

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MISSOURI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

William C. Rowe, Secretary

This report summarizes records evaluated by the Committee between 28 September 2008 and 26 September 2009. 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. 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.

The transition to on-line documentation and review of records continues. A few 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 once again thanks Patrick Harrison for his continuing work in refining this system. We also thank Joshua Uffman for his work in assembling data on the occurrence of Missouri birds on a single web site, www.showme-birds.com. This has made it much easier to track the number of records of any unusual species, and the early and late dates of many species.

Of the 118 records that were finalized during this period, 104 were accepted and 14 were not accepted, for an acceptance rate of 88%. Members participating in these decisions were Joe Eades, Brad Jacobs (Chair), Kristi Mayo, Paul McKenzie, Mark Robbins, Bill Rowe (Secretary), and Walter Wehtje. Record #2009-26 (Western X Glaucous-winged Gull) was sent to Jon Dunn for outside review, and #2009-43 (Orange-crowned Warbler) was sent to Kimball Garrett for review of subspecific identification.

New species added to the state list this year were Allen's Hummingbird, Cave Swallow, Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Mottled Duck, and Golden-fronted Woodpecker. Thus Missouri's total as of 28 September 2009 increased to 416 accepted species; these include four formerly occurring species that have been extirpated from the state and four extinct species. There are an additional 12 hypothetical species on the list. The Annotated Checklist of Missouri Birds, with its latest updates, can be viewed at www.mobirds.org.

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: Dickcissel in winter); records of species that are casual or accidental in the part of Missouri where reported (example: Eurasian Tree Sparrow in Cape Girardeau Co.); and other records of unusual interest, including first nesting records. The Review List, also maintained at 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, Little Gull). 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. The next report will appear in the March 2011 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.

OSCA = Otter Slough Conservation Area, Stoddard Co.

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*), 2008-81: Two to ten birds, 7-19 August 2008, near OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual transient and summer visitor; twelfth state record.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK, 2009-80: Up to 18 birds, 22 April to 15 June 2009, southwest of Sedalia, Pettis Co. Documented by Walter Wehtje for Betty Viernes, who found the birds; photographed by Peter Kondrashov. Casual transient and summer visitor; thirteenth state record.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK, 2009-54: Two, 14-16 May 2009, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Found by Dick Baskett; documented by Brad Jacobs (photographs), Walter Wehtje (photographs) and Paul McKenzie. Casual transient and summer visitor; fourteenth state record.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK, 2009-79: One, 1 July to at least 31 July 2009, Raymore, Cass Co. Larry Rizzo (documentation), Vesta Myer and spouse (photographs). Casual transient and summer visitor; fifteenth state record.

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna bicolor*), 2009-65: Two, 2-3 June 2009, near OSCA. Paul McKenzie (documentation), Brad Jacobs (photographs), Mark Robbins. Casual transient and summer visitor; about the fourteenth state record.

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK, 2009-78: Four, 13 August 2009, near Caruthersville, Pemiscot Co. Devin Bosler (documentation with photographs). Casual transient and summer visitor; about the fifteenth state record.

AMERICAN WIGEON (*Anas americana*), 2009-75: Male, 13 July 2009, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Accidental in summer outside northwestern Missouri.

MOTTLED DUCK (*Anas fulvigula*), 2009-64: Male, 2 June to 16 July 2009, near OSCA. Paul McKenzie (documentation), Brad Jacobs (photographs), Mark Robbins; also documented by Bill Reeves and photographed by Josh Uffman. First state record.

NORTHERN PINTAIL (*Anas acuta*), 2008-92: Male, 29 June 2008, rice fields, Stoddard Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photograph). Casual summer visitor outside northwestern Missouri (where rare).

NORTHERN PINTAIL, 2009-66: Two males, 2 June 2009, OSCA. Paul McKenzie (documentation), Brad Jacobs, Mark Robbins; one bird documented 3-27 June by Chris Barrigar. Casual summer visitor outside northwestern Missouri.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (*Anas crecca*), 2009-77: Male, 3-16 June 2009, at and near OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual summer visitor outside northwestern Missouri.

BLACK SCOTER (*Melanitta nigra*), 2009-16: One female-type, 21 December 2008, RMBS. Mike Thelen (documentation with photographs). Casual in winter.

RUDDY DUCK (*Oxyura jamaicensis*), 2008-79: Up to eight birds and two nests, 18 June through 29 August 2008, Little Creve Coeur Lake, St. Louis Co. Rob Meade (documentation with photographs), John Howland, John Mehuys, Nate Muenks. Accidental summer resident.

PACIFIC LOON (*Gavia pacifica*), 2008-98: Two, 16 March 2008, Table Rock Lake, Stone Co. Mike Thelen. Accidental in spring; only the third record for that season. Most records occur in fall, when listed as "rare" and documentation not required.

BROWN PELICAN (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), 2009-32: Immature, 18 February to at least 3 March 2009, Lake of the Ozarks, Camden Co. Andy Kline (documentation), Connie Turek (photographs), John Stavropolis. Seventh state record, and first in winter.

BROWN PELICAN, 2009-69: Immature, 11 May to at least 18 July 2009, RMBS. Found by Bill Rudden; documented by Josh Uffman (photographs). Casual as a transient and summer visitor; eighth state record.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*), 2008-84: Adult, 27 June 2008, Swan Lake NWR, Chariton Co. Paul McKenzie (documentation), Patty Herman. Accidental in eastern and central Missouri.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT, 2009-49: Immature, 25-26 April 2009, Schell-Osage CA, Vernon Co. Documented by Brad Jacobs (photographs) and Kathleen Anderson. Rare in western Missouri but remains on the Review List for the entire state.

ANHINGA (*Anhinga anhinga*), 2009-46: Adult, 11 and 26 April 2009, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Since this observation, the status of Anhinga has been changed from casual to rare, but it remains on the Review List; each occurrence should be documented.

ANHINGA, 2009-62: Five birds, 2 June 2009, near OSCA. Rob Meade (documentation), John Howland, Navin Muenks, John Mehuys, Leann Bullard, Laura Ruman. See comment on preceding record, 2009-46.

CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis*), 2008-94: 12 birds, 29 June 2008, South Pintail Pool, SCNWR. Tommie Rogers. These birds appeared to be nesting, the first evidence of this on the refuge. Refuge personnel eventually confirmed approximately 20 nests, in Buttonbush (Brian Lomas, photographs). Numbers present rose to 250 by August. The species is casual as a breeding bird outside southeastern Missouri.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), 2008-95: One, 29 June 2008, SCNWR. Tommie Rogers. The significance of this record—a bird heard at the location of the nesting Cattle Egrets—is that the observer asked refuge personnel Brian Lomas and Frank Durbian to check for nesting. They did, in July, and found two or more nests of Black-crowned Night-Herons near the Cattle Egret nests. This species is casual as a breeding bird outside southeastern Missouri.

WHITE IBIS (*Eudocimus albus*), 2008-82: Juvenile, 9 August 2008, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Formerly casual, this species is now listed as rare in southern Missouri and will no longer require documentation.

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 2008-80: Adult, 2 May 2008, near Muskrat Lake, Buchanan Co. Jack Hilsabeck (documentation with photographs), Leo Galloway, Larry Lade. Casual in western Missouri.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL (*Platalea ajaja*), 2008-85: Adult, 1 September 2008, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Casual summer visitor; eighth state record.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL, 2008-89: Four immatures, 7 to at least 28 September 2008, Grand Tower Island, Perry Co. Rhonda Rothrock (documentation), Mary McCarthy. Casual summer visitor; ninth state record, and the largest number ever reported at one time in Missouri.

BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*), 2009-57: One, 16 May 2009, Klondike Park, St. Charles Co. Mike Thelen (documentation with photographs). Uncommon in southern Missouri, accidental in northern Missouri, with the St. Louis area lying in the zone of transition. While this species has been seen more regularly on the south side of the St. Louis area in the past few years, this observation occurred somewhat north and west of its usual haunts and may be the first St. Charles Co. record.

OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus*), 2009-67: Adult, 2 June 2009, near OSCA. Paul McKenzie (documentation), Brad Jacobs, Mark Robbins. Considered casual in summer at the time of observation, the Osprey is now listed as rare at that season and no longer requires documentation.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE (*Elanoides forficatus*), 2008-87: Adult, 5 September 2008, along the Mississippi River, Mississippi Co. Found by Mark Monroe and documented by Brainard Palmer-Ball; also observed by Eddie Huber and photographed by all three observers, who watched it from the Kentucky side of the river. Casual transient and summer visitor; eighth modern record.

FERRUGINOUS HAWK (*Buteo regalis*), 2009-39: Juvenile, 16 February 2009, Prairie Home CA, Cooper Co. Jonathan Pons (documentation with photographs). Accidental in winter. An outstanding series of photographs showed every character of Ferruginous Hawk, for which other hawks (primarily various forms of Red-tailed Hawk) are often mistaken.

SORA (*Porzana carolina*), 2008-99: Adult, 16 July 2008, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Bill Rudden (documentation with photographs). This bird was found dead, and there was no reason to doubt that it had been killed at the CA where found (as opposed to accidental transport from elsewhere). Casual as a summer resident and visitor.

BLACK-NECKED STILT (*Himantopus mexicanus*), 2009-45: One, 8 April 2009, B.K. Leach CA, Lincoln Co. David Rogles. Apparently the earliest arrival date for this species away from southeastern Missouri.

SOLITARY SANDPIPER (*Tringa solitaria*), 2009-70: One, 22 March 2009, Coon Island CA, Butler Co. Chris Barrigar. Earliest spring arrival by several days.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS (*Tringa flavipes*), 2009-31: Two, 24 February 2009, OSCA. Bob Lewis (documentation with photographs). Accidental in winter.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (*Limosa haemastica*), 2008-88: Two adults, 3 September 2008, RMBS. Torrey Berger and Charlene Malone (documentation), Dave Rogles, John Solodar, Paul Bauer. Casual in fall; ninth record for that season.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT, 2008-90: Five or six, 3 September 2009, Hayford Road, St. Charles Co. Charlene Malone. Casual in fall; tenth record.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT, 2008-86: Juvenile, 4 September 2008, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Casual in fall; eleventh record.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT, 2008-96: Three, 7 September 2008, Clarence Cannon NWR, Pike Co. Josh Uffman. Casual in fall; twelfth record, and last in an unusual 2008 series of records of this normally very rare fall migrant (see previous three entries).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT, 2008-97: One, 22 September 2002, RMBS. Josh Uffman. Casual in fall. At the time, this bird represented the sixth fall record.

WESTERN SANDPIPER (*Calidris mauri*), 2009-52: Two, 9 May 2009, near Bradford Farms, Boone Co. Paul McKenzie. Documentation required for North American Migration Count.

RUFF (*Philomachus pugnax*), 2009-50: Male, 22-25 April 2009, OSCA. Found and documented by Bill Reeves; photographed by Chris Barrigar. Sixteenth state record; listed as rare but remains on the Review List.

LAUGHING GULL (*Leucophaeus atricilla*), 2009-14: Adult, 20 December 2008, Winfield Dam, Lincoln Co. Joe Eades. Accidental winter visitor.

LAUGHING GULL, 2009-7: Adult, 1 January to at least 14 February 2009, RMBS. David Rogles (documentation), Tom Bormann, Josh Uffman (documentation with photographs). Accidental winter visitor. Two Laughing Gulls were reported at this location by other observers, but these documentations, each of a single bird, were the only ones received.

LAUGHING GULL, 2009-8: Adult, 4 January 2009, Long Branch Lake, Macon Co. Peter Kondrashov (documentation with photographs). Accidental winter visitor.

LAUGHING GULL, 2009-68: Second-cycle bird, 27 June 2009, Thousand Hills SP, Adair Co. Peter Kondrashov (documentation with photographs). Accidental in summer away from Mississippi River corridor.

CALIFORNIA GULL (*Larus californicus*), 2008-91: Adult, 14 September 2008, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Bob Fisher. Casual transient; about the fifteenth state record.

THAYER'S GULL (*Larus thayeri*), 2009-27: First-cycle bird, 10-20 February 2009, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Kristi Mayo. Accidental away from Mississippi River corridor.

ICELAND GULL (*Larus glaucooides*), 2009-21: First-cycle bird, 18-23 January 2009, Long Branch SP, Macon Co. Documented by Brad Jacobs, Edge Wade, and Peter Kondrashov (photographs). Accidental away from Mississippi River corridor.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus fuscus*), 2009-37: Adult, 29 December 2008 to 3 January 2009, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Linda Williams (documentation with photographs), Doug Willis. Accidental away from Mississippi River corridor. Observers on 30 December reported two Lesser Black-backed Gulls, but no documentation was received for a second bird.

GLAUCOUS GULL (*Larus hyperboreus*), 2009-24: One first-cycle bird, 19 and 23 January 2009, and two on 20 January 2009, Long Branch SP, Macon Co. Single birds documented by Edge Wade and Peter Kondrashov (photographs); two birds together documented by Edge Wade. Casual away from Mississippi River corridor.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE (*Zenaida asiatica*), 2009-58: One, 30 December 2008 to 12 January 2009, St. Joseph, Buchanan Co. Larry Lade. Accidental in winter.

GREATER ROADRUNNER (*Geococcyx californianus*), 2009-56: One, 18 May 2009, near Steelville, Crawford Co. Russell Weisman. Slightly east of traditional range.

ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus sasin*), 2008-103: Immature male, 27 November 2008, Fenton, St. Louis Co. Lanny Chambers (documentation), Linda Chambers (photographs). First state record. This bird came to the observers' feeder and was captured and banded; while it was in hand, measurements were taken that identified it as an Allen's Hummingbird rather than the extremely similar Rufous Hummingbird. In particular, the very narrow outermost rectrix (2.1 mm wide) was diagnostic of Allen's.

GOLDEN-FRONTED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes aurifrons*), 2009-72: Female, 12-24 April 2009, New Franklin, Howard Co. Don Baldrige (documentation with photographs), Dana Morris, Paul Porneluzi. First state record. Excellent photographs taken at the reporter's feeder showed all characters clearly including head colors, entirely black tail, and unbarred, white uppertail coverts and rump. While this species seems to show very little tendency to wander, with only two extralimital records in eastern North America known to the Committee, the identification was unquestionable, and there was no suspicion of human-assisted displacement.

EASTERN PHOEBE (*Sayornis phoebe*), 2009-60: One, 12 January 2009, Rock Bridge SP, Boone Co. Andrew Forbes. Casual in winter in northern Missouri.

FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Tyrannus savana*), 2009-48: Immature, 26-28 April 2009, near Muskrat Lake, Buchanan Co. Found and documented by Connie Thompson (photographs) with Gary Thompson; also documented by Linda Williams (photographs), Jo Ann Eldridge, Kathleen Anderson, and David Easterla (photographs). First state record. Photographs by Williams, showing emarginated primaries, established that this individual came from the highly migratory nominate subspecies *savana*, which breeds in southern South America.

NORTHERN SHRIKE (*Lanius excubitor*), 2008-105: Immature, 27 October 2008, near Thomas Hill Reservoir, Macon Co. Anne Downing. Casual in north-central Missouri.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2008-107: Adult, 8 November 2008, near Thomas Hill Reservoir, Randolph Co. Joe Eades. Casual in north-central Missouri.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2008-101: Immature, 12-23 November 2008, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Torrey Berger, Pat Lueders, and Bill Rowe (documentations), David Rogles, David Becher (photographs). Casual in eastern Missouri.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2008-106: Adult, 16 November 2008, near Winfield, Lincoln Co. Joe Eades. Casual in eastern Missouri.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2008-104: Adult, 29 November to 1 December 2008, near Niawatha Prairie CA, Dade Co. Lisa Berger (documentation), Charles Burwick (photographs), David Ringer; also documented by Larry Herbert. Casual in southwestern Missouri.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2008-116: Adult, 29 December 2008 to at least 3 January 2009, Weldon Spring CA, St. Charles Co. Found by Joe Eades; documented by Mike Thelen (photographs), Jim Malone, David Rogles. Casual in eastern Missouri.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2009-10: Adult, at least 29-31 January 2009, Whetstone Creek CA, Callaway Co. Edge Wade, Kathleen Anderson. Casual in central Missouri. Possibly the same bird documented at this location the previous winter.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2009-61: Adult, 13 January 2009, Drovers Prairie CA, Pettis Co. Andrew Forbes. Casual in central Missouri.

CAVE SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon fulva*), 2009-1: Adult female, 7 October 1977, Maryville, Nodaway Co. David Easterla (documentation with photographs of specimen, Northwest Missouri State University Collections, NWMSU DAE 2986). First state record. After a lapse of nearly three decades, the reporter relocated this specimen and sent photographs of it to David Sibley for confirmation of the identification. Curiously, it proved to be of the nominate Caribbean subspecies *fulva*, which occurs in Florida. Recent annual fall incursions of Cave Swallows across the Midwest and along the Atlantic coast have been documented as the Texas and mainland Mexican subspecies *pallida*. For a full account, see Easterla, "A specimen of Caribbean Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva cf. fulva*) from Missouri," *North American Birds*, Vol. 62, Number 2, 200-203.

HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*), 2009-9: Three, 14 December 2008, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Formerly considered casual in southeastern Missouri in winter, this species is now listed as rare there at that season and will no longer require documentation there.

HOUSE WREN, 2009-5: One, 20 December 2008, MNWR. Chris Barrigar (documentation), Jeff Wright. See comment on preceding record, 2009-9. CBC record.

HOUSE WREN, 2009-6: One, 20 December 2008, MNWR. Chris Barrigar (documentation), Jeff Wright. A different individual than 2009-5. See comment on 2009-9. CBC record.

HOUSE WREN, 2009-19: One, 1 January 2009, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. See comment on 2009-9.

WINTER WREN (*Troglodytes troglodytes*), 2009-51: Two, 9 May 2009, Rock Bridge SP, Boone Co. Paul McKenzie. Latest spring record by one day.

SEDGE WREN (*Cistothorus platensis*), 2009-4: Five, 20 December 2008, MNWR. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photograph), Jason Lewis, Jeff Wright. Casual in winter outside southwestern Missouri.

SEDGE WREN, 2009-42: Three, 20 December 2008, Karst Trail, Rock Bridge SP, Boone Co. Michael Warnock (documentation), Steve Caird, Mark Gutchen. Casual in winter outside southwestern Missouri.

SEDGE WREN, 2009-20: Eight birds, 1-2 January 2009, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Casual in winter outside southwestern Missouri. This record represents observations on two different days, with three wrens noted on 1 January and eight on 2 January and some overlap in areas covered. Eight is the minimum possible total of birds present.

SEDGE WREN, 2009-22: One, 2 January 2009, rural Stoddard Co. Bob Lewis (documentation), Steve Dilks. Casual in winter outside southwestern Missouri.

GRAY CATBIRD (*Dumetella carolinensis*), 2009-35: One, 9 January to 1 March 2009, Busch CA, St. Charles Co. Found by Clark Creighton (photographs); documented by Josh Uffman. Casual in southern Missouri in winter; accidental in northern Missouri.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (*Vermivora celata*), 2009-53: One, 2 December 2007 to 27 February 2008, Jefferson City, Cole Co. Appeared at home feeders of Betty Richey (documentation); photographed by Jim Rathert. Casual in winter in northern Missouri.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER, 2009-43: One, 20 January to at least 21 March 2009, Florissant, St. Louis Co. Frances Zottorella (photographs); information transmitted to the MBRC by Connie Alwood. Casual in winter in northern Missouri. This bird, which came to feeders at the observer's home, was a brighter yellow than is typical for the eastern nominate subspecies *celata* and may have represented a western form such as *lutescens*. Kimball Garrett, who reviewed the record, felt that a definitive subspecific identification was not possible.

YELLOW WARBLER (*Dendroica petechia*), 2008-100: One, 2 November 2008, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Bill Rowe. Extremely late date; there is one accepted later record (8 November 1969), but none for the five-week period between late September and November.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (*Dendroica virens*), 2008-93: Three adult males, 6 April 2008, MNWR. Chris Barrigar (documentation), Jeff Wright. A remarkable number for such an early date.

PALM WARBLER (*Dendroica palmarum*), 2008-112: One, 14 December 2008, near Dudley, Stoddard Co. Chris Barrigar. Casual in winter.

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH (*Seiurus motacilla*), 2009-38: One, 8 March 2009, Castlewood SP, St. Louis Co. David Marjamaa (documentation with photographs), Mary Anne Marjamaa. Earliest spring record by several days.

CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina*), 2008-115: One, 27 December 2008, near Prairie SP, Barton Co. David Ringer (documentation), Charles Burwick (photographs), Jeff Nichols. Formerly considered casual in winter, but now listed as rare in the southern third of Missouri and will no longer require documentation there.

CHIPPING SPARROW, 2009-11: One, 30 December 2008, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs), Deborah Barrigar-Tucker. See comment on preceding record, 2008-115.

CHIPPING SPARROW, 2009-13: Nine, 5 January 2009, Shrewsbury, St. Louis Co. Joe Eades. Casual in northern and central Missouri. A remarkable number for winter.

CHIPPING SPARROW, 2009-17: Adult, 16 January 2009, Festus, Jefferson Co. Thomas Mills (documentation), Lynda Mills. Casual in northern and central Missouri.

CHIPPING SPARROW, 2009-34: Five, 28 January 2009, Jackson, Cape Girardeau Co. Mark Haas (documentation with photographs). See comment on 2008-115, above.

VESPER SPARROW (*Pooecetes gramineus*), 2009-18: One, 13 January 2009, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Jennifer Reidy. Casual in winter in southern Missouri; accidental in northern Missouri.

LARK SPARROW (*Chondestes grammacus*), 2009-30: One, 24 February 2009, near Stella, Newton Co. Larry Herbert (documentation), Rod Sallee. Accidental in winter.

NELSON'S SPARROW (*Ammodramus nelsoni*), 2009-73: One, 4 May 2009, B.K. Leach CA, Lincoln Co. Scott Schuette. Earliest documented spring record.

SUMMER TANAGER (*Piranga rubra*), 2009-12: Female, 14-17 December 2008, Chesterfield, St. Louis Co. Phillip Ross (documentation with photographs). Given the dates of occurrence, this is both the latest fall record and only the second winter record of this species.

LAZULI BUNTING (*Passerina amoena*), 2009-55: Adult male, 15 May 2009, Freeman, Cass Co. Joan Jefferson (documentation with photographs), Bob Jefferson. Accidental away from northwestern Missouri.

INDIGO BUNTING (*Passerina cyanea*), 2009-2: One, 1 January 2009, Columbia Bottom CA. Bill Rowe (documentation), Tom Parmeter, David and Mary Anne Marjamaa, Lorrie Vit. Casual in winter. CBC record.

INDIGO/LAZULI BUNTING, 2008-111: Female, 20 December 2008, MNWR. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual or accidental in winter. While this bird was clearly a female bunting, and probably an Indigo, the Committee did not believe that the much less likely female Lazuli was entirely ruled out by the description and the photographs. CBC record.

DICKCISSEL (*Spiza americana*), 2008-109: Female/immature bird, 20 November to 10 December 2008, Conway, Laclede Co. Rose Calton (documentation with photographs). Very late fall record.

DICKCISSEL, 2009-23: Female/immature bird, 18 December 2008, rural Mississippi Co. Bill Eddleman (documentation), Wes Mueller. Casual in winter. CBC record.

DICKCISSEL, 2009-3: Female/immature bird, 27 December 2008, Prairie Slough CA, Lincoln Co. Kevin Eulinger (documentation), Gary Calvert. Casual in winter. CBC record.

DICKCISSEL, 2009-29: Female, 10 February 2009, Jackson, Cape Girardeau Co. Mark Haas (documentation with photographs). Casual in winter.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), 2009-36: Flock of 40, 20 December 2008, rural Stoddard Co. Bill Eddleman (documentation), Steve Henroid. Listed as rare in winter statewide, but documentation required on Christmas Bird Counts (as in this case).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD, 2008-113: Two females, 26 December 2008, rural Clay Co. Bob Fisher. See comment on preceding record, 2009-36.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*), 2008-102: Adult male, 23 November 2008, Gladstone, Clay Co. Dennis Garrison (documentation with photographs), Maggie Garrison. Very late fall record.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE, 2008-110: Adult male, 7-12 December 2008, Bean Lake, Rushville, Platte Co. Frances Cramer (documentation with photographs), Georgia Hathorne. Very late fall record.

RED CROSSBILL (*Loxia curvirostra*), 2008-108: Adult female, 12-13 July 2008, near Smithville Lake, Clinton Co. Terry Miller (documentation), Miller family (photographs by Terry and son Jake). Casual summer visitor.

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW (*Passer montanus*), 2009-33: One, 27 February 2009, Jackson, Cape Girardeau Co. Mark Haas (documentation with photographs). Casual away from St. Louis and the northern Mississippi River corridor. Apparently the first record from southeastern Missouri.

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW, 2009-44: One, 27 March to at least 1 April 2009, Bradford Farm, Boone Co. Documented by Paul McKenzie, Edge Wade, and Kathleen Anderson. Casual away from St. Louis and the northern Mississippi River corridor.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

It should be understood that “not accepted” does not necessarily mean that the identification is considered to be incorrect. In some cases the Committee may believe the bird was misidentified, but in other cases, while it seems possible or even probable that the identification was correct, the information provided is 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.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (*Anser albifrons*), 2009-74: Five, 4 July 2009, near Ellington, Reynolds Co. These birds did resemble Greater White-fronted Geese in general coloration and white frontal blaze, but they showed no black barring on the underparts, had (in at least one case) anomalous bill structure, and showed no evidence of hunting injury (often the reason for a wild artic

goose's presence in summer). These facts plus the number of birds and their proximity to some domestic geese suggested a possible domestic and/or hybrid origin for these birds.

CINNAMON TEAL (*Anas cyanoptera*), 2009-41: Female, 27 March 2009, RMBS. This bird, seen and photographed with Blue-winged Teal, did show some characters of female Cinnamon, notably a rich reddish wash on the head and body and a reduced pale spot at the base of the bill. However, it also had a definite dark transocular line, creating a distinct buff supercilium (unlike the very bland face pattern of a "classic" female Cinnamon), and in one photograph, next to a female Blue-winged, it clearly had a bill of the same size and shape, rather than the longer, more spatulate bill of Cinnamon. In the Committee's opinion, the bird was possibly a hybrid, especially in view of the fact that hybrid males are seen regularly, including Missouri observations in the spring of 2009.

OSPREY, 2008-114: One, 27 December 2008, B.K. Leach CA, Lincoln Co. This bird was seen at an estimated distance of half a mile but was observed only through binoculars, and no direct size comparison with other raptors was made. The documentation did not mention any definitive characters of an Osprey; in fact, the head pattern described (top of head dark and cheek white) was incorrect for Osprey. The possibility of an immature Bald Eagle was not eliminated. CBC record.

WESTERN X GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL (*Larus occidentalis x glaucescens*), 2009-26: First-cycle bird, 15 January 2009, RMBS. Photographs showed this dark first-cycle bird to be something unusual, certainly not a Herring Gull and probably of west-coast origin. However, the Committee agreed with Jon Dunn, to whom the record was sent for review, that it was not possible to assign it firmly to any specific taxon or hybrid combination based on the photographs. No written description was provided.

CAVE SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon fulva*), 2008-83: Juvenile, 8 August 2008, near Rich Hill, Bates Co. This bird may well have been a Cave Swallow, but the observation was very brief, not the kind of detailed study that would be needed for the addition of a species to the state list even as a hypothetical (at the time, this would have been the first known state record). The observer himself mentioned an initial reluctance to document for this reason. Also, juvenile Cliff Swallow can be confusingly similar to juvenile Cave Swallow, and this report did not fully address that problem.

CAROLINA CHICKADEE (*Poecile carolinensis*), 2009-15: Two, 19 December 2008, near Easley, Boone Co. The photographs submitted showed whitish edging to the wing coverts as well as the secondaries, a strong buff color on the flanks, and a less-than-clean-cut boundary to the black bib. These characters suggested a Black-capped Chickadee or a hybrid. CBC record.

HOUSE WREN, 2009-28: One, 20 December 2008, rural Stoddard Co. The Committee could not accept this record because the documentation provided only the circumstances of the observation, with no description of the bird at all.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (*Protonotaria citrea*), 2009-25: One, 4 January 2009, Busch CA, St. Charles Co. While the characters observed seem to fit a Prothonotary Warbler, the circumstances of the observation leave the identification uncertain. The bird was seen high (est. 50 feet) in a tree along upland wood edge, and only from below against an overcast sky; thus the study was incomplete, especially for such an unprecedented record.

SWAINSON'S WARBLER (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*), 2009-47: One, 15 April 2009, Lyon, Franklin Co. While this may have been a Swainson's Warbler, it was not described fully enough for such an

unusual report: record-early date, out of range, and atypical habitat and behavior (in pin oak and ash, singing from a treetop).

MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER (*Oporornis tolmiei*), 2009-63: One, 7 May 2009, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Based on the photographs submitted, the bird appeared to be a Tennessee Warbler.

MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER, 2009-71: Female, 23 May 2009, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Inconclusive photographs showed a bird that could have been a female Mourning Warbler as easily as a MacGillivray's, with yellowish throat (in some of the images), eye-arcs that were not abruptly cut off and striking, and indeterminate ratio of tail length to undertail coverts (not visible in the images). No written description was provided that might have elucidated the photographs.

LARK SPARROW, 2009-40: One, 10 March 2009, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Observation conditions were not ideal (through a car windshield in the rain), and the description did not eliminate other sparrow species.

NELSON'S SPARROW, 2009-59: One, 29 August 2009, Howard Co. The date was extremely early; the habitat (gravel road and crop field, associating with Horned Larks) was completely atypical of this secretive species, which is found in dense moist vegetation; and the description included characters that did not fit a Nelson's Sparrow (e.g., unstreaked breast).

WESTERN TANAGER (*Piranga ludoviciana*), 2009-76: Male, 30 August 2009, James A. Reed Wildlife Area, Jackson Co. This bird was not described in full enough detail to be sure it was a Western Tanager.