

THE C.F.O. OFFICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 1990

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This report reviews records received by the Committee for the year 1990.

When there are more than two reports for the same bird, all reporters are listed. Generally, the first name listed is the person who first found the bird. Sometimes the person who initially finds a bird doesn't submit a report, and credit can't be given to that person. In that case, the person who sends in reports is listed. The best way around this is for finders to submit records. Those who documented birds by photographs are listed in the text.

The Records Committee members who voted on these records include Coen Dexter (Grand Junction), Peter Gent (Boulder), Joe Himmel (Greeley), Bill Howe (Laurel, MD), Mark Janos (Pueblo), Dick Schottler (Golden), David Silverman (Rye), and Van Truan (Pueblo).

Part 1. Species Added to The C.F.O. State List.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) 8-90-14. One was observed at a small pond one-half mile south of the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 34 on Weld County Road 59 on October 15, 1990. This species has a strong tendency to wander after the breeding season, and many Colorado birders felt that it was inevitable that one would show up in the state. The issue of the bird's origin was considered by the committee. One cautious voter felt that "... the chance of it being a wild bird is at least as great as it being an escape from somewhere." This bird was found by Joe Himmel and seen later that day by Jerry Cairo.

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*) 8-90-11. A male was found by John Bregar at Jackson Reservoir in Morgan County. It was put on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, and dozens of observers saw it on April 26th and 27th, 1990. There is a strong pattern in the interior of the continent for these birds to migrate north with Blue-winged Teal in April. This bird conformed to this expected pattern. All reviewers felt that the origin of this bird was not a problem. A possible female Garganey was reported from the same flock. The committee members did not come to a unanimous decision on that bird. Reports were submitted by Peter Gent and Mark Janos.

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*) 54-90-76. An immature male, probably of the Texas subspecies (*aeneus*), summered near the yard of Bill and

Jan Carter, on Green Mountain in Jefferson County. Because all three U.S. cowbird species are expanding their ranges so explosively, it should come as no great surprise that a Bronzed Cowbird appeared here. If there is an element of surprise, it is that it appeared so soon so far north. Peter Gent documented it on May 18th, 1990, and Mark Janos's report was from June 5th, 1990.

Part 2. Reported Species Not Added to the State List.

Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttalli*) 37-90-38. A photograph was submitted of a magpie with a pale horn-colored bill. The photo was taken in Rocky Mountain National Park on May 6th, 1990. The bird lacked the diagnostic yellow skin around the eye. Yellow-billed Magpies are the only bird species that have never been seen outside California.

Cactus Wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*) 42-90-39. An intriguing report from Comanche National Grasslands, Baca County, on May 19, 1990. The song was heard but not described. There was only one observer, and the observation period was too brief to see all field marks.

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) 56-90-74. A flock was reported near Calhan and Ellicott, El Paso County, 8/14-8/18, 1990. The committee felt that the photographs did not support the identification and did not rule out non-breeding Lark Buntings.

Part 3. Category A Records (Submitted Documentation Supports the Recorded Description).

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) 1-90-1. One bird in first winter plumage was observed at Pueblo Reservoir, Pueblo County on 11/17 and 11/18/90 (Mark Janos).

Olivaceous Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax olivaceus*) 4-90-2. An immature bird was observed at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County on 8/21/90 (Dan Bridges).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) 5-90-3. An adult was seen at Nee Noshe Reservoir, Kiowa County, on 6/6 and 6/7/90 (Mike Carter and Duane Nelson).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) 5-90-4. One adult was found at Jackson Reservoir, Morgan County, on 4/24/90 by a group searching for the previously mentioned Garganey (Norm Erthal).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) 5-90-5. One immature was found by David Silverman at C.F.I. Ponds, Pueblo County, on 8/8/90 (Mark Janos).

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) 7-90-7. One adult was observed at Orlando Reservoir near Walsenburg in Huerfano County, on 7/4/90 (David Silverman).

Brant (*Branta bernicla*) 8-90-9. Four adults of the eastern race were observed at Barr Lake, Adams County on 11/10/90. This may be the largest group ever observed together in Colorado (Mark Janos).

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) 8-90-10. A report documented the

occurrence of a male in a pond at the home of Bob Steele in Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 3/28/90. It was still periodically seen through the end of May (David Silverman).

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) 8-90-12. One adult male was found at an ephemeral pond on Tower Road one and one-half miles north of 88th Avenue, Adams County, on 3/21/90 (Dan Bridges).

Black Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*) 8-90-13. A female was observed at Pueblo Reservoir, Pueblo County on 11/9/90 (Mark Janos).

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) 11-90-15. An adult was observed in Ft. Morgan, Morgan County, on 6/18/90. This species is expanding its range in Colorado dramatically (Margaret I. Hawk and Valerie Kitchens).

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) 10-90-16. An adult was observed by dozens of ABA conventioners during a field trip to Crow Valley Campground in Weld County, on 6/20/90 (Stephen F. Bailey).

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) 19-90-17. An adult in alternate (breeding) plumage was seen at Jet Lake (a part of Nee-so-pah Reservoir isolated in low water years), Kiowa County, on 7/31/90 (Duane Nelson).

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) 19-90-18. One adult was observed at Nee Noshe Reservoir, Kiowa County, on 8/7/90 (Duane Nelson).

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) 19-90-19. One well-described bird was seen on 11/28 and 11/30/90 in Sunshine Canyon west of Boulder, Boulder County. This is the fourth record for the state and the first since 1974 (John Prather and Peter Gent).

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*) 21-90-20. A female in breeding plumage was present at Blue Lake, Bent County, between 5/31 and 6/3/90. It associated with White-rumped Sandpipers (Duane Nelson and Mark Janos).

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*) 21-90-21. A basic-plumaged bird was observed at Prewitt Reservoir, Washington County, on 9/19/90 (Dan Bridges).

Common Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) 23-90-22. One adult with a full dark brown hood cooperated with dozens of observers at Jim Hamm City of Longmont wildlife area, Boulder County. It was with a mixed flock of Bonaparte's and Franklin's Gulls. The date of the reported sighting was 4/14/90, but it was present before that date (Mark Janos).

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*) 23-90-23. One first-winter bird wintered along the Arkansas River in Pueblo, Pueblo County, between 1/2 and 2/3/90 (David Silverman and Mark Janos).

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*) 23-90-24. A juvenile molting into first-winter plumage was found on the Arkansas River near the Olive Marsh in Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 9/27 and 9/28/90 (Mark Janos).

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) 23-90-25. One adult was seen at Cherry Creek SRA, Arapahoe County, on 11/17/90 (Randy Lentz, Bob Righter and Peter Gent).

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) 23-90-26. One in first-winter plumage was seen at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County, on 11/22/90 (Mark

Janos).

Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) 23-90-27. One was observed at Hohnholz Lake #3 in Larimer County, on 6/20/90. Caspian Terns nest across the state line in Wyoming and can be expected to nest somewhere in Colorado in the near future, if the current trends of increasing reports continue (Virginia Dionigi).

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) 25-90-28. One was photographed by Irv Cohen at his home in southwest Denver County. It was present between 6/6 and 6/9/90 and seen by twelve other observers (Irv Cohen).

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) 26-90-29. One immature was seen at the campground at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County, on 8/7/90. Norm Erthal).

Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis*) 28-90-30. One was heard in Manti-La-Sal National Forest near Paradox, Montrose County, by a crew of USFS Biologists on 5/25/90 (Heather Musclow).

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) 29-90-31. Three (all probably males) were present near Two Buttes Reservoir, Baca County, on 5/28/90. They were present for at least a week before and after that date and were seen by several others (Mark Janos).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) 34-90-32. One was seen and heard at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County, on 8/18/90 (Mark Janos).

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) 34-90-33. One was carefully observed and heard in the Olive Marsh, Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 5/29/90. About the 7th state record (Mark Janos).

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) 34-90-35. A female was seen at Plum Creek, Chatfield SRA in Douglas County, on 4/4/90 (Virgil Williams).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) 34-90-37. A male was observed at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Adams County, on 4/24/90 (Greg Hughes).

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) 42-90-40. One was seen in Lykins Gulch, Boulder County, on 11/17/90 (Peter Gent).

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) 42-90-41. One was present between 12/1/90 and 1/13/91 in Golden, Jefferson County, coming to a feeder in Duane Nelson's yard (Duane Nelson and Peter Gent).

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) 44-90-42. An adult was seen below Prewitt Reservoir in Washington County, on 9/17/90 (Dan Bridges).

Bendire's Thrasher (*Toxostoma bendirei*) 43-90-43. One was seen and heard northwest of Del Norte in Saguache County, on 6/9/90. It was found in an area known to support a small population of this species (Dan Bridges).

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) 51-90-44. One was seen and heard in the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Jefferson County, on 5/16/90. It was photographed by Duane Nelson on 5/17/90 (Joe Tenbrink and Duane Nelson).

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) 51-90-45. One was seen on the ABA Convention trip to Crow Valley, Weld County, on 6/20/90 (Stephen F. Bailey and Joan Humphrey).

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) 51-90-46. A singing male was present at Chatfield SRA, Jefferson County, at least from 5/26 to 6/5/90. Photographs were obtained by Nelson (Duane Nelson and Mark Janos).

Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) 51-90-47. One was seen at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County, on 5/20/1990 (Bob Righter).

Blue Winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) 52-90-48. One male was seen at Barr Lake, Adams County, on 9/19/90 (Duane Nelson).

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) 52-90-49. A male was seen and heard at the Olive Marsh in Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 5/19/90. This bird was seen by a group attending the C.F.O. Convention (Mark Janos).

Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) 52-90-50. An immature male was seen in Colorado City, Pueblo County, on 12/1/90 (David Silverman).

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*) 52-90-51. A female was observed at Lake Beckwith, Colorado City, Pueblo County, on 5/21/90 (Mark Janos).

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) 52-90-52. A male was observed at Rocky Ford SWA, Otero County, on 4/28 and 5/3/90 (Mark Janos).

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) 52-90-53. A male was present at the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Jefferson County, on 5/16 and 5/17/90. It was photographed by Duane Nelson (Duane Nelson).

Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) 52-90-54. An immature male was observed in the Olive Marsh, Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 9/27 and 9/28/90 (Mark Janos).

Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) 52-90-55. A male was photographed at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Adams County, on 5/21/90 by Bob Rozinski and Wendy Shattil (Bob Rozinski and Wendy Shattil).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) 52-90-57. A male was present in the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Jefferson County, on 5/16 and 5/17/90. It was photographed by Duane Nelson (Duane Nelson).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) 52-90-58. An immature female was observed in the Olive Marsh, Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 9/22 and 9/23/90 (Mark Janos).

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) 52-90-61. A bird that was either a female or immature male was seen along the Canon City Riverwalk, Fremont County, on 9/23/90 (Mark Janos).

Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorus*) 52-90-62. One was seen at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County, on 5/15/90 (Dan Bridges).

Swainson's Warbler (*Lymnethlypis swainsonii*) 52-90-63. Found by Bill Howe. For a discussion of this bird, see *C.F.O. Journal* 25(4): 125-129. Photographed by Dave Leatherman (Peter Gent).

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) 52-90-64. A well-described female in breeding plumage was seen at the Ft. Lyons Wildlife Easement, Bent County, on 5/24/90 (Mark Janos).

Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) 55-90-67. A pair was observed at the south side of the Royal Gorge Bridge, Fremont County, on 6/24/90. Do they nest here? (Norman D. Walker).

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) 55-90-68. An adult male was seen on Two Buttes Creek 1.5 miles below the dam, in Baca County, on 5/8/90 (Dan Bridges).

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) 55-90-69. A first-winter male was observed at the Canon City Riverwalk, Fremont County, on 9/23/90 (Mark Janos).

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) 56-90-71. One adult was seen in Shadow Mountain Village near Grand Lake, Grand County, on 11/7 and 11/9 and 11/10/90 (David A. Jasper).

Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*) 56-90-72. One was observed north of Del Norte, Rio Grande County, on 4/18/90. This is apparently the first of this species recorded in the San Luis Valley (John J. Rawinski).

Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) 56-90-73. First found by Dan Bridges on 12/2/90, up to five wintered in a marsh near where the Arkansas River enters John Martin Reservoir. Many observers eventually saw these generally cooperative birds (Dan Bridges, Norm Erthal and Peter Gent).

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*) 56-90-77. A presumed female was present near Kingfisher Bridge in Chatfield SRA, Jefferson County between 1/15 and 1/27/90. It was photographed by Duane Nelson (Warren Finch, Duane Nelson, Mark Janos).

Part 4. Category B and C Records. (Submitted documentation probably indicates a misidentification or is too brief or incomplete to support the stated identification).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax violaceus*) 5-90-6. An immature was observed in flight at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County, on 8/8/90. The committee split on this vote, some members feeling that the observation duration and report were too brief.

Brant (*Branta bernicla*) 8-90-8. One seen in a lake near the Colorado River near Silt, Garfield County, on 4/12/90. The vote on this was split, some members feeling that the report was too brief.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) 34-90-34. A female was observed along Bear Creek near the Kansas border in Baca County, on 4/28/90. This vote was almost accepted, but some observers felt that the description of some critical field marks was ambiguous.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) 34-90-36. One was seen below Two Buttes Reservoir in Baca County, on 5/20/90. The vote was split on this species. Those members voting "no" did so with reluctance, feeling that additional information provided by a description of song, a photograph or additional observer would have helped in a genus as confusing as the

Myiarchus group.

Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum*) 52-90-56. An adult was seen at the Bravo SWA, Morgan County, on 4/22/90. The committee could not rule on the bird since the description space on the form was not filled in.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) 52-90-59. Four seen at Parshall, Grand County, on 6/15 and 6/16/90. The description was too brief.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) 52-90-60. A male was seen at Sand Creek in Sedgwick County, on 10/10/90. The committee split on this vote. Some members felt that the description was incomplete.

Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) 52-90-65. One (probably a male) was seen on 6/15 and 6/16 at Bonny Reservoir in Yuma County. The committee split on this vote. The description of the bird was felt by some to be incomplete.

Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) 52-90-66. One (probably an immature female) was seen at Jackson Reservoir, Morgan County, on 9/21/90. Most members felt that the description was too brief and didn't eliminate similar species.

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) 56-90-70. One or more were observed in the vicinity of Parshall, Grand County, on 6/17/90. The report was felt to be too brief.

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*) 56-90-75. One was seen in Greeley, Weld County, on 6/14/90. The red eye was suggestive of the species, but the rest of the report was too brief.



Cape May Warbler in Silver Maple
460 Japonica Way, Boulder, February 9, 1992

Photo by Dave Leatherman

See article page 122.