

UNACCEPTED RECORDS — Review List Records Unaccepted (36 records of 30 species)

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*): One at Riverlands MAD 30 Oct-4 Nov (1997.036). Possibly correct, but the description is too brief to convincingly eliminate Red-throated Loon. A “dark throat” patch reported on this bird is more suggestive of a juvenile Red-throated Loon while an apparent “white flank” patch was observed and is more indicative of an Arctic Loon. Apparently this loon was observed by many other observers—but unfortunately not enough descriptive detail was provided by observers to support a positive identification. One at Rend L. FRA 16 Nov (1998.065); possibly correct but the sketch provided looked more like a small Common Loon and Red-throated Loon was not safely eliminated by the description.

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*): One at Carlyle L. CLI 29 Nov (1997.052). Details, especially bill color, suggested Clark's Grebe, but observers agreed that the black cap of the head extended to the eye, which is not the pattern shown by this species; had others sketched the bird and shown the placement of black in the face perhaps there would not have been as much doubt by the Committee as the yellow-orange bill certainly is a field mark for the species.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*): Six at Dark Bend, Embarrass R. JAS 29 Apr (1997.025). Supportive details and sketch. However, after the second round of voting, the Committee conservatively felt the birds were too distant for a positive identification and elimination of soaring Double-crested Cormorants in flight.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*): Twenty at Lake Villa LAK 21 Aug (1997.038). A remarkable report—but the ducks were seen only briefly in flight with not enough descriptive plumage detail to secure a convincing identification.

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*): One immature near Durand WIN 4 Oct (1998.067); identification correct but the Committee was duly concerned about origin of an immature bird without adults present—the likelihood of an escaped individual from a waterfowl collection could not be ignored as this species is often kept in captivity.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*): Two at Moraine View SP McL 18 Mar (1998.036); a brief look at the end of the day with bad light; there were many inconsistencies in the description—enough to rule out this rare duck inland.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*): One at Camp Sagawau COO 26 Apr (1998.016); The observer gave more event detail than a plumage description. This record may well be correct but the observer's comparison of the bird's size being similar to a Peregrine Falcon was puzzling; the milky gray underparts seemed correct—

but not enough to convincingly portray this kite. Two at Spoon L. KNO (1998.035); a brief and distant view with good flight characters; possibly correct but little plumage detail and failure to adequately eliminate other raptor species.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*): One near Naples SCO 9 May (1998.030); the description did not satisfactorily rule out variations in a Red-tailed Hawk and the diagnostic wing to tip of the tail—or long primaried look was not noted—nor was the white chin and throat field marks on the “dark reddish brown upper breast.” One dark phase north of Colfax, Lawndale Township McL 15 Apr (1998.034); description did not rule out a dark phased Rough-legged Hawk or a dark phase immature Red-tailed Hawk.

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*): One at Larry Larimore farm, north of Fairmont VER 26 Oct (1998.023); The plumage detail provided in the documentation for this record was judged inadequate by the Committee.

Mountain Plover (*Charadrius montanus*): Seven individuals at US 30 4 miles east of I-88 LEE 23 Oct (1998.068); the darker crowns as described for these individuals suggested American Golden-Plover as did other plumage characters; also most Mountain Plover would have already migrated to their wintering grounds by this date—photographic documentation probably is needed before this species can be safely added to the state checklist.

Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*): One alternate adult at L. Chautauqua NWR MSN 2 Aug (1997.040). Owing to the ultra rarity of this species and the identification difficulties, the record was evaluated by two experts: one from Alaska and one national expert on bird identification. Both have extensive experience with this species' identification. Both experts felt that without better substantiation (i.e. a photo or specimen) the description failed to rule out the possibility of a Little Stint, bright juvenile Semipalmated Sandpiper or as one reviewer suggested—a breeding plumaged Sanderling. Also, unfortunately other observers failed to gather evidence for this rarity. It should also be noted that extreme “heat waves” often hampered good visibility of this bird and other shorebirds at the time of observation. Photographs, or the like, of this difficult to identify species would be necessary to add this species to the state checklist.

Temminck's Stint (*Calidris temminckii*): One adult in basic plumage at Chautauqua NWR MSN 16 Sep (1997.041). Owing to the ultra rarity of this species and the identification difficulties, the record was evaluated by an expert from Alaska. The description while plausible failed to describe “a dark subfringe just inside of and