

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

RICKY DAVIS

(All Dates Winter 1994-1995)

RED-THROATED LOON: A rare winter report was of a single Red-throated Loon found on the Jordan L., NC C.B.C. Jan. 1 by Henry and Elizabeth Link. Also of note was the total of 1980 found on the Pea Island, NC C.B.C. (fide Paul Sykes), a record total for the count.

PACIFIC LOON: In North Carolina, Pacifics were found at Figure Eight Island (two on Feb. 5, Derb Carter), and at Wrightsville Beach (one on Feb. 14, Steve Dinsmore). In South Carolina, one was at Myrtle Beach Jan. 15 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman) and another or the same was at Huntington Beach State Park Jan. 29 (Pete Worthington, Van Atkins) and Feb. 9 (Bob Maxwell).

RED-NECKED GREBE: There were many fewer reports this winter than last, with birds being found in Pamlico Sound, NC Dec. 11 (Lex Glover, CBC members); at Huntington Beach, SC Jan. 1 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman); Pamlico River, NC Jan. 21 (Will Cook); Wrightsville Beach, NC Feb. 12 (Sam Cooper); and Beaufort, SC Feb. 25 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

EARED GREBE: The sewage treatment plant in Goldsboro, NC again hosted birds with at least five individuals spending the winter there (Eric Dean). Also singles were found at L. Townsend, NC Jan. 17-Feb. 11 (Henry Link, Herb Hendrickson); Huntington Beach, SC Jan. 22 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman); and at C. Hatteras Jan. 28 (Sam Cooper, Kevin Markham).

MANX SHEARWATER: The only one seen this winter was off Hatteras, NC on Feb. 11 (Brian Patteson, et al.).

AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER: From 8-12 were seen on the Feb. 11 pelagic trip out of Hatteras (Brian Patteson, et al.), once again proving that both shearwaters can be found offshore together during the winter months.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: A very rare "inland" sight record was provided by one at L. Mattamuskeet, NC Jan. 26. (Nell Moore). Others were at Pea Island, NC Dec. 29-31 (Harry LeGrand) and C. Hatteras Feb. 10-27 (Steve Dinsmore, Dave Sibley, Ray Schwartz, Pat Moore).

GREAT CORMORANT: Only about the fourth inland record for this species, an immature was found at Walnut Creek L. on the Wayne County, NC C.B.C. Dec. 17 by Harry LeGrand.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: This species continues to increase in numbers as evidenced by the record total for an inland C.B.C. when 282 were at Jordan L., NC Jan. 1 (Barbara Roth, Will Cook).

ANHINGA: The best winter report was the bird inland at Santee N.W.R., SC Jan. 6 (Giff Beaton, R. Gifford Beaton).

LEAST BITTERN: Always a good find at any season, two were at Bear Island W.M.A., SC Feb. 11 (Bob Lego, Mary Douglas, Bob Wood) providing a rare winter report.

GREAT "WHITE" HERON: The individual found at Pea Island, NC last summer

continued to remain in its favorite North Pond spot throughout the winter on into spring (m. ob.)!

GREAT EGRET: Inland winter reports included one on the Long Cane, SC C.B.C. Dec. 23 (Drew Lanham, et al., fide Steve Wagner) and at Rocky Mount, NC Feb. 10 (Ricky Davis).

REDDISH EGRET: An extremely rare winter occurrence was the presence of two (one immature and one adult) in the Huntington Beach - Murrell's Inlet, SC area Dec. 29 to Feb. 2 (fide Jack Peachey).

WHITE IBIS: Rare inland in winter, a count of five immatures near the Congaree R., southeastern Richland County, SC Dec. 20 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman) was notable.

WOOD STORK: One at Bear Island W.M.A., SC Feb. 4 provided a rare winter sighting (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

TUNDRA SWAN: Inland reports included two at the Savannah River Site, SC Dec. 20 (Anne and Vernon Waters); up to six in Cumberland County, NC Dec. - Feb. 7 (Hal Broadfoot, Jr., Phil Crutchfield); one at Jordan L., NC Jan. 21 (Anne and Vernon Waters); 18 at Santee N.W.R., SC Feb. 5 (Anne and Vernon Waters); and up to 14 at Rocky Mount, NC Feb. 10 - Mar. 3 (Ricky Davis).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: The only report this winter was of one at Santee N.W.R., SC Dec. 11 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman) to Feb. 7 (Steve Patterson).

SNOW GOOSE: The farthest reports away from their usual wintering areas included singles at L. Julian, Asheville, NC Feb. 1 (Peggy Lasher); Clemson, SC Dec. 17 (fide Steve Patterson); and Tryon, NC Dec. 17 (Pat Wilkison, JoAnn Martin, fide Simon Thompson).

ROSS' GOOSE: The only report of this species involved 3 birds at Pungo N.W.R., NC Jan. 28 (Derb Carter, John Wright, Ricky Davis, CBC field trip participants) and Feb. 13 (Steve Dinsmore, Susan Barrell).

BRANT: Locally rare were five at Ft. Fisher, NC late Dec. to Jan. 10 (Mike Resch, Kevin Markham) and one at L. Mattamuskeet, NC Jan. 24 (Anne and Vernon Waters).

(EURASIAN) GREEN-WINGED TEAL: Always a good find, one was near Sneads Ferry, NC Jan. 20 (Jimi and Nell Moore) to at least Mar. 4 (Nell Moore, Lex Glover).

CINNAMON TEAL: This species is very rare in the Carolinas, thus of interest were up to two males and a female at Bear Island W.M.A., SC Feb. 4 (Lex Glover) to at least Feb. 18 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman). North Carolina also got into the act with a male near Sneads Ferry Feb. 14 (Nell Moore, Steve Dinsmore).

EURASIAN WIGEON: North Carolina had several reports with single adult males being found at Pea Island Jan. 28 (Sam Cooper, Kevin Markham); Orton Pond, Brunswick County Dec. 31 (Ricky Davis); and the fall season bird near Raleigh until at least Feb. 3 (Bob Hader, Joanna Perkinson, m. ob.). In South Carolina, a male and female were at Bear Island W.M.A. Jan. 2 (Anne and Vernon Waters, Larry and Carol Eldridge) until at least Feb. 4 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

RUDDY SHELDUCK: Always most likely an escape, one was nevertheless exciting at

- Santee N.W.R., SC Jan. 18 and Feb. 5 (Anne and Vernon Waters).
- REDHEAD:** Locally uncommon to rare were six at Deerlake, Transylvania County, NC Jan. 6-30 (Betty McIlwain) and one at Shelby, NC Dec. 20 (Pat Wilkison, Dot McMurray). Also of note were 11 at Falls L., NC Dec. 9 (Ricky Davis) and 4 at Jordan L., NC Dec. 9 (Ricky Davis, m. ob.).
- COMMON EIDER:** The only reports included immature males at Wrightsville Beach, NC Feb. 4 - 24 (m. ob.) and N. Topsail Beach, NC Feb. 14 - 26 (m. ob.); and a female at Garden City, SC Jan. 22 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman, sev. ob.).
- HARLEQUIN DUCK:** This species was found at several locations this winter with one female at Oregon Inlet, NC Feb. 12 (Eric Dean); one male at Duck, NC Feb. 19 (Steve Dinsmore, Susan Barrell); one male at Topsail Beach, NC Dec. 21 - March (Nell and Jimi Moore, m. ob.); two females at Murrell's Inlet, SC Jan. 19 - Feb. 11 (Steve Patterson, sev. ob.); and two males at Myrtle Beach, SC Feb. 5 - 12 (Lex Glover, sev. ob.).
- OLDSQUAW:** This species can sometimes be hard to come by in South Carolina, thus of note were the presence of two to five in the Huntington Beach - Murrell's Inlet, SC area Dec. 11 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman, Jack Peachey, et al.) to Feb. 11 (Steve Patterson, Pete Worthington). Also one was found at Isle of Palms, SC Dec. 21 by Giff Beaton.
- BLACK SCOTER:** Uncommon inland were singles at Falls L. and Jordan L., NC Dec. 9 (Ricky Davis).
- SURF SCOTER:** Inland reports included six at Jordan L., NC Dec. 9 (Ricky Davis, Roger McNeill, sev. ob.); one at L. Brandt, Greensboro, NC Dec. 17 (Henry and Elizabeth Link); and one in western Sumter County, SC Feb. 9 (fide Evelyn Dabbs).
- COMMON MERGANSER:** In North Carolina this species was found at Pea Island Dec. 29 (Will Cook, Susan Barrell) to Jan. 27 (Ricky Davis); Lookout Shoals Lake Dam, Iredell County Dec. 19 (Adam Martin); L. Townsend Feb. 12 (Henry and Elizabeth Link); and L. Wheeler near Raleigh Feb. 20 (Ricky Davis). In South Carolina one was at Garden City on the Litchfield-Pawley's Island C.B.C. Dec. 29 (fide Jack Peachey).
- RED-BREASTED MERGANSER:** On Dec. 9 Ricky Davis found good numbers near Raleigh, NC with 20 at Falls L. and 55 at Jordan L. Farther inland were three at L. Moss near Shelby, NC Dec. 22 (Pat Wilkison, JoAnn Martin).
- BLACK VULTURE:** A very good total for Guilford County, NC was the 25 in one flock present from Dec. to Feb. (John Posey, Herb Hendrickson, Donald Allen, Danny Royster).
- TURKEY VULTURE:** Locally rare and a first for the count was the single individual found on the Kitty Hawk, NC C.B.C. Dec. 31 (fide Lee Yoder).
- OSPREY:** Unusual winter records included one on the L. Norman, NC C.B.C. Dec. 18 (Albert Conway); one at Elgin, Kershaw County, SC Feb. 3 (Lex Glover); and one on the Greenville, NC C.B.C. Jan. 1 (Gene Howe, Betty Grady, Carl Darden).
- NORTHERN GOSHAWK:** The only report received was of an adult at Piney Creek, Alleghany County, NC late Jan. - Feb. (James H. Coman, III). This was about the third year in a row that this area produced a Goshawk report!

- BROAD-WINGED HAWK:** An extremely late individual was found in eastern Rutherford County, NC Dec. 3 (G. Mayfield, fide Rick Knight). Winter reports of this hawk are very unusual and all birds should be scrutinized to rule out all other species.
- ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK:** An individual near Asheville, NC Jan. 8 (Gail Whitehurst) was the only one reported this winter and it provided a very rare local record.
- GOLDEN EAGLE:** Adults of this always exciting species were found at Bear Island W.M.A., SC Jan. 7 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman) and near Topsail Beach, NC Jan. 29 (Nell and Jimi Moore, Tonya Spires, Lin McClean).
- MERLIN:** This species was found at many inland sites this winter with the farthest away from the coast being the 2-3 birds present all winter in the Ashe-Alleghany Counties, NC area (fide James H. Coman, III).
- YELLOW RAIL:** The only report received was of one found along a dike at Magnolia Gardens, Charleston, SC Feb. 5 by Caroline Eastman.
- KING RAIL:** A rare winter record was of one on the Clemson, SC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (fide Steve Wagner).
- WILSON'S PLOVER:** One was found at its usual wintering spot on the Morehead City, NC C.B.C. Dec. 18 (Sam Cooper, Kevin Markham). This is about the only place in the Carolinas where an individual of this species sometimes holds over into winter.
- AMERICAN AVOCET:** Locally interesting were three at Edisto Island, SC Feb. 4 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER:** Winter reports included singles on the Wayne County, NC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall) and the New Bern, NC C.B.C. Dec. 19 (John Wright).
- WILLET:** A Pea Island, NC C.B.C. record total of 480 was had Dec. 29 (Paul Sykes); no doubt due partly to the warm fall and winter weather.
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** The only report received involved the dependable Ft. Fisher, NC bird seen Jan. 1 and 14 (Ricky Davis, Gene Howe, Steve Gross).
- LEAST SANDPIPER:** A good winter inland count was the 30 on the Durham, NC C.B.C. Dec. 18 (fide Will Cook).
- DUNLIN:** Rare inland in winter, one was on the Wayne County, NC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (Eric Dean); one was on the Greensboro, NC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (Henry and Elizabeth Link); and two were at Falls L. near Raleigh Jan. 6 (Ricky Davis).
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Locally rare were 11 at Ft. Fisher, NC Dec. 3 (Ricky Davis, Harry LeGrand); two on the New Bern, NC C.B.C. Dec. 19 (John Fussell); and the good count of 30 at the Yawkey W.M.A., Georgetown County, SC in December (Lex Glover, Mike Resch).
- WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** An extremely late individual was found at New Bern, NC Dec. 1 (Bob Holmes), providing a first Craven County record and a very rare winter report!
- RED PHALAROPE:** This species was found only offshore with 10 off Hatteras Feb. 11 (Brian Patteson, et al.) and 97 off Currituck Banks, NC Feb. 18 (Patteson, et al.0).
- POMARINE JAEGER:** The only onshore report was of one dark phase immature at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Jan. 29 (Pete Worthington).

- PARASITIC JAEGER:** One was seen off C. Hatteras Dec. 10 (Harry LeGrand, John Wright, CBC field trip participants) and off Inlet Point, Litchfield Beach, SC Feb. 11 by Pete Worthington.
- GREAT SKUA:** This species is seen very rarely in North Carolina waters, thus of interest were the three off Currituck Banks Feb. 18 (Brian Patteson, et al.).
- LAUGHING GULL:** Rare inland in winter, one was on the York/Rock Hill, SC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (Albert Conway). Also a first-winter bird was at the Raleigh, NC landfill Dec. 3; and a second-winter bird was there Dec. 15 (Bob Hader).
- LITTLE GULL:** In North Carolina this species was observed at C. Hatteras Jan. 28 (Ned Brinkley), Feb. 19 (Harry LeGrand, et al.), and Feb. 25 (Dave Sibley, Ray Schwartz, fide Pat Moore). Also birds were seen at Rodanthe Jan. 27 - 28 (Ricky Davis, Sam Cooper, Kevin Markham) and Oregon Inlet Feb. 12 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall). In South Carolina, where definitely much rarer, one was found at Huntington Beach State Park Jan. 21 (Taylor Piephoff, Lex Glover, et al.).
- CALIFORNIA GULL:** Reports of this species exploded with up to four different individuals present in the C. Hatteras, NC area this winter. Three adults and one first-winter immature were on the C.B.C. there Dec. 30 (fide Harry LeGrand); and these birds were relocated by many observers over the next two and a half months.
- THAYER'S GULL:** Up to two adults of this species were present at C. Hatteras this winter (Dec. 30 - Mar.) and were seen by many observers.
- ICELAND GULL:** There were at least five different Icelanders in the C. Hatteras area this winter (m. ob.) with several adults and first-winter plumaged birds present. Away from the Outer Banks, one was at Morehead City, NC Jan. 20 (Derb Carter) and a second-winter bird was found at Myrtle Beach, SC Jan. 27 (Lex Glover, Mike Check).
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:** This gull continues to increase and the reports are too numerous to mention in detail. The peak count was the 39 at C. Hatteras Jan. 28 by Ned Brinkley. The species is also showing up inland each winter and the farthest inland this year was one adult at the Raleigh, NC landfill Dec. 17 and Feb. 13, 14 (Bob Hader). The farthest south was one first-winter immature at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Jan. 8 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman). Also of note was a rare offshore record of one off Hatteras, NC Feb. 11 (Brian Patteson, et al.).
- GLAUCOUS GULL:** This species has also showed an increase in inland reports with a first-winter bird at the Raleigh, NC landfill Dec. 14 (Bob Hader) and a second-winter bird at L. Townsend near Greensboro, NC Dec. 16 - 22 (Henry Link). On the coast, first-winter birds were found at the Yawkey W.M.A., Georgetown County, SC Dec. 22 (Lex Glover) and at C. Hatteras, NC Feb. 12 - 27 (m. ob.). An adult was also at C. Hatteras Feb. 27 (Dave Sibley, Ray Schwartz, fide Pat Moore).
- GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL:** Inland reports increased with the farthest away from the coast being one adult at L. Townsend near Greensboro, NC Dec. 13 and Feb. 2 (Henry Link), a first county record.
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE:** Onshore reports involved singles at C. Hatteras Dec. 30 (Roger McNeill), Jan. 8 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall), and Jan. 28 (Ned

- Brinkley). Also one was at Salvo, NC Jan. 8 (Tyndalls, Earnhardt) and two were at Bodie Island, NC Dec. 29 (McNeill).
- BLACK SKIMMER:** A locally unusual report involved a single Skimmer seen feeding over a fresh-water impoundment on the eastern end of L. Mattamuskeet, NC Dec. 28 (Ricky Davis, John Wright).
- DOVEKIE:** The only report was of one off Currituck Banks, NC Feb. 18 (Brian Patteson, et al.).
- THICK-BILLED MURRE:** One was found at Myrtle Beach, SC Jan. 13 (Steve and Jill Patterson) and was relocated Jan. 28 by Caroline Eastman. This is a very rare species in South Carolina and all sightings should be studied in great detail.
- RAZORBILL:** This species was present in the Carolinas in far fewer numbers than last winter's invasion. The best count was the three off Hatteras, NC Feb. 11 (Brian Patteson, et al.). Razorbills were also found at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Jan. 21 - 30 (m. ob.); Wrightsville Beach, NC in early Feb. (m. ob.); C. Hatteras, NC Jan. 28 (Ned Brinkley) and Feb. 27,28 (Ricky Davis, Dave Sibley, Ray Schwartz); and Rodanthe, NC Jan. 28 (Sam Cooper, Kevin Markham).
- ATLANTIC PUFFIN:** North Carolina's second record of this species was provided by one off Currituck Banks Feb. 18 (Brian Patteson, et al.). This report was much more expected than the first which was a lone bird off of Hatteras in August of 1993!
- EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE:** The group of birds found at Myrtle Beach, SC during the fall continued to persist. A count of 12 was had there Jan. 13 - 18 by Steve Patterson.
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE:** Most reports of this dove come in the fall season, thus of note was one at the east end of Ocracoke Island, NC Dec. 10 (Harry LeGrand, John Wright, CBC field trip participants).
- COMMON GROUND-DOVE:** A rare upstate report from South Carolina was had when one was found on the Clemson C.B.C. Dec. 17 by Don McGowan and Chuck Flint.
- LONG-EARED OWL:** This is a species seldom seen in the Carolinas, thus the three seen by several observers in a pine stand at the VOA-A site in Beaufort County, NC late Feb. to early Mar. were significant. The birds were first heard here Jan. 13, but were not located until Feb. 26 (John Wright, Eric Dean, Gene Howe, et al.). For the next two weeks, several lucky, patient observers were able to see the birds; an experience that may not happen again for a long time!
- SAW-WHET OWL:** Frank Enders continued banding of Saw-whets in Halifax County, NC this winter; and had a recapture (Dec. 13) of a previously banded bird (Nov. 19) from the same area. He also reported that three Saw-whets were banded in northeastern NC by Dave Brinker, et al. One was heard near L. Mattamuskeet, NC in mid-Feb. by Kelly Davis for the first local report of the species. In South Carolina, three were heard on the McClellanville C.B.C. Dec. 18 (fide Frank Enders).
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** There were more reports than usual of wintering Whips in the Carolinas. In North Carolina individuals were on the New Bern C.B.C. Dec. 19 (Buddy Garrett) and the Wilmington C.B.C. Dec. 31 (Ricky Davis). In South

Carolina one was found near Summerton, Clarendon County Dec. 31 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman); one was on the Savannah River Site C.B.C. Dec. 20 (fide Anne and Vernon Waters); and another was on the Aiken C.B.C. Dec. 24 (fide Anne and Vernon Waters).

HUMMINGBIRDS: The winter of 1994-95 was probably the best ever for lingering, wintering hummingbirds in the Carolinas. *Selasphorus* hummers were found in Mt. Pleasant, SC (Giff Beaton); Morehead City, NC (John Fussell); on the Bodie-Pea Islands C.B.C. (fide Paul Sykes); Greenville, NC (fide Harry LeGrand); and Sumter, SC (fide Evelyn Dabbs). Definite Rufous Hummingbirds were at Wilmington, NC (fide Sam Cooper); Columbus, NC (Simon Thompson); and Simpsonville, SC (Pete Worthington). *Archilochus* reports included two at Mt. Pleasant, SC (Giff Beaton); one at Morehead City, NC (John Fussell); one at Southern Shores, NC (Lee Yoder); one on the Bodie-Pea Islands C.B.C. (fide Paul Sykes); an amazing four different individuals in the Buxton, NC area (fide Harry LeGrand); two at New Bern, NC (Bob Holmes); and one at L. Landing near L. Mattamuskeet, NC (fide Kelly Davis). Most observers were cautious as to the specific identity of these birds. The chance that there were Black-chinned Hummingbirds present in this big bunch is very high!

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER: This species was noted to be in better than average numbers in a couple of areas. The report of up to 9 in Tryon, NC Dec.-Mar. (Simon Thompson) provided a very rare winter record. Also the presence of 14 at Ft. Fisher, NC during the winter (Ricky Davis, Harry LeGrand) was a definite increase in the normal numbers for that locality.

WESTERN KINGBIRD: This rare in winter species was found twice: one was at Aiken, SC Dec. 24 (Larry and Carol Eldridge, fide Anne and Vernon Waters), and another was at Ft. Fisher, NC Jan. 1-10 (Ralph Widrig, Kevin Markham).

CAVE SWALLOW: North Carolina's third report of this species involved a single bird seen near Sneads Ferry Feb. 5 (Jimi and Nell Moore, John and Paula Wright). As with the previous reports, the bird did not stay for other observers to document the sighting.

BARN SWALLOW: Two were found on the Litchfield-Pawley's Island, SC C.B.C. Dec. 29 (fide Jack Peachey) for a rare winter occurrence.

FISH CROW: Four were on the Raleigh, NC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (fide Will Cook) and one was on the Clemson, SC C.B.C. (fide Steve Wagner) for rare winter reports. This species usually withdraws to the coast for the colder months.

COMMON RAVEN: This species seems to be continuing its gradual spread eastward in North Carolina. Once again, young were raised in downtown Winston-Salem (Ramona Snavely), and one was in Greensboro in late Feb. (Roger McNeill, fide Elizabeth Link). Also two were seen at another site in Guilford County Feb. 11 by Elizabeth Link.

SEDGE WREN: Rare in winter inland were two on the Wayne County, NC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (Roger McNeill, Eric Dean) and one on the Clemson, SC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (Pete Worthington).

GRAY CATBIRD: A catbird on the L. Lure, NC C.B.C. Jan. 1 (Simon Thompson) was very late and rare for that western locality in winter.

- SPRAGUE'S PIPIT:** The only report came from the site of last year's bird - the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm. This time Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman observed one there Feb. 4; which turned out to be a one-day wonder.
- WHITE-EYED VIREO:** Rare inland in winter, one was found at Raven Rock State Park, NC Feb. 2 - Mar. 4, as noted by Paul Hart.
- SOLITARY VIREO:** Up to two different individuals were in the Tryon, NC area Dec. 17 - Jan. 18 (Simon Thompson). These were the first local area winter records.
- ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:** One was rare in winter on the Raleigh, NC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (fide Will Cook); another was even more out of place on the Shelby, NC C.B.C. Dec. 20 (Simon Thompson).
- NORTHERN PARULA:** A rare winter bird was the individual found on the C. Hatteras, NC C.B.C. Dec. 30 (Henry Link).
- YELLOW WARBLER:** Another lingering warbler on the C. Hatteras, NC C.B.C. Dec. 30 was a Yellow found in Frisco by Eric Fulcher and Lee Yoder.
- CAPE MAY WARBLER:** An adult male Cape May was found in Durham, NC Feb. 25 (Will Cook, et al.) providing the second winter record in as many years for the area!
- BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER:** North Carolina's fourth Black-thr. Gray was a female found in Wilmington Jan. 31 - Feb. 16 (Trip Dennis, sev. ob.). Amazingly, three of the four records have come from the Wilmington area!
- YELLOW-RUMPED "AUDUBON'S" WARBLER:** The only report of this rare form came from Summerton, Clarendon County, SC Dec. 31, as noted by Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman.
- WILSON'S WARBLER:** Another rare winter warbler is the Wilson's. This season one was found at St. Matthews, Calhoun County, SC Dec. 20 (Caroline Eastman).
- YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT:** One was seen at Richlands, Onslow County, NC Jan. 30 (Nell Moore) for a rare winter report.
- WESTERN TANAGER:** The male returned to Kitty Kosh's Wilmington, NC yard in October and remained all winter for the third year in a row!
- ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK:** A female was seen near Wilmington, NC Dec. 31 by Roger McNeill for a very rare winter report. The bird was studied well enough to rule out the just as likely Black-headed.
- INDIGO BUNTING:** This species will sometimes linger in fall, but the presence of two at a site near Rocky Mount, NC all winter (Dec.- Mar.) was noteworthy (Ricky Davis).
- PAINTED BUNTING:** There were phenomenal numbers of wintering Painteds in North Carolina. One was on the Wayne County C.B.C. Dec. 17 (John Fussell, Eric Dean); one spent the winter at New Bern (fide Bob Holmes); two were at Southern Shores (Lee Yoder); four overwintered in Carteret County (Carolyn and Don Hoss, fide John Fussell); and four were in the Buxton-Frisco area all winter (C. Hatteras Bird Club).
- CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** This rare winter sparrow was found in Simpsonville, SC Feb. 7 (Pete Worthington) and near L. Phelps, NC Feb. 25 (Ricky Davis).
- LARK SPARROW:** The only winter report received was of one in the mountains on the Stone Mountain, NC C.B.C. in December (Hartsell Cash, fide James H.

Coman, III).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: A good find was one at McBee W.M.A., Chesterfield County, SC Feb. 19 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

HENSLOW'S SPARROW: The only winter report was of one in southern Dorchester County, SC Feb. 5, as noted by Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman.

LeCONTE'S SPARROW: Up to three different individuals were found at the New Bern, NC airfield Dec. 1 - late Feb. (Bob Holmes, m. ob.). These birds represented the first record for Craven County. Also one was found at the Yawkey W.M.A., Georgetown County, SC Dec. 21 (Lex Glover), for a good find.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW: One on the Clemson, SC C.B.C. Dec. 17 (Pete Worthington) provided a rare local winter record. Also of note was the presence of one that overwintered near Rocky Mount, NC (Ricky Davis), a rare event that far inland.

HARRIS' SPARROW: South Carolina's third Harris' Sparrow was found near Santee N.W.R. Jan. 3 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman) and it remained until at least Feb. 25 (Tim Kalbach). The bird proved quite dependable and was seen by countless observers during its stay.

DARK-EYED "OREGON" JUNCO: An individual of this western form was found at Jordan L., NC Dec. 13 (Ned Brinkley, Sam Cooper) for one of the few reports in recent years.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR: The only reports of this species included five at the Orangeburg Sod Farm, SC Jan. 3 - 17 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman, Lex Glover) and two near L. Phelps, NC Feb. 25 (Ricky Davis).

SNOW BUNTING: One was found on the shore of Jordan L., NC Dec. 11 (Will Cook, et al.) for a rare inland sighting.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman found three (2 males, one female) at Bowman, Orangeburg County, SC Dec. 11 - Jan. 1 for a rare local report. Also rare were six found on the Aiken, SC C.B.C. Dec. 24 (Anne and Vernon Waters).

NORTHERN "BULLOCK'S" ORIOLE: This very rare western form was found once, at Magnolia Gardens, Charleston, SC Jan. 28 by Simon Thompson.

PURPLE FINCH: Numbers of this species were way down this winter. Some observers did not encounter a single one all season! The best count received was of 41 on the Greenville, SC C.B.C. Dec. 31 (fide Pete Worthington); but most reports involved single-digit totals.

RED CROSSBILL: The Red Crossbill report from Caesar's Head State Park, SC in June 1994 (Chat 59:82) was in error. The locality was Mt. Mitchell, NC!

PINE SISKIN: Another winter finch in short supply was the Siskin with only four reports totalling nine birds being received from across both Carolinas!

EVENING GROSBEAK: This species was as close to being non-existent in the Carolinas as possible with only one report received. Three at a feeder in Stokesdale, NC (Jean McCoy, fide Herb Hendrickson) was it. These birds must have felt lost and all alone!