

could still exist or re-establish itself in Illinois as succession creates the appropriate cane habitat for this species.

Great-tailed Grackle

(*Quiscalus mexicanus*) One female 2 miles east of Savanna CAR on 10 May (2003.022; JB*). This bird constitutes the first record for the Spring Bird Count.

Bachman's Sparrow

(*Aimophila bachmani*) Two at Little Grassy Lake JAC on 7 Sep (1975.009; BP). The history of Bachman's Sparrow in Illinois is one of range expansion, then contraction and finally extinction (see Bohlen 1989 for details). The species was apparently restricted to southern Illinois in the 1800s. By the early 20th century, there were records from much of the state and it bred near the Wisconsin line. Soon after, the species began to disappear, and by the 1950s was again found in only southern Illinois. This record is the last record from the state. Although appropriate habitat still exists, declines elsewhere in the northern part of its range (Palmer-Ball 1996) suggest that the species is gone for good from Illinois.



Other Accepted Records:

(16 records of 11 species, plus one record of a hybrid)

Blue-winged Teal

(*Anas discors*) One at Elgin KNE on 18 Dec (1989.072; BD).

Pacific Loon

(*Gavia pacifica*) One at Clinton Lake DEW on 4 November (1989.037; RCh). One at Lake Decatur MCN on 19 Apr (1989.015; MD, RP).

Little Blue Heron

(*Egretta caerulea*) One in MAD on 19 Dec (1987.137; JHn).

White-faced Ibis

(*Plegadis chihi*) one adult near Fountain MNR on 5-6

May (1978.005; WR, RA). One at Cahokia, STC on 10 to 22 Sep (1983.007; RG, PS). One at Clear Lake, MAS on 4-5 Apr (2003.005; TM *p). A majority of the committee did not think that the photographs taken of the Clear Lake bird were unequivocally identifiable to species. However, written documentation established the identification beyond a doubt.

Glossy Ibis

(*Plegadis falcinellus*) One at the Cinder Flats, SAN on 4 May (1982.011; HDB). One at Clear Lake MSN on 18-26 Sep (1988.070; LA).

Lesser Black-backed Gull

(*Larus fuscus*) One at Joliet WLL on 28 Nov (1986.196; JM). One at Lock and Dam 19, HAN on 20 to 22 Oct (1986.199; JF, RCe).

Sabine's Gull

(*Xema sabini*) One at Clinton L DEW on 9 Oct (1988.094; MD).

Grace's Warbler. Montrose, Cook County.

8 September 2003. Photos by Kanae Hirabayashi.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

(*Tyrannus forficatus*) One near Wolf Lake UNI on 29 Dec (1988.127; DR). This is the only winter record and Christmas Bird Count record for Illinois and one of the very few north of the Gulf Coast.

Golden-winged

X Blue-winged Warbler

"Lawrence's" Warbler

(*Vermivora pinus x chrysoptera*)

One in ne UNI on 7 May (1988.046; GH).

Palm Warbler

(*Dendroica palmarum*) One of the hypochrysea race at Tri-County SP, DUP on 10 Apr (2003.014; MS).

Lincoln's Sparrow

(*Melospiza lincolni*) One e. of Beverly, ADA on 26 Dec (1989.094; LF).

Harris' Sparrow

(*Zonotrichia querula*) One adult at Clinton Lake DEW on 17 Dec (1989.096; LA).

UNACCEPTED RECORDS ... Review List Records Unaccepted (4 records of 3 species)

Parasitic Jaeger

(*Stercorarius parasiticus*) One at Montrose, Chicago COO on 15 Nov (1980.009). One at IBSP LAK on 2 Oct (1982.013). Committee members did not find that the documentation of these birds were sufficient to rule out other species of jaegers. It was accepted by the committee as an unidentified jaeger. Jaeger identification, especially of first year birds, is an evolving science.

Many of the criteria used for identification in the past are not currently considered to be reliable. Add to this, the fact that birds are usually distant and observation periods are often very short, and the difficulties are obvious. Review of the IORC archives suggests that some accepted records from the past will need to be re-evaluated using current criteria.