

WESTERN BIRDS



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ELEVENTH REPORT OF THE WASHINGTON BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE (2014–2016)

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ABSTRACT: Since its tenth report (Modinow and Bartels 2016) the Washington Bird Records Committee has reviewed 318 reports representing 98 species and six subspecies. A total of 225 reports were endorsed, an acceptance rate of 72%. Eight species and one subspecies were added to the Washington state checklist: the Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cyananthus latirostris*), Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*), Least Auklet (*Aethia pusilla*), Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma woodhouseii*), Red-flanked Bluetail (*Tarsiger cyanurus*), Gray Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*), Little Bunting (*Emberiza pusilla*), Lucy's Warbler (*Oreothlypis luciae*), and the Siberian subspecies of the American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens japonicus*). In addition, the decision to treat the Iceland (*Larus glaucoides sensu stricto*) and Thayer's (*L. thayeri*) gulls as a single species, under the name of Iceland Gull (*L. glaucoides sensu lato*), reduced the state bird list by one. The Washington state list now stands at 514 species.

This 11th report of the Washington Bird Records Committee (WBRC) is the result of the deliberations of the WBRC from February 2014 through October 2016, during which time 318 reports were evaluated. These include 314 new reports of 98 species and six subspecies. Most reports were from late 2013 into 2016, though 28 were from earlier years, as far back as 1976. Two reports had already been reviewed by the committee and were revisited in light of recent taxonomic changes; an additional two previously accepted records were augmented with accepted reports from later years. Of the 314 new reports, 225 were accepted, resulting in an acceptance rate of 72%. Six reports, one each of the Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*), Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*), and Long-tailed Mockingbird (*Mimus longicaudatus*), and three of the European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*), were not accepted because of concerns regarding the birds' origin. The remaining 85 reports were not accepted because

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of insufficient documentation. Among the accepted records were those of eight species new for Washington. Furthermore, the taxonomic changes in what was heretofore the Shy Albatross (*Thalassarche cauta sensu lato*) resulted in that species being split into three species, only one of which, the White-capped Albatross (*T. cauta sensu stricto*), is on the Washington list. Taxonomic changes also resulted in the lumping into a single species, the Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucoides sensu lato*), of what was heretofore known as the Iceland (*L. glaucoides sensu stricto*) and Thayer's (*L. thayeri*) gulls. Additionally, the WBRC accepted one record of a subspecies new to the state: the Siberian American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens japonicus*).

In 2014, Scripps's Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus scrippsi*) (19 records) was removed from the list of species the WBRC reviews. Reports of the Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) and Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) were accepted for the first time since these species were added to the review list.

PROCEDURES

The WBRC's procedures are consistent with those detailed in the introduction to the its first report (Tweit and Paulson 1994), expanded on in the introduction to the sixth report (Mlodinow and Aanerud 2006), and repeated most recently in the tenth report (Mlodinow and Bartels 2016).

Species accounts begin with English and scientific names, followed, in parentheses, by the total number of records for Washington and the number of records accepted in this report. An asterisk following the total number of records indicates that the species has been reviewed for a restricted period of time, so the number does not represent the total number of accepted records for the state. Each entry includes the following information: location and county of observation, date span, and (for accepted records) initials of the observer(s). To aid with record-keeping and future reference, each report includes a unique file number consisting of the species' four-letter code, year of the sighting, and entry number, determined by the order in which the committee received the report. Four-letter codes are based on those used by the Institute for Bird Populations, with occasional modifications for forms not covered by that source (Pyle and DeSante 2018). For the sake of brevity, in the species accounts, the four-letter code is omitted from file numbers after the report mentioned first. The initials of the observers who submitted only written descriptions are by convention listed first, followed by those who submitted photographic, video, or audio documentation. The discoverer of the bird is listed only if that person contributed evidence for the committee's review. Additional information such as the number of birds present and notes on sex, age, and/or plumage are included when possible but do not reflect a formal decision made by the committee. For reports not accepted, observers are not listed but the committee's vote is included ("votes to accept"—"votes not to accept"—"abstentions").

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The WBRC is a committee of the Washington Ornithological Society. Committee members during the period covered by this report were Shaw-

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neen Finnegan, Ryan Merrill, Steve Mlodinow (until 2015), Ryan Shaw, Dave Slager (from 2014), Bill Tweit, Brad Waggoner (chair), and Charlie Wright. Dave Slager joined the committee in 2014, replacing Bill Tweit. Bill Tweit re-joined the committee in 2015, replacing Steve Mlodinow. Matt Bartels (nonvoting) was the secretary throughout the period.

THE RECORDS

Reports Accepted by the Committee

Emperor Goose (*Anser canagicus*) (13*, 3). An old record surfaced of one near Eatonville, Pierce Co., 16 Oct 1999 (EMGO-1999-2; photo: DYQ). An immature was in Gardiner, Jefferson Co., and nearby along Knapp Road, Clallam Co., 16 Dec 2013–23 Feb 2014 (2013-1; DVH, photos: CB, VL, TM, BiP). Another immature was at Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 5 Oct–15 Nov 2014 (2014-1; photos: MeB, MCh, EHe).

Bewick's Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus bewickii*) (18*, 3). One was at Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Clark Co., 25 Jan 2015 (BESW-2015-1; photo: SRU). Another was in Dodge Valley, Skagit Co., 27 Nov 2015 (2015-2; photos: EvH, RJM). One more was near Lynden, Whatcom Co., 14 Feb 2016 (2016-1; photo: PC). Since review of this subspecies began in 2003, all records but one have been from western Washington.

King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) (18, 3). A female was spotted from Dungeness Spit, Clallam Co., 12 Jul 2014 (KIEI-2014-1; photo: CA), representing only the second record for Washington in summer. Another female was found in Commencement Bay, Tacoma, Pierce Co., 4–29 Nov 2015 (2015-1; photos: BrB, MCh, TM, GO, OO, CRi, DSc, GTh). A first-year male was off Anacortes, Skagit Co., 2–3 Jan 2016 (2016-1; photos: RJM, DSc, JWa, JWg, KWg). Thirteen of Washington's King Eiders have occurred between October and February, three in April or May, and two in July.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) (23*, 1). One long-tabled report from College Place, Walla Walla Co., 11 Jan 1996 (EUCD-1996-1; photo: MDe) was accepted during this period. It now represents Washington's first record, preceding the next by four years, and exemplifying the species' well-demonstrated and successful mode of invasion, known as jump dispersal (Romagosa and McEneaney 1999). Reports of the Eurasian Collared-Dove were reviewed by the committee from 2000 until 2006, when the species became widespread and numerous.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) (13, 3). One was photographed in Renton, King Co., 17–18 May 2015 (WWDO-2015-1; photos: LiB, WBo). One was found in Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 16–17 Apr 2016 (2016-1; DVH, photo: RJM). Another was found in Lynnwood, Snohomish Co., 29 Apr 2016 (2016-2; photo: MR). Nine of Washington's 13 White-winged Dove records fall between April and June, and all sightings but two are from west of the Cascades.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) (12*, 1). One was discovered along the Big Valley Trail, Mazama, Okanogan Co., 4 Jun 2015 (YBCU-2015-1; audio: VG, LiS). Although a breeding bird in the region in the early 20th century, the Yellow-billed Cuckoo's decline has been drastic enough that in 2014 its western population received federal protection as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (FWS 2014). Loss of riparian habitat was the primary factor cited for the decades-long decline (FWS 2014, Laymon and Halterman 1987). This is only the second record for Washington in 15 years. Oregon has had five records over the same period (Hertzel 2019). Since 1979 all of Washington's records but one have been in the summer months of June or July.

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Costa's Hummingbird (*Calypte costae*) (14, 3). The three records all were of adult males between March and May 2014 in Clark County. Two were in Vancouver, the first 23 Mar–1 Apr 2014 (COHU-2014-1; photos: JCa, AnA), the second 26 Apr–1 May 2014 (2014-2; photo: GC). A third appeared in Washougal 9–10 May 2014 (2014-3; photo: GF). These reports are treated as separate records because of the spatial and temporal gaps between sightings, but there is the possibility that some or all of them involve the same bird or birds. All 14 of Washington's Costa's Hummingbirds have occurred since 1989. Ten have appeared in western Washington, while four have been in eastern Washington's Klickitat County. All but three of the state's records are for the period from late March to May.

Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*) (1, 1). Washington's first, an immature male, was in Carson, Skamania Co., 25–26 Oct 2014 (BBLH-2014-1; MtB, photo: MSr). A bird of central and western Mexico and the southwestern United States, it has appeared as a vagrant as far from its normal range as Ontario in 1989 (Wormington and Curry 1990), Massachusetts in 2008 (Rines 2009), and many places in between. In the Northwest, Oregon has two records, both from fall (Hertzel 2019), and Idaho has a single May record (Idaho Bird Records Committee [IBRC] 2019).

Lesser Sand-Plover (*Charadrius mongolus*) (5, 2). One in basic plumage was at Bottle Beach, Grays Harbor Co., 7 Sep 2013 (LSAP-2013-2; photo: BT). An adult male beginning prebasic molt was at Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 16–22 Aug 2015 (2015-1; photos: BBn, TBo, KCa, MCh). All five of Washington's Lesser Sand-Plovers have occurred since 2010, and all have been on the outer coast between mid-August and the first week of September.

Mountain Plover (*Charadrius montanus*) (6, 1). An immature visited Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 8–15 Nov 2014 (MOPL-2014-1; photo: MCh). Washington has one spring record; the remaining five extend from November to February.

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) (8*, 2). An immature bird was at Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 6–7 Sep 2013 (UPSA-2013-1; CB, CRi, RoS, photos: SSc, AT; Figure 1). Another flew over at Hobuck Beach, Clallam Co., 13 Sep 2013 (2013-2; audio: DVH). These were the first Upland Sandpipers in Washington in over a decade. The species was added to the review list in the 1990s (Tweit and Skriletz 1996) after the state's small remaining breeding population was apparently extirpated around 1993 (Wahl et al. 2005). A similar steep decline has been noted in Oregon (Marshall et al. 2003).

Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) (52*, 1). In the final decade before it was removed from the review list in 2008, 34 reports of the Bar-tailed Godwit were accepted and a regular pattern of occurrence in Washington was confirmed. One report, tabled after initial debate, was inadvertently not reconsidered until this period, of an immature at Leadbetter Point, Pacific Co., 25 Aug 1990 (BTGO-1990-1; NL).

Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*) (7, 2). As with past records, both new sightings were of adults in alternate plumage, found between late June and early August. One was found along Yukon Bay, Kitsap Co., 5 Jul 2015 (RNST-2015-1; photo: CH), another at Sand Point, Olympic National Park, Clallam Co., 7 Aug 2015 (2015-2; DPa).

White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*) (8, 1). One was along Dodd Road, 6 km north of Wallula, Walla Walla Co., 21 May 2016 (WRSA-2016-1; photo: KDE). All five White-rumped Sandpipers previously recorded in eastern Washington occurred between 20 May and 19 June, while the three from west of the Cascades occurred between 7 July and 1 August.

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*) (1, 1). The first record for Washington was of a bird in nonbreeding plumage spotted independently by two observers on Fir

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I., Skagit Co., 27 Nov and 1 Dec 2014 (SPRE-2014-1; JBy, GR). Though neither observer was able to obtain photographic documentation, the descriptions were detailed and persuasive enough for the WBRC to add the Spotted Redshank to the state list on the basis of a sight record. Along with two records from Oregon in 2012 and 2015 (Hertzel 2019), this is one of only three records of this species from the Pacific coast of North America south of Alaska since 1990.

Thick-billed Murre (*Uria lomvia*) (24, 4). One in alternate plumage was seen off Point Brown Jetty, Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 1 Nov 2013 (TBMU-2013-1; BSh). One in alternate plumage was in Discovery Bay, Jefferson Co., 17–24 Dec 2013 (2013-2; JGa). One transitioning into alternate plumage was above Grays Canyon, 105 km off Westport (46.9° N, 125.5° W), Grays Harbor Co., 25 Jan 2014 (2014-1; BT, photos: RSh, BWa). One in alternate plumage was found alive but stranded on Hobuck Beach, Clallam Co., 20 Jun 2014 (2014-2; photo: HV). This June record represents the first summer sighting of the Thick-billed Murre in Washington. Additionally, after being at Ediz Hook, Port Angeles, Clallam Co., 30 Dec 2012–2 Mar 2013 (Mlodinow and Bartels 2016), one in basic plumage was there again 28 Dec 2013–2 Feb 2014 (BBo, CRi) and 3–20 Jan 2015 (BBo, photo: RJM). With three consecutive winters of similar reports at the same location, the committee considers to all to represent the same bird (2012-2).

Long-billed Murrelet (*Brachyramphus perdix*) (11, 2). One in alternate plumage was observed from the Edmonds Marina, Snohomish Co., 25 Aug 2013 (LBMU-2013-1; TH, TP). Another, in nonbreeding plumage, was spotted off Shark Reef Preserve, Lopez I., San Juan Co., 27 Jul 2015 (2015-1; photo and video: RJM). Seven of Washington's 11 Long-billed Murrelets have been recorded in July or August, a pattern that resembles the species' status in Oregon (Hertzel 2019) and California (Hamilton et al. 2007, Tietz and McCaskie 2019).

Scripps's Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus scrippsi*) (19*, 6). Five records of nine individual birds came from roughly the same area above Grays Canyon, Grays Harbor Co. Two were found at the north end of Grays Canyon, 46 km west of Ocean City (47.1° N, 124.8° W), 7 Sep 2013 (SCMU-2013-6; BT, photo: DSc). At the same point 27 km west of Westport (46.9° N, 124.5° W), one was found 19 Oct 2013 (2013-7; BT, photo: DSc), two were found 12 Jul 2014 (2014-1; photos: JAn, RJM), and two more were found 6 Sep 2014 (2014-3; photos: MDo, DLr, GSM). Two were found 60 km off Westport (47.0° N, 125.0° W) the next day, 7 Sep 2014 (2014-5; JiD, photos: SHa). One additional Scripps's Murrelet was reported farther south, 54 km off Ocean Park over Willapa Canyon, Pacific Co. (46.6° N, 124.8° W), 31 Aug 2014 (2014-2; JAn).

With 19 reviewed and accepted records of murrelets identified as Scripps's, 14 accepted as Scripps's/Guadalupe murrelets, and a number of unsubmitted reports from research vessels that the committee believes to be credible, Scripps's Murrelet's presence as a regular visitor off Washington's coast is established. All sightings but one are from 29 June through 19 October; only one December specimen falls outside this range. This pattern matches the pattern of post-breeding dispersal noted elsewhere along the Pacific coast (Lehman 2016). As a result of the species' regularity, the committee removed Scripps's Murrelet from its review list in 2014.

Guadalupe Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus hypoleucus*) (2, 1). One spotted over Grays Canyon, Grays Harbor Co., 1 Aug 2015 (GUMU-2015-1; RJM) is only the second Guadalupe Murrelet reviewed from Washington, though the committee is aware of published but unsubmitted reports from when it was considered a subspecies. These include three pairs studied at close range 64 km off Westport, Grays Harbor Co., 11 Sep 1978 (Hunn and Mattocks 1979, Wahl et al. 2005) and two birds 66 km west of Leadbetter Point, Pacific Co., 6 Sep 2001 (Mlodinow et al. 2002, Wahl et al. 2005).

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Scripps's/Guadalupe Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus scrippsi/hypoleucus*) (5, 1). One on the ocean over Willapa Canyon, Pacific Co., 28 Sep 2014 was seen well enough for Craveri's Murrelet (*S. craveri*) to be eliminated, but not well enough for the Guadalupe and Scripps's Murrelets to be distinguished (SCMU-GUMU-2014-6; GSM).

Least Auklet (*Aethia pusilla*) (1, 1). Washington's first Least Auklet, in alternate plumage, was found dead (specimen not preserved) by surveyors with the Coastal Observation and Seabird Survey Team (COASST) on Cohasset Beach, Westport, Grays Harbor Co., 25 Jun 2016 (LEAU-2016-1; photo: MSc, fide CWr). A similar discovery took place on 15 June 1981 on a beach in San Mateo Co., California, of a bird that was alive when found but soon expired (Bailey 1989). These two plus two recent reports from British Columbia waters (Lehman 2016, British Columbia Bird Records Committee 2019) represent the extent of the species' known occurrence south of Alaska.

Red-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa brevirostris*) (12, 3). A first-year bird was 100 km due west of Seaside, Oregon, but just inside Washington waters at 46.0067° N, 125.2710° W, Pacific Co., 24 Sep 2013 (RLKI-2013-1; photo: EBo). An adult in alternate plumage appeared for one day in Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 8 Sep 2015 (2015-1; photos: BWa, CWr). An adult in basic plumage was found after a winter storm 70 km inland from Puget Sound at Snoqualmie Pass, King Co., 18 Nov 2015 (2015-2; photo: RHa, fide CA). The September and November records bridged a gap in previous records that extended from mid-August to early December.

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) (21, 3). An adult in basic plumage was at South Bend, Pacific Co., 28 Oct–5 Nov 2014 (BHGU-2014-2; photos: JiD, RFI). Two more appeared near each other at Crescent Lake, Snohomish Co.: one 1–6 Feb 2016 (2016-1; MBr, photos: CC, WF, VS), and another 2 Feb–22 Mar 2016 (2016-2; MBr, photos: JAd, JGl, JGu, TM, RJM, GO, OO, JRo, DSc, MTn, GTh, ST).

Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) (2*, 2). In 2011, after noting several years of very few sightings, the committee placed this species on the review list. The first record to be reviewed was of a first winter bird at Point-No-Point, Kitsap Co., 6–13 Oct 2013 (LIGU-2013-1; MtB, photos: GOI, OO, video: CB). An adult in basic plumage was spotted at Jensen Access on Fir I., Skagit Co., 24 Oct 2014 (2014-1; photos: EvH, RJM).

Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) (8, 1). A second-cycle bird at Bottle Beach, Grays Harbor Co., was first reported on 20 May 2016, and presumably the same bird was seen there again from 20 Jul to 16 Aug 2016 (LAGU-2016-1; May sighting photo: JRT; July–August sighting photos: CB, SG, MiH, GMa, TM, BWa).

Vega Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus vegae*) (4*, 2). One in its first cycle was at Three Crabs, Dungeness, Clallam Co., 26 Oct 2013 (HERG-2013-1; BWa, photos: RJM, RSh). Another, also in its first cycle, was found in the Wa'atch River valley, Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 24 Oct 2014 (2014-1; photos: RJM, SM).

Iceland Gull *sensu stricto* (*Larus glaucoides glaucoides/kumlieni*) (29, 10). Prior to publication of the 58th supplement to the *Check-List of North American Birds*, the Thayer's and Iceland (*sensu stricto*) gulls were treated as separate species. Subsequently, they are being considered conspecific (Chesser et al. 2017). During the period under consideration in this report, the WBRC reviewed reports of purported Iceland Gulls (*sensu stricto*), which we summarize here without respect to subspecies *glaucoides* versus *kumlieni*. One in its second cycle was in Tacoma, Pierce Co., 23 Dec 2004 (ICGU-2004-2; SM). A first-cycle bird was at the Colville Flats, Stevens Co., 12 Nov 2013 (2013-5; photo: JI). An adult was at Hobuck Beach, Clallam Co., 27

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Oct 2013 (2013-7; photos: RJM, SM, RSh, Bwa). A first-cycle bird was at Hobuck Beach and Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 27 Oct–3 Nov 2013 (2013-8; photos: CH, FL). Another in its first cycle was at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Skagit Co., 29 Oct 2013 (2013-9; photo: RJM). An adult was at Swallows Park, Clarkston, Asotin Co., 18 Jan–21 Feb 2014 (2014-1; photos: Kca, MCl, DGr, RSh). Another adult was along Goodrich Road, Centralia, Lewis Co., 1 Feb 2014 (2014-2; BSh, photo: BT). An adult in basic plumage was at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 13 Dec 2015 (2015-2; photo: CWr). A first-cycle bird was near Bateman I., Benton Co., 11 Feb 2016 (2016-1; photo, video: RJM). A second-cycle bird was at the Elwha River mouth, Clallam Co., 20 Feb 2016 (2016-2; BBo).

Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) (21, 4). An adult was at the Gog-le-hi-te Wetlands, Tacoma, Pierce Co., 29 Oct 2010 (SBGU-2010-1; photo: MCh). An adult first reported from the same location in 2012 (2012-1, Mlodinow and Bartels 2016) returned for four subsequent winters and was accepted as continuing instances of the same record. Its confirmed dates are 8 Oct–23 Dec 2012 (photos: RBj, MCh, HdG, ZH, CH, Ji, OO, SRa, DSc, MWn), 25 Aug 2013–25 Jan 2014 (MtB, photos: MCh, EvH, GOI, OO, MP, DSI, JSw), 18 Aug 2014–17 May 2015 (photos: MCh, GP, ASe, GTh), 29 Aug 2015–21 May 2016 (photos: MCh, DSc), and 20 Jul 2016–9 Feb 2017 (photos: BBn, LuB, MCh, BLB, GP, BPe, ST). Another adult was at the Cedar River mouth in Renton, King Co., 22 Dec 2013 (2013-2; MtB, CWr, photo: RJM). A second-cycle bird was at the Wa'atch River mouth, Clallam Co., 26 Oct–1 Nov 2014 (2014-2; photos: RJM, SM, RSh). A third-cycle bird was found at Lower Monumental Dam, Walla Walla and Franklin counties, and later relocated along the Columbia River in Kennewick and Richland, Benton Co., 8 Jan–27 Feb 2016 (2016-1; photos: JAb, MCl, JF, CLi, TM). This was Washington's first Slaty-backed Gull seen east of the Cascades.

Arctic Loon (*Gavia arctica*) (4, 1). One in basic plumage was inside the marina at Tokeland, Pacific Co., 4–10 May 2014 (ARLO-2014-2; MtB, photo: DYQ, video: MiH; Figure 2). This marks the first report of the Arctic Loon to be accepted in seven years, despite 15 reports coming in for review in this period. Although identification of this species can be difficult to demonstrate without high-quality photos, the committee believes it is considerably rarer in Washington than the relatively frequent yet unsubstantiated reports might suggest.

White-capped Albatross (*Thalassarche cauta*) (2, 0). In the wake of the split of Shy Albatross into three species (Chesser et al. 2014), the committee reconsidered Washington's two records. Both were affirmed as representing the White-capped Albatross, though the subspecific identification as *T. c. cauta* or *T. c. stedi* remains uncertain. WCAL-1951-1, previously published as SHAL-1951-1 in Aanerud and Mattocks (1997), was of a female collected 63 km west of Quillayute, Clallam Co., 1 Sep 1951 (U.S. National Museum specimen 420017); and WCAL-2000-1, previously SHAL-2000-1 in Aanerud (2002), was photographed 57 km off Westport, Grays Harbor Co. (46.9° N, 124.88° W), 22 Jan 2000. The clustering of North American White-capped Albatross sightings (two off Oregon, one off California, and one of the two off Washington) from 1996 to 2003 suggested to Howell et al. (2014) that they represented one roaming individual.

Short-tailed Albatross (*Phoebastria albatrus*) (18, 3). One immature was on the ocean over Willapa Canyon, Pacific Co., 12–15 Apr 2014 (STAL-2014-1; photo: KL). Another immature, possibly the same bird, was over the same area, 26 Apr 2014 (2014-2; BLB, GSM, photo: MCh). A female that had been banded as a chick on Torishima I., Japan, on 2 Mar 2015 was found injured north of Tatoosh I., Clallam Co., 15 Aug 2015. It was captured and brought to a rehabilitation facility where it subsequently died (2015-2; photo: BSp, CSp, DSp, fide RJM). The speci-

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men was preserved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for educational purposes, but we received no answer to an inquiry concerning its location. The population of the Short-tailed Albatross has continued to recover (Nagatsuji 2018), and the species has been seen annually off Washington's coast since 2008.

Murphy's Petrel (*Pterodroma ultima*) (9, 2). One was 100 km west of Seaside, Oregon, in Washington waters, Pacific Co. (46.064° N, 125.227° W), 8 May 2015 (MUPE-2015-1; BWa). Another was seen ~93 km west of Ocean Park, Pacific Co. (46.441° N, 125.264°W), 4 May 2016 (2016-1; PL). All records but one are from April or May, a pattern mirrored in Oregon and California where reports are much more numerous (Bailey et al. 1989). Because of this species' tendency to remain far offshore where coverage is limited at this season, Murphy's Petrel may be more frequent off Washington than the limited number of records implies (Lehman 2016).

Mottled Petrel (*Pterodroma inexpectata*) (25, 8). The WBRC reviewed one specimen collected on the Long Beach Peninsula, Pacific Co., 2 Jul 1999 (MOPE-1999-1; Univ. of Wash. Burke Mus. 66991, video of specimen: SM). Another was found dead (specimen not preserved) by COASST observers on Second Beach, Clallam Co., 5 Oct 2013 (2013-1; photos: SK, SHo, fide CWr). In addition, six were observed from a cruise ship on 2 Dec 2015: one 94 km off Cape Disappointment, Pacific Co. (46.030° N, 125.242° W) (2015-1; LH, DVP, photo: RJM); one 91 km off Cape Disappointment, Pacific Co. (46.138° N, 125.242° W) (2015-2; LH, RJM, DVP); one 91 km off Leadbetter Point, Pacific Co. (46.559° N, 125.258° W) (2015-3; BWa); one 84 km off Point Brown, Grays Harbor Co. (46.811° N, 125.261° W) (2015-4; LH, photos: RJM, DVP); one 83 km off Point Brown, Grays Harbor Co. (46.852° N, 125.262°W) (2015-5; LH, RJM, DVP); and one 84 km off Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co. (46.992° N, 125.269° W) (2015-6; LH, DVP). As with Murphy's Petrel, the status of the Mottled Petrel in Washington waters in winter is probably underrepresented because of the limited coverage far offshore during this period (Lehman 2016).

Hawaiian Petrel (*Pterodroma sandwichensis*) (2, 1). Washington's second Hawaiian Petrel was spotted from a repositioning cruise 270 km off Oceanside, Pacific Co. (46.449° N, 127.622° W), 25 May 2014 (HAPE-2014-1; PL). Lehman (2016) suggested that this species might move closer to the west coast of North America in August and September, prior to the increase in coverage afforded by birders taking repositioning cruises, so its presence is perhaps greater than the two Washington records imply.

Great Shearwater (*Ardenna gravis*) (9, 4). Three records come from organized pelagic trips from Grays Harbor Co.: two birds were observed together 14 km off Westport (46.9° N, 124.3° W), 6 Oct 2013 (GRSH-2013-3; photos: MCh, EHe); one was found 35 km off Westport (46.9° N, 124.6° W), 27 Jun 2015 (2015-1; photos: GSM, NR); and one was 48 km off Grayland (46.8° N, 124.75° W), 15 Aug 2015 (2015-2; photos: CWa, GSM, JPa, TL, MCh). One additional record of a bird found farther north, 64 km off Cape Alava (48.00° N, 125.58° W), Clallam Co., 7 Sep 2015 (2015-3; photo: KL). The June record is the only one of the Great Shearwater in Washington outside the period from late August to early October.

Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*) (42*, 1). Between 1990 and 2008, when the WBRC removed the Manx Shearwater from the review list, it accepted 42 reports, establishing the regularity of this species off Washington's coast. One of those records was tabled on first consideration but inadvertently not formally reconsidered until 2014: one observed off Westport, Grays Harbor Co., 2 Oct 1993 (MASH-1993-1; BLB, AR).

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*) (18, 10). One was south of Vashon I., King Co.,

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9 Sep 2014 (BRBO-2014-1; photo: GSh). An adult was 265 km west of Pt. Brown, Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co. (47.09° N, 127.63° W), 17 Aug 2014 (2014-2; photo: MF). An adult male was viewed from Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 20 Sep 2014 (2014-3; PWO). A subadult was in Puget Sound off Edmonds, Snohomish Co., Point-No-Point, Kitsap Co., and Whidbey I., Island Co., 21 Aug 2015 and 13–14 Sep 2015 (2015-1; JAd, JBo, photos: BBn, GP, JPu). A subadult was 13 km off Westport, Grays Harbor Co., 6 Sep 2015 (2015-2; BT, photo: ML). An immature was 90 km off Willapa Bay, Pacific Co. (46.572° N, 125.245° W), 15 Sep 2015 (2015-4; PF, photo: BSu). Another immature was inside Dungeness Spit, Clallam Co., 12–26 Oct 2015 (2015-5; BBo, photos: DoL, RJM, DSc). A third immature was spotted off Discovery Park, Seattle, King Co., 16 Oct 2015 (2015-6; SG, EvH), representing the fifth record within Puget Sound. A subadult was about 88 km off Westport, Grays Harbor Co. (46.853° N, 124.851° W), 23 Jul 2016 (2016-1; GSM, photos: GP, RSh). One (possibly two) was at the south end of Swiftsure Bank, Clallam Co. (48.467° N, 124.95° W), on 10 Sep 2016 (2016-2; MiB, BBo, JCh, EG, DVH).

Dispersal of the Brown Booby north of its traditional range has become routine in recent years. Fourteen of Washington's 18 records are from after 2010, as this species' presence along the Pacific coast of the United States has become more regular (Whitworth et al. 2007).

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) (40, 6). An old report of one at Bay Center, Pacific Co., 28 Sep–15 Oct 1997 (SNEG-1997-2; photos: RuS, RoS) recently surfaced. One was at the north end of the Potholes Wildlife Area, Grant Co., 4–8 Sep 2013 (2013-2; MiH, photo: RFr). One was at McNary NWR, Walla Walla Co., 28 Apr 2014 (2014-1; MLD). One was at Ridgefield NWR, Clark Co., 13 Oct–3 Dec 2014 (2014-2; photos: RHi, DSc). Another was found at the same location the following year, at Ridgefield NWR, Clark Co., 2 Oct–8 Dec 2015 (2015-1; RFl, photos: KBl, RHi). One was found in Fife and then Orting, Pierce Co., 30 Jul–3 Aug and 4–8 Nov 2016 (2016-1; Fife: BLB, photos: KBn, JGl, JGu, MiH, TM, RJM, JRo, DSc, DYQ, video: DYQ; Orting: photos: MCh, MRe, PWi). The Snowy Egret seems to be undergoing a resurgence in Washington, as the seven records since 2011 follow five years without a single record.

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) (6, 2). An immature was at Fir I., Skagit Co., 14 Sep 2014 (LBHE-2014-1; photos: MiH, JMi, DSc; Figure 3). Another immature was found dead across the state in Spokane, Spokane Co., 17 Nov 2014 (2014-2; WK, photo: CLo). The specimen is preserved by the Spokane Audubon Society for educational purposes. Washington's six records are evenly split between east and west.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) (3*, 3). One was found at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 30 Oct–11 Nov 2014 (CAEG-2014-1; photos: MCh, RHi, LJ, DJ, DSc). One was found at Bay Center, Pacific Co., 8 Nov 2014 (2014-2; MFM, photo: TM). A third was at Satsop, Grays Harbor Co., 9–11 Nov 2014 (2014-3; MtB, photo: CRi).

The Cattle Egret was first found in Washington in 1967. Its numbers increased through the late 1990s, when it seemed to be becoming a regular visitor as its overall range expanded. In the 1990s, western Washington averaged four reports per year and eastern Washington averaged about 13 (Wahl et al. 2005). After 2000 the numbers reported in the state declined drastically, with only four years in the first decade of the 21st century yielding 10 or more sightings. Upon considering that only two sightings were known after 2008, the committee added the Cattle Egret to the review list in 2014. The three individuals noted here appeared within a month of that decision, but the longer-term trend in Washington is still unclear.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) (25*, 1). One was found at East Fish Lake, Chelan Co., 3 Oct 2013 (BWH-2013-6; JeG, HM, photo: TGa). This is the final report of the Broad-winged Hawk accepted by the committee, which in 2013, just after this sighting, voted to remove the species from review list.

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Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) (14, 3). One adult female was found on the Seattle Christmas Bird Count in the Bellevue Botanical Gardens, King Co., 26 Dec 2015 (YBSA-2015-1; photos: AMc, CRa). An adult female was in Kennewick, Benton Co., 2–3 Jan 2016 (2016-1; LN, photo, video: JCl). Another adult female was in Wallingford, Seattle, King Co., 25 Mar 2016 (2016-2; KSM).

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) (4, 1). An adult appeared in Skykomish, King Co., 11 Jun–5 Jul 2015 (CRCA-2015-1; photos: TM, JMi, GP, SRa, CRi, DSc, DSu, BWe, AMW, video: DSu; Figure 4). On the west slope of the Cascade Range, this is the first caracara found in Washington away from the coast.

Eurasian Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*) (2, 1). Washington's second Eurasian Hobby, an adult, delighted birders during its seven-day stay in the Wa'atch River valley, Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 26 Oct–1 Nov 2014 (EHOB-2014-1; photos: FL, RJM, SM, SRa, CRu, DSc, CWr; this issue's front cover). Most North American records are from Alaska, where the species has been recorded on Bering Sea and Aleutian islands and once in the Gulf of Alaska (Howell et al. 2014).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) (15, 3). In winter, remarkably, was one at Sand Point, Clallam Co., 21 Dec 2015 (STFL-2015-1; photo, video: JWt). An immature was at Marymoor Park, King Co., 23 Jul 2016 (2016-1; photos: KJW, MW). An adult spent two weeks along State Route 24, near Othello, Adams and Franklin counties, 10–25 Aug 2016 (2016-2; photos: RJB, CB, SG, JGl, CJ, TL, TM, JMi, JPu, CRi, RSm, JVa, BWa).

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) (4, 1). Washington's fourth was singing along Scotia Road, Pend Oreille Co., 7–20 Jun 2014 (ALFL-2014-1; photos: JI, TM, MMo, video: JI, MMo, DSc, audio: MtB, MMo). All of the state's Alder Flycatchers have been found in June. Although this species breeds across British Columbia to the north, regional records south of this are limited: Oregon has one (Hertzel 2019), California has six (Hamilton et al. 2007, Tietz and McCaskie 2019), and Idaho has one (IBRC 2019).

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) (7, 1). A first-year female was at Ridgefield NWR, Clark Co., 26 Nov–6 Dec 2013 (VEFL-2013-1; photos: RFr, BPe, JWt). Surprisingly, this bird chose almost exactly the same perches favored by a Vermilion Flycatcher at the same site in 2011 (2011-1, Mlodinow and Bartels 2016). Were it not for the bird's age, it might well have been considered a returning individual.

Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma woodhouseii*) (1, 1). Just prior to the 2016 split of the former Western Scrub-Jay (*A. californica sensu lato*) into the California Scrub-Jay (*A. californica sensu stricto*) and Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay (*A. woodhouseii*) (Chesser et al. 2016), the committee reviewed a 2002 record of the Western Scrub-Jay from Clarkston, Asotin Co., and affirmed it as the Washington's only known occurrence of the Woodhouse's. Now elevated to species status, Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay inhabits juniper and pinyon pine woodlands from central Mexico north through the Rocky Mountain region to northern Nevada and southern Idaho (Curry et al. 2017). The Clarkston scrub-jay remained from February to April 2002 and established an extralimital occurrence of this mostly sedentary species (WOSJ-2002-1; photos: RuS, PSu).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*) (18, 6). One in Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 7–10 Nov 2014 (BGGN-2014-1; AR, photos: MCh, BWa) was identified as Washington's first example of the eastern subspecies, *P. c. caerulea*. The identification was based on a combination of vocalizations and patterning of the outer tail feathers. Previously, one record had been assigned to the western subspecies *P. c. obscura*, and the remaining earlier records were not allocated to subspecies (Mlodinow and Bartels 2016). Also of the eastern subspecies *P. c. caerulea* were two at different locations



Figure 1. Washington's first Upland Sandpiper (UPSA-2013-1) in a decade, a juvenile, was at Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co. 6–7 Sep 2013 (photo 6 Sep 2013).

Photo by Åsta Tobiassen

around Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 12 Oct–11 Nov 2015 (2015-2; BWa, photos: BBn, JGu, RJM, SRa, DSc, video: JGu, audio: RJM) and 25 Sep 2016 (2015-1; photo: RJM). Three more were not identified to subspecies: one at Cape Flattery, Clallam Co., 25 Oct 2015 (2015-3; photo: BrP); one at Clallam Bay, Clallam Co., 3 Nov 2015 (2015-4; photos: BBn, BWa); and one at Kent, King Co., 22 Nov 2015 (2015-5; photo, video: SRa, the only one in this report away from Clallam Co. in the Washington's northwest corner). Of the 18 total records, 15 have come from west of the Cascades, three from the east.

Red-flanked Bluetail (*Tarsiger cyanurus*) (2, 2). One, a first-year male, was in Ferndale, Whatcom Co., 26 Mar–4 Apr 2015 (RFBL-2015-1; MtB, photos: VB, DSI, BWa, PWo, CWr; Figure 5). Another, a female as determined by presence of an ovary, struck a window on Lopez I., San Juan Co., 15 Dec 2015 (2015-2; photo: AWe, Univ. of Wash. Burke Mus. 121223). Previous records south of Alaska are from British Columbia Jan–Mar 2013 and Dec 2016–Jan 2017 (<https://bcfo.ca/bc-bird-records-committee-sightings-database/>), Oregon Dec 2015 (Hertzel 2019), Idaho Dec 2016–Jan 2017 (IBRC 2019), and California Nov 1989, Dec 2011, and 21 Dec 2018–22 Mar 2019 (Patten and Erickson 1994, Nelson et al. 2013, Tietz and McCaskie 2019). Although the timing of the first Washington record might imply a spring drift migrant, it precedes the species' spring migration in Asia so the bird was more likely wintering. The second record more clearly follows the late-fall-to-winter pattern of other records south of Alaska (Howell et al. 2014).

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) (3, 1). One visited Pt. Robinson on Vashon I., King Co., 18–21 Oct 2014 (NOWH-2014-1; photos: EvH, TM, GOI, OO, GP, CRu, DSc, ESw, MTr, GTh). Oregon has six records (Hertzel 2019), California 13 (Hamilton et al. 2007, Tietz and McCaskie 2019). Paralleling Washington's Northern



Figure 2. This Arctic Loon (ARLO-2014-2) was at Tokeland, Pacific Co., 4–10 May 2014 (photo 4 May 2014).

Photo by Diane Yorgason-Quinn

Wheatears, 17 of the 19 recorded in Oregon and California were found from the end of August through early November.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) (19, 6). One was found on Tatoosh I., Clallam Co., 8–9 Sep 1999 (BRTH-1999-2; RP, photo: TWo). Another was at Long Beach, Pacific Co., 9 Jul 2014 (2014-1; photo: SW). One was at Deming, Whatcom Co., 20 May 2015 (2015-2; photos: FL, CaM, PWe). One was found in Leavenworth, Chelan Co., 21 Nov 2015 (2015-1; photo: CoM, fide HM). One was observed in Pasco, Franklin Co., 10 Apr 2016 (2016-1; LSm). Finally, one was at Lyman, Skagit Co., 13 Jun 2016 (2016-2; photo: GB). Though the records have



Figure 3. An immature Little Blue Heron (LBHE-2014-1) at Fir Island, Skagit Co., 14 Sep 2014, the first in Washington west of the Cascades in 25 years.

Photo by Doug Schurman

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spanned the year, more than two-thirds (13 of 19) of Washington's Brown Thrashers arrived from April to July.

Gray Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*) (1, 1). Washington's first was photographed in flight about 43 km off Westport, Grays Harbor Co. (46.834° N, 124.867° W), 24 Sep 2016 (GRAW-2016-1; BLB, photos: JRo, RSh, Bwa; Figure 6). The Gray Wagtail is a widespread Old World species that is represented in North America by just four records away from far western Alaska, all from September to November. These include one in California, two in British Columbia, and one in the Northwest Territories. Remarkably, the one in the Northwest Territories was also seen at sea (Howell et al. 2014).

White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*) (10, 1). One was observed at the Gog-le-hi-te Wetlands, Tacoma, Pierce Co., 7 Nov 2015 (WHWA-2015-1; MtB, sketch: MiH). Six of the Washington's 10 White Wagtails were found between late April and mid-May, three were found in November, and one was present from January to May in 1984 (Tweit. and Skirletz 1996).

Siberian American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens japonicus*) (1, 1). The first example of this subspecies known in Washington was at Hobuck Beach, Clallam Co., 8–9 Nov 2014 (AMPI-2014-1; FL, CWr). It was studied at length by observers familiar with the features distinguishing *A. r. japonicus* from the American subspecies of *Anthus rubescens*. These included a cold gray coloration without buffy tones, thick black streaking on white underparts, a strongly contrasting face pattern, bold white wing bars, and pale pink legs (Lee and Birch 2002). The bird was photographed, but while the photos are suggestive and consistent with the subspecific identification, they are not fully diagnostic, so this record remains a sight record.

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*) (20, 4). A female in basic plumage was at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 30 Oct–7 Nov 2014 (BRAM-2014-1; photos: RHl, LJ, DJ, FL, TM, GP, SRa, DSc). Another female in basic plumage was at Port Hadlock, Jefferson Co., 5–9 Nov 2014 (2014-2; PV, photos: DGL, RHl). A male in basic plumage was at Issaquah, King Co., 4 Feb–2 Apr 2015 (2015-1; MtB, MiH, photos: BrB, EvH, TM, GOL, OO, FP, DPo). One more was near Wa'atch, Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 27 Oct 2015 (BRAM-2015-2; sketch: MiH). Seventeen of Washington's 20 Bramblings are from west of the Cascades. Eighteen of the state's records are clustered in two relatively small temporal windows: 11 from 1988 to 1995 and seven from 2012 to 2015.

Eastern Purple Finch (*Haemorhous purpureus purpureus*) (3*, 2). One was seen and recorded near Bradley Lake, Pierce Co., 20 Nov 2012 (PUFI-2012-1; audio: CWr). Another patronized a feeder on Bainbridge I., Kitsap Co., 15 Dec 2014 (2014-1; photo: BWA; Figure 7).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) (21, 2). An adult female was near Havilah, Okanogan Co., 18 Feb 2013 (HORE-2013-3; photo: ScC). Although seven reports of this species during the winter of 2012–13 were reviewed, the committee accepted only one this one, a sign of the difficulty of identifying and adequately documenting this species. An adult male was along Corkindale Creek, Skagit Co., 2–18 Jan 2016 (2016-1; photo: RJM).

Little Bunting (*Emberiza pusilla*) (1, 1). One visiting feeders at Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 9–13 Oct 2015 provided Washington's first record (LIBU-2015-1; MtB, photos: TM, RJM, DR, BWA, CWe; Figure 8). Previous records south of Alaska, where the Little Bunting is almost annual in the fall on the Aleutians and the islands of the Bering Sea (Gibson and Withrow 2015), include one in Oregon (2013), one in Arizona (2017), four in California (1991, 2002, 2012, 2013), and one in Baja California Sur, Mexico (2008). Howell et al. (2014) noted that the pattern of fall

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records implies misoriented birds migrating southeast from their breeding grounds across northern Eurasia.

Rustic Bunting (*Emberiza rustica*) (4, 1). One was in Acme, Whatcom Co., 27 Feb 2016 (RUBU-2016-1; photos: FL, NS). All Washington records of this rare Eurasian stray fall between November and April, a pattern that holds in Oregon (Hertzelt 2019) and California (Hamilton et al. 2007, Tietz and McCaskie 2019).

LeConte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) (5, 1). Washington's first LeConte's Sparrow since 1996 sang and displayed near Marblemount, Skagit Co., 13–21 Jun 2014 (LCSP-2014-1; photo, video: RJM; Figure 9). Four of the five state records are for late May and June, a pattern not shared by neighboring states. Oregon has four records, two from late May and one each from September and October (Hertzelt 2019). Idaho's two records (one accepted and one in review) are both from November (IBRC 2019). California, with 40 records, has only three from spring/summer (Hamilton et al. 2007, Tietz and McCaskie 2019).

Thick-billed Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca megarhyncha* group) (2*, 1). One was seen and heard along Snowden Road above White Salmon, Klickitat Co., 21–25 Jun 2015 (TBFS-2015-1; CaF, SJ). Hearing, and when possible recording, contact calls of breeding Fox Sparrows in the southern Washington Cascades has proven most critical to solidly documenting this subspecies group in the state.

Red Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca iliaca* group) (23*, 5). One was at Sprague Lake, Adams Co., 12 Oct 2013 (RFSP-2013-2; photo: JI). One was at Corkindale, Skagit Co., 4 Jan 2014 (2014-1; photo: RJM). Another was in Olympia, Thurston Co., 19–22 Feb 2014 (2014-2; photo: AP). One was in Bingen, Klickitat Co., 27 Feb–3 Mar 2014 (2014-3; SJ). Finally, one was in Diablo, Whatcom Co., 13 Apr 2015 (2015-2; RJM).

Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) (10, 3). A first-year bird wintered successfully in Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 26 Oct 2014–8 Apr 2015 (OROR-2014-1; AR, photos: FL, RJM, SM, SRa, DSc). A first-year male visited a feeder in Ocean City, Grays Harbor Co., 16 Feb–25 Mar 2015 (2015-1; PL, DMo, photos: EJS, BWa). Another was at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 25 Sep 2015 (OROR-2015-2; photo: RJM).

Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*) (10, 1). A male in fresh plumage in Hoquiam, Grays Harbor Co., 8–10 Nov 2014 (HOOR-2014-1; photos: TM, AMa, LO, JOG) furnished Washington's latest record of the Hooded Oriole. Nine of the state's ten records are from west of the Cascades, and six of the sightings come from late April to mid-June.

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) (22, 3). One was along Dodd Road, 6 km north of Wallula, Walla Walla Co., 7 Nov 2015–6 Feb 2016 (COGR-2015-2; MLD, photo: CLi). Another was in Acme, Whatcom Co., 21 Dec 2015–mid Jan 2016 (2015-3; photos: RJM, NS). A third was in Ellensburg, Kittitas Co., 29 Mar 2016 (2016-2; photo: DE).

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) (28, 5). One was heard and briefly seen at English Camp on San Juan I., San Juan Co., 1 Jun 2014 (OVEN-2014-2; MtB, TiB, JcK, SCA, MiH). Another, also singing, was found on Larch Mountain, Clark Co., 4 Jul 2014 (2014-3; audio: MtB). One was at Anacortes, Skagit Co., 11 Sep 2014 (2014-4; RSc). Another was singing at the marsh adjacent to the Tieton airstrip, 3 km south of Rimrock, Yakima Co., 18 Jun 2015 (2015-1; JSp, fide DGr). One was recorded singing near Disautel, Okanogan Co., 5 Jun 2016 (2016-1; audio: CWr). Sightings have come evenly from both sides of Washington, with 11 in the past decade.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) (45, 10). An occurrence only recently reported was of a male singing in Seattle, King Co., 9 May 2011 (BAWW-



Figure 4. This Crested Caracara (CRCA-2015-1), with its distinctive yellow crop visible, was in the Cascade Range at Skykomish, King Co., 11 Jun–5 Jul 2015 (photo 16 Jun 2015).

Photo by Jeff Mills



Figure 5. First-year male Red-flanked Bluetail (RFBL-2015-1), the first for Washington, at Ferndale, Whatcom Co., 26 Mar–4 Apr 2015 (photo 4 Apr 2015).

Photo by Charlie Wright

2011-4; NK). A male was at Nisqually NWR, Thurston Co., 2 May 2014 (2014-1; JMo). Another male was at Beard's Hollow on the Long Beach Peninsula, Pacific Co., 13 May 2014 (2014-2; BWe). A male was at Millet Pond, Walla Walla, Walla Walla Co., 7 Jun 2014 (2014-3; photo: CLi). One was at Washtucna, Adams Co., 11–13 Sep 2014 (2014-4; MtB, KBy, photos: RHi, TM). Another was in Riverside Park, Spokane, Spokane Co., first reported on 31 Dec 2014, then subsequently relocated



Figure 6. Participants in a pelagic trip off Westport, Grays Harbor Co., were amazed to observe Washington's first Gray Wagtail (GRAW-2016-1) in flight above the boat on 24 Sep 2016. This picture, though blurry, gives a clear view of the distinctive single white wing bar.

Photo by Ryan Shaw

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on 2 Mar 2015 (2014-5; Dec 2014 sighting: PMK; March 2015 sighting: photo: JI). A singing second-year male, aged by banders at St. Cloud, Skamania Co., remained from 24 Jun to 17 Jul 2015 (2015-1; CaF, photos: JoD, CJ). A male was singing at Washtucna, Adams Co., 25 May 2015 (2015-8; PB). Another was at Moxee, Yakima Co., 23 Sep 2015 (2015-7; DB). Finally, a male was singing at Kennewick, Benton Co., 10–11 Jun 2016 (2016-2; ToG, photo: PB).

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) (39, 8). One was photographed at Washtucna, Adams Co., 19 Jul 2013 (TEWA-2013-3; photo: LAP). One was at the Sprague Lake Resort, Lincoln Co., 8 Sep 2013 (2013-2; photo: JI). One found at Potholes State Park, Grant Co., on 18 Nov 2013 persisted until 23 Nov, when it was salvaged after falling from a tree (2013-4; photos: TM, BPE, DPE, DSc, MY, CWr, Univ. of Wash. Burke Mus. 119334). One was at Colbert, Spokane Co., 14 Sep 2015 (2015-1; photo: JeD). Two records came from Neah Bay, Clallam Co., on the same date, 21 Sep 2015 (2015-2; CWr, and 2015-3; photo: CWr). Another Tennessee Warbler was at Bahokus Peak, Clallam Co., 28 Sep 2015 (2015-4; JiD). One was found near Sekiu, Clallam Co., 3–21 Nov 2015 (2015-5; photos: BBn, BWa).

Lucy's Warbler (*Oreothlypis luciae*) (2, 2). Washington's first was found at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 6–7 Nov 2014 (LUWA-2014-1; BWa). A second record, also at Neah Bay, came only a year later, 16 Sep 2015 (2015-1; photo: RJM; Figure 10).

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) (7, 2). A male was recorded singing at Kamiak Butte, Whitman Co., 17–20 May 2014 (HOWA-2014-1; photos: RJB, RFO, TeG, JI, audio: MCI). One wintered at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 10 Nov 2015–25 Feb 2016 (2015-1; MtB, GG, JHo, photos: BBn, RJM, DSc). Three of the Washington's seven records are from Whitman County on the state's eastern border.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) (18, 2). A male was singing at Fort Walla Walla, Walla Walla Co., 13–17 Jun 2014 (NOPA-2014-1; MDe, MLD, photos: TM, GOL, OO, HR). Another male was recorded singing at Kamiak Butte, Whitman Co., 7–8 Jun 2016 (2016-1; RK, audio: RJB, MCI). Eight records are from the east side of the state, while ten are from the west.

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) (26, 2). One was at Raymond, Pacific Co., 23 Oct 2015 (MAWA-2015-1; photos: SM, BWa). Another, a male, was singing on Tatoosh I., Clallam Co., 5 Jun 2016 (2016-1; TWo).

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) (7, 1). One at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 18 Sep 2016 (BLBW-2016-2; BT, photo: RJM) was Washington's first Blackburnian Warbler documented with photographs. The state's records are split, with three records each for both spring (May/June) and fall (late-August–September), plus one additional December record.

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) (32, 5). One was at Konowac Pass, Yakima Co., 15–17 Sep 2014 (CSWA-2014-1; KBy, DB, photos: TM, ESt, ASt, KZ). A male was at Horn Rapids, Benton Co., 9 Jun 2015 (2015-1; photo: KAb). Another was at Fishhook Park, Walla Walla Co., 31 Aug 2015 (2015-2; MDe, MLD). One was at Discovery Park, Seattle, King Co., 6 Sep 2015 (2015-3; EvH, photos: JGu, RJM). A male was at Lyons Ferry, Franklin Co., 4 Jun 2016 (2016-2; RFI, photo: JRo). The timing of these most recent sightings continues to represent a shift from earlier records: prior to 2000, 12 of Washington's first 13 records were for June or July; since then only eight of the 19 records have been for those months.

Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*) (35, 3). One was at the north end of the Potholes Wildlife Area, Grant Co., 5 Sep 2015 (BLPW-2015-2; photo: MY). Another was across the state on Bainbridge I., Kitsap Co., 6 Sep 2015 (2015-3; photo: BWa). One male was at Bassett Park, Washtucna, Adams Co., 18 May 2016 (2016-1; RFI). The Blackpoll Warbler's seasonality in Washington remains well established, with two



Figure 7. An Eastern Purple Finch (*Haemorhous p. purpureus*; PUF1-2014-1; right) visiting a feeder on Bainbridge Island, Kitsap Co., 15 Dec 2014, offering a nice side-by-side comparison with the local Western Purple Finch (*H. p. californicus*; center).

Photo by Brad Waggoner



Figure 8. Washington's first Little Bunting (LIBU-2015-1) at Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 9–13 Oct 2015 (photo 10 Oct 2015).

Photo by Ryan J. Merrill



Figure 9. This LeConte's Sparrow (LCSP-2014-1), the fifth for Washington and the first in 18 years, was near Marblemount, Skagit Co., 13–21 Jun 2014 (photo 21 Jun 2014).

Photo by Ryan J. Merrill



Figure 10. Washington's second Lucy's Warbler (LUWA-2015-1), and the first one documented with photographs, at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 16 Sep 2015.

Photo by Ryan J. Merrill

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of these three new records fitting nicely in the period 1–15 September that accounts for 71% of the state's records. In contrast only four records are from May, two are from June, and an additional four records fall outside the early September window.

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caeruleascens*) (15, 4). A female was at Surfside, Pacific Co., 26 Oct–18 Nov 2012 (BTBW-2012-2; photos: RAs, JSt, fide SW). A male wintered at a feeder in Bothell, Snohomish Co., 20 Dec 2014–2 Apr 2015, occasionally singing before its departure (2014-1; photos: BrB, JGu, TM, JMi, GOL, OO, GP, BPe, SRa, DSc, DVa, JVa). A female was at the Gog-le-hi-te Wetlands, Tacoma, Pierce Co., 6–10 Nov 2015 (2015-2; photos: MCh, RJM). A male was singing on Blacksnake Ridge, Dixie, Walla Walla Co., 5–12 Jun 2016 (2016-1; RG, BWe, photos: KBI, MCI, MCu, MLD, CLi, video: ST).

Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*) (3, 1). One was at Longview, Cowlitz Co., 13–26 Dec 2015 (YTWA-2015-2; JGn, MG, RK, photos: RHi, TM, GO, OO, CRi, DSc; Figure 11).

Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*) (2, 1). An adult male photographed at Rialto Beach, Clallam Co., 17 Oct 2015 (PRAW-2015-1; photo: RBr) was Washington's first Prairie Warbler documented with photographs and the first for western Washington. Although Washington has still only two records, 13 of the 16 Oregon records are from September or October (Hertzel 2019), and the vast majority of California records are from the coast in fall (Hamilton et al. 2007), so neither the timing nor the location of the Washington Prairie Warbler is particularly surprising.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) (9, 5). A report of a female or immature male from Ridgefield NWR, Clark Co., 26 May 2001 was tabled on initial review in 2001 and only recently reconsidered and affirmed (SUTA-2001-1; PWS). An adult male was in West Seattle, King Co., 29 Nov 2013 (2013-1; SHu). Another adult male was in Olympia, Thurston Co., 3 Jun 2014 (2014-1; BR). A female or immature



Figure 11. All three Yellow-throated Warblers recorded in Washington have occurred late in the year; this one (YTWA-2015-2), at Longview, Cowlitz Co., was present from 13 to 26 Dec 2015 (photo 15 Dec 2015).

Photo by Doug Schurman

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was at Woodland Bottoms, Cowlitz Co., 1 Nov 2015 (2015-1; photos: BBd, LMj). Another female or immature was at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 4 Nov 2015 (2015-2; photo: BWa). All Washington's records of the Summer Tanager have come from the west side of the state. As with the most recent sightings, they are clustered in two periods: late May to June (three records), and November to January (six records). Nine of Idaho's 10 records are for summer (IBRC 2019), as are 11 of the 14 records from eastern Oregon. The nine western Oregon records are more scattered seasonally (Hertzel 2019).

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) (38, 5). An adult male was at Steigerwald NWR, Clark Co., 30 May–4 Jun 2014 (INBU-2014-1; BCo, GL, photos: BBn, EBJ, MCh, EK, DLw, GNe). Another adult male was at West Sequim, Clallam Co., 13 Jun 2015 (2015-1; photo: GNi, fide DVH). A molting male was briefly seen near Sprague, Lincoln Co., 28 Aug 2015 (2015-2; TL). Another molting male lingered for over a month in Mukilteo, Snohomish Co., 7 Mar–12 Apr 2016 (2016-1; photos: BaB, TM, RJM, DSc). Yet another male was found singing along Peters Road, Randall, Lewis Co., 25 Jun–4 Jul 2016 (2016-3; BT, photos: WJ, TM, GO, OO, CRi, RSm, DYQ, audio: MtB). Over two thirds of Washington's Indigo Buntings have occurred from May to July, while a fifth seem to be fall migrants from August to early October. Twenty-eight records are from west of the Cascades and 10 are from the east side.

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) (3, 1). One was at Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 27 Sep 2013 (PABU-2013-1; BWa, photos: JI, DWa). This is Washington's first record for the fall, and the first of a Painted Bunting in hatch-year plumage.

Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) (12, 3). An old record surfaced of a male in Edison, Skagit Co., 24 May 1995 (DICK-1995-1; JWg, KWg, photo: GJ). A singing adult male was in Hardy Canyon, Yakima Co., 3–8 Jun 2015 (2015-1; BrB, MiH, photos: JGu, CLi, TM, GP, DSc, audio: MtB). A male was at Wa'atch, Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 26–28 May 2016 (2016-1; photos: AdA, JGa, JSc). Six of Washington's Dickcissels have occurred in May and June, the other six from September to December, one of which remained into April.

Reports Not Accepted by the Committee—Identification Uncertain

Taiga Bean-Goose (*Anser fabalis*) (1, 0). The description of one reported from along the Duwamish River, Seattle, King Co., 1 Oct 2013 (TABG-2013-1, vote: 0-7-0) lacked detail and failed to distinguish the birds from a Greater White-fronted Goose (*A. albifrons*), a far more likely alternative.

King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) (18, 3). The WBRC reviewed an old report of one seen from Discovery Park, Seattle, King Co., 18 Dec 2005 (KIEI-2005-1, vote: 0-5-2). The details observed, from a great distance, were insufficient for this report to be endorsed. The report of a female from Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 14 Feb 2016 (2016-2, vote: 1-6-0) did not conclusively rule out the Common Eider (*S. mollissima*).

Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) (3, 0). A report of one at Salt Creek, Clallam Co., 18 Mar 2016 (COEI-2016-1, vote: 0-7-0) included details insufficient to confirm the identification.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) (13, 3). A report of two from Sandy Point, Whatcom Co., 5 Sep 2014 (WWDO-2014-1, vote: 0-7-0), was short on descriptive detail and failed to eliminate the Eurasian Collared-Dove. Likewise, a report of a pair in Spanaway, Pierce Co., in the summer of 2015 (2015-2, vote: 0-7-0) was far more likely to be based on the Eurasian Collared-Dove.

White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*) (8, 1). A shorebird photographed 6 km north of Wallula, Walla Walla Co., 21 Sep 2013 (WRSa-2013-2, vote:

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0-7-0), appeared to show white in the rump area, though it appeared too extensive for a White-rumped Sandpiper and was likely the effect of the way the feathers were positioned.

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*) (1, 1). One supposed to be at Nisqually NWR, Thurston Co., 16 Jul 2015 (SPRE-2015-1, vote: 0-7-0), was reported to have red legs, but no other features were noted, and the description and distant photos did not convincingly eliminate the Greater Yellowlegs (*T. melanoleuca*).

Thick-billed Murre (*Uria lomvia*) (26, 4). The report of one off Port Angeles, Clallam Co., 8 May 2015 (TBMU-2015-2, vote: 1-6-0) relied on back color alone for the identification and was insufficiently documented for acceptance.

Long-billed Murrelet (*Brachyramphus perdix*) (11, 2). The description of one seen at a distance off Ediz Hook, Port Angeles, Clallam Co., 29 Dec 2013 (LBMU-2013-2, vote: 0-7-0) did not include field marks such as the bill structure, face pattern, or other details necessary to rule out a Marbled Murrelet (*B. marmoratus*).

Scripps's/Guadalupe/Craveri's Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus scrippsi/hypoleucus/craveri*) (4, 0). Two murrelets seen offshore over Grays Canyon, Grays Harbor Co., 7 Sep 2014 (SCMU/GUMU/CRMU-2014-4, vote: 0-7-0) were not described adequately to establish their identity. This report came earlier in the same trip as a pair reported above as accepted record SCMU-2014-5.

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) (21, 3). The photograph of a supposed Black-headed Gull in Everett, Snohomish Co., 19 Oct 2014 (BHG-2014-1, vote: 0-7-0) was oddly exposed and apparently showed a Bonaparte's Gull (*C. philadelphia*). A Black-headed Gull at McNary Dam along the Columbia River left no doubt as to its identity while it was on the Oregon side of the river 2-11 Jan 2015 (Hertz 2019), but it was not convincingly documented to have ventured to the Washington side of the state line in Benton County on 3 Jan 2015 as reported (2015-1; vote: 1-6-0).

Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) (2*, 2). A bird photographed and videotaped from West Seattle, King Co., 19 Sep 2015 (LIGU-2015-1, vote: 0-7-0) was reported as the Little Gull but appeared more likely to be a Mew Gull (*Larus canus*). Another report from Birch Bay, Whatcom Co., 12 Sep 2016 (2016-1, vote: 0-6-1) did not adequately rule out Bonaparte's Gull.

Iceland Gull sensu stricto (*Larus glaucooides glaucooides/kumlieni*) (29, 10). A report of an adult from the Gog-le-hi-te Wetlands, Tacoma, Pierce Co., 21 Dec 2013 (ICGU-2013-6, vote: 2-5-0), mentioned white wing tips not consistent with a Kumlien's Gull, and did not rule out other gulls with leucistic plumage. The photos submitted of another supposed adult at Nisqually NWR, Thurston Co., 5 Feb 2014 (2014-3, vote: 1-5-1) appeared to show a Glaucous-winged Gull (*L. glaucescens*). The description of a supposed first-cycle Iceland Gull at Howard Amon Park, Richland, Benton Co., 17 Feb 2014 (2014-4, vote: 0-7-0) did not rule out a Glaucous-winged Gull. The report of one from Cape Alava, Clallam Co., 27 Mar 2015 (2015-1, vote: 0-7-0) was not accepted because of concerns that other species in faded plumage were not eliminated.

Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) (21, 4). The report of a rather distant fourth-cycle Slaty-backed Gull at Edmonds, Snohomish Co., 24-29 Sep 2015 (SBGU-2015-2, vote: 0-7-0) did not clearly exclude the Lesser Black-backed Gull (*L. fuscus*). The report, including photographs, of a third-cycle Slaty-backed Gull from Tokeland, Pacific Co., 27 Nov 2015 (2015-3, vote: 1-6-0) did not conclusively eliminate the Western Gull (*L. occidentalis*).

Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) (6, 0). The committee reviewed a 1976 report,

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potentially the earliest for this species in Washington. The bird was well documented while in Oregon on the south side of the mouth of the Columbia River (Hertzel 2019), and then was noted flying north toward Cape Disappointment, Pacific Co., 31 May 1976 (LETE-1976-1, vote on Washington occurrence: 2-5-0). The committee believed such a small bird could not be reliably tracked across the more than 5-km width of the river mouth to be certain it had indeed continued into Washington rather than stopping en route.

Arctic Loon (*Gavia arctica*) (4, 1). Seven reports of this species were not accepted, emphasizing its difficulty of identification. One reported from Discovery Bay, Jefferson Co., 24 Jan 2014 (ARLO-2014-1, vote: 1-5-1) was seen at a distance too great for the committee to be confident in the identification. The report of one from Reach I., Mason Co., 27 Dec 2014 (2014-3, vote: 0-7-0) noted only white flanks and no other field marks. The photos of one reported from Larrabee State Park, Whatcom Co., 9–23 Jan 2015 (2015-1, vote: 0-7-0) appeared to show a Common Loon (*G. immer*). The description of one from Luhr Beach, Thurston Co., 15–16 Jan 2015 (2015-2, vote: 0-7-0), did not convincingly eliminate the Red-throated Loon (*G. stellata*) or Pacific Loon (*G. pacifica*). One reported from Tramp Harbor, Vashon I., King Co., 17 Jan 2015 (2015-3, vote: 0-7-0) was seen at too great a distance for confident identification. Another report, also of one from Vashon I., King Co., on 23 Mar 2015 (2015-4, vote: 0-7-0), provided too few identifying features to allow identification. Finally, the report of one from West Beach, Whidbey I., Island Co., 20–25 Nov 2015 (2015-5, vote: 0-7-0) lacked detail sufficient for the committee to endorse it.

Short-tailed Albatross (*Phoebastria albatrus*) (18, 3). A report from a cruise ship just off Cape Flattery, Clallam Co. (48.356° N, 124.774° W), 8 May 2015 was of a dark albatross seen at distance and without views of the head or bill. (STAL-2015-1, vote: 0-7-0).

Murphy's Petrel (*Pterodroma ultima*) (9, 2). A supposed Murphy's Petrel seen briefly off Westport, Grays Harbor Co., 14 May 2016 (MUPE-2016-2, vote: 0-7-0) was not documented sufficiently to allow endorsement.

Juan Fernandez Petrel (*Pterodroma externa*) (0, 0). The WBRC considered the report of one off Westport, Grays Harbor Co., 14 Sep 1990 twice previously. Ultimately it concluded that the details provided were insufficient to rule out other *Pterodroma* species such as the Hawaiian Petrel (JFPE-1990-1, vote: 0-6-1).

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) (0, 0). A report of one heard near the power plant 8 km northeast of Centralia, Lewis Co., 5 Sep 2014 (LEBI-2014-1, vote: 0-6-1), was not sufficiently documented to justify acceptance of a potential first state record, albeit one that is overdue.

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) (40, 6). Two reports from Puget I., Wahkiakum Co., spaced almost exactly a year apart were of birds seen too briefly for the Cattle Egret or juvenile Little Blue Heron to be ruled out: one from 27 to 29 Dec 2013 (SNEG-2013-3, vote: 1-6-0) and another on 29 Dec 2014 (2014-3, vote: 0-7-0).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) (6, 2). A report from Birch Bay, Whatcom Co., 5 Aug 2013 (LBHE-2013-1, vote: 0-7-0) was based on remembered detail and not convincing. Another report from Ann Lake in the Cascade Range, Chelan Co., 16 Aug 2016 (2016-1, vote: 1-5-1) lacked specific detail.

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) (1, 0). A report from Long Beach, Pacific Co., 1 May 2014 (WHIB-2014-1, vote: 0-7-0), failed to convincingly rule out a worn Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*).

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) (43*, 0). A tabled report of one from Cathlamet, Wahkiakum Co., 1 Dec 2002 (RSA-2002-5, vote: 3-4-0), was insuf-

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ficient to rule out other species, although Red-shouldered Hawks were being observed in the area regularly around that time.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) (25*, 1). Four reports of the Broad-winged Hawk were not accepted in the period covered by this summary, highlighting the care that needs to be taken with this identification, despite the species' recent removal from the review list. A description of a hawk seen briefly at Naches Pass, King and Kittitas counties, 11 Sep 2013 (BWHA-2013-2, vote: 3-4-0) failed to eliminate an *Accipiter*. The committee concluded that a hawk north of Everett, Snohomish Co., 3 Oct 2013 (2013-3, vote: 2-5-0), seen while the observer was driving on a highway, was not seen well enough for its identity to be established. The report of a supposed Broad-winged at East Fish Lake, Chelan Co., 4 Oct 2013 (2013-4, vote: 1-6-0), came on the heels of an accepted Broad-winged Hawk (2013-6) but included details such as a dark head that indicated a different bird and did not rule out other species. The description of another at Chinook Pass, Yakima Co., 14 Sep 2013 (2013-5, vote: 5-2-0) included contradictory details.

Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*) (0, 0). This potential first for Washington was reported from Aberdeen, Grays Harbor Co., 21–29 Oct 2013 (GRKI-2013-1, vote: 0-7-0). The description was not detailed, photos were not obtained despite the bird's being reported over a week, and the committee concluded the observer did not eliminate a Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*), perhaps seen under strange lighting conditions.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) (4, 1). One along Icicle Creek, Leavenworth, Chelan Co., 19 Jun 2015 (ALFL-2015-1, vote: 2-4-1) was described as giving calls that did not exclude a Willow Flycatcher (*E. traillii*).

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) (12, 0). A supposed Eastern Phoebe at Washtucna, Adams Co., 31 Aug 2016 (EAPH-2016-1, vote: 1-6-0) was seen briefly, a phoebe's typical tail dipping was not observed, and the report did not eliminate other flycatcher species.

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) (0, 0). The report of one at Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 19 Nov 2014 (SEWR-2014-1, vote: 0-7-0), was tantalizing, but the bird was seen briefly only twice as it flushed and heard briefly only once, insufficient for a first state record.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) (0, 0). An audio recording of one reported in Seattle, King Co., 15 Mar 2014 (CARW-2014-1, vote: 0-7-0) confirmed the bird was a Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*).

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) (3, 1). One was reported coming to a bird feeder in Graham, Pierce Co., 23 Jan 2016 (NOWH-2016-1, vote: 0-7-0), a behavior not known in this species.

Siberian Accentor (*Prunella montanella*) (2, 0). A report from Kent, King Co., 5 Jan 2014 (SIAC-2014-1, vote: 0-7-0) did not eliminate the possibility of a Townsend's Warbler (*Setophaga townsendi*) foraging on the ground.

Black-throated Accentor (*Prunella atrogularis*) (0, 0). The description of a bird seen at a distance in Issaquah, King Co., 5 Jun 2015 (BTAC-2015-1, vote: 0-7-0) was equally consistent with several local species.

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*) (20, 4). The details in a long-tabled report from Fircrest, Pierce Co., 20–21 Nov 1991 (BRAM-1991-2, vote: 2-6-0) were insufficient to confirm this species.

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) (21, 2). An old report from Elk, Spokane Co., 10–17 Mar 2000 (HORE-2000-2, vote: 5-2-0) was supported by videotape but was insufficient to allow endorsement.

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Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) (2, 0). An old report from Oyhut Wildlife Area, Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor Co., 6 Oct 1977 (SMLO-1977-1, vote: 1-6-0), failed to include details such as the white outer tail feathers, despite conditions that should have allowed them to be observed. The description of the call notes was inconclusive, and the pale, unmarked underparts were inconsistent with a Smith's Longspur.

Thick-billed Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca megarhyncha* group) (2*, 1). Two reports of this subspecies group were not accepted during this period as the committee worked to identify satisfactory field marks to convincingly distinguish this group from other subspecies of the Fox Sparrow. One at White Pass, Yakima Co., 8 Jun–5 Jul 2014 (TBFS-2014-1, vote: 0-7-0), was present in the same area where Washington's first accepted Thick-billed Fox Sparrow was found in 2013, but the details submitted did not establish the identity. Although the bird was singing and its song was recorded, no call notes were noted or recorded, critical to field identification. Another reported from Mt. St. Helens, Skamania Co., 15 Jul 2014 (2014-2, vote: 0-7-0), was observed too briefly for a Slate-colored Fox Sparrow of the expected subspecies *P. i. oliuacea* (*P. i. schistacea* group) to be eliminated. The actual range of the Thick-billed Fox Sparrow in Washington has yet to be clearly delineated, and both of these sightings fall within the range where the Thick-billed may be coming into contact with (and perhaps intergrading with) *P. i. oliuacea*.

Red Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca iliaca* group) (23*, 5). One in Bingen, Klickitat Co., 14–16 Feb 2015 (RFSP-2015-1, vote: 2-5-0), was not seen well enough for all the field marks needed to rule out *P. i. altivagans* or intergrades resembling it.

Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) (10, 3). One report from Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 22 Oct 2015 (OROR-2015-3, vote: 2-5-0) did not adequately distinguish the bird from a Hooded Oriole.

Scott's Oriole (*Icterus parisorum*) (2, 0). A report from Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Pierce Co., 16 Jun 2014 (SCOR-2014-1, vote: 0-7-0) did not eliminate alternatives such as the Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*).

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) (22, 3). A report from Birchfield Road, Moxee, Yakima Co., 31 May 2014 (COGR-2014-1, vote: 1-5-1) did not include details that might have eliminated a Great-tailed Grackle (*Q. mexicanus*) or other possibilities. Another, from Toppenish NWR, Yakima Co., 14 Jun 2015 (2015-1, vote: 0-6-1) likewise was insufficient to rule out the Great-tailed Grackle. A report from Fisher Slough, Skagit Co., 18 Mar 2016 (2016-1, vote: 0-7-0) did not convincingly eliminate Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*).

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) (28, 5). One report from Mabton, Yakima Co., 23 May 2014 (OVEN-2014-1, vote: 2-4-1) failed to note the crown pattern and was incorrect with respect to the overall coloration.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) (4, 0). A report of "several" in Clarkston Heights, Asotin Co., 31 May 2012 (BWWA-2012-2, vote: 0-7-0) was implausible with respect to the number of birds and provided minimal description of field marks. A report from Ahtanum, Yakima Co., 17 May 2014 (2014-1, vote: 2-5-0) was not complete enough to rule out other passerines, such as orioles.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) (45, 10). Seven reports of this species were of birds insufficiently described and/or seen only fleetingly: Discovery Park, Seattle, King Co., 26 Sep 2013 (BAWW-2013-2, vote: 2-5-0); Vashon I., King Co., 25 Jun 2015 (2015-2, vote: 1-6-0); north end of the Potholes Wildlife Area, Grant Co., 2 Aug 2015 (2015-3, vote: 0-7-0); Cle Elum, Kittitas Co., 25 Aug 2015 (2015-4, vote: 5-2-0); Magnuson Park, Seattle, King Co., 7 Sep 2015 (2015-5, vote: 0-7-0); Bradley Lake, Pierce Co., 14 May 2016 (2016-1, vote: 1-6-0); near Diablo Lake, Whatcom Co., 2 May 2016 (2016-3, vote: 0-6-1). The committee suspects that

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many of these reports represent migrating Black-throated Gray Warblers (*Setophaga nigrescens*) appearing in unexpected locations.

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) (39, 8). A report of a breeding-plumaged male that struck a window but recovered in Seattle, King Co., in May 1988 (TEWA-1988-1, vote: 5-2-0) was based on details reconstructed after too long a span of time had elapsed.

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) (0, 0). A report of this species in Sammamish, King Co., 13 Sep 2009 (CONW-2009-1, vote: 1-5-1) included photos that did not conclusively support the identification.

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) (7, 1). The details in the report of a male at Horn Rapids Park, Benton Co., 21 May 2016 (BLBW-2016-1, vote: 1-5-1) were insufficient to rule out all alternatives.

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) (32, 5). One reported from Vancouver, Clark Co., 26 Apr 2016 (CSWA-2016-1, vote: 2-3-2) was not seen well enough to convince the committee. In addition, the date was more than a month earlier than any other spring sighting of the Chestnut-sided Warbler in Washington or Oregon.

Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*) (35, 3). The report of one in Ferndale, Whatcom Co., 2 Sep 2014 (BLPW-2014-2, vote: 0-6-1) described the birds as in the unlikely alternate plumage and failed to include field marks sufficient to eliminate other species. One at Washtucna, Adams Co., 21 Sep 2014 (2014-1, vote: 4-3-0), was insufficiently described. The report of one near Calispell Lake, Pend Oreille Co., 24 May 2015 (2015-1, vote: 0-7-0) was based on an inconclusive recording of an unseen singing warbler.

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*) (15, 4). One reported from Neah Bay, Clallam Co., 18 Oct 2015 (BTBW-2015-1, vote: 1-5-1) was seen too briefly and incompletely to establish its identity.

Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*) (3, 1). One reported from Headgate County Park, 13 km west of Asotin, Asotin Co., 20 Jun 2015 (YTWA-2015-1, vote: 0-7-0) was seen only briefly and partially. The description was not adequate to rule out other more likely warblers such as the Yellow-rumped (*S. coronata*).

Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*) (2, 1). The description of one at College Place, Walla Walla Co., 25 Sep 2013 (PRAW-2013-1, vote: 0-7-0) failed to exclude the Magnolia Warbler (*S. magnolia*).

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) (0, 0). The description of three birds from Lakewood, Pierce Co., 3 Mar 2015 (SCTA-2015-1, vote: 0-7-0) was a better match for the Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) than for the Scarlet Tanager.

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) (38, 5). One reported from the campus of Washington State University, Pullman, Whitman Co., 25 Sep 2015 (INBU-2015-3, vote: 2-4-1) was seen too briefly for other blue buntings to be ruled out. Another report from Toppenish, Yakima Co., 24–28 Mar 2016 (2016-2, vote: 4-3-0) did not adequately rule out hybridization with the Lazuli Bunting (*P. amoena*).

Reports Not Accepted by the Committee—
Identification Certain, Origin Unknown

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) (0, 0). One photographed in Vancouver, Clark Co., late Apr–the end of May 1989 (BBWD-1989-1, identification vote: 7-0-0, origin vote: 0-7-0). Although this species has expanded its range in more recent years (Sauer et al. 2017), this sighting preceded the expansion and the committee believed an origin in captivity was more likely.

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Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*) (0, 0). Three were shot by a hunter at Monroe Landing, Whidbey I., Island Co., 14 Oct 2013 (RUSH-2013-1, identification vote: 7-0-0, origin vote: 0-6-1). Although there is some possibility of wild birds reaching Washington, especially as the Russian population grows (Howell et al. 2014), the committee concluded the most plausible origin of these birds was from a captive breeder.

Long-tailed Mockingbird (*Mimus longicaudatus*) (0, 0). One, initially mistaken for the more regular Northern Mockingbird (*M. polyglottos*), appeared at Magnuson Park, Seattle, King Co., 26 Jun–1 Jul 2014 (LTMO-2014-1, identification vote: 6-0-1, origin vote: 0-7-0). Although the identity of the bird was not in question, it is implausible that this South American species with no prior record of vagrancy reached Washington under its own power.

European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) (0, 0). Three sightings of single individuals in King County in May 2016 led to suspicion of a jail-break from a store: Myrtle Edwards Park, Seattle, 3–4 May 2016 (EUGO-2016-1, identification vote: 7-0-0, origin vote: 0-7-0); Discovery Park, Seattle, 7 May 2016 (2016-2, identification vote: 7-0-0, origin vote: 0-7-0); and Covington, 16 May 2016 (2016-3, identification vote: 7-0-0, origin vote: 0-7-0). No pattern exists to suggest that the European Goldfinch might be arriving in North America naturally.

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