

The CFO Records Committee Report for 1985

Peter Gent
55 S. 35th Street
Boulder, CO 80303

This report discusses the records received by the committee in 1985 and clarifies the status of Mottled Duck. In this report three species are added to, and one deleted from, the CFO State list which now stands at 440 species, five of which are introduced. The six committee members who reviewed the 1985 records are William Brockner (Evergreen), Charles Chase (Denver), Mark Janos (Delta), Ron Lambeth (Grand Junction), William Maynard (Colorado Springs) and Richard Stransky (Durango). The committee desires documentation of all species unrecorded in Colorado and those species designated as rare (R) on the CFO checklist of Colorado Birds, which is available from all records committee members and CFO officers.

Part 1. Species Added to the CFO State List

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD (*Fregata magnificens*). N-85-35. One adult female was first seen in Littleton, Jefferson County, on 9/14/85 (Hans-Joachim Feddern) and was killed two days later at Green Mountain Reservoir near Kremmling, Summit County. It is now in the Denver Museum of Natural History (DMNH 39020), see the article by Betsy Webb (1985). This species was to be expected in Colorado because it wanders widely and there are records from all states surrounding Colorado except Utah and Wyoming.

WHITE IBIS (*Eudocimus albus*). 7-85-15. One immature seen at Nee Noshe Reservoir, Kiowa County, on 7/20/85 and stayed through August (Dan Bridges and Peter Gent). The bird was present with White-faced Ibises (*Plegadis chihi*), see the article by Dan Bridges (1985). Again, this species was to be expected because the immatures disperse widely in fall and there are records from all states surrounding Colorado except Utah.

HENSLOW'S SPARROW (*Ammodramus henslowii*). 56-85-55. One adult briefly but well seen at Jackson Reservoir, Morgan County on 9/10/85 (Larry Halsey and Wade Leitner). This bird was alone on a barbed wire fence by an intake canal. The species breeds as far west as eastern Kansas.

Part 2. Species Deleted from the CFO State List

MOTTLED DUCK (*Anas fulvigula*). In the Records Committee report for 1982, Gent (1984), I mistakenly readed this species to the state list. In fact, the two specimens for Colorado were examined by John R. Hubbard of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and determined not be valid examples of this species. This was first reported when Robert Andrews was chairman of the committee in his report for 1976 and 1977 (Andrews 1978). This species should be deleted from the CFO Checklist of Colorado Birds.

Part 3. Species Not Added to the CFO State List

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*). 6-85-23. One in summer plumage seen at Lower Latham Reservoir, Weld County, on 5/6/85. The committee members thought that this report did not adequately eliminate a subadult Whitefaced Ibis (*P. chihi*), which can show almost no white in the face. Also leg and eye color can be very hard to determine on these species.

RUDDY SHELDUCK (*Tadorna ferruginea*). 8-85-37. A female was seen on the Colorado River at Grand Junction, Mesa County, on 11/12 and 21/84, but was determined to be a locally escaped bird.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE (*Elanus caeruleus*). 10-85-5. One adult seen on 4/2/85 at Alamosa Wildlife Refuge, Alamosa County. A majority of the committee members gave this report an A rating, but details were somewhat brief and a single observer sight record is not sufficient to add a species to the CFO State list. This species is expanding to range in the southwest United States and may be expected to occur soon in Colorado.

SPOTTED REDSHANK (*Tringa erythropus*). 19-85-14. One juvenile seen at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe County, on 7/19/85. Committee members thought that the description was too brief to eliminate other *Tringa* species and possibly Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*).

COMMON GROUND DOVE (*Columbina passerina*). 25-81-64. One female seen near Deckers, Douglas County, on 11/8/81. This is an old record that was given an A rating when it was circulated round the committee a few years ago. No further reports have been obtained to supplement the single observer sight record. Thus the species cannot be added to the CFO State List, but is added to the list of hypothetical species for Colorado.

MONK PARAKEET (*Myiopsitta monachus*). 25A-85-49. One seen in east Denver between June 1983 and May 1985, see the article by the Kingerys (1986). This was clearly an escaped cage bird.

Part 4. Category A Records (submitted documentation supports the stated identification)

OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax olivaceus*). 4-85-52. One immature at Sweitzer Lake, Delta, Delta County, on 31/10 to 2/11/85 (Mark Janos). Fifth state record and the first for the west slope.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (*Egretta caerulea*). 5-85-6. One immature seen at Lake Henry, Crowley County on 9/17/84 (William Maynard, photo on file).

TRICOLORED HERON (*Egretta tricolor*). 5-85-46. One immature seen at Lower Latham Reservoir, Weld County, on 9/8/85 (Jerry Cairo).

NORTHERN PINTAIL (*Anas acuta*). 8-85-10. One albinistic adult at C.F.&I. Ponds, Pueblo County, on 3/3/85 (David Blue, photo on file). See also the article by William Maynard (1985).

EURASIAN WIGEON (*Anas penelope*). 8-85-21. One male in summer plumage at Behreus Lake, near La Salle, Weld County on 4/18/85 (Jerry Cairo).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (*Melanitta fusca*). 8-85-38. Three immatures seen on Big Blue Creek, 11 miles west of Sapinero, Gunnison County, on 10/25/84 (Dick Guadagno).

AMERICAN SWALLOW-TAILED KITE (*Elanoides forficatus*) 10-85-16. One adult seen at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County, on 5/13/84 (Victor Zerbi). Eighth state record.

KING RAIL (*Rallus elegans*). 17-85-12. One adult seen at Lower Latham Reservoir, Weld County on 5/23 and 31/85 (Jerry Cairo and Peter Gent). Second state record, see the article by Jerry Cairo (1985).

WHOOPIING CRANE (*Grus americana*) 16-85-20. One adult seen at Gunnison, Gunnison County, on 4/9/84 (Ronald French).

LEAST SANDPIPER (*Calidris minutilla*). 19-85-39. One in winter plumage at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe County, on 12/28/84 (Peter Bruce). This is a very late date for this species.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (*Tryngites subruficollis*). 19-85-32. One juvenile seen at C.F.&I. Ponds, Pueblo County, on 9/2 and 8/85 (David Blue and William Maynard, photo on file).

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus griseus*). 19-85-31. One juvenile seen at C.F.& I Ponds, Pueblo County on 8/24 and 9/2/85 (David Blue and William Maynard, photo on file).

PARASITIC JAEGER (*Stercorarius parasiticus*). 22-85-43. One seen at Chatfield State Recreation Area, Jefferson County, on 9/7 and 8/85 (Hugh Kingery).

PARASITIC JAEGER (*Stercorarius parasiticus*). 22-85-48. One adult at Blue Mesa Reservoir, Gunnison County, on 9/25/85 (Ronald Meyer).

MEW GULL (*Larus canus*). 23-85-1. One in first winter plumage at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe County on 1/29/85 (Judy Ward). Fourth state record.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (*Rissa tridactyla*). 23-85-3. One immature at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe County, 11/10 and 11/84 (David Blue and William Maynard, photo on file).

CASPIAN TERN (*Sterna caspia*). 23-85-2. One adult in summer plumage seen at C.F.&I. Ponds, Pueblo County on 9/15 and 16/84 (David Blue, William Maynard and Rosie Watts, photo on file).

CASPIAN TERN (*Sterna caspia*). 23-85-26. One in summer plumage seen at Cheraw Reservoir, Otero County on 8/3/85 (Elinor Wills).

LEAST TERN (*Sterna antillarum*). 23-85-13. Four in alternate plumage seen at Blue Lake, Bent County on 6/17/85 (William Maynard, photo on file).

BOREAL OWL (*Aegolius funereus*). 28-85-4. One heard at Island Lake Resort on Grand Mesa, Mesa County, on 2/24/85 (Timothy Armstrong).

BOREAL OWL (*Aegolius funereus*). 28-85-8. One heard on Wolf Creek Pass, Mineral County, on 3/17/85 (John Rawinski). Southernmost state location.

BOREAL OWL (*Aegolius funereus*). 28-85-45. One seen at Slumgullian Pass, Hinsdale County, on 9/9/84 (John Rawinski, photo on file).

BOREAL OWL (*Aegolius funereus*). 28-85-47. Two adults seen at county line on Grand Mesa, Mesa/Delta Counties, on 10/1/85 (Mark Janos). Westernmost state location.

BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus alexandri*). 31-85-40. One male at Waterton Canyon, Jefferson County, on 5/12/85 (Ron Carter, David Dominick and Hugh Kingery).

ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD (*Calypete anna*). 31-85-36. One male seen at Great Sand Dunes National Monument, Alamosa County, on 7/28/84 (Wade Leitner, photo on file). Fifth state record.

BLACK PHOEBE (*Sayornis nigricans*). 34-85-25. One adult at Ridgeway, Ouray County, on 5/20/85 (Dick Guadagno and Mark Janos). Sixth state record.

VARIED THRUSH (*Ixoreus naevius*). 44-85-53. Two, a male and a female, at Boulder, Boulder County, on 12/27/84 (Larry Halsey, photos on file).

BENDIRE'S THRASHER (*Toxostoma bendirei*). 43-85-17. Three adult birds seen a few miles northwest of Del Norte, Rio Grande County, on 6/19/84 (Victor Zerbi). There is apparently a small population of Bendire's Thrashers breeding in this location, the only such location known in the state.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora chrysoptera*). 52-85-24. One female in breeding plumage at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County, on 5/12/85 (John Merchant).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora chrysoptera*). 52-85-44. One female in Englewood, Arapahoe County, on 6/6/85 (Hugh Kingery).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Dendroica dominica*). 52-85-22. One male in Boulder, Boulder County on 4/22/85 (Barry Jones).

PINE WARBLER (*Dendroica pinus*). 52-85-34. One male at Barr Lake, Adams County on 8/31/85 (David Martin and Duane Nelson).

PINE WARBLER (*Dendroica pinus*). 52-85-51. One male at Barr Lake, Adams County on 10/20/85 (Dan Bridges). These records are very unlikely to be the same individual.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (*Protonotaria citrea*). 52-85-33. One male at the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Jefferson County, on 8/20 and 21/85 (Duane Nelson).

KENTUCKY WARBLER (*Oporornis formosus*). 52-85-11. One male in Colorado Springs, El Paso County, on 5/27 and 28/85 (David Romero, photo on file).

KENTUCKY WARBLER (*Oporornis formosus*). 52-85-54. One male in Aspen, Pitkin County, on 6/6/83 (Tom Cardamone, photo on file).

HEPATIC Tanager (*Piranga flava*). 55-85-18. Three adults, two males and one female, seen near Kim, Las Animas County, on 7/4 and 5/85 (Victor Zerbi).

HEPATIC Tanager (*Piranga flava*). 55-85-28. Two adults, one male and one female, seen in Tobe Canyon, Tobe, Las Animas County, on 5/11/85 (Dan Bridges).

HEPATIC Tanager (*Piranga flava*). 55-85-29. One adult male seen in Tobe Canyon, Tobe, Las Animas County, on 5/27/85 (Dan Bridges). These three reports confirm that there is a small, but stable, breeding population of Hepatic Tanagers on Mesa de Maya, the only such location known in the state.

DICKCISSEL (*Spiza americana*). 567-85-27. One male seen in Clifton, Mesa County daily from late May until 7/24/85 (Charlotte Campbell, photos on file). This is an unusual west slope record for this species.

BREWER'S SPARROW (*Spizella breweri*). 56-85-7. Two adults seen at Escalante Wildlife Refuge, Delta, Delta County, on 1/9 and 27 and 2/2/85 (Mark Janos). This is a very unusual winter record for this species in Colorado.

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE (*Quiscalus mexicanus*). 54-85-50. Four adults, two males and two females, seen in Delta, Delta County, on 11/19/85 (Mark Janos). This species is now being seen quite frequently on the west slope.

PURPLE FINCH (*Carpodacus purpureus*). 56-85-9. One adult female seen in Lakewood, Jefferson County on 1/11/85 (Joyce and John Cooper).

Part 5. Category B and C records (submitted documentation probably indicates a misidentification or is too brief or incomplete to support the stated identification).

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD (*Eugenes fulgens*). 31-85-41. One female seen in Durango, La Plata County, on 3/23/85. The committee was equally divided on this record, but some members thought that female Blue-throated Hummingbird (*Lampornis demenciae*) was not adequately eliminated. These two females are similar in size and plumage.

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*). 34-85-42. Three adults seen by the Mancos River, Montezuma County, on 5/4/85. These birds were seen across the river, and most committee members thought that Ash-throated Flycatcher (*M. cinerascens*) was not adequately eliminated. The best way to distinguish these two species is by call and no vocalizations were heard in this observation.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO (*Vireo flavifrons*). 51-85-30. One male seen in Boulder, Boulder County, on 6/15/85. The committee members noted that the description of a distinct white eye-ring does not fit this species which has yellow spectacles. Also, the bill was not well seen and thus some warbler species were not adequately eliminated.

LITERATURE CITED

- Andrews, R. 1978. The CFO records Committee report 1976 and 1977, CFO Journal 12, No 4, 4-21.
- Bridges, L.W.D. 1985. White Ibis-first Colorado record. CFO Journal 19, 75-76.

Cairo, J. 1985. King Rail-second Colorado Record. CFO Journal 19, 38.

Gent, P.R. 1984. The CFO Records Committee report for 1982. CFO Journal 18, 51-57.

Kingery, U. & H. 1986. Litany of a Monk Parakeet. CFO Journal 20, 7-9.

Maynard, W. 1985. Albinism in Northern Pintail. CFO Journal 19, 100-101.

Webb, B. 1985. Against all odds: first record of a Magnificent Frigatebird in Colorado. CFO Journal 19, 94-96.

**DO
SOMETHING
WILD!**

