

VERMONT BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT – 29 OCTOBER 2011

FIRST STATE RECORDS

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL (Oceanodroma castro) – one, picked up dead 29 August 2011 in Hartland, Windsor Cty. by Kenneth Moeller and brought to VINS. This Committee was able to examine the specimen at its meeting. The original tentative identification of Wilson's Storm-Petrel was later corrected upon closer inspection. The specimen will be archived at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology. Changes to this species' taxonomy are expected, so we hope to receive more information about the subspecific identity of this specimen to enable us to maintain consistency with subsequent revisions to the AOU checklist. First State Record. Photographs and specimen.

MARbled GODWIT (Limosa fedoa) – two, 30 May 2011, Connecticut River, Norwich, Windsor Cty. Spencer and Doug Hardy, George Clark. First State Record. Photographs.

SLATY-BACKED GULL (Larus schistisagus) – one third year, 9 January 2011, near Sandbar Causeway, South Hero, Grand Isle Cty. Theodore G. Murin, Allan Strong, David Hoag, Jim Mead. First State Record. Photographs.

NOTABLE STATE RECORDS, SECOND THRU TENTH

PACIFIC LOON (Gavia pacifica) – two adults in breeding plumage, 30 October 2010, Lake Champlain off Thompson's Point, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., TG Murin, James Osborn. Ninth State Record.

PACIFIC LOON (G. pacifica) – one adult in basic plumage, 22 October 2011, Lake Champlain off Thompson's Point, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., TG Murin, J.Osborn, Craig Provost, J. Mead. Tenth State Record.

EARED GREBE (Podiceps nigricollis) – one adult in breeding plumage, 22 April 1984, Leicester Jct., Addison Cty., Sue Wetmore, Joe and Betty Barbarise. Second State Record.

HYDROBATID PETREL (family Hydrobatidae) – one, 28 August 2011, South Strafford, Strafford, Orange Cty., John Lloyd..

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN (Pelecanus erythrorhynchos) – one, 31 May 2011, Kent Pond, Killington, Rutland Cty., Sue and Marvin Elliott. Seventh State Record. Photograph.

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE (Anser brachyrhynchus) – one, 2 April 2011, Allen's Marsh, Westminster, Windham Cty., Don Clark, Taj Schottland, Martha Adams, JoAnne Russo. Second Hypothetical State Record. Photographs. The bird was identified in New Hampshire, was tracked flying into Vermont but not confirmed from the ground because of encroaching darkness.

KING RAIL OR CLAPPER RAIL (Rallus elegans or Rallus longirostris) – one heard calling, 17-18 May 1994, Dead Creek WMA, Addison, Addison Cty., Scott Morrical, TG Murin, Would be First State Record for King Rail or Second State Record for Clapper Rail.

LAUGHING GULL (Leucophaeus atricilla) – one in non-breeding plumage, 20 September 2011, Lake Bomoseen, Castleton, Rutland Cty., Roy W. Pilcher. Eighth State Record. Photograph.

FISH CROW (Corvus ossifragus) – two, 20 November 2010, Bridport, Addison Cty., Ian A. Worley. Sixth State Record away from Burlington.

FISH CROW (C.ossifragus) – one, 12 March 2011, Cornwall, Addison Cty., IA Worley, Scott Sainsbury, Patti Haynes, Alison Wagner, Patricia Folsom. Seventh State Record away from Burlington.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE (Myadestes townsendi) - one, 15 April 2011, Newport, Orleans Cty., Don Hendrich. Second State Record.

HOODED WARBLER (Wilsonia citrina) – one singing male – 11 May 2011, Union Village Dam, Thetford Center, Orange Cty., Sara Eisenhauer. Third State Record.

HARRIS'S SPARROW (Zonotrichia querula) – one first winter, 24 September 2011, Thetford, Orange Cty., Bob Heitzman. Third State Record. Sketch.

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW (Z. atricapilla) – one adult in breeding plumage, 1 May 2011, Norwich, Windsor Cty., Spencer and Doug Hardy, m ob. Second State Record. Photograph.

#### OTHER RSD'S ACCEPTED

PACIFIC LOON (Gavia pacifica) – one, 22 October 2011, Lake Champlain off Thompson's Point, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., J.Osborn, J.Mead, C.Provost.

NORTHERN GANNET (Morus bassanus) – one adult, 29 August 2011, Hartland, Windsor Cty., Guy Crosby, S. Eisenhauer. Brought to VINS, but subsequently died. Photograph.

LEAST BITTERN (Ixobrychus exilis) – one, 29 September 2011, Bristol Pond, Bristol, Addison Cty., Elizabeth Lee.

COMMON EIDER (Somateria mollissima) – one, 22 May 2011, Dewey's Mill Pond, Hartford, Windsor Cty., S. Eisenhauer. Photograph.

SANDHILL CRANE (Grus canadensis) – one, 3 January 2011, Hawkins Rd. Ferrisburgh, Addison Cty., Mike Palombo. Photographs.

RED KNOT (Calidris canutus) – one adult in breeding plumage, 27 May 2011, South Slang, Ferrisburgh, Addison Cty., J.Mead, J.Osborn, IA Worley. Photographs.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (Larus fuscus) – one adult, 10-11 November 2010, Intervale, Burlington, Chittenden Cty., TG Murin, C.Provost. Photographs.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (L. fuscus) – one adult in breeding plumage, 6 April 2011, Charlotte Town Beach, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., TG Murin. Photographs.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (Melanerpes erythrocephalus) - one adult, 3 July 2011, Reading, Windsor Cty., Marie Levesque Caduto, Michael Caduto.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (M. erythrocephalus) – one adult, 17 September 2011, Whitney Creek, Addison, Addison Cty., J.Mead.

WHITE-EYED VIREO (Vireo griseus) – one, 17 September 2011, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., J.Mead.

VARIED THRUSH (Ixoreus naevius) – one, 19 and 24 December 2010, Bolton, Chittenden Cty., Don and June Kenney, P. Folsom, C.Provost et al. Photograph.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (Oporornis agilis) – two, 30 September 2011, Williston, Chittenden Cty., J.Mead.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (O. agilis) - one, 2 October 2011, Rutland Town, Rutland Cty., S.Elliott, M.Elliott.

NELSON'S SPARROW (Ammodramus nelsoni) – one, 23 May 2011, Shelburne Farms, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., Noah Perlut. Photographed in the hand.

SAVANNAH (IPSWICH) SPARROW (Passerculus sandwichensis) – one, 4 December 2010, Brandon, Rutland Cty., S.Wetmore. Accepted only to species.

#### RARE NESTING SPECIES

BARN OWL (Tyto alba) – Evidence of breeding (one successful, one unknown) at two sites, 5 August 2011, Addison County, Rodney Olsen.

SEDGE WREN (Cistothorus platensis) – two carrying food to nestsite, 18-19 June 2011. South Burlington, Chittenden Cty., TG Murin, S.Morrical, Hank Kaestner, Kristin Catrano. Photographs.

#### OUT-OF-SEASON SIGHTINGS

BRANT (Branta bernicla) – one, 24 July 2011, Brilyea Access of Dead Creek WMA, Addison, Addison Cty., C.Provost, TG Murin.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER (Sphyrapicus varius) – one, 20,21,27 December 2010, Brandon, Rutland Cty., S.Wetmore.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER (S. varius) – one, 20 February 2011, Bennington, Bennington Cty., Bonita and Scott Dundas.

PINE WARBLER (Setophaga pinus) – one, 8 February 2011, Putney, Windham Cty., David Moon, H.Galbraith, Chris Petrak. Photograph.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER (S. magnolia) – one, 15 November 2010, Montpelier, Washington Cty., Chip Darmstadt.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (Icteria virens) – one, 1 October 2011, Rockingham, Windham Cty., J.Russo.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (Zonotrichia leucophrys) – one, 27 February 2011, Addison, Addison Cty., C.Provost. Photographs.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE (Icterus galbula) – one, 25 November and 15-20 December, 2010, Waitsfield, Washington Cty., P.Folsom, Carol Beattie, Hugh Johnson. Photographs.

#### EXOTICS, ESCAPES, RELEASES

CHUKAR (Alectoris chukar) – one, 4 September 2010, Shelburne, Chittenden Cty., Evan Jackson. Photograph. Origin unknown.

#### REPORTS NOT ACCEPTED

RED-NECKED GREBE (Podiceps grisegena) – two, 19 July 2011, St. Albans Bay, St. Albans, Franklin Cty., Inadequate description.

CATTLE EGRET (Bubulcus ibis) – one, 14 November 2010, Vernon, Windham Cty., Inadequate description.

TUNDRA SWAN (Cygnus columbianus) – one, 12 February 2000, Converse Bay, Charlotte, Chittenden Cty., Report does not rule out Trumpeter Swan.

NORTHERN PINTAIL (Anas acuta) – Nesting report – three, adult and 2 juveniles, 19 July 2011, Pomainville WMA, Pittsford, Rutland Cty., Photograph. Species uncertain.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK (Scolopax minor) – one, 26 December 2010, Rockingham, Windham Cty., Does not rule out Ruffed Grouse.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE (Streptopelia decaocto) – one, 6-7 November 2010, Norwich, Windsor Cty., Presumed to be same bird as at this location last year. No new photograph taken this year. Inadequate description.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE (S. decaocto) – one, 11 August 2011, Shoreham, Addison Cty., Does not rule out Ringed Turtle-Dove.

FISH CROW (Corvus ossifragus) – two, 20 March, 2011, Brattleboro, Windham Cty., Inadequate description of the call.

FISH CROW (C. ossifragus) – one, 15 April 2011, Windsor, Windsor Cty., Inadequate description of the call.