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THE OFFICIAL LIST OF TENNESSEE BIRDS: ADDENDUM I

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The Certification Committee of the Tennessee Ornithological Society met officially in Leiper's Fork on 7 February 1987 and in Pikeville on 20 June 1987, and unofficially in Memphis on 2 May 1987, to consider additions to and changes in the official list of Tennessee birds (Nicholson, *Migrant* 54:2-5, 1983). Attending these meetings were committee chairman (*ex-officio*) Charles P. Nicholson, members Dianne P. Bean, Stephen J. Stedman, James T. Tanner, and alternates Martha G. Waldron, David F. Vogt and Richard L. Knight.

Documentation of species reported in Tennessee from January 1983 through December 1987 was considered by the committee. In addition, some earlier records for which the committee had received recent documentation were discussed.

Acceptance criteria remained the same as those presented with the 1983 list. A species was added to the confirmed list when the committee determined that (1) there was an extant, verified specimen, photograph, or sound recording of it, or that (2) there were 3 independent observations of the species, each with satisfactory documentation. In the absence of evidence meeting criteria (1) or (2), a species was placed on the provisional list if 1 or 2 satisfactorily documented sight records of it were available to the committee. Acceptance of a species on either the confirmed or provisional list required a 3-0 vote by committee members or substituting alternates.

The committee was occasionally stymied in its efforts to bring the list up to date. Foremost among the reasons for this problem was the lack of **any** documentation for some species which were reported as occurring in the state since 1982, either as first state records or as second or third (or later) records. As a result, several species are entirely absent from this list, and several species are still provisional which ought to be confirmed. A more conscientious effort to document sightings of rare species is, therefore, requested of all members of the state's ornithological community.

In 1983 the official list included 334 species as confirmed in the state and 14 species as provisional. As a result of action taken by the Certification Committee during 1987, the new totals for those categories are 345 and 17, respectively.

Nine species were added to the list of confirmed species:

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — Two specimens taken 8 January 1984 on Norris Lake (*Migrant* 55:49, 1984), and one taken 5 January 1985 in Cheatham County (*Migrant* 56:51, 1985) were examined by experienced observers who confirmed the identifications. One of the Norris Lake birds has been deposited in the U.S. National Museum. A full written account of these records has not yet been published.

Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris*) — Photographs taken of a bird seen in Elizabethton on 8 April 1986 and held in captivity 8-17 April 1986 (*Migrant* 57:87, 1986) were examined by Brooke Meanley, Richard Banks and others and confirmed to be of this species. A full written account of this record has not yet been published.

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) — Written documentation from 3 independent observers of a jaeger seen in Henry County on 28 June and 15 August to 4 September 1987 (*Migrant* 58:137, 1987; 59:27, 1988) confirmed that this species was involved. A full written account of this record has not yet been published.

Parasitic Jaeger (*S. parasiticus*) — Reexamination of a photograph of a jaeger seen in Franklin County 16-23 September and 27 October 1978 (*Amer. Birds* 33:187, 1979; *Migrant* 58:89-90, 1987) confirmed that this species was involved, as light edging was present on the juvenile's primaries; additional written documentation from Richard L. Knight and Harry C. Yeatman assisted in confirming the record. Photographs of a jaeger in Henry County on 6-22 October 1985 (*Migrant* 57:23, 1986; 57:44-46, 1986) confirmed that it was also of this species.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*S. longicaudus*) — Photographs of a jaeger in Lake County on 2-4 September 1984 (*Migrant* 56:17, 1985; 56:64-66, 1985) confirmed that this species was involved.

Common Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) — Photographs taken of a gull in Davidson County from 13-22 March 1987 (*Migrant* 58:94, 97, 1987) confirmed that this species was involved. A full written account of this record has not yet been published.

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) — Photographs of a bird in Rutherford County on 6-8 September 1983 (*Migrant* 55:21, 1984; 57:98-99, 1986) confirmed that this species was involved; written documentation of a sight record in Carter County 27 September and 11-12 October 1985 was also accepted by the committee. Records in Shelby County on 9 November 1976 and 26-29 September 1983 (*Migrant* 57:98-99, 1986) are to be treated as *Selasphorus* spp.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) — Photographs of a phoebe seen in Davidson County on 29 September 1985 (*Migrant* 57:28, 1986) confirmed that this species was involved; a short written documentation of a phoebe putatively of this species in Davidson County 27 and 30 September 1984 (*Migrant* 57:28, 1986) was not accepted (vote: 0-3). A full written account of these sightings has not yet been published.

Variiegated Flycatcher (*Empidonomus varius*) — A photograph of a flycatcher seen in Lake County in May 1983 (*Birding* 16(5): back cover, 1984) confirmed that this species was involved. A full written account of this sighting has not yet been published.

Two species were upgraded from the provisional to the confirmed list:

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) — Written documentation of gulls seen in Sumner County on 27 January 1985 (*Migrant* 56:52, 1985) and in Henry County on 2-8 March 1986 (*Migrant* 57:74, 1986) indicated that this species was involved. These bring to 3 the number of satisfactorily documented independent sight records of these species. Written documentation about a gull putatively of this species seen in Henry County on 15 December 1986 was rejected (vote: 0-3). Earlier sightings of this species for which written documentation is not available include a bird seen 20 February 1984 in Stewart County (*Migrant* 55:46, 1984), and a bird seen in Davidson County on 19 and 24 March 1984 (*Migrant* 55:70, 1984).

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) — A specimen of this species taken in Hardin County on 17 October 1969 (*Migrant* 40:84-85, 1969) was determined to be extant in the LSU Museum of Zoology (No. 77386). Written documentation of a sparrow putatively of this species in Hardin County on 14 January 1986 (*Migrant* 57:51, 1986) was not accepted (vote: 0-3), as the observer expressed uncertainty about the rump color of the bird.

Action was taken to accept an additional record for a species on the provisional list, though the acceptance of this record left the species with fewer than 3 satisfactorily documented sight records; thus, it remains on the provisional list:

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) — Written documentation of an ibis seen in Sumner County on 3 May 1985 (*Migrant* 56:75, 1985) indicated that this species was involved. Recent records for which documentation is unavailable involve birds seen in Shelby County on 11 May 1983 and 21 May 1984 (*Migrant* 54:59, 1983; 55:67, 1984).

Action was taken to add 5 species to the list of provisional species:

Northern Gannet (*Sula bassanus*) — Written documentation of a bird seen in Robertson County on 29 November 1987 (*Migrant* 59:29, 1988) indicated that this species was involved. A full written account of this sighting has not yet been published.

Ross' Goose (*Chen rossii*) — Written documentation of single geese seen in Stewart County on 20 November 1986 (*Migrant* 58:23, 1987) and on 23 December 1987 to 5 January 1988 indicated that this species was involved. A full written account of the first sighting is in press.

Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) — Written documentation of a falcon seen in Jefferson County on 13 January 1978 (*Migrant* 56:14-15, 1985) indicated that this species was involved, although the committee noted that the white color phase is the least likely to irrupt south.

Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) — Written documentation from 2 observers who independently sighted a curlew in Lake County on 1 September 1985 (*Migrant* 57:22, 1986; 57:47, 1986) indicated that this species was involved.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) — Written documentation of a flycatcher seen 22 December 1985 in Sullivan County (*Migrant* 57:20, 1986) indicated that this species was involved. A full written account of this sighting has not yet been published.

The committee voted not to add 2 species to the provisional list despite the fact that sightings of them have been published:

Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*) — Photographs and sight records (*Migrant* 55:44, 1984; 57:106, 1986) of shelducks were discussed, but the consensus of the committee members was that escaped birds were probably involved (vote: 0-3).

Ross' Gull (*Rhodostethia rosea*) — Written documentation of a gull seen in Lake County on 19-28 December 1985 and possibly in January 1986 (*Amer. Birds* 40:590, 803, 1986; *Migrant* 57:8, 10, 1986) was deemed to be inconclusive (vote: 0-3).

The committee voted to table discussion about 1 species currently on the provisional list:

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) — Written documentation of a tanager seen in Obion County on 19 and 21 June 1985 (*Migrant* 56:107, 1985) was unavailable.

Written documentation for sightings of several species as yet unpublished was also considered by the Certification Committee, but in no case was a favorable (3-0) vote taken.

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BOOK REVIEW

ARKANSAS BIRDS, Their Distribution and Abundance. By Douglas A. James and Joseph C. Neal. 1986. Univ. of Arkansas Press, Fayetteville. 402 pp., maps, color and b&w photos, color plates, line drawings. \$34.

Arkansas Birds is the fifth compilation of the birds of this state, the most recent of which was the 1951 second edition of William Baerg's *Birds of Arkansas*. It is a very attractive, large format book, and the illustrations include color plates by David Plank and Sigrid James Burch. The book begins with a chapter covering the history of Arkansas ornithology. Another chapter, "Arkansas birds and the environment," discusses climate, physiographic regions, and avian populations and habitat relationships. Wintering and breeding bird densities are presented for various habitats censused throughout the state. Results of avian-habitat successional studies carried out by Shugart, Fran James and others are also summarized. The following chapter, a feature absent from many state bird

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