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# ALABAMA BIRDLIFE

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Layout by Tom Haggerty

**COVER:** Roseate Spoonbill, 16 April 2014, *Mobile Co.*, AL; Patsy Russo.

**Report of the Alabama Bird Records Committee  
2014**

**Steve W. McConnell**

The Alabama Bird Records Committee (ABRC) was created in 1987 to validate documentation of unusual birds in Alabama using a method that allows the records to be more universally accepted and scientifically valuable. A committee of seven active and experienced Alabama Ornithological Society (AOS) members reviews Alabama reports of species that generally have fewer than ten accepted records or fewer than two accepted records during the previous ten years. Records for species on the ABRC review list, which currently includes approximately 95 species, are voted on by all committee members. If the first vote is indecisive, the committee members vote a second time. Vote totals with no more than one “not accepted” vote result in the record being accepted. Totals with four or more “not accepted” votes result in the record not being accepted. Records without decisions after two votes are reviewed and voted upon a final time at the annual ABRC meeting.

During this period, 26 records from 30 observers were evaluated (Table 1). No new species were added to the Alabama state list.

As of this writing the AOS recognized state bird list stands at 446 species. Of these, three are considered extinct (Passenger Pigeon, Carolina Parakeet, and Bachman’s Warbler) and one extirpated from Alabama (Ivory-billed Woodpecker). Thirteen species on the recognized state bird list are classified as “hypothetical” where physical evidence such as a photo, video, or specimen are lacking or at least three observer testimonies of visual observations have not been provided.

TABLE 1. Evaluations by the Alabama Bird Records Committee of 26 records from 30 observers.

Record No.	Species	Date	County	How Noted <sup>1</sup>	Decision <sup>2</sup>	AL Status <sup>3</sup>
11-05	Eurasian Wigeon	11/26/2010	Barbour	V	A	10
11-16	White-winged Crossbill	1/29/2011	Jefferson	V	A	4
12-13	Thayer’s Gull	10/24/2011	Marshall	P	A	9
13-03	Cory’s Shearwater	9/8/2012	pelagic	V	A	20+
13-05	Fulvous Whistling-Duck	12/15/2012	Morgan	V	NI	---
13-10	Lark Bunting	12/29/2012	Mobile	V	Pending	---

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**TABLE 1. Cont.**

Record No.	Species	Date	County	How Noted <sup>1</sup>	Decision <sup>2</sup>	AL Status <sup>3</sup>
13-12	Razorbill	1/19/2013	Baldwin	V	A	3
13-18	Western Wood-Pewee	10/2/2012	Baldwin	B/P	NI	---
14-01	American Tree Sparrow	2/2/2014	Lauderdale	V	Pending	---
14-02	Brown Booby	1/5/2014	Mobile	P	A	20+
14-03	Band-tailed Pigeon	4/11/2013	Madison	P	A	2
14-04	Burrowing Owl	3/18/2013	Baldwin	P	A	19
14-05	Common Poorwill	4/29/2013	Chambers	H	NI	---
14-06	Common Redpoll	3/3/2013	Lauderdale	V	A	11
14-07	Common Redpoll	5/14/2013	Baldwin	P	A	12
14-08	Inca Dove	5/16/2014	Mobile	S	A	5
14-09	Mangrove Cuckoo	5/19/2000	Mobile	V	NI	---
14-10	Northern Goshawk	3/7/2014	Madison	V	A	6
14-11	Northern Goshawk	3/2/2013	Madison	V	NI	---
14-12	Razorbill	3/19/2013	Baldwin	S	A	4
14-13	Razorbill	4/18/2013	Mobile	S	A	5
14-14	Razorbill	4/24/2013	Baldwin	S	A	6
14-15	Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher	5/19/2014	Baldwin	P	A	4
14-16	Smith's Longspur	2/27/2014	Madison	P	A	8
14-17	Snowy Owl	1/22/2014	Morgan	V	NI	---
14-18	White-tailed Kite	3/27/2013	Geneva	V	Pending	---

<sup>1</sup>V = visual, P = photograph, B = banded, H = heard, S = specimen.

<sup>2</sup>A = accepted; NI = not accepted due to identification questions; Pending = review incomplete; W = withdrawn by observer.

<sup>3</sup>Number of accepted Alabama records.

Pelagic = Gulf of Mexico waters out to 200 nautical miles from Mobile or Baldwin County.

The records contained in this report were reviewed and voted upon by at least seven of the following Alabama Bird Records Committee members: Dwight Cooley, Ben Garmon, Dr. Jim Holmes, Jr., Andrew Haffenden, Howard Horne, Steve McConnell, Dr. Bill Summerour, John Trent, and Jake Walker.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The committee would like to express their appreciation to the following list of observers who carefully collected and submitted evidence for one or more of the

records considered. By doing so they have increased the important knowledge base contained in the A.O.S. state bird records archive. Any omission of a contributor from this list is completely unintentional.

Dr. Wallace Berry, Keith Brown, Linda Drzycimski, Ben Garmon, Jerry Green, Andrew Haffenden, Stan & Dana Hamilton, Amber Hart, Patricia Heirs, Howard Horne, Odis Johnson, Kevin Lade, Dr. William Matthews, Steve W. McConnell, Don McKee, Richard and Elizabeth Mills, Sue R. Moske, Janice Neitzel, Phyllis Nofzinger, David Plumb, Rick Remy, Patsy Russo, Sally Schultz, Damien Simbeck, Wade Stevens, Loretta Strange, Monica Wolters, and Dr. T.J. Zenzal.

**Steve W. McConnell**, 29 Village Drive NE, Hartselle

SPRING SIGHTINGS (MARCH - MAY 2014)

Paul D. Kittle, Greg D. Jackson, and Robert A. Duncan

This report covers the period from March through May 2014 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*, *Okaloosa*, and *Santa Rosa*, are in Alabama. “@” = under review by; “ABRC” = Alabama Bird Records Committee; “FOSRC” = Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee; “FWFTA” = Forever Wild Field Trial Area; “m.ob.” = many observers; “NC” = Nature Center; “NF” = National Forest; “NP” = Nature Preserve; “NWR” = National Wildlife Refuge; “OCWSTF” = Okaloosa County Water and Sewage Treatment Facility; “ph.” = photographed; “WP” = Western Panhandle of Florida (*Escambia*, *Okaloosa*, and *Santa Rosa* counties).



**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING DUCK** – A single at Taminco Sanctuary, *Santa Rosa*, 31 March and 26 May (Les Kelly, Bruce Furlow), and four in *Okaloosa*, 8 April (Wendi Greene), marked, respectively, the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> records for the WP. This species is a rare but regular and increasing breeder on the Gulf Coast, and records were received from five localities: sewage ponds at Gulf Shores, *Baldwin*, one on 5 April (Paul Knock), eight on 10 April (Bill Summerour; ph.), a nest with the first egg on 23 April, and the

same nest with 31 eggs on 16 May; two at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 29 April (Michael Jordan); one at the mouth of Mobile Bay, *Mobile/Baldwin*, 7 May (Ben Garmon, Patsy Russo); Blakeley Island, *Mobile*, 74 on 11 May (Andrew Haffenden, Patsy Russo) and 69+ birds and three nests (one with 21 eggs) 16 May (Bill Summerour *et al.*); Bon Secour River, *Baldwin*, three on 21 May (William Matthews).

**GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** – A single was at the OCWSTF, *Okaloosa*, 15-23 March (Malcolm Swan) (rare in spring in the WP).

**ROSS'S GOOSE** – Four were noted west of Florence, *Lauderdale*, 6 March (Damien Simbeck; ph.) (rare but regular). Rare on the Inland Coastal Plain, Rodney McCollum found two south of Auburn, *Lee*, 24 March (ph.), and John Trent reported two from Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 4 April (ph.).

**AMERICAN WIGEON** – A tally of 840 at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 4 March (Dwight Cooley) marked a maximum spring count for Alabama.

**MALLARD** – At Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, Dwight Cooley counted 3,770 on 4 March (maximum spring number for Alabama) and 940 on 18 March.

**MOTTLED DUCK** – Two were noted at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 30 April – 25 May (Michael Jordan *et al.*) (locally rare).

**BLUE-WINGED TEAL** – A single was at the FWFTA, Cedarville, *Hale*, 30 May (John Trent) (rare breeder).

**NORTHERN SHOVELER** – A count of 227 at the FWFTA, Cedarville, *Hale*, 12 March (Don Self, Judy Self) marked a maximum spring number for the Inland Coastal Plain. Dwight Cooley tallied 2,850 at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 18 March (maximum spring count for Alabama).

**GREEN-WINGED TEAL** – At Blakeley Island, *Mobile*, Howard Horne found 250 on 2 March (maximum spring number for the Gulf Coast), and Larry Gardella counted 220 there on 12 March. Dwight Cooley tallied 972 at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 18 March (maximum spring count for Alabama).

**CANVASBACK** – Dwight Cooley tallied 150 at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 4 March (maximum spring count for Alabama).

**REDHEAD** – Twelve were at Lakepoint State Park, *Barbour*, 1 March (John Trent) to set a maximum spring number for the Inland Coastal Plain. Dwight Cooley tallied 1,500 at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 4 March (maximum spring count for Alabama).

**GREATER SCAUP** – A single male was at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 1 March (John Trent; ph.) (rare but regular on the Inland Coastal Plain). Damien Simbeck counted 150 on the Tennessee River at the mouth of Town Creek, *Colbert*, 20 March (maximum spring number for Alabama).

**WHITE-WINGED SCOTER** – Five very late birds were at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 15-18 March (Bob Duncan). This species is rare in Alabama, especially inland, though unusual numbers were present this winter. Sue Moske reported two from Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 16 March. Three were reported from Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 12 April (Melanie Furr) (rare).

**BLACK SCOTER** – A single was noted from Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 7 April (Andrew

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Haffenden, Larry Gardella) (rare in spring).

**BUFFLEHEAD** – A maximum Inland Coastal Plain spring count of 28 was made on Dale County Lake, Ozark, *Dale*, 20 March (Rick Ingram *et al.*).

**HOODED MERGANSER** – Michael Jordan found 12 at Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 6 March (maximum spring number for the Gulf Coast).

**RUDDY DUCK** – At Montgomery, *Montgomery*, Keith Brink counted 200 on 9 March (maximum spring number for the Inland Coastal Plain) and 75 on 13 March.

**RED-THROATED LOON** – This species is a rare winter and spring visitor to the WP, so a single spotted by Malcolm Swan at Destin, *Okaloosa*, 2 March was notable.

**PACIFIC LOON** – Singles were at Fort Pickens, Gulf Islands National Seashore, *Escambia*, 1 March (Andy Wraithmell) and 16 April (Merilu Rose *et al.*) (rare winter and spring visitor).

**RED-NECKED GREBE** – Singles were at the mouth of Town Creek, *Colbert*, 20 March (Damien Simbeck), and at Wheeler NWR, *Madison/Morgan*, 26 March (Sue Moske, Jane Allen; ph.) (rare).

**EARED GREBE** – One bird in near alternate plumage was at Waterloo, *Lauderdale*, 17 March (Damien Simbeck) (rare).

**MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD** – A single on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 2 April (Andrew Haffenden) marked an early record for Alabama.

**MASKED BOOBY** – Marybeth Lima noted two sub-adults on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 5 April (rare).

**DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT** – Two+ pairs on nests were below Wheeler Dam, *Lawrence*, 17 May (Joe Romans; ph.) (locally rare breeder, return to site).

**ANHINGA** – John Imhof *et al.* found a single at Saginaw, *Shelby*, 26 April, and Ken Wills noted three there 3 May+ (rare in the Mountain Region; return to site).

**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN** – Damien Simbeck observed 1,000 in flight at Marbut Bend, *Limestone*, 8 March (maximum spring count for Alabama).

**LEAST BITTERN** – One was at Saginaw, *Shelby*, 7 May (Shane Coombs, Paul Franklin) (rare in Mountain Region).

**TRICOLORED HERON** – Rare inland, one was at Hope Hull, *Montgomery*, 18 March (Susan Bonfiglio), and another single was at Wheeler NWR, *Madison/Limestone*, 12 April (Sue Moske).

**CATTLE EGRET** – A maximum spring count for the Tennessee Valley was marked by the 200 counted at Elgin, *Lauderdale*, 29 April (Damien Simbeck).

**WHITE-FACED IBIS** – Rare but increasing in Alabama, one was at Blakeley Island, *Mobile*, 15 April (Jim Holmes *et al.*), and eight were at the golf course on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 21 April (Ben Garmon, Andrew Haffenden, Patsy Russo *et al.*; ph.). A single was found at Wheeler NWR, *Limestone/Madison*, during the 3 May Wheeler NWR area count (Dwight Cooley, Scott Gravette, Janice Gravette, Chuck Hunter) (sixth record for inland Alabama).

**ROSEATE SPOONBILL** – Rare but increasing in Alabama, singles were at Blakeley Island, *Mobile*, 5 April+ (Kevin Cameron *et al.*), and at the airport on Dauphin Island,

*Mobile*, 16 April (Andrew Haffenden, m.ob.; ph.).

- TURKEY VULTURE** – The Birmingham area spring count, held on 26 April in *Jefferson/Shelby/St. Clair*, reported 89 (maximum spring count for the Mountain Region).
- OSPREY** – Two at Guntersville, *Marshall*, 1 March (Amber Hart) were early. Eight, a maximum spring count for the Inland Coastal Plain, were noted at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 26 April (Geoff Hill).
- MISSISSIPPI KITE** – Rare but increasing in the Mountain Region, singles were noted at Gardendale, *Jefferson*, 20 April (Jamie Nobles), and at Rock Creek, *Jefferson*, 26 May (Eddie Maxwell; ph.). Rare but increasing in the Tennessee Valley, reports of singles came from three sites: Swan Creek Wildlife Management Area, *Limestone*, 3 May (Sue Moske *et al.*); Colbert Ferry Park, *Colbert*, 5 May (Damien Simbeck, Jeff Garner); and Killen, *Lauderdale*, 12 May (Scott Somershoe).
- NORTHERN GOSHAWK** – Steve McConnell reported one from the Alabama A&M Farm, Hazel Green, *Madison*, 7 March (sixth record for Alabama, first in spring; @ ABRC).
- RED-TAILED HAWK** – The Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, tallied 26 on 3 May to mark a new spring maximum for the Tennessee Valley.
- RED-TAILED HAWK (HARLAN’S)** – Evan Buck reported one from the Alabama A&M Farm, Hazel Green, *Madison*, 1 March (ph.; rare).
- SWAINSON’S HAWK** – Two at the OCWSTF, *Okaloosa*, 1-22 March continued from the winter season (Malcolm Swan, Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan) (casual in spring in the WP).
- KING RAIL** – Up to three were reported from Saginaw, *Shelby*, 26 April+ (John Imhof, Richard Mills, Sue Richards) (rare in Mountain Region).
- PURPLE GALLINULE** – A report of a single came from Saginaw, *Shelby*, 5-10 May (Shane Coombs *et al.*; ph.) (occasional in north Alabama).
- SANDHILL CRANE** – Larry Gardella reported a single from Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 5 March (locally rare).
- AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER** – Larry Goodman reported one from Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 23 March (rare spring transient in the WP).
- BLACK-NECKED STILT** – Two were near Leighton, *Colbert*, 30 May (Sue Moske) (rare inland).
- AMERICAN AVOCET** – The 250 counted at Blakeley Island, *Mobile*, 11 April (Craig Litteken) ties the maximum spring number for Alabama. Two were found near Leighton, *Colbert*, 6 May (Eric Soehren; ph.) (occasional in spring inland).
- KILLDEER** – Lucie Wilder found 75, maximum spring count for the Inland Coastal Plain, at Point A Lake, *Covington*, 10 March, and 25 at the same site 11 March.
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER** – Early (unless wintering) singles were noted 9 and 13 March at Montgomery, *Montgomery* (Keith Brink; ph.), and at Wilson Dam, *Colbert*, 10 March (Damien Simbeck).
- WILLET** – This species is a rare breeder in the WP, so one seen on a nest with two eggs at Opal Beach, *Escambia*, 28 May (Lucy Duncan) was noteworthy. Sue Moske reported

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one from the boat harbor at Decatur, *Limestone*, 1 May (rare but regular in inland Alabama).

**UPLAND SANDPIPER** – A single was at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 3 May (Michael Jordan *et al.*; ph.) (late departure).

**HUDSONIAN GODWIT** – One at the OCWSTF, *Okaloosa*, 30 April, (Malcolm Swan *et al.*) marked the sixth record the WP.

**STILT SANDPIPER** – John Trent observed one at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 12 April (rare on the Inland Coastal Plain). Another single was at Saginaw, *Shelby*, 30 April – 3 May (Shane Coombs *et al.*) (rare in the Mountain Region).

**BAIRD'S SANDPIPER** – Andrew Haffenden reported a single from Pelican Peninsula, *Mobile*, 9 April (rare but regular spring migrant). In the Tennessee Valley, this species is also a rare but regular spring migrant, and two reports came from near Leighton, *Colbert*: two on 30 April (Damien Simbeck) and one on 6 May (Eric Soehren). Larry Gardella found one at Sprague, *Montgomery*, 15-16 May (occasional on the Inland Coastal Plain).

**SEMI-PALMATED SANDPIPER** – A count of 1,100 at the OCWSTF, *Okaloosa*, 11 May (Malcolm Swan) marked a new maximum for the WP.

**SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER** – Sixty-four birds near Leighton, *Colbert*, 5 May (Damien Simbeck, Jeff Garner) marked a maximum count for inland Alabama. Larry Gardella found two+ at Sprague, *Montgomery*, 15 May (rare on the Inland Coastal Plain).

**LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER** – Larry Gardella reported one from the sod farm at Sprague, *Montgomery*, 16 March (third spring record for the Inland Coastal Plain).

**WILSON'S PHALAROPE** – Rare in spring on the Gulf Coast, reports came from two sites: Blakeley Island, *Mobile*, two on 24 April (Bob Duncan, Cecil Brown), and Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, three on 3 May and two on 7 May (Michael Jordan *et al.*). Sue Moske observed a single at Swancott, *Limestone*, 6 May (rare inland).

**RED-NECKED PHALAROPE** – Larry Gardella *et al.* reported two from Sprague, *Montgomery*, 15 May (sixth record for the Inland Coastal Plain).

**LAUGHING GULL** – Singles were found at Town Creek Marsh, *Colbert*, 1 April (Sue Moske), and at Wheeler Dam, *Lawrence/Lauderdale*, 5 May (Damien Simbeck, Jeff Garner) (rare but regular at both areas).

**CALIFORNIA GULL** – An adult at Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 16 March (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan; ph.) established the first record for the WP (@ FOSRC).

**ICELAND GULL** – A juvenile bird was seen at Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 16 March (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Malcolm Swan) to mark the seventh record for the WP.



California Gull, 16 March 2014, Escambia Co., AL; L. Duncan.

**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL** – One-four were at Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 11-21 March (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Malcolm Swan, Bruce Purdy *et al.*) (rare but fairly regular winter and spring visitor in the WP). Rare but regular at Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, a second-cycle bird was noted 14 April (Jim Holmes *et al.*).

**GLAUCOUS GULL** – A first-cycle bird was reported from Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 7-29 March (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Brenda Callaway, Jerry Callaway *et al.*) (22<sup>nd</sup> record for the WP).

**GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL** – At Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, a first-cycle bird was present 1 March (Andy Wraithmell *et al.*) and an adult was there 16 March (Brenda Callaway, Jerry Callaway). A first-cycle bird was at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 16 March (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan) (very rare in winter and spring).

**WHITE-WINGED DOVE** – Andrew Arnold reported three at a feeder in Excel, *Monroe*, 23 March (regular at this site and rare but increasing on the Inland Coastal Plain). One was at a feeder in Killen, *Lauderdale*, 31 May (Damien Simbeck *et al.*; ph.) (sixth record for the Tennessee Valley and the first in spring).



White-winged Dove, 31 May 2014, Lauderdale Co., AL; D. Simbeck.

**INCA DOVE** – Three were reported from south of Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 15 March (David Plumb, *vide* Bill Summerour), a site one mile south of a regular nesting site and representing a probable expansion of the only known nesting group in Alabama. A pair at a nest with eggs was reported from south of Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 19 March (Bill Summerour; ph.), a repeat nesting at the only known breeding site in Alabama. One was found dead on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 16 May (*vide* Don McKee; ph.) (fifth record for Alabama; @ABRC).

**BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO** – Four reports were received from the WP, 23 April – 14 May (rare spring migrant).

**LESSER NIGHTHAWK** – One was found at Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 15 April (Jerry Callaway) (a total of 12 records for the WP).

**COMMON NIGHTHAWK** – A bird heard on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 2 April (Andrew Haffenden) marked an early arrival date for the Gulf Coast. Another early bird was at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 5 April (Michael Jordan).

**CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW** – An early arrival was at Fort Rucker, *Dale*, 30-31 March (Rick Ingram)

**EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL** – A count of 50 at Waterloo, *Lauderdale*, 5 May (Damien Simbeck, Jeff Garner) marked a maximum for the Tennessee Valley.

**RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD** – Sharon Hudgins reported a male at a feeder in McCalla, *Jefferson*, 15 March (record early arrival for the Mountain Region). The Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, tallied 27 on 3 May to mark a new spring maximum for the Tennessee Valley.

**RED-HEADED WOODPECKER** – Bob Duncan observed five at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 23 April. The occurrence of this species with trans-Gulf migrants in fallout conditions, when it is not supposed to occur in the Neotropics, remains a mystery.

**HAIRY WOODPECKER** – A single was at International Paper Wetlands, *Escambia*, 24 May (Jerry Callaway) (rare in the WP).

**PILEATED WOODPECKER** – Jeff Garner encountered 12 in southeast Alabama (*Coffee/ Dale/Geneva/Houston/Henry*) on 20 March (maximum spring count for the Inland Coastal Plain).

**OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER** – A single was at Madison, *Madison*, 11 May (Sue Moske, Jane Allen, *et al.*; ph.) (rare in spring).

**EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE** – A count of 35 on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 30 April (Ben Garmon, Patsy Russo) established a new spring maximum for the Gulf Coast. The Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, tallied 71 on 3 May to mark a new spring maximum for the Tennessee Valley.

**WILLOW FLYCATCHER** – John Trent found a pair at the FWFTA, Cedarville, *Hale*, 30 May, the only known Alabama breeding site south of the Tennessee Valley.

**EASTERN PHOEBE** – Twenty-four (maximum spring count for the Tennessee Valley) were tallied on the Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, 3 May.

**VERMILION FLYCATCHER** – One at Panama City, *Bay*, was seen 20 March (Robert McVeigh) (rare in the WP).

**ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER** – A single was spotted at the golf course on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 3 May (Andrew Haffenden, Howard Horne *et al.*; ph.) (sixth spring record for Alabama).

**SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER** – A single was observed at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 19 May (William Matthews; ph.; @ABRC) (fourth Alabama record and first in spring).

**WESTERN KINGBIRD** – Rare in spring along the Gulf Coast, two sightings



Ash-throated Flycatcher, 3 May 2014, Mobile Co., AL; A. Haffenden.



Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, 19 May 2014, Baldwin Co., AL; W. Matthews.

of singles were received: Dauphin Island Sanctuary, *Mobile*, 18-19 April (m.ob., Alabama Ornithological Society), and Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 18 May (William Matthews; ph.) (late record for Alabama).

**EASTERN KINGBIRD** – An early arrival was at Enterprise, *Coffee*, 23 March (Rick Ingram; ph.).

**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** – One was at Foley, *Baldwin*, 17 May (William Matthews) (rare in spring on the Gulf Coast).

**YELLOW-THROATED VIREO** – An early arrival was at the Wehle NC southeast of Midway, *Bullock*, 15 March (John Trent)

**BLUE-HEADED VIREO** – Brittany Peterson reported five from the Fort Morgan Peninsula, *Baldwin*, 17 March (maximum spring count for the Gulf Coast). Steven Glynn found 11 in Talladega NF, *Cleburne*, 20 March (maximum spring count for Alabama).

**WARBLING VIREO** – This species is rare in Alabama, and reports came from three sites: two on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 30 April (Andrew Haffenden *et al.*); a single at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert*, 1 May (Damien Simbeck); and one on Green Mountain, *Madison*, 5 May (Sue Moske).

**PHILADELPHIA VIREO** – Rare but regular in spring on the Gulf Coast, one was on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 23 April (Andrew Haffenden). Four at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, combined with two on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 30 April (Michael Jordan, Andrew Haffenden *et al.*) ties the maximum spring count for the Gulf Coast. Larry Gardella found one at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 1 May (third spring record for the Inland Coastal Plain).

**FISH CROW** – Locally rare and increasing in the Tennessee Valley, three were found at Stephenson, *Jackson*, 19 May (Bert Harris).

**TREE SWALLOW** – John Trent saw one at the FWFTA, Cedarville, *Hale*, 30 May (rare but increasing breeder, near southern end of range in Alabama).

**CLIFF SWALLOW** – An early arrival was at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 15 March (Larry Gardella).

**CAVE SWALLOW** – At the country club on Dauphin Island, singles were noted 5 April (Howard Horne, Andrew Haffenden, John Trent) and 19 April (Larry Gardella) (rare but regular in spring on the Gulf Coast).

**WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH** – Larry Gardella reported one from south of Hatchechubbee, *Russell*, 25 May (rare this far south).

**MARSH WREN** – Eleven (maximum spring count for Alabama) were tallied on the Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone*, 3 May (Ken Ward, William McAllister, Sue Moske *et al.*). Sue Moske found a single at Wheeler NWR, *Morgan*, 15 May (late record for the Tennessee Valley).

**BEWICK'S WREN** – Sue Moske spotted one on Green Mountain, *Madison*, 10 April (occasional in Alabama).

**BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER** – An impressive count of 252 was made on 3 May during the Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison* (maximum number

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for inland Alabama).

**RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET** – Larry Gardella tallied 22 at Lanark west of Millbrook, *Elmore*, 5 April (maximum spring count for the Inland Coastal Plain).

**AMERICAN ROBIN** – Dwight Cooley reported 300 from Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 4 March (maximum spring number for the Tennessee Valley). Larry Gardella tallied 350 at Maxwell Air Force Base, *Montgomery*, 9 March (maximum spring number for the Inland Coastal Plain). A single was at Foley, *Baldwin*, 17 May (Michael Jordan) (rare and local breeder on the Gulf Coast).

**GRAY CATBIRD** – Four were reported from the botanical gardens in Mobile, *Mobile*, 27 May (Ben Garmon, Patsy Russo) (rare and local breeder on the Gulf Coast).

**WORM-EATING WARBLER** – One was early on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 17-18 March (Andrew Haffenden).

**NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH** – Eight at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin* (Ben Garmon, Patsy Russo *et al.*) and 15 on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, (Michael Jordan), both counts on 30 April, marked a maximum spring count of 23 for Alabama.

**BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER** – An early arrival was at Dothan, *Houston*, 4 March (Renea Todd, William McLean).

**SWAINSON'S WARBLER** – Up to three were noted at Wheeler NWR, *Madison*, 3-18 May (Dwight Cooley *et al.*) (rare and local in the Tennessee Valley).

**TENNESSEE WARBLER** – The Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, tallied 62 on 3 May to mark a new spring maximum for the Tennessee Valley.

**NASHVILLE WARBLER** – One at Muscle Shoals, *Colbert*, 11 April (Damien Simbeck *et al.*) provided an early arrival record for the Tennessee Valley. This species is rare but regular in the Mountain Region, and sightings came from two locations: one south of Houston, *Winston*, 15 April (Larry Barkey); one to three at Ruffner Mountain NP, *Jefferson*, 20-26 April (Scot Duncan, Greg Jackson); three at Ruffner on 3 May (Scot Duncan); and six at the same site on 4 May (Greg Jackson, Scot Duncan, Fred Carney), the latter a maximum spring number for Alabama.

**CONNECTICUT WARBLER** – Rare in Alabama, a single was noted at Wheeler NWR, *Madison*, 16 May (Scott Gravette).

**MOURNING WARBLER** – The Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Madison*, produced a single 3 May (also observed 4 May) (Dwight Cooley, Scott Gravette, Janice Gravette, Chuck Hunter *et al.*) (rare but regular in the Tennessee Valley in spring).

**MAGNOLIA WARBLER** – The Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, produced a total of 18 on 3 May (maximum spring number for inland Alabama).

**CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER** – A total of 20 was reported by the Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, 3 May (maximum spring number for the Tennessee Valley).

**BLACKPOLL WARBLER** – One at Taminco Sanctuary, *Santa Rosa*, 7 April (Les Kelly) was the earliest ever for the WP by two days.

**BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER** – Rare but regular in the Tennessee Valley

in spring, Sue Moske spotted one on Green Mountain, *Madison*, 14 April (early), and Amber Hart found one on Brindlee Mountain, *Morgan*, 18 April.

**PALM WARBLER** – The Birmingham area count, *Jefferson/Shelby/St. Clair*, produced 237 on 26 April (maximum spring number for the Mountain Region).

**PRAIRIE WARBLER** – Jim Holmes tallied 21 in Tuskegee NF, *Macon*, 12 April (maximum spring count for the Inland Coastal Plain). Andrew Haffenden counted 25 on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 30 April (maximum spring number for the Gulf Coast). The 16 reported from Waterloo, *Lauderdale*, 5 May (Damien Simbeck, Jeff Garner) marked a spring maximum for the Tennessee Valley.

**TOWNSEND'S WARBLER** – A single was reported from Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 5 April (Daniel Stangeland, Sally Chisholm) (second record for the WP; @FOSRC).



Townsend's Warbler, 5 April 2014, Escambia Co., FL; S. Chisholm.

**BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER** – A total of 16 was reported by the Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, 3 May (maximum spring number for the Tennessee Valley).

**WILSON'S WARBLER** – A single was at Powder Magazine Park in Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 30 March (Larry Gardella, Keith Brink) (fourth spring record for the Inland Coastal Plain). Scot Duncan reported one from Ruffner Mountain NP, *Jefferson*, 27 April, and Rick Remy noted one at Irondale, *Jefferson*, 27 April (rare in the Mountain Region in spring).

**CHIPPING SPARROW** – A total of 51 was reported by the Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, 3 May (maximum spring number for the Tennessee Valley).

**CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** – This species is rare in spring on the Gulf Coast. Reports of singles came from Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 8 April (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent, Fred Bassett *et al.*; banded), and the golf course on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 18-26 April (Ben Garmon, Patsy Russo, m.ob.).

**SONG SPARROW** – Dwight Cooley reported 23 from Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 4 March (maximum spring count for the Tennessee Valley).

**LINCOLN'S SPARROW** – Sue Moske found one at Wheeler NWR, *Madison*, 8 April (rare in spring). Jeff Garner noted a single north of Florence, *Lauderdale*, 5 May (rare in spring but regular in northwest Alabama).

**WHITE-THROATED SPARROW** – A tally of 41 at Bluffport, *Greene*, 26 March (Don Self, Judy Self) established a new spring maximum for the Inland Coastal Plain. John Trent reported a late bird at the Wehle NC, southeast of Midway, *Bullock*, 24 May.

**SUMMER TANAGER** – A total of 131 was reported from the Wheeler NWR area count, *Limestone/Morgan/Madison*, 3 May (maximum count for the Tennessee Valley).

**WESTERN TANAGER** – A female was at Montrose, *Baldwin*, 10-21 March (Venetia Friend *et al.*; ph.) (rare).

**PAINTED BUNTING** – Angela Crenshaw found an early single in Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 22 March. An adult male was seen at a feeder in Ozark, *Dale*, 2 March – 4 April

(rare and local on the Inland Coastal Plain, early if not wintering). Larry Gardella reported one from Pintlala, *Montgomery*, 22 May (rare and local breeder on the Inland Coastal Plain).

**RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD** – Dwight Cooley reported 5,000 from Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, 18 March (maximum spring count for Alabama).

**YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD** – Three were in Pensacola, *Escambia*, 26 April (Jim Brady, Betsy Tetlow, Ann Forster, Dan Forster) (casual in the WP in spring).

**RUSTY BLACKBIRD** – Eric Soehren tallied 350 in the Fort Toulouse area, *Elmore*, 7 March (maximum spring count for the Inland Coastal Plain). A single was noted at Mobile, *Mobile*, 15 March (Howard Horne, Andrew Haffenden, Patsy Russo *et al.*) (rare in spring on the Gulf Coast). At Wheeler NWR, *Limestone*, Dwight Cooley counted 340 on 4 March and 682 on 18 March, the latter count marking a spring maximum for the Tennessee Valley.

**BREWER'S BLACKBIRD** – Fifteen+ were observed at Irondale, *Jefferson*, 8 March (Greg Harber, Julia Mortenson) (fourth spring record for the Mountain Region where rare).

**SHINY COWBIRD** – A male was at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 21 May (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan) (rare spring migrant in the WP). Two males were seen at the shell mounds on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 10-11 May (Andrew Haffenden *et al.*; ph.) (now occasional on the Gulf Coast).

**BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD** – Michael Jordan reported 200 from Magnolia Springs, *Baldwin*, 4 March, to mark a spring maximum for the Gulf Coast. Michael Jordan reported another 200 birds from north of Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 18 March (maximum spring count for the Inland Coastal Plain).

**ORCHARD ORIOLE** – A male seen 1 March at Foley, *Baldwin* (Michael Jordan) set an early arrival record for Alabama.

**BALTIMORE ORIOLE** – One reported from Ashford, *Houston*, 2-20 March (Renea Todd,



Western Tanager, 12 March 2014, Baldwin Co., AL; B. Summerour.



Shiny Cowbird, 11 May 2014, Mobile Co., AL; P. Russo.

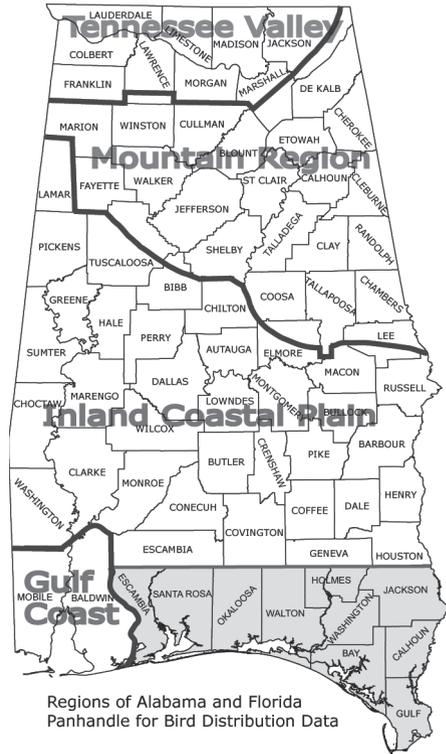
William McLean) probably wintered locally (rare but regular in winter on the Inland Coastal Plain).

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SUMMER SIGHTINGS (JUNE - JULY 2014)

Paul D. Kittle, Greg D. Jackson, and Robert A. Duncan

This report covers the period from June through July 2014 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 Escambia, Okaloosa, and Santa Rosa, are in Alabama. “m.ob.” = many observers; “NWR” = National Wildlife Refuge; “OCWSTF” = Okaloosa County Water and Sewage Treatment Facility; “ph.” = photographed; “WP” = Western Panhandle of Florida (Escambia, Okaloosa, and Santa Rosa counties).

**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK** – The first breeding record for the WP was established by the observation of 1-17 at Taminco Sanctuary, *Santa Rosa*, 2 June – 28 July (Les Kelly, Larry Goodman, Bruce Furlow), including eight adults and nine recently fledged young on 14 July. One to two were seen at the OCWSTF, *Okaloosa*, 24 June – 28 July (Bruce Purdy, Wendi Greene, Murray Cragin, Malcolm Swan). Uncommon but increasing on the Gulf Coast of Alabama, three records were received from this



Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, 23 June 2014, Santa Rosa Co., FL; L. Goodman.

region: five on Pelican Peninsula, Mobile, 8 June (Andrew Haffenden) (not a regular site); two at a pond on Rigsby Road, Belforest, *Baldwin*, 27-30 June (Karen Chiasson; ph.) (not a regular site); and up to four at Chickasaw, *Mobile*, 22 June – 13 July (Ned Coleman, Jimmy Stephenson). At Hacoda, *Geneva*, Odis Johnson reported four on 10 July and 12 on 20 July (ph.; rare on the Inland Coastal Plain).

**CANADA GOOSE** – Damien Simbeck made a trip through western *Lauderdale* (Florence/Rhodesville/Waterloo) on 13 June and tallied 287 (maximum summer number for the Tennessee Valley).

**GADWALL** – A single (probably injured) was reported from Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 13-27 July (John Trent) (rarely summers in Alabama; first summer record for the Inland Coastal Plain).

**BLUE-WINGED TEAL** – One to two, including a male and a female, were observed 2-21 June at Saginaw, *Shelby* (Ken Wills, Paul Franklin et al.; ph.) (probably nesting; rare breeder in the Mountain Region). Three were seen near Leighton, *Colbert*, 25 June (Damien Simbeck) (uncommon breeder in the Tennessee Valley).

**NORTHERN SHOVELER** – Paul Franklin reported five from Saginaw, *Shelby*, 9 June (third summer record for the Mountain Region).

**LESSER SCAUP** – A single male was spotted at Town Creek Marsh, *Colbert*, 22 June (Jerry Green; ph.) (rare summering species).

**BUFFLEHEAD** – One male was seen at Guntersville, *Marshall*, 15 June (Jerry Green; ph.) (second summer record for Alabama).

**HOODED MERGANSER** – Eric Soehren recorded seven while conducting the Sprott Breeding Bird Survey, *Perry*, 4 June (uncommon breeder on the Inland Coastal Plain).

**RED-BREASTED MERGANSER** – A single male was found at Short Creek, *Marshall*, 23 June (Jerry Green; ph.) (rare summering species).

**RUDDY DUCK** – One female-type was seen along County Road 9 near Sledge, *Hale*, 6 July+ (Don Self, Judy Self et al.) (rare summering species; becoming regular in this vicinity).

**COMMON LOON** – Rare but regular in summer on the Gulf Coast, four (good number) were noted at Pelican Peninsula, *Mobile*, 10 July



Lesser Scaup, 21 June 2014, Colbert Co., AL; J. D. Green.



Bufflehead, 15 June 2014, Marshall Co., AL; J. D. Green.



Red-breasted Merganser, 23 June 2014, Marshall Co., AL; J. D. Green.

(Andrew Haffenden).

**PIED-BILLED GREBE** – One was noted at Saginaw, *Shelby*, 2 June – 16 July (Ken Wills et al.) (uncommon breeder in the Mountain Region). This species is an uncommon breeder on the Inland Coastal Plain, and two reports were received: two birds north of Hartford, *Geneva*, 19-27 July (Randy White et al.), and up to four were at Hope Hull, *Montgomery*, 27-30 July (Larry Gardella).



Common Loon, 10 July 2014, Mobile Co., AL; A. Haffenden.

**BROWN BOOBY** – Lucy Duncan found an adult at Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 18 July (casual in summer in the WP).

**NORTHERN GANNET** – Michael Jordan saw two birds at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 15 and 28 June (rare but regular in summer).

**ANHINGA** – A male and a female were observed at Wheeler NWR, *Madison*, 25 June+ (date approximate) (Neill Cowles, Beth Cowles et al.; ph.), indicating probable nesting (rare breeder in the Tennessee Valley; increased recently in this vicinity).

**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN** – This species is uncommon but increasing in summer in Alabama and four reports were received: seven at Waterloo, *Lauderdale*, 13 June (Damien Simbeck); 25 at Decatur, *Morgan*, 18 June (Steve McConnell); up to 48 at Town Creek Marsh, *Colbert*, 20 June – 31 July (Damien Simbeck et al.); and 10 at Demopolis, *Marengo*, 30 July (Anne Miller et al.).

**LEAST BITTERN** – Sightings of this species, a rare breeder in the Mountain Region, came from Saginaw, *Shelby*, as follows: a single on 7 May (Shane Coombs, Paul Franklin), two on 2 June (Shane Coombs, Ken Wills), and three on 9 June (Paul Franklin) (probably nesting).

**GLOSSY IBIS** – One adult was northwest of Hartford, *Geneva*, 3 June (Randy White) (genus is rare inland; sixth definite Glossy Ibis record for the Inland Coastal Plain).

**ROSEATE SPOONBILL** – A single at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 12 July (Teresa Banfell) established the 12th record for the WP.

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** – This species is rare in the Mountain Region, but along County Road 290 near Danway, *Chambers*, Lorna West found one on 24 July and four on 25 July (becoming regular at this site).

**MISSISSIPPI KITE** – Uncommon but increasing in the Mountain Region, reports came from three locations: nine in the Ironaton quad south of Curry, *Talladega*, 4 June (Stan Hamilton, Dana Hamilton); two south of Eastaboga, Talladega, 22 June (Ty Keith); and along County Road 290 near Danway, *Chambers*, 45 on 23 July and 33 on 25 July (Lorna West) (regular good numbers at this site in recent years). Michael Jordan reported 21 from the Clearwater Tract in the Mobile Delta, *Mobile*, 6 July (maximum summer count for the Gulf Coast).

**COMMON GALLINULE** – Sue Moske found a single at Wheeler NWR, *Madison*, 17 July (rare in north Alabama).

**AMERICAN COOT** – A single was noted at Town Creek Marsh, *Colbert*, 23 June (Amber Hart) (uncommon in summer).

- SOLITARY SANDPIPER** – An early single was at the OCWSTF, *Okaloosa*, 24 June (Bruce Purdy).
- WHIMBREL** – One bird was seen on the west end of Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 28 June – 5 July (Marybeth Lima, Lynn Hathaway), and Pelican Peninsula, *Mobile*, hosted a single on 14 July (Andrew Haffenden) and three on 16 July (Elizabeth Cooper) (rare in summer).
- MARbled GODWIT** – An early single was at the OCWSTF, *Okaloosa*, 22 June (Bruce Purdy). A single was seen on the west end of Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 28 June (Marybeth Lima, Lynn Hathaway) and on Pelican Peninsula, *Mobile*, 14 July (rare in summer).
- STILT SANDPIPER** – An early adult was reported from the west end of Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 28 June (Marybeth Lima, Lynn Hathaway).
- WESTERN SANDPIPER** – Larry Gardella found six on 17 June and two on 18 June on Pelican Peninsula, *Mobile* (rare in mid-June).
- HERRING GULL** – One immature was at Avondale in Birmingham, *Jefferson*, 5 June+ (Ken Wills, m.ob.; ph.) (fourth summer record for the Mountain Region).
- CASPIAN TERN** – John Trent found one on the Tennessee River at Triana, *Madison*, 4 June (uncommon inland in June).
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE** – This species is rare but increasing inland, and three were seen on 27 July and five on 28 July at a feeder in Excel, *Monroe* (Andrew Arnold) (regular site).
- BURROWING OWL** – A single was noted at Site B-70 on Eglin Air Force Base, *Okaloosa*, 7 June (Bruce Purdy) (rare in the WP).
- HAIRY WOODPECKER** – Singles were at four sites in the WP, where rare: Timberlake Road, *Okaloosa*, 7 June (Bruce Purdy); two sites in *Okaloosa*, 8 June (Bruce Purdy) and 29 June (Malcolm Swan); and International Paper Wetlands, *Escambia*, 5 July (Jerry Callaway).
- AMERICAN KESTREL** – This falcon is an uncommon breeder in Alabama, and records came from five locations: one at Sylacauga, *Talladega*, 7 June (Fred Carney); four at Wheeler NWR, *Madison*, 13 June (Sue Moske); a single at the Birmingham Airport, *Jefferson*, 16 June (Ken Wills); two on the Coosa Wildlife Management Area, *Coosa*, 16 June (Eric Soehren, John Trent); and one at Excel, *Monroe*, 26 July (Andrew Arnold).
- ALDER FLYCATCHER** – A singing individual was reported from Larkin Fork along County Road 27, *Jackson*, 21 June (Greg Harber, m.ob.) (first summer record for Alabama).
- WILLOW FLYCATCHER** – A single was at Decatur, *Morgan*, 7 June (Sue Moske, Jane Allen), and two were there 14 June (Scott Gravette). These sightings were at a regular site for a species that is a rare breeder in Alabama.
- TROPICAL/COUCH'S KINGBIRD** – One was at Gulf Breeze, *Santa Rosa*, 7 July (Bob Duncan) (11th WP record for the complex).
- GRAY KINGBIRD** – Nesting was reported from five locations in the Escambia, *Santa*

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Rosa, Okaloosa area. A single was spotted northwest of Hartford, *Geneva*, 27 July (Rick Ingram; ph.) (second record for inland Alabama).

**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** – One was at the OCWSTF, *Okaloosa*, 24 June (Bruce Purdy) (very rare in summer in the WP). This species is an increasing breeder in Alabama, and one report came from a new site along Alabama Highway 87 south of Spring Hill, *Coffee*, 22 June (Michael Barbour).

**TREE SWALLOW** – Two+ were nesting in boxes at Saginaw, *Shelby*, 9 June (Paul Franklin et al.) (return to site; uncommon but increasing breeder in the Mountain Region)

**HOUSE WREN** – A singing individual was found in the Wilsonville quad, *Talladega*, 7 June (Pelham Rowan, Lisa Rowan) (rare breeder in this area).

**AMERICAN ROBIN** – Four birds were seen at Ensley, *Escambia*, 16 June (Jerry Callaway) (rare breeder in the WP).

**CEDAR WAXWING** – A pair with a nest was reported from Chandler Mountain, *St. Clair*, 15 July (date approximate) (Bill Gilliland, Jodi Gilliland) (return to site; rare breeder this far south).

**YELLOW WARBLER** – A single was heard in the Sleeping Giants quad, *Talladega*, 6 June (Ben Garmon) (rare in summer in the Mountain Region).

**LARK SPARROW** – One seen carrying food in the Ironaton quad, *Talladega*, 12 June (Stan Hamilton, Dana Hamilton) established the first local record and marked the second confirmed nesting for this species that is rare in the Mountain Region.

**SCARLET TANAGER** – Three different birds were seen 11-13 June in the Opelika West quad, *Lee* (Lorna West, Kevin Jackson) (probably nesting; rare breeder this far south).

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## GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES

Manuscripts submitted for publication in Alabama Birdlife should conform to the guidelines listed below. Articles should include some facet of bird ecology, natural history, behavior, management/conservation, identification or other related topics. Refer to this issue or to recent past issues for examples. Alabama Birdlife is published twice a year. If you have access to an IBM compatible or Macintosh computer, it saves time and money if you submit your manuscript on a 3 1/2 inch floppy disk along with a hard copy (Word or WordPerfect preferred). A manuscript may also be submitted over the Internet as a file attached to an e-mail addressed to: tmhaggerty@una.edu.

Manuscripts should be typed and double spaced. A 8 1/2 x 11 inch page format should be used.

Digital images submitted over the Internet, black and white prints, color prints, and slides are acceptable.

The title should be in CAPS. If the name of a species is used in the title, it should be followed by the scientific name in parentheses, e.g. CONNECTICUT WARBLER (*OPORORNIS AGILIS*).

The author's full name should be in lower case and centered under the title.

If the article is coauthored by a married couple bearing the same last name, the names should be kept separate, e.g. John B. Brown and Sarah D. Brown.

Whenever a species name is used for the first time in the body of an article, it should be followed by the scientific name in parentheses, e.g. Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*).

When using dates, the day should be placed before the month, e.g. 13 April 1992.

Spell out numbers ten and under and use numerals for numbers 11 and above.

Distances should be expressed in English units followed by the metric equivalent in parentheses, e.g. 6.2 miles (10 km). Use only the metric system for scientific measurements, e.g. wing 10.3 cm; tail 15.6 cm.

Table titles should be in CAPS and placed above the tables.

Figure legends should be in lower case and placed beneath the figure.

Refer to the Literature Cited in past issues for the correct format.

Three or fewer references should be incorporated into the text of the article rather than listed separately at the end, e.g. Imhof (1976, Alabama Birds).

The author's name and full address should be line typed at the end of the article. The name used should match the name given under the title.

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