

Emerald and Bahama Woodstar were found on tiny Cave Cay located between Grand Bahama and Great Abaco 28 Apr (EM-G, RJ, KNT). On 1 Mar, 3 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were noted at Santa Clara, Cuba (JM, GM, JC). A Gray Kingbird was present at Tudor Farm, Bermuda 11-13 May (WF, SR), while a Red-eyed Vireo was on Nonsuch I. 11-12 May (JM).

Barn Swallows arrived at Bermuda in small numbers during the period. On 9 May, BH noted a Bank Swallow at Marsh Harbour dump, Great Abaco. A single Cuban Crow was noted at Santa Clara, Cuba 1 Mar (JC, JM, GM). Four Bahama Swallows at Chub Cay, Berry Is., Bahamas 9-15 Mar (SS) were outside their breeding range. A Veery (WF, SR) was a very good find at Ferry Point, Bermuda 4 May (the latest ever spring record). Rich Hoyer and party found both Tennessee and Black-throated Green Warblers in the same *Grevillea* tree on 10 Apr near Hardwar Gap, Jamaica; Cape May Warblers were noted at Barbecue Bottom 10 Apr (3 birds) and e. of Port Antonio 12 Apr (one; RH et al.) and near Black River 22 Apr (2; ESB et al.). Several Magnolia Warblers were seen in May, making it the most common spring warbler at Bermuda. A stunning male Blackburnian Warbler was seen at Gibb's Hill Lighthouse, Bermuda 12 May, where it stayed for a few days, a very rare spring migrant (WF). A singing Prairie Warbler (WF) was found in the same area on Eleuthera as the Kirtland's from 12-23 May; the species had never previously been recorded in May here. May warbler sightings at Bermuda included American Redstart, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, and Common Yellowthroat. At Ecclesdown, Drivers River Valley, Jamaica, RH noted a Worm-eating Warbler 11 Apr and another at Port Antonio 12 Apr. Three Red-legged Honeycreepers were seen at Santa Clara, Cu. on 1 Mar (GM, JM, JC). A Blue Grosbeak (WF, SR) was at Ferry Point, Bermuda on 4 May, while the only spring Bobolink (EA) was singing at Hog Bay Park on 6 May. On San Salvador, Bahamas, WH noted a pair of Bobolinks on 16 May. A pair of Shiny Cowbirds was at Santa Clara, Cuba on 1 Mar (JC et al.). The Suttons have noted a distinct increase in Shiny Cowbirds on Jamaica in the past three years; one tour group saw 2 to 4 daily at multiple locations 22-27 Apr, which was unprecedented (ESB et al.). Michael Baltz found 17 Greater Antillean Orioles (formerly Black-cowled Oriole), including 5 imms., on Andros, Bahamas 14-17 May; he also found a nest with 4 oriole nestlings and no young cowbird at Stanniard Creek, Andros, Bahamas.

EXOTICS

Blue-fronted Parrots, still being seen in the area

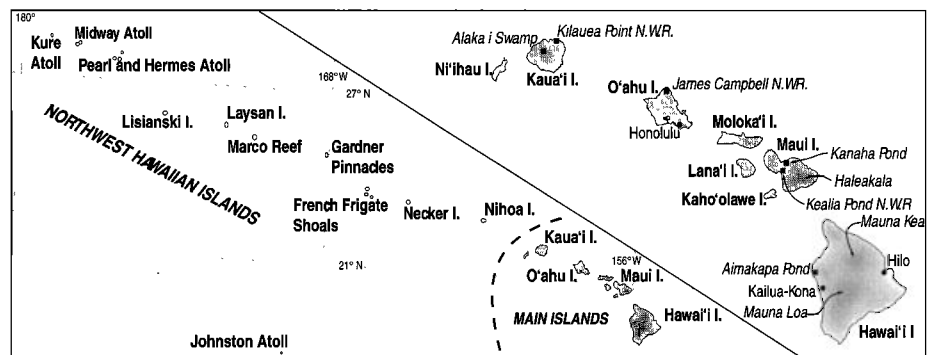
of Southampton, Bermuda, raised 2 young in a cedar tree this spring. Monk Parakeets appear to be well established on Grand Cayman, where several communal nests were located 8-11 Mar (BH, NN). Although firmly established in the continental avifauna, European Starling should be considered an invasive exotic worthy of expulsion from the West Indies. They now breed now in the Bahamas (White 1998), where BH has recorded nesting at Abaco (9 May).

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Hawaiian Islands



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Hheavy rains, which started last Oct, continued into late May. Rainfall for the year was near normal to above normal at most locations through May. The main exception was the Kona district of Hawai'i I., where rainfall was only about half the normal amount.

Abbreviations: E. (Endangered Species); H. (Hawai'i Island); Hakalau (Hakalau N.W.R., Hawai'i Island); Hanalei (Hanalei N.W.R., Kauai I.); Honouliuli (Honouliuli Unit of Pearl

Harbor N.W.R., O'ahu Island); K. (Kauai Island); Kanaha (Kanaha Pond, Maui Island); Kealia (Kealia Pond N.W.R., Maui Island); Ku (Ki'i Unit of James Campbell N.W.R., O'ahu Island); K.P. (Kilauea Pt. N.W.R., Kauai Island); M. (Maui Island); O. (O'ahu Island); Waiawa (Waiawa Unit of Pearl Harbor N.W.R., O'ahu Island); T. (Threatened Species).

ALBATROSS THROUGH EGRETS

Two Short-tailed Albatrosses that appeared on Midway atoll last fall departed on schedule. The last reports were from 11 Apr for a bird on Sand I. and 12 Apr for a bird on Eastern I. (WS). One **Streaked Shearwater** was spotted from a boat near Kauai I. 22 Mar. A brief but convincing description was provided (†DK). Streaked Shearwaters are very rare in Hawaiian waters. As usual, reports were too sparse to tell much about arrival dates or numbers for locally breeding tubenoses. Hawaiian Petrels (E.) were seen off

Kona H. (RB) and heard over Kaua'i I. (DK) in early Apr. A few Bulwer's Petrels were observed daily off Kona H. 1-6 Apr (RB), and 3 were counted between Kaua'i I. and Lehua I. 7 May (DK). Several Christmas Shearwaters were observed off Kona H. in early Apr (RB), and one was reported between Kaua'i I. and Lehua I. 7 May (DK). Newell's Shearwaters (T.) were heard calling in Waimea Canyon K. 28 Mar (DK). It is troubling that no one reported seeing any this spring. Two Band-rumped Storm-Petrels were found off Kona H. 6 Apr and one on 7 Apr (RB). Band-rumped were first heard calling in Waimea Canyon K. 29 May (DK). That seems to be a typical date (as far as we can tell) for this little-known species.

A Red-billed Tropicbird was studied at K.P. 21 Mar (DK). A Red-billed frequented K.P. in the springs of 1999 and 2000 but was not reported during the spring of 2001. Reports from K.P. were sparse last spring, so it is possible the bird was present but not reported. A Great Blue Heron was observed 15 & 17 Apr at Lokoaka Pond H. Great Blue Herons are rare in the Hawaiian Islands.

DUCKS THROUGH RAILS

Wintering waterfowl, low in numbers again, seemed to leave rather early this year. The last dabbling ducks were reported at Kealia 2 May, where 4 Northern Shovelers were counted (MN). The last report of a migrant duck was 19 May, when 2 scaup were seen at Kealia (DK).

Single Ospreys were observed at Kealia 21 Mar & 4 Apr (MS) and at Lokoaka Pond H. 17 Apr (DL). The **Rough-legged Hawk** that appeared on Midway Atoll last fall was last reported there 19 Mar (CV). A Rough-legged Hawk seen 20 Mar on Kaho'olawe I. may have been the same bird seen there by the same observer last Nov (LT). Rough-leggeds are very rare in Hawai'i. There were no reports of Peregrine Falcons this spring. Perhaps the wintering Peregrines left early this year.

Numbers of Hawaiian Coots (E.) were low in most locations on O'ahu I. and Maui I. (PD, MN). Honouliuli was an exception: Hawaiian Coots continued to breed there in healthy numbers. On 1 May, there were 145, including many broods of chicks, with 12 ads. sitting on nests. An **American Coot** discovered last Dec at Waiakea Pond H. was observed there 2 Mar (JR), 20 Mar (DL) and 15 Apr (DL)—the last reported sighting of the bird.

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS

A pale-headed stilt discovered near Kailua H. Feb was scrutinized 16 Mar (JR, DL) and 22 Apr (AE). There was speculation that it might be a vagrant Black-winged (Pied) Stilt from

Australasia, but the bird's head had darkened by Apr, leaving little doubt it is a Hawaiian Stilt. Hawaiian Stilts (E.) began nesting unusually early this year and by 1 May, some chicks had already fledged (PD).

A **Black-tailed Godwit** first seen on Maui Oct 2000 remained at Kii Jan 2001—Apr 2002 (m. ob.). The godwit never molted into breeding plumage in 2001. This year the bird had started molting into breeding plumage by 30 Mar (PD, KP) and was last observed 20 Apr, when it was reported to be about a week from attaining definitive alternate plumage (MO, RPy). We seldom have exact departure dates for migrant shorebirds, but flocks of Ruddy Turnstones and Sanderlings were observed at Kii 30 Apr heading n. over the ocean till they disappeared from sight (PD).

Four Pomarine Jaegers were observed off O'ahu I. 17 Mar (PD), and one was spotted there 28 Mar (SZ). A single Pomarine Jaeger was seen off Kaua'i I. 22 Mar. (DK). Pomarine Jaegers are reported regularly in small numbers from fall through spring. Much higher numbers were reported before 1980, when raw sewage was being piped offshore.

Numbers of wintering gulls dwindled rapidly after Jan. The last Laughing Gulls seen were 4 first-year birds at Kii 3 Mar (PD). Glaucous-winged Gulls lingered until at least 4 Apr, when 2 were at Kealia (MS). As the wintering gulls disappeared, new species turned up. Single Franklin's Gulls were at Kealia 18 Apr & 2 May (MN), and 2 were in Waimea, K. 13 May (DK). This pattern is typical. Most gulls in Hawaii are imm. birds seen in winter, but in most springs, a few ad. Franklin's Gulls appear in alternate plumage. A Bonaparte's Gull in alternate plumage over Hilo Bay H. 14 & 15 May (†DL) was exceptional.

A Caspian Tern was observed at Kii 9 Mar (PD) and in Kane'ohe O. 15 Apr (MR). This is probably the same individual that has been in the islands since Nov 2000. One basic-plumaged Common Tern was seen at Kanaha 19 Mar (DK). Both of these species are uncommon in Hawai'i. About 20,000 Sooty Terns were estimated to be on Manana I., a small island near O'ahu I., 21 May. That is much lower than the 60,000 to 80,000 normally there in May. Only a few Brown Noddies were seen; thousands are normally present (DS). A survey of White Terns in Honolulu found 670 ads. and 187 "nests" (EV). (White Terns lay their eggs directly on tree branches or other platforms, so they don't have nests in the usual sense).

PUAIOHI THROUGH PASSERINES

One Puaiohi (E.) was seen well in the Alaka'i Swamp K. 3 Apr (SZ), and one was heard there

SA Staff and volunteers with the Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project have been trying to unite one of two female Po'ouli with the only remaining male. After weeks of effort in a remote mountain area of Maui I., project members succeeded in capturing a female 4 Apr. She was fitted with a radio transmitter and moved into the male's territory. The female remained overnight but the next morning she quickly returned to her own territory (JG).

19 Apr (JR). Five Greater-Necklaced Laughing-thrushes were glimpsed near Puhi K. 4 Apr (SZ) This elusive exotic is seldom reported.

Palila (E.) were observed at Pu'u La'au H. 15 Mar and 1 Apr (RP) and again 27 Apr. On 27 Apr, there were many mamane seedpods, the Palila's main food (DL). 'Akohekohe (E.) were heard along the Waikamoi boardwalk M. 9 Mar, but no Maui Parrotbills (E.) could be found. On 21 Mar, a Maui Parrotbill was spotted, and 'Akohekohe were again heard but not seen (SZ) One or 2 'Akiapola'au (E.) were observed along Pu'u 'O'o Trail, H. 10 & 20 Mar and 20 Apr (JR) 'Akiapola'au continue to be seen regularly by tour groups on Pu'u 'O'o Ranch H. Mar+ (RP) 'Akiapola'au in Hakalau were very vocal last May; this May they were nearly silent (LP). This may be related to the rainier weather this year, but not enough is known about this rare species to be sure. 'Akikiki were observed collecting nest material in the Alaka'i Swamp K. 16 (DK) & 18 Apr (JR). A nest was located 22 Apr (DK). The unfinished nest had been abandoned by 30 Apr (DK). One 'Akeke'e was observed building a nest in Koke'e S.P. K. 18 Apr (JR).

Black-rumped Waxbills were reported in Pu'uuanahulu H. 24 Mar, and 2 Red-cheeked Cordonbleu were observed there 21 Apr (DL) These little exotic finches are rare and local African Silverbills have been rare and local on O'ahu I. but have been reported more frequently in the last few years. Small numbers were spotted regularly at Honouliuli this spring (PD)

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