

# SOUTHERN FLORIDA, THE BAHAMAS AND GRAND CAYMAN

12 UNTIL 27-04-2015



*Bahama Pintail Abaco, Florida Scrubjay Jupiter (Florida), Key West Quail Dove Andros, West Indian Whistling Duck Grand Cayman.*

### Legenda:

**\*AAAA** = New (Holarctic) Species **(26)**

**\*AAAA** = New Life bird **(4)**

**AAAAA** = Good species for the trip or for me

*The list order is conform the NG Field Guide to the Birds of N. America, by Dunn and Alderfer (sixth Edition) with the recent changes on the splitting and lumping issue mainly based on publications in the "important magazines". Subspecies is only mentioned when thought to be important and really visible in the field. The totals of birds per species are just a total of the birds I saw to give an idea how many of a species you encounter during a trip. Only species seen are mentioned (with one exception)*

On this trip I never looked at a weather forecast, since it was good every day with not much wind and some slight showers, with one very heavy one on the last evening in Florida.

### **A birders Gide to The Bahama Islands" by White ISBN 1-878788-16-7**

#### Itinerary

**12-04** Flew from Dusseldorf to Miami and picked up the car. I had a short late afternoon drive to Jupiter for the Jays and saw them easily. Later on searched a hotel in Jupiter.

**13-04** Drove from Jupiter to Miami and visited several parks for Short-tailed Hawk and ended at Shark Valley in the upper Everglades with no luck. Slept in a hotel on the south east side of Miami.

**14-04** Birded several places in southern (Cutler Wetlands) eastern Miami (upper Keys) for STHawk and ended the day at Royal Palms in the northern Everglades. Slept in Homestead.

**15-04** Birded the southern Everglades, started at Royal Palm and drove all the way to Flamingo. Slept in Homestead.

**16-04** Drove in the early morning to Long Key for a search for Key West Quail-Dove (in vain) and then back to the southern section in the Everglades (again to Flamingo) for further searching for better views of STHawk. Slept again in Homestead.

**17-04** Birded the upper Everglades, mainly at Copland because of recent records of STHawk and finally had great views of a light face, later on birded at Shark Valley and returned to a hotel near the airport.

**18-04** Flew with the BirdQuest group from Miami to Abaco (Marsh Harbour) and birded at the southern part of the island.

**19-04** Birded on the whole of Abaco all day.

**20-04** Birded in the morning on Abaco (Bahama Palm Shores) and flew later on to Nassau (New Providence), birded for a few hours in the Retreat and in the afternoon flew to Andros (with a delay)

**21-04** Birded all day at Andros in the morning at Blue hole, great day where we cleaned up.

**22-04** We wanted to fly from Andros to Nassau but in the morning we where delayed by bad weather. When it cleared they still did not fly. Due to the fact that the BirdQuest people had international afternoon flights we hired a small plane to fly to Nassau where we arrived around 13.00 hour. I birded the rest of the afternoon on New Providence mainly at the former known Rainbow Farm.

**23-04** Birded on New Providence, at Paradise Island, the Retreat and the south west of the Island.

**24-04** Birded at the same places including the farm on Paradise Island.

**25-04** Flew in the morning from Nassau to Miami and later on flew to Grand Cayman and birded in the afternoon (wrecked a car in the meantime, luckily fully insured by Hertz..)

**26-04** Birded at several places on Grand Cayman, St Pedro James Point, North side, Hulder road Pig farm and the Botanical Gardens.

**27-04** Flew from Grand Cayman to Miami and later on to Dusseldorf to arrive on the 28<sup>th</sup> in the early morning.





*The entrance of the Retreat in Nassau and the Bahama way of celebrating lifers...*

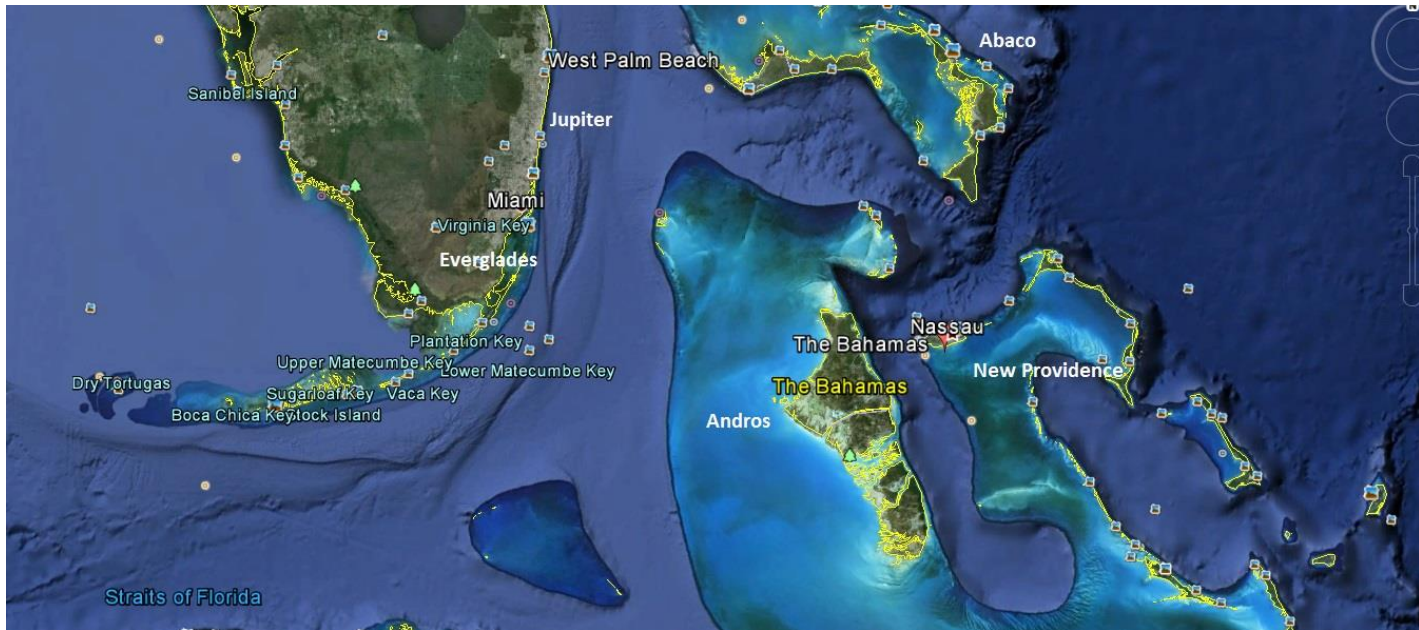


*Flying from Andros by private plane because the connecting with the international flights was in danger for some.*

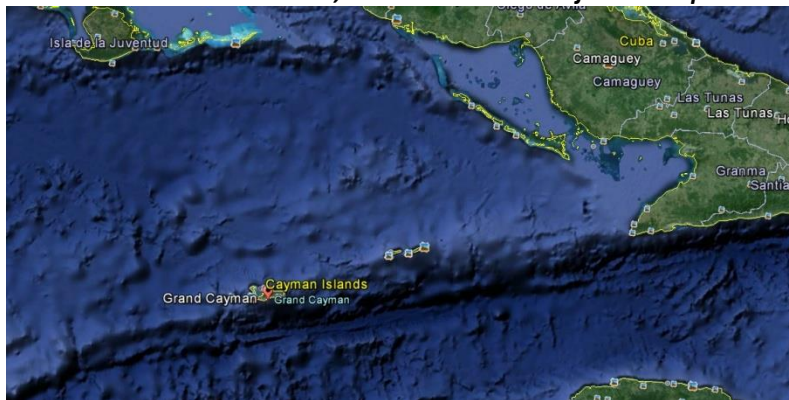


*Bahama Swallows while waiting on Andros.*





**Florida and the Bahamas area, with in white the major visited places.**



**Grand Cayman, with in white the major visited .places.**



## THE BIRD SPECIES

01. **\*WEST INDIAN WHISTLING DUCK - *Dendrocygna arborea***

25+26-04

a total of 75 birds seen at three locations on Grand Cayman. The most at Bel air road, a few at the northern site at the pig farm at Hulder road. One bird was also seen at The Botanical gardens. All but one (with a young) where very confiding and sometimes almost at touching range. This is all because they are looked after by the locals.



02. Mottled Duck – ***Anas fulvigula***

14-04

1 ex. seen on a pond along the way in southern Miami

03. Blue Winged Teal – *Anas discors*

A total of 72 seen on several places on the Bahamas and Cayman with migrating flocks past New Providence on 24-04 in the evening (60 birds in total).

04. **\*WHITE-CHEEKED PINTAIL – *Anas bahamensis* ssp: *bahamensis***

19-04

22 ex. seen very well Treasure Cay golf course on Abaco. These birds where tame and used to man who feed them. The males were displaying.

23-04

2 ex. at a swamp near Coral Harbor, New Providence, shy birds.



*The Treasure Cay flock, tame and confiding in contrast with the birds seen at Coral Harbour.*

05. Lesser Scaup – *Aythya affinis*

23-04 1 female at a pond on New Providence near Coral Beach.

06. Greater Canada Goose – *Branta canadensis* ssp: *parvipes* (?)

19-04 1 ex at the Treasure Cay golf course on Abaco. This bird appeared last winter and teamed up with the W.C.Pintails. It looked small but too big and long necked for a Cackling Goose. This bird is probably present from the winter of 2012, or this is a new individual from November 2014.



*Northern Bobwhite – *Colinus virginianus**

A total of 17 seen on Andros and New Providence, this species seems to be introduced.

07. Least Grebe – *Tachybaptus dominicus*

A total of 10 seen on Andros and New Providence, often calling and in pairs.

08. Pied-billed Grebe – *Podilymbus podiceps*

19-04 1 ex at the Treasure Cay golf course on Abaco

09. **\*WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD – *Phaethon lepturus***

19-04 8 birds flying around near an island at the northern tip of Abaco.

25+26-04 4 birds seen very well flying at a small colony at St' Pedro James point. Very nice views of this long awaited lifer. Seen also "parallel flying" on 26-04.

10. Wood Stork – *Mycteria americana*

A total of 25 seen spread over the days in the Florida part of the trip. Great birds.

11. American White Ibis – *Eudocimus albus*

Common in Florida and a total of 8 birds seen at Abaco and Andros.

12. Glossy Ibis – *Plegadis falcinellus*

Quite common in Florida and on most of the Bahamas, mainly on New Providence.

13. Roseate Spoonbill – *Platalea ajaja*

16-04 1 ex. seen flying along the road.

14. Least Bittern – *Ixobrychus exilis*

- 23-04 1 ex. seen in flight at a pond on New Providence.
15. Black-crowned Night Heron – *Nycticorax nycticorax*  
 13-04 1 ex. seen in the early morning in flight.  
 A total of 8 seen on Grand Cayman.
16. Yellow-crowned Night Heron – *Nyctanassa violacea*  
 19-04 1 ex. on Abaco along the way  
 21-04 1 ex. on Andros in the mangroves.
17. Green Heron – *Butorides virescens*  
 Common in Florida and on most of the Bahamas. All birds looked like classical birds in the amount of red on the sides of the neck and even on the southern islands the neck color was red.
18. (Western) Cattle Egret – *Bubulcus ibis*  
 Common in Florida and on New Providence and Grand Cayman.
19. Great Blue Heron – *Ardea Herodias*  
 Seen daily in low numbers (a maximum of 5) in Florida, Abaco and New Providence.
20. Great Egret - *Ardea alba*  
 A total of 15 seen in Florida and 3 on the Bahamas', not a common bird there.
21. Reddish Egret – *Egretta rufescens*  
 18-04 4 ex, all white face seen at a costal site on Abaco where surprisingly he only one of the trip.
22. Tricolored Heron – *Egretta tricolor*  
 23-04 2 seen on New Providence.  
 Common in Florida and on Grand Cayman, the commonest heron there.
23. Little Blue Heron – *Egretta caerulea*  
 A total of 5 seen in Florida, 4 on the Bahamas and 3 on Grand Cayman. Mostly white face.
24. Snowy Egret – *Egretta thula*  
 23-04 23-04 1 ex. on New Providence.  
 26-04 26-04 1 ex. on Grand Cayman.  
 Quite common in Florida.
25. Magnificent Frigatebird – *Fregata magnificens*  
 14-04 2 ex seen around the upper Keys.  
 19-04 4 ex seen flying around Abaco  
 Quite common at Grand Cayman, seen in flight and even on an antenna sitting.
26. Double-crested Cormorant – *Phalacrocorax auritus*  
 Common in Florida and on Abaco.
27. Neotropic Cormorant – *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*  
 12-04 1 ex. seen in a tree above a canal from the road (the 1 north).  
 19-04 1 ex. seen very well Treasure Cay golf course on Abaco.  
 Common on New Providence with 15 birds seen daily.
28. Anhinga – *Anhinga anhinga*  
 Common in Florida also on the nest.

29. (American) Osprey – *Pandion halaetus* ssp: *carolinensis*

19-04 1 ex. on Abaco

23-04 1 ex. at New Providence

Common in Florida and seen on all days.

30. **(CARIBBEAN) OSPREY – *Pandion halaetus* ssp: *ridgwayi***

21-04 2 ex. seen very well flying over our heads on Andros. These birds had very white heads with a thin dark eye stripe. Also the upperparts were grayish. If you split Osprey this is the reason to do it.

31. Snail Kite – *Rostrhamus sociabilis*

13-04 3 ex. seen very well hunting at one of the Indian Restaurants along the way at Shark Valley. Great views of at least one subadult and two adult like birds.

32. Swallow-tailed Kite – *Elanus leucurus*

A total of 55 seen in the Everglades and surroundings, some in small flocks. Great birds, for me it was a very long time no see.



33. Sharp-shinned Hawk – *Accipiter striatus*

12-04 1 female flying over the Scrub Jay place.

16-04 1 male flying over along the way.

34. Cooper's Hawk – *Accipiter cooperii*

13-04 seen spread over the day in the Miami city parks.

35. Bald Eagle – *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

A total of 4 seen in the Everglades while scanning for STHawks., all adults.

36. Northern Harrier – *Circus hudsonius*

14-04 1 ringtail type hunting in the early morning at Cutler wetlands.

37. Red-Shouldered Hawk – *Buteo lineatus* ssp: *extimus*

Common in Florida, with active nests with young.

38. **\*SHORT-TAILED HAWK – *Buteo brachyurus***

16-04 1 ex. hunting in the Everglades, very far away.

17-04 2 ex., one dark face hunting, briefly and later one light face, seen very well. This last bird was reported there for a few days. Their hunting style is very conspicuous. It "hangs" like a parachute motionless in the air near a bush and then dives down.





Photo Linda Rudolph of the bird I saw

39. Red-tailed Hawk – *Buteo jamaicensis*

3 seen in the Everglades.

19-04

1ex. on Abaco.

40. **Black Rail – *laterallus jamaicensis***

15-04

2 ex. heard along the Everglades road to Flamingo at Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Spot. One bird called at the distance of a few centimeters (!! ) from my leg and I could feel the vibration. Unfortunately not seen so no tick.

41. American Purple Gallinule – *Porphyrio martinicus*

17-04

1 ex. very tame and close by near the entrance of Anhinga trail in the Everglades.



42. Common Gallinule – *Gallinula galeata*

Common in Florida and on most of the Bahamas, great to see the impressive shields on the forehead.

43. American Coot – *Fulica americana*

14-04

10 ex Cutler Wetlands

Quite common on most most of the Bahamas.

*Caribbean Coot – fulica (americana) caribaea*

19-04

1 male seen very well on the Treasure Cay golf course on Abaco (see picture) and the yellow on the forehead/shield (mixed characters)



*The bird showed mixed characters.*

44. Limpkin – *Aramus guarauna*

13-04

1 ex seen at the Snail Kite place near Shark Valley.

17-04

1 very tame bird at the entrance of Anhinga trail.

Seen on Abaco (2) and common on Andros (near the airport).

45. American Oystercatcher – *Haematopus palliatus*

A total of 3 seen on Abaco and Andros.

46. Black-necked Stilt – *Himantopus mexicanus*

Common in Florida in flocks.

23-04

1 ex. on New Providence.

26-04

3 ex. Grand Cayman.

The birds called very different than the European birds.

47. Grey Plover – *Pluvialis squatarola*

15-04

2 ex. near Flamingo.

23+24-04

6 ex. seen on New Providence.

48. Semipalmated Plover – *Charadrius semipalmatus*

15-04

50 ex. around Flamingo.

Seen on Abaco (10) and New Providence (15).

49. Wilson's Plover – *Charadrius wilsonia*

23-04

5 ex. seen very close by at the southern beach on New Providence.

Great views of adult and immature birds.





*Very tame birds giving great views.*

50. Killdeer – *Charadrius vociferous*

A total of 3 birds seen in Florida and quite common on most of the Bahamas.

51. Short-billed Dowitcher – *Limnodromus griseus* ssp: *griseus*

A total of 40 seen in small flocks in Florida

18-04 2 ex. in winter plumage on Abaco.

52. Hudsonian Whimbrel – *Numenius hudsonicus*

10+11-04 11 ex. at the beaches on Abaco.

53. Greater Yellowlegs – *Tringa malanoleuca*

14-04 1 ex. at the Cutler Wetlands.

24-04 1 ex. along the coast of New Providence.

54. Solitary Sandpiper – *Tringa solitaria*

22-04 2 ex. at Andros airport after heavy rain.

26-04 2 ex. seen well at the Botanical gardens on Grand Cayman.



55. (Eastern) Willet – *Tringa semipalmata* ssp: *semipalmata*

A total of 3 birds in Florida and 15 on Abaco and New Providence.

56. Spotted Sandpiper – *actitis macularius*

16-04 1 ex. at the Keys.

24-04 3 ex. at New Providence's beach a migrating flock

26-04 1 ex. at Grand Cayman.

All in almost full summer plumage



57. Ruddy Turnstone – *Arenaria interpres*

Quite common on the Bahamas beaches

58. Semipalmated Sandpiper – *calidris pusilla*

14-04 15 ex. at the Cutler Wetlands, nice views.

16-04 1 ex. at a beach on the Keys.

59. Least Sandpiper – *Calidris minutilla*

14-04 5 ex. at the Cutler Wetlands, nice views.

16-04 30 ex. at a beach on the Keys.

60. Stilt Sandpiper – *Calidris acuminata*

14-04 4 ex. at the Cutler Wetlands, moulting into summer plumage, nice views.

61. Laughing Gull – *Leucophaeus atricilla*

Common throughout the trip except on Cayman.

62. Lesser Black-backed Gull – *Larus fuscus* ssp: ??

22-04 1 ex. in a big flock of Laughing gulls on New Providence.



63. Least Tern – *Sterna antillarum*

13-04 1 ex. along the way, feeding.

17-04 2 ex. near Homestead.

64. Forster's Tern – *sterna fosteri*

15-04 20 ex. in a small flock at Flamingo.

65. Gull-billed Tern – *Geochelidon nilotica*

18-04 1 ex. in summer plumage on a muddy bank at Abaco, unexpected.

66. Royal Tern – *Thalasseus maximus*

16-04 3 ex. at Flamingo.

A total of 15 seen on several Bahama islands.

67. White-crowned Pigeon – *Patagioenas leucocephala*

16-04 8 ex. seen mostly in flight on the Keys.

Common on all of the Bahama Islands.

68. Eurasian Collared Dove – *Streptopelia decaocto*

Common throughout Florida and the Bahamas. Maybe the most common bird encountered.

Most likely? all related from introduced birds.

69. Mourning Dove – *Zenaida macroura*

Common in Florida.

24-04 2 ex. at New Providence.

70. Zenaida Dove – zenaida aurita ssp: zenaida

26-04

8 ex. at the Botanical gardens at Grand Cayman, one bird was very confiding and calling. This is (luckily) the same subspecies as on the Bahamas.



71. White-winged Dove – *Zenaida asiatica*

Common on Grand Cayman.

72. Common Ground Dove – *columbina passerine*

Two birds seen in the Everglades and common on the Bahamas and Grand Cayman.

*Caribbean Dove – Leptotila jamaicensis*

A total of 12 seen on both visits at the Retreat at New Providence. This species is introduced from Jamaica, where I saw them in 1991.

73. **\*KEY WEST QUAIL DOVE – Geotrygon chrysie**

21-04

2 ex. seen very well at Andros near Blue Hole. Found them on call and flushed them from the ground when one of them perched for minutes in a low tree. One of my most wanted for this trip.



*THE dove of the trip by Eustace Barnes.*

74. Smooth-billed Ani – *Crotophaga ani*

Common on the Bahamas and Grand Cayman.

75. Mangrove Cuckoo – coccyzus minor

21-04

2 ex. seen and heard very well on Andros.

23+24

1 ex. heard at the Retreat, New Providence. Great sound.



76. **\*GREAT LIZARD CUCKOO – *Coccyzus merlini* ssp: *bahamensis***

21-04

1 seen and heard very well on Andros, near the town.



*Eustace had a fast enough camera to get the Cuckoo in the open*

77. Great Horned Owl – *Bubo virginianus*

16-04

1 bird in flight with prey in the claws at the upper Keys in the early morning.

78. Common Nighthawk – *Chordeiles minor*

16-04

2 ex. in flight and loudly calling in the late evening above Anhinga trail.

79. **\* ANTILLEAN NIGHTHAWK – *Chordeiles gundlachi***

22-04

2 ex. in flight above Paradise Island in the evening, calling a lot.

24-04

1 ex. seen extremely well sitting on a branch in the evening, calling while perched (but I left my camera in the car, grrrrr..). Quite small and remarkably dark nightjar.

80. Chimney Swift – *Chaetura pelagic*

12-04

8 ex. in the evening in Jupiter

13-04

2 ex. along the way.

81. **\*CUBAN EMERALD – *Chlorostilbon ricordii***

Common on Abaco and 7 on Andros.





Both Hummers of the Bahamas, Emerald on the left, Woodstar (by Eustace Barnes) on the right, I did not know about the new split...

82. **\*BAHAMA WOODSTAR – Calliphlox evelynae**

A total of 14 seen on Andros (1) and New Providence (The Retreat and the former Rainbow farm). Great birds, very aggressive against each other. Just a few adult males.

83. Belted Kingfisher – *Megasceryle alcyon*

A total of 4 seen on Abaco and New Providence.

84. Red-Bellied Woodpecker – *Melanerpes carolinus*

Common in Florida and seen daily.

85. **\*WEST INDIAN WOODPECKER – *Melanerpes superciliaris* ssp: *blakei* + *caymanensis***

18+19+20 – 04

3 in total on Abaco giving great views

Common on Grand Cayman.



Ssp: *blakei*, seen very well

86. Downy Woodpecker – *picoides pubescens*

14-04

1 ex. at Anhinga trail near the entrance.

87. Hairy Woodpecker – *picoides vilosus* ssp: *maynardi*

21+22-04

5 in total on Andros, no differences seen with the US birds.

88. Northern Flicker – *colaptes auratus*

17-04

1 ex. seen near Copleand.

26-04

3 ex. at Grand Cayman.

89. Pileated Woodpecker – *Dryocopus pileatus*

15-04

2 ex. at the campsite at Flamingo

90. American Kestrel – *Falco sparverius* ssp: *sparveroides*

Common on all the visited Bahama islands. Small with a very white belly. I saw them hunting migrating warblers flying in from sea (one preyed on a Blackpoll Warbler).

91. Merlin – *Falco columarius*

A total of 4 seen on Abaco and Andros.

92. Peregrine – *Falco peregrinus* ssp:??

21-04 1 immature on Andros hunting along the shore.

93. **\*BAHAMA AMAZON – *Amazona bahamensis***

19+20-04

50 ex. in total in small groups at Abaco in a suburban area on the island.



Bahama by Eustace Barnes

Cuban they are very alike.

94. **\*CUBAN PARROT – *Amazona leucocephala***

26-04

Common on Grand Cayman

95. **\*CARRIBEAN ELAENIA – *Elaenia martinica***

Common on Grand Cayman, nice the upper head patch and yellowish underparts seen.

96. **\*CUBAN PEWEE – *Contopus caribaeus* ssp: *bahamensis***

A total of 15 seen on all three Bahama islands



Cuban Pewee by Eustace Barnes

97. Grey Kingbird – *Tyrannus dominicensis*

16-04 1 ex. at the campsite at Flamingo.

18-20-04 4 ex. at Abaco.

98. Loggerhead Kingbird – *Tyrannus caudifasciatus* ssp: *bahamensis* + *caymanensis*

Common on all Bahama islands (*bahamensis*) and on Grand Cayman (*caymanensis*).

99. Western Kingbird – *Tyrannus verticalis*

14-04 1 ex at the upper Keys perched in a tree.

100. Eastern Kingbird – *Tyrannus tyrannus*

13-04 1 ex. seen along the way.

101. Great Crested Flycatcher – *Myiarchus crinitus*

A total of 7 seen in Florida around and in the Everglades. A pair breeding at Flamingo.

102. **\*LA SAGRA'S FLYCATCHER – *Myiarchus lucaysiensis* ssp: *lucaysiensis* + *sagrae***

Common on all the Bahama Islands (*lucaysiensis*) and on Grand Cayman (*sagrae*)



*Lucaysiensis* on Abaco

103. White-eyed Vireo – *vireo griseus*

Common in the Everglades.

104. **\*THICK-BILLED VIREO – *vireo crassirostris***

Common on Abaco and Andros and a total of 5 seen on New Providence.



By Eutace Barnes



105. **\*YUCATAN VIREO – Vireo magister**

26-04

10 ex. in the botanical gardens on Grand Cayman, a big vireo.



*An unexpected new Holarctic bird (because I did not prepare this part of the trip to well...-(*

106. Black-whiskered Vireo – vireo altiloquus

20-04

4 ex. at the Retreat on New Providence.

23-04

4 ex. at the Retreat on New Providence.

107. Blue Jay – Cyanocitta cristata

Common in Florida mainly in the suburban areas

108. **\*FLORIDA SCRUB JAY – Aphelocoma coerulescens**

12-04

5 ex. near Jupiter, very tame birds, they found me instead of I found them..



109. American Crow – Corvus brachyrhynchos

Common in the whole of southern Florida.

110. Fish Crow - Corvus ossifragus

14-03

Quite common in the upper Keys, ID on call.

111. Sand Martin – Riparia riparia

22-04

1 ex. in flight at the airport of Andros, while waiting.

112. **\*BAHAMA SWALLOW – Tachycineta cyaneoviridis**

Common on Abaco and Andros, also collecting mud (on all kind of habitats) and near tree holes.



*Collecting mud near the airport of Andros.*

113. Purple Martin – *Progne subis*

13-04 1 ex. seen along the way on migration.

17-04 1 ex. seen along the way on migration.

114. **\*CUBAN MARTIN – *Progne cryptoleuca***

22-04 1 female perched on a wire near the airport of Andros. I was completely surprised to find a big white bellied female type martin between the migrating Barn Swallows after a big rainstorm. The bird had a quite clear-cut (from throat/upper breast and flanks) white unspotted belly (so female Purple was ruled out) and very obvious grey large mottling on the total flanks. Caribbean Martin was not completely ruled out but based on the fact that Cuba is much closer to Andros than the more southern distribution of Caribbean and the fact that all Florida records are considered Cuban I choose for this species but see: <https://sora.unm.edu/sites/.../p00672-p00673.pdf>

115. Northern Rough winged Swallow – *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*

13-04 2 ex. seen along the way on migration.

17-04 2 ex. seen along the way on migration.

116. Barn Swallow – *Hirundo rustica*

Small migrating flocks were seen in Florida (only 3 birds) and on the Bahamas (26 birds in total) and common on Grand Cayman.

117. Cave Swallow – *Petrochelidon fulva* ssp: *fulva*

14-04 15 ex. in a small colony at Cutler Wetlands, collecting mud. Darker than the birds I know with striped neck.

118. Blue-grey Gnatcatcher – *Poliophtila caerulea*

Seen in the Everglades (3 ex) and on Abaco and Andros (7 ex.)

119. Gray Catbird – *Dumetelia carolinensis*

Common throughout all the visited areas even one on Grand Cayman.

120. Northern Mockingbird – *Mimus polyglottos*

Common throughout all the visited areas even also on Grand Cayman

121. **\*BAHAMA MOCKINGBIRD – *Mimus gundlachii***

10-04 10 ex. in the pine forests in Abaco

22-04 4 ex. on Andros.

Far less common than expected and present in forests not in suburban areas



Common Myna – *Acridotheres tristis*

16-04

2 ex at a gas station along the way. An introduced species.

Common Starling – *Sturnus vulgaris*

Common in Florida (very) and on Abaco.

122. **\*RED-LEGGED THRUSH – *turdus plumbeus* ssp: *plumbeus***

Quite common on all visited Bahama islands. Great birds, mostly in suburban areas



123. Cedar Waxwing – *Bombycilla cedrorum*

17-04

1 ex. seen well at the entrance of Anhinga trail.

House Sparrow – *Passer domesticus*

Seen in low numbers in Florida and Abaco and N. Providence, common on Andros.

124. Ovenbird – *Seiurus aurocapilla*

16-04

1 ex. Long Key.

26-04

1 ex. on Grand Cayman

A total of 5 on the Bahamas.

125. Northern Waterthrush – *Parkesia noveboracensis*

A total of 3 seen in the Everglades (Anhinga trail).

22-04

1 ex. in the botanical gardens at Grand Cayman.

126. Black and white Warbler – *Mniotilta varia*

Seen in Florida (2) and on the Bahamas (9), always great to find them working their way around tree trunks



127. **\*BAHAMA YELLOWTHROAT – Geothlypis rostrata**

18-04 1 ex. seen very well in the pine woods on Abaco showing extremely well.

19-04 1 ex. seen well while birding at another location on Abaco.



*It is a "monster" of a yellowthroat, very big.*

128. Common Yellowthroat – *Geothlypis trichas*

Seen on several days in the everglades, one of the most common warblers there.

24-04 1 ex. at the former Rainbow Farm at New Providence.

129. American Redstart – *Setophaga ruticilla*

17-06 3 ex. seen in the Everglades, migration was picking up.

Common (20 in total) on all Bahama islands and on Grand Cayman (7 ex.), migration was "on" for this species.

130. Cape May Warbler – *Setophaga tigrina*

Very common at all Bahama islands with a maximum of 100 birds on a day (22-04). Great to see this massive movement of the species which is not easy to see in the US.



131. Northern Parula – *Setophaga americana*

16-04 2 ex. at Anhinga trail in the Everglades.

A total of 54 seen spread over all Bahama islands.

132. Magnolia Warbler – *Setophaga magnolia*

17-04 1 ex. at Shark Valley great views

20-04 1 ex. at the Retreat.

133. Blackburnian Warbler – *Setophaga fusca*

26-04 1 immature male at the entrance of the Botanical gardens.

134. Golden (Yellow) Warbler – *Setophaga petechia* ssp: *eea*

26-04

10 ex. singing and seen well on Grand Cayman.

135. Blackpoll Warbler – *Setophaga striata*

A total of 7 seen in summer plumage on Andros and New Providence. One seen taken from the sky by an American Kestrel.

136. Black-throated Blue Warbler – *Setophaga caerulescens*

16-04

1 male at Flamingo

A total of 7 seen (all males except one) on Andros and New Providence, what a cracker!

137. Palm Warbler – *Setophaga palmarum* ssp: *palmarum*

Common in the Everglades and on all Bahama islands with a maximum of 20 a day.

138. **\*OLIVE-CAPPED WARBLER – *Setophaga pity***

18-04

Common in the South Abaco Forest, great views



*A bit hide and seek but showing the olive crown.*

139. Pine Warbler – *Setophaga pinus*

Common on Abaco and in the pine woods of Andros.

140. **\*BAHAMAN WARBLER – *Setophaga flavescens***

18-04

5 ex. seen very well together with Olive-capped Warblers in the South Abaco Forest. The birds feed like nuthatches and their bills are extremely long



*Look at their bill, it gives them a total unique structure, by Euctace Barnes*

141. Prairie Warbler – *Setophaga discolor*

16-04 3 ex. at the upper Keys.  
19-04 1 ex. at Abaco.  
23-04 1 male at the former Rainbow Farm.

142. **\*VITELLINE WARBLER – *Setophaga vitellina***

25+26-04 3 ex. in total, at Bel air road en The Botanical gardens. Like a very large washed out elongated Prairie Warbler, with a long bill.

143. Northern Cardinal – *Cardinalis cardinalis*

Common in the whole of visited Florida.

144. **\*BAHAMA ORIOLE – *Icterus northropi***

21-04 3 ex. around the hotel we stayed in Fresh Creek giving all day great views



THE Oriole, left by Eustace Barnes, right by myself

145. Red-winged Blackbird – *Agelaius phoeniceus*

Common in the Everglades and a bit less common on Abaco and Andros.

146. **\*SHINY COWBIRD – *Molothrus bonariensis***

22+24-04 8 birds in total, all but one adults in the former Rainbow farm. A quite important species for me as an Holarctic birder. I failed in Flamingo.



147. **Bronzed Cowbird – *Molothrus aeneus***

14-04 15 ex. seen very well with the males in courtship (with the red eye)  
around Cutler Wetlands. Great views.

148. Brown-headed Cowbird – *Molothrus ater*

15+16-04 40 ex. in several flocks around the campground of Flamingo.



149. Common Grackle – *Quiscalus quiscula*

Seen almost daily in small flocks in the Everglades, sometimes mixed in with the B.H.Cowbirds

150. Boat-tailed Grackle – *Quiscalus major*

Common in the whole of Florida, one the most abundant bird species noted.

151. Greater Antillean Grackle – *Quiscalus niger*

**21-04**                      **2 ?? ex.** seen on Andros near Fresh Creek while searching for Shiny Cowbirds. A middle sized black crackle with a white eye. This is a very strange record because there are no known records of crackles from Andros.

26-04

Common on Grand Cayman.

152. Bananaquit – *Coereba flaveola* ssp: *bahamensis* + *sharpei*

A total of 14 seen spread over all the Bahama islands and common on Grand Cayman.

153. Yellow-faced Grassquit – *Tiaris olivaceus*

26-04 6 ex. seen at the Botanical Gardens on Grand Cayman.

154. Black-faced Grassquit – *Tiaris bicolor*

Quite common on all visited Bahama islands, with the most common on Abaco.

155. Greater Antillean Bullfinch – *Loxigilla violacea*

Seen on all Bahama islands with a total 10 birds, the most on Abaco. Great birds when you see them in good light.

156. \*Cuban Bullfinch – Melopyrrha nigra ssp: *taylori*

26-04

Common in the Botanical gardens at Grand Cayman.



157. **\*WESTERN SPINDALIS** – *Spindalis zena* ssp: *zena* + *salvini*

18-04

5 ex. seen very well in the South Abaco forest

23-04

6 ex. seen near Coral harbor on New Providence.

26-04

Common in the Botanical gardens at Grand Cayman.

Breath taking beautiful birds.



*Subspecies zena with the black mantle by Eustace Barnes*

158. Indigo Bunting – *Passerina cyanea*

15-04 1 male at Flamingo

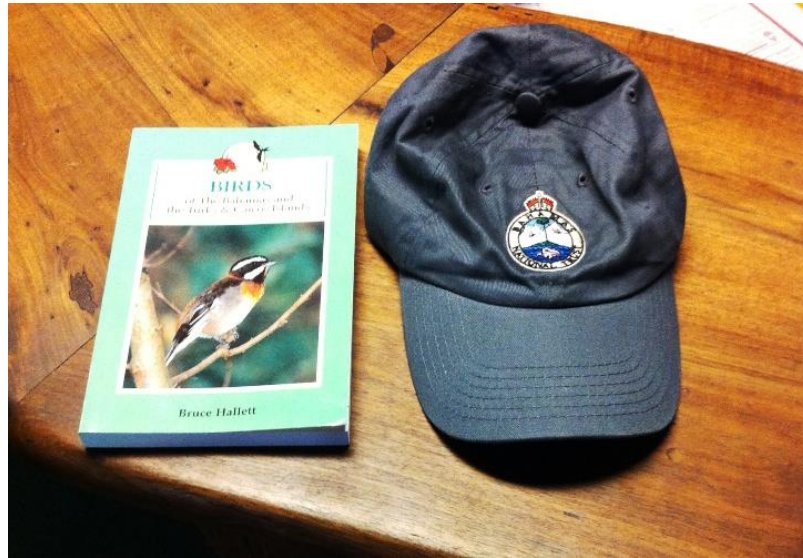
24-04 40 ex. seen in one flock at the former Rainbow farm

159. Painted Bunting – *Passerina ciris*

16-04 2 ex. off which one adult male (!) at Flamingo giving great views.

22-04 1 female in the garden hotel of Andros

Finally a male after many years with only a female on my list.



The Bahamas and Cayman are great birding and all these Florida rarities are common at less than 100K from Florida.