



## HELLENIC RARITIES COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT – 2006

The following evaluations concern reports sent to the Committee for 2006. Also included are previous years' records of birds (or groups of birds) not included in G.Handrinos & T.Akriotis "The Birds of Greece" (Helm, 1997) or in the HRC 2005 Annual Report.

The taxonomic order followed is compliant to the last revision of the Association of European Records and Rarities Committees (AERC-TAC, 2003b).

The details given for each record are analyzed with the following order:

1. Prefecture or island.
2. City, village or location.
3. Number, sex, age and subspecies (if identified).
4. Date/s of observation.
5. Bird's condition (dead, exhausted or wounded, ringed).
6. Additional information-facts (photographs, sample, acoustic or visual media, other).
7. Name/s of observers with the order given in the form.

Abbreviations:

AERC	Association of European Records and Rarities Committees.
BoG	The Birds of Greece (Handrinos & Akriotis, 1997).
HBRC	Hellenic Bird Ringing Centre.
HRC	Hellenic Rarities Committee.
HWH	Hellenic Wildlife Hospital (Aigina).

### **I. Observations of rare species approved by the Committee**

Where necessary, there is a small descriptive text. The chronological appearance of the species in Greece may change in the future if older observations arise and become accepted:

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#### **Tundra Swan *Cygnus columbianus bewickii***

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult male, 4/2/1997, ringed in the Netherlands, (HBRC).  
Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult male, 6/12/1998, ringed in Russia, (HBRC).  
Xanthi, Porto Lagos, 15 adults, 8/1/2005, photo, (C.Vlachos, Z.Rizou).  
Evros, Evros Delta, 200 individuals, 2/2/2005, photo, (C.Vlachos, N.Petrou).  
Evros, Evros Delta, 350 individuals, 20/2/2005, (C.Vlachos, Z.Rizou).  
Evros, Evros Delta, 473 individuals, 18/1/2006, (G.Katsadorakis, D.Vangeluwe, S.Kazantzidis, K.Poirazidis, G.Handrinos, A.Athanasiadis, V.Terzis, E.Makrygianni).  
Lesvos, Kalloni, 4 adults, 27/1/2006, (E.Kakalis, E.Galinou, K.Zorbas, S.Laing).

Serres, Kerkini, 1 adult, 20/3/2006, photo, (C.Vlachos).

*All the aforementioned birds belong to C. c. bewickii subspecies.*

*The count of 473 birds in Evros is the highest for this species in Greece.*

*The Committee is aware of many more observations, showing that the species has become relatively common mainly in the wetlands of Northern Greece (especially in heavy winters). However, there has been no publication or indexing of these records, as well as registration to the Committee. For the time being, the Committee acknowledges only the records listed in BoG and all the registration forms submitted and approved (a total of 16), and waits for the others to be submitted.*

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**Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens***

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult white morph, 31/12/2002-31/1/2003, (E.Makrygianni, E.Kapoutsis, A.Athanasiadis, D.Vangeluwe).

*This is the 1<sup>st</sup> record of this species in Greece.*

*There was suspicion that this may have been an escaped bird. After examining all the available facts, the Committee concluded that the possibility of an escaped bird were minimal and accepted the record.*

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**Red-breasted Goose *Branta ruficollis***

Naxos, Alyki, 3 adults, 19/12/2001-4/2/2002, photo, (N.Probonas, I.Gavalas).

Halkidiki, Nea Fokaia, 5 individuals, 13/1/2002, (S.Kalpakis, M.Noidou).

Lesvos, Kalloni, 1 adult and 1 first winter, 27/1/2006, found shot, photo, (E.Kakalis, A.Karamitos).

Lesvos, Tsiknias, 1 individual, 28/1/2006, (E.Galinou, K.Zorbas).

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Greater Scaup *Aythya marila***

Aitolokarnania, Aitoliko, 2 adult females, 13/1/2002, (N.Probonas, K.Papaconstantinou, T.Kominos).

Larisa, Karla, 2 adult males, 5/3/2005, (N.Probonas, G.Beriatos).

Serres, Kerkini, 3 adult males and 4 adult females, 14/1/2006, photo, (C.Vlachos, Z.Rizou, A.Tsantas).

Limnos, Moudros, 1 adult female, 30/1/2006, (E.Kakalis, E.Gribylakou).

Attiki, Oropos, 1 adult female, 31/1/2006, (G.Beriatos).

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis***

Serres, Kerkini, 1 adult female, 1/1/2006, photo, (T.Gaitanakis).

*According to BoG, this is the 17<sup>th</sup> record of the species in Greece.*

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**Smew *Mergus albellus***

Hania, Moronis, 1 individual, 26/1/2006, photo, (A.Sakoulis).

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**White-headed Duck *Oxyura leucocephala***

Naxos, Alyki, 1 adult female, 16/1-25/2/2002, photo, (I.Gavalas, N.Probonas).

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**Horned Grebe** *Podiceps auritus*

Ethiotida, Sperheios Delta, 1 adult, 5/12/1993, photos, (N.Probonas, E.Bourdakis).

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

**Great Shearwater** *Puffinus gravis*

Xanthi, sea area between Porto Lagos and Nestos Delta, 1 first year, 24/10/2006, photos, (A.Christidis).

*This is the 1<sup>st</sup> record of this species in Greece. BoG details a rejected record from Crete, in 1987. The species is a very rare visitor in the Mediterranean Sea. There are only 3 observations from the Mediterranean coasts of Israel and 1 from Lebanon (Y. Perlman in litt.) (Birding World Magazine 19 (11): 481).*

**European Storm-Petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus*

Irakleia, Megalos Avelas, 1 adult, 27/8/2003, (N.Probonas).

Levitha, sea area 10 mi E of Levitha, 12 individuals, 7/8/2006, (E.Bourdakis, N.Tsiopelas, E.Mailli, M.Gerakios).

Magnisia, Piperi, 1 adult, 1/9/2006, (P.Latsoudis, K.Papaconstantinou, I.Drosinou).

*The Committee is aware of many more observations in central and southern Aegean. However, there has been no publication or total indexing and submission to the Committee. Therefore, the Committee acknowledges only these particular records and waits for the other.*

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**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*

Larisa, Kalamaki, 1 adult, 9/5/1999, (P.Latsoudis, A.Christopoulos).

Kos, Lampi, 2 individuals, 27/1/2002, (P.Latsoudis, E.Dimitriou).

Thesprotia, Kalamas Delta, 7 individuals, 15/1/2006, photos, (M.Kalouli, T.Kominos, J.Fric, A.Galanaki).

Hania, Agia, 1 adult, 29/9/2006, photo, (J.Bell).

*The Committee is aware of many more observations, indicating that this species has become relatively common, and in the near future it will be excluded from the list of species that this Committee is interested. However, there is no publication or total indexing of these records. Therefore, the Committee accepts only the registered records, awaiting registration forms for all other sightings.*

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**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra*

Kerkyra, Korissia, 1 first year, 10/10/2004, (I.Gasteratos, G.Gasteratos).

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**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus*

Kerkyra, Korissia, 1 adult, 17/4/2004, photo, (I.Gasteratos, G.Gasteratos).

Kerkyra, Lefkimmi, 147 individuals, 28/7/2004, photo, (I.Gasteratos, D.Daltzis).

Kerkyra, Lefkimmi, 13 individuals, 14/8/2005, photo, (I.Gasteratos, G.Gasteratos).

Kerkyra, Lefkimmi, 178 individuals, 2/3/2006, photo, (I.Gasteratos, L.Gasteratou).

Kerkyra, Lefkimmi, 17 individuals, 7/5/2006, photo, (I.Gasteratos, L.Gasteratou).

Kerkyra, Lefkimmi, 289 individuals, 15/8/2006, photo, (I.Gasteratos, G.Gasteratos).  
Kerkyra, Lefkimmi, 130 individuals, 24/9/2006, photo, (I.Gasteratos, I.Gasteratou).

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**Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*

Arta, Rodia, 1 adult, 6/11/1999, photo, (C.Vlachos, K.Vardakaris).  
Arta, Neohori, 1 adult, 7/2/2002, (D.Papandropoulos, K.Floudas).  
Aitoloakarnania, Mesologi, 1 adult, 1/12/2006, (A.Christopoulos).

*This is the 4<sup>th</sup> observation of the species in Greece.*

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**Egyptian Vulture** *Neophron percnopterus*

Irakleio, Gouves, 1 immature, 17/6/2006, photo, (S.Xirouchakis).

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**Rough-legged Buzzard** *Buteo lagopus*

Halkidiki, Nea Fokaia, 1 adult, 26/12/2001, (S.Kalpakis).

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Steppe Eagle** *Aquila nipalensis*

Leipsoi, Neomartyres, 1 second year, 4/4/2003, sketch, (P.Dougalis).  
Hania, Agios Dikaio, 1 immature, 14/12/2005, (A.Sakoulis).  
Antikythira, Batoudiana, 1 second year, 24-27/4/2006, photo, (F.Katsigiannis, M.Dimaki, A.Evaggelidis, I.Rousopoulos).  
Antikythira, Liziana, 1 immature, 14/5/2006, photo, (C.Vlachos, T.Kominos).  
Kythira, Melidoni, 1 immature, 25/9/2006, photo, (N.Petrou).

*There are 23 previous records of the species in Greece.*

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**Imperial Eagle** *Aquila heliaca*

Leros, Patela, 1 juvenile, 31/8/2005, found dead, (P.Pavlidis, A.Sakoulis).

*This bird had been ringed as a chick in Hungary on 21/6/2005, and was “fitted” with a satellite transmitter.*

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**Saker** *Falco cherrug*

Aitoloakarnania, Kohlias, 1 first winter, 25/11/2006, photos, (N.Petrou, T.Kominos, C.Vlachos, N.Probonas, M.Moschovis, T.Gaitanakis).

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**Corn Crane** *Crex crex*

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult, 19/4/1998, ringed, (HBRC).  
Lesvos, Haramida, 1 adult, 13/9/1998, ringed, (HBRC).  
Lesvos, Haramida, 1 first year, 5/10/2002, ringed, (HBRC).  
Rodou, Laerma, 1 first year, 15/9/2005, found dead, photo, (HWH).

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**Common Crane** *Grus grus*

Kerkyra, Korissia, 1 adult, 13/12/2003, sketch, (I.Gasteratos, G.Gasteratos).

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**Great Bustard** *Otis tarda*

Larisa, Agioi Anargyroi, 1 first winter male, 7+8/12/2006, photo, (C.Vlachos, T.Kominos, K.Tsipis).

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**Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni***

Lesvos, Kalloni, 2 adults, 10/5/2003, (N.Probonas).

Lesvos, Kalloni, 1 adult, 4/5/2006, sketch, (S.Wytema).

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii***

Ahaia, Aigio, 1 juvenile, 26/8/1995, (K.Papaconstantinou).

Naxos, Alyki, 1 individual, 7/10/1995, photo, (S.Zogaris, V.Vlami).

Ahaia, Aigio, 1 individual, 12/8/1997, (K.Papaconstantinou).

Attiki, Oropos, 1 adult male, 11/6/1998, (P.Latsoudis).

Aitoloakarnania, Kleisova, 1 adult female, 9/9/1999, photo, (C.Vlachos).

Limnos, Keros, 1 first year, 17/9/1999, photos, (I.Tsougrakis, K.Standring, S.Karabataki).

Arta, Koftra, 1 juvenile, 9/7/2006, photos, (V.Gousias).

Kerkyra, Lefkimmi, 1 juvenile, 15/7/2006, photos, (G.Beriatos).

Naxos, Agios Prokopios and Alyki, 1 juvenile, 30+31/8/2006, photos, (N.Probonas, C.Vlachos).

Naxos, Alyki, 1 adult, 4+5/10/2006, (K.Bannister).

Naxos, Alyki, 1 adult, 8/11/2006, (I.Gavalas).

*There are 23 previous records of the species in Greece.*

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Eurasian Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus***

Irakleio, Idi, 14 individuals, 25/9/2005, (J.M.G. Mulet).

Aitoloakarnania, Louros, 21 individuals, 25/2/2006, photo, (T.Gaitanakis).

*These 21 birds in Louros is the highest count for this species in Greece.*

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius***

Aitoloakarnania, Louros, 1 first winter, 25/11/2006, photos, (N.Probonas, T.Kominos, C.Vlachos, N.Petrou, T.Gaitanakis, M.Moschovis, V.Gousias).

*This is the 4<sup>th</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 12 years after the last (Lesvos, 1994).*

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**Red Knot *Calidris canutus***

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 first year, 1/9/1997, ringed, (HBRC).

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult, 14/4/2000, ringed, (HBRC).

Argolida, Nea Kios, 2 first year, 16/9/2006, photo, (T.Gaitanakis, N.Probonas, G.Beriatos, E.Stavrakas, M.Moschovis).

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Great Snipe *Gallinago media***

Rodos, Kremasti, 1 adult, 22/4/2003, (G.Olios).

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**Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus***

Xanthi, Porto Lagos, 1 adult, 18/10/2003-28/3/2004, photos, (P.Mollat, E.Bourdakis, J.Aalto, P.Ranta, J.Siipari).

*This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 41 years after the last (Porto Lagos, 1962).*

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**Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus***

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult, 30/4/1998, ringed, (HBRC).

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult, 14/5/1998, ringed, (HBRC).

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult, 1/5/2002, ringed, (HBRC).

Thessaloniki, Kalohori, 3 adults, 13/5/2006, photo, (N.Probonas, T.Gaitanakis, N.Tsiopelas, S.Vasileiadis, E.Bourdakis, I.Tsougrakis).

Xanthi, Porto Lagos, 1 first year, 17/9/2006, videotape, (R.Irving, I.Kinley, D.Thexton).

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Red Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius***

Thessaloniki, Anthemountas, 1 adult female, 10+12/6/2001, photo, (S.Kalpakis, M.Noidou).

Samos, Iraio, 1 adult, 6+7/5/2002, photo, (E.Klunder, K.Bannister).

*These are the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> observations of this species in Greece. The last record was from Evros in 1980.*

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**Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus***

Kastelorizo, sea area 40 nm of Kastelorizo, 1 adult female, 4/7/2006, photos, (A.Christidis).

*This is the 7<sup>th</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 16 years after the last (sea area 10 km S of Nafplion, 1990).*

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**Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus***

Kerkyra, sea area between Kerkyra and Ereikousa, 1 juvenile, 18/8/2006, photos, (P.Latsoudis, F.Katsigiannis, K.Papaconstantinou, K.Papaconstantinou).

*This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> observation of this species in Greece.*

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**Pallas's Gull *Larus ichthyaetus***

Fthiotida, Sperheios Delta, 1 adult, 9/1/2006, (E.Bourdakis, N.Probonas, N.Tsiopelas).

*According to BoG, this is the 17<sup>th</sup> record of this species in Greece.*

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**Armenian Gull *Larus armenicus***

Irakleio, Giofyros, 1 second winter, 29/1/1998, (M.Dretakis).  
Irakleio, Limani, 2 adults and 1 second winter, 28/11/2003-20/2/2004, photos, (M.Dretakis).  
Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult, 17/2/2004, photo, (J.Aalto, H.Aalto).  
Irakleio, Limani, 1 adult and 1 third winter, 29/12/2004-22/1/2005, photos, (M.Dretakis).  
Irakleio, Limani, 1 adult, 30/11/2005 and 27/1/2006, photos, (M.Dretakis).  
Irakleio, Limani, 1 adult, 24/10/2006, photo, (M.Dretakis).

*There is only 1 previous record of the species in Greece (Crete, 1996).*

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**Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla***

Kavala, sea area between Thasos and Kavala, 3 second year, 27/3/2006, photos, (A.Christidis).

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**Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis meena***

Kos, Tigaki, 1 adult, 4/5/2005, sketch, (M.Langman, R.Chittenden).

*This is the 8<sup>th</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 7 years after the last (Crete, 1998).*

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**Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis***

Kos, Tigaki, 1 individual, 17/7/2004, (K.Papaconstantinou, E.Dimitriou).

*This is the 7<sup>th</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 10 years after the last (Lesvos, 1994).*

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**Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius***

Attiki, Sounio, 1 juvenile, 27/5/2006, photo, (E.Stavrakas, T.Gaitanakis, G.Beriatos, N.Tsiopelas, N.Probonas).

*This observation, a newly fledged chick fed by Magpies (*Pica pica*), is the first proved nesting record of this species in Attiki.*

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**Tengmalm's Owl *Aegolius funereus***

Ioannina, Hionades, 1 adult, 19/7/1988, (A.Sakoulis).

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**Little Swift *Apus affinis***

Attiki, Loutros, 1 adult, 14/5/2005, photo, (C.Vlachos).

*This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 17 years after the last (Kefallonia, 1998).*

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**Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus***

Lasithi, Kato Zakros, 2 adults, 13/5/1999, (G.Oliosio).  
Lesvos, Petra, 1 adult, 3/5/2006, sketch, (S.Wytema).

*There are 24 previous records of the species in Greece.*

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**Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi***

Naxos, Alyki, 1 adult, 5/10/1996, (N.Probonas, K.Vitzilaos, A.Rogers).

Naxos, Kampos Agiassou, 1 adult, 10/9/2001, (N.Probonas).

*The Committee is aware of, and awaits the submission of, several other observations.*

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**Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus littoralis***

Attiki, Shinias, 1 adult, 14/11/2004, photo, (C.Vlachos, Z.Rizou).

Irakleio, Almyros, 4 adults, 27/3/2006, photo, (M.Dretakis).

*The Shinias record is the 1<sup>st</sup> of the species and the Irakleio record the 3<sup>rd</sup>, as there is another observation (Crete, 2004) which is now listed as 2<sup>nd</sup> (HRC, 2006).*

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**Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava flavissima***

Antikythira, Katsaneviana, 1 adult, 30/9/2006, photo, (A.Galanaki, T.Kominos).

*According to BoG, this subspecies recorded in Antikythira is very rarely observed in Greece.*

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**Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola***

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult female, 17/4/2003, ringed, (HBRC).

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult male, 21/4/2003, ringed, (HBRC).

Ileia, Kotyhi, 1 adult male, 31/3+1/4/2006, photos, (F.Katsigiannis, H.Tselepis).

*There are 19 previous records of the species in Greece. The Committee is aware of many other observations, especially in the eastern Aegean islands, indicating that this species has been observed quite frequently during the last years and may have its status in Greece changed. However, there is no publication or total indexing and submission of these records to the Committee. Therefore, the Committee is currently acknowledging only those observations listed in BoG and all the submitted and accepted records (a total of 22), and waits for the others to be submitted.*

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**Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica***

Evros, Evros Delta, 1 first year female, 1/10/1997, ringed, (HBRC).

Antikythira, Batoudiana, 1 adult female, 18/4/1998, ringed, (HBRC).

Rodos, Kremasti, 1 adult male *L.s.svecica*, 22/4/2003, (G.Olios).

Attiki, Porto Rafti, 1 adult male, 14/4/2006, (A.Dimalexis, E.Gourvelou).

Serres, Vrontous, 1 adult male, 27/5/2006, photo, (C.Vlachos).

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**White-throated Robin *Irania gutturalis***

Lesvos, Sigri, 1 adult male, 4/5/2006, photo, (E.Opperman, K.Mullarney).

*This is the 6<sup>th</sup> observation for the species in Greece.*

*The Committee is aware of more observations in Lesvos which may together indicate that this species continues to occasionally breed on the island.*

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**Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti***



Evros, Evros Delta, 1 first winter male, 26/12/1996, sketches, (B.Piot, A.Bassin, M.Bonfanti, M.Cennamo, L.Destraz, A.Gerber, B.Guex, L.Juillerat, S.Lezat, B.Posse, C.Schonbachler, M.Stierlin).

*There are 10 previous records of the species in Greece. The record is the 1<sup>st</sup> winter record of the species, for there is another observation (Crete, 1997) which is now listed as 2<sup>nd</sup> (HRC, 2006).*

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**Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus***

Attiki, Shinias, 1 individual, 25/12/2006, ringed, photos, (HBRC).

*This is the 4<sup>th</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 14 years after the last (Paxoi, 1992).*

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**Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva***

Ioannina, Grammos, 1 adult male and 1 adult female, 2/8/1986, (A.Sakoulis).

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**Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus phoenicuroides***

Antikythira, Batoudiana, 1 adult female, 15/5/2006, photos, (T.Kominos).

*This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> observation of the species in Greece, 6 years after the last (Crete, 2000).*

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**Southern Grey Shrike *Lanius meridionalis aucheri/elegans***

Messinia, Divari, 1 adult, 9/12/2006, photos, (A.Sakoulis).

*This is the 1<sup>st</sup> observation of this species in Greece.*

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**Rosy Starling *Sturnus roseus***

Kozani, Lygeri, 300 pairs, 14/6-26/7/2003, photos, (P.Dougalis, I.Dougalis, A.Vasilopoulos).

*This is the 6<sup>th</sup> confirmed nesting record of this species in Greece, 8 years after the last (Kilkis, 1995).*

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**Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus***

Lesvos, Haramida, 1 first year, 1/9/1996, ringed, (HBRC).

Attiki, Lykavittos, 1 pair and 2 juveniles, 2/4-3/8/2006, photo, (E.Stavrakas).

Attiki, Ymittos, 1 adult male, 8/4/2006, (K.Papaconstantinou, V.Chatzirvasanis, I.Rigas, N.Kardakari).

Antikythira, Batoudiana, 1 first year, 2/10/2006, ringed, photo, (HBRC).

Attiki, Lykavittos, 1 adult male, 4/10/2006, (E.Stavrakas).

*There are 25 previous records of the species in Greece.*

*The spring observation in Lykavittos is the first confirmed nesting record of this species in Greece.*

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**Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica***

Attiki, Shinias, 1 adult, 5/12/2005, photos, (C.Vlachos).

*This is the 4<sup>th</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 6 years after the last (Zakynthos, 1999).*

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**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*

Lesvos, Haramida, 1 first year, 17/10/1997, ringed, (HBRC).

*This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> observation of this species in Greece, 33 years after the last (Amvrakikos, 1964).*

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## **II. Acceptance of new species due to current taxonomic changes and splits**

HRC, complying with the current list of the Association of European Records and Rarities Committees (AERC TAC 2003a, AERC TAC 2003b), classifies the following taxa as separate species:

<p><b>Balearic Shearwater</b> <i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i></p>
<p><i>The Committee classifies the Balearic Shearwater as a monotypic species, separated from the Yelkouan Shearwater (<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>). There are 2 records of Balearic Shearwater in Greece (sea area between Porto Lagos and Nestos Delta, 1976 and sea area 10 km NW of Patra, 1990).</i></p>
<p><b>Yellow-legged Gull</b> <i>Larus michahellis</i></p>
<p><i>The Committee classifies the Yellow-legged Gull as a separate polytypic species, fully separated from the Caspian Gull (<i>Larus cachinnans</i>). In Greece, Yellow-legged Gull is a common resident species nesting in coastal areas, islands and, locally, in wetlands inland. In some islands appears mainly as a summer visitor departing at fall, but generally in Greece it occurs as a winter visitor and as a passage migrant.</i></p>
<p><b>Caspian Gull</b> <i>Larus cachinnans</i></p>
<p><i>The Committee classifies the Caspian Gull as a monotypic species not including the Yellow-legged Gull (formerly <i>L.c.michahellis</i>) anymore. In Greece, it is a common winter visitor and passage migrant.</i></p>

## **III. Rare species observations accepted by the Committee but included in Category C**

According to the official checklist of the Association of European Records and Rarities Committees (AERC TAC 2003a, AERC TAC 2003b), the following species is included in the European Avifauna:

**Ring-necked Parakeet *Psittacula krameri***

*The Committee received positively Panagiotis Latsoudis' (contributor of HRC) report "Preliminary distribution study of the Ring-necked Parakeet (Psittacula krameri) in Greece" which supported this species being listed in Category C of the List of the Birds of Greece, due to the species' stable, and increasing, breeding population in Greece for many years.*

**IV. Rare species observations accepted by the Committee but included in Category D**

The following observations were accepted, but the recorded species are highly likely to be escapes and are not therefore included in the List of the Birds of Greece:

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**Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis***

Serres, Kerkini, 1 adult, 14/2/2004, sketch, (J.Aalto, H.Aalto, G.Ramel).  
Irakleio, Limani, 1 adult, 29/12/2005-11/2/2006, photo, (M.Dretakis).  
Evros, Evros Delta, 1 adult, 1+2/3/2006, videotape, (M.Rymer, P.Swayne, M.Panagiotopoulou).

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**Lesser Flamingo *Phoenicopterus minor***

Aitoloakarnania, Kleisova, 1 adult, 27/12/2002, photos, (C.Vlachos).

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**Ruppell's Vulture *Gyps rueppellii***

Lasithi, Drygies Anatolis, 1 adult, 22/2/2006, photos, (A.Paton, S.Barbour).  
Lasithi, Sohores Anatolis, 1 adult, 18/11/2006, photo, (A.Paton, S.Barbour).

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**V. Rare species observations accepted by the Committee but included in Category E**

The following observations were accepted, but the recorded species are highly likely to be escapes and are not therefore included in the List of the Birds of Greece:

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**Black Swan *Cygnus atratus***

Attiki, Shinias, 1 individual, 30/12/2006, photo, (E.Bourdakis).

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**Wood Duck *Aix sponsa***

Lasithi, Bramiana, 1 adult female, 26/8/2005, (M.Dretakis).

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**VI. Rare species observations not accepted by the Committee**

The following observations were rejected by the Committee, due to the lack of sufficient facts and details that would help in the correct identification of the species or they were erroneously identified:

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**Bean Goose** *Anser fabalis*

Halkidiki, Nea Fokaia, 1 adult, 13/1/2002.

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**Great Northern Diver** *Gavia immer*

Kastoria, Orestiada, 1 individual, 10+11/11/2006, photos.

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**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus*

Kerkyra, Garitsa, 4 individuals, spring 2002.

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**Red Kite** *Milvus milvus*

Attiki, Shinias, 1 individual, December 2006, photo.

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**Western Capercaillie** *Tetrao urogallus*

Kefallonia, Ainos, 1 adult male, 14/5/2006.

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**Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii*

Ahaia, Aigio, 1 individual, 16/8/1998.

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**Slender-billed Curlew** *Numenius tenuirostris*

Hania, Tavronitis, 1 adult, 1/8/2006.

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**Armenian Gull** *Larus armenicus*

Irakleio, Limani, 1 adult, 26/10/1997.

Lasithi, Stroglyo, 1 adult, 1/5/1999.

Irakleio, Limani, 2 adults and 1 first winter, January and February 2001, photos.

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**Arctic Tern** *Sterna paradisaea*

Aitoloakarnania, Kleisova, 3 adults, 15/4/2006, photos.

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**Razorbill** *Alca torda*

Attiki, sea area between Aigina and Attiki, 10 individuals, 17/4/1998, sketch.

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**Pechora Pipit** *Anthus gustavi*

Hania, Kamisiana, 50 individuals, 8/2/2006.

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**Desert Wheatear** *Oenanthe deserti*

Antikythira, Batoudiana, 1 adult female, 12/5/2006, photo.

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**Black Wheatear** *Oenanthe leucura*

Karpathos, Volada, 2 adult males and 2 adult females, 20+21/5/2006.

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**Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*

Evros, Soufli, 1 adult male, 8/4/1994.

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## **VII. Total evaluation results**

In the year 2006, the Committee evaluated 153 registration forms. Of them, 129 records were accepted to Category A, 6 records added to Category D and 2 records added to Category E (89.50%), while 16 records were not accepted (10.50%) to Category A.

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## **VIII. Acknowledgements**

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Tom Conzemius  
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Steve Gantlett  
Dominic Mitchell  
Laurent Raty  
Colin Richardson  
Brian Small

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**With the support of the Hellenic Ornithological Society and the Hellenic Bird Ringing Centre.**