

Southern Atlantic



Ricky Davis

This fall's weather was one of extremes, with most central areas experiencing drought conditions and most coastal and western areas having higher levels of precipitation. Temperatures for the most part continued the recent trend of being quite warm early and remaining very mild into the latter half of the season. Once again, hurricanes affected the region, with *Katrina* in late

Pea I. 16 Oct (SM et al.), at the Merry Ponds, Augusta, GA 19 Nov (LS), and at Table Rock S.P., SC 25–29 Nov (RC, CE, SS). Snow Geese were late in returning to the Region but did so in normal numbers. Most unusual were 5 Brant inland at L. Crabtree, Wake, NC on the early date of 11–13 Oct (DS et al.), providing about the 4th inland report for the state. Only one Eurasian Wigeon was noted, that being at the usual North Pond, Pea I. area 23 Oct (RD). On the heels of this past spring's birds, another Mottled Duck was found in North Carolina, this one at Ft. Fisher 15 Oct (GM). This is the 3rd report for the state and lends credence to the idea that more individuals of the increasing South Carolina population will be found to the n. in the future.

Summering Ring-necked Ducks remained into the fall, with one at the E.L.H. until Sep (CL et al.) and 2 in sw. Burke, GA 21 Aug (JFI, EH). Single imm. Common Eiders were at the H.B.S.P. jetty 19 Nov (JP et al.) and on Cumberland I., GA 25 Nov (TE, BD). With waterfowl arriving somewhat late this fall, only a

land, Red-throated Loons were near Roper, Washington, NC 23 Nov (DR) and at L. Walter F. George, GA 25 Nov (EB et al.). Only one Pacific Loon was reported, that being at Kill Devil Hills, NC 23 Nov (KC). Eared Grebes were reported from the usual places, but numbers seemed to be down. The peak count was only 8 at Rum Creek, GA 17 Sep (TJ).

Pelagic trips off Hatteras I., NC were highlighted by a Fea's Petrel 21 Aug, a Manx Shearwater 27 Aug, a White-faced Storm-Petrel 14 Aug, 2 White-tailed Tropicbirds 27 Aug, and a Masked Booby 13 Aug (BPI). South Carolina sightings off Charleston included 23 Black-capped Petrels 13 Aug and a Band-rumped Storm-Petrel 20 Aug (ND et al.). Hurricane *Ophelia* moved slowly up the North Carolina coast 14–16 Sep and deposited large numbers of seabirds into the sounds. During the storm's passage many birds, mostly shearwaters, were noted on the beaches of the cen. and n. coast. On 16 Sep at Hatteras, Patteson noted 30 Cory's Shearwaters and a Band-rumped Storm-Petrel. The next day, stationed at the Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet, Davis noted the following in Pamlico Sound: 3 Black-capped Petrels, 140 Cory's Shearwaters, a Greater Shearwater, 5 Audubon's Shearwaters, a Manx Shearwater, and 6 Wilson's Storm-Petrels. The Cory's milling around inside the inlet would not cross the bridge to access the ocean. Their numbers increased to a peak of 190 on 21 Sep (PS), with one still present 2 Oct (RD).

American White Pelicans continued their presence in the Region, with the best counts being 115 at the S.S.S. 22 Oct (SC) and 90 at Andrews I., Glynn, GA 8 Oct (BZ). Noteworthy inland reports involved 76 at West Point L., GA 17 Nov (MB) and 5 at L. Walter F. George, GA 25 Nov (EB et al.). The northernmost group once again was at Pea I., peaking at 36 on 12 Nov (RD et al.). Also of note inland was the imm. Brown Pelican at L. Walter F. George, GA 25 Nov (EB et al.).

A Great White Heron was a good find near



The eye of Hurricane *Ophelia* stayed just a few kilometers off the North Carolina coast as it moved slowly northeastward 14–16 September 2005. Most storms that do not traverse the mainland produce relatively few records of pelagic seabirds from shore, but most of *Ophelia*'s inner bands swept over the barrier islands and large sounds of North Carolina, moving at least six tubenoses species inshore and into the sounds. Up to 190 Cory's Shearwaters were recorded in Pamlico Sound near Oregon Inlet, including this group 17 September. Photograph by Brian L. Sullivan.

August and *Ophelia* in mid-September being the most notable for obvious transport of birds. One other storm, Hurricane *Wilma* in late October, was most likely responsible for the avian highlight of the season, an unprecedented invasion of Magnificent Frigatebirds.

Abbreviations: 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).

WATERFOWL THROUGH WADERS

Whistling-ducks continued to be present in s-coastal South Carolina, with the S.S.S. harboring both species. Black-bellieds were present all fall, peaking at 47 on 19 Nov, while one Fulvous was noted 14 Aug (SC). Noteworthy Greater White-fronted Geese were found at

handful of noteworthy inland sightings were received. These included a male Surf Scoter on L. Junaluska, Haywood, NC 22 Nov (CW, WF, BO), a White-winged Scoter at West Point L. Dam, GA 22 Nov (WC), and a male Common Merganser near Rhems, Williamsburg, SC 25 Nov (DF). Always noteworthy in-

SA Hurricane *Katrina* was certainly responsible for bringing single Magnificent Frigatebirds to Georgia, with a juv. at L. Walter F. George 30 Aug and a female at L. Seminole 31 Aug (MB et al.). But it was the Nov flight of the species that made real news in the Region, probably all birds that were returning southward after being transported to the Atlantic Provinces of Canada by Hurricane *Wilma*. This storm crossed Florida 24 Oct, quickly moved up the Atlantic Seaboard, and then affected e. Canada 25–26 Oct. By early Nov, frigatebirds were being seen in all three states, especially in North Carolina. One was noted at C. Hatteras, NC 3 Nov (P&NM et al.); on 5 Nov at least 6 birds (5 ad. males, one female) were noted from C. Hatteras to Pea I. along the Outer Banks (ML, ED et al., JPI, WCo, LG, RD, TP, JL et al., JF, H&Eli, m.ob.). Elsewhere on 5 Nov, singles were observed at Ocracoke Inlet, NC (KW) and at C. Lookout, NC (*vide* TP). On 6 Nov, one was seen at Nags Head, NC. Several more singles were present along the Outer Banks during the following weeks: at Nags Head 13 Nov (AK, HW et al.) and at Pea I. 16 Nov (RP). Two were observed heading northward at N. Topsail Beach, NC 28 Nov (CS), with probably one of these being seen later that day up the coast at nearby Emerald Isle (*vide* JF). In South Carolina, one was seen heading southward at Litchfield Beach 14 Nov (BM). One at Little St. Simons I., GA 2 Nov (*vide* TM) was probably also storm-related.

Rome, GA 6 Aug (*fide* TM), providing a rare report of this taxon in the Region. Much rarer was the **Little Egret** reported from Pea I. 29 Aug (NS). The bird was compared to nearby Snowy Egrets and sported two long, thin plumes from the nape. If accepted, it would be the first for the state and Region. Reddish Egret numbers seemed about normal, with birds being found in all three states. The best count reported was up to 7 at Cape Romain N.W.R., SC during Aug and Sep (ND et al.). Roseate Spoonbills also continued their presence in the Region, peaking at 33 at Andrews I., Glynn, GA 8 Oct (BZ) and at 21 at the S.S.S. 4 Sep (SC). Elsewhere up to 6 were at Cape Romain N.W.R., SC through Sep (ND et al.), one was near Charleston, SC 14 Sep (PN et al.), and one was unusual inland near Albany, GA 17–18 Aug (AA).

RAPTORS THROUGH TERNS

Wandering Swallow-tailed Kites away from their usual area in Georgia included singles near Sandersville, Washington 5 Aug (PS, BB), in n. Greene 27 Aug (*fide* PS), and in Fayette 31 Aug (*fide* TM). Only one Northern Goshawk was reported, that being an imm. at Beaufort, NC 18 Oct (RB). The Broad-winged Hawk migration apparently was about average, as few reports were received detailing the magnitude of the event. An ad. light-morph Swainson's Hawk was reported near Cumming, Forsyth, GA 5 Oct (JC, *fide* JS). If accepted, this would be only the 2nd for that state, the first being at Eufaula N.W.R. 9 Oct 1977. Only one Rough-legged Hawk was found this fall, a dark-morph bird flying northward at Pea I. 24 Nov (KC). Golden Eagle reports came from both Carolinas, in the mts. (3) and along the coast (4). Falcons migrated through in good numbers this fall, as evidenced by 21 American Kestrels at North River Farms, Carteret, NC, 10 Merlins at C. Lookout, NC 18 Sep (JF et al.), and 39 Peregrine Falcons at Sapelo I., GA 7 Oct (MD et al.).

Rail highlights included a Black Rail seen at Bodie I. Lighthouse Pond, NC 5 Nov (BBo), a Virginia in the mts. in Transylvania, NC 15 Sep (*fide* NSi), and a Clapper photographed at a mall in Rome, GA 19 Oct (MD)! The latter bird, apparently present for several days in some shrubbery, provided about the 3rd "well-inland" record for the state. Purple Gallinule has been extremely hard to find at the n. edge of its range in North Carolina for many years now. Thus of note was an ad. with 2 young photographed at Osprey L., Sunset Beach, NC in late Aug (JO). Another very rare bird in the Region, Limpkin, was reported twice this fall. One was present along Cane

Cr., a tributary of the Catawba R., in Lancaster, SC 7 Aug–early Oct (BST et al.), providing the first Piedmont record for the Carolinas. Another one was found at Chickasawhatchee W.M.A., w. of Albany, GA, 30 Aug (*fide* JWj). Sandhill Cranes started migrating through Georgia in the usual numbers, but 10 over Warren Wilson College, Asheville, NC 23 Nov (LW) was a good count for an area somewhat e. of the normal migration route.

Inland shorebirding was quite productive this fall, mainly due to lowered lake levels and groundings by Hurricane *Katrina* in the w.



White-faced Storm-Petrel, one of the more sought-after species on East Coast pelagic trips, was found off Hatteras Island, North Carolina 14 August 2005, the only report in the western North Atlantic for the season.

Photograph by David Nelson.

portions of the Region. *Katrina* was most likely responsible for 11 Black-bellied Plovers at Hoop. 30 Aug (WF, BO), but the 17 American Golden-Plovers at two sites in Sumter, SC the first two weeks of Sep (LM) may or may not have been tied to that storm. *Katrina*-related Black-necked Stilts included singles at Legacy Sod, Bartow, GA 30 Aug (CLo, DV), at Columbus, GA 30–31 Aug (JCo), and at Oxbow Meadows, GA 5 Sep (WC). Very late stilts were one at L. Mattamuskeet, NC 19–20 Nov (Wake Audubon, JL, JK) and 3 remaining at the S.S.S. until at least 26 Nov (SC). Rare inland American Avocet reports were 7 at L. Walter F. George, GA 30 Aug (MB) and one at L. James, McDowell, NC 7 Aug (JM et al.). The Upland Sandpiper migration through the Region seemed about average, with the best counts being 28 at Marshallville, Macon, GA 13 Aug (WC) and 21 at North River Farms, Carteret, NC 7 Aug (JF et al.). The best Long-billed Curlew report was the

peak count of 7 at Cape Romain N.W.R., SC during the fall (ND). Godwit reports of note included up to 2 Hudsonians at Pea I. 25 Aug–5 Sep (SM, LG, RD, JL et al.) and a rare inland Marbled at Falls L., NC 13 Aug (RD). Also rare inland were Red Knots at Falls L., NC 25–28 Aug (DL, MS, RD) and North River Farms, NC 16–23 Oct (JF et al.). The best inland counts at Falls L., NC for some other sandpipers were: 30 Sanderlings 27 Sep (DL), 228 Pectoral Sandpipers 4 Sep (SSh), 31 Stilt Sandpipers 18 Sep (MS), and 57 Short-billed Dowitchers 20–27 Aug (SSh et al.). The number of Baird's Sandpiper reports was about average; 3 at Falls L., NC 27 Aug (SSh et al.) was the top count. Once again, Buff-breasted Sandpipers were reported frequently from all three states. The best counts received were of 18 at two sites in Sumter, SC during the first two weeks of Sep (LM), 18 at Falls L., NC 4 Sep (SSh et al.), and 16 at a Floyd, GA turf farm 30 Aug (MD). Single Wilson's Phalaropes were reported at Hoop. 30 Aug (J&GSm), at Falls L., NC 28 Aug (RD) and 18 Sep (MS), and at Pea I. 3 & 21 Sep (RD, JL, PS); a peak of 9 was at the S.S.S. 4 Sep (SC). Single onshore Red-necked Phalaropes were found at the S.S.S. 27 Aug, 10 Sep, and 14 Oct (SC); another was at Pea I. 4 Sep (RD, JL).

Noteworthy Parasitic Jaeger sightings included one off Charleston, SC 13 Aug, one over the White Oak R., Carteret, NC 15 Sep (JCm), and 2 at Jekyll I., GA 26 Nov (JS et al.). One of the rarest birds of the season was the ad. Long-tailed Jaeger present at the L. Hartwell, GA/SC Dam 4–12 Sep (EH, JF1 et al.). This bird ranged over waters in both states, providing rare documentation for both. Only one South Polar Skua was noted, off Hatteras I., NC 27 Aug (BPI).

Hurricane *Katrina* brought large numbers of Laughing Gulls to w. Georgia, with the best count being 82 at L. Seminole 1 Sep (MB et al.). Single first-winter Franklin's Gulls were at Tybee I., GA 20–26 Nov (MB, EB, SW et al.) and the Georgetown, SC W.T.P. 22 Nov (MW). Another good gull at Tybee I., GA was the ad. Black-headed Gull present on the early dates of 13–28 Aug (WCa et al.) and found again 16 Oct (SB), constituting only about the 3rd firm report for that state. Another Black-headed was a good find at Ocean Isle Beach, NC 24 Nov (TP). Lesser Black-backed Gulls continue to increase and to arrive earlier than ever. This fall, impressive early counts included 11 at Tybee I., GA 6 Aug (SB) and 18 at C. Hatteras point, NC 14 Aug (P&NM). Another Hurricane *Ophelia* sighting from the Oregon Inlet, NC area was a juv. Sabine's Gull 17 Sep (RD), for a rare onshore report of this gull.



A first-winter Franklin's Gull at the Georgetown Wastewater Treatment Plant 22 November 2005 provided one of few documented records for South Carolina. Photograph by Melissa Whitmire.

Hurricane *Katrina* deposited many terns onto w. Georgia reservoirs, among them a Royal at West Point L. Dam 29 Aug (EB, MB) and 3 Sandwich, 14 Common, 30 Forster's, a Least, and a Bridled at L. Seminole 31 Aug (MB et al.). The best inland Caspian Tern count was 28 at Falls L., NC 28 Aug (RD). Offshore Bridled Tern reports included 26 off Charleston, SC 20 Aug (ND et al.) and 12 off Currituck Beach, NC 2 Sep (TB). Hurricane *Ophelia* brought 3 into Pamlico Sound at Hatteras, NC 16 Sep (BPI) and 3 to Oregon Inlet, NC 17 Sep (RD). The best offshore Sooty Tern counts were 13 in South Carolina waters and 2 in Georgia waters on a trip out of Charleston, SC 17 Sep (ND et al.). Hurricane *Katrina* brought 4 Sooties to West Point L. Dam, GA 29 Aug (EB, MB), 2 to L. Walter F. George, GA 30 Aug (MB), one to L. Seminole, GA 31 Aug (MB et al.), and one to L. Hartwell, GA 4 Sep (EH). Black Tern numbers seemed up this fall, with the best count being 150 at L. Seminole, GA 31 Aug (MB et al.) after *Katrina*. An imm. Brown Noddy was seen off Charleston 13 Aug, and 4 (3 imm., 1 ad.) were seen out of Charleston in both South Carolina and Georgia waters 17 Sep (ND et al.).

DOVES THROUGH THRUSHES

Eurasian Collared-Doves continue to increase at many locations in the Region, as do White-winged Doves. A White-winged was unusual away from the coast in a Raleigh, NC yard 29 Sep (JSm). Of interest was an apparent "tropical" dove seen briefly in flight at Jekyll I., GA 6–7 Oct (JB et al.). Description of tail pattern and shape, white trailing edge to wings, and reddish back point to a possible Zenaida Dove. Unfortunately, the bird could not be relocated for conclusive identification. Black-billed Cuckoo reports were about average, with the latest one noted at Pea I. 15 Oct

(RD). A Yellow-billed was also quite late inland at Duke Forest, Orange, NC 9 Nov (WCo). Another Burrowing Owl was in North Carolina, this one found dead in Charlotte 25 Oct (*vide* JWa). In the "very late" category was the Whip-poor-will heard at Glen Cannon, Transylvania, NC 27 Oct (NSi), over a month late for that mountain locality. W. hummingbirds did not seem as plentiful this fall; one Black-chinned in Bibb, GA 8 Nov (J&MA) and Georgia's 4th Broad-tailed at Big Canoe in the Atlanta area 19 Nov+ (RT) were the highlights.

Flycatchers were reported frequently this fall. Olive-sided Flycatchers were found in all three states; most were in w. portions of the Region. Rare coastal reports involved one at Patriot's Pt., Mt. Pleasant, SC 4 Sep (ND) and one at Ft. Pulaski, Savannah, GA 18 Sep (SW et al.). The wood-pewee found at Bodie I., NC 5 Nov (BBo) was not identified to species; Western has been banded a few km n. of North Carolina in se. Virginia and should be considered in the case of late wood-pewees. Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were reported widely throughout all three states. The best total was 2 at Patriot's Pt., Mt. Pleasant, SC 4 Sep (ND et al.), and the latest were at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC (WF et al.) and near Columbus, GA (WC), both 2 Oct. Other *Empidonax* flycatchers of note involved 2 calling Alders at Mt. Pleasant, SC 29 Sep (ND), multiple identified-by-call Willows spread around the Carolinas, and a handful of Leasts from all three states. A female Vermilion Flycatcher was at the Bradley Unit, Eufaula N.W.R., GA 20 Nov+ (DV, KB, BL et al.). It seems this species now occurs annually in that state. North Carolina's 3rd Tropical Kingbird was discovered near L. Phelps, Washington 19 Nov+ (RD, DR). This individual was photographed, and the call was heard in order to rule out Couch's. Western Kingbird reports were down somewhat this fall; one was extremely early at Jekyll I., GA 18 Aug (LT), and other singles were at Folly Beach, SC (*vide* DF) and North River Farms, NC 23 Oct (JF et al.), and at Alligator River N.W.R., NC 20 Nov+ (CSm et al.). Gray Kingbirds made news in the Savannah, GA area, where a pair nested and young were being fed during the 2nd week of Aug (GK), the first nesting evidence for that area in over 60 years. Only 2

Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were mentioned this fall, singles w. of Florence, SC 22 Aug (JD et al.) and in s. Tyrrell, NC 26 Sep (*vide* TP).

Four reports of Warbling Vireo was about average; the most interesting was one near the coast at Punchbowl Landing, Horry, SC 16 Sep (JP). Philadelphia Vireo maxed out at 3 at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC 29 Sep (WF) and 3 near Columbus, GA 2 Oct (WC). The latest was noted at Kennesaw Mt. 14 Oct (DZ). Common Ravens continued their presence in cen. and e. North Carolina, with at least six reports from the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area; one was still being seen in the Greenville area through Oct (VP). Noteworthy late swallow reports involved a Northern Rough-winged and 2 Barns at Ocean Isle Beach, NC 24 Nov (TP) and a Cliff at Daniel I., SC 30 Oct (ND). Cave Swallows once again invaded the Region this fall. One was extremely early and rare away from the coast s. of Forsyth, GA 20 Aug (MB), and another was very unusual away from the coast at Santee N.W.R., SC 29 Oct (TK). Along the coast during Nov, at least 7 were on the North Carolina Outer Banks during the first week (ED, JF, RD, JL), 3 were at Kill Devil Hills, NC 25 Nov (KC), 2 were at Ocean Isle Beach, NC 24 Nov (TP), one was at St. Mary's, GA 23 Nov (TE), 3 were at Tybee I., GA 24 Nov (BZ), and 2 were at H.B.S.P. 30 Nov (JP et al.).

The Red-breasted Nuthatch flight never really materialized, although 2 were rather early at Durham, NC 7 Sep (RP). Inland Sedge Wrens were reported more than usual; 10 in n. Greene, GA 13 & 20 Nov (PS) was the highest count. One was absurdly early near the French Broad R., Henderson, NC 13 Aug (MWe, WF). Several Ruby-crowned Kinglets also showed up on the early side, with singles at Riverbend Park, Catawba, NC 3 Sep (DM) and at Carver's Gap, Roan Mt., NC 9 Sep (RK). The thrush migration was again termed poor. The best count was of 27 Gray-cheekeds at Kennesaw Mt. 14 Oct (DZ et al.). Noteworthy late thrushes included a Swainson's at Darien, GA 2 Nov (DC) and a Wood in Orange, NC 16 Nov (GT).

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

Noteworthy coastal warblers included 3 Blue-wingeds at Patriot's Pt., Mt. Pleasant, SC 4 Sep (ND et al.), 2 Golden-wingeds at Carolina Beach S.P., NC 27 Sep (BSm), and 2 Tennessees at the S.S.S. 22 Oct (SC). Nashville Warblers were once again reported frequently from the w. portions of the Region; 3 were at Kennesaw Mt. 23 Oct (GB et al.). Some late warblers of note included a Yellow in Halifax, NC 26–28 Nov (FE et al.), a Mag-nolia in Meriwether, GA 20 Nov (JFI, EH), a

Black-throated Blue in Orange, NC 9–16 Nov (GT), a Cerulean in Coffee, GA 9 Oct (GB), a Prothonotary at Buxton, NC 15 Oct (GA), a Worm-eating near Roper, Washington, NC 30 Oct (DR), a Northern Waterthrush at L. Matamuskeet, NC 20 Nov (JL, JK), and a Hooded at Congaree N.P., Richland, SC 28 Oct (RC). Some excellent migratory numbers were reported, such as 168 Yellows at the S.S.S. 20 Aug (SC) and 500+ Palms at North River Farms, Carteret, NC 23 Oct (JF et al.). Kennesaw Mt. got its first fall but 3rd overall Audubon's Warbler 16 Oct (GB); in recent years, this subspecies has almost become annual in the Region. Georgia had several rare warblers this fall with a female Black-throated Gray Warbler at the State Botanical Gardens, Athens 13 Nov (JH) and a MacGillivray's Warbler at Kennesaw Mt. 4 Sep (GB et al.), both 3rd state records! Some locally unusual warbler reports involved a Blackpoll at Carver's Gap, Roan Mt., NC 22 Sep (RK), a Swainson's at L. Crabtree, Wake, NC 11 Sep (PM), a Kentucky at Mt. Mitchell S.P., NC 11 Sep (JLi), and a Canada at the S.S.S. 10 Sep (SC). Surprisingly, there were no Connecticut Warblers reported this fall, although a few Mourning Warblers were mentioned: at Kennesaw Mt. 4 & 13 Sep (GB et al.), at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC 9 Oct (WF), and at Myrtle Beach S.P., SC 17 Oct (JP, BM), the latter providing a very rare coastal sighting. Wilson's Warblers were reported in average numbers from across the Region. The latest ones noted were at North River Farms, Carteret, NC 13 Nov (JF et al.) and at Reed Creek Park, Martinez, GA 25 Nov (GZ).

Clay-colored Sparrows were reported somewhat less this fall than in the past. The best counts were 3 at North River Farms, NC 23 Oct (JF et al.) and several at Ft. Fisher, NC 15–17 Oct (GM). Very early was one at North River Farms 4 Sep (JF et al.) and near Darien, GA 22 Sep (DC). Vesper Sparrows have been undergoing a steady drop in numbers for some time now. Thus of note was the encouraging total of 44+ on Daniel I., SC 13 Nov (ND). Lark Sparrow reports were about average, and the best count was an impressive 7 at the n. end of Pea I. 4 Sep (JL, RD). Savannah Sparrows were reported rather spottily this fall. Some areas did not have them at all, while others had more than normal, such as the 1400+ on Daniel I., SC 30 Oct (ND). Henslow's and Le Conte's Sparrow reports were also down somewhat this fall. The best Henslow's total was 9 at Paulk's Pasture, GA 25 Nov (B&DZ, DV, EH), while the best Le Conte's count was 2 at the Bradley Unit, Eu-aula N.W.R., GA 29 Oct (BZ et al.). Other Le

Conte's of note included singles at Cochran Shoals, GA 31 Oct (BG), at New Bern, NC 31 Oct (AG), and at the S.S.S. 26 Nov (SC). Lincoln's Sparrows were reported from all three states again, with the best totals being 3 at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC 30 Oct (RS, WF, JLi), 2 near Asheville, NC 1 Oct (MWe), and 2 at Cochran Shoals, GA 19 Nov (JS, DV). Lapland Longspurs were found twice this fall: one s. of Wilmington, NC 29 Oct (SCo) and 2 near L. Phelps, Washington, NC 19 Nov (RD).



This adult Black-headed Gull was present at Tybee Island, Georgia during the last half of (here 19) August 2005 and again in mid-October; it provided only about the third documented record for that state. Photograph by Dan Vickers.

Indigo Buntings often linger late into the season but are rare away from the coast, where one was at the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, GA 4 Nov (TR) and at Etowah, Henderson, NC 13 Nov (WF, RS). Also much rarer away from the coast are Painted Buntings. This fall, one was an excellent find at Cowan's Ford Refuge, Mecklenburg, NC 12 Sep (TP). One was very late on the coast at Cumberland I., GA 13–16 Nov (*fide* TM). The usual handful of Dickcissel reports were received this fall. The only multiple counts involved 2 at Pea I. 23 Oct (RD) and 2 at North River Farms, NC 16 Oct (JF et al.). Of note at the latter location, a juv. was found 27 Aug, most likely a locally raised bird, as there was a large summering group there. Another was very unusual and late in the mts. at Jackson Park, NC 1–5 Nov (RS, JLi, WF). This season's Yellow-headed Blackbird reports involved an ad. male at a feeder on Wilmington I., Savannah, GA 16 Oct (*fide* BZ), 2 at Augusta, GA 29 Oct (LS et al.), and a male at L. Matamuskeet, NC 30 Oct (RD). Finches never really materialized in the Region this fall; only a few Purple Finches and Pine Siskins were noted, mostly flyovers during late Oct and Nov. The only Red Crossbill report was of 5–7 at Bass L. near Blowing Rock, NC 29 Nov (DM).

Addenda: Several hawk specimens have been reported from South Carolina. The Banding Laboratory has confirmed that an imm. *Accipiter* picked up on Kiawah I. 28 Dec 2004 was a Northern Goshawk (NSh), providing a first documented record for that state. A *Buteo* picked up at Georgetown 24 Jan 2005 was confirmed as a Broad-winged Hawk banded in Ohio the previous season (AM)—one of the very few well-documented winter records in the state and Region.

Corrigendum: The Yellow-billed Loon reported from a boat off H.B.S.P. 30 Dec 2004 (N.A.B. 59: 250) was not accepted and should be deleted from the record.

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