

Recent Actions of the Ohio Bird Records Committee

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Between March 2009 and March 2010, the Ohio Bird Records Committee resolved 49 records. These consisted of 40 accepted records of 27 species, the review of one previously accepted record to clarify its nesting status, the review of the historical status of one species, and the non-acceptance of seven records. This resulted in the addition of three species to the Ohio checklist, bringing the total number of documented species to 425.

The documentation details of several records contain the notation (Internet) indicating that we did not receive documentation directly, but that we were able to find sufficient information on the Internet, including photographs and descriptions, to provide reliable substantiation of those records. A simple report that a bird has been seen—even by many people—is insufficient. The records reviewed here included details of appearance, or photographs, sufficient to rule out all other species.

Many other sightings reported on the Internet, which otherwise would

constitute important records, are not reported here, because we could not track down enough information to confirm them. When you see a very rare bird, please consider submitting documentation to the committee. Instructions on how to do so and a documentation form are online at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/records/documentation.php>. However, that form is optional—a simple copy of field notes is often good enough. Many thanks to Tom Bartlett and Bill Whan, whose terms expired in March 2010, for their service to the committee, and we welcome Matt Anderson and Su Snyder, who are beginning their new three-year terms, to the committee.

Records Accepted:

- a) **Western/Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus* sp.):**
one individual, Portage County; 26 November 2009, documentation by Karin Tanquist & Patrick Coy; vote 7-0.

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*): two records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Lake** County; 02 July 2009, documentation by John Pogacnik (Internet); vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, **Hamilton** County; 13 July 2009, documentation by Frank Renfrow; vote 7-0.

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*): one individual, **Guernsey** County; 14 July 2009, documentation by Eric Hall, Renee Tressler and Jeffrey Spaulding (present through 19 July 2009); vote 7-0.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*): one individual, **Ottawa** County; 04 July 2009, documentation by Dave Lewis (present 29 June 2009 through 04 July 2009); vote 7-0.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*): two records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Coshocton** County; 26 April 2009, documentation by David H. Yoder; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, **Lucas** County; 30 October 2009, documentation by Gerry Klug; vote 6-1.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*): one individual, **Holmes** County; 21 October 2009, documentation by Gabe Leidy (Internet) (present 19 October 2009 through 21 October 2009); vote 7-0.

Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*): added to the Ohio checklist on the basis of numerous 19th-century accounts. Although there are no extant specimens reliably attributed to Ohio, several accounts in the literature describe Ohio specimens as existing at the time. Our thanks to Bill Whan for his historical research on this species.

Vote 6-1.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*): three records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Wayne** County; 02 May 2009 through 04 May 2009, documentation by Gabe Leidy (Internet); vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, **Ashtabula** County; 28 July 2009, documentation by Craig Caldwell (present 26 July 2009 through 31 July 2009); vote 7-0.
- c) one individual, **Ashtabula** County; 22 August 2009, documentation by Laura Keene (Internet); vote 7-0. This is definitely not the same individual as the previous record, because photos of the two birds showed different colored leg bands.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*):

one record accepted, and a second record clarified:

- a) one individual, **Wayne** County; 02 May 2009 through 04 May 2009, documentation by Gabe Leidy (Internet); vote 7-0.
- b) the record of four individuals from **Seneca** County, from 30 June 2008 through 08 July 2008, previously reported in *The Ohio Cardinal* 31 (4): 52 as record (c), is accepted as a nesting record; vote 6-1.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*): one individual, **Ottawa** County; 19 May 2009, documentation by Brenda Tekin (present 19 May 2009

through 22 May 2009); vote 7-0.

Black-headed Gull

(*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*): one individual, **Cuyahoga** County; 09 January 2009, documentation by Jen Brumfield; vote 7-0.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

: one individual, **Cuyahoga** County; 07 February 2009, documentation by Gabe Leidy; vote 7-0.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

(*Streptopelia decaocto*): one individual, **Holmes** County; 27 June 2009, documentation by Gabe Leidy (Internet); vote 7-0.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*)

- two records accepted:
- one individual, **Holmes** County; 25 June 2009 through 26 June 2009, documentation by Reuben M. Barkman; vote 6-1.
 - one individual, **Holmes** County; 24 December 2009 through 02 January 2010, documentation by Dick Beery; vote 7-0.

Allen's Hummingbird

(*Selasphorus sasin*): one individual, **Holmes** County; 11 December 2009, documentation by Allen Chartier (present early October 2009 through 27 December 2009); vote 7-0. **First state record.**

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*)

: one individual, **Greene** County; 26 November 2009 through 29 November 2009, documentation by

Ken Beers; vote 7-0.

Vermilion Flycatcher

(*Pyrocephalus rubinus*): one individual, **Lake** County; 02 October 2009, documentation by Ben Morrison and Ethan Kistler; vote 7-0.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*)

: one individual, **Sandusky** County; 17 May 2009, documentation by John Kuenzli; vote 7-0.

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*)

- five records accepted:
- two individuals, **Monroe** County; 12 January 2009, documentation by Laura Stolder; vote 7-0.
 - one individual, **Jefferson** County; 01 March 2009, documentation by Eric Hall; vote 6-1.
 - one individual, **Jefferson** County; 09 March 2009, documentation by Eric Hall; vote 6-1. This was in a different Jefferson County location than the previous record.
 - one individual, **Jefferson** County; 26 March 2009; documentation by Rob Lowry; vote 7-0. This was yet another Jefferson County location; three individuals were reported, but not documented, from the same location on 27 March.
 - four individuals, **Harrison** County; 28 June 2009, documentation by Robert Harlan; vote 7-0.

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*): one individual, **Holmes** County; 12 September 2009, documentation by Rob and Sandy Harlan (present 12 September 2009 through 15 September 2009); vote 7-0.

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*): one individual, **Lucas** County; 08 April 2009, documentation by Craig Caldwell and Kenn Kaufman (Internet) (present 05 April 2009 through 17 April 2009); vote 7-0.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*): one individual, **Lucas** County (although the documentation submitted stated Ottawa County, the specific location is in Lucas County); 18 March 2009, documentation by Nick A. Fensler; vote 6-1.

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*): 35 individuals, **Mercer** County; 11 April 2009 through 25 April 2009, documentation from Internet sources; vote 7-0.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*): five records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Adams** County; 12 May 2009, documentation by Pete Whan; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, **Lucas** County; 15 May 2009, documentation by Ryan Schroeder; vote 6-1.
- c) one individual, **Ottawa** County; 17 May to 18 May 2009, documentation from

Internet sources; vote 7-0.

- d) one individual, **Lake** County; 21 May 2009, documentation by John Pogacnik (Internet); vote 7-0.
- e) one individual, **Ottawa** County; 18 September 2009, documentation by Jim Lindway (present 18 September 2009 through 19 September 2009); vote 7-0.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*): one individual, **Lucas** County; 16 May 2009, documentation by Tammy Seaman (Internet); vote 7-0.

Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*): one individual, **Hancock** County; 27 March 2009 to 25 April 2009, documentation by Ron and Victoria Saklosky, Elizabeth Hardesty, Wilma Seiler, Anna Scharbrough and Jeff Loughman; vote 7-0. **First state record.**

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*): one individual, **Delaware** County; 14 December 2008 through 11 January 2009, documentation by Michele Dixon, Darlene Sillick, and Doreene Linzell; vote 7-0.

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*): one individual, **Lucas** County; 14 December 2008, documentation by Matt Anderson; vote 7-0.

Records Not Accepted:

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*): two individuals, **Lucas** County; 22 April 2009; vote 1-6. The observer had only a very brief look at the birds, apparently without binoculars.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*): one individual, **Cuyahoga** County; 19 November 2009; vote 3-4. This report from experienced observers was quite possibly an accurate identification of a Pacific Loon, but the majority of the committee believed that the observed details did not rule out other species.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*): two individuals, **Lorain** County; 26 December 2009; vote 1-6. The description did not completely rule out other species; and the committee believed that a record of more than one individual, by a single observer, would require impeccable documentation.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*): four or more individuals, **Lucas** County; 07 March through 17 March 2009; vote 0-7. Multiple observations by a single observer, seen while driving along an expressway.

McCown's Longspur (*Rhynchophanes mccownii*): one individual, **Cuyahoga** County; 10 March 1880; vote 0-7. The year is not a misprint – this record is a review of specimen 183160 from

the ornithology collection at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology, which bears a tag relating that it was collected on that date by L. Hall in Lakewood, Ohio. Historical research by Bill Whan demonstrates that Hall was in Nebraska at that time, and that the location stated on the tag is therefore erroneous.

Bachman's Sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis*): two individuals, **Union** County; 06 August 2009; vote 0-7. The photos provided appeared to depict Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*).

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*): one individual, **Hamilton** County; 20 December 2009; vote 1-6. This bird may well have been a Harris's Sparrow, but the detail contained in the documentation was too sparse to be certain.



The Counties of Ohio