

## REPORT OF THE OHIO CARDINAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

This report covers rare species documentations submitted for the 1987 Fall season. The following reports were accepted by a majority vote of the records committee.

Red-throated Loon 10/28 Seneca Co., 11/15 Wyandot Co., 11/21 Lorain Co  
Red-necked Grebe 11/1 Sheldon's Marsh, Erie Co.  
Northern Gannet 11/21 Huron Pier, Erie Co.  
Greater White-fronted Goose 11/1 Ottawa Natl. Wildlife Refuge (NWR)  
Brant 11/5 Vermilion, Erie Co.  
Harlequin Duck 10/25 Huron Lighthouse, Erie Co.  
Merlin 9/13 Cedar Pt. NWR, Lucas Co.; 11/17-30 Trumbull Co.  
Peregrine Falcon 8/10 Crane Creek; 10/4 ONWR; 10/11 Erie Co.  
(COMMENT: Other sightings of Merlins and Peregrines were reported during the period, but not on rare species documentation forms. The committee is considering whether to continue to require detailed documentation of these two species. Merlins and Peregrines are rare but regular spring and fall transients, especially near Lake Erie)  
Yellow Rail 9/23 near Dayton, 10/6 at Ottawa NWR  
Baird's Sandpiper 11/28-29 Buck Creek St. Park  
Purple Sandpiper 11/5 near Vermilion  
Curlew Sandpiper 8/21-24, Winous Point Shooting Club, Erie Co.  
Wilson's Phalarope (late date record) 11/20, Metzger Marsh, Lucas Co.  
Red Phalarope 10/6-9, Cleveland  
Parasitic Jaeger 10/7 Huron Lighthouse, 10/11 Crane Creek ("4-5" birds reported but only one was described, so committee accepts only one bird).  
Jaeger sp. 10/2 Crane Creek; 10/24 Huron Lighthouse; 10/25 Vermilion  
Laughing Gull 8/9 C J Brown reservoir; 11/15 Darby unit, Ottawa NWR  
Great Black-backed Gull 11/8 Bresler Reservoir (rare away from Lake Erie)  
Sabine's Gull 10/3 Cleveland area (separate reports from 3 localities on lakefront, 2-4 birds involved), 10/7 Huron lighthouse & Lorain harbor (separate birds?); 10/11 Crane Creek St. Park, 10/21 Vermilion  
Least Tern 9/18 Clark Co.  
Rufous Hummingbird 8/27-29 Ashtabula Co. 2d state record; photographed.  
Western Kingbird 9/20 Mentor Headlands State Park  
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 8/16 Wayne Co. Unmistakable.  
Golden-winged Warbler (late date record) 11/21 Bend View Metropark, Lucas Co.  
Connecticut Warbler 8/23, 9/6, 9/7, 9/12, 9/13 (total of 9 birds) Navarre unit, Ottawa NWR by mist netting/banding operation  
Lark Sparrow 10/4 Ottawa NWR  
Brewer's Blackbird 11/29 Buck Creek State Park

(SUMMER 1987 RECORDS (late reports), both accepted:

Mississippi Kite 6/23, Delaware Co.  
Yellow Rail 6/1, Big Island Wildlife Management Area. This sighting suggests possible nesting activity at Big Island, and should be followed up in 1988.)

The following species reports were NOT accepted by the OCRC

Red-throated Loon(s?) 10/25, various Lake Erie locations. Only one loon is actually described although 5 are claimed to have been present in various lake shore locations on the date listed. In addition, other sightings on other

dates are referred to offhandedly with no substantiation. Two other experienced observers are cited, but neither thought this unprecedented invasion of a species normally seen singly, if at all, was worthy of reporting.

Pacific Loon 10/25, Huron Lighthouse. Same place and observer as above report. Only one previous sight record for the state. Report claims two other experienced observers were present, yet neither reported this extreme rarity. Description of difficult-to-see characters very bookish.

Snowy Egret 10/7, Ferguson Reservoir. Description does not rule out Cattle Egret or immature Little Blue Heron.

White-fronted Goose (presumably Greater?) - We are told the bird's identity, but no description is provided. 11/12 Magee Marsh

Cinnamon Teal 9/13, Celina. ID rests entirely on head plumage description; quite possibly a hybrid or aberrant individual of another species.

King Eider 11/5, Vermilion. A fly-by, conditions of observation insufficient to establish certain identity.

Northern Goshawk 11/1, Sandusky River. Insufficient information on shape, size of bird.

Merlin 11/17, Washington Twp. "Orange" breast, no description of wing shape. Probable Kestrel or adult Accipiter.

Peregrine Falcon 8/9 and 10/12, Navarre unit, Ottawa NWR. Possibly correct, but the observer provides no description of these birds.

Western Sandpiper 9/10, Ferguson Reservoir. Inexperienced observer bases ID entirely on bill structure; not conclusive.

Baird's Sandpiper 9/16 Ferguson Reservoir. Fails to rule out White-rumped; shape and wing length not mentioned.

Ruff 9/2-3, Little Portage R. Size right for male of this species, but important points not mentioned. Inconclusive.

Long-billed Dowitcher 10/25, Ferguson Reservoir. Likely in view of season, but description does not rule out Short-billed.

Red Phalarope 10/10, Pt Clinton. Quick fly-by, 10/25, Huron. Same time and place as incredible loon sightings referred to above. Six birds claimed present, but only one described. Other observers fail to file reports.

Jaeger sp. 11/5 Buck Creek St. Park. Description does not mention shape of wings or beak; impossible to be sure it was a jaeger from the information given.

Least Tern 9/16, Ferguson Reservoir. Description does not rule out Black Tern.

Common Raven 9/16, Ferguson Reservoir. "Tail similar to Red-tail" does not describe a Raven's tail. Inexperienced observer.

Clay-colored Sparrow 10/23, Gordon Park, Cleveland. Rump color not seen; other features presented inconclusive.

Lark Sparrow 8/26, Canfield. Tail pattern and breast not seen, observer not experienced. Unlikely habitat.

LeConte's Sparrow 11/5, Cincinnati. Size and shape not mentioned; unlikely habitat and description does not rule out other sparrows.