

Report of the Nevada Bird Records Committee: 1998 records

JIM EIDEL

4150 Meadow Wood Road, Carson City NV 89703

This report summarizes the findings of the Nevada Bird Records Committee on bird sightings submitted in 1998. To obtain reporting forms for documenting rare birds in Nevada, please write to the author. All documentation received by the Committee is housed at the Marjorie Barrick Museum at the University of Nevada - Las Vegas. Special acknowledgment is due to the following individuals: charter members Leonard Hoskins, Don Baepler, and Larry Neel, who rotated off the committee this year; and charter members Art Biale and Jim Cressman, who retired a year earlier.

This report includes summaries of 29 accepted records and just 1 rejected record. The high acceptance rate (97%) is a strong reflection of the improved standards of documentation by the Nevada birding community. In many cases, physical documentation (*e.g.*, a photograph) was accompanied by a written description; this combination is an especially powerful form of documentation.

1998 Records Accepted by the Committee

Neotropical Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*). Found at Sunset Park in Las Vegas by Bob Flores on 27 February 1998; sketch and written description by Jim Eidel on 28 February 1998; photograph by Carolyn Titus on 1 March 1998. Third state record; first accepted record. **6Y-0N**.

Black-bellied Whistling Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*). Found by Carolyn Titus at Tule Springs (Floyd Lamb State Park) on 30 September 1998; photograph and written description by Carolyn Titus. Third state record? **5Y-1N**.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*). Found at Big Canyon north of Sutcliffe at Pyramid Lake by Martin Meyers and Greg Scyphers on 28 November 1998; photograph and written description by Martin Meyers. **6Y-0N**.

Black Turnstone (*Arenaria melanocephala*). Found at Carson Lake on 23 April 1998 by Dennis Trousdale and Ed Mark; sketch and written description by Dennis Trousdale. First state record. **6Y-0N**.

- Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*). Found at Big Soda Lake (10 miles west of Fallon) by Martin Meyers on 18 September 1998; written description by Martin Meyers. Rare spring and fall migrant. **5Y-1N**.
- Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*). Found by Jack Walters at Big Soda Lake (10 miles west of Fallon) on 28 November 1998; found later on the same day by Dennis Serdehely. Photograph and written description by Jack Walters; sketch and written description by Dennis Serdehely. Rare spring and fall migrant. **6Y-0N**.
- Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*). Found at Popcorn Beach at Lake Pyramid by Martin Meyers, Ed Greaves, and Greg Scyphers on 18 September 1998; written description by Martin Meyers. Third state record? **4Y-2N**.
- Yellow-footed Gull (*Larus livens*). Found by Marian Cressman on 3 January 1998 at Las Vegas Bay on Lake Mead; photograph by Marian Cressman. First state record. **6Y-0N**.
- Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*). First-winter bird found at Pyramid Lake Fish Hatchery on 2 February 1998; written description and photograph by Martin Meyers. First accepted record in northern Nevada. **6Y-0N**.
- Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*). Found at Bodyfelt Ranch northwest of Tonopah on 23 May 1998; sketch and written description by Dennis Trousdale. **4Y-2N**.
- Nuttall's Woodpecker (*Picoides nuttallii*). Female found at Circle-L Ranch in Dyer by Guy McCaskie, Jon Dunn, and Mike San Miguel on 21 September 1998; written description by Guy McCaskie and Mike San Miguel; photograph by Mike San Miguel. Second state record. **6Y-0N**.
- Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*). Found north of the Washoe County - Carson City line on the east side of U.S. Highway 28 near Lake Tahoe; sketch and written description by Jim Eidel on 20 June 1998. Second state record; first accepted record. **5Y-0N**.
- Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*). Found at Miller's rest stop 10 miles west of Tonopah by Dennis Trousdale and John Brack on 8 May 1998; written description by Dennis Trousdale. **5Y-1N**.
- Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*). Found at Corn Creek at Desert National Wildlife Refuge by Brian Hansen and Jim and Marian Cressman on 18 October 1998. Written description by Marian Cressman and Brian Hansen. **6Y-0N**.

- Purple Martin (*Progne subis*). Found at Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve by Rita Schlageter and Jim Healy on 25 July 1998; written description by Rita Schlageter. **6Y-0N**.
- Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*). Found at Corn Creek at Desert National Wildlife Refuge by Carolyn Titus and Jim Healy on 23 May 1998; written description by Carolyn Titus. Third documented state record? **5Y-1N**.
- Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*). Found at Bodyfelt Ranch northwest of Tonopah by Graham Chisholm, John Brack, and Bob Flores on 31 May 1998. Written description by Graham Chisholm. First documented state record? **6Y-0N**.
- Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*). Found at Snake Creek in Great Basin National Park on 6 June 1998 by visiting birders from the eastern U.S. Relocated by park employees Melissa Renfro, John Woodyard, and Ed Kulinski; written description by Melissa Renfro on 9 June 1998; sketch and written description by Graham Chisholm on 12 June 1998; sketch and written description by Jim Eidel on 17 June 1998. Second state record; first accepted record. **6Y-0N**.
- Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*). Found at Miller's rest stop (10 miles west of Tonopah) on 19 June 1998; sketch and written description by Jim Eidel. **6Y-0N**.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*). Found with a Golden-winged Warbler at Snake Creek in Great Basin National Park on 12 June 1998 by Graham Chisholm; sketch and written description by Graham Chisholm; photograph by Carol Trousdale. **6Y-0N**.
- Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*). Immature male found at Circle-L Ranch in Dyer by Guy McCaskie, Jon Dunn, and Mike San Miguel on 21 September 1998; written description by Guy McCaskie and Mike San Miguel. First documented state record? **6Y-0N**.
- Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*). Found near Saddle Island at Lake Mead National Recreational Area by Carolyn Titus on 21 October 1998. Written description by Carolyn Titus. First state record? **4Y-2N**.
- Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*). Found at Big Canyon north of Sutcliff at Pyramid Lake by Martin Meyers and Greg Scyphers on 26 September 1998; photograph and written description by Martin Meyers. Second documented record. **6Y-0N**.

- Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*). Found at Corn Creek at Desert National Wildlife Refuge on 31 May 1998 by Dennis Trousdale; written description by Dennis Trousdale. First documented Nevada record? **4Y-2N**.
- Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*). Male in alternate plumage found at Corn Creek at Desert National Wildlife Refuge on 23 April 1998 by Nancy Bish and Jim Eidel; sketch and written description by Jim Eidel. Several state records. **6Y-0N**.
- Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*). Female found at Miller's rest stop (10 miles west of Tonopah) on 30 May 1998; written description by Jim Eidel. **6Y-0N**.
- Cassin's Sparrow (*Aimophila cassini*). Found northeast of Jean by Marian and Jim Cressman on 5 May 1998; written description by Marian Cressman. Second state record. **6Y-0N**.
- Lark Bunting (*Calospiza melanocorys*). Bird found skylarking on Nellis Air Force Base south of Tonopah on 29 May 1988 by Nancy Bish and Jim Eidel; written description by Jim Eidel. **6Y-0N**.
- Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*). Found at a residence south of Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge headquarters on 11 May 1998; photograph and written description by Jeanne Tinsman. **6Y-0N**.

1998 Record not Accepted by the Committee

- Yuma Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*). The committee was uncomfortable with identification at the subspecies level based only on a sound recording; bird observed in Las Vegas Wash on 28 May 1998. **3Y-3N**.

Note: the Committee is still deliberating on 1997 records of Pomarine Jaeger and Parasitic Jaeger, and on 1998 records of King Eider and Tennessee Warbler.
