

Florida



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For the second consecutive year a hurricane-induced fallout brought great numbers of birds to the Peninsula. *Gordon* moved north through the eastern Gulf of Mexico before coming ashore around Cedar Key, Florida, just before midnight 17 September. Fallouts were noted 16–18 September, including unprecedented counts of wood-warblers. Despite the hurricane season, Florida's water shortage continued; summer rains mentioned in the spring report were short-lived and ineffective at rejuvenating wetlands or aquifers. By early winter central Florida was the only area in the nation designated by NOAA to have an "exceptional" drought—one predicted to occur no more than twice a century. Several mega-rarities were reported this fall, most notably Florida's first Heermann's Gull. As noted recently in other regions, large numbers of observations posted without details to the Internet threaten to overwhelm and compro-

mise formally prepared reports published in this and other journals. Editors for *North American Birds* and *Florida Field Naturalist* are working on solutions to this problem.

Loons Through Waterfowl

A Common Loon flew over Devil's Garden, *Hendry*, 13 Nov (VM et al.). Four Eared Grebes were at L. Apopka, *Orange*, 13 Sep (HR), 2 were at *Polk* mines 15 Sep (PT, CG), and 2 others were at Springhill Rd. W.T.P., *Leon*, 28 Sep–6 Oct (GM, TC et al.). A pelagic trip off Port Canaveral 8 Nov found 10 Cory's Shearwaters and a Brown Booby (BP et al.); another booby was resting on St. Marks R., *Wakulla*, 24 Sep (BHe, DW). Largest counts of American White Pelicans were 608 at Newnans L., *Alachua*, 25 Nov (LD) and 356 at L. Hollingsworth, *Polk*, 27 Nov (TP). Brown Pelicans at less regular inland sites were singles at Newnans L. 19 Aug (JHi et al.) and Paynes Prairie State Preserve, *Alachua*, 24 Aug (PLf), 3 at L. Willis, *Orange*, 29 Oct (TP), and 4 at L. Istokpoga, *Highlands*, 19 Nov (MMc). A Great Cormorant, irregular in the Region, was at Titusville 25 Nov+ (CRa, KR et al.). Anhingas are rare in the Keys, so flocks of 27 and 11 over

Curry Hammock S.P. 27 Oct and 5 Nov, respectively, were notable (DLo et al.). *Gordon* pushed 13 Magnificent Frigatebirds to Bald Pt 17 Sep (JDo) and 14 inland to Winter Haven 17 Sep (PF, CG et al.).

Extralimital Great White Herons were in *Franklin* 16 Aug (JDo) and 18 Sep (EL), and at St. Augustine 18–21 Aug (DRe). Huge numbers of wading birds were tallied at Brown's Farm Rd., nw. *Palm Beach*, including 3000 Great Egrets, 915 Snowy Egrets, and 418 Roseate Spoonbills 16 Sep (JaH, CW; hurricane-related?) and 800 Wood Storks 27 Aug (DSi, BP, KR). Exotics were a "pink" ibis at Port Canaveral 18 Nov (F&RC) and 2 Sacred Ibises in *Palm Beach* 13 Aug (PM, vt.), the latter representing the first published report for Florida. In addition to the flock at Snake Bight, flamingos were reported from four sites. Birds at Cedar Key 25 Sep–3 Oct (DHe) and Pine I Sound, *Lee*, 26 Sep (JG, DM) were too distant to be identified specifically. The other reports, of 2 over Curry Hammock S.P. 18 Sep (*vide* CBo) and one at Boca Chica Key 16 Oct (DLo, CBo) were identified as Greater Flamingos. Given their timing and the track of *Gordon*, it seems likely that all four reports represented natural vagrants displaced by the hurricane.

Fledging Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks were found at Gainesville 26 Aug (BR), *Hamilton* phosphate mines 3 Oct (JK), and *Polk* mines 28 Oct (RP, ASc et al.). Fulvous Whistling-Ducks along the coast of *Brevard* and *Volusia* were presumably from the Bahamas or farther s.; flocks of 35 and 40 were over Port Canaveral 11 Nov (BP, DG, WB et al.) and 30 flew past Canaveral N.S. 26 Nov (JP). Three Greater White-fronted Geese, casual in the Peninsula, were at Viera, *Brevard*, 15–19 Nov (WG et al.). Three ad. and one juv Ruddy Shelducks along the Kissimmee R 14–15 Oct (LAl et al.) furnished the state's first breeding report. Rare waterfowl were 2 Wood Ducks and 30 Gadwalls at Curry Hammock S.P. 4 & 10 Nov, respectively (DLo et al.), an American Black Duck at L. Apopka 1 Nov+ (HR), and a Long-tailed Duck at Springhill Rd W.T.P. 17 Nov+ (DHa et al.). Over 1000 Blue-winged Teal streamed by St. Petersburg Beach 17 Sep (LS). Two White-winged Scoters at Playalinda Beach, *Brevard*, 18 Sep (JDr) furnished Florida's earliest fall date by three weeks.

Raptors Through Gulls

Out-of-range White-tailed Kites were at Weekiwachee Preserve, *Hernando*, 26 Oct (A&BH) and St. Marks N.W.R. 11 Nov (TC). Extralimital Snail Kites were at Ten Thousand I

SA For the second year staff of Hawkwatch International (HWI) conducted daily vulture and raptor counts at Curry Hammock S.P. 15 Sep–13 Nov (Table 1). These surveys showed that the Florida Keys are a major route for thousands of raptors, primarily *Accipiter* and falcons, and confirm similar findings from watches conducted nearby at Boot Key in previous years. Peregrine Falcon numbers totaled 1745 individuals, with a “net” count of 357 individuals 9 Oct.

Table 1. Results of daily vulture and raptor counts at Curry Hammock S.P. 15 Sep–13 Nov 2000.

Species	Gross	Net	High
Turkey Vulture	20,144	3720	3815
Black Vulture	3	1	2
Osprey	1202	984	171
Bald Eagle	20	14	3
Mississippi Kite	13	13	5
Snail Kite	4	4	1
Northern Harrier	562	492	61
Sharp-shinned Hawk	5626	3468	760
Cooper's Hawk	1038	640	114
Red-shouldered Hawk	60	10	8
Broad-winged Hawk	4230	1738	399
Swainson's Hawk	300	-8	103
Short-tailed Hawk	40	14	4
American Kestrel	3288	2770	651
Merlin	637	407	56
Peregrine Falcon	2043	1745	357
Totals	39,349	16,127	

Certain raptors are reluctant to cross large water bodies, so many birds moving through the Keys turn around and head northeast after passing the hawk-watch. To account for this behavior, two totals are listed for each species. "Gross" reflects all birds recorded, whereas "net" is the gross minus those individuals moving back northeast. This system is imperfect (note the negative net for Swainson's Hawk!) but necessary where migrants head in opposite directions. The "high" column represents the highest daily net count. Data were provided by Hawkwatch International (DLo et al.).

N.W.R., *Collier*, 16 Aug (TD) and L. Apopka 20 Aug (HR). A male Northern Harrier in *Pasco* 24 Aug (BP) was early. A flock of 39 Broad-winged Hawks (mostly imm.) at Sanibel I. 14–15 Oct (CE, WW et al.) was unusual. At least six Short-tailed Hawks were observed (v.o.), and single Krider's Hawks were reported in *Sarasota* 23 Nov (KA) and at L. Jackson 26 Nov (HH). An ad. Golden Eagle over *Hamilton* 16 Sep (JK) established Florida's earliest report, but probably was unrelated to *Gordon*. Meanwhile, a Merlin at Brown's Farm Rd. 9 Aug (FF) missed tying the state's earliest by one day. A Black Rail found injured in a yard in heavily urbanized *Pinellas* 17 Nov will live out its days at a rehabilitation center (*vide* JF). All 14 Purple Gallinules at L. Apopka 6 Aug had departed by 1 Oct (HR), but 4 others apparently were wintering at *Wakulla Springs S.P.* 25 Nov (GM). An unbanded Gray Crowned-Crane of unknown provenance was spending its second winter in *Alachua* (B&SW, RR).

Despite the lack of flooded fields at L. Apopka for the second fall, Robinson managed to find several notable shorebirds, including 77 Black-bellied Plovers 12 Nov, 26 American Avocets 1 Nov, 2 Baird's Sandpipers 6 Aug, one Red Knot 22 Oct, one White-rumped Sandpiper 10 Sep, ≤9 Dunlins 12 Oct+, 123 Stilt Sandpipers 18 Oct, single Buff-breasted Sandpipers 30 Aug and 24 Sep, and ≤465 Long-billed Dowitchers 1 Oct+. American Golden-Plover reports included 3 at *Viera* 8–11 Sep (DSi) and 4 at *Jacksonville* 9 Sep (RCl). Like last year, a Snowy Plover was wintering at *Jacksonville*, beginning 18 Oct (PLe et al.), while 52 Wilson's Plovers at *Ft. Myers Beach* 25 Nov (CE) was an impressive count. Concentrations of the endangered Piping Plover were 30 at *Ft. Myers Beach* 25 Nov (CE), 48 at *Big Marco Pass*, *Collier*, 25 Aug (TB), and 20 at *Talbot I. S.P.*, *Duval*, 20 Nov (PLe).

An American Oystercatcher at *Newnans L.* 18 Sep (AKr, RR et al.) provided only the 3rd inland report for Florida. High counts of Upland Sandpipers were 24 at *Homestead* 13

Aug (CM, LM et al.) and 40 at *Brown's Farm Rd.* 20 Aug (CE, WW). Presumably the same Hudsonian Godwit was seen there 27 Aug (KR et al., vt. BP) and 23 Sep (BHo, JoH), with another at *Newnans L.* 16 Sep (JHi, JuB). Only the 5th reported in Florida, a **Bar-tailed Godwit** was photographed at *Snake Bight, Everglades N.P.* 12 Nov (DLA). A Ruddy Turnstone banded by *Below* at *Big Marco Pass* 10 years ago was found there 16 Aug. Fifty-two White-rumped Sandpipers at *Jacksonville* 9 Sep (RCl) was a fine count. Inland shorebirds were ≤50 Dunlins at *Newnans L.* 5 Nov+ (LD, AKe et al.), 2 Red Knots at *Brown's Farm Rd.* 30 Sep (JaH, CW, BHo et al.), and a Sanderling at *L. Hollingsworth* 10 Oct (KR). Buff-breasted Sandpipers are usually seen in the Region in small numbers, so 18 at *Jacksonville* 9 Sep (RCl) were notable. At *Brown's Farm Rd.*, a Ruff was reported three times between 19 Aug and 16 Sep. On 27 Aug, a female with bright orange legs was seen (KR, BP, DSi et al.), but as details were not provided for the other observations, more than one individual may have been present. American Woodcocks were surprises at *L. Placid, Highlands*, 6 Aug (FL) and *Brooker Cr. Preserve, Pinellas*, 16 Sep (DG, EH).

Gordon pushed jaegers inshore, where 300 individuals—mostly Pomarine—were at *San*

Carlos Bay, Lee, 17 Sep (VM, CE et al.), and a juv. thought to be a Long-tailed Jaeger was found at *Charlotte Harbor* 18 Sep (JeB) “Routine” jaegers off the Atlantic coast were 2 Parasitics at *Sebastian Inlet* 23 Oct (DSi), 12 Pomarines and 2 Parasitics on a pelagic trip off

SA Glen Wilson, a deputy at *Ft. De Soto County Park*, noticed an all-dark gull on the beach 24 Oct. He photographed it and *Lyn Atherton* et al. identified it as a **Heermann's Gull**. The gull was refound 29 Oct and remained through the fall. By Dec it had acquired the red basal two-thirds to the bill and other characteristics of 2nd-winter plumage (EK). Depending upon how previous occurrences are counted, this bird furnished the 3rd, 4th, or 5th report e. of the Mississippi R. (*see* Bain 2000, *N. Am. Birds* 54:48), and a Florida first. For weeks birders internationally “e-bated” whether the Florida individual was the same Heermann's that spent 11 months at *Toronto, Ontario*, Nov 1999–Sep 2000. This unlikely scenario was dispelled when photographs of both birds were compared on *Atherton's* website and plumage differences were noted.

Port Canaveral 8 Nov (WB et al.), and 44, most or all Pomarine, at Canaveral N.S. 25 Nov (JP).

Simpson found juv. Franklin's Gulls at Port Canaveral 21 Oct and Sebastian Inlet 23 Oct, and juv. Sabine's Gulls off Playalinda Beach 22 Oct and on a pelagic trip out of Port Canaveral 8 Nov. The latter Sabine's enthralled dozens of birders as it fed on shrimp heads thrown to it (BP, ph., vt.). Other juv. Franklin's Gulls were at L. Apopka 22 Oct (HR), Honeymoon I. S R A 7 Nov (WY), Newnans L. 19 Nov (RR, AKe), and Alligator Pt. 25 Nov (BA, LA). Another Franklin's was spending its second winter at Redington Beach, *Pinellas*, (*vide* RS). *Gordon* pushed large numbers of terns to ne. *Duval* 16 Sep, including 500+ Royals, 140 Sandwiches, 395 Commons (and 3100 there two days later), 291 Forster's, a Bridled, and 406 Blacks (RCI). Elsewhere the hurricane brought 10 Bridled and 3 Sooty Terns and 8 Brown Noddies to San Carlos Bay 17 Sep (VM, CE et al.), and 2 Sandwich Terns to Newnans L. 18 Sep (JHi, RR et al.). Other tern reports were of 7 Royals and 249 Sandwiches at *Polk* mines 18 Aug (PF) and 750 Caspians there 19 Nov (PT, CG), 3000 Commons at Honeymoon I. 6–8 Oct (EK et al.), and a Least there 7 Nov (WY).

Doves Through Thrushes

White-winged Doves are becoming regular throughout the Peninsula, with 18 at L. Apopka 19 Sep (HR), 4 at South Venice, *Sarasota*, 14 Oct (CS), and one at Talbot I. 16 Nov (*vide* RCI). Single Black-billed Cuckoos were reported at L. Apopka 21 Sep (HR) and Ft. De Soto 12 Oct (LA et al.), and a Groove-billed Ani was photographed at St. Marks N.W.R. 23–27 Nov (DHa, TC et al.). A “phenomenal movement” of 1000 Common Nighthawks was noted at Sanibel I. 16 Sep as *Gordon* passed by (CE, VM et al.); one at Alligator Pt. 12 Nov (JDo) was late. A Lesser Nighthawk, apparently a scarce, regular winter resident in the s. Peninsula, was found at Cape Sable 23 Nov (CJG). Early-arriving Whip-poor-wills were in *Wakulla* 17 Aug (JE) and at Gainesville 22 Aug (JHi, CRe). Single late Chimney Swifts were identified 10 Nov at St. Joseph S. P., *Gulf*, and in *Franklin* (JDo, JM, BL).

Western hummingbird treats were a Buff-bellied at Cedar Key 23–24 Oct (DHe), a Black-chinned at Bald Pt. 2 Nov (JDo), and Rufous at Tallahassee 25 Nov (*vide* LT) and 26 Nov (F. Rutkovsky). *Selasphorus* were reported from Bald Pt. 12 Aug (JDo), Gainesville 26 Aug–late Sep (JuB), Cape Coral, *Lee*, (2 birds) 26–30 Sep (CE, ASa), Jacksonville 7 Oct (JCo), Dry Tortugas N.P. 16 Oct (CBo, DLo), and Lakes Park, Ft. Myers, 25 Oct–5 Nov (JeB, ASa et al.).

A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in *Brevard* 18 Sep (DSt) was early, whereas Hairy Woodpeckers were rarities at L. Apopka 12 & 25 Oct (HR) and Highlands Hammock S.P. 14 Oct (B&LC et al.).

Empidonax flycatchers were reported in good numbers and most were identified specifically from call notes. Eight Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, all singles, were noted between 7 & 20 Sep (v.o.). A Willow Flycatcher was heard at Bald Pt. 23 Sep (JDo), and 10 Least Flycatchers were found, beginning 3 Sep (v.o.). L. Apopka hosted 257 Eastern Phoebes 5 Nov (HR). Vermilion Flycatchers graced St. George I. S.P. 11 Oct (JCa), Ochlockonee R. S.P., *Wakulla*, 16 Oct (BL), Micanopy, *Alachua*, 31 Oct+ (PBu), Goodwyn W.M.A., *Brevard*, 31 Oct+ (DSi), and L. Jackson 24–26 Nov (JCa, D&SJ). Ash-throated Flycatchers, apparently regular in the Region in fall and winter, were found at St. Sebastian R. Buffer Preserve, *Indian River*, 31 Oct (DSi) and L. Jackson 25–26 Nov (JDo, JM, GM et al.). A Brown-crested Flycatcher was detected at Bald Pt. 18 Oct (JM, JDo). Florida's 2nd and 3rd **Sulphur-bellied Flycatchers** made appearances at A. D. Barnes Park, *Miami-Dade*, 14–15 Sep (RD et al.) and Ft. De Soto 28 Sep (MG et al.); both reportedly were photographed. A Tropical/Couch's Kingbird on the *Hillsborough/Pasco* line 21 Oct could not be refound (DB). Western Kingbirds were reported widely (v.o.), the largest count being of 9 in *Okeechobee* 13 Nov (VM et al.). A count of 50+ Gray Kingbirds at Bayport, *Hernando*, 13 Aug (CBI) was mind-boggling. Other Grays were inland at L. Apopka (2 birds) 16 Aug (HR), Saddle Cr. C.P., *Polk*, 18 Aug (PF), Duette Park, *Manatee*, 9 Sep (BP, DG, EH), Odessa, *Paseo*, 22 Oct (Kt, ph.) and Viera 5 Nov (CP).

About 30 Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were reported between Bald Pt. and Key West (v.o.) An adult **Fork-tailed Flycatcher**, the Region's 4th this year (!) was a three-day wonder at Viera 13–15 Aug (DSi et al., ph. CRa). Bell's Vireos, always notable, were at Spanish R. Park 18–27 Sep (BHo, JoH et al.), Birch S.P., *Broward*, 30 Sep (WG et al.), and St. George I. S.P. 26 Sep (JCa). A Blue-headed Vireo reported at O'Leno S.P., *Columbia*, 6 Aug (PBu) was record-early by over a month. A Warbling Vireo was at Cedar Key 23 Oct (DHe) and 8 Philadelphia Vireos were reported between 24 Sep and 10 Nov (v.o.). *Gordon* dropped 100 Red-eyed Vireos to Ft. De Soto 16 Sep (LA et al.) and 35 to Ft. Pierce S.R.A., *St. Lucie*, 18 Sep (JaB). Seasonal high counts of swallows were 300 Trees at Brown's Farm Rd. 6 Aug (DSi), 23 Banks at L. Apopka 21 Sep, and 701 Barns there 13 Aug (both HR). Ft. De Soto's first

Carolina Chickadee remained from the spring (LA et al.).

At L. Apopka, Robinson counted 674 House Wrens (astounding!) and 126 Marsh Wrens 5 Nov, and 108 Sedge Wrens 26 Nov, all were record or near-record Florida counts. Golden-crowned Kinglets were “abundant” in parts of the e. Panhandle (GM), and birds reached Honeymoon I. 4 Nov (WY) and Weekiwachee Preserve 17 Nov+ (A&BH). Early Ruby-crowned Kinglets were observed at Ft. George I. 16 Sep (RCI) and in n. *Brevard* 18 Sep (DSt). At L. Apopka, the count of 96 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers 5 Oct (HR) was nearly unheard of for fall. A Veery at Bald Pt. 29 Aug (JDo) was early, a Gray-cheeked Thrush at Gainesville 17–18 Nov (MMa) was late, and a **Bicknell's Thrush**—not on the official state list—was observed in direct comparison with other *Catharus* at Jacksonville 6 Oct (JCo). Three Sprague's Pipits were noted in *Jefferson* 11 Nov (RA).

Warblers Through Finches

Twenty-nine Blue-winged Warblers were reported 14 Aug–11 Oct (including 14 in *Alachua* 16 Sep!) and 12 Golden-wingeds were noted 4 Sep–8 Oct (v.o.). Brewster's Warblers were good finds at Bonner Park 16 Sep (KN) and Paynes Prairie 27 Sep (JS). Large counts of Tennessee Warblers were 50 at Ft. De Soto (LA) and 75 at Boyd Hill Nature Park, *Pinellas*, (ASm, RS), both 16 Sep. An amazing 30 Nashville Warblers were reported Regionwide, beginning 31 Aug, including 8 at Ft. De Soto 16 Sep (LS) that probably represents the all-time Florida high count. At L. Apopka, Robinson counted 55 Yellow Warblers 13 Aug, and 64 there 16 Aug. Meanwhile, the 91 that flew by Gulf Breeze (Central Southern Region) in about an hour 13 Aug (B&LD) established Florida's all-time high.

Large numbers of Chestnut-sided Warblers courtesy of *Gordon* were 12 at Ft. De Soto (LS) and 50 at Boyd Hill (ASm, RS), both 16 Sep. Similarly, there were 25 Black-throated Blue Warblers at Turkey Cr., *Brevard*, 17 Sep (B&SH), 27 Blackburnian Warblers at John Chestnut C.P., *Pinellas*, 16 Sep (DG, EH) and 100+ Blackburnians at Sanibel Lighthouse 16–17 Sep (CE, VM), the last total representing another record for Florida. Possibly related to the hurricane were 29 Prairie Warblers at L. Apopka 21 Sep (HR). Good counts of Blackpoll Warblers were 9 at Birch 30 Sep (WG et al.), 9 at Turkey Cr. (PF et al.), and 17 at Merritt I. N.W.R. 30 Sep (PF et al.). Cerulean Warblers had never before been so visible in the Region. An estimate of “dozens” at Dunedin Hammock Park 16 Sep (BAc, MP et

SA The Region experienced an unprecedented invasion of Wilson's Warblers this fall. At least 87 individuals were reported, beginning 7 Sep (v.o.). There were five reports from the Keys, seven each in *Alachua*, *Broward*, and *Pinellas*, and 20+ locations in the e. Panhandle. Each of five birders in Jacksonville had a Wilson's in their yard this fall (PP). Even more surprising were reports of multiple individuals, such as 9 at Boca Raton, *Palm Beach*, 22 Oct, 14 there 29 Oct, and 8 at Wellington, *Palm Beach*, 19 Nov (all BHo). Some observers wondered if birds from the w. U.S. could have been responsible for the invasion. The invasion of Wilson's Warblers into the Region continued into the winter months.

al.) is unprecedented. At least 45 other Ceruleans were reported 5 Aug–22 Sep (v.o.), including 6 at Sawgrass L. C.P., *Pinellas*, 13 Aug and 3 there 18 Aug (MW), 3 at Turkey Cr. 18–19 Sep (B&SH), and 3 at Spanish R. Park 18 Sep (BHo at al.).

A good count of American Redstarts was 27 at L. Apopka 21 Sep (HR). Ten Prothonotary Warblers were tallied at Saddle Cr. 3 Sep (PF) and 12 Worm-eating Warblers were at Bonner Park 16 Sep (KN). Nine reports of Swainson's Warbler were received, all singles, 13 Aug–27 Sep (v.o.). Thirty-three Ovenbirds were at Saddle Cr. 22 Sep (PF), with 22 at San Felasco, *Alachua* (JHi) and 15 at L. Apopka, both on 24 Sep (HR). Also at L. Apopka were 38 Northern Waterthrushes 21 Sep and 34 Louisianas there 16 Aug (HR), the latter furnishing Florida's all-time high. Regionwide, 33 Kentucky Warblers were reported, including one at O'Leno S.P., *Columbia*, 6 Aug (PBU) and 15 at Ft. De Soto 16 Sep (LAT et al.). A Mourning Warbler, rare in the Region, was at Spanish R. Park 13 Oct (BHo), and a **MacGillivray's Warbler** surprised Simpson at Key West 12 Oct. There were 110 Common Yellowthroats at L. Apopka 12 Nov (HR) and 25 Hooded Warblers at Ft. De Soto 16 Sep (LAT et al.).

Twelve Canada Warblers, all singles, were reported (v.o.); the earliest was at Bonner Park 15 Aug (JF) and the latest at Bald Pt. 9 Oct (JDo). Yellow-breasted Chats were at L. Apopka 2 Aug–3 Sep (HR), Matheson Hammock C.P., *Miami-Dade*, 2 Sep (MC et al.), Birch 15–17 Sep (WG, RM), St. George I. S.P. 18–26 Sep (JCa), and Everglades N.P. 28 Sep (JoB). Six Western Tanagers were reported, with singles at Matheson Hammock 2 Sep

(MC et al.), Miami Shores 5 Oct (DW, MEA), Jacksonville 7 Oct (JCo), Honeymoon I. 14 Oct (EK et al.), Walsingham Park, *Pinellas*, 19 Oct (LAT et al.), and Bonner Park 19–20 Oct (JF).

Clay-colored Sparrows were reported in above-average numbers, with 20 individuals beginning 7 Sep (v.o.). Lark Sparrows also were found in good numbers, with 8 reported Regionwide beginning 15 Sep (v.o.). As in past years, L. Apopka furnished the high count of Savannah Sparrows, with 257 on 29 Oct (HR). Single Le Conte's Sparrows were discovered at Ocklawaha, *Marion*, 23 Oct (ES), St. Marks N.W.R. 28 Oct (DHa), Bald Pt. 30 Oct (TC), and Hague Dairy, *Alachua*, 12 Nov (MMa). Based on banding data from one study, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows represented 96% of sharp-taileds occurring along the Gulf Coast. Nonetheless, singles of both species were reported at Tigertail Beach 11 Nov (PBi, JR, JoB et al.). Amazingly, neither species had been reported before in *Collier*. Even more surprising was the Seaside Sparrow at Marco I. 18 Nov (JoB, PBi et al.) that provided *Collier* with another first (apart from the Cape Sable subspecies). Another Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow was inland at L. Apopka 5 Nov (HR), and Ft. De Soto's first Seaside Sparrow, thought to be of the Scott's subspecies resident 80 km to the n., was found 25 Nov+ (ASm, RS, DG, EH et al.). Other sparrows at L. Apopka were 9 Songs and 3 Lincoln's 15 Nov, and 254 Swamps 12 Nov (HR). Other Lincoln's were singles at Weekiwachee Preserve 20 Oct (A&BH) and Spanish R. Park 21 Oct (BHo, JoH), and 6 at various *Alachua* sites beginning 27 Oct (MMa et al.). As usual, White-crowned Sparrows were widespread; most were singles or duos, but 15 were at Talbot I. 26 Nov+ (RCl).

Lapland Longspurs were at Ft. De Soto (DRo, LAT et al.) and Taylor Slough, Everglades N.P. (DC), both 14 Nov. L. Apopka provided good counts of 49 Indigo Buntings 9 Oct and 5 Painted Buntings 5 Oct (HR). Five Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported from four locales (v.o.), and a male Shiny Cowbird continued at L. Apopka (HR). A juv. male Bronzed Cowbird at Bald Pt. 21 Aug (JDo et al.) presumably dispersed from Louisiana or points w. Orchard Orioles, which quietly disappear in late summer, were detected at Ft. De Soto (2 birds) 13 Aug (BA, LAT), Everglades N.P. 19 Aug (DC), Lutz 3 Sep (DB), Birch 5 Sep (WG et al.), and A.D. Barnes Park 15 Sep (LM, DSi, JoB et al.). Single House Finches were notable at Melbourne 1 Aug (NS) and Alligator Pt. 22 Sep (JDo). Lastly, two Java Sparrows built a nest in a rain gutter at Cocoa Beach 1 Nov+ (CC).

Observers cited: Bruce Ackerman (BAc), Howard Adams, Mary Ellen Ahearn, Larry Albright (LAl), Ken Allen, Roger Atchison, Brooks Atherton (BA), Lyn Atherton (LAT), Ted Below, Brad Bergstrom, Wes Biggs, Paul Bithorn (PBi), Clay Black (CBl), Paul Blair (PBl), Chris Borg (CBo), Jeff Bouton (JeB), David Bowman, John Boyd (JoB), Jane Brooks (JaB), Judy Bryan (JuB), Patricia Burns (PBu), Jim Cavanagh (JCa), Craig Chamberlin, Ron Christen (RCh), Forrest & Ruth Clark, Roger Clark (RCl), Julie Cocke (JCo), Buck & Linda Cooper, Mort Cooper, Dick Cunningham, Tom Curtis, Lloyd Davis, Robin Diaz, Terry Doyle, Jack Dozier (JDo), Judy Dryja (JDr), Bob & Lucy Duncan, John Epler, Charlie Ewell, Paul Fellers, Judy Fisher, Frank Frazier, Murray Gardler, Chuck Geanangel, Wally George, Dave Goodwin, Jim Gray, C.J. Grimes, Erik Haney, Al & Bev Hansen, David Harder (DHa), Bob Henderson (BHe), Dale Henderson (DHe), Bill & Shirley Hills, John Hintermister (JHi), Jackie Holstein (JaH), Brian Hope (BHo), Joan Hope (JoH), Howard Horne, Dean & Sally Jue, Clay Kelsey, Adam Kent (AKe), Andy Kratter (AKr), Jerry Krummrich, Ed Kwater, David LaPuma (DLa), Pat Leary (PLe), Paul Lefebvre (PLf), Fred Lohrer, Eric Lovestrand, Derek Lovitch (DLo), Bill Lowrie, Russ MacGregor, Darryl Mahan, Mike Manetz (MMa), Christine Manfredi, Larry Manfredi, Vince McGrath, Mike McMillian (MMc), Gail Menk, Peter Merritt, John Murphy, Kris Nelson, Tom Palmer, Rich Paul, Mauri Peterson, Cheri Pierce, Peggy Powell, Bill Pranty, John Puschock, Cindy Radamaker (CRa), Kurt Radamaker, Diane Reed (DRe), Cathy Reno (CRe), Bryant Roberts, Harry Robinson, David Roemer (DRo), Jill Rosenfield, Rex Rowan, Arlyne Salcedo (ASa), Charles Sample, Earl Scales, Ann Schnapf (ASc), Nedra Sekera, David Simpson (DSi), John Skemp, Austin Smith (ASm), Ron Smith, Lee Snyder, Doug Stuckey (DSt), Larry Thompson, Pete Timmer, Chuck Weber, Brian & Sue Welkner, Donna Wells, Margie Wilkinson, Walt Winton, David Wright, and Wilf Yusek.

