TWENTY-THIRD REPORT OF THE FLORIDA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2013

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Abstract.—The Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee held its annual summer meeting in Gainesville on 17 August 2013. As Old Business, the Committee revisited three (two unresolved and one tabled) reports, and resolved two of them. Only the Tricolored Munia on the Dry Tortugas again remained unsettled over a provenance issue. A total of 83 new reports were evaluated by the committee this year. Of these reports, 67 were accepted (57 of which were records verified by specimens, diagnostic photographs, or sound recordings) 13 not accepted, 1 unresolved, and 2 tabled. The notable rare bird event of the year was a major incursion of Razorbills to Florida waters during the winter. One species (European Turtle-Dove seen in the Florida Keys) was removed from the Florida Bird List, and three species (Costa's Hummingbird, Fea's Petrel, Variegated Flycatcher) were added, bringing the net total species on the official list to 516.

The twenty-third report of the Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee (FOSRC) summarizes decisions made by the committee for the submission year ending in August 2013. The FOSRC critically assesses reports of rare birds in Florida, including potential new records for the state, and evaluates the status of exotic species that may become established. Establishment criteria, last updated in 2004, are specified in the Committee's Rules and Procedures, which are published on the Florida Ornithological Society's website at http://www.fosbirds.org/. Submissions are requested for species or distinctive subspecies that are believed to be first-time vagrants in Florida or that are listed as review species or subspecies (http://www.fosbirds.org/official-florida-statebird-list). FOSRC review species or subspecies (= Review List) are mostly taxa on the Official State List for which the FOSRC, in practice, has previously reviewed and accepted 15 or fewer reports (but exceptions may be made to obtain more information on the occurrence of selected taxa in Florida). The Rules and Procedures govern the Committee's activities.

At its annual meeting on 17 August 2013, the FOSRC revisited three (two unresolved and one tabled) old reports and resolved two of them. Only the Tricolored Munia (scientific names below) on the Dry Tortugas again remained unsettled over a perennial provenance issue. A total of 81 new reports were evaluated by the Committee this year. Of these, 67 (83%) were accepted (57 [70%] of which were

records verified by specimens, diagnostic photographs, or sound recordings), 13 (16%) were not accepted, one was unresolved, and two were tabled. The acceptance/non-acceptance rate conforms closely with that reported in 2012 (Greenlaw 2014). One species (European Turtle-Dove seen in the Florida Keys) was removed from the Florida List, and three species (Costa's Hummingbird, Fea's Petrel, and Variegated Flycatcher) were added, bringing the net total species on the official list to 516.

This reporting year was characterized by an unprecedented irruption of Razorbills into Florida's waters. The birds appeared on the northeast coast in December and quickly spread southward past Miami and around to the Gulf coast side. They reached as far southwest as Key West and the Dry Tortugas, and northwestward to Pensacola Beach, Escambia County. The records committee accepted selected reports that were verifiably documented to represent the range of localities in Florida where the birds were found. Among the 43 reports (53% of new reports) that were processed this year by email voting, 20 were of Razorbills. Three other reports of this species were assessed at the meeting in August. Another "Razorbill" report turned out to be the second Thick-billed Murre that appeared to be caught up in the Razorbill invasion.

All documentation reviewed by the FOSRC is archived in the Ornithology Division of the Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH), University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. Observers of review-listed species in Florida, and of birds that may be new to the State List, should submit reports to the FOSRC, either by using the online form or by requesting a form from the Secretary of the committee directly (see http://www.fosbirds/org/). A report to the Secretary that includes the basic information on field observations of a rare or unusual species (who, where, when, and diagnostic description based on what the observer saw), with any photographs provided as attachments, also is acceptable. We request that photographs not be sent without a detailed description of the bird, as photographs are not always diagnostic, or they may show only limited parts of the bird being reported.

This report was prepared on behalf of all members of the FOSRC serving during the 2012-13 reporting year. The members serving during these reviews and their last year of tenure were Mark Berney (2013), John Murphy (2014), Jon Greenlaw (2015), Ed Kwater (2016), Michael Brothers (2017), Rafael Galvez (2018), and Dave Goodwin (2019). See the FOS website (above) for a list of the current members of the FOSRC and their addresses.

Submitters of reports (all submitters are acknowledged below, but only those reports that are accepted include initials of the submitter): Mark Berney (MBe), Jeff Bouton

(JB), Reed Bowman (RBo), Michael Brothers (MBr), Roy Brown (RBr), Evan Buck (EB), Bob Carroll (BC), Kevin Dailey (KDa), Fred Dietrich (FD), Karen Donnelly (KDo), Lucy and Bob Duncan (L&BD), John Erickson (JE), Cole Fredricks (CF), Rafael Galvez (RGa), Reinhard Geisler (RGe), Earline Gilley (EG), Larry Goodman (LG), Jon S. Greenlaw (JSG), Bev and Al Hansen (B&AH), Mitchell Harris (MH), Vaughan Hedrick (VH), Anthony Henehan (AH), Claire Herzog (CH), Monica Higgins (MHi), Leslie Kelly (LK), Brenda Kramar (BK), Nancy LaFramboise (NL), Grover Larkins (GL), Peter and Cynthia Larson (P&CL), Patrick Leary (PL), Patrick and Doris Leary (P&DL), Darcy Love (DL), Tom Mast (TM), Mike Manetz (MM), Larry Manfredi (LM), Jonathan Mays (JMa), Al Menk (AM), John Murphy (JM), Bill Ossmer (BO), Michael Perez (MP), Bill Pranty (BP), Kimberley Ramos (KR), Tom Rauch (TR), Diane Reed (DRe), Daniel Robinson (DRo), Barry Rossheim (BR), Rex Rowan (RR), David Shoch (DS), Elliot Schunke (ES), Bob Stalnaker (BS), Don and Lillian Stokes (D&LS), Malcolm Mark Swan (MMS), Steven M. Tennis (SMT), Roberto Torres (RT), Stu Wilson (SW), Andy Wraithmell (AW).

COMMITTEE NEWS, FORMATS, AND TERMINOLOGY

Committee news.—During 2013, the FOSRC met once on 17 August at the Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville. Mark Berney completed his seventh year on the committee and cycled off. He was replaced by Dr. Andrew (Andy) W. Kratter, who served previously on the committee and was its managing Secretary. Andy brings international field experience and credentials to the committee. He currently also serves on the American Ornithologists' Union's North American Classification Committee.

The Committee voted to remove the following two species from the Review List: Tropical Kingbird and Say's Phoebe. Razorbill and Thickbilled Vireo are to be kept on the list for a while longer.

Formats and terminology.—We follow the current nomenclature and sequence that are used in the American Ornithologists' Union check-list (AOU 1998) and its supplements current through July 2013 (http://checklist.aou.org/) in the species accounts. Within accounts with more than one submission on a species, each report is introduced sequentially by catalog number. The initials following the catalog number refer to one or more contributors who supplied information to the committee (see list above). We follow the terminology for age of birds outlined by Kratter 2012). We normally do not review subspecies, but on occasion we accept submissions on distinctive, field-identifiable subspecies whose taxonomic rank may be reevaluated by the AOU in the future. Our use of the words "report" and 'record" to describe occurrences of species in Florida follows Robertson and Woolfenden (1992), Stevenson and Anderson (1994), and Greenlaw et al. (2014). For each species, I provide a review of the status of the species in Florida mainly based on FOSRC data.

Abbreviations used here are: FWC = Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, NP = National Park, NWR = National Wildlife Refuge, SP = State Park, TTRS = Tall Timbers Research Station, Tallahassee, Florida.

Submissions Accepted

White-cheeked Pintail, Anas bahamensis

FOSRC 2013-987 (RGe). This pintail was observed at a lake near Centennial Trail in Pelican Island NWR, Indian River County, for a period of several weeks. The report submitted to the committee provided information on observations and photographs of the bird from 3 February 2013. The bird associated with wild ducks, including Blue-winged Teal (Anas discors). It appeared to be in good condition and had no leg bands or other tags.

A mapped review of reports of this species in Florida by Stevenson and Anderson (1994), updated by JSG (1992-2013), documented occurrences that were concentrated along the Atlantic coast from Indian River County south to Monroe County opposite known wild sources of the species in the Bahamas or Cuba. Few reports were from inland, along the peninsular Gulf coast, or from the Panhandle. Under the hypothesis that most occurrences of this pintail in the state represent escapes from private or public collections (an assumption that the committee has made in the past), accumulated occurrences can be expected to occur relatively widely in Florida, especially in densely settled, urbanized areas. Under the alternative hypothesis that many or most White-cheeked Pintails in Florida are natural vagrants from nearby Bahamian or West Indian sources, then the expectation is of occurrences concentrated along the Atlantic coast nearest to sources of potential origin. The evidence to date supports the natural vagrancy hypothesis over a captive origin view for most occurrences found in the state. In this case, the public collections that were contacted reported that their birds were banded and that none were missing. Private waterfowl collections are thought to be widespread in Florida (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992, Greenlaw et al. 2014), but in the experience of B. Pranty (pers. comm.), most of the few collections that are known harbor widely available species, while one in a pond found recently between a shopping center and a residential subdivision in Broward County (2013) had a pair of wild-type Anas bahamensis and other exotic waterfowl species (see 2013-986 below). The Pelican Island pintail occurred on the Atlantic coast in a relatively isolated, natural area opposite known sources in the northern Bahamas where a vagrant can be expected.

Since 1990, the records committee has evaluated five reports of *A. bahamensis* through August 2013. Only one previous report, from late March 1990 of a bird at Merritt Island NWR, Brevard County, was accepted. It too was near the Atlantic coast in a nature preserve. An early specimen known to Howell (1932) was shot by a hunter in February or March 1912 in the Banana River, Brevard County, and was thought to be "of accidental occurrence" by Howell (see Stevenson and Anderson 1994 and Greenlaw et al. 2014 for reviews).

Common Merganser, Mergus merganser

FOSRC 2012-947 (AH, KR). An adult male was discovered and photographed on 23 November 2012 along Wildlife Drive in J. N. 'Ding' Darling NWR, Sanibel, Lee County. The bird was not reported again after the discovery date.

During the early part of the 20th century, the species was widely reported in Florida, even as far south as the Keys (Howell 1932). Since 1992, only four

records (including the current bird) have come to our attention in the state, all from the central Gulf coast and the northeastern peninsula: from Pasco County (1968, 2009), Duval County (2009), and now Lee County. The 1968 record was a male taken as a specimen (now lost) and later photographed as a mount in the hunter's collection, and was recently reviewed by the committee (Greenlaw 2014). The earliest record is a specimen (TTRS 3216) that was collected in Leon County in December 1953 (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992). The Lee County bird was notable for its location far to the south in the peninsula and for its age and sex. Usually only hen-plumaged birds reach this far south now.

Red-necked Grebe, Podiceps grisegena

FOSRC 2012-945 (ES, RBr). This grebe was discovered on 13 November 2012 at Lake Elberta, Tallahassee, Leon County. It was verified by photographs.

FOSRC 2013-962 (JE). This grebe was discovered on 16 January 2013 off Crowder Landing at the end of Crowder Road, Tallahassee, Leon County. Its identification was verified by photographs.

FOSRC 2013-988 (MBr). This single bird was observed on 31 March 2013 off the beach at Tom Renick Park, Ormond-by-the-Sea, Volusia County. The bird was well-observed and described, and represented the first non-Panhandle occurrence in Florida.

The Red-necked Grebe is a casual transient and winter visitor in the state (Greenlaw et al. 2014). These three reports represent the fifth, sixth, and seventh accepted in Florida waters by the committee. Earlier records were two from Santa Rosa County (December 2000) and two other sight reports from Santa Rosa County (January 2001) and Escambia County (February 2008).

Northern Fulmar, Fulmarus glacialis

FOSRC 2013-990 (MBr). This blue-gray morph individual was found alive on the beach in Daytona Beach Shores, Volusia County, on 14 October 2012. It was brought to the Marine Science Center bird rehabilitation facility in Ponce Inlet, where it later died. The bird was photographed alive. It was preserved as a specimen at the Florida Museum of Natural History (UF 49773, male).

This is the eighth record of this species in Florida waters. The first was documented in mid-April 2005 from Brevard County (Kratter and Small 2007). All birds were found on the mid-Atlantic coast from Volusia County south to Palm Beach County where the Gulf Stream is closest to the Florida peninsula and begins to diverge from the coastline.

Fea's Petrel, Pterodroma feae

FOSRC 2013-980. This record is unusual because it is based on a published paper on the wintering range of a single banded petrel of this species that was carrying a geolocator (Chesser et al. 2013, Ramírez et al. 2013). This device is a data archiving tag that permits an investigator to recover the track of a bird over a year's time from information on ambient light level readings with reference to time (latitude and longitude estimates, with an error in this case of about 200 km radius). The marked bird was banded on Bugio Island, Portugal, where it breeds in the northeastern Atlantic Ocean. It spent the winter of 2007-2008 in the Georgia Bight and off Florida's Atlantic coast. Notably, this individual passed along the Florida coast several times during the winter and even crossed the Keys into the Lower Gulf. The bird probably spent much of its time, as do other pelagic species off Florida (M. Brothers, pers. communication) in the Gulf Stream, which is taken to be in Florida's waters. The acceptance of this species on the Florida Bird List is unusual because it was not seen by anybody while

it was off our shores, and so it was not documented as verifiable in our narrow, traditional sense. Yet, the derived data were summarized and published in a peer-reviewed scientific periodical. The record is potentially verifiable only by somebody who is knowledgeable about transforming the raw data from the logger to the corresponding derived information. Also, in contrast to the action taken by the FOSRC, the second edition of Robertson and Woolfenden's annotated list of Florida birds (Greenlaw et al. 2014) places the same record into an appendix, pending verification by traditional means.

Manx Shearwater, Puffinus puffinus

FOSRC 2013-969 (RT). This shearwater was observed on 17 December 2012 one mile (1.6 km) off Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County. Photographs showed all flight characters typical of this species.

Nine records and three sightings have been accepted previously by the FOSRC, dating back to November 1994 (earliest report; Brevard County) and July 1997 (earliest record; Escambia County). Several earlier specimens are known from Florida, including the first at Juno Beach, Palm Beach County, taken in October 1960 (Stevenson and Anderson 1994). The species chiefly occurs along the full length of the Atlantic coast, but one record and one accepted report also are known from the western Panhandle (FOSRC; Greenlaw et al. 2014).

Neotropic Cormorant, Phalacrocorax brasilianus

FOSRC 2013-958 (MG). A single bird was discovered and photographed on 9 June 2013 at 11700 Pierson Road, on the southeast corner of Village Park, in Wellington, Palm Beach County.

FOSRC 2013-967 (MH). This bird was discovered and photographed on 23 April 2013 at the north end of Biolab Road, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge in Mosquito Lagoon, Brevard County. Apparently it was not reported again at this location.

FOSRC 2013-970 (MBe). This adult male was first observed on 1 December 2012, and subsequently (recognized by a distinctive white patch on the lower neck) on 8 occasions until 23 April 2013. It was one of three individuals of this species that was in the Wakodahatchee Wetlands, 13026 Jog Road, Delray Beach, Palm Beach County, in a colony of breeding Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) there. It apparently arrived at and departed from the wetlands as a visitor. Photographs and a plumage character verified this individual.

FOSRC 2013-971 (MBe). An adult male, apparently another visitor, was seen on 8 and 15 December 2012, also in the cormorant colony at Wakodahatchee Wetlands. It was verified by photographs and details of morphology and plumage.

FOSRC 2013-972 (MBe). Another Wakodahatchee Wetlands bird, an adult female, was the most significant of the three that were found there this season. She was discovered on 1 January 2013 and was last seen on 28 April 2013. She paired with a Double-crested Cormorant and together the mixed pair hatched four young and fledged two of them. Species and sex were verified by photographs and behavior, respectively. This is the first evidence of breeding by this species in Florida. A mixed pair was suspected to have fledged young last year.

Seven earlier records and one accepted report are known from Florida, all found since April 2007 (Monroe County). This spate of occurrences suggests that most of these birds are coming from nearby sources. Although one record was of a bird in Wakulla County, this was an outlier; counting the current reports, most were discovered in Palm Beach (5) and Monroe (3) counties. Brevard County has posted two occurrences. The species was first documented in the Bahamas on New Providence in 1994, and breeding was confirmed there in 1998 (Hallett 2006). It

is regarded as a common permanent resident on Great Inagua, but this island in the Bahamas is fairly remote from Florida. Hallett suggested that it may be breeding in small numbers on other islands in the Bahamian archipelago as well. It also is a common permanent resident on Cuba and some of its northern cays (Garrido and Kirkconnell 2000). Given the locations of these populations, and the possibility that numbers of Neotropic Cormorants in some of these colonies may be increasing, it was only a matter of time before they appeared in Florida.

Thayer's Gull, Larus thayeri

FOSRC 2013-989 (MBr). This gull was found on 28 February 2013 on the beach near Frank Rendon Park, Daytona Beach Shores, Volusia County. Photographs and a detailed description affirmed the identification.

The records committee has accepted six previous records and three reports of this species in Florida. All except one bird observed well in Pinellas County (November 1991) were of individuals photographed on beaches in Volusia, Brevard, and Broward counties during winter and early spring.

Elegant Tern, Thalasseus elegans

FOSRC 2013-978 (DS). Two long-billed, long-crested *Thalasseus* terns were observed and photographed on 25-27 April 2013 at Bowman's Beach, Sanibel, Lee County. They were associated with a resting flock of Sandwich Terns (*T. sandvicensis acuflavidus*). All visible characters in several photographs supported an Elegant Tern identification. We submitted the photographs to a Mexican biologist, Dr. Enriqueta Velarde, who works with breeding Elegant Terns (e.g., Velarde and Rojo 2012) in Baja California for her assessment of the photographs. She saw no evidence of hybridization and agreed that they were likely Elegant Terns based on available evidence.

THICK-BILLED MURRE, Uria lomvia

FOSRC 2012-926 (P&DL). This alcid was observed and photographed on 15 December 2012 in Simpson's Creek near the A1A bridge between Big Talbot Island and Little Talbot Island, Duval County. All visible characters in the two photographs pointed to Thick-billed Murre rather than Common Murre (*Uria aalge*) or Razorbill. The observers identified this bird as a Razorbill when they reported it to the Committee. However, the tail was short and truncated and bill shape (only the apical end of the bill was visible) and amount of white in the marginal wing patch supported Thick-billed Murre. The committee rejected "Razorbill" as a misidentification and accepted Thick-billed Murre as verifiable on the basis of the photographs.

FOSRC 2012-928 (ES, AW). This murre was found and photographed on 14 December 2012 beside the fishing pier at Fort Clinch SP, Nassau County.

Five records are now known from Florida waters, all from the Atlantic coast from Nassau County south to Palm Beach County. Two are based on photographs and three are specimens.

Razorbill, Alca torda

FOSRC 2012-923 (CF). Two individuals of this species were observed inshore near the Gulf beach at Stump Beach SP, Charlotte County, on 12 December 2012. Only one of the two birds was verified by a photograph.

FOSRC 2012-925 (BK). This single bird was observed on 11 December 2012 inshore off Crandon Beach on Key Biscayne, Miami, Miami-Dade County. It was verified by photographs.

FOSRC 2012-927 (PL). This individual was observed on 16 December 2012 in St. Mary's Inlet channel, Cumberland Sound, near the Fort Clinch shore off the

fort, Nassau County. It was verified by photographs, and represented the most northeasterly occurrence of the species on the Florida Atlantic coast during the winter incursion of 2012-2013.

FOSRC 2012-929 (AM, D&LS). Two independent observations were made of Razorbills at the same location on the same day, 16 December 2012 on the Gulf of Mexico at or near Gulfside City Park, Sanibel, Lee County. Both observers reported only a single bird. Identification was verified by a photograph in each case.

FOSRC 2012-930 (AM, D&LS). Two independent observations at the same location on the same day, 16 December 2012, at Blind Pass between Sanibel and Captiva islands, on the Gulf side of the jetty, Lee County. One observer reported a single bird and two others saw two birds. Identification was supported by photographs. FOSRC 2012-931 (KDa). A single bird was observed on 17 December 2012 on the St. Johns River adjacent to Huguenot Memorial Park, Duval County. It was verified by photographs.

FOSRC 2012-932 (EB). A single bird was observed on 11 December 2012 in Fort De Soto Park off upper North Beach, Pinellas County. It was verified by a photograph. FOSRC 2012-933 (DRo). A single bird was observed on 18 December 2012 in John's Pass, Pinellas County. It was verified by a photograph.

FOSRC 2012-934 (AH). A single bird was observed 18 December 2012 at Blind Pass between Sanibel and Captiva islands, Lee County. Verified by a photograph, this individual perhaps was one of the birds reported on 16 December at the same locality (see 2012-930 above). Comparison of the images from the two dates suggest they may have been different birds, and are so treated here.

FOSRC 2012-935 (TR). A single bird was seen on 18 December 2012 inshore at Tigertail Beach, Marco Island, Collier County. It was verified by photographs.

FOSRC 2012-936 (BPr). On 18 December 2012, four alcids in two groups passed Green Key in Robert K. Rees County Park, New Port Richey, Pasco County, flying north over the water inshore. Photographic images documented an elongate tail and a white area expanding behind the eye in one bird at least. The birds displayed a chest-heavy shape rather than the pot-bellied shape of murres (*Uria*). White underwings, size, and shape discounted Dovekies (*Alle alle*)

FOSRC 2012-937 (KDa). Six birds were observed on 19 December 2012 just off the jetties at the entrance into the St. Johns River at Mayport, Duval County. They were verified by photographs.

FOSRC 2012-938 (B&AH). Birds were observed on 17 December 2012 in the bay between the Rod and Reel Pier and City Pier, northeastern Anna Maria Island, Manatee County. As many as 20, perhaps more, Razorbills were seen and photographed at this location for several weeks (JSG, pers. observation). Some of the birds were actively swimming and fishing around the piers, while others could be seen farther offshore in the bay and towards the point connecting with the Gulf.

FOSRC 2012-939 (JM). Two dead individuals were found on the beach, and two live birds were in the water on 19 December 2012 at Alligator Point, Franklin County. One of the carcasses was collected as a specimen, and it was this bird that was described and photographed. The records committee's action affirms occurrence based on the specimen.

FOSRC 2012-940 (AW). Two individuals were observed on 22 December 2012 in Apalachee Bay, Wakulla County. They were viewed from the Lighthouse Pond Trail in St. Marks NWR. One bird was verified by a photograph.

FOSRC 2013-957 (L&BD, LG). An immature was discovered and photographed on 12 December 2012 beside the Pensacola Beach Pier, Pensacola, Escambia County.

Verified by a photograph, this individual established the westernmost occurrence of the species in Florida during the winter incursion of 2012-2013.

FOSRC 2013-959 (RGa, TM, RT). A total of 447 Razorbills were counted on 15 December 2012 from 07:10 to 14:00 during Christmas Bird Count coverage of the Miami Coast, including Government Cut and off Collins Avenue, Miami-Dade County. On 22 December 2012, none were present at Government Cut. Photographs (TM, RT against the Miami Beach skyline) and field sketches (RGa) documented the occurrence of representative individuals seen during this movement.

FOSRC 2013-960 (RGa). Two birds were discovered together on 21 December 2012 on the Oceanside off Marathon, from the 15th Street Marina, Vaca Key, Monroe County. Although this report covers the two birds reported here, P&CL also found a single bird at Marathon Shores to the north (photographs) on 16 December 2012. We never received a formal report on the Marathon Shores bird. The Marathon birds were documented by timely, colored field sketches of one of the two birds observed by RGa.

FOSRC 2013-961 (RGa). Two live birds and a carcass on the beach were discovered on 18 December 2012 on Garden Key, Dry Tortugas NP, Monroe County. Detailed colored sketch-studies of the head and bill morphology of the dead bird, and photographs of the dead bird, verified identification and occurrence of the species at this location. This record confirms the most southwesterly occurrence of Razorbills during the winter 2012-2013 invasion by this species into Florida waters.

FOSRC 2013-991 (MBr). This bird was found stranded on the beach in New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County on 7 December 2012. It was brought to the bird rehabilitation facility at the Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet, where it was photographed alive. The bird later died and was preserved as a specimen deposited at the Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville. This record represents the first documented occurrence of Razorbills off the Florida coasts during the species' incursion in the winter of 2012-2013 (MBr pers. communication).

These documented occurrences provide a representative record of how quickly this incursion spread between first appearance on the northeast Atlantic coast south and west to the Florida Keys and the Dry Tortugas, and north and west to Pensacola in the Florida panhandle. Hundreds, perhaps many more, of these birds were seen passing southward past Miami by mid-December. Indeed, by the end of mid-December, Razorbills had spread southward into the Keys and around into the Gulf of Mexico and far west onto the Panhandle. Mortality was reported based on carcasses found on beaches, but many survived and wintered in Florida waters, especially in Gulfside bays, where they provided images of incongruous groupings of Razorbills with Brown Pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), wintering Common Loons (*Gavia immer*), and resident Laughing Gulls (*Leucophaeus atricilla*). Few birds seemed to linger inshore on the Atlantic coast after the middle of December. Before the incursion, the records committee had affirmed seven records and two sight observations for Florida.

Inca Dove, Columbina inca

FOSRC 2013-951 (KDa, EG). This small dove was photographed by a non-birder who later on had somebody identify it for her. EG confirmed (in litt. to JSG) that she took the photo on 12 February 2012 in Riverside Park, Jacksonville, Duval County. This occurrence represents only the third record for Florida, all within a period of a few months.

Snowy Owl, Bubo scandiacus

FOSRC 2013-948 (BO). This owl was discovered and photographed on 2 January 2013 at Zamora Street 2C, Porpoise Point, Vilano Beach in St. Augustine, St. Johns

County. This is only the second record for Florida. The first was in December 1999 in Franklin County.

Broad-billed Hummingbird, Cynanthus latirostris

FOSRC 2013-949 (FD, ES, RBr). This hummingbird was present in a residential yard on Hunter Woods Lane, Tallahassee, Leon County. It was banded, measured, and photographed in the hand by FD on 29 January 2013, and also photographed by other observers. Identification is verified by measurements and photographs.

Five previous records of this species are known in Florida. They extend from Escambia County (the first in September 2004) east to Duval County across northern Florida.

Costa's Hummingbird, Calypte costae

FOSRC 2012-924 (FD, ES). This hummingbird was in a residential yard in Walden Circle, Tallahassee, Leon County for at least several days. It was banded, measured, and photographed in the hand by FD on 13 December 2012, when it was affirmed to be a male Costa's Hummingbird. The committee also received a photograph by ES taken on 14 December. The acceptance of this record makes it the first of this species for Florida.

Alder Flycatcher, Empidonax alnorum

FOSRC 2012-916 (MM). This *Empidonax* flycatcher was discovered on 24 September 2012 along Cone's Dike Trail, Paynes Prairie State Preserve, Alachua County, and revisited on two other days. It was verified by a sound recording of its diagnostic call made on 26 September.

FOSRC 2013-953 (RGe, LM). This individual was found on 8 September 2012 at the "The Annex" south of "Lucky Hammock" on Aerojet Road near the entrance to Everglades NP, Miami-Dade County. The species occurs there almost annually. The bird proved to be quite vocal. It was photographed and its call was recorded for verifiability. LM discovered the bird and identified it by its call.

This species, along with the Willow Flycatcher (*E. traillii*), was placed on the review list to accumulate more information on the status and seasonal occurrence of these poorly known species in Florida. The committee constrained reports to include a diagnostic description of the bird and its call or a sound recording (e.g., a video clip), preferably the latter for verifiable documentation. Three previous records and one accepted report, together with the current records, indicate that fall movement is early, varying from late August through late Sep. We have only one spring report, from 24 April (2010).

Say's Phoebe, Sayornis saya

FOSRC 2012-914 (TM). This bird was discovered on 7 October 2012 off Old Keystone Road at Brooker Creek Preserve, Pinellas County. Photographs verified its occurrence.

FOSRC 2012-944 (LK). Discovered on 8 October 2012 at the Taminco/Air Products industrial site and sanctuary, Pace, Santa Rosa County, this bird too was photographed.

FOSRC 2012-946 (MMS). This phoebe was found and photographed on 12 November 2012 at Okaloosa Holding Ponds on Eglin Air Force Base, Okaloosa County.

FOSRC 2013-952 (GL). This bird was discovered and photographed on 19 October 2012 along the main entrance road into Weekiwachee Preserve, Hernando County.

Previously, the records committee accepted a total of 13 reports for this species in Florida. Nine of these were photographic records. The first record in

Florida was a wintering bird that was discovered and photographed in Orange County, in November 1975 (Greenlaw et al. 2014). The species was removed from the review list by the records committee at its annual meeting this year (2013).

Variegated Flycatcher, Empidonomus varius

FOSRC 2013-984 (KDa, DRe, JAW). The first in Florida, this flycatcher was discovered on 5 June 2013 along the entrance drive into Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, St. Augustine, St. Johns County. It remained for a single day when it was photographed and video-taped. It was silent during the time it was viewed as it actively hawked for flying insects, usually from a utility wire at the roadside.

This species is an austral migrant from temperate South America, among a very few such species found in North America, evidently as a migratory overshoot, during the south temperate migration from March to September or October (Ridgely and Tudor 1994, Schulenberg et al. 2007). Although this was Florida's first occurrence, at least five other records are known from North America (Maine, Tennessee, Ontario, Washington) (Pranty et al. 2008).

Tropical Kingbird, Tyrannus melancholicus

FOSRC 2012-915 (JM). This kingbird was discovered and photographed on 9 October 2012 at the northern terminus of Bald Point State Park, Franklin County. A video-tape documented the characteristic call of the species.

FOSRC 2013-955 (CH, BR, SW). This individual was a female that was discovered on 3 May 2013 and was monitored daily through the summer (S. Wilson in litt.; S. Wilson et al. in press 2015, FFN Vol. 43 No. 1.). She built a nest where she laid eggs in a young *Quercus virginiana* growing in a parking lot a few meters west of Sarasota County Fire Station No. 3, 47 N Adams Street, near St. Armands Circle on St. Armands Key, Sarasota County. The nest fledged young as the female alone tended them. No male Tropical Kingbird was present before, during, or for many days after egg-laying; one appeared on 23 June (2013-968) and stayed with female, although it provided no parental care to the young associated with her.

FOSRC 2013-963 (RGa, GL, LM). This individual was observed on 19, 20, and 22 November 2012 at Frog Pond Wildlife Management Area, including "Lucky Hammock," just east of the Everglades National Park boundary on Aerojet Road, Miami-Dade County. It was present at the site at least as early as 8 November (LM). Detailed plumage and call descriptions and a field sketch documented the species, which has been found on other occasions in winter at this location.

FOSRC 2013-964 (JB, RGa). This kingbird was discovered on 4 Apr 2013 at Francis S. Taylor Wildlife Management Area west of Krome Avenue near Canal L-29, Miami-Dade County. It was observed again on 13 April at the same location. Its identity was supported by photographs and a diagnostic description of the bird's distinctive call.

FOSRC 2013-968 (CH). A male appeared on 23 June 2013 in the parking lot behind the Fire Station near St. Armands Circle at 47 N Adams Street, St. Armands Key, Sarasota County. This bird (sex verified by a sound spectrogram of a version of its "dawn song") joined a female already at the site (see 2013-955), but provided no parental care to her young. The two adults associated closely with one another after the male's arrival, presumably having formed a pair bond. They remained together into early September after the female's

independent young had left the area (S. Wilson in litt.). Species identification was verified by recorded trill calls typical of the species.

The previously accepted, call-verified reports of Tropical Kingbirds, together with the five reports here, bring the total processed by the committee to 18. The species was removed from the review list by the records committee at its annual meeting this year (2013).

Tropical/Couch's kingbird, Tyrannus melancholicus/T. couchii

FOSRC 2012-919 (KDo). This bird was a silent, yellow-bellied *Tyrannus* kingbird identified as one or the other of these two sibling species, discovered on 29 October 2012, near the South Florida Water Management District structure S151 along canal C-304, Broward County.

FOSRC 2013-965 (MHi). This was another silent individual in this sibling species group discovered on 4 June 2013 at the end of Shell Island Road, Rookery Bay, southeast of Naples, Collier County.

FOSRC 2013-966 (RGa, MP). This was a third silent individual of this sibling species group discovered on 22 November 2012 in Rocky Glades Public Small Game Hunting Area ("sparrow fields") on SW 168 Street adjacent to C-357 Canal near the Chekika entrance of Everglades NP, Miami-Dade County.

Including these three birds, the FOSRC has accepted nine reports of this kingbird combination since 2007. The plumages and bill morphology of the two species in this sibling group are very similar, so field diagnosis is dependent on hearing their distinctive calls. Since they were accorded species rank (AOU 1983), only the Tropical Kingbird has been affirmed as a visitor to Florida. It is likely that all or most of the silent kingbirds in this group also have been Tropical Kingbirds.

Cassin's Kingbird, Tyrannus vociferans

FOSRC 2013-954 (RGe). This bird was observed and photographed on 17 February 2013 on powerlines near Bunnell, Flagler County. It was first reported on 17 December 2012 and was present until 20 April 2013.

Fourteen previous reports have been accepted by the FOSRC since 1985, of which 10 are photographic records. Others have been reported in the state in recent years that were not evaluated by the committee.

Thick-billed Vireo, Vireo crassirostris

FOSRC 2012-922 (RT). This vireo was discovered on 17 November 2012 near the Deering Estate, SW 164 Terrace and 72nd Avenue, Palmetto Bay, Miami-Dade County, when it was photographed.

FOSRC 2013-983 (RGe). This individual was observed and photographed on 7 March 2013 near the No-Name Harbor parking lot in Bill Baggs Cape Florida SP on Key Biscayne, Miami-Dade County. It was present at this location from its discovery on 3 March to at least 20 April. Photographs documented a sharp demarcation between the yellow breast and pale yellowish on the abdomen, but head pattern and bill morphology were typical of the species. Bruce Hallett, who has wide experience with the species in the Bahamas (Hallett 2006), reported that the yellow color of the underparts can be uniform or non-uniform.

Since 1989, 15 reports of this species have been accepted by FOSRC in Florida. Ten of these have been photographic records.

Bicknell's Thrush, Catharus bicknelli

FOSRC 2012-920 (NL). This thrush was mist-netted, measured, photographed, and banded on 8 November 2012 at 621 SE Palm Beach Road, Stuart, Martin County. Identification was verified by small wing chord (87 mm), relative length of primaries 8

and 9, color pattern of the mandible, and pattern of primary emargination (Pyle 1997, Lowther et al. 2001). Photographs in the hand were supportive but not diagnostic.

Since 2004 when the FOSRC accepted its first report of this species, a total of 7 reports have been affirmed by the committee.

Kirtland's Warbler, Setophaga kirtlandii

FOSRC 2013-956 (BC, AK, JMa, MM, RR). This warbler was discovered on 5 May 2013 and was gone by the next day, on Moonshine Creek Trail, San Felasco Hammock State Preserve northwest of Gainesville, Alachua County. It was verified by photographs.

Including this bird, a total of 8 reports of this species have been accepted for Florida. This is the first from an inland county. Six of the eight were along the Atlantic coast from Volusia County south to Broward County, apparently ready to make the water crossing to the Bahamas. The current individual stopped en route across Florida, but evidently kept on going without much delay.

Lazuli Bunting, Passerina amoena

FOSRC 2013-950 (SMT, RT). An adult male of this species was observed and photographed on 25 March 2013 at a feeder at 438 SW 3rd Avenue, Florida City, Miami-Dade County.

Since 1991, the FOSRC has accepted 14 reports (10 records) of this species in Florida. The first record of Lazuli Bunting in Florida was a bird photographed in Sharpes, Brevard County, in mid-March 1977 (Greenlaw et al. 2014).

Western Meadowlark, Sturnella neglecta

FOSRC 2013-985 (GRD, BPu). This bird was discovered on 24 February 2013 along Pelt Road, south of Atmore off SR-97, Escambia County. It was an adult male that was singing in a population of singing Eastern Meadowlarks (S. magna). Identification was verified by photographs (BPu on 28 February) and song, which was compared in the field to a taped version. The yellow on the throat extended fully to the malar; this character was the key to the identification in this case, as song is known to be copied by Eastern Meadowlarks in some areas of range overlap (Lanyon 1957).

Two previous reports have been accepted by the FOSRC, both from the western panhandle in 2007 and 2009.

Bullock's Oriole, Icterus bullockii

FOSRC 2012-917 (RGa, BS). This adult male was discovered on 17 October 2012 in Long Key SP, Long Key, Monroe County. It was verified by photographs and supported by a field sketch and colored drawing.

FOSRC 2012-918 (VH, L&BD). Another adult male was observed and photographed on 12 November 2012 in a residential yard on the west side of Bayou Texar, Pensacola, Escambia County. It had been present at this location for about a week previously. FOSRC 2013-974 (JM). This subadult male was discovered on 10 January 2013 in the northeast corner of 15 Street and Avenue D, Apalachicola, Franklin County. The report provided details of field observations on the bird, including a field sketch.

Previously, the FOSRC has accepted 17 reports of this species in Florida. The earlier history of the species in Florida was obscured by mis-identifications and poorly differentiated descriptions during the years when both Baltimore Oriole (*I. galbula*) and Bullock's Oriole were subsumed under the umbrella name "Northern Oriole." However, this issue was resolved by a review of Florida *Icterus* specimens in the mid-2000s (Pranty et al. 2005).

SUBMISSIONS NOT ACCEPTED

Cackling Goose, Branta hutchinsii

FOSRC 2013-975. Reports were submitted by three observers for the field dates of 11, 12, and 23 January 2013. Four small white-cheeked geese were at a pond just west of the entrance to Apalachee Correctional Institution, between Sneads and Chattahootchee, Jackson County. Correctional officials kept birders away from the pond, so photographs were distant and of relatively poor quality. An authority on this group of geese was hesitant about identification, especially in relation to the small Canada Goose, *B. canadensis parvipes*. The available information seemed too uncertain to accept the report, even though members on the committee felt the identification by the observers was probably correct.

White-cheeked Pintail, Anas bahamensis

FOSRC 2013-986. A wild-type twosome (presumptive pair) was observed on 31 March 2013 in a residential subdivision pond at the edge of a commercial area, Tamarac, Broward County. The pintails were associated with a variety of other waterfowl including exotic species, indicating that the pintails were part of a private or neighborhood collection. It was not evident that the pintails and other exotics were free-flying or were rendered flight incapable. The committee has received very few or no previous reports of this species in apparent private collections; most have been in parks or other wetland areas near the Atlantic coast not associated with immediate suburban or urban residential developments. This report raises the question on whether private collections that include this pintail are as widespread in Florida as have been asserted by some people. The Field Observation Committee (FOC) of FOS pays attention to free-ranging exotics in Florida, and they too have reported few or no A. bahamensis from urban or suburban residential ponds where private collections may be expected (FOS seasonal reports 1992-current; JSG, unpublished data).

Tufted Duck, Aythya fulvigula

FOSRC 2012-921. This Aythya duck was photographed with Redheads (A. americana) and Lesser Scaup (A. affinis) on 5 November 2012 at the Taminco/Air Products facility on US-90, Pace, Santa Rosa County. Identification was deemed uncertain based on evidence provided. Head shape and bill pattern were typical of Ring-necked Duck. Several members of the committee felt the bird was probably a young male Ringnecked Duck with disheveled or damaged feathers on the back of its head.

Common Merganser, Mergus merganser

FOSRC 2013-977. This merganser was discovered on 28 March 2013 at Gulf Harbors Golf Course, Floramar Terrace, New Port Richey, Pasco County. The information was insufficient to confirm an identification of this sight report, which was a female or immature male.

Manx Shearwater, Puffinus puffinus

FOSRC 2012-942. This small black-and-white shearwater was observed on 23 December 2012 and photographed at a distance off the gulf fishing pier, Pensacola Beach, Escambia County. Identification was considered uncertain based on evidence provided. Audubon's Shearwater (*P. lherminieri*) could not be discounted. FOSRC 2012-943. This small shearwater was seen on 3 October 2008 and photographed at a distance on the water off South Beach, Miami, Miami-Dade County. Identification was uncertain based on evidence provided. Audubon's Shearwater (*P. lherminieri*) could not be discounted.

Red-billed Tropicbird, Phaethon aethereus

FOSRC 2013-981. This sight report was based on a bird seen on 28 April 2013 on the north side of Juno Beach Pier, Palm Beach County. The brief description failed to rule out several other possible identifications.

Rough-legged Hawk, Buteo lagopus

FOSRC 2011-835. A single hawk identified as this species was observed on 14 December 2011 and on 2 February 2012 (assumed to be the same individual) in the same area of Emeralda Marsh Conservation Area, Lake County. This report was considered by the committee in June 2011, and was not accepted because of doubts on identification stemming from insufficient information. A second report that existed in 2011 but was inadvertently overlooked then caused the committee to re-open the report in August 2012, with the same result.

Western Gull, Larus occidentalis

FOSRC 2012-941. A gull thought to be this species was discovered on 20 December 2012 at the Okaloosa Island fishing pier, Okaloosa County. A series of photographs of the bird in flight showing dorsal and ventral details indicated that the bird was a likely American Herring Gull (*L. argentatus smithsonianus*). Dark first-cycle Herring Gulls often present an identification problem with same-age Western Gulls (Olsen and Larsson 2004).

"Cayenne Tern," Thalasseus sandvicensis euygnatha

FOSRC 2012-912. This tern was photographed on 10 August 2012 with adult Sandwich Terns $(T.\ s.\ acustavida)$ in non-breeding plumage on the gulf-side of Longboat Key 2-3 mi [3-5 km] north of New Pass, Sarasota County. It was similar in size, color, and pattern to its Sandwich Tern companions with one exception, that of its bill. The bill appeared to be rather deep-based and was yellow distally with an orange tone basally. Suggestions included an Elegant Tern $(T.\ elegans)$ variant, an Elegant x Sandwich tern hybrid, or even a Sandwich Tern with aberrant bill color. Typical "Cayenne Terns" have yellow bills that often exhibit a greenish tone basally (not orange) (Mitra and Buckley 2000), and often have patchy orange and black legs (Buckley in litt.). Elegant Terns should be noticeably larger than Sandwich Terns, but in side-by-side comparison, this was not evident in the field or in photographs.

Ruddy Ground-Dove, Columbina talpacoti

FOSRC 2013-982. This sight report of two birds together was based on observations made on 17 February 2013 on Marsh Trail at Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR, Palm Beach County. The species would be new on the Florida bird list; the committee's past practice requires that such a report be verifiably documented by diagnostic photographs. The description was insufficient to support this identification.

Caribbean Martin, Progne dominicensis

FOSRC 2013-976. This *Progne* martin was photographed on 3 February 2013, and observed again the next day, at Fort Zachary Taylor Historic SP, Key West, Monroe County. Superficially, it was similar to a Caribbean Martin, but a detailed analysis supported the view that it was likely a second year male Purple Martin (*P. subis*). Subadult male Purple Martins develop variable plumages, but at least some have purple feathers in the vent area and on the flanks before such feathers appear on the white abdomen. The present bird exhibited a combination of faint streaks on the white underparts and spots on the under tail coverts, which are

absent in Caribbean Martins. The demarcation between the dark feathers on the upper breast and white on the abdomen was set farther forward (rostrally) than is typical in adult males of the Caribbean Martin.

Cuban Grassquit, Tiaris canorus

FOSRC 2013-993. An adult male of this species was found on 22 July 2013 at the Rosemary Scrub Natural Area, 2901 N Seacrest Boulevard, Boynton Beach, Palm Beach County. The identification was not in doubt, but the provenance was uncertain. The committee felt it was a likely escape from the pet bird trade in the region.

Submissions not Resolved, or Tabled

White-cheeked Pintail, Anas bahamensis

FOSRC 2012-913. An apparent pair of these pintails were discovered on 3 October 2012 on a marshy lagoon in a landfill facility at 23707 SW 97th Avenue, near Cutler, Miami-Dade County. They remained in the area until 5 October, after which they were not seen again. The birds were described as initially skittish; they were unbanded and in fresh plumage. The presence of this pair near the Atlantic coast opposite a potential wild source in the Bahamas and Cuba may be construed as evidence of natural vagrancy to Florida. Those voting in favor of a wild origin weighed the prevailing pattern of occurrences of this species in Florida (see 2013-986 above). Two dissenting views noted the presence of exotic ducks in the area (but not in the same pond or at the same time as the report in question; R. Torres, in litt.). The report was left unresolved.

Elegant Tern, Thalasseus elegans

FOSRC 2013-979. A single *Thalasseus* tern was observed and photographed on 22 October 2012 on a public, gulfside beach on Siesta Key at 948 Beach Road, Sarasota County. This tern displayed a yellower bill than is typical for Elegant Terns, but Dr. E. Velarde (Veracruz, Mexico) sent us a photograph of a portion of her study colony on Elegant Terns in western Mexico that shows such birds are present. We tabled the report pending submission of other photographs of the bird and another *Thalasseus* tern taken at the same site on 23 October.

Bahama Warbler, Setophaga flavescens

FOSRC 2013-992. This warbler was discovered and photographed on 12 July 2012 at Green Cay Wetlands, 12800 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach, Palm Beach County. Only one photograph was obtained before the bird moved away. It was shown apparently foraging in a slash pine (*Pinus elliottii*). Several experienced people thought the bird could be a Bahama Warbler, but the species is resident on two northern islands in the Bahamas and is not known to be a vagrant, even in the Bahamas (White 2001, Hallett 2006). An analysis by M. Berney, which included lightening the original, dark photograph, raised questions about whether the bird might be a variant Yellow-throated Warbler (*S. dominica*). Because the committee needed time to evaluate geographic variation in mainland Yellow-throated Warblers, we agreed to table the report.

Black-faced Grassquit, Tiaris bicolor

FOSRC 2013-973. An immature male was observed on 5 May 2013 at Bill Baggs Cape Florida SP along No Name Road, Key Biscayne, Miami-Dade County. It was discovered on 30 April 2013. The identification was not in doubt, but the issue

of provenance arose as it almost always does for species found in the Greater Miami area that are believed to be likely captives. An unsupported assertion that a Miami website offered the species for sale was enough to cast doubt on whether the bird was an escape from a source in Miami. Yet, the bird in this case was not found in urban or suburban residential neighborhoods, but was at a well-known migrant and vagrant hot-spot in a park on the outer coast. The report was left unresolved.

Tricolored Munia, Lonchura malacca

FOSRC 2010-820. This report continues from last year's meeting, when it also was unresolved. It concerns a single bird found alive (but later discovered dead, when it was photographed) at Fort Jefferson, Garden Key, Dry Tortugas NP, Monroe County, on an unspecified date in April 2003. The identity was not in dispute. This report has been carried over since the 2011 meeting after submission in October 2010. The issue concerns the likely provenance of the bird. The same quandary existed for two previous reports (1999, 2009) of this species on the Dry Tortugas, namely, can we distinguish natural vagrants from established populations in Cuba from birds that have escaped or were released by Cuban boat immigrants crossing to Florida. No records of this species are known from the Greater Miami region, where exotic birds are available for sale, and are commonly kept in captivity. Those voting in favor of vagrancy felt that the isolated location of the Dry Tortugas, coupled with a known population on Cuba, made vagrancy more likely. The dissenting view argued that human agency versus vagrancy must be considered equally probable under the circumstances. The report remains unresolved.

Proposal to Remove a Species from the Florida List

European Turtle-Dove, Streptopelia turtur

FOSRC 2012-896 (JSG, RBo, BPr). The subject of the proposal in this case was Florida's only record of a European Turtle-Dove, found on Lower Matecumbe Key on 9 April 1990. It was grandfathered onto the Official Florida List in 1993 when the committee accepted the critically evaluated checklist of birds published in Robertson and Woolfenden (1992) as its baseline list. Still, Anderson and Baker (1992) noted that FOSRC had declined to review the record because of "questionable origin," even in the face of evidence previously provided by Hoffman et al. (1990). The American Birding Association tentatively accepted the record and placed it on a conditional list of "Origin Uncertain" pending additional occurrences of less uncertain origin (Greenlaw et al. 2013). See the last source for a review of the status and history of this record, and for the source of the proposal entertained by FOSRC in this case. The proposal presented to the committee was that the species be retained on the list. The vote was to not accept the proposal, with one person dissenting. European Turtle-Dove is removed from the Florida list.

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