

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

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(All dates Fall 2011, unless otherwise noted)

Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events which do not necessarily require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.

Winter	December 1–February 28	due March 20
Spring	March 1–May 31	due June 20
Summer	June 1–July 31	due August 20
Fall	August 1–November 30	due December 20

Reports may be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you use email, list multiple sightings in taxonomic order (rather than by date or location), and type your report directly into the body of the email. If your sightings are in a file, please copy-and-paste the text into the body of the email, rather than sending an attachment.

Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.

Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.

I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.

If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck: One at a private impoundment on the North River, Carteret County (Co), NC, from July to November (*vide* John Fussell) was thought to have been of wild origin. 30+ were at Donnelley Wildlife Management Area (WMA), SC, 30 Sept (Paul Serridge, et al.).

Greater White-fronted Goose: Steve Calver found a flock of 13 Greater White-fronted Geese at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 14 Oct.

Snow Goose: Individuals were found mixed with a flock of Canada Geese at a sod farm in New Bern, NC, very early, 31 Aug–1 Sept (Al

Gamache); foraging with Canada Geese in Wilmington, NC, 13 Oct (Bruce Smithson); at the upper end of Jordan Lake, NC, 20 Oct (Mike McCloy, Brent Mills); and at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 20 Oct–2 Nov (Steve Calver). Nine had returned to Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), NC, by 11 Oct (Audrey Whitlock).



Ross's Goose, 23 Oct 2011, Cary, NC. Photo by Robert Meehan.

adjacent New Field, 2 Nov (Peggy Eubank, Audrey Whitlock); at the nearby Bodie Island Lighthouse Pond, during the Wings Over Water Festival (W.O.W.), 12 Nov (Whitlock, m. obs.). Two drakes were seen at New Field, Pea Island NWR, NC 13 Nov (Ricky Davis, Jeff Phippen).

Northern Shoveler: A juvenile shoveler on Busbee Lake in Conway, SC, 21 Aug (Stephen Thomas) was quite early.

Surf Scoter: Monroe Pannell found a female on Lake Hickory, NC, 30 Oct.



White-winged Scoter, 19 Nov 2011, Lake Junaluska, NC. Photo by Connie Wulkowicz.

in Lexington, SC, 18 Sep (Patricia Voelker).

Ross's Goose: A juvenile bird, found on a small subdivision pond with a small flock of Canada Geese in W Cary, NC, 21 Oct (Jennifer Schrand) was seen and photographed by many through 14 Nov (Schrand, multiple observers (m. obs.)).

Tundra Swan: Locally unusual was one seen on the upper end of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 5 Nov (Scott Winton).

Gadwall: 100+ on Lake Osceola in Henderson Co, NC, 16 Nov (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey) was a record number for that county.

Eurasian Wigeon: Individual drakes were seen at Pea Island NWR, NC, 1 Nov (*vide* Jeff Lewis);

in adjacent New Field, 2 Nov (Peggy Eubank, Audrey Whitlock); at the nearby Bodie Island Lighthouse Pond, during the Wings Over Water Festival (W.O.W.), 12 Nov (Whitlock, m. obs.). Two drakes were seen at New Field, Pea Island NWR, NC 13 Nov (Ricky Davis, Jeff Phippen).

Northern Shoveler: A juvenile shoveler on Busbee Lake in Conway, SC, 21 Aug (Stephen Thomas) was quite early.

Surf Scoter: Monroe Pannell found a female on Lake Hickory, NC, 30 Oct.

White-winged Scoter: Inland sightings involved an adult male on Lake Hickory, Catawba Co, NC, 4 Nov (Dwayne Martin, Monroe Pannell, Mike McCloy) and a first-year bird photographed on Lake Junaluska, NC, 19 Nov (Connie Wulkowicz).

Red-breasted Merganser: Locally unusual was one at Saluda Shoals Park

Pacific Loon: 2+ were reported on Lake Hartwell, near the South Carolina/Georgia border, 20 Nov (Mark McShane). This site has hosted this species for several winters.

Herald (Trindade) Petrel: Two, one light-morph and one intermediate/dark-morph, were seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, NC, 7 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Fea's Petrel: One was seen during a fishing charter off Oregon Inlet, NC, 10 Sep (Jamie Cameron, *fide* Brian Patteson).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: One was seen from the beach at Emerald Isle, NC, 24 Aug (John Voigt). Interestingly, no inland sightings were made after the passage of Hurricane Irene.

Wood Stork: Sightings on inland lakes included one on the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 16 Aug (James Meehan, Robert Meehan, Kyle Kittelberger); 53 at the same location, 3 Sep (Erla Beegle, et al.); 20 at Popes Lake, near Angier, NC, 20 Aug (Erla Beegle, et al.); 13 at Jordan Lake, NC, 10 Sep (Peter Perlman, et al.); 15 at the same location, 24 Sep (Tom Driscoll, et al.); and six remaining at Jordan Lake until 20 Oct (Mike McCloy, Brent Mills). Individuals were also reported near Ware Shoals, Laurens Co, SC, 19 Aug (Chris Sermons); on the lakes just N of Greensboro, NC, a juvenile, 21 Aug through 3 Sep (Henry Link, et al.); flying over the Tidewater Research Station in Roper, NC, 5 Sep (Peggy Eubank); and in a yard in Hatteras, NC, an injured juvenile, 4 Nov (Kate Sutherland).

Magnificent Frigatebird: Individual juveniles were seen during a fishing charter, three miles W-SW of Hatteras Inlet, NC 18 Aug (Brian Patteson) and flying N over the spit at Ft Fisher, NC, 31 Aug (Bruce Smithson).

Masked Booby: An individual was photographed off Oregon Inlet, NC, during pelagic trips out of Wanchese, NC, 20 and 24 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Brown Booby: A juvenile, well-photographed at Barden's Inlet, Cape Lookout, NC, 11 Aug (Jeffrey Maw, *fide* John Fussell), was seen again on a buoy off Cape Lookout, 20 Aug (Jon Altman, *fide* Fussell), and, presuming it's the same individual, was spotted a third time, near the jetty at Cape Lookout, 12 Sep (Ron White, *fide* Fussell).

Great Cormorant: One was seen at the groin at Masonboro Inlet, Wrightsville Beach, NC, 12 Oct (Dean Edwards). A juvenile was seen near the old ferry landing at Oregon Inlet, NC, 31 Oct, and up to three were seen there by December (Audrey Whitlock).

Anhinga: Locally unusual were 14 at Popes Lake, near Angier, NC, 20 Aug (Erla Beegle, et al.) and one at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 20 Aug (Kent Fiala, et al.). Two at Mattamuskeet NWR, 8 Nov (Audrey Whitlock) were somewhat late.

American White Pelican: One was seen in flight over the Tidewater Research Station in Roper, NC, 13 Sep (Alan Meijer). Nine had returned to Pea Island NWR, NC, by 11 Oct (Audrey Whitlock). A flock of 42 was seen

near Englehard, NC, 24 Nov (Jeff Lewis). The fall high count at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, was 101, 20 Oct (Steve Calver).

American Bittern: Sightings outside of the coastal plain included individuals in a grassy field in Hurdle Mills, Orange Co, NC, 22 Oct (Dave Snyder); at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC, 3–21 Nov (Paul Serridge, et al.); and in Jackson Park, Hendersonville, SC, 6 Nov (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey).

Least Bittern: Quite a surprise was an individual at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 27–29 Sep (John Lindfors, m. obs.).

“Great White Heron”: One found along the Eno River in Durham, NC, 19 Nov (Tom Driscoll) remained in that area into the winter period (m. obs.).

Snowy Egret: Inland sightings included one at Lake Wheeler, Raleigh, NC, 3 Aug (Steve Shultz); four on the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 26 Aug (Brian Bockhahn); and four on Jordan Lake, NC, during the Chatham Co Fall Bird Count (FBC), 17 Sep (Will Cook, Jeff Pippen).

Tricolored Heron: Rare inland, a Tricolored Heron was seen at Falls Lake, NC, 8 Aug (Thierry Besançon) through 21 Sep (Brian Bockhahn).

Reddish Egret: Sightings included one at Ft Fisher, NC, 5 Aug (Amy Williamson) through 30 Oct (Ed Corey); one at the Rachel Carson National Reserve, near Beaufort, NC, 11 Aug (*fide* John Fussell) through 29 Aug (Paula Gillikin); two juveniles near the Ocracoke [NC] Ferry Terminal, 14 Aug (James Meehan, Robert Meehan); three near the Cedar Island [NC] Ferry Terminal, 14 Aug (Fussell, Jack Fennell, Matt Gould); and up to two juveniles at Huntington Beach State Park (SP), 6 Sep (Peter Stangel) through 9 Oct (Jack Peachey, et al.).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Sightings outside of the coastal plain included an adult at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 4 Aug (Robert Meehan, Scott Winton) and a juvenile at Salem Lake, Winston-Salem, NC, 5 Oct (Phil Dickinson).

Glossy Ibis: One in the marshes at the N end of Oregon Inlet, 12 Nov (Mike McCloy, Ali Iyoob), and two at North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 20 Nov (John Fussell, et al.) were somewhat late.



Roseate Spoonbills, 8 Sept 2011, Huntington Beach SP. Photo by Jerry Kerschner.

Roseate Spoonbill: The fall high count at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, was 116 on 11 Aug (Steve Calver). Ten birds remained at the site until 20 Oct (Calver). Three were present at Huntington Beach SP, SC, 7 Sep (Bob Maxwell) and one remained at the park until at least 22 Oct (Judy Walker, et al.). Five were seen on a pond at Bear Island WMA, SC, 30

Sep (Paul Serridge).

Osprey: Late for a site in the piedmont, an Osprey was seen in Greensboro, NC, 17 Nov (*fide* Henry Link).

Swallow-tailed Kite: A couple of the more unusual sightings involved one in flight five miles E of Columbia, Tyrrell Co, NC, 11 Aug (Matthew King) and two in flight over a field off US-64, five miles S of Morganton, NC, 17 Aug (Adrienne Wallace, Richard Ferguson).

Mississippi Kite: Outside of the species' typical range were three seen in flight over Huntersville, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 14 Aug (Kevin Metcalf); a family group of five, two adults and three juveniles, possibly the same birds seen in Huntersville, in nearby Davidson, NC, 16 Aug (Tomm Lorenzin); and up to 13 in the Mills River area of Henderson Co, NC, 20–27 Aug (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, m. obs.). An individual in flight near downtown Raleigh, NC, 12 Oct (John Connors) was somewhat late.

Northern Harrier: Early sightings involved a juvenile along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 7 Sep (Simon Thompson); an individual at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 11 Sep (Scott Winton); and one at Patriot's Point, Mt Pleasant, SC, 16 Sep (John Cox).

Northern Goshawk: An adult seen in flight over Borrow Pit Rd, Alligator River NWR, NC, 12 Nov (Jeff Lewis) was a great sighting of an elusive species.

Golden Eagle: Individuals were seen at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 15 Sep (Dave Lenat); during a hawk watch at Grandfather Mountain, NC, 23 Sep (Jesse Pope, et al.); and in the Lake Landing area of Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, an adult, 24 Nov (Jeff Lewis).

Merlin: Inland sightings included one at Jordan Lake, NC, 17 Sep (Jeff Pippin) and 16 Oct (Tom Driscoll); at Falls Lake, NC, 21 Sep and 9 Oct (*fide* Brian Bockhahn); one at St Stephens Park in NE Hickory, NC, 25 Sep (Dwayne Martin); four at Mt Mitchell SP, NC, 7 Oct (Marilyn Westphal, Mark Simpson); and one along Mid Pines Rd in Raleigh, NC, 25 Nov (Harry LeGrand).

Peregrine Falcon: One returned to the sign atop the Hilton in downtown Charlotte, NC, for a sixth straight winter, 15 Oct (Anne Clark, *fide* Ron Clark)

Clapper Rail: A juvenile, presumably a migrant forced down by Hurricane Irene, was photographed as it perched on a windowsill in downtown High Point, NC, 29 Aug (Carma Loftin, *fide* Hop Hopkins). A juvenile was also taken in by a wildlife rehabilitator in Huntersville, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 17 Sep (*fide* Taylor Piephoff).

American Coot: One photographed in a dirt parking lot on Big Bald, Yancey Co, NC, 23 Oct (Chris Kelly, Corinne Diggins, et al.) looked quite out-of-place.

Black-bellied Plover: Eight seen along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 6 Sep (Wayne Forsythe) provided one of the better inland counts.

American Golden-Plover: Sightings included one on the mudflats at Lake Wheeler, Wake Co, NC, 20 Aug (Nick Flanders); one at the upper end



American Golden-Plover, 25 Sept 2011, Bladen Co, NC. Photo by John Ennis.

of Falls Lake, NC, 28 Aug through at least 21 Sep (m. obs.); three at the same site 15 Sep (Dave Lenat); two at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg, SC, 8 Sep (Chris Feeney); 12 in the wetland restoration area of North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 11 Sep (John Fussell, Jack Fennell); one on the mudflats at Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 12 Sep (Julien McCarthy, et al.); one on the Aiken Co, SC, FBC, 17 Sep (*vide* Anne Waters, Lois Stacey); one in the Mountain Creek area of Lake Norman, Catawba Co, NC, 18–20 Sep (Dwayne Martin, Monroe Pannell); one on the lawn at the Oregon Inlet [NC] Fishing Center, 19 Sep (Jeff Lewis) and 20 Sep (Audrey Whitlock); one (low compared to past years) at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 22 Sep (Steve Calver); two at Oakland Plantation Turf Farm in Bladen Co, NC, 25 Sep (John Ennis); two on the Ellerbe Creek mudflats of Jordan Lake, NC, 2 Oct (Robert Meehan); one at Savannah NWR, SC, 2 Oct (Ron Clark, et al.); two at Huntington Beach SP, SC, 22 Oct (Ron Clark, et al.);

Semipalmated Plover: Inland sightings included 39 on the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 21 Aug (Steve Shultz); 35 at the same location, 22–31 Aug (Dave Lenat); two along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 6 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Olthoff); 13 at the same site, 7 Sep (Simon Thompson); ten at Jordan Lake, NC, during the Chatham Co FBC, 17 Sep (*vide* Will Cook); and two in the Mountain Creek area of Lake Norman, Catawba Co, NC, 20 Sep (Dwayne Martin, Monroe Pannell).

Piping Plover: Rare so far inland, a Piping Plover was seen on the upper end of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 22 Aug (Dave Lenat) through 28 Aug (m. obs.).

American Oystercatcher: One seen on the mudflats at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 18 Sep (Steve Shultz, Scott Winton) was a first for Durham County.

Black-necked Stilt: The high count at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, was 820 on 11 Aug (Steve Calver). Two remained at the site until 2 Nov (Calver). Locally unusual was one at Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 16 Aug (Ali Iyob, Mike McCloy) and two at the pond at the Cedar Island [NC] Ferry Terminal, 21 Aug (John Fussell, Jack Fennell).

American Avocet: Coastal high counts included 701 at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 22 Sep (Steve Calver) and 114 in New Field, Pea Island NWR, NC, 8 Nov (Brian Bockhahn, Dave Lenat). Inland sightings included one on the upper end of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 6 Aug (Nate Swick) into September (m. obs.); two at the same location, 8–18 Sep (Robert Meehan, Scott Winton); two photographed at the Archie Elledge Water Treatment Plant (WTP) in Winston-Salem NC, 13 Sep (John Haire); and one on the New Hope Creek mudflats of Jordan Lake NC, during the Chatham Co FBC, 17 Sep (Jeff Pippen, Will Cook). Two seen in the wetland restoration area of North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 11 Sep (John Fussell, Jack Fennell) were locally unusual.

Willet: Rare inland, a Willet was seen on the mudflats at the upper end of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 21 Aug (Matt Daw, Ed Corey) through 28 Aug (m. obs.).

Upland Sandpiper: Sightings included four juveniles at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg, SC, 5 Aug (Peter Stangel); one at the American Turf sod farm near Creswell, NC, 16 Aug (Mike McCloy, Ali Iyoob); two at the same location, 26 Aug (Audrey Whitlock); and one on a lawn near the WTP in Goldsboro, NC, 10 Sep (Eric Dean, Gene Howe);

Long-billed Curlew: One was photographed at North Pond, Pea Island NWR, NC, 24 Oct (Albert Kuhnigk, *fide* Audrey Whitlock, Jeff Lewis) but never relocated.

Hudsonian Godwit: One was photographed in the Lake Landing area of Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 16 Aug (Ali Iyoob, Mike McCloy). Hurricane Irene-related sightings included three on the mudflats at Mason Inlet, Wrightsville Beach, NC, 27 Aug (Derb Carter); one photographed on the mudflats at Lake Wheeler, Wake Co, NC, 27 Aug (Andrew Scaboo); one found in a parking lot on the Morehead City, NC, Waterfront, 27 Aug (John Fussell); and five at Ft Fisher, NC, 27 Aug (Greg Massey, Sam Cooper, Harry Sell). Three were found foraging on the lawn at Ft Caswell, NC, 31 Aug (John Ennis).

Ruddy Turnstone: Inland sightings included one on the lakes just N of Greensboro, NC, 3 Sep (Herb Hendrickson, Henry Link); two on the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 3 Sep (Erla Beegle, et al.); nine at the same location, 8 Sep (Robert Meehan); one, thought to have been forced down by Tropical Storm Lee, in Watauga Co, NC, 6 Sep (Curtis Smalling); one at Salem Lake, Winston-Salem, NC, 10 Sep (Carol Cunningham, John Haire); and a juvenile at Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary in Jackson, SC, 7–14 Sep (Peter Stangel, Justin Henningsen).

Red Knot: Rare inland, a Red Knot was seen on the mudflats at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 21 Aug (Matt Daw, Ed Corey) through 3 Sep (Mike McCloy, m. obs.).

Sanderling: Some of the better inland counts included 14 on the flats on the upper end of Falls Lake, 28 Aug (Scott Winton); five off Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 6 Sep (Wayne Forsythe); 18 on the mudflats of Jordan Lake, NC, during the Chatham Co FBC, 17 Sep (*fide* Will Cook); and two

juveniles in the Long Island area of Lake Norman, Catawba Co, NC, 23 Sep (Dwayne Martin, Monroe Pannell).

White-rumped Sandpiper: High counts included five at a sod farm in New Bern, NC, 31 Aug (Al Gamache); 21 at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 6 Sep (Steve Calver); 25+ at Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary in Jackson, SC, 7 Sep (Peter Stangel, Justin Henningsen); and 10+ at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 8 Sep (Robert Meehan). Somewhat late was one at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 6–7 Nov (Nick Flanders, Meehan); and two at Cape Point, Buxton, NC, 10 Nov (Audrey Whitlock).

Baird's Sandpiper: Sightings included one on the N end of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 26 Aug through 18 Sep (Steve Shultz); two at the same location 4 Sep (Scott Winton); one (low compared to past years) at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 6 Sep (Steve Calver); two off Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 7 Sep (Simon Thompson); one at a WTP in Mecklenburg Co, NC, 12 Sep (Ron Clark, Tom Sanders); one seen and photographed at the Archie Elledge WTP in Winston-Salem, NC, 12–15 Sep (John Haire); and one at Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary in Jackson, SC, 14 Sep (Peter Stangel, Justin Henningsen).

Pectoral Sandpiper: The season's high count at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 50 on 11 Oct, was very low compared to past years (Steve Calver). Some of the better inland counts were 125 on the mudflats at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 13 Aug (Steve Shultz); 170 at the same location, 22 Aug (Dave Lenat); and 77 at Jordan Lake, NC, during the Chatham Co FBC, 17 Sep (*vide* Will Cook). Five at NPS Campground in Buxton, NC, 10 Nov (Audrey Whitlock), and one at the same location, 12 Nov (Jeff Phippen, Ricky Davis) were somewhat late to depart.

Purple Sandpiper: Eight were back on the jetty at Masonboro Inlet, Wrightsville Beach, NC, 12 Nov (Daniel Hueholt).

Dunlin: Rare in the mountain region, a flock of 15 Dunlin was found behind the VanWingerden Pond along NC-191 in the Mills River area of Henderson Co, NC, 28 Oct (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey).

Stilt Sandpiper: Some of the fall's better counts were 12 at Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 14 Aug (Audrey Whitlock); 341 at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 25 Aug (Steve Calver); 11+ at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 26 Aug (Steve Shultz); and 30 at Mary's House Pond, Bear Island WMA, SC, 1 Oct (Paul Serridge). Locally unusual were individuals on the mudflats on Lake Townsend, Greensboro, NC, 31 Aug (Henry Link); at Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary in Jackson, SC, 7 Sep (Peter Stangel, Justin Henningsen); at the Archie Elledge WTP in Winston-Salem, NC, 7–9 Sep (John Haire); and with a flock of Dunlin along NC-191 in the Mills River area of Henderson Co, NC, somewhat late, 28 Oct (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey). Birds remained at Falls Lake, NC, until 30 Oct (Robert Meehan); and 25 at the Savannah Spoil Site until 2 Nov (Calver).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Sightings included one on the mudflats of Lake Brandt, Greensboro, NC, 21–31 Aug (Henry Link, et al.); two at the same location, 3 Sep (Herb Hendrickson, et al.); one on the upper end of



Buff-breasted Sandpiper, 24 Sept 2011, Bodie Island, NC. Photo by Jeff Lewis.

Falls Lake, NC, 28 Aug (Steve Shultz); four at the same location, 15 Sep (Shultz); up to 18 at Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 3–6 Sep (Wayne Forsythe); eight at the American Turf sod farm near Creswell, NC, 3 Sep (Mike McCloy, et al.) through 13 Sep (John Register); nine at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg, SC, 8 Sep (Chris Feeney); 23 at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 11 Sept (Steve Calver); two at the same location, 11 Oct (Calver); one in the Mountain Creek area of Lake Norman, Catawba Co, NC, 15 Sep (Dwayne Martin, Lori Owenby); one on the lawn at the Oregon Inlet [NC] Fishing Center, 23–24 Sep (Audrey Whitlock), and one at Bodie Island, NC, 24 Sep (Jeff Lewis).

Ruff: One, in breeding plumage, was briefly seen near the pond at the Cedar Island [NC] Ferry Terminal, 7 Oct (Brian Bockhahn, Kyle Kittelberger).

Long-billed Dowitcher: One on the N end of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 23 Oct (Scott Winton), was somewhat late.

Wilson's Phalarope: Sightings included 14 at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 5 Aug–4 Sep (Steve Calver); a juvenile on the upper end of Falls Lake, Granville Co, NC, 21 Aug (Steve Shultz); two at the same location, 22 Aug (Jacob Socolar, Scott Winton); one on the New Hope Creek mudflats on Jordan Lake, NC, 28 Aug (Jeff Phippen, Jacob Socolar); and three at Savannah NWR, SC, 2 Oct (Ron Clark, et al.).



Red-necked Phalarope, 6 Sep 2011, Henderson Co, NC. Photo by Wayne Forsythe.

Red-necked Phalarope: Inland sightings included one on the upper

end of Falls Lake, NC, 13 Aug (Steve Shultz); four photographed together at the same location 22 Aug (Scott Winton); three at the same location 15 Sep (Dave Lenat); a juvenile on the mudflats of Lake Townsend, Greensboro, NC, 30 Aug (Henry Link); one photographed in the Mills River area of Henderson Co, NC, 5–6 Sep (Wayne Forsythe); and ten at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 11 Oct (Steve Calver). 20 were counted on a pelagic trip off Oregon Inlet, out of Wanchese, NC, 4 Sep (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Red Phalarope: Quite unusual was the individual photographed on a flooded lawn in Roper, NC, 17 Sep (Peggy Eubank).

Black-legged Kittiwake: A juvenile was photographed on the beach in North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, 21 Nov (Gilbert Grant).



Sabine's Gull, 4 Sep 2011, off Oregon Inlet, NC. Photo by Jeff Lewis.

Sabine's Gull: An adult in non-breeding plumage was seen and photographed off Oregon Inlet, during a pelagic trip out of Wanchese, NC, 4 Sep (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Bonaparte's Gull: One found resting on a pier at Lake Waccamaw SP, NC, 27 Aug (Chris Helms) was somewhat early.

Black-headed Gull: One was seen and photographed at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 11–25 Aug (Steve Calver).

Franklin's Gull: A first-winter bird discovered off the Farrington Point Rd causeway over Jordan Lake, NC, 15 Oct (Thierry Besançon) was seen by many through 23 Oct (m. obs.). A first-winter bird was also photographed at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 22 Nov (Steve Calver).

Sooty Tern: Hurricane Irene-related sightings involved one flying over Mason Inlet, Wrightsville Beach, NC, 27 Aug (Derb Carter); two over Jordan Lake, NC, 27 Aug (Kent Fiala, m. obs.); and three over University Lake in Chapel Hill, NC, 27 Aug (Ali Iyoob).

Bridled Tern: Two, an adult and a juvenile, were found on the S end of Figure Eight Island, NC, during the passage of Hurricane Irene, 27 Aug (Derb Carter).

Least Tern: Eight on Lake Crabtree, NC, 27 Aug (Nate Swick) and 11 on the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 28 Aug (Thierry Besançon), were found after the passage of Irene.

Gull-billed Tern: Two seen at a sod farm in New Bern, NC, 31 Aug (Al Gamache) were unusual for an inland site.

Black Tern: A couple of the better inland counts were nine on Salem Lake, Winston-Salem, NC, 18 Aug (John Haire) and 40 on Falls Lake, NC, from Sandling Beach, 18 Aug (Mike McCloy, David McCloy, Ali Iyooob).

Common Tern: Inland Irene-related sightings included two on Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 27 Aug (Nate Swick, Nick Flanders) and one on Salem Lake, 28 Oct (John Haire). Five on Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 29 Oct (Thierry Besançon) were especially unusual. One at Cape Point, Buxton, NC, 10 Nov (Audrey Whitlock) was somewhat late.

Royal Tern: Two on Lake Crabtree, NC, 27 Aug (Nate Swick, Nick Flanders) and three on the mudflats at Lake Townsend, Greensboro, NC, 30 Aug (Henry Link), a first for Guilford County, were found after the passage of Hurricane Irene.

Sandwich Tern: Somewhat late were 67 on the flats at Cape Point, Buxton, NC, 12 Nov (Ricky Davis, Jeff Pippen) and one on Oak Island, NC, 25 Nov (Mike Tove).

South Polar Skua: Two were seen off Oregon Inlet on each of three pelagics out of Wanchese, NC, 20, 22, and 23 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Pomarine Jaeger: Two were observed at close range, harassing gulls and gannets in a huge flock off Cape Point, Buxton, NC, 12 Nov (Ricky Davis, Jeff Pippen).

Parasitic Jaeger: A dark-morph juvenile was found on Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 10 Sep (Jeff Pippen, et al.) and was seen again 11 Sep (Scott Winton, Ali Iyooob). Four were observed at close range, harassing gulls and gannets in a huge flock off Cape Point, Buxton NC, 12 Nov (Ricky Davis, Jeff Pippen).

Long-tailed Jaeger: Two were seen during a pelagic trip out of Wanchese, NC, 4 Sep (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Eurasian Collared-Dove: Some of the higher counts were 15+ in N Iredell, Co, NC, 26 Aug (Ron Underwood); 20 in a yard in Morehead City, NC, 1 Nov (John Fussell); and 16 in Atlantic Beach, NC, 7 Nov (Fussell).

White-winged Dove: Sightings, seemingly increasing and all along the coast, included two at the turtle pond near the visitor center at Pea Island NWR, NC, 16 Oct (Jeff Lemons); two, presumably the same birds, in flight over the N end of Pea Island, 21 Oct (Audrey Whitlock); one in a yard on James Island, SC, 17–20 Oct (Barbara Spence, Keith McCullough); one in a yard in Manteo, NC, 24 Oct (Jeff Lewis); one at the Bodie Island [NC] Lighthouse Pond, 30 Oct (Denise Hargrove); two in a yard in Morehead City, NC, 28 Oct–5 Nov (John Fussell); one in the same yard, 25 Nov

(Fussell); one photographed under a feeder in Wilmington, NC, 1 Nov (Mark Jones); and one at a feeder in Conway, SC, 26 Nov–4 Dec (Gary Phillips).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Individuals were reported in a yard in Fletcher, NC, 24 Aug (Jon Smith); at Cowan's Ford WR, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 14 Sep (John Scavetto); at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 18 Sep (Simon Thompson); at Jordan Lake, NC, 24 Sep (Tom Driscoll, et al.); on Roanoke Island, NC, 28 Sep (Peggy Eubank); at Busbee Lake, near Conway, SC, 1 Oct (Stephen Thomas, et al.); again at Jackson Park, where photographed, 8 Oct (Mike McCloy, David McCloy); at Congaree National Park (NP), SC, photographed 16 Oct (John & Rhonda Grego); one in Brunswick Co, NC, 16 Oct (Greg Massey); and near the old Coast Guard Station at the N end of Pea Island NWR, NC, 21 Oct (Audrey Whitlock).

Short-eared Owl: An injured Short-eared Owl was seen on the roadside of US-74 near Shelby, Caldwell Co, NC, 5 Oct (Ron Clark), but disappeared before being rescued.

Common Nighthawk: Somewhat late were individuals at Falls Lake, NC, 9 Oct (Brian Bockhahn) and in Pineville, NC, 12 Oct (John Scavetto).

Eastern Whip-poor-will: One at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 18 Sep (Jon Smith, Simon Thompson) was locally unusual.

***Cypseloides*, sp. Swift:** A large, dark swift, presumably a Black Swift, was observed circling overhead from Hemphill Bald (5500 ft), along the E border of Great Smoky Mountains NP, Haywood Co, NC, 19 Sep (Derb Carter). The Bird Records Committee accepted the sighting at the genus level; it is the first record for any *Cypseloides* in North Carolina, although unidentified non-Chimney Swifts have been seen.

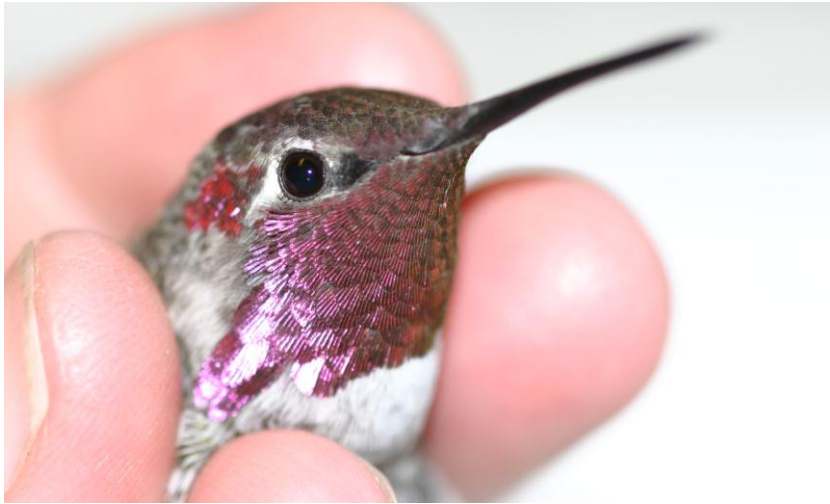
Chimney Swift: One on James Island, Charleston Co, SC, 10 Nov (Dennis Forsythe) was somewhat late.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 52 at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 1 Sep (Brad Dalton) was a great count for that site. At least ten remained in the greater Charlotte, NC area into late November (*fide* Taylor Piephoff).

Anna's Hummingbird: An adult male returned to a yard in Trent Woods, Craven Co, NC, for a second winter, in November (Art & Joanne Behrer). Banded on 12 Nov (Susan Campbell), the bird was seen by many well into winter (m. obs.).

Rufous Hummingbird: *Selasphorus* hummingbirds, all presumably Rufous Hummingbirds, visited feeders in Stumpy Point, NC, 6 Nov (Jay Ross, *fide* Audrey Whitlock); in Chapel Hill, NC, 15 Nov (*fide* Rob Gluck) into December (m. obs.); and in New Hanover Co, NC, 20–21 Nov (Amy Williamson).

Allen's Hummingbird: An adult male, originally identified as a Rufous Hummingbird when first observed at a feeder in Riverbend Park, N Catawba Co, NC, 18 Nov (Dwayne Martin) was discovered to be an Allen's Hummingbird when banded 19 Nov (Martin). The Riverbend Park Allen's Hummingbird, North Carolina's second record, was seen by many through 19 Dec (Martin, m. obs.).



Anna's Hummingbird, 12 Nov 2011, New Bern, NC. Photo by Susan Campbell.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Individuals were photographed near Pungo Lake, Pocosin Lakes NWR, NC, 11 Aug (Scott Winton) and at Ringneck Pond, Pee Dee NWR, NC, 5 Sep (Mike McCloy, et al.).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: One heard singing in the woods behind the new headquarters building at Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 19 Nov (Jeff Lewis) was quite late.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Sightings included one in a yard in Leland, NC, 21 Aug (Greg Massey); one at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 3 Sep (Ron Clark) through 23 Sep (Simon Harvey); two at the same location, 8 Sep (Mike McCloy); one seen and heard at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC, 8 Sep (Brad Dalton, *vide* Paul Serridge); one on the Bethabara Greenway in Winston-Salem, 14 Sep (John Haire); one seen and heard at Battle Park in Chapel Hill, NC, 17 Sep (Ali Iyooob); one seen and heard at Ribbonwalk Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg Co, 17–19 Sep (Kevin Metcalf, Ron Clark); one at the upper end of Falls Lake, NC, 19 Sep (Brian Bockhahn); one at St Stephens Park in NE Hickory, NC, 19 Sep (Dwayne Martin); and one seen and heard at Ft Fisher, 19 Sep (Greg Massey, Amy Williamson).

Alder Flycatcher: One was seen and, more importantly, heard calling, inside a mixed passerine flock, near the pedestrian bridge at Jackson Park, NC, 7–8 Sep (Ron Selvey, Mike McCloy). A juvenile was seen and heard calling at Lake Crabtree, NC, 28 Sep (Thierry Besançon).

Least Flycatcher: One at Mason Farm, Chapel Hill, NC, 16 Oct (Nate Swick, Greg Swick) was somewhat late.

Ash-throated Flycatcher: One photographed near the intersection of N Lumina and Parmele Ave in Wrightsville Beach, NC, 14 Oct (Dean Edwards) remained at that location until at least the next morning 15 Oct



Ash-throated Flycatcher, 11 Nov 2011, Alligator River NWR, NC. Photo by Jeff Lewis.

(Sam Cooper). One, first identified as a Brown-crested Flycatcher, found along Long Curve Rd at Alligator River NWR, NC 11 Nov (John Hammond, et al.) was seen by many through the afternoon of 13 Nov (Jeff Lewis, Peggy Eubank, m.obs.).

Western Kingbird: One was photographed at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 2 Nov (Steve Calver).

Bell's Vireo: One was photographed near the ferry landing at Ft Fisher, NC, 16 Sep (James Parnell). Amazingly, this sighting is Parnell's third of a Bell's Vireo in this area, during the past six fall migrations. [Previously, 21 Sep 2006, Carolina Beach SP and 1 Oct 2008, Ft Fisher (Parnell).]

Warbling Vireo: Along the coast, where rare, individual Warbling Vireos were found at Ft Fisher, NC, 17 Sep (Greg Massey) and in Corolla, NC, 3 Oct (Jeff Lewis).

Philadelphia Vireo: Sightings included two that hit a glass window on Hilton Head Island, SC, 21 Aug (*vide* Jack Colcolough); one in Halifax Co, NC, 8 Sep (Frank Enders); one at Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 21 Sep (Thierry Besançon); a total of nine in Graham Co, NC, during the first week of October (Simon Thompson); one at Savannah NWR, SC, 2 Oct (Ron Clark, et al.); three along S Wayehutta Rd in Cullowhee, NC, 4 Oct (Mike McCloy); and one at Ft Fisher, NC, 3 Oct (Greg Massey) and 15 Oct (Amy Williamson).

Common Raven: Locally unusual was one heard at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 5 Sep (Mike McCloy). A pair was seen in flight over Durham, NC, 13 Sep (Greg Dodge) and 7 Oct (Robert Meehan). 14 were counted during a hawk watch on Pilot Mountain, NC, 14 Sep (Phil Dickinson, Ron Morris). Three were seen along I-74 in Randolph Co, NC, 26 Sep (Andrew Thornton). One was heard in Union Co, NC, 14 Oct (Bruce Sorrie). Up to three were seen at Riverbend Park, N Catawba Co, NC, 24–31 Oct (Dwayne Martin, Lori Owenby).

Horned Lark: Three continued on the bald of Bear Wallow Mountain, Henderson Co, 8 Oct (Wayne Forsythe) after successful breeding this past summer.

Tree Swallow: Eight at the Clemson Aquaculture Facility in Clemson, SC, 30 Nov (Derek Aldrich, Scott Davis) were quite late for that upstate location.

Violet-green Swallow: One was photographed in flight over a small pond behind an apartment complex in Chapel Hill, NC, 1 Oct (Ali Iyoob) but

never relocated. This sighting provides the first documented record of this species in our region.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: Two seen in flight over Lake Raleigh, NCSU campus, Wake Co, NC, 29 Oct (Josh Southern, Sterling Southern) were quite late.

Cliff Swallow: One found amongst other swallows along Hooper Ln, Henderson Co, NC, 6 Aug (Wayne Forsythe) was locally unusual. 65 over Arrowhead Lake, Pee Dee NWR, Anson Co, NC, 5 Sep (Mike McCloy) was a good count. One reported at Huntington Beach SP, SC, 22 Oct (Judy Walker, et al.) was very late—could this bird have been a misidentified Cave Swallow?

Cave Swallow: One, seen in flight over soccer fields on the UNC campus, Chapel Hill, NC, 1 Nov (Ali Iyoob), was the only Cave Swallow mentioned this fall.

Barn Swallow: Two of the later sightings involved a juvenile in flight over James Island, Charleston Co, SC, 10 Nov (Dennis Forsythe); and one in Greensboro, NC, 27 Nov (*fide* Henry Link).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Apparently it is not an irruption year for this species in our region. One was heard at Riverbend Park in N Catawba Co, NC, 3 Oct (Dwayne Martin); and one was seen near the Bodie Island, NC, Lighthouse Pond, 7 Nov (Audrey Whitlock).

Brown Creeper: Two seen in the Jackson area of Aiken, Co, SC, 17 Sep (*fide* Anne Waters) were somewhat early for a site in the southern portion of our region.

Marsh Wren: 12 were counted at North River Marsh, Carteret Co, NC, 7 Oct (Kyle Kittelberger, Brian Bockhahn, et al.). Locally unusual were two at Jordan Lake, NC, during the Chatham Co FBC, 17 Sep (Will Cook), and one there 2 Oct (Robert Meehan).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Late individuals were noted at Jordan Lake, NC, 30 Oct (Nick Flanders, Elisa Enders) and near the boat rental tower on Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 29 Oct–5 Nov (Mike Turner).

Bicknell's Thrush: Possible sightings included one seen and heard calling at Ribbonwalk Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 17 Sep (Kevin Metcalf); one photographed after hitting a window in Raleigh, NC, 4 Oct (Sharon Smart); and one photographed on Roanoke Island, NC, 21 Oct (Jeff Lewis). Bicknell's Thrush is very difficult to identify in the field, and these reports represent only possible sightings.

Sprague's Pipit: One was photographed at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 14 Oct (Steve Calver).



Lapland Longspur: One was seen on the spit at Ft Fisher, NC, 15 Sprague's Pipit, 14 Oct 2011, Jasper Co, SC. Photo by Steve Calver.

Oct (Deck Stapleton).

Northern Waterthrush: One at Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 2 Nov (Allen Bryan) was somewhat late, perhaps attempting to overwinter at the site.

Golden-winged Warbler: Sightings included a female photographed along the Deep River Nature Trail in Randleman, NC, 30 Aug (Andrew Thornton); a female at Cowan's Ford WR, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 12 Sep (Kevin Metcalf); a female at Lake Conestee, Greenville, SC, 12 Sep (Paul Serridge, Jane Kramer, Brad Dalton); a male at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 14 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, et al.) through 27 Sep (Mike McCloy); a male at Cowan's Ford WR, 17 Sep (Metcalf); a male in Columbia, SC, 27 Sep–8 Oct (Mike Webster); one at Savannah NWR, SC, 2 Oct (Irvin Pitts); and an adult male at Ebenezer Point, Jordan Lake, NC, 1 Oct (Andrew Scaboo) through 8 Oct (Nate Swick).

Blue-winged Warbler: Three at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 19 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, Jim Stone) was a good count. One at Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 2 Nov (Allen Bryan) was somewhat late to depart.

“Brewster’s Warbler” : One was seen along the canal at Mason Farm, Chapel Hill, NC, 11 Sep (Nate Swick, Greg Swick).

Prothonotary Warbler: One seen at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 23 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Harvey) was locally unusual.

Swainson’s Warbler: One photographed at Bethabara Park in Winston-Salem, NC, 16 Aug (Phil Dickinson) was locally unusual.

Tennessee Warbler: Late individuals were noted in Greensboro, NC, 5 Nov (*vide* Henry Link); near the pond frequented by the Ross’s Goose in the Stonewater neighborhood in W Cary, NC, where photographed, 13 Nov (Nick Flanders, Elisa Enders, Jennifer Schrand); and at the old spoil site on the causeway between Beaufort and Morehead City, NC, 25 Nov (John Fussell).

Orange-crowned Warbler: Sightings included an adult male in Graham Co, NC, 5 Sep (Cherrie Sneed); three at Patriot’s Point, Mt Pleasant, SC, 16 Sep (John Cox); one photographed at Ebenezer Point, Jordan Lake, NC, 8 Oct (Mike Tove); and one at Cowan’s Ford WR, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 24 Oct (Kevin Metcalf).



Nashville Warbler, 27 Oct 2011, Clemson, SC. Photo by Linda Montgomery.

Nashville Warbler: Late individuals were found along the Rocky Branch Greenway, NCSU campus, Raleigh, NC, 19 Oct (Nick Flanders) through 30 Oct (m. obs.); at Clemson, SC, 27 Oct (Linda Montgomery); in Huntersville, NC, 31 Oct (Kevin Metcalf); on Duke campus, Durham, NC, 1 Nov (Scott Winton); along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 2 Nov (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey); and at Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 19 Nov

(Jeff Lewis), where it may have been attempting to overwinter.

Connecticut Warbler: Sightings included one seen near the park office at Mt Mitchell SP, NC, 31 Aug (Dwayne Martin); a female at St Stephens Park, Catawba Co, NC, 17 Sep (Lori Owenby); a female well-seen in Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 23 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Harvey); and one in the Elizabethan Gardens on Roanoke Island, NC, 4 Oct (Audrey Whitlock).

Mourning Warbler: Sightings included a female at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 19 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, Jim Stone); a first-year bird seen and photographed in the Elizabethan Gardens on Roanoke Island, NC, 19–21 Sep (Jeff Lewis); and a first-year bird at Yates Mill Pond, Wake Co, NC, 1 Oct (Josh Southern, Sterling Southern).

Kentucky Warbler: One in the Elizabethan Gardens on Roanoke Island, NC, 3 Oct (Jeff Lewis) was locally unusual.

Northern Parula: Late to depart were individuals on Duke campus, Durham, NC, 1 Nov (Scott Winton); at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 2 Nov (Steve Calver); near the entrance to Wildlife Drive, Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 12 Nov (Mike McCloy, Ali Iyob); and at Lake Conestee Nature Park in Greenville, SC, 11 Dec (Brad Dalton).



Northern Parula, 11 Dec 2011, Greenville, SC. Photo by Brad Dalton.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: A good count of 25+ was made at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 15 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey). One on Roanoke Island, NC, 4 Oct (Jeff Lewis) was locally unusual.

Blackpoll Warbler: Three along the causeway at Mattamuskeet NWR, NC, 19 Nov (Jeff Lewis), and one there 24 Nov (Lewis) were quite late.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Somewhat late were single females in Richland Co, SC, 5 Nov (Mike Webster); and in a yard in Raleigh, NC, 12 Nov (Kyle Kittelberger).

Palm Warbler: 5–10 in a yard in Orange Co, NC, 11 Aug (Norm Budnitz) and 12 at Alligator River NWR, NC, 2 Sep (Jeff Lewis) were good counts for such early dates.

Canada Warbler: An adult male in a yard in Orange Co, NC, 17 Aug (Ginger Travis) and one in a yard in Simpsonville, SC, 29 Aug (Len Kopka) were somewhat early.

Wilson's Warbler: 2–3 at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 19 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey) was a good count. One in the Elizabethan Gardens on Roanoke Island, NC, 14 Nov (Jeff Lewis) and a first-year bird in Aynor, SC, 24 Nov (Stephen Thomas) were both quite late.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Sightings included one in the “brush-pile” at Patriot’s Point, Mt Pleasant, SC, 13 Sep (John Cox); two at the same location, 17–24 Sep (Cox, et al.); an adult in Jackson Co, NC, 14 Sep (Jeremy Hyman); one at Ft Fisher, NC, 19 Sep (Daniel Hueholt, et al.)

through 15 Oct (Greg Massey); one in Wrightsville Beach, NC, 16 Oct (Harry LeGrand, Jeff Pippen); two at Pea Island NWR, NC, 16 Oct (Jeff Lemons, Jeff Lewis); and one at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 17–18 Oct (Ron Selvey, Wayne Forsythe);

Vesper Sparrow: Sightings included two well-seen along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 27 Oct (Wayne Forsythe); “several” on the Ellerbe Creek flats of Falls Lake, NC, 30 Oct (Robert Meehan, et al.); and 4–5 off Baywater Drive in Aynor, SC, 6 Nov (Stephen Thomas).

Lark Sparrow: Singles were found at Savannah NWR, SC, 13 Aug (Jack Colcolough); in Folly Beach, SC, 29 Aug (Andy Jones); at Coquina Beach, Bodie Island, NC, 12 Oct (Jeff Shenot, *fide* Audrey Whitlock); and at Pinckney Island NWR, SC, 23 Oct (Netanel Paley, et al.).

Le Conte’s Sparrow: Two were seen at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 22 Nov (Steve Calver). One was seen at North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 27 Nov (John Fussell, Jack Fennell, Matt Gould, John Voigt).



Lincoln’s Sparrow, 6 Oct 2011, Bryson City, NC.
Photo by Michael McCloy.

Lincoln’s Sparrow: Sightings included three at Ferguson Fields near Bryson City, NC, 6 Oct (Mike McCloy); four at the same location, 9 Oct (McCloy); two at Alligator River NWR, NC, during a “big sit” 9 Oct (Jeff Lewis, Audrey Whitlock); one in the wetland at Tanglewood Park, Forsyth Co, NC, 24 Oct (John Haire); one at Cowan’s Ford WR, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 25 Oct (Kevin Metcalf); three along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co,

NC, 26 Oct (Wayne Forsythe); one at the usual spot on Leggett Rd, W Edgecombe Co, 30 Oct (Ricky Davis); and two near Beaufort, NC, 30 Nov (John Fussell).

White-throated Sparrow: One under a feeder in a yard in Raleigh, NC, 11 Aug (John Connors) was either extremely early or had over-summered in the area.

White-crowned Sparrow: Some of the higher counts were three on Bald Head Island, NC, 15 Oct (John Ennis, et al.); 16+ at Ft Fisher, NC, 15 Oct (Amy Williamson, Greg Massey); six at North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 16 Oct (John Fussell, et al.); several in S Nags Head NC, 17 Oct (Audrey Whitlock); three at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co, SC, 22 Nov



White-crowned Sparrow, 26 Nov 2011, Orange Co, NC. Photo by James Meehan.



Summer Tanager, 17 Dec 2011, Raleigh, NC. Photo by Dan Harvey.

(Steve Calver); and nine, eight adults and a juvenile, near Cane Creek Reservoir, Orange Co, NC, 26 Nov (Robert Meehan, James Meehan).

Summer Tanager: A female returned to a yard with feeders in Wilmington, NC, 26 Oct (Amy Williamson) for a fourth straight winter. A male returned to a yard with feeders in Raleigh, NC, for a second winter in a row, 23 Nov (Sue Harvey, *fide* John Connors).

Painted Bunting: A female specimen, presumably killed by a window-strike, was found on the UNC Campus, Chapel Hill, NC, 11 Oct (Ali Iyoob).

Dickcissel: Sightings included a female/juvenile in the Paddy's Creek Area of Lake James SP, NC, 18 Sep (Jamie Cameron); a first-year bird at Butner Gamelands, Durham Co, NC, 1 Oct (Nate Swick); four at Ft Fisher, NC, 24 Sep (John Ennis); one at Hunting Island SP, Beaufort Co, SC, 1 Oct (Irvin Pitts); one at Ebenezer Point, Jordan Lake, NC, 15 Oct (Andrew Thornton, et al.); two on the N end of Roanoke Island, NC, 16 Oct (Audrey Whitlock); and an immature female in the Red Hill area of NE Edgecombe Co, NC, 28 Nov (Ricky Davis).

Bobolink: Some of the larger flocks reported were 2100 in the fields at Alligator River NWR, NC, 2–3 Sep (Jeff Lewis); 500 at Donnelley WMA, SC, 7 Sep (Paul Serridge, Irvin Pitts); and 500+ at Patriot's Point, Mt Pleasant, SC, 16 Sep (John Cox);

Rusty Blackbird: Sightings included 25 at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC, 6 Nov (Paul Serridge, et al.); one near the Cold Mountain Overlook on the Blue Ridge Parkway, NC, (Marilyn Westphal, Mark Simpson); 40–45 at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, 7 Nov (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey); 200+ at Lake Conestee, 15 Nov (Serridge); and ~100 near Falls of the Neuse, Wake Co, 20 Nov (Clyde Sorenson).

Brewer's Blackbird: One was photographed in a cattle pasture in SW Randolph Co, NC, 20 Oct (Andrew Thornton) but never relocated.

Purple Finch: Two of the earlier reports were of individuals at Bethania's Black Walnut Bottom Preserve in Forsyth Co, NC, 31 Oct (Phil Dickinson); and at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC, 4 Nov (Paul Serridge).

Red Crossbill: Multiple crossbills were seen and heard along Clingman's Dome Rd and at Newfound Gap, Swain Co, 5 Aug (Irvin Pitts). ~10 were photographed ingesting grit along the side of a road near Smokemont, Swain Co, NC, 7 Aug (Pitts). Four were seen at Mt Mitchell SP, 2 Nov (Marilyn Westphal, Mark Simpson).



Red Crossbills, 7 Aug, Swain Co, NC. Photo by Irvin Pitts.

Pine Siskin: One banded at Hilton Pond, near York, SC, 6 Sep (Bill Hilton) was incredibly early.