

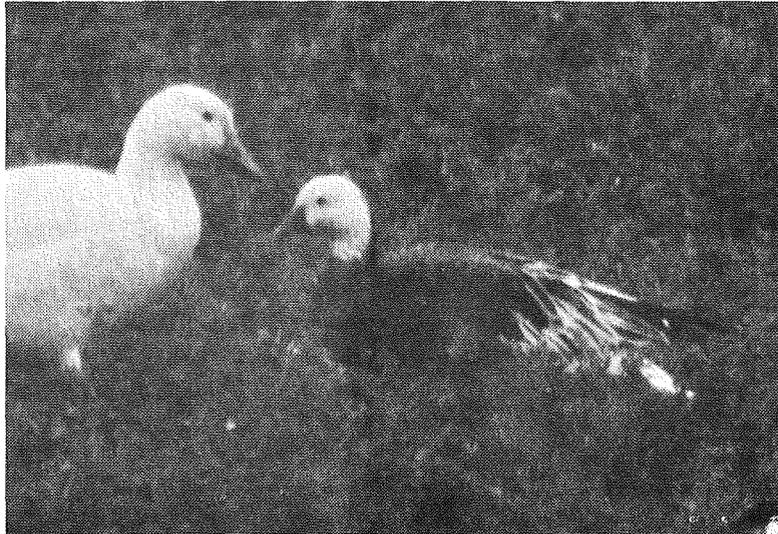


# Records of Vermont Birds

VERMONT INSTITUTE OF NATURAL SCIENCE

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## Vermont Bird Records Committee Report 1995



*Ross' Goose – blue morph*

*David A. Hoag*

The Vermont Bird Records Committee met on 4 November 1995 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 *Records of Vermont Birds*, the seasonal editors of *Records of Vermont Birds*, and the regional editors for Vermont for *American Birds*.

The Committee and the editors of *Records of Vermont Birds* express their appreciation to the many Vermont birders who report to *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 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 is observed)  
 Pine Grosbeak  
 Red Crossbill (if confirmed breeding)  
 White-winged Crossbill (if confirmed breeding)  
 Mute Swan

### Bird Records Committee Members

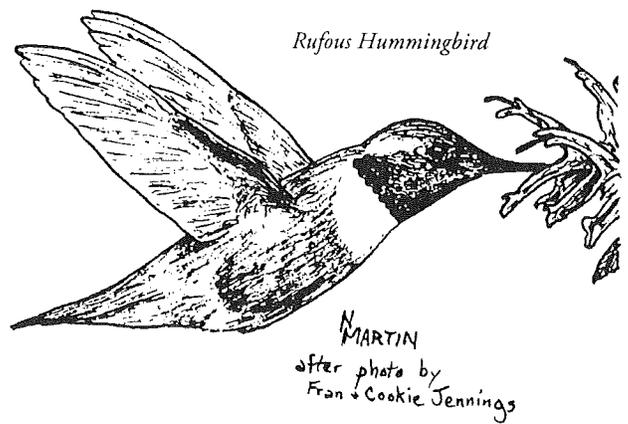
Walter Ellison, George E. (Terry) Hall, Sarah Laughlin, Nancy Martin, Scott Morrill, Whitney Nichols, Blair Nikula, Frank Oatman, Simon Perkins, Wayne Petersen, Frederick Pratt, Susanne Wetmore.  
 Editorial Staff: Judith Peterson, Steve Faccio, Julie Nicholson, Christopher Rimmer.

### NOTABLE STATE RECORDS, SECOND THRU TENTH

ROSS' GOOSE (*Anser rossii*) – one "blue phase" dark morph, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Rt.17, Addison, Addison Cty. 16 & 19 October 1995. Theodore G. Murin, David J. Hoag et al. Seventh state record for the species and first documented state record for the blue phase. Photographs.

ROSS' GOOSE (*A. rossii*) – one white morph adult, differentiated by rust color on belly, Dead Creek WMA, Rt.17, Addison, Addison Cty., 18 & 20 October 1995. Judith A. Peterson, T.G. Murin, D.J. Hoag. Eighth state record. Photographs.

ROSS' GOOSE (*A. rossii*) – one white morph adult, no rusty staining, Dead Creek WMA, Rt.17, Addison, Addison Cty., 19,20 & 24 October 1995. T.G. Murin, Craig Provost, D.J. Hoag, Elizabeth F. Gilbert. Ninth state record. Photographs.



ROSS' GOOSE (*A. rossii*) – one white morph adult, two tone bill color, Dead Creek WMA, Rt. 17, Addison, Addison Cty., 22 October 1995. D.J. Hoag et al. Tenth state record.

FORSTER'S TERN (*Sterna forsteri*) – one adult, basic plumage, Shelburne Bay, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., 22 October 1995. S.W. Morrill. Fourth state record.

KING EIDER (*Somateria spectabilis*) – one immature male, Champlain Bridge, Addison Cty., 23 December 1994. George E. (Terry) Hall, Ruth Reames, Scott W. Morrill. Sixth state record.

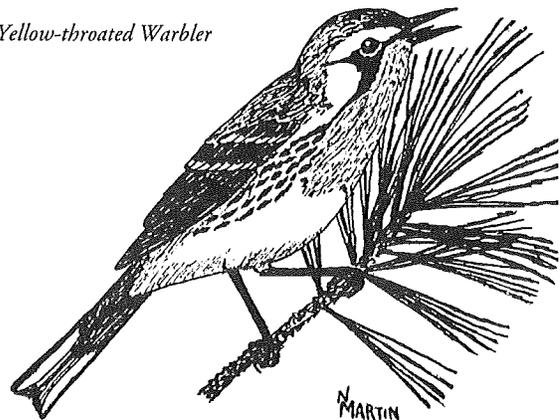
HARLEQUIN DUCK (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) – one male and one female, Lake Champlain, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., 5-8 May 1995. Jo-Ann D. Appleton, T.G. Murin, S.W. Morrill, Tenth State Record.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus rufus*) – one male, Elijah's Place, Glover, Orleans Cty., 19 August 1994. Wayne H. Alexander, Martha P. Alexander. Second state record.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*S. rufus*) – one male, River Road, West Arlington, Bennington Cty., 27-28 July 1995. Cornelia S. Chapin, Charles Chapin. Third state record.

SELASPHORUS SP. – one male, West Shore Road, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty., July thru 10 September 1995. D.J. Hoag, Arthur and Dana Himpele. Photographs.

*Yellow-throated Warbler*



SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*) – one, Lane Road, Dorset, Bennington Cty., 8 November 1994. E.F. Gilbert. Second state record.

SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*) – one, Brandon Training School, Brandon, Rutland Cty., 1 April 1995. Frederick A. Pratt, Eleanor B. Pratt. Presumably the same individual accepted as a first state record at the 1994 Vt. Bird Records Committee Meeting. The bird was recorded in the same area from October 1994 thru late April 1995.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) – one, Woodbine Road, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., 23 May 1995. Jacquelyn P. Marlow, Donna Preuss. Eighth state record.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Dendroica dominica*) – one, River St., Woodstock, Windsor Cty., 23–24 November 1994. Don & Pat Hesterberg, Rosalyn & Ned Mast. Eighth state record.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW (*Spizella pallida*) – one singing male, Jct. Rts. 22A & 125, Bridport, Addison Cty., 27 May thru 1 June 1995. E.F. Gilbert, F.A. Pratt, E.B. Pratt et al. Fifth state record.

## OTHER REPORTS OF RARE SPECIES

LITTLE BLUE HERON (*Egretta caerulea*) – one adult, non-breeding plumage, estuary of Connecticut River, Newbury, Orange Cty., 5 September 1995. Arthur Mudge, Rebecca Mudge Selzer.

TUNDRA OR TRUMPETER SWAN (*Cygnus* sp.) – two adults, Greenbush Road, Ferrisburgh, Addison Cty., 18 March 1995. T.G. Murin.

EURASIAN WIGEON (*Anas penelope*) – one male, Hospital Creek, Addison, Addison Cty., 7–8 April 1995. T.G. Murin, G.E. Hall et al.

EURASIAN WIGEON (*A. penelope*) – one male, Lake Carmi State Park, Franklin, Franklin Cty., 19–20 April 1995. Bill Donlon.

GOLDEN EAGLE (*Aquila chrysaetos*) – one adult, Moose Bog, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., 29 September 1995. S.W. Morrill, Jan Andersen.

GYRFALCON (*Falco rusticolus*) – one, gray phase, Route 120, North Sheldon, Franklin Cty., 22 January 1995. B. Donlon..

SANDHILL CRANE (*Grus canadensis*) – one adult, Brandon, Rutland Cty., 26 August 1995. Susanne Wetmore, George Wetmore.

CASPIAN TERN (*Sterna caspia*) – one adult, alternate plumage, Nichols Point, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 4 May 1995. D.J. Hoag.

LONG-EARED OWL (*Asio otus*) – one adult, two to four young, Mt. Independence, Orwell, Addison Cty., 14 & 28 May 1995. Bruce Hedin.

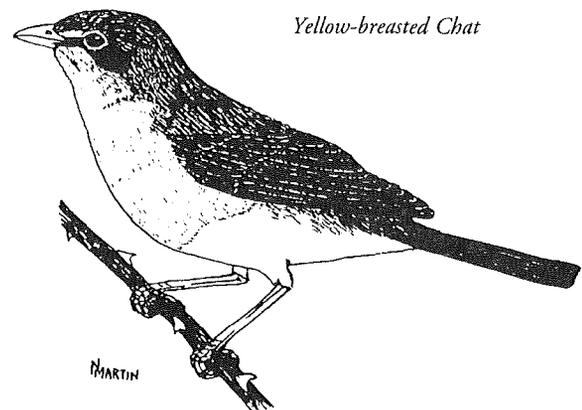
VARIED THRUSH (*Ixoreus naevius*) – one adult male, Barnet Road, East Peacham, Caledonia Cty., 2–11 March 1995. Charles Browne, David & Marilyn Magnus, S.W. Morrill.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (*Oporornis agilis*) – one, first fall, South Londonderry, Windham Cty., 18 September 1995. William J. Norse.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (*Icteria virens*) – one male, Water Tower Road, Enosburg Falls, Franklin Cty., 25 May thru 13 June 1995. B. Donlon, Dwight Cargill, C. Provost, T.G. Murin.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (*I. virens*) – one male, West Rutland Marsh, Rutland Cty., 2 June 1995. Roy W. Pilcher.

DICKCISSEL (*Spiza americana*) – one singing male, Jct. Rt. 22A and Town Line Road, Bridport/Addison, Addison Cty., 20 May thru 30 June 1995. Kenneth J. Brock, Scott F. Jackson, E.B. Pratt, F.A. Pratt et al. Photographs.



*Yellow-breasted Chat*

## RARE NESTING SPECIES

NORTHERN HARRIER (*Circus cyaneus*) – one female and two fledged immatures, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 7–8 August 1995. D.J. Hoag. Photographs.

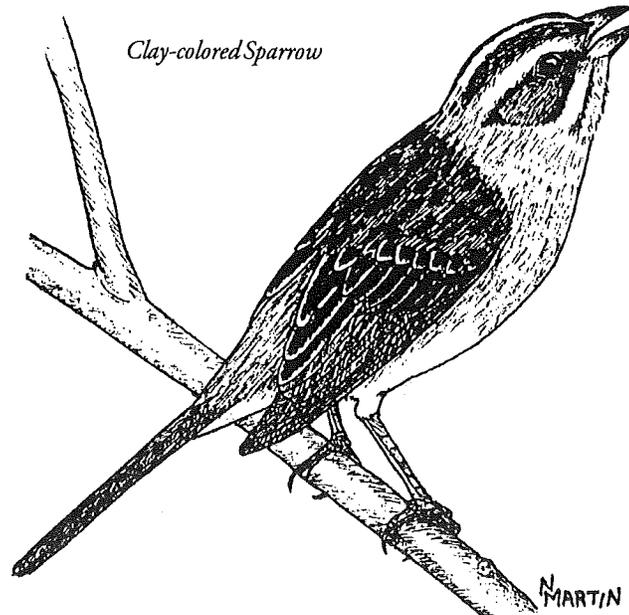
SPRUCE GROUSE (*Dendragapus canadensis*) – one adult and four chicks, Wenlock Wildlife Management Area, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., 28 June 1995. R.W. Pilcher. Photographs.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER (*Dendroica castanea*) – one male and one female feeding nestlings, Brighton State Park, Brighton, Essex Cty., 27–29 June 1995. R.W. Pilcher. Photograph.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL (*Loxia leucoptera*) – one male, one female, two young in nest, Todd Hill, Canaan, Essex Cty., 22 February 1995. Charles H. Willey, Louis Marcessault.

## OUT-OF-SEASON REPORTS

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) – one immature, Young Island, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 18 December 1994. D.J. Hoag et al.



AMERICAN WIGEON (*Anas americana*) – two males, one female, Shelburne Bay, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., 18 December 1994. T.G. Murin, Margaret Fowle, Ernie Buford.

MERLIN (*Falco columbarius*) – one, probably a female, Rt.106, Woodstock, Windsor Cty., 27 December 1994. G.E. Hall, Scott Davison.

RED KNOT (*Calidris canutus*) – nine, Nichols Point, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 3 June 1995. D.J. Hoag. Photographs.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (*Calidris fuscicollis*) – one, Slang Road, Panton, Addison Cty., 19–20 May 1995. T.G. Murin, G.E. Hall, J.D. Appleton, S.W. Morrical.

EASTERN PHOEBE (*Sayornis phoebe*) – one, North Ferrisburgh, Addison Cty., 2 January 1995. J.D. Appleton.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (*Regulus calendula*) – one, Rutland, Rutland Cty., 1 January 1995. Kenneth F. Ward.

AMERICAN PIPIT (*Anthus rubescens*) – two, Shelburne Bay, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., 18 December 1994. T.G. Murin, M. Fowle, E. Buford.

PINE WARBLER (*Dendroica pinus*) – one, Bellevue Rd., Rutland, Rutland Cty., 1 January 1995. K.F. Ward.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT (*Geothlypis trichas*) – one adult female, Shelburne Farms, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., 18 December 1994. Peter Williams, John Lloyd, Catharine Cooper-Ellis.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) – one male, spring plumage, Wiseman residence, South Lincoln, Addison Cty., 12 February 1995. Capt. Harry F. Wiseman.

FOX SPARROW (*Passerella iliaca*) – one, Munger St., Middlebury, Addison Cty., 31 January thru 8 February 1995. Marjorie B. Nelson, Janet Nelson.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) – one immature, Basin Harbor Road at Market Road, Bridport, Addison Cty., 17–18 February 1995. J.A. Peterson.

### UNUSUAL LOCATION

BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER (*Picoides arcticus*) – one male, Enosburg Falls, Franklin Cty., 12 May 1995. B. Donlon.

GRAY JAY (*Perisoreus canadensis*) – one, Winhall Hollow Road, S. Londonderry, Windham Cty., 16 December 1994. W.J. Norse.

### HYBRIDS, ESCAPES, SUB-SPECIES

EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH (*Carduelis carduelis*) – one, Alburg Springs, Grand Isle Cty., 3–4 May 1995. Joanne Mapes. Photograph. Origin uncertain.

### TABLED PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION

SANDHILL CRANE (*Grus canadensis*) – two, Tabor Road, West Swanton, Franklin Cty., 7–8 November 1994. Norbert Blaskowski, George Gilbert, Al Zelley.