

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

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(All dates Fall 2013, 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.

Reports published herein may include sightings that require review by the state's bird records committee. Such reports are not considered accepted records until, and unless, they are so ruled by the committee.

Greater White-fronted Goose: One was found along the causeway at Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Hyde County (Co), NC, 30 Oct (Mike & Peggy Eubank, Albert Kuhnigk, Audrey Whitlock). A flock of 41 geese in flight over Sandy Mush Game Land, Buncombe Co, NC, 1 Nov (Doug Johnston) was a record count for North Carolina.

Snow Goose: Sightings outside of the species' typical range were one with a flock of Canada Geese in the Village Green Subdivision in Charleston Co, SC, 2 Nov (*fide* Clint Ball); 100 at Santee Coastal Wildlife Management Area (WMA), border of Charleston Co and Georgetown Co, SC, 14 Nov (Diana Doyle); four along Lee Buck Road (Rd) in Brunswick Co, NC, 16 Nov (Greg Massey); a dark-morph individual with Canada Geese at W. Kerr Scott Reservoir in Wilkes Co, NC, 22 Nov (Guy McGrane); and one photographed on Coddle Creek Reservoir, Cabarrus Co, NC, 28 Nov (Chris Talkington).

Ross's Goose: Individuals were found on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 16 Oct (Albert Kuhnigk, Audrey Whitlock); at Savannah NWR, Jasper Co, SC, where photographed, 21 Nov (Philip Hodgkins); and on Lake Junaluska, Haywood Co, NC, where photographed, 23 Nov (Stan & Connie Wulkowicz, multiple observers [m. obs.]).



Ross's Goose, 23 Nov 2013, Haywood Co, NC. Photo by Connie Wulkowicz.

Brant: A flock of six Brant were seen in flight over South Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, coming from the ocean and headed towards the Pamlico Sound, 23 Oct (Ricky Davis). Five were seen in flight with Snow Geese over the same location 30 Nov (Steve Shultz, m. obs.).

Tundra Swan: One on Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 3 Nov (Mike Turner) and ten near the dam on Falls Lake in Wake Co, NC, 13 Nov (Cathy Sue Harvey) were unusual for sites outside the coastal plain.

Eurasian Wigeon: Individual drakes were found at New Field, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 16 Oct (Albert Kuhnigk, Audrey Whitlock); at the same

location during the Wings over Water Festival (W.O.W.), 27 Oct (m. obs.); on the Bodie Island Lighthouse Pond, Dare Co, NC, 9 Nov (Jeff Lewis); and at Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, 17 Nov (Lewis, et al.).

Mottled Duck: One was photographed on a small pond adjacent to the aquarium at Fort (Ft) Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 12 Oct (Sam Cooper) and again on 17 Oct (Bruce Smithson).

Canvasback: Sightings from the western half of our region included nine on Lake Hickory, Alexander Co, NC, 24 Nov (Dwayne Martin); two on Lake Junaluska, Haywood Co, NC, 24 Nov (Connie & Stan Wulkowicz, et al.); four on Salem Lake, Forsyth Co, NC, 28 Nov (Ron Morris, et al.); six on Coddle Creek Reservoir, Cabarrus Co, NC, 28 Nov (Chris Talkington); and one female on Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 30 Nov (Harry LeGrand).

Redhead: Counts from the western half of our region included five on Lake Junaluska, Haywood Co, NC, 20 Nov (Michael Lester); four on Lake Hickory, Alexander Co, NC, 24 Nov (Dwayne Martin); four on Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 25 Nov (Henry Link); and 40 at Coddle Creek Reservoir, Cabarrus Co, NC, 28 Nov (Chris Talkington).

Common Eider: A hen seen on the ocean at the south end of Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC, 3 Aug (Jeff Lewis) may have been the same eider seen in that area last May.

Surf Scoter: One seen in Beaufort, Carteret Co, NC, 17 Sep (Nate Bacheler) was early. Inland, individual hens were found on the catfish pond along US-64 in Creswell, Washington Co, NC, 23 Oct (Jeff Pippen) and on Falls Lake in Durham Co, NC, 3 Nov (Pippen).

White-winged Scoter: An adult hen on Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 29 Nov (Mike Turner) and 30 Nov (Harry LeGrand) was the first of many sightings on inland lakes for the coming winter season.

Black Scoter: Three scoters, two drakes and one hen, at Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 12 Sep (John Cox, et al.) were early. Three hens on Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 10 Nov (Harry LeGrand) were a good find for that inland site.

Long-tailed Duck: Sightings on inland lakes included two hens on Lake Higgins, Guilford Co, NC, 13 Nov (Nate Swick); one photographed near the dam on Lake Norman, border of Lincoln Co and Mecklenburg Co, NC, 24 Nov (Kevin Metcalf, Chris Talkington); and six photographed on Coddle Creek Reservoir, Cabarrus Co, NC, 28 Nov (Jeff Lemons, Talkington). Seven at Murrells Inlet, Georgetown Co, SC, 24 Nov (Jamie Adams) and two in flight at the same location, 30 Nov (Steve Compton, et al.) were good finds.

Common Goldeneye: Two hens were found on Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 25 Nov (Henry Link).

Common Merganser: Two female/immature-types on the Catawba River below Lake James in Burke Co, NC, 25 Sep (Jamie Cameron, Dwayne Martin) were early.

Red-breasted Merganser: Inland sightings included seven on Lake Junaluska, Haywood Co, NC, 20 Nov (Michael Lester); three or four near the dam on Lake Norman, border of Lincoln Co and Mecklenburg Co, NC, 24 Nov (Kevin Metcalf, Chris Talkington); eight on Salem Lake, Forsyth Co, NC, 25 Nov (Marbry Hopkins); and five on Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 30 Nov (Harry LeGrand).

Red-throated Loon: Three, two immature birds and one adult, were photographed together on the Reeds Creek arm of Lake Norman in Iredell Co, NC, 16 Nov (Jeff Lemons, Chris Talkington). An adult was seen on Coddle Creek Reservoir, Cabarrus Co, NC, 30 Nov (Chris & Cheryl Talkington).

Common Loon: Two seen off of S Nags Head, Dare Co, NC, 8 Sep (Ricky Davis) were likely the same birds seen in that area during the summer.

Red-necked Grebe: One was photographed on Lake Norman, on the border of Iredell Co and Mecklenburg Co, NC, 16 Nov (Jeff Lemons, Chris Talkington).

Eared Grebe: One was photographed amongst Horned Grebes on Coddle Creek Reservoir, Cabarrus Co, NC, 28 Nov (Chris Talkington).

***Aechmophorus* Grebe:** One, more likely a Western than a Clark's, was seen on the ocean off of Jeanette's Pier in Nags Head, Dare Co, NC, 30 Nov (Steve Shultz, et al.).

Herald (Trindade) Petrel: On pelagic trips out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, three were seen 12 Aug, one was seen 13 Aug, two were seen 17 Aug, and one was seen 25 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.). Five seen from a NOAA research vessel off of Dare Co, NC, 18 Aug (Tom Johnson) was a fantastic one-day count.

Sooty Shearwater: Singles were observed on pelagic trips out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 18 Aug and 24 Sep (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Manx Shearwater: Three seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 18 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.) provided a good count for the fall season.

White-tailed Tropicbird: Individuals were seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 17 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.) and from a NOAA research vessel off of Dare Co, NC, 13 Aug, 18 Aug, and 19 Aug (Tom Johnson).

Red-billed Tropicbird: One was seen from a NOAA research vessel off of Dare Co, NC, 12 Aug (Tom Johnson).

Wood Stork: Wandering immature individuals were seen over Howell Woods in Johnston Co, NC, 24 Aug (John Finnegan, Stephanie Horton) and in the company of Great Egrets where Seven Bridges Rd crosses Swift Creek in Edgecombe Co, NC, 25 Aug (Ricky Davis).

Masked Booby: One was seen from a NOAA research vessel off of Dare Co, NC, 9 Sep (Tom Johnson).

Brown Booby: First-year birds were seen from a NOAA research vessel off of Dare Co, NC, 14 Aug (Tom Johnson); in flight over the ocean from Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, where photographed, 15 Aug (Greg Massey, Harry Sell); at Bloody Point, Daufuskie Island, Beaufort Co, SC, where photographed, 20 Aug (Michael Loftus); and from a research vessel about 40 miles SE of Cape Lookout, Carteret Co, NC, where photographed, 14 Sep (Keith Rittmaster). Is it possible that the same individual, flying down our region's coast, was responsible for all three sightings in August?

Northern Gannet: An adult seen in flight over the ocean off Edisto Beach, Colleton Co, SC, 4 Aug (Sid England, Giff Beaton) was very unusual for the season.

Anhinga: One seen on a small pond between Moyock and Currituck, Currituck Co, NC, 22 Oct (Skip Morgan) was unusual for a site so far north.

American White Pelican: Coastal high counts included 49 at Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, 31 Aug (Susan Campbell); 80 on Marsh Island in Bulls Bay, Charleston Co, SC, 7 Sep (John Cox); 43 on Pawleys Island, Georgetown Co, SC, 21 Sep (Jerry Walls); 95 on Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 26 Sep (David McLean); 40 at Huntington Beach State Park (SP), Georgetown Co, SC, 23 Oct (Phil Turner); and 83 at Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 2 Nov (Audrey Whitlock). 43 on Lake Hickory, border of Alexander Co and Catawba Co, NC, 27 Oct (Dwayne Martin, Lori Owenby) was a fantastic count for the Piedmont. One at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville Co, SC, 21-24 Nov (Steven Anschel, Paul Serridge) was a first for that park.

Brown Pelican: An immature seen near the dam on Lake Wateree, Kershaw Co, SC, 13 Aug (Steve Patterson) may have been the same bird seen on that lake July 4th.

American Bittern: Away from the coast, individuals were seen at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville Co, SC, 1-21 Nov (Paul Serridge, m. obs.) and at Prairie Ridge Ecostation, Wake Co, NC, 16 Nov (Ryan Justice) into winter (m. obs.).

“Great White” Heron: One was seen and photographed along North Buffalo Creek in Guilford Co, NC, 8-15 Aug (Dennis Burnette, m. obs.). The bird was found in the same area in late September (Amy Hansen) and remained through at least 9 Oct (Henry Link).

Great Egret: Individuals in the wetlands at Tanglewood Park, Forsyth Co, NC, 16 Nov (Maulik Trivedi) and 17 Nov (Ron Morris); and in the Beaverdam arm of Falls Lake, border of Granville Co and Wake Co, NC, 28 Nov (Harry LeGrand) were late for sites in the Piedmont.

Snowy Egret: Inland, individuals were found at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 7 Aug (Brad Dalton) and in the Ellerbe Creek area of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 20 Sep (Nick Flanders).

Tricolored Heron: Wandering immature individuals were found at multiple inland sites in August—at Cane Creek Park Lake, Union Co, NC, 6-21 Aug (George Andrews); at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 7 Aug (Brad Dalton); at the water treatment plant (WTP) in Camden, Kershaw Co, SC, 15 Aug (Steve Patterson); in the west bay of Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville Co, SC, 15-19 Aug (Paul Serridge); and at the Greensboro Bog Garden, Guilford Co, NC, 14 Aug (Ron Morris) through 31 Aug (Phil Dickinson).

Reddish Egret: Counts from SC included five at Hunting Island SP, Beaufort Co, 9 Aug (Buddy Campbell, Ryan Justice); four in Bulls Bay, Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 12 Sep (John Cox, et al.); and three on Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, 26 Sep (David McLean, et al.). In NC, sightings were of an adult near the east end of Shackleford Banks, Carteret Co, 2 Aug (Dick Barmore, Chandra Biggerstaff, Elizabeth White); an immature bird near New River Inlet, Onslow Co, 7 Aug (Gilbert Grant) through 1 Oct (Mary Bridges); two immature birds on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, continuing from the summer period, 10 Aug (Jeff Lewis); and one immature bird remaining on North Pond until 8 Sep (Ricky Davis, Audrey Whitlock).

Cattle Egret: One in a horse pasture in Caswell Co, NC, 28 Oct (Edith Tatum) was late for a location so far inland.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Four in the Ellerbe Creek area of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 20 Sep (Nick Flanders) was a good count for a site in the Piedmont.

Glossy Ibis: Three at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 7 Aug (Brad Dalton) were a good find for that inland site.

Roseate Spoonbill: Counts from the SC coast included ten at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, 27-28 Aug (Phil Lanoue, Sharon & Phil Turner); 148 at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access), Jasper Co, SC, 26 Sep (Steve Calver); 16 at Jack's Creek on Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 26 Sep (David McLean); 17 on Shammy Creek Pond in Beaufort Co, SC, 12 Oct (Buddy Campbell); and eight in Palm Key, Beaufort Co, SC, 31 Oct (Elizabeth Way). In NC, an immature spoonbill was photographed on Bald Head Island, Brunswick Co, 2 Sep (*fide* Susan Campbell).

Swallow-tailed Kite: Two seen over a field along Hill Creek Rd in Scotland Co, NC, 21 Aug (Rex Badgett) were locally unusual.

Northern Harrier: Individuals along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 10 Aug (Ron Selvey, Wayne Forsythe) and at the American Turf farm, Washington Co, NC, 13 Aug (Audrey Whitlock, et al.) through 18 Aug (Ryan Bakelaar) were early.

Broad-winged Hawk: 11,043 hawks were counted during a hawk watch at Caesar's Head SP, Greenville Co, SC, 22 Sep (Marion Clark, et al.), a record one-day count for that 25 year-old event.

Rough-legged Hawk: One was photographed at Mackay Island NWR, Currituck Co, NC, 19 Nov (Colleen Tillett).

Golden Eagle: One was seen during a hawk watch at Caesar's Head SP, Greenville Co, SC, 22 Sep (Marion Clark, et al.).

Virginia Rail: Inland, individuals were seen at Tanglewood County Park, Forsyth Co, NC, 12 Nov (David & Susan Disher) through 22 Nov (Ron Morris) and in South Bay, Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville Co, SC, 4 Nov (Brad Dalton), a first for that park.

Sandhill Crane: A flock of seven Sandhill Cranes was found between Mattamuskeet NWR and Englehard in Hyde Co, NC, 28 Nov (*fide* Lee Adams).

Black-necked Stilt: 234 at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access), Jasper Co, SC, 15 Aug (Steve Calver) was our region's high count. One remained at

North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, until the late date of 11 Oct (Tina Nauman).

American Avocet: Individuals at Clark Hill Lake in McCormick Co, SC, 1 Sep (John Patten Moss) and at Lake Junaluska, Haywood Co, NC, 7 Oct (Bob Olthoff, Connie & Stan Wulkowicz) were great finds for sites so far from the coast.

Black-bellied Plover: Inland sightings included one at the southern end of Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, 8 Aug (Henry Link); three at the Modern Turf farm in Sumter Co, SC, 17 Aug (Steve Patterson); 23 at the American Turf farm in Washington Co, NC, 18 Aug (Ryan Bakelaar); and two at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Lane in Henderson Co, NC, 31 Aug (David Gardner).

American Golden-Plover: High counts from sod farms included 32 at American Turf along US-64 just west of Creswell, Washington Co, NC, 3 Sep (Peggy Eubank, Audrey Whitlock); 14 at Super Sod along Hooper Lane in Henderson Co, NC, 7 Sep (Jeff Click, et al.); 13 at Super Sod's Bookhardt farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 8 Sep (John Cox, Andy Harrison); and 16 at Super Sod's Old Ellore farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 17 Sep (Chris Feeney). One molting adult at Mason Inlet, Wrightsville Beach, New Hanover Co, NC, 6 Aug (Sam Cooper) was an unusual find for a beach location.

Snowy Plover: One photographed on North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, the morning of 3 Sep (Gilbert Grant) and spotted later that afternoon (Bruce Smithson) was a one-day wonder.

Wilson's Plover: 111 on Bird Shoal (Rachel Carson Reserve), Carteret Co, NC, 23 Aug (John Fussell) was an impressive count. One observed at Beaufort Inlet, Carteret Co, NC, 29 Nov (Fussell) was likely wintering in that area.

Semipalmated Plover: Counts from inland sod farms included 15 at Super Sod along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 7 Aug (Wayne Forsythe); 15 at American Turf in Washington Co, NC, 17 Aug (Steve Shultz); four at Modern Turf in Sumter Co, SC, 17 Aug (Steve Patterson); and 20+ at Super Sod in Orangeburg Co, SC, 21 Aug (Chris Feeney).

Piping Plover: Two of the better counts were 23 at Rich Inlet, border of New Hanover Co and Pender Co, NC, 24 Aug (Derb Carter) and 12 at Bird Shoal (Rachel Carson Reserve), Carteret Co, NC, 12 Oct and 4 Nov (John Fussell, et al.). One found at the southern end of Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, the morning of 8 Aug (Henry Link) and observed again later that day (m. obs.) was a great find for that inland site.

Spotted Sandpiper: Two seen in Morehead City, Carteret Co, NC, 25 Nov (John Fussell) were likely wintering in that area.

Solitary Sandpiper: One photographed along a creek near where NC-42 crosses over the Cape Fear River in Lee Co, NC, 3 Nov (Paul Hubert) was late.

Willet: Two along NC-191 in the Mills River area of Henderson Co, NC, 18 Aug (Wayne Forsythe) were notable for the mountain region.

Upland Sandpiper: This species was found at the American Turf farm along US-64 in Washington Co, NC, throughout much of August (m. obs.), with a high count of five made 16 Aug (Natalia Ocampo-Peñuela, Nate Swick, Steve Tucker, Scott Winton). At other sod farms, one was seen intermittently at Super Sod in Orangeburg Co, SC, 3 Aug (Pam Ford, et al.) through 19 Sep (Cherrie Sneed); one was found at Oakland Turf, along NC-87 in Brunswick Co, NC, 4 Aug (John Ennis); five were found at Bucksport Sod in Horry Co, SC, 16 Aug (Steve Thomas); and three were seen at Super Sod in Orangeburg Co, SC, 18 Aug (John Grego). 12 at the Wilmington International Airport, New Hanover Co, NC, 23 Aug (Sam Cooper) was the season's high count.

Long-billed Curlew: Individuals were found at the Ft Fisher Spit, New Hanover Co, NC, 16 Aug (Greg Massey) and on Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 12 Sep (Scott Davis, David McLean). Up to five were seen around Key Inlet at Cape Romain NWR, during a field trip led by Coastal Expeditions, 27 Oct (Pam Ford, Kathy Hare, David McLean, et al.).

Hudsonian Godwit:

Individuals were found at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access), Jasper Co, SC, 15 Aug (Steve Calver); at the east end of Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, where also heard vocalizing, 23 Sep (Scott Winton); at South Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 26 Sep



Hudsonian Godwit, 23 Oct 2013, Dare Co, NC.
Photo by Ricky Davis.

(Audrey Whitlock); and again on South Pond, where photographed, during W.O.W., 23 Oct (Ricky Davis, m. obs.) through 29 Oct (Jeff Lemons).

Marbled Godwit: Notable counts were 100+ on Marsh Island in Bulls Bay, Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 7 Sep (John Cox); 600 at Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 16 Oct (John Fitzpatrick); 100 on Browns

Island (The Straits), Carteret Co, NC, 9 Nov (John Fussell, Nick Flanders, Mark Kosiewski); and 230 at South Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 28 Nov (Nathan Gatto).

Sanderling: One seen on the mudflats in the Ellerbe Creek area of Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 20 Sep (Nick Flanders) was notable for that inland site.

Dunlin: Inland sightings included one at Clemson's Simpson Experiment Station, Anderson Co, SC, 1-8 Nov (Linda Montgomery); two at Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 2 Nov (Kevin Metcalf); four on the mudflats where Ellerbe Creek empties into Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 3 Nov (Jeff Pippen); two at Ebenezer Point on Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 16 Nov (Bob Rybczynski, et al.); and one where Morgan Creek empties into Jordan Lake, 22 Nov (Ginger Travis).

Baird's Sandpiper: Sightings included one at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 7 Aug (Brad Dalton) and 17 Aug (Kevin DeBoer); two at the American Turf farm along US-64 in Washington Co, NC, 8 Sep (Ricky Davis); and one remaining at American Turf 22 Sep (Steve Ritt).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Sightings included one on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 15 Aug (Elisa Enders, Nick Flanders); one at the American Turf farm in Washington Co, NC, 24 Aug (Thierry Besançon); one at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 4 Sep (Kent Bedenbaugh, Lewis Burke); two on South Pond, Pea Island NWR, 23 Sep (Steve Ritt); three at the same location, 26 Sep (Audrey Whitlock); two at the east end of Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, 21 Oct (Scott Winton); and one on South Pond, Pea Island NWR, on the late date of 29 Nov (Nate Swick, et al.).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Counts from sod farms included two at Super Sod in Orangeburg Co, SC, 13 Aug (Chris Feeney) and 18 Aug (David McLean); eight at American Turf in Washington Co, NC, 13 Aug (Peggy Eubank, Jeff Shenot, Audrey Whitlock); two at Modern Turf in Sumter Co, SC, 17 Aug (Steve Patterson); and three at Super Sod along Hooper Lane in Henderson Co, NC, 7 Sep (Jeff Click, et al). Along the coast, individuals were found at Rich Inlet, border of New Hanover Co and Pender Co, NC, 24 Aug (Derb Carter); at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 5 Sep (Sam Cooper); and on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 5 Sep (Audrey Whitlock) and 12 Sep (Steve Ritt).

Pectoral Sandpiper: Some impressive counts were 225 at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Lane in Henderson Co, NC, 1 Aug (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey); nearly 600 at Super Sod in Orangeburg Co, SC, 15 Aug (Peter Stangel); and up to 300 at Modern Turf in Sumter Co, SC, 17 Aug (Steve Patterson). One on the mudflats where Ellerbe Creek empties into Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC, 3 Nov (Jeff Pippen) was a little late.

Short-billed Dowitcher: Eight at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Lane in Henderson Co, NC, 20 Aug (Wayne Forsythe) were notable for the mountain region.

Wilson's Phalarope: 16 at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access), Jasper Co, SC, 15 Aug (Steve Calver) was a fantastic count. One was seen on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 6 Sep (Peggy Eubank, Pat Moore, Audrey Whitlock, et al.).

Red-necked Phalarope: Individuals were one-day wonders at the Hemingway WTP in Williamsburg Co, SC, where photographed, 17 Aug (Jay Chandler) and on South Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 7 Sep (Audrey Whitlock).

Pomarine Jaeger: The second-year jaeger discovered on Lake Norman, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 28 July (Sarah Clark, Nathan Gatto, Jeff Lemons, Chris Talkington) remained until at least 4 Aug (Karyl & Samir Gabriel).



Pomarine Jaeger, 02 Aug 2013,
Mecklenburg Co, NC.
Photo by Chris Talkington.

Parasitic Jaeger: From-shore sightings included one at New River Inlet, Onslow Co, NC, 4 Sep (Gilbert Grant); one off of Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 23 Oct (Ricky Davis); two off of Atlantic Beach, Carteret Co, NC, 23 Nov (John Fussell); and one at New Topsail Inlet, Pender Co, NC, 28 Nov (Guy McGrane).

Long-tailed Jaeger: An adult was photographed on the Davidson Creek arm of Lake Norman, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 24 Aug (Chris Talkington, David & Marcia Wright). Amazingly, this bird was the second jaeger species on that lake in a one-month span!



Long-tailed Jaeger, 24 Aug 2013,
Mecklenburg Co, NC.
Photo by Chris Talkington.

Sabine's Gull: One was seen from a NOAA research vessel off of Dare Co, NC, 9 Sep (Tom Johnson). Two, and adult and a juvenile, were

found on Lake Hartwell, border of Anderson Co, SC and Hart Co, GA, 15 Sep (Jim Flynn, Mark McShane). Though the birds were initially seen from the Georgia side of the lake, at least one was seen on the SC side of the lake, 16 Sep (Caroline Eastman, Irvin Pitts).

Laughing Gull: 80 amongst two large flocks of Ring-billed Gulls near Tarboro, Edgecombe Co, NC, 29 Nov (Ricky Davis) was a good total for the late season.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 330+ at the north end of Ocracoke Island, Hyde Co, NC, 12 Oct (Gilbert Grant) was a notable count. 75 amongst a mixed gull flock at Fort Macon SP, Carteret Co, NC, 27 Nov, after the passage of strong storms the previous day, was an excellent count for a site away from the Outer Banks.

Roseate Tern: Individuals were seen at Bird Shoal (Rachel Carson Reserve), Carteret Co, NC, 23 Aug (John Fussell), at the same spot where three Roseate Terns were seen in late May; and at Rich Inlet, border of New Hanover Co and Pender Co, NC, 24 Aug (Derb Carter).

Sandwich Tern: Lingering late into the season were two on Browns Island (The Straits) in Carteret Co, NC, 9 Nov (John Fussell, Nick Flanders, Mark Kosiewski) and one at Cape Point, Dare Co, NC, 28 Nov (Kyle Kittelberger).

Black Skimmer: 1500+ photographed at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 16 Nov (Sam Cooper) may have been the largest congregation observed in the state since the 1970s.

Common Ground-Dove: One was seen in the prairie restoration area of McDowell Nature Preserve in southern Mecklenburg Co, NC, 24 Oct (Marcia Howden) and photographed 25 Oct (Kevin Metcalf, m. obs.). Interestingly, this county's only other record of this species was from this same spot, October 16th 2002.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Sightings included one heard calling in Reynolda Gardens, Forsyth Co, NC, 25 Sep (Nathan Gatto); one seen at Saluda Shoals Park, Lexington Co, SC, 27 Sep (Roger Smith) and 29 Sep (Keith McCullough); one photographed in Hillsborough, Orange Co, NC, 10 Oct (Carol Tuskey); and one photographed along Brickhouse Rd in the Butner – Falls of the Neuse Gamelands, Durham Co, NC, 20 Oct (Elisa Enders, Nick Flanders).

Snowy Owl: Snowy Owls began showing up in the NC coastal plain during the last week of November—a precursor to the irruption to follow. The first was found at Cape Point, Buxton, Dare Co, 26 Nov (Marcia Lyons) where it was seen by many birders into December. An individual seen and

photographed on private farmland four miles north of Englehard, Hyde Co, 28-30 Nov (Jamie McGlaughon) may have been the same bird photographed at nearby Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, 30 Nov (Louise Fredericksen, Joan Jordan).

Short-eared Owl: One flushed along Hooper Lane, Henderson Co, NC, 3 Nov (Paul Super) was a good find for the mountain region.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: One found roosting in the Triangle Land Conservancy's Johnston Mill Preserve, Orange Co, NC, the afternoon of 9 Nov (Laurie Degernes, Julia Storm) was seen later that afternoon (Marty McClelland), but not thereafter.

Common Nighthawk: One lingered in Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co, NC, until the late date of 6 Nov (Tom & Tammy Sanders).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Immature males remained at feeders into December in north Raleigh, Wake Co, NC, and in Apex, Chatham Co, NC (*fide* Susan Campbell).

Rufous Hummingbird: An adult male visiting a feeder near Sparta, Alleghany Co, NC, 22 Aug through 12 Sep (Jim Keighton), and banded 29 Aug (Dwayne Martin), was somewhat early. Dwayne Martin banded nine other Rufous Hummingbirds, most of which were hatch-year birds, in the western half of NC in late October into November. Individuals visited feeders in Wake Co, NC, an immature male, 26 Oct into winter (Patty Tice); in Black Mountain, Buncombe Co, NC, an adult male, 3-4 Nov (Stu Gibeau); and in Forsyth Co, NC, an adult female, 25 Nov into winter (Phil Dickinson).

Allen's Hummingbird: An individual began visiting a feeder in Oriental, Pamlico Co, NC, 30 Sep (Liz Lathrop) where it remained into winter. This bird's species was positively determined when banded 11 Jan (Susan Campbell).

***Selasphorus* Hummingbird:** Adult females, possibly Allen's but more likely Rufous, visited feeders in Durham Co, NC, 10 Nov (Cody Porter); in Socastee, Horry Co, SC, 12 Nov (K.C. Foggin) and in Forsyth Co, NC, 19 Nov into winter (Phil Dickinson, Ann Williams).

Peregrine Falcon: One returned to downtown Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co, NC, for an eighth straight winter, in October (Ron Clark). One over a cattle pasture just south of the regional airport in Lee Co, NC, 17 Nov (Eddie Owens, Mike Tove) was a first for that county.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Individual migrants were found at Historic Bethabara Park, Forsyth Co, NC, 14 Aug (David & Susan Disher, Marbry

Hopkins); along Lee Buck Rd in Brunswick Co, NC, 4 Sep (Greg Massey); at Reynolda Gardens, Forsyth Co, NC, 4 Sep (Carol Cunningham); at Salem Lake, Forsyth Co, NC, 5 Sep (Andrew Thornton); at Poinsett Bridge Heritage Preserve, Greenville Co, SC, 8 Sep (Kevin DeBoer); at Waterrock Knob, mile 451 along the Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP), border of Haywood Co and Jackson Co, NC, 14 Sep (Brock Hutchins); and at Sandy Creek Park, Durham Co, NC, 29 Sep (Randy Neighbarger) through 1 Oct (Nate Swick).

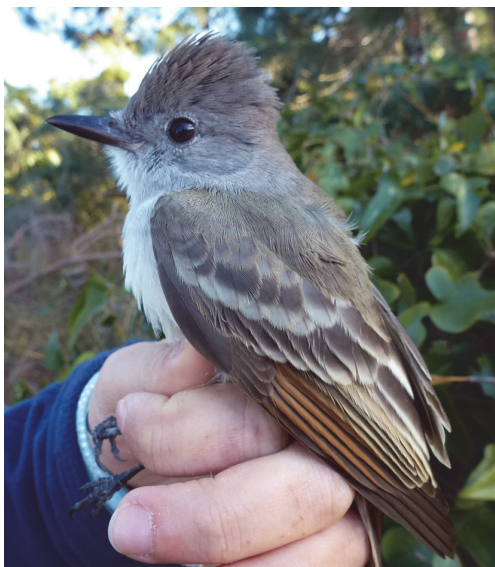
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Individuals were noted along Lee Buck Rd in Brunswick Co, NC, 5 Sep (Greg Massey); at Jackson Park, Henderson Co, NC, 5 Sep (Jon Smith), 22 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Harvey), and 28 Sep (Dan Garber); at Howell Woods in Johnston Co, NC, 21 Sep (Steve Ritt, et al.); and at Greenfield Lake, New Hanover Co, NC, 25 Sep (Jamie Adams).

Alder Flycatcher: South Carolina, a state previously with only one accepted report of Alder Flycatcher, had two reports this fall—one seen and heard vocalizing at Carolina Sandhills NWR, Chesterfield Co, SC, 26 Aug (Dennis Forsythe, Irvin Pitts) through 28 Aug (Caroline Eastman) and one captured and measured at a banding station on Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC, 25 Sep (Aaron Given, et al.).

Ash-throated Flycatcher:

One photographed at the banding station on Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC, 4 Nov (Aaron Given, et al.) was only the second ever photographed in SC. Found annually in the NC coastal plain for many years now, an Ash-throated Flycatcher in the wetland restoration area at North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 17 Nov (Jack Fennell, John Fussell, et al.) was not as surprising.

Myiarchus Flycatcher: A flycatcher of the genus *Myiarchus* seen at Lake Conestee in Greenville Co, SC, 30 Oct (Jane Kramer) was either a late Great-crested or the first Ash-throated seen in western SC.



Ash-throated Flycatcher, 04 Nov 2013,
Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC.
Photo by Aaron Given.

Western Kingbird: Individuals were found at Federal Point, Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, where photographed, 4 Sep (John Ennis); in the prairie restoration area of McDowell Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 17 Sep (Kevin Metcalf); and off of Montford Rd in Georgetown Co, SC, 29 Nov and 1 Dec (Dale Gawlik).

Eastern Kingbird: One in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 12 Oct (Jeff Lewis) was a little late.

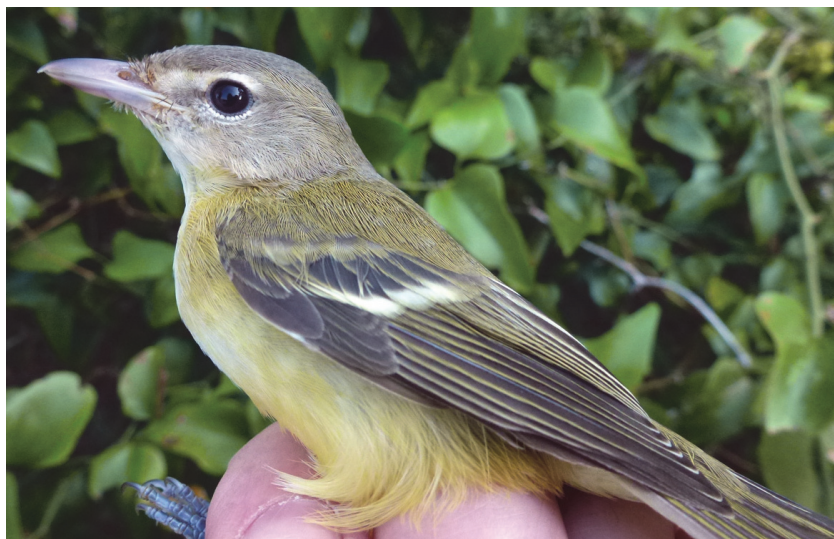
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:

Individuals were found along Pilgrim Church Rd in Lexington Co, SC, 27 Aug (Irvin Pitts); and at the Ft Fisher Ferry Terminal, New Hanover Co, NC, a juvenile bird seen and photographed by many, 22 Oct (Shun Endo) through 27 Oct (Lucas Bobay, et al.).



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 23 Oct 2013,
Fort Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC.
Photo by Harry Sell.

Bell's Vireo: One was captured at the banding station on Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC, 9 Sep



Bell's Vireo, 09 Sep 2013, Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC.
Photo by Aaron Given.

(Aaron Given, et al.). Amazingly, this is the third year in a row they've captured a Bell's Vireo there! This bird provided the sixth record for the state.

Warbling Vireo: Individual migrants were found at Jackson Park, Henderson Co, NC, 26 Sep (Michael Lester, Simon Thompson, et al.); and along the boardwalk in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 13 Oct (Jeff Lewis) and 14 Oct (Audrey Whitlock).

Philadelphia Vireo: This species was well-reported in late September. Though most sightings were of individuals, counts of multiple birds included two at Nags Head Woods, Dare Co, NC, 19 Sep (Peggy Eubank); two at Carver's Gap, Mitchell Co, NC, 23 Sep (Rick Knight); two at Jackson Park, Henderson Co, NC, 26 Sep (Michael Lester, Simon Thompson, et al.); and three at Ridge Junction along the BRP in Yancey Co, NC, 26 Sep (Vin Stanton). One along the boardwalk in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 23 Oct (Ricky Davis) was somewhat late.

Barn Swallow: One seen along Milltail Rd at Alligator River NWR, Dare Co, NC, 27 Oct (Jeff Lewis) was somewhat late.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: This species didn't irrupt into our region like last winter. The handful of reports from outside the mountains included one heard calling at Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area, Alexander Co, NC, 22 Sep (Dwayne Martin); one along the entrance road to the Bodie Island Lighthouse, Dare Co, NC, 24 Oct (Ricky Davis); four at the same location, 5 Nov (Audrey Whitlock); and one in a yard in Aynor, Horry Co, SC, 20 Nov into winter (Steve Thomas).

Sedge Wren: Individuals at Jackson Park, Henderson Co, NC, 26 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey) and at Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 2 Nov (Mike Turner) were locally unusual.

Marsh Wren: Individuals at Dinkins Bottom, Yadkin Co, NC, 31 Oct (Phil Dickinson); at Pee Dee NWR, Anson Co, NC, 2 Nov (Michael Fulbright, Eddie Owens, Jennifer Schrand); and in the Lake Hills wetland in Forsyth Co, NC, 21 Nov through early December (Dickinson, et al.) were locally unusual.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: One at Carver's Gap, Mitchell Co, NC, 10 Sep (Rick Knight) was early.

Bicknell's Thrush: Nocturnal flight calls were heard in the pre-dawn hours at Falls Lake, Wake Co, NC, during the Fall Bird Count, 17 Sep (Brian Bockhahn) and at Hanging Rock SP, Stokes Co, NC, 24 Sep (Bockhahn). Some birders question whether or not nocturnal flight calls can accurately identify the species.

***Motacilla* species:** Pending review by the NCBRC was a report of a wagtail species, most likely a White Wagtail, along the barrier strand just SE of the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, NC, 15 Sep (John Fussell, Jack Fennell, John Voigt, m. obs.). The bird was not photographed because it quickly flushed upon approach. The bird did vocalize, however, and its vocalizations matched that of a White Wagtail.

Cedar Waxwing: A recently-fledged juvenile along the Tar River in eastern Rocky Mount, Edgecombe Co, NC, 25 Aug (Ricky Davis) was indicative of breeding in that area. Pairs in the Elizabethan Gardens, Dare Co, NC, 21 Aug (Jeff Lewis) and along Dudley Rd in the Croatan National Forest, Carteret Co, NC, 21 Aug (John Fussell) probably summered in those areas.

Lapland Longspur:

Individuals were found near Lake Phelps, Washington Co, NC, 21 Oct (Brian Bockhahn); at the Ft Fisher Spit, New Hanover Co, NC, where photographed, 28 Nov (Bruce Smithson); and at Murrells Inlet, Georgetown Co, SC, 30 Nov (Steve Compton).



Lapland Longspur, 28 Nov 2013, New Hanover Co, NC.
Photo by Bruce Smithson.

Snow Bunting: Three were seen at Cape Point, Dare Co, NC, 29 Nov (John Ennis, Martin Wall), 30 Nov (Jeff Lewis), and into December (m. obs.). One at Ft Sumter, Charleston Co, SC, 27 Nov (Ted Wolff) was a good find for a site so far south.

Louisiana Waterthrush: Late were individuals seen in the Bolin Forest subdivision in Orange Co, NC, where photographed, 17 Sep (Chloe Gude) and at Caw Caw Interpretive Center, Charleston Co, SC, 2-3 Oct (*fide* David McLean).

Golden-winged Warbler: Individual migrants at Reynolda Gardens, Forsyth Co, NC, 14 Sep (John Haire, et al.); at West Branch Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 15 Sep (Jeff Lemons); and at Harris Lake, Wake Co, NC, 18 Sep (Lucas Bobay) were good finds for sites outside the mountains. One was seen multiple times at Jackson Park, Henderson Co, NC, 22 Sep (Simon Harvey) through 6 Oct (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey).

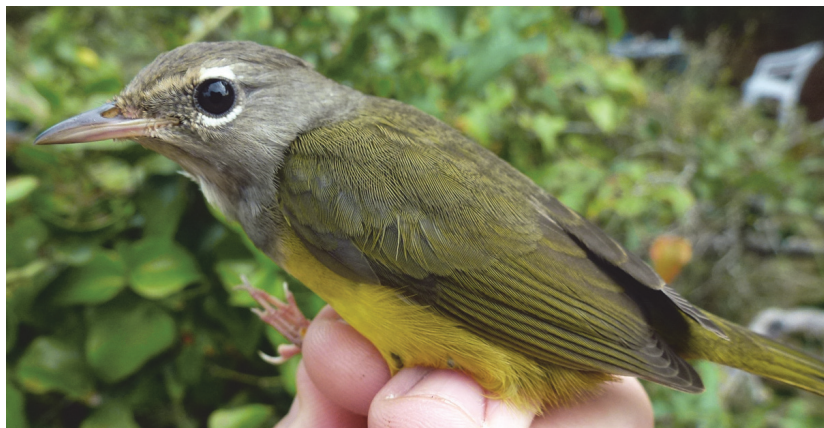
Tennessee Warbler: Sightings from the coast, where less common, included one at Patriot's Point, Charleston Co, SC, 9 Oct (Keith McCullough); one photographed in Southport, Brunswick Co, NC, 20 Oct (John Ennis); and one along the boardwalk in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 20-28 Oct (Jeff Lewis).

Orange-crowned Warbler: Two seen together in a field edge along Leggett Rd in Edgecombe Co, NC, 17 Nov (Ricky Davis) were thought to be migrating through the area. Davis notes the birds were much yellower than the wintering birds he typically sees in NC, leading him to speculate these birds were from the western population.

Nashville Warbler: There were numerous sightings of this species this fall. Most notable were the two Nashville Warblers reliably seen along the boardwalk in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 13 Oct (Jeff Lewis) through the late date of 20 Nov (Skip Morgan, Linda Ward), with a high count of three seen there 20 Oct (Lewis). Also late was an individual that visited a birdbath in Charleston Co, SC, 20 Nov (Keith McCullough).

Connecticut Warbler: At least two were found this fall—one at Pilot Mountain SP, Surry Co, NC, 21 Sep (Mike Tove, Eddie Owens) and the other at the old quarry (permission required) in New Bern, Craven Co, NC, 24 Sep (Chandra Biggerstaff), a first for that county.

MacGillivray's Warbler: A first-year female was captured at the banding station on Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC, where measured and photographed, 18 Oct (Aaron Given, et al.), providing the state with its first record of this western species!



MacGillivray's Warbler, 18 Oct 2013, Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC.
Photo by Aaron Given.

Mourning Warbler: Sightings included a first-year female in a yard in Asheville, Buncombe Co, NC, 15 Aug (*fide* Ryan Justice); one on Ocracoke Island, Hyde Co, NC, 11 Sep (Haven Wiley); a first-year bird at Greenfield Lake, New Hanover Co, NC, 23 Sep (Jamie Adams, Greg Massey); one in a yard in Asheville, Buncombe Co, NC, 25 Sep (Simon Thompson); and one at Leicester Patch, Buncombe Co, NC, 30 Sep (Doug Johnston).

American Redstart: An interesting fallout event occurred when thousands of songbirds, most of which appeared to be American Redstarts, landed on a 225-foot research vessel 40 miles southeast of Cape Lookout, Carteret Co, NC, ahead of a storm on the night of 13 Sep (Keith Rittmaster, *fide* John Fussell).

Cape May Warbler: Two at Ebenezer Point, Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 9 Nov (Bob Rybczynski) were a little late.

Cerulean Warbler: Individual migrants were found at Jackson Park, Henderson Co, NC, an adult male, 31 Aug (David Gardner) and at Hamilton Lakes Park, Guilford Co, NC, 23 Sep (Henry Link, Lou Skrabec).

Yellow Warbler: An adult female photographed at Union Point Park in New Bern, Craven Co, NC, 28 Nov (Bryan Barmore) may have been attempting to overwinter.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: One in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 29 Sep (Jeff Lewis) was a good find for a site along the coast.

Blackpoll Warbler: One along the boardwalk in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 20 Nov (Skip Morgan, Linda Ward) was late.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Somewhat late were a male at a feeder in Orange Co, NC, 30 Oct (Norm Budnitz) and a female along the boardwalk in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 3 Nov (Jeff Lewis, Brian Pendergraft).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: A juvenile seen at Carver's Gap, Mitchell Co, NC, 24 Aug (Rick Knight) was suggestive of breeding in that area. One at Holly Point on Falls Lake, Wake Co, NC, during the Fall Bird Count, 17 Sep (*fide* Brian Bockhahn) was somewhat early.

Canada Warbler: An immature male captured at the banding station on Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC, 16 Sep (Aaron Given, et al.) was great for a site along the coast.

Wilson's Warbler: Individual migrants were found at Reynolda Gardens, Forsyth Co, NC, a male, 7 Sep (Nathan Gatto); along the entrance road to the Bodie Island Lighthouse, Dare Co, NC, a male, 8 Sep (Ricky Davis); at Reynolda Gardens, a female, 10 Sep (Phil Crisp, Phil Dickinson, John Haire);

at Ribbonwalk Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 12 Sep (Ron Clark); in Southern Shores, Dare Co, NC, 15 Sep (Jeff Lewis); at Saluda Shoals Park, Lexington Co, SC, 9 Oct (Lewis Burke, Irvin Pitts); and on Seabrook Island, Charleston Co, SC, 11 Oct (David Gardner).

Yellow-breasted Chat: One at Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 2 Nov (Kevin Metcalf) was late.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Sightings, increasing in recent years, included one at the Ft Fisher Ferry Terminal, New Hanover Co, NC, 28 Sep (Sam Cooper); one at North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 29 Sep (John Fussell, et al.); two at the Ft Fisher Ferry Terminal, 12-19 Oct (Cooper); one in the Mills River Valley, Henderson Co, NC, 14-16 Oct (Steve Ritt); one near the base of Jeanette's Pier, Dare Co, NC, during W.O.W., 22 Oct (Brian Bockhahn, et al.); one at Warren Wilson College, Buncombe Co, NC, 2-3 Nov (Kelly Hughes); and one near Atlantic, Carteret Co, NC, 14 Nov (Fussell).

Vesper Sparrow: Counts of multiple birds included three at Dinkins Bottom, Yadkin Co, NC, 31 Oct (Phil Dickinson); two photographed along Ben Wilson Rd in Orange Co, NC, 1 Nov (Mark Anthony); two along Mid Pines Rd in Wake Co, NC, 2 Nov (Ryan Justice); three along Prater Gin Rd in Anderson Co, SC, 3 Nov (Simon Harvey); three at Sutton Lake, New Hanover Co, NC, 3-4 Nov (John Ennis); three at Warren Wilson College, Buncombe Co, NC, 4 Nov (Steve Ritt); and two along Scuffletown Rd in Greenville Co, SC, 10 Nov (Harvey).

Lark Sparrow: Sightings, quite numerous this fall, included one at Mills River Park, Henderson Co, NC, 4 Aug (Jeff Click, Rich Leppingwell); two photographed at the same location 5 Aug (Wayne Forsythe); one in southwest Chatham Co, NC, 20 Aug (Parker Backstrom); one at Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve, Charleston Co, SC, 20 Sep (Keith McCullough); one at the Ft Fisher Ferry Terminal, New Hanover Co, NC, 29 Sep (Jamie Adams, Greg Massey, Natalia Ocampo-Peñuela, Harry Sell, Scott Winton); one on Roanoke Island, Dare Co, NC, 2 Oct (Jeff Lewis); one along a roadside near Red Hill, Edgecombe Co, NC, 6 Oct (Ricky Davis); an adult photographed along Shepherd Rd in Brunswick Co, NC, 16 Oct (John Ennis); two, an adult and a first-winter bird, photographed at the same location, 23 Oct (Ennis); and one near Atlantic, Carteret Co, NC, 24 Oct (John Fussell).

Henslow's Sparrow: Individual migrants were found at three sites in western NC this fall—in a grassy powerline cut at Jackson Park, Henderson Co, 6 Oct (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey); between the barn and the river at Warren Wilson College, Buncombe Co, where photographed, 30 Oct (Steve Ritt); and in a yard in Greensboro, Guilford Co, where photographed, 8 Nov (Melissa Whitmire).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Sightings included one at Hefner Gap, Mitchell Co, NC, 22 Sep (Audrey Whitlock); one at Ridge Junction, Yancey Co, NC, 26 Sep (Jeff Lewis); one at Lake Lure, Rutherford Co, NC, 6 Oct (Steve Ritt, Simon Thompson); one at Price Park, Guilford Co, NC, 8-9 Oct (Henry Link); one in Reynolda Gardens, Forsyth Co, NC, 9 Oct (Phil Dickinson, Nathan Gatto, Royce Hough); one in the Mills River Valley, Henderson Co, NC, 14-29 Oct (Ritt); one at Alligator River NWR, Dare Co, NC, during W.O.W., 27 Oct (Lewis, et al.); three at Warren Wilson College, Buncombe Co, NC, 30 Oct through 2 Nov (Ritt); and one along Mayo River Rd in Rockingham Co, NC, 31 Oct (Marty Wall);

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 160+ at Carver's Gap, Mitchell Co, NC, 23 Sep (Rick Knight) was an impressive concentration of migrants.

Dickcissel: Individual migrants were found at North River Farms, Carteret Co, NC, 29 Sep (John Fussell, et al.); at the Ft Fisher Ferry Terminal, New Hanover Co, NC, 29 Sep (Jamie Adams, Greg Massey, Natalia Ocampo-Peñuela, Harry Sell, Scott Winton); in the dunes next to the Old Coast Guard Station at Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC, 12 Oct (Jeff Lewis, Audrey Whitlock); in the Mills River Valley, Henderson Co, NC, 14 Oct (Steve Ritt); and at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, 15 Oct (Frank Lawkins).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: First-winter males were photographed at a feeder in Wilmington, New Hanover Co, NC, 23 Aug (Bruce Smithson) and at the Ft Fisher Ferry Terminal, New Hanover Co, 28 Sep (Sam Cooper).



Yellow-headed Blackbird, 28 Sep 2013, New Hanover Co, NC.
Photo by Sam Cooper.

Purple Finch: Individuals, either female or immature birds, were seen at a feeder in Forsyth Co, NC, 14 Nov (Phil Dickinson) and in a field edge along Gay Rd in Edgecombe Co, NC, 17 Nov (Ricky Davis).

Red Crossbill: Up to five were seen around Carver's Gap, Mitchell Co, NC, 24 Aug through 29 Sep (Rick Knight). Two were reliably seen at Mount (Mt) Mitchell SP, Yancey Co, NC, 25 Aug (Issac Kerns) through late September (Audrey Whitlock). A flock of up to 25 crossbills, including juveniles, was seen in spruce trees along the Commissary Trail at Mt Mitchell SP, 27 Sep (Bill Haddad) and 29 Sep (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal).

Pine Siskin: Up to four were seen around Carver's Gap, Mitchell Co, NC, 24 Aug through 29 Sep (Rick Knight).

Corrigenda: In the Briefs for the Files for Fall 2011 (Chat 76:32-33) a Violet-green Swallow was reported in Chapel Hill, NC, and in Briefs for the Files for Summer 2012 (Chat 77:19) a Magnificent Frigatebird was reported as seen over Southpoint Mall in Durham, Co., NC and then later at Jordan Lake. It has been determined that the photos presented as evidence for the Violet-green Swallow report and for the second report of the Magnificent Frigatebird at Jordan Lake were actually taken in other states, not in North Carolina. These reports are withdrawn (although the initial sighting of the frigatebird over Southpoint Mall stands).



Snowy Owl, 26 Nov 2013, Cape Hatteras, Dare Co, NC. Photos by Jeff Lewis.



Snowy Owl, 26 Nov 2013, Cape Hatteras, Dare Co, NC. Photos by Jeff Lewis.