

**MISSISSIPPI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
ANNUAL REPORT-2018**

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The Mississippi Bird Records Committee (MBRC) of the Mississippi Ornithological Society was created to produce and keep a field checklist of the bird species that occur in Mississippi. The MBRC requests and reviews documentation on any record of a MBRC Review List species which can be found at the end of this report or at the MOS website, [www.missbird.org](http://www.missbird.org). This is the twelfth report of the MBRC, and it covers Committee activities for 2018. Gene Knight is the Committee Chair and Philip Barbour, Ned Boyajian, Jason Hoeksema, and Nick Winstead serve as MBRC Members.

The MBRC reached a final decision on 31 records in 2018. Twenty-seven records of 19 species were accepted. Six records were sent to the 2<sup>nd</sup> circulation process. Twenty-eight observers submitted documentation to the MBRC on these records that were reviewed by the Committee in 2018.

The information presented after each species is as follows (if known): species name, number of individuals, age and/or sex, date(s) of occurrence, location, county (in italics), and initials of the observer(s). When known, the initials of those who discovered the bird are in boldface but only if the discoverer(s) submitted supporting documentation. After each observer's initials, the type of documentation is given in parentheses. They are as follows: p = photograph; r = recording; rc = record card (includes only pertinent facts about the record); w = written documentation (includes full details about the record with complete description). The MBRC record number and Class of the record are given in brackets.

Accepted records fall into three classes. Class 1 records are documented by an accepted specimen, diagnostic photograph, or recording; Class 2 records are documented by accepted written documentation by two or more independent observers; Class 3 records are documented by accepted written documentation by a single observer. Where multiple observers are listed as having submitted written documentation for Class 3 records, only documentation from one of the observers was deemed acceptable by the Committee. Similarly, where photographs are listed as having been submitted for Class 2 or 3 records, the photograph was not considered diagnostic by the Committee, although the written documentation was acceptable.

Other abbreviations used in this report are as follows: NERR = National Estuarine Research Reserve, NWR = National Wildlife Refuge, SL = Sewage Lagoon, and WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

### ACCEPTED RECORDS, 1<sup>ST</sup> CIRCULATION

**Fulvous Whistling-Duck** (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) 1 adult on 1 June-14 September 2017 at Seaman Road SL, Jackson, NB(w), OG(p) [017-18; Class 1P]; 6 on 5 August 2017 between Lake Chotard and Shipland WMA, Issaquena, CD(w,p) [017-22; Class 1P]

**Cinnamon Teal** (*Spatula cyanoptera*) 1 adult male on 6 September 2017 at Pascagoula River Marsh, Jackson, BW(w,p) [017-23; Class 1P]

**California Gull** (*Larus californicus*) 1 1<sup>st</sup> cycle bird on 21 December 2016-8 January 2017 at Enid Lake Spillway, Yalobusha,

**JR**(w,p), **HM**(w,p), **MD**(w), **WP**(w), **JH**(w), **GK**(rc) [017-4; Class 1P]

**Bridled Tern** (*Onychoprion anaethetus*) 1 on 22 June 2017 at Broadwater Marina, Biloxi, *Harrison*, **HC**(w,p) [017-20; Class 1P]; 1 found dead on 25 June 2017 at Pass Christian Harbor Pier, *Harrison*, **KT**(w,p), NW(MMNS ascension sheet) [017-21; Class 1P]

**Brown Booby** (*Sula leucogaster*) 1 adult female on 26-29 April 2017 at Lake Bill Waller, Columbia, *Marion*, **ST**(w,p), **LB**(w,p), **BP**(rescue form), NW(MMNS accession sheet) [017-14; Class 1P]; 1 immature on 27 May 2017 off Sand Island, *Jackson*, **LJ**(w,p) [017-17; Class 1P]

**Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) 1 on 31 December 2016 near Crenshaw, *Panola* **HM**(w,p) [017-6; Class 1P]; 1 on 6-7 January 2017 at Noxubee NWR (Triplet's Pasture Road), *Winston*, **SR**(w,p), **TS**(rc) [017-7; Class 1P]

**Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) 1 on 29 October 2017 at Chickasaw Indian Village, *Lee*, **WP**(w,p) [017-27; Class 1P]

**Tropical Kingbird** (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) 1 on 31 December 2016-22 February 2017 at Bay St. Louis, *Hancock*, **HW**(w,p,video), **GK**(rc) [017-5; Class 1P]; 1 on 9 and 23 June 2017 at Pt. Park and Singing River Island, Pascagoula, *Jackson*, **BJ**(w,p), **LJ**(w) [017-19; Class 1P]; 1 on 14-16 October 2017 at Tillman Street, Pascagoula, *Jackson*, **BW**(w,p), **HC**(w), **JH**(w), **GK**(w,rc), **WP**(w,p), **LG**(w), **BF**(w) [017-25; Class 1P]

**Gray Kingbird** (*Tyrannus dominicensis*) 1 on 14 April 2017 at Bellefontaine Drive, Ocean Springs, *Jackson*, **HC(w,p)** [017-11; Class 1P]

**Gray Flycatcher** (*Empidonax wrightii*) 1 on 30 October 2017 near Grand Bay NWR/NERR Boat Launch, *Jackson*, **MS(w,p)**, **GK(rc)** [017-28; Class 1P]

**Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) 1 on 12 October 2017 at Seaman Road SL, *Jackson*, **SM(w,p)** [017-24; Class 1P]

**Black-whiskered Vireo** (*Vireo altiloquus*) 1 on 24 April 2017 at Singing River Island, Pascagoula, *Jackson*, **JR(w,p)**, **JH(w,p)** [017-13; Class 1P]

**Sprague's Pipit** (*Anthus spragueii*) 1 on 9 December 2016-28 January 2017 on Holly Grove Road, *Panola*, **HM(w,p)**, **JH(w)** [017-1; Class 1P]; 1 on 31 January 2017 at Buck Island Road, *Tunica* **HM(w,p,r)** [017-8; Class 1P]

**Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) 1 on 22 October 2017 at Hattiesburg SL, *Forrest*, **LG(w,p)** [017-32; Class 1P]

**Bullock's Oriole** (*Icterus bullockii*) 1 adult male on 27 October 2017 at Pascagoula, *Jackson*, **HC(w,p)** [017-26; Class 1P]

**Shiny Cowbird** (*Molothrus bonariensis*) 1 male on 8 May-5 June 2017 at Heron Bay, *Hancock*, **NB(w,p)**, **NM(w)**, **LG(p)**, **DR(w)** [017-15; Class 1P]

**Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) 1 adult male on 13 May 2017 at Rowan Oak Estate, *Lafayette*, **JR**(w), JH(w,p,r), GK(w) [017-16; Class 1P]

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caerulescens*) 1 adult male on 22 April 2017 at Fort Massachusetts, Gulf Islands National Seashore, *Harrison*, **PM**(w,p) [017-12; Class 1P]

Records sent to 2<sup>nd</sup> Circulation from their 1<sup>st</sup> Circulation round have been voted on once and have received at least one “not accept” vote but not a unanimous “not accept” vote.

#### **RECORDS SENT TO 2<sup>ND</sup> CIRCULATION**

**Brant** (*Brant bernicla*) 3 adults and 3 immatures on 17 December 2016 near Sidon, *Leflore* [017-2]

**Smooth-billed Ani** (*Crotophaga ani*) 1 on 4-15 November 2017 at Hiller Park, Biloxi, *Harrison* [017-29]; 1 on 18 October 2016 at Tillman Street, Pascagoula, *Jackson* [016-25]

**Ash-throated Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) 1 on 14 March 2017 at Logtown, *Hancock* [017-10]

**Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) 1 on 11 November 2017 at Broadwater Sun Golf Course, *Harrison* [017-33]

**Shiny Cowbird** (*Molothrus bonariensis*) 1 on 17 December 2016 at Bay St. Louis, *Hancock* [017-3]

## ACCEPTED RECORDS, 2<sup>ND</sup> CIRCULATION

**Smooth-billed Ani** (*Crotophaga ani*) 1 on 4-15 November 2017 at Hiller Park, Biloxi, *Harrison*, **HC**(w,p,r), **BW**(w,p), **LG**(w), **SM**(p), **GK**(rc) [017-29; Class 1P]; 1 on 18 October 2016 at Tillman Street, Pascagoula, *Jackson*, **BJ**(w,p) [016-25; Class 1P]

Not Accepted Records (Class 4) are either records not accepted based on questionable identification (Class 4-I) or records where identification is accepted but the origin is questionable (Class 4-O). Rarely is a record not accepted due to the bird being misidentified. Non-acceptance is usually due to poorly written documentation. Most of these reports are vague and incomplete, leaving out pertinent details and not properly eliminating similar species. These records may be valid, but the Committee has decided that the documentation submitted does not meet the standards required for inclusion in the historical database.

## NOT ACCEPTED RECORDS

**Brant** (*Brant bernicla*) 3 adults and 3 immatures on 17 December 2016 near Sidon, *Leflore* [017-2; Class 4-I]

**Arctic Loon** (*Gavia arctica*) 1 on 6 March 2016 at Bay Springs Lake, *Tishomingo* [016-10; Class 4-I]

**Brown Booby** (*Sula leucogaster*) 1 expired bird picked up on a barge on 8 March 2016, Gulfport, *Harrison* [016-11; Class 4-O]

**Ash-throated Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) 1 on 14 March 2017 at Logtown, *Hancock* [017-10; Class 4-I]

## **CONTRIBUTORS**

Larry Basden, Ned Boyajian, Holly Cox, Christy Dickinson, Mark Dolan, Bob Foehring, Lillie Gibb, Olivia Graves, Jason Hoeksema, Lucy Jacobson, Brian Johnston, Gene Knight, Paul Mack, Nancy Madden, Sharon Milligan, Hal Mitchell, Wayne Patterson, Billy Payne, David Reed, JR Rigby, Scott Rush, Terry Schiefer, Stephen Tatum, Mike Stewart, Kitty Tripp, Bryan White, Harold Weber, and Nick Winstead.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The MBRC would like to thank the contributors listed above for their time in furnishing written and photographic documentation for review. I would like to thank Committee Members for providing the MBRC with their expert opinion concerning records reviewed during 2018.

## **REVIEW SPECIES LIST**

The following species were removed from this list in December 2004, but records prior to 2005 will still be reviewed by the Committee: Tundra Swan, Common Merganser, Calliope Hummingbird, Glossy Ibis, White-faced Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Red Crossbill (re-added in 2015), Western Meadowlark, and Bronzed Cowbird. These species were removed from this list in February 2009, but records prior to then will still be reviewed by the Committee: Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Lesser Black-backed Gull, and Neotropic Cormorant. Red-necked Phalarope was the only species removed from this list in February 2010, but records prior to then will still be reviewed by the Committee. These species were removed from this list in February 2011, but records prior to February 2011 will still be reviewed by the

Committee: Inca Dove, Yellow Rail, and Cave Swallow. These species were removed from this list in February 2012, but records prior to February 2012 will still be reviewed by the Committee: Sooty Tern and Pacific Loon. These species were removed from this list in January 2013, but records prior to 2013 will still be reviewed by the Committee: Alder Flycatcher and Willow Flycatcher. No species were removed from this list during 2014-2016. These species were removed from this list in 2017: Thayer's Gull, Slaty-backed Gull, and Tropical Parula. Thayer's Gull is now considered a subspecies of Iceland Gull which is on the Review Species list. The lone Slaty-backed Gull and Tropical Parula records for Mississippi were deemed misidentifications; any observations of these two species would be reviewed by the Committee as new species to Mississippi. These species were added to this list during 2018: Smooth-billed Ani and Gray Flycatcher.

The MBRC requests documentation, including details, descriptions, and photographs of all records of the following species: Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Brant, Trumpeter Swan, Cinnamon Teal, Eurasian Wigeon, King Eider, American Flamingo, Red-necked Grebe, Western Grebe, White-crowned Pigeon, Band-tailed Pigeon, Ruddy Ground-Dove, Smooth-billed Ani, Lesser Nighthawk, Mexican Violetear, Anna's Hummingbird, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Allen's Hummingbird, Broad-billed Hummingbird, White-eared Hummingbird, Black Rail, Limpkin, Whooping Crane, Mountain Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, Ruff, Purple Sandpiper, Red Phalarope, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Long-tailed Jaeger, Razorbill, Black-legged Kittiwake, Sabine's Gull, Black-headed Gull, Little Gull, California Gull, Iceland Gull, Glaucous Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Brown Noddy, Bridled Tern, Roseate Tern, Arctic Tern, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, Cory's Shearwater, Sooty Shearwater, Great Shearwater, Audubon's Shearwater, Jabiru,



Masked Booby, Brown Booby, Great Cormorant, White-tailed Kite, Golden Eagle, Northern Goshawk, Harris's Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Snowy Owl, Burrowing Owl, Long-eared Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Ivory-billed Woodpecker, Crested Caracara, Prairie Falcon, Monk Parakeet, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, Tropical Kingbird, Couch's Kingbird, Cassin's Kingbird, Gray Kingbird, Western Wood-Pewee, Gray Flycatcher, Say's Phoebe, Black-capped Vireo, Bell's Vireo, Black-whiskered Vireo, Rock Wren, Bewick's Wren, Mountain Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Sage Thrasher, Scaly-breasted Munia, Citrine Wagtail, Sprague's Pipit, Evening Grosbeak, Red Crossbill, Lesser Goldfinch, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Smith's Longspur, McCown's Longspur, Snow Bunting, Green-tailed Towhee, Spotted Towhee, American Tree Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Lark Bunting, Saltmarsh Sparrow, Harris's Sparrow, Hooded Oriole, Bullock's Oriole, Altamira Oriole, Shiny Cowbird, Great-tailed Grackle, Bachman's Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Townsend's Warbler, Painted Redstart, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, and any species new to Mississippi.