

# BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

---

Ricky Davis  
608 Smallwood Drive  
Rocky Mount, NC 27804  
RJDNC@aol.com

All Dates Fall 2000

---

*Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events which do not necessarily require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.*

*Winter = December 1 - February 28, due March 20  
Spring = March 1 - May 31, due June 20  
Summer = June 1 - July 31, due August 20  
Fall = August 1 - November 30, due December 20*

*Reports can be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you type them and list the sightings according to the birds in checklist order (not according to dates or locations). If you submit your report to me through e-mail, please type your report directly into the message or copy it from a word processing program directly into the message. You may also attach your file to the e-mail, but if you do, please let me know the program used and also send a second version saved as a text (.txt) file.*

*Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.*

*Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.*

*I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.*

*If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.*

**RED-THROATED LOON:** The only inland Red-throated reported was one at Jordan Lake, NC, Nov. 20 (Ricky Davis).

**COMMON LOON:** Inland Commons included 21 on L. Rhodhiss, NC, Nov. 19 (Dwayne and Lori Martin), 21 on Jordan Lake, NC, Nov. 18 (Karen and Joe Bearden), and one on L. Osceola, NC, Oct. 7 (Ron Selvey). Early inland loons

included one at Jordan L. Oct. 8 (Ricky Davis) and one on L. Hickory, NC, Oct. 11 (Dwayne and Lori Martin).

**EARED GREBE:** The usual Goldsboro, NC, Wastewater Treatment Plant (W.T.P.) site hosted up to five during the fall, with the first one being noted as early as Aug. 12 (Eric Dean). Others reported included one at the Jacksonville, NC, W.T.P. Aug. 27 (Jim O'Donnell *et al.*) and three at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC, Sept. 6 - Oct. 25 (Steve Calver).

**NORTHERN FULMAR:** Only one was found this fall, off Hatteras, NC, Nov. 4 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

**BERMUDA PETREL:** The year's sixth report of this species off North Carolina involved one out of Oregon Inlet Aug. 19 (Patteson *et al.*). It was truly an amazing year for this endangered species, it remains to be seen if this will happen during 2001.

**HERALD PETREL:** This species was once again found off North Carolina multiple times. Out of Oregon Inlet, two were found Aug. 19 and three were seen Aug. 21 (Patteson *et al.*). From Hatteras, one was found Aug. 27, and an amazing total of four was seen Aug. 26 (Patteson *et al.*).

**CORY'S SHEARWATER:** One was unusual, seen on the beach north of C. Hatteras, NC, Oct. 27 (Brian Patteson). Also a good count of 202 was off Hatteras, NC, Nov. 4 (Patteson, *et al.*).

**GREATER SHEARWATER:** The Hatteras, NC, pelagic on Nov. 4 produced a good count of 44 Greaters (Patteson, *et al.*).

**MANX SHEARWATER:** This species is normally considered very rare in our waters during summer and fall. This year has been different and several were seen this August. Out of Hatteras singles were found on the on the 5th and 27th; and from Oregon Inlet, one was found the 14th, and three were seen on the 20th (Patteson *et al.*).

**WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL:** One of the most sought-after and memorable birds found on pelagic trips, a White-faced was found off Oregon Inlet Aug. 13 (Patteson *et al.*).

**BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL:** A new record one-day count was obtained Aug. 6 out of Hatteras, NC, when 234 were tallied (Patteson *et al.*).

**MASKED BOOBY:** One was offshore from Oregon Inlet, NC, Aug. 21 (Patteson *et al.*). Much more unusual were onshore sightings including one ranging from Hatteras Inlet all the way up to Oregon Inlet Sept. 19 until Sept. 25 (M. Wilkinson, Susan Campbell, Pat Moore *et al.*, Jeff Lewis) and possibly another from C. Hatteras Oct. 27 (Patteson).

**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN:** Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, one was at Beaufort Inlet, NC, Sept. 8 (John Fussell), one was over Huntington Beach State Park, SC, Nov. 10 (*vide* Jack Peachey), and the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, had some all fall with a peak of 37 Nov. 15 (Steve Calver).

**GREAT CORMORANT:** One was very rare and unusual inland at Jordan Lake, NC, Oct. 30 (Steve Shultz).

**AMERICAN BITTERN:** Locally unusual were one at Hooper Lane, Henderson County, NC, Oct. 15 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff) and two in the Croatan Nat. For., NC, Oct. 15 (Gene Howe and Judy Flint).

**LEAST BITTERN:** One was rare at the Little Creek Impoundment, Chapel Hill, NC, Oct. 1 (*vide* Will Cook). Also one was found in the road near the top of Mt. Mitchell, NC, during bad weather Oct. 7 (Michael Morales). The bird was picked up, kept overnight, and released at a lower elevation the next morning!

**GREAT "WHITE" HERON:** The Brevard, NC, bird present from the summer, was still present at the end of the period (Tom Joyce). Another one was found in the Carolinas this fall, that being an individual at Huntington Beach State Park, SC, Nov. 4, as noted by Steve Shultz. Two sightings in the Carolinas at once is definitely unusual.

**SNOWY EGRET:** Good inland reports of this species included one at Hendersonville, NC, Sept. 6-9 (Simon Thompson and Wayne Forsythe), two in Anderson County, SC, Sept. 10 (Sidney Gauthreaux, Jr.), one at Jordan Lake, NC, Sept. 16 (Ginger Travis and Lena Gallitano), and three at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Sept. 24 (Tim Kalbach).

**REDDISH EGRET:** Once again this species was found at several sites. The best counts included seven at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Sept. 20 (Steve Calver) and four at Portsmouth, NC, Aug. 3 (Wayne Irvin). Reports of single birds came from Folly Beach, SC, Sept. 21 (Chuck Hunter, *vide* Craig Watson), Sunset Beach, NC, Oct. 8 (Stephen Harris), and Huntington Beach State Park, SC, Oct. 3 (Jack Peachey and Bob Maxwell) until at least Nov. 22 (Kenneth Behrens).

**CATTLE EGRET:** One was locally unusual at L. Crabtree, Wake County, NC, Sept. 19 (Dan Kaplan).

**GLOSSY IBIS:** This species is quite rare inland, thus of note were seven at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Aug. 25 (Gene Howe), with three still present the following day (Eric Dean *et al.*).

**ROSEATE SPOONBILL:** The spoonbill present at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, during the summer, was last reported Aug. 27 (Jeff Lewis). Other sightings came from South Carolina where individuals were at Kiawah Island in early August (*vide* Taylor Piephoff) and at Charleston for about three weeks in September (Craig Watson).

**WOOD STORK:** Very rare and unusual that far inland, one was a surprise seen flying over the Neuse River in Goldsboro, NC, Aug. 28 (Eric Dean). The usual Sunset Beach, NC, summering flock peaked out at about 80 birds (*vide* Mary McDavid).

**FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK:** This species staged an impressive influx into the Carolinas this fall. Three were at L. Mattamuskeet N.W.R., NC, Oct. 27 (*vide* Taylor Piephoff); an impressive flock of up to 26 at North Pond, Pea Island N.W.R., NC, thrilled many observers Oct. 28 - Nov. 21 (Jeff Lewis, Keith Watson, Barbara Gearhart, m. obs.); seven were seen sporadically at

Magnolia Gardens, SC, during late November (*vide* Perry Nugent, sev. obs.); and one was at Savannah N.W.R., SC, Nov. 24 (Mike Turner).

**ROSS'S GOOSE:** The only Ross's Geese found in the Carolinas included a group of up to five at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 28 - Nov. 12 (Jeff Lewis, Keith Watson, John & Paula Wright, m. obs.).

**BRANT:** Quite unusual were the several seen in North and South Ponds, Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Nov. 4-5 (m. obs.). This species normally favors the ocean and sound waters in our area.

**EURASIAN WIGEON:** The only one found away from the usual Pea Island, NC, area was at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, Nov. 2 (Ricky Davis).

**LONG-TAILED DUCK:** One was found at Roanoke Rapids Lake, NC, Nov. 12 (Ricky Davis), providing the only inland report this fall.

**BLACK SCOTERS:** One Black Scoter was at the Townville Access, L. Hartwell, SC, Nov. 24 (Steve Patterson *et al.*).

**SURF SCOTER:** Inland Surfs included one at the Townville Access, L. Hartwell, SC, Nov. 24 (Steve Patterson *et al.*) and two at Dreher Island State Park, L. Murray, SC, Nov. 24 (Irwin Pitts). Also a flightless Surf Scoter was seen at Little River Inlet, SC, Aug. 6 for a most unusual August sighting (Merrill Lynch).

**OSPREY:** One was quite late for an inland location in Forsyth County, NC, Nov. 10 (Royce Hough).

**MISSISSIPPI KITE:** Rare mountain reports included singles at Caesar's Head, SC, Sept. 10 and 27 (Reece & Judy Mitchell, *vide* Jeff Catlin).

**NORTHERN GOSHAWK:** Most amazing were three different reports of this very rare accipiter. One was over Whiteside Mt., Jackson County, NC, Sept. 16 (Haven Wiley), one was at Simpsonville, SC, Sept. 20 (Pete Worthington), and one was at Mt. Pisgah, NC, Oct. 22 (Roy Sharpton, *vide* Bill Sanderson). All three were adults seen well and the South Carolina sighting is one of only a handful of reports, with the species still considered hypothetical in that state.

**GOLDEN EAGLE:** Always noteworthy, the exciting Golden Eagle provided several reports this fall. One was seen at the Mt. Pisgah, NC, hawk watch Oct. 27 (Roy Sharpton, *vide* Bill Sanderson), an immature was at Open Grounds, Carteret County, NC, Nov. 3 (Jack Fennell, *vide* John Fussell), an adult was at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, Nov. 25 (Rich Boyd and Susan Arrington), and an immature was at Doughton Park, Alleghany County, NC, Nov. 29 (Dan Hayes and Joe Mickey).

**YELLOW RAIL:** The only report was of one seen in a ditch near New Holland, Hyde County, NC, Nov. 7 (Kelly Davis).

**COMMON MOORHEN:** One was unusual at North Pond, Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Nov. 4 (Will Cook *et al.*, Linda Ward).

**AMERICAN COOT:** Nine seen offshore out of Hatteras, NC, Nov. 4 (Patteson *et al.*), were unusual and provided a very good count for a pelagic trip!

**SANDHILL CRANE:** Rare were eight at Savannah N.W.R., SC, Nov. 24 (Mike Turner) and one at N. Myrtle Beach, SC, during much of the fall (Rick

Murray, Jack Peachey). Also rare and unusual were three over Mt. Pisgah, NC, Oct. 7 (*fide* Bill Sanderson) and two near Weaverville, Buncombe County, NC, Nov. 22 (Tim Lewis). Mountain area reports in fall are almost assuredly migrants a little farther east of the normal migration route in Georgia.

**BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:** The best inland reports included 17 at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 31 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), one in Transylvania County, NC, Sept. 3 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller), two at Jordan Lake, NC, Oct. 29 (Ricky Davis), two at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Oct. 22 (Davis), and one at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Sept. 24 (Tim Kalbach).

**AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER:** Once again, many reports of this plover were received from the Carolinas. The best sightings included seven at the Winslow Sod farm, Scotland Neck, NC, Sept 4 (Frank Enders, Ricky Davis), six at Hooper Lane, NC, Sept. 7 (Vin Stanton), up to three at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Aug. 20 - Sept. 24 (Mike Bernard, Dennis Forsythe, Tim Kalbach, Lex Glover, Bob Wood, sev. obs.), two at C. Hatteras, NC, Aug. 19 (Gordon Brown), two at the Cherry Hospital, Wayne County, NC, Sept. 4 (Eric Dean), one at Sandhill Turf, Candor, NC, Aug. 21 (Dick Burk), and one at Huntington Beach State Park, SC, Oct. 14 (Judy Walker *et al.*).

**BLACK-NECKED STILT:** This species is one of the rarest inland shorebirds, thus two at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Aug. 11 (Mark Simpson and Sam Moore) were very good finds. Also three at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Oct. 3 were late (Steve Calver). Stilts are normally gone from the Carolinas by late September.

**AMERICAN AVOCET:** Very rare inland reports included three at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Aug. 10-12 (Eric Dean, Gene Howe, Mark Simpson, Sam Moore) and another there Sept. 8 (Howe); an impressive flock of 11 at L. Auman, Moore County, NC, Oct. 23 (Dick & Lois Dole); and one at the Jacksonville, NC, W.T.P. Nov. 11 (Jim O'Donnell *et al.*). Impressive coastal counts included 564 at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Oct. 3 (Steve Calver) and 315 at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Aug. 12 (Jeff Lewis). Also rare and late were six at Huntington Beach State Park, SC, Nov. 22 (Kenneth Behrens).

**UPLAND SANDPIPER:** Numbers of Uplands were down somewhat when compared to previous falls. The best totals reported were the 12 at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Aug. 26 (Tim Kalbach) and the 12 at the Bucksport Sod, Horry County, SC, Aug. 26 (Jack Peachey and Gary Phillips). Others included singles at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 3 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), Winslow Sod, Scotland Neck, NC, Aug. 5-13 (Elisa, Mary & Frank Enders, Ricky Davis), Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Aug. 18 (Steve Calver), and at C. Hatteras, NC, Sept. 2 (Pat Moore).

**LONG BILLED CURLEW:** Only one was reported this fall, that being at Ft. Fisher, NC, Aug. 1 (Gene Howe and Judy Flint).

**HUDSONIAN GODWIT:** Very rare in South Carolina, a flock of seven was found at Mary's Pond, Bear Island W.M.A. Sept. 9 (Bob & Barbara Maxwell, Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman, sev. obs.). Four were still present as late

as Sept. 23 (Lex Glover *et al.*). There are only a handful of good records for that state.

**RUDDY TURNSTONE:** One was a locally good find at Parksville, Clark Hill Lake, SC, Sept. 5-6 (Steve Wagner, Lex Glover).

**SANDERLING:** Inland reports included seven at Falls Lake, NC, Sept. 26 (Mark Johns), three at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 2-4 (Wayne Forsythe and Simon Thompson), and from one to three at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Sept. 9-16 (Eric Dean, Gene Howe).

**WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER:** Inland White-rumped Sandpiper reports were of eight at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Sept. 9 (Eric Dean and Gene Howe), one at Parksville, SC, Sept. 5-6 (Steve Wagner, Lex Glover), and one at Winslow Sod, Scotland Neck, NC, Sept. 3-4 (Ricky Davis, Frank Enders).

**BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** The always noteworthy Baird's was found several times this fall. One was at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Aug. 20 (Mike Bernard), one was at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 28 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), and one was at L. Crabtree, Wake County, NC, Sept. 19 (Doug Shadwick, Dan Kaplan).

**PECTORAL SANDPIPER:** Late Pectorals included one at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Nov. 4 (Ricky Davis) and one at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Nov. 15 (Steve Calver).

**STILT SANDPIPER:** Noteworthy inland Stilt Sandpipers involved one at the Bucksport, SC, sod farm Sept. 4 (Jack Peachey and Gary Phillips), two at the Winston-Salem, NC, W.T.P. Sept. 9 (Ramona Snavelly *et al.*), and one at L. Crabtree, Wake County, NC, Sept. 19 (Doug Shadwick). The peak count noted this fall at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, was 482 on Sept. 20, as noted by Steve Calver. Also up to three were considered late at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Nov. 4 (Kent Fiala *et al.*, sev. obs.), with one still present Nov. 7 (Jeff Lewis).

**BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** The number of reports of this species continues to increase every fall. There were at least eight reports received with the best totals being 10 at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 28 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), 10 at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Sept. 24 (Tim Kalbach), and five in Henderson County, NC, Sept. 16 (*fide* Marilyn Westphal). Others of note included one at Calvert, Transylvania County, NC, Sept. 21 (Betty McIlwain, sev. obs.), one at the Bucksport, SC, sod farm Sept. 3 (*fide* Jack Peachey), one at Ft. Fisher, NC, Sept. 4 - 9 (Clyde Sorensen, Josh Rose), and C. Hatteras, NC, Sept. 3-4 (Pat Moore *et al.*, Marcia Lyons).

**RUFF:** Always noteworthy anywhere in the Carolinas, one was at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Oct. 3 (Steve Calver).

**WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** Only two reports were received this fall with one rare inland at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Sept. 4 (Gene Howe, Eric Dean) and one at Bear Island W.M.A., SC, Sept. 10 (Mike Bernard).

**RED-NECKED PHALAROPE:** One was rare inland at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Sept. 9, as noted by Eric Dean and Gene Howe. Also an excellent offshore count of 211 was had off of Oregon Inlet, NC, Sept. 2 (Patteson *et al.*).

**RED PHALAROPE:** One found at Brevard, Transylvania County, NC, Nov. 10 (Frank McConnell, Linda Candler, Betty McIlwain, Wayne Forsythe, sev. obs.) provided a very rare inland report, especially for the mountains.

**POMARINE JAEGER:** A good count of 26 was had off Oregon Inlet, NC, Aug. 20 (Patteson *et al.*).

**PARASITIC JAEGER:** Onshore sightings included one at C. Hatteras, NC, Sept. 6 (Brian Patteson), one at Hatteras Inlet, NC, Sept. 30 (M. Wilkinson), and two from Coquina Beach, Bodie Island, NC, Nov. 3 (Jeff Pippen).

**LONG-TAILED JAEGER:** The only reports included two off Hatteras, NC, Aug. 6 and three off Oregon Inlet, NC, Sept. 4 (Patteson *et al.*).

**SOUTH POLAR SKUA:** This fall's skua sightings, all off North Carolina as usual, involved from one to two off Hatteras and Oregon Inlet during the period of Aug. 6 to Sept. 2 (Patteson *et al.*).

**LAUGHING GULL:** Inland Laughing Gull reports involved one at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Aug. 26 (Eric Dean *et al.*) and five at Jordan Lake, NC, Oct. 8 (Ricky Davis).

**FRANKLIN'S GULL:** Very rare in the Carolinas, two Franklin's at L. Auman, Moore County, NC, Nov. 4 (Dick Dole) were good finds.

**BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE:** One was very early and unusual at Folly Beach, SC, Sept. 23, as noted by Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman. Much less unusual were the five found on the Nov. 4 Hatteras, NC, pelagic trip (Patteson *et al.*).

**ROSEATE TERN:** Reports of this annual but rare species are always worth mentioning. One at C. Hatteras, NC, Aug. 6 - 19 (Ferenc Domoki, Gordon Brown) was a good find, but the flock of seven there Sept. 6 (Brian Patteson) was most impressive.

**INLAND TERNS:** Few inland terns were noted this fall. Some of the reports included two Caspians at L. Julian, NC, Sept. 7 (Vin Stanton), six Commons at Jordan Lake, NC, Oct. 8 (Ricky Davis), two Commons at Falls Lake, NC, Sept. 24 (Josh Rose and Frank Rheindt), four Forster's at Jordan Lake Oct. 8 (Davis), and four Blacks at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. Aug. 30 (Gene Howe).

**BRIDLED TERN:** The best offshore pelagic total reported was the 24 off of Oregon Inlet, NC, Sept. 2 (Patteson *et al.*).

**SOOTY TERN:** The best offshore totals were off of Oregon Inlet, NC, with 45 on Aug. 19 and 48 on Sept. 2 (Patteson *et al.*). Much more interesting was the Sooty seen at Beaufort Inlet, NC, Aug. 17 (John Fussell), the only land-based sighting this fall.

**EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE:** New locations for this species included Goldsboro, NC, where a group of up to 20 were seen in the downtown area (Mark Simpson, Sam Moore, Eric Dean, sev. obs.) and near Townville, SC, where one was seen Sept. 13 - Oct. 16 (Jim Edwards, Pete Worthington). The sites at Beaufort, NC, and Conover, NC, continued to host birds. Also singles were found at C. Hatteras, NC, Aug. 5 - 20 (Ferenc Domoki, Pat Moore *et al.*) and at Hickory, NC, Oct. 6 (Dwayne & Lori Martin).

**WHITE-WINGED DOVE:** Continuing the trend started several years ago, this species seems to be found more and more. Two were at a Manteo, NC, feeder Nov. 3-9 (Jeff Lewis), two were at a Buxton, NC, feeder Nov. 12 (*fide* Lewis), one continued at the Beaufort, NC, site (sev. obs.), one was at a Sunset Beach, NC, feeder Nov. 10-16 (*fide* Mary McDavid), two were on Sullivan's Island, SC, Nov. 18 until the end of the period (Will Post), and two were on Edisto Island, SC, Nov. 23-25 (Sidney Gauthreaux, Jr.).

**COMMON GROUND-DOVE:** Two at Church Island, Currituck County, NC, Nov. 6 (Harriet Whitsett) were very rare and unexpected for that northern coastal locality. This sighting is all the more amazing since the species has been practically absent from the state for several years now.

**BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** There were only four reports received, about normal for the fall season. Single birds were found at Riverdale, Craven County, NC, Aug. 20 (John Fussell), Ocean Isle Beach, NC, Sept. 17 (Taylor Piephoff), Hemlock Bluffs, Cary, NC, Oct. 7 (Mark Johns), and Oconee County, SC, Oct. 15 (Pete Worthington).

**YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO:** One was late near Beaufort, SC, Nov. 4, as noted by Merrill Lynch.

**NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL:** Only a few were netted this migration season. Hilton banded one at York, SC, Nov. 30 and Enders netted singles Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 at Halifax, NC. None were found elsewhere indicating a poor flight.

**CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD:** One was at a feeder in Deerlake Village, Transylvania County, NC, Oct. 26 - Nov. 21 (Bill & Martha Lovejoy, Bill & Norma Siebenheller). There are only a couple of Calliopes reported for North Carolina, and this is the first mountain sighting.

**OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER:** The always noteworthy Olive-sided was found several times with one near Falls Lake, NC, Aug. 20 (Ricky Davis), one at the Bodie Island, NC, Lighthouse Aug. 27 (*fide* Jeff Lewis), and one at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Sept. 3 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff).

**YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER:** This species was detected only a handful of times this fall. One was banded at James Island, SC, Sept. 13 (Will Post), one was at Hickory, NC, Sept. 23 (Dwayne & Lori Martin), and one was at Ravenel, SC, Sept. 27 (Perry Nugent *et al.*).

**WILLOW FLYCATCHER:** Rarely identified in the fall, one was at Leland, NC, Sept. 9, as noted by Greg Massey.

**LEAST FLYCATCHER:** One was netted at Sneads Ferry, NC, Aug. 27 (Paul Sykes), providing a locally rare report. Other Leasts included one at Buxton, NC, Sept. 26 (Marcia Lyons), one at Leland, NC, Sept. 9 (Greg Massey), one at Ft. Fisher, NC, Sept. 17 (Massey), and two at Southport, NC, Oct. 8 (Massey).

**VERMILION FLYCATCHER:** North Carolina's third Vermilion was an immature male at the Cherry Hospital, Wayne County, from Nov. 20 - Dec. 2 (Mark Simpson and Sam Moore, m. obs.). The bird was not found after a snow storm, one wonders if it moved on or did not make it.



**WESTERN KINGBIRD:** Four reports of this species were about normal. Single birds were found at Ft. Jackson, Richland County, SC, Sept. 13 (Lex Glover), at Cedar Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 7 (Edith Tatum *et al.*), at Buxton, NC, Oct. 15 (Marcia Lyons and Jon Altman), and at Conway, SC, Nov. 11-12 (Steve & Barbara Thomas, Jack Peachey, Gary Phillips).

**GRAY KINGBIRD:** The only one reported this fall was on James Island, SC, Oct. 28 (Dennis & Donna Forsythe).

**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER:** The nesting Scissor-taileds from the summer near Monroe, NC, were last seen Aug. 11 (Anne Olsen). No others were reported for the fall.

**WARBLING VIREO:** Fall Warblers, always noteworthy, included singles at Laurinburg, NC, Sept. 15 (Barbara Gearhart), at Hickory, NC, Sept. 19 (Dwayne & Lori Martin), at Roanoke Island, NC, Sept. 28 (Jeff Lewis), and at Simpsonville, SC, Sept. 28 (Pete Worthington). One at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Oct. 25 (Steve Calver) was locally very rare and quite late.

**PHILADELPHIA VIREO:** Once again, too numerous to mention all reports, the best one-day totals were of three on Roanoke Island, NC, Sept. 20 (Jeff Lewis) and three at Jackson Park, NC, Sept. 27 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey). One was rather early in Durham County, NC, Aug. 26, as noted by Tom and Janet Krakauer.

**COMMON RAVEN:** One over Hendersonville, NC, Aug. 10 (Ron Selvey) was considered to be locally unusual.

**NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW:** An excellent count of 570 was had at the Silver Bluff Sanctuary, Jackson, SC, Sept. 25 (Paul Koehler, *fide* Anne Waters). Congregations of this species rarely reach this size.

**BARN SWALLOW:** Eight were slightly late in the Pea Island N.W.R., NC, area Nov. 4-5 (sev. obs., Wings Over Water).

**RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH:** Two at Simpsonville, SC, Sept. 10 (Pete Worthington) were the earliest reported, but a decent flight of the species did not materialize this fall.

**GRAY CATBIRD:** One at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Nov. 15 (Ron Selvey) was quite late, especially that far inland.

**"BREWSTER'S" WARBLER:** This hybrid was found twice, with singles at Winston-Salem, NC, Aug. 16 (Ferenc Domoki, sev. obs.) and in Duke Forest, Durham, NC, Sept. 24 (Jeff Pippen).

**“LAWRENCE’S” WARBLER:** The much rarer of the two hybrid forms, a male Lawrence’s was found at L. Crabtree, Wake County, NC, Sept. 30 (Joseph Covington).

**GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER:** Noteworthy away from the mountains, migrants were found at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Aug. 26 (Jeff Lewis), at Pee Dee N.W.R., NC, Sept. 24 (Barbara Gearhart), and at Raleigh, NC, Sept. 27 (Dan Kaplan).

**NASHVILLE WARBLER:** This species was reported more than normal this fall. The best reports included two at Roanoke Island, NC, Sept. 16 and two at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 14 (Jeff Lewis), two in the Jordan Lake, NC, area Oct. 8 (*vide* Will Cook), singles at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Oct. 11 & 25 (Steve Calver), and one late at Jackson Park, NC, Nov. 6 (Ron Selvey).

**BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER:** One was late at Winston-Salem, NC, Nov. 1-4 (Ramona Snavely).

**BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER:** A male was seen briefly but well on Roanoke Island, NC, Oct. 7 (Kent Fiala), providing about the fourth report for that state.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER:** One was locally unusual on Roanoke Island, NC, Oct. 13, as noted by Jeff Lewis.

**CERULEAN WARBLER:** One at Hemlock Bluffs, Cary, NC, Sept. 30 was considered to be locally rare and slightly late (Mark Johns).

**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER:** One at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Sept. 14 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff) was a good find for that location.

**WORM-EATING WARBLER:** Rather late migrants included one at L. Crabtree, Wake County, NC, Oct. 8 (Steve Shultz) and 1-2 at Greenville, NC, Oct. 17 (John Daughtry).

**CONNECTICUT WARBLER:** Reports of this warbler were down with only three being received. One was at Hickory, NC, Sept. 19 (Dwayne & Lori Martin), one was in Duke Forest, Durham, NC, Sept. 25 (Randy Emmitt), and another was in Durham, NC, Oct. 19 (Bruce Young).

**MOURNING WARBLER:** This very rare migrant was also found three times with singles at Carver’s Gap, Roan Mt., NC, Sept. 8 (Rick Knight), at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Sept. 10-13 (Wayne Forsythe, Ludwig Kempe, Ron Selvey), and at Weymouth Woods, Southern Pines, NC, Sept. 23 (Scott Hartley).

**WILSON’S WARBLER:** This species staged one of its better fall migrations in the Carolinas this year. The best count was three in one area on Roanoke Island, NC, Sept. 16-17 (Jeff Lewis). Other noteworthy sightings included one in Laurinburg, NC, Oct. 3 (Barbara Gearhart), one at Roanoke Island, NC, Nov. 8-9 (Lewis), and one at Savannah N.W.R., SC, Nov. 8 (Dot Bambach *et al.*) until at least Nov. 24 (Tom Egan and Lex Glover).

**SUMMER Tanager:** One at Carver's Gap, Roan Mt., NC, Sept. 10 (Rick Knight) was considered unusual at that high elevation.

**BLUE GROSBEEK:** One was quite late at Huntington Beach State Park, SC, Nov. 11-22, as noted by Kenneth Behrens.

**PAINTED BUNTING:** One was locally unusual as a migrant at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 20 (Jeff Lewis).

**DICKCISSEL:** Always noteworthy, Dickcissel reports included singles at Roanoke Island, NC, Sept. 25, Oct. 6 & 12 (Jeff Lewis), Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 19 (Lewis) and Nov. 3 (Ricky Davis), Wilmington, NC, Aug. 23 (Sam Cooper), Huntington Beach State Park, SC, Oct. 17 (Jack Peachey and Charlie Hancock), and two (netted) at James Island, SC, Oct. 8 (Will Post). Also one frequented a feeder in Brevard, NC, Nov. 21 until the end of the period (Betty McIlwain, sev. obs.), providing a rare mountain fall occurrence.

**CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** This species was well-reported this fall. One of the most interesting sightings involved an adult at Winston-Salem, NC, Aug. 26 (Ferenc Domoki). Was this a very early migrant or what? In the mountains, where much rarer than along the coast, one was at Hooper Lane, NC, Oct. 13-16 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff). All others found were coastal with the best totals being two at Ft. Fisher, NC, Sept. 26 (*vide* Taylor Piephoff), two at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 3 (Jeff Lewis), and two at C. Lookout, NC, Oct. 10 (John Fussell, Wayne Irvin, Jim O'Donnell, Ron Johnson). The only one for South Carolina was at the Savannah Spoil Site Oct. 3, as noted by Steve Calver.

**LARK SPARROW:** Two were good finds at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Sept. 20 (Steve Calver). Singles were found at C. Lookout, NC, Sept. 16 (John Fussell *et al.*), at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 3 (Jeff Lewis), and inland in Saluda County, SC, Oct. 14 (Steve Patterson).

**GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:** Locally unusual migrants included one at Hooper Lane, NC, Oct. 16 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey) and one at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 28 (Jeff Lewis and Lee Yoder).

**LeCONTE'S SPARROW:** The best report of this increasingly found sparrow was the 10 at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Nov. 15 (Steve Calver). Also of note were three at Santee N.W.R., SC, Nov. 5 (Tim Kalbach), one at Ft. Fisher, NC, Oct. 29 (Barbara Gearhart), one near Oriental, Pamlico County, NC, Nov. 13-14 (Jim Ward), one at Pee Dee N.W.R., NC, Nov. 15 (Barbara Gearhart and Wayne Irvin), and one in eastern Richland County, SC, Nov. 26 (Kalbach).

**LINCOLN'S SPARROW:** This species was also reported more than usual. The best counts were an amazing six at Hooper Lane, NC, Oct. 16 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff) and three at Valle Crucis, Watauga County, NC, mid. Oct. (Curtis Smalling). Other reports included one at Hospital Fields, Transylvania County, NC, Oct. 30 (Tom Joyce), one at Pee Dee N.W.R., NC, Oct. 17 & 26 (Barbara Gearhart), one in Onslow County, NC, Nov. 11

(Jim O'Donnell), one in Townville, SC, Oct. 15 (Sidney Gauthreaux, Jr.), and one at Savannah N.W.R., SC, Oct. 19 (Mary McDavid).

**SWAMP SPARROW:** One was rather early at Jordan Lake, NC, Sept. 16 (*vide* Will Cook).

**LAPLAND LONGSPUR:** Reports of this species were down somewhat this fall. The best count was of three at Jordan Lake, NC, Oct. 29 (Ricky Davis). Others included singles at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Nov. 3 (Davis), C. Hatteras Nov. 4 (Eric Dean), and in Edgecombe County, NC, Nov. 19 (Davis).

**SNOW BUNTING:** Locally rare in the mountains were two at Mt. Mitchell State Park, NC, Oct. 30 - Nov. 5 (*vide* Michael Morales and Wayne Forsythe) and one on Black Balsam Knob, Haywood County, NC, Nov. 4 (*vide* Rick Knight). Another inland sighting involved one at Jordan Lake, NC, Oct. 29, as noted by Ricky Davis. Coastal reports included one at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Nov. 4 (Davis) and one at C. Hatteras, NC, Nov. 8 (Jon Altman).

**BOBOLINK:** One was rather late at Santee N.W.R., SC, Nov. 5 (Tim Kalbach).

**YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:** There were three reports of this annual fall visitor, with one at Piney Creek, Alleghany County, NC, Aug. 4 (James Coman), one at Savannah N.W.R., SC, Nov. 1 (Steve & Priscilla Summers), and one in Edgecombe County, NC, Nov. 19 (Ricky Davis).

**BALTIMORE ORIOLE:** A flock of 40+ at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Sept. 6 was impressive, suggesting a good migration in that area (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Olthoff, Ron Selvey).

**PURPLE FINCH:** A male was very early at Simpsonville, SC, Sept. 10 (Pete Worthington). Does this mean there will be a good flight this winter?

**RED CROSSBILL:** A count of 30 was had near Bass Lake, Moses Cone Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC, Oct. 22 (Dwayne & Lori Martin).

**PINE SISKIN:** One at Huntington Beach State Park, SC, Nov. 22 (Kenneth Behrens) was a good find considering that this is not a good flight year.

**EVENING GROSBEAK:** Two at Winston-Salem, NC, Nov. 3-4 (*vide* Ramona Snaveley) were a complete surprise, especially since the species has been practically absent this fall.