

This is the SOUTH EASTERN CARIBBEAN BIRD ALERT February 2007 summary of sightings through the Region. Sponsored by the T&T Field Naturalists Club, our aim is to promote birding and ornithology by fostering communication among resident and visiting birders regarding the study of birds in the region. The SCBA and information about TTFNC, T&T Rare Bird Committee and our Photo Gallery are accessible at "<http://www.wow.net/ttfnc>" . Reports should be sent to Martyn Kenefick tel 674.7609; Email "martynkenefick@hotmail.com" The T&T Rare Birds Committee requires details for species indicated with an asterisk.

From Guadeloupe, highlight of the month was a NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (1st for Guadeloupe) found on 9th Feb at Gaschet reservoir. A second bird was seen at Ste Anne, 19th-21st Feb

At Port Louis swamp a YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER was found on 9th Feb; 9 AMERICAN PURPLE GALLINULES were present on 18th Feb and on the 23rd, there were 300 BARN SWALLOWS, 1 BANK SWALLOW, 1 CLIFF SWALLOW and 1 CAVE SWALLOW.

Elsewhere on the island, a male BLACK THROATED BLUE WARBLER was at Capesterre Belle-eau on 3rd Feb, a PEREGRINE at Ste Anne on 12th Feb, an AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER at Petite Terre on the 15th and 5 LESSER BLACK BACKED GULLS at Riviere Salee on 16th Feb. On the 17th, a CAPE MAY WARBLER was at le Gosier, 5 SORAS at Desirade island and a pair of RING NECKED DUCKS at Gaschet reservoir. On 24th Feb, 323 CARIBBEAN MARTINS and a male PURPLE/CUBAN MARTIN were over Pointe-à-Pitre town centre.

In excess of 9 hours sea watching from Petite Terre Nature Reserve during the month produced 261 MANX SHEARWATERS (of which 151 passed in one hour during 21 Feb) and 1 AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER.

From Tobago, an AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER * (the first for nine years) was found on the shore of Little Tobago Is and a DOUBLE-STRIPED THICKNEE (the first for eleven years) was on Lowlands golf course both on 25th Feb

In the Northern Range of Trinidad, early morning 25th Feb on Lalaja ridge produced the first reported PLUMBEOUS KITES of the season together with single RUDDY QUAIL-DOVE, STREAKED XENOPS, WHITE BELLIED ANTBIRD, SLATY CAPPED and DUSKY CAPPED FLYCATCHERS and SOOTY GRASSQUIT; 3 RED-RUMPED WOODPECKERS, 2 YELLOW LEGGED THRUSHES and 2 RED EYED VIREOS. The SCALED ANTPITTA was seen along the Blanchisseuse Rd on 28th Feb , as were single ORNATE HAWK EAGLE and SHORT TAILED NIGHTHAWK at Asa Wright Nature Centre, and at least 2 TRINIDAD PIPING GUANS continue to periodically show close to Morne Bleu

In central Trinidad on 2nd Feb, a female RUFIOUS SHAFTED WOODSTAR * (the first reported since 2000) was seen in the grounds of Pax Guest House. The first reported WHITE TAILED GOLDENTHROATS of the season were found at the Aripo Agriculture Station on the 28th Feb together with at least 40 GRASSLAND YELLOW FINCHES and 2 male RUDDY BREASTED SEEDEATERS. On the same date, a MORICHE ORIOLE was found at Waller Field

On the east coast of Trinidad, a CRESTED CARACARA * was seen amongst the coconut palms along Cocos Bay Road on 5th Feb and at least one AZURE GALLINULE continued to perform close to Kernaham trace. On 28th Feb, a LITTLE EGRET was hunting along the shoreline at the northern end of Manzanilla Bay

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This is the SOUTH EASTERN CARIBBEAN BIRD ALERT March 2007 summary of sightings through the Region. Sponsored by the T&T Field Naturalists Club, our aim is to promote birding and ornithology by fostering communication among resident and visiting birders regarding the study of birds in the region. The SCBA and information about TTFNC, T&T Rare Bird Committee and our Photo Gallery are accessible at "<http://www.wow.net/ttfnc>". Reports should be sent to Martyn Kenefick tel 674.7609; Email "martynkenefick@hotmail.com" The T&T Rare Birds Committee requires details for species indicated with an asterisk.

From Martinique, at Fond Moustique, Sainte Anne, 46 BLUE WINGED TEAL were present on 17th Feb together with 2 SORA and a long staying WILSON'S SNIPE. On 23rd Feb 2 LEAST BITTERN, a GLOSSY IBIS, a LITTLE EGRET, single PEREGRINE and MERLIN together with 2 AMERICAN COOT were present at Carriere, Le Lamentin.

During March, a LITTLE EGRET was at Salines, Sainte Anne and 35 BLUE WINGED TEAL remained at Fond Moustique on the 17th March. The following day in the mangrove at Fort de France's Baie there were single LEAST BITTERN and TRICOLORED HERON together with a number of NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH and a PROTHONOTARY WARBLER. Another SORA was found at Pointe Royale, Le Robert on 30th March whilst 2 young BLACK CROWNED NIGHT-HERONS were seen at Mansarde.

From Grenada, a SORA at La Sagesse St. Davids Grenada was found on 1st Mar together with a BELTED KINGFISHER and 75 BLUE WINGED TEALS

From Guadeloupe, at Gaschet reservoir, 2 male GARGANEY were found on 8th March; 16 MASKED DUCKS on the 9th; a pair of GREEN WINGED TEAL on 11 Mar and 86 RUDDY DUCKS, a pair of LESSER SCAUP, 3 SORAS and 3 PURPLE GALLINULES on the 26th At Port Louis swamp, 400 BARN SWALLOWS and 4 BANK SWALLOWS were found on the 2nd and 3 GREAT BLUE HERONS, 8 OSPREYS, 3 YELLOW RUMPED WARBLERS and a CAPE MAY WARBLER were present on the 15th

Elsewhere on the island, 5 LESSER BLACK BACKED GULLS were at Riviere Salee on 5th March; an impressive total of 594 COMMON MOORHEN, 82 PIED BILLED GREBES, 7 RING NECKED DUCKS, 10 AMERICAN COOTS, 22 CARIBBEAN COOTS and 15 MASKED DUCKS were found on the 23rd. CARIBBEAN MARTINS peaked at 620 in Pointe a Pitre town centre together with a single PURPLE/CUBAN MARTIN on 25th and a PEREGRINE was seen at Saline du Gosier on the 28th

From Tobago, a CLIFF SWALLOW (3rd for Tobago) was found at Bon Accord sewage lagoons on 18th and a SORA was at Louis d'Or

In the Northern Range of Trinidad, several probable VAUX SWIFTS * were carefully studied in the upper Arima valley by a very experienced observer on 1st March. If accepted, this will be the first record of this species for T&T. The following day, an OLIVE SIDED FLYCATCHER was seen on the Blanchisseuse Rd and two each of SLATY CAPPED and DUSKY CAPPED FLYCATCHERS were found along Las Lapas. At the Asa Wright nature centre, a BLACK WHISKERED VIREO* was found on 11th March, and the following day, a SPECTACLED OWL was seen close to the balcony at first light. Also on 12th Mar, single SOOTY GRASSQUIT and GREY THROATED LEAFTOSSER was found beside the Blanchisseuse Rd. On 15th Mar, a SUMMER TANAGER * was seen close to the textel tower at Morne Bleu

In central Trinidad, single CRANE HAWK* and SPECTACLED OWL were seen in the Waller Field area on 2nd March with at least 60 RED BELLIED MACAWS, and single WHITE WINGED BECARD the following day. On 12th Mar, at least 40 GRASSLAND YELLOW-FINCHES were at the Aripo Agriculture Station together with a single male RUDDY BREASTED SEEDEATER, whilst at Waller Field, 2 MORICHE ORIOLES were present on 15th Mar and a LITTLE EGRET was found at Trincity ponds on the 17th

On the east coast, 5 LEACH'S PETRELS flew north past Manzanilla on the 13th

On the west coast of Trinidad, a RUFOUS NECKED WOOD RAIL * was seen in the mangrove at Caroni swamp on 3rd March and 2 LARGE BILLED TERNS and a single CAYENNE TERN were at Waterloo on the 15th

In south west Trinidad, early morning in the freshwater marshes adjacent to Sudama Steps produced 4 CLIFF SWALLOWS * (3 immatures and an adult) and 3 LONG WINGED HARRIERS

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From Antigua, a small pond in the Picarts area held up to 5 MASKED DUCKS between 6th - 13th April; 3 SORAS and 2 RUDDY DUCKS on 7th and a PURPLE GALLINULE between 10-12th. Another small pool, just north of the new Sir Vivian Richards cricket stadium produced a SORA on 12th Apr together with 3 KILLDEER and a YELLOW RUMPED WARBLER. At Jolly Harbour up to 8 WEST INDIAN WHISTLING DUCKS were present on 10th Apr. At McKinnons Salt Pond, there were a further 13 together with a 1st winter LESSER BLACK BACKED GULL and single RUDDY DUCK

From Monserrat, 5 MONSERRAT ORIOLES were present in the Centre Hills together with 4 FOREST THRUSHES and 3 BROWN TREMBLERS on 13th Apr.

From Tobago, the long staying SORA was still at Louis d'Or on 2nd Apr and a COMMON POTOO was found roosting in the mangrove at Lowlands the following day. The first reported SOOTY TERNS were present on Smith Is on the 13th and the first BROWN NODDIES of the season were on Little Tobago the same day.

On 15th Apr, 2 MANGROVE CUCKOOS were found at Lowlands (seen again on the 22nd) and a pair of COMMON WAXBILLS* (1st record for Tobago) were close to the sewage ponds. The following day a BANK SWALLOW was found at Bon Accord (several were to be seen there 22nd-24th) and another MANGROVE CUCKOO was present. On 17th Apr, a one hour dawn seawatch from Crown Pt produced 100+ ROYAL TERNS, 31 ROSEATE TERNS, 20 CAYENNE TERNS, 2 GULL BILLED TERNS, 2 SOOTY TERNS and a SANDWICH TERN. Finally, a probably BOBOLINK was seen at Bon Accord on the 22nd.

From Asa Wright Nature Centre, a ROSE BREASTED GROSBEAK * was found on 11th Apr; an ORNATE HAWK EAGLE appeared over the valley on the 12th; a RUFIOUS SHAFTED WOODSTAR * was seen on 15th ; single BROWN VIOLETEARS was seen on both 17th and 28th Apr with a female LONG BILLED STARHROAT on the latter date.

Elsewhere in the northern range of Trinidad, a RUFIOUS NIGHTJAR was heard in Lopinot valley on 11th Apr. On 26th Apr, single GRAY THROATED LEAFTOSSER, WHITE THROATED SPADEBILL and SUMMER TANAGER * were found in the Las Lapas area.

From north east Trinidad, a LEACH'S PETREL was seen briefly from Galera Pt on 18th Apr ; 4 SHORT TAILED NIGHTHAWKS and 4 WHITE COLLARED SWIFTS flew over Montevideo on the 19th

On the east coast of Trinidad, a WHITE TAILED GOLDENTHROAT was found at Manzanilla on 8th Apr

From central Trinidad, a COCOI HERON was at the Aripo Agriculture Stn on 24th Apr and 2 WHITE WINGED BECARDS were found at Waller Field on the 25th . Flocks totaling at least 500 DICKCISSELS remain in the Valsayn area to 27th Apr at least.

On the west coast of Trinidad, the first reported YELLOW BILLED TERNS of the season were found at Waterloo on 9th Apr. From the same site, a minimum of 6 LESSER BLACK BACKED GULLS were roosting on the tidal mudflats on 22nd Apr together with minimas of 400 BLACK SKIMMERS, 175 LARGE BILLED TERNS, 50 ROYAL TERNS and 20 YELLOW BILLED TERNS. At Caroni swamp ,a COCOI HERON, a RUFIOUS NECKED WOOD RAIL, 2 PYGMY KINGFISHERS and 2 COMMON POTOOS were found on 27th Apr.

From south west Trinidad, early morning at Sudama steps on 6th Apr produced 68 species including at least 40 GREEN RUMPED PARROTLETS, at least 25 SPOTTED TODY FLYCATCHERS, 20 NORTHERN WATERTHRUSHES, 10 YELLOW WARBLERS, 6 immature CLIFF SWALLOWS * and 2 GREATER ANIS. At the same site, 2 late PEREGRINES were hunting the marsh on 22nd Apr

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Please note that Martyn will be away from the Caribbean from the middle of this month until early September. This is therefore the last bulletin for some while. He asks all contributors to continue to EMail him news and he will send out a "multi month issue" at the end of September.

This is the SOUTH EASTERN CARIBBEAN BIRD ALERT Sept 2007 summary of sightings through the Region. Sponsored by the T&T Field Naturalists Club, our aim is to promote birding and ornithology by fostering communication among resident and visiting birders regarding the study of birds in the region. The SCBA and information about TTFNC, T&T Rare Bird Committee and our Photo Gallery are accessible at "http://www.wow.net/ttfnc". Reports should be sent to Martyn Kenefick tel 674.7609; Email "martynkenefick@hotmail.com" The T&T Rare Birds Committee requires details for species indicated with an asterisk.

This is the first bulletin since the spring. In my absence, few sightings were reported but island highlights include the 1st RINGED KINGFISHER for Tobago, the 1st breeding record of SOUTHERN LAPWING for Barbados and the first AMERICAN KESTREL for at least seven years was in south west Trinidad.

During September, in Guadeloupe, the first PROTHONOTARY WARBLER of the season appeared at Port Louis on 1st together with a WHITE CROWNED PIGEON. At the same site, 2 GULL BILLED TERNS were found on the 12th whilst an UPLAND SANDPIPER was at Pole Caraibe airport. By the 17th, 3 WILSON'S PHALAROPES were at Pointe des Chateaux and on the 19th, 23 RUDDY DUCKS were found at Gaschet reservoir. Of much rarer occurrence, a juvenile BLACK TERN was watched from Pointe des Chateaux from 20th-26th at least, accompanied on the 22nd by 2 WHITE CHEEKED PINTAILS and single BOBOLINK, BLACK NECKED STILT and BUFF BREASTED SANDPIPER on the 26th. During this period, 2 BUFF BREASTED SANDPIPERS were at Pole Caraibe airport on the 23rd and the monthly maximum of 1540 CARIBBEAN MARTINS were at Pointe a Pitre on 25th Sept, accompanied by at least 6 PURPLE or CUBAN MARTINS

From Petit-Terre Nature Reserve, 25 AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVERS were seen in flight on 3rd Sept; 4 PURPLE THROATED CARIBS were found on the 4th; 2 BLUE WINGED TEALS on 8th; the first BELTED KINGFISHER of the season on 14th; a BANK SWALLOW on 21st and 50 BARN SWALLOWS on the 22nd.

In the northern range of Trinidad, a SMALL BILLED ELAENIA * regularly visited a garden in Lopinot valley from mid May to end Sept. (1st record for over 50 years). The 1st reported NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH of the season was at Brasso Seco on 25th Sept.

In central Trinidad, a reaped pumpkin field south of Caroni held an UPLAND SANDPIPER *, 200 PECTORAL SANDPIPERS, 150 LESSER YELLOWLEGS, 30 AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER and 15 SOLITARY SANDPIPERS on 16th Sept. At Caroni rice project, 12 WHITE CHEEKED PINTAIL, 2 BLUE WINGED TEAL and good numbers of both STILT SANDPIPER and WHITE RUMPED SANDPIPER were present on 29th Sept. From Mt Tamana, a flock of 41 BLUE HEADED PARROTS were seen together with at least 6 CRIMSON CRESTED WOODPECKERS on 30th Sept

In south Trinidad, a flock of 33 LINED SEEDEATERS *,(1st for T&T) including 5 adult males were found on 27th Sept (locality with-held)

On the west coast of Trinidad, 4 BANK SWALLOWS were found inland from Carli bay on 29th Sept, whilst in the bay itself 2 BLACK TERNS and a single BROWN NODDY following a fishing boat together with 30 COMMON TERNS. A few miles north, 5 RED KNOT were seen at Orange valley on the same date

From Tobago, the 1st reported BELTED KINGFISHER of the season was found at Bon Accord on 19th Sept and up to 60 BLACK SKIMMERS have been at the same site throughout the month.

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From Guadeloupe, sightings at the Petite-Terre Nature Reserve included the first YELLOW BILLED CUCKOO of the season on 1st Oct; a GRAY HERON (1st for Guadeloupe - found exhausted, taken into care and subsequently released on the 18th) on the 3rd together with a RED KNOT; an immature MASKED BOOBY on the 4th; 3 BLACKPOLL WARBLERS and single YELLOW BILLED CUCKOO and RED EYED VIREO on the 9th; BOBOLINK and PRAIRIE WARBLER on the 10th; a BLACK BILLED CUCKOO on the 16th and another MASKED BOOBY on the 22nd

Elsewhere on the island, the undoubted highlight was at Pointe des Chateaux where a phenomenal total of 800 - 100 BLACKPOLL WARBLERS per hour passed through on 13th Oct. Also from this site, a SNOWY PLOVER was found on 2nd Oct ; 2 BLACK NECKED STILTS, a BUFF BREASTED SANDPIPER and a RED KNOT were found together with the unfortunate sight of a MERLIN catching and eating a YELLOW BILLED CUCKOO on 8th Oct. Finally a CASPIAN TERN (4th for Guadeloupe) was located on the 25th. From Port Louis swamp, 3 WHITE CHEEKED PINTAILS together with a BARE EYED THRUSH and a RED EYED VIREO were seen on 3rd Oct; 3 LEAST BITTERNs together with single WILSON'S SNIPE, GULL BILLED TERN and 2 PRAIRIE WARBLERS were found on the 7th and from Lalanne Port Louis, an immature HOODED WARBLER and a BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERON were seen on 28th Oct

From Deshaies, a BOBOLINK was seen on 7th Oct; from Gosier a SWALLOW TAILED KITE (2nd record for Guadeloupe) was found on the 10th and from Desirade Is. 10 YELLOW BILLED CUCKOOS, 18 BOBOLINKS and 30 BLACKPOLL WARBLERS were found on the 16th. Finally, the month high total of CARIBBEAN MARTINS at Pointe a Pitre was 711 including 7 male PURPLE/CUBAN MARTINS and a immature/female PURPLE MARTIN

In BARBADOS, there was significant rainfall in October and at migration spots there were above average numbers of BLACKPOLL WARBLERS and YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOOS. BOBOLINKS were generally few and far between and the only report of a RED-EYED VIREO was one near Friendly Hall on 21st Oct. A flock of 24+ CLIFF SWALLOWS and 2 BANK SWALLOWS was reported south of Harrison Point on 14th Oct. The group of 5 SOUTHERN LAPWINGS remained at Spring Hall throughout the month. A single RED KNOT was at Chancery Lane on 28th Oct and a NORTHERN SHOVELER was at Graeme Hall Swamp also on 28th Oct.

From Grenada, a SOUTHERN LAPWING (1st for Grenada) was found at Telescope St. Andrews on 21st Oct; Elsewhere on the island, a PECTORAL SANDPIPER was at Point Salines on the 24th; a PROTHONOTARY WARBLER at Mt Hartman on 26th Oct; a NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH at la Sagesse ,St. Davids on the 28th whilst large numbers of BLACKPOLL WARBLERS were in the south of the island from the 24th,

From Tobago, 2 BUFF BREASTED SANDPIPERS* were found at Bon Accord sewage lagoons on 2nd Oct and up to 6 BLACKBURNIAN WARBLERS* were seen along the Roxborough -Bloody-Bay Rd on 20th Oct. On 21st Oct, the first reported SORA RAIL of the autumn was found at Lowlands together with a PIED BILLED GREBE, whilst a BLACKPOLL WARBLER was present at Bon Accord

From the northern range of Trinidad, on 7th Oct, single BLACK WHISKERED VIREOS* were found at Morne Bleu and at Paria junction. On 21st Oct, 2 TRINIDAD PIPING GUANS were found not too far from the favored area at Morne Bleu, together with 2 YELLOW LEGGED THRUSHES, single LONG BILLED STARTRHROT and CHESTNUT WOODPECKER. On the same date, single BRIGHT RUMPED ATTILA and SHORT TAILED PYGMY-TYRANT were found at Asa Wright. Another BLACK WHISKERED VIREO* was seen along the upper Blanchisseuse Rd on 23rd Oct and a BLACKPOLL WARBLER was found in a Lopinot garden on the 24th

From the north west peninsula, a YELLOW BELLIED SEEDEATER was found on Chacachacare on 28th Oct

From the west coast of Trinidad, at least 2 WILSON'S PLOVERS and a CAYENNE TERN were present at Orange valley on 9th Oct. At the same site, 78 BLACK NECKED STILTS (the highest documented count at this site) were present on the 27th; the WILSON'S PLOVERS were still there, a BANK SWALLOW flew over and 2 ROYAL TERNS were found (uncommon in October) at Carli Bay

From south west Trinidad, early morning at Sudama steps on 8th Oct produced 3 PINNATED BITTERNs, a LEAST BITTERN, at least 4 LONG WINGED HARRIERS, BAT FALCON, several SPOTTED TODY-FLYCATCHERS, a BANK SWALLOW, large numbers of YELLOW WARBLERS and NORTHERN WATERTHRUSHES and 2 RED CAPPED CARDINALS. At the same site, at least 5 PINNATED BITTERNs were on view on the 18th together with a probable immature CLIFF SWALLOW

From South Trinidad, just one adult male LINED SEEDEATER * was still present on 18th Oct from the flock found in Sept

From eastern Trinidad, an adult CRESTED CARACARA * was seen perched high in mangrove along Cocos Bay Rd on 8th Oct, and an immature APLOMADO FALCON* was seen inside Nariva swamp, close to Kernaham. A flock of birds roosting on the mud at the mouth of the Nariva river included a party of 33 LEAST TERNS, 6 SANDERLING and a RED KNOT.

From north eastern Trinidad, between 28th - 30th Oct up to 10 BLACKPOLL WARBLERS were found feeding at Galera Pt together with single PROTHONOTARY WARBLER and YELLOW BILLED CUCKOO. From central Trinidad, early morning in the Aripo Agriculture Stn on 8th Oct produced single PINNATED BITTERN, 3 AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER, a BLACKPOLL WARBLER and a BLACK WHISKERED VIREO *

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From south western Trinidad, early morning at Sudama steps on the 6th Nov produced 5 PINNATED and one LEAST BITTERN together with 2 immature CLIFF SWALLOWS and single LITTLE CUCKOO and WHITE WINGED BECARD. From south Trinidad, at least 3 immature/female LINED SEEDEATERS remain at the site documented in earlier reports . We have also received reports of a flock of 4 birds from a site close to Nariva swamp late in the month On the east coast of Trinidad, a LONG BILLED STARTHROAT was found on the western border of Nariva swamp on 8th Nov and single CORY'S SHEARWATER * and brown morph RED FOOTED BOOBY were seen from Manzanilla on the 30th

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From Guadeloupe, December heralded three new species for the island. Firstly a STRIATED HERON at Desirade Is on 2nd (also only the 3rd record for the West Indies). Also present were single SNOW GOOSE, RUDDY DUCK and GREAT EGRET. Not to be outdone, a YELLOW THROATED WARBLER was found at Vieux Habitants on 4th Dec and a 1st winter BONAPARTE'S GULL at Point a Pitre 14th - 16th Dec. Photos available at: www.amazona-guadeloupe.com)

Elsewhere on the island, a COMMON TERN was at Point a Pitre on 2nd Dec; single GREATER BLACK BACKED and RING BILLED GULLS at Basse Terre and an AMERICAN WIGEON at Petit-Canal on the 4th; single HOODED WARBLERS at Port-Louis on 12th and 17th and an adult PIED BILLED GREBE with 6 chicks at Sainte-Anne also on 17th Dec

From Tobago, still up to 9 BLACK SKIMMERS at Bon Accord sewage lagoons 2nd - 4th Dec. At the same site single AMERICAN WIGEON * and MANGROVE CUCKOO were found on the 2nd .and a PROTHONOTARY WARBER was found on the 23rd. At Lowlands, the BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER * first found on 10th Nov was still present on 2nd Dec, together with a second MANGROVE CUCKOO and an adult PIED BILLED GREBE whilst on 24th Dec. 4 MANGROVE CUCKOOS and another PROTHONOTARY WARBER were found. At the other end of the islands, at Speyside, 3 HOOK BILLED KITES * were seen over Blue Waters Inn

In the northern range of Trinidad . At Asa Wright Nature Centre a female ROSE BREASTED GROSBEAK * spent the afternoon in front of the balcony on 6th Dec; an un-seasonal WHITE COLLARED SWIFT flew north up the valley on the 7th ; 2 SHORT TAILED NIGHTHAWKS foraged hatched flying termites on the evening of the 9 Dec and a male GRAY SEEDEATER was found on the 30th . Elsewhere, a male SUMMER TANAGER * was seen along Las Lapas trace on 3rd Dec, single OLIVE SIDED FLYCATCHER and VARIEGATED FLYCATCHER * were found north of Paria junction on the Blanchisseuse Rd on 8th Dec and an immature male BLUE GROUND-DOVE was at Surrey village Lopinot on 11th Dec . On 30th Dec, a pair of HEPATIC TANAGERS were at the Textel station on Morne Bleu, single OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHERS at Morne Bleu and Las Lapas, 2 RUDDY QUAIL DOVES flew across the Blanchisseuse Rd close to Andrews trace and a BRIGHT RUMPED ATTILA was heard calling from Las Lapas

In south west Trinidad, 2 STRIPE BACKED BITTERNS and a PINNATED BITTERN were found at Sudama Steps on 21st Dec. At Forest reserve, Pt Fortin an adult BLACK HAWK EAGLE * was seen and photographed on 29th Dec

In south Trinidad, a free flying flock of 6 RED AND GREEN MACAWS were seen close to Morne Diablo on Christmas Day

On the east coast of Trinidad, the first reported COCOI HERON of the season was adjacent to Cocos Ba Rd on 6th Dec. Close by was an adult CRESTED CARACARA * and inside Nariva swamp at Kernaham, 2 each of PINNATED BITTERN, LONG WINGED HARRIER and MASKED YELLOWTHROAT were found. On the same date 3 BLUE HEADED PARROTS and a CRIMSON CRESTED WOODPECKER were seen at North Manzanilla

In central Trinidad, 4 YELLOW BILLED TERNS were still present at Trincity ponds on 5th Dec, but not seen subsequently. At the same site, 2 LITTLE EGRETS were found on 11th Dec

RARE BIRD REPORTING :- many of the identifications from Trinidad and Tobago reported in the SCBA are tentative. The TT Rare Birds Committee, founded in 1995, requests details for all rare birds observed (see Species Review List at our website). Please submit details to the TTRBC Secretary : Martyn Kenefick, 36 Newalloville Ave, San Juan - Email "martynkenefick@hotmail.com"