

on the Official List for North Carolina (see above).

**Sprague's Pipit.** One seen at Pea Island on 30 November 1965 (Occasional Papers of the North Carolina Biological Survey, 1986-11:48-49) received more than 50% Accepted Sighting votes but more than 25% Non-accepted votes. The report will be sent for outside review.

Prior to these voting results, the Official List for North Carolina stood at 402 species, and the Provisional List at 20 species (Chat 58:109-113). The voting results listed above yield an Official List of 408 species; added in 1994 are Western Grebe, Cape Verde Petrel, Brown Booby, Swainson's Hawk, Band-tailed Pigeon, and Eurasian Collared-Dove. The Provisional List has dropped to 16 species, as Western Grebe, Soft-plumaged Petrel complex (= Cape Verde Petrel), Brown Booby, Swainson's Hawk, and Band-tailed Pigeon have been moved to the Official List; and Atlantic Puffin has been added.

Persons interested in obtaining a copy of the "Regulations Governing the Operation of Bird Records Committees" should write to Harry LeGrand, the North Carolina committee Chairman, 331 Yadkin Drive, Raleigh, NC 27609.

Committee members: Harry E. LeGrand, Jr., Chairman  
Derb S. Carter, Jr.  
Samuel Cooper  
Richard J. Davis  
John O. Fussell III  
Simon R.B. Thompson  
Michael H. Tove

#### LITERATURE CITED

- Bourne, W.R.P. 1983. The Soft-plumaged Petrel, the Gon-gon and the Freira, *Pterodroma mollis*, *P. feae*, and *P. madeira*. Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club 103:52-58.
- Clements, J.F. 1991. Birds of the World: a Check List. Ibis Publishing Company, Vista, CA.
- Sibley, C.G., and B.L. Monroe, Jr. 1990. Distribution and Taxonomy of Birds of the World. Yale University Press, New Haven, CT.

### **Report of the South Carolina Bird Records Committee 1994**

The Records Committee completed action on 25 reports during 1994, and presently has an additional 11 (all received in November and December) under review. Two (2) reports were rejected, and twenty-three (23) accepted. The accepted reports led to the addition to the SC state list of 5 new species, and 1 additional

genus (*Catharacta* -*Skua* sp?), which now stands at 399. Of these additions 4 were to the definitive list, and 2 to the provisional list. One additional species was moved from the provisional to the definitive list.

One of our members, Roger Clark, has moved out of state. He has been replaced on the Committee by Bill Hilton, Jr., a well-known birder and bander from York County, maintaining the membership at nine.

A review of the 1994 activity follows.

Accepted 23 reports (Note: some of these are multiples of the same bird)

**Brown Pelican**-(08-94-1). The first Lake Hartwell (second upstate) sighting of this species was by Don Cox on 21 August. The bird appeared to be in poor health, and could not be relocated later in the week.

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**-(07-94-1). First sighted on 30 July by D. Harrigal, P. Laurie and C. Floyd at the Donnelly WMA (Ace Basin), they stayed for some time, and were seen by many, and photographed by several individuals. There were at least two birds (3-5 were also reported). None were banded and their behavior was at least as "wild" as birds in Texas rice fields. The Committee judgement was that these were most likely displaced by tropical storm Alberto, probably from the Florida pahhandle population. Added to the SC definitive list on the basis of photographs submitted by P. Laurie and J. Peachey.

**Cinnamon Teal**-(09-94-2). First seen by N. Moore at Huntington Beach SP on 9 September, and photographed by her and T Spires on 10 September, furnishes another record of this western stray for SC. As always with waterfowl, some discussions of possible aviary escapes were held, but the majority of the committee judged the bird (an eclipse plumaged male) to be wild.

**Merlin**-(12-43-2). A rare upstate winter report by S. Patterson occurred during the Rocky River Christmas Count.

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper**-(07-94-2). One was seen on 24 July at the Orangeburg Sod Farms by R. Carter and C. Eastman. It was also seen on 25 July by R. Maxwell, and on 28 July by P. Worthington. The bird was an adult, just coming out of alternate plumage, and kept company with 3-4 Pectoral Sandpipers that were in alternate plumage. No photographs were obtained. The committee has added this species to the SC provisional list.

**Skua** (sp?)-(08-93-4). One was seen by D. Forsythe, with photographs by T. Spires 40 miles off Charleston on 2 August 1993. It was judged to be most probably a South Plar Skua, but the photographs are inconclusive, and neither Forsythe nor Spires got a close enough look to make the call. The committee has added this species to the SC definitive list as *Catharacta* sp?.

**Parasitic Jaeger**-(02-94-5). One was seen off Litchfield Beach on 27 February by R. Carter and C. Eastman. The bird was an adult, light-phase bird and very well described.

**Little Gull**-(01-94-6 & 02-94-1). Sightings of two different birds were reported by H. LeGrand on 30 January and R. Carter on 13 February, both in the

Huntington Beach SP-Garden City area. One bird was an adult, the other was a first winter bird. Both reports are accepted, and the species is added to the SC definitive list (third and fourth accepted reports) although no photographs or specimens exist as yet.

**Dovekie**-(02-94-4). One seen off Litchfield Beach by R. Carter and C. Eastman was in basic plumage.

**Thick-billed Murre**-(01-94-4). An almost unbelievable flock of up to 12 was seen by R. Carter and several other on 29 December off Litchfield Beach during the winter meeting of the Carolina Bird Club.

**Black Guillemot**-(01-94-5). One was seen at the same time and place as the Thick-billed Murres at the CBC winter meeting. This is the second SC report in two years.

**Eurasian Collared-Dove**-(09-94-1). This species colonized North Myrtle Beach some years ago according to local residents. Alerted by Pantelidis, who stumbled upon the birds on 4 September, R. Carter photographed them on 5 September. The photos clearly show the differences between this species, which is naturally and rapidly colonizing the southeastern United States from a base in the Bahamas, and the caged Collared Dove, which is a common escape, but apparently not an established breeder. The committee has added it to the definitive list.

**White-winged Dove**-(04-94-1). A bird sighted at a feeder at the Savannah River Ecology Labs by K. Buhlman on 15 April was one of the infrequent reports over the years in South Carolina.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**-(10-93-1). One was seen by R. Carter and C. Eastman on 3 October 1993 in the Congaree NM. This is the second October record from the Broad-Congaree River drainage system, the first was a bird in October of 1992 reported by P. Davies and P. Worthington in the Broad River WMA.

**Varied Thrush**-(10-93-2). One was seen and photographed by F. Bremer at Edisto Beach on 6 & 10 October 1993 for a first South Carolina record. It is added to the SC definitive list on the basis of the clear photographs. A second bird, seen on the 1993 Spartanburg Christmas Count has just recently been submitted to the SCBRC, and is now in review.

**Sprague's Pipit**-(02-94-2 and 2A). One was seen by G. McCoy on 6 February and by K. Calhoun on 19 February 1994, and many others into March at the Orangeburg Sod Farms. This was a most delightful and accomodating rarity, which was fairly easy to see with a little persistence. Other than two reports from the Savannah River Plant, this is the first inland record for South Carolina.

**Golden-crowned Sparrow**-(12-93-3). One was reported by P. Nugent on 26 December in the Francis Marion Forest during the Charleston Christmas Count. This sighting caused much debate, but was finally accepted on a split vote.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird**-(8-93-3). C. Belsen, D. Cox and others saw and heard very briefly an odd blackbird at Twonville on 22 August 1993. The consensus of the group, after checking the call against tapes of this and other blackbirds, was that this was an immature, probably female bird. There are a few other Piedmont records for the species.

**Common Redpoll**-(01-94-1 & 3). Separate sightings were made by J. Wren and S. Tompson in Spartanburg County on 7 January and G. Sowell in Richland County on 17 and 23 January. This was a redpoll year in the East, and the writer knows of at least two more undocumented sightings during January and February of the very rare visitor to South Carolina.

Not accepted - Two reports

**Little Gull**-(12-93-1). An inland sighting on Lake Murray on 5 December of a small gull was not accepted at this species, as the observers were not able to see the diagnostic underwing pattern and wing shape.

**Vaux's Swift**-(1-94-2). Two birds reported in flight at the University of South Carolina campus in Columbia in 24 January were not accepted as the report does not clearly exclude Chimney Swift. This is, however, accepted as the first winter report of a South Carolina *Chaetura* swift.

We wish to thank all the submitters for their time and effort in preparing reports. We also wish to remind those who submitted particularly unusual records (First state, etc.) that the actions of the SCBRC, and this report, do not meet the criteria of publication, i.e. full documentation in a journal to establish a permanent record. To do this, the original submitter, or a collaborator, should submit a note for publication in *The Chat* through Dennis Forsythe, South Carolina Field Notes Editor.

Respectfully submitted

P. L. Worthington, Chairman and Secretary  
Robin Carter  
John Cely  
Steve Compton  
Dennis Forsythe  
Sidney Gauthreaux  
Lex Glover  
Bill Hilton, Jr.  
Pete Laurie

---

---

**CBC Rare Bird Alert  
(704) 332-BIRD**

---

---