

The CFO Records Committee Report for 1982

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This report contains records received by the Committee in 1982, plus a few old records, and four changes to the state list published by Andrews (1980), that are reflected in the new CFO Checklist of Colorado Birds. This CFO Checklist has been printed recently, and copies are available from Records Committee members, officers, and directors. Three of these changes (Glossy Ibis, Black Rail, and Arctic Tern) are decisions taken under the chairmanship of Charles Chase, and the fourth (Mottled Duck) is the result of past confusion. There are 431 indigenous and 5 introduced species on the new CFO Checklist, although two are provisional, awaiting Records Committee decisions on these new state records.

The six members of the Records Committee in 1984 are Richard Bunn (Colorado Springs), Mark Holmgren (Lawrence, Kansas), Mark Janos (Delta), Ron Lambeth (Grand Junction), Steve Larson (Boulder), and Richard Stransky (Durango); Daniel Casey (Montana), and Kevin Cook (Fort Collins), who rotated off the Committee this year, also reviewed the records discussed in this report.

Part 1. Species added to the CFO State List.

Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii*). 1/82/2. One observed on the Denver Christmas Count, 12/19/81, at Chatfield State Park, southwest of Denver in Jefferson County. This bird was in winter plumage, was with Common and Arctic Loons and was observed for about four hours. Comprehensive reports ensued from Robert Andrews, Mark Holmgren, and Jack Reddall. There are no specimens for this species from Colorado, and the Records Committee has no photographs of this bird!

Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*). There has been some confusion over the status of this species, but the AOU (revised checklist 1983) recognizes it as a bona fide species. There are two records for Colorado: the first is an adult, #353, collected near Loveland, Larimer County, on 11/6/1907 by W. Blaney. The second is a male, #33794, collected by Ron Ryder at Timnath Reservoir, Larimer County, on 9/18/1962, (see Ryder, 1963).

Black Rail (Laterallus jamaicensis) A tape recording of an unseen bird was made by H. J. Griese 1.5 miles east-northeast of Fort Lyon, Bent County on 5/11, 18 & 25/1975. The Records Committee decided the recording clearly indicated a Black Rail, and that it be added to the CFO state list.

Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) Jeanne Conry and Bruce Webb (1982) describe a specimen of an immature Arctic Tern which is in the University of Colorado Museum at Boulder. The specimen number is 8108, and it was previously identified as a Common Tern. It was one of two terns collected from a flock of a dozen or more feeding at a small lake near Windsor, Weld County on 9/16/1912 by Osterhout (1913). There is a second record for this species; a sight report from Union Reservoir, Weld County in 1979, see Chase (1981).

Part 2. Species deleted from the CFO State List.

Glossy Ibis (Plegadis falcinellus) There is one specimen for Colorado, which was collected in El Paso County on 5/22/1916, and is in the C.U. Museum at Boulder. The specimen was examined and measured by Mark Holmgren and Joe Strauch, and found to be a White-faced Ibis (Plegadis chihi).

Part 3. Reported Species not added to the CFO State List.

Black Vulture (Coragyps atratis) 9/82/53. One seen near Brown's Park National Wildlife Refuge, Moffat County on 10/3/82. Most members felt that several characteristics of this species such as its flight profile and wing flapping technique were not described and that the possibility of an immature Turkey Vulture was not eliminated.

Iceland Gull (Larus glaucooides) 23/82/8. This bird was seen at Cherry Creek Reservoir, southeast of Denver in Arapahoe County, on 4/11 & 13/82. One record names it an Iceland, two records a possible Iceland, and the fourth a Glaucous Gull. Most Committee members thought this was probably a 2nd year immature Glaucous Gull because it was the same size as, not smaller than, a Herring Gull and the head and bill were quite large compared to the body size.

Great Gray Owl (Strix rebulosa) 28-82-34/35. One seen in the first drainage west of Cottonwood Lake Campground, near Buena Vista, Chaffee County on 7/30/82 and 8/4/82. The Committee thought that these records did not adequately eliminate Great Horned Owl or

possibly the other Strix species. This record is frustrating as one person stated "I could have taken a photograph, but it was not going to be excellent", but it would have been diagnostic!

Acorn Woodpecker (Melanerpes formicivorus) 33-82-1. One seen in Rocky Mountain National Park, Larimer County on 6/1/79. The Committee thought that the brief details in this record did not adequately describe this species or eliminate other woodpecker or sapsucker species.

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (Polioptila melanura) 45-82-46. One male seen near Naturita, San Miguel County on 9/14/82. The brief sighting and subsequent brief details meant that the committee thought that this record did not adequately support this species or eliminate Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.

Part 4. Category A Records. (Submitted documentation supports the stated identification).

Red-throated Loon (Gavia stellata) 1-82-37. One in winter plumage on Julesburg Reservoir, Logan County on 11/29/80. (Dorothy and Richard Rosche).

Red-necked Grebe (Podiceps grisegera) 2-82-6. One in transition plumage seen on Big Johnson Reservoir, El Paso County on 4/19/82. (Richard Bunn)

Black Rail (Laterallus jamaicensis) 17-82-11. One briefly, but well seen at the Flatiron Open Space Area in Fort Collins, Larimer County on 4/30/82. This is the second record for Colorado, and the first sight record. (David Palmer).

Hudsonian Godwit (Limosa haemastica) 19-82-12. One breeding plumage seen at Lake Meredith, Crowley County on 5/1/82. (Richard Bunn, Rose and James Watts).

Pectoral Sandpiper (Calidris melanotos) 19-82-14. One seen on the Barr Lake Christmas Count, Adams County on 12/26/81. This is a very late record. (Robert Andrews).

Red Phalarope (Phalaropus fulicaria) 21-82-38. One seen at Chatfield State Park, Jefferson County on 9/20/80. (Robert Andrews).

Red Phalarope (Phalaropus fulicaria) 21-82-42. One at Prewitt Reservoir, Washington County on 9/5/81. (Robert Andrews).

Laughing Gull (Larus atricilla) 23-82-23. One in breeding plumage at Chatfield State Park, southwest of Denver in Jefferson County on 5/16/82. (Frank Justice).

Little Gull (Larus minutus) 23-82-39. One in fall plumage at Barr Lake State Park, Adams County on 9/13/80. (Robert Andrews).

Mew Gull (Larus canus) 23-81-7. One in adult plumage at Union Reservoir, northeast of Longmont, Weld County on 4/28/81. This is the third record for Colorado. (Timms Fowler, Mark Holmgren and Mike Middleton).

Black-legged Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) 23-82-70. One immature at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe County on 12/5/82. (Judy and Doug Ward).

Caspian Tern (Sterna caspia) 23-82-51. One in fall plumage at Union Reservoir, near Longmont, in Weld County on 9/21/82. (Barbara Hyde).

Boreal Owl (Aegolius funereus) 28-82-33. Five seen in Corral Park, Larimer County between 6/5/82 and 7/30/82. This record is the first documented hatching and fledging of young Boreal Owls in Colorado. The nest was in a dead Lodgepole Pine at 10,000', and of the three young, two were males and one a female. (David Palmer).

Whip-poor-will (Caprimulgus vociferus) 29-82-16. One adult at Hanna Ranch, near Fountain in El Paso County on 5/13/82. (Rose and James Watts).

Whip-poor-will (Caprimulgus vociferus) 29-82-66. One adult east of LeMay and South of Mulberry on the Cache La Poudre River, Larimer County on 5/13/82. (Kevin Cook).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (Contopus virens) 34-82-14. One singing at Lake Henry, near Ordway, Crowley County on 5/12/82. (Van Truan).

Vermillion Flycatcher (Pyrocephalus rubinus) 32-82-13. One male in breeding plumage at Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, Alamosa County on 5/2 & 3/82. (Jan Kauffeld).

Phainopepla (Phainopepla ritens) 48-82-17. One in breeding plumage in Boulder, Boulder County on 5/13/82. (Ridi Van Zandt).

Philadelphia Vireo (Vireo philadelphicus) 51-82-18. One in breeding plumage seen in Colorado Springs, El Paso County between 5/13/82 and 5/16/82. (Richard Bunn).

Blue-winged Warbler (Vermivora pinus) 52-82-26. One male seen in Boulder, Boulder County on 5/23/82. (Peter Ostrenko).

Blue-winged Warbler (Vermivora pinus) 52-82-55. One breeding plumage in Colorado Springs on 6/11/82. (William Maynard).

Northern Parula (Parula americana) 52-82-47. One seen in Hygiene, Boulder County during a snowfall on 12/1/82. This is an extremely late date for this species. (Virginia Dionigi).

Magnolia Warbler (Dendroica magnolia) 52-82-61. One singing male seen just south of Grand Lake Village, Grand County between 7/4/82 and 7/19/82. This is an unusual summer record of this species for which breeding has not been documented in Colorado. (David Jasper).

Yellow-throated Warbler (Dendroica dominica) 52-82-25. One in breeding plumage at Chatfield State Park, Jefferson County on 5/21/82. (Drew Grainger).

Prairie Warbler (Dendroica discolor) 52-82-36. One male seen in Lefthand Canyon, north of Boulder, Boulder County on 6/6/82. (Charles Aid).

Prothonotary Warbler (Protonotaria citrea) 52-82-56. One in winter plumage in Colorado Springs, El Paso County on 11/6/82. (John and William Maynard).

Mourning Warbler (Oporornis philadelphia) 52-82-27. One male in breeding plumage seen in Boulder, Boulder County on 5/28 & 30/82. This is the second record for Colorado. (Tim Manolis, Peter Ostrenko, Judy and Doug Ward).

Hooded Warbler (Wilsonia citrina) 52-82-58. One male in winter plumage seen in Lakewood, Jefferson County on 11/16 & 22/82. This is a late fall record for this species. (Joyce and John Cooper).

Hepatic Tanager (Piranga flava) 55-82-22. One male in transition plumage seen at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County on 5/15/82. (Judy Ward).

Chipping Sparrow (Spizella passerina) 56-82-62. One in winter plumage at a feeder in Durango, La Plata County between 1/1/82 and 1/28/82. Well documented records in winter of this species are few and far between in Colorado. (Elva Fox).

Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) 56-82-69. One immature seen on the Crook Christmas Count at Tamarack Ranch, Logan County on 1/2/82. (Robert Andrews).

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) 54/82/15 and 31. At least one male and three females seen by Old Pueblo Road near Fountain, El Paso County between 5/13/82 and 6/19/82. This is the first documented breeding record of this species in Colorado not in the San Luis Valley (Richard Bunn, Rose and James Watts).

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*) 56-82-44. One male and three females seen on the Christmas Count at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County on 1/3/81. (Urling and Hugh Kingery).

Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*) 56-82-43. One seen at Barr Lake State Park, Adams County on 12/26/81. There are very few well documented records for this species in this part of Colorado in winter. (Robert Andrews).

Part 5. Category B and C records. (Submitted documentation probably indicates a misidentification or is too brief or incomplete to support the stated identification).

Olivaceous Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax olivaceus*) 4-82-65. One adult at Terry Lake, Fort Collins, Larimer County on 9/11/82. Most Committee members thought that the large distance at which this bird was seen meant that the description was inadequate to positively identify the bird.

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) 19-82-10. A flock of 15-20 seen in Fruita, Mesa County on 4/26/82. Most members noted that several field marks were not well described and other possible shorebird species were not eliminated.

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) 23-82-45. One adult seen at Sawhill Ponds, Boulder, Boulder County on 11/9/82. Most members thought that several important characteristics were missing during the brief sighting.

Eastern Wood-pewee (*Contopus virens*) 33-82-24. One at Donath Lake, Loveland, Larimer County on 5/20/82. Members thought that the description and elimination of Western Wood-pewee were inadequate.

Phainopepla (*Phainopepla ritens*) 34-82-32. One adult seen near Bedrock, Montrose County on 6/13/82. Several members commented that two key field marks, the white wing patches and red eye, were not seen on this bird during the brief observation.

Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) 52-80-11. One seen in Lakewood, Jefferson County on 12/19/79. Committee members thought that the description was too brief and did not adequately eliminate other warbler species.

Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) 52-82-3. One seen in Boulder, Boulder County on 3/7/82. One member pointed out that Pine Warblers have streaked, not unstreaked, sides and other members thought the description inadequate for this variable and difficult species.

Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*) 52-82-28. One on the Pawnee National Grasslands, Weld County on 5/29/82. Most members thought the description of this bird lacked key field marks and similar species, such as other warblers, were not eliminated.

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) 56-82-48. One seen just north of Lyons, Boulder County on 11/6/82. Most members thought that the description lacked convincing details and several other sparrow species, such as Tree Sparrow, were not eliminated.

Baird's Sparrow (*Ammodramus bairdii*) 56-82-21. Five (5) individuals seen northeast of Union Reservoir, near Longmont, Weld County on 5/15/82. The three members who gave this record a C rating all thought that Savannah Sparrow, which can have a lot of yellow in the face and a median crown stripe, was not adequately eliminated.

Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) 56-78-48. Two seen in the foothills near Colorado Springs on 5/12 & 13/78. Most Committee members thought the description was too brief and similar species were not eliminated.

References

- American Ornithologist's Union, 1983. Checklist of North American Birds, 6th Edition.
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- Conry, J.A. and B. E. Webb, 1982. An Extant Specimen of Arctic Tern from Colorado. Western Birds 13:37-38.
- Osterhaut, G. E., 1913. Two Rare Birds in Colorado. The Oologist 30:54.
- Ryder, R. A., 1963. Mottled Duck and Knot in Colorado. Condor 65:333.