

SIGHTINGS

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"Sightings" appears monthly, alternating between *Winging It* and *Birding*, with the latest news, reports, and rumors from the ABA Area. Sightings are compiled from online discussion groups and RBAs, with valuable contributions from a growing network of informants continent-wide. All birders are urged to submit documentation of significant sightings to the appropriate state or provincial records committees. For full analysis of these and other important bird records, subscribe to *North American Birds*, the richly illustrated journal of ornithological record published by the ABA <aba.org/pubs/nab>.

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with thanks to *Paul Lehman, Steve Mlodinow, and Steve Cardiff*

Southeast: A pair of Brant was in *Volusia*, FL, on 30–31 Jan. *Mecklenburg*, VA, hosted a Pacific Loon in Jan. Georgia's second Snowy Plover continued in *Glynn* through late Jan. A first-cycle California Gull and a probable first-cycle European Herring Gull were photographed on 27 Jan in *Volusia*, FL, and continued to 3 Feb. *Volusia* also had a Razorbill on 25 Jan. The Black Guillemot continued in *Georgetown*, SC, through early Feb. Unusual hummingbirds continued throughout the region, including the **Green-breasted Mango** in *Laurens*, GA. Broad-billed Hummingbirds were in *Calhoun* and *Duval*, FL, and *Charleston*, SC, through late Jan. A single Black-chinned Hummingbird was in GA, while at least 2 were in FL and NC. An Anna's Hummingbird continued in *Walton*, FL, and one was banded in *Baldwin*, AL. Also banded were Calliope Hummingbirds in *Blount*, AL, and *Union*, NC, while another continued in *Gwinnett*, GA. Lastly, a female Broad-tailed Hummingbird persisted in *Cobb*, GA.

Sumter, GA, and *Lake*, FL, continued to host a Say's Phoebe into late Jan. The *Sarasota*, FL, Bell's Vireo continued into Feb. A Townsend's Solitaire continued in *Williamsburg*, VA, until 29 Jan, while another was in *Union*, TN, 19–21 Jan. A yard in *Leon*, FL, continued to host a Western Tanager and Bullock's Oriole. Male Western Tanagers also were in *Horry* and *Lexington*, SC. Georgia's first **Smith's Longspur** continued in *Macon* until 13 Jan. An im-

mature male Black-headed Grosbeak was in *DeKalb*, GA, in late Jan. Male Lazuli Buntings were in *Lake* and *Lee*, FL, in early Feb. An immature male **Scott's Oriole** at a feeder in late Jan and early Feb in *Catawba*, NC, would provide a first state record, if accepted.

Northeast: The *Suffolk*, NY, **Pink-footed Goose** and Barnacle Goose continued until at least 31 Jan. Barnacle Geese also persisted in *Cape May* and *Hunterdon*, NJ, and *Norfolk*, MA. A



Scott's Oriole. *New York, New York; 23 January 2008.* © Lloyd Spitalnik.

drake Tufted Duck was discovered in *Providence*, RI, on 25 Jan and continued into Feb. A Pacific Loon was in *Seneca*, NY, while up to 3 were present in *Barnstable*, MA, through early Feb. Eared Grebes continued in *St. Mary's*, MD, and *Rockingham*, NH, and another was reported 27 Jan in *Seneca*, NY. A possible first-cycle European Herring Gull was photographed in *Essex*, MA, on 8 Feb. An adult Yellow-legged Gull continued in *St. John's*, NL, along with 2 Slaty-backed Gulls. Slaty-backed

Gulls continued into the period in *Essex*, MA, and *Bucks*, PA, while another was found in *Tompkins*, NY, on 22 Jan. Lastly, an adult **Ross's Gull** delighted birders by roaming the Niagara Falls area, NY–ON, 27 Jan – 1 Feb. Great Gray Owls were in *Caledonia*, VT, and *Waldo*, ME, briefly in late Jan.

Townsend's Solitaires continued in good numbers, with birds in QC, NB, NS, MA, NY, and NJ. A **Redwing** was reported from *St. John's*, NL, on 24 Jan. A Varied Thrush continued at a feeder in NS through late Jan. Bohemian Waxwings continued through much of the region, with birds as far south as *Monmouth*, NJ. Western Tanagers in *New Haven*, CT, and *Essex*, MA, were both present into early Feb. A female Yellow-headed Blackbird was in *Hartford*, CT, in early Feb. The continuing Bullock's Orioles in NL, NS, and PA succumbed to the cold in late Jan. Present since Dec, an immature male **Scott's Oriole** in Manhattan was first identified on 23 Jan and continued through early Feb. This would provide a first NY record, if accepted. Although the finch invasion has slowed since Dec, widespread reports continue of Pine Grosbeaks, White-winged Crossbills, Common and Hoary Redpolls, and Evening Grosbeaks. The southernmost reported Pine Grosbeaks and Hoary Redpoll were in CT. A male White-winged Crossbill reached *Montgomery*, MD, and Common Redpolls made it to *Essex*, DE, and *Queen Anne's*, MD.

Midwest: A Brant was on private property in *Rockport*, IN, through late Jan. An adult Slaty-backed Gull con-

tinued in *Douglas*, WI, through 4 Feb. The Lake Carlyle, IL, Glaucous-winged Gull persisted until 20 Jan. Townsend's Solitaires continued their impressive invasion in the region. Single birds were in ON, IA, IN, and MI. MN hosted 5 solitaires, and WI had 3. Varied Thrushes were in 2 counties in both MN and MI. Bohemian Waxwing numbers increased in the latter part of the period, with flocks reported in several counties of lower MI, as well as in *O'Brien*, IA; *Porter*, IN; and *Lake*, OH. White-winged Crossbills reached *Story*, IA, and *Lake*, OH. Hoary Redpolls made it south to *Cook* and *Will*, IL.

Southcentral: **Masked Ducks** continued on the King Ranch in TX through the end of Jan. An inland Brown Pelican was in *Pope*, AR, 11–17 Jan. A Prairie Falcon was reported in *Mississippi*, AR, on 1 Feb. A possible first-cycle Slaty-backed Gull photographed in *Douglas*, KS, 24–26 Jan would furnish a first state record, if accepted as that species. Up to 8 Vaux's Swifts were observed in *East Baton Rouge*, LA, in late Jan. A Broad-billed Hummingbird continued in *St. Charles*, LA, until at least 13 Jan. An Anna's Hummingbird returned for a second winter to *Pulaski*, AR, in mid-Jan.

A well-documented **Gray Flycatcher** in *Bossier*, LA, will be a first state record, if accepted. The **Vermilion**, LA, Say's Phoebe continued through early Feb. A Rock Wren was discovered in *Pulaski*, AR, in late Jan. *Logan*, AR, hosted a Townsend's Solitaire. The *Hidalgo*, TX, **Golden-crowned Warbler** was last observed on 13 Jan.

Northcentral: An alternate-plumaged Franklin's Gull was reported in *Hughes*, SD, on 12 Jan. Alberta's first or second Red-bellied Woodpecker continued at a feeder in Ponoka. A Mc-

Cown's Longspur was in *Ada*, ID, 20–21 Jan. Several Northern Cardinals wandered north and west, with single birds reported in *Cass*, ND, Calgary, AB, and Sanatorium, SK, with another 2 in MB. The Orchard Oriole reported from *Crook*, WY, last period was a Bullock's Oriole, which continued through mid-Jan for the state's third winter record.

Southwest: A **Barnacle Goose** of undetermined origin was in *Colfax*, NM,



Ross's Gull. *Niagara Falls, New York; 27 January 2008.* © Willie D'Anna.

in late Jan. The **Pueblo**, CO, Yellow-billed Loon continued until 13 Jan. Another Yellow-billed Loon was in *Mohave*, AZ. A Ruff in *Maricopa*, AZ, for most of Jan was an unusual winter find. The **Northern Jacana** in *Pinal*, AZ, continued into Feb. An adult Lesser Black-backed Gull on 27 Jan in *Washoe*, NV, was a first state record. A first-cycle Glaucous-winged Gull was discovered in *Arapahoe*, CO, on 7 Feb. A heard-only **Eared Quetzal** was reported from *Santa Cruz*, AZ, 2–6 Feb.

A White-eyed Vireo continued in *Santa Cruz*, AZ, through the end of Jan. **Black-capped Gnatcatchers** continued at 2 locations in *Santa Cruz*, AZ, as well as one in *Pima*, AZ. A Rufous-backed Robin discovered on 21

Jan in *Sierra*, NM, would be a third state record. The **Pima**, AZ, Rufous-backed Robin continued until 25 Jan, and another was seen in *Santa Cruz* on 24 Jan. The **Aztec Thrush** in Madera Canyon, AZ, was last reported on 21 Jan. A sporadic **Crescent-chested Warbler**, present since Nov, continued into early Feb in Madera Canyon. A male Black-throated Blue Warbler was present in *Pima*, AZ, through early Feb.

Pacific Coast: An **Emperor Goose** pair was found in *Pacific*, WA, on 15 Jan and continued into early Feb. The **Tuolumne**, CA, **Smew** returned 10–12 Jan on private property. *Clatsop*, OR, continued to host an Arctic Loon through early Feb, and a second was discovered on 7 Feb in *Whatcom*, WA. A Roseate Spoonbill continued in *Riverside*, CA, until 21 Jan. Continuing *Imperial*, CA, rarities included a pair of Neotropic Cormorants through early Feb and a pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls through mid-Jan. A Lesser Black-backed Gull was in *Placer*, CA, on 8 Feb, and another continued in *Benton*, WA, through late Jan. *Humboldt*, CA, hosted 2 Slaty-backed Gulls on 1 Feb, while a possible Slaty-backed was in *Santa Cruz*, CA, on 26 Jan. Another Slaty-backed was in *King*, WA, on 19 Jan. Unfortunately only a 3-minute wonder, an **Ivory Gull** provided a great record for *Benton*, WA, on 20 Jan.

Los Angeles, CA, hosted a Dusky-capped Flycatcher in late Jan. A Yellow-throated Warbler persisted in *Orange*, CA, as did a Pine Warbler in *San Diego*, CA. The *Los Angeles*, CA, Painted Redstart continued into Feb. An adult male Orchard Oriole was in *San Diego*, CA, through early Feb. The **Brambling** in *Anchorage*, AK, persisted until 23 Jan. Lastly, Hoary Redpolls were reported in *Okanogan*, WA, in late Jan.