

**MISSISSIPPI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT-2011**

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.mos.org.msstate.edu>. This is the fifth report of the MBRC and it covers Committee activities for 2011. Gene Knight is the Committee Chair and Philip Barbour, Ned Boyajian, Jake Walker, and Nick Winstead served as MBRC Members.

The MBRC reached a final decision on 104 records in 2011. Ninety-five records of thirty-eight species were accepted and nine records were not accepted. Two more records were sent to the 2nd circulation process. Thirty-nine observers submitted documentation to the MBRC on these records that were reviewed by the Committee in 2011.

When Review Species are removed from the Review Species List, a backlog of unreviewed records that were submitted prior to removal is created. These records were presented to the Committee at the Annual MBRC Meeting in early 2012. The records were voted on and are included in this report. The species represented and the number of records reviewed and the year they were removed from the

Review Species List (in parentheses) are as follows: Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (20-2009), Tundra Swan (2-2004), Common Merganser (2-2004), Neotropic Cormorant (3-2009), Glossy Ibis (4-2004), White-faced Ibis (6-2004), Roseate Spoonbill (6-2004), Red-necked Phalarope (3-2010), Lesser Black-backed Gull (5-2009), Inca Dove (7-2011), Cave Swallow (2-2011), and Bronzed Cowbird (1-2004).

The information presented after each species is as follows: species name, number of individuals, age or sex, date of occurrence, location, county (in italics), and initials of the observer(s). When known, the initials of those who discovered the bird are in boldface but only if the discoverer(s) submitted supporting documentation. After each observer's initials, the type of documentation is given in parentheses. They are as follows: p=photograph; r=recording; w=written documentation (includes full details about the record with complete description). 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, SL = Sewage Lagoon, SP = State Park, w = written documentation, WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

Accepted Records

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) 15 on 7 April 2005 at the Grenada SL, *Grenada*, **WS**(w,p,) [05-18; Class 1P]; 3 on 23 April 2005 at Waveland SL, *Hancock*, **SE**(w) [05-27; Class 3]; 3 on 25 April 2006 at the Grenada SL, *Grenada*, **WS**(p) [06-23; Class 1P]; 2 adults with brood on 14 September 2007 at Horseshoe Lake, Yazoo NWR, *Washington*, **DL**(p) [07-25; Class 1P]; 2 adults on 21 September 2007 at Cox's Ponds, Yazoo NWR, *Washington*, **DL**(p) [07-24; Class 1P]; 5 on 23 April, 2 on 8 May, and 5 on 1 July 2008 at Swan Lake, Yazoo NWR, *Washington*, **KH**(w,p) [08-14; Class 3]; 5 on 5 May 2008 in Pascagoula, *Jackson*, **WL**(w,p) [08-51; Class 1P]; 1 pair on 17 May 2008 near Walls, *DeSoto*, **GK**(w,p) [08-10; Class 1P]; 2-5 on 20 May-24 September 2008 at Pascagoula, *Jackson*, **HL**(w,p) [08-44; Class 1P]; 2 on 27 May 2008 at Holly Bluff, *Yazoo*, **LM**(w,p) [08-13; Class 1P]; 50 to 125 on 10-14 June 2008 at Mahannah WMA, *Issaquena*, **KB**(w,p), **RH**(w), **GK**(w) [08-15; Class 1P]; 3 adults on 14 June 2008, at Alligator Pond, Yazoo NWR, *Washington*, **GK**(p) [08-17; Class 1P]; 2 on 15 June and 4 on 16 June 2008 near Belzoni, *Humphreys*, **RH**(w,p) [08-18; Class 1P]; 2 on 15-20 July 2008 at Eagle Lake, *Warren*, **LP**(w) [08-20; Class 3]; 3 on 28 August 2008 near Silver City, *Humphreys*, **RH**(w) [08-23; Class 3]; 1 adult and 3 juveniles on 5 October 2008 at Greenwood Island, *Jackson*, **TS**(w) [08-36; Class 3]; 1 adult and 6 ducklings on 5

October 2008 at Alligator Pond, Yazoo NWR, *Washington*, **RH(w)** [08-37; Class 3]; 2 adults and 8 juveniles on 7 October 2008 north of Carter, *Humphreys*, **RH(w,p)** [08-38; Class 1P]; 7 juveniles on 17 November 2008 near Belzoni, *Humphreys*, **RH(w)** [08-42; Class 3]; 2 adults and 17 juveniles on 29 November 2008 at Deer Lake, Yazoo NWR, *Washington*, **RH(w,p)** [08-43; Class 1P]

Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) 3 on 21 August 2009 9 miles east of Hernando on Arkabutla Lake, *DeSoto*, **QG (w,p)** [09-20; Class 1P]; 10 on 7 September 2009 near Louise, *Humphreys*, **RH(w)** [09-29; Class 3]

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) 1 male on 6 December 2008 at Seaman Road SL, *Jackson*, **JW(w)** [09-1; Class 3]; 1 male on 5 November 2009 at Seaman Road SL, *Jackson*, **GM(w), SM(p)** [09-24; Class 1P]

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) 1 female on 31 December 2003-3 January 2004 at Cossar State Park, Enid Lake, *Yalobusha*, **GK(w)** [04-1; Class 3]; 4 females on 19 January 2004 at Arkabutla Dam, *DeSoto*, **GK(w)** [04-2; Class 3]

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) 1 juvenile on 27 February 2010 at Mackey's Creek, Bay Springs Lake, *Tishomingo*, **WP(w)** [010-13; Class 3]

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) 4 on 21 August 2005 at St. Catherine Creek NWR, *Adams*, **TS(w)** [05-36; Class 3]; 1-3 adults on 23 July and 1 August 2007 at St. Catherine Creek NWR, *Adams*, **BS(p)** [07-26;

Class 1P]; 2 adults on 16 August 2008 at St. Catherine Creek NWR, *Adams*, **BS**(p) [08-50; Class 1P]

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) 1 subadult on 6-9 May 2003 at Goose Overlook, Noxubee NWR, *Noxubee*, **TS**(w) [03-14; Class 3]; 1 on 19 July 2003 at Muscadine WMA, *Washington*, **GK**(w) [03-25; Class 3]; 1 on 19 July 2003 at Yazoo NWR, *Washington*, **GK**(w) [03-26; Class 3]; 1-4 on 9-10 August 2003 at St. Catherine Creek NWR, *Adams*, **GK**(w), **TS**(w) [03-33; Class 2]

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) 4 on 5 April and 2 on 4 May 2003 at Coldwater River NWR, *Tallahatchie*, **GK**(w) [03-15; Class 3]; 1 on 19 July 2003 at Muscadine WMA, *Washington*, **GK**(w) [03-27; Class 3]; 1 adult on 9-10 August 2003 at St. Catherine Creek NWR, *Adams*, **TS**(w), **GK**(w) [03-34; Class 2]; 1 adult and 1 juvenile on 30 August 2003 at catfish farm complex, *Humphreys*, **GK**(w) [03-35; Class 3]; 2 adults on 30 August 2003 at Yazoo NWR, *Washington*, **GK**(w) [03-36; Class 3]; 2 adults in alternate plumage on 19-26 April 2004 at Prisock Field, Noxubee NWR, *Winston*, **TS**(w) [04-18; Class 3]

Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) 1 juvenile on 28 July-1 August 1999 at Pascagoula River Marsh, *Jackson*, **GK**(w) [99-17; Class 3]; 1 juvenile on 24-26 July 2003 at Goose Overlook, Prisock Field, and Bluff Lake, *Noxubee and Winston*, **TS**(w) [03-28; Class 3]; 30 (mostly juveniles) on 9 August 2003 at St Catherine Creek NWR, *Adams*, **TS**(w), **GK**(w) [03-37; Class 2]; 3 adults and 59 juveniles on 30 August 2003 at Dutch Brake, *Sunflower*, **GK**(w) [03-31; Class 3]; 1 juvenile on 30 August 2003 at catfish farm complex, *Leflore*, **GK**(w) [03-40; Class 3]; 16 juveniles on 17 October 2004, *Humphreys*, **SD**(p) [04-52; Class 1P]

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) 1 on 1 October 2010 north of Carter, *Humphreys*, **RH(w)** [010-24; Class 3]

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) 1 adult on 8 April 2010 at Ansley, *Hancock*, **NB(w)** [010-16; Class 3]

Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) 1 adult on 5 November 2010 at Ansley, *Hancock*, **NB(w)** [010-30; Class 3]

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) 1 adult on 26-28 April 2010 at Isola, *Sunflower*, **RH(w,p)** [010-17; Class 1P]; 1 on 4 November 2010 at Seaman Road SL, *Jackson*, **JW(w)**, **SM(p)** [010-29; Class 1P]

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) 1 juvenile on 19-22 September 2003 at Oktibbeha County Lake, *Oktibbeha*, **TS(w)** [03-43; Class 3]; 3 on 30 August and 1 on 31 August 2005 at Oktibbeha County Lake, *Oktibbeha*, **TS(w)** [05-37; Class 3]; 1 on 21 August and 5 September 2010 near Doddsville, *Sunflower*, **MH(w,p)**, **WP(w,p)** [010-22; Class 1P]

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) 1 on 5-9 November 2010 at Oktibbeha County Lake, *Oktibbeha*, **TS(w)**, **WP(w,p)**, **AG(p)** [010-31; Class 1P]

Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) 1 on 28 January 2008 at Indian Creek embayment, *Tishomingo*, **DS(w,p)** [09-8; Class 1P]; 1 adult on 14 February 2010 at outlet channel, Arkabutla Dam, *Tate/DeSoto*, **DP(w)** [010-12; Class 3]; 1 adult on 27 February 2010 at Grenada Dam, *Grenada*, **GK(w)** [010-10; Class 3]

California Gull (*Larus californicus*) 1 3rd cycle (?) on 12 December 2009 at Waveland, *Hancock*, **NB(w)** [010-1; Class 3]

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) 1 1st cycle on 2 February 2009 at Main Harbor Marina, Ross Barnett Reservoir, *Madison*, **GK(w)** [09-10; Class 3]; 1 adult on 16-17 January 2010 at Lower Lake, Sardis Dam, *Panola*, **GK(w)** [010-7; Class 3]

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) 2 adults, 2 1st cycle birds on 24 October and 4 adults and 2 1st cycle birds on 25 October 2004 at Horn Island, *Jackson*, **SD(w,p)** [04-70; Class 1P]; 1 adult on 14 July 2005 at East Ship Island, *Harrison*, **SD(w)** [05-33; Class 3]; 4 adults on 2 September 2008 at Bayou Caddy, *Hancock*, **SE(w,p)** [08-26; Class 1P]; 1 adult on 3 September 2008 at Long Beach, *Harrison*, **JW(w)** [08-27; Class 3]; 1 adult on 14 September 2008 at Bay St. Louis/Waveland Beach, *Hancock*, **DS(w,p)** [08-47; Class 1P]

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) 1 1st cycle bird on 9 January and 13 March 2009 at Grand Bay, *Jackson*, **JW(p)**, **NB(w,p)** [09-6; Class 1P]; 1 1st cycle bird on 8-11 May 2010 at Moses Pier, Gulfport, *Harrison*, **MB(w,p)**, **NB(w)** [010-18; Class 1P]

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) 2 1st cycle birds on 13 September and 1 1st cycle bird on 22 September 2010 at west tip of Deer Island, *Harrison*, **JW(w,p)** [010-23; Class 1P]

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) 1 juvenile on 12 September 2009 at Water Valley Boat Landing, Enid Lake, *Yalobusha*, **GK**(w) [09-22; Class 3]; 1 juvenile on 23 October 2009 at the Ross Barnett Reservoir spillway, *Rankin and Madison*, **NW**(w) [09-23; Class 3]

Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*) 1 on 5 April 2003 at Gulfport, *Harrison*, **NM**(w) [03-21; Class 3]; 1 on 6 April 2003 at Cleveland, *Bolivar*, **CS**(w) [03-20; Class 3]; 2 on 1 April 2009 at Sumner, *Tallahatchie*, **MW**(w,p) [09-15; Class 1P]; 1 on 11 August 2009 at Vancleave, *Jackson*, **GY**(w,p) [09-19; Class 1P]; 4 on 2 January 2010 at Natchez, *Adams*, **BA**(w) [010-6; Class 3]; as many as 12 during the winter 2009-2010 at Ryan residence, Pass Christian, *Harrison*, **GK**(w), **NB**(w) [010-14; Class 3]; 1 on 1 April 2010 at Arcola, *Washington*, **RY**(w) [010-15; Class 3]

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) 1 on 17-18 January 2009 at McLeod, *Noxubee*, **TS**(w), **GK**(w,p), **JuH**(p) [09-7; Class 1P]

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax trailii*) 1 singing on 11 May 2010 at Toby Tubby Creek, near Oxford, *Lafayette*, **JH**(w) [010-19; Class 3]

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) 1 on 30 October 2010 at Bellefontaine Beach Road, *Jackson*, **JW**(w) [010-28; Class 3]

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) 1 on 16 November 2009 at Jackson Ridge, *Hancock*, **NB**(w) [09-26; Class 3]; 4 on 18 October 2010 at Point aux Chenes Salt Pannes, Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, *Jackson*, **JW**(w) [010-26; Class 3]

Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*) 1 on 29

December 2009 at Robinsonville, *Tunica*, **DP(w)** [010-2; Class 3]

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) 1 male on

6-14 January 2009 at Mike Ryan residence, Pass Christian, *Harrison*, **MR(w)**, **SM(p)** [09-5: Class 1P]

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) 1 on

January-February 2001 at Ken Bonnell residence, Greenville, *Washington*, **KeB(p)** [01-26; Class 1P]; 1 on 15 December 2008 at Charles Capps Reservoir, *Bolivar*, **MaB(w)** [09-3; Class 3]

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*) 2+ males and

females on 28 March-6 May 2003 at Ansley, *Hancock*, **NB(w)**, **JN(w)** [03-23; Class 2]

Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*) 1 female on 6

February-15 March 2010 at Mike Ryan residence, Pass Christian, *Harrison*, **MR(w)**, **JB(w,p)**, **NB(w)**, **GK(w)**, **TS(w)**, **SM(p)** [010-9; Class 1P], banded by JB on 28 February 2010, 1st State Record

Records sent to 2nd Circulation from their 1st Circulation round have been voted on once and have received at least one “non-accept” vote but not a unanimous “non-accept” vote.

Records sent to 2nd Circulation

Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) 1 on 8 March 2009 near Rena Lara, *Coahoma* [09-12]

Bell’s Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) 1 on 21 August 2010 at St. Catherine Creek NWR, *Adams* [010-21]

2nd Circulation Records Accepted

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) 1 on 17 July 2005 at catfish farm complex, *Humphreys*, **SD(p)** [05-31; Class 1P]

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

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) 3 juveniles on 14 September 2002 at catfish farm complex, *Humphreys*, **SD(p)**, **GK(w)** [02-35; Class 1P]; 6 (1 dead-photographed, but body at Mississippi Museum of Natural Science awaiting preparation as study skin) on 30 August 2005 at Columbus Air Force Base, *Lowndes*, **KV(p)** [05-38; Class 1P]

Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*) 2 on 22 May 2004 at Natchez, *Adams*, **BM(w)** [04-24; Class 3]

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) 20+ on 1
December 1996-13 March 1997 at Pat's Bluff, Sardis Lake,
Panola, GK(w,r), TS(w) [97-44; Class 1R]

Not Accepted Records (Class 4) are either records not accepted based on questionable identification (Class 4-I) or records where identification is accepted but the origin is questionable (Class 4-O). Rarely is a record not accepted due to the bird being misidentified. Non acceptance is usually 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 does not meet the standards required for inclusion in the historical database.

Not Accepted Records

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) 2 on 15-22
January 2000 near Lawrence, *Newton [00-1; Class 4-I]*; 4 on
5 January 2003 at Cox's Pond, Yazoo NWR, *Washington [03-8; Class 4-I]*

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) 1 on 6-11
October 2006 near Artesia, *Lowndes, [06-11; Class 4-I]*

Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*) 1 on 24
March 2009 at Washington Street Pier, Bay St. Louis,
Hancock [09-14; Class 4-I]

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) 1 on 16
October 2010 near the Chickasaw Village site, Natchez
Trace, *Lee [010-25; Class 4-I]*

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) 2 on 2 June
2004 at Natchez, *Adams* [04-38; Class 4-I]

Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*) 1 on 26
December 1994 near Snow Brake, *Tallahatchie* [95-5; Class
4-I]

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) 14 on
15 May 2010 at Glen Allen, *Washington* [010-20; Class 4-I]

Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*) 1 on 23
July 1999 at Pt. Cadet Plaza, *Harrison* [99-18; Class 4-I]

Contributors

Beverly Aldridge, Mary Barnett, James Bell, Ken Bonnell (KeB), Mark Bonta (MaB), Ned Boyajian, Kevin Brunke, Stephen Dinsmore, Susan Epps, QB Gray, Alban Guillaumet, Katie Hanson, Mike Harvey, Rob Heflin, Jason Hoeksema, Judy Howle (JuH), Gene Knight, Heather Lafser, William Lee, David Linden, Nancy Madden, Bill McGehee, Leslie Miller, Sharon Milligan, Gerry Morgan, Jennifer Nagy, Luke Parker, Wayne Patterson, Dick Preston, Mike Ryan, Terry Schiefer, Damien Simbeck, Carl Smith, Wilbur Smith, Bill Stripling, Kyle VanWhy, Jake Walker, Mona Whitten, Nick Winstead, Ronald Yarborough, Gail Young

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 for providing the MBRC with

their expert opinion concerning records reviewed during 2011.

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. These species were removed from this list in February 2009: Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Neotropic Cormorant, and Lesser Black-backed Gull. All records of these removed species prior to February 2009 will still be reviewed by the Committee. Red-necked Phalarope was the only species removed from this list in February 2010. All records of this removed species prior to February 2010 will still be reviewed by the Committee. These species were removed from this list in February 2011: Yellow Rail, Inca Dove, and Cave Swallow. All records of these removed species prior to February 2011 will still be reviewed by the Committee. These species were added to this list in February 2011: Bewick's Wren and Evening Grosbeak. The MBRC requests documentation, including details, descriptions, and photos of all records of the following species: 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, Great Cormorant, White-tailed Kite, Northern Goshawk, Harris's Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Crested Caracara, Prairie Falcon, Black Rail, Limpkin, Mountain Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, Purple Sandpiper, Ruff, Red Phalarope, Little Gull, Black-headed Gull, California Gull, Thayer's 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, 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, Rock Wren, Bewick's 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, Evening Grosbeak, and any species new to Mississippi.



Photograph of Red-necked Phalarope
near Doddsville in Sunflower County
taken by Wayne Patterson
5 September, 2010