

(DF et al.). A very good season for Field Sparrows found one–two on Corrupma Cr., Union, Sept. 28 (CR, DE) and Oct. 1 (PS), and at Boone's Draw Oct. 19 (CR, DE, BN), plus one at Cannon A.F.B. Nov. 6 (RR) and two–four at N.R.T. Oct. 18–Nov. 1 (v.o.). Late was a Vesper Sparrow at Petroglyph N.M. Nov. 16 (HS), as was a Lark Sparrow at Caballo Dam Nov. 23 (SW). Now very rare in New Mexico, a **Baird's Sparrow** was near Cloverdale Nov. 29 (AC, ph. JO). Noteworthy was a late dark-lore'd White-crowned Sparrow at Columbus Nov. 28 (JO).

Up to three Lapland Longspurs were reported at Maxwell N.W.R. Nov. 8 (JEP, JO), where a Chestnut-collared was "heard" on the early date of Sept. 27 (CR). A Bobolink at Moriarty Sept. 13 (ph. JO) provided a *Torrance* first. Late was a vocal E. Meadowlark n. to w. Albuquerque Nov. 29 (HS), where the species is not known to winter. Also late was a Com. Grackle at Albuquerque Nov. 7 (PS). A **Rusty Blackbird** at San Jon Nov. 26 (JO) furnished a local first. Noteworthy orioles were an Orchard n. to Boone's Draw Aug. 31 (CR), a Hooded in the seldom visited Florida Mts. Sept. 8 (LM), and a very late Bullock's at Caballo Dam Nov. 28–29 (CR, ph. LG).

In stark contrast to last year's spectacular finch movements, this season found Cassin's Finches practically nonexistent anywhere in New Mexico, Red Crossbills in only very small numbers and in only a few montane areas in the north and west, and Evening Grosbeaks in but tiny numbers—and those few restricted to the Jemez and Zuni mountains. Meanwhile, there was no encore for Lawrence's Goldfinch—not a single one was reported. What a difference a year makes!

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alaska region



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Fall 1997 shaped up as a classic example of what is nearly always the most exciting and challenging season in Alaska. Major weather influences coupled with wandering, first-time migrant juvenile birds from all points typically produce a fascinating blend of extralimital and unusual records from beyond the Region and odd or extreme dates. Each Fall migration's profile presents the largest amount of new and pioneering information each year. For the first time since 1991, Middleton Island was covered for a short period in late September, with the standard exciting results—five new island records and other noteworthy North Gulf finds. Although there have now been about eight Fall season surveys at Middleton, every new trip continues to produce numerous extralimital or new Gulf Coast or Southcoastal reports, odd or extreme date records, and new Regional reports. Another Fall bird tour covered the Gambell-Nome area in August and was timed to encounter a heavy build-up of Beringian passerines and more than a few notable Asiatics. Between this trip and the active field presence in the Pribilofs, Bering Sea coverage continues to be concentrated.

This year's weather patterns and associated local conditions made as much news as unusual bird records. More so than most Fall seasons, this season's storm patterns were regularly influenced or based on fading north-tracking North Pacific typhoons

that eventually spin off the Aleutian Low across the Gulf of Alaska. Although most of these systems concentrate in the early Fall, several large storms of this group hit the Gulf Coast after mid-September. One of these downgraded typhoons, *Dave*, produced a massive low pressure cell (<960 MB), which stalled over itself in the North Gulf east of Kodiak before tracking north onto the western Mainland. Heavy bird movements were noted from several sites following this storm system. What was possibly more influential on general bird movements may have been surface temperatures in the southern Bering Sea and North Pacific waters. By early September, various oceanographic reports detailed near-record surface temperatures at 8–15°F above normal in the southeast Bering Sea and across the North Gulf from Resurrection Bay to Unimak Pass. These are unprecedented conditions that did not diminish until well into November. As a result, surface-feeding seabird (mostly shearwaters and murre) die-offs were the heaviest in many years and widespread after early August. Bering Sea pack ice was 600 miles north of average at the end of November, a condition with no historic comparison. This warm water certainly influenced weather conditions at least south of the Interior, and aside from a mid-October high pressure cold snap, which brought freeze-up, the season was otherwise mild and wet. The Aleutian Low also acted rather anomalously, tracking east periodically to the west

edges of the Alaska Peninsula. At this position, it generated northerly upper atmosphere flows that brought heavy and regular precipitation and warmer temperatures into the North Gulf Coast and occasionally into the Interior. With all of these mild conditions, there were very average late departure dates noted, and waterbirds that winter within the Region were only marginally late to arrive at their favored sites.

With the inclusion of recent taxonomic splits, formal elevation of species off the Unsubstantiated List, and other new additions, the Alaska list ended 1997 at 453 species.

Abbreviations: North Gulf (*North Gulf of Alaska*); SE (*Southeast Alaska*); SC (*Southcoastal Alaska*); SW (*Southwest Alaska*); UCI (*Upper Cook Inlet*).

LOONS TO COOT

One of the Interior's latest ever in Fall was a single Red-throated Loon near Tok Oct. 8 (TJD). Only one Arctic Loon report came in, generated from the Gambell sea watch Aug. 26 (WINGS), where this rare visitor is probably regular in Fall. The season's only Pied-billed Grebe report came from Haines, where a single Aug. 31 (AD) represented one of few local records. A single Horned Grebe feeding a half-grown chick on one of Middleton I.'s few ponds Sept. 20–28 was certainly anomalous for both the timing and location—there are few nest records from the North Gulf Coast and most young fledge and leave nest areas by mid-August. With reports no longer coming from Walsh from Mitkof I., the season's only W. Grebe counts came from around Ketchikan, with an unprecedentedly low tally of seven Nov. 9 (SCH). Two Short-tailed Albatross reports in the North Gulf included details of a brown immature at the shelf edge s. of Resurrection Bay Sept. 22 (TL), and another without substantiation off the mouth of Kachemak Bay n. of the Barren Is. Aug. 30 (SM, *vide* GCW). Laysan Albatrosses lingered very late and n. into the Bering Sea, where they are distinctly rare, with three noted near the dateline above 58° N to Nov. 11 (SA).

A very small black and white shearwater found in the foraging flocks s.s.e. of Resurrection Bay Oct. 12 (†RHD) was identified by the observer as a Little Shearwater. This unsubstantiated report follows a similarly described Little Shearwater off Kodiak waters Aug. 26, 1996 (†JBA). Buller's Shearwater was elevated to the formal Alaska list after photos were submitted of singles off

Sitka Sept. 6 (ph. DWS). Normally rare and local as a visitor in the 2nd half of the summer following late season warming trends into the c. North Gulf, Buller's were found in unprecedented numbers and late. At least at the Continental Shelf edges between Middleton I. (Sept. 25, TJD, REG, GHR, TGT) and Kodiak I. (Sept. 22, TL) waters, peak counts reached 20 per day in September, with the latest to Oct. 15 near Kodiak (IB, *vide* RAM). Short-tailed Shearwaters were ubiquitous in the Bering Sea n. to at least the Bering Strait, with 300/minute streaming by St. Paul I.'s Northeast Pt. Aug. 13 (ST. PAUL), and a peak of 75,000 estimated off Gambell Aug. 25 (WINGS). They were also very late there, no doubt because of extremely warm surface waters, with small numbers still being found beyond 61°N Nov. 1–3 (SA), s.e. of Cape Navarin.

Dispersing Great Blue Herons moving W into the North Gulf were about average, including at least four each to Kodiak Aug. 9 into December (LH, RAM) and four at Seward Nov. 2 through the period (RLS, TGT).

Waterfowl reports were unremarkable and, compared to most autumns, without rarities. Highlights were mostly of local note and focused on late dates or marginal extralimnals. Canada Geese continue to push their UCI departure envelope; small numbers lingered around Anchorage well into the first week of October, when cold and heavy snow forced them out (m.ob.). The single that managed to Nov. 21 (TGT) became UCI's latest ever. Canadas made similar news around Kodiak, where about 25 remained near Ugak Bay to Oct. 21 (RAM), and near record-high counts of 1100 came in from Sitkalidak I. to Aug. 29 (JBA), where locals believe they have occasionally wintered. Noteworthy *Aythya* included a synchronous flux of Interior Redheads and Ring-necked Ducks into the North Gulf and SE, where both forms are erratic migrants and casual in winter, including a single Redhead and three Ring-neckeds at Kodiak Oct. 31–Nov. 9 (RAM, JBA, CB), two each Ring-necked and Redheads at Sitka's Ward L. Oct. 19 and Nov. 9 through the period (MLW, MET), two Redheads around Juneau Nov. 8–29 (PS), exceptional counts of six Ring-neckeds near Wrangell Oct. 3, and another five at Ketchikan's productive Ward L. Oct. 16–27 (SCH).

Well above average numbers of Lesser Scaup reached the Gulf Coast by late November, with the best count concentrated at Kodiak, with several groups of at least 20 birds noted Sept. 27–Nov. 10 and later

(RAM, WED, JBA). The season's only unusual Spectacled Eider report came from Gambell, where two were seen Aug. 23–25 (WINGS) just n. of known staging and molting sites on St. Lawrence Island's w side. Affording close views to hundreds of birders since May, the Anchorage stake-out Steller's Eider remained on its favored cooling ponds until Aug. 14 (DFD). Fifteen Hooded Mergansers in the Juneau area, including a single flock of 14 from Oct. 22–Nov. 8 and beyond (PS), was the season's peak count and one of the Region's highest totals ever.

The Juneau crew again found a decent hawk passage across the Coast Range front from Mt. Roberts this season. The best day, Sept. 28, produced 46 individuals of 10 species (*vide* RJG), including single Gyrfalcon and Golden Eagles. Our experience with southbound raptor migration through SE remains minimal, and it is not clear what percentage of individuals continue down the Archipelago vs. numbers that move E across the Coast Range within the large river valleys. Coastal migrating Ospreys were above average and widespread, highlighted by late singles, both Sept. 27, at Kodiak (JBA, RAM, = 14th island record) and Juneau (GVV, RA). These were eclipsed by a near extreme late bird over Admiralty I., s.w. of Juneau, Oct. 30 (MS). An imm N. Harrier over St. Paul I. Sept. 6 became, surprisingly, the Pribilofs' first ever (ST.PAUL). American Coots were nearly ubiquitous in SE, with peak tallies of four at Ketchikan Oct. 16–mid-November (PH, TH, TG), at least six around Sitka Nov. 9–28 (MLW, MET), and a SE record 24+ counted from Juneau Nov. 16 through the period (GVV, RA, PS). Two coots reached Kodiak Nov. 9, a year to the day after that island's first substantiated record (RAM, WED).

PLOVERS TO GULLS

Excellent Bering Sea coverage for the first half of the southbound passage continued the trend from the past few years, producing a nice cross section of Holarctic Pacific shorebirds. Highlights again centered at the Pribilofs, but included examples from Ketchikan and the productive Juneau Mendenhall Wetlands in SE, n. to Nome and St Lawrence I. Top counts of Pacific Golden-Plovers were generally low (or not reported), with a peak of 253+ coming from Middleton I. Sept. 24 (REG, TJD, GHR, TGT), where this form stages before taking a long flight over the open North Pacific Ocean. Observers at St. Paul I. produced one of the Region's highest-ever fall Mongolian Plover

counts, with a peak six birds there Aug. 26–30 (ST. PAUL, WINGS); mostly juveniles were present Aug. 11–Sept. 9.

Tringa notables included a single **Common Greenshank**—still not annual in the fall season—described from St. Paul's Webster L. Aug. 23 (ST. PAUL); the season's only Wood Sandpiper also from St. Paul Aug. 26–27 (ST. PAUL); and a Greater Yellowlegs, near record late for the UCI, seen at the icing in Little Susitna R. flats Oct. 10 (REG). Gray-tailed Tattlers were widespread in the Bering Sea, with up to three flushed around St. Paul I. Aug. 5–16 and later (ST. PAUL, WINGS), and a molting adult described from Nome Aug. 19 (DD), where this Beringian form is casual after early July. Unexpected offshore, and getting very late in the season, were two Bristle-thighed Curlews near Gambell Aug. 25 (WINGS); most Bristle-thighs reach the Seward Pen. coast and more regular staging points farther south by early August, and there are few Bering Sea islands fall records. A juv. **Great Knot** at Gambell Aug. 22 (WINGS) became the Region's first in autumn at the site where the majority of Alaska's spring records have come. Also rare in fall in the Bering Sea, an ad. Red Knot made a stop at St. Paul I. Aug. 26 (ST. PAUL), the season's only notable report.

Asiatic stint accounts were about average from the Bering Sea, including three juv. Red-neckeds around St. Paul I. Aug. 9–Sept. 8 (ST. PAUL, SEF, ph.) and another at Gambell Aug. 14–15 (WINGS), and a rare-in-fall juv. **Temminck's Stint** (no †) at St. Paul's productive Webster L. area Aug. 23–27 (ST. PAUL).

Southbound Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were early—a single at St. Paul Aug. 6 (ST. PAUL)—and widely reported, highlighted by at least two in the Juneau area Aug. 17 and September (GVV, RA, PS, MS), up to three on the Middleton I. beaches Sept. 24–27 (REG, TJD), and an offshore high count of 59 at St. Paul I. Sept. 7 (ST. PAUL). A handsome juv. Buff-breasted Sandpiper dropped into Juneau Aug. 30–31 (GVV, RA, ph PS); there are barely a handful of SE records of this high Arctic nester. Ruffs staged a nice incursion to the Pribilofs Aug. 2–21, with a peak count seven juveniles Aug. 14–15 (ST. PAUL, WINGS).

A juv. **kamtschatschensis** Mew Gull wandered E from this form's n. breeding limits in the lower Anadyr Basin over the Bering Sea to Gambell Aug. 25–26 (WINGS, ph SEF), a first for St. Lawrence I. There are now 2 Alaska "Kamchatka" Mew Gull specimens, along with this new photo Dispers-

ing Ring-billed Gulls reached above-average numbers in s. SE, where the late August Ketchikan peak hit 10+/day. Late birds lingered through Sept. 24 (one) at Ketchikan (SCH), n. to Juneau Sept. 27 (DWS, GVV), and an adult beyond to Haines Oct. 12 (CE). California Gulls displayed a similar scenario, with a season peak 1300 birds in the greater Ketchikan area Sept. 3 (SCH), the northernmost a single at Haines Oct. 12 (CE). The latest were five n. of Juneau Nov. 9 (GVV, RA). Good coverage between the Bering Strait and Ketchikan produced what have recently become "average" Slaty-backed Gull numbers. The season's high was at least 16 picked out of the productive Nome dump Aug. 20–27 (WINGS, DD), while three hung around Juneau Aug. 15 (early) to Sept. 7 (ph. PS, MS, GVV). None reached s. to Ketchikan for the first time in several falls. Most reviewers judged the ad. gull photographed near Juneau Aug. 30–31 (ph. PS) to be a clean **Western Gull**, one of few non-hybrid types documented n. of Ketchikan. Staging Aleutian Terns numbered 225 around the Safety Sound outlet Aug. 20–21 (WINGS), but none was found later. The highest ever Safety Sound Aleutian Tern count has been 480.

DOVES TO BROWN CREEPER

Sporadic in fall into SE, up to three Mourning Doves were reported from Sitka Sept. 28–29 (MLW, MET) and Oct. 17 (JK, *fide* GVV); a single graced Ketchikan Oct. 1 (SCH). Post-breeding N. Pygmy-Owls moved out to the SE coast early, with a single at Juneau Aug. 15 (PS). Others noted within more standard dates included two each in the Juneau area Sept. 29–Nov. 8 (GVV, RA), in Ketchikan Oct. 9 & 11 (SCH), and around Haines Oct. 11–12 (CE). *November* Short-eared Owls were in Anchorage to Nov. 4 (RLS, TGT) and near Juneau to Nov. 2 (DWS); both furnished near-record late local finds. Short-eareds are typically notable after mid-October. The only Barred Owl observation was a single calling at Traitor's Cove n. of Ketchikan Aug. 11 to early September (SCH), in the same area where one was heard in 1996.

Common Nighthawks were probably more widespread than ever, noted from the Interior, SC, and SE. Follow-up reports from areas of summer (q.v.) activity included sightings from Tok—at least three there Aug. 5–7 (TJD, KMO-D), and another five to Aug. 5 from the lower Kelsall R., where breeding was confirmed up the Chilkat R. from Haines, at about 27 Mi Haines Hwy (AD) More significant off-

shore and away from regular areas were singles on Kodiak's Narrow Cape Sept. 6 (†WBA) and at Clover Pass s. of Ketchikan Sept. 9 (†SCH); both of these represented local island firsts. Juneau was the only site that attracted Anna's Hummingbirds, with a pair taking over an Auke Bay feeder Sept. 22 through the period (GVV). At least six hummingbirds dispersed offshore to Kodiak Aug. 18–Oct. 26, mostly described as Rufous types (m.ob., *fide* RAM). Although Anna's has yet to be substantiated in the Kodiak Archipelago, autumn records beyond September are always suspect.

The male Red-breasted Sapsucker that wandered into the North Gulf at Middleton I. Sept. 25 (TJD, REG, GHR, TGT) furnished the season's only extralimital report. This SE breeder periodically strays into the North Gulf in mid autumn, recorded as far west as Kodiak.

Record late for the Region, no doubt able to take advantage of lengthy mild conditions, an **Empidonax** flycatcher appeared at Sitka Oct. 30 and remained to Nov. 10 (†MLW, MET). Prior to this report, which the observers identified as—and descriptions suggested—a Dusky, there have been no November *Empidonax* records in the Region. Bank Swallows were casual offshore, with up to eight at St. Paul Aug. 21 (ST. PAUL) and one near Ketchikan Sept. 6 (SCH). Multiple *November* Cliff Swallows from Juneau were again unprecedented. Following last year's November revelation, Cliff Swallows surfaced over Juneau's Mendenhall Wetlands Nov. 10–16 (GVV, PS, RA), certainly the latest swallows ever found in the Region.

Out-of-range chickadees included a single Black-capped on Douglas I. near Juneau Nov. 7–28 (PS, MS, GVV, RA), one of few ever there, and several Chestnut-backed into UCI along Turnagain Arm, where casual, with four near Girdwood Sept. 15 (AS) and two farther north to the Sitka Spruce/W. Hemlock limit at McCugh Cr Oct. 5 (BM). Chestnut-backed have shown an increase beyond the n. end of their e. Kenai Pen. range since the late 1980s. Casual in the Interior away from the very local small Fairbanks area population, a single Brown Creeper was caught and banded near Tok Sept. 8 (HKT). There are now about three e. Interior records since the late 1970s

OLD WORLD WARBLERS TO PARULIDS

Alaska's 7th and 8th **Dusky Warblers** appeared at both ends of the Region. One noted around Gambell Aug. 21–24

(†WINGS) and another in the Middleton I. westside thickets Sept. 26–27 (TJD*, REG, GHR, TGT) were the Region's first in 10 years, and the 3rd and 4th in autumn. Casual in fall in the Interior lowlands, another Arctic Warbler was banded at the Tok station Aug. 15 (TJD, ph. KWL), while good conditions at St. Lawrence I. produced an excellent fallout of 25 at Gambell Aug. 25 (WINGS). Except for a single offshore into the Bering Sea at St. Paul Sept. 8–9 (ST. PAUL), Ruby-crowned Kinglets were otherwise quiet. As expected in mild autumns, exceptional numbers lingered in the UCI basin into December.

Twenty-one Bluethroats were peak for the season at Gambell Aug. 24–26 (WINGS), where spring high counts also emanate. A single Bluethroat at St. Paul I. Sept. 9 was the Pribilofs' 2nd ever—there are few s. Bering Sea fall reports, and most Alaska breeders depart the Region across the Bering Strait by late August.

Another 2nd Pribilof record and the Region's 2nd in autumn and 4th overall, a female-type **Red-flanked Bluetail** was documented at St. Paul I. Oct. 1 (TB, ph.). Retracking back across the Bering Strait, N. Wheatears staged a peak day maximum of 65 at Gambell Aug. 25 (WINGS). Middleton I. provided at-sea landfall for exceptional numbers of reorienting thrushes Sept. 27, following heavy atypical westerly winds. Systematic habitat coverage produced conservative counts of 175 Varied Thrushes and 65 Am. Robins, both near-record island tallies and somewhat late "peaks." This small island, some 50 mi offshore of Montague I. and the mouth of Prince William Sound, continues to prove an excellent site to sample trans-North Gulf fall migration.

Number one on the next-to-be-added list for the Region—but in an unexpected site—**Gray Catbird** was finally documented for Alaska when one turned up on the Bering Sea coast at Cape Peirce Sept. 30–Oct. 2 (ph. JRM, CAW). Although this mimic breeds north in British Columbia only to Bella Coola and Williams L., and in c. Alberta to the Athabasca region, there are several extralimital records from areas beyond.

At least 68 Yellow Wagtails were tallied at Gambell Aug. 21–26, with a peak one-day number of 40 Aug. 25 (WINGS). Another latish single bounded over Middleton I's e. beaches Sept. 22 (TGT), the 2nd for this at-sea oasis and one of few for SC. What must have been close to a firm departure date, one Red-throated Pipit was still at Wales Aug 20 (DD), where this Palearc-

tic form nests. Elsewhere, 11 were counted around Gambell Aug. 25–26 (WINGS), and the Nov. 2 immature located near Juneau (ph. PS, MS, GVV et al.) was record-late for the Region, and new for SE. Possibly two Cedar Waxwings reached beyond SE into the North Gulf to Middleton I. Sept. 22–26 (TJD, REG, GHR, TGT), the island's 4th report. Three in downtown Juneau Sept. 28 (GVV) were the only others mentioned. Northern Shrikes were on the move in mid-season, with a group of at least four over Middleton's w. bluffs Sept. 28 (TGT) and a single at Ketchikan Oct. 12 (SCH), where they are casual.

Extralimital warblers were about average beyond tree limits, at least as evidenced by St. Paul I. submissions, including one Orange-crowned Sept. 8–9 and maximum counts of five Yellow-rumped Sept. 8 and seven Wilson's Sept. 7 (all ST.PAUL). Others included a very late imm. Am. Redstart Sept. 20 (TJD, REG, GHR, TGT), and a well-described and skulky MacGillivray's Warbler Sept. 26 (†GHR), 2nd and first Middleton I. reports, respectively. The various other last date warbler finds included a Nov. 8 Yellow-rumped from Ketchikan (SCH); a Nov. 11 Townsend's from Sitka (MLW, MET); a Sept. 28 N. Waterthrush from Middleton I. (TGT), that island's 2nd ever and one day short of the Region's latest ever; one near record late Com. Yellowthroat from Juneau Oct. 10 (RJG), following two at Ketchikan the day before (SCH); and a Nov. 3 Wilson's near Juneau (LE, ME). The season's only Palm Warbler, surprisingly from Cape Peirce Sept. 30–Oct. 2 (†JRM, CAW), represented the Bering Sea coast's 2nd account.

TANAGERS TO FRINGILLIDS

Very late in the season, and well away from its favored SE Mainland riparian cottonwoods, an imm. W. Tanager was conspicuous in the Middleton I. thickets Sept. 20 (TJD, REG, GHR, TGT), an island first and one of few substantiated beyond its SE breeding areas, which reach at least Skagway and Haines.

American Tree Sparrows depart through the Interior in a fairly synchronous effort each autumn, with most gone by late October, so a single at Tok Nov. 30 (TJD) was probably the e. Interior's latest ever. Offshore Fox Sparrows of note included a "sooty" *unalaschensis* type neatly described from Gambell Aug. 23–26 (WINGS), where this form is accidental, and up to five from St. Paul Sept. 7 (ST.PAUL). Fox Sparrows generally strictly adhere to departure dates

and locations and, given this species' Mainland abundance, there are surprisingly few extralimital reports. Middleton's I.'s first White-throated Sparrow appeared with a single Harris's Sparrow (= 2nd report) at that island's n. end thickets Sept. 26–27 (TJD, REG, GHR, TGT). Sporadic observations over the past 10 years show both of these fall visitants to be at least casual and probably annual in SC. Both forms were also recorded in Ketchikan, with two White-throats Oct. 23–Nov. 14 onward (ph. SCH), and an imm. Harris's at a local feeder Nov. 13–20 and later (ph. SCH, = 3rd local record). Distinctly rarer offshore in SE, another Harris's found a Sitka feeder Nov. 20+ (MLW, MET).

The only Brown-headed Cowbird was a male described near Tok Sept. 21 (†RAS), one of few and very late for the Interior. Again, Bramblings were virtually absent, with the only report a single from the Juneau area Nov. 19 (RJG), about the 7th local record. Crossbill status and movements remained stagnant across the Region, with Reds generally uncommon to locally common in the Sitka Spruce/W. Hemlock forests from SE to Kodiak, and White-winged less common and very sporadic and local in the vast boreal forest belt n of the Gulf Coast. Still casual and mostly reported from late fall and early winter, a female **Evening Grosbeak** buzzed over Ketchikan Nov. 3 (†SCH), about the 3rd local record and the season's only report

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