



# Records of Vermont Birds

VERMONT INSTITUTE OF NATURAL SCIENCE

## Vermont Bird Records Committee Report 1992

The Vermont Bird Records Committee met on 7 November 1992 for its yearly meeting to review rare bird reports. The committee's function is to establish guidelines for the reporting of rarities and to review and evaluate records of rarities for their acceptability by future researchers and for inclusion in the state bird list. The Committee's recommendations are followed in the publication of records in Records of Vermont Birds. The Bird Records Committee consists of the managing editor of the Records of Vermont Birds, the seasonal editors of the Records of Vermont Birds, and the regional editors for Vermont for American Birds.

The Committee and the editors of the Records of Vermont Birds express their appreciation to the many Vermont birders who report to the Records of Vermont Birds and to the birders who have taken the time and trouble to fill out detailed reports on rare species. These reports add greatly to Vermont's data base on birds. Careful recording of the details of plumage and identification are necessary.

### SPECIES FOR WHICH DETAILED REPORTS ARE REQUIRED

(Write to the Vermont Institute of Natural Science for Rare Species Documentation forms (RSD's) or for Rare Species Nesting Report forms (RNR's).

1) A documentation report is required for any species not included on the Vermont Daily Field Card and for any species significantly outside the usual dates of occurrence in Vermont.

2) In addition, RSD's are required in all seasons for:

Golden Eagle	Black-backed Woodpecker
Barn Owl	(outside the Northeast Kingdom)
Long-eared Owl	Sedge Wren
Three-toed Woodpecker	Orange-crowned Warbler
	Yellow-breasted Chat

3) RNR's are requested on the following species (which are rare nesters in Vermont) if the species is observed in the proper breeding habitat during the breeding season (exceptions or special cases follow each species name in parentheses):

- Pied-billed Grebe
- Least Bittern (except for the West Rutland Marsh, Dead Creek and Missisquoi)
- Great Egret (between 15 May and 15 July)
- Northern Shoveler
- American Wigeon
- Ring-necked Duck
- Lesser Scaup
- Osprey (if nesting evidence is observed)
- Bald Eagle (if nesting evidence is observed)

- Northern Harrier (outside the Champlain Valley)
- Cooper's Hawk (if nesting evidence is observed)
- Peregrine Falcon
- Spruce Grouse
- Sora (except the Barton River Marshes, West Rutland Marsh, Dead Creek, and Missisquoi Marshes)
- Upland Sandpiper
- Short-eared Owl
- Red-headed Woodpecker (if probable or confirmed)
- Gray Jay (outside the Northeast Kingdom)
- Loggerhead Shrike
- Grasshopper Sparrow
- Orchard Oriole (if nesting evidence observed)
- Pine Grosbeak
- Red Crossbill (if confirmed breeding)
- White-winged Crossbill (if confirmed breeding)

Bird Records Committee Members: Jeremy Coleman, Charlie Duncan, Walter Ellison, Lynn Erb, Terry Hall, Sarah Laughlin, Whitney Nichols, Blair Nikula, William Norse, Frank Oatman, Simon Perkins, Wayne Petersen, Roy Pilcher, Frederick Pratt. Editorial Staff: Judith Peterson, Julie Nicholson, Nancy Martin, Christopher Rimmer.

*Fish Crow*

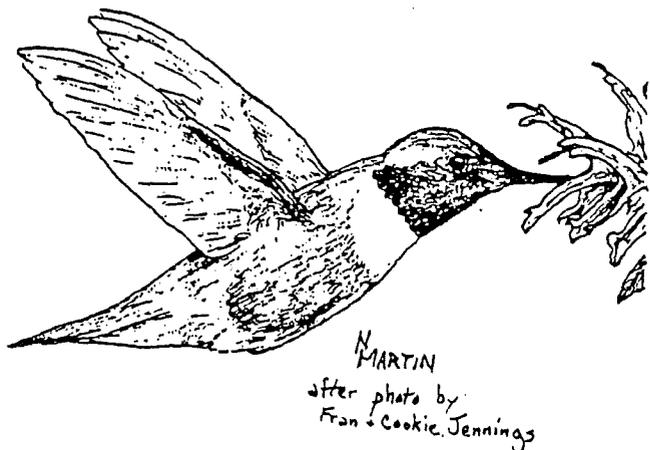


### FIRST STATE RECORDS

LAUGHING GULL (*Larus atricilla*) - one adult in breeding plumage, Barton River floodplain north of Orleans, Orleans Cty., 22 April 1990. Jon Wood, Frank Oatman. Accepted as hypothetical in 1990 pending a second independent report, now on file.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus rufus*) - one male, photographed, Jennings residence, So. Starksboro, Addison Cty., 1-9 August 1991. Francis and Corrine Jennings. Accepted in 1991 as to genus. William Baltosser, Univ. of Arkansas at Little Rock, confirmed species, May 1992.

*Rufous Hummingbird*



### NOTABLE STATE RECORDS

GREAT CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) - one immature, possible second year, north end of Lake Morey, Fairlee, Orange Cty., 13 October 1991. Walter G. Ellison, Nancy L. Martin. Tenth state record.

ROSS'S GOOSE (*Chen rossii*) - three adults, Rt. 17, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Addison, Addison Cty., 21 November 1991, Judith A. Peterson. Fourth state record.

COMMON EIDER (*Somateria mollissima*) - one adult female, at Herrick's Cove, Rockingham, Windham Cty., 28 April 1992. Ray E. Griffin, Jim Wilson, Donald B. Clark, Walter G. Ellison, Nancy L. Martin. Sixth state record.

EURASIAN WIGEON (*Anas penelope*) - two drakes; Simms Point, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 18 April 1992. David J. Hoag. Photographs. Eighth state record.

EURASIAN WIGEON (*A. penelope*) - one drake, Lewis Creek, North Ferrisburgh, Addison Cty., 7 May 1992. JoAnn D. Appleton. Ninth state record.

HARLEQUIN DUCK (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) - one first year male, on Winooski River at Pioneer St. Bridge, Montpelier, Washington Cty., 10 December 1991. Ted Gaine. Eighth state record.

COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL (*Larus ridibundus*) - one immature in first basic plumage, at Blodgett's Beach, Burlington, Chittenden Cty., 19 January 1992. George E. (Terry) Hall. Same bird observed 2 February 1992, Walter G. Ellison and Nancy L. Martin, Burlington waterfront. Second state record.

COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL (*L. ridibundus*) - one adult, basic plumage, at St. Albans Bay State Park, Franklin Cty., 11 October 1992. Scott and Mila Morrill. Third state record.

BOREAL OWL (*Aegolius funereus*) - one, at residence of Andy and Esther Skilling, Enosburg Falls, Franklin Cty., 5 March 1992. Photographed. Bill Donlon et al. Sixth state record.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax virescens*) - one adult male, singing at Stone Bridge Access, Panton, Addison Cty., 2 July 1992. Tom Fiore, Bob Machover, John Suggs, Scott Morrill. Sixth state record.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) - one immature, at Tromp's Point, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 22 September 1992. David J. Hoag. Fifth state record.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR (*O. oenanthe*) - one immature, at Ladd Point, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 7 October 1992. Richard B. Lavalley. Sixth state record. Possibly the same bird as the above but described differently in the two reports.

KENTUCKY WARBLER (*Oporornis formosus*) - one adult female, banded by Jeremy Coleman in W. Brattleboro, Windham Cty., 14 September 1990. Seventh state record.

### ACCEPTED AS HYPOTHETICAL

FISH CROW (*Corvus ossifragus*) - one, downtown Brattleboro, Windham Cty., 8 April 1992. Identified by vocalization. Thomas Maloney, John Dunn. Would be first state record. (First state records require independent documentation by two observers.)

### RARE NESTING SPECIES

OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus*) - two adults tending a crude nest, Bristol Pond, Bristol, Addison Cty., 22 July 1992. Judith Peterson, Emma Raymond. Confirmed nesting. Probably the first attempt by this pair at nesting.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) - two adults and one immature in location where adults had been seen in May, Market Road near Lake St., Bridport, Addison Cty., 5 August 1992. Judith Peterson, Walter Borden. Confirmed nesting.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (*Ammodramus savaannarum*) - one singing male, one adult carrying food, Peet Road, Cornwall, Addison Cty., 22 June 1992. Judith Peterson, Emma Raymond.

### OTHER RARE SPECIES DOCUMENTATION

LITTLE BLUE HERON (*Egretta caerulea*) - one immature, Herrick's Cove, Rockingham, Windham Cty., 26 July 1992. William J. Norse.

TUNDRA SWAN (*Cygnus columbianus*) - one immature, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., 1-8 April 1991. Whitney Nichols. TUNDRA SWAN (*C. columbianus*) - two adults and four immatures, Lake Champlain off Delta Park, Colchester, Chittenden Cty., 3 November 1991. Glen and Elizabeth Wood.

TUNDRA SWAN (*C. columbianus*) - one, Allen's Marsh, Westminster, 10 and 11 April and at Herrick's Cove, Rockingham, 15 April 1992. Ray E. Griffin, Donald B. Clark et al.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (*Bucephala islandica*) - one adult male, Burlington waterfront, Burlington, Chittenden Cty., 15 December 1991. Nancy L. Martin.

RUDDY DUCK (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) - one drake, Simms Point, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 14-18 April 1992. David J. Hoag. Photograph.

RUDDY DUCK (*O. jamaicensis*) - one female, McCuen Slang, Addison, Addison Cty., 21 May 1992. Susan Wetmore, Mary Lou Webster, Helen Brokaw, Betty Barbarise.

GOLDEN EAGLE (*Aguila chrysaetos*) - one immature, banding station, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty., 25 October 1990. Rodney Olsen.

GOLDEN EAGLE (*A. chrysaetos*) - one sub-adult or adult, banding station, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty., 26 October 1990. Rodney Olsen.

GOLDEN EAGLE (*A. chrysaetos*) - one immature, Smith Haven hawk watch site, South Londonderry, Windham Cty., 23 October 1991. William J. Norse.

GOLDEN EAGLE (*A. chrysaetos*) - one adult, Brownell Mt., Williston, Chittenden Cty., 29 October 1991. Peter C. Riley.

GOLDEN EAGLE (*A. chrysaetos*) - one immature, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Addison, Addison Cty., 25 and 30 November 1991. Willard R. Beecher.

GYRFALCON (*Falco rusticolus*) - one adult, gray morph, Slang Road, Panton, Addison Cty., 23 November 1991. Walter G. Ellison, Nancy L. Martin.

GYRFALCON (*F. rusticolus*) - one, gray morph, Pleasant Valley Rd., Rockingham, Windham Cty., 15 December 1991. Douglas P. Kibbe.

GYRFALCON (*F. rusticolus*) - one, white morph, junction of Otter Creek and Lemon Fair River, Weybridge, Addison Cty., 15 December 1991. Wayne Scott, Barbara Otsuka, Alan Coulter, Barbara Brosnan, John Chamberlain.

GYRFALCON (*F. rusticolus*) - one adult, gray morph, Colchester Point, Colchester, Chittenden Cty., 29 December 1991. Christopher Fichtel, Kate Barnhart.

GYRFALCON (*F. rusticolus*) - one adult, black morph, South Burlington landfill, South Burlington, Chittenden Cty., 1 January 1992. Walter G. Ellison, Nancy L. Martin.

GYRFALCON (*F. rusticolus*) - one, gray morph, Blodgett's Beach, Burlington, Chittenden Cty., 5 February 1992. Judith A. Peterson, George E. (Terry) Hall.

GYRFALCON (*F. rusticolus*) - one, gray morph, Page Rd. Whiting, Addison Cty., 14 February 1992. Judith A. Peterson, Emma Raymond.

GYRFALCON (*F. rusticolus*) - one, gray morph, Weybridge, Addison Cty., 21 March 1992. C. J. Frankiewicz, Jim Pennington.

LARGE FALCON (*Falco species*) - one, presumably gray morph gyrfalcon, seen in company of white morph gyrfalcon in Weybridge, Addison Cty., 15 December 1991. Wayne Scott, Barbara Otsuka, Alan Coulter, Barbara Brosnan.

LARGE FALCON (*Falco species*) - one, peregrine or dark morph gyrfalcon, Lewis Creek, North Ferrisburgh, Addison Cty., 16 December 1991. JoAnn D. Appleton.

SPRUCE GROUSE (*Dendragapus canadensis*) - one adult male, Moose Bog, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., 14 June 1992. Karl David.

SANDHILL CRANE (*Grus canadensis*) - one, upper Meadows near Connecticut River, Rockingham, Windham Cty., 24 and 25 April 1992.

Wayne Amsden, Ray E. Griffin, Donald B. Clark.

SANDHILL CRANE (*G. canadensis*) - one, West Road, Panton, Addison Cty., 29 July 1992. Bill Krueger, Charles Mitchell.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (*Limosa haemastica*) - two, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Addison, Addison Cty., 18 October 1991. Walter G. Ellison, Nancy L. Martin.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (*L. haemastica*) - three, Lake Rd., Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., 23 October 1991. Paul Wiczorek.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (*L. haemastica*) - two, Blanchard Beach, Burlington, Chittenden Cty., 23 October 1991. Gilbert Bolsterle.

RED KNOT (*Calidris canutus*) - three adults in breeding plumage, Nichols' Point, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 5 June 1992. David J. Hoag. Four adults present 10 June. Photographs.

RED PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) - one immature, Lake Bomoseen, Castleton, Rutland Cty., 9 November 1991. Walter G. Ellison, Nancy L. Martin.

CASPIAN TERN (*Sterna caspia*) - two in alternate plumage, Missisquoi Bay, Highgate Springs, Franklin Cty., 3 August 1992. Mark LaBarr.

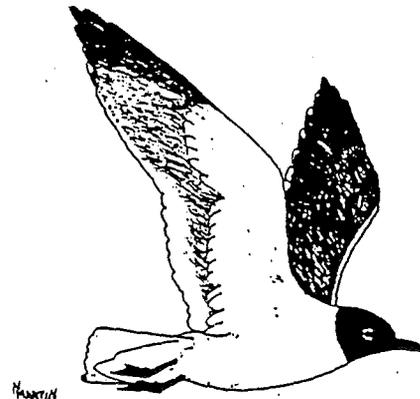
BARN OWL (*Tyto alba*) - one, at McBride residence, Barre Town, Washington Cty., 2 July 1992. Daniel and Sue McBride. Feather attached to report.

NORTHERN HAWK OWL (*Surnia ulula*) - one, E. Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., 12 November 1991. Deborah C. Davis.

NORTHERN HAWK OWL (*S. ulula*) - one, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty., 8 December 1991. Richard B. Lavallee.

GREAT GRAY OWL (*Strix nebulosa*) - one, Eagle Point, North Derby, Orleans Cty., 23 February 1992. Brian Tweed. Photographed.

Laughing Gull



RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes carolinus*) - one adult, Bishop Road, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., early November 1991. Margaret Libby.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER (*M. carolinus*) - one adult female, Elm St. Extension, Pittsford, Rutland Cty., 3 March 1992. Susan Wetmore et al.

VARIED THRUSH (*Ixoreus naevius*) - one male, Pinewood Ave., Springfield, Windsor Cty., 29 December 1991 and 5 January 1992. Joan Kraft.

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*) - one adult, banded at Bragdon Nature Preserve, Woodstock, Windsor Cty., 22 May 1992. Christopher Rimmer, Nancy L. Martin et al. Photograph.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (*Oporornis agilis*) - one, probably adult female or immature male, Delta Park, Colchester, Chittenden Cty., 5 September 1992. Scott Morrill.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (*Icteria virens*) - one hatch-year, banded at Bragdon Nature Preserve, Woodstock, Windsor Cty., 10 September 1991. Ted Gaine et al. Photograph.

## OUT OF SEASON REPORTS

PIED-BILLED GREBE (*Podilymbus podiceps*) - one, Lake Champlain, North Hero, Grand Isle Cty., 15 December 1991.

PIED-BILLED GREBE (*P. podiceps*) - one, Connecticut River, above Vernon Dam, Vernon, Windham Cty., 5 January 1992. Thomas Maloney, John Dunn.

GREATER SCAUP (*Aythya marila*) - one drake in eclipse plumage, West Shore, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 18-19 July 1992. David J. Hoag, Photographs.

BUFFLEHEAD (*Bucephala albeola*) - one drake in eclipse plumage, West Shore, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 18 July 1992. David J. Hoag.

DUNLIN (*Calidris alpina*) - two in transition plumage, Howell's Pond, Arlington, Bennington Cty., 18 May 1991. Ruth Stewart, Barbara Powers.

EASTERN PHOEBE (*Sayornis phoebe*) - one, So. Pomfret Rd., Woodstock, Windsor Cty., 1 December 1991. Carol Powell.

EASTERN PHOEBE (*S. phoebe*) - one, Mountain Rd. at Rt. 125 Cornwall, Addison Cty., 15 December 1991. Amy L. Buckley, Suzannah Liepmann.

PALM WARBLER (*Dendroica palmarum*) - Cabot Greenhouse, Cabot, Washington Cty., 16-23 December 1991. Gerson Katz, Ken Elmer, Mark Rahill.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) - one adult male in basic plumage, Lyndon, Caledonia Cty., 14 and 19 November 1991. Donald H. Miller.

RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) - one male, Dundas residence, Bennington, Bennington Cty., 26 November and 23 December 1991. Bonita and Richard Dundas.

RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE (*P. erythrophthalmus*) - one male, Barnumville, Manchester, Bennington Cty., 19 December 1991. Nancy L. Martin, Julia M. Nicholson, Elizabeth F. Gilbert.

RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE (*P. erythrophthalmus*) - one male, Hathorn

residence, Woodstock, Windsor Cty., 27 December 1991. Gary Stansfield, Laura Hathorn. Bird remained at feeder until March 1992.

CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina*) - one immature, Smith Haven, South Londonderry, Windham Cty., November 1991 thru 13 January 1992. William J. Norse.

CHIPPING SPARROW (*S. passerina*) - one, Vershire Village, Orange Cty., 6 December 1991. David Merker.

FIELD SPARROW (*Spizella pusilla*) - one immature, Cottage Grove Rd., Burlington, Chittenden Cty., 15 December 1991. Walter G. Ellison, Nancy L. Martin, Joyce Miller.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus carolinus*) - six, Ranney Farm, Dummerston, Windham Cty., 16 December 1989. Henry Lappen, Douglas U. Wilson, Paul Grout.

NORTHERN ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*) - one male, possibly first year, Case Parkway, Burlington, Chittenden Cty., 15 December 1991. Frank Boyle, Daniel H. Crook.

## UNUSUAL LOCATION

GRAY JAY (*Perisoreus canadensis*) - one adult, near intersection of Rts. 107 and 14, N. Royalton, Windsor Cty., 19, 20, 21 and 26 December 1991. Jeffrey Slack.

## EXOTICS, HYBRIDS AND OTHER SIGHTINGS

RED-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo jamaicensis*) - one adult dark morph, Jct. Rts. 73 and 73-A, Orwell, Addison Cty., 14 October 1991. Walter G. Ellison, Nancy L. Martin.

RED BISHOP (*Euplectes orix*) - one Delta Park, Colchester, Chittenden Cty., 20 November 1991. Frank Boyle. Photograph.

Please note the following correction to the Vermont Bird Records Committee Report 1991: Under Notable State Records the GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE was observed by C. J. Frankiewicz on 11 October (not December) 1990.

Gray Jay

