

SIGHTINGS

EARLY JULY TO EARLY AUGUST 2007

"Sightings" provides the most up-to-date summary of ABA-area birding news available; the column appears monthly, alternating between publication in *Birding* and in *Winging It*. Reports are compiled from online discussion groups and local and regional Rare Bird Alerts, with valuable contributions from our growing network of informants continent-wide. Note that nearly all of the sightings listed here have not yet been evaluated by state or provincial records committees, and that observers are urged to submit full documentation of any rarities to the appropriate committee. Full analysis of these and other notable bird records is provided four times a year by **North American Birds**, the American Birding Association's authoritative and richly illustrated journal of ornithological record. Subscription information is available at the ABA website <americanbirding.org/pubs/nab>.

Compiled by Rick Wright, with thanks to Paul Lehman and Jon Dunn

Southeast: A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck spent a Jul day in DE; 2 were in *Anne Arundel*, MD, in early Aug. A Pacific Loon found in *Walton*, FL, in mid-Jul died after being taken into rehabilitation. A Masked Booby was on the beach in *Walton*, FL, in mid-Jul. Single White-faced Storm-Petrels were seen off Cape Hatteras in late Jul and off Lewes, DE, in early Aug. A Greater Flamingo of unknown provenance was photographed in *Miami/Dade*, FL, in mid-Jul. An adult Swallow-tailed Kite was over *Culpeper*, VA, in mid-Jul. Single Curlew Sandpipers were notable in *Palm Beach* and *Pinellas*, FL, in early Aug. A Red-necked Stint reported from *Worcester*, MD, in early Aug will be that state's second if accepted. Rapidly declining in the U.S., 2 Smooth-billed Anis were in *Palm Beach*, FL, in early Aug. A Red-cockaded Woodpecker was photographed in a *Fairfax*, VA, yard in Jul.

Northeast: A Western Grebe was on NH's Squam Lake in late Jul. A Fea's Petrel was discovered off NI's Burin Peninsula in mid-Jul. An American White Pelican flew over coastal CT in early Aug. A juvenile Red-billed Tropicbird was found in a NS driveway in mid-Jul; an adult lingered into early Aug at ME's Matinicus Rock. NY's first **Western Reef-Heron** was still present in early Aug. An immature Roseate Spoonbill, said to be a second documented record for NJ, was at Brigant

tine NWR in Jul. Single White Ibis were photographed in *Dauphin* and *Northampton*, PA, in early Aug. Sandhill Cranes fledged one young for a first confirmed breeding record in VT. Single Curlew Sandpipers were at NY's Jamaica Bay and in southern NJ in Jul. An apparent Little Stint in southern coastal ME in late Jul will provide a first state record if accepted. A Black-tailed Godwit was on Cape Cod in late Jul. Single Sandwich Terns were north to Cape Cod, Nantucket, NY, and CT in mid-Jul and early Aug, while a Bridled Tern visited ME's Casco Bay in early Aug. Red-breasted Nuthatches were moving into coastal NJ and NY by early Jul. An early Yellow-rumped Warbler was at Cape May in early Aug.

Mid-continent: Two Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks photographed at IN's Celery Bog in early Aug will be a 4th record for that state; a pair was also in *Miller*, AR, in mid-Jul. Quivira, KS, produced 2 Mottled Ducks and a **Garganey** in late Jul. ND's Audubon NWR hosted a lingering Black Scoter in mid-Jul. A Greater Flamingo was seen over TX's Laguna Madre in early Jul. A Tricolored Heron was in *Lac qui Parle*, MN, in mid-Jul; another, photographed in *Page*, IA, in early Aug, will furnish that state's 4th record. An immature Roseate Spoonbill spent 10 days in late Jul in *Stoddard*, MO. A Wood Stork and 2 Neotropical Cormorants visited *Vernon*, MO, in late Jul; another Neotropical Cormorant was north to *Lac Qui Parle*, MN, in early Aug. Three or four White Ibis were in *Dunklin*, MO, in late Jul. A

Snail Kite was discovered near Brownsville, TX, in mid-Jul. 2 Mississippi Kites on a *Hocking*, OH, golf course in Jul were suspected of breeding. A dark-morph Short-tailed Hawk was photographed at Bentsen – Rio Grande State Park, TX, in early Aug. A Snowy Plover appeared in *Lac qui Parle*, MN, in mid-Jul, while 2 in *McLean*, ND, continued this summer's unprecedented showing in that state. A **Wilson's Plover**, said to be the first documented for IL, visited Chicago's Rainbow Beach in early Aug; another was reported at Quivira, KS, in late Jul. Black-billed Cuckoos were said to be enjoying exceptional success in ND. A female Broad-tailed Hummingbird was videotaped at a *Mountrail*, ND, feeder in early Aug. A pair of Ash-throated Flycatchers in *Morrill*, still present in early Aug, provided a first nesting record for NE. A Sedge Wren Big Day conducted on foot in *Greene*, IN, in early Aug located 94 individuals.

Southwest: A Fulvous Whistling-Duck was on a *Hidalgo*, NM, sewage pond in late Jul. An unidentified frigatebird soared over Phoenix in late Jul. A Reddish Egret was at UT's Fish Springs in early Aug; another was photographed at AZ's Painted Rock Dam. An adult Red-shouldered Hawk was at UT's Fish Springs NWR in late Jul. An adult Ruddy Turnstone spent 10 days at AZ's Lake Cochise. Berylline Hummingbird reports from southeastern AZ included an incubating female in the Chiricahuas. A female Magnificent Hummingbird visited a *Gunnison*, CO,



Tricolored Heron. Page County, Iowa; 4 August 2007. © Reid I. Allen.

feeder in early Aug.

A Yellow-throated Vireo was notable in Santa Cruz, AZ, in late Jul. Red-breasted Nuthatches were widely reported from lowland sites, suggesting the beginnings of an invasion year. Black-capped Gnatcatchers continue to be observed in AZ in Madera, Montosa, and Guadalupe Canyons, as well as at 2 sites near Patagonia. An adult Crescent-chested Warbler feeding a juvenile in AZ's Chiricahua Mountains in mid-Jul will provide a first ABA-area breeding record for the species. A Yellow-throated Warbler was reported from the Chiricahuas in early Aug. A Red-faced Warbler was in NV's Fletcher Canyon in early Aug. A male Painted Bunting and a female Scarlet Tanager were photographed at Fish Springs NWR, UT, in late Jul; a male Scarlet Tanager remained in Boulder, Co, to late Jul. To the east of their normal range, 2 Rufous-winged Sparrows were on the AZ side of the Peloncillo Mountains in late Jul. Very rare in summer, a male Lawrence's Goldfinch persisted in Catron, NM, in late Jul; another was summering in western CO.

West Coast: A frigatebird in Humboldt, CA, in mid-Jul showed some features consistent with a Lesser

Frigatebird, a species not yet recorded from the West Coast. Two Brown Boobies were off Southeast Farallon Island in early Aug; two others were at San Diego's La Jolla Cove in late Jul. A Brown Pelican was inland on BC's Kootenay Lake in mid-Jul. A Newell's (Townsend's) Shearwater captured and identified in hand in San Diego, CA, in early Aug will be

a first state and North American record if accepted. A Reddish Egret wandered to Santa Barbara, CA, in Jul. A Missis-

ippi Kite was in Yolo, CA, in late Jul. A Sandwich Tern was photographed in San Diego in early Aug. The Humboldt, CA, "Mexican" Whip-poor-will persisted into late Jul. Two Chimney Swifts were seen over Los Angeles, CA, in late Jul. A Red-faced Warbler continued into late Jul in San Bernardino, CA.

Alaska: A Cinnamon Teal was at Juneau in Jul. A Sooty Shearwater salvaged on St. Paul Island in late Jul will furnish a first specimen record for the Bering Sea region. Soras produced young in Juneau in Jul. Two Red-necked Stints and a Little Stint joined up to 4 Gray-tailed Tattlers on St. Paul Island in early Aug. A Franklin's Gull was near Juneau in Jul. Single Eurasian



Painted Bunting. Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge, Utah; 27 July 2007. © Tim Avery.

sippi Kite was in San Diego's Tijuana River Valley in early Jul. An adult Lesser Sand-Plover visited BC's Boundary Bay in mid-Jul. A Curlew Sandpiper

Collared-Doves were in Gustavus and Yakutat in early Aug. A Veery was at Misty Fjords National Monument in early Jul.