

## Virginia Avian Records Committee Report Form

This form is designed as a guide for reporting rare or unusual birds for Virginia. Please provide as much of the information requested below as possible. Feel free to attach additional sheets as necessary. For your convenience you submit your documentation electronically by going to the VARCOM website ([www.varcom.org](http://www.varcom.org)) and clicking on the Report Form button. Please e-mail Wendy Ealding for an electronic form ([WEalding@aol.com](mailto:WEalding@aol.com)) Hard copies of this form should be sent to Wendy Ealding, VARCOM Secretary, 1384 Palmore Road, Powhatan, VA 23139. If you have photos, digital images, sound recordings, sketches, and/or original field notes or vocal recordings pertinent to the documentation, please provide a copy with your submission.

Reporting observers

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Street addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers

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Species reported and number of individuals

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Age and sex of the bird(s) if known

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General plumage: breeding (alternate), nonbreeding (basic), juvenal, etc.

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Specific location: include county or city, and nearest street name/route number and GPS coordinates if possible; also include description of habitat

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Date and time of observation

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Length of observation

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Distance(s) at which bird(s) observed & lighting/viewing conditions

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Detailed description of the bird. Include only what was actually seen. Provide as much specific information as possible including relative size and shape of the bird, color and markings of the bill, eye, face, throat, breast, flanks, back, wings, rump, tail, vent, legs and feet.

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Detailed description of the bird's or birds' behavior to include flight pattern, locomotion on the ground (walking, hopping, etc.), feeding, interaction with other species, and so forth

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How were you able to distinguish this species from similar species?

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Include your previous experience, if any, with the species.

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Optical equipment used

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List any references used for identification:

At time of observation

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After observation

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**The present written documentation was done from:**

\_\_\_\_\_Notes made during the observation (copy attached)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Notes made after the observation (copy attached)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Memory

**Please mark all that apply:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ I was aware at the time of observation that this bird was unusual.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Field guides were not used or necessary to make the identification.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Identification was made by consulting field guides while the bird(s) was/were in view.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Identification was made from memory after consulting field guides 5 (*provide number*) minutes/hours/days later (*circle one*).  
\_\_\_\_\_ Field notes and/or sketches were **not** made while the bird(s) was/were in view.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Field notes and/or sketches were made \_\_\_\_\_ (*provide number*) minutes/hours/days (*circle one*) after observation, before/after (*circle one*) consulting a field guide.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Photographs were taken (included with this report).  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sound recordings were made (included with this report)