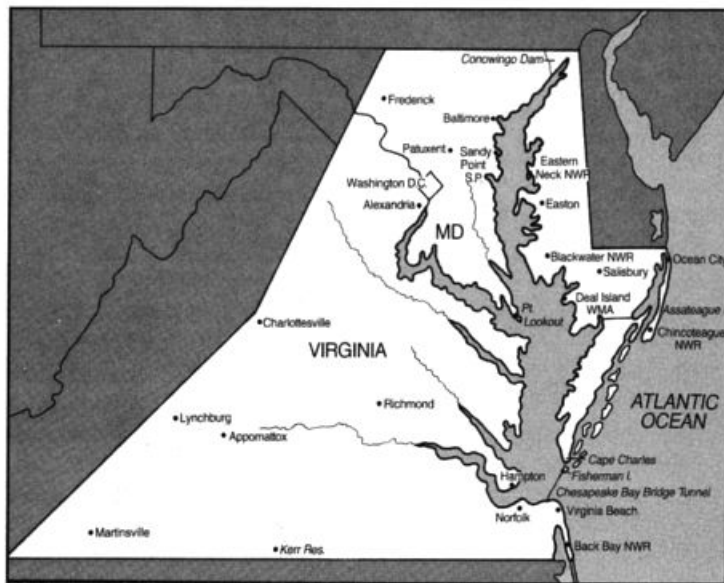


Middle Atlantic Coast



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This summer was extremely cool and wet, much cooler than average. At Baltimore-Washington International Airport in June and July, more days stayed below 80 degrees Fahrenheit than crested 90 degrees, almost unheard of in the Region. On a few days, the daily high did not top 70 degrees; on 1 June, the low was a chilling 45 degrees! Average maximum temperatures for June and July hovered right around 84, with minimum temperatures averaging 64 in June and 62 in July. The 3.5 inches of rain per month was above average.

The cool and wet conditions must have affected nesting birds, but there were comparatively little data to suggest how. Clapp, who keeps close track of nesting phenology reported that "despite the very mild weather, a cold snap in Mar strongly affected nest initiation in nesting passerines in Northern Virginia, with it being average or perhaps even late in the regard, unlike last year, where birds were consistently early following a mild winter and a mild March." While most birders keep personal records of migrants and unusual breeders, observations and data such as these are most welcome for *North American Birds*. In Maryland, the new Maryland Breeding Bird Atlas project will begin

1 Jan 2002 and run for the next five years. Maryland's last atlas was completed in 1987 and published in 1996. For information on how you can contribute, contact Jane Coskren at <coskren@erols.com> or 410-381-7344. The Maryland Ornithological Society is seeking a full-time coordinator who will handle inquiries in the future.

Abbreviations: Bay (Chesapeake Bay); Chinc. (Chincoteague N.W.R., *Accomack*, VA); Craney (Craney Island Dredge Spoil Containment Facility, Portsmouth, VA); D.C. (District of Columbia); Hart (Hart-Miller Dredge Spoil Containment Facility, Baltimore, MD); Middle Bay (Chesapeake Bay in MD, from Virginia line to Bay Bridge); p. a. (pending acceptance by state records committee); Upper Bay (Chesapeake Bay in MD, n. of Bay Bridge). Note that due to reporting biases, all locations can be assumed to be in Maryland except that each Virginia location is so noted the *first time* it is mentioned in the text.

GREBES THROUGH WATERFOWL

Always unusual in summer, a breeding-plumaged Horned Grebe was noted at Chesapeake Beach, *Calvert* 25 Jun–13 Jul (FS, JLS). Wilson's Storm-Petrel has recently been shown to occur regularly in the Maryland portion of the Bay, evidenced by a count of 10 from the Smith I.—Pt. Lookout Ferry 23 Jun (RFR, S.

Crabtree). A dozen seen off Hooper's I., *Dorchester* 13 Jul (M. Eanes) constituted only the 2nd county record, but given that it is just 20 mi n. of the above-mentioned ferry route, this is surely due more to lack of coverage than anything else. We are still learning the n. limit for this species in the Bay.

SA Brown Pelicans, surely the most dynamic of the species expanding their breeding ranges into the Region in the past two decades, continued to keep in the news, as Maryland's new nesters, the northernmost anywhere, enjoyed a second successful summer (Barnegat Bay, New Jersey's pelicans again made several "partial nests" in 2001 but have not yet laid eggs).

While Regional colonies remained stable, the massive mid-June influx of last year was not apparent in 2001. Last year, it seemed that the invasion in the Middle and Upper Bays may have occurred when the colonizing birds drastically exceeded the capacity of the several small islands, and prospecting birds pushed far into the Upper Bay in search of other nest sites. If last year's influx was comprised of "overflow" from the colonies, then perhaps this year's lack of an influx was the result of a stabilization of the population to match the carrying capacity of the Bay, as determined by the available nest sites. This year, there were sporadic reports from the North Beach, *Calvert* area but none farther flung than that. At the large colony at South Marsh Pt. just s. of the Maryland line, Brinker and others banded upwards of 1500 young pelicans this year. One-hundred thirty-two young were banded at Spring I., *Dorchester* 4 Jun (DBr, *vide* HTA), and a number of ads. frequented Bodkin I., *Queen Anne's* and even made nest platforms, but no eggs were laid.

A new colony this year was found on a small islet off the s. tip of Barren I., *Dorchester*, with 200 pelicans there (ca. one-third ads.) and 15 nest platforms noted 5 Jun (J. McCann, *vide* HTA), but apparently no eggs were laid. Interestingly Brinker's pelican banding efforts in the Bay are now yielding up to 100 recoveries annually, providing a useful portrait of their movements.

An American White Pelican noted at Bodkin I 5 Jun (p. a., M. A. Todd) was seen on various dates in Jun on Bodkin I. (DBr) and various dates in Jul on Poplar I., *Talbot* (DBr), undoubtedly the same bird that followed a similar pattern

last year. The Fisherman I., VA White Pelican was absent again in 2001.

Five Anhingas heading n. over Cape Charles, Northampton, VA 25 Jun (ESB, SWH) were unusual; most Anhingas in the Region have been found in Apr, May, Aug, and Sep, though Jun 2001 saw three records of the species between New Jersey and Massachusetts. The one regular Regional location for Anhinga—Stumpy L. in Virginia Beach, VA—had at least one male throughout Jun and Jul. At Chimney Pole Marsh, Accomack, VA, about 20 Double-crested Cormorant nests continued this year (BW et al.).

A Least Bittern seen and heard at Airlie, Fauquier, VA 8 Jun (TMD) would be an unusual Piedmont breeding record if in fact the bird represented part of a pair. There was a small movement of Tricolored Herons away from their typical areas, including one at Jug Bay 23 Jul (DBY), 2 at North Beach 25 Jul (JLS, TH), with one remaining to 27 Jul (TH), 2 imm. at Hart 28 Jul (DBY, JLS et al.), and most unusual, one near D.C. at Hunting Cr., Fairfax, VA 28–30 Jul (KG). An all-time high count of nesting White Ibis was garnered this year, with 127 attendant ads. counted in mid-Jun (BW et al.) at colonies on Wreck, Cobb, and Fisherman Is., all in Northampton, VA. One Snowy Egret at Univ. of Maryland Central Farm was rare for Howard 30 Jul+ (SA, v. o.), while a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, rare for Charles, was noted at Mattawoman Cr. 22 Jun–8 Jul (ph. GMJ, GB). Two Yellow-crowned Night-Herons at Fletcher's Boathouse, D.C. 26 Jun–6 Jul (JHu et al.) were probably present through the season and nesting nearby. A White Ibis was at Craney 25–26 Jul, a location where the species has been noted irregularly in the past (AW, TG, BA, RK).

Not seen in the Region in summer for several years, single Tundra Swans alternated between Dyke Marsh, Fairfax, VA (KG, v. o.) and Broad Cr., Prince George's 27 May–27 Jul (DM), and there was one at Williamsburg, VA 30 Jul–1 Jul (BW). Two American Wigeon were at Hart 30 Jun (DBY), with one remaining 14 Jul (DBY, SR et al.), and a Canvasback was noted there 2 Jun (EJS) and 21 Jul (JLS, SR, CE). Four Green-winged Teal at Elliott I. 28 Jul (HTA, CE) were a bit unseasonal but probably represented early fall migrants. A male Hooded Merganser at Fletcher's Boathouse, D.C. 26–29 Jun (JHu, GM, BC) may have bred nearby, while a female at Hart 28 Jul+ (JLS, DBY et al.) was a bit more surprising, being in a freshwater dredge spoil impoundment 10+ mi from the nearest breeding habitat. Common Mergansers, at least one male and one female, were seen on the Potomac R near the D.C.-Prince George's line from May through Jul (FS, DM, v. o.); these, plus another at Conowingo Dam, Harford/Cecil 23 Jun (*fide*

PS), were among the rarer summering waterfowl. Other noteworthy late ducks, in order of rarity in summer, were: a White-winged Scoter at Elliott I. 6 Jun (SA); a male Long-tailed Duck at Scientist's Cliffs 18 Jul (S. Hamilton); one to 3 Long-tailed Ducks at Ft. Smallwood, Anne Arundel 28 May–3 Jun (SR); a male Canvasback at Dyke Marsh 17 Jul (KG) and Hunting Cr. 22 Jul (SS), the latter two records possibly of the same individual; and single male Ring-necked Ducks in the Dyke Marsh area 6 Jun–23 Jul (KG, SS et al.) and at Airlie through 8 Jun (TMD). Both scaup were noted at several locations, and 2 Surf Scoters near Bodkin I. 6 Jul (J. Maloney, SA) rounded out the list.

RAPTORS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

Noteworthy Mississippi Kites—which are rare but regular Regionwide now in spring and summer—were one first-summer bird at Great Falls, Fairfax, VA 3 Jun (R. Wall et al.), one at Cornfield Harbor, Saint Mary's 3 Jun (PC, A. Bishop), a first-summer bird over Dillwyn, VA, for a probable Buckingham first 3 Jun (D. Spears), one over Collingwood, Fairfax 15 Jul (B. Hutchinson), and one at Kibler Rd. and Maryland Rte. 314 on 28 Jul (a Caroline first; *fide* PS). Although the last report received of the pair of Mississippi Kites at Huntley Meadows County Park, Fairfax, VA was on 3 Jun (G. Weinberger), they may very well have been present through the summer. A very few Sharp-shinned Hawks turn up annually in mid-summer; singles in Jeffersonton 27 Jun (TMD) over I-295 and Suitland Parkway, Prince George's 30 Jul (MB) were both noteworthy. The Sharpie nest in Soldier's Delight, Baltimore still had a female sitting on it 20 Jun (S. Droegge).

Extremely unusual for the Piedmont, with only three Regional records and just one prior for the Virginia Piedmont, a Black Rail heard 28 Jul+ (p. a. DFA, v. o.) at the Dulles Greenways Wetlands Mitigation Project, Fairfax, VA was later documented on audiotape (TMD). A Sora was unusual at a tiny city park pond in Patterson Park, Baltimore City late May–12 Jun+ (KEC), though breeding was never confirmed. Rare for Harford were at least 2 Common Moorhens in a beaver pond at the US Rte. 40 and Maryland Rte. 24 intersection 2 Jun (E. Blom). Unfortunately, the species may have disappeared now from Deal Island W.M.A., Somerset, a former stronghold. The American Coot at Dyke Marsh 24 Jun (SS) & 22 Jul (KG) was probably a late lingerer, as breeding is extremely unusual in the Region.

A flyby Piping Plover at North Beach 14 Jul (JLS) was a vagrant in the Maryland section of the Bay, where it has been seen about 10 times but not for about a decade. Piping Plovers, which benefited from several storm washovers

in recent years, reportedly had about 55 pairs breeding on the Maryland section of Assateague I. and another 25 on the Virginia section of the island (DBr, *fide* HTA). Wilson's Plovers continue to struggle, with their only remaining Regional toehold being on three Virginia barrier islands (Assawoman, Metompkin, and Cedar), where 47 ads. were counted in mid-Jun (BW et al.).

Black-necked Stilts again were found breeding at Elliott I., but they may have disappeared from Deal I., as for the first time in more than a decade they were not reported, despite several summer visits by birders. Breeding continues at Craney, where one chick was seen with 9 ads 25 Jul (DLH, AW, TG) and may continue on the Chinc. causeway, Accomack, VA, where they were noted 28 Jul (LL). One at Back Bay N.W.R. 8 Jun (K. Kearney) was in a location known for small numbers in the 1990s when water levels were appropriate. American Avocet numbers were well above average. An unprecedented flock of avocets at Hart built from 22 birds on 30 Jun (DBY) to 24 on 28 Jul (JLS, SR et al.). Craney had good numbers as well, with 26 counted there 25 Jul (DLH, AW, TG), but these are still far below historical totals here. One avocet at Hart 9 Jun (EJS) and a Talbot first at Poplar I. 6 Jun (p. a. EJS) may have been early indicators of the movement. Caroline's 2nd American Avocet was found at Kibler Rd. 23–24 Jul (B. Byrnes, MH, vt. JLS, m. ob.). What was likely the same bird appeared 25 Jul (E. Gofreed, G. Brewer) at Ridgely W.T.P., which it flew in to inspect and then continued on.

A Ruff at Kibler Rd. 23–24 Jul (MH, m. ob.) constituted a Caroline 4th. Three southbound Red Knots at Fox I. 12 Jul (HTA) were noteworthy for the Bay. Still very unusual for DC (despite three reports this year), a Willet at Haines Pt. 30 Jul (PP) was presumably *inornatus*, though was not confirmed as such. Other identified Western Willets included one at North Beach 25 Jul (JLS, TH) and one at Hart 28 Jul (JLS et al.). Another Willet was at Hunting Cr. 1–4 Jul (P. Sullivan, SS). Unusual in n. Virginia, a Stilt Sandpiper was at Hunting Cr. 21 Jul (SS). Seven Hudsonian Godwits were at Craney 25–26 Jul (DLH, AW, TG), joined by a Marbled Godwit on the latter date (BA, RK). Long-billed Dowitchers in Jul included single ads. at Craney 23 Jul (D. Clark) and a calling one, rare for Caroline, at Kibler Rd. 27 Jul (JLS, MH).

Hart usually monopolizes many of the other shorebird highlights, with a Curlew Sandpiper among 2075 Semipalmated Sandpipers 2 Jun (EJS) providing the 5th report from this location and the 5th for the state. Also there 2 Jun were a Stilt Sandpiper and 2 Whimbrel (EJS). Other noteworthy counts of the weekly visits included 1020 Lesser Yellowlegs 14 Jul (DBY, SR et al.), 355

Western Sandpipers and one juv. Wilson's Phalarope 21 Jul (JLS, SR et al.), and 1870 Semipalmated, 277 Western, and 98 Stilt Sandpipers 28 Jul (DBY, JLS et al.).

GULLS THROUGH WARBLERS

Rare in summer, a Bonaparte's Gull was seen on the Potomac in D.C. 31 Jul (GMJ). The **Kelp Gull** apparently continued through the season around Sandgates, *Saint Mary's*, though it was reported only 11 Jun and 16 Jul (JK). The Poplar I Dredge Spoil Containment Facility, in *Talbot*, MD has been successful at attracting terns. This year, special island- and shell-mound habitats that were designed to support tern colonies attracted a colony of 400+ Common Tern and two smaller colonies of Least Terns (DBr). The Common Tern colony may in part be the displaced birds from Bodkin I., where large gulls have been increasing in number, which presumably has been much of the reason for the downturn in *Sterna* numbers there. The tern colony on Skimmer I., *Worcester* has suffered since large gulls recently colonized the island. This year, 570 Royal Tern eggs were counted there 6 Jun (JSW *vide* HTA). Common Terns are uncommon at best in the D.C. area and occur primarily in Sep and Oct; they are essentially unknown in Jun and Jul. Thus, one first-summer Common Tern at Hunting Cr. 1 Jul (KG) and 4 there 4 Jul (SS) bear mention and may be a product of recent increases in nesting in the Upper Bay on Poplar and Bodkin Is. A post-breeding congregation of 165 Least Terns at Hart was an excellent number 28 Jul (DBY, JLS et al.). Caspian Terns are rare through most of the Region in Jun and early Jul, but Hart has long hosted impressive summer concentrations, e.g. 172 on 2 Jun, 151 on 9 Jun, 181 on 7 Jul, and 214 on 21 Jul (EJS). The closest other counts were 12 on 3 Jun (BC) and 11 on 28 Jul (BC) at the Potomac R. below D.C. The current limit for Black Skimmer in the Bay is South Marsh I., *Somerset*, where 23 pairs are breeding among a large colony of Common and Forster's Terns (DBr, *vide* HTA). A larger Black Skimmer colony on Fox I., *Accomack*, VA, contained at least 85 ads. 12 Jul (HTA), while at the Royal Tern colony there 868 chicks were banded on that date (JSW, DBr, HTA et al.), down slightly from last year. Three Black Terns were at Dyke Marsh 31 Jul (KG), one was at North Beach 14 Jul (JLS, EB), and a late one, not surprisingly a first-summer, was at Poplar I. 6 Jun (EJS).

This was noted as another poor year for cuckoos (HTA, v. o.). The **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** from May continued through 1 Jul (KH) at the same *Culpeper*, VA farm field where the pair nested last year—alas, while the single male built a nest, there was no sign of a mate this year. Another Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was seen one

mi w. of Ruthsburg, *Campbell*, VA 19 Jul (T. Dalmas). A **Cave Swallow** at Cape Charles 5 Jun (ESB) followed on the heels of a similar sighting there last May and is the 5th documented report for Virginia. Although fewer reports were received than last year, Loggerhead Shrike nesting activity apparently continued in the Virginia Piedmont in some of the same areas reported last summer. Occasionally found straying away from mountain breeding grounds into the Region, a Blue-headed Vireo at Soldier's Delight, *Baltimore* 24 Jun (vt. RFR) and 4 Jul (JLS, EB) was a surprise. Another singing at G. Richard Thompson W.M.A., *Fauquier*, VA may be an indication of a wider movement away from breeding areas in the Appalachians to the west. Stasz believed the *Baltimore* bird to be *alticola*, based on the burry song. A Red-breasted Nuthatch lingered into Jun (B. Abrams) at a McLean, VA feeding station, surprising given the non-invasion year. A Marsh Wren singing at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens during 25 Jun–27 Jul (MB et al.) may have been the only summering bird, and only potential breeder, in the District of Columbia.

WARBLERS THROUGH SPARROWS

A singing Tennessee Warbler at Schoolhouse Pond was notably late 6 Jun (JLS). Hooded Warbler is not detected particularly often in spring migration, so a late one in an urban garden in Cape Charles 5 Jun (ESB, SWH) was unusual. Migrant Prothonotary Warblers are also detected comparatively infrequently, and one 28 Jul (HTA, CE) in Elliott Village, Elliott I., evidences how early this species is migrating. A singing male Prothonotary Warbler was rare at Woodstock, *Howard* 23 Jun (J. & T.D. Coskren), while a singing male Blackpoll Warbler at Little Hunting Cr., *Fairfax*, VA 7 Jul (S. Williams) was extremely unseasonal but not without precedent in the Region; such birds are presumed to be extremely late northbound migrants.

The **Clay-colored Sparrow** at Kinder Farm Park, *Anne Arundel* continued through 27 Jul (D. Farner, ph.R. Wilson, au. Paul McGowan, v. o.). There was no suggestion of breeding, though the unprecedented summering event certainly raises the possibility, which is unknown in the Region but has occurred as near as Pennsylvania and is now extensive in upstate New York. A Lark Sparrow seen well near the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park 2 Jun (M. Stinson) was unusual and late for a spring bird, and though it has not happened in the Region since summer 1925, extralimital breeding could occur again at some point. A singing Vesper Sparrow near Snow Hill 16 Jun (SHD) is the first suggestion of nesting in *Worcester*, though there is ample appropriate habitat and they have bred

as near as *Wicomico* and *Accomack*, VA. A noteworthy concentration of Grasshopper Sparrows was discovered at Western Regional Park, *Howard*, where on 9 Jun 50–75 ads. were estimated in a field of grass and red clover (JS, B Solem, N. Magnusson). On 4 Jul, at least 40 juvs were counted (BO). At Chino Farms, the fallow fields are a Grasshopper Sparrow haven like no other, with 160+ singing males in 200 acres of habitat. Some 35 of those birds were returnees from the previous year, and 10 returned from two years prior. An agitated pair of Savannah Sparrows during Jun (TMD, JC) suggested nesting near Lakota, *Fauquier*, VA, which was confirmed when a dead fledgling was found and salvaged (*USNM). Several others heard singing nearby 8 Jun (J. & T. Dalmas) indicate that this species may be a local, low-density breeder here. Although Savannah Sparrow is not an uncommon breeder in the Maryland Piedmont, the Virginia Piedmont apparently had only one prior breeding confirmation, in *Greene*.

A singing male Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Blackwater N.W.R. 12 Jun (D. Homan) was unusual for the Coastal Plain in mid-Jun and especially so for the Eastern Shore—a very late migrant? Another at Violette's Lock, *Montgomery* was bit late itself 2–3 Jun (D. Simonson). Although this was no great year for Dickcissels, observers have gotten more skilled at finding the small number that visit our Region annually. In Virginia's counties of *Fauquier* and *Culpeper*, the epicenter of last year's invasion, active observers turned up just a few, which suggests that last year indeed had an exceptional incursion. In Maryland, there were reports from *Frederick*, *Queen Anne's*, *Caroline*, *Dorchester*, and even s. *Anne Arundel* 17 Jul (JLS), but the most interesting story unfolded at Chino Farms, where University of Maryland students have been studying grassland birds. Dickcissel is an erratic and enigmatic breeder in the Region, so it was fascinating to have an account from Hafner of one nesting event this year. This year a male, banded last year as an ad. at the same location, appeared 30 Jun and sang consistently through 20 Aug, alternating its time between a favorite field and an alternate field up to *one mi away*. A second-year male made a brief one-day appearance 24 Jul, perhaps wandering in search of a suitable territory. A female, banded this year, appeared 22 Jul, paired with the singing male, and remained through 22 Aug, with nest-building observed 29 Jul, 4 chicks fledged 16 Aug, 2 of which were seen thereafter and one of which was banded. It will be fascinating to see if these birds show continued site fidelity next year. Bobolinks summered again at Ebenezer Church Rd., in *Loudoun*, where up to 3 males sang through Jun (JC).

Observers (area compilers in boldface): Bob Ake, Henry T. Armistead, Stan Arnold, **Debbie Bennett** (*Caroline*, P.O. Box 404, Denton, MD 21625), Michael Bowen, Ed Boyd, Dave Brinker (DBr), Edward S. Brinkley, Danny Bystrak (DBy), Roger Clapp, Joe Coleman, Barry Cooper, **Patty Craig** (*Saint Mary's*, P.O. Box 84, Lexington Park, MD 20653), Todd M. Day,

Samuel H. Dyke, Carol Erwin, Tom Gwynn, Matt Hafner, Steve Hairfield, **Paula Sullivan** (Voice of the Naturalist), John Hubbell, David L. Hughes, Randy Korotev, **Larry Lynch** (VA-BIRD internet group), Gail MacKiernan, Dave Mozurkewich, Bonnie Ott, **Helen A. Patton** (*Montgomery*, 429 Hamilton Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20901 <helen@dataprompt.com>), Paul Pisano,

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Southern Atlantic Coast



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The weather this summer included relatively average temperatures with no prolonged hot spells. Precipitation was below average in most places, at least until late July. This meant a generally successful season for the breeding birds in the Region. Many observers reported that numbers of young and family groups seen were “up.” Coinciding with this nesting success, the number of real rarities was down. Is there any correlation between mild breeding season weather and fewer wandering, nonbreeding birds?

Abbreviations: C. Hatt. (Cape Hatteras, NC); E.L.H. (E. L. Huie Land Application Facility, Clayton, GA); S.S.S. (Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper, SC).

LOONS TO WOOD STORK

Summer reports of loons are not too unusual, but a Common Loon in full alternate plumage at North R., *Carteret*, NC 8 Jul (R&SB) was a surprise, as most summer loons are not in definitive alternate plumage. Pelagic trips off North Carolina once again found rare *Pterodromas*. On a trip out of Oregon Inlet 10 Jun, one **Bermuda Petrel** and one **Fea's Petrel** were observed (PG et al.). The more often-recorded Herald Petrel was located twice, with singles off Hatteras 8 & 28 Jul (BP et al.). Numbers of Black-capped Petrels, shearwaters, and storm-petrels were uneventful, with one exception. For some reason, **Manx Shearwaters** were present off Hatteras over most of the summer. One was found 7 Jul, an amazing count of 7–8 was made 8 Jul, and one was seen as late as 29 Jul (BP et al.). One wonders if the species had trouble at its breeding

locations in the North Atlantic? As usual, several seabirds were found on beaches this summer. Several Greater Shearwaters were found dead or dying in the C. Lookout, NC area in late Jun (JF, v. o.), and an Audubon's Shearwater was picked up at Blackbeard I. N.W.R., GA 17 Jul (MR).

Most unusual inland was the flock of 6 American White Pelicans in flight over the Etowah R., *Bartow*, GA 9 Jun (JS, BD). Where were these birds headed? The best count of this species was an impressive 136 at the S.S.S. 30 Jul (SC). Another rare inland pelican was the imm Brown at Lake Park, *Lowndes*, GA 3 Jun (KA). Magnificent Frigatebirds graced all three states, with singles at Folly Beach, SC 1 Jun (TN), C Lookout, NC 2 Jun (JK et al., *vide* JF), and Gould's Inlet, GA 6 Jun (*vide* LT). As is usual with this species, all individuals were present briefly and gone the next day.

Long-legged waders were present at inland sites as usual. The more interesting reports included an unexplainable American Bittern near Laurinburg, NC 22–26 Jul (BG), an ad Little Blue Heron in *Greene*, GA 24 Jun (PS), and 14 Cattle Egrets at Rome, GA 7 Jun (MD). Reddish Egrets were reported less frequently this year, with only singles from North and South Carolina, and the best Georgia counts involving just 3 individuals. Wood Storks apparently did well in the Region this summer. The rookery (now two years running) at the Amphitheater Pond area of Jekyll I., GA included at least 62 nests during Jun (LT). Also, a wandering stork was unusual inland near Douglas, *Coffee*, GA 7 Jul (BZ).

WATERFOWL THROUGH FALCONS

A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck was a surprise at the S.S.S. 19 Jul (SC). This individual was possibly from the nearby ACE Basin flock, although reports of these birds have been lacking of late. It would be nice to know the origin of these and other Black-bellieds in our Region. Several noteworthy summering ducks included an American Wigeon at Emory Univ., Atlanta, GA 14–31 Jul+ (JB et al.), a Blue-winged Teal in *Bartow*, GA 9