

**TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MISSOURI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE**  
**William C. Rowe, Secretary**

This report summarizes records evaluated by the Committee between 27 September 2009 and 26 September 2010. 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 (KUNHM).

The transition to on-line documentation and review of records continues. Some documentations are still submitted in hard copy, but a 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. 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](http://www.showme-birds.com). Mark McKellar is also thanked for tracking down details of several records.

Of the 95 records that were finalized during this period, 76 were accepted and 19 were not accepted, for an acceptance rate of 80%. Members participating in these decisions were Joe Eades, Brad Jacobs (Chair), Kristi Mayo, Paul McKenzie, Mark Robbins, Bill Rowe (Secretary), and Walter Wehtje. Record #2010-31 (Bullock's Oriole) was sent to Paul Lehman for outside review.

No new species were added to the state list, but Bullock's Oriole was moved from hypothetical status to full acceptance. Thus Missouri's total as of 26 September 2010 consisted of 417 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 hypothetical species on the list. The Annotated Checklist of Missouri Birds, with its latest updates, can be viewed at [www.mobirds.org](http://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: Baltimore Oriole in winter); records of species that are casual or accidental in the part of Missouri where reported (example: Northern Shrike in southern Missouri); 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, 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 2012 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*), 2010-44: Six, 23 May 2010, MNWR. Chris Barrigar (with photographs). At the time, this species was listed as a casual transient; since then its status has been revised to "rare," and documentation is no longer required. As with all species, however, an unusually late, early, or unseasonable occurrence should be documented.

**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK**, 2010-71: Two adults with nest and clutch of eggs, 2 July to 28 August 2010, Napoleon, Lafayette Co. This pair built a nest in a Wood Duck box on the property of Lowell Burns (documentation with photographs). The record was first brought to the Committee's attention by Jim Zellmer. Seventeen eggs were observed on 12 August. On 28 August it was discovered that the box contained one dead duckling, 7 hatched eggs, 2 eggs with young that had unsuccessfully attempted to hatch, and 6 unhatched eggs (4 ducklings and 7 eggs preserved and deposited at KUNHM). It is not known whether any of the hatchlings survived, but none was subsequently observed. First nesting record of this species in Missouri.

**FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK** (*Dendrocygna bicolor*), 2010-55: Two adults, 6 June 2010, Four Rivers CA, Vernon Co. JoAnn Garrett (documentation), Nanette Johnson. At the time, this species was listed as a casual transient and summer visitor statewide; since then its status has been revised to "rare" in southern Missouri, and documentation is no longer required there.

**MOTTLED DUCK** (*Anas fulvigula*), 2010-22: Adult male, 20 November 2009, Bob Brown CA, Holt Co. Taken by hunter Norb Giessman. He recognized it as a Mottled Duck and alerted Department of Conservation personnel, who saw to it that the bird was preserved. Specimen prepared and deposited at the University of Missouri by Mark Robbins (documentation with photographs; specimen #3613). Accidental; second state record. Examination of the specimen confirmed all characters of Mottled Duck and ruled out the possibility of a hybrid with Mallard. See Robbins et al. (2010) regarding a review of records of this species and earlier summer Missouri reports of American Black Duck in the interior of North America.

**BLUE-WINGED TEAL** (*Anas discors*), 2009-95: Male, 19 December 2009, St. Joseph sewage lagoon, Buchanan Co. James Voltz (documentation), Peggy Voltz. Casual in winter in extreme northern Missouri. CBC record.

**NORTHERN PINTAIL** (*Anas acuta*), 2010-53: Four adult males, 10 July 2010, near OSCA. Chris Barrigar (documentation with photographs), Bruce Beck. Casual summer visitor outside northwestern Missouri.

**PACIFIC LOON** (*Gavia pacifica*), 2010-46: Adult, 3 May 2010, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Found by Doug Willis; documented by Kristi Mayo (with photographs). Fourth spring record.

**CLARK'S GREBE** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*), 2009-85: One, 4-25 November 2009, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Found by Doug Willis; documented by Kristi Mayo; photographed by Al Smith. Fifth definite state record, although it is possible that some "Western Grebe" records prior to the recognition of Clark's Grebe as a species may have pertained to Clark's. This record moves the species from accidental to casual.

**WOOD STORK** (*Mycteria americana*), 2010-58: Subadult, 15-21 July 2010, Thompson River Wetlands near Chillicothe, Livingston Co. Terry McNeely, Steve Kinder. Casual summer visitor; fifth record since the 1930s.

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT** (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*), 2009-88: Two immatures, 19 July 2009, Four Rivers CA, Vernon Co. Linda Williams (with photographs). While this species is listed only as rare in western Missouri, the Committee continues to request documentation of all records because of identification issues.

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT**, 2010-61: Adult, 15 July to 12 August 2010, Blue Springs Lake, Jackson Co. Ruth Simmons (documentation), Scott Laurent (photographs), Linda Williams, Bob Fisher. See status comment under 2009-88.

**ANHINGA** (*Anhinga anhinga*), 2010-25: Flock of 15+, 25 April 2009, Big Oak Tree SP, Mississippi Co. Eric Gyllenhaal (documentation), Ethan Gyllenhaal (photographs), Aaron Gyllenhaal. Originally a summer resident in southeastern Missouri, the Anhinga has been only a rare visitor in modern times. This is by far the largest flock observed in the state since the late 1800s.

**BROWN PELICAN** (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), 2010-60: One, 13-15 July 2010, Blue Springs Lake, Jackson Co. Ruth Simmons (with photographs). Casual transient and summer visitor; ninth state record.

**BROWN PELICAN**, 2010-66: Immature, 2-28 August 2010, Four Rivers CA, Vernon Co. Found by Doug Willis (photographs), documented by Kristi Mayo. Casual transient and summer visitor; tenth state record.

**ROSEATE SPOONBILL** (*Platalea ajaja*), 2010-68: Two, 28 August 2010, east of Orrick, Ray Co. Peter Kondrashov (with photographs). Casual transient and summer visitor; tenth state record.

**BLACK VULTURE** (*Coragyps atratus*), 2010-6: Eight, 18 January 2010, HaHa Tonka SP, Camden Co. Susan Hazelwood. Unusually far north.

**BLACK VULTURE**, 2010-7: One, 18 January 2010, near Lake of the Ozarks, Miller Co. Susan Hazelwood. Unusually far north.

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** (*Elanoides forficatus*), 2010-63: One, 17 August 2010, south of Harrisonville, Cass Co. Geoff Wolfe. Former summer resident, now casual as a transient and summer visitor; eighth modern record.

**KING RAIL** (*Rallus elegans*), 2010-54: Adult, 3 January 2010, Clarence Cannon NWR, Pike Co. Candace Chambers (documentation with photographs), Jason Wilson, Alan Lagemann, Coary Poen. Until this record, the species was listed as hypothetical in winter; this is the first documented winter record.

**VIRGINIA RAIL** (*Rallus limicola*), 2010-52: Juvenile, 9 July 2010, Clarence Cannon NWR, Pike Co. Al Smith (documentation with photographs), Paul Bauer, Fran Bauer. Casual summer resident in northern Missouri.

**SANDHILL CRANE** (*Grus canadensis*), 2010-29: 39 birds, 5 March 2010, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. A rare transient and winter visitor; one of the largest flocks reported in eastern Missouri in modern times.

**KILLDEER** (*Charadrius vociferus*), 2009-86: Juvenile, 13 November 2009, Dexter City Lake CA, Stoddard Co. Chris Barrigar (with photographs). Visibly immature plumage (single neck ring) on this date indicated a fall nesting, which is known from some other states (AOU, The Birds of North America Online, <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu.bna.proxy.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/517/articles>). Latest documented nesting for this species in Missouri.

**BLACK-NECKED STILT** (*Himantopus mexicanus*), 2010-51: Adult male, 23 March 2010, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (with photographs). Apparently the earliest spring record.

**BLACK-NECKED STILT**, 2010-70: Presumed pair with three young, 6 August 2010, west of Forest City near Bob Brown CA, Holt Co. Mark Robbins (with photographs). Young birds appeared to be at least three weeks old. First breeding record for Missouri outside the southeastern quadrant (Robbins 2010).

**GREATER YELLOWLEGS** (*Tringa melanoleuca*), 2010-27: Two, 27 February 2010, near OSCA. Chris Barrigar (with photographs). Apparently the earliest spring record.

**DOWITCHER sp.** (*Limnodromus sp.*), 2010-36: Six, 17 December 2009, Ten Mile Pond CA, Mississippi Co. Chris Barrigar. Clearly dowitchers, these birds were not identifiable to species, with no photographs obtained and no vocalizations heard. It is nearly certain, however, that they were Long-billed Dowitchers, since that species migrates late in fall, routinely into November, and has been found in winter on one previous occasion (19 December 1997; record number 1998-12). Short-billed Dowitcher has not been documented in Missouri beyond the end of September. CBC record.

**CALIFORNIA GULL** (*Larus californicus*), 2009-90: First-cycle bird, 25 October 2009, RMBS. Joe Eades (documentation), Al Smith (photographs), Jim and Charlene Malone, David Rogles, Paul Bauer. Casual transient in eastern Missouri.

**THAYER'S GULL** (*Larus thayeri*), 2010-30: Adult, 7 and 14 March 2010, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Bob Fisher. Casual away from Mississippi River.

**ICELAND GULL** (*Larus glaucooides*), 2010-33: First-cycle bird, 14 March 2010, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Found by Doug Willis and documented by Kristi Mayo (photographs by both). Accidental away from Mississippi River.

**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL** (*Larus fuscus*), 2009-93: Adult, 10-18 September 2004, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Found by Nathan Woodland; documented by Kristi Mayo (photographs) and Mark Robbins (specimen; KUNHM 11604). Casual away from Mississippi River.

**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL**, 2010-19: Third-cycle bird, 2-16 February 2010, Long Branch SP, Macon Co. Peter Kondrashov, Sandra Elbert (documentation with photographs), Kathleen Anderson (documentation). Casual away from Mississippi River. This bird, while adult-like, lacked white mirrors in the wingtips and had some dark markings on the bill; hence the assignment to a third-cycle type.

**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL**, 2010-37: Adult, 12 March 2010, Long Branch SP, Macon Co. Peter Kondrashov (documentation with photographs), Frankie Cuculich, Susan Hazelwood. Casual away from Mississippi River. This individual appeared to be a full adult, with white wingtip mirrors and bright yellow bill with red spot. It was thus a different bird from the one in 2010-19, above.

**GLAUCOUS GULL** (*Larus hyperboreus*), 2010-20: Immature, apparently first cycle, 20 December 2008, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Linda Williams (photographs). At the time, Glaucous Gull was listed as “casual” away from the Mississippi River; its status has since been revised to “rare” statewide, and so documentation is no longer required.

**GLAUCOUS GULL**, 2010-18: 1-2 immature birds (both probably first cycle), 21 December 2009 to 27 January 2010, Long Branch SP, Macon Co. Peter Kondrashov (documentation with photographs), Brad Jacobs, Paul McKenzie, Terry Miller, Edge Wade, Eric Wood. Two birds were observed on 23 December 2009 and one on other occasions, and it is assumed that no more than two birds were involved. See comment on 2010-20, above.

**GLAUCOUS GULL**, 2010-38: One, subadult, 4 February to 12 March 2010, Long Branch SP, Macon Co. Peter Kondrashov, Sandra Elbert (documentation with photographs), Kathleen Anderson (documentation), Harold Anderson. Unlike the Glaucous Gulls documented at Long Branch in earlier weeks of 2009-10 (see above), this bird had adult-like plumage but showed a dark tip to its yellow bill. See comment on 2010-20, above.

**GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL** (*Larus marinus*), 2010-13: Subadult, 25 January 2010, Long Branch SP, Macon Co. Terry McNeely. First documented record away from the Mississippi River.

**GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL**, 2010-34: Third-cycle bird, 31 January 2010, Truman Reservoir, Benton Co. Michael Andersen (documentation with photographs), Mark Robbins, Jon King, Luis Sanchez. Accidental away from the Mississippi River.

**COMMON TERN** (*Sterna hirundo*), 2009-84: One, 29 October 2009, RMBS. Cornelius Alwood. Latest documented fall record for Missouri.

**LONG-TAILED JAEGER** (*Stercorarius longicaudus*), 2010-73: Juvenile, 16-20 September 2010, Smithville Lake, Clay Co. Found and documented by Kristi Mayo (with photographs), also by Sandra Elbert (with photographs). Accidental transient; fourth state record, second in modern times.

**BURROWING OWL** (*Athene cunicularia*), 2010-35: One, 9 April 2010, Prairie SP, Barton Co. Dana Hoisington (documentation with photographs), Rick Edwards, Brian Miller. Casual transient in western Missouri.

**LONG-EARED OWL** (*Asio otus*), 2010-62: Two adults and three fledglings, 3 March to 3 June 2010, Poosey CA, Livingston Co. Steve Kinder (with photographs). This species is only casual as a breeding bird. Adults observed on nest in pine grove; fledglings observed at various stages of development including flight.

**COMMON POORWILL** (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*), 2009-98: Adult male, 21-22 November 2009, west of Maitland, Holt Co. Found by Brandon Shields and Kirby Goslee; documented by David Easterla (photographs). Accidental transient; second confirmed state record. Shields accidentally stunned the bird with his car and brought it to Goslee, who then alerted Easterla. Following photographic documentation, it was released and flew away.

**RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD** (*Selasphorus rufus*), 2010-1: Adult male, 2 December 2009 to 2 January 2010, Katherine Trupp residence, Ozark, Christian Co. Greg Swick (documentation with photographs), Marvin De Jong (photographs), Nathan Swick, David Ringer, Charley Burwick, Lisa Berger. Accidental in winter; this is the second Rufous that has extended its stay beyond 15 December.

**EASTERN PHOEBE** (*Sayornis phoebe*), 2010-8: One, 26 December 2009, Cuivre River SP, Lincoln Co. Bruce Schuette. Casual in winter in northern Missouri.

**EASTERN PHOEBE**, 2010-11: One, 10 January 2010, Eureka High School, St. Louis, Co. Josh Uffman. Casual in winter in northern Missouri.

**SAY'S PHOEBE** (*Sayornis saya*), 2010-74: One 24 September 2010, Lake of the Ozarks SP, Camden Co. Found by Dianne Kinder and documented by Steve Kinder; also Brent Galliard, Larry Lade, Ellen Zelmer, Jim Zellmer. Photographed by Al Smith and Paul Bauer. Casual transient; eighth state record.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE** (*Lanius excubitor*), 2009-89: Adult, 29 November 2009, rural Barton Co. Joe Eades. Casual in southwestern Missouri.

**TREE SWALLOW** (*Tachycineta bicolor*), 2010-3: Adult, 2 January 2010, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Accidental in winter.

**CLIFF SWALLOW** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), 2010-15: Adult, 1 November 2009, OSCA. Chris Barrigar (with photographs). Latest fall date by almost two weeks.

**BARN SWALLOW** (*Hirundo rustica*), 2010-2: Adult, 2 January 2010, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Accidental in winter.

**BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER** (*Poliioptila caerulea*), 2010-16: One, 14 October 2009, OSCA. Chris Barrigar. Second-latest fall record and only October observation; there is also one documented winter record.

**GRAY CATBIRD** (*Dumetella carolinensis*), 2010-17: One, 19 December 2009, Maryville, Nodaway Co. David Easterla. Casual in winter. CBC record.

**AMERICAN PIPIT** (*Anthus rubescens*), 2010-21: 24 birds, 1 January 2010, near Confluence Point SP, St. Charles Co. Josh Uffman. Casual in winter in northern and central Missouri. CBC record.

**CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR** (*Calcarius ornatus*), 2010-5: Probable female, 10 January 2010, CBCA. Bill Rudden (with photographs). Accidental transient and winter visitor in eastern Missouri.

**TENNESSEE WARBLER** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*), 2010-45: Male, 6 April 2010, near Rogersville, Webster Co. Andrew Kinslow. Earliest spring record by three days.

**ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER** (*Oreothlypis celata*), 2009-100: One, 27-30 December 2009, Creve Coeur Lake, St. Louis Co. Bryan Prather (with photographs). Casual in winter in northern Missouri.

**ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER**, 2010-26: One, 20 January to 17 February 2010, feeder at Ellison residence, Springfield, Greene Co. Zeldia Ellison (documentation), Myra Scroggs (photographs), Sandy Ellison. A well-photographed record of this species, rare in winter in southern Missouri.

**BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER** (*Dendroica virens*), 2010-50: Two birds, 21-29 June 2010, rural Reynolds Co. Michael Nicosia (documentation), Megan Blair. Casual summer visitor.

**PRAIRIE WARBLER** (*Dendroica discolor*), 2010-69: Male, 18 May to 18 June 2010, Sugar Creek CA, Adair Co. Peter Kondrashov (with photographs). Casual in summer in northern Missouri.

**NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*), 2010-72: Male, 12 June 2010, Little Dixie Lake CA, Callaway Co. Ryan Douglas. Latest record for spring migration, and first June record.

**CHIPPING SPARROW** (*Spizella passerina*), 2010-24: Adult, 12-15 February 2010, Columbia, Boone Co. Virginia McMillan (documentation with photographs), Bruce McMillan. Casual in winter in northern and central Missouri.

**BLACK-THROATED SPARROW** (*Amphispiza bilineata*), 2009-91: Adult, 3 December 2009 to 16 January 2010, Savannah, Andrew Co. Found by Dean and Pat Rush at their home in Savannah; documented by Larry Lade, Kathleen Anderson, and Jack Hilsabeck (photographs). Accidental winter visitor; second state record.

**SUMMER TANAGER** (*Piranga rubra*), 2009-92: Female, 5-9 December 2009, Independence, Jackson Co. Found and photographed by Linda Byrd at her home. Very late fall record.

**SUMMER TANAGER**, 2010-14: Female, 25 December 2009 to 1 January 2010, Town & Country, St. Louis Co. Chandler Kennedy (documentation with photographs), Susan Kennedy. Accidental in winter.

**WESTERN TANAGER** (*Piranga ludoviciana*), 2010-39: Adult male, 7 May 2010, Joplin, Jasper Co. Larry Herbert. Casual transient.

**BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK** (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*), 2009-99: Immature male, 24 December 2009 to 8 February 2010, Kansas City, Platte Co. Found and documented by Lisa Owens (photographs) in her yard. First winter record of this species.

**BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK**, 2010-49: Adult male, 12-13 May 2010, McClurg residence, St. Joseph, Buchanan Co. Jack Hilsabeck (documentation with photographs),

David Easterla, Larry Lade, John Rushin, Leo Galloway, Tom Nagel, Frances Cramer. At the time, Black-headed Grosbeak was on the Review List even though its status was "rare;" since then the Review List has been revised to request documentation for female and immature birds only.

**LAZULI BUNTING** (*Passerina amoena*), 2010-41: Adult male, 11 May 2010, Culver residence, Peculiar, Cass Co. Documented with photographs by Ginny Culver. Accidental transient outside northwestern Missouri.

**INDIGO BUNTING** (*Passerina cyanea*), 2009-96: One, 19 December 2009, Duck Creek CA, Bollinger Co. Chris Barrigar (photographs). Casual in winter in southern Missouri. CBC record.

**INDIGO BUNTING**, 2010-10: One, 19 December 2009, Columbia, Boone Co. Susan Hazelwood (documentation), Joan Hathman, Mike Mac, Howard Hinkel, Levi Vickery, Robin Vickery, Greg Leonard. CBC record.

**INDIGO BUNTING**, 2009-97: One, 20 December 2009, Chillicothe, Livingston Co. Steve Kinder. Accidental in winter in northern Missouri.

**PAINTED BUNTING** (*Passerina ciris*), 2010-47: Adult male, 15 May to 13 June, Meadows residence, Boonville, Cooper Co. Susan Meadows and Mary Barile (documentation), Sarah Arrandale, Janet Acton, Elinor Barrett. Casual transient and accidental in summer outside southwestern Missouri.

**BREWER'S BLACKBIRD** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), 2010-4: Female, 30 December 2009, Elsberry, Lincoln Co. Eric Schuette. Documentation expected for all CBC records, as this one was.

**BULLOCK'S ORIOLE** (*Icterus bullockii*), 2010-31: Female, 19 December 2009 to 1 January 2010, Oldenburger residence, Savannah, Andrew Co. Photographs by Craig Oldenburger were sent to Mark McKellar, who shared them with committee members and posted documentation. Upon request, additional photographs were provided, and all were sent to Paul Lehman, who supported the identification as Bullock's with no evidence of hybridity (an issue because Bullock's x Baltimore hybridization occurs regularly in the western Great Plains). Two records that are cited by Robbins and Easterla (1992) as possible Bullock's were revisited with the help of Mark Robbins and determined to be unsatisfactory. One, a female wintering at a feeder in the St. Louis area in 1978-79, had been photographed, and examination of the single photograph available (VIREO image x08/16/001) proved it to be a probable Baltimore; the other, an adult male, was reported from Lewis Co. in 1971 with no photograph or description. Thus the present record represents the only documented Bullock's Oriole in Missouri. The species is now listed as an accidental winter visitor.

**BALTIMORE ORIOLE** (*Icterus galbula*), 2009-94: Female, 5-21 December 2009, Juhlin residence, Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau Co. Steven Juhlin (documentation with photographs), Ruth Juhlin, Rachel Juhlin. Casual in winter.

**EURASIAN TREE SPARROW** (*Passer montanus*), 2009-87: One, 22 November 2009, Bloomfield, Stoddard Co. Chris Barrigar (with photographs). Casual outside the St. Louis area and the north Mississippi River corridor.

**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.

**CLARK’S GREBE**, 2009-81: One, 24 October 2009, Creve Coeur Lake, St. Louis Co. The documentation did not include a description of the face pattern, always key to identifying Clark’s Grebe, and the bill was described as yellow but not bright. The observer described pale flanks and a thin black nape stripe, characters which suggest Clark’s but by themselves do not rule out an unusual Western or a hybrid. Other observers of this bird did not provide documentation.

**GLOSSY IBIS** (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 2009-82: Adult, 31 October 2009, Forest Green, Chariton Co. This report did not even consider White-faced Ibis, far more likely in fall.

**BROAD-WINGED HAWK** (*Buteo platypterus*), 2009-83: Juvenile, 5 November 2009, Little Dixie Lake CA, Callaway Co. There was no direct comparison of this bird’s size with other birds, and the descriptive details were not fully convincing for such an unusually late record. Other buteos were not entirely eliminated—for instance, the absence of a dark patagial mark does not always rule out a light Red-tailed Hawk.

**FERRUGINOUS HAWK** (*Buteo regalis*), 2009-101: Adult, 29 December 2009, Barton Co. The description failed to include many important characters of adult Ferruginous Hawk, such as underwing pattern, white primary patches on upperwing, pattern of feathers on legs, tapered wing shape, large gape, etc. The observers’ assessment of large size was not based on immediate comparison with any other hawk, and the observed white underparts and whitish tail with some orange color toward the tip could easily be observed on some Red-tailed Hawks. CBC record.

**ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK** (*Buteo lagopus*), 2010-42: One, 8 May 2010, Maramec Springs Trout Park, Phelps Co. A Rough-legged Hawk would be highly unexpected on this date and in this habitat, but the report did not seem to acknowledge that. No field notes were taken; identification was based on just a couple of briefly mentioned characters with little detail provided.

**ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK**, 2010-56: One, 9 June 2010, Cass Co. The early-summer date was even more remarkable than that of the preceding report, considering that Rough-legged Hawks breed in the arctic and subarctic, and details were lacking that should have been visible, given the distance and viewing conditions (e.g., the characteristic Rough-leg underwing pattern).

**LAUGHING GULL** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*), 2010-40: This bird was possibly an adult Laughing Gull, but the description did not eliminate a subadult Franklin’s Gull, which may lack the white band in the wingtip. Key points of separation—bill length and shape, size and shape of bird in direct comparison to other gulls, and especially the much greater extent of black under the primaries in Laughing—were not mentioned. See Kaufman (1990) or Howell and Dunn (2007) for discussion.

**CALIFORNIA GULL** (*Larus californicus*), 2010-9: First-cycle bird, 22 December 2009, Long Branch SP, Macon Co. This bird, while showing several characters of California Gull, had a largely dark bill, whereas first-cycle Californias virtually always acquire a pink bill with clean-cut black tip by mid-fall. This cast doubt on the identification.

**NORTHERN SHRIKE**, 2010-32: Adult, 10 March 2010, south of Thomas Hill Reservoir, Randolph Co. This bird may well have been a Northern Shrike, but the description lacked the details needed to rule out Loggerhead Shrike. Identification was based on behavioral traits and apparent length of wings and tail.

**PHILADELPHIA VIREO** (*Vireo philadelphicus*), 2010-64: One, 21 August 2010, Eagle Bluffs CA, Bonne Co. The description fit an expectable Warbling Vireo, or perhaps Tennessee Warbler, better than a record-early Philadelphia Vireo.

**WESTERN BLUEBIRD** (*Sialia mexicana*), 2010-28: Male, 20 March 2010, Hi Lonesome Prairie CA, Benton Co. The observer had only a brief side view of this bird and based the identification entirely on seeing a blue throat. The back was described as entirely blue, which is unusual in Western Bluebird, and other potential distinguishing features were not observed (different blue tone, darker underparts with gray belly, longer primary extension, etc.). Thus the level of detail was insufficient for a first state record, even as a single-observer hypothetical record.

**BICKNELL'S THRUSH** (*Catharus bicknellii*), 2010-67: Two, 23 August 2010, Grand Pass CA, Saline Co. These birds were captured in mist nets, measured, and photographed. The identification as Bicknell's Thrush seems to have been based primarily on the measurements plus the assumption that the birds belonged to the Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's species pair. The photographs, however, indicated that both birds were Veeries, with a rusty tone to the entire upperparts (one darker than the other, and neither showing any back/tail contrast), gray-washed flanks contrasting with darker wings, and face pattern consistent with Veery. Bicknell's Thrush, as a breeding bird of limited range in New York, New England, and eastern Canada, would be an entirely unexpected vagrant in Missouri, perhaps verifiable only with a specimen because of its extremely close resemblance to Gray-cheeked Thrush. The birds recorded here are significant, nonetheless, as the earliest Veeries recorded in fall migration in Missouri.

**SPRAGUE'S PIPIT** (*Anthus spragueii*), 2010-59: One, 6 August 2010, south of St. Joseph, Buchanan Co. This would have been a record-early date for Sprague's Pipit by more than five weeks, and the details offered did not fully support that identification. The observer described a difference in color between the tertials and the primaries; yet North American pipits including Sprague's have short primaries that are covered by the tertials and not visible. Other key details that might have helped (amount of white in outer tail feathers, bill shape and size, crown pattern, exact pattern of breast streaking, etc.) were not included. While the observer was aware of potential confusion with a juvenile Horned Lark, the Committee believed that that species was not eliminated.

**WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), 2010-48: Two, 20 June 2010, Three Creeks CA, Boone Co. The visual details offered for one bird did suggest a White-crowned Sparrow but were too sketchy for acceptance, given the highly unexpected date for this species. A second individual was claimed on the basis of hearing a White-crowned song, but the song description was inconclusive.

**SCARLET TANAGER** (*Piranga olivacea*), 2010-23: One, 19 December and beyond, Columbia, Boone Co. The description was minimal and did not make it entirely clear

that the bird observed was a tanager; if it was, the details suggested Summer Tanager as much as Scarlet. CBC record.

**WESTERN TANAGER**, 2010-43: Adult male, 8 May 2010, Woodson K. Woods Memorial CA, Phelps Co. From the plumage description, this bird sounded like a possible Western Tanager, but little detail was provided, and a first-spring male Summer Tanager was not convincingly eliminated. The vocalizations were said to be like those of Summer (and the two species do sound similar).

**WESTERN TANAGER**, 2010-57: Adult male and adult female, 10-11 July 2010, Grand Cru CA, Stone Co. As in the previous report, the description of the male sounded plausible, but the female was oddly described (e.g., size of a warbler), and neither description rose to the level of thoroughness needed for such a record. A mated pair of Western Tanagers in Missouri in July would be astounding.

**PURPLE FINCH** (*Carpodacus purpureus*), 2010-65: Male, 23-24 August 2010, Kansas City, Jackson Co. The report did not acknowledge how remarkably early this date would be for a Purple Finch, and the level of detail provided was insufficient for a species so far out of season.

**GREENFINCH** (*Chloris chloris*), 2010-12: Male, 25 January 2010, near Easley, Boone Co. This bird, well described and photographed, was clearly a Greenfinch, and almost certainly an escaped bird. The committee has processed and archived the record in case it is needed for future studies of exotic passerine records.

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