

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.

(All dates 1986)

- RED-THROATED LOON: Ricky Davis saw individuals at Jordan Lake in Chatham County, N.C., on 28 October and 23 November.
- COMMON LOON: One was very early on 16 August at Lake Julian near Asheville, N.C. (Ruth and Jerry Young).
- PIED-BILLED GREBE: Undoubtedly an early migrant or post-breeding visitor was one on 3 August, as noted by Paul Hart at Crowders Mountain State Park, N.C.
- CORY'S SHEARWATER: Quite late were two Cory's seen from shore by John Fussell and Robert Hader on 27 November at Atlantic Beach, N.C.
- AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER: One was found alive at a ball field a few miles inland in Havelock, N.C., on 5 August (fide John Fussell).
- WILSON'S STORM-PETREL: Somewhat "inland" was one seen by Harry LeGrand and Ricky Davis on 24 August in Roanoke Sound, N.C., adjacent to the US 64-264 bridge.
- LEACH'S STORM-PETREL: The only fall reports on North Carolina pelagic trips were several off Oregon Inlet on 15 August and one off the inlet on 9 November (both Dave Lee).
- BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL: Excellent totals were 70+ off Oregon Inlet on 15 August (Dave Lee et al.), 16 off Hatteras Inlet, N.C., on 28 August (Robert Ake, Paul DuMont), and 35+ off Oregon Inlet on 2 September (fide Bill Brokaw).
- WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD: Single birds were noted by Dave Lee and party off Oregon Inlet on 15 August and off Oregon Inlet on 2 September (fide Bill Brokaw).
- MASKED BOOBY: Seldom seen from shore was one, a subadult, feeding in the surf at Cape Hatteras point, N.C., on 1 September (Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch, Benton Basham, Bill Brokaw).
- NORTHERN GANNET: Heathy Walker saw an immature on the unusual date of 11 August at North Litchfield Beach, S.C.
- AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: An excellent state count was five seen at Bogue Inlet, N.C., on 29 October by Henry Haberyan.
- GREAT CORMORANT: On 28 November, two were at Atlantic Beach, N.C. (John Fussell, Robert Hader) and one was at Masonboro Inlet, N.C. (Steve Everhart). Robin Carter saw three adults at Murrells Inlet, S.C., on 23 November.
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: Notable for the mountains was one seen at Lake Julian near Asheville, N.C., on 16 August by Ruth and Jerry Young.
- LEAST BITTERN: Douglas McNair observed two adults on 19 August, and one on 27 August, at the same marsh in Hendersonville, N.C., where the species was seen in 1985. This is the only known site where breeding by bitterns might be occurring in the mountains.
- REDDISH EGRET: One, apparently a subadult, was seen at the western end of Long Beach, N.C., on 4 August by Fran Irvin.
- WHITE IBIS: As many as 15 were seen at Jordan Lake during August by Bill and Margaret Wagner.
- WOOD STORK: At the Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary, S.C., near Augusta, Ga., from 80 to 96 storks were present in late summer and fall (Dan Connelly et al.).
- FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK: Rare in North Carolina were one in late October near Cape Hatteras (Elizabeth Ball) and four at a sewage disposal plant near Carolina Beach from 22 October to 2 November (Kitty Kosh).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: An excellent count was 11 seen on 27 November at Santee National Wildlife Refuge, S.C., by Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman.

ROSS' GOOSE: The earliest ever for North Carolina was an adult observed at Pea Island on 18 October by Allen Bryan, Ricky Davis, and John Fussell.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL: One was late for the mountain region on 27 November at Hendersonville, N.C. (Douglas McNair).

EURASIAN WIGEON: Single males were seen at Pea Island, N.C., on the early date of 18 October (Allen Bryan, Ricky Davis, John Fussell) and at Bodie Island, N.C., on several dates in November (Harry LeGrand, Ricky Davis, and others).

BLACK SCOTER: John Fussell and Robert Hader saw one on the early date of 7 September at Cedar Island, N.C.

SURF SCOTER: Very rare inland were single birds seen at Crowders Mountain State Park, N.C., on 10 November by Paul Hart and Heathy Walker, and at Roanoke Rapids Lake, N.C., from 29 October to 6 November by Frank Enders.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER: Frank Enders observed two birds at Roanoke Rapids Lake on 29 October.

COMMON MERGANSER: Early were two males and a female at Woodlake, near Vass, N.C., on 11 November, as noted by Dick Thomas.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: Ruth and Jerry Young had a good mountain count of 18 at Lake Julian on 21 November.

TURKEY VULTURE: A migrant was rare on the Outer Banks at Avon, N.C., on 23 October (John Fussell).

AMERICAN SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: A late kite was seen by Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman on 3 October at the I-20 crossing over the Wateree River, S.C. Unusually far west were two birds seen from early August to 3 September at numerous sites between Black Mountain and Old Fort, N.C. (Don Slye, Robert Ruiz, Laura Mansberg, and others).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: A pair nested near the yard of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wallace in Cheraw, S.C., in 1985 and 1986. Extremely late was an adult or subadult on 9 November just south of Elizabethtown, N.C. (Philip Crutchfield).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK: An adult seen in the Mills River bottoms in Henderson County, N.C., on 8 September by John Young suggests the possibility of breeding in the area. Despite a handful of summer records for the mountains, there is no conclusive evidence of breeding in North Carolina (but see Chat 49:85-87).

GOLDEN EAGLE: Individuals were seen in the North Carolina mountains at Black Balsam Knob in southern Haywood County on 8 August (Douglas McNair) and at Swannanoa on 5 October (Robert Ruiz). [Biologists from the Tennessee Valley Authority have been hacking and releasing Golden Eagles in southern Haywood County for the past few summers, and it is probable that a number of recent sightings for the mountains, particularly in the summer, are of birds released in North Carolina in the attempt to establish a nesting population there.—HEL] Very rare in the piedmont was an immature seen by Ricky Davis flying over Jordan Lake on 28 October.

MERLIN: Individuals were seen inland in North Carolina at Butner on 16 September (Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch), Jordan Lake on 24 October (LeGrand, Ricky Davis), Fairview in Buncombe County on 1 November (Ruth and Jerry Young), Fayetteville on 9 November (Jim Sipiora), and central Halifax County on 30 November (Frank Enders).

PEREGRINE FALCON: One was seen near Raleigh on 12 October by Harry LeGrand, and another was seen at Jordan Lake on 28 October by Ricky Davis. A good coastal flight of this increasing species was seen on the Outer Banks during the Carolina Bird Club meeting (3 to 5 October), with at least 25 birds noted.

- BLACK RAIL:** At a TV tower near Awendaw, S.C., dead individuals were picked up on 7 October by Sidney Gauthreaux and on 10 October by Carroll Belser.
- SORA:** Douglas McNair noted six birds at Hendersonville on 12 August and singles there on 19 and 27 August. He also noted one at Cashiers, N.C., from 29 August to 5 September.
- COMMON MOORHEN:** A rare inland migrant was seen by Philip Crutchfield near Fayetteville on 9 September.
- SANDHILL CRANE:** John Batson and others saw a crane on 9 November near Townville, S.C.
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:** Rarely seen in the mountains was one at Hendersonville on 12 August (Douglas McNair). One was at Roanoke Rapids Lake on 4 and 11 August (Frank Enders), and a peak count of seven was made by Ricky Davis at Jordan Lake on 11 August.
- LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER:** Surprisingly, the only inland reports for the fall season were from Jordan Lake, where one was seen on 16 August by James and Elizabeth Pullman, and others were present from 1 October to 7 November with a peak of five on 28 October (Ricky Davis et al.). There were numerous coastal reports for the season, but the only count of more than two birds was of four plovers at the Beaufort, N.C., airport on 2 September (John Fussell).
- AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER:** Derb and Ann Carter had an excellent count of 300 at Bald Head Island, N.C., on 27 September.
- SOLITARY SANDPIPER:** A high total of 50 Solitaries was noted by Ricky Davis at Jordan Lake on 7 August.
- UPLAND SANDPIPER:** Inland sightings were of single birds at Jordan Lake on 11 August (Ricky Davis), in central Halifax County on 12 August (Frank Enders), and at Six Mile, S.C., on the very late date of 10 October (Douglas McNair).
- WHIMBREL:** Herb Hendrickson reported one found dead on a road near Greensboro, N.C., on 5 September.
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** One was seen at Wrightsville Beach, N.C., on 25 August by Greg Massey, and another was observed at Hunting Island State Park, S.C., from 19 to 30 August (David Brown, Kristin Poulsen, Dave Sibley).
- HUDSONIAN GODWIT:** Seldom found in South Carolina were three seen at the dredge spoil site near Savannah, Ga., on 30 August (Dave Sibley). Only the second ever record for inland North Carolina was four birds at a quarry at New Bern from 1 to 9 November (Bob Holmes, Rich Boyd). One was seen at Hatteras Inlet, N.C., on 1 September (Jay Sheppard, Arnold Small, David Pearson), in addition to the usual records farther north at Bodie and Pea Islands.
- RUDDY TURNSTONE:** Remarkable numbers were present at Jordan Lake in the fall; 15 were there on 7 August (Ricky Davis, Harry LeGrand), 38 were counted on 11 August by Davis, and 35 were tallied on 13 August by LeGrand. Bill and Margaret Wagner saw seven more turnstones on 11 August at Falls Lake in Durham County, N.C.
- RED KNOT:** Very rare inland were single birds seen by Ricky Davis at Jordan Lake on 11 August and from 21 to 24 October.
- SANDERLING:** At Jordan Lake, the species was present as early as 7 August (Ricky Davis, Harry LeGrand) and as late as 2 November (James and Elizabeth Pullman); the peak count was 10 on 13 August (LeGrand). Three were reported by Merrill Lynch at Falls Lake on 16 October.
- SEMPALMATED SANDPIPER:** A very good inland count was 115, made by Ricky Davis on 11 August at Jordan Lake.
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER:** A fairly good total for South Carolina was 15 at the spoil site near Savannah on 30 August (Dave Sibley). Inland reports were of one at New Bern,

- N.C., on 12 October (Bob Holmes), one at Jordan Lake from 11 to 15 August (Ricky Davis), and two at Jordan on 24 October (Davis, Harry LeGrand).
- BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** All records for the season were from the North Carolina coast, where single birds were noted at Bodie Island on 5 October (Harry LeGrand, Derb Carter, et al.); at Pea Island on 15 August and 11 October (John Fussell); at Cape Hatteras point from 4 to 11 October, with two birds on the first date (Derb Carter, Merrill Lynch, et al.); and one at Bogue Inlet on 24 October (James and Elizabeth Pullman).
- DUNLIN:** Six were seen near Fayetteville on 29 October by Philip Crutchfield, and three were seen by Herb Hendrickson near Greensboro on 24 October. Phenomenal numbers were present in late fall at Jordan Lake, with 60 on 17 October and 80+ in late November (Bill and Margaret Wagner).
- STILT SANDPIPER:** An excellent count of 60 birds was made by Ricky Davis at Jordan Lake on 11 August, and one was rather late there on 24 October (Davis, Harry LeGrand). Dave Sibley saw three inland near Jackson, S.C., on 15 September and 25 near the coast at the Savannah dredge spoil area on 30 August.
- BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** The only report for the fall was one at Cape Hatteras point on 4 and 5 October, seen on a Carolina Bird Club field trip.
- RUFF:** One of the few records for South Carolina was one seen well by Robin Carter on 2 November at the Santee Delta Game Management Area in southern Georgetown County.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Quite rare inland were one seen at Jordan Lake on 7 August by Ricky Davis and Harry LeGrand and two noted there on 21 October by Davis.
- WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** The only fall sighting away from the North Carolina Outer Banks was one on 29 August at Eagle Island near Wilmington, N.C. (Kitty Kosh).
- RED-NECKED PHALAROPE:** An excellent find was one seen by Eric Dean at the Goldsboro, N.C., waste treatment plant on 23 and 24 September.
- POMARINE JAEGER:** Notable on land were single immatures at Cape Hatteras point on 31 August (Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch) and from 4 to 18 October by the above observers, John Fussell, and others.
- PARASITIC JAEGER:** Allen Bryan and Ricky Davis saw a good flight of jaegers at Cape Hatteras point on 17 October—three Parasitics, four Pomarines, and two unidentified jaegers.
- LONG-TAILED JAEGER:** One was collected for the N.C. State Museum by Dave Lee on the late date of 9 November off Oregon Inlet.
- LAUGHING GULL:** At Jordan Lake, two were seen on 17 August (Harry LeGrand), and one was noted on 8 November (LeGrand, Ricky Davis). Two immatures were observed by Merrill Lynch on 13 October at Roanoke Rapids Lake, N.C.
- FRANKLIN'S GULL:** The fourth North Carolina record was a first-year bird photographed by John Fussell at North Pond on Pea Island on 26 October and 8 November.
- HERRING GULL:** Quite early inland was an immature seen at Jordan Lake on 15 August by Ricky Davis.
- ICELAND GULL:** Henry Haberyan observed an immature on the very early date of 15 October at Bogue Inlet, N.C.
- GLAUCOUS GULL:** One was early at Topsail Beach, N.C., on 22 October, as seen by Gail Whitehurst.
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE:** Dave Sibley saw an immature flying along the beach on the extremely early date of 29 August at Hunting Island State Park, S.C.
- CASPIAN TERN:** This species was seen at a handful of inland lakes this fall, with the highest

- count being nine at Roanoke Rapids Lake on 9 September (Frank Enders).
- SANDWICH TERN:** Two birds, along with six Royal Terns, were displaced somewhat inland to Lake Mattamuskeet, N.C., by Hurricane Charley on 18 August, as noted by John Fussell and Ray Winstead.
- ARCTIC TERN:** Seldom seen from shore was an adult noted resting with a large flock of Common Terns, during strong NE winds, at Cape Hatteras point. Wayne Irvin, Bob Odear, and P. William Smith observed the tern on 30 August.
- FORSTER'S TERN:** Rare for the mountains were two seen by Douglas McNair at Hendersonville on 19 August and two noted by Ruth and Jerry Young at Lake Julian on 17 November. A notable tally of 11 was made by Herb Hendrickson on 9 August at Lake Townsend near Greensboro; whereas fairly late for an inland site were at least three at Roanoke Rapids Lake on 24 November (Frank Enders).
- SOOTY TERN:** One was seen off Beaufort Inlet, N.C., on 20 August by Derb Carter.
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE:** The first North Carolina record in several decades was one seen in flight along a dike at North Pond on Pea Island. Ricky Davis and Derb Carter saw it on 6 October.
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** The only fall sightings were at Pea Island on 22 August (Ricky Davis), at Bald Head Island on 28 September (Derb Carter et al.), and along the Savannah River near Jackson, S.C., on 24 October (Dave Sibley).
- SHORT-EARED OWL:** Ricky Davis and Harry LeGrand saw one migrating high over Jordan Lake on 24 October; it was being mobbed by crows. Another inland report was one found injured near Badin, N.C., on 27 November and taken to the Carolina Raptor Center (fide Dick Brown).
- RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD:** An adult male was present at a feeder in Hendersonville from 5 November to 13 December. Because the home owner, Sue Ballard Gilliam, was moving, an employee of the N.C. Zoological Park trapped the bird to keep it over winter at the zoo. However, the hummingbird died soon afterward, and it is now a specimen at the N.C. State Museum.
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER:** The only fall sightings were reported by Dave Lee: birds at two places near Kelly, Bladen County, N.C., on 26 August, and one near Elk Park, Avery County, N.C., on 13 September.
- YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER:** One was seen and heard calling at Wilmington on 29 August by Kitty Kosh.
- BANK SWALLOW:** Three were carefully studied on the very late date of 3 November at New Bern by Rich Boyd.
- CLIFF SWALLOW:** Scarce along the coast were five seen by Ricky Davis and Harry LeGrand at Cape Hatteras on 9 August.
- FISH CROW:** An excellent piedmont total was 207 counted by Merrill Lynch at Ringwood, Halifax County, N.C., on 13 October.
- COMMON RAVEN:** Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman heard one calling at Caesar's Head State Park, S.C., on 14 October.
- GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET:** The species may have bred at the Walhalla Fish Hatchery, S.C., this summer, and one was seen there on 31 August (Caroline Eastman, Robin Carter), probably one that was present in summer.
- WHITE-EYED VIREO:** One that Bill Hilton Jr. banded at York, S.C., on 27 October was recaptured as late as 29 November.
- PHILADELPHIA VIREO:** Individuals were seen in North Carolina at Bodie Island on 1 September (Wayne Irvin), at Falls Lake on 14 and 18 September (Ricky Davis), at Crowders Mountain State Park on 26 September (Paul Hart), and at Pea Island on 5 October (Harry LeGrand).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: Dave Sibley had six records in the Aiken, S.C., area from 4 to 15 September, an excellent total for the Fall Line vicinity. Another was at Goldsboro, N.C., on 17 September (Eric Dean).

LAWRENCE'S WARBLER: One female was seen by Dave Sibley at Savannah National Wildlife Refuge, S.C., on 17 August.

NASHVILLE WARBLER: In addition to several inland reports for the fall, one was seen at Fort Fisher, N.C., on 28 September by Kitty Kosh.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER: A female or immature was seen by Douglas McNair at Linville Falls, N.C., on 12 August. No breeding evidence was noted.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER: Rather rare along the coast were two observed by Greg Massey at Fort Fisher on 30 August.

CERULEAN WARBLER: This is an early and rare fall migrant through the Carolinas. In North Carolina, one was seen on 29 August at Falls Lake (Ricky Davis), and two were noted at Carolina Beach State Park on 30 August (Greg Massey). In South Carolina, one was seen on 9 August along the North Edisto River in Orangeburg County (Robin Carter), one was seen on 26 August near Jackson (Dave Sibley), and singles were seen on 5 and 11 September at Aiken (Sibley).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: One was noted by Kitty Kosh in Wilmington on 4 September, and another was seen by Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch, and others at Pea Island on 5 October.

DICKCISSEL: The only fall report was one noted calling overhead at Pea Island on 4 October by Ricky Davis.

LARK SPARROW: Very rare inland was one observed by Dave Sibley on 3 November at Aiken.

HENSLOW'S SPARROW: Seldom seen in migration was one on 17 October at First Colony Farms near Lake Phelps, N.C. (Allen Bryan, Ricky Davis).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW: Dave Sibley saw one in a drained lake bed at Aiken on 28 October. This locality is possibly within the regular winter range of this species.

SHARP-TAILED SPARROW: An excellent inland find was one seen at Jordan Lake on 12 October by James and Elizabeth Pullman.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW: One was banded by Bill Hilton Jr. on 12 October at York, S.C. Other migrants were seen at Raleigh on 22 November (Harry LeGrand) and near Fayetteville on 29 November (Philip Crutchfield, Jim Sipiora). Three were on their wintering grounds at First Colony Farms near Lake Phelps on 17 October (Allen Bryan, Ricky Davis).

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: A very high count was 75+ seen in hedgerows at the Caledonia Prison Farm near Tillery, Halifax County, N.C., on 23 November by Merrill and Karen Lynch.

SNOW BUNTING: The only sightings, as expected, were from the North Carolina coast: one at a dike of South Pond at Pea Island on 1 and 2 November (Harry LeGrand, Ricky Davis), one on 1 November at the Cedar Island ferry terminal (John Fussell), and another at Fort Macon at the end of November (fide Fussell).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: Single individuals were coastal visitors to Will Post's feeder on Sullivans Island on 5 and 6 September, at Ocracoke Island, N.C., on 4 October (Derb Carter, Merrill Lynch), and at Pea Island on 4 and 5 October (Carolina Bird Club members).

RED CROSSBILL: Seldom seen in South Carolina in the summer were a male and a female reported by Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman on 31 August in northern Pickens County.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH: Apparently somewhat to the east of the breeding range were an adult male at Oriental, N.C., on 19 August (Dorothy Foy) and two at a feeder in Morehead City, N.C., in late August (Susan Boase).