

# Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee

**Kim R. Eckert, MORC Secretary**

The following records were voted on by mail January – July 1995 and found to be acceptable:

**Barrow's Goldeneye**, 1–2 January 1995, South St. Paul, Ramsey County (*The Loon* 67:61–62).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**, 16–22 November 1994, Minneapolis, Hennepin County (*The Loon* 67:63–64).

**Lark Sparrow**, 17–18 December 1994, near Faribault, Rice County (*The Loon* 67:67).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**, 16–20 October 1994, Ely, St. Louis County.

**Black-legged Kittiwake**, 26 December 1994, Duluth, St. Louis County (*The Loon* 67:110).

**Plegadis, sp.**, 10–11 September 1994, Weaver, Wabasha County.

**Pine Grosbeak**, 3 July 1994, Red Lake W.M.A., Lake of the Woods County. (*The Loon* 67:65).

**Barrow's Goldeneye**, 21–22 January 1995, Black Dog Lake, Dakota County.

**Connecticut Warbler**, 2 November 1994, Richfield, Hennepin County.

**Iceland Gull** (adult), 29 March 1995, Red Wing, Goodhue County (*The Loon* 67:184–185).

**Great Black-backed Gull**, 27 March 1995, Duluth, St. Louis County (*The Loon* 67:111–112).

**Iceland Gull**, 7 April 1995, Pine Bend, Dakota County.

**Iceland Gull** (first-winter), 25 March – 2 April 1995, Red Wing, Goodhue County (*The Loon* 67:116–117).

Lesser Black-backed Gull, 9–28 April 1995, Oak Grove Township, Anoka County (*The Loon* 67:177–178).

**Great Black-backed Gull**, 27 March 1995, Pigs Eye Lake, Ramsey County (*The Loon* 67:181–182).

**White-eyed Vireo**, 5 June 1995, White-water W.M.A., Winona County (*The Loon* 67:175).

**Laughing Gull**, 15 June 1995, Cameron Lake, Polk County (*The Loon* 67:173–175).

**White-eyed Vireo**, 29 May 1995, Bloomington, Hennepin County (*The Loon* 67:178–179).

**Plegadis, sp.**, 23 July 1994, Thielle Lake, Big Stone County (*The Loon* 67:123–129).

**Black-headed Grosbeak**, 17 May 1995, Moorhead, Clay County (*The Loon* 67:182).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**, 17 April 1995, near Etter, Goodhue County (*The Loon* 67:183).

The following records were voted on by mail January – July 1995 and found to be Unacceptable:

**Chestnut-collard Longspur**, 25 Oc-

tober 1994, Agassiz N.W.R., Marshall Co. The entire description of the bird only includes references to a buffy head, lightly streaked back and breast, a “very obscure” eye mark, a “great deal of white on the tail,” and “the colored tail feathers were the shape of a triangle.” However, such a description does not preclude Smith’s or McCown’s Longspur; for that matter, there is no indication the bird was even a longspur, since the incomplete documentation does not preclude Vesper Sparrow, American Pipit, or juvenile Horned Lark.

**Gyr Falcon**, 16 January 1995, Nereson Township, Roseau County. The Committee unanimously agreed that this identification by a very experienced observer was probably correct; however, the majority also felt the documentation of this perched raptor seen only at a range of 500–700 yards is not detailed enough for acceptance. No useful plumage details were visible at the distance involved, the description does not indicate why the bird was a falcon and does not preclude the possibility of Northern Goshawk.

**White-eyed Vireo**, 13 May 1995, Lebanon Hills Regional Park, Dakota County. The entire description of this vireo only includes mention of a whitish belly, yellowish cast on the sides, and obvious light-colored wing-bars. However, such a brief description does not preclude a Solitary or Bell’s vireo.

**Common Black-headed Gull**, 15 May 1995, Thief River Falls, Pennington County. While the description of the black-tipped yellow bill suggests that this immature gull was correctly identified, such a bill pattern also fits a second-year Black-legged Kittiwake. The observer also describes and sketches an underwing pattern that does not fit Common Black-headed or, for that matter, any other gull: black wing linings and outer primaries contrasting with white secondaries and inner primaries. The gull is also described as being “halfway between juvenile and first winter,” a most unlikely plumage to be seen in May.

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