

Actions of the Michigan Bird Records Committee for 2019

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This is the 30th report of the Michigan Bird Records Committee (MBRC), covering the committee's actions during the year 2019.

In 2019, the MBRC consisted of regular members Jeff Buecking (Genesee Co.), Brad Murphy (Oakland Co.), Marc North (Eaton Co.), Scott Terry (Livingston Co.), Darrell Lawson (Charlevoix Co.), Lyle Hamilton (Livingston Co.), and David Pavlik (Kent Co.). Alternate members included Chace Scholten (Ottawa Co.) and Adam M. Byrne (Clinton Co.). Pavlik chaired the committee and Byrne was the secretary.

In 2019, the MBRC made final decisions on 118 records with 70 (60.2%) of these records resulting in acceptance at some taxonomic level. The term "acceptance" means at least one individual reported was accepted, even if it was at a broader taxonomic level than the original submission. This would include a bird submitted as a Magnificent Frigatebird but ultimately accepted as Frigatebird sp. (*Fregata* sp.).

A change in Bylaw C.2 regarding where the annual actions articles are posted was proposed and accepted unanimously by the committee. The section of Bylaw C.2 that was changed now reads: "Once a year the actions of the committee will be uploaded to the committee's website."

Several species had a change in their occurrence status at the end of 2019. At the end of 2018, Loggerhead Shrike completed its three-year probation period and still met the criteria for Regular status. Starting in 2019, Loggerhead Shrike will no longer be on the state review list. Ruff moved from Regular to Casual. California Gull moved from Casual to Regular and will remain on the review list through 2022. White Ibis moves from Accidental to Casual. Mississippi Kite moves from Regular to Casual. Bell's Vireo moves from Accidental to Casual.

The information provided for each of the following records is: vote tally, with the number of birds accepted mentioned in the notes section if more than one; an inventory of the documentation provided; then information on the date(s) and location. The vote tally gives the number of votes for acceptance first, then the number against. For accepted records only, the observers associated with the documentation are listed. If known, the person who first found the bird(s) is also listed and underlined, whether that person provided documentation or not.

Records Accepted

Eurasian Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Brian Clegg, Steven Gasser, Eddie Hicks, Lisa Keith, Josh Springer, Jeff Stacey, Ethan Urban
photo files: Brian Clegg, Joseph Hammerle, Eddie Hicks, Vikki Jones, Lisa Keith, Jim Keller, Myles McNally, Caleb Putnam, Josh Springer, Jeff Stacey, Tim Ward

Video file: Eddie Hicks

One male was at Crow Island State Game Area, Saginaw County from April 29 - 5 May 2019. The bird was well documented with many descriptions and photos. All members agreed that the documentation

supported Eurasian Wigeon and eliminated the possibility of a hybrid. Important field marks, such as the red head with no green intrusion, and clean separation of pinkish breast and pale gray flanks, were noted.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*)

Vote: 7-0

description: [Allen Chartier](#)

One bird reported from Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw County on 14 October 2019. All members agreed that the wigeon was well described, including the rusty head, pale yellow crown, and all gray back and flanks. Members were reassured that the observer looked for, but did not see, any signs of hybridization with American Wigeon.

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Adam M. Byrne, Philip C. Chu, Lyle Hamilton, Scott Terry

photo files: Linda Ar, Jenna Atma, Andy Belt, Daryl Bernard, Kenneth Bishop, Robert Bochenek, Greg Bodker, Stefany Boleyn, John Brenneman, [Rick Brigham](#), Austin Broadwater, Bill Buckingham, Paul Budde, Dixie Burkhart, Adam M. Byrne, David Cabrera, John Cassady, Mary Clausen, Brian Clegg, Mike Cook, Tim Cornish, David Cross, Eldon Dodd, Curtis Dykstra, Rob Emelander, David Ferris, Julie Gidwitz, Eric Gustafson, Robert Guth, Lyle Hamilton, Joseph Hammerle, Jill Henemyer, Eddie Hicks, Leslie Houser, Matt Hysell, Matthew Igleski, Scott Jennex, Vikki Jones, John Kendall, Karen Kolbasa, Jamie Krupka, David Lawrence, Paula Lawrence, Jack Leow, Edward Lewandowski, Stan Lilley, Amy Lyyski, Geoff Malosh, Carl Manning, Judi Manning, James Markham, John Mayer, Jeff McCoy, Myles McNally, Marc Miedema, Steve Minard, Ian Minter, Andre Moncrieff, John Munro, Brad Murphy, Philip Odum, Mike O'Leary, Marie Ostrander, Karl Overman, Tom Pavlik, Felix Perdue, Alex Pitt, Caleb Putnam, Robert Salisbury, Ryan Sanderson, Lisa Schaller, Chace Scholten, Linda Scribner, Dean Shoup, Andrew Simon, John Skene, Janet Smigielski, Scott Terry, Cathy Theisen, Jeff Timmons, Mary Trombley, John VanOrman, Rick Veldman, Michael Warner, David Whitehouse, Kevin Wistrom

One adult male was at the Fennville Sewage Ponds, Allegan County from 22 April – 11 May 2019. All members agreed that the extensive documentation showed a duck with a tuft extending from the top of the head to the back of the neck, white flanks, black breast, back, head, rump, and neck.

King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*)

Vote: 7-0 in the second round

description and photo files: [Dawn Vezina](#)

One on 3 March 2018 at Port Huron, St. Clair County.

King/Common Eider (*Somateria spectabilis/mollissima*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: [Skye Haas](#), [Gary Palmer](#)

One on 16 October 2018 at Whitefish Point, Chippewa County. Initially considered as a King Eider, members thought the circumstances and details were inconclusive to allow an identification to the species level (3-4 in the second round). Under this broader category, though, all members agreed that the details were sufficient to identify the bird as an eider.

King/Common Eider (*Somateria spectabilis/mollissima*)

Vote: 6-1

description: [Marc North](#)

photo files: [Marc North](#), [Patrick Wright](#)

One bird was reported from Tiscornia Park, Berrien County on 12 October 2019. Most members agreed that the photos were suggestive, but of poor quality and difficult to accurately assess. While some members were concerned about the distance and how that may have affected the description, others were comfortable enough to vote to accept the record.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Adam M. Byrne, Lyle Hamilton, [Thomas Koffel](#)

photo files: Kenneth Bishop, Mike Cook, Tim Cornish, Dan Fox, Ross Green, Lyle Hamilton, Don Henise, [Thomas Koffel](#), Karen Kolbasa

An adult male at Gull Lake, Kellogg Biological Station, Kalamazoo County on 2 December 2018 – 1 January 2019.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: [Rick Brigham](#), Tim Cornish, Felix Perdue

An adult male at Douglas Beach Park, Allegan County from 24 December 2018 – 18 January 2019.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Brian Allen, Geoff Malosh, Linda Scribner

photo files: Brian Allen, Daryl Bernard, Robert Bochenek, Austin Broadwater, Joseph Brooks, Brian Clegg, Shelley Green, Roger Hagerman, Joseph Hammerle, Jill Henemyer, Brian Hicks, Kathy Kaczynski, Ed Kaminsky, Edward Lewandowski, Geoff Malosh, Myles McNally, Theresa Moore, Mike O'Leary, Karl Overman, Linda Scribner, Scott Sneed, Mary Trombley, Lauren Vaughn, Cindy Ward, Kevin Wistrom, Mark Wloch,

One adult male found by [Calvin Brennan](#) at Manistee Lake, Manistee County from 13 January - 22 March 2019.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: [Douglas Klein](#), Chace Scholten

photo files: Tim Cornish, Chace Scholten

One adult male on Gun Lake, Barry County on 24-29 March 2019.

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

Vote: 7-0 for one individual

descriptions: Lyle Hamilton, Margaret Jewett

audio recordings: Lyle Hamilton, Don Henise

Two birds were reviewed, and one bird was accepted from Sharonville State Game Area, Jackson County from 6 May – 6 June 2019; a second individual was rejected with a 0-7 vote. All members felt the audio recordings were diagnostic, but agreed documentation was not adequate to accept two birds.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

Vote: 7-0 for one individual, in the second round

description and audio file: Lyle Hamilton

photo files: Kenneth Bishop, Adam M. Byrne, Lyle Hamilton, Rob Jamieson, Scott Jennex, Parks Marion, Myles McNally, Katrina Moilanen, Brandon Ndiffier, Andrew Simon, Scott Terry, Mary Trombley, Derek Vaughn, [Patrick Wright](#), Sue Wright

Two birds at the Burkhart Estates Modular Home Park in Livingston County from 20-29 May 2018 were ultimately accepted. One bird was initially accepted in 2018, and further photo evidence was found that unequivocally showed two King Rails together.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

Vote: 7-0 for two individuals

description: Lyle Hamilton

photo files: [Adam M. Byrne](#), Jeff Stacey, [Scott Terry](#)

video file: Mary Trombley

Two birds were present at Pointe Mouillee State Game Area, Monroe County from 12 May – 20 August 2019.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: [Allen Chartier](#), David Peters

audio and video files: [Allen Chartier](#)

One bird reported at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw County on 7 June-7 July 2019.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: [Michael Bowen](#), Brian Clegg, Ross Green

One at Chelsea State Game Area, Washtenaw County on 14-15 April 2019.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files

One at Harrisville, Alcona County on 15 May 2016. All members agreed that the photos support the identification, noting the bird's overall size compared to the nearby Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*), slightly drooping bill, orange legs, and warm tone.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Geoff Malosh

photo files: Dianne Bantle, Kenneth Bishop, Adam M. Byrne, Allen Chartier, Brian Clegg, David Cross, David Dalrymple, Eldon Dodd, Jeremy Dominguez, Darlene Freidman, Zachary Friebe, Ross Green, [Roger Hagerman](#), Joseph Hammerle, Rachel Holderman, Ethan Kibbey, Karen Kolbasa, Stan Lilley, Amy Lyyski, Geoff Malosh, Carl Manning, Judi Manning, Steve Minard, Philip Odum, Mike O'Leary, Alec Olivier, Alyssa Pyman, Pam Rasmussen, Jennifer Reck, John Skene, Linda Scribner, Tanya Smythe, Cathy Thiesen, David Whitehouse, Jack Wykoff, Tracy Zervos

One bird present at the Muskegon Wastewater, Muskegon County from 3-7 October 2019 .

Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Mike Snable

One bird at Au Train, Alger County on 1 June 2019.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Adam M. Byrne

photo files: Giff Beaton

One juvenile at Port Huron, St. Clair County on 17 October 2019. The photos showed a small Jaeger with two white primary shafts, rounded central rectrices, and appropriate underwing barring and pattern for Long-tailed Jaeger.

Ancient Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus antiquus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Brendan Klick

An individual was described from Douglas Beach Park, Allegan County on 23 December 2018.

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Jeff Buecking

photo files: Linda Ar, Daryl Bernard, Robert Bochenek, Samuel Burckhardt, Adam M. Byrne, Jill Henemyer, Vikki Jones Myles McNally, Marky Mutchler, Gary Nelkie, Philip Odum, Todd Palgut, Andrew Simon, Ethan Urban

One bird present at Tawas Point State Park, Iosco County from 1-5 June 2019.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Phil Odum

photo files: Phil Odum, Dan Duso

An adult frequenting Bay County from 22 December 2018 – 20 January 2019 was originally submitted as ssp. *L. c. californicus*. Most members felt that a subspecific identification could not be concluded from the written details and the photos provided and voted 1-6 to not accept the record at that level. The record was re-reviewed as California Gull with no subspecific identity and the record was unanimously accepted.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Philip C. Chu, Louie Dombroski

photo files: Robert Bochenek, Adam M. Byrne, Louie Dombroski, Dan Duso, Darlene Friedman, Skye Haas, Scott Jennex, John Munro, Phil Odum, Jim VanAllen

One second-cycle bird was in Bangor Township, Bay County on 1-3 January 2019. All members agreed that the descriptions and photos of plumage, including the darker mantle, bi-colored bill, size, and gray legs supported the identification.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Linda Ar, Kenneth Bishop, Ross Green, Matt Hysell, Pam Rasmussen, Mary Trombley,
One bird present at Silver Beach County Park, Berrien County on 13 October 2019.

Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*)

Vote: 6-1

descriptions: Reg Baker, Philip C. Chu, Brian Clegg, Patrick Jakel, Bill Johnson, Jerome Jourdan, Brendan Leddy, Geoff Malosh, Todd Palgut, Andrew Simon

photo files: Kenneth Bishop, Michael Bowen, Benjamin Hack, Joseph Hammerle, Robert Irwin, Patrick Jakel, Rob Jamieson, Jerome Jourdan, Brendan Klick, Geoff Malosh, John Munro, Darrin O'Brien, Todd Palgut, Curt Powell

video files: Allen Chartier, Patrick Jakel, Tyler McClain

One bird was at Grace Lake, Wayne County from 15 December 2018 – 3 January 2019. Most members felt that the “string of pearls”, leg color, and mantle color all supported the identification.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)

Vote: 6-1

description: Alison Vilag

One at Whitefish Point, Chippewa County on 22 September 2019. Most members agreed that the description of the wing panel, notably the white wedge in the secondaries and little black in the primaries, as well as the head pattern, were enough to warrant acceptance of this record.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)

Vote: 6-1

description: Brian Allen

One bird described from Ludington Pump Storage Plant, Mason County on 27 October 2019. Most members were comfortable with the description of the wing, specifically the secondaries and primaries, others felt the distance could be an issue.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)

Vote: 6-1 in the second round

descriptions: Skye Haas, Gary Palmer

One at Rapid River, Delta County on 8 September 2017.

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Lyle Hamilton, Scott Terry

photo files: Christine Andrews, Barbara Baldinger, Robert Bochenek, David Boon, Pat Brown, Adam M. Byrne, Allen Chartier, Roy Churchill, Geoffrey Clarke, Brian Clegg, Darlene Friedman, Matthew Gasperoni, Ross Green, Jill Henemyer, Brian Hicks, Edward Lewandowski, Debbie Lim, Brian McGee, Willie McHale, Todd Palgut, Paul Poronto, Lori Schutz, James Trombley, Lyle Hamilton, Jeremy Joswick, Scott Terry, Mary Trombley, Ethan Urban, Ty Wagenmaker

One, found by John Fortener, was at Lake St. Clair Metropark, Macomb County from 27 October – 5 November 2019.

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions and photo files: Darrell Lawson, [Jonah Levy](#)

One at Trails End Bay marsh, Mackinac City, Emmet County from 28 April – 7 May 2019.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)

Vote: 7-0

description: [Karen & Mike Warner](#)

photo files: Rick Brigham, Eric Gustafson, Judi Manning, Michael Overway, Mike Warner

One adult at Pine Creek Park, Ottawa County on 7 April 2019. All members agreed that the photos clearly showed an adult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron that had a black face, white cheek patch and yellow crown.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Jeff Buecking

photo files: Thomas Baumgart, Daryl Bernard, Darlene Freidman, [Steven Gasser](#), Ross Green, Myles McNally, John Porath, Ken Sapkowski, Ethan Urban

This extensively documented bird was present at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw County on 30 June-1 July 2019.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: [Robert Bochenek](#), Brian Clegg

photo files: Giff Beaton, [Robert Bochenek](#), Adam M. Byrne, Geoffrey Clarke, Brian Clegg, Matthew Gasperoni, Jill Henemyer, Robert Irwin, Willie McHale, Melissa McLeod, Kevin Murphy, Karl Overman, Todd Palgut, Mary Trombley, Larry Urbanski

One at Belle Isle, Wayne County from 30 July – 15 August 2019.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Samuel Burckhardt, [Philip Odum](#)

One bird present at Tawas Point State Park, Iosco County from 2-23 August 2019.

Yellow-Crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Lyle Hamilton

photo files: David Amamoto, Bruce Arnold, Giff Beaton, Robert Bochenek, David Boon, Michael Bowen, Adam M. Byrne, Allen Chartier, Deborah Edwards-Onoro, Darlene Freidman, Ross Green, Lyle Hamilton, Edward Hicks, Curt Hofer, Vikki Jones, Ethan Kibbey, Edward Lewandowski, Geoff Malosh, Todd Palgut, Norka Saldana, Len Sander, [Tim Thompson](#), Ethan Urban

One bird reported at Port Sunlight Road, Monroe County from 14 August – 26 September 2019.

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Adam M. Byrne, Roy Churchill, Brian Clegg, Ross Green, Trina Bresser Matous, Dan Miller, John Munro, Robert Salisbury, Mary Trombley

One, found by [Robert Bochenek](#) and [Karl Overman](#), was at the Indian Trail Sewage Lagoons, St. Clair County on 26 October 2019.

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Adam M. Byrne

photo files: Adam M. Byrne, Brian Clegg, Eddie Hicks, Brendan Klick, Parks Marion, Myles McNally, Jen Owen, Mary Pratt, Pam Rasmussen, Ethan Urban, Alexia Witcombe,

One adult, found by Audrey Boike, was with two other ibis (an adult White-faced Ibis and another that was either a White-faced or a hybrid) at Corey Marsh Ecological Research Center, Clinton County on 3 May 2019. Members noted the dark gray facial skin, pale lines along the upper and lower borders of the facial skin, dark eyes, and dull legs as supporting marks.

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Philip C. Chu

photo files: Kenneth Bishop, John Brenneman, Adam M. Byrne, Tim Cornish, Leah Dodd, Harvey Fogel, Karen Kolbasa, Amy Lyyski, Scott Terry

One, found by Nathan Smallwood, was at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, Kalamazoo County from 25-27 April 2019.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*)

Vote: 5-2 in the second round

descriptions: Daryl Bernard, Robert Bochenek, Adam M. Byrne, Dan Fox, Lyle Hamilton, Brendan Leddy, Steve Minard, Marc North, Phil Odum, Todd Palgut, John VanOrman, Charlie Weaver

photo files: Linda Ar, Daryl Bernard, Robert Bochenek, Adam M. Byrne, David Dister, Carl Freeman, Dan Fox, Lyle Hamilton, Jill Henemyer, Rob Jamieson, Scott Jennex, Brendan Klick, Peter Koper, Brendan Leddy, Myles McNally, Steve Minard, Marc North, Phil Odum, Kristy Reske, Linda Scribner, Mary Trombley, Jim VanAllen, John VanOrman, Mark Wloch, Sue Wright

audio file: Lyle Hamilton

video file: Kristy Reske

One at Ludington State Park, Mason County from 26-31 October 2018. This bird generated much discussion among the birding community. The bird had an unusual tail pattern which is usually a reliable way to identify vagrant *Myiarchus* flycatchers. While members agreed that the tail pattern was unusual, it was still consistent with Ash-throated and eliminates species such as Brown-crested, and the description of the voice was strongly in favor of Ash-throated. Other characteristics such as the pale-yellow underparts further supported the identification. These features were enough to make most committee members comfortable with the record.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Darrin O'Brien, Samantha Wright

One bird from 18 December 2018 – 14 January 2019 in Plymouth, Wayne County.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus obscurus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Joseph Traina

photo files: Kenneth Bishop, Robert Bochenek, Adam M. Byrne, Mike Cook, Tim Cornish, Eldon Dodd,

Ross Green, Joseph Hammerle, Jill Henemyer, Karen Kolbasa, Jeff Kunitzer, Faith Kuzma, David Lawrence, Jim Leitch, Edward Lewandoski, Myles McNally, Dennis McNeill, Marc Miedema, John Munro, Kristy Reske, Lisa Schaller, Chace Scholten, Frank Schroyer, Tanya Smythe, [Joseph Traina](#)
One adult male was along the Kal Haven Trail, Van Buren County from 31 March – 7 April 2019.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus obscurus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Lori Phillips

One at Fenner Nature Center, Ingham County on 15 May 2019.

“Eastern” Bell’s Vireo (*Vireo bellii bellii*)

Vote: 7-0 for one individual

descriptions: Jeff Buecking, Edward DeVries, Lyle Hamilton, Patrick Lewis, Chace Scholten, Don Stuart,
photo files: Thomas Baumgart, Kenneth Bishop, Adam M. Byrne, Mike Cook, Edward DeVries, David Ferris, Dan Fox, Ross Green, Brian Hicks, Matt Hysell, Margaret Jewett, Myles McNally, Don Stewart, Cathy Theisen

audio files: Adam M. Byrne, Edward DeVries, Matt Hysell, Mary Trombley

video files: Chace Scholten

Up to two birds were reported at Benton Harbor, Berrien County from 9 July – 16 August 2019. All members agreed that the extensive photo and audio files, as well as the written documentation, clearly showed an “Eastern” Bell’s Vireo. Even though some of the written documentation suggested there were two birds present, members agreed that because no observers saw both birds at the same time, only one bird should be accepted (second bird was rejected with a 0-7 vote as an “Eastern” Bell’s Vireo and with a 1-6 vote as just Bell’s Vireo).

Bell’s Vireo (*Vireo bellii*)

Vote: 6-1

photo files: [Brian Hicks](#)

One bird reported from Holland Ponds, Macomb County on 24 May 2019. Most members agreed that the photos showed a vireo with a stout bill, mostly plain overall with a thin eye-line and white wing bars.

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica hudsonia*)

Vote: 6-1

description: Cathy Waller

One bird reported on 12 June 2019 in Marquette County. Most members agreed that the size, black and white pattern, long tail, and white wing tips were enough to warrant acceptance of this record.

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*)

Vote: 7-0 for nine individuals in the second round

descriptions: Adam M. Byrne, David Ferris, Thomas Gass, Joseph Hammerle, Evelyn Kirkwood, Darrell Lawson, James Markham, [Tanner Martin](#), Kip Miller, Theresa Moore, Mary Trombley,

photo files: Adam M. Byrne, Thomas Gass, Ross Green, Ethan Kibbey, Brendan Klick, Amy Lyyski, James Markham, [Tanner Martin](#), Myles McNally, Kip Miller, Mary Trombley

audio/video files: Thomas Gass, Joseph Hammerle, Matt Hysell, [Tanner Martin](#)

Up to 21 birds were present between 10 March - 26 October 2018 at Three Oaks, Berrien County. In

2018, 12 individuals were accepted, and these nine resubmitted. After discussion, most members felt that the documentation was sufficient to accept a total of 21 birds from this location.

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*)

Vote: 7-0

description and audio file: [Scott Johnson](#)

One bird reported on 1 August 2019 in Berrien County.

Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*)

Vote: 6-1

description: [Patrick Jake](#)

One on 13 January 2019 at the Kinross Road feeding station in Chippewa County. Tufted Titmouse is unusual anywhere in the Upper Peninsula. Most members agreed that the description could only fit a Tufted Titmouse, although there was some concern that the bird was only seen through a camera viewfinder and not photographed.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

Vote: 7-0 for five individuals

descriptions: Krista Botting, Jeff Buecking, Adam M. Byrne, Louie Dombroski, Lyle Hamilton, Darrell Lawson, Chace Scholten

photo files: Thomas Baumgart, Daryl Bernard, Krista Botting, Martha Burchat, Adam M. Byrne, Tracy Datlen, Leah Dodd, Bruce Gates, Skye Haas, Lyle Hamilton, Joseph Hammerle, Jill Henemyer, Vikki Jones, James Keller, Darrell Lawson, Evan Mann, James Markham, Myles McNally, Dennis McNeill, Chris Neri, Alec Olivier, Rob Boutledge, Chace Scholten, Andrew Simon, John Skene, Janet Smigielski, Mary Trombley, David Van Fleet

Five birds were reported at Whitefish Point, Chippewa County from 4 May – 11 June 2019.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

Vote: 7-0 for two individuals

description: [Steve Freed](#)

Two birds reported from bird feeders at a private residence in Eagle Harbor, Keweenaw County on 12 May 2019.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Louie Dombroski

photo files: [Joe Block](#), Skye Haas, Ron Hattaway

One bird present at Peninsula Point, Delta County from 17-25 May 2019.

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: [Laurie Johnson](#)

One bird present on 4 October 2019 at Tahquamenon Falls State Park, Chippewa County.

“Pink-sided” Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis mearnsi*)

Vote: 6-1

photo files: [Jan DeVos](#)

One on 17 May 2019 at Pickford, Chippewa County. Most members agreed that the bird showed classic and diagnostic field marks for a “Pink-sided” Junco, including pale gray head, distinctly black lores, solid salmon-colored flanks, and a gray back.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Andrew Meyer

photo files: Robert Bochenek, Lynnette Borree, Vikki Jones, Tony Lammers, Andrew Meyer, Pamela Rasmussen, Mary Trombley, Sylvia Walker

One at the residence of Ruth Gleckler in Atlantic Mine, Houghton County from 14 November 2018 – 16 January 2019. All members agreed that the photos showed a towhee with extensively spotted upperparts and no white patch at the base of the primaries.

Bullock’s Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Louie Dombroski, Jim VanAllen

photo files: Brian Clegg, Skye Haas, Ryne Rutherford, Jim VanAllen

One bird was present at White Pine, Ontonagon County from 29 May – 1 June 2019. All members reviewed descriptions and photos showing a young oriole with dark eye line and throat patch, yellow-orange breast and vent, gray-white belly, and two wing bars with a “jagged” upper border. All members agreed these features, among others, eliminate other species of oriole from contention.

“Yellow” Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum hypochrysea*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Nancy McKown

One bird at Allegan State Game Area, Allegan County on 27 September 2013.

“Audubon’s” Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Dominick Fenech

photo files: Scott Terry

One individual reported on 1 January 2019 and photographed on 2 January 2019 near the intersection of Gotfredson and Vreeland roads, Washtenaw County.

“Audubon’s” Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Kathryn Black, Darlene Freidman, Gary Nelkie, Tess Nelkie, Kevin Noble, Philip Odum

One bird on 26 April – 4 May 2019 at Tawas Point State Park, Iosco County. The photos showed a Yellow-rumped Warbler with a bright yellow throat, plain face, and bold white wing patches. Members felt there was no sign of introgression with Myrtle Warbler (*S. c. coronata*) and were comfortable with the identification.

“Audubon’s” Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: James Markham

One on 26 May 2019 at Vermillion Point, Chippewa County. Members reviewed two photo files and all

agreed that the bird shows a plain face with no black, a bold yellow throat, and white wing patches. Members agreed that these field marks ruled out “Myrtle” Warbler (*S. c. coronata*) or potential hybrids.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Vote: 6-1

description: [Zach Gayk](#)

One at Bete Grise, Keweenaw County on 26 August 2018. Most members agreed that the description of orange head, black wings with wingbars, yellow below, and size were consistent with this species, although some wished more details were provided about the circumstances around the sighting, such as if optics were used or not.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Brian Allen

One, found by [Steve Johnson](#), on 21-24 April 2019 on Siuda Road, Manistee County.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: [Vicki Bennon](#), Gary Palmer

One at a private feeder on 5-6 May 2019 in Diorite, Marquette County.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Vote: 7-0

description: Darrell Lawson

photo files: [John Biddick](#), Tracy Datlen, Sue Kurtz, Darrell Lawson, Jacob Van Patten,

One at Harbor Springs, Emmet County from 12-16 May 2019.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Todd Alfes, Kenneth Bishop, Mike Cook, Tim Cornish, [Jody Crosbie](#), Susan Freemire, Darlene Freidman, Thomas Gass, Richard Keith, Karen Kolbasa, Amy Lyyski, Tom Moxley, Tanya Smythe

One on 12-15 May 2019 at a private residence in Vicksburg, Kalamazoo County.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Vote: 7-0

description and photo files: [Sandra Dupuis](#)

One bird at a private residence in West Olive, Ottawa County from 15-18 May 2019.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Vote: 6-1

descriptions: Curtis Dykstra, Lonny Garris, Carl & Judi Manning, Elizabeth Notman

photo files: Lisa Casler, Chace Scholten

One bird present at Upper Macatawa Natural Area, Ottawa County from 1-5 November 2019. While some members mentioned that they had concerns regarding the rather generic descriptions, most agreed that the back color and wing-bars were enough to accept this record.

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Robert Bochenek, Philip C. Chu, Lyle Hamilton, Darrel Lawson

photo files: Kenneth Bishop, Robert Bochenek, Greg Bodker, Rick Brigham, Van Burmeister, Adam M. Byrne, Allen Chartier, Brian Clegg, David Dister, Eldon Dodd, Ross Green, Lyle Hamilton, Joseph Hammerle, Jill Henemyer, Scott Jennex, Vikki Jones, Steven Joyner, Tony Lammers, Darrel Lawson, Judi Manning, James Markham, Myles McNally, Marc Miedema, Brad Murphy, Todd Palgut, Felix Perdue, Caleb Putnam, Kristy Reske, Chace Scholten, Scott Terry, Mary Trombley, Matthew Winkler, Mark Wloch, Sue Wright

An extensively documented bird at Ludington, Mason County from 27 December 2018 – 7 January 2019. Members commented that the buffy orange color present on the underside of the bird, lack of streaking on the breast or flanks, and the strongly bi-colored bill all supported the identification.

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*)

Vote: 7-0 for two individuals

photo files: Kenneth Bishop, Jill Henemyer, Robert Irwin, Jim Markham, Myles McNally, Tim Thompson
Two birds reported from Whiteford Township Community Park in Monroe County from 12 May – 3 September 2019.

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*)

Vote: 7-0

photo files: Michelle Schwartz

One bird photographed at Sturgis, St. Joseph County on 23 July 2019.

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*)

Vote: 7-0

descriptions: Jeff Buecking, Louie Dombroski, Lyle Hamilton, Darrell Lawson

photo files: Thomas Baumgart, Daryl Bernard, Krista Botting, Rick Brigham, Adam M. Byrne, Leah Dodd, Darlene Freidman, Skye Haas, Lyle Hamilton, Joseph Hammerle, Jill Henemyer, Brendan Klick, Darrell Lawson, Jim Leitch, John McCoy, Myles McNally, Dennis McNeill, Elliot Nelson, Chris Neri, Beth Olson, Chace Scholten, Ken Sapkowski, Janet Smigielski, Mary Trombley, Ethan Urban, David Van Fleet, Alison Vilag

One bird was present at Whitefish Point, Chippewa County from 28 May – 1 June 2019.

Records Not Accepted

Brant (*Branta bernicla*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

One bird reported from Edison Park, St. Clair County on 2 November 2019. Members reviewed one very brief eBird report. All members agreed that there was not enough information to accurately assess this record. Others brought up the fact that, given the details provided, there was no way of knowing if this bird was in Michigan waters.

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

An observer reported a single bird at Fish Point State Wildlife Area, Tuscola County on 8 May 2018.

Members were concerned about the lack of information regarding the sighting and the overall brevity of the report.

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

One bird was reported at Asylum Lake, Kalamazoo County on 22 April 2019. There was only minimal plumage description provided, specifically mentioning head stripes. All members agreed that other species of ducks have head stripes and that a much more detailed description was needed accept such a record.

Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*)

Vote: 2-5

one description and photo files

A distant duck was photographed at Douglas Beach Park, Allegan County. Most members felt that given the viewing conditions, the distance, and the photo quality, other species, including some dabblers, could not be adequately ruled out. The record was also reviewed under the broader category of King/Common Eider, but again, members shared the same concerns, and the record was not accepted with another 2-5 vote.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

One adult female was reported at Tiscornia Park, Berrien County on 2 March 2019. Members were concerned that the entirety of the identification was based on the yellow bill, which is not a reliable field mark to identify female goldeneye.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)

Vote: 2-5 in the second round

two descriptions

One on 18 April 2018 at West Lake, Portage, Kalamazoo county. While some thought the written descriptions were adequate, others questioned whether similar species such as Common Loon (*Gavia immer*), Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*), or Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) could be ruled out. The record was reconsidered as an *Aechmophorus* grebe, which again resulted in a 2-5 vote, for the same reasons.

***Aechmophorus* grebe**

Vote: 1-6 in the second round

one description

An observer reported a Western Grebe offshore of Mackinac Island, Mackinac County on 23 June 2018. In 2018, this record was not accepted as a Western Grebe (XXXX). Under this broader category, members remained concerned that the description of the bill was not sufficient to rule out Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) or Red-necked Grebe.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

Vote: 1-6 for two adults, 2-5 for one juvenile

one description

An observer reported a young, downy rail from Point Mouillee State Game Area, Monroe County on 1 August 2018 believed to be a King Rail. This would require that two adults were also present. Most members found the limited details insufficient to be sure the downy young wasn't actually a Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*).

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

One bird reported at Kensington Metropark, Oakland County on 12 August 2018. Some members mentioned that the bird was said to be too far for photos, but only viewed through binoculars; estimated distance was not given. Members also explained that some of the field marks noted were correct for Virginia Rail, feeling that species was not adequately eliminated from consideration.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

One bird was reported at Nayanquing Point State Wildlife Area, Bay County on 7 October 2018. The report consisted of a single sentence that mentioned hearing a series of grunts. Members all felt this was far from sufficient to vote for acceptance of the record.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

One bird was reported at Embury Road, Washtenaw County on 9 April 2019. All members felt the description of the calls was lacking and, although suggestive, not adequate to vote for acceptance.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)

Vote: 1-6

one description and photo file

One bird was reported at Pine Creek Park, Ottawa County on 31 August 2019. All members agreed that it was difficult to assess field marks from the photo, but several features seem to be a better fit for Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*). Members were concerned that the observer did not mention or attempt to rule out Virginia Rail.

Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

A single bird was reported at the Caseville Breakwater, Huron County on 29 May 2005. Members reviewed a very brief eBird report and all agreed that the report lacked important information necessary to vote for acceptance.

Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*)

Vote: 0-7 for two birds

one description

Two birds were reported at the Ahmeek Sewage Ponds in Keweenaw County on 4 June 2019. Members reviewed an eBird report that lacked important information to accurately assess this record.

Furthermore, some members were concerned about the size description being similar to a Semipalmated Plover.

Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*)

Vote: 1-6

one description

One bird was reported on 23 May 2019 at Whitefish Point, Chippewa County. Most members agreed that the extremely brief eBird report lacked enough detail to narrow it down to anything but a shorebird.

“Western” Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria cinnamomea*)

Vote: 0-7 in the second round

one description and photo files

This record, of a bird photographed on 6 August 2017 at the Muskegon Wastewater System, Muskegon County. Members discussed this record and, while all members agreed that the bird in question appeared to have buffy spotting above, a feature seen in “Western” Solitary Sandpipers, other features were not seen or could not be evaluated. Members were concerned about the darkness of the lores and the fact that p10 could not be accurately assessed.

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*)

Vote: 2-5

photo file

One was reported from Lighthouse Park, Port Huron, St. Clair County on 2 November 2018. Most members agreed that the photo was of too poor quality to identify the jaeger to species. Unfortunately, no written details were provided to help support the identification.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

Vote: 0-7

photo files and one description

One bird reported at Grace Lake, Wayne County on 29 December 2018. While both photos and written details were provided, members felt that the written description did not match field marks seen in the photos. Additionally, members noted that the bill of the bird in question was mostly black and the bird showed distinct pale inner primary panels, which should not be present to this extent on a California Gull.

“Vega” Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus vegae*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

A Herring Gull claimed to be of the *vegae* subspecies was reported from Grace Lake, Wayne County on 20 December 2018. This was an eBird report consisting mostly of second-hand information pulled from Facebook from a different observer, along with brief mention of details from the observer who submitted the eBird report. All members felt that, as is typical with eBird reports, important information was missing from the report to accurately assess the record. Members also noted that the original observer stated he was not certain of the identification, which was also a concern for most members.

Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*)

Vote: 1-6

photo files

One bird was reported and photographed on 24 December 2018 at Grace Lake, Wayne County. Plumage details allowed members to differentiate this bird from a different, accepted Slaty-backed Gull (see above) also present at the same time and location. Members noted that the photos were of too poor quality to accurately assess wing pattern, although some felt that the bird lacked the traditional "string of pearls" and wide white trailing edge to the wing. No written details were provided.

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)

Vote: 0-7

One bird reported flying over a private residence in Blissfield, Lenawee County on 10 May 2019. All members were concerned that the observer was uncertain of the identification of a distant, dark bird and thought it could be a Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*), Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*), and then after posting information on Facebook arrived at the identification of Brown Booby. Members felt like more specific details were needed to warrant such a rare sighting. In a subsequent round, this record was reconsidered as a solid species and not accepted with another 0-7 vote.

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Vote: 3-4 in the second round

description and photo files

One was observed from Lucas County, Ohio on 25 October 2018. The observer claims that the bird entered Michigan while in flight. Most members were comfortable with the identification, but after looking on google earth, questioned whether one could accurately assess if it entered into Michigan from the observer's vantage point.

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)

Vote: 0-7

two descriptions

One bird was reported at Nayanquing Point State Wildlife Area, Bay County on 13 May 2019. Members noted that the two brief eBird reports, and additional details provided in an email, failed to describe any field marks about the bird. Members also were concerned that one of the observers concludes that it could have been a White-faced Ibis.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

One bird reported from Kalamazoo County on 2 August 2019. The observer saw a bird flying at high altitude with a forked tail, but no plumage marks could be seen. All members felt uneasy that the bold black and white pattern of a Swallow-tailed Kite could not be seen on the bird, and without any field marks being seen, voted to not accept this record.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

A single bird was reported from near Big Bay de Noc, Delta County on 18 December 2018. All members agreed that the details provided were too brief to accept the record. Some members felt the plumage details described were not correct for this species. There was also some concern surrounding the description of the bird's behavior, and lack of detail on how similar species were eliminated.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*)

Vote: 3-4

one description

One bird reported on 26 May 2019 from the Brule River, Iron County. The observer reported the bird to eBird and noted he was kayaking the river when he observed the bird. Some members felt enough details were provided to support the record. Other members were concerned that the report lacked useful field marks, such as facial or breast markings. Others noted that the bird could have been in Wisconsin since the river that the observer was kayaking on runs between Michigan and Wisconsin, and it was never stated which side of the river the bird was seen.

“Red-shafted” Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus [cafer group]*)

Vote: 0-7

One bird was reported from Osceola County on 31 August 2018. Members reviewed a one-line eBird report with very few plumage details. All members agreed that the documentation did not support the identification.

“Prairie” Merlin (*Falco columbarius richardsonii*)

Vote: 4-3 in the second round

photo files

One bird was at Joseph J. Delia Jr. Park, Macomb County on 5-6 February 2019. Members reviewed photo files of a pale blue Merlin with no obvious malar mark. While some argued that the bird superficially resembled a “Prairie” Merlin, others argued that critical field marks such as the wing and tail pattern were not visible in the photos; literature suggests that these are very important for subspecific identification.

“Prairie” Merlin (*Falco columbarius richardsonii*)

Vote: 3-4

one description and photo files

One bird reported at Tiscornia Beach, Berrien County on 7 April 2019. Some members noted that the tail pattern and underwings were suggestive. Dissenting members felt that the bird was not pale enough overall, and a dark and obvious “moustache” was present, which is not a good field mark for “Prairie” Merlin.

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)

Vote: 4-3 in the second round

one description and photo file

This record was first considered in 2017 and eventually not accepted in 2018, also with a 4-3 vote in the second round. A member submitted a request to reconsider this record, which was accepted with a 7-2 vote, hence consideration again in 2019. One bird reported on 4 June 2017 at Tawas Point State Park, Iosco County was reviewed extensively by the committee. Although this was a very tough decision, after much discussion and deliberation members of the committee were again divided on how to handle this record. While suggestive, the photos didn’t show enough plumage detail to be certain of the identification. Further, those plumage details not apparent in the photograph were also not clearly described in the written report.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus obscurus*)

Vote: 2-5

one description

One bird reported at Lake Superior Nature Sanctuary, Chippewa County on 25 April 1978. Members found the brief eBird report lacking details on the bird's size, shape, and behavior. Some were also uncomfortable with the report coming 41 years after the original sighting; it was unclear if the report was written from memory or field notes.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*)

Vote: 3-4 in the second round

one description

One was reported on 20 May 2018 from the Presque Isle River, Gogebic County while on a canoe trip. Supporting members felt that the description of the head and dark bill were sufficient, while dissenting members felt the description was too brief, that the description of a heavy bill may actually be a better field mark for Northern Shrike (*Lanius borealis*), and were concerned about the lack of information regarding optics and lighting conditions on this early morning sighting.

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*)

Vote: 1-6 in the second round

one description

An observer provided a brief description of a single Fish Crow flying over private property in Monroe County on 3 May 2018. One member felt the description of the call was conclusive, while other members were concerned about the brevity of the report, the rough description of the call, and the circumstances surrounding the report.

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*)

Vote: 0-7 for six individuals, 1-6 for one individual

one description

Seven birds were reported from the Paw Paw River in Berrien County on 21 April 2019. Members agreed that the brief eBird report failed to provide necessary information to accurately assess the record. Members also agreed that the description of the call was vague and it was unclear how many of the seven claimed birds were actually observed calling.

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*)

Vote: 0-7

one description

One bird reported from Wayne County on 21 May 2019. All members agreed that the brief eBird report lacked important information to accurately assess this record. Members noted the description of the call was vague and failed to explain how the call differed from an American Crow.

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*)

Vote: 1-6

one description

One bird was reported from Chikaming Township Park in Berrien County on 12 July 2019. Most members agreed that the incomplete eBird description failed to provide adequate support for the claim.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

Vote: 1-6 for two individuals in the second round

one description

Three birds at Whitefish Point Bird Observatory, Chippewa County, were reported on 21 May 2018. One, present from 8-21 May, was previously accepted based on photo documentation (XXXX), but members felt the single description claiming three individuals was not sufficient to be certain an additional two birds were present. Members were concerned that the description did not state three birds were seen together and the description was very limited.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

Vote: 3-4 for two individuals in the second round
one description

An observer reported two individuals from their yard in Escanaba, Delta County on 14 May 2018. The description was brief and, although some members were comfortable with the details provided, others felt that the description, as well as the lack of other details regarding the sighting, left too many questions to vote for acceptance.

“Greater” Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea rostrata/islandica*)

Vote: 0-7
one description

One bird was described from the Harley Ensign Memorial Boating access site, Macomb County on 3 March 2019. The brief eBird report mentioned a larger and darker redpoll. Members all agreed that the report lacked sufficient details to warrant acceptance of the record, especially for a complex that can be quite variable.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*)

Vote: 2-5 in the second round
photo files

One at Ishpeming, Marquette County on 30 October 2017. Members were concerned that the base of the primaries were not visible in photos, making it difficult to rule out a hybrid. Members were even more hesitant because a bird photographed at this same location earlier in the year did show hybrid-like field marks.

Bullock’s Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*)

Vote: 0-7
photo files

One female-type oriole was photographed on 27 June 2012 in Boyne City, Charlevoix County. Members agreed that there were not enough supporting features to support the identification. Members were concerned about the lack of a dark eyeline, the pattern of the coverts, and the color and pattern of the face.

Tricolored Blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*)

Vote: 0-7 for six individuals
photo files

Six birds were reported from Monroe County on 24 May - 2 July 2019, but only photos of one bird were submitted. Members agreed the photos showed a male Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*).

“Yellow” Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum hypochrysea*)

Vote: 0-7 in the second round
photo files

One bird at Kensington Metropark, Livingston County on 30 April 2018. Photos appear to show a very yellow Palm Warbler. Upon closer inspection, though, all members agreed that there was a fair bit of white on the flanks and lower belly. Several members also noted the color rendition of the photos was not accurate, which helped make the bird appear more yellow.

“Audubon’s” Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*)

Vote: 2-5 for one individual and 1-6 for another individual
photo files and one description

Two birds were reported from Algonac State Park, St. Clair County on 29 September 2019. Most members agreed that the two birds in the photos appeared to be young “Myrtle” warblers, or integrades. Members noted that the yellow wash on the throat was not extensive and quite pale for an “Audubon’s”, and both birds showed a faint supercilium. Most members agreed these could be within the range of variation for the expected “Myrtle” Warbler.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Vote: 1-6
one description

One bird reported from Port Crescent State Park, Huron County on 1 September 2018. Members reviewed a very brief eBird report and most agreed that the sparse details were not enough to accept this record.

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*)

Vote: 0-7
one description and photo files

One bird was reported from a private residence in Wixom, Oakland County from 1-12 August 2019. Members agreed that the mostly black bill likely led to the identification but noted that some young Rose-breasted Grosbeaks can show this, as well. Members felt the streaking and head pattern were better for Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*). No description or photos of the underwing were provided, which members felt would have been helpful.

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*)

Vote: 2-5 in the second round
one description

A bird reported from the Burr Oak Cemetery, St. Joseph County was briefly described in an eBird report. As is frequently an issue with eBird reports, most members felt that the lack of details surrounding the sighting left reviewers with too many questions to vote for acceptance.