

## Recent Actions of the Ohio Bird Records Committee

The Ohio Bird Records Committee reviewed 29 rare bird documentations in December 2006 and March 2007. Twenty of these records were accepted, seven were not accepted, and two remain in circulation (short-tailed hawk *Buteo brachyurus* and dusky flycatcher *Empidonax oberholseri*). Two of the accepted records were firsts for the state, white-throated swift and red-naped sapsucker. Although the sapsucker had been accepted by the committee in a prior vote, it was asked to be recirculated by a member of the birding community. The record again passed muster with the committee.

In other actions, three new members were elected at the March meeting. They are Tom Bartlett (Tiffin), Kevin Metcalf (Cleveland), and Bill Whan (Columbus). They join current members Dwight Chasar, Tom Hissong, Tom Kemp, and Ben Morrison. Many thanks for the hard work of outgoing members Rob Harlan, Ned Keller, and Sue Tackett.

### Accepted Records

Ross's goose *Chen rossii*; 14 January 2007; Ross Co.; B. Whan, P. Gardner  
Cackling goose *Branta hutchinsii*; 18 Dec 2006-1 Jan 2007; Wood Co.; T. Kemp, m.obs.  
Cackling goose *B. hutchinsii*; 24 Nov 2006 Lucas Co.; J. Pogacnik  
King eider *Somateria spectabilis*; 6 Dec 2006; Lake Co.; B. Whan, m.obs.  
Western grebe *Aechmophorus occidentalis*; 12 Nov 2006; Allen Co.; J. Lehman  
Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*; 26 June 2006; Summit Co.; J. Semroc  
American bittern *Botaurus lentiginosus*; 8-12 Feb 2007 Pickaway Co.; T. Bain  
Yellow rail *Coturnicops noveboracensis*; 20 Oct 2006; Licking Co.; J. McCormac  
Piping plover *Charadrius melodus*; 10 July 2006; Ashtabula Co.; B. Coulter  
Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*; 28 August 2006; Fairfield Co.; B. Whan, m.obs  
California gull *Larus californicus* 12 Nov 2006; Ashtabula Co.; C. Holt  
Long-tailed jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus*; 5 Sep 2006 Clermont Co.; W. Hull  
Eurasian collared-dove *Streptopelia decaocto*; 15 April-24 May 2006; Licking Co.; N. Surrat.  
Rufous hummingbird *Selasphorus rufus*; 1-26 Nov 2006; Warren Co.; A. Chartier  
White-throated swift *Aeronautes saxatalis*; 2 April 2006; Lucas Co.; E. Pierce, Johnson, J., R. Reyda, D.Vogus.  
Red-naped sapsucker *Sphyrapicus nuchalis*; 4-10 April 2005; Holmes Co.; m.obs.  
Western tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*; 4-8 Dec 2006; Franklin Co.; J. McCormac, m. obs.  
Spotted towhee *Pipilo maculatus*; 28 Feb-23 March 2007; Lucas Co.; J. Dixon, m.obs.  
Lark bunting *Calamospiza melanocorys*; 15 May 2006; Lucas Co.; P. Rodewald  
Harris's sparrow *Zonotrichia querula*; 29 Jan-3 March 2007; Holmes Co.; B. Whan, m. obs.

### Records Not Accepted

Ross's goose *C. rossii*; 3-4 March 2007; Clinton Co.

After careful scrutiny of the excellent photographs provided in this documentation, the committee strongly felt that this goose represented a hybrid Ross's X snow goose *Chen caerulescens*. The overall size and bill dimensions suggested an intermediate bird and not a pure Ross's goose. In a way, this makes this record even more important, as we may be seeing more hybrid individuals in the state in coming years.

Mew gull *Larus canus*; 18 November 2006; Wyandot Co.

The committee felt the details provided, while suggesting this species, did not rule out ring-billed gull. In addition, the observers were not familiar with mew gull.

Semipalmated sandpiper *Calidris pusilla*; 3 December 2005; Lucas Co.

The committee decided the plumage details and voice description provided did not completely distinguish this species from the very similar, and far more likely on this date, western sandpiper *C. mauri*.

Eurasian collared-dove; 7 May 2006; Eric Co.

This record was studied closely by the committee. Ultimately, they felt that the details provided, particularly coloration of the undersides, while suggesting this species, did not rule out ringed turtle-dove *S. risoria*.

Chestnut-collared longspur *Calcarius ornatus*; 18 February 2007; Lucas Co.

Details provided to the committee were insufficient in ruling out the similar and far more likely Lapland longspur *C. lapponicus*. A far more complete description is necessary to include this bird on the state list.

McCown's longspur *Calcarius mccownii*; 25 January 2007 Ottawa Co.

Details were insufficient to rule out Lapland longspur *C. lapponicus*. A more complete description and photos would be desirable in order to add this species to the state list.

McCown's longspur *C. mccownii*; 15 February 2007; Sandusky Co.

The more likely Lapland longspur *C. lapponicus* was not ruled out by the description provided.

Tom Kemp  
Secretary, OBRC