

General Field Notes

JAMES F. PARNELL, Department Editor

Department of Biology, University of North Carolina at Wilmington,
Wilmington, N.C. 28401

JULIAN R. HARRISON, Associate Editor

Department of Biology, The College of Charleston, Charleston, S.C. 29401

Goshawk in Chesterfield County, S.C.

GEORGE H. HAAS
1822 Brook Drive
Camden, S.C. 29020

During 1973, I observed two adult Goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*) on the Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge approximately 9 miles N of McBee, Chesterfield County, S.C. The first individual was observed for about 3 minutes on 19 November 1973, as it hunted in a scrub oak area adjacent to a large field. Later, another and possibly the same individual was observed for approximately 1 minute on 21 November 1973, as it hunted the edge between a pine stand and a large field. Despite increased effort, I did not see the bird subsequent to 21 November 1973. I am familiar with the Goshawk in northern Minnesota, where I observed it in connection with research on grouse.

[Associate Editor's Note: The Goshawk is presently on the South Carolina Hypothetical List. The original record is based upon a dubious and unconfirmed observation made near Bull's Bay, Charleston County, S.C., in 1905 (*South Carolina Bird Life*, 1970, p. 556). Two additional valid sightings are required to place this species on the official South Carolina list. There are five published records of the Goshawk in North Carolina (*Chat* 39:18).—JRH]

Black Rail and Virginia Rail in Summer in Northwestern South Carolina

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.
Department of Zoology, Clemson University
Clemson, S.C. 29631

31 July 1975

During the spring and summer of 1975, I was surprised to discover the presence of the Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) and the Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) in Anderson County, S.C.

Late in the afternoon of 13 May 1975 I was birding in a marsh about 2 miles S of Townville when I heard a *kee-kee-kurr* call nearby. Although I had never seen nor heard a Black Rail before, I immediately recognized the call from having heard it several years ago on the *Field Guide to Western Bird Songs* record. During the next hour I heard the call about 30 times, occasionally as close as 20 feet, but despite considerable search I was unable to obtain even a glimpse of the bird. Because it called often and at many points in the marsh, appearing to mark a territory, I hoped the bird was nesting there. The marsh was fairly extensive, lying next to Little Beaverdam Creek