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¹ Present address: *Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, P.O. Box 3730, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799.*

Black-throated Gray Warbler at Greensboro, N.C.

CLYDE E. SORENSON
565 St. Joseph Drive
New Madrid, MO 63869

HARRY E. LeGRAND, JR.
N.C. Natural Heritage Program
P.O. Box 27687
Raleigh, NC 27611

The senior author was birding at Guilford Courthouse National Monument in Greensboro, NC, on 24 February 1992. While searching for birds at the edge of a thicket behind the rest room station on the tour loop, he saw an apparent female Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*). The bird was in a mixed flock of Yellow-rumped Warblers (*D. coronata*), Tufted Titmice (*Parus bicolor*), Carolina Chickadees (*P. carolinensis*), and kinglets (*Regulus* spp.). The weather at the time of the observation was a heavy overcast; intermittent light rain occurred during the day, but not during the observation.

Sorenson noted that the Black-throated Gray was slightly smaller than the Yellow-rumped Warblers accompanying it and that it had a posture and conformation reminiscent of a Black-throated Blue Warbler (*D. caerulescens*), being somewhat plump and compact compared with the Yellow-rumped. It was mainly a slate gray color on the back and rump and dingy white underneath (belly, sides, flanks, and crissum). The crown was medium slate gray bordered on the lower margins by darker gray shading to black. There was a bright white superciliary line that stopped at the nape and a dark gray line through the eye that continued through the cheek to the nape. The chin and throat were dingy white; the throat was marked with a few short, gray streaks. The nape and upper back were the same gray as the remainder of the upperparts. The diagnostic mark was a bright yellow loreal spot between the eye and the bill. This individual lacked the black upper chest depicted in most field guides; however, Sorenson has observed some individuals of this species in the West that have also lacked this black patch. There were some diffuse, grayish stripes on the chest and sides. The bird had two white wing bars, and the underside of the tail showed white tail spots on individual feathers. The tail looked somewhat short for a *Dendroica* warbler. The legs and bill were both dark, as were the eyes. The gray crown, white supercilium, gray eye stripe, and white throat, coupled with the yellow loreal spot, eliminated other species.

After observing the bird for about 15 minutes with 10x binoculars, Sorenson left to get a camera to photograph the bird. However, he was unable to find the warbler 30 minutes later, nor could he find it on the following day.

This is the third report of the Black-throated Gray Warbler for North Carolina. The N.C. Bird Records Committee, chaired by the junior author, has reviewed unpublished notes of the sighting provided by the senior author and has accepted the record as valid. The first report for the state was a bird observed on the Wilmington Christmas Bird Count on 30 December 1965 (Chat 30:18, 24); however, no details have ever been published for this sighting, nor has the N.C. Bird Records Committee seen a written description of this report. The second record, published with full details (Chat 51:77-78), was a bird seen at Wilmington from 5 to 22 January 1986. However, as there are no specimens or photographs available for the species in the state, and as this Greensboro report is just the second published with details, the species remains on the Provisional List for North Carolina.

Manx Shearwater Collected in South Carolina

WILLIAM POST

Charleston Museum
360 Meeting Street
Charleston, SC 29403

MARK SPINKS

South Carolina Wildlife and Marine
Resources Department
Star Route 1, Box 226
Georgetown, SC 29440

On 17 April 1991, we found a dead Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*) at the southwest end of Cape Island, Charleston County, South Carolina. It was imbedded in wrack deposited above the spring high-tide line. The shearwater appeared to have been dead for ≤ 5 days. It was emaciated (pectoral muscles convex), and the rear of the abdomen was partly covered by an oily, tar-like substance. The bird was prepared as a formaldehyde-preserved mummy, with one detached, flattened wing (ChM # 1992.15.053). Sex was not determined. No molt was apparent.

This is the first documented record for the species in South Carolina. Haney (1986, Chat 50:44-46) lists three previous sightings for the state, all in the Atlantic Ocean more than 50 km from the coast. Post and Gauthreaux (1989, Contr. Charleston Museum XVIII) placed Manx Shearwater on the South Carolina Hypothetical List.