

There is one Georgia report (Sewell 1996) of a “Richardson’s” Canada Goose (formerly *B. c. hutchinsii*), now the nominate subspecies of Cackling Goose (*B. h. hutchinsii*). However, because it was classified as a subspecies of Canada Goose at the time of discovery, the report was not reviewed by the GCRC.

Literature Cited

- American Ornithologists’ Union. 1998. Checklist of North American birds, 7th ed. American Ornithologists’ Union, Washington, D.C.
- American Ornithologists’ Union. 2004. Forty-fifth supplement to the American Ornithologists’ Union checklist of North American birds. *Auk* 121(3):985–995.
- Beaton, G., P. W. Sykes Jr., J. W. Parrish Jr. 2003. Annotated checklist of Georgia birds. Georgia Ornithological Society, No. 14.
- Sewell, J. 1996. From the field. *The Oriole* 61(1):16.

REPORT OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY CHECKLIST AND RECORDS COMMITTEE JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2005

Committee Members

Terry Moore (Chairman), Jim Flynn (Secretary), Malcolm Hodges, Pierre Howard, Ty Ivey, and Brad Winn

Review Species Report Summary

During 2005, 19 reports of 15 species were received by the Georgia Checklist and Records Committee (GCRC) for review. Seventeen reports were accepted and 2 were rejected. One new species (Buff-bellied Hummingbird) was added to the official GOS Checklist, bringing the Regular List to 410 species. The Provisional List remains at 8 species, for a total of 418 species on the Regular Checklist.

Conventions used in this report include:

- GCRC Record Identifier: Year of the report submission (not the year of the observation) followed by a hyphen and a unique sequential identifier. For example: 2005-08.

- Species Name: Follows the American Ornithologists' Union's (AOU) Check-list of North American Birds, Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) and incorporates changes in subsequent supplements through the Forty-sixth Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds (AOU 2005).
- Location of observation.
- Date of observation/date of report submission.
- Only observers authoring reports are mentioned in this summary. Other sources, such as "From the field" (published in *The Oriole*) should be consulted for proper credit of initial discovery.

2005-01 Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*): Lake Mayer Community Park, Savannah, Chatham Co.; 5-6 January 2005. Documentation of this bird was requested by the GCRC Secretary with the assumption (and understanding of the report author) that the record would not be accepted by the GCRC due to questions of provenance. However, this record provides a basis for future committee decisions concerning this species' occurrence in Georgia, because the species does not currently appear in the Hypothetical list. Photos definitively depicted a Barnacle Goose, and the excellent photographs submitted by the observer showed a blue tie-wrap around the bird's right tarsus, implying that the bird had escaped from a waterfowl collection. As expected, this record was rejected unanimously due to questions of origin.

2005-02 Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*): Pelagic trip, Navy Tower R2, approximately 31°23.056N, 80°34.370W; 11-15 January 2005. A desiccated individual of this species was recovered off the R2 landing platform by Russ Wigh. Russ's description, accompanied with photos, was accepted unanimously. Fifth state record.

2005-03 Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*): Pelagic trip, approximately 31°45.583N, 80°53.741W; 11-15 January 2005. Russ Wigh's report of 3 Manx Shearwaters was accompanied by photographs and was accepted unanimously as the ninth state record.

2005-04 Razorbill (*Alca torda*): Pelagic trip, approximately 31°45.583N, 80°53.741W; 11-15 January 2005. Report was rejected; four committee members dissented. While it is possible that this alcid could occur in Georgia waters, the report (without photographs, sketches, or field notes) submitted by the observer

did not definitively rule out other alcids, most notably the Thick-billed Murre (*Uria lomvia*), a species that has occurred in South Carolina and Florida, but not in Georgia.

2005-05 Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*): Tybee Island, Chatham Co., 5 November 2004 - 20 February 2005. The original observer did not submit a report, but did forward a photograph to the GCRC Secretary, who submitted it for consideration to the rest of the committee. The report was accepted unanimously. There are approximately 25 reports of this species in Georgia, with most being dead, moribund, or wounded birds.

2005-06 Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*): Macon, Bibb Co., 31 January - 21 February 2005. Jerry Amerson's report included excellent photographs, field sketches, and field notes, and was accepted unanimously by the committee. This report is approximately the eighteenth record for Georgia.

2005-07 Allen's Hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*): Ashburn, Turner Co., 18-28 February 2005. Fred Bassett banded a second year male (USGS number N63575) and provided measurements and photographs of the R-2 and R-5 retrices taken from the bird. These retrices were placed next to comparative R-2 and R-5 of the Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*), a close relative. The record was unanimously accepted by the committee, making this the ninth record for Georgia.

2005-08A - 2005-08B Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*): Elrod Ferry Recreation Area, Lake Hartwell, Hart Co., 26 February - 1 March 2005, and 15 April 2005. Detailed written reports by Earl Horn and Jim Flynn (who included sketches and notes made in the field) describing an immature of this species were accepted by the committee, 5-0, with Jim Flynn abstaining from voting. Second state record.

2005-09 Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*): Skidaway Island, Chatham Co.; 21-24 January 2005. The original observers did not submit a report, but the GCRC Secretary submitted the record to the committee based on photographs provided by Patricia Wolters. The excellent photographs showed a female of this species, and the committee unanimously voted to accept the record. This report is approximately the nineteenth record for Georgia.

2005-10 Buff-bellied Hummingbird (*Amazilia yucatanensis*): Pavo, Thomas Co.; 29 March - 11 April 2005. A detailed report with photographs submitted by Michael B. Greene was accepted unanimously by the committee. Perhaps a long-overdue addition to the Georgia avifauna, this report provides the first record for the state.

2005-11 Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*): Oxbow Meadows, Columbus, Muscogee Co., 28 January - 4 March 2005. The GCRC Secretary submitted 2 photographs of this species, which were forwarded by the original observer. The committee voted unanimously to accept this record based on a combination of diagnostic characteristics visible in the photos.

2005-12 Razorbill (*Alca torda*): Pelagic trip, closest to shore: 31°46.93N, 80°43.31W; largest flock: 31°46.40N, 80°38.29W, 12 February - 19 April 2005. Bob Zaremba submitted a report with excellent photographs that was accepted unanimously by the committee, making it approximately the seventh record for the state. An extraordinary number of 106 individuals of this species were counted during the trip.

2005-13 Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*): Pelagic trip, 31°46.40N, 80°36.29W, 12 February - 25 April 2005. A report by Pierre Howard of 3 birds submitted with field sketches and notes was accepted by the committee 5-0, with Pierre abstaining. Approximately the tenth state record.

2005-14 Duplicate record; withdrawn by GCRC Secretary

2005-15 MacGillivray's Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*): Kennesaw Mt. National Battlefield Park, Cobb Co., 4-11 September 2005. Giff Beaton submitted a detailed report of this species, and included diagnostic photos by Pierre Howard and Rachel Cass. The report was accepted unanimously by the committee, making it the third state record.

2005-16 Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*): Long Point Recreation Area, Lake Hartwell, Hart Co., 4 September - 21 October 2005. Earl Horn submitted a report to the committee and included photographs taken by Jim Flynn at the time of the initial observation, as well as excellent photos by Chuck Cape, taken several days later. The bird ranged over a wide area of Lake Hartwell between Hartwell Dam and Long Point Recreation Area, so the

bird was thought to have also entered South Carolina waters. The record was accepted 5-0, with Jim Flynn abstaining. Third state record.

2005-17 Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*): Big Canoe, Dawson Co., 34°28'09N, 84°18'04W, 26 November 2005. Rusty Trump banded this hatch-year male and submitted a detailed report with photographs. The committee unanimously voted to accept the report based on plumage characteristics and measurements provided by Rusty. Fourth state record.

2005-18 Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*): Tybee Island, Chatham Co., 24 November 2005. Bob Zaremba submitted a report (with photographs) of 3 birds. The committee voted unanimously to accept the report, making it the seventh state record for this species.

2005-19 Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*): Forsyth Co., 34°06'08N, 84°09'03W, 2 December 2005. Rusty Trump captured and banded a hatch-year male, and submitted a detailed report with photographs and measurements. The committee unanimously voted to accept the report. Fifth state record.

2005-20 Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*): Intersection of J.R. Chester and P.B. Brannen Rds., Bulloch Co.; December 2005 - January 2006 (exact date of receipt not recorded). John Parrish's report included diagnostic photographs of an immature male. John's report was accepted unanimously and becomes the sixth Georgia record for the species.

Changes to the Georgia Checklist

During 2005, the AOU published the Forty-sixth Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds. There were no changes that affected the nomenclature or taxonomic sequence of the official GOS Checklist.

Literature Cited

American Ornithologists' Union. 1998. Checklist of North American Birds, 7th ed. American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C.

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- Beaton, G., P. W. Sykes Jr., J. W. Parrish Jr. 2003. Annotated checklist of Georgia birds. Georgia Ornithological Society, No. 14.