

# COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS OFFICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT 1976-1977

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This report contains the results of the work done by the Colorado Field Ornithologists Official Records Committee in 1976 and 1977. All records reviewed appear below with the ORC file number and names of observers who submitted documentation. Activities of the ORC from its inception in May 1972 until 1976 have been reported by Reddall (1973a, b, c, 1974a, b, 1975, 1976a, b). The list of Colorado birds as recognized by the ORC stands at 427 species.

The ORC currently consists of six members: Robert Andrews (Chairman), David Griffiths, Edward Hollowed, Harold Holt, Peter Moulton and Richard Stransky. All ORC records are deposited in the Department of Zoological Collections, Denver Museum of Natural History.

The ORC desires documentation for the following species (in addition to any species unrecorded from Colorado):

Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Brown Pelican, Olivaceous Cormorant, Anhinga, Little Blue Heron, Reddish Egret, Louisiana Heron, Wood Stork, Glossy Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Trumpeter Swan, Brant, European Wigeon, Harlequin Duck, Common Eider, Black Scoter, Swallow-tailed Kite, Red-shouldered Hawk, Gyrfalcon, Whooping Crane (except San Luis Valley), King Rail, Yellow Rail, Common Gallinule, American Woodcock, Eskimo Curlew, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Hudsonian Godwit, Ruff, Red Phalarope, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Long-tailed Jaeger, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Thayer's Gull, Laughing Gull, Little Gull, Ivory Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Caspian Tern, Ancient Murrelet, White-winged Dove, Groove-billed Ani, Barred Owl, Spotted Owl, Boreal Owl, Whip-poor-will, Lesser Nighthawk, Anna's Hummingbird, Rivoli's Hummingbird, Blue-throated Hummingbird, Olivaceous Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Alder Flycatcher, Eastern Wood Pewee, Vermilion Flycatcher, Purple Martin (east slope only), Short-billed Marsh Wren, Long-billed Thrasher, Bendire's Thrasher, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Sprague's Pipit, Phainopepla, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Swainson's Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Lucy's Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Hermit Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Canada Warbler, Painted Redstart, Eastern Meadowlark (except at Red Lion State Wildlife Area), Scott's Oriole, Great-tailed Grackle (except San Luis Valley), Hepatic Tanager, Painted Bunting, Le Conte's Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Smith's Longspur.

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### PART I – SPECIES ADDED TO THE COLORADO LIST

KING RAIL (*Rallus elegans*). One (N-17-68) at the C. F. & I. Lakes near Pueblo, Pueblo Co. 12 Jun-3 Jul 1976 (DAG, RA, NM, PM, photos by JS, VT) (Figure 1). For complete details see Griffiths (1976).

SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER (*Calidris acuminata*). One immature (N-19-62) at Prince Lake No. II, 1 mile N of Lafayette, Boulder Co. 26 Oct-7 Nov 1975 (BW, JC, RA, HH, AM, JR, photos by HH, BW). Webb and Conry (1979) present details.

RUFF (*Philomachus pugnax*). One individual, possibly an immature male (N-19-77) 1.5 miles NE of Prospect Res., Weld Co. 30 May-5 Jun 1976 (JR, RA, MOS, photos by WL).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus fuscus*). One adult (N-23-75) Lake Sangraco, Adams Co. 12 Dec-1 Jan 1977 (BW, RA, JR, WWB, photos by DMNH, HH). For details see Webb and Conry (1978).

GROOVE-BILLED ANI (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*). One (N-26-72) Bonny Reservoir State Recreation Area, Yuma Co. 3 Oct 1976 (PG, MM, BW, photos by BW). For complete details see Webb (1976). (Webb presents an account and photograph of one observed west of Pueblo Res., Pueblo Co. 6 Jul 1975 by Jim Dennis, the first record from Colorado chronologically.)

### PART II – REPORTED SPECIES NOT ADDED TO THE COLORADO LIST

BARNACLE GOOSE (*Branta leucopsis*). Two (N-8-69) Frying Pan River at Elk Willow Campground near Basalt, Eagle Co. 26-27 Oct 1975. Photo on file. Apparently imported into the area and released.

WHITE-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo albicaudatus*). One (N-10-71) Lakewood, Jefferson Co. 12 May 1976.

BLACK RAIL (*Laterallus jamaicensis*). One (N-17-65) Red Lion State Wildlife Area, Logan Co. 20 Apr 1976. One (N-17-76) near Ridgway, Ouray Co. 27 Sept 1976.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus colubris*). One (N-31-67) Bonny Reservoir State Recreation Area, Yuma Co. 5-6 May 1976.

### PART III – SPECIES DELETED FROM THE COLORADO LIST

BLACK BRANT (*Branta nigricans*). Removed due to the taxonomic decision of the AOU (1976).

MEXICAN DUCK (*Anas diazi*) and MOTTLED DUCK (*Anas fulvigula*). These species are deleted because the specimens from Colorado (DMNH 353, 20557, 24392, 25374, 33794) have been examined by John R. Hubbard of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and determined not to be valid examples of these species (Betsy Webb pers. comm.).

RUFFED GROUSE (*Bonasa umbellus*). All ORC material was examined by Clait E. Braun of the Colorado Division of Wildlife, who considered none of the reports to be acceptable, and the ORC concurs.

ICELAND GULL (*Larus glaucopterus*). Deleted because the Colorado specimen (DMNH 18886) has been determined to be a Thayer's Gull (*L. thayeri*) by Roxanne Laybourne of the National Museum of Natural History (Betsy Webb pers. comm.).

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### PART IV – REPORTS OF RARE SPECIES

The following is a summary of the 152 records received and processed by the ORC in 1976 and 1977. Some species included are no longer on the list of species for which the ORC solicits documentation.

#### CLASS A RECORDS – Records in which the submitted documentation supports the stated identification.

ARCTIC LOON (*Gavia arctica*). Two (1-76-16) Prewitt Res., Washington Co. 16 Nov 1975 (SB). One (1-76-105) Sloan's Lake, Denver Co. 22-23 Oct 1976 (VR). There are 23 records for Colorado, and the species is now considered a regular and expected fall migrant.

RED-THROATED LOON (*G. stellata*). One (1-76-106) Sloan's Lake, Denver Co. 27 Oct 1976 (VR, RA, JRC, JR). Fourth state record.

GREEN HERON (*Butorides striatus*). One (5-76-21) Durango, La Plata Co. 19 Jan-26 Apr 1976 (RWS). First winter report.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (*Florida caerulea*). One (5-77-21) near bridge over Yampa R. on Highway 318 near Maybell, Moffat Co. 23 May 1973 (MS). Two (5-76-56) 4 miles N of junction of I-76 and Kersey Road, Weld Co. 31 May 1976 (HH-photos on file). One (5-77-38) Beebe Draw Gun Club at LaSalle, Weld Co. 26 Apr, 20 May 1977 (WPG). One (5-77-55) McCoy, Eagle Co. 15-16 May 1977 (ME). There are now 15 state records.

CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis*). One (5-76-114) Boulder Res., Boulder Co. 31 Oct 1976 (ET). There are now 25 state records.

LOUISIANA HERON (*Hydranassa tricolor*). One (5-77-89) Masters, Weld Co. 22-31 May 1977 (GM). One (5-77-48) Pueblo Res., Pueblo Co. 30 May 1977 (CK). One (5-77-47) Wellington, Larimer Co. 31 May 1977 (MJ). Sixth-eighth state records.

ROSS' GOOSE (*Chen rossii*). One (8-76-11) Valmont Res., Boulder Co. 20-21 Dec 1975 (BK, PJ). There are now 28 state records.

EUROPEAN WIGEON (*Anas penelope*). One male (8-76-34) Barr Lake State Park, Adams Co. 3 Apr 1976 (RA). Seventh state record (all but one are from early April-early May).

HARLEQUIN DUCK (*Histrionicus histrionicus*). One female or immature (8-76-108) Barr Lake State Park, Adams Co. 24 Oct 1976 (RA, TS). Sixth state record (1st since 1940).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (*Melanitta deglandi*). Three females or immatures (8-77-15) Totton Res., near Cortez, Montezuma Co. 23 Oct 1976 (RWS). There is only one published record from the west slope: five on Mesa L., Mesa Co. in Oct 1912 (Bailey and Niedrach 1965, Davis 1969).

SURF SCOTER (*M. perspicillata*). One male (8-76-84) Marston Res., Jefferson Co. 14 May 1976 (VT). Twenty-ninth state record.

BLACK SCOTER (*M. nigra*). Three females or immatures (8-76-100) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 12 Oct 1976 (JR, VR). Two females or immatures (8-76-95) Valmont Res., Boulder, Boulder Co. 23 Oct 1976 (JR). Two females or immatures (8-76-110) Cloverleaf Res., Boulder Co. 5-6 Nov 1976 (JR, TV). Eleventh-thirteenth state records.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (*Buteo lineatus*). One adult (10-76-22) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 15 Feb 1976 (MM) (only mid-winter record in Colorado). One adult (10-76-47) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 5 May 1976 (JR). One immature (10-76-97) Barr Lake State Park, Adams Co. 27 Sep 1976 (RA). One adult (10-77-73) on Highway 14 at Weld-Larimer Co. line 2 Sep 1977 (BM). Webb (1978) has reviewed the status of this bird in Colorado.

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PIPING PLOVER (*Charadrius melanotos*). Two (18-77-20) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 23 Apr 1977 (MJ, MM, JP, JS). Twenty-third state record.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus griseus*). One (19-76-8) Boulder, Boulder Co. 4 Oct 1975 (RA). Four (19-77-6) Union Res., Weld Co. 23-24 May 1976 (PM, BW). One (19-76-89) Jackson Res., Morgan Co. 6 Sept 1976 (JR). Sixth-eighth state records.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (*Tryngites subruficollis*). One (19-76-102) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 22-24 Aug 1976 (RA, DAG). One (19-77-67) Jackson Res., Morgan Co. 4 Sep 1977 (RA, JR). One (19-77-20) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 7 Sep 1977 (TM). Fourteenth-sixteenth state records (all but three are from late August and early September).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (*Limosa haemastica*). One (19-76-49) Red Lion State Wildlife Area, Logan Co. 8 May 1976 (JR). One (19-76-57) Red Lion State Wildlife Area, Logan Co. 30-31 May 1976 (HH, WL, photos on file-HH). Seventh and eighth state records (all but one in spring, mostly in late May).

RED PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus fulicarius*). One (21-76-91) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 11-13 Sep 1976 (RA, JR). Eighth state record. Half of all state records are from 1975 and 1976.

JAEGER SP. (*Stercorarius* sp.). Because most observations of jaegers in Colorado involve immatures, which are often very difficult to identify even by someone with considerable field experience, it is felt that under most circumstances inland observers simply do not have the necessary expertise or resources to identify most immature jaegers. Therefore, as a general rule, records of immature jaegers will be treated as jaeger sp. One (22-76-28) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 27 Feb 1976 (MOS). One (22-76-92) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 11 Sep 1976 (RA). One (22-76-96) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 17-25 Sep 1976 (RA). One (22-76-113) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 6 Nov 1976 (MM). One (22-76-117) Prewitt Res., Washington Co. 24 Nov 1976 (JR). One (22-76-123) Marston Res., Jefferson Co. 11 Dec 1976 (TG). One (22-77-65) Union Res., Weld Co. 4 Sep 1977 (RA, JR). There are now 31 records of jaegers (including all species and all plumages) from Colorado.

PARASITIC JAEGER (*S. parasiticus*). One adult (22-77-67) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 3 Aug 1977 (TM). One adult (22-77-59) Union Res., Weld Co. 13-14 Aug 1977 (RA, MM, PM). One adult (22-77-71) Chatfield Res., Douglas Co. 17 Sep 1977 (HK).

THAYER'S GULL (*Larus thayeri*). One immature (23-76-7) Centennial Park, Englewood, Arapahoe Co. 20 Dec 1975 (JR). One immature (23-76-29) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 22 Feb-7 Mar 1976 (JR). One immature (23-76-116) Prewitt Res., Washington Co. 24 Nov 1976 (JR). One adult (23-76-130) Lake Sangraco, Adams Co. 13 Dec 1976 (RA). One immature (23-77-70) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 5 Feb 1977 (JR). One subadult (23-77-13) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 5-25 Mar 1977 (JR). There are now 22 records from Colorado.

LAUGHING GULL (*L. atricilla*). Two winter adults (23-76-4) Union Res., Weld Co. 1 Nov 1975 (RA, JR). One adult (23-76-79) C. F. & I. Lakes, Pueblo Co. 7 Jun 1976 (DAG). One winter adult (23-76-112) Union Res., Weld Co. 23 Oct 1976 (JR). One adult (23-77-19) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 17 Apr 1977 (TM). There are now 14 state records, and the species is recorded annually, mostly in spring.

LITTLE GULL (*L. minutus*). One adult (23-76-48) Jumbo Res., Logan Co. 8 May 1976 (JR). Three immatures (23-76-62, 23-77-5, 23-77-60) Union Res., Weld Co. 15 May-27 Jun 1976 (RA, PM, JR, CW, photos on file-PM). Second and third state records.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (*Rissa tridactyla*). One immature (23-76-118) Union Res., Weld Co. 27 Nov 1976 (JR). Seventh state record; four of the seven are fall records.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE (*Zenaida asiatica*). One (25-77-37) 20 miles W of Grover, Weld Co. 3 May 1977 (SA, RP, VHR, VS). Eighth state record.

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SPOTTED OWL (*Strix occidentalis*). One (28-76-90) 1 mile W of Silverthorne, Summit Co. 5 Sep 1976 (HK, UK). Thirteenth state record.

SWIFT SP. (*Chaetura* sp.). One (30-77-4) Ridgway, Ouray Co. 26 Sep 1976 (JRG, HK). Fourth record of a *Chaetura* swift from western Colorado (Davis 1969); none have been identified to species.

BLUE-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Lampornis clemenciae*). Five females or immatures (31-76-1) 7 miles N of Durango, La Plata Co. 7 Sep 1975 (EF, RWS). Fifth state record.

COMMON FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus*). One intergrade (33-77-3) Grand Junction, Mesa Co. 2-20 Jan 1977 (HA). Davis (1969) records only one Yellow-shafted or intergrade flicker from western Colorado (Grand Junction-17 Dec 1966).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*). One immature (33-76-124) 2 miles S of Breen, La Plata Co. 19-28 Oct 1976 (DS). One immature at Hotchkiss, Delta Co. from 8 Dec 1973-9 Jan 1974; this is only the third published record from western Colorado (Davis 1969), the other two being from Grand Co. in 1877 and Routt Co. in 1908.

LADDER-BACKED WOODPECKER (*Picoides scalaris*). One female (33-76-30) Colorado Springs, El Paso Co. 12-19 Feb 1976 (DB-photo on file). Rather rare in El Paso Co. One male (33-76-36) Boulder, Boulder Co. 27 Mar 1976 (HPC). There appears to be only one other record from the Platte R. drainage in Colorado: one at Red Rocks, Jefferson Co. 20 Sep 1964 (Bailey and Niedrach 1965, Holt 1975).

EASTERN PHOEBE (*Sayornis phoebe*). One (34-76-16) Boulder, Boulder Co. 21 Dec 1975 (CJ). Apparently the only report in Colorado between 1 Oct and 11 Mar (Bailey and Niedrach 1965, Holt 1975).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*). One female (34-76-19) Pastorius Res., La Plata Co. 20 Sep 1975 (AN). One female (34-77-18) La Junta, Otero Co. 23 Mar 1977 (BT). Sixteenth and seventeenth state records (most are in spring or fall).

PURPLE MARTIN (*Progne subis*). One male (36-76-41) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 29 Apr 1976 (RA). One female (36-76-55) 16 miles SW of Ft. Morgan, Morgan Co. 25 May 1976 (JCR). Eighth and ninth east slope records.

PYGMY NUTHATCH (*Sitta pygmaea*). One (39-76-103) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 4 Sep 1976 (RA). Second plains record, the first being two at Barr Lake 18-25 Sep 1960.

HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*). One (42-76-125) Littleton, Arapahoe Co. 20 Dec 1975 (RA). Only two other winter reports from Colorado: one in Jefferson Co. 19 Feb 1900 and one in Arapahoe Co. 28 Dec 1934 (Bailey and Niedrach 1965).

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN (*Cistothorus platensis*). One (42-76-39) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 6-7 May 1976 (JR). One (42-76-81) Jumbo Res., Logan Co. 16 May 1976 (NM). One (42-77-17) C. F. & I. Lakes, Pueblo Co. 26 Mar 1977 (AB, EB). Eleventh-thirteenth state records, the majority being spring records from the northeastern part of the state.

CANYON WREN (*Catherpes mexicanus*). One (42-76-104) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 22 Aug 1976 (RA). There appear to be no other records from a plains locality (Bailey and Niedrach 1965).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER (*Toxostoma curvirostre*). One (42-76-80) 2 miles N of Silverthorne, Summit Co. 30 Apr-7 May 1976 (LB-photo on file). One (42-76-54) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 18 May 1976 (HG, SW). Third and fourth records from outside the Arkansas River valley, the former being the first mountain record.

VARIED THRUSH (*Ixoreus naevius*). One male (44-77-16) Ridges Basin Rd. near Bodo Wildlife Area, La Plata Co. 21 Nov 1976 (RWS). Neither Bailey and Niedrach (1965) nor Davis (1969) mentions any west slope record of this species.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH (*Catharus minimus*). One (44-76-73) Boulder, Boulder Co. 18 May 1976 (WL). One (44-76-67) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 16 May 1976 (RA). One (44-76-72) Crow Valley Park, Weld Co. 16 May 1976 (WL). One (44-76-85) Boulder,

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Boulder Co. 16 May 1976 (FH). One (44-76-58) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 17 May 1976 (MOS). One (44-76-75) Jumbo Res., Logan Co. 29 May 1976 (WL). Eleventh-sixteenth state records (virtually all in May).

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT (*Anthus spragueii*). Two (46-76-51) Lake Estes, Larimer Co. 28 Apr 1976 (WR). One (46-76-107) Table Mtn., Boulder Co. 28 Aug 1976 (FH). Tenth and eleventh state records.

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*). One (51-76-44) Two Buttes Res., Baca Co. 1 May 1976 (RA, NM). Fourth state record (three in May, one in September).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO (*V. flavifrons*). One (51-77-64) Colorado Springs, El Paso Co. 24 Aug 1977 (WH). Tenth state record (first fall record, all others late April-late May).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO (*V. philadelphicus*). One (51-76-86) Boulder, Boulder Co. 25 May 1976 (FH). Nineteenth state record (14 are fall records).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (*Protonotaria citrea*). One male (52-76-48) Boulder, Boulder Co. 8-12 May 1976 (PE, RA, NM, photo on file-NM). One or two males (52-77-27) Ft. Collins, Larimer Co. 7 May 1977 (SHB, DH, WLH, DV). Sixteenth and seventeenth state records (of which 14 are in spring, 12 in May).

WORM-EATING WARBLER (*Helminthorus vermivorus*). One (52-76-45) Boulder, Boulder Co. 8 May 1976 (MM, JS, photo on file-JS). One (52-76-79) Boulder, Boulder Co. 20 May 1976 (RV). Twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth state records (all but five are spring, late April-mid-May).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora chrysoptera*). One male (52-77-22) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 7-9 May 1977 (RA, WL). One male (52-77-38) Boulder, Boulder Co. 14 May 1977 (PJ). Nineteenth and twentieth records (16 are spring records, mostly mid- and late May).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER (*V. pinus*). One (52-76-40) Two Buttes Res., Baca Co. 5-7 May 1976 (PJ, JR). One male (52-76-77) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 6 Jun 1976 (RA). Sixth and seventh state records (all spring).

CAPE MAY WARBLER (*Dendroica tigrina*). One male (52-76-42) Boulder, Boulder Co. 10-12 May 1976 (RA, PM, JR, NM, photo on file-PM). One female or immature (52-76-109) Boulder, Boulder Co. 31 Oct 1976 (RA). Second fall record for Colorado, the first being at Waterton, Jefferson Co. 20-23 Nov 1974. One male (52-77-32) Moraine Park Campground, Rocky Mountain National Park, Larimer Co. 6 May 1977 (PH). One male (52-77-28) Lower Dixon Res., Larimer Co. 7 May 1977 (DL). One male (52-77-50) Endovalley, Rocky Mountain National Park, Larimer Co. 12-13 Jun 1977 (KB, FK, SWo), with complete details provided by Bass (1977). Ninth-thirteenth state records (all but two in spring).

HERMIT WARBLER (*D. occidentalis*). One male (52-76-68) Boulder, Boulder Co. 20 May 1976 (RV). Second state record.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*D. dominica*). One male (52-77-24) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 15 May 1977 (WL, MM, PM, photos on file-WL). Ninth state record.

PINE WARBLER (*D. pinus*). One male (52-76-98) Pingree Park near Rustic, Larimer Co. 11 Jul 1976 (TB). Ninth state record. First summer record; all others are from September-December with one May record.

RAIRIE WARBLER (*D. discolor*). One male (52-76-71) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 15-16 May 1976 (photos on file-PM, JS). Fourth state record (all mid-May to early June).

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH (*Seiurus motacilla*). One (52-77-23) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 14 May 1977 (WL, MM). Second state record.

CANADA WARBLER (*Wilsonia canadensis*). One male (52-76-2) Boulder, Boulder Co. 13-16 Oct 1975 (JR). One male (52-76-66) Colorado Springs, El Paso Co. 26 May 1976 (CC). Thirteenth and fourteenth state records (nine spring, five fall).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella magna*). Six (54-76-58) Red Lion State Wildlife Area, Logan Co. 8-9 May 1976 (JR). One (52-76-76) Red Lion, Logan Co. 30 May 1976 (WL). The only acceptable Colorado records come from this single locality.

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SCOTT'S ORIOLE (*Icterus parisorum*). One male (52-77-49) Unaweep Canyon, Mesa Co. 21 May 1977 (PJ). Fifth state record (all spring).

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE (*Quiscalus mexicanus*). Five males and three females (54-76-88) Monte Vista, Rio Grande Co. 12 Jun 1976 (JR). The small population at this site has been present since 1973, as reported by Stepney (1975). Four records are from other localities in Colorado (Gunnison, La Plata and Pueblo Cos.).

SCARLET TANAGER (*Piranga olivacea*). One male (55-76-115) Boulder, Boulder Co. 16 Jun 1976 (photo on file-FH). One male (55-77-53) Poudre Canyon, Larimer Co. 19 Jun 1977 (photo on file-EDB). Thirty-nine state records (all but ten are spring, mid-May to mid-June).

SUMMER TANAGER (*P. rubra*). One male (55-76-50) Animas Valley near Durango, La Plata Co. 7 May 1976 (GC). Thirty-eighth state record (all but five in spring).

PURPLE FINCH (*Carpodacus purpureus*). One female or immature (56-76-25) Boulder, Boulder Co. 6 Dec 1975 (JR). One female or immature (56-76-24) Ft. Collins, Larimer Co. 20 Dec 1975, banded 11 Jan 1976, retrapped and photographed 16 Feb 1976 (photos on file-RR). One female or immature (56-76-32) Boulder, Boulder Co. 29 Feb 1976 (JR). One adult male (56-77-9) Evergreen, Jefferson Co. 2 May 1976 (WWB). Two females or immatures (56-76-101) Boulder, Boulder Co. 18 Oct 1976 (VR). Two females or immatures (56-76-111) Barr Lake, Adams Co. 30 Oct 1976 (RA). One female or immature (56-77-12) Dry Creek Res., El Paso Co. 2 Jan 1977 (DAG). One female or immature (56-77-10) Bonny Res., Yuma Co. 22-29 Jan 1977 (MM, PM, JS). Twenty-five state records; the species is recorded every winter.

BAIRD'S SPARROW (*Ammodramus bairdii*). One male (56-76-52) Red Lion State Wildlife Area, Logan Co. 8-9 May 1976 (JR).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW (*Ammospiza leconteii*). One (56-77-29) Dry Creek Res. near Wellington, Larimer Co. 7 May 1977 (EH, JWS, photos on file-JWS). Second state record.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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## COLORADO RECORDS

**CLASS B RECORDS** – Records in which the submitted documentation indicates a misidentification was made or the submitted documentation is too brief.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (*Florida caerulea*). One (5-77-57) Union Res., Weld Co. 9 Aug 1977.

TRUMPETER SWAN (*Olor buccinator*). One (8-76-55) Boulder, Boulder Co. 10-28 Apr 1976.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (*Buteo lineatus*). One (10-76-74) Crook, Logan Co. 30 May 1976.

OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus*). One (11-76-14) Waterton, Douglas Co. 3 Jan 1976.

COMMON GALLINULE (*Gallinula chloropus*). One (17-76-82) Union Res., Weld Co. 30 May or 6 Jun 1976.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus griseus*). Nine (19-77-68) Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe Co. 1 Sep 1977.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (*Tryngites subruficollis*). One (19-77-36) Wray, Yuma Co. 1 May 1977. Photos on file.

THAYER'S GULL (*Larus thayeri*). One (23-76-64) C. F. & I. Lakes, Pueblo Co. 1 Nov 1975. Photos on file. One (23-76-23) Boulder, Boulder Co. 22 Dec 1975.

LAUGHING GULL (*L. atricilla*). One (23-76-87) Two Buttes Res., Baca Co. 16 May 1976. Three (23-76-127) Lake Henry, Crowley Co. 5 Sep 1976.

RIVOLI'S HUMMINGBIRD (*Eugenes fulgens*). One (31-76-65) Evergreen, Jefferson Co. 19 July 1975.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT (*Anthus spragueii*). One (46-76-38) Masonville, Larimer Co. 27 Mar 1976.

WILSON'S WARBLER (*Wilsonia pusilla*). One (52-76-15) Boulder, Boulder Co. early Dec 1975-early Jan 1976.

VESPER SPARROW (*Pooecetes gramineus*). Three (56-76-17) Boulder, Boulder Co. 21 Dec 1975.

## PART V – SPECIMENS

The ORC does not normally deal with specimen reports. However, to make ORC reports complete regarding recent unusual bird records, notable recent, little-known or unpublished specimens will be included. DMNH-Denver Museum of Natural History.

HARLEQUIN DUCK (*Histrionicus histrionicus*). Parkes and Nelson (1976) reported a previously unrecorded Colorado specimen (and the only definite breeding record): a downy young collected on Vallecito Creek, La Plata Co. by A. W. Anthony 15 Jul 1883 (Carnegie Museum of Natural History 21786).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK (*Buteo platypterus*). One female (DMNH 36714) found dead on Highway 285 1.5 miles west of Grant, Park Co. 3 Sep 1977 by Harold Holt. Only three other Colorado specimens, and very few records of any kind from the mountains.

RED PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus fulicarius*). One male (DMNH 36147) collected live at Barr Lake State Park, Adams Co. 16 Sep 1975 by Denver Zoo personnel (led by Edward Schmidt, Curator of Birds). It died in captivity several days later. Second Colorado specimen.

BOREAL OWL (*Aegolius funereus*). One male (DMNH 36064) collected near Estes Park, Larimer Co. 1 Apr 1970 by Allegra Collister. One (DMNH 36698) found dead at Evergreen, Jefferson Co. 2 Feb 1978 by Sylvia Brockner. There are apparently only three other Colorado specimens.



Figure 1. King Rail (*Rallus elegans*), C. F. & I. Lakes, Pueblo Co., Colorado, 12 June-3 July 1976. First State record.

Photo by Van A. Truan



Blue Jay x Steller's Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata* x *C. stelleri*) hybrid, Boulder, Boulder Co., Colorado, 26 January 1972.

Photo by Narca Moore

COLORADO RECORDS



Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*), Chautauqua Park, Boulder, Boulder Co., Colorado, 30-31 May 1975. Second state record. (Reddall 1976b:94)

*Photo by Steve Larson*



Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*), banded at Lykin's Gulch, Boulder Co., Colorado, 6 May 1975. Fourth state record. (Reddall 1976b:94)

*Photo by Vern Walker*



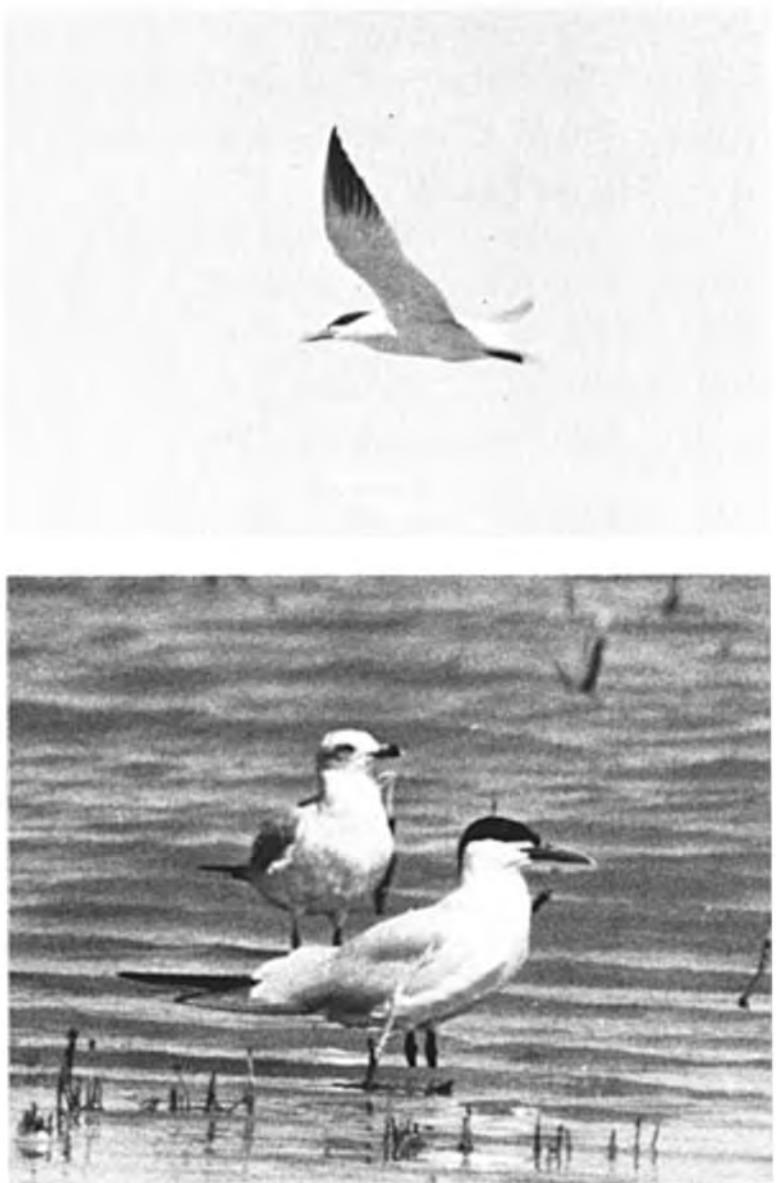
Louisiana Heron (*Hydranassa tricolor*), Barr Lake and Mile High Duck Club, Adams Co., Colorado, 25 July-1 August 1971. Third state record. (Reddall 1976b:86)

*Photo by Harold R. Holt*



Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis*), Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Adams Co., Colorado, 3-5 June 1975. Twelfth state record. Rocky Mountain Arsenal, approximately 50-55 km from mountains, is 95%+ grassland with few trees. Owl was in a tree by the front window of the arsenal office building. (Reddall 1976b:93)

*Photo by Randal L. Fairbanks*



Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*), Lake Henry, Crowley Co., Colorado, 27-28 May 1974.  
First state record. (Reddall 1976b:83)

*Photos by Stan W. Oswald*

## COLORADO RECORDS

SAW-WHET OWL (*A. acadicus*). One juvenile (DMNH t-335) found dead in Denver Co. 25 Jun 1976 by Mrs. V. L. Johnson. One (DMNH 1978-62) found dead near Castle Rock, Douglas Co. 15 Dec 1977 by Sally Cockrum. There are about 20 Colorado specimens.

CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD (*Stellula calliope*). One immature male (DMNH 36146) collected in Arapahoe Co. 16 Aug 1956 by Robert J. Niedrach. This bird is in addition to another individual collected at the same time (DMNH 36455) and previously reported by Bailey and Niedrach (1965).

ALDER FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax alnorum*). One female (DMNH 36456) collected Wray, Yuma Co. 26 May 1906 by Will C. Ferril. One female (DMNH 36455) collected Holly, Prowers Co. 1 Jun 1908 by H. G. Smith. Apparently the only Colorado records. Both identified by Allan R. Phillips.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora chrysoptera*). One male (at Indiana University) collected in 1881 in Colorado (possibly Elbert Co.) by Frank M. Drew. Reported by Kowalski (1978). Only Colorado specimen.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (*Dendroica fusca*). One male (DMNH 36144) found dead at Green Mountain, Lakewood, Jefferson Co. 3 Jun 1975 by John Kenning. First Colorado specimen.

NORTHERN ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*). One male "Bullock's" (DMNH 36165) found dead in Denver Co. 1 Jan 1976 by Frances Arterburn. First winter record.

SUMMER TANAGER (*Piranga rubra*). One first-year male (DMNH 36423) Golden, Jefferson Co., first seen 23 Apr 1976 and found dead 1 May 1976 by Mrs. Jerry Cebula. Fourth Colorado specimen.

The following notable specimens, formerly in the collection of Western State College at Gunnison, Colorado, have now been deposited in the collection of the Denver Museum of Natural History, and are given with their DMNH catalog numbers. All are from Gunnison, Gunnison Co. Most have previously been mentioned by Bailey and Niedrach (1965).

SNOWY PLOVER (*Charadrius alexandrinus*). One (36722) May 1966 by D. Radovich.

VERMILION FLYCATCHER (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*). One female (36721) 18 Nov 1952 by A. S. Hyde.

NORTHERN PARULA (*Parula americana*). One male (36717) 24 May 1952 by A. S. Hyde. One male (36724) 24 May 1977 by T. T. Hariss.

DICKCISSEL (*Spiza americana*). One (36718) 18 Sep 1956 by A. S. Hyde.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (*Ammodramus savannarum*). One (36723) 15 Oct 1953 by A. S. Hyde.

LE CONTE'S SPARROW (*Ammospiza leconteii*). One (36720) 6 May 1952 by A. S. Hyde.

SHARP-TAILED SPARROW (*Ammospiza caudacuta*). One (36719) 24 Oct 1952 by A. S. Hyde.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank the many Colorado birders who have contributed reports of unusual birds contained herein, and I encourage them to continue to do so. I would also like to thank the following persons: Betsy Webb for her assistance in putting together the specimen section and for permission to include these records; Laurence Binford for examining the documentation of the Lesser Black-backed Gull; Alan Craig and Van

## COLORADO RECORDS

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