

THE SEASON, Winter

December 1972 and January, February 1973

Thomas A. Imhof, Editor

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS FOR THE PERIOD:

Brown Pelican - Sixty-three birds on Dec.30, Dauphin I. C B C, recent max. (MWG).
Blue-faced Booby - Jan.6 at Alabama Pt. (RRR,CLK,m.ob.) 4th State record, 3rd in Jan.
Double-crested Cormorant - Seen at Wheeler Refuge about half-dozen times around Christmas for first time in eleven years (TZA).
Green Heron - Two at Dog R. Mobile, Feb.3 & 13 (LMCK).
Yellow-crowned Night Heron - One thru Dec.12 at B'ham (GC), 1st winter record Mtn. R.
Cattle Egret - One Jan.25 at Tuscaloosa, 1st winter record U.C.P.
Whistling Swan - One near Oneonta Dec.19 to at least Jan.13 (CL,GA,m.ob.,photo) 2nd Mtn.R. record.
European Widgeon - Male, possibly also a female, Jan.6 at LeGarde's L.,Anniston (WJC) 2nd record for Ala.
Greater Scaup - Six to nine birds including males at L. Purdy Dec.6-30 (RRR,JRB,HHK, m.ob.) 2nd Mtn. R. record, 1st for B'ham.
hawks - On a 118-mile route in Montgomery, Bullock & Macon Cos. to be run twice each winter, the following hawks were counted on Jan.16 & 19 (JEK): Red-tailed 38,38; Red-shouldered 5,1; Marsh 5,11; Sparrow 6,8; Total 54,58, nearly 1 hawk every 2 m.
Goshawk - One immature near Pleasant Site, Franklin Co. Feb.10 (PLT,IFS,et al) 2nd record for Ala.
Harlan's Hawk - One Dec.16 Wheeler (TAI) 1st for Tennessee V.
Broad-winged Hawk - One Nov.24 Priceville near Decatur (DCH) latest for Tennessee V.
Rough-legged Hawk - Two near Foley & Gulf Shores Dec.23, Jan.4 & 6 (PFC); Wheeler Refuge Dec.16 (fide MLB); Tuscaloosa Co. Feb.14 (JCT).
Bald Eagle - Daphne Dec.13 (LGP); Wheeler Refuge 2 Dec. & Jan. (TZA).
Pigeon Hawk - B'ham Dec.30 (TAI); Decatur Jan.29 (DCH); Hatchechubee St.Pk. Feb.10 (WM).
Sandhill Crane - Gulf Shores 30 Jan.7 (MLB,GDJ).
Snowy Plover - Alabama Pt. Jan.7, 12 birds (MLB,GDJ).
MOUNTAIN PLOVER - Magnolia Springs, Jan.6-15 (PFC,SEL,CLK et al,photo) 1st for State.
Whimbrel - Alabama Pt. Jan.7 (MLB,GDJ) first winter record on coast.
Spotted Sandpiper - Decatur Dec.16 (AF) 2nd winter record Tennessee V.; L. Purdy Jan.9 (ALM,HHK) 3rd winter record Mtn. R.; Dauphin I. Feb.10 (R&LD) annual on coast.
Knot - Dauphin I. max. 40 this winter on Dec.23 (LRT).
Dunlin - Wheeler Refuge Dec.16 (MLB) 1st winter record Tenn.V.; 5 Feb.13 Eufaula R.(LAW).
Semipalmated Sandpiper - Wheeler Refuge Dec.2 (DCH) latest Fall Tenn.V.
Marbled Godwit - Cochran Causeway 7 on Dec.7 (PFC).
phalarope sp. - L. Purdy Dec.12 (HHW,HHK) 6th phalarope record for B'ham area.
Great Black-backed Gull - Ft. Morgan Dec.30 (PFC,VDH et al) 6th for State.
Laughing Gull - Decatur 2 Dec.26 (DCH) 6th for Tenn.V.; East L. B'ham Dec.9 (GC) 5th for Mtn. R.
Franklin's Gull - B'ham. adult Dec.14 (HHK) and 3 Decatur Dec.26 (DCH) 5th & 6th State.
Caspian Tern - count of 200 on Feb.14 Dauphin I. (LRT).
Yellow-billed Cuckoo - Eufaula Refuge 2 Feb.28 (MF,GS) probably wintered locally, almost unbelievable, 1st winter record for State.
Saw-whet Owl - Dec.4 or 11, found dead on road near Eufaula Refuge, too far gone to preserve (MF) 4th record for State, 2nd this winter.
Rufous Hummingbird - Dec.3 feeder in Mobile (fide JLD) 2nd State record.
hummingbird sp. - Jan.5 Dauphin I. (TM).
Western Kingbird - Dec.3 Dauphin I. (TH); Jan.1 & 11 Fairhope (A&MN,JDW,JEK,TM).
Barn Swallow - Foley Dec.23, Jan.6(2), 7(2) (PFC) 1st State winter records.
Sprague's Pipit - Barnwell, Baldwin Co., Jan.29 3 possibly 5 (VDH) 14 records since 1956.

Magnolia Warbler - Ft. Morgan Dec.30 (VDH) 1st winter record for State.
Northern Waterthrush - Ft. Morgan 1 banded Feb.12 (JVP) 1st winter record for State.
Western Meadowlark - Jan.26 to Feb.23 Priceville, Morgan Co. (DCH) 4 birds, 1 now specimen Wheeler collection.
Baltimore Oriole - Fairhope, male, Dec.16 to at least Jan.28 (VDH); Tuscaloosa, male, Feb.19 (JCT); Phenix City, female, Feb.19 (AS).
Boat-tailed Grackle - Dauphin I. 4 "just over bridge" Jan.21 (REH).
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - Immature male at Fairhope Jan.3 to end of period (A&MN); female on Dauphin I. Jan.9-22 (S&REH,G&JS) 1st winter records.
Black-headed Grosbeak - Female on Dauphin I. Jan.8 to Feb.17 (S&REH) getting regular.
Blue Grosbeak - Female at Ft. Morgan Dec.9 (PFC) latest Fall for State.
Evening Grosbeak - Fairhope 12 Dec.18, earliest Fall for coast (MN); 100 Dec.23 & Jan.2 (JR) max. for coast, species reached Dauphin I., Bayou La Batre, Bon Secour, & Gulf Shores farthest South (LRT,PFC,m.ob.); Reported widespread throughout the State Dec.-March.
Savannah Sparrow - 120 Wheeler Refuge Feb.18 (EGR,RRR) maximum for Tenn. V.
Bachman's Sparrow - 2 Wheeler Refuge Jan.21 (DCH) 1st winter for Tenn. V.
Oregon Junco - B'ham 2 from about Dec.16 to at least Jan.21 (JFH,MH) 4th for State.
Fox Sparrow - Dauphin I. 10 Jan.9 (REH) high but not highest for coast.

Observers: Gussie Arnett, Thomas Z. Atkeson, J. Russell Bailey, Michael L. Bierly, Greg Carlisle, Gloria Childers, William J. Calvert, P. Fairly Chandler, J. L. Dorn, Ann Forster, Michael Fuller, Mary A. Gaillard, M. Wilson Gaillard, David C. Hulse, John F. Harsh, Mildred Harsh, R. E. (Tuck) Hayward, Sharon Hayward, Verda D. Horne, Thomas A. Imhof, Greg D. Jackson, Curtis L. Kingsbery, Helen H. Kittinger, James E. Keeler, Carol Linder, Stephen E. Liston, Ann L. Miller, Louise McKinstry, Mary Mayhew, Thomas Mayhew, William Matheny, Albert & Mini Nonkes, Lila G. Porter, James V. Peavy, Joy Russ, Elberta G. Reid, Robert R. Reid, Idalene F. Snead, Ann Senn, Guss Saville, Genevieve & Jim Spafford, James C. Thompson, Alice G. Tait, Percy L. Thigpen, Lib R. Toenes, Joseph D. Wetzel, L. A. Wells, Harriett H. Wright. m.ob. many observers.

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