Second Annual Report of the Missouri Rare Bird Records Committee

Mark Robbins

This report summarizes records evaluated by the Committee during the period of 1 October 1988 through 6 October 1989. The report is divided into two sections, Records Accepted and Records Unaccepted. Birds are listed in phylogenetic order under each of these categories. For all unaccepted records observers names are omitted and a brief description is provided as to why the record was not accepted.

A total of 41 records were received during the above period. 28 were accepted, 9 unaccepted and five are still under review. The Committee's record number follows the scientific name. When more than a single observer is involved in an observation, an asterisk (*) is used to denote which observer documented the record. All photographs are deposited in the committee's files.

Records Accepted


Magnificent Frigatebird (Fregata magnificens); 1988-28. Adult female, photographed, 28 September 1988, Longview Lake, Jackson Co.; C. Hobbs (*), R. Fisher (*) et. al. First confirmed Missouri record. See Fisher, 1989, The Bluebird 56:79-81 (note: photo should be credited to Larry Werner). Two other reliable frigatebird observations exist for the state. However, in neither case were details sufficient to eliminate other Fregata species.

White Ibis (Eudocimus albus); 1989-11; immature, 21 July 1988, Jackson Co.; R. Fisher (*), M. McHugh et. al. About the 11th state record.

Greater Scaup (Aythya marila); 1989-18; 27, 17 December 1988, Lake Jacomo, Jackson Co.; L. Moore. A rare winter resident.


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Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*); 1989-17; male, 17 December 1988, Longview Lake, Jackson Co.; R. Knotts. There are only about 20 winter records.


Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*); 1989-10; immature, 15 April 1989, Alton Dam, St. Charles Co.; W. Rowe (*) et. al. Equals the latest spring date.

White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes saxatalis*); 1988-31; specimen (live mount, to be deposited at Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau Co.; found by T. Lambert and J. Glubeck, confirmed by J.D. Wilson (*). First Missouri Record, for details and photos see Wilson, 1989, *The Bluebird* 56:82-84.


Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*); 1989-26; 1, 17 December 1988, near Poplar Bluff, Butler Co.; V. Moss; first winter record.


Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*); 1989-14; 1, 10 December 1988, James A. Reed Wildlife Area, Jackson Co.; M. McHugh. Southernmost record for the state.

Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*); 1989-4; immature, 24 December 1988, eastern Atchison Co. along Hwy. 46; M. Robbins.

**Tennessee Warbler** (*Vermivora peregrina*); 1989-6; 1, photographed, 29 November-4 December 1988, St. Louis, St. Louis Co.; L. Hepler and R. Goetz (*). Latest fall record.


**Vesper Sparrow** (*Poecetes gramineus*); 1989-20; 1, 2 January 1989, Mingo CBC; K. Adams. About the tenth winter record.


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**Records Unaccepted**

**Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*); 1988-26; 1, 1 January 1988, Thomas Hill Reservoir, Macon Co.; details did not convincingly eliminate Horned Grebe; furthermore, the description was written six months after the observation.

**Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*); 1989-16; male, 24 December 1988, Cassville, Barry Co.; details unconvincing. Observer mentioned that the brightness of white on the dorsal surface was used in separating this species from Lesser Scaup; this is not a reliable field mark. The only reliable field character for distinguishing this species from Lesser Scaup is the presence of a bold white wing stripe that extends onto the primaries. Even this field mark must be seen well under favorable lighting.

**Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*); 1989-19, male, 11-18 December 1988, School of the Ozarks, Taney Co.; no optical equipment used in identification.

**Ferruginous Hawk** (*Buteo regalis*); 1988-23; 1, 30 March 1988, north of Springfield, Greene Co.; details insufficient to eliminate other species, e.g., "Krider's" Red-tailed Hawk.

**Ferruginous Hawk** (*Buteo regalis*); 1989-21, 1, 17 December 1988, Montrose, Henry Co.; minimal details which did not eliminate similar species.
Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*); 1989-31; 1, 13 August 1989, near Alton Dam, St. Charles Co.; sketchy details, did not eliminate similar species.

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*); 1989-1; adult, 12 September 1988, Alton Dam, St. Charles Co.; details failed to eliminate other species.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*); 1989-22; 1, 17 December 1988, Montrose CBC, minimal details.

Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*); 1989-2; 1, 24 October 1988, Mingo NWR, Stoddard/Wayne Cos.; details failed to establish that the bird was even an *Oporornis*.

The following people constituted the Committee for the period covered by this report.

Mark Robbins, Secretary

Dave Easterla, Chairman

Robert Fisher

Ron Goetz

Jim D. Wilson

William Reeves

Skip Russell

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