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Winter Report: December 1994-february 1995

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FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Fla. Field Nat. 23(3): 77-86, 1995.

Winter Report: December 1994-February 1995.—The observations listed here are based on rare or unusual species or significant numbers of birds reported to the Florida Ornithological Society (FOS) Field Observations Committee. As these reports are not formally reviewed, they may be considered tentative.

Significant reports are welcomed for inclusion in future issues of this section. Reports should include the following information: species, number of individuals, age and sex of the bird(s), color morph if applicable, location (including county), date, observer(s), and significance of the report. Reporting periods are winter (December-February), spring (March-May), summer (June-July), and fall (August-November). Submit reports to regional compilers within 2 weeks after the close of each period, or to the state compiler within 1 month. Reports may be sent by FAX to the state compiler at (941) 699-1927.

Following the examples set by *Florida Bird Species: An Annotated List* (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992, FOS Spec. Publ. No. 6) and *The Birdlife of Florida* (Stevenson and Anderson 1994, Univ. Press of Florida), sight-only observations are considered "reports," while only those supported by verifiable evidence (photographs, video or audio tapes, or specimens) are called "records."

Anderson and Baker (*Fla. Field Nat.* 22:21-23, 1994) published the list of birds for which the FOS Records Committee (FOSRC) requires documentation. These species are marked in this report with an asterisk (*) to alert the observers of their need to supply the FOSRC with details of their sightings.

A county designation accompanies the first-time listing of each site in this report; further listings of the same site lack the county name. Abbreviations used are as follows: APAFR=Avon Park Air Force Range, ca.=circa, CBC=Christmas Bird Count, CP=county park, ENP=Everglades National Park, NWR=national wildlife refuge, R&W 1992=Robertson and Woolfenden 1992, S&A 1994=Stevenson and Anderson 1994, SP=state park, SRA=state recreation area, WMA=wildlife management area, and N, S, E, W, etc. for compass directions. Bold-faced species, if any, denote birds newly reported or verified in Florida.

The state compiler thanks Rick West, the winter editor of *National Audubon Society Field Notes*, and Bruce Anderson, the secretary of the FOSRC. Robertson and Woolfenden (1992) and Stevenson and Anderson (1994) were used to determine the regional and seasonal statuses of many species.

SUMMARY OF THE WINTER SEASON

American Robins, Cedar Waxwings, and American Goldfinches were scarce, absent, or very late in arriving this winter, presumably due to relatively mild temperatures, possibly coupled with adequate supplies of berries and other foods further north. In contrast, Black Scoters were widespread, and reported in numbers even into South Florida. As suggested by the Fall 1994 report, western-breeding hummingbirds were reported in good numbers this winter. One can't help but wonder if the increasing availability of hummingbird feeders is responsible for this change in hummingbird wintering patterns. At least 4 vagrant hummingbird species appeared in Florida this winter, including the state's second Anna's Hummingbird.

For apparently the first time ever, an Eastern Kingbird was documented to occur in the state (and country?) in the winter months, when 1 was found on the Lake Placid CBC and photographed the next day. However, other reported wintering species such as

White-rumped Sandpiper, Common Nighthawk, Blue-winged Warbler, and (especially!) Black-throated Green Warbler remain unverified. Perhaps at least the last-mentioned species will be photographed next winter?

Three native species—Eurasian Kestrel, Caribbean Martin, and Virginia's Warbler—were newly reported for Florida this season, but unfortunately, verifiable evidence is lacking for all 3. A new exotic was also added to Florida's avifauna when an Orange Bishop was photographed on the St. Marks CBC. Two other exotics, both presumed to represent birds that escaped from falconers, were documented this season: a Snowy Owl photographed at Port St. Joe and a Harris' Hawk videotaped near Fort Myers. Apparently, neither species had been documented in Florida previously.

Other rarities reported this winter include Yellow-nosed Albatross, Little Gull, Thayer's Gull, Lesser Nighthawk, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Ash-throated Flycatcher, La Sagra's Flycatcher, "Tropical" Kingbird, and Harris' Sparrow.

Lastly, some words about Christmas Bird Counts: "high numbers" reported on the (very few) CBCs submitted to the FOC are used only sparingly in this report. There are 100s of "high numbers" on the 50+ CBCs conducted annually in Florida, but most are of little or no significance statewide. Additionally, CBC compilers rarely (if ever) indicate the possible reasons for the "high numbers" (i.e., increased observer effort or ability). Furthermore, many CBC circles are located in more than 1 county, and reports of rarities from these Counts almost never indicate in which county(ies) the birds were observed. To end on a pleasant note, the Lake Placid CBC in *Highlands* reported a tentative total of 152 species, on 27 December. This appears to be the very first inland CBC east of the Mississippi River ever to reach the mark of 150 species (*vide* G. Woolfenden)!

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

RED-THROATED LOON: up to 17 along the coast from Fort Clinch SP (*Nassau*) S to Little Talbot Island SP (*Duval*) 22 Jan-22 Feb (many obs. *vide* P. Powell); 1 off Dog Island (*Franklin*) 27 Feb (D. Evered, L. Messick).

EARED GREBE: 1 at Tram Road sewage treatment plant, Tallahassee (*Leon*) 18 Nov-early March (J. Cavanagh et al.); 1 at N Jacksonville (*Duval*) 3 Dec (R. Clark); 2 at Palm Harbor sewage treatment ponds (*Pinellas*) 3 Dec through the period (D. Gagne, L. Atherton, W. Yusek et al.); 1 at an *Okaloosa* holding pond 7 Dec (D. Ware); 1 at Tierra Verde (*Pinellas*) 17 Dec (B. and L. Atherton); up to 7 at Occidental WMA (*Hamilton*) through the period (J. Krummrich et al.).

*YELLOW-NOSED ALBATROSS: 1 off the Lake Worth Pier (*Palm Beach*) 5 Jan (H. Langridge, accepted by the FOSRC as albatross species, note to *Fla. Field Nat.*) was only the fourth Florida report and the first in winter.

NORTHERN GANNET: 55 off Honeymoon Island SRA (*Pinellas*) 2 Jan (D. Gagne, W. Yusek) was a very high local count.

BROWN PELICAN: 2 at Newnan's Lake (*Alachua*) 19 Jan (J. Estes).

GREAT CORMORANT: 1 found injured off Egmont Key NWR (*Pinellas*) 8 Dec was released 17 Jan after surgery was performed that removed a fish hook from the bird's throat (*vide* R. Smith).

ANHINGA: 1 at *Okaloosa* 19 Jan (J. Scott) was rare there (*vide* D. Ware).

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD: 1 immature at Huguenot City Park (*Duval*) 14 Jan (B. Richter).

REDDISH EGRET: 1 white morph that wintered at Cape San Blas (*Gulf*) (J. Stevenson) was rare so far north for the white morph.

WHITE × SCARLET IBIS: 1 "adult hybrid" at Flamingo, ENP (*Monroe*) 28 Jan (S. Mlodinow).

WHITE SPOONBILL: the bird at *Hillsborough*, first reported 20 Oct 1993, was observed 23 Feb at Alafia Banks rookery (A. Schnapf, E. Rosen).

- GREATER FLAMINGO: 21 on the Coot Bay CBC (*Dade* or *Monroe*) 1 Jan (J. Villamil, E. Schaughnessy et al.).
- BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK: 29 on the Venice CBC (*Sarasota*) 27 Dec (*vide* A. Stedman).
- TUNDRA SWAN: 1 at Three Rivers SRA (*Jackson*) 10-12 Jan (S. Arbery).
- MUTE SWAN: 1 adult at Watson Bayou (*Bay*) 25-26 Jan (B. Thorpe, T. Watson).
- BLACK SWAN (*Cygnus atratus*): 1 "strong-flying bird" at Fort DeSoto CP (*Pinellas*) 6 Feb, the first county report, was never seen again (R. Smith).
- GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: 1 at Air Products Sanctuary (*Escambia*) 22-25 Dec (C. Milmore); 1 at St. Marks NWR (*Wakulla*) 9-11 Feb (R. Will, C. Gidden).
- SNOW GOOSE: 8 on Big and Little Talbot islands (*Duval*) 26 Dec (many obs. *vide* P. Powell); 5 (3 white and 2 blue morphs) in inland *Dixie* 28 Jan (N. Wamer); 1 blue morph at Alafia Banks 2-3 Feb (N. Douglass, M. Zeloski).
- AMERICAN BLACK DUCK: 2 on the Coot Bay CBC 1 Jan (E. Schaughnessy).
- CINNAMON TEAL: single males at St. Marks NWR 2 Dec-24 Feb (J. Reinman et al.) and Lake Jackson (*Leon*) 18 Jan through the period (G. Menk et al.).
- GADWALL: 1 male on Lake Pasadena 20 Dec was one of very few *Pasco* reports (B. Pranty, P. Young, D. Robinson, A. Boles).
- REDHEAD: 1400 at Honeymoon Island SRA 29 Jan (D. Gagne, W. Yusek).
- RING-NECKED DUCK: 6225 (mostly on Lake Pierce) on the Lake Wales CBC (*Polk*) 31 Dec (*vide* P. Fellers).
- LESSER SCAUP: numbers at Hillsborough Bay (*Hillsborough*) have apparently stabilized at less than 5000 birds, which is only 5-10% of numbers up to the early 1970s (R. Paul).
- HARLEQUIN DUCK: 1 female at Fort Clinch SP 2 and 24 Dec (R. Clark).
- OLDSQUAW: single females at Fort Clinch SP 22 Jan (R. Norton) and Cedar Key (*Levy*) 19-20 Feb (S. and S. Bollinger).
- BLACK SCOTER: among numerous reports were as follows: 250 off Amelia Island (*Nassau*) Dec and Jan (E. Colborn), 1 female on the Lower Keys CBC (*Monroe*) 17 Dec (R. Sawicki et al.), 4 off Bayport Park (*Hernando*) 22 Dec (D. Goodwin, C. Buhrman) was the first county report (S&A 1994:133); 2 females or immatures at Hillsborough Bay 31 Dec (R. Paul, A. Schnapf), 14 off Merritt Island NWR (*Brevard*) 2 Jan (R. Smith, P. Blair, B. and B. Wotton), 849 in 17 southbound flocks off the Lake Worth Pier 3 Jan, and 160 southbound on 4 Jan (both H. Langridge), 20 off Fort DeSoto CP (*Pinellas*) 6 Jan (L. Atherton), 15 off Fort Clinch SP 16 Jan (A. and R. Smith), 1 immature male at *Sarasota* 14-21 Jan (J. Palmer, A. Rawson), 30 off Madeira Beach (*Pinellas*) in Jan (K. Nelson).
- WHITE-WINGED SCOTER: 1 off the Lake Worth Pier 3 Jan (H. Langridge, G. Hunter) and 2 there 4 Jan (A. Liberman); 2 at Little Talbot Island SP 22 Feb (R. Clark).
- COMMON GOLDENEYE: 1 on the South Brevard CBC (*Brevard* and/or *Indian River*) 1 Jan was the first for that count (*vide* J. Taylor); 1 female at Palm Harbor sewage ponds 22-30 Jan (D. Gagne et al.) was irregular so far south.
- BUFFLEHEAD: 6-8 at *Polk* phosphate mines 15-28 Jan (P. Timmer, C. Geanangel, P. Fellers).
- RED-BREADED MERGANSER: 90-100 in a flock at Casey Key (*Sarasota*) 23 Jan and 17 Feb included at least 12 adult males (A. Stedman).
- RUDDY DUCK: 1250 at Occidental WMA (*Hamilton*) 17 Dec (*vide* J. Krummrich); 203 at Lake Jackson 1 Jan was a good local count (G. Menk).
- AMERICAN SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: 1 flew in from the Gulf over Dog Island (*Franklin*) and continued N, at 1700 hours 24 Feb (D. Evered, L. Messick); 3 at Little-Big Econ State Forest (*Seminole*) 25 Feb (*vide* L. Malo).
- WHITE-TAILED KITE: 4 in the E Everglades between Chekika and Homestead Airport (*Dade*) throughout the period (P. W. and S. Smith et al.); 1 adult in S *Brevard* 10 Dec-

- 12 Feb (B. and S. Hills et al.) was 1 of 3 that have been observed in the area since June 1993 (B. Wetmore); 1 adult in N *Lafayette* 11 Dec (D. and K. Dees) was the first report for the county (S&A 1994:149); 2 adults (1 harassed a Bald Eagle) on the Lake Placid CBC (*Highlands*) 27 Dec, for the 4th consecutive year (B. Pranty, W. Hale, G. Stoccardo, G. Woolfenden); 1 N of Holt (*Okaloosa*) 30 Dec (R. Larson); 1 adult on SR-29 just S of SR-74 (*Glades*) 12 Jan (D. Leonard); 1 adult E of Sebring (*Highlands*) 18 Jan (B. and M. Kittredge); 1 at Oscar Scherer SP (*Sarasota*) 23 Jan had been present for ca. 2 weeks (A. Rawson et al.); 1 at Wellington (*Palm Beach*) 23 Jan (S. Frank et al.); 2 at Three Lakes WMA (*Osceola*) 22 Feb (S. McGehee, V. Dreiks).
- SNAIL KITE: 12 on I-75 between miles 44 and 46 (*Broward*) 17 Feb (J. Baker).
- HARRIS' HAWK: 1 adult without bands or jesses on Pine Island (*Lee*) 19 Feb through the period (*vide* N. Wamer et al., video by B. Atherton 25 Feb)—all Florida reports are presumed to represent escapes.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK: 1 at Tree Tops CP, Davie (*Broward*) 7 Jan (M. McMillian et al.); 1 adult at Parker Island 18 Jan (B. Pranty, L. Mitchell, M. Crowe-Mitchell).
- SHORT-TAILED HAWK: single dark morphs at West Lake Park (*Broward*) 12 Jan and 1 Feb (both J. Baker); 1 dark morph at ENP (*Monroe*) 22 Jan (S. Mlodinow) and a light morph there 29 Jan (S. Mlodinow) and 18 Feb (A., L., and R. Smith); 2 wintered at Key West (*Monroe*) (J. Ondrejko).
- SWAINSON'S HAWK: 1 dark morph over Lower Matecumbe Key (*Monroe*) 18 Dec (H. and S. Rottenborn); 1 adult light morph at Archbold Biological Station (*Highlands*) 3 days in Feb (B. Keating, B. Yahr).
- RED-TAILED HAWK: 2 "Kriger's Hawks" at Tram Road sewage treatment plant 2 Dec (G. Menk) and 2 Feb (J. Cavanagh); 1 at St. Marks NWR 4 Jan (J. Reinman).
- CRESTED CARACARA: singles in *Broward* 26 Dec (P. W. and S. Smith) and 10 Feb (J. Baker) were apparently the first county reports (S&A 1994:175).
- *EURASIAN KESTREL (*Falco tinnunculus*): 1 female at Cape Canaveral (city) (*Brevard*) 1 Jan (S. Wise) was observed and identified by an experienced falconer, but was not seen again. This was the first Florida report of a species that has strayed to Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Martinique (American Ornithologists' Union 1983:125. *Check-list of North American Birds*, 6th ed. Washington, D.C.).
- MERLIN: 1 at Tram Road sewage treatment plant 2 Dec (J. Cavanagh) was rare in N Florida in winter.
- PEREGRINE FALCON: 1 over Moon Lake CP on the West Pasco CBC (*Pasco*) 30 Dec was the first report since that count was first published in 1970 (B. Pranty, P. Young, C. Buhrman).
- YELLOW RAIL: 1 at Crooked Lake (*Polk*) 31 Dec (G. Cratzat); 1 at S Venice (*Sarasota*) 27 Jan (A. Rawson).
- PURPLE GALLINULE: 78 (mostly on Lake Pierce) on the Lake Wales CBC 31 Dec (*vide* P. Fellers).
- AMERICAN COOT: a "nice flock" of 3000 at Valrico (*Hillsborough*) 10 Feb (R. Paul, A. Schnappf); 18,000 (mostly on Lake Pierce) on the Lake Wales CBC 31 Dec (*vide* P. Fellers); 30,000 at *Polk* mines through the period (P. Fellers et al.).
- LIMPKIN: 9 on the St. Petersburg CBC (*Pinellas*) 17 Dec was the all-time high count there, with 6 birds at Freedom Lake Park (*vide* D. Goodwin).
- SANDHILL CRANE: 500 in a recently plowed field S of Lake Istokpoga (*Highlands*) 19 Dec (F. Lohrer); good numbers reported from the Panhandle this winter: up to 13 over East River (*Wakulla*) 7 Dec (J. Stevenson), 4 near Altha (*Calhoun*) 12 Jan (S. Arbery), 5 over Newport (*Wakulla*) 13 Jan (J. Stevenson), and 25 over St. Marks NWR 2 Feb (D. Morrow).
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: 123 in a recently planted agricultural field near the entrance to ENP (*Dade*) 5 Dec (P. W. Smith) was a high inland count.
- SNOWY PLOVER: 22 on Shell Key (*Pinellas*) 1 Jan was a good count there (P. Blair).

- WILSON'S PLOVER: 30 on Ohio Key (*Monroe*) 21 Jan (S. Mlodinow).
- SEMPALMATED PLOVER: 300 on Ohio Key 21 Jan (S. Mlodinow); 200 on Shell Key 1 Feb (P. Blair).
- PIPING PLOVER: 25 on Shell Key 13 Jan (P. Blair).
- BLACK-NECKED STILT: 66 at Snake Bight (*Dade* or *Monroe*) 1 Jan (J. Villamil et al.).
- AMERICAN AVOCET: 15-20 at N Jacksonville Dec and Jan (R. Clark, B. Richter); 10 at Occidental WMA 17 Dec (*vide* J. Krummrich).
- SOLITARY SANDPIPER: 1 at Snake Road 17 Feb (J. Baker).
- RED KNOT: 4000 photographed on Shell Key 13 Jan (P. Blair) equals the estimate from there 22 Sep (see *Fla. Field Nat.* 23(2):48, 1995); 1 at Lake Jessup (*Seminole*) 8 Feb (H. Kale) was the first inland report in winter (S&A 1994:240-241).
- SANDERLING: 600 on Shell Key 13 Jan (P. Blair).
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: singles on the Econlockhatchee CBC (*Seminole, Orange, or Volusia*) 31 Dec (D. Freeman, R. Wheeler) and count-week on the Coot Bay CBC 1 Jan (*vide* M. Cooper)—the species is unverified in winter (R&W 1992:65, S&A 1994:247).
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER: 1 at Honeymoon Island SRA 24 Feb (D. Gagne, W. Yusek).
- PURPLE SANDPIPER: 1 on Lower Matecumbe Key 18 Dec (H. and S. Rottenborn); 1 at Naples (*Collier*) 30 Dec (B. J. Anderson); 1 at Venice jetties 27 Nov through the period (A. and J. Carey et al., photo in *Sarasota Herald Tribune*, 29 Dec); 8 at Fort Clinch SP (*Nassau*) through the period (R. Smith et al.); 1 at Matheson Hammock CP (*Dade*) through the period (J. Rosenfield et al.).
- DUNLIN: 3000 on Shell Key 1 Feb (P. Blair, B. Wotton); 150 at Lake Jessup 8 Feb (H. Kale) was a high inland winter count.
- STILT SANDPIPER: 9 at Occidental WMA 17 Dec (*vide* J. Krummrich); 1 at Honeymoon Island SRA 10 and 21 Jan (W. Yusek).
- SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: 2000 on Shell Key 13 Jan (P. Blair).
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER: 5 calling S of Lake Istokpoga 19 Dec (F. Lohrer); 50+ in flooded pastures in W *Broward* 26 Dec (P. W. and S. Smith); 52 at Springhill Road sewage treatment plant (*Leon*) 1 Feb (G. Menk); 40 at St. Marks NWR 12 Feb (N. Wamer).
- COMMON SNIFE: 78 around a 2 ha. pond in Archbold Biological Station 23 Jan (B. Pranty).
- RED-NECKED PHALAROPE: 1 at Spring Hill sewage treatment ponds, Aripeka (*Hernando*) 19-23 Jan (A. and B. Hansen, P. Young et al., video by B. Atherton 22 Jan) was the first county record (S&A 1994:263).
- POMARINE JAEGER: 1 off Madeira Beach 17 Dec (K. Nelson); 3 off Honeymoon Island SRA 18 Dec (D. Gagne, L. Kenney); 1 at Little Talbot Island SP 11 Feb (R. Clark).
- PARASITIC JAEGER: singles at Fort Clinch SP 2 Dec and 2 Jan (both R. Clark).
- JAEGER SPECIES: 1 off Alligator Point (*Franklin*) 17 Dec (N. Wamer, J. Dozier).
- *LITTLE GULL: "2, possibly 3" immatures at Canaveral National Seashore (*Brevard*) 13 Jan (F. and V. Phillips); 1 first-year bird at Port Canaveral (*Brevard*) 1 Jan-25 Feb (molting into breeding plumage by late Feb) (W. Biggs, G. Stoccardo et al.).
- HERRING GULL: 3100 on Marco Island (*Collier*) 1 Feb was the highest count in over 600 censuses there over the past 20 years (T. Below, B. J. Anderson).
- *THAYER'S GULL: 1 adult at Pompano Beach landfill (*Broward*) 23 Jan (S. Mlodinow).
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL: 1 at Merritt Island NWR 14 Jan (P. Fellers et al.).
- GLAUCOUS GULL: 1 first-winter bird at Fort Clinch SP 5-6 Feb (J. Krummrich, M. Dolan).
- GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL: 1 adult on Dog Island 26 Feb (D. Evered, L. Messick); increasing along the *Pinellas* coast, where 6-8 wintered through the period (P. Blair, L. Atherton, K. Nelson, M. Wilkinson).

- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: 1 adult at Fort Clinch SP 16 Jan (R. Smith) was apparently the first *Nassau* report (S&A 1994:286).
- COMMON TERN: 7 at St. Andrews SP (*Bay*) 6 Dec (T. Menart, E. Fontaine); 1 at Air Products Sanctuary 2 Jan (C. Milmore).
- FORSTER'S TERN: 550 at *Polk* mines 15 Jan (P. Timmer, C. Geanangel).
- BLACK TERN: 1 at Tram Road sewage treatment plant 1 Dec (G. Menk) was the first winter report for *Leon* (S&A 1994:308).
- BLACK SKIMMER: 1000 at Flamingo, ENP 22 Jan (S. Mlodinow).
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE: 1 at Shell Point (*Wakulla*) 17 Dec (R. Kautz, F. Kautz, K. NeSmith); 2 on the St. Petersburg CBC 17 Dec (*vide* D. Goodwin); 104 on the Lakeland CBC (*Polk*) was the first (!) Count report from there (*vide* P. Fellers).
- EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE: 106 birds plus a nest with eggs (found by C. Jones) on the Crystal River CBC (*Citrus*) 28 Dec (*vide* B. Smyth).
- MOURNING DOVE: 1 pair attending a nest without contents in Bayonet Point (*Pasco*) 1 Jan was a rare mid-winter nesting report (B. Pranty).
- BUDGERIGAR: nearly extirpated from the state, with only 2 on the St. Petersburg CBC 17 Dec (*vide* D. Goodwin), 0 on the North Pinellas CBC (*Pinellas*) 18 Dec (*vide* J. Rippon), 8 on the Aripeka-Bayport CBC (*Hernando*) 22 Dec (B. Pranty, D. and G. Woodard), and 11 on the West Pasco CBC (30 Dec) (*vide* B. Pranty).
- MONK PARAKEET: a "small invasion" of 50+ at Crystal River this winter (B. Smyth et al.).
- BLACK-HOODED PARAKEET: 15 at Van Wezel Hall (*Sarasota*) 23 Jan (R. Paul).
- RED-MASKED PARAKEET: 2 in downtown St. Petersburg 2 Dec (L. Atherton) was the first *Pinellas* report.
- MITRED PARAKEET: 6 in downtown St. Petersburg 2 Dec (L. Atherton) was the first *Pinellas* report.
- CHESTNUT-FRONTED MACAW: 1 in St. Petersburg 10 Dec (J. and L. Hopkins) is probably the same bird first seen near there 15 Feb 1993 (*vide* R. Smith).
- YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO: 1 on the South Brevard CBC 1 Jan (A. Weigley, S. Hills)
- SMOOTH-BILLED ANI: the species is "getting very hard to find" in *Broward* (J. Baker).
- GROOVE-BILLED ANI: 1 at Delray Beach (*Palm Beach*) Dec-1 Jan (B. Hope) was probably the same individual that wintered there last year; 1 at Paynes Prairie (*Alachua*) 5 Dec (B. Roberts).
- GREAT HORNED OWL: 1 pair again nested at Fort DeSoto CP, but the nest blew down during incubation 4 Feb (*vide* R. Smith).
- SNOWY OWL (*Nyctea scandiaca*):** 1 at a Port St. Joe sewage treatment plant (*Gulf*) was captured 28 Dec and sent to a local wildlife rehabilitator, who diagnosed the bird as having a concussion. It was later determined the bird probably escaped from a falconer, as it was trained to land on a gloved hand! At last report, the bird was being transported to New Jersey for eventual release in Canada (J. Gore pers. comm. 30 Jun 1995, photo in *Pensacola News Journal*, 16 Jan 1995).
- SHORT-EARED OWL: 1 at an *Okaloosa* landfill 7 Dec (D. Ware, H. King); 1 on Lanark Island (*Franklin*) 15 Jan (G. Sprandel).
- NIGHTHAWK SPECIES: 1 at N Jacksonville 25 Jan (M. Dolan).
- *LESSER NIGHTHAWK: 1 at Flamingo, ENP 18 Feb (R. Smith, accepted by FOSRC).
- COMMON NIGHTHAWK: 1 calling over a St. Petersburg high school campus 27 Jan (R. Smith)—the species is unverified in Florida in winter (R&W 1992:91, S&A 1994:372).
- CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW: 1 on Dog Island 26 Feb (D. Evered, L. Messick).
- CHAETURA* SPECIES: 6-7 over the University of Florida campus, Gainesville (*Alachua*) 9 and 11 Jan were believed to be *Vaux's Swifts (both D. Ackley, details to FOSRC).

- BUFF-BELLIED HUMMINGBIRD: 1 at Destin (*Okaloosa*) 15-19 Dec (B. Henderson, banded by B. and M. Sargent); 1 remained at Fort Lauderdale (*Broward*) through the period (B. and T. Center).
- *BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD: 1 immature male at Tallahassee 1 Dec-4 Feb (N. Wamer et al., photo by J. Cavanagh), and 1 immature female in another part of the city early Dec through the period (*fide* N. Wamer).
- ARCHILOCHUS SPECIES: at least 4 in Gainesville and 2 or more in Jacksonville through the period, none identified to species (both *fide* P. Powell).
- *ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD: 1 that wintered in Tallahassee was only the second Florida record (G. Rico, video by N. Wamer, photos by J. Cavanagh).
- SELASPHORUS SPECIES: 3 wintered in Tallahassee (*fide* G. Menk and N. Wamer); 3 females or immatures in *Alachua* through the period (*fide* P. Powell); 1 adult female, probably a Rufous Hummingbird at S Jacksonville 12 Dec through the period (P. Powell); "several" other reports of females or immatures in Jacksonville variously through the period (*fide* P. Powell).
- RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: 1 immature male wintered at Tallahassee (F. Stoutamire, N. Wamer et al.); 1 immature male at Lutz (*Hillsborough*) 3 Jan through the period (D. Grimes, video by B. Atherton) was the first county record; singles at 2 feeders near Bristol (*Liberty*) 29 Jan-27 Feb (S. Arbery).
- EMPIDONAX SPECIES: 1 on the Lakeland CBC 17 Dec (*fide* P. Fellers).
- *YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER: 1 that wintered at Delray Beach last year was observed 19 Jan through the period (B. Hope, audiotape to FOSRC).
- VERMILION FLYCATCHER: single adult males on Buck Island Ranch (*Highlands*) 18 Jan-13 Mar (L. Mitchell et al. photos by R. Bowman), and near Lake Marian on the Adams Ranch (*Osceola*) 31 Jan (M. Folk, J. Schmidt); 5 (2 adult males, 2 immature males, and 1 female) at St. Marks NWR variously through the period (D. Bryan, J. Reinman, J. Greenberg et al.) may be the highest Florida count.
- *ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: 1 at Turkey Creek Sanctuary (*Brevard*) 2 Dec-24 Feb (B. and S. Hills, N. Sekera et al.) was the first county report; 1 at Paynes Prairie State Preserve (*Alachua*) 6 Dec-7 Feb (R. Rowan, B. Muschlitz, accepted by FOSRC); 1 in *Seminole* 31 Dec (B. Anderson, accepted by FOSRC).
- GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER: 1 on the Lakeland CBC 17 Dec and 9 on the Lake Wales CBC 31 Dec (both *fide* P. Fellers) were at the N edge of the species' typical wintering range.
- *LA SAGRA'S FLYCATCHER: 1 at Tree Tops CP, first found 12 Nov, remained to the first week in Jan (J. Baker et al., accepted by FOSRC).
- WESTERN KINGBIRD: 1 at Turkey Creek Sanctuary 4 Dec (B. and S. Hills); 1 at S Jacksonville 26 Dec (B. Richter); up to 12 at a traditional wintering site SW of Florida City (*Dade*) 29 Dec. The roost is "a narrow zone less than a mile wide but at least 6 miles long . . . It is increasingly evident that there is only one wintering population in the region . . . sometimes gathering, sometimes splitting, depending on food sources (primarily *Ficus*)" (P. W. and S. Smith); 1 on SR-29 just S of the *Hendry* county line (*Collier*) 11 Feb (D. Stotz, J. Goldstein).
- EASTERN KINGBIRD: 1 in molt at Parker Island (*Highlands*), a traditional tyrannid wintering site, 27 Dec-early Jan (many obs., photos and note to *Fla. Field Nat.* by R. Bowman et al., video by B. Atherton 1 Jan) was the first verified winter occurrence in Florida, and possibly North America.
- TROPICAL/COUCH'S KINGBIRD: 1 silent bird at Delray Beach 25 Dec-23 Feb (B. Hope, F. Broerman) was at the same site where a Couch's Kingbird wintered last year.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: 3 on the Venice CBC 27 Dec (*fide* A. Stedman); up to 8 at a traditional site SW of Florida City (see Western Kingbird) 29 Dec (P. W. and S. Smith); 1 at Fort DeSoto CP 31 Dec through the period was rare there (R. Smith, M.

- Wilkinson et al.); 1 at St. Petersburg 9 Feb (J. Hopkins); 4 wintered near Ruskin (*Hillsborough*) (S. Backes, D. Taylor); 14 wintered at Key West (J. Ondrejko).
- PURPLE MARTIN: 1 male on the Lake Placid CBC 27 Dec (F. Lohrer et al.) was a rare winter report; 2 males at Key West 13 Jan (J. Ondrejko) and 1 male at St. Marks NWR 14 Jan (N. Wamer et al.) were "typically early" returning scouts.
- ***CARIBBEAN MARTIN (*Progne dominicensis*):** 1 adult male observed in flight over Eco Pond, ENP (*Monroe*) 12 Feb (R. Lewis, W. Mueller, G. Yovanovich, details to FOSRC) would be the first accepted Florida and North American report. The observers noted a male martin with "gleaming white underparts" and the "sharp demarcation between the dark breast and white belly."
- TREE SWALLOW: 100,000 estimated at Sandy Creek Airport (*Bay*) 4 Dec (A. and R. Ingram); 1,000,000 estimated on the Fort Myers CBC (*Lee*) 19 Dec (*vide* C. H. Smith).
- NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW: 2 at Alligator Point 17 Dec (N. Wamer, J. Dozier); a flock of 30 on the Lake Placid CBC 27 Dec (W. Biggs, C. Buhrman et al.); 15 on the South Brevard CBC 1 Jan (*vide* J. Taylor); 1 at St. Marks NWR 8 Jan (N. Wamer).
- CLIFF SWALLOW: 1 "carefully identified (buffy rump, dark throat; not Cave)" in the E Everglades (*Dade*) 8 Jan (P. W. and S. Smith).
- BARN SWALLOW: 1 at Wellington 10 Dec (H. Langridge, G. Hunter); 1 at Jacksonville 26 Dec (A. Lauricella).
- FISH CROW: 5000 at Gore's Dairy, Zephyrhills (*Pasco*) 20 Dec (A. and R. Smith, L. Kenney, B. and B. Wotton); 12 wintered at Key West (J. Ondrejko).
- WINTER WREN: 2 at River Rise State Preserve (*Columbia*) 11 Jan (J. Krummrich).
- SEDGE WREN: 72 on the Lakeland CBC 17 Dec (*vide* P. Fellers); 188 (mostly around a small portion of Crews Lake) on the Aripeka-Bayport CBC (*Hernando* and *Pasco*) 22 Dec (D. Robinson et al.) was the highest Florida count (S&A 1994:484) and was likely the result of increased local water levels; 83 at Little-Big Econ State Forest 10 Feb (L. Malo et al.).
- BROWN THRASHER: 16 on the St. Petersburg CBC 17 Dec was the all-time high count for the circle (*vide* D. Goodwin).
- CEDAR WAXWING: 2000+ at Lake Alfred (*Polk*) 28 Feb (P. Fellers).
- COMMON MYNA: 2 at Hollywood Mall, Hollywood (*Broward*) 7 Feb (J. Baker).
- YELLOW-THROATED VIREO: 1 at Ichetucknee Springs SP 11 Dec (J. Krummrich) was the first winter report for *Columbia* (S&A 1994:531).
- BLUE-WINGED WARBLER: 1 male on the Econlockhatchee CBC 31 Dec (C. Latty, B. Siculo); 1 on the Coot Bay CBC 1 Jan (S. Whiting)—the species is unverified in winter (R&W 1992:121, S&A 1994:540).
- ***VIRGINIA'S WARBLER (*Vermivora virginiae*):** 1 immature at Paynes Prairie State Preserve 7 Feb (J. Krummrich, details to FOSRC) was the first Florida report.
- NORTHERN PARULA: 1 at Sawgrass Lake CP (*Pinellas*) 6 Feb was thought to be a migrant (M. Wilkinson).
- YELLOW WARBLER: 1 adult male at *Alachua* 31 Dec (R. Rowan); 4 on the Coot Bay CBC 1 Jan (M. Cooper, P. Bithorn et al.).
- MAGNOLIA WARBLER: 1 at Weedon Island County Preserve (*Pinellas*) 10 Dec (J. and L. Hopkins); 1 on the Lake Placid CBC 27 Dec (R. Smith, G. Woolfenden); 1 at Lettuce Lake CP (*Hillsborough*) 12 Jan-1 Feb (S. Backes, R. Webb); 1 at Anhinga Trail, ENP (*Dade*) 17 Feb (R. Smith); 4 at Delray Beach 26 Feb (B. Hope).
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER: 1 at Weedon Island County Preserve 17 Dec (L. Hopkins); 4 on the Lake Placid CBC 27 Dec (*vide* G. Woolfenden); 5 on the Coot Bay CBC 1 Jan (S. Whiting); 3 winter reports from *Broward* and *Monroe* 21-28 Jan (S. Mlodinow); 3 at Mahogany Hammock, ENP (*Dade*) 17 and 24 Feb (A. and R. Smith, S. Backes); 7 at Delray Beach 26 Feb (B. Hope); 1 male wintered in S Jacksonville through the period (J. Cocke)—the species is still unverified in Florida in winter!

- AMERICAN REDSTART: 2 in female plumage on Buck Island Ranch 18 Feb (M. McMillian); 6 at Delray Beach 26 Feb (B. Hope).
- WORM-EATING WARBLER: 1 on Big Pine Key (*Monroe*) 17 Dec (W. Hoffman, M. Whiteside, W. B. Robertson); 3 on the Coot Bay CBC 1 Jan (M. Cooper et al.).
- NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH: 1 near Lake Pasadena 20 Dec (P. Young); 3 on the Avon Park Air Force Range CBC (*Highlands*) 29 Dec (J. Fitzpatrick) were at the same site as last year; 1 on the Econlockhatchee CBC 31 Dec (B. Anderson); 1 at Parker Island 1 Jan (B. and L. Atherton); 1 at a *Polk* mine 15 Jan (P. Timmer, C. Geanangel).
- LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH: 1 at Royal Palm Hammock, ENP (*Dade*) 22 Jan (S. Mlodinow).
- HOODED WARBLER: 1 adult male on Big Pine Key 17 Dec (M. Whiteside, W. Hoffman, W. B. Robertson).
- WILSON'S WARBLER: 1 on the Econlockhatchee CBC 31 Dec (B. Anderson); 1 at Delray Beach 26 Feb (B. Hope).
- YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: 1 at Jacksonville 26 Dec (J. Cocke).
- SUMMER Tanager: 1 at Delray Beach 10 Dec (B. Hope).
- WESTERN Tanager: 1 female at Hernando (*Citrus*) 16-21 Feb (H. Eagan, P. Files).
- BLUE GROSBEAK: 1 immature or female in *Alachua* 11 Jan (B. Muschlitz).
- INDIGO BUNTING: 1 male at St. Marks NWR 14-15 Jan was not observed previously (N. Wamer et al.); 7 on the South Brevard CBC 1 Jan (*vide* J. Taylor); 1 along the Wakulla River (*Wakulla*) 7-10 Feb (J. Epler).
- PAINTED BUNTING: 4 females on the Hamilton County CBC 17 Dec (*vide* J. Krummrich); 1 female in S Jacksonville 8 Jan (J. Cocke); 1 female in N Jacksonville 15 Jan (M. Dolan); 1 female on Fort George Island (*Duval*) 21 Jan (R. Clark).
- DICKCISSEL: 1 at APAFR (*Polk*) 19 Dec (L. Riopelle).
- CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: 1 on the Lakeland CBC 17 Dec (*vide* P. Fellers); 1 at Delray Beach 25 Dec (B. Hope); 2 on the Lake Placid CBC 27 Dec (*vide* G. Woolfenden); 7 on the Lake Wales CBC 31 Dec (P. Timmer, R. Thomas); 1 count-week on the Coot Bay CBC 1 Jan (*vide* M. Cooper).
- LARK SPARROW: 1 at N Jacksonville 3-4 Dec (R. Clark).
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: 10 at Lake Alfred 22 Jan (P. Timmer, C. Geanangel); 30+ in an abandoned citrus grove at Homestead (*Dade*) 19 Feb (P. W. and S. Smith).
- HENSLOW'S SPARROW: 1 at Seven Springs (*Pasco*) 30 Dec (B. Pranty); 5 at *Duval* 7 Jan (R. Clark); 1 at J. W. Corbett WMA (*Palm Beach*) 3 Feb (D. Leonard).
- FOX SPARROW: 1 at River Rise State Preserve 11 Jan (J. Krummrich).
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW: 1 at St. Marks NWR 18 Dec (S. Backes, D. Taylor); 1 at Lake Alfred 22 Jan (P. Timmer, C. Geanangel); 1 W of Florida City 17 Feb (R. Smith et al.); 1 in the E Everglades 19 Feb (P. W. and S. Smith).
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: 17 immatures on the Lakeland CBC 17 Dec, and 38 immatures on the Lake Wales CBC 31 Dec (both *vide* P. Fellers); 30 at Lake Alfred 22 Jan (P. Timmer, C. Geanangel); 6 in a vacant lot SW of Florida City 19 Feb (P. W. and S. Smith); 1 adult at Cedar Key 19 Feb (S. and S. Bollinger).
- *HARRIS' SPARROW: 1 at Gainesville 22 Feb (P. Edelman).
- SNOW BUNTING: 1 at Huguenot City Park 2 Dec (R. Clark).
- YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: single immature males at Holiday (*Pasco*) 30 Dec (P. Hanford) and SW of Florida City 11 Jan (P. W. and S. Smith et al.).
- BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE: 100 at Lake Jackson 3 Dec (G. Menk) was indicative of unusually high numbers in N Florida and S Georgia this winter (*vide* J. Cox).
- BRONZED COWBIRD: 4 on the Lakeland CBC 17 Dec, for the 6th consecutive year (*vide* P. Fellers); 1 male SW of Florida City 24 Dec (P. W. and S. Smith, M. Wheeler).
- ORCHARD ORIOLE: 2 at Belle Glade Marina (*Palm Beach*), a recent wintering site, 25 Feb (C. Weber, H. Langridge et al.).

NORTHERN ORIOLE: 2 female "Bullock's Orioles" on the East Pasco CBC (*Pasco*) 20 Dec (B. Pranty, P. Young, D. Robinson); up to 12 "Baltimore Orioles" at a Tallahassee feeder through the period (N. Wamer).

PURPLE FINCH: 1 female at Tallahassee 20 Dec-11 Feb (N. Wamer) was the only report received.

HOUSE FINCH: 1 male at Cedar Key 30 Jan (D. Henderson); males singing regularly at 3 locations at Gainesville in Feb (T. Webber).

ORANGE BISHOP (*Euplectes franciscanus*): 1 in a sparrow field on the St. Marks CBC 17 Dec (J. Cox, K. NeSmith, F. and R. Kautz, photographed) was the first report for Florida.

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Fall 1994 reports not published previously: Brown Booby: 1 immature at Peanut Island Park (*Palm Beach*) 6 Nov (Glen and Jan Woolfenden); Reddish Egret: 12 at Hagan's Cove (*Taylor*) 18 Aug (Jerry Krummrich); Masked Duck: 1 at Orlando Wetlands Park (*Orange*) 13 Nov (Mark Sees, Dave Turner); American Avocet: 15 at Hickory Mound Impoundment (*Taylor*) 17 Nov (J. Krummrich).

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