

FALL SIGHTINGS (AUGUST-NOVEMBER 2002)

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This report covers the period from August through November 2002 in Alabama and the Florida Panhandle (west of the Apalachicola River). The appearance of observations in this article does not suggest verification or acceptance of records for very rare species; these must be considered by the appropriate state records committees. All submissions of birds that are rare, either in general or for a particular season or region, must be accompanied by adequate details of the observation. The extent of this documentation depends on the rarity of the species and the difficulty of identification. For guidance, observers are encouraged to consult the Alabama Ornithological Society checklist. Reports should note conditions of observation and the diagnostic characters observed. Your help in this matter is appreciated.

Abbreviations and italics: County names are in italics and, except for the Western Panhandle counties of Florida, are in Alabama. “@” = under review by; “ABRC” = Alabama Bird Records Committee; “FOSRC” = Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee; “FWBSF” = Ft. Walton Beach Spray Fields; “m.ob.” = many observers; “NF” = National Forest; “NWR” = National Wildlife Refuge; “ph.” = photographed; “SP” = State Park; “WP” = Western Panhandle of Florida (*Bay, Gulf, Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton* counties); “WTF” = Woerner Turf Farm.

EARED GREBE – Uncommon in Alabama, a single in alternate plumage was seen at Blakeley Island, *Mobile* 10 October (Steve McConnell). Another single spent 16-29 November at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa* (Don Ware, Bob Duncan, m.ob.) (rare but regular in WP).

GREATER SHEARWATER – One was spotted 10 miles south of Orange Beach, *Baldwin* 7 August (James Pfeiffer) (27th Alabama record).

WILSON’S STORM-PETREL – Two were seen 17 August 61 miles south of Orange Beach, *Baldwin* (Dwight Cooley, Steve McConnell, m.ob.) for the 20th Alabama record (@ABRC).

LEACH’S STORM-PETREL – A bird found on the beach of Okaloosa Island, *Okaloosa* 30 July later died at a rehabilitation center, with the specimen (second area record) going to the Florida State Museum (Polly McNichols,

Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Betsy Tetlow).

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL – One was seen 17 August 61 miles south of Orange Beach, *Baldwin* (Dwight Cooley, Steve McConnell, m.ob.) for the seventh date of occurrence in Alabama (@ABRC).

RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD – Tropical Storm Hanna brought an adult bird to the beach near Destin, *Okaloosa* 14 September. It was rehabilitated and released near Tampa. This was the first record for the WP (*vide* Bob Duncan; @FOSRC). Another adult bird was reported from the Destin west jetty, *Okaloosa* 3 October (Don Ware, Alan Knothe; @FOSRC).

BROWN BOOBY – Casual in the WP, one juvenile was observed for about three hours as it cruised Pensacola Bay at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa* 26 September during Tropical Storm Isidore (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Powers McLeod, Rosann McLeod, Roy Hall).

RED-FOOTED BOOBY – The first WP record was set by a dark phase adult found in a yard in Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa* 28 September. It was taken to the Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida (Tom Wickes, Tom Hughes), identified by Dorothy Kaufmann and staff, and photographed by Lucy Duncan. It died 29 September, with the specimen going to the Florida State Museum. Another adult bird was found emaciated at Cape San Blas, *Gulf* (Tom Lewis) exact date unknown but occurrence related to Tropical Storm Isidore (late September). A newspaper article in *The Star*, Port St. Joe, provided some details. A third individual, a juvenile, was discovered frozen as a specimen at Emerald Coast Wildlife Sanctuary. It had originally been identified as a Brown Booby, but was identified as a Red-footed Booby by Lenny Fenimore (confirmed by Bob Duncan). The bird had originally been found in *Walton* 16 September (specimen to Pensacola Junior College).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN – This species is locally rare in inland Alabama, so the following records were notable: three at Montgomery, *Montgomery* 7 November (C. Alford); 98 on Weiss Lake, *Cherokee* 11 November (Winston Baker, Linda Baker); five at Speigner, *Elmore* 17 November (Larry Gardella); and one at Lake Point SP, *Barbour* 27 November (Geoff Hill).

ANHINGA – Two at the fish hatchery at Marion, *Perry* 3 August (Paul Franklin) were uncommon this far north in the state. This species is rare in the Mountain Region, so one seen at Alexander City, *Tallapoosa* 14 October (Winston Baker, Linda Baker) was notable.

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD – One was spotted west of Mobile, *Mobile* 4 October after Tropical Storm Lili (J. Siegwald). This species is unusual

away from the outer coast.

GREAT EGRET – On 8 August, 194 were counted at sinkhole ponds west of Florence, *Lauderdale*, a good number for the Tennessee Valley (Paul Kittle).

WHITE-FACED IBIS – An adult at Greenwood, *Jefferson* 1 October was the first record for the Mountain Region and the 14th for Alabama (Helen Kittinger, Gussie Arnett, Martha Dagg *et al.*; @ABRC).

ROSEATE SPOONBILL – The fourth WP record was set by one seen at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa* 27 September (Peggy Baker, Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan). The 22nd-25th Alabama records were set as follows: 2-3, *Prairie Creek, Lowndes* 4 August-early September (Larry Gardella, Pat Johnson); one on the Mobile Causeway, *Mobile* 17 August (J. Siegwald, Venetia Friend, Betsy Eager *et al.*); one on the Dauphin Island Causeway, *Mobile* 25 August (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch); and one at the airport, Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 6-13 October (D. Ombalski, David Dortch, Carrie Dortch, m.ob.; ph.).

WOOD STORK – This species is rare in the Mountain Region, so the seven seen at Harpersville, *Shelby* 31 August (Steve McConnell) were a good number. A single was seen at the same site 23 August (Dick Reynolds) and five were still present 1 September (Steve McConnell *et al.*). One soaring over Wilson Dam, *Colbert* 2 September (Tom Haggerty) was the second record for northwest Alabama. A single was at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa* 31 October (Brian Monk) where it is very rare.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE – This locally rare goose was noted at two sites in the WP: three at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa* 18-29 November (Brian Monk, Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, m.ob.) and one at Tiger Point, *Santa Rosa* 8-19 November (Bill Bremser). Twenty were at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone* 23 November (Pelham Rowan), where this species is uncommon but regular.

SNOW GOOSE – One was noted at Benton, *Montgomery* 9 November (Larry Gardella). This species is uncommon on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama.

ROSS'S GOOSE – A single was seen at Lake Point SP, *Barbour* 27 November and at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour* 14 December (Geoff Hill). The species is rare on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama.

MOTTLED DUCK – Three birds in *Okaloosa* 13 August (Don Ware) set the second August record for the WP.

GREATER SCAUP – One female was recorded at Fayette, *Fayette* 15 November (Jud Johnston) (rare in the Mountain Region).

SURF SCOTER – Three were below Wheeler Dam, *Lawrence* 5 November (Damien Simbeck) and five were at Guntersville, *Marshall* 12 November

(Helen Kittinger, Martha Dagg *et al.*) (rare inland).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER – Damien Simbeck recorded a single at Wilson Dam, *Colbert* 15 November (rare inland).

BLACK SCOTER – One was at Wheeler Dam, *Lawrence* 7 November (Dean Cutten, Raelene Cutten) (very rare inland).

BUFFLEHEAD – One at Florence, *Lauderdale* 1 November, was an early arrival (Damien Simbeck).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE – A kettle of 42 birds was observed 7 August over a shopping center in Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, as a thunderstorm approached from the north (Bob Duncan), setting a new high count for the WP. A late bird was at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin* 2 October (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch), while another at the same site on 8 October (Al Miller, Bob Duncan) set a new late departure date for the Gulf Coast.

MISSISSIPPI KITE – Bob Sargent found one southwest of Springville, *St. Clair* 11 August (rare in the Mountain Region).

BALD EAGLE – An immature was spotted at Ft. Toulouse, *Elmore* 2 September (L. McElvaine) in an area of Alabama where the species is locally rare.

NORTHERN HARRIER – Good numbers of 17 and 26 were seen at a roost at Key Cave NWR, *Lauderdale* 8 and 25 October, respectively (Paul Kittle).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK – A late individual was in *Lee* 1 November (Barry Fleming, Paul Milotis).

GOLDEN EAGLE – Two records of this species, rare throughout Alabama, were received: an adult at Ft. Morgan, *Baldwin* 13 November (Eric Soehren) and an immature at Wheeler NWR, *Morgan* 29 November (Ralph Brinkhurst, Barry Fleming).

MERLIN – Two were spotted west of Florence, *Lauderdale* 2 November (Damien Simbeck, m.ob.) (rare so late).

PEREGRINE FALCON – One at the Birmingham Airport, *Jefferson* 30 August (Pelham Rowan) and 31 August (Greg Harber) set an early record for the Mountain Region (unless from a hacking program).

SANDHILL CRANE – Bev Goode saw one at Navarre, *Santa Rosa* 25 October; Lucy Duncan and Betsy Tetlow observed five at Pensacola, *Escambia* 5 November; and Chris Davis spotted five at Bayou Grande, *Escambia* 24 November (casual in fall in the WP).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER – An uncommon fall migrant, up to four were recorded at Harpersville, *Shelby* 27 August – 1 September (Lorna West *et al.*)

KILLDEER – The total of 285 at the WTF, *Lowndes* 14 August (Bob Reid)

was a good number for the season.

BLACK-NECKED STILT – One was west of Florence, *Lauderdale* 2 August (Paul Kittle, Tom Haggerty *et al.*) (occasional in the Tennessee Valley- sixth record).

WILLET – Rare for inland Alabama, seven at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour* 21 August (Milt Hubbard) tied the fall high count for inland Alabama; five were at the same site 22 August (Milt Hubbard, Lorna West); and one was at the WTF, *Lowndes* 24 August (Bill Campbell, David Trently).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER – Two at Florence, *Lauderdale* 1 November (Damien Simbeck) were late.

UPLAND SANDPIPER – This shorebird is uncommon in the Tennessee Valley, so two west of Florence, *Lauderdale* 13 August (Tom Haggerty) were notable.

WHIMBREL – The one seen at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour* 22 August (Lorna West, Milt Hubbard) was the fourth record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW – This species is rarely seen away from the Mobile Causeway, so one on the east end of Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 2 November (David Dortch *et al.*; ph.) was noteworthy.

MARbled GODWIT – Two were at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa* 15-25 August (Bob Duncan) (rare in WP). The third record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama was established by one seen at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour* 22 August (Lorna West, Milt Hubbard).

RUDDY TURNSTONE – Rare for inland Alabama, one was at Harpersville, *Shelby* 4 August (Greg Harber) and 11 August (Steve McConnell; ph.).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER – Rarely seen in fall, a single was at Bayou La Batre, *Mobile* 11 August (Paul Milotis) and six were found at Guntersville, *Marshall* 4 September (Dick Reynolds).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER – One at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa* 22 October (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, m.ob.) was very late (casual in WP). West of Florence, *Lauderdale*, Paul Kittle saw one 9 August and Tom Haggerty found two 13 August (rare). Bob Reid had one at the WTF, *Lowndes* 14 August (rare). A single was at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin* 28 September (David Dortch, Howard Horne, m.ob.) (rare but expected).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER – A new maximum count (400+) for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama was made at the WTF, *Lowndes* (Larry Gardella) 3 August.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER – One at the WTF, *Lowndes* 3 August set a new early arrival date for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama (Larry

Gardella). Three were noted west of Florence, *Lauderdale* 9-14 September (Tom Haggerty) (uncommon in northwest Alabama).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE – One at Blakeley Island, *Mobile* 13 November (Lucy Duncan, Bob Duncan, m.ob.) set a late record (by one month) for the Gulf Coast.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE – One was found at Seagrove Beach, *Walton* 20 September and taken to the Emerald Coast Wildlife Sanctuary where it expired (specimen to Pensacola Junior College) (Bob Duncan, Lenny Fenimore). This was the first record for *Walton* and only the third for the WP.

PARASITIC JAEGER – Mickey Howard found an ill bird at South Sauty Creek, *Jackson* 6 September. It died three days later (specimen to Wheeler NWR) (*vide* Linda Reynolds; ph.). This was the first confirmed inland Parasitic Jaeger for Alabama and only the fifth inland jaeger.

JAEGER SP. – Rare so early, a probable Pomarine was noted 10 miles south of Orange Beach, *Baldwin* 12 August (James Pfeiffer).

FRANKLIN'S GULL – The species is rare in October in the WP. One adult was seen at Ft. Pickens, *Escambia* 27 October (Bob Duncan). One adult and two first-year birds were at Wilson Dam, *Colbert* 15 November (Damien Simbeck) where the species is rare but expected.

LITTLE GULL – One was seen on several dates at Ft. Morgan, *Baldwin* to establish the seventh Alabama record: 27 October (Ben Garmon *et al.*), 28 October (Ann Miller, Al Miller), and 2 November (Bill Summerour) (@ABRC).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL – A winter adult was found at Ft. Pickens, *Escambia* 4 November (Bob Duncan, Jere French) and a first winter individual was at Pensacola, *Escambia* 6-8 November (Lucy Duncan, Don Ware, Alan Knothe *et al.*) to establish the fourth and fifth WP records.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL – An adult that was recorded on Pelican Island, *Mobile* 8 September (Howard Horne, Tim Rice) was an early fall arrival by nearly one month. An immature was photographed at the same site on 10 October (Steve McConnell *et al.*).

COMMON TERN – The 200 seen at Ft. Morgan, *Baldwin* 27 October (Ben Garmon) was a good number this late.

FORSTER'S TERN – A new maximum count for inland Alabama was made below Wheeler Dam, *Lawrence* 27 September when 140 were tallied (Damien Simbeck).

LEAST TERN – Rare for both the northwest region and the Inland Coastal

Plain of Alabama, these records were notable: two immatures west of Florence, *Lauderdale* 15 August (Tom Haggerty, Paul Kittle); one adult at Montgomery, *Montgomery* 16-19 August (Carolyn Snow, Phil Snow); and one adult below Wheeler Dam, *Lawrence* 19 September (Damien Simbeck) (late record for Tennessee Valley).

BRIDLED TERN – Uncommon offshore in Alabama, three were recorded 15, 29, and 60 miles south of Orange Beach, *Baldwin* 17 August (Steve McConnell, m.ob.). Two birds were at Pensacola, *Escambia* 15 September (Ann Forster, Dan Forster), while Tropical Storm Isidore brought 15-20 birds to Pensacola Bay and other area waters, *Santa Rosa* 26 September (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, m.ob.) (six previous WP records).

SOOTY TERN – Rare onshore, a single was at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin* 14 September after Tropical Storm Hanna (Tasha McLain, Michael Jordan). Tropical Storm Isidore brought birds to both the WP and north Alabama. This tern was reported in numbers at three separate locations in the Pensacola, *Escambia* area on 26 September (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Peggy Baker, Jane Crittenden), a single was at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa* 27 September (Lucy Duncan), and one was at Pensacola Beach, *Escambia* 4 October (Lucy Duncan, Bob Duncan, Chris Cameron) (casual in WP). Five (one adult, four juveniles) seen on the Tennessee River below Wheeler Dam, *Lauderdale/Lawrence* 27 September (Damien Simbeck *et al.*) were the first recorded for the Tennessee Valley and the third recorded for inland Alabama.

BLACK TERN – The 126 counted on the Tennessee River at Brown's Ferry, *Lawrence/Limestone* 15 August (Jeff Garner) and the 50 found at Guin, *Marion* 15 August (Jud Johnston) were good numbers for the Tennessee Valley and Mountain regions, respectively, while the six noted below Wheeler Dam, *Lawrence* 27 September (Damien Simbeck) were late.

BROWN NODDY – After Tropical Storm Isidore, an exhausted bird was found on a dock at Ft. Morgan, *Baldwin* (Wendy Jess; ph.; @ABRC) to establish the fifth record for Alabama.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE – One at a feeder in Guin, *Marion* 21 August (Don Wooldridge, Jud Johnston; ph.) was only the second for the Mountain Region (11th for inland Alabama).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO – Jan Osborne recorded one in south *Baldwin* 17 November (ties late record for Alabama).

GROOVE-BILLED ANI – Rare in the WP, singles were at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa* 14 October – 9 November (Lenny Fenimore, m. ob.); Okaloosa Island, *Okaloosa* 15 October (Brian Monk); and Ft. Pickens, *Escambia* 26

November (Bob Duncan).

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW – Two were seen at Montgomery, *Montgomery* 15 September (Carolyn Snow, Phil Snow) to set a late departure record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama.

WHIP-POOR-WILL – One was heard on the late date of 22 September in Muscle Shoals, *Colbert* (Tom Haggerty).

BUFF-BELLIED HUMMINGBIRD – One was banded by Fred Bassett at East Brewton, *Escambia* 6 November (ph.; @ABRC) to mark the 12th Alabama record.

CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD - One was banded at Anniston, *Calhoun* 27 November (Bob Sargent, T. Morgan; ph.; @ABRC) to set the 15th Alabama record.

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD – An immature female was banded at Florence, *Lauderdale* 29 August (Bob Daly) (rare in northwest Alabama).

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER – Rare but regular in fall at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, a single was seen 14 September (Tasha McLain, Michael Jordan) after Tropical Storm Hanna. A rare fall migrant, one was noted 23 September at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, *Jefferson* (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER –The following reports of this rare but sometimes regular *Empidonax* were received: one at St. Florian, *Lauderdale* 25 August (Damien Simbeck); one at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert* 20 September (Damien Simbeck, Phyllis Nofzinger *et al.*); one calling at Montgomery, *Montgomery* 26 September (Larry Gardella); one at Wilson Dam, *Lauderdale* 28 September (Tom Haggerty); and one calling at the Shell Mounds, Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 10 October (Steve McConnell) and three at the same site 13 October (Ben Garmon).

ALDER FLYCATCHER – A singing *Empidonax* at Loxley, *Baldwin* 24 August was reported as this species (Claire Krusko; @ABRC) to set the 11th Alabama record. One was calling at the Shell Mounds, Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 28 September (Steve McConnell; @ABRC) to set the 12th Alabama record.

“TRAIL’S FLYCATCHER” – Reports of two possible Alders were received: one calling at Montgomery, *Montgomery* 5 October (Larry Gardella; @ABRC) (rare on Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama), and one singing at Guntersville, *Marshall* 2 November (Dean Cutten), the latest *Empidonax* for inland Alabama and the latest “Trail’s” for Alabama.

LEAST FLYCATCHER – A count of 12 on Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 28 September (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson) set a new maximum for Alabama.

- “WESTERN FLYCATCHER”** – The first record for the complex in Alabama was marked by a single seen at the Shell Mounds, Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 25-27 September (Jon Dunn, m.ob.; ph.; @ABRC).
- VERMILION FLYCATCHER** – Casual in the WP, two different adult males were found at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*: one 22 October – 16 November (Lucy Duncan, Chris Cameron) and one 23 October (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, m.ob). An immature female was at Ft. Morgan, *Baldwin* 19 October (Lucy Duncan, Bob Duncan, Betsy Tetlow, Sue Yates) where it is rare.
- ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER** – One was observed at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa* 4 October - 29 November (Lenny Fenimore, m.ob.). This species has been rare but regular at this site since 1991.
- WESTERN KINGBIRD** – One at Foley, *Baldwin* 16 November (Howard Horne, Bill Summerour *et al.*) was unusual away from the outer coast. Seven were seen at Ft. Morgan, *Baldwin* 24 November (Carolyn Henning, Jan Osborne, Eva Barnett), a good number, especially so late in the season.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** – Rare but increasing inland, there were three reports, all of single adults: AL 183 in southwest *Perry* 3 August (Paul Franklin *et al.*); Autaugaville, *Autauga* 18 August (Tommy Pratt); and Priceville, *Morgan* 17-20 September (Steve McConnell).
- BELL’S VIREO** – One was seen along the Coosa River, *Shelby* 28 September (Harriett Wright, Stan Hamilton, Dana Hamilton, Shirley Farrell) (very rare for inland Alabama).
- WARBLING VIREO** – Rare in Alabama, one was noted at Madison, *Madison* 5 September (Dean Cutten) and another was at the Shell Mounds on Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 27 September (Howard Horne, Bill Summerour, Laurie Bailey).
- HORNED LARK** – The WTF, *Lowndes* is the only known breeding site for this species on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama, and four were there 3 August (Larry Gardella).
- TREE SWALLOW** – Larry Gardella reported 200 from Speigner, *Elmore* 28 September, a good number for inland Alabama.
- BANK SWALLOW** – Ben Garmon reported 300 at Battleship Park on the Mobile Causeway, *Mobile* 3 September, a good number for one site.
- CAVE SWALLOW** – The sixth and seventh WP records were set by single adults observed at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa* 9 November (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Brian Monk, Morris Clark, m.ob.) and at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa* 15 November (Bob Duncan).
- WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH** – One was noted at Montgomery,

Montgomery 25 September while two were seen at the same site 14 November (Larry Gardella) (rare for Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama).

HOUSE WREN – A late migrant was at Fayette, *Fayette* 24 November (Jud Johnston).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET – An estimated 50 were at the Shell Mounds on Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 2 November (David Dortch *et al.*) (a good number at this site).

VARIED THRUSH – A window-killed individual was found at Panama City, *Bay* 16 November (Richard Ingram) to set the third or fourth Florida record.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER – Good numbers of this species were seen at several sites: three in *Macon* 20 September (Barry Fleming) (maximum number for Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama); five in *Lee* 21 September (Paul Milotis); and three at Opelika, *Lee* 5 October (Lorna West).

NORTHERN PARULA – One was late at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert* 9 October (Damien Simbeck, Shirley Wayland).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER – An adult male set a late fall departure record for the Tennessee Valley at Florence, *Lauderdale* 1 November (Damien Simbeck).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER – One seen at the Shell Mounds on Dauphin Island, *Mobile* as early as 5 August (continuing through 13 August) set an early arrival record for the Gulf Coast (John Porter *et al.*). A single was late at Guin, *Marion* 30 October (Jud Johnston).

CAPE MAY WARBLER – Rarely seen during fall migration, singles were found at Opelika, *Lee* 10 October and 18 October (Lorna West).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER – Damien Simbeck reported a female from Muscle Shoals, *Colbert* 17 September (rare in northwest Alabama).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER – One was late at Madison, *Madison* 3 November (Dean Cutten).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER – Reports of late singles came from Opelika, *Lee* 29 October (Lorna West) and Guin, *Marion* 30 October (Jud Johnston).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER – One seen on Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 28 September (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson) was late.

SWAINSON'S WARBLER – Tom Haggerty reported a rare and late (for the Tennessee Valley) single from Muscle Shoals, *Colbert* 15 August. Singles were at the Shell Mounds on Dauphin Island, *Mobile* 25 and 27 September (Jon Dunn and Howard Horne *et al.*, respectively) (uncommon in fall, not often detected).

- HOODED WARBLER** – Two found at Rocky Ridge, *Jefferson* 29 October (Harriett Wright) were late.
- WILSON'S WARBLER** – One seen at Madison, *Madison* 10 October (Dean Cutten, Raelene Cutten) set a new late departure date for the Tennessee Valley.
- CANADA WARBLER** – This species is rare on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama, so the following records were noteworthy: a single along the Alabama River, *Autauga* 28 August (Eric Soehren); three in the Tsninia Unit of Tuskegee NF, *Macon* 11 September (Barry Fleming); and one at Montgomery, *Montgomery* 28 September (Larry Gardella).
- YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT** – A late bird was in *Lee* 1 November (Barry Fleming).
- CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** – A single was spotted at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin* 28 September (Howard Horne, m.ob.) where the species is rare but expected at this season.
- HENSLOW'S SPARROW** – Ned Piper found one at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert* 24 November (rare in Tennessee Valley).
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW** – Singles were found in *Jefferson* at two sites: Argo 28 September (Greg Harber) and Birmingham Botanical Gardens 27 October (Pelham Rowan; ph.) (rare in Mountain Region).
- LAPLAND LONGSPUR** – Two at the WTF, *Lowndes* 17 November (Bill Campbell), where the species is rare but regular, set a new early arrival date for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama.
- BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK** – A female was at a site that has hosted the species for eight winters, in west Mobile, *Mobile* beginning the first week in November and continuing through the period (Virginia Culberson).
- PAINTED BUNTING** – A juvenile at Ft. Pickens, *Escambia* 19 August (Bob Duncan) set the third record for the WP.
- DICKCISSEL** – A late and locally rare individual was found at Atmore, *Escambia*, Alabama 12 November (Jon Yoder).
- HOODED ORIOLE** – An adult male coming to a hummingbird feeder in Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa* 22-26 October (Betty Ann Smith, William Smith) established the first record for Florida (@FOSRC; ph.).

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