

**FOURTH REPORT OF THE
WASHINGTON BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE**

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The Washington Bird Records Committee (WBRC) has met three times—on 22 November 1997, 11 April 1998, and 11 April 1999—since the deliberations reflected in its Third Report (Aanerud and Mattocks 1997). During these meetings the Committee examined 118 reports of 52 review species. 106 records of 47 species were accepted, and 12 reports of 11 species were not accepted. The exceptionally high acceptance rate of 90 percent is more than likely the result of the higher-than-usual quality of the written reports and of more ample photographic documentation. A preliminary, unofficial summary of these deliberations, published earlier (Mattocks 1999), is superseded by the present definitive report.

Several changes to the state Check-list result from Committee actions reported here. The revised Check-list of Washington Birds, which appears elsewhere in this issue, itemizes and incorporates these changes along with some minor resequencing of species within families (AOU 1998). Scaled Quail has been deleted from the Check-list. There have been no credible reports of this introduced species for 20 or more years, and there is no evidence to suggest that it ever maintained a viable population in the state without the benefit of regular releases by the Washington Department of Wildlife (Smith et al. 1997, Stepniowski 1999). In the next series of meetings, the Committee will consider and evaluate a collection of reports and other evidence regarding the occurrence of Cordilleran Flycatcher in Washington. It is expected that the results of these deliberations will be published in the Fifth Report of the WBRC.

NEW REVIEW CRITERION

A primary objective of recent meetings has been to establish a new criterion for determining the WBRC list of reviewable species. The original criterion (15 or fewer records) has been in place since the Committee opened for business in 1989. While this criterion was an appropriate one during the Committee's extensive retrospective review of pre-1989 records, it has outlived its usefulness now that nearly all of the documented earlier reports have been examined. The absolute number of 15 records is a crude measure, insensitive to the passage of time. If it were to remain the criterion for determining review status, then several species rare enough that their status calls for continuing surveillance would soon have too many records to qualify.

Nonetheless, the Review List published at the outset (WBRC 1989) is still largely valid. Adjustments and corrections made as the Committee's work progressed (WBRC 1994, WBRC 1996, WBRC 1997) have resulted in 11 species moving from non-review to review status (King Eider, Upland Sandpiper, Bar-tailed Godwit, Xantus's Murrelet, Horned Puffin, Great Gray Owl, Boreal Owl, White Wagtail, Black-and-white Warbler, Le Conte's Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird), two moving from review to non-review status (Mute Swan, Elegant Tern), and one being taken off the Review List then added back again (Acorn Woodpecker). Ten years of new records have accumulated—for example, of the 95 total records for all warblers on the Review List, 49 were reported during the 1990s—and more reports are coming in all the time. As a result, it has become clear that certain species not presently on the Review List occur less frequently than had been supposed, and warrant review status (White-faced Ibis, Emperor Goose, Tufted Duck, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Ruff). We have also learned that a number of species are more regular in their occurrence than had been presumed, sufficiently so for them to be removed from the Review List (Great Gray Owl, Boreal Owl, Acorn Woodpecker, Clay-colored Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird).

The Committee has therefore established a new criterion with the intent of providing stability and flexibility for the Review List, and ease of administration and interpretation for the Committee and field observers alike. *The Review List will consist of all species for which there are no more than 20 reliable, documented records for the ten-year period 1990-1999.* The new Review List resulting from the application of this criterion consists of those species whose names are italicized on the Check-list published elsewhere in this issue. The Committee will not consider possible changes to the Review List until 2009, except for the automatic addition of species newly recorded for the first time in the state. This policy is intended to prevent species from bouncing on and off the Review List from one year to the next. The Committee will make efforts to monitor and archive reports of other species that might be candidates for the Review List, including reports from prior years, and in ten years will determine which of these species, if any, should be added to the Review List. It is anticipated that the new criterion will be responsive to the transitory aspect of some of Washington's avifauna, as species over time are reported with greater or lesser frequency in the state.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Procedures have remained consistent with those detailed in the introduction of the first report of the WBRC (Tweit and Paulson 1994). Although photographs are considered among the most persuasive forms of documenting evidence, the Committee strongly prefers that a written report accompany any submitted photographs. Submitted evidence is considered a "report." A "record" is a report that has been accepted by the Committee.

THE RECORDS

The taxonomy and nomenclature employed in this report are those of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU 1998). The species reports are listed in taxonomic order, and multiple reports of a single species are listed chronologically. Information provided for each report generally includes the number of individuals (in many cases, with a description of age, sex, or plumage), location and date span for the report, initials of reporters who have submitted documenting evidence, and the file number (in parentheses) for the report. Observers' initials are not listed for reports not accepted. If any observers submitted photographic or video evidence, their initials are preceded by a "+" sign. All documenting evidence as well as any written comments provided by Committee members or consultants are conserved at the Slater Museum of Natural History, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma. Any commentary following this sequence of information is the opinion of the authors of this report, not of the Committee. In particular, determinations of sex, age, or subspecies are not part of the Committee's mandate.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The members of the Committee who voted on reports included herein were: Kevin R. Aanerud (Chairman), Bob Boekelheide, Philip W. Mattocks, Jr. (Secretary), Steven G. Mlodinow, Dennis R. Paulson, Andy Stepniewski, Robert A. Sundstrom, and Bill Tweit.

ABBREVIATIONS

specimen; + photograph or videotape submitted

Museum: PSM (Slater Museum of Natural History, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma)

Counties: Asotin (AS); Benton (BE); Clallam (CL); Clark (CK); Ferry (FE); Franklin (FR); Grant (GT); Grays Harbor (GH); Island (IS); Jefferson (JE); King (KG); Kitsap (KP); Kittitas (KT); Lewis (LE); Lincoln (LI); Mason (MA); Okanogan (OK); Pacific (PA); Pend Oreille (PO); Pierce (PI); San Juan (SJ); Skagit (SG); Snohomish (SN); Spokane (SP); Thurston (TH); Walla Walla (WW); Whatcom (WC); Whitman (WN)

ACCEPTED RECORDS

SOLANDER'S/MURPHY'S PETREL. One was seen off Westport, GH on 21 Sep 1996, TWa (SMPE-96-1) and another off Westport on 2 May 1998, TWa (SMPE-98-1). These two species are very close in appearance, and the Committee has decided to place any records that do not fully establish the identity as one or the other into this indeterminate category. Although there is as yet no accepted North American record for Solander's

Petrel, it is expected that before long a fully documented record will occur off the West Coast. In Washington, the occurrence of Murphy's Petrel has been established from several well-documented records. Solander's Petrel was included on the Committee's initial Check-list (WBRC 1989) on the basis of a single written report from 1983. However, the Committee subsequently decided to remove this species provisionally from the Check-list, pending further review (WBRC 1994). Seabird experts have been asked to review the report and make recommendations.

MOTTLED PETREL. One was found dead (PSM #9952) on the beach at Westport, GH on 2 Mar 1976 (MOPE-76-1). Another specimen (PSM #12531) also from Westport, GH was found on 25 Feb 1991 (MOPE-91-1). Four birds were seen during a pelagic trip off Westport, GH on 2 Feb 1997, WCa, BLA, ARi, BTw, TWa (MOPE-97-1). There are now four accepted state records.

MANX SHEARWATER. One was seen off Westport, GH on 2 Apr 1994, +TWa (MASH-94-1). Another was photographed off Westport, GH on 20 Jul 1996, +BSh (MASH-96-1). The first Manx Shearwater recorded from inland waters was seen from the Port Townsend-Keystone Ferry, IS on 9 Jul 1997, GGe, HWi (MASH-97-1). One was recorded 29 miles west of Tokeak Point, JE on 30 Jun 1998, BTw (MASH-98-1); one also was seen off Westport, GH on 22 Aug 1998, +KM_i, BTw (MASH-98-2). There are now eight accepted records.



Manx Shearwater - off Westport (GH), 22 Aug 1998 (Photo Kip Miller)

BROWN BOOBY. The first state record was an adult that was observed for several days on Protection Island, JE or feeding offshore nearby on 18-23 Oct 1997, GGe, NLa, VNe, MKe (BRBO-1-97). Perhaps the strong El Niño system of 1997 was responsible for the occurrence in Washington's waters of this far-flung wanderer.

SNOWY EGRET. One was seen at Clarkston, AS on 1-3 May 1977, +CMu (SNEG-77-2), and one at McNary National Wildlife Refuge, WW on 13 Sep 1980, BWo (SNEG-80-2). Three records come from Ocean Shores, GH on 12 Aug 1984, ARi (SNEG-84-4); on 6-7 May 1987, GWa (SNEG-87-1); and on 26 Apr 1994, G&RRa (SNEG-94-2). The 12 Aug 1984 sighting is very likely the same as the bird from 29 Jul 1984 at the same location (Tweit and Skriletz 1996), even though the Committee accepted it as a separate record. One was at Olympia, TH on 8-16 May 1996, +SRi; photographs were published in *WOSNews* 45:8, 1996. Another was present at Crow Butte State Park, BE on 1-4 May 1997, ASt (SNEG-97-1). There are now nineteen records.

GLOSSY/WHITE-FACED IBIS. One was at the mouth of the Humptulips River, GH on 20-23 Nov 1981, +RCa (WGIB-81-1). An immature was observed on Willapa Bay, PA on 24 Jan 1982, CWi (WGIB-82-1). There are no records of Glossy Ibis for Washington, but the possibility of its occurring in the state requires that any dark ibis not identifiable to species be placed in this category.

WHITE-FACED IBIS. The Committee has accepted six records to date. Two were at Ephrata, GT on 3-15 Jun 1981, +EMi (WFIB-81-1). A flock of 19 was seen at Goose Lake, GT on 11 May 1985, DBe, ERa (WFIB-85-1), and an impressive 40 individuals were at Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge, CK on 6 May 1992, +WCa (WFIB-91-1). One was reported from Reardan, LI on 11 Apr 1994, BMi (WFIB-94-1) and another from Palouse, WN on 7 May 1997, +AMe (WFIB-97-1). A west-side record was reported from Monroe, SN on 6 Jun 1998, SMI (WFIB-98-1). This species was not placed on the review list until now, despite the paucity of records. There have been fewer than 20 published reports in the last ten years and for that reason White-faced Ibis qualifies for review status.

FALCATED DUCK. A male in partial eclipse plumage was seen on one day only near Sequim, CL on 3 Jul 1993, NBa (FADU-93-1) and represents the second record for the state.

KING EIDER. An immature male was seen by many observers at Whidbey Island, IS on 24 Dec 1995-10 Feb 1996, VNe, GGe, EDe (KIEI-95-1). There are eleven records in all.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK. An immature was recorded at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, CK where the species is most frequently noted, on 16 Oct 1993, RRo (RSHA-93-1). An adult was seen at Ilwaco, PA on 18 Sep 1994, RRo (RSHA-04-1). Unexpected was a more northerly record from Dungeness, CL on 2 Jan-7 Feb 1997, TAv (RSHA-97-1) for the ninth state record.

UPLAND SANDPIPER. Two records from Ocean Shores, GH occurred on 27-30 Aug 1994, CCh, NCh (UPSA-94-1), and 6 Sep 1997, SMI (UPSA-97-1). These sightings are the second and third records accepted by the Committee; the first was from Leadbetter Point, PA in 1991 (Tweit and Skriletz 1996). The last report of Upland Sandpipers from their traditional breeding ground just east of Spokane was from 1993 (Smith et al. 1997).

BRISTLE-THIGHED CURLEW. Multiple sightings of this rare species occurred in Washington (and Oregon and California as well) during May of 1998 as the likely result of strong anomalous northerly winds over their oceanic migratory route during the last week of April (Bowling 1998, Mlodinow et al. 1999). The Committee has thus far accepted four records from this period, removing the species from the Supplementary List. Two birds were reported near the base of the Point Brown jetty at Ocean Shores, GH on 8 May 1998, HOp, BSu (BTCU-98-1). Another was photographed on the outer beach of Ocean Shores, GH on 13 May 1998, +PSu (BTCU-98-2). One was seen near Westport, GH on 18 May 1998, BTw (BTCU-98-3). The last Bristle-thighed Curlew to be found was recorded at Ocean Shores, GH on the Oyhut Wildlife Recreation Area on 23 May 1998, DGd, KAa (BTCU-98-4). There are now five records of Bristled-thighed Curlews including the previously accepted single-person sight record of 1 May 1982 (Tweit and Paulson 1994).



Bristle-thighed Curlew - Ocean City State Park (GH), 13 May 1998 (Photo Patrick Sullivan)



Bristle-thighed Curlew - Ocean City State Park (GH), 13 May 1998 (Photo Patrick Sullivan)

HUDSONIAN GODWIT. One was at Crockett Lake, Whidbey Island, IS on 20 Jul 1996, SMI (HUGO-96-1). A juvenile was at Blaine, WC on 6-7 Oct 1996, SMI (HUGO-96-2). Another juvenile was at the Walla Walla River delta, WW on 1 Sep 1997, B&Nlf (HUGO-97-1). There are twelve accepted records.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT. One was at Tokeland, PA on 26 Aug 1989, EHu (BTGO-89-1). More unusual was a bird in the lower basin of Puget Sound at Totten Inlet, MA on 1 Oct 1994, CCh (BTGO-94-1). Two birds remained briefly at Tokeland, PA in the fall of 1998: an adult female on 11 Jul-4 Sep, PLe, SMI, EDe (BTGO-98-1), and a juvenile on 7 Oct-1 Nov, BTw, SMI (BTGO-98-2). Nineteen records have been accepted.



Bar-tailed Godwit - Tokeland (PA), 13 Sep 1998 (Photo Ruth Sullivan)

CURLEW SANDPIPER. A juvenile was on the beach at Ocean City, GH on 7 Sep 1997, BSm (CUSA-97-1). This is the sixth state record and the first of a juvenile.

BLACK-HEADED GULL. One was seen from Alki Point, Seattle, KG on 27 Oct 1994, RRo (BHGU-94-2). A spring record was at Point No Point, KP on 6 Apr 1996, VNe (BHGU-96-1). An adult in an early stage of prebasic molt was at Everett, SN on 30 Sep 1996, +KAa (BHGU-96-1); a photograph was published in *WOSNews* 47:9, 1997. Another adult was also at Everett, SN on 28 Sep-10 Oct 1997, BBe (BHGU-97-1); a photograph was published in *WOSNews* 54:8, 1998. A Black-headed Gull from Point No

Point, KP was reported on 8–17 Mar 1998, +VNe (BHGU-98-1). All records since 1993 are from Puget Sound, and it is possible that they pertain to a single bird that remained faithful in its migratory habits over a three-year period. The Committee has accepted them as separate records. There are now thirteen records for the state.

ICELAND GULL. The seventh state record was a bird seen on the Samish Flats, SG on 6 Apr 1997, SMI, SPi (ICGU-97-1).

SLATY-BACKED GULL. An adult was at Hawk's Prairie, TH on 30 Dec 1995, TSc, BTw (SBGU-95-1). The second record from Gog-Le-Hi-Te Preserve, Tacoma, PI was on 2–3 Jan 1998, SHa (photo in *WOSNews* 55:8, 1998). The Committee has been conservative when considering reports of this species, relying on a multiplicity of field marks in separating it from its congeners. There are four state records in all.

RED-LEGGED KITTIWAKE. The fourth state record was seen 30 miles off Westport, GH on 21 Mar 1998, BLA, PAn (RLKI-98-1).

LONG-BILLED MURRELET. A bird was photographed near Lopez Island, SJ on 12 Aug 1993, +JSk (LBMU-93-1). This record, published by Skriletz (1996), predates the only other accepted record for the state on 16 Nov 1995 (Aanerud and Mattocks 1997). This species also has been reported in California, Oregon, and southeast Alaska (Mlodinow 1997).

XANTUS'S MURRELET. A bird seen 25 miles off Westport, GH on 4 Oct 1987, GGe (XAMU-87-1) represents the second accepted record. This species has only recently been reclassified from non-review to review status (Aanerud and Mattocks 1997).

PARAKEET AUKLET. Two were seen on a pelagic boat trip off Westport, GH on 2 Feb 1997, TWa, BTw, BLb, ARi (PAAU-97-1). The tenth state record was also off Westport, GH on 14 Mar 1999, BTw (PAAU-99-1).

HORNED PUFFIN. One was seen from shore at Point Grenville, GH on 11 Jun 1994, LCa (HOPU-94-1). That same year the fourteenth state record was observed from the Point Brown jetty, Ocean Shores, GH on 7 Aug 1994, SMI (HOPU-94-2).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO. The fourth state record was seen and heard at Davis Lake, PO on 19 Jun 1988, JAc (BBCU-88-1).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO. One was seen briefly near Elma, GH on 3 Aug 1996, SGI, BMo (YBCU-96-1). The remains of another were discovered from a photograph of the nesting site of Peregrine Falcons in downtown Seattle, KG in mid-Jun 1997, +BRu (YBCU-97-1). These are the sixth and seventh records of this species since 1940, by which date it had been extirpated as a breeder in Washington.

NORTHERN HAWK OWL. One was enjoyed by many observers during an extended stay on the Eastern Washington University Campus at Cheney, SP from 15 Jan to 17 Mar 1997, +DRo (NHOW-97-1). Several photos were published (*WOSNews* 48:3, 1997, with an account by Ruth Sullivan; *WOSNews* 49:7, 1997; *WOSNews* 50:7, 1997). There are nine state records.



Black-headed Gull - Everett (SN), 2 Oct 1997 (Photo Ruth Sullivan)



Costa's Hummingbird - Frederickson (PI), 14 Sep 1998 (Photo Bob Ramsey)

COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD. The first definitive record for the state was a male visiting a feeder near Frederickson, PI during Aug–Oct 1998 +G&RRa (COHU-98-1). Details of this bird's visit are given by Ramsey (1998).

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER. An adult male was seen working sapwells on red alders and bigleaf maples near Pe Ell, LE on 24-28 Feb 1997 IMc, KAa (YBSA-97-1) for only the second state record.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH. A record from McNary National Wildlife Refuge, WW on 6 Oct 1990 (GCTH-90-1) was previously accepted (Tweit and Paulson 1994), prior to the splitting off of Bicknell's Thrush as a separate species by the American Ornithologists' Union. Upon second review, the Committee has affirmed that the written report sufficiently describes a Gray-cheeked Thrush, the more likely of the two species to occur in Washington.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER. An immature female was captured, photographed, banded, and released at Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge, SP on 20 Aug 1998, +MFr (GWWA-98-1) thereby resulting in an unequivocal first state record. Photos and an account were published by Frobe (1999).

TENNESSEE WARBLER. One made a brief appearance at a West Seattle feeder, KG on 25 Nov 1998, BFe (TEWA-98-1). There are now nine accepted records.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER. A male was at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, CK on 10 Jul 1996, IMc (CSWA-96-1). Another male was seen and heard at Rockport, SG on 12 Jun 1998, SJo (CSWA-98-1). The first individual recorded in the state as a fall migrant was a basic-plumaged adult male at Bateman Island, BE on 20–25 Aug 1998, +PBa (CSWA-98-2). Eleven records have now been accepted.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER. The eighth accepted record was a singing male seen by many observers during a period of nearly three weeks at Twisp, OK on 15 Jun–4 Jul 1996, JAc, G&RRa (MAWA-96-1). A photograph was published in *WOSNews* 46:9, 1996.

BLACKPOLL WARBLER. A male in breeding plumage was on Tatoosh Island, CL on 20 Jun 1997, +TWO (BPWA-97-1). A fall-plumaged bird was at Bateman Island, BE on 25 Aug 1998, +PBa (BPWA-98-1). Two other fall records were seen on the same field trip, one at Vantage, KT on 1 Sep 1998, SMI, JFl, KAa (BPWA-98-2), and one at Wahluke Slope Wildlife Recreation Area, FR on 1 Sep 1998, KAa, SMI, JFl (BPWA-98-3). There are now 11 accepted records for the state.

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER. Six records were accepted: one (an adult female) at Tacoma, PI on 4 Jun 1995, RRa (BAWA-95-1); one on Foster's Island, Seattle, KG on 21 Nov–21 Dec 1996, +KAa (BAWA-96-1); another from Foster's Island on 31 Aug 1997, +KAa (BAWA-97-1); an adult at Heart Lake, SG on 19 Sep 1997, SGe (BAWA-97-2); an adult male from Rockport, SG on 22 Jun 1998, SJo (BAWA-98-1); and a late-fall record at Sequim, CL on 17 Dec 1998, RNo (BAWA-98-2). A photograph of the 1996 Seattle bird was published (*WOSNews* 48:10,



Blackpoll Warbler - Richland (BE), 25 Aug 1998 (Photo Phil Bartley)



Black-and-white Warbler - Seattle (KG), 24 Nov 1996 (Photo Ruth Sullivan)

1997). There are now 20 records for the state. Eleven of them have occurred in either May or June, and the others are scattered between August and March.

OVENBIRD. One was at Government Springs, KT on 24 May 1997, BSe (OVEN-97-1). Another was at the Davenport Cemetery, LI on 24-27 May 1998, JAc (OVEN-98-1). There are now 12 state records: four in May, five in June, and one each in July, September, and October.

HOODED WARBLER. The third state record was a male in Pullman, WN on 1-11 Dec 1989, G&RRa (HOWA-89-1).

SUMMER TANAGER. The first state record visited a feeder in Skagit County from 11 Dec 1997 through 6 Jan 1998, +PGr, +DMc (SUTA-97-1). There are no records of this species for British Columbia and only seven records for Oregon. Five of these are from southeast Oregon and all seven are during the period of late May to early June (Gilligan et al. 1994).

LARK BUNTING. One was at Tokeland, PA on 31 Oct - 1 Nov 1996, ARi, BTw (LKBU-96-1). Photographs of this record were published in *Washington Birder* 4(4):3, 1996, and *WOSNews* 48:10, 1997. Another was at Fort Lewis, PI on 18 Jul 1998, RRo (LKBU-98-1) representing the tenth state record.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK. An adult male was on Shaw Island, SJ on 3 Sep 1994, EDr (RBGR-94-2). Another adult male visited a feeder in Seattle, KG on 31 May 1998 +GE (RBGR-98-1). A third male was observed for a few days at Northrup Canyon, GT on 7-11 Jun 1998, JAc (RBGR-98-2). There are now 13 accepted records.

DICKCISSEL. The fourth and fifth records for the state were accepted by recent Committee actions. One visited a feeder in Ocean Shores, GH on 18-28 Feb 1996, +RSu, BTw (DICK-96-1). The first accepted record from the east side was along Dodson Road near Frenchman Hills Road, GT on 11 Jun 1997, BFe (DICK-97-1).

TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD. The first state record was an entire breeding colony of an estimated 50 individuals discovered by Dave Beaudette at Wilson Creek, GT on 6 Jul 1998 and subsequently reported and photographed by other observers until 25 Jul 1998, +KAa, DBe, +CHa, SMl (TRBL-98-1). Many juveniles were successfully fledged and the birds gradually left the cattail marsh and dispersed throughout the surrounding agricultural land in mixed flocks with Yellow-headed, Red-winged, and Brewer's Blackbirds.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD. Two males and a female were at Monroe, SN on 26 Dec 1987-7 Jan 1988, GGe (RUBL-87-2). One was seen in a flock of Brewer's Blackbirds near Bayview, SG on 8 Jan 1996, BTw (RUBL-96-1). Another was reported from Spencer Island, SN on 3 Nov 1996, SMl (RUBL-96-2). A third record for 1996 was at Kennewick, BE on 21 Dec, DRo (RUBL-96-3). Another record from Monroe, SN was on 1 Feb 1998, +GGe (RUBL-98-1). There are now 22 accepted records. The Com-



Summer Tanager - Skagit County, Winter 1997-1998 (Photo Dick McNeely)



Rusty Blackbird - Monroe (SN), 1 Feb 1998 (Photo George Gerds)

mittee has decided that reports of this species will no longer be reviewed, as more than 20 birds have been reported in the state in the last ten years with no apparent decline.

COMMON GRACKLE. A late-spring record occurred on Tatoosh Island, CL on 21 Jun 1997, +TWo (COGR-97-1). The sixth state record was at Grand Coulee, GT on 21 May 1998, +JCo. A photograph and account were published (Converse 1999).

HOODED ORIOLE. A male was at a feeder in Bellingham, WC on 20-23 May 1996, +JMe (HOOR-96-1) and represents the second state record.

BRAMBLING. The twelfth record accepted by the Committee was a bird that frequented a feeder at Walla Walla, WH from 20 Feb through 25 Mar 1992, +MDe (BRAM-92-2).

HOARY REDPOLL. One was well described from Curlew, FE on 29 Jan 1998, RRw (HORE-98-1). There are four state records.

RECORD ACCEPTED FOR THE SUPPLEMENTARY LIST

BLUE-HEADED VIREO. The first state record was a single-person sight record from the Montlake Fill, Seattle, KG on 6 Sep 1995, KAa (BHVI-95-1). Formerly considered a subspecies of Solitary Vireo, this eastern form was recently raised to full species status by the American Ornithologists' Union.

UNACCEPTED REPORTS

WHITE-FACED IBIS. A flock of 14, seen in flight, was reported at Port Angeles, CL on 16 Oct 1991 (WFIB-91-1). The identity of these birds was questionable, particularly as the manner of flight was described as "slow with a deep, slow wingbeat." The characteristic flight of White-faced Ibis is more aptly described as a set of rapid wingbeats alternating with brief glides.

GREATER FLAMINGO. The Committee has determined that the two birds reported and photographed from Grays Harbor, GH on 8 May-1 Jun 1975 should more than likely be considered as escaped birds of unknown origin (GRFL-75-1). An account and photograph were published by Mudd and Smith (1975).

CRESTED CARACARA. Two reports of this species were not accepted by the Committee because of the concerns expressed that these birds were not of wild origin. The California records committee has yet to accept any of that state's several reports for the same reason, including a published report from as long ago as 1837 (Grinnell and Miller 1944). The two Washington reports were from Ocean Shores, GH on 13 Aug 1983 (CRCA-83-1), and Neah Bay, CL on 4-25 Jan 1998 (CRCA-98-1). Both birds were well photographed and the specific identity was never in question (Anderson and Shifflett 1998). A Crested Caracara reported from Caviar Cove log-



Common Grackle - Grand Coulee (GR), 21 May 1998 (Photo Jerry Converse)



Hooded Oriole - Bellingham (WC), 22 May 1996 (Photo Joseph Meche)

ging camp east of Port Hardy, British Columbia, after 4 May 1998, is certainly the same individual as the Neah Bay bird. These reports could well be revisited by the Committee if a pattern of vagrancy for this species should become evident.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER. The details of this report of two birds seen together near Ocosta, GH on 9 Sep 1994 (WRS-94-1) were considered insufficient to be accepted as a record.

CURLEW SANDPIPER. At least four were reported on 27 Oct 1996 (CUSA-96-1) at Dungeness, CL. The report was unanimously considered to refer to Dunlin.

THICK-BILLED MURRE. One was reported from the ferry off Port Townsend, JE on 11 Jan 1987 (TBMU-87-1). The Committee was reluctant to accept this report because the detailed description was reliant upon ten years of memory by the observer, rather than notes written at or near the time of observation.

XANTUS'S MURRELET. Two birds were reported from the Point Brown jetty, Ocean Shores, GH on 16 Aug 1997 (XAMU-97-1). The Committee requires exacting details for acceptance of any nearshore reports of this species. The present report of two birds seen flying northward past the jetty was judged insufficient in detail. Also, the back of the birds was described as a solid rich brown, but Stallcup (1990) points out that Xantus's are "slaty-black above, lacking brownish tones."

HORNED PUFFIN. A bird off Westport, GH on 2 Feb 1997 (HOPU-97-1) was seen briefly by several observers. Based on their reports, the Committee believes that none of them saw the bird well enough to be certain of identification.

TENNESSEE WARBLER. A bird was reported from the Skagit Wildlife-Recreation Area, SG on 13 Sep 1997 (TEWA-97-1). The description did not rule out immature Warbling Vireo or immature Orange-crowned Warbler, and did not mention useful fieldmarks, particularly the white undertail coverts and a relatively short tail.

LARK BUNTING. A report of an alternate-plumaged adult male seen near McNary National Wildlife Refuge, WW on 26 Apr 1998 (LKBU-98-2) was considered insufficient in descriptive detail.

CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR. A basic-plumaged male was reported from Everett, SN on 7 Sep 1997 (CCLO-97-1). Many details of this report were convincing. However, the Committee voted not to accept it because the bird was seen only in flight, and very briefly.

CONTRIBUTORS

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