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NOTES ON SOME BREEDING BIRD COLONIES ON THE MARYLAND ATLANTIC COAST

FLOYD E. HAYES AND GLEN H. BENNETT

The coastal environment of Maryland includes breeding barrier beaches, salt marshes, and dredge spoil islands, which collectively provide suitable habitat for colonially nesting seabirds and other waterbirds. The location, topography, and avifaunal composition of these colonies were reviewed by Erwin (1979) and Erwin and Korschgen (1979). However, these reviews concede that because of inadequate coverage the status of colonial waterbirds on the Maryland Atlantic coast remains poorly known.

In June of 1977 we discovered an apparently unreported colony of Least Terns (*Sterna albifrons*) in Ocean City, and in 1981 and 1983 we censused several waterbird colonies in Sinpuxent Bay. Here we report our observations to further expand the knowledge of breeding birds in an area alarmingly threatened by human encroachment.

OCEAN CITY COLONY

The Least Tern has suffered serious declines as a breeding species in Maryland, and is considered threatened in the state by Erwin (1983) and Robbins and Boone (1984). Downing (1973) mentioned a Least Tern colony from Ocean City, but did not give its exact location. Other than this report, we know of no Least Tern colonies reported from Ocean City in recent years.

On June 7 and 8, 1977, we found a colony of about 50 pairs of Least Terns at a large sandy area along the bay on the west end of 120th Street in North Ocean City. Twenty nests were located, four with three eggs, 15 with two eggs, and one with one egg. We found about 50 pairs at the colony on May 28, 1978, and located 23 nests, 13 with three eggs each and ten with two eggs. On June 1, 1980, a return trip revealed only ten pairs of Least Terns. Despite a thorough search only a single egg and several broken shells were found. Numerous tire tracks from overland recreational vehicles suggested that the birds abandoned the colony as a result of this disturbance.

Small numbers of Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), Piping Plover (*C. melodus*), Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*), and Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) were also present each year, and probably nested. On June 1, 1980 we found four Piping Plover chicks. This is probably the only confirmed recent breeding record for the Piping Plover in Ocean City. Unfortunately the colony has since been destroyed by the construction of Heron Harbour Isle, a new townhouse community.

SINEPUXENT BAY COLONIES

Erwin and Korschgen (1979) reported two waterbird colonies from Sinepuxent Bay: a spoil island near buoy #11, and several islands near buoy #13. On June 12, 1983, we visited the island near buoy #11, an island near buoy #12, and two islands near buoy #13 (see Fig. 1). Islands #1-3 were flat dredge spoil islands dominated by *Spartina*, and island #4 near buoy #11 resembled a vegetated sand dune with only a narrow sandy beach.

Three hundred adult Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*) were present on island #1, and 132 occupied nests were found. Eighty-two nests contained three eggs, 43 had two eggs, and seven had one egg. Nine chicks were also found. Twenty adult Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus*) were present, and two occupied nests contained three eggs each. A female Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) had seven eggs in her nest. Four American Oystercatchers (*Haematopus palliatus*) and two Willets were present, but nests could not be located for either species.

Island #2 is separated from island #1 by a narrow ten meter channel. Nineteen Laughing Gull nests were located on #2, ten with three eggs, seven with two eggs, and two with one egg.

On island #3 we found 150 adult Laughing Gulls and located 71 nests, 32 with three eggs, 35 with two eggs, and four with one egg. Five Herring Gulls were also present, and three nests were found, one with three eggs and two with two eggs.

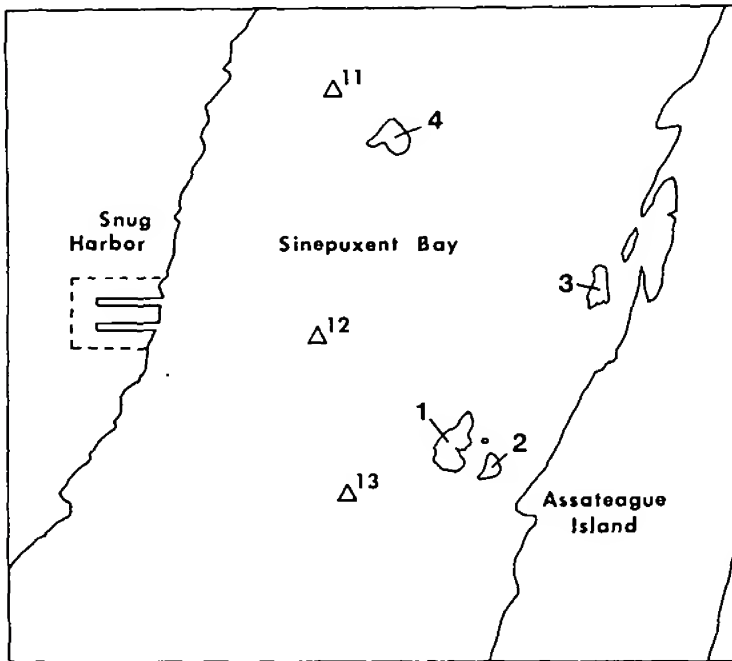


Figure 1. Map of Sinepuxent Bay showing colony locations on islands #1-4. Buoy markers are indicated by triangles.

At island #4 we flushed a Mallard from the undergrowth, but only one broken shell was found. Ten adult Green-backed Herons (*Butorides virescens*) were present, but only two chicks were found. We found four American Oystercatchers and a chick, but no nests. Six Willets were present and two nests were found, one with four eggs and the other with two eggs and a broken shell. A pair of Fish Crows (*Corvus ossifragus*) with two eggs nested atop the highest shrub on the island. Thirty-one Boat-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus major*) nests were counted in the heavy brush, but were not thoroughly examined. We found chicks and eggs in some of the more accessible nests. We also flushed a Snowy Egret (*Leucophoyx thula*), but found no evidence of nesting.

FEH and David Czaplak earlier visited island #1 on June 14, 1981 (see Ringler 1981) and estimated 200 pairs of Laughing Gulls with 200 nests, 80% with three eggs and 20% with two eggs. Our data from 1983 indicate that these estimates were probably high. Two Willet nests with four eggs each and an American Oystercatcher nest with two eggs also were found.

CONCLUSIONS

Colonial waterbird populations are unstable on the Maryland Atlantic coast. For example, Erwin and Korschgen (1979) indicated that Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*), Royal Terns (*S. maxima*), and Black Skimmers (*Rhynchops niger*) nested on the island near buoy #11 in 1977, yet we found none of these species nesting there in 1983. Although our data are not exhaustive, they provide a basis for future comparison. Since waterbird colonies are dynamic entities with significant annual changes in habitat and avifaunal composition, a complete long-term survey of the Maryland coastal colonies should be undertaken to assess the impact of man and ecological succession. Buckley and Buckley (1975) pointed out that dredge spoil islands play a major role in supporting vast numbers of waterbirds important in the ecology of the estuaries they inhabit, and that immediate steps should be taken to secure protection of these islands from misuse, vandalism, and development. It is our recommendation that the Maryland Ornithological Society should provide research funds to study these colonies in the future, and that conservation measures should be taken to preserve their existence.

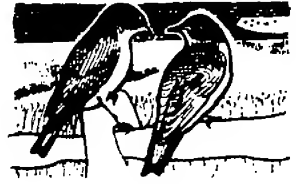
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank David Czaplak, William Hayes, and David Wright for assisting us during our surveys.

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THE SEASON

Fall Migration, August 1-November 30, 1984

ROBERT F. RINGLER

The fall season was marked by rather mild dry weather, particularly during the later part of the season, and this was probably responsible for the large number of lingering migrant passerines. This was not a big year for northern finches, chickadees or nuthatches as few were reported. A large part of this autumn's data comes from banding stations and I would like to acknowledge these at the outset. In Garrett County Sallie Thayer banded at Mt. Nebo WMA and Bittering, John and Peg Barber in Baltimore and Joe Schreiber in Parkville, Margaret Donald at Adventure Sanctuary at Potomac, Danny Bystrak at PWRC and Chan Robbins at Laurel, both in Prince Georges County, and Dottie Mendinhall with Jim and Patricia Gruber at Damsite in Kent County. In the text any mention of banded birds at these locations should be accredited to the above generous people who took the trouble to send in their notes. The following abbreviations are used in the text: NWR = National Wildlife Refuge, PWRC = Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, and WMA = Wildlife Management Area. In Table 1 only the median dates are given. Notable individual records are mentioned in the text.

Observers: Garrett County—Connie Skipper, Sallie Thayer; Allegany—Teresa Simons; Washington—Alice Mallonee; Frederick—Gus Daniels; Baltimore—John & Peg Barber, Haven Kolb, Joe Schreiber, Steve Simon, Jim Wilkinson; Harford—Rick Blom, Dennis Kirkwood, Bob Schutsky; Howard—Maud Banks, Jon E. Boone, Martha Chestem, Jane Farrell, Steve Harsy, Jim Hill, David Holmes, Grazina & Mike McClure, Rosamond Munro, Jim Orgain, Don Randle, Jo & Robert Solem, Mark Wallace; Montgomery—Larry Bonham, Margaret Donald, Harvey Mudd, John, Michael & Paul O'Brien, Robert W. Warfield; District of Columbia—David Czaplak; Prince Georges—Danny Bystrak, John Gregoire, Chan Robbins, Wally Sumner; Anne Arundel—Alex & Helene Hammer; Charles—Paul Nistico; St. Marys—Ron Runkles, Erika Wilson; Kent—Jim & Patricia Gruber, Dottie Mendinhall; Caroline—Ethel Engle, Jerry & Roberta Fletcher, Inez Glime, Marvin

Table 1. Median Fall Migration Dates, 1984

	Median Arrivals		Median Departures	
	10-Yr	1984	10-Yr	1984
Common Loon	10/9	10/7		
Pied-billed Grebe	9/23	9/24		
Horned Grebe	11/5	11/7		
Double-crested Cormorant	8/29	7/30	10/20	11/5
Great Egret	7/31	7/20	10/9	10/17
Snowy Egret	7/30	7/18	10/14	10/10
Little Blue Heron	7/29	7/31	9/13	9/22
Cattle Egret			10/10	10/19
Green-backed Heron			10/6	10/7
Glossy Ibis			9/13	10/24
Tundra Swan	11/10	11/2		
Snow Goose	10/10	10/12		
Canada Goose	9/22	9/24		
Wood Duck			11/4	11/5
Green-winged Teal	9/24	9/5		
Northern Pintail	10/1	9/29		
Blue-winged Teal	8/26	8/18	10/11	10/20
Northern Shoveler	10/13	9/11		
Gadwall	10/15	10/25		
American Wigeon	9/28	9/25		
Canvasback	11/3	11/1		
Ring-necked Duck	10/25	10/25		
Greater Scaup	11/5	10/29		
Lesser Scaup	10/22	10/11		
Oldsquaw	11/7	11/2		
Black Scoter	10/20	10/12		
Surf Scoter	10/21	10/12		
White-winged Scoter	10/26	10/10		
Common Goldeneye	11/14	11/4		
Bufflehead	11/1	10/29		
Hooded Merganser	11/12	11/3		
Ruddy Duck	10/13	10/7		
Osprey	8/26	8/15	10/21	10/24
Northern Harrier	9/11	9/1		
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/21	9/24		
Cooper's Hawk	9/20	9/18		
Broad-winged Hawk	8/28	8/24	10/4	9/30
Rough-legged Hawk	11/21	11/14		
Merlin	9/23	9/16		
American Coot	10/16	10/13		
Black-bellied Plover	8/27	8/4	10/18	10/20
Lesser Golden-Plover	9/12	9/4	10/3	10/19
Semipalmated Plover	8/1	7/20	9/28	10/2
Greater Yellowlegs	7/27	7/14	11/15	11/10
Lesser Yellowlegs	7/23	7/6	10/14	11/11

Table 1 (con't.) Median Fall Migration Dates, 1984

	Median Arrivals		Median Departures	
	10-Yr	1984	10-Yr	1984
Solitary Sandpiper	7/25	7/22	9/23	9/26
Spotted Sandpiper	7/18	7/9	10/2	10/3
Ruddy Turnstone	8/6	8/1		
Sanderling	8/7	7/23		10/24
Semipalmated Sandpiper	7/28	7/10	10/2	10/15
Western Sandpiper	8/8	7/7	10/12	10/30
Least Sandpiper	7/16	7/9	10/1	10/27
White-rumped Sandpiper		9/16	10/14	10/28
Pectoral Sandpiper	8/1	7/20	10/20	11/1
Dunlin	10/7	9/12		11/11
Stilt Sandpiper	8/16	7/27	9/27	9/29
Short-billed Dowitcher	7/25	7/16	9/9	9/20
Common Snipe	9/17	9/15		
Laughing Gull			11/14	11/23
Bonaparte's Gull	11/9	10/25		
Caspian Tern	8/10	7/9	10/10	10/10
Royal Tern			11/5	11/23
Common Tern	8/18	7/18	10/5	9/21
Forster's Tern	7/29	7/6	11/9	11/17
Black Tern	8/6	7/25	9/3	9/2
Black-billed Cuckoo			9/24	9/21
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			9/28	10/11
Common Nighthawk	8/21	8/19	9/21	9/19
Whip-poor-will			9/17	9/24
Chimney Swift			10/10	10/9
Ruby-throated Hummingbird			9/28	9/19
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	9/29	10/5		
Eastern Wood-Pewee			10/2	10/7
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	8/25	8/23	9/20	9/27
Acadian Flycatcher			9/18	9/26
"Traill's" Flycatcher	8/25	8/21	9/12	9/15
Least Flycatcher	8/24	8/21	9/22	9/26
Eastern Phoebe			10/26	10/29
Great Crested Flycatcher			9/16	9/12
Eastern Kingbird			9/15	9/11
Purple Martin			9/9	9/3
Tree Swallow	8/6	7/9	10/18	10/26
Northern Rough-winged Swallow			9/24	10/7
Bank Swallow	7/24	7/7	9/13	9/15
Cliff Swallow			9/7	9/6
Barn Swallow			9/28	9/19
Red-breasted Nuthatch	9/12	9/17		
Brown Creeper	10/2	10/2		
House Wren			10/12	10/15
Winter Wren	10/4	9/28		

Table 1 (con't.) Median Fall Migration Dates, 1984

	Median Arrivals		Median Departures	
	10-Yr	1984	10-Yr	1984
Golden-crowned Kinglet	10/5	9/30		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	9/24	9/21		
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			9/17	9/11
Veery	9/1	8/27	9/27	9/27
Gray-cheeked Thrush	9/21	9/20	10/9	10/7
Swainson's Thrush	9/5	8/29	10/15	10/14
Hermit Thrush	10/9	10/4	11/3	11/6
Wood Thrush			10/11	10/8
Gray Catbird			10/23	10/25
Brown Thrasher			10/19	10/12
Water Pipit	10/20	9/27		
Cedar Waxwing	9/1	8/29		
Loggerhead Shrike	9/16	8/28		
White-eyed Vireo			10/1	10/4
Solitary Vireo	9/27	9/30	10/15	10/22
Yellow-throated Vireo			9/14	9/14
Warbling Vireo			9/14	9/16
Philadelphia Vireo	9/16	9/12	9/28	10/4
Red-eyed Vireo			10/3	10/8
Blue-winged Warbler	8/23	8/19	9/14	9/13
Golden-winged Warbler	8/26	8/21	9/9	9/9
Tennessee Warbler	8/31	8/27	10/9	10/9
Orange-crowned Warbler	10/10	9/28		10/30
Nashville Warbler	9/6	9/1	10/9	10/8
Northern Parula			10/5	10/8
Yellow Warbler			9/16	9/14
Chestnut-sided Warbler	8/27	8/22	9/29	9/28
Magnolia Warbler	8/31	8/22	10/11	10/9
Cape May Warbler	9/7	9/1	10/9	10/7
Black-throated Blue Warbler	9/5	9/2	10/10	10/11
Yellow-rumped Warbler	9/26	9/30		
Black-throated Green Warbler	9/9	9/2	10/11	10/10
Blackburnian Warbler	8/29	8/22	9/26	9/27
Yellow-throated Warbler			9/11	9/8
Pine Warbler			10/4	9/28
Prairie Warbler			9/18	9/13
Palm Warbler			10/23	11/7
Bay-breasted Warbler	9/4	9/1	9/30	10/8
Blackpoll Warbler	9/12	9/15	10/9	10/11
Cerulean Warbler				9/10
Black-&-white Warbler	8/21	8/19	10/8	10/11
American Redstart	8/20	8/12	10/7	10/7
Prothonotary Warbler			8/30	9/8
Worm-eating Warbler			9/7	9/5
Ovenbird	8/26	8/13	10/7	10/6

Table 1 (con't.) Median Fall Migration Dates, 1984

	Median Arrivals		Median Departures	
	10-Yr	1984	10-Yr	1984
Northern Waterthrush	8/28	8/16	9/25	9/25
Louisiana Waterthrush			8/25	8/27
Kentucky Warbler			9/4	9/3
Connecticut Warbler	9/12	9/3	9/29	10/7
Mourning Warbler	9/3	8/22	9/24	9/15
Common Yellowthroat			10/19	10/20
Hooded Warbler			9/19	9/21
Wilson's Warbler	9/6	9/3	9/22	9/22
Canada Warbler	8/19	8/17	9/25	9/16
Yellow-breasted Chat			9/27	9/18
Summer Tanager			9/19	9/27
Scarlet Tanager			10/5	10/7
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	9/8	9/7	10/5	10/6
Blue Grosbeak			9/19	9/26
Indigo Bunting			10/6	10/11
American Tree Sparrow	11/17	11/11		
Chipping Sparrow			11/2	11/2
Savannah Sparrow	9/26	9/22	10/28	11/16
Fox Sparrow	10/29	11/9		
Lincoln's Sparrow	9/25	9/23	10/18	10/22
Swamp Sparrow	10/3	9/29		
White-throated Sparrow	9/29	9/29		
White-crowned Sparrow	10/14	10/6		
Dark-eyed Junco	10/4	10/5		
Bobolink	8/23	8/5	9/25	9/16
Orchard Oriole			8/20	9/5
Northern Oriole			9/23	9/6

Hewitt, Alicia Knotts, Mariana Nuttle; Lower Eastern Shore – Henry Armistead, Sam Dyke, Charlie Swift, Charlie Vaughn.

Loons, Grebes. Early migrant Common Loons were 5 at Fort Smallwood in Anne Arundel County on Sept. 16 (Wierenga, Ringler), 1 at Eastern Neck NWR, Kent County, the same day (Gruber), and 1 at Piney Run in Carroll County on Sept. 29 (Ringler, Blom). No Red-throated Loons were reported for the season. The high count for Pied-billed Grebes this season was 55 at Deal Island WMA on Sept. 23 (Swift). An early Horned Grebe was seen at Georgetown Reservoir, D.C. on Oct. 6 (Czaplak) and 14 (Weigel). Rare in fall was a Red-necked Grebe, also at Georgetown Reservoir, on Oct. 12 and 1 in the DC portion of the Potomac River on Nov. 1-2 (Czaplak).

Pelicans, Cormorants. The last Brown Pelicans of the year were noted at Ocean City by Warfield with 15 on Aug. 7 and 29 on the 19th. Czaplak identified an adult Great Cormorant on the Potomac River south of National Airport on Oct. 18. The only other Great Cormorant report was of 2 immatures at Point Lookout on Nov.

17 (M. O'Brien). The following interesting collections of **Double-crested Cormorants** were seen: 46 at Riverside in Charles County on Aug. 26 (Ringler), 16 at Conowingo on Aug. 27 (Schutsky), 4 at Bivalve in Wicomico County on Sept. 1 (Ringler), 1 immature at Prettyboy Reservoir on Oct. 1 (Kolb), 450 in the Potomac River at the US 310 Bridge in Charles County on Oct. 15 (Bill Portlock), 1 at Tanyard in Caroline County on Oct. 17 (Engle), 8 in DC on Oct. 25 (Czaplak), 1 at Leading Point in Baltimore on Oct. 31 (Simon), 1 at Seneca on Nov. 2 (Warfield), and 2 at Brandon Shores on Nov. 8 (Wilkinson).

Hérons. A juvenile **American Bittern** was seen at Elliott on Aug. 14 (M. O'Brien) and 1 bird was seen there on Oct. 19 (Wilson). The only others reported were singles at Piney Run on Nov. 1 (Blom) and at West Ocean City on Nov. 24 (M. O'Brien). The last **Least Bitterns** seen were singles at Hughes Hollow in Montgomery County on Aug. 5 (Bonham) and Lilypons in Frederick County on Aug. 25 (P. O'Brien). Concentrations of **Great Blue Herons** were 75 at Point Lookout on Sept. 8 (Blom) and 251 at Conowingo on Nov. 8 (Schutsky). Notable dispersals of **Great Egrets** were 7 at Hughes Hollow on Aug. 6 (Ringler), 1 at Tanyard on Aug. 12 (Engle), 8 at Lilypons on Aug. 19 (Daniels) and Aug. 25 (P. O'Brien), 15 at Point Lookout on Sept. 8 (Blom), 13 in Baltimore on Sept. 30 with 1 remaining on Oct. 28 (Ringler), 23 at Elliott on Oct. 19 (Wilson), and 2 at Piscataway Creek on Nov. 18 (Nistico). **Snowy Egret** concentrations were 12 at Tanyard on Aug. 8 (Engle), 10 at Point Lookout on Sept. 8 (Blom), and 15 in Baltimore on Sept. 9 (Ringler). An adult **Little Blue Heron** was at Four-Mile Run in DC on Aug. 2 (Czaplak), 12 at Elkton on Aug. 4 (Blom, Ringler), 1 immature at Largo on Aug. 5 (Sumner), 1 immature at Harford Glen on Aug. 20 (Blom), 4 at Lilypons on Aug. 25 (P. O'Brien), 5 at Point Lookout on Sept. 8 (Blom) with 1 remaining in St. Marys County on Sept. 20 (Wilson), and 6 at West Ocean City on Oct. 7 (Ringler +). The only **Tricolored Heron** of note was 1 at Kent Narrows on Sept. 16 (Hammer). The best flocks of **Cattle Egrets** were 200 at Sherwood on Sept. 15 (Ringler +), 75 near Madonna on Sept. 27 (Kirkwood +) and 15 at Greensboro the same day (R. Fletcher), and DC had 8 late birds on Oct. 31 (Czaplak) 1 of which remained at Hains Point to Nov. 16 (Marie Plante). The highest estimate of **Green-backed Herons** at Lilypons was 30 on Aug. 19 (Daniels) while late birds were singles at Fort McHenry on Oct. 14 (Ringler) and at the Mountain Lake sewage lagoons on Oct. 27 (Skipper). Single immature **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were seen at Elkton on Sept. 4 (Blom) and Point Lookout on Nov. 23 (Ernie Willoughby); the high count was 40 at Deal Island WMA on Sept. 23 (Swift). Single immature **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** were in Carroll County at the north end of Liberty Reservoir on Aug. 5 (Ringler +), Chesapeake Beach on Sept. 8 (Blom) and Seneca on Sept. 15 (Daniels).

Ibis. Single immature **White Ibis** were at North Branch on Aug. 18 (Simons, Mark Weatherholt), the first for Allegany County, and at Lilypons on Aug. 19 (Daniels). Single **Glossy Ibis** were at Lilypons on Aug. 19 (Daniels) and Aug. 25 (P. O'Brien), at Harford Glen from Sept. 5-27 (Blom +), at Leading Point on Oct. 24 (Simon), and at Piscataway Bay on Nov. 18 (Bob Shepherd).

Swans, Geese. A summering **Tundra Swan** was reported at Blackwater NWR at least from Aug. 19 (Bob Mumford) through Sept. 5 (Sumner). The highest report of **Mute Swans** was 110 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 11 (Paul DuMont +). A **Snow Goose** apparently summered in the Ocean City area and was seen at Cape Isle of Wight by Warfield from Aug. 8 into September. The first migrant of the season was seen

at Denton on Sept. 26 (R. Fletcher). Other Snow Geese of interest were 6 (including 4 "blues") at Rock Hall on Oct. 12 (Gruber), 2 at Merkle WMA on Oct. 13 (Hammers), 2000 at Denton on Nov. 9 (R. Fletcher), and 1 immature near Madonna on Nov. 24 (Kirkwood). Snow Geese have been wintering in the central Eastern Shore in exceptional numbers recently and this year was typical as Matthew Perry's aerial surveys estimated 37,250 in Queen Annes County on Nov. 6 and 10,550 in Worcester County on Nov. 7. A flock of 19 Brant flying south past Ocean City on Oct. 7 (Ringler +) was very early. Away from the coast single Brant were seen on the Potomac River below National Airport on Oct. 30 through Nov. 1 (Czaplak) and at Eastern Neck on Nov. 11 (Hammer +). Michael O'Brien observed a Barnacle Goose in flight near Bowie on Nov. 24. The 47 Canada Geese on a Carroll County farm pond near Liberty Reservoir on Aug. 5 (Ringler +) were certainly the products of local breeding. A flock of 16 Canadas flying down the bay past Tolchester on Aug. 29 (Gruber) may have a similar explanation as these are nearly a month ahead of expected migrants from the north.

Puddle Ducks. High counts of Wood Ducks were 50 at Perryman on Oct. 13 (Kirkwood) and 70 at Pinto where the latest was on Nov. 1 (Simons). Late Wood Ducks were 1 on Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 8 (Skipper) and 6 on Loch Raven on Nov. 28 (Simon). An early migrant Green-winged Teal was at Beltsville on Aug. 17 (Sumner), and 30 at Horsehead Sanctuary on Nov. 12 (Gruber) was a good count there for late in the season. The largest number of American Black Ducks reported was 115 on Loch Raven on Nov. 28 (Simon). The largest early group of Northern Pintails was 200 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Gruber). Later in the season Dyke found 1000 Pintails at Deal Island WMA on Oct. 7 and 28. Also at the latter location Dyke estimated 1000 Northern Shovelers on Oct. 28, 200 Gadwalls on Oct. 21 and 1000 American Wigeons on Oct. 21 and 28. Flocks of Blue-winged Teal numbered 50 at Hurlock on Sept. 1 (Ringler), 19 at Point Lookout on Sept. 8 (Blom), and 17 at Tanyard on Sept. 23 (Engle); 2 late birds were at Piney Run on Nov. 1 (Blom). Early reports of Shovelers were 12 at Hurlock on Sept. 1 (Ringler) and 50 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Gruber). Steve Dawson reports that a drake Eurasian Wigeon was shot by a hunter at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 17. Early migrant American Wigeons were singles at Hughes Hollow (Nistico) and Hurlock (Ringler), both on Sept. 1.

Diving Ducks. The first Ring-necked Ducks reported were 2 on the Mountain Lake sewage lagoons on Oct. 6 (Skipper). The largest group of Ring-necks reported was 230 at Georgetown Reservoir on Nov. 3 by Czaplak who also found a Greater Scaup in DC on Oct. 16. In Harford County an early Lesser Scaup was at Havre de Grace on Sept. 25 (Blom) and at Pooles Island there were 23 on Oct. 26 (Gruber). Two female King Eiders at Curtis Bay from Nov. 25 through Dec. 8 (Wierenga, Blom +) were the first for Baltimore. The first Oldsquaws were 18 in DC on Oct. 24 (Czaplak), 1 female at the W.R. Grace pond in Howard County, Oct. 25-29 (Harsy), and 2 at Pooles Island on Oct. 26 (Gruber). Other Oldsquaws of note were 110 flying past Sandy Point on Nov. 4 (Wilkinson), 1 drake on Piscataway Creek on the same day (Nistico), and 1 on Triadelphia Reservoir on Nov. 14 (Wallace). There were 13 Black Scoters at Point Lookout on Nov. 23 (Wilson). Surf Scoters were a drake at Matapeake on Sept. 30 (Hammer), an immature on Piscataway Creek on Nov. 4 (Nistico), and 4 females at Rocky Gap with 3 drake White-winged Scoters on Oct. 25 (Simons). Other White-wings were a female at Beltsville from some time in October through Nov. 13 (Sumner) and an immature on the Youghiogheny River on Nov. 1

(Thayer). Gruber noted the first Common Goldeneyes of the season with 12 at Pooles Island on Oct. 26 and the largest flock with 2000 off Swan Point on Nov. 9. There were 32 Buffleheads on Loch Raven on Nov. 2 (Simon). There were 2 summering Hooded Mergansers; 1 at Masonville on Aug. 18 (Ringler, Blom) appeared to be a female, and the other at Lilypons the same day (Sumner) and on Sept. 8 (Ringler) was an immature male. The first Common Mergansers of the season were 2 on Loch Raven on Nov. 8 (Simon). Though the first Ruddy Duck reported was a female on the Mountain Lake sewage lagoons on Oct. 6 (Skipper), large flocks appeared on the Eastern Shore only two days later on Oct. 8, also on sewage lagoons, with 200 at Hurlock and 100 at Easton (Ringler +); and the high count for Caroline County was on the Denton sewage lagoons with 48 on Nov. 1 (Hewitt). Peak waterfowl counts reported from Garrett County and from Eastern Neck NWR are summarized in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2. Water Birds in Garrett County, Fall 1984

Compiled by Connie Skipper

DCL = Deep Creek Lake

MLSL = Mountain Lake sewage lagoons

Species	10/25		10/26
	DCL	MLSL	DCL
Common Loon			
Pied-billed Grebe	2		2
Horned Grebe	11		11
Great Blue Heron			
Tundra Swan	4		4
Wood Duck	16	3	16
Am. Black Duck			
Mallard	41	3	41
Gadwall		2	
American Wigeon	34	13	34
Canvasback		2	
Ring-necked Duck	22	5	22
Lesser Scaup	675	88	675
Hooded Merganser	1		1
Ruddy Duck	348	369	348
American Coot	132		132
Ring-billed Gull	1	68	1

Table 3. Waterbirds at Eastern Neck NWR, Fall 1984

Compiled by Jim Gruber

Species	10/12	11/9
Common Loon		75
Horned Grebe		50
Tundra Swan	10	12000
Lesser Scaup		1200
Oldsquaw		150
Black Scoter	4	75
Surf Scoter	15	300
White-winged Scoter	50	1100

Vultures, Hawks. High counts of Black Vultures were 50 at Lilypons on Aug. 19 (Daniels) and 110 at Conowingo on Oct. 23 by Schutsky who also estimated 300 Turkey Vultures there on Oct. 31. Warfield counted 12 Turkey Vultures soaring over Assateague on Nov. 6, apparently birds from the mainland searching for food. Migrant Ospreys inland were 1 near Williamsport on Aug. 10 (Mallonee), 1 over the Youghiogheny on Aug. 22 (Thayer) and 15 at Conowingo on Sept. 19 (Schutsky); a late bird was at Tanyard on Nov. 18 (Engle). An adult Bald Eagle was feeding on a road kill at Sudlersville on Aug. 15 (Dyke). Other eagles that were mentioned by observers included 1 at Seneca and 1 adult at Rockville on Sept. 15, an immature at the latter place on Oct. 27 (M. O'Brien), 1 at Beltsville from Sept. 16 (Jack Barr)

through Oct. 24 (Sumner), an adult around Columbia from Oct. 26 through Nov. 4 (Edward Derenberger), and an adult at the Patapsco sewage plant in Baltimore on Nov. 9-10 (Wilkinson, Webb). Schutsky's total for Bald Eagles at Conowingo for the month of November was 19 different birds, 5 adults and 14 immatures. He also observed an immature Golden Eagle there on Nov. 8 and later. The only other report of Golden Eagles was of 2 adults with 1 immature at Blackwater on Nov. 24 (M. O'Brien). A migrant Northern Harrier was at Tanyard on Aug. 28 (Engle) and a late migrant was at the Mountain Lake sewage lagoons on Nov. 17 (Skipper). The only Northern Goshawk reported away from South Mountain was in Allegany County on Nov. 2 (Simons). Large flights of Broad-winged Hawks were seen crossing the Piedmont in mid-September. On the 15th Boone saw hundreds over Oakland Mills. On the 16th Nahrgang saw 60-70 over the intersection of Routes 29 and 32, the Howard County Chapter saw about 100 over Lake Elkhorn, and Jack Barr saw about 1200 over Laurel. A late Broad-wing in Garrett County was at Mt. Nebo on Oct. 4 (Skipper). The only Rough-legged Hawk reported was near Alternate Route 40 in Frederick County on Nov. 14 (Warfield). The seasonal migration summary from Monument Knob is presented in Table 4.

**Table 4. Migrant Raptors at Monument Knob, Washington Monument SP,
Fall 1984**

Compiled by Sam Shoemaker from 433 observer hours

Species	Earliest	Latest	Total	Biggest days
Osprey	8/16	11/1	111	14 on 9/15, 9 on 9/10, 8 on 9/22
Bald Eagle	8/18	9/30	10	2 on 9/4 and 9/18
Northern Harrier	9/3	11/17	126	18 on 10/30, 12 on 11/1, 9 on 10/26
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8/17	11/16	1352	185 on 10/6, 91 on 9/23 & 9/30, 90 on 10/22
Cooper's Hawk	9/5	11/16	64	12 on 10/6, 11 on 9/30, 4 on 10/15 & 10/20
Northern Goshawk	9/9	11/25	6	1 also on 9/25, 10/18, 10/28 & 11/8
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/4	11/17	134	29 on 11/3, 28 on 10/31, 19 on 11/2
Broad-winged Hawk	8/15	10/6	1295	498 on 9/23, 131 on 9/16, 95 on 9/18
Red-tailed Hawk	8/18	12/9	927	156 on 11/2, 95 on 11/3, 78 on 11/6
Rough-legged Hawk	10/9	11/20	3	1 also on 11/17
Golden Eagle	9/30	12/22	15	4 on 11/2, 2 on 11/3 & 11/26
American Kestrel	8/25	11/1	44	11 on 9/30, 5 on 9/16, 3 on 3 dates
Merlin	9/26	10/30	12	2 on 10/22, 10/25 & 10/26
Peregrine Falcon	8/31	10/15	5	3 on 10/2
Unidentified		131		
Total	8/15	12/22	4235	601 on 9/23, 218 on 10/6, 180 on 11/2

Falcons. Gruber saw 6 migrant American Kestrels at Tolchester on Aug. 5. Merlins were widely reported but all were single bird sightings: Harford Glen on Sept. 13 (Blom), Seneca (Daniels) and a male at Kent Point (Hammer) both on Sept. 16, Laurel Grove in St. Marys County on Sept. 25 (Runkles), Tanyard on Oct. 1-2 (Engle), over RFK Stadium in DC on Oct. 14 (Bonham), Beltsville on Oct. 29 (Sumner), and Harmony on Nov. 17 (Engle). Local breeding of Peregrine Falcons is probably responsible for some of the following records, all singles: Salisbury on Aug. 20 (Vaughn), Blackwater NWR on Sept. 23 (Swift), Beltsville on Oct. 2 (Sumner), Denton on Oct. 5 (Nuttle), an immature at Conowingo on Oct. 10, and opposite NIH in Bethesda on Oct. 18 (Lola Oberman). On Assateague Scott Ward and his team of banders captured 151 Peregrines for the season including 14 pre-

viously banded birds. Of these, 3 were a resident female and 2 of its young of the year from Chincoteague NWR, 4 were retraps of birds previously banded at Cape May, NJ, and 2 were birds that had been banded during the summer near Sondrestrom, Greenland. The Assateague banding station is on the MD/VA line and though some of these birds were handled only in one state or the other probably all of them passed over the Maryland portion of the island or wandered north into Maryland from Chincoteague.

Pheasants, Quail, Rails. In Garrett County Connie Skipper saw 2 hen Ring-necked Pheasants at Paradise Point on Sept. 2 and heard a Northern Bobwhite at Mt. Nebo during the fall. These were probably recently released birds. Haven Kolb saw a brood of Bobwhites near Massey in Kent County on Sept. 20 with the downy young not more than 8 centimeters long. Connie Watts saw a male pheasant in Linthicum on Oct. 29. Engle found a King Rail dead on the road at Dover Bridge in Caroline County on Sept. 4. Observations of single Soras were an adult at Harford Glen, Sept. 5-12, and an immature at Leading Point on Sept. 9 (Blom, Ringler), and 1 at Rockville, Oct. 6-22 (M. O'Brien). A Common Moorhen remained at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 14 (Bonham) and another at Masonville on Nov. 10 (Wilkinson). High counts of American Coots were 114 at Loch Raven on Nov. 5 (Simon) and 75 at Eastern Neck NWR on the 11th (Paul DuMont +).

Plovers, Oystercatchers. A Black-bellied Plover was a rare find in Allegany County at North Branch on Oct. 20 (Simons); the highest counts of the season were on Oct. 28 with 86 at Ocean City (M. O'Brien) and 13 in Baltimore city (Ringler), where 1 remained at Leading Point on Nov. 12 (Simon). Lesser Golden-Plovers put in a fine performance this fall. There were 4 at Summit Hall Turf Farm on Sept. 3 (Wilkinson). In Cecil County there was 1 at Octoraro Creek on Sept. 25, 2 there on the 27th, and 1 on Nov. 8 (Schutsky). In Carroll County there were 3 at Liberty Lake on Sept. 26 and 27 (Blom). In Garrett County 1 was captured on Oct. 1 by Ken Hodgdon. In DC the high count at Anacostia was 35 on Oct. 2 (Dave Abbott). In Baltimore the high count was 60 on Oct. 28 (Ringler); 45 remained at Masonville on Nov. 1 (Blom). Flocks of Killdeer were not impressive, with 60 at Greensboro on Sept. 27 (R. Fletcher) and 35 at Salisbury on Oct. 21 (Dyke) being the best counts. The tally for American Oystercatchers at Ocean City was 31 on Oct. 7 (Ringler +), 28 on Oct. 28, and 10 on Nov. 24 (M. O'Brien).

Sandpipers. Greater Yellowlegs are not often mentioned in reports but there were 9 at Point Lookout on Sept. 8 along with 18 Lesser Yellowlegs (Blom) and 60 at Remington Farms on Sept. 9 with 25 Lessers (Gruber). Single late Greaters were at Harford Glen on Nov. 17 (Blom), Piscataway on the 18th (Bob Shepherd), and Leading Point on the 19th (Simon). A late Lesser on Nov. 10 was at Masonville (Wilkinson, Webb), where there was also a late Spotted Sandpiper on Oct. 28 (Ringler). The only Upland Sandpiper reported was at Rockville on Aug. 8 (M. O'Brien). A Whimbrel was at Masonville on Sept. 23 (Ringler) and the 29th (Kaestner +). A Marbled Godwit was photographed at Summit Hall on Aug. 4-5 (J. O'Brien +). A Ruddy Turnstone was at Back River on Sept. 1 (Blom) and 2 were at Love Point Light on Sept. 9 (Gruber). Single late Semipalmated Sandpipers were at Leading Point on Oct. 15 (Simon), North Branch on the 24th (Simons), and Piscataway on the 28th (Nistico). There were 4 Western Sandpipers at Piscataway on Sept. 1 (Nistico), and late birds were singles at North Branch on Oct. 28 (Simons) and Masonville on Nov. 1 (Blom). Very late in Garrett County were 5 Least Sandpipers at the Mountain Lake sewage lagoons on Oct. 27 (Skipper). On Oct. 28 there

were 5 **White-rumped Sandpipers** remaining at Masonville (Ringler). The only **Baird's Sandpiper** reported was at Masonville on Aug. 18 (Blom, Ringler). Rather poor high counts of **Pectoral Sandpipers** were 15 at Rock Hall on Aug. 29 (Gruber) and 18 at Masonville on Oct. 6 (Blom); a late bird was at Piscataway on Nov. 4 (Nistico). An early **Dunlin** was at Masonville on Sept. 9 (Blom, Ringler) and 10 were at Deal Island WMA on Sept. 16 (Swift), 13 at Leading Point on Oct. 24 (Simon), and 17 at Piscataway on Oct. 26 (Nistico). A **Stilt Sandpiper** was at Masonville on Aug. 18 and Sept. 9 (Ringler, Blom), another remained at Harford Glen, Sept. 5-27 (Blom +), 2 were at Piscataway on Sept. 15 (Nistico), and 2 others at Back River on Sept. 30 (Blom). **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** were seen only at Summit Hall, beginning with 2 on Sept. 3 (Wilkinson) and peaking with 5 on the 8th (Bonham +). The only **Long-billed Dowitcher** reported was at PWRC on Oct. 29 through Nov. 12 (Bystrak). **Short-billed Dowitcher** reports included 1 at DC Village on Aug. 6 (Czaplak), 2 at Lilypons on Aug. 19 (Daniels), 15 at Masonville on Sept. 3 (Ringler +), and an exceptionally late 5 at West Ocean City on Nov. 24 (M. O'Brien). Early **Common Snipe** were 1 at Elkton on Aug. 25 (Blom, Ringler), 2 at Piscataway on Sept. 1 (Nistico), and 1 at Masonville on Sept. 3 (Ringler +). **Wilson's Phalaropes** were widespread, with the following singles: North Branch on Aug. 1 (Simons), Summit Hall on Aug. 4-5 (J. O'Brien +), Masonville on Aug. 18 and Sept. 9 (Blom, Ringler), Summit Hall again on Aug. 25 (P. O'Brien), and Beltsville on Sept. 7 (Sumner). The only **Red-necked Phalarope** noted was at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 30 (Cy Lesser).

Jaeger. Gulls. An adult **Parasitic Jaeger** was seen flying north past Assateague on Oct. 28 (M. O'Brien). Schutsky reports that 1 or 2 **Laughing Gulls** frequented the Conowingo Dam area from early August through Sept. 19. Blom estimated 750 Laughers at Point Lookout on Sept. 8. A **Bonaparte's Gull** was at Seneca on Oct. 25 (Warfield). Notes and photos of a **California Gull** at Sandy Point on Aug. 14 (M. O'Brien) will be reported separately. **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** put in their expected early appearances with an adult at Tom's Cove in Baltimore on Aug. 18 (Blom, Ringler), the DC bird returning for its fifth consecutive winter at Hains Point on Oct. 1 (Czaplak), the adult near Berlin on Oct. 7 (Ringler +), and a possible first-winter bird at Conowingo on Nov. 19 (Blom).

Terns, Skimmers. A **Caspian Tern** was seen flying over Laurel on Aug. 19 (Robbins). High counts from Harford County were 55 at Conowingo on Sept. 13 (Schutsky) and 30 at Havre de Grace on Sept. 25 (Blom); 3 late birds were in DC on Oct. 25 (Czaplak). There were 60 **Royal Terns** at Chesapeake Beach on Sept. 8 (Blom) and 2 at Rock Hall on Oct. 2 (Gruber). The peak for Royals at Point Lookout was 64 on Aug. 29; 4 late birds were there on Nov. 23 (Wilson), and at Ocean City there were 50 on Oct. 28 and 9 on Nov. 24 (M. O'Brien). The biggest report of **Common Terns** was 133 at Point Lookout on Aug. 29 (Wilson); late birds were 2 at Rock Hall on Oct. 2 (Gruber), 5 at Ocean City on Oct. 7 (Ringler +), and 1 in DC on Nov. 1 (Czaplak). Interesting tallies of **Forster's Terns** were: 275 at Bivalve on Sept. 1 (Ringler), 35 at Havre de Grace on Sept. 25 (Blom), 50 at Rock Hall on Oct. 2 (Gruber), 30 in DC on Oct. 24 (Czaplak), 25 at Eastern Neck NWR on Nov. 9 (Gruber), 8 at Point Lookout on Nov. 23 (Wilson), and 600 at Ocean City on Nov. 24 (M. O'Brien)—an extraordinary number for such a late date. The only **Black Terns** reported were singles at Pooles Island on Aug. 12 (Gruber), Piney Run on Aug. 19 (Ringler), North Branch on Aug. 23 (Simons), and a very late one at Assateague on Sept. 16 (Swift). The number of **Black Skimmers** remaining at Ocean City dwindled from 55 on Oct. 7 (Ringler +) to 3 on Oct. 28 (M. O'Brien).

Cuckoos, Goatsuckers, Swifts. Rarely reported in fall migration, a Black-billed Cuckoo was seen at Damsite near Tochester on Sept. 30 (Gruber). Late Yellow-billed Cuckoos were 2 banded at Adventure on Oct. 11 and 1 banded at Baltimore on Oct. 13. Bob Augustine reported the following totals of migrating Common Nighthawks over Rockville: 218 on Aug. 27, 130 on Sept. 8, and 320 on Sept. 10; 2 late individuals were seen at Glen Burnie on Oct. 6 (Blom). Runkles saw a Chuck-will's-widow at Laurel Grove in St. Marys County on Sept. 13 and 2 were banded at Damsite on Sept. 30. The only Whip-poor-wills noted this fall were 1 at Damsite on Aug. 31 (Gruber) and 1 at Federalsburg on Sept. 24 (Glime). Czaplak saw 3 late Chimney Swifts at Battery Kemble Park, DC, on Oct. 27.

Flycatchers. Bonham noted Olive-sided Flycatchers in Montgomery County, Sept. 1-22, and Bob Augustine found 1 at Rockville on the 8th. Gruber counted 26 Eastern Wood-Pewees at Remington Farms on Sept. 12, and a late bird was at Denton on Oct. 15 (Nuttie). An impressive 29 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were banded at Damsite, with a peak of 12 on Sept. 6. Other bandings included 5 in Baltimore, Sept. 1-3, 1 at Adventure on Sept. 23 and 1 at Bittinger on Oct. 3. Others seen were 1 at Laurel Grove on Sept. 11 (Runkles) and 1 in Charles County on Sept. 30 (Nistico). A late Acadian Flycatcher was banded at Adventure on Oct. 4. Least Flycatchers were banded at the extremes with 1 at PWRC on Aug. 1 and another at Bittinger on Oct. 3; the only other one reported seen was at Calvert Cliffs on Sept. 8 (Blom). An Eastern Phoebe was at Denton on Nov. 20 (R. Fletcher). Czaplak estimated 40 Eastern Kingbirds in DC on Sept. 1 as the peak of migration; late birds were 2 at Denton on Sept. 9 (R. Fletcher), 4 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 15 (Ringler +), 1 in St. Marys County on Sept. 20 (Wilson), and 1 in Allegany County on the 28th (Simons).

Swallows. Charlie Vaughn reports that approximately 1800 Purple Martins were banded at the Salisbury roost this year. Hammer saw 2 late martins at Kent Point on Sept. 16. Gruber's estimates of swallows at Fairlee in Kent County were 500 Tree Swallows, 200 Northern Rough-winged Swallows, and 500 Bank Swallows on Aug. 15, and 700 Trees, 100 Rough-wings, and 400 Banks on Sept. 7. Other Tree Swallow concentrations were 400 at Kent Point on Sept. 16 (Hammer), 200 at Greensboro on Sept. 24 (Fletchers), 200 at Piney Run on Sept. 29 (Ringler, Blom), and 500 at Bakers Lane in Kent County on Oct. 26 (Gruber). The only other notation of Bank Swallows was 700 at the Easton sewage lagoons on Sept. 1 (Ringler). Late Cliff Swallows were 2 at Kent Point on Sept. 16 (Hammer), 2 at Friendly Farm in Baltimore County on Sept. 28 (Kolb), and 1 at Piney Run on Sept. 29 (Ringler, Blom). A late Barn Swallow was in Howard County on Oct. 1 (M. Wallace).

Corvids, Chickadee, Nuthatches, Wrens. The only Blue Jay report was 2000 at Kent Point on Sept. 30 (Hammer). There were 80 Fish Crows at Easton on Sept. 1 (Ringler). A very large chickadee was banded at Damsite on Aug. 27. The bird was probably a Carolina Chickadee judging by its plumage, but the measurements were beyond the range for this species, suggesting a Black-capped Chickadee. However, there were no reports of Black-caps moving into the region this fall. The only Red-breasted Nuthatches reported were 1 at Greensboro on Sept. 9 (Hewitt), 1 in Allegany County on Sept. 26 (Simons), and 1 at Battery Kemble Park on Nov. 3 (Czaplak). A rare Carolina Wren appeared at Connie Skipper's feeder on Bray Hill in Garrett County on Nov. 13. An early Winter Wren was banded at Damsite on Sept. 22. Michael O'Brien found a migrant Marsh Wren in Rockville on Oct. 20.

Kinglets, Thrushes, Mimids. An early Golden-crowned Kinglet was in DC on Sept. 22 (Czaplak). The peak banding day for Ruby-crowned Kinglets at Damsite was Oct. 30 when 36 were netted. Gruber found 10 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers at Rock Hall on Sept. 12, a rather late date for so many. A very late Veery was banded at Adventure on Oct. 25. Unusual for Charles County was a Gray-cheeked Thrush seen on Sept. 30 (Nistico). Early and late Swainson's Thrushes were banded at PWRC on Aug. 22 and Oct. 21, and another early bird was banded at Adventure on Aug. 26. The latest Swainson's reported was 1 in Rockville on Oct. 24 (M. O'Brien). An early Hermit Thrush was in DC on Sept. 15 (Czaplak). An extremely late Wood Thrush was seen at Bellevue on Nov. 3 by the Armisteads and Paul Spitzer. A rarity for Garrett County was the Northern Mockingbird banded at Mt. Nebo on Oct. 3, perhaps migrating.

Pipits, Waxwings, Shrikes. In Carroll County 6 Water Pipits on Sept. 27 at Liberty Lake (Blom) were a bit early. The only large flocks of pipits reported were 60-80 near Madonna in mid-October (Kirkwood), 50 at Rockville on Nov. 21, and 100 at Blackwater NWR on Nov. 24 (M. O'Brien). Gruber estimated 600 Cedar Waxwings at Remington Farms on Sept. 9. Single Loggerhead Shrikes were seen at Beltsville on Aug. 20 (Sumner) and at Denton on Sept. 6-9 (Nuttie). This is the species' typical migration time in the fall.

Vireos. Exceptionally late White-eyed Vireos were seen at Swan Point on the Severn River on Nov. 18 (Hammer) and at Denton on Nov. 29 (Nuttie). The latest Solitary Vireos were 2 at Hollofield in Howard County on Oct. 21 (Wilkinson), 1 at Battery Kemble Park on the 27th (Czaplak), 1 banded at Adventure on the 29th, and 1 seen at PWRC on the 30th (Bystrak). Late Yellow-throated Vireos were 1 banded at PWRC on Sept. 19 and 1 seen in DC on the 29th (Czaplak). The first Philadelphia Vireo was reported at Severna Park on Sept. 3 (Hammer), followed by 1 banded at Adventure on Sept. 9, 1 banded at Bittinger on Sept. 12, 1 at Piney Run on Sept. 29 (Ringler, Blom), 1 banded at Mt. Nebo on Oct. 4, and 1 in Allegany County on Oct. 13 (Simons). Sallie Thayer observed a Red-eyed Vireo still on a nest along the Youghiogheny River on Aug. 19, and she banded a late migrant at Bittinger on Oct. 8. Another late Red-eye was seen at Oregon Ridge on Oct. 13 (Ringler +).

Early Warblers. An exceptionally early Tennessee Warbler was banded at PWRC on Aug. 6; a more expected arrival date was Aug. 25 for 1 seen near Harford Glen (Blom, Ringler). Bystrak saw an extraordinarily early Magnolia Warbler at College Park on July 29. A Cape May Warbler was seen along the Yough in Garrett County on Aug. 26 (Thayer). Robbins banded a Black-throated Blue Warbler on Aug. 25 at Laurel. Blom found the first Yellow-rumped Warbler at Harford Glen on Sept. 5, two and a half weeks before the next was seen when banded at Damsite on the 22nd. The first Bay-breasted Warbler was at Granite on Aug. 27 (Ringler). As you can see there were not many warblers that were notably early.

Late Warblers. A Blue-winged Warbler at Denton on Sept. 15 (Ringler) was on a normally late date, but 1 banded at Damsite on Oct. 6 was very late. The last Tennessee Warbler was banded at PWRC on Nov. 1. The last Nashville Warbler was banded at PWRC on Oct. 27, and a late one was seen in Allegany County on Oct. 19 (Simons). Czaplak saw 2 Northern Parulas in DC on Oct. 11. A Chestnut-sided

Warbler was in Howard County on Oct. 2 (Chestem), and 1 in Denton on Oct. 22 (Nuttle) was exceptional. Late bandings of Magnolia Warblers were at Damsite on Oct. 14 and Adventure on Oct. 16, and late sightings were 1 in DC on Oct. 19 (Czaplak) and 1 at PWRC on Oct. 27 (Bystrak). A Cape May Warbler was at Piscataway on Oct. 14 (Nistico) and 1 at Preston on Oct. 22 (Engle). The last Black-throated Blue Warblers were singles seen in Howard County on Oct. 13 (Chestem), banded at Damsite on the 15th, and banded at Adventure on the 23rd. Late Black-throated Green Warblers were seen at Hollofield in Howard County on Oct. 13 (Wilkinson), South Mountain in Frederick County on Oct. 21 (Hammer), and Denton on Oct. 22 (Nuttle). The last Blackburnian Warblers were at PWRC on Oct. 7 (Bystrak) and in Worcester County on Dividing Creek on Oct. 8 (Ringler +). A Yellow-throated Warbler in DC on Oct. 4 (Czaplak) was quite late. A Pine Warbler in Columbia on Nov. 23 (Solem, Farrell) was unusual. A Palm Warbler was at Beltsville on Nov. 17 (Sumner), 2 in St. Marys County on Nov. 23 (Wilson), 3 in Denton on Nov. 26 (Nuttle), and 1 in DC on Nov. 30 (Czaplak). A late Blackpoll Warbler was banded on Oct. 20 at Adventure. A late American Redstart was banded at Damsite on Oct. 15, and Michael O'Brien saw a female redstart at Rockville on Nov. 20. Late in Allegany County was a Prothonotary Warbler on Sept. 14 (Simons). Other birds banded at Adventure were 2 Worm-eating Warblers on Sept. 18, an Ovenbird on Oct. 24, a Northern Waterthrush on Oct. 20 and a Louisiana Waterthrush on Sept. 7. The latest Northern Waterthrush was banded at Damsite on Oct. 29. A Common Yellowthroat was in DC on Nov. 29 (Czaplak). Last among the latest was a Hooded Warbler banded on Sept. 23 at Mt. Nebo, Garrett County.

Other Warbler Notes. The only Golden-winged Warblers reported were a male at Granite on Aug. 19 and a female there on Aug. 27 (Ringler). Runkles found a Brewster's hybrid at Laurel Grove on Aug. 25. The Damsite station banded 86 Tennessee Warblers for the season, with 40 on Sept. 6 and 30 on the 7th. Czaplak counted 21 Tennessees in DC on Oct. 7 and found single Orange-crowned Warblers on Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 8 and 27. Other Orange-crowns were singles in Rockville on Sept. 21 and Nov. 9-10 (M. O'Brien) and at Laurel Grove on Oct. 30 (Runkles). The only significant number of Yellow-throated Warblers reported was 6 at Calvert Cliffs on Sept. 8 (Blom). Gruber saw 20 Bay-breasted Warblers at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 along with 15 Blackpolls. The only migrant Cerulean Warbler reported was in Howard County on Sept. 10 (Farrell). Blom counted 17 American Redstarts at Calvert Cliffs on Sept. 8. The first Connecticut Warblers were seen at Laurel Grove on Aug. 31 and Sept. 3 (Runkles), a location not to be confused with Laurel where 1 was banded on Sept. 2 (Robbins). Also on Sept. 3 were single birds at Severna Park (Hammer) and Rockville, where there was another on Sept. 26 (M. O'Brien). At Mt. Nebo, Connecticut Warblers were banded on Sept. 6 and 27 and Oct. 3, while at Adventure 7 were banded from Sept. 17 through a very late 1 on Oct. 21, with 2 on Sept. 22. Another Connecticut was a window-kill at Tanyard on Sept. 17 (Engle). At Damsite 2 Connecticut Warblers were banded on Sept. 22 and 1 on Oct. 7. Single Mourning Warblers were banded at Adventure on Sept. 5, 6 and 8 and the only birds observed were at Cove Point on Sept. 8 (Blom) and in DC on Oct. 7 (Czaplak).

Tanagers, Grosbeaks, Buntings. The last Summer Tanager was at Denton on Oct. 6 (Knotts) and a very late Scarlet Tanager was banded at Baltimore on Oct. 28. A late Rose-breasted Grosbeak was banded at Adventure on Oct. 25 and the last Blue Grosbeak seen was an immature at Rockville on Oct. 6 (M. O'Brien). Late Indigo Buntings were singles banded at Damsite on Oct. 15, at Hollofield on Oct. 21

(Wilkinson), and in DC on Oct. 27 (Czaplak). The only Dickcissel was 1 at Summit Hall Turf Farm on Sept. 16 (Daniels).

Sparrows. On Nov. 21 Sallie Thayer recaptured 2 American Tree Sparrows that she had banded on Jan. 17 and Feb. 10 of 1983. She also saw a late Chipping Sparrow along the Yough on Nov. 24. A Clay-colored Sparrow was photographed in Rockville on Oct. 19-21 (M. O'Brien). Wilson counted 26 Savannah Sparrows on Oct. 19 at Elliott. Unusual in fall when rarely seen, a Grasshopper Sparrow was banded at Adventure on Oct. 19. Also rare in fall, a Sharp-tailed Sparrow was seen at Beltsville on Sept. 27 (Sumner). Lincoln's Sparrows included 17 banded from Sept. 16 through Oct. 4 at Mt. Nebo, 3 at Piney Run on Sept. 19 (Blom, Ringler), 1 at Beltsville on Oct. 16 (Sumner), 1 at Bray Hill on Oct. 23 (Skipper), and 1 banded at Adventure on Oct. 27. An exceptionally early White-crowned Sparrow was banded at Adventure on Sept. 22 and another was seen in DC on Oct. 1 (Czaplak). A Dark-eyed Junco at Masonville on Sept. 9 (Ringler, Blom) was extraordinary, but appeared to have a damaged wing. Gruber saw 5 early Snow Buntings at Rock Hall on Oct. 13.

Icterines, Finches. The major flight of Bobolinks centered around the first of September on the Eastern Shore, with Gruber noting 500 at Chestertown on Aug. 30 and 150 on Sept. 2. There were 30 at Harford Glen on Sept. 12 (Ringler) and late birds were 3 at DC on Oct. 6 (Czaplak), 1 in Talbot County on Oct. 8 (Ringler), and 1 in Rockville on Oct. 14 (M. O'Brien). Single male Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported from Laurel Grove on Aug. 20 (Runkles) and Oland Road in Frederick County on Oct. 23 (Barbara Stephens). Joy Wheeler estimated 50 Rusty Blackbirds at Loch Raven on Nov. 18. Gruber saw approximately 40 Purple Finches on Oct. 15 at Damsite. The only Pine Siskins mentioned were 1 in Federalsburg on Nov. 18 (Glime) and 2 along the Yough on Nov. 20 (Thayer). Equally scarce this year was Evening Grosbeak, with only one report of a single bird at Rockville on Nov. 26 (M. O'Brien).

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