

## Whimbrel – Cabell Co.

Unanimously Accepted 7-0

### Committee Member Comments:

CM1: The photographs clearly depict a Whimbrel and are good enough to rule out Long-billed Curlew, the only other species that could conceivably be confused with this species. In addition, there was an invasion of this species into the state at that time.

CM2: Really well-documented record here. Whimbrel is a fairly unique species here in the East. Long-billed Curlew and Bristle-thighed Curlew should be considered, and could have been further discussed in the report. However, the photos are fantastic and definitive. Both Curlew species are eliminated with a review of the photos and leave no doubt as to the ID. Furthermore, neither Curlew species has ever been recorded in WV. This sighting comes amidst a relative influx of the species for WV with other sightings corroborating this one even further. Therefore, a vote FOR this record is warranted in my opinion.

CM3: Photodocumentation is excellent and eliminates all other similar species.

CM4: Wonderful photos to show the beauty of a Whimbrel. Long decurved bill and striped head seen well in the photos. Competent birder who also heard a whistle vocalization to support the sighting. Other birders have seen this bird, as it was reported on the WV listserv.

CM5: I vote to include the Cabell Count sighting of the Whimbrel record for the official State List. The WHIM was photographed which is acceptable by our bylaws. The written evidence provides some details of the found WHIM. This reviewer would like to have seen more data in the structure and plumage section. The observer does include photograph to provide evidence of the birds' identity. The observer reports previous experience and his report differentiated from the other large shorebirds. Therefore, this report in my opinion meets the standards set by the by-laws for inclusion on the official State List.

CM6: Excellent photos.

CM7: These birds are also clearly identified by the photos provided. The stripes on the head and long bill with downward turn are distinctive marks separating the species from the Marbled Godwit (straight bill) and curlews (faint or no stripes on the head).