

Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee

Kim R. Eckert

There was a meeting of the Committee on 5 December 1993, and, among the items on the agenda, the following decisions were reached:

- It was decided to proceed with the publication of the Checklist of the Birds of Minnesota without waiting for the publication of the seventh edition of the American Ornithologists' Union's checklist, tentatively scheduled for later in 1994.

The Minnesota list was distributed with the Winter 1993 issue of *The Loon*, and it uses the nomenclature, sequence, and taxonomy of the sixth edition of the A.O.U. checklist and its supplements. One of these supplements, the 39th, scheduled for publication in the July 1993 issue of *The Auk*, includes three name changes affecting the Minnesota list:

Green-backed Heron

becomes

Green Heron

Lesser Golden-Plover

becomes

American Golden-Plover

Rosy Finch

becomes

Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch.

(Also note that one error appears in the new Minnesota Checklist: an asterisk indicating a confirmed breeding record was included for Kentucky Warbler; however, the Committee has not yet accepted any breeding records for this species.)

- Because of the delay in producing the

new Minnesota checklist (normally, it would have appeared with the Spring 1993 issue of *The Loon*), it was necessary to discuss the status of two species whose situation had changed since the December 1992 meeting of the Committee (see *The Loon* 65:33). Accordingly, it was decided to keep Ruff on the Casual list; and Burrowing Owl, formerly Regular, is now considered Casual.

- It was decided that votes on recirculated records and on potential first state records will no longer be taken by mail as other records are; these will now be held for discussion and vote at the next meeting of the Committee.

- A Common Ground-Dove record from Duluth on 16 October 1993 was discussed and found Acceptable as a first state record on a 10-0 vote.

- A second Black-shouldered Kite (now White-tailed Kite) record from Bloomington on 7 May 1993 (also see *The Loon* 65:147) was discussed and found Unacceptable on a 1-9 vote. Although the description was convincing enough to be accepted by a majority of the Committee on earlier votes, it was decided that a first state record should have more complete documentation. There was no description of the dorsal surface of the bird, its relative size was unclear, and the distance of the bird from the observer was not given.

- A photograph record of a possible Barn Owl from Shorewood, Hennepin Co. on 9 September 1993 was discussed and found Unacceptable on a 0-7 vote. The

quality of the photo wasn't clear enough to positively identify the bird, which the majority felt was more likely a Barred Owl.

• The next meeting of the Committee is tentatively scheduled for 20 July 1994, and, as always, these meetings are open to all interested M.O.U. members. For the time and location of this meeting, contact Committee Chairman Bob Janssen.

The following records were voted by mail July–December 1993, and all were found to be Acceptable (this is the first time since these semi-annual Proceedings articles began in 1981 that there were no Unacceptable records):

- Yellow-throated Warbler, 13 May 1993, near Sibley State Park, Kandiyohi County (vote 5–2; *The Loon* 65:156).
- Western Tanager, 2 May 1993, near Waubun, Becker County (vote 7–0).
- White-eyed Vireo, 9–15 May 1993, near Reno, Houston County (vote 7–0).
- Baird's Sparrow, 26–30 June 1993, Felton Prairie, Clay County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 65:157–158).
- Black-headed Grosbeak, 9 June 1993, near Heron Lake, Jackson County (vote 6–1; *The Loon* 65:159).
- Red-throated Loon, 28 June 1993, Stony Point, St. Louis County (vote 7–0).
- American Dipper, 10 June 1993, Temperance River, Cook County (vote 6–1; *The Loon* 65:212–213).
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 10 June 1993, Duluth, St. Louis County (vote 7–0).
- Carolina Wren, 7–8 August 1993, Minneapolis, Hennepin County (vote 7–0).
- Sabine's Gull, 4 September 1993, Ruthton, Pipestone County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 65:210).
- Red Phalarope, 20–21 September 1993, Diamond Lake, Hennepin County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 65:208–209).
- Pacific Loon, 18 September 1993, Duluth, St. Louis County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 66:45–46).
- Red-throated Loon, 17 September 1993, Good Harbor Bay, Cook County (vote 7–0).
- Red Phalarope, 8 October 1993, Lost River W.M.A., Roseau County (vote 7–0).
- California Gull, 9 October 1993, Ortonville, Big Stone County (vote 7–0).
- Lesser Black-backed Gull, 11 September 1993, near Lake George, Anoka County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 65:207–208).
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 25–26 July 1993, near Hubbard, Hubbard County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 65:214).
- Pacific Loon, 18–21 October 1993, Forest Lake, Washington County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 66:45–46).
- Red-throated Loon, 17 October 1993, Duluth, St. Louis County (vote 7–0).
- Pacific Loon, 25 September 1993, Duluth, St. Louis County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 66:45–46).
- Anna's Hummingbird, 18 October 1993, Wyoming Township, Chisago County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 66:3–5).
- Sabine's Gull, 20–27 September 1993, Waterville, Le Sueur County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 65:210–212).
- California Gull, 20 October 1993, Forest Lake, Washington County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 66:45).
- Pacific Loon, 15–24 October 1993, Garrison, Crow Wing County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 66:45–46).
- Townsend's Warbler, 27 August 1993, Minneapolis, Hennepin County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 65:206–207).
- Pacific Loon, 30 October – 7 November 1993, Two Harbors, Lake County (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 66:45–46).
- Louisiana Waterthrush, 4 October 1993, Minneapolis, Hennepin County (vote 7–0).
- Gyrfalcon, 28 November – 4 December 1993, Grand Marais, Cook County (vote 7–0).
- Lesser Black-backed Gull, 29 September – 3 December 1993, Hennepin and Dakota counties (vote 7–0; *The Loon* 66:46–47).
- Iceland Gull, 10 November 1993, Black Dog Lake, Dakota County (vote 5–2).

8255 Congdon Blvd., Duluth, MN 55804.