

2008 MISSISSIPPI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Gene C. Knight
79 Hwy 9W
Oxford, MS 38655

The Mississippi Bird Records Committee (MBRC) of the Mississippi Ornithological Society was created to produce and keep a field checklist of the bird species that occur in Mississippi. The MBRC requests and reviews documentation on any record of a MBRC Review List Species which can be found at the end of this report or at the MOS Website at <http://www.msstate.edu/org/mos>. This is the second report of the MBRC and it covers committee activities from 2008-2009. There was no committee activity during the period from December 2004 up to February 2008. At that time Gene Knight replaced Paul Hamel as Committee Chair and Nick Winstead was elected as a new Committee Member. Philip Barbour, Ned Boyajian, and Stephen Dinsmore continued to serve as MBRC Members.

The MBRC reached a final decision on 41 records in 2008. Forty records of 27 species were accepted and 1 record was not accepted. Twenty-seven observers submitted documentation to the MBRC on these records that were reviewed by the Committee in 2008.

The information presented after each species is as follows: Species name, the number of individuals, the age or sex, date of occurrence, location, county in italics, and the initials of the observers. When known, the initials of those who discovered the bird are in boldface but only if the discoverers submitted supporting documentation. After the observers' initials, the type of documentation follows in parentheses. The MBRC Record number and Class of the record are given in brackets.

Accepted records fall into three classes. Class 1 records are documented by an accepted specimen, diagnostic photo, or recording; Class 2 records are documented by accepted written documentation by two or more independent observers; Class 3 records are documented by accepted written documentation by a single observer. Where multiple observers are listed as having submitted written documentation for Class 3 records, only documentation from one of the observers was deemed acceptable by the Committee. Similarly, where photographs are listed as having been submitted for Class 2 or 3 records, the photograph was not considered diagnostic by the Committee, although the written documentation was acceptable.

Abbreviations used in this report are as follows: NWR = National Wildlife Refuge, p = photographic documentation, SP = State Park, w = written documentation, WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

Accepted Records

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) 1 adult and 1 juvenile on 11-13 January 1997 at Sardis Lake, State Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, Lafayette, GK(w) [97-33; Class 3]

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) 1 female on 19 December 1995 to 23 February 1996 at Sardis Dam, Panola, MD(w) [(XX-41) 96-19; Class 3]; 1 female on 22 December 1995 at Grenada Dam, Grenada, DK(w) [(XX-42) 96-21; Class 3]

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) 1 adult on 2 March 2007 at Bay Springs Lake, Tishomingo, WP(w) [07-10; Class 3]

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) 1 adult on 11-16 February 2007 at Enid Dam, Yalobusha, SD(w), GK(w,p) [07-3; Class 1P]; 1 adult on 23-25 May 2008 at Yazoo NWR, Washington, DL(w), RH(w), MK(p) [08-12; Class 1P]

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) 1 on 21-22 December 1996 near Coontown Landing, Sardis Lake, Lafayette, MD(w), GK(w)

[97-32; Class 2]; 1 adult on 9 February 2008 at Bay Springs Lake, *Tishomingo*, **WP(w)** [08-2; Class 3]

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) 1 adult on 30-31 August 1996 at Black Bayou Unit, Tallahatchie NWR, *Tallahatchie*, **FB(w)**, **GK(w)** [97-24; Class 3]

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) 1 adult on 30-31 August 1996 at Black Bayou Unit, Tallahatchie NWR, *Tallahatchie*, **FB(w)**, **GK(w)** [97-25; Class 3]

Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*) 1 immature on 17-28 August 1996 at St. Catherine Creek NWR, *Adams*, **GK(w)** [97-9; Class 3]; 1 immature on 18 August to 18 November 1996 at Bluff and Loakfoma Lakes, Noxubee NWR, *Noxubee*, **TS(w)** [97-26; Class 3]

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) 1 adult on 21 December 1996 at Sardis Lake, State Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, *Lafayette*, **GK(w)** [97-34; Class 3]

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) 1 immature on 7 November 2007 at Buccaneer SP, *Hancock*, **NB(w)** [07-16; Class 3]

Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) 1 adult on 1 December 2007 at Buck Island Road, *Tunica*, **GK(w)** [08-3; Class 3]

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) 1 adult female on 16 February 1997 at Cossar SP, Enid Lake, *Yalobusha*, **GK(w)** [97-35; Class 3]

Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) 1 adult on 22 October 1996 at Cossar SP, Enid Lake, *Yalobusha*, **GK(w)** [97-12; Class 3]; 1 2nd Winter on 19 January 1997 at Grenada Dam, *Grenada*, **GK(w)** [97-36; Class 3]

California Gull (*Larus californicus*) 1 2nd winter bird on 15 to 30 January 2005 at Tunica County Landfill, *Tunica*, **JW(w,p)**, **GK(w)** [05-6; Class 1P]

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) 1 juvenile on 24-25 October 2004 off Horn Island, *Jackson*, **SD(w,p)** [04-69; Class 1P]; 1 juvenile on 1

December 2007 at Tunica County Landfill, *Tunica*, **MT**(p), **GK**(w) [08-5; Class 1P]

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) 1 adult on 15-26 October 1996 at Arkabutla Dam, *DeSoto/Tate*, **RP**(w) [97-13; Class 3]; 1 adult on 18-24 October 1996 at Hurricane Landing, Sardis Lake, *Lafayette*, **GK**(w) [97-27; Class 3]; 1 adult on 12 January 1997 at Arkabutla Dam, *Tate*, **GK**(w) [97-38; Class 3]; 1 adult on 19 January 1997 at Enid Dam, *Yalobusha*, **GK**(w), [97-39; Class 3]

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) 1 1st winter bird on 11-12 December 1995 at Bluff Lake, Noxubee NWR, *Noxubee*, **TS**(w), **MG**(w) [(XX-43) 96-17; Class 2]; 1 adult on 16 December 1996 at Oktibbeha County Lake, *Oktibbeha*, **TS**(w) [97-40; Class 3]

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) 2 juveniles on 9-10 September 2000 at Long Branch Landing, Enid Lake, *Yalobusha*, **GK**(w), **JW**(p), **MD**(p) [00-26; Class 1P]

White-crowned Pigeon (*Columba leucocephala*) 1 adult male on 29 April to 10 May 2006 at the residence of Lillie Easterling, Gautier, *Jackson*, **LE**(w), **CD**(p), **TS**(w), **CE**(w,p), **GK**(w), **KH**(w,p) [06-6; Class 1P]

Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*) 1 on 1 September 2007 near Lamont, *Bolivar*, **TE**(p) [07-17; Class 1P]; 2 on 14 June 2008 at Arcola, *Washington*, **GK**(w) [08-19; Class 3]

Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) 1 adult male on 14-20 December 2004 near Skene, *Bolivar*, **CS**(w), **DM**(p), **GK**(w,p) **TS**(w) [05-9; Class 1P]

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) 1 male on 28-30 October 2004 at Heron Bay, *Hancock*, **NB**(w), **SD**(w), [04-60; Class 2]

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) 2 adults at nest on 21 July-11 August 1996 at Black Bayou Unit Tallahatchie NWR, *Tallahatchie/Quitman*, **GK**(w), **FB**(p) [97-23; Class 3]; 1 singing male on 5 May 2007 at Ansley Chenier, *Hancock*, **NB**(w) [07-9; Class 3]

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) 1 on 15 October 2006 to 17 March 2007 at Enid Dam, *Yalobusha*, **GK**(w,p), TS(w), NW(p) [06-14; Class 1P]

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) 1 adult on 10 February 2008 near Kiln, *Hancock*, **NB**(w) [08-6; Class3]; 2 on 13 February 2008, Pascagoula, *Jackson*, **DM**(w), SM(p) [08-8; Class 1P]

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) 1 adult on 19 December 2007 near Grenada, *Yalobusha*, **GK**(w) [08-7; Class 3]

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) 12+ on 12 November 1996 at Oxford Sanitary Landfill, *Lafayette*, **GK**(w) [97-16; Class 3]

Records sent to a second circulation round of voting are the result of a record not receiving a unanimous “accept” or “not-accept” vote on the first circulation. The record is then re-circulated in a second round of votes at a later date.

Records sent to Second Circulation

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) 2 on 21 December 1996 at Sardis Lake, *Panola*, **MD**(w) [97-31]; 1 adult on 9 February 2008 at Bay Springs Lake, *Tishomingo*, **WP**(w) [08-1]

Jabiru (*Jabiru mycteria*) 1 adult on 24-27 August 2007 at Isola, *Sunflower*, **SJ**(p), PB(w) [07-15]

Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) 1 on 1 January 2006 at Arkabutla Dam Road, *Tunica*, **GK**(w) [06-3]

California Gull (*Larus californicus*) 1 2nd winter bird on 2-3 March 1996 at Lower Lake, Sardis Lake, *Panola*, GK(w) [97-21]

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) 1 juvenile on 16-18 March 1996 at Sardis Lake, *Panola*, GK(w) [97-5]

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) 1 adult on 31 May 1996 at Panola-Quitman Floodway Levee, *Tallahatchie*, **FB**(w) [97-22]; 1 adult

on 21 May 2008 at Nanih Waiya WMA, *Neshoba*, JM(w), NW(w) [08-11]

Records Not Accepted (Class 4) are either records not accepted based on questionable identification (Class 4-1) or records where identification is accepted but the origin is questionable (Class 4-0). Rarely is a record not accepted due to the bird being misidentified. Non acceptance is due to poorly written documentation. Most of these reports are vague and incomplete, leaving out pertinent details and not properly eliminating similar species. These records may be valid, but the Committee has decided that the documentation submitted do not meet the standards required for inclusion in the historical database.

Records Not Accepted after Second Circulation

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) 4 adults on 18-25 April 2001 at Doyle Arm, Noxubee NWR, *Noxubee*, [01-15; Class 4-1]

Contributors

Philip Barbour, Ned Boyajian, Fred Broerman, Marvin Davis, Charles Delmas, Stephen Dinsmore, Lillie Easterling, Claire English, Tom Eubanks, Mark Goodman, Ken Hackman, Rob Heflin, Seymour Johnson, Michael Kelley, Dave King, Gene Knight, David Linden, Joe McGee, Don McKee, Sharon Milligan, Wayne Patterson, Rob Peeples, Terry Schiefer, Carl Smith, Mike Todd, Jeff Wilson, Nick Winstead.

Acknowledgments

The MBRC would like to thank the contributors listed above for their time in furnishing written and photographic documentation for review. I would like to thank Committee Members Philip Barbour, Ned Boyajian, Stephen Dinsmore, and Nick Winstead for providing the MBRC with their expert opinion concerning records reviewed during 2008.

Review Species List

These species were removed from this list in December 2004: Tundra Swan, Common Merganser, Glossy Ibis, White-faced Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Calliope Hummingbird, Western Meadowlark, Bronzed Cowbird, and Red Crossbill. All records of these removed species prior to 2005 will still be reviewed by the Committee.

The MBRC requests documentation, including details, descriptions, and photos of all records of the following species: Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Brant, Trumpeter Swan, Eurasian Wigeon, Cinnamon Teal, King Eider, Pacific Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Western Grebe, Greater Shearwater, Sooty Shearwater, Audubon's Shearwater, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Masked Booby, Neotropic Cormorant, Great Cormorant, White-tailed Kite, Northern Goshawk, Harris's Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Crested Caracara, Prairie Falcon, Yellow Rail, Black Rail, Limpkin, Mountain Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, Purple Sandpiper, Ruff, Red-necked Phalarope, Red Phalarope, Little Gull, Black-headed Gull, California Gull, Thayer's Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Slaty-backed Gull, Glaucous Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Sabine's Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Brown Noddy, Sooty Tern, Bridled Tern, Roseate Tern, Arctic Tern, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Long-tailed Jaeger, White-crowned Pigeon, Band-tailed Pigeon, Inca Dove, Ruddy Ground-Dove, Snowy Owl, Burrowing Owl, Long-eared Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Lesser Nighthawk, Green Violet-ear, Broad-billed Hummingbird, White-eared Hummingbird, Anna's Hummingbird, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Allen's Hummingbird, Ivory-billed Woodpecker, Western Wood-Pewee, Alder Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Say's Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, Cassin's Kingbird, Gray Kingbird, Bell's Vireo, Black-capped Vireo, Black-whiskered Vireo, Cave Swallow, Rock Wren, Mountain Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Citrine Wagtail, Sprague's Pipit, Bachman's Warbler, Tropical Parula, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Townsend's Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Painted Redstart, Western Tanager, Green-tailed Towhee, Spotted Towhee, American Tree Sparrow, Lark Bunting, Harris's Sparrow, McCown's Longspur, Smith's Longspur, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snow Bunting, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Great-tailed Grackle, Shiny Cowbird, Bullock's Oriole, Lesser Goldfinch, any species new to Mississippi.