.F.R., July 25 (TD, BP).

Chukar to Snipe

A Chukar in Shady Hills, *Pasco*, June 9 provided the 2nd county record (DR). A count of 72 Am. Coots at L. Jackson July 11 was possibly a local summer record (GM), while an adult with four chicks was seen at Wekiwa Springs S.P., *Orange*, July 30 (PS). Four–six summered at the McKay Bay "pits" (A&RS). Three alternate-plumaged Black-bellied Plovers were noted at Tomoka A.P., *Volusia*, June 11 and 51 more July 2 (LM, DS, CD). Two basic-plumaged Black-bellied Plovers were well s. at Content Key, *Monroe*, July 7 (PH.). Semipalmated Plover migration was noted at Huguenot City Park in Jax with 12 birds July 6 (NW) and 18 July 15 at Tomoka A.P. (LM, DS, CD). Black-necked Stilt sightings at St. Marks N.W.R. included five June 2 (D&SJ, CH), one June 6 (JB, LG) and one July 1 (JR). Another stilt was unusual at Dog I., July 23 (DE). On July 2, two Lesser Yellowlegs were early migrants at Tomoka A.P. (LM, DS, CD). A Solitary Sandpiper soloed at the Hague Dairy, *Alachua*, July 20 (MM, RR), with another alone at Three Lakes W.M.A., July 29 (BP, DP). A Willet at Springhill Road S.T.P., *Leon*, July 15 marked the county's 7th record (GM). Two Spotted Sandpipers at Springhill Road S.T.P., June 5 were late migrants in *Leon* (GM); a single southbound migrant was "spotted" at Occidental W.M.A., July 14 (BR), with two more at Tomoka A.P., July 15 (LM, DS, CD).

Up to 20 Marbled Godwits were seen all summer in Hillsborough Bay (RP, AS).

One at St. Marks N.W.R., *Wakulla*, June 2 (D&SJ), seen again June 7 (LMc), was either a late migrant or a rare summering bird; two more were found at Bald Pt., *Franklin*, June 23 (EW, MH). Four Ruddy Turnstones turned up at Tomoka A.P., *Volusia*, July 2 (LM, DS, CD), one Red Knot at Occidental W.M.A., *Hamilton*, July 29 (MM, HA), and four Sanderlings at St. George I., *Franklin*, June 9 (D&SJ). At the Springhill Road S.T.P., *Leon*, one W Sandpiper was found July 15 (GM, HH). One Least Sandpiper was reported from Timberlake, *Okaloosa*, July 8 (DW), five were at Huguenot City Park July 14 (BR), another five on Wards Bank, *Duval* (BR), and two more at Occidental W.M.A. (BR). On July 18 the two at the Hague Dairy (MM) were Alachua's earliest migrants ever. About 200 Least and five Stilt sandpipers were seen at Springhill S.T.P. July 15 (GM), providing a county July record. A flock of 10 molting Short-billed Dowitchers was discovered off Marathon, *Monroe*, July 3 (PH). A Com. Snipe was found June 27 at Three Lakes W.M.A. (BP).

Gulls to Terns

A Florida enigma, a pair of Gull-billed Terns courted over the Alafia Bank June 3, they may have nested on a spoil island in Hillsborough Bay (RP). Caspian Terns successfully nested on Spoil I. 3D, *Hillsborough*, with 93 nests (RP, AS), plus four more at the mouth of the Apalachicola R., the first record from that site (*fide* JG). Royal Terns (2255 nests) and Sandwich Terns (445 nests) continue to increase on 2 Tampa Bay sites (RP, AS). Three Com. Terns in breeding plumage turned up at St. George I., *Franklin*, June 9 (D&SJ), one at Huguenot City Park June 30 (RC), and 60 in Hillsborough Bay July 9 (RP). Two Forster's Terns appeared at Newnans L., *Alachua*, between July 3–24 (RR, MM). About 500 pairs of Least Terns nested on the Florida Power office roof in s. St. Petersburg, raising 250 young (DV). At Ft. Matanzas N.M., 50 pairs nested, but the terns at Huguenot City Park, Guana River S.P., and Anastasia S.R.A., *St. Johns*, were not successful (*fide* PP). A new sandbar off of Marco I. found 330 unsuccessful Least Tern nests (TB). At 3 Rooker Bar, *Pinellas*, 35 pairs nested (RP, AS, ND) while n. of L. Wales, 53 birds were found July 27 (TP).

A Black Tern in breeding plumage was noted at Newnans L., *Alachua*, July 3 (RR). A single individual was found at Banana L., *Polk*, July 27 (TP). The new Marco I. sandbar hosted 398 Black Skimmer adults and 99 successful nests; this nest area was protected from human dis-

turbance by the G.F.C. with signs and flagging (TB). A colony with 320 skimmer nests on Spoil I. 3D, *Hillsborough*, was successful; another 210 pairs nested on 3 Rooker Bar (RP, AS, ND).

Doves to Myna

Eurasian Collared-Doves are invading *Hillsborough*, with the first nesting at the University of S. Florida in late July (GW). Three White-winged Doves were discovered at Dog I., *Franklin*, June 16–23 (DE). The Rose-ringed Parakeets at Cedar Key, *Levy*, raised two young (DH). Whip-poor-wills called at Little-Big Econ S.F., *Seminole*, July 13 (BS) and Rock Springs Run S.P., *Orange*, July 23 (PS, EE, TW) & 30 (BE). A failed Ruby-throated Hummingbird nest seen in June and July in the L. Wales area (CB, *fide* HE) furnished *Polk's* 3rd nesting record. An early Belted Kingfisher was spotted July 30 at the Wekiwa Springs S.P., *Orange* (PS). Twenty-five pairs of Red-headed Woodpeckers spent the summer at Wekiwa (SB). An imm. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was found July 26 at Springhill Road S.T.P., *Leon* (*fide* HH); these flycatchers are not known to breed in Florida. Single Cliff Swallows were noted at Horseshoe Beach, *Dixie*, June 21 (DE), at Tram Road S.T.P., July 23 (HH), and at Springhill Road S.T.P., July 26 (HH), first July records. Four Barn Swallow nests were found under Manatee Interstate Hwy bridges June 21 (RS), while seven birds were along the St. Johns R., *Orange*, June 15 (KF, PS), and 20 at the SR 46 over the St. Johns, *Seminole* (*fide* PS), suggested additional nesting. Barn Swallows are expanding their range. A pair of Hill Mynas successfully nested again in Stuart, *Martin* (EH).

Vireos to Warblers

At Honeymoon Island S.R.A., a Black-whiskered Vireo was seen July 11; no nesting was observed, but numerous cowbirds were noted nearby (A&RS). On June 14, a vireo pair was found at the Town Is., *Sarasota* (AS, BL) and seen again July 3 (RP, AS). Sixteen N. Parulas July 26 at Saddle Cr. Park, *Pinellas*, included eight young, proving successful breeding (PF). A Yellow Warbler was noted at Occidental W.M.A., *Hamilton*, July 29 (JH), and a Black-throated Green Warbler appeared at Emerald Marsh C.A., *Lake*, June 22, providing the 2nd summer species report (*fide* JM). A migrant Yellow-throated Warbler was found at A.P.A.F.R., *Highlands*, July 18 (NH).

One ♂ Prairie Warbler at Ft. DeSoto C.P., *Pinellas*, sang in June; no nesting was seen, but Brown-headed Cowbirds were located easily (RS, MW) Four pairs of

Prairies were located at Whale Key and the Town Is., *Sarasota*, June 14 (AS, BL), and four more near the Howard Frankland Causeway, *Pinellas*, June 5 (RP, SC). Single migrants were found at San Felasco Hammock S.P., *Alachua*, July 17 (MM) and A.P.A.F.R., (*Highlands*, July 22 (NH). Lone Black-and-white Warblers were observed at Turkey Cr. Sanctuary, *Brevard*, July 19 (BC), Tosohatchee S.R., *Orange*, July 20 (KF, PS), San Felasco Hammock S.P., July 20 (MM), and Tallahassee, *Leon*, July 22 (MM). American Redstarts were represented by two males at Aripeka, *Hernando*, June 2 (RS), a singing male in Tampa June 17 (B&MH), and single birds at A.P.A.F.R., July 27 (LR), n. of High Springs along the Santa Fe R., *Columbia*, July 29 (MM), and at Saddle Creek C.P., *Polk*, July 31 (PF). A lone Prothonotary Warbler was found with a single Ovenbird that same day at Saddle Creek C.P. (PF). A Louisiana Waterthrush at the Florida State University Dairy, *Leon*, July 5 (GM) was matched by another at Tosohatchee S.R., July 20 (LM), one in Alachua July 20 (MM, DC), and two at Saddle Creek C.P., July 26 (PF). At least one Yellow-breasted Chat pair probably bred at Paynes Prairie S.P. (JM, MM).

Grosbeaks to Whydah

A single ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen at Crawfordville, *Wakulla*, June 3 (GW), while a ♀ Blue Grosbeak at R.S.R.S.R., *Lake*, was banded June 30 (EE). Three singing ♂ Painted Buntings at Tomoka A.P., June 11 were joined by a juvenile July 2 (LM, DS, CD). Bachman's Sparrows at Brooker Cr. Preserve, *Pinellas*, have dwindled to just seven singing males in June surveys; a prescribed burn plan is in preparation (RS). A Henslow's Sparrow singing at Kissimmee Prairie Sanctuary June 5 & 18 provided the first summer report of this species in Florida (MS, BP, CC, TD). Two pairs of Shiny Cowbirds were reported: at a Jax feeder from June 1–July 25 (RC) and at Cedar Key all summer (DH). A single Am. Goldfinch graced a Jax feeder until July 2 (BR). And, "Whodah Believedit," an ad. ♂ Pin-tailed Whydah was at Boca Chica Key, *Monroe*, June 21 (BD, HHo).

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