[NOTE: With the acceptance of the Lewis and LeGrand notes on the Lesser Black-backed Gull, the North Carolina Records Committee added the species to the state bird list on the basis of publication of three detailed sight records.—DSL]

# Alder Flycatcher Colony in Watauga County, N.C.

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8 July 1980

A note on the Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) reported the status of this bird in the southern Appalachians during the breeding season (Chat 43:35-36). Since that report, the first Tennessee and the southernmost nesting record for this species has been established (Migrant 50:34-36). This note is to record yet another probable nesting site for the Alder Flycatcher in the southern Appalachians.

On 7 June 1979, Eloise Potter, Harry LeGrand, and I found two singing Alder Flycatchers in a mountain bog near the southwestern border of Watauga County, N.C. The bog lies between Beech Mountain and Rocky Knob at an elevation of approximately 4600 feet.

On 6 and 7 June 1980, I returned to the Beech Creek bog and found five singing Alder Flycatchers. They appeared to be on territory because they were fairly evenly dispersed throughout the bog area. Their "pip" call notes and "fee-beer" songs were clearly heard at all hours of the day. Although I remained in the area more than 24 hours, I found no positive evidence of nesting.

## **BRIEFS FOR THE FILES**

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.

(All dates fall and winter 1979-80; CBC = Christmas Bird Count)

- RED-NECKED GREBE: One was studied carefully on the ocean at Pea Island, N.C., on 23 February by Tom and Libbus Haggerty.
- EARED GREBE: One seen on Lake Pinehurst in Moore County, N.C., from 19 December to 16 February, was one of the few inland records for the state. It was found by Tom Howard and was later seen by Jay Carter et al. Mark Galizio observed another at Orton Plantation, Brunswick County, N.C., on 1 December.
- AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER: One in "partly fresh" condition was found dead at Fort Macon State Park, N.C., on 18 December by John Fussell III.
- WHITE PELICAN: One was seen at a pond in Statesville, N.C., from 17 November to 16 December by Sam Cathey et al. Other single individuals were observed at Fort Fisher, New Hanover County, N.C., during most of January and February (Robert Needham et al.), and at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C., on 19 January (Stan and Mary Alford).
- GREAT CORMORANT: Jackson Abbott saw three adults at Kiawah Island, S.C., on 8 March, and an adult and an immature there on 9 March.
- GANNET: Blizzard conditions in early March were responsible for pushing at least 75 birds into Bogue Sound, N.C., on 2 March, as noted by John Fussell III and Mike Tove.
- ANHINGA: A pair was rather far inland in winter at Santee refuge on Lake Marion,

- S.C., where Douglas McNair saw them on 19 January and 8 February.
- GREEN HERON: In Carteret County, N.C., John Fussell III saw individuals near Morehead City on 8 January and at Beaufort on 18 January; Ken Knapp, Harry LeGrand, and Mike Tove saw two birds at Davis on 26 January.
- CATTLE EGRET: In addition to individuals seen this winter along the North Carolina coast in Currituck, Dare, Hyde, and Carteret Counties, one was unusual on the Durham, N.C., CBC on 16 December, as noted by Mike Schultz.
- GREAT EGRET: A roost of 140 at Lake Marion, S.C., on 19 January was reported by Douglas McNair.
- AMERICAN BITTERN: Many individuals were present in central North Carolina in early winter, as evidenced by CBC reports. Singles were found at Raleigh on 15 December and Durham on 16 December, two were at Jordan Reservoir on the New Hope count on 30 December, and three were seen at Roanoke Rapids on 1 January.
- WOOD STORK: One was north of the usual post-breeding range at an impoundment along the Pamlico-Beaufort County line near Hobucken, N.C., on 29 August (Barry Thomas).
- GLOSSY IBIS: Two were seen on 3 February at Pea Island by Bob Lewis et al., and Tom Reeves noted nine near Charleston, S.C., at Magnolia Gardens on 23 February.
- WHITE IBIS: Seven birds were at Pea Island on the CBC on 27 December, and three were seen there on 16 February by Brian Keelan.
- WHISTLING SWAN: Libba Watson observed three at Lake Pinehurst, N.C., on 31 December, and one was noted at nearby Hog Island on 5 January, fide Jay Carter.
- CANADA GOOSE: A count of 104 between Chapel Hill and Jordan Reservoir, N.C., was rare for the area, noted by Steve Graves and Bill Wagner on 4 January.
- BRANT: One seen by Douglas McNair on 7-8 December at Pee Dee refuge in Anson County, N.C., was the first state record away from the tidewater zone. Another was rare at Fort Fisher on 6 January, observed by John Fussell III and Kevin Hintsa.
- WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: An excellent Carolina count was the 16 adults noted by Douglas McNair at the Santee refuge on 8 February. McNair saw another adult at the Pee Dee refuge from 25 January to 10 February, and one was present for much of March at a farm just west of Morehead City, fide John Fussell III.
- SNOW GOOSE: An individual was seen at Lake Surf, near Vass, N.C., on 22 December and again on 11 February (Tom Howard).
- FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK: One was rare on the McClellanville, S.C., CBC on 16 December, as observed by Stephen Whitcomb.
- BLUE-WINGED TEAL: One seen at Fayetteville, N.C., by P.J. Crutchfield on 12 February was probably a very early migrant.
- EUROPEAN WIGEON: Martha Hoggard saw a male at Pea Island on 27 December.
- NORTHERN SHOVELER: Douglas McNair had good inland counts of 115 at Santee refuge (8 February) and 19 at Pee Dee refuge (1 February); and two were notable at Lake Pinehurst on 15 January and 2 February, as seen by Tom Howard.
- CANVASBACK: Allen Bryan reported that 40+ spent the winter at Quaker Creek Reservoir in Alamance County, N.C., with a peak of 67 on 16 February.
- GREATER SCAUP: This species is rare inland in winter; thus, noteworthy were four at Lake Murray, S.C., on 1 December and one there on 30 January (Douglas

- McNair), and singles seen near Raleigh on 13-15 December (Bob Lewis) and 20 February (Steve Graves).
- OLDSQUAW: Four seen by Douglas McNair were a good find at Lake Murray on 1 December.
- HARLEQUIN DUCK: Two immature males were present in the Fort Macon area from 18 December to late February, with one seen as late as 2 March. Found by John Fussell III and Bill Moffitt, the birds were studied by dozens of other people. Another male was shot by a hunter at Rattan Bay in northeastern Carteret County in late November (fide John Fussell III), and a female was noted by Bob Lewis, Eloise Potter, and Allen Bryan at Oregon Inlet, N.C., on 3 February.
- COMMON EIDER: Mike Tove saw a female on the Cape Lookout, N.C., CBC on 22 December.
- KING EIDER: A female was photographed by Mike Tove at the harbor in Ocracoke, N.C., on 24 December, and Tove and Kevin Hintsa saw two the following day at Cape Hatteras, N.C. One of the latter two birds was seen on 29 December by Bob Lewis.
- COMMON MERGANSER: Tom Howard observed two at Lake Surf on 11 February, and four were seen on 29 February. Bob Lewis and Allen Bryan noted a pair at Beaverdam Reservoir in northern Wake County, N.C., on 4 February.
- RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: An excellent inland count was the 120 birds found at Lake Moultrie, S.C., on 20 January by Douglas McNair.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK: A well-described immature was seen by Eric Paisley and Bob Wolk on the Winston-Salem, N.C., CBC on 29 December.
- ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: Jackson Abbott observed a light-phase individual at the entrance to Kiawah Island, S.C., on 7 March.
- GOLDEN EAGLE: A rare find was one noted by Evelyn Dabbs and party on the Litchfield-Pawleys Island, S.C., CBC on 27 December.
- BALD EAGLE: Two individuals were seen during the winter at Lake Wheeler, near Raleigh, fide R.J. Hader; and Douglas McNair saw eagles at Lakes Murray, Moultrie, and Wateree in South Carolina during the winter.
- MARSH HAWK: This species was locally abundant at the marshes at Jordan Reservoir this winter, with many observers reporting 20 in a single day.
- OSPREY: One was seen on the Morehead City CBC on 23 December, fide John Fussell III, and what was probably the same bird was noted there on 26 January by John Fussell II.
- VIRGINIA RAIL: Individuals were heard in response to taped calls on the Raleigh CBC on 15 December (R.J. Hader) and on the Roanoke Rapids CBC on 1 January (Kevin Hintsa).
- BLACK RAIL: John Fussell III used a tape to call up three birds on the Morehead City CBC on 23 December and another at Wanchese on the Bodie-Pea Island CBC on 28 December.
- AMERICAN COOT: Three thousand coots on Lake Surf on 22 December, as seen by Tom Howard and John Wright, was an outstanding inland count.
- AMERICAN AVOCET: A flock of 30 was very unusual at the home of John Fussell III on the Bogue Sound waterfront near Morehead City on 3 March.
- AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER: An early migrant was noted by Jackson Abbott at Kiawah Island on 9 March.
- MARBLED GODWIT: Harry LeGrand and Mike Tove observed seven on 26 January at the ferry landing at Cedar Island, N.C., rather far "inland" for this

- strictly coastal species in winter.
- WHIMBREL: One was rare on the Cape Lookout, N.C., CBC on 22 December as seen by Skip Prange.
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW: John Andre and Bud Pollock saw an individual with Whimbrels on the McClellanville, S.C., CBC on 16 December.
- GREATER YELLOWLEGS: One was seen at Fayetteville, N.C., on 6 January and again on 20 February by Henry and Douglas Rankin. Five at Jordan Reservoir on 19 January, as noted by Jim and Elizabeth Pullman, were rare for the piedmont in winter.
- LESSER YELLOWLEGS: Noteworthy were 14 tallied by Angelo Capparella and Robin Carter at Jordan Reservoir on 30 December.
- SOLITARY SANDPIPER: A very rare winter record for the Carolinas was an individual seen by Perry Nugent and Teddy Muckenfuss on the McClellanville CBC on 16 December.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER: Six were noteworthy at the Cedar Island, N.C., ferry landing on 26 January (Harry LeGrand, Mike Tove), as were three at Santee refuge on 19 January and one on 22 February (Douglas McNair).
- RED KNOT: Larry Crawford and Bill Moffitt counted 100 knots at Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 28 January, a high total for the winter season.
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER: Very rare in winter were one seen on the Raleigh CBC on 15 December (Bob Lewis et al.) and three at Shackleford Banks on the Cape Lookout CBC on 22 December (Allen Bryan).
- DUNLIN: Four were notable on 20 December at Jordan Reservoir, as seen by Lance Peacock.
- LEAST SANDPIPER: Inland birds were reported this winter from Santee refuge and Clemson in South Carolina as well as from Jordan Reservoir and Raleigh in North Carolina.
- POMARINE JAEGER: Mike Tove, Kevin Hintsa, and Allen Bryan observed an individual at Pea Island on 26 December.
- PARASITIC JAEGER: Single birds were seen in North Carolina at Elmore's Inlet in Pender County on 30 November (Mark Galizio) and at Cape Lookout on 1 December (John Fussell III).
- GLAUCOUS GULL: A very rare report of an adult was made by Brian Keelan et al. at Cape Hatteras point on 17 February. Three immatures were noted in Carteret County by John Fussell III et al.: a second-winter bird at Beaufort from 19 January to 29 February, another second-winter bird at Cape Lookout on 23 February, and a first-winter bird at Beaufort on 17 February.
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL: There were seven reports this winter from coastal North Carolina, representing at least four individuals. Adults were detected at Bodie Island, at Cape Hatteras point, and at three sites in the Beaufort Inlet area, and an immature was observed at Beaufort. General Field Notes on several of these individuals will be published in this journal, as will one or two notes on Iceland Gulls in the Beaufort area during the same period.
- RING-BILLED GULL: Douglas McNair had peak counts of 1500 at Lake Moultrie on 20 January, 1750 at Lake Murray on 30 January, and 2400 at Lake Marion on 8 February.
- BLACK-HEADED GULL: Single adults were excellent finds at Oregon Inlet on 21 December (Steve Graves) and at Kiawah Island on 5 March (Jackson Abbott).
- LAUGHING GULL: Rare inland in winter were two seen by Anne Waters at a CBC on the Savannah River Plant, S.C., on 15 December.

- BONAPARTE'S GULL: Excellent inland counts made by Douglas McNair, all in South Carolina, were 150 at Lake Moultrie on 20 January, 350 at Lake Murray on 30 January, 550 at Lake Wateree on 28 January, and 1300 at Lake Marion on
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: An adult and an immature were seen from the Hatteras-Ocracoke ferry on 17 February by Brian Keelan et al. Four birds were seen in Carteret County: an adult at Shackleford Banks on the Morehead City CBC on 23 December (Bob Lewis), an oiled adult captured on the shore at Atlantic Beach on 19 January (John Fussell III et al.), an adult in a harbor at Beaufort on 24 January (Harry LeGrand, Mike Tove, John Fussell III), and an immature at Cape Lookout on 26 January (Larry Crawford et al.).
- GULL-BILLED TERN: One seen in flight by Jay Shuler over the edge of a salt marsh on the McClellanville CBC on 16 December was a rare winter record.
- FORSTER'S TERN: One seen by Sidney Gauthreaux in late January at Clemson was a first winter record for that area, and Douglas McNair had excellent totals of 450 at Lake Moultrie on 20 January and 450 to 550 at Lake Marion on 19 January and 8 February.
- LONG-EARED OWL: Eric Paisley and Adrian Tuckley saw an injured and weakened bird on a trash pile along NC 49 in northern Stanly County, N.C., on 30 January. They captured the owl, which had one foot missing, but released it with the belief that it was able to fend for itself.
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD: A male was at a feeder all winter in Mount Pleasant, S.C., as seen by Elsie Gieseke and Ed and Sandra Conradi. Hummingbirds of uncertain identity were seen in Carteret County at Beaufort in early December (Stanley Potter), near Gloucester on 6 December (Carolyn Hoss), at Harkers Island on 22 December (Dana Carter), and at Morehead City on 14 January (John Fussell II).
- RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER: A rare piedmont record was the discovery of ten cavity trees along Weaver Creek just east of Jordan Reservoir in Chatham County. Lance Peacock noted the cavities on 30 December, and he saw an individual there on 24 February. Two were seen by John Fussell III and Jeannie Wilson near Atlantic, N.C., also on 24 February.

(Continued on Page 66)

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Summer 1980

other birds use ants. The following day, I observed the same number of grackles doing this "mothballing" again. They were somewhat hostile with each other, and there appeared to be considerable competition for the mothballs. I saw one bird pick up a mothball and fly off with it. In a day or so after this activity took place, I noted that all of the mothballs placed under the shrubs were gone. I have also noted that a number of grackles are molting.

A molting bird, depending upon the stage of the molt, can be a pitiful, sometimes comical sight. It can also be difficult to identify at times if one does not already know the bird well. I have seen many a bald-headed Cardinal and Rufous-sided Towhee. Towhees, Brown Thrashers, Gray Catbirds, and once in a while, an American Robin will have all tail feathers missing at the same time. This affects their running, walking, and flying movements. To me, a Brown Thrasher without its typical long tail resembles a tiny brown heron, especially since it has such a long beak and yellow eyes. It is funny to see a bird with a loose feather sticking straight up on its back. Cardinals, especially, tend to loosen breast and belly feathers in large patches that hang down around their feet like the droopy drawers of a little guy I used to see in comic strips. It may be my imagination—I try not to be anthropomorphic—but it seems as though birds that are completely disheveled attempt to stay out of sight as much as possible, as if ashamed to be seen. In birds whose plummage, sleek and colorful in spring, plays a large part in attracting a mate, there must be some awareness that the beauty has faded and gone.—GTW

### **BRIEFS FOR THE FILES**

(Continued from page 87)

- TREE SWALLOW: One was very early on 29 February at Lake Surf, noted by Tom Howard.
- BARN SWALLOW: John Andre and Bud Pollock observed one on the McClellanville CBC on 16 December.
- FISH CROW: Rare in the piedmont in winter were 10 near Townville, S.C., on 15 December (Harry LeGrand), and one at Raleigh on 26 January (Gail Whitehurst).
- LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN: One was seen by Merrill Lynch on the Raleigh CBC on 15 December.
- SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN: Notable inland records were one seen on the Chapel Hill CBC on 30 December by Fritz Reid and Martin Stumpf, and two observed by Douglas McNair at Santee refuge on 22 February.
- BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: Two were seen by Mike Tove, Kevin Hintsa, and Dan McElroy at Raleigh on 14 December. Also notable were two at Santee refuge on 19 January (Douglas McNair) and on at Clemson on 20 January (Sidney Gauthreaux).
- WHITE-EYED VIREO: One observed singing on 9 March near Newport, N.C., by John Fussell III and R.J. Hader might have been an overwintering individual.
- BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER: Single individuals, all probably late fall and early winter stragglers, were noted on CBCs at Raleigh, Durham, and Fayetteville, and near Morehead City on 19 December (Thomas Newport).
- ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: Tom Haggerty observed one on the Roanoke Rapids CBC on 1 January.

- NASHVILLE WARBLER: One was exceptionally late at Pea Island on 27 December, when it was carefully studied by Ken Knapp and Kent Ihrman. Marks noted were yellow underparts with white under-tail coverts, gray head, olive-green back, no wing bars, and a white eye ring.
- NORTHERN PARULA: Tom Reeves noted a female at Magnolia Gardens, near Charleston, on 15 January.
- YELLOW WARBLER: One seen by Perry Nugent on the McClellanville CBC on 16 December was very unusual. The yellow patches in the tail were noted, as well as the yellow-green back, bright yellow underparts, and wing bars.
- CAPE MAY WARBLER: Quite rare in winter were two seen at McCain, Hoke County, N.C., on 5 December by Libba Watson, with one seen again on 4 January.
- YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: One was late on the Raleigh CBC on 15 December, as observed by Mike Tove and Dan McElroy.
- NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH: Paul Sykes noted a very rare winter individual in shrubs at South Pond on Pea Island on 27 December. The sharp call note and tail bobbing were also noted.
- WESTERN TANAGER: Merrill Lynch observed one on the Roanoke Rapids CBC on 1 January. Though most winter sightings in the Carolinas are at feeders, this individual was seen in rural country in scattered trees along a roadside. A feeder bird, identified as a male, was seen in New Bern, N.C., late in January by Bob Holmes, John Fussell III, and others.
- SUMMER TANAGER: Two males were unusual on the Charleston CBC on 30 December, as noted by Pat and Renee Probst on Bulls Island.
- ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK: A male was seen at a feeder at Charleston from 20 to 25 December by Shand Lessman et al., and another male, beginning to attain breeding plumage, was noted at a Morehead City feeder on 7 February by Doris Benbow.
- INDIGO BUNTING: Very rare for the season was a female or immature male seen in open pinewoods in Croatan National Forest in western Carteret County on 1 February by Bob Lewis and Allen Bryan.
- EVENING GROSBEAK: This species was in rather low numbers in most Carolina counties this winter, but it was fairly common in central North Carolina. Douglas McNair tallied 600 at the Pee Dee refuge on 9 January.
- HOUSE FINCH: These finches enjoyed their biggest winter ever in the Carolinas, and they outnumbered Purple Finches in some areas, particularly in the piedmont. The first record for Cumberland County was of two birds seen by P.J. Crutchfield at Fayetteville on 25 February. Also notable were up to 20 at feeders in Salem, Oconee County, S.C., during the winter (Elva Darnell), and small numbers at feeders in the mountains at Brevard, N.C., this winter (Doug Wauchope, Betty McIlwain). Other reports of interest were as many as nine this season at a Morehead City feeder (Charles Lincoln); up to eight at a Goldsboro, N.C., feeder in February (fide Dana Carter); 18 at Rockingham, N.C., on 24 February (Douglas McNair); and 200+ at Allen Bryan's feeder and yard in Burlington, N.C., all winter.
- PINE SISKIN: This species, along with the Red-breasted Nuthatch, was extremely scarce in the Carolinas during the winter, with just a handful of reports. This is the second consecutive winter of low numbers for the siskin in this area.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: One mist-netted on the Clemson University campus on 22 February by Sidney Gauthreaux was quite surprising, as the species generally winters in fields in rural country.

- HENSLOW'S SPARROW: North of the usual winter range was one seen in prime habitat (open pinewoods) in western Carteret County on 25 January by John Fussell III and Bill Moffitt, and possibly the same bird was noted the next day by Fran and Wayne Irvin. Several were seen in a weedy field at an abandoned golf course near Carolina Beach, N.C., on several dates in January by Pat Culbertson, Mike Tove, et al.
- LE CONTE'S SPARROW: A good find was one seen by Sidney Gauthreaux near Martin, Allendale County, S.C., on 17 December.
- VESPER SPARROW: Perry Nugent observed 100 at the U.S. Vegetable Lab near Charleston on 9 February, an excellent count for a species that has been declining in numbers as a winter resident in the Carolinas.
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW: Jay Carter observed one at the Sandhills Game Land near Marston, Richmond County, N.C., on 31 January, and Sidney Gauthreaux saw another near Martin, S.C., on 16 and 17 December. One or two were also seen in open pinewoods in western Carteret County from December to February by Harry LeGrand, John Fussell III, et al. This species, as well as the Henslow's, might occur regularly in winter as far northeast as Carteret County.
- TREE SPARROW: One seen by Bill and Margaret Wagner at Chapel Hill on 10 February was the only winter report received.
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW: A good find was an individual seen at Bodie Island on a CBC on 27 December by Gary Williamson, and it was seen again 2 days later by Kevin Hintsa and Harry LeGrand.
- LAPLAND LONGSPUR: A surprising number were reported during the winter: four at Mangum, Richmond County, N.C., on 8 December with Horned Larks and Water Pipits (Douglas McNair); one at Cape Hatteras point on 25 December (Mike Tove, Kevin Hintsa); 12 at Occoneechee Neck on the Roanoke Rapids CBC on 1 January (Bob Lewis, Mike Tove); four at Jordan Reservoir on 19 January and one the following day (Lance Peacock, Margaret Pierce); and five at the U.S. Vegetable Lab near Charleston on 9 February (Perry Nugent).
- SNOW BUNTING: The only winter report was an individual seen at Cape Lookout on a CBC on 22 December by Harry LeGrand et al.

#### PELAGIC BIRDS

Richard Rowlett spent much of the fall of 1979 on two U.S. Coast Guard cutters off the coast of the mid-Atlantic states, with approximately 25 days spent off the North Carolina coast, and 1 day (27 August) off the coast of South Carolina and Georgia. In North Carolina he spent 11 days offshore from 23 August to 10 September, the 7 days from 27 September to 3 October, both 15 and 16 October, and the 5 days from 1 to 5 November. Days were spent between 10 and 100 miles from shore. The following is a brief summary of the noteworthy observations, all from North Carolina unless otherwise indicated.

- CORY'S SHEARWATER: Approximately 5975 individuals were seen on 19 of the 25 days, including 3 of the 5 days in November; outstanding counts were 1404 on 9 September, 1014 on 29 September, and 1741 on 2 November.
- GREATER SHEARWATER: Surprisingly scarce, with only 10 individuals seen on seven dates.

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- SOOTY SHEARWATER: Seldom seen on the Carolina coast after June, single individuals were thus rare on 9 September and 28 September.
- MANX SHEARWATER: One observed on 4 November, between Capes Fear and Lookout, was a first fall record for North Carolina.

- AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER: Approximately 4825 birds were noted on 18 of the 25 days, with excellent totals of 565 on 9 September, 2285 on 29 September, and 1439 on 2 November.
- BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: Approximately 435 of these "rare" gadfly petrels were seen on 12 of the 25 dates, with exceptional counts of 154 on 8 September, 69 on 28 September, and 100 on 30 September. Five were of interest on 2 November. On 27 August Rowlett noted 31 Black-cappeds while in Georgia and South Carolina waters, but a state-by-state breakdown was not made.
- WILSON'S STORM-PETREL: Seen on the majority of days, but the only count in triple figures was 132 on 1 September. No Leach's or other storm-petrels were noted in Carolina waters.
- WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD: Single individuals were observed on 5 September and 27 September.
- BROWN BOOBY: One was reported, without details, on 28 August between Capes Fear and Lookout.
- NORTHERN PHALAROPE: A total of 215 were tallied on six of the 25 dates, with the last seen on 3 October.
- RED PHALAROPE: Just two individuals were seen during the fall off North Carolina; the species is far more numerous in December than it is in any other month in the fall (see Lee and Booth, 1979, American Birds 33:715-721).
- POMARINE JAEGER: A total of 75 birds were observed on nine of the 25 dates, with a peak of 29 on 2 November.
- PARASITIC JAEGER: Twenty were noted on nine dates, with a peak of six on 2 November.
- LONG-TAILED JAEGER: Seven of these rare jaegers were observed, with two on 1 September, one on 5 September, three on 28 September, and one on 29 September.
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: One was extremely early on 1 September; 44 were tallied on four of the five dates in November.
- ARCTIC TERN: Unprecedented numbers were reported for the Carolinas, with one on 7 September, 17 on 8 September, 20 on 9 September, 30 on 10 September, five on 2 October, and single birds on 3 and 15 October.
- ROSEATE TERN: Surprising numbers were seen, with 20 counted from 8 to 10 September.
- SOOTY TERN: Before this season, the previous high pelagic count for North Carolina was just 14 birds, but Rowlett recorded truly impressive numbers. He tallied 195 on several dates in late August, with 159 on 28 August. From 5 to 10 September he observed 940 Sooties, with 668 occurring on 9 September. Other records were four on 29 September, and singles on 30 September and 2 November. Approximately 85% of the Sooties seen during the season were adults.
- BRIDLED TERN: A total of 177 were seen on most dates from late August to mid-September, but only one bird was seen on a later date (29 September).
- BROWN NODDY TERN: Highly noteworthy were one seen on 28 August and three noted on 9 September.