

SPRING SIGHTINGS (MARCH 1 - MAY 31, 1998)*

RED-THROATED LOON - Up to five were at Guntersville, Marshall Co., AL, March 25 - April 2 (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson, Steve W. McConnell, Philip Johnson, D. Arnold).

PACIFIC LOON - An alternate-plumaged individual was in Escambia Co., FL, April 23 (Ed Case).

EARED GREBE - One at Dauphin Island, Mobile Co., AL, April 18, was farther east than normal (Greg D. Jackson).

WILSON'S STORM-PETREL - Four were seen on a foray into the Gulf of Mexico off Baldwin Co., AL, May 23 (Greg D. Jackson and others).

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL - Eight to nine were counted on a foray into the Gulf of Mexico off Baldwin Co., AL, May 23, providing the 4th AL record (Greg D. Jackson and others). Also, an individual that had been banded in the Azores in 1993, was brought to Pensacola Wildlife Rescue, Escambia Co., FL, April 28 (A. Forster, *fide* Robert A. Duncan, Lucy Duncan).

GLOSSY IBIS - One in Okaloosa Co., FL, March 4 - 9, was unusual for northwest Florida (Ed Case, Robert A. Duncan).

OLDSQUAW - A male was in Walton Co., FL, March 14 (M. Rose), and six were in Escambia Co., FL, March 18 (Phil Tetlow, Betsy Tetlow).

SURF SCOTER - One was below Colbert Ferry Bridge in Lauderdale Co., AL, May 2 (Tom Haggerty, Jeff Garner).

BLACK SCOTER - One was at Dauphin Island, Mobile Co., AL, March 27 - 29 (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson, others).

HOODED MERGANSER - In Escambia Co., two hatchlings from suspicious eggs collected Feb. 13, from a Wood Duck nest and incubated by a chicken in Escambia Co., and a Wood Duck box housing a female Hooded Merganser and her 12 eggs in the same area, March 24, were the first breeding records for northwest FL (C. Davis, *fide* Robert A. Duncan).

MISSISSIPPI KITE - One in Colbert Co., May 15, was the 2nd record for northwest AL (Tom Haggerty, Jeff Garner).

RUFFED GROUSE - Since rarely detected, one drumming in Jackson Co., AL, March 22, was an exciting find (Greg D. Jackson, Philip Johnson).

BLACK RAIL - One was observed at Dauphin Island, Mobile, AL, April 17 - 18 (C. Snow, Michael W. Russell, others).

KING RAIL - Two in Lauderdale Co., AL, May 6, were unusual for extreme north-west Alabama (Steve W. McConnell, Damien J. Simbeck, Jeff Garner).

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER - One in Baldwin Co., AL, April 19, was a rare local visitor (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson, others).

BLACK-NECKED STILT - A nest with eggs in Colbert Co., AL, May 21, provided the first confirmed inland nesting record (Tom Haggerty, Jeff Garner; see *Alabama Birdlife* 44: 8).

UPLAND SANDPIPER - Thirteen were seen in Baldwin Co., AL, April 27 (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT - One in Okaloosa Co., April 22, was northwest Florida's 5th record (Robert A. Duncan et al.). Another was a good find in Colbert Co., AL, May 10-12 (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson, many observers).

STILT SANDPIPER - A single individual in Colbert Co., AL, May 3, was locally rare (Greg D. Jackson).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER - One in Okaloosa Co., FL, April 9, provided only the 3rd northwest Florida record (Robert A. Duncan).

RUFF - A female found in Mobile Co., AL, May 17 - 19, was the 4th Alabama record (B.C. Garmon, many observers).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE - One in Okaloosa Co., FL, April 22, was locally rare (Robert A. Duncan).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE - One was in Mobile Co., AL, May 22 (G. E. Hill, Greg D. Jackson, Philip Johnson) and four were 81 mi off Baldwin Co., AL, May 23 (Greg D. Jackson, others).

POMARINE JAEGER - One was off Dauphin Island, Mobile Co., AL, March 28 (Greg D. Jackson and others), and another 81 mi off Baldwin Co., AL, May 23 (Greg D. Jackson, others).

FRANKLIN'S GULL - One in Colbert Co., AL, May 6, was farther east than normal (Steve W. McConnell, Damien J. Simbeck, Jeff Garner).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL - Different individuals were seen in Marshall Co., AL, March 8 (Steve W. McConnell, others) and March 25 (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson, D. Reynolds).

GLAUCOUS GULL - One was in Baldwin Co., AL, April 18 - 26 (B. Blakeslee, B. James, Robert A. Duncan, Greg D. Jackson).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE - One in Okaloosa Co., FL, April 22, was farther east than usual (Robert A. Duncan).

GROOVE-BILLED ANI - Two to three wintering in Escambia, FL, remained to April 21 (D. and A. Norfolk, *fide* Robert A. Duncan).

SHORT-EARED OWL - One in Marshall Co., AL, March 15, was a rare visitor (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson).

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER - One in Cleburne Co., AL, May 16, was farther east than normal (Terrence L. Schiefer, Marion Schiefer).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER - One in Jefferson Co., AL, May 25, was rare and tied the record late date for Alabama (Greg D. Jackson).

COUCH'S/TROPICAL KINGBIRD - One in Mobile Co., AL, May 22, was the 4th Alabama record (Steve W. McConnell).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER - One in Escambia Co., FL, May 11, was exceptionally far east and was the second area May record (Robert A. Duncan, Lucy Duncan).

WARBLING VIREO - A territorial male in Lauderdale Co., AL, May 31, was in an area where the species was first noted in 1994 (Steve W. McConnell).

RED-EYED VIREO - An estimated 1700+ on Dauphin Island, Mobile Co., AL, April 28, provided a new Alabama high count (Greg D. Jackson).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO - One studied in Escambia Co., FL, May 11, was northwest Florida's 5th record (Robert A. Duncan, H. Barbig).

CAVE SWALLOW - Alabama's 11th record was in Baldwin Co., April 11 (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson, others).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH - One was late in Madison Co., AL, May 5 (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson).

BEWICK'S WREN - A rare sight was a singing individual in Escambia Co., FL, March 21 (L. Case, Ed Case, C. Ascherfeld, *vide* Robert A. Duncan).

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER - A male in Escambia Co., April 27 - 28, was the first record for northwest Florida (Robert A. Duncan, Dick Ballman).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER - An individual was seen in Jefferson, Co., AL, on May 16 and May 25 (Pelham Rowan, Greg D. Jackson).

MOURNING WARBLER - One in Jefferson, Co., AL, May 17, was a rare spring find (H. Findlay, Pelham Rowan, Greg D. Jackson).

SCARLET TANAGER - On April 28, the 750+ that were seen on Dauphin Island, Mobile Co., AL, set the new record high for Alabama (Greg D. Jackson).

WESTERN TANAGER - One in Escambia Co., May 11, was the first May record for northwest Florida (Robert A. Duncan, others).

LARK SPARROW - Two in Lawrence Co. and a breeding pair in Limestone Co., AL, May 3, were in an area where small numbers have regularly bred in recent years (Dean Cutten, Greg D. Jackson, others) (see pp. 22-23 of this issue of *Alabama Birdlife*).

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK - One in Escambia Co., April 20, was northwest Florida's 2nd spring record (T. McCaskey, *vide* Robert A. Duncan).

SHINY COWBIRD - Recorded in Escambia, Co., FL, April 8 and April 19 (Robert A. Duncan, B. Bremser), in Baldwin Co., AL, April 27 - 28, and on Dauphin Island, Mobile Co., AL, April 28 (Greg D. Jackson, Debra G. Jackson).

* **Editors Note** - Sightings and annotations published in *Field Notes* 52:340-344.