

Report on a Revised Birds of Iowa

At the last annual meeting of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union in Des Moines, a paper of mine was read out-lining the proposed plan for revised list of Iowa birds. Such a paper is now being prepared for use as a thesis at the State University of Iowa, and it probably will be published through the Natural History series of the University. In securing information for this list practically all of the collections of birds containing Iowa specimens have been examined. My records show that about fifty species of birds, reported at one time or another as appearing in Iowa, cannot now be substantiated by the finding of a preserved specimen with data. There is a growing feeling that no species may be admitted or retained on a state list unless the evidence of it's occurrence is beyond any reasonable doubt.

A number of these birds unquestionably have occurred in Iowa, and while specimens are desirable, the certainty of identification is sufficiently proved as to admit them to the list. The following have been recorded as occurring in Iowa. Do you know of any authentic specimens or additional sight records? Lark Bunting, Lazuli Bunting, Shufeldt's Junco (including Montana Junco), Western Blue Grosbeak, Brewer's Blackbird, Hooded Warbler, Eastern Mockingbird, Red-shafted Flicker, Lewis's Woodpecker, Louisiana Paroquet, Western Burrowing Owl, Black-necked Stilt, Wood Ibis, Little Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Cinnamon Teal, and Western Grebe.

A number of species have been recorded for Iowa based on the actual taking of the bird, but the specimen was either not saved or has since become lost. In the case of a rare species

such records necessarily must receive evaluation over and above those based on field observations alone. Such are, McCown's Longspur, Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, Sprague's Pipit, Common Rock Wren, American Raven, Great Gray Owl, Hudsonian Curlew, Black Rail, Harris's Hawk, Mexican Goshawk, American Scoter, Harlequin Duck, Man-o'-war-bird, Anhinga, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker, Nuttall's Poor-will, Say's Phoebe, and Sycamore Warbler.

Several sight records of birds out of their normal range, or of species difficult to distinguish in the field, may not be included in the new list unless further evidence is found. They are, Baird's Sparrow, Northern Prairie Warbler, Purple Gallinule, Fulvus Tree Duck, Barrow's Golden-eye, Richardson's Owl, and Hawk Owl.

A few species have been reported which seem quite likely to have been the result of mistaken identity, or in the case of the Scaled Quail to have been the recapture of an escaped captive bird. These are, Eastern Glossy Ibis, Scaled Quail, Chestnut-backed Bluebird, Eastern Ground Dove, Bullock's Oriole, Laughing Gull, Brant, and Vermillion Flycatcher.

And some species are to be considered as of an extra-limital nature, having been reported or captured within a short distance of the state. Bachman's Sparrow, Black-headed Grosbeak, Western Tanager, Townsend's Solitaire, Swainson's Warbler, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Red Phalarope, and Ancient Murrelet.

As the present ranges of some of the subspecies have been considerably changed several birds included in Anderson's list will be removed and at least ten new forms for the state will be added.

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Specimens lacking, but certainly these have occurred.

- x Lark Bunting A.G. Anderson coll.? light records
- x Brewer's Blackbird J.L.R. Roberts sen. Mont. Polk Co. Hammer
- ? - Hooded Warbler (see Chapman warblers of N. Am. No recently published records numerous records in Anderson)
- ? - N. Prairie Warbler
- ? - Sycamore Warbler Berry coll.? J.L. Roberts, Hammer, Hendrickson Ark. 1926, p. 248.
- x E. Mockingbird many sight records.
- ✓ American Raven See And. "Birds of Iowa" Widmann.
- x Red-shafted Flicker A.G. Anderson coll. 1 spanning Rich. youngworth. Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci.
- x W. Burrowing Owl many sight records
- ✓ Louisiana Paroquet see Anderson "Birds of Iowa"
- ? - Black Rail Hammer, Blightenburgh.
- x Cinnamon Teal Anderson Spennell, Kansas.
- x Western Grebe Carter Lake, Roberts
- x W. Blue Grosbeak youngworth Hendrickson.
- ? - Common Rock Wren Mr. Robt. See Anderson Tripp
- x Lewis's Woodpecker Iowa city youngworth, Bull. of I.A.U. Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 3, 1929. Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci.
- ✓ Hudsonian Curlew See And. "Birds of Iowa" + And. letter.
- x Snowy Egret See letter Harold Holland - Wilson Bull. XLII, 1930. p. 289.
- x Little Blue Heron letter from allert
- ✓ Man-o'-war-bird articles by Bartosh + Koole
- x Wood Ibis See Wilson Bull. Harrison Co.
- ? x Shufeldt's Junco letter Wm. E. Prager specimen?
- ✓ American Scoter see Prager Mr. News letter - Widmann
- ? - McCown's Longspur Jones, Lynde, Wilson Bull. Vol. 4, No. 1, 1892, p. 27. "flock of 20. March 3, 1887"
- ? - Baird's Sparrow Jones "found at 'Spennell'"
- ✓ Gray-crowned Rosy Finch See Anderson Talbot's description in And.
- x Lazuli Bunting youngworth. Wilson Bull.
- ? - Sprague's Pipit see Anderson + Roberts (Minn.)

- ? Say's Phoebe *Frostler + Berry*
- ? Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker *Hendrickson, Watson*
- ? Nuttall's Poor-will
- ? Great Gray Owl *And. p. 261. "Omaha Dec 17, 1893; Onkelose, Tripp; W.D. Savage, 1865; DAVID Savage, about 1890"*
- ?? (Hawk Owl) *And. p. 266. "Berry reports rare w. visit. WINN, es. one taken a one seen."*
- ?? (Richardson's Owl) *no*
- X Black-necked Stilt *"Simi city, April 20, 1902 (Rich)" Cooke "Migration + distribution of North American Shore Birds" - Bull. # 35. U.S. Dept. Agric. 1910, p. 21.*
- ? - (Purple Gallinule) *no*
- ? Harris's Hawk *Savage*
- ? - (Mexican Goshawk) *no* *Savage*
- ? Harlequin Duck *Walker, B.O. Bull. 20.11. Vol VII, No. 5, p. 26 Widmann*
- ? - (Barrow's Golden-eye) *no* *nothing's specimen an American. Pagen? Currier.*
- ? Anhinga *Savage*
- on. X Greater Scaup *specimen at Cae*
- ? Yellow-crowned Night Heron *Hemming*
- ? - (Fulvus Tree Duck) *no* *right record see Wilson Bull. Sept 1932 M.L.R. Roberts.*

Reported, but may have been in error.

- E. Glossy Ibis *based on immature specimens.*
- Scaled Quail *see anderson*
- Chesnut-backed Blackbird *see anderson - sight records*
- E. Ground Dove *Pangborn, ark, 1922, p. 566, for des Moines.*
- Bullock's Oriole *See Leimont 1931, p. 61. Record by Pagen.*
- Laughing Gull *anderson - sight records - one specimen - full bird.*
- Brant *see Leimont, p. 17 Records by A.T. Watson. anderson - sight records. record of spec. from Neb., Omaha.*
- Vermillion Flycatcher *W.E. Nelson for Ledges State Park.*

Extra-limital species.

- Bachman's Sparrow *A.O.U. checklist*
 Red Phalarope *South Dakota a nbr.*
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher *min.*
 Ancient Murrelet *min. & nbr.*
 ? - Black-headed Grosbeak *nbr.*
 Swainson's Warbler *nbr.*
 Townsend's Solitaire *nbr. & min.*

Subspecies to be determined. Status of subspecies doubtful

- yes.* OK. Ward's Heron *A.O.U. checklist* *Savage Coll - Hildreth ; Johnson Co.*
no - Montana Junco *status ?*
no - Western Nighthawk ?
no - Howell's Nighthawk
no - Western Goshawk ? *egg bird - Rubiduck - no!*
 OK Greater Redpoll
yes Holboell's Redpoll
no - White-rumped Shrike *youngworth. Philadelphia*
compare Aiken's Screech Owl
 ? - Western Evening Grosbeak *council bluffs. sight record*
 OK Eastern Dowitcher *there should be hendersoni*
no - Eastern Willett ? *no*
no - ? OK Eastern Grasshopper Sparrow *min. of Iowa*
no - Eastern House Wren
yes *yes* Northern Curlew *see A. O. U. checklist*
 Common Black Duck *Bedar Falls?*
no *no* - Greater Snow Goose *probably a synonym.*
yes Northwestern Shrike
 Minnesota Barred Owl *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. June 29, 1931. Bishop [not in A.O.U. check-list]*
 Western Mourning Dove + *Eastern*

- no Western Savannah Sparrow
- yes Nevada Savannah Sparrow
- ? Wilson's Thrush large specimen, taught call.
- no. Desert Horned Lark young with call.
- yes Western Field Sparrow
- yes Western Tree Sparrow Kallol call.
- no Western Lark Sparrow
- yes Northern Bald Eagle
- yes Bendire's Crossbill Union Co. S.D.
- yes Nevada Cowbird Univ. of Iowa.
- yes Western Pigeon Hawk
- no Dusky Horned Owl Col. & Harry Tennant
- Northern Hairy Woodpecker Univ. of Iowa. from Lewis City intermediate