

and Pea I., Nov. 11–12 (v.o.). An imm. ♂ Yellow-headed Blackbird at the O.S.F., Aug. 28 (CE *et al.*) provided a first local record. Winter finches were nonexistent in the Region and the four Purples at Bodie I., Nov. 22 (CHG) were the only finches reported at all!

Corrigenda

The following records from the Winter Season report (AFN48:198) need to be deleted: The North Carolina Com. Murre (in the SA) due to lack of sufficient details; the Wilmington Black-chinned Hummingbird and Vaux's Swift in Columbia were not accepted by the respective Bird Records Committees.

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Florida Region

NOEL WAMER AND BILL PRANTY

Rainfall amounts in the Region this fall continued the above-normal pattern of the spring and summer seasons. As a result waders were dispersed and few reports of concentrations were received. While the Region was never threatened by a hurricane force storm, two tropical storms made landfall. Both of these storms brought flooding rains, but their apparent effects on birdlife were much different. *Beryl* came ashore August 15–16 in the panhandle just to the west of the Region, resulting in strong on-shore winds along the northern Gulf coast. A variety of storm-driven pelagic species were reported. *Gilbert* made a northeasterly passage across the southern and central peninsula November 14–15. The only report of storm waifs following it were Magnificent Frigatebirds a few miles inland. Major migration fallouts were noted in the coastal areas of *Franklin* and *Pinellas* counties September 19–20 and another good fallout was noted in *Pinellas* following a frontal passage October 1. Observers in *Pinellas* and *Duval* counties both noted greater than normal numbers of Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers and their hybrids. However, both of these observers and the Dog Island banding operation in *Franklin* County reported that Yellow-billed Cuckoos were very scarce. By the end of the period there was virtually no indication of invasion by northern species, and the normally common American Goldfinch was hard to find even in the northernmost parts of the Region. However, this season did have some notable vagrants, the best of which were Marbled Murrelet, White-collared Swift, La Sagra's Flycatcher, and Northern Wheatear. The murrelet was of the expected Siberian race, but the swift may be the first mainland record from the Greater Antillian populations.

Abbreviations: A.B.S. (*Archbold Biological Station, Highlands Co.*); A.P.A.F.R. (*Avon Park Air Force Range, Polk and Highlands Cos.*); Birch S.R.A. (*Hugh Taylor Birch S.R.A., Broward Co.*); Cape Florida (*Cape Florida-Bill Baggs S.R.A., Dade Co.*); C.N.S. (*Canaveral National Seashore, Volusia Co.*); C.P. (*County Park*); D.T.N.P. (*Dry Tortugas N.P.*); E.N.P. (*Everglades N.P.*); D.I. (*Dog I., Franklin Co.*); F.D.C.P. (*Ft. DeSoto County Park, Pinellas Co.*); F.O.S. (*Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee*); L.N.W.R. (*Loxahatchee N.W.R., Palm Beach Co.*); M.I.N.W.R. (*Merritt I. N.W.R., Brevard Co.*); P.P.M. (*Polk County Phosphate Mines*); S.M.N.W.R. (*St. Marks N.W.R., Wakulla Co.*); S.R.A. (*State Recreational Area*).

Loons to Waterfowl

The 587 Pied-billed Grebes at P.P.M., Nov. 6 provided the highest ever count for *Polk*; an Eared Grebe was there Nov. 13 (both PF). Another Eared was at a Tallahassee sewage pond Nov. 18–Dec. 12 (JC, GM). A Cory's Shearwater was seen on a pelagic trip off Cocoa Aug. 25 (LH *et al.*), another was seen from shore at C.N.S., Oct. 28, and three were seen there Nov. 15 (both HR). Other pelagics seen from C.N.S. were a Greater Shearwater Oct. 28, and two Manx Shearwaters (†F.O.S.) and a Leach's Storm-Petrel Nov. 15 (both HR). Following the passage of tropical storm *Beryl* Aug. 16, three Audubon's Shearwaters were seen off Alligator Pt., *Franklin* (DE, LM). Both Masked and Brown boobies were seen at D.T.N.P.,



Nov. 1–3 (WBR), where both are year-round residents. An impressive flock of 750 Am. White Pelicans passed D.I., Nov. 1 (DE, LM). This species is becoming a regular fall visitor to n.e. Florida—where it was previously a rare vagrant—as documented by 11 over Jacksonville Nov. 13 (RR), four at St. Augustine, *St. Johns*, Nov. 16 (MD), and 15 at Ft. George I., *Duval*, Nov. 28 (RC). Brown Pelicans nested in *Franklin* this summer for the first time since ca. 1860. At least 60 flightless young were at Lanark Reef Aug. 20 (NW, RW) and a few young remained in nests as late as Sept. 1 (RW). *Beryl* also brought a number of Magnificent Frigatebirds to the coast at S.M.N.W.R. and Alligator Pt., Aug. 16 (v.o.). The only storm waifs reported after tropical storm *Gilbert* were five frigatebirds Nov. 16 s. of Florida City, *Dade* (DBr). An early (perhaps summering) Am. Bittern was s.e. of Belle Glade, *Palm Beach*, Aug. 13 (MM) and the two over the ocean off C.N.S., Oct. 1 (HR) must have been an interesting sight. A Reddish Egret at West L. Park, *Broward*, Aug. 30 (JB) was in an unusual location. The highest number of Glossy Ibis reported was 330 at P.P.M., Nov. 11 (PF). Inland reports of Roseate Spoonbills were 60 s.e. of Belle Glade Aug. 13 (GH) and 28 at L.N.W.R., Sept. 22 (FB, WT). The only reported concentration of Wood Storks was 1000 s.e. of Belle Glade Aug. 13 (GH). Greater Flamingos appeared in Snake Bight, E.N.P., this season, where 19–22 were reported Nov. 22+ (L. Manfredi, PWS, v.o.).

↘ A noteworthy 2200 Fulvous Whistling-Ducks were found s.e. of Belle Glade Aug. 27 (BH, MG). Blue-morph Snow Geese reached the Atlantic coast, where four were in s.w. *Brevard* Oct. 6 (KV, DM) and eight passed offshore of C.N.S., Oct. 28 (HR). The six blue-morph Snows over Winter Park, *Orange*, Nov. 8 (HR) were a local rarity, as was another inland at Myakka River S.P., *Manatee*, Nov. 19 (BP, MM, AF *et al.*). Three Mallards were at M.I.N.W.R. on the very early date of Sept. 30 (HR). High water levels resulted in good numbers of Blue-winged Teal in inland areas of s.e. Florida. There were 2000 s.e. of Belle Glade Aug. 27 (BH, MG) and >200 in e. *Broward* Oct. 30 (JB). Another notable concentration of Blue-wingeds was 1000 at P.P.M., Nov. 13 (PF), but this is half of the all-time high from that location. A ♂ Cinnamon Teal was at S.M.N.W.R., Nov. 5+ (TJ, v.o.). *Beryl* also produced the earliest ever state report of Am. Wigeon: a flock of 20 in e. *Leon* Aug. 16 (DE, LM). An imm. ♂ Ring-necked Duck Nov. 2 (WBR) was about the 5th report from D.T.N.P. The ♀ Harlequin Duck that frequented the jetty at Ft. Clinch S.P., *Nassau*, Nov. 7+ (BPr, m.ob.) was a very rare report, as well as being very elusive at times.

Another Harlequin, also a female, was at S.M.N.W.R., Nov. 19 (NW). Higher than usual numbers of Black Scoters were reported along the Atlantic coast: 17 off C.N.S., Oct. 28 (HR), >85 off Juno Beach, *Palm Beach*, Nov. 19 (HL, RB, JBm), and 180 (in 3 north-bound flocks) passed the jetty at Ft. Clinch S.P., Nov. 24 (NW, TW). The only other scoter reported was a Surf at Redington Beach, *Pinellas*, Nov. 26 (KN). A Bufflehead among the 735 Ruddy Ducks on L. Ariana, *Polk*, Nov. 28 (PF) was a local rarity.

Raptors to Alcids

Migration of Turkey Vultures is seldom reported in the Region, so the 800 passing A.B.S., Nov. 18 (GW, MGa) were noteworthy. An Am. Swallow-tailed Kite at S.M.N.W.R., Oct. 23 (TE) was the latest ever for n. Florida and another was very late at L.N.W.R., Nov. 21 (CN). Four White-tailed Kites were present in the species' "stronghold" in the e. Everglades, *Dade*, throughout the period (PWS, SS); the only other report was one 12 mi n.w. of Arcadia, *Manatee*, Nov. 11 (JF). A Mississippi Kite in s. Jacksonville Aug. 23–30 (PP) was outside this species' normal range, and one in coastal *Franklin* Nov. 1 (JC) was very late. The 48 Ospreys Oct. 10 (WH *et al.*) provided the highest count for the annual Boot Key, *Monroe*, hawk watch. An imm. Bald Eagle Oct. 3 (JB, WG) was the first report for Birch S.R.A. Early arriving N. Harriers were at A.P.A.F.R., Aug. 10 (DL, LR, AF) and Zellwood, *Orange*, Aug. 20 (RS, PB). The five imm. Cooper's Hawks at a sewage sprayfield in Tallahassee Aug. 12 (GM) were surely a sign of local breeding success. Among the 5 reports of Short-tailed Hawks from the peninsula, one at L.N.W.R., Aug. 25 (WT) and another at Winter Park Nov. 13 (HR) were distant from known nesting areas. A Swainson's Hawk Oct. 27 (FB) was an unusual report from L.N.W.R. An early Peregrine Falcon was at St. Petersburg Aug. 22 (LH) and the 119 counted at Boot Key Oct. 10 (WH *et al.*), while less than last fall's count, was still remarkable. Rarely reported in the fall, a Black Rail was flushed at St. George I., Nov. 1 (JC). Two Virginia Rails in *Highlands* Sept. 1 were both early and locally rare (BK, MK). Another local rarity was a Purple Gallinule at Lettuce Lake C.P., *Hillsborough*, Oct. 22–26 (SB, RWe). The high count of Am. Coots reported was 22,000 at the P.P.M., Nov. 26 (PF). A Limpkin found wandering through scrub at A.B.S., Sept. 16 (KT, BP) was a first for that location. Two Whooping Cranes wandered 45 mi n. of their release site to Zellwood Aug. 1–13 (SB, LH, JH).

The only reports of Am. Golden-Plovers were two at Zellwood Aug. 3 (PF), one at St.

George I., Oct. 11 (JC), and nine flying over Winter Park Nov. 13 (HR). The 13 Semipalmated Plovers at P.P.M., Sept. 11 (PF) were a high inland count. The 22 Piping Plovers at Lanark Reef Aug. 20 (RW, NW) was the only report other than of single birds. Impressive counts of Black-necked Stilts were >500 s.e. of Belle Glade Aug. 13 (GH *et al.*) and 50 at Snake Bight, E.N.P., on the late Nov. 26 date (PWS *et al.*). As many as 10 Am Avocets in n. Jacksonville Aug. 25+ (RC) and five at Shell Key, *Pinellas*, Sept. 17 (PB) were in areas where the species is rarely reported. An impressive 504 avocets were counted at the P.P.M., Nov. 26 (PF). A notable count of 25 Solitary Sandpipers in one flock was made in e. *Leon* Aug. 14 (DE, LM) in the wake of tropical storm *Beryl*. The only inland report of Willet was one at Zellwood Aug. 3 (PF). Three reports of Upland Sandpiper were received: one Aug. 1 (SB) and two Aug. 20 (RS, PB), both at Zellwood, and a remarkable seven in n. Jacksonville Aug. 31 (RC), where it is very rare. The 145 Marbled Godwits Nov. 1 were a high count for *Hillsborough* (MW). Four Red Knots were away from the ocean at West L. Park Sept. 1 (JB) and an impressive 4000 were at Shell Key Sept. 22 (PB). A knot s. of Hobe Sound, *Martin*, Nov. 24 (BH) was considered a real surprise. The 13,000 Semipalmated Sept. 11 and 6000 Least sandpipers Nov. 11 at P.P.M. (both PF) were impressive numbers. The former may be the highest ever Regional count. Single White-rumped Sandpipers were reported at 3 locations: Aug. 20 Lanark Reef (NW, RW), Aug. 28–Sept. 1 n. Jacksonville (RC), and Sept. 11 M.I.N.W.R. (HR). The only Baird's Sandpiper reported was at a Tallahassee sewage pond Sept. 5–12 (TM, GM). Purple Sandpipers were easily seen at the Ft. Clinch S.P. jetty Nov. 9+ (PP, m.ob.).

The Curlew Sandpiper at M.I.N.W.R., Oct. 15 (F.O.S., HR) was the highlight among the season's shorebirds. Buff-breasted Sandpipers are always noteworthy; this season's reports included three at 2 locations in n. Jacksonville Aug. 27–31 (RC), eight s.e. of Belle Glade Sept. 5 (WG, BH), two at F.D.-C.P., Sept. 5—one of which lingered to Oct 3 (MW, LA *et al.*), and one at M.I.N.W.R., Sept. 18 (HR). The only report of Long-billed Dowitcher was 225 at P.P.M., Nov. 11 (PF). Five Wilson's Phalaropes were at their usual Zellwood haunts Aug. 1 (SB) and two were s.e. of Belle Glade Aug. 13 (MM, BP, GH *et al.*). More unusual were four at n. Jacksonville Aug. 24–Sept. 1 (RC) and one in Sarasota Nov. 9 (AR). Six Red-necked Phalaropes were seen on the Aug. 25 pelagic trip off Cocoa (LH *et al.*).

↘ Sea watches at C.N.S. produced peak jaeger counts Nov. 15 when 1632 Pomarines and 38 Parasitics (HR) were counted

Strong E winds Oct. 20 brought 150 unidentified jaegers within view from shore at Sebastian S.R.A. (IW). On Oct. 29 a flock of five Long-tailed Jaegers was seen flying S offshore from Guana River S.P., *St. Johns* (†F.O.S., NW). The South Polar Skua seen from C.N.S., Oct. 28 (†F.O.S., HR) is about the 11th report for the Region. An ad. Franklin's Gull at Honeymoon Island S.R.A., Oct. 29 (DG) was the only report of this species. A very early ad. Lesser Black-backed Gull was at Wards Bank, *Duval*, Sept. 9 (PP). Another early report was one at the Sunshine Skyway Causeway, *Pinellas*, Oct. 4–5 (LA). The 18 adults at Wards Bank Oct. 3 (RC) must have represented a peak of migratory movement, as far fewer were seen there later during the season (*vide* PP). A Great Black-backed Gull was a local rarity at Shell Key Oct. 2 (PB). Other highlights of the C.N.S. sea watches were single Black-legged Kittiwakes Oct. 28 and Nov. 14, and an ad. Sabine's Gull Oct. 28 (all HR, last †F.O.S.). Impressive inland tern counts were 414 Caspians and 67 Sandwiches at P.P.M., Sept. 11 (PF), and 1100 Blacks s.e. of Belle Glade Aug. 27 (BH, MG). In the wake of tropical storm *Beryl* Aug. 16, seven Bridled and 37 Sooty terns were ashore and off St. Marks Light (NW, JC), as were two Bridleds and five Sooties at Alligator Pt. (DE, LM). The passage of a tropical depression brought one Bridled to St. Marks Light (RCr) Oct. 2. Black Skimmers had excellent breeding success in the Tampa Bay area, as evidenced by counts of 690 at Shell Key Aug. 6 (PB) and 750 in s. *Hillsborough* Nov. 9 (MW). A Siberian race *Marbled Murrelet* captured off St. Petersburg Nov. 28 succumbed Nov. 30 (*vide* RS, *U.F.); it was the 4th Florida record, all since 1987.

Doves to Vireos

An imm. White-crowned Pigeon wandered N of its normal range to Birch S.R.A., Sept. 25 (WG). Vagrant White-winged Doves from the west wandered to D.I., Oct. 22 (DE, LM); St. George I., where six were seen Oct. 23 (EW, JS) and one remained Oct. 28 (NW, JD); and S.M.N.W.R., Nov. 25–27 (RK, JBr, DB, ASm). A Key West Quail-Dove was found at Big Pine Key, *Monroe*, Oct. 15 (KE) and lingered until at least Oct. 18 (v.o.). The only reports of Black-billed Cuckoo were singles from F.D.C.P., Oct. 3 (LA) and D.I., Oct. 25 (DE, LM). The Mangrove Cuckoo at F.D.C.P., Sept. 20 (BC, LC, PF) was a surprising rarity. The season's only report of Groove-billed Ani was one at D.I., Oct. 16–21 (DE, LM). The only report of Short-eared Owl was one at D.T.N.P., Nov. 1–3 (WBR). The 236 Com. Nighthawks over Winter Park Sept. 3 (HR) preceding a front was the only concentration

reported. A late nighthawk at Hidden Lake, E.N.P., Nov. 26 was thought to be a Lesser (†F.O.S., PWS, SS, DE, LM), but could not be relocated for further study. A Lesser Nighthawk was reported at St. George I., Oct. 23 (EW, JS). An ad. **White-collared Swift** captured at Ft. Lauderdale Sept. 12, died Sept. 14 (*vide* WG, *U.F.). This was the 2nd for Florida and, if confirmed, would be the first mainland record of the Greater Antillean race. A strong frontal passage Oct. 11 brought a large flight of Chimney Swifts to Tallahassee (NW), where 300 passed in a 10 minute period and similar densities were observed over other parts of town. The number of swifts involved was certainly in the thousands. The Buff-bellied Hummingbird which has wintered in a Ft. Lauderdale yard since 1989 (although it was not observed winter 1993–1994) returned Nov. 16 (BCe, TC). An early arriving imm. *Selasphorus* visited a feeder at Alligator Pt., Sept. 4–9 (†F.O.S., JD, NW). Four others, two of which were thought to be imm. ♂ Rufous, were present near Homestead Oct. 8; two remained through the period (PWS, SS).

A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was calling at Spanish R. Park, *Palm Beach*, Sept. 22 (BH) and one was banded at Casey Key, *Sarasota*, Sept. 27 (AS). A calling Acadian at Spanish R. Park Oct. 10 (BH) was a very good find on the s.e. coast, but the calling Alder at F.D.C.P., Sept. 25 (†F.O.S., HR) was even better. The only report of Vermilion Flycatcher was from the traditional wintering site in S.M.N.W.R., where the first was noted Oct. 21 and three were present at the end of the period (v.o.). A *La Sagra's Flycatcher* at Tree Tops C.P., *Broward* (†F.O.S., JB, WG, m.ob.), first found Nov. 12 and remaining through the period, provided Florida's first inland report. Single W. Kingbirds near Fernandina Beach, *Nassau*, Sept. 19 (MDo), Guana River S.P., Oct. 16 (RS *et al.*), and w. *Polk* Nov. 22 (BB) were all in areas where it is seldom reported. Among the E. Kingbird concentrations reported, the most notable was 643 at Key Largo State Botanical Preserve, *Monroe*, Sept. 8 (PWS, SS), most moving N and counted in a 10-minute period. The most interesting of the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports were one inland in e. Tallahassee Oct. 27 (GM) and four at Cockroach Bay, *Hillsborough*, Oct. 29 (SB, DT). Migrating Blue Jays were especially noticeable in the Tampa Bay area, where 40 were seen flying in off the Gulf at F.D.C.P., Sept. 28 (MW). Boyd Hill Nature Park, *Pinellas* was "inundated" by them Oct. 1 (RS). A wandering Florida Scrub Jay visited a St. Petersburg feeder Sept. 3 (ASh, RS, MW), providing *Pinellas* with its first report since 1976. Four Brown-headed Nuthatches were at Brooker Cr. Preserve

Aug. 14 (RS, PT, CH) in *Pinellas*, where the species is now rare. A Brown Creeper at D.I., Nov. 2 (DE, LM) was the season's only report. The two Golden-crowned Kinglets at S.M.N.W.R. (NW) and one at St. George I (JD, NW), both Oct. 28, were the only reports of the species.

A **Northern Wheatear** at Cape Florida Oct. 19–23 (†F.O.S., EC, PWS, m.ob.) delighted many birders, as well as providing the 6th state report and probably the southernmost report in N. America. A Gray-cheeked Thrush of the race *bicknelli* was seen at M.I.N.W.R., Oct. 15 (†F.O.S., HR). Notable counts of Swainson's Thrush were 9–11 at Saddle Creek C.P., *Polk*, Sept. 29–Oct. 2 (PF, BC, LC), an amazing 100 along the Suwannee River, *Gilchrist*, Oct. 5 (JK), and 21 at F.D.C.P., Oct. 6 (MW, SB). A very late Swainson's was reported in n. *Wakulla* Nov. 22 (JE). Wood Thrush is an uncommon species in the c. and s. peninsula, so the following reports, all singles, are noteworthy: Winter Park Sept. 16 (HR); F.D.C.P., Sept. 28 (MW); and Birch S.R.A., Oct. 1 (JB, WG). A late Wood Thrush was banded at D.I., Nov. 3 (DE, LM). Two Thick-billed Vireos were seen at Key Largo State Botanical Preserve Sept. 8, one of which was seen again Sept. 13 (†F.O.S., PWS, SS, MWh *et al.*). A Warbling Vireo, very rare in the region, was at Honeymoon Island S.R.A., Oct. 23 (DG). Six reports of Philadelphia Vireos spanned the period Sept 29–Oct. 24 (v.o.).

Warblers to Finches

Notable among the many reports of Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers were eight Blue-wingeds at F.D.C.P., Sept. 19 (MW, LA) and five there Sept. 20 (BC, LC, PF, CA). A late, and possibly wintering, Blue-winged was at Snake Bight, E.N.P., Nov. 26 (PWS *et al.*). Remarkable were three "Lawrence's" at F.D.C.P., Oct. 3 (LA, MW, SB), while a hybrid not matching either of the "standard" phenotypes was at Alligator Pt., Sept. 2 (JD) and another "Lawrence's" was at St. George I., Sept. 23 (JC). The 19 Tennessee Warblers at F.D.C.P., Sept. 29 (MW) was a notably high count. An apparent hybrid warbler banded, measured, and photographed at D.I., Oct. 26 (DE, LM) was considered to possibly be a Tennessee-Cape May cross. The remarkable five Nashville Warblers at F.D.C.P., Sept. 20 (BC, LC, PF, CA) was the only report of multiple birds, and one in n. Jacksonville Nov. 11 (RR) and another in Cedar Key, *Levy*, Nov. 18 (DH) further documented this species' pattern of late occurrence. A late Black-throated Green Warbler in s. Jacksonville Nov. 17 (JCo) was in an area where the species has wintered in the past. A Yel-

low-rumped Warbler e. of Sebring, *Highlands*, Sept. 15 (MM, DL) was among the earliest fall reports ever for the Region. The 12 Blackburnian Warblers in a n. Tallahassee yard Sept. 15 (JC) and 18 at F.D.C.P., Sept. 29 (MW) are both counts worth noting. A Blackpoll Warbler, a rare vagrant to the n. Gulf coast, was banded at D.I., Oct. 12 (DE, LM), a first for that location. Among the 8 reports of Cerulean Warblers, the six at John Chestnut C.P., *Pinellas*, Aug. 20 (LB) was a remarkable count, and one banded at Casey Key Oct. 28 (AS) is the latest ever fall report for Florida. The only multiple-bird report of Swainson's Warbler was three in F.D.C.P., Sept. 19 (RS, LA). There was only one report this season of Louisiana Waterthrush from the heavily birded migrant traps in *Pinellas* (*vide* RS). An early Hooded Warbler was at John Chestnut C.P., Aug. 8 (LS, RS). The 4 reports of Wilson's Warbler, all singles, were in the period Sept. 5–23 (*v.o.*). There were 7 reports of Canada Warbler Sept. 5–Sept. 29, all singles except for three in F.D.C.P., Sept. 19 (MW *et al.*).

Late tanagers included a Summer at A.B.S., Nov. 22 (BP) and a Scarlet at Tallahassee Nov. 14 (DE, LM). An imm. Chipping Sparrow Sept. 10 (JB, WG) and a Sharp-tailed Sparrow Oct. 15 (WG, FJ, m.ob.) were both first records for the species at Birch S.R.A. Aside from one Clay-colored Sparrow at Jacksonville Beach Oct. 25 (JP), the only other reports were from S.M.N.W.R. and Alligator Pt., where the season total was six in the period Sept. 18–Nov. 7 (NW, JD *et al.*). Lark Sparrows are always notable; this season's reports included one at S.M.N.W.R., Aug. 25 (NW, JD), one at Alligator Pt., Sept. 4 (JD), two at Guana River S.P., Sept. 13 (FP)—one of which stayed until Sept. 15 (PP), one at Honeymoon Island S.R.A., Oct. 23 (DG), three in n. Jacksonville Nov. 10 (RC), and one at D.I., Nov. 12 (DE, LM). The Henslow's Sparrow found at Honeymoon Island S.R.A., Nov. 19 (LH, PB, B&B Wor-ton) was locally very rare. The only reports of Lincoln's Sparrow were one at Boot Key Oct. 10 (BP *et al.*) and another at D.I., Nov. 15 (DE, LM). The most interesting of the many White-crowned Sparrow reports was two immature at D.T.N.P., Nov. 2 (WBR). A very early Dark-eyed Junco at Guana River S.P., Oct. 13 (PP) was the only report of this species. A Snow Bunting found at Wards Bank Nov. 20 (RC) and sporadically through the end of the period was the first Regional report since 1986. A ♀ Brewer's Blackbird at S.M.N.W.R., Oct. 20–25 (JD, NW, JC) and one in Gainesville Nov. 12 (MMa) were the only reports for the species. Perhaps the most interesting of the Shiny Cowbird reports was an ad. male at

S.M.N.W.R., Oct. 25 (NW), an apparent migrant, as none had been seen there earlier in the period. The sightings of two imm. Bronzed Cowbirds at Alligator Pt., Aug. 4 and an immature at a feeder there Aug. 16 (both JD) raised the interesting and ominous question of their origin. Very unusual was an ad. ♂ Am. Goldfinch that visited a feeder in n. *Leon* Aug. 1 (F. Stoutamire).

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Ontario Region

RON RIDOUT

The fall of 1994 was essentially an extension of the summer season. Warm temperatures and clear skies persisted through the period, conditions conducive to an uneventful passage for most migrants. Not surprisingly, almost to a person observers remarked on the invisible migration as a result of the great weather, and few attributed the shortage of birds to any catastrophic decline.

In addition to the lack of passerines, other groups seen in reduced numbers included accipiters and shorebirds. Waterfowl were noticeably late in their appearance, but when they did arrive several species appeared in high numbers. Last winter's southward winter finch movement did not reoccur. By period's end only a few scattered sightings of some of the finches were reported.

Outstanding rarities included Ancient Murrelet, Atlantic Puffin, Band-tailed Pigeon, Vermilion Flycatcher, and Gray Kingbird. All rarities mentioned in this report are subject to the approval of the Ontario Bird Records Committee.

Abbreviations: Pelee (*Pt. Pelee N.P. and vicinity*); P.E.Pt. (*Prince Edward Pt.*); L.P.B.O. (*Long Pt. Bird Observatory*); T.C.B.O. (*Thunder Cape Bird Observatory, Thunder Bay*); Algonquin, Presqu'ile and Rondeau are P.P. Place names in *italics* refer to counties or regional municipalities.

Loons to Herons

An effort to monitor Red-throated Loons moving W on L. Ontario w. of St. Catharines resulted in 2 good one-day counts of 71 Nov 11 (PS) and 78 Nov. 12 (RK, PG). Increased observer awareness is resulting in more records of Pacific Loons in the province. Reports during the fall involved singles at Wahnapiatae Oct. 11 (CW); T.C.B.O., Oct. 12, and P.E.Pt., Nov. 12 (JE, RDW). A count of 100 Horned Grebes at P.E.Pt., Oct. 30 (K.F.N.) was the highest number reported, indicative of this species' continued decline in the province. In contrast, Red-necked Grebes appear to be doing well, with high counts of 102 at Gros Cap Sept. 17 (EC, SR) and at least 1300 undergoing pre-basic moult around Manitoulin Is. during the fall (BS). Eared Grebes were observed at Burlington Aug. 19 (RD) and Sept. 17 (KM) and Tavistock Sept. 15 (JMH).