

## IORC EVALUATION FORM

**Record #:** 1994-037

**Name of bird form:** Ash-throated Flycatcher

**Committee member name:** Fraker

**Date of review:** 6/28/18

**Circulation number:** 2nd

**Vote:** A-S

**Comments:** [required as this is a 2nd circulation] I do agree that Dave Mandell's reluctance to commit is a concern; yet I really have a hard time believing Clyne was not as close to 100% sure as he could be on this record with his very thorough and laborious documentation.

Although the date is early for typical vagrancy, there are at least 11 reports from the east for the Aug/Sep period, including two records from Illinois:

8/31-9/1/1995 Burnham Park (James Landing and Dan Williams)

9/29/2014 — a bird banded at Lincoln Land Community College in SE Springfield (Jared Gorell, Tony Rothering)

Also five from NE/NY; two from Michigan; and two from Ontario.

## IORC EVALUATION FORM

**Record #:** 1994-037

**Name of bird form:** Ash-throated Flycatcher

**Committee member name:** Walter Marcisz

**Date of review:** 6-24-18

**Circulation number:** 2nd

**Vote:** A-S (1)

**Comments:** [required as this is a 2nd circulation]

I previously voted to reject. My main complaint with the record was that the period of observation (early September) did not match up with my preconceived notions that Ash-throated Flycatcher vagrants are expected in late fall only. After a little more research, I have found that there are existing photographic documentations of Ash-throated Flycatcher from Chicago (Cook Co.) 31 August - 2 September 1995, and also from Springfield (Sangamon Co.) 29-30 September 2014. These two well-documented September Illinois records would seem to dispel my doubts about the period of occurrence of the 1994 Jackson Park bird, and I am changing my vote to accept.

## IORC EVALUATION FORM

**Record #:** 1994-037

**Name of bird form:** Ash-throated Flycatcher

**Committee member name:** McMullen

**Date of review:** 6-18-18

**Circulation number:** 2nd

**Vote:** U-I

**Comments:** [required as this is a 2nd circulation]

Same comments as before. I'm bothered by the fact that other good birders were hesitant to commit to the Ash-throated Flycatcher identification.

## **IORC EVALUATION FORM**

**Record #:** 1994-037

**Name of bird form:** Ash-throated Flycatcher

**Committee member name:** Adam Sell

**Date of review:** 6/6/18

**Circulation number:** 2nd

**Vote:** U-I

**Comments:** Although a lot is written, I hesitate to accept. The weak points, especially the argument against ATFL involving the demarcation between gray breast and yellow belly, seem well developed in retrospect instead of during field viewing. It was enough to not sway other field observers. With prolonged views, enough to add gape color in for defense, I am surprised there was no mention of tertial pattern. He mentions the tertials may have been new, and a description of them would've helped a lot.

## **IORC EVALUATION FORM**

**Record #:** 1994-037

**Name of bird form:** Ash-throated Flycatcher

**Committee member name:** Douglas Stotz

**Date of review:** 20 June 2018

**Circulation number:** 2nd

**Vote:** A-S(1)

**Comments:** [required as this is a 2nd circulation]

It is hard to find fault with this documentation. I agree that color of mouth lining is difficult to assess in a Myiarchus in the field, but that is not critical to the main identification issue of Ash-throated vs. Great Crested. I think that this issue of date raised by one committee member is pretty well dealt with by Paul in the documentation. I think the takehome is that Ash-throated occur regularly as vagants in this time frame, but are relatively rarely reported in the eastern US at this time of year. Paul doesn't say so explicitly, but I suspect the issue is that with numbers of Great Crested Flycatchers being around in September, Ash-throated Flycatchers are overlooked rather than not present.

## IORC EVALUATION FORM

**Record #:** 1994-037

**Name of bird form:** Ash-throated Flycatcher

**Committee member name:** Paul Sweet

**Date of review:** 5/30/18

**Circulation number:** 2nd

**Vote:** A-S(1)

**Comments:** [required as this is a 2nd circulation]

The comments regarding Dave Mandell's views on this bird are well-taken, but the fact that according to the documentation he never got a clean look at the undertail pattern suggests that he was missing an important mark. What we don't know (and would probably help) is whether his experience with *cinerascens* includes early fall birds that would have been in fresh plumage. Since his objection was primarily on the grounds of belly and breast color, which would be brighter in a fall bird, this is an important point to consider.

## IORC EVALUATION FORM

**Record #:** 1994-037

**Name of bird form:** Ash-throated Flycatcher

**Committee member name:** Geoffrey A. Williamson

**Date of review:** 21 May 2018

**Circulation number:** 2nd

**Vote:** A-S(1)

**Comments:** [required as this is a 2nd circulation]

Points raised in objection to acceptance include:

1. The date being early for vagrants of this species.
2. Dave Mandell's reluctance to call it an Ash-throated.
3. The nature of the details in the observation being judgment calls.

Clyne notes at the end of his documentation that Mandell considered the bird "a probable *crinitus* (because of, above all else, the color and patterning of the underparts), or otherwise an unidentifiable *Myiarchus*...." Given this, point 2 above is a valid concern. However, if weight is given to point 3 above, this tempers the concern raised by point 2. I still think that the preponderance of the evidence from careful and detailed observation is sufficient to outweigh Mandell's thinking it a "probable" Great Crested.