

# The 59<sup>th</sup> Report of the Colorado Bird Records Committee

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## **Introduction**

This 59<sup>th</sup> report presents the results of deliberations of the Colorado Bird Records Committee (hereafter CBRC or Committee) on partial results of circulations held in 2010 and 2011. This article provides results of the circulation of 60 reports submitted by 22 observers documenting 46 occurrences of 20 species (or recognizable forms) from the period 2007 through 2010. Per CBRC bylaws, all accepted records received a final 7-0 or 6-1 vote to accept. Each report that was not accepted received five or fewer votes to accept.

Highlights of this report include fifteen records of Mew Gull for 2007-2010, nine records of Great Black-backed Gull for 2007-2009, and first county records for *Adams, Bent, Boulder, Clear Creek, Crowley, El Paso, La Plata, Larimer, Park, Phillips, Pueblo, Montrose, and Sedgwick*.

Committee members voting on these reports were Coen Dexter, John Drummond, Doug Faulkner, Peter Gent, Rachel Hopper, Joey Kellner, Bill Maynard, Ric Olson, Bill Schmoker, Larry Semo, David Silverman, and Glenn Walbek.

## **Committee Functions**

All reports received by the CBRC (written documentation, photographs, videos, and/or sound recordings) are archived at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (DMNS), 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, Colorado, 80205, where they remain available for public review. The Committee solicits documentation of reports in Colorado for all species published in its review list, including both the main and supplementary lists (Semo et al. 2002), and for reports of species with no prior accepted record in Colorado. Those lists can be found at <http://www.cfo-link.org/birding/lists.php>. Documentary materials should be submitted online at the CBRC website (<http://www.cfo-link.org/CBRC/login.php5>).

## **Report Format**

The organization and style of this report follow those of Leukering and Semo (2003), with some alterations. If present, the numbers in

parentheses following a species' name represent the total number of accepted records for Colorado, followed by the number of accepted records during the most recent 10-year time period (2001-2010) that includes the most recent circulation year (2010). The latter number is of importance, as it is one of the criteria for a species' continuance on or removal from the statewide Main Review List (Semo et al. 2002).

The records in this report are arranged taxonomically following the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) Checklist of North American Birds (AOU 1998) through the 51<sup>st</sup> Supplement (Chesser et al. 2010). Each record presents as much of the following information as we have available: number of birds, age, sex, locality, county, and date or date span. In parentheses, we present the initials of the contributing observer(s), the official record number, and the vote tally in the first round and, if relevant, the second and third rounds (with the number of "accept" votes on the left side of the dash).

The initials of the finder(s) of the bird(s) are underlined, if known, and are presented first if that person (or people) contributed documentation; additional contributors' initials follow in alphabetical order by last name. If the finder(s) is (are) known with certainty, but did not submit documentation, those initials are underlined and presented last. Observers submitting a photograph or video capture have a dagger (†) following their initials; initials of those who submitted video are indicated by a lower-case, italicized "v" (v); and those who submitted audio spectrograms or recordings are indicated by a lower-case, italicized "s" (s). Thus, the parenthetical expression "(JD v, RA †, TL, JV, CW; 2001-36; 4-3, 6-1)" means: JD found the bird(s) and submitted documentation (including video) and, as the finder, is first in the list of those who submitted details, with initials underlined; RA, though alphabetically first of the five submitting observers, was not the finder, so is listed second; RA submitted, at least, photographic documentation; the record number assigned to the occurrence was 2001-36; and in the two rounds of voting, the first-round vote was four "accept" and three "do not accept" votes, while the second-round vote was 6-1 in favor of accepting the report. The decision on most reports is completed in the first round.

In this report, county names are italicized in keeping with the style established for the "News from the Field" column in this journal. We have attempted to provide the full date span for individual records, with the seasonal reports in *North American Birds* and this journal being the primary sources of those dates. The Committee has not dealt with the question of full date spans as compared to submitted date spans when documentations do not provide such. The CBRC encourages observers to document the final date on which a



*Long-tailed Jaeger, Cherry Creek SP, Arapahoe County, 11 Sept 2008. Photo by Glenn Walbek*



*Cape May Warbler, Chico Basin Ranch, El Paso County, 13 Sept 2010. Photo by Bill Maynard*

rare species was seen, as that provides historical evidence of the true extent of its stay.

For this report, abbreviations are used for Reservoir (Res.) and State Park (SP).

**RECORDS ACCEPTED**

**Tundra Swan** – *Cygnus columbianus*. An adult at Zink’s Pond, *La Plata*, on 1 January 2008 (SA, HM; 2008-69; 7-0) provided a rare southwestern Colorado record and the second for *La Plata*.

**Eurasian Wigeon** – *Anas penelope* (37/15). The second for *Larimer* in two years, an adult male Eurasian Wigeon reported to be present for several days at Fossil Creek Res. was documented for only 5 November 2010 (CW†, JB; 2010-139; 7-0).

**Least Bittern** – *Ixobrychus exilis* (25/10). An adult female was observed at the Running Deer Natural Area in

Fort Collins, *Larimer*, on 7 June 2010 (CW; 2010-111; 6-1). This represents the fifth record for *Larimer* and its third since 2008.

**Gyrfalcon** – *Falco rusticolus* (11/3). A juvenile photographed near Como, *Park*, on 28 November 2010 (JK†; 2010-156; 7-0) established a first record for that county.

**Black-legged Kittiwake** – *Rissa tri-dactyla* (40/16). An adult in basic plumage was documented for 15-16 November 2010 at Pueblo SP, *Pueblo*, although it was reported through the 21<sup>st</sup> of that month (BKP†, BM†; 2010-147; 7-0). Shortly afterwards, a juvenile was dis-

Table 1. Records of Mew Gull accepted in this report.

Accession #	# of Birds	Plumage(s)	Location	Date(s)	Observers	Vote
2007-5	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	1/19/2007	<u>BKP</u> †	7-0
2008-136	1	Adult basic	Cherry Creek SP, <i>Arapahoe</i>	11/29/2008	<u>AS</u> †	7-0
2008-141	1	Formative	John Martin Res., <i>Bent</i>	12/16/2008	<u>TL</u> , <u>MP</u>	7-0
2008-142	1	Formative	Near Ordway, <i>Crowley</i>	12/17/2008	<u>TL</u> , <u>BKP</u> , <u>MP</u>	7-0
2008-145	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	12/18/2008	<u>TL</u>	7-0
2008-146	1	Formative	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	12/18/2008	<u>TL</u> †	7-0
2008-154	1	Adult basic	Prospect Lake, <i>El Paso</i>	12/26/2008	<u>BM</u> †, <u>LST</u> , <u>MP</u>	7-0
2008-19	1	Formative	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	2/29/2008	<u>BKP</u> †	6-1
2008-25	1	Adult basic	Horseshoe Lake, <i>Larimer</i>	3/20/2008	<u>NK</u> †	7-0
2008-3	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	1/2/2008	<u>BM</u> †	7-0
2009-110	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	12/4/2009 – 1/19/2010	<u>BKP</u> †	7-0
2009-4	1	Adult basic	Valmont Res., <i>Boulder</i>	1/17/2009	<u>IF</u>	7-0
2009-9	1	Formative	Jumbo Res., <i>Sedgwick</i>	2/25/2009	<u>CW</u> †	7-0
2009-99	2	Adult basic, formative	Valmont Res., <i>Boulder</i>	12/20-25/2009	<u>IF</u> , <u>BST</u>	6-1
2010-12	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	1/4/2010 - 2/27/2010	<u>BM</u> †, <u>BKP</u> †, <u>RM</u>	7-0

covered at Lathrop SP, *Huerfano*, where it was reported for only 28 November 2010 (PN†, 2010-154; 6-1). Farther north in the state, a juvenile was documented from Windsor Res., *Weld*, for 4 December 2010 (CW; 2010-158; 6-1).

**Laughing Gull** – *Larus atricilla* (41/17). A second-cycle individual was at Prewitt Res., *Washington*, on 14 December 2010 (TW†; 2010-163; 7-0). Interestingly, a first-cycle bird was at this same location in September 2009 (2009-65), but we can only speculate as to whether it was the same individual.

**Mew Gull** – *Larus canus* (54/34). The Committee reviewed 15 separate reports of Mew Gull in the state since 2007. We have been reluctant to publish these occurrences, as we intended to assess the number of individuals involved with these reports. That is, if multiple reports are determined to pertain to the same individual bird at different locations and/or times, those reports should constitute a single record. However, it is nearly impossible to know for certain how many individuals were involved, and we have decided to publish these records at this time (Table 1). The list

includes first county records for *Bent*, *Crowley*, *El Paso*, and *Sedgwick*.

**Great Black-backed Gull** – *Larus marinus* (41/21). As with the Mew Gull reports, the Committee also withheld publication of its decisions on Great Black-backed Gull reports due to the potential single gull/multiple reports issue. There is no immediate action on this issue and we herein publish results for nine occurrences dating back to 2007 (Table 2).

**Parasitic Jaeger** – *Stercorarius parasiticus* (9/2). A juvenile in intermediate plumage tarried a few days at Chatfield SP, *Douglas/Jefferson*, 7-9 November 2009 (first reported on the 6<sup>th</sup>), before apparently heading to Pueblo Res., *Pueblo*, where it was observed on 14 November (BM†, NP, BS†, JK; 2009-101; 7-0). The *Pueblo* sighting represents the first for that county.

**Long-tailed Jaeger** – *Stercorarius longicaudus* (16/9). A juvenile in intermediate plumage resided at Cherry Creek SP, *Arapahoe*, 7-11 September 2008 (AS, NK†, GW†, SS; 2008-103; 7-0). Another juvenile, this one exhibiting dark plumage, was a one-day wonder at

Table 2. Records of Great Black-backed Gull accepted in this report.

Accession #	# of Birds	Plumage(s)	Location	Date(s)	Observers	Vote
2007-94	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	11/10-12/12/2007	BKP†	7-0
2008-10	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	1/30-2/26/2008	BKP†	7-0
2008-140	1	Adult basic	John Martin Res., <i>Bent</i>	12/16/2008	TL†	7-0
2008-143	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	12/18-22/2008	PHT, TL†, BKP	7-0
2008-21	1	Adult basic	Boyd Lake, <i>Larimer</i>	3/3/2008	AS†	7-0
2009-109	1	Adult basic	Pueblo Res., <i>Pueblo</i>	12/4/2009-2/6/2010	BKP†	7-0
2009-114	1	First-cycle	Valmont Res., <i>Boulder</i>	12/25/2009-1/9/2010	IE, BS†	7-0
2009-6	1	Adult basic	McIntosh Lake, <i>Boulder</i>	2/2-3/2009	RZ†	7-0
2009-8	1	Adult basic	Jumbo Res., <i>Logan</i>	2/17/2009	RH	7-0

Chatfield SP, *Douglas/Jefferson*, on 11 October 2008 (AS; 2008-120; 7-0).

**Inca Dove** – *Columbina inca* (21/9). Individual Inca Doves continue to show up in scattered locations around the state. Two new county records were provided by single singing males in Haxtun, *Phillips*, on 31 July 2010 (CW; 2010-119; 6-1) and Nucla, *Montrose*, on 28 October 2010 (CD, BW †; 2010-134; 7-0).

**Magnificent Hummingbird** – *Eugenes fulgens* (16/10). An adult female at Tunnel Campground, *Larimer*, on 6 August 2010 (CK †; 2010-91; 7-0) provided *Larimer* with its second record. The first county record, of an adult male on 9 July 2002 (2002-113), was also from Tunnel Campground.

**Acorn Woodpecker** – *Melanerpes formicivorus* (11/5). A female was at a private residence in Colorado Springs, *El Paso*, in mid-July 2010 (BM †, BaS; 2010-90; 7-0). The bird was first seen on 15 July 2010, but the Committee received documentation for only 20 July.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee** – *Contopus virens* (23/7). A singing individual observed daily at Grandview Cemetery and City Park Nine Golf Course from 22 May through 27 June 2010 (DL †, BKP †; 2010-89; 7-0) provided *Larimer* with its first county record.

**Bell's Vireo** – *Vireo bellii*. The first



*Magnificent Hummingbird*, Tunnel CG, *Larimer County*, 6 Aug 2010. Photo by Connie Kogler

record for *Adams* was captured at the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory's bird banding station at Barr Lake SP on 26 August 2010 (BC †; 2010-93; 7-0).

**Eastern Bluebird** – *Sialia sialis*. A female along County Road 306 north of Georgetown, *Clear Creek*, on 23 October 2010 (TD; 2010-133; 6-1) established that county's first record.

**Cape May Warbler** – *Dendroica tigrina* (28/8). A juvenile male was caught at the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory's bird banding station at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 13 September 2010 (BM †; 2010-97; 7-0). This is the fourth record for *El Paso* and the second for Chico Basin Ranch.

**Connecticut Warbler** – *Oporornis agilis* (11/4). The first for heavily-birded *Boulder*, a male proved elusive for many birders at Walden Ponds, 22-23 May 2010 (WS, JO; 2010-39; 6-1).

**McCown's Longspur** – *Calcarius mccownii*. A first-winter female at Vallecito Res., *La Plata*, on 25 September 2010

(PD, SA; 2010-100; 6-1) may be the first individual of this rather common eastern plains species documented on the West Slope (Righter et al. 2004).

**Baltimore Oriole** – *Icterus galbula*.  
An adult male visited nectar feeders at a La Veta, *Huerfano*, residence, 21-23 May 2010 (PN†, 2010-108; 7-0).

## REPORTERS AND CITED OBSERVERS

The CBRC graciously thanks the following individuals for submitting records of or discovering the rare species in Colorado that prompted this circulation: SA: Susan Allerton; JB: Josh Bruenning; BC: Blaine Carnes; TD: Todd Deininger; PD: Peter Derven; CD: Coen Dexter; TF: Ted Floyd; RH: Rachel Hopper; PH: Paul Hurtado; JK: Joey Kellner; NK: Nick Komar; TL: Tony Leukering; BM: Bill Maynard; RM: Rich Miller; HM: Heather Morris; PN: Polly Neldner; JO: Jessie Oberbeck; BKP: Brandon Percival; MP: Mark Peterson; NP: Nathan Pieplow; BaS: Barbara Schaefer; BS: Bill Schmoker; SS: Scott Severs; RS: Roger Sleeper; AS: Andrew Spencer; WS: Walter Szeliga; GW: Glenn Walbek; TW: Thomas Wilberding; CW: Cole Wild; BW: Brenda Wright; RZ: Robert Zilly.

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