

WESTERN BIRDS



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Front cover photo by © Greg Scyphers of Sparks, Nevada: LeConte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) at Dyer, Esmeralda County, Nevada, 24–27 October 2015. It represents the fifth Nevada record of this species that is characteristic of the Central Flyway of North America and reaches the western states only as a vagrant, primarily in late fall.

Back cover “Featured Photo” by © Deborah J. House of Bishop, California: melanistic Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*) at China Ranch, Inyo County, California, 25 May 2008. Though this represents the first record of melanism in the genus *Myiarchus*, the existence of several sooty or black species in other genera of flycatchers suggests that melanism like this has played a role in the evolution of the family Tyrannidae.

Western Birds solicits papers that are both useful to and understandable by amateur field ornithologists and also contribute significantly to scientific literature. Particularly desired are reports of studies done in or bearing on North America west of the 100th meridian, including Alaska and Hawaii, northwestern Mexico, and the northeastern Pacific Ocean.

Send manuscripts to Daniel D. Gibson, P. O. Box 155, Ester, AK 99725; avesalaska@gmail.com. For matters of style consult the Suggestions to Contributors to *Western Birds* (at www.westernfieldornithologists.org/docs/journal_guidelines.doc).

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NEVADA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2016

JEANNE TINSMAN, Chair, and MARTIN MEYERS, Secretary, Nevada Bird Records Committee, c/o Great Basin Bird Observatory, 1755 E. Plumb Lane #256, Reno, Nevada 89502; NevadaBirdRecords@gbbo.org

ABSTRACT: In 2016, the Nevada Bird Records Committee (NBRC) reviewed 86 reports from the period 27 November 1965–28 October 2016; 76 were endorsed. One new species was added to the Nevada list following endorsement of the first state record, the White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*). The state list also grew by an additional species as a result of the split of the Western Scrub-Jay (formerly *Aphelocoma californica*) since both the resulting California Scrub-Jay (*A. californica*) and Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay (*A. woodhouseii*) are regular breeding species in Nevada. The Nevada state list stands at 488 species, of which 141 are currently on the review list.

The NBRC began 2016 with 47 reports pending review. During 2016, we added 61 reports to the pending queue. The committee completed reviews of 86 reports during the year, ending the year with 21 in the pending queue. One record had been removed from the queue when it was combined with another as representing a “continuing” bird. Since the founding of the NBRC in 1994, 1262 reports have been reviewed, of which 1147 (90.9%) have been endorsed.

At its founding in 1994, the committee decided not to review any sightings prior to that year, but reversed that decision several years later. Fortunately, founding secretary James Cressman and his wife Marian Cressman continued to accumulate documentation for “pre-committee” reports. One of the committee’s long-term goals has been to organize and review as many of those reports as possible, along with early documentation from other sources. The committee began reviewing pre-committee reports in 2007. Since that time, we have reviewed 169 and endorsed 144. Of the 61 reports added to the pending queue in 2016, 30 preceded the committee’s founding.

Of the 86 reports reviewed by the committee in 2016, 76 were endorsed. Photographs accompanied the documentation for 60 of these records. Two of those were also accompanied by video or audio recordings, and one was supported by a video recording but no still photos. Eleven were supported by museum specimens. Fifteen of the endorsed records were supported

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entirely by written descriptions. Only two of the 10 reports not endorsed were supported by photographs; none were supported by video recordings, audio recordings, or specimens.

The NBRC has six voting members, one of whom serves as chair, and a nonvoting secretary. During 2016, the committee's voting members were Aaron Ambos, Paul Hurtado, Carl Lundblad, Greg Scyphers, Justin Streit, and Jeanne Tinsman. The position of secretary continued to be held by Martin Meyers, and the position of chairperson continued to be held by Jeanne Tinsman.

The NBRC's website at <http://gbbo.org/nbrc> contains a statement of purpose, answers to frequently asked questions, links to a submission form that can be downloaded or completed online, the Nevada checklist, the review list, and the committee's bylaws. There is a link to a list of all submissions to the NBRC, with the status of each with respect to endorsement and, if available, a photograph. All previous NBRC reports are available through the website as PDFs. NBRC reports through 2007 (1994–1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2004, 2005, and 2007) appeared in *Great Basin Birds*, published by the Great Basin Bird Observatory. Reports for 2008 through 2010 are only available at the NBRC website. Beginning with the 2011 report, annual reports have appeared in *Western Birds*.

REVISIONS TO THE NEVADA STATE LIST

In 2016, two species were added to the Nevada list. The White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*) was added following endorsement of the first state record. The Western Scrub-Jay (formerly *Aphelocoma californica*) was replaced with the California Scrub-Jay (*A. californica*) and Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay (*A. woodhouseii*) following the American Ornithologists' Union's split (Chesser et al. 2016). Both of the scrub-jay species are resident in Nevada (Floyd et al. 2007, Gowen et al. 2014). The Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay is a common breeder at middle elevations in habitats including pinyon-juniper woodlands, whereas the California Scrub-Jay is limited to the foothills of the Sierra Nevada in the vicinity of Reno and Carson City.

Early in its history, the NBRC adopted an existing checklist (Titus 1996) based on numerous sources that constituted the most reliable information available at the time. By the end of 2015, the committee had nearly completed an extensive search for reviewable documentation for all of the rare species on that list (those constituting the review list; Tinsman and Meyers 2016). The only remaining rare species on the list without an endorsed record at the end of 2015 was the Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*), of which the committee had in its database two reports not endorsed. At the 2015 meeting, the committee tabled a vote on deleting the Black Rail while continuing the search for additional details from surveys and other observations. This species had been reported on various surveys of wetlands in southern Nevada, but reviewable documentation was not submitted to the NBRC until early 2017. Two reports were received and reviewed; one was supported by an audio file and endorsed, and the other contained written documentation only and was not endorsed. Details will be forthcoming in the 2017 report.

The Nevada state list stands at 488 species as of the end of 2016.

REVISIONS TO THE NEVADA REVIEW LIST

The only changes to the Nevada review list in 2016 were the addition of the White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*), which had been added to the state list, the removal of the Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*), and the implementation of a “regional exemption” for the Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*). The committee is no longer reviewing reports of the Curve-billed Thrasher from Nelson (Clark County) south to the southern border of the state (see below).

There are currently 141 species on the Nevada review list, of which seven are exempt from review in some limited geographic area. In addition, two subspecies are currently on the review list: the Mexican Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos diazi*) and Eurasian Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca crecca*). The committee has endorsed four records of the Eurasian Green-winged Teal. The committee placed Mexican Mallard on the review list in an effort to accumulate data on its occurrence. We have five reports of this subspecies but have not yet reviewed them and have decided to wait to do so until there is more clarity on its taxonomic status and identification criteria.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Each account is introduced with a header in the following format: English name, scientific name, and, in parentheses, the total number of endorsed records of the species (including those endorsed in this report), followed by the number of records endorsed in this year's report. An asterisk preceding the species' name signifies that the species is no longer on the Nevada review list. Two asterisks after the total of records denote that the number of records refers to a restricted review period, usually signifying that the species is no longer on the review list, has been added to the review list because of a perceived drop in population, or is exempt from review in some locations.

After the heading for each species comes each report of that species reviewed in 2016, in the following format: NBRC report number, location (county in parentheses), and date or range of dates of observations submitted to the NBRC. If the report involved multiple birds, the number follows the date information. Then, for endorsed records, is the name of each submitter, followed by the notation “(P),” “(V),” and/or “(A)” if he or she provided a photo, video, and/or audio recording, respectively. If the finder(s) sent documentation to the NBRC, their names are listed first. A semicolon follows the finders' names if other observers submitted additional documentation.

In cases where a specimen was the subject of review, the collector is identified, followed by the museum catalog number along with sex, age, and condition. The museums cited in this report are the Marjorie Barrick Museum (MBM; formerly at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the collection is now housed at the University of Washington Burke Museum, Seattle [UWBM]); the Nevada State Museum in Carson City (NSM); and the University of Nevada, Reno, Museum of Natural History (UNMB), formerly the University of Nevada Museum of Biology. In all instances, the committee examined photographs of the specimens, and the photographs are included in the documentation.

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Multiple observations of a species are ordered chronologically. Any discussion of the species in general, not specific to an observation, concludes the account if warranted.

BRANT *Branta bernicla* (7, 1). 2015-031, private property at Silver Peak (Esmeralda), 8 May 2015. J. Callin, K. Pringle (P). Adult.

HARLEQUIN DUCK *Histrionicus histrionicus* (4, 1). 2016-034, Jarbidge River (Elko), 15 Jun 2016. J. Bregar. Adult male. This fourth Nevada record is from a remote and poorly known habitat with potential for breeding, about 400 km from documented nesting sites in northwestern Wyoming.

BLACK SCOTER *Melanitta americana* (12, 3). 2015-019, Wayne E. Kirch Wildlife Management Area (WMA) (Nye), 11 Nov 1976. Collected by M. Wickersham, obtained for UNMB by C. S. Lawson (UNMB 1814, ♀, no fat, tapeworms in gizzard). This record is the earliest for Nevada.

2015-074, Boulder Beach, Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NRA) (Clark), 15 Jan 2015. M. Meyers (P). Immature male.

2015-081, Warrior Point, Pyramid Lake (Washoe), 18–26 Oct 2015. R. Lowry (P), B. Steger (P); M. Meyers (P), M. Andrews. Adult male.

GROOVE-BILLED ANI *Crotophaga sulcirostris* (2, 1). 2015-086, Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area (Clark), 27 Oct 2015. J. Pietrzak (P, Figure 1). Adult. Listed as accidental in Clark County by Alcorn (1988). Another was observed on the same date in Inyo County, California (http://californiabirds.org/cbrc_book/update.pdf). The timing of this observation fits that of autumn vagrancy elsewhere (Mlodinow and Karlson 1999).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris* (2, 1). 2016-052, Mesquite (Clark), 1 Sep 2016. N. A. Batchelder (P). Documented almost exactly two years after Nevada's first record (see Tinsman and Meyers 2016), this hatch-year male was captured and banded.

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cynanthus latirostris* (7, 2). 2016-006, Alamo (Lincoln), 22 Sep 1985. J. Cressman. Adult male. Earliest Nevada record.

2016-010, Corn Creek (Clark), 6 Sep 1990. M. Cressman. Immature male.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER *Pluvialis dominica* (8, 1). 2015-091, Las Vegas Wash, now part of the Clark County Wetlands Park (Clark), 30 Sep–3 Oct 1973. Collected by C. S. Lawson (UNMB 1763, imm. ♂, moderate fat). Earliest Nevada record.

MOUNTAIN PLOVER *Charadrius montanus* (9, 1). 2015-082, Humboldt Sink Spillway Area (Churchill), 22 Oct 2015. A. Wallace (P). The species' migratory patterns are unclear (Knopf and Wunder 2006), but with Nevada lying directly between its breeding and winter ranges, the species may be underreported.

RUDDY TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres* (8, 3). 2016-042, Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve (Clark), 30 Jul 1997. M. Cressman (P). Adult.

2015-062, south end of Pyramid Lake (Washoe), 6 Aug 2015. M. Meyers (P); B. Steger (P). Adult.

2016-035, south end of Pyramid Lake (Washoe), 20–21 Jul 2016, two birds. M. Meyers (P); M. Andrews. Adults.

BLACK TURNSTONE *Arenaria melanocephala* (2, 1). 2015-064, Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve (Clark), 22–27 Aug 2015. B. Miller (P), J. Pietrzak (P); C. Titus, K. Lee (P, Figure 2), T. Almond (P), R. O'Connell (P), G. Scyphers (P). Elsewhere inland, Arizona (Stevenson 2005) and New Mexico (Cleary and Parmeter 2010) currently list one record each.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis* (1, 1). 2016-032, Ash

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Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) (Nye), 1 Jun 2016. D. Feener (P, Figure 3). Adult; first Nevada record. The timing fits that of northbound adults reaching California (Hamilton et al. 2007). In that state, 60% of the 30 observations fall between the second week of May and mid-June; only adults have been recorded. Utah has eight records (www.utahbirds.org/RecCom/UBRC_SightingsIndex.html), including a juvenile in fall 2006. The first Arizona sighting was at Willcox in 1977 (Rosenberg and Witzeman 1998); the majority of Arizona's 18 records have been from the southeastern part of the state in spring.

PARASITIC JAEGER *Stercorarius parasiticus* (11, 1). 2015-059, near Davis Dam (Clark), 17 Sep 1976. NOT ENDORSED.

2015-090, Las Vegas Bay, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 12 Oct 1992. NOT ENDORSED.

2015-078, near Sutcliffe, Pyramid Lake (Washoe), 5 Sep 2015. P. Hurtado (P). Immature.

ANCIENT MURRELET *Synthliboramphus antiquus* (4, 3). 2015-092, Carson City (Carson City), 27 Nov 1965. Collected by A. Taylor (NSM 866, ♀, very lean, almost no fat). Found alive but very weak after a storm; found dead the next day. Earliest Nevada record (Figure 4).

2016-011, Fallon (Churchill), 5 Apr 1970. Collected by C. J. Chamberlain (MBM 1295 [B-1660], ♀).

2016-008, Las Vegas Bay, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 24-26 Mar 1974. M. V. Mowbray, F. Long (P).

According to Munyer (1965), migrating Ancient Murrelets can be displaced by severe weather and poor visibility, as exemplified by the Nevada record in 1965. Weather conditions were not included with the other two reports. There are four confirmed reports of this species in Utah (Knopf 1976).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla* (8, 1). 2016-041, Las Vegas Bay, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 5 Dec 1980–28 Feb 1981. Collected by C. S. Lawson (NSM 1798, ♀, no molt, moderate fat). First cycle. Found alive tangled in fishing line, died shortly thereafter.

LITTLE GULL *Hydrocoloeus minutus* (3, 1). 2015-017, Boulder Beach, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 12 Nov 2014. G. Scyphers (P). First cycle. The three Nevada records extend from late October to late November.

*RED-THROATED LOON *Gavia stellata* (14**, 5). 2015-094, Las Vegas Bay, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 21 Dec 1969, two birds. C. S. Lawson. One adult and one immature; earliest Nevada record.

2015-095, Las Vegas Bay, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 18 Dec 1971, four birds. C. S. Lawson. Age was not determined.

2015-097, Sportsman's Beach, Walker Lake (Mineral), 7 Oct 1977. B. Barnes. Adult.

2015-093, Government Wash, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 1 Mar 1997. M. Cressman (P). Second-year or nonbreeding adult.

2016-002, Lake Mojave, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 17 Jan 2016. D. Vander Pluym (P). Immature.

Following the positive review of these five records (four of them antedating those already on file), and the NBRC's endorsement of at least one record in six of the last 10 years, the committee voted to remove this species from the Nevada review list in July 2016.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii* (9, 2). 2016-003, Lake Mojave, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 23 Jan–12 Feb 2016. B. Zyla, T. DeBardeleben (P). Immature.



Figure 1. The second Nevada record of the Groove-billed Ani came 11 years after the first, nearly to the day. The first was observed on 28 October 2004 at the Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve, and this bird was found on 27 October 2015 at Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area (both in Clark County).

Photo by Jason Pietrzak

2016-029, Pahrnagat NWR (Lincoln), 26–31 May 2016. A. Pellegrini (P); L. Duvall (P), M. Andrews, D. Serdehely (P), G. Scyphers (P), J. Tinsman (P). Immature.

The number of observations for Nevada parallels that in Utah (10) and Arizona (seven).

*NEOTROPIC CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* (12**, 2). 2015-063R, Sunset Park, Las Vegas (Clark), 7–8 Aug 2015. J. Streit (P). Immature.

2015-065, Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve (Clark), 6 Sep 2015. J. Streit (P).

This species was removed from the Nevada review list in 2015, but older records on file will continue to be reviewed.

CALIFORNIA CONDOR *Gymnogyps californianus* (0, 0). 2015-061, Ash Meadows NWR (Nye), 23 Feb 1984. NOT ENDORSED. In the early spring of 1984, the wild population of California Condors was nearing its nadir of 15 birds (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2013). The report of an immature bird was from a single observer and lacked a photograph.

MISSISSIPPI KITE *Ictinia mississippiensis* (8, 1). 2015-044, Corn Creek (Clark), 21 May 2015. J. Tinsman (P). A second-year bird.

COMMON BLACK HAWK *Buteogallus anthracinus* (13**, 2). 2015-067, Meadow Valley Wash (Lincoln), 4 Sep 2015. R. Lowry (P). Adult. In late September 2015, the committee decided to exempt from review reports of this species from the Meadow Valley Wash area of Lincoln County. Seven of the 13 Nevada records are from this riparian corridor, where successful breeding was documented in 2014 (Meyers 2016). This 2015 record antedates that decision.

2016-027, Key Pittman WMA (Lincoln), 14 May 2016. C. Hines (P). Adult.



Figure 2. A six-day visit provided birders plenty of time to document Nevada's second Black Turnstone. This bird was observed 22–27 August 2015 in the southern part of the state (Clark County), whereas the first Nevada record was of an April migrant found in the middle region (Churchill County).

Photo by Ken Lee



Figure 3. The White-rumped Sandpiper was the only species new to Nevada found in 2016. It was observed along the shore of Crystal Reservoir, Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (Nye County), on 1 June 2016.

Photo by Darlene Feener



Figure 4. Ancient Murrelet records have been endorsed four times for Nevada. This specimen, collected in 1965 in Carson City after a late November storm, represents the first.

Photo by Greg Scyphers

LEAST FLYCATCHER *Empidonax minimus* (11, 2). 2014-071, Miller's Rest Stop (Esmeralda), 29 Sep 2014. R. Aracil (P).

2016-033, Yerington (Lyon), 9 Jun 2016. M. Dorriesfield (V). This bird was observed singing along the Walker River, the second record of this behavior in Nevada; the first was in the NBRC's 2010 report (available at the NBRC's website, www.gbbo.org/nbrc/). In California, nesting has been confirmed on two occasions (Hamilton et al. 2007), and other observations of singing Least Flycatchers have been recorded (see www.eBird.org).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus crinitus* (3, 1). 2015-076, Dyer (Esmeralda), 20 Sep 2015. G. Scyphers (P, Figure 5); D. Ghiglieri (P), R. Strickland. Utah has one accepted record from October 1992 (www.utahbirds.org/RecCom/UBRC_SightingsIndex.html), and Arizona has four, including a specimen collected in June 1901 and three fall observations (Rosenberg et al. 2007, http://abc.azfo.org/ABCVote/_ABCReports_Public_View_list.aspx).

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris* (3, 1). 2016-058, Clark County Wetlands Park (Clark), 28 Oct 2016. A. Bankert (P). This species was first recorded north of Mexico in Arizona in 1958 (Levy 1959). California saw its first record in 1965 (McCaskie and Banks 1966), and the NBRC listed the first Nevada record in its inaugural report (Cressman et al. 1998). Utah has one accepted record from 2009 (Tripp et al. 2010).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER *Tyrannus forficatus* (9, 1). 2016-030, the private Parker Ranch (Nye), 26 May 2016. K. Guadalupe (P).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO *Vireo flavifrons* (7, 1). 2016-012, Corn Creek (Clark), 7–12 Oct 1989. M. V. Mowbray. Earliest Nevada record.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO *Vireo solitarius* (2, 0). 2016-016, Great Basin National Park (NP) (White Pine), 26 Sep 1995. NOT ENDORSED. The differentiation of the Blue-headed from Cassin's Vireo (*V. cassinii*) is difficult, and this report was not strong enough without a photograph.

*RED-EYED VIREO *Vireo olivaceus* (18**, 1). 2016-009, Corn Creek (Clark), 20 Sep 1970. NOT ENDORSED.

2016-007, Montello (Elko), 1 Jun 1991. S. Finnegan (P), P. E. Lehman.



Figure 5. The Great Crested Flycatcher has been recorded three times in Nevada, and all of the observations have come from Esmeralda County between late September and the first week of October. This individual was found on 20 September 2015.

Photo by Greg Scyphers

The Red-eyed Vireo is no longer on the Nevada review list. The 1970 report preceded Nevada's first endorsed record, in 1980 (Tinsman and Meyers 2016).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis* (3, 1). 2016-050, Mountain Springs (Clark), 20 Sep 2016. J. Streit, M. Swink (P, Figure 6). According to Rosenberg et al. (2011), as of 2009 all 10 of Arizona's records fell between late May and mid-August. Two of three Nevada records are from late September, in alignment with California records for the species, most of which are from mid-September to late October (Hamilton et al. 2007).

PURPLE MARTIN *Progne subis* (14, 1). 2016-043, Keddy Ranch area (Elko), 29 Jul 2016. W. Munns.

WOOD THRUSH *Hylocichla mustelina* (6, 2). 2016-040, Floyd Lamb Park (Clark), 18–21 May 1970. C. S. Lawson. Earliest Nevada record.

2016-014, Pahrangat NWR (Lincoln), 7 Oct 1976. C. S. Lawson (P).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER *Toxostoma curvirostre* (5**, 1). 2016-013, Nelson Ghost Town (Clark), 3 Apr–20 May 2016, two birds. J. Tinsman (P, V), K. Drozd (P). A small breeding population of this thrasher has recently become established in the vicinity of Searchlight (Clark County). Birds from this group, plus a number of other individuals that might be from this breeding group but might also be part of a significant expansion of the species in southern Nevada and surrounding areas more generally, are being observed regularly. In July 2016, the committee established a regional exemption for review of this species in southern Clark County, from Nelson south.



Figure 6. Breeding largely south of the Mexican border, the Yellow-green Vireo is highly migratory, heading to South America for the winter. This individual strayed north in late September 2016 to Mountain Springs (Clark County).

Photo by Mike Swink

*BROWN THRASHER *Toxostoma rufum* (19**, 1). 2016-022, Dyer (Esmeralda), 25 May 1991. P. E. Lehman. The species was removed from review list in 2013, but the committee continues to review earlier records.

PURPLE FINCH *Haemorhous purpureus* (9, 3). 2016-001, Reno–Caughlin Parkway (Washoe), 3 Jan 2016, four birds. T. Lenz (P, A). One adult male and three female-plumaged birds, all identified as subspecies *californicus*.

2016-004, Verdi (Washoe), 28 Feb 2016. B. Thomas (P). Adult male, subspecies *californicus*.

2016-024, Floyd Lamb Park (Clark), 10 Apr 2016, five birds. A. Lee (P). All five birds were in female-like plumage and were identified as subspecies *californicus*.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL *Loxia leucoptera* (1, 0). 2016-057, Great Basin NP (White Pine), 22 Oct 2016. NOT ENDORSED. This nomadic and irruptive species invaded Idaho and other northern states during the late fall and early winter of 2015 (C. Lundblad, pers. comm. 2016; www.eBird.org), preceding this report by a year. No such migration was noted in late 2016.

CASSIN'S SPARROW *Peucaea cassinii* (3, 1). 2015-072, Amargosa Valley (Nye), 26–29 Sep 2015. G. Scyphers (P); R. Strickland, D. Ghiglieri (P), D. Vogt (P, Figure 7). Adult. This is the first Nevada record since 1998.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW *Ammodramus savannarum* (12, 5). 2015-089, Clark County Wetlands Park (Clark), 23 Apr 2015. J. Lefever. Adult.

2015-080, Amargosa Valley (Nye), 26 Sep 2015. G. Scyphers (P). Adult.

2015-077, Floyd Lamb Park (Clark), 4 Oct 2015. A. Lee (P). Adult.



Figure 7. Nevada's third Cassin's Sparrow, found in Amargosa Valley (Nye County) in late September 2015, was the first of the species observed in fall.

Photo by Deb Vogt

2015-085, Las Vegas Bay, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 17 Oct 2015. B. Miller (P). Adult.

2016-025, Las Vegas Bay, Lake Mead NRA (Douglas), 1 May 2016. B. Steger (P), D. Serdehely (P), R. Strickland, D. Ghiglieri (P). Originally found by Rob Lowry. Adult.

LECONTE'S SPARROW *Ammodramus leconteii* (5, 1). 2015-084, Dyer (Esmeralda), 24–27 Oct 2015. G. Scyphers (P; see front cover of this issue of *Western Birds*); D. Ghiglieri (P), R. Strickland, M. Andrews, D. Vogt (P). This is the third Nevada observation from late October; the other two are from early September and early October.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE *Icterus galbula* (12, 1). 2016-021, Indian Springs (Clark), 22 Sep 1996. M. Patten. Adult male.

BRONZED COWBIRD *Molothrus aeneus* (5, 1). 2015-075, Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve (Clark), 6 Jul 2015. E. Horton (P). Adult male. Though four birds were reported, the brief documentation included a photograph of only one and no description of the other three.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora chrysoptera* (5, 1). 2015-083, Ash Meadows NWR (Nye), 20 May 2015. D. Crowe. Adult female. Detailed written documentation was sufficient to satisfy the committee that the bird showed no signs of hybridization.

KENTUCKY WARBLER *Geothlypis formosa* (8, 1). 2016-005, Corn Creek (Clark), 23 Sep 1985. M. Cressman. Adult male. Earliest Nevada record.

CAPE MAY WARBLER *Setophaga tigrina* (6, 2). 2015-087, Corn Creek (Clark), 31 Oct 2015. B. Zyla; B. Miller (P). A drab immature, possibly female.

2016-031, Tonopah Cemetery (Esmeralda), 15–16 May 2016. G. Scyphers (P); B. Zyla, S. Topham (P, Figure 8). Adult female.

*MAGNOLIA WARBLER *Setophaga magnolia* (18**, 1). 2016-019, below Lake



Figure 8. This northbound Cape May Warbler may have been fueling on the nectar of Prince's Plume (*Stanleya pinnata*) along with the insects attracted to this plant during a two-day visit to the Tonopah Cemetery (Nye County) in May 2016.

Photos by Seth Topham

Las Vegas, Las Vegas Wash (Clark), 20 Oct 1974. Collected by J. Blake (MBM 2352 [B-1156], ♀?, very heavy fat). Earliest Nevada record.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER *Setophaga castanea* (3, 0). 2016-015, Corn Creek (Clark), 10–11 Oct 1977. NOT ENDORSED.

*CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER *Setophaga pensylvanica* (17**, 1). 2015-098, Corn Creek (Clark), 13 Oct 1974. Collected by C. S. Lawson (UNMB 1785, imm. unsexed, skull not ossified, slight fat, plumage fresh). Earliest Nevada record.

*BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER *Setophaga caerulescens* (20**, 3). 2016-020, Corn Creek (Clark), 6 Oct 1970. Collected by C. S. Lawson (UNMB 1725, ad. ♂). Earliest Nevada record.

2016-036, Corn Creek (Clark), 10 Oct 1974. Collected by C. S. Lawson (UNMB 1784, imm. ♂, skull not fully ossified, light fat, plumage fresh).

2016-037, Boulder Beach, Lake Mead NRA (Clark), 10 Oct 1974. Collected by J. Blake, prepared by G. Austin (MBM 2355 [B-1155], ♂, no fat).

*PALM WARBLER *Setophaga palmarum* (17**, 1). 2015-099, Floyd Lamb Park (Clark), 16 Oct 1974. Collected by C. S. Lawson (UNMB 1786, imm. (?) ♀, moderate fat, fresh plumage). Earliest Nevada record.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER *Setophaga virens* (4, 1). 2016-023, Corn Creek (Clark), 15 Oct 1978. NOT ENDORSED.

2016-054, Floyd Lamb Park (Clark), 8 Oct 2016. B. Zyla (P). Immature or adult female.

CANADA WARBLER *Cardellina canadensis* (5, 1). 2016-049, Floyd Lamb Park (Clark), 16–19 Sep 2016. A. Harper; B. Miller (P), D. Vogt (P), M. Meyers (P), B. Zyla (P), P. Gaffey, C. Gaffey (P), G. Lau (P, Figure 9), N. McDonal (P). Adult female.



Figure 9. Four of the five Canada Warblers recorded in Nevada have occurred in the two-week interval from 8 to 22 September. This adult female was observed from 16 to 19 September 2016 at Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs in Las Vegas (Clark County).

Photo by Garrett Lau

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea* (7, 0). 2015-073, Pahrnagat NWR (Lincoln), 19 Sep 2015. NOT ENDORSED.

NORTHERN CARDINAL *Cardinalis cardinalis* (3, 0). 2015-010, Las Vegas (Clark), 28 Dec 2014–11 Feb 2015. NOT ENDORSED. This adult male appeared to belong to one of the eastern subspecies. The extensive black mask covered the area above the bill, and the color of the crest was quite dusky, not nearing the brightness of the red breast. This would not be the case for *superbus*, the subspecies resident in Arizona, so the NBRC inferred the bird was likely an escapee from captivity.

*PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris* (15**, 1). 2015-039, Corn Creek (Clark), 27–31 Oct 1981. M. V. Mowbray. Adult male. Earliest Nevada record. Though this species was removed from the review list in 2015, older reports on file may still be reviewed.

Of the 15 records, this is the third of an adult male and the first in fall. Concerns about provenance were raised during the review, but the bird was bright in coloration and wary in behavior. Autumn vagrancy in California is the norm, and “misorientation may occur in adult birds” (Mlodinow and Hamilton 2005:178).

DICKCISSEL *Spiza americana* (11, 4). 2015-070, Floyd Lamb Park (Clark), 20 Sep 2015. M. Swink (P). Male.

2015-071, Primm (Clark), 25–27 Sep 2015. D. Vogt (P), N. McDonal (P), M. Meyers (P). Immature female, originally found by Jason K. Pietrzak.

2015-079, Corn Creek (Clark), 3 Oct 2015. G. Scyphers (P). Immature male.

2015-088, Corn Creek (Clark), 26 Oct 2015. J. Boone, D. Crowe. Age and sex undetermined.

NEVADA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2016

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