

## FROM THE FIELD

MARCH-MAY 2012

*Note:* The appearance of observations in this section does not suggest verification or acceptance of a record. Observations of Review Species need to be documented and a rare bird report submitted to the Georgia Checklist and Records Committee (GCRC) for consideration.

Spring 2012 was unusually warm statewide, and the warmest on record for Atlanta. March temperatures were about -12 °C warmer than average in north Georgia; it is perhaps no coincidence that several new state and regional early dates of returning migrants were set during this period, and an incredible 16 warbler species were recorded in northern Greene Co. on 1 April. A fallout of Common Goldeneyes at inland water bodies on 3 March coincided with a series of thunderstorms that produced 7.5-15 cm of rainfall in southeast Georgia. April was -15 to -17 °C warmer and much drier than average, with central Georgia receiving less than 25% of the average monthly rainfall. Heavy rain on 18 April resulted in inland reports of Greater Scaup, Forster's Terns and Long-billed Dowitchers. While temperatures in May were only -16 to -17 °C above average, the first 37.8 °C days were recorded in south Georgia by the month's end. Monthly precipitation was generally 50% of the May average, but Tropical Storm Beryl dropped 5-18 cm of rain in eastern Georgia at the month's end, heralding a fallout of 29 White-rumped Sandpipers, along with single Baird's and Stilt Sandpipers, and a Black Tern in Baker Co. on 30 May. The most notable sightings were the discoveries of 3 Lapland Longspurs and 2 Pacific Loons in north Georgia, and a female MacGillivray's Warbler on Skidaway Island, along with lingering winter rarities including Black-headed Gull and Cinnamon Teal.

**Abbreviations:** ACOGB - Annotated Checklist of Georgia Birds, 2003, Beaton, G. et al., GOS Occ. Publ. No. 14; AIC - Andrews Island Causeway and spoil site, Glynn Co.; AP - American Proteins settling ponds, Forsyth Co.; AWMA - Altamaha Waterfowl Management Area, McIntosh Co.; BCL - Bartow Co. Loop, a cluster of sod farms and cattle ponds on Brandon Farm Road and Taff Road, west of Cartersville, Bartow Co.; BUENWR - Bradley Unit of the Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge, Stewart Co.; CBC - Christmas Bird Count; CCWA - Clayton Co. Water Authority, Clayton Co.; CINS - Cumberland Island National Seashore, Camden Co.; CLRL - Carter's Lake Re-regulation Lake area, Murray Co.; COP - Centennial Olympic Park, Fulton Co.; CRNRA -

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area; CSU - Cochran Shoals Unit of the CRNRA, Cobb Co.; GI - Gould's Inlet, St. Simons Island, Glynn Co.; HP - Henderson Park, DeKalb Co.; JI - Jekyll Island, Glynn Co.; JIBS - Jekyll Island Banding Station, Glynn Co.; KMT - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Cobb Co.; LCI - Little Cumberland Island, Camden Co.; LSSI - Little St. Simons Island, Glynn Co.; LTI - Little Tybee Island, Chatham Co.; LWFG - Lake Walter F. George, Clay Co.; MBBP - Merry Brothers Brickyard Ponds, Richmond Co.; m. ob. - multiple observers; MSS - Marshallville Super Sod Farm, Macon Co.; MWSS (Mid-winter Shorebird Survey of the Georgia coast); *NAB* - *North American Birds* (journal of the American Birding Association); NWR - National Wildlife Refuge; OM - Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center, Muscogee Co.; PCR - Pine Chapel Road, Gordon Co.; ph. - photographed; PSNP - Phinizy Swamp Nature Park, Richmond Co.; Region - when capitalized, refers to Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina; SBG - State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Clarke Co.; SCI - St. Catherines Island, Liberty Co.; SF - sod farm; SP - State Park; SSI - St. Simons Island, Glynn Co.; TI - Tybee Island, Chatham Co.; WMA - Wildlife Management Area; WPD - West Point Dam, Harris Co. and Troup Co.

*Note:* Species that appear in a **bold-faced font** represent those that were considered “review” species by the GCRC during the year of the sighting. This list changes from year to year. The current review list may be viewed at the following link: <http://www.gos.org/checklists/reportables.html> GCRC activity, including the status of reports listed as “pending” as of press time, may be viewed at the following link: <http://www.gos.org/checklists/gcrc-activity.html>

## SPECIES ACCOUNTS

**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK** - The maximum counts from established breeding sites were 78 from AWMA on 6 April (Bob Sattelmeyer) and 10 from PSNP on 22 April (Gene Keferl). Inland records included 6 in Seminole Co. on 13 May (Martha Register), 12 at Robins Air Force Base, Houston Co., on 14 May (Dan Ombalski), and 6 at Chinquapin Pond, Baker Co., on 27 May (Roy Brown, Melissa Martin).

**GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** – One bird was seen at Lake Herrick, Clarke Co., on 3 April (Richard Hall), and a lingering bird was in Cooper Creek Park, Columbus, Muscogee Co., until at least 9 May (Rodney McCollum).

**SNOW GOOSE** - The long-staying blue-phase bird was still present in Morgan

Co. and Walton Co. from 10-19 March (m. ob.). Single birds were seen in Dougherty Co. on 4 March (Larry Gridley) and Muscogee Co. on 10 March (Kyle Fritz).

**CINNAMON TEAL** - The continuing drake was seen in the Treatment Wetlands of the CCWA on 5 March (Carol Lambert, GCRC 2012-17).

**GREATER SCAUP** - Inland birds were reported from Lake Lanier, Forsyth Co., with one on 9 March and 6 there on 17 March (both Jim Flynn), and Lake Chapman, Clarke Co., with one on 23 March (Richard Hall, Mitchell Jarrett), and 2 there on 18 April (Mirko Basen, Richard Hall, Simon Mitchell). The last report from the coast was of 3 at the Tolomato Causeway, McIntosh Co., on 5 April (Gene Keferl).

**SURF SCOTER** - The only report received was 2 seen at CLRL on 17 March (Joel McNeal).

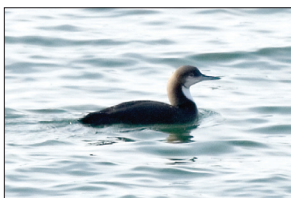
**WHITE-WINGED AND BLACK SCOTER** - These 2 species were last recorded from CINS on 7 April (Andrew Theus).

**COMMON GOLDENEYE** - A remarkable fallout occurred on 3 March, with 3 at Huie Ponds, CCWA (Jeff Sewell), one at Bear Creek Reservoir, Jackson Co. (Mirko Basen, Richard Hall, Vanessa Lane), 3 at Lake Lanier, Forsyth Co. (Georgann Schmalz), and 8 at CLRL (Patrick Addy, Ken Blankenship, Rebecca Byrd). Additionally, one was at BUENWR on 7 March (Walt Chambers).

**HOODED MERGANSER** - A scarce nester in the state, a female and 4 chicks were seen at Lover's Lane, Richmond Co., on 22 April (Ken Blankenship, Rebecca Byrd), and a female and 5 chicks were seen in Stockbridge, Henry Co., on 3 May (Paul Raney).

**RED-THROATED LOON** - Single birds were seen at Lake Lanier (Forsyth/Hall Co.) on 3 and 10 March (Mark McShane) and on 30 March (Jim Flynn), with 2 birds present on 23 March (Jim Flynn). The only coastal reports were of individual birds at JI on 12 and 14 March (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).

**PACIFIC LOON** - One was at Lake Hartwell, Hart Co., on 11-27 March (Mark Freeman, m. ob., GCRC 2012-11 A,B), and another was at Lake Lanier on 18-25 April (Ken Blankenship, Jim Flynn, GCRC 2012-18 A,B).



**Pacific Loon, Hart Co., 11 March, by Rachel Cass**

**GREAT SHEARWATER** - One was seen in Chatham Co. offshore waters on a pelagic trip on 31 May (Ken Blankenship, m. ob.)

**WILSON'S STORM-PETREL** - One

was seen in Chatham Co. offshore waters on a pelagic trip on 31 May (Ken Blankenship, m. ob.)

**GREAT CORMORANT** - The wintering bird was last seen at LWFG on 18 March (Jim Flynn, Earl Horn, GCRC 2011-40).

**ANHINGA** - In north Georgia, single birds were observed at Lake Herrick, Clarke Co., on 22 March (Mirko Basen), Athens Landfill, Clarke Co., on 23 April (Richard Hall, James Neves), Chicopee Lake, Hall Co., on 22-28 April (m. ob.), and Piedmont Park, Fulton Co., on 2 May (*vide* Stephen Barlow).

**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN** - The only inland reports were from Lake Park, Lowndes Co., with 4 on 3 March and 7 on 10 March (Karen Seward).

**BROWN PELICAN** - Inland reports were received of single birds at Lake Park, Lowndes Co., on 31 March (Karen Seward, Marvin Smith, Cameron Thomas), Clark's Hill Reservoir, Columbia Co., on 23 April (Eric Haskell), and Lake Lanier, Forsyth Co., on 28 April (Susan Lunn) and 7 May (Kathy Miller). The Little Egg Island Bar colony in McIntosh Co. contained 500 pairs, including one California race bird and 9 returning birds translocated from the Gulf Coast following the oil spill (Tim Keyes).

**AMERICAN BITTERN** - Above the Fall Line, single birds were reported from northern Greene Co. on 18 March (Paul Sykes) and 17 April (Jim Hanna), Hardin Bridge Road, Bartow Co., on 13 April (Ken Blankenship), and 2 birds were seen at Rum Creek Marsh, Monroe Co., on 15 April (Douglas Robinson). The highest count was 5 birds at AWMA on 13 May (Jerry Amerson, Dan Vickers).

**LEAST BITTERN** - Away from the coast, single birds were reported from BUENWR on 6 April (Walt Chambers), PSNP on 19-21 April (m. ob.), and CCWA on 5 May (m. ob.), and 7 was a good count at Lake Worth, Dougherty Co., on 24 May (Bill Lotz, Wayne Schaffner).

**SNOWY EGRET** - Above the Fall Line, one bird was reported on the Chattahoochee River, Cobb Co., on 30 April (David Hedeon).

**LITTLE BLUE HERON** - The northernmost reports included one at Lake Chapman, Clarke Co., on 10 April (Mirko Basen, Richard Hall), and one at CSU on 25 April (Chris Lambrecht). A single flock of 29 observed at Oconee WMA, Putnam Co., on 20 May was an excellent inland count (Jim Flynn).

**TRICOLORED HERON** - Inland, single birds were recorded near Valdosta, Lowndes Co., from 10-17 March (Karen Seward), PSNP on 22 April (m. ob.), and Lake Worth Recreation Area, Dougherty Co., on 20 May (Wayne Schaffner), with 2 there on 28 May (Tod Lanier, Wayne Schaffner).

**REDDISH EGRET** - The only report for this season was a bird seen at GI on 28 May (Jim and Allison Healy).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - Above the Fall Line, single birds were reported from Piedmont Park, Fulton Co., from 14 March (representing a new early date for the Piedmont) until 25 April (Patrick Addy), Rum Creek, Monroe Co., on 22 April (James Fleullan, Trey McCuen), CCWA on 5 and 20 May (Jeff Sewell), Braswell Church Road, Walton Co., on 6 May (Mirko Basen), and Fagala Road Pond, Murray Co., on 31 May (Joshua Spence).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - One was at Constitution Lakes, DeKalb Co., on 10 March, representing a new early date for the Piedmont (Ethan Hatchett). Rarely documented as a breeding species in middle Georgia, a nest was found on Savage Creek, Twiggs Co., on 14 April (Paul Johnson). A new state high count of 202 was recorded at Tolomato Causeway Pond, McIntosh Co., on 18 May (Gene Keferl).

WHITE IBIS - Unprecedented in the Cumberland Plateau in the spring, one was at Arrowhead Lakes, Floyd Co., on 19-20 May (Ann Stewart).

GLOSSY IBIS - A new state high count of 211 was reported from AWMA on 16 March (Peter Stangel). Away from the coast, one was in Lowndes Co. on 13 March (Brad Bergstrom, Marvin Smith), 3 were at BUENWR on 6 April (Walt Chambers), and a maximum of 6 were at PSNP on 15 April (Ruth Mead).

ROSEATE SPOONBILL - Following the first documented nesting in the state last year, 3 nests were confirmed in the wading bird colony in St Mary's, Camden Co. (Tim Keyes).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE - Rare in the spring north of the Fall Line, one was in Lamar Co. on 19 May (Allan and Tracey Muise).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK - Late for the Coastal Plain, one was observed at Yuchi WMA, Burke Co., on 19 May (Lois Stacey).

KING RAIL - One was present throughout the spring in northern Greene Co., the first recent record of this species in the Piedmont during nesting season (Paul Sykes). One was at the Treatment Wetlands of CCWA on 23 March (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).

VIRGINIA RAIL - One was heard calling at CCWA on 5 May (Rachel Cass, Steve Holzman).

SORA - Away from their regular locations, one was at AP 14 April - 5 May (Jim Flynn) and one was at Robins Air Force Base, Houston Co., on 21 April (Bob Sargent, m. ob.).

PURPLE GALLINULE - One at the Amphitheater Pond on JI on 29 April - 3 May was noteworthy (Ralph and Nancy Hammond, m. ob.).

COMMON GALLINULE - Fourteen were counted at the Treatment Wetlands, CCWA, on 5 May (m. ob.). One was on Fagala Road Pond, Murray Co., on 30 May (Joshua Spence).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER - The only inland report was 8 seen on the BCL on 13 May (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER – The only report received was 2 birds seen at AWMA on 27 April (Jim Flynn, Earl Horn, Joel McNeal).

BLACK-NECKED STILT - One was on the BCL on 8 April (Bruce Dralle), and another was there on 9 May (Bob Zaremba).

AMERICAN AVOCET - One was found on the BCL on 22 April (Joel McNeal) and remained there until 2 May (m. ob.).

UPLAND SANDPIPER - One was at Braswell Church Road, Walton Co., on 7 April (Patrick Brisse), and 2 were in eastern Clarke Co. on 9 April (Patrick Phelps).

WHIMBREL - Gould, one of 2 birds tagged on SSI in early May, was at Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories of Canada on 25 May, indicating that western breeding birds are staging on the Georgia coast (Tim Keyes).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER - A new inland high count of 196 was recorded at the Owen Williams Catfish Farm, Baker Co., on 15 May (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER - Following the first report of a single bird at AWMA on 27 April (Jim Flynn, Earl Horn, Joel McNeal), this species was reported widely until the end of the period, with a new inland high count of 29 birds reported from Owen and Williams Fish Farm, Baker Co., on 30 May (Larry Gridley).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER – One was at the O.T. Watson Pond, Dougherty Co., on 29-30 May (ph., Alan Ashley, Tod Lanier, Wayne Schaffner).

PURPLE SANDPIPER - One was still on TI north beach on 23 April (ph., Sami LaRocca, Cathryn Lawrence).

DUNLIN - One was seen on the BCL on 31 March (Patty McLean), with 10 there on 9 May (Bob Zaremba). One was at MBBP on 22 April (Ken Blankenship, Rebecca Byrd).

STILT SANDPIPER - New early and late dates were set for the spring migration period, as single birds were seen on the BCL on 25 March (Joel McNeal) and at Owen and Williams Fish Farm, Baker Co., on 30 May (Larry Gridley). At the coast, 5 were at AIC on 7 April (Gene Keferl), one was at Harris Neck NWR on 15 April (Nathan Farnau), and 9 were at AWMA on 27 April (Jim Flynn, Earl Horn, Joel McNeal).

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER - Inland, one was reported from Padgett's Ponds, Twiggs Co., on 27 April (Jeff Sewell), one was at Huie Ponds, CCWA, on 6 May (Lloyd Snyder), and 14 were on the BCL on 13 May (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER – Four were at AWMA on 15 April (Patrick Addy, Nathan Farnau), with 2 there on 27 April (Jim Flynn, Earl Horn, Joel McNeal); thirteen were seen on the BCL on 18 April (Patrick Addy, Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal), and 2 were on UGA property in Oconee Co. on the same day (Rachel Cass, Steve Holzman). One was seen at Huie Ponds, CCWA, on 28 April (Evan Pitman), and 4 were there on 9 May (Paul Raney).

DOWITCHER SP. – Nine were in Gordon Co. on 13 May (Joshua Spence).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE - Five were at the AIC spoil site on 20 May (m. ob.).

**BLACK-HEADED GULL** - The wintering adult was present at the Frank Spencer Boat Ramp, Chatham Co., until 18 March, by which date it had acquired its black hood (m. ob., GCRC 2012-05).



**Black-headed Gull, Chatham Co., 8 March, by Lauren Deaner**

LAUGHING GULL - Inland reports of single birds were received from CLRL on 6 April (David Hedeem), Lake Chapman, Clarke Co., on 9 May (Richard Hall), Lake Sinclair, Baldwin Co., on 15

May, and Lake Varner, Newton Co., on 26 May (Patrick Brisse, Terry Miller).

SOOTY TERN - One was seen in Chatham Co. offshore waters on a pelagic trip on 31 May (Ken Blankenship, m. ob.).

CASPIAN TERN - Eight reports of single birds were received from the interior of the state.

BLACK TERN - Six were seen on the BCL on 13 May (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal), one was at Owen and Williams Fish Farm, Baker Co., on 30 May (Larry Gridley), and 7 birds were seen in Chatham Co. pelagic waters on 31 May (Ken Blankenship, m. ob.).

FORSTER'S TERN - Inland, 31 were at WPD on 11 March, with 2 there on 4 April (Jim Flynn), 2 were reported from Lake Lanier, Forsyth Co., on 30 March, 19 April and 22 April (Jim Flynn), and 3 were at Lake Chapman, Clarke Co., on 18 April (Mirko Basen, Richard Hall, Simon Mitchell).

SANDWICH TERN - Three birds seen on JI on 14 March constitute a new state early date (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).

BLACK SKIMMER - An exceptional 4000 were counted at GI on 13 March (Jeff Sewell), almost doubling the previous state high count.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE - The long-staying bird in Savannah, Chatham Co., was last seen on 14 April (Steve Wagner).

PEREGRINE FALCON – In Atlanta, a pair was present in Buckhead Station, Fulton Co., throughout the period (Carl Crowley). Following the sighting of a single bird at the Atlanta Perimeter Mall, DeKalb Co., on 27 March (Leslie Curran), a second bird was seen the next day and the birds were on eggs by the end of April (m. ob.). Two chicks were banded there on 24 May (Jim Ozier).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER – The species was reported from the regular Blue Ridge nesting sites in Union Co. and Rabun Co. (m. ob.). One was singing on private property in Bibb Co. on 26 May at a former nesting site; this was the first sighting there in 6 years (Ken Clark, Jim Gilreath, Ty Ivey).

LEAST FLYCATCHER – One seen clearly on LSSI on 17 April may represent the first spring record south of the Fall Line (Giff Beaton). In the Blue Ridge, up to 4 birds were reported from Hale Ridge Road, Rabun Co., on 4 May, and one was present on Cooper Creek Road, Union Co., on 6 May (m. ob.).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER – A bird reported in Coffee Co. on 7 March represents a new state early date (Annette Bittaker).

GRAY KINGBIRD - This scarce coastal breeder was first reported from SSI on 15 April (Patrick Addy, Nathan Farnau).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER - One was on PCR on 3 May (Derrick Ingle, Joshua Spence).

RED-EYED VIREO - This species arrived noticeably early this year, with birds at Berry College, Floyd Co. (Dan Roper) and KMT (Paul Raney) on 29 March, setting new early dates for the Cumberland Plateau and Piedmont, respectively. Amazing for the date, 16 were seen in Cloudland Canyon SP, Dade Co., on 31 March (Joel McNeal).

TREE SWALLOW - At least 500 birds were estimated to be roosting at Huie Ponds, CCWA, on 23 March (Bill Lotz, Jeff Sewell).

BANK SWALLOW - This scarce migrant was first recorded at Georgia International Horse Park, Rockdale Co., on 22 April (Nathan Farnau), and was last reported on 13 May from Bartow, Cobb, and Clarke Co. (m. ob.).

BARN SWALLOW - The first report was 3 birds seen at Lake Chapman, Clarke Co., on 3 March (Mirko Basen, Richard Hall, Vanessa Lane), representing a new early date for the Piedmont. A bird with all-white underparts was seen in Greene Co. on 11 May (Jim Hanna, Paul Sykes).

CLIFF SWALLOW - The species continues to expand its breeding range in the state, with 2 new colonies found in Clarke Co. (Richard Hall). Nest sites located over land, rather than over water, were discovered in Gordon Co. (Joshua Spence) and Bartow Co. (Patty McLean).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH - Away from the breeding areas in the



northeast corner of the state, one was recorded at Amicalola Falls SP, Dawson Co., on 6 May (Thomas Nall).

**LAPLAND LONGSPUR** - Three were found in Sam Smith Park, Bartow Co., on 3 March (ph., Gene Koziara, GCRC 2012-08).



**Lapland Longspur, Bartow Co., 3 March, by Gene Koziara**

**OVENBIRD** - One at KMT on 1 April represents a new early date for the Piedmont (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal). An excellent count of 47 was recorded along Ivy Log Gap Road, Union Co., on 4 May (Jim Flynn). A scarce breeder in the Piedmont, 9 were recorded in Greene Co. on 20 May (Jim Flynn), and 5 singing males were in western Clarke Co. on 25 May (Richard Hall).

**BREWSTER'S WARBLER** - One was at HP on 10 April (Jeff Sewell).

**LAWRENCE'S WARBLER** - One was at CLRL on 23 April (Nathan Farnau).

**SWAINSON'S WARBLER** - One was seen on Boat Ramp Road, Chattahoochee Co., on 25 March (m. ob.), tying the state early date.

**NASHVILLE WARBLER** - Single birds were noted at KMT on 20 April (Giff Beaton, Dennis Lacoss) and 25 April (Nathan Farnau).

**CONNECTICUT WARBLER** - This species was reported from 6 locations between 8 and 17 May.

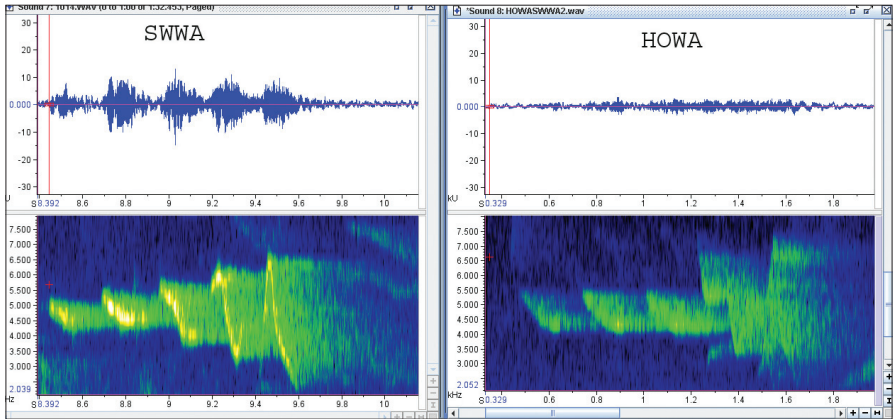
**MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER** - A female was seen on Skidaway Island, Chatham Co., on 8 April (ph., Russ Wigh, pending, GCRC 2012-42).



**MacGillivray's Warbler, Chatham Co., 8 April, by Russ Wigh**

**KENTUCKY WARBLER** - The first report was from Calhoun Co. on 24 March (Wayne Schaffner), tying the state early date.

**HOODED WARBLER** - A territory-holding bird at the SBG was recorded singing a perfect Swainson's Warbler song from 20 April onwards (Clark Jones, m. ob.).



**Spectrogram of a singing Swainson's Warbler (L) and Hooded Warbler (R) recorded simultaneously in Clarke Co., 20 April, by Clark Jones**

AMERICAN REDSTART - One found in Greene Co. on 1 April (Jim Hanna, Paul Sykes) represents a new early date for the Piedmont.

CAPE MAY WARBLER - One was singing in the Coosawatee WMA, Murray Co., on the late date of 29 May (Joshua Spence).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER - An excellent breeding site count of 31 was recorded on Ivy Log Gap Road, Union Co., on 4 May (Jim Flynn).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER - One was at Big Canoe, Dawson Co., on 17 March, representing a new early date for the Blue Ridge (Theresa Hartz). An excellent breeding site count of 38 was recorded on Ivy Log Gap Road, Union Co., on 4 May (Jim Flynn).

WILSON'S WARBLER - A singing male was at Lake Herrick, Clarke Co., on 17 May (Richard Hall). Another was found on Harris Road, Whitfield Co., the same day (Adam Smith).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT - Although confounded by the recent documentation of birds wintering in the state, 2 birds singing at Chicasawatchee WMA, Calhoun Co., on 8 April probably represent a new early arrival date for spring migrants (Wayne Schaffner).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW - One was at CSU on 18 April (ph., Jim and Allison Healy).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW - One was found at the Amphitheater Pond, JI, an unusual location, on 26 April (ph., Lydia Thompson).

HENSLOW'S SPARROW - An excellent count of 21 was recorded at Paulk's Pasture WMA, Glynn Co., on 1 March, with 3 birds remaining until 16 March

(Gene Keferl). Two were at Evans Co. Public Fishing Area on 8 March (Cameron Cox, Lauren Deaner), one was at Albany Nursery, Dougherty Co., on 9 March, and another was at Pecan Grove Industrial Park, Dougherty Co., on 27 March (both Wayne Schaffner).

LINCOLN'S SPARROW - Single birds were sighted at Piedmont Park, Fulton Co., on 10 March - 7 April (Jim and Alison Healy, m. ob.), Athens Landfill, Clarke Co., on 25 April (Richard Hall, Mitchell Jarrett, Simon Mitchell), and Panola Mountain SP, Rockdale Co., on 12 May (banded, Charlie Muise).

SCARLET TANAGER - One found at Piedmont NWR, Jones Co., on 1 April represents a new early date for the Piedmont (Pam Higginbotham). A scarce breeder in the Piedmont, 8 birds were present in Greene Co. on 20 May (Jim Flynn), and 7 males were in western Clarke Co. on 25 May (Richard Hall).

PAINTED BUNTING - Rare north of the Fall Line, one was at the Athens Landfill, Clarke Co., on 16 March (Mirko Basen, Richard Hall).

DICKCISSEL - This species was first reported in Bartow Co. (Jim and Allison Healy) and Clarke Co. (Richard Hall) on 28 April.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD - The highest counts were 70 found at Bond Swamp NWR, Twiggs Co., on 5 March (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal) and 70 at CSU on 16 March (Jim and Alison Healy), with 2 remaining at the latter site until 1 April (Chris Lambrecht).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD - A flock of 53 birds was in Bartow Co. on 31 March, with 4 still present on 13 April (Ken Blankenship).

ORCHARD ORIOLE - One found in Bulloch Co. on 18 March represents a new early date for the Coastal Plain (Brenda Brannen).

RED CROSSBILL - At least 2 individuals were frequenting feeders in Sky Valley, Rabun Co., on 25-26 May (Chris Skelton).

PINE SISKIN - A late lingering bird was still present in Bibb Co. on 3 May (James Fleullan).

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