

PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS



Intermittent and short-lived northeasterly winds brought a few European Golden-Plovers to Newfoundland, including this bird in Eastport photographed 28 April, one of three present at that locality 22-28 April 2002. *Photograph by Bruce Mactavish.*



This immature junco, photographed at Saint-Célestin, Québec 27 April 2002, stirred some controversy but was finally thought to be a Pink-sided Junco, the *mearnsi* subspecies of Dark-eyed Junco, a very scarce vagrant east of typical range. *Photograph by Julie Lampron.*



This male Eurasian Kestrel delighted observers on Cape Cod this spring. First found at Wellfleet 14 April 2002, it was relocated four days later on Morris Island in Chatham, where it stayed through 5 May. The only other state record is from Hull—29 September 1887! *Photograph by Phil Brown.*



Providing the first confirmed breeding record in the United States away from southern California was this Elegant Tern (upper left) incubating an egg at an Audubon Sanctuary in Hillsborough Bay, Florida (here 24 May 2002). The bird was thought to be a male based on bill morphology; its mate was apparently a Sandwich Tern, and a chick was tended by the two in early June. *Photograph by Rich Paul.*



Records of White-faced Ibis out of core range continue to accumulate. These birds were found in two eastern states' refuges: at Chincoteague N.W.R. in coastal Virginia 19 May to 5 June 2002 (right; here 2 June) and at Eufaula N.W.R. in southwestern Georgia 19 March to 20 April 2002 (left). *Photographs by Todd M. Day (right) and James R. Flynn, Jr.*





This female Herring Gull at Rutherford Beach, Cameron Parish, Louisiana—apparently a “pure” bird of the North American *smithsonianus* subspecies—showed yellow legs, a very rare character in North American birds. It was collected 25 April 2002 and was one of three similar birds seen in the area 25-26 April. *Photograph by B. Mac. Myers.*



One of four La Sagra's Flycatchers present in Florida this season, this individual was found Christmas Day 2001 and remained to 21 March (here 17 March) 2002. *Photograph by Jay Lehman.*



The spring of 2002 was memorable for the presence of many western (and midcontinental) species east of normal range, but Minnesota's *two* male Scott's Orioles may take the prize in this category. One in Wright County was noted 20 March to 23 April, while this one at Oronoco, Olmsted County was seen by many 17 (here) to 20 April. The state has one other record, from May 1974. *Photograph by Anthony Hertzell.*



Flame-colored Tanagers made two appearances in Texas this spring: a female on South Padre Island, Cameron County, and this male in the Chisos Mountains of Big Bend National Park 26 to 27 (here) April 2002. The three previously found in the state were all in the mountains of western Texas. *Photograph by Matt Victoria.*



This Black Rail, one of two present, was discovered at The Nature Conservancy's recently reclaimed Kankakee Sands wet prairie in Newton, Indiana on 25 May 2002. At least one individual remained through 27 May. Observers searching for Black Rails in interior wetlands have met with surprising successes in recent years. *Photograph by Jeffrey J. McCoy.*



The Canadian Wildlife Service made efforts in 2002 to assess the Ontario breeding population of Henslow's Sparrow. An encouraging sign was the seven individuals seen at Point Pelee during April and May, one of which is pictured here from May 2002. *Photograph by Alfred Rider.*

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This Clark's Nutcracker, discovered in Cheaha State Park, Cleburne County, Alabama on 19 April 2002, provided a first state record and one of the easternmost records anywhere. Photograph by Greg D. Jackson.



Two male Falcated Ducks were found on the West Coast this spring. This one was studied 19 March to 2 April 2002 (here 31 March) at the Fleming Unit of the Honey Lake Wildlife Area in Lassen County, California, where it attempted to court Gadwall hens. Another was present 21 February to 26 March in Skagit County, Washington. Photograph from videotape by Leslie Lieurance.



One of six Terek Sandpipers found in Alaska in spring 2002, this one was present at St. Paul Island 31 May. Photograph by Susan Hengeveld.



The only Hawfinch of the season was this male at a Shemya Island, Alaska feeder 19-26 May 2002. Photograph by M. T. Schwitters.



South Florida's population of *gundlachi* Yellow Warblers (sometimes called "Golden Warbler" collectively with the rest of the Caribbean *petechia* group) numbers on the order of 2000 pairs, but it still poses identification problems, particularly the very pale young females. This subspecies also nests in Cuba. This photograph was taken on Card Sound Road in Monroe County 18 May 2002, a good place to see *gundlachi*. Photograph by Joe B. Milosevich.



Of the 43 subspecies of Yellow Warbler, there are three main groups: the migratory *aestiva* group of North America, the nominate *petechia* group that includes *gundlachi* (to the left), and the *erithachorides* group ("Mangrove Warbler") of the coasts of Central and South America. Twenty-two Yellow Warblers caught in the nets 21-23 April 2002 at Sacrificos in the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, Quintana Roo, Mexico, were apparently Caribbean *petechia*-group birds, rather than Mangrove Warblers or migrating northern birds. Photograph by Barbara MacKinnon.



An adult male Bullock's Oriole is doubly rare in the East, where most reports are of difficult-to-identify young birds. This bird constituted a first confirmed state record at Vienna, Virginia, where it was present 16 March to 6 April 2002. *Photograph by Marshall J. Iliff.*



Researchers working on Kirtland's Warblers in the Bahamas have met with success in tracking wintering birds. This bird on Eleuthera was one of at least eight noted 9 March to 28 April 2002 (here 18 March) in broadleaf copice south of Tarpum Bay; six of these birds were color-banded here. *Photograph by Aileen Bainton.*



Washington's first Painted Bunting, found in the winter, continued at Seattle through 3 March 2002, when it was photographed here. Vagrant Painted Buntings were found throughout much of the continent this season. *Photograph by Ruth Sullivan.*



One of an increasing number of vagrant Black-chinned Hummingbirds recorded east of the Mississippi River, this bird provided a first photographic state record at Virginia Beach, Virginia 6 January to 5 February 2002. The recurved, club-shaped outer primary tip, ashen face, and rather long bill distinguish Black-chinned from Ruby-throated, one of which also overwintered in Virginia Beach in 2001-2002, the first such state record. *Photograph by Andy Tate.*



A Western Scrub-Jay of the *woodhouseii/nevadae* group remained at Chief Timothy State Park, Washington through the end of March (here 31 March 2002). Note the slender bill and dull underparts. *Photograph by Ruth Sullivan.*



This Common Ringed Plover photographed at Baie-du-Febvre was the second in less than two years for the province of Québec. *Photograph by Sylvain Gosselin.*



This juvenile Ornate Hawk-Eagle was photographed near San Isidro Piedra Ancha, near Jalapa de Díaz, Oaxaca 17 March 2002. According to published references, the species is rare in this state of Mexico. *Photograph by Francisco Marini Zúñiga.*