The Vermont Bird Records Committee met on 6 November 1993 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
   - Barn Owl
   - Long-eared Owl
   - Three-toed Woodpecker
   - Black-backed Woodpecker
   - Sedge Wren
   - Orange-crowned Warbler
   - Yellow-breasted Chat
   - Northern Shoveler
   - American Wigeon
   - Ring-necked Duck
   - Lesser Scap
   - 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)

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 Scap
   - 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:


YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER

FIRST STATE NESTING RECORDS

MUTE SWAN (cygnus olor) - two adults, three juveniles, Lake Arrowhead, Georgia, Franklin Cty., 8 April thru 26 October 1993. Meeri Zetterstrom, Richard Ferro, Jr. Photograph.

PALM WARBLER (Dendroica palmarum) - male and female carrying food to a nest site, Yellow Bogs, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., 6 June 1993. Brett Engstrom, David Desanté, Ed Good, Elliot Burch.

NOTABLE STATE RECORDS, SECOND THRU TENTH


COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL (L. ridibundus) - one adult, basic plumage, probably the same bird as the above record, same location, 23 January 1993. C.J. Frankiewicz, Rhoda H. Horne, George E. (Terry) Hall, Betty Rist Jillson.


NORTHERN GANNET (M. bassanus) - one immature, St. Albans Bay, St. Albans, Franklin Cty., 15 October 1992. R.B. Lavallee. Tenth state record.


EURASIAN WIGEON (A. penelope) - one adult male, possibly the same bird as in the previous record, Rt. 74 at Lemon Fair River, Shoreham, Addison Cty., 17 April 1993. Scott W. Morrical.


ACCEPTED AS HYPOTHETICAL

PAINTED BUNTING (Passerina ciris) - two, male and female, seen on a porch railing, Danby, Rutland Cty., 11 & 13 May 1993. Karl & Winifred Droge. Would be a first state record but lacks a second independent report. The two painted buntings reported by Rosemary Magyari in Winhall, 13 May 1993 might not have been the same birds and thus her report does not confirm the original sighting.

OTHER REPORTS OF RARE SPECIES


RED PHALAROPE (Phalaropus fulicaria) - one, Shelburne Bay, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., 19 September 1993. G.E. Hall.

RED PHALAROPE (P. fulicaria) - one, apparently same bird as above, same location, same date but later in the day. S.W. Morrical.


HUDSONIAN GODWIT (L. haemastica) - one, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., 1 September 1993. D.J. Hoag.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (L. haemastica) - one, East Creek WMA, Orwell, Addison Cty., 13 October 1993. J.A. Peterson.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (L. haemastica) - one, East Creek WMA, Orwell, Addison Cty., 15 October 1993. S.W. Morrical & G.E. Hall. Probably same bird as previous record.


HUDSONIAN GODWIT (L. haemastica) - one, Stone Bridge Access, Dead Creek WMA, Panton, Addison Cty., 19 October 1993. John D. Marsh.


GYRFALCON (F. rusticolus) - one gray morph, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty., 27 March 1993. T.G. Murin, Andrea Ladshaw.
GYRFALCON (F. rusticolus) - one, possibly immature white morph, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty., 2 April 1993. T.G. Murin, Christopher McBride, Susan Spackman.


ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (V. celata) - one, Searsburg, Bennington Cty., 30 September 1993. N.L. Martin.

RARE NESTING SPECIES

COOPER'S HAWK (Accipiter cooperii) - one adult female feeding three young in the nest, Brush Hill, Stowe, Lamoille Cty., 7 July thru 4 August 1992. Elizabeth Kellogg.


WILSON'S WARBLER (Wilsonia pusilla) - one male and one female seen together, Yellow Bogs, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., 6 June 1993. B. Engstrom, D. DeSante, E. Burch, E. Good. Accepted as possible nesting.

OUT-OF-SEASON REPORTS


UNUSUAL LOCATION


HYBRIDS, RELEASES, SUB-SPECIES


CANADA GOOSE, Richardson's race (Branta canadensis minima) - one Rt 17, Dead Creek WMA, Addison, Addison Cty., 24 October 1992. T.G. Murin, C. McBride, A. Ladshaw. Accepted as to species but not as to race. There are at least 5 races of this species smaller than the nominate race.

MUTE SWAN (Cygnus olor) - two, Shelburne Bay, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., 27 July 1993. T.G. Murin. Discovered that they had been released.


Northern Wheatear