

# Articles

## Ontario Bird Records Committee Report for 2001

Kayo J. Roy

### Introduction

The Ontario Bird Records Committee (OBRC) evaluates documentation of any record of an OBRC Review List species. This 20th Annual Report deals with the adjudication of 133 records reviewed by the OBRC during the year 2001, of which 80% were accepted. A total of 171 observers submitted documentation for review by the 2001 Committee. Generally well written and thorough accounts were submitted by a wide range of birders from expert to novice that often included photographs, field notes, sketches and the occasional videotape.

The members of the 2001 Committee were Margaret Bain, David Beadle, Peter Burke (Chair), Robert Dobos, Nick Escott, Kevin McLaughlin, Kayo Roy (non-voting Secretary) and Alan Wormington. Mark Peck served as the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) liaison (non-voting) to the OBRC in 2001.

The official Ontario Bird Checklist is now at 474 species with the addition of Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*), Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) and Lesser

Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) are presently on the Ontario checklist based on their inclusion by James et al (1976) and Wormington and James (1984), but the first reports for these species have now been reviewed and accepted by the OBRC. Virginia's Warbler (*Vermivora virginiae*) is a new addition for northern Ontario.

All records received by the OBRC are archived at the ROM in Toronto. Researchers and other interested individuals are welcome to examine any of the filed reports, by appointment only. Please write Mark Peck, Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Biology, Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2C6, e-mail: markp@rom.on.ca or telephone 416-586-5523.

### Listing of Records

The format of this report follows that used in last year's annual report (Roy 2001) with one exception. In all previous reports since 1989, a series of numbers appeared following the species' names which indicated the number of accepted reports for that species. While the format of

this numbering changed several times, the binomial system most recently used indicated the total number of accepted records (by the OBRC) prior to 1 January 1982 (the formation date of the OBRC), and the total number of accepted records from 1982 to 2000. The current Committee felt that the use of trinomials and binomials did not serve any meaningful purpose, and decided, effective with the Report for 2001, that a single number be used to indicate the total number of accepted records of a review species. Accepted records are arranged taxonomically by their English and scientific names following the Seventh Edition of the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds (AOU 1998) and its 42nd supplement (AOU 2000). Date(s) of occurrence, number of birds, sex, plumage, and location(s) are provided when known. Counties, districts, and regional municipalities are shown in italics. The plumage terminology used here follows the Humphrey and Parkes (1959) system. For a detailed explanation of plumage and molt terminology, see Pittaway (2000). The names of all contributors of documentation are listed. Those contributors who were known to be the finders of the bird are underlined. Others present when the bird was found, but who did not submit a report, are listed when known.

The Committee makes every effort to verify documented information prior to accepting and pub-

lishing a record. It is, however, still possible that some inaccuracies occur. We welcome written communication to the Secretary from anyone with pertinent information that would correct or strengthen any record. There may be occasions where dates or other listed details in a record differ from those quoted in other published sources. We have used the most accurate information that was available to us.

All records that were not accepted because of uncertain identification or origin are listed separately. Contributors of all "not accepted" reports receive a letter from the Chair explaining the reasons for the decision, along with copies of the comments of the voting members. These reports are also kept on permanent file at the ROM. A "not accepted" report can be reconsidered by the OBRC if new evidence is submitted to the Committee for review.

### **Changes to the Review List**

At the OBRC Annual Meeting in March 2002, the Committee agreed, effective 1 January 2002, to add Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) to the northern Ontario Review List, and to review records of Chuckwill's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) in southern Ontario for all years.

### **Acknowledgements**

The OBRC would like to extend its appreciation to the many observers who took the time to submit docu-

mentation, photographs, sketches, and videos of their observations of rare birds in 2001. We thank the following people who assisted in many ways to provide the Committee with additional data and other material evidence: Jody Allair, Bob Andrle, Sam Barone, Allen Chartier, Barry Cheriére, Bob Curry, Willie D'Anna, Bruce Di Labio, Rob Dobos, Nick Escott, Jim Flynn, Michel Gosselin, Phill Holder, Jean Iron, Christina Lewis, Jon McCracken, Mark Peck, Ron Pittaway, Sarah Rupert, Roy Smith, Ron Tozer, Ron Weir, and Alan Wormington.

We are very grateful to Mark

Cranford for allowing us access to ONTBIRDS (the listserv sponsored by the Ontario Field Ornithologists) on matters dealing with the OBRC. This electronic form of transmitting data, especially dates and places, has been invaluable in maintaining accurate records, and many rare bird reports have been submitted to the OBRC because of direct appeals through ONTBIRDS.

I am indebted to the 1999, 2000, and 2001 OBRC members for their very considerable help and assistance over the years. Your confidence and support were very much appreciated.



**Figure 1: A first record for Ontario, this female Manx Shearwater was found dead, floating in the waters of Lake Deschenes, Ottawa River, Ottawa, on 9 September 2002. Photo by Bruce Di Labio.**



**Figure 2:** First alternate Tricolored Heron, found at Port Weller, *Niagara*, on 30 May 2001. Photo by *Kayo J. Roy*.



**Figure 3:** Two of three juvenal Wood Storks observed at Pelee Island, *Essex*, from 9 August to 22 September 2001. Photo by *Kayo J. Roy*.



**Figure 4:** First basic, female Common Eider (*S. m. dresseri*) at Burlington, *Halton*, on 17 January 2001. Photo by *Kayo J. Roy*.



**Figure 5:** Definitive alternate Snowy Plover located at Presqu'île Provincial Park, *Northumberland*, 27 May 2001. Photo by *Harold E. Stiver*.



**Figure 6:** This definitive basic, female Black-necked Stilt, a very late lingering fall vagrant, was observed from 27 December 2001 to 2 January 2002 at Port Lambton, *Lambton*. Photo by *Harold E. Stiver*.



**Figure 7:** Ivory Gull, juvenal/first basic, at Humber Bay Park, *Toronto*, on 23 December 2000. Photo by *Sam Barone*.



**Figure 8:** Ivory Gull, juvenal/first basic, at Amherst Island, *Lennox and Addington*, on 9 January 2001. Photo by *James M. Richards*.



**Figure 9:** This basic, female Chuck-will's-widow, was located at Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*, on 13 May 2001. Photo by *James N. Flynn*.



**Figure 10:** Townsend's Solitaire, observed at Copetown, *Hamilton*, 11 November 2001. Photo by *Barry S. Cherriere*.



**Figure 11:** This first basic, male Virginia's Warbler was captured and banded at Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay*, on 29 August 2001. Photo by *Bruce Rodrigues*.

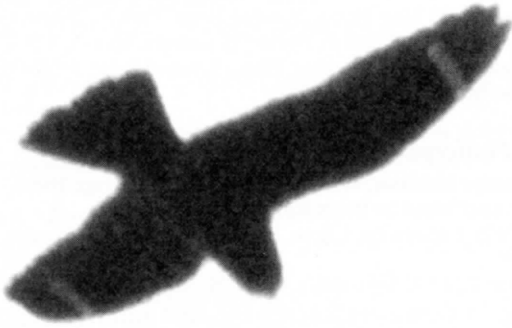




**Figure 12:** For the period 24 November to 22 December 2001, this basic Lark Sparrow was observed at Newburgh, *Lennox and Addington*. Photo by *Harold E. Stiver*.



**Figure 13:** This first alternate, male Blue Grosbeak was captured and banded at Walsingham, *Norfolk*, on 15 May 2001. Photo by *Jody R. Allair*.



**Figure 14:** A remarkable find, the only record for Ontario and Canada, is this basic, female Lesser Nighthawk, photographed at Point Pelee National Park, Essex, on 29 April 1974. Photo by *Alan Wormington*.



**Figure 15:** Ontario Bird Records Committee members for 2001. Front row, left to right: Peter Burke, Alan Wormington, Margaret Bain, Nick Escott. Back row: Rob Dobos, Kevin McLaughlin, David Beadle, Kayo Roy, Mark Peck. Photo by *Bill Crins*.

## Accepted Records

### **Pacific Loon *Gavia pacifica* South Only (21)**

- 2001 - one, alternate, 20 May, Prince Edward Point, *Prince Edward* (Ronald D. Weir, also found by Martin H. Edwards, Robert B. Stewart, Jane Scovell).  
 - one, definitive basic, 16 October, Prince Edward Point, *Prince Edward* (Joel H. Ellis, also found by Bud Rowe).

### **Eared Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* North Only (7)**

- 2001 - two, definitive alternate, 31 May - 10 June, Emo (Sewage Ponds), *Rainy River* (David H. Elder, also found by Brian Ratcliff).  
 - four, definitive alternate, 1 June, Rainy River (Sewage Ponds), *Rainy River* (David H. Elder).  
 - one, first basic, 19-22 September, Wawa (Sewage Ponds), *Algoma* (Robert Z. Dobos).

The observation in Wawa represents the first known record of this species for Algoma District. The pair of birds at Emo had built a well hidden nest in the cattails of the east pond. The nest was a floating mass of vegetation that was held in place by nearby cattail stems. This third known nesting attempt at this location failed due to lowered water levels in the pond.

### **Western Grebe *Aechmophorus occidentalis* (15)**

- 2001 - one, 3-21 November, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Kevin A. McLaughlin, Jonathan M. Simms, found by Paul D. Pratt).

### **Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* (1)**

- 2001 - one, female, 26 August, Ottawa (Lake Deschenes, Ottawa River), *Ottawa* (Bruce Squirrel, Bruce M. Di Labio, Ian P. Clark) - specimen (skin) in the Canadian Museum of Nature (CMNAV 77920) - photos on file.

A remarkable discovery and a first record of this species for Ontario. The bird was found dead, floating in the water. The excellent photographs by Di Labio and Clark show every feature possible to confirm the identification.

### **Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus* (26)**

- 2001 - one, juvenal, 6-7 October; 6 October, Fifty Point Conservation Area, *Hamilton/Niagara*; 7 October, Ashbridges Bay, *Toronto* (Stuart Mackenzie, Thomas Flinn).  
 - one, juvenal, 8 October, Britannia Conservation Area, *Ottawa* (Robert A. Bracken, Christina Lewis, also found by Bernie Ladouceur, Jan Slumkoski, J. Michael Tate).  
 - one, juvenal, 24 November, Stoney Creek and Hamilton (Confederation Park), *Hamilton* (Brandon R. Holden, Eric W. Holden, Barry S. Cheriére) – photo on file.  
 2000 - one, juvenal, 21 October - 1 December; 21 and 28 October, 5 November, 1 December, Hamilton (Van Wagners Beach) and Stoney Creek, *Hamilton*; 29 October and 12 November, Bronte Harbour, *Halton*; 12 and 19-20 November, Leslie Street Spit, *Toronto* (Gavin Edmondstone, Roy H. B. Smith, found by Luc Fazio).

**Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* (8)**

2001 - one, alternate, 19 May, Amherst Island, *Lennox and Addington* (Ronald D. Weir).

**Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* (47)**

- 2001 - one, definitive alternate, 22 April, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Alan Wormington).  
 - one, first alternate, 15 May, Sturgeon Creek, *Essex* (David C. R. Wagener, also found by Carle Belanger).  
 - one, alternate/basic, 7 September - 14 October, Kingston (Little Cataraqui Creek), *Frontenac* (Jessie Deslauriers, Denise Murphy) - photo on file.

**Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor* (31)**

- 2001 - one, 10 May, Long Point (Courtright Ridge), *Norfolk* (Stephane Menu).  
 - one, definitive alternate, 11-12 May, Ottawa (Shirley's Bay), *Ottawa* (Marcel A. Gahbauer, also found by Judith Kennedy, Todd Hunter).  
 - one, first alternate, 27 May - 2 June, Port Weller (Welland Canal), *Niagara* (Kayo J. Roy, Maggie Smiley, Burke Korol, Peter S. Burke, also found by Alan J. Smith) - photos on file.  
 1977 - one, definitive alternate, 11-18 May, Port Colborne (Cement Plant Road Pond), *Niagara* (Harold H. Axtell, Robert F. Andrie, Walter Klabunde, Mary Louise Emerson, found by Blayne E. Farnan).  
 1971 - one, first alternate, 23-24 May, Port Colborne (Cement Plant Road Pond), *Niagara* (Richard Brownstein, Edward L. Seeber, found by Harold L. Lancaster, Alan J. Smith, Randy Waters).

**Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (37)**

- 2001 - one, definitive alternate, 19-23 April, Bloomfield, *Prince Edward* (Donald C. Craighead, Burke Korol) - photo on file.  
 - one, definitive alternate, 27 April - 8 May, Tecumseh, *Essex* (Glenn Gervais, found by Michael Bickley).  
 - two, definitive alternate, 11 May, Aylmer (Sewage Ponds), *Elgin* (David A. Martin, also found by Linda Wladarski).  
 - three, definitive alternate, 21-28 May (one, 21-24 May, three, 25-28 May), Southampton (Horseshoe Bay), *Bruce* (Cindy Cartwright, Grant Ferris) - photo on file.  
 - one, definitive alternate, 31 May, Whitby (Cranberry Marsh), *Durham* (Margaret J. C. Bain, found by Harry Kerr).

This was without question an exceptional year for this species in Ontario.

**Ibis species *Plegadis* sp. (34)**

- 2001 - one, 15-19 April, Laggan, *Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry* (Peggi Calder, Christine Brunet, found by William Franklin) - photo (video) on file.  
 - fifteen, 9 May, London, *Middlesex* (Andrew Ross).  
 - four, 4 August, Long Point (Big Creek National Wildlife Area), *Norfolk* (Stuart Mackenzie).

**Wood Stork *Mycteria americana* (9)**

- 2001 - three, juvenal, 9 August - 22 September, Pelee Island (Lake Henry), *Essex* (Deborah D. Jacobs, Alan Wormington, Kayo J. Roy, Burke Korol, Paul D. Pratt, Michael J. Oldham) - photos on file.

- 1984 - one, 29 October, Holiday Beach Conservation Area, *Essex* (Michael A. Kielb).
- 1972 - one, 11-17 May, Thorndale to Plover Mills, *Middlesex* (William W. Judd, found by Dr. and Mrs. Allan Day).
- 1971 - one, juvenal, August (exact date unknown), Madawaska, *Nipissing* (Louis C. Hunt, Les Watts) – photos on file.
- 1970 - one, late September, Cranberry Lake, *Frontenac* (Milly A. Mott, Philip H. Mott).
- 1965 - one, juvenal, found dead (fresh), 4 August, Dorcas Bay, *Bruce* (Keith Quirk) - specimen (wing feathers and skeleton) at ROM (#95204).
- 1954 - one, 1-12 September, Cataragui, *Frontenac* (Helen R. Quilliam, Robert B. Stewart, found by John R. Cartwright, W. H. Moulton).
- 1948 - one, alternate/basic, 2 August, Green Valley, *Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry* (Alex Strang, E. W. Munro, found by Alex McKinnon) - specimen (wing feathers and skeleton) at ROM (#76069) – photo on file.
- 1892 - one, juvenal, November (exact date unknown), Simcoe, *Norfolk* (A. R. Colman).

A phenomenal influx of juvenile Wood Storks found their way in late summer 2001 to several areas of the midwest and northeast United States and Canada. Of significance were the 16 birds found in upstate New York at Clyde (Sherony 2001), but the three birds at Pelee Island represent the first occasion of multiple individuals in Ontario. For more information on the status of this species in Ontario, and a complete account of the birds at Pelee Island in 2001, see Wormington (2001). See also James et al. (1976) and Godfrey (1986). Note that the 1971 record was near Madawaska, not in Algonquin Provincial Park as indicated by James et al. 1976, Godfrey 1986, and James 1991. The Committee has now reviewed all documentation available for known records of this species in Ontario, which had been included in the original OBRC checklist for Ontario (Wormington and James 1984).

### **Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* (40)**

- 2001 - one, 25 March, Kanata, *Ottawa* (Thomas A. Hanrahan, William R. Clark).
- one, 29 March, Melbourne, *Middlesex* (Betty Essey, Jack Essey).
- one, 27-29 April, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (David C. Boyce, Burke Korol, Alan Wormington, James N. Flynn, also found by Kathi Boyce) – photos on file.
- one, 28 April, Kanata, *Ottawa* (Eve D. Ticknor, also found by David Britton, Lise Dube, Richard Lavoie, William Murphy, William Petrie, Jack Romanow).
- one, 30 April - 1 May, Eatonville (Sinclair's Bush), *Chatham-Kent* (George D. Bryant).
- one, 8-10 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Ron Tozer, Alan Wormington, R. Doug McRae) – photo on file.
- one, 12-13 May, Rondeau Provincial Park, *Chatham-Kent* (Dale Jensen).

It is becoming apparent that this species is clearly expanding its range. The 19 birds reported over the past three years (Roy 2000, 2001, 2002) represent one half of the entire total of accepted records for the province.

### **Ross's Goose *Chen rossii* South Only (34)**

- 2001/02 - two, definitive basic, white morph, 19 October - 15 December, and 1 January; one, 19-22 October, two, 23 October - 15 December, Kingsville (Jack Miners Bird Sanctuary), *Essex*; one, 28 October and 1 January, Point Pelee National Park *Essex*, (Dean J. Ware, Alan Wormington).

- 2001 - one, definitive basic, white morph, 8 April, Russell, *Prescott and Russell* (Roger Clark).
- five (four, definitive basic; 1, first basic), white morph, 15-16 April, Riceville, *Prescott and Russell* (Christina Lewis, Robert A. Bracken, found by Mark Gawn).
- one, definitive basic, white morph, 8-15 December, Whitby (Cranberry Marsh), *Durham* (Curtis A. Marantz, found by Harry Kerr).
- one, definitive basic, white morph, 15 December, Long Point (Big Creek Marsh), *Norfolk* (Kevin A. McLaughlin, also found by George M. Naylor, Bruce Kellett).

Here is another example of a species being observed more frequently in southern Ontario. A second bird accompanying the Whitby bird was considered to be a hybrid between Ross's Goose and Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*).

### **Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* South Only (17)**

- 2001 - one, female, 27 May - 30 June, Amherst Island, *Lennox and Addington* (R. Kenneth F. Edwards, found by Mark Allaire, Nis Moller).
- 2000/01 - one, first basic, female, *S. m. dresseri*, 18 November - 12 April; 18 November - 2 January, Hamilton (Confederation Park), and Stoney Creek, *Hamilton*, 3 January - 12 April, Burlington, *Halton* (Kevin A. McLaughlin, Ron Pittaway, Kayo J. Roy, Burke Korol) - photos on file.

### **Harlequin Duck *Histrionicus histrionicus* North Only (17)**

- 2001 - one, female, 2 October, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay* (Miguel Demeulemeester).

### **Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* (13)**

- 2001 - one, 11-13 September, Hillman Marsh, *Essex* (Carl E. Weber, James A. N. Dowall, Robert Cermak, Dorothy Smith, Irene Woods, also found by Alfred Starling).

### **Mississippi Kite *Ictinia mississippiensis* (28)**

- 2001 - one, first basic, 10 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Diane Haselmayer, Jerry Ball, April Grunspan, Lance Allin, also found by David Skinner, Paul Carter).
- one, definitive basic, 11-12 May, Walsingham (Rowanwood Sanctuary and Wilson Tract), *Norfolk* (Roger Leblanc, Denis Lepage, also found by Alair Clavette, Valmond Bourque).
- one, first basic, 18 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (J. Michael Tate, also found by Diane Henderson, Shelly Michel).
- 2000 - one, first basic, 8 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Donald Ford, Sarah E. Rupert, Burke Korol).

### **Snowy Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* (3)**

- 2001 - one, definitive alternate, 24-31 May, Presqu'île Provincial Park (Owen Point), *Northumberland* (Fred M. Helleiner, Donald Shanahan, Ian Shanahan, Burke Korol, Ron Tozer, R. Doug McRae, Harold E. Stiver) - photo on file.

Excellent documentation that included a photograph and numerous black and white drawings was submitted on this third record for Ontario. The two previous records were both at Long Point Flats, *Norfolk*, on 4-9 May 1987 (Coady 1988) and 9 May 1990 (Curry 1991).

**Piping Plover *Charadrius melodus* South Only (43)**

- 2001 - one, definitive alternate, 11 May, Presqu'ile Provincial Park, *Northumberland* (Tony Snider, William Gilmour, also found by Leslie Snider).  
 - one, definitive alternate, 2 June, Presqu'ile Provincial Park, *Northumberland* (Donald Shanahan, Ian Shanahan, found by Robert B. Stewart, John Thompson).

The band of the 2 June bird at Presqu'ile identified its origin as Lake Diefenbaker in Saskatchewan, where it was banded in June 2000 (Rosemary Vanderlee, pers. comm.). This individual was noted to have a sore right leg and may well have visited Long Point briefly a few days earlier (Debbie Badzinski, pers. comm.), where a banded Piping Plover was observed with exactly the same ailment.

**Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* (11)**

- 2001/02 - one, definitive basic, female, 27 December - 2 January, Port Lambton (Snye River), *Lambton* (Larry Cornelis, Blake A. Mann, Harold E. Stiver, Allen T. Chartier) – photos on file.

Excellent documentation and diagnostic photographic evidence was submitted on this lingering fall vagrant in Ontario that remained in the Snye River for a full week.

**Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* (22)**

- 2001 - one, definitive alternate, 6-7 May, Blenheim (Sewage Ponds), *Chatham-Kent* (James E. Heslop, Ron Tozer, also found by David H. Elder, Barry D. Jones, Richard G. Snider).  
 1971 - one, definitive alternate, 18-20 July, Fort Erie (Waverley Beach), *Niagara* (Robert F. Andrie, found by John E. Black, Paul M. Benham, Daniel Salisbury) – photo on file.

**Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus* North Only After 1993 (31)**

- 2001 - one, juvenal, 9 October, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay* (John M. Woodcock, Miguel Demeulemeester).

This is only the second accepted record for northern Ontario.

**Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus* South Only (29)**

- 2001 - one, juvenal, dark/intermediate, 24 August, Hamilton (Van Wagners Beach), *Hamilton* (Robert Z. Dobos).  
 - one, juvenal, (found dead, badly decomposed), 27 September, Hamilton (Van Wagners Beach), *Hamilton* (Robert Curry, Glenda J. Slessor) – photos on file.  
 2000 - one, 28 August, Hamilton (Van Wagners Beach), *Hamilton* (Robert Curry, also found by Glenda J. Slessor).

**California Gull *Larus californicus* (34)**

- 2001 - one, definitive basic, 5 January, Blenheim (Ridge Landfill), *Chatham-Kent* (Keith J. Burk).  
 - one, definitive basic, 25 October, Presqu'ile Provincial Park, *Northumberland* (R. Doug McRae, also found by Maureen Riggs).  
 - one, definitive basic, 1-2 December, Niagara Falls (Adam Beck overlook), *Niagara* (Willie D'Anna, Burke Korol, found by Dean DiTommaso).

1998 - one, first basic, 18-19 November, London (Fanshawe Lake), *Middlesex* (William G. Lindley, also found by Peter Read).

Unfortunately, there have been several errors in the running totals for California Gull published by the OBRC back to the 1990 Report. However, as of this year's Report, 34 records have been evaluated. While there is no way to be sure, it is presumed that certain individuals have made return visits to sites such as the Niagara River over a number of years, so that the actual number of different gulls would probably be lower than this total.

### **Ivory Gull *Pagophila eburnea* (26)**

2001 - one, juvenal/first basic, 1-4 January; 1 January, Stoney Creek (Lawrence P. Sayer Park), *Hamilton*; 1-4 January, Hamilton (Harbour), *Hamilton* (Glenn Coady, Denys R. Gardiner, found by William F. Smith) – specimen (skin) at ROM (#67590).

- one, juvenal/first basic, 3-17 January, Amherst Island and Millhaven, *Lennox and Addington* (Robert M. Sachs, Bruce M. Di Labio, Bud Rowe, James M. Richards, Burke Korol, Glenn Coady, found by Donald Craighead) – photos on file.

2000 - one, juvenal/first basic, 17 and 23-25 December, Toronto (Humber Bay Park), *Toronto* (Janet Robinson, Glenn Coady, Jean Niskanen, Ron Pittaway, Sam Barone, Alfred Raab, found by Leon Schlichter) – photos on file.

Remarkable, exceptional and impressive were three adjectives used to describe the presence of these three different individuals observed in Hamilton Bay and along the north shore of Lake Ontario. Unfortunately, the Hamilton bird died after colliding with a hydro wire, and the Amherst Island bird likely succumbed as well, as it was noted to be in a very weakened condition during the last few days it was observed.

### **Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* South Only After 1990 (5)**

2001 - four, definitive alternate, 16 June, Ottawa (Deschenes Rapids, Ottawa River), *Ottawa* (Robert A. Bracken, Christina Lewis).

- five, definitive alternate, 16 June, Ottawa, (Deschenes Rapids, Ottawa River), *Ottawa* (Robert A. Bracken, Christina Lewis).

Two separate small flocks of birds were observed at this location on the same date.

### **Band-tailed Pigeon *Columba fasciata* (9)**

2001 - one, basic, 13-16 September, Algonquin Provincial Park (Rock Lake Campground), *Haliburton* (Bert Walsh, found by Eric Moss, Linda Moss) - photo on file.

### **Eurasian Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* (4)**

2001 - one, basic, 28-29 April and 5-10 May; 28-29 April, Hillman Marsh, *Essex*; 5-10 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Paul D. Pratt, Alan Wormington, Donald E. Perks, Greg Vaughn) – photo on file.

The documentation of this fourth Ontario record was well scrutinized by the Committee members to ensure that the evidence clearly ruled out any hybridization between Eurasian Collared-Dove and Ringed Turtle-Dove.



**White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica* (8)**

- 2001 - one, 27 June - 1 July, Lappe, *Thunder Bay* (David Christianson, Nicholas G. Escott, also found by Ann Christianson) – photos on file.  
 2000 - one, basic, 29 August, Scarborough (Guildwood), *Toronto* (Glenn Coady, also found by Robert Coady).

**Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis* (1)**

- 1974 - one, basic, female, 29 April, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Alan Wormington) - photos on file.

This occurrence remains today as the only record of Lesser Nighthawk for Ontario and Canada, and the entire Great Lakes Region (Wormington 2002), and was included in the original OBRC checklist for Ontario (Wormington and James 1984). See also James et al. (1976) and Godfrey (1986). Weather conditions and a strong migration surge surely played a role in bringing this remarkable bird to southwestern Ontario.

**Chuck-will's-widow *Caprimulgus carolinensis* (13)**

- 2001 - one, basic, female, 13 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Ron Tozer, James N. Flynn) - photo on file.

**Lewis's Woodpecker *Melanerpes lewis* (6)**

- 2001 - one, definitive basic, 22-30 October, Chelmsford (Whitewater Lake), *Sudbury* (Denise Durette, Gerry Durette, Charles J. Whitelaw) - photos on file.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker *Melanerpes carolinus* North Only (8)**

- 1999 - one, first basic, female, 28 October, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay* (Hilbran Verstraete).

**Gray Kingbird *Tyrannus dominicensis* (6)**

- 2001 - one, 4 August, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Donald E. Perks, Jerry H. Guild, Mac P. McAlpine).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus forficatus* (41)**

- 2001 - one, definitive alternate, 25 July, Embrun, *Ottawa* (Robert A. Bracken, C. Robert Gorman, found by Jan Slumkoski) – photo on file.

**Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius ludovicianus* North Only (8)**

- 2001 - one, alternate, 21-22 May, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay* (Bruce J. Rodrigues, also found by Samantha Nelson, Darlena D. Tousignant) – photo on file.

**Plumbeous Vireo *Vireo plumbeus* (2)**

- 2001 - one, basic/alternate, 10 May, Rondeau Provincial Park, *Chatham-Kent* (Donald Shanahan, also found by Albert Boisvert, Kenneth Kingdon).

The documentation clearly ruled out Blue-headed Vireo (*V. solitarius*) and Cassin's Vireo (*V. cassinii*) on this second record for Ontario. The first occurred on 3 June 1997 at Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Dobos 1998). For full details of the first Ontario record, see Wormington (1997).

### **Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* (26)**

- 2001 - one, basic, female, 7 June, Long Point (Hastings Drive), *Norfolk* (Ian S. Cook, Alex M. Mills, also found by Robert Copeland, Donald Scanlan).
- 1949 - one, 24 September, Ridgeway, *Niagara* (Albert J. Wright, also found by Bernard Nathan).

For additional information on the 24 September 1949 observation, see Wright (1950), and Beardslee and Mitchell (1965).

### **Townsend's Solitaire *Myadestes townsendi* South Only After 2000 (48)**

- 2001/02 - one, basic, 8 December - 13 January, Mississauga, *Peel* (Mark Chojnacki, Burke Korol, Harold E. Stiver, also found by Linda J. Nuttall) – photos on file.
- 2001 - one, basic, 7 February, Waterloo, *Waterloo* (Blaine Prentice).
- one, 5 May, Ganaraska Forest Centre, *Northumberland* (Elizabeth Kellogg, also found by Alison Elliott).
- one, definitive basic, 27-30 October, Presqu'île Provincial Park, *Northumberland* (R. Doug McRae, Margaret J. C. Bain, Bruce M. Di Labio, Ian P. Clark, Curtis A. Marantz, found by Fred M. Helleiner, James Wood) – photos on file.
- one, basic, 4-11 November, Copetown, *Hamilton* (Sheldon E. McGregor, Curtis A. Marantz, Barry S. Cherriere) – photo on file.
- one, basic, 9 November, Peterborough, *Peterborough* (Peter J. Beales, Patricia A. Beales).
- one, basic, 18-23 November, Long Point Provincial Park, *Norfolk* (Donald S. Graham).
- 2000 - one, basic, 30 November - 15 December, Dryden (Cooper's Park), *Kenora* (Carolle Eady, Robin Dawes, Lisa Harvey) – photos on file.

For the second consecutive year, unprecedented numbers of this species from the west were observed in the province. Perhaps they experienced a good breeding year and many first basic birds dispersed east.

### **Sprague's Pipit *Anthus spragueii* (4)**

- 2001 - one, alternate, male, 15-19 July, Burnt Point Creek, *Kenora* (Donald A. Sutherland, William J. Crins, also found by Martyn E. Obbard, Michael J. Oldham, Pamela O).

### **Virginia's Warbler *Vermivora virginiae* (4)**

- 2001 - one, first basic, male, 29 August, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay* (Bruce J. Rodrigues, Gabriel David, also found by Becky L. Stewart) – photos on file.

The bird was captured and banded by the Thunder Cape Bird Observatory and is the first record for northern Ontario.

### **Field Sparrow *Spizella pusilla* North Only (14)**

- 2001 - one, 5 October, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay* (Miguel Demeulemeester, also found by Allan G. Harris).

### **Lark Sparrow *Chondestes grammacus* (62)**

- 2001 - one, 8-17 May, Minnitaki, *Kenora*, (Carolle Eady).
- one, definitive alternate, male, 8-9 June, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay* (Bruce J. Rodrigues, also found by Darlena D. Tousignant, Jana Fenske) - photo on file.

- one, basic, 24 November - 22 December, Newburgh, *Lennox and Addington* (Curtis A. Marantz, Harold E. Stiver, Burke Korol, found by Peter Good) – photo on file.
  - 1978 - one, first basic, 2 October, Moose Factory, *Cochrane* (Alan Wormington) – photos on file.
- Observations of this species continue to mount. For additional details about the bird at Moose Factory, see Ridout (1978).

### **Blue Grosbeak *Guiraca caerulea* (52)**

- 2001 - one, definitive alternate, male, 5-10 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Terry Osborne, William R. Maddeford, Alan Wormington, Ron Tozer, also found by Donald E. Perks, Gerry Shemilt).
- one, first alternate, male, 15 May, Walsingham, *Norfolk* (Charles M. Francis, Jody R. Allair) - photos on file.

### **Painted Bunting *Passerina ciris* (12)**

- 2001 - one, female/first basic male, 4 May, Erie Beach, *Chatham-Kent* (Keith J. Burk, Ron Tozer, J. Michael Tate, found by E. Jane Burk) - photos on file.

## **Not Accepted Records**

### **Identification Uncertain**

The documentation submitted for the following reports was for the most part found to be inadequate to unequivocally identify the species claimed. There were very few reports that the Committee felt were clearly erroneous. Any of these reports may be re-submitted, should additional documentation become available.

- 2001 - Black-capped Petrel (*Pterodroma hasitata*), one, 18 December, Wyevale (Bluewater Beach), *Simcoe*.
- Little Blue Heron, one, 9 May, Hillman Marsh, *Essex*.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*), one, 2 September, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- Glossy Ibis, one, 13 May, Pelee Island, *Essex*.
- Glossy Ibis, one, 31 May, Spanish Lake, *Sudbury*.
- Mississippi Kite, one, 18 May, Long Point (Courtright Ridge), *Norfolk*.
- Mississippi Kite, one, 9 September, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), one, 7 April, Dundalk, *Grey*.
- Swainson's Hawk, one, 30 September, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- Piping Plover, one, 3 May, Hillman Marsh, *Essex*.
- Black-necked Stilt, one, 12 May, Hillman Marsh, *Essex*.
- Mew Gull (*Larus canus*), one, 10 November, Southampton, *Bruce*.
- Arctic Tern, one, 7 July, Kingsville (Lakeside Park), *Essex*.
- Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*), one, 23 May, Owen Sound (Kelso Beach), *Grey*.
- Dovekie (*Alle alle*), one, 24 October, Toronto (Sunnyside Beach), *Toronto*.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove, one, 11 May, Oshawa (Pumphouse Marsh), *Durham*.
- Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), one, 2 May, Pelee Island, *Essex* – photos on file.
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, one, 15 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*), one, 13 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.

- Kirtland's Warbler, one, 2 September, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- Blue Grosbeak, one, 11 May, Wheatley Provincial Park, *Chatham-Kent*.
- Blue Grosbeak, one, 12 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- Blue Grosbeak, one, 12-13 May, Rondeau Provincial Park, *Chatham-Kent*.
- Blue Grosbeak, one, 20 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- Blue Grosbeak, one, 25 July, La Salle (Ojibway Nature Centre), *Essex*.
- Blue Grosbeak, one, 3 August, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- 2000 - Mississippi Kite, one, 12 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- Mississippi Kite, one, 13 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex*.
- 1997 - White-winged Dove, one, 4 June, Hamilton, *Hamilton*.
- 1987 - Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*), one, 1 September, Eagle Lake, *Haliburton*.
- 1980 - Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*), 25 March - 15 April, Port Stanley, *Elgin* – photos on file.

## Corrections/Updates To Previous OBRC Reports

### 2000 Report (Ontario Birds 19: 45-64)

- under Pacific Loon, add "South Only" after *Gavia pacifica*.
- under Northern Fulmar, 5 January, change "1999" to "2000".
- under Smew, in the commentary, change "Roche (1960a, 1960b)" to "Rosche (1960a, 1960b)".
- under Piping Plover, 2 June - 15 July 2000, change "Stuart McKenzie" to "Stuart Mackenzie".
- under Long-tailed Jaeger, change "1999" to "2000".

### 1989 Report (Ontario Birds 17: 62-83)

- under Virginia's Warbler, change bracketed numbering to "(1/2)".

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