

TWENTY-SIXTH REPORT OF THE FLORIDA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2016

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Abstract.—The Records Committee of the Florida Ornithological Society met at the Florida Museum of Natural History on 7 August 2016. We reviewed 74 new reports; in addition two reports unresolved from our previous meeting were reviewed. Of the 76 total reports we reviewed at the meeting, 54 were documented by still photographs (several of these also had audio/video documentation), three were documented solely by audio recordings, and two were documented by specimens deposited in museum collections. The other 17 were sight reports with varying amounts of written documentation. Of these 76 reports, 54 were accepted, 15 were not accepted, two were not accepted to species but accepted to genus, two were tabled, and two were unresolved. The submissions included an astonishing 12 species that would have been new additions to the Official List of Florida bird species, but only three of these were accepted: Cuban Vireo (also a first for the ABA Checklist Area), Pacific Golden-Plover, and European Storm-Petrel, bringing the State List to 524 species. Two potentially new State records, Great White Pelican and Caribbean/Cuban/Sinaloa martin, were tabled to gather more data. Criteria for inclusion of species on the Review List were changed to 20 or fewer accepted records or reports over the previous ten years. The new criteria resulted in the addition of 33 species to the Review List.

This twenty-sixth report of the Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee (FOSRC) summarizes decisions made by the committee for the submission year ending in August 2016. Committee activity and operations are guided by our “Rules and Procedures,” which are found on the Florida Ornithological Society website under the Records tab at <http://www.fosbirds.org/>. The FOSRC routinely evaluates reports of review-listed rare species (20 or fewer accepted records or reports over the previous ten years; see below) and reports of species occurring for the first (known) time in the state. On occasion, when we receive a recommendation, we also consider whether an exotic species meets our criteria for establishment in Florida. Reference here to “the Committee” refers to FOSRC.

The FOSRC met at the Florida Museum of Natural History on 7 August 2016. We reviewed 74 new reports; in addition two reports unresolved from our previous meeting were reviewed. Documentation supporting the 76 total submissions included still photographs (54 submissions, several of these also had audio/video documentation),

audio recordings (three submissions), and specimens deposited in museum collections (two submissions). The other 17 submissions were sight reports with varying amounts of written documentation. Of these 74 new reports, 53 were accepted (71.6%), 13 were not accepted (17.6%), two were not accepted to species but accepted to genus, two were tabled, and two were unresolved. Not surprisingly, the rate of acceptance was much lower for submissions that lacked supporting photographic/audio/specimen evidence (31.2%) than for those with such evidence (94.6%). Part of this is attributable to misidentifications or poorly detailed reports submitted by beginning birders.

The submissions included an astonishing 12 species that would have been new additions to the Official List of Florida bird species, but only three of these were accepted: Cuban Vireo (also a first for the ABA Checklist Area), Pacific Golden-Plover, and European Storm-Petrel, bringing the State List to 524 species. Two potentially new State records, Great White Pelican and Caribbean/Cuban/Sinaloa Martin, were tabled to gather more data. The seven submissions representing potentially new additions to the Official State List that were not accepted were: Trumpeter Swan, Clark's Grebe, Red-tailed Tropicbird, Black Guillemot, Black-browed Albatross (accepted to genus *Thalassarche* sp.), Bermuda Petrel, and Southern Rough-winged Swallow.

This report was prepared on behalf of all members of the FOSRC serving during the 2015-16 reporting year. The members and their year of term expiration on the FOSRC are: Ed Kwater (2016), Michael Brothers (2017), David Goodwin (2018), Rafael Galvez (2019), Andy Kratter (2020), Cameron Cox (2021), and Elliot Schunke (2022). See the FOS website (above) for a list of the current members of the FOSRC and their addresses.

COMMITTEE NEWS, FORMATS, AND TERMINOLOGY

Committee news.—During 2016, the FOSRC met once on 7 August at the Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville. Ed Kwater reached the end of his term this year on the Committee and cycled off. Cameron Cox has to leave the Committee because he moved out of state. Following the meeting, two new members were selected: Mark Berney, who previously served on the FOSRC from 2006-2013, and Michelle Davis, who has worked for years with the Bill Baggs/Cape Florida Banding Station.

We approved new criteria for removing species from our "Review List." The new criterion, 20 accepted records or reports over the previous ten years, is more in line with the criteria used by other states with large populations of active birders. The old criterion was 10-15 records over all.

As a result of using the new criterion, we approved the addition of 33 species to the Review List:

Brant, *Branta bernicla*
 Tundra Swan, *Cygnus columbianus*
 American Black Duck, *Anas rubripes*
 Harlequin Duck, *Histrionicus histrionicus*
 Key West Quail Dove, *Geotrygon chrysis*
 Calliope Hummingbird, *Selasphorus calliope*
 Yellow Rail, *Coturnicops noveboracensis*
 Hudsonian Godwit, *Limosa haemastica*
 Ruff, *Calidris pugnax*
 Curlew Sandpiper, *Calidris ferruginea*
 Long-tailed Jaeger, *Stercorarius longicaudus*
 Dovekie, *Alle alle*
 Black-legged Kittiwake, *Rissa tridactyla*
 Sabine's Gull, *Xema sabini*
 Pacific Loon, *Gavia pacifica*
 Red-footed Booby, *Sula sula*
 Great Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo*
 Golden Eagle, *Aquila chrysaetos*
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, *Empidonax flaviventris*
 Say's Phoebe, *Sayornis saya*
 La Sagra's Flycatcher, *Myiarchus sagrae*
 Fork-tailed Flycatcher, *Tyrannus savanna*
 Bahama Mockingbird, *Mimus gundlachii*
 Sprague's Pipit, *Anthus spragueii*
 Evening Grosbeak, *Coccothraustes vespertinus*
 Lapland Longspur, *Calcarius lapponicus*
 Snow Bunting, *Plectrophanax nivalis*
 Mourning Warbler, *Geothlypis philadelphia*
 Black-throated Gray Warbler, *Setophaga nigrescens*
 Townsend's Warbler, *Setophaga townsendi*
 Bananaquit, *Coereba flaveola*
 Western Spindalis, *Spindalis zena*
 Black-headed Grosbeak, *Pheucticus melanocephalus*

Formats and terminology.—We followed the current nomenclature and sequence that are used in the American Ornithological Society (formerly American Ornithologists' Union) check-list (AOU 1998) and its supplements through July 2016 (<http://checklist.aou.org/>) in the species accounts. Within accounts with more than one submission on a species, each report is introduced sequentially by catalog number. The initials following the catalog number refer to one or more contributors who supplied information to the committee on accepted reports (see

list above). We employ the terminology for age of birds outlined by Kratter (2010). We normally do not review subspecies, but we have accepted submissions on distinctive, field-identifiable subspecies whose taxonomic rank may be reevaluated by the AOU in the future. Our use of the words “report” and “record” to describe occurrences of species in Florida follow Robertson and Woolfenden (1992), a distinction that has been followed by subsequent major reviews of the Florida avifauna, and by the Field Observation Committee of the FOSRC. Individual occurrences that are independently verifiable (specimen, diagnostic photograph, or an audio or video file) are characterized as “records,” and if not verifiable as “reports.” Accepted reports are special only in the sense that the non-verifiable documentation is deemed to be fully supportive of the identification and the circumstances do not warrant special consideration. In past practice, the Committee has accepted only records (i.e., with verifiable evidence) for addition of a species to the Florida List. After that initial hurdle has been met, the merits of the reports are considered based on available physical evidence and circumstance (provenance not an issue). For each species, I provide a review of the status of the species in Florida, based chiefly on FOSRC data or through the end of 2016, as specified.

Abbreviations used here in the species accounts are AOU (American Ornithologists’ Union), FLMNH (Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville), FOSRC (Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee), NP (National Park), NWR (National Wildlife Refuge), SP (State Park), TTRS (Tall Timbers Research Station, Tallahassee).

Submitters of reports (all submitters are acknowledged, but only those reports that are accepted include initials of the submitter here): Angel Abreu (AA), Mariel Abreu (MA), Daphne Asbell (DA), Benjamin Bateman (BB), Mark Berney (MBe), Kevin Brabble (KB), Michael Brothers (MBr), Brenda Callaway (BC), Corey Callaghan (CC), Jerry Callaway (JC), Brenda Callaway (BrC), Bob Carrol (BoC), Roger Clark (RC), Allison Conboy (AC), Kevin E. Dailey (KD), Rangel Diaz (RaD), Robin Diaz (RoD), Lucy Duncan (LuD), Bob Duncan (BD), Lee Dunn (LeD), Jim Eager (JE), Gil Ewing (GE), Samuel Ewing (SE), Charlie Fisher (CF), Josh Friars (JF), Linda Gamello (LG), Murray Gardler (MG), Brad Gartner, Reinhard Geisler (RG), Carl Goodrich (CG), Larry Goodman, David Goodwin (DG), Jon S. Greenlaw (JSG), David Hall (DH), Mitchell Harris (MHa), Mark Hedden (MHe), Troy Henderson, Paul Hueber (PH), Nancy Jewell, Hans Johnson (HJ), Ted Keyel (TK), Andy Kratter (AK), Bill & Nancy LaFramboise, Tom Lee (TL), Lorne K. Malo (LMI) Larry Manfredi (LMf), Tom Marvel (TMr), Guy McGrane, Dacid & Tammy McQuade, Wendy Meehan (WM), Kenny Miller (KM), John Murphy (JM), Christian Newton (CN), Frances Paulson (FP), Simon Priestnall (SP), Bruce Purdy, Harry Robinson, Rex Rowan (RR), Greg Schrader (GS), Debbie Segal, Scott Simmons (SS), Kevan Sunderland, Malcolm Mark Swan, Monte Taylor (MT), Russell Titus (RTi), Roberto Torres (RTo), Ken Tracey, Catherine Tremblay (CT), Donald Ware, Eary Warren, Tom Webber (TW), Brian White (BWh) David Wilcove (DWc), David Winkler, Joseph Wise, Otto Zequeira (OZ), Adam Zions (AZ).

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK, *Anas rubripes*

FOSRC 2016-1149 (RR). This duck was compared directly with Mottled Duck (*A. fulvigula*) at Newnans Lake, Alachua County on 17 November 2011. The observer noted the colder, grayer plumage, lack of steaking on lower face and throat, and lack of dark gape spot that are distinctive for American Black Duck.

This species was added to the Review List this year. Records on eBird indicate that this species is a rare but regular winter visitor in north Florida, but most submissions lack documentation. Greenlaw et al. (2014) list it as an occasional to rare migrant and winter resident in the Panhandle and north peninsula.

WESTERN GREBE, *Aechmophorus occidentalis*

FOSRC 2016-1110 (GS). This distinctive bird was found by Paul Fellers on 19 December 2015 at Lake Ariana, Polk County. It was subsequently seen and photographed by many until 24 December. The dull olive-yellow bill and extensive black cap encircling the eye differentiate Western Grebe from the similar Clark's Grebe (*A. clarkii*), which has not been recorded in Florida.

The only previous accepted submission was a bird photographed in Lee County (2004). A sight report from 2001 in Nassau County was accepted to genus only. A bird photographed in Hillsborough County in 1975 has not been evaluated by the FOSRC, but was accepted as *occidentalis* by Robertson and Woolfenden (1994) and Greenlaw et al (2014).

GREBE, *Aechmophorus* sp.

FOSRC 2016-1148 (LMI). This bird was described from a sighting on 15 December 2015 at Lake Butler (Orange County), four days prior and ca. 30 km to the NNE of the above bird. The Committee determined that it was best to consider this a bird separate from #2016-1110 above, although it could have been the same. The description was adequate for identification to genus, noting large size (compared with Horned Grebe, *Podiceps auritus*) the very long thin neck, long bill, and black-and-white plumage. The description of the bill as "brown" induced one Committee member to vote against accepting, but the other Committee members felt that a dull Western Grebe bill could look brownish in certain light. The description, especially the face pattern, was not sufficiently detailed to eliminate Clark's Grebe from consideration. See FOSRC 2016-1110 (above) for prior occurrences of the genus in the state.

ZENNAIDA DOVE, *Zenaida aurita*

FOSRC 2016-1117 (RaD, LMF, JG). On 21 February 2016, Alan Moss discovered this bird on the Golden Orb Trail at Long Key State Park (Monroe County). During its stay of over two months (last day 5 May, photographed in the campground), it was seen and photographed by dozens of birders.

FOSRC 2016-1151 (CT). This dove was found and photographed 26 February 2010 at Bahia Honda State Park (Monroe County) by Catherine Tremblay, a visiting birder from Texas. She did not realize its rarity until she saw posts about the bird above, and then was encouraged to submit a report of the bird she saw in 2010.

Previous occurrences include five records from Monroe County in the Florida Keys (Windley Key, Feb-Apr 1996; Sugarloaf Key, November 2001; and Key Largo, June 1988, May 2002, and June 2009); and one accepted report from Key Biscayne, Miami-Dade County, in October 2004 (Smith and Smith 1998, FOSRC

reports). Two undated pre-1900 specimens from Florida have not been assessed by the FOSRC, but are accepted by Robertson and Woolfenden (1994) and Greenlaw et al. (2014).

VAUX'S SWIFT, *Chaetura vauxi*

FOSRC 2016-1108 (AK, TW, AZ). These birds were first discovered over a wooded area in Gainesville (Alachua County) on 22 November 2015 by Sam and Ben Ewing. Vocalizations heard by the Ewings indicated Vaux's Swift, rather than Chimney Swift (*C. pelagica*). Because swifts often use chimneys in old buildings on the nearby University of Florida campus to roost, the Ewings watched for the swifts from the top of the UF football stadium at sunset on 25 November, and saw the swifts fly overhead and then enter a chimney of Dauer Hall in the center of campus. The flock of up to 16 birds continued to use this roost through at least March, and the swifts were also seen foraging during the day at nearby Sweetwater Wetlands Park. They were last seen at that latter locality on 6 April, when Sam Ewing photographed one of three birds present. Tom Webber and Andy Kratter made several digital audio recordings in December, and sound spectrograms of the vocalizations were distinctly Vaux's. One bird present in the flock may have been a Chimney Swift, but recordings could not confirm that identification with certainty.

Previous records include six that were audio recorded in Gainesville in 1993 (Webber and Collins 1993), and single birds in Apalachicola (Franklin County) that were captured and measured in January 1996 and December 1997 (McNair and Lewis 1997, 1998). The latter locale had a flock of as many as 49 birds the previous winter (November 1994 to 21 April 1995); audio recordings from this flock were also positively identified as Vaux's (McNair and Lewis 1997).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD, *Cynanthus latirostris*

FOSRC 2016-1116 (HJ, RaD). This male was discovered by Marie McCoop and Karen McDaniel on 9 February 2016 at Freedom Park in Naples (Collier County). It was seen and photographed by many through 19 February.

This is the sixth Florida record of this hummingbird found in western Mexico north to southern Arizona and New Mexico. The five previous records accepted by the FOSRC were September 2004 in Pensacola (Escambia County), separate birds in January 2008 in Blountstown (Calhoun County) and Jacksonville (Duval County), January-February 2011 in Oviedo (Seminole County), and September 2011 in Eastpoint (Franklin County).

PACIFIC GOLDEN-PLOVER, *Pluvialis fulva*

FOSRC 2016-1124 (CC, LMF, WM, RG, MBe, KM). Corey Callaghan discovered this plover at the Six Mile Bend Sod Farm in Palm Beach County on 9 April 2016. He, along with Kenny Miller and Brian Fedak were able to photograph the bird the next day. The photographs show a lanky golden-plover mostly in basic plumage, with short wings, long legs, a golden-spangled back and wing coverts, and a buffy supercilium, all features distinguishing this species from the similar American Golden-Plover (*P. dominicensis*). The bird, a first record for Florida, stayed until 14 April and was seen and photographed by many.

The Pacific Golden-Plover is a long-distance migrant, breeding in Arctic Alaska and far eastern Asia, and wintering in the central and western Pacific Ocean, Australia, and the Indian Ocean. It is a regular migrant along the west coast of North America, and strays inland occasionally in western North

America (once to east Texas) and also to the northeast (Newfoundland, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Delaware) and western Europe. This is the first record for the southeast United States.

RUFF, *Philomachus pugnax*

FOSRC 2016-1092 (DA). This bird was discovered and photographed by Daphne Asbell on 4 October 2015 at the Okaloosa Holding Ponds in Okaloosa County. It was present until 6 October 2016.

FOSRC 2016-1130 (SS). This bird was discovered and photographed by Scott Simmons at Lake Jessup in Seminole County on 3 May 2016. It was present the following day as well, but not seen thereafter.

FOSRC 2016-1132 (KD). Kevin Dailey discovered and photographed this bird at Spoonbill Pond in Big Talbot Island State Park in Nassau County on 3 May 2016. It was seen and photographed by many during its stay until 9 May 2016.

This species was added to the Review List this year. Over the past 10 years, eBird lists six records for Florida and five reports. Greenlaw et al. (2014) list it as a regular rare migrant and winter visitor.

LONG-TAILED JAEGER, *Stercorarius longicaudus*

FOSRC 2016-1161 (MBr). This juvenile was spotted and exceptionally well photographed by Michael Brothers from the beach at Ormond-by-the-Sea on 3 September 2015.

This species was added to the Review List this year. Over the past 10 years, eBird lists four records for Florida and six reports; all are from the Atlantic coast. Greenlaw et al. (2014) list it as a very rare to rare transient and apparent winter visitor.

CALIFORNIA GULL, *Larus californicus*

FOSRC 2016-1154 (MBr). This second-cycle bird was found and photographed by Michael Brothers at Daytona Beach Shores (Volusia County) on 17 February 2016; it was seen only on this day.

The FOSRC has previously accepted 13 records of California Gull; eight of these were from the large gull concentrations in Volusia County.

THAYER'S GULL, *Larus thayeri*

FOSRC 2016-1140 (MHa). This first-cycle bird was discovered and photographed by Mitchell Harris at the Central Brevard Disposal Facility near Cocoa (Brevard County); it was seen only on this day. The photographs show a "classic" first-cycle Thayer's, somewhat smaller and less bulky than a nearby first-cycle Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*), with longer wings, a rounder head, and a somewhat smaller all-black bill. The undersides of the primaries are very pale, and wide pale margins on the uppersides of the primaries create a "venetian blind" pattern. The tertials are notched on their margins with white, but the interiors of these feathers are solid grayish brown. The wing coverts and scapular are evenly somewhat worn juvenile feathers.

The FOSRC has accepted 14 previous submissions, all since 1985; nine of these were from the large gull concentrations in Volusia County. A 1983 specimen and photograph from 1977 have not been evaluated by the Committee (Greenlaw 2016).

ICELAND GULL (NOMINATE), *Larus g. glaucooides*

FOSRC 2016-1164 (MBr). In 2010, the FOSRC removed Iceland Gull from the review list after a plethora of records and submissions the previous five years. Most

or all of these previous records in Florida were presumed to be of the subspecies *kumlieni* (Kumlien's Gull), which breeds on Baffin Island and in northwestern Quebec, and winters in northeastern North America. The smaller and paler nominate form breeds in Greenland and Jan Mayen and winters in northern Europe, and sparingly along the northeast coast of North America (Howell and Dunn 2007). This bird was found 1 mile off Ponce Inlet (Volusia County) during a pelagic birding trip associated with the Space Coast Birding Festival on 25 January 2016, and photographed extensively. The photographs show the small dove-like head and two-toned bill (versus flatter-crowned, larger-headed and all-black bill of *kumlieni*), and the nearly pure white outer primaries becoming slightly darker going toward the inner primaries (versus the opposite pattern in *kumlieni*) that indicate the nominate subspecies (Howell and Dunn 2007).

This is the first record of the nominate subspecies of Iceland Gull in Florida. This taxon breeds in Greenland and Iceland and winters mostly in northwest Europe (Howell and Dunn 2007).

“CAYENNE” SANDWICH TERN, *Thalasseus sandvicensis eurygnatha*

FOSRC 2016-1102 (LG). For the past few years, several smaller terns of the genus *Thalasseus* with bills varying from yellow to orange have been seen wintering on the beaches of Sarasota County. Some of these have been Elegant Terns (*T. elegans*; Greenlaw 2016), while others have been shown to be the subspecies *eurygantha* of Sandwich Tern (Greenlaw 2016), sometimes split from Sandwich Tern (Gill and Donsker 2017) and known as Cayenne Tern. Also possible are hybrids between North American Sandwich Tern (*T. s. acutiflavus*) and Elegant Tern. This particular bird was found and photographed 12 October 2016 on Siesta Key; it was seen until 17 October. The dull yellowish bill with a rather straight profile, olive base, and lack of exaggerated shaggy crest indicate Cayenne Tern. Hybrid *T. elegans* x *T. s. acutiflavus* would be expected to have some more extensive black on the bill.

A tern photographed in Sarasota County in August 2012 is the only previous accepted record of Cayenne Tern for Florida (Greenlaw 2016). Cayenne Terns breed in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and south to Argentina, with some hybridization with Sandwich Terns in the Caribbean.

RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD, *Phaethon aethereus*

FOSRC 2016-1133 (CC). This spectacular adult was photographed by Corey Callaghan about 6 miles offshore of Jupiter, Palm Beach County, during a boat trip on 6 May 2016.

This is the 13th record accepted by the FOSRC since 1995. Two earlier specimens have not been evaluated.

RED-FOOTED BOOBY, *Sula sula*

FOSRC 2016-1144 (AK). This bird was found beached at Pass-a-Grille, Pinellas County on 7 June 2016. It was very weak and brought to the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary, where it died the next day. The carcass was donated to the FLMNH (UF 51451).

This species was added to the Review List this year. Over the past 10 years, eBird lists seven records for Florida and 11 reports; most are from the Dry Tortugas and Miami-Dade County. Greenlaw et al. (2014) list it as an irregular rare visitor.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT, *Phalacrocorax brasiliensis*

FOSRC 2016-1142 (MBe). This subadult was found by Allison Schefflow on 16 November 2015 and stayed until 9 April 2016 at Topeekeegee Yugnee Park in

Hollywood (Broward County). It was photographed by Mark Berney on 29 February and 9 April.

FOSRC 2016-1145 (MBe). This distinctive male, with a white crescent on its lower neck, has bred the last three winters at Wakodahatchee Wetlands in Delray Beach (Palm Beach County). It was present from 27 September 2015 to 30 May 2016, and seen and photographed by many birders.

FOSRC 2016-1146 (MBe). This female, paired with a Double-crested Cormorant, was observed copulating on 2 January 2016 by Mark Berney at Wakodahatchee Wetlands in Delray Beach. It was present until 27 February 2016, when photographed.

The Neotropic Cormorant was first found in Florida in April 2007. In January 2012 it was found breeding at Wakodahatchee Wetlands and multiple individuals have nested there since. Some of the 25 records accepted by the FOSRC represent the same individuals returning to breed there (see FOSRC#2016-1145 above). Although this species exceeds criteria for removal from the Review List (20 accepted submissions over the past ten years), the Committee felt that given identification challenges, especially with Double-crested (*P. auritus*) x Neotropic Cormorant hybrids, this species should remain on the Review List.

NORTHERN FULMAR, *Fulmarus glacialis*

FOSRC 2016-1143 (AK). Diane Reed found this light-morph bird alive on the beach at Guana-Tolamato-Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve on 16 April 2016. It died soon thereafter and was donated to the Florida Museum of Natural History (UF 51452).

This is the ninth Northern Fulmar record for Florida, all since 2006. All have been found washed up on beaches from St. Johns County south to Palm Beach County. One bird (#FOSRC 2009-740) was found alive, rehabilitated, and later released at sea during a pelagic trip (Kratzer 2010).

ALBATROSS SP., *Thalassarche* sp.

FOSRC 2016-1109 (TMr). This albatross was observed by two fishing boat captains at sea 16.7 nautical miles due west of Naples, Collier County, on 16 December 2015. It was originally submitted as a Black-browed Albatross (*T. melanophris*), rather than the more expected Yellow-nosed Albatross, because the second observer remembered the bird having a “very yellow” bill and because the submitter thought the white on the underwing was more extensive, as found in Black-browed. Although Black-browed Albatross has occurred a number of times in the north Atlantic off the coast from North Carolina to Newfoundland (eBird), this species has never been verified in Florida (see Greenlaw et al. 2014). The description given by the submitter fits well with an albatross species. Given that the observation was not verified, and that the bill color description was given second-hand, we felt that it was best to accept it as *Thalassarche* sp. only.

A report of an albatross from Palm Beach County in 1995 (FOSRC #1995-326) was accepted to genus *Diomedea*, within which *Thalassarche* was lumped at that time (Greenlaw et al. 2014).

YELLOW-NOSED ALBATROSS, *Thalassarche chlororhynchos*

FOSRC 2016-1153 (BB, MBr). This bird was photographed by a fishing boat captain about 25 miles west of the mouth of the Suwannee River in Taylor County on 3 November 2015.

This is the fourth record of Yellow-nosed Albatross accepted by the FOSRC; all records are off the Gulf Coast of Florida.

FEA'S PETREL, *Pterodroma feae*

FOSRC 2016-1138 (RTo, LMf). This petrel was found during a pelagic trip organized by Roberto Torres off Miami-Dade County on 5 June 2016. The observers obtained excellent photographs. The large deep bill eliminates the very similar Deserta's Petrel (*P. deserta*) (Howell 2012).

This is the first time this species has been observed in Florida. The only previous evidence for Fea's Petrel in Florida was a banded bird with a geolocator that spent the winter of 2009-10 off the coasts of southern Georgia and Florida (Greenlaw 2015). The bird was later recaptured when it returned to its breeding grounds and the location data were uploaded.

MANX SHEARWATER, *Puffinus puffinus*

FOSRC 2016-1114 (AC, AK). Shorebird monitors at Amelia Island State Park discovered this shearwater dead on the beach at Amelia Island State Park (Duval County) on 17 November 2016. It was photographed, and then donated to the FLMNH, where it was measured and prepared as a skeletal specimen (UF 51453). The white underparts, including all undertail coverts, long wing chord (221 mm), long bill (35.4 mm), and short tail (77 mm), eliminate other shearwater species.

This is the 14th accepted submission to the FOSRC (11 records verified by photographs or specimen, three reports). All are from the Atlantic coast of Florida; a 1981 specimen from Escambia County (Greenlaw et al. 2014) has not been evaluated by the FOSRC.

EUROPEAN STORM-PETREL, *Hydrobates pelagicus*

FOSRC 2016-1155 (MBr). During a pelagic birding trip from Ponce Inlet (Volusia County) on 29 May 2016, a flock of small storm-petrels (mainly Wilson's, *Oceanites oceanicus*) followed the boat for more than an hour about 60 miles offshore in the Gulf Stream. Among the flock was a bird that, upon later analysis of photographs, was found to have a distinct white stripe across the underwing coverts. Michael Brothers later solicited other people on board for photographs of storm-petrels in the flock, and two others had photographed the bird. The bird was about the same size but noticeably darker than the Wilson's Storm-Petrels photographed at the same time. The dorsal surfaces of the wings were plain dark, with almost no pale ulnar bar, which was shown on nearby Wilson's (and in other dark storm-petrels in the North Atlantic). The feet did not project beyond the square-tipped tail as found in Wilson's.

This represents the first record of European Storm-Petrel for Florida. The species breeds on islands in the northern and eastern Atlantic Ocean and western Mediterranean Sea, and ranges at sea throughout the Mediterranean and Black seas and the eastern Atlantic and western Indian oceans. The only other records for the western Atlantic are one from Nova Scotia in August 1970 (McNeil and Burton 1971), and several since 2005 from May to July in waters off North Carolina, including two in 2016 (10 June and 29 July) (Howell 2012, eBird).

LONG-EARED OWL, *Asio otus*

FOSRC 2016-1104. This bird was found struggling in the water 2 miles off Key West (Monroe County) by a fishing boat crew on 30 October 2015. It was brought to the Key West Wild Bird Center in fairly good health, photographed, rehabilitated, and released a few days later. Its weight (245 g) was far less than that of any Great Horned Owl.

This is the ninth Long-eared Owl accepted by the FOSRC. An older specimen (Monroe County) and a "credible" (Greenlaw et al. 2014) sight report (Brevard County) have not been assessed by the FOSRC.

CUBAN PEWEE, *Contopus caribaeus*

FOSRC 2016-1119 (RaD, OZ, RoD). On 13 March 2016, Otto Zequiera found and photographed this bird at Crandon Gardens (Miami-Dade County). It was also present the following day, when it was seen and photographed by several more people.

There were only four previous Cuban Pewees accepted by the FOSRC: a bird photographed in March 1995 in Palm Beach County, a sight report from Monroe County in February 2001, a bird audio-recorded in Palm Beach County in November 1999, and one audio-recorded and photographed in Miami-Dade County in September 2010. The species is resident in the Bahamas and on Cuba.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax flaviventris*

FOSRC 2016-1099 (RoD). This bird was caught during banding operations at Cape Florida Bill Baggs State Park (Miami-Dade County) on 3 October 2011. It was measured, banded, photographed, and released.

FOSRC 2016-1103 (RoD). This bird was caught during banding operations at Cape Florida Bill Baggs State Park on 13 September 2011. It was measured, banded, photographed, and released.

This species was added to the Review List this year. Over the past 10 years, eBird has listed many occurrences for Florida, but fewer than 20 were documented. Field identification of silent migrant birds is often difficult. Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as a very rare to uncommon transient.

ALDER FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax alnorum*

FOSRC 2016-1159 (CF). This bird was found on 23 August 2015 by Brian Ahern at Hillsborough River State Park (Hillsborough County). It was audio-recorded on 29 August, the last day it was found.

Although Alder Flycatchers are regular migrants through Florida in the fall (Greenlaw et al. 2014, eBird records), the FOSRC has kept the species on the Review List because of difficulties of identification in the genus *Empidonax*, especially with the more uncommon Willow Flycatcher (see below). The FOSRC has accepted ten submissions, one from spring and nine from fall, since it began to solicit submissions of this species in 2008.

WILLOW FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax traillii*

FOSRC 2016-1091 (CN). The bird was found by Christian Newton at Babb Landing in Shingle Creek Park (Osceola County) on 1 October 2015. It was seen well and the distinctive “whit” call was described.

FOSRC 2016-1156 (PH). A presumed pair was found by Paul Hueber and Karen Hamblett at the Lust Road gate area, Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area (Orange County) on the extraordinarily late date of 18 June 2016. The birds were photographed and one was audio-recorded singing the husky “fitz-bew” song of Willow Flycatcher. Although the presence of a pair and the late date indicate a possible breeding attempt, they could not be found on subsequent visits (P. Hueber pers. comm.).

FOSRC 2016-1162 (MBr). This bird was heard calling and audio-recorded at Central Park in Ormond Beach (Volusia County) by Michael Brothers on 4 October 2015.

Judging by the frequency of documented records on eBird, the Willow Flycatcher appears to be less common than Alder Flycatcher in Florida. The FOSRC has accepted four previous submissions (one spring, three fall) since it began to solicit submissions of this species in 2008.

“WESTERN” (PACIFIC-SLOPE/CORDILLERAN) FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax difficilis/occidentalis* FOSRC 2016-1093 (BD, LuD, BrC, JC). This silent bird was discovered and photographed by Brenda and Jerry Calloway on 1 October 2015 at Ft. Pickens, Gulf Islands National Seashore (Escambia County). It was present the following day as well. The photographs show an *Empidonax* with a teardrop-shaped eye ring, a slightly crested appearance, yellowish suffusion to the underparts, short primary projection, and brownish wings, indicating one of the two species now merged in Western Flycatcher (*E. difficilis*). Identification of this species pair is usually possible only when the birds are singing.

The only previous occurrence of a member of this species pair in Florida, also a silent bird that could not be identified to species, was in January 2015 in Leon County (FOSRC #2015-1063, Greenlaw 2016). The Pacific-slope Flycatcher breeds in coniferous forests along the Pacific slope of the Coastal Ranges of western North America, the Cascades, and the Sierra Nevada. The Cordilleran Flycatcher breeds largely in the Rockies and mountains of the Great Basin. Both species winter mostly in Mexico.

SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, *Myiodynastes luteiventris*

FOSRC 2016-1094 (DH). This bird was found and photographed by David Hall at Evergreen Cemetery in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County) on 3 October 2015. It was seen the following day as well.

FOSRC 2016-1095 (BWh). This bird, seen only by the discoverer, was found and photographed by Bryan White at Key Largo Hammock State Botanical Site (Monroe County) on 11 October 2015.

These are the 13th and 14th submissions of this species accepted by the FOSRC. All occurred between mid-September and mid-November. This highly migratory species breeds from the mountains of Arizona and New Mexico south through Mexico to northern Central America, and winters in southern Central and South America.

VARIEGATED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonomus varius*

FOSRC 2016-1100 (RaD, RoD, AA, MA, MT, RTi, DG, JG). Florida's second Variegated Flycatcher was found by Russ Titus on 24 October 2015 at Evergreen Cemetery in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County). Unlike Florida's first record, a one-day wonder in St. Johns County in June 2013 (Greenlaw 2015), this bird obligingly stayed put and was easily found by hundreds of birders and photographers until 31 October.

Variegated Flycatchers breed primarily south of the Amazon Basin to central Argentina in South America and migrate north to spend the austral winter in northern South America, south to Peru and the Brazilian Amazon. Other populations appear to be resident in the Guianas and northeast South America. The timing of the Ft. Lauderdale bird's occurrence suggests that it was a “reverse migrant,” a bird that flies 180 degrees opposite the usual direction, as is found in some Fork-tailed Flycatchers (McCaskie and Patten 1994). The 2013 bird in St. Johns County, in contrast, likely represented an “overshoot” migrant (McCaskie and Patten 1994). Previous records in the ABA area include four other likely reverse migrants (5-11 November 1997 in Maine, 7 October-6 November 1993 in Toronto, Canada; 6-7 September 2008 in Washington State; and 28 September-2 October 2016 in Texas) and one other likely overshoot (13-15 May 1984 in Tennessee).

CASSIN'S KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus vociferans*

FOSRC 2016-1152 (MBr). This returning bird was found by Michael Brothers on CR 305 near the intersection of SR 100 in Flagler County on 30 January 2016 and was last seen on 6 March. A Cassin's Kingbird has spent the past four years in this vicinity.

Like this bird in Flagler County, many of the Cassin's Kingbirds found in Florida have returned for several winters to the same area. These include birds from 1999-2007 at Lake Apopka (Orange County), and from 2006-2014 at Stormwater Treatment Areas 5-6 (Hendry County). Other records in the past ten years include birds in Jacksonville (Duval County) in 2008, and possibly several near Homestead (Miami-Dade County) in winter 2013-2014.

FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER *TYRANNUS SAVANA*

FOSRC 2016-1122 (JF). This bird was found and photographed by Josh Friars on 2 April 2016 at Homestead Air Force Base (Miami-Dade County). It was not seen afterwards.

FOSRC 2016-1126 (DWc). This bird was found and photographed by David Wilcove on Key Largo (Monroe County) on 15 April 2016.

FOSRC 2016-1158 (FP). This bird was found and photographed by Frances Paulson on Sanibel Island (Lee County) on 12 June 2016.

This species was added to the Review List this year. Over the past 10 years, eBird lists 11 records for Florida (including those above) and six reports. Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as an "almost regular, very rare visitor." Records are scattered throughout the year, but six of the 17 recent Florida records are from April.

THICK-BILLED VIREO, *Vireo crassirostris*

FOSRC 2016-1141(MBe). This bird was found and photographed by Mark Berney at John U. Lloyd Beach State Park (Broward County) on 16 April 2016. It was present until 22 April.

This is the 15th Thick-billed Vireo accepted by the FOSRC. All except one have been in the four southeast Florida counties (Palm Beach 1, Broward 4, Miami-Dade 7, and Monroe 3); the exception was one in Pinellas County. Dates of occurrence are from August to May. This Caribbean species is resident in the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, Cuba, and the Cayman Islands.

CUBAN VIREO, *Vireo gundlachi*

FOSRC 2016-1127 (MG, CG, LeD, MHe, MBe, RG, RC, LMf, KD, CF). This extremely well-studied individual, a first record for Florida and the ABA area, was found by Carl Goodrich, Lee and Tharon Dunn, Murray Gardler, and Mark Hedden on 19 April 2016 at Fort Zachary Taylor State Historic Park in Key West (Monroe County). The bird was present through 24 April, and was extensively photographed and audio-recorded. The photographs show a compact vireo with olive above, creamy yellowish below, yellowish lores, pale yellow spots behind the large orangish eyes, a thick, long, pale bill, two thin whitish wingbars, and very short primary projection. The song, a repetitive simple four-note whistle that slurs down at the end, is less raspy than the songs of Thick-billed or White-eyed vireos. It also gave some scratchier calls, more similar to Thick-billed Vireo (C. Fischer recording).

The Cuban Vireo is a common resident throughout most of Cuba (Garrido and Kirkconnell 2000), but had never been recorded away from Cuba. Although the very short wings would seem to render it an unlikely vagrant, the Cuban Vireo also seems an unlikely species to be kept in captivity. Recent checks of bird markets in Cuba found no Cuban Vireos (A. Jaramillo in litt.), and a provenance other than natural vagrancy was determined by the Committee to be unlikely.

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO, *Vireo flavoviridis*

FOSRC 2016-1134 (JE). Mitchell Harris found this bird at a site that local birders refer to as "Columbia Road Hammock" in Port Canaveral (Brevard County) on 10 May 2016. It was seen and photographed by several other birders through 12 May.

This is the 13th submission of Yellow-green Vireo accepted by the FOSRC; there is also a specimen from May 1958 in Santa Rosa County. Four of the records are from the western Panhandle, two are from Pinellas County, and seven are from south Florida and the Keys (Palm Beach, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties). This is the first record from Brevard County. All records are from May to November.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR, *Oenanthe oenanthe*

FOSRC 2016-1101 (TK, SP, RaD, OZ). On 28 October 2015, Ted Keyel found this bird at a small hammock and parking area at the south end of Lower Matecumbe Key (Monroe County). This easy-to-find and confiding bird was seen and photographed by numerous birders through 6 November.

This is the ninth record from Florida. All have occurred during the fall; dates range from 13 September to 6 November. Three have been from the Keys, two from Miami-Dade County, and one each from Collier, Pinellas, and Franklin counties.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD, *Sialia currucoides*

FOSRC 2016-1106 (AZ, JE). Florida's third Mountain Bluebird, a female, was found by Brian and Melissa Jones at the Oasis Visitor Center of Big Cypress National Preserve (Collier County) on 10 November 2015. It was seen and photographed by many until it departed (last seen 19 November).

The only other Florida records are also from the southwestern part of the state: a female on Research Road in Everglades National Park (Monroe County) on 22 December 2002, and another female 28 December 2010 on the Dry Tortugas (Monroe County) (Greenlaw et al. 2014).

BAHAMA MOCKINGBIRD, *Mimus gundlachii*

FOSRC 2016-1097 (GE). This bird was found and photographed by Gil Ewing on 22 April 2015 at Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park (Monroe County). This bird may have moved around locally, as a Bahama Mockingbird was seen and photographed at the nearby Key West Tropical Forest and Botanical Gardens on 18 April and from 24-27 April 2015 (eBird records).

FOSRC 2016-1157 (MBe). Mark Berney found and photographed this bird on 5 May 2016 at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park (Broward County). It was seen and photographed by many during its stay until 27 May 2016.

This Caribbean species, found in the Bahamas, Cuba, Turks and Caicos, and Jamaica, was added to the Review List this year. Over the past 10 years, eBird has 11 documented occurrences and 5 sight reports for Florida. Fifteen of these 16 occurrences were in a period from 12 April to 28 May; the other was a poorly described bird in January. All but two birds were in southeast Florida or the Keys; the other two were in Pinellas County (May 2010) and Manatee County (May 2014). Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered this species an "almost regular, very rare to rare visitor."

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER, *Setophaga kirtlandii*

FOSRC 2016-1128 (TL). Tom Lee discovered and photographed this bird in his yard in New Smyrna Beach (Volusia County) on 27 April 2016.

This is the eleventh submission of Kirtland's Warbler accepted by the FOSRC. A specimen from Palm Beach County in April 1896 has not been assessed by the Committee (Greenlaw et al. 2014). Of these 12 verified or accepted occurrences, 10 are from the spring (19 April-10 May) and two are from the fall (16 and 20 October). This species breeds in the upper Midwest (mainly Michigan) and winters in the Bahamas.

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER, *Setophaga nigrescens*

FOSRC 2016-1150 (CF). This bird was photographed by Charlie Fisher on 20 October 2011 at Honeymoon Island State Park (Pinellas County).

This species was added to the Review List this year. Although Greenlaw et al (2014) stated that there were nearly 100 records or reports of this species for Florida, numbers over the last decade indicate that the species may be declining in frequency in Florida. Over the past 10 years, eBird shows only three documented occurrences and six sight reports for Florida; two of the latter lack any description.

WESTERN SPINDALIS, *Spindalis zena*

FOSRC 2016-1107 (DH). This long-staying male was found and photographed by David Hall on 26 November 2015 at Markham Park in Weston (Broward County). It stayed until 1 February 2016 and was seen and photographed by many observers. This bird had a black back, indicating it was from the northern Bahamas.

This species, resident in the Bahamas and Cuba, was added to the Review List this year. Greenlaw et al (2014) listed it as a regular visitor, with one breeding record (summer 2009 in Miami-Dade County). Over the past ten years, of the 23 or so shown on eBird, 11 were documented by photographs. All records are from southeast Florida and the Keys.

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE, *Pipilo chlorurus*

FOSRC 2016-1121 (SE). This bird was found and photographed by Sam Ewing at Little Talbot Island State Park (Duval County). It was also present the following day.

This is the 11th submission of this western North American species accepted by the FOSRC. The birds have been present from Polk County north, including the Panhandle. Six of these were from the winter of 2011-2012. Dates range from 31 October to mid-April.

LAZULI BUNTING, *Passerina amoena*

FOSRC 2016-1163 (JM). This male was found by Karen Chiasson on 6 April 2016 at St. George Island State Park (Franklin County); it was photographed by John Murphy on 9 April.

The FOSRC has accepted 15 previous submissions of Lazuli Bunting. Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered this largely western North American species an irregular, very rare migrant and winter visitor to Florida.

BULLOCK'S ORIOLE, *Icterus bullockii*

FOSRC 2016-1096 (BoC). This adult male was present for most of the winter of 2014-15 at a residence in Gainesville (Alachua County). It was photographed by Bob Carroll on 3 January 2015. It was also present the previous winter but not submitted (eBird records).

The FOSRC has accepted 21 previous submissions. Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered it an irregular, very rare to rare migrant and winter visitor.

SUBMISSIONS NOT ACCEPTED

TRUMPETER SWAN, *Cygnus buccinator*

FOSRC 2016-1120. An immature swan was photographed by three different observers between 19 February and 16 March 2016 on Indian Ford Road in Santa Rosa County. The Committee noted that differentiating between immature Tundra Swan (*C. columbianus*) and Trumpeter Swan is often difficult. Characters

favoring Tundra Swan in this case were that the eye was not closely incorporated within the bill skin, the profile of the bill was rather straight, lacking the sweeping curve typical of Trumpeter Swan, and the whiter plumage.

Populations of Trumpeter Swans in eastern North America are thought to have arisen from reintroductions in the Great Lakes area. A previous record from Florida (FOSRC #2008-707) was not accepted because a consensus had not been reached on whether the reintroduced populations had become established at that time (Kratler 2010).

RED-TAILED TROPICBIRD, *Phaethon rubricauda*

FOSRC 2016-1135. This sight report described two individuals calling and flying over Homestead (Miami-Dade County) on 11 May 2016. A sketch was included. Although the sketch and the description are certainly suggestive of Red-tailed Tropicbird, the Committee felt that such an extraordinary record would need verifiable evidence to be accepted. This species is confined to warmer waters of the Pacific and Indian oceans, and is a very unlikely candidate to end up in the north Atlantic, let alone a pair more than 10 miles inland from the ocean. No tropical storm systems had yet formed in the Atlantic that season. In addition, tropicbirds are very rarely known to be vocal away from their nesting areas.

INCA DOVE, *Columbina inca*

FOSRC 2015-1077. A group of five birds, including two copulating, was described from 26 May 2015 in Jay (Santa Rosa County). The vote in 2015 on this submission was unresolved. The major concerns of the Committee in this round were the quite brief description, the pre-dawn occurrence of the observation (a few minutes before sunrise), and the lack of any follow-up observations or effort.

Inca Dove populations are spreading in southeastern North America. The first Inca Dove in Florida was photographed in September 2011 in Franklin County (Greenlaw 2014). Three additional records in north Florida have been accepted since: one photographed in October 2011 in Santa Rosa County; one photographed in February 2012 in Duval County; and one photographed in May 2015 in Escambia County.

SOUTH POLAR SKUA, *Stercorarius maccormicki*

FOSRC 2016-1105. This bird was observed for three minutes on 11 November 2015 off Ft. Lauderdale Beach. Although the description fit South Polar Skua, the Committee felt that it did not exclude the possibility of a dark Pomarine Jaeger (*S. pomarinus*) or a Great Skua (*S. skua*). In particular, there was no description of the tail or the size of the bill, both of which help differentiate skuas from jaegers.

The FOSRC has previously accepted four records and two reports of South Polar Skua. They breed around the margin of Antarctica, and migrate north regularly to the North Atlantic from Atlantic Canada south to North Carolina.

BLACK GUILLEMOT, *Cephus grylle*

FOSRC 2016-1115. Black Guillemot has not been previously recorded in Florida. This bird was observed flying past during a sea-watch off Tom Renich County Park in Ormond Beach (Volusia County) on 23 January 2016. The bird was in view for 10-15 seconds. The description, by a seasoned birder familiar with North Atlantic seabirds, was adequate given the distance and brevity, but the Committee felt that a first State record would need verifiable evidence before being added to the State List.

Black Guillemots breed in the north Atlantic off Canada and south to Maine, and in Greenland, Iceland, and Europe south to the British Isles and east to northern Siberia. In North America, they winter regularly south to New England, rarely to New Jersey, and exceptionally to South Carolina (eBird).

CLARK'S GREBE, *Aechmophorus clarkii*

FOSRC 2016-1098. Clark's Grebe has not been previously recorded in Florida. This bird was observed from close range at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge on 3 April 2013. Although the description fits Clark's Grebe, the Committee felt that a first State record would need verifiable evidence before being added to the State List, especially considering this species' similarity to Western Grebe (*A. occidentalis*) and the amount of time elapsed before this report was written up and submitted.

Clark's Grebe is a short-distance migrant in western North America, with extralimital records east to Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, and New York (eBird).

BERMUDA PETREL, *Pterodroma cahow*

FOSRC 2016-1112. Bermuda Petrel has not been previously recorded in Florida. On 27 December 2016, a *Pterodroma* petrel was observed and photographed flying south past the St. Augustine Pier (St. Johns County). The three photos show a petrel with white underparts, a dark hood, gray back, and gray wings with a moderately distinct dark "W" pattern. The underwings were mostly white, with black primary coverts and a thin black line along the underwing coverts angling toward the body. Bermuda Petrel can show a "W" pattern in the upperwing in fresh plumage, but that species usually shows a distinct white rump and the bar on the underwings is wider. Other candidate petrels include: Black-capped Petrel (*P. hasitata*), the only regularly occurring *Pterodroma* in Florida, but it has a pale rump and tail, and dark upperwings; Fea's Petrel (*P. feae*), the only other *Pterodroma* recorded in Florida, has dark underwing coverts; Zino's Petrel (*P. madeira*) and, to a lesser extent, Trindade Petrel (*P. arminjoniana*), both of which have been recorded off North Carolina, also show much darker underwings than the bird off St. Augustine; and the species with perhaps the closest match in plumage, Barau's Petrel (*P. barau*), which seems an unlikely stray to Florida, as this endangered species is largely restricted to the Indian Ocean and only rarely reaches the south Atlantic off South Africa. In sum, members of the Committee felt that the bird photographed was almost certainly a *Pterodroma* petrel, but felt that bird could not be identified to species given the images provided.

The Bermuda Petrel is a critically endangered species restricted to fewer than 200 breeding pairs on islets off Bermuda (Howell 2012). It ranges at sea in the nonbreeding season to waters off eastern North America, especially North Carolina where it is recorded annually.

GOLDEN EAGLE, *Aquila chrysaetos*

FOSRC 2016-1111. This large dark raptor was observed on 25 December 2015 in Punta Gorda Isles (Charlotte County). The Committee felt that the description did not eliminate the possibility of an immature Bald Eagle (*H. leucocephalus*).

FOSRC 2016-1160. Photographs of this bird were taken from a car along a road in Cocoa (Brevard County) on 20 June 2016. The Committee was unanimous that the bird in the images was an immature Bald Eagle.

Golden Eagles are rare winter visitors to Florida (Greenlaw et al. 2014), with most records in the Panhandle. This species was added to the Review List this year. Since 2006, of the eight observations in eBird from Florida, only one was verified (January 2011, Wakulla County).

SAW-WHET OWL, *Aegolius acadicus*

FOSRC 2016-1131. This small owl was observed on 1 May 2016 in the South Gate area of Sarasota (Sarasota County). The identification was based primarily on the bird's lack of ear tufts and its small size. However, juvenile Eastern Screech-Owls are not yet adult size and lack ear tufts when they leave the nest. In addition, Northern Saw-whet Owls are early breeders and eBird shows no May records south of the Appalachian breeding areas in southern North Carolina.

The only records of Northern Saw-whet Owl in Florida are two specimens (November 1982 in St. Johns County, and November 1996 Escambia County) and one photographed record (December 2011 in Broward County) (Greenlaw et al. 2014).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER, *Emidonax traillii*

FOSRC 2016-1136. This bird was heard and seen on 7 May 2016 at Rotary Park in Cape Coral (Lee County). The description of the song, "a wheezy fitz-bew identical to that of my Audubon app...", did not describe the tones, accents, or how it was differentiated from similar songs. The submitter had no previous experience with the species. The Committee felt that a better description was needed to be accepted.

The FOSRC has accepted seven previous submissions (one spring, five fall, and one anomalous mid-June record; see above) since it began to solicit submissions of this species in 2008.

BAHAMA SWALLOW, *Tachycineta cyaneoviridis*

FOSRC 2015-1053. This sight report was from 25 October 2014 at Long Key State Park (Monroe County). Although this observation was just one day before another record accepted by the FOSRC from Monroe and Miami-Dade counties (Greenlaw 2016), the Committee in this case felt that the description was inadequate to accept.

The FOSRC has accepted two previous records and four previous reports of Bahama Swallow. Two older specimens (7 April 1890, Monroe County; 30 April 1992, Miami-Dade County) and a photographed bird (27 July 1986 in Monroe County) have not been assessed by the FOSRC.

SOUTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW, *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*

FOSRC 2016-1137. Southern Rough-winged Swallow has not been previously recorded in Florida or the ABA Area. On 7 May 2016 a pale-rumped swallow was photographed over Fort Zachary Taylor State Historic Park on Key West (Monroe County). The three photos are not especially crisp, and provide lateral views of the bird showing a dusky throat, mostly white underparts, and a short dark tail; sides of the rump are visible and appear pale. Pale areas in the photographs however, appear to suffer from over-exposure. Key marks for differentiating this species from Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*S. seripennis*) are darker and orange-toned throat, and in some populations a pale rump. The Committee felt that clearer photographs would be needed to accept this species to the State List. Some felt that the species represented in the photographs may be a Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*).

Southern Rough-winged Swallows are mostly resident from southern Honduras south through southern Central America and most of South America to central Argentina. The southernmost populations are austral migrants, but are dark-rumped forms (subsp. *ruficollis*) (Turner 2017).

YELLOW-RUMPED "AUDUBON'S" WARBLER, *Setophaga coronata audubonii*

FOSRC 2016-1113. This bird was observed on the west side of Lake Santa Fe (Alachua County) on 17 December 2015. The description is rather incomplete, although it does mention the yellow throat and plain face. The Committee felt that more a more complete description, including vocalizations, was necessary for acceptance, especially given the possibilities of hybridization with "Myrtle" Yellow-rumped Warbler.

The FOSRC has accepted three previous records and five previous reports of Audubon's Warbler, which is largely confined to western North America.

BULLOCK'S ORIOLE, *Icterus bullockii*

FOSRC 2016-1125. This immature male was photographed at New Port Richey (Pasco County) on 13 April 2015. The bird has a narrow black throat patch and black in the foreface around the eyes and into the lores. Although the black chin separated from the black face matches Bullock's Oriole, the black in the face is too extensive for that species, and indicates that this is likely a Baltimore (*I. galbula*) x Bullock's oriole hybrid.

The FOSRC has accepted 21 previous submissions. Another oriole in Brevard County on 20 December 2010 was suspected to be a hybrid as well (Greenlaw et al. 2014).

NOT RESOLVED/TABLED

GREAT WHITE PELICAN, *Pelecanus onocrotalus*

FOSRC 2016-1118. The Great White Pelican has not been previously recorded in Florida or the ABA Area. This bird appeared in a flock of American White Pelicans (*P. erythrorhynchos*) at Ding Darling NWR (Lee County) on 28 February-1 March 2016. It was seen by many and widely photographed. The photographs show the bird to be larger than the nearby American White Pelicans, with a pinkish cast to the plumage, large protruding forehead and eyes, and black extending to the innermost secondaries. The Committee agreed that the identification was correct, but the provenance of the bird was questioned. Populations of Great White Pelican breeding in southeastern Europe are moderate-length migrants to sub-Saharan Africa; African populations are nomadic (Elliott et al. 2017). The species has occurred as vagrants several times to western Europe, many of which are likely wild birds (Jiguet et al. 2008). Given the migratory behavior, the history of vagrancy, the lack of any signs of captivity, and pelicans' ability to fly long distances, the Committee felt that a wild origin was not out of the question. However, the bird is also widely kept in captivity. A search of zoos and collections in the United States revealed that none had a missing bird. Some Great White Pelicans may be kept in private collections and may not be banded or reported. They are also kept in zoos outside the United States (e.g., in several South American zoos) that were not contacted. Using occurrence records, Jiguet et al. (2008) proposed some climatic and environmental conditions under which various pelican species (Great White; Dalmatian, *Pelecanus crispus*; and Pink-backed, *Pelecanus rufescens*) are likely to turn up naturally as vagrants in western Europe. The Committee felt it was best to find out more about whether such conditions prevailed preceding the occurrence in Lee County before making a vote on the submission.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT, *Phalacrocorax brasiliensis*

FOSRC 2016-1129. This cormorant was photographed on Boca Chica Key in Monroe County on 25 April 2016. It was photographed adjacent to a Double-

crested Cormorant (*P. auritus*) and shows smaller size, thinner bill, dark lores, and a longer tail. One member of the Committee was unsure whether a hybrid with Double-crested could be dismissed. The Committee voted to table the vote to gather opinion from experts on this identification issue.

THICK-BILLED VIREO, *Vireo crassirostris*

FOSRC 2016-1139. On 10 June 2016, a vireo was audio recorded 1 mile north of Everglade City (Collier County). The vocalization is the rambling long song, which is similar to that of White-eyed Vireo (*V. griseus*) and not well represented on Xeno-canto, a web-based bird vocalization database (xeno-canto.com). The Committee felt that that it would be best to get outside opinion from those who know Thick-billed Vireo vocalizations better.

The FOSRC has accepted 15 Thick-billed Vireo submissions (see above). All except one have been in the four southeast Florida counties (Palm Beach 1, Broward 4, Miami-Dade 7, and Monroe 3); the exception was one in Pinellas County.

BAHAMA SWALLOW, *Tachycineta cyaneoviridis*

FOSRC 2016-1123. A kayaker spotted this bird flying above the Commodore Creek Kayak Trail in Lee County on 20 March 2016. Although a brief view (2-3 seconds) the observer studies and is very familiar with Tree Swallows (*T. bicolor*) and noted the long tail and white extending into the underwings. Some Committee members felt that Mangrove Swallow (*T. albilenea*) could not be ruled out. The vote was unresolved.

The FOSRC has accepted two previous records and four previous reports of Bahama Swallow (see above).

CARIBBEAN/CUBAN/SINALOA MARTIN, *Progne dominicensis* / *cryptoleuca* / *sinaloae*

FOSRC 2016-1147. None of these species has been previously recorded in Florida or the ABA Area. This interesting martin was photographed in good detail on 29 April 2016 at Fort Zachary Taylor State Historic Park (Monroe County). This presumed female has a gray throat distinctly cut off from gleaming white underparts. The flanks are smudged pale gray. The undertail coverts are completely unmarked. The tail has a rather long, deep fork. The unmarked undertail and distinct cutoff between throat and breast indicate that this is not a Purple Martin (*P. subis*). The plumage pattern is similar to most depictions of female Caribbean Martin, which breeds throughout the Greater and Lesser Antilles, aside from Cuba. Although female Cuban Martins are usually described as having blotchy white and dark underparts, letters provided by the submitter stated that they can be unmarked white below and very difficult to differentiate from Caribbean Martin. The Sinaloa Martin, an endemic breeder in northwest Mexico with unknown wintering quarters, is extremely poorly known. The male is very similar to Caribbean Martin, but the female plumage is almost unknown. Although it seems far less likely for a Sinaloa Martin to show up in Florida than Caribbean or Cuban Martin, a number of species found in that part of Mexico have been recorded in Florida (White-eared Hummingbird, Broad-billed Hummingbird, Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, etc.).

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