

back of e. Honolulu (EV,VS). An Elepaio nest, found there in late May, was visited several times before two young fledged successfully in July (VS). This is by far the largest number of Elepaio reported from one location on O'ahu in recent decades. Japanese Bush-Warblers, White-rumped Shamas, and Red-billed Leiothrix were all vocal and active June 12 on Manoa Cliffs trail back of Honolulu (LT). Several Hwamei observed near picnic areas in Kalopa Park, H., July 23 (LG) confirm that location is still one of the more reliable places to find this alien species in Hawaii.

Hawaii Creeper (*Endangered*) apparently had a very successful nesting season at Hakalau N.W.R., H. Most adult pairs seen this summer were with one–two fledglings, and in some flocks of mixed species they outnumbered the usually more numerous Hawaii Akepa (*Endangered*) (EV). On Maui, in a long-lasting monitoring program getting started in the Hanawi area, federal biologists netted and color-banded nine Akohekohe (*Endangered*) in June, including two juveniles. Maui Parrotbills (*Endangered*) came near the nets but none has yet been captured (TP). No Poouli or Nukupuu (both critically *Endangered*) has yet been found despite some intensive searches.

Eight Orange-cheeked Waxbills, including some juveniles, were seen repeatedly during June and July at the inland edge of N.P.W.M.A., some 4 km from the only known site where this very local species has been regularly found. Two Black-rumped Waxbills were reported June 24 at Pu'uanahulu, H. (EV), the only remaining locality where this very scarce alien species is still occasionally seen.

**Contributors:** Paul Baker, Marlee Breese, Phil Bruner, Jim Denny, Evelyn Giddings, Laura Gorman, Cathlees Hodges, Marie Morin, Mike Ord, Dick Perrine, Thane Pratt, Vaughn Sherwood, Mike Silber-nagel, Tom Snetsinger, Lance Tanino, Tom Telfer, Gerald Tolman, Eric VanderWerf, Kathleen Viernes.

—Robert L. Pyle, 741 N. Kalaeo Ave., Kailua, HI 96734.

# West Indies Region

**ROBERT L. NORTON**

The opening of the hurricane season coincides with this reporting period, yet the Puerto Rico Bank—experiencing a year-long drought—had some of its driest weather in decades. Rainfall at St. John, United States Virgin Islands (approximately midpoint of the marine platform) measured well below the season 100-year average. It was down 76 percent (-88 percent in June and -65 percent in July). No named storms (requiring minimum winds of 39 miles per hour) occurred in the West Indies in June or July, which would have provided much needed moisture to sundry insular ecosystems.

Several observers during a usually "dry" reporting period covered many areas of the Bahamas: Grand Bahama, Andros, Abaco, and New Providence. Also covered were Barbados and Guadeloupe in the Lesser Antilles during late July, including two classic study areas. The Smiths and Robertsons briefly visited Jon Barlow's last recorded (1973) site of the "Guadeloupe" House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon guadeloupensis*) and John Terborg's Guadeloupe study site, where they experienced a much reduced dry forest habitat. Lee Jones, who reconnoitered John Emlen's Grand Bahama pine forest study area for

some qualitative comparisons, found the current pine forest structure logged since 1970. And Sandy Sprunt IV of the National Audubon Society conducted seabird surveys in the north Bahamas, complimenting his *States and Conservation of Seabirds of the Bahamas* (1984). We are grateful for these contributors' peregrinations.

The government of the Bahamas has created a new national park, the Pelican Cays Land and Sea Park (20,500 acres) on Great Abaco, to be managed by the Bahamas National Trust primarily for the benefit of the Bahama Parrot. The Trust has a new ornithology group coordinated by Carolyn Wardle.

Abbreviations: Ba (*Bahamas*); Bd (*Barbados*); B.N.T. (*Bahamas National Trust*); and Gu (*Guadeloupe*).

## Pelicans to Terns

Either a vagrant or resident Brown Pelican was observed July 27 at Sandy Point, Great Abaco, Ba (AWW, SS, HK, WH, BNT), where Bahamians claim they breed in nearby cays. Local nesting would represent a new breeding station of *Pelecanus occidentalis carolinensis* in the West Indies since the destruction of the Bimini colony. Forty Neotropical Cormorants, 12 of which had breeding plumes, were noted again July 29 at Paradise Island golf course, New Providence, Ba (AWW *et al.*). A Little Egret was photographed among a sextet of Snowy Egrets in a small impoundment near Sam Lord's Castle in the s. of Barbados July 8 (DFA). Yet another adult in breeding plumage was seen at Dugommier, Gu July



30 (PWS, SAS, WBR, BR). Who will be the first to photograph a nest of Little Egret or Western Reef-Heron in this hemisphere before 1999?

An imm. Roseate Spoonbill noted at Staniard Cr., N. Andros, Ba in late July (MB) was likely a rare vagrant from s. Florida or n. Camaguey Province, Cuba, rather than from a distant breeding station at Great Inagua, Ba. Bahamas National Trust wardens at Great Inagua, site of recent military maneuvers, report that a practice invasion did not disturb the nesting colony of Greater (Am.) Flamingos (*vide* AWW), now estimated at a population of 60,000.

A Wilson's Plover noted at Grande Salinas, Pointe-de-Chateaux, Gu July 31 (PWS *et al.*) provided an island record (Benito-Espinal 1990; Evans 1993). Two juv. Gull-billed Terns being fed by adults at Arawak City, New Providence, Ba, July 31 (AWW) suggested breeding at some yet unknown site in the n. islands. A colony of Roseate Terns was noted July 26 off Pelican Cays Land and Sea Park, Great Abaco, Ba (SS), where Bridled Terns were nesting (AWW *et al.*). At Goulding Cay, off w. New Providence, Ba, Sprunt estimated 1000 pairs of nesting terns: 75% Sooty Terns and 25% Bridled Terns and Brown Noddies.

Fourteen Bahama (Cuban) Parrots were seen in the new Pelican Cays Land and Seas Park at Abaco, Ba July 27 (AWW *et al.*). Two Great Lizard Cuckoos were heard (AWW *et al.*) in remnant mature forest July 28 at New Providence, Ba. Smooth-billed Anis, apparently scarce on Guadeloupe, were observed at Dugommier and Goyave, Basse Terre July 30 (WPS *et al.*). A singing Chuck-will's-widow was heard at Lucaya, Grand Bahamas July 18 (HLJ), suggesting it was on territory. As yet this species is not a confirmed breeder in the Bahamas, in spite of annual spring concerts. Red-bellied (West Indian) Woodpeckers are experiencing a decline in their n. Bahama distribution. White recorded them in July in some numbers in Abaco, which he suggests is their last stronghold in the Bahamas. Three previously common species (Bahama Woodstar, Loggerhead Kingbird, and Brown-headed Nuthatch) were not located by Jones from July 17-19 at John Emlen's sites (*Land bird communities of Grand Bahama Island: the structure and dynamics of an avifauna* [1977]). Sykes, however, did find a pair of Brown-headed Nuthatches near Lucaya in May 1993 (AB 47: 457). The distinct Lesser Antillean Pewee, currently synonymous with the Puerto Rican form, was observed near Domaine Duclos, Basse Terre, Gu July 28 (WPS *et al.*). More details on the taxonomy of this species are expected elsewhere. Stay tuned.

An early Louisiana Waterthrush was noted July 17 at Grand Bahama (HLJ). Six Bahama Yellowthroats (Endemic) were noted at Grand Bahama July 15 in Lucaya 2nd-growth pine forest (HLJ), and a resident pair of Bahama Yellowthroats was noted at Staniard Cr., N. Andros July 13-30 (MEB). An Am. Redstart seen at Staniard Cr., July 27 (MEB) was very early (Aug. 3; Brudenell-Bruce, 1975). Shiny Cowbirds, including two males and three juveniles or females, were seen several times July 13-30 at Staniard Cr. (MEB), suggesting that breeding (and host selection) is threatening the Bahamian avifauna.

#### Corrigenda

The entry on Collared Plover in *NASFN* 48:253 should read "Collared Plover... at Arch Pond, St. Lucie (Barbados)," not St. Lucia.

Contributors: David F. Abbott, Michael E.

Baltz, Wendy Hale, H. Lee Jones, Herbert W. Kale II, William S. & Betty Robertson, P. William & Susan A. Smith, Sandy Sprunt IV, Carolyn Wardle, Anthony W. White.

—Robert L. Norton, 3408 NW 27th Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32605.

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