

# General Field Notes

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## **A Record of the Great White Heron from Inland South Carolina**

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12 February 1974

On 29 September 1973, several members of the Carolina Bird Club found a Great White Heron (*Ardea herodias occidentalis*) on upper Lake Marion in extreme southern Sumter County, S.C. The bird was in an open marsh near Pack's Landing. Its large size was apparent at a great distance. Carter observed the bright yellow legs of the all white bird at a distance of approximately 150 yards with nine-power binoculars. Shortly afterwards, Rial and Angerman saw a Great Blue Heron (*A.h. herodias*) land near the white bird. They felt that the Great White Heron was as large as, or larger than, the Great Blue. They also noted the yellow legs of the Great White Heron. All of these observations were made under excellent light conditions.

There are only two published records for this subspecies in South Carolina, both for coastal localities. Single individuals were seen at Yemassee on 24 May 1943 (*South Carolina Bird Life*, Sprunt and Chamberlain, 1949, p. 78) and at Hilton Head Island on 19 September 1961 (*South Carolina Bird Life*, revised 1970, p. 581). This new record appears to be the first for inland South Carolina.

## **A Rare Occurrence of the Swallow-tailed Kite in Western North Carolina**

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19 June 1974

On 12 May 1974, while returning home from the Carolina Bird Club spring meeting in Hendersonville, N.C., I was driving along NC 191 in the area where the French Broad and Mill's River valleys meet. I was about 3 miles N of the Buncombe-Henderson County line when I saw two large birds I believed to be Swallow-tailed Kites (*Elanoides forficatus*), so I stopped my car.

The birds were sailing along on wind currents in a southwesterly direction at an elevation of approximately 150 to 200 feet. The solid white underbelly and head as