

WINTER SIGHTINGS (DECEMBER 2005 – FEBRUARY 2006)

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This report covers the period from December 2005 through February 2006 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 Florida counties of *Bay*, *Escambia*, *Gulf*, *Okaloosa*, *Santa Rosa*, and *Walton*, are in Alabama. “@” = under review by; “ABRC” = Alabama Bird Records Committee; “b.” = banded; “CBC” = Christmas Bird Count; “CE” = central east; “FOSRC” = Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee; “FWBSF” = Fort Walton Beach Spray Fields; “m.ob.” = many observers; “NWR” = National Wildlife Refuge; “ph.” = photographed; “WP” = Western Panhandle of Florida (*Escambia*, *Okaloosa*, and *Santa Rosa* counties).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE – Rare but regular in the WP, one was at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 10-19 December (Don Ware, Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan *et al.*). Twenty+ was a good number at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 1 January (Shelley Ducharme, Frank Ducharme) (rare for the Inland Coastal Plain, but regular at this site). This goose is uncommon in the Tennessee Valley, but Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, is a regular site for a flock of this species. A maximum of 34 (good number) was recorded at Wheeler NWR 8 January (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson). Three were found west of Florence, *Lauderdale*, 20+ January (Damien Simbeck, m.ob.) (rare in northwest Alabama). Rare on the Inland Coastal Plain (except for Eufaula NWR), one was seen at Marvyn, *Lee*, 24 February (Bailey McKay).

ROSS’S GOOSE – Casual in extreme northwest Florida, but becoming more

regular, nine birds were at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 10-19 December (Lucy Duncan, Bob Duncan, Peggy Baker, Morris Clark *et al.*; ph. by Paul Johnson; @FOSRC). Rare but becoming regular on the Alabama Gulf Coast, up to three were in the Magnolia Springs/Foley area, *Baldwin* (ph.; one, 12 December, David Plumb; two, 29-30 December, Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson; and an additional bird 30 December, Bill Bremser, Greta Bremser). Rare but becoming regular on the Inland Coastal Plain, one adult was noted at Lee County Lake, *Lee*, during the Auburn CBC, 3 January (Geoff Hill), and an immature was at Auburn, *Lee*, 30 January (Barry Fleming). Eight was a good number 8 January (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson) at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, where this species is rare but regular.

ACKLING GOOSE – A very small goose, present with three Greater White-fronted Geese, three large Canada Geese, and one Ross's Goose at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 10 December – 4 January, was identified as this species (Don Ware, Lucy Duncan, Bob Duncan, m.ob.). This is the first documented record for the WP.

CANADA GOOSE – The 477 recorded 31 December on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, was a locally good number.

TRUMPETER SWAN – Two immatures were found at Marvyn, *Lee*, 17 February – 7 March (Geoff Hill, m.ob.; ph.; @ABRC). The origin/wild status of these birds is unknown, but they are likely from the current re-introduction program in the Midwest.

TUNDRA SWAN – Two adults occurred at Hope Hull, *Montgomery*, 30-31 December (Carolyn Snow, Phil Snow, Larry Gardella) (occasional for the Inland Coastal Plain).

MALLARD – A maximum count (45,787) for Alabama was made on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December.

GREATER SCAUP – One female was at Speigner, *Elmore*, 6 January (Greg Jackson) (rare for the Inland Coastal Plain).

LESSER SCAUP – The 6,675 recorded on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December, was a good number.

SURF SCOTER – This scoter is uncommon on the Gulf Coast of Alabama, so the 10 seen on Bon Secour Bay, *Baldwin*, 3 December (David Plumb), was a good number.

BLACK SCOTER – Two birds, immatures or females, were noted in Pensacola, *Escambia*, during the Pensacola CBC, 17 December (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Cecil Brown, Roy Hall) (rare). Also rare in the

Tennessee Valley, female-type birds were found at Guntersville, *Marshall* (one, 1 December, Linda Reynolds, Dick Reynolds; two, 26-27 December, Lorna West *et al.*). This scoter is rare but regular on the Gulf Coast of Alabama, so the 10 seen on Bon Secour Bay, *Baldwin*, 3 December (David Plumb), was a good number.

RUFFED GROUSE – While a permanent resident in northeast Alabama, this species is rarely recorded. Amy Silvano observed one on Little Coon Mountain in Skyline WMA, *Jackson*, 26 February.

RED-THROATED LOON – Rare but regular in winter at Guntersville, *Marshall*, one occurred there 26 December (Linda Reynolds, Dick Reynolds), and four (good number) were there 21 January (Stan Hamilton, Dana Hamilton).

PACIFIC LOON – Rare but regular in winter at Guntersville, *Marshall*, a single was there 25 December (Steve McConnell), and two were found 21 January (Stan Hamilton, Dana Hamilton).

YELLOW-BILLED LOON – The first record for Alabama was marked by a single at Guntersville, *Marshall*, 19 January (Linda Reynolds, Dick Reynolds; @ABRC).

RED-NECKED GREBE – One at the W.F. George Dam, *Henry*, 19 February (Eric Beohm, Michael Beohm; ph.), marked the first record for the Inland Coastal Plain (very rare in Alabama, with more records in recent years).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN – Rare in winter for inland Alabama, 116 on the Wheeler NWR CBC, 17 December, set a new maximum count for inland Alabama, while 17 were at Wilson Dam, *Colbert*, 26+ January (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson *et al.*).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT – A maximum count for inland Alabama was established by the 7,104 tallied on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December.

ANHINGA – A single female was recorded on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December, and found again on 2 January (Larry Gardella) (rare in winter, especially this far north).

GREAT EGRET – On the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December, 254 were recorded (good number for winter).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON – One adult was found during the Birmingham CBC, *Jefferson*, 23 December (David George, Sharon Hudgins) (occasional in winter in the Mountain Region).

BLACK VULTURE – A good number (203) for the Tennessee Valley was recorded on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December.

- OSPREY** – Singles were observed at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 7 December (Carolyn Snow), and for count week of the Birmingham CBC, *Jefferson/Shelby*, ~23 December (rare in winter for inland Alabama). The 29 tallied on the Gulf Shores CBC, *Baldwin*, 30 December, established a new maximum count for Alabama.
- BALD EAGLE** – Four (one adult and three first-year birds) at Arcola, *Hale*, 19 February (Judy Self, Don Self), was a good number for the Inland Coastal Plain.
- HARRIS'S HAWK** – An adult first seen 8 January on Dauphin Island, *Mobile* (Don McKee), continued at this site 10 February – 11 March (Harry Dean, Sue Dean, m.ob.; ph.; @ABRC). While this record would be the first for Alabama, its origin is questionable because dispersal is usually minimal and mostly by juveniles, and this is a common falconry species with frequent escapes.
- SWAINSON'S HAWK** – One light morph was found at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 10 December (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Morris Clark, Don Ware *et al.*; ph. by Paul Johnson) to mark the 11th WP record.
- RED-TAILED HAWK** – A dark morph bird (rare in Alabama) occurred at the Birmingham Airport, *Jefferson*, 15 February (Paul Franklin).
- ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK** – Two birds, a light morph and a dark morph (ph.), were found below Guntersville Dam, *Marshall*, 21 January (Linda Reynolds, Ty Keith, m.ob.), a site where the species has traditionally occurred (rare, particularly in recent years).
- MERLIN** – Very rare in winter in the Tennessee Valley, a single was counted on the Waterloo CBC, *Lauderdale/Colbert*, 17 December (Floyd Sherrod). Rare but regular in winter on the Inland Coastal Plain, one was east of Alfalfa, *Hale*, 19 February (Judy Self, Don Self).
- PEREGRINE FALCON** – Rare in winter for inland Alabama, three was a good number on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December. Another single was observed for count week of the Birmingham CBC, *Jefferson/Shelby*, ~23 December.
- AMERICAN COOT** - The 57,263 tallied on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December, established a new maximum count for Alabama.
- SANDHILL CRANE** – At Florala, *Covington*, 27 were observed 8 December (Carolyn Snow, Phil Snow), a good number for the Inland Coastal Plain where the species is rare (except for Eufaula NWR). The 1,243 recorded on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December, established a new maximum count for Alabama. A single was seen at Montgomery,

Montgomery, 30-31 December (Carolyn Snow, Phil Snow *et al.*).

SNOWY PLOVER – At Big Sabine, *Escambia*, 14 December, 16 was a good number for the WP (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan).

KILLDEER – A good number locally was the 431 tallied on the Waterloo CBC, *Lauderdale/Colbert*, 17 December.

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER – Casual in the WP, singles were noted at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 8 December (Bob Duncan), and at Pensacola, *Escambia*, 17 December (Jan Lloyd).

LESSER YELLOWLEGS - A maximum winter count (53) for inland Alabama was made on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER – A single was observed for count week of the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, ~31 December (Carolyn Snow) (rare in winter for inland Alabama).

MARbled GODWIT – Two were discovered on the Dauphin Island CBC, *Mobile*, 17 December (rare in winter).

WILSON'S SNIBE – A good number locally was the 97 tallied on the Waterloo CBC, *Lauderdale/Colbert*, 17 December.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK – Two were present in a yard at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 8-26 December (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan), the species was tallied on the Choctawhatchee CBC, *Okaloosa*, 19 December, and there were several occurrences in suburban yards, perhaps indicative of an invasion year. Displaying singles were noted in the Stapleton and Carlton CE blocks for the Alabama Breeding Bird Atlas, *Baldwin*, 7 and 22 February, respectively (Claire Krusko) (rare breeder on the Gulf Coast).

POMARINE JAEGER – The second record for inland Alabama, and the first for the Inland Coastal Plain, was marked by a juvenile at the W.F. George Dam, *Henry*, 10 December (Steve McConnell) and 11 December (Paul Lehman). The third record for inland Alabama, and the second for the Tennessee Valley, was marked by a single at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 16-17 December (Craig Brown *et al.*; ph.)

FRANKLIN'S GULL – Rare in winter, a first-year individual was seen at Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 9 January (Bob Duncan, Mac Myers).

LITTLE GULL – The ninth record for Alabama, and the second for the Inland Coastal Plain, was marked by a first-year bird at Speigner, *Elmore*, 16 December (Shawn Reed; @ABRC).

RING-BILLED GULL – On the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December, 2,182 was a good number for the Inland Coastal Plain.

- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL** – Casual in the WP, an adult was found at Fort Walton Beach, *Okaloosa*, during the Choctawhatchee CBC, 19 December (Merilu Rose, Rufus Rose). Several sightings of first-year, second-year, and adult birds (maximum of 5) were made at Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 29 December – 19 February (Greg Jackson, Bob Duncan, Mac Meyers *et al.*), where the species is rare but regular and increasing.
- GLAUCOUS GULL** – An immature seen 11-27 December south of Southside, *Etowah* (Lorna West, Neil Cronin *et al.*; ph.), marked the first record for the Mountain Region. Another immature was spotted at several sites along the Tennessee River (Town Creek Marsh, Wilson Dam, Wheeler Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale/Lawrence*) 7 January – 4 February (Damien Simbeck, m.ob.; ph.) (rare).
- GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL** – A first-year bird was at Guntersville, *Marshall* 1 January (Steve Matherly) (rare).
- FORSTER'S TERN** – Forty was a good winter count for inland Alabama at Waterloo and Wilson and Wheeler dams, *Lauderdale/Colbert/Lawrence*, 14 January (Greg Jackson, Steve McConnell).
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE** – Uncommon in winter, a new maximum count for Alabama was established by the 161 tallied on the Gulf Shores CBC, *Baldwin*, 30 December (Howard Horne *et al.*). A single was on the Fort Morgan CBC, *Baldwin*, 30 December, while 40 (good number) were at Mobile, *Mobile*, 31 December (Ben Garmon).
- BURROWING OWL** – The colony continues on the B-70 area of Eglin Air Force Base, *Okaloosa*, with 15 birds reported 15 January (Lenny Fenimore).
- COMMON NIGHTHAWK** – A late bird was at Hoover, *Jefferson*, 4 December (Paul Franklin).
- BUFF-BELLIED HUMMINGBIRD** – Rare in Alabama, a banded bird returned to East Brewton, *Escambia*, 2 December (Fred Bassett, Pat McArthur), and another single was at Fairhope, *Baldwin*, 14-15 December (Fred Bassett *et al.*; b.).
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD** – Eleven (good number) were banded 6 December – 25 January in *Mobile/Baldwin* (Fred Bassett *et al.*) (rare in winter in Alabama).
- COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD** – The first record for Alabama was established by an immature male at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, seen between late November and 17 February (Fred Bassett, m.ob.; b.; ph.; @ABRC).
- CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD** – Casual in winter in the WP, an immature

male was at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 26 January (Fred Bassett, Pat Taylor, Don Taylor; b.). Rare in Alabama, another immature male was at Lillian, *Baldwin*, 28 December (Fred Bassett, Jim Dickerson *et al.*; b.; ph.), and an adult female returned to Birmingham, *Jefferson*, 13+ January (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent, m.ob.; b.).

BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD – A hatching-year male was at Mobile, *Mobile*, 15 December (Fred Bassett *et al.*; b.; ph.; 11th record for Alabama).

ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD – One female occurred at Foley, *Baldwin*, 25 January (Fred Bassett *et al.*; b.; ph.) (rare in Alabama).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER – Rare in the WP, a male was at Tiger Point, *Santa Rosa*, 11-12 December (Larry Tilley, Bill Bremser).

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER – Rare in the WP, singles were noted at Garcon Point, *Santa Rosa*, 14 December (Don Ware), and at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 4 January – 17 February (Bob Duncan). Occasional in winter in Alabama, one was at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 12 December (Steve McConnell, Paul Lehman; ph.) to set the fourth record for inland Alabama and the second record for the Inland Coastal Plain. Another single was noted on the Gulf Shores CBC, *Baldwin*, 30 December (Bill Bremser, Greta Bremser; ph.).

WESTERN KINGBIRD – One occurred at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 12-18 December (Bob Duncan, Jeri French), while another was in downtown Pensacola, *Escambia*, 17 December (Lucy Duncan, Cecil Brown, Roy Hall) (rare but regular in winter in the WP).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER – Rare in winter in Alabama, Jan Lloyd *et al.* had one at Elberta, *Baldwin*, 1-30 December (ph.).

WHITE-EYED VIREO – A single was on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December (Larry Gardella) (rare in winter for inland Alabama). Another single in northern *Lee*, 21 January (Barry Fleming) marked the second winter record for the Mountain Region.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO – Rare in winter in both the Tennessee Valley and Mountain Region, CBCs produced three records: four (maximum for north Alabama in winter), Wheeler NWR, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December; one, Birmingham, *Jefferson/Shelby*, 23 December; and one, Guntersville, *Marshall*, 26 December. On the Gulf Shores CBC, *Baldwin*, 50 were tallied 30 December to set a new maximum count for Alabama.

CAVE SWALLOW – Casual in the WP, the first winter record was marked by one at Cantonment, *Escambia*, 8 January (Laura Catterton).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH – On the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*,

74 were tallied 26 December to establish a maximum count for the Tennessee Valley.

CAROLINA WREN – A maximum winter count (147) for the Inland Coastal Plain was made on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December.

HOUSE WREN – Rare in winter in north Alabama, one was noted on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December, and six (good number) were found on the Waterloo CBC, *Lauderdale/Colbert*, 17 December. Seven on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December, marked a new maximum winter count for the Inland Coastal Plain.

MARSH WREN – Rare in the Tennessee Valley in winter, three were discovered on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December (Bert Harris, Milton Harris, Brett Scheffers) (maximum winter count for the Tennessee Valley). Two were noted on the Waterloo CBC, *Lauderdale/Colbert*, 17 December.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET – Participants on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December, tallied a good number (227).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER – Rare in winter for inland Alabama, one occurred at Hoover, *Shelby*, 16 December (Paul Franklin), and another single was noted on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December (Carolyn Snow).

SWAINSON'S THRUSH – The second winter record for Alabama was marked by one at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 10 December (Barry Fleming).

HERMIT THRUSH – Good numbers were found on two north Alabama CBCs. The Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, produced 105 (maximum for the Tennessee Valley) on 17 December, while the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, produced 74 on 26 December.

GRAY CATBIRD – Rare in winter in north Alabama, singles were found on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December (Steve McConnell), and on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December.

CEDAR WAXWING – A maximum count (3,713) for the Tennessee Valley was made on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER – Rare in winter in north Alabama, one was recorded on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December, and two were found during the Birmingham CBC, *Jefferson/Shelby*, 23 December. Thirteen on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December, marked a maximum count for the Inland Coastal Plain.

NASHVILLE WARBLER – A single was at Fort Walton Beach, *Okaloosa*, 19

December (Jim Kowalski; Choctawhatchee CBC) (rare in winter in the WP).

YELLOW WARBLER – Two birds at Pensacola, *Escambia*, 17 December (Merilu Rose, Rufus Rose; Pensacola CBC) marked the fifth December record for the WP.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER – A maximum count (900) for the Tennessee Valley was made during the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December. A good number (631) for the Inland Coastal Plain was recorded on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December.

PALM WARBLER – Uncommon in winter in the Tennessee Valley, four were seen during the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT – Three were noted on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December (rare in winter in the Tennessee Valley).

SUMMER TANAGER – An adult female was at a feeder in Pensacola, *Escambia*, 24 January – 28 February (Paula Palmer, Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan; ph.) (casual in winter in the WP). Rare in winter in Alabama, three records, all singles and females, were received: Anniston, *Calhoun*, 13 December – 11 February (Debbie McKenzie; ph.); Mobile, *Mobile*, 1 February (Linda Floyd; ph.); and Tuscaloosa, *Tuscaloosa*, 19 February through March (John Hall; ph.).

SCARLET TANAGER – A female at a feeder in Bon Secour, *Baldwin*, 30 December through early February (John Dillon, Kate Dillon *et al.*), marked the second winter record for Alabama.

WESTERN TANAGER – Casual in winter in the WP, an adult male was at a feeder in Pensacola, *Escambia*, 24 January – 28 February (Paula Palmer, Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan; ph.).

EASTERN TOWHEE – The 157 tallied on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December, was a good number locally.

CHIPPING SPARROW – On the Waterloo CBC, *Lauderdale/Colbert*, 455 (good number) were counted 17 December, while the 528 tallied on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December, set a new maximum count for the Tennessee Valley.

LE CONTE'S SPARROW – Rare in north Alabama, one was sighted at Key Cave NWR, *Lauderdale*, 3 December (Paul Kittle). Rare but regular at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, one was noted there 23 December (Lorna West, Neil Cronic, Nick Holler).

SALTMARSH SPARROW (SALTMARSH/NELSON'S) – A sharp-tailed

sparrow was photographed 30 December on the Gulf Shores CBC, Baldwin (Mac Myers [ph.], Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Betsy Tetlow). Several characteristics suggest Saltmarsh Sparrow, but definitive field identification in this complex is difficult out of the usual ranges. Expert review of photographs is underway to help determine if this bird is outside the wide range of variability seen in Nelson's Sparrow. If determined to be a Saltmarsh Sparrow by the ABRC, this would represent a first Alabama record.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW – Rare in winter in Alabama, especially inland, three reports were received: one at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 12 December (Steve McConnell, Paul Lehman); one on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent); and two on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December (Eric Soehren, Larry Gardella).

SWAMP SPARROW – A new maximum count (941) for Alabama was made on the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR – Several were at the Woerner Turf Farm, *Lowndes*, 16 December (Shawn Reed) (rare but regular at this site).

ROSE-BREADED GROSBEAK – Casual in winter in the WP, a male was at Fort Walton Beach, *Okaloosa*, 19 December (Pat Baker; Choctawhatchee CBC).

INDIGO BUNTING – Occasional in winter for inland Alabama, a male was observed at Anniston, *Calhoun*, 11 December (Debbie McKenzie; ph.).

DICKCISSEL – One was seen at Mobile, *Mobile*, 18 February (Chazz Hesselein) (rare in winter on the Gulf Coast of Alabama).

WESTERN MEADOWLARK – One singing at the Dauphin Island Airport, *Mobile*, 24-28 February (Ben Garmon *et al.*; ph.; @ABRC) marked only the second confirmed record for Alabama in the last 30 years.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD – On the Wheeler NWR CBC, *Limestone/Morgan*, 17 December, 72 was a good number for the Tennessee Valley (David George).

BRONZED COWBIRD – The 10th record for Alabama was established by an adult male at the east end of Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 29 January – 6 February (Howard Horne *et al.*; @ABRC).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE – Rare in winter in Alabama, five reports were received: one male at Silverhill, *Baldwin*, 21 December (Bill Summerour); six (three male Baltimore Orioles and three female-type "Northern" Orioles) on the Montgomery CBC, *Montgomery*, 31 December (Eric

Soehren, Carolyn Snow, Glenda McNair) (maximum for winter in Alabama); an adult female at a feeder in Gallion, *Marengo*, 11 January (Judy Self, Don Self); an adult male at a feeder in Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 27+ January (Carol Alford); and an adult male at a feeder in Cropwell, *St. Clair*, 10 February (*vide* Bob Sargent; ph.).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH - The 461 tallied on the Guntersville CBC, *Marshall*, 26 December, was a good number locally.

EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH – One at a feeder in Pensacola, *Escambia*, 21 December (Morris Clark) was a probable escape.

NUTMEG MANNIKIN – This exotic species continues to be reported from feeders in the WP.

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