

VERMONT BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

2007 DECISIONS

FIRST STATE RECORDS

BARNACLE GOOSE (Branta leucopsis) - one adult, 25 & 28 March 2007, banks of Connecticut River upstream of Vernon Dam, Vernon, Windham Cty. Terrance M. Wright, Dwight L. Cargill, Chris Petrak, Taj Shottland. Photographs. Four prior reports of this species dated 5/90,4/96,10/96, and 10/98 are on file, all accepted as "origin unknown". Other Records Committees in New England are now accepting Barnacle Geese as wild birds if they pass through at standard migration times in the company of other migrating geese and if there is no evidence that they were captive.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT (Limosa limosa) – one, 29,30 April 2007, Creek Road, West Salisbury, Addison Cty., Patricia Folsom, Carl Bates, Neal Harrington, Bill Martin, Nancy Perlee, Warren King, Hector Galbraith and m.ob. Photographs.

LEWIS'S WOODPECKER (Melanerpes lewis) – one adult, 6-8 June 2007, Kate St., Lyndonville, Caledonia Cty., Paul Therrien, Rose LaPoint. Photographs.

FIRST STATE NESTING RECORDS

BALD EAGLE (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) – an adult pair constructed nest, laid at least one egg, hatched chick in both 2006 and 2007. In both years the chick was predated or died prior to fledging. Herrick's Upper Meadows, Rockingham, Windham Cty., H. Galbraith, C. Petrak, Don Clark. Photographs.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT (Phasianus colchicus) – one hen with many precocial young, 8 September 2007, West Rd., Panton, Addison Cty., Thomas Ford-Hutchinson, Mike Lester. Photograph.

SANDHILL CRANE (Grus canadensis) - adult pair nested and hatched one chick in 2005, 2006 and 2007. Only the chick in 2007 survived to fledge. Addison Cty., E.J. Elithorpe, Randy and Cathy Durand, Mark and Melanie Backus, Theodore G. Murin, Steve Parren. Photographs.

NOTABLE STATE RECORDS, SECOND THRU TENTH

CAACKLING GOOSE (Branta hutchinsii) – one, as to species only, 3 October 2006, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., H. Galbraith. Fourth State Record.

CAACKLING GOOSE (B.hutchinsii) – one, 15 October 2006, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Addison, Addison Cty., T.M. Wright, D.L. Cargill. Photograph. Fifth State Record. Although subspecific identity was suggested, the Committee only accepted the record at the level of species.

TUFTED DUCK (Aythya fuligula) – one adult male, 25 February 2007, Colchester causeway, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty., Allan Strong, T.G. Murin. Eighth State Record.

TUFTED DUCK (A.fuligula) – one adult male, 5 March 2007, Allan Point, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty., Roger J. Masse. Ninth State Record. Possibly the same individual as in the previous record.

TUFTED DUCK (A.fuligula) – one adult male, 31 March 2007, Champlain Bridge, West Addison, Addison Cty., T.G. Murin, Steve Antell, Nancy Brown, Henry Wilton. Tenth State Record.

KING EIDER (Somateria spectabilis) – one male, first winter plumage, 11-17 November 2006, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., David J. Hoag, Richard B. Lavalley, Denny Abbott. Illustrations. Tenth State Record.

LONG-TAILED JAEGER (Stercorarius longicaudus) – one adult in breeding plumage, 27 September 2007, Charlotte Town Beach, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., T.G. Murin, R.B. Lavalley. Seventh State Record.

THREE-TOED WOODPECKER (Picoides tridactylus) – one male, 9 December 2006, Moose Bog Inlet, Wenlock WMA, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., T.G. Murin, Rosalind Renfrew, Nate Zalik. Photographs. Seventh State Record.

THREE-TOED WOODPECKER (P. tridactylus) – one male, 14 January 2007, Moose Bog, Wenlock WMA, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., Henry Trombley. Disk. Eighth State Record. Possibly the same individual as in the previous report.

PAINTED BUNTING (Passerina ciris) – one male, 4 June 2007, Blush Hill, Waterbury, Washington Cty., Allan Thompson. Third State Record.

OTHER RSD'S ACCEPTED

GREAT CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax carbo) – one adult, 21 April 2007, Connecticut River, Vernon, Windham Cty., H. Galbraith.

LEAST BITTERN (Ixobrychus exilis) – two males, 7 July 2007, Vernon, Windham Cty., H. Galbraith.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (Egretta caerulea) – one adult, 20 July 2007, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., T.M. Wright. Photograph.

EURASIAN GREEN-WINGED TEAL (Anas crecca crecca) – one adult male, 9-10 April 2007, Herrick's Cove, Rockingham, Windham Cty., H.Galbraith, D.Clark, T.Schottland. Photograph.

COMMON EIDER (Somateria mollissima) – one female, 21 October 2006, Thompson's Point, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., A. Strong.

COMMON EIDER (S. mollissima) – one first winter male, 5 November 2006, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., D.J. Hoag.

HARLEQUIN DUCK (Histrionicus histrionicus) – one adult male, 22 November 2006, Shelburne Point, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., T.M. Wright, D.L. Cargill, T.G. Murin, R.B. Lavallee. Photographs.

HARLEQUIN DUCK (H. histrionicus) – one male, 18 January 2007, Shelburne Point, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., H. Trombley, Bruce McPherson. Possibly the same individual as in the previous record.

BLACK VULTURE (Coragyps atratus) – one, 20 May 2006, Buckner Nature Preserve, West Haven, Rutland Cty., Michael Blust, Jim Graves.

BLACK VULTURE (C. atratus) – two, 30 September 2007, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., T. Schottland, D. Clark, Kai Reed. Photograph.

BLACK VULTURE (C. atratus) – two, 17 April 2007, Vernon, Windham Cty., H. Galbraith.

BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER (Picoides arcticus) – one male, 27 May 2007, Long Pond, Greensboro, Orleans Cty., Dorothy Allard, Bill Martin. Photograph.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (Vermivora celata) – one, 17 May 2007, Pittsford, Rutland Cty., Andrea Burke.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (V. celata celata) – one, 23 May 2007, Dorset Heights, South Burlington, Chittenden Cty., Scott Morrical.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (Icteria virens) – one, 20 September 2006, Charlotte Park, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., T.M. Wright, D.L. Cargill.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (I. virens) – one, 30 July 2007, Tyler Hill Rd., Vernon, Windham Cty., Judy Farley.

DICKCISSEL (Spiza americana) – one, 28 May thru 4 July 2007, Isle La Motte, Grand Isle Cty., John and Betty Abair. Photograph.

NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW (Ammodramus nelsoni) – one, 4 October 2006, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., C. Petrak, H. Galbraith.

NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW (A. nelsoni) – one adult, 30 September 2007, Brilyea Access, Dead Creek WMA, Addison, Addison Cty., T.G. Murin, Craig Provost, Sally Fellows, Terry Marron, James Osborne.

NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW (A. nelsoni) – one, 1 October 2007, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., H. Galbraith.

NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW (A. nelsoni) – one, 11 October 2007, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., H. Galbraith.

DARK-EYED JUNCO (Junco hyemalis oregonus) - Oregon population – one adult male, 4-5 March 2007, Culver Hill Rd., Middlesex, Washington Cty., Susan Darrah, Dennis Darrah, Liz Scharf. Photographs.

NOTABLE NESTING RECORDS

FISH CROW (Corvus ossifragus) – one nesting pair plus three other adults, 2-4 May 2007; one young bird seen in the nest, 8 June 2007, Burlington Country Club golf course, Burlington, Chittenden Cty., T.G. Murin, A. Strong. Map.

CERULEAN WARBLER (Dendroica cerulea) – two adults, male and female, building a nest, 27 May 2007, Little Brigham Hill, Colchester, Chittenden Cty., T.G. Murin, S. Parren, Rick Renaud, Dan Renaud, Nate Zalick, Travis Collingwood.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL (Loxia leucoptera) – one female carrying nesting material, 23 January 2007, Moose Bog, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., T.G. Murin.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL (L. leucoptera) – one female carrying nesting material, 24 March 2007, Moose Bog, Ferdinand, Essex Cty., S. Antell.

OUT-OF-SEASON REPORTS

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax auritus) – one, 11 January 2007, Lake Bomoseen, Castleton, Rutland Cty., Roy Pilcher.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER (Pluvialis dominica) – one, 24 May 2007, Brilyea Access, Dead Creek WMA, Addison, Addison Cty., Ronald Payne.

DUNLIN/CURLEW SANDPIPER (Calidris sp) – one, 30 December 2006, Hinesburg, Chittenden Cty., Paul Wiczorek.

EASTERN PHOEBE (Sayornis phoebe) – one, 17 December 2006, Tromp's Point, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., D.J. Hoag.

EASTERN PHOEBE (S. phoebe) – one, 9 January 2007, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., T. Schottland.

MARSH WREN (Cistothorus palustris) – two, 18 November 2006, West Rutland Marsh, West Rutland, Rutland Cty., R. Pilcher, Susan Elliott et al.

MARSH WREN (C. palustris) – one, 22 November 2006, Brilyea Access, Dead Creek WMA, Addison, Addison Cty., T.M. Wright, D.L. Cargill. Photograph.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (Regulus calendula) – three, Route 100, 16 December 2006, Londonderry, Windham Cty., Julia M. Nicholson, Elizabeth F. Gilbert.

EASTERN TOWHEE (Pipilo erythrophthalmus) – one male, 9 January 2007, Messer Hill Rd., Plymouth, Windsor Cty., Elaine Gambone. Photograph.

EASTERN TOWHEE (P. erythrophthalmus) – one female, 23 January 2007, Upper Taylor Hill, Winhall, Bennington Cty., Darlene and Ernie Palola.

VESPER SPARROW (Pooecetes gramineus) – two, 17 December 2006, Fay Hill, Grand Isle, Grand Isle Cty., D.J. Hoag.

FOX SPARROW (Passerella iliaca) – one, 20&26 January 2007, Meadowbrook Rd., Brattleboro, Windham Cty., Leonora and Victor Howe.

REPORTS NOT ACCEPTED

GREAT CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax carbo) – one, 6 October 2006, Quaker Smith Point, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty. White patch could have been a band which is common on Double-Crested Cormorants on Lake Champlain and can be initially misleading. Other field marks lacking, no size contrast with Double-crested Cormorant.

CAACKLING GOOSE (Branta hutchinsii) – two, 25 March 2007, Connecticut River, Vernon, Windham Cty. Photograph. Size of birds in photograph is unclear.

BLACK VULTURE (Coragyps atratus) – one, 15 April 2007, Williston, Chittenden Cty. Not enough details, poor light.

BLACK VULTURE (C. atratus) – one, 5 June 2007, Brattleboro, Windham Cty. Insufficient description.

MONK PARAKEET (Myiopsitta monachus) – one, 20 August 2007, Middlebury, Addison Cty. Insufficient description.

NORTHERN HAWK OWL (Surnia ulula) – one, 18 June 2007, Chester, Windsor Cty. No description of the bird, description of call suggests an accipiter or American Kestrel.

HERMIT THRUSH (Catharus guttatus) – one, 10 February 2007, Button Bay State Park, Ferrisburgh, Addison Cty. Not enough details.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (Icteria virens) – one, 23 May 2007, Retreat Meadows, Brattleboro, Windham Cty. Details inconclusive.