As every birder knows, bird distributions are in constant flux. For a number of reasons, birds once locally rare can become common, and formerly abundant species can withdraw from a region. Such long-time mainstays of the “Sightings” columns as Glossy and White-faced Ibises, White-winged Dove, Eurasian Collared-Dove, and Painted Bunting have so convincingly demonstrated their expansionist tendencies that in many instances they no longer seem to merit inclusion; other species, too, will drift in and out of these summaries as their status appears to change. For more detailed, thoroughly analyzed reports on these and many other “birds on the move,” subscribe to North American Birds, the ABA’s richly illustrated journal of ornithological record.

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

Southeast: East winds brought Wilson’s and Leach’s Storm-Petrels and several Arctic Terns onshore in FL in late May and early Jun. A male Snail Kite in Clarendon, SC, first observed in late May will be a first state record if accepted. Three Limpkins continued into early Jun in Cook, GA. A confiding Brown Noddy was in FL’s Indian River in early Jun. An American Oystercatcher in Lauderdale, AL, in late May was a first inland record for that state. A female Kirtland’s Warbler stopped over in Indian River, FL, in mid-May. A male Western Tanager was in DC in mid-May. A male Shiny Kite was at Manteo in mid-May. Two different frigatebirds were near Cape Cod. A breeding-plumage Yellow-billed Loon visited Dauphin, PA, in early May, while a breeding-plumage Pacific Loon was in NH mid-month. Two different frigatebirds were near Cape May in late May, and a Red-billed Tropicbird was at Mantecon in Nova Scotia, ME, in early June. At least one Glossy Ibis wandered the Ottawa area in late May. An immature White Ibis was in coastal DE in mid-May.

Notable Mississippi Kite reports included 12 over Cape May in mid-May and 4 on Cape Cod at month’s end. A Swallow-tailed Kite was on Cape Cod in mid-May. A Crested Caracara of unknown origin visited NJ’s Sandy Hook in early May; likely the same bird was on Martha’s Vineyard mid-month. Single adult Purple Gallinules were in CT and on the NJ shore in late April and May. A Black-necked Stilt spent the second half of May in Lehigh, PA. One or two Wilson’s Plovers were in southern NJ in late May and early Jun. Rare in spring, an American Golden-Plover was in VT in mid-May. Five Curlew Sandpipers were scattered throughout southern NJ.

A Northern Wheatear was at Cape Spear, NL, in early May, followed by single individuals at the end of the month in NL, on Cape Sable Island, NS, and in CT. A Swainson’s Warbler was banded in late May at MA’s Plum Island. A male Western Tanager at Goose Bay in mid-May will be a Labrador first if accepted; another was at Halifax, NL, at month’s end. A male Painted Bunting visited a Wyoming, PA, feeder in early May. A Boat-tailed Grackle was reported from south-coastal ME in mid-May.

Mid-continent: A female Common Eider in Sheboygan, startled in early Jun, will be a 5th WI record if accepted. Equally unseasonal was a female-plumaged Black Scoter in ND in Jun. The Kleberg, TX, Masked Duck pair was last reported May 23. A Neotropical Cormorant was north to Minneapolis in mid-May. A Reddish Egret visited Chicago’s Botanical Gardens in late May. WI saw a single Glossy Ibis in Grant in mid-May and a flock of 9 at Horicon NWR; this explosively spreading species occurred in OH and at least 3 IA sites as well, and was thought to be breeding in NE. Single Swallow-tailed Kites were north to Chicago and to Anoka, MN, in early May. A pair of Snowy Plovers were photographed in Duluth in early May.

A Green Violet-ear was at a private feeder on the TX upper coast in mid-May. A late-May Couch’s Kingbird photographed and heard in Iosco, MI, will be a first state record if accepted. An apparent male Cerulean Warbler X Northern Parula hybrid returned to Toledo, OH, for a fourth year. A Kirtland’s Warbler in Milwaukee was on the wrong side of Lake Michigan, while one at OH’s Magee Marsh in mid-May was closer to the species’ presumed migration route. A Worm-eating Warbler, casual in ND, was in Grand Forks in late May. Two Western Tanagers were in northwest IA in May. A potential state-first Pyrrhuloxia was photographed in Scott, IA, in late May. No longer unexpected in the upper Midwest, single Painted Buntngs briefly visited Milwaukee, Chicago, Lake, MN, and Chester, IA, in May; the Story, IA, male Painted remained into early Jun. A Lazuli Bunting was in Wright, MN, in late May.

Southwest: One of two Short-tailed Hawks in AZ’s Chiricahua was said to be a dark individual, only the second of that morph recorded in the state. An American Golden-Plover visited NM’s Bitter Lake NWR in ear-
ly May, while a Hudsonian Godwit was there late in the month. A spectacular female Red Phalarope was a long-stayer in Weld, CO, in early Jun. A Black Skimmer was reported from Rio Arriba, NM, in mid-May. A Laughing Gull was at AZ’s Patagonia Lake in mid-May. A Plain-capped Starthroat made a brief appearance in Tucson in early Jun.

A Thick-billed Kingbird in Apache in late May was a first northern AZ record; another was in Yuma. A Philadelphia Vireo photographed in late May at UT’s Capitol Reef National Park will be a second state record if accepted. Black-capped Gnatchatchers fledged young in Madera Canyon in May. A Yellow Grosbeak was photographed in AZ’s Huachucas in early Jun. A late-May Dickcissel will be a 3rd UT record if accepted. A total of 6 Common Grackles were in Daggett and Wasatch, UT, in mid-May. Colorado’s first Lawrence’s Goldfinch was photographed at a Mesa, CO, feeder in late May and lingered at least till mid-June.

**West Coast:** An early-May pelagic trip off southern Oregon produced sight records of Ashy and Ringed Storm-Petrels and a large dark storm-petrel that might have been either Markham’s or Tristam’s Storm-Petrel. La Jolla, CA, hosted multiple Brown Boobies at La Jolla in early Jun. Single first-year Mississippi Kites were in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, CA, in late May. Three American Golden-Plover paused in Imperial in mid-May. CA’s first Wood Sandpiper was present for two days in late May in Kern, where there were also 2 White-rumped Sandpipers, and then a Hudsonian Godwit in early Jun. Remarkable numbers of Horned Puffins were found along the coast this spring, with a startling nineteen at Monterey in late May.

Four or 5 Chimney Swifts were at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego, in early Jun. and a Red-throated Pipit stopped in Mono in early May. A Yellow-throated Warbler was a good find in Los Angeles, CA, a Worm-eating Warbler visited OR’s Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, and a male Kentucky Warbler visited Inyo, CA, all in mid-May. A Painted Redstart was singing in San Diego in early May. A Common Grackle visited a Marin feeder in early Jun.

**Alaska:** A Spot-billed Duck was photographed on Adak in late May. A pair of Common Pochards departed AK’s St. Paul Island in late May, while a pair of Mergansers there was thought to be of the Old World race merganser. A near-adult or adult White-tailed Eagle was photographed at Gambell. A Great Knot, the Pribilofs’ first in six years, was on St. Paul Island in late May, and another was at Gambell. The Pribilofs supplied a female Far Eastern Curlew in May, and Gambell hosted a Temminck’s Stint. A Terek Sandpiper was beautifully photographed on Adak in late May, and another was at St. Paul Island. A Solitary Sandpiper on St. Paul mid-month was the island’s second.

Ivory Gull is an apparently imperilled species, so it was gratifying to hear of at least 5 per day at Gambell in late May. A Long-billed Murrelet in late May provided a 3rd record for St. Paul Island. Shemya’s spring migration goodies included 1 Dark-sided and 2 Taiga Flycatchers, a Brown Shrike, and a White (Black-backed) Wagtail. St. Paul Island produced an Eyebrowed Thrush, Gambell hosted a Hawfinch, and Shemya yielded a Common Rosefinch.