

General Field Notes

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Osprey Migration at Wrightsville Beach, N.C.

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20 November 1973

On 4 October 1971, while conducting a shorebird census at the south end of Wrightsville Beach, N.C., I observed a heavy migratory movement of Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*). In 2 hours and 10 minutes (16:00 to 18:10), I counted 90 Ospreys moving southward. Most were in small flocks and were soaring very high. The wind was from the north, and the sky was mostly overcast. On 1 October, Hurricane Ginger had moved past Wrightsville Beach and made landfall near Morehead City. The first day with northerly winds following the storm was 4 October, the day the Ospreys were seen.

Robert Needham (pers. com.) reported seeing several Ospreys over the Cape Fear River near Smith Island on the morning of 4 October, and it is possible that the Ospreys were moving south in large numbers throughout the day.

Sandhill Cranes in Onslow County, N.C.

GRADY L. BARNES

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Raleigh, N.C.

20 August 1973

On 25 November 1970, three Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis*) were seen in a harvested Soybean field near Stella in Onslow County, N.C. The three cranes were feeding in a field owned by Percy Morton and located about 200 to 300 yards from the White Oak River Waterfowl Impoundment. Two of the cranes remained in the vicinity for about 2 weeks while the third disappeared earlier.

[This appears to be the second record of Sandhill Cranes in North Carolina, the first being a record of two birds taken in Robeson County in 1957 (*Chat*, 22:45, 1958). — Dept. Ed.]

Spring Shorebirds at a Drained Farm Pond Near Chapel Hill, N.C.

JAMES O. PULLMAN

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30 August 1971

Several small farm ponds near my home, just SE of Chapel Hill, N.C., customarily attract a few Spotted Sandpipers during the spring migration, but no other transient