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Noteworthy Observations on the Distribution and Status of Florida Birds

Florida Field Naturalist

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at \$2.00 annually, and members are urged to notify students of this change. Contributions to the *FFN* are requested, and interesting observations on the distribution and status of Florida birds made after 1 June 1978 should be reported to John H. Hintermister, compiler of a new *FFN* feature. — *Barbara C. Kittleson, Secretary.*

NOTES AND NEWS

Noteworthy observations on the distribution and status of Florida birds. — Noteworthy field records made after 1 June 1978 should be sent to John H. Hintermister for a regular column in the *Florida Field Naturalist*. This column will include brief mention of interesting breeding records, of unusual counts or dates of occurrence, as well as of strays and rarities. Pertinent details would include accurate locality, inclusive dates, full name(s) of observer(s), observation conditions, and disposition of any tangible proof (i.e. skin, nest, photograph, tape recording, etc.). It should be emphasized that this column will NOT signal the end of acceptance by the *FFN* of manuscripts about significant observations. Instead, this column will be the place to record observations that might not warrant a general note in the *FFN* but that are still noteworthy. Thus, this column will expand the coverage of Florida's bird life by the *FFN*.

Although such a column might duplicate information published in *American Birds* and *The Florida Naturalist*, this column should become THE place to check for the full account of noteworthy field observations. The success of this new column depends in part on your participation; John cannot cover the state singlehandedly. It is expected that this column will grow and evolve to suit the needs of the FOS membership and reflect the quality of information submitted.

Send your records and any suggestions about format or organization to the compiler, *John H. Hintermister, Rt. 3, Box 38H, Gainesville, Florida 32601.*

Acknowledgement. — The following 23 people refereed manuscripts published in volume 6 of the *FFN*; W. W. Baker, G. T. Bancroft, R. L. Crawford, J. B. Edscorn, S. A. Grimes, W. Hoffman, J. A. Jackson, J. Johnson, D. W. Johnston, H. W. Kale II, L. Kilham, J. A. Kushlan, J. N. Layne, J. C. Ogden, O. T. Owre, W. B. Robertson, Jr., J. A. Rodgers, Jr., R. W. Schreiber, H. M. Stevenson, P. W. Sykes, Jr., L. A. Walkinshaw, J. H. Weise, and G. E. Woolfenden. It is a pleasure to acknowledge their assistance.

Resident White-winged Doves in Florida. — In the early 1960's, several White-winged Doves escaped from an aviculturist near Homestead when a hurricane crushed one of the pens holding the captive stock. Birders in south Florida have watched this population expand for about 15 years and now take White-winged Dove more or less for granted in the Homestead to Ft. Lauderdale area. This notice is to alert birders in the rest of the peninsula that they may begin to see White-winged Doves as a result of a small scale relocation program by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Small numbers of trapped white-wings from the Homestead population have been released at nine localities between Highlands County and northern Marion County to establish the species as a resident breeder in citrus groves, one of their favorite nesting habitats. Persons observing White-winged Doves in Florida north of the Ft. Lauderdale-Miami area are encouraged to report the sightings to the *Wildlife Research Laboratory, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, 4005 S Main Street, Gainesville, Florida 32601.*