

Minutes for the 2005 CBRC Meeting Camarillo, 28–29 January 2005

1. Call to order at 6:35PM (Chairman presiding). All members present except Mike San Miguel; Jon Dunn arrived at 655PM.
2. 2004 minutes; no approval was needed as they were approved in May. Feedback on acceleration of approval process for the minutes was positive. Committee members are urged to promptly read and approve the minutes, or offer corrections, if needed.
3. Election of members.
 - 3a. Discussion of the future membership, which included nearly 30 names suggested by the California birding community after a CBRC request for input, as well as additional suggestions from members.
 - 3b. Election. The terms of Cole, Rogers and San Miguel expire.

Nominations (number in parentheses indicates the number of CBRC terms served previously):

Jeff N. Davis (Cole) (0)
Kimball L. Garrett (Cole, Dunn, Heindel, McGrath, San Miguel) (7)
Joseph Morlan (Cole, Dunn, Heindel) (6.5)
Michael San Miguel, Jr. (McGrath) (0)
Dan Singer (Dunn, McGrath, Pyle, San Miguel) (1)
John Wilson (Heindel) (1)

Elected were Kimball Garrett, Joe Morlan and Dan Singer.

4. Election of Secretary (one year term)
Motion for Guy McCaskie (Heindel/McGrath) passed 8-0.
5. Election of Chair (one year term) - nominations must be made at the meeting.
Motion for Matt Heindel (Rogers/Sterling) passed 8-0.
6. Election of Vice-Chair (one year term) - nominations can be made at any time.
Motion for Dan Singer (Heindel/McGrath) passed 9-0.
7. State of the Committee.
 - 7a. Annual reports.
2002 records (Cole and McCaskie): Published in 35(1).
2003 records: San Miguel and McGrath: draft circulated to McCaskie and Cole but not to the remaining members. Some concern was expressed over the delay and state of this report. We need to meet the timetables as outlined by Phil Unitt and committed to by the members as the failure to do so both jeopardizes our ability to remain in *Western Birds* Issue 1, as has been our practice, and complicates Phil's job of juggling what is to be included in a particular issue. There is a need to include corrigenda for the Cole & McCaskie report, which had a couple scientific name errors. Committee members are asked to carefully read drafts so we can reduce these errors.

Action item: Heindel will contact Unitt for exact timelines.
Action item: Cole and Heindel to work with the authors to define a specific timetable for the remaining work on this draft. Cole might assist in the completion of this draft to accelerate the process.
2004 records: Nelson, Sterling and Cole volunteered at last meeting. If Cole assists in the current draft, Heindel will take his place along with Nelson and Sterling. Heindel will work with the authors to ensure drafts are ready in late 2005.
2005 records: Marshall Iliff and Guy McCaskie volunteered.
Note from Phil Unitt: Please include photos/illustrations with the draft report.
All annual reports thus far published should be available on-line at the CBRC website.
 - 7b. First state records and publication in *Western Birds* (Garrett/Cole). Cole and Garrett pitched the idea of once again publishing first state records in *Western Birds*; these would be short pieces with a discussion of the first record, ID issues, and status and distribution of the species. We confirmed or discussed who would author the following works:

Falcated Duck (Sterling)
Little Shearwater (Pyle and Shearwater)
Cory's Shearwater (Shearwater and McKee)
Common Eider (Vaughn and McCaskie)
Crested Caracara (Cole and Iliff)
Magnificent Hummingbird (McCaskie)
Oriental Turtle-Dove (Dunn)

7c. Circulation (McCaskie/Cole).

Note when members out of town. Members should send an email to all parties if they are leaving for an extended period (more than 1 week).

Hold times matrix – our average is 12.43 days/batch/member (vs. 15.26 for '03 batches). If you are above the average, please improve. General discussion on circulation- while some outside observers have expressed a desire to slow the time prior to circulation of records, the committee unanimously endorses the speed with which McCaskie has records circulating. If the occasional record circulates without a key supporting item, simply reject the record and/or request recirculation and it will be attached for the next circulation.

Action item: Cole to discuss speedy circulation with Northern California NAB editors.

7d. Budget (McCaskie).

Guy had one receipt for the PO Box that he would send to WFO for reimbursement.

7e. Secretary's/Chair's comments:

1) you should provide comments for all first-round reject votes; while this generated some debate, from a practical perspective, this is rarely a problem. But, as the bylaw states, members should provide comments as you otherwise leave other members in the dark as to your concerns.

2) never add documentation to a record during circulation; Send anything you might uncover or encounter to the Secretary or Chair for inclusion at the completion of the current circulation.

3) it is not the responsibility of the Secretary or the Chair to solicit documentation that members know exists—do it yourself;

4) not all documentation is circulated through the mail and the amount of extraneous material is now too much to view completely at the annual meeting; note that this particularly refers to videotapes; the Chair and Secretary will review any documentation and if this material involves a species with identification difficulties and provides anything possibly helpful, the information will be included. If you want to see the withheld information, please ask the Secretary or Chair and arrangements will be made, or reject the record for the meantime. The bylaws were amended (see below) to reflect this practice.

5) the Secretary may attempt to discourage reports of “obviously misidentified” birds, but if reporters persist, the record will circulate.

6) PLEASE REVIEW ALL DOCUMENTATION included in the batch – sometimes the CDs or videos are packages separately from the record. Members asked the Secretary to note how many images are on CDs, so that they do not need to refer to them if they have a similar number of pictures included in the documentation.

7) PLEASE package CDs so they do not break. One has broken in the past year and it causes delays in the review process.

Action item: McCaskie to annotate each CD to indicate how many photos are on the CD.

8) If you ask for recirculation on “same bird/different bird” grounds, please make an argument one way or the other for the committee to consider.

9) Don't be surprised if votes change from one round to another, that is the deliberative process at work.

10) Guy uses the last date from *North American Birds*, after circulation determines the record is accepted.

7f. Assignments/volunteers, and report backs

- Public relations on the Internet- Kimball Garrett will continue with this role in 2005. While all members are active and should feel free to post on the Internet, such posts should be from a personal perspective and not as a representative of the CBRC. Garrett has a good history and a knack for this medium, so all CBRC positions should come from him, although members are encouraged to work with Garrett on any particular issue of concern.
- Maintaining and updating the CBRC photo gallery. This has not been done in 2004.
Action item: Heindel will ask Joe Morlan to resume this function, given his recent re-election to the committee.
- Nationwide gathering of records committees update? Iliff/Dunn in 2004 were to look into this. While there is no progress (and seemingly questionable interest) in a physical gathering, there is interest in determining how to best share information. Iliff feels this is tied to an even larger issue of databases where all relevant information can be accessed.
Action item: Iliff will discuss eBird with Brian Sullivan and provide us the scope of that work, along with options for our committee.
- Solicitation of known documentation, including from websites.
 - Great Kiskadee (Dunn) (4 September 1926 (Wyman, *Condor* 29, 1927:73), specimen). Cole provided the *Condor* article, and the identification was apparently endorsed by Oberholser.
Action item: Garrett to determine the whereabouts of this specimen if possible.
Action item: Dunn to write up record for circulation.
 - Great Kiskadee (1 November 1957-6 June 1959, San Jose) (McCaskie et al. 1970). Action item: Cole to check with Rich Stallcup to see if he has information on this sighting. McCaskie to check his notes.
 - Hudsonian Godwit, specimen (Sibson, *Emu* 43, 1943:137) Listed as hypothetical in G&M.
Apparently, this specimen is in Auckland.
Action item: Garrett to see if the relevant data can be found.

- 7g. Action items from 2004 meeting were discussed. Members liked the idea and we will continue.
- 7h. New member orientation – feedback from Iliff was positive and this is something we should incorporate with all first-time members. The Secretary and Chair will work on a case-by-case basis to provide new members with the appropriate orientation.
- 7i. Roster of Committee was distributed.

8. Report of Archival Subcommittee (McGrath, Sterling). Little progress was made during this past year. McGrath committed, after the completion of the pending CBRC report, that he would complete the most critical items, such as ensuring all species with 10 or less records have had all photographs scanned. There was some conversation on how decisions ought to be made on precisely what is scanned. While some judgments will need to be made, we agreed to ensure we archive as many pictures of ultra-rarities as possible, given their significance. McGrath suggested paring the review list so that there would be less records to archive; no action was taken on this suggestion.

Action item: McGrath to oversee archival effort.

We discussed the parallel nature of our desire to move towards a web-based committee voting process and the desire to archive as much CBRC data as feasible. As a start, it was suggested that Garrett draft a note to the community that outlines how we prefer incoming reports to be filed. While we take all documentation, we will prefer to receive them in the form of Word documents, jpegs, etc. In this way, at a minimum, a majority of current reports will be easy to archive as they will be electronic documents. McGrath noted that we needed both a medium to share information (internet voting?) as well as a system for storage and access. Commercial options are too expensive (Sterling estimated \$20,000 for a program for internet voting). So, we must find less expensive avenues. The key for us to being able to move in this direction is threefold: get the information electronically, vote on the information via a web-based program, and then, store or archive the data. We discussed how we might proceed in the interim. For example, are there some batches that could be electronic, vs. batches that are the old-fashioned paper trail? Unfortunately, many records have a combination of electronic and paper submissions and, further, there is value in examining all records of a particular species during a particular season; thus only reviewing those that are electronic would provide only a part of the picture. Iliff raised the idea of eBird being one database; McCaskie reported that it was difficult to use.

Heindel will join Sterling and McGrath on this committee.

Action item: Garrett to announce to Calbirds and other lists the way the committee prefers to receive data.
Action item: Sterling will contact UC Davis, as a museum might already be further along and be willing to assist us.
Action item: Iliff will contact Mark Thompson of Kansas as well as other committees (e.g., Kansas, New Jersey, Iowa) to determine how they are proceeding, as it is believed they are already moving in this direction.
Action item: Heindel will contact Kurt Radamaker, who has helped the Florida Committee with their website.
Action item: Heindel to contact WFO for funds for a second hard drive for McCaskie, for archival purposes.
Action item: McCaskie to retain documentation on disk or CD until a new archival system is set up.

9. Report of Bylaws Subcommittee (Cole).

9a. Several clarifications proposed to several ambiguous or conflicting sections of the bylaws (underlined text is proposed amendment; struck-through text is proposed deletion):

VI.F(1)(e). Send the record with all pertinent supporting documentation (along with other records, if desired) to the Chair along with a cover sheet, which must list, in order of circulation, the names and addresses of all Voting Members, with the Secretary listed last, as well as the number of the record(s) included in the package.

Motion (McGrath/Rogers) passed 9-0

VI.F(3)(e). A record that has received a “final” decision during its regular three circulations shall nevertheless be brought to a Committee upon request of any Voting Member within one month of the Secretary announcing the decision and shall be discussed. Records that are approved unanimously shall not be subject to this provision and shall become final upon the tabulation of the votes by the Secretary.

Motion (McGrath/Sterling) passed 9-0.

VI.B.(2). The forms treated will be determined from time to time by the Committee. In general, the Review List will consist of species that have occurred within California and adjacent ocean on an average of four or fewer times per year during the ten-year period immediately preceding revision of the Review List. By vote of at least seven members at a meeting or by other voting procedure, the Committee may, as it sees fit, add other species (such as those whose identification is difficult) or forms (such as superspecies, subspecies, or hybrid combinations) to the Review List. The Committee may delete species that exceed the four or less records criterion averaged over the most recent 10 years, but in general will not delete species that have less than 100 acceptable records either reviewed or in circulation. The Committee may, however, delete species which are deemed to have become a regularly occurring part of the state’s avifauna, such as range expansion of a resident species or a better understanding of offshore status and distribution, before the 100 acceptable records threshold is reached. A species which reaches the 100 acceptable records threshold shall be discussed, but deletion from the Review List is discretionary and should take into account the other criteria set out in this paragraph. To add or delete a form to/from the Review List shall require at least seven votes. Records of species not on the Review List, but for which there is no accepted record for California, will be treated.

Significant conversation ensued over two days, debating the process and required number of votes. The motion (McGrath/Rogers) passed 9-0.

9b. There was also a discussion of Section VI.G(13), the Supplemental List, that lasted parts of two days. Rogers was concerned about the definition of this List, but was satisfied once the definition used in the book was found. The Supplemental List exists for those species not accepted to the main list, but for which identification is not in question; acknowledging the difficulty of reaching the correct answer, these birds were felt by the Committee to merit serious consideration. No action required.

9c. Appointment of 2005 subcommittee was determined to not be necessary.

10. Proposed Review List changes.

No additions to the list were proposed.

Deletions: Recognizing that a predictable pattern of fall occurrence has been documented, as well as the reality that this Committee struggles with adult males due to a concern by some members over natural occurrence, Dunn suggested that Painted Bunting be removed from the Review List; motion (McGrath/Sterling) passed 9-0. Records after this date are no longer reviewed.
Cole and San Miguel proposed that Snow Bunting be removed as ID is relatively simple and there are over 100 records for the state; motion (Pyle/Heindel) failed 3-6. No action taken.
Cole and San Miguel proposed that Scarlet Tanager be removed for the same reasons as Snow Bunting; motion (McGrath/Pyle) failed 3-6. No action taken.

11. *Rare Birds of California* update: Robb Hamilton provided an update on the book. The review comments have been good and helpful and he continues to incorporate them. Literature and records are being added through the new cutoff date of 12/31/03. The photos are set and are in to Peter LaTourette. Michael Patten has rejoined the project and is working on species accounts for species reviewed for a very short time as well as reworking the graphs and charts. Outside reviewers have been lined up for the final sections needing review: McCaskie for pipits and wagtails, Richard Jeffers for warblers (Dunn reported that it is virtually certain that wagtails are being lumped). In general, the editors are making good progress and are clearly putting a lot of work into the Book. Several committee members volunteered to proofread; they join Paul Lehman and the authors in this task. The Committee thanks Hamilton and Erickson for their continued efforts in this regard.

Action item: McCaskie to send eight 2003 records to Erickson for inclusion in book.

Action item: Rogers, Cole, McCaskie and Iliff agreed to be proofreaders.

The meeting was called for the evening at 9:45 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at the WFVZ at 9:00 a.m. on 29 January 2005.

12. Review of regional or temporal rarities: Heindel reviewed a proposal to form a subcommittee to best determine how to move forward on reviewing significant regional records. Much discussion took place with both support for the idea as well as concern over the specifics of how to implement it; some suggested that the North American Birds structure of subregional editors might fulfill the same role, while others felt that NAB could not do it all. Sterling noted that there is currently a Sacramento Committee and that Humboldt, Shasta and the Central Valley may be ready to follow suit. Motion to establish subcommittee (Rogers/Sterling) passed 9-0; subcommittee given two tasks, including 1) to determine what it would look like to review regional and seasonal rarities, and 2) assist in the formation of local committees. Subcommittee volunteers including Dunn, Nelson, Sterling, McCaskie, Garrett and Heindel.

Action item: Heindel to convene committee.

13. Introduced Bird Subcommittee.

- 13a. Garrett delivered the subcommittee's report. There are no species currently pending for CBRC review. The ABA has formed an Introduced Birds Committee (following the CBRC, we note). Garrett is a member of the ABA's committee, and will not propose any introduced birds for CBRC review until the ABA has made some progress on this front. Committee members discussed the philosophical issue of when we should remove introduced birds from the California list if the species is no longer viable in the state; no conclusion was reached.

- 13b. Appointment of 2005 Subcommittee. Garrett, Joe Morlan and Marshall Iliff.

14. Miscellaneous items.

- 14a. Group photo was taken and is posted on the CBRC website.

14b. State List: new birds in 2004-05, Falcated Duck (621), Cory's Shearwater (622), Magnificent Hummingbird (623), Cackling Goose (624), Common Eider (625), Little Shearwater (626), Oriental Turtle-Dove (627), Crested Caracara (628)

14c. Digital photos. An issue was raised by Iliff over digital photos and how they might be manipulated. Heindel related his experience with lightening pictures using standard photo editing software (e.g., Adobe Photoshop). In general, the act of lightening does nothing more than show the underlying color. What is potentially problematical, however, is when contrast and lightening features are used; an altogether different pattern can emerge. This is particularly of concern when reviewing complicated identifications that rely on color and contrast (e.g., *Empidonax* flycatchers). The Committee will ask those submitting digital photographs to include the raw photo. If they also send in a photo that has been enhanced, we will ask them to define exactly how it was enhanced (lightened, contrast, branches removed, etc.).

Action item: Garrett to announce to California birding public that committee wants original images.

Action item: Heindel to contact LaTourette to have similar language put of the CBRC web submission page.

– Treatment in CBRC literature and list: Cole suggested we have a separate designation for digital pictures, as opposed to film pictures. There was discussion about the differences, but no action was taken as the proposal garnered little support. McCaskie reported that 90% of current photographic submissions are in digital form.

14d. Annotation on State List: Do we want to change Northern Parula from "N" to "n" as requested by Paul Lehman has for the CBRC book? This actually inspired substantial conversation as we reviewed the current categories and searched for definitions; Garrett researched the CBRC's earlier annotations in the state Checklist. There was ample support for the notion that any species that nested in the State that did not have an "established breeding population" would be designated with a small n.

Northern Paula motion for small "n" (McGrath/Nelson) passed 9-0

American Redstart motion for small "n" (Dunn/Sterling) passed 6-3.

Indigo Bunting motion for small "n" (Dunn/Sterling) passed 9-0.

It appears this topic needs some review as there was not unanimity over a definition or the process. Dunn will review the list and current designations and bring those that he has concern to the committee's attention for potential action.

Action item: Dunn to review breeding designation in state checklist, report back to Committee.

Action item: Heindel to report changes in Parula, Redstart, INBU status to Erickson for book.

14e. Dunn suggested CBRC members should consider joining WFVZ as both a form of support and appreciation. Good suggestion that will be followed by most, if not all members.

Action item: All members should consider joining WFVZ.

14f. Linnea Hall, director of WFVZ, reported that WFVZ will assist the CBRC in any way that it can. She noted that there have been three recent requests for records, and that she and Cole had shepherded those requests through the process and requested a donation to cover the costs of copying.

14g. Cole noted that in researching in the CBRC files, he was unable to find any of the Shy Albatross records at all, and there was no indication that they had been "checked out." He expressed concern about missing files.

Action item: Heindel & Garrett to talk with Peg Stevens about potentially missing files.

15. ID issues

15a. Long-billed Murrelet ID issues: McGrath shared his concern over recent treatment of records amid what might be some uncertainties about certain plumages of Long-billed and Marbled Murrelets. An excellent conversation on identification of this complex followed. While beyond the scope of the minutes, there

is certainly more to be learned about this complex and the transitional plumages, particularly with Long-billed Murrelet.

Action item: Pyle to research the validity of key “straight line on throat” field mark in transitional birds, report back.

15b. Pyrrhuloxia. Dunn raised the issue that the CBRC may be mistreating Pyrrhuloxia records, given records from Ontario, Colorado and Kansas (7 records). His review of the status of the species led the committee to vote 8-1 (motion Dunn/Heindel) to recirculate a Pyrrhuloxia batch, earlier not accepted records including 1999-078 and 1999-044 (10 June 1998, Cabrillo NM, SD).

Action item: Dunn to prepare cover memo for Pyrrhuloxia records and compile old records for batch.

16. Records for which the Chairman/Secretary need direction or assistance.

16a. Yellow Rail specimen from Canada: Committee concurred with McCaskie not circulating the record since Sam Herring, who reportedly collected the rail, has never collected in California.

16b. Roseate Spoonbill: Motion (Sterling/Rogers) to review all Roseate Spoonbill records to eliminate gaps in review period passed 9-0. We will try to expedite the batch for publication in the book.

Action item: McCaskie to create Roseate Spoonbill batch, based in part on his documentation of Salton Sea records.

Action item: McGrath to scan ROSP batch and distribute it to all members

Action item: all members will expedite consideration of the batch so that records can be included in book.

16c. Tricolored Heron on Upper Newport Bay ORA 21 Dec 2003, 2003-200. It was a lost record that is now reconstructed. However, the Orange County group treats this as the same bird as an already accepted Seal Beach record. Therefore, a motion (Dunn/Heindel) to approve as same bird passed 9-0. We need to annotate what occurred with this record in the publication.

16d. A Common Grackle (2003-163) from Del Norte County that was recently not accepted has had a description submitted by a new observer. Motion for new and substantial (McGrath/Rogers) passed 9-0; record will be recirculated in light of new information.

Action item: San Miguel/McGrath to remove this record from the CBRC report as it is no longer “not accepted.”

16e. Whooper Swan. (2005-023) We agreed to review a record of a swan with a yellow bill, but want outside review prior to the circulation.

Action item: Dunn to contact Mark Brazil to review the record.

Action item: Heindel/Iliff will send Dunn jpegs of the possible Whooper Swan from David Vander Pluym.

Action item: Iliff will follow up with the original observers to determine if there are additional photos, descriptions or other corroboration, perhaps also gleaning info from web site.

Action item: Rogers will scan Ray Eckstrom sketches of these birds (submitted to NAB) and send to Dunn.

Action item: Dunn to send the above-mentioned materials to Brazil for review.

16f. Snowy Plover (Monterey Bay, 29 August 2004) that was first claimed to be Lesser Sand-Plover and a CD was sent to McCaskie with that moniker. Does that mean we have to review the record, which all original observers now believe is a Snowy Plover? We agreed that simply placing a sighting on the Internet does not constitute a record. Further, subsequent Internet posts have corrected the story. A motion to circulate as a Lesser Sand-Plover (Iliff/Rogers) failed 2-7. A motion to place the documentation in the permanent suspense file (McGrath/Pyle) passed 7-2.

16g. Nene (2003-025). The ID has been rejected 8-2, but has not completed its circulation. Although rejected on natural occurrence, this conclusion cannot be reached unless the identification is accepted. Therefore, the circulation must be continued to resolve the identification.

16h. White and Black-backed Wagtail (1998-173A): 8 members accepted part of the White/Black-backed Wagtail species pair and two members accepted as White. Therefore the record stands as accepted as a “/” wagtail.

16i. Harris’s Hawk. In the past, the committee has opted to review the Harris’s Hawk records every five years, under the notion that, given the peculiarities of occurrence with this species, looking at a pattern in total might offer great clarity. A motion to circulate the batch of Harris’s Hawk records (Rogers/Iliff) passed 7-2.

Action item: McCaskie to circulate Harris’s Hawk batch.

16j. A report of a white morph Gyrfalcon (harassing somebody’s chickens) was discussed. It barely meets the threshold of a record submission. The report was circulated and resolved at the meeting, failing to gain any support.

17. Blue-headed Vireo batch update

17a. Cole provided an update on the Blue-headed Vireo batch: 19 accepted, 10 unresolved, 2 not accepted

17b. Unresolved Records. After the first round, there were still 10 records that had not reached a decision: 2002-065 (8-2); 2002-067 (8-2); 2002-073 (8-2); 2002-077 (8-2); 2002-090 (8-2); 2002-069 (7-3); 2002-089 (7-3); 2002-101 (7-3); 2002-075 (6-4); 2002-086 (6-4). After a discussion of the issue, motion to circulate the remaining records in the regular fashion (McGrath/Dunn) passed 9-0. In addition, Dunn said he would submit his May 1976 record to circulate with this batch; Sterling also to submit a BHVI report to circulate.

Action item: Sterling, Dunn to submit BHVI records.

Action item: Cole to contact SB Terrill for 1974 BHVI details.

17c. A proposed alternative to dealing with these records was discussed. A new category: Not accepted Records (“incomplete documentation owing to former subspecies status”?) was discussed but most members preferred an explanation within the body of the report discussion, as opposed to creating a new category.

17d. Iliff initiated a conversation regarding the CBRC’s use of “/” category to accept records of species pairs (such as White/Black-backed Wagtail, Red-footed/Brown Booby, Bulwer’s/Jouanin’s Petrel, King/Common Eider, Sooty/Bridled/Gray-backed Tern, Little/Red-necked Stint (via Peter Pyle), Sulphur-bellied/Streaked Flycatcher, Yellow-throated/Grace’s Warbler, Whooper/Bewick’s Swan, Snow/McKay Bunting, etc.). His preference is to broaden this to include a few other options where specific identification might be in question, but there is clear support for the generic claim. The committee has entertained this concept over the years, but prefers to use a strict standard to allow this exception. Members pointed out that the “/” category was initially created for species pairs that were at one time considered to be one species, such as Nazca/Masked Booby, or species that are extremely difficult, if not impossible to identify. While most members were firm in maintaining the current approach, it is clear a regular revisit of this and similar issues is warranted.

18. Records brought to the meeting at the request of a member.

18a. Dark-rumped Petrel off Moss Landing MTY 4 May 2003 (2003-048) was rejected as a Dark-rumped Petrel. Motion (Pyle/Nelson) to circulate as Stejneger’s Petrel passed 9-0.

Action item: Singer tasked to talk with observers about resubmission as Stejnegers.

18b. Slaty-backed Gull at Folsom Lake PLA 5-6 Jan 1998 (2002-195). No action taken at this time; the record is in circulation.

18c. Smith’s Longspur near Calipatria IMP 30 Dec 2002 (2003-001). Discussion over the record.

Motion to continue circulation (San Miguel/Rogers); the record will recirculate.

18d. Oriental Turtle-Dove at Bolinas MRN 9-31 Dec 2002 (2003-036). Rogers expressed concern over the acceptance of this record. Motion to continue circulation (Rogers) did not get a second. Therefore, this record stands as accepted and the species is officially added to the State List.

Motion (Heindel/Iliff) to review the FCR record based on this new and substantial information passed 7-2.

18e. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at California City KER 5 Oct 2002 (2002-170): Motion (Dunn/Cole) to continue circulation; the record will recirculate.

18f. Little Stint from Newport Bay 9 July 1988 (1988-156): Iliff questioned the decision to reject this record as he felt it was based largely on the lack of a precedent. Given the handful of similar records now, he wanted a feel for whether this was enough for a review based on new and substantial. In general, the Committee felt it was best to leave this record as is for various reasons, including the need to ensure we do not (even unintentionally) provide the appearance of being any easier on committee members' records. No action taken.

18g. Glossy Ibis records: Iliff led a discussion on this species based on both concern he has over some of the decisions, as well as concern over the identification criteria in general. There is likely more to be learned about the identification limits, such as presence of skin behind the eye of a Glossy, contrastingly paler skin on White-faced, white lines (instead of pale blue) on Glossy, etc. When these features occur, is it age related, indication of hybridization, etc? Several committee members also expressed caution about accepting, without skepticism, all remarks from outside reviewers.

On one specific record (2003-205 Glossy Ibis near Calipatria IMP) Iliff felt the May 27 record was good. Dunn reported the observer was adamant about tying in this record with the July date that was clearly rejected. If the 27 May date is to be considered, it has to be decoupled from the July date by the observer.

Action item: Iliff will contact Patten regarding decoupling issue on GLIB record.

18h. Caracara records: Iliff led a conversation expressing concern over the possible acceptance of this species on the State List. Iliff/Dunn continued to argue against the record, but it takes 3 votes for not accepting, based on natural occurrence. After discussion concluded and a formal vote, there were only two firm votes, with at least some hesitation from Nelson. Nelson was given a few days to contemplate the decision, after which period she decided she stands with her accept vote; the records will stand as accepted and Caracara will be added to the State List and removed from the Supplemental List. Further, Cole will review previous Caracara records that have been questioned on natural occurrence grounds.

Action item: Cole to review previous Caracara records not accepted on origin grounds, and prepare a Caracara batch.

19. Records without a decision after completion of third circulation.

Dunn suggested we each take a record and review it for five minutes and then present it for the committee. This worked well and provided good, short summaries. Members are reminded that these discussions are an important part of the process. We agreed that with next year's meeting, the Chair will review these 4th and final records and ask members before the meeting to be prepared to present a synopsis on a particular record. Ideally, one member from each side of the debate will have the chance to make the case, so that we can best make use of our time and ensure we are giving these records every possible opportunity for review.

2002-111 (Mississippi Kite at Blythe RIV 27 May 02)

2002-007 (Manx Shearwater of Pt. Piedras Blancas SLO 27 May 01)

2002-128 (Red-faced Warbler at Sonora Pass TUO 2 Jul 2002)

2002-015 (Blue-headed Vireo in SE Farallon Island 5 Oct 2001)

1996-093A (Shy Albatross off Pt Piedras Blancas SLO 28 May 1996)

2003-027 (Red-legged Kittiwake at Klamath DN 9 Mar 2003)

2002-184 (Thick-billed Murre at Pt Saint George DN 14 Sep 2002)

2001-216 (Arctic Loon at Pt Reyes MRN 15 Dec 2001)

After discussion at the meeting, these records will now circulate as the "fourth and final" batch.

20. Unresolved Asterisk Batch records

A lengthy discussion ensued, and the specific summary will follow this report. In general, the Committee was almost unanimous in being comfortable with a long list of unreviewed records, did not want records to be decided by a subcommittee as that was outside the norm, did not want to create special categories to treat a tiny fraction of the records, and wanted to reserve the asterisk for known specimens or gaps in the documentation for long-staying (multi-year) individuals.

21. Supplemental List.

Motion to add Demoiselle Crane to the Supplemental List (Pyle/Sterling) passed 8-1.

22. Closing.

22a. Site and date of next meeting: HT Harvey has volunteered space in San Jose. We will meet on Friday and Saturday, January 27/28, 2006. We will want to allow for a few hours of work on Friday so we can allow those that need to leave Saturday a chance to catch an airplane.

22b. Appreciations:

Linnea Hall, Peg Stevens, and WFVZ for hosting and for ongoing support of archiving records;
Chrystal Klabunde of WFVZ for reorganizing the CBRC files in the past year;

David Vander Pluym for archival work;

Walter Wehtje and family for hosting Friday evening;

Luke Cole, Mike Rogers and Mike San Miguel for varying years of service to the CBRC;

Peter LaTourrette for ongoing web work

Outside reviewers and curators who add greatly to our work

22c. Adjournment at 5:36 p.m. (McGrath/Rogers)

-- Matt Heindel, Luke W. Cole, Marshall J. Iliff