

Town	Property Name	Town	Property Name
Albany	Lot 17, Range 3	Holderness	Armstrong Natural Area
Albany	Wellman Forest Lot	Lee	Burley Demeritt Farm
Barrington	Mendums Pond Recreation Area	Lee	Davis Park
Barrington	Milne Lot	Lee	Dudley Lot
Durham	Action Learning Center (Browne Center)	Lee	Raiche Property (Systems Field)
Durham	College Woods	Madbury	Kingman Farm
Durham	Foss Farm East	Madison	Madison Lot
Durham	Foss Farm West	Manchester	Hackett Hill
Durham	Woodman Farm	Milton	Jones Property
Durham	MacDonald Lot	Northwood/ Deerfield	Saddleback Mountain
Durham	Thompson Farm	Ossipee	Bearcamp Property
Durham	Moore Fields	Ossipee	Davis White Lot
Epping	Hoar Property	Ossipee	Lord Farm
Hanover	Moose Mt WENH TV Transmitter Site (West Rattlesnake Mt. Natural Area)	Ossipee	Lovell River
		Sandwich	Five Finger Point Natural Area

New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee Report

The following report from the New Hampshire Rare Birds Committee (NHRBC) contains decisions for records voted on by the Committee since the last report in the Winter 2003-04 issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. The NHRBC is an independent technical advisory committee to *New Hampshire Bird Records*. It reviews unusual sightings in an effort to maintain accuracy and scientific integrity for both *New Hampshire Bird Records* and the historical database of bird sightings maintained by New Hampshire Audubon (NHA). Sightings are evaluated based on the details submitted. A record must have a vote of 6-0 or 5-1 to be accepted by the Committee.

A rejection is not an indication that the identification was incorrect but that the information received was not enough to allow its inclusion in the state record. Adequate documentation is the key to whether a report is accepted or not. For information on the Committee and its decision-making process, please see the article in the Summer 1996 issue of *New Hampshire Bird Records*. The Fall 1996 issue has an article on how to document rare bird sightings. Contact the Managing Editor at NHA for a copy of either of these articles.

The current voting members of the committee are David Deifik, Alan Delorey, David Donsker, Davis Finch, George Gavutis, and Rob Woodward. Please contact any one of them if you have questions.

Spring 2004

Records accepted by the committee:

Greater White-fronted Goose in Kingston on March 14 (photo)
Eurasian subspecies of Green-winged Teal in Hampton on March 28 (photo)
Hybrid Common x Barrow's Goldeneye in Seabrook March 18 (photo)
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron on Star Island on May 31 (photo)
Atlantic Puffin offshore on March 14 (photo)
White-eyed Vireo in Concord on April 30
White-eyed Vireo in Weare on May 15
Varied Thrush in Meredith on April 1 (photo)
Worm-eating Warbler in Nottingham on May 27
Clay-colored Sparrow in Plymouth on May 28
Summer Tanager in Dover on May 17

Following the winter invasion, there were several Hoary Redpoll reports in the Spring of 2004. The following were accepted by the committee:

Sandwich on March 3 and 14 (different birds)
Epping on Mar 6
Chester on March 19
Wentworth's Location on March 27
Northfield on March 28
Columbia on March 31

Records accepted as Hypothetical by the committee:

An Anhinga in Chester on May 19 was well-described, but since it was only seen by a single observer and the species has yet to be fully documented in the state, it is accepted in the "hypothetical" category.

Records not accepted by the committee:

Least Bittern in Sutton on May 29. There was no description of the call of this heard-only bird, and Black-billed Cuckoo was not eliminated.
Mississippi Kite in Newmarke: May 30. This species is extremely rare in New Hampshire, and the twig-breaking behavior reported by the observer is inconsistent with a vagrant. In addition, male Northern Goshawk was not conclusively eliminated.
Acadian Flycatcher in Gilmanton on May 7. This bird was apparently seen but not described. The unusually early date and inappropriate habitat also make the record problematic.
Blue Grosbeak in Hampton on May 22. Indigo Bunting was not eliminated: bird described as "slimmer than cowbird," and color of wing-bars not noted.

Summer 2004

Records accepted by the committee:

Pacific Loon in Rye on July 9-10 (photo)
Leach's Storm-Petrel off White Island on July 3
Sandhill Crane in Rochester on June 8
American Oystercatcher in Rye on June 8
Black-headed Gull in Rye on June 14 and 27
Lesser Black-backed Gull in Rye on June 2
Glaucous Gull in Seabrook between June 11 and July 16 (photo)
Arctic Tern in Seabrook on July 14
Common Murre off White and Seavey Islands on June 19
Atlantic Puffin off White and Seavey Islands on June 17
Red-headed Woodpecker in Sandwich on June 5
Acadian Flycatcher in Windham on June 5

Acadian Flycatcher in Mont Vernon on June 20 and 22

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow in North Hampton on July 27 and 29

Records not accepted by the committee:

Black Vulture in Dublin on July 4. The description of this bird did not note either the diagnostic white wing patches or leg/tail proportions that would distinguish this species from an immature Turkey Vulture.

Fall 2004

Records accepted by the committee:

Tundra Swan in Hinsdale on November 2

King Eider in Rye on September 13 (photo)

King Eider in Rye on September 28 (photo)

Storm-petrel species on Squam Lake on September 23 and 24

Baird's Sandpiper in Rye on August 15

Baird's Sandpiper in Rye on October 16

Royal Tern in Rye on August 15

Cave Swallow in Rye on November 26

Worm-eating Warbler on Star Island on September 1

Lark Sparrow in Hampton Falls on October 16 (photo)

Records not accepted by the committee:

Common Eider in Dublin on October 7. Description did not eliminate a variant domestic duck, which would be far more likely at this location.

American Three-toed Woodpecker in Errol on August 7. Observer did not eliminate Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, which also has a ladder back.

Hybrid Bullock's x Baltimore Oriole in Kensington during August. Based on the photographs accompanying the record, this bird was probably a young male Baltimore Oriole with a couple of unusual plumage characteristics.

Records Pending

Lark Sparrow in Keene on September 4 (pending receipt of photo).

Winter 2004-2005

Records accepted by the committee:

American White Pelican in Manchester on December 18

American White Pelican in Hollis on December 18-20 (probably same bird as previous)

Varied Thrush in Hopkinton on January 15

Yellow-throated Warbler in Dover from December 5 onward (photos)

Records not accepted by the committee:

Brown-headed Nuthatch in Manchester on January 4. There was no formal description of this bird, and given the extreme rarity of this species north of its usual range (Maryland), the committee was unable to accept the record.

Decisions of Late Submissions

Records that the Committee was unable to evaluate in time for publication with the other votes from that season.

Records accepted by the committee:

Tundra Swan in Monroe in early March 2003

Sandhill Crane in Wolfeboro on June 19, 2003

Red Phalarope offshore at Jeffrey's Ledge on September 7, 2003