

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 (*Cyananthus 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 glaucooides*), 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*), (2002-043). One adult photographed at Lake Hefner, *Oklahoma*, on 13 and 16 February 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*), (2002-080-749). One to 3 adults at Lake Tenkiller, *Sequoyah*, from 9 February 2002 through 25 April 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*), (2002-755-756-781-784-785). Up to 2 immatures and 3 adults at Lake Tenkiller, *Cherokee*, from 27 November 2002 through 6 December 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- 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*.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*), (2002-032). One probable adult at Lake Hefner, *Oklahoma*, on 12 December 2001. *Joseph A. Grzybowski*.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*), (2002-078-079-748). Two to 4 adults at Lake Tenkiller, *Sequoyah*, from 9 February 2002 through 25 April 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*), (2002-724). One immature bird photographed at Lake Tenkiller, *Cherokee*, on 28 October 2002 and seen through 29 November 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*), (2002-753). Two adults photographed at Lake Tenkiller, *Sequoyah*, on 27 November 2002 and 6 December 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.

- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*), (2002-782). One adult photographed at Lake Tenkiller, Cherokee, on 6 December 2002. James W. Arterburn.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*), (2002-783). One adult and 1 immature on Lake Tenkiller, Cherokee, on 6 December 2002. James W. Arterburn.
- Yellow-billed Loon** (*Gavia adamsii*), (2002-747). One immature bird at Lake Tenkiller, Sequoyah, on 4 April 2002. James W. Arterburn.
- Yellow-billed Loon** (*Gavia adamsii*), (2002-754). One immature photographed at Lake Tenkiller, Sequoyah, on 25 November 2002 and 6 December 2002. James W. Arterburn.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*), (2002-728). One immature photographed at Lake Yahola, Tulsa, on 25 November 2002. James W. Arterburn.
- Brown Pelican** (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), (2002-096). One adult photographed at Lake of the Arbuckles, Murray, on 11 March 2002 and seen through 9 April 2002. Jack Melton.
- Brown Pelican** (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), (2002-647). One sub-adult photographed at Lake Keystone, Pawnee, on 15 September 2002 and seen through 1 October 2002. Steve Metz.
- Brown Pelican** (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), (2002-650-651-671). One adult photographed below the dam at Great Salt Plains State Park, Alfalfa, on 4, 5, and 6 October 2002. Ron Shepperd, Steve Metz, Charlotte Puckett.
- Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*), (2002-175). One adult at Grassy Slough, McCurtain, on 30 April 2002. David Arbour.
- Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*), (2002-192-193-197). One adult photographed at Hackberry Flat, Tillman, on 12 and 13 May 2002 and seen on 15 May 2002. Kurt Meisenzahl, Lou Truex, Berlin Heck.
- Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*), (2002-234). Two adults at Salt Plains NWR, Alfalfa, on 24 May 2002. M.K. Edge Wade.
- Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*), (2002-742). One adult photographed at Salt Plains NWR, Alfalfa, on 7 June 2002. James W. Arterburn.
- Roseate Spoonbill** (*Ajaia ajaja*), (2002-440-457-469-484-491-513-529-536-540-549-556-615-624). One to 8 immatures at Red Slough WMA, McCurtain, from 2 August 2002 through 19 September 2002. Eight immatures photographed on 17 August 2002. Berlin Heck, David Arbour.
- Roseate Spoonbill** (*Ajaia ajaja*), (2002-614). One adult at Lake Keystone, Creek, on 10 and 13 September 2002. Jeff Penington.
- Mottled Duck** (*Anas fulvigula*), (2002-516-530-542-551). One adult at Red Slough WMA, McCurtain, from 20 August 2002 through 4 September 2002. David Arbour, Berlin Heck.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta nigra*), (2002-642). One adult female at Skiatook Sewage Ponds, Tulsa, on 15 December 2001. Patricia L. Seibert.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta nigra*), (2002-725). One adult female photographed at Sooner Lake, Noble, on 7, 14, and 22 November 2002. James W. Arterburn.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta nigra*), (2002-727). One adult female photographed at Lake Yahola, Tulsa, on 25 November 2002. James W. Arterburn.

- White-tailed Kite** (*Elanus leucurus*) (2002-390). One adult at The Nature Conservancy's Pontotoc Ridge Preserve, Pontotoc, on 1 June 2002. *William A. Carter*.
- 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.**
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*), (2002-163). One adult photographed on top of a porch roof at John Tennery residence, Tulsa, on 27 April 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*), (2002-695). One individual at Red Slough WMA, McCurtain, on 22 October 2002. *David Arbour*.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*), (2002-762). One individual at Red Slough WMA, McCurtain, on 29 November 2002. *David Arbour*.
- Black Rail** (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) (2002-537). One immature at Red Slough WMA, McCurtain, on 27 August 2002. *David Arbour*.
- 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.**
- Mew Gull** (*Larus canus*), (2002-044). One adult photographed at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 25 January 2002. *James W. Arterburn*. **First state record.**
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) (2002-058-146). One first-winter bird photographed at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 13 February 2002. *James W. Arterburn*, Richard Thacker. **First state record.**
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*), (2002-035). One adult at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 12 December 2001. *Joseph A. Grzybowski*.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*), (2002-084). Two first-winter birds at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 13 February 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*), (2002-085). One adult at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 16 February 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*), (2002-779). One adult photographed at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 9 December 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*), (2002-034). One adult at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 12 December 2001. *Joseph A. Grzybowski*.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*), (2002-083). One adult at Lake Hefner, Oklahoma, on 13 February 2002. *James W. Arterburn*.
- White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*), (2002-006). One adult at Black Mesa State Park, Cimarron, on 30 December 2001. *Berlin Heck*.
- White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*), (2002-506). Two adults photographed at Oklahoma City residence, Oklahoma, on 31 May 2002. *Pat Velte*.
- White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*), (2002-264). One adult at Fittstown residence, Pontotoc, on 20 April 2002. *Bruce Stewart*.
- White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*), (2002-709). Twenty-two adults photographed at Oklahoma City residence, Oklahoma, on 17 October 2002. *Pat Velte*.
- White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*), (2002-704). Two adults in Lawton, Comanche, on 30 October 2002. *Berlin Heck*.
- Broad-billed Hummingbird** (*Cyananthus 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.*

- Anna's Hummingbird** (*Calypte anna*), (2002-048). One adult male photographed at Bartlesville residence, *Washington*, on 30 December 2001. *Steve Metz.*
- 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*), (2002-759). One immature male photographed at Kenton residence, *Cimarron*, on 28 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.*
- Cassin's Vireo** (*Vireo cassinii*), (2002-795). One immature bird at Benton Ranch, *Cimarron*, on 30 August 2002. *James W. Arterburn.*
- Violet-green Swallow** (*Tachycineta thalassina*), (2002-798). One adult and 1 immature at Boise City sewage ponds, *Cimarron*, on 1 September 2002. *James W. Arterburn.*
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*), (2002-233). One adult female near Hogshooter Creek, *Washington*, on 25 May 2002. *Bonnie Gall.*
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*), (2002-164). One adult male at Philbrook Gardens, *Tulsa*, on 30 April 2002. *Patricia L. Seibert.*
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Dendrocia caerulescens*), (2002-255-267). One adult male at Black Mesa State Park, *Cimarron*, on 28 May 2002. *Berlin Heck, Jeri McMahon.*
- Townsend's Warbler** (*Dendrocia townsendi*), (2002-053). One adult male at Watson's Crossing on Cimarron River, *Cimarron*, on 21 September 2001. *George Kamp.*
- Townsend's Warbler** (*Dendrocia townsendi*), (2002-582). One adult female 6.4 km S of Kenton, *Cimarron*, on 1 September 2002. *Joseph A. Grzybowski.*
- Townsend's Warbler** (*Dendrocia townsendi*), (2002-583). One adult female at Black Mesa State Park, *Cimarron*, on 1 September 2002. *Joseph A. Grzybowski.*
- Townsend's Warbler** (*Dendrocia townsendi*), (2002-604). One adult female 6.4 km S of Kenton, *Cimarron*, on 5 September 2002. *Berlin Heck.*
- Townsend's Warbler** (*Dendrocia townsendi*), (2002-712). One adult male 6.4 km S of Kenton, *Cimarron*, on 7 September 2002. *Martha Kamp.*
- Pyrrhuloxia** (*Cardinalis sinuatus*), (2002-039). One female photographed at Kathleen Lyons residence in Oklahoma City, *Oklahoma*, on 21 March 1999. *Mitch Oliphant.*
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*), (2002-022). One adult female at residence 8.9 km W of Stillwater, *Payne*, on 9 January 2002. *Olen Thomas.*

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*), (2002-026). One adult male at Sutton Avian Research Center, Washington, on 25 January 2002. Dan L. Reinking.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*), (2002-144). One adult at Bartlesville residence, Washington, on 17 April 2002. Harriet Gleaton.

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.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*), (2002-557). One immature photographed in Kenton, Cimarron, on 4 August 2002. Not enough detail in the photo to identify this bird.

- Broad-tailed Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus platycercus*), (2002-673). One immature photographed in Kenton, Cimarron, on 10 September 2002. Not enough detail in the photo to identify this bird.
- Gray Flycatcher** (*Empidonax wrightii*), (2002-771). One individual at Black Mesa State Park, Cimarron, on 11 September 2002. The description did not rule out Dusky Flycatcher (*Empidonax oberholseri*).
- Grace's Warbler** (*Dendroica graciae*), (2002-695). One adult male at Benton Ranch, Cimarron, on 6 September 1998. Limited details given in documentation for degree of rarity, and a long time lapse between sighting and written documentation.
- Shiny Cowbird** (*Molothrus bonariensis*), (2002-243). One adult female at Tulsa residence, Tulsa, on 13 January 2002. Description did not rule out female Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) or female Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*).

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Confirmed nesting of Say's Phoebe in Harper County, Oklahoma.—Until Durn (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.

I thank Dan Reinking for unpublished Breeding Bird Atlas data.

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