

REPORT OF THE TENNESSEE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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This report describes the actions taken by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee of the Tennessee Ornithological Society (TOS) from the summer of 2001 to the fall of 2002. Committee members and alternates who served during this period were Kevin Calhoon (secretary), Audrey Hoff, Dick Preston, Chris Sloan, Rick Knight, Mark Greene, and Mike Todd (alternate).

Acceptance criteria remained the same throughout the year. A species is placed on the confirmed list based upon either (a) extant, verified specimen, photograph, or sound recording, each accompanied by written details, or (b) satisfactory written documentation of three independent sight records, or satisfactory written documentation of three independent observers of the same bird. Without these levels of documentation, a species is placed on the Provisional List based on one or two sight records with satisfactory written documentation. Acceptance to either list required unanimous or one dissenting vote of the committee.

This report contains eight records of seven species accepted and one species which was not.

RECORDS ACCEPTED

Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*): Written documentation and photographs of a single second-year male bird banded by Bob Sargent at the home of Diane Whitman in Hamilton Co., TN on 22 January 2001 was accepted. VOTE: 6-0

This becomes the third Tennessee record, with this species already on the confirmed list.

Black-bellied Whistling Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*): Written documentation from Melinda Welton of two birds over Barkley WMA, Stewart Co., TN on 5 May 2001 was accepted. VOTE: 6-0

This becomes the fourth Tennessee record, with this species already on the confirmed list.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*): Photographs and written documentation of a single adult male at the residence of Maurice Edwards on Signal Mountain, Hamilton Co., TN on 15 February 2000 was accepted. VOTE: 6-0

This species is considered casual in the state of Tennessee.

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*): Written documentation of a single first-winter bird seen by Chris Sloan and Jay Desgrosellier on 26 February 2001 at Britton Ford WMA, Henry Co., TN was accepted. VOTE: 6-0

This species is considered accidental in Tennessee.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*): Written documentation of a single adult bird seen by Alan Wormington on 6 October 2000 in Dyer Co., TN was accepted. VOTE: 6-0

This was the third accepted written documentation for the species in the state, so it was taken off the Provisional section of the Official List of Tennessee Birds.

Little Gull (*Larus minutus*): Written documentation of a single adult bird seen on Reelfoot Lake in Obion Co., TN by Chris Sloan, Jay Desgrosellier, and Phillip Casteel on 31 March 2001 was accepted. VOTE: 6-0

This was the second accepted written documentation of this species, so it remains on the Provisional section of the Official List of Tennessee Birds.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*): Written documentation of a single bird seen by Stephen Stedman on Center Hill Lake in DeKalb Co., TN on 22 November 2000 was accepted. VOTE: 6-0

The species is considered casual in Tennessee.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*): Written documentation of a single first-winter bird seen at Pickwick Dam in Hardin Co., TN on 3 February 2001 by Chris Sloan, Jeff Wilson, Phillip Casteel, and Frank Fekel was not accepted. VOTE: 4-1, 1 abstention.

The record was not accepted because of insufficient details to determine specific species.

OBSERVERS

This is a list of observers who submitted documentation and/or photographs to the committee: Maurice Edwards, Bob Sargent, Chris Sloan, Stephen Stedman, Melinda Welton, and Alan Wormington. The committee wishes to thank everyone who took time to contribute documentation.

If you have questions about the documentation of a specific species, the Official List of Tennessee Birds can be found in the Tennessee Bird Records Committee section of the Tennessee Ornithological Society website (www.tnbirds.org). This list was designed as a guide to the status and distribution of the avifauna of Tennessee. A rare bird reporting form can be downloaded from the same section of the TOS website.