

Twenty-Seventh Report of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee

By Geoffrey A. Williamson

Evaluations by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC or “the Committee”) are reported for records whose review concluded in 2021. There was a total of 132 records, including 112 accepted records of 51 species and forms and 20 unaccepted records of 16 species and forms.

We continue to follow the conventions used in the first 26 reports of the Committee, for example Williamson (2021), Sweet (2013) and Stotz (2012). The records below are divided into two groups: Accepted and Unaccepted. The Accepted group is further divided into Species New to the State List, Review List Species, and Other Species and Subspecies. The Unaccepted group is divided into Species New to the State List, Review List Species, and Other Species and Subspecies. Nomenclature, English names, and sequence of species conform to that of the 7th edition of the Check-list of North American Birds (American Ornithologists’ Union 1998) and its supplements through the 63rd (Chesser et al. 2022).

Accepted records are entered with the locality, including county; the date; the IORC record number (in parentheses, the year of initial observation followed by a serial number); and the initials of the primary observer(s) who contributed descriptions, photographs, sound recordings, and/or video recordings. Similar information is provided for unaccepted records, except the observers remain anonymous, and a brief explanation of why the record was not accepted is given. The initials of a contributor without any further modification indicate that they contributed solely written documentation. When additional information was provided, a colon follows the observer’s initials with the following codes: p for photographic evidence, s for sound recordings, and v for video recordings. Many contributing photographers also submitted written documentation, a practice that the Committee strongly encourages. If the observer who first discovered the bird is known to the committee, that observer’s initials are set off from the initials of other contributors by a semicolon. Initial observers who did not submit documentation are not always listed, but where possible we have indicated who initially discovered the bird(s) involved.

The Committee does not always take a position on the age or sex of a bird, and any such information given may be the observer’s opinion, rather than the Committee’s. All other remarks are the author’s, although most of the information comes from the Committee files, which are now stored in Chicago, Illinois in the Bird Division of the Field Museum of

Natural History.

In those cases where there are discrepancies between the details presented here and other published records, the data provided here represent the Committee’s best assessment of all available information. Date ranges for records reflect both the evidence in submitted documentation and information available to the Committee from other sources when judged by the Committee to be valid. Such sources include eBird (Sullivan et al. 2009), social media venues on the internet, listservs, and personal communications. The Committee accepts responsibility for any inaccuracies or misrepresentations of information herein. Errors that come to our attention will be published as corrigenda in a future IORC report.

DOCUMENTATION AND REVIEW LIST

The Committee requests documentation of all records of Review List forms within the state. The current Review List, available at <http://www.illinoisbirds.org/illinois-ornithological-records-committee/>, was most recently updated at the 19 March 2022 meeting of IORC. Among the changes were the removal from the Review List of Little Gull, Black Vulture, Swallow-tailed Kite, Barn Owl, Townsend’s Solitaire, Hoary Redpoll, White-winged Crossbill, and Western Tanager. Additionally, the Committee removed from the Review List Anhinga records from the southern tier of counties and Painted Bunting records from the area around East St. Louis, St. Clair County. As always, the Committee desires documentation of any species not listed in the Illinois State List of Birds (available at <http://www.illinoisbirds.org/the-birds-of-illinois/>). In some cases, documentation of regularly occurring species may be warranted. These instances may include out of season occurrences, first state nesting records or rarely occurring nesting records, and exceptionally high counts of species. Documentation in these cases should also be sent to the seasonal report editor for the appropriate season. Such records, as well as documentation submitted for the Christmas Bird Count and Spring Bird Count, are formally evaluated by the Committee at its discretion, but in all cases the materials are archived so as to be available in the future to students of Illinois bird life.

The Committee strongly encourages all observers of rare birds to submit documentation directly to IORC, even when

multiple observers are involved in a sighting. Cases do arise of records that are deemed unacceptable due to incomplete information, even when there were many observers, because adequate documentation was not submitted to the Committee. Photos are of course invaluable resources for the Committee, but even with high quality photographs available there are times when a tricky identification can be resolved only from written details not depicted in photos. The best practice is for observers to submit documentation directly to the Committee, even if it involves strictly photos.

The practice of the Committee is now also to accept into review sightings that are documented in eBird (Sullivan et al. 2009). Materials in the eBird database are archived by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, which the Committee deems acceptable much in the same way that archiving of specimens by established museums and other entities is acceptable to the Committee for preserving such evidence. Nonetheless, the Committee prefers direct submission to IORC of documentary evidence. Often, details that are requested on IORC's documentation form are omitted from eBird checklists, so that the prompts within the process of direct submission to IORC frequently result in more comprehensive documentation.

OBSERVERS AND DOCUMENTERS

One hundred and fifty individuals contributed documentary material to the records involved in this report. Those among them who are cited in the accounts are listed below, followed in parentheses by their initials, which are used to reference them. IORC sincerely thanks all the documenters, in cases of accepted and unaccepted records alike, for their submissions. All documentation is maintained in the IORC archives so that there is a permanent record of all these observations. Documentation, regardless of the Committee's decision, is a valuable part of the record of bird life in Illinois.

Shanin Abreu (SA), Andrew S. Aldrich (ASA), Jill S. Anderson (JSA), Pat Anderson (PA), Mike Avara (MA), John M. Bates (JMB), Jack Bechtel (JBI), Vic O. Berardi (VOB), Jeff Bilsky (JBy), Richard A. Biss (RAB), Gary Bowman (GB), Ethan Brown (EB), Oliver Burrus (OB), Angelo P. Capparella (APC), Giuseppe Cesolini (GC), Tom Colin (TCn), Tony Commerci (TCi), Jason Cristino (JCo), Jake Cvetas (JCs), Matthew M. Cvetas (MMC), Travis DeNeal (TD), Colin Dobson (CD), Jacob Drucker (JD), Joshua I. Engel (JIE), Pete Fenner (PF), Matthew E. Fraker (MEF), Steven M. Freed (SMF), Ryan Fuller (RF), Tyler D. Funk (TDF), Christopher Gilbert (CG), Nathan R. Goldberg (NRG), Tommy Goodwin (TG), Woody Goss (WG), Bonnie Graham (BG), Jon Grainger (JG), Aaron Gyllenhall (AG), Diane Hansen (DHn), Jan Hansen (JHn), C. Leroy Harrison (CLH), Ted Hartzler (TH), Ann B. Haverstock (ABH), John A. Heneghan (JAH), Jarod Hitchings (JHs), Frank R. Holmes (FRH), Dustin Holschuh (DHh), David Horning (DHg), Steven J. Huggins (SJH), Robert D. Hughes (RDH), Tamima Itani (TI), David B. Johnson (DBJ), Scott Johnson (SJ), Ryan Jones (RJ), Davida Kalina (DKa), Pamela Karlson (PK), Dan M. Kassebaum (DMK),

Loch Kilpatrick (LK), Dawn Klamut (DKt), Niklas Klauss (NK), Vernon M. Kleen (VMK), Krzysztof Kurylowicz (KK), Brendon Lake (BL), Kirk LaGory (KL), Vicki Lang (VL), Corey Lange (CL), Jayne Leone (JL), Steven L. Lima (SLL), Tim Lindenbaum (TL), John C. Longhenry (JCL), Karen M. Lund (KML), Amy Lynch (AL), Travis A. Mahan (TAM), Heather Mall (HML), Annette McClellan (AM), William McClellan (WM), Michael McKinley (MMy), Michael McNamee (MMe), Henry Meade (HMe), Lisa Maier (LM), Matt Misewicz (MMz), Jim Mordacq (JMq), D. James Mountjoy (DJM), Vince Moxon (VM), Jason Mullins (JMs), Benjamin Murphy (BM), Greg E. Neise (GEN), Vlad Nevirkovets (VN), Jason Newton (JN), Al Nichols (AN), Pirmin Nietlisbach (PN), Dennis Oehmke (DO), Linda S. Padera (LSP), Alex Patia (AP), Craig Reges (CR), Ken Reinert (KR), Diana Rod (DR), Taylor Root (TR), Rhonda S. Rothrock (RSR), William C. Rowe (WCR), Ben Sanders (BSs), Randy Schietzelt (RSt), Randy Schiller (RSr), Eric E. Secker (EES), Robert E. Shelby (RES), Charles Shields (CS), Randy L. Shonkwiler (RLS), Trevor Slovick (TS), Jeff A. Smith (JAS), Ian Souza-Cole (IS-C), Vicky Sroczynski (VS), Brandon Stehl (BSl), Jay Sturner (JS), John C. Sullivan (JSC), Paul W. Sweet (PWS), Craig A. Taylor (CAT), Aerin Tedesco (AT), Michael S. Thelan (MST), Peter Tolzmann (PT), Simon Tolzmann (ST), Jude Vickery (JV), Terry Walsh (TWWh), Eric W. Walters (EWW), Peter S. Weber (PSW), John C. Weisgerber (JCW), Bobby Wilcox (BW), Daniel T. Williams (DTW), Geoffrey A. Williamson (GAW), Matthew J. Winks (MJW), Ted Wolff (TWf), Tony Yee (TY), Junko Yokota (JY), Mary Zehner (MZ), Steve Zehner (SZ).

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Membership in IORC during 2021 consisted of the following individuals:

- Matthew E. Fraker, Voting Member.
- Davida Kalina, Voting Member.
- Walter J. Marcisz, Voting Member.
- Adam W. Sell, Voting Member.
- Paul W. Sweet, Voting Member and Vice-Secretary.
- Terry Walsh, Voting Member.
- Geoffrey A. Williamson, Secretary.

Available to serve as an Alternate Member during 2021 were Robert E. Fisher, Robert D. Hughes, Douglas F. Stotz, Michael P. Ward, and David E. Willard. Among these, Robert D. Hughes and Douglas F. Stotz voted on records during the year.

We thank all the individuals mentioned above for their careful and thoughtful evaluation of records and for their various other services to the Committee. Their efforts were essential to the work of IORC and contributed greatly to the accumulating record of bird life in Illinois.

ACCEPTED RECORDS OF SPECIES NEW TO THE STATE LIST

One record of one species

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) One at the Widewaters area of the Des Plaines River, Channahon, Will County 29 November to 13 December 2020 (2020-091; JCW:p; GC, JAH:p, TI, GAW:p). A detailed account of this record is provided by Huggins and Goldberg (2022), and a photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021b).

ACCEPTED RECORDS OF REVIEW LIST SPECIES

Fifty-eight records of 33 species

Brant (*Branta bernicla*) One at Winthrop Harbor, Lake County and Wilmette, Cook County 2 January 2021 then at Montrose Point, Lincoln Park, Chicago, Cook County 3-26 January 2021 (2021-001; RDH:p, TI:p, VN:p, TWh:p, GAW:p). This bird was spotted on 2 January 2021 by Eric Johnson at North Point Marina in Winthrop Harbor, then by Josh Engel further south in Lake County at Waukegan, and then by Vlad Nevirkovets even further south in Wilmette, Cook County. It was first located at Montrose Point the next day by Terry Walsh. The Brant present at the Manitowoc Impoundment, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin from November to 29 December 2020 (Marengo 2021), the individual here in record 2021-001 during 2-26 January 2021, and one found southeast of Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, Indiana 11-14 February 2021, where it was killed by a car (Hengeveld et al. 2021b) are all presumed to be the same bird. Photographs of this bird are in *Meadowlark* 30(3):3, 18, and 26.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*) One at Newton Lake, Jasper County 18 November 2021 (2021-059; CLH:p, RES:p).

Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*) One south of Martinsville, Clark County 23 November 2020 (2020-085; SLL:p). This is the fifth accepted record in the 21st century. A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(2):17.

Mexican Violetear (*Colibri thalassinus*) One in Mundelein, Lake County 20-24 August 2021 (2021-051; JCo:p,v; DBJ:p, RJ:p, KML:p, AM:p, WM:p, GEN:p, DTW:p, GAW:p, JY:p). This individual was discovered by Jason and Jeanna Cristino at their home. It is the second state record.

Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*) One at LaBagh Woods Forest Preserve, Cook County 3-14 May 2021 (2021-024; GAW:p, TY:p, SZ:p). Nathan Goldberg found this individual, which provided the fourth record of the species for Illinois. A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021c).

Limpkin (*Aramus gurauna*) One at Chain-o-Lakes State Park, Lake County 10-14 July 2021 (2021-047; AN:p; OB:p, CAT:p). A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021d). One at Dixon Waterfowl Refuge, Putnam County 16-28 August 2021 (2021-050; SH:p; CAT). These were the second and third records for the state (with the first in 2019). This species has

undergone a recent range expansion along with a dramatic increase in extralimital observations (Minetor 2022).

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus*) One east of Woodson, Morgan County 4-7 May 2020 (2020-086; CD:p). A photograph of this bird is in *Meadowlark* 29(4):30. One in Chestnut, Logan County 31 May 2020 (2020-087; CD:p).

Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*) One along the Mississippi River levees, Monroe County 19 May 1984 (1984-025; WCR). An historic record brought to IORC's attention by the observer when entering the sighting into the eBird database. One in Oswego, Kendall County 26-30 April 2021 (2021-033; WG:p, JG:p, SJH:p, RJ:p, DKa:p, JN:p, LSP:p, CAT:p, JV:p). One at Salt Creek Marsh Forest Preserve, DuPage County 27-30 April 2021 (2021-021; TCi:p).

Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*) One to two in Waukegan, Lake County 6-19 December 2020 (2020-093; DTW:p). One bird was observed on 6 Dec by Jenny and Joe Cesolini; it was seen also on 7 Dec 2020. Then on 11 Dec 2020, two birds were observed, followed by a single individual observed 18-19 Dec 2020. Whether only two individuals or up to four are involved remains undetermined. A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(3):18. One at Waukegan Beach, Lake County 12-13 November 2021 (2021-061; HMe:p). This individual was first discovered by Annette McClellan.

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) One at Chicago's Burnham Park, Cook County 17 September 2020 (2020-048; JD:p). One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton County 18-26 September 2020 (2020-089; CD:p); this individual was first found by Dan M. Kassebaum. One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton County 18 September 2021 (2021-076; CD:p, SZ:p).

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton County 24-25 October 2020 (2020-100; NRG:p, CLH:p, TWf:p). A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(2):30. One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton County 11 September 2021 (2021-072; TAM:p). These are the 10th and 12th records for Illinois.

Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) One at Waukegan Beach, Lake County 18 July 2021 (2021-077; AM:p, WM:p). A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021d). One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton County 11-13 August 2021 (2021-048; CLH:p). These are the sixth and seventh Illinois records accepted by IORC.



ROYAL TERN. Carlyle Lake, Clinton Co. 11 Aug. 2021. Photo by Leroy Harrison.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) One at Carlyle Lake, Clinton County 31 October to 1 November 2020 (2020-119; DMK:p; TS:p). One in Downs Township, McLean County 1-19 November 2020 (2020-130; SA, MJW; JCs:p, MMC:p, CD:p, BG:p, NK:p, MMy:p,v, MMz:p, PN:p, VS:p, PT:p, ST:p, SZ:p).

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) One at Mermet Lake, Massac County 19 July to 11 August 2021 (2021-090; ASA:p, JBl, RJ:p). A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021d). This is the 13th record accepted by IORC and the 12th from 1989 or later. Bohlen (1989) discusses records appearing in the literature prior to 1989, the latest dating from 1967.

Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) One southeast of Grafton, Jersey County 4 November 2020 (2020-104; BW:p). This is the state's seventh record and the third in 2020.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) One at Oakwood Bottoms, Jackson County 4-17 April 2021 (2021-013; CAT:p). This individual was found by Caroline Cooper, Jacob Cooper, and Zach Skubiszewski. One in Mokena, Will County 30 April 2021 (2021-022; EES).

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) One at Harrisburg Lake, Saline County 23 May 2020 (2020-132; DHg:p).

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) Two at Sanganois State Fish and Wildlife Area, Mason County 5 & 26 September 2021 (2021-080; CD:p). One at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, St. Clair County 15 October 2021 (2021-081; JCS:p).

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) One at Bailey Wetland, Richland and Wayne counties 7-18 October 2020 (2020-099; CLH:p). A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(2):32. One at Whalon Lake Forest Preserve, Will County 28-29 August 2021 (2021-082; KL:p, JL:p, MMe:p, JAS:p). One at Sawmill Lake, Putnam County 1-3 October 2021 (2021-054; SJH:p; DTW).

Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) One in Golconda, Pope County 31 July 2021 (2021-049; CAT:p). A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021d). One at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, Williamson County 20 August to 4 September 2021 (2021-053; CAT:p). This individual was found by Katy Banning and Kimberly Rohling. These are the eighth and ninth records for Illinois, all in the 21st century, though see Stotz and Johnson (2004) for information about what is known regarding prior reports.

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) One near Lock & Dam #27, Madison County 21 June 2021 (2021-044; FRH:p, DMK:p, CAT:p). This individual was found by Mike Ward. It represents the third record for Illinois. A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021d).

Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) One at Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County 17 November 2021 (2021-058; VOB). This is the eighth record for Illinois accepted by IORC.

Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) One gray morph in Waukegan, Lake County 13 January 2021 then 30 January through 4 February 2021 (2021-007; JIE, DHn:p, TI:p, PWS:p). Photographs of this bird appear in *Meadowlark* 30(3):1, 19, 20, and 21. The initial sighting was by Gustavo Ustariz.

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) One at the "Magic Stump" and nearby area, northern Coles County 29 October 2020 to 13 February 2021 (2020-116; CD:p, TDF:p, AL:p, TS:p, AT:p, TWf:p). One in western Douglas County 11 January 2021 (2021-028; SLL:p). One west of Chenoa, Livingston and McLean counties 27 October to 1 November 2021 (2021-064; TR:p; AR:p, HML:p).

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) One at East Fork Lake, Richland County 30 October 2020 (2020-064; CLH:p; GB:p, NRG:p, RES:p). This is Illinois's seventh record. Photographs appear in *Meadowlark* 30(2):1, 17, and 34.

Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*) One to two in southern Schuyler County 7-13 July 2021 (2021-068; BSL:p; JSA:p,s, JCs:p, MMC:p, PF:p,s, TH:p, SZ:p). A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021d).

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) One north of DeWitt, DeWitt County 28-31 December 2020 (2020-105; CD:p). This individual was found by Rhetta Jack on a Christmas Bird Count. A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(3):21.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) This report includes seven records. One in Normal, McLean County 28 October 2020 (2020-114; BM:p). This bird was at the home of Becky and Roger Anderson, who are said to have seen four birds there 27 October 2020. A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(2):13. Four in Golconda, Pope County 6 February 2021 (2021-005; CAT:p). Up to 27 at Cave in Rock, Hardin County 6 February to 2 May 2021 (2021-004; CAT:p). Up to eight in Chambersburg, Pike County 20 February to 3 April 2021 (2021-006; CAT:p). A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(3):24. Six to 23 in Simpson, Johnson County 14 April to 4 May 2021 (2021-017; CAT:p). One in Normal, McLean County 8-9 May 2021 (2021-039; TL:p, APC). This was a Spring Bird Count record. One at Stickney Run Conservation Area, McHenry County 9 November 2021 (2021-065; LM).

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) One at Rainbow Beach, Chicago, Cook County 6 October 2020 (2020-126; MMe:p). This is the ninth record accepted by IORC since 1988.

Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*) One east of Murrayville, Morgan County 24-25 April 2021 (2021-019; CAT:p, DTW:p). This bird was found by Pat Ward coming to feeders at his home. This is Illinois's fifth accepted record. A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021c).

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) One in Hodgkins, Cook County 18-23 April 2021 (2021-032; PA:p, SJH:p, TWf:p). This bird was found by Eddie Kasper. It represents Illinois's 16th accepted record.

Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) One at Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge, Union County 9 May 2020 (2020-113; CG:p,s). A photo appears with Hengeveld et al. (2021a) and also in *Meadowlark* 29(4):45. One in Pomona, Jackson County 13 May 2021 (2021-066; RSR:s).

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) One male at Winnemac Park, Chicago, Cook County 24 May 2021 (2021-037; TW:p). This individual was found by Haley Henning and Daniel Crespo. One male in Alden Township, McHenry County 30 November to 2 December 2021 (2021-062; RSt:p).

ACCEPTED RECORDS OF OTHER SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES

Fifty-three records involving 18 species, including one record involving a subspecies form.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)

Two at Grand Tower, Jackson County 10 April 2021 (2021-016; CAT:p). One found dead in Fairfield, Wayne County 4 June 2021 (2021-042; RES:p).

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) One in Mendota, LaSalle County 22 May 2020 (2020-109; DR:p).

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) One adult female in Lisle, DuPage County 1-10 December 2020 (2020-108; TI:p, VMK).

Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) Eight records were accepted. One in the Illinois River floodplain, Woodford County during 16-29 June 2019 (2019-022; MEF:p, DHh:p, MMe:p, VM, DTW:p). This individual was originally found by Andrew P. Sigler. One at Lake Shelbyville, Shelby County 25-31 October 2020 (2020-127; TAM:p). One at Heidecke Lake, Grundy County 26 October 2020 (2020-128; MMz:p). One at Saganashkee Slough, Cook County 27-28 October 2020 (2020-129; BSs:p, NRG:p). One in Lake Township, Clinton County 20 March 2021 (2021-045; DMK:p). One at Lake Springfield, Sangamon County 31 March to 1 April 2021 (2021-029; JMq:p, DO:p). This individual was first found by Colin Dobson. One at the Spring Lake unit of Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge, Carroll County 4 April 2021 (2021-030; EES). One at Rend Lake, Jefferson County 9 September 2021 (2021-071; AG:p).

California Gull (*Larus californicus*) One immature at Lake Springfield, Sangamon County during 19 July 2020 to 10 February 2021 (2020-027; CD:p).

Neotropic Cormorant (*Nannopterum brasilianum*) One at Big Lake, Brown County 12 April 2020 (2020-088; CD:p). One at Lock & Dam 13, Whiteside County 23-25 July 2020 (2020-030; EB:p, DTW). One at Horseshoe Lake State Park, Madison County 10-15 March 2021 (2021-008; FRH:p).

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) Five records were accepted. One at Sedge Meadow Forest Preserve, Lake County 16 May 2020 (2020-120; RAB:p,v). One in Irving, Montgomery County 3 October 2020 (2020-123; JHs). Four east of Sam Parr State Park, Jasper County 15 December 2020 (2020-095; RES:p). This was a Christmas Bird Count record. One in Skokie, Cook County 29 June 2021 (2021-069; JMB:p). One in Lincoln Park, Chicago, Cook County 13-14 November 2021 (2021-055; GAW:p). This bird was found by Frank Geilen. Observers noticed its increasingly weakened state. It was taken into captivity on 14 November 2021, brought to a rehabilitator, and subsequently released after recovering health.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) One in Waukegan, Lake County 19 June 2020 (2020-107; DKT). One east of Plainville, Adams County 15 August 2021 (2021-078; JMS:p).

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsonii*) One in Sycamore, DeKalb County 21 April 2021 (2021-018; KR:p).

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) One in Pawnee, Sangamon County 25 August 2016 (2016-107; AP:p). One to two in Pawnee, Sangamon

County 5-31 March 2017 (2017-086; CD, CL:p). One in Burnham Park, Chicago, Cook County 23 August to 1 September 2021 (2021-052; GAW:p). This individual was found by Claire Halpin.

Northern Flicker (Red-shafted) (*Colaptes auratus* [cafer Group]) One in Chicago, Cook County 12 May 2021 (2021-073; PK:p). This is the second record of this form evaluated by IORC, both accepted. Bohlen (1989) notes that this form "occurs rarely in Illinois" and lists four observations that occurred between 1979 and 1987.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) One at Gremel Wildlife Sanctuary, Lee County 14 May 2021 (2021-036; BL; CAT:p, EWW:p). One in Oswego, Kendall County 31 October 2021 (2021-079; SJ:p).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) Four accepted records. One at Kennekuk Cove County Park, Vermilion County 18 November 2020 (2020-090; CD:p). One at Jackson Park, Chicago, Cook County 8 December 2020 (2020-094; RLS:p). One at Burnham Park, Chicago, Cook County 9 December 2020 (2020-124; RF:p). One in Plano, Kendall County 7 March 2021 (2021-027; SJ;p, RJ:p, CS:p).

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) Ten accepted records. Two to eight at Greenwood Cemetery, Rockford, Winnebago County 17 November to 22 December 2020 (2020-102; JCL:p). A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(3):23. One in Rockford, Winnebago County 23 November 2020 (2020-092; DTW:p). One at Afton Forest Preserve, DeKalb County 29 November 2020 (2020-115; JAH:p). One to 10 in Hampton, Rock Island County 10-26 December 2020 (2020-098; SMF; DTW:p). One in Pana, Christian County 17-23 January 2021 (2021-009; TCn:p). One in Galesburg, Knox County 30 January to 9 February 2021 (2021-012; DJM:p). One at Mesa Lake, south of Lancaster, Wabash County 8 April 2021 (2021-011; RES:p). One at Ft. Sheridan Forest Preserve, Lake County 31 October 2021 (2021-083; KK:p, HMe:p). One in Carol Stream, DuPage County 6 & 17 December 2021 (2021-088; CR:p). One in Waukegan, Lake County 7 December 2021 (2021-089; LK).

Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*) One in Waukegan, Lake County 13 December 2020 (2020-101; PSW:p). This individual represents Illinois's first winter record. A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(3):25.

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) One at Skokie Lagoons, Cook County 26 December 2020 (2020-103; JBy:p). A photograph appears in *Meadowlark* 30(3):25. One at Mermet Lake Conservation Area, Massac County 30 December 2020 (2020-106; VL).

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) Four accepted records. One at Buffalo Park Forest Preserve, Kane County 8-9 May 2019 (2019-077; EES; JS). One at Chicago's Grant Park, Cook County 9 May 2019 (2019-076; ABH). One in Channahon, Will County during 12-17 December 2020 that moved to nearby Minooka, Grundy County during 19-20 December 2020 (2020-097; DTW:p, GAW:p); this bird was initially discovered by Niklas Klauss and Alex Mertensen. Photographs appear with Hengeveld et al. (2021b) and in *Meadowlark* 30(3):25 and 40. One at Homer Lake State Conservation Area, Champaign County 28 April 2021 (2021-034; AT:p).

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) One male in East St. Louis, St. Clair County 18-28 June 2020 (2020-131; TG:p; RJ:p). One to three in East St. Louis, St. Clair County 29 May to 30 July 2021 (2021-074; RSr:s; MA, IS-C, CD, TD, JHn:p, TH:p, MST:p). The Committee recently adjusted the Review List so that observations from the East St. Louis area no longer require documentation.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS

UNACCEPTED RECORDS OF SPECIES NEW TO THE STATE LIST

Two records of two species

Graylag Goose (*Anser anser*) One in Princeville, Peoria County 6 April 2021 (2021-015). The documentation did not eliminate other goose species such as Greater White-fronted Goose from consideration, nor did it address the possibility of it being a domestic form of Graylag Goose were it indeed that species.

European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) One in Waukegan, Lake County 7 June 2021 (2021-043). This record is supported by a photograph that clearly establishes the bird as a European Goldfinch. Nonetheless, the record was rejected based on origin. There are numerous European Goldfinches in the Waukegan area (Sell 2021); however, the Committee has not yet considered the question of whether this population is established, and the documentation for this record was silent on that issue.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS OF REVIEW LIST SPECIES

Nine records of eight species

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) One at Dixon Waterfowl Refuge, Putnam County 28 November 2020 (2020-096). Voting was split on this single observer sight record. Those voting against expressed a desire for physical evidence or corroboration by other observers.

Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsoni*) One northwest of Gorham, Jackson County 9 April 2021 (2021-031). This may very well have been a Wilson's Plover, but the limited information about the appearance of the bird and the circumstances of the observation kept the Committee from accepting it as such.

Mountain Plover (*Charadrius montanus*) One east of Arcola, Douglas County 24 & 28 April 2010 (2010-033). Detailed arguments of several Committee members noted that plumage features on the head as well as bill shape supported identification as American Golden-Plover. The split vote of the Committee was perhaps a reflection of how similar that species and Mountain Plover can be. A photograph of this bird was published with Williamson (2011), with the caption optimistically and erroneously labelling it the state's second record of Mountain Plover, though the text of the report marks the sighting as pending IORC review. The observation was also published

as pertaining to Mountain Plover in Hengeveld et al. (2010).

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) One at Gillson Park, Wilmette, Cook County 22 September 2021 (2021-075). A majority of the Committee found the brief description insufficient to conclude the specific identify of this jaeger.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) One near the confluence of the Big Muddy River and Mississippi River, Jackson County 26 June 2021 (2021-067). The documentation included only a minimal description of the bird, insufficient to rule out a Double-crested Cormorant for instance.

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) One at Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area, Grundy County 22-30 September 2020 (2020-059). A difficult record, with voting going two rounds, and with switches of votes going both directions. In the end, the majority view was that there was insufficient evidence to rule out this bird being an immature White-faced Ibis. One at Lake Arispie, Bureau County 19-25 October 2021 (2021-056). The Committee was unanimous that nothing in the documentation ruled out the possibility that this individual was a juvenile White-faced Ibis. Juvenile Glossy Ibis and White-faced Ibis are extremely difficult to differentiate in the field, unless the red coloration of the eyes of White-faced has started to come in (as the eyes of young White-faced are dark like Glossy's). Another concern that was expressed was the question of hybridization, which needs also to be addressed for this species pair.

Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) One white morph in Hudson, McLean County 6 February 2021 (2021-002). The Committee needed two rounds of voting to adjudicate this record, but the second round concluded with members nearly unanimous in not accepting it. The rarity of white morph Gyr Falcons in the lower 48 states, unusual aspects in behaviors noted in the documentation (the amount of hunting activity in the time frame following a successful kill, and the presence and nature of the vocalizations), and the long distance for an observation made with the unaided eye were all factors in the Committee's discomfort in accepting the record.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*) One at Busey Woods, Urbana, Champaign County 15 May 2021 (2021-025). The Committee was split on this record. All members felt that Kirtland's Warbler was a possibility for the identity of this bird, but the majority felt that the brevity of the sighting contributed enough doubt about other species being adequately excluded, despite the features described in the documentation being most consistent with Kirtland's Warbler.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS OF OTHER SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES

Nine records of six species, including one subspecies

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) One at Bowen Park, Waukegan, Lake County 16 May 2020 (2020-121). The brevity of the documentation and its minimal description of the bird led the Committee to decline to accept. One at Heron County Park, Vermilion County 26 September 2020 (2020-122). The Committee felt that the description of the bird was insufficient for concluding identification to species.



MEXICAN VIOLETEAR. Mundelein, Lake Co. 22 Aug. 2021. Photo by Junko Yokota.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) One in Monticello, Piatt County 27 May 2021 (2021-038). The Committee was split in its view on this record, with a majority against acceptance. Concerns included the brevity of the sighting, the lack of a description of the entire bird, and the extent of detail in the description of what was seen. This could very well have been a Swallow-tailed Kite, but the Committee was not comfortable to accept it as such.

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) One photographed at Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area, Grundy County 6 January 2021 (2021-026). The Committee felt there was insufficient evidence to exclude Common Redpoll definitively.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) One in Crystal Lake, McHenry County 3 December 2021 (2021-085). One in Boone Creek Conservation Area, McHenry County 4 December 2021 (2021-086). Seven or eight in Waukegan, Lake County 4 December 2021 (2021-087). All three of these records involved calling birds flying past the observers. In each case, the description of the birds and their call notes was quite limited, without arguments to eliminate similar species. Though these records may very well be correct, a majority of Committee members was uncomfortable to accept without further evidence.



SMALL-BILLED ELAENIA. Waukegan Beach, Lake Co. 28 Nov. 2021. Photo by Geoff Williamson.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) One at LaBagh Woods Forest Preserve, Cook County 8 May 2021 (2021-035). The record circulated for two rounds of review; nonetheless, the position of the Committee in the second round was unanimous. Concerns included the brevity of the observation, the fact that the presence or absence of wingbars was not noted, and that the bill shape was not described.

Palm Warbler (Yellow) (*Setophaga palmarum hypochrysea*) One photographed at Hickory Creek Preserve, Will County 9 November 2020 (2020-071). This record underwent two rounds of review, but the Committee's view was unanimous in the second round that there was insufficient evidence to conclude identity as the eastern form of Palm Warbler. One specific concern was the lack of a yellow supercilium.

CORRIGENDA

In the 26th IORC Report (Williamson 2021), several records were referenced by incorrect file numbers. The correct file number for the accepted Townsend's Solitaire record from 25 October 2019 at Henneberry Woods Forest Preserve, Kendall County is 2019-056, not 2019-055 as referenced in the report. (Note that the accepted Townsend's Solitaire record on 13 October 2019 in Oswego, Kendall County in the same report was referenced correctly by 2019-055.) Furthermore, the accepted Neotropic Cormorant records referenced incorrectly via 2017-074 and 2017-075 have correct file numbers 2019-074 and 2019-075, respectively. ■

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27TH IORC REPORT

2021 Photo Highlights

1. Prairie Falcon. McLean Co. 27 Oct. 2021. Photo: Taylor Root.

2. White-faced Ibis. Whalon Lake, Will Co. 28 Aug. 2021. Photo: Ryan Jones.

3. Small-billed Elaenia. Waukegan Beach, Lake Co. 27 Nov. 2021. Photo: Jeff Bilsky.

4. Say's Phoebe. Grantsburg, Johnson Co. 22 Sep. 2021. Photo: Cathy Morvich.

5. Mexican Violetear. Mundelein, Lake Co. 22 Aug. 2021. Photo: Ryan Jones.

6. Purple Sandpiper. Waukegan Beach, Lake Co. 13 Nov. 2021. Photo: Henry Meade.

7. White Ibis. Sanganois SFWA, Mason Co. 5 Sep. 2021. Photo: Colin Dobson.

8. Limpkin. Dixon Waterfowl Refuge, Putnam Co. 16 Aug. 2021. Photo: Scott Harp.