

From: Birds Queensland Rarities Appraisal Committee (BQ RAC)

Date: 02 February 2016

Submission No 179: Common Greenfinch, Submitted by Elliot Leach.

This submission related to a single Common Greenfinch, *Chloris chloris*, observed at Sandy Camp Wetlands, Wynnum North, Brisbane on the 17 May 2015. The submission was supported by a number of photographs and a detailed description of the juvenile Greenfinch. There was unanimous agreement between the committee members that the bird observed was a Common Greenfinch and that other potential similar species had been considered and reasonably discounted by the observed.

The main issue with this record that that needed to be resolved was that whether the bird in question was free-living or of captive origin. The observer notes that because the individual lacked any adult plumage a determination about which subspecies could not be determined. As a result, it was not possible to draw any definite conclusion about the origin of the bird (i.e. whether it came from southern mainland Australia, New Zealand or elsewhere). Nevertheless, the information provided that several Common Greenfinches were seen on Lord Howe Island just two weeks prior to the present record points to this being a likely source of this vagrant individual

Unanimously accepted

References

Higgins, P.J., Peter, J.M. and Cowling, S.J. (Eds.) 2006. *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds. Volume 7: Boatbill to Starlings*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Pizzey, G. and Knight, F. 1997. *The Field Guide to the Birds of Australia*. Harper Collins Publishers, Sydney.