

14, Downy Woodpecker 6, Hairy Woodpecker 2, Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker 8, Pileated Woodpecker 3, Eastern Wood-Pewee 5, Great Crested Flycatcher 2, Horned Lark 2, Tree Swallow 8, Northern Rough-winged Swallow 1, Blue Jay 27, American Crow 54, Fish Crow 2, Carolina Chickadee 16, Tufted Titmouse 18, White-breasted Nuthatch 1, Brown-headed Nuthatch 13, Carolina Wren 42, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 4, Eastern Bluebird 18, Swainson's Thrush 10, Wood Thrush 1, American Robin 9, Gray Catbird 7, Northern Mockingbird 27, Brown Thrasher 7, Loggerhead Shrike 1, European Starling 37, White-eyed Vireo 9, Yellow-throated Vireo 2, Red-eyed Vireo 2, Northern Parula 3, Chestnut-sided Warbler 1, Magnolia Warbler 2, Pine Warbler 18, American Redstart 5, Common Yellowthroat 4, Hooded Warbler 3, Summer Tanager 4, Northern Cardinal 49, Rufous-sided Towhee 15, Common Grackle 7, Brown-headed Cowbird 1, House Finch 26, American Goldfinch 1, House Sparrow 7.

Total: 63 species; 742 individuals.

Coordinator: Robin Carter, 4165 East Buchanan Drive, Columbia, SC.

Participants: Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman, Jerry Griggs.

Report of the North Carolina Bird Records Committee 1995

This report enumerates the decisions of the Carolina Bird Club's North Carolina Bird Records Committee during 1995.

Accepted as Valid. The reported identification is judged to be accurate and the bird is judged to be of wild origin. Photographs, tape recordings, and written descriptions of all accepted records have been deposited in the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*). One in winter plumage was photographed by Steve Dinsmore at Wrightsville Beach on 14 February 1995. This is the third accepted record of the species for North Carolina. The species is already on the Official List.

Pacific Loon. One in winter plumage was observed on the unseasonable date of 28 July 1995 on Currituck Sound along the Dare - Currituck County line, by Will Cook and Norm Budnitz. The Committee accepted descriptions provided by both observers, for the fourth accepted record of Pacific Loon for North Carolina (plus an accepted record to Pacific/Arctic Loon).

Band-rumped Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma castro*). An individual was found dead, and subsequently photographed, by Simon Thompson far

inland in the Pacolet River valley near Tryon, in Polk County, on 21 August 1994. The Committee accepted both the written documentation and the photos. This is the first accepted inland record for the state. This pelagic species has been observed in North Carolina waters on many occasions and is already on the Official List.

Red-billed Tropicbird (*Phaethon aethereus*). A sub-adult was seen on a pelagic trip off Cape Hatteras on 13 August 1994. The Committee accepted both written descriptions provided by Greg Lasley and Edward (Ned) Brinkley, as well as photos provided by Steve Dinsmore and Lasley. There are about five previous state records, but none in perhaps the previous 10 years. The species is already on the Official List.

Red-billed Tropicbird -- second ballot. An immature was seen and photographed in the Gulf Stream off Hatteras on 24 July 1994 by P.A. Buckley, Ned Brinkley, Brian Patteson, and many other birders. As mentioned above, there was a gap of perhaps 10 years between sightings of this species in North Carolina waters.

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*). An adult or sub-adult was photographed off Cape Hatteras on 15 August 1994. The Committee accepted photos taken by Don Henise. This is the third accepted state record. The species is already on the Official List, based on a bird photographed in July 1994.

Brown Booby. An adult or sub-adult was seen flying directly over Cape Hatteras Point on 29 May 1995. Ricky Davis, and George and Henry Armistead, provided descriptions to the Committee. This is the fourth accepted state record.

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*). A male in breeding plumage was photographed by Steve Dinsmore on 14 February 1995, and perhaps the same individual was photographed by Derb Carter on 19 March 1995, at a sewage treatment area near Sneads Ferry in Onslow County. There were no Unaccepted Origin votes. There are at least four or five previous state records, but this is probably the first photographic documentation. The species is already on the Official List.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*). An active nest, attended by adults, was discovered in downtown Laurinburg during summer 1995. Hal Broadfoot provided a written description, and Chip East and Hal Broadfoot provided photos of the nest, adults, and fledgling. This is the first documented nesting of Mississippi Kite in the state.

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*). One was seen at New Drum Inlet in Carteret County from 30 April to 3 May 1994. It was originally found by Sue Philhower, and the Committee accepted the description provided by Steve Dinsmore, who observed the bird on 3 May. This is the first accepted report for the state; because no photographs were obtained, the species is placed on the Provisional List.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*). The Committee accepted the descriptions of two adults, and one third-winter individual, at Cape Hatteras Point on 28 December 1994. Ned Brinkley provided details on the gulls. These three birds represent a single accepted record. There are three previously accepted records for the state, and the species is already on the Official List.

Sandwich (Cayenne) Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis eurygnatha*). One was photographed by Steve Dinsmore at Cape Hatteras Point on 23 September 1994. The Committee had no descriptions of the bird to vote on, but the Committee accepted the photographs, which were accompanied by a review of the photos by Claudia Wilds, a recognized expert on tern identification. This is the first accepted record for this subspecies for the state. The Committee is aware of two or three previous reports for the state and will vote on them pending suitable descriptive material or photographs.

White-winged Tern (*Chlidonias leucopterus*). An adult, in advanced molt, was seen by several birders at the Bodie Island Lighthouse Pond on 13 August 1994. The Committee accepted descriptions provided by Michael Mathieson and Roger McNeill. The Committee had failed to accept two previous reports of this species; thus, this is the first accepted state record. Because no photographs were obtained, the species is placed on the Provisional List.

Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus perdux*). Ricky Davis observed a Marbled Murrelet at Jordan Lake, Chatham County, on 9 December 1994. Dozens of birders also saw it on the following day, and it was briefly seen again on 11 December. The Committee reviewed descriptions provided by Davis, and by Susan Barrell Grove, and accepted the record both to the full species and to the Siberian (*B. m. perdux*) subspecies. No identifiable photos were taken. Thus, this first state record is placed on the Provisional List.

Atlantic Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*). One in basic plumage was observed on a pelagic trip off Currituck Banks on 18 February 1995 (LeGrand and Dias 1995). Harry LeGrand, Derb Carter, John Wright, Steve Dinsmore, and at least eight other persons saw the puffin. No photos were obtained. This is the second sight record for the state, and the species remains on the Provisional List.

Antillean Nighthawk (*Chordeiles gundlachii*). One individual was seen and heard calling on many evenings from 6 August to at least 14 August 1994 in the vicinity of the campground at Cape Hatteras Point. The Committee accepted written descriptions from Craig Roberts and Greg Lasley. The Committee also accepted a tape recording of the call made by Michael O'Brien on 13 August. This is the first accepted record for the state. Acceptance of the tape recording, as this is tangible documentation, places the species directly onto the Official List.

Green Violet-ear (*Colibri thalassinus*). One was seen at a feeder in Burnsville in early September 1995, and Bob and Martha Sargent banded and photographed it on 5 September. The Committee accepted the many photos provided by the Sargents. This is the second accepted record of this hummingbird for North Carolina. The species is already on the Official List, based on a bird photographed at Asheville in 1987.

Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker (*Colaptes auratus cafer*). One male was seen by Ned Brinkley at Pea Island on 9 October 1994. This is apparently not the first report of the subspecies for the state, but it is the first that has been reviewed, and accepted, by the Committee. The Committee will search the literature for other reports of "Red-shafted" Flicker and will vote on such reports, pending suitable descriptive material. The Committee has a policy of reviewing well-marked subspecies, especially as some such subspecies may well be split by the American Ornithologists' Union into full species.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*). A juvenile was observed at the old Coast Guard Station at the northern end of Pea Island on 24 September 1994 by Bob Holmes, and subsequently seen on that date by Steve Dinsmore, Roger McNeill, Brian Patteson, and others. The Committee accepted a written description by Dinsmore and photographs taken by Dinsmore and McNeill. This is the second accepted record for the state. Acceptance of the photographs elevates the species from the Provisional List to the Official List.

Cave Swallow (*Hirundo fulva*). One was observed by John and Paula Wright, and Nell and Jimi Moore, at a sewage treatment area near Sneads Ferry in Onslow County on 5 February 1995. The Committee accepted the description submitted by John Wright, and photographs taken by Nell Moore, to the full species. The Committee considered whether the details and the photos were sufficient enough for identification of the bird to the Southwestern subspecies (*H. f. fulva*); however, the Committee did not accept subspecific identification. Acceptance of the full species elevates Cave Swallow from the Provisional List to the Official List, as this is the third accepted sight record. Acceptance of the photos to the full species is not necessary to move Cave Swallow to the Official List, but the photos provide the first tangible documentation.

Cave Swallow. One was seen by Ned Brinkley at the Bodie Island Lighthouse Pond on 19 May 1995. This is, surprisingly, the fourth accepted record for the state. The other three records are for the winter season.

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*). One individual, either a female in basic plumage or an immature, was seen on many dates during October 1994 at the Cape Hatteras Point campground. The Committee accepted a written description provided by Ned Brinkley, and photographs

taken by Robert Anderson, Ned Brinkley, and Roger McNeill. This is the third accepted record for the state. The species is already on the Official List, based on a photograph of a Wheatear taken at Avon in 1987.

Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*). An immature was seen by Wayne Irvin and Ken Knapp along the north dike of North Pond at Pea Island on 29 December 1994. This is the fourth record for North Carolina, but the first in approximately 25 years. The species is already on the Official List.

Black-whiskered Vireo (*Vireo altiloquus*). One was observed in Beaufort on 6 May 1995 by Trip Dennis. This is the fourth accepted record for the state; the species is already on the Official List.

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*). Trip Dennis found a female at the Oakdale Cemetery in Wilmington on 31 January 1995, and it was seen by other birders in early February. The Committee accepted descriptions provided by Harry LeGrand and Dennis. This is the third accepted sight record for the state, and thus the species is elevated from the Provisional List to the Official List. A photograph or specimen would be helpful to further document the species.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*). A female was seen by Charles (Will) Cook, Chris Eley, and three other birders along the Blue Ridge Parkway near Haywood Gap (Milepost 426.2) on 20 May 1995. The Committee accepted descriptions provided by Cook and Eley. This is the second accepted sight record for the state, keeping the species on the Provisional List.

Kirtland's Warbler. A bird believed to be an immature was found along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Wilkes County near Milepost 235 on 24 September by Will Cook. The bird was observed by five members of the N.C. Bird Records Committee, plus many other observers, on the following day. This is the third accepted sight record for the state of Kirtland's Warbler, and the species is hereby elevated from the Provisional List to the Official List. No tangible documentation, such as a photograph or specimen, is available for the state.

Unresolved. Further consideration by the Committee is needed.

Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus cachimans*). Voting on a report of an adult, along with photographs, from the coast during late winter 1995 was tabled by the Committee because of the lack of experience of Committee members with the full species, its various subspecies, and hybrids of other species of gulls. There were a number of reports of "Yellow-legged Gulls" from the coast during early 1995, but only the above record was considered for voting in 1995. A more thorough literature review by Committee members, and perhaps outside review of the reports by European birders, are warranted before any decisions can be made on this species' status on

the North Carolina bird list. At the present time, there are no accepted records of this European species, recently split from the Herring Gull, for North Carolina.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*). Photos of a banded individual taken in early March near the coast were considered by the Committee to be clearly that of a Blue-winged Warbler, as reported by the photographers. However, two Committee members are concerned that the date may not have been recorded correctly, because the species is extraordinarily rare in the United States in early winter, and perhaps unprecedented in late winter. Because the report received between 25 and 50% of Non-accept votes, the report will go to outside review.

North Carolina Bird Records Committee members:

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

LITERATURE CITED

LeGrand, H.E., Jr., and N.W. Dias. 1995. Two records of Atlantic Puffin for North Carolina. *Chat* 59:93-94.

Report of the South Carolina Bird Records Committee 1995

The Records Committee completed action on 27 reports in 1995 and presently has an additional 7 under review, plus one being re-balloted after undergoing outside review. Of the 27, six were rejected, and 21 accepted. The accepted reports led to the addition to the SC state list of three new species, and one subspecies. The list now stands at 401 species + one genus, of which 17 species are on the provisional list. Of the species added, one (Marbled Murrelet) was added to the Definitive list, and two (Common Murre and Townsend's Solitaire) to the Provisional. The subspecies (Audubon's Warbler) is provisional.

At its annual meeting on February 10, 1996, the SCBRC voted to change the definition of species on the SC "Definitive" list to include only