



Initial Report of the Nevada Bird Records Committee: 1994-1996 Records

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This report reflects the actions taken by the Nevada Bird Records Committee (NBRC) on bird sightings reported in 1994, 1995, and 1996, i.e. since the inception of the committee. Documentation received on species seen prior to 1994 were not reviewed by the NBRC as was determined by the guidelines for the committee.

Reports of birds sighted in Nevada prior to the establishment of the NBRC are not centralized in a single location. For this reason, comments regarding state records, including the number of sightings, have been omitted in many cases.

Nevada is partitioned into three reporting regions. While a bird may be common in one area of the state, it may be rare in another area. Therefore, documentation of a bird that may appear to be common in Nevada is sent to the NBRC when that species is considered to be rare in the reporting region.

All documentation received on bird sightings are turned over to the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History, UNLV, after consideration by the NBRC and can be made available to the University of Nevada Reno..

Please note that individuals should not be concerned if the NBRC voted not to accept a report on a specific bird sighting. In many cases, it is almost impossible to identify some species unless one has the bird in hand. The committee strongly encourages the acquisition and submission of a photograph of the bird and the acquisition of field notes while the bird is in sight. Members of the committee have had their own submittals vetoed (committee members do not vote on birds they submit).

Jim Cressman, founding secretary of the Nevada Bird Records Committee compiled a list of Birds to be Documented - State of Nevada. This list is available via e-mail or as hard copy from Jim Eidel, current secretary, at eidel@worldnet.att.net or 4150 Meadow Wood Road, Carson City, Nevada, 89703.

SIGHTINGS ACCEPTED BY THE NEVADA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REDDISH EGRET *Egretta rufescens*. Seen on August 7, 1996, Hemenway Harbor, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Boulder City. The bird was identified and photographed by Marian Cressman, North Las Vegas. The second state record, this bird remained on the lake for several weeks. 6-Y

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna autumnalis*. Found April 8, 1995, Henderson Sewage Ponds, Henderson, by James L. Cressman. The bird was photographed by Marian Cressman. While not a first state record, the report was the first Black-bellied Whistling-Duck considered by the Nevada Bird Records Committee. 6-Y

BRANT *Branta bernicla*. Found May 2, 1995, Searchlight Sewage Ponds, Searchlight, by Jim Meritt, Turnersville, NJ. The bird was photographed and reported by Marian Cressman. 6-Y

EURASIAN WIGEON *Anas penelope*. Found May 9, 1995, at a shallow cove on the Colorado River, ten miles below Davis Dam, Laughlin by Jim Meritt, Turnersville, NJ. The duck was photographed and reported by Marian Cressman. This was the first sighting of an Eurasian Wigeon in Clark County. 6-Y

BLACK SCOTER *Melanitta nigra americana*. Found November 19, 1995, Henderson Sewage Ponds, Henderson, by Marian Cressman and reported by her. 6-Y

PURPLE GALLINULE *Porphyrio martinicus*. Found September 23, 1995, Indian Springs, Clark County. The bird was observed by Ryan Terrill, Michael Patten, and Brenda D. Smith, all from CA, and Gary H. Rosenberg, AZ. The bird was photographed. This was the fifth record for Nevada. 6-Y

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*. Found May 7, 1995, Big Soda Lake, Fallon by Jack Walters, Carson City. The bird was photographed and reported by Walters. Several fortunate birders saw and photographed this bird. The sighting was a first state record for Nevada. 6-Y

SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER *Calidris acuminata*. Found August 18, 1996, Carson Lake, Churchill County. The bird was reported by Dennis Trousdale, Fernley, and photographed by Jack Walters, Carson City. This was the second state record for Nevada. 5-Y, 1-N

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*. Found April 30, 1994, Sprig Pond, Carson Lake, Churchill County by David McNinch and Graham Chisholm while leading a field trip. The bird was reported by Graham Chisholm. This sighting was the second record for Nevada. 6-Y

RED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus fulicaria*. Found September 7, 1995, by the Lott Freeway, Carson Lake, Churchill County. The bird was found and identified by Graham Chisholm, Reno, and Larry Neel, Fallon. First known northern Nevada record. 5-Y, 1-N

HEERMANN'S GULL *Larus heermanni*. Found October 28, 1995, Boulder Beach, Lake Mead, Boulder City, by James and Marian Cressman. Marian Cressman photographed and reported the bird. This was the first reported Heerman's Gull in Clark County in nineteen years. 6-Y

GLAUCOUS GULL *Larus hyperboreus*. Found January 17, 1996, at Virginia Lake, Reno, by Graham Chisholm, Reno, and David Holway, Salt Lake City, UT. A second state record. 6-Y

LEAST TERN *Sterna antillarum*. Found May 10, 1996, Henderson Sewage Ponds, Henderson by Jim Eidel, Carson City who documented the bird and Rita Schlageter and Jeanne Strott, of Las Vegas. 5-Y, 1-N

ANCIENT MURRELET *Synthliboramphus antiquus*. Found September 19, 1996, at the Pyramid Lake marina, by Bob Goodman, Reno. Goodman was able to photograph the bird which remained in the area for several days. This was the sixth state record. 6-Y

BLACK SWIFT *Cypseloides niger*. Found April 27, 1996, Desert National Wildlife Refuge (Corn Creek) by Dale Manor, Levonia, MI, and Carolyn Titus, Las Vegas, who documented the bird. 1st Round: 3-Y, 3-N - 2nd Round: 4-Y, 2-N

ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD *Selasphorus sasin*. Found September 11, 1996, in Carpenter Canyon, Spring Mountain Range, Clark County by Rita Schlageter, H.E. LePlant and Carolyn Titus, all of Las Vegas. Titus documented the bird. 4-Y, 2-N

VAUX'S SWIFT *Chaetura vauxi*. Seen May 13, 1995, at the diversion dam below Lahontan Reservoir on the Carson River southwest of Fallon. The bird was photographed and reported by Jack Walters, Carson City. 6-Y

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER *Sphyrapicus varius*. Seen December 4, 1994, at Lamb State Park (Tule Springs), Las Vegas by Rita Schlageter, Connie Lyons and Carolyn Titus, all of Las Vegas. Titus documented the sapsucker who stayed for a few days and was observed by a number of persons. 6-Y

RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER *Sphyrapicus rober*. Found December 26, 1995, in Elko by Mark Ports who reported and photographed the bird. 6-Y

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE *Contopus virens*. Seen June 8, 1994, at Miller's Rest Stop, ten miles west of Tonopah on Highway 95. The bird was found and reported by John Brack, Tonopah. 6-Y

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris*. Found October 29, 1996, by Carolyn Titus, Hugh Hawkins, Rita Schlageter, all of Las Vegas. The bird was photographed by Titus and reported by Schlageter. A first state record. 6-Y

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER *Tyrannus forficatus*. Found May 18, 1996, Ruby Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, Elko County, by Rudy Darling, Nevada City, CA, and Harry Baily, Grass Valley, CA. 6-Y

BROWN THRASHER *Toxostoma rufum*. Seen September 1, 1996, Hard Scrabble Creek, approximately two miles west of Sutcliff, Washoe County, by Graham Chisholm, Reno. 5-Y, 1-N

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava*. Found on September 11, 1994, Hemenway Park, Boulder City, by John A. Blackwell, Dorset, England. The bird was seen in good light with the sun behind the observer. This was a first state record. 6-Y

BLUE-HEADED VIREO *Vireo solitarius*. Seen November 1, 1996, Desert National Wildlife Refuge (Corn Creek) by Rita Schlageter, Jim Healey and Carolyn Titus, all of Las Vegas. 5-Y, 1-N

PHILADELPHIA VIREO *Vireo philadelphicus*. Seen September 23, 1995, Indian Springs, Clark County, by Michael A. Patten, Scott B. Terrill and Brenda D. Smith, all of CA, and Gary Rosenberg, of AZ. The bird was photographed by Terrill and the report written by Patten. 6-Y

RED-EYED VIREO *Vireo olivaceus*. Seen July 2, 1995, on the west side of the Seven Troughs Range, about 32 miles west of Lovelock, Pershing County. The vireo was photographed and reported by Jack Walters, Carson City. 6-Y

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis*. Seen September 30, 1995, at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, Las Vegas, by Rita Schlageter. The bird was photographed by Carolyn Titus. 4-Y, 2-N

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER *Dendroica pensylvanica*. Seen October 5, 1996, at Porter Springs, Pershing County, by Jack Walters, Carson City, who reported and photographed the bird. 6-Y

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER *Dendroica castanea*. Seen May 13 & 14, 1995, Pahrangat National Wildlife Refuge, Manager's House, Lincoln County. The bird was photographed and reported by Chris Schone-man, Refuge Manager. 6-Y

BAY-BREASTED WARBER *Dendroica castanea*. Found May 29, 1995, about one mile east of Lida, Esmeralda County, by Jack Walters, Carson City. The bird was photographed and reported by Walters and seen by members of a Red Rock Audubon Society field trip. 6-Y

KENTUCKY WARBLER *Oporornis formosus*. found September 18, 1995, Washoe Lake State Park, New Washoe City, by Jim Eidel, Carson City and seen by Ed and Carol Mark, Sparks,, and Dennis Trousdale of Fernley, who documented the bird. 6-Y

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis*. Seen September 22, 1995, in the backyard of a private residence, Las Vegas by Rita Schlageter. The bird was reported and photographed by Carolyn Titus. 4-Y, 2-N

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis*. Seen August 30, 1996, Sierra Vista Apartments, Tonopah, by John Brack, Tonopah, and Dennis Trousdale, Fernley, who reported the bird. 4-Y, 2-N

SWAMP SPARROW *Melospiza georgiana*. Found December 11, 1994, Walley's Hot Springs Resort, Douglas County, by Ed Harper and Susan Scott, both from CA. A very rare sighting for northwest Nevada. 5-Y, 1-N

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula*. Found April 29, 1995, Desert National Wildlife Refuge (Corn Creek), Las Vegas, by Rita Schlageter, Carolyn Titus, and B. J. Tejada, all of Las Vegas. 5-Y, 1-N

BALTIMORE ORIOLE *Icterus galbula*. Seen June 4, 1996, Desert National Wildlife Refuge (Corn Creek), Las Vegas, by Rita Schlageter, Las Vegas, and Carolyn Titus, Las Vegas, who photographed and reported the bird. 5-Y, 1-N

SIGHTINGS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE NEVADA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Empidonax flaviventris*. Seen on June 8, 1994, at Miller's Rest Stop, ten miles west of Tonopah. 1-Y, 4-N

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER *Empidonax virescens*. Seen September 3, 1994, at Sierra Vista Apartments, west side of Tonopah. 6-N

LEAST FLYCATCHER *Empidonax minimus*. Seen September 3, 1994, Desert National Wildlife Refuge, Las Vegas. 6-N

AZTEC THRUSH *Zoothera pinicola*. Seen on March 20, 1995, in a dry wash off a dirt road (locally known as Grapevine Canyon, off Christmas Tree Pass Road.) 1-Y, 5-N

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH *Seiurus motacilla*. Seen September 19, 1994, in Tonopah. 3-Y, 3-N*

GREATER PEWEE *Contopus pertinax*. Seen May 17, 1996, in Highland Park, Tonopah. 3-Y, 3-N**

*Tie means "no" after third round.

**Tie ended up in negative.