

## EIGHTEENTH REPORT OF THE FLORIDA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2008

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**Abstract.**—In 2008, the Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee assessed 52 submissions. In addition, two older submissions were reopened because new information became available. Forty-one of the submissions were accepted, nine were not accepted, one was withdrawn, and three were tabled pending further consideration or resolution of requests for more information. The submissions assessed covered 34 species, one species pair, and one distinctive subspecies. The occurrence history of the rare species represented by accepted reports is reviewed in the species accounts. Species new to Florida are Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*), supported by photographs, and Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*), accepted as an established exotic. These two additions bring Florida's State List to 503 species.

This 18th report of the Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee (FOSRC) summarizes decisions made by members of the Committee in 2008. The FOSRC critically reviews submitted reports of rare or unusual birds in Florida, as well as potential new records for the state, including whether exotic species meet criteria to be considered established. Submissions are requested for species or distinctive subspecies that are believed to be first-time vagrants in Florida or that are listed as review species or subspecies on the Official State List, published on-line in the Florida Ornithological Society's (FOS) website (<http://www.fosbirds.org/RecordsCommittee/OfficialStateList.aspx>). FOSRC review species or subspecies (= Review List) are mostly those taxa on the Official State List for which the FOSRC has previously reviewed and accepted 10 or fewer reports (but see below). In a few cases, species or distinctive subspecies are included in the Review List when Committee members seek further information on their status in the state. The FOSRC web pages (see above) also include the Rules and Procedures that govern the activities of the Committee, a reporting form for the direct on-line submission of reports to the FOSRC, the names and addresses of current Committee members, reports to the FOS Board on the proceedings of all recent FOSRC meetings, and a growing gallery of photographs of rare birds in Florida evaluated by the FOSRC.

This report details the evaluations of 48 new submissions, involving 32 species, one species pair, and one subspecies. Of the 48 reports, received from September 2007 through July 2008, 38 were reviewed and accepted, including Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) added to the Official State List as an established exotic, seven were not accepted, two were tabled pending further consideration of available evidence and specimen examination, and one was withdrawn by the submitter. Of the seven submissions not accepted, one was not accepted based on provenance (Great Black-Hawk, *Buteogallus urubitinga*), and six submissions were not accepted because the identification had not been firmly established. In addition, the committee resolved four reports that had been tabled in previous meetings pending further information or were otherwise previously unresolved: Cassin's Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferus*, FOSRC #07-629, accepted), Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus michahellis*, FOSRC #07-645, not accepted), California Gull (*Larus californicus*, FOSRC #07-646, accepted), and Caribbean Martin (*Progne*

*dominicensis*, FOSRC #07-647, not accepted). Two older FOSRC decisions were reopened because we had received new information. The Bachman's Warbler (*Vermivora bachmanii*, FOSRC #85-075) record from a bird photographed in 1977, originally accepted by the FOSRC, was reopened because some authors had doubted this identification. The matter was left unresolved to await more comparisons with specimens. The Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*, FOSRC #06-596) record of a bird photographed in 2005, originally not accepted by the FOSRC, was reopened because additional photographs became available. We voted to accept this record.

Thus, overall, the committee evaluated or reevaluated a total of 54 submissions at its 2008 meetings, accepting 41 of them (76%) and not accepting 9 (17%); one was withdrawn, and the rest were tabled. The current acceptance rate is somewhat above the rate of 71% in the period from 2001-2007 (169 of 237 submissions accepted). The percentage of submissions that include a specimen or photographic/video/audio evidence supporting the submission (81%) continued to be high, as mentioned in previous reports (Greenlaw and Kratter 2007, Kratter 2008). For the 41 submissions that were accepted, all but four (90%) had specimen or photographic/video/audio evidence. Of the nine submissions not accepted, only three (33%) had specimen or photographic/video/audio evidence. The Committee believes that more sight reports would be accepted if the descriptions were more complete, and if the submitters presented more thorough analyses of how the species was separated from similar species. The Committee feels strongly that well documented sight reports are an important part of documenting rare birds in Florida.

Bowman and Greenlaw (2006) reviewed the history of the Official State List of the Birds of Florida and provided an updated list (their Appendix 1) for the period ending 31 December 2005. This list comprised a total of 495 species, all of which are based on independently verifiable evidence (specimens, photographs or videotapes, and audio recordings). Two species were added to this list in the 16th Report (Greenlaw and Kratter 2007), and four species were added in the 17th report (Kratter 2008) to bring the state total to 501 species. For 2008, we added two species: Common Myna (FOSRC #08-662) as an established exotic, and Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*, FOSRC #08-680) based on photographs. These additions bring the total number of species on the State List to 503. The Townsend's Solitaire also now appears on the Review List. The Committee did not remove any species from the Review List in 2008. It is the view of some current Committee members that we should increase the number of accepted records before removing a species from the Review List; Florida has a low threshold for removal relative to other states with large or even moderate numbers of active birders (e.g., California, Texas, Arizona, Louisiana).

All documentation reviewed by the FOSRC, including descriptions, photographs, videotapes, audio recordings, and committee comments is archived in the Ornithology Department at the Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH), University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, and is available for public access. All observers are encouraged to submit reports on Review listed species, and on species potentially new to the State List. Ideally, observers should record details of plumage, shape, size, behavior, and other pertinent information, in a timely fashion in the field. Reports to the Committee should provide all pertinent forms of documentation, including a written description of observations, in the original submission. All observations should be submitted on the standard report form available from the Secretary or on-line in the FOSRC web-pages (see link above). In addition to uniformity, the report form provides the Committee and the observer with guidelines to those criteria used by the FOSRC for its evaluation. Completed forms should be submitted to the Secretary of the FOSRC, Andrew W. Kratter (address above), email at [kratter@flmnh.ufl.edu](mailto:kratter@flmnh.ufl.edu).

This report was prepared on behalf of all members of the FOSRC serving during 2008 when the reports discussed here were evaluated. The members serving during

these reviews and their last year of tenure were Mickey C. Wheeler (2008), Bill Pranty (2009), Sally Jue (2010), Andrew W. Kratter (2011), Bruce Anderson (2012), Mark Berney (2013), and John Murphy (2014). See the FOS website (above) for a list of the current members on the FOSRC and their addresses.

Contributors to this report: Angel Abreu (AA), Bruce Anderson (BA), Lyn Atherton (LA), Tricia Auffhammer, Barry Ault (BAu), Andy Bankert (AB), Fred Bassett (FB), Greg Bossart (GB), John Boyd, III, Michael Brothers (MB), Jim Cavanagh (JC), Julie Cooke, Cameron Cox, Rich Demler (RD), Robin Diaz, Stephen Dinsmore, Bob Duncan (BD), Lucy Duncan (LD), Tom Dunkerton (TD), Charlie Ewell (CE), Linda Felker (LF), Lindsay Galland, Murray Gardler (MG), Barbara Gay (BG), Reinhard Geisler (RG), Carl Goodrich (CG), David Goodwin (DG), John Hintermister, Alvaro Jaramillo (AJ), Paul Johnson (PJ), David Johnston (DJ), Dean Jue (DJu), Andrew W. Kratter (AWK), Dorothy Kaufmann (DK), Patrick Leary (PL), Garrett Legates (GL), Larry Manfredi (LM), Janet Millard, Trey Mitchell (TM), John Murphy (JM), Laure Neish (LN), Chris Newton (CN), Jan Osborn (JO), Bonnie Ponwith, Bill Pranty (BP), Alexa Roche (AR), Roberto Torres (RT), Bob Wallace (BW), Mickey Wheeler (MW), Meret Wilson, Casper Zuyderduyn (CZ)

#### COMMITTEE NEWS, FORMATS, AND TERMINOLOGY

*Committee news.*—During 2008, the FOSRC met twice, on 19 January at the Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, and on 30 August at Archbold Biological Station, Lake Placid. At the August meeting, FOSRC member Mickey Wheeler reached her term limit of seven years on the committee. After serving a full term, a member can not be re-nominated to serve again until one or more years have passed. Mickey's vacancy was filled by Jon Greenlaw, who had previously served on the FOSRC from 1999 to 2006.

*Formats and terminology.*—The following accounts report on all actions undertaken by the committee during 2008, and provide information on the history of the rare species in Florida covered in the accepted reports.

We follow current nomenclature and sequence in the species accounts that follow (AOU 1998 and subsequent supplements). Within accounts, reports on more than one submission on a species are introduced sequentially by the date of receipt. The code (in parentheses) associated with each submitted report to the committee (e.g., 06-601) is the catalog number for the sighting or specimen report that is logged into an electronic catalog as it is received, and refers to year (06-) followed by sequential number (-601), beginning with the first entry in the catalog. The initials following the catalog number refer to one or more contributors who supplied information to the committee (see list above). Our terminology for age largely follows the calendar-based system outlined in Pyle (1997, 2008); however we use "cycles" for gulls, as described in Olsen and Larsson (2004). We may use terms such as "first fall" or "first winter", but we substitute the ambiguous term "first summer" (= second calendar summer, including the hatching summer) with "first year." We normally do not review subspecies, but on occasion we accept submissions on distinctive, field-identifiable subspecies whose taxonomic rank may be revisited by the American Ornithologists' Union. Our use of the words "report" and "record" to describe occurrences of species in Florida follows Robertson and Woolfenden (1992) and the Field Observation Committee reports. For each species, the number of records and reports previously accepted by the FOSRC is detailed. In addition, records with specimens or photographic evidence prior to establishment of the FOSRC (in 1983) are also included. For species with five or fewer acceptable records or FOSRC accepted reports, we provide details of previous occurrences in Florida.

Abbreviations used in this report are: FLMNH, Florida Museum of Natural History; UF, University of Florida (used as a prefix to catalog numbers of specimens in the FLMNH collection); and subsp. and spp., singular and plural for subspecies.

## ACCEPTED SUBMISSIONS

MASKED DUCK, *Nomonyx dominicus*

08-686 (LM; photographs). A male was found 2 May 2008 at a private community on Sheridan Street, Pembroke Pines, Broward Co.

The FOSRC has accepted four previous reports (three photographs, one sight report); in addition, Stevenson and Anderson (1994) list 11 documented records (seven photographs, four specimens) that have not been evaluated by the FOSRC.

RED-NECKED GREBE, *Podiceps grisegena*

08-675 (JO; sight report). This bird was found 20 February 2008 at Old River, just north of Perdido Key, in Escambia Co. It was seen in direct comparison with Horned Grebes (*P. auritus*).

There are only two previously accepted reports of Red-necked Grebe for Florida, one photographed in Gulf Breeze (Santa Rosa Co.), December 2000 (FOSRC #01-437, Bowman 2004), and a sight report, also from Gulf Breeze, in January 2001 (FOSRC #01-442, Bowman 2004).

MANX SHEARWATER, *Puffinus puffinus*

07-649 (PL; photographs). This beached carcass (specimen not salvaged) was found on 30 September 2007 at Little Talbot Island, St. George Inlet, Duval Co.

There are 14 previously accepted records for Florida (nine specimens, two photos, three sight reports).

RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD, *Phaethon aethereus*

07-653 (AWK, BW; photographs). This hatch-year bird was seen on 11 November 2007, ca. 32 nm east of Ponce de Leon Inlet, Volusia Co., by 50+ observers during a commercial pelagic trip.

08-683 (RT, AA, TM; photographs). This bird was found 23 May 2008 about 9 nm east of Key Biscayne, Miami-Dade Co.

There were nine previously accepted reports (four specimens, four photos, one sight report) for this species in Florida.

BLACK-HEADED GULL, *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

08-684 (RG, CN; photographs). This first-cycle gull was present 26 April-2 May 2008 at Peacocks Pocket, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Brevard Co.

There are six previously documented records and one accepted sight report for Florida: in Brevard Co., in 1972 (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992), Leon Co. in August 1982, Collier Co. in November 1990, Duval Co. in December 1998, Alachua Co. in January 2000, Indian River Co. in February 2002, and Miami-Dade Co. in October 2005.

CALIFORNIA GULL, *Larus californicus*

07-646 (DJ; photographs). This third-cycle bird was found 18 April 2007 at Cedar Key, Levy Co. A low-quality scan of a photograph and a brief written description were submitted for our meeting in August 2007. The Committee opted to table the submission and ask the submitter for a higher resolution photo, which was provided for our January 2008 meeting.

08-669 (AJ; photographs). This bird was present 27 January-3 February 2008 at the Tomoka Landfill, Daytona Beach, Volusia Co., and was probably the same individual

that appeared at Ponce de Leon Inlet (Volusia Co. 12 February) and Daytona Beach Shores (Volusia Co., 20 February-6 March), but documentation was not submitted for these other sightings.

The FOSRC has previously accepted two submissions: a sight report from Pinellas Co. in 1983 (FOSRC #83-040) and one photographed in Franklin Co. in 1998 (FOSRC #99-392). The state's first record, photographed in Pinellas Co. in April 1978, has not been assessed by the FOSRC.

ICELAND GULL, *Larus glaucooides*

07-655 (JM; photographs). This first-cycle gull was found 2 December 2007 at Alligator Point, Franklin Co.

08-659 (PL; photographs). This first-cycle bird was present 29 December 2007-9 February 2008 at Bird Island, Duval Co.

08-668 (BW, AB, TD, MB; photographs). This first-cycle bird was present in the Daytona Beach, Volusia Co., area from 23 January-15 February 2008, where it wandered widely. It was photographed at the Tomoka Landfill, Daytona Beach Shores, and off Ponce de Leon Inlet.

08-674 (BW; photographs). This first-cycle bird was found 23 January 2008 at the Tomoka Landfill, Daytona Beach, Volusia Co.

Before these four records, there were 13 accepted records for Florida (1 supported by a specimen, 12 supported by photographs).

THAYER'S GULL, *Larus thayeri*

08-678 (AB, DF; photographs). This bird was seen 3-6 March 2008 at the Central Disposal Facility, Cocoa, Brevard Co.; a sight report from the same location on 29 January 2008 was almost certainly the same bird.

There are 10 previous documented or accepted reports of Thayer's Gull in Florida: one specimen and six records with photographs from before 1984 (and not reviewed by the FOSRC; Stevenson and Anderson 1994), but only three birds accepted by the FOSRC since: a bird photographed in March 1985 in Broward Co. (FOSRC #86-091; Dowling 1989), a sight report from Broward Co. in January 1999 (FOSRC #99-389, Bowman 2004), and a bird photographed in November 2001 in Pinellas Co. (FOSRC #02-460, Bowman 2004).

RAZORBILL, *Alca torda*

08-671 (MB; sight report). This bird was seen on 25 January 2008 at Ponce de Leon Inlet, Volusia Co.

08-681 (GB, AWK; specimen). This mummified specimen (UF 46592) was found beached by Andrew and Troy Westover on 6 April 2008 at South Beach, Vero Beach, Indian River Co. The carcass was brought to Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, and then sent to the FLMNH, where a skeletal specimen and spread wing were prepared. Although the specimen was quite mummified, it is unlikely to have died outside of state waters and drifted  $\geq 350$  km south to Indian River Co.

This rare winter visitor was previously known from Florida on the basis of one photographed in Brevard Co. in 1967 (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992), and 11 specimens (Stevenson and Anderson 1994, Pranty 1993, 1996, Greenlaw and Kratter 2007).

LONG-EARED OWL, *Asio otus*

07-654 (BD, LD, DK; photographs). This hatch-year male was found 30 November 2007 in very weak condition in a ditch at Garcon Point, Santa Rosa Co. It was brought to the Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida for rehabilitation. The bird recovered and was released back to the wild on 1 January 2008 (Duncan et al. 2008) but not subsequently refound.

There were five previously accepted reports of this species in Florida: a specimen from Key West, Monroe Co., in 1898 (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992); a specimen from Cassia, Lake Co. in 1992 (not assessed by the FOSRC, Stevenson and Anderson 1994); a videotaped bird from Archbold Biological Station, Highlands Co. (FOSRC #94-290, Anderson 1996); a sight report, also from Archbold Biological Station, Highlands Co. (FOSRC #95-330, Anderson 1996); and a photo April 2003 at Dry Tortugas NP, Monroe Co. (FOSRC #03-503, Bowman and Greenlaw 2006).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD, *Cyananthus latirostris*

08-660 (AB, DG, BW, LA, FB; photographs). This after-second-year male visited hummingbird feeders at the residence of Ray and Elsie Dennis (18743 Lake Joyce Road, Blountstown, Calhoun Co.) starting ca. 17 December 2007 and stayed through 1 March 2008. It was trapped, measured, banded, and photographed and then seen by many birders, providing Florida's second record.

08-664 (AWK, FB; photographs). This second-year male visited hummingbird feeders from 16 January to 21 February 2008 at the residence of Sandy Dixon (6181 Deepwood Drive E., Jacksonville, Duval Co.). The bird was photographed, then later trapped, measured, banded, and photographed in the hand by Fred Bassett. The bird stayed and was subsequently seen by many birders.

Prior to these two birds, the only Florida record was one photographed in Pensacola (Escambia Co.) following Hurricane Ivan in September 2004 (FOSRC #04-549, Bowman and Greenlaw 2006).

ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD, *Calypte anna*

08-661 (FB, AB; photographs, video). DeFuniak Springs, Walton Co. This after-second-year female visited hummingbird feeders at the residence of Dara and Lloyd Dobson in DeFuniak Springs, Walton Co. from early November 2007-23 January 2008. It was trapped, measured, banded, and photographed, and was subsequently observed by many birders, with additional photographs and video submitted. This established Florida's second record; the first was in January 1988 in Leon Co. (FOSRC #88-154, Baker 1991).

BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD, *Selasphorus platycercus*

08-663 (FB, AB; photographs, video). This after-second-year female visited hummingbird feeders from 6-22 December 2007 at the residence of Maryann Friedman in Baker (2.5 km N of intersection Hwy. 189 & SR 2), in Okaloosa Co. It was trapped, measured, banded, and photographed in hand; additional photographs and video were submitted.

The FOSRC had previously accepted four records of Broad-tailed Hummingbird in Florida, all since 2000; one is from Wakulla Co. (FOSRC #00-409, Bowman 2000) and three are from Escambia Co. (FOSRC #s 01-434, 02-470, 04-532; Bowman 2004, Bowman and Greenlaw 2006).

SAY'S PHOEBE, *Sayornis saya*

07-656 (BP, MG, AB; photographs). This bird, found by Gian Basili's party on Ranch Road in Astatula, Lake Co., during the Zellwood-Mount Dora Christmas Bird Count, was subsequently seen by many observers during its stay from 21 December 2007 until 20 March 2008.

The FOSRC has accepted three previous reports of this species (one sight report from Franklin Co. and photographs from Hamilton and Escambia cos.).

ALDER FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax alnorum*

08-691 (MW; audio recordings). This bird was found on 5 September 2007 at "The Annex," Southern Glades Wildlife and Environmental Area, Miami-Dade Co. The documentation included a written description of this *Empidonax* flycatcher and a re-

cording of its flat “pip” calls (calls transcribed from Sibley 2000). This recording was compared to recordings of *Empidonax* species in Stokes et al. (1997).

08-696 (LM; audio recordings). This bird was found 28 August 2008 at “Lucky Hammock,” Frog Pond Wildlife Management Area, west of Homestead, Miami-Dade Co. The audio file has examples of song (burry harsh “vreee---bee-o”), some song variants, and a few calls typical of Alder Flycatcher. This recording was analyzed in reference to recordings of *Empidonax* species in Stokes et al. (1997). Manfredi stated (in litt.) that there were six Alder Flycatchers present at this time at “Lucky Hammock,” and that several are present at this site every fall.

The FOSRC added Willow Flycatcher and Alder Flycatcher to the FOSRC Review List because the status of these extremely similar species, which were formerly lumped as Traill’s Flycatcher (*E. traillii*), is very unclear in Florida.

#### SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, *Myiodynastes luteiventris*

07-650 (JC; sight report). This bird was found 11 October 2007 at St. George Island, Franklin Co. The description and sketch of this large flycatcher mentioned a rufous tail and rump, streaked underparts with a yellowish wash, a long bill, and a contrasting face pattern with dark malars meeting under the chin. The bird illustrated had a bill that was too long for the extremely rare Variegated Flycatcher (*Empidonax varius*), and the malar streaks were too prominent.

The FOSRC has previously accepted five records (all documented by photographs), all from either Miami-Dade Co. (four) or Pinellas Co. (one).

#### LOGGERHEAD KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus caudifasciatus*

08-679 (LM, CZ, LN; photographs). This bird was present 14-22 March 2008 at Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas, Monroe Co. The gray back with little olive tone, pale tail tips, and white flanks of the Dry Tortugas bird indicates either the nominate race from Cuba or *T. c. flavescens* from the Isle of Youth. This record comes quickly on the heels of the first record from Florida in March 2007 (FOSRC 07-632; Kratter 2008), though this species has had a convoluted history on the Official State List of Florida. Birds photographed in the 1970s had been accepted by Robertson and Woolfenden (1992), but Smith et al. (2000) reviewed these records and concluded that none established the species for the state. The FOSRC subsequently voted to remove the species from the list in 2003 (Bowman and Greenlaw 2006), and it was not reinstated until the appearance of the Key West bird in 2007.

#### CASSIN’S KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus vociferans*

07-629 (AB, CG; photographs). This bird was present 27 January-10 February 2007 on the east side of SR 437, across from Hooper Farm and Hooper’s Landscape Nursery Inc., 2828 Hooper Farms Road, Apopka, Orange Co. This report was tabled at the August 2007 meeting because we had not received photographs, though committee member Bruce Anderson knew photographs had been taken. Cassin’s Kingbirds have been reported annually in recent years at the Lake Apopka kingbird roost (B. H. Anderson, pers. comm.), but the FOSRC has reviewed records only from the winters of 1999-2000 (FOSRC #00-047) and 2002-2003 (FOSRC #03-516, Bowman and Greenlaw 2006). It is possible that this is the same individual as in preceding winters.

07-657 (GL; photographs). This bird was discovered during the Clewiston-STA-5 Christmas Bird Count (near Clewiston, C.R. 835 on fence of Ocean Boy Shrimp Co., Hendry Co.) on 15 December 2007 and it stayed until 20 March 2008. Like the Cassin’s Kingbird near Hooper Farms (07-629, see above), this individual may have wintered at this location for several years (06-598 in April 2006), although it was not reported in the winter of 2006-2007.

Before these two records, the FOSRC had previously accepted nine submissions (five photographs, four sight reports), but 07-629 may represent the third accepted record of the same individual and 07-657 may represent the second accepted record of the same individual.

TROPICAL KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus melancholicus*

08-658 (LA; photographs). This bird was found 29 September 2007 at Fort De Soto Park, Pinellas Co. The vocalizations were described as twittering, thus differentiating this from Couch's Kingbird (*T. couchii*), which is otherwise very similar aside from a somewhat shorter bill and a less deeply notched tail.

Six accepted records with photographs and one accepted sight report of Tropical Kingbird are now known from Florida; an additional accepted record (photo) was either a Tropical or a Couch's Kingbird.

TROPICAL/COUCH'S KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*

08-692 (BD; sight report). This bird was found 2 August 2008 in Gulf Breeze, Peake Subdivision, Santa Rosa Co. The description of this silent, yellow-bellied kingbird included the long bill, unmarked notched tail, and green breast that indicated either Tropical Kingbird or Couch's Kingbird. Field identification of these two species is not possible without hearing their distinct vocalizations or observing the relative lengths of some of the outer primaries (Pyle 1997).

08-693. (LA; photographs). This silent bird was found 16 July 2008 at Fort De Soto Park, Pinellas Co. Field identification of these two species is not possible without hearing their distinct vocalizations or observing the relative lengths of some of the outer primaries (Pyle 1997), although the length of this bird's bill may be outside the range of Couch's Kingbird. Nevertheless, without measurements or vocalizations, the Committee felt it was appropriate to list this as a Tropical/Couch's Kingbird.

Six previously accepted records (including FOSRC #08-658 above) with photographs and recordings and/or descriptions of vocalizations plus one accepted sight report of Tropical Kingbird are known from Florida; an additional accepted record (photo) was either a Tropical or a Couch's Kingbird. Couch's Kingbird remains to be documented from Florida. Vocalizing Couch's Kingbirds, which were not recorded, have been found in Florida and were accepted by the FOSRC (# 86-092 and 86-106), but the species is not included on the Official State List (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992) because verifiable documentation was lacking.

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO, *Vireo flavoviridis*

08-685 (LM; photographs). This bird was found 18 June 2008 at Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park, Monroe Co.

08-688 (CG; sight report). This bird was found 23 April 2008 at Key West Botanical Gardens, Stock Island, Monroe Co. The description included the olive back and unmarked wings, white underparts with distinctive yellow flanks and undertail coverts, large bill, and gray crown lacking black borders that are diagnostic for Yellow-green Vireo.

Prior to these two submissions, accepted reports in Florida included one specimen from Santa Rosa Co. in May 1958 (Robertson and Woolfenden 1992) and six sight reports, as follows: May 1984 in Palm Beach Co. (FOSRC #84-064, Langridge 1985, Powell 1986), May 1986 in Pinellas Co. (FOSRC #86-102, Dowling 1989), May 1998 in Escambia Co. (FOSRC #00-422, Bowman 2004), September 2002 in Pinellas Co. (FOSRC #03-515, Bowman and Greenlaw 2006), September 2002 in Monroe Co. (FOSRC #04-526, Greenlaw and Kratter 2007), and August 2003 and in Monroe Co. (FOSRC #04-527, Bowman and Greenlaw 2006).



COMMON MYNA, *Acridotheres tristis*

08-662 (BP). Pranty (2008) detailed the establishment and population growth of the Common Myna in Florida. This species, native from Iran east through the Indian subcontinent to southeast Asia, first bred in Florida in 1982 and the population has expanded consistently, now being found in 18 counties in Florida, with breeding confirmed in 11 of these. There is also one probable report from Georgia. To be accepted as an Established Exotic in Florida (see <http://www.fosbirds/RecordCommittee/RulesAndProcedures.aspx>, Appendix A), a species must meet the Persistence Criterion and one or both of two additional criteria. These criteria state:

An exotic species will be deemed “established” in Florida if a stable or increasing population of that species has persisted continuously in one or more areas for at least 15 years (Persistence Criterion) and meets one or both of the following additional criteria:

- a. An exotic species that has exhibited rapid population growth by widely evident natural reproduction, accompanied by evidence of extensive range expansion within (and perhaps beyond) Florida, may be deemed “established.” See 3b for publication requirement
- b. An exotic species for which there is acceptable evidence that successful nesting (fledged young) is a characteristic of one or more local populations of several hundred individuals, that this nesting activity is recruiting young adults into the population(s), that (if applicable) the population(s) have exhibited resilience in the face of major perturbations such as hurricanes or habitat disruptions, and that there is little or no evidence that ongoing releases play a significant role in population maintenance, may be deemed “established,” but only after such evidence as is available has been published in at least one scientific source (e.g., peer-reviewed journal, technical book), or after this evidence has been amassed by a Committee member or some other interested individual and reviewed by the Committee. In the last instance, a detailed analysis of the issue must be published in a suitable scientific source if a judgment of Establishment is rendered by the Committee. Furthermore, by extension, the requirement for publication applies to species considered “established” under section 3a as well.

Given the evidence presented in the manuscript the Common Myna meets the establishment criterion, and definitely additional criterion “a” and possibly “b.” For “b” it can only be assumed that nesting activity is recruiting young adults into the population, although there is no evidence that additional escapees from captivity (the species is rare in captivity in the continental United States) are fueling the expansive population growth. The Common Myna population, centered in Miami-Dade Co., survived and continued to expand in the face of a direct hit from Hurricane Andrew in 1992, one of the strongest hurricanes ever to strike the United States. The Common Myna is thus added to the Official List of Florida Birds.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE, *Myadestes townsendi*

08-680 (BA, AB, BP, LA; photographs). This bird, a first record for Florida, was present 9-13 March 2008 at the Genius Drive Nature Preserve, Winter Park, Orange Co. (Bankert et al. 2009). This migratory, western montane species breeds east to southwestern Saskatchewan, southwestern South Dakota, and northwestern Nebraska, and regularly winters at lower elevations east to western Missouri, western Oklahoma, and western Texas (AOU 1998). It has strayed east to much of northeastern North America south to Iowa, Ohio, and New Jersey (AOU 1998), and more recently to South Carolina (SCBRC 2008), Mississippi (sight report; MOSBRC 2007), and Louisiana (Dobbs 2003). Townsend's Solitaires staged a mini-invasion of eastern

North America during winter 2007-2008 and the Florida individual was undoubtedly associated with this movement.

MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER, *Oporornis tolmiei*

08-682 (LA; photographs). This bird, present 22-23 April 2008 at Fort De Soto Park, Pinellas Co., was discovered by Pete Timmer, Chuck Geanangel, and Mark Henderson.

The FOSRC has accepted four previous reports: one photographed April 1998 in Lee Co. (FOSRC #98-385, Bowman 2000) and sight reports from Broward Co. in February-March 2002 (FOSRC #02-464, Bowman 2004), Miami-Dade Co. in April 2001 (FOSRC #02-487, Bowman 2004), and September 2005 in Miami-Dade Co. (FOSRC #06-588, Greenlaw and Kratter 2007).

"AUDUBON'S" YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER, *Dendroica coronata "auduboni"*

08-687 (LM; video). This bird was found 15 April 2004 at Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas, Monroe Co.

The two reports previously accepted by the FOSRC were a sight report on 30 April 1988 from Monroe Co. (FOSRC #88-143, Dowling 1989), and a fall migrant photographed 28 September 2006 in Pinellas Co. (FOSRC #06-592, Greenlaw and Kratter 2007).

BULLOCK'S ORIOLE, *Icterus bullockii*

08-665 (AB, DJu; photographs). The winter of 2007-2008 marked the third consecutive winter that a female oriole visited feeders at the residence of Fran Rutkovsky in Tallahassee, Leon Co. (FOSRC #06-607 in 2005-2006 and #07-628 in 2006-2007). We tabled the submission at the January 2008 meeting to await a photograph, which was provided in February. These records likely involve the same individual.

08-690 (AR; video). This adult male was present from 26-31 March 2008 in Tallahassee, Leon Co.

Seven previously confirmed records of Bullock's Oriole are known from Florida (Pranty et al. 2005, Greenlaw and Kratter 2007), although these include the two previous submissions of the same individual as 08-665 (see above).

LAZULI BUNTING, *Passerina amoena*

08-667 (LF, BG, BA; photographs). This bird was present 28 January-4 February 2008 at Emeraldal Marsh Conservation Area, Lake Co.

08-670 (CE, BP, RD; photographs). This second-year male was present 5 February-30 March 2008 at Alva, Lee Co. This individual was somewhat outside the usual spring occurrence of Lazuli Buntings in Florida, and likely wintered.

Of the seven records and reports previously accepted by the FOSRC before these two individuals, six have been males in March or April. A female or immature in Belle Glade, Palm Beach Co., in December 1991 is the only exception.

SUBMISSIONS NOT ACCEPTED

MANX SHEARWATER, *Puffinus puffinus*

08-672. This bird was observed 21 November 2007 at Playalinda Beach, Merritt Island, Volusia Co. It was seen flying ca. 300-400 m away through a spotting scope. The description of a small black-and-white shearwater matched either Manx Shearwater or Audubon's Shearwater (*P. lherminieri*), which can be difficult to distinguish. The description included a shorter tail, more extensive white on the underwing, white undertail coverts, and black upperparts all suggestive of Manx Shearwater, and the observer was extensively familiar with both species. However, at the distance of observation the field marks can be difficult to observe, especially since Audubon's

Shearwater can show much white in the undertail coverts (along with pale feet obscuring the dark undertail coverts), and fresh birds can be quite black. The observer's description of the flight—"The bird alternated between a series of rapid wingbeats interspersed with short (1-2 seconds) glides"—is appropriate for Audubon's Shearwater as well.

GREAT BLACK-HAWK, *Buteogallus urubitinga*

08-689. Robin Diaz presented to us a written analysis of the reports, spanning several decades, of *Buteogallus* black-hawks in the Keys and southern mainland of Florida. The current records and photographs occur from December 2003-August 2008 at Virginia Key, Miami-Dade Co., although reports date back to at least 1972. In 1973 two pairs of adults were present and immature birds were seen as well. In that year Wally George identified an adult *Buteogallus* hawk he saw well at Virginia Key as a Great Black Hawk of the nominate subsp. (R. Diaz unpubl. ms.). Photographs of the birds in 1970s continued to generate debate, however (R. Diaz unpubl. ms.) Many (e.g., Abramson 1976) attributing these sightings and photographs to Common Black-Hawks (*B. anthracinus*), either the resident nominate subsp. in Central America or, more frequently, the resident Cuban taxon (*B. [a.] gundlachi*), which is now considered a separate species by the AOU (Banks et al. 2007) but was considered a subsp. of *anthracinus* at the time. Robertson and Woolfenden (1992) did not accept any *Buteogallus* species to the Official State List; their only reference, in their Unestablished Exotics Appendix, is to a 1992 University of Miami specimen of *B. urubitinga* that "must be regarded as of doubtful origin." They stated that some Miami area observers recalled examining an adult *Buteogallus* found injured in Coral Gables and was ultimately donated to the University of Miami collection. Stevenson and Anderson (1994) placed *B. anthracinus* in brackets, denoting that that the origin was uncertain. The FOSRC reviewed a sight report of a *Buteogallus* not identified to species from Dixie Co. (FOSRC #94-296), but it was not accepted (Anderson 1996).

In recent years, birds centered in and around Virginia Key have been identified as Great Black-Hawks. In the photographs presented by Diaz, the basal half of the tail and uppertail coverts were distinctively white, thus identifying this individual as a Great Black-Hawk from the nominate population in South America. This population is unlikely to reach Florida as a natural vagrant. Although it seems likely that a small population of Great Black-Hawks has persisted here for 30+ years, we only have photographs and submitted notes from 2003 onwards and thus restrict our identification to this time period. We thus accepted the identification as Great Black-Hawk of the nominate race, but did not accept the record as a natural vagrant to Florida, as Diaz had concluded in her analysis.

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL, *Larus michahellis*

07-645. This first-cycle gull, a potential first record for Florida, was found 5 March 2007 at the Tomoka Landfill, 1990 Tomoka Farms Road, Daytona Beach, Volusia Co. This species, which breeds in the eastern Atlantic Ocean east through southern Europe to central Asia, is a casual visitor to North America, with records from Newfoundland, where it is nearly annual in occurrence, south to North Carolina, with an additional record in Texas (Pranty et al. 2008). Eight photographs, a FOSRC form, and opinions from two gull experts were initially submitted for this well documented record. This bird's plumage was similar to a first-cycle Lesser-Black-backed Gull (*L. fuscus*), but differed in proportions (larger bodied, deeper chested) and particularly in its large thick bill. Although we received two favorable outside opinions (see below) supporting identification as *L. michahellis atlantis* (the subsp. breeding on eastern Atlantic islands), we tabled this report at the August 2007 meeting because a first state record should be unambigu-

ous. The Committee then solicited opinions from several more experts on gull identification. A summary of expert opinions follows:

“Well I can say for sure that it is not a nominate *michahellis* from the Mediterranean . . . there is a lot about this bird that looks good for Yellow-legged Gull . . . there is no question that your bird is *atlantis*”.

“It looks very good for *michahellis* of some kind . . . although I still have slight problems with the rather dense tail pattern . . . 95% sure for *michahellis*”.

“It does look interesting but I don’t know how to eliminate LBBG [Lesser Black-backed Gull]”.

“I would certainly call this a Yellow-legged Gull. I would even say that it was a *michahellis*, not an *atlantis* . . . the only thing that worries me is that the wing coverts are not that much worn . . . [and they] don’t show 2nd generation feathers”.

“It lacks one of the key elements that I look for in a top-level candidate YLGU . . . Almost every kind of YLGU has the outer web of R6 pure white except for the narrow subterminal black mark . . . I personally could not vote for the FL gull as a good YLGU . . . yet. I would want to be sure that it was slated for review when more knowledge of the ID issues and evolving occurrence situation comes to hand”.

One problem in assessing this record is that immature plumages of hybrids of Lesser Black-backed Gull and “American” Herring Gull (*L. argentatus smithsonianus*), which has been a suspected combination in northeastern North America, are not known (Howell and Dunn 2007), and would presumably look like this individual. However, one Committee member felt that the bulky bill was too large to be from this hybrid combination. Another problem is that proportions of the posterior part of the bird are difficult to assess given the angle of the photographs. Lastly, some experts thought the bird was subsp. *atlantis*, while others thought it was nominate *michahellis*. Overall, most Committee members felt that too much uncertainty existed to admit this as a first state record.

#### “THAYER’S” GULL, *Larus thayeri*

08-694. This gull was originally posted on the Internet as a probable Thayer’s or Kumlien’s Iceland Gull (*L. glaucoides kumlieni*) hybrid with a North American Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*). It was found and photographed 31 January 2008 at the Central Disposal Facility, Cocoa, Brevard Co. The Committee thought it was appropriate to review the record, as both Iceland Gull and Thayer’s Gull are on the Review List, even though no one had submitted it as a review-list taxon. This first-cycle gull had noticeable damage to its inner primaries. Although this gull had some characters of Thayer’s Gull (long wings, smaller size relative to Herring Gull, dark primaries that were paler from below), it also had a massive bill that is not typical of “white-winged” gulls (Thayer’s and Iceland gulls). The oversized bill indicates a possible hybrid ancestry, most likely with Herring Gull as one parent, and Thayer’s Gull or possibly Kumlien’s Iceland Gull as the other parent. However, neither hybrid combination is known (Howell and Dunn 2007).

#### CARIBBEAN MARTIN, *Progne dominicensis*

07-647. This potential first state and ABA record was found and photographed 29 March 2007 at Fort Zachary Taylor, Key West, Monroe Co. The Caribbean Martin breeds in the West Indies from Jamaica and Hispaniola south through the Lesser Antilles to Tobago and presumably winters in South America (AOU 1998). The series of photographs show a martin in flight with a mostly white belly and dark sides and throat (with some brown feathers), similar to the pattern shown in adult

Caribbean Martins. The mix of dark and lighter brown feathers in the throat and the irregular margins of the white belly indicate a second-year male. The submitter also supplied photographs of series of specimens of the following martin species: Caribbean Martin, Gray-breasted Martin (*P. chalybea*), Purple Martin (*P. subis*), and Sinaloa Martin (*P. sinaloae*). However, none of the specimens photographed appeared to be a second-year male. At the August 2007 meeting we decided to table the submission to see if we could find more martin specimens for comparison. Although Kratter requested specimens from the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science in September, which has a good series of *P. dominicensis*, they have a back-log and we did not receive the specimens by the January meeting. At the August meeting, some Committee members showed an article in *Birding* (Hill 2002) that pictured a second-year male Purple Martin (from Pennsylvania in April) that is very similar to the bird photographed at Key West. It was also noted that the dark throat of second-year Purple Martins extended farther down the breast than in adult Caribbean Martins (and thus probably also in second-year plumage). Although the tail of the martin from Key West does appear to be quite deeply forked, which is shown by Caribbean Martin, the Committee felt that the depth of the fork is difficult to judge in flying birds, and depends on how wide the tail is spread. The Committee thus felt there was a strong possibility that this bird may have been a Purple Martin.

BICKNELL'S THRUSH, *Catharus bicknelli*

07-652. This bird was observed 1 October 2007 in Jacksonville, Duval Co. A FOSRC form was submitted for this sighting, made on one day by a single observer. The description of the bird, seen with Swainson's Thrushes (*C. ustulatus*), mentioned the smaller size, spotted breast (spots dark and distinct) and plain face that are indicative of Gray-cheeked (*C. minimus*) and Bicknell's thrushes. The rufous tail described is more likely to be found in Bicknell's, but identification to species within this pair is nearly impossible without in-hand measurements or vocal confirmation. The description does not include bill coloration, which in Bicknell's tends to be brighter yellow orange, and extends more than halfway to the tip.

08-666. This bird was observed and photographed 28 October 2007 at Fort Zachary Taylor, Key West, Monroe Co. This *Catharus* thrush, with its relatively plain face, lack of eyering, and dark spotted breast on a white background is either a Gray-cheeked (*C. minimus*) or Bicknell's Thrush. The lower mandible showed a bright yellowish-orange base, extending more than halfway toward the tip, which is characteristic of Bicknell's. The color of the tail and wings was described as reddish brown, also indicating Bicknell's. The observer, who is quite familiar with both species, stated that the size and subtle plumage differences are noticeable in the field, but without in hand measurements, this would be difficult to determine. Although most of the Committee felt that this is a good candidate for Bicknell's Thrush, based on the bill pattern and tail color, a Committee member stated that banders in south Florida have had good Bicknell's candidates previously, but measurements showed them to be Gray-cheeked.

Most references (Pyle 1997, Lane and Jaramillo 2000) state that Bicknell's Thrush cannot be safely identified without measurements or descriptions of vocalizations. Previous records for Florida of Bicknell's Thrush in Florida include four specimens identified by Woolfenden and Greenlaw (2005), three from spring (Nassau [1-May], Brevard [1-May], Miami-Dade [2-May]) and one from fall (Miami-Dade [Nov]), and three birds (two fall and one spring) that were mist-netted, photographed, and measured in Miami-Dade and Monroe cos.; the spring record (FOSRC #07-641) consisted of two birds and a third bird was also heard there that day.

GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER, *Dendroica chrysoparia*

08-677. This bird was briefly observed on 15 March 2008 at the Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve, Lee Co. The observer had only a 3-second view of this bird, but noted the bird's black crown and throat, yellow face, and thin black line through the eye. The rest of the bird was not seen. Although this face pattern matches Golden-cheeked Warbler and this species arrives on its central Texas breeding grounds in mid-March, the Committee felt that a rarity of this magnitude requires a much more detailed observation, including the solid black back that is diagnostic for this species. The similar Black-throated Green Warbler (*D. virens*) winters in small numbers in south Florida.

There is but one record of Golden-cheeked Warbler for Florida, a specimen collected at Sawgrass Lake, Pinellas Co., on 24 August 1964 (Woolfenden 1967).

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER, *Dendroica kirtlandii*

07-651. This bird was observed on 11 October 2007 in Ormond Beach, Volusia Co. The description includes the yellow underparts, black streaked sides, dark head and back, wingbars, and split white eye-ring. The description did not include some other pertinent critical marks, such as back and crown color, color of undertail coverts, prominence of the wing bars, tail length and pattern, nor was there a description of the prominent tail-wagging behavior typical of Kirtland's Warbler. Mid-October is during the expected passage of fall migrant Kirtland's, but the lack of details critical to confirming the identification resulted in the rejection of this report.

There are six previously accepted reports for Florida (one specimen, three photos, two sight reports).

## SUBMISSIONS WITHDRAWN

BAND-TAILED PIGEON, *Patagioenas fasciatus*

08-676. This columbid was photographed 16 March 2008 at Blind Creek Park, Stuart, St. Lucie Co. Though submitted as a Band-tailed Pigeon, the photographs clearly showed a Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*). The submitter withdrew the record when he was made aware of the mis-identification.

## SUBMISSIONS NOT RESOLVED

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL, *Larus michahellis*

08-673. This first-cycle gull was present and photographed 27 January-10 February 2008 at the Tomoka Landfill, Daytona Beach, Volusia Co. Opinions from nine European gull experts were also submitted. If confirmed as a Yellow-legged Gull, this would be the first record for Florida. This first-cycle gull generated some debate among the European gull experts. Eight of nine thought it was a Yellow-legged Gull, probably from one of the Atlantic populations in France, Spain, or Portugal. One of these experts, however, stated "... as a first for Florida, you may wish to wait for a more typical individual." Another expert was not sure what it was, but did not think it was a Yellow-legged Gull. However, his concerns about the identification were rebutted by one of the other experts. The photographs showed a large gull (about size of Herring Gull), with a large, mostly dark bill, white head and breast streaked lightly with brown, rather long wings, mostly dark primaries with only a suggestion of a pale window in the inner primaries, mostly new scapulars with distinct dark anchor pattern, pale worn wing coverts with indistinct brown bars, and a white tail with broad dark subterminal band and no dark barring in the outer rectrices. The vote left the issue unresolved. Votes to not accept were concerned with the one dissenting opinion among the opinions solicited from the gull experts.

ICELAND GULL, *Larus glaucooides*

08-695. This bird was observed 29 January 2008 at the Central Disposal Facility, Cocoa, Brevard Co. The rather brief description included several characters that are good for Kumlien's Iceland Gull, such as the size (between Herring and Ring-billed gulls), short dark bill, rounded head, and white primaries with few brown bars. However, the description did not include the length of the primaries and details of the tail and tertials, which are important criteria for differentiating an Iceland Gull from a small bleached or leucistic Herring Gull. The vote (five accept, two not accept) was not resolved.

## OLD FILES REOPENED

CAACKLING GOOSE, *Branta hutchinsii*

06-596 (PJ). This bird, photographed 10 December 2005 in Okaloosa Co., was assessed by the Committee at its January 2006 meeting; at that time only one photograph had been submitted and the record was not accepted because it was difficult to judge size and bill proportions given the angle of the photograph and the distance to the bird. For the August meeting, Johnson submitted about 15 additional photographs with images of the goose in question, a very small white-cheeked goose in the Canada Goose (*B. canadensis*) complex. The new photos gave much better views and called into question the vote to not accept; thus, we voted to reopen the submission. The photographs showed the goose in flight and on the ground with two large obvious Canada Geese, one Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*), and a few Ross's Geese (*Chen rossii*). The goose in question was about the size of Ross' Goose, with a small bill and steep forehead, thus matching "Richardson's" Cackling Goose (*B. h. hutchinsii*), the expected race of Cackling Goose in eastern North America, in size and bill shape and proportions. Based on the new photographs, the Committee voted to accept this record.

There are only two previously accepted records for Florida (a December 1956 specimen from Wakulla Co. and one photographed in Brevard Co. in 2003) of this recently recognized species (Banks et al. 2003).

BACHMAN'S WARBLER, *Vermivora bachmanii*

85-075. This bird was observed and photographed on 30 March 1977 at Lake Washington, west of Melbourne, Brevard Co. This record, accepted by the FOSRC in 1985, was described in Barber (1985). Five photographs and a written analysis, which included transcribed opinions of S. D. Ripley and R. F. Pasquier from the National Museum of Natural History, H. M. Stevenson from Florida, and N. K. Johnson and S. F. Bailey from the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, were originally submitted to the FOSRC. The original correspondence from the experts, however, is not in the FOSRC file. In addition, the observers visited the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, to study warbler specimens. The identification as a Bachman's Warbler is particularly intriguing, because the next most recent confirmation of this probably extinct species was in 1962 in South Carolina. In their warbler monograph, Dunn and Garrett (1997) questioned the identification as a Bachman's Warbler (as have others in Internet posts). Dunn and Garrett (1997) concluded that this was likely a female "Golden" Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia* in the *petechia* group), which is resident (*D. p. gundlachi*) in mangroves in southernmost Florida and throughout most of the Caribbean. However, they did not provide reasons for their conclusion. Interestingly, the identification of Yellow Warbler was never considered by either the original observers or the consulted experts. With the recent question of the identity of this bird, the FOSRC decided to re-assess the submission. At our August meeting, the Committee had digital copies of the original

photos, a digital photograph posted to the Internet of three Bachman Warbler specimens from VIREO (Visual Resources for Ornithology), and specimens of Golden Yellow Warblers and North American (*aestiva* group) Yellow Warblers from the FLMNH and Archbold Biological Station. The photographs of the 1977 bird, none of which is very sharp, showed a very drab pale brownish warbler, whitish below with a band of pale yellow across the chest, no wingbars, indistinct yellow edges on the remiges and perhaps on some coverts. The primary extension appeared short. The bill seemed to have a slightly curved maxilla. The plumage matched that of some Bachman's Warblers, but may have also approached that of some female Golden Warblers, although none of the specimens or photographs we examined showed such drab plumage in a spring female. The primary extension of Bachman's Warbler appeared long in the VIREO photographs, but the angle of the photographs did not permit an accurate assessment of this character. Unlike Yellow Warblers of the *aestiva* group, Golden Yellow Warblers have a short primary extension (FLMNH specimens). The bill of the Brevard Co. bird did not appear to be as decurved as that of typical Bachman's Warblers, but the observers thought it matched a female specimen at the Academy of Natural Sciences. The Committee felt that it needed more comparative material to overturn a prior FOSRC decision and voted to table the matter.

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