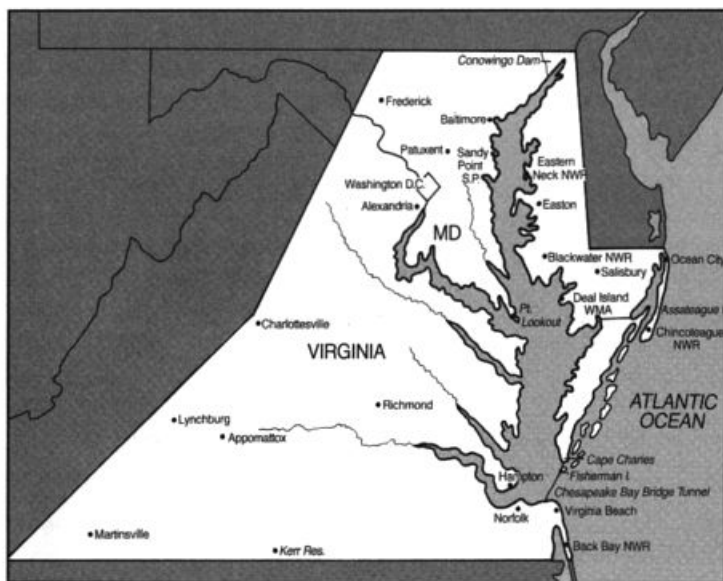


# Middle Atlantic Coast



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This spring seemed early again, with a number of arrivals noted on the early side across the board but very few birds exceeding previous record-early dates. Generally, the Region received near-average or below-average rainfall early in the spring, with drier conditions returning in the final week of the period; Virginia's Coastal Plain was still in "extreme drought" on the Palmer Drought Severity Index in early summer. Several notable May phenomena made for an interesting migration: an incursion of more westerly migrants into the Region in mid-May (starting about 10 May) and a small-scale fallout of waterbirds in the interior on 18 May. Rarities to watch for in the text below include the first Regional nesting attempt by Western Kingbird, Maryland's third Pacific Loon, Virginia's fifth White-faced Ibis, Maryland's first Eurasian Collared-Dove, a Painted Bunting, and by far the most exciting, a Bullock's Oriole in Virginia, the first well-documented Regional record. Thanks to Todd M.

Day for assistance in compiling the Virginia reports for this season.

**Abbreviations:** Assat. (Assateague Island, Worcester, MD); Bay (Chesapeake Bay); C.B.B.T. (Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, s. of Northampton, VA); Chinc. (Chincoteague N.W.R., Accomack, VA); D.C. (District of Columbia); Dulles Wetlands (Dulles Greenways Wetlands Mitigation Project, Loudoun, VA); E.S.V.N.W.R. (Eastern Shore of Virginia N.W.R., Northampton, VA); p. a. (pending acceptance by state records committee); Middle Bay (Chesapeake Bay, MD, from Virginia line to Bay Bridge); P.L.S.P. (Point Lookout S.P., Saint Mary's, MD); U.M.C.F. (University of Maryland Central Farm, Howard, MD). All locations can be assumed to be in Maryland except that each Virginia location is mentioned the *first time* it is mentioned in the text.

## LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

A 20 Mar Red-throated Loon was rare for Jug Bay, *Anne Arundel* (DBY). A first-summer Pacific Loon at Seneca Creek S.P. discovered by Powell 29 May+ (p. a. DP, ph., vt.; m. ob.) lingered with a few Common Loons well into

summer for the 3rd well-documented Maryland record and a first for *Montgomery*. Interestingly, last year's bird, seen 15-25 May 2001 at Ocean City, and the lone D.C. record, seen 25 May—11 Jun 1998, match this bird's late-spring appearance, long after the peak loon migration, which occurs primarily in Apr in our Region. Most of Virginia's half-dozen or so records have been from the (perhaps) more expected Nov—Jan period.

An Eared Grebe at Haines Pt. 15 Apr (PP, DCZ, v. o.) corresponded to normal timing for the species and was about the 5th for D.C. Another Eared Grebe was record-late at the Poplar I. Dredge Spoil Impoundments 22 May (MJI et al.) and also provided a first *Talbot* record. This was a poor spring for Red-necked Grebes, with the only reports being 3 at Bushwood Wharf, *Saint Mary's* 2 Mar (JLS) and one at North Beach, *Calvert* 19 Mar (JLS). The period's only Sooty Shearwaters reported were 5 just off Metompkin I., VA 29 May (ESB), during a period of easterly winds.

This was a very good spring for finding Northern Gannets in the Bay, and reports were widespread s. of the Bay Bridge during the typical peak of mid-Mar to mid-Apr. The 250 gannets counted 21 Mar (JLS) made an especially high count, possibly a record for the Maryland section of the Bay. Brown Pelicans remain prominent in the s. section of the Middle Bay, including regular sightings now in southern *Wicomico*. The 96, including 9 ads, counted at Bodkin I., *Queen Anne's* 24 May suggests possible nesting there (WE et al.). The reliable location for Anhinga in Virginia has always been Stumpy L. Golf Course in Virginia Beach, and reports there this spring began 8 Apr (DCI), with counts of up to 7 soaring there in view at one time 7 May (4 male, 3 female, DCI). A more recent discovery has been that small numbers of Anhingas probably also breed along some of the rivers in extreme s Virginia, in particular the Meherrin. Singles were seen at two locations in that area 27 May one at Taylor Millpond, *Greensville*, VA and one flying across the Blackwater R. from *Southampton* to *Isle of Wight* (CMS, TMD, MJI). Another was at Curles Neck Farm 27 Apr (CMS).

A Least Bittern at Airlie Res., *Fauquier* 8 May (TMD) was at a Piedmont location where summering (and presumed breeding) occurred last year for the first time. Rare for D.C., and especially so in spring, a Tricolored Heron seen at the mouth of the Ancoxia R. 18 May (RH, OJ, PP) may have been related a the small Common Tern fallout the same day—likewise for the Little Blue Heron at Dulles Wetlands, *Loudoun*, VA 18 May (JL), a rare

(and late) spring Piedmont appearance. A 2 Mar Cattle Egret on Kent I., *Queen Anne's* was record-early for Maryland (S. Crabtree), while one at Fulton 23 May was rare inland in *Howard* (HH). A Yellow-crowned Night-Heron in Lynchburg, VA 20 May (Rexanne Bruno) was locally rare. Probably the same individual as last year (and possibly earlier years), an ad. **White-faced Ibis** was well-documented again at Chinc., where it was first found 19 May (ph., †TMD, H. Merker). It lingered at least through 5 Jun (J. Hugus). If all reports are considered separately, Virginia now has five reports, all from that location. The 11 White Ibis at Back Bay N.W.R., VA 28 Apr (TMD, S. Heath) were probably northbound migrants.

Two Brant at Hooper's I., *Dorchester* 3 May (HTA) were the first seen there in early May since 1971—perhaps a sign of recovery of submerged aquatic grasses in the area, one might hope. Wintering Eurasian Wigeon remained through 11 Mar in *Fauquier*, VA 21 Mar (DCI), at Stumpy L. 23 Mar (K. Beatty), and 30 Mar in Upper Marlboro, *Prince George's* (Steve Sanford, Pete Webb). A female Eurasian Wigeon made an appearance at Maple Dell Farm, *Howard* 3 Mar (JLS, MH). Jetty ducks at the C.B.B.T. included a hen King Eider 13-15 Apr (ESB, v. o.), 2 Common Eiders 3-17 Mar (CB, v. o.), and a few Harlequin Ducks, including one that lingered late to 4 May (SE). Two Harlequin Ducks were at P.L.S.P. 22 Apr (PC), where they have been found annually with the good recent coverage it has received. A Surf Scoter at Violette's Lock, *Montgomery* 3 Apr (DCz) was unusual inland. David Gorsline has been closely monitoring breeding Wood Ducks at Huntley Meadows, *Fairfax*, VA and reports three Hooded Merganser clutches in the nest boxes there this year, with 22 of 39 eggs hatching. Another Hooded Merganser female with 5 ducklings seen in *Howard* 1 May (JS) may have been only the 4th breeding confirmation in the county.

## HAWKS THROUGH SKIMMERS

Ricciardi reports that Ft. Smallwood S.P., *Anne Arundel* had a good year, with 10,268 raptors led by the 2908 Sharp-shinned Hawks, both the highest totals in three years. One of the better flights occurred on 19 Apr, when 504 hawks included a record 14 species, highlighted by a Northern Goshawk and a state-early ad. Mississippi Kite, a record by nine days. The best single day, 23 Apr, had 335 Sharp-shinneds and 334 Broad-wingeds contributing to the total of 935 raptors.

Mississippi Kites continued their steady spring parade with 16+ reports this season.

The first Huntley Meadows returnee was noted 13 May (E. Aaron), and Ft. Smallwood tallied single ads. 15 & 17 May, in addition to the one mentioned above. One at P.L.S.P. 22 Apr (M. Cribb) would have been record-early bird for Maryland but for the earlier Ft. Smallwood bird. Southern *Northampton*, VA again collected Mississippi Kites in May, as Cape May has been doing for two decades, with at least 4 sighted 11 May through 2 Jun (CB). The paucity of prior reports of the species from the area was almost certainly due to the dearth of observers here in previous springs. Six in s. Virginia counties of *Greensville* (3), *Southampton* (2), and *Brunswick* (one) 27 May (CMS, TMD, MJI) illustrate that the species is an uncommon but fairly widespread probable breeder along the watercourses in extreme s. Virginia. A **Swallow-tailed Kite** was seen at Gloucester Pt., *Gloucester*, VA near the base of the York R. bridge 15 May, the only report of the season (†JW); the species is almost annual in the Region, with most records from spring.

Harry Armistead has conducted 70 spring bird counts now in s. *Dorchester* on the first and 2nd weekends of May. It is more than curious that a single female Cooper's Hawk seen on that count 3 May (HTA) was only the 2nd ever in his 70 starts. Are they that scarce as a breeder in this area, while they are found more routinely in other parts of the Maryland Eastern Shore? A Golden Eagle over Bel Air, *Harford* 4 Apr (EB) was an unusual spring record. Gregory Inskip keeps close tabs on the wintering Golden Eagles at Blackwater N.W.R., *Dorchester*, where this winter he found at least 5 individuals (*vide* HTA). A Merlin in

*Northampton* 21 May (CB) was quite late, possibly related to an even later sighting in the area in Jun.

One Sandhill Crane, a species now almost regular in spring in Virginia, was observed in *Hanover*, near Richmond 28 Apr, a typical date for northbound migrants in the East (JW, HW). A Common Moorhen 4 May was rare for *Harford* (JLS, EBo, EB, BM). Soras may have nested at U.M.C.F., as one to 2 were present 14 Apr—1 Jun (BO, v. o.). Representing a first for *Harford* and the 2nd earliest for Maryland (record date was one in *Howard* 15 Mar 1987), 4 American Avocets seen flying past Lapidum 30 Mar (MH, JLS) actually landed on the waters of the Susquehanna R. and remained several hours to await the arrival of other observers and allow photographic documentation (ph. MJI). A lone avocet at Hart 25 May (DBY) was the only report there this spring. A record count for *Worcester*, 11 Black-necked Stilts flew in for a brief investigation of the marshes at Truitt's Landing Rd. 25 May (P O'Brien). A Marbled Godwit at Truitt's Landing Rd. was unusual in spring for *Worcester* 27 Apr (L. Wiegant), and one at Hart 18 May was noteworthy as well (EJS et al.) Brennan kept close tabs on the wintering flock at Willis Wharf, *Accomack*, VA, which as usual numbered about 220 and dwindled to the last couple of birds by 15 May.

A Piping Plover at Hart 25 May (p.a. †MJI, EJS et al.) was about the 7th record there and 12th for the Maryland portion of the Bay. An American Golden-Plover was found among a Black-bellied Plover flock off Steele's Neck Rd., *Dorchester* 22 May (M. O'Brien et al.). An

**SA** An unusually strong cold front (for so late in the season) pressed through the Region on the night of 17-18 May, bringing with it rainy conditions and a 20-degree Fahrenheit drop in temperature and precipitating a small fallout on 18 May. Had more observers braved the rains and sought waterbirds on this day at inland locations, there would surely have been more interesting reports. The fallout was most evident in an unprecedented movement of Common Terns along the Potomac in D.C., where they are rare and not annual in spring. Some 40 Common Terns were counted passing up the Potomac R. from Haines Pt. over a period of a few hours 18 May (RH, OJ, PP). Two odd herons on that date in the D.C. area may have been related to this fallout as well. Just outside our Region, *Garrett*, MD, yielded a very rare Whimbrel 17 May (DCz) and a Little Blue Heron 19 May (MJI), as well as Common Tern in nearby *Allegany* 17 May (DCz) and Black Terns at several locations. Probably a Regional record-high count for any inland location, the 60 Short-billed Dowitchers at Dulles Wetlands 18 May (JL) were an obvious sign of fallout, as were 3 Dunlin at U.M.C.F. 19 May (BO, EH).

Temperatures after the passage of this front remained in the 40- to 50-degree range for about five days, and some areas in the Appalachians even got a dusting of snow. The presumed impact of this cold spell on insect life was most visible in the extremely low numbers of butterflies noted throughout the Region, which persisted through midsummer; the persistent drought no doubt also contributed to an overall reduction in insect abundance, especially in the Coastal Plain.

Upland Sandpiper 24 May at Walnut Tree Rd., Kent (JLS) would be very late for a migrant and raises the interesting question of whether this species could nest at undiscovered Eastern Shore locations; this species was recently found nesting at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. The only known Piedmont nesting area for Upland Sandpipers is Remington, Fauquier, VA, where Day noted copulating Uplands in May; this species used to be a widespread if not common breeder in Piedmont fields. The increased nest-finding effort with onset of the Maryland Atlas can take credit for the discovery of three Spotted Sandpiper nests this spring: singles with 4 eggs at Hart 18 (EJS et al.) & 25 May (MJI, EJS), and one with three eggs at Alpha Ridge Park 24 May (ph. R. Cullison), a first for Howard. Interestingly, although Spotted Sandpiper has long been known as a rare and local but regular breeder in the state, there have only been about 40 nests found, 35 of them prior to 1958. None were located during Maryland's last atlas project (1982-1987), and most previous nests were located in the 1940s, when R.W. Jackson, an eminent egg collector, made intensive efforts to locate nests of this species on his farm near Cambridge, Dorchester. An alternate-plumaged Curlew Sandpiper was very well described from Chinc. 25 May by a visiting birder from Germany (Balduin Fischer).

Notable shorebird observations included 19 Black-bellied Plovers at Havre de Grace 4 May (JLS, EB) and 87 in a Kent field 18 May (WE), a basic-plumaged Long-billed Dowitcher at Deal 20 Apr (JLS), 2022 Short-billed Dowitchers 25 Apr at Oyster, Northampton, VA (CB), 2 Stilt Sandpipers at the Lower Hooper's Island bridge, Dorchester 3 May (HTA), and 3300 Dunlin at Hart 18 May (EJS et al.). Eleven Sanderlings flying low over Kerr Res. 27 May (TMD, MJI) were a surprise inland. Noteworthy Whimbrels were in Northampton, an early single on 2 Apr (CB), and on Assat., 9 on 19 Apr (JLS), fairly early for Maryland. Two Whimbrel flocks totalling 121 over Rigby's Folly, Talbot 26 May (HTA) were evidence of their late May withdrawal from coastal staging areas, which is only occasionally intercepted by birders. Two Whimbrels and an American Oystercatcher were noteworthy shorebirds from a brief survey of the Poplar I. impoundments 24 May (WE). A Red-necked Phalarope at Chesapeake Farms 22 May (WE) was a rare find for Kent; one with a Wilson's Phalarope at Hart 25 May (EJS et al.) was at a more expected location.

Singles of both Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers were seen at the C.B.B.T. 28 Apr (B. A. Carl et al.). Far more unusual, a carefully studied Pomarine Jaeger at Kerr Res., Mecklenburg,

VA 27 May (†MJI, TMD)—a subad. bird—was probably only the 3rd Regional record away from the Tidewater. Two of the previous records are from Jul (Potomac R., Montgomery, and Beaverdam Res., Loudoun, VA) and one from Sep (Kerr Res. 6 Sep 1996). Virginia has only one other interior record, from Claytor L., 3-9 Oct 1975. Pomarine is the most likely jaeger to be detected inland, especially in late spring and mid-summer (cf. *N. A. B.* 55: 398-405).

Hart-Miller I. is always exceptional for lingering, odd, out-of-season gulls; nine species were reported there this spring, the highlights being 2 first-summer Iceland and one third-summer Thayer's Gull, along with a typical total of 7 Lesser Black-backed Gulls 18 May (EJS et al.) and a first-summer Little Gull 25 May (MJI, MH, JLS et al.). In s. Virginia, an ad. Iceland Gull was on the C.B.B.T. 17 Mar (CB), while a first-year Glaucous Gull was late at Oyster 18 May (CB). Still among a handful of county records, an ad. Little Gull was noted at Lapidum, Harford/Cecil 23 Mar (EB, BM). The standby Kelp Gull at Sandgates, Saint Mary's continued through the season. Laughing Gulls were formerly regular in Montgomery only at the now-defunct Laytonville Landfill (and before that, the Rockville Landfill) and then only in fall, so sightings this spring of singles on the Potomac R. at Seneca 29 Apr (TS) and Violette's Lock 9 May (DCz) were noteworthy. Fishing at this location for the 4th straight year, 2 Least Terns were noted at the pond at the Greenbelt Metro Station, Prince George's 5 May (J. L. Saba), though we still do not know if or where these birds are nesting. Two Black Skimmers at Rigby's Folly, Talbot 26 May (HTA) were unusual in that part of the Bay and #262 for this former Regional Editor's champion yard list.

### OWLS THROUGH KINGLETS

Maryland finally recorded its first Eurasian Collared-Dove this spring, with one that visited a Port Deposit, Cecil feeder mid-Apr+ (p. a., ph., †B. Willmann). All surrounding East Coast states had their first records 3-5 years ago, but Maryland has lagged behind; several recent reports proved to refer to Ringed Turtle-Doves, although one such report unfortunately made it into print in this column as a Eurasian (*N. A. B.* 53: 41) and beyond (Romagosa, C.W. and T. McEaney. 1999. Eurasian Collared-Dove in North America and the Caribbean. *N. A. B.* 53: 348-353). Photos of this year's bird, and a description of the call, fully confirm its identity. In Northampton, VA, a pair of Eurasian Collared-Doves continued at Rte. 600 and Magotha Rd. through the season

(where first found about a year ago), and on 7 May one was seen carrying nesting material (SE). On 1 Jun, a recently fledged bird was observed with the ads., for a first state nesting record (B. Taber). Virginia has records from just two additional locations thus far, nearby Cape Charles and the more distant Sterling. Thus, one seen 30 May in a Chesapeake, VA backyard would constitute a 4th state record (K. Kearney). The collared-dove advance along the East Coast remains remarkably slow, especially when compared to the way in which it has stormed through the Midwest and along the Gulf Coast.

The details of a 3 Apr Snowy Owl sighting from Chinc. were not submitted (C. Swarth), but such a late date would not be a surprise, given the recent winter invasion that reached as far s. as Texas. Three Chuck-will's-widows in Elk Neck State Forest 5 May (JLS, EBo) probably represented a county high count for Cecil, where they are rare. An apparently lone Monk Parakeet built a nest a Red Clay Rd., Laurel, Anne Arundel, first noted at the beginning of Apr (*fide* ph. NS, v. o.). This species should be watched closely in the Region; some states have admitted it to the state list based on persistent and widespread nestings over several decades though whether such populations are truly established by A.B.A. standards is open to

**SA** Although they are almost annual in fall, Western Kingbird is much rarer in spring, with only about eight previous spring records for Maryland. A Western Kingbird at Ft. McHenry was thus noteworthy 7 May (JP). This unusual sighting became ever more interesting, however, as the bird lingered through 21 Jun and was seen carrying nesting material and sharing time sitting on a nest with an Eastern Kingbird 27 May. Unfortunately, the nest was destroyed by Fish Crows 29 May (JP). A re-nesting attempt was observed that same day, but subsequent observations of the Western Kingbird did not suggest much involvement with the nest, so we will never know if the pair actually bred. While there are several known examples of Western Kingbird x Scissor-tailed Flycatcher pairings, I am aware of only one Eastern x Western Kingbird pairing, which occurred in Isabella, Michigan, in Jun 1988. One of the 3 young hatched survived and was raised in captivity (*A. B.* 42: 1292; T. Leukering, pers. comm.).

debate.

Alder Flycatchers are usually detected only a few times in migration, and less frequently in Virginia. Two Alders were singing at Warrenton, *Fauquier*, VA 10 May (C. Phillips), one there 17 May (TMD), and one in *Loudoun* 18 May (J. Drummond). Seemingly a better-than-average tally of Olive-sided Flycatchers was made this spring, especially throughout the Piedmont, where there were perhaps 8-12 reports, mostly clustered in mid-May.

White-eyed Vireos are always back earliest in s Virginia, where small numbers winter; one at E.S.V.N.W.R. 26 Mar (CB) was typical of a true return date. A Warbling Vireo feeding young at U.M.C.F. 13 May (BO, EH) was very early and provides an egg date far earlier than the Maryland record date of 24 May. Four Cliff Swallows at Schoolhouse Pond, *Prince George's* 26 Mar (JLS) were record early by a day. A Brown-headed Nuthatch at the Wildfowl Trust, *Queen Anne's* 2 May (JR et al.) shows that a small population persists here right at the n. limit of their range in Maryland. A singing Sedge Wren at Eastern Neck N.W.R., *Kent* 19 May (WE) was presumably a migrant but in an unusual location. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet at Crystal Spring Farm, Annapolis, *Anne Arundel* 21 May (JLS) was somewhat late. Single Bicknell's Thrushes were banded at E.S.V.N.W.R. 17 & 19 May (CB). Another Bicknell's was seen and heard among 6 Gray-cheekeds at Weyanoke Sanctuary, Norfolk, VA 19 May (TMD, ESB, Field Guides tour).

### WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

A Swainson's Warbler along Nassawango Cr. in *Wicomico* 20 Apr (JLS) was away from the species's primary area in the state but in an area in which they have occurred previously.

One at the Meherrin R. in extreme s. *Southampton* VA, 27 May (MJI, CMS, TMD) was in an area where they are essentially unknown. A Northern Parula in *Northampton* 3 Apr was very early, as was a 30 Mar Prairie Warbler there (CB). A Yellow-breasted Chat near Mockhorn I. W. M. A., *Northampton*, VA 11 Mar undoubtedly wintered locally (CB).

Observing migration in the Wise Point, *Northampton* area on the s. tip of the Delmarva Peninsula, Brennan noted the following about Ovenbirds: "Range of dates 8 Apr to end of May. As is typical for this species here, there was an early push in mid-Apr followed by a later movement in mid-May." If his observation is accurate, could he be detecting birds from two populations: the more southerly-breeding nominate race and more northerly-breeding *furvior*? We have obtained essentially no migration information on this and other cryptic subspecies in the Region since regular collecting stopped in the middle 20th century.

Summer Tanagers are quite rare in D.C., so one at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens 5 May (C. Tumer) was a surprise. A female **Painted Bunting** apparently visited a Havre de Grace feeder 1 Mar—8 Apr (ph., *fide* L. Eastman) providing a first for *Harford*, the 15th for Maryland, only the 2nd since 1995. A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak at an Ellicott City, *Howard* feeder tied the state arrival date of 8 Apr (*fide* BO), while an Indigo Bunting was also rather early in *Northampton*, VA 2 Apr (CB). Several Dickcissels were noted, including a flyover at E.S.V.N.W.R. 6 May (CB) and an odd one at U.M.C.F. 13 May (BO, EH).

One of the highlights of the season was an ad. male **Bullock's Oriole** that visited Phil Kenney's feeders in Vienna, *Fairfax*, VA from 16 Mar through 6 Apr (p.a. P. Kenny, m. ob.,

vt., ph.). *Bona fide* Bullock's appear to be extremely unusual in the East, and this was a first for Virginia and a 2nd for the Region. The Region and the East Coast have many reports of this species, most of which are either undocumented or have since been shown to be pale Baltimore Orioles (cf. N. A. B. 52: 183). How refreshing it is to finally have one so unequivocal. An ad. male Yellow-headed Blackbird in Charlottesville, VA 14 May was rare for the far w. Piedmont (Kathy Covington). A Pine Siskin lingering in Parsonsburg, *Wicomico* to 20 May (ELP) was fairly late for the Coastal Plain, and small flocks (up to 15) remained in Cape Charles town through at least 15 May (ESB). About 900 American Goldfinches were estimated passing Ft. Smallwood for the season (SRI). Six Red Crossbills were at Manassas Battlefield, *Prince William*, VA 31 Mar (G Koppel).

### Undocumented reports

One particularly interesting report that was not included involved Buff-breasted Sandpiper, which is so rare in the East in spring that I find it hard to include in the absence of incontrovertible evidence.

**Observers** (area compilers in boldface): Henry T. Armistead, **Debbie Bennett** (*Caroline*, P.O. Box 404, Denton, MD 21625), Eirik Blom (EB), Ed Boyd (EBo), Calvin Brennan, Edward S. Brinkley, Danny Bystrak (DBy), David Clark (DCI), **Patty Craig** (*Saint Mary's*, P.O. Box 84, Lexington Park, MD 20653), Dave Czaplak (DCz), Todd M. Day, Stephen Eccles, Walter Ellison, Kurt Gaskill, Gary Graves, Matt Hafner, Rob Hilton, Hans Holbrook, Emy Holdridge, Ottavio Janni, Jon Little, **Larry Lynch** (VA-BIRD internet group), Bonnie Ott, **Helen A. Patton** (*Montgomery*, 429 Hamilton Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20901 <helen@dataprompt.com>), Jim Peters, Paul Pisano, **Elizabeth Pitney** (*Wicomico*, 7218 Walston Switch Rd., Parsonsburg, MD 21849), Dave Powell, Jan Reese, Sue Ricciardi (SRI), Stephen C. Rottenborn, **Norm Saunders** (MDOsprey internet group), Lydia Schindler (Voice of the Naturalist), Eugene J. Scarpulla, **Jo Solem** (*Howard*, 10617 Graeoch Rd., Laurel, MD 20723), James L. Stasz, Tom Stock, C. Michael Stinson, **Paula Sullivan**, John S. Weske, Joyce Williams, Hayes Williams, **Les Willis** (Virginia Birdline).

**SA** A displacement toward the Eastern Seaboard of westerly migrants was detected 10-15 May, when winds blew largely from the west. Lincoln's Sparrows were the most obvious players in this movement, and the 20+ reports in mid-May were well above the average of a typical year. Three singing birds at E.S.V.N.W.R. on 10 May (ESB) were the first indication of a better-than-average passage, as the species is always more expected in the Piedmont and is especially unusual on the coast in spring. Numerous reports followed on 11 May from across the Region, and during the following week. Wilson's Warblers also seemed to be found in higher numbers during the period. An Orange-crowned Warbler was fairly well described from Seneca, *Montgomery* 16 May (TS) for one of Maryland's later records. Other species possibly involved in the movement included Olive-sided Flycatchers (above-average numbers, with a one on the barrier islands at Chinc. 10 May; GG) and perhaps Philadelphia Vireos. On the coast, in addition to Lincoln's Sparrows, small numbers of the locally uncommon White-crowned Sparrows turned up around 10 May, along with a vagrant **Lark Bunting** at Chinc. the same day (Allan Larner; GG), certainly the rarest of the weekend's westerly waifs. It was aged as a first-spring male and joins a small handful of Regional records, which are split between the spring and fall.

