

more than two birds in any one photograph. Numerous other people saw and photographed the birds as well. On 27 July a story and color photograph of one of the birds appeared in the local newspaper (Greensboro News & Record 94(209):1). The birds were seen daily through 6 August.

On several occasions the jaegers were seen feeding on dead Gizzard Shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*) as well as carp. Although a small number of gulls and terns appeared on the lake during late July, we saw no instances of the kind of piratic chasing for which jaegers are famous. On 27 July, one of the apparently adult birds made one swoop at a flying Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*) with no further efforts at harassment. On 1 August, Hendrickson observed one of the jaegers being attacked by a tern in much the same way that swallows attack buteonine hawks.

The appearance of the band on the left leg of at least one of the birds prompted a telephone call to the Bird Banding Laboratory at Pautuxent, Maryland. George Jonkel told Hendrickson that the last Pomarine Jaeger receiving a USF&WS band, for which they have a record, was one bird banded in 1975 in the Northwest Territories of Canada. However, the Greensboro bird may have been banded in Europe or Asia, as nonbreeding jaegers are notorious wanderers. Pomarine Jaegers normally do not return to their birthplace until they are 2 to 4 years old and may not breed for the first time until even older.

First South Carolina Specimen of the Iceland Gull

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On 14 January 1985 we secured an Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) in Charleston Harbor on Crab Bank, a spoil island about 0.5 km S of the outlet of Shem Creek, Mount Pleasant, Charleston County, S.C. This individual (ChM 1985.7.5) is a female in first-winter plumage.

The bird's weight was 837 g; chord of wing, 377 mm; total length, 509 mm; culmen from base, 41.4 mm; tail, 149 mm; tarsus, 56 mm. Distal bill color was drab (color 27 of Smithe 1974), shading to sepia (color 119, Smithe 1981) proximally. The legs were vinaceous pink (color 221c, Smithe 1981). The irides were dark brown.

We first saw this bird on 14 December 1984 as it flew over the mouth of Shem Creek. When we again found the bird on 14 January, it was resting on a sand beach about 1 m from the water. It was associating with about 15 Ring-billed Gulls (*L. delawarensis*). On one occasion it supplanted a Ring-billed Gull.

We were about 25 m from the bird when we collected it. At this distance we were able to identify it as an Iceland Gull before collecting. Salient characteristics were: small size (intermediate between Ring-billed Gull and Herring Gull, *L. argentatus*), all-white plumage, short and narrow all-dark bill. The closed wings of this specimen extend beyond the tail, although we did not use this as a field characteristic. When we saw the bird fly over our boat on 14 December, the main features noted were: all-dark bill and lack of dark wing and tail markings.

The status of the Iceland Gull in the Carolinas has been controversial (LeGrand 1977). No individuals had previously been collected in either state, although at least two have been taken in Georgia (see below). Iceland Gulls are easily confused with Glaucous Gulls (*L. hyperboreus*). The problems of field separation of local "white-winged" gulls have been discussed by Fussell et al. (1982). We agree with these authors and LeGrand (1977) that bill shape and color and head shape are the best field characteristics for separating *L. glaucoides* and *L. hyperboreus*. For hand-held birds (in addition to the above characteristics) the two species are best separated by measurements such as culmen and tarsus length, which do not overlap between these species. For example, culmen length for 28 female *L. glaucoides* ranged from 39.1 mm to 48.2 mm, whereas the comparable range for 31 female *L. hyperboreus* was 53.4 mm to 64.0 mm (Cramp et al. 1983).

In our opinion there are only four reliable sight records (viz. published accounts with adequate details, made by experienced field workers) of Iceland Gulls in South Carolina: Mount Pleasant, 7 January 1964 (Chamberlain 1964); Clemson, 3 to 8 February 1976 (LeGrand 1978); Charleston, 15 February 1976 (Forsythe 1978); Mount Pleasant, 3 April 1977, (LeGrand and Gauthreaux 1978). Combined with our sight record, these document a season of occurrence from mid-December through early April.

Two specimens of the Iceland Gull have been taken in Georgia. The first state specimen was shot by I.R. Tomkins on 14 February 1935 at Savannah. This specimen (I. Tomkins 523, ChM 1935.63) was originally identified as a Glaucous Gull, and the misidentification was published (Tomkins 1941, Tomkins 1958, Greene et al. 1945, Burleigh 1958). The other Iceland Gull specimen for Georgia is also in the Charleston Museum (I. Tomkins 665, ChM 1942.56.4), collected 13 February 1941, 5 km E of Savannah, also by Tomkins (1941). Until now, this has been considered to be the first Georgia specimen (Tomkins 1941, 1958; Greene et al. 1945; Burleigh 1958). Because of the above reidentification, it is now the second Georgia specimen. In addition, Tomkins collected three other "Glaucous Gulls" (Tomkins 1931, 1941, 1958; Burleigh 1958) which may also be misidentified. These specimens are not in any of the known repositories of Tomkin's collection: The Charleston Museum, Savannah Science Museum, University of Georgia, Mercer University (Coolidge 1965). Details of this imbroglio are being published elsewhere (Post, in press).

The problems that museum workers have had in identifying Iceland and Glaucous Gull specimens further emphasize the difficulties that field workers will have in making positive field identifications. They also underline the importance of having well-documented voucher specimens as the ultimate reference for species' occurrences.

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A Record of Thayer's Gull from Hatteras Inlet, Dare County, N.C.

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On 27 December 1983 at approximately 1630, I observed a first-winter Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) at the north end of Ocracoke Island, at Hatteras Inlet, Hyde County, N.C. The bird was first noticed as it flew in and landed among a large group of gulls 65 m away. Bob Lewis, who was scoping gulls nearby, confirmed the identification. The bird was studied at leisure for several minutes and in direct comparison to similar-aged Herring Gulls (*L. argentatus*). It was paler tan-brown and much more uniformly colored overall. The back and wing coverts had a marbled rather than blotchy pattern; overall the bird was less contrasty than any Herring Gull present (about 150,000; roughly half immatures). The folded primaries were unique, tan-brown in color and only slightly darker than the back. Each feather was boldly outlined with buff-white margins, including a mottled invasion of white onto the brown centers. The Thayer's Gull was slightly smaller than any Herring Gull nearby. The bill was as long as that of a Herring Gull but more uniform in thickness and with a gentler curvature at the tip. The color of the bill was mostly blackish with a dusky grayish-pink base.

Eventually I flushed the bird. In flight from above, the primaries were paler than the mantle except for the outer two or three, which were slightly darker, and the next four or