FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Fla. Field Nat. 25(4):148-158, 1997.

Spring Report: March-May 1997.—The observations listed here are based on rare or unusual species or significant numbers of birds reported to the Florida Ornithological Society (FOS) Field Observations Committee (FOC). These reports have not been reviewed formally, thus they should be considered tentative.

Significant reports are welcomed for inclusion in future issues of this section. Reports should include the following information: species, number of individuals, age and sex of the bird(s), color morph if applicable, location (including county), date, observer(s), and significance of the report. Reporting periods are winter (December-February), spring (March-May), summer (June-July), and fall (August-November). Submit reports to regional compilers within two weeks after the close of each period, or to the state compiler within one month. Reports may be emailed to the state compiler at billpranty@hotmail.com.

Following the examples set by *Florida Bird Species: An Annotated List* (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992, FOS Spec. Publ. No. 6) and *The Birdlife of Florida* (Stevenson and Anderson 1994, Univ. Press of Florida), sight-only observations are considered "reports," while only those supported by verifiable evidence (photographs, video or audio tapes, or specimens) are called "records."

The FOS Records Committee (FOSRC) revised the list of birds for which they require documentation in 1996 (*FFN* 24(4):132-133). These species are marked in this report with an asterisk (*) to alert the observers of their need to supply the FOSRC with details of their sightings. (Some reports that lack documentation may have been omitted from this report).

A county designation (in italics) accompanies the first-time listing of each site in this report; further listings of the same site lack the county name. Abbreviations used are as follows: ABS = Archbold Biological Station (Highlands), APAFR = Avon Park Air Force Range, BCCP = Brooker Creek County Preserve (Pinellas), CP = county park, DTNP = Dry Tortugas NP (Monroe), ENP = Everglades NP, FBR = Florida Birding Report (fide Dotty Hull), FDCP = Fort DeSoto CP (Pinellas), FWBSTF = Fort Walton Beach STF (Okaloosa), HISRA = Honeymoon Island SRA (Pinellas), NP = national park, NWR = national wildlife refuge, PPSP = Paynes Prairie State Preserve (Alachua), R&W 1992 = Robertson and Woolfenden 1992, S&A 1994 = Stevenson and Anderson 1994, SMNWR = St. Marks NWR (Wakulla), SP = state park, SRA = state recreation area, SRSTF = Springhill Road STF (Leon), STF = sewage treatment facility, WICP = Weedon Island County Preserve (Pinellas), WMA = wildlife management area, WSSP = Wekiwa Springs SP (Orange), and N, S, E, W, etc. for compass directions. Bold-faced species, if any, denote birds newly reported or verified in Florida.

R&W 1992 and S&A 1994 were used to determine the regional and seasonal status of many species. Todd Engstrom assisted with the editing of the manuscript. With this report, the FOC welcomes Bob Duncan of Gulf Breeze as its third new recent member.

SUMMARY OF THE SPRING SEASON

Weather conditions this spring created fall outs in most parts of the state. Numerous fronts associated with fall outs were noted, but by far the most important occurred in the latter half of April. On 23 April, Wilfred Yusek noted a huge fallout at Honeymoon Island SRA just ahead of a mid-morning front. Amazing numbers of many migrants were counted after the rain ended. At Fort DeSoto CP on 26 April, 21 species of warblers, including Blue—winged, Golden—winged, Black—throated Green, and Kentucky, were ob-

served by Paul Fellers et al. Unprecedented occurrences of Dickcissels along the Gulf Coast included the 5 highest Florida counts, the latest spring report, and two new county reports. Wilson's Phalaropes were likewise reported widely and in record numbers.

On 12 April, Naples was hit by a storm from the SSW that contained gusts up to 64 kph. The next day, Ted Below and others found 75 carcasses of 12 birds (Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Green Heron, Sora, Purple Gallinule, Common Moorhen, Western Sandpiper, Short–billed Dowitcher, Ring–billed Gull, Black Skimmer, Chuck–will's–widow, and Gray Catbird. Analysis of some of the birds indicated they died from "what appeared to be collision," causing T. Below to suspect they were caught in a wind-shear.

FOSRC rarities reported this spring were the Red-billed Tropicbird west of Key West, the White-faced Ibis at St. Marks NWR, the Bicknell's Thrush at Dry Tortugas NP, and Warbling Vireos at 4 sites. Other rarities included 2 Pacific Loons at Pensacola, the White-crowned Pigeon at Fort Walton Beach, single Lesser Nighthawks at 2 sites in the W Panhandle, the Key West Quail-Dove at Elliott Key, 2 La Sagra's Flycatchers each at Key Largo and Hugh Taylor Birch SRA, the Black-headed Grosbeak at Gulf Breeze, and the Snow Bunting that wintered at Canaveral National Seashore.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

PACIFIC LOON: 2 that wintered in Pensacola Bay (*Escambia* and *Santa Rosa*) were seen last on 22 Apr (B. and L. Duncan et al.); 1 at St. George Island (*Franklin*) 23 Apr (J. Cavanagh, details and photos to FOS Archives).

COMMON LOON: 1 in breeding plumage at Newnans Lake (*Alachua*) 21 May (R. Rowan). HORNED GREBE: 2 in breeding plumage at Lake Talquin (*Leon*) 2-8 May (H. Bolte).

EARED GREBE: 1 at Black Point CP, Homestead (Dade) 23 Mar (R. Halpin).

CORY'S SHEARWATER: 1 from shore at St. Augustine (St. Johns) 20 Mar (T. Taylor, D. Whitehead).

SOOTY SHEARWATER: 1 from shore at St. Augustine 20 Mar (T. Taylor, D. Whitehead). WILSON'S STORM-PETREL: 2 birds 35 km off Port Canaveral (*Brevard*) 18 May (Alachua Aud. Soc.).

LEACH'S STORM-PETREL: 1 bird 35 km off Port Canaveral 18 May (Alachua Aud. Soc.).
*RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD: 1 midway between DTNP and Key West (Monroe) 19 Apr (H. Langridge et al.).

Brown Booby: 36 at DTNP 23 Apr (S. Mlodinow, C. Hood, P. Lehman).

NORTHERN GANNET: 1 between DTNP and Key West 5 May (W. Biggs et al.).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: 200+ migrating W at Niceville (*Okaloosa*) 2 Mar (R. Reilly), and 100 there 3 Mar (D. Ware); 1300 at PPM 17 Mar (P. Fellers); 135 in 4 flocks migrating W along the *Dixie* coast 27 Mar (P. Sykes, C. Kepler).

BROWN PELICAN: 1 immature at Orange Lake (*Alachua*) 19 Mar (J. Krummrich); 3 at Lake Kissimmee (*Osceola*) 5 Apr (T. Palmer); 1 immature at Lake Istokpoga (*Highlands*) 20 Apr (M. McMillian, S. McGehee et al.); 1 adult at Newnans Lake 26 Apr (A. Farkash); 1 at Saddle Creek CP (*Polk*) 27 Apr (P. Fellers); 3 N of Mulberry (*Polk*) 30 Apr (J. Jackson).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: 6 nests at Orange Lake 2 Apr (M. Meisenburg, T. Doonan) were the first for *Alachua* since 1974 (*fide* R. Rowan).

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD: 2 immatures at St. Andrew SRA (Bay) 6 Apr (B. Straub).

Great Blue Heron: 3 active nests in S Dixie 27 Mar (P. Sykes, C. Kepler) were the first breeding report for the county (!) (S&A 1994:55).

GREEN HERON: 8 dead on sandbars off Marco Island (Collier) 28 Mar-12 Apr (T. Below).

WHITE SPOONBILL: 1 at McKay Bay (Hillsborough) 18 May (S. Backes).

ROSEATE SPOONBILL: 6 at *Polk* phosphate mines 14 May (P. Fellers).

*WHITE-FACED IBIS: 1 photographed at SMNWR 10 May (fide R. West).

GLOSSY IBIS: 1 in breeding plumage at FWBSTF 30 Apr-5 May (E. Case, C. Henning, B. Duncan).

PRESUMED WHITE × SCARLET IBIS HYBRID: 1 pink bird at Eco Pond, ENP (Monroe) 5 Apr (B. Pranty, Martin Co. Aud. Soc.).

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK: 1 standing in the median of Gandy Boulevard ca. 250 m W of Tampa Bay (*Pinellas*) 29 Apr was the second county report (J. and L. Hopkins et al.); 7 at Gainesville 13 May (D. and L. O'Neill et al.) were the first for *Alachua* (S&A 1994:96); 10 at Myakka River SP (*Sarasota*) 25 May (D. and H. Hull et al.).

BLACK SWAN: 1 at Shell Key (*Pinellas*) 17 Mar (B. Isaacson) may be the same bird seen at FDCP on 6 Feb 1995.

CANADA GOOSE: 26 at Lake Denton, Avon Park (*Highlands*) 1 Apr (C. Ford), and 11 nearby 11 Apr (*fide* D. Ford) were thought to be wild, and were the first county reports (S&A 1994:102); 1 pair with 3 young at Air Products Sanctuary, Pace (*Santa Rosa*) 20 May (B. Milmore).

CINNAMON TEAL: 1 in central Brevard 9 Feb-8 Mar (R. Halpin).

NORTHERN SHOVELER: 1 at Marco Island 12 Apr (J. and L. Douglas).

REDHEAD: 1 at BCCP 17 May (A. and R. Smith) was late (S&A 1994:124).

RING-NECKED DUCK: 1 at Tierra Verde (*Pinellas*) 10 May (R. Smith) was late (S&A 1994:125).

Greater Scaup: 1 male at Tram Road STF (Leon) 5 Apr (B. Bergstrom, K. Avera, J. Baxter).

LESSER SCAUP: 1 female at SMNWR 19 May (J. Dozier); 2 at St. Petersburg (*Pinellas*) 25 May (A. and R. Smith); 1 at Hernando Beach (*Hernando*) 31 May (C. Black).

OLDSQUAW: 1 female at FWBSTF 3 Mar-7 May (D. Ware, B. Duncan et al.); 1 at Bear Lake (Santa Rosa) 4 Mar (R. Bonwit, P. Tetlow et al.); 1 at HISRA 18 Apr (W. Yusek).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER: 5 at St. George Island SP (Franklin) 21 Apr (R. Christen et al.); 40 others in Franklin 21 Apr (T. Engstrom); 10 E of Fort Walton Beach 11 May (D. Ware, L. Fennimore).

RUDDY DUCK: 1 at SRSTF 3 May (D. Harder, G. Menk).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: 18 at Pensacola (Escambia) 19 Mar (P. Parrish).

WHITE-TAILED KITE: 1 adult at ABS 9 Mar (A. and R. Smith) was the fourth Station report (fide B. Pranty); 1 adult at Placid Lakes Estates (Highlands) 15 Mar (C. Adkisson); 2 at Chekika, ENP (Dade) 15 Mar (V. McGrath); 1 at APAFR (Polk) 30 May (N. Hamel, A. Mains).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: 1 at Gainesville 25 Mar (D. Levey); 200 at Tram Road STF 4 Apr (K. MacVicar), 100 on 19 Apr (R. West et al.), and 62 on 1 May (G. Menk, J. Cavanagh).

NORTHERN HARRIER: 1 female at Kissimmee Prairie State Preserve (*Okeechobee*) 18 May (T. Dean).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK: 1 at Piney Z Lake (Leon) 2 May (D. Harder).

COOPER'S HAWK: 1 at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary (Collier) 20 Apr (D. Weeks).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: 1 at PPSP 20 Mar (A. Farkash, B. Muschlitz).

SHORT-TAILED HAWK: 1 dark morph at Disney Wilderness Preserve (Osceola or Polk) 2 Mar (P. Fellers); 3 dark morph adults had returned to their nesting site near Lake Istokpoga by 9 Mar (M. McMillian, S. McGehee); 1 at Lake Placid (Highlands) 16 Mar (A. Fleischer, K. Tarvin); 1 pair near Suwannee (Dixie) 26 Mar, 1 pair and 1 dark morph near Fowlers Bluff (Levy) 27 Mar, and 1 dark morph at Sanders Creek (Dixie) 27 Mar (all P. Sykes, C. Kepler); 1 dark morph at ENP Visitor Center 4 May (W. Biggs et al.); 1 dark morph near West Lake, ENP (Dade and/or Monroe) 4 May (S. Rowe et al.); 1 light morph at Marathon (Monroe) 5 May (S. Rowe et al.); 1 at Saddle Creek CP (Polk) 13 May (P. Fellers); 1 over Cedar Key Scrub State Reserve (Levy) 25 May (T. Webber); 1 dark morph at WSSP 25 May (S. Belson).

GOLDEN EAGLE: 1 immature in E Bay 7 Apr (A. and R. Ingram).

MERLIN: 1 at FDCP 13 Apr ate a Blue Grosbeak (L. Atherton et al.).

- Peregrine Falcon: 2 over ABS 13 Mar (G. Woolfenden, R. Risch); 1 adult flying N over Seahorse Key, Cedar Keys NWR (*Levy*) 28 Mar (P. Sykes et al.); 1 over Watermelon Pond (*Alachua*) 24 Apr (B. Muschlitz); 1 at SMNWR 1 May (J. Dozier); 1 at SRSTF 3 May (D. Harder, G. Menk).
- YELLOW RAIL: 1 at SMNWR 31 Mar (B. Henderson, D. Wells) and 5 Apr (K. Avera, J. Baxter, B. Bergstrom).
- BLACK RAIL: 1 calling at Amelia Island (*Nassau*) 12-16 Mar (C. Wyatt) was the first county report (S&A 1994:189); 1 at Tomoka Aquatic Preserve (*Volusia*) 22 May (D. Shellev).
- SORA: 1 in a tree at FDCP 26 Apr (Lake Region Aud. Soc.); 1 at *Hamilton* phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich).
- PURPLE GALLINULE: 1 arrival at Tall Timbers Research Station (*Leon*) 20 Mar (R. West); 1 adult at HISRA 19 Apr (W. Yusek) may be the first park report.
- COMMON MOORHEN: 1 found dead at DTNP 6 Apr (W. Biggs et al.).
- AMERICAN COOT: 1 found dead at DTNP 6 Apr (W. Biggs et al.).
- WHOOPING CRANE: 2 over SR-26 Melrose (*Alachua*) 9-10 Apr (B. Bolte); 1 flying N over US-19 (*Hernando*) near the *Citrus* border ca. late Apr (D. Blewett).
- AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER: 3 at FDCP 27 Mar-2 Apr (R. Webb, L. and R. Smith).
- SEMIPALMATED PLOVER: 1 at Kanapaha STF (Alachua) 24 Apr (J. Hintermister); 8 at SRSTF 3 May (G. Menk, D. Harder); 2 at Hamilton phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich) were the first county report (S&A 1994:216); 1 at WSSP 10 May (E. Egensteiner, S. Belson) was new for the Wekiva Basin (fide P. Small).
- AMERICAN AVOCET: 20 at Pensacola 25-26 Apr (A. and D. Forster) were "very rare" (B. Duncan); 26 at HISRA 26 Apr following a weather front (W. Yusek); 2 in breeding plumage at SMNWR 4-27 May (B. and B. Scott, G. Menk et al.); 3 at *Hamilton* phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich); 35 at PPM 14 May (P. Fellers); 3 in breeding plumage at McKay Bay 18 May (S. Backes).
- SOLITARY SANDPIPER: 1 at SRSTF 11 Mar (G. Menk); 1 at FDCP 31 Mar (L. and R. Smith et al.) and 40 there 26 Apr (L. Atherton)—10 others flew in from over the Gulf at 1900 hrs (P. Fellers); 14 at Hague Dairy (*Alachua*) 23 Apr (M. Manetz); 19 at Kanapaha STF 23 Apr (R. Rowan); 12 at WICP 11 May (A. and R. Smith).
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER: 15 at Hague Dairy 23 Apr (M. Manetz); 50 at Newnans Lake 12 May (A. Kent).
- UPLAND SANDPIPER: 1 at FDCP 31 Mar (V. Morrison, M. Wilkinson et al.); 1 at SRSTF 6 Apr (B. Henderson); 2 at Fort Myers (*Lee*) 12-13 Apr (V. McGrath); 1 at Hague Dairy 23 Apr (M. Manetz); 1 in *Wakulla* 24 Apr (J. Dozier); 1 at Mashes Point CP (*Wakulla*) 6 May (J. Dozier, R. West).
- WHIMBREL: 1 at the *Wakulla* Airport 1 May (J. Dozier); 7 at SMNWR 11 May, and 3 there 27 May (G. Menk); 8 at Air Products Sanctuary 15 May (B. Milmore).
- MARBLED GODWIT: 1 at Pensacola 25 Apr (A. and D. Forster) was "very rare" (B. Duncan). LEAST SANDPIPER: 2200 at PPM 2 Mar (P. Fellers).
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: 1 at FWBSTF 14 Apr was early in the region by 3 days (B. Duncan); several in *Pinellas* 23 Apr-29 May (*fide* R. Smith); 1 at *Okaloosa* holding ponds 29 Apr (D. Ware); 3 at PPM 3 May (C. Geanangel, P. Timmer); 1 at *Hamilton* phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich); 1 at the *Brevard* STF on Wickham Road 18 May (*fide* FBR).
- BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: 1 at DTNP 30 Apr-1 May (T. Tobkin, W. Biggs et al.); 4 at *Okaloosa* holding ponds 30 Apr, with birds "still passing through" 20 May (D. Ware); 1 at SRSTF 2 May (J. Cavanagh).
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER: 14 at Air Products Sanctuary 25 Mar (B. Milmore); 6 at WICP 27 Apr (A. and R. Smith et al.).
- PURPLE SANDPIPER: 1 at Big Pine Key (Monroe) 21 Apr (S. Mlodinow, C. Hood, P. Lehman).

DUNLIN: 1 at PPM 3 May (C. Geanangel, P. Timmer).

STILT SANDPIPER: 185 at PPM 17 Mar (P. Fellers); 1 at SRSTF 19 Mar (J. Cavanagh); 1 at FDCP 23 Apr (B. Atherton) and 2 others there 26 Apr (L. Atherton); 54 at Mayport (*Duval*) 23 Apr (N. Wamer); 35 at *Hamilton* phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER: 4 at FDCP 23 Apr (A. and R. Smith et al.); 15-20 at FWB-STF 29 Apr (L. Bogaiges, P. Blakeburn, D. Ware).

RUFF: 1 Reeve at the Brevard STF on Wickham Road 6 May (D. Severn, J. Taylor).

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: 238 at PPM 17 Mar (P. Fellers).

COMMON SNIPE: 1 at APAFR (Polk) 5 May (B. Pranty).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE: 1 at SRSTF (*Leon*) 25 Apr (J. Cavanagh) had increased to 4 by 2 May (G. Menk et al.); 1 at Phipps Point (*Franklin*) 28 Apr (D. Bryan); 16 at *Okaloosa* holding ponds 29 Apr (D. Ware); **150-200** at SMNWR 29 Apr (J. Dozier et al.); 3 *Pinellas* reports were the first in at least 10 years: 1 male at Palm Harbor STF 9-11 May (R. Smith et al.), 1 male at WICP 11 May (A. and R. Smith), and 1 at St. Petersburg 17 May (A. and R. Smith).

PARASITIC JAEGER: 1 at Garden Key, DTNP 23 Apr (S. Mlodinow, C. Hood).

FRANKLIN'S GULL: 1 in breeding plumage at Newnans Lake 5-11 May (R. Rowan [photos] et al.). was the first *Alachua* report, and the latest in spring (S&A 1994:272).

BONAPARTE'S GULL: 1 first-year bird at Fort Pierce Inlet SRA (St. Lucie) 5 Apr (J. Brooks); 1 at Hamilton phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich).

HERRING GULL: 1 immature at Newnans Lake 21 May (R. Rowan).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL: 3 at Fort Myers Beach (*Lee*) 12 Apr (N. Pettis); 2 at Boca Chica Key (*Monroe*) 25 Apr (S. Mlodinow, C. Hood, P. Lehman).

GULL-BILLED TERN: 4 at SMNWR 24 Apr (J. Reinman); 1 at PPM 3 May (C. Geanangel, P. Timmer).

CASPIAN TERN: 15 at Lake Istokpoga 20 Apr (M. McMillian, S, McGehee); "a good number" of adults "giving fish to one another" at M&K Ranch (*Gulf*) 3 May (E. Fontaine, J. Richardson, T. Menart); 1 at *Hamilton* phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich); 1 at Orange Lake 12 May (G. Gottlieb).

COMMON TERN: 1 first-year bird at Orange Lake 2 May (R. Rowan).

ARCTIC TERN: 1 adult female found injured in Fort Lauderdale (*Broward*) 7 May died later that day (*fide* W. George, specimen to Univ. of Central Florida).

FORSTER'S TERN: 2-3 at Orange Lake 20 May (R. Rowan).

LEAST TERN: 1 at SRSTF 7 Apr (D. Harder); 1 at Key West (Monroe) 11 Apr (J. Ondrejko). BRIDLED TERN: 1 found injured at Pass-A-Grille Beach (Pinellas) 13 Mar was released in Apr (fide R. Smith).

BLACK TERN: 1 at Cedar Key 23 Apr (D. Wenny, S. Duncan); 6 at Canaveral National Seashore (*Brevard*) 25 Apr (T. Palmer); 4 at SMNWR 30 Apr (A. and D. Morrow); 1 at M&K Ranch 3 May (J. Richardson, T. Menart); 1 at *Hamilton* phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich); "several" at *Brevard* STF on Wickham Road 22 May (*fide* FBR).

BLACK NODDY: 7 at DTNP this season, with 5 seen at once (W. Biggs et al.).

BLACK SKIMMER: 1500 at Shell Mound, Lower Suwannee NWR (*Levy*) 11 Mar (P. Sykes); 10 at Lake Kissimmee (*Osceola*) 5 Apr (T. Palmer).

WHITE—CROWNED PIGEON: 1 at Fort Walton Beach (*Okaloosa*) 16 Apr-11 May (B. Fleck, C. King, D. Ware, details to FOSRC) See Florida Field Naturalist this issue.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: 6 near Oxford (Sumter) 30 Apr (C. Black) were the first county report (S&A 1994:321); 1 in Gadsden 30 May (G. Menk, T. Engstrom).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: 1 singing at Alligator Point (Franklin) 7 May (J. Dozier).

KEY WEST QUAIL—DOVE: 1 at Elliott Key, Biscayne NP (Dade) 4 May (B. Dusek, details to FOSRC).

MONK PARAKEET: 1 pair nested at a Lakeland (*Polk*) golf course 20 Mar (T. Palmer).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: 2 at Cedar Key 28 Apr (B. Roberts); 1 at Tallahassee (*Leon*) 1 May (G. Menk).

- YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO: singles at PPSP 20 Mar (M. Landsman) and Cedar Key 23 Mar (D. Steadman) were early (S&A 1994:352); 100s at Cedar Key 28 Apr (D. Henderson).
- SHORT-EARED OWL: 3 *Pinellas* reports: 2 at Shell Key 2 Mar (P. Blair, W. Yusek et al.), 1 dead there 16 Mar (L. Bielsa, head to ABS), and 1 at Sawgrass Lake CP 18 Mar (W. Yusek); 1 at DTNP 6-8 May (D. Goodwin et al.).
- LESSER NIGHTHAWK: 1 at Destin 10 May (E. Case, J. French, P. Berry); 1 male at Gulf Breeze 10 May (B. and L. Duncan).
- CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW: 1 in *Alachua* 1 Mar (J. Weimer); 2 singles in *Highlands* 2 Mar (F. Lohrer, R. Bowman); 7 dead on sandbars off Marco Island 8 Mar-12 Apr included 2 with single birds (1 a Palm Warbler) in their stomachs (T. and V. Below).
- WHIP-POOR-WILL: 1 singing at Key West 11 Mar (J. Ondrejko); 1 dead on a sandbar off Marco Island 13 Mar (T. and V. Below).
- CHIMNEY SWIFT: 1 at Tallahassee 19 Mar (F. Rutkovsky); 1 over Lower Suwannee NWR 25 Mar (P. Sykes).
- BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD: 1 adult male at Fort Clinch SP (Nassau) 3-6 Apr (R. Pollack) was new for the county (S&A 1994:388).
- SELASPHORUS SPECIES: 3 presumed Rufous Hummingbirds remained at 3 Tallahassee feeders to 5 Mar (J. Safold), 8 Mar (J. O'Malley), and 15 Mar (R. Leach).
- RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: 1 at Gainesville through 13 Mar (B. Roberts).
- RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER: 1 at Cedar Key 20 Apr cached a tree-frog (Hyla spp.) in a pine and "hammer[ed] it to death" (R. Rowan et al.).
- PILEATED WOODPECKER: 1 at HISRA 12 Apr (W. Yusek) was the first park report (*fide* R. Smith); 1 at FDCP 22 Apr (D. and P. Fellers).
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER: 1 at South Miami (Dade) 17 Apr (D. Lysinger).
- EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE: 1 singing at Key West 27-30 Apr (J. Ondrejko).
- YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER: 1 at FDCP 26 Apr (L. Atherton et al.).
- ACADIAN FLYCATCHER: 1 at San Felasco Hammock (Alachua) 13 Apr (H. Adams, G. McDermott).
- ASH—THROATED FLYCATCHER: 1 at the Okaloosa landfill 5 Dec-14 Apr (B. Duncan, D. Ware et al.).
- Great Crested Flycatcher: singles at Camp Blanding Military Reservation (*Clay*) 11 Mar (K. Miller) and Gainesville 14 Mar (G. McDermott) were early (S&A 1994:425).
- LA SAGRA'S FLYCATCHER: 2 at Key Largo (Monroe) 5-13 Apr (L. Manfredi, W. Biggs et al.); 1 at Hugh Taylor Birch SRA (Broward) 27 Apr, and 2 there 29-30 Apr (both W. George, J. Baker, J. DiPasquale et al.).
- WESTERN KINGBIRD: 1 at FWBSTF 16 Apr (P. Blakeburn); 1 inland from Cedar Key 19-23 Apr (D Wenny); 2 at FDCP 29 Apr and 4 there 1-3 May (both M. Wilkinson et al.); 1 at SMNWR 29 Apr-5 May (J. Dozier); 6 at Gulf Breeze 29 Apr (J. Peaden, J. Stevens) and 2 there 30 Apr (B. Duncan); 2 at *Okaloosa* holding ponds 30 Apr (D. Ware, B. Duncan); 1 at Destin 10 May (E. Case).
- EASTERN KINGBIRD: 3 at St. George Island 23 Mar (G. Menk, L. Paugh, K. Weusing); 1 at Buck Island Ranch 23 Mar (M. McMillian); 1 SW of Cross City (*Dixie*) 27 Mar (P. Sykes).
- GRAY KINGBIRD: 1 at ABS 26 Apr (K. Tarvin, H. Ellis); 2 *Alachua* reports: 1 at Gainesville 28 Apr (R. Rowan) and 1 at PPSP 1-4 May (B. Roberts).
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: 1 at Destin (Okaloosa) 3 Apr (D. Ware); singles in Franklin 17 Apr (J. Epler), 26 Apr (J. Hintermister, D. Morrow), and 29 Apr (J. Cavanagh); 1 at Bartow (Polk) 23 Mar (B. Bratlie).
- TREE SWALLOW: 1 moving N over the Green Swamp (Polk) 29 May (P. Fellers, S. Riffe).
- NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW: 5-6 at Zephyrhills (*Pasco*) 6 Mar, included 1 that investigated a spoil pile, possibly as a nesting site (D. Robinson); 2 at Panacea (*Wakulla*) 7 Mar (J. Dozier).

BANK SWALLOW: 2 at Kanapaha STF 23 Apr (G. McDermott, R. Rowan); 1 at SMNWR 17 May (J. Dozier).

CLIFF SWALLOW: 1 at FDCP 24 Apr (L. Atherton et al.).

CAVE SWALLOW: 1 at Garden Key, DTNP 23 Apr (S. Mlodinow, C. Hood); 2 at Key West 22 May (J. Ondrejko).

BARN SWALLOW: 6 at Suwannee 26 Mar (P. Sykes, C. Kepler); 2 birds 35 km off Port Canaveral 18 May (Alachua Aud. Soc.); 3 at Kissimmee Prairie Sanctuary (Okeechobee) 27 May (M. Scheuerell).

SEDGE WREN: 1 at PPSP 3 May (M. Landsman); 1 at *Hamilton* phosphate mine 10 May (J. Krummrich); 2 singing in dry prairie at APAFR (*Highlands*) 30 May (B. Pranty) tied the latest spring reports (S&A 1994:484).

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET: 1 at DTNP 9 Apr (M. Manetz et al.) was thought to be the first spring report from the park (W. Biggs).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: 3 nestlings in a nest in a pine at Disney Wilderness Preserve 29 Mar (Lake Region Aud. Soc.) was the earliest breeding report in Florida (S&A 1994:491).

VEERY: 1 [without details] at WSSP 8 Mar (fide P. Small) was the earliest spring report by >3 weeks (S&A 1994:495); 25 at HISRA 23 Apr (W. Yusek); 16 at FDCP 26 Apr (Lake Region Aud. Soc.); 5 at San Felasco Hammock 27 Apr (M. Manetz) were only the fourth Alachua spring report (fide R. Rowan).

"GRAY-CHEEKED" THRUSH: 250 "Gray-cheeked" and Swainson's thrushes at HISRA 23 Apr (W. Yusek) probably included the highest counts of "both" species (S&A 1994:497-498); an "unprecedented fallout" at Casey Key (Sarasota) the night of 23-24 Apr, with 22 birds banded on 24 Apr; 1 bird was recaptured 25, 27, 28, and 30 Apr (A. Stedman).

*BICKNELL'S THRUSH: 1 (smaller size noted) in direct comparison with Gray-cheeked Thrushes at DTNP 6 May (W. Biggs).

HERMIT THRUSH: 1 at WSSP 10 May (L. Malo) was very late (S&A 1994:499).

WOOD THRUSH: 30 at HISRA 23 Apr (W. Yusek).

AMERICAN ROBIN: 1 at DTNP 19 Apr (W. Meier, H. Langridge et al.); 1 at Lake Alfred (*Polk*) 3 May (C. Geanangel); 1 at Kelly Park (*Orange*) 13 May (P. Small).

Gray Catbird: 45 at Fort Pierce Inlet SRA 24 Apr (J. Brooks); 1 at WSSP 12 May (S. Belson).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD: presumably the same (unbanded) pair at APAFR (Polk) produced 3 successful clutches, which fledged by 4 Apr, 17 May, and 9 Jun; the distance from the 2 outer nests was ca. 23 m (B. Pranty).

BAHAMA MOCKINGBIRD: 1 at Birch SRA 11-12 May (W. Wilson, W. George, T. Hendrickson).

CEDAR WAXWING: 225 at BCCP 9 May (R. Smith); 10 over Gainesville 26 May (R. Rowan).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: 1 at Cedar Key 6 Apr was the observer's first sighting there in 13 years (D. Henderson).

COMMON MYNA: "several" at Marathon (*Monroe*) 21-25 Apr (S. Mlodinow) were the first county reports (S&A 1994:523); 2 adults and 2 nestlings in the Food Lion sign at Fort Pierce (*St. Lucie*) 31 May was the first county report (J. Brooks).

Bell's Vireo: 1 at SCCP 13 May (P. Fellers, details to FOC) was the latest spring report (S&A 1994:529).

BLUE-HEADED VIREO: 1 at SCCP 27 Apr (P. Fellers).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO: 1 singing at Gainesville 4 Mar (B. Roberts); 9 at WSSP 8 Mar (group survey *fide* P. Small).

*Warbling Vireo: 1 singing at Gulf Breeze (Santa Rosa) 20 Apr (L. Duncan); 1 at Cedar Key 20 Apr (G. McDermott, details to FOSRC); 1 at Lighthouse Park, Sanibel Island (Lee) 1 May (S. Rowe et al.); 1 at Niceville 10 May (L. Mackey, details to FOSRC) was the latest in spring (S&A 1994:533).

RED-EYED VIREO: 15 at SCCP 24 Mar (P. Fellers).

BLACK-WHISKERED VIREO: 1 at SMNWR 4 May (B. and B. Scott); 1 at Gulf Breeze 7 May (B. Duncan); 2 singing "on territory" at HISRA 9 May (R. Smith); 1 at Destin 11 May (L. Fennimore. D. Ware) was the first *Okaloosa* report (S&A 1994:537).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: 1 at Cedar Key 20 Apr (L. Santisteban); 2 each at FDCP 24 Apr and 27 Apr (both L. Atherton et al.).

NASHVILLE WARBLER: 1 at Birch SRA 23 Mar (W. George); 1 at Mysterious Waters (Wakulla) 12 Apr (J. Epler).

NORTHERN PARULA: 126 at WSSP 8 Mar (group survey fide P. Small).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER: singles in *Polk* 17 Apr (P. Fellers), 27 Apr (T. Palmer), and 12 May (P. Fellers).

CAPE MAY WARBLER: 1 at Newnans Lake, Gainesville 28 Mar (G. McDermott).

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER: 1 male at ABS 17 May (R. Risch) was late (S&A 1994:556).

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER: 1 at SMNWR 19 Apr (G. Sprandel); 3 *Pinellas* reports 26 Apr, 4 May, 12 May (*fide* M. Wilkinson, R. Smith, J. Fisher).

PINE WARBLER: 1 at DTNP 9 Apr (M. Manetz et al.).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER: singles at SMNWR 12 Apr (A. Gantzhorn, F. Leonard) and 22 Apr (D. Morrow)—the former report is the earliest in spring (S&A 1994:571-572); 1 at St. Joseph Peninsula SP (*Gulf*) 23 Apr (J. Richardson, A. and R. Ingram); 1 at San Felasco Hammock 27 Apr (M. Manetz); 1 male at Birch SRA 27 Apr (J. Baker, J. Di-Pasquale); 2 at Cedar Key 28 Apr (D. Henderson).

BLACKPOLL WARBLER: 2 at the Peace River (Polk) 16 Mar (C. Geanangel, P. Timmer) were the earliest spring report (S&A 1994:573).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER: 1 at Lower Suwannee NWR 27 Mar (P. Sykes).

WORM-EATING WARBLER: this spring was the best season "in recent memory" for the species in *Pinellas*, with 1 at FDCP 23 Mar (B. and M. Hoffman), 6 countywide on 12 Apr (*fide* R. Smith), and 8 at Bonner Park 16 Apr (J. Fisher); 7 at Hugh Birch SRA 20 Apr (S. Mlodinow, C. Hood); 1 in NE *Leon* 29 Apr (D. and K. MacVicar).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER: 1 at Mysterious Waters 26 Mar and 4 there 30 Mar (both J. Epler); 4 in Leon 10 Apr (D. Harder); singles at Birch SRA 12, 14, 15, 16, 20, and 22 Apr (W. George); 12 in *Pinellas* this season (*fide* R. Smith), with 5 at Bonner Park 16 Apr (J. Fisher); 1 at Cedar Key 5 Apr (B. Roberts); 1 at Big Shoals State Forest (*Hamilton*) 10 May (J. Krummrich).

OVENBIRD: 1 singing in SE *Leon* 3-4 Apr (D. Evered, L. Messick).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH: 2 at WSSP 8 Mar (fide P. Small).

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH: 1 at WSSP 8 Mar (fide P. Small).

KENTUCKY WARBLER: 1 at Mysterious Waters 26 Mar (J. Epler); 5 at FDCP 13 Apr (L. Atherton, M. Wilkinson et al.).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: singles banded at Casey Key 3 and 25 May (A. Stedman); 1 at DTNP 7 May (W. Biggs, R. French); 1 at O'Leno SP (Alachua) 10 May (C. Parenteau); 2 at Elliott Key 11 May, and 1 there 25 May (both B. Dusek); singles in Broward 13 May at Birch SRA (W. George) and John U. Lloyd SRA (J. Baker); 1 at Fort Pickens (Escambia) 14 May (E. Case) was the sixth regional report (fide B. Duncan); 2 at Bonner Park 17 May (K. Nelson, J. Fisher).

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT: 1 female at Key West to 28 May (J. Ondrejko).

HOODED WARBLER: 1 at Mysterious Waters 18 Mar (J. Epler).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: 7 singing at Cedar Key Scrub State Reserve Apr-May (T. Webber); 3-4 singing at PPSP 1 May through the period (R. Rowan).

STRIPE—HEADED TANAGER: 1 female at Kendall (*Dade*) 11-13 Apr (J. Rosenfield et al.); 1 male at Elliott Key 11 May (B. Dusek).

SUMMER TANAGER: 1 at Al-Bar Ranch (*Pasco*) 4 Mar (B. Pranty, S. Peacock) was the earliest spring report (S&A 1994:606); 2 at Lower Suwannee NWR 26 Mar (P. Sykes, C. Kepler).

- SCARLET TANAGER: 50 at HISRA 23 Apr (W. Yusek); 25 at FDCP 24 Apr were all gone the next day (L. Atherton et al.); 1 at Birch SRA 29 Apr (*fide* W. George).
- ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK: a total of 17 at Gainesville variously between 16-30 Apr (*fide* R. Rowan); 100+ at HISRA 23 Apr (W. Yusek); 40+ at St. George Island 23 Apr (J. Cavanagh, S. Jue, K. NeSmith, T. Engstrom); 11 at a feeder in Baypoint (*Bay*) 26 Apr (T. Menart);1 female at Tallahassee 13 May (F. Rutkovsky).
- BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK: 1 adult male at Gulf Breeze 30 Apr-4 May (G. Boyce, L. Bogaiges, P. Blakeburn) was the first regional spring report.
- BLUE GROSBEAK: 1 male S of Old Town (*Dixie*) 27 Mar (P. Sykes); 2 pairs at BCCP 9 May (R. Smith).
- INDIGO BUNTING: 60 at FDCP 14 Apr (A. and R. Smith, M. Wilkinson et al.).
- PAINTED BUNTING: 2 males at HISRA 12-20 Apr (W. Yusek, R. Webb); 3 females at St. George Island 23 Apr (J. Cavanagh, S. Jue, K. NeSmith); 2 singing and apparently on territory S of Gainesville 10-16 May (A. Kent, A. Farkash); 1 female or immature at Homestead (*Dade*) 18 May was "remarkably late" (P. W. and S. Smith).
- DICKCISSEL: 2 at Gulf Breeze 22 Apr had increased to 25 on 30 Apr (both B. and L. Duncan); 8 at SMNWR 22 Apr (D. Morrow); 116 (an exact count) at FDCP 23 Apr (A. and R. Smith, B. and M. Hoffman [videotape]), and 75-100 other birds flying overhead there 26 Apr (L. Atherton); 50-60 at St. George Island 23 Apr (J. Cavanagh, S. Jue, K. NeSmith, T. Engstrom); 12 at Cedar Key 23 Apr (B. Muschlitz, M. Landsman); 8 at Garden Key, DTNP 24 Apr (S. Mlodinow, C. Hood, P. Lehman); 3 S of Steinhatchee (Dixie) 25 Apr (J. Hintermister); 1 at Lake City (Columbia) 28 Apr (J. Krummrich); 20 at FWBSTF 29 Apr (D. Ware); 1 at DTNP 25 May (B. Henderson, D. Wells).
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW: only 5 at BCCP, the last site in Pinellas that still supports this species (fide R. Smith).
- CHIPPING SPARROW: 1 at Indigenous Park, Key West 21-25 Apr (S. Mlodinow, C. Hood, P. Lehman)
- CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: 1 at Fort George Island (Duval) 23 Apr (R. Clark).
- LARK SPARROW: 1 at Pensacola Beach (*Escambia*) 17 Mar (P. Tetlow); 1 at Fort Pickens 18-25 Mar (B. Duncan, J. French, D. Russell); 1 at FDCP 21 Apr (*fide* R. Smith).
- Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 at Soldier's Key, Biscayne NP 4 Apr (B. Dusek); 1 at Key West 16 Apr (J. Ondrejko); 1 at FDCP 22 Apr (D. and P. Fellers).
- FLORIDA GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: 1 singing at River Ranch Acres (*Polk*) 15 May was a new site for this race (T. Dean).
- HENSLOW'S SPARROW: 1 at Eglin Air Force Base (Walton) 3 Mar (D. Ware, B. Reid); 1 at APAFR (Highlands) 9 Apr (B. Pranty); 1 singing at Kissimmee Prairie Sanctuary 9 May (M. Scheuerell) was the latest spring report (S&A 1994:641).
- LE CONTE'S SPARROW: 1 at FWBSTF 14 Mar (E. Case).
- SONG SPARROW: 1 at HISRA 7 Apr (W. Yusek).
- ${\tt SNOW\ BUNTING: 1\ at\ Canaveral\ National\ Seashore}\ (Brevard)\ through\ 10\ Mar\ (fide\ FBR).$
- BOBOLINK: 40 in central *Collier* 16 Apr (J. and L. Douglas); 75-100 over FDCP 26 Apr (L. Atherton); 80 at WICP 27 Apr (A. and R. Smith); 185 in *Hillsborough* 10 May (D. Bowman); 924 in *Alachua* 10 May (*fide* R. Rowan); 2500 in St. Petersburg 11 May (A. and R. Smith, B. Hoffman [videotape] et al.); 2 at Three Lakes WMA (*Osceola*) 23 May (M. Scheuerell).
- YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 1 at Ponce de Leon Park, Punta Gorda (*Charlotte*) 6 Mar (*fide* FBR); 2 males and 1 female at FWBSTF 29 Apr-1 May (D. Ware, L. Fennimore et al.); 1 immature male at Piney Z Lake 10 May (D. Harder) was the latest spring report (S&A 1994:670).
- SHINY COWBIRD: 30 at Rookery Bay Nat. Est. Res. Reserve (Collier) through late Mar (J. Hammond et al.); 1 male at Fort Pickens 12 Apr (E. Case, E. and H. Barbig); 1 male at Cedar Key 13 Apr (B. Roberts)-18 May (D. Henderson); 1 male singing in Escambia 21 Apr-20 May (G. Fleming); 7 (5 males) at Garden Key, DTNP 23 Apr (S. Mlodinow,

C. Hood, P. Lehman); 1 male at Gulf Breeze 28 Apr (B. Bremser); 23 at Key West 29 Apr and 25 there 2 May (both J. Ondrejko); 1 male displaying at ABS 13 May (G. Woolfenden); 1 at Bald Point (*Franklin*) 17 May (J. Dozier); 1 at Carrabelle (*Franklin*) 18 May (J. Dozier); 1 "pair" at Fort George Island 24 May, and 2 "pairs" there by 31 May (both R. Clark).

BRONZED COWBIRD: 1 male at SMNWR 20 Apr (G. Hunter, R. West, J. Brooks et al.).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE: 1 at St. George Island 10 May (D. and S. Jue).

BULLOCK'S ORIOLE: 1 female at Air Products Sanctuary 7 May (B. Milmore).

PURPLE FINCH: 12 at Tallahassee 17 Mar (F. Rutkovsky).

HOUSE FINCH: 1 pair (male carrying nesting material) in S Jacksonville (*Duval*) 7 Mar (R. Clark).

PINE SISKIN: absent in winter at Gainesville, but 1 at a feeder there 28 Feb-2 Mar (E. Perry); 3 at Tallahassee to 5 May (F. Rutkovsky).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH: 1 partially leucistic male at a Gainesville feeder through 31 May (B. Muschlitz).

EVENING GROSBEAK: 1 at Gulf Breeze 22-23 Apr (P. Blakeburn, L. Bogaiges) was very rare in the region (fide B. Duncan).

NUTMEG MANNIKIN: several have been present in Homestead for "about 2 years," and on 12 May, 4 adults and 1 juvenile "still being fed" were observed, suggesting local breeding (P. W. and S. Smith).

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Fall 1996 not published previously: Brown–headed Cowbird: 1700 at Polk phosphate mines 11 Aug (Chuck Geanangel, Pete Timmer).

Winter 1996-1997 report not published previously: Common Moorhen: 1 with all-white plumage but a normal-colored bill at Gore's Dairy, Zephyrhills (*Pasco*) 2 Jan (Don Woodard, Don Robinson, Sharon Raymond-LaPlante).

Clarification and corrections to the Winter 1996-1997 report (FFN 25:76-77): Common Loon: the report of 1 at Mashes Island (Wakulla) on 22 Sep should be Cape San Blas (Gulf); Black-bellied Whistling-Duck: reference is made to 2 sites in Hamilton, Occidental WMA and Bienville Plantation. However, both names refer to the same site; Bienville Plantation is the new name for Occidental WMA. (Furthermore, part of Bienville Plantation was recently renamed PSC Phosphate. From now on, this site will be called Hamilton phosphate mine). Black Rail: the winter report from Bienville Plantation was listed as "the first Hamilton report," but I had overlooked a report from that site in the Summer 1995 report (FFN 24:21)—BP.

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