

**TWENTY-NINTH REPORT OF THE  
FLORIDA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2018-2019**

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**Abstract.**—The Records Committee of the Florida Ornithological Society met at the Florida Museum of Natural History on 17 August 2019. We reviewed 94 new reports; in addition, we reviewed one submission tabled at our previous meeting, reviewed five submissions unresolved from our previous meeting, and discussed but voted not to open a previously decided submission. Of the 100 total reports we reviewed at the meeting, 79 were documented by photographs or video (several of these also had audio documentation), 2 were documented solely by audio recordings, and 6 were documented by specimens deposited in museum collections. In addition, we voted whether two exotic species met criteria to be considered established. The other 11 were sight reports with varying amounts of written documentation. Of these 100 reports, 77 (77%) were accepted, 18 were not accepted (18%), two were tabled (2%), and three were unresolved (3%). The submissions included eight species that would have been new additions to the Official List of Florida bird species if accepted (Dark-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-legged Gull, Black-tailed Gull, Double-toothed Kite, Red-masked Parakeet, House Crow, European Robin, and Scaly-breasted Munia), and four of these were accepted: Dark-billed Cuckoo, Black-tailed Gull, Double-toothed Kite, and Scaly-breasted Munia. The Official State List surged to 529 species.

This twenty-ninth report of the Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee (FOSRC) summarizes decisions made by the committee for the submission year ending in July 2019. Committee activity and operations are guided by our “Rules and Procedures,” available from the author. The FOSRC routinely evaluates reports of species on the FOSRC Review List (20 or fewer accepted records or reports over the previous ten years) 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 17 August 2019. We reviewed 94 new reports; in addition, one submission tabled at our previous meeting was reviewed, five submissions

unresolved from our previous meeting were reviewed, and a motion to open a previously decided submission failed. Documentation supporting the 100 total submissions included photographs and video (79 submissions, several of these also had audio documentation), audio recordings (2 submissions), and specimens deposited in museum collections (6 submissions). The other 11 submissions were sight reports with varying amounts of written documentation. In addition, we voted whether two exotic species met criteria to be considered established in the State. Of these 100 reports, 77 (77%) were accepted, 18 were not accepted (18%), two were tabled (2%), and three were unresolved (3%). Not surprisingly, the rate of acceptance was much lower for submissions that lacked supporting photographic, audio, or specimen evidence (54% accepted, 17% unresolved) than for those with such evidence (80.4% accepted, 14.9% not accepted, 4.6% unresolved or tabled). Part of this is attributable to misidentifications or poorly detailed reports submitted by beginning birders.

The submissions included eight species that would have been new additions to the Official List of Florida bird species, and we accepted four of these (Dark-billed Cuckoo, Black-tailed Gull, Double-toothed Kite, and Scaly-breasted Munia), bringing the State List to 529 species. We added the cuckoo, gull, and kite to the Review List. The votes for two other potentially new species for the State (House Crow and European Robin) were unresolved, and the vote for another species (Red-masked Parakeet)—to be added as an Established Exotic—was tabled. The other submission representing a potentially new addition to the Official State List (Yellow-legged Gull) was not accepted.

This report was prepared on behalf of all members of the FOSRC serving during the 2018–2019 reporting year. The members and their year of term expiration on the FOSRC are David Goodwin (2019), Andy Kratter (2020), Mark Berney (2021), Elliot Schunke (2022), Michelle Davis (2023), John Murphy (2024), and Michael Brothers (2025). See the FOS website (<http://www.fosbirds.org/>) for a list of the current members of the FOSRC and their addresses.

### Committee News, Formats, and Terminology

*Committee news.*—During 2019, the FOSRC met once on 17 August at the Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville. Dave Goodwin reached the end of his term this year on the committee and cycled off. Mitchell Harris, of Cocoa, will replace him. The FOSRC website, completely overhauled in 2017, continues to function well. Although the Committee still does not receive submissions for some records or reports of Review List species that are posted to online sites (e.g., various Facebook pages) or to eBird, the percentage of those that are being submitted has increased this year (Kratter 2018b).

*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 2019 (<https://americanornithology.org/publications/north-and-middle-american-checklist/>) in the species accounts. The lumping of Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) into Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) by the AOU (Chesser et al. 2017) resulted in the loss of one species from the Official List, but the subspecies remains on our Review List. 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 below). We employ the terminology for age of birds outlined by Kratter (2012). We normally do not review subspecies, but we have accepted submissions on distinctive, field-identifiable subspecies whose taxonomic rank may be reevaluated by the AOS 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 FOS. 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, reports are considered on the basis of their merits 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 chiefly based on FOSRC data or through the end of this reporting period (July 2019), as specified.

Abbreviations used here in the species accounts are AOS (American Ornithological Society), FLMNH (Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville), FOSRC (Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee), NP (National Park), NWR (National Wildlife Refuge), and SP (State Park).

Submitters (only accepted reports are individually listed with given abbreviations): Philip and Samantha Andescavage (PSA), Daphne Asphell (DA), Mark Berney (MBe), Lucas Bobay (LB), Jeff Bouton (JB), Michael Brothers (MBr), Will Chatfield-Taylor (WCT), Kevin Dailey (KDa), Fred Dietrich (FD), Kathy Doddridge (KDo),

Bob Duncan (BD), Lucy Duncan (LD), Roxanne Featherly (RF), Carmen Ferriero (CaF), Christopher Ferro, David Gabay (DGA), Ross Gallardy (RGa), Reinhard Geisler (RGe), David Goodwin (DGo), Marcello Gomes (MG), John Groskopf (JG), Adam Hull (AH), Melissa James (MJ), Brant Julius (BJ), Jeanne Kaufman (JK), Marcus Kelly (MK), Samuel Jefferson Kennard, Mark Kramer (MK), Andrew Kratter (AK), Sam Krah, Ron Leclancher, Tom Lee, Jeff Liechty (JL), Larry Manfredi (LaM), Lorne Malo, Bernard Master, Kyle Matera (KMa), Yolanda Mauriz, Kenny Miller (KMi), Joseph Montes de Oca (JMO), Yve Morrell (YM), John Murphy (JM), Margaret Griffis O'Brien (MGO), Jeff O'Connell (JO), Mike Ostrowski (MO), Bryce Pierce, Robin Potvin (RP), Victoria Rothman (VR), Mark and Holly Salvato (MHS), Eli Schaperow (ES), David Simpson (DS), Iliana and Stephen Stokes, Malcolm Mark Swan (MMS), Alta Tanner (AT), Chris Wall, Paul Waller (PW), Eary Warren (EW), Bryan White (BW), Audrey Whitlock (AW), Stefanie R. Whitson (SW), Dan and Shirley Wilkerson (DSW), Graham Williams (GW), Adam Zions (AZ).

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED

COMMON MERGANSER, *Mergus merganser*

2019-1417 (AZ). A female, originally found by Mitchell Harris, was photographed by Adam Zions at Jetty Park (Brevard County), though two were likely present during their 16 December to 30 January stay.

This is the 11th Common Merganser accepted by the FOSRC; all of these have been since 2009 and the tenth was an old undated specimen from Pasco County. Records have mostly come from the Gulf Coast (Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Citrus, Pasco, Lee counties) and twice along the Atlantic coast (Duval and Volusia County). The increase of occurrence in Florida is in agreement with some regional increases in populations in North America (Pearce et al. 2015).

RED-NECKED GREBE, *Podiceps grisigena*

2019-1377 (KDa). Rachel MacNutt discovered this bird at Huguenot Memorial Park (Duval County) on 5 January 2019 and it was present until 13 April. The bird was widely seen and photographed (eBird lists). A video-recording was submitted by Kevin Dailey.

The FOSRC has now accepted eight submissions of Red-necked Grebe: a record from Santa Rosa County (#2001-437, December 2000, Bowman 2004), two records from Leon County (#2012-945, November 2012, Greenlaw 2015; #2013-962, January 2013, Greenlaw 2015), a record from Pasco County (#2017-1192, November 2016, Kratter 2018b), and sight reports from Santa Rosa County (#2001-442, January 2001, Bowman 2004), Escambia County (#2008-675, February 2008, Kratter 2010), and Volusia County (#2013-988, March 2013, Greenlaw 2015).

INCA DOVE, *Columbina inca*

2019-1416 (BD). Bob Duncan heard this bird giving its distinctive "no hope" call on 29 May 2019 at Peake's in Gulf Breeze (Santa Rosa County). He was unable to

see the bird. He confirmed the identity immediately after by listening to calls on the xeno-canto website (<https://www.xeno-canto.org/>).

Inca Dove records are increasing in northern Florida since the first record in 2011 (Greenlaw et al. 2014); this is the eighth. In fact, the FOSRC has accepted two other Inca Dove records from this exact same location. Others have been accepted from Duval, Franklin, and Escambia counties.

KEY WEST QUAIL-DOVE, *Geotrygon chrysis*

2019-1349 (YM, KM*i*). On 16 October 2018, Eric Ray found and photographed this bird at the Lantana Nature Preserve (Palm Beach County), where it stayed until 18 October.

2019-1359 (AWK, MBe). On 27 October 2018, Mark Berney found and photographed this bird at Dr. Von D. Mizell-Eula Johnson SP (Broward County). It was present until 4 November, but Mark Berney found likely the same bird again on 10 April 2019 on a nearby part of the trail. It stayed there until 4 May 2019 and was seen and photographed by many observers.

2019-1397 (AH). On 1 April 2019, Adam Hull found and got identifiable photos of this species at the Ormond Beach Central Park (Volusia County). Many birders searched the area in the following days and weeks, but the bird was never relocated.

This Caribbean species was added to the Review List in 2016. A long-staying pair was accepted by the FOSRC in 2017 from Long Key SP (Monroe County; FOSRC # 2017-1230, Kratter 2018b). The only other occurrence listed on eBird in Florida between 2007 and 2017 was a well-documented bird at the Deering Estate (Miami-Dade County) from December 2014–January 2015. The species was likely fairly common in Audubon's time but was rare by the late 1800s (Howell 1932). There were a few Florida records in the 1960s and 1970s that have not been assessed by the FOSRC (Stevenson and Anderson 1994). The Volusia County record is much farther north than any previous record; the northernmost previous record was the Palm Beach County record above. Greenlaw et al. (2014) consider it a casual to very rare visitor to the south peninsula.

DARK-BILLED CUCKOO, *Coccyzus melacorhynchus*

2019-1384 (KM*a*, MG, AWK, RG, MBe). On 6 February, Kyle Matera and Marcello Gomes encountered and photographed this bird in scrubby vegetation at the multi-use West Delray Regional Park (Palm Beach County). The all-dark bill and creamy underparts did not match any known cuckoo in North America, and they posted the images on-line. In quick time, the identification was made, and word spread. It was seen by hundreds over the next three days, last seen 10 February. Kratter et al. (2019) detail the plumage, identification, and migratory behavior of this austral migrant species. This is the first record for Florida.

The Dark-billed Cuckoo is a South American species, with the southernmost populations being Austral migrants. They have occurred only rarely north of South America (eBird, AOU 1998), with records from Clipperton Island (13 August 1958), Grenada (26 March 1963), Panama (26 January 1980), Nicaragua (28 April 2017), and an individual recovered from a wildlife rehabilitation clinic in Texas. The latter bird was brought to the clinic on 7 February 1987, later died there, and then was donated to the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Sciences and prepared as a skin specimen (LSUMZ 164956). The record was accepted by the Texas Bird Records Committee (Lockwood 1998) but was originally designated as "origin hypothetical" by the ABA-Checklist Committee because of the unclear circumstances of its discovery (Robbins et al. 2003). The Florida record, along with retroactively the Texas record, were accepted by the American Birding Association Checklist Committee (Pyle et al. 2019).

WHITE-COLLARED SWIFT, *Streptoprocne zonaris*

2019-1400 (JB, BJ). On 1 May 2019, Jeff Bouton and Brant Julius were birding at Manasota Key (Charlotte County), midway between Englewood Beach and Sarasota County. A nighthawk-like bird appeared and Jeff immediately identified it as a White-collared Swift when he saw it in his binoculars. The large size, stiff soaring flight, long slightly forked tail, and broad white collar across the breast were familiar to him because he had seen this species many times in the Neotropics. Jeff was also able to get Brant on the bird, who noted the same distinctions.

This is the third accepted occurrence of this largely Neotropical species in Florida. The previous two records are both specimens: the first, from Perdido Key (Escambia County) on 25 January 1981 is the Mexican subspecies *S. z. mexicana* (Greenlaw et al. 2014); the second, from Lauderdale Lakes (Broward County) on 15 September 1994 is of the Greater Antillean subspecies *S. z. pallidifrons* (FOSRC #1994-310; Semo and Booher 2002).

ANTILLEAN PALM-SWIFT, *Tachornis phoenicobia*

2019-1425 (DSW, RG, LM). On 15 July 2019, Dan and Shirley Wilkerson discovered a swift foraging over Grassy Key, just north of Marathon (Monroe County). They suspected something unusual because it was smaller than a Chimney Swift (*C. pelagica*), and had a long forked tail, whitish underparts, and a more erratic flight style. They were able to get photos of the bird with their phone. They identified it tentatively as an Antillean Palm-Swift, based on their field guides, and submitted it to eBird. The bird was quickly verified for Florida's and the ABA-area's second record. The bird was last verified on Grassy Key on 21 July.

The only previous record of Antillean Palm-Swift in Florida was two birds photographed in Key West during their stay 7 July–13 August 1972 (*American Birds* 26:851, 1972; Greenlaw et al. 2014). The species is resident in Cuba, Hispaniola, and Jamaica (AOU 1998). It is occasionally recorded in Puerto Rico (eBird).

BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD, *Selasphorus platycercus*

2019-1380 (FD). This second-year male was visiting hummingbird feeders in a private yard in January 2019, east of Tallahassee in Leon County. It was caught and banded by Fred Dietrich on 13 January.

This is the ninth record accepted by the FOSRC but the first since 2011. There is also a specimen record, not assessed by the FOSRC, from Wakulla County February 2000 (Greenlaw et al. 2014). Like this submission, all previous records have been winter birds in the Florida panhandle (Escambia, Okaloosa, Walton, and Wakulla counties).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD, *Cyananthus latirostris*

2019-1337 (GW). Graham Williams photographed this stunning adult male on Glencoe Road in New Smyrna Beach (Volusia County) on 27 January. The homeowners told him the bird had been present for one or two weeks. It stayed until 6 February.

This is the ninth accepted Florida record, all since 2004. Singles previously appeared in Escambia County (#2004-549, September 2004, Bowman 2006), Duval County (#2008-663, January 2008, Kratter 2008), Calhoun County (#2008-660, January 2008, Kratter 2008), Seminole County (#2011-841, January–February 2011, Greenlaw 2014), Franklin County (#2011-864, September 2011, Greenlaw 2014), twice in Leon Co. (#2013-949, January–February 2013, Greenlaw 2015; #2018-1303, January–February 2018, Kratter 2019), and Collier County (#2016-1166, February 2016, Kratter 2018a).



HUDSONIAN GODWIT, *Limosa haemastica*

2019-1348 (KD, DG). On 8 October 2018, Kathy Doddridge found and photographed this bird at the east end of the Palma Sola Causeway in Manatee County. It was seen by many during its stay until 21 October. This is likely the same bird seen 9–10 October on Ana Maria Island, also in Manatee County (eBird: <https://ebird.org/checklist/S49087738>).

2019-1344 (LM). Larry Manfredi found this adult on 13 September 2017 on SR 9336 at about SW 230th Avenue in Miami-Dade County.

This species was added to the Review List in 2016. One record was accepted in 2017 (2017-1246, May 2017, Wakulla County, Kratter 2018b) and one in 2018 (2018-1322, April 2018, Franklin Co., Kratter 2019). In the ten-year period up to this meeting (2008–2018), eBird lists ten occurrences, six records (St. Johns County in June 2016, and five from Wakulla County), and four sight reports (September 2011 and August 2012 in Palm Beach County, September 2010 in St. Johns County, and August 2011 in Duval County). Greenlaw et al. (2014) list it as a very rare to uncommon transient. From recent records (1–2 per year at best) it seems better categorized as “very rare to rare.”

LONG-TAILED JAEGER, *Stercorarius longicaudus*

2019-1340 (JE, RN). Jim Eager and Phyllis Mansfield found and photographed this pale morph juvenile on 30 August at Walton Rocks Beach (St. Lucie County). It was present through 3 September.

2019-1345 (SW). Stefanie R. Whitson photographed this dark morph juvenile on 17 September 2018 at Jetty Park in Cocoa (Brevard County). It was found 14 September by Phil Pickering (eBird: <https://ebird.org/checklist/S48651555>).

2019-1358 (AWK). This intermediate morph juvenile was found beached in Daytona Beach (Volusia County) on 9 September 2018. It was brought to the Marine Science Center where it died. The specimen was prepared as a complete skeleton at the FLMNH (UF 52813).

This species was added to the Review List in 2016. One record was accepted in 2016 (Kratter 2018a), four records were accepted in 2017 (Kratter 2018b), and one record was accepted in 2018 (Kratter 2019). Many recent unsubmitted reports and a few records are listed on eBird. Because of identification difficulties, we prefer to maintain it on the Review List. Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as a very rare to rare transient and apparent winter visitor.

RAZORBILL, *Alca torda*

2019-1427. On 6 January 2019, this bird was picked up live at New Smyrna Beach (Volusia County) and brought to the Marine Science Center. It later died and was donated to the FLMNH, where a study skin was prepared (UF53007).

For most of the past ten years, Florida has averaged about one Razorbill record per year (FOSRC records). Most of these have been birds that have washed up on beaches and were brought to wildlife rehabilitation hospitals on the north Atlantic Coast south to Brevard County. However, the winter of 2012–2013 saw a huge influx likely involving thousands of these alcids, with many birds reaching the Gulf Coast, all the way north west to Pensacola, with one bird making it to Louisiana (Diamond et al. 2020).

THICK-BILLED MURRE, *Uria lomvia*

2019-1386 (ES). This bird was photographed by Eli Schaperow on the north side of Sebastian Inlet SP (Brevard County) on 22 January 2019 and not seen again.

The FOSRC has previously accepted six records of Thick-billed Murre, four specimens and two photographed. Including this record, all are from the winter (16 November to 11 January) on the Atlantic coast between Duval County and Palm Beach County.

SABINE'S GULL, *Xema sabini*

2019-1338 (MO). This second-cycle or adult was seen and photographed flying off of Siesta Key on 11 August 2018 by Mike Ostrowski.

2019-1357 (JL). This adult was found by Jeff Liechty on 24 October 2018 on the beach at Indian Shores (Pinellas County).

2019-1367 (JO). This first-cycle was found by Jeff O'Connell on the beach at Siesta Key on 24 November 2018. Possibly the same bird was photographed nearby on 19 September (<https://ebird.org/checklist/S59919700>).

This species was added to the Review List in 2016. Two records and two sight reports were accepted in 2017 (Kratter 2018b), and one record was accepted in 2018 (Kratter 2019). Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered it an irregular, rare fall and occasional spring visitor. It also appears to be an occasional winter visitor, as the Brevard/Indian River County in 2017 (Kratter 2018b) and two sight reports in January from Volusia County (eBird) indicate, and an occasional summer visitor (Kratter 2018b). A number of recent sight reports and a few records have not been submitted to the FOSRC.

BLACK-TAILED GULL, *Larus crassirostris*

2019-1420 (MBr). This adult was discovered on 1 February 2019 by Michael Brothers, 0.25 miles south of Frank Rendon Park in Daytona Beach Shores. It was found in the late afternoon, when thousands of gulls loaf on the beach, prior to flying offshore at dusk to roost. Despite efforts by many over the ensuing weeks, the bird was never relocated. This is the first record for Florida.

For a gull, the identification is relatively straightforward (Howell and Dunn 2007). It was a medium-sized gull, larger than Ring-billed Gull (*L. delawarensis*) but smaller than Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*). It had a very dark back (darker than adjacent Laughing Gulls [*Leucophaeus atricilla*]), white underparts, prominent black sub-terminal band on tail (excluding all white outer rectrices) with white tail tip and whiter base to tail. The uppertail coverts were white. The head was white with a dark smudgy band around the nape and minor diffuse speckling. The iris was pale yellow and the orbital ring red. The bill was yellowish-green with a black subterminal ring, a red tip, and a red mark on lower mandible adjacent to the black band. The legs were greenish yellow. In flight, it showed black wing tips with no white mirrors, a broad white trailing edge to secondaries and inner primaries; the outer primaries had small white tips. The white tail had a broad black band and white terminal tips. This is largely an east-Asian species but has been recorded (eBird, AOU 1998) casually in North America along the Pacific Coast (south to Baja California) and accidentally in the interior (Texas, New Mexico, Iowa, Illinois, Great Lakes region) and East Coast (Newfoundland south to North Carolina).

CALIFORNIA GULL, *Larus californicus*

2019-1422 (MBr). Michael Brothers found this first-cycle bird in the large gull concentrations that gather near Frank Rendon Park in Daytona Beach Shores (Volusia County) on 14 March 2019. It was not seen again.

The FOSRC has previously accepted 16 records of California Gull; eleven of these were from the large gull concentrations in Volusia County.

"THAYERS" ICELAND GULL, *Larus glaucoides thayeri*

2019-1388 (JG). John Groskopf found this first-cycle bird in the gull and tern concentrations on Siesta Key Beach on 4 December 2018; it stayed for three more days.

2019-1423 (MBr). Michael Brothers found this first-cycle bird in the large gull concentrations that gather near Frank Rendon Park in Daytona Beach Shores



(Volusia County) on 31 January 2019. It was present at least until 14 February, but a first-cycle photographed by Brothers on 4 April 2019 at Daytona Beach Shores was likely the same bird.

The FOSRC has accepted 15 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 et al. 2014).

**BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE, *Rissa tridactyla***

2019-1336 (AK). This first-cycle bird was found on a beach in Pensacola (Escambia County) on 2 May 2018. It was brought to Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida, where it died. The specimen was given to the FLMNH and a complete skeleton was prepared (UF 52706)

2019-1376. (MK). This first-cycle was found by Tom Smith on 24 November 2019 at the Lake Worth Pier (Palm Beach County) and photographed by Marcus Kelly on 30 December 2018.

2019-1378 (MK). This first-cycle, missing its entire tail, was found and photographed by Mark Kramer at Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas NP on 12 December 2018.

This species was added to the Review List in 2016; two records were accepted in 2017 (Kratter 2018b) and one record was accepted in 2018 (Kratter 2019). In the ten-year period prior to this meeting, eBird lists 11 documented records (including above) and 14 sight reports. These 25 occurrences are along the Florida Peninsula on both the Gulf coast (three) and Atlantic coast (22). Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered it a rare migrant and winter resident. Although this species may occur frequently enough to be removed from the FOSRC Review List, many recent reports have not been submitted to the FOSRC.

**“CAYENNE” SANDWICH TERN, *Thalasseus sanvichensis eurygnatha***

2018-1276. (MO). This tern was discovered 17 September 2017 at Siesta Key Public Beach by Mike Ostrowski. This beach has previously hosted a number of unusual terns, including accepted Elegant and Cayenne Terns. It was seen and photographed a number of times by other observers as well for the next several weeks (last on 24 November). “Cayenne” Tern is the subspecies of Sandwich Tern that breeds in the Caribbean and South America, and is split by some authorities (IOC). It has a mostly or wholly yellow bill. This individual had also been submitted to eBird as an Elegant Tern. The bird appears about the same size or slightly larger than adjacent Sandwich Terns, with a long dull greenish yellow bill, which is noticeably decurved. There is a bit of black in the nares and a small smudge of black along the lower mandible. The black from the somewhat shaggy rear crest continues forward around the eye. The vote in 2018 was unresolved. This year the submission was accepted, with one dissenting vote, which felt a hybrid origin could not be ruled out.

The FOSRC has previously accepted two records of Cayenne Tern, both from Sarasota County: August 2012 (#2012-912, Greenlaw 2016b) and October 2016 (#2016-1102, Kratter 2018a).

**ELEGANT TERN, *Thalasseus elegans***

2019-1352 (MO). Mike Ostrowski found and photographed this basic plumaged bird on 26 September 2018 at Siesta Key Beach, where previous records of this species have been recorded.

2019-1424 (DS). On 6 July 2019, David Simpson was scanning through images of terns that he had taken earlier that day at North Lido Key (Sarasota County) and noticed an orange-billed tern with a narrow and long bill, and a shaggy crest.

With these two birds, FOSRC has now accepted 13 submissions of Elegant Terns in Florida; nine of these were in Sarasota County (2012–2019) and eleven

of these were clustered on the Gulf Coast between Pinellas and Lee counties; the exceptions were in the Florida Keys (2015-1071, April 2015 at Pigeon Key, Monroe County) and the panhandle (2018-1265, June 2017 at Santa Rosa Beach, Walton County). It is possible, even likely, that the same bird(s) may account for several Sarasota County records.

RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD, *Phaethon aethereus*

2019-1370. This bird was found alive at Cocoa Beach (Brevard County) but later died at the Florida Wildlife Hospital. It was misidentified by the clinic and donated to the FLMNH, where it was prepared as a complete skeleton (UF52677). Unfortunately, it was not photographed before preparation, but the perpetrator (D. W. Steadman), experienced in tropicbird identification, identified it as a Red-billed Tropicbird and his measurements are diagnostic (exposed culmen 55 mm; wing chord 303 mm). Eventually the skeletal specimen will be available to be examined, but it is still being processed.

The FOSRC has previously accepted 15 submissions of Red-billed Tropicbird, two from the Gulf coast of the panhandle and 13 from the Atlantic coast. Greenlaw et al. (2014) consider it a rare visitor off the Atlantic coast, and an occasional visitor off the Gulf coast.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT, *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

2019-1421 (MBr). On 10 June 2019, Michael Brothers photographed this adult at the Ponce de Leon Inlet (Volusia County).

Although Neotropic Cormorants are now regularly breeding in Palm Beach County (Greenlaw et al. 2014, Kratter 2018a), records away from that area have been scarce. This is the first record for Volusia County.

GOLDEN EAGLE, *Aquila chrysaetos*

2019-1365 (DA). Daphne Asbell photographed this near adult on 21 November 2018 at the intersection of WPA Road and US 27 in Jefferson County.

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 in 2016, but all five of the submissions since were sight reports that were not accepted, often because they did not eliminate immature Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) from the identification (Kratter 2018b).

DOUBLE-TOOTHED KITE, *Harpagus diodon*

2019-1347 (BH). On 15 October 2018, Bev and Al Hansen were birding on Three Bridge Road in Chassahowitzka Wildlife Management Area (Hernando County), when they spotted an odd raptor. They did not recognize it and took over 100 photographs. After posting on-line, it was identified as the first Florida record of Double-toothed Kite. Unfortunately, it was not relocated, despite an army of birders searching on the following days. Details are given in Hansen and Kratter (2019).

This widespread Neotropical raptor has been recorded once previously in the ABA-Area: a second-year bird photographed by David Hanson at Boy Scout Woods on High Island in Galveston County, Texas, on 4 May 2011. That record was accepted by the Texas Bird Records Committee of the Texas Ornithological Society (Carpenter 2012) and then added to the American Birding Association's Checklist (Pranty et al. 2012).

LA SAGRA'S FLYCATCHER, *Myiarchus sagrae*

2019-1362 (MGO). On 13 November 2018 Margaret Griffis O'Brien found and photographed this bird at South Point Park in Miami Beach (Miami-Dade

County). It was present through 18 November, and seen and photographed by many birders.

2019-1407 (WCT). David Gabay found this bird on 24 April 2019 in Spanish River Park (Palm Beach County) and it was present until 4 May.

2019-1402 (AW). Audrey Whitlock found and audio recorded this bird on Hidden Lake Road in Everglades NP (Miami-Dade County). It was not relocated.

2019-1394 (MJ). Melissa James found and photographed this bird at A.D. Barnes Park in Miami (Miami-Dade County) on 24 February 2019. It stayed until 24 March and was seen and photographed by many.

This species, found in the Bahamas and on Cuba, was added to the Review List in 2016. Two records were accepted in 2017 (Kratter 2018b) and one in 2018 (Kratter 2019). Although this rate of occurrence is slightly higher than the criteria for removal from the Review List, as evidenced by the four accepted records this year, the Committee feels that it is important to keep vagrants from the West Indies, such as La Sagra's Flycatcher, on the Review List, especially because Florida is the only State where they are found in the ABA-Area. With one exception, all records are from Southeast Florida (the Keys north to Palm Beach County); the exception was one in Manatee County in April 2013 (Greenlaw et al. 2014).

SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, *Myiodynastes luteiventris*

2019-1360 (AK). On 13 October 2018, this after-hatch-year female was found injured in Coral Springs (Broward County) and brought to the South Florida Wildlife Center. It died there and was donated to the FLMNH, where a skin plus partial skeleton was prepared (#UF 52798).

This is the first specimen for Florida. The FOSRC has now accepted 18 submissions of this species. All were recorded 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.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax flaviventris*

2019-1369 (KMi, PW, KMa, MG). This *Empidonax* flycatcher was found by David Gabay at Spanish River Park in Boca Raton (Palm Beach County), on 29 November 2018. It was present until 7 December and was widely photographed and audio recorded.

2019-1387. This bird was found alive in Naples (Collier County) but later died at a bird rehabilitation hospital (the Conservancy of Southwest Florida). It was donated to the FLMNH and prepared as study skin + partial skeleton (UF 52937). It is a small *Empidonax*: yellowish tones overall, especially on underparts and throat. The wings are quite dark, and it has a distinct round eyering. The measurements are diagnostic for this species (see Pyle 1997): wing chord 66 mm; tail 54 mm; exposed culmen (from nares) 8.34 mm; longest p – longest secondary 13.92 mm; longest p – p6 6.82 mm; p6 – p10 4.21 mm.

This species was added to the Review List in 2016. Two submissions were accepted in 2017 (Kratter 2018a), and one was accepted in 2018 (Kratter 2018b). Over the past 10 years, eBird lists many occurrences for Florida, but fewer than 20 were documented, and even documented records can be quite difficult to identify (see below). In particular, identification of silent migrant birds can be treacherous, and bright fall Acadian Flycatchers (*E. virescens*) are often mistaken for Yellow-bellied Flycatchers. Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as a very rare to uncommon transient, but a recently accepted record (FOSRC #2017-1221) is from early March, much earlier than expected for a migrant, and may have been a wintering bird (Kratter 2018b).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax traillii*

2019-1339 (LM). Larry Manfredi found, photographed, and audio recorded this flycatcher on 21 August 2013 in Annex area, south of Lucky Hammock (Miami-Dade County). It likely was present for over two months, as Graham Williams photographed and audio recorded one there on 20 October (eBird: <https://ebird.org/checklist/S15463848>).

2019-1341 (MR). On 27 August 2018, Meg Rousher audio recorded this flycatcher at Harn's Marsh in Lee County.

Willow and Alder (*E. alnorum*) Flycatchers present vexing identification problems. Silent birds are generally not identifiable, except some may be distinguished by measurements in the hand. Judging by the frequency of documented records on eBird and accepted records of the FOSRC, the Willow Flycatcher appears to be much less common than Alder Flycatcher in Florida. The FOSRC has accepted six previous submissions (one spring, one mid-June, four fall) since it began to solicit submissions of this species in 2008.

SAY'S PHOEBE, *Sayornis saya*

2019-1383 (DB). On 31 January 2019, Dave Bowman found this bird on Larkin Road in Pasco County. It was seen and photographed by many birders during its long stay until at least 17 March.

2019-1391 (JM). On 5 October, John Murphy observed this bird at Bald Point SP (Franklin County). It was not relocated.

This species was removed from the Review List in 2013 (Greenlaw 2015). It was added back to the Review List in 2016 when criteria for the Review List were changed (Kratzer 2018a). Through 2017 the Committee accepted a total of 19 submissions for this species in Florida. Fifteen of these were photographic records. The first record in Florida was a wintering bird that was discovered and photographed in Orange County, in November 1975 (Greenlaw et al. 2014).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO, *Vireo flavoviridis*

2019-1410 (LM). On 7 June 2019, Larry Manfredi found, photographed, and audio recorded this well documented vireo at Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical SP on Key Largo (Monroe County). It was present to the joy of many birders until 30 July 2019.

2019-1414 (LD, BD). This bird visited a water feature at a yard in Gulf Breeze (Santa Rosa County) on 2 June 2019. It was seen well but not photographed. This is the second accepted record from this yard.

The FOSRC has now accepted 16 accepted submissions for Florida; there is also a specimen from May 1958 in Santa Rosa County. Five of the records are from the western Panhandle, three are from Pinellas County, one from Brevard County, and seven are from south Florida and the Keys (Palm Beach, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties). All records are from May to November.

VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW, *Tachycineta thalassina*

2019-1364 (JO). On 22 October 2018, Jeff O'Connell found and photographed this swallow at Faulk Drive Landing on Lake Jackson (Leon County), flying with about 20 Tree Swallows (*T. bicolor*). His description and the photos show a small swallow, with a short tail, shortish wings, extensive white in the face, and patches of white on the sides of the rump. Brownish tones to the back and slight buff in the face likely indicate an immature.

This is the second record of Violet-green Swallow in Florida, which is a montane breeder in the American West. The first Florida record was found by Tom Johnson in Everglades NP (Monroe County) from 10–15 January 2014 (FOSRC #2014-1032; Greenlaw 2016a).

NORTHERN WHEATEAR, *Oenanthe oenanthe*

2019-1373 (MMS). On 23 September 2017, Malcolm Mark Swan video-taped a bird a distance at the Okaloosa Holding Ponds (Okaloosa County). At the time he thought it might be a Mountain Bluebird (*S. currucoides*) but noticed that it had a buffy orange breast and wrote it off as an Eastern Bluebird (*S. sialis*). Several months later he reviewed the video recording and discovered that it was a Northern Wheatear. Though the images are distant and not sharp, they show the distinctive white supercilium, buffy breast, and short tail of a wheatear. It is unlikely that other similar wheatear species would occur in eastern North America, where *O. oenanthe* is regular.

This is the tenth submission of this largely Palearctic species accepted by the FOSRC; a specimen from 1955 from Collier County (Greenlaw et al. 2014) has not been assessed by the FOSRC. All are fall records (21 September–2 November).

BICKNELL'S THRUSH, *Catharus bicknelli*

2019-1409 (KMa). Kyle Matera found, photographed, and audio-recorded this singing thrush on 18 May 2019 at Lantana Nature Preserve (Palm Beach County). The upward inflected terminal notes of the song differentiate this from the very similar Gray-cheeked Thrush (*C. minimus*).

The FOSRC previously accepted six submissions of the Bicknell's Thrush, three in the spring and three in the fall. The species was originally added to the Official List based on specimens analyzed by Woolfenden and Greenlaw (2005). All following accepted records were of birds that were banded and measured in Monroe (2), Miami-Dade (2), Okeechobee, and Martin counties. Thus, this is the first accepted record of a bird that was not captured and measured.

RED-LEGGED THRUSH, *Turdus plumbeus*

2019-1406 (WCT, MHS). On the morning of 25 April 2019, Henry Detwiler found and photographed a Red-legged Thrush at Lantana Nature Preserve. Word got out quickly and it was posted on various internet groups, and many observers were able to see Florida's second record later that day. Despite much searching, the bird was not relocated after 25 April.

2019-1419 (MBe). For those who missed the above bird, Frank Schena found another Red-legged Thrush two months later, on 26 June 2019, at South Pointe Park in Miami Beach (Miami-Dade County). This bird was more cooperative and stayed until 30 June, when it was likely killed by feral cats that frequent this park. Differences in wear in the remiges (worn outer primaries, inner secondaries growing in) indicate that it was a different individual than #2019-1406 (above), which had fresh remiges. The subspecies represented is the expected nominate form from the northern Bahamas. Other subspecies are also found on Cuba, the Cayman Islands, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico, and Dominica.

The only prior Florida record was found and photographed by Marcus Ponce at Maritime Hammock Sanctuary in Brevard County on 31 May 2010 (Anderson and Ponce 2010, FOSRC #2010-807, Kratter 2012).

BAHAMA MOCKINGBIRD, *Mimus gundlachi*

2019-1346 (LM). Larry Manfredi found and photographed this bird at Adam's Key in Biscayne NP (Miami-Dade County) on 13 August 2018.

2019-1354 (KMi). On 10 October, 2018. Kenny Miller found and photographed this bird at Spanish River Park in Boca Raton (Palm Beach County).

2019-1399 (BE). On 14 April 2019, Betsy Evans found and photographed this bird at Garden Key, Dry Tortugas NP (Monroe County).

2019-1408 (WCT). This bird, which stayed for one week, was found by David Essian at Lantana Nature Preserve on 20 April 2019. It was audio-recorded by

Will Chatfield-Taylor and observed and photographed by many birders, many of whom were chasing the Red-legged Thrush (see #2019-1406 above). 2019-1411 (MBe). On 11 May 2019, Mark Berney found and photographed this bird at Mizell-Johnson SP in Dania Beach (Broward County). He also photographed the bird the following day.

This species was added to the Review List in 2016. Two Bahama Mockingbird submissions were accepted in 2016 (Kratzer 2018a), one was accepted in 2017 (Kratzer 2018b), and five were accepted in 2018 (Kratzer 2019). Although this rate of occurrence is higher than the criteria for removal from the Review List, as evidenced by the five accepted records both this year and last, the Committee feels that it is important to keep vagrants from the West Indies, such as Bahama Mockingbird, on the Review List, especially because Florida is the only State where they are found in the ABA-Area. Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as a nearly regular, very rare to rare visitor. Most records are from the southeastern coast and keys, but the species has been found as far north as Brevard County on the Atlantic coast, and Pinellas County on the Gulf of Mexico coast. The species is found in the Bahamas and scattered in the Great Antilles, usually on the immediate coast or on smaller islands peripheral to the main islands.

SCALY-BREASTED MUNIA, *Lonchura punctulata*

2019-1412 (LD). The Scaly-breasted Munia, formerly known as the Nutmeg Manakin, is an Indian and southeast Asian species that is a popular cage bird. It has established feral populations in California, Hawaii, and the Greater Antilles. Duncan and Duncan (2015) detailed the arrival, breeding, expansion, and persistence of the Scaly-breasted Munia in the Pensacola area of northwest Florida.

Since the first observations in 2001, it has expanded west to Mississippi and east to Navarre (Santa Rosa County). Breeding has been widely documented (Duncan and Duncan 2015, FLMNH specimens). Duncan and Duncan (2015) showed that the population meets the FOSRC criteria as an Established Exotic.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT, *Anthus spraguei*

2019-1392 (JM). John Murphy photographed this species on 15 December at the Apalachicola Airport (Franklin County), the only regular site where this species occurs in Florida.

This species was added to the Review List in 2016. It occurs annually at the Apalachicola Airport but very rarely away from this site. This is the first submission to the FOSRC, although eBird documents records at this site every winter since 2015 (and before). Sprague's Pipit is a short grass specialist of central North America, breeding from Alberta and Saskatchewan south to eastern Wyoming and western South Dakota, and wintering from eastern Arizona east to western Louisiana and south to northern Mexico (AOU 1998).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR, *Calcarius lapponicus*

2019-1430 (KD, RG). This adult male in basic plumage was found by Kevin Dailey on 24 November 2018 at Huguenot Memorial Park and also seen the next day.

This is the first submission of this species since it was added to the Review List in 2016. Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered it an irregular very rare visitor to the panhandle and north Atlantic coasts, and casual farther south. Documented records on eBird since 2010 total six, with an additional two sight reports.



SNOW BUNTING, *Plectrophenax nivalis*

2019-1368 (KD). Kevin Dailey found and photographed this bunting at Huguenot Memorial Park on 25 November 2018.

This species was added to the Review List in 2016 with changes in the criteria for inclusion on the list (Kratter 2018a). One record (FOSRC #2017-1168, Kratter 2018b; Duval Co.) was accepted in 2018. From 2010–2019, eBird lists four other occurrences in Florida, three on the northeast Atlantic Coast (St Johns, Flagler, and a sight report from Brevard counties), and one record in the Panhandle (Bay County). Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as an irregular, rare, winter visitor to Florida.

SPOTTED TOWHEE, *Pipilo maculatus*

2019-1363 (PSA, MBe). On 14 November 2018, Philip and Samantha Andescavage found and photographed this towhee at Dr. Von D. Mizell-Eula Johnson SP (Broward County). The bird was in an environmentally sensitive location and was not widely broadcast but was audio-recorded and photographed during its stay until 25 November. It was relocated by Mark Berney on 20 January 2019 and stayed until 19 April. During the latter part of its stay, the location was posted and it was seen and photographed by many.

This is the fourth record for Florida of this montane bird of western North America. The first was a specimen of the migratory subspecies *P. m. arcticus*, collected 14 December 1967 in Franklin Co. (Stevenson and Anderson 1994). The second, also in Franklin County, was found at Alligator Point by John Murphy in March 2007 (FOSRC #2007-633, Kratter 2008). The third was found by Bob and Lucy Duncan in Gulf Breeze (Santa Rosa County) in January 2012 (FOSRC #2012-879, Greenlaw 2014).

WESTERN SPINDALIS, *Spindalis zena*

2019-1385 (RGa, VR). On 11 February 2019, Ross Gallardy found this female at Crandon Park on Key Biscayne (Miami-Dade County). It stayed until 5 May and was observed and photographed by many birders.

This species, resident in the Bahamas and Cuba, was added to the Review List in 2016. One record was accepted by the FOSRC in 2016 (Kratter 2018a), three were accepted in 2017, although 15 or so were reported to eBird that year (Kratter 2018b), and one was accepted in 2018 (Kratter 2019). Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as a regular visitor, with one breeding record (summer 2009 in Miami-Dade County). All records are from southeast Florida (Indian River, Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade counties) and the Keys (Monroe County).

MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER, *Geothlypis tolmei*

2019-1353 (JMO). Joseph Montes de Oca found and photographed this bird on 2 October 2018 in Tropical Park in Miami (Miami-Dade County). It was also observed on the following day.

2019-1355 (KM, TS). On 28 September, Tulia Datena found and photographed this bird at the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary in Palm Beach (Palm Beach County). It was originally thought to be a Mourning Warbler (*G. philadelphia*), but the bird's dingy white throat and broad broken eye arcs are more in line with MacGillivray's (Pyle 1997). It was present the following day as well, analyses of audio-recordings and further photographs confirmed it as MacGillivray's Warbler.

The FOSRC has now accepted 12 submissions of MacGillivray's Warbler. All except one have been from south Florida (Lee, Collier, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties; the exception was in April 2008 in Pinellas County (FOSRC#2008-682, Kratter 2010). Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered it an irregular, very rare winter visitor.

MOURNING WARBLER, *Geothlypis philadelphia*

2019-1343 (LM). Larry Manfredi found, photographed, and video recorded this warbler on 24 September 2018 at Elliott Key, Biscayne NP (Miami-Dade County). It was also present the following day.

The FOSRC added this species to the Review List in 2016, but this is the first submission since. The species, however, is more frequently reported and eBird has 12 observations (two records and 10 sight reports) from 2010–2019. Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered it an almost regular, rare to very rare transient.

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER, *Setophaga kirtlandii*

2018-1311 (RP). This bird was observed on 7 May 2018 at Ocean Bay Riverside Park in St. Lucie County by Robin Potvin and Roy Netherton. Their descriptions included the gray head back, white eye arcs, yellow breast, white undertail, indistinct wingbars, and tail pumping behavior. The vote in 2018 was unresolved, with dissenters concerned with an anomalous character for Kirtland's, a distinct malar, and the lack of description of the tail. The vote to accept this year has one dissent, who voiced similar concerns.

2019-1429 (RGe). Reinhard Geisler found and photographed this bird on 10 October 2018 at Washington Oaks SP (Flagler County).

These records increase the total of accepted submission of Kirtland's Warbler to 16. A specimen from Palm Beach County in April 1896 (Greenlaw et al. 2014) has not been assessed by the Committee. Of these 17 verified or accepted occurrences, 12 are from the spring (19 April–10 May), four are from the fall (16, 20, and 24 October), and one is from winter in Miami-Dade in February (#2017-1216, Kratter 2018b). This species breeds in the upper Midwest (mainly Michigan) and winters mainly in the Bahamas.

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

2019-1398 (EW). This adult male in alternate plumage was seen and photographed by many during its three-day stay at the Sanibel Lighthouse Beach Park (Lee County), 23–25 April 2019. Photographs show no indication of hybridization with the nominate "Myrtle" subspecies; the two forms freely interbreed in a narrow hybrid zone in western Canada.

The FOSRC has now accepted nine submissions of this distinctive subspecies group. Greenlaw et al. (2014) considered it to be an irregular, very rare transient or winter visitor.

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER, *Setophaga townsendi*

2019-1342 (RF, JK). On 11 September 2018, Roxanne Featherly and Jeanne Kaufman found and photographed this bird at A. D. Barnes Park in Miami (Miami-Dade County). It stayed until 15 September and was widely seen and photographed.

This species, a medium distant migrant in western North America, was added to the Review List in 2016. One record was accepted in 2018 (FOSRC #2018-1301; Kratter 2019). Greenlaw et al. (2014) stated that it is irregular, very rare winter visitor.

BANANAQUIT, *Coereba flaveola*

2019-1356 (CaF, AK). On 2 November 2018, Carmen Ferriero found and photographed this bird at A. D. Barnes Park in Miami (Miami-Dade County). It was present until 10 November.

2019-1403 (AW). Audrey Whitlock observed this bird on 4 May 2019 at the Cape Florida Bill Baggs SP on Key Biscayne (Miami-Dade County). It was not relocated.

2019-1390 (LM). Larry Manfredi found and photographed this bird on 1 February 2019 at Boca Chita in Biscayne NP (Miami-Dade County).

2019-1374 (BW). On 20 December, Bryan White found and photographed this bird at Crocodile Lake NWR on Key Largo (Monroe County). It was not relocated.

This species was added to the Review List in 2016. Four records were accepted in 2017 (Kratter 2018b), although seven different Bananaquits reported in Florida that year (eBird), and one record was accepted in 2018 (Kratter 2018b). Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as an irregular casual to very rare winter visitor. The 2018 record (FOSRC #2018-1306, Kratter 2019) was from Cocoa Beach (Brevard County); all other Florida records have been from southeast Florida and the Keys.

BLACK-FACED GRASSQUIT, *Melanospiza bicolor*

2019-1428 (AK, LM). This male was found by Steve Collins on 21 July 2019 at Blue Hole in Big Pine Key (Monroe County). It was widely seen, photographed, and audio-recorded during its stay until 20 September.

2019-1395 (LB). On 4 March 2019 Patrick Finch found this adult male at Fort Zachary Taylor SP in Key West (Monroe County). It was photographed later that day by Lucas Bobay. Although escaped aviary birds are occasionally reported from this site, including other grassquit species, Black-faced Grassquits are not widely kept in captivity, and the bird showed no signs of captivity.

The FOSRC has accepted seven previous records, all from southeast Florida (one each from Broward and Palm Beach County, two from Monroe County, and three from Miami-Dade). There are also three older specimen records from Miami-Dade County (Greenlaw et al. 2014). It is considered a casual winter visitor by Greenlaw et al. (2014).

SUBMISSIONS NOT ACCEPTED

CAKTLING GOOSE, *Branta hutchinsii*

2019-1393. This small white-cheeked goose was observed in flight following a large form of Canada Goose (*B. canadensis*) on 12 January 2019 at South Lake Conservation Area (Brevard County). The Committee felt that it would be impossible to notice distinctive features, particularly size and shape of bill and head, to differentiate Cackling from small forms of the Canada Goose in such an observation. The FOSRC has previously accepted five submissions of Cackling Goose.

RED-NECKED GREBE, *Podiceps grisigena*

2019-1372. This sleeping waterbird was photographed on 28 November 2018 at the Eldora State House at Canaveral National Seashore (Brevard County). Though it is difficult to see details, the Committee was unanimous in thinking this was a female Black Scoter (*Melanitta americana*).

CALIFORNIA GULL, *Larus californicus*

2019-1381. This first-cycle gull was photographed at Huguenot Memorial Park (Duval County) on 7 November 2018. A western North America gull expert (Alvaro Jaramillo, in litt.) thought it was too far retarded in molt to be a California Gull. Also, the bill pattern, pale base with dark tip, was not as strongly defined as typical in first-cycle California Gull.

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL, *Larus michahellis*

2019-1366. This adult gull was photographed at the Central Disposal Facility in Cocoa (Brevard County) on 9 February 2018. Unfortunately, all of the images, none very close, are of the bird perched, so details of the wing pattern cannot

be seen well. Although this bird definitely has some characters that are good for Yellow-legged Gull, such as the yellow legs, short stout bill, tone of upperparts, and large size, the Committee felt that a first State record depends on unassailable evidence, and gull records in particular depend on open-wing images. This is the fifth Yellow-legged Gull submitted to the FOSRC, but none have been accepted. It is largely a southern European and Mediterranean species but has occurred several times in Newfoundland.

“THAYERS” ICELAND GULL, *Larus glaucooides thayeri*

2019-137. This large, first-cycle gull was photographed at Frank Rendon Park at Daytona Beach Shores (Volusia County) on 23 February 2018. The Committee felt that the open wing shot (from below) showed that the primaries were too dark for a typical Thayer’s Gull, which have nearly white undersides of the primaries. The lack of an upperwing shot made it difficult to see if it had the primaries had dark outer webs and very pale inner webs creating the distinctive “venetian blind” effect.

ELEGANT TERN, *Thalasseus elegans*

2018-1319. This tern was photographed just north of the lighthouse at St. Marks NWR (Wakulla County) on 29 May 2018. The rather distant photo shows a perched tern, with a long slender orange bill, a shaggy rear crest, black reaching the eye, and a white forehead. It is much larger than the adjacent tern also perched on a piling, likely a Forster’s Tern (*Sterna forsteri*). The vote in 2018 was unresolved, with dissenters concerned that the bill shape was difficult to discern at that distance, the black of the crest did not reach above the eye, and that the bird may be too large in comparison with the nearby *Sterna* tern. In 2019, all members of the Committee came to similar conclusions to the dissenting votes.

RAZORBILL, *Alca torda*

2019-1382. This black and white seabird was sighted in flight offshore during an ocean watch at Huguenot Memorial Park on 15 January 2019. Good numbers of Razorbills had been reported this winter in North Carolina (eBird). Although the Committee felt that the observer likely saw an alcid, the distance or brevity of view would not permit one to differentiate other species, such as Thick-billed Murre (*Uria lomvia*) or Dovekie (*Alle alle*).

PACIFIC LOON, *Gavia pacifica*

2018-1307. This northbound migrant was photographed at Siesta Key (Sarasota County) on 8 April 2018. The photographs are very distant and show a non-breeding loon in flight, dark above, and white below. The flanks are distinctly dark and contrast sharply with the white belly. Details of the neck and bill are difficult to assess, although the bill appears small. In one photograph the head and neck are straight; in the other, the head is slightly drooping. In 2018 the vote was unresolved, with some feeling that the flank pattern eliminated Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*), while others thought that a certain identification could not be reached given the quality of the photographs. The vote this year was to not accept, with members feeling that flight posture suggested Red-throated Loon and the plumage details were suggestive but not conclusive for Pacific.

This species was added to the Review List in 2016 and one record was accepted at our 2017 meeting (#2017-1238, three in Escambia County in March-April 2017; Kratter 2018b). In the 10 years prior to that meeting

(2007-2017), eBird lists 18 or so occurrences for Florida; 11 of these were in Escambia County, the others were in Okaloosa (two), Franklin, Alachua (two), Levy, Brevard, and Martin. Only five of the eighteen were documented by photographs, the others were sight reports. Greenlaw et al. (2014) listed it as a very rare winter visitor.

“HARLAN’S” RED-TAILED HAWK, *Buteo jamaicensis harlani*

2019-1418. This raptor was observed at Lake Proctor Wilderness Area (Seminole County) on 25 April 2019. Although the description matched the Harlan’s race of Red-tailed Hawk, the Committee felt that the observation was too brief, and that late April is beyond the expected date for a Harlan’s Hawk in Florida in April. “Harlan’s” Hawk has only been definitely documented twice before in Florida (Greenlaw et al. 2014).

FERRUGINOUS HAWK, *Buteo regalis*

2019-1396. This pale *Buteo* was observed a few times from 16–22 March 2019 on Amelia Island (Nassau County). Although the observer’s brief description includes some relevant field marks including wing shape, the Committee felt that such a rare record needed to be better documented, especially because it was observed several times. The Committee also felt that it would be unusual for a Ferruginous Hawk, a bird of open deserts and short grasslands, to stay several days in tidal marsh. The FOSRC has accepted only two records, both from the mid-1980s: one from Lake County (#1984-059, December 1983–February 1984) and one from Calhoun County (#1986-093, March 1986). Greenlaw et al. (2014) mentioned that two reports were also “accepted” during this period. None of the 11 submissions since have been accepted by the FOSRC.

IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER, *Campephilus principalis*

2019-1401. This bird was seen on 27 April in Sumterville (Sumter County). The very brief description only mentioned a “butter colored bill.” It is the Committee’s opinion that the only acceptable submissions of this species would be those with verifiable evidence (e.g., identifiable photographs or video). The recent controversy over video recordings, audio recordings, and sightings in Arkansas (Sibley et al. 2006) and Florida (FOSRC #06-610, Kratter 2008) calls into question whether the species persisted into the twenty-first century.

GIANT KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus cubensis*

2019-1426. This bird was photographed at Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas (Monroe County) on 15 October 1989. The photographer did not notice what appears to be a very large bill until recently. However, the image is in low resolution and it is difficult to see exact dimensions of the bill. The crown appears to be gray and the mask darker, and the Committee felt that this was likely a Gray Kingbird (*T. dominicensis*). In addition, other birders there at the time (eBird) would likely have noticed if a Giant Kingbird was present. Giant Kingbird, a rare Cuban endemic, has never been documented from Florida.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax flaviventris*

2019-1350. This bird was photographed at Red Bug Slough in Sarasota County on 12 October 2018. Although bill size and eyering details are suggestive of Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, the images do not include details of the wing tips. Underpart colors are difficult to ascertain in shady understory.

2019-1351. This bird was photographed at Conservatory Park (Manatee County) 12–14 October 2019. In the images, the Committee felt that the primary extension

was too long for Yellow-bellied Flycatcher and the secondaries lacked the black edges basally, and that this was likely an Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax vireescens*).

2019-1379. This bird was photographed and video-recorded at Deering Estate in Miami (Miami-Dade County) on 10 December 2019. The Committee felt the vocalizations were more suggestive of Acadian Flycatcher. Sonographs on eBird (since removed) also seemed to match Acadian.

BAHAMA MOCKINGBIRD, *Mimus gundlachi*

2019-1415. This bird was observed very briefly on the Embry-Riddle Campus in Daytona Beach (Volusia County) on 24 April 2019. It was seen poorly while perched and then flew past the observer in good light. Although some characters are good for Bahama Mockingbird (lack of large white wing patches, darker plumage), the Committee felt that the observation was too brief and the description lacked several key features (streaked underparts, tail pattern, eye color).

HOODED ORIOLE, *Icterus cucullatus*

2018-1326. This female oriole, present from 20 January to 9 February 2018 in Valrico (Hillsborough County) was photographed visiting feeders. The bird has a rather long bill and somewhat graduated tail, indicating that it could be a Hooded Oriole, instead of the much more expected Orchard Oriole (*I. cucullatus*). Both species were supported in posts to online discussions about its identity. In 2018, the Committee felt that it would be best to send the photographs to western birders who are more familiar with variation in Hooded Oriole. Responses from Ryan Terrill and Alvaro Jaramillo (in litt.) favored Orchard Oriole over Hooded Oriole, though neither was absolutely sure about the identification. Two records have been accepted previously in Florida, both from Santa Rosa County: a male October 2002 (#2002-494, Bowman 2006) and another male January 2011 (#2011-834, Kratter 2012).

LAZULI BUNTING, *Passerina amoena*

2019-1389 (AT). On 16 October 2018, Alta Tanner photographed this female-plumaged bird at Guana River Wildlife Management Area (St. Johns County). The images show a rather warm buffy bunting, distinct but somewhat buffy wingbars, with the greater covert (lower) wingbar more distinct, a distinct dark malar streak, a whitish throat breast with indistinct streaking, and a buff suffusion to the flanks. The malar streak and breast streaking are Indigo Bunting (*P. cyanea*) features, although the warm buff colors indicate that this may be a hybrid Lazuli x Indigo (Lethaby 2015). The FOSRC has accepted 16 submissions of Lazuli Bunting. Most of these were adult males.

SUBMISSIONS UNRESOLVED OR TABLED

RED-MASKED PARAKEET, *Psitticara erythrogenys*

2019-1413. A manuscript submitted to the *Florida Field Naturalist* by Will Chatfield-Taylor (in press) describes the Florida population of this introduced parakeet, native to southeast Ecuador and northwest Peru. The manuscript presents evidence that this species may meet FOSRC criteria to be considered an Established Exotic. Approximately 17,000 to 30,000 individuals were imported into the United States between 1983 and 1985 (Traffic U.S.A. 1987, Best et al. 1995). Nesting began in the Miami area in the 1990s, although wild populations were reported back to 1986. Chatfield-Taylor and Epps (2020) showed that



the populations have been expanding dramatically: the Miami-Dade County populations expanded from 8 km<sup>2</sup> in 1997 to 53 km<sup>2</sup> by 2018, and a separate population in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County) expanded from 5 km<sup>2</sup> to 41 km<sup>2</sup> between 2006 and 2018. At the time of our meeting, the paper had yet to be accepted for publication; thus, the Committee felt it was best to wait until it was reviewed and accepted for publication before voting on the matter, and the submission was tabled.

“HARLAN’S ” RED-TAILED HAWK, *Buteo jamaicensis harlani*

2019-1361. This dark raptor was photographed at the Tram Road Holding Ponds (Leon County) on 26 February 2016. This species is easily confused with dark morph Red-tailed Hawk from western races, and the images are quite cropped and not very sharp. The Committee felt that we should consult outside experts to assist with identification; as a result, the vote was tabled.

HOUSE CROW, *Corvus splendens*

2018-1320. The House Crow is resident in the Indian Subcontinent and southeast Asia. Populations have become established at several seaports across the globe, almost certainly arising from birds that arrived by riding cargo ships from their native range. House Crows have been present south of Tampa Bay in Manatee County (six birds since 2009) and Sarasota County (up to four birds since at least 2001; Greenlaw et al. 2014). Beginning in late April 2018, a House Crow in Nokomis Beach (Sarasota County) paired with a Fish Crow and nested. This bird is possibly one of the same birds present since 2001. Like other House Crows away from their native range, these birds in Florida are thought to be or have derived from birds that rode ships to deep-water ports, such as Port of Manatee.

The identification of the birds has not been questioned. According to the bylaws of the FOSRC, the individual must represent a “natural appearance,” which is defined as the reasonably plausible appearance of a species from its home range without the intentional intervention of man. A bird that passively rides a ship or other man-made conveyance shall be considered to have occurred naturally if it is not confined or restrained at all during its passage, and if its survival en route is not based upon significant human intervention such as continual provision of food and water actually consumed. Natural appearance need not (indeed, usually cannot) be proven; it need only be reasonably plausible based upon the biology of the species and any other known relevant factors including the circumstances of its appearance.

Thus, the bylaws allow species to be added to the Official List that may have been transported here by riding ships, under certain conditions. One of the main products brought to the Port of Manatee is tropical fruit (<http://www.portmanatee.com/about-us/port-facts/>) and it seems feasible that crows could easily survive on long ocean crossings on a ship laden with tropical fruit. The question is whether this access to fruit should be considered “continual provisioning” and whether the birds may have been “confined” in a hold or other compartment. For the second year, the FOSRC vote was unresolved. Three votes to accept considered that the definition of natural appearance had been met; four votes to not accept deemed that the appearance of House Crows in Florida was not natural because crows could not survive a long sea-crossing without provisioning.

No state or provincial Committee in the ABA area has added House Crows. They have not been considered by the ABA Checklist Committee. It should be noted that other records committees may have varying definitions of natural appearance and may or may not allow some degree of ship assistance.

EUROPEAN ROBIN, *Erithacus rubela*

2019-1404. This bird was photographed at Mizell-Johnson SP (Broward County) on 14 October 2018. The identification was not in question, and if accepted this would be the first record for Florida, and the second for the ABA Area (Pyle et al. 2019). The bird is of the expected migratory nominate race, which breeds in northern Europe. The park is in close proximity to the deep-water Port Everglades, however, and the Committee was concerned that the bird may have been ferried here on a cargo or passenger ship. The submitter analyzed shipping schedules, and no cruise ships originating in western Europe entered the port in the preceding days of the observation. The vote (5 accept, 2 not accept) was unresolved. The votes against accepting the record were concerned that a first State record should have less doubt regarding its origins.

The ABA-CLC recently accepted a record of European Robin from Pennsylvania in February and March 2015 as a wild vagrant (Pyle et al. 2018). On 5 December 2014, a European Robin was photographed on a cruise ship that had recently come to port in Miami ([https://www.facebook.com/groups/49535001197/?post\\_id=10153250032381198](https://www.facebook.com/groups/49535001197/?post_id=10153250032381198)). It was not submitted to the FOSRC for evaluation.

WESTERN SPINDALIS, *Spindalis zena*

2019-1405. The male was photographed at a small nature preserve in West Palm Beach (Palm Beach County) on Fairchild Ave South of the Palm Beach Gardens Mall on 14 May 2019. Unfortunately, in the photo is bird is too indistinct to see field marks. The descriptions, though not at odds with the identification, are very basic ("yellow breast, striped black and white head, black and white wings, blunt black bill"), leaving out important information on the size of the bird, pattern of stripes on the face, and pattern on the wings. Three Committee members felt that the description was adequate, whereas three did not. The vote was unresolved, and the submission will be discussed again in 2020.

## PETITION TO REOPEN

GREAT WHITE PELICAN, *Pelecanus onocrotalus*

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. It apparently reappeared in February 2017 but was not submitted to the FOSRC. The 2016 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). Individuals of this species have 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' great 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 for which pelican species (Great White, Dalmatian [*Pelecanus crispus*], and Pink-backed Pelicans [*Pelecanus rufescens*]) are likely to turn up naturally as vagrants in western Europe. The submission was tabled in 2016.

In 2017, the Committee had the additional 2017 record to consider. This individual has appeared to have joined a group of American White Pelicans and is moving with them throughout the year. Given that it may be difficult to identify this bird when it is moving with American White Pelicans, it is not implausible that the bird could have been in the wild for several years or even a decade plus. This greatly increases the potential geographic and temporal windows for which the bird may have escaped from captivity. At the 2017 meeting, it was also noted that migrant Great White Pelicans in the Middle East use favored stops to rest and forage and break up their long journey to eastern Europe. Pelicans have high wing-loading and are dependent on thermals off terrestrial environments for long movements. Given these considerations, we felt the bird from Sanibel is just as likely an escape from captivity as a wild vagrant from natural populations and the submission was not accepted.

As a result of criticism from the birding community about our 2017 decision, a motion was made to reopen the submission. The Committee felt that no new information regarding this submission was available and the motion to reopen did not pass. In addition, the Committee became aware that there are no records of Great White Pelicans in the Macaronesian Islands (Cape Verde, Canaries, and Madeira, and Azores) in the eastern Atlantic, off southern Europe and northwest Africa. These islands would be on the projected path that Great White Pelicans would need to take to reach North America. The Committee felt that Great White Pelicans would have an established pattern of vagrancy to these islands if the far longer vagrancy to North America was to be expected.

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