

RECENT ACTIONS OF THE OHIO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE MARCH 2010 – APRIL 2011

By Ned Keller

Between March 2010 and April 2011, we resolved 46 records, including 42 accepted records of 26 species; four additional records were not accepted. No new species were added to the Ohio list this year.

The documentation details of several records contain the notation (internet). That notation indicates that we did not receive documentation directly, but that we were able to find sufficient information on the internet to provide reliable substantiation of those records. A simple report that a bird has been seen – even by many people – isn't enough. The records reviewed here included details of appearance, or photographs, sufficient to rule out all other species.

Many other sightings reported on the internet, which otherwise would constitute important records, are not reported here, because we could not track down enough information to confirm them. When you see a very rare bird, please consider submitting documentation to the committee. Instructions on how to do that, and a documentation form, are online at www.ohiobirds.org/records/documentation.php. But that form is optional – a simple copy of field notes is often good enough.

I would like to thank Rob Harlan and Craig Caldwell for their service the past three years, and also to welcome our new committee members, Mike Busam, Gabe Leidy, Ed Pierce and Bill Whan.

42 Records Accepted:

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*): two records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Erie** County; 13 August 2010, documentation by Larry D. Richardson, Jerry Talkington, and Craig Caldwell; 14 August 2010, documentation (internet) by John Pogacnik; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, **Allen** County; 26 October 2010, documentation by Linda Houshower; 27 October 2010, documentation by Paul Gardner and Bill Whan; 24 November 2010, documentation by Dave Slager; present from about 10 October 2010 through 6 December 2010; vote 7-0.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*): one individual, **Lorain** County; 23 February 2011, documentation by Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo; vote 7-0.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*): two records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Warren** County; 2 May 2010, documentation by Rick Asamoto; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, **Warren** County; 31 October 2010, documentation by Rick Asamoto; 7 November 2010, documentation by Dave Slager; continued through 9 November; vote 7-0.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*): two records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Ottawa** County; 28 April 2008, documentation by Dave Slager; vote 7-0. We did not consider whether this is the same bird previously accepted from Ottawa N.W.R. on 10 May 2008 (see Ohio Cardinal vol. 31 no.4 page 51); we are not aware of any intervening reports.
- b) one individual, **Marion** County; 7 May 2010, documentation by Gary Smidutz; continued through 14 May; vote 7-0.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*): two records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Franklin** County; 16 June to 17 June 2009, documentation by Bernard Master (internet); vote 7-0.
- b) four individuals (two adults and two juveniles), **Hocking** County; 19 August 2010, documentation (internet) by Jim McCormac; 21 August 2010, documentation by Craig Caldwell; vote 7-0. **Accepted as nesting record.**

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*): four records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Lorain** County; 2 May 2010, documentation by Linda Paull (present through 16 May); vote 7-0.

- b) one individual, *Ottawa* County; 5 May 2010, documentation (internet) by Kim Kaufman; vote 7-0. This was an injured bird which was subsequently released.
- c) one individual, *Greene* County; 9 May 2010, documentation by Stanley Lessig; vote 7-0.
- d) eight individuals (two adults and six juveniles), *Richland* County; 7 May 2010 through 15 July 2010, documentation by Su Snyder and Dave Slager; vote 7-0.
Accepted as nesting record.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*): two records accepted:

- a) one individual, *Hamilton* County; 3 May through 5 May 2010, documentation by Gary Stegner; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, *Ottawa* County; 25 May 2010, documentation by Dan Sanders and Su Snyder; vote 7-0.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*): one individual, *Marion* County; 25 April 2010, documentation (internet) by Laura Keene; continued through 1 May 2010; vote 7-0.

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*): one individual, *Lorain* County; 27 November through 4 December 2010; documentation (internet) by Jen Brumfield and John Pogacnik; vote 7-0.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*): one individual, *Lucas* County; 11 August 2010, documentation by Kenn Kaufman (internet); vote 7-0.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*): three records accepted:

- a) one individual, *Wood* County; 29 March 2010, documentation by Tom Kemp; vote 7-0.
- b) two individuals (adults on nest), *Logan* County; 23 May 2010, documentation by Troy Shively; vote 7-0. **Accepted as nesting record.**
- c) three individuals, *Mercer* County; 20 November 2010, documentation by Dave Slager; vote 7-0.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*): three records accepted:

- a) one individual, *Hamilton* County; 1 June through 3 June 2010, documentation by Virginia Russell; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, *Franklin* County; 12 June 2010, documentation by Dave Slager; vote 7-0.
- c) one individual, *Hancock* County; 17 June 2010, documentation by Erin Cashion; vote 7-0.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*): one individual, *Hamilton* County; 17 May through 20 May 2010, documentation by Virginia Wilson; vote 7-0.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*): one individual, *Ottawa* County; 18 May 2008, documentation by Dave Slager; vote 7-0.

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*): two records accepted:

- a) one individual, *Hocking* County; 6 January 2011, documentation by Jen Sauter; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, *Knox* County; 13 February 2011, documentation (internet) by Jen Brumfield; 16 February 2011, documentation by Craig Caldwell; 6 March 2011, documentation by Tom Bartlett; vote 7-0. This bird has apparently been present since October 2010, and continued to be reported (but not documented) through this writing (7 April 2011).

Purple Martin (*Progne subis*): one individual, *Wayne* County; 17 December 2009 through 10 January 2010, documentation by Ben Morrison; vote 7-0. This record was reviewed because it was an extraordinary winter record for this species.

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*): three records accepted:

- a) three individuals, *Lorain* County; 30 October 2010, documentation by Gabe Leidy (internet); one continued through 2 November 2010; vote 7-0.

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- b) one individual, **Holmes** County; 31 October 2010, documentation by James E. Yoder; vote 7-0.
- c) two individuals, **Ottawa** County; 25 November 2010, documentation (internet) by John Pogacnik; vote 6-1.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*): two records:

- a) one individual, **Wyandot** County; 13 January to 14 January 2010, documentation by Robert and Judy Gucker, Tom Bartlett; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, **Cuyahoga** County; 27 February 2010, documentation by Martin Raffay; vote 7-0.

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*): one individual, **Erie** County; 19 December through 20 December 2010, documentation by Tom Bartlett; vote 7-0.

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*): thirteen individuals, **Wyandot** County; 26 April 2010, documentation by Jen Brumfield; two continued through 28 April; vote 7-0.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*): four records accepted:

- a) one individual, **Lucas** County; 21 May 2009, documentation by Ben Morrison; vote 7-0.
- b) one individual, **Lucas** County; 14 May 2010, documentation (internet) by Christopher Taylor; vote 7-0.
- c) one individual, **Lucas** County; 21 May 2010, documentation (internet) by George Sydlowski, Sherrie Duris and Rick Nirschl; vote 7-0. Photos established that this was a different individual than the 14 May bird.
- d) one individual, **Lucas** County; 19 September 2010, documentation by Rick Nirschl; vote 7-0.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*): one individual, **Holmes** County; 24 February 2010 through 8 March 2010, documentation by Su Snyder; vote 7-0.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*): one individual, **Wayne** County; 22 December through 28 December 2010, documentation by Andy R. Troyer, 23 December documentation by Bruce Glick and H. Thomas Bartlett, 27 December documentation by Dave Slager; continued to be reported (but not documented) through this writing (7 April 2011); vote 7-0.

4 Records Not Accepted:

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*): one individual, **Hamilton** County; 30 June 2009; vote 1-6. The photos provided showed little more than a silhouette, and did not exclude a falcon.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*): one individual, **Marion** County; 19 November 2010; vote 3-4. The observer's view of the bird did not exclude the less likely, but still possible, European Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*): one individual, **Hocking** County; 24 March 2010; vote 3-4. This record was reviewed because it would have constituted an extraordinarily early record for this species. The details submitted were inconclusive.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*): one individual, **Hamilton** County; 28 December 2008; vote 3-4. While it is likely that this bird was in fact a Harris's Sparrow, the documentation which we reviewed was not detailed enough to be certain.

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In addition to his work for the Records Committee, Ned is also the administrator of the OOS Ohio-birds listserve and forum.