



Pushing the frontiers for this new immigrant was this male Shiny Cowbird all the way north to Maine (!), on Monhegan Island, May 25, 1991. This was a first for New England, and probably the first north of the Carolinas. Photograph/Carol Mardeusz.



Northern Lapwing (with Killdeer in background) at New Scotland, Albany County, New York, March 22, 1991. This was only the fourth state record, and first away from Long Island; non-maritime records are almost unknown in the New World. Photograph/Kenneth P. Able.



This adult Black-whiskered Vireo, far beyond its usual south Florida summer range, furnished a first record for Virginia. It was banded and released at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge on May 18, 1991. Photograph/Robert C. Simpson.



Male Northern Wheatear in Gibson County, Indiana, March 31, 1991. First state record. Although a few wheatears show up somewhere in the eastern United States practically every fall, spring records are exceedingly rare. Photograph/Gary Bowman.



Golden-crowned Sparrow in Barry County, Michigan, May 2, 1991. Second state record. Photograph/Robert Putman.



Western combo: male Western Tanager (above) and Western Kingbird at Holly Beach, Louisiana, May 1, 1991. Unusual numbers of Western Tanagers appeared slightly east of normal limits during the spring. Photograph/Paul Conover.

PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Winter 1991



White-winged Tern at Port Lambton, Ontario, May 9, 1991. First provincial record. The striking wing pattern, with very white lesser coverts and two darker outermost primaries, can be seen exceptionally well in this portrait. Photograph/James N. Flynn.



Adult female Black-capped Vireo at Long Point, Ontario, April 27, 1991. This bird, a first for Canada, was far north of its current northernmost breeding areas in Oklahoma. Photograph/Julian R. Hough.



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Desert National Wildlife Range, Nevada, May 12, 1991. Photograph/Marian Cressman.



Herald Petrel (intermediate morph) off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, May 22, 1991. Only a handful of records exist for North American waters. Note that this bird appears to be a little more than halfway through molting the primaries, with a slight gap between the old outers and the new inner primaries. Photograph/Killian Mullarney.



Murphy's Petrel 55 nautical miles southwest of Año Nuevo Point, California, April 11, 1991. Note the extensive whitish throat and glossy gray plumage, including the primaries, which are gray below when shaded (right wing) but may flash white in direct sunlight (left wing). Our knowledge of the status of this species is developing rapidly, and it now appears to be common far offshore in late spring. Photograph/Don Roberson.



Snowy Plover at Two Rivers, Wisconsin, April 21, 1991. Third state record. Photograph/Charles Sontag.



Variegated Flycatcher on Garden Key, Dry Tortugas, Florida, March 15, 1991. First state record, and only the third for North America, of this migratory South American species. Photograph/Robert C. Bradbury.



Black-vented Oriole at Lake Patagonia, Arizona, March 18, 1991. First confirmed Arizona record, and one of very few for the United States. Photograph/John E. Gilmore.



Sharp-tailed Sandpiper at the Village Creek Ponds, Tarrant County, Texas, May 18, 1991. First state record. The heavily scalloped underparts and noticeable eye-ring are among the distinctions from Pectoral Sandpiper, the most similar species. North America has had very few records of spring adults away from Alaska. Photograph/Greg W. Lasley/VIREO.



Female Brambling at Gambell, Alaska, June 6, 1991. Photograph/Kevin J. Zimmer.



Great Knot at Nome, Alaska, June 3, 1991. The immediate vicinity of Nome has produced most of the North American records of this Asiatic shorebird. Photograph/Kevin J. Zimmer.



Subadult Glossy Ibis (center) and subadult White-faced Ibis (lower right), showing comparative colors of facial skin (pale blue borders vs. dull red); San Antonio, Texas, May 12, 1991. Most of the 15+ Texas records for Glossy Ibis are quite recent, but it may have been overlooked previously. Photograph/Greg W. Lasley.



Pechora Pipit at Attu Island, Alaska, May 25, 1991. The dark neck spots, pale back stripes, and rusty tone of the upperparts are diagnostic for this rare migrant. Photograph/Monte M. Taylor.



Adult Black-billed Cuckoo carrying food to a nest in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, May 14, 1991. Far from any previously known nesting locations, this established a first breeding record for the state. Photograph/Andrew W. Kratter.



Common Sandpiper at Attu Island, Alaska, May 20, 1991. A spell of bad weather in late May brought record numbers of this and other Eurasian shorebird species to Attu. Photograph/Monte M. Taylor.



Common Ringed Plover at Gambell, Alaska, June 3, 1991. Gambell is where this species occurs most regularly in western North America. Photograph/Gary H. Rosenberg.



Temminck's Stint at Attu Island, Alaska, May 22, 1991. The species is only a casual migrant in western Alaska; 43 individuals here the following day set an all-time record. Photograph/Monte M. Taylor.



Male Ruff at Iona Island, British Columbia, May 15, 1991. Very rare in the province in spring. Photograph/Dave Huggard.