

# Pictorial Highlights



This female Chuck-will's-widow at Ile Sainte-Marguerite (Boucherville) 10 May 2004 provided the second Québec record; the other record is also from the Montréal area. *Photograph by Pierre Bannon.*



At Lake Placid, Essex County, New York, a feeding station that held up to 400 Common Redpolls per day in February/March 2004 attracted up to 10 Hoary Redpolls as well. A very colorful male Common Redpoll was photographed there 18 March (bottom right); above it and to its left are adult Hoary Redpolls: a male 11 March and probably a female 19 March, respectively. But what about the pale bird (upper left) of 10 March? The plumage is rather close to that of Hoary, but the large bill indicates a Common. *Photographs by Larry Master.*



This photograph of an adult male Magnificent Hummingbird at Radford, Virginia 22–25 (here 23) October 2003 surfaced just recently—a first for the state and northernmost record for an East Coast state. *Photograph by John Pierce.*

An expected but nevertheless exhilarating North American first was this Black-bellied Storm-Petrel located in deep, cool water off Oregon Inlet, North Carolina 31 May 2004. *Photograph by Tom Lambertson.*



In recent Florida regional reports, phrases such as "Elegant-type tern" have surfaced, and such conservative phrases are warranted, especially in light of the hybridization of an Elegant Tern with a Sandwich Tern in Florida in 2002. This orange-billed tern was studied at Dry Tortugas N.P. 30 April (here)—4 May 2003. It resembles Elegant but lacks the rosy underparts typical of early-spring Elegant and has long legs, a short crest, and a husky, truncated appearance, unlike Elegant. The bird is finishing a complete wing molt (wrong for Elegant in April), leading some to suspect a hybrid tern. *Photograph by Larry Manfredi.*



Smooth-billed Ani, a declining species in Florida, is not often documented as a nester in recent years. This family group (adult with two of five young) was located in Fort Lauderdale Airport Greenbelt Park, Fort Lauderdale 1 May 2004 (here 4 May) by visiting birder Devich Farbotnick. ¡Viva *Crotophaga!* *Photograph by Larry R. Lynch.*





Hybridization is comparatively rare in waterbirds that nest colonially. This bird in high breeding plumage at Canonsburg Lake, Washington County, Pennsylvania 24 April 2004 has features of both Great Egret and Great Blue Heron. This distinctive bird was reported to have summered in the same area for at least three years. Photograph by Geoff Malosh.



Providing a second Pennsylvania record, this adult male Lazuli Bunting was enjoyed by many during its stay at a feeder in Oakland Mills, Juniata County (here 28 April 2004). Photograph by Geoff Malosh.



This male Mottled Duck, a first for the Illinois & Indiana region, was present on Lake Springfield, Illinois 21 (here) through 30 May 2004. Photograph by Travis Mahan.



A first Kentucky record, this Yellow-billed Loon was present on Kentucky Lake, Marshall County 13–30 (here 14) March 2004. This bird was the third Yellow-billed for the year in the Tennessee & Kentucky region—which had only two prior sight records of the species, both from Tennessee. Photograph by Roseanna Denton.



This Hudsonian Godwit, a species rarely observed in the eastern Central Southern region in spring, was found by Jeff Wilson 15 (here 16) April 2004 at Dauphin Island, Alabama. Digital photograph by Greg D. Jackson.



Louisiana's second Green Violet-ear was present 9–10 May 2004 near Lafayette, the site of the first state record in summer 1999. Chrys Vildibill, who discovered "a big blue hummingbird" at her feeder, called Dave Patton and Paul Conover to help confirm the record. Digital photograph by Dave Patton.





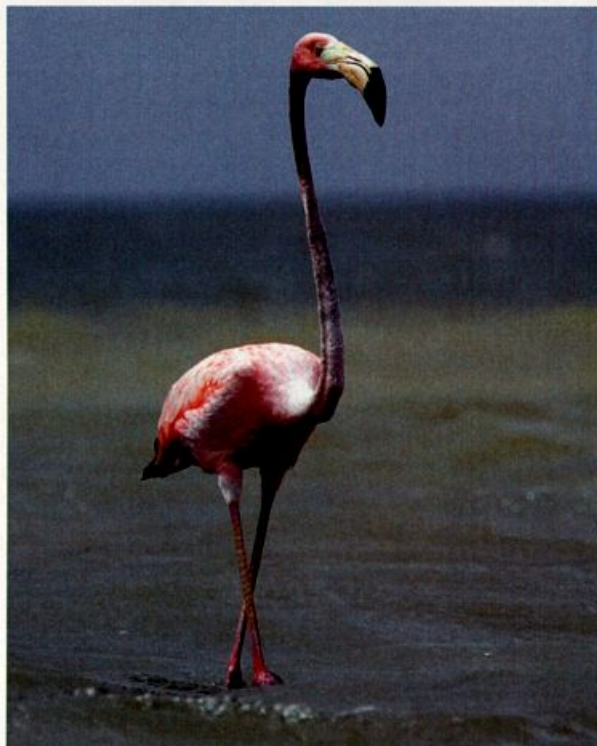
This Northwestern Crow at Tagish, Yukon Territory provided a first record for the territory 30 March 2004. Photograph by Cameron Eckert.



Possibly the same individual recorded for the fourth consecutive spring in North Dakota (and only the sixth for the state), this Yellow-throated Warbler was in Sheridan County 14 May 2004. Photograph by Steve Easley.



Idaho's first Broad-billed Hummingbird, an adult male, showed up in Caldwell on 15 (here 17) May 2004, where it remained for six days. The species is turning up out of range with increasing frequency, mostly in the West but also in the Gulf Coast states. Photograph by Stacy Peterson.



Over five hundred people, birders and curious area residents alike, visited the Texas City Dike to view the subadult Greater (Caribbean) Flamingo present from 20 through (here) 31 May 2004. The bird attracted much media attention, making local television newscasts and the front pages of the Houston and Galveston newspapers. Photograph by Daniel Tunstall (<[www.dmtphoto.com](http://www.dmtphoto.com)>).



This male Yellow Warbler of the *erithachorides* group (usually called "Mangrove Warbler") maintained a territory near the mouth of the Rio Grande at Boca Chica beach, Texas 18 April 2004 (here) and later. This bird provided the fourth record of this complex for the state and the United States—and the second from this small stand of Black Mangroves. Photograph by John Arvin.



Casual in central North Dakota, this Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was a first for Sheridan County 7 May 2004. Photograph by Steve Easley.





A species rarely seen on migration, this Flammulated Owl was discovered in a grove of Russian Olives at Chico Basin Ranch, Colorado on 8 May 2004. The only previous Colorado plains record comes from Longmont on 16 April 1959. *Photograph by Bill Schmoker.*



This male Flame-colored Tanager, first found 1 April 2004 (here 11 May), was part of a pair that successfully nested in Madera Canyon; most known pairings of this species in Arizona have involved Western Tanagers or hybrids between the two species. *Photograph Gary H. Rosenberg.*



This male Yellow Grosbeak at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum 17-21 May provided only a 15th Arizona record. *Photograph by Gary H. Rosenberg.*



This Golden-crowned Warbler, discovered by John Parmeter at the "Melrose Trap" in northern Roosevelt County 8 (here) through 10 May 2004, provided a first for New Mexico and for any site in the United States away from southern Texas. *Photograph by Jerry R. Oldenettel.*



This Rufous-capped Warbler was a one-day wonder at South Fork of Cave Creek Canyon, Arizona 2 April 2004. *Photograph by Robert Shantz.*



This Dickcissel, found by regional editor Blake Maybank behind the Juneau International Airport, Alaska 21 (here 23) May 2004, represented the first record for Alaska—and also likely the northernmost record of the species anywhere. *Photograph by D. MacPhail.*



This Red-throated Pipit in breeding plumage appeared with a duller-plumaged individual at Terry Wahl's farm at Cape Blanco, Curry County, Oregon 28 April 2004 and stayed until the 30th (here). These birds, along with another on Bainbridge Island, Washington in May, provided the first records of apparently northbound Red-throated Pipits in spring south of Alaska—and only the second record of the species for each state. *Photograph by Don Munson.*





A truly remarkable find, northern California's first Common Black-Hawk spent 24 February (here) until 12 March 2004 eating fish at Lake Lincoln in Stockton, San Joaquin County. This artificial lake in a housing subdivision was being drawn down, which attracted many piscivorous birds. The hawk was seen eating fish on the observer's boat dock, where it was photographed with a point-and-shoot camera. *Photograph by Vi Strain.*



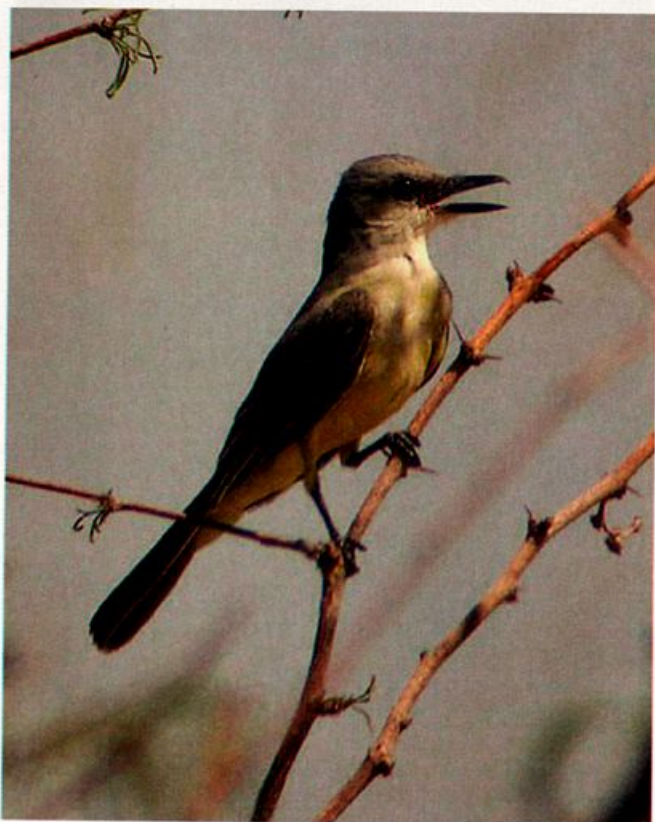
Panama's first Swainson's Warbler was mist-netted along Old Gamboa Road in the Canal area on 13 March 2004. This species normally winters no farther south in Central America than Belize and northern Guatemala. *Photograph by Meena Haribal.*



This adult male Bay-breasted Warbler, an uncommon spring transient over most of Mexico, was photographed at Paso Salinas, near Salinas, Veracruz 10 May 2004. *Photograph by Amy McAndrews.*



This Blue-gray Tanager was mist-netted at the Jardín Botánico in Oaxaca City 30 May 2004. The nearest population of this species is at San José del Chilar, 60 kilometers to the northwest of Oaxaca City. The provenance of this individual is debatable, given the heavy traffic in caged birds, but the city's lush gardens have been known to attract vagrant species more typical of the wet Atlantic slope. *Photograph by Manuel Grosselet.*



This Tropical Kingbird at Wister, near Niland, Imperial County, California (here 22 March 2004) was one of two that overwintered in the Southern Pacific Coast region this season. *Photograph by Bob Miller.*



As the critical differences between American and Pacific Golden-Plovers are sorted out, records of the latter are increasing out of range. A first for the Bahamas, this Pacific Golden-Plover was present at Tarpum Bay at Eleuthera Island 6 March–1 April 2004 (here 20 March). Note the long legs and minor projection of primary tips (two) past the tertials. *Photograph by Aileen Bainton.*