

REPORT OF THE TENNESSEE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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This report summarizes the actions taken by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee of the Tennessee Ornithological Society (TOS) for the winter 2002 to winter 2003 timeframe. Committee members and alternates who voted on these records were Jay Desgrosellier, John Henderson, Rick Knight, Nell Moore (alternate), Rob Peebles, Chris Sloan, and Michael Todd (secretary).

Acceptance criteria is as follows: 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 seven records, all of which were accepted.

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — Written documentation by John Henderson, Mary Lynn Buttram, and Libby Wolfe of a bird seen on 18, 19, and 21 March 1993 on Nickajack Lake in Marion County. This bird was also seen by several other observers.

Vote: 5-0 (1 vote still out)

This places Clark's Grebe on the Official State List. It was previously on the Provisional List due to this individual being written-up by only one observer.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) — Written documentation by Damien Simbeck of a bird near Savannah in Hardin Co. on 17-18 March 2003. In addition to Damien, at least 3 other observers saw this bird.

Vote: 6-0

This bird is considered casual in TN.

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) — Written documentation and photographs by Ed Talbott III of a juvenile bird seen on 7 September 2003 on South Holston Lake in Sullivan Co., TN. This bird was seen by several people that day.

Vote: 6-0

This is the 3rd accepted record, placing this bird on the Official State List, from the Provisional List

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) — Written documentation by Michael Todd of two juvenile Sabine's Gulls seen by he and Nancy Moore on 10 September 2003 on Island 13 in Lake Co.

Vote: 5-0 (1 vote still out)

This is the 4th accepted record of this species.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) — Written documentation, measurements, and photographs of a bird banded by Chris Sloan and Portia Macmillan on 9 November 2002 in Nashville, Davidson Co., TN.

Vote: 5-0 (1 vote still out)

This is the 1st State record of this species; Broad-tailed Hummingbird will be placed on the Official State List.

Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) — Written documentation by Susan Hoyle, and photographs by Ron Hoff, K. Dean Edwards, and Michael Todd of a bird 1st found on 8 November 2003 at Lyons Bend Peninsula in Knoxville, Knox Co., TN. This bird was subsequently seen by many through February 2004 thanks to the tremendous efforts of Susan and others.

Vote: 6-0

This is the 1st State record of this species; Sage Thrasher will be placed on the Official State List

MacGillivray's Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*) — Written documentation and video by Jan Shaw, and photographs by Mike O'Malley and Chris Sloan of a bird present from 25 October 2003 to 19 November 2003 at Radnor Lake State Park in Nashville, Davidson Co., TN. This bird was seen by over 60 observers from at least 7 states.

Vote: 6-0

This is the 1st State record of this species, and it will be placed on the Official State List

OBSERVERS

Observers submitting documentation and/or photographs to the committee included Mary Lynn Buttram, K Dean Edwards, John Henderson, Ron Hoff, Susan Hoyle, Mike O'Malley, Damien Simbeck, Jan Shaw, Chris Sloan, Ed Talbott III, Michael Todd, and Libby Wolfe. The committee wishes to thank everyone who took time to contribute documentation. Anyone else who I inadvertently overlooked in regards to these records, thank you and I apologize.

If you have questions about the documentation of a 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.