



## Bill Pranty

It was an interesting fall despite few fallouts or mega-rarities. Several winter irruptives were more widespread than is typical, most notably Golden-crowned Kinglets, but also Winter Wrens, Brown Creepers, and Dark-eyed Juncos. Several migrant landbirds were also more frequent than expected, but the reasons for their appearances are less clear. Rarities included Florida's first Hammond's Flycatcher, the first Thick-billed Vireo for the Gulf coast and the central peninsula, and the southernmost Northern Wheatears from this year's continental invasion.

**Abbreviations/definitions:** Everglades A.A. (Everglades Agricultural Area, *Palm Beach*); F.O.S.R.C. (Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee); N.S.R.A. (North Shore Recreation Area, *Orange*); S.T.A. (Stormwater Treatment Area); report (any observation); record (only reports verifiable from photograph, videotape, or specimen evidence).

## WATERFOWL THROUGH VULTURES

Perhaps some day, this report will not begin by mentioning the continuing population increase and range expansion of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks in Florida. But alas, not this report. More than 400 Black-bellieds away from their *Sarasota* stronghold were observed, including 67 ads. and 15 chicks at *Polk* phosphate mines 12 Aug (PFe, EL), 200 at *Loxahatchee, Palm Beach* 19 Aug (DaF, MG), 4 at *L. Killearn, Leon* 3 Sep (SM), 8 over *Mango, Hillsborough* 9 Sep (DG), 13 at *Skyline Farm, Marion* 16 Sep (SM), 42 at *The Villages, Sumter* 21 Nov (JD), and 41 at *Bushnell, Sumter* 26 Nov+ (CBL, RS). In contrast, there were only three reports of Fulvous Whistling-Ducks: 500 at *Loxahatchee* 19 Aug (DaF, MG);

15 at *Sebastian Inlet, Brevard* 8 Oct (ABa); and 2 at *T. M. Goodwin W.M.A., Brevard* 16 Nov (DSi). Greater White-fronted Geese were numerous, with one at *Paynes Prairie Preserve S.P., Alachua* 14 Oct (AK), 5 over *Eustis, Lake* 27 Oct (PU, ph.), 2 over *Viera, Brevard* 28 Oct (DaF), and one at *St. Marks N.W.R., Wakulla* 29 Oct (RM). Multiple counts of Snow Geese were 7 at *Lake City, Columbia* 28 Oct (PBU), 2 at *Southwood, Leon* 3-6 Nov (PFu, SM), 12 at *Lake Apopka N.S.R.A.* 5 Nov (HR), and 4 at *S.T.A.-5, Hendry* 24 Nov (ME, ph.).

Rare in the cen. pen., 3 American Black Ducks passed *New Smyrna Beach, Volusia* 29 Oct (†BM). *Viera* was the hotspot for teal this fall, with 5750 Blue-wingeds 30 Nov (DaF), 2 Cinnamons 11 Nov+ (TD), and 1500 Green-wingeds 29 Nov (MG). Early or summering Ring-necked Ducks were found at *The Villages, Sumter* 5 Aug–24 Sep (JD) and at *Polk mine* 20 Aug (PFe, DBk). Common Eiders, very rare in Florida, graced *Ft. Clinch S.P., Nassau* 19 Nov+, with a 2nd bird there 27 Nov (AT, BRi) and one at *Jupiter Inlet, Palm Beach* 22 Nov (J&LH). Quite rare inland, 2 female-plumaged Black Scoters were a surprise at *Lake Apopka N.S.R.A.* 22 & 29 Nov (HR). Also at *Viera* were one or more Masked Ducks 6 Nov+ (BeC, ph. TDu, ph. J. Cavanagh).

Singles of the rare Eared Grebe were found at *Ft. Walton Beach W.T.P., Okaloosa* 5 Sep–2 Nov (BD, DW) and *Green Cay Nature Center, Palm Beach* 23 Nov+ (LiM). A pelagic trip off *Ponce De Leon Inlet, Volusia* 26 Aug netted one Black-capped Petrel, 100 Cory's Shearwaters, a Greater Shearwater, 4 Audubon's Shearwaters, and 6 Wilson's Storm-Petrels (MBo, BW). At the inlet itself, a Masked Booby that lingered most of the season was joined by a Brown Booby-14-15 Sep (MBo). Trips off *Miami* located 6 Cory's Shearwaters 16 Sep and 2 Band-rumped Storm-Petrels 11 Aug (LaM). Another Cory's in *Florida Bay* 21 Nov furnished the first for *Everglades N.P.* (BM, BL). An unidentified tropicbird was 96 km off *Okaloosa* 8 Oct (*vide* LA). Triple-digit counts of American White Pelicans were 200 at *Green Key, New Port Richey, Pasco* 9 Oct (KT), 400 over *New Port Richey* 12 Oct (KT), and 200 in *Franklin* 10 Nov (DBy).

*Lake Apopka N.S.R.A.* hosted 304 Anhingas 8 Aug and 20 American Bitterns 19 Nov (HR). Early bitterns were at *Paynes Prairie Preserve* 3 Sep (CBu) and *Tall Timbers Research Station, Leon* 10 Sep (AW). A Great

Blue Heron at *L. Sampson, Bradford* 12 Nov attempted to eat a Pied-billed Grebe (RR). Great White Herons were n. to *Ft. Pickens, Escambia* 18 Aug–6 Sep (BD, LD), *Alligator L., Lake City* 23 Aug–14 Sep (RR, PBU), and *Merritt I. N.W.R., Brevard* (date unknown; PFe). As usual, the *Everglades A.A.* supported large numbers of wading birds, with 2100 Great Egrets, 1500 Snowy Egrets, 420 Roseate Spoonbills, and 1200 Wood Storks, all 20 Aug (BH, PC). A bird thought to be a Snowy Egret × Little Blue Heron hybrid was found at *Salt L., Brevard* 28 Oct (ABa). A Reddish Egret at *Paynes Prairie Preserve* 22 Oct (DSt) represented a very rare inland occurrence. Rare in the w. Panhandle, 6 Glossy Ibis visited *Ft. Walton Beach W.T.P.* 11 Sep (BD), while an apparent Glossy Ibis × White-faced Ibis hybrid was there 2 Aug (BD). Filling out the *Plegadis*, single White-faced Ibis were found at *St. Marks* 12 Sep (AW), *Lake Apopka N.S.R.A.* 10 Nov (HR), and *Paynes Prairie Preserve* 27 Nov (RR). Other notable counts of Roseate Spoonbills were 92 at *St. Augustine, St. Johns* 4 Sep (JKe), 46 at *Gulf Harbors, New Port Richey* 20 Sep (KT), and 125 at *Myakka River S.P., Sarasota* 6 Nov (BAh). Among 120 Turkey Vultures at *Alligator Pt., Franklin* 4 Nov was one "totally white" albino (JM).

## RAPTORS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

The high count of Swallow-tailed Kites at *Lake Apopka N.S.R.A.* was 674 on 2 Aug (HR). Another kite at *Tallahassee, Leon* 10 Aug set the latest county departure date (GM). Other raptor counts at *Lake Apopka N.S.R.A.* were 48 Bald Eagles 29 Nov, 259 Northern Harriers 15 Nov, 45 Cooper's Hawks 25 Aug, 133 Red-shouldered Hawks 29 Sep, and one Swainson's Hawk 8-19 Nov (HR). Of 12 reports of Short-tailed Hawks statewide were 3 at *Gainesville* 16-23 Sep (RR, JBR, AK), one at *Turkey Creek Sanctuary, Brevard* 9 Sep (ABa), and one at *New Port Richey* 11 Oct that stooped on an imm. Bald Eagle (KT).

**SA** For the past several years, Crested Caracaras have been seen n. of their normal range, especially fringing the Orlando metro area. This fall, extralimital caracaras were at *Orlando Wetlands Park, Orange* 16 Sep (LoM), at *Chuluota, Seminole* 10 Nov (MPI), s. of *Zephyrhills, Pasco* 24 Nov (SP), at *Lake Apopka N.S.R.A.* 30 Nov (*vide* HR), and along *US-98* between *Apalachicola* and *Port St. Joe, Gulf* 15 Nov (FB), the latter furnishing a very rare sighting w. of the *Apalachicola R.* Is habitat destruction in the caracara's normal range causing these excursions, has the population reached carrying capacity, or is something else going on?

**SA** Eradication of **Purple Swampghens** by state wildlife agencies on public lands in the Everglades has begun, with at least **256** shot in the season. Exactly 100 swampghens were shot by one person in a single day at Water Conservation Area 2B, *Broward*; 151 swampghens were shot in two days at S.T.A. 1-W, *Palm Beach*; and 5 were shot at S.T.A.-5 (*fide* BP; \*ca. 30, University of Florida). Another swampghen at Wakodahatchee Wetlands, *Delray Beach, Palm Beach* 10 Nov (WS), only the 2nd one at that site, remained very much alive and indicated that some swampghens are dispersing into developed areas, where they are less likely to be targeted for eradication. Although swampghens have been documented dispersing into natural wetlands in Florida since 2000, the numbers shot in a few days far from their point of release prove that their breeding productivity has been greater than was previously imagined. It remains to be seen whether complete eradication of Purple Swampghens is possible, or whether agency personnel will have to settle for controlling their numbers in certain locations. The abundance of wetlands in Florida, together with the documented dispersal abilities of swampghens in the state, certainly suggest that eradication will be challenging, to say the least. A review of the history of exotic bird populations in Florida for the past 40 years cautions about predicting the ability of any species to survive in the long term—even one that seems to thrive away from human assistance.

Other Swainson's Hawks were one at Frog Pond W.M.A., *Miami-Dade* 11 Nov (MBe), 7 over Everglades N.P., *Miami-Dade* 18 Nov (MBe), 2 at Bill Baggs Cape Florida S.P., *Miami-Dade* 23 Nov (MDa), and one at Brandon, *Hillsborough* 26 Nov (DG).

High counts of rails at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. were 523 Kings 23 Aug and 394 Soras 19 Nov (HR). Another Sora at Green Key 7 Aug, an apparent traffic casualty, was extremely early (KT; \*University of Florida). A mini-resurgence of Limpkins into the Tallahassee area—with 7 along the Wacissa R., *Jefferson* 26 Sep (FD), 10 (including 5 juvs.) at L. Munson 16 Oct (MHi), and 2 at Tallahassee 13 Nov (GM)—was thought to be the result of a great invasion of exotic Channeled Apple Snails, on which the birds feed.

The earliest of nine American Golden-Plover reports was of one at the Everglades A.A. 13 Aug (BRO) and the latest was of one at Viera 3-6 Nov (TD, DaF). Snowy Plovers enjoyed good nesting success at Santa Rosa I., Gulf Islands N.S., *Escambia* due to damage from Hurricane *Ivan* in 2004, which prevented vehicle access to breeding habitats; 28 plovers were counted 31 Aug (BD, LD). Another Snowy at Nassau Sound, *Duval* 30 Nov (PL) represented the 7th successive year with reports in that area. Also at Nassau Sound 30 Nov were 11 Piping Plovers, including 2 birds banded in Michigan and one banded in the Canadian Maritimes (PL). The largest and perhaps most interesting American Avocet report was of 50 at *Hamilton* mines 30 Oct+ (JKr), a very northerly (apparent) wintering site. Six reports of Upland Sandpipers fell within the period 1 Aug–1 Sep, with 11 at the Everglades A.A. 19 Aug (DaF, MG). Perhaps annual in Florida during fall, a Hudsonian Godwit graced Tram Road W.T.P., *Leon* 7-9 Sep (GM, JH).

Other shorebird totals from the Everglades A.A. included 30 Ruddy Turnstones 16 Sep (ABa), 1800 Pectoral Sandpipers 6 Aug (BH, MBe), 500 Stilt Sandpipers 19 Aug (DaF, MG), 3 Buff-breasted Sandpipers 16 Sep

(MBe, ABa), and a Ruff 9 & 26 Aug (BH, ABa). The (low) high count of Red Knots in the state was just 450 (22 banded) at Little Estero Critical Wildlife Area, *Lee* 5 Sep (CE). Two Sanderlings at Lake City 30 Aug–14 Sep (PBu) were casual inland, while 2 White-rumped Sandpipers at Merritt I. N.W.R., *Volusia* 10 Nov were late (TD). Very rare in the state, Baird's Sandpipers enlivened Santa Rosa I. 24 Aug and 8 Sep (BD), Lake City 10 Sep (2; PBu), and Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 10 Sep and 4 Oct (HR). Seven reports of 13 Buff-breasted Sandpipers ranged from Santa Rosa I. to Viera, with duos at Lake City 24 Aug–14



This female-plumaged Masked Duck at Viera Wetlands, Florida was first found 6 (here 12) November 2006 and remained through the month. A second bird in similar plumage was discovered at the site in December but may have been present earlier. Photograph by Irene Hernandez.

Sep (RR, PBu) and Ft. Walton Beach W.T.P. 11 Sep (BD) and trios at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 25 Aug (HR) and Viera 1 Sep (DaF).

Wilson's Snipe appeared early at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 16 Aug (HR) and Weeki-wachee Preserve, *Hernando* 11 Sep (AH). Wilson's Phalaropes were found at six sites, with 55 at *Polk* mines 1 Oct (PFe, EL) representing the largest Florida count in years, and a late individual noted at Merritt Island N.W.R. 10 Nov (KS). Red-necked Phalaropes were more numerous than is typical, with 3 in s. *Miami-Dade* 3 Aug (RT), 12 at *Polk* mines 12 Aug (PFe, EL), 10 off Ponce De Leon Inlet 26 Aug (MBo, BW), 14 off Miami 16 Sep (BM, LaM, RT), and one at Merritt Island N.W.R. 10 Nov (TD). Trips off Ponce De Leon Inlet recorded 30 Red Phalaropes 26 Aug and one there 1 Nov (MBo).

## JAEGERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Bankert counted 275 jaegers from s. *Brevard* beaches 5 Nov; 110 looked like Pomarines and 45 looked like Parasitics. Franklin's Gulls made a good showing this fall, with 4 at Bald Point S.P., *Franklin* 29 Oct (JM), 12 at St. Marks 29-30 Oct (DMo; AW), up to 14 at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 1-5 Nov and 2 there 15 Nov (HR), one at Green Key 3 Nov (KT, ph.), and one at Cutler Ridge, *Miami-Dade* 28 Nov (RT, TM). Other rare gulls included a juv. Glaucous at Destin, *Okaloosa* 8 Oct (BGa) and a single Sabine's Gull and Black-legged Kittiwake 4-6 Nov at Boynton Beach Inlet (MBe, BH). The 75 Gull-billed Terns at the Everglades A.A. 13 Aug (BH) represent one of the highest counts in Florida for this rare and very local species. Although not the highest inland count ever, the 312 Sandwich Terns at *Polk* mines 12 Aug (PFe, EL) still represent an amazing interior pen. total. More than 500 Sooty Terns were 160 km off Ponce Inlet 26 Aug (MBo). There were 800 Black Terns at the Everglades A.A. 20 Aug (BH, PC) but these were eclipsed by the 6800 at Santa Rosa I. 31 Aug (BD, LD), likely related to the passage of Tropical Storm *Ernesto*, which entrained many hundreds of these and other terns (see Special Interregional

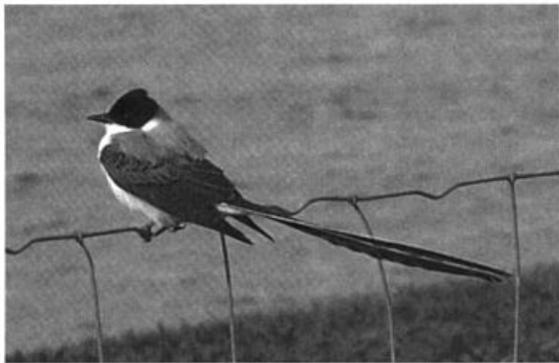
Report, in this issue). Late Black Terns were at Merritt Island N.W.R. 13-19 Nov (TR) and Everglades N.P., *Miami-Dade* 25 Nov (BB). Unrelated to any storm, an ad. Brown Noddy landed on a skiff in Cockroach Bay, *Hillsborough* 17 Sep and preened for 30 minutes while the occupants fished a few feet away (NH, ph.)!

White-winged Doves continue to be reported in increasing numbers, but the only potentially new areas this fall were 6 at The Villages, *Marion* 2 Aug (JD) and singles at Ormond Beach, *Volusia* 10 Nov (MWi) and Jacksonville, *Duval* 12-16 Nov (PP). The 23 Black-hooded Parakeets at St. Augustine Beach Pier, *St. Johns* 7 Sep (DoF) established the high count for that area, while the 37 at Dunedin Causeway 21 Oct (MG) represented a typical count. Psittacids at new areas were



Two boaters in Tampa Bay, Florida were surprised when this Brown Noddy landed on their skiff and preened for 30 minutes on 30 November 2006. Photograph by Nanette Holland.

20+ Monk Parakeets at South Daytona, *Volusia* 20 Nov (MBo) and 12 Blue-crowned Parakeets at Sebastian Inlet 25 Nov (ABa). There were 7 Black-billed Cuckoos 18 Aug–29 Sep, all singles in the pen. Late were Yellow-billed



This adult male Fork-tailed Flycatcher was a two-day wonder at Sebastian, Florida 20 (here) and 21 November 2006. Photograph by Dee Fairbanks-Simpson.

Cuckoos at River Lakes C.A., *Brevard* 16 Nov (DSi) and Everglades N.P., *Monroe* 20 Nov (BM). The only anis reported were one Smooth-billed at Cape Florida 23 Aug (RD) and one Groove-billed at Bald Pt. 12 Oct (JM). Buff-bellied Hummingbirds made appearances at Eastpoint, *Franklin* 10 Nov (SK) and Tallahassee 16 Nov (JE). Of the 7 Rufous Hummingbirds reported, one banded female at Valrico, *Hillsborough* 11 Aug+ returned for its 4th winter (StB). Quite early was a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 27 Aug (HR). A Hairy Woodpecker in a suburban yard at Bayonet Point, *Pasco* 1 Nov (BP) fit the pattern noted by Cruickshank (*The Birds of Brevard County*, 1980): "There may be some migration, as during October and early November it appears in city yards where none are seen the rest of the year."

## FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PIPITS

On 1 Sep, an Olive-sided Flycatcher graced Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, the only spot in

Florida where it is regular (BD). Late was the Eastern Wood-Pewee seen and heard calling at River Lakes C.A., *Brevard* 6 Nov (DaF). Four of 6 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were found during the period 27-29 Sep. A juv. banded at Cape Florida 13 Sep was recaptured twice 18 & 23 Sep, gaining 2.8 g and 4.2 g, respectively, over the first capture weight of 8.5 g (RD). Twenty Acadian Flycatchers graced Ft. De Soto 27 Sep (BAh). A recently noted event in *Miami-Dade* involves call-

ing Alder Flycatchers, whose status in the state is little known. This season, there were 4 at Southern Glades Wildlife and Environmental Area 23 Aug (RT, TM), one there 15 Sep (JBo), and one at Matheson Hammock 4 Sep (RT). Calling Willow Flycatchers were heard at Saddle Creek Park 1 Sep (PFe) and A.D. Barnes Park, *Miami-Dade* 23 Sep (JBo). Traill's Flycatchers included 18 banded at Cape Florida 7 Sep–11 Oct (MDa, RD), one at Wekiva Springs S.P., *Orange* 21 Sep (ABo), and 2 at Ft. De Soto 21 Sep (BAh). Twelve Least Flycatchers, presumably wintering, were at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 27 Oct (HR). Florida's first Hammond's Flycatcher was one that called at Ft. De Soto 30-31 Oct (LA, ph., acc. FO.S.R.C.). Five Vermilion Flycatchers were at three sites s. to Lake Jesup C.A., *Sanford, Seminole* 11 Nov (BSi).

Flycatchers at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. included an Ash-throated Flycatcher 18 Oct+, a Brown-crested Flycatcher 27 Oct, a Cassin's Kingbird 26 Nov, and up to 36 Western Kingbirds 6 Nov+ (HR, TR). Other Ash-throateds were singles at St. Marks 31 Oct (RM), at Cedar Key, *Levy* 1 Nov (DJ), and at Lantana Landfill, *Palm Beach* 23 Nov (BH), along with 2 at Paynes Prairie Preserve 27 Nov+ (JH). Another northerly Brown-crested Flycatcher was at Casselberry, *Seminole* 27 Sep (AV). Highest counts among 12 reports of 76 total Western Kingbirds were up to 21 at The Villages, *Marion* 22 Oct+ (JD), 3 at Ft. De Soto 30 Oct–19 Nov (LA), 6 near Bartow, *Polk* 18 Nov (TP), and 3 at Bald Pt. 20 Nov (RL). Migrating

flocks of Eastern Kingbirds were noted at Ft. De Soto 1 Sep (350; LA) and Sanibel Lighthouse, *Lee* 10 Sep (hundreds; VM). Among 16 reports totaling 24 Scissor-tailed Flycatchers 26 Sep and later were 2 at Bald Pt. 29 Oct (JM), 3 at The Villages, *Marion* 22 Oct+ (TR), 4 at San Antonio, *Pasco* 3 Nov (MWt), and 3 near Trilby, *Pasco* 16 Nov (CBl). Simpson became the first person in Florida to discover more than one Fork-tailed Flycatcher, the first in 2000 and the other this fall: an ad. male at North County Regional Park, *Sebastian, Indian River* 20-21 Nov (ph. DFS).

Furnishing a first for the Gulf coast and for the cen. pen., a Thick-billed Vireo was a one-day wonder at Ft. De Soto 12 Oct (JG, BAh; acc. FO.S.R.C.). Surprisingly, there were eight reports of Bell's Vireos beginning 14 Sep, all singles except for 2 at Frog Pond W.M.A. 28 Oct+ (RT, TM). One Bell's was banded at Tomoka S.P., *Volusia* 5 Oct (MWi, ph.). Extremely early was the Blue-headed Vireo at Gainesville 26 Aug (†BoC). Very rare but annual in Florida, a Warbling Vireo was spied at Ft. De Soto 30 Oct (LA). More than usual, there were 13 reports of 16 Philadelphia Vireos statewide 20 Sep–18 Oct, with duos at Ft. De Soto 27 Sep (BAh) and St. George Island



This Brown Creeper at Cocoa Beach 3 November 2006 furnished the southernmost verifiable record in Florida. Photograph by Tina Florillo.

S.P., *Franklin* 13 (MHa) & 21 Oct (ES); one at Lake Lisa Park, *Port Richey* 15-20 Oct provided the first for *Pasco* (KT, BP). The Black-whiskered Vireo found by Robinson at Lake

**SA** Golden-crowned Kinglets staged a major invasion of the Panhandle and n. third of the peninsula beginning 21 Oct, with 29 variously in *Alachua* (PBU, RR). The southernmost reports were 3 at Starkey Wilderness Park, *Pasco* 30 Oct (KT), one at Valrico 17 Nov (SG), 5 at Ft. De Soto 28 Oct–8 Nov (LA), and one at Rye Preserve, *Manatee* 16 Nov (BAh). The invasion continued into Dec.

Apopka N.S.R.A. 10 Sep represented a very rare inland occurrence and possibly the first during fall.

A count of 760 Bank Swallows at Polk mines 12 Aug (PFe, EL) appears to be the second-highest count in Florida; 50 at St. Petersburg 31 Aug (DMa) was more typical. Among swallows at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. were 71 Cliffs and 4 Mexican Caves 12 Oct and 1360 Barns 23 Aug (HR). The only Red-breasted Nuthatches were singles at Medart, *Wakulla* 7 Nov (SM) and Tall Timbers 21 Nov (AW). Seven Brown Creepers were reported, all in the Panhandle except for singles at Cocoa Beach, *Brevard* 3 Nov (TF, ph.) and Gainesville 17 Nov+ (PBU, MDr). Robinson counted 272 House Wrens at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 20 Oct. The first of seven Winter Wren observations, more than expected, came from St. George I. 13 Oct (MHa), with 3 s. to *Alachua* (MM, PBU).

Ruby-crowned Kinglets made it into the Keys, with singles at Key Largo 17 Nov and Tavernier 22 Nov (BM). Not one but 2 Northern Wheatears graced the Region, one at Everglades N.P., *Miami-Dade* 13-23 Sep (SoB, ph. MWI), the other at Honeymoon Island S.P., *Pinellas* 25 Sep (SC, ph. CG). Listening for nocturnal migrants over Weeki Wachee, *Hernando* 27 Sep, Gardler heard 10 Veeries and 10 Gray-cheeked and 150 Swainson's Thrushes. Single Wood Thrushes enlivened Starkey Wilderness Park 27 Sep (KT) and Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 1 Oct (HR). Juv. American Robins were found in *Leon* 14 Aug (2; GM) and at Hampton L., *Bradford* 9 Sep (one; RR). The rarely reported Sprague's Pipit was noted at Eglin A.E.B., *Okaloosa*, a recent wintering site, 9 Nov (LF).

**SA** A singing Common Myna at Seven Springs, *Pasco* 28 Oct (SP, ph. KT) was the northernmost vanguard along the Gulf coast and follows recent pioneers in neighboring *Pinellas* and *Manatee*. Meanwhile, in the species' stronghold in *Miami-Dade*, a flock of 400 was found at Florida City 9 Nov (GZ, MA). We are still awaiting a detailed study to document the establishment of Common Mynas in Florida, a mark that probably was set 10 years ago.

## WARBLERS THROUGH MANNIKINS

A hefty fallout of warblers at Ft. De Soto 27 Sep was the only one reported statewide; highlights included 8 Blue-wingeds, 2 Golden-wingeds, 25 Tennessees, 2 Nashvilles, 8

Chestnut-sideds, 20 Magnolias, 12 Black-throated Blues, 20 Black-and-whites, 8 Hoodeds, and 18 American Redstarts (BAh, LA, PBI). Statewide there were 20 reports of 39 Blue-winged Warblers 19 Aug–15 Oct, with trios in *Wakulla* 19 Aug (BCr, JM) and at Ormond Beach 25 Sep (MBo), and 16 reports of 18 Golden-winged Warbler 1 Sep–17 Oct, all singles except for duos at Ft. De Soto (above) and St. George I. 13 Oct (MHa). Nashville Warblers were well represented, with 11 reports of 13 birds 18 Aug–25 Nov, including 2 at Jacksonville 22 Oct (JC). A nice count of 40 Northern Parulas and an early Black-throated Blue Warbler enlivened John Chesnut Park, *Pinellas* 26 Aug (RS); another parula at Lake City 19 Nov was tardy (JKr). Robinson's count of 232 Yellow Warblers at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 15 Sep shatters the previous high counts—reported in previous years from the same site by the same observer! Cape Florida was also a happening place for warblers, with 97 Black-throated Blues banded 22 Oct (MDa), 600 Yellow-rumpeds 9 Nov (RD), one Blackpoll Warbler 9 Nov (late), and 20 Swainson's banded 2 Sep–22 Oct (MDa, RD). Very rare but regular, Black-throated Gray Warblers dazzled Key Largo 20 Sep (BM, ph.) and Cape Florida 11-12 Nov (RD).

Ahern found Black-throated Green Warblers widespread: 6 at Ft. De Soto 12 Oct, singles in *Glades* and *Hendry* 11 Nov, and one at Rye Preserve 16 Nov. Fifteen Blackburnian Warblers brightened Cedar Key 20 Sep (DH), and the same number of Bay-breasted Warblers made a treat at Ft. George I., *Duval* 13 Oct (RC). Cerulean Warblers were numerous, with 15 reports of 20 birds 13 Aug–8 Sep, and 2 at Sawgrass Lake Park 3 Sep (RS) and trios at John Chesnut Park 13 Aug (RS) and Paynes Prairie Preserve 3 Sep (JBr). An aberrant Black-and-white Warbler at Saddle Creek Park 2 Aug had a white head and yellow bill (PFe). Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. again hosted large numbers of waterthrushes this fall, with 81 Northern 17 Sep and 25 Louisianas 20 Aug (HR); another Louisiana at Everglades N.P., *Miami-Dade* 23 Nov (JBo) probably was wintering. Casual in the w. Panhandle, a Con-

necticut Warbler at Henderson Beach, *Walton* 25 Oct (DW) was a surprise. Nearly equally rare, a Mourning Warbler was salvaged at Pace, *Santa Rosa* 12 Sep (\*UF 45409; *fide* AK), while another was observed at Spanish

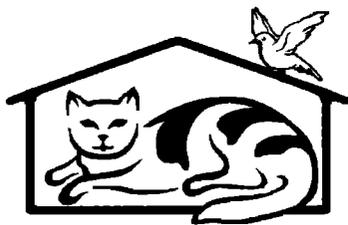
River Park 14 Sep (BH). Wilson's Warblers were numerous, with 15 singles reported 22 Aug–28 Nov. The very rare Canada Warbler was observed at six locations, more than is usual: Turkey Creek Sanctuary 8 Sep (DBa), John Chesnut Park 11-12 Sep (TA, LA), Phipp's Park, *Leon* 15 Sep (AW, JW), Sugden Park, *Collier* 17-18 Sep (AM, DSu), Cape Florida 12 Oct (MDa, RD), and L. Munson 17 Oct (AW). Six Yellow-breasted Chats were found at Frog Pond W.M.A., a recent wintering site 11 Nov (MBe). There were 20 Summer Tanagers at Ft. De Soto 12 Oct (BAh) and



This Northern Wheatear at Honeymoon Island State Park, Florida was a one-day wonder 25 September 2006. Photograph by Colin Gjervold.

up to 10 Scarlet Tanagers at Mead Garden, *Orange* 8-23 Oct (BAh). Western Tanagers paused in *Pinellas*, with 2 at John Chesnut Park 30 Sep (MPe, MG) and one at Honeymoon I. 13 Oct (LK).

Clay-colored Sparrows were numerous, with nine reports, including duos at Bonsteel Park, *Brevard* 7 Sep (ABa) and Ft. De Soto 30 Sep (BAh), and one s. to Key Largo 26 Sep (BM). Also widespread were Lark Sparrows, also with nine reports, among them 2 birds at Frog Pond W.M.A. 29 Sep (RT, TM) and one in song in mid-*Pinellas* 10-11 Nov (JF, ph.). A Savannah Sparrow at Merritt Island N.W.R. 16 Sep (TD) was early. All six reports of Le Conte's Sparrows were from the e. Panhandle except for one in *Brevard* 24 Nov (ABa). Casual inland, a Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Paynes Prairie Preserve 29-30 Oct was carefully detailed (SR). Fox Sparrows at Gainesville 26 Nov (D&JP) and Paynes Prairie Preserve 29 Nov (BSc) were at the s. limit of their wintering range. Casual so far s., a Song Sparrow photographed at Key West 25 Nov (LA) may have furnished the first verifiable record for the Keys. Also photographed by Atherton but not as rare was a Lincoln's Sparrow at Key Largo 24 Nov. White-throated



## CATS INDOORS!

THE CAMPAIGN FOR SAFER BIRDS & CATS

### WHAT DO INDOOR CATS MISS?

- ★ Killing Birds
- ★ Getting Lost
- ★ Getting Stolen
- ★ Getting Hit By A Car
- ★ Fatal Feline Diseases
- ★ Dog Attacks
- ★ Abscesses
- ★ Worms
- ★ Fleas
- ★ Ticks

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Sparrows rarely penetrate the s.-cen. pen., so singles at Siesta Key, *Sarasota* 10 Nov (RG) and Upper Tampa Bay Park, *Hillsborough* 19 Nov (CG) were noteworthy. Dark-eyed Juncos also seemed more numerous than is usual, with a "small flock" at Tall Timbers 19 Nov (CBo) and one s. to Alachua, *Alachua* 29 Nov (BW), among others.

Two Black-headed Grosbeaks (ad. male, juv. male) were a surprise at Ft. Walton Beach W.T.P. 28 Sep (†TPh), and another graced Gainesville 23-24 Oct (J&JM). Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. supported 72 Blue Grosbeaks 1 Oct



This Common Myna at Seven Springs, Florida 28 October 2006 represented the northernmost pioneer reported along the Gulf coast. Photograph by Ken Tracey.

and 40 Indigo Buntings 22 Oct (HR). Four reports of Painted Buntings were received: singles at Chassahowitzka W.M.A., *Hernando* 6 Sep (AH, BH), Kissimmee Prairie Preserve S.P., *Okeechobee* 5 Oct (PM), Cedar Key 23-27 Nov (DH), and 7 at Oakland Nature Preserve 21 Nov (TR). There were 3000 Bobolinks at Viera 7 Sep (TD). All seven reports of Yellow-headed Blackbird were singles except for 2 at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 18 Oct (HR); another was photographed at Lithia, *Hillsborough* 26 Nov (L&MW). There were five reports of 12 Shiny Cowbirds, nearly all of multiples: trios at Everglades N.P., *Monroe* 4 Sep (JBo), Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 17 Sep (HR), and Homestead, *Miami-Dade* 29 Oct (JBo), 2 at the Everglades A.A. 3 Sep (BH, MBe), and one male at Tallahassee 8 Oct (ST). Bronzed Cowbirds appeared at Jupiter Inlet Colony 6 Sep (2; J&LH), Mashes Sands Park, *Wakulla* 22 Oct (SM), and Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 29 Oct (HR). An Orchard Oriole at Paynes Prairie Preserve 23 Sep (AK) was late, while 11 Baltimore Orioles at Altamonte Springs, *Seminole* 16 Sep (PH) represented a good number. Casual so far s. and representing the only fall report was a female-plumaged Purple Finch at Lake Apopka N.S.R.A. 26 Nov (HR). Southerly House Finches were 9 or more at Ft. De Soto 1 Nov (BAn) and one at Cape Florida 8-18 Nov (RD). Finally, fledgling Nutmeg Manikins were found at Pensacola 20 Aug (BGi),

and one ad. was in *Brevard* 27 Sep (DSi).

Cited observers (members of the F.O.S.R.C. in boldface): **Brian Ahern** (BAh), **Bruce Anderson** (BAn), Todd Arcos, Lyn Atherton, Mike Avery, Steve Backes (StB), Danny Bales (DBa), Andy Bankert (ABa), Sonny Bass (SoB), Fred Bassett, Mark Berney (MBe), Clay Black (CBl), Paul Blair (PBl), Bill Boeringer, Chris Borg (CBo), **John Boyd** (JBo), Andrew Boyle (ABo), David Brooke (DBk), Michael Brothers (MBo), Dana Bryan (DBy), Judy Bryan (JBr), Chris Burney (CBu), Patricia Burns (PBu), Beverly Campbell (BeC), Bob Carroll (BoC), Julie Cocke, Pinya Cohen, Bobby Crawford (BCr), Sid Crawford, Michelle Davis (MDa), Robin Diaz, Fred Dietrich, James Dinsmore, Michael Drummond (MDr), **Bob Duncan**, Lucy Duncan, Thomas Dunkerton, Jody Elliott, Margaret England, Charlie Ewell, Paul Fellers (PFel), Lenny Fenimore, Teresa Fiorillo, Judy Fisher, David Freeland (DaF), Dot Freeman (DoF), Perry Fulkerson (PFu), Jill Gaetzi, Murray Gardner, Ben Garmon (BGa), Bernice Gilley (BGi), Colin Gjervold, David Goodwin, Rick Greenspun, Steve Gross, Jack & Liz Hailman (J&LH), Al Hansen, Bev Hansen, Michael Hartley (MHa), Dale Henderson, Michael Hill (MHi), John Hintermister, Nanette Holland, Brian Hope, Paul Hueber, David Johnston, Lillian Kenney, Jackie Kern (JKe), Sheila Klink, Andy Kratter, Jerry Krummrich (JKr), Elizabeth Lane, Brynne Langan, Patrick Leary, Rob Lengacher, Lorne Malo (LoM), Mike Manetz, Larry Manfred (LaM), Don Margeson (DMa), Linda McCandless (LiM), Sean McCool, Vince McGrath, Russell McGregor, **Gail Menk**, Jean & John Metheny (J&MM), **Paul Miller**, Trey Mitchell, Don Morrow (DMo), Brennan Mulrone, John Murphy, Alan Murray, Tom Palmer (TPa), Steve Peacock, Mauri Peterson (MPe), Thelma Phillips (TPh), Milton Plaugher (MPi), Debbie & Jim Powell (D&JP), **Peggy Powell**, Bill Pranty, Stefan Rayer, Bob Richter (BRi), Bryant Roberts (BRo), Harry Robinson, Tom Rodriguez, Rex Rowan, Bubba Scales (BSca), Ken Schmidt, Eric Shaw, Bob Siculo (BSi), David Simpson (DSi), Dee Fairbanks-Simpson (DFS), Ron Smith, Wanda Soto, David Steadman (DSi), Doug Suito (DSu), Susan Teisciero, Roberto Torres, Ken Tracey, Ann Turner, Peg Urban, Alex Vinokur, Bob Wallace, Don Ware, Larry & Marty Weltin (L&MW), Mickey Wheeler (MWi), Michelle White (MWt), Meret Wilson (MWi), Andy Wraithmell, Julie Wraithmell, Wilf Yusek, Gina Zimmerman. ☉

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