

This spring's weather was generally cooler and wetter than normal. Many areas received considerable amounts of rain in March, and several storms were noted for cold, wet conditions in April and early May. A major snowstorm hit the mountains during the third week of April, and it seemed that spring was running about two weeks late after that. Many observers stated that the migration of many passerines was correspondingly late. The coastal areas also were affected with major rain and wind events in late April, early May, and late May. There were probably considerable nesting failures along the coast during these storms. This season nevertheless produced some highlights including several pelagic species of note, including alcids, a good warbler migration, and above-average Swallow-tailed Kite and Dickcissel migrations.

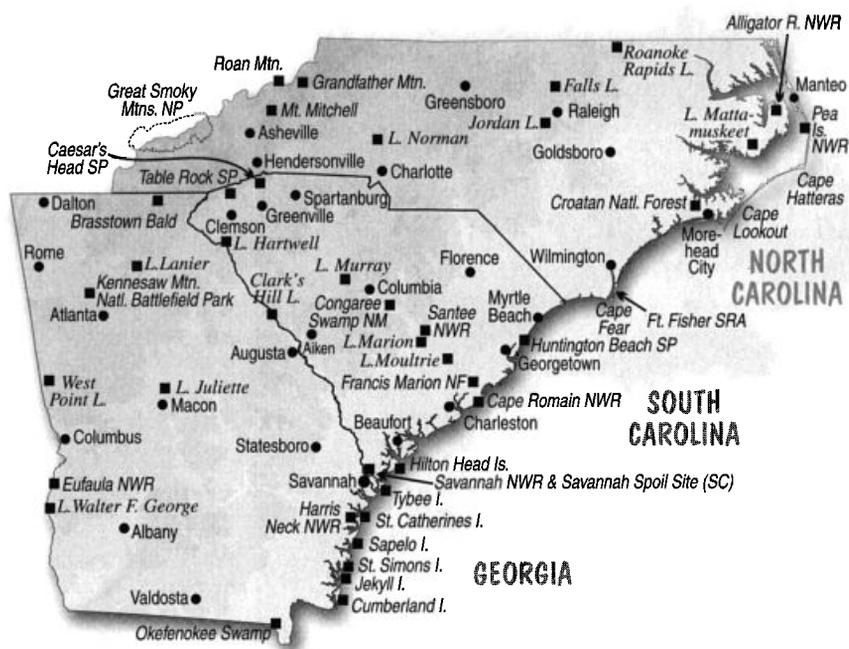
Abbreviations: C. Hatt. (Cape Hatteras, Dare, NC); E.L.H. (E.L. Huie Land Application Facility, Clayton, GA); H.B.S.P. (Huntington Beach S.P., Georgetown, SC); Hoop. (Hooper Lane, Henderson, NC); Kennesaw Mt. (Kennesaw Mt. National Battlefield Park, Cobb, GA); Pea I. (Pea Island N.W.R., Dare, NC); S.S.S. (Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper, SC).

LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

The Pacific Loon found at L. Hartwell, GA in late Feb was last noted 6 Mar (DV), while a Pacific in breeding plumage was a complete surprise at Oregon Inlet, NC 28–30 May (DC, KC, GA et al., DS et al.). Common Loons are regular migrants at inland sites in the Region. The best counts received were the 120 at L. Lanier, GA 2 Apr (JS, BL) and 77 at L. Julian, NC 3 Apr (GL et al.). Lingering grebes included a Horned at Jordan L., NC 8 May (TD et al.), a Red-necked at the C. Hatt. salt pond 19 Mar (RD), and an Eared at E.L.H. 24 Apr (PB).

Pelagic trips produced some good birds once again this season. Northern Fulmars were present in North Carolina waters this spring, no doubt due to the cooler water present inshore. Thirty was a good count off Manteo 14 May, and singles were very late off Manteo 29 May and Hatteras 30 May (BPI). Gadfly petrels were well represented; all four species were noted in late May. The 27 May trip out of Manteo produced a "hat-trick" of rare petrels: one Herald, 2 Fea's, and 2 Bermuda Petrels (BPI). Other Fea's were noted on trips out of Manteo: one on 14 May provided a new early date for the species in state waters (BPI); another small *Pterodroma* observed that day was small and quite small-billed and was identified only as Fea's/Zino's Petrel. Also, 2 Fea's Petrels each day were seen on 23 & 24 May (BPI). In addition to the 27 May birds, 2 Bermuda Petrels were

Southern Atlantic



noted off Manteo 23 & 28 May (BPI). Shearwaters of note included a Sooty Shearwater off Charleston, SC 15 May (ND), another off Savannah, GA 22 May (SC), and a Manx off Charleston, SC 10 Apr (ND et al.). Off North Carolina, Manx Shearwaters were detected on nine trips; the high count was 3 off Manteo 24 May (BPI).

Easily the best bird report of the season was **European Storm-Petrel** in North Carolina waters: 2 were off Hatteras 30 May, one was off Manteo 30 May, one was off Manteo 31 May, and singles were off Hatteras 4 & 5 Jun (BPI). All sightings were documented with photographs and hopefully will help determine just how many individuals were involved. Other storm-petrel news involved 2 Band-rumpeds off Charleston, SC 28 May (ND et al.), a species very rarely reported in that state.

Single tropicbirds (not identified to species) were reported off Charleston, SC 14 May (*fide* ND) and Hatteras 29 May (*fide* BP). In North Carolina, an imm. Brown Booby caused some excitement, as it was observed sporadically in the Oregon Inlet area 21 May until at least 1 Jun (S. N. G. Howell, BP, M. Overton, JCa et al., ESB, GLA et al., JL, WI), where it could be observed foraging among many dozens of lingering first-year Northern Gannets, far more than typically remain at this latitude in late May. Inland American White Pelicans included an im-

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pressive 81 at L. Walter F. George, GA 28 May (JS, CL) and 15 at L. Auman, Moore, NC 22 Mar (DD). An ad. male Magnificent Frigatebird was very unusual 56 km off Murrell's Inlet, SC 25 May (JP), as this species normally follows the coast in its wanderings. Ardeid highlights included an American Bittern near Price L., Watauga, NC 29 Apr (MW et al.) and an ad. Little Blue Heron w. of Carters L., GA 7 Apr (JSp). Four Glossy Ibis at Oxbow Meadows, GA 1 Apr (WC) were unusual inland, as was a Wood Stork there 23 Apr (*fide* LR).

Greater White-fronted Geese of note included 7 from the winter season still on Coal Mountain Rd., Forsyth, GA 12 Mar (MF), 4 near Magruder, Burke, GA 5 Mar (B&DZ), and 4 at Emerald Isle, NC 5–13 Mar (JCa, NB, RD). Two Ross's Geese were good finds at Dawsonville, GA 13–14 Mar (RA), while one near McDonough, GA 26–28 May (JB) was extremely late. Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks continue to be reported in south-coastal South Carolina: 2 were at Savannah



Providing the third record for North Carolina, this Burrowing Owl was present at a mall parking lot in Asheville for several weeks in the latter part of (here 28) May 2005. The provenance of this bird is open to question, as it seemed to appear when a landscaping operation began work there. Photograph by Wilton Lewis.

N.W.R. 12 Mar (RS). Georgia also hosted the species; 4 were in *Mitchell* in May (EH, JF1). Totally unexpected was the Wood Duck found offshore out of Oregon Inlet, NC 29 May (BPI); the species is occasionally observed with scoters 15 km from land off Virginia, particularly at the Chesapeake Bay mouth, but North Carolina has few if any such records. The introduced population of Mottled Duck in coastal South Carolina has been increasing for several years, and it was only a matter of time before the species was observed in North Carolina. Two reports came from *Onslow* 14 May: 2 at a spoil island pond at Camp Lejeune (J&SCa) and 2 at a Topsail Island pond (JFe, AW), potentially first state records. The only Cinnamon Teal reported this season was a male at a pond along I-75 in *Bartow*, GA 15 Mar (SP).

The Folly Beach, SC King Eider from the winter season was present until at least 5 Mar (ND), while a female was a surprise at Oregon Inlet, NC, also 5 Mar (Jeff Lewis). The latter bird was with 4 Common Eiders that had been present there since the winter season (JL, RD, m.ob.). Other Commons noted were the ad. male at Ocean Isle Beach, NC until at least 20 Mar (TP) and up to 2 at Edisto Beach, SC 11 Mar–21 Apr (CR, ND et al.). The male Harlequin Duck present at Myrtle Beach, SC from the winter was last

reported 5 Mar (ND); a first-winter male was at Atlantic Beach, NC 26–28 Mar (JF, SB). Noteworthy inland scoters included a Surf at L. Acworth, GA 14 Mar (CS) and a Black at Trout L., Blowing Rock, NC 20 Mar (BC). This season's nesting Hooded Merganser reports involved 7 (with one young bird) at Jordan L., NC 1 May (DS et al.) and several at Yates Mill Pond, *Wake*, NC 14 May (JCo et al.). Late mergansers included a female Common at Jordan L., NC 8 May (PT) and a female Red-breasted on the Catawba R., *Catawba*, NC 29 May (DM).

RAPTORS THROUGH ALCIDS

Twenty-six reports of extralimital Swallow-tailed Kites were received this spring—many more than usual. Georgia had 7, South Carolina one, and North Carolina a staggering 18 reports. The earliest

were singles at Jekyll I., GA (*fide* JS) and Woodbine, GA (BB), both 11 Mar. The farthest n. was near the Wright Bridge, *Currituck*, NC 3 Apr (*fide* TP), and the farthest



In the Southeast, King Eider is much less common than Common Eider. This female King was present at Oregon Inlet, North Carolina 5 March 2005, conveniently in the company of four Commons. Photograph by Jeff Lewis.

out of the normal range were the singles at Eufaula N.W.R., GA 1 May (*fide* TM) and Charlotte, NC 21 May (*fide* TP). Mississippi Kites were reported in average numbers; in *Dare*, NC, 2 each at Kill Devil Hills 14 May (JL) and at Rodanthe 16 May (GLA, ESB) were observed in southbound flight toward Buxton, now an expected phenomenon during periods of northerly winds, as also seen at Cape May, NJ and Cape Charles, VA. Continuing a very recent trend, several pale Red-tailed Hawks were reported. One was at Alligator River N.W.R., NC 19 Mar (RD) and another at Oxbow Meadows, GA 1 Apr (WC). In recent years, *kriderii* has come to be treated as a pale morph of the e. subspecies *borealis* rather than as a distinct prairie subspecies; both the North Carolina and the Georgia birds appeared to be typical of *kriderii*. Another pale Red-tailed at Alligator River N.W.R. in Mar (RD), however, seemed a closer match for *fuertesi* (unknown in the East)! Quite rare in spring in the Region, Rough-legged Hawks were at North River Farms, *Carteret*, NC 6 Mar (JF et al.) and along NC 441 in *Macon*, NC 20 Apr (JM). Also quite rare and unexpected in spring was the subad. Golden Eagle seen near Griffin, *Spalding*, GA on the late date of 31 May (EB).

Inland rails of note included 2 Blacks in n. *Greene*, GA 22 May (PWS), a Black along Mid Pines Rd., *Wake*, NC 30 May+ (JSn, SS, TK), and a Sora on Rich Mt., *Watauga*, NC 29 Apr (WI et al.). Sandhill Cranes continued to be reported rather frequently, with some of the more interesting sightings involving 4 near Townville, SC 6 Mar (JE et al.), 3 near the French Broad R., *Henderson*, NC 6 Mar (MW), one at Sapelo I., GA 3 May (DCo), one at Ft. Fisher, NC 23 May (JPa), and one in Decatur, GA 23–30 May (WW). The reintroduced Whooping Cranes that wintered in the Carolinas remained until late Mar, when they were observed migrating northward. Truly unexpected were the 2 seen near High Rock L., NC for two days in mid-May (*fide* HL)!

The only reports of American Golden Plover received this spring came from Hoop., with 2 on 28 Mar (SG) and 6 on 2 Apr (WF, RSe), and Clemson, SC, with one 30 Mar (PC). Noteworthy Black-necked Stilt reports involved one very early at Little St. Simons I., GA 5 Mar (BN) and one being locally unusual at Calabash Creek, Sunset Beach, NC 25 Mar (RD). Inland shorebirds of note included 7 Willets at West Point L., GA 22 Apr (WC), 6 Stilt Sandpipers at the E.L.H. 28–29 Apr (CL), 50 Short-billed Dowitchers in *Floyd*, GA 30 Apr (CS, MD), a Wilson's Phalarope at the E.L.H. 28 Apr–1 May (CL, DV), and a Red-necked Phalarope at Townville, SC 7 May (SCx et al.). The best



Providing only the second documented spring record of Buff-breasted Sandpiper in South Carolina, this bird was photographed at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County 28 April 2005. Photograph by Steve Calver.

Upland Sandpiper count reported was the 12 on Cumberland I., GA on the early date of 12 Mar (DF et al.). One at Marietta, GA 7 May (JCs) was rather late for a species that normally moves through the Region in Apr. Three Long-billed Curlews remained at Little St. Simons I., GA until late Apr (BN), and 3 were on Sapelo I., GA as late as 24 May (SW et al.). Purple Sandpipers often linger into late spring in the Region, and this year's late bird was at Oregon Inlet, NC 29 May (RD). Easily the most unusual shorebird this spring was the Buff-breasted Sandpiper photographed at the S.S.S. 28 Apr (SC). This species is normally a spring migrant in the interior of the continent, and the Region has only five Georgia and one South Carolina spring reports otherwise. American Woodcocks are very local breeders in the Region; thus of note were the ads. with 2 young in the Croatan N.E., NC 31 Mar (*vide* JF). The most interesting Red Phalarope reports were 1500 off of Murrell's Inlet, SC 30 Mar (JP) and the 13 onshore at South Pond, Pea I. 18 Apr (JL) following a coastal storm.

The only jaegers reported from shore were 2 Pomarines at Pea I. 14 May (MS) and a Parasitic at Coquina Beach, Dare 21 May (GLA, ESB et al.). Offshore numbers were good in mid-May but down later in the month, with the peak count of Pomarine being 20 off Manteo, NC 13 May (BPI). Only

one Parasitic Jaeger was noted offshore, that being off Hatteras, NC 29 May (BPI). Always noteworthy in the Region, Long-tailed Jaegers were found twice off North Carolina: 4 were seen 13 May and one the next day, both trips out of Oregon Inlet (BPI). Franklin's Gulls were found twice: an ad. below the L. Walter F. George Dam, GA 3 Apr (JFI, EH) and another at Cedar I., NC 23 May (R&SBo). The Little Gull inland at Jordan L., NC from the winter season was last noted 12 Mar (DS et al.), and the first-winter Black-headed Gull at the Conway, SC W.T.P. was last reported 9 Mar (JP). Other gulls of note were 3 Lesser Black-backed still at Kill Devil Hills, NC 29 May (LW), now an expected late-May lingerer on the Outer Banks, and a second-winter Glaucous Gull at Oregon Inlet, NC 19 Mar (BPF, RD). The very rare Sabine's Gull was found twice off North Carolina this spring: an ad. was off Manteo 14 May, and a first-summer bird was off Manteo 28 May (BPI), the first offshore since 1991. Inland tern reports of note included a peak count of 33

Caspians at L. Wheeler, Raleigh, NC 23 Apr (RD), a very rare non-coastal Royal at L. Crabtree, Wake, NC 10 Apr (BBo), a Least at the E.L.H. 31 May (CL), and a Black at the E.L.H. 30 May (SBa). Arctic Tern numbers offshore were way down in North Carolina this spring (only one off Manteo 14 May),

but 4 off Charleston, SC 28 May (ND et al.) provided one of the very few records in that state. In South Carolina, tropical tern highlights included 13 Bridleds off Charleston 28 May (ND et al.), 3 early Bridleds off Charleston 10 Apr (ND et al.), single Sooties off Charleston 14 & 28 May (ND et al.), and a Sooty near shore at Crab Bank, Charleston Harbor 14 May (ND). South Carolina's first spring Brown Noddy was photographed off Charleston 28 May (ND et al.). Practically all sightings of this species in the Region are during summer and early fall, typically after tropical storms. Also of note inland was the Black Skimmer at L. Walter F. George, GA 29 May (JFI, EH). This species is very unusual away from the coast anywhere in North America (with the exception of Florida).

The winter's alcid invasion continued into the spring. A Thick-billed Murre present at Bogue Inlet, NC 24 Mar–12 Apr (SCa, HW et al.) was joined by another for at least one day 30 Mar (JCa, BP). Also a Thick-billed was found dead at Atlantic Beach, NC on the late date of 1 May (*vide* JF), providing a rare specimen for that state. Razorbills continued to be the most obvious alcid in the Region, with the best count being 30 at Atlantic Beach, NC 4 Mar (JF). The latest reported Razorbills were 5 near Ft. Macon, NC 28 Mar (RD). Also very unusual was the injured ad. Atlantic Puffin picked up at Atlantic Beach, NC 28 Mar (*vide* JCa), which died during an operation to repair a broken wing at the North Carolina Zoo several days later.

DOVES THROUGH THRUSHES

This season's White-winged Doves included singles at Little St. Simons I., GA during the first week of Apr (BN), at Charlotte, NC



An extremely rare sight off North Carolina's coast in spring, Sabine's Gull was recorded twice this season: once 14 May 2005, the other 30 May (here) off Manteo. The species was previous reported here most recently in 1992. The appearance of the latter bird may have been tied to powerful northeasterly winds of the previous three days. Photograph by George L. Armistead.



This adult Atlantic Puffin was picked up injured at Topsail Island, North Carolina 28 March 2005 (here). It was transported to the North Carolina Zoo, where it died during an operation to repair a broken wing. Photograph by J. Gardner.

10–11 May (*fide* TP), near Quitman, Brooks, GA 14 May (RH), and on Jekyll I., GA 16 May (MC). Black-billed Cuckoos staged one of their better spring migrations through the Region this year. The most interesting reports involved one extremely early at Augusta, GA 3 Apr (LS), one at Santee N.W.R., SC 10 May (IP), one at Moore's Creek Battleground, Pender, NC 26 May (JEn), and one at Alligator River N.W.R., NC 28 May (ML). One of the most unexpected birds of the spring had to be the **Burrowing Owl** photographed in Asheville, NC during its apparent two-week stay (up until 28 May) at a mall parking lot (WL). There was major landscaping work being done there, and the bird could have arrived from Florida via one of the trucks used to bring in materials. There are two previous reports from coastal North Carolina, and their provenance is similarly unclear. Chuckwill's-widows normally return to the Region during late Mar but are not normally found offshore (as they are in the Gulf of Mexico); 4 well off Savannah, GA 21–22 Mar (RW) were thus rather surprising. Another good find, somewhat overdue, was the ad. **Buff-bellied Hummingbird** photographed at a feeder in Pavo, Thomas-Brooks, GA 1–5 Apr (*fide* BBg). Not only was this the first for that state, it was only the 2nd for the Region, the first being one banded in Lexington, SC in Dec 2001.

Only 2 Olive-sided Flycatchers were found this spring: along White House Rd.,

Columbia, SC 1 May (CE) and along Heintoooga Rd., Swain, NC 21 May (RD). *Empidonax* flycatchers away from the mountains included an Alder at Paulk's Pasture W.M.A., Glynn, GA 8 May (GK), a Willow at McDowell Prairie, Mecklenburg, NC in the last week of May (CH, JW), and a Willow along I-95 in Halifax, NC 30 May (CM). Early Eastern Kingbirds were found several times this spring: one at Grand Bay, Valdosta, GA 13 Mar (BBg), 2 at Bear Island W.M.A., SC 24 Mar (LM), and one in Henderson, NC 30 Mar (WF). An Eastern Kingbird in pelagic waters off Oregon Inlet, NC 24 May (BPI) was most unusual. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers made news again this spring. In Georgia, one was at Robinson Nature Preserve 7–8 May (DH et al.), one was in Bartow 19 May (MDa), one was in Griffin, Spalding 21–22 May (EB, MB), and 2 were in the usual McDonough, Henry site 23 May (CHu et al.). In South Carolina, singles were near the Clarks Hill Res. dam 20–29 May (LS, RC) and in n. Greenville 23–26 May (JoW, JCI).

Common Ravens continued their increasing presence away from the mountains; singles at Durant Nature Park, Raleigh, NC 10 Apr (JCo) and at Whispering Pines, Moore, NC 29 Apr (SCb) were well e. of usual areas. Nesting Red-breasted Nuthatches were once again found s. of North Carolina. A pair was at a nest hole at Burrell's Ford, SC 15–18 Apr, and a pair was excavating at the Nicholson homesite, Rabun, GA 19 Apr (FR). The thrush migration was definitely uneventful.

The best counts involved the 412 Swainson's and 17 Gray-cheekeds during a predawn count at Kennesaw Mt. 11 May (GB et al.). Other noteworthy thrush reports included a late Gray-cheeked at Southlands Forest, Decatur, GA 25 May (MBe) and an early Wood Thrush at Southern Pines, NC 31 Mar (WI). American Robins are not often mentioned in migration reports in spring, but a specimen recovered from the R2 tower well off Georgia 22 Mar (RW) was unusual.

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

Blue-winged Warblers are rare along the coast in spring; noteworthy were singles on Jekyll I., GA 5 Apr (KB), at the S.S.S. 24 Apr (SC), and on Roanoke I., NC 3–6 May (JL). Six was an excellent one-day total at Kennesaw Mt. 27 Apr (DZ). A Tennessee Warbler on Roanoke I., NC 3–5 May (JL) was the only coastal one reported. More Nashville Warblers were reported than usual, especially at Kennesaw Mt., where 2 per day were noted on seven days late Apr–early May (m.ob.); one on Roanoke I., NC 9 May (JL) provided a rare spring record for the coast. Very late and locally unusual for coastal Georgia were Yellow Warblers on Sapelo I. 24 May and Harris Neck N.W.R. 26 May (SW et al.) and a Magnolia Warbler on Sapelo I. 24 May (SW). A Cape May Warbler at Carrboro, NC 18 Mar (MM) was most likely a wintering bird, being too early for a migrant. Apparent late migrants included a Black-throated Green Warbler on Roanoke I., NC 30 May (JL), 2 singing Yellow-rumped Warblers along the Appalachian Trail at Grassy Ridge near Roan Mt., NC 26 May (*fide* EP), and a Blackburnian Warbler at Robinson Nature Preserve, Cobb, GA 28 May (DH). Several slightly early migrant warblers were reported, such as a Blackpoll at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC 22 Apr (ST), three Prothonotaries in the Green Swamp, Brunswick, NC 25 Mar (RD), and a Swainson's near Charleston, SC 24 Mar (ND). Cerulean Warblers were noted in average numbers, and the most unusual sightings were from Roanoke I., NC 28 Apr and 2 May (JL). Single Northern Waterthrushes were somewhat early near Darien, McIntosh, GA (DCo) and the offshore tower R2 (*; RW), both 22 Mar. Connecticut Warblers were reported more often than usual. At Kennesaw Mt., singles were reported 11 & 16 May (GB, PH et al.),

and 2 were there 19 May (LWe). Jackson Park, NC also had multiple sightings (possibly of the same individual) 10–14 May (JSm, WF et al., RSe); and singles were at Shepard Nature Preserve, GA 1 May (JMd), Griffin, GA 4 May (EB), and Seneca, SC 13 May (PC). Mourning Warblers also made a good showing, with singles at Jackson Park, NC 12 & 22 May (WF, RSe, TJ), at Kennesaw Mt. 19 May (LWe), and near Bluff Mt., Ashe, NC 27 May (ML). An unidentified *Oporornis* warbler was seen on Jekyll I., GA 12 May (LT), providing a very unusual sighting for the coast. Wilson's Warbler numbers were down this spring; easternmost was one along the Neuse R. in Raleigh, NC 7 May (RD).

A male Western Tanager was noted on the Outer Banks at Bodie I., NC 29 May (*vide* JL), and an early Summer Tanager arrived at Little St. Simons I., GA 23 Mar (BN et al.). A Bachman's Sparrow at Kennesaw Mt. 7 May was considered extremely rare for that Piedmont locale (GB et al.). Clay-colored Sparrows that wintered at North River Farms, Carteret, NC peaked at 5 on 20 Mar and one remained until at least 1 May (JF, JFe et al.); one at the S.S.S. 28 Apr (SC) was a very good find. The Henslow's Sparrow breeding populations at the VOA sites in e. NC were again counted, with 53 singing males at the Beaufort site 14

May and 55 singing males at the Pitt site 15 May (JW). These numbers represent a substantial decrease from years past, reflecting changes in mowing practices. Lincoln's Sparrows, always noteworthy in spring, were noted at North River Farms, Carteret, NC 6 & 20 Mar (JF, JFe et al.), at Athens, GA 5 May (*vide* MF), at Gastonia, NC 9 May (STr), and at the McDowell Prairie, Mecklenburg, NC 20 May (CH). Late White-throated Sparrows reported included singles at Jackson Park, NC 22 May (WF et al.), on Roanoke I., NC 27 May (JL), and at Hammocks Beach S.P., Onslow, NC 28 May (AG). The rarest sparrow of the season was clearly the ad. Harris's Sparrow present at a feeder in Athens, GA early–24 Mar (*vide* JFI, B&DZ, m.ob.).

Impressive numbers of migrant buntings in late Apr included 25 Blue Grosbeaks in n. Greene, GA 24 Apr (PS) and 14 Blue Grosbeaks and 37 Indigo Buntings at the S.S.S. 28 Apr (SC). An imm. male Indigo Bunting at Tybee I., GA 1–2 Mar (RW) had probably wintered, while 2 at a feeder on Roanoke I.,

NC 29 Mar were more likely early migrants (JL). Several wintering Painted Buntings lingered into the spring season, e.g., one on Tybee I., GA 2 Mar (RW). Others away from the usual range included males at Whispering Pines, NC 24 Apr (SCb), at Sanford, NC 3 May (DMac), and at Duluth, GA 23–24 May (AC, KT). In one of the best flights in recent memory, Dickcissels were widely reported across the Region this spring. The best counts received included an amazing 21 at North River Farms, Carteret, NC 15 May+ (JF, JFe, R&SBo), 15+ at Griffin, GA 23 May (EB), and up to 12 at Townville, SC 7 (SCx et al.) & 19 May (BM). There were at least



This adult Harris's Sparrow frequented a feeder in Athens, Georgia in March 2005 and was last seen (and photographed here) 24 March. There are few previous state records. Photograph by Bob Zaremba.

20 other reports that came from across the Region from the coast to the mountains.

In the same fields as the Dickcissels, 3 Bobolinks at North River Farms, NC 28 May (JF, JFe, R&SBo) were quite late for a coastal locality. The always noteworthy Yellow-headed Blackbird was found twice: a male at the Oregon Inlet, NC campground 2 Apr (JL) and another at Jack's Creek, L. Marion, SC 27 Apr (JBT). Brewer's Blackbirds were at Hoop., with up to 3 there 2–7 Apr (WF, RSe, GM) and 3 at Townville, SC 19 Mar (ST). Only one Shiny Cowbird was found, that being a male at Ft. Macon, NC 13 May (RN). A first-year male Bullock's Oriole at a feeder in Loris, SC 5 Apr (L&ES) was potentially that state's 2nd record. After the solid finch influx this past winter, several late reports of note included single Purple Finches at Alligator River N.W.R., NC 16 Apr (JL) and near Grandfather Mt., NC 30 Apr (RD) and a Pine Siskin in Durham, NC 30 May (GD). Red Crossbill sightings included 6 at a feeder in Fannin, GA 16 Mar (*vide* TS), up to 3

near Grandfather Mt. NC 30 Apr (NM, RD), one at a feeder in Blowing Rock, NC 29 Apr (WI, JL), and 8 at Little Switzerland, NC 1 May (TL).

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