

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

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(All dates 1975)

- COMMON LOON:** Over 100 were seen in flight off the beach at Fort Macon State Park near Atlantic Beach, N.C., during a 90-minute period of observation on 12 April by Robert Hader. Late inland sightings of single migrants were noted on 16 May at Roanoke Rapids Lake, Halifax County, N.C., by Merrill Lynch and at Lake Hartwell near Clemson, S.C., on the same date by Harry LeGrand.
- HORNED GREBE:** A lingering individual was present at Pivers Island near Morehead City, N.C., as late as 2 June, John Fussell.
- EARED GREBE:** An inland transient was seen at McFayden Lake in Cumberland County, N.C., on 1 May by Henry Rankin Jr. and P.J. Crutchfield.
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:** Over 2,500 were seen massed at Oregon Inlet on the North Carolina coast on 22 April by Robert Anderson. Elsewhere, a noteworthy inland sighting was recorded on 18 April at Lake Hartwell near Clemson, S.C., where a single bird was observed by Harry LeGrand. At other inland reservoirs, four were seen on 30 March at Lake Wheeler near Raleigh, N.C., by James Mulholland, and four on 13 April at Roanoke Rapids Lake, Halifax County, N.C., by Merrill Lynch.
- GREAT BLUE HERON:** A sizeable inland flock of 16 was noted on 8 April near Winston-Salem, N.C., by Hank and Kay Kludinsky.
- CATTLE EGRET:** Four inland transients were seen at Pendleton, S.C., on 18 April by Harry LeGrand, and a flock of 18 was found near Fayetteville, N.C., on 22 April by P.J. Crutchfield, Henry Rankin Jr., and Brad Thomason. Elsewhere, two spring visitors were seen near Raleigh, N.C., on 24 April by Robert Hader, and one at Chapel Hill, N.C., on 12 May by James Pullman. Another inland migrant was late and unusual at Southern Pines, N.C., on 30 May, observed by Jay Carter.
- GREAT EGRET:** An inland visitor was noted at Lake Wheeler near Raleigh, N.C., on 22 March by Robert Hader.
- SNOWY EGRET:** One was seen in Cumberland County, N.C., near Fayetteville on 29 April by Henry Rankin Jr., Brad Thomason, and P.J. Crutchfield.
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON:** An adult and immature were observed in a wooded swamp on the Johnston Farm in the Occoneechee Neck section of Northampton County, N.C., on 5 April by Merrill Lynch, a rare local spring occurrence. Noteworthy also were two adults seen inland at Lake Hartwell near Clemson, S.C., on 9 April by Sidney Gauthreaux, and one near Swannanoa in Buncombe County, N.C., on 14 May by Robert Rutz.
- LEAST BITTERN:** One was found near Townville, Anderson County, S.C., on 20 May by Harry LeGrand.
- WHITE IBIS:** An adult and two immatures were present on 4 April at Pea Island, N.W.R. on the North Carolina Outer Banks. This location is north of the species' known breeding range. The observers were J. Akers and C. Wonderly.
- FULVOUS TREE DUCK:** A flock of 11 was present at Greenview Farm in Wake County, N.C., near Raleigh 1 May through 8 May, first reported by James Mulholland and later seen by other observers.
- PINTAIL:** Seven males and five females were seen at Lake Julian in Buncombe County, N.C., on 8 February by Bill Duyck and Bob Ruiz, a rare occurrence for western North Carolina.

- BLUE-WINGED TEAL:** A late spring straggler was seen near Pendleton, S.C., on 13 May by Harry LeGrand.
- REDHEAD:** An inland transient was seen on the Dan River in Caswell County, N.C., on 6 May by Fenton Day.
- GREATER SCAUP:** A male was present on a sewage pond near Pendleton, S.C., on 10-12 May, a late and rare visitor for that inland locality. The bird was observed by Harry LeGrand, Sidney Gauthreaux, and Kerry Reese.
- COMMON GOLDENEYE:** A single male was seen on Burnett Reservoir in Buncombe County, N.C., on 22 February by Walter Holland Jr. and family, a noteworthy local record.
- OLDSQUAW:** A male was observed by Roland Sargent, Glenn Coven, and Margaret Finch on Lake Tahoma, McDowell County, N.C., on 8 March.
- BLACK SCOTER:** Three late migrants were seen by Robert Hader off the beach at Fort Macon State Park near Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 25 May.
- RED-BREASTED MERGANSER:** One was seen on 12 May off North Litchfield Beach, S.C., by F.M. Probst.
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** One was seen north of the species' usual range on 1 May at Emerald Isle, N.C., by John Fussell, and another at Pea Island, N.W.R. on 24 May by Alan Gallagher.
- COOPER'S HAWK:** A 24 May sighting of a single bird was recorded at Clemson, S.C., by Harry LeGrand. Whether this bird was a late migrant or a summer resident is not known.
- ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK:** One was seen on 12 March at Carolina Sandhills N.W.R., Chesterfield County, S.C., by Paul McKenzie.
- MARSH HAWK:** A rather late spring sighting of an individual was recorded at Carolina Sandhills N.W.R., Chesterfield County, S.C., on 10 May by Paul McKenzie.
- BALD EAGLE:** An immature was seen on 20 April at Santee N.W.R., S.C., by Sidney Gauthreaux, and another at Cedar Island N.W.R. in Carteret County, N.C., by Ted Best.
- AMERICAN KESTREL:** A male was seen twice, on 13 and 18 May, near Pendleton, S.C., by Harry LeGrand. Elsewhere, Jay Carter observed one (possibly two birds) at Carolina Sandhills N.W.R. in Chesterfield County, S.C., on 28 May. Another individual, described as a fledgling, was found in an airport hangar at Walterboro, S.C., in late May by W.B. Cheney. The bird was examined and photographed on 1 June by Gerald Knighton.
- VIRGINIA RAIL:** A first record for Caldwell County, N.C., has been reported by Helen Myers who identified an injured bird found at Lenoir on 17 April. Elsewhere in the western piedmont, single birds were noted near Townville, S.C., on 8 April and 9 May by Harry LeGrand. One was also seen in northwestern Caswell County, N.C., on 5 May by Fenton Day.
- BLACK RAIL:** At least six were heard calling on 29 May at North River Marsh near Morehead City, N.C., by John Fussell.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Three were seen on 20 April at Huntington Beach State Park near Murrells Inlet, S.C., by Larry Copenhaver and Paul McKenzie.
- WESTERN SANDPIPER:** Seven birds were seen at the Braswell Farm east of Rocky Mount in Nash County, N.C., on 25 April by Louis Fink. A flock of nine was later seen there by the same observer on 9 May.
- WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** One was seen at Deveaux Bank near Charleston, S.C., on 1 June by John H. Dick.
- BLACK-HEADED GULL:** An immature was seen near Murrells Inlet, S.C., at Huntington Beach State Park on 19 April by Paul McKenzie.
- BONAPARTE'S GULL:** Inland visitors were numerous this spring at Lake Hartwell

- near Clemson, S.C., where peak counts of 101 were recorded on 8 April and 102 on 17 April by Harry LeGrand. At Gaston Lake in Warren County, N.C., and adjacent Roanoke Rapids Lake in Halifax County, at least 150 were counted on 13 April by Merrill Lynch and Keith Fielder.
- COMMON TERN:** Seven were sighted as far inland as Lake Hartwell near Clemson, S.C., on 4 May by Harry LeGrand.
- CASPIAN TERN:** Five were uncommon inland visitors at Roanoke Rapids Lake, sighted near Vulture, N.C., on 13 April by Merrill Lynch. At Lake Hartwell near Clemson, S.C., four were seen on 15 April and two on 3 May by Harry LeGrand.
- FORSTER'S TERN:** Twelve were seen on 9 May and one on 12 May at Lake Hartwell near Clemson, S.C., by Harry LeGrand.
- BLACK TERN:** Three migrants were seen at Cape Lookout, N.C., on 26 May by Robert Hader, and one at Huntington Beach State Park near Murrells Inlet, S.C., on 31 May by F.M. Probst.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** One was heard calling near Beaufort, N.C., on 29 May by John Fussell and Vince Guida, the latest spring date the species has been recorded in that coastal locality. Chuck-will's-widow generally replaces the Whip-poor-will as the summer breeding resident east of the fall line.
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** Two were noted as uncommon spring transients in the Charleston, S.C., area on 5 May by Perry Nugent.
- BARN OWL:** One was seen on Bogue Bank on 28 March by Robert Hader and two at Cedar Island, N.C., on 27 May by John Fussell, noteworthy local occurrences for Carteret County.
- SAW-WHET OWL:** Three were heard along the Blue Ridge Parkway near Devils Courthouse in Haywood County, N.C., on the night of 24-25 May by Larry Copenhaver and Paul McKenzie.
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD:** One was present as early as 22 March at Whispering Pines, N.C., observed by Roberta Davis.
- GRAY KINGBIRD:** A single bird was closely studied at McClellanville, S.C., by William and Wilma Meteer on 20 May.
- WESTERN KINGBIRD:** One was found on 28 April at Huntington Beach State Park, Georgetown County, S.C., by F.M. Probst. This is apparently the first spring record for South Carolina.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER:** Two sightings were recorded on the South Carolina coast during the spring period. An individual was seen at Huntington Beach State Park on 16 April by F.M. Probst, and another at Isle of Palms near Charleston on 19 April by S.A. Gauthreaux.
- WILLOW FLYCATCHER:** At least five birds were seen and identified by song along Johnson Creek near Waynesville, N.C., in Haywood County on 25 May by Paul McKenzie and Larry Copenhaver. At Raleigh, N.C., one was heard singing on 14 May at Lake Raleigh by Robert Hader. One was also noted at North Wilkesboro, N.C., on 5 June by Wendell Smith.
- RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH:** A late-lingering individual was seen on 18 May in Forsyth County, N.C., near Winston-Salem by Jim and Pat Culberson.
- SWANSON'S THRUSH:** An early migrant was seen near Durham, N.C., on 15 March by Patrick Boyd.
- PHILADELPHIA VIREO:** One was a good find near Townville, S.C., on 3 May carefully observed by Adair Tedards. Elsewhere, two were seen near Bethune, S.C., on 5 May by Paul McKenzie.
- WARBLING VIREO:** One was a rare piedmont transient at Chapel Hill, N.C., on 3 May, observed by James Pullman and Elizabeth Teulings. In the western section, a singing male, possibly a local breeder, was noted along Johnson Creek near Waynesville, N.C., on 25 May by Larry Copenhaver and Paul McKenzie.

- SWAINSON'S WARBLER:** Twelve were heard singing along the Big and Little Lynchies Rivers in the vicinity of Bethune, S.C., on 5 May by Paul McKenzie. In the western piedmont, individuals were found present in bottomland habitat near Central, S.C., on 11 May and 27 May by Harry LeGrand, indicating the possibility of nesting in that locality.
- BREWSTER'S WARBLER:** An individual of this hybrid form was seen on 8 May at Mason Farm near Chapel Hill, N.C., by Harold Frazier.
- ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:** Single transients were seen on 18 March at Santee N.W.R. by Paul McKenzie; 7 April at Greer, S.C., by Gary Worthington; and 2 May at Chapel Hill, N.C., by William and Margaret Wagner.
- BAY-BREASTED WARBLER:** One seen in Francis Marion National Forest, S.C., on 27 April by Paul McKenzie was a rare coastal plain transient well east of the species' normal spring migration route.
- CERULEAN WARBLER:** Single transients were reported seen in Francis Marion National Forest, Clemson, and the Bethune, S.C., area as well as Caswell County, N.C., during the period 22-27 April. Three probable summer residents were found in the vicinity of Reynolds Gap along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Buncombe County, N. C., on 25 May by Paul McKenzie and Larry Copenhaver.
- NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH:** Late spring occurrences were recorded on 25 May at Williamston, N.C., by Merrill Lynch and on the same date at Chapel Hill, N.C., by James Pullman, Robert Teulings, and Elizabeth Teulings.
- WILSON'S WARBLER:** Individuals were noted as uncommon to rare spring transients on 1 May at Southern Pines, N.C., by Jay Carter; 2 May at Chapel Hill, N.C., by Owen McConnell et al.; 3 May in the Asheville, N.C., vicinity by Chris Rustay; and 5 May at Raleigh, N.C., by Gail Whitehurst. One was also seen on 19 May at Clemson, S.C., by Harry LeGrand.
- EVENING GROSBEAK:** A late lingerer was seen at Reidsville, N.C., on 20 May by Ruth Noonan.
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW:** Winter visitors remained well into May at several North Carolina locations. The latest reported sightings were by James Pullman at Chapel Hill and Cynthia and Mary Olsen at Winston-Salem on 17 May.
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW:** One was seen near Clemson, S.C., on 9 May by Harry LeGrand.