

Recent Actions of the Ohio Bird Records Committee

By **Edward O. Keller**

Secretary, Ohio Bird Records Committee
8098 Turcotte Lane
North Bend, OH 45052
keller@one.net

The Ohio Bird Records Committee has resolved 48 records since the last report. Of these, 39 records of 27 species were accepted; nine additional records were not accepted. Two first state records were approved: Reddish Egret and Dusky Flycatcher. A summary of those records is provided below.

This is my first report as Secretary of OBRC, so I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank my predecessor, Tom Kemp, for his years of service to the Committee and to the Ohio ornithological community. I would also like to thank departing committee member Dwight Chasar for his years of service, and to welcome our newest member, Jennifer Brumfield.

Records Accepted:

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*): one individual, **Auglaize** County; 18 November 2007, documentation by Andy Sewell; vote 6-1.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*): one individual, **Hocking** County; 16

September 2008, documentation by Jim Fry, Stephen J. Williams; vote 7-0.

frigatebird species (*Fregata* sp.):

1 individual, **Stark** County; 16 September 2008, documentation by Gabe Hostetler; vote 6-1. The details of this record of an immature bird were not sufficient to conclusively establish the bird as a Magnificent Frigatebird.

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta*

tricolor): one individual, **Erie** County; 25 August 2008, documentation by Craig Caldwell; vote 7-0.

Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*):

one individual, **Ashtabula** County; 05 June 2008, documentation by Craig Holt; vote 6-1. **First Ohio Record.** Another documentation from 14 June was not sufficient to be accepted on its own, but suggests that this bird may have remained in the area.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*):

one individual, **Ottawa** County; 10 May 2008, documentation by Laura Keene; vote 7-0.

Plegadis ibis (*Plegadis* sp.):

one individual, **Ottawa** County; 10 May 2008, documentation by Craig Caldwell; vote 7-0. (Note: Although seen the same day as the previous record, it was sufficiently far away that this might have been a different bird.)

Wood Stork (*Mycteria*

americana): three individuals, **Coshocton** County; 30 August 2008, documentation by Craig Caldwell; vote 7-0.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia*

mississippiensis): two records accepted:

a) one individual, **Hocking** County; 24 June 2008, documentation by Heather Nagy; vote 7-0.

b) one individual, **Geauga** County; 07 June 2008, documentation by Ethan Kistler; vote 7-0.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops*

noveboracensis): two records accepted:

a) one individual, **Holmes** County; 24 September 2006, documented by James E. Yoder; vote 7-0.

b) one individual, **Wayne** County; 11 October 2008, documented by James E. Yoder; vote 7-0.

Black Rail (*Laterallus*

jamaicensis): one to two individuals, **Pickaway** County; 01 June 2008, documentation by Bill Whan; 02 June 2008, documentation by Craig H. Caldwell, Rob Lowry, Bill Heck; 04 June 2008, documentation by Mike Yough; vote 7-0.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*): four records accepted:

a) one individual, **Lorain** County; 13 May 2008, documentation by Jim

McCarty, Bret McCarty; vote 7-0.

b) two individuals, **Sandusky** County; 22 June 2008, documentation by Robert N. Harlan, Sandra J. Harlan; vote 7-0.

c) four individuals, **Seneca** County; 30 June 2008, documentation by Jay Lehman; 8 July 2008, documentation by Aaron Boone; vote 6-1.

d) four individuals, **Ottawa** County; 12 August 2008, documentation by Michael R. Bolton; vote 7-0.

Black-headed Gull

(*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*):

one individual, **Cuyahoga** County; 20 December 2008, documentation by Rob Lowry; 09 January 2009, documentation by Craig Caldwell; vote 7-0.

Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*):

two records accepted:

a) one individual, **Hamilton** County; 19 August 2007; documentation by Jay Stenger; vote 7-0.

b) one individual, **Wayne** County; 04 July 2008; documentation by Kevin Kline; vote 7-0.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

(*Streptopelia decaocto*): two records accepted:

a) one individual, **Tuscarawas** and **Coshocton** Counties; 21 April to 28 June 2008, documentation by Adam H. Yoder, James E. Yoder; vote 6-1.

b) two individuals, **Seneca** County; 01 June 2008, documentation by Bill Whan; vote 6-1.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*): one individual, **Holmes** County; 14 December 2007,

documentation by Jolan Miller; vote 6-1.

Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*): one individual, **Darke** County; 24 June 2008, documentation by Robb Clifford; vote 7-0.

Dusky Flycatcher (*Empidonax oberholseri*): one individual, **Ottawa** County; 03 June 2005, documentation by Mark Shieldcastle and Luke DeGroot; vote 7-0. First Ohio Record. This bird was banded, and was measured and photographed in the hand.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*): one individual, **Holmes** County; 24 December 2008, documentation by Johnny Miller; vote 7-0.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*): one individual, **Hamilton** County; 22 July 2008, documentation by Brian Wulker; vote 6-1.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*): one individual, **Clark** County; 11 May 2008, documentation by Brian Menkeer; vote 7-0.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*): one individual, **Ashtabula** County; 16 June 2008, documentation by Craig Holt; vote 6-1.

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*): four records accepted:
a) one to two adults at a nest that contained five nestlings, **Jefferson** County; 25 March 2008 to 30 April 2008; documentation by Aaron Boone, Ethan Kistler; vote 7-0.

b) one individual, **Jefferson** County; 15 June 2008, documentation by Robert N. Harlan, Sandra J. Harlan; vote 6-1. (note: Although in the same county, the location was sufficiently different from the previous record that this might have been a different bird.)

c) one individual, **Monroe** County; 11 July 2008, documentation by William L. Murphy, Martie Heins, Bob Heins, April Sterling; vote 7-0.

d) five individuals, **Jefferson** County; 12 July 2008, documentation by Andy Sewell, Bill Whan; vote 6-1. (note: This record was reviewed independently from the other Jefferson County birds; the committee made no attempt to guess whether these were the same birds.)

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*): two records accepted:

a) seven individuals, **Cuyahoga** County; 09 November 2008, documentation by Larry D. Richardson; vote 7-0.

b) four individuals, **Hocking** County; 17 November 2008, documentation by John Habig, Rick Asamoto, Jay Lehman; vote 7-0.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*): one individual, **Lorain** County; 07 July to 11 July 2008, documentation by Melinda Burdette; vote 7-0.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*): two records accepted:
a) one individual, **Huron** County; 18 to 19 May 2008, documentation by Dean Sheldon, Jr.; vote 7-0.
b) one individual, **Coshocton** County; 27 January 2008 to 30 April 2008, documentation by James E. Yoder, Willis Brubaker; vote 7-0.

White-crowned Sparrow

(*Zonotrichia leucophrys*): one individual, **Hamilton** County; 01 August 2008, documentation by Mark Gilsdorf; vote 7-0. This bird was an adult. The documentation was not sufficient to accept a second bird, an immature, which would have been a truly exceptional date.

Records Not Accepted:

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*):

one individual, **Cuyahoga** County; 14 December 2007; vote 2-5. The committee could not rule out a hybrid with Snow Goose (*C. caerulescens*).

Reddish Egret (*Egretta*

rufescens): one individual, **Ashtabula** County; 14 June 2008; vote 3-4. See the notes under the accepted record, above.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops*

noveboracensis): one individual, **Wayne** County; 14 October 2007; vote 5-2. Although a majority of the committee voted to accept this record, a vote of at least six to one is required. The primary issue with this record was the very brief view which the observer was able to obtain.

Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius*

wilsonia): one individual, **Seneca** County; 11 July 2008; vote 2-5. Although the written description suggested Wilson's Plover, the supplied photograph was more consistent with Killdeer.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus*

mexicanus): one individual, **Hardin** County; 07 June 2008; vote 3-4. This bird was probably a Black-necked Stilt, but the documentation was too sparse to be conclusive.

California Gull (*Larus*

californicus): one individual, **Lucas** County; 13 May 2008; vote 0-7. The documentation consisted of a single photograph of the head, which was not sufficient to rule out Ring-billed Gull.

Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*):

15 individuals, **Mahoning** County; 4 May 2008; vote 1-6. The description lacked detail, especially for a record of such an extraordinary number.

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica*

hudsonia): one individual, **Highland** County; 6 November 2008; vote 0-7. The observer had only a brief look at this bird, from a moving vehicle.

Swainson's Warbler

(*Limnothlypis swainsonii*):

one individual, **Columbiana** County; 20 June 2008; vote 0-7. The documentation was not sufficient to rule out other species.