

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2017-053

Name of bird form: Anhinga

Committee member name: Josh Engel

Date of review: 12/20/17

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: A-S(1)

Comments:

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2017-053

Name of bird form: Anhinga

Committee member name: Fraker

Date of review: 1/23/2018

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: A-S

Comments:

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2017-053

Name of bird form: Anhinga

Committee member name: Walter Marcisz

Date of review: 1-12-18

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: A-S (1)

Comments:

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2017-053

Name of bird form: Anhinga

Committee member name: McMullen

Date of review: 12-22-17

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: A-S

Comments:

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2017-053

Name of bird form: Anhinga

Committee member name: Douglas Stotz

Date of review: 21 January 2018

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: A-S(1)

Comments: I am still concerned that we get many flyover Anhinga records, but almost no Anhinga records in northern Illinois north of birds in marshes. Where are these alleged birds coming from? However, this one is adequately described, I think, so I am willing to accept it.

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2017-053

Name of bird form: Anhinga

Committee member name: Paul Sweet

Date of review: 12/4/17

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: A-S(1)

Comments:

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2017-053

Name of bird form: Anhinga

Committee member name: Geoffrey A. Williamson

Date of review: 2 December 2017

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: U-I

Comments:

This could very well be a record of two Anhingas, but I remain suspicious of Anhinga records without physical evidence.

In this one, the remark about the pale tail tip is encouraging. However, I am unhappy with the tail being described as “fanned as the end” as I think this is better for cormorant than Anhinga. Fanned Anhingas tails to me appear fanned from the base of the tail outward, and not just at the end. A sketch made at the time of the observation would have been helpful.

Also, this record would be somewhat unprecedented. A map of eBird records for Anhinga during October to December shows no records for the area west of the Appalachian Mountains that is further north than Tennessee. There is one mid-September record from Illinois Beach State Park, a late September record from Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, one mid-September record from Lake Erie Metropark near Detroit and another five days after that at Holiday Beach in Ontario, plus one other early September record from London, Ontario. Otherwise, there are no September records north of very southern Illinois and Indiana (west of the Appalachians). Also, all of the above noted records were of single birds. I recognize that eBird is not a comprehensive source of data for things like this, but it does give an indication of scarcity.

In the eBird checklist at <https://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S40427811> there is a photograph showing how cormorants can give an impression superficially similar to Anhinga, and might make an observer remark upon a cross-like shape, long tail, and dagger like bill. The eBird checklist <https://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S40330778> has photographs that also show cross-like shapes in soaring cormorants together with some tails fanning out at the end.