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2023 REPORT OF THE KANSAS BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

This report summarizes the activities of the Committee for the calendar year 2023. The Committee received 47 reports, recording the occurrence of 47 different birds, of which 41 were evaluated. All reports are archived by the Kansas Bird Records Committee and are available for review upon request.



Figure 1. This Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*), the first Kansas record, was observed by David Tønnessen (photograph) on 11 May 2023, at Sam's Pond south of Syracuse, Hamilton County.

Submissions are assigned a sequential number in the order in which they are received, with the year of receipt as a prefix. Submissions that are not on the review list, or not considered extraordinary, may not be circulated to the Committee. Birds are listed in phylogenetic order under each of two categories: Records Accepted and Records Not Accepted. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow the American Ornithological Society's Check-list of North American Birds, 7th Edition (American Ornithologists' Union. 1998. Check-list of North American Birds: The Species of Birds of North America from the Arctic through Panama, Including the West Indies and Hawaiian Islands. American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C. Check-list of North American Birds [online]. American Ornithological Society <https://checklist.americanornithology.org/>), updated through the 64th Supplement

(R. Terry Chesser, Shawn M. Billerman, Kevin J. Burns, Carla Cicero, Jon L. Dunn, Blanca E. Hernández-Baños, Rosa Alicia Jiménez, Andrew W. Kratter, Nicholas A. Mason, Pamela C. Rasmussen, J. V. Remsen, Jr., and Kevin Winker. 2023. *Ornithology*, 140[3]. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ornithology/ukad023>).

After the English and scientific name, the following, if available, are provided: KBRC record number; the number of individuals seen, with age, sex or plumage notes; date(s) of observation; locality, including county; observer(s), with those documenting the record listed first; supporting physical evidence; and finally, pertinent comments on changes to the species status on the Kansas Ornithological Society (KOS) check-list. Records that were not accepted by the Committee have observer(s) names omitted, with a brief explanation of the rationale behind that decision.

Authors, when citing KBRC records from this report, are encouraged to give credit to the observer(s) associated with the observation along with a full citation of this report.

RECORDS ACCEPTED

Eurasian Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*), 2023-44, alternate plumaged male, 29 October 2023, at Tuttle Creek State Park, Riley County, by Nathan Senner, Debby McKee and Mark Pheasant. **Twelfth state record.**

Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*), 2023-10, adult, 11 May 2023, at Sam's Pond south of Syracuse, Hamilton County, by David Tønnessen. Documented with photographs (Figures 1-3). **This is the first record of this species in Kansas and will be added to the KOS Check-list.**



Figure 2. Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*) on the right, with a Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) on left, observed on 11 May 2023, Sam's Pond south of Syracuse, Hamilton County. Notice the bill color, and contrast between neck and underside of the Mexican Duck. Photograph courtesy of David Tønnessen.

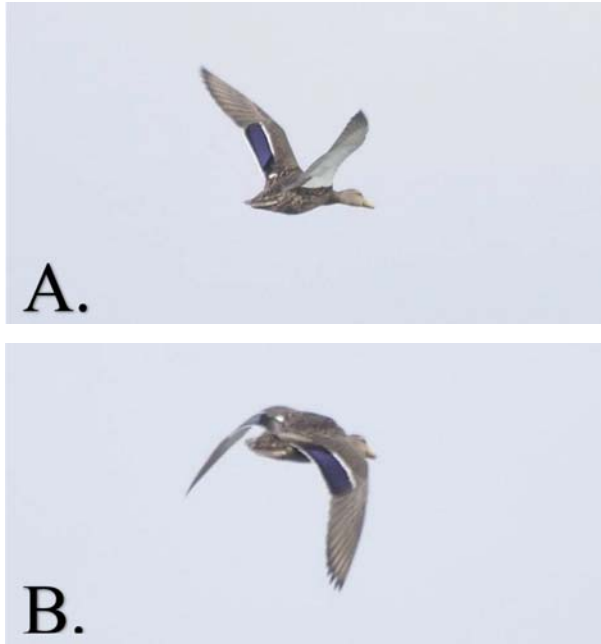


Figure 3. Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*) in flight, 11 May 2023, Sam's Pond south of Syracuse, Hamilton County. Notice lack of white in tail (A and B), white bordered speculum (A and B), and underwing color (A). Photographs courtesy of David Tønnessen.

American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*), 2023-18, adult, 27 September to 9 October 2023, at Chase State Fishing Lake, Chase County, by Joanie Flanagan, also seen by Jamey Logan, Ingrid Martin, Shelly Schiermann, Tom Schiermann, and many other observers. Documented with photographs (Figures 4-5). **Third state record.**



Figure 4. American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) found by Joanie Flanagan (photograph) on 27 September 2023 at Chase State Fishing Lake, Chase County.



Figure 5. American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) observed on 27 September 2023 at Chase State Fishing Lake, Chase County. Photograph courtesy of Bob Gress.

Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*), 2023-42, unknown age, 24 November 2023, in a rural area south of Colony, Allen County, by Jayden Bowen, also seen by Andrew Burnett. Documented with photographs (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*) observed on 24 November 2023 in Allen County. Photograph courtesy of Jayden Bowen.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*), 2023-09, adult male, 1 June 2023, at a residence near Grinnell, Gove County, by Christopher Frick. Documented with photographs. **Fourteenth accepted record.**

Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), 2023-30, immature male, 17 September 2023, in Elkhart, Morton County, by Joseph Miller and Franklin Miller. Documented with photographs. **Fourteenth state record.**

Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), 2023-36, unknown age female, 10 November 2023 to 13 January 2024, in Lindsborg, McPherson County, by John Palmquist and Lisa Hoffman, also seen by many other observers. Documented with photographs. **Fifteenth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-08, adult, 19 May 2023, near US-75 at Dragoon Creek, Osage County, by Dianna Hutchcroft. Documented with video. **Eleventh state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-14, adult, 2 September to 5 October 2023, at Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Management Area, Barton County, by Madeline Dykstra, also seen by Cheryl Dykstra. Documented with a photograph. **Twelfth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-15, adult, 4 September 2023, at Bartlett Arboretum, Belle Plaine, Sumner County, by Mike Mackay. Documented with photographs. **Thirteenth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-19, adult, 1 - 22 October, 2023, at Geary State Fishing Lake, Geary County, by Cheri Olsen, and many other observers. Documented with photographs. **Fourteenth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-21, adult, 5 September 2023, at Pierson Park, Kansas City, Wyandotte County, by John Alford. Documented with a photograph. **Fifteenth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-24, adult, 17 May to 9 July 2023, at Gardner Lake, Johnson County, by Clifton Bencke and many other observers. Documented with a photograph. **Sixteenth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-25, adult, 26 June to 19 July, 2023 at Heritage Park Lake, Johnson County, by George Chiu and many other observers. Documented with photographs. **Seventeenth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-27, adult, 17 - 20 July 2023, at Neosho Wildlife Area, Neosho County, by Travis Ratlaff, also seen by Andrew Burnett. Documented with video and photographs. **Eighteenth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-28, adult, 21 July then 25 August to 12 September 2023, at Cedar Niles Park and Lake, Olathe, Johnson County, by Jeff Witters and

Mark Terry, and many other observers. Documented with photographs. **Nineteenth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-29, adult, 8 - 12 August 2023, at Oak Park, Wichita, Sedgwick County, by Mike Marlatt, and many other observers. Documented with photographs. **Twentieth state record.**

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-41, adult, 12 November 2023, at Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge, Coffey County, by Robert Nemzek. Documented with photographs. **Twenty-first state record.**

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*), 2023-38, immature, 26 October 2023, at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, Stafford County, by Rachel Laubhan. Documented with a photograph. **Ninth state record.**

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*), 2023-03, adult, 23 March 2023, at Ottawa State Fishing Lake, Ottawa County, by Lisa Hoffman. Documented with photographs.

Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus nuchalis*), 2023-01, adult, 7 - 12 October 2022, in Garden City, Finney County, by Sara Shane and Tom Shane. Documented with photographs (Figure 6). **Eleventh accepted record.**



Figure 7. Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus nuchalis*) observed on 10 October 2022, Garden City, Finney County. Photograph courtesy of Sara Shane.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*), 2023-35, adult, 9 - 10 November 2023, along a rural road south of Langdon, Reno County, by Steve Seibel, also seen by Mike Rader and Bryan White and several other observers. Documented with photographs (Figure 8). Second state record and the first verified with physical evidence. **Hypothetical status removed.**



Figure 8. Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus sayana*) observed on 9 November 2023 in Reno County. Photograph courtesy of Steven Seibel.

Western Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*), 2023-20, unknown age, 2 September 2023, at a residence near Grinnell, Gove County, by Christopher Frick. Documented with photographs. Fifth accepted record.

Western Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*), 2023-32, unknown age, 16 September 2023, along rural road east of Johnson City, Stanton County, by Joseph Miller, also seen by Andrew Miller, Anthony Miller and Franklin Miller. Documented with a photograph. **Sixth accepted record.**

Cassin's Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*), 2023-33, unknown age, 17 September 2023, at the Elkhart Cemetery, Morton County, by Joseph Miller, also seen by Andrew Miller, Anthony Miller and Franklin Miller. Documented with a photograph.

Plumbeous Vireo (*Vireo plumbeus*), 2023-46, unknown age, 10 September 2023, at the Elkhart Cemetery/Shelterbelt, Morton County, by Malcolm Gold. Documented with photographs.

Chihuahuan Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*), 2023-47, two unknown age, 10 November 2023, north of Elkhart, Morton County, by Malcolm Gold and Bryan White. Documented with photographs.

Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*), 2023-43, unknown age, 13 December 2023, in a residential yard, Olathe, Johnson County, by Melissa Yates-Bruce. Documented with photographs. Easternmost record in the state.

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*), 2023-02, adult male, 16 - 23 March 2023, in a residential yard, Abilene, Dickinson County, by Brenda and Tim Holm, and many other observers. Documented with photographs (Figure 9). **Second state record.**



Figure 9. Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*) observed on 21 March 2023 in Abilene, Dickinson County. Photograph courtesy of Dave Rintoul.

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*), 2023-39, four seen, both sexes present, 19 November 2023, Cedar Bluff Reservoir, Trego County, by Franklin Miller. Documented with photographs.

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*), 2023-40, two females, one male, 15 November 2023 to 21 February 2024, Scott State Park, Scott County, by Sara Shane and Tom Shane, and many other observers. As many as 17 individuals were seen by observers in late December 2023. Documented with photographs (Figure 10).



Figure 10. Pine Grosbeak, (*Pinicola enucleator*) observed on 15 November 2023, Scott State Park, Scott County. Photograph courtesy of Sara Shane.

Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*), 2023-17, immature, 4 September 2023, at Point of Rocks, Cimarron National Grassland, Morton County, by Franklin Miller also seen by Dwight Miller. Documented with photographs. Twelfth state record.

Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*), 2023-22, immature, 23 August 2023, at a playa south of Grinnell, Gove County, by Christopher Frick. Documented with photographs (Figure 11). Thirteenth state record.



Figure 11. Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*) observed on 23 August 2023 at a playa south of Grinnell, Gove County. Photograph courtesy of Christopher Frick.

Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*), 2023-45, unknown age, 8 September 2023, at Sublette Water Treatment Plant, Haskell County, by Malcolm Gold. Documented with photographs.

Canyon Towhee (*Melospiza fusca*), 2023-16, adult, 5 July 2023, at Point of Rocks, Cimarron National Grassland, Morton County, by Daniel Broers. **Sixth state record.**

Canyon Towhee (*Melospiza fusca*), 2023-31, unknown age, 16 September 2023, at Point of Rocks, Cimarron National Grassland, Morton County, by Joseph Miller, also seen by Andrew Miller, Anthony Miller and Franklin Miller. Documented with photographs (Figure 12). **Seventh state record.**



Figure 12. Canyon Towhee (*Melospiza fusca*) observed on 16 September 2023 at Point of Rocks, Cimarron National Grassland, Morton County. Photograph courtesy of Joseph Miller.

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*), 2023-37, unknown age, 20 May 2023, at Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Area, Linn County, by Corey Entriken. Documented with audio recording. **Seventeenth accepted record.**

Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*), 2023-05, adult, 28 April 2023, at Elkhart Shelterbelt, Morton County, by David Wiggins. Documented with a photograph (Figure 13). **Eighth state record.**



Figure 13. Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*) observed on 28 April 2023 at Elkhart, Morton County. Photography courtesy of David Wiggins.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-23, unknown age, 30 April 2023, at Tuttle Creek State Park, Riley County. A heard only record and audio recording was not definitive enough to say that it was a Limpkin.

Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*), 2023-26, unknown age, 26 June 2023, along the Verdigris River near Coffeyville, Montgomery County. No photo. Insufficient written description to eliminate immature night-heron species.

Cassin's Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*), 2023-06, unknown age, 30 April 2023 at the Elkhart Cemetery, Morton County. Photos failed to provide adequate detail to separate this individual from the very similar Blue-headed Vireo.

The KBRC cautions birders in western Kansas on separating the species of the Solitary Vireo complex (Cassin's, Blue-headed, and Plumbeous). These taxa can be very challenging in their range of overlap. Previous specimens collected as Cassin's, have been reexamined and turned out to be Blue-headed when compared to specimens and data from known localities.

Members of the KBRC voting on these records:

Matt Gearheart

Andrew George

Malcolm Gold

Kevin Groeneweg

Mark Nolen

Chuck Otte (Secretary, Alternate)

Mike Rader

Max Thompson (Chair)

Eugene A. Young (Alternate)

Submitted by Chuck Otte, KBRC Secretary.