OKLAHOMA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2002 REPORT

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This is the annual report of the Oklahoma Bird Records Committee (hereafter OBRC) of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society. The OBRC requests and reviews documentation of rare and unusual records as per the Date Guide to the Occurrences of Birds in Oklahoma (Third Ed., 2000, Oklahoma Ornithological Society, Tulsa; hereafter the Date Guide). The OBRC publishes full, quarterly seasonal reports in The Scissortail, the newsletter of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society. This report summarizes the activities of the OBRC for the calendar year 2002, including any decisions pending from prior years. OBRC members who evaluated records included in this report were: Jim Arterburn, Jeff Cox, Bonnie Gall, Joe Grzybowski, Jo Loyd, Larry Mays, Dan Reinking, Jim Thayer, and Don Verser.

During 2002, the OBRC received 798 records from 66 observers: 688 records of 177 species were accepted (86%), 54 records of 38 species were rejected (7%), and 56 records of 26 species required no action by the Committee (7%). Below are comments on 114 records for species that were either first state records, or for

Fig. 1. Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*) photographed at residence west of Lawton, Comanche County, on 25 October 2002. Photograph by Kurt Meisenzahl.
those species that have no dates listed in the Date Guide: 100 of those records were accepted (88%) and 14 records were rejected 12%.

Six species were added to the Oklahoma state list. Four species, Crested Caracara (Caracara plancus), Mew Gull (Larus canus), Iceland Gull (Larus glaucoides), and Broad-billed Hummingbird (Cynanthus latirostris) were added in full status. One species, Black-crested Titmouse (Baeolophus atricristatus), was added in full status due to American Ornithologists’ Union (AOU) splitting a species previously on the state list, and 1 species, Curlew Sandpiper (Calidris ferruginea), was added in hypothetical status. This addition brings the number of species on The Oklahoma Ornithological Society Check-List of Oklahoma Birds to 464, of which 16 are in hypothetical status (based on written documentation alone, or for species where wild origin was uncertain).

The records in this report are arranged taxonomically following the AOU Check-list of North American Birds, Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) through the 43rd supplement published in 2002 (Auk 119:897–906). Each record consists of the English name, scientific name, OBRC record number(s), number of individuals and age and sex if known, specific location and county of observation (county in italics), date(s) of observation, observer (if the record was accepted), and any comments. All observers who submitted documentation (written descriptions or photographs) of accepted records are listed. The observer who first discovered the bird and/or submitted the documentation is in italics. For rejected records, the observer’s name is omitted and an explanation is given detailing the reason(s) for rejection.

RECORDS ACCEPTED


Red-throated Loon (Gavia stellata), (2002-780). Two adults photographed at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 9 December 2002 and 1 photographed on 30 December. James W. Arterburn.


**Crested Caracara** (*Caracara plancus*), (2002-707-708). One adult photographed 3.2 km E of Perry, Noble, on 4 and 7 November 2002. Shannon Sheffert, Steve Metz. **First state record.**


**Curlew Sandpiper** (*Calidris ferruginea*), (2002-714). One adult in breeding plumage at Sooner Lake, Noble, on 12 May 2001. James W. Arterburn. **First state record.**


**Broad-billed Hummingbird** (*Cynanthus latirostris*), (2002-594-618-619-670-702). One adult male at the Buller residence 3.2 km W of Lawton, Comanche, from
12 September 2002 through 5 January 2003 (photographed over this period, Fig. 1). Kurt Meisenzahl, Terri Underhill, Berlin Heck, Steve Metz. **First state record.**


**Calliope Hummingbird** (*Stellula calliope*), (2002-558). One immature male photographed 6.4 km S of Kenton, Cimarron, on 4 August 2002. *Steve Metz.*

**Calliope Hummingbird** (*Stellula calliope*), (2002-559). One immature photographed at Washita NWR, Custer, on 17 August 2002. *Justin Roach.*

**Calliope Hummingbird** (*Stellula calliope*), (2002-761). Two immature birds (1 photographed) at Keyes residence, Cimarron, on 27 August 2002. *James W. Arterburn.*


**Calliope Hummingbird** (*Stellula calliope*), (2002-674). One immature male photographed at Kenton residence, Cimarron, on 10 September 2002. *Steve Metz*


**RECORDS REJECTED**

The OBRC believes that it is important to note that rejection of a record does not necessarily mean the identification was incorrect. In some cases, conditions of the observation were brief or distant, or the observation was made under difficult viewing conditions. In other cases, the description provided was incomplete or did not rule out other possible species. The OBRC thanks all contributors of documentations and strongly encourages continued participation in this process, which serves to strengthen the ornithological record of bird occurrences in Oklahoma.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*), (2002-095-108). One adult male photographed at Keyes Sewage Ponds, Cimarron, on 7 March 2002. Photographs showed the bird to be a Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) x American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) hybrid.

Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*), (2002-111). One individual at Red Slough WMA, McCurtain, on 20 March 2002. Description was very brief. American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) or hybrid not ruled out.

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*), (2002-120). One first winter individual at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 20 March 2002. Description did not rule out Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*).

Thayer’s Gull (*Larus thayeri*), (2002-119). One first or second winter individual at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 20 March 2002. Bird not seen in flight. Description more accurate for Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*).

Band-tailed Pigeon (*Columba fasciata*), (2002-367). One adult photographed at residence in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on 3 June 2002. Photograph was of a Band-tailed Pigeon but the bird had a green color band on one leg, which suggests an escaped bird.

Ringed Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia risoria*), (2002-685). One individual heard at Holland Hall School, Tulsa, on 4 May 2002. Description of call did not rule out other doves.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*), (2002-241). One individual at Ponca City residence, Kay, on 29 May 2002. No description given. The call was mentioned as that of a White-winged Dove but no description of the call was given or described.

Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*), (2002-597). One Immature in Kenton, Cimarron, on 6 and 7 September 2002. Description was brief and did not rule out other hummingbirds.


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**Confirmed nesting of Say’s Phoebe in Harper County, Oklahoma.**—Until Dunn (1984) found nesting evidence of Say’s Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) in Beaver County, the easternmost county of the 3 in the Oklahoma Panhandle, breeding records of this species were limited to Cimarron County, the westernmost county of the Panhandle (Sutton 1967). However, Breeding Bird Atlas data show confirmed breeding evidence over most of the Panhandle with a probable record in extreme western Harper County, east of Beaver in northwestern Oklahoma (Rienking, in press). This note reports a confirmed nesting of Say’s Phoebe in Harper County.

On 13 May 2003, I searched, for about 8 h, Woods, Harper, and Ellis counties for breeding evidence of Say’s Phoebe. I found an adult Say’s Phoebe foraging near a shed, 11.3 km N and 5.6 km W of Buffalo, Harper County. A second adult entered the shed carrying food and begging calls could be heard; that was followed by the adult exiting with a fecal sac. This record is the easternmost nesting of this species in Oklahoma.

Although appropriate habitat exists in Ellis County (south of Harper), open country with little woody vegetation (Schukman and Wolf 1998), I did not find any Say’s Phoebe. In Woods County (east of Harper), I found 2 instances of Eastern Phoebe (*S. phoebe*) nesting under bridges in open areas with no woody vegetation in the immediate vicinity. On 29 June 2003, Galen Pittman and I searched, for about 3 h, in western Woods County again, but we did not find any Say’s Phoebe.

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Literature Cited


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