

**FALL SIGHTINGS (AUGUST-NOVEMBER 2004)**

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This report covers the period from August through November 2004 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; “FOSRC” = Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee; “FWBSF” = Fort Walton Beach Spray Fields; “m.ob.” = many observers; “NF” = National Forest; “NWR” = National Wildlife Refuge; “ph.” = photographed; “SP” = State Park; “WMA” = Wildlife Management Area; “WP” = Western Panhandle of Florida (*Escambia*, *Okaloosa*, and *Santa Rosa* counties); “WTF” = Woerner Turf Farm.

**GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** – In northern *Escambia*, Laura Catterton observed 32-38 birds 25-27 October (rare in WP). Twenty-eight were observed flying west on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 15 October (Bob Duncan *et al.*), where the species is uncommon. A new maximum (133) for inland Alabama was set by Steve McConnell who counted 120 flying northwest at Swan Creek WMA and another 13 at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 31 October.

**ROSS’S GOOSE** – Three were found at Wilson Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale*, 9 November (Damien Simbeck) (rare but increasing).

**MOTTLED DUCK** – Brian Monk saw four birds at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 26 September (casual fall transients in the WP).

**PACIFIC LOON** – A single was seen on Lake Guntersville, *Marshall* 23 October (Bob Reid), where the species is rare but regular. This observation sets an early arrival date for Alabama by nearly one month.

**PIED-BILLED GREBE** – At the Marion Fish Hatchery in *Perry*, Greg Jackson found an adult with five mid-sized juveniles 14 September. Pied-billed Grebes are uncommon and erratic breeders in Alabama. On Lake Guntersville, *Marshall*, Greg and Debra Jackson made a careful estimate of 1090 on 8 November, a good

number.

- EARED GREBE** – One was found on Lake Guntersville, *Marshall*, 27 October (Lorna West, Linda Reynolds) (rare for inland Alabama).
- CORY'S SHEARWATER** – Three, accidental in the WP, were located on a pelagic trip out of Destin, *Okaloosa*, led by Brian Monk on 22 August to the Desoto Canyon.
- WILSON'S STORM-PETREL** – Four, rare in the WP, were located on a pelagic trip out of Destin, *Okaloosa*, led by Brian Monk on 22 August to the Desoto Canyon. In Alabama, one was noted at Eufaula, *Barbour*, 17 September (Geoff Hill, Lorna West, Mark Liu; ph.; @ABRC) (first record of this species for inland Alabama, second record of any storm-petrel for inland Alabama) following Hurricane Ivan.
- BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL** – Ten, casual in the WP, were located on a pelagic trip out of Destin, *Okaloosa*, led by Brian Monk on 22 August to the Desoto Canyon.
- WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD** – One immature, the first record of this species from the WP, was located on a pelagic trip out of Destin, *Okaloosa*, led by Brian Monk on 22 August to the Desoto Canyon.
- RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD** – One immature, the second record for the WP, was located on a pelagic trip out of Destin, *Okaloosa*, led by Brian Monk on 22 August to the Desoto Canyon.
- AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN** – Seven were seen along the Mobile Causeway, *Mobile*, 7 August (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch), where the species is rare but regular in summer. Eighty were counted at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 16 October (Dwight Cooley, Dick Bruer *et al.*), and 186 were noted at Swan Creek WMA, *Limestone*, 31 October (Steve McConnell, m.ob.), both good numbers for inland Alabama. Another good number for inland Alabama was the 77 at Weiss Lake, *Cherokee*, 12 October until early December (Linda Baker, Winston Baker) (regular in fall at this site).
- BROWN PELICAN** – One immature was spotted on Lake Guntersville, *Marshall*, 27 October (Lorna West). This sighting established the 14th inland record for Alabama.
- ANHINGA** – A kettle of 35 probable migrants, the maximum ever seen at one time in the WP, was observed at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 26 August (Brian Monk). Seven were found at the WTF, *Lowndes*, 11 September (Tommy Pratt, Shawn Reed, Bill Campbell) (uncommon, good number). Rare in the Mountain Region, two were reported from Emerald Valley Lake, *Jefferson*, 20 September (*vide* Bob Sargent).
- GREAT BLUE HERON** – The 12th WP record of the white morph of this species was set 14 August at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa* (Bob Duncan).
- GREAT EGRET** – A new maximum number (123) for the Mountain Region was recorded 20 September (Greg Jackson); 119 were counted at Weiss Lake, *Cherokee*, and four at Gadsden, *Etowah*.
- SNOWY EGRET** – Rare in the Mountain Region, two were spotted in a swamp at

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- Calera, *Shelby*, 21 August+ (Greg Harber, m.ob.).
- CATTLE EGRET** – Records of single late birds came from Town Creek Marsh, *Colbert*, 21 October (Damien Simbeck), and Wilson Dam, *Lauderdale/Colbert*, 13 November (Steve McConnell).
- WHITE IBIS** – Rare but regular in the Mountain Region, immatures of this species occurred at Calera, *Shelby*, 18-29 August (Ted Vodde, m.ob.), with a maximum of 10 being a good number.
- WHITE-FACED IBIS** – The seventh, eighth, and ninth records for the WP were set by singles seen 22 September, northern *Escambia* (Laura Catterton), 28 September, FWBSF, *Okaloosa* (Laura Catterton), and 8 October, FWBSF, *Okaloosa* (Bob Duncan, Cecil Brown); very rare in Florida.
- ROSEATE SPOONBILL** – An immature bird occurred 18-29 August at Calera, *Shelby* (Ted Vodde, m.ob.; ph.), establishing the second record for the Mountain Region. Another immature bird was found after Hurricane Ivan at Whitsett, *Hale*, 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore), setting the seventh record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama.
- WOOD STORK** – Along the Cahaba River south of Brent, *Bibb*, 31 were found 18 August and two on 20 September (Eric Spadgeneke) (rare so far north). One was noted along the Mobile Causeway, *Mobile*, 31 August (Dick Reynolds, Linda Reynolds) (occasional on the Gulf Coast). A new maximum for Alabama of 1000+ was found at Whitsett, *Hale*, 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore), after Hurricane Ivan. Five birds south of Eutaw, *Greene*, 2 November (Jared Caudle), were late.
- OSPREY** – An early migrant was in Hoover, *Jefferson*, 4 August (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson). Four was a good number for the Mountain Region in the Weiss Lake area, *Cherokee*, 20 September (Greg Jackson).
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** – Single birds spotted north of Lineville, *Clay*, 5 August (Tommy Pratt), and north of Cleveland, *Blount*, 6 August (Barry Smith) established the sixth and seventh records, respectively, for the Mountain Region. Two seen along Haysop Creek south of Brent, *Bibb*, 8 September (Eric Spadgeneke) were rare this far northeast.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE** – Fifty+ was a good number along County Road 85, *Sumter/Pickens*, 8 August (Stan Hamilton, Dana Hamilton).
- BALD EAGLE** – Two adults and 10 sub-adults or juveniles, a maximum for the WP in modern times, were counted around catfish ponds in northern *Escambia*, 27 October (Laura Catterton). Two adults, acting as a pair and probably nesting, were seen 14 September at the Marion Fish Hatchery, *Perry* (Greg Jackson) (increasing breeder). Five (all immatures) was a good number at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 5 November (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Howard Home *et al.*).
- NORTHERN HARRIER** – One found at Foley, *Baldwin*, 14 August (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch), established an early record for the Gulf Coast.
- SWAINSON'S HAWK** – A light morph juvenile was observed at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 9 November (Bob Duncan) (casual in the WP). Three to four imma-

tures were recorded in the Foley area, *Baldwin*, 9-10 and 14-23 November (Bill Summerour, Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan *et al.*; ph.), to set the 27th record and a maximum number for Alabama.

**GOLDEN EAGLE** – One was at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 16 October (Lenny Fenimore *et al.*) (casual in the WP).

**MERLIN** – A single in Tuskegee NF, *Macon*, 16 August (Tyler Hicks), established an early arrival date for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama. Another early bird was at the WTF, *Lowndes*, 28 August (Larry Gardella).

**VIRGINIA RAIL** – One seen in a suburban yard at Florence, *Lauderdale*, 18-19 November (Francis Markine, Gary Markine), was late.

**SANDHILL CRANE** – Three birds seen 31 July in *Santa Rosa* (Heidi Moore, Brenda Francisco), established the first summer record for the WP. At the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, Lenny Fenimore found three birds 12 November.

**AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER** – One at Harpersville, *Shelby*, 13 September (Greg Jackson) set a rare fall record for the Mountain Region.

**BLACK-NECKED STILT** – Three inland Alabama records were submitted, all after Hurricane Ivan: one bird at Lake Point SP, *Barbour*, 17 September (Geoff Hill, Mark Liu); a single at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore); and two at Porter Lake, *Jefferson* (Sharon Hudgins) (first record for Mountain Region).

**WILLET** – Rare for inland Alabama, one was spotted at Lake Point SP, *Barbour*, 17 September (Lorna West), after Hurricane Ivan (second Inland Coastal Plain record for Alabama).

**SPOTTED SANDPIPER** – A late bird was at Wilson Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale*, 20 November (Steve McConnell).

**UPLAND SANDPIPER** – Thirty-three was a good number at Foley, *Baldwin*, 25 August (Laura Catterton).

**SANDERLING** – Rare for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama, four was a good number after Hurricane Ivan at the WTF, *Lowndes*, 17 September (Eric Soehren *et al.*). Eight at Lake Purdy, *Jefferson/Shelby*, 18 September (Bob Reid, Harriett Wright), were rare for the Mountain Region and set a maximum fall number. Eight+ at Guntersville, *Marshall*, 27 September (Dick Reynolds), set a maximum number for the Tennessee Valley.

**LEAST SANDPIPER** – At the WTF, *Lowndes*, 230 on 25 August was a good number for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama (Greg Jackson).

**BAIRD'S SANDPIPER** – The first August record for the WP was established by a single in northern *Escambia*, 22 August (Laura Catterton; ph.). One at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 25-26 October (Bob Duncan, Cecil Brown, Alan Knothe, Lenny Fenimore *et al.*), was late and established the third October record for the WP. This sandpiper is rare but regular in the Tennessee Valley in fall, and the following records for this region were received: one, Russellville, *Franklin*, 12 August (Damien Simbeck); five, Leighton, *Colbert*, 1 September (Damien

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Simbeck) (maximum for Tennessee Valley in fall); and one, Russellville, *Franklin*, 5 October (Damien Simbeck) (late). Two records were received from the Mountain Region where the species is rare: one, Harpersville sod farms, *Shelby*, 23 August (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson); and two, Pell City, *St. Clair*, 25 September (Bob Reid, Elberta Reid). Four was a good number at Foley, *Baldwin*, 4 September (Laura Catterton) (rare but regular on the Gulf Coast in fall). Three+ were at the WTF, *Lowndes*, 4-21 September (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson *et al.*; ph.) (rare on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama).

**BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER** – Six was a good number for the Tennessee Valley at Decatur, *Limestone*, 23 August (Bert Harris). Good numbers were seen at Foley, *Baldwin*: 23 on 4 September (Laura Catterton), and 24 on 12 September (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch). Good numbers for the Mountain Region were noted at Harpersville, *Shelby*: 4 on 9 September (Bob Reid, Elberta Reid), and 6 on 13 September (Greg Jackson). Eight was a good number at the WTF, *Lowndes*, 14 September (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson *et al.*; ph.). Damien Simbeck found one at Russellville, *Franklin*, 5 October (late departure date for the Tennessee Valley).

**SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER** – Two were found at the WTF, *Lowndes*, 25 August (Greg Jackson) (uncommon on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama).

**WILSON'S PHALAROPE** – Singles, rare for inland Alabama, were spotted at Russellville, *Franklin*, 12 August (Damien Simbeck), and at the WTF, *Lowndes*, 17 September (Eric Soehren *et al.*).

**RED-NECKED PHALAROPE** – One was found at Harpersville, *Shelby*, 8 September after Hurricane Frances (Harriett Wright, Alice Christenson, Edith Hunt) (20th Alabama record; @ABRC). Another single was at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 17 September after Hurricane Ivan (Stephen Dinsmore) (21st Alabama record; @ABRC).

**RED PHALAROPE** – Occasional in Alabama, two records, the 21st and 22nd for Alabama, were received: one at Harpersville, *Shelby*, 9 September (Bob Reid, Elberta Reid), and one at Walter F. George Dam, *Henry*, 17 September after Hurricane Ivan (Geoff Hill, Mark Liu; ph.).

**LONG-TAILED JAEGER** – One immature was at Walter F. George Dam, *Henry*, 28 October (Michael Boehm; ph.; @ABRC) (third record for Alabama and the first inland record).

**LAUGHING GULL** – After Hurricane Ivan, numerous September records were received from inland Alabama localities where this species is rare: one at Demopolis, *Marengo*, 16 September (Stephen Dinsmore); two east of Linden, *Marengo*, 16 September (Stephen Dinsmore); two east of Consul, *Marengo*, 16 September (Stephen Dinsmore); 27 on 16 September and 88 (good number) on 17 September at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox* (Stephen Dinsmore; ph.); 14 (good number) at Guntersville, *Marshall*, 17 September (Steve McConnell, Dick Reynolds, Linda Reynolds), with lesser numbers lingering until 27 November; six+ at Speigner, *Elmore*, 17 September (Larry Gardella); six at Lake Point SP, *Barbour*,

17 September (Geoff Hill, Mark Liu); 150 (a new maximum for inland Alabama) at Walter F. George Dam, *Henry*, 17 September (Geoff Hill, Mark Liu; ph.); eight at the WTF, *Lowndes*, 17 September (Eric Soehren *et al.*); one at Weiss Lake, *Cherokee*, 20 September (Greg Jackson); 10 at Wheeler and Wilson dams, *Colbert/Lauderdale/Lawrence*, 22 September (Greg Jackson). Eleven were at Walter F. George Dam, *Henry*, 28 October (Michael Boehm). At Wilson Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale*, one was found on 13 November (Greg Jackson) and two on 20 November (Steve McConnell).

**FRANKLIN'S GULL** – One adult was found at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 17 September after Hurricane Ivan (Stephen Dinsmore) (fifth record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama). Franklin's Gull is rare but regular in fall in the Tennessee Valley and on the Gulf Coast, and the following records were received from these regions: two, Pelican Island, *Mobile*, 16 October (Van Remsen); one to 18 between 16 October and 3 November (maximum of 18 on 30 October) at Guntersville, *Marshall* (Craig Brown, Bob Reid, Dick Reynolds *et al.*); nine at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 16 October (Dwight Cooley, Dick Bruer, m.ob.); one at Blakeley Island, *Mobile*, 17 October (Howard Horne, m.ob.); two at Wheeler Dam, *Lauderdale/Lawrence*, 21 October (Damien Simbeck); one at Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 6 November (Laura Catterton; ph.); and one at Wilson Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale*, 30 November (Damien Simbeck) and 5 December (Steve McConnell; ph.).

**BONAPARTE'S GULL** – Two at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 28 September (Laura Catterton) were the earliest for the WP by 25 days.

**RING-BILLED GULL** – Nine at Weiss Lake, *Cherokee*, 20 September (Greg Jackson) were unusual this early in the Mountain Region. Good numbers for so early in the season were 79 at Wheeler Dam, *Lauderdale/Lawrence*, 18 August (Damien Simbeck) and 220 at Wheeler Dam, *Lauderdale/Lawrence* and 62 at Wilson Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale*, 22 September (Greg Jackson).

**HERRING GULL** – Two at Wheeler Dam, *Lauderdale/Lawrence*, 22 September (Greg Jackson) were early.

**THAYER'S GULL** – One at West Point Dam, *Clay*, 12 November (Michael Boehm, Eric Boehm, m.ob.; ph.; @ABRC) was rare. There are two accepted Alabama records and three more @ABRC.

**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL** – One was recorded at Wilson Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale*, 30 November (Damien Simbeck), where the species is rare but regular.

**GREAT BLACK- BACKED GULL** – Rare but regular on the Gulf Coast of Alabama, one was on Pelican Island, *Mobile*, 19 October (Lorna West, Dick Reynolds, Linda Reynolds), and two were on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 24 October (Betsy Eager *et al.*).

**BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** – A single, probably the same bird, was seen at Wilson Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale*, 13 November (Greg Jackson) and Wheeler

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Dam, *Lauderdale/Lawrence*, 29 November (Greg Jackson, m.ob.; ph.; 16th Alabama record; @ABRC).

**GULL-BILLED TERN** – One juvenile was at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 16 September (Stephen Dinsmore) and 17 September (Eric Soehren *et al.*) after Hurricane Ivan (third record for inland Alabama).

**CASPIAN TERN** – At Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 94 were counted 17 September after Hurricane Ivan (Stephen Dinsmore) to establish a new maximum number for inland Alabama. Also on 17 September, 25 were seen at Guntersville, *Marshall* (Steve McConnell) (good number). One was at Weiss Lake, *Cherokee*, 20 September (Greg Jackson) (rare in the Mountain Region).

**ROYAL TERN** - After Hurricane Ivan, several September records were received from inland Alabama where there were only five previous records: two east of Linden, *Marengo*, 16 September (Stephen Dinsmore); seven at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 16 September (new maximum number for inland Alabama) and four on 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore); two at Walter F. George Dam, *Henry*, 17 September (Geoff Hill, Mark Liu); one at Guntersville, *Marshall*, 17 September (Steve McConnell *et al.*; ph.) and 27 September (Dick Reynolds) (first record for the Tennessee Valley); and one at Whitsett, *Hale*, 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore).

**SANDWICH TERN** – At Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, three were found 16 September and four 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore; ph.) after Hurricane Ivan (second record for inland Alabama). Five were at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 14 November (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan) (good number this late).

**COMMON TERN** – A conservative estimate of 900+ was made at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 5 September (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson), the maximum counted in Alabama since 1958. This species is rare on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama, but Hurricane Ivan produced several records: two east of Consul, *Marengo*, 16 September (Stephen Dinsmore); at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 10 were found on 16 September and 23 (good number) on 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore); 30 were at Walter F. George Dam, *Henry*, 17 September (Geoff Hill, Mark Liu) (maximum number for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama); and one was at Whitsett, *Hale*, 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore).

**FORSTER'S TERN** – Good numbers were seen at Guntersville, *Marshall*, with 100+ on 20 October and 75 on 25 October (Dick Reynolds).

**LEAST TERN** – Two were found at Leighton, *Colbert*, 18 August (Damien Simbeck), and a single was at Guin, *Marion*, 21 August (Jud Johnston) (rare inland).

**BRIDLED TERN** – One was at Eufaula, *Barbour*, 8 September after Hurricane Frances (Lorna West) (second record for inland Alabama).

**SOOTY TERN** – Casual in the WP, a single was spotted in northern (and inland) *Escambia*, 16 September after Hurricane Ivan (Laura Catterton). The ninth inland record for Alabama was established by two adults seen at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 16 September after Hurricane Ivan (Stephen Dinsmore). Additional inland

records associated with Hurricane Ivan came from Birmingham, *Jefferson*, 17 September where a “wrecked” adult was recovered alive and sent to rehabilitation (*vide* Anne Miller, Greg Harber; ph.), and six+ in the West Point Dam area, *Clay*, 17 September (Lorna West, Walt Chambers).

**BROWN NODDY** – Two records followed and were apparently associated with Hurricane Ivan. The first record for the WP was set by the observation of an adult at Big Lagoon SP, *Escambia*, 16 September (Jonathon Burrill; ph.). The first record for inland Alabama and the sixth for the state was marked by an adult found at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 16 September (Stephen Dinsmore; @ABRC).

**BLACK SKIMMER** – Several inland Alabama sightings (eight previous records) occurred after Hurricane Ivan: five at Lake Point SP, *Barbour*, 17 September (Geoff Hill, Mark Liu) (maximum for inland Alabama); another five at Walter F. George Dam, *Henry*, 17 September (Geoff Hill, Mark Liu) (maximum for inland Alabama); three adults and one immature at Dannelly Reservoir, *Wilcox*, 17 September (Stephen Dinsmore); and one immature at Weiss Lake, *Cherokee*, 20 September (Greg Jackson).

**WHITE-WINGED DOVE** – Bob Duncan found 11 at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 5 November (good number in migration).

**COMMON GROUND-DOVE** – This species is rare in the Tennessee Valley, so one found at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 13 November (Linda Reynolds), was notable.

**BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO** – A single was spotted on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 15 October (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Cecil Brown, Laura Catterton) (rare but regular at this site).

**BURROWING OWL** – One was reported from Range 70, Eglin Air Force Base, *Okaloosa*, 3 October (Lenny Fenimore) (continued presence).

**LESSER NIGHTHAWK** – One was spotted among some 120 Common Nighthawks flying north from the Gulf at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 31 August (Lucy Duncan) (seventh record for the WP).

**BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD** – An adult male was in west Pensacola, *Escambia*, 16-22 September (Jan Lloyd, Paul Blevins; ph.; @FOSRC) and marked the first record for Florida.

**BUFF-BELLIED HUMMINGBIRD** – One trapped at East Brewton, *Escambia*, Alabama, 18 October (Fred Bassett, Pat McArthur) was the same bird banded at this site in the winter of 2003-2004 (16th record for Alabama).

**RED-HEADED WOODPECKER** – A new maximum (100+) for Alabama was set at Lake Guntersville SP, *Marshall*, 21 September (Dick Reynolds, Linda Reynolds).

**YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER** – Two were early at Fairhope, *Baldwin*, 10 September (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch).

**OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER** – A rare fall migrant in Alabama, one was noted at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 15 October (Larry Gardella).

**ACADIAN FLYCATCHER** – One banded at Clay, *Jefferson*, 26 October (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent), set a late departure date for the Mountain Region.



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Another single identified by call at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 30 October (Larry Gardella), set a late record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama.

**ALDER FLYCATCHER** – Calling singles were at the following sites and set the 14th and 15<sup>th</sup> records, respectively, for Alabama (@ABRC): Harpersville, *Shelby*, 13 September (Greg Jackson); and Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 12 October (Larry Gardella) (first record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama).

**WILLOW FLYCATCHER** – One calling at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 26-28 November (Bob Duncan *et al.*; ph.) was the latest ever for the WP by 59 days. Lorna West found a singing bird at Opelika, *Lee*, 25 August (20th Alabama record, second for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama; @ABRC), and Greg Jackson found a calling bird at Harpersville, *Shelby*, 13 September (21st Alabama record; @ABRC).

**“TRAILL’S” FLYCATCHER** – One was noted at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 15 October (Larry Gardella) (rare on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama).

**VERMILION FLYCATCHER** – An immature male was spotted at Riverside, *St. Clair*, 25 September (Bob Reid, Elberta Reid) (11<sup>th</sup> record for inland Alabama, second for the Mountain Region). Another immature male was seen on the Mobile Causeway, *Mobile*, 15 October (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Cecil Brown, Laura Catterton) (rare).

**ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER** – Singles were found at Turkey Creek Park, Niceville, *Okaloosa*, 18 November (Bob Duncan), and at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 26 November (Bob Duncan *et al.*) (rare but regular in the WP). Bill Summerour photographed a calling single at Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 26 November (rare).

**WESTERN KINGBIRD** – An early bird was on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 31 August (Howard Horne).

**EASTERN KINGBIRD** – One at Foley, *Baldwin*, 17 November (Bill Summerour) set a late departure date for Alabama.

**GRAY KINGBIRD** – Now rare in Alabama, Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, hosted three on 14 August (Barbara Byrd) and two on 16 August (John Porter).

**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** – In the WP there was a total of 14 individuals noted 14 October – 16 November (Lenny Fenimore, Bob Duncan *et al.*).

**BELL’S VIREO** – Three singles were banded and photographed 25 September, 2 October, and 12 October at Ft. Morgan, *Baldwin* (Rachel Bru, Lisa Fitzgerald, Asia Anderson *et al.*), where the species is rare but regular.

**WARBLING VIREO** – The second August WP record was set by one at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 30 August (Lucy Duncan), and the first record for September was marked by a single in *Escambia*, 9 September (Laura Catterton). One was noted at Clay, *Jefferson*, 7 October (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent) (rare).

**PHILADELPHIA VIREO** – Six was a good number on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 15 October (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Cecil Brown, Laura Catterton).

- BLACK-WHISKERED VIREO** – The first August record for the WP was marked by one at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 11 August (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan).
- CAVE SWALLOW** – Two birds were at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 7 September (Brian Monk) (13<sup>th</sup> WP record).
- BARN SWALLOW** – A late bird was at Guntersville, *Marshall*, 27 November (Steve McConnell).
- SWAINSON'S THRUSH** – One at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 14 November (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan) was late.
- SAGE THRASHER** – One was found at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, by several observers on multiple dates to establish the fifth Alabama record (@ABRC): 14 November (Tony Ziccardi, Ann Ziccardi, Bob Duncan), 16 November (Bill Summerour), and 17 November (Lorna West).
- BLUE-WINGED WARBLER** – Larry Gardella found a late bird at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 15 October (ties late departure date for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama).
- “BREWSTER’S” WARBLER** – Two reports of this rare migrant (both singles) were received: Rebecca Mountains east of Sylacauga, Talladega NF, *Talladega*, 18 September (Greg Harber, Birmingham Audubon Society); and Opelika, *Lee*, 4 October (Lorna West).
- NASHVILLE WARBLER** – Four reports were received: one, Rebecca Mountains east of Sylacauga, Talladega NF, *Talladega*, 18 September (Greg Harber, Birmingham Audubon Society) (rare but regular); one, Opelika, *Lee*, 4 October (Lorna West) (rare but regular); two, Muscle Shoals, *Colbert*, 26 September (Damien Simbeck) (uncommon in fall in northwest Alabama); and one, Ft. Morgan, *Baldwin*, 5 November (Betsy Tetlow, Linda Bogiage, Howard Horne *et al.*) (rare but regular).
- YELLOW WARBLER** – A single male at Guntersville, *Marshall*, 27 November (Steve McConnell) was very late for inland Alabama.
- MAGNOLIA WARBLER** – An early migrant was at Coleman Lake in Talladega NF, *Cleburne*, 10 August (Lorna West). Reports of four late birds were received: one at Clear Creek, Bankhead NF, *Lawrence*, 30 October (Greg Harber *et al.*); two+ at Clay, *Jefferson*, 4 November (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent); one at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 5 November (Larry Gardella) (record late departure for Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama); and two at Mobile, *Mobile*, 16 November (Laurie Bailey) (record late departure for Alabama).
- BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER** – This species is rare for inland Alabama, so three records were notable: one female at Montgomery, *Montgomery* 29 September (Larry Gardella); another female at Piedmont, *Calhoun*, 23 October (Greg Harber *et al.*); and one male at Clear Creek, Bankhead NF, *Lawrence*, 30 October (Greg Harber *et al.*).
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER** – Five at Clear Creek, Bankhead NF, *Lawrence*, 30 October (Greg Harber *et al.*), was a good number for such a late

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date. Another late bird was at Clay, *Jefferson*, 30 October (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent).

**PRAIRIE WARBLER** – Higher than usual numbers were present throughout the WP in August and early September (*vide* Bob Duncan).

**BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER** – A late bird was at Clay, *Jefferson*, 4 November (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent).

**AMERICAN REDSTART** – One at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 14 November (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan), was late.

**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER** – A maximum count (12+) for fall in Alabama was made 17 August on Dauphin Island, *Mobile* (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch). One was late at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert*, 17 September (Damien Simbeck).

**CONNECTICUT WARBLER** – Damien Simbeck found one at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert*, 26 September, to establish the fourth autumn record for the Tennessee Valley.

**MOURNING WARBLER** – Rare but regular during fall migration on the Gulf Coast, an immature male was early on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 30 August (Jim Holmes, James Holmes).

**WILSON'S WARBLER** – Three (two males, one female) was a good number for inland Alabama at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert*, 22 September (Greg Jackson).

**SUMMER TANAGER** – One female-type was at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 5 November (Larry Gardella) (late departure date for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama).

**WESTERN TANAGER** – Casual in the WP, an adult male in basic plumage was at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 26-29 November (Will Duncan *et al.*). The fifth record for inland Alabama was marked by a basic-plumaged male found at Lake Guntersville SP, *Marshall*, 19 September (Dick Reynolds, Linda Reynolds).

**GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE** – An adult, banded and photographed at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 12 October (Rachel Bru, Lisa Fitzgerald, Asia Anderson; @ABRC) established the third record for Alabama.

**CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** – Rare but regular in fall on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, two birds were seen on the east end 15 October (Van Remsen) and 19 October (Lorna West), and another two were found at the country club 16 October (Van Remsen).

**LARK SPARROW** – Casual in the WP, two were at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 11 August (Brian Monk) and 24 August (Don Ware), and one was found in northern *Escambia*, 17 August (Laura Catterton). This species is not known to nest in the Mountain Region, but a single was seen at Harpersville, *Shelby*, 9 September (Bob Reid, Elberta Reid), and two adults and three immatures were found at the same site 17 September (Dick Reynolds, Linda Reynolds). A late bird was south of Eutaw, *Greene*, 31 October (Jud Johnston).

**LINCOLN'S SPARROW** – One was noted at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert*, 15 October (Damien Simbeck), where it is rare but regular.

**DARK-EYED JUNCO** – The first Alabama record of the Gray-headed form of this species was marked by one seen at Monte Sano SP, *Madison*, 16 October (Dick Bruer, Milton Harris, Callie Switzer *et al.*).

**LAPLAND LONGSPUR** – Two were noted at Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 14 November (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan). This species has been rare but regular at this site in recent years.

**ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK** – Feeders attracted late birds at three localities: one female at Guin, *Marion*, 19 November (Jud Johnston); one at Florence, *Lauderdale*, 19 November (Francis Markine, Gary Markine) (late fall record for Tennessee Valley); and three immature males (good number for so late) at Clay, *Jefferson*, 25 November (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent).

**PAINTED BUNTING** – A single was at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 18 October (Don Ware) (casual in WP). Two were late at Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 26 November (Bill Summerour).

**YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD** – Casual in the WP, one female was noted at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 3 September (Laura Catterton). An immature male was spotted at the airport on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 12 September (Paul Milotis) where it is rare.

**ORCHARD ORIOLE** – One was recorded on the fall count conducted by the Birmingham Audubon Society in *Jefferson*, 25 September (late fall departure date for the Mountain Region).

**RED CROSSBILL** – Three were near Coleman Lake in Talladega NF, *Cleburne*, 7 November (Eric Soehren), and 26 November (Scott Gravette) (continued presence at this site).

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