

# Southern Atlantic Coast Region

## RICKY DAVIS

The winter season was one of above-average temperatures, below-average precipitation, and a noticeable lack of certain birds. Most of the Region reported very few snow and ice events for the season. For most areas, the old saying that "this was the winter that wasn't" definitely applied. Winter finches were practically nonexistent, and certain groups of birds were present in reduced numbers. Gull populations seemed to be less this year (not necessarily a bad thing), and certain land birds—such as kinglets, warblers, and some sparrows—were hard to find in several areas. In spite of all this, there were some avian highlights, such as several waterfowl being present in record numbers, and a Snow Bunting "invasion"!

Abbreviations: C. Hatt. (*Cape Hatteras, NC*); E.L.H. (*E.L. Huie Land Application Facility, Clayton County, GA*); H.B.S.P. (*Huntington Beach State Park, SC*); S.S.P. (*Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC*).

## Loons to Waterfowl

This season's inland Red-throated Loons included singles at West Point L., GA Dec. 17 (*fide MO*) and Jordan L., NC Feb. 6 (JPi). Also, a count of 20 at Ossabaw I., GA Jan. 30 (GB *et al.*) provided an excellent total for that state. The very rare but increasingly regular Pacific Loon was found several times. One in partial alternate plumage was found on the Morehead City, NC CBC Dec. 22 (MT, JO, JH); one was on the Wilmington, NC CBC Jan. 4 (DC); and one was at H.B.S.P., SC Jan. 24–25 (JP, BoM, PW, A&VW, L&CEL). Red-necked Grebes were found in good numbers, the best counts being seven on the Morehead City, NC CBC Dec. 22 (MT *et al.*),  $\geq$  five at C. Hatt., NC Feb. 8 (m.ob.), and four at H.B.S.P., SC Jan. 12 (RC, CE). Other reports involved one on the Harris Neck N.W.R., GA CBC (*fide PMe*), and singles inland at L. Lanier, GA Dec. 8 (JS, PH) and Falls L., NC Jan. 26 (RD). Eared Grebes wintered in the Region again, with the best records being a peak of nine at the Goldsboro, NC, Wastewater Treatment Plant ponds Dec. 24 (ED), five on L. Lanier, GA Dec. 14 (JS, PH), and three on L. Juliette, GA Dec. 23 (*fide PJ*). A Western Grebe was located at C. Hatt., NC Feb. 8 (PL *et al.*, m.ob.) which provided about the 5th record for that state. A pelagic trip out of Hatteras, NC Feb. 9 yielded excellent numbers of N. Fulmar (BP *et al.*). At least 200 were counted and some felt that  $\leq$ 250 were actually seen! This trip also produced several rare shearwaters: one Greater Shearwater (rare in

winter) and two–three Sooty Shearwaters (very rare in the N. Atlantic in winter)! Another Sooty was seen from shore at Wrightsville Beach, NC Jan. 3 (RD). Were these birds heading S on the wrong side of the Atlantic? A Brown Pelican was inland at L. Moultrie, SC Feb. 8 (RC) for an interesting report. Good winter Anhinga reports included 17 on the Augusta, GA CBC Dec. 28 (AW), one on the Wayne County, NC CBC Dec. 21 (ED), and another on the New Bern, NC CBC Dec. 20 (JF). Least Bitterns are very rare in winter, thus of note were 2 reports: one at H.B.S.P., SC Jan. 12 (RC, CE) and one on Ocracoke I., NC Jan. 19 (KC, BP-B, RCi). Some noteworthy long-legged wader reports included three Great Egrets all winter at L. Blalock, *Spartanburg, SC* (*fide LC*); one Reddish Egret all winter on Cumberland I., GA (SW, *fide TM*); an impressive 16 Cattle Egrets on the Morehead City, NC CBC Dec. 22 (JF); a Green Heron inland at Pauline, *Spartanburg, SC* Dec. 31 (*fide LC*); and five inland White Ibis at the Augusta, GA, Merry Ponds Dec. 29 (AW). Wood Storks lingered from fall at 2 sites: one at the Macon, GA, Brickyards Dec. 14 (TI, NG, KCl, PJ) and one at Sunset Beach, NC Dec. 12 (DH).

The Greater White-fronted Goose visited the Region in what must have been record numbers! In North Carolina, from one–six were at L. Mattamuskeet Dec. 29–Feb. 22 (RD, BF, LCo, LT, CEy, RB); five were near Lenior in January (J&CW, TP, v.o.); and 12 were near Concord Feb. 16 (TP). In South Carolina, from four–eight were near Townville late January–early February (S&FM, BaM, BoM, v.o.); one was at Savannah N.W.R., Jan. 11 (SC); and three were at Santee N.W.R. late December (LG, v.o.). In Georgia, five were found at Augusta Jan. 28 (MR, *fide TM*). This species is sometimes missed completely in our Region, therefore the number of reports was truly amazing. Not to be outdone, the Ross' Goose was also found in unprecedented numbers. In North Carolina, a record flock of seven–ten birds was present in the L. Mattamuskeet area throughout the winter (RD, AB, BF, LCo, LT, CEy, RB), and five were at nearby Pungo N.W.R., Jan. 19 (HW *et al.*). In South Carolina, one was found at Santee N.W.R. in late December (v.o.), providing only the 2nd state record (the first was last year). One was at E.L.H., GA Jan. 16 (PB, JS, BB), the Atlanta area's first and Geor-



gia's 4th. Puddle ducks were spread across the Region in about average numbers. The better reports included the "Eur." Green-winged Teal at L. Mattamuskeet, NC Dec. 29 (RD) and the ♂ Cinnamon Teal from the fall at Bodie-Pea Is., NC until at least Jan. 19 (m.ob.). Eurasian Wigeon reports included one for the 3rd consecutive year near L. Wheeler, Raleigh, NC Dec. 21 (KF, DHy, JC), two at L. Mattamuskeet, NC Dec. 29 (RD), one at Pea I., NC Jan. 18 (J&PW<sup>r</sup> *et al.*), and one-two at Bear Island W.M.A., SC, during the winter (m.ob.). Diving ducks also seemed to be in good numbers. Some examples were 3800 Redhead on the Morehead City, NC CBC Dec. 22 (JF), 3020 Redhead on the Bodie-Pea I., NC CBC Dec. 28 (PS), 9000 Ring-necked Ducks on Middleton Pond, *Georgetown*, SC (JP), and  $\leq 50$  Greater Scaup near the airport in *Wake*, NC January–February (HL, JPi, WC, m.ob.). Common Eiders were encountered more than usual, with the best count being eight on the Bodie-Pea Is., NC CBC Dec. 28 (*fide* PS). Commons were also found at Oregon Inlet, C. Hatt., Morehead City, Emerald Isle, Wrightsville Beach, Carolina Beach, and Ft. Fisher in North Carolina. In South Carolina they were found at H.B.S.P. and Sullivan's I. The only King Eider report was of one on the Bodie-Pea Is., NC CBC Dec. 28 (*fide* PS). A Harlequin Duck was on the Bodie-Pea Is., NC CBC Dec. 28 (*fide* PS), also the only report of this rare species. Oldsquaws are regular winter residents along the coast, but are quite unusual inland. This season an impressive seven were at Jordan L., NC Dec. 15 (RG, PC *et al.*), one was in *Guilford*, NC Dec. 21 (HH, PF) and late January (LM *et al.*), two were in Charlotte, NC late December–early January (DW, TP *et al.*), and one was on L. Lanier, GA Dec. 9 (BHu, *fide* TM). Inland scoters included one Surf at Wood L., *Moore*, NC (M&DB) and two Blacks at Roanoke Rapids L., NC Dec. 8 (RD). North Carolina had the only Com. Merganser reports, with the best count of eight at Roanoke Rapids L., Dec. 8 (RD), a regular wintering spot for the species. Ruddy Ducks were found in larger-than-normal numbers locally, as evidenced by 1505 on the Bodie-Pea Is., NC CBC Dec. 28 (*fide* PS) and 1778 counted at the S.Sp., SC Jan. 10 (SC).

#### Raptors to Alcids

Broad-winged Hawks are very rare in our Region in winter and all possible individuals should be studied well. This season two were found on the Piedmont N.W.R./Rum Creek W.M.A., GA CBC

Dec. 23 (*fide* PJ), providing only the 2nd mid-Georgia winter record. The only Golden Eagle reported was an immature at Bear Island W.M.A., SC Feb. 1 (AW). Merlin numbers seemed about normal along the coast and inland, while Am. Kestrels continue to winter in reduced numbers across the Region.

Another species in steady decline across the Region is N. Bobwhite. Many observers report none or only a few, compared to 10 years ago when there were many. Does anyone have a handle on this species' problems yet? The only Yellow Rail report received was of one flushed at Bodie I. Pond, NC Dec. 28 (*fide* PS). Inland wintering Virginia Rails were once again found in good numbers at several Georgia sites, with a peak of 12 in n. *Greene* Jan. 25 and Feb. 9 (PS), and 11 on the Marietta CBC Dec. 22 (GB). A very rare winter sighting of Purple Gallinule was at Pinckney Island N.W.R., SC Feb. 19 (WCa, *fide* BC), possibly an early returning migrant. American Coot numbers seemed to be up everywhere, with many observers reporting huge flocks. What is driving the increase for this species? In Georgia, the southbound Sandhill Crane migration continued into mid-December, while the northbound flight started in mid-January (m.ob.). Good numbers wintered in the Albany, GA, area, with  $\geq 75$  on the CBC Dec. 28 (*fide* PJ). Rarer occurrences of Sandhills included one in *Clarendon*, SC, late December–Jan. 5 (TH, RC, CE, LG, m.ob.) and one near the Roanoke River, *Halifax*, NC Feb. 17 (MS).

An Am. Golden-Plover (a late migrant) was found at L. Mattamuskeet, NC Dec. 1 (ED) for a rare sighting. South Carolina's 3rd Snowy Plover was found at Inlet Point, *Georgetown*, Jan. 27–28 (PW, BoM, BaM). Once again this species seems to be seen by only a handful of observers whenever found. Hopefully one will be found at a well-visited, accessible site and remain for more than a day or two! Long-billed Curlews were found, as usual, only at a few coastal sites: Singles were on the Morehead City, NC CBC Dec. 22 (SCo), at Ft. Fisher, NC Jan. 5 (RD), and at St. Catherine's I., GA Dec. 21–22 (*fide* AW, JS, CL), and two were on Ossabaw I., GA Jan. 30 (GB *et al.*). A Purple Sandpiper found on Cumberland I., GA Dec. 16–17 (SW) was very rare away from the usual Tybee I. wintering area. Stilt Sandpipers again wintered at the S.Sp., SC, where 25 were found Dec. 5 and 64 were counted Feb. 24 (SC). This is undoubtedly the farthest north the species regularly spends the winter. Even rarer was the single Stilt

Sandpiper found on the L. Mattamuskeet, NC CBC Dec. 29 (RD). This represents one of very few winter records for that state. A Red Phalarope was present for about a week in early January on St. Simon's I., GA (EY, *fide* TM), for the only onshore report for the Region.

The pelagic trip out of Hatteras, NC Feb. 9 produced an amazing 10 Great Skuas (BP *et al.*). This is easily a record count for the state (even if there was some duplication in counting)! Gull numbers were down this winter, as compared to past years. The gull flock at C. Hatt., NC, was not impressive at any time this season, although there were still some of the usual sought-after species. For most of the winter there were three–four Little Gulls,  $\geq 2$  California Gulls,  $\leq 2$  Iceland Gulls, two Glaucous Gulls, and one–two Black-legged Kittiwakes (m.ob.). Other gulls included one ad. and one first-winter Black-headed Gull, one ad. Thayer's Gull (DC), and one possible "Yellow-legged" Gull (BP, BC, KH, KC, BP-B, RC<sub>1</sub>). Interesting gull reports elsewhere included a Little Gull at the S.Sp., SC Dec. 9 & 21 (SC); inland Lesser Black-backed at Raleigh, NC Dec. 21 (DC) and L. Lanier, GA Jan. 5 (JS); a first-winter Glaucous at the *Horry*, SC, landfill Dec. 6–7 (JP, PR, RC, CE, LG); and a 2nd-winter Glaucous at Myrtle Beach, SC Jan. 21 (CM, *fide* JP). Razorbills were present in small numbers along the North Carolina coast. The best onshore count was four on the Bodie-Pea Is. CBC Dec. 28 (HL *et al.*, RD, DC), and 12 were counted offshore out of Hatteras Feb. 9 (BP *et al.*). There was one Dovekie report: A beached bird was found alive at Pine Knoll Shores, *Carteret*, NC Dec. 21 and brought to a local wildlife shelter (*fide* JF), where it later died.

#### Doves to Vireos

Two Eur. Collared-Doves were seen at N. Topsail Beach, NC, where they have been present for a couple of years. It had been wondered if they survived hurricanes *Bertha* and *Fran* last year. Up to two Whip-poor-wills were present on Jekyll I., GA, this winter (GB *et al.*) for a rare report of this hard-to-locate species. Hummingbirds once again made news. All 3 states reported numerous *Archilochus* and *Selasphorus* hummers. Some of the more interesting reports involved from one–two Black-chinneds (an imm. male and a possible female) at a feeder in Buxton, NC, through February, where there is still no accepted record for the state (CB, PS, RD, DC, JL), and one Black-chinned in Marietta, GA, all December (*fide* JS). North Carolina's 2nd Calliope Hummingbird

was at a feeder near Hampstead, NC, all winter (BS, DC, m.ob.); and an Allen's visited a feeder in *Early*, GA, throughout the winter (*fide* JS). Adult ♂ Rufous Hummingbirds were found in Charlotte, NC Dec. 1–20 (*fide* TP) and Belle Isle, *Georgetown*, SC late December–early January (*fide* JP).

Western Kingbirds are rare winter lingerers in our Region. This season we had a higher-than-normal number of reports, including one near Supply, *Brunswick*, NC Dec. 8 (DB, *fide* DH), one at Frisco, NC Dec. 12 (NN), two on St. Catherine's I., GA Dec. 21–22 (JPa *et al.*, RCh), one at Cumberland I., GA Dec. 21 (SW), and one on Sapelo I., GA Jan. 3 (BDo). Also of note, an E. Kingbird was well-described on the Bodie-Pea Is., NC CBC Dec. 28 (CBr, *fide* PS) for an amazing report. This kingbird should not be around in winter, and any reports of the species should be thoroughly documented. The presence of two Horned Larks on Cumberland I., GA Jan. 30 (SW) was noteworthy, since most records in that state are farther north and inland.

Numbers of nuthatches, kinglets, and creepers seemed to be down. Some birders blamed it on food crop damage from the hurricanes last year, but this doesn't explain the lack of birds in areas unaffected by the storms. An unbelievable report involved the pair of E. Bluebirds incubating eggs (!) near Kernersville, NC, in mid-January (*fide* RS). The pair incubated for 5 days into an ice storm. Needless to say, the effort was unsuccessful. Loggerhead Shrikes continue to be found in small numbers across most of the Region. Two of the better counts in recent years were 19 on the Augusta, GA CBC Dec. 28 and 30 on the Aiken, SC CBC Dec. 24 (*fide* AW).

### Warblers to Finches

Rare winter warbler reports included a Yellow Warbler on the Spartanburg, SC CBC Jan. 4 (LC), an "Audubon's" Yellow-rumped near Athens, GA, in December (*fide* JS), and a N. Waterthrush on the Wilmington, NC CBC Jan. 4 (GM, MB). One obvious effect last year's hurricanes had on birdlife this winter was observed with Yellow-rumped Warblers. This species is ubiquitous along the coast every year, but where the storms passed through the resulting salt-spray and wind-damaged vegetation could not hold the birds. All areas noted a decrease of at least one-half to three-quarters the normal number of Yellow-rumped. One wonders where they all went?

The only W. Tanager reported was of a female on Kiawah I., SC all winter (*fide* DF). Rose-breasted Grosbeaks are very rare in winter here. This year there were 2 reports:

One male was at a feeder in Buxton, NC Jan. 9–10 (C&EF), and an unprecedented six were found at Callaway Gardens, GA Jan. 5 (*fide* JS)! This number would have been unbelievable if not for the outstanding documentation provided for the sighting. North Carolina again had wintering Painted Buntings, with  $\geq$ four in the Buxton area (m.ob.),  $\geq$ three in the Morehead City area (*fide* JF), and two at Rodanthe (JL). The only wintering Dickcissel was found at Edisto Beach, SC Feb. 16 (SG, CBe).

The Am. Tree Sparrow is one of the rarest sparrows in the Region. This year one was in Simpsonville, SC Dec. 28 (PW). There are only about 10+ records for the state. Winter Clay-colored Sparrows were found at Buxton, NC Dec. 16 (MLy), and one was at Marietta, GA Dec. 22 (GB *et al.*), a very rare record for that state. Other noteworthy sparrows included two Grasshoppers at Macon, GA Dec. 21 (*fide* PJ); one Henslow's at Macon, GA Dec. 21 (*fide* PJ);  $\leq$ three Henslow's in *McIntosh*, GA all winter (GB *et al.*);  $\leq$ two Le Conte's in *McIntosh*, GA all winter (GB *et al.*); and one Le Conte's in *Pitt*, NC Jan. 5 (BC, KH *et al.*). Many observers have started working through the Nelson's and Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed sparrows and are finding out that there is an almost endless variety of plumages to be seen! One must be cautious and thorough when reporting both species, as the definitive field marks are still being worked out.

Lincoln's Sparrows were reported less frequently this year. There were only two from North Carolina, and one each from South Carolina and Georgia. Probably the most interesting sparrow this winter was the so-called "mystery" bird returning for the 2nd consecutive year to a yard in Durham, NC (RK). This bird was obviously a sparrow similar to a White-throated or Fox, based on size, structure, and behavior. The color was a deep reddish-brown to black over the entire body, with the head, breast, and back being the darkest. Hybridism has more or less been ruled out, and much debate has ensued as to its specific identity. It was felt that the best guess was an erythristic or melanistic White-throated. It is hoped that someone can come up with an explanation for this unusual and interesting individual.

One of the highlights of the winter season was the "invasion" of Snow Buntings into all 3 states. In Georgia, one was present from the fall at Ft. Pulaski, Tybee I., until Dec. 4, when it was found dead (v.o.). Also, 16 were on Cumberland I., Dec. 25 (SW), seven were at the Altamaha Delta, *McIntosh*, Jan. 28 (BW), and six were on Little Tybee I., Jan. 30 (MH). In South Carolina, five were at Ft. Sumter

Dec. 30 (PO, *fide* KF) and the flock at H.B.S.P. peaked at an impressive 30 in early January (JP). This species was present in North Carolina in amazing numbers. Nine were on the Morehead City CBC Dec. 22 (ED *et al.*, v.o.); a flock wintering at C. Hatt. had  $\geq$ 37 Dec. 15 (BF *et al.*); and a flock wintered in the Oregon Inlet area with a peak of 60 Feb. 19 (JL). Also, one was inland at Jordan L., Dec. 31–Jan. 8 (LK, WC, m.ob.).

Wintering Baltimore Orioles were at their usual places (Sumter, SC, *etc.*), but in reduced numbers from last year. In Rocky Mount, NC, where a small population winters, one particular oriole made news (B&LD, RD). A male showed up that was red, not orange. The red color was very intense, almost scarlet. In all other respects, it was like the other ♂ Baltimores nearby. The hosts of these birds had never seen one like it in 30 years of feeding and banding orioles! Are there any other records of abnormal pigment in orioles known?

Winter finches were practically nonexistent, with just a scattering of Purple Finches and Pine Siskins reported. House Finches were in reduced numbers, even showing signs of decline. There was only one report of Evening Grosbeak from each state: one–two near Fayetteville, NC (HB), 12 in *Chester*, SC Jan. 14 (AC), and an unbelievable 60 on the Columbus, GA CBC (SP, *fide* JS).

**Contributors:** Carol Bacik, Maurice Barnhill, Giff Beaton, Carroll Belser (CBe), Bill Blakeslee, Rich Boyd, Hal Broadfoot, Patrick Brisse, Carol Brown (CBr), Dick Brown, Allen Bryan, Marion & Dick Burk, Steve Calver, Keith Camburn, Lyle Campbell, Brad Carlson, William Carlson (WCa), Derb Carter, Robin Carter, Ray Chandler (RCh), Ron Cicerello (RCi), Ken Clark (KCl), Pat Coin, John Connors, Albert Conway, Will Cook, Sam Cooper (SCo), Leto Copeley (LCo), Betty & Lloyd Davis, Ricky Davis, Eric Dean, Bill Dopson (BDo), Caroline Eastman, Larry & Carol Eldridge (L&CEI), Chris Eley (CEy), Peggy Ferebee, Kent Fiala, Bert Fisher, Dennis Forsythe, Charlotte & Eric Fulcher, John Fussell, Sid Gauthreaux, Lex Glover, Rob Gluck, Nancy Gobris, Diane Hahn, John Hammond, Tom Hankins, Diane Hardy (DHy), Ken Harrell, Herb Hendrickson, Malcolm Hodges, Pierre Howard, Brock Hutchins (BHu), Ty Ivey, Paul Johnson, Lucretia Kinney, Roger Kohn, Harry LeGrand, Paul Lehman, Jeff Lewis, Merrill Lynch, Marcia Lyons (MLy), Chris Marsh, Greg Massey, Barbara & Bob Maxwell (BaM &

BoM), Pat Metz (PMe), Steve & Freda Mitchell, Terry Moore, Nancy Nolan, Mark Oberle, Jim O'Donnell, Peter Osen-ton, Brainard Palmer-Ball, John Parrish (JPa), Sam Pate, Brian Patteson, Jack Peachey, Taylor Piephoff, Jeff Phippen (JPi), Paul Rogers, Barbara Roth, Mike Schultz, Betty Scott, Jeff Sewell, Ramona Snavely, Paul Sykes, Les Todd, Mike Tove, Jim & Caroline Wagner, Anne & Vernon Waters, Haven Wiley, Sheila Willis, Brad Winn, Pete Worthington, David Wright, John & Paula Wright (J&PW), Elaine Young.

—Ricky Davis, P.O. Box 277, Zebulon, NC 27597

# Florida Region

## RICHARD L. WEST

Abbreviations: A.B.S. (*Archbold Biological Station*), C.P. (*County Park*), P.P.M. (*Polk County phosphate mines*), F.O.S.R.C. (*Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee*), S.R.A. (*State Recreation Area*), S.T.F. (*Sewage Treatment Facility*)

## Loons to Waterfowl

A Red-throated Loon was seen off St. Marks N.W.R., *Wakulla*, Jan. 12 (D&S Jue), and two were there Feb. 2 (L. McCullagh); much rarer was an inland report of one at Bivins Arm, *Alachua*, Nov. 28–Dec. 3 (J. Hintermister). A Cory's Shearwater was carefully identified from shore at New Smyrna Beach, *Volusia*, Jan. 12 (J. Morlan). An ad. Masked Booby was off Playalinda Beach, *Brevard*, Jan. 30 (D. Freeman, M. Gurney). Widely scattered inland reports of Brown Pelicans continue. An amazing seven Am. Bitterns were found in the 2-acre marsh of the Brooker Cr. Preserve, *Pinellas*, Feb. 8 (A&RS, B. Hoffman). Least Bittern, rarely reported in n. Florida in winter, was seen at St. Marks N.W.R., Jan. 2 and Feb. 1 & 4 (J. Salvetti, R. K. Hagar, JC). Great Blue Herons began nest building Dec. 4 on Paynes Prairie, *Alachua* (RR). Cattle Egret seem to be wintering farther north: 96 at Springhill Road S.T.F., *Leon*, Dec. 12, and 20 flying over Tallahassee Dec. 20, where a few remained at least until Feb. 15 (GM).

A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck was shot from a flock of four Jan. 25, and three were seen Feb. 5 at Bienville Plantation, *Hamilton* (A. Stoekle, *vide* J. Krummrich). Two Greater White-fronted Geese were at Merritt Island N.W.R., *Orange*, Jan. 4 (A&BH). Twelve Snow Geese were counted in *Leon* Jan. 13 & 24 (GM, JC). Three Snow Geese in w. *Duval* were accompanied by a Ross' Goose Dec. 23–Jan.

12 (I. Cornelius, † to F.O.S.R.C.). Another Ross' Goose was found dead at Merritt Island N.W.R., ca. Dec. 22 (*vide* D. Stucky). Gadwall peaked sharply at 730 at the P.P.M., Jan. 9 (PF). A ♂ Eur. Wigeon visited St. Marks N.W.R. Jan. 27 and Feb. 6 (K.&D. MacVicar, JC). On Dec. 12, 1100 Am. Wigeon and 72 Canvasbacks were at the P.P.M. (PF, MH). An imm. ♂ Com. Eider stayed at Convoy Pt. Jetty, Biscayne N.P., *Dade*, Jan. 15–25 (D. Pharo, ph. B. Dusek). A ♂ Harlequin reported off Alligator Pt., Jan. 10–15 (P. Burns, m.ob.) was photographed Jan. 11 (W. J. Bolte) and Jan 13 (JC). A White-winged Scoter was seen at Honeymoon Island S.R.A., *Pinellas*, Jan. 8 (A&BH).

## Raptors to Gulls

Ten Ospreys reported on the Tallahassee CBC (GM) suggests they are wintering farther north. Two late Broad-winged Hawks were reported at P.P.M., Dec. 12 (PF, MH). A Short-tailed Hawk was over Saddle Creek C.P., *Polk*, Feb. 17 (L. Lane, M. Chakan).

Ten Purple Gallinules were wintering at L. Jessup Conservation Area, *Seminole*, Jan 18 (*vide* L. Malo). American Coot concentrations were estimated at 40,000 at P.P.M., Dec 12 (PF, MH) and 15,000 at L. Hatchineha, *Oseola*, Jan. 25 (T. Palmer).

A Long-billed Curlew wintered off Lanark, *Franklin*, Dec. 6–Feb. 26, and was joined in February by four Black-necked Stilts, rare in winter that far north (GS, H.

