

9-2013

2012 (24th) Report of the NOU Records Committee

Mark A. Brogie

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebbirdrev>



Part of the [Ornithology Commons](#), [Poultry or Avian Science Commons](#), and the [Zoology Commons](#)

Brogie, Mark A., "2012 (24th) Report of the NOU Records Committee" (2013). *Nebraska Bird Review*. 1328.
<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebbirdrev/1328>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Nebraska Bird Review by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

2012 (24th) REPORT OF THE NOU RECORDS COMMITTEE

Mark A. Brogie - NOU Records Committee Chairperson
508 Seeley Street, Box 316
Creighton, Nebraska 68729

The functions and methods of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (NOURC) are described in its bylaws (NOURC 2010). The committee's purpose is to provide a procedure for documenting unusual bird sightings and to establish a list of all documented birds for Nebraska. Accidental and casual species for which the NOURC seeks documentation (NOURC Review List) can be found at the NOU website (www.noubirds.org).

All records mentioned here are available to interested persons at the NOU archives at the University of Nebraska State Museum (UNSM), Lincoln, NE. Interested parties should contact the current NOU Librarian, whose address can be found in the latest issue of *The Nebraska Bird Review* (NBR).

State List:

The "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska" was first published in 1988 (NOU 1988) and has been updated three times (NOURC 1997, 2004, 2009). The "Official List" has been appended twenty-two times: (Mollhoff 1989; Grenon 1990, 1991; Gubanyi 1996a, 1996b, 1996c; Brogie 1997, 1998, 1999, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009a, 2009b; 2011, 2012; Jorgensen 2001, 2002, 2003). The American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds, Seventh Edition (1998) and its following supplements: (AOU: 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012) have made many taxonomic changes affecting Nebraska birds. This report covers all revisions made by the AOU in 2012 affecting changes in taxonomic status of species on the most recent published "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska: 2009" (NOURC 2009, www.noubirds.org). The following

includes all accounts submitted during the 2012 calendar year covering 58 records with accession numbers 1442-1499.

Criteria for Accepted Records:

In order for a record to be accepted, a minimum of six votes in favor is required with no more than one dissenting vote (NOURC 2010). Records in the following categories are classified as accepted:

- I-S - a diagnostic, labeled specimen exists
- I-P - diagnostic, labeled photographic evidence exists
- I-R - a diagnostic, labeled recording exists
- II - three or more independently written diagnostic documentations of the same bird exist
- III - one or two independently written diagnostic documentations of the same bird exist

Each account of an accepted record includes a brief statement noting the species, class, date, location, and initials of observer(s).

This report summarizes all records accessioned in 2012, discusses any new additions to the state list, and reports any changes in firmness of data of Nebraska birds. Additionally, the list reflects changes in frequency of occurrence, as determined by the NOU Records Committee, which reviewed records of bird occurrences in Nebraska for 2003-2012. Frequency of occurrence is indicated by the following terms (NOURC 2009):

- Regular - acceptably reported in 9-10 of the past 10 years.
- Casual - acceptably reported in 4-7 of the past 10 years.
- Accidental - acceptably reported in 0-2 of the past 10 years.
- Extirpated - not acceptably reported in the past 50 years.
- Extinct - no longer found alive anywhere in the world.

The frequency of occurrence for any species that is acceptably reported in 3 or 8 of the last 10 years is discussed by the committee and placed in a category felt most appropriate by the committee. With this report, the following changes are made to the "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska: 2009" (NOURC 2009).

2012 Additions to State List:

With the addition of the three species discussed below, the "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska" stands at 458 species.

Hooded Crane (*Grus monacha*)

1. The 2011 submitted photographic records of the bird observed in Hall Co., March and April 2011, were approved (Class I-P, WW & CC, GL, MU, PD). After an extensive investigation, the NOURC could find no evidence that this bird could be attributed to any captive origin. The Nebraska bird was a strong flier and exhibited no signs of ever being confined. The NOURC decided that its findings, in conjunction with the species distribution, propensity for vagrancy, behavior of the bird, and its association with migratory "Lesser" Sandhill Crane (*G. canadensis canadensis*) support wild provenance from Eurasia. This constitutes the first record for Hooded Crane for Nebraska. Accession numbers 1397, 1398, 1399, & 1400.

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*)

2. A photograph (Class I-P, JGJ) was received of a bird that was picked up (JH) east of Genoa, Nance Co., 14 July 2012. The incapacitated bird was held in captivity and was eventually turned over to Raptor Recovery Nebraska on 11 November. The bird was emaciated and missing an eye but was rehabilitated and sent to Texas for probable release. This constitutes the first accepted documentation of Crested Caracara in Nebraska. Accession # 1487.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*)

3. A set of photographs (Class I-P, MS) was received of a female hummingbird observed inside Jane's Greenhouse, Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff Co., 07 May 2012. The excellent photographs provided sufficient details to identify the bird; resulting in the first accepted documentation of Black-chinned Hummingbird in Nebraska. Accession # 1452.

Changes Involving Nebraska Species Due to AOU Taxonomic Revisions:

The Fifty-third supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds (AOU 2012) has effected the following changes to the "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska" (www.noubirds.org).

1. Move the Falconiformes (American Kestrel, Merlin, Gyrfalcon, Peregrine Falcon, and Prairie Falcon) to a position after the Piciformes (woodpeckers).
2. Change the scientific name of Purple Gallinule from *Porphyrio martinica* to *Porphyrio martinicus*.
3. Move the Psittaciformes (Carolina Parakeet) to a position after the Falconiformes.
4. Change the genus of Chuck-will's-widow and Eastern Whip-poor-will from *Caprimulgus* to *Antrostomus*.
5. Change the genus of Calliope Hummingbird from *Stellula* to *Selasphorus* and move Calliope Hummingbird to follow Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*).

6. As part of a major reorganization of wrens, move Carolina Wren and Bewick's Wren to the end of the list of wren species. The new sequence is: Rock Wren, Canyon Wren, House Wren, Winter Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Carolina Wren, and Bewick's Wren.
7. Change the genus of Sage Sparrow from *Amphispiza* to *Artemisiospiza*.
8. Change the genus of Purple Finch, Cassin's Finch, and House Finch from *Carpodacus* to *Haemorhous*.

2012 Accepted Records:

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)

1. Two birds were photographed (Class I-P, MSS) northwest of Elsmere, Cherry Co., 01 June 2012. Accession # 1457.
2. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, JD) at a pond in Holdrege, Phelps Co., 05 October 2012. Accession # 1469.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*)

1. A single drake was photographed (Class I-P, MAB) at Bazile Creek WMA, Knox Co., 01 December 2012. Accession # 1497.

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*)

1. A written description (Class III, MAB) was received of two first-winter birds on Lewis and Clark Lake, Knox Co., NE., 03 November 2012. Accession # 1478.
2. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) at Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 03 November 2012. Accession # 1479.

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

1. A written description (Class III, LE) was received of a single bird found at Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 12 March 2012. Accession # 1448.
2. A written description (Class III, AG) was received of a single bird (possible above individual) observed at Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 12 April 2012. Accession # 1451.

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)

1. A single adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, ET) near 27th Street and Arbor Road, Lancaster Co., 15 May 2012. Accession # 1454.

Harris's Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*)

1. Two photographs (Class I-P, CB via JB) were received of a dead adult bird along a road near Wagon Train Lake, Lancaster Co., 26 October 2012. The specimen was not salvaged. Accession # 1473.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*)

1. A description (Class III, JR) was received of a bird observed at Prairie View Lake, Douglas Co., 03 October 2012. Accession # 1480.

Common Crane (Grus grus)

1. A single bird was found and photographed (Class I-P, PD) in Hall Co., 27 January 2012. Accession # 1443.
2. The above bird was photographed (Class I-P, TL) in the same vicinity, 28 January 2012. Accession # 1444.
3. Another set of photographs (Class I-P, DW) of the Hall County bird was received; taken 01 February 2012. Accession # 1445.
4. A written description and photographs (Class I-P, BH) of the above bird, 29 January 2012, were also received. Accession # 1446.

Black-legged Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla)

1. A first-year bird was photographed (Class I-P, RM,SM) at Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 04 November 2012. Accession # 1481.

Calliope Hummingbird (Selasphorus calliope)

1. A written description (Class III, MAB) was received of an immature male bird observed at Agate Springs Ranch, Sioux Co., 08 August 2012. Accession # 1460.
2. An immature male was photographed (Class I-P, KD) near Mitchell, Scotts Bluff Co., 29 August 2012. Accession # 1461.

Red-naped Sapsucker (Sphyrapicus nuchalis)

1. A written description (Class III, AK) was received of a single bird observed south of Gering, Scotts Bluff Co., 11 September 2012. Accession # 1496.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (Empidonax flaviventris)

1. A written description (Class III, MAB) was received of a single bird at Creighton City Park, Knox Co., 05 September 2012. Accession # 1462.

Steller's Jay (Cyanocitta stelleri)

1. An adult bird was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, MM) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 25 September 2012. Accession # 1467.
2. An adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, MS) in Gering, Scotts Bluff Co., 18 October 2012. Accession # 1472.
3. An adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, GB) near Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 08 November 2012. Accession # 1484.
4. An additional photo (Class I-P, MW) was received of the above Keith County bird, observed 17 November 2012. Accession # 1489.

Mountain Chickadee (Poecile gambeli)

1. A single bird was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, MM) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 04 October 2012. Accession # 1468.
2. A written description (Class III, LH) was received of an adult bird near Bridgeport, Morrill Co., 28 September 2012. Accession # 1475.
3. One of two adults observed was photographed (Class I-P, WRS) at Wind Springs Ranch, Sioux Co., 29 September 2012. Accession # 1477.

Bewick's Wren (Thryomanes bewickii)

1. A written description (Class III, TJW) and photograph was received of a single bird observed at Snell Canyon, southeast Lincoln Co., 11-15 July 2012. The submitted photograph of the bird was not considered diagnostic as stand-alone evidence. Accession # 1494.

Varied Thrush (Ixoreus naevius)

1. A written description (Class III, EB) was received of a single bird observed east of York at St. Joseph Cemetery, York Co., 08 December 2012. Accession # 1499.

Cape May Warbler (Setophaga tigrina)

1. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, KC) in Mahoney Park, Lincoln, Lancaster Co., 09 May 2012. Accession # 1453.

Pine Warbler (Setophaga pinus)

1. A singing adult male was photographed (Class I-P, JC & SS) at Arbor Lodge SHP, Nebraska City, Otoe Co., 02 April 2012. Accession # 1450.
2. An immature male was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, MM) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 11 September 2012. Accession # 1470.
3. A written description (Class III, TJW) was received of an adult bird observed south of North Platte, Lincoln Co., 07 November 2012. Accession # 1483.

Cassin's Finch (Haemorhous cassinii)

1. A female bird was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, MM) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 21 September 2012. Accession # 1465.
2. A male was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, MM) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 24 September 2012. Accession # 1466.
3. A female bird was photographed (Class I-P, WRS) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 30 September 2012. Accession # 1476.

White-winged Crossbill (Loxia leucoptera)

1. An adult male bird was photographed (Class I-P, BH) at the Dakota City Cemetery, Dakota Co., 07 March 2012. Accession # 1447.
2. A second-year bird was photographed (Class I-P, JO) at a feeder in Ogallala, Keith Co., 26 March 2012. Accession # 1449.
3. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, KD) at Wildcat Hills Nature Center, Scotts Bluff Co., 10 November 2012. Accession # 1485.
4. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, RM) at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery, Douglas Co., 11 November 2012. Accession # 1486.
5. Another photo (Class I-P, PS) of an adult male at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery, Douglas Co., 15 November 2012, was received. Accession # 1488.
6. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, DC) at Grand Island, Hall Co., 11 December 2012. Accession # 1493.

Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*)

1. A description (Class III, MAB) was received of a black-backed male observed at Coffee Park, Sioux Co.; 07 August 2012. Accession # 1459.
2. A female was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, MM) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 07 September 2012. Accession # 1463.
3. A written description (Class III, WF) was received of a green-backed male observed at Cedar Canyon WMA, Scotts Bluff Co., 16 August 2012. Accession # 1490.
4. A written description (Class III, WF) was received of a black-backed male observed in Sowbelly Canyon, Sioux Co., 16 August 2012. Accession # 1491.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*)

1. A male bird was photographed (Class I-P, JO) at a feeder in Ogallala, Keith Co., 01 November 2012. Accession # 1482.

Unaccepted Records:

Records in the following categories are considered unaccepted (NOURC 2010):

- IV - probably correct, but not beyond reasonable doubt.
- V - a record with insufficient evidence to support the identification claimed.
- VI - a probable released or escaped bird or mistaken identification.

Each account of an unaccepted record includes a brief statement noting the species, class, date, location, and reasons for the committee's non-acceptance of the record.

Unaccepted Records (Received in 2012):**Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*)**

1. Several committee members felt that a description of a bird flushed from dense grass in a meadow in Dodge Co., 30 June, 2011 was very suggestive of Black Rail, but the observation date and brevity of the sighting of such a rare species were of concern by others. (5-III, 3-IV). Accession # 1498.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)

1. A description of a bird observed at Lewis and Clark Lake, Knox Co., 20 October 2012 was very suggestive of the species, but lacked sufficient details for approval. Class IV. (6-III/2-IV). Accession # 1471.

Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*)

1. A photograph of a bird in Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff Co., 15 December 2012 was believed by several committee members and an outside expert to be a Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*). Class VI (4 I-P, 4-VI). Accession # 1495.

Non-Review List Records Submitted in 2012 and Filed Without Votes:

The following records are those of species not on the NOURC Review List. They have been accessioned due to other circumstances (out-of range, non-normal date of occurrence, unusual nesting record, etc.) and filed without NOURC votes.

Chuck-will's-Widow (*Antrostomus carolinensis*)

1. A photograph (MAB) was filed of a single nestling discovered near the north edge of Indian Cave State Park, Nemaha Co., 06 June 2012. This record documents the second nesting record for Chuck-will's-widow in Nebraska. Accession # 1456.

Plumbeous Vireo (*Vireo plumbeus*)

1. A photograph (MM) was filed of a bird that was netted, banded, and photographed at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 14 September 2012. The photograph was originally erroneously labeled as Cassin's Vireo (*V. cassinii*) and as a result was given an accession number. Accession # 1464.

Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*)

1. A photograph (MSS) of a bird northwest of Elsmere, Cherry Co., 20 November 2012 was filed. Accession # 1492.

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*)

1. A photograph (JGJ) of an eastward bird found at Pawnee Lake, Lincoln, Lancaster Co., 26 October 2012 was filed. Accession # 1474.

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*)

1. A photograph (RP) of an adult male in Omaha, Douglas Co., 07 May 2012 was filed. Accession # 1458.

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*)

1. A photograph (JO) of a westward adult male in Ogallala, Keith Co., 16 May 2012 was filed. Accession # 1455.

Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*)

1. Photographs (JT) were filed (Accession # 1442) of a first-winter male at a feeder, 21 January 2012, in Omaha, Douglas Co., which may be the same bird observed there 03 December 2011 (Accession # 1436).

Acknowledgments:

The NOU Records Committee would like to thank the following observers who contributed records included in this report: Elaine Bachel (EB), Christina Barber (CB), Jon Barber (JB), Ginger Belsan (GB), Mark A. Brogie (MAB), John Carlini (JC), Ken Carnes (KC), Dale Clark (DC), Chuck Cooper (CC), Kathy DeLara (KD),

Jeff Drahota (JD), Paul Dunbar (PD), Larry Einemann (LE), William Flack (WF), Alan Grenon (AG), Luke Hamilton (LH), Jeff Heesacker (JH), Bill Huser (BH), Joel Jorgensen (JGJ), Alice Kenitz (AK), Gary Lingle (GL), Tucker Lutter (TL), Melanie Mancuso (MM), Robert Manning (RM), Sam Manning (SM), Connie McKinney (CM), Jim Ochsner (JO), Don Paseka (DP), Richard Pouchert (RP), Justin Rink (JR), Shari Schwartz (SS), Mary Sue Shoemaker (MSS), W. Ross Silcock (WRS), Marie Smith (MS), Phil Swanson (PS), Edward Tickle (ET), Jerry Toll (JT), Mark Urwiller (MU), Matthew Walker (MW), T.J. Walker (TJW), David Waltman (DW), and Walter Wehtje (WW).

2012 NOU Records Committee Members:

Mark A. Brogie (chair), Joe Gubanyi, Tim Hajda, Bill Huser, Joel Jorgensen, Loren Padelford, W. Ross Silcock, and Kent Skaggs.

Literature Cited:

- American Ornithologists' Union [AOU]. 1998. Check-list of North American birds, 7th ed. Washington DC: American Ornithologists' Union.
- . 2000. Forty-second supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 117:847-858.
- . 2002. Forty-third supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 119:897-906.
- . 2003. Forty-fourth supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 120:923-931.
- . 2004. Forty-fifth supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 12:985-995.
- . 2005. Forty-sixth supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 122:1026-1031.
- . 2006. Forty-seventh supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 123:926-936.
- . 2007. Forty-eighth supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 124:1109-1115.
- . 2008. Forty-ninth supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 125:758-768.

- 2009. Fiftieth supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. Auk 126:705-714.
- 2010. Fifty-first supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. Auk 127:726-744.
- 2011. Fifty-second supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. Auk 128:600-613.
- 2012. Fifty-third supplement to the AOU check-list of North American birds. Auk 129(3):573-588.
- Brogie MA. 1997. 1996 (Eighth) report of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union [NOU] Records Committee. The Nebraska Bird Review [NBR] 65(3):115-126.
- 1998. 1997 (Ninth) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 66(4):147-159.
- 1999. 1998 (Tenth) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 67(4):141-152.
- 2003. 2002 (14th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 71(3):136-142.
- 2004. 2003 (15th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 72(2):59-65.
- 2005. 2004 (16th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 73(2):78-84.
- 2006. 2005 (17th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 74(2):69-74.
- 2007. 2006 (18th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 75(3):86-94.
- 2008. 2007 (19th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 76(3):111-119.
- 2009a. 2008 (20th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 77(2): 80-90.
- 2009b. 2009 (21st) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 77(4):160-168.
- 2011. 2010 (22nd) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 79(3):99-111.
- 2012. 2011 (23rd) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 80(3):112-122.

- Grenon AG. 1990. 1990 (Third) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 58(4):90-97.
- , 1991. 1991 (Fourth) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 59(4):150-155.
- Gubanyi JG. 1996a. 1992, 1993 (Fifth) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 64(1):30-35.
- , 1996b. 1994 (Sixth) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 64(2):38-42.
- , 1996c. 1995 (Seventh) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 64(4):132-138.
- Jorgensen JG. 2001. 1999 (11th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 69(2):85-91.
- , 2002. 2002 [sic] (12th) report of the NOU Records Committee. (mistitled 2000 report) NBR 70(2):84-90.
- , 2003. 2001 (13th) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 71(2):97-102.
- Mollhoff WJ. 1989. 1989 (Second) report of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 57(2):42-47.
- NOU Records Committee. 1988. The official list of the birds of Nebraska. WJ Mollhoff, compiler. NBR 56(4):86-96.
- , 1997. The official list of the birds of Nebraska. JG Gubanyi, compiler. NBR 65(1):3-16.
- , 2004. The official list of the birds of Nebraska: 2003. MA Brogie, compiler. NBR 72(3):108-126.
- , 2009. The official list of the birds of Nebraska: 2009. MA Brogie, compiler. NBR 77(3):112-131.
- , 2010. By-laws of the NOU Records Committee. NBR 78(4):167-170.