

THE SEASON, Summer-Fall

June through November, 1975, in Alabama

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Noteworthy records for the period follow (TV-Tennessee Valley, MtR-Mountain Region, Pied-Piedmont, UCP-Upper Coastal Plain, LCP-Lower Coastal Plain, GC-Gulf Coast, CP-Coastal Plain or last 3 regions combined, rec-record, exc-except).

- Common Loon: July 18, Dauphin Island (LRT) possibly summers almost annually on coast.
July 18 - Aug. 7, Preston, Marshall Co. (CDC) 3rd summer TV. Sept. 26, Ala. Point (PFC) 2nd earliest Ala. Sept. 30, Limestone Bay, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) earliest TV.
Oct. 25, Lake Purdy (GDJ) earliest MtR.
- Red-necked Grebe: Oct. 5, 1973, Wheeler Ref. (DCH) 1st TV rec.
- Horned Grebe: Oct. 14, Wheeler Ref., 2 (DCH) earliest TV.
- Eared Grebe: Aug. 12, Lake Purdy, winter plum. (JVP). Sept. 24 (Eloise), Lakeland Farm, Marion (ALM, HHK, HBT, SFH) 1st Sept. rec Ala. Nov. 15, Gulf Shores (PFC, A&MN).
- Western Grebe: Nov. 21-Dec. 5, Lake Purdy (GDJ, JVP, ALM photo), 3rd Ala., 1st rec inland.
- Wilson's Storm-Petrel: July 18, 50 mi. so. of Dauphin, 2 (RHa).
- White Pelican: July 18, Cochrane Causeway, 12 (JLD) summers here often. Nov. 19, Blakely Island (PFC) about 1000, encouraging.
- Brown Pelican: July 15, Dauphin Island & vic. 500 (LRT), encouraging.
- Brown Booby: July 16, Dauphin Island, adult (RHa, REH) 5th Ala. rec.
- Blue-faced Booby: July 20, Dauphin Island, changing imm (RRy) 6th Ala. rec.
- Anhinga: Sept. 24 (Eloise) Lakeland Farm, Marion (ALM, HHK, HBT, SFH) latest UCP.
- Magnificent Frigatebird: Nov. 15, Ft. Morgan (TAI, JVP) late.
- Cattle Egret: Sept. 21, Baldwin Co., 450 (A&MN); many late birds Baldwin, Mobile & Morgan Cos. (A&MN, LRT, TAI, CDC), all indicate a continued high population.
- Louisiana Heron: Sept. 24 (Eloise) Lakeland Farm (HHK, ALM, HBT, SFH) latest inland rec.
- Black-crowned Night Heron: Nov. 21 & 23, Dauphin Island, 5 (CSp, DPa, mob).
- Least Bittern: Oct. 27, Wheeler Ref. (DCH), latest inland Ala.
- American Bittern: Aug. 18, Ballplay, Etowah Co. (JVP, GDJ) earliest MtR.
- Wood Stork: July 25, Livingston, 40 (PLT) max this summer.
- Glossy Ibis: Sept. 19, Dauphin Island (SCH, MEM) latest GC rec for Glossy. June 8, Perry Co. (SP, WM), 1st certain rec for UCP. Oct. 2-Nov. 28, Wheeler Ref., 1-2 (RMB, WCD, mob) 2nd certain fall rec TV. June 13, Cat Island, Mississippi Sound, 8 adults & nest with 3 eggs (DCho).
- White Ibis: Aug. 23, Swan Cr. Mgmt. Area, Limestone Co. (DCH) 1st TV rec in 10 years. Nov. 25, Little Bateau Lake, Tensaw Delta, many (PQ).
- Canada Goose, hutchinsii race: present throughout period at Oak Mtn. Lake (mob).
- Brant: Nov. 2-Dec., Hoover Lake, B'ham (HHK photo, mob), 3rd rec. Ala, 1st so. of TV.
- Snow Goose: adult blue-phase, Hoover Lake, B'ham, present throughout (HHK, mob).
- Mottled Duck: Pointe aux pins, pair July 11 (DCho).
- Redhead: Oct. 7, Hoover Lake, B'ham (HHK) and Wheeler Ref. (ENP, TZA, FO) earliest inland Ala.
- Ring-necked Duck, summer 1975, East Lake, B'ham, male, 12th year in a row (RRR).
- Canvasback: July 25, 1974, Wheeler Ref. (GS, CDC) 1st summer rec TV. June 22, Walker Co. Pub. Lake (DCW), male, 2nd summer rec MtR.
- Greater Scaup: Nov. 9, Wheeler Ref. (GDJ) earliest rec inland Ala.
- Lesser Scaup: Oct. 7, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) earliest rec TV.

Bufflehead: Oct. 19, Wheeler Ref. (DCH) earliest Ala.
 Surf Scoter: Nov. 12, Valleydale Rd., B'ham (HHK, ALM) 3rd inland rec Ala.
 Ruddy Duck: Sept. 24 (Eloise) Lakeland Farm (ALM, HHK, HBT, SFH) earliest rec Ala.
 MASKED DUCK: May 16, 1973, Wheeler Ref., a female, all field marks seen well (DCH) first rec for Ala.
 Rough-legged Hawk: Nov. 19, Smiths, Lee Co. (MF), earliest Pied.
 Bald Eagle: Oct, Wheeler Ref., one immature (CDC).
 Osprey: Sept. 6, Lake Purdy (ALM) earliest MtR; 10 reports from Wheeler (TZA).
 Peregrine Falcon: Sept. 12, Trussville (JVP, RWL); a few on coast; none elsewhere.
 Merlin: Aug. 9, B'ham Zoo (JVP), 5th summer rec Ala.; about ½ doz. recs at Wheeler and on coast.
 American Kestrel: summer 1975, Jefferson Co., at least 5 pair in industrial sites.
 Sora: Oct. 20, Wheeler Ref. (DCH) latest rec for only Region where it does not winter.
 Black Rail: Oct. 12, Dauphin Island, seen well (RJK, RDK, JSK, HHK, LW), new locality, latest Ala.
 American Coot: pair that has bred in past in B'ham tried too late when water level finally was right for them.
 Semipalmated Plover: June 10, Wheeler Ref. (DCH), latest inland Ala.
 Piping Plover: Aug. 12, Beech Cr., Guntersville (JVP, GDJ), 9th inland rec for Ala, 3rd for TV, all but two in fall.
 American Golden Plover: Sept. 12, Battleship Pk, Mobile (photo-HMS) earliest Ala.
 Black-bellied Plover: Sept. 24 (Eloise), Marion Hatchery (GDJ) earliest UCP.
 Whimbrel: July 7, Pointe aux pins (DCHo) earliest Ala.
 Spotted Sandpiper: July 12, Guntersville (RRR) earliest Ala. exc MtR. Nov. 9, Wheeler Ref. (DCH) latest inland Ala. exc winter recs. (Recorded 12 months of the year in almost every Region, this species will probably eventually be found breeding in TV.)
 Solitary Sandpiper: July 4, Eufaula Ref. (JMi) earliest Ala. exc MtR.
 Willet: Nov. 8, Wheeler Ref. (DCH) latest inland Ala.
 Pectoral Sandpiper: July 20, Claiborne Bridge, Clark Co. (HME, LKE) earliest GP exc GC.
 White-rumped Sandpiper: Oct. 1-4, 8 (DCH) latest Ala. exc UCP.
 Baird's Sandpiper: Sept. 5, Marion Hatchery (GDJ) 1st GP rec exc GC.
 Stilt Sandpiper: Nov. 5, Lakeland Farm, Marion (GDJ) latest Ala.
 Semipalmated Sandpiper: June 10, Wheeler Ref., 17 (DCH) late spring? summering?
 Western Sandpiper: Nov. 19, Blakely Island, 3000+ (photo-PFC).
 American Avocet: July, Mobile, date & obs. unknown but probably JW, 1st summer GC.
 Sept. 5, Marion Hatchery (GDJ) 2nd rec UCP. Sept. 14, Cochrane Causeway, 100 (B&JW) high early fall max. Nov. 8-19, Wheeler Ref., 8 (RMB, mob) 19 max (DCH), max & latest TV. Nov. 9-26, Valleydale Rd., B'ham, max 13 (HHK, CB, mob) latest inland. Nov. 25, Little Bateau Lake, Tensaw Delta, 400 (PQ), max Ala. (There is no question that these beautiful birds are having a banner year!)
 Black-necked Stilt: Apr. 16, Wheeler Ref. (DCH, others) 1st rec n Ala. Summer, Blakely Island, Mobile, 7 pairs bred (B&JW). Nov. 14, Wheeler Ref. (WCD) 2nd rec n Ala.
 Wilson's Phalarope: Sept. 5 & 12, Gulf Shores (photo-PFC).
 Northern Phalarope: Aug. 6, Wheeler Ref., 7 (DCH) earliest of 9 fall recs Ala.
 jaeger sp.: July 19, in Gulf south of Dauphin Island (DPa); 1st summer rec any jaeger.
 Parasitic Jaeger: Oct. 12, Little Dauphin Island, adult on sandbar (TAI, mob).
 Laughing Gull: Sept. 24 (Eloise) Marion, Lakeland Farm (GDJ) 1st rec UCP.
 Bonaparte's Gull: Nov. 15, Ft. Morgan, 340 (TAI, JVP) fall max.
 Forster's Tern: Oct. 1-9, Wheeler Ref., 9 (DCH) latest TV.
 Sooty Tern: Sept. 24 (Eloise) Gulf Shores (A&MN) latest Ala.
 Royal Tern: Nov. 29, Lake Purdy, seen very well (JVP, HME) 2nd inland rec. Day had been bright and sunny; this bird arrived at same minute as big dark cloud with southerly winds, signaling arrival of warm front.
 Caspian Tern: Aug. 16, Ft. Gaines Dam (JMi) 4th rec CP exc GC.

Black Tern: Sept. 24 (Eloise) Marion Hatchery (GDJ) latest UCP. Oct. 7, Wheeler Ref. (DCH) latest TV & inland Ala.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Aug. 24-29, Magnolia Springs, 2 young in nest (PFC) latest. Oct. 21, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) latest TV. Nov. 15, Ft. Morgan, 2 (PFC, A&MN, VDH) latest Ala.

Screech Owl: Sept. 20 (full moon), B'ham, 102 (JVP, GDJ, others) state max.

Short-eared Owl: Nov. 16, St. Andrew's Bay, Ft. Morgan (TAI, JVP) 5th GC rec.

Whip-poor-will: Oct. 13, Nov. 15 & 16, Ft. Morgan Wall, 3 banded (TAI, JVP).

Chimney Swift: Oct. 24, East Lake, B'ham (GDJ) latest Mtr.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Sept. 20, B'ham (GDJ) earliest Ala.

Eastern Kingbird: Nov. 16, Ft. Morgan (JVP, TAI) latest Ala, 2nd rec in Nov.

Gray Kingbird: June 9, 3, Alabama Point (VDH, MN) local increase. Aug. 1975, 30, Dauphin Island (LRT) Ala. max.

Willow Flycatcher: Aug. 15, heard, Magnolia Springs (PFC) earliest Ala. Sept. 15, banded, B'ham Zoo (JVP) latest inland rec.

Tree Swallow: Nov. 4, Wheeler Ref., 8 (DCH) latest TV.

Bank Swallow: Aug. 16, Eufaula Ref., 13 (JMI) earliest CP exc CG. Sept. 24 (Eloise) Lake Purdy, 25 (GDJ) latest Mtr. Nov. 2, Wheeler Ref. (DCH) latest Ala.

Rough-winged Swallow: Oct. 23, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) latest inland Ala.

Barn Swallow: Nov. 5, Lakeland Farm, Marion (GDJ) 2nd Nov. rec inland. Nov. 15-16, Ft. Morgan, 2 (JVP, TAI) latest Ala. exc for 1 winter rec.

Cliff Swallows: June 19, Copeland Ferry Bridge, Walker Co., 2 (JVP). June, Lake Nichols, Tuscaloosa, 1-yr old nest, no ads (RKC). Sept 21, Cochrane Causeway, 60 (A&MN) coastal concentration. Sept. 23 (25) & 24 (5) (Eloise) Lake Purdy (GDJ) latest Mtr. Oct. 10, Lakeland Farm, Marion (RRR, others) latest UCP. Oct. 20, Wheeler Ref., 5 (CDC, DCH) latest inland Ala.

(The number of records made on swallows indicates that this family had a good year here. Look for Bank, Barn & Cliff to expand as breeders next summer.)

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Sept. 10, Dauphin Island, 5 (Gga) earliest Ala. Sept. 13, Bluff Park, B'ham (TAI, JTG) earliest inland Ala. Sept. 29, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) earliest TV.

Brown-headed Nuthatch: Nov. 8, pine plantation near Blackwell Swamp, Madison Co., 2 (CDC) 1st rec in Ala. no. of Tenn. River. Pine plantations are usually shunned by piney woods birds exc for an occasional Pine Warbler.

House Wren: Sept. 21, Newburg, Franklin Co. (GDJ) earliest TV.

Bewick's Wren: July 6, Arab, Marshall Co. (RRR) only breeding season rec for eastern half of TV since 1960.

Gray Catbird: present June 1974 & 1975 in Dothan (MLH), southern edge of range. No 1 banded on coast this year again (JVP, TAI) 182 in Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: Aug. 2, Spring Hill, 2 (MEM) earliest Ala (next Aug. 28). Nov. 15, Mifflin, Baldwin Co. (PFC, others) latest Ala.

Veery: Nov. 17, Ft. Morgan, Banded (TAI, JVP) latest Ala. (next Oct. 26).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Sept. 20, B'ham, 5 (RDB, ALM) earliest Mtr.

White-eyed Vireo: Nov. 22, Greenwood, Bessemer (CWB) latest n. Ala.

Solitary Vireo: Nov. 11, Decatur (MBr) latest TV, prob. winters occasionally.

Philadelphia Vireo: Sept. 15, B'ham Zoo (JVP) earliest Mtr.

Prothonotary Warbler: Sept. 26, Wheeler Ref. (GDJ) latest TV.

Blue-winged Warbler: Oct. 2, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) latest TV.

Tennessee Warbler: Nov. 8, Wheeler Ref., 2 (CDC) latest TV. Nov. 11, Dauphin Island (REH, SBH) latest GC.

Parula Warbler: Oct. 4, Decatur (MBr) latest TV.

Magnolia Warbler: Oct. 29, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) latest TV. Nov. 11, Dauphin Island (REH, SBH) latest Ala.

Cape May Warbler: Oct. 3, Hoover, B'ham (HHK) earliest Mtr. Oct. 21, Montevallo (GDJ) latest inland.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Nov. 11, Dauphin Island (REH, SBH) latest Ala. exc Nov. 25, 1960.

Black-throated Green Warbler: Aug. 9, Marion Hatchery (JTG, ALM) earliest Ala. so. of breeding range.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Nov. 11, Dauphin Island (REH, SBH) latest Ala.

Bay-breasted Warbler: Nov. 11, Dauphin Island (REH, SBH) latest Ala. exc Pied.

Northern Waterthrush: Aug. 22, Dauphin Island, bird walked through open door into living room (G&AB).

Mourning Warbler: Nov. 19, Greenwood, Bessemer, imm. male (CWB) seen well & close, latest Ala. by almost a month; all field marks seen.

Bobolink: Oct. 9, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) latest TV.

Orchard Oriole: Sept. 8, Roberts Field, B'ham, banded on 7th, seen on 8th (TAI) latest inland exc 2 winter recs.

Brewer's Blackbird: Nov. 5, Lakeland Farm (GDJ) earliest UCP & LCP.

Painted Bunting: Aug. 2, Blakely Island, 4 (3 males) (B&JW) indicates continued local breeding.

Dickcissel: Nov. 1, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) latest inland exc winter recs.

Evening Grosbeak: about Nov. 16, Mtn. Brook, B'ham (fide WFC) flight year coming.

Purple Finch: Oct. 13, Greenwood, Bessemer, 2 (CWB) earliest Ala.

House Finch: Dec. 5, Greenwood, Bessemer, 2 males-one with a band on right foot (CWB) 3rd rec Ala., all in MTR.

Pine Siskin: Nov. 6, 20+ B'ham (JTG) & Nov. 15 Ft. Morgan, 3 (TAI) flight year.

Lark Bunting: Aug. 23, Ft. Morgan, imm. male (JVP) 4th rec Ala., 3rd on GC.

LeConte's Sparrow: Dec. 5, Opelika (MF) 1st rec Pied.

Henslow's Sparrow: Oct. 29, Wheeler Ref., 2 (CDC) only fall rec TV.

Vesper Sparrow: Oct. 13, Wheeler Ref. (CDC) ties earliest Ala.

Lark Sparrow: Oct. 27, Union Springs (photo-MF) latest inland.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Spet. 27, Ft. Morgan (HME) more evidence species occurs annually.

White-crowned Sparrow: Oct. 3, Wheeler Ref., 2 (CDC) earliest Ala.

Lincoln's Sparrow: Nov. 28 & 29, Wheeler Ref., 2 places 5 mi apart (CDC) latest TV, only region where species not proved to winter.

Swamp Sparrow: Sept. 20, B'ham, 3 (PLT, HBT) earliest Ala. exc Sept. 14, 1958.

Song Sparrow: June 12, Jackson Co., Long Island & mouth of Coon Creek, 2 males (TAI, HHK). June, vic of Guntersville, 13 males plus females plus young (TAI, JTG, HHK, RRR, HBT, PLT, others). August 18, Weiss Lake, Cherokee Co., 7 males (JVP, GDJ); a total of 22 new singing males, none there about 5 years ago, means the species now breeds in 4 no. Ala. counties and probably at least 4 more.

Observers: Thomas Z. Atkeson, Jr.; Raymond D. Bates; Richard M. Bays; George & Alwilda Bennett; Charlotte Blacksher; Charles W. Brasfield; Michael Brown; P. Fairly Chandler; C. Dwight Cooley; Walter F. Coxey; Richard K. Crawford; W. Cecil Davis; J. L. Dorn, SJ; Howard M. Einspahr; Linda K. Einspahr; Michael Fuller; Mary A. Gaillard; Gary Gaston; Juanita Goodson; Marion L. Hanahan; Sybil C. Hanks; Ralph Havard; Richard E. (Tuck) Hayward; Sharon B. Hayward; Dan C. Holliman; Susan F. Holt; Verda D. Horne; David C. Hulse; Thomas A. Imhof; Greg D. Jackson; Helen H., Ronny D., Ricky J. & Jo S. Kittinger; Ronny W. Lewis; William Matheny; Ann L. Miller; James Miller; Margaret E. Miller; Albert & Mimi Nonkes; Fred Omar; Sam Pate, Jr.; Dennis Patronas; James V. Peavy, Jr.; E. N. Prestriedge; Peter Quinn; Elberta G & Robert R. Reid; Richard Ryan; Glenn Scott; Charles Sprinkle; Henry M. Stevenson; Lib R. Toenes; Helen B & Percy L. Thigpen; D. C. Waldrop; Larry Watts; Beverly & John Winn.

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