

# New North American Birds

Predicted and actual since 1998

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# The Seven Areas

Western Alaska

Pacific Pelagic

Southern Arizona & sw New Mexico

Texas

Florida and se Gulf Coast

Atlantic Pelagic – The Gulf Stream

NE North America – NF/L to Delaware Bay

# The set-up for each area

First slide – the experts (\* signifies the author(s) of the ABA ‘Birding’ article)

Second slide – their **top six predictions** for the next new ABA birds in their area

Third slide – the **top also-rans** from their list

Fourth slide – the actual species found in their area since their published predictions.

Note the publication date of the predictions.

New birds due to splits are not included.

# Western Alaska

The experts:

Thede Tobish\*, Dan Gibson, Steve Heinl,  
R.L. “Buzz” Scher, Dave Sonneborn;  
Larry Balch, Jon L. Dunn, Gary H.  
Rosenberg.

# The predictions

1. Eurasian Sparrowhawk
2. Black-faced Bunting
3. Gray Heron
4. Carrion Crow
5. Chinese Goshawk
6. Eastern Crowned Leaf-Warbler

# The also-rans

Daurian Redstart  
Brown-headed Thrush  
Gray's Warbler  
Chestnut-cheeked Starling  
Oriental Reed-Warbler  
Siberian Thrush  
Black-browed Reed-Warbler  
Blue-and-white Flycatcher  
Willow Warbler  
White-cheeked Starling  
Japanese Sparrowhawk

# Western Alaska – the results

Willow Warbler, Gambell, 08.25.02

Lesser Whitethroat, Gambell, 09.08.02

Spotted Flycatcher, Gambell, 09.14.02

Intermediate Egret (d), Buldir Is., 05.30.06

Pallas's Warbler, Gambell, 09.25.06

Brown Hawk Owl, St Paul, Pribilof Is, 08.27.07

Yellow-browed Bunting, Gambell, 09.15.07

Sedge Warbler, Gambell, 09.30.07

Gray Heron (#3), St Paul, Pribilof Is., 10.01.07 (but first after reassessment was the NF/L bird 10.11.96)

# Pacific Pelagic

The experts:

Debra Love Shearwater\*, Steve Howell,  
Peter Pyle, Sophie Webb, Stephen Bailey,  
Steve Rottenborn, Kimball Garrett, Guy  
McCaskie, Bill Tweit, Terry Wahl.



# The predictions

1. Juan Fernandez Petrel
2. Kermadec Petrel
3. Solander's Petrel
4. Black-winged Petrel
5. Southern Giant-Petrel
6. Townsend's Shearwater

# The 'also-rans'

Parkinson's Petrel

Cape Petrel

Waved Albatross

Gray-backed Tern

Gray-headed Albatross

Tahiti Petrel

Christmas Shearwater

Southern Skua

Markham's Storm-Petrel

Chilean Skua

Gray Petrel

# The results

Light-mantled Albatross, Cordell Bank, 07.17.94  
(recently accepted)

Galapagos/Hawaiian (Dark-rumped) Petrel,  
Cordell Bank, 08.01.97 and many since.

Great-winged Petrel, off Monterey, 10.18.98

Ringed (Hornby's) Storm-Petrel, San Miguel Is,  
08.02.05

Parkinson's Petrel, Cordell Bank, 10.01.05

Tristram's Storm-Petrel, Farallons, 04.22.06.

Newell's Shearwater, San Diego Co, 08.01.07.

# Worth noting other CA records

Swallow-tailed Gull, Pacific Grove, 06.06.85

Band-tailed (Belcher's) Gull, Imperial Beach,  
San Diego, 08.10.97

Greater Sand-Plover, Bolinas Lagoon,  
01.29.01

[Nazca Booby, San Diego, 05.29.01 – ship  
assisted debate]

# Southern AZ / Southwest NM

The experts:

Roy Jones\*, Chris Benesh, Troy Corman,  
Doug Danforth, Steve Ganley, Gale  
Monson; John Parmeter, Sartor O.  
Williams III, Dale Zimmerman.

# The predictions

1. Rusty Sparrow
2. Mountain Trogon
3. Mangrove Swallow
4. Sinaloa Wren
5. Sinaloa Martin
6. Black-headed Siskin

# The also-rans

Gray-collared Becard

White-striped Woodcreeper

Russet Nightingale-Thrush

Striped Sparrow

Golden-crowned Emerald

Military Macaw

Squirrel Cuckoo

Hooded Grosbeak

# The results

Piratic Flycatcher, Fort Sumner, NM,  
09.12.03 (earlier reports from s FL, NM,  
and TX 'adjusted' later)

Mangrove Swallow (#3) was found in FL in  
2000



# Texas

The experts:

- Greg W. Lasley\*, Mark W. Lockwood\*, Victor Emanuel, Brush Freeman, Brad McKinney, Father Tom Pincelli, Martin Reid, Willie Sekula, Barry Zimmer.

# The predictions

1. Tawny-collared Nightjar
2. Plumbeous Kite
3. Mangrove Swallow
4. Elegant Euphonia
5. Streaked Flycatcher
6. Brown-backed Solitaire

# The also-rans

Amazon Kingfisher

Bat Falcon

Melodious Blackbird

Canivet's Emerald

Blue Ground-Dove

Laughing Falcon

Russet Nightingale-Thrush

# The results

White-chinned Petrel, Galveston, 04.27.86

(recently accepted by ABA)

Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush, Pharr, 05.27.04

Social Flycatcher, Bentsen, 01.07.05

White-crested Elaenia, South Padre Is., 02.09.08

.....and Mangrove Swallow (#3) was found in FL  
in 2000.

# Florida and SE Gulf Coast

The experts:

Bill Pranty\*, Bruce Anderson, Lyn Atherton, Wes Biggs, Bob Duncan, David Goodwin, Wayne Hoffman, William B. Robertson Jr., Greg Jackson, David Muth.

# The predictions

1. Cuban Emerald
2. Red-legged Thrush
3. Bahama Yellowthroat
4. Olive-capped Warbler
5. Piratic Flycatcher
6. Greater Antillean Bullfinch

# The also-rans

Blue-and-white Swallow

Pearly-eyed Thrasher

Cuban Crab Hawk

Social Flycatcher

Streaked Flycatcher

White-throated Kingbird

Alpine Swift

Bulwer's Petrel

Plumbeous Kite

Black-bellied Storm-Petrel

# The results

Gray-hooded Gull, Franklin Co, 12.26.98

Mangrove Swallow, Brevard Co, 11.18.00

Loggerhead Kingbird, Key West, 03.08.07; Dry Tortugas  
03.20.08 (note – all previous records deleted)

Piratic Flycatcher (#5) was found in NM 2003.

Bulwer's Petrel was found in CA and NC 1998.

Social Flycatcher was found in TX 2005.

Black-bellied Storm-Petrel was found in NC 2004.



# Atlantic pelagic – the Gulf Stream

The experts:

Edward S. Brinkley\*, Alan Brady,  
P.A.Buckley, Mary Gustafson, Harry  
LeGrand Jr., Brian Patteson, Butch  
Pearce, Mike Tove, Dick Veit, Angus  
Wilson.

# The predictions

1. Brown Skua
2. Cape Verde Shearwater
3. Yelkouan/Balearic Shearwater
4. Black-bellied Storm-Petrel
5. Southern/Northern Giant-Petrel
6. Gray Petrel
7. Southern Skua

# The also-rans

Cape Gannet  
Soft-plumaged Petrel  
White-bellied Storm-Petrel  
Zino's Petrel  
Magellanic Penguin  
Audouin's Gull  
Gray-headed Albatross  
Cape Petrel  
Atlantic Petrel  
European Shag  
Antarctic Tern  
Brown-hooded Gull

# The results

Black-bellied Storm-Petrel (#4), NC,  
05.31.04

Cape Verde Shearwater (#2), NC, 08.15.04

[Bulwer's Petrel, NC, 08.08.98;CA, 07.26.98]

[Swinhoe's Storm-Petrel, NC, 08.08.98 -  
rejected]

# NE North America – NF and Labrador to the Delaware Bay

The experts:

Wayne Petersen\*, Dennis Abbott, Ken Able, P.A.Buckley, Walter Ellison, Blake Maybank, Bruce Mactavish, Ian McLaren, Simon Perkins, Mark Szantyr, Richard Veit.

# The predictions

1. Gray Heron
2. Meadow Pipit
3. Mediterranean Gull
4. Yelkouan/Balearic Shearwater
5. Blue-and-white Swallow
6. Spotted Crake

# The also-rans

Blackcap

Song Thrush

Purple Heron

Collared Pratincole

Carrion Crow

# The results

Red-footed Falcon, Martha's Vineyard,  
08.08.04

Gray Heron (#1), NF/L, 10.11.96 (accepted  
after re-examination). Also at St Paul,  
Pribilof Is., AK, 10.01.07

Song Thrush, Saint-Fulgence, PQ, 11.11.06



# Summary

Of 43 'top-picks' only 4 have been seen.

Of 64 'also-rans', only 3 have been seen.

Meanwhile, another 20 'unpredicted' new birds have been added to the NA list (ABA).

Ergo, making predictions is great fun, but useless.

# ABA Accepted Records since 1999

Fea's/Zino's Petrel, since 1991, mainly NC

Bermuda Petrel, since 1996, NC

Chinese Pond-Heron, 08.04.96, St Paul Is., AK

Green Parakeet, since 1960, TX

Stygian Owl, 12.26.96, Bentsen, TX

Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush, 04.08.96, Laguna  
Atascosa, TX

Yellow-throated Bunting, 05.25.98, Attu, AK

Bulwer's Petrel, 07.26.98, CA; 08.08.98, NC

Kelp Gull, 06.09.98, Chandeleur Is., LA

Piratic Flycatcher, 04.04.98, Big Bend, TX (+others)

# ABA Accepted Records

Yellow-browed Warbler, 09.23.99, Gambell, AK  
Galapagos/Hawaiian (Dark-rumped) Petrel, 08.01.97, CA  
Greater Sand-Plover, 01.29.01, CA  
Band-tailed (Belcher's) Gull, from 1976, FL, CA  
Yellow-chevroned Parakeet, from 1970s, FL (removed 2006)  
Great-winged Petrel, 10.18.98, CA  
Gray-hooded Gull, 12.26.98, FL  
Cuban Pewee, 03.11.95, FL  
Willow Warbler, 08.25.02, Gambell, AK  
Lesser Whitethroat, 09.08.02, Gambell, AK  
Spotted Flycatcher, 09.14.02, Gambell, AK  
Mangrove Swallow, 11.18.02, FL  
Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush, 05.27.04, TX  
Cape Verde Shearwater, 08.15.04, NC  
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel, 05.31.04, NC

# ABA Accepted Records

Social Flycatcher, 01.07.05, Bentsen, TX  
Ringed (Hornby's) Storm-Petrel, 08.02.05, CA  
Red-footed Falcon, 08.08.04, MA  
Light-mantled Albatross, 07.17.94, CA  
Parkinson's Petrel, 10.01.05, CA  
Gray Heron, 10.11.96, NF&L  
Intermediate Egret, 05.30.06, Buldir, AK  
Swallow-tailed Gull, 06.06.85, CA  
European Turtle-Dove, 04.09.90, FL  
Pallas's Warbler, 09.25.06, Gambell, AK  
Song Thrush, 11.11.06, PQ  
Loggerhead Kingbird, 03.08.07, FL  
White-chinned Petrel, 04.27.86, TX

Awaiting: Common Myna (FL), Graylag Goose (NF), Brown Hawk Owl (AK), Sedge Warbler (AK), Yellow-browed Bunting (AK), White-crested Elaenia (TX).