

# TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MISSOURI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

**William C. Rowe, Secretary**

This report summarizes records evaluated by the Committee between 30 September 2007 and 27 September 2008. It is divided into two sections: Accepted and Not Accepted.

Birds are listed in phylogenetic order under each of the above two categories. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow the American Ornithologists' Union's *Checklist of North American Birds*, Seventh Edition (1998), and subsequent supplements. The latest AOU list is available on line at [www.aou.org/checklist](http://www.aou.org/checklist). For Accepted records, comments are added to indicate the record's significance. For Not Accepted records, observers' names are omitted, and a brief explanation is provided as to why the record was not accepted. All photographs will be 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, Kansas.

This year saw a transition to on-line documentation and review of records. Some documentations are still submitted in hard copy, but most are posted by the observer to a secure web site, where the secretary prepares them for review. Photographs in .jpg format can be uploaded to accompany documentations. Upon notification by the Secretary, Committee members review records in batches and submit their evaluations. Documentations that are mailed or emailed to the secretary are scanned and uploaded so that they can be reviewed in the same fashion. Thus all records from the point of changeover (December 2007) have been electronically archived. In addition, hard copies will continue to be archived at the University of Kansas as described above. The Committee extends its sincere thanks to Patrick Harrison for his tireless work in setting up this system. We also thank Ann Johnson of Iowa for her advice and assistance at many points.

Of the 95 new records that were finalized during this period, 83 were accepted and 12 were not accepted, for an acceptance rate of 87%. One additional record, previously not accepted, was re-reviewed and accepted as a species pair. Members participating in these decisions were Bill Eddleman (Chair), Bill Goodge, Brad Jacobs, Paul McKenzie, Mark Robbins, Tommie Rogers, and Bill Rowe (Secretary). One record (Glossy Ibis, 2005-36) was sent to Donna Dittman for outside review.

New species added to the state list this year were Mew Gull and Broad-tailed Hummingbird; in addition, White-tailed Kite was moved from hypothetical to accepted, and Red-necked/Little Stint was added as a species pair, based on a record from 2002. Thus Missouri's total as of 26 September 2008 increased to 411 accepted species, including six formerly occurring species that have been extirpated from the state and two extinct species. Two species on the hypothetical list—Purple Sandpiper and skua sp.—were removed for lack of evidence, leaving a hypothetical list of 12. The Annotated Checklist of Missouri Birds, with its latest updates, can be viewed at [www.mobirds.org](http://www.mobirds.org).

Corrigendum: The previous Annual Report failed to note that Gray Partridge had been removed from the state list at the July 2007 Committee meeting. This reflected its status as an exotic species that had occurred in the state and was subsequently extirpated, similar to the removal of Black Francolin from the ABA-area list following its extirpation.

In general, the Committee reviews records of species that have been found fewer than 15 times in Missouri and are thus considered "casual" or "accidental" statewide. It also reviews records of species that are casual or accidental for the season when reported (example: Dunlin in winter); records of species that are casual or accidental in the part of Missouri where reported (example:

Northern Shrike at St. Louis); and other records of unusual interest, including first nesting records. The Review List, also maintained at [www.mobirds.org](http://www.mobirds.org), lists all species that require review due to their year-round casual/accidental status in all or part of the state, plus a few for which the Committee still wishes to receive documentation despite their status as only "rare" (e.g., Black-headed Grosbeak). The Review List does not cover out-of-season status; for information on seasonal occurrence, consult the Annotated Checklist.

The Committee extends its thanks to the many birders throughout Missouri who submitted their observations, and to the Audubon Society of Missouri for its continued support and funding of the Committee's efforts. Observers who would like a status report on their current submissions can write the Secretary or e-mail him at [rowe@tjs.org](mailto:rowe@tjs.org). The next report will appear in the March 2010 issue of *The Bluebird*.

RMBS = Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary, St. Charles Co.

SCNWR = Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, Holt Co.

MNWR = Mingo National Wildlife Refuge. Bollinger/Stoddard Cos.

CBC = Christmas Bird Count

NAMC = North American Migration Count

CA = Conservation Area

SP = State Park

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

## RECORDS ACCEPTED

**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK** (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*), 2008-74: Two, 28-31 May 2008, 12 miles west of Jasper, Jasper Co. John Thomas (documentation), Kay Thomas. Casual transient and summer visitor; eleventh state record.

**FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK** (*Dendrocygna bicolor*), 2008-72: One, 14 June 2008, fish ponds, Pemiscot Co. Jeff Wilson (documentation with photographs). Casual transient and summer visitor.

**FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK**, 2008-63: Three, 15 June to at least 20 June 2008, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Found and documented by Bill Rudden (photographs); also documented by Beth Martin. Casual transient and summer visitor.

**GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** (*Anser albifrons*), 2008-61: Adult, 6 July 2008, RMBS. James Hickner. Accidental summer visitor.

**CINNAMON TEAL** (*Anas cyanoptera*), 2008-7: Male, 13 January 2008, near Otter Slough CA, Stoddard Co. Chris Barrigar. Accidental in winter.

**NORTHERN SHOVELER** (*Anas clypeata*), 2008-15: Two males, 23 June 2007, B.K. Leach CA, Lincoln Co. Scott Schuette. At the time, Northern Shoveler was listed as casual in summer; since then its status has been changed to "rare" in summer, and it no longer requires documentation.

**NORTHERN PINTAIL** (*Anas acuta*), 2007-79: Male, 26-28 June 2007, RMBS. Jim and Charlene Malone (documentation with photographs). Accidental summer visitor outside northwestern Missouri.

**RING-NECKED DUCK** (*Aythya collaris*), 2008-16: Seven, 27 June through 10 July 2007, Otter Slough CA, Stoddard Co. Scott Schuette (documentation), Brad Jacobs, Joe Eades, Phil Wire. At the time, Ring-necked Duck was listed as casual in summer; since then its status has been changed to "rare" in summer, and it no longer requires documentation.

**COMMON MERGANSER** (*Mergus merganser*), 2008-78: Adult male, 20 July 2008, RMBS. Mike Thelen (documentation with photographs). Accidental summer visitor.

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT** (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*), 2007-78: Two, 29 July 2007, Four Rivers CA, Vernon Co. Bill Reeves (documentation), Bob Lewis. Casual summer visitor in western Missouri.

**BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), 2007-88: Immature, 2 December 2007, Ozark, Christian Co. Greg Swick. Late fall record.

**GLOSSY IBIS** (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 2008-77: Adult, 10 May 2008, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Brad Jacobs (documentation), Paul McKenzie. NAMC record.

**OSPREY** (*Pandion haliaetus*), 2008-76: Juvenile, 26 July 2008, Otter Slough CA, Stoddard Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual in summer.

**WHITE-TAILED KITE** (*Elanus leucurus*), 2008-50: One, 3 May 2008, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Documented by Dick Coles, Bill Rowe, and John Solodar. Accidental transient and summer visitor. White-tailed Kite had remained hypothetical on the basis of three previous accepted records, all with single documentations and no physical evidence. This record is based on separate, acceptable independent documentations, and thus the species now moves to the main state list.

**BLACK RAIL** (*Laterallus jamaicensis*), 2008-52: At least two birds, 3 May to at least 13 May 2008, Bloomfield, Stoddard Co. Found and documented (with recording) by Chris Barrigar; also documented by Bill Reeves and Bob Lewis. Casual transient. Heard repeatedly at night in damp field with wheat standing about knee high.

**SORA** (*Porzana carolina*), 2008-75: Adult, 13 July 2008, Marais Temps Clair CA, St. Charles Co. Bill Rowe (documentation), Joe Eades. Casual in summer.

**SANDHILL CRANE** (*Grus canadensis*), 2008-14: Two, 4 July 2007, Grand Pass CA, Saline Co. Scott Schuette (documentation), Phil Wire. Casual in summer outside northwestern Missouri.

**SNOWY PLOVER** (*Charadrius alexandrinus*), 2008-68: Apparently adult male, 28 May 2008, RMBS. Found and documented by Connie Alwood; also documented by Joe Eades and photographed by Josh Uffman. The species now moves from "accidental" to "casual" in Missouri outside the northwestern sector, as this is the fifth record.

**SEMIPALMATED PLOVER** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*), 2007-87: One, 8 November 2004, RMBS. Josh Uffman (documentation with photograph). Latest fall record by about ten days.

**SPOTTED SANDPIPER** (*Actitis macularius*), 2008-13: One, 25 November 2007, Winfield, Lincoln Co. Josh Uffman (documentation with photographs). Latest fall record; there are also two winter records.

**SOLITARY SANDPIPER** (*Tringa solitaria*), 2008-60: One, 8 June 2008, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Bill Rowe. Earliest June record.

**LONG-BILLED CURLEW** (*Numenius americanus*), 2008-44: Ten birds, 4 April 2008, rural Dade Co. Charles Burwick (documentation with photographs). Casual transient in western Missouri; highest count in decades, perhaps since about 1900.

**LONG-BILLED CURLEW**, 2008-53: One, 14 April 2008, SCNWR. Doug Willis. Casual transient in western Missouri.

**RED-NECKED/LITTLE STINT** (*Calidris ruficollis/minuta*), 2002-46: One in alternate or transitional plumage, 28-30 July 2002, Lake Contrary, Buchanan Co. Found and documented by Larry Lade (with photographs); also documented by Edge Wade, David Easterla (photographs), Roger McNeill, and Chris Hobbs. This record, analyzed at length by several experts, could never be firmly identified to species; see "News from the Missouri Bird Records Committee" in *The Bluebird*, Vol. 70, #4 (December 2003). All referees, however, agreed that it was one of these two. In July 2008, the Committee voted that the record deserved inclusion on the main list as one of this species pair. Another bird reported earlier the same month in another location by an experienced observer (2002-50) could also have been a member of this pair, but in that case there were no photographs.

**DUNLIN** (*Calidris alpina*), 2008-17: Alternate-plumaged adult, 10 July 2007, near Otter Slough CA, Stoddard Co. Scott Schuette (documentation), Brad Jacobs, Phil Wire. First July record, and earliest for (presumably) southbound migration by about three and a half weeks.

**DUNLIN**, 2008-24: One, 17 December 2007, Ten Mile Pond CA, Mississippi Co. Bill Eddleman (documentation with photographs), Wes Mueller. Accidental in winter.

**CURLEW SANDPIPER** (*Calidris ferruginea*), 2008-48: One, molting into alternate plumage, 26 April 2008, SCNWR. Found and documented by Doug Willis; also documented by Tommie Rogers (photographs), Neal Young (photographs), and Jack Hilsabeck. Accidental transient; second state record.

**BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** (*Rissa tridactyla*), 2008-2: First-cycle, 30-31 December 2007, Thomas Hill Reservoir CA, Randolph Co. Joe Eades, Susan Hazelwood. Accidental winter visitor away from Mississippi River.

**BONAPARTE'S GULL** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*), 2008-31: First-cycle, 22 December 2007, Winfield Dam, Lincoln Co. Scott Schuette. At the time, Bonaparte's Gull was listed as casual in winter in northern Missouri; since then its status has been changed to "rare" in winter there, and documentation is no longer required.

**BONAPARTE'S GULL**, 2008-32: Adult, 9 January 2008, Mark Twain Lake, Monroe Co. Scott Schuette. See note on 2008-31.

**BONAPARTE'S GULL**, 2008-33: Two adults, 9 January 2008, Thomas Hill Reservoir, Randolph Co. Scott Schuette. See note on 2008-31.

**LITTLE GULL** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*), 2007-80: Adult, 14 October 2007, Thomas Hill Reservoir CA, Randolph Co. Brad Jacobs (documentation), David Rogles, Tom Bormann. Fifteenth state record, thus moving the species' status from "casual" to "rare." Little Gull has, however, been retained on the Review List, and documentation is still expected.

**LITTLE GULL**, 2008-1: Adult, 30 December 2007, Thomas Hill Reservoir CA, Randolph Co. Joe Eades. Sixteenth state record, and second in winter; see note on 2007-80.

**LAUGHING GULL** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*), 2008-54: Adult, 25 April 2008, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Doug Willis (documentation), Bill Reeves, Steve Dilks, Gary Johnson. Casual transient away from Mississippi River.

**MEW GULL** (*Larus canus*), 2008-46: First-cycle, 20 April 2008, Smithville Lake, Clay and Clinton counties. Found and documented by Doug Willis; also documented by Linda Williams (photographs), David Easterla, and Jack Hilsabeck. Description and photographs indicated that this bird was of the expected North American subspecies *brachyrhynchus*. First state record.

**CALIFORNIA GULL** (*Larus californicus*), 2007-83: First-cycle, 10 November 2007, Thomas Hill Reservoir CA, Randolph Co. Bill Rowe. Casual transient.

**COMMON GROUND-DOVE** (*Columbina passerina*), 2007-81: Adult male, 9-11 October 2007, Kearney, Clay Co. Kristi Mayo (documentation with photographs), Marti Gulick, Linda Williams. Casual transient and winter resident; sixth state record, and first since 1993.

**GREATER ROADRUNNER** (*Geococcyx californianus*), 2008-36: One, 19 March 2008, Butler Co. Amanda Greer (documentation), Charles and Christian Greer. East of usual range in southwestern and south-central Missouri.

**NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL** (*Aegolius acadicus*), 2008-20: One, 15 December 2007, Katy Trail near Providence, Boone Co. Paul McKenzie (documentation), Gail White. CBC record.

**RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Archilochus colubris*), 2007-89: Adult female, 1 December 2007, Jackson, Cape Girardeau Co. Lanny Chambers (documentation), Linda Chambers, Beth Bliese (homeowner). Measurements taken during banding and shape of primary 10 (pointed, not club-shaped) eliminated Black-chinned Hummingbird. Extremely late fall record, although two previous Ruby-throats have been documented later (4 and 15 December).

**BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Selasphorus platycercus*), 2008-58: Adult male, 13-16 June 2008, home of Bill Reeves, Farmington, St. Francois Co. Bill Reeves (documentation, with photographs by Debra Reeves), Paul Bauer (photographs), Lanny Chambers (banding and photographs). First state record.

**YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER** (*Empidonax flaviventris*), 2008-69: One, 3 May 2008, near Providence Access, Boone Co. Paul McKenzie. Earliest spring record by four days.

**EASTERN PHOEBE** (*Sayornis phoebe*), 2007-93: One, 21 December 2007, Cuivre River SP, Lincoln Co. Eric Schuette (documentation), Kevin Eulinger. Casual in winter in northern Missouri.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE** (*Lanius excubitor*), 2008-25: Immature, 3 November 2007, Whetstone Creek CA, Callaway Co. Jean Leonatti. At the time, listed as accidental outside northwestern and west-central Missouri; since then, enough records have accumulated to move the species to casual status.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2007-85: Immature, 21 November through at least 25 November 2007, near Warrenton, Lincoln Co. Joe Eades. See note on 2008-25.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2007-86: Adult, 2 December 2007 through at least 26 February 2008, Confluence State Park, St. Charles Co. Bill Rowe (documentation), David Rogles. See note on 2008-25. This bird was subsequently seen by many observers through December; then, following a long hiatus, what was presumably the same bird was seen again in the same location on 24-26 February by Rogles and others.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2007-91: Adult, 8-9 December 2007, Fellows Lake, Greene Co. Greg Swick (documentation), Marvin DeJong (photographs). See note on 2008-25.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2008-11: Immature, 20 December 2007 through at least 19 January 2008, Prairie SP, Barton Co. Mark Robbins (documentation 20 December), Lawrence Herbert (documentation 19 January), John Hartley. See note on 2008-25. Presumed to be the same individual.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2008-3: Immature, 29 December 2007, near Trail of Tears SP, Cape Girardeau Co. Kent Fothergill (documentation with photograph), Holly and Tom Winkleblack. See note on 2008-25. CBC record.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2008-8: Adult, 15 January through at least 21 February 2008, Whetstone Creek CA, Callaway Co. Documented by Kathleen Anderson (15 January), Edge Wade (25 January), and Patrick Harrison (21 February, with photographs). All presumed to be the same bird, and evidently different from the individual at Whetstone Creek two months earlier, documented in 2008-25, above, since that bird was clearly immature from the description. See note on 2008-25.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2008-26: Adult, 17 January 2008, near Farmington, St. Francois Co. Bob Lewis (documentation with photograph of specimen). This bird was found dead in the driveway of an East Ozarks Audubon Society member; the specimen is housed in the University of Kansas collection (KUNHM #111504). See note on 2008-25.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2008-12: Adult, 21 January 2008, Union Ridge CA, Sullivan Co. Phil Wire. See note on 2008-25.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2008-28: Adult, 24 February 2008, La Plata City Lake, Macon Co. Patrick Harrison (documentation with photographs), Rhonda, Kara, Kali, and Connor Harrison. See note on 2008-25.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2008-34: Adult, 5 March 2008, east-central Sullivan Co. Phil Wire (documentation with photograph). See note on 2008-25. This bird was considered to be a different individual than the one reported in 2008-12, based on plumage characters and distance (over ten miles away).

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2008-35: Adult, 6 March 2008, Clarence Cannon NWR, Pike Co. Abby Darrah. See note on 2008-25.

**FISH CROW** (*Corvus ossifragus*), 2008-49: One, 3 May 2008, Pershing State Park, Linn Co. Patrick Harrison (documentation), Edge Wade, Mark McNeely, et al. The species is not known away from

rivers in south and central Missouri; thus this is possibly the northernmost record away from the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

**HOUSE WREN** (*Troglodytes aedon*), 2008-39: One, 17 February 2008, MNWR, Stoddard Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation), Kent Fothergill, Jeff Wright. Casual in winter in southern Missouri.

**TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE** (*Myadestes townsendi*), 2007-94: One, 21-23 December 2007, Cuivre River State Park, Lincoln Co. Eric Schuette (documentation), Bruce and Scott Schuette. Accidental outside northwestern Missouri; third record.

**SWAINSON'S THRUSH** (*Catharus ustulatus*), 2007-77: One, 3 September 2007, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Mike Thelen. Apparently the earliest fall record by two days.

**VARIED THRUSH** (*Ixoreus naevius*), 2007-82: Male, 29 October 2007, Columbia, Boone Co. Matt Cadwell (documentation with photographs). Casual; fourteenth record and only the second fall observation.

**AMERICAN PIPIT** (*Anthus rubescens*), 2007-92: One, 15 December 2007, Columbia wetland cells, Boone Co. John Besser (documentation), Jeff Koppleman, Mike Headrick. Casual in winter in northern and central Missouri. CBC record.

**AMERICAN PIPIT**, 2008-21: Two, 15 December 2007, Columbia wetland cells, Boone Co. Paul McKenzie (documentation), Gail White. Casual in winter in northern and central Missouri. Determined to be different from the individual in 2007-92. CBC record.

**AMERICAN PIPIT**, 2008-30: One, 29 December 2007, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Kristi Mayo. Casual in winter in northern and central Missouri.

**ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER** (*Vermivora celata*), 2008-5: One, 25 December 2007 to at least 9 January 2008, residential feeder, Lee's Summit, Jackson Co. Karen Stair (documentation with photographs), Terry Stair. Casual winter visitor in northern Missouri. Possibly the same individual that was documented at the same residential feeders during winter 2006-07 (see Twentieth Annual Report, record number 2007-3).

**NORTHERN PARULA** (*Parula americana*), 2008-65: One, 22 March 2008, Tywappity Community Lake, Scott Co. Chris Barrigar. Earliest spring record by six days.

**PINE WARBLER** (*Dendroica pinus*), 2008-47: Male, 18 April 2008, Paris Access, Monroe Co. Patrick Harrison. At the time, Pine Warbler was listed as accidental in northern Missouri; since then its status has been changed to "rare" in summer in the northeast, and it no longer requires documentation there.

**PALM WARBLER** (*Dendroica palmarum*), 2008-57: One, 21 May 2008, Danville CA, Montgomery Co. Edge Wade (documentation), Bill Clark, Bill Mees. Latest spring record by three days.

**BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER** (*Mniotilta varia*), 2008-64: Four, 22 March 2008, Tywappity Community Lake, Scott Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Second-earliest spring record, and apparently the earliest with multiple individuals.

**HOODED WARBLER** (*Wilsonia citrina*), 2008-37: Male, 22 March 2008, Tywappity Community Lake, Scott Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Earliest spring record by about eleven days.

**HOODED WARBLER**, 2008-42: Male, 24 March 2008, Forest Park, City of St. Louis. Chris Ferree (documentation), Rick Haeseler. Second-earliest spring record; see 2008-37.

**CHIPPING SPARROW** (*Spizella passerina*), 2008-18: Six, 29 December 2007, Forsyth, Taney Co. David Blevins (documentation), Barbara Blevins. Casual in winter. CBC record.

**CHIPPING SPARROW**, 2008-4: Winter adult, 5 January 2008, Weldon Spring, St. Charles Co. Bill Rowe. Casual in winter. CBC record.

**CHIPPING SPARROW**, 2008-10: One, 17 January 2008, Joplin, Jasper Co. Lawrence Herbert. Casual in winter.

**CHIPPING SPARROW**, 2008-23: Winter adult, 13 February 2008, near Bull Creek, Christian Co. Marvin and Claudia De Jong (documentation with photographs). Casual in winter.

**CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** (*Spizella pallida*), 2007-90: One, 21 November 2007, Danville CA, Montgomery Co. Edge Wade. Late fall date.

**CLAY-COLORED SPARROW**, 2008-29: One, 28 February 2008, Cedar Hill, Jefferson Co. Wally George. Either the earliest spring arrival by about six weeks or an accidental winter visitor.

**VESPER SPARROW** (*Pooecetes gramineus*), 2008-9: One, 16 December 2007, Maryville, Nodaway Co. David Easterla. Accidental in winter in northern Missouri. CBC record.

**WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), 2008-71: Adult, 20 June, St. Louis Zoo, City of St. Louis. Derek Eisenhart (documentation with photographs). First summer record. Possibly an injured individual.

**ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*), 2008-59: Immature male, 8 June 2008, near Ozark, Christian Co. Marvin De Jong (documentation with photographs), Claudia De Jong. Casual in summer in southern Missouri.

**ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK**, 2008-62: Adult male, 16 June 2008, Big Oak Tree SP, Mississippi Co. Ryan Douglas (documentation), Matt Ladage. Casual in summer in southern Missouri.

**PAINTED BUNTING** (*Passerina ciris*), 2008-51: Adult male, 5 May 2008, near Saint Joseph, Buchanan Co. Larry Lade. Casual transient outside southwestern Missouri.

**DICKCISSEL** (*Spiza americana*), 2008-19: One, 15 December 2007, Bradford Farm, Boone Co. Brad Jacobs (documentation), m. ob. Casual in winter. CBC record.

**BREWER'S BLACKBIRD** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), 2008-67: Five, 10 May 2008, near Fountain Grove CA, Livingston Co. Steve Kinder (documentation), June Newman. NAMC record.

**PURPLE FINCH** (*Carpodacus purpureus*), 2008-70: Female, 24-25 May 2008, residential feeder, Boaz, Christian Co. Marilyn Owens. Latest spring record by three days.



## RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

It should be understood that “not accepted” does not necessarily mean that the identification was considered to be incorrect. In some cases the Committee did believe the bird was misidentified, but in other cases, while it seemed possible or even probable that the identification was correct, the information provided was insufficient to rule out other species completely. The committee may be unable to accept even a very likely record if the description is too sketchy or vague, or if it fails to mention critical field marks that would distinguish that species from all others. Our belief is that a report should go into the permanent scientific record only if it is free of reasonable doubt. This is the standard approach of bird record committees everywhere.

**AMERICAN BLACK DUCK** (*Anas rubripes*), 2008-73: One, 14 June 2008, B.K. Leach CA, Lincoln Co. While this bird could well have been an American Black Duck, it was observed only briefly and only in flight at a distance of 100 yards or more; the description did not rule out Mottled Duck (especially from the darker Texas/Louisiana population) or a hybrid Mallard X American Black Duck. Details not noted included bill color, pattern of speculum, and pattern of body feathering on sides.

**BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** (*Bucephala islandica*), 2008-45: Male and female, 16 December 2007, Hickory Hills Lake, Johnson Co. The description of these birds suggested Barrow's Goldeneye but was brief and sketchy, without the detail expected for a species that is only casual in the state; furthermore, it did not rule out the possibility of a hybrid Barrow's X Common Goldeneye, which has been documented in Missouri at least once.

**GLOSSY IBIS**, 2005-36: Adult, 30 April 2005, SCNWR. Upon review by Donna Dittman of Louisiana State University, followed by discussion in the MBRC meeting of July 2008, the Committee decided that this individual was not conclusively a pure Glossy and might have been a hybrid. Problematic points visible in photographs included loreal skin that was paler gray than usual and possibly possessing a pinkish or lavender tinge; a pale blue facial outline that appeared thicker than normal and possibly included some whitish feathering; and a possible reddish tone to the eye.

**PURPLE SANDPIPER** (*Calidris maritima*): 4 May 1938, near Orchard Farm, St. Charles Co. As a result of discussions during the July 2008 MBRC meeting and afterward, the committee deleted this species from the hypothetical list because of insufficient details about the bird in the original publication (*Bluebird* 5:65, 1938).

**SKUA sp.** (*Catharacta* sp.): Included in Robbins and Easterla, *Birds of Missouri* (1992), as a hypothetical species based on parts of a specimen obtained by Harris (1920) and identified by him as a skua in *Birds of the Kansas City Region*. His identification criteria are unknown, and the specimen parts are now lost. This was discussed at the MBRC meeting of July 2008 and the record deleted because there was no way to be certain that the bird in question was a true skua and not a jaeger.

**BELL'S VIREO** (*Vireo bellii*), 2008-55: One, 6 April 2008, Paintbrush Prairie, Pettis Co.

Description did not rule out other small passerines including Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

**PLUMBEOUS VIREO** (*Vireo plumbeus*), 2007-76: One, 23 August 2007, Tower Grove Park, City of St. Louis. While this bird's description did suggest a possible Plumbeous Vireo, it lacked the detail needed for a conclusive record. Not only can it be difficult to separate a Plumbeous from a drab Cassin's Vireo, some Blue-headed Vireos may be dull enough to be misidentified as Plumbeous. A specimen or a series of good photographs would provide the best chance of achieving an

identification of an apparent out-of-range individual of this complex. See Heindel, "Field Identification of the Solitary Vireo complex" (*Birding* 28: 458-471, December 1996) and Grzybowski, "Status of the Solitary Vireo complex in Oklahoma" (*Bulletin of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society*, 31: 1-5, March 1998).

**BLUE-HEADED VIREO** (*Vireo solitarius*), 2008-40: One, 17 February 2008, Mingo NWR, Stoddard Co. This bird was seen poorly, high overhead, and was essentially undescribed. Identification was based on song, which was also not described clearly but was stated to match Blue-headed Vireo song on a commercial audio recording. This evidence was too vague for acceptance of a species that is accidental in winter; moreover, Cassin's and Plumbeous Vireos were not ruled out.

**ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER**, 2008-38: One, 1 December 2007 through 7 January 2008, Ballwin, St. Louis Co. This record was submitted with no written description and with a photograph in which the image of the bird was too small to identify with certainty. Reluctantly, the committee concluded that it could not accept the record.

**BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER** (*Dendroica fusca*), 2008-66: Two, 6 April 2008, Mingo NWR, Stoddard Co. These birds were sketchily described, with little detail about the wing, face, and back pattern. Song was heard repeatedly, but there was no description of it, only a statement that it matched a recorded Blackburnian song. In view of the extremely early date, the number reported, and other unusual aspects of this record, the committee was unable to accept it. Some members believed that the documentation did not eliminate Yellow-throated Warbler, which is much more likely given the date and habitat.

**CHIPPING SPARROW**, 2008-27: Four, 16 February 2008, near Rolla, Phelps Co. The description suggested the much more likely American Tree Sparrow.

**ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK**, 2008-6: Two females, 15 December 2007, Lost Creek Landing, Wayne Co. The description was too minimal to establish the identity of these birds. Rose-breasted Grosbeak is an extremely rare find in winter, and the occurrence of two together is even more improbable and would require a carefully detailed description.

**ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK**, 2008-43: Three adult males, 17 February 2008, Columbia, Boone Co. Description was minimal and left no clue as to what these birds actually were. Since Rose-breasted Grosbeak is accidental in winter, the chances of three adult males together in February are exceedingly small.

**BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK** (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*), 2008-56: Male, 10 May 2008, Hillsboro, Jefferson Co. The description did suggest a male Black-headed Grosbeak but lacked the details needed to separate it from a possible hybrid Black-headed X Rose-breasted. Additionally, the observation was apparently made without binoculars. Black-headed Grosbeak is listed as only "rare" but is retained on the Review List owing to the ease of misidentification and the likely occurrence of hybrids.

**BREWER'S BLACKBIRD**, 2008-22: Six, 15 December 2007, New Haven Road, Boone Co. Description was minimal and did not distinguish Brewer's from Rusty Blackbird.