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2004 REPORT OF THE KANSAS BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

This report summarizes the activities of the Committee for the calendar year 2004. The Committee received 54 observation reports in 2004, recording the occurrence of 51 different birds. Of this total, 33 records were circulated. All reports submitted, whether circulated to the committee or not, are archived in The University of Kansas Museum of Natural History. Record submissions are assigned a sequential number in the order in which they are received, with the year of receipt as a prefix. Not all submissions that receive a number are circulated. Birds are listed in phylogenetic order under each of two categories: Records Accepted and Records Not Accepted. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow the American Ornithologists' Union *Check-list of North American Birds* (Seventh edition, 1998) and all updates.

After the English and scientific name follows the KBRC record number; the number of individuals seen, with age or plumage notes; date(s) of observation; locality, including county; observer(s), with those documenting the record listed first; supporting physical evidence, if any, received by the Committee; and finally, comments and notes on changes in the species' status on the KOS checklist. Records that were not accepted by the committee have the observers' names omitted, and a brief explanation of the reasoning behind that decision.

RECORDS ACCEPTED

Black-bellied Whistling Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*), 2004-25, 2 unknown sex adults, 15-May-2004, Wichita residence of Don and Fran Vannoy, on the banks of the Little Arkansas River (Sedgwick Co.), first observed by the Vannoys the report was prepared by Pete Janzen, with many other observers seeing the bird. Documented with 1 photo. **Ninth state record.**

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*), 2004-41, 1 unknown age/unknown sex, 1-Jan-2003, unknown location in Miami Co. reported by David Seibel. This bird had been shot by a hunter and then brought to Dr. Seibel who took pictures of the bird. This species was formerly a subspecies of Canada Goose and was raised to a full species in 2004 by the American Ornithological Union. This species has been added to the KOS Checklist. While Kansas specimens for this species are present in the KU Collection, this is the **first non specimen state record.**

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*), 2004-42, 8-10 unknown sex/6+ adults, 1+ sub-adult, 8-Nov-2004, Shawnee Mission Park (Johnson Co.) reported by David Seibel. Record was documented with photographs. **Second state record.**

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 2004-13, 1 unknown sex adult, 25-Apr-2004, Quivira National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) (Stafford Co.) reported by Dave Williams. Also observed by Matt Gearheart. **Seventeenth state record.**

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 2004-20, 2 unknown sex adults, 24-May-2004, Quivira NWR (Stafford Co.) reported by Steven Mlodinow and Paul Lehman. Additional observers included Jerry Oldenettel, Scott Seltman and Mike Rader. **Eighteenth state record.**

- Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*), 2004-28, 1 unknown sex immature, 22-Jul-2004, Quivira NWR (Stafford Co.) reported by Tony Andresen, also observed by Mark Rundaex. **Eighth state record.**
- Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*), 2004-29, 1 unknown sex immature, 10-Jun-2004, White Rock Creek (Jewell Co.) reported by Mark Finnell. Other cited observers, Tammy and Taylor Finnell. Photos were submitted with this report. **Ninth state record.**
- Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*), 2004-08, 1 unknown sex, unknown age, 4-Apr-2004, flying overhead in Wichita (Sedgwick Co.) reported by Michael Heaney.
- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*), 2004-10, 1 unknown sex sub-adult, 18-Apr-2004, Hollister Wildlife area (Bourbon Co.) reported by Gregg Friesen, also seen by Pete Janzen. A far eastern report of this normally western Kansas species.
- Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*), 2004-11, 1 unknown age male, 15-Apr-2004 though 21-Apr-2004, Pool 1A, Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area (Barton Co.) reported by Bob Gress. An additional report (2004-11A) was submitted by Dave Williams. Additional observers cited in these report: Helen Hands, Pete Janzen, Scott Seltman, Lee Queal and Jane Queal. Numerous photos from 3 observers. **Sixth state record.**
- Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*): 2004-48, 1 unknown sex adult observed at the Big Salt Marsh of Quivira NWR (Stafford Co.) on 12-May-2003, first by Chris Wood with report filed by Mike Rader. **Second state record.**
- Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*): 2004-51, 1 probable male unknown age observed over Roe Blvd and I-35, Roeland Park, KS (Johnson Co.) on 4-Dec-2004 by Alan Godwin. An unusually late season record for this species.
- Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*): 2004-38, 1 male/hatch year observed at feeders in Garden City (Finney Co.) by Tom Shane and Phil Rich. Bird was observed by many individuals and documented with numerous photos. **This is the first record of this species in Kansas and will be added to the KOS Checklist.**
- Magnificent Hummingbird (*Eugenes fulgens*), 2004-24, 1 adult female, 11-Jul-2004 through 14-Jul-2004, rural residence in northeast Chautauqua Co. reported by Mark Corder. Additional reports submitted by Jon Strong (2004-24A) and Sebastian Patti (2004-24B). Other observers cited in these reports: Elaine Corder, Gloria Wolfe-Jones and the Dailey family. Numerous photos were submitted with these reports. **Second state record.**
- Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*), 2004-32, 1 immature male, 16-Aug-2004 through 20-Aug-2004, residential yard in Larned (Pawnee Co.) reported by Don Kazmaier. Other observers: Kathy Kazmaier and Scott Seltman. Report included several photographs. **Tenth state record.**
- Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*), 2004-31, 1 unknown age female, 18-Aug-2004 through 21-Aug-2004, rural residence near Iuka (Pratt Co.) reported by Linda Loomis, additional observer Ken Brunson. Report included several photographs. **Thirteenth state record.**
- Gray Flycatcher (*Empidonax wrightii*), 2004-34, 1 adult unknown sex, 21-Sep-2002, North Fork of the Cimarron River (Morton Co.) reported by Chuck Otte. Additional cited observers included Jaye Otte, Scott Seltman, Mike Rader and Don Kazmaier. **Sixth state record.**
- Plumbeous Vireo (*Vireo plumbeus*), 2004-21, 1 adult male, 18-May-2004, Elkhart shelterbelt north of the cemetery (Morton Co.) reported by Steven Mlodinow and Paul Lehman. **First non specimen state record since species was split from Solitary Vireo in 1997.**
- Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*): 2004-40, 1 unknown age/sex bird heard in the Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Area (Linn Co.) on 1-Jun-2004 by Bill Busby.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*): 2004-49, 1 unknown age/sex individual observed with a mixed flock at Nelson Island (Johnson Co.) by Terry Swope on 14-Dec-2004. An unusual late season record.

- Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*): 2004-50, 1 adult female seen in the Wichita-Valley Center Floodway (Sedgwick Co.) on 18-Dec-2004 by Brian Addis and Pete Janzen.
- Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*), 2004-04, 1 unknown age male, 15-Sep-2002, Maple Grove Cemetery, Wichita (Sedgwick Co.) reported by Pete Janzen. An uncommon eastward sighting of this western US warbler.
- Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*): 2004-47, 1 adult male observed in Wichita's Oak Park (Sedgwick Co.) from 30-Oct-2004 thru 27-Nov-2004 by Paul E. Griffin. Documented with photographs. A very late season record and quite far west in the state.
- Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*), 2004-05, 1 first basic plumage male, 31-Jan-2004, Manhattan residence at a bird bath (Riley Co.) reported by Dave Rintoul with photographs. A rare winter record for the state.
- Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*): 2004-46, 2 adult males, 2 adult females observed in a cedar windbreak in Ulysses (Grant Co.) by Mark Corder and others on 27-Nov-2004. Record accompanied by photographs.
- Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*), 2004-27, 1 male adult, 25-Jul-2004, urban yard at feeders in northeast Wichita (Sedgwick Co.) reported by Carolyn Schwab. Additional cited observers: Lewis Rogers, Bill and Nancy Beard, Cheryl Miller and Bob Gress. Record submitted with photographs. **Fourteenth state record.**
- Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*), 2004-30, 1 adult male, 18-Aug-2004 to 19-Aug-2004 at feeders in urban yard, Olathe (Johnson Co.) reported by Mark Corder, also observed by Elaine Corder. Submitted with photographs. **Fifteenth state record.**

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

- Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) 2004-19, 1 unknown sex adult, 8-May-2004 in Pool 8 of the McPherson Wetlands (McPherson Co.). Origin of the bird is in question.
- Falcated Duck (*Anas falcate*), 2004-01, 1 adult male, 1-Jan-2004, at a pond in Topeka (Shawnee Co.). Insufficient details to rule out other *Anas* species and given the rarity of this species in North America, origin of the bird would have to be questioned.
- Cordilleran Flycatcher (*Empidonax occidentalis*), 2004-33, 1 unknown sex adult, 5-Sep-2004 at Middle Spring in the Cimarron National Grasslands (Morton Co.). Insufficient details to separate from other *Empidonax* flycatchers.
- Cordilleran Flycatcher (*Empidonax occidentalis*), 2004-35, 1 unknown age/sex bird observed in Garden City (Finney Co.) on 18-Sep-2004. Insufficient details to separate from other *Empidonax* flycatchers.
- Cassin's Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*), 2004-36, 1 adult, unknown sex observed in the Elkhart sewer ponds shelterbelt (Morton Co.) on 4-Sep-2004. Insufficient details to separate from Blue-headed Vireo.
- Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*), 2004-37, 5 unknown sex birds, possible juveniles observed in Blue Rapids (Marshall Co.) on 2-Oct-2004. Insufficient details to separate from other Tree Swallow.

Members of the committee voting on these records: Greg Farley, Bob Gress (Alternate), Mick McHugh, Lloyd Moore, Matt Gearheart, Chuck Otte (Secretary), Brett Sandercock (Alternate), Max Thompson (Chair), Eugene Young
Submitted by Chuck Otte, KBRC secretary.

IN MEMORIAM: HAROLD HEDGES

Michael Cooper
Lake Quivira, Kansas

Harold Hedges died at age 91 on March 5, 2005, at his home in Harrison, Arkansas. A founding father of the Kansas Ornithological Society, he was a charter member and a major contributor. He had an intense love for the land and is best remembered for his efforts to protect the Buffalo River.

Harold was born and raised in Kansas City. He lived at Lake Quivira, Johnson County, Kansas, from 1931-1968. During that entire time he took at least weekly field trips, each meticulously and elaborately recorded in copious field-notes which fill several thick volumes. These daytrips were mostly at Lake Quivira and environs, but ranged from the Kansas City metro area to Cheyenne Bottoms and the Ozarks. He continued his bird-logs in the Army in WWII from 1944-1945, landing at Omaha Beach and proceeding into Germany. There were, for many years, hikes in the Grand Canyon and trips to the Rockies for birding.

He later collaborated with Jim and Mary Louise Meyers at Lake Quivira. In the early 1950's he introduced birding at Lake Quivira to young Ben King, now a world authority on Asian birds. In a 1974 reply to Evelyn Schutty, he dated the first official KC Burroughs Audubon Christmas Bird Count as December 24, 1939, in the company of Esther O'Connor, James Cunningham, Dr. Henry Harford, and Earl Newton, birding Parkville Bottoms and Lake Quivira, and recording 46 species.

His detailed field-notes on every daytrip are being incorporated into a natural history of Lake Quivira, and some will be kept in the Burroughs Audubon Society Library. Included are his 1945 treatise on "Juncos of the KC Region", published by the Missouri Audubon Society. Though renowned for his birding ear, more remarkable was his indefatigable organization of bird sightings, descriptions, year lists, and dates of first spring and fall arrivals (1931-1953).

A lifelong Christian, he was a student, Eagle Scout, ornithologist, ranch hand, accountant, husband, father, soldier, fireman (fire chief at Lake Quivira from 1946-1967), river guide, canyoneer, cartographer, conservationist, and mentor. He and Margaret authored *The Mulberry River Canoeing Guide* and *The Buffalo River Canoeing Guide*. Harold paddled Thomas Hart Benton down the Buffalo River in 1970; a trip written up in *Sports Illustrated*.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Margaret, three sons and their extended families. His son David and wife, Linda, formerly of Lake Quivira and Independence, Missouri, are very active in the Texas Ornithological Society, living in the Davis Mountains.

In 1991, I had the pleasure and privilege of participating in the last Rancho Cielo (Tamaulipas, Mexico) Christmas Bird Count for which Harold served as the compiler (he had done this for 10 years). He was a true gentleman and lived his keen appreciation of Nature's wonders to the fullest. The world has lost a gentle conservationist.

