NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MISSOURI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Mark Robbins, Secretary*

This report summarizes records evaluated by the Committee between 2 October 1995 and 28 September 1996. The report is divided into two sections: Accepted and Not Accepted records.

Birds are listed in phylogenetic order under each of the above categories. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds (1983) and all subsequent supplements. For Not Accepted Records observers names are omitted and a brief explanation is provided as to why the record was not accepted. All photographs are now archived in mylar envelopes and deposited in the Committee’s files which are currently housed in the Division of Ornithology, University of Kansas Natural History Museum, Lawrence.

Of those records that were finalized (includes recirculated and unresolved records from prior reports), a total of 60 were accepted with 19 not accepted. Two are still in the review process. Bruce Di Labio and Paul Martin provided outside reviews on the goldeneye records.

*Reporters and observers who would like a status report on their records can write the current Secretary, Chris Hobbs (see address on inside cover of this Bluebird).

ACCEPTED RECORDS


ANHINGA (Anhinga anhinga); 1995-44; male, 21 September 1994, Otter Slough CA, Stoddard Co. Melda and Lloyd Lashley. Rarely reported in the state, and this is the latest fall report.

FRIGATEBIRD sp. (Fregata sp.); 1995-71; 1, 13 October 1995, Mississippi River, St. Charles Co. Mary and Robert Huber. Fourth record for the state.


CINNAMON TEAL (Anas cyanoptera); 1995-55; male, 22 April 1995, Prairie Slough CA, Lincoln Co. Bruce, Eric, and Scott Schuette, and Judy Richey. Regular transient in west, but casual in the eastern half of state.

COMMON EIDER (Somateria mollissima); 1996-1; 7 (5 males, 2 females), 18 December 1995, Claysville Island, Missouri River, Boone Co. Chris Levery. First state record. Accepted to Hypothetical List because of only a single documentation.


SWALLOW-TAILED KITE (Elanoides forficatus); 1996-32; 1, 8 May 1996, Trail of Tears SP, Cape Girardeau Co. Neal Young. Fifth modern record.


SWAINSON'S HAWK (Buteo swainsoni); 1995-78; 1, 4 November 1995, Busch CA, St. Charles Co. Jack Van Benthuysen. Latest documented fall record.

GYRFALCON (Falco rusticolus); 1996-9; adult white phase, 9 March 1996, Fountain Grove CA, Linn Co. Mike Beck, Jan Rambo et al. Accepted to Hypothetical List only, because of single documentation.


LESSER YELLOWLEGS (Tringa minuta): 1995-83; 1, 16 - 20 November 1995, near Springfield, Greene Co. Rebecca Matthews, David Blevins et al. One of the latest fall records.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER (Calidris bairdii): juvenile in worn plumage, 14 January 1996, Rock Port Sewage Lagoons, Atchison Co. Mark Robbins. First winter record and one of the few winter records for North America.


DOWITCHER sp. (Limnodromus sp.): 1, 26 November 1995, Farm Rd. # 119, Greene Co. Charles Noble. A late fall date.


SOOTY TERN (Sterna fuscata): 1995-70; adult male, Osage River, Osage Co. Betsy Bax. Specimen deposited at the Univ. of Kansas Museum of Natural History. First state record and one of the few for the interior of North America. Brought to the state by hurricane Erin.

GREEN VIOLET-EAR (Colibri thalassinus): 1993-48; 1, 24 June -- 2 July 1993, end of county road 336, Reynolds Co. Frances and Hudson Leeser. Videotaped. First state record. Because of the quality of the videotape it was difficult for all Committee members to obtain appropriate equipment to view the tape. Hence, the reason it took so long to make a decision.


SELASPHORUS sp. (Selasphorus sp.): 1995-82; 1, 21 November 1995, Lebanon, Laclede Co. Lester Pannell. Details did not allow distinction between Rufous and Allen's hummingbirds.

SELASPHORUS sp. (Selasphorus sp.): 1994-14; immature male, 9 December 1995, Willow Springs, Howell Co. Deborah Campbell and Larry Rizzo. Rare fall transient.


BROWN CREEPER (Certhia americana): 1995-69; 1, 30 June 1995, Tebo Island, Benton County (T41N, R23W, Sec. 19). Lorraine McFarland. Accidental during the summer away from the southeastern corner of the state.


PINE WARBLER (*Dendroica pinus*); 1995-52; adult male, 17 December 1994, 6 miles W Poplar Bluff, Butler Co. Glenn, Gayla, and Darin Hickey. Rare winter resident in the southern Ozark pinelands.


CANADA WARBLER (*Wilsonia canadensis*); 1995-79; adult male, 13 June 1993, 23 June 1994, and 23 June 1995, Drury CA, near Mincy, Taney Co. Bo Brown. Photographed. Presumed same bird was singing and acting territorial in all three years. No other bird was ever seen.


LAZULI BUNTING (*Passerine amoena*); 1996-24; male in alternate plumage at feeder, 11 May (also "seen 10 days to 2 weeks prior") 1996, Lebanon, Laclede Co. David and Mary Lou Wilhite. One of several alternate plumaged males seen in May 1996.


PAINTED BUNTING (Passerine ciris): 1995-64; adult male, 22 August 1995, Rolla, Phelps Co. Mike Doyen. Rare summer visitant north of the southern tier of counties.


NOT ACCEPTED

BRANT (Branta bernicla); 1995-47; 3, 17 December 1994, Montrose CBC, Henry Co. Description failed to eliminate a number of other waterfowl species.

BARROW’S GOLDENEYE (Bucephala islandica): 1994-10, adult male, 26 February - 5 March 1994, Muskrat Lake, St. Joseph, Buchanan Co. Photographed. Reexamination of this record (see M.B.R.C.’s Seventh Annual Report [1995, Bluebird 62:30]), brought to light by the reappearance of this same individual at the same site in 1995, revealed that the bird was a hybrid between a Barrow’s and Common Goldeneye. The bird appeared intermediate in plumage pattern and color between males of the two goldeneyes. Outside experts confirmed the hybrid identification. See Martin and Di Labio (1994, Birding 26:104-105) on hybrids between these two species.

BARROW’S GOLDENEYE (Bucephala islandica): 1995-17; adult male, 24 - 25 February (perhaps present for 2 weeks) 1995, Muskrat Lake, St. Joseph, Buchanan Co. Photographed. See details of previous record. What was probably the same bird appeared on Wyandotte County Lake,
Wyandotte Co., Kansas (ca. 35 miles SSE of Muskrat Lake) on 27 December 1996 (Lloyd Moore).

FERRUGINOUS HAWK (Buteo regalis): 1996-8; 1, 7 January 1996, near junction of highways 43 and 160, Barton Co. The description did not rule out the possibility of a light phase or albino-like Red-tailed Hawk.

BLACK RAIL (Laterallus jamaicensis): 1995-85; 1, 1 June 1995, Four Rivers CA, Vernon Co. Bird was only heard and the documentation was written months after the record.

COMMON MOORHEN (Gallinula chloropus): 1, 17 December 1994, St. Joseph, Buchanan Co. This identification was probably correct, but the description was deemed too minimal by the Committee for a first winter record.

ARCTIC TERN (Sterna paradisaea): 1996-27; alternate plumage, 9 May 1996, Mound City, Holt Co. Photographs document that the bird was a Common Tern.

SNOWY OWL (Nyctea scandiaca): 1996-5; 1, 24 November 1995, near junction of highways 76 and 65, Taney Co. The description failed to eliminate an albino Red-tailed Hawk that had been seen in the same area.

BURROWING OWL (Speotyto cunicularia): 1995-65; 1, 22 August 1994, Marshfield, Webster Co. This may have been this species, but it was only heard during the night.

N. SAW-WHET OWL (Aegolius acadicus): 1995-58; 4, 22 - 23 May 1995, Jefferson City, Cole Co. The birds were believed to be young screech-owls.

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD (Selasphorus rufus): 1995-81; 1, 11 November 1995, Weaubleau, Hickory Co. The description failed to eliminate several other hummingbird species.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER (Tyrannus forficatus), 1996-16; 1, 2 December 1995, Jefferson City, Cole Co. Details failed to eliminate other species, e.g., N. Mockingbird.


SPRAGUE'S PIPIIT (Anthus spragueii): 1996-15; 1, 11 November 1995, Binder Lake, Jefferson City, Cole Co. Other grassland species with white outer tail feathers were not eliminated.

NORTHERN SHRIKE (Lanius excubitor): 1, 16 March 1995, Taberville Prairie, St. Clair Co. Very little detail provided for such a southern record.

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK (Pheucticus melanocephalus): 1996-29; female, 30 April 1983 (record just recently submitted to the Committee),
Springfield, Greene Co. Photograph clearly indicated the bird was a Rose-breasted Grosbeak. At this time of the year female Blackheaded Grosbeaks are extensively washed with buff on the underparts. The bird in the photo is whitish below. In addition, the streaking on the breast was too pronounced for a Black-headed.

**BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK** (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*); 1995-68, 2 September 1995, Montrose CA, Henry Co. Grosbeaks in the fall can be difficult to identify unless seen well. Because the bill was described as "pale", it was deemed to be a Rose-breasted. The maxilla should be black on a Black-headed, whereas it is pale on a Rose-breasted.

**HENSLOW'S SPARROW** (*Ammodramus henslowii*); 1995-51; 1, 1 January 1995, Orchard Farm CBC, St. Charles Co. Unfortunately, the entire bird was not observed and seen briefly. Based on the description, there was some question as to whether a Swamp Sparrow was eliminated.

**ORCHARD ORIOLE** (*Icterus spurius*); 1996-10; male, 19 March 1996, Leadwood, St. Francois Co. No field notes were taken and the description was contradictory on several key marks.

**ADDENDUM:**

The following additions should be made to the Committee's Eighth Annual Report (*Bluebird*, 63:38-48).

1) The Cinnamon Teal (# 1995-6) was seen from 7 through 27 January.
2) The Anna's Hummingbird (#1994-65) was seen from 24 November 1994 through 2 February 1995.