

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, Thielke 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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