

## BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

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(All dates Summer 2013, unless otherwise noted)

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*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.*

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

*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:** The individual observed in the northeast corner of New Hanover County (Co), NC, in late May, remained until 6 June (Daniel Hueholt). A flock of 12 whistling-ducks was found at opposite ends of North Carolina this summer—at the Super Sod farm along NC-191 in Henderson Co, NC, where photographed, 12 June (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, Jon Smith); and on a grass lawn along the Albemarle Sound in Bulls Bay, Tyrrell Co, NC, where photographed, 1 July (Larry & Phyllis Jones, Joe Landino). Neither flock remained for more than a day. Is it possible that both

sightings were of the same transitory flock? The Henderson County sighting was the first of that species in the mountain region.

**Snow Goose:** One at Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Currituck Co, NC, 2 June (Robert Gundy) and 10 July (Steve Tracy) may have been injured and therefore unable to migrate.

**Redhead:** Three were seen on the ponds of the North River Golf Course in Beaufort, Carteret Co, NC, for several days in July (Jim Powell).

**Ring-necked Duck:** A drake seen on Salem Lake, Forsyth Co, NC, throughout the period multiple observers (m. obs.) was probably the same bird that summered there last year.

**Lesser Scaup:** Individual scaups lingered at Mackay Island NWR, Currituck Co, NC, 2-21 June (Robert Gundy); at Bridgeport Marina in Craven Co, NC, 12 June (John McVay, Noah Reid); and at Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, 19 June (Ed Corey).

**Common Eider:** A female was photographed at Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC, 8 June (Jeff Lewis, Audrey Whitlock, Jeff Beane, Scott Winton, et al.) and remained in the area for another day, 9 June (m. obs.).



Common Eider, 08 Jun 2013, Dare County, NC. Photo by Jeff Lewis.

**Black Scoter:** Up to eight scoters lingered in Beaufort Inlet, Carteret Co, NC, until late June (John Fussell, Jeannie Kraus). Six were seen at Folly Beach, Charleston Co, SC, 6 June (Cherrie Sneed, Ann Shahid) and ten were seen there, 11 June (Clint Ball). An adult male was seen at Murrells Inlet, Georgetown Co, SC, 11 June (Dwayne Martin).

**Red-breasted Merganser:** A female was seen near the jetty at Murrells Inlet, Georgetown Co, SC, 27 June (Paul Serridge).

**Ruddy Duck:** A drake lingered on Salem Lake, Forsyth Co, NC, 13 June (David & Susan Disher, Marbry Hopkins) through 5 July (Maulik Trivedi).

**Northern Bobwhite:** One at Tanglewood Park in Clemmons, Forsyth Co, NC, 4 July (Carol Cunningham, Shelley Rutkin) was locally unusual.

**Red-throated Loon:** Up to two were seen on the Salt Pond at Cape Point, Buxton, Dare Co, NC, 7-8 June (Jason Gardner, Ed Corey, Scott Winton, et al.).

**Common Loon:** Coastal sightings included one off of South Litchfield Beach, Georgetown Co, SC, 26 June (Paul & Barbara Serridge, Louis & Cindy Womble); one off of North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, 2 July (Gilbert Grant); two off of south Nags Head, Dare Co, NC, 12 July (Ricky Davis, Bill Deans); and one at Masonboro Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 17 July (Martin Wall). Inland, individuals were found on Harris Lake, Wake Co, NC, 7 June (Lucas Bobay, Michael Bobay); at Riverbend Park, Catawba Co, NC, 21-23 June (Dwayne Martin); on Roanoke Rapids Lake, Northampton Co, NC, 22 June (Davis, David Howell); and on W. Kerr Scott Reservoir, Wilkes Co, NC, 28 July (Guy McCrane).

**Herald (Trindade) Petrel:** A dark-morph individual was seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 13 June (Nate Swick, Brian Patteson, et al.).

**Bermuda Petrel:** One was briefly seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 3 June (Brian Patteson, et al.), which was the first sighting in our region in the past four years.

**Fea's Petrel:** One seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 20 July (Brian Patteson) was the first July sighting of this species since 2007.



Great Shearwater, 08 Jun 2013, Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC. Photo by Jeff Lewis.

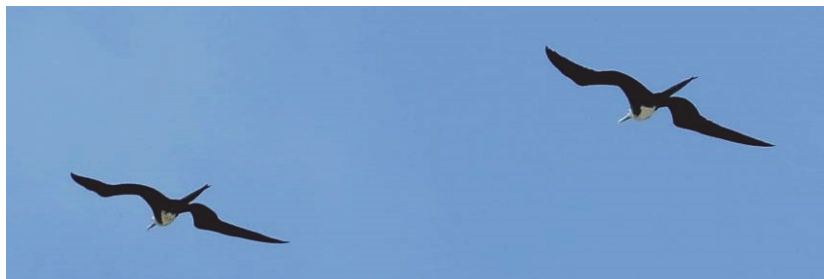
**Great Shearwater:** Up to 73 on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 1 June (Brian Patteson, et al.) provided an impressive one-day count. One photographed inside Oregon Inlet, 8 June (Jeff Lewis, Audrey Whitlock, Jeff Beane, et al.) had probably been deposited there by the passage of Tropical Storm Andrea.

**Leach's Storm-Petrel:** Up to 28 seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 6 July (Brian Patteson, et al.) provided a notable one-day count.

**Red-billed Tropicbird:** One seen from a NOAA research vessel off of Dare Co, NC, 23 June (Tom Johnson) was the only tropicbird reported this period.

**Wood Stork:** An immature stork was photographed in a yard in Cary, Wake Co, NC, after a strong line of thunderstorms passed through the area, 13 June (Sue Clear). The stork, possibly injured, remained in that area for at least four days.

**Magnificent Frigatebird:** An immature bird was seen over Hatteras Marina, Dare Co, NC, 3 June (Sea McKeon, Brian Patteson, et al.). The passage of Tropical Storm Andrea resulted in multiple sightings of immature birds along the coast in early June—one over Straits, Carteret Co, NC, 7 June (Lillie Miller); one over Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 8 June (Jeff Lewis, Audrey Whitlock, et al.); one in Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 8 June (Patteson, Ryan Sanderson); two in flight together between Rodanthe and Salvo, Dare Co, NC, 8 June (Jeff Beane, Jeff Lemons, Greg Massey, m. obs.); one over Wrightsville Beach, New Hanover Co, NC, 9 June (Gilbert Grant, Nikki Reiber); and two, possibly the same pair seen over Rodanthe and Salvo, in flight together over Pawleys Island, Georgetown Co, SC, 10 June (Eddie Owens). Later in the period, immature birds were seen over Wrightsville Beach, New Hanover Co, NC, 29 June (Lynn Erla Beegle, Jeri Smart) through 1 July (Mark Kosiewski); over Huntington Beach State Park (SP), Georgetown Co, SC, 1 July (Don & Eulalie Faulkner, Paul & Barbara Serridge); and over South Litchfield Beach, Georgetown Co, SC, 15 July (Bob Maxwell). The report of two frigatebirds in flight together was especially notable, as most sighting made in the Carolinas are of individuals.



Magnificent Frigatebirds, 08 Jun 2013, Dare Co, NC. Photo by Jeff Beane.

**Masked Booby:** An immature bird was photographed in flight over the ocean from the beach at Cape Point, Buxton, Dare Co, NC, 16 June (Alex Hughes).

**Brown Booby:** A juvenile booby, weak and/or injured, was found on the south end of Sunset Beach, Brunswick Co, NC, 6 June (Ryan Campbell) and, assuming it's the same bird, relocated at adjacent Ocean Isle Beach, where photographed, 7 June (Melanie Shapiro). It was taken to a wildlife rehabilitator but later died. Another juvenile booby was seen on a pelagic trip

out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, a day after the passage of Tropical Storm Andrea, 9 June (Kenneth Kelly, Brian Patteson, et al.).

**Anhinga:** Seven, two of which were tending to active nests, were counted in the Rocky Swamp in Halifax Co, NC, 1 June (Nick Flanders, Elisa Enders). One photographed along Wildlife Drive at Pee Dee NWR, Anson Co, NC, 22 June (Jeff Beane) was a good find for the Piedmont.



Anhinga, 22 Jun 2013, Pee Dee NWR, NC. Photo by Jeff Beane.

**American White Pelican:** The best counts were 21 at Mackay Island NWR, Currituck Co, NC, 2 June (Robert Gundy); 20 at Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, 6 June (Allie Stewart); 70 at Savannah NWR, Jasper Co, SC, 15 June (Lois Stacey); and 19 remaining at Mackay Island NWR, 11 July (Jeff Lewis).

**Brown Pelican:** Rare inland, an immature Brown Pelican was seen on Lake Wateree, border of Fairfield Co and Kershaw Co, SC, 4 July into August (Steve Patterson).

**American Bittern:** One seen in flight over the Roanoke Island marshes, Dare Co, NC, 14 June (Jeff Lewis) was unusual for the season.

**Least Bittern:** Eight at Mackay Island NWR, Currituck Co, NC, 30 July (Jeff Lewis) was a notable count for that northeastern part of North Carolina.

**“Great White Heron”:** One was seen on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 23 July (Greg Moyers, Audrey Whitlock, et al.).

**Great Egret:** 14 around Mills River, Henderson Co, NC, 28 July (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey) was a good count for the mountain region.

**Snowy Egret:** Inland, individuals were found at Beaverdam Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Anderson Co, SC, 29 June (Jeff Click); along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 7 July (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Harvey); at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville Co, SC, 12 July (Jane Kramer); and at Cowan’s Ford Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 17 July (Ron Clark).

**Tricolored Heron:** One photographed in a flooded field along NC-191 in Henderson Co, NC, 27 July (Wayne Forsythe) was only the second record for that county. One on Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, 29 July (Ron Morris, Martin Wall) was also notable.

**Reddish Egret:** At least one was present at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, through much of the period (m. obs.) and two were seen there 1 July (Don & Eulalie Faulkner, Paul & Barbara Serridge). In North Carolina, immature individuals were seen at New Topsail Inlet, Pender Co, 19 June (Bruce Richardson); at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, 28 June (Jamie Adams); on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, 16 June (Alex Hughes) and 10 July into August (Jeff Lewis, Audrey Whitlock, m. obs.); and at Sunset Beach, Brunswick Co, 21 July (Nancy Reinhart) into August (Ron Clark, John Ennis, m. obs.). Up to two were seen in New River Inlet, Onslow Co, NC, 8 July (Phillip Martin) through 24 July (Martin Wall).

**White Ibis:** Two juvenile birds were seen above I-85 along the border of Gaston Co and Mecklenburg Co, NC, 22 July (Ron Clark), providing one of the farthest inland sightings for our region this summer.

**Glossy Ibis:** A flock of ten photographed in a flooded soybean field in Sampson Co, NC, 23 July (Josh Sims) was a good find for that inland location. Impressive coastal counts included 75 in the Kitchen Impoundment at Mackay Island NWR, Currituck Co, NC, 2 June (Robert Gundy); 60 at Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, 13 June (Paul Bernhardt); 300 at Bear Island WMA, Colleton Co, SC, 29 June (Pam Ford, Perry Nugent, Ray Swagerty); and 58 in the North River Game Lands, Camden Co, NC, 23 July (Cody Stone).



Glossy Ibis flock, 29 Jun 2013, Bear Island WMA, SC. Photo by Pam Ford.

**Roseate Spoonbill:** 15 were counted at Bear Island WMA, Colleton Co, SC, 1 June (Aija Konrad, Cherrie Sneed). One photographed near Cameron, Calhoun Co, SC, in mid-June (*fide* John Grego) was farther inland than is typical. Spoonbills were seen at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, 24 June into August (Paul Serridge, m. obs.), with a high count of five made there 28 June (Bob Maxwell, Phil Lanoue). In coastal North Carolina, individuals were seen at Hammocks Beach SP, Onslow Co, where photographed, in early June (*fide* Monroe Pannell) and on Lake Medcalf, Sunset Beach, Brunswick Co, 23-24 July (Greg Massey, Ron Clark). A juvenile spoonbill photographed in a flooded field in Tryon, Polk Co, NC, 20 July (Nancy Frohlich) provided NC with its fifth non-coastal record.

**Swallow-tailed Kite:** An amazing count of 300+ was made over agricultural fields along Millet Road (Rd), Allendale Co, SC, 27 July (Jeff Click, Denise DuPon, Don Faulkner, Paul Serridge). One over the Neuse River in New Bern, Craven Co, NC, 28 June (Peter Burke) was locally unusual.

**Northern Harrier:** An adult male harrier at Alligator River NWR, Dare Co, NC, 13 June (*fide* Jay Ross) was a good find for the summer season.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** A pair seen in Southern Pines, Moore Co, NC, from May into July (Wayne Irvin) may have been breeding in the area. One seen near Williston, Carteret Co, NC, on the Merrimon Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) route, 9 June (John Fussell, Jack Fennell) was locally unusual.

**Purple Gallinule:** 42 at Savannah NWR, Jasper Co, SC, 22 June (Pam Ford, Perry Nugent, Ray Swagerty, Ann Truesdale) was a notable count.

**Common Gallinule:** One on Lake Tillery, Montgomery Co, NC, 22 June (Kevin Airington) was unusual for a site so far inland.

**Wilson's Plover:** Two of the better counts were 28 at North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, 14 July (Andrew Rapp) and 25 around the spit at Fort (Ft) Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 27 July (Steve Shultz).

**Piping Plover:** Up to four were seen in the nesting enclosure adjacent to the old Coast Guard Station at Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC, throughout the season (Audrey Whitlock). One at the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret, Co, NC, 14 July and 21 July (John Fussell, et al.) was locally unusual.

**Black-necked Stilt:** One at the Clemson Aquaculture Center in Pickens Co, SC, 11 June (Matt Johnson) was a great find for that inland site. Two at the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, NC, 14 July (John Fussell, Jack Fennell, Chandra Biggerstaff) were locally unusual.

**American Avocet:** Two seen on a flooded lawn next Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 1-2 July (Mike Turner) were noteworthy for that inland site. Avocets arrived at Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, in mid-July, with a high count of 28 made 25 July (Greg Moyers, Audrey Whitlock).

**Willet:** Two on Lake Wateree, Kershaw Co, SC, 4 July (Steve Patterson) were notable for that inland location. Seven at the sod farm along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, while flooded, 31 July (Jeff Lemons, Wayne Forsythe) provided a great count for the mountain region.

**Upland Sandpiper:** Three were seen at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 27 July (Paul Serridge) and one was seen at the sod farm along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 31 July (Jeff Lemons).

**Whimbrel:** One at the sod farm along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, when flooded, 5 July (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey) and 6 July (Bob Olthoff) was a good find for the mountain region.



**Marbled Godwit:**

One was photographed at the sod farm along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, during heavy flooding, 6 July (Bob Olthoff, Wayne Forsythe).



Marbled Godwit, 06 Jul 2013, Henderson County, NC.  
Photo by Wayne Forsythe.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** One was found with a flock of seven Willets at the sod farm along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, when flooded, 31 July (Jeff Lemons, Wayne Forsythe).

**Baird's Sandpiper:** One was found at the sod farm along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 31 July (Jeff Lemons).

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** One on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 8 June (Audrey Whitlock) and two at Dobbins Farm near Townville, Anderson Co, SC, 9 June (Jeff Click) were late.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** One was found at the Oakland Plantation Turf Farm in Bladen Co, NC, 31 July (Greg Massey).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** An adult in non-breeding plumage was seen at the end of Pecan Trees Rd at Bear Island WMA, Colleton Co, SC, 22 July (Francie Cashman, Keith McCullough) through 28 July (Matt Johnson). A second Wilson's Phalarope was seen in a different part of the WMA, 28 July, (Jeff Click, Denise DuPon, Don Faulkner, Paul Serridge). Text messaging between separate parties confirmed that these were two phalaropes there at the same time rather than multiple sightings of the same individual.

**South Polar Skua:** Individuals were seen on pelagic trips out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 1 June, 2 June, and 6 July (Brian Patteson, et al.).

**Pomarine Jaeger:** An adult photographed on Lake Norman, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 28 July (Sarah Clark, Nathan Gatto, Jeff Lemons, Chris Talkington) was

quite unexpected. Inland sightings not associated with hurricanes are very rare.

**Laughing Gull:** Two over the sod farm along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, when flooded, 10 June (Wayne Forsythe) were notable for the mountain region.

**Franklin's Gull:** One, originally reported as a Bonaparte's Gull, photographed in a flooded field along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 5 July (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey) was an excellent find.



Franklin's Gull, 05 Jul 2013, Henderson County, NC. Photo by Wayne Forsythe.

**Ring-billed Gull:** One on Lake Wateree, Kershaw Co, SC, 22 June (Bob Wood) was a good mid-summer find.

**Black Tern:** An adult in breeding plumage photographed over a flooded field along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 10 June (Wayne Forsythe) was a good find for the mountains during spring migration.

**Arctic Tern:** Two were seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 1 June (Brian Patteson, et al.).

**Royal Tern:** Two seen in flight over Lake Wateree, near the mouth of Beaver Creek, Kershaw Co, SC, 4 July (Bob Wood) were notable for that inland location.

**White-winged Dove:** One was seen in a residential area of Pine Knoll Shores, Carteret Co, NC, where photographed, 20-23 June (Ron Johnson). One photographed after it circled and then landed on a NOAA research vessel off Dare Co, NC, 18 July (Tom Johnson) provided an especially interesting report.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** Individuals were seen again this year in pocosin habitat around Catfish Lake in the Croatan National Forest (NF), Craven Co and Jones Co, NC, 1 June through 7 July (John Fussell, Jenna Begier, Nick Flanders, Elisa Enders, et al.). Some of the birds were likely breeding in the area, though a nest was not found, nor were juveniles seen, this year.

**Red-cockaded Woodpecker:** Two were found on private property along Texas Rd (NC-343) in southern Camden Co, NC, 13 July (Nick Flanders, Elisa Enders). This location is at the extreme northeastern point of the species' range.

**Nanday (Black-hooded) Parakeet:** The individual of unknown origin marked its fourth anniversary of residence in downtown Morehead City, Carteret Co, NC, in late July (John Fussell).

**Alder Flycatcher:** Counts included five singing along the Ivestor Gap Trail, between the Black Balsam parking lot and Ivestor Gap, Haywood Co, NC, 21 June (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal) and five+ on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, throughout the season (Rick Knight).

**Willow Flycatcher:** East of the species' typical range was one seen and heard singing along Swamp Rd in Cumberland Co, NC, 4 June (Brian Bockhahn, Kyle Kittelberger).

**Least Flycatcher:** 14 were found singing along the Ivestor Gap Trail and the Graveyard Fields Trail in the southern tip of Haywood Co, NC, 21 June (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** A female was photographed along Mims Rd in Dorchester Co, SC, 23 June (Matt Johnson). The pair at the traditional nesting site along Gutner Rd in Greenville Co, SC, was last seen 15 July (Paul Serridge). No juveniles were observed at the site this year. One was briefly seen on Bodie Island, Dare Co, NC, 26 July (Jeff Lewis).

**Horned Lark:** Locally unusual were individuals in the dunes near the Old Coast Guard Station at Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC, 9 June (Audrey Whitlock) and along Mid-Pines Rd, Wake Co, NC, 13 June (Lucas Bobay, Sam Jolly) through 4 July (Jan Mouro, Jeri Smart). Post-breeding aggregations included 28 in a field in Rowan Co, NC, 17 July (Thierry Besançon) and 25, mostly juveniles, at North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 21 July (John Fussell, et al.).

**Tree Swallow:** Tree Swallows were found nesting in Purple Martin gourds at two locations around Lake Wateree, SC, this summer—at the mouth of Beaver

Creek in Kershaw Co, and at June Creek Landing in Fairfield Co (Bob Wood, Steve Patterson).

**Bank Swallow:** Three amongst a flock of 25+ Tree Swallows at Roanoke Rapids Lake, Northampton Co, NC, 22 June (Ricky Davis, David Howell) were thought to be early fall migrants.

**Cliff Swallow:** Six swallows seen tending to nests under the NC-12 bridge at Cedar Island NWR, Carteret Co, NC, 4 June (Michael O'Brien, John Fussell) were locally unusual. There were at least 65 nests at the usual nesting sites in Havelock, Craven Co, NC, this summer (Fussell).

**House Wren:** Two occupied nestboxes were found at Mount (Mt.) Mitchell SP, Yancey Co, NC, 8 June (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal)—near the restaurant at 6190 feet elevation and near the campground at 6300 feet elevation. Two other occupied nestboxes were later found in the area, and all the chicks had fledged by 10 July. These nesting sites are probably at the highest elevation of any east of the Rocky Mountains.

**Veery:** A nest containing four eggs was found along Bald Knob Ridge, along the Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP), milepost 355, Yancey Co, NC, 6 June (Kelly Hughes), photographed 8 June (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal).

**Swainson's Thrush:** Up to six singing males were observed in a restricted area of the Black Mountains, Yancey Co, NC, 1 June through 17 July (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal).

**Hermit Thrush:** An active nest with both parents feeding chicks was found along the Bald Knob Ridge Trail, along the BRP near milepost 355, Yancey Co, NC, 8 June (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal). This Hermit Thrush nest is only the second ever confirmed in the state. Two fledglings found a quarter of a mile down the trail from the confirmed nest, 15 June (Simpson, Westphal) were thought to be from a different nest. Four to five were seen on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, throughout the season (Rick Knight).



American Pipit, 07 Jun 2013, Dare County, NC. Photo by Jeff Lewis.

**American Pipit:** One seen and photographed in the dunes around the Old Coast Guard Station at Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC, 7-9 June (Jeff Lewis, m. obs.) was late.

**Cedar Waxwing:** Summer sightings, all from North Carolina, included four on a BBS route in Caswell Co, 15 June

(Edith Tatum); twelve on the Dismal Swamp BBS route in Camden Co, 18 June (Nick Flanders, David Hughes); two at Roanoke Rapids Lake, near Vulture, Northampton Co, 22 June (Ricky Davis, David Howell); two adults feeding young at a nest in the Mt. Mitchell SP campground, Yancey Co, 29 June (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal); one in Moore Co, 10 July (Susan Campbell); one near the Bodie Island Lighthouse, Dare Co, 12 July (Davis); four in Camden Co, 13 July (Flanders, Elisa Enders); two in Perquimans Co, 13 July (Flanders, Enders); and five at two different sites along Little Rd in the Croatan NF, Craven Co, 16 July (John Fussell).

**Nashville Warbler:** One was found singing on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, on the road between Carvers Gap and the Cloudland Rhododendron Gardens, 26 June (Merrill Lynch). This sighting is our region's first during the summer period.

**Magnolia Warbler:** Suggestive of breeding in the area were singing males at three different sites in Yancey Co, NC—along the Bald Knob Ridge Trail near BRP milepost 355, 3 June; along the BRP in the Black Mountains, 8 June; and about 200 yards from the summit of Mt. Mitchell, 10 July (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal). Up to eight males were seen on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, 5 June through 16 July (Rick Knight).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** Up to two birds were observed singing approximately 100 yards from the summit of Mt. Mitchell, Yancey Co, NC, this period, with one seen 4 July (Jeff Click) and two seen 6 July (Ryan Justice, Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal). Another was observed singing about 100 yards downhill from the Mt. Mitchell campground, 8 July (Simpson, Westphal). Two were seen near Clingman's Dome, Swain Co, NC, 5 June (Jacob Socolar). A singing male was on territory on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, 5 June (Rick Knight) through 26 June (Thomas McNeil).

**Bachman's Sparrow:** Six territorial males were found in recently burned areas of the Croatan NF—two in Craven Co, NC; and four in SE Jones Co, NC (John Fussell).

**Vesper Sparrow:** One on Round Bald, Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, 8 June (Rick Knight) may have been nesting there.

**Savannah Sparrow:** One along Hartley Knob Rd in Watauga Co, NC, 16 July (Guy McCrane) was a good mid-summer find.

**White-throated Sparrow:** Summer sightings included one in a yard in Raleigh, Wake Co, NC, 22-25 June (Joe & Karen Bearden) and an adult in a yard in Arapahoe, Pamlico Co, NC, 31 July (Dick Barmore, Elizabeth White).

**Dickcissel:** A female responded to a recording near Cherry Hospital, Wayne Co, NC, 8 June (Greg Massey). Singing males were noted on a BBS route in Camden Co, NC, 16 June (Jeff Lewis) and at Mackay Island NWR, Currituck Co, NC, 11 July (Lewis). The peak count at North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, was 32, 29 singing males and three females, 2 June (John Fussell, Jack Fennell).

**Bobolink:** Unusual for the summer period were two seen in flight over Mackay Island NWR, Currituck Co, NC, 16 June (Jeff Lewis) and one on Bodie Island, Dare Co, NC, 26 July (Lewis).

#### **Yellow-headed**

**Blackbird:** An adult was photographed along the Cedar Point Tideland Trail in the Croatan NF, Carteret Co, NC, 4 July (Bo Howes). This sighting is only the sixth of this species in our region during the summer.



Dickcissel, 11 Jul 2013, MacKay Island NWR, NC.  
Photo by Jeff Lewis.

**Red Crossbill:** Good counts were made in the Black Mountains, Yancey Co, NC, and in the Great Balsam Mountains, Haywood Co and Jackson Co, NC, through June and early July. High counts were 22 in the Black Mountains, 16 June; 30 along the BRP in the Balsam Mountains, 17 June; and 39 in the same area, 24 June (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal). Seen on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, throughout the season, a high count of 17 was made 20 June (Rick Knight). Two were seen at milepost 272 along the BRP in Wilkes Co, NC, 24 June (Martin Wall).

**Common Redpoll:** From the Spring 2013 period, an individual visited a feeder near Burnsville, Yancey Co, NC, where photographed, for several days in early March (David Johnson).

**Pine Siskin:** Evidence of breeding in the NC mountains included a female collecting nesting material at Stepp's Gap, Mt. Mitchell SP, Yancey Co, 19 June (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal); two recent fledglings being fed by two adults at the Walter Knob Overlook along the BRP, Buncombe Co, 29 June (Simpson, Westphal); a female collecting nesting material near the restaurant at Mt. Mitchell SP, 5 July (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal); and

one carrying nesting material on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, 5 June (Rick Knight). Individuals remaining from last winter's irruption visited feeders in Durham Co, NC, 6 June (Ashley Merritt); in Wake Co, NC, 14 June (James Kalat); and in Wake Co, NC, 16 July (Brian Pendergraft).



Pine Siskin, 20 Jan, Matthews, NC. Photo by Will Stuart.