# ALBINISM IN WILD VERTEBRATES

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# ALBINISM IN WILD VERTEBRATES

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#### **ABSTRACT**

### ALBINISM IN WILD VERTEBRATES

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### SUPERVISING PROFESSOR: JOHN T. BACCUS

Although rare, albinism has been observed in almost every vertebrate species on earth and wild animals persist in nature even with this seemingly adverse condition.

Albinistic animals have been recorded and studied since Carolus Linnaeus in the mid-1700s. A number of comprehensive lists of albino animals observed in the wild were published in the mid-1900s and numerous articles continue to be published today.

Albinism can be displayed for a number of reasons aside from inheritance including genetic mutations, diet, living conditions, age, disease, or injury. Albinistic traits can vary and individuals are usually classified as true albino, partial albino, or leucistic.

Albino animals demonstrate both positive and negative responses to their albinistic characteristics. I looked at albinism from the point of view of the predator and the prey.

Some scientists and raptor rehabilitators tend to believe raptors do not usually respond to

albino prey when compared to pigmented prey. Other scientists believe raptors will attack odd-colored prey when given the opportunity. The goal of this study was to document and observe albinistic animals at wildlife rehabilitation centers. I ascertained the animals' conditions and kept track of each to determine their fate. I found 22 albinistic individuals, consisting of 6 albino, 7 partial albino, and 9 leucistic animals from 10 species. Partial albinos tended to thrive better and were released into the wild more often than true albino and leucistic animals. I also conducted a literature review of albinistic vertebrates reported in the wild. Results showed 572 species in 51 Orders. Of the 620 total animals documented, 358 were albino, 210 partial albino, and 48 leucistic.

#### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

Albinism is primarily an integumentary coloration condition and epidermalderived features in humans and animals due to a lack of melanin pigment. Albinism is best recognized by abnormal coloration of the skin, hair, feathers, scales, or eyes (Hiler 1983). Albinism can be defined in several different ways, but there are a few distinctive types of albinism depending on certain defining characteristics. True or complete albinism is the total absence of integumentary and retinal pigmentation (Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006). Partial albinism occurs when pigment is reduced or absent from the skin, feathers, or eyes (Berdeen and Otis 2011). Partial albinism can be broken down further to levels of incomplete, imperfect, and partial albinism (Jehl 1985, Berdeen and Otis 2011). Leucism or leukism is a form of partial albinism characterized by retention of color in the eyes, bill, and legs but the skin or plumage contains no color pigment (Forrest and Naveen 2000). Xanthic animals only produce a yellow pigment (Hiler 1983) and are generally described as blonde. The pied or piebald condition results from an intermixture of a pattern of localized irregular patches with an absence of pigment in a normally pigmented individual (Acevedo et al. 2008). There are discrepancies in these definitions depending on the time of publication and the author. Some older articles have defined albino as an animal with any lack of pigment on the body, while others use the term leucistic for what should, by these definitions, be termed partial (Jehl 1985, Owen and Shimmings 1992, Castillo-Geurrero et al. 2005). Xanthic is not commonly used and tends to be interchangeable with leucistic. Melanism is the opposite of albinism and is caused by excessive melanin pigment deposition. It is even more infrequent than albinism and results in individuals with a very dark appearance and a dark brown or black coat color (Sage 1963).

Albinism is caused by several different genes (Summers 2009), while leucism is controlled by a single recessive allele (Owen and Shimmings 1992). Albino animals are rare because the albino series of alleles are recessive. Multiple alleles control skin, hair and eye pigmentation and different alleles control the amount of pigmentation. Phaeomelanin, which is responsible for red and yellow coloring, is first affected; then eumelanin, which is responsible for black and brown pigmentation, is reduced step by step (Searle 1968, Acevedo et al. 2008). Two animals with recessive albino alleles must breed and even then, the probability of albino offspring is still remote. Infrequently, passage of these genes continues from one generation to the next, and albinos, albeit rare, are still perpetuated in the wild.

Aside from hereditary influence, albinism has been attributed to many different factors. Sage (1962) showed albinism can also be due to diet, senility, shock, disease or injury; total or partial albinism can be present at birth, develop later in life, or diminish as an individual ages. Acevedo et al. (2009) suggested another reason for albinism was a genetic hereditary deficiency involving the metabolism during prenatal development or changes in melanocyte development altering the

spatial distribution or density of pigmentation across the body or along individual hairs

Scientists attribute albinism to environmental factors such as low quality habitat and diet. Partial albinistic individuals are more frequently in small and isolated populations (Holyoak 1978, Bensch et al. 2000). This is expected since inbreeding is more likely to occur. Bensch et al. (2000) found a semi-isolated population of great reed warblers (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*) in Sweden recovering from a genetic bottleneck where partial albinistic warblers occurred at a much higher frequency in the population and suggested monitoring partial albinism in large-scale geographic studies may help identify populations exposed to environmental stress or inbreeding.

Radioactive contamination in the Chernobyl region of Ukraine caused a significant increase in partial albinistic barn swallows (*Hirundo rustica*). Moller and Mousseau (2001) compared barn swallows from the contaminated area to those from a control area and found affected albino swallows had lower mean phenotypic values (beak length, beak width, tarsus, wing span, body mass, etc.) than barn swallows from the control area.

A hand-raised, albinistic, nestling Cape sparrow (*Passer melanurus*) demonstrated poor appetite, difficulty swallowing, and a large gas bubble in its crop (Du Toit 1969). With proper treatment it thrived but probably would not have survived in the wild; hence, it may have been purposefully pushed out of its nest. Du Toit (1969) suggested albinism in wild birds may be caused by deficiencies in diet

and questioned whether, in this case albinism could have been caused by the parent's diet or the young bird's poor digestion and absorption of food.

Slagsvold et al. (1987) suggested partial albinism may be related to feeding conditions during nestling development. Slagsvold et al. (1987) derived this hypothesis specifically from a large-scale study of hooded crows (*Corvus coronecornix*) where 5% of fledged young displayed partial albinism, but they could not determine whether the resulting albinism was due to the amount of food received, type of food, or possibly an unbalanced diet as a nestling; however, they concluded the condition resulted from the diet instead of genetic deficiencies. Leucism in seabirds has also been attributed to deficiencies in diet (Castillo-Guerrero et al. 2005). Clapp (1974) considered leucism to be related to inadequate diet in blackbirds (*Turdus merula*) and associated with white-wing bars in turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*). Clapp (1974) also studied leucism in a population of black noddies (*Anous minutus*) and attributed their condition to dietary deficiencies.

Ecologists consider albinism a major disadvantage to animals in the wild for a number of reasons, the most obvious being an animal's lack of crypsis with its surroundings (Uieda 2000, Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006, Acevedo et al. 2009). It is easier for a predator to see a white animal compared to one that blends with its environment. Albino animals are also at a disadvantage because of poor eyesight. A lack of pigment in the eyes affects vision, making it harder for animals to find food or avoid danger (Miller 2005). Two visual abnormalities are usually associated with albinism, foveal hypoplasia and misrouted optic nerve fibers (Heiduschka and Schraermeyer 2007). Heiduschka and Schraermeyer (2007) used electroretinography

(ERG) to compare two closely related strains of rats differing only by one mutation in the tyrosinase gene, making one strain albino (Wistar) and the other pigmented (Long-Evans). They tested a-waves and b-waves, then compared b:a ratios and showed Wistar rats had much lower amplitudes originating from the activity of postreceptoral systems than Long-Evans rats. In albino animals the central retina is underdeveloped leading to a deficit in rods and the central ganglion cell density is 25% below normal. Since birds have a cone-dominated retina, they are not affected by this problem as often as mammals (Esteve and Jeffery 1998). Esteve and Jeffery (1998) found central cell densities < 5% lower in albino grey squirrels (*Sciurus* carolinensis leucopis) than pigmented squirrels. Since the species has a cone-rich retina, visual deficits are only minor. This could explain why grey squirrels are a slightly more common albinistic species and have established albinistic colonies in some areas (Guiles 1997). Guiles (1997) reported at least 20 established colonies of albino grey squirrels occur in the United States. There is also a well-established colony of leucistic eastern fox squirrels (Sciurus niger) (Weber and Weber 2012) in Austin, Texas.

Guillery et al. (1999) studied visual abnormalities in albino wallabies to determine whether marsupials suffered from the same vision conditions as albino eutherian mammals. He found the optic chiasm of marsupials was different from eutherian mammals, so they examined the optic chiasm and retina of albino and normally pigmented wallabies. Since the uncrossed pathway of the albino is smaller and cell density is reduced, Guillery et al. (1999) concluded the characteristic visual abnormalities of albino eutherians also exist in albino marsupials.

Since vision is a raptor's main sense for locating and catching prey, albinistic raptors would arguably have difficulty finding food if they suffered visual impairments. Adult albinistic raptors have been observed in the wild (Eakin 1994, Whitford 1994, Harmata and Montopoli 1998, Tinajero and Rodriguez-Estrella 2010), which leads one to conclude that birds, or possibly just raptors, must not suffer from the same visual disadvantages as other albino species.

Survival of albinistic individuals may be related to the quality of habitat (Reed 1991, Peles et al. 1995, Kehas et al. 2005). It is generally believed that conspicuously colored animals are selected against in natural populations by predation. Coat-color selection by predators may be minimized in high-quality habitats due to an excess of vegetative cover and a high-quality food source (Peles et al. 1995). Specifically, no significant difference in growth and structure of populations of albino meadow voles versus agouti meadow voles was found in nutritionally high-quality habitats and heavy vegetative cover (Peles et al. 1995). Reed (1991) found leucistic young zebra finches (Taeniopygia guttata) lacked pigmented gape markings, which may have affected their ability to attract as much attention during feeding. Their survival was largely dependent on environmental conditions; thus, when food was readily available and environmental conditions (social and territorial) were favorable, the young survived and when conditions were poor, the leucistic young were sacrificed for their normally pigmented siblings (Reed 1991). Uieda (2000) suggested sheltered roosts favor survival of albino bats by offering protection against sunlight, water loss, and visual hunting predators. Uieda (2000) showed 38 of 39 albino bats found in the wild were living in sheltered roosts. Additionally, two true albino Brazilian free-tailed

bats (*Taderida brasiliensis mexicana*) were found living in caves in Oklahoma (McCoy 1960).

Another potential problem for an albino individual is intraspecific interactions. Roberts (1978) observed both storm petrels (*Hydrobates pelagicus*) and oystercatchers (*Haematohus ostralegus*) chasing an albino from their groups.

Alternatively, normal intraspecific behavior with albinistic individuals has been observed (Garner 1997, Forrest and Naveen 2000, Castillo-Guerrero et al. 2005, Acevedo et al. 2008). A recently fledged Carolina wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) exhibiting extreme leucism was observed foraging in the understory in the company of other wrens, possibly a family group (Senaca 1985). Talerico et al. (2008) observed a leucistic little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) behaved like other little brown bats captured in their study area.

Tracking aberrant animals is difficult, especially when seen only by chance. Four different healthy, leucistic Antarctic fur seals (*Arctocephalus gazelle*) were observed feeding with their mothers at Cape Shirreff in 1997-2000 (Acevedo and Aguayo 2008). Acevedo and Aguayo (2008) speculated their absence after 2000 was because these pups did not survive or immigrated to other locations. Braun and Boyd (1979) hypothesized that more albinistic mourning doves (*Zenaida macroura*) are produced each year than observed or reported, however, because of selection pressure, few survive long enough to be observed in the wild. This could be true for many other species as well. Slagsvold et al. (1988) noted albinistic, young hooded crows tended toward smaller size and the rate of mortality in juveniles must be high since the frequency of albinos in the population decreased rapidly at adulthood. Ring

and Smyth, Jr. (1990) also documented increased mortality rates associated with albinism in avian species and hypothesized an immunological component might be associated with the impaired ability of young to survive. By testing normally pigmented and completely albino chickens, they found impairment in albinistic chicks' ability to absorb maternal antibodies contributed to neonatal mortality and not an inability to produce an active immune response capacity. Conversely, albino individuals have been observed multiple times in the wild. In albino bats, one Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) survived at least 7 years (Uieda 2000). Additionally, an 11-year-old albino elephant lived in a herd of normally pigmented elephants in Sri Lanka in 2004 (Holden 2004).

Once an albino has survived to adulthood, ultimately the next issue is whether it can reproduce. Clearly traits associated with albinism are inherited from one generation to the next, and although rare, several species exist in an albino phenotype. Sandoval-Castillo et al. (2006) speculated a lack of color might be disadvantageous in making organisms more noticeable to predators or possibly less attractive for reproduction. A pregnant albino tiger shark (*Galeocerdo cuvier*) proved albinism in elasmobranchs is not the determining factor in survival and reproductive capacity of these cartilaginous fish (Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006). A leucistic little brown bat was pregnant (Talerico et al. 2008). A normally pigmented garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) collected in Ohio was gravid and produced a litter containing 7 albino offspring (Smith and Kyle 1992). Castillo-Guerrero et al. (2005) observed 5 (3 females and 2 males) leucistic brown boobies (*Sula leucogaster*) in the Gulf of California, Mexico from 2003-2004. Although 3 of these females were not observed

mating, both leucistic males mated with normal-pigmented females and produced normal-colored offspring for 2 consecutive years. Owen and Shimmings (1992) reported no difference in pairing or breeding performance between leucistic and pigmented barnacle geese (Branta leucopsis). Rogers et al. (1979) studied a nest of partial albino red-headed woodpeckers (Melanerpes erythrocephalus) in which the adult female was partially albino; some of her primaries were white and her head was a much lighter red than a normally pigmented individual of this species. She produced 3 young, all with normal pigmentation. Rogers et al. (1979) observed her attentiveness to her young was normal for the species. Bensch et al. (2000) reported albinistic great reed warblers experience similar lifetime reproductive success as normally pigmented birds. Owen and Shimmings (1992) studied a population of barnacle geese with a number of leucistic individuals and found the median lifespan of leucistic geese was only 2-3 years compared to 8-10 years for normally pigmented birds. Alternatively, they found one 18-year-old leucistic goose produced 13 young, both rare feats even in normally pigmented geese. Perhaps most well-known, Pale Male, a partial albino red-tailed hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) that lived on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Central Park since the early 1990s. He has had at least four normally pigmented mates and raised numerous young (Barron 2011).

Some species now appear to be selecting for albinism. Mexican tetra, (*Astyanax mexicanus*) use albinism and the subsequent lack of eye pigmentation as an advantage in some cave populations (Roder and Linsenmair 1998, Gross et al. 2009). There is a possibility that albinism can be inherited more frequently than would be expected when advantageous. Albinism in cavefish is a monogenic trait caused by

loss-of-function (melanin content in melanophores reduced over time) recessive alleles independently mutating in multiple cave populations of Mexican tetras (Protas et al. 2006, Gross et al. 2009). Protas et al. (2006) determined albinism in two separate populations of Mexican tetra had a mutation at the same gene, and these cave populations live in relatively closed, nutrient-poor, dark environments. If albinism is linked to any of these conditions, as many researchers have predicted, then aside from pigment being unnecessary, their environment could be the overall cause of this mutation.

Gloyd's linked albinism has been observed in at least 5 specimens of the prairie rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridus*) (Chace and Smith 1968). These snakes had both albinistic characteristics and pattern deviation, which has not been reported in any other albinistic individuals of any species. Although there are no apparent advantages or disadvantages, it is clear the two traits are linked (Chace and Smith 1968).

My study will provide information about albino vertebrates and their ability to survive in the wild. Since there is very little information about albino vertebrates due to their rare occurrence, I had a small sample size because even large rehabilitation centers normally see less than 5 albinistic animals per year. There is also the possibility that albinistic vertebrates will not be seen again once released into the wild, which will lead to inconclusive evidence as to whether or not they survived in the wild. I hypothesize that albino individuals are able to survive in the wild although at a disadvantage in comparison to normal-pigmented individuals. Alternatively, their color may be advantageous and aid in their survival.

## **CHAPTER II**

### STUDY AREA

I studied the occurrence of albinism in central Texas. My study included wildlife rehabilitation centers and individual wildlife rehabilitators. The two main rehabilitation centers, Wildlife Rescue, Inc. in Austin, Texas and Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation, Inc. in Kendalia, Texas were my primary contacts from early 2010 to late 2011. They kept me informed about albino and albinistic animals that came under their care. When an individual came in, I visited the rehabilitator or center to get information about each animal and its condition.

#### **CHAPTER III**

### **METHODS**

For each albinistic individual under the care of a rehabilitator or rehabilitation center, I photographed and tracked its progress. I documented each individual's initial condition and how they fared in captivity. If an animal survived to release, the rehabilitator informed me of the release site. Depending on circumstances, I either obtained permission from the landowner to have access to their land, or I resorted to citizen science in which the landowner agreed to keep watch and notify me if the animal was seen again. If I had access to the land, I tracked the animal's progress by setting up game cameras in the area of release. Since more albinistic individuals did not survive to release, I only set up cameras once. In this case, I worked with the landowner and set up a soft release site with a feeding station near cameras. This is a typical practice for releasing animals raised in captivity since an animal tends to stay near the release site, at least short-term. In theory, this meant I should have seen the albino animal come for food each night.

I talked to current wildlife rehabilitators about albinistic animals they had previously had in their care. I also used information from the time I worked at Wildlife Rescue, Inc. and compiled a list of albino species similar to the one kept during my research

I talked to raptor rehabilitators in central Texas to get a better idea of hawk and owl behavior and response to different types of prey. As an animal care manager at Wildlife Rescue, Inc., I witnessed a behavior by raptors in that most raptors ignored albino rats and mice in favor of pigmented ones. This led me to hypothesize that albinistic individuals may not be recognized as prey because they are uncommon in nature. Furthermore, I conducted an in-depth literature review to summarize previous research on the effects of albinism on wildlife. I compiled a comprehensive list of albino and albinistic animals documented in the wild.

#### **CHAPTER IV**

### **RESULTS**

From early 2010 to late 2011, I found 9 albinistic individuals (Table 1) including Virginia opossums (*Didelphis virginiana*) (Fig. 2), grey squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*), a common starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) (Fig. 3) and a common grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*). Three were true albino, 2 partial albinos, and 4 leucistic. Two healthy leucistic sibling grey squirrels were raised and released, although they were not observed again by the landowner. Another was released but never captured again on game cameras. A completely white opossum with pigmented eyes was raised from a young age and kept as a permanent resident at a nature center in Austin, Texas (Fig. 4). The common grackle (Fig. 5) was healthy upon arrival and survived at the rehabilitation center but once it moved outside to prepare for release, it died within 2 days. The other individuals were unhealthy from the time they came into a rehabilitator and did not survive.

I also compiled a list of 13 albinistic individuals that rehabilitators had documented previous to my research (Table 2). Although these animals were not tracked after release, 7 thrived and were released into the wild, 2 lived at rehabilitation centers, and one barred owl (*Strix varia*) lived 16 years in captivity (Fig. 6 and Fig. 7). Two sibling leucistic eastern fox squirrels (*Sciurus niger*) were

observed multiple times after their release in 2008 (Fig. 8). A red-tailed hawk (Fig. 9), a striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), and a white-winged dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) were all blind and unable to feed, indicating the connection between albinism and visual abnormalities.

Of the 22 total individuals representing 10 species, 6 were albino, 7 partial albinos, and 9 leucistic. Partial albino animals tended to thrive better than true albino or leucistic individuals and accounted for most releases. In my study, all true albinos died before release except ones kept in captivity. Several partial albinos and a few leucistic animals were healthy enough for release.

Since albinistic animals are difficult to find, let alone track in the wild, I conducted a literature review to determine which species have been previously documented as albino, partial albino, or leucistic. Appendix I shows 572 species in 51 Orders have been documented as living and surviving in the wild. Of the 620 total animals, 358 were albino, 210 partial albinos, and 48 leucistic.

I interviewed raptor rehabilitators Sallie Delahoussaye and Preston Doughty at Wildlife Rescue, Inc. in Austin, Texas about their experiences with hawk and owl food preference. Delahoussaye stated, "In the wild a healthy raptor may prey upon albino or light colored prey if it is moving and the appropriate size. Likewise in the wild, an injured raptor will prey upon any animal recognized as catchable to avoid starvation. However, in a rehab situation, an injured wild raptor will not recognize white mice or rats as edible. If you present a raptor with a dark-colored mouse or rat (size dependent on raptor and its normal prey), it will recognize this as food and eat. This is why we often have to cut open a white prey item before the raptor realizes it is

food." Doughty also agreed, "It has been my experience that most raptors do not easily recognize white rodents when they are first presented as food. The rodents will be ignored as a food source. As soon as a dark-colored rodent is presented, the raptor will immediately recognize it as food." Doughty recalled a previous experience that led him to believe raptors tend to recognize pigmented prey as compared to their albino relatives. "As a college student, I worked in and around the barn areas at the university. The resident owls kept the rodent population low. A well-meaning student tried to save some of the white lab mice from another department from euthanasia [and] released them in the barn. I didn't realize until years later why these white mice seemed to survive when the wild mice were scarce. The pellets left by the owls rarely had white fur in them although the opportunity was there. The fact that light-colored and albino mammals survive to adulthood leads me to suspect that they are not as common a target for predators as one would think. White opossums, blond squirrels, and blond raccoons seem to have a good survival rate. One would think these abnormalities would make these animals a primary target, but they seem to survive in spite of their lack of normal coloration. Delahoussaye also explained why rehabilitated raptors are always raised on pigmented prey, "Otherwise they will be looking for white rodents once released. A few years ago there was a great horned owl preying on golf balls at a golf course in Georgia. After a couple of weeks of this behavior, the owl was trapped by rehabilitators. (The golfers weren't happy with an owl swooping down and capturing their golf balls.) The owl had been banded and when records were checked with the Bird Banding Lab, they found a rehabilitator had raised the owl and trained it prey on white mice. When trapped the owl was quite

thin. There was also a cache of white golf balls under the tree where the owl had been roosting. He had been going after what he thought was prey. The bird was retrained on dark rodents and released again." I remember similar experiences while working at Wildllife Rescue, Inc. If a new person started working and accidentally gave an adult raptor a white mouse or rat, it would still be sitting in the cage the next day. As soon as I switched it over to a pigmented rodent, the raptor jumped on it and started eating. This leads me to believe raptors select what they are used to eating. Their predator search image enables them to quickly recognize what is most common; hence, it makes sense for rehabilitators to raise young raptors on pigmented prey, so they can find food upon release.

Table 1. Records of albinism in central Texas vertebrates from 2010-2011 based on records from wildlife rehabilitators.

Species	Common Name	Type	Incoming Date	Condition	Intake	Outcome
					Age	
Didelphis virginiana	Virginia opossum	Albino	23 April 2010	unhealthy	4 mon.	Blind, died after 1 wk.
Sturnus vulgaris	Common starling	Albino	6 May 2010	unhealthy	3 wks.	Died after 3 days
Quiscalus quiscula	Common grackle	Leucistic	20 June 2010	healthy	1 mon.	Died in outside cage before release
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey squirrel (2)	Leucistic	12 June 2010	healthy	3 wks.	Released, not seen again
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey squirrel	Leucistic	3 March 2010	unhealthy	1 wk.	Died after 4 wks.
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey squirrel	Partial	7 July 2010	unhealthy	1 mon.	Released, no capture on game camera
Didelphis virginiana	Virginia opossum	Partial/White	2 May 2011	healthy	2 mon.	Permanent resident at Nature Center
Didelphis virginiana	Virginia opossum	Albino	11 July 2011	unhealthy	2 mon.	Died after 2 days

Table 2. Previous records of albinism in vertebrates in central Texas obtained from wildlife rehabilitators.

Species	Common Name	Type	Incoming	Condition	Intake	Outcome
			Date		Age	
Didelphis virginiana	Virginia opossum	Partial/White	8 May 2009	healthy	1 mon.	Released
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk	Partial	2009	healthy	2 wks.	Blind, euthanized at 3 mon.
Didelphis virginiana	Virginia opossum	Partial/White	17 July 2008	healthy	6 wks.	Released
Mephitis mephitis	Striped skunk	Partial	15 June 2008	healthy	1 wk.	Blind, permanent resident at wildlife center
Sciurus niger	Fox squirrel (2)	Leucistic	3 Feb 2008	healthy	2 wks.	Released, observed in wild multiple times
Zenaida asiatica	White-winged dove	Albino	2008	unhealthy	2 wks.	Blind, euthanized at 3 mon.
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey squirrel	Leucistic	15 Sep 2007	healthy	2 wks.	Released
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey squirrel	Leucistic	5 Sep 2007	healthy	2 wks.	Released
Turdus migratorius	American robin	Albino	2007	healthy	1 mon.	Permanent resident, 3 yrs. at wildlife center
Strix varia	Barred Owl	Albino	1990s	healthy	2 wks,	Lived 16 yrs. in captivity
Bubo virginianus	Great horned owl	Leucistic	1990s	unhealthy	1 mon.	Died after 2 mon.
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk	Partial/White	1980s	unhealthy	adult	Lice infestation, re-released after molt

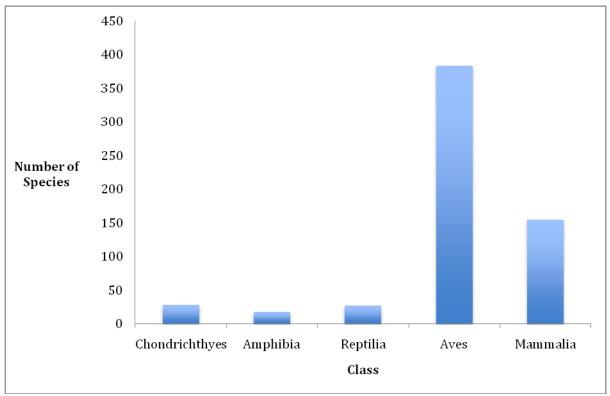


Figure 1. Number of albinistic vertebrate species listed by class from published literature (Appendix I).



Figure 2. True albino Virginia Opossum (Didelphis virginiana).



Figure 3. True albino Common Starling (Sturnus vulgaris).



Figure 4. White Virginia Opossum with pigmented eyes.



Figure 5. Leucistic Common Grackle (Quiscalus quiscula).



Figure 6. True albino Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) nestling with normally pigmented sibling.



Figure 7. Albino Barred Owl as an adult, lived 16 years in captivity.



Figure 8. Leucistic Fox Squirrel (Sciurus niger).



Figure 9. Leucistic Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis)

#### **CHAPTER V**

#### DISCUSSION

Many biologists studied albinism in wildlife in the early to mid-1900s. Sage (1962), Ross (1963), and Gross (1965) were some of the first to compile lists of albino animals recorded in the wild. Alfred O. Gross published a list of 54 families with a total of 1,297 records of albino North American birds (Appendix II) in 1965 (Gross 1965), and Bryan L. Sage compiled a list of 42 families with a total of 3,134 records of albinism in British birds (Appendix III) in 1962 (Sage 1962). It would seem based on the fewer reported records of albinistic animals in the recent literature that albinism is declining in wild animals compared to the numbers reported 50 years ago in the literature. There are several reasons for this. Most likely, albinistic animals are still being seen, but these records are not reported since a record already exists in the literature. Conversely, it is possible these animals experience physical afflictions that either cause greater depredation or mortality such that their numbers are slowly decreasing (Friederici 2000). Also, many of these animals were shot for museum collections in the early 1900s or killed by hunters due to their rarity, in turn decreasing their numbers. Another possibility is albino-inducing genes are becoming more diluted because albinos generally breed with pigmented individuals of their species (Rogers, Jr. et al. 1979, Sudbeck 1990, Castillo Guerrero et al. 2005). From the results of the literature review (Appendix I, Fig. 1), there

are very few albinistic records for Chondrichthyes, Amphibia, and Reptilia compared to Aves and Mammalia. There are more records of albinistic birds. Since Esteve and Jeffery (1998) showed birds are not affected by the same visual abnormalities as other species, this could account for more observations of albinistic birds and records in the literature.

As predicted, I had a small sample size since albinos are so rare in the wild. Of the 22 albinistic animals, 8 died, 4 were kept in captivity, and 10 were released. Since it is hard to determine whether animals released would have survived in the wild without the help of a rehabilitator, it is hard to analyze even these results. Only 8 of the 22 (36%) animals that came to a rehabilitator were healthy and subsequently released. Conversely, for such a small region of central Texas, 8 albinistic animals thriving and 22 records in 2 years, is substantial. Although these animals are difficult to study in the wild, many biologists continue to analyze the effects of albinism, whether it can be a predictor of population bottlenecks, and how predators react to different prey. Biologists continue to address the benefits of albinism in cave populations and survival in terms of being unrecognizable as prey.

There is considerable speculation as to whether albinistic animals are preyed on more or less frequently than normally pigmented animals. Unfortunately, most experiments to test this question have to be conducted on tame predators or those captured and then contained. There is no preference by predators for albino versus normal-pigmented prey according to Balgooyen (1971), Mueller (1975), Troncone and Silveira (2001). Smallwood (1987) studied American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) behavior and habitat selection during winter in Florida. Bal-chatri traps were presented with either

a pigmented or albino mouse. Males were 91% more likely to attack an albino mouse than females (Smallwood 1987). He also found male territories were inferior in foraging quality to females, and therefore, predicted a predator inhabiting an area of lower quality would be less likely to reject prey even if it was unusual. Neophobia has been documented in several bird species such as kestrels, blue jays (Cyanocitta cristata), and chestnut-sided warblers (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) (Smallwood 1987), but with the option between starving and preying on an odd-colored animal, the odd-colored animal prey was eaten. Contrary to this belief, Mueller (1975, 1977) suggested hawks select odd prey instead of normal-colored prey. Mueller (1975) worked with tame American kestrels to disprove Tinbergen's idea of specific searching image (SSI) whereby predators have a tendency to select prey of the color in which they are habituated. Mueller (1975) presented grey and white mice as prey to kestrels. The kestrels chose the odd-color mouse more often than the white mice they had been offered the previous 10 days. Mueller (1977) tested with mice and chicks and found kestrels often chose whichever was different from food offered the previous 10 days. Another consideration is the type of predator species when trying to determine if there is preference for or against albino prey. It seems likely that a snake would have no preference (compared to a raptor), since they tend to rely on senses as well as vision to capture prey and can easily alternate between visual and infrared stimuli without loss of predatory performance (Kardong and Berkhoudt 1999). Zeeya (2006) found pit vipers and boid snakes hunt in complete darkness using infrared sensing organs. Concurrently, predatory behavior tested with Brazilian jararaca snakes (Bothrops jararaca) indicated color of the prey was not a relevant factor in prey selection (Troncone and Silveira 2001).

The idea of apostatic selection or frequency-dependent selection suggests if the relationship between prey type frequency and predation risk of the prey is positive, then the rare prey type is favored (Merilaita and Ruxton 2009). If this concept is applied to albinism, it means normal-pigment (or common) prey will be captured and albinistic prey overlooked. Since it is more difficult to search for two or more prey types, visual predators should tend to focus on the most abundant form and overlook others.

Additionally, if a certain prey type is infrequently encountered, then a predator's searching image will focus on what they are used to seeing, leading to consumption of more abundant prey types in excess (Bond 2007). From this, it seems albino animals in the wild may have a harder time due to the physical effects of albinism and not their lack of crypsis.

I spoke with raptor rehabilitators Sallie Delahoussaye and Preston Doughty at Wildlife Rescue, Inc. in Austin, Texas about their experiences with hawk and owl food preference. Both Delahoussaye and Doughty agreed that in a rehabilitation situation, a wild adult raptor will not recognize a white rat or mouse as prey; they will only eat pigmented prey. This supports the concept that a predator's searching image allows them to focus only on what they are used to encountering (Bond 2007). Delahousssaye added that in certain situations a raptor in the wild may go after white prey if they are out of options. To avoid starvation, raptors suffering from an injury or if there is a lack of prey, may go after white prey as a last resort. Doughty reaffirmed, "The fact that light-colored and\_albino mammals survive to adulthood leads me to suspect that they are not as much of a target for predators. White opossums, blond squirrels, and blond raccoons seem to have a good survival rate. One would think these abnormalities would make these

animals a primary target, but they seem to do very well in spite of their lack of normal coloration."

APPENDIX I

## LIST BY ORDER OF ALBINISTIC, WILD VERTEBRATE SPECIES PREVIOUSLY RECORDED IN THE LITERATURE

Species	Common Name	Order	Type	Source
Accipiter striatus	Sharp-shinned hawk	Accipitriformes	Leucistic	Eakin 1994
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald eagle	Accipitriformes	Partial	Harmata and Montopoli 1998
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald eagle	Accipitriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Micronisus gabar	Gabar goshawk	Accipitriformes	Albino	Mendelsohn 1998
Torgos tracheliotos	Lappet-faced vulture	Accipitriformes	Partial	Van Grouw 2011
Coragyps atratus	Black vulture	Accipitriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Aix sponsa	Wood duck	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Anas acuta	Pintail	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Anas carolinensis	Green-winged teal	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Anas crecca	Common teal	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Anas cyanoptera	Cinnamon teal	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Anas discors	Blue-winged teal	Anseriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard	Anseriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Anas rubipes	Black duck	Anseriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Anas strepera	Gadwall	Anseriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Anser albifrons	White-fronted goose	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Anser anser	Greylag goose	Anseriformes	Partial	Guerra-Garcia et al. 1999
Anser brachyrhynchus	Pink-footed goose	Anseriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Anser fabalis	Bean goose	Anseriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Anser fabalis	Bean goose	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963

Anytha affinis	Lesser scaup	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Aytha americana	Redhead	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Aytha valisinaria	Canvasback	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Branta bernicla	Brant goose	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Branta canadensis	Giant Canada goose	Anseriformes	Albino	Wheeler 1996
Branta canadensis	White-cheeked goose	Anseriformes	Albino	Marquardt 1961
Branta canadensis	Canada goose	Anseriformes	Partial	Skinner 1963
Branta leucopsis	Barnacle goose	Anseriformes	Leucistic	Owen and Shimmings 1992
Branta leucopsis	Barnacle goose	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Bucephala albeola	Bufflehead	Anseriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Bucephala clangula	Common goldeneye	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Chen hyperborea	Snow goose	Anseriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Clangula hyemalis	Oldsquaw	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Dendrocygna bicolor	Fulvus tree duck	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Mareca americana	American widgeon	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Melanitta deglandi	White winged scoter	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Melanitta fusca	Velvet scoter	Anseriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Melanitta perspicillata	Surf scoter	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Mergus merganser	Common merganser	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Mergus serrator	Red-breasted merganser	Anseriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Oidemia negra	Common scoter	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Oxyura jamaicensis	Ruddy duck	Anseriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Somateria mollossima	Common eider	Anseriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Spatula clypeata	Spoon-bill ducks	Anseriformes	Albino	Deane 1905
Bufo bufo	Common toad	Anura	Albino	Pash et al. 2007
Xenopus laevis	Clawed toad	Anura	Partial	Eagleson et al. 2010
Rana curtipes	Malabar frog	Anura	Partial	Desai and Pancharatna 2003
Rana lessonae	Pool frog	Anura	Albino	Kotlik et al. 1997

Rana sylvatica	Wood frog	Anura	Albino	Luce and Moriarty 1999
Rana temporaria	Common frog	Anura	Partial	Knight 1980
Rhacophorus arboreus	Tree frog	Anura	Albino	Okada and Okada 2008
Apus apus	Common swift	Apodiformes	Partial	Jacobs 1999
Apus apus	Swift	Apodiformes	Leucistic	Gory and Serge 1994
Chaetura pelagica	Chimney swift	Apodiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Archilochus alenandri	Black-chinned hummer	Apodiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Archilochus colubris	Ruby-throated hummer	Apodiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Calypte anna	Anna's hummer	Apodiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Antiolpe cervicapra	Blackbuck	Artiodactyla	Albino	Smielowski 1987
Bison bison	Buffalo	Artiodactyla	Leucistic	Ray 2011
Boselaphus tragocamerlus	Blue bull	Artiodactyla	Albino	Smielowski 1987
Capra aegagrus hircus	Billy goat	Artiodactyla	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Gazella gazella bennetti	Chinkara	Artiodactyla	Albino	Smielowski 1987
Gazella subgutturosa	Goitered gazelle	Artiodactyla	Albino	Tourenq et al. 2003
Camelus backtrainus	Bactrian camel	Artiodactyla	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Lama glama	Llama	Artiodactyla	Partial	Weird Science 2008
Vicugna pacos	Alpaca	Artiodactyla	Partial	Weird Science 2008
Cervus axis	Axis deer	Artiodactyla	Albino	Smielowski 1987
Cervus canadensis	Elk	Artiodactyla	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Odocoileus virginianus	White-tailed deer	Artiodactyla	Albino	Ryel 1963
Odocoileus virginianus	White-tailed deer	Artiodactyla	Partial	Ryel 1963
Rangifer tarandus	Caribou	Artiodactyla	Albino	Curatolo 1979
Giraffa camelopardalis	Giraffe	Artiodactyla	Partial	Weird Science 2008
Caprimusgus vociferus	Whip poor will	Caprimulgiformes	Leucistic	Ross 1963
Carcharhinus ambionensis	Shark	Carcharhiniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Galeocerdo cuvier	Tiger shark	Carcharhiniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Sphyrna lewini	Hammerhead	Carcharhiniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006

Hemitriakis japanica	Topeshark	Carcharhiniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Mustelus californicus	Hound shark	Carcharhiniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Mustelus schmitti	Hound shark	Carcharhiniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Triakis semifasciata	Leopard shark	Carcharhiniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Canis latrans	Coyote	Carnivora	Albino	Ozoga 1966
Canis latrans	Coyote	Carnivora	Albino	Stroman 1925
Canis lupus	Dingo	Carnivora	Partial	Weird Science 2008
Mephitis mephitis	Striped Skunk	Carnivora	Albino	Hollister 1943
Mustela erminea	Stoat	Carnivora	Albino	Schamberger 1972
Mustela putorius furo	Ferret	Carnivora	Albino	Blaszczyk et al. 2007
Taxidea taxus	Badger	Carnivora	Partial	Roest 1961
Arctocephalus gazella	Antarctic fur seal	Carnivora	Partial	Acevedo et al. 2008
Callorhinus ursinus	Northern fur seal	Carnivora	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Eumetopias jubatus	Steller's sea lion	Carnivora	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Otaria flavescens	South American sea lion	Carnivora	Leucistic	Acevedo and Aguayo 2008
Otaria flavescens	Southern sea lion	Carnivora	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Zalophus californicus	Californial sea lion	Carnivora	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Leptonychotes weddellii	Weddell seal	Carnivora	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Mirounga leonina	Southern elephant seal	Carnivora	Partial	Bried and Haubreux 2000
Mirounga leonina	Elephant seal	Carnivora	Leucistic	Reisinger et al. 2009
Mirounga leonina	Southern elephant seal	Carnivora	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Phoca vitulina	Harbour seal	Carnivora	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Procyon lotor	Raccoon	Carnivora	Albino	Allen and Neill 1956
Ursus americanus	Black bear	Carnivora	Albino	Standley 1921
Ambystoma maculatum	Yellow-spotted salamander	Caudata	Albino	Rye 1991
Ambystoma mexicanum	Axolotl	Caudata	Albino	Giardina et al. 1999
Ambystoma texanum	Smallmouth salamander	Caudata	Albino	Jones 1991
Plethodon cinereus	Red-backed salamander	Caudata	Leucistic	Mitchell and Mazur 1998

Plethodon cinereus	Eastern redback salamander	Caudata	Leucistic	Rye 1991
Plethodon hubrichti	Peaks of Otter salamander	Caudata	Albino	Hayslett et al. 1998
Pseudontriton ruber ruber	Northern red salamander	Caudata	Albino	Garriock 2000
Taricha torosa	California newt	Caudata	Albino	Wells 1964
Notophthalmus perstriatus	Striped newt	Caudata	Albino	Johnson and Franz 1999
Balaena mysticetus	Bowhead whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Eubalaena australis	Southern right whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Balaenoptera musculus	Blue Whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Cephalorhynchus heavisidii	Heaviside's dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Delphinus delphis	Saddleback dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Hain and Leatherwood 1982
Globicephala melaena	Atlantic pilot whale	Cetacea	Albino	Hain and Leatherwood 1982
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Grampus griseus	Risso's porpoise	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Lagenorhynchis obliquidens	Pacific white-sided dolphin	Cetacea	Partial	Tsutsui et al. 2001
Lagenorhynchus acutus	Atlantic white-sided dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Lagenorhynchus obliquidens	Pacific white-sided dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Lagenorhynchus obscurus	Dusky dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Lissodelphis peronii	Southern right whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
	dolphin			
Orcinus orca	Killer whale	Cetacea	Albino	Speckman and Sheffield 2001
Orcinus orca	Killer whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Stenella attenuata	Pantropical spotted	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
	dolphin			
	•			

Stenella frontalis	Atlantic spotted dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Stenella longirostris	Spinner dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	Cetacea	Albino	Fertl et al. 1999
Eschrichtius robustus	Grey whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Caperea marginata	Pigmy right whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Phocoena phocoena	Harbor porpoise	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Phocoenoides dalli	Dall's propoise	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Physeter catodon	Sperm whale	Cetacea	Albino	Hain and Leatherwood 1982
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale	Cetacea	Albino	Acevedo et al. 2009
Astyanax mexicanus	Blind cavefish	Characiformes	Albino	Gross et al. 2009
Astyanax sp.	Cavefish	Characiformes	Albino	Protas et al. 2006
Alca torda	Razorbill	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Cepphus columba	Pigeon guillmot	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Cepphus grylle	Black guillmot	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Fratercula arctica	Common puffin	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Plautus alle	Dovekie	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Uria aalga	Common murre	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Uria lomvia	Thick-billed murre	Charadriiformes	Albino	Reinsch 1983
Uria lomvia	Thick billed murre	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Charadriidae sp.	Lapwing	Charadriiformes	Partial	Terluin 1984
Pluvialis dominica	American golden plover	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Thinornis novaeseelandiae	Shore plover	Charadriiformes	Partial	Dowding and Gummer 2003
Vanellus armatus	Blacksmith plover	Charadriiformes	Leucistic	Konrad 1984
Vanellus coronatus	Crowned plover	Charadriiformes	Albino	Schmidt 1970
Haematopus ostralegus	Oystercatcher	Charadriiformes	Albino	Roberts 1978

Haematopus sp.	Oystercatcher	Charadriiformes	Partial	Bengtsson 1995
Larus argentatus	Herring gull	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Larus delawarensis	Ring-billed gull	Charadriiformes	Leucistic	Svingen and Eckert 1999
Larus delawarensis	Ring billed gull	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Larus heermanni	Heermann's gull	Charadriiformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Larus marinus	Great black-backed gull	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Larus occidentalis	Western gull	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Larus philadelphia	Bonaparte's gull	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Larus pipixcan	Franklin's gull	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Rissa tridactyla	Black legged kittiwake	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Calidris canutus	Knot	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Calidris temminckii	Temminck's stint	Charadriiformes	Partial	de Groot 1991
Capella gallinago	Common snipe	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Catoptrophorus semipalmatus	Willet	Charadriiformes	Leucistic	Ross 1963
Crocethis alba	Sanderling	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Ereunetes pusillus	Semipalmated sandpiper	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Erolina alpina	Dunlin	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Erolina minutilla	Least sandpiper	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Limosa haemastica	Hudsonian godwit	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Lobipes lobatus	Northern phalarope	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Numenius phaeopus	Whimbrel	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Numenius sp.	Curlew	Charadriiformes	Partial	Sage 1962
Philohela minor	American woodcock	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Philomachus pugnax	Ruff	Charadriiformes	Partial	Tree 1965
Scolopax rusticola	Woodcock	Charadriiformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Totanus flavipes	Lesser yellowlegs	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Totanus melanoleucus	Greater yellowlegs	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Tringa semipalmata	Willet	Charadriiformes	Leucistic	Collins 2003

Tringa solitaria	Solitary sandpiper	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Stercorarius parasiticus	Parasitic jaeger	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Anous teruirostris	Black noddy	Charadriiformes	Albino	Clapp 1974
Chlidonias niger	Black tern	Charadriiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Sterna hirundo	Common tern	Charadriiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Onychoprion fuscatus	Sooty tern	Charadriiformes	Leucistic	Rauzon 1985
Tadarida brasiliensis	Mexican free-tailed bat	Chiroptera	Partial	McCoy 1960
Chaerephon plicatus	Northern free-tailed bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Molossus fortis	Mastiff bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Heatwole et al. 1964
Molossus molossus	Velvery free-tailed	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Mormopterus planiceps	Southern free-tailed bat	Chiroptera	Partial	Holsworth 1988
Taderida brasiliensis	Mexican free-tailed bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Pteronotus parnellii	Parnell's mustached bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Nycteris nana	Dwarf slit-faced bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Artibeus lituratus	Great fruit-eating bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Artibeus planirostris	Fruit bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Desmodus rotundis	Vampire bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Desmodus rotundus	Vampire bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Glossophaga longirostris	Miller's long-tongued bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Glossophaga soricina	Pallas's long-tongued bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Hipposideros terasensis	Formosan leaf-nosed bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Hsu 2003
Macrotus waterhousii	Waterhouse's leaf-nosed bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Rousettus leschenaulti	Leschenault's rousette bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Hipposideros lankadiva	Indiana roundleaf bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Hipposideros ruber	Noack's roundleaf bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Rhinolophus cornutus	Little Japanese horseshoe	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
	bat			
Rhinolophus euryale	Mediterranean horseshoe	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
	bat			

Rhinolophus ferrumequinum	Greater horseshoe bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Rhinolophus hipposideros	Lesser horseshoe bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Rhinopoma hardwickei	Lesser mouse-tailed bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Rhinopoma microphyllum	Rat-tailed bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Bhati 1988
Rhinopoma microphyllum	Rat-tailed bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Antrozous pallidus	Pallid bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Eptesicus capensis	Cape Serotine bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Eptesicus serotinus	Serotine bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Lasurus borealis	Eastern red bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Miniopterus schreibersii	Common bent-wing bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Myotis bechsteinii	Bechstein's bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Myotis daubentonii	Daubenton's bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Myotis lucifugus	Little brown bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Myotis macrodactylus	Eastern long-fingered bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Myotis myotis	Mouse-earred bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Myotis mystacinus	Whiskered bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Myotis sodalis	Indiana bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Myotis velifer	Cave myotis	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Nyctalus noctula	Common noctule bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common pipistrelle	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Pipistrellus subflavus	Eastern pipistrelle	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Plecotus auritus	Brown long-eared bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Vespertilio superans	Asian particolored bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Uieda 2000
Eptesicus serotinus	Serotine bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Obada and Gas 2003
Myotis myotis	Mouse-earred bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Leblanc and Taupin 2005
Myotis sodalis	Indiana bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Brack and Scott 1990
Pipistrellus abramus	Japanese house bat	Chiroptera	Albino	Hsu 2003
Myotis lucifungus	Brown bat	Chiroptera	Leucistic	Talerico et al. 2008

Egretta garzetta	Little egret	Ciconiiformes	Leucistic	Tree 1965
Plegadis chihi	White faced ibis	Ciconiiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Zenaida macroura	Mourning dove	Columbiformes	Albino	Braun and Boyd 1979
Zenaida macroura	Mourning dove	Columbiformes	Partial	Berdeen and Otis 2011
Megaceryle alcyon	Belted kingfisher	Coraciiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Dacelo sp.	Kookaburra	Coraciiformes	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Merops apiaster	European bee-eater	Coraciiformes	Albino	Palmer 1997
Upupa epops	Hoopoe	Coraciiformes	Albino	Mullins 1975
Alligator mississippiensis	Alligator	Crocodilia	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Coccyzus erythropthalmus	Black-billed cuckoo	Cuculiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Crotophaga ani	Smooth-billed ani	Cuculiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Didelphis virginiana	Opossum	Didelphimorphia	Albino	Science News-Letter 1941
Macropus rufogriseus	Wallaby	Diprodontia	Albino	Guillery et al. 1999
Macropus sp.	Kangaroo	Diprodontia	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Phascolarctos cinereus	Koala	Diprodontia	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Erinaceus europaeus	European hedgehog	Erinaceomorpha	Leucistic	Morris and Tutt 1996
Accipiter cooperii	Coopers hawk	Falconiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden eagle	Falconiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk	Falconiformes	Albino	Whitford 1991
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk	Falconiformes	Albino	Hoelscher 1996
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk	Falconiformes	Albino	Whitford 1994
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk	Falconiformes	Albino	Nicoletti et al. 1998
Buteo lineatus	Red-shouldered hawk	Falconiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	Falconiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Circus pygargus	Montagu's Harrier	Falconiformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Crcus aeruginosus	Marsh Harrier	Falconiformes	Partial	Tree 1965
Gyps fulvus	Eurasian griffon vulture	Falconiformes	Leucistic	Camina 2005
Gyps fulvus	Eurasian griffon vulture	Falconiformes	Partial	Camina 2005

Caracara plancus	Crested caracara	Falconiformes	Partial	Tinajero and Rodriguez-Estrella 2010
Cathartes aura	Turkey vulture	Falconiformes	Partial	Tinajero and Rodriguez-Estrella 2010
Falco columbarius	Pigeon hawk	Falconiformes	Leucistic	Ross 1963
Falco mexicanus	Prairie falcon	Falconiformes	Leucistic	Ross 1963
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine falcon	Falconiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Falco sparverius	American kestrel	Falconiformes	Albino	Newman 1988
Falco sparverius	Sparrow hawk	Falconiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Falco tinnunculuc	Common kestrel	Falconiformes	Leucistic	Barbalat and Bottin 2003
Falco vespertinus	Red-footed falcon	Falconiformes	Partial	Corso 2000
Callipepla gambelii	Gambell's quail	Galliformes	Albino	Smith 1999
Callipepla squamata	Scaled quail	Galliformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Colinus virginianus	Northern bobwhite	Galliformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Lophortyx californicus	California quail	Galliformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Lophortyx gambelii	Gambel's quail	Galliformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Oreortix pictus	Mountain quail	Galliformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Bonasa umbellus	Ruffed grouse	Galliformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Canachites canadensis	Spruce grouse	Galliformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Coturnix japonica	Japanese quail	Galliformes	Albino	Ring and Smyth, Jr. 1990
Dendragapus obscurus	Blue grouse	Galliformes	Albino	Braun et al. 1973
Gallus domesticus	Chicken	Galliformes	Albino	Ring and Smyth, Jr. 1990
Lagopus lagopus	Red grouse	Galliformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Meleagris gallopavo	Turkey	Galliformes	Leucistic	Ross 1963
Pavo cristatus	Peacock	Galliformes	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Pediocetes phasianellus	Sharp-tailed grouse	Galliformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Perdix perdix	Partridge	Galliformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Phasianus colchicus	Ring-necked pheasant	Galliformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Tympanuchus cupido	Greater prairie chicken	Galliformes	Partial	Ross 1963

Gavia immer	Common loon	Gaviiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Gavia stellata	Red-throated loon	Gaviiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Grus canadensis	Sandhill crane	Gruiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Grus grus	Common crane	Gruiformes	Leucistic	Munoz-Pulido et al. 1989
Fulica sp.	Coot	Gruiformes	Albino	Parasharya et al. 1996
Fulica americana	Coot	Gruiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Porzana carolina	Sora	Gruiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Rallus longirostris	Clapper rail	Gruiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Notorynchus cepedianus	Broadnose sevengill shark	Hexanchiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Sylvilagus floridanus	Cottontail rabbit	Lagomorpha	Albino	Rose 1973
Cetorhinus maximus	Basking shark	Lamniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Carcharodon carcharias	Great white shark	Lamniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Lamna nasus	Porbeagle	Lamniformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Dasyatis americana	Southern stingray	Myliobatiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Dasyatis pastinaca	Common stingray	Myliobatiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Manta birostris	Manta ray	Myliobatiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Myliobatis californica	Bat ray	Myliobatiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Rhinoptera bonasus	Cownose ray	Myliobatiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Nebrius ferrugineus	Nurse shark	Orectolobiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Chiloscyllium plagiosum	Bamboo shark	Orectolobiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Orectolobus japonicus	Wobbegong	Orectolobiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Stegostoma fasciatum	Zebra shark	Orectolobiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Acrocephalus aequinoctialis	Bokikokiko	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978
Acrocephalus arubdinaceus	Great reed warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Bensch et al. 2000
Acrocephalus arundinaceus	Great reed warbler	Passeriformes	Albino	Adam 1989
Acrocephalus atyphus	Tuamotu reed-warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978
Acrocephalus eremus	Makatea Island warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978
Acrocephalus palmarum	Anaa Island warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978

Acrocephalus percernis	Northern Marquesan reed warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978
Acrocephalus ravus	Hao Island warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978
Acrocephalus rimitarae	Rimatara reed-warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978
Acrocephalus taiti	Henderson reed warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978
Acrocephalus vaughani	Pitcairn reed-warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Holyoak 1978
Eremophila alpestris	Horned lark	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Bombycilla cedrorum	Cedar waxwing	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Bombycilla garrulus	Bohemian waxwing	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Bombycilla garrulus	Bohemian waxwing	Passeriformes	Partial	Lind 2003
Plectrophenax nivalis	Snow bunting	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Cardinalis cardinalis	Northern cardinal	Passeriformes	Albino	Brammer 1997
Passerina cyanea	Indigo bunting	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Pheucticus ludovicianus	Rose breasted grosbeak	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Piranga olivacea	Scarlet tanager	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Piranga rubra	Summer tanager	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Pyrrhuloxia sinuata	Pyrrhuloxia	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Richmondena cardinalis	Cardinal	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Aphelocoma coerulescens	Scrub jay	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Corvus brachyrhynchos	Common crow	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Corvus corax	Common raven	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Corvus corone cornix	Crow	Passeriformes	Partial	Slagsvold et al. 1987
Corvus corone orientalis	Carrion crow	Passeriformes	Partial	Kuro-o and Katakura 2003
Corvus frugilegus	Rook	Passeriformes	Albino	Roberts 1933
Corvus monedula	Jackdaw	Passeriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Corvus ossifragus	Fish crow	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Corvus varius	Raven	Passeriformes	Partial	Sage 1962
Cyanocitta cristata	Blue jay	Passeriformes	Albino	Laskey 1973

Cyanocitta cristata	Blue jay	Passeriformes	Albino	Hollis 1997
Cyanocitta stelleri	Stellar's jay	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Garrulus glandarius	Eurasian Jay	Passeriformes	Albino	Reinsch 1983
Nucifraga columbiana	Clark's nutcracker	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Perisoreus canadensis	Gray jay	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Pica pica	Black-billed magpie	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Ammospiza caudacuta	Shar- tailed sparrow	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Ammospiza maritima	Seaside sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Amphispiza bilineata	Blac- throated sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Calamospiza melanocorys	Lark bunting	Passeriformes	Albino	Rigli 1993
Calamospiza melanocorys	Lark bunting	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Emberiza calandra	Corn bunting	Passeriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Junco hyemalis	Gray-headed junco	Passeriformes	Partial	Lloyd 2004
Junco hyemalis	Dark-eyed junco	Passeriformes	Partial	Dowlan 2000
Junco hyemalis	Slate-colored junco	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Junco oreganus	Oregon junco	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Melospiza georgiana	Swamp sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Melospiza melodia	Song sparrow	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Passerculus sancwichensis	Savannah sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Passerella iliaca	Fox sparrow	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Pipilo erythropthalmus	Rufous-sided towhee	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Piplilo fuscus	Brown towhee	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Pooecetes gramineus	Vesper sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Spizella arborea	Tree sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Spizella passerina	Chipping sparrow	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Spizella pusilla	Field sparrow	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Zonotrichia albicollis	White-throated sparrow	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Zonotrichia atricapilla	Golden-crowned sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963

Zonotrichia leucophrys	White-crowned sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Neochmia ruficauda	Star finch	Passeriformes	Leucistic	Collins and Jessop 1997
Taeniopygia guttata	Zebra finch	Passeriformes	Leucistic	Reed 1991
Acanthis flammea	Common redpoll	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Carduelis cannabina	Linnet	Passeriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Carduelis tristis	Goldfinch	Passeriformes	Partial	Sage 1962
Carpodacus cassinii	Cassin's finch	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Carpodacus maxicanus	House finch	Passeriformes	Albino	Plooster 1997
Carpodacus mexicanus	House finch	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Carpodacus purpureus	Purple finch	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Chloris chloris	Greenfinch	Passeriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Fringilla coelebs	Chaffinch	Passeriformes	Leucistic	Guillet 2005
Hesperiphona vespertina	Evening grosbeak	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Leucosricte tephrocotis	Gray-crowned rosy finch	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Loxia curvirostra	Red crossbill	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Pinicola enucleator	Pine grosbeak	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Spinus pinus	Pine siskin	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Spinus tristis	American goldfinch	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Hirundine	Swallow	Passeriformes	Albino	Remy Malher 2003
Hirundo rustica	Barn swallow	Passeriformes	Albino	Whitford 1995
Iridoprocne bicolor	Tree swallow	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	Cliff swallow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Progne subis	Purple martin	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Riparia riparia	Bank swallow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Stelgidopteryx ruficollis	Rough-winged swallow	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Tachycineta bicolor	Tree swallow	Passeriformes	Albino	Lederle et al. 1988
Tachycineta thalassina	Violet-green swallow	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Agelaius phoeniceus	Redwing blackbird	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965

Cassidix mexicanus	Boat-tailed gracke	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Dolichonyx orizivorus	Bobolink	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Euphagus carolinensis	Rusty blackbird	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Euphagus cyanocephalus	Brewer's blackbird	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Euphagus cyanocephalus	Brewer's blackbird	Passeriformes	Partial	Sage 1962
Icterus cucullatus	Hooded oriole	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Icterus galbula	Baltimore oriole	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Molothrus ater	Brown headed cowbird	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Quiscalus quiscula	Common grackle	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Sturnella magna	Eastern meadowlark	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Sturnella neglecta	Western meadowlark	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus	Yellow headed blackbird	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Lanius excubitor	Great Grey shrike	Passeriformes	Albino	Sudbeck 1990
Lanius ludovicianus	Loggerhead shrike	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Lanius schach	Long-tailed shrike	Passeriformes	Partial	Watson and Watson 1983
Dumetella carolinensis	Catbird	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Mimus polyglottos	Mockingbird	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Toxostoma rufum	Brown thrasher	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Anthus novaseelandiae	Richard's pipet	Passeriformes	Albino	Tree 1965
Anthus pratensis	Meadow pipit	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Anthus spinoletta	Water pipit	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Motacilla aguimp	Pied wagtail	Passeriformes	Partial	Tree 1965
Motacilla flava	Yellow wagtail	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Erythropygia coryphaeus	Karoo robin	Passeriformes	Albino	Anderson 1998
Ficedula albicollis	Collared flycatcher	Passeriformes	Leucistic	Bures et al. 1995
Muscicapa striata	Spotted flycatcher	Passeriformes	Albino	Bezzi et al. 1988
Oenanthe bifasciata	Buff-streaked chat	Passeriformes	Albino	Cooper 1969
Oenanthe oenanthe	Wheatear	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963

Saxicola rubicola	Stonechat	Passeriformes	Albino	Little 1984
Cyanistes caeruleus	Blue tit	Passeriformes	Partial	Sage 1962
Parus atricapillus	Black-capped chickadee	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Parus atricristatus	Black-crested titmouse	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Parus bicolor	Tufted titmouse	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Parus major	Great tit	Passeriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Poecile atricapillus	Black-capped chickadee	Passeriformes	Partial	Breckenridge 1989
Dendroica auduboni	Audubon's warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Dendroica castanea	Bay-breasted warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Dendroica coronata	Myrtle warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Dendroica palmarum	Palm warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Dendroica striata	Blackpoll warbler	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Geothlypis trischas	Yellowthroat	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Icteria virens	Yellow-breasted chat	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Parula americana	Parula warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Protonotaria citrea	Prothonotary warbler	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Setophaga ruticilla	American redstart	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Passer domesticus	English sparrow	Passeriformes	Albino	O'Gara 1915
Passer melanurus	Cape sparrow	Passeriformes	Partial	Du Toit 1969
Phylloscopus collybita	Northern chiffchaff	Passeriformes	Leucistic	Gutieerez 2000
Quela erythrops	Red-headed quelea	Passeriformes	Partial	Tree 1965
Quelea quelea	Red-billed quelea	Passeriformes	Partial	Tree 1965
Prunella modularis	Dunnock	Passeriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Pycnonotus barbatus	Black-eyed bulbul	Passeriformes	Albino	Marshall 1968
Pycnonotus cafer	Red-vented bulbul	Passeriformes	Albino	Joshua 1996
Pycnonotus cafer	Cape bubul	Passeriformes	Leucistic	Gray 1998
Pycnonotus capensis	Cape bubul	Passeriformes	Albino	Gray 1999
Pycnonotus sp.	Black-eyed bulbul	Passeriformes	Albino	Maberly 1970

Regulus satrapa	Golden-crowned kinglet	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Sitta carolinensis	White-breasted nuthatch	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Lamprotornis australis	Burchell's glossy starling	Passeriformes	Partial	Brown and Brown 1985
Spreo bicolor	Pied starling	Passeriformes	Albino	Van Niekerk 1996
Sturnus vulgaris	Common starlings	Passeriformes	Albino	Garner 1997
Sturnus vulgaris	Starling	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Turdoides malcolmi	Large grey babbler	Passeriformes	Albino	Sharma 2003
Telmatodytes palustris	Long-billed marsh wren	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Thryothorus ludovicianus	Carolina wren	Passeriformes	Leucistic	Seneca 1985
Troglodytes aedon	House wren	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Troglodytes ludovicianus	Carolina wren	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Hylochchla fuscescens	Veery	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Hylocichla guttata	Hermit thrush	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Hylocichla mustelina	Wood thrush	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Hylocichla ustulata	Swainsons thrush	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Ixoreus naevius	Varied thrush	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Myadestes townsendii	Townsend's solitaire	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Sialia sialis	Eastern bluebird	Passeriformes	Albino	Green 1997
Sialia sialis	Eastern bluebird	Passeriformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Turdus merula	Blackbird	Passeriformes	Partial	Brahier 2001
Turdus mugratorius	American robin	Passeriformes	Albino	Johnson and Johnson 1997
Turdus mugratorius	American robin	Passeriformes	Albino	Hendricks 1970
Turdus philomelos	Song thrush	Passeriformes	Albino	Sage 1963
Contopus sordidulus	Western wood pewee	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Contopus virens	Eastern wood pewee	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Muscivora forficata	Scissor-tailed flycatcher	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Sayornis nigricans	Black phoebe	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Tyrannus tyrannus	Eastern kingbird	Passeriformes	Albino	Ross 1963

Tyrannus verticalis	Western kingbird	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Vireo flavifrons	Yellow-throated vireo	Passeriformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Ardea cinerea	Common heron	Pelecaniformes	Albino	Pajusalu 1982
Ardea herodias	Great blue heron	Pelecaniformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Botaurus lentiginosus	American bittern	Pelecaniformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Fregata minor	Great frigatebird	Pelecaniformes	Albino	Schreiber et al. 2006
Fregata minor	Great frigatebird	Pelecaniformes	Leucistic	Rauzon 1985
Phalacrocoras pelagicus	Pelagic cormorant	Pelecaniformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Phalacrocorax auritus	Double-crested cormorant	Pelecaniformes	Leucistic	Bardon 1997
Phalacrocorax auritus	Double-crested cormorant	Pelecaniformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Phalacrocorax neglectus	Bank cormorant	Pelecaniformes	Leucistic	Gray 1998
Sula sp.	Booby	Pelecaniformes	Partial	Castillo-Guerrero et al. 2005
Echymipera kalubu	Bandicoot	Peramelemorphia	Partial	Phillips and Wilson 1965
Tapirus terrestris	South American tapir	Perissodactyla	Albino	Lindberg 1984
Tapirus terrestris	American tapir	Perissodactyla	Albino	Smielowski 1987
Centurus carolinensis	Red-bellied woodpecker	Piciformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Centurus uropygialis	Gila woodpecker	Piciformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Colaptes aurates	Yellow-shafted flicker	Piciformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Colaptes ausatus	Yellow-shafted flicker	Piciformes	Albino	Gross 1965
Dendrocopos major	Great spotted woodpecker	Piciformes	Leucistic	Olszewski 2007
Dendrocopos nuttallii	Nuttalli's woodpecker	Piciformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Dendrocopos pubescens	Downy woodpecker	Piciformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Dendrocopos villosus	Hairy woodpecker	Piciformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Dryocopus pileatus	Pileated woodpecker	Piciformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Melanerpes erythrocepalus	Red-headed woodpecker	Piciformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Melanerpes erythrocephlus	Red-Headed woodpecker	Piciformes	Partial	Rogers et al. 1979
Melanerpes formiscivorus	Acorn woodpecker	Piciformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Aechmophorus occidentalis	Western grebe	Podicipediformes	Albino	Weller 1959

Podiceps auritus	Horned grebe	Podicipediformes	Partial	Weller 1959
Podiceps caspicus	Eared grebe	Podicipediformes	Partial	Weller 1959
Podiceps cristatus	Great crested grebe	Podicipediformes	Partial	Weller 1959
Podiceps grisegena	Red-necked grebe	Podicipediformes	Albino	Weller 1959
Podiceps grisegena	Red-necked grebe	Podicipediformes	Partial	Weller 1959
Podiceps nigricollis	Eared grebe	Podicipediformes	Leucistic	Jehl 2007
Podiceps nigricollis	Eared grebe	Podicipediformes	Leucistic	Jehl 1985
Podilymbus podiceps	Pied-billed grebe	Podicipediformes	Albino	Weller 1959
Macaca mulatta	Rhesus macaque	Primates	Albino	Singh Mohnot 2009
Troglodytes gorilla	Gorilla	Primates	Leucistic	Weird Science 2008
Elephas sp.	Elephant	Proboscidea	Albino	Holden 2004
Hydrobates pelagicus	Storm petrel	Procellariiformes	Partial	Roberts 1978
Hydrobates pelagicus	European storm-petrel	Procellariiformes	Partial	Arbona et al. 1996
<i>Hydrobatidae</i> sp.	Storm petrel	Procellariiformes	Partial	Sultana 1991
Bulweria bulwerii	Bulwer's petrel	Procellariiformes	Partial	Moore 1990
Calonectris diomedea	Cory's shearwater	Procellariiformes	Partial	Ristow and Witte 2004
Macronectes giganteus	Giant fulmar	Procellariiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Puffinus griseus	Sooty shearwater	Procellariiformes	Partial	Ross 1963
Puffinus opisthomelas	Black-vented shearwater	Procellariiformes	Leucistic	Garrett 1990
Puffinus puffinus	Manx shearwater	Procellariiformes	Partial	Elkins and Flumm 1990
Conuropsis carolinensis	Carolina parakeet	Psittaciformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Okamejei kenojei	Skate	Rajiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Raja batis	Skate	Rajiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Raja clavata	Thornback ray	Rajiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Raja naevus	Cuckoo ray	Rajiformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Castor canadensis	Beaver	Rodentia	Partial	Lovallo and Suzuki 1993
Clethrionomys gapperi	Red-backed vole	Rodentia	Partial	Bowman and Curran 2000
Micritus pinetorum	Vole	Rodentia	Albino	Peles et al. 1995

Microtus montanus	Montane vole	Rodentia	Albino	Peles et al. 1995
Microtus ochrogaster	Vole	Rodentia	Albino	Peles et al. 1995
Microtus pennsylvanicus	Meadow vole	Rodentia	Partial	Parsons and Bondrup-Nielsen 1995
Mictorus pennsylvanicus	Meadow vole	Rodentia	Albino	Peles et al. 1995
Mictorus pennsylvanicus	Meadow vole	Rodentia	Albino	Brewer et al. 1993
Myodes rutilus	Northern red-backed vole	Rodentia	Albino	Whitman 2009
Ondatra zibethicus	Muskrat	Rodentia	Albino	Benton 1953
Reithrodontomys megalotis	Western harvest mouse	Rodentia	Albino	Egoscue 1958
Perognathus baileyi	Bailey's pocket mouse	Rodentia	Albino	Egoscue and Lewis 1968
Perognathus formosus	Long-tailed pocket mouse	Rodentia	Leucistic	Egoscue and Lewis 1968
Mus musculus	House mouse	Rodentia	Albino	Winston and Lindzey 1964
Otomys tropicalis	Tropical rat	Rodentia	Albino	Pirlot 1958
Rattus rattus	Barn rat	Rodentia	Albino	El-Bakry 2010
Ammospermophilus harrisii	Harris ground squirrel	Rodentia	Albino	Neal 1964
Citellus tereticaudus	Round-tailed ground squirrel	Rodentia	Albino	Turkowski and Parker 1967
Funambulus pennanti	Five-striped palm squirrel	Rodentia	Albino	Mahabal et al. 2005
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey squirrel	Rodentia	Albino	Esteve and Jeffery 1997
Sciurus vulgaris	Red squirrel	Rodentia	Partial	Hoekstra 2004
Tamias striatus	Chipmunk	Rodentia	Albino	Guiles 1997
Tamias striatus	Chipmunk	Rodentia	Partial	Guiles 1997
Blarina brevicauda	Northern short-tailed shrew	Soricomorpha	Partial	Moncrief and Anderson 1997
Sorex araneus	Common shrew	Soricomorpha	Partial	Gelling 2003
Sorex cinereus	Masked shrew	Soricomorpha	Partial	Long and Gehring 1995
Aptenodytes patagonicus	King penguin	Sphenisciformes	Albino	Voisin et al. 2002
Aptenodytes patagonicus	King penguin	Sphenisciformes	Leucistic	Forrest and Naveen 2000
Eudyptes schlegeli	Royal penguin	Sphenisciformes	Leucistic	Forrest and Naveen 2000
Pygocelid adeliae	Adelie penguin	Sphenisciformes	Leucistic	Forrest and Naveen 2000

Pygocelid antarcticus	Chinstrap penguin	Sphenisciformes	Leucistic	Forrest and Naveen 2000
Pygocelid papua	Gentoo penguin	Sphenisciformes	Leucistic	Forrest and Naveen 2000
Squalus acanthias	Spiny dogfish	Squaliformes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Achalinus spinalis	Odd-scaled snake	Squamata	Albino	Arao and Ishida 2005
Diadophis punctatus	Northern ringneck snake	Squamata	Leucistic	Gilhen 1999
Elaphe obsoleta	Rat snake	Squamata	Albino	Bechtel and Bechtel 1981
Heterodon nasicus	Western hognose snake	Squamata	Albino	Bumgardner 2010
Lampropeltis calligaster	Prairie kingsnake	Squamata	Leucistic	Pisani 2003
Lampropeltis holbrooki	Speckled kingsnake	Squamata	Albino	Applegate 1987
Lampropeltis triangulum	Coastal plains milk snake	Squamata	Partial	Harris 2006
Natrix maura	Water snake	Squamata	Albino	Perez 1975
Natrix natrix	Grass snake	Squamata	Albino	Baker 2003
Storeria occipitomaculata	Red-bellied snake	Squamata	Partial	Watkins-Colwell 2002
Tantilla hobartsmithi	Southwest black-headed	Squamata	Albino	Painter et al. 1997
	snake			
Tantilla nigriceps	Plains black-headed snake	Squamata	Albino	Painter et al. 1997
Thamnophis sauritus	Ribbon snake	Squamata	Albino	Rose 1959
Thamnophis sitralis	Garter snake	Squamata	Albino	Coad et al. 1989
Thamnophis sitralis	Garter snake	Squamata	Albino	Smith and Kyle 1992
Hemachatus hemachatus	Rinkhals	Squamata	Leucistic	Schmidt 1999
Liasis olivaceus	Olive python	Squamata	Albino	Bedford 1993
Crotalus viridis	Prairie rattlesnake	Squamata	Albino	Chace and Smith 1968
Crotalus horridus	Timber rattlesnake	Squamata	Partial	Smith and Scott 1990
Viperinae sp.	Viper	Squamata	All types	Krecsak 2008
Aegolius funereus	Tengmalm's owl	Strigiformes	Partial	Sorbi 1996
Asio flammeus	Short-eared owl	Strigiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Bubo virginianus	Great horned owl	Strigiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Megascops asio	Eastern screech owl	Strigiformes	Albino	Holt et al. 1995

Strix nebulosa	Great grey owl	Strigiformes	Albino	Hertzel 2006
Strix nebulosa	Great grey owl	Strigiformes	Partial	Alaja and Mikkola 1997
Strix nebulosa	Great grey owl	Strigiformes	Leucistic	Lehto and Henry 1995
Strix varia	Barred owl	Strigiformes	Leucistic	Grosshuesch 2006
Strix varia	Barred owl	Strigiformes	Albino	Ross 1963
Struthio camelus	Ostrich	Struthioniformes	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Chelydra serpentina	Snapping turtle	Testudines	Albino	Williams and Arnold 1992
Chelydra serpentina	Snapping turtle	Testudines	Albino	Saumure and Rodriguez 1998
Chrysemys picta	Painted turtle	Testudines	Albino	Norden 1996
Trachemys scripta	Red earred slider	Testudines	Albino	Weird Science 2008
Lissemys punctata	Spitted flap-shell turtle	Testudines	Albino	Hossain and Sarker 1999
Narcine entemedor	Electric ray	Torpedinifor mes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Torpedo torpedo	Common torpedo	Torpedinifor mes	Albino	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006
Narcine entemedor	Giant electric ray	Torpeninifor mes	Partial	Sandoval-Castillo et al. 2006

APPENDIX II

## COMPILATION OF NORTH AMERICAN ALBINO BIRD SPECIES BY FAMILY (GROSS 1965)

Family	# of	# of Individuals	Family	# of	# of Individuals
01	Species	<i>r</i>	C 1	Species	0
Gaviidae	2	5	Strigidae	5	9
Podicipedidae	5	11	Caprimulgidae	2	5
Procellariidae	3	7	Apodidae	1	6
Sulidae	1	1	Trochilidae	4	16
Phalacrocoracidae	2	4	Trogonidae	1	1
Ardeidae	6	12	Alcedinidae	1	3
Threskiornithidae	2	5	Picidae	10	48
Anatidae	35	155	Tyrannidae	11	30
Cathartidae	2	12	Alaudidae	2	5
Accipitridae	10	48	Hirundinidae	8	67
Falconidae	4	5	Corvidae	11	116
Tetraonidae	6	32	Paridae	3	16
Phasianidae	8	99	Sittidae	2	6
Meleagrididae	1	8	Troglodytidae	3	6
Gruidae	1	2	Mimidae	4	73
Rallidae	5	19	Turdidae	14	214
Haematopodidae	1	1	Sylviidae	1	6
Charadriidae	2	4	Motacillidae	3	9
Scolopacidae	17	39	Bombcyllidae	2	8
Recurvirostridae	2	2	Laniidae	1	1
Phalaropodidae	1	1	Sturnidae	1	12
Stercorariidae	1	3	Vireonidae	1	1
Laridae	10	33	Parulidae	11	31
Alcidae	7	27	Ploceidae	2	109
Columbidae	2	5	Icteridae	16	188
Psittacidae	1	1	Thraupidae	2	15
Cuculidae	3	9	Fringillidae	42	296

APPENDIX III

## COMPILATION OF BRITISH ALBINO BIRD SPECIES BY FAMILY (SAGE 1963)

Family	# of Species	# of Individuals	Family	# of Species	# of Individuals
Colymbidae	1	1	Caprimulgidae	1	10
Podicipidae	2	6	Apodidae	1	15
Procellariidae	1	6	Picidae	4	4
Sulidae	1	1	Alaudidae	3	64
Phalacrocoracidae	2	11	Hirundinidae	3	233
Ardeidae	2	10	Corvidae	6	356
Anatidae	16	69	Paridae	5	14
Falconidae	9	38	Sittidae	1	1
Tetraonidae	3	23	Certhiidae	1	1
Phasianidae	2	97	Troglodytidae	1	12
Rallidae	4	70	Cinclidae	1	2
Haematopodidae	1	38	Turdidae	12	902
Charadriidae	5	96	Sylviidae	7	28
Scolopackidae	14	137	Regulidae	1	2
Burhinidae	1	1	Muscicapidae	1	9
Stercorariidae	1	1	Prunellidae	1	65
Laridae	11	34	Montacillidae	5	51
Alceidae	3	19	Laniidae	2	4
Columbidae	4	40	Sturnidae	1	216
Cuculidae	1	5	Fringillidae	15	203
Strigidae	3	6	Passeridae	2	233

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