

220 Snow Buntings came from Dunes S.P. 19 Nov (JJM, KJB et al.).

Six Blue Grosbeaks at Carl. L. 24 Sep was a significant count there (KAM, LH, BS), while a very tardy individual was detected 22 Nov in Massac, IL (FB). A high count of 95 Bobolinks came from Bee. M. 24 Sep (LWS, DG), and one at Lebanon Business Park, IN 13 Oct (RLH) was the latest reported. A single Yellow-headed Blackbird was noted 17 Nov at Bee. M. (DRW). Indiana's 4th-ever Aug lakefront Rusty Blackbird was found at Cowles Bog, Porter 30 Aug (KJB). The species was well reported this year, with a peak count of 1200 at Fawn R. Fish Hatchery, Steuben, IN 10 Nov (JAH, SS) providing Indiana's 2nd largest fall tally. A female Baltimore Oriole showed up in a Bloomington-area yard 6 Nov (PJP), and in the same yard, an imm. male was present 10–29 Nov.

The fall flight of Purple Finches was average, while numbers of Pine Siskins were disappointing. A nice count of 28 Purple Finches came from Siloam Springs S.P., IL 4 Nov (EWW), and the peak Pine Siskin tally of 20

birds was made at Bev. Sh. 29 Oct (JJM). Eight Red Crossbills and 2 Evening Grosbeaks were reported throughout Illinois.

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Western Great Lakes



Peder H. Svingen

Michigan had a bittersweet season, with no fewer than six potential first state records—three of these new to the Region. But here was also great sadness, as our friend and colleague Jim Granlund died suddenly and unexpectedly on 20 September 2005. In addition to his role as husband, father, and respected teacher, Jim was involved in virtually every aspect of ornithology in Michigan. His dedication and his contributions will be greatly missed.

Abbreviations: Hawk Ridge (Hawk Ridge B.O., Duluth, MN); Shiawassee (Shiawassee N.W.R., Saginaw, MI); S.M.R.R. (Southeast Michigan Raptor Research, including L.E.M.P. [Lake Erie Metropark] and Pte. Mouillee Headquarters, Wayne, MI); W.P.B.O. (Whitefish Pt. B.O., Chippewa, MI).

WATERFOWL THROUGH FRIGATEBIRDS

Minnesota's 8th Black-bellied Whistling-Duck was shot from a flock of Mallards in Stevens 17 Oct (*vide* SV). Ross's Geese appeared in nine Minnesota and seven Wisconsin counties; in Michigan, where the species is still considered casual, one was at Saginaw 21 Nov (DP). Michigan also had a King/Common Eider in Marquette 5 Oct (SH). All three states reported Harlequin Duck, including 5 in Benzie, MI 14–15 Nov (m.ob.). Early for Minnesota was an ad. male Surf Scoter in St. Louis 18 Sep (PHS et al.); a total of 322 at W.P.B.O. was well below average. Seasonal

totals of 3206 White-winged Scoters and 132 Black Scoters were near average at W.P.B.O. Also early in Minnesota were Black Scoters in Beltrami (BU) and Cook 12 Sep (DBM). W.P.B.O. had its 2nd best total of 20,144 Long-tailed Ducks 19 Sep–15 Nov, with peaks of 5369 and 5231 on 1 & 5 Nov, respectively. Fifteen Long-taileds in Beltrami 16 Nov (BU) was an unusual number inland for Minnesota. Record-high seasonal (4183) and daily (2129 on 12 Nov) totals of Bufflehead were tallied at W.P.B.O. Drake Barrow's Goldeneyes graced Leelanau, MI 28 Oct+ (MB, ph AMB), Houston, MN 20 Nov (DBz et al.), and Ozaukee, WI 25 Nov (TCW).

Near average was a total of 486 Red-throated Loons (peak 85 on 22 Sep) at W.P.B.O. Wisconsin had up to 5 Red-throateds in Douglas (m.ob.) and one in Manitowoc 13 Oct (SF). W.P.B.O. documented 3 Pacific Loons; Minnesota's 7 included one in Meeker 22 Oct (DF). Pacific Loons on L. Superior in Douglas, WI probably overlapped those in Minnesota, but one also transited Ozaukee 3

SA Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico are rarely associated with vagrants in our Region; most storms dissipate before reaching the Western Great Lakes or track too far to the east to produce storm-displaced seabirds here. Thus, needless to say, **Lesser Frigatebird** was not on anyone's list of expected vagrants! Experts are reviewing photographs and written documentation of this potential first Michigan record at L.E.M.P. 18 Sep (TTS); details are published in this issue of *North American Birds*. In n. Minnesota, a female frigatebird at Big Lake, St. Louis 19–21 Sep (JIL et al.) was most likely a Magnificent, but details were not sufficient to eliminate other species.



This Anhinga overflowed Lake Erie Metropark, Wayne County, Michigan 18 September 2005; the state has no previous reports of the species.
Photograph by Chuck Owens.

Nov (JF). Common Loon numbers peaked at 1133 on Mille Lacs L., MN 26 Oct (PHS). A total of 13,539 Red-necked Grebes at W.P.B.O. included 3211 on 14 Sep. Three reports of Western Grebe in Wisconsin included 7 birds in Door 7 Oct (TRS); unidentified was an *Aechmophorus* in Baraga, MI 2–8 Nov. A Northern Gannet flew by L.E.M.P. 8 Nov (p.a., WGP). Providing Michigan's first record was the Anhinga at L.E.M.P. 18 Sep (p.a., RB, EE, CO).

HERONS THROUGH CRANE

Snowy Egrets were in three Michigan and three Wisconsin locations, but Minnesota's only Snowy was in Wilkin 28 Aug (BU). Fourteen Little Blue Herons at Bong Recreation Area, Kenosha through 20 Aug was record high for Wisconsin. Michigan reported about a dozen Cattle Egrets, including one at Pte. Mouillee 12 Nov (AMB). In Minnesota, single Cattle Egrets wandered to several locations along L. Superior's North Shore in late Oct and early Nov. Two juv. Yellow-crowned Night Herons lingered in Lac Qui Parle, MN until 13 Aug (m.ob.), and one was still there on the 22nd. Unusual for Michigan was a Glossy Ibis in Macomb 15–16 Oct (p.a., CPu, LS, ATC, KO). Minnesota hosted juv. *Plegadis* ibis in Dakota 23–28 Sep (CMB et al.) and Big Stone 9–15 Oct (PHS, PCC).

Quite unusual for W.P.B.O. was a juv. Swainson's Hawk 12 Sep (KJB). Minnesota had Ferruginous Hawks in Yellow Medicine 17 Sep (KRE et al.) and Mahmomen 8 Oct (BU).

SA Number 2 on the "not on anyone's radar" list, and also furnishing a first record for Michigan and the Great Lakes Basin, was an ad. light-morph **Short-tailed Hawk** at W.P.B.O. 19–20 Nov (p.a., SAJ, KJB, AMB, KMe, ph.). Imagine the other places that this bird must have visited en route to the Wolverine State; the nearest record of the species to Michigan is apparently in coastal Alabama!

Record high for Hawk Ridge was 38 Golden Eagles 17 Nov (RBr, FJN et al.). Unseasonal was an ad. Golden Eagle in Dodge, WI throughout Aug (m.ob.). A gray-morph Gyrfalcon flew past DeBoer in Racine 20 Nov (JD). Far from its usual haunts was the Prairie Falcon at S.M.R.R. 14 Oct (p.a., JSc). King Rail was found at Horicon in mid-Aug (RH, ASc). Minnesota celebrated an ad. Common Moorhen with 6 chicks in Stearns (PCC) and one with 4 young in Stevens (RBW). Three Whooping Cranes hatched at Necedah N.W.R. in 2004 vacationed in Morrison, MN for 10 weeks (*vide* RPR)

before heading to wintering grounds.

SHOREBIRDS

A total of 105 Black-bellied Plovers was tallied at Horicon 3 Sep (DT). Michigan reported single Piping Plovers in six locations; Wisconsin had singles in Manitowoc 6 Aug (JH) and Outagamie 22 Aug (DT). A total of 16 American Avocets at five Michigan locations included 8 at Pte. Mouillee 11–19 Sep (AMB). Eight avocets visited four Wisconsin sites between 4 Aug and 13 Sep; Minnesota reported one or 2 in each of four counties. Record late for Michigan was the Willet in Monroe 25–30 Nov+ (PCC, TW). Peak counts of yellowlegs at Horicon (RH) were 1850 Lessers 20 Aug and 220 Greater 14 Aug. Single Whimbrels at Horicon 14 Aug (RH) and Milwaukee, WI 28 Aug (JI) equaled Minnesota's total in Crow Wing 13 Sep (JSB) and St. Louis 18 Sep (PHS). Michigan reported 5 Whimbrels for the season at W.P.B.O., plus singles in Monroe 10–11 Sep (AMB, RK, TW) and Delta 17 Sep (SH). Normally a very rare fall migrant, an amazing 66 Hudsonian Godwits passed W.P.B.O. 29 Aug (KJB). Outstanding in Crex Meadows, WI was a flock of 42 Marbled Godwits 8 Aug (AP). Michigan reported 2 Marbled Godwits at W.P.B.O. 22 Aug and 2 in Monroe 31 Aug (AMB, TW).

Record-late for Michigan was the Red Knot at Pte. Mouillee 12 Nov (AMB); 8 more were divided among four Michigan locations. In Minnesota, Red Knots in Lac Qui Parle 4 Aug (BU) and Carver 19 Aug (CMM) were followed by singles at Duluth 26 Aug (ph. RBr) and 3–11 Sep (PHS, DWK, SBM). Juv. Western Sandpipers were carefully docu-

mented at Pte. Mouillee 27 Aug (AMB) and Macomb, MI 10–11 Sep (JPe, ph. AR, ph. SAJ). In Wisconsin, Western Sandpipers were reported in Outagamie 6 Aug (DT) and Milwaukee 28–29 Aug (RH). Baird's Sandpipers peaked at 164 in Lac Qui Parle, MN 28 Aug (PHS); numbers were also up in Wisconsin, including 58 at Horicon 20 Aug (RH) and 55 there 10 Sep (JF). Michigan's counts of Baird's peaked at 53 in Houghton 16 Aug (LCB). Wisconsin reported good numbers of Buff-breasted Sandpipers, with a statewide total of 170+ birds in 16 counties; 109 birds in 19 Minnesota counties, however, was low for the 3rd consecutive fall. Michigan had up to 3 Buff-breasteds in only three locations. A Red Phalarope surprised participants on a L. Superior "pelagic trip" out of Duluth, MN 1 Oct (ph. JG, ph. SBM). Two different Red Phalaropes visited Milwaukee, WI 19–25 Oct and 19–24 Nov (m.ob.). Michigan chimed in with one Red Phalarope in Ottawa 20 Nov (CE, ph. EE, ph. CP).



Michigan's first record of Gull-billed Tern came from Pointe Mouillee State Game Area, Wayne County (and adjacent Monroe County) 18 September 2005.
Photograph by Jeff Schultz.

JAEGERS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS

In Michigan, a juv. Pomarine Jaeger in St. Clair 25 Oct was followed by 3 more 22 Nov (AMB); another Pomarine visited Milwaukee, WI 23 Sep (JI). Five Parasitic Jaegers were documented this season at W.P.B.O. (KJB), and 5 were in St. Clair, MI 25 Oct (AMB et al.). Wisconsin had 2 Parasitics in Douglas 22–24 Sep and one in Milwaukee 23 Sep (JI); the former were among at least 4 Parasitics and 4 unidentified jaegers at Duluth, MN this fall. A juv. Parasitic was hit by a car in Chisago, MN 7 Sep (*vide* TV). An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger transited Berrien, MI 28 Aug (AMB). Another ad. Long-tailed was at Wisconsin Pt., Douglas, WI 18–25 Sep (p.a., SC, m.ob.).

First-winter Laughing Gulls in St. Clair 7 Oct (AMB) and Monroe 10 Oct (KO) were the first found in Michigan all year. Franklin's Gull was found in three Michigan and five



This apparent Tropical Kingbird was present on 29 October (here?) through 2 November 2005 at Au Train, Alger County, Michigan; the state has one prior report of a Tropical/Couch's Kingbird. Photograph by Steve Baker.

Wisconsin counties. Michigan tallied 8 Little Gulls in six locations, and Wisconsin had a total of 5 in three locales; Minnesota's only report was of an ad. at Duluth 2–4 Sep (PHS). A Black-headed Gull was reported in Douglas, WI 24 Sep (JF). The ad. Black-headed Gull along the Minnesota–Iowa border was last seen in Jackson 17 Oct (DWK). Another Mew Gull showed up in Milwaukee, WI 6–26 Nov (m.ob.). A second-winter California Gull was documented on both sides of the Superior Entry in Minnesota and Wisconsin 5–12 Nov (TA, ph. MLH, TP, PHS). An amazing 60–70 Sabine's Gulls at Park Pt., Duluth, MN 16 Sep (TA et al.) established a record-high count for the Great Lakes Basin. One or 2 Sabine's on either side of the Superior Entry were bracketed by one at Duluth, MN 4 Sep (PHS) and one or 2 on the L. Superior boat trip 1 Oct (TA, MLH et al.); Minnesota also had singles in Cook, Dakota, and Lac Qui Parle. A total of 4 juv. Sabine's passed W.P.B.O. in Sep (KJB). An early Black-legged Kittiwake was in Milwaukee, WI 22 Sep (JL, DG). Michigan had a good flight of kittiwakes, with 3 at W.P.B.O. and 3 in St. Clair this season.

Another first record for Michigan and the Region was furnished by the Gull-billed Tern at Pt. Mouillee 17–20 Sep (JJ, LSc, ph. JSc et al.). It foraged over the county line and into Monroe during its four-day stay. A flock of 159 Caspian Terns was noteworthy in Oconto, WI 14 Aug (JSm); record-late was one in Bay, MI 6 Nov (JS). An ad. Arctic Tern on the Minnesota side of the Superior Entry 18 Sep (MLH) may have been the same individual seen there and at Park Pt., St. Louis, MN 24–25 Sep (TA, MLH, KRE, PHS). An Ancient Murrelet surprised Bardon at W.P.B.O. 14 Oct

(p.a., KJB). In Michigan, where each individual is still noteworthy, 2 Eurasian Collared-Doves lingered in Berrien through 29 Aug (KM, JTW, m.ob.), and one visited Alger 28 Aug–6 Sep (EW, ph. SCH, ph. SH). Providing Minnesota's 3rd record was a Common Ground-Dove in Two Harbors, Lake 16 Oct (JWL). An incursion of Snowy Owls included almost two dozen in Wisconsin and three dozen in Minnesota by the end of Nov. Six Northern Hawk Owls were more than usual for

Michigan. Following record-high numbers last winter, totals of 21 Northern Hawk and 18 Great Gray Owls in Minnesota were not surprising, but 31 Great Grays lingering on the Bayfield Peninsula in Wisconsin through 3 Aug was unusual; there was no evidence of breeding.

Wisconsin hosted Rufous Hummingbirds in Milwaukee 16 Sep–7 Oct and Dane 30 Oct–19 Nov (m.ob.). An imm. Rufous was

SA Understandably first reported as a possible Broad-billed Hummingbird, Michigan's first White-eared Hummingbird was a stunning discovery in Hamburg Township, Livingston 18–20 Aug (MP, JP, m.ob.). Rarely found in the U.S. outside se. Arizona, this represents only the 2nd occurrence of this species e. of the Mississippi River. This bird's appearance coincided with very large counts of the species in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas (where one reached Lubbock), and Colorado had its first records as well. Nonetheless, like the Short-tailed Hawk and Lesser Frigatebird, the hummingbird was a most unexpected vagrant to Michigan.

well documented in Livingston, MI during its extended stay through 24 Nov (SCL, ph. ATC, m.ob.). Access was restricted to a Green Violet-ear at a feeder in Douglas, WI 3 Aug–early Sep (DT, RJ, TL); another or possibly the same violet-ear briefly visited a feeder in Sauk 4 Sep (BO).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH FINCHES

An Eastern Phoebe lingered in Columbia, WI 25 Nov (PGS). Minnesota's latest Say's Phoebe was at Rice Lake N.W.R. 25 Oct (MMc). Nicely photographed in Michigan were an Ash-throated Flycatcher at Naubinway, Mackinac 22 Oct (JK) and the state's 2nd Tropical/Couch's Kingbird at AuTrain, Alger 29 Oct–2 Nov (p.a., NC, SCH, SH, RB, AMB). Western Kingbirds strayed as far e. as Kent 7 Sep (SF) and Keweenaw 16 Oct (ZG, LCB, LM) in Michigan; one was very late in Cook, MN 30 Oct (KRE et al.). The Region's only

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher graced Dodge, WI 20 Aug (SL). Late vireos included a Warbling in Dane, WI 5 Nov (ES) and a Philadelphia in Cook, MN 6 Nov (KRE, CMB et al.). A total of 1800 Bank Swallows swarmed over smartweed at Horicon 13 Aug (RH). As also noted in the e. Great Lakes, Cave Swallows appeared along L. Michigan as a strong low-pressure system tracked into the Great Lakes 12 Nov. In Wisconsin, which had no previous records, Idzikowski noticed a potential Cave Swallow on 12 Nov. On 13–14 Nov, a flock of at least 18 foraged near the South Metro W.T.P. in Milwaukee, with one lingering through 20 Nov. A specimen was found on a beach in Sheboygan and now resides at the Richter Museum, University of Wisconsin–Green Bay (*). Among several reports of Cave Swallow in Michigan, the most thoroughly documented was one in Wayne 14 Nov (ph. AD).

The Rock Wren discovered in May in Clay, MN stayed through 23 Aug; another strayed to Taconite Harbor, Cook 17–21 Oct (SLF, DBF, JWL). Carolina Wren continued its recent upsurge, with 20 reports in Wisconsin as far n. as Portage 30 Nov (KH) and 10 in Minnesota as far n. as Clay 11 Oct (RHO), Beltrami 12 Aug–6 Oct (PR, JM), m.ob.), and Duluth, where a juv. was banded at Hawk Ridge 15 Aug (DAG). Mountain

Bluebird was found in four Minnesota locations, including first county records in Wadena 2 Oct (PHS) and Ramsey 26 Oct (AXH). Townsend's Solitaire was found in eight Minnesota counties, and 2 arrived at



Photographed 22 October 2005 at Naubinway, Mackinac County, this Ash-throated Flycatcher made the fourth record for Michigan. Photograph by Joe Kaplan.

their usual Wisconsin wintering location in *Sauk* 25 Oct (m.ob.); Michigan reported one in *Keeweenaw* 16 Oct (LCB, ZG) and singles at W.P.B.O. 20 & 30 Oct. Varied Thrush appeared in four Minnesota and two Wisconsin



The only Cave Swallow documented with photographs in Michigan this fall was this bird in Wayne County 14 November 2005. Photograph by Andy Dettling.

locations; Michigan had one in *Crawford* 8–10 Nov (CK).

Lingering warblers have become routine in the Region; most noteworthy were a Yellow Warbler in *Milwaukee*, WI 20 Nov (MM) and



A Eurasian Tree Sparrow showed up 2 (here 25) November 2005 at Casspolis, Cass County—a first state record for Michigan. Photograph by Caleb Putnam.

a Magnolia Warbler in *Manitowoc* 5 Nov (RD). Minnesota's 6th Black-throated Gray Warbler was at Virginia, *St. Louis* 14 Oct (acc., SLF) but not later. Also late were a Black-throated Green Warbler in *Hennepin*, MN 5 Nov (FH) and Blackburnians in *Lake*, MN 22 Oct (KRE) and *Outagamie*, WI 30 Oct (RM). A Pine Warbler was still coming to suet

in *Brown*, WI 30 Nov (JHe). Unusual was the Prairie Warbler at W.P.B.O. 12 Sep. Also in Michigan, single Yellow-breasted Chats were found in *Midland*, *Allegan*, and *Macomb*.

In Minnesota, Summer Tanager in *Rice* 26 Sep (TFB) and *Cook* 30 Oct (DBM, KRE, JWJ) and Spotted Towhees in *Cass* 17 Sep (BU) and *Rock* 1 Oct (KRE) were all noteworthy. A Chipping Sparrow lingered at a feeder in *Ashland*, WI until 17 Nov (EB). Michigan welcomed a Lark Bunting in *Houghton* 2–6 Oct (p.a., JAY et al.). A banner year for Henslow's Sparrow in Minnesota (total of 33 counties!) included singles in *Lincoln* 4 Aug (BU), *Cottonwood* 10–13 Aug (RMD et al.), and *Beltrami* 14 Aug (BU). Accidental in Michigan, a Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow was discovered along the L. Saint Clair shoreline in *Wayne* 14 Sep (MBL, WJR). Wisconsin reported at least 17 Nelson's Sharp-taileds in six counties; Minnesota also had a good migration through 11 counties. In

Michigan, a Smith's Longspur in *Houghton* 1–2 Sep delighted observers by briefly flying into *Baraga* (LCB, SS, SH, ph. JK). Potentially a 3rd fall record for Wisconsin was a trio of Smith's Longspurs in *Florence* 27 Sep (p.a., KK). Minnesota had single Smith's in *St. Louis* 30 Sep (PHS) and 20 Oct (TA), plus average numbers in five w. counties. Far from its usual

w. Minnesota haunts was a Chestnut-collared Longspur at *Stoney Pt.*, *St. Louis* 16 Oct (JCG). Apart from three winter records, the Indigo Bunting in *Waukesha* 30 Nov (MG, DG) was Wisconsin's latest. Noteworthy for a declining species was a flock of 5000 Rusty Blackbirds in *Sauk*, WI 21 Oct (AP). Michigan's first Eurasian Tree Sparrow was videotaped in Jefferson Twp., *Cass* 2 Nov+ (p.a., DLJ, MJ, m.ob.).

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