

CHANGES TO THE NYSARC REVIEW LIST

At our last Annual Meeting (6 November 2004), the New York State Avian Records Committee agreed to the following revisions to the Review List, on the basis of changes in occurrence and better understanding of identification criteria. A complete listing of the species that should be submitted to NYSARC can be found on the New York State Ornithological Association website at <http://www.nybirds.org/> under the heading 'NYSARC.' For the species listed below that no longer require NYSARC review, we strongly encourage all NY birders to continue to submit documentation to the appropriate Kingbird Regional Editors.

Removed From Review List

Ross's Goose *Chen rossii*. Following a major population increase and general eastward range expansion, this species now occurs more than annually in several regions of the state.

Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus*. Now occurs more than annually along the shore of Lake Ontario and occasionally on Lake Erie. Remains abundant off Long Island.

American Avocet *Recurvirostra americana*. This easily recognizable species is now reported annually from inland sites as well as from traditional locations on the coast.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow *Ammodramus nelsoni*. Occurs as regular migrant in suitable habitat in several regions of the state.

Review From Downstate Only

Hoary Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*. Improved understanding of redpoll identification and an increase in photo-documentation has convinced the committee that this species is a regular winter visitor in the northern half of the state. It remains extremely rare on the coast and all observations from downstate should be reported to NYSARC.

Added to Statewide Review List

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*. This species is less than annual anywhere in the state, with a significant decline in reports from coastal areas.

Varied Thrush *Ixoreus naevius*. This species has been recorded in the state more often than most species requiring statewide review, but the committee regards it as genuinely rare and unexpected at any particular site. The large historical tally is likely a consequence of the fact that, unlike most vagrants from western North America, records of this species are distributed relatively uniformly across the state.

Western Meadowlark *Sturnella neglecta*. This species is now significantly less frequent in the state than in the past (much less than annual) and furthermore presents a major identification challenge.

Submitted on behalf of the
New York State Avian Records Committee:
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