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List of Birds for Which the Records Committee Seeks Documentation

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LIST OF SPECIES FOR WHICH THE RECORDS COMMITTEE SEEKS
DOCUMENTATION

The NOU Records Committee at its February 25, 1995 meeting revised the list of species for which the committee seeks documentation. This list was last published in 1988 (NBR 56:86-96). The committee seeks documentation on all species with less than regular occurrence in Nebraska, as well as any species occurring out-of-range or out-of-season. Changes in this list since 1988 include the addition of new species documented for the state, and the deletion of species upgraded to regular status. Below are listed the species of less than regular occurrence based on the official list of state birds (a revised list will be published in a future issue of NBR).

The following kinds of documentation are accepted by the Records Committee: photographs, slides, recordings, and written descriptions. The committee also considers specimens or photographs of specimens in the possession of organizations and/or individuals who have been authorized to have them. In order to legally handle a specimen (roadkill, windowkill, etc.), you are required to obtain both federal and state permits.

Photographs, slides, and recordings are preferred means of documentation whenever possible. A written documentation is often the only available means to document a species. A well-written documentation is extremely valuable, and should include a detailed description of all aspects of the observation, as follows: descriptions of plumage, flesh parts, eye color, size (relative to a species observed at the same time can be very useful), and any noticeable field marks (i.e., wing bars, eye rings, crown stripes, tail markings, etc.). Extraneous observations can often be useful. For example, worn tail feathers or a leg band might indicate that the bird is an escaped captive bird rather than a wild bird. A written description can never have too much detail, but it can easily leave out critical details, which may be important in evaluating the documentation. A very useful part of a written documentation is a discussion of field marks used to separate the bird from similar species. Descriptions of the bird's behavior and habitat are also very important parts of a well-written documentation. In addition to the above, a few details of the observation are also important, including exact location of the sighting, date and time of the sighting, duration of the sighting, optics used, distance from the bird, field guides used to identify the bird, and when the description was written (i.e., written 5

hours later, written 2 days later from notes taken in the field at the time of the observation, written from memory a week later, etc.). For a detailed discussion on how to write a written documentation see NBR 54 (4):74-77 1986. Documentations may be sent to Joseph Gubanyi, Concordia College, Seward, NE 68434.

---Joseph Gubanyi, Records Committee Chair

Red-throated Loon	Mountain Plover	Clark's Nutcracker
Pacific Loon	Eskimo Curlew	Chihuahuan Raven
Red-necked Grebe	Whimbrel	Common Raven
Clark's Grebe	Red Knot	Canyon Wren
Brown Pelican	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Bewick's Wren
Neotropic Cormorant	Red Phalarope	American Dipper
Anhinga	Pomarine Jaeger	Varied Thrush
Tricolored Heron	Parasitic Jaeger	Sage Thrasher
Roscate Spoonbill	Long-tailed Jaeger	Curv-billed Thrasher
Wood Stork	Laughing Gull	Sprague's Pipit
Black-bellied Whistling-duck	Common Black-headed Gull	Phainopepla
Tundra Swan	Thayer's Gull	Black-capped Vireo
Bean Goose	Iceland Gull	Blue-winged Warbler
Brant	Lesser Black-backed Gull	Cape May Warbler
Mottled Duck	Great Black-backed Gull	Black-throated Blue Warbl
Eurasian Wigeon	Black-legged Kittiwake	Townsend's Warbler
Common Eider	Sabine's Gull	Pine Warbler
King Eider	Ancient Murrelet	Prairie Warbler
Harlequin Duck	Common Ground Dove	Worm-eating Warbler
Black Scoter	Inca Dove	Swainson's Warbler
Surf Scoter	Groove-billed Ani	Connecticut Warbler
White-winged Scoter	Northern Hawk-Owl	MacGillivray's Warbler
Barrow's Goldeneye	Great Gray Owl	Hooded Warbler
Black Vulture	Boreal Owl	Painted Bunting
American Swallow-tailed Kite	Calliope Hummingbird	Green-tailed Towhee
White-tailed Kite	Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Cassin's Sparrow
Mississippi Kite	Rufous Hummingbird	Black-throated Sparrow
Harris' Hawk	Red-naped Sapsucker	Sage Sparrow
Gyr Falcon	Williamson's Sapsucker	Baird's Sparrow
Sage Grouse	Three-toed Woodpecker	Henslow's Sparrow
Yellow Rail	Pileated Woodpecker	Sharp-tailed Sparrow
Black Rail	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Clapper Rail	Hammond's Flycatcher	Smith's Longspur
King Rail	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Pine Grosbeak
Purple Gallinule	Vermilion Flycatcher	Cassin's Finch
Common Moorhen	Cave Swallow	White-winged Crossbill
Common Crane	Gray Jay	Hoary Redpoll
Snowy Plover	Steller's Jay	Lesser Goldfinch

Editor's Note: The other members of the Records Committee at the time that these guidelines were developed were Mark Brogie, Creighton, NE; Alan Grenon, Seattle, WA; Bill Huser, South Sioux City, NE; Loren Padelford, Bellevue, NE; William Scharf, Lincoln, NE; Ross Silcock, Tabor, IA; and Rick Wright, Urbana, IL.