

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Second Annual Report

This report contains the decisions of the L. O. S. Bird Records Committee since the last annual report (L.O.S. News No. 98, October 1982). During the last year species have been added to the Louisiana list by the Records Committee. Several dozen records are currently under review by the Committee.

In other actions, the Committee has added the "Great White Heron", Ardea herodias occidentalis, to the Review List. This is the only subspecies now on the Review List.

The Committee currently consists of Horace H. Jeter (Chairman), Dr. Robert Newman, Dr. Robert D. Purrington, Dr. J. V. Remsen, Jr., Buford M. Myers III, David P. Muth, and Thomas S. Schulenberg (Secretary).

In the report that follows, the Records Committee file number on each record is placed in parentheses after the name of the species. The initials of those persons who observed records accepted by the Committee are given in the following report; underlined initials signal those observers who provided the Committee with documentation of a record. All records are on file with the Secretary and are available for examination by interested persons.

I. SPECIES NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED FROM LOUISIANA

A. Species accepted to the Louisiana state list.

1. Great Black-backed Gull (Larus marinus). (82-5). A third-year(?) bird seen at Pontchartrain Beach, Lake Ponchartrain, New Orleans on 11 November 1982 (DM, NN, DP, JR); photographed by DP.
2. Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus). (82-1). One adult was seen by many observers (SC, MM, DM, NN, DP, MR) between 14-28 February 1982 at the New Orleans City Dump, New Orleans and the Paris Road Dump, Chalmette. Photographed on 14 February 1982 by MM.
3. Thayer's Gull (Larus thayeri). (82-2). A first-year bird studied at the New Orleans City Dump, New Orleans on 14 February 1982 (MM, DM, NN); photographed by MM.
4. Townsend's Warbler (Dendroica townsendi). (81-40). An immature female at East Jetty Woods, 2 miles south of Cameron on 24 October 1981 (VR, SC, TD); specimen deposited at the Louisiana State Museum of Zoology (LSUMZ 100478).

B. Unaccepted, identification uncertain.

1. Lazuli Bunting (Passerina amoena). (81-41). Sight record at the University of New Orleans, East Campus, New Orleans on 8 October 1981.

II. REVIEW LIST SPECIES (birds previously recorded in Louisiana, but which are of rare occurrence or whose identification is difficult).

A. Accepted records.

1. Northern Gannet (Morus bassanus). (82-11). Two adults, one or two subadults, and two immatures on 21 March 1982 at Grand Isle, Jefferson Parish (MM, DM, DP, TV).
2. Rough-legged Hawk (Buteo lagopus). (82-3). One seen from U.S. Hwy. 11, New Orleans, on 30 January 1982 (DM, NN, MM, FR, DP).
3. Glaucous Gull (Larus hyperboreus). (82-9). An immature photographed by HK at Holly Beach, Cameron Parish on 1 January 1976.
4. Glaucous Gull (Larus hyperboreus). (82-7). An immature seen by MM, DM, LO, and DP at Grand Isle on 7 February 1982.
5. Black-legged Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla). (82-13). An immature collected along the beach ca 5 miles east of Johnson's Bayou, Cameron Parish by JM on 23 April 1982; specimen deposited at the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology (LSUMZ 104825).
6. Black-legged Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla). (82-12). An immature seen by MM, JR, DM on 15 May 1982 along the beach 0.5 miles west of Holly Beach, Cameron Parish.
7. Black-legged Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla). (82-14). An immature seen by VR, MR, and SL two miles west of Holly Beach on 2 June 1982. This was a very unusual summer record; possibly the same individual seen in the same area in May (82-12).
8. Band-tailed Pigeon (Columba fasciata). (82-6). An adult seen by DM and JW on 5 December 1981 at Pilottown, Plaquemines Parish.
9. Long-eared Owl (Asio otus). (82-8). Two individuals seen by DM and JR in woods along the Calcasieu Ship Channel at East Hackberry, Cameron Parish on 19-20 December 1981; thereafter seen by a number of other observers.
10. Western Wood Pewee (Contopus sordidulus). (81-39). VR collected an immature on 11 October 1981 at Little Cheniere Ridge, Cameron Parish; specimen deposited at the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology (LSUMZ 100498).
11. Connecticut Warbler (Oporornis agilis). (82-15). An adult male in New Orleans on 14 May 1980 (NN, SF).
12. Smith's Longspur (Calcarius pictus). (82-17). Eight seen by many observers (VR, JD, SC, LH, JS, JK, BC, SN, NN) on 12 January 1982 at the Shreveport Regional Airport, Caddo Parish.

13. Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*). (82-4). Two (one adult male, one adult female or immature) seen by DM, MB, DP, and JR at La Place, St. John the Baptist Parish on 17 January 1982.
14. Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*). (82-18). Two seen with Smith's Longspurs on 12 January 1982 at the Shreveport Regional Airport (VR, CS, JS, LH,JD).

B. Unaccepted records, identification uncertain.

1. Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*). (82-16). A subadult 5 miles south of South Pass, Plaquemines Parish on 13 July 1981.

Observers: Steve Cardiff, Bruce Crider, Tristan Davis, Jon Dunn, Sue Flewelling, Linda Hale, Joe Kennedy, Howard Kisner, Scott Lanyon, John Morony, David Muth, Mac Myers, Norton Nelkin, Nancy Newfield, Skip Newfield, Larry O'Meallie, Dan Purrington, Jack Reinoehl, Mark Robbins, Jim Stewart, Tom Vallega, Jim Whelan.

Corrigenda: In the First Annual Report (L.O.S. News No. 98, October 1982), several errors were made in reporting records of Ruff. The Ruff was admitted to the Louisiana list on the basis of Record 80-2, a bird on the campus of the University of New Orleans, New Orleans on 12 August 1980 (Norton Nelkin, Mac Myers, David Muth, et al.). An additional record reviewed by the Committee is 81-23, a bird seen and photographed at the same location 12-13 August 1978 (Jack Reinoehl, Mac Myers, Fred Barry, et al.).

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BACHMAN'S SPARROWS IN
EVANGELINE PARISH

by

Harland D. Guillory

In recent years Bachman's Sparrows (*Aimophila aestivalis*) have caused considerable concern because of population declines in many parts of their range. This concern was great enough to warrant inclusion of the species on the Blue List (Tate and Tate, *American Birds* 36: 126-135, 1982). In Louisiana, Lowery (*Louisiana Birds*, LSU Press, 1974) considered the sparrow to be an uncommon breeder.

There is little general information available on abundance and distribution of this species in Louisiana. Such information could be of importance to future workers, particularly should these population declines continue.

Data were acquired in the spring and summer of 1979-81 and the summer of 1983. Research assistance was provided in 1981 by the Office of Academic Affairs and Services of Louisiana State University at Eunice.

The distribution of Bachman's Sparrows in Evangeline Parish is extremely local because of their specific habitat requirements. They prefer opened mature pineland containing occasional oaks, shrubs, saplings, forbs, and thick growths of grasses