

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MISSOURI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

William C. Rowe, Secretary

This report, marking a quarter century of work by the MBRC, summarizes records evaluated by the Committee between 29 September 2011 and 15 December 2012. 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 <http://checklist.aou.org>. 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 (KUNHM).

The transition to on-line documentation and review of records is mostly complete. A few documentations are still submitted in hard copy, but a large majority are posted by the observer to a secure web site, where the secretary prepares them for review. Observers are urged to use the online system if at all possible. Photographs in .jpg format can be uploaded by the observer to accompany documentations. Upon notification by the Secretary, Committee members review records in batches and submit their evaluations for each batch to the secretary electronically. 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, Ann Johnson of Iowa for her partnership with Patrick in this effort, and Joshua Uffman for his continuing work in assembling data on the occurrence of Missouri birds at www.showme-birds.com.

Of the 106 records that were finalized during this period, 83 were accepted and 23 were not accepted, for an acceptance rate of 78%. Members participating in these decisions were Joe Eades, Brad Jacobs (Chair), Kristi Mayo, Paul McKenzie, Mark Robbins, Bill Rowe (Secretary), and Josh Uffman. One record (2012-19, Red-naped Sapsucker) was sent to Dr. Jocelyn Hudon for review.

One new species, Western Wood-Pewee, was added to the state list. Thus Missouri's total as of December 2012 consisted of 418 fully accepted species; these include four formerly occurring species that have been extirpated from the state and four extinct species. There are an additional 11 provisional 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 16 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: Blue-gray Gnatcatcher in winter); records of species that are casual or accidental in the part of Missouri where reported (example: Black-legged Kittiwake away from the Mississippi River); 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., 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 rowemb45@gmail.com. The next report will appear in the March 2014 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/Wayne

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*), 2011-84: Eight birds, 21 November 2011, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Of eight observed by hunters Eric Francis, Ryan Campbell, Justin Naydyuhr, and David Breuer, five were shot (and noted by staff member Preston Stogsdill), and two of those were donated to Eagle Bluffs CA for display and another to Four Rivers CA. Photographs were taken of the donated specimens by Vic Bogosian and transmitted to the MBRC. The species is now listed as rare and is no longer on the Review List; this, however, is the latest fall record.

MOTTLED DUCK (*Anas fulvigula*), 2011-67: Female, 28-29 August 2011, Confluence Point State Park, St. Charles Co. Josh Uffman (documentation with photographs); found by Matt Andrews. Accidental transient and summer visitor; third state record.

MOTTLED DUCK, 2011-62: One, 1 September 2011, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Accidental transient and summer visitor; fourth state record.

CINNAMON TEAL (*Anas cyanoptera*), 2011-74: Adult male, 15 October 2011, Little Prairie CA, Phelps Co. Jerry Decker. Listed as a rare transient, but this is only the fifth fall record.

NORTHERN PINTAIL (*Anas acuta*), 2011-58: Male, 24 July 2011, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual in summer outside of northwestern Missouri.

NORTHERN PINTAIL, 2012-55: Four birds, 9 June to 15 July, 2012, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual in summer outside of northwestern Missouri.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (*Anas crecca*), 2012-53: Two males, 4 June to 29 July 2012, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual in summer in southern Missouri.

GREATER SCAUP (*Aythya marila*), 2012-27: Adult male, 20-22 May 2012, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Ryan Douglas and Nicholas March (documentation with photographs). Latest spring record.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (*Mergus serrator*), 2012-54: Male, 7-24 June 2012, Duck Creek CA, Stoddard Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Accidental in summer.

EARED GREBE (*Podiceps nigricollis*), 2011-91: One, 16 December 2011, Mozingo Lake, Nodaway Co. David Easterla (documentation), Zach Hutchinson. Casual in winter; tenth record for that season.

WOOD STORK (*Mycteria americana*), 2012-59: Immature, 21-22 November 2004, near Schell-Osage CA, St. Clair Co. Scott Robertson (documentation with photographs). Casual; at the time, the fourth record since the 1930s; latest fall record.

WOOD STORK, 2012-36: Four immature birds, 10-21 July 2012, Swan Lake NWR, Chariton Co. Steve Kinder (documentation with photographs); also documented by Kathleen Anderson, Ryan Douglas. Casual; seventh record since the 1930s.

BROWN PELICAN (*Pelicanus occidentalis*), 2012-30: Adult, 29 May 2012 and thereafter, Binder Lake, Cole Co. Ryan Douglas, Nicholas March, Kathleen Anderson, and Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs); found by Richard George. Casual transient and summer visitor. This Brown Pelican set a record for residency in Missouri: it was observed from 29 May on through the summer and fall, to at least 11 December 2012.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), 2011-88: Adult, 1 December 2011, Nathaniel Greene/Close Memorial Park, Greene Co. Betty Johnson (documentation with photographs). Very late fall record.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON, 2011-95: Immature, 17 December 2011, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Paul McKenzie (documentation), Ryan Douglas. Fifth winter record for northern or central Missouri. CBC record.

WHITE IBIS (*Eudocimus albus*), 2011-57: Juvenile, 17 July 2011, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Mike Thelen (documentation), Bill Rudden (photographs). Casual in northern Missouri.

WHITE IBIS, 2011-59: Juvenile, 6 August 2011, RMBS. Jim and Charlene Malone (documentation with photographs). Casual in northern Missouri.

WHITE IBIS, 2012-42: Juvenile, 21 August 2012, Columbia, Boone Co. Edge Wade and Kathleen Anderson (documentation with photographs); found by Carl Gerhardt. Casual in northern Missouri.

WHITE-FACED IBIS (*Plegadis chihi*), 2012-50: One or two juveniles, 6 October 2012, Winfield, Lincoln Co. Chrissy McClarren (documentation), Andrew Reago (video). Of the two birds observed, one showed the pinkish facial skin and dark red eye diagnostic of White-faced Ibis; the other bird seemed to show neither these characters nor the thin facial outline of a Glossy Ibis, indicating that it had not matured sufficiently to be identifiable. While there are fall records of *Plegadis* ibis, most or all presumed White-faced, the previous latest date for a definite White-faced was October 2.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL (*Platalea ajaja*), 2011-63: Juvenile, 2 September 2011, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual transient and summer visitor; twelfth state record.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL, 2012-46: Four immatures, 2 September 2012, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Ryan Douglas (documentation with photographs); found by Sandra Elbert and Kathleen Anderson. Casual transient and summer visitor; thirteenth state record.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE (*Elanoides forficatus*), 2011-65: One, 11 August 2011, on the Eleven Point River in Oregon Co. Mary Blanks (documentation), Tom Haney. Casual transient and summer visitor; tenth modern record.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE, 2012-38: One, 28 July 2012, Clarence Cannon NWR, Pike Co. Joe Eades (documentation), David Becher, Bill Duncan. Casual transient and summer visitor; eleventh modern record.

COMMON GALLINULE (*Gallinula galeata*), 2011-77: Juvenile, 2 November 2011, Busch CA, St. Charles Co. Al Smith (documentation with photographs). Latest fall record.

SANDHILL CRANE (*Grus canadensis*), 2012-56: One, 8 July 2012, MNWR. Chris Barrigar (heard only). Accidental summer visitor in southern Missouri.

WHOOPIING CRANE (*Grus americana*), 2011-85: Adult and juvenile, 21 November 2011, near Neosho, Newton Co. Jeff Cantrell (documentation), Becky Wylie (photographs), Casey Carr, Phyllis Chancellor, Randy Haas, Kevin Badgley. Casual transient; sixth modern record. The lack of color bands showed that these were birds from the wild population, not the experimental population established in Wisconsin.

AMERICAN AVOCET (*Recurvirostra americana*), 2012-17: One, 20 March 2012, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Grant Conette. Earliest spring record by four days.

SOLITARY SANDPIPER (*Tringa solitaria*), 2011-54: One, 30 May 2011, Hornersville Swamp CA, Dunklin Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photograph). Very late spring date.

GREATER YELLOWLEGS (*Tringa melanoleuca*), 2012-5: Two, 4 February 2012, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Ryan Douglas. Accidental in winter in northern and central Missouri.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (*Calidris fuscicollis*), 2011-64: At least five adults, 10 September 2011, Confluence Point State Park, St. Charles Co. Bill Rowe (documentation), Dan Burke and David Marjamaa (photographs). Casual fall migrant. This species is a common late-spring migrant in Missouri, but the migration pattern shifts eastward in fall, and there are very few documented records for Missouri during that season.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER, 2011-68: One adult, 17 September 2011, Jamestown, Greene Co. Greg Samuel (documentation with photographs). See comments on 2011-64.

DUNLIN (*Calidris alpina*), 2012-37: Alternate-plumaged adult, 14 July 2012, Osage River, Cole Co. Ryan Douglas. Second July record, and second-earliest fall migration record.

STILT SANDPIPER (*Calidris himantopus*), 2012-35: One, 21 June 2012, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Kathleen Anderson (documentation with photographs). First midsummer record; impossible to know whether this bird was a very late-lingering spring or a very early-returning fall migrant.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus lobatus*), 2012-25: Female, 29 April 2012, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Ryan Douglas. Earliest spring record.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE, 2012-26: Female, 1 May 2012, RMBS. Josh Uffman (documentation with photographs). Second-earliest spring record (see 2012-25).

RED PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus fulicarius*), 2011-78: Juvenile, 4 November 2011, Montrose CA, Henry Co. Mark Robbins (documentation with photographs), Jon King. Casual transient; latest fall record.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (*Rissa tridactyla*), 2011-86: First-cycle bird, 24 November 2011, Lake Wappapello, Wayne Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual transient.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE, 2011-94: Adult, 17 December 2011, Maryville Sewage Lagoons, Nodaway Co. David Easterla (documentation), Zach Hutchinson. Casual in winter away from Mississippi River. CBC record.

LITTLE GULL (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*), 2012-6: Apparent second-cycle bird, 11 May 2009, RMBS. Al Smith (documentation with photographs). Found by Dan Kassebaum on Illinois side; flew into Missouri waters (Ellis Bay) for a while. Rare transient; remains on Review List; documentation still requested.

LITTLE GULL, 2011-90: First-cycle bird, 4 December 2011, Thomas Hill Reservoir CA, Randolph Co. Ryan Douglas. See comments on 2012-6, above.

FRANKLIN'S GULL (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*), 2012-32: Apparent first-cycle bird, 10-18 December 2011, Lake Wappapello, Wayne Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Casual in winter. CBC record.

FRANKLIN'S GULL, 2011-98: Adult, 28 December 2011 to 9 January 2012, Long Branch Lake, Macon Co. Mark Robbins (documentation 28 December), John Bollin; Tony Elliott (documentation 9 January). Casual in winter. In breeding aspect with black hood; similarities in descriptions made it seem likely that the two observations were of the same individual.

FRANKLIN'S GULL, 2012-2: Adult, 16 January 2012, Big Lake SP, Holt Co. Mark Robbins (documentation), John Bollin. Casual in winter. Like the bird in 2011-98, this bird's plumage was in breeding aspect with black hood.

CALIFORNIA GULL (*Larus californicus*), 2011-83: Adult, 13 November 2011. Stockton Reservoir, Polk Co. Edge Wade (documentation), Greg Swick and Matt Andrews (photographs). Accidental in western Missouri. California Gulls in Missouri could be of either the nominate subspecies *californicus* or the northern Great Plains subspecies *albertainensis*, which averages paler on the mantle (though still slightly darker than a Herring or Ring-billed Gull). Photographs suggested that this bird might be *albertainensis*.

CALIFORNIA GULL, 2012-13: Adult, 14 February 2012, Columbia Bottom CA, St. Louis Co. Cornelius Alwood, Chris Kirmaier. Accidental in winter; fourth record for that season.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus fuscus*), 2012-45: Adult, 1 September 2012, RMBS. Jim and Charlene Malone (documentation), Andrew Reago (photographs and video); found by Chrissy McClarren. Earliest fall record.

POMARINE JAEGER (*Stercorarius pomarinus*), 2011-82: Juvenile, 10 November 2011, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Kristi Mayo (documentation), Linda Williams (photographs); found by Doug Willis. Casual transient; eleventh state record.

COMMON GROUND-DOVE (*Columbina passerina*), 2011-80: One, 5 November 2011, OSCA. Kevin Brunke. Casual transient and winter resident; seventh state record.

COMMON GROUND-DOVE, 2011-87: One, 24 November 2011 to 8 January 2012, Weldon Spring CA, St. Charles Co. David Easterla, Ryan Douglas (documentation with photographs); found by Mike Brady. Casual transient and winter resident; eighth state record.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW (*Antrostomus carolinensis*), 2012-49: One, 6 October 2012, Eagle Bluffs CA, Boone Co. Ryan Douglas, Nicholas March, Kyle McCommis. Heard clearly several times. Latest fall record.

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus rufus*), 2012-8: Adult male, 21 October 2011 to 29 January 2012, Horan Farm, Franklin Co. Dan Burke (documentation with photographs). Rufous Hummingbird is rare as a fall transient, casual as a winter resident; this individual visited the Burkes' feeders for a remarkably long period, allowing many observers to see and photograph it, and was banded by Lanny Chambers.

GYRFALCON (*Falco rusticolus*), 2012-57: Gray-morph juvenile, 26 February 2005, County Road 1035, Chariton Co. Nicholas March (documentation with photographs); found by Kimberly March. Transient and winter visitor; as the fifth state record, this moves the species from accidental to casual.

WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE (*Contopus sordidulus*), 2012-31: One, 9 June to at least 3 July 2012, Lake Lotawana, Jackson Co. Found and audio-recorded by Chris Hobbs, with Nicole Hobbs; also documented by Mark Robbins (audio recordings deposited at Macaulay Library, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology) and Sandra Elbert. Although an out-of-range pewee is potentially difficult to identify, this bird sang Western Wood-Pewee songs clearly and persistently for a period of days, and its plumage and structure were also consistent with this species. This is a Definitive State Record of a species never previously recorded in Missouri.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax flaviventris*), 2012-41: One, 13 August 2012, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Chrissy McClarren (documentation with photographs). Second-earliest fall record.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, 2012-51: One, 14 October 2012, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Chrissy McClarren (documentation with photographs). Latest fall record until discovery of the next bird (2012-52).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, 2012-52: One, 23 October 2012, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Chrissy McClarren (documentation with photographs). Latest fall record; appeared to be a different bird from the one in 2012-51.

SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*), 2011-89: One, 1 December 2011, near Aldrich, Polk Co. Mark Robbins. Casual transient; ninth state record.

SAY'S PHOEBE, 2012-34: One, 1 January 2012, Swan Lake NWR, Chariton Co. Steve Kinder (documentation), Larry Lade. Casual transient; tenth state record. CBC record.

SAY'S PHOEBE, 2012-16: One, 17-27 March 2012, Capital View Access, Callaway Co. Found and documented by Bill Clark; also documented by Edge Wade, Kathleen Anderson, Walter Wehtje, Ryan Douglas (with photographs). Casual transient; eleventh state record.

VERMILION FLYCATCHER (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*), 2011-97: Adult male, 19 December 2011 to 13 January 2012, home of documenter in Perryville, Perry Co. Nancy Thompson (documentation with photographs). Casual; eighth state record, and first in winter.

NORTHERN SHRIKE (*Lanius excubitor*), 2011-75: Juvenile, 24 October 2011, Providence Prairie CA, Lawrence Co. Bill Clark (documentation), Bill Mees. Casual in southwestern Missouri.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2012-14: One, 26-28 February 2012, Broemmelsiek County Park, St. Charles Co. Shawn Clubb (documentation with photographs), m.ob. Casual in east-central Missouri.

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*), 2012-18: Singing male, 21 March 2012, near Wyatt, Mississippi Co. Mark Haas. Earliest spring record.

TREE SWALLOW (*Tachycineta bicolor*), 2012-33: Two, 19 December 2011, Lake Wappapello, Wayne Co. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Accidental in winter. CBC record.

WINTER WREN (*Troglodytes hiemalis*), 2011-66: One, 8 September 2011, Claire Gempp Davidson CA, St. Louis Co. Mark Haas. Earliest fall record by one day.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila caerulea*), 2011-81: One, 9 November 2011, St. Francis River levee road, Dunklin Co. Timothy Jones (documentation with photographs). Second-latest fall record.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER, 2012-11: One, 5 February 2012, MNWR. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs). Accidental in winter; third record.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia currucoides*), 2011-76: Female, 31 October 2011, Prairie SP, Barton Co. June Newman (documentation with photographs). Casual winter resident and winter visitor; twelfth state record.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD, 2012-60: Hatch-year male, 15-19 November 2012, SE 341 Road, Johnson Co. Al Smith (documentation with photographs); also documented by Edge Wade, Brad Jacobs; found by Kurt Dean. Casual winter resident and winter visitor; thirteenth state record. Close photos showed extensive bright blue upperparts, indicating a male, and molt limits in the greater coverts, indicating a first-winter bird.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT (*Anthus spragueii*), 2011-69: Two, 1 October 2011, Prairie SP, Barton Co. Brian Davis (documentation with photographs). Rather early fall record.

HOODED WARBLER (*Setophaga citrina*), 2012-48: Female or young male, 3 October 2012, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Chrissy McClarren (documentation with photographs). Late fall record.

NORTHERN PARULA (*Setophaga americana*), 2011-79: One 5 November 2011, St. Francis River levee road, Dunklin Co. Timothy Jones. Latest fall record.

PINE WARBLER (*Setophaga pinus*), 2012-40: Adult male, 30 June 2012, Wallace State Park, Clinton Co. Edge Wade. Apparently the first summer record of this species in northwestern Missouri.

YELLOW-RUMPED "AUDUBON'S" WARBLER (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*), 2011-71: Male, 16 October 2011, J.D. Christie and E.N. Davis Memorial CA, Andrew Co. Edge Wade. The western-mountain subspecies of Yellow-rumped Warbler; casual transient in Missouri.

PRAIRIE WARBLER (*Setophaga discolor*), 2011-56: One, 1 July 2011, northwestern Lincoln Co. Phil Wire. Heard only; song well described. Casual in summer in northern Missouri.

SPOTTED TOWHEE (*Pipilo maculatus*), 2012-61: Two females, 11 October 2012, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis. Chrissy McClarren (documentation), Andrew Reago (video). While only one bird appears in video, other observers concurred that two were present. Early fall record for eastern Missouri.

CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina*), 2011-93: Two, 17 December 2011, Fry Road near Clay Co. line, Platte Co. Steve Bingham (documentation), Sara Scheil. Casual in winter in northern and central Missouri. CBC record.

CHIPPING SPARROW, 2012-12: Adult, 13 February 2012, near Columbia, Boone Co. Ryan Douglas (documentation with photographs). Casual in winter in northern and central Missouri.

LARK BUNTING (*Calamospiza melanocorys*), 2012-21: Apparent first-spring male, 1 April 2012, Taberville Prairie, St. Clair Co. Craig Hensley (documentation), Jenna Rhoades (photographs). Accidental transient outside of northwestern Missouri (where casual).

PAINTED BUNTING (*Passerina ciris*), 2012-58: Adult male, 17 July 2012, Poplar Bluff, Butler Co. Paul McKenzie. Accidental in summer outside southwestern Missouri.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), 2012-4: Female, 28 December 2011, NE 101 BC Road near Prairie Flower School Road, Benton Co. Brad Jacobs (documentation with photographs), Janet Haslerig, Ryan Steffens, Pete Grayum. Rare in winter; documentation required on CBCs (like this bird) for most parts of Missouri.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*), 2011-96: Adult male, 18 December 2011, Columbia, Boone Co. Julie Fisher (documentation), Ted Fisher. Casual in winter.

LESSER GOLDFINCH (*Spinus psaltria*), 2012-10: Male, 18 January to 20 February 2012, Humansville, Polk Co. Calvin Borntreger (documentation), Lester and Ervin Borntreger, Bill Baughman (photographs). Accidental winter visitor and resident; fourth state record. This male was of the green-backed form.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

“Not accepted” does not necessarily mean that the identification should be assumed to be incorrect. In some cases the Committee may indeed believe that 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 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.

BARNACLE GOOSE (*Branta leucopsis*), 2012-20: Adult, 31 March 2012, James Reed Wildlife Area, Jackson Co. This bird was definitely a Barnacle Goose, but the Committee considered its origin to be problematic. There is, however, an emerging pattern of occurrence of apparently wild Barnacle Geese in the northeastern U.S. and

Canada. If such a pattern is eventually demonstrated in the Midwest, this record and others of the species could be re-evaluated.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nyctanassa violacea*), 2012-7: One, 18 March 2011, Springfield, Greene Co. It is possible that this was an early Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, but the bird was seen only in flight and identified primarily by the fact that the species had been seen in the vicinity in previous years; no diagnostic characters of Yellow-crown were described.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK (*Buteo platypterus*), 2012-3: Adult, 17 December 2011, Binder Lake Park, Cole Co. Although some of the features described seemed to fit Broad-winged Hawk, the description lacked full detail, and some of the details offered were a matter of judgment (e.g., size judged to be small for a buteo but with no direct comparison to other birds). The committee felt that Red-shouldered Hawk was not eliminated. As nearly all Broad-winged Hawks leave North America in fall, a winter record is best substantiated with photographs.

YELLOW RAIL (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*), 2012-29: One, 23 May 2012, Perry County Community Lake. Aside from the date (far later than any previous spring record of Yellow Rail), the description of this bird and its behavior did not sound like a Yellow Rail.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus griseus*), 2012-23: Two, 18 April 2012, SCNWR. The expected dowitcher during April is Long-billed, and the earliest accepted date for Short-billed is 27 April 1974. No photographs were obtained, voice was not heard, and no characters were mentioned that would be diagnostic of Short-billed.

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD (*Cynanthus latirostris*), 2011-61: Adult male, 8-9 August 2011, Bull Shoals Lake area, Ozark Co. While the plumage and bill colors described did suggest this species, the observation was made without optical equipment, details were few, and no photographs were obtained. Broad-billed Hummingbird shows up as an occasional vagrant at great distances from its normal southwestern range and should be watched for at feeders.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilocus colubris*), 2012-39: One, 30 March 2012, Cape Woods CA, Cape Girardeau Co. The observer saw a hummingbird, but only in flight; no characters were noted that would identify the bird as Ruby-throated. Other species of hummingbird, though rare, are possible in any season of the year.

RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER (*Sphyrapicus nuchalis*), 2012-19: Male, 22-23 March 2012, Tower Gove Park, St. Louis City. In photographs, this bird appeared to show characters of both Red-naped Sapsucker (broad red throat displacing the black frame) and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (broad, somewhat diffuse bands of white mottling on back; no red or just slightest suggestion of pinkish on nape). The record was sent to Jocelyn Hudon of the Royal Alberta Museum, who had conducted extensive studies of these two

species and their hybrids in Alberta; his scoring of several characters yielded a total that was squarely in the hybrid range. Though the bird was not a pure Red-naped, it was clearly an interesting western vagrant.

WILLOW FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax traillii*), 2012-24: One, 23 April 2012, Phelps Co. This would have been a record-early date for the species, but the bird was heard only, and the voice was not recognizably described as that of a Willow Flycatcher.

EASTERN KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus tyrannus*), 2012-9: One, 17 December 2011, Duck Creek CA, Bollinger Co. Even though three observers offered some details, these were scanty and did not establish the identification as a definite Eastern Kingbird. Most important, the white terminal tail band was not seen, and the behavior reported was not typical for Eastern Kingbird. CBC record.

NORTHERN SHRIKE, 2012-1: Adult, 6 January 2012, near Pineville, McDonald Co. This may well have been a Northern Shrike, but the description cited only the apparent size (no direct comparison with other birds), the manner of flight, and the contrast of light crown and dark mask, but not any characters that would be diagnostic of Northern Shrike.

CLIFF SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), 2012-15: Five birds, 11 March 2012, McAllister Springs Access, Saline Co. Description of these early swallows did not eliminate Cave Swallow or Northern Rough-winged Swallow.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH (*Catharus minimus*), 2012-22: One, 15 April 2012, near Rogersville, Webster Co. Photographs by the observer showed this bird to be a Hermit Thrush with an ashy-gray head contrasting with a darker, browner back (unlike an actual Gray-cheeked Thrush, whose back and crown are a more uniform gray-brown). Brown thrushes of the genus *Catharus* can be notoriously hard to identify, and apparent early or late individuals must be checked very carefully to eliminate the more probable species. Hermit and Gray-cheeked, in particular, can be easily confused.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT, 2011-60: One, 7 August, Shawnee Trail CA, Barton Co. Leg color was described as pink (consistent with Sprague's Pipit), but the rest of the description was equivocal, with certain important features not noted, like a necklace of streaks on the breast, and some details were wrong for that species (e.g., tail judged to be longer than Horned Lark's). Sprague's Pipits occur primarily in October; a record as early as this would be extraordinary and best substantiated by photographs. This species has not been recorded prior to mid-September in Missouri.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING (*Bombycilla garrulus*), 2012-28: One, 21 May 2012, Weldon Spring CA, St. Charles Co. A single-observer report, with no photographs. For a record like this, of an extremely rare species at an astonishingly late date, a photograph would be a necessity.

AMERICAN REDSTART (*Setophaga ruticilla*), 2011-73: Female, 22 October 2011, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Late record by eight days, but no field notes or photograph submitted.

CAPE MAY WARBLER (*Setophaga tigrina*), 2012-43: Male, 22 August 2012, Trail of Tears SP, Cape Girardeau Co. Possible record-early fall arrival, but only the head was observed; no view of breast streaking, white wing patch, bill structure, or any other indications of a Cape May.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER (*Setophaga magnolia*), 2012-44: Three immatures, 22 August 2012, Trail of Tears SP, Cape Girardeau Co. Possible record-early fall arrival, but details noted were not clearly diagnostic of Magnolia Warbler; apparent absence of side streaking was puzzling.

BLACKPOLL WARBLER (*Setophaga striata*), 2011-72: One, 17 October 2011, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Accidental in fall. Very difficult to separate from Bay-breasted Warbler at that season; no photographs taken.

YELLOW-RUMPED “AUDUBON’S” WARBLER, 2011-70: One, 12 October 2011, Tower Grove Park, St. Louis City. Single-observer record of this rare form; no field notes or photograph submitted.

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER (*Setophaga nigrescens*), 2012-47: Adult male, 16 September 2012, Duck Creek CA, Bollinger Co. Single-observer record; no photograph. Details provided were good, but the observation was very brief (a few seconds) and no notes were taken or sketch made on the spot. The committee believed that more certainty was needed to add this species to the Missouri state list, even on a Provisional basis.

DARK-EYED “PINK-SIDED” JUNCO (*Junco hyemalis mearnsi*), 2011-92: One, 17 December 2011, Maryville, Nodaway Co. The description suggested that this bird may well have been a pure “Pink-sided” Junco. The various subspecies of Dark-eyed Junco can be hard to separate in the field, however, and the frequent intergradation between them makes that separation more complicated. Two previous sight records were not accepted, following review of the first by outside reviewer George Barrowclough; he was of the opinion that a specimen or photograph would be necessary for unequivocal elimination of other junco subspecies and intergrades. The Committee continues to believe that this criterion should be met for a first record. The criteria for acceptance may be less stringent in other states that already have established records and have more regular occurrences of this form.

WESTERN MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella neglecta*), 2011-55: One, 1 July 2011, northwestern Lincoln Co. Heard only; song reasonably well described, but as the observer acknowledged, song is not entirely diagnostic, since each meadowlark species may learn the song of the other on occasion. A visual confirmation would be needed for a first summer record in the easternmost counties.

