

## REPORT OF THE ALABAMA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE 2000

Steve W. McConnell, Secretary 1999-2001

The Alabama Bird Records Committee (ABRC) was created to validate documentation of unusual birds in Alabama using a method that allows the records to be more universally accepted and scientifically valuable. A committee of seven experienced Alabama Ornithological Society (AOS) members reviews reports of species that generally have fewer than 20 accepted records for the state. Records for species on the ABRC review list, which currently includes around 90 species, are voted on once by all committee members and then sometimes twice if the first vote is indecisive. Vote totals with no more than one "not accepted" vote result in the record being accepted. Totals with four or more "not accepted" votes result in the record not being accepted. Records without decisions following one or two votes are reviewed and voted upon a final time at the annual meeting of the ABRC.

Forty-one records from 17 observers were evaluated in 2000 (Table 1). During this evaluation period, two species were added to the Alabama state list: Red-billed Tropicbird and Snow Bunting. Presently, the AOS recognized state bird list stands at 419 species. Of these, three are considered extinct (Passenger Pigeon, Ivory-billed Woodpecker, and Carolina Parakeet) and two extirpated from Alabama (Common Raven and Bachman's Warbler). Also thirteen species are listed in the hypothetical category due to the absence of a photograph or specimen, or written documentation of visual observations by at least three experienced observers.

TABLE 1. Evaluations by the 2000 Alabama Bird Records Committee of 41 records from 17 observers.

| Record No. | Species         | Date     | County  | How Noted <sup>a</sup> | Decision <sup>b</sup> | AL Status <sup>c</sup> |
|------------|-----------------|----------|---------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 99-14      | Iceland Gull    | 4/16/99  | Mobile  | V                      | A                     | 2                      |
| 00-1       | Brown Booby     | 12/20/99 | Mobile  | V                      | NI                    | —                      |
| 00-2       | Brown Booby     | 1/28/00  | Baldwin | V                      | A                     | 20                     |
| 00-3       | Great Cormorant | 11/30/99 | Baldwin | V                      | A                     | 14                     |
| 00-4       | Great Cormorant | 12/20/99 | Mobile  | V                      | A                     | 15                     |
| 00-5       | Eurasian Wigeon | 11/24/99 | Morgan  | V                      | A                     | 8                      |

## ALABAMA BIRDLIFE

TABLE 1. Continued.

| Record No. | Species                  | Date     | County               | How Noted <sup>a</sup> | Decision <sup>b</sup> | AL Status <sup>c</sup> |
|------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 00-6       | Northern Goshawk         | 12/31/99 | Baldwin              | V                      | NI                    | —                      |
| 00-7       | Black-legged Kittiwake   | 11/14/99 | Colbert              | V                      | A                     | 13                     |
| 00-8       | Long-eared Owl           | 11/16/99 | Pelagic <sup>d</sup> | VD                     | A                     | 12                     |
| 00-9       | Snow Bunting             | 11/17/99 | Dallas               | V                      | A                     | 1-H                    |
| 00-10      | Red-billed Tropicbird    | 8/30/99  | Pelagic              | P                      | A                     | 1                      |
| 00-11      | Greater Shearwater       | 8/18/99  | Pelagic              | V                      | A                     | 20                     |
| 00-12      | Greater Shearwater       | 9/2/99   | Pelagic              | V                      | A                     | 22                     |
| 00-13      | Greater Shearwater       | 9/19/99  | Pelagic              | VD                     | A                     | 21                     |
| 00-14      | Cory's Shearwater        | 8/19/99  | Pelagic              | V                      | A                     | 6                      |
| 00-15      | Cory's Shearwater        | 9/29/99  | Pelagic              | VD                     | A                     | 7                      |
| 00-16      | Cory's Shearwater        | 10/6/99  | Pelagic              | VD                     | A                     | 8                      |
| 00-17      | Audubon's Shearwater     | 10/31/99 | Pelagic              | VD                     | A                     | 7                      |
| 00-18      | White-faced Ibis         | 10/28/99 | Mobile               | V                      | NI                    | —                      |
| 00-19      | Buff-bellied Hummingbird | 2/1/97   | Mobile               | B/P                    | A                     | 4                      |
| 00-20      | Buff-bellied Hummingbird | 12/16/97 | Baldwin              | B/P                    | A                     | 5                      |
| 00-21      | Buff-bellied Hummingbird | 2/21/98  | Baldwin              | B/P                    | A                     | 6                      |
| 00-22      | Buff-bellied Hummingbird | 12/9/98  | Autauga              | B/P                    | A                     | 7                      |
| 00-23      | Buff-bellied Hummingbird | 10/17/99 | Baldwin              | B/P                    | A                     | 8                      |
| 00-24      | Buff-bellied Hummingbird | 1/15/00  | Escambia             | B/P                    | A                     | 9                      |
| 00-25      | Buff-bellied Hummingbird | 1/14/00  | Baldwin              | V                      | A                     | 10                     |
| 00-26      | Calliope Hummingbird     | 1/2/96   | Elmore               | B/P                    | A                     | 4                      |
| 00-27      | Calliope Hummingbird     | 1/8/98   | Mobile               | B/P                    | A                     | 7                      |
| 00-28      | Calliope Hummingbird     | 1/21/98  | Etowah               | B/P                    | A                     | 5                      |
| 00-29      | Calliope Hummingbird     | 11/29/99 | Marshall             | B/P                    | A                     | 8                      |
| 00-30      | Calliope Hummingbird     | 1/15/00  | Mobile               | B/P                    | A                     | 6                      |
| 00-31      | Broad-tailed Hummingbird | 2/15/96  | Elmore               | B/P                    | A                     | 2                      |
| 00-32      | Broad-tailed Hummingbird | 1/2/97   | Mobile               | B/P                    | A                     | 4                      |
| 00-33      | Broad-tailed Hummingbird | 2/14/00  | Mobile               | B/P                    | A                     | 3                      |
| 00-34      | Allen's Hummingbird      | 1/1/97   | Mobile               | B/P                    | A                     | 13                     |
| 00-35      | Allen's Hummingbird      | 1/1/97   | Mobile               | B/P                    | A                     | 8                      |
| 00-36      | Allen's Hummingbird      | 8/14/98  | Montgomery           | B/P                    | A                     | 9                      |
| 00-37      | Allen's Hummingbird      | 8/27/98  | Cullman              | P                      | A                     | 14                     |
| 00-38      | Allen's Hummingbird      | 12/30/98 | Houston              | B/P                    | A                     | 10                     |
| 00-39      | Allen's Hummingbird      | 11/7/99  | Montgomery           | B/P                    | A                     | 11                     |
| 00-40      | Allen's Hummingbird      | 1/16/00  | Mobile               | B/P                    | A                     | 12                     |

<sup>a</sup>V = visual, P = photograph, B = banded, VD = video

<sup>b</sup>A = accepted, NI = not accepted due to identification questions, NO = not accepted due to origin questions, P = Pending and under review by committee

<sup>c</sup>Number of accepted Alabama records, H = hypothetical

<sup>d</sup>Pelagic = Gulf of Mexico waters out to 200 nautical miles from Mobile and/or Baldwin counties

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