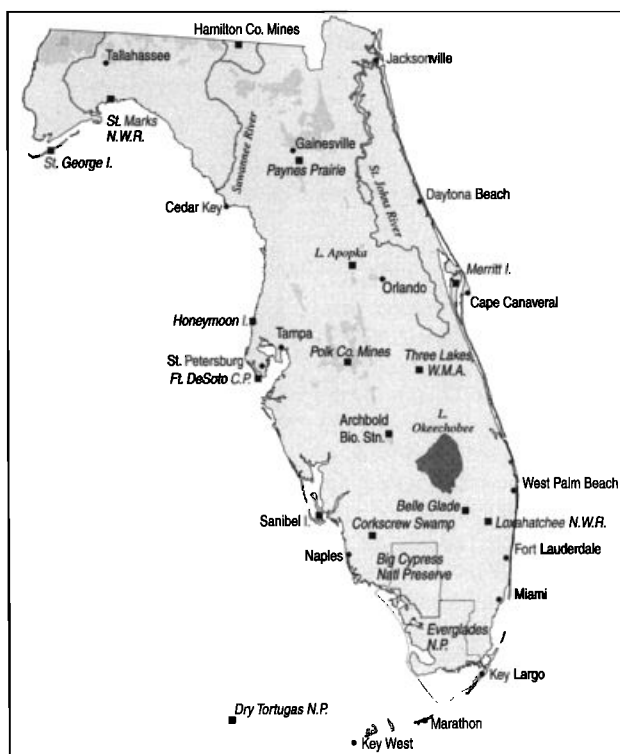


Florida



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This season was rather typical for the central and southern peninsula, with the Orlando area experiencing about a half-dozen nights of temperatures at or near freezing. One night in January the mercury dipped to 25 degrees F in Orlando, with freezing temperatures reaching into the southern peninsula; damaged tropical foliage recovered quickly, as many later days climbed into the 80s. Temperatures in the Big Bend and the northern peninsula occasionally fell into the teens. The season was dry, and the entire Region continued to experience a rainfall deficit. Two southern locations gained notoriety this season because of exceptional birding: the first 24 km of Government Road in *Broward* and *Hendry*, and “Lucky Hammock” (a part of Frog Pond W.M.A.) near the entrance to Everglades National Park. Several species continue to be reported in increasing numbers, possibly solely the result of a greater number of observers.

Abbreviations/definitions: C.P. (County Park); E.N.P. (Everglades N.P.); L.A.R.A. (L. Apopka Restoration Area, *Orange*); report (any

observation); record (only those reports verifiable from photograph, videotape, or specimen evidence).

LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

Up to 10 Red-throated Loons comprised the usual winter gathering at Alligator Pt., *Franklin* (v. o.) Other Gulf reports included singles at Cedar Key, *Levy* 7 Dec (MMe) and Ft. I. Beach, *Citrus* 6 Feb (MG et al.). Unlike the hundreds that flew past *Duval* last winter, 3 was the greatest number of Red-throateds reported off Jacksonville this winter (*fide* PP). Other Atlantic reports were of singles at Merritt I. N.W.R. 4 Jan (C.B.C. data) and near Jupiter Inlet, *Martin* 19 Dec (JaH). Rare inland, one at Tallahassee 27 Jan–5 Feb was the 2nd for *Leon* (AT et al.). Common Loons and Horned Grebes continued to congregate inland on L. Weir, *Marion*; this year, 74 loons and 644 grebes were counted (ESc). The usual congregation of Eared Grebes at *Polk* mines peaked at 19 (PF); singles wintered at Gainesville (AKr) and Viera, *Brevard* (DF et al.). A late Cory’s Shearwater was at Dania, *Broward* 5 Dec (WG, RM). Rare in the Big Bend, up to 12 American White Pelicans wintered at Tallahassee (GMe). Inland Brown Pelicans were single imm. in *Alachua* (ESc), *Lake* (JP), *Polk* (TP, CGe), and *Putnam* (PBo). An imm. Great Cormorant was

at Jacksonville 24–29 Dec (BRi, ph.). Rare in winter, a Least Bittern was at St. Marks N.W.R. 5 Jan (DM et al.). Early migrants, 33 Wood Storks were counted at Tallahassee 7 Feb (RL, GMe). Only 5 Greater Flamingos wintered at Snake Bight, E.N.P. (LaM).

One Fulvous Whistling-Duck wintered n. to Emerald Marsh, *Lake*, where hundreds wintered last year (JP). One Greater White-fronted Goose was found at St. Marks 24 Dec (TC), while up to 5 wintered in the Tallahassee area (JCa et al.). Snow Geese were few and far between, although 20 were in e. *Polk* 1 Jan (F&RC). Ten Canada Geese at Bartow, *Polk* (SRi) might have been wild birds. Florida’s first Tundra Swan in three years visited Springhill Road S.T.P., *Leon* 14–24 Jan (ESh et al.). Rare in the south, one Gadwall was at the *Miami-Dade* landfill 12–15 Dec (LaM), while a male Eurasian Wigeon was reported at Merritt I. 27 Jan+ (CPi, CPa). The only peninsular reports of American Black Duck were of singles at L.A.R.A. (HR) and Lake Placid, *Highlands* 27 Dec (WB). A **White-cheeked Pintail** at Pembroke Pines, *Broward* 29 Dec–5 Feb was considered an avicultural escapee (WG) Scoter numbers were about normal. One Surf was in n. Jacksonville 29 Dec (RCl), with 3 at Alligator Pt. 6 Jan (JM et al.). White-winged were at St. Marks N.W.R. 8 Dec (one bird, BBe) and Indian Shores, *Pinellas* 23 Jan (4; JF). There were 4 Black Scoters at Alligator Pt. 6 Jan (MMe et al.), one at Jacksonville 29 Dec (C.B.C. data), 47 at St. Augustine, *St. Johns* 15 Dec (C.B.C. data), and up to 25 in *Broward* 4–5 Dec (WG, RM). Long-tailed Ducks were well reported, with 2 at Cedar Key 28 Dec (AKr) and singles at Redington Shores, *Pinellas* 29 Dec, Tampa, *Hillsborough* 16 Jan (KAN), Palm Harbor, *Pinellas* 6 Feb+ (A&BH et al.), and Titusville 10 Feb+ (KAe et al.). Rare in the peninsula, 2 Common Goldeneyes wandered s to Merritt I. 4 Jan (CPi, CPa et al.), one stopped at Seminole, *Pinellas* 13–16 Dec (IH), and one reached the s. peninsula for the 2nd year at Punta Gorda, *Charlotte* 15 Dec (JBo).

RAPTORS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

The first Swallow-tailed Kite was found at E.N.P. 17 Feb (CJG et al.); within three days, 5 had reached Bald Pt., *Franklin* (JDo). Another early migrant, a Short-tailed Hawk was at Peace River Park, *Polk* 31 Jan (TP), while others arrived at L. Monroe, *Seminole* 9 Feb (LoM), and Orlando Wetlands Park, *Orange* 10 Feb (CPi). The only White-tailed Kites reported were at two *Broward* locations: duos on Government Road (v.o.) and at Pembroke Pines, where a pair has bred the past several years (WG). Ninety Bald Eagles assembled at

Tomoka Landfill, Daytona Beach 30 Dec (MeW). The Crested Caracara's range continues to expand: 2 have taken up residence at the St Johns R., *Seminole* and *Volusia* (LoM), while one along Government Road 4–13 Jan (VL et al.) was the 2nd for *Broward*.

Rare in winter in the Big Bend, one Purple Gallinule was found at Wakulla Springs, *Wakulla* 28 Dec (RL). Five downy Common Moorhens in a retention pond at Seminole 14 Jan–2 Feb (JF) furnished a rare winter breeding report. At opposite ends of the state, where they are rarely seen, 2 Sandhill Cranes were found near the entrance to E.N.P. 1 Dec (LaM), and one wintered in Jacksonville (JCo). A late American Golden-Plover was found on the Long Pine Key C.B.C. 19 Dec. Up to 6 American Avocets lingered at Springhill Road W.T.P. through 22 Dec (GMe), while 42 were at Jacksonville 29 Dec (BRi). A Solitary Sandpiper was observed in *Broward* 10 Jan (DB). Purple Sandpipers wandered s. to Boynton Inlet, *Palm Beach* to 8 Dec (*vide* JHB), Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami 15 Dec (BRa, JHB), and Stuart, *Martin* 29 Dec (2; PM, ph.). One Stilt Sandpiper far n. at St. Marks N.W.R. 17 Feb may have wintered (GMe). Up to 7 American Woodcock, some displaying, were at Weekiwachee Preserve, *Hernando* 16 Dec+ (A&BH et al.). At the edge of the Gulf Stream off Stuart, several flocks of up to 10 Red Phalaropes and a few Red-necked Phalaropes were found 18 Jan (BW).

SAIn an effort to create a new migratory flock, 8 Whooping Cranes were led by ultralight aircraft from Necedah N.W.R., Wisconsin, 18 Oct to Chassahowitzka N.W.R., *Citrus*, where 7 cranes and the aircraft arrived 3 Dec. Five cranes survived the winter; the other two were suspected to have been depredated by Bobcats. The five cranes departed unassisted 9 Apr, and 4 returned to Wisconsin 19 Apr; the fifth arrived three days later (<<http://www.bringbackthecranes.com>>).

JAEGERS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS

Jaegers were seen from shore in mostly ones and twos at various locations along both coasts. A Pomarine Jaeger was photographed at Anclote, *Pasco* 18 Jan (KT). Single Franklin's Gulls were at Naples, *Collier* 29–31 Dec (HM, LD et al.) and the *Miami-Dade* landfill 17 Jan (LaM). Sebastian Inlet, *Brevard* and *Indian River*, hosted a **Black-headed Gull** 15 Feb+ (*vide* DH et al.). Our perennial **Heermann's Gull**, present since Oct 2000 and now in third-alternate plumage, followed a travel pattern similar to that of the previous winter. Last seen

at Ft. De Soto C.P., *Pinellas* 10 Nov (LA), it was next reported at Sanibel I., *Lee* 2 Dec (A&BH), then at Naples, *Collier* 7 Dec (*vide* CE). There were no subsequent reports until it returned to Ft. De Soto 23 Jan–8 Feb, after which it was not reported again until 15 Mar (LA). The **Thayer's Gull** at Ft. De Soto remained to 7 Dec (LA); this was probably Florida's 8th documented occurrence. Inland Lesser Black-backed Gulls were at L.A.R.A. 16 Dec (HR) and Springhill Road W.T.P. 19 Jan (BBE). One Sabine's Gull remained at Boynton Inlet through 2 Dec (VF). Single Gull-billed Terns were n. to New Port Richey, *Pasco* 11 Dec (KT) and 3 Feb (RaS), Dunedin, *Pinellas* 18 Dec (WY), and up to 4 at *Polk* mines all season (CGe). Casual in winter, Black Terns were identified at Pompano Beach, *Broward* 10 Jan (WG, RM et al.) and Ten Thousand Is. N.W.R., *Collier* 5 Jan (LB).

Wintering White-crowned Pigeons are rare, so 2 at Collier-Seminole S.P., *Collier* 9 Feb (*vide* TD) were noteworthy; one photographed at Port Orange, *Volusia* 1 Feb (KD, ph.) established the most northerly record along the Atlantic coast. White-winged Doves appear to be resident n. to Eustis, *Lake* (JP). The most intriguing report of the season was the 8th Florida report of **Ruddy Quail-Dove** at Birch S.P., Fort Lauderdale 11–12 Jan (WG, RM). Scarce, declining, and local, up to 6 Smooth-billed Anis spent the season in Fairchild Gardens, Miami (v.o.).

At Lighthouse Pt., *Broward* 26 Dec, two police officers saw something fall from a tree after a truck passed under it. That "something" was Florida's 4th verified **Northern Saw-whet Owl**, which was taken to a rehabilitation center (ph. CR) and released two days later! Despite nearly annual C.B.C. reports, Common Nighthawk has never been verified to occur in winter in Florida. This season, a dead *Chordeiles* found "still warm" on a road in *Wakulla* was examined, identified as this species, and then discarded (C.B.C. data). Ten years ago and three specimens later, the Lesser Nighthawk's status has changed from "unverified in winter" to the "expected" winter nighthawk. Up to 12 were at Flamingo, E.N.P. (v.o.) and up to 10 at the *Miami-Dade* landfill (LaM, JHB). Others were at Loxahatchee N.W.R., *Palm Beach* 29 Dec (BH), L.A.R.A. 23 Dec (DSi, JBo), and Cedar Key 28 Dec (2; RCh et al.). The first singing Chuck-will's-widow was reported at St. Petersburg 5 Feb (*vide* RoS).

The proliferation of w. hummingbirds in the Region continues to be one of the more interesting stories of recent winters. So great are the number of reports that this summary concentrates on hummingbirds banded by FB or pho-



On the day after Christmas, two policemen saw a small parcel drop from a tree, having been dislodged by a passing truck at Lighthouse Point, *Broward* County. Their investigation revealed Florida's fourth Northern Saw-whet Owl, a dazed bird that was rehabilitated and released 28 December 2001. Photograph by Cindy Rohkamm

tographed or videotaped by others. Black-chinned Hummingbirds were at Apalachicola, *Franklin* (2), Tallahassee (4), Spring Hill, *Hernando* (one), Merritt I. (one), and Mims, *Brevard* (2). Of uncertain status so far n., a Ruby-throated Hummingbird wintered at Tallahassee (FB). Florida's 4th reported **Allen's Hummingbird** was banded at Alligator Pt. 11 Jan (FB). Fifteen Rufous Hummingbirds were banded, including 11 at Tallahassee, while others were videotaped at Shady Hills, *Pasco* 28 Dec (BP) or salvaged at Brooksville, *Hernando* 18 Jan (KC, to UCF). An unidentified *Selasphorus* was photographed on the Melrose C.B.C. Lastly, a Buff-bellied Hummingbird was seen (only) at Merritt I. 13–21 Jan (SH), for a very rare peninsular report.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PIPITS

Least Flycatchers were numerous this season (v.o.), with 5 at L.A.R.A. 27 Jan (HR) and up to 6 in and near E.N.P. An *Empidonax* near Tallahassee 24 Feb (GMe) was likely this species. At one time, St. Marks hosted most of Florida's wintering Vermilion Flycatchers, but not so during the past decade. This year, lone Vermilions were found in *Alachua* (GMc, MMe), *Volusia* (3rd year, LoM, DF), *Lake* (2nd year, HR et al.), *Sarasota* (IH et al.), *Palm Beach* (LiM et al.), and *Hendry* (VL et al.). Ash-throated Flycatchers are the expected winter *Myiarchus* in the n. and cen. peninsula. Singles were identified at *Alachua* (JoH et al.), *Seminole* (BHA, to UCF), *Palm Beach* (BH), *Hendry* (WG), and *Lake* (2; JP, MG), with up to 9 at L.A.R.A. (HR et al.). A Great Crested Flycatcher at Kelly Park, *Orange* 29 Dec (BHA et al.) was n. of usual winter range. Single Brown-crested Flycatchers were near



Lately a species seen in small numbers through the early winter, Summer Tanagers are now occasionally overwintering in Florida as well, as this one did at Collier-Seminole State Park in Collier County (photographed here 10 February 2002). What's more remarkable still are the numbers of Summer Tanagers recorded in winter north to southern Canada! Photograph by Terry J. Doyle.

Loxahatchee N.W.R. 3 February (BH) and at "Lucky Hammock" 14–28 Dec (LaM et al.). A La Sagra's Flycatcher remained near Loxahatchee N.W.R. 25 Dec+ (BH et al.), while a 2nd bird was found at Matheson Hammock, *Miami-Dade* 20 Feb (PBI, WY). Found in the fall, a **Tropical Kingbird** remained at St. Marks through the season (v.o.). Single Tropical/Couch's Kingbirds were reported at L.A.R.A. 9 Dec (HR) and Goodwin W.M.A., *Brevard* 16 Jan (SRo). For the 3rd year, a **Cassin's Kingbird** joined the L.A.R.A. tyrannid flock 9 Dec+ (HR et al., C&KR, ph.). Another Cassin's was found at Homestead, *Miami-Dade* 21 Feb (JHB). Western Kingbirds were plentiful in the s. and cen. peninsula, with 5 singles farther n. (v.o.). The Western Kingbird roost at L.A.R.A. peaked at 72 individuals 27 Jan (HR), establishing Florida's highest count. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were widely reported, with northerly reports from High Springs, *Alachua* 13 Jan (CGr), L.A.R.A. 16 Jan+ (3; HR, BHA et al.), and Seven Springs, *Pasco* through Jan (KT et al.).

Three Bell's Vireos were reported: one wintered at "Lucky Hammock" (v.o.), another was near Loxahatchee N.W.R. 2 Dec (BH), with the 3rd at Mahogany Hammock, E.N.P. (C.B.C. data). An early Yellow-throated Vireo was singing at Morris Bridge Park, *Hillsborough* 26 Feb (BAh). A Bank Swallow was carefully identified at Delray Beach 5 Jan (WG), and single Bank and Cliff Swallows were discovered among about 200 Cave Swallows at the *Miami-Dade* landfill 9 Jan (LaM). One Golden-crowned Kinglet wandered s. to n. *Pinellas* 22 Dec (KR), and a Wood Thrush wintered at Birch S.P. (WG et al.). A newly-fledged Northern Mockingbird in *Polk* 24 Feb fur-

nished an early breeding report (B&LC). Twelve American Pipits were far s. at Frog Pond W.M.A. 1 Dec (LaM).

WARBLERS THROUGH MANNIKINS

Twenty-five species of warblers were reported in the s. peninsula this season. Unverified in winter, Blue-winged Warblers were found at West Lake, E.N.P. 14 Dec (LaM) and near Loxahatchee N.W.R. 29 Dec (BH). A Tennessee Warbler was at L. Placid 27 Dec (DG et al.). Single Nashville Warblers were at Tallahassee 1 Jan (JCa), New Port Richey 31 Dec (KT, ST), Fairchild Gardens, Miami 22 Jan (JBo), and Frog Pond W.M.A. 11 Dec (JHB). Casual in winter, lone Chestnut-sided Warblers were at Birch S.P. 12 Jan+ (WG), and Royal Palm, E.N.P. 5–6 Jan (JHB). Another rare wintering *Dendroica*, Magnolia Warbler was reported on nine C.B.C.s (v. o.), with 8 tallied at Coot Bay and one n. to Crews Lake C.P., *Pasco* 18 Dec (MG). A Black-throated Green Warbler was n. to Gainesville 16 Dec (AKr). Irregular in the cen. peninsula, up to 3 Prairie Warblers wintered at Jacksonville (PP). Several birders commented that Yellow Palm Warblers appeared in greater numbers than usual in *Orange* (DE, JCl) and *Marion* (JP), about which Puschock commented, "they are almost as common (perhaps as common) as Western Palms and [...] seem restricted to mature scrub habitat." Two American Redstarts in *Alachua* 16 Dec (AKr, KS) may have been late, while one at L. Placid 27 Dec likely wintered (C.B.C. data). A Worm-eating Warbler was well described at Jacksonville 29 Dec (TA). A possibly late Northern Waterthrush was in *Alachua* 16 Dec (AKr), while up to 2 at L. Monroe (LoM) and up to 4 at L.A.R.A. wintered locally (HR). A Louisiana Waterthrush was recorded in West Palm Beach 5 Jan (CW); one at L.A.R.A. 10 Feb (HR) probably was a migrant. The number of Wilson's Warblers was down from the previous winter, although at least 12 individuals were reported (v. o.). Eight Yellow-breasted Chats ranged from *Leon* to *Miami-Dade*.

Summer Tanagers were reported in *Alachua* (MMe, BS), *Polk* (C.B.C. data), *Collier* (DSu, TD, ph.), and *Miami-Dade* (LaM, PBI). Western Tanagers were at Cedar Key 28 Dec and Royal Palm, E.N.P. 22 Dec (C.B.C. data). The male **Western Spindalis** at Bill Baggs-Cape Florida S.P., Miami was relocated 9 Dec (RD). Clay-colored Sparrows were reported in *Palm Beach* (BH), *Polk* (PT), and *Orange*, with 20 of these at L.A.R.A. 10 Feb (C&KR). A flock of 7 Lark Sparrows at Redland, *Miami-Dade* 5 Jan (*vide* JHB) was the only such report. Up to 4 Henslow's Sparrows wintered at Emeraldal Marsh (JP et al.), while 3

were at Gainesville (C.B.C. data). A Le Conte's Sparrow at Emeraldal Marsh 26 Jan–9 Feb (JP) was the sole report. Fox Sparrows were at Tallahassee 6 Dec (RL), O'Leno S.P., *Columbia* 12 Jan (JoH), and Paynes Prairie 27 Jan (MMA, AKe), while single Lincoln's Sparrows were in *Alachua* (JoH), *Pasco* (C.B.C. data), *Orange* (HR), *Broward* (LA et al.), and *Miami-Dade* (JHB et al.). Unexpected were 5 White-throated Sparrows at L. Wales, *Polk* 24 Jan (PF) and one on Government Road, *Broward* 18 Jan (BHA et al.). White-crowned Sparrows were reported on 8 C.B.C.s (v. o.), with 10 at L.A.R.A. (C&KR). Huguenot Memorial Park, *Duval* hosted up to 3 Lapland Longspurs 8 Dec–4 Jan (PP, Bri, ph.).

A female **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** photographed at Collier-Seminole S.P., *Collier* 5 Jan–9 Feb (KOD, LDo, TD, ph.) established the 2nd verifiable winter record in Florida. Another Rose-breasted was photographed at Merritt I. 5 Jan (JeH). Wintering Blue Grosbeaks were singles on the Alafia Banks and Kissimmee C.B.C.s and at Emeraldal Marsh 26 Jan (JP), with up to 3 at L.A.R.A. (HR). Painted Buntings rarely winter in the n. Peninsula, so singles at Tallahassee (BBu), Jacksonville 28 Jan+, and n. *St. Johns* 13 Jan (both PP) were notable. Single Dickcissels were found at L.A.R.A. 16 Dec (HR) and w. Kendall, *Miami-Dade* 3 Feb+ (JHB et al.). Three Rusty Blackbirds were s. to Oviedo, *Seminole* 29 Dec (BHA); a Brewer's Blackbird at L.A.R.A. 19 Dec (HR) was equally rare. L.A.R.A. furnished the Region's only reported Yellow-headed Blackbird 10 Feb (HR). A remarkable report was the 12 Shiny Cowbirds at Kissimmee Prairie Preserve S. P., *Okeechobee* 4 Feb (PS), by far the largest inland report in the U.S. during winter. Another Shiny at Naples 19 Jan (JHB) was not unexpected. Two Bronzed Cowbirds were discovered at Apalachicola 6 Dec (GB et al.), at least 3 wintered at their usual spot at Lakeland (v. o.), and up to 15 were at Naples 17 Jan+ (CE, JHB et al.). An imm. male **Bullock's Oriole** paused at Captiva I., *Lee* 29 Dec (VM), while an early Orchard Oriole was at L.A.R.A. 24 Feb (HR).

The only Purple Finches were singles at two *Alachua* locations (BW, BQ). Our n. and s. populations of House Finches continue to populate the cen. peninsula. One was seen in *Polk* 5 Dec (F&RC), 14 were at L. Wales, *Polk* 29 Dec (C.B.C. data), 2 at Temple Terrace, *Hillsborough* 5 Jan (KAn, TM), and one at New Port Richey 19 Feb (KT). Irregular in the Region, Pine Siskins were in *Wakulla* 3 Dec (JE), at Homosassa Springs, *Citrus* 10–13 Jan (4; MaW, JA) and Alva, *Lee*, 7 Dec+ (L&LW, ph.). An imm. *Lonchura* at Eco Pond, E.N.P. 29

Jan-3 Feb (CJG, LS ph. et al.) could not be identified specifically, not even by Robin Restall, author of *Munias and Mannikins* (Yale University Press, 1997). The most likely species—based primarily on geography and the hypothesis that the bird was a vagrant from established populations in Cuba or elsewhere in the West Indies—was either a Chestnut or Tricolored Munia. However, the bird perhaps was more likely a local escapee.

Undocumented report

Details have not been seen for a Lazuli Bunting, the 8th Florida report, at L.A.R.A. 7 Jan.

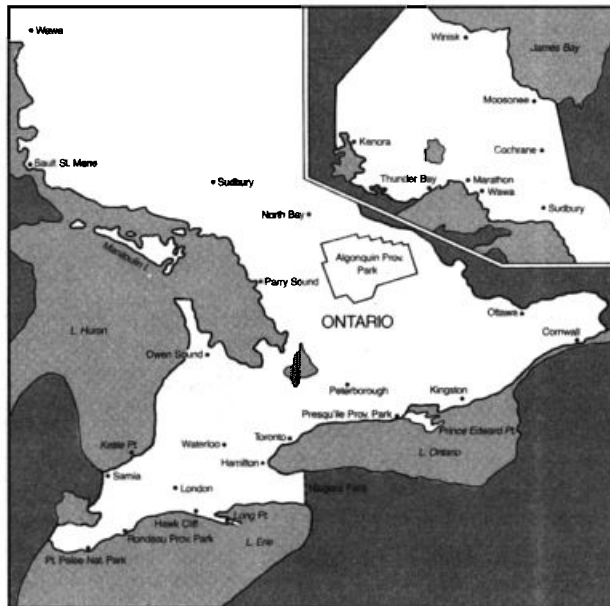
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Lorne Malo (LoM), Mike Manetz (MMa), Larry Manfredi (LaM), Tom Mason, Greg McDermott (GMc), Vince McGrath, Hugh McGuinness, Michael Meisenburg (MMe), **Gail Menk** (GMe), Peter Merritt, Don Morrow, Linda Most (LiM), John Murphy, Carol Paine (CPa), Tom Palmer, Cheri Pierce (CPi), Diane Pierce, **David Powell**, **Peggy Powell**, **Bill Pranty**, John Puschock, Brian Quinn, Cindy & Kurt Radamaker, Brian Rapoza (BRa), Bob Richter (BRi), Sue Riffe (SRi), Bryant Roberts (BRo), Harry Robinson, Carol Rohkamm, Ken Rowe, Sean Rowe (SRo), Earl Scales (ESc), Ken Scott, Eric Shaw (ESH), Bob Simons, David Simpson (DSi), Parks Small, Ray Smart (RaS), Ron Smith (RoS), Lee Snyder, Doug Suitor (DSu), Pete Timmer, Ken Tracey, Steve Tracey, Anne Turner, Bob Wallace, Ray Webb, Chuck Weber, Leon & Lois White, Margie Wilkinson (MaW), Meret Wilson (MeW), and Wilf Yusek.



Ontario



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This was the winter that wasn't. Temperatures in southern Ontario were 8.6 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than average and 2.0 degrees warmer than the previous warmest winter, which occurred 1997-1998. It was

somewhat dry in in most locations, though water levels finally began to rise in all the Great Lakes (except Lake Superior, which remained unchanged) after several years of declines. The effect of the warm winter on Ontario's birds was profound, with many records for numbers and for new species set in Christmas Bird Counts. Many transients and half-hardies, particularly waterfowl, lingered through December and even longer, though a few species such as Hermit Thrush were unusually

scarce. In Ontario, where "winter listing" is popular, it was a banner season. This was true despite the fact that most finches were noted in below-average numbers and the northern owls stayed in the north.

Abbreviations: H.F.N. (Hamilton Field Naturalists); K.F.N. (Kingston Field Naturalists); Frontenac; Long Point (Long Point Bird Observatory, *Haldimand-Norfolk*), Pelee (Pt. Pelee and vicinity, Essex); R.O.M (Royal Ontario Museum); Soo (Sault Ste Marie, Algoma).

LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

A high count of 50 Red-throated Loons (KO, AW) was made at Niagara-on-the-Lake 1 Dec. Thereafter, only a few singles were noted, mostly on L. Ontario. A **Pacific Loon** at the Soo 3 Feb turned out to be a one-day wonder. Horned Grebes were unusually plentiful. The counts of 197 on the Fisherville C.B.C., *Haldimand*, 87 on the Long Point C.B.C., and 90 at Kingston 15 Dec (K.F.N.) were all exceptional. The 6 Red-necked Grebes at Presqu'île P.P. 7 Dec (FH) was the highest number by 5 ever seen in one day in winter there. There were 19 Pied-billed Grebes at the Point Pelee marsh 18 Dec (AW) and 52 in the Erieau area 16 Dec (AW, MJ). At least one juv. Northern Gannet circled L. Ontario again this year, with observations at Stoney Creek 24 Dec (H.F.N) and Kingston on the 16 Dec C.B.C. Double-