

Fourteenth Report of the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

September 2006

Nick Pulcinella for the Committee

This report covers 192 records of 85 species submitted to the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee (hereafter PORC or the Committee). The 156 records accepted, of 77 species, represent an acceptance rate of 80%. Highlights include the first records for Band-rumped Storm-petrel, Calliope Hummingbird, Gray Kingbird, and MacGillivray's Warbler; first and second records of Curlew Sandpiper; second records for California Gull and Lazuli Bunting; second and third records for American Oystercatcher and Long-tailed Jaeger; second through fourth records for Cave Swallow; and third record for Pink-footed Goose. The addition of the five new records brings the state total to 403 species (Pulcinella 2000).

The Committee received reports from 40 counties. The top five counties reporting were Bucks (50), Erie (19), Centre (12), Berks (9) and Lancaster (9). PORC requests reports of any species on the Review List as well as any species not previously accepted for Pennsylvania. The Committee encourages observers to document their sightings with photographs, videos or sound recordings when possible. The recent advent of digital photography has greatly increased the number of definitive photographs the Committee receives. Unfortunately, these very sharp, clear images are not always accompanied by written documentation.

The Committee emphasizes that the primary point of any documentation of a rare bird should be a detailed written description. Supporting written documentation may add details such as missing field marks or behavior notes. On the other hand, the Committee has also received written descriptions, apparently made up to a month after the sighting. While we recognize that busy lives do not always provide the spare-time for such luxuries as writing descriptions of reviewed species, in cases where there is a significant time-lapse between observation and description, anything more than several hours, it is important to include notes or sketches made in the field at the time of the observation. Otherwise, there will be no objective material for the Committee to evaluate, and properly identified birds will be rejected on nothing more than a technicality.

For tips and guidelines on documenting rare birds, observers are encouraged to consult the Committee's web pages at <http://www.pabirds.org>, Dittman and Lasley 1992, and PORC 2000.

Documentation can be submitted to Nick Pulcinella, PORC Secretary, 613 Howard Road, West Chester, PA 19380.

Committee News:

The current members of the Committee (2006) include Eric Witmer

(chair), Al Guarente, Jonathan Heller, Tom Johnson, Geoff Malosh, Jerry Stanley and Rick Wiltraut. Nick Pulcinella is the non-voting secretary. Recent members who voted on some records in this report include Dan Heathcote, Paul Hess, Paul Guris, Bob Leberman and George Armistead.

Since the last Committee report in September 2005, several changes were made to the Review List. Removed from the list were: Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, Cackling Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, Red Knot, Laughing Gull, Rufous Hummingbird and Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Changes in county exemptions; Great Cormorant – add Northampton, Little Gull – add Dauphin.

The Committee has a presence on the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology web site at www.pabirds.org where PORC's pages include the Official State List, the Review List of species requiring documentation, tips for improving documentation of rarities, and a documentation form that can be downloaded. The site also contains information about the functions of the Committee as well as a photo gallery of rarities found in Pennsylvania.

Classification of Records:

Class I: An accepted record based on an existing identifiable specimen, a diagnostic photograph or a diagnostic

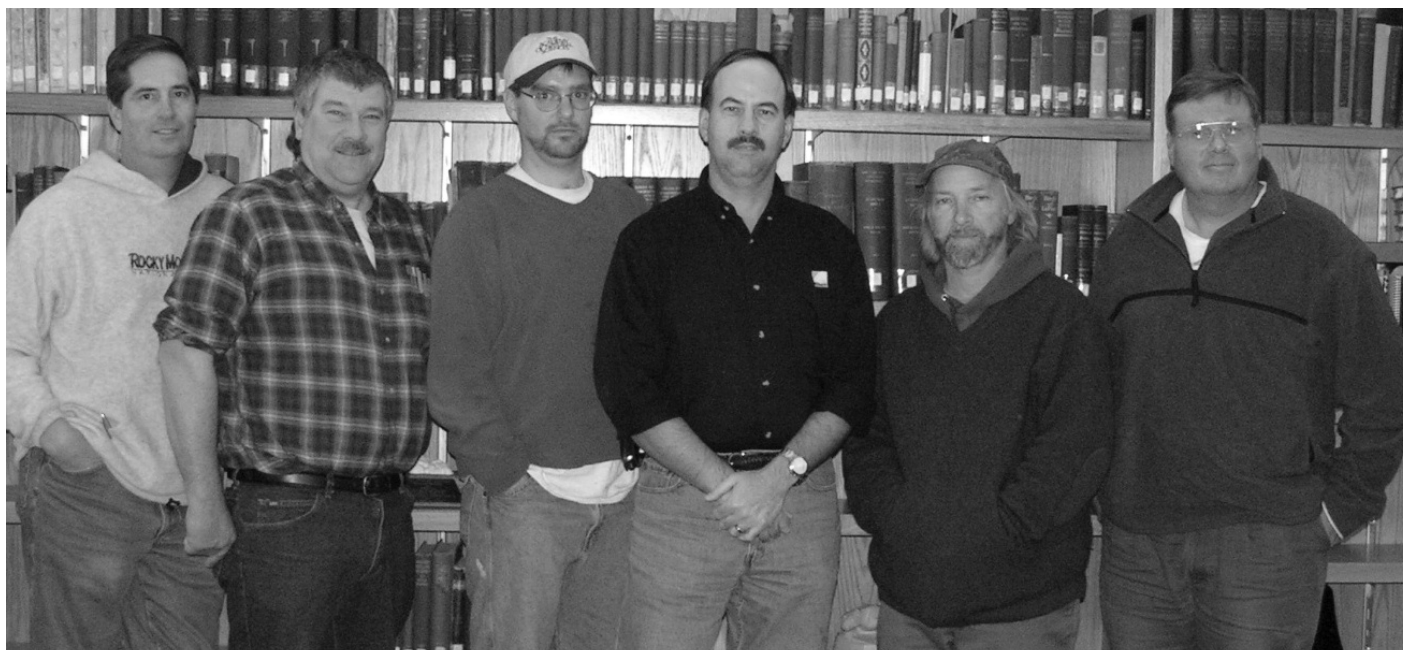


Plate 1. Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee 5 December 2005. Left to right: Al Guarente, Eric Witmer, Matt Sharp, Paul Guris, Rick Wiltraut and Jerry Stanley (not pictured — Bob Leberman). Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Kempton, PA (Nick Pulcinella).

recording. Abbreviations are (p) photograph, (r) sound recording, (a) audiotape, (v) videotape, (s) specimen.

Class II: An accepted sight record documented independently by two or more observers.

Class III: An accepted sight record documented by one observer.

Format of this Report:

The records are arranged taxonomically following the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds (AOU 1998) and supplements. The number in parentheses after the species name represents the number of accepted records, including those in this report, since the establishment of PORC in 1989. A (+) after the number signifies that there are accepted records prior to the formation of PORC. Each accepted record includes the locality and county and date(s) when known. In many cases, dates are taken from the quarterly reports published in *Pennsylvania Birds*. Enclosed in parentheses following the date are the initials of the finder(s), if known, names of known observers and those who submitted documentation (in alphabetical order). Following the list of observers is the record's classification and the PORC record number. This is followed by the Committee's vote tally for each record. All photographs, video and sound recordings are currently being held with the Secretary until a permanent location is established. An (*) after a species name indicates that the species is no longer on the PORC review list.

Abbreviations: CBC= Christmas Bird Count, et al = and others, m.obs.= multiple observers, Mt.= Mountain, NAB = North American Birds, PB = Pennsylvania Birds, R. = River, Res. = Reservoir, S.P. = State Park, Twp.= Township

ACCEPTED SPECIES

Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*) (3)

One at Chamber's Lake, *Chester*, 9-17 January 2004. (JC(p), NH; m.obs.; Class I; 108-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:31 and NAB 58:223. This obliging individual moved between Chamber's Lake and nearby Coatesville Res. during its stay allowing long-studies by many.



Plate 2. Drawing of Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*) and other geese at Coatesville Res, *Chester*. (Nikolas Haas).

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) (5+) *

One noted in the company of a large flock of Canada Geese at Yellow Creek SP, *Indiana*, 26 November 2003. (RG; Class III; 110-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:113. Two at Colyer Lake, *Centre*, 12-19 March 2004. (MH (p); Class I; 110-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:113. Two adults in Conemaugh Twp. and L o y a l h a n n a T w p . *Indiana/Westmoreland*. (DD, MAD, MHi, SK, DL, MM (p), DL, et al.; Class I; 110-02-2004). 7/0. P.O.R.C. will no longer review reports after 2005.

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*). (21+)

Thirteen (9 adult, 4 juvenile) observed off the East Avenue boat launch, *Erie*, 12 November 2003. (JM; BC (p,v); Class II; 112-01-2003). 6/0. One adult at Shippensburg, *Cumberland*, 4 January 2004. (TJ, RK, AMc, JR; Class I; 112-01-2004). 6/1. One at Stoney Creek Twp., *Somerset*, 4-11 January 2004. (LP, JP; RG, et al.; Class I; 112-02-2004). 6/0. The *Erie* birds were videoed under very strong windy and cloudy conditions resulting in distant, dark, shaky images that prevented Class I acceptance. The excellent written documentation supported the identification establishing a first county record. The *Cumberland* bird was observed in the company of Canada Geese during the Newville CBC. P.O.R.C. will no longer review reports of this species after 2005.

Canada Goose (small race) (*Branta canadensis*) (2+) *

One at Peace valley Park, *Bucks*, 14-24 October 2002 and 24 October 2004. (AM (v); Class I; 116a-01-2002). 6/0. Originally submitted as Richardson's Goose, the Committee did not feel confident with the subspecific identification, though it was probably correct, but agreed to accept the report as small race Canada Goose. Small race Canada Goose is no longer reviewed.

Green-winged (Eurasian) Teal (*Anas crecca crecca*) (5+)

One male in Belleville, *Mifflin*, 27 February-19 March 2004. (JZ; BF (p), JD, et al.; Class I; 119a-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:114. This bird was seen and photographed in direct comparison with Green-winged Teal.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas Penelope*) (16+) *

One male at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana*, 15 March 2003. (RG (p); Class I; 135-01-2003). 7/0. Another male at Churchville Res. *Bucks*, 18 October 2003. (MC; Class III; 135-02-2003). 6/1. One male at Lake Somerset, *Somerset*, 20 March 2004. (DBY, WG, LeH, LiH, CK, GS; Class III; 135-01-2004). 7/0. P.O.R.C. will no longer review reports of this species after 2005.

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*) (2+)

One female at SGL 56, *Bucks*, 22-28 March 2004. (AM(v); DF (v),TFH (p), m.ob; Class I; 141-01-2004). 6/0. This bird was loosely associating with a large flock of Ring-necked Ducks and the videos submitted showed the small tuft and solid dark head, back and breast. This was a first county record as well as a third state record. Photograph published in PB 18:114 and NAB 58:365.



Plate 3. Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*). This female was present at SGL 56, *Bucks*, 22-28 March 2004. Photographed here 26 March (Thomas Ford-Hutchinson).

King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) (6+)

One female at Nockamixon SP, *Bucks*, 30-31 October 2002. (DF(v), BE (p), JH, AM (v) et al; Class I; 145-01-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:184. Another female in West Chester, *Chester*, 31 October-6 November. (LL: AB (p), PE (p), AG, AM(v), JMi, NP (p), et al.; Class I; 145-02-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16 #3&4, PB 16:184 and NAB 57:55. This species is extremely rare away from Presque Isle SP so having two appear in the southeast part of the state within days of each other is astounding.

King/Common Eider (*Somateria spectabilis/mollissima*) (1)

One female eider within a flock of Red-breasted Mergansers observed flying past Presque Isle SP, *Erie*, 10 December 2002. (JM; Class III; 145a-01-2002). 6/0. The observer felt the bird was probably a King Eider but because of the great distance with which it was observed, and the fact that a Common Eider had been confirmed in OH a month before, he felt that specific identification could not be made. The Committee agreed with this conclusion.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) (10+)

A female at Nockamixon SP, *Bucks*, 31 October 2002. (BC, DF (v), AM (v), DW, et al.; Class I; 149-02-2002). 7/0. A female in Juniata Twp., *Huntingdon*, 26 January 2003. (GG, DK, TK (p); Class I; 149-01-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 17:107. The Nockamixon bird was found within a small flock of Surf and White-winged Scoters discovered by birders chasing the before mentioned King Eider. The Juniata Twp. bird was remarkable for its inland location and established a first county record (Grove 2003).

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*). (6+)

A female seen in direct comparison with Common Goldeneyes on the Delaware River near Portland, *Northampton*, 22 December 2003. (MS, BW, JW; Class III; 155-01-2003). 6/1.

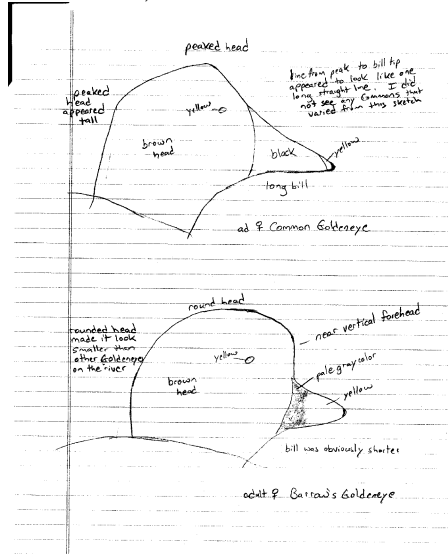


Plate 4. Drawing of Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) near Portland, *Northampton*, 22 December 2003 (Michael Schall).

Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea*) (3)

Benner Twp., *Centre* 19 September 2003 (DH, LG, ML, JMh, Kmi, JY; Class III; 032-02-2003). 6/0. McClure, *Snyder*, 20 September 2003. (Photographer unknown submitted by FH; Class I; 032-01-2003). 6/1. Photograph published PB 17 #4 cover. The *Centre* bird was observed at close range flying low over Rt. 220 during the passage of *Hurricane Isabel*. The *Snyder* bird was picked up alive along a highway the following day. It was transported to a Rehab facility in State College and eventually transferred to Tri-State Bird Rescue in Newark DE for release. It is quite possible that the two birds are one in the same. The Committee has decided to treat the records separately. It is difficult to determine the number of pelagic species blown in-shore from this storm and also the *Centre* bird was last viewed flying in the opposite direction from where the *Snyder* bird was retrieved.

Leach's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*) (2+)

One at Yellow Creek SP, *Indiana*, 19 September 2003. (MF, MHi, PH, RH, JV, et al; Class III; 050-01-2003). 6/0. Found by birders who originally traveled to Yellow Creek S.P. to view a Sabine's Gull brought there by *Hurricane Isabel*. Several people observed this bird as it rested on the water.

Band-rumped Storm-petrel (*Oceanodroma castro*) (1)

One at Bald Eagle S. P., *Centre*, 19-20 September 2003. (GG, DG; JH, RWi, et al.; Class I, 052-01-2003). 5/1/1. 6/0.

Found in the early evening, after the passing of *Hurricane Isabel*, by the Groves, the bird was seen again the following day by Horn and Wiltraut who had not known of the previous day's sighting. Horn was able to obtain identifiable video to establish a first state record. (Wiltraut 2003)

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*). (2)

One at Lake Carey, *Wyoming*, 25 September 2003. (JK; Class III; 067-01-2003). 5/2, 6/1. This bird spent about 20 minutes on the lake easily viewed from the observer's home. Shocked to see a pelican at her inland location she was able to get her neighbor, also a birder, who lives in Florida, to confirm the sighting. He also was understandably shocked. This sighting is likely related to the passing of *Hurricane Isabel* six days earlier. A Brown Pelican was observed 19 September at DeRuyter Res., *Madison*, NY during *Hurricane Isabel*. This location is about 100 miles due north of Lake Carey.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) (5)

One, probably a female, soaring over Reading, *Berks*, 28 April 2003. (PS; Class III; 074-02-2003). 6/1. Two birds soaring over Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, *Berks*, 23 September 2003. (DB; Class III; 074-03-2003). 7/0. The Reading report falls nicely within the 18 April-25 May window of previous spring sightings. The Hawk Mt. report is the first accepted fall occurrence.

"Great White" Heron (*Ardea herodias occidentalis*) (2+)

One at Green Lane Res., *Montgomery*, 11 August-24 September 2002. (GF; DF (v), AM, NP (p), ER (p), m.obs.; Class I; 080a-01-2002). 7/0. One at Linesville Fish Hatchery, *Erie*, 7-30 November 2004. (SK; MF, GM (p); Class I; 080a-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:237 and NAB 59:70. There are three previous reports, between 1938-1961, all from the Pymatuning area, of this white-form of the Great Blue Heron normally found in the Florida Keys (McWilliams and Brauning 2000).

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) (4+)

One on the Conejohela Flats, *Lancaster*, 31 July-18 August 2002 (DF (v), m.obs.; Class I; 087-01-2002). 7/0.

Cattle Egret (*Bulbulcus ibis*) (6+).

One at Green Lane Res., *Montgomery*, 7 August 2002 (DF (v), AM (v), et al.; Class I; 089-02-2002). 7/0. One at Bradford Dam, *Bucks*, 15-16 August 2002 (DF (v), AM (v); Class I; 089-03-2002). 7/0. One at Miller's Pond, Pymatuning SP, *Crawford*, 23 September 2003 (SK (p); Class I; 089-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:296. One at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks* 23 July 2004 (BHi; Class III; 089-01-2004). 6/0. Formerly, a common breeding species along the lower Susquehanna R. between 1975-1988, it is

now a rare and irregular late summer and fall visitor. These records fall nicely within that period.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) (1+)

One adult at Walker Lake, *Snyder*, 19 April 2004. (RW (p); Class I, 092-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:115.

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) (14+)

An adult photographed at Wildwood Lake, *Dauphin*, 21-25 April 2003. (KK (p); Class I; 095-01-2003). 6/1. Photograph published in PB 17:120.

Plegadis species (*Plegadis sp*) (5+)

One juvenile at the Penn Warner Club, *Bucks*, 4-5 August 2002. (DF (v), AM (v), et al.; Class I; 095a-01-2002). 7/0. One juvenile at the Penn Warner Club, *Bucks*, 7-8 August 2004. (CR; DF; Class III; 095a-01-2004). Videos of the 2002 sighting show a juvenile dark ibis most likely a Glossy but White-faced Ibis, a species not yet recorded in Pennsylvania, could not be completely ruled out.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) (6+)

One soaring over Sumneytown, *Montgomery*, 27 April 2003. (TW; Class III; 168-01-2003). 6/0. One observed in flight over Bedford, *Somerset*, 14 May 2004. (BZ (p); Class I; 168-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:116.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) (15+)

One passed the Rocky Ridge Hawkwatch, *York*, 6 October 2002. (MMu, CO, KO, RP; Class III; 171-03-2002). 6/0. One photographed in New Britain, *Bucks*, 7 June 2003. (DZ (p); Class I; 171-02-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:209. One at Fort Everett Rd., *Lehigh*, 11 May 2004. (RL, KM; Class II; 171-02-2004). 7/0. Two at Lumberville, *Bucks*, 20-23 June 2004. (DF(v), TFH(p), AM(v), ER(p), m.obs.; Class I; 171-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:177 and NAB 58:523.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) (2+)

One in Hempfield Twp., *Westmoreland*, 8 February 2004. (LeH, LiH; Class III; 184-01-2004). 6/0. Extremely rare in North America outside of south FL, the excellent written description eliminated the similar and expected Red-shouldered Hawk.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) (3+)

One flushed several times in Tullytown, *Bucks*, 2-4 October 2002. (DF; CC, RF, ER, DW, RWi, et al.; Class II; 231-02-2002). 6/0. This species is probably more regular than has been demonstrated but because of its small size and secretive behavior, it can be frustratingly difficult to locate. Early October seems to be the best time to search for it.

Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris*) (2+) One in Bristol, *Bucks*, 4 October 2002 (BC, DW; DF, JH, BS; Class III; 234-01-2002). 5/1. This bird was originally flushed from a grassy field adjacent to the Delaware River. It was later observed feeding in a spatterdock marsh and vegetated hillsides nearby.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*) (3+) One at Quakertown Swamp, *Bucks*, 24-25 April 2004. (DF (v), AM, JM, RWi; Class I; 235-01-2004). 6/0. The audio tape submitted contains the steady "kicking" call of this species.

American Oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*) (3) One at Dunnings Creek Wetlands, *Bedford*, 19 September 2003. (TD; Class III; 266-01-2003). 7/0. One at Lake Nockamixon, *Bucks*, 19 September 2003 (BE; Class III; 266-02-2003). 7/0. Both sightings were the result of the passing of *Hurricane Isabel* the same day. The *Bedford* bird was observed perched while the *Bucks* sighting was a calling bird in flight approximately 50 yards from the observer.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) (6+) One at Dunnings Creek Wetlands, *Bedford*, 10 May 2004. (SD; DM; Class III; 268-01-2004). 7/0. An outstanding find for this location, the observer was identifying dragonflies when she came upon this bird within a small mixed flock of shorebirds,

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) (4+) One in Holland, *Bucks*, 26 May 2004, (ABi (p); Class I; 286-01-2004). 7/0. One in South Avis, *Clinton*, 9 September 2004. (WL(p), et al.; Class I; 286-03-2004). 6/0. The *Bucks* bird appeared briefly, but long enough to be photographed, at a retention basin on high school property during a rainstorm. Photograph published in PB 18:116 and NAB 58:366. The *Clinton* bird was also present for a short time and also photographed.

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) (16+) One at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 19 September 2003 (BC (p); Class I; 293-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:250. One at Washington Boro, *Lancaster*, 19 September 2003. (JHe, JH, RM, EW; Class III; 293-02-2003). 7/0. One at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 29 August 2004. (BC (p); Class I; 293-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:238 and NAB 59:70. Both 2003 sightings were probably related to the passing of *Hurricane Isabel* the same day.

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) (14+) One adult at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 2 August 2003. (BC (p), GM, DW, MV; Class I; 295-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:297. One at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 17 August 2004. (BC (p); Class I; 295-01-2004). 7/0. One at

Moraine S.P., *Butler*, 15 September 2004. (GM (p); Class I; 295-02-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18 #4 cover and NAB 59:70.

Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*) (3+) One at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks*, 16 November 2002. (CR; DF (v), BG (p), AM (v), JM, NP, et al; Class I; 313-01-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:155. An astounding find, observed during a cold, gusty rainstorm. This is one of the few records away from Presque Isle S.P.

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) (2) One adult at Tullytown, *Bucks*, 25 July 2002. (DW; DDe, DF(v), SF, JH, AM(v), NP, RWi, m.ob; Class I; 316-01-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:185. One adult male at Martin's Creek PPL, *Northampton*, 13 May 2004. (RWi(p); BE(p), et al.; Class I; 316-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in NAB 58:367 and PB 18:74. (Wiltraut 2004). These two reports constitute the first and second documented state records respectively.



Plate 5. Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*). This bird at Martin's Creek PPL, *Northampton*, 13 May 2004 (Bill Etter), represented the 2nd documented record for Pennsylvania.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*) (9+) * One at Tullytown, *Bucks*, 29 August 2002. (DF(v); Class I; 320-01-2002). 7/0. One at Wycombe, *Bucks*, 29 August 2002. (DF(v); Class I; 320-02-2002). 7/0. This species is no longer reviewed.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) (3+) One at Bristol, *Bucks*, 27 September-5 October 2002. (DF(v); AM(v), m.obs.; Class I; 321-01-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:186. Many observed this cooperative individual during its stay. Video submitted displayed nearly full-frame images.

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) (17+) * One at Bristol, *Bucks*, 29 August 2002. (DF(v); Class I; 330-03-2002). 7/0. At least twelve at Colyer Lake, *Centre*, 19 September 2003. (MH; Class III; 330-02-2003). 7/0. As many as twenty-one at Pymatuning Res., *Crawford*, 19 September 2003 (JM; Class III; 330-03-2003). 6/1. The latter two reports were

during the passage of *Hurricane Isabel*. This species is no longer reviewed.

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*) (11+) One at Martin's Creek Fly Ash Basin, *Northampton*, 25-26 May 2003. (MS(p); DF, DDe, RWi, et al.; Class I; 331-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:110. One adult in basic plumage at Washingtonville, *Montour*, 27 September 2003. (MH; Class III; 331-02-2003). 6/1. One at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre*, 20 September 2003. (DF(v), m.ob; Class I; 331-04-2003). 6/1. The *Northampton* report was a first county record. The *Centre* bird was the result of *Hurricane Isabel*.

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) (10+) One at Lake Somerset, *Somerset* 19 September 2003. (RG; SB, SK(p), MM(p), JP, LP; Class I; 332-01-2003). 6/0. Photographs published in PB 17:251 (erroneously noted at Yellow Creek S.P.). One adult at Kahle Lake, *Clarion/Venango*, 19 September 2003. (MF, PH, JV, et al.; Class III; 332-02-2003). 5/2, 6/0. One light-morph adult in Drumore Twp., *Lancaster*, 19 September 2003. (FH, BH; Class III; 332-03-2003). 7/0. All three reports resulted from the passing of *Hurricane Isabel*. The *Somerset* bird was admirably photographed under rainy windy conditions, the Kahle Lake bird was watched in flight for about thirty minutes and the *Lancaster* bird was seen flying south along the Susquehanna River as it passed the observers.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) (3) One intermediate juvenile at Lake Nockamixon, *Bucks*, 31 August-1 September 2003 (BE; ER(p) m.obs.; Class I; 334-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:267 and NAB 58:72. One non-breeding adult at Willow Bay, *Warren/McKean*, 19 September 2003. (JF; Class III; 334-02-2003). 6/1. The Lake Nockamixon bird was very obliging allowing views within ten feet as it walked along a road in search of earthworms which it was reported to have eaten (Etter 2003). The Willow Bay bird was observed only in flight during the passage of *Hurricane Isabel*.

Jaeger species (*Stercorarius species*) (12+) One at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 9 September 2004. (BC, CG, JM, DW; Class III; 332a-01-2004). 6/0. One at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 1 November 2004. (BC, JM; Class III; 332a-02-2004). 6/0. The September bird was observed in flight at a distance of about one-half mile offshore. The November bird, though closer, was observed for only a short period and only from behind. Both birds were suspected to be Parasitic Jaegers but the observers did not feel that under the viewing conditions, they could confidently make that identification.

Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*) (7+) *
One in first-winter plumage at Quenahoning Res., *Somerset*, 19 September 2003. (RG; JP; Class III; 337-01-2003). 7/0. One basic adult at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre*, 19 September 2003. (MH; Class III; 337-02-2003). 6/1. One adult at Bald Eagle SP., *Centre*, 21 May 2004. (WL(p), RWi (p), et al.; Class I; 337-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:118. Both September birds were the result of the passing of *Hurricane Isabel*. PORC will no longer review reports of this species after 2005.

Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*) (12+)
One first-winter in Newtown, *Bucks*, 16 October 2002. (DF(v); Class I; 338-01-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:186. One first-winter at Pymatuning Lake, *Crawford*, 20 October 2003. (DY, CKn; CB, JF, MF(p), TH, BK, SK(p), SL, WM, JRe, WR, JS, SS, ET, SY, CW, RWi(p), et al.; Class I; 338-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:296 and NAB 58:73. One adult at Struble Lake and Honeybrook, *Chester*, 24 May 2004. (LL; NP, RWi(p); Class I; 338-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:118. One adult at Falls Twp. Park, *Bucks*, 16-17 October 2004. (DF(v); et al.; Class I; 338-02-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:239 and NAB 59:72.

Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) (14+)
One alternate adult at Nockamixon S.P., *Bucks*, 11 April 2003. (AB(p), BE, AM; Class I; 339-01-2003). 7/0. PORC no longer requests documentation of this species from *Dauphin*, *Erie*, or *Lancaster*.

Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) (15+)
One adult in basic plumage in Tullytown, *Bucks*, 11 November – 4 December 2004. (CR; BE(p), DF(v), BL, AM(v); Class I; 340-01-2004). 6/0. Photographed published in PB 19:56 and NAB 59:262. This report falls nicely into the fall peak of occurrence.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*) (2)
One adult at Presque Isle SP., *Erie*, 26-29 November 2004. (BC(p); GM, RWi, m.ob; Class I; 346-02-2004). 6/1. This is the second state record. Both records from the same location.

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) (16+)
One immature at McVeytown, *Mifflin*, 6 September 2003. (RGr; DBr; Class I; 360-05-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:297. One immature at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana*, 19 September 2003. (SB, MF, CGu, MHi, PH, RH, DL, MM(p), JV; m.obs.; Class I; 360-01-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 17:252. Two-three immatures at Washington Boro, *Lancaster*, 19 September 2003. (JH; TG, EW, RWi; et al.; Class III; 360-04-2003). 7/0. One immature at Willow Bay, *Warren/McKean*, 19 September 2003. (JF; Class III; 360-06-2003). 7/0. One adult at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre*, 20 September 2003. (GG, DG, LG, DH, PR,

DW; Class III; 360-03-2003). 7/0. An adult at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 21-22 December 2004. (CKe, NZ (p); Class I; 360-01-2004). 7/0. Photographed published in PB 19:56 and NAB 59:262. The *Mifflin*, bird was found in the middle of highway 522 and taken to a rehabber. It was later transported to a rehab facility in *Centre* where the photograph was taken. The bird succumbed on 11 September. This bird was not storm-related. The Presque Isle bird was highly unusual for both date and location. The remaining reports were all part of the fallout from *Hurricane Isabel*. There apparently is a mid-September overland component to their migration.

Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*) (4)
Three adults in Troxelville, *Snyder*, 7 June 2003. (PW(p), RW; Class I; 362-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:209. This is the fourth state record.

Royal Tern (*Sterna maxima*) (3+)
One perched on rocks in the Susquehanna River near Columbia, *Lancaster*, after the passing of *Hurricane Isabel*, 20-21 September 2003. (JHe, DF (v); FH, BH, m.ob; Class I; 364-02-2003). 6/0. One immature at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks*, 29 September 2004. (AM(v); CC(p), BE(p), DF(v), SF, TFH(p), m.obs.; Class I; 364-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:220 (Mirabella 2004) and NAB 59:72. This is a first county record and most likely related to the passing of *Hurricane Jean* the previous day. The bird was also wearing a band and a partial reading of the band number through a spotting scope was obtained. Information supplied by the Bird Banding Laboratory reported that the bird was banded as a hatchling near Kure beach, NC 25 June 2004.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) (5+)
One at Van Siver Marsh, *Bucks*, 26 May 2003. (DF (v); Class I; 369-04-2003). 6/0. One at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre*, 20 September 2003. (DF (v); m.ob; Class I; 369-05-2003). 6/0. One basic adult at Lake Nockamixon, *Bucks*, 23 September 2003. (JH; AB(p), AM, et al.; Class I; 369-02-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 17:253 and NAB 58:51. One alternate adult at Washington Boro, *Lancaster*, 28 September 2003. (TG; JB, EW(p); Class I; 369-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:253. The latter three sightings are most likely related to the passing of *Hurricane Isabel* several days earlier.

Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*) (7+)
One juvenile at Lake Nockamixon, *Bucks*, 19 September 2003. (BE; DBi, EH, BL; Class III; 375-02-2003). 7/0. Two adults at Washington Boro, *Lancaster*, 19 September 2003. (JB, TG, JH, DHe, DHo, EW; Class III; 375-03-2003). 7/0. Both reports can be attributed to *Hurricane Isabel*. The *Bucks* bird was seen as it flew approximately fifty yards from the observers. The bird offered nice

views as it banked and turned several times and was observed to pick at the water's surface a few times as it made its way across the lake. The *Lancaster* birds were noted flying south along the Susquehanna River probably attempting to return to the open sea. The birds were noted to fly effortlessly directly into the strong southeast winds that persisted after the passing of the storm.

Sooty/Bridled Tern (*Sterna fuscata/anaethetus*) (1)
One adult seen in flight at Blue Marsh Lake, *Berks*, 19 September 2003. (RKe; Class III; 375a-01-2003). 7/0. The observer did a commendable job under adverse weather conditions to try and identify this bird as it flew over the lake. After being blown back a step by the strong southeast winds following the passing of *Hurricane Isabel*, the observer was able to find a sheltered area to view the lake. The viewing time was only about a minute and the distance roughly 1/4 mile away, but the observer was able to identify the bird as one of the tropical terns but not to specific species. The Committee agreed it was best to accept this report as Sooty/Bridled Tern.

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*) (6+)
One adult at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford*, 19 September 2003. (LP(p), CP; Class I; 382-02-2003). 7/0. One adult at Long Arm Res., *York*, 20 September 2003. (BP(p); Class I; 382-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:255. One immature in Tinicum Twp., *Delaware*, 25 November 2004. (AG (p); Class I; 382-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:219. The *Bedford* bird was observed sitting on the lakeshore while the *York* bird was watched for about thirty minutes as it flew and skimmed over the reservoir. Both birds were associated with the passing of *Hurricane Isabel*. There is a possibility both reports may pertain to the same bird. Long Arm Res. is approximately 90 miles southeast of Shawnee S.P., a direction the bird might have taken to return to the coast. The *Delaware* bird was most unusual because unlike most previous reports of this species, the sighting was not storm related. The bird was noted with a flock of Ring-billed Gulls along the Delaware River just south of the Philadelphia Airport (Guarente 2004).

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) (6)
A pair in Lebanon, *Lebanon*, 15 May – 20 August 2004. (JHe, WL, RM, et al; Class I, 409a-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:2004. This pair was frequenting a backyard feeder when first noticed. Word reached local birders in mid-July when sighting confirmation was obtained. During their stay, the birds were observed carrying nesting material and a nest was eventually found about one block from the original location. The nest was blown down during a thunder storm and no further nesting was discovered. This species

continues to expand north to Pennsylvania from its stronghold in the southern states and more reports are expected.

Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*) (1)

One immature at Narberth, *Montgomery*, 26-28 November 2002. (DF(v), JH; m.obs.; Class I; 492-01-2002). 6/0/1. This report adds to the growing list of sightings of this species in the east. There are confirmed records from GA (7), MA, NC (4), NJ (2), NY (3), OH, SC, TN (3), and VA. The homeowner reported the bird was present from about 2 November but she was unsure of the identification and birders who visited the yard prior to 26 November failed to find any hummingbird. Farbotnik was persistent in tracking down unusual hummingbirds in southeast Pennsylvania and along with Horn decided to give this unidentified bird a look and the rest as they say is history. They should be commended on getting the word out to the birding community quickly. The next morning there were about 70-80 birders present to view this first state record. The bird fed that morning near daybreak and was not seen again (Farbotnik 2002).



Plate 6. Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*). This immature was videoed in Narberth, *Montgomery*, 26 November 2002 (Devich Farbotnik) for a 1st state record..

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) (23+) *

One immature female in Robesonia, *Berks*, 25 September-24 November 2002. (RWe; SW(p); Class I; 495-07-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:187. One adult female in Stroudsburg, *Monroe*, 15 October-24 November 2002. (BHa(p), SW(p) et al.; Class I; 495-05-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:186. One adult male in Exeter Twp., *Berks*, 26 October-3 December 2002. (SSc; BU (p), SW, et al.; Class I; 495-06-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:186. One immature male in Plumstead Twp., *Bucks*, 12-21 November 2002. (BW; AB(p), DF(v), AM, SW(p), et al.; Class I; 495-04-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:186. One immature female in Media, *Delaware*, 16 November-13 December 2002. (PF; AG, DF(v), NP, SW(p); Class I; 495-03-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:35. One

adult female in East Petersberg, *Lancaster*, 24-28 November 2002. (JFo; SW(p), m.obs.; Class I; 495-02-2002). 6/1. Photograph published in PB 16:187. One immature female Hilltown Twp. *Bucks*, 25 October 2003-11 January 2004. (AM, DF (v), NP (p), et al; Class I; 495-01-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:35. One adult female in Williamsport, *Lycoming*, 19 October – 14 December 2003. (DFe (p), WL (p), SW; Class I; 495-02-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 17:298 and PB 18:34. One immature male in New Freedom, *York*, 10 October 2003 – 23 January 2004. (RHu (p); PR (p), SW (p); Class I; 495-03-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 17:298 and PB 18:35. One immature male in Ashfield, *Carbon*, 23-24 October 2003. (SW, m.obs.; Class I; 495-04-2003). 6/0. One adult female in Waterford, *Erie*, 30 September-9 November 2003. (CT; SW (p); Class I; 495-05-2003). 6/0. One adult female in Middletown, *Dauphin*, 16 December 2003-10 January 2004. (TJ (p); SW (p), et al.; Class I; 495-06-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:34. One immature female in Port Matilda, *Centre*, 15-29 December 2003. (NP, m.obs.; Class III; 495-07-2003). 6/0. One immature female found dead on the grounds of Williams Valley High School, Tower City, *Schuylkill* 14 January 2004. (SW; Class I; 495-01-2004). 6/0. One immature female in Bristol, *Bucks*, 9-19 December 2004. (DF (v), AM, NP (p), LR, m.ob; Class I; 495-02-2004). 6/0. All these birds except the Hilltown bird were confirmed to species through in-hand measurements while being processed for banding. Interestingly, the Tower City bird had been previously banded on the grounds of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., 4 December 2003. This reports lends some weight to the thinking within the hummingbird banding community that some of these birds begin their return flight north in December (B. Sargent pers com.). The number of reports of this species in Pennsylvania increases yearly and they can be expected to occur throughout the state (Koch 2003). P.O.R.C. will no longer reviews records of this species.

Rufous/Allens Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus/sasin*) (6+) *

One immature/female in Unionville, *Chester*, 24 September- 2 November 2002. (CH; DF(v), NP, et al.; Class I; 495a-01-2002). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 16:187. One immature at South Connelville, *Fayette*, 21 October 2003-17 January 2004. (JA; MF (v); GM (p); Class 1; 495a-01-2003). 6/1. Photograph published in PB 17:298. Both birds were suspected Rufous Hummingbirds. Attempts at trapping the Unionville bird for identification were unsuccessful. P.O.R.C. will no longer reviews records of this species group.

Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*) (1)

One immature in Pomeroy, *Chester*, 13-18 December 2004. (JMe; DF (v), AG, NH, LL, AM (v), GM (p), NP (p), m.obs.; Class I; 559-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 19 #1 cover and NAB 59:262. This long-overdue southern rarity was found on a Christmas Tree Farm where Meloney was searching for a holiday tree. The identification was confirmed the following day and well over a hundred birders saw the bird during its five-day stay. This is a first state record (Pulcinella 2005).



Plate 7. Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*). This immature was seen by many during a five day stay in Pomeroy, *Chester*, 13-18 December 2004 (Geoff Malosh).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) (4+)

One adult at Loyalsock Creek, *Lycoming*, 8-9 May 2003. (DFe, BE, WE, WL (p), m.obs.; Class I; 561-01-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 17:122. One adult in Washington, *Washington*, 9-22 November 2003. (SG (p); et al.; Class I; 561-02-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 17:297. One immature in Bellgrove, *Lebanon*, 9-10 June 2004. (CBe (p); DF (v), JH, TJ (p), et al.; Class I; 561-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in NAB 58:524 and PB 18:172 (Berthoud 2004).

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) (2+)

One in Redstone Twp. *Fayette*, 10 May 2003. (SKa; Class III; 699-01-2003). 4/2, 6/1. Extirpated as a breeder, this species has become extremely rare anywhere in the state.

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) (4)

Two at Lake Nockamixon, *Bucks*, 22 November 2002. (DF (v), SF; Class III; 576-02-2002). 7/0. One at Chamber's Lake, *Chester*, 24-25 October 2004. (LL; JH, DHo, JH, NP, RR; Class III; 576-01-2004. One at Presque Isle SP, *Erie*, 3 November 2004. (BC; Class III; 576-02-2004). 6/1. The *Bucks* birds were videoed but the tape was too blurry and shaky to make a positive identification, thus the Class III designation. The *Chester* bird was first discovered near dusk with a small flock of Tree Swallows. It was relocated early the next morning, watched for about an hour and then disappeared (Pulcinella 2004). All three sightings fall within the late October -

late November time frame for this species in the northeast U.S.

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) (13+)

One at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 6 October 2003. (BC (p); Class I; 625-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:299. A pair nesting in Hopewell Twp., *York*, 31 May-22 July 2004. (RP; et al; Class I; 625-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph of nest published in PB 18:179.

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) (3+)

One in Tincum Twp., *Bucks*, 7 October 2004. (DF (v); BE (p), GD (p), AM (v), et al.; Class I; 646-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:241 and NAB 59:189. This individual landed at a construction site where an attentive Farbotnik was working. He was able to quickly alert a few others who were able to observe the bird.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) (15+)

One adult in McKean, *Erie*, 4-8 February 2003. (SSt (p); Class I; 666-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:34 and NAB 57:199. One adult in Harrisburg, *Dauphin*, 6-13 December 2003. (JWe (p), WW; CBe, TJ (p), SLo, et al.; Class I; 666-02-2003). 7/0. Photograph published PB 18 # 1 cover. One adult male in Tionesta, *Forest*, 21 February 2004. (RT; Class III; 666-01-2004). 7/0. One at Caledonia S.P., *Franklin*, 11 December 2004-2 April 2005. (MF, NH, BM (p), GM (p), SP (p), m.ob; Class I; 666-02-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 19:58.

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulous*) (10+)

One at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 26 November 2002. (RS; JM (p); Class I; 694-01-2002). 5/2, 7/0. One in a flock of Cedar Waxwings at Lake City, *Erie*, 31 January-6 February 2003. (BC (p), PR, DW; Class I; 694-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:33. The *Erie* bird was identified from a secondary feather found by McWilliams in the area where the remains of the dead Bohemian Waxwing was originally located.

Yellow-rumped "Audubon's" Warbler (*Dendroica coronata auduboni*) (4+)

An adult male at Presque Isle SP, *Erie*, 19 April 2004. (BC (p), CG, DW; Class I; 736a-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:119 and NAB 58:368.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*) (7+)

One at SGL 273, *Indiana*, 18 May 2003. (CGu, MHi, TL, JT; Class III; 746-01-2003). 6/1. This is the fourth accepted spring record (Higbee 2003).

Swainson's Warbler (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*) (9+)

One at Sewickley Heights Park, *Allegheny*, 8-16 May 2003. (MF, CKn, SK (p), et al.; Class I; 756-01-2003). 7/0.

Photograph published in PB 17:120. Of the eight spring records, five of the birds have arrival dates within 7-9 May.

MacGillivray's Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*) (1)

One immature male on the grounds of the Rodale Institute, *Berks*, 18-20 December 2004. (AJ; DF (v), BMo, PR (p), TW, et al.; Class I; 763-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in NAB 59:371. Initially found on the Allentown CBC, the bird was relocated and observed by several birders over the next two days. It disappeared following the incursion of cold, wet weather. This is a first state record (Morris 2005).



Plate 8. MacGillivray's Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*). This immature male videoed here 19 December 2004 (*Devich Farbotnik*) was present on the grounds of the Rodale Institute, *Berks*, 18-20 December 2004 for a 1st state record.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*). (15+)

An immature at Harrison Hills Park, *Allegheny*, 2 September 2004. (PH; Class III; 780-01-2004). 6/0. One adult female at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks*, 13 July 2004. (CC, ER; Class III; 780-02-2004). 6/0.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*). (8+)

One adult in Lemon Twp., *Wyoming*, 13 September 2003. (BR; Class III; 820-01-2003). 7/0. One first-winter at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks*, 29 October 2003. (BE; Class III; 820-02-2003). 6/1. Both of these birds were initially found feeding within flocks of mixed sparrow species.

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) (3+)

One adult at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 25 May 2003. (BC, JM (p); Class I; 824-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17-109. This bird landed near the observers while they were conducting a shorebird survey, they were lucky enough to obtain a photo before the bird flew off and out of sight.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) (12) *

One at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks*, 8 October 2003. (AM; Class III; 830a-01-2003). 7/0. One at Pine Run, *Bucks*, 21 October 2004. (CR; Class III; 830a-01-

2004). 6/0. Both records fall within the expected fall window for this species. P.O.R.C. will no longer review reports after 2005.

Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus caudacutus*) (2+)

One in Tullytown, *Bucks*, 9 October 2002. (DF (v), JH, DW; Class I; 830b-01-2002). 6/1.

The video shows the bold, black streaking down the flanks, pale buff across the chest and white throat aiding in separating this species from the similar Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow. The bird was found during an intensive search for sparrows at this weedy, wetland location.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) (8+)

One adult at Sugar Cove, *Warren*, 7 December 2003 - 4 May 2004. (BC (p), GM, SSo, MV, DW, et al.; Class I; 839-01-2003). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:36. One adult at Stone Church, *Northampton*, 31 January -11 April 2004. (RWi (p); NH, ER (p), MS (p), m.obs.; Class I; 839-01-2004). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 18:36 and NAB 58:309.

Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco (*Junco hyemalis oregonus*) (3+)

A male and two females in Slippery Rock Boro, *Butler*, 3 December 2003. (GW, JW; Class III; 840a-01-2003). 6/1. An unusual record of multiple birds, most reports of this subspecies consist of single individuals (Wilhelm 2004).

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) (10+)

One male in Jackson Twp., *Greene*, 18 May 2004. (TR; Class III; 790-03-2004). 7/0. One male in Lynn Twp., *Lehigh*, 5 July 2004. (JHo; Class III; 790-01-2004). 5/2, 5/1. The *Greene* bird was observed in direct comparison with Indigo Buntings. This species continues to expand its range within the state and more extralimital reports are expected.

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) (2)

One male in Oakland Mills, *Juniata*, 27-29 April 2004. (AT; BF (p), GM (p), m.obs; Class I; 791-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18 #2 cover and NAB 58:461. This outstanding individual was easily observed during its visit, as it frequented a backyard feeder. This is the second state record.

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) (10+)

One adult male in Lower Makefield Twp., *Bucks*, 16 February-22 April 2003. (FC (p), MCo, SH, FN, IP; Class I; 794-01-2003). 7/0. Photograph published in PB 17:33 and NAB 57:285. An adult male in Saginaw, *York*, 7 February-22 April 2004. (PR, GM, m.ob; Class I; 794-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:120 and NAB 58:369. Both of these long standing birds visited backyard feeders. The *Bucks* bird frequented a few different yards and was

seen by only a few while the *York* bird remained at one location and was seen by many.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) (4+)
One male at Tobyhanna, *Monroe*, 13 May 2003. (BHa; Class III; 859-01-2003). 7/0. One male in Bethel, *Lancaster*, 21 February 2004. (GM (p); Class I; 859-01-2004). 6/0. Photograph published in PB 18:37. The *Monroe* bird was observed with a small flock of blackbirds at a backyard feeder, while the *Lancaster* bird was found within a large mixed flock of blackbirds.

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) (19+)*
One male at a feeder in Adams Twp., *Cambria*, 31 January 2003. (RG; Class III; 861-01-2003). 5/1. P.O.R.C. will no longer review this species after 2005.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable (Votes are listed as for/against/abstain. A vote of 6/1 or 7/0 is required for acceptance).

A report may be rejected for a number of reasons. By far, the most common is the result of insufficient documentation or the documentation is unclear or vague. The importance of taking field notes at the time of the observation or immediately afterwards cannot be overstated, as descriptions written days later from memory or after perusing field guides are often not reliable. When the Committee is unsure about a specific report it tends to err on the conservative side, preferring not to accept a good record rather than authenticate a bad one.

Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)
One at Core Creek Park, *Bucks*, 16 November 2002. Class IV-A, 108-02-2002. 2/4. The video documentation was of poor quality that a determination of species could not be made. There was no accompanying written description.

Wilson's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma oceanicus*)
One at Rose Valley Lake, *Lycoming*, 19 September 2003. Class IV-A; 046-01-2003. 1/5. One along the Susquehanna River at Fort Hunter, *Dauphin*, 19 September 2003. Class IV-A; 046-02-2003. 2/5. Both birds were observed after the passage of *Hurricane Isabel*. In both instances the observers should be commended on their attempts to document this species under adverse weather conditions. The committee felt that the written documentation and in the case of the *Lycoming* report, the video, could not support this identification, but did support the identification of a storm-petrel species 7/0.

Storm-Petrel species (*Oceanodroma species*)

One at Bald Eagle SP, *Centre*, 19 September 2003, Class IV-A; 052a-01-2003. 1/6. This bird was seen flying over a lake at a distance of about 300 yards. The bird's description was of a "dark bird somewhat larger than a Tree Swallow with an erratic flight. Because of the distance, no other field marks could be discerned. The committee felt the minimal description did not rule out a non storm-petrel species.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)
One over Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, *Berks*, 27 April 2003 IV-A; 074-01-2003). 4/3, 3/4. Reports of soaring, circling Anhingas at high altitudes can be notoriously difficult to assess, thus the two rounds of circulation. Though probably correct, the Committee felt that because of the great distance, the description relied more on relative distinctions of size or proportion rather than on field marks.

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)
One in first-winter plumage at Pine Creek Twp., *Clinton*, 1 November 2004. IV-A; 095-01-2004. 4/3. The plumage description for this date did not rule out White-faced Ibis. All committee members voted to accept as plegadis species.

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)
One at Revere, *Bucks*, 3 March 2003 Class IV-B; 093-01-2003. 0/7. The description did not contain enough detail to confidently assess the report. Some members also were concerned regarding the date of the sighting.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*)
One at Second Mt. Hawkwatch, *Lebanon*, 9 October 2003. Class IV-A; 171-01-2004. 4/3, 3/4. Probably correct, but the documentation did not completely rule out similar species. One in Haycock Twp. *Bucks*, 23 April 2002. Class IV-A; 171-02-2002. 1/5. Probably correct, but the observation was brief and partial and did not completely rule out similar species. One at Hawk Mt. Sanctuary, *Berks*, 29 September 2004. Class IV-A; 171-03-2004. 4/3, 4/3. This report went two rounds and was probably correct. The dissenting members remarked on the lack of detail regarding plumage description.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*)
One at Hawk Mt. Sanctuary, *Berks*, 7 September 2004. Class IV-A; 186-01-2004. 1/5. The description did not contain enough detail to confidently assess the report.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*)
One at Bullis Mill Swamp, *McKean*, 5 October 2003 Class IV-A; 231-01-2003. 4/3, 4/3. A species that can be very difficult document, the Committee felt the report was probably correct but the

brief naked eye view of a flushed bird did not convincingly rule out other small rail species.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*)
One at Bradford Sewage Treatment Pond, *McKean*, 19 August 2003 Class IV-A; 321-01-2003). 5/2, 4/3. This report went two rounds and the dissenting members were concerned that the documentation was written several days after the sighting and after a good amount of uncertainty on the part of the observer.

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*)
One at the Allegheny River, *Warren*, 7 October 2003. Class IV-A; 331-03-2003. 0/7. Description did not rule out Red-necked Phalarope.

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*)
One in flight along the Susquehanna River near Harrisburg, *Dauphin*, 19 September 2003. Class IV-A; 332-04-2003. 1/6. Observed after the passage of *Hurricane Isabel*, the committee felt the written documentation did not rule out other jaeger species but agreed the description did support the identification of a jaeger species 7/0.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)
One 2nd-winter at Core Creek Park, *Bucks*, 27 October 2002. Class IV-A; 346-02-2002. 2/4/1. Video was suggestive, but there was not enough information to completely rule out other species.

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*)
An immature at Tullytown, *Bucks*, 14 December 2002. Class IV-B; 348-03-2002. 2/1/4. The Committee continues to defer judgment on non-adult Thayer's until a better understanding of where the plumage, morphological, and taxonomic limits between Kumlien's and Thayer's Gulls differ.

Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*)
One adult in definitive basic plumage at Tullytown, *Bucks*, 1 March 2003, Class IV-A; 354-01-2003. 3/2/1, 3/2/1. A very tough decision going two rounds. The written documentation, including field sketches was highly suggestive of this species. The fact that the identification of large "white-headed" gulls can be problematic in regards to hybrids and backcrosses, and because of the extreme rarity of the sighting, the Committee decided to err on the conservative side.

Royal Tern (*Sterna maxima*)
One at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 11 October 2003 Class IV-A; 364-01-2003. 2/4. The description did not rule out Caspian Tern.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)
One at Kinzua Dam, *Warren*, 23 September 2003 Class IV-A; 369-03-2003. 0/7. The written description of this

non-breeding adult did not rule out other similar species.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*)

One at SGL 242, York, 10 May 2003. Class IV-B; 543-01-2003. 0/6. The written description of a brief and partial observation of this extreme rarity did not provide enough information to afford an adequate assessment.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*). One male in Indiana, Indiana, 10 May 2003. Class IV-A; 780-01-2003. 4/3, 1/6. The written description was suggestive, but brief and did not explain how similar species were eliminated.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*)

One at Tullytown, Bucks, 9 October 2002. Class IV-A; 830a-02-2002. 2/5. The video submitted was inconclusive, but the Committee accepts the report as Sharp-tailed Sparrow species.

Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*)

One in Morris Twp., Greene, 8 May 2004. Class IV-A; 790-02-2004. 2/5. The written description was suggestive, but did not eliminate similar species.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)

One at Little Gap Hawkwatch, Northampton, 23 October 2003. Class IV-A; 859-02-2003. 4/3, 4/3. This report went two rounds and was probably correct. The dissenters did not feel comfortable with the brief observation and that an aberrant Red-winged Blackbird was not ruled out.

Hoary Redpoll (*Carduelis hornemanni*).

One in Upper Milford Twp., Lehigh, 14 December 2003. Class IV-A; 887-01-2003. 2/5. Identification of this species can be quite difficult and the observers did a commendable job in attempting to describe the bird including a small field sketch. The Committee felt that certain id marks regarding the rump color and bill size and shape were not entirely clear and convincing to rule out a Common Redpoll.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED because they represent or may represent an escapee or an introduced species not yet established in Pennsylvania. IDENTIFICATION ACCEPTED.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*)

A wing-tagged individual present in Wedgewood Pond, Chester, 1 February – 1 March 2004. (LL; NH, et al; Class V; 105-01-2004). 3/4. With on-going re-introduction programs as close as Ohio and Ontario, Trumpeter Swans in Pennsylvania will be assumed to have originated from one of these programs in the absence of direct evidence of natural origin such as a band. Regardless, the species is an increasingly regular visitor.

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