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"The Season" section of *The Loon* publishes reports of bird sightings throughout Minnesota. We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To become a contributor to "The Season," request the report forms from the **EDITOR OF "THE SEASON,"** Kim Eckert, 9735 North Shore Drive, Duluth, Minnesota 55804 (phone 218-525-8930).

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Mysterious Hybrid Warbler at Afton State Park

Steve Millard

On June 8, 1983, Liz Campbell, my wife Diane, and I were birding at Afton State Park, Washington Co. We were there to look for an unusual warbler that Bill Litkey had first seen on July 4. We arrived about 9:15 A.M. and heard the bird singing as soon as we got out of the car. The song was similar to the second or fourth song on the Peterson record for the Kentucky Warbler. It is well known that phonetic interpretation of bird song is difficult. I have written it as clee-up, clee-up, etc. This two-syllabled note, repeated five times in a space of 1½-2 seconds, comprised the song. Counts of songs per minute were not made, but averaged six to eight at least. Bill initially thought the bird could be a Kentucky, but after thorough study he decided he didn't know what it was. We weren't so sure, either. A short walk brought us to a clearing, where we located the bird without much searching. It had several favorite singing perches, fifteen to thirty feet high. These were mainly exposed, dead limbs, which made observation easy. It sometimes remained on the same perch for several minutes, giving me time to set up the Bushnell 20-45 power scope for excellent viewing. Most warblers aren't so cooperative. Distances of observation ranged from forty to eighty feet, affording very good viewing in both sunlight and cloud shadow. The temperature was in the low-mid 70's, mostly sunny and light winds.

After studying the bird for awhile, we came to the conclusion that it was a hybrid male warbler. I believe it was a hybrid of two species within the *Oporornis* genus. Its habit of singing from relatively high, exposed perches runs counter to what I've come to expect from this genus, but the appearance fits the *Oporornis* genus very well. The bird was a stout, thick-bodied warbler, large and rather sluggish, reminding me of a Connecticut or Mourning in size and shape. The bill was proportioned

as in the above species, the lower mandible salmon-pink, the upper mandible dark (possibly with lighter-colored edges). The loreal area was black, forming a miniature "mask" that ran from the base of the upper mandible to the front of each eye. This mask connected over the bill, as in a Loggerhead Shrike. This dark area was not so well delineated that it appeared sharply different from the rest of the head color, but it was prominent and readily seen, especially with the scope. Peterson's illustration of the adult male Mourning Warbler (Eastern, p. 245) shows a mask very similar to the one described above. A fairly prominent, broken, whitish or off-white eye-ring was noted. Again, see Peterson (the immature bird this time). The gap at the rear of the eye seemed narrower, however; almost connected. The remainder of head above the level of the eye was a medium-dark olive or olive-gray, lightening somewhat at the nape. The back, rump, wings, and upper tail coverts were a uniform dull olive-brown or olive-gray. In good sunlight, when the bird had its back to me, I noticed a plain brown upper tail surface that was duller than the olive-brown of the upper tail coverts. No tail wagging was noted.

From the eye, extending down the side of the neck to the upper breast and coming to a point where it joined a faint necklace, was a faint, smudgy triangle. This triangle was seen periodically when the bird presented itself in such a way that allowed this indistinct patch to show; at other times it was difficult to detect. The color of this area seemed olive or gray. A faint necklace separated the throat and breast. It was gray or grayish-black, thin, and appeared incomplete in the center. The necklace was easily seen at close range. The chin and upper throat was a light yellowish-white. This was best seen when the warbler threw back its head to sing. The

Dark "mask", broken eye-ring.

Smudgy triangle below eye joining a faint necklace.

Chin & upper throat light yellowish-white; remainder of underparts uniform yellow.

Upperparts uniform olive-gray or olive-brown, head slightly darker.

Heavy, sluggish warbler



Large, pink legs/feet

Hybrid Warbler, Afton State Park, June 8, 1983.

entire remaining ventral area, from throat to the end of the undertail coverts, was a uniform yellow, except for some slight smudging on the sides. The undertail coverts extended two-thirds to three-fourths the length of the tail. The feet and legs were flesh-colored and large for a warbler.

The bird's territory was perhaps 300 yards or more wide. We were in the area until 11:00 A.M., and it was still singing when we left. It sang quite consistently during our stay, with a few brief pauses of several minutes.

In summary, the plumage, large size, song, and the habitat (mature deciduous woodland with quite heavy understory and some low, swampy ground), it appears that this male warbler was most likely a Kentucky/Mourning hybrid. The head, neck, throat, and breast, especially, combine elements from both species. Twenty years ago in *The Loon* (Sept. 1964), David Pearson had an interesting Kentucky Warbler report. The bird he observed exhibited many characteristics similar to the one we saw.
630 W. Laurel, Fergus Fall, MN 56537

Pennsylvania. Here are Mr. Parkes comments in a letter sent to Dr. Tordloff dated January 1985.

"Although the observations of Mr. Millard and his party were excellently detailed for this sort of thing, you can well understand my reluctance to make any sort of definitive identification from a field observation of a potential hybrid, especially one that has not previously been reported from a specimen.

Mr. Millard's hypothesis of Mourning X Kentucky appears to be as likely as any I can think of, but this is not to be considered as an endorsement. As he points out himself, a series of high song perches is rather unusual for any member of *Oporornis*. I have recently closely examined a specimen at Yale, which Tony Bledsoe is writing up for publication, that in some respects resembles the bird from Minnesota; the Yale specimen has been identified, quite correctly in my opinion, as a Mourning Warbler X Common Yellowthroat. I don't know how much importance to place on this resemblance, however, as the Yale hybrid was a fall migrant immature bird (first basic plumage), and the Minnesota bird was a singing June bird, presumably in an alternate plumage. Nevertheless, there are some rather strong resemblances between Mr. Millard's description and the Yale specimen, enough so that such a

EDITORS NOTE: After receiving the above information from Steve I submitted it to Dr. Harrison Tordoff of the Bell Museum. He suggested that we send all of the data to Ken Parkes of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh,

parentage could not be ruled out completely.

One of the tricky things about warbler hybrids is that there are sometimes character states in the hybrid that do not appear in either of the parent species. One of the reasons that some naturalists refused for a long time to believe that "Brewster's" Warbler was a hybrid Blue-winged X Golden-winged was that it has a white throat, whereas the throat is yellow in the Blue-winged and black (gray in females) in the Golden-winged. Oddly enough, in the first draft of Tony Bledsoe's manuscript, he made the same statement about the Yale hybrid, which has a mostly white throat, whereas in fall male yellowthroats the throat is, of course yellow, and in Mourning Warblers, depending on how "macho" a given immature male is, anything from pale yellow to gray. Actually the inheritance is rather interesting, as in the case of "Brewster's" Warbler the hybrid inherits lack-of-yellow-on-underparts from the Golden-wing, and lack-of-black-throat-patch from the Blue-wing. The same thing seems to have happened with the Yale hybrid, which has inherited the lack-of-true yellow on the throat from the Mourning, and lack-of-bib from the yellowthroat. The point is that hybrid warblers are not always either intermediate between the phenotypes of the parents in some character, or like one of the other in the character, but may have a genotype that produces a phenotype unlike either parent.

There is a Mourning Warbler X Canada Warbler hybrid in the USNM, a winter bird collected in Colombia and first identified by Wetmore as a Mourning. It appears to have been an adult female. It shows an indistinct necklace, but quite different from that described and drawn by

Mr. Millard; farther caudad (farther back), for one thing, and composed of a series of short lines as in the Canada. It is prominent enough in this female so that I would expect a male of this hybrid combination to have a much more prominent necklace. The throat is pure white and there is a prominent, complete white eye-ring. Other than the eye-ring, there is no face pattern at all, although a male of this combination **might** show traces of the Canada's black face markings in just such a manner as Mr. Millard describes. Thus I don't think Mourning X Canada can be ruled out completely. Incidentally, although I don't have the USNM specimen before me, I do have an absolutely magnificent painting of it (+ a hybrid "Audubon's" X Grace's Warbler) that John Janosik did for me for the hybrid warbler paper I expect eventually to submit to AMERICAN BIRDS.

I agree that one parent, at least, just about had to be an *Oporornis*, but I'm just not prepared to stick my neck out beyond that. It is possible that the *Oporornis* parent might have been a Kentucky, with the other parent something plain enough to have suppressed most of the Kentucky face pattern.

This was an intriguing bird, but I don't think a definite parentage can be or should be assigned to it in the absence of either a specimen or detailed photographs and measurements of a mist-netted bird (the Mourning X Canada hybrid even has intermediate length rictal bristles!).

Thanks to you and to the other people involved for letting me see this.

Best regards,
Kenneth C. Parkes
Chief Curator, Life Sciences
and Curator of Birds

Summer Distribution of Whip-poor-wills in Minnesota

Steven G. Wilson

The Whip-poor-will is one of Minnesota's more enigmatic summer residents. Its loud rolling song may be recognizable to more people — birders and non-birders alike — than nearly any other bird, yet it is probably one of our least seen summer residents. Though the Whip-poor-will is widely distributed throughout the wooded portions of the state in association with just about any of the major upland forest types, it occurs only locally, failing to occupy most forested habitats. How does the Whip-poor-will select its summer habitat? Why is it so localized within its range? Last summer I had the opportunity to document the habitat selected by a family group of this often heard, but seldom seen species and was afforded a chance to perhaps unearth some clues pertaining to the puzzling distribution of the Whip-poor-will in Minnesota.

On July 26, 1984 Roger Peterson discovered an adult female Whip-poor-will and two recently hatched chicks in Lake County along FR 373 1/3 mile south of Tomahawk Trail (FR 377) (T61N, R8W, sec. 19) in an area where Whip-poor-wills regularly occur. The next day I located and photographed the family group at the exact spot Roger described (see front cover and photo in this article). They were in a narrow strip of medium-dense green alder bordering a two-acre grass and forb opening surrounded by a 30 year old jack pine stand. Soils in the area are generally dry, shallow gravelly sands occasionally yielding to exposed bedrock. When last seen on August 2 the Whip-poor-wills had moved just 50 feet. This represents the fourth county in the state in which breeding has been documented since 1970, and the first documented breeding ever in the northeastern region.

What sort of habitat features might this site have in common with some of Minnesota's other Whip-poor-will summer hangouts — the hardwood river valleys of the SE, oak-pine forests of the Anoka Sand Plain, an abandoned mine overburden

dump site on the outskirts of Crosby/Ironton, aspen woodlands of the NW, or the rugged birch and aspen hill along the Baptism River above Lake Superior? Apparently not a particular tree species composition, as these sites range from pure deciduous to pure coniferous woods. A review of a dozen or so field guides and bird texts confirms this impression. Typical is the statement from Godfrey's *Birds of Canada*, "Perhaps prefers mixed wood or deciduous types, but open coniferous woods sometimes harbour good numbers, too." The common thread that did emerge in most descriptions, however, was the Whip-poor-wills seem to prefer open woods or woods adjacent to openings.

That the Whip-poor-will may be selecting for forested habitats according to their degree of openness makes sense in light of certain structural and behavioral characteristics it possesses. The bird's relatively large size and crepuscular/nocturnal habit probably preclude the Whip-poor-will from utilizing woods with dense understory or shrub layers for foraging by its favored methods of catching insects on the wing or flying low over the ground occasionally flopping down to pick up an insect. However, its broad elliptical wings are ideally suited for relatively slow maneuverable flight, enabling the Whip-poor-will to forage on the wing amongst more open woods and shrubby fields. It can keep close to the ground where it won't find itself competing for airspace with its close relative, the Common Nighthawk, also a crepuscular/nocturnal predator on flying insects. The nighthawk's slimmer, pointed "high-speed" wings make it less maneuverable than the Whip-poor-will and better suited as a supracanopy forager in forested areas.

Perhaps the "tie that binds" the seemingly disparate summer sites occupied by the Whip-poor-will in Minnesota is the species' selection for forested habitats with a particular degree of openness. The photographed Whip-poor-wills near the Tomahawk Trail in Lake County were on the



Newly hatched Whip-poor-wills, 27 July 1984, Lake County. Photo by Steve Wilson

edge of a two-acre "wildlife opening" maintained by the US Forest Service, and similarly maintained openings and naturally occurring bedrock openings are scattered throughout this area. The area occupied by the Whip-poor-will population along the Baptism River near Lake Superior consists of heavily wooded ravines and hillsides, but there are considerable areas of barren or sparsely vegetated bedrock on upper slopes and ridgetops. The mine dump sites near Crosby-Ironton are very rocky, infertile man-made hills that sustain only irregular forest growth, leaving many open or sparsely vegetated areas. In those parts of the northcentral and northwestern regions where the Whip-poor-will is well-represented during the summer there is a good interspersed of woodlots and fields. The Anoka Sand Plain has many abandoned grass/shrub fields and its infertile soil often results in open oak woods.

If we accept that Whip-poor-wills are selecting for forested habitats in conjunction with a particular degree of openness near the ground, then there are obviously many areas fitting this generalized description that remain unoccupied by summer Whip-poor-will populations. This question of why Whip-poor-wills are so localized within their range is more difficult to answer.

One possibility might lie in the Whip-poor-will's nest building behavior. Typically they simply lay two eggs on the ground in an open woods or forest edge. This behavior may have been adaptive, i.e., increased reproductive success, in pre-settlement times, but may not have worked well in the post-settlement era. Many woodlots open enough to satisfy the Whip-poor-will's foraging requirements may be that way because of heavy grazing, and therefore not safe for a ground nester.

Another possible explanation for the Whip-poor-will's absence from seemingly suitable habitat is that its preferred prey, large moths, beetles and other insects, are not available in adequate densities. Reasons for this could range from elimina-

tion or reduction of insect populations from pesticide use in agricultural areas to competition with other nocturnal insect predators such as small owls (Eastern Screech, Northern Saw-whet) and bats.

Bats are relatively slow, highly maneuverable flyers capable of feeding in close proximity to vegetative surfaces and the ground, much like Whip-poor-wills. They are voracious consumers of insects, some able to devour up to one-half their body weight of insects in a single hour. Researchers in Ohio found that bats were able to displace Common Nighthawks from preferred feeding sites, even though the bats were smaller than the nighthawks. The same may hold true for the similarly sized Whip-poor-will if it were competing with bats for the same food resource. That they do compete is likely because all seven bat species native to Minnesota frequent the forested regions and at least three, the red bat, big brown bat, and hoary bat, share the Whip-poor-will's selected habitat of woodland edges and open areas with trees. They also prefer the same foods, moths and beetles. The big brown and hoary are Minnesota's largest bats, suggesting they in particular are capable of dominating the Whip-poor-will when competing for the same food resource. Perhaps the Whip-poor-will is limited to only those areas of suitable habitat not occupied by certain bat species, or where prey densities are high enough to sustain bats and birds both.

Of course, a myriad of factors dictate whether a species will successfully live and breed in a given environment. The ideas presented in this article are somewhat speculative in nature, as is necessary when postulating about a species as little studied as the Whip-poor-will. They are intended to encourage interested parties to seek out and contribute observations, or better yet, undertake a full-scale ecological study of this intriguing bird.

DNR Area Wildlife Headquarters, Star Rt. 2, Box 3710, Ely, MN 55731.

First Minnesota Breeding Record of the Hooded Warbler

Bruce A. Fall

On May 27, 1984, while hiking the back trails at Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park (35km south of downtown Minneapolis in western Dakota and eastern Scott Counties), I heard an unfamiliar warbler call note — a sharp, rather loud 'chip' somewhat similar to an American Redstart. I unsuccessfully searched for the bird for a few minutes, but then heard it sing and recognized the song as a Hooded Warbler's. Soon the male came into view, and sang several times from about 10 m from the ground. I watched and listened to him for another 30 minutes, until he ceased singing and disappeared.

I returned to the same area the following day (28 May) with Bonita Eliason and Carol Pearson. We erected a mist-net and lured the male into the net using playback of tape-recorded Hooded Warbler songs, to which he responded aggressively. We then banded and photographed him. Before capturing the male, however, we saw a female, which had apparently also responded to the playback, and which narrowly missed being captured when she flew beneath the net. Later we saw the female gather and fly off with nesting material, but we were unable to follow her through the forest.

Over the next 12 days I visited the male's territory five more times, usually accompanied by other observers. Until the end of May, the male sang repeatedly within an area of about 150 m by 100 m; by early June, his singing had become sporadic and he was heard nearly 100 m both north and south of what I formerly had considered his territorial boundaries. At each visit, we spent from one to two hours in the territory and attempted to find the nest by following the female or by systematically searching likely looking areas. By 9 June we had spent an estimated 15 person-hours unsuccessfully searching for the nest.

On 10 June I returned again, with Carol Pearson and Ellen Lawler. We found the

female after an hour and then we sat quietly, 25 m apart, in the general area that I thought the nest was located. After another hour, the female, which had been softly chipping at us since we found her, dropped quietly down near the ground and disappeared from view. Carol walked over and flushed the female off the nest, which was located only 10 m from where she had been seated. The nest contained four eggs.

I checked the nest daily until 15 June, when it still contained four eggs. On my next visit, 17 June, there were four young, which appeared to have hatched that same day. By backdating from the hatching date, I estimate that the first egg was laid on 2 June, five days after we saw the female carrying nesting material. While incubating or brooding, the female usually permitted very close approach, often not flushing until I put my hand within 1/2 m of the nest.

On 21 June, when the young were four or possibly five days old, I erected a mist-net 10 m from the nest and captured the female as she returned to it; I then banded her and also all four of the nestlings. The next day 22 June, all four young were still present and appeared healthy. On 23 June, another observer reported seeing both the male and female carrying food near the nest, but he did not check the nest contents. I was unable to visit the nest until 26 June, when it was empty but intact with no evidence of predation. I found the female about 50 m from the empty nest, and she spent one hour repeatedly chipping at me and approaching closely, behavior that strongly indicated the presence of fledglings nearby. With an eight day nestling period, the young should have fledged the day before, on 25, June. While I am reasonably confident that the young fledged successfully, I do not know if they survived beyond fledging. On my next two visits (28 June and 4 July) I could not find either adult, and there was no response to playback. My experience with other war-



Female Hooded Warbler on nest, Murphy-Hanrahan Park, Dakota County — 10 June 1984. Photo by Bruce A. Fall.



Four young Hooded Warblers in nest, Murphy-Hanrahan Park, Dakota County — 21 June 1984. Photo by Bruce A. Fall.

bler species indicates that young can disperse quickly from the nest site (25 m within 30 minutes of fledging in one Blue-winged Warbler nest), and may be hundreds of meters away within a week. I do not feel that my lack of sightings after 26 June necessarily indicates fledgling loss.

The male's territory was in the middle of an extensive (several km²) mature oak forest, with a canopy of 20 to 25 m. The mature trees were predominantly northern red oak and a smaller number of white oak; saplings and shrubs included red, white and bur oaks, American elm, sugar maple, prickly-ash, and hazel. The canopy was mostly continuous, with a few openings beneath which were tangles of raspberry. A ski trail bisected the territory and passed within 40 m of the nest.

The nest itself was in Dakota Co., but barely 50 m from the Scott Co. line; the territory actually included both counties. The nest was very close to the ground: the rim was 25 cm, and the base 20 cm above the forest floor. It was supported by stems of the previous year's growth of raspberry, and concealed from view by several raspberry leaves. Although the nest was well hidden, the area surrounding it was rather open with few saplings and sparse ground cover. There were many areas within the territory that seemed to offer much better nest concealment.

This nest is the first documented breeding record of the Hooded Warbler for Minnesota, and represents a range extension of about 325 km NW of the nearest known breeding locality in Sauk Co., Wisconsin (M.J. Mossman and K.I. Lange, Breeding birds of the Baraboo Hills, Wisconsin, Dept. Nat. Res. and Wisc. Soc. for Ornithol., 1982). Despite this distance, the Minnesota breeding record is not surprising. Over the past ten years, Hooded Warblers have increased from accidental status (J.C. Green and R.B. Janssen, Minnesota birds: where, when and how many, Univ. Minn. Press, 1975) to regular but rare in Minnesota, with one to several individuals being reported nearly every year.

There have been published reports in *The Loon* of at least 30 birds in this state, including perhaps four different males and a female in Hennepin Co. in May, 1979. The 30 records have been from 12 different counties, and all but three are from the past 13 years. Most of the reports are of males, some of which established and remained on territory for several weeks but were not known to be paired. Most notably, a territorial male was found in a small woodlot near Savage, only five km from Murphy-Hanrehan Park, during May and June, 1980 and 1981 (*The Loon* 52:195-196).

I feel that the Murphy-Hanrehan nesting is not an anomalous record, and southeastern Minnesota should be considered as the northwest edge of the present breeding distribution of this species. I predict additional breeding records in the near future, and urge any observer who records a singing male Hooded Warbler in spring to return repeatedly to that area during early summer to search for evidence of breeding. The Murphy-Hanrehan male sang persistently through the end of May but became much less conspicuous once his mate was incubating, and could have easily been overlooked. The female, despite being rather large and colorful and often foraging close to the ground, was always difficult to find, even after I knew the location of the nest.

I would like to thank the observers who helped me search for the nest, including Dave Blockstein, Bonita and Roger Eliason, Jim Howitz, Ellen Lawler, Chris Rimer, and especially Carol Pearson, who actually found it. I also would like to thank Larry Gillette, Hennepin County Park Reserve District, for permitting me to study Blue-winged Warblers in the park, which led to the discovery of the Hooded Warblers.

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Common Loon Numbers in the Knife Lake Area — Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness

Jack J. Mooty¹ and Donald L. Goodermote²

The Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) is the Minnesota state bird. One of the prime nesting areas for this species is the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) of northeastern Minnesota with its clear, island-studded, oligotrophic lakes. This area supports one of the largest breeding populations of Common Loons in the contiguous 48 states.

Loon populations are subject to a number of threats throughout their range. These include illegal shooting (Taylor 1974), drowning in commercial fishing nets (Bartonek 1965), water level fluctuations (Fair 1979), oil spills (Joensen 1973, Mays 1976), chemical contamination (Barr 1979, LaBastille 1977), acid rain (LaBastille 1977), and human harassment (Olson and Marshall 1952, Ridgely 1975).

Frequency and intensity of human disturbance are important factors in loon nesting success in the BWCAW. Recreational use of this area has increased eight-fold since 1950 (Titus and VanDruff 1981), a trend which has continued to the present.

Long-term data on loon numbers are rare in North America. An exception, however, is the Knife Lake area of the BWCAW. A comprehensive study of loons was made here in 1950 (Olson and Marshall 1952). From 1964-67, counts were made by L. Magnus and P. Karns (unpublished), and in 1986 by C. Ream, L. Ohmann, and C. Cushwa (unpublished). Counts on the same territories were made in 1975 and 1976 by Titus and VanDruff (1981). We repeated these counts during the summer of 1984. Our objective was to count the number of adult and juvenile loons on the previously identified territories.

METHODS

The presence of loons was determined by canoeing around each territory for 15

minutes to one hour, while searching the area with binoculars. The time we spent in each territory was a function of territory size. Weather during the count period was clear and warm with light to moderate winds. We completed counts on 19 lakes from July 23-31, 1984 (Fig. 1).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A total of 125 loons were counted in pairs or in larger groups on 53 territories for an average of 2.3 adults per territory (Table 1). Of the territories checked, 44 (83%) were occupied. This is somewhat lower than results from Olson and Marshall (1950) and Titus and VanDruff (1981). These workers spent 4-6 months in the area and made repeated checks of the territories. Our survey lasted only nine days, so the differences are probably due to the time-effort factor.

A total of 23 loon chicks were observed on 14 territories for an average of 0.18 chicks per adult loon. Of the adult pairs with young, nine (64%) had two chicks. The data for 1965-1968 indicate lower reproductive success. This may have been due to the presence of campers on small islands, which are also preferred loon nesting sites, and possible pesticide contamination (Ream 1976). Now, however, there is no insecticide spraying in the BWCAW, and camping is restricted to designated mainland and large island sites.

Our data indicate that the loon population in the Knife Lake area has probably been stable since 1975 and it comparable to the 1950 level. Productivity also appears to be unchanged.

Methods employed in this survey may have underestimated loon numbers. Several times we traversed a territory twice, and saw birds the second time that were not present earlier.



Fig 1. Map of Knife Lake loon census area. Shading indicates lakes checked in 1984
 Birch Lake not shown.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To maintain the continuity of these data, this count should be repeated every three to five years.
2. Expand the counts of loons to other portions of the BWCAW using U.S. Forest Service personnel.
3. Initiate similar counts of loons in other portions of northern Minnesota.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project was sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Section of Wildlife, Nongame Wildlife Program. We also received help from the Superior National Forest, Voyageurs National Park, and Area Wildlife Manager Fred Thunhorst.

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Table 1. Comparison of data on populations and productivity of common loons in the Knife Lake region, Boundary Waters Canoe Area 1950 to 1984.

	1950 ¹	1964 ²	1965 ²	1966 ²	1967 ²	1968 ³	1975 ⁴	1976 ⁴	1984 ⁵
Territories checked	52	58	43	44	47	44	64	64	53
Territories occupied	52	47	31	21	24	27	64	64	44
Total adult loons	111	111	111	ND	52	88	151	151	125
Adults/territory	2.1	1.9	2.6	ND	1.1	2.0	2.4	2.4	2.3
Total young 2 wks. of age	21	19	10	1	5	6	40	31	23
Water area (ha)	5304	4630	3762	3893	4026	3792	5304	5304	4678
Area/adult loon (ha)	48	42	34	ND	77	43	35	35	37
Nesting pairs	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	64	48	ND
Successful pairs	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	31	25	ND
Chicks hatched	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	50	38	ND
Chicks hatched/terr. pair	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.68	0.52	ND
Chicks surviving	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	40	31	ND
Chicks surviving/terr. pair	0.40	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.54	0.42	ND
Chicks surviving/adult loon	0.19	0.17	0.09	ND	ND	0.07	0.27	0.21	0.18
Chicks/occupied territory	0.40	0.40	0.32	0.05	0.21	0.22	0.62	0.48	0.52
Dates of counts	5/25- 10/12	ND	ND	ND	7/20- 7/25	7/22- 7/24	5/15- 8/15	5/15- 8/15	7/23- 7/31

¹/ Olson and Marshall (1950)²/ Magnus and Karns (unpublished)³/ Ream, Ohmann and Cushwa (unpublished)⁴/ Titus and VanDruff (1981)⁵/ This count

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- ¹ 1201 East Hwy. #2, Grand Rapids, MN. 55744
² 4815 Oneida St., Duluth, MN. 55804

Minnesota's Breeding Bird Distribution (Part III)

Robert B. Janssen and Gary Simonson

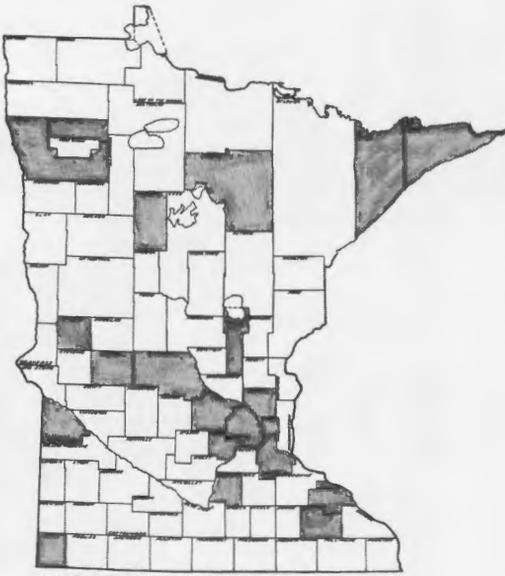
On the following pages are maps showing the breeding distribution by County of Minnesota Species from European Starling to House Sparrow. This information is based on data compiled since 1970 from nest cards supplied by observers or records of nesting published in *The Loon*. This is the completion of this series started in *The Loon* in the Fall 1984 issue.

Once again these maps are not intended to be the last word on breeding birds in Minnesota. In fact, they are published to show our lack of information on the breeding status of many of the species that nest in Minnesota. As you can see from the maps, there are many common species that lack recent positive breeding evidence from

many Minnesota counties. Good examples are the European Starling, Common Yellowthroat, Chipping, Song and House Sparrows, which are some of the most common breeding species in the state. We need much more breeding data for all Minnesota species.

Nest record cards for recording breeding data are supplied with the Summer seasonal report forms. Please use them and send them in. If you do not contribute to the seasonal sections of *The Loon*, we will be happy to supply you with nest record forms. Please ask for them and they will be sent to you immediately.

Again, our thanks to Gary Simonson for compiling this data.



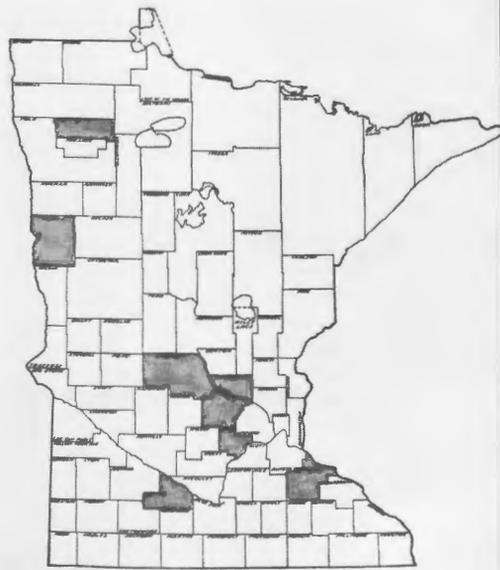
EUROPEAN STARLING



BELL'S VIREO



SOLITARY VIREO



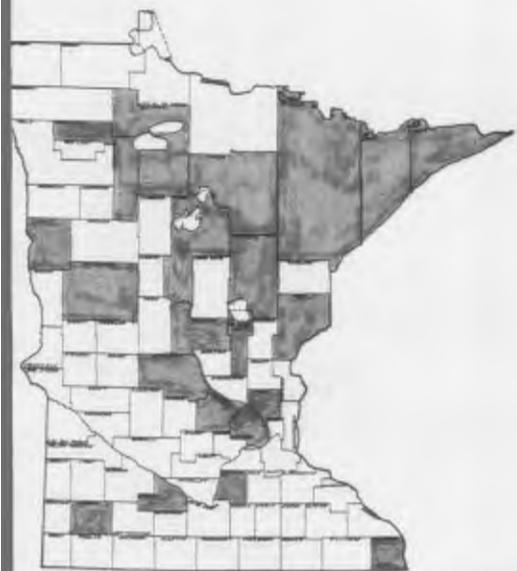
YELLOW-THROATED VIREO



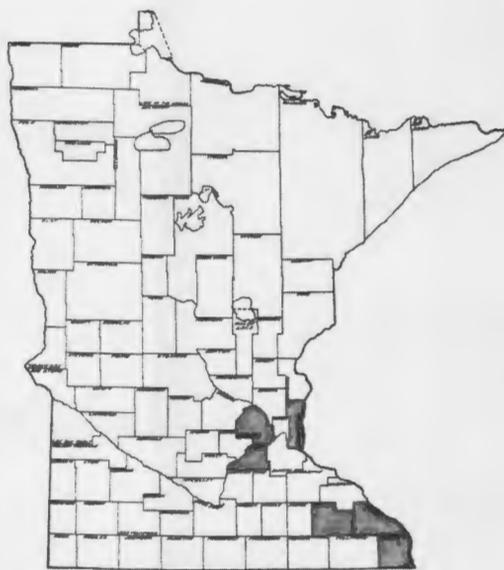
WARBLING VIREO



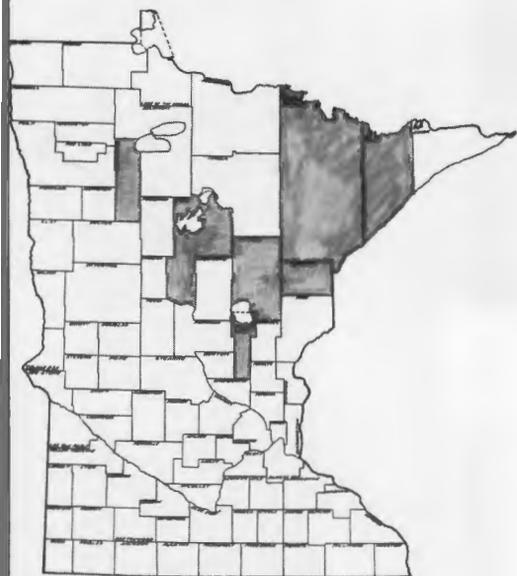
PHILADELPHIA VIREO



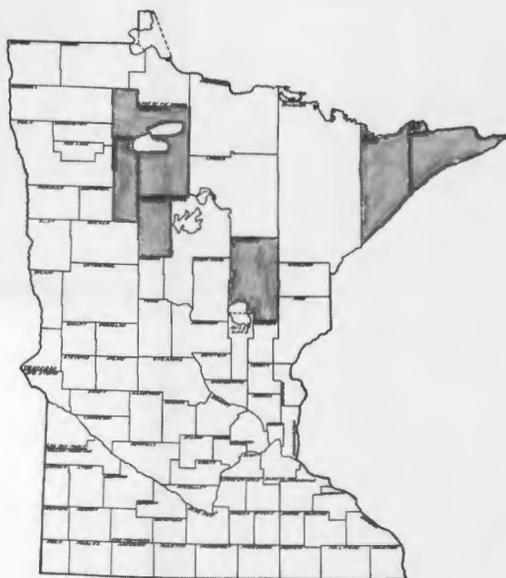
RED-EYED VIREO



BLUE-WINGED WARBLER



CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER



MAGNOLIA WARBLER



BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER



YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER



BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER



BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER



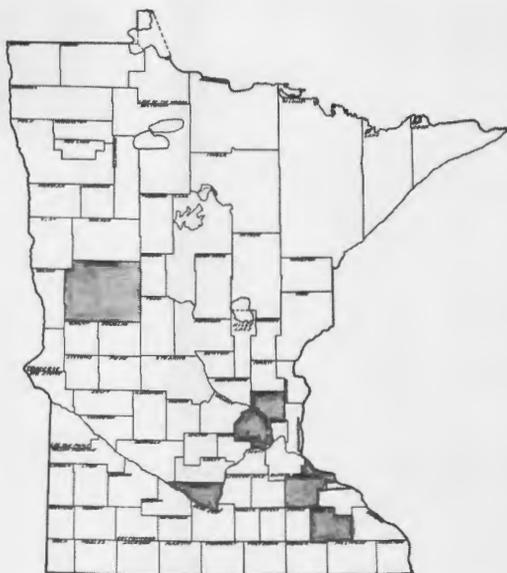
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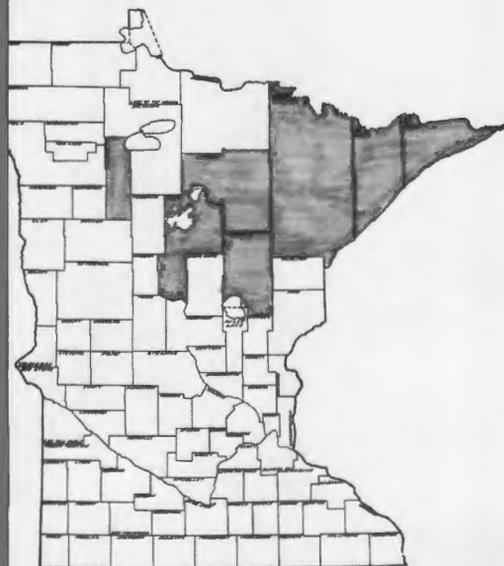
PALM WARBLER



BAY-BREASTED WARBLER



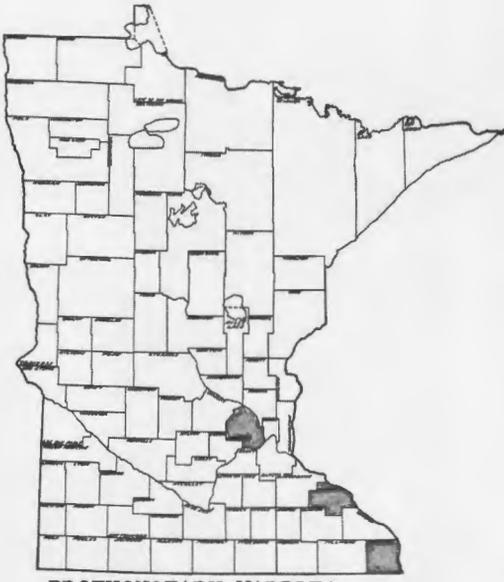
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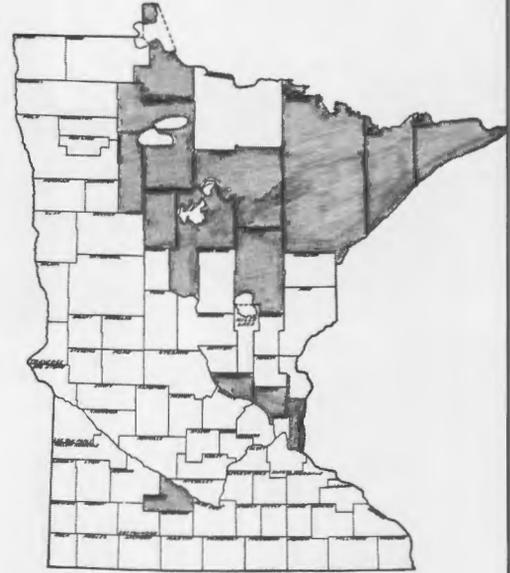
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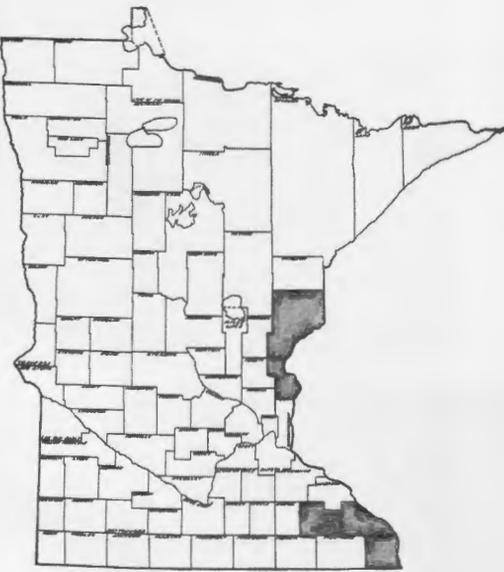
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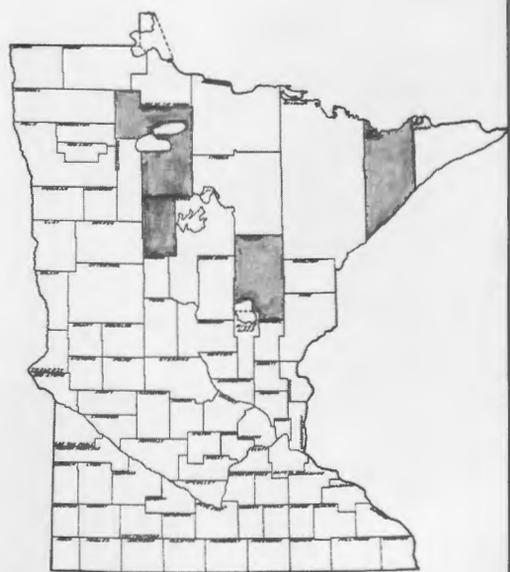
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER



OVENBIRD



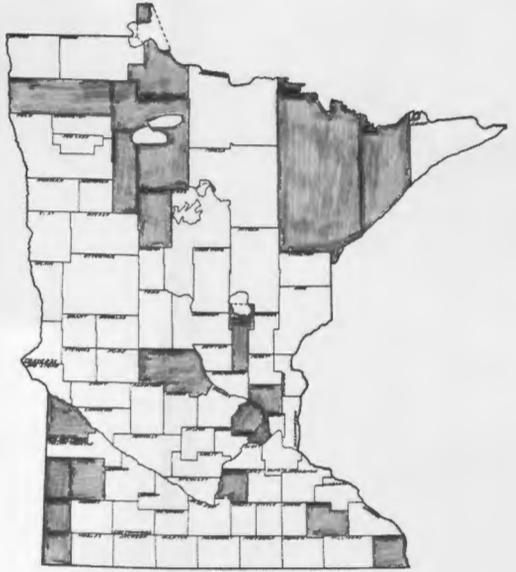
LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH



CONNECTICUT WARBLER



MOURNING WARBLER



COMMON YELLOWTHROAT



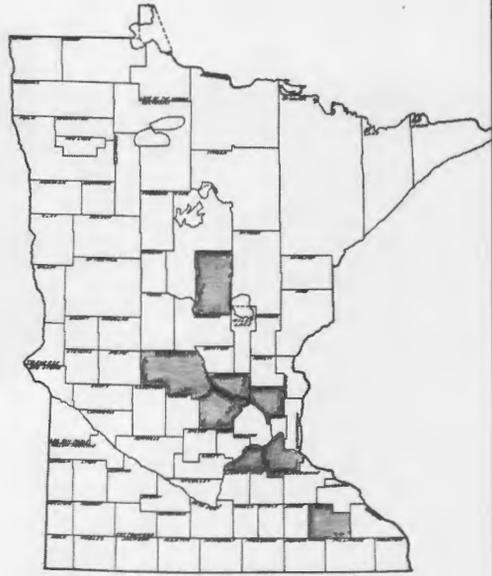
HOODED WARBLER



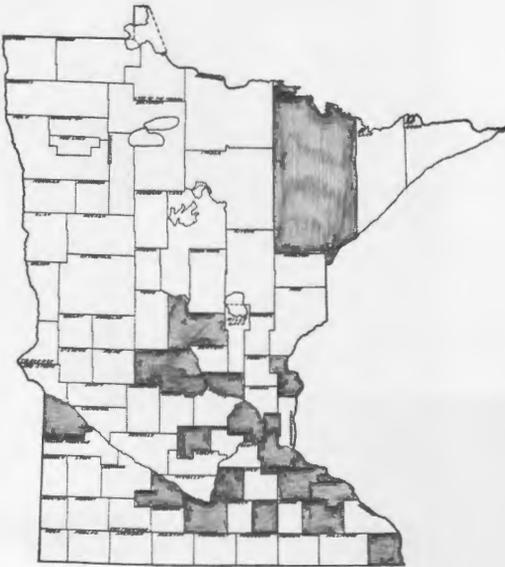
WILSON'S WARBLER



CANADA WARBLER



SCARLET TANAGER



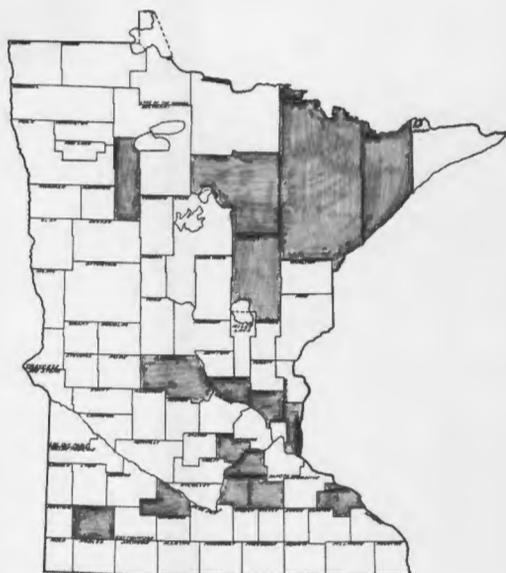
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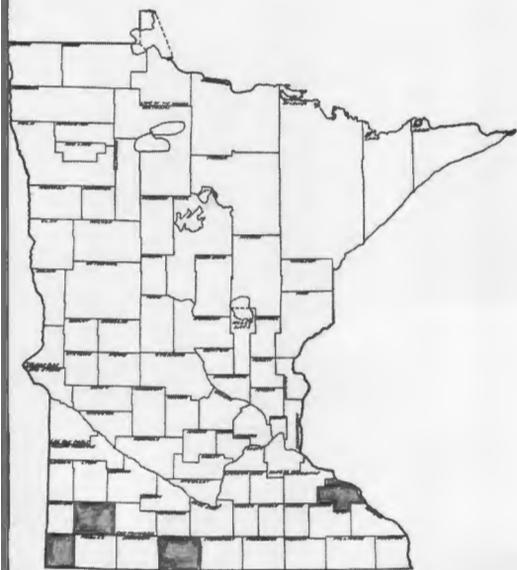
ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK



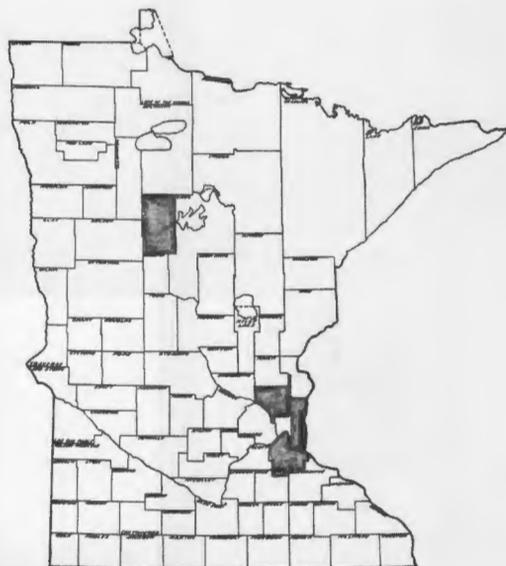
BLUE GROSBEAK



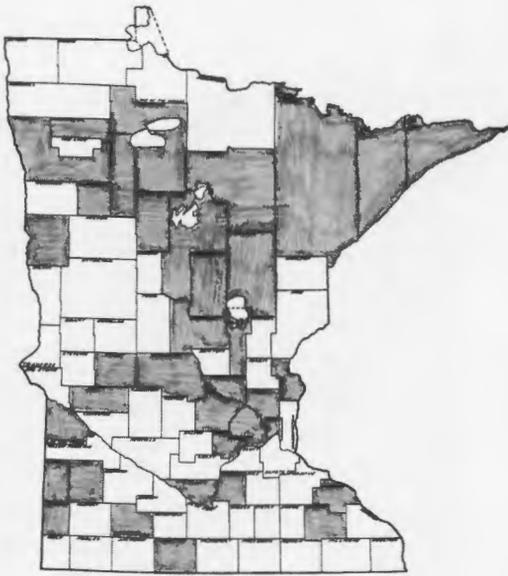
INDIGO BUNTING



DICKCISSEL



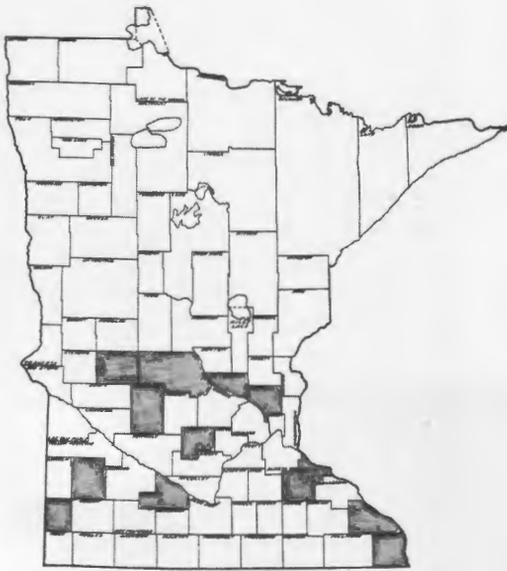
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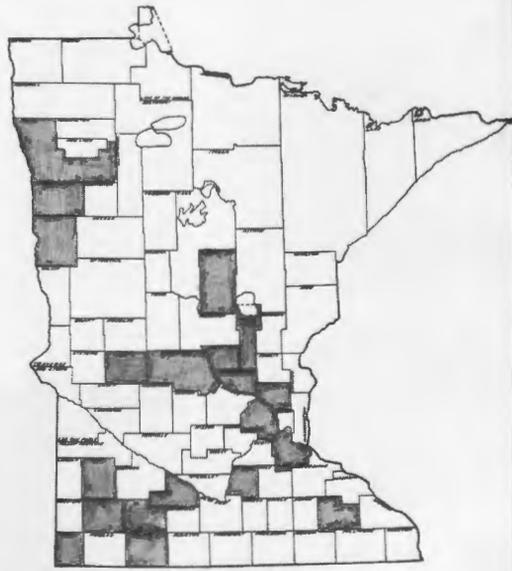
CHIPPING SPARROW



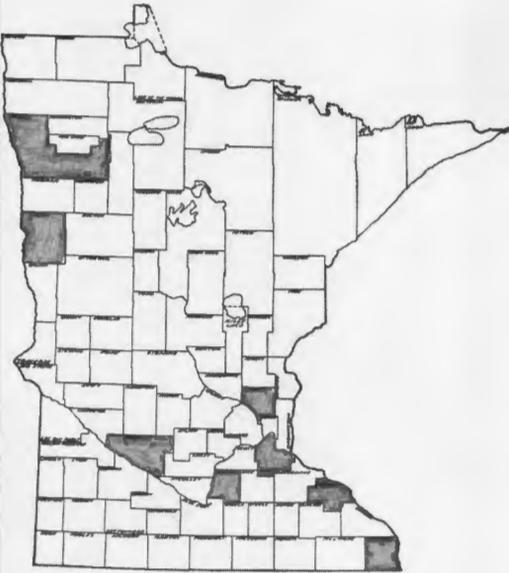
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW



FIELD SPARROW



VESPER SPARROW



LARK SPARROW



SAVANNAH SPARROW



GRASSHOPPER SPARROW



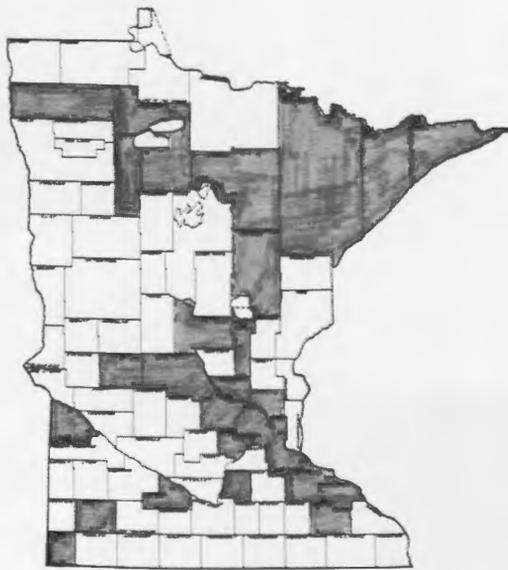
HENSLOW'S SPARROW



LECONTE'S SPARROW



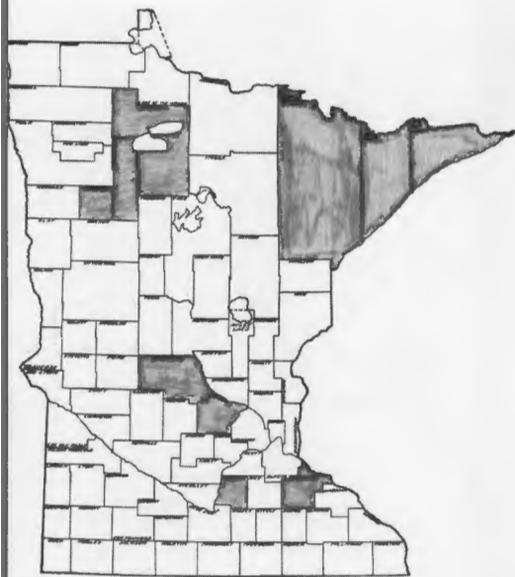
SHARP-TAILED SPARROW



SONG SPARROW



LINCOLN'S SPARROW



SWAMP SPARROW



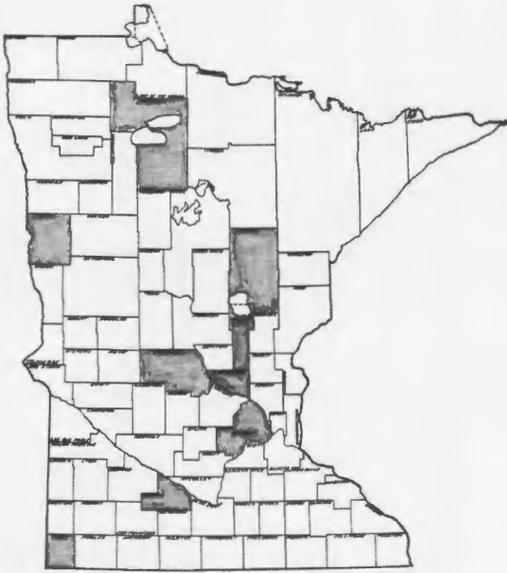
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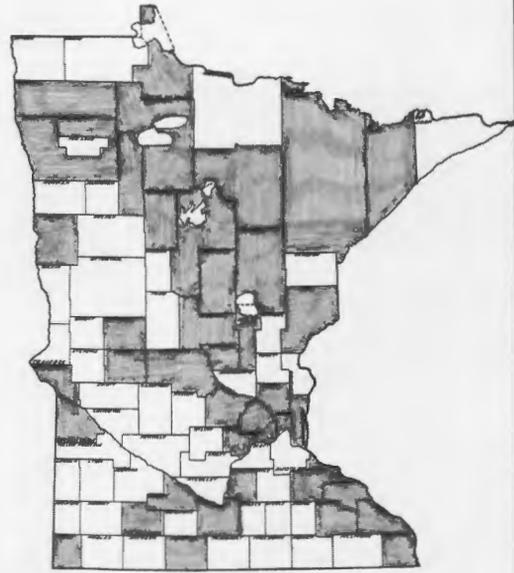
DARK-EYED JUNCO



CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR



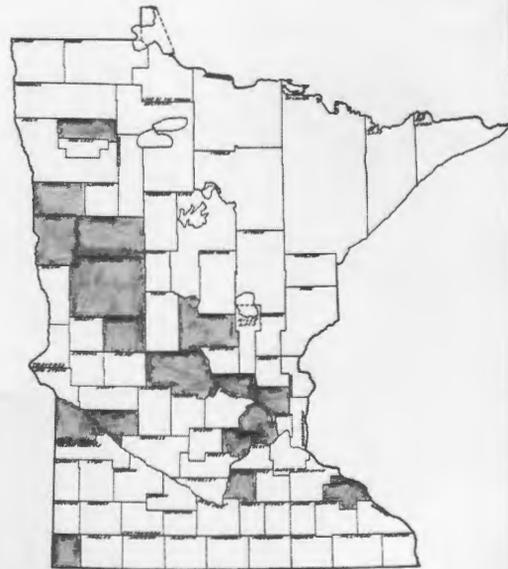
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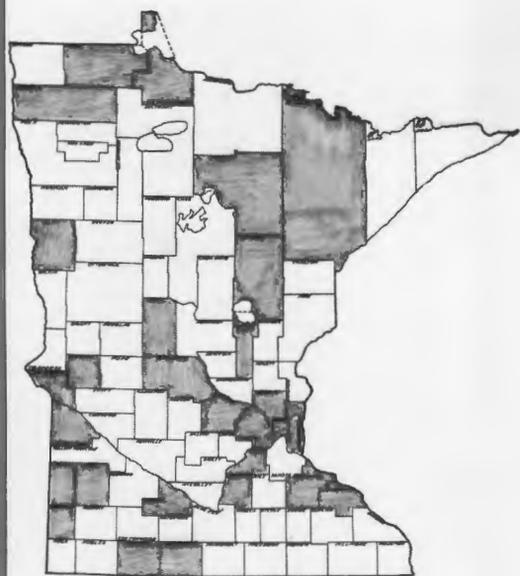
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD



EASTERN MEADOWLARK



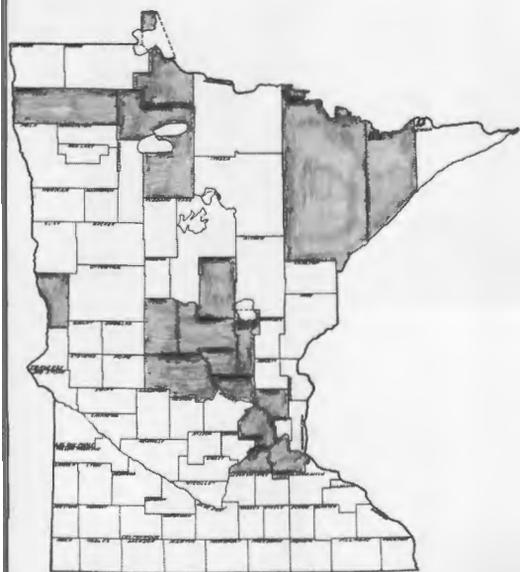
WESTERN MEADOWLARK



YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD



RUSTY BLACKBIRD



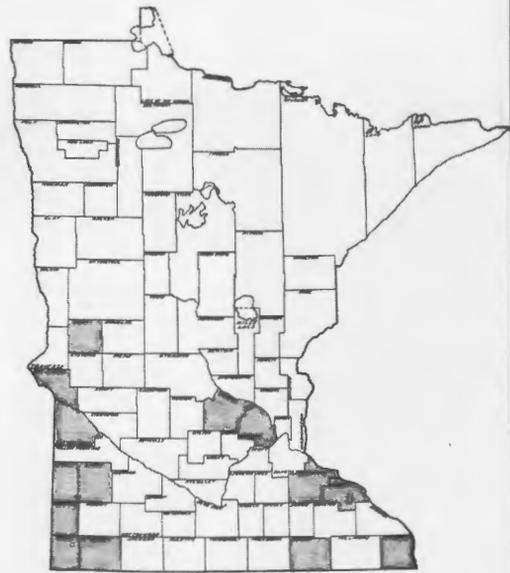
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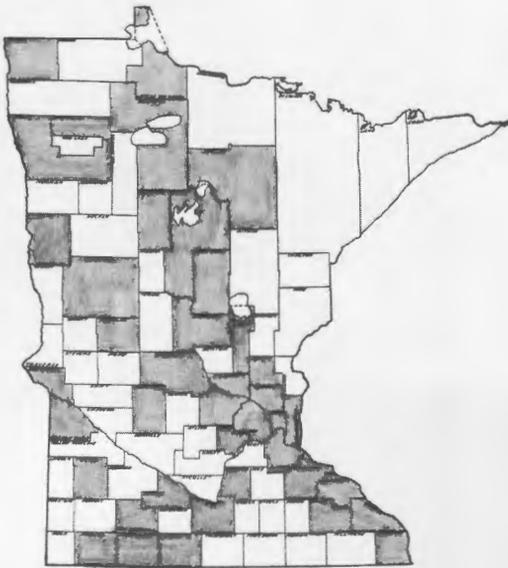
COMMON GRACKLE



BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD



ORCHARD ORIOLE



NORTHERN ORIOLE



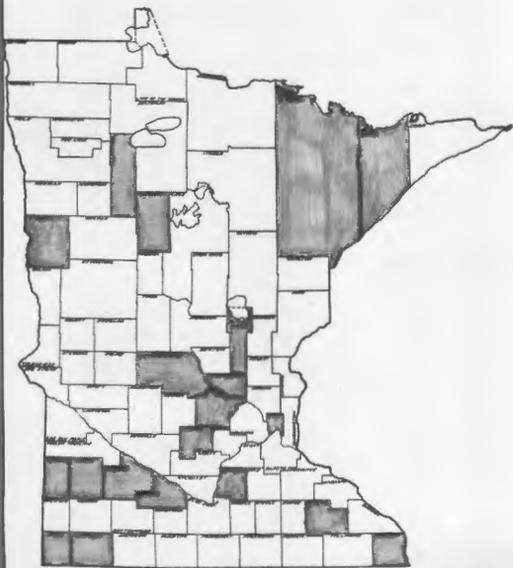
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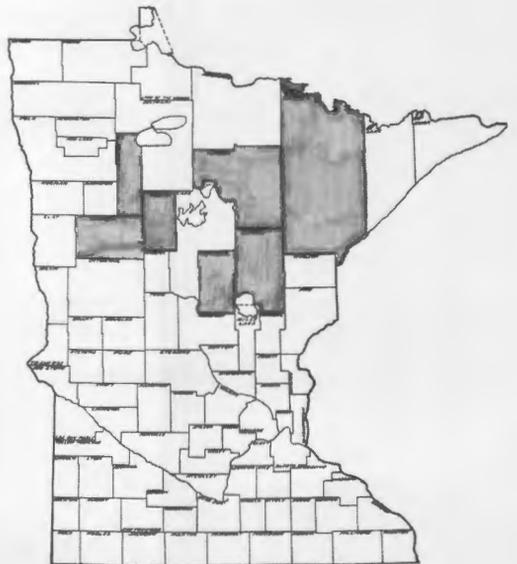
RED CROSSBILL



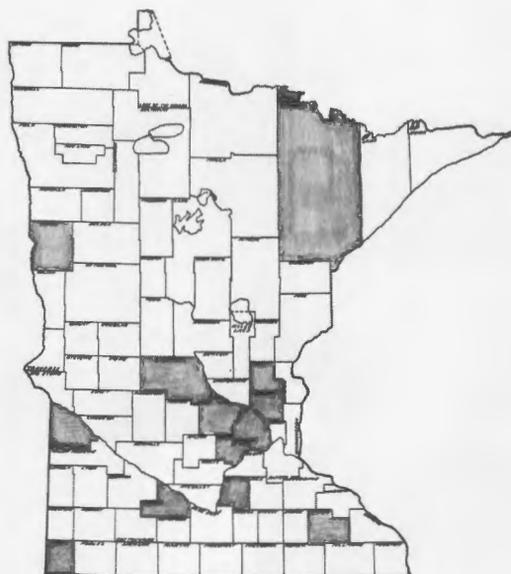
PINE SISKIN



AMERICAN GOLDFINCH



EVENING GROSBEAK



HOUSE SPARROW

Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee

Kim R. Eckert, M.O.R.C. Secretary

At its annual meeting December 4, 1984, two decisions were made which will affect our voting procedures. First, if a Committee member is the observer involved in a record voted on, that observer will no longer vote on that record, but be replaced by an alternate. Renner Anderson, Don Bolduc and Terry Savaloja were named to this list of alternates initially, others will probably be added to the list in the future, and it will be up to the Chairman which alternate will be chosen to vote on a record.

Second, a new voting procedure was established for records which involve possi-

ble escaped or released exotics: 1) the record will be voted on as usual, taking into account only whether or not the species was correctly identified; 2) if identification is acceptable, research will then be done regarding the likelihood of the bird's "wildness"; 3) that information will then be circulated and voted on — if an Accidental species, a 7-0 vote in favor of wild means Acceptable on the A(a) or A(b) list, a vote of 6-1, 5-2, or 4-3 means Acceptable on the A(c) list (for a definition of the categories of Accidental species, see the "Checklist of Minnesota Birds" published as a supplement to the March 1983 *The*

Loon); if Casual or Regular species, a vote of 4-3 or higher means Acceptable; a vote of 3-4 or less on species in any category means Unacceptable.

The following records were voted on July-December, 1984, and found Acceptable:

- Anhinga, 5/26/84, Louisville Swamp, Scott Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 56:203).
- Western Tanager, 5/28/84, Lac Qui Parle W.M.A., Lac Qui Parle Co. (vote 7-0);
- Western Tanager, 5/15/84, Tamarack Nature Center, Ramsey Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 56:269).
- Lazuli Bunting, 5/18/84, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 56:262).
- Lazuli Bunting, 5/22-26/84, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 56:262).
- Little Gull, 8/14-15/84, Worthington sewage ponds, Nobles Co. (vote 7-0).
- Ruff, 8/12/84, Carlos Avery W.M.A., Chisago Co. (vote 6-1; **The Loon** 56:263).
- Western Wood-Pewee, 8/16/84, Duluth Twp., St. Louis Co. (vote 7-0; **Loon** 56:263-264).
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 8/18/84, Forest Rd. 424, Lake Co. (vote 6-1).
- Sabine's Gull, 9/9/84, near Adams, Mower Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 56:265-266).
- Sharp-tailed Sparrow, 4/10/84, Carver Park, Carver Co. (vote 6-1; **The Loon** 56: 274).
- Sabine's Gull, 9/24/84, near Warroad, Lake of the Woods Co. (vote 7-0's; **The Loon** 56: 266-267).
- Rock Wren, 5/12/84, Gooseberry Falls S.P., Lake Co. (vote 6-1; **The Loon** 56:270-271).
- Arctic Loon, 10/14/84, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 6-1; **The Loon** 56:276-277).
- Little Gull, 10/24/84, Lake of the Woods, Lake of the Woods Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 56:265).
- Brant, 10/28/84, Fergus Falls, Otter Tail Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 56:270).
- Ross' Goose, 11/24/84, Rochester, Olmsted Co. (vote 7-0).
- Arctic Loon, 11/3/84, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 57:61).

— California Gull, 11/25-12/15/84, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 57:60-61).

— Barrow's Goldeneye, 12/7/84, Black Dog L., Dakota Co. (vote 6-1; **The Loon** 57:61-62).

— White-faced Ibis, 10/4-12/84, Fort Snelling S.P., Dakota Co. (vote 7-0; **The Loon** 57:59).

The following records were voted on July-December, 1984, and found Unacceptable:

— Townsend's Warbler, 5/9/84, Bloomington, Hennepin Co. (vote 4-3, with 7-0 required for Acceptance.)

It was unanimously agreed that a Townsend's may have been seen, but the minority felt that a report as unusual as this should have had a more complete description — e.g., the underparts were not completely described, and there was no mention of throat color, back color or wing bars. The observer also had never seen this species before and did not know it was unusual here.

— Yellow Rail, 7/22/84, near High Forest, Olmsted Co. (vote 1-6).

The description did not fully preclude immature Sora, and the color of the under tail coverts in particular seemed to indicate Sora rather than Yellow Rail, since they were described as "buffy" — a Yellow Rail has brown under tail coverts. Also, no white wing patch was seen, and the observer seemed unsure about the overall size and back pattern.

— Band-tailed Pigeon, 8/11/84, Golden Valley, Hennepin Co. (vote 3-4).

The majority felt that the description was too brief for such an unusual species: e.g., the tail pattern was not seen and there was no mention of the black-tipped bill. But the biggest problem with the record was that a black ring was seen on the nape below the white ring, a feature inconsistent with Band-tailed Pigeon.

— Black-shouldered Kite, 8/19/84, near Morris, Stevens Co. (vote 4-3, with 7-0 required for Acceptance.)

The minority felt that this report of a bird in juvenile plumage was primarily flawed by the description of a muti-banded tail—the Black-shouldered Kite only has one sub-terminal band. The details seemed to indicate the bird may have been a pale,

immature Swainson's Hawk, especially in the description of the under wing pattern and wing shape.

— King Rail, 6/14-15/84, Carlos Avery W.M.A., Anoka Co. (vote 1-6).

There were two main problems with this report: first, the bird was never actually seen for sure (a shape was briefly seen in the direction of the vocalization heard, but no visual features were seen); second, the identification was based entirely on a call which could fit either the King or Virginia Rail (i.e., "bup-bup-bup", a call often attributed to the King Rail, is also given by the Virginia Rail).

— Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 8/19/84, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 3-4).

Although it was agreed that the bird was probably a Scissor-tailed, the observer only had a brief look as it flew over and was therefore unable to provide anything more than a sketchy description of the size and shape of the bird.

— Smew, 10/6/84, Mahnomon Co. (vote 4-3, with 7-0 required for Acceptance).

The description did fit a female Smew quite well in all respects, but, because of the extreme rarity of this species, the minority were uneasy about the possibility of it being an escape, of it being a hybrid or aberrant individual of some other species, and because the early fall date is inconsistent with other extralimital Smew records.

— Common Barn-Owl, 9/30/84, near Madison, Lac Qui Parle Co. (vote 3-4).

The majority felt that the possibility of Short-eared Owl was not sufficiently precluded: some paler Short-eareds can appear quite white on the face and underparts, as was described here, and the marsh habitat and diurnal activity of the owl seen is more consistent with Short-eared.

— Black Vulture, 10/29/84, Minnetonka, Hennepin Co. (vote 3-4).

Everyone agreed that the bird may very well have been a Black Vulture — espe-

cially suggestive were the shape and position of the white wing patches. However, the majority had reservations about there being only one observer, relatively inexperienced, that the head shape and color were not seen, and that the description of the manner of flight did not rule out other raptors. Also, the observer eliminated immature Golden Eagle and melanistic Rough-legged Hawk (both of which can have white wing patches), on the mistaken belief that they would have shown obvious white on the tail, but both can have tails which appear all dark.

— Groove-billed Ani, 10/21/84, near Warren, Polk Co. (vote 5-2, with 6-1 required for Acceptance).

The minority agreed that the bird probably was an ani, but there were reservations about it only being seen at a distance of 50 yards without binoculars, that the bill shape, though suggestive of an ani, was not seen or described completely, and that the plumage was only described as "dark colored", and not black.

— House Finch, 9/9/84, near Two Harbors, Lake Co. (vote 7-0).

The entire description of this female was "head was all dark, a few faint stripes on the top of the head, breast with fine streaking." Such details, however, do not preclude an immature Purple Finch (which is highly variable in head pattern), Pine Siskin or juvenile crossbill.

— Ross' Goose, 10/27/84, Mille Lacs Co. (vote 0-7).

The identification was only based on the smaller overall body size. However, this smaller goose could have been a female with larger males, an individual of the Lesser race with Greater Snow Geese, or a Ross' X Snow hybrid. Overall size alone is never enough to identify a Ross'; the diagnostic features involve the bill size, shape and color.

**9735 North Shore Dr., Duluth, Mn
55804**

Hummingbird Mortality on Electric Fencelines Using Red Plastic Insulators

Pamela Skoog Perry and Carol J. Dorff

The Nongame Wildlife Program of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources received its first report of a Ruby-throated Hummingbird being electrocuted on an electric fence in June 1983. A farmer in the McGregor area of Aitkin County had found 20 dead hummingbirds on the fence surrounding a one-acre pasture. All of the birds were found hanging upside-down by their feet next to a red plastic insulator. Many of the dead birds had their beaks burned off. Another report of a dead hummingbird in the same condition was received from a farmer in the Milaca area of Mille Lacs County.

During the fall migration in September 1983, the Missouri Department of Conservation received 20-30 reports of dead hummingbirds found on electric fencelines with red insulators. During a random check of one fenceline, six electrocuted hummingbirds were found including three on one fencepost.

All of the reports of dead hummingbirds were from fencelines using red colored "Red Snap'r" plastic insulators on round steel posts. This type of fencing is often used on temporary pastures because the posts are easy to move and an entire fenceline can be set-up quickly.

The "Red Snap'r" brand of insulator has been on the market since 1981. It is manufactured by North Central Plastics Inc., of Ellendale, Minnesota, the nation's largest maker of fence insulators. The "Red Snap'r" insulator comes in three colors — red, black or yellow. Prior to 1983, the company had received complaints from Idaho and Oregon regarding electrocuted hummingbirds associated with the red insulators. Nevertheless, the company did not believe that there was a problem with the insulator, but rather that certain fence chargers were to blame.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri Department of Conservation believed that the red plastic

insulators were attracting the hummingbirds, just as the red plastic used on hummingbird feeders does. It was believed that the birds perched on the electric wire and then probed the red insulator as they would a flower. The hummingbird's beak then touched the steel post, the current grounded and the bird electrocuted itself. It was also speculated that this was most likely to occur when the weather was unusually dry, there were few flowers blooming, and the birds were forced to search for other food sources.

In the spring of 1984, the Nongame Wildlife Program initiated a project to document the attraction of hummingbirds to the red plastic insulators. Two study areas were chosen, Grand Rapids and Little Falls. In Grand Rapids, 2400 feet of fence line containing both red and black insulators (1:1 ratio) on round steel posts plus 2200 feet of red and black insulators (3:1 ratio) on T-posts were checked two-three times per week from May 1 — June 8. In Little Falls, 30,000 feet of electric fenceline were checked two times per week from May 15 — June 11. The fenceline in the study was comprised of round steel posts and T-posts in about equal numbers with approximately 60% red insulators and the remaining 40% black, yellow and white.

At the completion of the study no dead hummingbirds had been found. It was thought that the unusually wet spring provided sufficient flowers for the hummingbirds, lessening the attraction of the red fence insulators. On one fenceline in the Little Falls area, however, a grey treefrog was found that had been electrocuted on the wire. Under another fenceline in the same area, seven sets of bird bones were found which later were identified by Dick Oehlenschläger as including two male and one female Red-winged Blackbirds, one Song or Vesper Sparrow, one Rose-breasted Grosbeak, one Great Crested Flycatcher and one Brown-headed Cow-



Ruby-throated Hummingbird found on electric fenceline next to Red Snap'r insulator. Photo courtesy of Missouri Department of Conservation.

bird. Although the demise of these birds may have been associated with the electric fence, the actual cause of their death is unknown.

While fenceline studies were going on, more reports of dead hummingbirds and Northern Orioles were collected. These reports included six dead hummingbirds at Annandale (Sept. — Oct. 1982), 16 dead hummingbirds in the Chippewa National Forest area (August 1982 and 1983), four dead hummingbirds plus one dead oriole at Osceola, Wisconsin (July 1983 and May 1984), one dead hummingbird at Fort Ripley (August 1983) and one dead oriole at Emily (June 1984).

In the summer of 1984, North Central

Plastics, Inc., announced that they would discontinue manufacturing their red plastic insulators marketed as the "Red Snap'r" because of concern for hummingbirds. If you are currently using or know of someone using these red plastic insulators, it is recommended that they be spray-painted black so that they will not attract hummingbirds. If you would like to commend North Central Plastics, Inc., for discontinuing their red plastic "Red Snap'r", write to Howard Langley, President, North Central Plastics, Inc., Ellendale, Minnesota 56026.

Nongame Wildlife Program, DNR Area Wildlife Office, 315 Charles Street N.W., Brainerd, MN 56401.

The Summer Season

June 1 to July 31, 1984

Mike Hendrickson and Kim Eckert

As usual there were several significant observations during the season. Some of these highlights were: late lingering Red-throated Loons on Lake Superior; two Least Bitterns in Duluth; more than the usual number of Cattle Egrets; late lingering Tundra Swans and Snow Geese; an amazing and unprecedented Greater White-fronted Goose at Agassiz in July; one of the very few Rough-legged Hawks ever seen in summer; the first summer record ever of a Golden Eagle, plus a Prairie Falcon, both at Felton Prairie; a very surprising King Rail seen in the same marsh in Duluth as the Least Bittern; a very late Whimbrel in Duluth; unexpected early July records of Hudsonian Godwit, White-rumped Sandpiper and Buff-breasted Sandpiper; Chuck-will's-widow for the fourth year in a row in Sherburne County and at a new location in Nicollet County.

Other highlights among the Passerines: several Yellow-bellied Flycatchers still migrating through Duluth; a Sprague's Pipit at Felton Prairie; an out of range Blue-winged Warbler in Otter Tail County — also out of range were a Pine County Louisiana Waterthrush and a Clay County Yellow-breasted Chat; a singing male Mourning Warbler with a broken eye ring shows again the difficulty of separating this species from the MacGillivray's; most unusual Lark Sparrows at two Cook County locations; an Orchard Oriole way up in northern Beltrami County; and the fifth House Finch since 1983, indicating this species is well on it's way to regular status.

The most significant records of species nesting or attempting to nest were: Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at Pig's Eye L.; Solitary Sandpipers returning to their 1983 Cook County breeding site; no fewer than seven Great Gray Owl nests; a Black-billed Magpie nest in St. Louis County; of course that amazing pair of Rock Wrens attempting to nest in Bemidji; Prothonotary Warbler nests in Ramsey and Brown Counties;

and the first Hooded Warbler nest in Minnesota!

Unfortunately there was some bad news last summer: no Little Blue Herons were seen — this species has apparently been declining in Minnesota in recent years; Piping Plovers had poor nesting success at Lake of the Woods and Duluth; and Common Terns continue to decline at their Duluth breeding colony.

Red-throated Loon: Through 6/17 Duluth (2 — m.ob.); 6/18 Grand Marais (KE).

Common Loon: nested in Cass, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake, Becker, Norman, Wright, Sherburne, Hennepin and Scott (6/9, 1y — DB); also seen in 19 other counties including Lac Qui Parle.

Pied-billed Grebe: nested in Roseau, Marshall, Polk, Aitkin, Clay, Stearns, Sherburne, Hennepin, Watonwan, Brown and Le Sueur; also seen in 30 other counties

Horned Grebe: nested in Pennington and Marshall; also seen in St. Louis and Cook.

Red-necked Grebe: nested in Koochiching, Marshall, Clearwater, Todd, Pope and Hennepin; also seen in St. Louis, Roseau, Stearns, Anoka, Renville, and Nicollet.

Eared Grebe: nested in Marshall (75 pairs at Agassiz NWR — JM); also seen in Polk, Pennington, Lac Qui Parle and Nicollet.

Western Grebe: nested in Marshall, Todd (L. Osakis, 300 pairs — NH), Big Stone and Wright; also seen in Stearns, Hennepin, Pope, Renville, Chippewa, Brown, Nicollet, Lincoln and Washington (6/12 on, St. Croix R. — fide JD).

American White Pelican: seen in 18 counties including Hennepin, Washington and Le Sueur.

Double-crested Cormorant: nested in Marshall, Pope, Renville, Le Sueur and Houston; also seen in 27 other counties

- including Cook (6/14 Grand Marais — KMH).
- American Bittern:** seen in 19 counties.
- Least Bittern:** nested in Marshall and Pope; also seen in 12 other counties including Duluth (6/4-9, 2 birds — KE).
- Great Blue Heron:** nested in Marshall, Hubbard, Lake, Morrison, Pope, Ramsey, Le Sueur and Houston; also seen in 35 other counties.
- Great Egret:** nested in Marshall, Pope, Le Sueur and Houston; also seen in 16 other counties including Clearwater and Beltrami.
- Snowy Egret:** 6/3 Agassiz NWR, Marshall Co. (3 — JM); 6/24 Long L., Kandiyohi Co. (2 — SC); 6/1-2 Carlos Avery WMA, Anoka Co. (KL).
- Cattle Egret:** nested at L. Johanna, Pope Co. (4 nests — B. Hitman); also seen Long L., Kandiyohi Co. (max. 13); Cottonwood Co. (21); Pelican L., Grant Co. (max. 24); Pig's Eye L., Ramsey Co.; and Carlos Avery WMA, Anoka Co.
- Green-backed Heron:** nested in Stearns; also seen in 43 other counties north to Roseau and Beltrami.
- Black-crowned Night Heron:** nested in Marshall and Pope; also seen in 13 other counties including Duluth (6/11 — KE).
- Yellow-crowned Night Heron:** nested at Pig's Eye L., Ramsey Co. (ad. on nest — SST); only report.
- TUNDRA SWAN:** 6/8 Duluth (J. McKernan); 6/20 Grand Marais, Cook Co. (2 — fide KE).
- GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE**
7/11 Agassiz NWR, Marshall Co. (free-flying ad. — JM).
- Snow Goose:** 6/3 Agassiz NWR (JM); 6/5 Becker (2 — SDM); 6/2 Le Sueur (EK).
- Canada Goose:** nested in Cook, Marshall, Aitkin, Stearns, Chisago, Washington, Ramsey, Sherburne, Le Sueur, Norman, Cottonwood and Brown; also seen in 18 other counties.
- Wood Duck:** nested in Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Lake, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Stearns, Anoka, Hennepin, Le Sueur, Ramsey, Wabasha, Scott, Wadena, Martin, Clay and Carlton; also seen in 25 other counties.
- Green-winged Teal:** seen in 10 counties.
- American Black Duck:** nested in Cook and Marshall; also seen in St. Louis, Norman, Polk, Hennepin, Washington, Anoka and Olmsted.
- Mallard:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Lake, Cass, Marshall, Cook, Beltrami, Crow Wing, Pennington, Clay, Carlton, Pine, Stearns, Pope, Le Sueur, Sherburne and Ramsey; also seen in 28 other counties.
- Northern Pintail:** nested in Marshall and Stearns; also seen in 13 other counties including Cook (6/8 Grand Marais — KMH).
- Blue-winged Teal:** nested in Marshall, Pennington, Stearns, Hennepin and Le Sueur; also seen in 33 other counties.
- Northern Shoveler:** nested in Marshall, Pennington and Stearns; also seen in 12 other counties including Cook (6/15 Grand Marais — KMH).
- Gadwall:** nested in Marshall and Pope; also seen in Lake of the Woods, Polk, Anoka, Lyon, Yellow Medicine and Murray.
- American Wigeon:** nested in Lake of the Woods and Marshall, also seen in Roseau, Beltrami, St. Louis, Pennington, Polk, Aitkin, Lyon and Murray.
- Canvasback:** nested in Marshall, Clay, Polk, Mahnomen, Todd, Big Stone and Hennepin; also seen in Pennington, Becker, Stearns, Lac Qui Parle, Yellow Medicine and Lyon.
- Redhead:** nested in Marshall; also seen in 16 other counties.
- Ring-necked Duck:** nested in Marshall, Lake, Clay and Stearns; also seen in 16 other counties.
- Lesser Scaup:** nested in Marshall; also seen in lake of the Woods, Pennington, Polk, Pine, Stearns, Hennepin, Scott, Lyon and Murray.
- Common Goldeneye:** nested in Cook, Lake of the Woods, Lake and Beltrami; also seen in Koochiching, Polk and St. Louis.
- BUFFLEHEAD:** no date, Agassiz NWR (JM).
- Hooded Merganser:** nested in Roseau, Pennington, Polk, Clearwater, Lake, Carlton and Meeker; also seen in Cook, Marshall, Lake of the Woods, Anoka, Isanti, Hennepin, Wright and Dakota.

- Common Merganser:** nested in Lake and St. Louis; also seen in Cook and Lake of the Woods.
- Red-breasted Merganser:** nested in Cook and St. Louis; also seen in Lake and Hennepin (7/3, L. Harriet, Minneapolis — VL).
- Ruddy Duck:** nested in Marshall, Todd and Stearns; also seen in 20 other counties.
- Turkey Vulture:** nested in Beltrami, Lake and Olmsted; also seen in 20 other counties including Lyon.
- Osprey:** nested in Aitkin and Pine; also seen in 13 other counties including Sherburne and Washington.
- Bald Eagle:** nested in Houston (4 nests, 3 successful, 7 young fledged — FL) also seen in 13 other counties including Washington.
- Northern Harrier:** nested in Marshall; also seen in 22 other counties.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk:** nested in Clearwater and Beltrami; also seen in 12 other counties.
- Cooper's Hawk:** nested in Anoka, Ramsey and Washington; also seen in 11 other counties.
- Northern Goshawk:** seen in Marshall, Clearwater, Pine and Carlton.
- Red-shouldered Hawk:** nested in Becker and Stearns; also seen in Beltrami, Otter Tail, Crow Wing, Todd, Sherburne and Dakota.
- Broad-winged Hawk:** nested in Lake, Clearwater, Stearns and Brown; also seen in 23 other counties.
- Swainson's Hawk:** nested in Dakota; also seen in 10 other counties including Washington (many dates — BL) and Hennepin (6/17, Brooklyn Park — OJ).
- Red-tailed Hawk:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Benton and Olmsted; also seen in 48 other counties.
- ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK:** 6/23, Aitkin Co Rd. 18 (KE).
- GOLDEN EAGLE:** 6/4 Felton prairie, Clay Co. (1 imm. — DB, OJ *The Loon* 56: 196-197).
- American Kestrel:** nested in Lake, Marshall, Stearns and Olmsted; also seen in 48 other counties.
- Merlin:** nested in Lake; also seen in Roseau and St. Louis.
- PRAIRIE FALCON:** 6/23 Felton prairie, Clay Co. (BE).
- Gray Partridge:** nested in Pennington, Clay and Faribault; also seen in 14 other counties.
- Ring-necked Pheasant:** nested in Olmsted and Le Sueur; also seen in 24 other counties.
- Spruce Grouse:** nested in Itasca (7/31 Scenic S.P., 1 young — JM) and Lake (8/1, 2 young — SW/MS); also seen in Cook.
- Ruffed Grouse:** nested in Lake, Lake of the Woods, Clearwater and Stearns; also seen in Cook, Itasca, Aitkin, Anoka, Washington, Sherburne, Olmsted and Houston.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken:** seen in Mahnommen, Becker and Clay.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse:** nested in Aitkin; also seen in Roseau, Marshall and Pennington.
- Wild Turkey:** seen in Houston (EMF).
- Yellow Rail:** seen in Pennington and Aitkin.
- KING RAIL:** 6/9-15 Duluth (KE et al. *The Loon* 56:190-191).
- Virginia Rail:** seen in 20 counties.
- Sora:** nested in Polk and Anoka; also seen in 23 counties.
- Common Moorhen:** seen in Anoka, Hennepin, Houston and Watonwan (7/1 — RJ).
- American Coot:** nested in Marshall, Polk, Clay, Todd, Watonwan, Waseca and Big Stone; also seen in 20 other counties.
- Sandhill Crane:** nested in Anoka (6/6 Cedar Creek N.H.A. — JH); also seen in Marshall, Duluth (6/2 — KE), Roseau, Beltrami, Crow Wing, Isanti and Sherburne.
- Black-bellied Plover** — last spring date 6/12 Duluth; first fall date 7/31 Anoka.
- Lesser Golden-Plover:** last spring date 6/4 Duluth.
- Semipalmated Plover:** through 6/26 Duluth; first fall date 7/14 Watonwan.
- Piping Plover:** nested in Lake of the Woods (Pine-Curry I., only 13 young from 27 nests — TW) and Duluth (2 successful, 6 unsuccessful, nests — L. Hanson).
- Killdeer:** nested in Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Polk, Pennington, Hubbard, Aitkin, Clay, Benton, Stearns, Carver, Hennepin, Ramsey, Brown, Cotton-



Juvenile Merlin at nest, 18 July 1984, Harriet Lake, Lake County. Photo by Steve Wilson

- wood, Blue Earth and Big Stone; also seen in 42 other counties.
- American Avocet:** 6/4-7/23 Crookston sewage ponds, Polk Co. (max. 8 — AB, DB); 6/13 Big Stone (SC); 6/6 Waseca (JF).
- Greater Yellowlegs:** last spring date 6/4 Duluth; first fall date 7/7 Carlton.
- Lesser Yellowlegs:** last spring date 6/21 Duluth; first fall date 6/29 Anoka.
- Solitary Sandpiper:** nested in Cook (6/25 Lima Mt. Rd. — same location as in 1983 — 2 displaying adults, KMH); first fall date 7/6 Mower.
- Willet:** 7/9 Lake of the Woods (TW); 6/12 Duluth (m.ob.); 7/22 Carlos Avery W.M.A., Anoka Co. (KL).
- Spotted Sandpiper:** nested in Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Stearns, Benton, Dakota and Watonwan; also seen in 20 other counties.
- Upland Sandpiper:** nested in Aitkin, Polk, Ramsey, Cottonwood, Big Stone and Olmsted; also seen in 17 other counties.
- Whimbrel:** 6/17 Duluth (T. Savaloja).
- Hudsonian Godwit:** last spring date 6/4 Polk; 7/4 Mower RRK; 7/14 Watonwan (RJ).
- Marbled Godwit:** seen in Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Norman, Clay, Becker and Lake of the Woods.
- Ruddy Turnstone:** last spring date 6/14 Lake of the Woods.
- Red Knot:** 6/3 Lake of the Woods (AJ); 6/4 Duluth (KE).
- Sanderling:** last spring date 6/12 Lake of the Woods; first fall date 7/7 Lake of the Woods.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper:** through 6/27 Duluth; first fall date 7/8 Lake of the Woods.
- Western Sandpiper:** last spring date 6/9 Duluth; first fall date 7/25 Marshall.
- Least Sandpiper:** last spring date 6/18 Duluth; first fall date 7/6 Mower.
- White-rumped Sandpiper:** last spring date 6/22 Lake of the Woods; first fall date 7/21 Dodge (BE).
- Baird's Sandpiper:** last spring date 6/12 Duluth; first fall date 7/12 Cook.
- Pectoral Sandpiper:** first fall date 7/4 Lake of the Woods.
- Dunlin:** through 6/27 Duluth; 7/19 Anoka (KL).
- Stilt Sandpiper:** last spring date 6/2 Nicol-
- let; first fall date 7/3 Duluth.
- RUFF:** 7/23 Crookston sewage ponds, Polk Co. (*The Loon* 56: 203-204).
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** 7/12 Anoka (20 — KL) first fall date 7/25 Duluth and Marshall.
- Short-billed Dowitcher:** last spring date 6/7 Duluth; first fall date 7/4 Anoka.
- Long-billed Dowitcher:** first fall date 7/11 Waseca.
- Common Snipe:** nested in Lake and Stearns; also seen in 28 other counties.
- American Woodcock:** nested in Clearwater, Lake, Sherburne, Dakota and Olmsted; also seen in 11 other counties.
- Wilson's Phalarope:** nested in Polk and Marshall; also seen in 23 other counties including Duluth (6/4-17 — KE, M. Stock).
- Red-necked Phalarope:** last spring date 6/4 Polk.
- Franklin's Gull:** nested in Marshall; also seen in 11 other counties including Anoka.
- Bonaparte's Gull:** seen in Aitkin, Crow Wing, Lake of the Woods, Chisago and Anoka.
- Ring-billed Gull:** nested in Duluth; also seen in 24 other counties including Lake.
- Herring Gull:** nested in Cook, Lake and St. Louis; also seen in Koochiching, Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Stearns and Anoka.
- Caspian Tern:** seen in Lake of the Woods, Becker, Beltrami, St. Louis, Anoka and Hennepin.
- Common Tern:** nested in Duluth (only 100 ± nests compared to 300 a few years ago); also seen in Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Crow Wing, Aitkin, Mille Lacs and Anoka.
- Forster's Tern:** nested in Marshall and Todd (300 pairs on L. Osakis — NH); also seen in 10 other counties.
- Black Tern:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Stearns, Le Sueur and Pope; also seen in 31 other counties including Lake.
- Rock Dove:** no nesting records!; seen in 44 counties.
- Mourning Dove:** nested in Clay, Pipestone, Rock, Big Stone, Cottonwood, Blue Earth, Brown, Olmsted, Le Sueur, Ramsey, Washington, Sherburne and

- Wabasha; also seen in 44 other counties.
- Black-billed Cuckoo:** nested in Brown; also seen in 29 other counties.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** nested in Brown; also seen in 21 other counties including Aitkin.
- Eastern Screech-Owl:** seen in Hennepin and Martin.
- Great Horned Owl:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Pennington, Red Lake, Clay, Lyon, Ramsey and Le Sueur; also seen in 18 other counties.
- Barred Owl:** nested in Hubbard; also seen in 20 other counties.
- Great Gray Owl:** seven nests found, six in Lake of the Woods (D. Johnson) and one in Aitkin (WN); also seen 7/24 Lake (SW/MS) and 7/1. Cotton, St. Louis Co. (fide KE).
- Northern Saw-whet Owl:** nested in St. Louis (2 nests — J. Newman), Lake of the Woods (2 nests — D. Johnson) and Beltrami (D. Johnson); also seen in Koochiching and Lake.
- Common Nighthawk:** nested in Lake and Rock; also seen in 25 other counties.
- CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW:** returned for the fourth year in a row to Sherburne; also seen 6/9 in Nicollet (P. Sullivan) (*The Loon* 56:200).
- Whip-poor-will:** nested in Lake and Sherburne; also seen in Cook, Marshall, Crow Wing, Anoka, Sherburne, Dakota and Houston.
- Chimney Swift:** nested in Aitkin; also seen in 47 other counties.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** nested in Clearwater, Anoka and Cottonwood; also seen in 31 other counties.
- Belted Kingfisher:** seen in 32 counties.
- Red-headed Woodpecker:** nested in Anoka, Olmsted and Blue Earth; also seen in 32 other counties including Lake and Cook.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker:** nested in Aitkin (Nordland Twp.), Stearns, Ramsey and Brown; also seen in 19 other counties.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** nested in Cook, Lake, Clay, Lyon (Garvin Co. Pk., and feeding y. — HK) and Brown; also seen in 25 other counties.
- Downy Woodpecker:** nested in Clay, Clearwater, Aitkin, Hubbard, Anoka, Ramsey, Hennepin and Le Sueur; also seen in 37 other counties.
- Hairy Woodpecker:** nested in Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Clay, Anoka, Ramsey and Brown; also seen in 25 other counties.
- Black-backed Woodpecker:** nested in Cook, Lake and Lake of the Woods; also seen in St. Louis.
- Northern Flicker:** nested in Lake, Clay, Anoka, Ramsey, Le Sueur and Olmsted; also seen in 43 other counties.
- Pileated Woodpecker:** nested in Lake, Aitkin and Crow Wing; also seen in 28 other counties.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher:** seen in Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Beltrami, Hubbard, Clay (6/4 — DB), Aitkin and Scott (6/2 — RJ).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee:** nested in Anoka, Scott and Brown; also seen in 38 other counties.
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** seen in Cook, Lake, Beltrami, Duluth (6/7, 20 still migrating — KE).
- Acadian Flycatcher:** 6/7 Forestville S.P., Fillmore Co. (1 singing male — BL).
- Alder Flycatcher:** seen in 20 counties including Anoka.
- Willow Flycatcher:** nested in Clay; also seen in 14 other counties including Kanabec (6/23 — RJ).
- Least Flycatcher:** nested in Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Clearwater and Anoka; also seen in 32 other counties.
- Eastern Phoebe:** nested in Clearwater, Kittson, Itasca, Beltrami, Mahnomen, Pine, Morrison, Stearns, Carlton, Anoka and Sherburne; also seen in 25 other counties.
- Great Crested Flycatcher:** nested in Clearwater, Hubbard and Olmsted; also seen in 43 other counties.
- Western Kingbird:** nested in Clay, Big Stone and Anoka; also seen in 18 other counties including Hennepin and Washington.
- Eastern Kingbird:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Pennington, Clay, Anoka, Washington, Sherburne, Ramsey, Brown, Le Sueur, Olmsted, Blue Earth and Big Stone; also seen in 44 other counties.
- Horned Lark:** nested in Clay, Wright and Olmsted; also seen in 33 other counties.
- Purple Martin:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Clay and Ramsey; also seen in 45 other counties.

- Tree Swallow:** nested in Cook, Lake, Aitkin, Clearwater, Pennington, Cass, Clay, Benton, Stearns, Carlton, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown, Le Sueur, Olmsted, Big Stone and Morrison; also seen in 35 other counties.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** seen in 30 counties.
- Bank Swallow:** nested in Kittson, Polk, Cass, Pennington, Clay and Brown; also seen in 30 other counties.
- Cliff Swallow:** nested in Cook, Lake of the Woods, Cass, Pennington, Clay, Benton, Stearns and Brown; also seen in 33 other counties.
- Barn Swallow:** nested in Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Clearwater, Clay, Wadena, Anoka, Ramsey, Stearns, Brown, Le Sueur and Cottonwood; also seen in 47 other counties.
- Gray Jay:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Itasca and Cook; also seen in Lake, St. Louis, Carlton and Aitkin.
- Blue Jay:** nested in Clay, Aitkin, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown, Le Sueur, Cottonwood and Blue Earth; also seen in 40 other counties.
- Black-billed Magpie:** nested in Marshall and St. Louis (Tower-Soudan S.P., 2 young in nest — SW/MS); also seen in Hubbard.
- American Crow:** nested in Cook, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Clearwater, Clay, Anoka and Ramsey; also seen in 57 other counties.
- Common Raven:** nested in Lake of the Woods; also seen in 12 other counties.
- Black-capped Chickadee:** nested in Clearwater, Clay, Cass, Stearns, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown, Scott, Wabasha, Le Sueur, Olmsted and Blue Earth; also seen in 38 other counties.
- Boreal Chickadee:** seen in Cook; only report.
- Tufted Titmouse:** nested in Olmsted (7/4-9, 4 young — JB); only report.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch:** nested in Cook, Lake and Clearwater; also seen in 11 other counties including Houston (6/28, Mound Prairie — FL) and Sherburne (7/12 — OJ).
- White-breasted Nuthatch:** nested in Pennington, Clay, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown and Le Sueur; also seen in 35 other counties.
- Brown Creeper:** seen in Cook, Lake and Brown (6/9-7/4 Flandrau S.P., 2 abandoned nests — JS).
- ROCK WREN:** through 6/17, Bemidji, Beltrami Co., pair built, abandoned nest (A. Schmierer *The Loon* 56:192-193).
- House Wren:** nested in Pennington, Morrison, Stearns, Benton, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown, Olmsted, Le Sueur, Blue Earth, Lyon and Clay; also seen in 39 other counties.
- Winter Wren:** seen in Cook, Lake, St. Louis and Carlton.
- Sedge Wren:** nested in Hennepin; also seen in 31 other counties.
- Marsh Wren:** nested in Todd and Pipestone; also seen in 32 other counties including Lake
- Golden-crowned Kinglet:** seen in Cook, Lake and St. Louis.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** seen in Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Itasca, Beltrami, Marshall and Washington (6/14, SSt — probably late migrant).
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** nested in Anoka, Sherburne, Scott, Nicollet, Brown and Olmsted; also seen in Washington, Dakota, Hennepin, Blue Earth and Houston.
- Eastern Bluebird:** nested in Lake, St. Louis, Aitkin, Stearns, Benton, Morrison, Mahnomen, Chippewa, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown, Olmsted and Houston; also seen in 32 other counties.
- Veery:** nested in Cook and Hubbard; also seen in 29 other counties.
- Swainson's Thrush:** seen in Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Carlton, Clearwater and Marshall.
- Hermit Thrush:** nested in Lake; also seen in 10 other counties.
- Wood Thrush:** nested in Crow Wing and Brown; also seen in 20 other counties including Cook, Lake, Koochiching, Beltrami and Pope.
- American Robin:** nested Cook, Lake, Morrison, Lake of the Woods, Koochiching, Pennington, Clay, Clearwater, Stearns, Anoka, Wright, Ramsey, Brown, Sherburne, Cottonwood, Lincoln, Big Stone, Hennepin, Olmsted and Le Sueur; also seen in 43 other counties.
- Gray Catbird:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Aitkin, Morrison, Stearns, Anoka, Sherburne, Ramsey, Brown,

- Carver, Olmsted, Le Sueur and Big Stone; also seen in 37 other counties.
- Northern Mockingbird:** 6/5 Grand Marais, Cook Co., (KMH); 6/9 Crow Wing (GSw); 6/18 Blue Earth (MF).
- Brown Thrasher:** nested in Stearns, Morrison, Lake, Anoka, Sherburne, Ramsey, Brown, Big Stone, Le Sueur and Wabasha; also seen in 41 other counties.
- Sprague's Pipit:** 6/4 Felton prairie, Clay Co. (DB, OJ); only report.
- Cedar Waxwing:** nested in Cook, Anoka, Sherburne, Washington, Brown, Blue Earth, Le Sueur and Olmsted; also seen in 36 other counties.
- Loggerhead Shrike:** nested in Blue Earth, Brown, Le Sueur and Sherburne; also seen in Stearns, Washington, Ramsey, Dakota, Wright and Clay; more reports than usual.
- European Starling:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Sherburne, Anoka and Houston; also seen in 39 other counties.
- Bell's Vireo:** nested in Olmsted (6/9, nest with 4 eggs — JB); also seen 6/27 Dakota (BE).
- Solitary Vireo:** seen in Cook, Lake, Beltrami, Hubbard and Clearwater.
- Yellow-throated Vireo:** nested in Morrison and Ramsey; also seen in 25 other counties.
- Warbling Vireo:** nested in Lake of the Woods, Stearns, Anoka and Big Stone; also seen in 37 other counties.
- Philadelphia Vireo:** seen in Cook and St. Louis.
- Red-eyed Vireo:** nested in Crow Wing, Anoka and Ramsey; also seen in 39 other counties.
- Blue-winged Warbler:** seen in Houston, Olmsted, Scott, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Ramsey and Otter Tail (6/3 — SDM).
- Golden-winged Warbler:** nested in Anoka; also seen in 14 other counties including Cook (6/14 — KMH) and Washington.
- Tennessee Warbler:** see in Lake, St. Louis and Clearwater.
- Nashville Warbler:** nested in Lake and Hubbard; also seen in 10 other counties.
- Northern Parula:** seen in Cook, Lake, Koochiching, Beltrami, Clearwater and Lake of the Woods.
- Yellow Warbler:** nested in Lake, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Clearwater, Morrison, Benton, Sherburne, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown, Blue Earth, Le Sueur, Dakota and Olmsted; also seen in 29 other counties.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler:** nested in Cook and Crow Wing; also seen in 16 other counties.
- Magnolia Warbler:** seen in Cook, Lake and St. Louis.
- Cape May Warbler:** seen in Cook, Lake and St. Louis.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler:** seen in Lake and Cook.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler:** seen in Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Carlton, Koochiching, Hubbard and Clearwater.
- Black-throated Green Warbler:** seen in Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Itasca, Koochiching and Marshall.
- Blackburnian Warbler:** seen in Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Itasca, Koochiching and Hubbard.
- Pine Warbler:** nested in Crow Wing; also seen in Lake, Itasca, Clearwater, Hubbard, Cass, Becker, Aitkin, Carlton, Pine and Sherburne (7/12 — DB, OJ).
- Bay-breasted Warbler:** nested in Cook; also seen in Lake.
- Cerulean Warbler:** Seen in Fillmore, Nicollet and Scott.
- Black-and-white Warbler:** nested in Anoka; also seen in 13 other counties.
- Prothonotary Warbler:** nested in Ramsey (Pig's Eye L., 4 young — SSt) and Brown (New Ulm, 4 young in nest — JS); also seen in Houston.
- Ovenbird:** nested in Lake, Itasca, Clearwater and Anoka; also seen in 25 other counties.
- American Redstart:** nested in Cook, Lake of the Woods, Crow Wing and Morrison; also seen in 27 other counties.
- Northern Waterthrush:** seen in Cook and Lake.
- Louisiana Waterthrush:** seen in Pine (6/9, RJ).
- KENTUCKY WARBLER:** 6/9 Bunker Hills Park, Anoka Co. (KL).
- Connecticut Warbler:** seen in Lake of the Woods, Koochiching, Beltrami, Itasca, Hubbard, Aitkin, Carlton and Lake.
- Mourning Warbler:** nested in Lake; also seen in 19 other counties including Brown (6/9, on Flandrau S.P. — JS)

and Washington (6/11-12, singing male with broken eye ring — SSt).

Common Yellowthroat: nested in Clearwater, Anoka, Ramsey and Le Sueur; also seen in 50 other counties.

HOODED WARBLER: nested in Dakota (Murphy-Hanrahan Park, B. Fall — first state nesting record!) see article this issue.

Wilson's Warbler: 6/5 Cook (KMH); 6/7 Lake (SW/MS).

Canada Warbler: seen in Cook and Lake.

Yellow-breasted Chat: 6/9-19 Black Dog L., Dakota Co. (m.ob.); 7/21 Clay (KL).

SUMMER TANAGER: 6/1 Carlos Avery W.M.A., Anoka Co. (KL).

Scarlet Tanager: nested in Anoka, Sherburne, Brown and Renville; also seen in 27 other counties.

Northern Cardinal: nested in Ramsey, Brown and Le Sueur; also seen in 13 other counties including St. Louis (6/11 Aurora-Hoyt Lakes — AE) and Clearwater (6/17 Bagley — AB).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: nested in Clay, Anoka, Ramsey and Brown; also seen in 35 other counties.

Blue Grosbeak: seen in Rock, Nobles and Murray.

Indigo Bunting: nested in Morrison, Stearns, Sherburne, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown and Le Sueur; also seen in 34 other counties.



Indigo Bunting nest with cowbird egg, 12 July 1984, Stearns Co. Photo by Clare Mohs

Dickcissel: seen in 24 counties.

Rufous-sided Towhee: nested in Anoka; also seen in 13 other counties.

Chipping Sparrow: nested in Cook, Lake, Morrison, Clearwater, Pennington, Cass, Clay, Stearns, Brown, Sherburne, Ramsey, Le Sueur and Olmsted; also

seen in 35 other counties.

Clay-colored Sparrow: nested in Stearns and Sherburne; also seen in 33 other counties including Olmsted.

Field Sparrow: nested in Sherburne, Anoka, Ramsey, Brown, Le Sueur and Olmsted; also seen in 16 other counties.

Vesper Sparrow: nested in Clay, Stearns, Anoka and Olmsted; also seen in 33 other counties including St. Louis (Aurora-Hoyt Lakes — AE).



Vesper Sparrow nest, 16 July 1984, Stearns Co. Photo by Clare Mohs

Lark Sparrow: nested in Anoka and Clay (6/20 Moorhead, 2 young — LCF); also seen in Cook (6/1 Poplar L. and 7/6 Grand Marais — KMH), Washington, Sherburne, Nicollet, Dakota, Grant, Chippewa, Renville and Kittson (6/29, 3 pairs — SKS).

Savannah Sparrow: nested in Lake; also seen in 38 other counties.

Grasshopper Sparrow: nested in Clay and Cottonwood; also seen in 23 other counties including Koochiching and Aitkin.

Henslow's Sparrow: seen as usual in O.L. Kipp S.P., Winona Co.

LeConte's Sparrow: seen in Koochiching, Clearwater, Beltrami, Pennington, Polk, Marshall, Clay, Mahnomen, Wadena, Aitkin and Carlton.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: seen in Marshall and Aitkin.

Song Sparrow: nested in Cook, Koochiching, Clearwater, Anoka, Ramsey, Le Sueur and Olmsted; also seen in 56 other counties.

Lincoln's Sparrow: seen in Cook, Lake and St. Louis.

Swamp Sparrow: nested in Cook; also seen in 29 other counties.

White-throated Sparrow: nested in Cook; also seen in 16 other counties.

Dark-eyed Junco: nested in Cook; also seen in Lake.

Lapland Longspur: late migrant 6/4 Duluth (fide KE).

Chestnut-collared Longspur: seen as usual at Felton prairie, Clay Co.

Bobolink: nested in Clay, Rock and Olmsted; also seen in 41 other counties.

Red-winged Blackbird: nested in Cook, Lake of the Woods, Clay, Stearns, Anoka, Ramsey, Big Stone, Le Sueur and Olmsted; also seen in 46 other counties.

Eastern Meadowlark: nested in Benton; also seen in 22 other counties.



Eastern Meadowlark nest, 13 May 1984, Benton Co. Photo by Clare Mohs

Western Meadowlark: no nesting records; seen in 37 counties including Itasca and Aitkin.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: nested in Lake of the Woods, Todd and Le Sueur; also seen in 31 other counties.

Rusty Blackbird: seen in Cook (2 locations).

Brewer's Blackbird: nested in Lake, St. Louis and Stearns; also seen in 26 other counties including Houston (7/28 — BE) and Lyon (HK).

Common Grackle: nested in Lake of the Woods, Pennington, Cass, Clay, Stearns, Lake, Anoka, Brown, Le Sueur, Pope, Big Stone and Olmsted; also seen in 44 other counties.

Brown-headed Cowbird: parasitized nests in Koochiching, Clay, Big Stone, Stearns, Anoka, Sherburne, Brown and Dakota; also seen in 37 other counties.

Orchard Oriole: nested in Brown and Big Stone; also seen in 13 other counties including Beltrami (6/2 Ponemah — AB).

Northern Oriole: nested in Pennington, Clay, Big Stone, Crow Wing, Stearns, Sherburne, Anoka, Washington, Ramsey, Hennepin, Benton, Brown, Le Sueur and Blue Earth; also seen in 35 other counties.

HOUSE FINCH: through 6/15 in Aitkin Co., 1 male at feeder, *The Loon* 56: 189-190.

Purple Finch: nested in Lake and Crow Wing; also seen in Cook, St. Louis, Carlton, Beltrami, Clearwater and Koochiching.

Red Crossbill: seen in Cook, Lake, Beltrami, Cass and Hubbard.

White-winged Crossbill: 6/26-7/29 Lake (SW/MS); 7/27 Cook (4 — fide KE).

Pine Siskin: nested in Lake, Stearns (nest with 2 young — NH) and Ramsey (St. Paul, 2 nests — R. Eliason); also seen in 10 other counties including Hennepin (7/18 Minneapolis — VL) and Brown (6/20 New Ulm, 3 birds — JS).

American Goldfinch: nested in Stearns, Sherburne, Le Sueur and Brown; also seen in 41 other counties.

Evening Grosbeak: seen in Roseau, Itasca, Cook, Lake and St. Louis.

House Sparrow: nested in Clay, Kittson, Brown, Le Sueur and Hennepin; also seen in 37 other counties.

Corrections to Spring 1984 Seasonal Report

Delete Red Knot, 5/8 Dakota JD

Alder Flycatcher 4/19 Aitkin WN should be 5/19

Veery 4/12 Anoka JH should be 5/12

Corrections to Winter 1983-84 Report

The CBC totals included Count Week birds; actual totals for Count Day were: Albert Lea 32, Aurora 24, Austin 40, Baudette 24, Bemidji 26, Bloomington 50, Duluth 51, Excelsior 44, Faribault 36, Fergus Falls 35, Grand Marais 31, Grand Rapids 28, Hastings-Etter 44, Hibbing 23, Marshall 28, Mountain Lake-Windom 26, Rochester 53, St. Paul 46, St. Paul Northeast 50, Willmar 31. Count totals for Afton, Fargo-Moorhead, Grand Forks-East Grand Forks, La Crosse-La Crescent and Winona include only the Minnesota por-

tions of these 2-state counts; their final counts were 45, 32, 50, and 38 respectively.

Corrections to Fall 1983 Seasonal Report

Delete Turkey Vulture 11/30 Houston (FL).

Change Tundra Swan 9/24 Lake of the Woods to 9/25.

Change Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers in Roseau Co. from 9/6 and 9/11 to 8/6 and 8/11 respectively.

Change the Roseau Co. records of Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, dowitcher sp., Black Tern, Horned Lark and Sharp-tailed Sparrow to Lake of the Woods Co.

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SOME INTERESTING FACTS — Of the 397 species so far recorded in Minnesota the following 19 species are represented by only one substantiated record in the state:

Glossy Ibis

Common Black-Hawk

Mew Gull

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Ross' Gull

Common Poorwill

Lewis' Woodpecker

Black Phoebe

Vermilion Flycatcher

Sage Thrasher

Curve-billed Thrasher

Townsend's Warbler

MacGillivray's Warbler

Green-tailed Towhee

Brewer's Sparrow

Great-tailed Grackle

Scott's Oriole

Brambling

BOOK REVIEWS

GROUSE OF THE NORTH SHORE

By Gordon Gullion, with photographs by Tom Martinson. Willow Creek Press, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 1984. xii + 136 pp. + 8 unnumbered pages in appendix and bibliography. \$39.00 — Gordon Gullion has been studying Ruffed Grouse at Cloquet, Minnesota, full-time for more than a quarter of a century. In this book, he gives us a nontechnical account of the natural history of Ruffed Grouse in northern Minnesota. The book is illustrated with stunning photographs by Tom Martinson taken of a group of docile but wild grouse whose confidence he won. The result is a beautiful book, by far the best source, outside of the technical wildlife literature, of information about Ruffed Grouse.

The opening chapter introduces the bird and is followed by chapters entitled Spring, Drumming, Nesting, Summer, Brood Development, Autumn, Dispersal, Winter, Grouse Foods and Feeding, and Predation. An appendix listing scientific and common names of plants and animals mentioned and a bibliography of papers (77 in all) cited in the text complete the book. No effort was made to summarize the huge technical literature on Ruffed Grouse. The informal anecdotal character of the book would have been destroyed by such an effort.

The Ruffed Grouse is perhaps the most admired native upland game bird in North America. The most puzzling trait of the species is the regular and dramatic cycling of population size throughout the northern part of the species range. Grouse numbers hit peaks every 10 years, on average. Peak populations may be 5 to 10 times greater than low populations in a given area. Thus Minnesota grouse reached peaks in 1951, 1960, 1971, 1979, and we are currently

enduring a low enroute to a bonanza expected around 1990.

Gullion's treatment of grouse cycles is disappointing to me. He describes cycles clearly, discusses how color phases of grouse change in frequency at different stages of the cycle, and describes the differential survival of color phases in different habitats and under predation by Northern Goshawks and Great Horned Owls. But when it comes to the central question, "what causes cycles?", he says only that "a number of theories have been advanced, each having some relationship to environmental factors or how other animals interact with grouse. But there seem to be flaws in all of the theories developed so far, and we are still unsure of the underlying causes." Later in the book (pp. 122-123) he describes his current favorite hypothesis: "that periodic changes in the chemistry of aspen flower buds is (sic) an underlying cause for the Ruffed Grouse cycles." No mention is made of the substantial literature (much by Dennis Chitty) that demonstrates regular genetic changes associated with changes in behavior and physiology in other cyclic species such as voles. A similar model has been proposed for Ruffed Grouse by Tom Bergerud; he argues that the cyclic changes in color phase frequency (ironically the best data are from Gullion's own work) are genetic and are related to genetic changes in tolerance to crowding, aggressive behavior, and fecundity, all interacting in such a way as to produce self-driven, predictable, cyclic changes in population size.

Gullion ignores the Chitty hypothesis. If he rejects it, I'd like to hear his reasons. It is disappointing to see him gloss over major modern attempts to answer the central question in the biology of the Ruffed

Grouse.

In my copy of the book, some lines on most pages are printed more lightly than the rest. A fair number of typographical errors are sprinkled through the text, and at least five scientific names are misspelled in the appendix. Grouse are currently considered by the AOU to be a subfamily (Tetraoninae) of the family Phasianidae; Gullion uses the older scheme in which grouse get full family status. But these are minor criticisms. The main point to make is that "Grouse of the North Shore" is a handsome book, packed with information. It towers above the forest of lesser books on Ruffed Grouse, most of which are preoccupied with hunting techniques and are very skimpy on basic biology of the species. If I could have only two books on Ruffed Grouse, I'd choose William Harnden Foster's 1947 "New England Grouse Hunting," to cover the sporting side, and Gordon Gullion's book for grouse biology. — **Harrison B. Tordoff, Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.**

BIRDS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S DEEP CANYON by Wesley Weathers. Published by: University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, California, 2223 Fulton Street, Berkeley, CA 94720, 268 pp. w/60 line drawings, 28 color. Price \$35.00.

The Birds Of Southern California's Deep Canyon is a great example of how a research student can go about and study birds either by identification studies or habitat and population studies as Wesley Weathers has done. I thought oh God get the dictionary if I'm ever going to understand all those technical scientific terms, but no, Wesley Weathers wrote this book without using all those terms. Wesley Weathers starts out his book by telling of his methods and how he became interested in Deep Canyon and what he wanted to show. The book is set up in a system where he first talks about the birds of the desert floor then works his way up to the rocky slopes. Wesley Weathers also talks about human habits and how they are affecting the birds of Deep Canyon and also about the weather of Deep Canyon.

I recommend this book to those students who are pursuing a Masters Degree in Wildlife Studies. This book may also confuse you as where you can find certain birds in Southern California. The photographs are really beautiful shots of birds in their habitat and what they look like. I really enjoyed this book since I am a beginning Biology student.

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THE FLORIDA SCRUB JAY: DEMOGRAPHY OF A COOPERATIVE-BREEDING BIRD by G. E. Woolfenden and J. W. Fitzpatrick. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. 1984; 406 pages; cloth, \$45.00; paper, \$14.50.

Long-term demographic studies of natural populations are rare for any species. This book presents the results of the first such effort for a cooperative-breeding bird species. Cooperative breeding is a social system in which individuals other than the parents help in raising the young. John Fitzpatrick, a Minnesota native, now Associate Curator of Birds at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, and Glen Woolfenden, Prof. of Zoology, U. of S. Florida, Tampa have been engaged in a study of the Florida Scrub Jay since 1969. This book reports their findings from 1969-1979. Their goal is to understand why and how cooperative breeding arose in the Florida Scrub Jay, in contrast to the western race of the same species, in which monogamous pairs breed without helpers. Cooperative breeding has been observed in several hundred other bird species.

The book will primarily be of interest to students of cooperative breeding, but also to those with a serious interest in bird behavior and the evolution of behavior in general. Persons with only a casual interest in these topics might find it rather dry reading, since it is structured as a paper in a scientific journal would be, with extensive use of tables and figures to present results. Initial chapters include a presentation of the problem, a description of the methods used in data collection, and a description of the habitat; later chapters deal with the characteristics of "helpers," the

effect of helping on the reproductive success of those helped as well as on the future reproductive success of the helpers themselves, how helpers become breeders, and finally the authors' current understanding of how helping behavior arose in this population.

The book is well-organized and clearly written, with helpful synopses and conclusions at the beginning and end of each chapter summarizing important points. The study involved no experimental manipulations, but because all birds are individually marked and tend to be long-lived (20% of breeders are greater than 10 years old), the authors were able to use natural experiments to make comparisons of such things as the success of the same birds at different ages and with different numbers of helpers. Using impressively complete information on survivorship, fecundity, relatedness, and dispersal characteristics, Woolfenden and Fitzpatrick are able to develop a convincing hypothesis to explain the origin of cooperative breeding in this population.

The important factors in the explanation they offer are as follows: All suitable

breeding habitat is totally saturated with the territories of jays; one breeding pair per territory. First year birds have virtually no chance of breeding on their own. Young birds therefore delay breeding, remain at home and help their parents (and in some cases step-parents) for one or more years. Pairs with helpers have higher reproductive success than those without, and birds that have helped for two years have higher reproductive success when they become breeders than those that help for only one year. The two most common ways of becoming a breeder are to replace a dead or disabled breeder on a nearby territory (50%), or to help one's parents enlarge their territory at the expense of their neighbors, and then bud off a territory of one's own from the parental territory (33%). Some questions still cannot be resolved, but the study is on-going and will apparently continue until all questions about the origin and maintenance of helping behavior in this species are answered.

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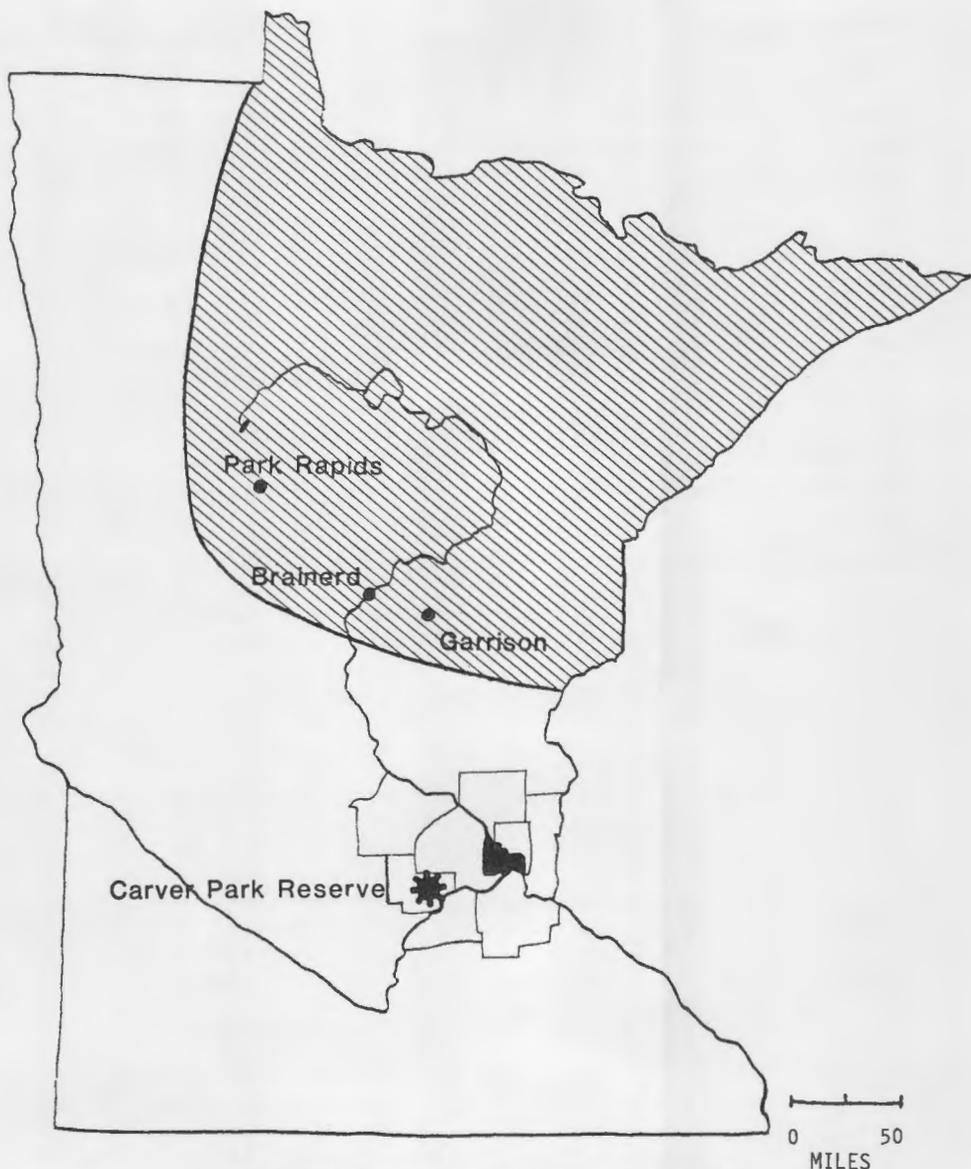
The Hennepin County Park Reserve District's Osprey Reintroduction Project

Laurence N. Gillette and Judy Voigt Englund

Introduction

Ospreys occur in varying numbers on all continents except Antarctica. Historically, this fish-eating raptor nested throughout the wooded portions of Minnesota, but it disappeared from the southern part of the state before the turn of the century. Its demise was due primarily to uncontrolled shooting. At present, Ospreys nest only in the northeastern third of the State, from Mille Lacs County north, where they are still considered to be common (Green & Janssen 1975).

In 1983, the Hennepin County Park Reserve District began to research whether or not the Osprey could be restored to the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. It was eliminated through shooting, not destruction of habitat which has so often been the case with other species. The Osprey is currently protected by both State and Federal law. People's attitudes toward raptors have changed in the last 100 years, and the danger of shooting is greatly diminished. Metro lakes still contain abundant fish populations, and Ospreys have demonstrated an ability to fish on lakes used inten-



Current Osprey Breeding Distribution in Minnesota

sively by boaters. Historical nesting sites in large trees along shorelines have been eliminated due to development, but Ospreys adapt readily to artificial nests located near, but not necessarily on, the shoreline. Finally, although Ospreys are very slow to pioneer into new areas, they can be reintroduced through the release of young birds.

The Park Reserve District staff felt there was a good chance the Osprey could be brought back to the Twin Cities Metro Area if protected nesting sites were available. Although the District is a special purpose recreational agency, which operates regional parks and park reserves in the western suburbs of the Twin Cities, it also has a mandate to preserve or restore

species that are, or were, native to this area.

Project Objectives

Accordingly, the Park Reserve District developed a 4-year plan to restore the Osprey as a nesting species in the Twin Cities Metro Area. Basically, it consists of two steps:

1. Transfer 6-week-old young from natural nests in north-central Minnesota to hacking towers in Carver Park Reserve, from which they are released when ready to fly, and
2. Erect artificial nesting structures on utility poles in suitable locations throughout the eight-county Metro Area (including Wright County).

Preparation

Preparation for the arrival of the 1984 Osprey young began in early spring. First, state and federal permits were obtained. Then, about 600 bullheads donated to the project by commercial fishermen Duane Cloutier and Don Benson were packaged and frozen for later use. At the same time, three hacking towers were constructed at Carver Park Reserve. These consist of cages atop platforms on four 25-foot utility poles donated by Northern States Power. The front panel of the cage drops open, facilitating release of the birds.

Park Reserve District personnel located active Osprey nests in central Minnesota with assistance from Minnesota Power and Light, Mille Lacs Electric Cooperative, Kerdolian, Inc., and Minnesota DNR. Nests on utility structures were selected because access to them was easier and they were safer to climb than trees. Ten nests were monitored closely during incubation and after hatch (June and early July). Finally, four nests were chosen as a source of birds.

Relocation

We tried to move the birds when they were 6 to 6½ weeks old. At this age they are still flightless, but they are old enough to control their body temperatures under cold or hot conditions, and they can feed themselves. Birds older than seven weeks often have difficulty adjusting to new surroundings.

Nestling age was determined both by feather development and by behavior in the nest. At six weeks, primary feathers are about four inches long, and most of the down is gone from the bird's back and neck. Behaviorally, the birds exhibit a "pancaking" posture when threatened. They hunker down in the nest to hide the white underportions of their bodies. The buffy tips of their newly emerged body feathers break up their solid brown backs, partially camouflaging the young from avian predators.

Six birds were removed from four nests in mid-July. All nestlings were examined and banded at the University of Minnesota's Raptor Rehabilitation Center before they were placed on hacking towers in Carver Park Reserve. Relocation from the nest to the hacking tower took place in one day.

Birds were kept in the cages for about two weeks while they grew to flight stage. They were fed bullheads twice a day by the hack site attendant, Bill Meyer. Unfortunately, two of the Ospreys were older than 6½ weeks when they were relocated to Carver. These birds did not adjust to their surroundings, and refused to eat. They had to be forcefed for the first three days on the tower. Finally, they were stimulated to eat on their own when they were moved to a cage with younger birds which were self-feeding.

Bill monitored the birds daily for signs that they were ready to fly, which included lifting up from the platform while exercising their wings or trying to fly out through the conduit bars. These activities occurred 7½ to 8 weeks after hatching.

The young were segregated in cages by age. The older birds were released four days before the younger ones. A total of 54 volunteers were assembled to watch the Ospreys after their release. The hack sites were monitored from dawn to dusk to record the birds' behavior from the minute the cages were opened until the birds no longer needed supplemental food from the towers (about three weeks).

The night before release, the birds' tails were marked with fluorescent orange or green paint to identify each individual. Food was placed on the platforms outside the cages.

Unfortunately, not everything went ac-



Minnesota Power and Light lineman, Bob Kasper, taking nestling Ospreys from nest near Riverton, Crow Wing County, July 1984



Osprey nestlings, July 1984, 7½-8 weeks old

ording to plan. The birds were supposed to be released from the cages gradually. However, when the first cage was opened just after dawn, the two older birds jumped out and flew from the hack site immediately. They were not seen at the tower for over 24 hours, and we feared the worst. Fortunately, they returned to the tower to feed the following day. This problem was avoided with the second group of birds by releasing them at a younger age and by opening the cage door before daylight.

Food was provided on the platforms for about three weeks after release, while the birds learned to fly and fish on their own. Various feeding methods were attempted as we searched for a technique that would avoid disturbing the young Ospreys when they were on the towers. The first method involved vaulting fish up to the platform from the ground, but the "flying meal" startled the birds. A second method involved climbing the tower shortly after midnight to deposit the fish. This, however, disrupted the sleep of both attendant and fledglings. The problem resolved itself as the birds got older. They simply flew from the tower when approached too closely, and returned soon after the intruder left. The attendant could then resume climbing up to the platform to put out food during daylight hours.

The young Ospreys learned to fly and fish by themselves. Therefore, their initial efforts were not always graceful. On their first day of flight, for example, one female flew to a branch already occupied by her sibling, and instead of perching next to the bird, she landed on its back. More than once a bird was observed landing on a mudflat or floating bog mat in the middle of the marsh, where it sat for quite some time.

While learning to fish, the young birds flew low over the water, often dipping down and dragging their feet. Eventually, they started plunging for fish, but initial attempts ended in failure. The birds sometimes concluded their futile efforts by simply sitting in the water. The oldest female was the first bird to catch a fish, just seven days after her first flight. A few days later, one of the volunteers reported seeing a male perched on a branch struggling with a large flopping fish. He ended up falling

out of the tree into shallow water, losing his dinner in the process. It was all part of learning.

Early Success

The 1984 Hennepin County Osprey releases were completely successful. All six birds fledged. Five of the six birds were observed catching fish. We believe the sixth bird also fished successfully, since it did not eat frequently from the tower, yet it remained healthy.

All the young stopped returning to the towers to feed withing 21 days after release. They were occasionally seen flying to and from Lake Minnetonka and other nearby lakes. The young migrated south sometime between late August and early October. Our last sighting of a marked bird was on 15 September 1984 at Shady Oak Lake near Hopkins, 14 miles east of Carver Park Reserve.

Most North American Ospreys winter in South America. Wisconsin- and Michigan-banded birds have been recovered from Columbia, Ecuador, and Panama (Henny and Van Velzen 1977). We believe that Minnesota birds winter in similar locales. They will not return to their release sites to breed until they are at least three years of age, so it will be several years before we will know the results of our releases.

Future Efforts

The Park Reserve District plans to continue releasing young birds through hacking for three more years. Nine birds will be released each year from towers in Carver Park Reserve. In addition, new hacking towers are planned for Carpenter Nature Center near Hastings in Washington County and at North Oaks in Ramsey County in order to increase the number of birds that can be released each year.

Nesting poles must be erected on carefully selected sites in the eight-county area to fulfill the second objective of the project. A nesting pole is a single 35-foot utility pole with a three-foot diameter nesting platform on top. District personnel are presently searching for sites where these structures can be placed. All potential sites will be evaluated. The District will eventually erect nesting poles on the 20 sites considered to have the best potential for attract-



Artificial Osprey nest pole with platform

ing Ospreys. Sites may be on public or private land.

Nest locations should include at least five acres of undeveloped land (preferably more) located within ¼ mile of a lake or river which contains abundant fish and which has a history of attracting Ospreys during migration. Open fields or wetlands are preferred since the 35-foot pole must be taller than the surrounding vegetation. Ospreys almost always select the tallest available structure for a nest site.

The success of the program is, of course, dependent upon the birds returning to nest. But public support is equally important. Money, volunteer time, and nest sites are all needed. The Park Reserve District is covering most of the expenses associated with releasing the birds, but work that is done outside park boundaries, such as erecting nesting poles and collecting the young from natural nests, must be funded through other sources. Continued contributions are a necessity. Volunteers will be needed each summer to monitor the young, and additional nest sites must be found. If you can support the Osprey project in any of these ways, please contact Judy Voigt Englund or Larry Gillette by calling 612/477-4255, or by writing to Hennepin County Park Reserve District, 8600 Rebecca Park Trail, Rockford, Minnesota 55373. Contributions are tax-deductible.

Lowry Nature Center in Carver Park Reserve will be conducting programs in late July and early August for people interested in seeing the young Ospreys learn to fly and fish. Call 612/472-4911 in July to find out when the programs are scheduled.

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis, the Minnesota River Valley Audubon Club, the Minneapolis Audubon Society, the Question Club of Minneapolis, and Mr. Jim Alt for their generous contributions. Northern States Power contributed significantly by donating utility poles for hacking towers. Minnesota Power and Light helped locate and monitor active nests and gave us an entire day of lineman time to collect birds near Park Rapids and Brainerd. Mille Lacs Electric Cooperative provided nestlings from their utility structures. In addition, Doug Keran, Kerdolian, Inc., donated time monitoring the active natural nests from the air, and Don Hammer, Senior Terrestrial Ecologist for the Tennessee Valley Authority, provided advice during the initial planning stages.

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- Hennepin County Park Reserve District, 8600 Rebecca Park Trail, Rockford, Minnesota 55373**

Notes of Interest

WHITE-FACED IBIS AT GUN CLUB LAKE — It was just before dark at Gun Club Lake, Dakota County on October 4, 1984, when an ibis flushed from the shore at about 100 yards, along with a flock of ducks and a Black-crowned Night Heron. The lighting was still good enough to make out the coloration of American Wigeons on the lake at about 200 yards. The most obvious field mark of the ibis was the 6-10 inch long decurved bill. Next was the outstretched neck in flight and the all-dark overall appearance. After the bird gained altitude with a steady upward flight, it leveled off and alternated flaps with long glides over the marsh. The bird was observed on six separate days, the last being on the 12th. Over the course of this time period, the bird was seen from as close as 60 or 70 yards with 7X35 binoculars. The bird was heard on two occasions. The voice was soft and rythmical, being heard only when the bird was flushed. The field guides were consulted regarding voice, but the literature seemed to be confusing on this point. Based upon my original notes and after listening to the Peterson Western Bird Song Guide, I was fairly certain that the bird was a White-faced Ibis. However, since the literature is confusing and I was unable to hear a recording of a Glossy for direct comparison, I left the identification as ibis. However the point may have become moot as I later learned that Steve Millard was able to get close enough (50-70 yards) with a 45X scope to see the bird's red eye color in favorable light. This meant that the bird was an adult White-faced in winter plummage. Had the bird been an immature instead of an adult, it would not have been possible to differentiate the bird from a Glossy Ibis, as both first-year birds have brown irises. **Tom Tustison, 2861 Highridge Terrace, Eagan, MN 55121**

Editors Note: The following was received from Steve Millard confirming that the above was indeed a White-faced Ibis.

I saw the ibis at Gun Club Lake on Wednesday, October 10, 1984. Although it was mostly cloudy, the sun broke through every few minutes and gave me excellent light to study the bird. The eye was dark red, like a Common Loon's (or a ripening chokecherry). Everything else in the bird's appearance is common to both ibis species in non-breeding plumage (except for possible retention of loreal strips in Glossy), so I won't detail it here. I can't find anything specific in the literature that says you can separate the two by eye color in non-breeding dress, but neither did I find anything that says you can't. Based on what I saw and what is known of the wanderings of the two species, I'd say it was an adult White-faced. I'm pleased that several people were able to see it. I used my scope on 45 power, distance 50-70 yards, no distortion or vibration, occasional direct sunlight on bird, sun at my back. **Steve Millard, 639 W. Laurel, Fergus Falls MN 56537.**

FLOCK OF 5,000 BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS IN DULUTH — We were standing on the northeast side of the port terminal in Duluth at about 4:00 p.m. on 8 February 1985 when we saw a dark cloud of birds over Park Point 1 km away, across the frozen harbor. To the naked eye, the flock seemed like a plume of smoke that shifted about. At one point, a small portion of the flock landed on and momentarily filled three 15 m tall Lombardy poplars (the tallest trees in the area). Within a few seconds the flock was off again.

The flock was dynamic in shape but at one time had a front 7-9 m long with a very dense (almost solid in appearance) front and several trailing edges. The flock seemed to split in two momentarily then rejoin. We hypothesized later that the flock was responding to an avian predator, although we didn't see any raptor. We watched the flock for 1-3 minutes before it headed toward downtown Duluth. The birds appeared uniformly dark when viewed through binoculars from 1 km. They were initially reminiscent of European Starlings and too large for most species of finches.

Approximately 30 minutes later we drove out on Park Point to look for the birds and to confirm their identity. We encountered six relatively small flocks ranging from 100-500 individuals. These flocks were miniscule in comparison to the original group. We counted a group of about 100 birds that had split from a larger flock and landed in a large elm near the road. We positively identified these as Bohemian Waxwings. They fed on highbush cranberries and mountain ash berries as we watched.

There is no doubt in our minds that the birds in the huge flock were also Bohemian Waxwings. We discussed our initial estimate of 2000-3000 birds in the original flock and decided that this was much too conservative. Based on the size of that flock we saw later, including the 100 perched in the elm, we estimate that there were 5000 Bohemian Waxwings in the original flock. This is one of the largest flocks of Bohemian Waxwings recently reported from any locality. One wonders where these nomadic wanderers could find enough food to sustain themselves. If, as a rough estimate, each waxwing requires $\frac{1}{2}$ cup (120 ml.) of berries each day, 5000 waxwings would consume 20 bushels (600 liters) of berries per day. Imagine picking 20 bushels of berries in one day in Duluth in February! **David E. Blockstein, Taber D. Allison, Bonita C. Eliason, Harrison B. Tordoff, Dept. of Ecology and Behavioral Biology, Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.**

FIRST DULUTH RECORD FOR THE CALIFORNIA GULL — Although the California Gull has been seen several times in Minnesota (and may eventually prove to be regular in the western part of the state), and although Duluth is clearly the most advantageous gull-watching locality in the state, there had never been a record of a California Gull here. But on November 25, 1984, the jinx was broken as Paul Egeland, Keith Camburn, Doxie Noonan, a visiting birder from Kentucky, and I found an adult at Park Point on the bay behind the Bayside Market. It was standing on the ice about 100 yards away in the company of a few Herring Gulls, and it first caught my attention because of its apparently smaller size and darker gray mantle. At first I was not optimistic about it being a California Gull since I knew well that Herring and other gull species can vary in size and since apparent mantle color depend on light conditions and viewing angle. Fortunately Paul had his Questar along, and at high power we could see that there clearly was no ring on the bill, that the legs appeared to be greenish or yellowish, and that the gull still appeared smaller and darker-mantled than the Herring Gulls with it. We then moved closer, perhaps 50-60 yards away, and through the Questar we could clearly see this was indeed a California Gull. The legs were greenish-yellow, the bill was yellow with a reddish spot visible near the tip of the lower mandible (at this time we did not note if there was also a black spot), the iris was dark (we could see the yellow irides of nearby Herring Gulls — at a distance or in poor light yellow-eyed gulls can appear to be dark-eyed), the head, bill, neck and body were all clearly smaller than the Herring Gulls, and there appeared to be little or no winter streaking on the head/neck. As we watched the gull, it took off and flew past us, revealing yet another field mark: the two outer primaries each had large subapical mirrors which merged to form a larger, obvious white patch at the wing tips — Herring and Ring-billed Gulls do not show as much white. Laura Erickson and others were called, and they relocated the gull by noting one additional feature: the area of black on the wing tips in flight was larger than on Herring Gulls; although this is a valid difference between the two species, it is important to remember that Herring Gulls in fall are in molt and thus show less black in their primaries than at other times of year. On November 27, Mike Hendrickson found the gull again in the bay about ten blocks away, and he was also able to see that there indeed was

also a black spot on the lower mandible (note that adult Californias in summer typically lose this black spot; also beware of fourth year Herring gulls which often show a red and black spot on the bill). Mike was also fortunate enough to see the gull standing in company with both Ring-billed and Herring Gulls, and the California was between the two in overall size, but closer to the Ring-billed in size. **Kim Eckert, 9735 North Shore Dr., Duluth, MN 55804.**

WINTER FIELD SPARROW IN COOK COUNTY — In late November, 1984 Claire and Marion Judd who live about four miles to the northwest of Grand Marais noticed an unusual sparrow coming to their feeder in company with two White-throated Sparrows. After checking the keys in Robert's **Birds of Minnesota** they decided the bird was a Field Sparrow. In the course of making arrangements for the Grand Marais CBC we spoke with the Judds and they told us of the sparrow. On December 7th we visited the Judds and the Field Sparrow was very cooperative, feeding in the open with the two White-throated Sparrows. The field marks noted were: size smaller than nearby White-throated Sparrows, all pink bill, very distinct white eye-ring bordered by brown stripes with another wider gray stripe, plain whitish breast somewhat buffy on sides, distinct but narrow gray crown stripe over the eye, narrow white wing bars and a notched tail. The sparrow looked healthy and came regularly to the feeder through January 14th. On that day Claire noticed some unusual activity among his feeder birds and he suspected a shrike was near. The Field Sparrow and one of the two White-throated Sparrows were not seen after that day and a Northern Shrike was observed diving at the remaining White-throated Sparrow the following day. This is the first Field Sparrow recorded in Cook County. **Ken and Molly Hoffman, Box 949, Grand Marais, MN 55604.**

ANOTHER ARCTIC LOON IN DULUTH — On October 14, 1984, Bob Haire found an Arctic Loon on Lake Superior off Park Point. Among other field marks, Bob noted a dark nape and back of the neck which were no lighter than the back, and on October 29 what was presumably this same individual was seen by myself and others off Wisconsin Point in Superior. Although this loon was not seen again, a second Arctic Loon appeared at Canal Park near downtown Duluth on November 3. It was watched for approximately five minutes as it swam and actively dove just beyond the end of the breakwaters. The observers with me at the time were Keith Camburn, Leata Pearson, Audrey Pollari, Mark Stock and Nancy Voss, and we all noted the following field marks: an apparently small loon (nothing was available for direct size comparison) with a thin, short bill held consistently level (not upturned as in a Red-throated); head and neck appeared definitely smaller and thinner than Common Loon, and, unlike Common Loon, the head was smoothly rounded with no bumps or flatness in the profile; nape and back of neck pale gray, decidedly paler than the darker grayish-brown back (thus indicating this was a different individual than the one seen by Bob Haire); chin, throat and front of the neck white; and once while looking through his spotting scope Keith could see the diagnostic "chinstrap" — it is important to note that this mark is usually difficult to see, and also difficult to determine if an apparent chinstrap may actually just be a shadow or crease in the feathers. We were unable to determine if there were any paler markings on the back, either juvenile whitish feather edges or remains of white barring from breeding plumage, since the loon was actively diving and we only had time to study the head and neck. After one of these dives, the loon seemed to disappear for good, and we were unable to relocate it, although Robbye Johnson of Superior saw this or a similar individual at Wisconsin Point the next day. **Kim Eckert, 9735 North Shore Dr., Duluth, MN 55804.**

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE AT BLACK DOG — At about 3:00 P.M. on Friday, December 7, 1984, I was birding the Black Dog area, driving east along Black Dog Road. At the bridge at the east end of the area I stopped to check out the gulls and the few goldeneyes present. One bird among the goldeneyes stood out immediately. Because of

the bright sun behind me, the heads of the males showed extensive color — all iridescent green except for this one. The head appeared to be almost a walnut brown — shiny, but I really can't truthfully say I thought "purple." The mark on the face was very close to the bill, and was shaped like a loosely-made "L" but more like a boomerang in lines. The sides of the bird had dark markings coming from the dark back almost like fingers to the waterline. I could see white between the fingers of black, but the lines were blurred as to where black and white began and ended. Finally, the head seemed more swept-back than the Common Goldeneye males nearby. The bird dove and surfaced repeatedly in the 8-10 minutes I watched it. It often thrust its head forward and then pulled it back. The bird was definitely very different in markings from the other goldeneyes nearby. This difference was apparent even without field glasses. At no time was the bird more than about 20 yards from me. Although I had seen numerous Barrow's Goldeneyes in Yellowstone Park, Wyoming at this distance, I had never seen one so clearly in Minnesota. **Janet Baker, 5352 10th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55417.**

RED-EYED VIREO SIGHTING ON NOVEMBER 4, 1984 — The Hennepin County Park Reserve District held a special bird weekend, Nov. 3 and 4, 1984 at all the nature centers in the district. As part of the activities available to the public, I headed the banding team at the Richardson Nature Center in Bloomington, assisted by Linda Getz and Mark Newstrom. We operated a banding station from 8:30 a.m. till about 2 p.m. both days. The banding pace was leisurely, but constant — a very good condition for a program involving the public. Sometime around noon on Sunday Nov. 4th, we had juncos and American Tree Sparrows hit the nets and I went out to help remove them. What I found in the net, set slightly down the hillside among the trees, was not one of the expected species. I removed the bird and brought it up to examine it in a spot of sunlight. Held with the neck between my first two fingers, its back against my palm, the bird extended beyond my hand — which made it about 6" long. The head had a gray crown and nape; a white stripe over the eye edged above and below with black, the iris was brown. The bill was long, equal depth for most of its length, hooked upper mandible and darker than the lower one. Belly and throat were white, sides, flanks, and under tail coverts light, but bright, yellow. The back and tail was gray/gray green, but the underside of tail was more brown than gray. Wing color was gray green, no wing bars, no sign of molt nor wear. All feathers were in good condition and there was no sign of injury or illness. All indications, except the iris color, singled out a Red-eyed Vireo. The Bird Banding Laboratory stresses that field guides should not be used to identify species or to determine age or sex. Standard procedure is to use Roberts' manual to key out a bird, and it is a learning experience for the public and practice for a bander as well. As we had already used the key from the start that day, this time we started with "perching birds" and worked it through to Red-eyed Vireo. Then we worked through the Banding Lab's worksheet for that species, which also covers the difference among similar species. It was also time to allow the visitors to be able to compare the bird with the field guides (Peterson '80 & Robbins '83) and point out the field marks. A wing chord of 79 mm confirmed the species, but did not determine sex acceptance, so it had to be recorded as sex — unknown. The juvenal plumage per Roberts and the brown iris color accepted by BBL determined its age as HY (hatch year, based on Jan. to Jan. year). The procedure of skulling (determining complete or incomplete ossification of skull) was not done as it means wetting the feathers and the weather was cold and windy and also because the worksheet stated it was not conclusive. After the fact, I found that recent information for our area encourages skulling later for this species. At that time, band number 930-27-913 (size 1) was applied to the tarsus and the bird was released. The weather for the banding time period gave a temperature range of 27° to 35° F., cloudy, and winds WNW 5 to 15 mph. **Marlyn Mauritz, Licensed Bander, 6930 Tecumseh Lane, Chanhassen, MN 55317.**

Editors Note: The above represents the second latest date recorded for the Red-eyed Vireo in Minnesota. The latest date is November 6 in Minneapolis.

Purple Martin Specimens Requested

An excited telephone call from a friend in Brazil, Dalgas Frisch, stimulated this letter. Last year he had discovered near Saõ Paulo a concentration of wintering Purple Martins and, on a trip to the U.S., he persuaded the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to cooperate in furnishing materials and know-how to spray the martins with a color which can be detected on the birds when examined in ultraviolet light, so that it might be determined where "his martins" nest in the U.S. or Canada. When they had succeeded in spraying an estimated 300,000 martins he wanted me to know immediately; no time for a letter!

Minnesota has such a large number of Purple Martins that it is possible some of them may be from the Brazilian wintering concentration. One way to find out would be for anyone who finds a dead martin to send its wings to Kathy Klimkiewics at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Patuxent Research Center, Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, MD, 20708. Her permit number PRT 675458 should be included with the

address to indicate the legality.

Klimkiewics will examine the wings and report to the sender whether they are positive. Only adult wings should be sent. Adult birds can be distinguished from young of the year by the pink lining of the mouth in contrast to the yellow lining for the young bird. The wings should be mailed in one paper envelope inside another. Do not use plastic. Mark the outer envelope "WINGS" for quick attention. Sender should provide name, address, and daytime telephone as well as age and sex of the bird and probable cause of death.

As of this writing on March 22, one of the marked martins was captured in Texas. The portable ultraviolet lamps are expensive so the Fish and Wildlife Service only has four. Three are placed in the hands of banders who will be mist-netting martins in different parts of the country.

Gustav A. Swanson, Park Center Apartments #35, 1020 E. 17th St., Minneapolis, MN 55404

SOME INTERESTING FACTS

Although 200 or more species have been recorded in all of Minnesota's 87 counties by multiple observers there are still 27 counties in which no individual birder has recorded 200 or more species. The counties are as follows with the highest individual count in parenthesis.

Big Stone (199)
Traverse (198)
Stevens (196)
Swift (195)
Meeker (195)
Waseca (195)
Pope (195)
McLeod (194)
Brown (194)
Becker (191)
Benton (188)
Cass (187)
Chippewa (184)
Douglas (184)

Lincoln (183)
Murray (183)
Redwood (183)
Watsonwan (183)
Cottonwood (182)
Faribault (182)
Mahnomen (182)
Wilkin (182)
Nobles (180)
Hubbard (174)
Kittson (173)
Red Lake (171)
Norman (170)

PURPOSE OF THE MOU

The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union is an organization of both professionals and amateurs interested in birds. We foster the study of birds, we aim to create and increase public interest in birds and promote the preservation of birdlife and its natural habitat.

We carry out these aims through the publishing of a magazine, *The Loon*; sponsoring and encouraging the preservation of natural areas; conducting field trips; and holding seminars where research reports, unusual observations and conservation discussions are presented. We are supported by dues from individual members and affiliated clubs and by special gifts. The MOU officers wish to point out to those interested in bird conservation that any or all phases of the MOU program could be expanded significantly with gifts, memorials or bequests willed to the organization.



SUGGESTIONS TO AUTHORS

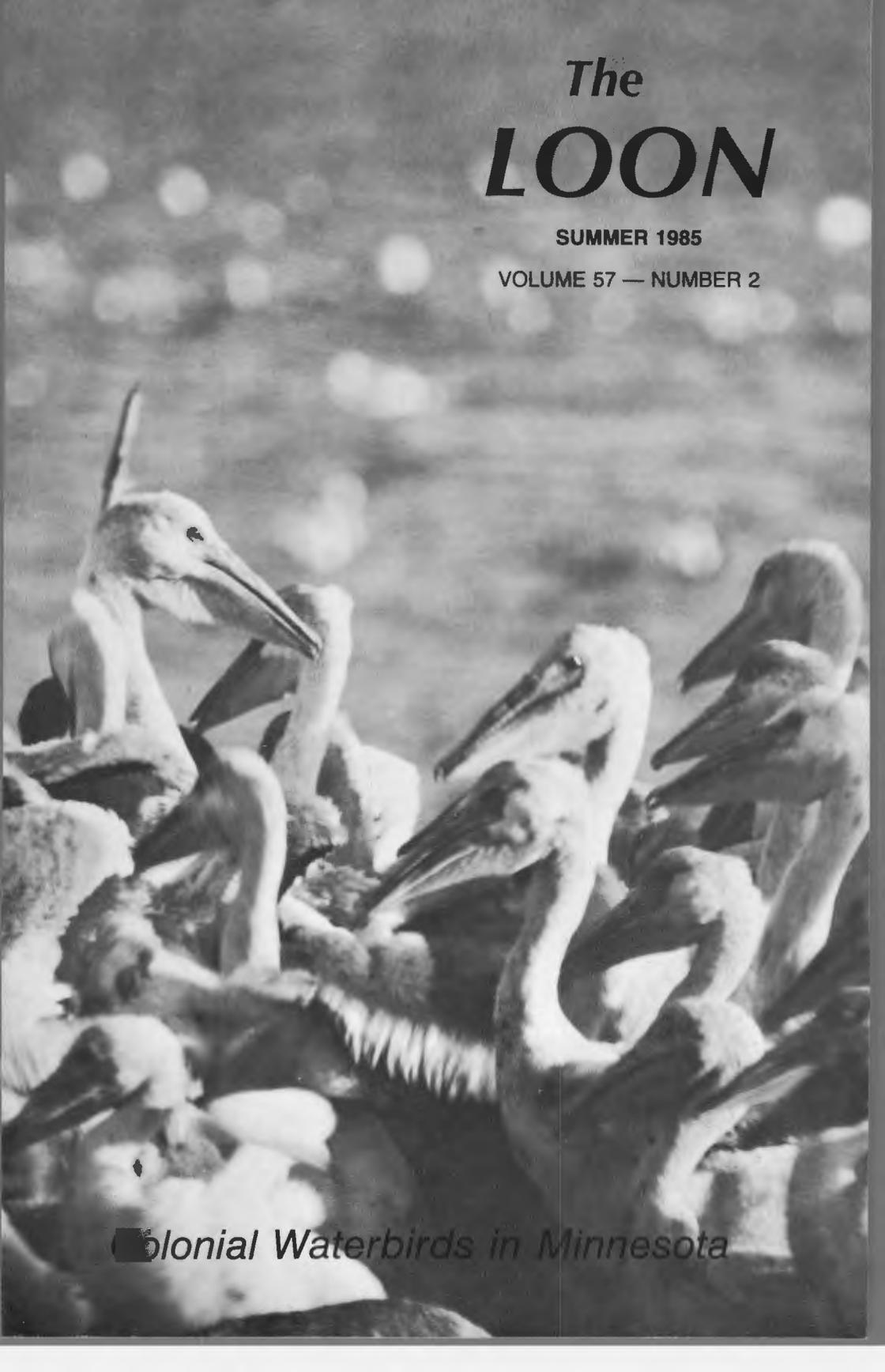
The editors of *The Loon* invite you to submit articles, shorter "Notes of Interest" and color and black/white photos. Photos should be preferably 5x7 in size. Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced and on one side of sheet with generous margins. Notes of Interest should be generally less than two typewritten pages double-spaced. If reprints are desired the author should so

specify indicating the number required. A price quotation on reprints will be sent upon receipt of information.

Club information and announcements of general interest should be sent to the Newsletter editor. See inside front cover. Bird-sighting reports for "The Season" should be sent promptly at the end of February, May, July and November to Kim Eckert. See inside front cover.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ADULT WHIP-POOR-WILL — Lake County	
Photo by Steven G. Wilson	Front Cover
MYSTERIOUS HYBRID WARBLER AT AFTON STATE PARK	
by Steve Millard	3
SUMMER DISTRIBUTION OF WHIP-POOR-WILLS IN MINNESOTA	
by Steven G. Wilson	6
FIRST MINNESOTA BREEDING RECORD OF THE HOODED WARBLER	
by Bruce A. Fall	9
COMMON LOON NUMBERS IN THE KNIFE LAKE AREA-BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA WILDERNESS	
by Jack J. Mooty and Donald L. Goodermote	12
MINNESOTA'S BREEDING BIRD DISTRIBUTION (PART III)	
by Robert B. Janssen and Gary Simonson	15
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MINNESOTA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE	
by Kim R. Eckert	34
HUMMINGBIRD MORTALITY ON ELECTRIC FENCELINES USING RED PLASTIC INSULATORS	
by Pamela Skoog Perry and Carol J. Dorff	37
THE SUMMER SEASON (June 1 to July 31, 1984)	
by Mike Hendrickson and Kim Eckert	39
BOOK REVIEWS	50
THE HENNEPIN COUNTY PARK RESERVE DISTRICT'S OSPREY REINTRODUCTION PROJECT	
by Lawrence N. Gillette and Judy Voigt Englund	52
NOTES OF INTEREST	59
PURPLE MARTIN SPECIMENS REQUESTED	63



The
LOON

SUMMER 1985

VOLUME 57 — NUMBER 2

 *Colonial Waterbirds in Minnesota*

The LOON Minnesota's magazine of birds, is published four times each year by the **Minnesota Ornithologists' Union**, the statewide bird club. Permanent address: J. F. Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0104. Anyone interested in birds may join. Any organization with similar aims may affiliate. All MOU members receive our two quarterly publications: *The Loon* and the **MOU Newsletter**.

MEMBERSHIPS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS: Evelyn Stanley, 213 Janalyn Circle, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416. To join the MOU and receive both MOU publications, send \$10.00 for a regular yearly subscription. Or other classes of membership that you may choose are: Family \$12.50 yearly; Supporting \$15.00 yearly; Sustaining \$25 yearly; Life \$150. Canadian and Foreign Subscriptions, \$12.50 yearly. All subscriptions are on a calendar year basis. Also available: back issues of *The Loon* (\$2.50 each ppd.) and MOU checklists of Minnesota birds (minimum lots of 20 for \$5.00 postage paid). Gifts, bequests, and contributions to the MOU Endowment Fund should also be sent to the treasurer.

EDITOR OF THE LOON: Robert B. Janssen, 10521 S. Cedar Lake Rd., #212, Minnetonka, MN 55343 (phone 612-546-4220). The editor invites articles, short notes, and illustrations about Minnesota birds. See back cover for details.

"The Season" section of *The Loon* publishes reports of bird sightings throughout Minnesota. We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To become a contributor to "The Season," request the report forms from the **EDITOR OF "THE SEASON,"** Kim Eckert, 9735 North Shore Drive, Duluth, Minnesota 55804 (phone 218-525-6930).

EDITOR OF THE MOU NEWSLETTER: Bette Bell, 5868 Pioneer Rd. S., St. Paul Park, MN 55071. Publishes announcements and reports about activities of the MOU and its affiliated clubs. (Club officers should keep both MOU editors informed.)

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Colonial Waterbirds in Minnesota

An update of their distribution and abundance

David S. Guertin* and Lee A. Pfanmuller**

The following summary of Minnesota's colonial waterbirds has been compiled to provide a broad overview of the status of these birds in the state. It is not intended to provide absolute population estimates of the various species, but to provide information on relative abundances and general distribution.

Colonial species, consisting of herons, cormorants, pelicans, grebes, gulls, and terns, are of particular interest because of their visibility and their vulnerability to habitat loss. Most of Minnesota's colonial waterbirds are large, attractive birds that are conspicuous both individually and in their gregarious nesting habits. Their colonial nature, however, also contributes to their vulnerability; habitat alterations affecting a relatively small area can potentially affect a large segment of the colonial waterbird population.

The data base from which this report was compiled is a result of many years of fieldwork aimed at monitoring Minnesota's waterbird colonies. Maintained by the Nongame Wildlife Program of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources since 1977, this data base has been assembled through the efforts of many dedicated volunteers throughout the state, as well as by state and federal personnel. At the time of writing, records on 513 waterbird colonies were being maintained. With the exceptions of Herring Gulls (which, apart from the north shore colonies, several nest in remote areas) and grebes and Forster's Terns (for which nesting is often difficult to document), coverage of waterbird colonies in the state has been fairly thorough.

This thoroughness of coverage has enabled a relatively complete picture of the distribution of Minnesota's colonial waterbirds to be drawn. At the same time, however, the survey's limitations must be recognized. Even with the annual efforts of the many contributors to

the survey, it is not possible to cover each colony every year. Some colonies, therefore, have been surveyed less consistently or less recently than others, and the data in this summary are only as up-to-date as the most recent information in the data base.

These are some points to keep in mind while reading through the following pages. Overall, however, the colonial waterbird survey has been a success and has contributed a great deal to our understanding of the populations of these birds in Minnesota. It is hoped that future years will expand our understanding still further.

Survey Methods and Data System

Reports of colony activity are contributed to the Nongame Wildlife Program by volunteers and by state and federal personnel throughout the state. Systematic surveys are conducted on several managed areas, including National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and State Parks. Nongame Program staff also conduct more widespread surveys in some regions of the state. While some colonies are easily surveyed annually by a single observer, others are counted less consistently; they are either not surveyed every year or are surveyed by different observers. The reports that are submitted also vary considerably; they may document the number of adult birds present, the number of occupied nests, or the total number of nests. Each of these figures may differ within a single colony. The large number of colonies in the state and the inaccessibility of many of them are partly responsible for some of these problems.

For the purposes of this report, a colony was considered active if nesting activity was documented in 1981, 1982, or 1983; therefore, the report summarizes

activity over a 3 year period. Colonies listed as inactive are those where no birds were found during the most recent survey. If the last survey year for a colony was 1980 or earlier and if the colony was not known to be inactive, the status was considered unknown. For each colony, the most recent accurate figure was used so the dates of the last accurate observation vary among the colonies. Where nesting data are available for 1984, they have been included in addenda to the species accounts for some of the less common species and for one of the larger mixed species colonies in the state. These records, however, are not included in the tables and figures. Since the criteria used here for determining colony size and activity are different from those of the last previous colonial waterbird report (Henderson and Hirsch 1980), caution should be used in making population comparisons between the two reports.

Mixed species heronries (including those containing Double-crested Cormorants) were counted as single colonies; all other species were considered to inhabit separate colonies. For example, in this report a lake containing a mixed species heronry, Western Grebes, and Eared Grebes would be recorded as supporting three separate colonies.

Red-necked Grebes, Herring Gulls, Caspian Terns, and Piping Plovers are not included in the table summaries. Although Red-necked Grebes are not true colonial nesters, some records are maintained. Efforts to conduct a systematic statewide survey of Red-necked Grebes, however, have not been made. Herring Gulls have also not been adequately surveyed with the exception of those colonies along the North Shore, and Caspian Terns have nested only irregularly and in very low numbers.

Because of the rarity and national significance of Piping Plovers, data on these birds have been maintained separately from the other colonial species. Piping Plovers nest at Lake of the Woods and at the Duluth Harbor. In 1984, 27 nests (five were renesting attempts) were found on Pine and Curry Island in Lake of the Woods (Cuthbert and Wiens 1985) and seven nests (of which at least three

were renesting attempts) were found at the Duluth Harbor (Metropolitan Interstate Committee 1984). Only six of the 27 nests on Lake of the Woods succeeded in hatching eggs and only two Duluth nests hatched eggs. This was a significant decrease in production from the preceding year, particularly on Lake of the Woods where 19 of 22 nests successfully hatched at least one egg in 1983 (Wiens and Cuthbert 1984). High water levels and avian predators were the primary factors responsible for the losses in 1984.

Results

There are currently 233 active waterbird colonies identified in Minnesota (Tables 1, 2). The majority (136) of these colonies are heronries, 127 of which contain Great Blue Herons (Table 1). Twenty-six are mixed species heronries, which may also include Double-crested Cormorants. Only one of the mixed species heronries, the Lake of the Isles colony in Hennepin County, does not include Great Blue Herons. Great Egrets and Black-crowned Night Herons nest together at this site.

For most species, small colonies (50 or fewer nests) are most common (Table 2). Exceptions are American White Pelicans, Double-crested Cormorants, Ring-billed Gulls, and Franklin's Gulls. Waterbird colonies are distributed throughout the entire state (Table 1). The large number of colonies in Region 2 (northeast) reflects the abundance of small Great Blue Heron colonies in that part of the state. Species composition in other regions of the state is more evenly distributed (Table 1).

Species Accounts

Horned Grebe

Two localities in Minnesota, the Roseau Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Roseau County and Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge in Marshall County, are reported as breeding locations for this species (Figure 1). Nesting is probable at these sites but not confirmed. Fourteen birds were seen at Roseau WMA in 1983.

Table 1. Number of known active colonies of each colonial species summarized by region. Figures in parentheses refer to number of mixed species colonies. Refer to Figure 18 for region boundaries.

Species	1N	1S	2	3E	Region		4W	4S	5	6	Entire State
					3W	4E					
Horned Grebe	2										2
Eared Grebe	3	4			0	1	3	2		1	14
Western Grebe	2	7			2	2	10	5	1		29
White Pelican	1						2 ¹				3
D-C Cormorant	9	5 (3)	2 (1)		1	1	5 (4)	1 (1)		2 (2)	26(11)
Great Blue Heron	7 (1)	9 (4)	55 (1)	3 (1)	26 (4)	3 (2)	7 (4)	5 (2)	4 (2)	8 (4)	127(25)
Little Blue Heron		2					1				3
Cattle Egret							1				1
Great Egret	1	4		1	4	2	3	1	2	4	22
Snowy Egret							1				1
B-C Night-Heron	2	2 (2)				1	3 (2)	5 (2)		4 (4)	17(10)
Y-C Night-Heron			1								1
Ring-billed Gull	2		2	2	1						7
Franklin's Gull	3				1			1			5
Common Tern	2		4	2	1						9
Forster's Tern	3	4			1	1	1			3	13
Total Waterbird ² Colonies	36 (1)	26 (4)	63 (1)	7 (1)	33 (4)	9 (2)	25 (4)	16 (2)	5 (2)	13 (5)	233(26)

¹ 2 white pelican colonies, Marsh Lake, Big Stone Co.

² Each mixed species colony is counted only once in determining totals; columns may therefore not add up to totals.

Table 2. Colony size distribution for each colonial waterbird species. Figures in parentheses refer to number of mixed species colonies. All Little Blue Heron and all egret colonies are mixed species colonies.

Species	Size of colony (nests or pairs)								Active size unknown	Inactive	¹ Status ² unknown	Total active colonies
	0-50	51-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	401-500	501-1000	>1000				
Horned Grebe	2											2
Eared Grebe	12	2								2	2	14
Western Grebe	25	2	1	1						8	4	29
White Pelican		1				1	1					3
D-C Cormorant	9 (4)		11 (3)		2 (2)		2 (2)	1	1	8 (5)	5 (3)	26(11)
Great Blue Heron	75(10)	20 (3)	13 (2)	9 (5)	3 (3)		2 (1)	1 (1)	4	77(12)	28 (6)	127(25)
Little Blue Heron	3											3
Cattle Egret	1									1		1
Great Egret	17	2	1				2			12	3	22
Snowy Egret	1											1
B-C Night-Heron	7 (3)	3 (3)	3 (1)	2 (1)			2 (2)			7 (4)	6 (2)	17(10)
Y-C Night-Heron	1									3	2	1
Ring-billed Gull				3			1	3		1	1	7
Franklin's Gull	2						1	2		3		5
Common Tern	6		1	1	1					1	1	9
Forster's Tern	10	2	1				1		1	8	6	15
Total												233(26) ³

¹ For mixed species colonies that are abandoned by only some of the species, a colony is considered inactive for the species that left but not for the species remaining.

² Colonies whose status is considered unknown are those not surveyed since 1980.

³ Each mixed species colony is counted only once in determining total number of active colonies (233); this number is therefore less than sum of figures in last column.

Eared Grebe

This species is reported from 14 colony locations, most of which are in the western half of the state (Figure 2). There are several additional locations, not included here, where breeding is presumed but not confirmed. Only two of the colonies comprise more than 50 nests or pairs each (Table 2). The largest colony, at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge in Marshall County, contained over 100 pairs in 1983.

In 1980, only eight breeding locations were reported for the state. The increase in numbers since then may reflect new discoveries of existing small colonies rather than an actual increase in the grebe population. Two colonies have not been surveyed since 1980, and their status is unknown.

Addendum: In 1984, breeding was confirmed at two new localities in Yellow Medicine County. Three nests were found on the Miller Richter Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and 103 nests on Timm's Lake WMA.

Western Grebe

Twenty-nine active Western Grebe colonies are known in Minnesota, 25 of which comprise 50 or fewer nests or pairs (Table 2). This species breeds mainly in the western half of the state (Figure 3). Four colonies have not been surveyed recently enough to determine their present status. The largest known concentration of this species in Minnesota is on Lake Osakis in Todd County, where an estimate of over 200 nesting pairs was reported in 1981.

American White Pelican

American White Pelicans nest in three colonies in Minnesota; one is on Lake of the Woods and two are on Marsh Lake in Big Stone County (Figure 4). Crowduck Island in Lake of the Woods contains a colony of about 50 nests. This colony has been present at least since 1973. Colonies to the east in the Canadian portion of Lake of the Woods have been active since 1959.

Pelicans began nesting on an island in Marsh Lake, Big Stone County, in 1968. This colony had expanded to about 1,000 nests by 1983, and 400-450 additional

pairs began nesting on a peninsula $\frac{1}{2}$ mile northeast of the island. For monitoring purposes, these are considered two separate colonies.

Addendum: In 1984, the Marsh Lake peninsula colony had expanded to over 1,200 nests while the island colony had decreased considerably from 1983. Both colonies were later flooded by high water, resulting in extremely low reproductive success (Grewe, personal communication).

Double-crested Cormorant

Double-crested Cormorants nest in 26 colonies in Minnesota, 11 of which are associated with Great Blue Heron colonies. Their distribution is concentrated in the western and central regions of the state, with colonies also reported from Lake of the Woods (seven colonies), St. Louis (two colonies), and Faribault (one colony) Counties (Figure 5). Several colonies appear to be increasing in size, and a particularly marked increase has occurred in recent years at Pigeon Lake in Meeker County. The largest colony, at Crowduck Island in Lake of the Woods, contained 1,024 nests in 1982.

Great Blue Heron

Great Blue Herons are Minnesota's most widely distributed colonial waterbird. They have been documented nesting in 127 colonies throughout the state, except for the extreme northwest and southwest corners (Figure 6). Twenty-eight additional colonies have not been surveyed since 1980, and their present status is unknown (Table 2). Seventy-seven former colonies are presently inactive (Figure 7).

Of the 127 active colonies, 25 are mixed species colonies (Figure 8). With one exception noted earlier, a Great Egret/Black-crowned Night-Heron colony in Hennepin County, the three egret species and Little Blue Herons always nest in association with Great Blue Herons in Minnesota. Double-crested Cormorants and Black-crowned Night-Herons are also commonly found nesting with Great Blue Herons, but they nest in single species colonies as well. Great Blue Herons are usually found in small colonies in the northeast, while lar-

ger, mixed species colonies are more common in the southern and western parts of the state. The largest known colony in Minnesota is at Long Lake, Kandiyohi County, where an estimated 1,186 nests were occupied in 1981.

Addendum: In the winter of 1983, selective logging removed approximately 100 nest trees in the Long Lake colony, destroying the nests of many species in this mixed species heronry. A severe storm in August 1983 caused additional losses. Despite these problems, intensive nest-building activity in 1984 resulted in a colony even larger (2,300 nests) than that reported prior to the logging activity (1,749 nests). These are winter counts, however, and it is not known which heron species were most aggressive in re-establishing the colony. Some species may still have suffered a decline.

Little Blue Heron

This species reaches the northern limit of its range in Minnesota. Breeding has been reported at three locations in the state: Egret Island (Pelican Lake) in Grant County, Lake Johanna in Pope County, and Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Lac Qui Parle County (Figure 9). In 1981, one nest was reported at Lake Johanna (there was a maximum of eight in 1972) and two at Big Stone NWR. Breeding has not been confirmed at Egret Island. All three sites are large, mixed species heronries.

Addendum: In 1984, no Little Blue Herons were seen during surveys of the above three locations, although their presence may simply have gone undetected in these large colonies.

Cattle Egret, Snowy Egret

The large, mixed species heronry at Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge, Lac Qui Parle County, is the only known breeding location for these species in Minnesota (Figures 10, 11). In 1981, an estimated 12 Cattle Egrets and two Snowy Egrets were reported there (1980 counts found 32 nests and 12 nests, respectively). Cattle Egrets may still breed at Lake Johanna, Pope County, but the latest record for that location is from 1978, when one nest was found.

Addendum: In 1984, six Cattle Egrets were seen nesting at Lake Johanna, and three Cattle Egret nests were found at Long Lake in Kandiyohi County. This is a new breeding location for this species.

Great Egret

Great Egrets nest in 22 colonies in Minnesota, 17 of which contain 50 or fewer nests. They are distributed mainly in the central and southeast portions of the state, though colonies are found as far north as Marshall and Becker Counties in the west (Figure 12). With one exception (the Great Egret/Back-crowned Night-Heron colony in Hennepin County), this species always nests in association with Great Blue Herons in Minnesota. The two largest concentrations of Great Egrets in Minnesota are the colonies at Long Lake, Kandiyohi County (860 nests in 1981; refer to addendum for Great Blue Heron) and Egret Island (Pelican Lake), Grant County (743 nests in 1981). Twelve former colonies are now inactive and three others have not been surveyed recently enough to determine their present status.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

This species has been found nesting in 17 colonies in Minnesota, all in the southern half of the state except for two colonies in Marshall County at the Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge and at the Thief Lake Wildlife Management Area (Figure 13). Ten of these are mixed species colonies, all but one occurring in association with Great Blue Herons. The largest Black-crowned Night-Heron colony in the state is the mixed species heronry at Pig's Eye Lake in Ramsey County, where several hundred nests of this species are found.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

Yellow-crowned Night-Herons reach the northern limit of their range in southern Minnesota and nest here only sporadically. This species has bred in small single-species colonies in Houston and Ramsey Counties. In 1981 and 1982, a single nest was active in Aitkin County, which is unusually far north for this species.

Addendum: In 1984, one pair was again reported nesting near the Pig's Eye heron colony in Ramsey County.

Ring-billed Gull

Seven breeding colonies of Ring-billed Gulls are known in Minnesota. There are two each at Mille Lacs Lake, Lake of the Woods, and the Duluth Harbor, and one at Leech Lake (Figure 14). The largest colony in the state is at the Duluth Port Terminal, where 11,216 birds were counted in 1983. This colony has undergone a rapid expansion from an initial count of 468 birds in 1977. The site is slated for industrial development, however, and the colony may be displaced soon. The colonies at Leech Lake, Mille Lacs Lake, and Lake of the Woods appear to be stable or increasing.

Franklin's Gull

In the past three years, this species has occurred intermittently at five colony locations in the western half of Minnesota (Figure 15). The largest and most consistent colony is at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Marshall County, where about 35,000 pairs nested in 1983. (Reproductive success was relatively low in 1983, however.) Another large colony in Marshall County, at the Thief Lake Wildlife Management Area, was active until 1981, but was abandoned during the 1982 nesting period, presumably because of water level fluctuations. No nesting took place in 1983. Water level fluctuations are also a problem for Franklin's Gulls at Heron Lake in Jackson County, where a very large colony formerly existed. In recent years this site has been repeatedly flooded during wet periods, although large groups of gulls still show up in some years and attempt to nest. The two other colonies each comprise less than 50 nests and are located in Todd and Marshall Counties.

Addendum: In 1984, only two colonies were active (Vorland 1984). Approximately 2,000 pairs nested at Heron Lake and about 17,000 pairs nested at Agassiz NWR. Subsequent high water levels, however, caused the Heron Lake colony to later abandon the site.

Summer 1985

Common Tern

Nine Common Tern colonies are known in Minnesota. Four of these are in the Duluth Harbor area, two on Lake of the Woods, two on Mille Lacs Lake, and one on Leech Lake (Figure 16). The largest colonies occur on Gull Island in Leech Lake and Fourblock Island in Lake of the Woods. At Leech Lake, 375 pairs were observed in 1983. This is approximately twice as many as the previous year's count, and approaches the numbers of the late 1970's. In 1979, Ring-billed Gulls were reported taking over the colony. The Fourblock Island colony comprised 232 nests in 1981, but was probably flooded in 1983. A third large colony, at the Duluth Port Terminal, contained 244 adults in 1983 (Metropolitan Interstate Committee 1983). Reproductive success in the harbor is extremely low, however; only 19 chicks reached fledging age in 1983. This site is slated for expanded industrial development and the colony may be displaced soon. Attempts are currently underway to attract the colony to a more secure location.

Five of the remaining six colonies contain less than 60 birds each. The Spirit Island and Hennepin Island sites in Mille Lacs Lake both appear to be experiencing a decline. No nests were found on Hennepin Island in 1983.

Addendum: In 1984, Hennepin Island supported 47 pairs of Common Terns and the Leech Lake colony had increased to 489 pairs (Cuthbert and McKearnan 1985).

Forster's Tern

Forster's Tern colonies are known from 15 locations in Minnesota, mostly in the western half of the state (Figure 17). Ten of these comprise fewer than 50 nests. The largest colony is on Lake Osakis in Todd County, where an estimated 1,000 pairs nested in 1983. Six more colonies have not been surveyed since 1980 and their present status is unknown.

Addendum: In 1984, the Lake Osakis colony had decreased to only 200 nesting pairs. Despite the decrease, it remains the largest active colony known in Minnesota.

Acknowledgements

The efforts of a great many diligent surveyors are gratefully appreciated. Without their help our understanding of Minnesota's colonial waterbirds would be sorely lacking. This report is based upon the work of these people, including biologists from the Superior and Chippewa National Forests, Voyageurs National Park, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, as well as many private individuals. Regional nongame specialists Katie Hirsch, Jack Mooty, Pam Perry, and John Schladweiler conducted extensive surveys throughout the state in an effort to update hundreds of records. Mary Miller of the Nongame Wildlife Program proved invaluable in managing the colonial waterbird data base. Jan Green, Jennifer Jaron and Joan Galli reviewed the materials and provided editorial assistance.

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Fig. 1. Number of Horned Grebe colonies by county.



Fig. 2. Number of Eared Grebe colonies by county.



Fig. 11. Number of colonies/county supporting Snowy Egrets

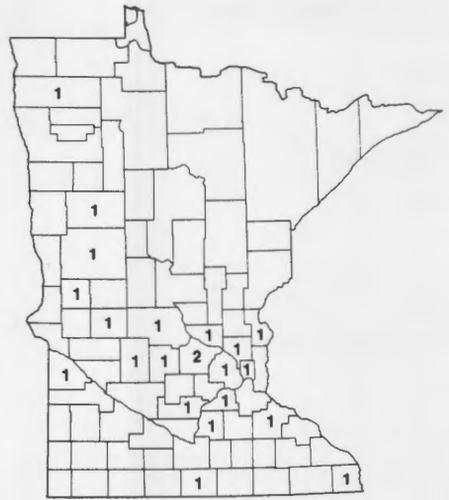


Fig. 12. Number of Great Egret colonies by county.



Fig. 13. Number of Black-crowned Night Heron colonies by county.



Fig. 14. Number of Ring-billed Gull colonies by county.



Fig. 15. Number of Franklin's Gull colonies by county.

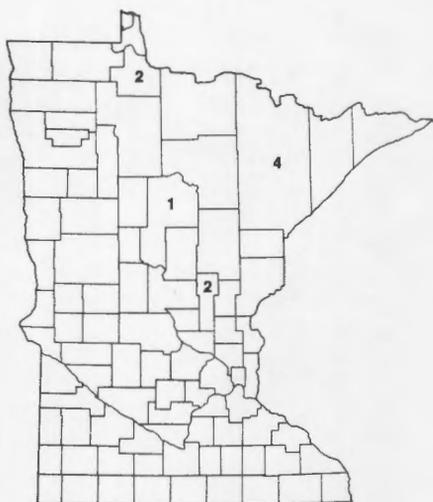


Fig. 16. Number of Common Tern colonies by county.



Fig. 17. Number of Forster's Tern colonies by county.

A May 1985 Survey of Birds in Selected Pine County Water Areas

Dan Esler

Pine County is found in east central Minnesota with its southeast border being the St. Croix River and Wisconsin. The objective of this study was to census the bird life at selected wet areas in the county. The types of wetlands surveyed include: a floodplain, a large lake, a wet field with ponds, and a wooded swamp. These areas showed differences in the number of species observed, the kinds of species found, and the number of individuals per species.

The four areas chosen for the study were: Sturgeon Lake, which is a large, shallow lake; an area of Kettle River floodplain in Banning State Park; Kallio Woods, a wooded swamp; and an area of marshy fields and ponds at Northwoods Audubon Center.

Each of these areas was surveyed three to four times during the month of May, 1985. Each species and the number of individuals were noted and recorded. Birds were identified by either sight or sound. Also, tape recordings of bird calls were used to induce birds to reveal their presence. This technique was used primarily for rails and bitterns. Noted on the data sheets used was a topographical map description of the study area, the date, the time of day that censusing was being done, and general comments on the weather. The latter three pieces of information were noted so that they could be taken into consideration when regarding the bird list for the censusing day. The date, time, and weather all had direct bearing on the species present and the number of individuals observed of each species.

The first of the areas to be discussed is Sturgeon Lake. This lake is relatively large and is shallow, its deepest point being about thirty feet. Sturgeon Lake is a pitted outwash plain and has a sandy

bottom. Many portions of the lake have emergent vegetation. The Sturgeon Lake study area included the lake itself and the closely surrounding woods, agricultural fields, residential areas, and swamps. The wooded area is dominated by stands of deciduous trees; there are also areas of marshy fields along the lake's edge and hay fields and pastures are also on the lakeshore.

Of the four areas studied, Sturgeon Lake had the most species of birds observed, as well as the greatest number of individuals. This is due presumably to the large size of the study area and, especially, the great variety of communities represented within the area.

The floodplain area of the Kettle River in Banning State Park also has a variety of communities that birds may utilize. The Kettle River is a deep basin with many sandstone exposures. The soil found in the study area is floodplain silt. Part of the study area is adjacent to the river which, in itself, provides a habitat for some birds. Away from the river in the floodplain there are areas of dry deciduous floodplain forest as well as two types of wet areas: wooded and marshy.

The Kallio Woods study area is a series of dry eskers and wetlands. The plant community on the dry eskers is a mix of deciduous forest and pine plantations. The wetlands are comprised of wooded swamp, alder thickets, and shallow open water with quite a bit of emergent vegetation. The water level in the wetlands is controlled by beaver dams. There is no appreciable water movement with neither an inlet nor an outlet in the area. There is less variety of communities in Kallio Woods compared to Sturgeon Lake and many fewer species observed.

The final study area is the Northwoods marshy field. This area, also, has no inlet

TABLE 1. Bird species observed at Sturgeon Lake study area and dates of observation.

SPECIES	May 4	May 8	May 13	May 21
Common Loon		X		
Pied-billed Grebe			X	X
Great Blue Heron		X		X
Green-backed Heron			X	X
American Bittern		X	X	X
Canada Goose				X
Wood Duck		X		
Mallard	X	X	X	X
Blue-winged Teal	X	X	X	X
Canvasback			X	
Redhead			X	
Lesser Scaup	X	X	X	
Bufflehead	X	X	X	
Hooded Merganser		X		
Red-breasted Merganser		X	X	X
Common Merganser		X	X	
Sharp-shinned Hawk				X
Broad-winged Hawk	X			
American Kestrel				X
Virginia Rail				X
Sora		X	X	X
American Coot		X		
Killdeer		X	X	X
Common Snipe			X	
Lesser Yellowlegs		X		
Spotted Sandpiper		X	X	X
Solitary Sandpiper			X	X
Herring Gull	X			
Ring-billed Gull		X	X	X
Bonaparte's Gull		X		
Common Tern	X	X	X	X
Black Tern				X
Rock Dove			X	X

TABLE 1. continued

SPECIES	May 4	May 8	May 13	May 21
Belted Kingfisher		X		X
Northern Flicker			X	
Red-headed Woodpecker		X		
Hairy Woodpecker			X	X
Downy Woodpecker	X			
Eastern Kingbird				X
Eastern Phoebe				X
Eastern Wood-Pewee			X	X
Least Flycatcher				X
Tree Swallow	X	X	X	X
Barn Swallow	X		X	X
Cliff Swallow		X	X	X
Purple Martin				X
Blue Jay		X	X	X
Common Raven			X	
American Crow	X	X	X	X
Black-capped Chickadee			X	
White-breasted Nuthatch		X		
Gray Catbird			X	
American Robin	X	X	X	X
Veery				X
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				X
Starling	X		X	X
Yellow-throated Vireo				X
Red-eyed Vireo				X
Yellow Warbler			X	X
Yellow-rumped Warbler	X	X		X
Chestnut-sided Warbler			X	X
Blackpoll Warbler				X
Palm Warbler	X	X		X
Ovenbird			X	
Common Yellowthroat			X	X
American Redstart				X
House Sparrow		X		X
Bobolink			X	X
Red-winged Blackbird	X	X	X	X

TABLE 1. continued

SPECIES	May 4	May 8	May 13	May 21
Northern Oriole			X	X
Common Grackle	X	X	X	X
Brown-headed Cowbird		X	X	X
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			X	
Pine Siskin				X
American Goldfinch			X	X
Savannah Sparrow	X	X	X	X
Grasshopper Sparrow			X	
Chipping Sparrow		X		X
Clay-colored Sparrow		X		
Song Sparrow		X	X	X

TABLE 2. Bird species observed at Banning State Park study area and dates of observation.

SPECIES	May 4	May 5	May 9	May 20
Wood Duck	X	X	X	X
Mallard	X	X	X	
Blue-winged Teal			X	
Turkey Vulture			X	
Broad-winged Hawk		X		
Killdeer		X		
Spotted Sandpiper		X	X	X
Solitary Sandpiper	X	X	X	
Belted Kingfisher			X	
Northern Flicker				X
Pileated Woodpecker	X		X	X
Red-headed Woodpecker			X	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			X	
Hairy Woodpecker		X	X	
Downy Woodpecker	X	X	X	
Great Crested Flycatcher			X	X
Eastern Phoebe			X	X
Eastern Wood-Pewee		X		
Least Flycatcher			X	
Tree Swallow	X	X	X	X
Barn Swallow			X	X
Cliff Swallow			X	X

TABLE 2. continued.

SPECIES	May 4	May 5	May 9	May 20
Blue Jay		X	X	X
American Crow	X	X	X	X
Black-capped Chickadee	X	X	X	X
White-breasted Nuthatch		X		
American Robin		X	X	X
Yellow-throated Vireo				X
Red-eyed Vireo		X	X	X
Nashville Warbler			X	
Yellow Warbler				X
Yellow-rumped Warbler	X	X	X	
Black-throated Green Warbler				X
Chestnut-sided Warbler			X	X
Palm Warbler		X		
Ovenbird		X	X	X
Northern Waterthrush			X	
Common Yellowthroat				X
American Redstart				X
Red-winged Blackbird		X	X	
Northern Oriole				X
Brown-headed Cowbird		X		
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				X
Swamp Sparrow			X	
Song Sparrow		X	X	X

TABLE 3. Bird species observed at Kallio Woods study area and dates of observation.

SPECIES	May 4	May 10	May 22
Common Loon			X
Pied-billed Grebe		X	X
Double-crested Cormorant			X
Great Blue Heron		X	
Mallard	X	X	X
Blue-winged Teal		X	X
Ring-necked Duck	X	X	
Lesser Scaup	X	X	
Broad-winged Hawk	X		
Northern Harrier	X		

TABLE 3. continued.

SPECIES	May 4	May 10	May 22
Ruffed Grouse		X	X
Virginia Rail		X	
Sora		X	X
Killdeer		X	
Solitary Sandpiper	X		
Great Horned Owl			X
Belted Kingfisher			X
Northern Flicker		X	
Pileated Woodpecker		X	
Hairy Woodpecker			X
Downy Woodpecker	X		
Great Crested Flycatcher			X
Least Flycatcher			X
Tree Swallow	X	X	X
Barn Swallow	X		
Blue Jay	X	X	X
American Crow	X	X	X
Black-capped Chickadee	X	X	X
White-breasted Nuthatch			X
Red-breasted Nuthatch		X	
American Robin		X	
Red-eyed Vireo		X	X
Warbling Vireo		X	X
Yellow Warbler			X
Yellow-rumped Warbler	X		X
Ovenbird		X	X
Common Yellowthroat		X	X
Red-winged Blackbird	X	X	X
Northern Oriole		X	X
Common Grackle		X	X
Brown-headed Cowbird		X	X
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			X
Pine Siskin			X
American Goldfinch	X		X
Swamp Sparrow	X		
Song Sparrow		X	X

TABLE 4. Bird species observed at Audubon Center marshy field study area and dates of observation.

SPECIES	May 4	May 10	May 15
Pied-billed Grebe	X	X	X
Great Blue Heron	X		
Canada Goose			X
Mallard	X	X	X
Blue-winged Teal	X	X	X
Sharp-shinned Hawk			X
Northern Harrier		X	
Virginia Rail			X
Sora		X	X
Killdeer			X
Common Snipe		X	X
Lesser Yellowlegs			X
Solitary Sandpiper			X
Short-billed Dowitcher			X
Mourning Dove		X	
Barred Owl	X		
Northern Flicker			X
Pileated Woodpecker	X		
Red-headed Woodpecker		X	
Eastern Kingbird			X
Tree Swallow	X	X	X
Barn Swallow	X		X
Cliff Swallow			X
Blue Jay			X
American Crow		X	X
Sedge Wren			X
Yellow Warbler		X	X
Palm Warbler			X
Ovenbird		X	X
Bobolink			X
Red-winged Blackbird	X	X	X
Common Grackle	X		X
Brown-headed Cowbird			X
Indigo Bunting			X
Savannah Sparrow			X

TABLE 4. continued.

SPECIES	May 4	May 10	May 15
Grasshopper Sparrow			X
Leconte's Sparrow		X	X
Song Sparrow			X

or outlet and, therefore, no moving water. These fields are natural depressions and the soil is composed of sandy loam. The vegetation of this study area is that of a fallow field with willow thickets in the wettest areas around the ponds. This area shows the least variety in plant communities of the four study areas. It also shows the least variety in bird life. Many of the birds observed from this area were actually woodland birds simply passing over the wetlands from one woodlot to the next.

In this study it was found that these areas had specialty birds, that is, birds that were found only in one of the study sites. The most notable of the specialty birds found at Sturgeon Lake are the gulls and terns that are attracted to the

area in large numbers. Banning State Park is notable for the large number of individuals of warbler, woodpecker, and swallow species as well as a large number of Wood Ducks. Birds unique to the dry woodland areas of Kallio Woods included Warbling Vireo, Ruffed Grouse, and Red-breasted Nuthatch. The wet fields at Northwoods attracted Sedge Wren and LeConte's Sparrow as specialty species.

The selected wet areas around Pine County show a wide variety of plant communities and bird species. It appears that areas with a greater variety of plant communities support a more diverse bird population. Each type of wetland plant community may support birds that are unique to that particular community. **Northland College, Bayfield, WI 54814**

The Fall Season

Aug. 1 to Nov. 30, 1984

Don Bolduc, Steve Carlson, Oscar Johnson and Dick Ruhme

For the season, 61 reports were received, recording a total of 303 species including 291 regulars, 8 casuals and 4 accidentals.

The first few weeks of August were unusually hot and humid, with temperatures reaching nearly 100 degrees in the western part of the state during the middle of the month. Temperatures for the month averaged 2.9 degrees above normal, and precipitation was 1.5 inches above normal. Among the most unusual birds seen during these weeks were a Black-legged Kittiwake at Leech Lake, a Ruff in Chisago Co., a Little Gull at Worthington, Minnesota's fourth state record Western Wood-Pewee in Duluth, a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher near Babbitt, and a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron in Duluth. A warbler wave was reported in Bigfork, Itasca Co., on August 19, and in the Twin Cities area the first notable wave arrived on the 22nd. After a short lull, probably the result of more hot weather, a cold front brought increasing numbers of migrants to areas around the state the last few days of the month. Hawk Ridge in Duluth recorded its first confirmed sighting of a Ferruginous Hawk on the 30th.

September was a cooler month, temperatures averaging a few degrees below normal. Excellent waves of warblers and other migrants were noted the first week in both Minneapolis and Duluth. In Rochester warblers peaked between the 4th and the 10th. On the 16th a late family of Barn Swallows in Lac Qui Parle Co. were just leaving their nest. A cold front on the 23rd, followed by heavy rains and, in the extreme northwest, the first snow, brought summer to an end. Large numbers of sparrows, wrens, flycatchers and warblers passed through the east central region during another period of cool weather from the 26th to the 28th. Highlights for the month included Sabine's Gulls from two locations away from Lake Superior, Blue Grosbeak in Redwood Co., Smith's Longspur in Duluth, Ferruginous Hawk in Kanabec Co., and, most unusual, a Yellow-throated Warbler in Moorhead on the 22nd.

The first half of October was mostly overcast and warm in the Duluth area, with a lot of fog and winds from the south and southeast. Mixed flocks of birds were seen flying north from the 7th to the 13th. As late as the 21st nine species of warblers and 13 species of sparrows were seen at Grand Marais along the North Shore! Away from Lake Superior weather conditions were more variable and migration proceeded normally. A warbler and sparrow wave was reported from Lyon Co. on the 6th and 7th. Franklin's Gulls passed through the Twin Cities in greater numbers than usual during the first part of the month.

In spite of the state's rainy weather (precipitation was 3.6 inches above normal) October proved once again to be one of our best birding months. The most noteworthy bird of the season, Minnesota's first Lesser Black-backed Gull, was seen by many observers at Park Point, Duluth on October 19. Although the gull was seen several times after this in nearby Wisconsin, it was recorded only once more in Minnesota, standing on a breakwater at the Superior Entry on the 23rd. Other unusual October sightings in Duluth were: Mountain Bluebird, Arctic Loon, and Eared Grebe. A Black-legged Kittiwake was at Stoney Point, and Harlequin Duck was reported from the French River and from Grand Marais. Elsewhere, a White-faced Ibis was at Gun Club Lake from the 4th to the 12th. On the 24th a Little Gull was at Lake of the Woods, and on the 28th a Brant was seen in Fergus Falls.

Temperatures averaged .1 degree above normal for November, but in the north highs were only in the teens the first two days of the month. On the 9th and 10th up to 8 inches of snow fell in the southeast. Light snow fell again on the 15th. Conditions were milder from the 22nd to the 26th, with highs of 40 degrees to 50 degrees. A number of birds were later than usual this year in leaving the state. On November 4 a Red-eyed Vireo was still in Hennepin Co. A record late Pectoral Sandpiper was in Dakota Co. on the 25th. In Duluth a Clay-colored Sparrow appeared at a feeder on the 7th and stayed the rest of the month. There were late November reports of Chipping Sparrow from three locations, one a far north as Fergus Falls. Rarities in November included Ross' Goose at Rochester, another Arctic Loon in St. Louis Co., Gyrfalcon in Roseau Co., two Townsend's Solitaire's at Afton State Park and one in Hennepin Co., and Duluth's long-awaited first California Gull.

In general, this was a good season. Greater White-fronted Geese, Oldsquaws, and scoters were all up in numbers, with reports of all three scoter species from many counties around the state. Shorebirds and warblers both made impressive showings. A record number of Northern Saw-whet Owls (131) were banded in one night at Hawk Ridge, and two days later another 116 were banded there. Black-backed Woodpecker reports were up along the North Shore. Both species of crossbills were unusually common, moving into the southern part of the state in late fall. Declines were noted for few species. One observer who traveled extensively in the western part of the state commented that pheasants were "very scarce" in that region. There were only three jaeger reports, all unidentified, down considerably from 1983, and no reports of Northern Bobwhite were received.

ARCTIC LOON

10/14 Duluth, M. Haire, (*The Loon* 56:276-277), 11/3 Duluth KE. (*The Loon* 57:61).

Common Loon

Late north 11/11 Pine KL, 11/17 St. Louis KE, 11/21 Lake SW/MS; late south 11/11 Hennepin SC, Goodhue & Wabasha DZ, 11/17 Washington DS, 11/18 Ramsey RH.

Pied-billed Grebe

Late north 11/5 Beltrami RJ, 11/7 Otter Tail KL, 11/22 Wadena AB; late south 11/15 Wabasha WDM, 11/29 Hennepin SC, Yellow Medicine FE.

Horned Grebe

Late north 10/28 Cook RE, 10/30 Roseau AJ, 11/11 Pine KL; late south 11/10 Freeborn RJ, 11/11 Hennepin SC, 11/24 Ramsey RH.

Red-necked Grebe

Late reports all north 11/3 Cook GNS, St. Louis BL, 11/6 Todd KL.

Eared Grebe

Late north 10/16 Duluth KE, 10/18 Pennington KSS, 10/27 Crow Wing KL; late south 9/20 Dodge RJ, 10/7 Nicollet JCF.

Western Grebe

Late north 10/7 Otter Tail SDM, 11/6 Todd KL, 11/12 Lake SW/MS; late south 10/19 Goodhue BL, 10/27 Cottonwood LAF, 11/3 Big Stone RJ, 11/9 Nicollet JCF.

American White Pelican

Unusual 9/14 Crow Wing AB, DB, KE, 9/23-10/27 Duluth m obs., 10/26-7 Cook KMH; late north 10/29 Otter Tail DS; late south 10/20 Chippewa AB, 10/22 Dakota SC, 11/13 Wabasha VL.

Double-crested Cormorant

Late north 11/11 Otter Tail SDM, 11/25 Lake KE, KL, Mille Lacs KL; late south 11/16 Goodhue BL, 11/23 Ramsey RH, 11/24 Wabasha WL.

American Bittern

Late north 9/23 Aitkin WN, 11/14 Marshall ANWR, 11/19 Mille Lacs

MLWMA; late south 9/18 Nicollet JCF, 10/13 Dakota DB.

Least Bittern

8/25 Hennepin TT, 9/15 Redwood RJ, 9/22 Goodhue, BL, DZ.

Great Blue Heron

Late north 11/21 Otter Tail SDM, 11/23 Carlton KL, 11/26 Cook KMH; late south 11/21 Houston FL, 11/24 Washington DS, 11/25 Dakota TT.

Great Egret

Unusual 9/1 Roseau KL, late north 9/29 Marshall KC, 10/8 Otter Tail SDM, 11/21 St. Louis TT; late south 10/18 Anoka KL, 11/12 Dakota SC, DZ, 11/13 Wabasha VL, WDM.

Snowy Egret

8/13 Grant (Pelican Lake) KL.

Little Blue Heron

8/3 Anoka KL

Cattle Egret

9/6-26 Sibley KL.

Green-backed Heron

Late north 9/18 Roseau AJ, 9/19 Mille Lacs MLWMA, 9/30 Duluth Hawk Ridge, 10/1 Itasca AB; late south 10/13 Dakota DB, Dodge RJ, 10/14 Hennepin TT.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

8/15 Marshall (50) FK, 8/17 Otter Tail KSS; late south 10/19 Washington DS, 10/28 Hennepin OJ, 11/4 Dakota TT.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

8/21 Duluth KE, second local record.

WHITE-FACED IBIS

10/4-12 Dakota m. obs. (*The Loon* 57:59)

Tundra Swan

Late north 11/10 Aitkin KL, WN, 11/17 St. Louis AB DB, 11/20 Hubbard HJF; peak 8000 11/11-26 Wabasha; late south 11/20 Goodhue TT, 11/21 Houston FL, 11/30 Wabasha JD, KE (6500).

Greater White-fronted Goose

Late north 10/18 Pennington KSS, 10/

26 Lake SW/MS, 11/25 Otter Tail SDM; late south 10/13 Chippewa AB, 11/20 Olmsted TT, 11/30 Wabasha KE.

Snow Goose

Early north 9/11 Marshall ANWR, 9/19 Duluth KE; early south 9/20 Hennepin SC, 9/22 Goodhue BL, DZ; late north 11/13 Cook KMH, 11/25 Otter Tail SDM; late south 11/23 Hennepin BL, 11/30 Olmsted PP

ROSS' GOOSE

11/12-27 Olmsted m. obs.

BRANT

10/28 Otter Tail L. Nordstrom (*The Loon* 56:270).

Canada Goose

Permanent resident, reported from 16 counties north, 14 south.

Wood Duck

Late north 11/8 Beltrami JC, 11/20 Pennington KSS, 11/28 Crow Wing GSK; late south 11/7 Ramsey RH, 11/11 Dakota TT, 11/18 Washington DS.

Green-winged Teal

Late north 10/18 Pennington KSS, 10/28 Otter Tail DS, 11/6 Cook KMH; late south 11/17 Wabasha DZ, 11/20 Hennepin ES, 11/29 Mower PP.

American Black Duck

Late north 11/4 Kittson RJ, 11/12 Hubbard AB, 11/25 Otter Tail SDM; late south 11/21 Wabasha WDM, 11/29 Mower PP, 11/30 Ramsey DS.

Mallard

Permanent resident, reported from 14 counties north, 14 south.

Northern Pintail

Late north 10/18 Grant DB, Pennington KSS, 10/27 St. Louis RE, 11/21 Otter Tail SDM; late south 11/12 Mower RRK, 11/17 Wabasha WDM, 11/22 Dakota TT.

Blue-winged Teal

Late north 10/20 Lake SW/MS, St. Louis KE, 10/28 Otter Tail DS; late south 10/17 Olmsted JEB, 10/28 Hennepin TT,

Summer 1985

11/11 Wabasha PP.

Northern Shoveler

Late north 9/2 Clay LCF, 10/18 Pennington KSS; late south 11/10 Dodge RJ, 11/27 Scott TT, 11/30 Hennepin SC.

Gadwall

Unusual 8/12-10/25 Duluth KE; late north 10/28 Otter Tail DS, 11/1 Crow Wing GSK, 11/8 Cook KMH; late south 11/6 Olmsted PP, 11/12 Dakota TT, 11/26 Wabasha JD.

American Wigeon

Late north 10/15 Cook KMH, 10/18 Pennington KSS, 11/4 Otter Tail SDM; late south 11/6 Dakota VL, Olmsted PP, 11/29 Hennepin SC.

Canvasback

Late north 10/18 Pennington KSS, 11/4 Lake of the Woods AJ, Otter Tail SDM; late south 11/23 Dakota TT, 11/26 Hennepin SC, Wabasha JD, WDM.

Redhead

Late north 11/3 Marshall ANWR, 11/10 Cook KMH, 11/11 Otter Tail SDM; late south 11/11 Hennepin SC, Wabasha DZ, 11/17 Brown JSp.

Ring-necked Duck

Late north 11/4 Beltrami JC, 11/6 Cook KMH, 11/24 Koochiching KL; late south 11/23 Olmsted PP, Ramsey RH, 11/30 Hennepin SC.

Greater Scaup

Late north 10/2 Pennington KSS 10/29 Otter Tail DS, 11/10 Cook KMH; late south 11/18 Ramsey RJ, 11/20 Hennepin SC, 11/28 Olmsted PP.

Lesser Scaup

Late north 11/15 Marshall ANWR, 11/20 Cook LMH, 11/24 Koochiching KL; late south 11/28 Ramsey DS, 11/29 Mower PP, 11/30 Hennepin SC.

Harlequin Duck

10/4 Cook KL, 10/6-8 St. Louis (French River) MH, 11/8 Cook KMH.

Oldsquaw

10/7-27 St. Louis (Stoney Point) m.

obs., 11/2 **Cottonwood** RJ, 11/6 Todd KL, 11/9-11 Dakota m. obs., 11/10 Cook KMH (100 plus), 11-17, 20 St. Louis DB, MH.

Black Scoter

Many unusual locations: 10/4 Cook KMH, 11/7-18 St. Louis m obs., 11/14 Washington KL, 10/20 Itasca KL, 10/25 Mile Lacs KL, 10/27 Todd KL, 11/7 Otter Tail KL, 11/11 Pine KL, 11/18 Ramsey m obs.

Surf Scoter

Early north 9/28 Cook KMH, 10/5 Lake KL, St. Louis KL, 10/7-18 St. Louis m obs.; early south 10/19 Goodhue BL; also 10/31 **Mower** John Morrison, Todd KL, 11/3 Traverse RJ, 11/25 Mille Lacs KL.

White-winged Scoter

Many widespread reports; early north 9/19 St. Louis KE, also 10/4 Lake KL, St. Louis KL, 10/9 Cook, KMH, 10/19 Goodhue BL, 10/20 **Fillmore** (Iron Lakes) Dan Christenson, 10/27 Brown JSp, Dakota TT, Todd KL, 10/29 Cottonwood LAF, 11/1 **Mower** RRK, 11/2 Nobles RJ, 11/3 Olmsted JEB, RE, Martin EB/K, 11/5 Beltrami RJ, 11/17 Hennepin SC, ES, 11/18 Anoka RJ.

Common Goldeneye

Early south 10/15 Olmsted JEB, 10/30 Hennepin SC, VL, 11/3 Dakota TT; late north (not Lake Superior) 11/11 Aitkin WN, Lake of the Woods AJ, 11/23 Todd RJ.

Bufflehead

Early south 10/20 Olmsted JEB, 10/26 Dakota SC, TT; late north 11/21 Lake SW/MS, 11/25 Crow Wing KL; late south 11/18 Ramsey RH, 11/25 Hennepin SC, ES.

Hooded Merganser

Late north 11/12 Lake SW/MS, 11/14 Cook KMH, 11/25 Hubbard AB; late south 11/23 Hennepin PP, 11/25 Dakota SC, 11/29 Mower PP.

Common Merganser

Late north 11/22 Clearwater AB, 11/23

Hubbard HJF, 11/26 Cook KMH; early south 11/2 Hennepin SC, Lincoln RJ, 11/10 Mower RRK.

Red-breasted Merganser

Late north 11/4 Aitkin WN, Lake of the Woods AJ, 11/5 Beltrami RJ; late south 11/2 Lincoln RJ, 11/6 Olmsted PP, 11/26 Wabasha JD.

Ruddy Duck

Late north 10/4 **Duluth** m obs., 11/5 Beltrami RJ, 11/11 Otter Tail SDM; late south 11/17 Brown JSp, 11/18 Ramsey RH, 11/30 Hennepin SC.

Turkey Vulture

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 978 (1983 record 1446); late north 10/21 Lake SW/MS, 10/23 Cook KMH, 10/30 Hawk Ridge; late south 10/26 Nicollet JCF, 10/27 Scott ES, 11/8 Le Sueur HC.

Osprey

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 247, a record high (1983:224) late north 10/21 Cook KMH, Mille Lacs KL, 10/27 Kanabec OJ, St. Louis MH; late south 10/19 Dakota TT, Hennepin SC, 11/20 Olmsted RE.

Bald Eagle

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 376, second highest total (1983: 394): late north 11/24 Marshall ANWR, 11/27 Hubbard HJF, 11/30 Mille Lacs MLWMA.

Northern Harrier

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 961, second highest total (1983:274); late north 11/15 Hawk Ridge, 11/22 Beltrami AB, 11/24 Aitkin SC; late south 11/2 Cottonwood LAF, 11/9 Nicollet JCF, 11/17 Washington TT.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 12,574 (1983: 9,437); late north 10/26 Cook KMH, 10/29 Crow Wing GSK, 11/7 Hawk Ridge; late south 10/29 Brown JSp, Houston EMF, 10/30 Le Sueur HC, 11/5 Olmsted PP.

Cooper's Hawk

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 91, a re-

cord high (1983: 66); late north 10/14 Roseau AJ, 10/29 Crow Wing GSK, Hawk Ridge; late south 10/22 Hennepin SC, 11/6 Houston EMF, 11/24 Dakota TT.

Northern Goshawk

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 934 (1983: 1,999); early south 9/15 Anoka DS, 10/20 Houston FL, 11/11 Brown JSp.

Red-shouldered Hawk

8/11 Clearwater KL, 8/25 Houston FL, 10/21 RJ, 10/22 Duluth Hawk Ridge.

Broad-winged Hawk

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 36,378 (1983: 35,392); late north 10/19 Aitkin WN, 10/29 Crow Wing GSK, 10/31 Duluth Hawk Ridge, record late date; late south 9/11 Mower RRR, 9/22 Olmsted JEB, RE, 9/23 Dakota TT.

Swainson's Hawk

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 5 (1983:3); late north 9/23 Otter Tail SDM, 9/25 Pennington KSS, 10/20 Hawk Ridge; late south 9/2 Dakota TT, 9/19 Dakota JD, 9/22 Olmsted JEB.

Red-tailed Hawk

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 11,665, a record high (1983: 3,342) with a record one-day high of 2,558 10/28. Permanent resident, reported from 17 counties south; 15 north.

Ferruginous Hawk

Reported 8/30 Duluth Hawk Ridge, 9/29 Kanabec KL, 10/21 Wilkin SDM.

Rough-legged Hawk

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 195, lowest in 13 years (1983: 253); early north 9/20 Duluth Hawk Ridge, 9/29 Roseau AJ, 10/1 Clay LCF; early south 10/5 Carver MS, 10/20 Chippewa AB, Winona JEB.

Golden Eagle

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 37 (1983: 24), a record high for the second year in a row; early north 9/26 Duluth Hawk Ridge, 10/7 Marshall ANWR, KSS, 10/21 Cook MH, Lake GNS; early south 10/20 Houston FL, 11/2 Rock RJ, 11/10 Hennepin OJ.

Summer 1985

American Kestrel

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 917, second highest total (1983: 778); late north 11/22 Mille Lacs MLWMA, 11/25 Mahnommen KSS, Otter Tail SDM.

Merlin

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 62, a record high (1983: 57); early south 10/7 Houston FL, 10/14 Chisago RH; late north 11/6 Cook KMH, 11/16 Marshall ANWR, 11/25 St. Louis M. Stock; late south 11/8 Pope KL, 11/11 Lyon HK, 11/14 Hennepin SC.

Peregrine Falcon

Duluth Hawk Ridge count: 33, second highest total (1983: 28); late north 9/27 Marshall ANWR, 10/20 Pine TT, 11/3-4 Duluth KE; late south 10/23 Anoka SC.

Gyr Falcon

11/28 Roseau AJ.

Prairie Falcon

All reports from Otter Tail County; 9/2 SDM, 9/30 SDM, 10/18 DB, OJ.

Gray Partridge

Permanent resident, reported scarce this season from 12 counties south, three north.

Ring-necked Pheasant

Permanent resident, reported from two north and 15 south counties.

Spruce Grouse

10/28 Cook RE, 10/29 St. Louis (1) KC, 11/5 Lake (2) KE, 11/5 Lake (4) MH, 11/7,11/8, 11/20 Cook KMH, 11/24 Koochiching (2) KL, Lake (no date) SW/MS — all reports.

Ruffed Grouse

Permanent resident, reported from 13 north and five south counties.

Greater Prairie-Chicken

8/17 Otter Tail KSS, 9/29 Polk (1) KC, 11/21 Wilkin SDM.

Sharp-tailed Grouse

11/10 Aitkin (7) 11/17 Pine (7) AB, DB.

Wild Turkey

10/24 Houston (10) EMF, 11/3 Houston (30) FL.

Yellow Rail

8/12 Aitkin (2) WN, 9/17 Marshall (1) ANWR.

Virginia Rail

8/22 St. Louis KE, MH, 9/1 A. Schimpf, 9/20 Hennepin VL, 9/28 Cook KMH, Lyon (no date) HK — all reports.

Sora

Late north 9/3 Clearwater AB, 9/5 Roseau AJ, 10/6 Aitkin WN; late south 10/7 Chippewa AB, 10/8 Dakota SC, 10/26 Hennepin TT.

Common Moorhen

8/28 to 8/30 Wabasha (2 ad., 5 y.) WDM, 9/29 Watonwan (3) RJ.

American Coot

Late north 10/29 Cook RE, 11/2 Crow Wing GSK, 11/4 Lake of the Woods AJ, 11/23 Ottertail RJ; late south 11/26 Wabasha JD, Hennepin VL, 11/28 Nicollet TT, 11/30 Hennepin SC, Olmsted PP.

Sandhill Crane

Late north 10/21 Wilkin SDM, 11/3 Traverse RJ, 11/5 Pennington RJ. Reported from south 8/25 Chisago RE, Anoka (until early Oct.) KL, m.ob.

Black-bellied Plover

Early north 8/5 St. Louis KE, 8/29 MH, 8/30 Lake of the Woods AJ; early south 8/8 south Dakota TT, 8/25 Hennepin AB; late north 10/27 St. Louis RE, 10/28 Cook RE, 10/31 Marshall ANWR; late south 9/15 Hennepin OJ, Murray RJ, Houston FL, 9/22 Goodhue DZ.

Lesser Golden-Plover

Early north 8/4 St. Louis KE, 8/16 Cook OJ; early south 8/25 Hennepin AB, DB, Houston RJ, FL, 8/27 Dodge RE; late north 10/19 St. Louis MH, 10/27 RE, 11/3 KE; late south 10/11 Nicolle JCF, 11/2 Rock RJ.

Semipalmated Plover

Late north 9/2 Clay LCF, 9/16 St. Louis

OJ, 9/22 Roseau AJ; late south 9/22 Goodhue DZ, 10/13 Fillmore RJ, 10/19 Goodhue BL.

Piping Plover

8/14 St. Louis (1) KE.

Killdeer

Late north 10/30 Cook KMH, 11/3 St. Louis KE, 11/4 Cook BL; late south 10/26 Hennepin SC, Murray AD, Dakota JD, TT, 11/2 Lyon HK, 11/22 Watonwan JEB.

American Avocet

10/19 Goodhue (16) BL, 10/21 Duluth, St. Louis Co. P. Egeland.

Greater Yellowlegs

Late north 10/18 Pennington KSS, 10/27 Roseau AJ, 10/28 St. Louis SDM, 11/11 Mille Lacs BL; late south 11/6 Hennepin VL, 11/9 Brown JSp, 11/11 and 11/12 Dakota M.ob.

Lesser Yellowlegs

Late north 10/18 Otter Tail DB, OJ, Pennington KSS, 10/20 Lake SW/MS, 10/21 Aitkin WN, 10/25 St. Louis HR; late south 10/26 Anoka DS, 10/27 Houston FL, 11/11 Dakota m.ob., 11/12 SC.

Solitary Sandpiper

Late north 9/8 Otter Tail RJ, 9/10 St. Louis HR, 10/26 Lake SW/MS; late south 10/17 Olmsted RE, 10/20 Dakota ES, 10/26 Hennepin JEB, Dakota JEB, SC.

Willet

8/21 Washington (3) RJ, BL.

Spotted Sandpiper

Late north 10/18 Cook KMH, 10/21 St. Louis MH, Lake SW/MS, 10/27 St. Louis SDM; late south 9/22 Olmsted JEB, 10/7 Brown JSp, 10/12 Nicollet JCF.

Upland Sandpiper

8/4 Chippewa (1) BL, 8/4 Kittson KSS, 8/9 Dakota (2) TT, 8/24 Nobles (1) BL, 10/12 Marshall (8) GSK — all reports.

Whimbrel

8/29 Grand Marais, Cook Co. KMH.

Hudsonian Godwit

8/24 Pennington KSS, 9/29 Aitkin (1) KL, WN, 10/18 Pennington KSS.

Marbled Godwit

8/4 Chippewa BL, 8/4 Lake of the Woods KSS, 8/11 AJ, 8/12 St. Louis KC, KE, 10/12 Marshall (4) GSK (needs details) — all reports.

Ruddy Turnstone

9/16 St. Louis ES, 10/1 Cook KMH, 10/4 KL, 10/12 Lake SW/MS, 10/15 St. Louis DZ, 10/17 Cook KMH — all reports.

Red Knot

9/18 to 10/21 Lake of the Woods (4 plus, one injured) AJ.

Sanderling

Early north 8/29 Cook KMH, 9/2 Clay LCF; early south 8/30 Washington JD, 9/1 Nicollet RJ; late north 10/18 Pennington KSS, 10/23 St. Louis MH, 10/27 St. Louis RE, Lake of the Woods AJ; late south 10/6 Goodhue BL, 10/14 Washington DS.

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Early north 8/4 Lake of the Woods KSS, 8/11 AJ, 8/12 St. Louis MH; early south 8/5 Anoka SC, 8/9 Dakota TT; late north 9/29 Lake of the Woods AJ, 10/27 St. Louis RE; late south 9/17 Olmstead JEB, 10/3 RJ.

Western Sandpiper

8/12 St. Louis KE, MH, 8/17 Otter Tail KSS, 8/24 Hennepin OJ, 9/15 Nobles (3) RJ, Carver MS, 10/27 St. Louis RE, Lyon (no date) HK — all reports.

Least Sandpiper

Early north 8/4 Lake of the Woods KSS, 8/11 Hubbard FL; early south 8/2 Anoka DB, 8/5 Hennepin OJ, Wright ES, Brown JSp; late north 9/30 St. Louis KC, 10/18 Lake of the Woods KSS; late south 10/6 Stearns KL, 10/26 Dakota TT.

White-rumped Sandpiper

9/30 Clay LCF, 10/5 and 10/6 St. Louis KE, 10/27 St. Louis RE (needs details) — all reports.

Baird's Sandpiper

Early north 8/9 St. Louis KC, 8/17 Otter Tail KSS; early south 8/4 Chisago TT, 8/5 Anoka SC; late north 9/19 Cook KMH, 10/20 St. Louis BL; late south 9/15 Carver MS, Anoka DZ, 10/3 Le Sueur RJ.

Pectoral Sandpiper

Late north 10/18 Otter Tail DB, OJ, 10/21 St. Louis SW/MS, 10/27 St. Louis RE, Lake of the Woods AJ; late south 11/13 Houston FL, 11/10 Mower RJ, 11/11 and 11/12 Dakota m.ob., 11/25 ES, TT.

Dunlin

Early north 8/30 Lake of the Woods AJ, 10/2 Pennington KSS; early south 8/14 Watonwan EB/K, 8/26 Washington RE; late north 11/3 St. Louis BL, 11/7 KE; late south 11/10 Fillmore RJ, 11/11 Dakota AB, ES, 11/12 TT, DZ.

Stilt Sandpiper

Early north 8/3 Cook KMH, 8/6 Roseau AJ; early south 8/4 Chisago TT, 8/5 Anoka SC; late north 8/30 St. Louis SW/MS, 9/5 Lake of the Woods AJ; late south 8/25 AB, DB, Houston FL, 9/16 Washington, Dakota DZ.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Early north 8/22 St. Louis KE, 8/27 Cook KMH; early south 8/1 Dakota (25) TT, 8/2 Anoka DB, 8/10 Washington (4) JD; late north 9/4 St. Louis KL, 10/12 Marshall (2) GSK; late south 8/22 to 8/29 Hennepin (3) OJ, m.ob., 9/3 Goodhue BL, Houston FL.

RUFF

8/12 Carlos Avery WMA, Chisago Co. K. Wensley (*The Loon* 56: 263.)

Short-billed Dowitcher

8/11 Chisago TT, 8/18 Sibley, Yellow Medicine TT, 8/21 Hennepin OJ, 8/25 AB, DB, 8/25 Houston RJ, FL, 9/2 Clay LCF, 9/3 Hennepin OJ, 9/8 Olmsted JEB — all reports.

Long-billed Dowitcher

8/10 Nicollet JCF, 8/21 and 8/26 Hennepin OJ, 9/15 Cottonwood RJ, 9/16 Anoka RH, RJ, 9/22 Lake of the Woods AJ, 10/20 St. Louis KC — all reports.

Dowitcher sp.?

8/15 Marshall FL, 8/24 Lake of the Woods AJ, 9/15 Anoka DZ, 9/18 Lake of the Woods (71) AJ, 9/22 Goodhue DZ, 10/3 Carver MS, 10/18 Pennington KSS.

Common Snipe

Late north 10/15 Roseau AJ, 10/22 Cook KMH, 10/26 Mille Lacs MLWMA < Lake SW/MS; late south 11/15 Washington DS, 11/18 Wabasha DZ, 11/21 Houston FL, 11/25 Dakota TT.

American Woodcock

Late north 10/25 Lake SW/MS, 10/26 Mille Lacs MLWMA, 10/27 Kanabec AB < DB, 10/28 SSt, 10/28 St. Louis MH; late south 10/20 Anoka DS, 10/27 Brown JSp, 10/30 and 11/1 Hennepin SC.

Wilson's Phalarope

8/15 Marshall FL, 8/18 Yellow Medicine TT, 8/21 St. Louis KE, 8/24 Pennington KSS, 8/25 Houston RJ, FL, 9/15 Nobles RJ — all reports.

Red-necked Phalarope

8/18 Sibley TT, 8/24 Pennington KSS, 9/2 Anoka SC, Carlton (8) J. Sparrow, 9/15 Nobles RJ, 9/30 Polk KC, 10/18 Pennington KSS — all reports.

Jaeger sp.?

9/1 St. Louis KE, 9/24 Lake of the Woods (*The Loon* 56:266-267), 10/6 to 10/8 St. Louis KE — only jaeger reports.

Franklin's Gull

Reported from 16 counties; late north 10/18 Ottertail DB, OJ, Grand DB, 10/19 St. Louis MH, 10/21 KE, 10/28 Ottertail DS; late south 10/24 Carver RJ, 10/29 Brown JSp, 10/31 Lyon HK, 11/3 Murray AD, Hennepin ES. Also reported from St. Louis 8/4 KE, 9/24 TT. Peak 9/30 Martin (5000 plus) KL.

Little Gull

8/14 to 8/19 Worthington, Nobles Co. J. Schladweiler, m.ob., 10/24 Lake of the Woods AJ (*The Loon* 56: 265.)

Bonaparte's Gull

Early north 8/11 Cass RJ, 8/25 Beltrami JC, 9/16 Crow Wing ES; late north

11/4 Crow Wing WN, 11/5 Cass RJ, 11/10 Aitkin KL, 11/11 Pine KL. All south reports: 10/10 Hennepin SC, 11/4 Martin EB/K, 11/4 to 11/23 Dakota TT, M.ob.

Ring-billed Gull

Reported from 11 north and 15 south counties. Late north 11/10 Aitkin WN, 11/16 Hubbard HJF, 11/27 St. Louis KE.

CALIFORNIA GULL 11/25 to 11/27 Duluth, St. Louis Co. KE, M.ob., 11/28 MH (*The Loon* 57: 60-61.)

Herring Gull

Reported from nine north and eight south counties.

Thayer's Gull

10/28 St. Louis (2) KE, 11/3(2) MH, 11/11 KL, 11/14 (2) MH, 11/4 and 11/22 Dakota (1) TT, 11/24 Cook KE — all reports.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL

10/19 Park Point, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (one ad.) D. Johnson, M.ob., 10/23 Superior Entry, Duluth (one ad.) T. Savaloja. First state record (*The Loon* 56:240-241).

Glaucous Gull

10/7 and 10/8 St. Louis (1) MH, 10/27 Mille Lacs (2) KL, 11/4 Dakota (one imm.) TT, 11/11 St. Louis (1) KL, 11/15 Hennepin (1) SC, 11/17 St. Louis AB, DB, Todd (1) KL, 11/22 Cook KMH, Dakota (one ad.) TT, 11/24 Dakota (one ad.) RJ — all reports.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE

8/11 Leech Lake, Cass Co. (one imm.) RJ (*The Loon* 56: 271), 10/26 Stoney Point, St. Louis Co. (one imm.) SW/MS.

SABINE'S GULL

9/9 Mower RRK (*The Loon* 56: 265-266), 9/24 Lake of the Woods AJ (*The Loon* 56: 266-267.)

Caspian Tern

Early north 8/11 Cass RJ, 8/21 St. Louis KE; early south 8/17 Dakota TT, 9/8 Blue Earth MF; late north 10/20 St. Louis VR, 10/27 Mille Lacs KL; late south 10/19 Goodhue BL, 10/21 Wabasha RJ.

Common Tern

8/18 Yellow Medicine TT, 8/29 St. Louis MH, 9/1 Ottortail DS, 9/16 Mille Lacs ES, 9/18 St. Louis AE, 10/3 Carver MS, 10/6 Chippewa AB, 10/18 Pope RJ, 10/19 Goodhue BL, 10/20 St. Louis TT, 10/21 Lake of the Woods AJ, Washington (no dates) WL — all reports.

Forster's Tern

8/2 Hennepin AB, 8/7 VL, 8/15 Marshall FL, 8/21 Hennepin OJ, 9/2 St. Louis (2) KE, 9/5 Lake of the Woods AJ, 9/7 Nicollet JCF, 9/28 Lyon HK, 10/18 St. Louis W. Russell, 10/19 Goodhue BL, 10/21 RJ — all reports.

Black Tern

Late north 8/24 Pennington KSS, 8/25 Beltrami JC, 9/1 St. Louis KE; late south 9/6 Swift RJ, 9/7 Nicollet JCF, 9/16 Washington DS.

Rock Dove

Permanent resident, reported from 11 north and 15 south counties.

Mourning Dove

Reported from 13 north and 21 south counties. Late north 11/4 Aitkin WN, 11/22 Clay LCF, 11/28 Lake of the Woods AJ.

Black-billed Cuckoo

Reported from 20 counties. Late north 9/20 Itasca WL, 9/28 Cook KMH, 9/29 Itasca DB; late south 9/27 Olmsted PP, 9/28 JEB, 10/1 RE, 10/13 Houston EMF.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

8/11 and 8/12 Wright ES, 8/18 Blue Earth JCF, 8/21 Lake SW/MS, 8/25 Mower RRK, Houston FL, 9/4 Brown JSp, 9/8 Olmsted RE, 9/10 Houston EMF, 9/13 Olmsted PP, 9/29 Watonwan RJ, 10/3 Murray AD — all reports.

Eastern Screech-Owl

Permanent resident; 8/12 Cottonwood (one ad., one y.) LAF, 10/26 Olmsted RE, 11/28 Murray AD, Lyon (no dates) HK — all reports.

Great Horned Owl

Permanent resident, reported from 12

north and 14 south counties. Three reports of Arctic race: 11/2 Hennepin OJ, 11/18 Benton KL, 11/22 Aitkin WN.

Snowy Owl

11/4 Marshall (2) ANWR, 11/5 Clearwater (1) RJ, 11/12 Lake (1) SW/MS, 11/13 St. Louis KE, 11/28 Lake of the Woods AJ, 11/30 Lake of the Woods (1) KL — all reports.

Barred Owl

Permanent resident, reported from eight north and ten south counties.

Great Gray Owl

8/12 Aitkin (2) WN, 9/2 St. Louis (1) A. Ziegler, 11/4 Becker (1) WL, 11/13 Aitkin (2) WN, 11/17 Koochiching fide RJ, 11/20 Cook KMH, 11/25 Roseau AJ — all reports.

Long-eared Owl

10/20 Nobles (found dead) A. Dekam, 10/23 Le Sueur (1) HC, 10/30 St. Louis MH — all reports.

Short-eared Owl

8/9 Marshall (1) ANWR, 9/28 Carver MS, 10/22 St. Louis (3 banded) HR, 10/23 Hennepin SC, 10/23 Hennepin SC, 10/28 St. Louis (1) KE, SDM, 11/1 Nicollet (1) JCF, 11/3 Todd (1) KL — all reports.

Boreal Owl

10/28 Cook SL (needs details), 11/5 St. Louis (one banded) HR.

Northern Saw-whet Owl

10/20 St. Louis (131) D. Evans, HR, Lake (1) GNS, 10/21 St. Louis MH, 10/22 St. Louis (120 plus) HR, 11/1 Mille Lacs MLWMA, 11/26 St. Louis (road kill) SW/MS — all reports.

Common Nighthawk

Late north 9/18 Clay LCF, 9/19 St. Louis HR, 9/22 Pennington KSS; late south 10/2 Blue Earth JCF, 10/9 Martin EB/K, 10/12 Hennepin (25) SC, Brown JSp; peak 8/28 St. Louis (1000s) KE.

Whip-poor-will

8/2 Lake (ad., 2 y) SW/MS, 8/9 (2) fide SW/MS, 8/25 Roseau AJ, 8/29 Lac Qui Parle FE, 8/31 Anoka (2) SC, 9/1 Cook

SL, 9/12 Houston EMF, 9/21 Fillmore FL, 9/22 Wadena DB, Koochiching (no date) GM — all reports.

Chimney Swift

Late north 9/9 Clay LCF, St. Louis HR, 9/10 Pennington KSS, 10/2 Ottertail SDM; late south 10/18 Hennepin DB, 10/23 Anoka SC, 10/24 Hennepin SC, 10/27 OJ.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Late north 9/15 St. Louis BL, 9/16 Cook T. Webb, 9/20 Cook KMH, Pennington KSS; late south 9/23 Olmsted JEB, 9/24 Dakota JD, 9/29 Hennepin ES. Late nesting report: 8/25 Itasca State Pk. (female on eggs) G. Olson.

Belted Kingfisher

Reported from 28 counties. Late north 11/13 Roseau AJ, 11/20 Cook KMH, 11/22 Clay LCF.

Red-headed Woodpecker

Reported from nine north and 16 south counties. Late north 10/22 Cook KMH, 11/18 Aitkin WN, 11/24 SC, 9/26 to 11/30 St. Louis (7) L. Pearson.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Reported from Aitkin, **Cook, Pennington**, and St. Louis counties in the north, and from 14 south counties.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Reported from 24 counties. Late north 9/30 Itasca AB, St. Louis AE, VR, 10/6 Todd RJ, 10/26 Cook KMH; late south 10/14 Dakota TT, 10/18 Lac Qui Parle FE, 10/30 Le Sueur HC.

Downy Woodpecker

Permanent resident, reported from 18 north and 21 south counties.

Hairy Woodpecker

Permanent resident, reported from 18 north and 20 south counties.

Three-toed Woodpecker

10/11 St. Louis C. Nelson, 10/27 St. Louis SDM.

Black-backed Woodpecker

Twelve reports 9/3 to 10/27 from Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Pine and one south

county, 11/25 Rice K. Jeffrey.

Northern Flicker

Reported from 13 counties north, 21 south. Late north 10/25 Mille Lacs MLWMA, 10/29 St. Louis RE, 11/6 Cook KMH, 11/30 Pennington KSS.

Pileated Woodpecker

Reported from 12 counties north, ten south.

Olive-sided Flycatcher

Early south 8/4 Hennepin GNS, Anoka TT, 8/17 Houston EMF; late north 9/28 Roseau AJ; late south 9/22 Olmsted JEB, 10/3 Scott RJ, **10/20** Mower RRK.

WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE

One report 8/16 Duluth KE. (*The Loon* 56:263)

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Late north 9/16 Pennington KSS, 9/19 Cook KMH, 9/29 St. Louis SW/MS; late south 9/23 Olmsted RE, 9/29 Hennepin SC, Fairbault RJ, 10/3 Washington WL.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Early south 8/4 Anoka TT, 8/18 Wright ES, 8/22 Isanti RJ, 8/23 Anoka SC; late north 9/15 Kanabec SSt, St. Louis DZ; late south 9/8 Hennepin SC, Olmsted RE, 9/14 Hennepin DB.

Alder Flycatcher

Three reports north: 8/2 Lake SW/MS, 8/18 Duluth HR, 9/11 Cook KMH; late south 8/13 Dakota TT, 8/14 Brown JSp, 8/26 Wright ES.

Willow Flycatcher

All reports: 8/2 Dakota TT, 8/6 Houston EMF, 8/11 Dakota DB, 8/21 Hennepin OJ, 9/1 Blue Earth RJ, 9/15 Houston EMF, 9/21 Olmsted RE.

Least Flycatcher

Late north 9/15 St. Louis TBB, 9/18 Otter Tail SDM, 10/1 Cook KMH; late south 9/17 Dakota JD, 9/22 Hennepin TT, 9/27 Hennepin SC.

Eastern Phoebe

Late north 10/21 Roseau AJ, St. Louis SW/MS 10/22 Cook KMH, **10/31** St. Louis R. Newman; late south 10/24 Hen-

nepin SC, Olmsted PP, 10/28 Dakota TT, 10/29 Houston EMF, 10/30 Hennepin ES.

Great Crested Flycatcher

Late north 9/1 Clay LCF, 9/2 Clearwater AB; late south 9/15 Houston EMF, Washington DS, 9/19 Hennepin ES, 9/20 Wabasha RJ.

Western Kingbird

All reports: 8/5 Pipestone JPa, 8/19 Lac Qui Parle TT (7), 8/24 Polk KSS, 9/2 Clay LCF, 9/4 Hennepin SC, 9/8 Otter Tail RJ, Murray AD, 9/9 Otter Tail SDM.

Eastern Kingbird

Late north 9/12 Cook KMH, 9/14 Pennington KSS, St. Louis 9/15 DZ, 9/18 AE; late south 9/18 Dakota TT, Murray AD, Olmsted 9/19 PP, 9/22 RE.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER

8/18 Babbitt, St. Louis Co., D. Chamblu fide KE.

Horned Lark

Reported from nine counties south, four north; late north 10/29 Cook, St. Louis RE, 11/6 Cook KMH, 11/17 St. Louis AB, DB.

Purple Martin

Late north 9/1 Pennington KSS, 9/6 Traverse RJ, 9/9 Clay LCF; late south 9/12 Hennepin VL, 9/27 Olmsted PP, 9/30 Pipestone JPa.

Tree Swallow

Late north 10/12 Otter Tail SDM, 10/28 St. Louis KE; late south 10/20 Chippewa AB, Houston FL, 10/21 Goodhue RJ, 10/26 JEB, 10/28 Hennepin VL.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Late north 9/9 Clay LCF; late south Hennepin 10/8 DB, 10/24 SC, 10/20 Houston FL.

Bank Swallow

Late north 9/3 Clearwater AB, 9/7 Becker RJ, 9/9 Duluth HR; late south 9/7 Nicollet JCF, 9/22 Goodhue DZ.

Cliff Swallow

Late north 9/24 Pennington KSS (5000), 9/25 Cook KMH; late south 9/3

Hennepin OJ, 9/7 Nicollet JCF, 9/20 Winona RJ, 9/27 Olmsted PP.

Barn Swallow

Late north 9/29 Roseau KC, 9/30 Clay LCF, 10/19 St. Louis fide KE; late south 10/19 Goodhue BL, 10/20 Chippewa AB, 10/21 Goodhue RJ, Olmsted RE, 10/26 Nicollet JCF.

Gray Jay

Reported from 13 north counties.

Blue Jay

Reported from 18 counties north, 22 south. 9/19 HR (467).

Black-billed Magpie

9/28 Lake of the Woods KC (14), 10/13 Roseau GSK, 11/4 Red Lake RJ 11/5 Clearwater RJ, 11/22 Polk AB; and Kittson, Marshall and Pennington.

American Crow

Reported from 18 counties north, 24 south.

Common Raven

Reported from 15 counties north.

Black-capped Chickadee

Reported from 21 counties north, 25 south.

Boreal Chickadee

8/20 Itasca DB, 9/13 Lake SSt, 10/5 St. Louis MH, 10/27 St. Louis RE, SDM, 11/25 Roseau, also Cook.

Tufted Titmouse

8/22-11/10 Houston EMF; Olmsted 11/8 JEB, 11/24 RE.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Reported from 13 counties north, 16 south.

White-breasted Nuthatch

Reported from 18 counties north, 25 south.

Brown Creeper

Reported from 13 counties north, 12 south. Early south 9/14 Hennepin SC; late north 11/24 Clearwater AB.

House Wren

Late north 10/3 Cook KMH, 10/9 Clay LCF, 10/20 St. Louis KC; late south 10/13 Winona RJ, 10/14 Murray AD, 10/21 Brown JSp, 10/27 Hennepin TT.

Winter Wren

Early south 9/10 Hennepin SC, 9/22 Goodhue BL, DZ, 9/23 Olmsted RE, Hennepin TT; late north 10/20 St. Louis KC, TT, Aitkin BL, 11/20 Cook KMH; late south 10/23 Anoka SC, 10/29 Houston EMF, 10/30 Martin EB/K.

Sedge Wren

Late north 9/2 Clearwater AB, 9/3 Aitkin WN, 9/5 Lake SW/MS; late south 10/20 Chippewa AB, 10/23 Dakota TT, 10/28 Ramsey BL, 10/29 Brown JSp.

Marsh Wren

Late north 9/3 Clearwater AB, 9/29 Roseau KC, 10/7 Marshall KSS; late south 10/12 Hennepin DB, Mower RRK, 10/17 Hennepin SC, 10/28 Ramsey BL.

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Early south 9/15 Houston EMF, 9/18 Lyon HK, 9/19 Olmsted JEB; late north 11/3 St. Louis VR, 11/4 Clay LCF, 11/24 Kittson KSS.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Early south 8/23 Le Sueur HC, 9/1 Nicollet RJ, 9/3 Anoka JH; late north 10/27 Kanabec AB, 10/28 Clay LCF, 10/29 Cook RE, 11/2 Lake SW/MS; late south 11/9 Martin EB/K, Houston EMF, 11/18 Hennepin SC.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

All reports: 8/23 Olmsted PP, 8/25 Winona RJ, Hennepin TT, 8/26 Brown JSp, 8/30 Anoka SC, JH, 9/3 Hennepin TT, 9/4 Dakota JD, Mower RRK, 9/15 Houston EMF.

Eastern Bluebird

Reported from ten counties north, 18 south. Late north 10/26 St. Louis SW/MS, 10/29 Duluth HR (37), 11/2 Lake SW/MS; late south 11/3 Olmsted JEB, 11/7 Houston EMF, 11/10 Cottonwood LAF.

Mountain Bluebird

Two reports: 10/12-13 Duluth KE, 11/20 Cook KMH.

Townsend's Solitaire

All reports: 10/21 Lake GNS, Washington 11/11 RJ, 11/12 JD, 11/17 OJ, SC, TT, 11/30 KE, 11/29 Hennepin SC.

Veery

All reports: 8/14 Duluth HR, 8/27 St. Louis AE, 8/31 Cottonwood LAF, 9/2 Anoka SC, 9/9 Hennepin ES, 9/20 Itasca WL.

Gray-cheeked Thrush

All reports: 9/8 Hennepin SC, 9/24 St. Louis TT, 9/27 Otter Tail SDM, 9/30 St. Louis AE, 10/2 Ramsey RJ.

Swainson's Thrush

Early south 8/31 DB, 9/4 Hennepin SC; late north 9/27 Lake SW/MS, 9/28 Cook KMH, 10/20 St. Louis MH; late south 10/12 Nicollet JCF, 10/13 Cottonwood LAF, 10/14 Martin EB/K.

Hermit Thrush

Early south, 9/20 SC, 9/29 Hennepin ES; late north 10/23 Cook KMH, 10/27 St. Louis RE; late south 11/1 Hennepin RJ, SC, 11/11 Brown JSp.

Wood Thrush

Late north 9/15 Kanabec SSt, 10/14 Roseau AJ; late south 9/28 Hennepin SC, 10/8 Mower RRK, 10/10 Houston EMF.

American Robin

Reported from 17 counties north, 18 south. 9/30 Duluth HR (1271).

Varied Thrush

Only report late Nov. Duluth, fide KE.

Gray Catbird

Late north 10/1 Cook KMH, 11/19 St. Louis D. Johnson; late south 11/3 Dakota JD, 11/4 Lyon HK, 11/22 Houston EMF.

Brown Thrasher

Late north 10/16 Cook KMH, 10/27 Kanabec AB, 10/29 Pennington KSS; late south 10/18 Stevens RJ, 10/20 Chippewa AB, 10/28 Lyon HK.

Water Pipit

Early north 9/4 Cook KMH, 9/15 St. Louis TBB, MF, DZ; early south 9/15 Nobles RJ, 9/22 Ramsey RH, Goodhue BL, DZ; late south 10/11 Hennepin SC (100), 10/13 Olmsted RE, 10/20 JEB; late north 10/29 Duluth HR, 11/3 St. Louis GNS, 11/6 Cook KMH.

Bohemian Waxwing

Reported from 12 counties north. Early north 10/20 Koochiching GM, 10/22 St. Louis W. Russell, 11/2 Lake SW/MS.

Cedar Waxwing

Reported from nine counties north, 21 south.

Northern Shrike

Early north 10/10 Cook KMH, Pennington KSS, 10/14 St. Louis KE HR; early south 11/10 Dakota AB, TT, 11/11 ES, 11/12 Washington JD, Dakota DZ.

Loggerhead Shrike

All reports: 8/4 Hennepin GNS, 8/5 Clay LCF, 8/18 Todd KL, 10/31 Cook SL, 11/10 Aitkin WN.

European Starling

Reported from 29 counties statewide.

Bell's Vireo

8/4 & 11 Fort Snelling S.P., Dakota TT.

Solitary Vireo

Early south 8/29 Houston EMF, 8/30 DB, 8/31 Hennepin SC, 9/2 Brown JSp; late north 9/26 Pine RJ, 9/30 Itasca AB, 10/22 Cook KMH; late south 10/2 Brown JSp, 10/15 Houston EMF, 10/22 Hennepin SC.

Yellow-throated Vireo

Late north 9/2 Clearwater AB, 9/26 Pennington KSS; late south 9/15 Anoka DS, 9/16 Houston EMF, Hennepin TT, 9/18 Brown JSp.

Warbling Vireo

Late north St. Louis 9/20 AE, 9/29 FL; late south 9/15 Nobles RJ, 9/23 Olmsted RE, 9/26 Brown JSp, 9/27 Hennepin SC.

Summer 1985

Philadelphia Vireo

Early south 8/10 Dakota JD, 8/18 Houston EMF; late north 9/22 Otter Tail SDM, 9/24 St. Louis AE, 10/6 Morrison RJ; late south 9/23 Cottonwood LAF, 9/27 Hennepin SC, 9/28 Olmsted JEB.

Red-eyed Vireo

Late north 9/28 Cook KMH, 10/14 Clay LCF, 10/27 Cook KE; late south 10/3 Olmsted RE, 10/4 Hennepin SC, 10/13 Washington DS, 11/4 Hennepin (*The Loon* 57:62).

Blue-winged Warbler

Two reports: 8/25 Winona RJ, 9/12 Houston EMF. **Brewster's** 8/23 Anoka SC, 9/2 Meeker P. Springer.

Golden-winged Warbler

Late south: Olmsted 9/9 JEB, 9/15 RE, 9/14 Houston EMF.

Tennessee Warbler

Early south 8/11 Brown JSp, 8/22 Hennepin SC; late north 10/26 Cook KMH, 10/30 St. Louis SW/MS; late south 10/14 Lyon HK, 10/16 Houston EMF, 11/7 Brown JSp.

Orange-crowned Warbler

Early north 8/5 Lake of the Woods KSS, 9/2 Clearwater AB, 9/3 Clay LCF; early south 9/1 Houston EMF, 9/4 Olmsted JEB, 9/5 Washington JD; late north 10/21 KE, 10/23 Cook KMH; late south 10/24 DB, 10/30 Hennepin SC.

Nashville Warbler

Early south 8/22 Anoka JH, 8/23 Houston EMF; late north 10/22 St. Louis MH, 10/26 Cook KMH; late south 10/19 Goodhue BL, 10/23 Anoka SC, 10/29 Hennepin SC.

Northern Parula

Early south 8/27 SC, 9/1 Hennepin ES, 9/4 Dakota TT; late north 9/22 Duluth HR 9/28 Otter Tail SDM; late south 9/23 Dakota JD, 9/29 TT, 9/30 Hennepin SC.

Yellow Warbler

Late north 9/14 Duluth HR, 9/19 Cook KMH, 9/29 St. Louis KE; late south 9/9 Dakota AB, 9/15 Washington DS, 9/19 Hennepin SC.

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Late north 9/24 St. Louis TT, 9/28 Cook KMH; late south 9/24 Cottonwood LAF, 9/25 Dakota JD, 9/27 Hennepin SC, 10/9 Houston EMF.

Magnolia Warbler

Early south 8/22 Hennepin SC, 8/24 Houston EMF; late north 9/26 Mille Lacs RJ, Pennington KSS, 10/10 Cook KMH; late south 9/30 OJ, 10/2 Hennepin SC, 10/13 Murray AD.

Cape May Warbler

Early south 8/23 Anoka SC; late north 9/2 Clay LCF, 10/2 Cook KMH; late south 9/5 Washington JD, 9/8 Hennepin SC, Dakota TT.

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Late north 9/10 Itasca WL, 9/29 St. Louis FL; late south 9/2 Anoka SC, 9/8 Goodhue BL, 9/13 Hennepin SC.

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Early south 9/2 Murray AD, 9/4 Dakota JD; late north 11/5 St. Louis R. Newman, MH. 11/8 Cook KMH; late south 11/1 Hennepin SC, 11/3 Washington TT.

Black-throated Green Warbler

Early south 8/23 SC, 8/24 Anoka TT; late north 9/22 Duluth HR, Cook 9/30 KMH, 10/21 KE; late south 10/6 Houston FL, 10/13 Murray AD.

Blackburnian Warbler

Early south 8/18 Brown JSp, Wright ES, 8/19 Lac Qui Parle TT; late north 9/18 Kanabec SSt, 9/25 Cook KMH, 9/26 Pennington KSS; late south 9/18 Hennepin SC.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER

9/22 Clay LCF (*The Loon* 57:105-106).

Pine Warbler

Early south 8/29 Lac Qui Parle FE, 9/3 Houston EMF, Hennepin TT; late north 9/28 Roseau AJ, 10/21 Cook KE; late south 10/2 Ramsey RJ, 10/4 Lac Qui Parle FE.

Palm Warbler

Early north 8/27 Polk KSS, 9/4 Duluth HR, 9/5 Lake SW/MS; early south 8/26 Washington DS, 9/3 Anoka SC, Wright ES; late north 10/27 Kanabec AB, DB, 10/29 Cook RE; late south 10/14 Chippewa AB, 10/18 VL, 10/27 Hennepin SC.

Bay-breasted Warbler

Early south 8/22 Hennepin SC, 9/4 Olmsted JEB; late north 9/18 Kanabec SSt, 9/27 Cook KMH; late south 9/30 Cottonwood LAF. 10/4 Mower RRK.

Blackpoll Warbler

Early south 8/16 Anoka JH, 8/29 Hennepin SC, DB, Brown JSp; early north 8/27 Polk KSS, 8/29 Cook KMH; late north 9/28 Cook KMH, 10/1 Clay LCF; late south 9/27 Hennepin SC, 9/28 Washington DS, 9/29 Ramsey RH.

Cerulean Warbler

Only report 9/1 Nicollet RJ.

Black-and-white Warbler

Late north 9/18 Kanabec SSt, St. Louis AE, 9/21 Cook KMH, 10/21 Cook KE; late south 9/23 Olmsted RE, 9/27 Hennepin SC, 9/29 Martin RJ.

American Redstart

Late north 9/30 St. Louis HR, 10/10 St. Louis KMH, 10/20 St. Louis KC; late south 9/28 Hennepin, 10/10 Houston EMF.

Prothonotary Warbler

All reports: 8/9 Brown JSp, 8/17 Goodhue BL, 8/28 Houston RJ, 9/3 Goodhue BC, 9/30 Hennepin M. Case (needs details).

Ovenbird

Late north 9/16 Clay LCF, 9/18 Kanabec SSt, 9/20 St. Louis AE; late south 9/23 Martin EBK, Olmsted RE, 10/4 Hennepin SC, 10/20 Winona JEB.

Northern Waterthrush

Early south 8/17 Hennepin DB, 8/18 Houston EMF, 9/22 Hennepin SC; late north 9/24 Roseau AJ, 9/26 Cook KMH, 9/30 Itasca AB, DB; late south 10/4 Hennepin SC, 10/7 Brown JSp, 10/10 LeSueur HC.

Connecticut Warbler

Two reports north 8/18 Pine RJ, 9/15 Mille Lacs MLWMA, St. Louis HR; late south 9/29 Olmsted JEB, 10/5 Dakota JD, 10/11 Lac Qui Parle FE.

Mourning Warbler

Late north 9/9 Cook KMH, 9/11 Mille Lacs MLWMA, 9/20 Crow Wing GSK, Itasca WL; late south 9/6 Swift RJ, 9/9 Brown JSp, 9/28 Hennepin SC.

Common Yellowthroat

Late north 10/21 Cook KE, 10/22 Cook KMH, 11/11 St. Louis fide KE; late south 10/5 Chippewa AB, 10/8 Dakota SC, 10/9 Martin EBK.

Wilson's Warbler

Early north 8/5 Lake of the Woods, 8/20 Clay LCF, 8/21 Itasca DB; early south 8/19 Lac Qui Parle TT, 8/22 Anoka JH, Hennepin SC, 8/24 Hennepin DB, Nicollet JCF; late north 9/18 Otter Tail SDM, 9/22 Clay LCF, 9/25 Cook KMH; late south 9/16 Brown JSp, 9/19 Ramsey RH, 9/20 Hennepin SC.

Canada Warbler

Early south 8/18 Brown JSp, 8/19 Lac Qui Parle TT, 8/22 Anoka JH, Hennepin SC; late north 9/1 Clay LCF, 9/4 St. Louis HR, 9/14 Cook KMH; late south 9/11 Houston EMF, 9/23 Hennepin TT, 9/26 Hennepin SC.

Summer Tanager

Two reports 8-8 St. Louis fide KE, 10/10 St. Louis fide KE.

Scarlet Tanager

Late north 10/6 Todd RJ, 10/20 Lake TT, 10/21 Cook KE; late south 9/27 Dakota JD, 9/29 Anoka SC, 9/30 Hennepin SC.

Northern Cardinal

Reported from 13 counties south and from Mille Lacs, Pennington and St. Louis counties north.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Late north 9/18 St. Louis VR, 10/4 St. Louis HR, 10/27 Cook SL; late south 9/30 Hennepin OJ, 10/12 Hennepin SC, 10/30 Lyon HK.

Summer 1985

Blue Grosbeak

One report 9/15 Redwood KL.

Indigo Bunting

Late north 8/8 Clay LCF, 8/27 St. Louis HR; late south 10/6 Dakota BL, 10/10 Houston EMF, 10/18 Dakota TT.

Dickcissel

Late south 8/18 Sibley TT, 8/19 Pipestone JPa, 9/29 Watonwan RJ.

Rufous-sided Towhee

One report north 10/14 St. Louis fide KE; late south 10/23 Anoka SC, 10/28 Cottonwood LCF, 10/29 Houston EMF.

American Tree Sparrow

Early north 10/1 Lake SW/MS, 10/5 St. Louis SS, 10/6 Roseau AJ; early south 9/18 Wabasha WDM, 10/1 Lac Qui Parle FE, 10/4 Hennepin SC, 10/7 Dakota TT.

Chipping Sparrow

Late north 11/8 Cook KMH, 11/19 Hubbard HJF, 11/28 Otter Tail SDM; late south 10/30 Lyon KH, 11/6 Ramsey RH, 11/30 Hennepin SC.

Clay-colored Sparrow

Late north 10/24 Lake SW/MS, 10/26 Cook KMH, 11/7 to December St. Louis fide KE (see page 104); late south 10/2 Cottonwood LCF, 10/13 Lyon HK, Washington BL, 10/27 Sherburne RJ.

Field Sparrow

Three reports north 8/5 Clay LCF, 8/18 St. Louis HR, 10/20 St. Louis KL; late south 10/23 Olmsted RJ, 10/29 Hennepin SC, 11/30 Houston EMF.

Vesper Sparrow

Late north 10/21 Cook KE, 11/4 St. Louis fide KE, 11/6 Cook KMH; late south 10/27 Anoka JH, 10/28 Lyon HK, 10/29 Washington BL.

Lark Sparrow

One report 10/22 Cook KMH.

Savannah Sparrow

Late north 10/23 Cook SW/MS, 11/4 Cook GNS, 11/6 Cook KMH, St. Louis KE; late south 10/30 Lyon HK, 11/12 Dakota DZ, 11/15 Lac Qui Parle FE.

Grasshopper Sparrow

Five reports 8/5 Wabasha RE, 8/9 Clay KSS, 9/6 Brown JSp, 10/4 Olmsted PP, 10/21 Cook KE.

LeConte's Sparrow

Five reports north 8/11 Aitkin SC, 8/17 Otter Tail KSS, 9/30 Polk KC, 10/18 Cook KMH, 10/27 Lake of the Woods KE; one report south 10/23 Hennepin SC.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow

Two reports 9/2 Clearwater AB, 9/9 Roseau AJ.

Fox Sparrow

Early north 9/1 Pennington KSS, 9/25 Clay LCF, Koochiching GM, 9/28 Roseau AJ; early south 9/26 Brown JSp, Hennepin SC, 9/28 Dakota TT, Hennepin VL, Olmsted RE, 9/29 Watonwan RJ; late north 11/4 Aitkin WN, Cook BL, Kittson RJ, Roseau AJ, 11/6 St. Louis KE, 11/16 St. Louis SW/MS.

Song Sparrow

Late north 10/30 Cook KMH, 11/3 Pennington KSS, 11/7 Aitkin WN.

Lincoln's Sparrow

Late north 10/23 Cook KMH, 10/29 Cook RE, 11/3 Cook BL, St. Louis GNS; late south 10/28 Hennepin AB, 10/29 Hennepin SC, 11/8 Mower PP.

Swamp Sparrow

Late north 10/11 St. Louis SW/MS, 10/22 St. Louis MH, 10/30 Cook KMH; late south 11/5 Hennepin SC, 11/8 Mower PP, 11/12 Houston EMF.

White-throated Sparrow

Early south 9/12 Hennepin SC, 9/14 Washington TT, 9/15 Anoka JH; late north 11/4 Otter Tail SDM, St. Louis VR, 11/11 Aitkin WN, 11/16 Lake SW/MS, Pennington KSS; late south 11/20 Houston EMF, 11/23 Houston JD, 11/30 Hennepin SC.

White-crowned Sparrow

Early north 8/28 Cook SL, 9/4 St. Louis KE, 9/7 Cook KMH; early south 9/21 Dakota TT, 9/22 Goodhue DZ, Hennepin OJ, 9/24 Hennepin SC; late north

10/30 Cook KMH, 11/4 Aitkin WN, Cook BL, Lake SW/MS, 11/7 St. Louis KE; late south 10/24 Hennepin SC, 11/21 Dakota JD, 11/28 Dakota TT.

Harris' Sparrow

Early north 9/14 Cook KMH, 9/21 Lake SW/MS, Pennington KSS, 9/22 Wadena RJ; early south 9/21 Dakota TT, Stearns CM, 9/23 Cottonwood LAF, Lac Qui Parle FE, 9/24 Murray AD; late north 11/3 Becker RJ, 11/4 Aitkin WN, 11/22 Clay LCD; late south 11/3 Martin EBK, 11/8 Murray AD, 11/17 Lac Qui Parle FE.

Dark-eyed Junco

Early south 9/15 Anoka SC, 9/20 Olmsted PP, 9/23 Hennepin TT.

Lapland Longspur

Early north 9/10 Cook KMH, 9/15 St. Louis MF, 9/18 Roseau AJ; early south 9/22 Goodhue BL, Hennepin OJ, 9/29 Hennepin TT, 10/13 Hennepin SC; late north 11/20 Cook KMH.

Smith's Longspur

9/15 St. Louis BL, DZ.

Snow Bunting

Early north 9/13 St. Louis KE, 9/14 Roseau AJ, St. Louis MH,HR, 9/23 St. Louis AE; early south 11/2 Hennepin OJ, 11/9 Nicollet JCF, 11/12 Hennepin VL.

Bobolink

Late north 9/22 Wadena RJ, 10/2 Clearwater AB, 10/3 Lake KL; late south 9/9 Anoka TT, 9/23 Hennepin OJ, 9/30 Wabasha MS.

Red-winged Blackbird

Late north 11/18 Becker KSS, 11/20 Cook KMH, 11/30 Todd KL.

Eastern Meadowlark

Late north 11/5 St. Louis KE, 11/6 Mille Lacs MLWMA, 11/11 St. Louis MH.

Western Meadowlark

Late north 11/5 Pennington RJ, 11/6 Clary LCF, 11/9 Marshall KSS.

Yellow-headed Blackbird

Late north 10/26 Roseau AJ; late south 9/15 Murray RJ, 10/5 Nicollet JCF, 10/28 Lyon HK.

Rusty Blackbird

Early north 9/17 Itasca WL, 9/19 St. Louis HR, 9/22 Wadena RJ; early south 10/26 Dakota SC, 10/28 Lyon HK, 11/4 Murray AD; late north 11/22 Clay LCF, Cook KMH, Wadena AB, 11/23 Polk AB; late south 11/10 Murray AD, 11/11 Hennepin AB, 11/12 Nicollet JCF.

Brewer's Blackbird

Late north 10/31 St. Louis KE, 11/5 Kanabec SSt, 11/22 Pennington KSS.

Common Grackle

Late north 11/7 Aitkin WN, 11/22 Polk AB, 11/30 Cook KMH.

Brown-headed Cowbird

Late north 9/29 St. Louis HR, 9/30 Aitkin WN, 10/26 Mille Lacs MLWMA; late south 11/9 Nicollet JCF, 11/10 Fillmore RJ.

Orchard Oriole

One report north 8/1 Clay LCF; late south 8/12 Brown JSP, 8/17 Goodhue BL, 8/24 Rock BL.

Northern Oriole

Late north 11/13 St. Louis AE; late south 9/10 Olmsted JEB, 9/11 Hennepin SC, 9;15 Hennepin TT.

Pine Grosbeak

Early north 10/22 Polk KSS, 10/28 Clay LCF, St. Louis AE, KE, 10/29 Cook KMH, St. Louis HR; two reports south 11/7 Brown JSp, 11/10 Cottonwood LAF.

Purple Finch

Reported from 12 counties north and 11 counties south.

Red Crossbill

Reported from 11 counties north and from eight counties south as far as Martin, Olmsted and Yellow Medicine.

White-winged Crossbill

Reported from 11 counties north

and from Dakota and Martin counties south.

Common Redpoll

Early north 10/11 St. Louis KE, 10/14 St. Louis HR, 10/22 St. Louis MH; early south 11/2 Nobles RJ, 11/3 Traverse RJ, 11/4 Cottonwood LAF.

Hoary Redpoll

All reports 11/4 Kittson RJ, Marshall RJ, St. Louis KE, 11/17 Todd KL, 11/23 Polk AB.

Pine Siskin

Reported from 13 counties north and 15 counties south.

American Goldfinch

Reported from 11 counties north and 19 counties south.

Evening Grosbeak

Reported from 15 counties north; one report south 10/25 Lyon HK.

House Sparrow

Reported from 33 counties throughout the state.

CONTRIBUTORS; FALL 1984

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Notes of Interest

MINNESOTA'S FIRST WINTERING CLAY-COLORED SPARROW — On the afternoon of Nov. 7, 1984 a Clay-colored Sparrow arrived at our ground feeder, here in Duluth, with five Dark-eyed Juncos. The sparrow and the juncos reappeared several times each day up to and including Nov. 13, always arriving, feeding, and leaving as a unit. On Nov. 14 the sparrow and the juncos failed to return. As it turned out, the juncos were not seen again for the rest of the winter. On Nov. 15, at 4:30 p.m., the sparrow returned to the feeder alone, and reappeared every day thereafter until Jan. 20, 1985. Although being a small bird, it was very bold and definitely dominated over the juncos, always making them back away while it fed totally undisturbed and unchallenged by them at any location at the feeder that it chose. After the junco's last departure on Nov. 13, its only other serious competitors at the feeder were House Sparrows. It was also dominant over some of these, and with others it was on equal terms. Even though the House Sparrows were much larger than the Clay-colored, none of them ever dominated over it, although some would try, always without success. It was generally indifferent to other species of birds, as they to it, possibly because most of the other birds were not in direct competition with it for food. It fed almost exclusively on the orange millet that was placed on the ground in a corner of the feeder. This corner was sheltered by a small brushpile with overhanging spruce boughs for protection from wind and snow. None of the other birds that came to the feeder would eat the millet except the juncos when they were here, and occasionally the House Sparrows. Some days it fed mostly on finely-ground corn, but these times were rare, finely-chopped nuts, bread crumbs, shredded coconut, thistle seed, sunflower

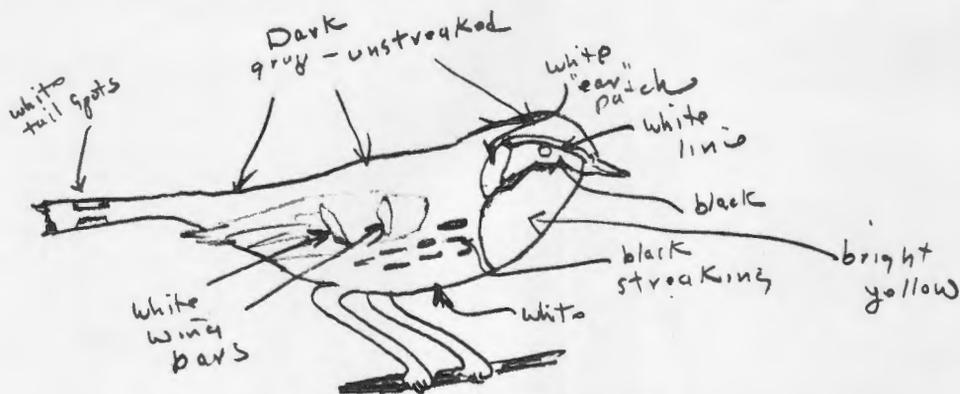


Clay-colored Sparrow — Duluth, January 1985, Photo by Roy Newman.

seed and finely-grated suet were offered, but none taken. Grit, in the form of a fine to coarse sand, was also ingested. It was an early riser and a late rooster, invariably being the first bird at the feeder in the morning and the last to leave in the evening. It usually would arrive before there was enough daylight to clearly see it. Sometimes in order to see it, we would briefly shine a six-celled flashlight through the kitchen window to a place on the ground where it usually sat. This did not seem to bother it. Most days it would stay at the feeder until well after sundown, and many times it would again be too dark to see it, though we knew it to still be there. Its range from our feeder, as far as could be determined, was approximately 50 yards to the south, at a feeder across the street. Also approximately 50 yards west where it would sun itself in a small bush along with a few House Sparrows, and also about 20 yards east at a group of thick white cedars. In the daytime it would customarily rest in one of two places. The first place was in the group of cedars east of the feeder. The second and less common place was within the brushpile adjacent to the feeder. At night it would roost in the cedars, except for its last night alive (Jan. 19), when it attempted to roost on the ground at the feeder. Daytime temperature on the 19th was -27 deg. F., and the wind chill -60 to -85 F. Jan. 20, 1985: The thermometer out back registers -23 F. on this morning. The sparrow is not seen. After a search it was found about 25 feet from its roosting position of yesterday evening. It apparently made its last flight sometime after dark and was found dead, frozen solidly to the top of the snow. **Jeff Newman, 4401 Regent St., Duluth, MN 55804.**

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER AT MOORHEAD — The bird was observed along the Minnesota side of the Red River of the North about two miles south of Moorhead, Clay County on 22 September 1984 at 8:45 a.m. Skies were clear and the temperature was 56 degrees F. The bird was feeding in a Mayday, an Ash, and an Elm tree. The time of the observation was several minutes during two periods. The bird was

first observed feeding in the Mayday tree about 15 feet high at a distance of about 90 feet. The second observation was at a similar height in an Ash tree and Elm tree respectively at a distance of about 60 feet. The observations were made with full benefit of the sun with the sun being to the observers' backs. Both I and Carol Falk saw the bird during both periods. I used 7-power and 8-power binoculars, and Carol used 6-power glasses. The first view of the bird was from the underside. It was clear from the general configuration, the beak and feeding behavior that it was a warbler. The lower part of the breast was pure white, and two white tail notches were apparent. The bird next turned its head upward with breast toward the viewers displaying a dark cheek patch and a brilliant yellow throat. Indeed, all of the colors in this bird were very distinct. The back and top of the head were a smooth dark gray without streaking. The dark side spots above the white breast were black appearing. During the second viewing episode, we were able to confirm our first viewing. By this time we had checked the warbler species in both Robbins, *Birds of North America* Revised Edition, and Peterson's *A Field Guide to Birds*, 1980. During the second episode we were able to carefully observe the line above the eye between the black cheek and the head's and see that it was distinctly white with no hint of yellow or buff. The yellow of the throat ended abruptly without any fading into the white belly. The white patch behind the "ear" was clearly visible, as were the white wing patches. Given these clearly visible



characteristics, we concluded that it was a Yellow-throated Warbler. Similar species: The species most similar to this one is the Blackburnian Warbler. The female has similar tail notching, slight dark streaking along the white breast, wing patches and a light spot behind the "ear." The throat is also yellow. Indeed, I did see several females of the species earlier in the season. The species we observed differed from the Blackburnian in several respects. There was absolutely no streaking of white or light on the back. The dark gray extended up the back and over the crown. That is, the crown was also a solid dark gray. (We were able to observe the bird from most angles.) The yellow was a bright yellow and left off abruptly to the white of the breast. The spots (streaking) along the bird's sides were black and pronounced. The line above the cheekpatch was not tinged with yellow or buff. Rather, it was pure white. Since the sun was still at a relatively low angle, that would tend to make the white appear buffy if that were a factor. Instead, all the colors were pronounced, the black, the dark gray, the yellow and the white. One way to account for the presence of this species away from its usual territory might be the weather. The previous day an extensive low pressure cell dominated the weather. This produced a southeast wind that (according to the weather bureau) was between 28 and 39 miles per hour in mid-afternoon. A number of other species were seen the same morning following the high wind that likely came in with the same weather system. Of course, this is only one possible explanation. **Laurence L. Falk and Carol J. Falk, Rt. 3, Box 46, Moorhead, MN 56560.**

FILLMORE COUNTY COTEAU'S — Traveling through Fillmore County on Highway 30 between Chatfield and Rushford, I have often noticed several grassy slopes in Section 11 of Pilot Mound Township. (The precise location is one mile and one and a half miles east of the town of Pilot Mound). These gentle slopes, occasionally marked by rock outcroppings, rise perhaps 60 to 75 feet above the agricultural lands surrounding them and present a coteau-like topography, at least when viewed from the south, reminiscent of portions of Lac Qui Parle County. The larger of the slopes is roughly "U" or wing-shaped , with the bottom of the "U" just three hundred yards north of the highway, and the flanks or wings running off a half mile to the east and west. The smaller slope is just south of Highway 30 in Section 11, extends about one-half mile east and west parallel to and adjacent to the highway, and presents both north and south-facing aspects. The north facing slope of the latter land form was covered with birdsfoot violets when I was visiting the first of the two aforementioned slopes on Thursday, May 9, 1985. If I had to bet on where to find a rare Burrowing Owl, Lark Sparrow, or Chestnut-collared Longspur in Fillmore County in early spring, I would look here. I was, however, disappointed in these prospects. None of these species were to be seen. I walked these slopes from 7:00-9:00 a.m. C.D.T. in a fairly steady 10 mph. southerly breeze under overcast skies. The temperature was 60 degrees fahrenheit. I recorded the following species of birds: Killdeer, Eastern Kingbird, Horned Lark (including 1 juvenile), Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, House Wren, Gray Catbird, European Starling, Bobolink, Western Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Northern Oriole, Common Grackle, Vesper Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow (4), and Song Sparrow. Plant life included pasque flower (past bloom), birdsfoot violet (in bloom), false solomon seal, pucoon (in bloom), dandelion, Russian thistle, milkweed (sp), sumac (sp), box elder, gooseberry, and scouring rush (with new buds). Grasses were not identified. Roughly one-half to three-quarters of the slopes and slope tops were pastured on this date, mostly the central and western portions. Several lower fingers of unpastured meadow and one agricultural isolated woodland added variety to the bird list. There was one small pond holding rainwater, but no flowing water or wetland. The northern portions and adjacent farmlands were not visited. Sumac and box elder thickets are encroaching on ungrazed pasture and grasslands. The box-elder thicket was attractive to the Clay-colored Sparrows. Lark Sparrows do occur along Highway 16, a few miles to the east in Houston County. This Fillmore County location may prove attractive to grassland birds such as those mentioned, plus the Upland Sandpiper. This is private land, and birders should ask permission to enter. **Fred Lesher, 509 Winona St., LaCrosse, WI 54601**

KENTUCKY WARBLERS IN REDWOOD COUNTY — On May 8, 1984, I received a telephone call from Lee French informing me that he had seen a Kentucky Warbler at his farm home in Woodbury Township, Redwood County, four miles north of Lamberton. My wife and I followed Lee on his return to Lamberton after he finished teaching his afternoon class at Southwest State University. He and Joann led us to the spot near the silo where the bird had been in the morning. It was not there. We all walked westward to the south edge of a mature shelterbelt where we soon saw a Kentucky Warbler feeding in the undergrowth. We all watched with binoculars noting the bright yellow underparts, yellow spectacles, dark sideburns, and flesh pink legs. Soon a second bird appeared, and for a time we had both in the glass at the same time. The second bird had larger and darker sideburns, and Lee said it looked like the one he had seen in the morning. We thought that these birds were a possible mated pair, and, as Green and Janssen state "no females or broods have been found," we thought this sighting worth reporting. Unfortunately the birds were not seen again after May 8. **Henry C. Kyllingstad, 205 S. 6th St., Marshall, MN 56258.**

WORM-EATING WARBLER AT AUSTIN — On May 4, 1985 I saw a Worm-eating Warbler in my yard in Austin. The bird was also seen by Ron and Rose Kneeskern. A description of the bird is as follows: typical warbler size, four black stripes on head, lowest stripe through eye. Buff color on breast and sort of olive on back and wings. The color on the stripes seemed to be more yellowish. I also noticed that during one observation there seemed to be a lighter "spot" in the middle of the breast. It wasn't white but seemed to be lighter than the buff. The only behavior noticed was that the bird wouldn't leave dense cover and that it flew short distances and when it landed it walked, it did not hop. It walked on a spruce tree branch and once on the ground. No vocalizations were heard. **John Morrison, 1210 7th Ave. N.W. Austin, MN 55912.**

AMERICAN WOODCOCK NESTING IN PIPESTONE COUNTY — While walking through the remnant tallgrass prairie at Pipestone National Monument on 18 April 1984, Dr. Louis B. Best (Professor of Animal Ecology, Iowa State University) and I flushed an American Woodcock from a nest that contained four eggs. Vegetation surrounding the nest was primarily Kentucky bluegrass, big bluestem, and prairie rose. The nest was located approximately 100 m from the nearest woody cover and 75 m from a small stream. On 19 June 1984, six woodcock were flushed from similar prairie habitat, about 625 m from the nest site. Although the outcome of the nest is unknown, I suspect that the birds observed in June were from that nest. The tallgrass prairie at Pipestone National Monument is bordered by thickets of sumac and buckthorn, and an oak-elm woodland, providing potential breeding and foraging habitat for the American Woodcock. According to the recent Minnesota breeding bird distribution map (Janssen and Simonson, *The Loon*, 56:186), this is the first nesting record of this species in Pipestone County. **Ellen J. Snyder, Department of Animal Ecology, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011.**



American Woodcock nest — April 1984, Pipestone National Monument, Pipestone County. Photo by Ellen J. Snyder.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER AT ROCHESTER — On May 7, 1985 at approximately 4:00 to 4:15 P.M. I was traveling on Highway 52 south of Rochester in Olmsted County to observe some birds on a small pond near the small town of Marion. When I reached the pond the most beautiful bird flew up off the ground onto a fenceline only 25–30 feet in front of me. To my surprise it was a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. It was one of the most beautiful birds I had ever seen. This bird had an extremely long “scissor-like” tail and was a beautiful pale gray color with salmon-pink to light red on the sides, wing linings and belly. The tail had to be 8–10 inches long. One interesting thing this bird did while I observed him was that when some Red-winged Blackbirds were pestering and disturbing him, he retaliated by fighting or warding them off while he flew to another part of the fenceline. **Joe Gullickson, 2425 18½ Ave. N.W. Rochester, MN 55901.**

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPERS IN HENNEPIN COUNTY — In recent years since the establishment of a threshold of two hundred species for Minnesota county listers I had given some consideration to attempting a two hundred species year list for Hennepin county. After enjoying a one hundred species day in Hennepin county on May 12, 1984 I concluded that the remaining months of the year would be the appropriate time to complete, if possible, the goal of two hundred species. The month of May ended with a total of one hundred and eighty species recorded for the county. During June and July the total increased to one hundred and ninety-five species, including a singing male Acadian Flycatcher in Elm Creek Park Reserve and a wandering American White Pelican seen at French Lake. August brought three additional species to my list, one of these being the Buff-breasted Sandpiper. On August 25 while birding with Don and Alison Bolduc we identified two Buff-breasted Sandpipers on a sod field south of Fletcher in northern Hennepin county. Two individuals were seen again at the same location on August 26 and three birds were present on August 28. The addition of Buff-breasted Sandpiper brings the total number of species reported by all observers for Hennepin county to a total of 316 species. A Northern Parula observed on September 8 made the goal of two hundred species a reality. The remaining months of 1984 provided the opportunity to add fifteen additional species with the final species being a Bald Eagle seen on December 29. **Oscar L. Johnson, 7733 Florida Circle, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445**

A TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE IN BLOOMINGTON — It is always pleasant to have a convenient casual and this particular Townsend's Solitaire must be one of the best observed members of the species in Minnesota. When returning from walking my dog at 7:45 A.M. on November 11, 1984, a bird flew past me across Hyland Creek Road in Bloomington from my yard at 9078 to the yard at 9063. Based upon an observation made in 1966 I was fairly sure that it was a Townsend's Solitaire. After several more observations during the ensuing weeks I was able to confirm my original sighting (it is difficult to observe birds with an active dog on a leash) and put it on the Rare Bird Alert. The response was overwhelming and I felt it advisable to inform my neighbors that the people with binoculars looking towards their houses from the street were not dangerous window peepers but innocent birders. Meanwhile, the bird has regularly appeared and is still present at the time of this writing. (The bird was not seen after February 10, 1985). It apparently spends the night in the Hyland Lake Park Reserve and in the morning passes through my yard to the front yard of 9063. It apparently feeds on berries in the small shrubs on the west side of Hyland Creek Road. It has been observed in the late afternoon in this area. This bird has certainly added to the Minnesota and Hennepin County life lists of many birders — a truly convenient casual. **Charles L. Horn, 9078 Hyland Creek Road, Bloomington, MN 55437**

BOREAL OWL IN MAHNOMEN COUNTY — On February 14, 1985, at 7:00 P.M., my husband, Ray Hanson, parked his pick-up in our machine shed, located in Chief Township, Mahnomen County. He immediately noticed a small owl flying around inside. I went out with 7X30 Leupold binoculars and my Peterson Field Guide, quite sure that the owl was going to be a Saw-whet, which I had previously seen several years ago in Norman County. The owl, though small, seemed larger than I remembered the Saw-whet. It also had light colored face disks edged with black and a light bill. The belly was light with blotchy brown streaks and the forehead was dark with small white spots. After studying the owl for around ten minutes at approximately 15 feet, I became convinced it was a Boreal Owl. The owl at that time was perched above our



Boreal Owl, Chief Township, Mahnomen County, February 14, 1985. Photo by Margo Hanson.

workbench and was holding a dead House Sparrow. The owl didn't eat the sparrow while we were observing it. He kept his eye on us but was very tame and seemingly unafraid. The owl made an attempt to leave the machine shed which has a large overhead door which we left open. I returned with my camera a little later, after talking with Shelly Steva. The owl was still there, though perched higher on a plastic water jug hung on the wall. The beam behind the owl is a 6X8 for size comparison (see photo). After taking several pictures, we left, not wanting to disturb our unusual visitor anymore. In the morning, the owl was gone. According to Janssen's Minnesota Bird Distribution Maps (Part II), *The Loon*, Vol. 55 - Number 4, this is probably the first Boreal Owl for Mahnomen County, and would appear that the farm land of central Mahnomen County, is on the western fringe of where a Boreal Owl could be anticipated to appear. **Margo Hanson, Rt. 2, Mahnomen, MN 56557**

A VERY EARLY LAZULI BUNTING — On the morning of April 17, 1985 at about 10:00 o'clock I looked out of the window of my back door and noticed a small group of juncos and a Chipping Sparrow feeding on cracked corn on the ground under our picnic table, about 20 ft. from the door. I stopped to watch the sparrow as it was the first one I had seen this spring. Suddenly a small blue bird fluttered into their midst. I think

he had been near the house and out of my view. I could hardly believe what I was seeing. A male Lazuli Bunting, I was sure. He had a light blue head and throat, black lores. Two light colored wing bars, the upper one much wider. The back dark blue with darker streaks. Tail dark, with bright blue edging to some of the feathers. The breast and sides were a light rust color. The bill light slate color. He was about goldfinch in size but with a longer tail. He flew up to a hanging feeder and tried to perch on it but returned to ground and perched on a branch that was lying on the ground. We had a perfect view of him. He seemed quite at "home." Very soon he flew onto the large feeder and after looking around went to an apple tree and from there flew out of yard. My husband also saw him. The day was sunny and the bird was in the full sun the whole time. I don't think he was there any longer than about four minutes. The temperature was 55 degrees and there was a strong south wind. I hardly needed my Leitz, 8X40 binoculars he was so close to the house. How lucky I was to have looked out just when I did! What a treat to see him. It certainly was a very early date for this species. **Elizabeth Campbell, 5267 W. Bald Eagle Blvd., White Bear Lake, MN 55110**

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER IN SCOTT COUNTY — On April 21, 1985 I was birding at Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve, about 1 km S of the main parking lot at the west end of Hanrehan Lake and about 300 m W of Murphy Lake Road, in Scott County. I was watching a small flock of Yellow-rumped Warblers foraging about 10 m up in a bur oak when I saw a smaller warbler nearby. As soon as I put my binoculars on it, I recognized it as a Yellow-throated Warbler. The only yellow on the bird was from the chin and throat to the upper breast. Below that, the breast and belly were white, bordered on the sides with black streaks. The bird had a prominent black mask through the eye, which extended down the side of the neck and then graded into broken black streaks on the side. Above the eye was a white line, and behind the mask was a larger white spot. The crown, nape and back were slate gray and unstreaked. There were two thin white wing bars, and white spots in the tail. The yellow throat was about the same color and intensity as the yellow spot on the side of a male Yellow-rumped Warbler in breeding plumage. I had forgotten that the two subspecies of this warbler were identifiable in the field, and so I did not make any special effort to determine the color of the lores. However, I believe that this bird was the white-lored race, since I did note that the only yellow on it was from the chin to the upper breast, and that the eyeline was white. I believe I would have noticed yellow lores if they had been present. I had a very good look at this bird for about three minutes. It foraged in three different bur oak trees, which were bare except for flowers. The bird was rather sluggish, and fed primarily on and around large branches rather than on the smaller twigs. It was near a small flock of Yellow-rumped Warblers, but flew off in a different direction and did not seem to be a part of that flock. During the three minutes that I watched this warbler, I had mostly unobstructed views, since there were no leaves on the trees; I observed it in front, side and rear views. It flew off to the north, into a rather dense woods of primarily bur and red oak. I searched off and on for the next two hours, but did not relocate it. **Bruce A. Fall, Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, 10 Church St., SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455**

PURPOSE OF THE MOU

The Minnesota Ornithologists Union is an organization of both professionals and amateurs interested in birds. We foster the study of birds, we aim to create and increase public interest in birds and promote the preservation of birdlife and its natural habitat.

We carry out these aims through the publishing of a magazine, *The Loon*; sponsoring and encouraging the preservation of natural areas; conducting field trips; and holding seminars where research reports, unusual observations and conservation discussions are presented. We are supported by dues from individual members and affiliated clubs and by special gifts. The MOU officers wish to point out to those interested in bird conservation that any or all phases of the MOU program could be expanded significantly with gifts, memorials or bequests willed to the organization.



SUGGESTIONS TO AUTHORS

The editors of *The Loon* invite you to submit articles, shorter "Notes of Interest" and color and black/white photos. Photos should be preferably 5x7 in size. Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced and on one side of sheet with generous margins. Notes of Interest should be generally less than two typewritten pages double-spaced. If reprints are desired the author should so

specify indicating the number required. A price quotation on reprints will be sent upon receipt of information.

Club information and announcements of general interest should be sent to the Newsletter editor. See inside front cover. Bird-sighting reports for "The Season" should be sent promptly at the end of February, May, July and November to Kim Eckert. See inside front cover.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

YOUNG AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS, MARSH LAKE, LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY Photo by John Schladweiler	Front Cover
COLONIAL WATERBIRDS IN MINNESOTA by David S. Guertin and Lee A. Pfannmuller	67
A MAY 1985 SURVEY OF BIRDS IN SELECTED PINE COUNTY WATER AREAS by Dan Esler	79
THE FALL SEASON (Aug. 1 to Nov. 30, 1984) by Don Bolduc, Steve Carlson, Oscar Johnson and Dick Ruhme	86
NOTES OF INTEREST	104

The
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MEMBERSHIPS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS: Evelyn Stanley, 213 Janalyn Circle, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416. To join the MOU and receive both MOU publications, send \$10.00 for a regular yearly subscription. Or other classes of membership that you may choose are: Family \$12.50 yearly; Supporting \$15.00 yearly; Sustaining \$25 yearly; Life \$150. Canadian and Foreign Subscriptions, \$12.50 yearly. All subscriptions are on a calendar year basis. Also available: back issues of *The Loon* (\$2.50 each ppd.) and MOU checklists of Minnesota birds (minimum lots of 20 for \$5.00 postage paid). Gifts, bequests, and contributions to the MOU Endowment Fund should also be sent to the treasurer.

EDITOR OF THE LOON: Robert B. Janssen, 10521 S. Cedar Lake Rd., #212, Minnetonka, MN 55343 (phone 612-546-4220). The editor invites articles, short notes, and illustrations about Minnesota birds. See back cover for details.

"The Season" section of *The Loon* publishes reports of bird sightings throughout Minnesota. We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To become a contributor to "The Season," request the report forms from the **EDITOR OF "THE SEASON,"** Kim Eckert, 9735 North Shore Drive, Duluth, Minnesota 55804 (phone 218-525-6930).

EDITOR OF THE MOU NEWSLETTER: Bette Bell, 5868 Pioneer Rd. S., St. Paul Park, MN 55071. Publishes announcements and reports about activities of the MOU and its affiliated clubs. (Club officers should keep both MOU editors informed.)

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First Sight Record for the Sage Thrasher in Minnesota

Jim Mattsson

The Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) is a common inhabitant of arid habitats, breeding from the western United States to southwestern Canada. The only previous record for this species in Minnesota is of a specimen found dead in Yellow Medicine County in October 1974 (*The Loon* 47:129). That bird was found dead on a gravel road, apparently hit by a vehicle.

I observed a Sage Thrasher at 2:00 p.m. on 13 May 1985 at Agassiz NWR, Marshall County. The bird was seen on the Northgate Road along the southwest corner of Lower CCC Pool. It flushed from the road shoulder and alighted on the road about 100 feet ahead of my vehicle. It immediately darted Road Runner-style across the road, picked up a food item from the gravel surface, then darted back to the road edge vegetation. I viewed the bird with the sun at my back using a 15-60 power spotting scope and recognized it as a small thrasher. The short, slightly decurved bill, yellow irides, short tail and heavily streaked underparts indicated Sage Thrasher, a species I am familiar with from the southwestern U.S.

I viewed the bird for 15 minutes as it fed toward me in the fashion described above. Eventually it came to within 15 feet and was photographed. During the observation period, I was joined by Ron Bell and together we noted the bird's characteristics.

The thrasher was slightly smaller than a nearby Yellow-headed Blackbird, resembling a Northern Mockingbird in profile when it held its tail horizontally as it gleaned food items from the roadway. The bill length was slightly rounded and shorter than the body.

The plumage was dull and worn, particularly the flight feathers and central rectrices which had not been replaced. The

latter feathers were cocoa-colored in contrast with the other rectrices which were gray-brown and darker.

The upperparts were gray-brown and faintly streaked. A light superciliary stripe extended from the lores to the nape. A crescent-shaped cheek patch extended from the nape to just below the eye and was buff-colored. The underparts were off-white with dark streaks consisting of strings of tear-shaped spots extending from the bill posteriorly to the lower abdomen. The streaks were suggestive of a Wood Thrush but were arranged more linearly and extended farther posteriorly.

The irides were dull yellow, conspicuous in bright light, but much less so in low light due to enlargement of the pupil. No eye ring was visible. Leg color was dull gray-green and varied in different light conditions.

Of interest, is that white wings bars and tail spots, characteristics of this species, were not noted on this day. However, I saw the bird again the next day at a location two miles away and observed these markings as it perched 20 feet away on a low shrub. With the spotting scope, I was able to see faint light edging on the greater and middle secondary coverts. Instead of tail spots, however, the outer edge of the outside rectrices were tipped with a thin white line about one half inch long. The degree of feather wear combined with the inconspicuous wing bars and tail spots suggest this may have been a second year bird.

On the 14th, the sky was overcast and misting. The bird perched with contour feathers fluffed, giving the appearance of a Swainson's Thrush. Also, dark lighting conditions on this day made the yellow eye color difficult to see due to enlargement of the pupils. The bird was recognized as the



Sage Thrasher, May 14, 1985, Agassiz NWR. Photos by Jim Mattsson

same bird as seen on the 13th by its worn rectrices and a distinctive tertial feather on the left wing.

The sighting occurred on the heels of a low pressure system that brought 1.3 inches of rain and strong winds on the 11th and 12th. Having witnessed this individual's affinity for feeding on gravel roads (desert habitat?) combined with its rather dull plumage and similarity to other

Minnesota regular species, it is not surprising that the only previous record for Sage Thrasher is that of a vehicle-killed specimen. — **Jim Mattsson, Agassiz NWR, Middle River, MN 56737**

Editor's Note: Because of the uncertainty of the origin of the specimen found in Yellow Medicine in 1974 the above record may well be a first for the state.

Egg and Nest Collection from Benton County Donated to the Nongame Wildlife Program

Carol J. Dorff and Pamela Skoog Perry

The collecting of eggs and nests was a popular hobby in the 1800's and early 1900's before the Migratory Bird Treaty Act was passed which made this practice illegal. Although the collecting of eggs may have contributed to the decline of some species, it has provided biologists with valuable information about species distribution and abundance at the turn of the century.

Mildred Mauntel Herbst, born in 1889, began collecting bird nests and eggs in her mid-teens. Her collection and journal from the early 1900's was donated to the Nongame Wildlife Program by her son Basil Herbst of Brainerd.

Her journal has 74 entries which date from 1907 to 1938. The majority of her collecting was done in 1907 and 1908 near Foley, Minnesota, in Benton County. Entries include name of species, date collected, clutch size, location and general description of nest.

Her collection includes nests from 16 species, eggs from 60 identified and 13 unidentified avian species, and two turtle eggs. Eggs and nests of four species in the collection are of special interest.

The collection contains a Loggerhead

Shrike nest and three eggs which were collected in 1922 in Foley after a storm blew the nest down. The Loggerhead Shrike is now an uncommon nesting species in Minnesota and is classified as a species of Special Concern in the State.

One Greater Prairie Chicken egg was collected from a clutch of 13 in 1911 near Glendorado in the southeast corner of Benton County. The Greater Prairie Chicken is also on the State's special concern list and no longer nests in Benton County (Green and Janssen, 1975).

An egg and nest of a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was collected in 1908 in Foley after a storm blew the nest down. Benton County is on the northern edge of the present Blue-gray Gnatcatcher breeding range (Green and Janssen, 1975).

One egg, identified in the journal as a Bufflehead egg, was collected in 1912 near Glendorado. The egg, measuring 49.8mm x 39.2mm, compares favorably with average measurements for Buffleheads (50.9mm x 36.4mm) and for Wood Ducks (51.5mm x 38.8mm) (Bellrose, 1976). The journal states that a set of eight eggs was in a nest among willows along a river. The nest was washed out and the eggs were

collected and placed under a hen. According to her notes three eggs hatched and one egg was kept for the collection. The identification of this egg is questionable since Buffleheads rarely nest in Minnesota and are known to be cavity nesters (Green and Janssen, 1975; Heidel, 1983).

Eggs (e) and nests (n) of the Mildred Mauntel Herbst collection include the following species:

American Bittern - e
 goose - e
 Bufflehead - e
 Northern Harrier - e
 Ruffed Grouse - e
 Greater Prairie Chicken - e
 quail - e
 Chinese Pheasant - e
 guinea fowl - e
 turkey - e
 Sora - e
 Killdeer - e
 Spotted Sandpiper - e
 Rock Dove - e
 Mourning Dove - e
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo - e
 Black-billed Cuckoo - e, n
 Chimney Swift - e, n
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird - n
 Belted Kingfisher - e
 Northern Flicker - e
 Red-headed Woodpecker - e
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - e
 Kingbird (Eastern or Western?) - e, n
 Eastern Phoebe - e, n
 Least Flycatcher - e
 Eastern Wood-Pewee - e
 Tree Swallow - e
 Barn Swallow - e
 Cliff Swallow - e
 Purple Martin - e
 American Crow - e
 House Wren - e
 Marsh Wren - e
 Sedge Wren - e
 Gray Catbird - e, n
 Brown Thrasher - e
 American Robin - e, n
 Veery - e
 Eastern Bluebird - e
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - e, n
 Cedar Waxwing - e, n

Loggerhead Shrike - e, n
 Red-eyed Vireo - e, n
 Warbling Vireo - e
 Yellow Warbler - e, n
 House Sparrow - e
 Bobolink - e
 Meadowlark (Eastern or Western?) - e
 Red-winged Blackbird - e, n
 Northern Oriole - e
 Common Grackle - e
 Brown-headed Cowbird - e
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak - e
 American Goldfinch - e, n
 Vesper Sparrow - e
 American Tree Sparrow - e
 Chipping Sparrow - e, n
 Field Sparrow - e
 Song Sparrow - e, n
 large turtle - e
 mud turtle - e

Three other egg collections were donated to the Nongame Wildlife Program in 1984, but Mildred Mauntel Herbst's collection is the only one with a complete and detailed journal. The Nongame Wildlife Program would like to receive other egg collections that are stored away in attics. If you know of a collection that someone would like to donate to the DNR, contact Carrol Henderson, Nongame Supervisor at (612) 296-3344. The Mildred Mauntel Herbst egg and nest collection is currently on display at the Nongame Wildlife Program Office, 315 Charles Street N.W., Brainerd, MN 56401.

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- Bellrose, F.C. 1976. Ducks, geese and swans of North America. Stackpole Books, Harrisburg, PA 543 pp.
 Green J.C. and R.B. Janssen 1975. Minnesota birds; where, when and how many. Univ. Minnesota Press, Minneapolis.
 Heidel, K. 1983. Bufflehead and ducklings found in Carver Park Reserve. *The Loon* 55:123-124.
 Nongame Wildlife Program, DNR Area Wildlife Office, 315 Charles Street N.W., Brainerd, MN 56401.

Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee

Kim R. Eckert, M.O.R.C. Secretary

The following records were voted on January-June, 1985, and found **Acceptable**:

—Yellow-throated Warbler, 9/22/84, near Moorhead, Clay Co. (vote 7-0; *The Loon* 57:105-106).

—Carolina Wren, 9/19/76, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 5-2; *The Loon* 48:177-178).

This 1976 record, originally accepted on a 5-1 vote, was brought up for reevaluation since one member had serious reservations about the record; however, this second vote reaffirmed its acceptability.

—Say's Phoebe, 4/28/84, near Dawson, Lac Qui Parle Co. (vote 7-0).

—Black-legged Kittiwake, 10/26/84, Stoney Point, St. Louis Co. (vote 7-0).

—Broad-winged Hawk, 4/10/85, Rochester, Olmsted Co. (vote 5-2).

—Lazuli Bunting, 4/17/85, White Bear Lake, Ramsey Co. (vote 7-0; *The Loon* 57:110-111).

—Yellow-throated Warbler, 4/21/85, Murphy-Hanrahan Park Reserve, Scott Co. (vote 7-0; *The Loon* 57:111).

—Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 5/7/85, near Marion, Olmsted Co. (vote 7-0; *The Loon* 57:109).

—Worm-eating Warbler, 5/4/85, Austin, Mower Co. (vote 7-0; *The Loon* 57:108).

—Arctic Tern, 5/18/85, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 6-1; *The Loon* 57:150).

—Western Tanager, 5/13/85, near Moorhead, Clay Co. (vote 7-0; *The Loon* 57:150).

—Ruff, 5/10/85, Agassiz N.W.R., Marshall Co. (vote 7-0; *The Loon* 57:150).

The following records were voted on January-June, 1985, and found **Unacceptable**:

—Pomarine Jaeger, 10/15/80, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 2-5).

This 1980 record, which was originally accepted on a 5-2 vote and published (*The Loon* 53:113-114), was brought up for re-

consideration, and the majority found it to be unacceptable. Its identification was based on its "gull-like and direct" flight, "striking white patches at the base of the primaries," and "dark, wide breast band." However, such features are only subjective, and Parasitics can also appear to be, and be described, the same way. Without direct size comparison with a gull or other bird of known identity, without view of projecting central rectrices (neither was the case here), it takes an observer with frequent contact with jaegers to make a positive identification on such subjective field marks (and none of us in Minnesota sees enough jaegers here to qualify).

—Barrow's Goldeneye, 11/20/77, Mille Lacs L., Mille Lacs Co. (vote 2-5).

This 1977 record, which was originally accepted on a 4-2 vote, was brought up for reconsideration and found unacceptable. The identification was based on "an all yellow bill and dark body with only the secondaries in the wings (folded at rest) appearing to have any white." However, female Common Goldeneyes can also, rarely, have an all yellow bill, and the amount of white present in the secondaries is at best difficult to determine in flight — at rest, the amount of white showing is only a function of feather arrangement, not an indication of the species. Viewing conditions were also poor, and the diagnostic shape/size of the bill and head were impossible to accurately determine.

—Arctic Tern, 5/27/84, Carlos Avery W.M.A., Anoka Co. (vote 3-4).

This record, which was originally accepted on a 6-1 vote and published (*The Loon* 56:194), was reconsidered and found unacceptable. The identification was based on its all red bill, shorter legs, and gray underparts/white cheek line. However, Common Terns can also appear to look the same way: in breeding season their bills

often turn almost entirely red with little or no black tip; a tern when not standing fully erect, when standing in a slight depression, or when its belly feathers are fluffed up can appear to have shorter legs; and, depending on light conditions or angle of observation, Commons often appear to have a white cheek line/grayer underparts appearance. Such marks are only valid when noted with caution (there is no indication the observer was aware of these caveats, however), and when viewing conditions are favorable (not the case here since the distance was 300 feet, and the bird was to the northwest with the sun to the west).

—Black-legged Kittiwake, 7/11/84, Leech Lake, Cass Co. (record withdrawn by the observers).

This record, which was originally accepted on a 6-1 vote and published (*The Loon* 56:271), was reconsidered by the observers and withdrawn after it was pointed out that the bird may actually have been a juvenile Common Black-headed Gull, rather than a first summer (i.e., one-year-old) kittiwake. All the details noted could fit either species, except for the "slightly forked tail"; however, viewing conditions were unfavorable, the tail shape on a kittiwake is difficult to see, and one of the observers never saw the tail shape. This observer, who now feels the bird was more likely a Common Black-headed, also had the impression of a brownish back and relatively long legs — both of which would preclude kittiwake.

—Worm-eating Warbler, 11/11/76, Duluth, St. Louis Co. (vote 4-3, with 5-2 required for Acceptance).

This 1976 record, which was originally accepted on a 5-1 vote and published (*The Loon* 49:45), was reconsidered and found

unacceptable. The identification was based entirely on "black stripes on the head . . . small, buffy brown bird . . . habit of walking along the low branches of the alders," and, while it was agreed the identification may well have been correct, it was felt by some that more extensive details should have been provided for such a highly unusual record. The most serious omission was an indication of its being a warbler in the first place, rather than a sparrow or something else.

—Black-shouldered Kite, 10/11/76, near Lawndale, Wilkin Co. (vote 1-6).

This 1976 record, which was originally accepted on a 6-0 vote and published (*The Loon* 48:180-181), was reconsidered and found unacceptable. There were four details in the original description found to be inconsistent with Black-shouldered Kite: 1) as the bird approached at eye level, the leading edge of the wing was noted as white on the inner half and black on the outer half (it should be the opposite); 2) the undersides of the outer half of the wings were described as "very black" (never this dark in Black-shouldered Kite); 3) the black wrist marks were never seen even though the bird flew low overhead, and these marks are very obvious; and 4) the trailing edge of the undersides of the secondaries were noted as being darker than the rest of the inner half of the wings (another mark which is not present in Black-shouldered Kite).

Since this record had been the only one for this species in Minnesota, Black-shouldered Kite has now been deleted from the official list.

9735 North Shore Dr., Duluth, MN 55804

CORRECTIONS TO COLONIAL WATERBIRD REPORT IN *THE LOON* SUMMER 1985 — An active Great Blue Heron/Great Egret colony in Rice County was mistakenly omitted from the article "Colonial Waterbirds in Minnesota" which appeared in the summer 1985 issue of *The Loon*. The addition of the large colony of over 600 nests on Shields Lake brings the total of active Great Blue Heron colonies in the state to 128, active Great Egret colonies to 23, active mixed species colonies to 27, and the total number of active colonies to 234 (refer to Table 2). In Region 5, there are 5 active Great Blue Heron colonies and 3 Great Egret colonies, with the total for the region being 6 (refer to Table 1). In Figures 6, 8 and 12 a "1" should be added in Rice County. A correction also needs to be made in Figure 2: an Eared Grebe colony, which was mistakenly assigned to Anoka County, occurred in Hennepin County on French Lake in 1978 and 1981.

BOOK REVIEWS

Birds of the Apostle Islands, by Stanley A. Temple and James T. Harris, published by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Hartland, Wisconsin, 1985. \$1.00. Order from W.S.O. Supply Dept., 246 N. High St., Randolph, WI. 53956.

There are some surprises about the list of species in this pamphlet. For example, the Boreal Chickadee and Three-toed Woodpecker are not listed. A previous pamphlet put out by the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore listed the former as rare and possibly nesting, and the latter as irregular — i.e., not seen every year. The reason for excluding these two species may be the method of gathering data. Migrant birds were studied for several weeks in the spring and fall of 1976 and 1977, and again in 1980. Breeding birds were studied from late May through mid-July in 1977 and 1978 using a line-transect method. While these methods may produce accurate data, the time and method limit the sample. Consequently, some of the rare or difficult to identify species such as Arctic Terns and Thayer's Gulls are not to be found on this list.

An advantage of the line-transect is that it produces accurate data. Frequency or rate of encounter is presented for many species as birds detected per every 10 hours of walking by a person who can identify the bird by sight and song. Thus, on Stockton Island such an observer could expect less than one Eastern Kingbird per 10 hours, (<1/10 hrs.) during the summer, and 15 Black-throated Blue Warblers, (15/10 hrs.). That means that I must visit Stockton Island for another 6 hours before I can hope to spot an Eastern Kingbird, and that for some reason I missed what should have been a fairly common species, the Black-throated Blue Warbler. I spent four hours on Stockton May 27, 1985, without seeing or hearing either species!

Helpful features of this pamphlet include brief descriptions of ten avian habitats keyed to small outline maps for 18 of the islands. Also helpful are brief descriptions of the 20 islands within the National Lakeshore, including breeding species in 1977 and topographic features.

A page describing bird migration through the islands describes the behavior of migrant birds when they find themselves confronted with a lake crossing. In spring, migrant hawks reverse their direction and fly south to find a shorter trans-water route or actually fly west around Lake Superior. Many songbirds behave similarly. Evidently, day migrating songbirds and hawks avoid the island in autumn.

There are some intriguing tips in this pamphlet. Birders looking for breeding Gray Jays, Pine Grosbeaks and Wilson's Warblers in Wisconsin should visit the boreal forest on Devil's Island. The south tip of Outer Island concentrates many migrant songbirds, and a Piping Plover was seen at this location throughout the summer of 1977.

For some reason, there is no key to relative abundance terms used in the pamphlet—abundant, common, etc. Neither is there a species list total (I counted 218), nor resident, non-resident subtotals (I did not count them). Highest count of birds was of 107 species found breeding in 1977. This compares with an average of 194 breeding bird species listed annually for the mixed hardwood-coniferous forest region as a whole. Great amounts of forest and relatively few non-forest habitats limit the numbers and variety of breeding birds on the Apostle Islands.

This pamphlet should be helpful to birders wishing to visit the islands and I recommend it. — **Fred Leshner, 509 Winona St., La Crosse, WI 54603**

LOON MAGIC by Tom Klein, preface by Sigurd T. Olson, photography by Woody Hagge. Published by Paper Birch Press, Inc., Ashland, WI 54806. 1985. xiii + 130 pp. \$39.95. Tom Klein author of *Loon Magic* is obviously in love with loons. In doing research for this book, he examined 4,000 pages of technical material about loons, mainly the Common Loon.

The text of the book is divided into four major sections. The first "Looking for Loons" is divided in chapters on Loon People; the Loon Family, treating the four species of loons; statistics about loons; status and distribution; food habits; and loon music. The second section treats "Loons through the Seasons" with chapters on spring migration, the breeding season and raising a family, fall migration and wintering areas. The third section "Looking Ahead" treats the loons' problems with survival, relations to man and prospects for the future. In the final section the author lists those who provided information, including Carroll Henderson of the Minnesota DNR, bibliography, notes on the photographs and finally a summary of Common Loon statistics. Accompanying the text, on every page, are color photographs of loons in various habitats and situations. Most of the photographs are excellent and reproduced well. It appeared to me that those by Glen Irwin were superior to the main photographer cited in the book, Woody Hagge. In other words, *Loon*

Magic contains just about everything you always wanted to know about loons. The information is presented in a very readable, mostly factual, non-technical manner. My reason for saying mostly factual is because every once in a while as I was reading, the author would have a tendency to exaggerate or just be wrong about some of his loon and related facts. Examples are statistics given on flight speeds, 93 mph during spring migration and 108 during fall migration. I doubt very much if these are consistent speeds and the author does not give an explanation of why the seasonal difference. Later on under fall migration the statement is made: "For loons, capable of flying over 90 mph, distance is not a major obstacle." To me this is a most misleading statement. Other rather minor errors include the wrong spelling of Guy McCaskie's name in several places. Lake Como is not in Minneapolis and the White Pelican does not nest on many Minnesota lakes, only two that we know of.

These are relatively minor criticisms of a well done book. I especially liked the author's Dedication to the memory of Sigurd F. Olson (1899-1982) "who opened my mind and heart to the music of the wilderness, and to his son Sigurd T. Olson who helped me understand loons." And also the opening sentence of the Preface by Aldo Leopold, "The Lord did well when he put the loon and his music in the land." **Robert B. Janssen, 10521 S. Cedar Lake Rd., #212, Minnetonka, MN 55343.**

The Winter Season

(December 1, 1984 to February 28, 1985)

Kenneth J. La Fond

Fifty-eight seasonal reports and 42 Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) provide the basis for this year's report. A total of 142 species were recorded throughout the period, down slightly from last year but about average. The Duluth Christmas Count had a record high of 57 species while Rochester at 60 was high for the state.

There were no new additions to the state list this year but a number of interesting and unusual observations were recorded. Gryfalcons again overwintered in the Duluth Harbor and Spruce Grouse were commonly seen in Lake County. California (first winter record) and Bonaparte's Gulls lingered into December. Both crossbills were common and widespread for the first time in many years while Hoary Redpoll reports were the most ever.

December weather was mixed, cold on the 5th and 6th (lows of -20 in the north) warm around the 11th and then fluctuating either above or below normal. Snow cover was very limited in December and may be related to the low numbers of northern owl reports. In mid-January extreme cold returned with a low of -38 at International Falls, and snow cover remained well below normal. February was about average to above average near the end of the period and some light snow occurred.

Common Loon

Three St. Louis County reports: 12-8, Virginia Power Plant (KL); Duluth CBC and Stoney Point, 1/23-24 (mob).

Pied-billed Grebe

Hennepin County until 12-5 (mob) and Sibley Park, Nicollet Co., 12-7 (JCF).

Red-necked Grebe

Reported from St. Louis County's portion of Lake Superior on 1-5, (R & J Newman) and a very early migrant (?) in Rice Co. on 2-27 (FS).

Double-crested Cormorant

Reported on the Mankato CBC, Rochester 12-2 (JPAM) and in Austin, Mower Co. until 1-6 (RRK).

Great Blue Heron

Four CBC reports: **Grand Marais** (1), Excelsior (4), Bloomington (1) and Cedar Lake (1). Also reported at Black Dog, Dakota Co. until 1-13 (mob), Goodhue 1-5 (JPAM), Olmsted 1-13 (SC) and Fillmore 12-19 (J. Gislason).

Tundra Swan

Reported in Ramsey 12-6 (EC), Wabasha, 12-3 (150) (WDM) and Winona, 12-1 (PP). The 12-3 MRBA reported 6500 at the Weaver Marshes.

Greater White-fronted Goose

Reported in Rochester 12-2 (JEB).

Snow Goose

Five CBC reports: Fergus Falls (2), Lac Qui Parle (1), Hutchinson (20), Bloomington (1), and Rochester (2). The Rochester individuals also overwintered (mob).

Canada Goose

Reported from three north region, 12 central region and 11 south region counties. A peak of 60,500 on the Lac Qui Parle CBC makes this the most abundant species in the state during count week. Other high counts include Rochester (22,000), Fergus Falls (3,000) and Afton (1,050). The three north region reports were the Duluth and Grand Marais CBCs and Becker 12-13 (DZ). Returning migrants were again reported in the south and central regions in mid and late February.

Wood Duck

A south central region report from Nicollet on 12-7 (JCF). Twin Cities area

reports include the Excelsior and St. Paul CBCs; Hennepin, a male at a feeder on 2-16 (OJ); and Dakota, 12-29 (22), 1-5 (1) and 2-19 (1) (TT).

Green-winged Teal

Reported in Dakota and Hennepin Counties until 12-8 (mob), and on the St. Paul and Albert Lea CBCs.

American Black Duck

Again reported on the Grand Marais CBC. Also reported on the Fergus Falls CBC and from nine Twin Cities and SE region counties. A statewide CBC total of 100 with a high count of 40 on the Wabasha CBC.

Mallard

Down slightly from last year. Reported from 29 counties in all except the NW region. Late inland north individuals in International Falls on 12-2 (5) (KL). A statewide CBC count of 12,258 with the high count (2322) on the Mpls CBC. Most abundant in the Twin Cities area and the SE region.

Blue-winged Teal

Reported at the Blue Lake Sewage Ponds on 12-2 (AB) and 12-4 (RBJ). Also reported at Black Dog L. on 12-22 (TT).

Northern Shoveler

Reported in Hennepin, Scott and Dakota until 12-9 (mob). No additional information was received on a 1-18 MRBA report from Dakota Co.

Gadwall

The Excelsior CBC recorded 91 individuals at their usual location at the Mill Pond in Shakopee. A 2-9 Dakota report (TT) suggests two of them may have wandered to Black Dog.

American Wigeon

Reported in Hennepin until 12-5 (mob).

Canvasback

Reported only in Olmsted, 12-1 (PP).

Redhead

Reported on the Fargo-Moorhead CBC and at Blue Lake, Scott Co. from 1-30 on

(mob). Also reported in Rice Co. on 1-11 (FS).

Ring-necked Duck

Late December migrants in Hennepin (12-4), Dakota (12-1), Nicollet (12-7), Mower (12-1) and Houston (12-15).

Greater Scaup

Reported in Minneapolis on Lake Harriet 12-1 (OJ) and 12-2 (SC), on the Blue Lake Sewage Ponds 12-2 (AB), and the Excelsior CBC.

Lesser Scaup

Late north migrants at International Falls, 12-1 (12) (KL) and December reports from seven Twin Cities and SE Region counties. Four individuals overwintered in Scott County at the Blue Lake Sewage Ponds.

Oldsquaw

Reported on the Grand Marais CBC and again in Cook County in late December, 300+ (KMH).

White-winged Scoter

Late migrants at Park Point, Duluth on 12-1 (3) (D. Johnson).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE

One at Black Dog L., Dakota Co. on 12-7; (*The Loon* 57:61-62).

Common Goldeneye

About 100 overwintered at Fergus Falls (SDM) and several hundred again overwintered in the Twin Cities area (mob). Reported from 21 counties in all but the southeast and south central regions.

Bufflehead

Reported on the Duluth (2), Excelsior (2), and La Crosse (1) CBCs. Also reported in Cook 1-5 (KMH), Scott, until 1-13 (mob) and Dakota 12-3 (TT).

Hooded Merganser

Reported from five Twin Cities and SE Region counties. All were in December except Scott 1-26 (AB), Dakota 2-9 (TT) and Winona 2-15 (PP).

Common Merganser

Numbers and reports down substantially this year. Reported only from the three Lake Superior counties and along the Mississippi River south of the Twin Cities.

Red-breasted Merganser

Reported in St. Louis 12-9 (KL), the Duluth CBC, the Bloomington CBC and Wabasha 2-15 (PP).

Ruddy Duck

Reported in Hennepin until 12-5 (mob) and Ramsey, Lake Como, until 1-9 (KL).

Bald Eagle

Reported from 25 counties throughout the state. North reports include the Aurora (2) and Duluth (4) CBC's and December and February observations from Becker, Beltrami, Hubbard, Crow Wing, Lake and Cook. Fourteen were recorded on the Lac Qui Parle CBC and a 1-18 report on the MBRA indicated 16 were in the Minnesota River Valley. Overwintered in Mankato (JCF) and along the Mississippi River in the SE (mob). Total individuals number about the same as last year.

Northern Harrier

Reported in Hubbard, 12-20 (HJF), Aitkin, 12-6 (WN) and on the St. Paul, Cottonwood and Mountain Lake CBCs.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

North reports from Aitkin, 1-1 and 2-22 (WN) and the Duluth CBC. Reported in Otter Tail on 12-29 (SDM). Additional reports from 10 Twin Cities, SC and SE counties suggest about 22 individual were present during the period.

Cooper's Hawk

Reported in Hennepin, 12-25 (OJ) and from five CBCs south and east of the Twin Cities area.

Northern Goshawk

The 31 individuals reported from 24 counties in all but the SC region are down somewhat from last year's total of 53. Two SW reports; **Cottonwood** on 2-12 (E. Duerkson), and **Jackson** 12-22 (G. Hodnefield).

Red-shouldered Hawk

Reported on the St. Paul NE CBC and in Sherburne 2-15 (SS), Ramsey 2-24 (EC), Wabasha 2-23 (WDM) and Winona 1-5 and 2-17 (JPAM).

Red-tailed Hawk

About 160 individuals (190 last year) reported, primarily from the EC, SC and SE regions. Three overwintered in the Duluth Harbor for the only north record. Peak count of 20 on the Rochester CBC.

Rough-legged Hawk

The peak of 39 in Aitkin on 12-29 (WN) brought the season total to about 98 individuals; otherwise the numbers and distribution were similar to last year. Reports from 25 counties, principally in the north and east regions.

Golden Eagle

Reported in Marshall 12-1 (ANWR), Wadena 2-18 (DZ), Winona 2-18 (OJ) and Houston 1-7 until 2-21 (EMF).

American Kestrel

Reports of about 95 individuals from 39 counties throughout the state. This species is normally not reported in the NC and NE regions so the Crow Wing 12-9 (KSS) and Duluth, overwintered (mob) records are unusual.

Merlin

Three reports: Wilkin 2-27 (SDM), Duluth from mid-Dec. into March at three locations (mob) and **Brown**, 2-9 (RBJ).

Peregrine Falcon

A banded immature, possibly from the Tofte Release Site, **overwintered** in Duluth (mob).

Gryfalcon

This marks the sixth year in a row that at least one has wintered in the Duluth Harbor. This year an adult was present which had been banded the preceding winter. Immatures were also present through most of January and from February into March for a possible season total of three individuals, (KE) (mob).

Prairie Falcon

An individual again overwintered at the Rothsay WMA, Wilkin Co., and another individual was seen there on 12-9 and 12-12 (SDM).

Gray Partridge

This year's statewide CBC count of 129 was down sharply from last year's count of 1105. Reported from only 20 counties (40 last year) in its normal range in the west, central and south regions. No significant peaks noted.

Ring-necked Pheasant

Also down sharply with a total CBC count of 208 compared with last year's 1472. Over half of this year's total (111) came from the Rochester CBC. Numerous observer comments of "scarce," "very few," etc.

Spruce Grouse

Reported from four far north counties; Lake of the Woods 1-3 (2) (M. Kehoe), Koochiching, eight miles south of Birchdale, 12-8, one male, (KL), Cook, North Brule River (KMH) and Lake, up to 18 in January and February along Lake Co. Rd 2 from one to five miles south of Trunk Highway #1 (mob). KE describes this species as "a virtual certainty" in early A.M. in this area the past two years.

Ruffed Grouse

The reports from 27 counties with a CBC total of 74 are up slightly from last year's data.

Greater Prairie-Chicken

Two reports; Felton Prairie, Clay Co. on 12-23 (LCF) and a total of 55 on the Crookston CBC.

Sharp-tailed Grouse

Reported from Marshall, Lake of the Woods, Koochiching, St. Louis and Aitkin 12-18 (40) (SC).

Wild Turkey

Reported from Houston Co., Millstone Landing on 2-5 (8) (FL) and on 1-15 (52) (RRK). The individuals reported in the Carlos Avery and Cedar Creek areas of Anoka County are from Whitewater birds live-trapped and first released in 1978. Within

a few years they may become a viable (and thus countable) wild population.

Northern Bobwhite

Reported in Houston on 12-15 (7), near Caledonia (EMF).

American Coot

Five to six overwintered in Fergus Falls (SDM) and late migrants lingered in Hennepin, Scott and Dakota until 1-1 (mob).

Common Snipe

December reports from Anoka 12-16 (SC) and Le Sueur 12-2 (HS). A January report from Sartell (1), Stearns Co. 1-13 (R. Cohbert) and an overwintering report from Purgatory Creek, Hennepin Co. Also reported on the St. Paul, St. Paul NE and La Crosse-La Crescent CBCs.

Bonaparte's Gull

Black Dog L., Dakota Co. on 12-3 (TT).

Ring-billed Gull

December migrants remained in Hennepin, Scott and Dakota until 12-22 (mob).

Herring Gull

Late inland north in Koochiching 12-2 (KL). Along Lake Superior they were absent from late January and February in Cook (KMH) and present in Lake until 1-8 (SWMS) and in St. Louis until early Jan. (KE). Two in Duluth on 2-9 (KE) may have been early migrants. Late December migrants remained in the Twin Cities until 12-4 (500) (SC) and in Houston until 12-15 (33) (FL).

CALIFORNIA GULL

One remained in the Duluth area through the CBC for the state's first winter record.

Thayer's Gull

Six on the Duluth CBC and two at Black Dog on 12-2 (mob).

Glaucous Gull

Duluth reports until 1-5 (mob); Cook on 12-7 (KMH) and at Black Dog L., Dakota Co. 12-4 until 12-10 (TT).

Rock Dove

On 12-27 nearly full grown young were

in a nest at a grain elevator in Alberta, Stevens Co. (FE). Also reported from 72 counties throughout the state with a total CBC count of 17,360, of which 7,412 were in Duluth. Common to abundant everywhere except in Cook and northern Lake and St. Louis Counties.

Mourning Dove

Reported from 25 counties throughout the state. Most common in EC and SE regions. Total statewide CBC count of 220.

Eastern Screech-Owl

Reported from Clay in the northwest and ten additional south and central region counties. About 14 individuals reported this year.

Great Horned Owl

About 140 individuals reported from 46 counties throughout the state. Peak CBC counts of 12 at Fargo-Moorhead and ten at Austin.

Snowy Owl

The 21 individuals reported (virtually the same as last year's 20) were widely dispersed throughout the state. Reported from 15 counties in all but the SW region and again no significant concentrations in the Duluth Harbor.

Barred Owl

Forty-three individuals reported from 26 counties throughout the state. West region reports from Moorhead, Clay Co. 2-3 (LCF); Lac Qui Parle 12-29 (FE) and the Fergus Falls, Cottonwood and Mountain Lake-Windom CBCs.

Great Gray Owl

No invasion this year. Reported from the Baudette CBC (5), Fourtown, Beltrami Co. on 12-5 (4) (KSS) and the County Road 18 area of Aitkin (mob).

Long-eared Owl

Reported on the St. Paul NE and Hutchinson CBCs.

Short-eared Owl

Reported in the Rothsay WMA, Wilkin Co. 1-16 (7) and 1-22 (8) (SDM).

Boreal Owl

Reported calling on the Gunflint Trail, Cook Co. on 12-5, 12-13, 12-23, 1-28, 1-29 and 2-25 (KMH). Also reported in Mahnomen 2-14 (MH), (*The Loon* 57:110).

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Three north February reports: Marshall, 2-12 (ANWR), Lake 2-17 (SWMS) and Cook 2-23 (KMH).

Belted Kingfisher

Reported from Pennington, 12-10 (KSS), Otter Tail, overwintered (SDM); and 13 additional Twin Cities and south region counties.

Red-headed Woodpecker

Reported from a Duluth feeder until late Jan., (fide L. Erickson), Aitkin 12-16 until 2-22 (2) (WN) and the Crosby and Northwoods CBCs. Also reported from 13 Twin Cities, south central and southeast counties. A statewide CBC count of 32.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Reported from 36 counties throughout the state. North region reports from the Warren and Crosby CBCs, Pennington, all winter (KSS), Aitkin 2-16 (WN), Lake, 1-12 (J. King) and St. Louis, two at a Hermantown feeder until mid Dec., (fide L. Erickson). Highest CBC counts in the EC and SE regions (peak of 72 at Rochester) and a statewide total of 311.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

One at a Roseville feeder on the 1-14 MRBA and two on the Rochester CBC.

Downy Woodpecker

Reported from 56 counties throughout the state. Numbers and distribution very similar to last year. Peak count of 193 on the Rochester CBC.

Hairy Woodpecker

Reported from 54 counties throughout the state. Peak CBC count of 111 at Rochester. Numbers and distribution virtually identical with last year's data.

Three-toed Woodpecker

Two reports: Gustafson Trail, Lake of the Woods Co. 12-27 and 12-30 (2) (M. Kehoe)

and the Gunflint Trail Cook Co. 12-31 (MS).

Black-backed Woodpecker

Reports of about 18 individuals in the north and central regions. The central reports were **Stearns Co.** near St. Stephens 1-5 (RBJ) and **Todd Co.** near Staples, 2-2 (KL). In the NE, seven individuals were found at five locations in St. Louis, two in Lake and three in Cook. NC region reports from Itasca Co., Big Fork 12-15 (AB), Clearwater Co., 2-17 Copley Township (AB), Lake of the Woods Co., Gustafson Trail, M. Kehoe and the Bemidji CBC.

Northern Flicker

Overwintered in Pennington (KSS) and reported on the Fargo-Moorhead, Fergus Falls and Grand Marais CBCs. In Duluth one fell into a chimney and was rescued from a fireplace on 1-26, (fide KE). Also reported from 15 additional Twin Cities and south region counties and/or CBCs with a statewide CBC total of 32.

Pileated Woodpecker

Reported from 42 counties in all regions of the state. A total CBC count of 96 with a peak of 10 at Rochester.

Horned Lark

Reported from 42 counties in all but the NE region. Peak count of 488 on the Mountain Lake-Windom CBC. This species overwinters in the south regions of the state but the 24 flocks averaging over 50 each found in Rock on 1-17 (KL) probably represent returning migrants.

Gray Jay

Reported from eight north region counties. A total CBC count of 129 with the peak count 46 at Isabella.

Blue Jay

Reported from 65 counties throughout the state. Numbers virtually identical with last year.

Black-billed Magpie

Reported from Kittson, Pennington, St. Louis and the Warren, Crookston and Baudette CBCs.

American Crow

Reported from 64 counties throughout the state. Distribution and numbers about the same as last year.

Common Raven

Reported from 18 counties in its normal range. Total CBC count of 739 with a peak count of 306 at Aurora.

Black-capped Chickadee

Reported from 66 counties throughout the state. Distribution very similar to last year with a statewide CBC total of 9268 and a peak of 1254 at Duluth.

Boreal Chickadee

Reported from seven counties in the NC and NE regions. A statewide CBC total of 23 (30 last year).

Tufted Titmouse

Reported on the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Rochester CBCs. Also reported in Rice 1-7 (FS) and Houston, from 12-22 on (EMF).

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Reported from 40 counties throughout the state. The total CBC count was 441 and 133 at Grand Marais. The CBC data suggests this species was most common in the NE and NC regions and relatively scarce in the balance of the state.

White-breasted Nuthatch

Reported from 62 counties throughout the state. Distribution similar to last year and a few again overwintered in Grand Marais in the NE region.

Brown Creeper

Reported from 32 counties throughout the state. A CBC total of 86.

Winter Wren

Reported in Houston, 12-25 (FL).

Golden-crowned Kinglet

More reports than last year; 13 counties throughout the state except for the NE region. Total CBC count of 15 (one last year).

Eastern Bluebird

Reported on the Cottonwood CBC (2) and in Nicollet 12-7 (2) (JCF).

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD

One in Duluth stayed until 12-15 (mob).

Townsend's Solitaire

Reported in Koochiching, 12-8 (KL), Duluth from 1-14 until March (mob), Big Stone 2-2 (RBJ), Washington 1-12 (JB) and Hennepin, throughout the period (*The Loon* 57:109).

from Hennepin until 1-20 (mob), St. Louis, Lake Eshquagama, 2-12 (AE) and Cook, one found dead on 12-11, (S. Bryan).

Gray Catbird

Crookston CBC (12-15) and Houston, 12-1 (EMF).

Northern Mockingbird

The individual reported on the Rochester CBC remained until 1-16 (mob).

Brown Thrasher

Reported at a St. Louis Co. feeder



Townsend's Solitaire, January 1985, Duluth - Photo by Mark Stensaas.

Hermit Thrush

One reported from Roberts Sanctuary, Minneapolis from 1-1 until 1-12 (mob).

American Robin

Reported from 20 counties throughout the state. A total CBC count of 73 with high counts of 20 at Rochester and 15 at Grand Marais.

Varied Thrush

Reported on the Bemidji (count week) and Bloomington CBCs. Also reported

on 12-9, (fide SWMS); Washington 12-30 and 12-31 (WHL); Henn. 1-18 (SC) and the Faribault and Rochester CBCs.

Bohemian Waxwing

Reported from 15 north, 11 central and three SW region counties. The SW reports were Cottonwood, Jan-Feb (LF); Lincoln 1-25 (RBJ) and the Cottonwood (Lyon Co.) CBC (12-22). Peak of 1083 on the Duluth CBC and an amazing total of 5000± in Duluth on 2-8, (*The Loon* 57:59-60).

Cedar Waxwing

Reported from 14 south, 11 central and seven north region counties. The total CBC count of 607 is well below last year's 1710.

Northern Shrike

Down from last year. About 60 individuals reported from 17 north, 17 central and six south region counties.

European Starling

Reported from 68 counties throughout the state. A peak of 1723 on the Owatonna CBC and a total count statewide of 12,757.

Northern Cardinal

Reported from 28 south and central region counties and **Pennington** until 12-12 (KSS) and **Cook**, a pair throughout February (SL) in the north. Also on the Fargo and Duluth CBC's. Peak count of 237 at Rochester and a statewide total of 1100.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

One of the Rochester CBC remained in the area until 2-24 (mob).

American Tree Sparrow

North reports from the Warren and Crosby CBC's, Aitkin, 1-13 and 2-22 (WN), Duluth 1-1, (A. Schimpe) and Cook 12-11 (KMH). Also reported from 39 central and south region counties with a total CBC count of 2791.

Chipping Sparrow

Lakewood Cemetery, Mpls from 12-1 until 1-1 (SC).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW

One at J. Newman's feeder in Duluth until 1-18 for the state's first winter record. (*The Loon* 57:104).

Field Sparrow

One in **Grand Marais** until 1-14 (*The Loon* 57:61) and a Houston County report on 12-1 (EMF).

Vesper Sparrow

One in Worthington, Nobles County on 12-29 (RBJ).

Fox Sparrow

North reports from Cook, 1-11 and 1-12, (fide SWMS) and the Fargo-Moorhead CBC. In the central region one overwintered at a Stearns County feeder, T. Wenz. In the south regions one in Jackson, 12-22, G. Hodnefield and the Rochester CBC.

Song Sparrow

Overwintered in Blue Earth (JCF) and reported on the Albert Lea, Austin, Rochester, St. Paul, Afton and Baudette CBC's.

Swamp Sparrow

Reported on the Cottonwood CBC and at Art Hawkin's feeder, Anoka County on the 1-10 MRBA.

White-throated Sparrow

Reported from five north, four central and six south region counties. Overwintered in **Koochiching** (GM), Houston (EMF) and at the NSP Plaza in downtown Minneapolis (14th year in a row) (CH).

White-crowned Sparrow

Reported on the **Grand Marais** CBC (12-15).

Harris' Sparrow

Reported in Jackson 12-22 (G. Hodnefield).

Dark-eyed Junco

Reported from 53 counties throughout the state. A statewide CBC count of 4381 with a peak of 899 at Rochester.

Lapland Longspur

Reported from 12 south and west region counties.

Snow Bunting

Reported from 47 counties throughout the state. Most common in the central and west regions. A statewide total CBC count of 2482 with a peak of 858 at Mountain Lake.

Red-winged Blackbird

Reported from six north, six central and 13 south region counties. A statewide CBC total of 7016 of which 6829 were on the La Crosse-La Crescent count.

Meadowlark (sp?)

Reported in Cook 12-9 (SL), Pennington 12-10 (KSS), Clay 12-8 (LCF) and on the Cedar Lake, Austin and Duluth CBCs. The Duluth individual was identified as a Western and remained until 1-5 (KE).

Rusty Blackbird

Reported on the Grand Marais and Fargo CBCs and from nine additional CBCs/counties in the south and central regions.

Brewer's Blackbird

Reported without details on the Excelsior CBC.

Common Grackle

Reported from five north, nine central and 15 south region counties. A statewide CBC count of 215 with a peak of 96 at La Crosse-La Crescent.

Brown-headed Cowbird

Overwintered in Dakota (2) (TT) and Nicollet (20) (JCF). Also reported on the St. Paul NE, Owatonna, Albert Lea, Rochester, Austin and La Crosse-La Crescent CBCs.

NORTHERN ORIOLE

One remained all fall and until the Aurora CBC (12-15).

Pine Grosbeak

The statewide CBC total of 462 and peak of 118 at Aurora were virtually identical with last year. About average numbers in the NE and above average in the NC and NW regions. And this year a few more wandered into the central and south regions. Reported from 17 north, five central and three south region counties. The south reports were **Cottonwood** 1-12 (LF), **Mower** 1-13 and 2-2 (RRK) and the **Rochester** CBC (12-15).

Purple Finch

Somewhat scarcer this year with a statewide CBC total of 367 (635 last year) and reports from 25 counties in all but the NW and SW regions.

Red Crossbill

A major invasion year with reports from 33 counties throughout the state. A

statewide CBC total of 314 with a peak of 152 at Duluth.

White-winged Crossbill

Also a major invasion year. More abundant but not quite as widespread as the preceding species. Reported from 26 counties in all but the NW region. Most abundant in the NE and NC regions. A statewide CBC count of **1003** (16 last year) and a peak of 516 at Duluth.

Common Redpoll

Down slightly from last year. Reported from 43 counties throughout the state with a total CBC count of 1460 and a peak of 367 at Isabella.

Hoary Redpoll

Probably the most reports ever. Most common in the north regions (13 counties) with several reports of pure flocks of 10-15 individuals. Also reported from four central region counties and in the SW from **Lincoln** 1-25 (1) (RBJ).

Pine Siskin

Widespread and common. Reported from 58 counties throughout the state. High counts of 387 on the Grand Marais CBC and 265 at Fargo. A statewide CBC total of 1846.

American Goldfinch

Also common. Reported from 50 counties throughout the state. A peak of 601 at Rochester and a statewide CBC count of 3346.

Evening Grosbeak

Below average numbers this year. Reported from 13 north, five central and two south region counties. Unusual reports include the Rochester and Marshall CBCs, and at Ortonville, Big Stone Co. on 2-2 (RBJ). A statewide CBC total of 781 with a peak of 146 at Duluth.

House Sparrow

Twenty-five overwintered in Grand Marais. Also reported from 77 counties throughout the state with a total CBC count of 34,188.

CONTRIBUTORS

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 Don Bolduc (DB)
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 Charles L. Horn (CH)
 James L. Howitz (JH)
 Nancy A. Jackson (NJ)
 Robert B. Janssen (RBJ)
 Oscar L. Johnson (OJ)
 Ron & Rose Kneeskern (RRK)

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 Violet Lender (VL)
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 Dave Zumeta (DZ)
 Agassiz NWR (ANWR)
 Mpls. Rare Bird Alert (MRBA)
 Duluth Rare Bird Alert (DRBA)
 (mob) — many observers

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT SUMMARY

Location	Date	Compiler	Number of Participants	Total Species
Afton	1-1-85	Boyd M. Lien	16	40*
Albert Lea	12-29-84	Charles Howard	15	38
Aurora	12-15-84	Chuck Neil	16	23
Austin	12-16-84	Terry W. Dorsey	24	42
Baudette	12-29-84	Martin Kehoe	7	27
Bemidji	12-15-84	Eric C. Nelson	11	24
Bloomington	12-30-84	Thomas Bloom	38	38
Cedar Creek Bog	12-16-84	Boyd M. Lien	9	25
Cedar Lake	12-15-84	Robert J. Leis	7	21
Cottonwood	12-22-84	Paul Egeland	3	37
Crookston	12-15-84	Tom Feiro	8	30
Crosby	12-15-84	Jo Blanich	15	36
Duluth	12-15-84	Kim Eckert	63	57
Excelsior	12-15-84	Phyllis Pope	46	45
Fargo-Moorhead	12-15-84	Ron L. Nelleremoe	26	31*
Faribault	12-22-84	Orwin A. Rustad	11	36
Fergus Falls	12-15-84	Paul W. Anderson	16	36

Grand Forks-		Frank Kelley	3	9*
East Grand Forks	12-16-84	Ken Hoffman	17	40
Grand Marais	12-15-84	Tom Sobolik	15	20
Grand Rapids	12-15-84	Joanne Dempsey	11	36
Hastings-Ëtter	12-30-84	Janet Decker	18	25
Hibbing	12-29-84	Chip Weseloh	20	33
Hutchinson	12-26-84	Steven G. Wilson	14	22
Isabella	12-30-84			
La Crosse-		Fredrick Z. Leshner	34	30*
La Crescent	12-15-84	Micki Buer	3	25
Lac Qui Parle	12-15-84	Merril J. Frydendall	12	37
Mankato	12-15-84	Henry C. Kyllingstad	10	26
Marshall	12-15-84	Donn Mattsson	28	37
Minneapolis	12-15-84			
Mountain Lake-		Edna Gerber	16	27
Windom	1-1-85	Mike Link	6	14
Northwoods	12-15-84	Darryl Hill	25	36
Owatonna	12-29-84	Jerry Bonkoski	29	60
Rochester	12-15-84			
St. Cloud-		Craig Lee	13	29
Collegeville	12-15-84	Jeff Evans	60	45
St. Paul	12-22-84	Persis Fitzpatrick	44	45
St. Paul NE	12-29-84	Tim Schroer	5	23
Sherburne NWR	12-29-84	D. G. Mahle	7	39
Wabasha	12-22-84	Gladwin A. Lynne	8	23
Warren	1-1-85	Tom Anderson	8	30
Wild River	12-15-84	Ben Thoma	6	24
Willmar	12-15-84	Walter Carroll	14	29*
Winona	12-29-84			

*The number of species seen on the Minnesota portion of the two state CBC.

Correction

On page 90, Volume 57, No. 2 in the Fall 1984 Seasonal Report under Surf Scoter, delete 10/31 Mower John Morrison and add this under White-winged Scoter.

Notes of Interest

MALE HOUSE FINCH AT LeSUEUR — My wife Esther was the first to note this bird when she called me from downstairs that I should “come and see this — some kind of a finch.” We have previously seen House Finches in other locations where they are common, California, Arizona and Montana, so we were relatively certain it was a male House Finch, but we did confirm by referring to Peterson and National Geographic guides, realizing that it is not usual in Minnesota. We also referred to Green and Janssen. We were having the usual House Sparrow gang since we feed the small black sunflower seed year-round and a little before noon on July 6, 1985, a male House Finch arrived at the feeder. Though we didn't see him arrive we saw him there about ten minutes. Soon the sparrows drifted away, finally leaving the finch alone, on the feeding deck, on top of the seed box and in the apple tree. His activities allowed us views from all angles. We noted no other finches present. We heard no song or notes as the windows were closed. We observed from inside the house at 12 to 15 feet in good light with a 7 x 35 Bushnell binocular. Again on the 7th of July the finch was back when he was observed under similar conditions. Again, the sparrows left the feeder, though the finch was not aggressive. The bird was not seen after the 7th. For us, the most obvious field marks were: 1) The unusual shade of red, really red-orange, 2) The restricted nature of the red-orange patches on throat and breast, head and rump and the vertical stripes on the clear lower breast and belly and 3) The lateral views of head showing a lower dome of the head than is the case with the Purple Finch, which we have observed, or the Cassin's Finch, according to the pictures, which we have not seen. 4) The stripe on the forehead and going back over the eyes and about two-thirds of the way around the head is a very concentrated color and apparently not diffused to the top of the head. — **Horace Chamberlain**, 428 S. Second St., LeSueur, MN 56058

CLARK'S GREBE REPORTED SEEN IN MINNESOTA — When reading *Corrections and Additions to A Birder's Guide to Minnesota*, Eckert, March 1985, I noted that birders were encouraged to watch for the light-phase Western Grebe. Clark's Grebe is now considered to be a distinct species and had never been reported in Minnesota. I recalled having seen both color phases of the Western Grebe at Marsh Lake, Lac Qui Parle County on a 'Salt Lake Trip.' Upon checking my field notes the observation of the Clark's Grebe had been made April 24, 1983. Field notes were brief indicating that in one individual the black of the crown ended above the eye and that on another nearby Western Grebe the black of the crown extended below the eye. — **Oscar L. Johnson**, 7733 Florida Circle, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

Editor's Note: The Clark's Grebe is now considered to be a distinct species by the American Ornithologists' Union (*The Auk* 102:680, July 1985). The Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee will have to make a determination if the Clark's Grebe should be added to the state list based on the above information.

SUMMER RECORD OF A HARLEQUIN DUCK — On July 11, 1985, Mike Haws and Jeff Dittrich, DNR Wildlife personnel, and I were assisting Katie Hirsch, DNR Non-Game Specialist on her annual colonial nesting bird census on Lake of the Woods. Weather was excellent with high scattered clouds, wind 5-10 from the NW, and temperature about 65 F. Time was about 11 a.m. We were checking out Little Massacre Island which is a five-acre cormorant and Herring Gull colony about 28 miles NE of Warroad. I noticed a low flying dark duck about 500 feet off with what appeared to be a white bill when we initially landed on the Island; but in the business of getting a secure mooring for my boat I did not pursue it's identification, thinking it was probably an American Coot. After about 15 minutes we were back in the boat and ready to depart to the next census island when I again noticed the duck about 300 feet away sitting on the water, ten feet off the rocky shore. I failed to identify it with my binoculars so I pointed it out to the others and Katie and Jeff immediately called it a male Harlequin Duck. It flew to the other, vegetated side of the island where it showed little shyness so we watched it for about ten minutes and got to within 50 feet of it. It was about the size of a Common Goldeneye with blue-gray head and breast, dark median line, large white patch in front and on top of the eyes, small white spot behind the eyes, small white line on neck, and white lines on the upper and lower borders of the breast. The body was dusky-brown with only a faint showing of white on the wings and only splotches of chestnut on the sides. The bill was blue-gray. It was eating insects on the surface and never dove. This is the first sighting for a Harlequin Duck on Lake of the Woods and the first summer sighting in Minnesota. — **Arthur Johnston, RR 1, Box 18, Warroad, MN 56763**



Male Harlequin Duck, July 11, 1985, Little Massacre Island, Lake of the Woods County. Photo by Art Johnston.

LITTLE BLUE HERON AT ELY —At approximately 7:00 a.m. on May 23, 1985, Bill Tefft and I were birding on 17th Ave. East in Ely, 0.7 of a mile north and east of its junction with Camp St. As we came to a small pond south of the road which was surrounded by mixed woods, Bill noticed a bird fly up from the water's edge. As we watched, it flew away from us and landed on one of the many dead snags left standing in the pond. We then noted a medium sized, dark heron, smaller than the Great Blues we had seen earlier that morning and larger than the Green-backed Heron which we were to see only minutes later in the same pond. We watched it for two or three minutes as it preened itself and then flew away from us into the woods. Our observation included steel blue body and wings, dark purplish neck and head, dull gray legs and bill with bill somewhat lighter than legs and lighter on top near the head. It also had light gray

eye rings and lores. We recognized it as a Little Blue Heron in non-breeding plumage, an adult. As far as we know this species has never been seen in the Ely area before, the closest bird being one seen in Virginia during three days in May of 1972. I had seen one several years ago in Florida. Bill and I observed the Ely bird through 7x35 and 8.5x44 binoculars at an approximate distance of 75 yards. The sky was clear with the sun to our side. The bird made no sound. It was observed later that day by Ann Schon, Pete Doran, Dave Nicholis and Steven Piragis, and I observed it again on the 24th of May. It was not seen again. — **Steven Schon, P.O. Box 626, Ely, MN 55731.**

ARCTIC TERN AT DULUTH — On May 18, 1985, Dick Ruhme and I were birding the Port Terminal area at Duluth. While standing on the road running parallel to the train tracks west of the gull/tern nesting area we saw two terns which looked and acted differently. They were flying around together and not with the nearby Common Terns which were loafing, courting or flying to and from the lake feeding. They passed over us from east to west, circled overhead several times and moved off west of the terminal. During this first sighting the following details were noted. These two birds seemed slightly smaller (bulk, not length), slimmer perhaps. The most prominent feature was the absence of any black on wings, above or below, except slim black line on trailing edge of outer primaries seen on under wing. Underwings otherwise were very white with *no* trace of dark on wing tips or leading edge of wings. Mantles were gray with no dark markings. Some pale translucence seemed to show through from below at base of primaries. To me the birds looked subtly different with shorter-necked appearance (not noted by Ruhme). Each of us noted the grayish bodies with the white cheekline but we felt that this was subjective and not always apparent. Ruhme said he saw what he described as translucence showing on the underwings. To me they just looked white. We saw these two individuals on four separate occasions off and on during the morning but on the fourth occasion after circling a couple of times, they headed north towards Duluth and disappeared from view still heading towards the bluffs behind the city. We could not locate them again on a later re-visit of the area. I expect they just came in, flew around awhile and then left. Neither Ruhme or I could find a single feature on either bird that would make them a Common or Forster's Tern. The bills were red but tips could not be judged. Neither of course could we determine leg length since neither bird ever landed. Both Ruhme and I have had experience sorting thru Common and Forster's Terns. I've seen Arctics before in Alaska and Nova Scotia. Ruhme in Minnesota. Optics used were Zeiss 8x30 Daylty and Leitz 7x42 Trinovids. Light was brilliant sunlight with no clouds. All plumage descriptions were noted with sun at our backs. Times of sightings (4) were 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Birds were always easy to pick out from nearby Commons due to their different habits and these two *never* separated. — **W. R. Pieper, 11731 Evergreen Circle, Coon Rapids, MN 55433.**

BUFFLEHEAD BROOD AT AGASSIZ NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE — A brood of Buffleheads was seen at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, Marshall County, on 17 June 1985. The only other previously documented Bufflehead broods were reported in East Park WMA, Marshall County, in 1978, 1981 and 1983. Refuge Manager Joseph Kotok and I were driving on a refuge dike road adjacent to the Middle CCC pool woodlot. In the ditch paralleling the road we passed a female Bufflehead, with what appeared to be a brood, at approximately 50 feet distance from the road. We stopped, backed up and observed the Bufflehead female and brood for approximately one minute with binoculars. Light conditions were excellent. The brood consisted of six Class IA black ducklings with white facial patches. The hen did not flush but swam away with the brood. — **Ronald Bell, Assistant Manager, Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, Middle River, MN 56737**

HOUSE FINCH IN WINONA COUNTY — We live at the Arches, Minnesota, a community of 12 houses three miles east of Lewiston along US Highway 14. The valley is cool and moist and generally wooded. A trout stream flows about a hundred yards from the house. The feeder which attracted the bird is located about fifteen feet from our picture window in the front yard. The yard is open, but surrounded by mature pines. The bird came to the feeder at approximately 7:00 p.m. on May 12, 1985. Since we have fed numerous Purple Finches and Common Redpolls, we were pretty excited to see another small red critter we couldn't identify. We suspected it might be a crossbill, since neither of us has seen one, but it had a finch-type beak. The characteristic red on the rump was obvious when the bird flew, but not when feeding. The bird came up to the feeder four times over a period of about an hour. I put my camera (a Beselere Topcon Super D) on a tripod inside the picture window and shot the enclosed photos. The light was very poor, but luckily I had a kodacolor VR ASA 400 film, and was able to shoot at 1/60 f 4.5 with my 87-205 Topcon zoom lens, at full extension. The bird left at dusk and has not returned. — **Henry A. Schneider, Rt. 1, Box 29, Lewiston, MN 55987**



Male House Finch (right) at feeder, May 12, 1985. Photo by Henry A. Schneider, Lewiston, MN.

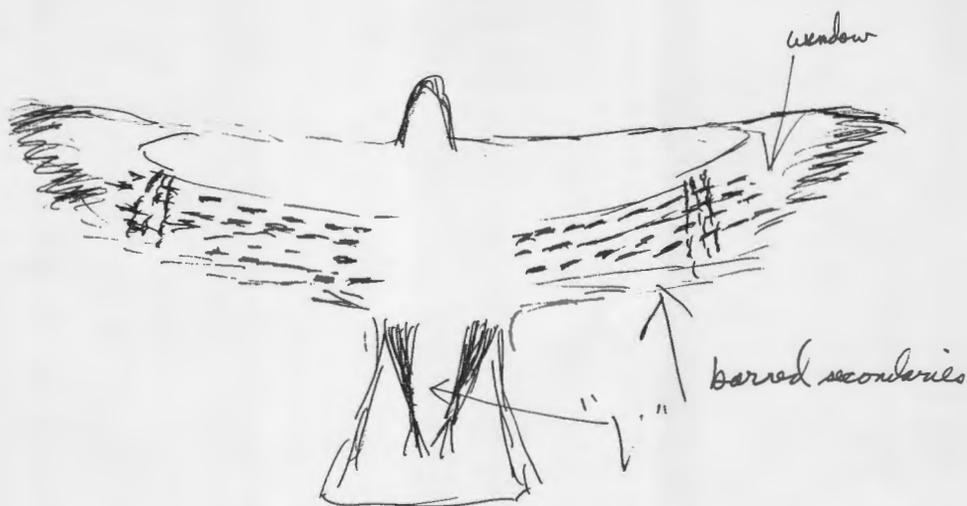
RUFF IN GOODHUE COUNTY — On May 19, 1985 at noon, Jon and I were looking over some shorebirds in a shallow flooded field on Goodhue County Road 18 about 1/2 mile east of the Goodhue-Dakota county line. In the haze of a 60-power Swift scope we spotted a small flock of Short-billed Dowitchers. One caught our attention; it was the same size, had the same head shape, same habits, but had a shorter bill. We both had caught brief glimpses, enough to know that the bird was different and possibly a Ruff! After searching for quite awhile we found it again, this time about 50 feet away from the road in the sunlight in the adjacent marsh. It was quite tame. We were able to observe it for the rest of the afternoon (until about 6:30). It was the size of the Short-billed Dowitchers (about 10 inches) with a black bill about 1/2 the length but of the same thickness. It was slightly decurved at the tip. The head was a uniform rusty brown with a very thin white line just above the eye. The back was also rusty and scalloped appearing; the feathers on the back had light brown edgings. The breast had horizontal brown and black streaking, ending before the legs. The rest of the abdomen and vent were white. The legs were green-yellow. The tail when the bird flew or ruffled its feathers



Ruff, May 19, 1985, Goodhue County. Photo by Jon Peterson.

was white except for a black central stripe extending down almost to a dark terminal band. Other birds there for comparison were Lesser Yellowlegs, Hudsonian Godwit and Dunlin. For reference, we used the National Geographic field guide and the Audubon Master Guide. Obviously with all this, we felt we had a Reeve or female Ruff. The Ruff wandered by itself over the marsh, picking like a dowitcher and when disturbed, usually crouched down. It ignored people and cars about 50 feet away. The other people that were able to see it and agree with us included Bob Janssen, Tammy and Roger Field, Tom Tustison and Doug McKenzie — even Whoops our dog saw it! We even had a Peregrine Falcon fly over us twice while watching. — **Ann McKenzie/Jon Peterson, 15603 Upper 194th, Hastings, MN 55033**

FERRUGINOUS HAWK — Further Notes on Identification — The call of a Ferruginous Hawk was a key to its identification on Saturday, April 27, 1985. About 11:00 a.m. that day, Johan Elmberg of Umeø, Sweden and I were completing a walk around Goodman Larson's slough in Manfred Township of Lac Qui Parle County. Our attention was directed to a hawk about the size of a Red-tailed Hawk. Initially, it appeared to be a very light, immature bird without the all coppery red tail above, but a light cream colored tail from below with five or six rather indistinct bands. From above, the tail was faintly rusty distally and white proximally. Also noted from below was the distinct barred or checked appearance of the secondary wing feathers and inner primaries. The bird began to circle overhead about 200 yards above us, and did so for about three minutes, enabling us to study the bird with 8.5x44 and 10x50 binoculars and 25x60 scope. The sky was mostly clear with a few scattered cumulous clouds, and the wind was from the west at about 10 mph. Suddenly, the bird was heard to utter a cry: "Nyaah," or "Kear," or "Dear," or "Geah." It was a gull-like call. There were no gulls in sight. Twenty minutes later, a flock of Franklin's Gulls flew in, uttering their short, doll-like calls. The call of the Ferruginous Hawk was lower pitched than that of the Franklin's gulls, but of a similar length or duration. The call was heard several times, possibly five or six, over a period of time of about one minute. The National Geographic Society *Field Guide to the Birds of North America* (1983), p. 196 refers to "harsh, gull-like alarm calls, krea, ke-a-ah, or Kaah" given in breeding season. Additional marks on the underwings were the "windows" — lighter, translucent areas at the middle of the outer primaries — and



Call: not as distinct as a Franklin's Gull, heard shortly after "Nyaah" "Kear" "Dear" "Geah" -

Written at 11:30 AM, 27 April 1985

three bands or stripes in the area of the inner primaries or outer secondaries (see sketch). The area of the secondary underwing coverts was lighter than the checked secondary wing feathers, and the tips of the primaries were quite dark. The so called "V" formed by the tarsal leg feathers was indistinct, though this area of the bird contrasted with the lighter tail. The bird held its wings slightly above the horizontal, less than the angle formed by the wings of a Turkey Vulture. The wings seemed longer than the wings of a Red-tailed Hawk, especially in relationship to the body; the bird appeared less chunky than a Red-tailed Hawk. The photograph of a soaring Ferruginous Hawk found on page 266 of R. T. Peterson's *Dozen Birding Hot Spots* illustrates the checkered appearance of the secondary wing feathers of the bird we saw. Our specimen was much lighter in the tail and wing coverts, and distal portions of the secondaries. I made a sketch of the bird and initial notes at 11:30 a.m.; Johan mailed me his notes dated April 30. He noted that the windows were clearly visible at the base of the primaries and possibly even the first and second secondaries. I sent my report and sketch together with Johan's report to Bob Janssen, who forwarded the material to Kim Eckert. Kim returned the reports to me, noting that everything but the call and "windows" extending to the secondaries would also describe a Red-tailed Hawk. However, on the basis of the call and location of the "windows" he accepted the report. In doing reading on the Ferruginous Hawk, I noticed that Eckert does not mention the call of the species in his article, "Field Identification of the Ferruginous Hawk," *The Loon*, Fall, 1982, p. 161. Though the species may not always call so obligingly as our specimen, readers should be alert for the characteristic call of the Ferruginous Hawk. — Fred Leshner, 509 Winona St., La Crosse, WI 54603

THE ORIGIN OF THE TERM HACK — As I am a word-monger as well as an amateur ornithologist, I was thrilled to be in the company of someone else at last December's M.O.U. paper session who was curious about the origin of the term "hack" box in the presentation on ospreys in the metro area. Therefore, I have consulted my copies of: *The Compact Edition of the Oxford English Dictionary*; (Oxford University Press); 1971, and *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*; (Springfield, Mass.: G. & C. Merriam Company); 1971.

OED:

hack - (another form of hatch and heck)

1. The board on which a falcon's meat is laid hence applied to the state of partial liberty in which (young, untrained) hawks are kept . . . not being allowed to prey for themselves.

2. A rack to hold fodder for cattle.

hatch - (ulterior history and original signification obscure)

1. A half-door, gate, or wicket with an open space above; the lower half of a divided door.

2. A hay rack.

heck - (Scottish and North Engl. - hec, hek, hekke, heake . . .)

1. The lower half of a door, also an inner door.

2. A rack made with parallel spars to hold fodder, either fixed in a stable or movable, so as to be placed in a field, or cattle yard, or sheep-fold.

Webster's 3rd International:

hack - (a blend of hatch and heck)

1. The board on which a falcon's meat is served. The state of partial liberty in which a falcon is kept before training.

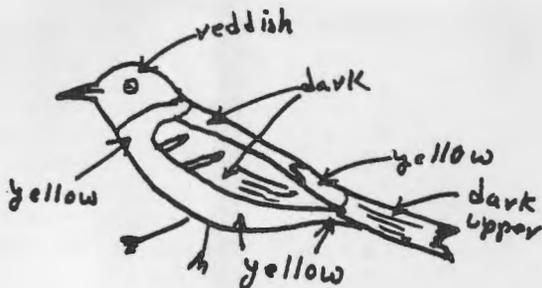
2. Frame, grating—as a rack for feeding cattle.

hatch - (Middle English—hache, from old English—haec) Obsolete—the lower half of a divided door.

heck - a wooden rack for holding fodder.

I have freely abridged and edited these lengthy definitions and etymologies, but I think the meaning has become clear. The door (hatch) became a hay rack or feeding platform (heck) perhaps because someone once actually used an old door to lay hay and fodder on. The move, then, from a place for food for cattle to a place for food for a falcon and thence the state of partial liberty of a young falcon (at hack) and now the cage used in the introduction of laboratory-reared raptors in the process of introducing them to the wild (hack box) surely follows. — **John A. Chamberlain, Rt. 1, Box 106, LeSueur, MN 56058**

WESTERN Tanager IN CLAY COUNTY — Date observed: 5/13/85. Location: two miles south of Moorhead, Minnesota in Clay Co. Time: 3:25-3:35 p.m. Temperature: 63 degrees F. Wind: SW to 15 mph. Sky: partly cloudy. Habitat: Species was feeding in the upper branches of a partially leaved immature American Elm. The tree is located adjacent to agricultural land that was recently worked. The tree is on the edge of woods along the Red River of the North. The bird was observed while looking for migratory species that are usually present during the spring migration period. From our position approximately forty feet from the base of the tree, it was apparent from the general configuration of the bird that it was a member of the Thraupinae. Immediately noticeable was the reddish head and yellow body. Since we are familiar with the Western Tanager in western states, we suspected it was this species. We were aware that the wingbars distinguish this species from the Scarlet Tanager. Two female Scarlet Tanagers were observed several days earlier. This bird had dark wings with double wingbars. Lat-



eral light lines also appeared on the folded wings. The lower body of the bird was yellow as was the lower back above the tail. The tail was emarginate.

The upper wing bar was not quite as broad nor as yellow as those indicated in the field guides. With this exception, the bird conforms to the published descriptions. Sketches are provided above.

Robbins, *et al.*, *Birds of North America*, was consulted during the observation. In addition, Peterson, *A Field Guide to the Birds*, and Farrand (ed.), *The Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding* were also consulted. Green and Janssen, *Minnesota Birds* was consulted for the status of this species in Minnesota.

Carol used 6x and Laurence used 7x binoculars during the observation. The bird was observed in full light.

A weather map for the previous day is included to provide additional information as to why the species might appear east of its normal territory. It is noted that most Minnesota sightings of this species have occurred during spring migration as did this bird.

— Laurence and Carol Falk, Rt. 3, Box 46, Moorhead, MN 56560

SISKINS AGAIN NEST AT WINONA — For the second consecutive year Pine Siskins nested in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Winona, Minnesota. On April 26, 1985, the Winona State ornithology class was looking at birds in the cemetery overlooking U.S. Highway 61 and Huff Street. Just as we were about to leave, I noticed two siskins foraging in a spruce tree. One flew directly to a nest eight feet up in another spruce. The nest contained three nestlings about four days old. The female obligingly brooded the nestlings while the entire class watched from within arm's reach. The nestlings fledged on May 3. The nest was littered with feces, as is common in cardueline finches. In both 1984, when two unsuccessful nests were found, and in 1985, about 20 siskins were present in the cemetery, and other nests were likely. Unlike 1984, the spruces in the cemetery had a heavy seed crop, and the siskins appeared to feed spruce seeds to the nestlings. Though this is the second consecutive year that pine Siskins have nested in Winona, it is certainly premature to consider them as regular breeders in southeastern Minnesota.

— James L. Howitz, Winona State University, Winona, MN 55987

FIRST SNOWY EGRET RECORD FOR ST. LOUIS COUNTY — On April 25, 1985, I received a telephone call that local birders had found a Snowy Egret near Kinney in northern St. Louis Co. (Unfortunately, I have lost the name of the woman who called me after seeing the bird.) The egret was apparently first seen during the weekend of April 20-21 along a small creek in a pasture just east of the intersection of Hwy. 169 and Co. Rd. 25. Since the bird was still present on the 25th, and since I still needed the species for my St. Louis Co. list (it soon became number 300), Ray and Jeff Newman and I drove to the location the next morning. After a brief search, we located the egret hunched up under a tree next to the creek, and we were able to see its black bill

and yellow lores, and, after it flew a short distance, its black legs and yellow feet also became visible. Other Duluth birders tried to find the bird later that day without success, although the egret was reportedly seen again for the last time on April 27. This represents the first record for a Snowy Egret in the county and apparently only the second in northeastern Minnesota — the one previous record was from Lake County in 1984. — **Kim Eckert, 9735 North Shore Dr., Duluth, MN 55804.**

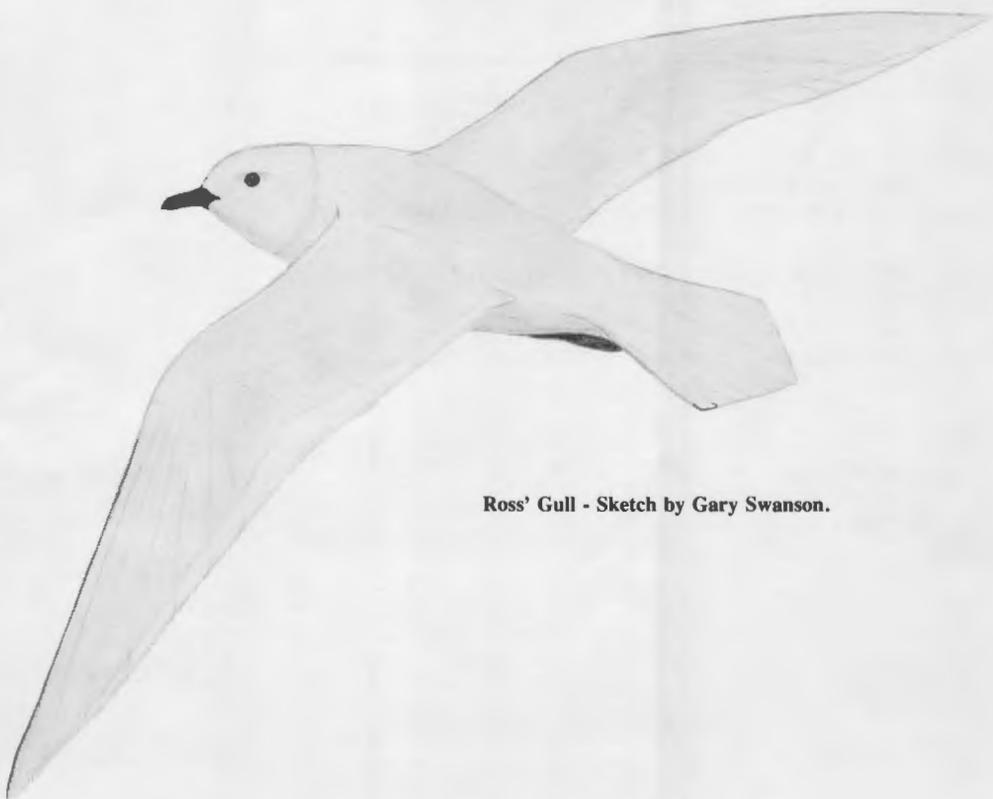
AMERICAN AVOCET BREEDING RECORD FOR LYON COUNTY — On July 18, 19, 21, and 23 my wife and I saw a single adult American Avocet and one young bird at a slough just south of the overpass to the south of Cottonwood, Lyon County. The young bird fed actively at some distance from the adult, but from time-to-time would swim or wade closer to the older bird. Its legs were pale blue-gray, plumage light gray with primaries only about an inch long but black so that it was beginning to look like its parent. Its beak had only a slight upturn. The adult bird seemed to pay no attention to the chick but kept feeding very actively. When we visited the slough on July 29 we found two adult American Avocets but no chick could be found. Quite likely this young bird was from the nesting pair observed by Linda Curtler at the south of Sham Lake. **Herry Kyllingstad, 205 S. 6th St., Marshall, MN 56258**

During the week of June 2nd, 1985 I sighted an American Avocet feeding along the edge of a pond east of Cottonwood, Lyon County. I observed the bird in the same area on two previous occasions that same week. On the third sighting, as I watched, the bird flew into the adjacent cornfield and landed on the ground. The corn plants were about a foot tall at the time so I could not see the ground, but the bird was tall enough that he was still visible as he walked. After landing he walked a short distance and stopped; immediately a second bird rose into view directly in front of him. This second bird took flight after a very brief pause — probably just a few seconds — and the first bird settled himself down amongst the corn plants in the spot that the second bird had vacated. The second bird flew to the edge of the pond in the vicinity where the first bird had been feeding. I concluded that their behavior indicated a nest in the cornfield and worried that the farmer would cultivate and destroy it. About a week later, around mid-June, I returned to look for the birds but never saw them again. **Linda Curtler, Cottonwood, MN 56229**

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERONS — For about six weeks beginning approximately July 1, 1985, one and sometimes two Yellow-crowned Night Herons were frequently seen feeding along the shores of Hawke's Lake behind our home in Edina. It is not unusual for us to see Black-crowned Night Herons, as well as Great Egrets, Green-backed Herons and an occasional Great Blue Heron, but this is the first summer in our 24 years here that the Yellow-crowneds have visited us. August 9, 1985 is the last date sighted by us or our neighbors. **Pat Telfer, 5717 Hawke's Drive, Edina, MN 55436**

WORM-EATING WARBLER — OLMSTED COUNTY — On May 24, 1985, I was birding in the Mayowood area just west of Rochester. About 8:00 A.M. I was in an area of mature deciduous trees on a hillside overlooking the Zumbro River. I heard a bird calling, a buzzy call similar to a Chipping Sparrow. The bird was calling about five times a minute and the call was always the same length, one to two seconds long. I had the "Peterson" tapes with me and compared the song to Pine Warbler which it did not match; the Chipping Sparrow, the call was more rapid chipping and the length of the call was very consistent. When I played the Worm-eating Warbler call it matched very well to what I was hearing. The bird remained in the tree tops approximately 80

80 feet above the trail I was on. It took me almost an hour to finally locate the bird. It was small, sparrow or warbler size. I could only see it from underneath but was able to see a black stripe thru the eye and an unstreaked buffy-gray breast. The bird continued to call until 10 A.M. when I left the area. Joan Fowler, Bob and Steve Ekblad, and I were able to relocate the bird in the same area shortly after noon. We played the tapes several times and agreed it was a Worm-eating Warbler. We were only able to get glimpses of the bird but agreed it had an unstreaked breast, black eyestripe and light eye-brow above the eye. Anne Marie Plunkett and I returned at 2:00 p.m. and the bird was singing a short distance from the trail. I played the Worm-eating Warbler song once and the bird immediately flew into the tree directly over us and continued to sing. All of the literature I had read indicated the Worm-eating Warbler stays on or near the ground. This bird had remained in the very top of the trees. In the Audubon Society "Guide to North American Birds" it says that "A singing male, however, often perches rather high up in a forest tree, where its habit of sitting motionless for long periods of time makes it very difficult to spot." This was exactly the way this bird acted and explained why it was so high off the ground. **Jerry Bonkoski, R.R. 1, Box 24, Byron, MN 55920**



Ross' Gull - Sketch by Gary Swanson.

PURPOSE OF THE MOU

The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union is an organization of both professionals and amateurs interested in birds. We foster the study of birds, we aim to create and increase public interest in birds and promote the preservation of birdlife and its natural habitat.

We carry out these aims through the publishing of a magazine, *The Loon*; sponsoring and encouraging the preservation of natural areas; conducting field trips; and holding seminars where research reports, unusual observations and conservation discussions are presented. We are supported by dues from individual members and affiliated clubs and by special gifts. The MOU officers wish to point out to those interested in bird conservation that any or all phases of the MOU program could be expanded significantly with gifts, memorials or bequests willed to the organization.



SUGGESTIONS TO AUTHORS

The editors of *The Loon* invite you to submit articles, shorter "Notes of Interest" and color and black/white photos. Photos should be preferably 5x7 in size. Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced and on one side of sheet with generous margins. Notes of Interest should be generally less than two typewritten pages double-spaced. If reprints are desired the author should so

specify indicating the number required. A price quotation on reprints will be sent upon receipt of information.

Club information and announcements of general interest should be sent to the Newsletter editor. See inside front cover. Bird-sighting reports for "The Season" should be sent promptly at the end of February, May, July and November to Kim Eckert. See inside front cover.

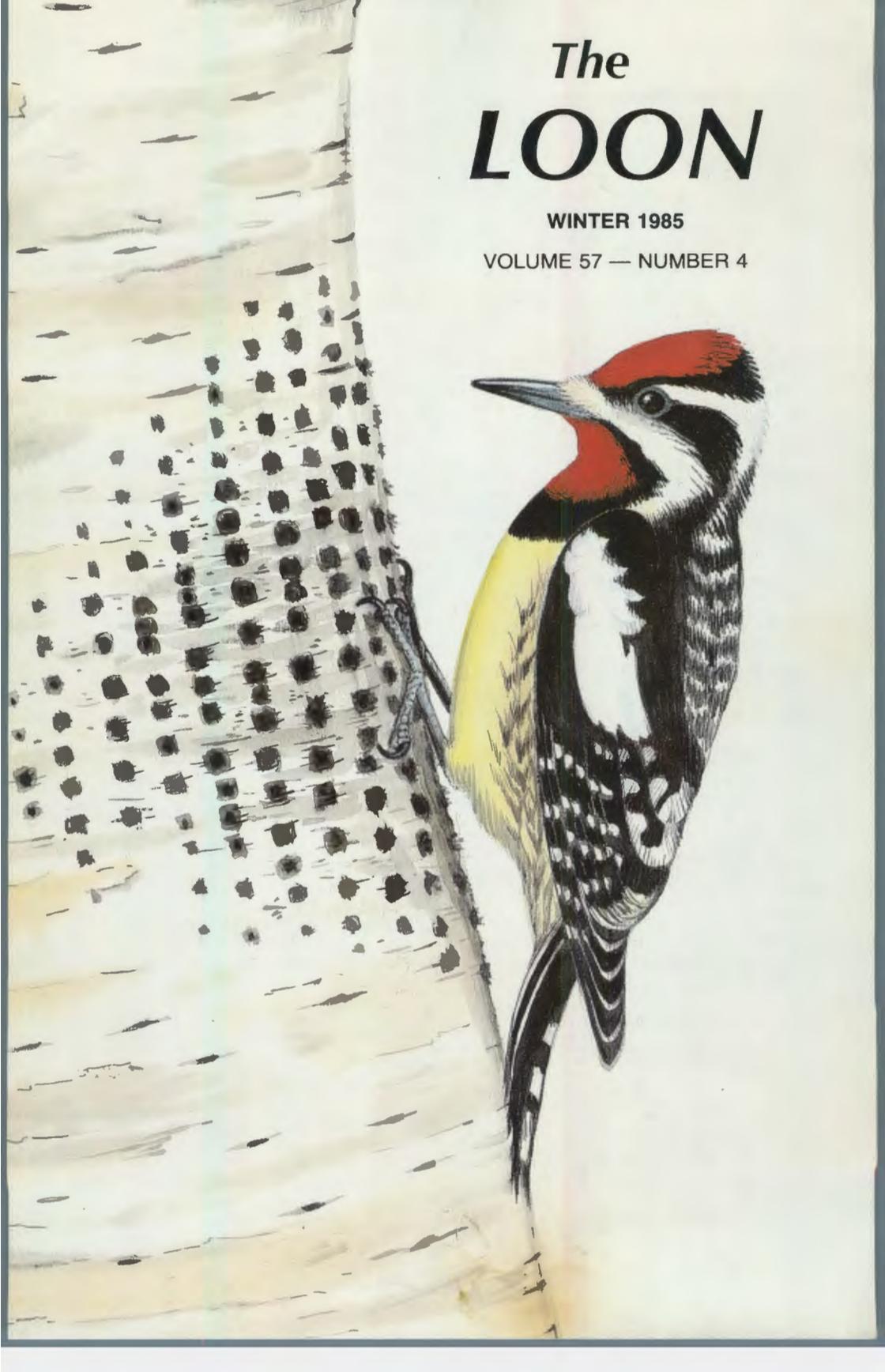
TABLE OF CONTENTS

SAGE THRASHER, AGASSIZ NWR, May 14, 1985	
Photo by Jim Mattsson	Front Cover
FIRST SIGHT RECORD FOR THE SAGE THRASHER IN MINNESOTA	
by Jim Mattsson	115
EGG AND NEST COLLECTION FROM BENTON COUNTY DONATED TO THE NONGAME WILDLIFE PROGRAM	
by Carol J. Dorff and Pamela Skoog Perry	117
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MINNESOTA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE	
by Kim R. Eckert	119
BOOK REVIEWS	121
THE WINTER SEASON (Dec. 1, 1984 to Feb. 28, 1985)	
by Kenneth J. LaFond	123
NOTES OF INTEREST	134

The
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WINTER 1985

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MEMBERSHIPS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS: Evelyn Stanley, 213 Janalyn Circle, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416. To join the MOU and receive both MOU publications, send \$12.50 for a regular yearly subscription. Or other classes of membership that you may choose are: Family \$15.00 yearly; Supporting \$20.00 yearly; Sustaining \$30 yearly; Life \$150. Canadian and Foreign Subscriptions, \$15 yearly. **All subscriptions are on a calendar year basis.** Also available: back issues of *The Loon* (\$2.50 each ppd.) and MOU checklists of Minnesota birds (minimum lots of 20 for \$5.00 postage paid). Gifts, bequests, and contributions to the MOU Endowment Fund should also be sent to the treasurer.

EDITOR OF THE LOON: Robert B. Janssen, 10521 S. Cedar Lake Rd., #212, Minnetonka, MN 55343 (phone 612-546-4220). The editor invites articles, short notes, and illustrations about Minnesota birds. See back cover for details.

"The Season" section of *The Loon* publishes reports of bird sightings throughout Minnesota. We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To become a contributor to "The Season," request the report forms from the **EDITOR OF "THE SEASON,"** Kim Eckert, 9735 North Shore Drive, Duluth, Minnesota 55804 (phone 218-525-6930).

EDITOR OF THE MOU NEWSLETTER: Bette Bell, 5868 Pioneer Rd. S., St. Paul Park, MN 55071. Publishes announcements and reports about activities of the MOU and its affiliated clubs. (Club officers should keep both MOU editors informed.)

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Life of the Woodpecker

(and Dana Gardner)

by Robert B. Janssen

The cover of this issue of *The Loon* is taken from the new book *Life of the Woodpecker* by Alexander Skutch, the highly respected neotropical ornithologist. If you haven't recognized the artist of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, you probably will very shortly if you recall past *Loon* covers. It is Minnesota's own Dana Gardner. Dana's artwork has appeared on the cover of *The Loon* on nine previous occasions starting in the Fall of 1974 with Turkey Vultures over Fillmore County. His next cover in the summer 1976 issue was of a Blackburnian Warbler in a tropical setting and accompanied Dana's article on "Watching Minnesota's Warblers....in January." This was Dana's only color cover previous to the reproduction of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker on the current issue.

Minnesota cannot lay full claim to Dana as he was born in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, only a stone's throw (across the St. Croix River) from Minnesota. He was, however, brought up and went to High School in Lanesboro in beautiful Fillmore County. His father, Paul Gardner, still lives in Lanesboro and the original artwork of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker hangs in his home. Dana attended the University of Minnesota majoring in Zoology and Biology. He started seriously painting birds while at Itasca State Park, taking summer courses from David Parmelee. When the Army drafted him, Dana was sent to Panama, I assume to "guard" the Panama Canal, but something more important happened, he became fascinated by tropical birds. While in Panama, he illustrated his first book, *Aves de Colombia*, by Hum-

berto Alvarez. From Panama he went to Colombia and then to Costa Rica where he met Alexander Skutch. Dana has thus far illustrated eight of Skutch's books, *Life of the Woodpecker* being number six with two more in process; *Helpers at the Nest* and *A Naturalist Amid Tropical Splendor*, both being published by the University of Iowa Press.

Dana spent a total of five years in Latin America and has recently (1983) spent six months in Borneo. This will result in illustrations for another book, *Birds of Sabah (North Borneo)*.

In early 1986, Dana will be on his way back to Costa Rica to complete work on still another book with Skutch, *A Field Guide to the Birds of Costa Rica*. This book will be published by Ibis Publishing Company in Santa Monica, California.

It is then off to Indonesia where Dana will start work on illustrations for a new book titled, *Field Guide to the Birds of Wallacea*. What a schedule for a painter and a birder! Wouldn't it be fun to follow Dana in his travels?

I want to thank Jim Clements, also a Minnesotan, of Ibis Publishing for the use of the plates to reproduce the front cover subject. Ibis has produced a most beautiful book in *Life of the Woodpecker*. The book contains 60 paintings, by Dana, of woodpecker species in full color and is the only current work treating this most intriguing group of birds. Skutch writes in a fascinating manner with scientific accuracy and is easily understood by the lay person. With Dana's paintings enhancing the work, it will make a great addition to any birder's library.

IN MEMORIAM

Marvin C. Borell

Born November 22, 1916, Waverly, Minnesota

Died October 1, 1985, Minneapolis, Minnesota

President: Minnesota Ornithologists' Union
1971-1972

Rejoice in the life of Marvin Christian Borell. Marv was not a church man but he lived his life in praise to the glory of God and in service to his fellow man.

Marv grew up in Delano, Minnesota, walking the fields, enjoying the beauties of nature. As a young boy, he naturally followed the style of the country boys at that time and hunted blackbirds, ducks, squirrel, and pheasant to supplement the family table.

As he matured and came to live in Minneapolis at Diamond Lake, he began to realize even more the beauty, and the pleasure of just observing the wild creatures, who learned to trust him and appreciate his generous and caring nature.

On an occasion many years ago when he was in the hospital, he thought seriously about those wild creatures. It was then that he decided to give up hunting and never again harm a wild creature.

Each morning and evening might find him out filling the bird feeders or scattering corn for the ducks and his other wild friends. The Mallards came to know him so well they would come quacking into the yard in anticipation of the corn he would provide. One mother Mallard, would year after year, march her new brood from the lake into the yard to meet Marv. She would even eat from the pail that he carried and would allow herself to be held by him.

Wild Wood Ducks nested in the complex of boxes he nailed to the willow tree by the lake, and they learned to fly to the platform feeder near the living room window. They would all try to banquet at once; at one time there might be seven or eight Wood Ducks eating on the 8x12 inch platform feeder.

Marv found much pleasure in shooting

with a camera, instead of a gun. As he developed a large quantity of beautiful nature pictures, he wanted to share with others the glory of God as he saw Him. He became a community resource person, giving freely of his time to the public schools. With his job at Honeywell, he would skip his lunch hour to give school programs. Honeywell was very satisfied with his service and encouraged him. As time went on he gave more and more slide lecture programs — to churches, nature centers, garden and other clubs. After many of these programs he was asked, "Marv, when are you going to write a book?" It was something he thought about but never got to.

Early in his married life, Marv and Marion celebrated their honeymoon by taking a trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area for a ten-day vacation. Though it rained every day or night except the last one, they were hooked on camping and the BWCA. Even with a family, they returned for many special times.

Besides, Marv's free time was also busy with outdoor education committees, nature center planning and development, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, and PTA. At many times, he was president of various organizations, including PTA, Minnesota Ornithologists' Union, and Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis.

When Marv retired six years ago, he was called suddenly in June and asked if he would like to teach botany at the Audubon Camp in Wisconsin. With lively encouragement from his wife Marion, he was at the camp supper table the next night — all ready to begin an adventurous new career. He knew a little bit about a lot of plants, but by searching through his library of nature books, he soon began to know

them quite intimately. In his classes in the fields, he described the plants as his "friends" — some were doctors who furnished medicines; some were dieticians who furnished foods; some were marketers who furnished the ropes and twines and fabrics and dyes for coloring them; and there were the artists, who added to our quality of life with their beauty. Not the last of these friends was the ox-eye daisy, who had the strongest social responsibility: "He loves me, he loves me not, he loves me." Marv spent five glorious summers teaching at Audubon Camp.

Marv's struggle with cancer began almost three years ago. In the hospital he kept asking if he would be able to teach in the summer Audubon Camp. It was necessary to let the director know early if he needed to get a replacement for him. Marv's doctor said, "Yes. If you want to, you can." Marv did and enjoyed it even though it meant scheduling a trip back to the hospital for chemotherapy in the middle of the camp session. The camp director carefully arranged other programs to allow him healing time.

The second year after surgery was a better one and Marv was able to carry on even more enthusiastically, although it was still necessary to return periodically to the cities for checkups.

Last year Marv was feeling pretty good again and early in the summer had set up after-camp dates with his daughters. His daughter Marcy, son-in-law Steve, and granddaughter Missy were able to visit Marv and Marion during the summer at their special log cabin home at camp.

Their date with Reenie and husband Keith took them to the BWCA for a week. It was a joyous occasion.

The trip with Merriley and Bob necessitated a shorter time due to a cancerous lump in Marv's arm. The plans had to be altered somewhat and their date became a river trip on the Namekegon.

Lastly, there was a trip to the BWCA in late September. Mike and Jane Link of the Northwoods Audubon Center at Sandstone, Minnesota, had asked Marv and Marion to co-lead a trip with them for beginners and seniors, figuring that if those two "old folks" could make the trip, anyone could. It snowed up north that week, but the

beauty was breathtaking.

In November, Marv and Marion decided to take the 40th anniversary trip they had been too busy to take three years earlier. They planned a trip to Hawaii with old friends in California who offered to set up all the arrangements.

Marv and Marion wanted to drive out and have the fun of camping and visiting friends along the way, so they put 3,500 miles on their car and took in all the beauty they could manage. In Hawaii, at Hilo for four days, their guide was the Hawaiian "daughter" Lynette Chun, who had spent summers with them while attending college with Merriley.

Two weeks after their return to Minneapolis, Marv's neck pains became too excruciating and he knew that the old cancer had returned. Marv was taken to the hospital to correct the collapse of the fourth and fifth vertebrae in his neck. Gradually the bonus days became less enjoyable. At a check-up on September 23rd, he told the doctor he could no longer take the chemotherapy which had again been started.

Marv gathered strength to present a final slide show at the Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis' Annual Picnic, two weeks ago yesterday. It was a proud moment for him — as he always said, "like showing off your children." He delighted in sharing his view of God's beauty and bounty and, as always, he was honored by the presence and enthusiasm of his audience and friends.

The last days, physically painful as they were, were spent at home and in the care of his family. The night before his death the pain subsided for a few hours. He celebrated with them Merriley's birthday, and his and Marion's forty-fourth wedding anniversary. He wanted a family portrait. Marion's brother Wayne came over to take pictures. Marv beamed again and again, urging after each photo, "Take another! Take another!" He was happy and fulfilled, intensely aware of his life and its joys. He died suddenly the next day.

Though grieved by his loss, his family is comforted by the knowledge that Marv is at peace and free from pain. Please rejoice with them in his memory, and remember with them his joy in the beauty of life.

Use of Artificial Nests by Great Gray Owls, Great Horned Owls, and Red-tailed Hawks in Northeastern Minnesota

by Robert T. Bohm

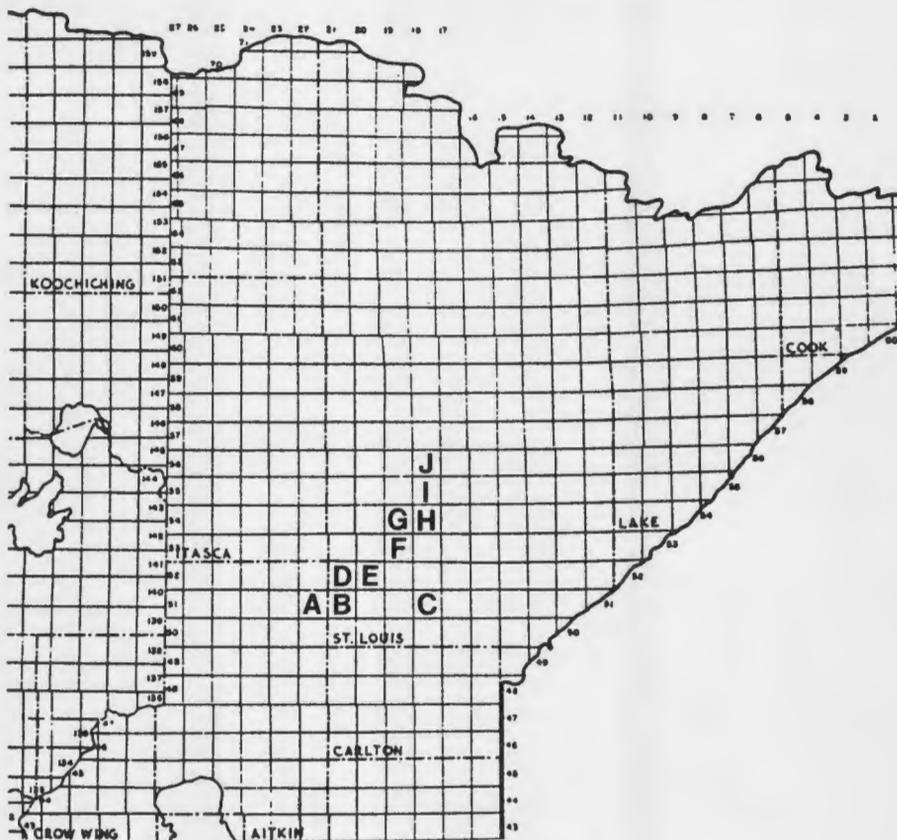
During the winter of 1980-81 I put up 45 artificial nests in western St. Louis County and northeastern Aitkin County. My objective was to try to determine how readily artificial nests would be accepted by raptors in northeastern Minnesota. The nests were made by filling shallow chicken-wire cones with sticks and twigs. Completed nests resembled natural stick nests built, for example, by Red-tailed Hawks, Northern Goshawks, or Common Ravens. (For specific information regarding their construction, see DNR publication "Woodworking for Wildlife.") Nests were put in areas which appeared to have good habitat components for raptors. To expedite observation and maintenance efforts, most were located within a mile of a road. The locations of several nests near Floodwood (in townships labelled B, C, and D, Figure 1) were based upon previous observations and nest records of Great Gray Owls in that area by S. L. Loch. Although specific boundaries of a study area did not exist, all nests eventually happened to be located within 10 miles on either side of a line from Floodwood to Zim. Nests were checked at least once each year, usually during the first half of May. Subsequent visits were made to active nests. The nests have now been monitored for five nesting seasons, from 1981-85.

Overall annual usage of the nests ranged from two percent to 23 percent (Table 1). In 1981, only one of 45 nests was used (Great Horned Owl), and in 1982 only one of 44 available nests was used (Red-tail Hawks). From 1983-85, there were 43 nests available, as one nest had been lost to logging operations in each of the two previous years. In 1983, after two years of low acceptance by raptors, I was encouraged to find Great Grays using three artificial nests—two near Floodwood and one near Sax. Usage increased dramatically in

1984, when ten artificial nests were used—nine by Great Gray Owls and one by Great Horned Owls. The Great Gray nests that year were located in the general vicinities of Floodwood (3), Meadowlands (2), Toivola (1), Alborn (1), Sax (1), and Zim (1). In 1985, usage again dropped to only two nests—both by Great Horned Owls. Figure 1 shows the locations of all raptor nests by township.

Table 2 presents nest productivity data from this study. Clutch size was known for one half of the Great Gray nests and about one third of all raptor nests observed during this investigation. At the remaining nests, the numbers presented in Table 2 represent the nestlings counted at or near the nest when it was checked. In most of these cases the young were three to five weeks old. Even though clutch size was not known for all nests, the data indicate an interesting trend. That is, as the number of nesting Great Grays increased from three in 1983 to nine in 1984, the number of eggs and/or young per active nest also increased from 2.0 to 3.0.

Several general observations regarding Great Grays were made during this study. Meadow voles were often found as prey items at active nests. On one occasion a nest contained four. Fresh flicker feathers were also found at a Great Gray nest during the period it was occupied by owls. With regard to Great Gray Owl nest initiation, considerable variation appeared to exist. On 15 May 1983, a nest contained one pipping egg and a two or three day old nestling. At the same nest, on 7 June, about three weeks later, one nestling was still in the nest and the other was on a log about 60 feet away. In 1984, all nests were checked on 29-31 May, somewhat later than normal. At seven of the nests, the young appeared to be from two weeks to perhaps four and one half weeks old. At



- A— GGO (1984)
- B— RTH (1982), GGO (1983, 1984)
- C— GGO (1984)
- D— GGO (1983, 1984)
- E— GGO (1984), GHO (1984)
- F— GGO (1984)
- G— GGO (1984)
- H— GGO (1983, 1984) GHO (1984)
- I— GHO (1981, 1985)
- J— GGO (1984)

Figure 1. Township Nest Records, 1981-85, for Great Gray Owls (GGO), Great Horned Owls (GHO), and Red-tailed Hawks (RTH).

Table 1. Use of Artificial Nests by Raptors in Northeastern Minnesota, 1981-85.

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	Total
Great Horned Owl	1	0	0	1	2	4
Great Gray Owl	0	0	3	9	0	12
Red-tailed Hawk	0	1	0	0	0	1
Available Nests	45	44	43	43	43	
Percent Nest Use	2.2	2.3	7.0	23.3	4.7	

Table 2. The Number of Eggs and/or Young Observed at Artificial Nests Used by Raptors in Northeastern Minnesota, 1981-85.

	1981				1982				1983				1984				1985			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Great Horned Owl	1																			
Great Gray Owl								1	1 ^b	1			1	7 ^c	1				1	1
Red-tailed Hawk					1															

a— Number of young from nest unknown. Remains of a nestling were found on ground near nest where it had been predated.

b— Clutch observed

c— Clutches observed at five of seven nests

the two remaining nests, however, the adults were still incubating at this time, and the young were only a couple of days old on 13 June. It is possible that these could have been re-nesting situations. Two added eggs were found at one nest in 1984. At this nest, one young, about three weeks old, was banded on 12 June. Using an approximate 30 day incubation period, the onset of egg-laying for the 12 Great Gray Owl nests observed in this study probably ranged from late March to mid-May.

Only once during this study was an artificial nest used by Red-tailed Hawks. Be-

cause owls do not build their own nests, they can be attracted to man-made structures relatively easily. Hawks, however, build their own nests and accept artificial ones less frequently. When Red-tails do use an artificial nest, they usually construct a normal-sized Red-tail nest on top of it.

Acknowledgements

Appreciation is extended to S. L. Loch for sharing his observation and nest records of Great Gray Owls in the vicinity of Floodwood.

1378-11 Highland Village, Duluth, MN 55811.

CORRECTION

In *The Loon* Vol. 57 page 119 "Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee," the date of 4/10/85 under Broad-winged Hawk should be changed to 3/10/85.

The Spring Season

(March 1 - May 31, 1985)

Dick Ruhme, Oscar Johnson, Steve Carlson, Don Bolduc

There were 77 reports submitted with 303 species recorded.

The first part of March ushered in snow, cold and blizzard conditions which dumped as much as 16-20 inches of snow in many places. There was more snow on the last of the month. In between the conditions were balmy; in fact the temperatures were in the 40s and 50s much of the time. Swans, ducks and geese, even shorebirds responded by moving north in unusual numbers. Trumpeter Swans that migrated south for the winter were reported as returning, and a couple of Mountain Bluebirds were reported from the northwestern part of the state. This month was the 9th warmest on record with the average temperature about 6° above normal; precipitation averaged three inches above normal.

April was the sixth warmest on record, temperatures averaged about 6° above normal, precipitation averaged five inches below normal. The first part was cool but by the middle of the month there were many days with unsettled weather and strong southeast winds with temperatures in the 70s and even the 80s. Many different species of hawks were seen in Carlton County and in the Morgan Park area of Duluth on the 20th and 21st.

In the Twin Cities on the 4th a female Red Crossbill was seen bringing nesting material to a location in a white spruce. A few days later an American Robin's nest was noticed not more than a foot away on the same limb of that tree. No more activity by the crossbill was noticed — you can guess the rest!

Other observers reported Red Crossbills building nests in the Twin Cities; TT reported three separate nests. As far as is known, no one reported young from these nests.

The last successful Red Crossbill nest that comes to mind was when a short-tailed young came to a feeder in Theodore Wirth

Wildflower Garden in 1973. Crossbills were reported in the Twin Cities for the entire reporting period and extending to the 10th of June.

It was so warm at times that the Ruffed Grouse would drum, then lay on the log instead of remaining upright.

Very warm weather prevailed the first half of May: 80s and even 90s. But by the last of the month it became much cooler. Rochester reported the warmest spring in 98 years! Little wonder that the average for the month was +4°. Strong southeast winds much of the time may have influenced the migration somewhat. One observer stated, "We waited for the migration — it never came." Another said, "The warblers went through one day while I was at work." Sparrows were in evidence, at least in the Twin Cities. Puzzling were the hundreds of Lesser Golden-Plovers and Pectoral Sandpipers seen in Rock and Nobles Counties flying in a southerly direction when the wind was from that direction with a velocity of around 25 mph.

A small wave of flycatchers was seen on the 6th and 26th of this month. A few thrushes were noted on the 8th.

Some of the unusual species, places or dates were as follows: Snowy Egret: Olmsted, Otter Tail, St. Louis; Little Blue Heron: Olmsted, St. Louis; Cinnamon Teal: Otter Tail, Morrison, Benton; Oldsquaw: Faribault; Ferruginous Hawk: Chippewa, Stearns; Common Moorhen: Marshal; Whimbrel: Traverse, Clay; Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Olmsted; **Ruff**: Goodhue; Little Gull and **Artic Tern**: Duluth; Short-eared Owl: Chippewa; Boreal Owl: Cook; **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: Norman, Olmsted; Common Raven: Anoka; Tufted Titmouse: Hennepin, Olmsted; Mountain Bluebird: Kittson, Wilkin, Dakota; Townsend's Solitaire: Duluth; Black-throated Blue Warbler: Mower; **Yellow-throated Warbler**: Scott; **Worm-eating Warbler**: Olmsted; Hooded Warbler: Hennepin; Yellow-breasted Chat:

Olmsted, Cottonwood; Summer Tanager: Duluth, Lac Qui Parle, Le Sueur; **Western Tanager**: Clay; **Lazuli Bunting**: Ramsey; Lark Bunting: Cook, Wilkin, Mahnomen; **House Finch**: Winona, and finally the best bird of the spring, a **Sage Thrasher** at Agazziz NWR.

It would help the compilers if reporters would use the 1st column for early migrants, 2nd column for late migrants and the 3rd column for other information, for instance, residents, rarities and peaks.

Red-throated Loon

5/30 Duluth NH (4).

Common Loon

Early south 3/27 Ramsey RH, 3/30 Hennepin TTu, 4/1 Dakota AB; early north 4/3 St. Louis M. Stensaas, 4/6 Lake of the Woods JB/TS, 4/10 Otter Tail SDM.

Pied-billed Grebe

Early south 3/15 Mower RRK, 3/17 Dakota ES, TT, 3/19 Olmsted PP; early north 3/29 Marshall ANWR, 4/5 Morrison AB, 4/10 Otter Tail SDM.

Horned Grebe

Early south 3/25 Dakota AB, 4/7 Hennepin VL, 4/10 Nicollet RJ; early north 4/14 St. Louis fide KE, 4/17 Norman BK, 4/18 Marshall ANWR.

Red-necked Grebe

Early south 4/9 Hennepin VL, 4/13 Nicollet JCF, 4/14 Olmsted JEB, RE, AP; early north 4/13 St. Louis KE, 4/15 Wilkin SDM, 4/18 Marshall ANWR.

Eared Grebe

Early south 4/1 Dakota AB, 4/12 Washington DS, 4/27 Nicollet TT, Lac Qui Parle m.ob.; early north 4/18 Marshall ANWR, 4/28 Roseau RJ, Wilkin SDM.

Western Grebe

Early south 4/10 Sibley RJ, 4/12 Lac Qui Parle DB, 4/14 Hennepin AP; early north 4/21 Wilkin SDM, 5/3 Marshall ANWR, 5/5 Polk AB.

American White Pelican

Early south 4/5 Traverse RJ, 4/7 Olmsted, AP, 4/10 Chippewa RGJ; early north 4/10 Otter Tail SDM, 4/18 Aitkin C. Heft, Marshall ANWR; unusual 5/29 St. Louis SW/MS.

Double-crested Cormorant

Early south 3/20 Lac Qui Parle FE, 3/21 Dakota AB, 3/27 Mower RRK; early

north 3/23 Wilkin GAM, 3/29 Otter Tail SDM, 4/3 Roseau AJ.

American Bittern

Early south 4/14 Hennepin TTu, 4/18 Olmsted JEB, 4/26 Lac Qui Parle FL; early north 4/13 Aitkin WN, 4/15 Mahnomen MHa, 4/17 Marshall ANWR.

Least Bittern

5/11 Hennepin DZ, 5/16 Mower RRK, 5/22 Marshall ANWR, 5/30 Clearwater AB.

Great Blue Heron

Early south 3/1 Le Sueur HC, 3/12 Dakota TTu, 3/15 Ramsey KB; early north 3/19 Becker MBW, 3/22 Otter Tail SDM, 3/23 Hubbard HJF.

Great Egret

Early south 3/21 Ramsey KB, 3/29 Hennepin SC, 3/30 Chippewa, Lac Qui Parle AB; early north 4/5 Polk AB, 4/10 Marshall ANWR, Otter Tail SDM.

Snowy Egret

4/21 Otter Tail SDM, 4/22 St. Louis KE (first county record, *The Loon* 57: 141-142), 5/3 Marshall ANWR, 5/7 Lyon HK, 5/9 Olmsted JEB.

Little Blue Heron

4/20 Olmsted fide JEB, 5/23,24 St. Louis SS (*The Loon* 57:135-136), 5/30 Marshall ANWR.

Cattle Egret

4/25 Wabasha WDM, 5/5 Watonwan LAF, 5/11 Ramsey JP/AM, 5/13 Cottonwood, WH, Pope NH, 5/27 Sibley, Nicollet TTu, 5/28 Douglas DS.

Green-backed Heron

Early south 4/19 Dakota AB, 4/20 Hennepin SC, Washington DS; early north 4/20 St. Louis KE, 4/21 Morrison NH, 4/27 Mille Lacs RJ.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Early south 3/27 Hennepin SC, 4/4 Ramsey KB, Washington DS; early north 4/17 Marshall ANWR, 5/2 St. Louis KE, 5/5 Otter Tail SDM.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

4/27 Lac Qui Parle KE, RH, Ramsey SSt.

Tundra Swan

Early south 3/2 Olmsted RE, 3/17 Dakota JD, Rice AB; early north 3/23 Aitkin WN, 3/24 Otter Tail SDM; late south 4/21 Cottonwood WH, 5/5 Olmsted JEB; late north 5/26 Aitkin SC, 5/29 Polk AB.

Greater White-fronted Goose

Early south 3/17 Rice AB, 3/18 Cottonwood RE; early north 3/21 Otter Tail KE, 3/26 Marshall ANWR; late south 4/27 Lac Qui Parle m.ob., 5/24 Chisago KL.



Greater White-fronted Goose, Grand Marais, Cook County. March 30, 1985, Photo by Mike DeBevec.

Snow Goose

Early south 3/1 (wintering bird?) Olmsted JEB, 3/10 Mower RRK; early north 3/21 Mahnomen MHa, 3/25 Marshall ANWR; late south 5/12 Wright TT, 5/24 Pipestone SS; late north 5/23 Polk KE, 5/28 Clearwater AB.

Canada Goose

Overwintered in the south. Reported from 33 counties south, 19 north.

Wood Duck

Early south 3/2 Dakota AB, ES, Hennepin OJ, 3/13 Olmsted JEB; early north 3/19 Grant KL, Marshall ANWR, 3/24 Clay LCF, Otter Tail SDM.

Green-winged Teal

Early south 3/21 Cottonwood WH, Mower PP, 3/22 Dakota TTu, Nicollet JCF; early north 3/24 Aitkin WN, 3/27 St. Louis MH/JS, 4/2 Cook KMH.

American Black Duck

Overwintered Cook KMH, Olmsted RE; early south 3/10 Dakota TTu, DZ, 3/11 Ramsey RH; early north 3/16 Becker RJ, 3/29 Marshall ANWR.

Mallard

Overwintered in many areas. Reported from 31 counties south, 18 north.

Northern Pintail

Early south 3/5 Olmsted JEB, AP, Washington TBB, 3/7 Rice FKS; early

north 3/20 Otter Tail KE, SDM, 3/23 Clay TT, 3/27 Marshall ANWR.

Blue-winged Teal

Early south 3/10 Mower RRK, 3/18 Olmsted AP, 3/23 Dakota JP/AM, TTu; early north 4/5 Douglas RJ, 4/10 Otter Tail SDM, St. Louis KE.

Cinnamon Teal

4/13-21 Otter Tail SDM, 4/19 Morrison, Benton KL, 4/19 Goodhue JP/AM.

Northern Shoveler

Early south 3/2 Scott KE, 3/19 Mower PP, Olmsted AP; early north 4/2 Marshall ANWR, 4/5 Grant RJ, 4/10 Otter Tail SDM.

Gadwall

Overwintered Scott TTu; early south 3/7 Rice FKS, 3/8 Dakota TTu; early north 3/24 Otter Tail SDM, 3/29 Marshall ANWR, 4/14 Aitkin WN.

American Wigeon

Early south 3/7 Mower RRK, Olmsted JEB, AP, 3/16 Nicollet JCF, Wabasha WDM; early north 3/24 Otter Tail SDM, 3/26 Clay TT, 3/27 Marshall ANWR, St. Louis MH/JS.

Canvasback

Early south 3/7 Rice FKS, 3/12 Wabasha WDM, 3/13 Olmsted RE, PP; early north 3/24 Otter Tail SDM, 4/5 Hubbard AB, 4/9 Marshall ANWR.

Redhead

Early south 3/2 Scott TTu, 3/9 Anoka SC, 3/10 Olmsted JEB, AP, Rice FKS, Wabasha WFM; early north 3/10 Otter Tail SDM, 4/5 Clay TT, 4/6 Polk AB.

Ring-necked Duck

Early south 3/7 Rice FKS, 3/9 Steele KL, 3/10 Houston JP/AM, Olmsted JEB, AP, Wabasha WDM, Winona FL; early north 3/20 Otter Tail KE, SDM, 3/24 Marshall ANWR, 3/29 St. Louis P. Backstrom.

Greater Scaup

Early south 3/2 Dakota ES, 3/21 Hennepin SC, 3/13 Olmsted RE, PP; early north 4/5 Grant RJ, 4/6 Polk AB, 4/10 St. Louis KE.

Lesser Scaup

Early south 3/2 Dakota ES, 3/7 Olmsted RE, JEB, Rice FKS; early north 3/21 Otter Tail KE, 3/24 Marshall ANWR, 3/26 Clay TT.

Oldsquaw

4/10 Faribault KW/HLW, 4/12 Wabasha WDM, 4/21 Wabasha JP/AM, 4-27 Cook WP, 5/18-22 St. Louis KE, 5/23 Cook KMH.

Surf Scoter

5/18 Duluth AB.

White-winged Scoter

4/21 Otter Tail SDM, 4/26 Itasca m.ob., 4/30-5/9 Hennepin AB, OJ, m.ob., 5/17 St. Louis B. Penning, 5/21 Cook KL, WP.

Common Goldeneye

Late south 4/16 Wabasha WDM, 4/30 Olmsted PP, 5/11 Chisago GS.

Bufflehead

Early south 3/9 Wabasha WDM, 3/10 Houston JP/AM, Winona FL; early north 3/25 Marshall ANWR, 3/31 Otter Tail SDM; late south 5/1 Stearns NH, 5/2 Hennepin SC, OJ; late north 5/9 Lake SW/MS, 5/12 Polk AB.

Hooded Merganser

Early south 3/1 Wabasha WDM, 3/7 Dakota TTu, 3/8 Hennepin SC, Washington TBB; early north 3/20 Otter Tail KE, SDM, 3/21 Marshall ANWR, 3/30 St. Louis R. Johnson.

Common Merganser

Late south 4/17 Olmsted AP, 4/21 Stearns NH. 4/27 Lac Qui Parle AB. OJ.

Red-breasted Merganser

Early south 3/13 Dakota TTu, Olmsted PP, 3/19 Wabasha WDM; early north 3/19 Grant KL, 3/24 St. Louis fide KE, 4/2 Marshall ANWR.

Ruddy Duck

Early south 3/12 Hennepin VL, 3/13 Olmsted m.ob., 3/22 Rice FKS; early north 4/10 Otter Tail SMD, 4/18 Marshall ANWR, 4/21 Clay LCF; unusual 5/11 Duluth KE.

Turkey Vulture

Early south 3/19 Houston EMF, Ramsey KB, 3/22 Dakota JD; early north 4/6 Mille Lacs KL, St. Louis SW/MS, 4/7 Aitkin WN, Hubbard AB.

Osprey

Early south 3/31 Traverse GAM, 4/5 Houston FL, 4/8 Winona JD; early north 4/5 Becker BK, 4/11 St. Louis KE, 4/14 Aitkin WN, Kanabec SS.

Bald Eagle

Reported from 17 counties south, 18 north. Winter peak 3/13 Houston FL (33).

Northern Harrier

Early south 3/9 Olmsted JEB, AP, 3/10 Chippewa RGJ, 3/11 Sherburne SS/DO; early north 3/13 Otter Tail SDM, Polk TT, 3/15 Marshall ANWR.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Early south 3/3 Le Sueur HC, 3/12 Hennepin SC, GP; early north 3/2 Aitkin WN, 3/15 Marshall ANWR, 4/5 Wadena AB.

Cooper's Hawk

Early south 3/2 Washington WL, 3/9 Olmsted JEB, 3/10 Ramsey KB; early north 4/10 Marshall ANWR, 4/20 Lake AB, DB, St. Louis AB.

Northern Goshawk

Late south 4/13 Hennepin OJ, DB, 4/19 Olmsted AP.

Red-shouldered Hawk

Early south 3/9 Goodhue, Winona, JP/AM, 3/10 Ramsey KB; early north 3/13 Becker MBW, 3/17 Otter Tail SDM, 4/25 Wilkin GAM.

Broad-winged Hawk

Early south 3/10 Olmsted, JEB, AP (a record early date), 3/26 Rice FKS, 4/19

Washington DS; early north 4/5 Otter Tail NJ, 4/14 Aitkin WN, 4/19 Morrison KL.

Swainson's Hawk

Early south 4/4 Dakota JP/AM, 4/6 Olmsted JEB, 4/13 Dakota ES, Mower RRK; no spring reports north.

Red-tailed Hawk

Overwintered in the south, reported from 28 counties south, 21 north; early north 3/6 Lake SS, 3/13 Aitkin WN, 3/17 Clay LCF, Otter Tail SDM.

Ferruginous Hawk

4/19 Stearns NH, 4/27 Chippewa DB, FL, OJ (*The Loon* 57:138-139).

Rough-legged Hawk

Late south 4/13 Wabasha WDM, 4/20 Benton RJ, 4/21 Cottonwood WH; late north 4/13 Aitkin WN, 4/20 St. Louis AB, KE, 4/21 Wilkin SMD.

Golden Eagle

3/3 Houston EMF, 3/10 Houston JP/AM, 3/31 Traverse GAM, 4/3 Olmsted AP (3).

American Kestrel

Overwintered in the south; early north 3/8 Otter Tail SDM, 3/14 Polk TT, Mahnomen MHa, Marshall ANWR.

Merlin

Early south 3/2 Stearns NH, 4/4 Faribault KWB/HLW, 4/22 Hennepin AB; early north 3/10 St. Louis AB, KE (wintering), 3/15 Marshall ANWR, 4/6 Cook KMh.

Gyr Falcon

Four individuals recorded in Duluth last winter; last report 3/7 Duluth KE.

Peregrine Falcon

Overwintered in Duluth, last report 5/15 fide KE; early south 4/18 Goodhue JD, 5/5 Sherburne KB; early north 4/21 Carlton AB, DB, 4/22 Marshall ANWR, 4/29 Clearwater, Polk RJ.

Gray Partridge

Reported from 19 counties south, nine north; many comments indicated numbers down.

Ring-necked Pheasant

Permanent resident, reported from seven north and 32 south counties.

Spruce Grouse

Permanent resident, reported 3/2 Cook (6) KMh, 3/7 Lake SW/MS, 3/9 Cook WP, 3/17 Lake D. Johnson, 3/17 Roseau RJ, 4/15 Lake SW/MS, 4/23

Lake (1) SS, 4/27 Koochiching RJ.

Ruffed Grouse

Permanent resident, reported from 15 north and 12 south counties.

Greater Prairie-Chicken

Permanent resident, reported 4/1 Mahnomen MHa, 4/6 Polk RJ, 4/7 Clay (13) LCF, 4/16 Clay TT, 5/16 Polk TT.

Sharp-tailed Grouse

Permanent resident, reported 4/2 Aitkin SW/MS, 4/3 Pennington TT, 4/6 Polk AB, 4/13 Aitkin WN, 4/27 Aitkin, Koochiching RJ, 4/29 Polk RJ, 5/27 Lake of the Woods AB. Also reported from Itasca KL, and Marshall ANWR.

Wild Turkey

Permanent resident, reported 4/13 Houston (1) FL, Houston "resident" EMF.

Northern Bobwhite

Permanent resident, reported 3/26 to 3/28 Murray (wild?) ND, 5/31 Olmsted (1, wild?) V. Herring.

Yellow Rail

5/14 Marshall ANWR, 5/23 Waubun Marsh, Mahnomen Co. (# up) KE — all reports.

Virginia Rail

Early south 4/11 Blue Earth MF, 4/15 Anoka GP, 4/17 Hennepin SC; early north 4/20 Otter Tail SDM, 4/23 St. Louis KE, 5/16 Marshall ANWR.

Sora

Early south 4/14 Washington TBB, 4/17 Olmsted m.ob., Hennepin GP, 4/19 Hennepin SC, Stearns NH; early north 4/14 Otter Tail SDM, 4/16 Clay TT, 4/20 Otter Tail KC.

Common Moorhen

All reports: 5/6 Hennepin (1) SC, 5/9 Wabasha WDM, 5/17 Carver (1) KL, 5/26 Scott TTu, 5/28 Marshall (1) ANWR.

American Coot

Early south 3/10 Olmsted JEB, Dakota ES, Rice FKS, 3/11 Dakota TTu; early north 3/21 Otter Tail KE, 4/4 Marshall ANWR, 4/12 Polk TT.

Sandhill Crane

Early south 3/16 Anoka JH, 3/20 Ramsey KB, 3/24 Anoka TTu; early north 3/20 Wilkin KE, SDM, 3/22 Marshall ANWR, Polk TT, 3/26 Red Lake TT.

Black-bellied Plover

Early south 4/26 Lac Qui Parle RH, 4/28 and 5/5 Cottonwood LAF; early

north 5/8 St. Louis KE, 5/13 Otter Tail SDM; late south 5/24 Olmsted RE, 5/25 Olmsted JEB, Hennepin OJ, Lyon HK; late north 5/29 Marshall AB, 5/30 St. Louis KE, 5/31 Cook KMH, RJ.

Lesser Golden-Plover

Early south 4/18 Olmsted m.o.b., 4/26 Big Stone JD, Lac Qui Parle RH; early north 4/25 Otter Tail SDM, 4/26 Traverse M. Stensaas; late south 5/20 Murray ND, 5/26 Watonwan SSt; late north 5/19 Clay LCF, 5/26 Aitkin WN.

Semipalmated Plover

Early south 4/19 Olmsted JEB, AP, 4/20 RE, 4/27 Yellow Medicine KE, RH; early north 4/28 Wilkin SDM, 5/9 Marshall ANWR: late south 5/24 Hennepin SC, 5/25 Olmsted JEB, Cottonwood SSt; late north 5/25 Aitkin WN, 5/31 Cook KMH.

Piping Plover

All reports from St. Louis Co.: 4/30 M. Stock, 5/18 SSt, 5/19 AB, 5/22 (1) TTu, 5/27 (1) JP/AM, 5/28 (2) JB/TS, 5/30 (nest) NH, 5/30 (2) FL.

Killdeer

Early south 3/6 Washington TBB, 3/7 Houston EMF, Dakota JP/AM, 3/9 Pope RJ, Mower RRK, Fillmore KL, Olmsted m.ob.; early north 3/9 Lake fide SW/MS, 3/10 Otter Tail SDM, 3/17 Wilkin GAM.

American Avocet

All reports: 4/22 Duluth m.ob., 4/22 Marshall ANWR, 4/22 Olmsted M.ob., 4/27 Lac Qui Parle m.ob., 4/28 Pennington (3) RJ, 4/29 Polk (2) RJ, 5/4 Polk AB, 5/10 Marshall (7 nests, 24 birds), ANWR, 5/15 Swift (4) RJ.

Greater Yellowlegs

Early south 3/20 Sherburne SS/DO, 4/10 Dakota JD, Olmsted AP, PP; early north 4/10 Otter Tail SDM, 4/12 Clay TT, 4/14 Aitkin WN; late south 5/21 Hennepin ES, 5/27 Olmsted AP; late north 5/26 Aitkin WN, 5/27 St. Louis SW/MS, 5/28 JB/TS.

Lesser Yellowlegs

Early south 3/20 Sherburne SS/DO, 3/30 Hennepin OJ; early north 4/10 Otter Tail SDM, 4/14 Aitkin WN; late south 5/27 Lyon HK, 5/28 Olmsted RJ, AP; late north 5/19 Clay LCF, 5/26 Marshall AJ, Aitkin WN.

Solitary Sandpiper

Early south 4/19 Olmsted AP, 4/20 Olmsted RE, Hennepin TTu; early north 4/24 Norman BK, 4/25 Wilkin SDM; late south 5/11 Hennepin DZ, 5/21 SC; late north 5/12 Roseau AJ, 5/16 Polk TT.

Willet

Early south 4/23 Olmsted RE, AP, Hennepin OJ, 4/27 Yellow Medicine KE; early north 5/2 Marshall ANWR, 5/11 and 5/12 St. Louis (4) KE, 5/13 M. Stensaas; late south 5/23 Ramsey KL, 5/26 Cottonwood SSt; late north 5/25 Clay PP, 5/28 St. Louis fide KE.

Spotted Sandpiper

Early south 4/5 Sherburne SS/DO, 4/17 Pope DR, 4/20 Hennepin OJ, TTu; early north 4/21 Cook KMH, 4/24 St. Louis AE, 4/27 St. Louis L. Erickson, Aitkin WN.

Upland Sandpiper

Early south 4/18 Pope DR, 4/26 Lac Qui Parle RH, 4/27 Chippewa AB, Lac Qui Parle BDC, FL; early north 4/19 Norman BK, 5/2 Pennington TT, 5/4 Clay LCF.

Whimbrel

All reports: 4/26 Traverse M. Stensaas, 5/13 to 5/28 St. Louis (8 max.) m.ob., 5/18 Clay O. W. Johnson, 5/21 Cook (12) WP, 5/26 Cook (7) KMH.

Hudsonian Godwit

Early south 5/7 Nicollet MF, 5/9 Olmsted AP; early north 5/8 Clay LCF, 5/9 Marshall (50) ANWR, St. Louis fide KE, Aitkin WN; late south 5/23 Brown JSp, 5/26 Cottonwood SSt, 5/28 Chippewa RGJ; late north 5/21 Aitkin GS, Clay TT, 5/27 Lake of the Woods AB, Aitkin WN.

Marbled Godwit

Early south 4/14 Pope DR, 4/15 and 4/19 Stearns NH, 4/26. Hennepin SC, GP, Lac Qui Parle RH; early north 4/10 Otter Tail SDM, 4/16 Clay TT, 4/17 Marshall ANWR. Also reported 4/27 Hennepin ES, and 5/12 to 5/27 Duluth (13 max.) KE.

Ruddy Turnstone

Early south 5/6 Olmsted AP, 5/15 Swift RJ; early north 5/8 St. Louis KE, 5/19 SSt, 5/21 Aitkin GS, Wilkin GAM; late south 5/27 Cottonwood LAF, 5/31 Hennepin OJ; late north 5/30 St. Louis NH, FL, Cook RJ, 5/31 Cook KMH.

Red Knot

All reports: 5/15, 16, 21 and 27 St. Louis (3) KE, 5/19 St. Louis AB, 5/27 St. Louis (4) JP/AM, 5/30 St. Louis (11) NH, FL.

Sanderling

Early south 4/30 Dakota SC, ES; early north 4/28 Clay LCF, 5/11 St. Louis KE; late south 5/28 Blue Earth MF, 5/31 Hennepin OJ; late north 5/28 St. Louis JB/TS, 5/30 St. Louis NH, FL, Cook KMH, RJ.

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Early south 4/17 Pipestone JP, 4/19 Olmsted JEB, AP; early north 4/28 Otter Tail SDM, 5/6 Clay TT; late south 5/30 Hennepin SC, Olmsted AP, 5/31 Lyon HK, Hennepin ES; late north 5/26 Marshall AJ, 5/30 Cook RJ, 5/31 KMH.

Western Sandpiper

Early south 4/27 Lac Qui Parle JD, 4/28 Lyon, Redwood HK, 5/7 Olmsted AP; late south 5/25 Olmsted RE, 5/31 Hennepin OJ, Lyon HK. All north reports: 5/16 St. Louis AE, 5/27 Wilkin GAM, Aitkin WN.

Least Sandpiper

Early south 4/18 Olmsted AP, 4/26 PP, 4/28 Lyon, Redwood HK; early north 4/28 Clay LCF, 5/5 Polk AB, 5/7 Cook KMH; late south 5/25 Olmsted RE, Hennepin OJ, 5/31 Lyon HK; late north 5/19 Clay LCF, 5/30 Wilkin GAM.

White-rumped Sandpiper

Early south 4/29 Stearns NH, 5/5 Wright ES; early north 5/11 St. Louis KE, 5/13 Marshall ANWR: late south 5/28 Winona RJ, 5/31 Hennepin OJ, ES; late north 5/22 St. Louis TTu, 5/27 Wilkin GAM.

Baird's Sandpiper

Early south 4/13 Chippewa RJ, 4/19 Olmsted AP; early north 4/13 Traverse KL, 4/25 Otter Tail SDM; late south 5/24 Olmsted RE, Cottonwood SSt, 5/28 Lyon HK; late north 5/22 Marshall ANWR, 5/31 Cook RJ.

Pectoral Sandpiper

Early south 3/30 Hennepin OJ, 4/10 Olmsted AP; early north 4/13 Traverse KL, 4/21 Otter Tail SDM; late south 5/26 Cottonwood, Murray SSt, 5/31 Lyon HK, Hennepin ES; late north 5/26 Clay TT, 5/27 Aitkin WN.

Dunlin

Early south 4/15 Olmsted PP, 5/6 Hennepin OJ, 5/7 Olmsted RE, AP; early north 4/28 Clay LCF, 5/8 St. Louis KE, Marshall ANWR; late south 5/26 Hennepin ES, 5/27 Lyon HK; late north 5/26 Marshall AJ, 5/27 Aitkin WN, St. Louis JB/TS.

Stilt Sandpiper

All reports: 4/21 Otter Tail SDM, 4/27 Olmsted AP, 4/28 Lac Qui Parle, 4/29 Marshall ANWR, 5/10 Olmsted RE, AP, 5/11 JEB, RE, 5/11 St. Louis KE, 5/19 Olmsted AP, 5/20 Cottonwood WH, 5/21 Scott RJ, 5/22 Chippewa HK, 5/26 Scott TTu.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

5/4 Olmsted RE, AP.

RUFF

5/19 Goodhue JP/AM (*The Loon* 57: 137-138).

Short-billed Dowitcher

Early south 5/6 Mower RRR, 5/7 Olmsted RE, AP, Stearns NH; early north 4/29 Marshall ANWR, 5/5 Aitkin WN; late south 5/23 Olmsted AP, 5/24 Hennepin SC, Olmsted RE; late north 5/16 St. Louis KE, 5/19 Lake AB.

Long-billed Dowitcher

Early south 4/20 Olmsted AP, 4/27 PP, 5/3 Nicollet JCF; early north 4/29 Polk RJ, 5/8 Clay LCF; late south 5/20 Cottonwood WH, Hennepin OJ, 5/21 Hennepin ES; late north 5/19 Clay LCF, 5/20 Itasca JB/TS.

Dowitcher sp.?

4/28 Renville AB, 5/5 Cottonwood LAF, 5/19 Stearns GS, 5/21 Aitkin GS.

Common Snipe

Early south 3/2 Houston FL, 3/22 Cottonwood LAF, 3/23 Dakota JP/AM; early north 4/10 Otter Tail SDM, Pennington TT, 4/13 Aitkin WN, 4/14 Roseau AJ.

American Woodcock

Early south 3/7 Washington DS, 3/17 Ramsey KB, 3/18 Hennepin SC, 3/20 Dakota TTu; early north 3/24 St. Louis fide KE, 3/28 Polk TT, 3/30 Kanabec SSt, 3/31 Mahnomen MHA, Traverse GAM.

Wilson's Phalarope

Early south 4/26 Hennepin SC, GP, 4/27 Lac Qui Parle m.ob., 4/28 Yellow Medicine BDC, Cottonwood WH; early

- north 4/25 Clay O. W. Johnson, Wilkin SDM, 4/29 Marshall ANWR, Red Lake RJ. Also reported from Cook 5/23 WP, and 5/24 (6) KMH.
- Red-necked Phalarope**
All reports: 5/17 and 5/18 Olmsted (1) AP, 5/19 Clay LCF, 5/28 Winona (2) RJ, 5/31 Marshall ANWR.
- Franklin's Gull**
Early south 3/10 Houston JP/AM, 3/25 Hennepin SC, 4/8 Cottonwood LAF; early north 3/22 Wilkin GAM, 3/31 Clay LCF, 4/4 Marshall ANWR. Also reported from St. Louis 5/2 and 5/12 L. Erickson.
- Little Gull**
5/11 St. Louis (2 ad.) KE, MH.
- Bonaparte's Gull**
Early south 4/10 Carver RJ, 4/11 Blue Earth MF, 4/12 Olmsted PP; early north 4/13 Traverse KL, 4/17 Otter Tail SDM, 4/23 St. Louis KE; late south 4/28 Hennepin DB, OJ, 5/4 Freeborn RJ; late north 5/23 Polk KE, 5/24 Marshall ANWR.
- Ring-billed Gull**
Reported from 16 north and 23 south counties. Peak 4/24 Lake of the Woods (5000+) KL.
- Herring Gull**
Reported from ten north and 17 south counties.
- Thayer's Gull**
3/14 to 3/24 St. Louis (1 imm.) R. Johnson, 5/4 Freeborn (1) RJ.
- Glaucous Gull**
3/11 Cook KMH, 3/30 St. Louis (3) R. Johnson, 3/31 Wheaton, Traverse Co. (3) GAM.
- Caspian Tern**
Early south 4/29 Washington WL, 5/4 Scott DBI, 5/5 Olmsted AP, 5/9 Hennepin SC; early north 4/27 Mille Lacs RJ, 4/30 St. Louis fide KE, 5/4 Clearwater AB, 5/11 Aitkin WN.
- Common Tern**
Early south 4/12 Olmsted PP, (needs details) 4/19 Olmsted JEB, Cottonwood WH, 4/21 Wabasha WDM; early north 4/29 Roseau AJ, 5/1 Norman BK, 5/3 St. Louis KE, 5/6 Clay NJ.
- ARCTIC TERN**
5/18 Port Terminal, Duluth (2) B. Pieper, D. Ruhme (*The Loon* 57:136).
- Forster's Tern**
Early south 4/10 Olmsted RE, 4/11 AP, 4/11 Hennepin SC, GP, 4/12 DB, 4/12 Ramsey JP/AM; early north 4/18 Norman BK, Otter Tail SDM, 4/29 Roseau AJ, Marshall ANWR, 4/30 St. Louis KE. Also reported 5/9 St. Louis (15) KE.
- Black Tern**
Early south 4/25 McLeod RH, 4/28 AB, OJ, 5/2 Hennepin SC, Mower PP, 5/3 Nicollet JCF; early north 5/8 Marshall ANWR, 5/13 Roseau AJ, Otter Tail SDM, 5/14 Polk TT.
- Rock Dove**
Reported from 13 north and 27 south counties.
- Mourning Dove**
Overwintered in the south; early north 3/7 Clay LCF, 3/24 Otter Tail SDM, 3/31 Wilkin GAM.
- Black-billed Cuckoo**
Early south 5/5 and 5/6 Olmsted AP, 5/5 Pope DR, 5/8 Olmsted RE, 5/9 Sherburne SS/DO; early north 5/19 Clay LCF, 5/22 Norman BK, Polk TT, 5/23 Cook KMH, Otter Tail SDM.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo**
All reports: 5/9 Hennepin fide SC, 5/12 Houston SW/MS, 5/15 Olmsted AP, 5/23 Cottonwood WH, 5/27 Olmsted JEB, Murray ND, Brown JSp.
- Eastern Screech-Owl**
Permanent resident, reported from Cottonwood, Lyon, Murray, and Otter Tail.
- Great Horned Owl**
Permanent resident, reported from 14 north and 20 south counties.
- Snowy Owl**
3/2 Olmsted (1) JEB, RE, 3/16 Kittson (1) RJ, 3/17 Roseau (1) RJ, 3/20 Grant/Otter Tail Co. line (1) KE, SDM, 4/18 Marshall ANWR.
- Northern Hawk-Owl**
3/25 Mille Lacs C. Butler, 4/6 Greenwood Twp., Clearwater Co. AB.
- Barred Owl**
Permanent resident, reported from ten north and nine south counties.
- Great Gray Owl**
3/17 (2) to 3/24 (1) Beltrami JB/TS, 4/4 to 4/10 Roseau AJ.
- Long-eared Owl**
4/17 Hennepin (1) SC, GP, 4/23 Cook KMH, 5/12 St. Louis (1) B. Penning.

Short-eared Owl

4/7 Carver MS, 4/13 Chippewa KL, 4/25 Kandiyohi KL, 4/27 Chippewa (1) FL.

Boreal Owl

4/11 Cook (3) KMH, 4/20 Cook (3) AB, DB, KE, 4/28 Cook (1) WP, 4/30 Cook (2) T. Savaloja.

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Reported from Aitkin, Cook, Houston, Lake (12) SW/MS, 3/22, downtown St. Paul, one on skyway RBJ, St. Louis, Wabasha, Winona, and Polk (ad., 3 y., 1 egg) TT.

Common Nighthawk

Early south 4/20 Olmsted AP, (All April dates should be documented, Ed.) 5/2 Hennepin SC, 5/8 Faribault KWB/HLW, 5/9 Hennepin AB, Olmsted JEB; early north 5/10 Clay TT, 5/12 Aitkin WN, 5/16 St. Louis fide KE, Marshall ANWR.

Whip-poor-will

Early south 4/21 Olmsted JEB, 4/24 Houston EMF, 4/29 Olmsted AP, Washington SST; early north 4/29 Cook WP, 4/30 St. Louis L. Erickson, 5/8 Cook SL, Polk TT, 5/9 Pennington TT.

Chimney Swift

Early south 4/14 Olmsted AP, 4/25 Hennepin SC, 4/27 Olmsted RE, Stearns NH, Le Sueur TTu; early north 4/29 Otter Tail SDM, 5/3 Hubbard AB, 5/8 Polk TT.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Early south 5/4 Washington DS, 5/5 Cottonwood LAF, Olmsted AP, 5/6 Hennepin OJ, GP; early north 5/7 Aitkin WN, 5/8 Lake SW/MS, 5/9 Hubbard HJF, 5/10 Roseau AJ.

Belted Kingfisher

Some overwintered in the south and in Otter Tail SDM; early north 4/5 Beltrami JC, Douglas RJ, 4/6 St. Louis KE, Aitkin WN.

Red-headed Woodpecker

Some overwintered in the south and in Aitkin WN; early north 5/5 Clearwater, Polk AB, Otter Tail SDM, 5/8 Clay LCF.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Reported from 15 counties south and from Aitkin (2) north.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Early south 4/3 Olmsted AP, 4/4 Fair-

bault FKS, 4/8 Goodhue JD, 4/10 Stearns NH; early north 4/13 Cook KMH, Otter Tail SDM, 4/14 St. Louis AE, Roseau AJ, Koochiching GM, Cook WP.

Downy Woodpecker

Permanent resident, reported from 18 north and 28 south counties.

Hairy Woodpecker

Permanent resident, reported from 21 north and 22 south counties.

Black-backed Woodpecker

3/8 Cook SL, 3/20 Lake SS, 4/30 Itasca DB, 5/11 Duluth KE, 5/18 St. Louis AE. Present entire period Cook KMH, St. Louis MH/JS.

Northern Flicker

Early north 3/23 Clearwater MM, 3/26 Otter Tail SDM, 3/27 Clay LCF, 3/31 Wilkin GAM; peak April 10-20.

Pileated Woodpecker

Reported from 16 north counties, 20 south.

Olive-sided Flycatcher

Early south 5/5 Anoka JH, 5/7 Hennepin ES, 5/10 Ramsey KB, Washington DBI, Brown JSp, Olmsted JEB, RE; early north 5/19 Cook KMH, 5/21 Aitkin GS, 5/22 St. Louis M. Stensaas; late south 5/26 Dakota DBI, 5/29 Ramsey KB, 5/30 Hennepin SC.

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Early south 4/30 Olmsted AP, 5/1 Goodhue JP/AM, 5/9 Stearns NH, 5/11 Le Sueur MF; early north 5/12 Roseau AJ, 5/22 Clay LCF, Clearwater SW/MS; most reports after 5/21.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Early south 5/6 Olmsted AP, 5/20 Hennepin ES, 5/21 DB, SC; early north 5/19 Cook KMH, 5/22 St. Louis KE, 5/24 Cook WP, 5/26 Lake SW/MS; late south Hennepin 5/28 SC, 5/30 DB.

Acadian Flycatcher

Only reports; Houston 5/12 SW/MS, 5/21 BDC (3).

Alder Flycatcher

Early south 5/7 Lyon HK, 5/10 Olmsted AP, 5/18 Washington OJ, DB, RH; early north 5/16 Clay LCF, 5/19 Cook KMH, 5/24 WP, 5/20 Marshall ANWR.

Willow Flycatcher

Early south 5/5 Olmsted AP, 5/6 Houston EMF, 5/17 Ramsey KB, 5/18 Goodhue DBI, TTu; only north report 5/9 Clay LCF.

Least Flycatcher

Early south 4/28 Murray ND, 4/30 Lyon HK, 5/1 Goodhue JD, Olmsted PP; early north 5/3 Cook KMH, 5/4 Becker MBW, St. Louis MH/JS, 5/5 Otter Tail SDM, 5/6 St. Louis AE; most reports from 5/4-12.

Eastern Phoebe

Early south 3/19 Houston EMF, 3/26 Brown JSp, 3/27 Hennepin SC, 3/28 Sherburne SS/DO; early north 4/6 Morrison RJ, 4/11 Beltrami JC, 4/14 Aitkin WN, Otter Tail SDM, Roseau AJ, St. Louis fide KE, SS.

Great Crested Flycatcher

Early south 4/30 Hennepin RJ, 5/1 Goodhue JD, 5/3 Hennepin DBI, 5/5 Olmsted AP; early north 5/7 St. Louis V. Rudolph, 5/9 Clay LCF, Otter Tail SDM, 5/10 Becker MBW, Hubbard KL; most reports 5/7-16.

Western Kingbird

Early south 5/3 Wright SS/DO, 5/4 Washington DS, 5/10 Murray ND, 5/11 Rock DB; early north 5/5 Wilkin GAM, 5/7 Clay LCF, 5/9 Roseau AJ, Polk TT, 5/10 Morrison AB.

Eastern Kingbird

Early south 4/30 Houston EMF, 5/3 Washington TBB, 5/4 Stearns NH, 5/5 Carver RJ, Dakota TTu, Sherburne KB, Blue Earth EMF; early north 5/4 Marshall ANWR, 5/5 Grant SDM, 5/8 St. Louis KE, AE, Polk TT, 5/9 Clay LCF, Roseau AJ.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER

5/7 Olmsted J. Gullickson (*The Loon* 57:109), 5/24 Norman P. Egeland et al. (one immature).

Horned Lark

Reported from 17 north and 26 south counties.

Purple Martin

Early south 4/6 Cottonwood WH, 4/9 Olmsted JEB, 4/11 Washington WL, Wabasha WDM, 4/12 Dakota JP/AM; early north 4/17 Otter Tail SDM, 4/20 Aitkin WN, Mille Lacs KC, 4/21 Pine AB, DB, 4/23 St. Louis KE.

Tree Swallow

Early south 3/18 Winona JH, 3/20 Dakota JD, 3/21 Sherburne SS/DO, 3/24 Olmsted AP; early north 3/28 Clay LCF, 4/5 Wadena AB, 4/6 Morrison RJ, 4/11 Mahnomen MHA, Itasca SW/

MS, St. Louis KE; most reports 4/10 to 20.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Early south 4/13 Goodhue JD, Olmsted AP, JEB, Dakota TTu, Mower RRR, 4/14 Cottonwood WH, Dakota DZ, 4/15 Ramsey KB 4/16 RH, 4/16 Hennepin VL, RJ; early north 4/17 Otter Tail SDM, 4/21 Clay LCF, 4/23 St. Louis SS, 4/27 Clearwater MM; most reports 4/13 to 21.

Bank Swallow

Early south 4/14 Dakota TTu, 4/20 Benton RJ, Cottonwood WH, Stearns NH, 4/21 Olmsted RE, 4/22 Sherburne SS/DO; early north 5/5 Clearwater AB, Grant SDM, 5/6 St. Louis SW/MS, 5/7 KE, 5/8 Clay LCF.

Cliff Swallow

Early south 4/14 Hennepin TTu, 4/18 Olmsted JEB, 5/19 AP, 4/22 Swift DB, Sherburne SS/DO; early north 4/19 Lake SS, 4/20 St. Louis AB, DB, Aitkin WN, 4/29 Pennington RJ, 5/3 Marshall ANWR.

Barn Swallow

Early south 4/8 Cottonwood WH, 4/10 Dakota JD, 4/12 Hennepin OJ, 4/13 TTu, 4/13 Olmsted AP; early north 4/20 Morrison RJ, Pine AB, DB, Mille Lacs KC, 4/28 Clay LCF, Wilkin GAM, Otter Tail SDM, 4/29 Cook KMH.

Gray Jay

Reported from 12 north counties; 3/16 Kittson KL, first county record.

Blue Jay

Reported from 19 north and 30 south counties.

Black-billed Magpie

Reported from Clearwater, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Norman, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau and St. Louis counties.

American Crow

Reported from 22 north and 34 south counties.

Common Raven

Reported from 12 north counties and 4/7 Anoka JH, 5/18 Washington OJ.

Black-capped Chickadee

Reported from 20 north and 28 south counties.

Boreal Chickadee

Present entire period in Cook KE, KMH, WP, 3/2 Lake DZ, 3/10 Carlton

AB, 3/25-4/15 St. Louis SW/MS, 4/25 Lake SW/MS.

Tufted Titmouse

All reports: 3/5 Olmsted JEB, 3/13 Hennepin ES, SC (first report in some time), resident Houston EMF, AP.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Reported from 11 north and nine south counties.

White-breasted Nuthatch

Reported from 21 north and 27 south counties.

Brown Creeper

Early north 3/28 Clay LCF, 4/4 St. Louis R. & J. Newman, 4/12 Lake SW/MS, Cook KMH, Roseau AJ, 4/13 Aitkin WN.

House Wren

Early south 4/20 Hennepin TTu, 4/21 Ramsey KB, 4/22 Hennepin SC, Dakota JD, Wabasha WDM, Olmsted AP; early north 4/21 Wilkin GAM, 4/30 Otter Tail SDM, 5/1 Norman BK, 5/2 Clay LCF.

Winter Wren

Early south 3/29 Brown JSp, 3/30 Houston FL, 4/4 Ramsey KB, 4/6 Olmsted JEB; early north 3/30 Kanabec SSt, 4/16 Cook KMH, St. Louis SW/MS, 4/21 St. Louis KC, 4/23 Lake SS; late south 4/24 Houston EMF, 5/9 Olmsted JEB.

Sedge Wren

Early south 4/25 Brown JSp, Dakota TTu, 4/27 Ramsey KB, Olmsted AP, 4/30 Stearns NH, 5/2 Sherburne SS/DO; early north 5/5 Polk AB, 5/6 St. Louis KE, 5/9 Polk TT, 5/10 Marshall ANWR.

Marsh Wren

Early south 4/21 Freeborn KWB/HLW, 4/23 Blue Earth MF, Olmsted AP, 4/27 Lac Qui Parle FL, Sherburne SS/DO, 4/29 Dakota TTu; early north 4/23 St. Louis KE, 5/5 Marshall ANWR, 5/8 Clay LCF, 5/10 Todd NH.

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Early north 4/5 Clearwater AB, 4/6 Clay LCF, Kanabec SSt, 4/12 Marshall ANWR, Cook KMH; late south 4/14 Washington, Dakota DZ, 4/16 Olmsted JEB, 4/19 Hennepin SC, 4/28 Cottonwood WH.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Early south 3/29 Ramsey BDC, RH, 3/

30 Hennepin SC, DZ, Cottonwood WH, Houston FL, 4/5 Ramsey KB; early north 4/6 Clay LCF, 4/14 Otter Tail SDM, Cook KMH, St. Louis 4/14 fide KE, 4/15 MH/JS; late south 5/6 Murray ND, 5/10 Hennepin SC, SW/MS, 5/15 Ramsey KB.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Reported from 19 counties; early south 4/24 Houston EMF, Hennepin RH, Brown JSp, 4/26 Ramsey KB, Winona JH, Hennepin OJ, SC, GP, 4/27, Goodhue BL, Blue Earth TTU; two reports north 4/27 Aitkin MH/JS, 5/9 Morrison NH.

Eastern Bluebird

Reported from 17 north and 26 south counties; early south 3/2 Houston FL, EMF, 3/8 Olmsted RE, Nicollet JCF, 3/10 Mower RRR, Le Sueur HJC, Anoka JH; early north 3/10 Mahnomen MHa, 3/15 Becker MBW, 3/19 Otter Tail KE, Itasca MH/JS, 3/20 Douglas SDM.

Mountain Bluebird

All reports: 3/16 Kittson RJ (1 male), 3/20 Wilkin KE, SDM (pair), 4/8 Dakota JP/AM.

Townsend's Solitaire

3/20 St. Louis m.ob (overwintered).

Veery

Early south 5/4 Blue Earth MF, 5/5 Lyon HK, 5/6 Hennepin DBI, Olmsted AP, Sherburne SS/DO, 5/7 Ramsey KB, Olmsted JEB; early north 5/6 Lake SW/MS, 5/11 St. Louis KE, 5/12 Polk, Clearwater AB, 5/15 Cook KMH.

Gray-cheeked Thrush

Early south 4/27 Cottonwood LAF, 5/1 Brown JSp, 5/4 Freeborn RJ, Hennepin SC; late south 5/13 Washington WL, 5/21 Hennepin SC; reported from only five counties north: 5/3 Roseau AJ, 5/5 Otter Tail SDM, 5/9 Clay LCF, Norman BK, 5/10 Marshall ANWR.

Swainson's Thrush

Early south 4/21 Mower RRR, 4/27 Cottonwood LAF, 5/3 Hennepin SC, Olmsted RE, 5/4 Brown JSp; early north 5/4 Clay LCF, Otter Tail SDM, 5/6 Wilkin GAM, 5/7 Otter Tail NJ, 5/9 Red Lake TT; late south Hennepin 5/22 SC, 5/30 DB; most reports 5/3-10.

Hermit Thrush

Early south 3/26 Hennepin SC, GP, 3/31 Chippewa RGJ, 4/2 Olmsted AP;

early north 4/13 Aitkin WN, 4/14 Kanabec SSt, St. Louis fide KE, 4/18 Cook KMH; late south 4/26 Olmsted PP, 5/5 Lyon HK.

Wood Thrush

Early south 5/1 Dakota TTu, 5/2 Ramsey KB, 5/5 Washington DS, 5/6 SSt; all reports north: 5/10 St. Louis AE, 5/12 KE, KC, 5/12 Clearwater AB, 5/21 Morrison NH.

American Robin

Reported from 22 north and 32 south counties; some overwintered.

Varied Thrush

3/1 Washington DS, mid-March St. Louis fide KE, 3/6 St. Louis AE.

Gray Catbird

Early south 4/27 Washington DS, 4/28 Olmsted AP, 4/29 Cottonwood LAF, Dakota TTu, 4/30 Hennepin SC, Houston EMF; early north 5/8 St. Louis AE, Mahanomen MHa, 5/9 Wilkin GAM, 5/10 Polk TT, Becker MBW, Itasca TCS, Roseau AJ, Marshall ANWR, Clay LCF.

Northern Mockingbird

All reports: 4/21 Olmsted m.ob., 5/10 Wadena KL, 5/11 Cook KMH, 5/14 Goodhue DB, 5/21 St. Louis KE, 5/24 Morrison NH.

SAGE THRASHER

5/13-14 Marshall, J. Mattsson (*The Loon* 57: 115-117).

Brown Thrasher

Early south 3/27 Cottonwood fide LAF (wintering bird?) 4/11 Sherburne SS/DO, 4/14 Washington TBB, 4/16 Hennepin VL, Wabasha WDM; early north 4/16 Marshall ANWR, 4/21 St. Louis KC, 4/22 Wilkin GAM, 4/30 Koochiching GM, Otter Tail NJ.

Water Pipit

Reports south: Olmsted 4/19 JEB, 4/21 AP, 5/10 JEB, RE, 4/21 Hennepin TTu 4/27 Goodhue BL; north: St. Louis 5/3 KE, 5/18 SSt, 5/30 KE, 5/8 Cook KMH, 5/12 WP.

Bohemian Waxwing

Late south 3/17 Ramsey KB, 3/23 Dakota AB, 3/26 Hennepin ES, 4/7 Dakota JD; late north 4/13 Cook KC, 4/15 St. Louis M. Stensaas, 4/24 Cook KMH.

Cedar Waxwing

Reported from eight north and 17 south

counties.

Northern Shrike

Late south 3/8 Nicollet JCF, Dakota TTu, 3/12 Hennepin SC, GP, 3/16 Anoka JH; late north 3/28 Cook WP, 4/5 Wilkin RJ, Aitkin M. Stensaas, 4/6 Polk AB, Aitkin WN, 4/13 Lake of the Woods JB/TS.

Loggerhead Shrike

Early south 3/17 Anoka KL, 3/23 Scott TTu, 3/24 Chisago TTu, 3/25 Washington TBB; all north reports: 4/12 Clay TT, 4/30 Morrison NH, 5/11 Morrison WN, 5/19 Clay LCF.

European Starling

Reported from 14 north and 27 south counties.

Bell's Vireo

Many observer reports from Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Wabasha and Winona counties from 5/10 to 30.

Solitary Vireo

Early south 4/29 Brown JSp, 5/3 Hennepin DB, 5/4 Freeborn RJ, Hennepin SC; early north 5/4 Lake SW/MS, 5/8 Cook KMH, 5/9 St. Louis AE, Clay LCF, 5/10 Otter Tail SDM; late south 5/13 Murray ND, Hennepin 5/17 DB, 5/20 SC.

Yellow-throated Vireo

Early south 4/21 Mower RRR, 5/1 Houston EMF, 5/2 Ramsey KB, 5/5 Hennepin TTu; early north 5/12 Polk AB, Marshall ANWR, 5/17 Clay LCF; Late May Duluth m.ob.

Warbling Vireo

Early south 4/29 Winona JH, Wabasha WDM, 4/30 Hennepin DBI, Dakota JD, TTu, 5/1 Goodhue JP/AM, Olmsted AP, 5/2 Hennepin SC, ES; early north 5/8 St. Louis V. Rudolph, Otter Tail SDM, Clay LCF, 5/9 Marshall ANWR, 5/11 Itasca TCS, 5/12 Polk AB.

Philadelphia Vireo

Early south 5/7 Hennepin SC, 5/9 Scott DBI, 5/10 Olmsted RE, Brown JSp; early north 5/14 St. Louis MH, 5/16 Clay LCF, Polk TT, 5/18 Cook KMH.

Red-eyed Vireo

Early south 4/30 Houston EMF, 5/2 Olmsted PP, 5/5 Mower RRR, 5/6 Hennepin SC; early north 5/9 Clay LCF, St. Louis 5/11 SS, 5/12 AE, 5/13 Otter Tail SDM.

Blue-winged Warbler

Early south 4/28 Ramsey KB, 5/1 Houston EMF, Hennepin 5/2 DBI, 5/3 SC, 5/5 Scott DBI (Brewster's). Reports from six other counties.

Golden-winged Warbler

Early south 5/1 Olmsted PP, 5/4 Freeborn RJ, 5/5 Hennepin DZ, 5/6 Dakota TTu, Hennepin DBI, RH; early north 5/5 St. Louis fide KE, 5/7 Otter Tail SDM, 5/11 Pine RJ, 5/12 Polk, Clearwater AB.

Tennessee Warbler

Early south 4/29 Winona JH, 4/30 Ramsey KB, BL, 5/1 Hennepin SC, Dakota JP/AM, 5/2 Olmsted JEB, RE, Blue Earth MF, Dakota AB; early north 5/3 Otter Tail SDM, 5/4 Red Lake, Polk TT, Aitkin WN, 5/7 Lake SW/MS, Marshall ANWR; late north 5/15 Cook WP, 5/20 Koochiching GM.

Orange-crowned Warbler

Early south 4/15 Ramsey KB, 4/17 Olmsted RJ, 4/18 Murray ND, 4/19 Hennepin SC, GP; early north 4/29 Clay LCF, 5/4 Otter Tail SDM; late south 5/15 Hennepin SC, 5/17 DB, 5/18 DZ, 5/17 Olmsted AP; late north 5/12 Polk AB, 5/13 Wilkin GAM, 5/20 Mahnomen MHa.

Nashville Warbler

Early south 4/26 Sherburne SS/DO, 4/29 Brown JSp, 4/30 Hennepin SC, Ramsey KB, 5/1 Dakota JD, Olmsted PP; early north 5/2 St. Louis AE, Cook KMH, 5/5 St. Louis M. Hendrickson, 5/7 Lake SW/MS, Otter Tail SDM, St. Louis SS; late south Houston BDC, Ramsey KB, Hennepin SC.

Northern Parula

Early south 4/28 Mower RRK, 4/30 Ramsey BL, 5/1 Goodhue JD, JP/AM, 5/4 Freeborn RJ, Hennepin SC; early north St. Louis 5/4 AJ, 5/7 V. Rudolph, Cook 5/6 WP, 5/9 KMH, 5/7 Lake SW/MS.

Yellow Warbler

Early south 4/27 Olmsted JEB, RE, PP, 4/28 Chippewa RGJ, Hennepin TTu, 4/29 Ramsey KB, Wabasha WDM, Brown JSp; early north St. Louis 5/6 AE, 5/8 KE, 5/6 Itasca TCS, 5/7 Clay LCF, 5/9 Polk TT, Marshall ANWR.

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Early south 5/4 Mower RJ, 5/5 RRK, 5/

6 Hennepin SC, DBI, 5/7 Dakota TTu; early north St. Louis 5/2 AE, 5/9 SW/MS, Cook 5/9 KMH, 5/10 WP, 5/11 Becker MBW, 5/12 Polk AB, Roseau AJ.

Magnolia Warbler

Early south 5/2 Blue Earth MF, 5/5 Olmsted AP, 5/6 Hennepin OJ, VL, Dakota TTu; early north 5/8 Cook KMH, 5/11 St. Louis KE, SS, 5/12 Polk AB, Roseau AJ, Norman BK, 5/13 Wilkin GAM, Otter Tail SDM; late south Hennepin 5/27 DB, 5/28 SC, 5/30 ES, 5/27 Pipestone JP.

Cape May Warbler

Only south report 5/6 Hennepin DBI; early north 5/3 Cook SL, 5/7 St. Louis KE, Cook KMH, 5/11 Marshall ANWR, St. Louis KC, 5/12 Polk AB, Cook WP.

Black-throated Blue Warbler

All reports: 5/12 Mower J. Morrison, 5/17 Cook KMH, 5/18 Lake SS, 5/19 Lake AB, 5/24, 26,31 Lake SW/MS.

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Early south 4/5 Olmsted AP, 4/6 Ramsey RH, 4/9 Hennepin ES, VL, 4/10 Dakota TTu, Hennepin SC, SW/MS; early north 4/14 Roseau AJ, Cook KMH, Aitkin SC, St. Louis fide KE, 4/15 Clay TT, 4/16 Lake SS, 4/18 Aitkin WN. Audubon subspecies 5/13 Mower RRK.

Black-throated Green Warbler

Early south 5/1 Goodhue JD, Dakota JP/AM, 5/3 Hennepin SC, DB, 5/4 Freeborn RJ; early north 5/5 Lake SW/MS, 5/6 St. Louis KE, 5/9 Cook KMH, 5/12 Polk, Clearwater AB, St. Louis MH/JS; late south 5/26 Hennepin DB, 5/28 Ramsey KB.

Blackburnian Warbler

Early south 5/5 Olmsted AP, Dakota TTu, 5/6 Hennepin OJ, 5/8 Steele RJ, 5/9 Scott DBI; early north 5/9 Clay LCF, 5/11 St. Louis KE, SS, 5/14 Mahonomen MHa, Lake SW/MS; late south 5/20 Anoka P. Johnson, 5/21 Murray ND.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER

4/21 Scott B. Fall (*The Loon* 57:111).

Pine Warbler

Early south 4/13 Ramsey KB, 4/20 Washington DS, 4/22 Ramsey RH, 4/24 Hennepin SC; early north 4/20 Hubbard

RJ, 4/22 Aitkin MH/JS, 4/25 Clearwater MM, 5/2 Mahnomen MHa.

Palm Warbler

Early south 4/17 Fillmore AP, 4/20 Le Sueur HJC, 4/21 Hennepin TTu; early north 4/24 St. Louis MH, 4/29 Lake SW/MS, Clay LCF, Aitkin WN; late south 5/8 Houston EMF, Pipestone JP, 5/10 Olmsted PP, 5/13 Hennepin SC; late north 5/12 Norman BK, 5/17 Polk TT, 5/21 Cook SL.

Bay-breasted Warbler

Early south 5/11 Rice DBI, Hennepin TTu, 5/12 Mower RRK, 5/13 Hennepin SC; early north 5/11 Clay LCF, Cook KMh, St. Louis KC, 5/12 KE, 5/14 Lake SW/MS; late south 5/22 Olmsted JEB; late north 5/18 Roseau AJ, 5/21 Marshall ANWR, 5/22 Otter Tail SDM.

Blackpoll Warbler

Early south 5/3 Brown JSp, Hennepin DB, 5/4 Freeborn RJ, Hennepin SC, 5/5 Washington GS; early north 5/9 Clay LCF, 5/11 St. Louis KE, Cook KMh, 5/12 Polk AB, Roseau AJ; late south Hennepin 5/21 SC, 5/27 DB; late north 5/23 Otter Tail SDM.

Cerulean Warbler

Reported from nine counties; early south Olmsted 5/6 AP, 5/8 RE, 5/10 JEB, 5/8 Le Sueur RJ, 5/11 Goodhue SSt.

Black-and-white Warbler

Early south 4/28 Brown JSp, 4/29 Hennepin SC, Mower RRK, 4/30 Cottonwood WH, Ramsey BL; early north 4/28 St. Louis KE, 5/2 Mahnomen MHa, St. Louis AE, 5/4 Polk AB.

American Redstart

Early south 5/3 Mower RRK, 5/5 Brown JSp, Hennepin SC, DZ, 5/6 Dakota AB, TTu, Hennepin DBI, OJ, GP, Houston EMF, Ramsey KB, Winona JH; early north 5/1 Cook KMh, 4/4 Aitkin WN, 5/7 Clay LCF.

Prothonotary Warbler

All reports 5/1 Winona JH, 5/11 Chisago RH, Goodhue SSt, 5/18 Dakota JD, Goodhue JD, 5/19 Dakota JP/AM, 5/23 Hennepin SC, 5/24 Scott DB.

WORM-EATING WARBLER

Two reports 5/4 Olmsted J. Morrison (*The Loon* 57:142); 5/24 Olmsted JEB, RE, AP (*The Loon* 57:142-143).

Ovenbird

Early south 4/28 Mower RRK, 4/30 Hennepin SC, Olmsted JEB, 5/1 Dakota JD; early north 4/30 Otter Tail NJ, St. Louis KE, 5/1 Itasca DB, 5/6 St. Louis AE.

Northern Waterthrush

Early south 4/28 Ramsey BL, 4/30 Lyon HK, Mower RRK, Washington SS, 5/1 Hennepin SC, Olmsted PP, Winona JH; early north 5/2 Clay LCF, 5/6 St. Louis KE, 5/7 Cook WP; late south 5/18 Brown JSp, Rice FKS, 5/21 Hennepin DBI, 5/26 Houston EMF.

Louisiana Waterthrush

All reports 5/6 Olmsted AP, 5/10 Olmsted JEB, RE, 5/12 Washington SSt, 5/17 Hennepin SC.

Connecticut Warbler

Early south 5/5 Cottonwood LAF, 5/6 Olmsted AP; early north 5/10 Clay LCF, 5/22 St. Louis KE; late south 5/30 Hennepin DB, 5/31 Hennepin SC.

Mourning Warbler

Early south 5/5 Cottonwood LAF, 5/6 Hennepin DB, 5/11 Olmsted PP; early north 5/12 St. Louis AE, 5/13 St. Louis KE, 5/17 Clay LCF; late south 5/27 Brown JSp, Murray ND, Washington SS, 5/28 Hennepin DB, 5/29 Hennepin SC.

Common Yellowthroat

Early south 5/2 Lyon HK, Ramsey KB, 5/3 Hennepin DBI, Dodge RJ, Hennepin SC; early north 5/9 Clay LCF, Morrison NH, 5/10 Wilkin GAM, 5/11 Becker MBW.

Hooded Warbler

Two reports 5/6 Hennepin SC, 5/9 Hennepin ES.

Wilson's Warbler

Early south 5/4 Freeborn RJ, 5/5 Cottonwood LAF, 5/7 Hennepin SC, Houston EMF, Ramsey DZ; early north 5/9 Clay LCF, 5/12 Norman BK, Polk AB, St. Louis KC, 5/13 Cook WP, Otter Tail SDM, St. Louis KE; late south 5/25 Nicollet JCF, 5/27 Hennepin DB, 5/30 Hennepin ES.

Canada Warbler

Early south 5/17 Olmsted JEB, 5/18 Goodhue BL, Washington DB, RH, SDM, 5/19 Houston EMF, Washington TTu; early north 5/13 St. Louis KE, 5/17 Clay LCF, 5/19 Lake AB; late south

5/27 Hennepin DB, Ramsey KB, 5/28 Hennepin SC, ES, 5/30 Hennepin ES.

Yellow-breasted Chat

All reports 5/12 Olmsted RE, JP, 5/13 Olmsted JEB, 5/19 Cottonwood fide LAF (dead), 5/23 Olmsted JP.

Summer Tanager

All reports: 5/2 through 5/4 St. Louis KE, 5/8 Lac Qui Parle FE, LeSueur RJ.

Scarlet Tanager

Early south 5/5 Dakota JD, Olmsted JP, Ramsey KB, 5/6 Hennepin DB, 5/7 Dakota TTu; early north 5/9 Morrison NH, 5/11 Clay LCF, St. Louis KC, KE, 5/18 Cook KMH.

WESTERN TANAGER

5/13 Clay LCF (*The Loon* 57:140-141).

Northern Cardinal

Two reports north 3/12 St. Louis KE, 4/14 Aitkin WN; reported from 21 counties south.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Early south 4/15 Cottonwood WH, 4/18 Hennepin SS/DO, 4/24 Houston EMF; early north 5/6 St. Louis KE, 5/7 Clay LCF, 5/8 Otter Tail NJ, Roseau AJ, St. Louis AE.

Blue Grosbeak

Two reports 5/20 Murray ND, 5/25 Rock SSt.

LAZULI BUNTING

4/17 Washington E. Campbell (*The Loon* 57:110-111).

Indigo Bunting

Early south 5/5 Hennepin SC, Houston EMF, Scott DBI, 5/6 Olmsted JP, Ramsey DZ, 5/7 Hennepin ES; early north 5/11 Becker MBW, Clay LCF, 5/12 St. Louis KE, 5/13 Cook KMH.

Dickcissel

Early south 5/9 Faribault KWB/HLW, 5/22 Rock ND, 5/24 Rock SSt.

Rufous-sided Towhee

Early south 4/13 Lac Qui Parle FE, 4/20 Hennepin SC, Olmsted AP, Ramsey KB, 4/22 Dakota RJ, TTu, Hennepin DB; early north 4/23 Otter Tail NJ, 4/25 Cook WP, 4/29 St. Louis KE.

American Tree Sparrow

Late south 4/24 Murray ND, 4/25 Wabasha WDM; late north 4/21 Roseau AJ, 4/24 Cook KMH.

Chipping Sparrow

Early south 3/22 Sherburne SS/DO, 3/24 Olmsted AP, 3/28 Cottonwood WH;

early north 3/23 Beltrami JC (needs details, Ed.), 4/11 Hubbard HJF, 4/12 Beltrami JC, 4/15 Clay TT.

Clay-colored Sparrow

Early south 4/21 Lac Qui Parle FE, 4/26 Washington TBB, 4/27 Brown TTu, Swift AB, DB, OJ; early north 4/22 Otter Tail SDM, 4/29 St. Louis KE, 4/30 Mahnomen MHa, Otter Tail NJ.

Field Sparrow

Early south 4/4 Olmsted AP, 4/10 Sherburne SS/DO, 4/11 Hennepin SC, GP; early north 4/30 Morrison NH, 5/5 Otter Tail SDM.

Vesper Sparrow

Early south 4/2 Wabasha DB, OJ, 4/5 Benton AB, 4/6 Benton KL; early north 4/13 Otter Tail NJ, 4/15 Otter Tail SDM, 4/18 Marshall ANWR.

Lark Sparrow

Early south 4/26 Anoka SC, GP, 4/28 Anoka JH, Houston FL, 4/30 Dakota JD; early north 5/2 Becker MBW, 5/4 Clay LCF, 5/5 Otter Tail SDM.

Lark Bunting

All reports 4/27 Lyon HK, 5/5 Cook KMH, Wilkin GAM, 5/18 Mahnomen MHa, 5/24 Cook Holly Peirson.

Savannah Sparrow

Early south 3/30 Yellow Medicine KL, 4/11 Nicollet ND, Olmsted AP, 4/14 Lac Qui Parle FE; early north 4/19 Otter Tail NJ, St. Louis KE, 4/20 Otter Tail SDM, 4/21 Roseau AJ, St. Louis KC.

Grasshopper Sparrow

Early south 4/28 Lac Qui Parle FL, 5/3 Olmsted JEB, 5/5 Anoka JP, Sherburne KB; one report north 5/5 Wilkin SDM.

Le Conte's Sparrow

Early south 4/15 Olmsted JEB, 4/17 Hennepin KLM Olmsted RJ, AP; early north 4/22 Marshall ANWR, 4/29 Red Lake RJ.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow

One report 5/24 Polk KE.

Fox Sparrow

Early south 3/22 Anoka SC, 3/24 Anoka TTu, Brown JSp, Houston FL; early north 3/27 Otter Tail SDM, 3/28 Clay LCF, late south 4/18 Olmsted AP, 4/21 Hennepin DBI; late north 4/20 Cook AB, 4/24 Clay KMH.

Song Sparrow

Early north 3/26 Cook WP, 4/1 Itasca TCS, 4/3 St. Louis KE.

Lincoln's Sparrow

Early south 4/16 Olmsted PP, 4/18 Olmsted RE, 4/19 Dakota AB, Nicollet JCF; early north 4/19 Norman BBK, 4/20 Clay LCF; late south 5/21 Brown JSP, 5/24 Hennepin SC, 5/26 Hennepin JP.

Swamp Sparrow

Early south 4/5 Stearns KL, 4/8 Olmsted AP, 4/11 Ramsey KB, Rice FKS; early north 4/18 Clay LCF, Polk TT, 4/20 St. Louis KE, 4/21 Cook KMH, St. Louis KC, SS.

White-throated Sparrow

Early south 3/1 Hennepin SC, Houston EMF, 3/20 Hennepin RH; (probably wintering birds) early north 4/16 Aitkin WN, Koochiching DJS, St. Louis MH/JS, 4/19 Clay LCF, Norman BK; late south 5/15 Hennepin SC, 5/18 Brown JSp, Cottonwood WH.

White-crowned Sparrow

Early south 4/20 Lyon HK, Stearns NH, 4/28 Olmsted JEB, 4/29 Brown JSp, Murray ND; early north 4/21 Cook SL, 4/22 Clay LCF, 4/29 Aitkin WN; late south 5/18 Rock JP, 5/19 Olmsted RE, 5/30 Cottonwood LAF; late north 5/16 Aitkin WN, 5/18 Clay LCF, Cook KMH.

Harris' Sparrow

Early south 5/1 Chippewa RGJ, 5/4 Benton NH, Brown JSp, Cottonwood WH, Dakota TTu, Freeborn RJ, Olmsted JEB, Scott DBI; early north 4/20 Clay LCF, 4/28 Norman BK; late south 5/17 Lac Qui Parle FE, Olmsted AP; late north 5/15 St. Louis AE, 5/16 Aitkin WN, 5/20 Clay LCF.

Dark-eyed Junco

Late south 4/29 Ramsey RH, 5/1 Cottonwood WH, 5/7 Murray ND.

Lapland Longspur

Early north 3/20 Wilkin SDM, 4/6 Polk AB, 4/14 Aitkin SC; late south 3/30 Lac Qui Parle AB, 4/7 Olmsted JEB; late north 5/18 St. Louis SSt, 5/19 St. Louis AB, 5/22 Cook KMH.

Chestnut-collared Longspur

One report 4/7 Clay LCF (earliest date on record).

Snow Bunting

Late south 3/20 Blue Earth JCF; late north 4/13 Cook KC, St. Louis AE, 4/14 St. Louis MH/JS, SS, 4/26 Cook KMH.

Bobolink

Early south 5/1 Cottowood WH, 5/2 Houston EMF, 5/5 Carver RJ, Nicollet JCF; early north 5/9 Clay LCF, 5/10 Crow Wing KL, Wadena AB, 5/11 Marshall ANWR, Otter Tail NJ.

Red-winged Blackbird

Early north 3/10 Otter Tail SDM, 3/14 Koochiching DJS, 3/17 Aitkin WN, Clay TT, Wilkin GAM.

Eastern Meadowlark

Early north 3/19 St. Louis KE, 3/23 Mille Lacs JC, 4/6 Aitkin WN, Kanabec SSt.

Western Meadowlark

Early north 3/10 Wilkin SDM, 3/17 Wilkin GAM, 3/18 Marshall ANWR.

Yellow-headed Blackbird

Early south 3/17 Olmsted JEB, 3/29 Faribault KL, 4/2 Fillmore AP; early north 4/10 Koochiching RJ, 4/17 Otter Tail SDM, 4/20 Otter Tail KC.

Rusty Blackbird

Early south 3/2 Houston FL, 3/3 Cottonwood LAF, Dakota TTu; early north 3/20 Wilkin KE, SDM, 3/21 St. Louis KE, 3/27 Lake SW/MS; late south 4/14 Washington TBB, Hennepin SC, 4/16 Hennepin RJ, 4/21 Olmsted RE; late north 4/19 St. Louis AE, 4/21 St. Louis SS, 4/28 Cook WP.

Brewer's Blackbird

Early south 3/3 Olmsted JEB, 3/8 Faribault FKS, 3/16 Cottonwood WH; early north 3/17 Wilkin GAM, 4/2 Norman BK, 4/5 Marshall ANWR.

Common Grackle

Early north 3/1 Cook KMH (wintering bird?), 3/10 Otter Tail SDM, 3/11 Hubbard HJF.

Brown-headed Cowbird

Early south 3/8 Nicollet JCF, 3/11 Houston EMF, 3/16 Mower RRR; early north 4/13 St. Louis KE, 4/15 Cook KMH, 4/16 Aitkin WN.

Orchard Oriole

Early south 5/7 Houston EMF, Nicollet JCF, 5/8 Dakota TTu, 5/12 Wabasha WDM; early north 5/12 Polk DB, 5/13 Wilkin GAM, 5/24 Polk KE.

Northern Oriole

Early south 4/29 Hennepin DBI, Wabasha WDM, 4/30 Cottonwood LAF, Dakota JD, Hennepin VL, 5/1 Hennepin SC, Stearns NH; early north 4/20 St. Louis KE, 5/3 Otter Tail SDM, 5/4 Becker MBW.

Pine Grosbeak

Late south 3/17 Anoka A. Hawkins; late north 3/17 Lake of the Woods RJ 3/20 St. Louis AE, 4/14 Cook KMH.

Purple Finch

Reported from 16 counties north and 13 counties south.

HOUSE FINCH

5/12 Winona H. Schneider (*The Loon* 57:137).

Red Crossbill

Late south 5/20 Washington WL, 5/22 Hennepin SC, 5/30 Hennepin VL.

White-winged Crossbill

Late south 5/8 Stearns NH, 5/15 Hennepin SC, 5/24 Hennepin DB.

Common Redpoll

Late south 3/16 Lac Qui Parle FE, 3/23 Anoka JH, 3/27 Hennepin SC; late north 4/18 St. Louis AE, 5/4 Clay LCF.

Hoary Redpoll

All reports 3/1 Marshall ANWR, 3/10 Cook KMH, Pine AB, 3/17 Clay LCF, Cass RJ, 4/1 Otter Tail SDM, 4/2 St. Louis AE, 4/7 Crow Wing WN, 4/10 Becker MBW, 4/14 Roseau AJ.

Pine Siskin

Reported from 17 counties north and 22 counties south (See *The Loon* 57:141).

American Goldfinch

Reported from 15 counties north and 26 counties south.

Evening Grosbeak

Reported from 14 counties north; late south 5/28 Olmsted JEB.

House Sparrow

Reported from 40 counties.

CONTRIBUTORS

ANWR Agassiz NWR
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 TBB Tom & Bette Bell
 KWB/HLW Ken & Wilma Bird/
 Herb & Laura Whittrock

DBI
 JB/TS

AB
 DB
 JEB
 KC
 BDC
 SC
 HJF
 JC
 ND
 JD
 KE
 FE
 RE
 AE
 LCF
 LAF
 HJF
 EMF
 JCF
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 RGJ
 AJ
 BK
 RRR
 HK
 KL
 VL
 FL
 BL
 WL
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 WDM
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WP	Walter Popp	JSp	Jack A. Sprenger
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VR	Vada Rudolph	SSt	Steve Stucker
SS/DO	Sharon Sarappo/ Dan Orr	TT	Tod Tonsager
SS	Steven Schon	TTu	Thomas Tustison
MS	Matt Schuth	SW/MS	Steven Wilson/ Mary Shedd
GS	Gary Simonson	MBW	Mary & Bill Wyatt
		DZ	Dave Zumeta

North American Loon Fund Grants

The North American Loon Fund (NALF) announces the availability of two grant programs for support of new or current research, management, or education projects that may yield useful information for Common Loon conservation in North America. The first of these programs, the Robert J. Lurtsema Research Award, consists of a \$1,000 stipend available annually for a suitable research project focused on a member of the Family Gaviidae. Preference will be given to students and independent researchers with limited availability of other funding. The second program offers modest grants in support of research, man-

agement, or educational projects directly related to the conservation of Common Loons as a breeding species. Proposals in the range of \$500 to \$3,000 are most likely to be considered for funding. Further guidelines for prospective applicants are available upon request from the NALF Grants Committee. Deadline for submission of proposals is January 13, 1986. Funding awards will be announced by March 15th. Please submit guideline requests to: **North American Loon Fund Grants Committee, North American Loon Fund, Meredith, New Hampshire 03253.**

MARKED TURKEY VULTURES

Turkey Vultures from Fillmore County, Minnesota, have been marked with yellow patagial streamers marked with black alpha-numeric codes, M01-M99. Information on sightings (location, date, code number, habitat, behavior) would be helpful. MICHAEL K. TENNEY, 1009 E. Center St., Rochester, MN 55904, or AL GREWE, Dept. of Biological Sciences, St. Cloud State Univ., Saint Cloud, MN 56301.

THE 200 COUNTY CLUB

In 1985 another 12 counties were added to the list of Minnesota counties in which a single person has recorded 200 species or more. These counties are Becker, Benton, Big Stone, Brown, Cass, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Douglas, Meeker, Swift, Traverse and Waseca. This brings the total to 72 of the 87 counties, and over 80 individuals are contributing lists.

The top county listers in the state are Ray Glassel and Ken LaFond with 44 and 35 individual counties respectively with over 200 species.

The big event of 1985 was that Kim Eckert went over 300 species in St. Louis County, our first county with 300 species recorded.

Steve Carlson recorded 238 species in Hennepin County in 1985 which is probably a record number for Hennepin County in one year.

Once again the total listed in parentheses after each county name is the total for the county recorded by all observers.

The totals given below are as of December 31, 1985.

County	Total	Observer	No. of Species		Observer	No. of Species	
Aitkin	288	Terry Savaloja	255	Cottonwood	259	Buddy Feil	229
		Warren Nelson	253	Crow Wing	267	Jo Blanich	238
		Jo Blanich	252			Terry Savaloja	233
		Bob Janssen	215			Ken LaFond	206
		Ken LaFond	213			Warren Nelson	204
		Bill Pieper	212			Ray Glassel	201
		Ray Glassel	210	Dakota	278	Ray Glassel	259
Anoka	292	Ken LaFond	274			Joanne Dempsey	246
		Ray Glassel	233			Karol Gresser	240
		Ruth Andberg	224			Bob Janssen	236
		Bill Pieper	221			Ann McKenzie	206
		Bob Janssen	213			Jon Peterson	206
Becker	265	Ken LaFond	200			Al Bolduc	201
Beltrami	271	Jeffrey Palmer	226			Ken LaFond	201
		Ken LaFond	206	Dodge	224	Ray Glassel	211
Benton	231	Ken LaFond	206	Douglas	231	Ken LaFond	201
Big Stone	257	Micki Buer	230	Fillmore	238	Ray Glassel	206
		Ray Glassel	203	Freeborn	258	Charles Flugum	213
Blue Earth	263	Merrill Frydendall	229			Ray Glassel	209
		John Frenz	200	Goodhue	280	Ray Glassel	238
		Ray Glassel	200			Bill Litkey	235
Brown	223	Ray Glassel	207			Bob Janssen	232
Carlton	243	Ken LaFond	222			Bill Pieper	221
Carver	254	Kathy Heidel	218	Grant	249	Joanne Dempsey	209
		Ray Glassel	215			Kim Eckert	215
		Bob Janssen	204	Hennepin	318	Bob Janssen	283
Cass	267	Ken LaFond	201			Oscar Johnson	278
Chippewa	234	Micki Buer	212			Ray Glassel	277
Chisago	248	Ray Glassel	218			Alvina Joul	267
		Ken LaFond	209			Steve Carlson	257
Clay	277	Carol Falk	239			Violet Lender	254
		Laurence Falk	238			Bill Pieper	251
		Ken LaFond	205			Don Bolduc	246
		Ray Glassel	204			Al Bolduc	245
Clearwater	266	Al Bolduc	231			Gary Swanson	234
		Richard Davids	219			Karol Gresser	228
		Ken LaFond	201			Charles Horn	214
Cook	289	Molly Hoffman	237			Ken LaFond	210
		Ken Hoffman	237			Tom Soulen	204
		Kim Eckert	218			Renner Anderson	204
		Bob Janssen	211			Bill Litkey	200

Houston	256	Fred Leshner	223	Jerry Pruett	212
		Jon Peterson	210	Ray Glassel	208
		Ann McKenzie	204	Ann McKenzie	202
		Ray Glassel	204	Jon Peterson	202
Isanti	246	Ken LaFond	210	Otter Tail	293
		Ray Glassel	205	Steve Millard	259
Itasca	250	Tim Lamey	203	Ken LaFond	208
		Ken LaFond	201	Kim Eckert	201
Jackson	254	Ingeborg Hodnefield	202	Pennington	245
Kanabec	234	Ken LaFond	208	Shelley Steva	226
Kandiyohi	246	Ken LaFond	206	Keith Steva	211
		Ray Glassel	201	Pine	259
		Bob Janssen	201	Ken LaFond	225
Koochiching	233	Ken LaFond	216	Ray Glassel	209
Lac Qui Parle	288	Micki Buer	244	Mike Link	209
		Chuck Buer	236	Bob Janssen	200
		Bob Janssen	221	Pipestone	247
		Ray Glassel	218	Kim Eckert	200
		Kim Eckert	204	Polk	264
		Bill Litkey	203	David Lambeth	222
Lake	274	Steve Wilson	218	Shelley Steva	211
		Jan Green	215	Al Bolduc	207
		Mary Shedd	208	Sharon Lambeth	206
		Ken LaFond	206	Liz Campbell	244
		Ray Glassel	201	Bill Litkey	243
Lake of the Woods	255	Kim Eckert	202	Ray Glassel	240
		Bob Janssen	202	Bob Janssen	228
		Ken LaFond	200	Tom Soulen	225
Le Sueur	252	Ray Glassel	220	Bill Pieper	224
		Horace Chamberlain	202	Ken LaFond	213
Lyon	280	Henry Kyllingstad	257	Bob Holtz	210
		Paul Egeland	248	John Fitzpatrick	209
		Ray Glassel	212	Renville	237
Marshall	287	Sarah Vasse	235	Paul Egeland	212
		Shelley Steva	230	Ray Glassel	208
		Kim Eckert	207	Rice	273
Martin	252	Ed Brekke-Kramer	223	Orwin Rustad	239
		Ken LaFond	202	Ray Glassel	227
Meeker	236	Ray Glassel	201	Kirk Jeffrey	220
Mille Lacs	266	Ken LaFond	217	Rock	252
		Bob Janssen	204	Kim Eckert	241
		Ray Glassel	201	Ray Glassel	202
Morrison	250	Pete Ryan	213	Roseau	262
		Ken LaFond	206	Art Johnston	210
Mower	254	Ron Kneeskern	234	Bob Janssen	202
		Rose Kneeskern	233	Kim Eckert	301
		Richard Smaby	215	Jan Green	293
		Bob Jessen	210	Bob Janssen	268
		Ray Glassel	203	Ray Glassel	262
Nicollet	261	John Frenzt	230	Mike Hendrickson	262
		Merrill Frydendall	225	Paul Egeland	260
		Ray Glassel	221	Keith Camburn	259
		Bob Janssen	204	Ken LaFond	245
Olmsted	280	Ann Marie Plunkett	250	Bill Pieper	243
		Jerry Bonkoski	243	Bill Litkey	234
		Bob Ekblad	242	Phillip Stensaas	222
		Joan Fowler	238	Al Bolduc	216
		Vince Herring	221	Henry Kyllingstad	211
		Joel Dunnette	221	Gary Swanson	211
		Steve Ekblad	217	Ann McKenzie	205
		Phyllis Lindquist	213	Jon Peterson	205
		Ted Lindquist	213	Steve Schon	204
				Don Bolduc	203
				Scott	262
				Ray Glassel	244
				Bob Janssen	213
				Karol Gresser	203
				Ken LaFond	200
				Sherburne	271
				Ken LaFond	225
				Sharon Sarappo	208
				Ray Glassel	205
				Bob Janssen	205

Sibley	240	Ray Glassel	217	Waseca	219	Ray Glassel	201
		Bob Janssen	211	Washington	279	Bill Litkey	243
Stearns	290	Nestor Hiemenz	271			Ray Glassel	238
		Kim Eckert	238			Liz Campbell	219
		Ray Glassel	210			Joanne Dempsey	216
		Ken LaFond	203			Bob Janssen	212
		Bob Janssen	202			Tom Bell	208
Steele	234	Ray Glassel	218	Winona	255	Ken LaFond	206
Swift	248	Micki Buer	218			Ray Glassel	207
		Ray Glassel	204			Bob Janssen	202
		Bob Janssen	200	Wright	254	Gary Swanson	225
Todd	247	Ken LaFond	228			Ray Glassel	210
Traverse	233	Ray Glassel	200			Ken LaFond	206
Wabasha	264	Don Mahle	224	Yellow Medicine	254	Micki Buer	215
		Ray Glassel	219			Paul Egeland	212
		Bob Janssen	200			Ray Glassel	201
Wadena	250	Dick Oehlenschlager	242				

THE M.O.U. 300 CLUB

Four new members, Keith Camburn, Harding Huber, Fran Nubel and Dean Schneider, were added to the 300 Club during 1985. Minnesota Life Lists grew more slowly in 1985 than they did in 1984, there just weren't that many rarities in the state this year. The Eurasian Wigeon at Wood Lake in Richfield and the Least Tern at Cottonwood, Lyon County provided the most Club members with additions to their lists. Here are the totals for our 41 members as of December 31, 1985.

Kim Eckert	363
Ray Glassel	362
Bob Janssen	362
Terry Savaloja	354
Bill Pieper	353
Dick Rühme	353
Paul Egeland	349
Jo Blanich	346
Liz Campbell	346
Don Bolduc	345
Bill Litkey	345
Jan Green	342
Harding Huber	342

Ron Huber	338
Karol Gresser	337
Steve Millard	334
Jerry Gresser	331
Oscar Johnson	329
Dick Wachtler	329
Gloria Wachtler	329
Al Bolduc	328
Warren Nelson	323
Jon Peterson	323
Evelyn Stanley	323
Fran Nubel	322
Ann McKenzie	321
Diane Millard	319
Ruth Andberg	318
Doug Campbell	315
Wally Jiracek	314
Betty Campbell	313
Gary Swanson	312
Ken LaFond	311
Bro. Theodore Voelker	310
Nestor Hiemenz	309
Henry Kyllingstad	309
Byron Bratlie	306
Violet Lender	303
Keith Camburn	302
Dean Schneider	302
Jo Herz	301

FALL MIGRATION OF WARBLERS IN HENNEPIN COUNTY

by Steve Carlson

During the fall migration of 1985 I kept a daily record of the warblers I saw passing through Hennepin County. Throughout the period I made a number of trips to parks around the county, notably Wolsfeld Woods, where I saw my only Blue-winged Warbler of the season, Elm Creek Park Reserve, Crow-Hassan Park Reserve, and Wood Lake Nature Center. But most of my observations were made between Lake Harriet and Lake Calhoun a few miles south of downtown Minneapolis. This area includes T. S. Roberts' Bird Sanctuary, Lakewood Cemetery, the Lake Harriet trolley tracks, and William Berry Park. Together these four interconnected sites encompass a broad range of habitats, including cattail marsh, brushy undergrowth, mature stands of both oak and maple, some elms, and scattered conifers. The entire area is small enough to be covered thoroughly on foot in two to four hours.

Lakewood Cemetery, not Roberts' Sanctuary as one might expect, provides the best warbler watching in this area. Although less productive than either Roberts' Sanctuary or Wood Lake Nature Center in the spring, I have found the cemetery to be consistently better in the fall. Perhaps it is the availability of food in the oaks, the cemetery's predominant tree, that attracts the warblers. Whatever the reasons there can be few better places in the Twin Cities to watch warblers in their fall plumages. On almost any day during the past migration, even when there were few warblers to be seen elsewhere, I was able to find at least one sizeable flock feeding in the cemetery's oaks. Generally there is a good

variety of other migrant species in association with the warblers. In 1985 these included six species of flycatchers, Red-breasted Nuthatches, kinglets, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, five species of vireos, and Scarlet Tanagers. Because Lakewood Cemetery is well-manicured, with very little undergrowth to compliment its oaks and evergreens, warblers usually found near the ground, such as Ovenbirds, Mourning Warblers, and Northern Waterthrushes, are more likely to be found at the adjacent Roberts' Sanctuary or Lake Harriet trolley tracks where there is plenty of suitable ground cover. Still, for variety of species and sheer numbers of warblers Lakewood Cemetery is easily better than the neighboring parks.

The accompanying chart should give an idea of the duration and pattern of the fall warbler migration in Hennepin County. It covers the period from the first day on which I saw five or more species of warblers until the last such day. This year I saw my first migrant, a Northern Waterthrush, on August 9, my last, a Nashville Warbler, on October 22 almost two and a half months later. As the chart shows, the bulk of the migration occurred between August 20 and September 20, about normal for this region. Being in the field daily one learns that although warblers do migrate in waves, good numbers are present every day in the right locations. This past fall there were 34 days on which I saw ten or more species of warblers in Hennepin County. **2705 Dupont Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408.**

BOOK REVIEW

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY GUIDE TO ATTRACTING BIRDS by Stephen W. Kress. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, NY. 1985; 377 pages, \$24.95, illustrated.

We all like to have birds on our property. The supply of books and pamphlets that tell us how to attract, feed, or house birds is growing continuously. Several features distinguish **The Audubon Society Guide to Attracting Birds** from the masses of other publications. First, this book is meant to be comprehensive and summarize the information presented in the other publications. Animals have four basic needs for survival: food, water, shelter, and safe nesting sites. Stephen Kress, staff biologist for the National Audubon Society, tells you how to fulfill all four needs. Second, this book is one of the few that puts the emphasis where it ought to be—habitat.

The first chapter, "Landscaping for Birds," is almost a manual of wildlife management techniques for the layperson. Many of the projects outlined, such as planting shelterbelts and preserving forest interiors, are for a scale much larger than the backyard. The urban homeowner will also find useful information in this chapter, but a more complete plan can be found in the article, "Invite Wildlife to your Backyard" (*National Wildlife*, April/May 1973). The chapter is, however, invaluable for someone wanting to modify "the back 40" to attract more birds.

Chapter 2 takes 100 pages to advise us what plant species to choose for attracting a variety of birds in various parts of the U.S. The bulk of this chapter is made up of tables that provide the geographic range, height, preferred light and soil conditions,

and other characteristics of hundreds of plant species used by birds. This information is directly useful for the backyard birder.

Water, nest structures, and bird feeding each merit a separate chapter. This guide is filled with creative ideas, diagrams, and comments on how best to be popular with the avian crowd. Regarding the chief nemesis of everyone who feeds birds in the backyard, Kress presents two options — live-trap or kill the pesky squirrels ("the direct option") or "change our view of these intelligent and interesting natives from nuisance to entertaining" ("the satisfying approach"). Kress offers a few suggestions for the latter approach; if more are necessary, look at the article "Squirrel Wars Revisited" in the November-December 1985 issue of *Bird Watcher's Digest*.

The Audubon Society Guide to Attracting Birds is the most complete book on this subject I have seen. Nevertheless, it does not provide all the answers to the art of attracting birds. Knowing this, Kress provides 48 pages of annotated references that cover everything from building bird boxes to sampling soil. Finally, three appendices cover mail order nurseries, state nurseries, and sources for other supplies.

If you're interested in doing some work to make your property into good habitat for birds, this book is a fine place to begin.

I appreciate the suggestions of Billy Goodman and Bonita Eliason to improve this review.

David E. Blockstein, Bell Museum of Natural History, Dept. of Ecology and Behavioral Biology, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

Notes of Interest

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD AT CASCADE RIVER STATE PARK — On Tuesday, July 30, 1985, I saw an unfamiliar hummingbird fly through our yard in the afternoon but did not get a chance to identify it until the next day, Wednesday, July 31, 1985, about 11 A.M. when it came to our hummingbird feeder which is located about two feet out of our kitchen window. We got our *Field Guide to the Birds* book and identified it as the Rufous Hummingbird. We also used *The Audubon Society Field Guide* for accuracy. The back was rusty brown color with a flaming orange-red throat. When in flight it looked quite golden. It was back again that evening flying between the mountain ash trees and the lilac bushes. We observed it for about two hours on July 31st. It was a more aggressive bird than the Ruby-throated Hummingbird, chasing them away from the feeders. The next evening at 5:15 P.M. the conservation officer, Jim Forbord, my wife and myself were in the yard and it again appeared for us to watch for about 20 minutes. All of these sightings were made during bright sunlight. Our home is located in the Cascade River State Park, halfway between Grand Marais and Lutsen, in Cook County along the Lake Superior shore, about 100 yards away from the lake. **Robert & Jan Barry, Cascade River State Park, Lutsen, MN 55612**

LITTLE GULL IN JACKSON COUNTY — On 2 July 1985, we were doing a colonial waterbird survey of North Heron Lake in Jackson County for the Minnesota DNR. At the north end of the Division Creek in Winzer Bay is a large Franklin's Gull and Forster's Tern colony. As we approached the nesting site, both the Franklin's Gulls and Forster's Terns started to mob and dive at our canoe. It was at this time that we saw an unusually dark-colored gull that was smaller than the Franklin's Gull. The gull had an all white tail, a black underwing lining with a distinct trailing edge of white, a black capped head similar in pattern to a Franklin's Gull, a dull red bill, and a gray dorsal surface. It was three-fourths the size of a Franklin's Gull. After consulting Peterson's *A Field Guide to Birds* (1980), we identified it as a Little Gull. The Little Gull was also diving at our canoe and making two different calls. The first call was a three note "chuck—chuck—chuck" or "kak" while the second type of call was a medium pitched cry. Since the bird approached to within 25-50 feet, we could observe most of the field marks without binoculars but we did utilize 7×35 binoculars to observe the bird at greater distances and to pick out the subtle coloring of the bill. The weather was clear around 8:00 AM at the time of observation and we observed the Little Gull for a period of 10-15 minutes after which time the bird was lost from sight and did not reappear. On 22 July Tasler revisited the area and observed only a few Franklin's Gull feeding ½ mile from the nesting site. No gulls or terns were observed at the nesting location. The Little Gull is listed as regular in the March 1983 Checklist of Minnesota Birds. The first state sighting was in 1972 in Goodhue County. (*The Loon* 56:166). According to Janssen's Minnesota Bird Distribution Map (*The Loon* 55:201) the Little Gull has been observed in five counties to include: St. Louis, Lyon, Mille Lacs, Goodhue, and Wright. Subsequent sightings reported in *The Loon* have added Lake of the Woods, Kanabec, Nobles, and

now Jackson Counties. To date, no breeding or nesting records exist within Minnesota. The first reported nesting of a Little Gull in North America was in southeast Ontario in 1962 (Terres, J. 1982. *The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of American Birds*, Knopf Publishing Co.). In 1970, two pairs of adults with young were also observed in Ontario. The first confirmed successful nesting in the United States was in 1975 in north central Wisconsin in a small marsh near Green Bay where three nests, each with three eggs, was observed. While we can only speculate about the status of the Little Gull observed in Jackson County, it does not seem unreasonable to expect a Little Gull breeding record within Minnesota in the near future in light of its status in adjacent states and provinces and its regular status in Minnesota. **Wayne Tasler, RR1, Jeffers, MN 56145; Doug Wells, 1508 4th Ave., Windom, MN 56101**

GROOVE-BILLED ANI TAKEN IN STEARNS COUNTY — Recently, a student of mine brought in a very unusual black bird. I determined it to be a Groove-billed Ani. Noting it was far out of its home range, I thought you might be interested in this unusual visitor. I have the dead bird in my possession and will be placing it at St. Cloud State University in the care of Dr. Al Grewe. The bird was killed on October 26, 1985 by a local farm boy who mistook it for a "blackbird." The location was about three miles north of Avon, Stearns County. I suspect its appearance may be associated with the occurrence of Hurricane Juan. It might be interesting to check out other such sightings and the timing of tropical storms that moved up the Mississippi Valley. **William Otto, Rt. 1, Box 270, Albany, MN 56307**



Groove-billed Ani specimen. Photo by William Otto.

SUMMER LOON IN LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY — On June 8, 1972, I observed a Common Loon that appeared to be a non-breeding adult in basic plumage. The sighting was made on the Madison Wildlife Management Area, about two miles northwest of Madison in Lac Qui Parle County. The day was very hot (85° F) and humid. The time was about 3:00 P.M. CDT. The bird was busy diving and apparently feeding. The dives lasted for 25-30 seconds with about 4-5 seconds between dives. It was apparently feeding on fathead minnows since this was the only fish present in the marsh. The summer sighting of a loon in a county where loons have not been known to nest is unusual. **John Schladweiler, Nongame Wildlife Specialist, DNR, Box 756, New Ulm, MN 56073**

PARASITIC JAEGER ON LAKE OF THE WOODS — While tending my gill nets two miles east of Warroad on Lake of the Woods on September 5, 1985, I noticed a dark gull-shaped bird 100 feet away, flying directly toward me. Its white-based primaries on the top and bottom of the wings and my sighting of a jaeger last year allowed me to immediately identify it as a jaeger. It was a clear day with the bird directly opposite of the sun and the wind was from the NW at 10 mph. There was no tail protrusion. In hopes to get a species identification on the bird, I dropped my net in order to follow it with my boat. Unfortunately, in the confusion of freeing my boat, I lost track of the jaeger. I last saw it 1000 feet away chasing a tern. Two days later, Sept. 7, at the same location, I again saw a jaeger. It was sunny with an east wind at 20 mph. It was about 200 feet away and its low steady flight, its overall darkness, and the white on the primary bases identified it. It was directly toward the sun making observation difficult and the stiff wind ruled out the possibility of trying to follow it. About 10 minutes later, I looked up and again saw the jaeger. This time it was 150 feet away directly opposite the sun. It was very aggressively chasing a juvenile Herring Gull so I got a size and color comparison. It was very obviously smaller than the Herring, about the size of a Ring-billed Gull, but had a thicker body and neck. There were no white areas on the body except for the obvious white at the base of the primaries on both the top and bottom of the wings. The overall color was darker brown and more uniform than an immature Herring Gull. The tail had no protrusion. It approached to within 50 feet of my boat. I observed it for about 30 seconds. No optical aids were used. I ruled out a Long-tailed because of the obvious light-colored primary bases and the uniform wing and mantle coloring. I ruled out a Pomarine because of its size. **Arthur Johnston, Rt. 1, Box 18, Warroad, MN 56763**

HUMMINGBIRD IMPALED ON FENCE — On September 3, 1985, while I was mowing the road ditches at our Underground Storage Plant, I found an immature Ruby-throated Hummingbird impaled on a barbed wire fence. Some Barn Swallows were perched along the fence and, apparently, the hummingbird perched in the wrong spot. I expected to find a dead bird and have it mounted, but when I picked it off the fence, it was still alive. Having no place to keep it, and since I was still working and couldn't go home, I opened the hatchback on my car and laid it gently in the corner. I then went back to mowing. An hour later, when I got off work, I was going to have my wife heat up some hummingbird food. I looked in the car but the bird was gone. I searched the car and the area around it but found nothing. I can only hope that it continued southward successfully. My only regret is not being able to take a picture of this strange event. **Wally Swanson, 128 S. Buchannon, Waterville, MN 56096**

SNOW GEESE SUMMER IN LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY — 1985 is the first year that I have observed Snow Geese during the summer at Salt Lake or at my 70-acre slough seven miles south of Salt Lake in Lac Qui Parle County. The principal northern migration occurs in March and early April and by the annual Salt Lake field trip in late April, only a few small flocks are usually found. Therefore I was surprised on May 23rd when I spotted two Snow Geese resting along the cattail-bordered shore of my slough. With my spotting scope I could see that one was an adult Snow and its companion an immature in gray plumage. Subsequent observations are as follows: July 3 - Two adult Snows (one the blue phase) along the north shore of Salt Lake. July 31 - one Snow Goose adult on the north shore Salt Lake. Sept. 24 to Oct. 5 - numerous observations of four Snow Geese (two of each color phase) on my slough. They usually could be seen sitting on the large round hay bales that had been placed in the center of the slough to serve as nesting islands for the Canada Geese. Oct. 29 - last observation was of 19 Snow Geese (six white, six blue, and seven immatures) feeding in a field of green volunteer oats adjacent to the water. We will never know if the Snow Geese that spent the summer in the county were part of this flock. **Goodman Larson, 4801 Diane Drive, Hopkins, MN 55343**

SABINE'S GULLS ON LAKE OF THE WOODS — On September 3, 1985, at about 10 A.M., I was 2½ miles east of Warroad on Lake of the Woods in my 19-foot open boat. Wind was from the NW at 5-10 mph and the cloud cover was low and scattered giving fair visibility. I had just finished tending my gillnets and was throwing some fish scraps to about 65 gulls, mostly Herring, and about 25 American White Pelicans. I looked up and there was an immature Sabine's Gull flying about 50 feet from my boat. It's wing pattern and my sighting of one last year (*The Loon* 56:266) made the identification positive. The gull seemed to be attracted to the proximity of the other gulls, but did not join in the commotion of fighting for fish scraps and showed little interest in the fish. It landed about 40 feet away so I approached it with my boat, getting to within 20 feet. It exhibited little fear. It took off and landed several more times and I watched it for about 15 minutes. It was eating small flying insects sitting on the water and occasionally grabbing for one in the air. No binoculars were used. The primaries were black with a very narrow edge of white, noticed only up close. There was a large triangular white patch with the apex at the wrist and the base on the trailing edge. From the wrist to base of the wings and the entire mantle from the top of the head to the back was a soft gray-brown. The bill was all black, the forehead was white, the under-body was all white except for a faint diagonal bar on the inner under-wings, the legs were light, the tail was white bordered with black. The tail was fan-shaped during take-off and landing, but it was obviously forked during sustained flight. On Sept. 17, 1985, I saw another Sabine's. This time I was three miles NE of Warroad, wind was W at 15 mph, with broken clouds and occasional sunny periods. I was in the middle of lifting my gill nets when it flew about 75 feet from the boat. About 15 minutes later it returned. Unlike the Sabine's I had seen on the 3rd, this one freely mingled with the Herring Gulls and was very interested in the fish I was catching. It was very tame and approached to within 10 feet of the boat. Looks were similar to the other Sabine's except the gray-brown coloring on the head was not as extensive and I did not see the diagonal bar on the under-wings. The gull followed me and the other Herring Gulls to my other net which was about two miles south. It stayed around the boat until I left for the harbor, about 1½ hours later. The next day (Sept. 18), I again saw the Sabine's in the same location, but this time it did not follow my boat. I feel that I had seen two different gulls, with the two latter sightings being the same gull. This is the tenth and eleventh sighting for Minnesota and the second and third for Lake of the Woods. In 1974, Green and Janssen classified the Sabine's Gull as being hypothetical with one observation in 1944. There were five sightings from 1974-1982, one in 1983, and three in 1984. **Arthur Johnston, Rt. 1, Box 18, Warroad, MN 56763**

Editors Note: *The two observations may have been of the same bird. Molting occurs very rapidly at this time of year. The second observation may have been the same bird seen two weeks earlier but having molted into the first winter plumage.*

FERRUGINOUS HAWK IN BIG STONE COUNTY — On March 23, 1981, I was driving about one mile west of Graceville in Big Stone County when I noticed a very light-colored hawk circling overhead. When I first saw the bird it appeared almost translucent as the sun was shining quite brightly through very light-colored wings and tail. By the time I got the truck stopped, the position of the bird in relation to the sun was such that the light shining through the wings that had first attracted my attention was no longer so obvious. However when I looked at the bird through binoculars, I noted that the bird was a very light-colored Buteo with a "V" formed by dark-colored legs. I recalled that this was the diagnostic characteristic of one of the hawks but since I had never seen a Ferruginous, I could not remember which species it was diagnostic for. There were no other markings noted on the very light underparts except for small dark spots on either side of the ventral surface of the neck. As the bird banked, I noted that the tail had just a hint of pink on the upper side but was otherwise unmarked. Because of the translucent wings, "V" shaped dark legs and the light pink or red on the upper surface of the wing, I am confident that I saw a Ferruginous Hawk. **John Schladweiler, Nongame Wildlife Specialist, DNR, Box 756, New Ulm, MN 56073**

LARK BUNTING IN COOK COUNTY — Friday, May 24, 1985 (Memorial Day Weekend), 6:30 A.M., completely light out, Gunflint Trail, NE Minnesota; around 30 miles up at Windigo Lodge on Poplar Lake. Overcast, misting rain. Temperature between 50 and 60 degrees. We had to wait for the lodge to open to get a pass for the BWCA. Saw this bird 15' away on a gravelly, weedy area. We decided it was a Lark Bunting. It was completely black except for large white wing patches which extended all the way from shoulder to secondaries. Primaries were black. There was also a bit of white at end of lobed tail, not always visible. Large finch-like gray bill, pinkish feet. Overall sparrow-like shape, size a bit larger. No markings on head, no song. We watched it for about ten minutes to make sure we were right. When we got home we checked other guides and references. Even though the range was all wrong, we were sure as we'd been to Colorado the previous summer and had seen Lark Buntings there. **Paul and Holly Peirson, 2072 Giesman Street, Roseville, MN 55113**

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER AT GRAND MARAIS — October 2, 1985 was a partly-cloudy, cool Wednesday following a rainy and snowy period earlier in the week. It was late in the afternoon and we were intently watching some warblers and sparrows in the bushes along Lake Superior behind the city garage when an unusual "preet" sound behind us made me turn in time to see a bird flying off of a power line directly away from me at a distance of about 40 feet. Because of the openness of the surroundings and a flash of reddish color I caught in the binoculars as the bird flew, my instantaneous reaction was "Kestrel." However, even seeing the bird from behind, I immediately noticed the tail as being unusual because it was "floppy." We watch thousands of bird every year — every one of which has a tail which remains relatively stiff and straight — and so this tail impressed me immediately as being very different. I called to Molly to look at this bird which was obviously not a kestrel. It flew somewhat like a kingbird and when it was about 150 feet away it turned and flew at right angles to us. In profile the tail was distinctly longer than the body of the bird and still seemed more like a floppy plume out of the back than the kind of tail we are used to seeing on birds. We were now sure we were watching a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. We continued to watch until the bird became a speck in the distance. Light during the observation was to our left, conditions were excellent for observing color, there was almost no wind and both of us used 7×35 binoculars to watch the bird as it flew. Our pleasure at seeing the bird was somewhat tempered by having lost the opportunity to observe the bird as it sat on the wires. Perhaps the fact that at least three Merlins were in the area pursuing large restless longspur-pipit-Horned Lark flocks may have been a factor in the flycatcher's decision to leave. **Ken and Molly Hoffman, P.O. Box 949, Grand Marais, MN 55604**

EURASIAN WIGEON AT WOOD LAKE NATURE CENTER — The afternoon of 18 October 1985 was a warm clear early fall day and offered fine birding at Wood Lake Nature Center in Richfield. Many and varied passerines were present in numbers. While scanning a flock of American Wigeons with the naked eye I noted what appeared to be a Redhead. A more careful look with 8×30 binoculars surprisingly revealed an unmistakable Eurasian Wigeon. The bird was a male in quite fresh plumage. I observed the duck for 10 minutes from approximately 30 meters. Back at the Nature Center, the identification was confirmed by checking the Peterson guide. Janssen and Green's *Minnesota Birds* revealed the lack of a fall record for the state. Several birders were contacted and within an hour Nancy Kubic, Don Bolduc, Oscar Johnson, and Steve Carlson corroborated the identification. We all noted the rusty-red head, buffy-gold crown stripe and the grayish flanks as field marks. The duck was significantly smaller, sat lower in the water, and seemed more skittish than its American counterpart. No markings or bands were visible. The Eurasian Wigeon is one of the commonest Old World ducks sighted in North America, although fall inland records are infrequent. The possibility of an escape must always be considered, as this species is raised in captivity. Dozens of birders observed



Eurasian Wigeon, Wood Lake Nature Center
Richfield, Hennepin County. October 25, 1985. Photo by Oscar Johnson.

the duck over the subsequent two weeks. For many, the Eurasian Wigeon was the only "new" Minnesota life bird of 1985. This attractive dabbling duck was certainly a brighter spot in a somewhat dull birding autumn. **Paul Kubic, 4609 Glenwood, Golden Valley, MN 55422**

Editors Note: The Eurasian Wigeon remained at Wood Lake with the American Wigeons until the lake froze over on or about November 10. As Paul Kubic states, the possibility exists that this bird may have been an escape as may be true with any stray waterfowl. However, there was nothing to indicate that the above observation was of an escape.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER AT GRAND MARAIS — Mid-afternoon while watching a large flock of migrating warblers behind our house in Grand Marais, we came across a small bird that immediately struck us as being "different." It was in the top branches of a 60-foot birch tree and not difficult to observe against the dark and cloudy sky. What caught our attention was the bird's tail. It was longer than those of the warblers and the bird often flicked it and held it at an angle almost like a wren. The tail was edged with white; the white outer tail feathers were visible even at a distance as it fed in the tree top. The breast was whitish and clear and the eye had an obvious ring. It briefly crossed my mind that from beneath it looked like a fall Chestnut-sided Warbler with a peculiar tail. After a few minutes the bird dropped down, sat briefly on a birch stub about 20 feet high and we could see at close range the blue-gray back. The primaries were edged noticeably with white much like a Black-capped Chickadee though not as pronounced. The bird quickly flitted back into the tree tops but we were now sure it was Cook County's first recorded Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. We continued to watch for another ten minutes as the bird fed in the tree tops, jumping about almost constantly like its close relatives, the kinglets. During the observation, we were using 7×35 binoculars and observed from as close as 35 feet. American Goldfinch and warbler noises all around us made it impossible to sort out any vocalizations the gnatcatcher may have been making. This observation, September 22, 1985, is not only an unusual location but a very late migration date. **Ken and Molly Hoffman, P.O. Box 949, Grand Marais, MN 55604**

AN OBSERVATION OF A PEREGRINE FALCON — On October 1, 1985, we were watching a flock of about 60 Lesser Golden-Plovers in the log storage area near the Coast Guard Station at Grand Marais. The sight of a raptor circling very high at first puzzled us. It circled like a Red-tailed Hawk but the silhouette was not right, the narrow pointed wings suggested an Osprey or falcon. We kept binoculars on the bird and hoped it would come closer. As we watched, the bird seemed to slide out of the circling into a dive, more horizontal than vertical. It was coming now toward us. With wings half bent and held rigid it seemed to slice the air in a fast glide much as Herring Gulls do in a strong wind. We could not clearly see the large falcon and soon were able to distinguish the heavy black facial markings, hallmark of the Peregrine Falcon. The swiftly gliding bird seemed to be just over the last house on the East Bay when the glide was suddenly halted, the falcon folded its wings tightly and seemed to drop nearly vertically. Several Lesser Golden-Plovers jumped as the diving bird approached the ground. We saw a brief struggle, flapping wings, and then the powerful falcon rose and flew with fast strong wing beats over the East Bay, the body of a Lesser Golden-Plover limp in its talons. We are accustomed to the swooping and diving of Merlin as they make their beach runs and flash across open areas around town but we had never before experienced the awe that one has watching the Peregrine's famous stoop. **Ken and Molly Hoffman, P.O. Box 949, Grand Marais, MN 55604**

TWO LATE FALL MIGRANT RAPTORS IN HENNEPIN COUNTY — Within an eight-day period from October 26 to November 2, 1985, I had the opportunity of observing two near record late date migrant raptors. The first, a Turkey Vulture was seen on October 26 while I was doing lawn work at my home in Brooklyn Park. The average late dates for Turkey Vulture migrants are October 25th, 28th and 31st. One week later on November 2nd while birding in southern Hennepin County at the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge site I saw a buteo circling overhead. Much to my surprise this individual was a Swainson's Hawk. The upper surface of the bird's plumage was rather uniformly dark brown in color with the tail appearing somewhat lighter in color. The underwing linings were light in color contrasting with the dark flight feathers. This bird was viewed with 8x binoculars and 20x spotting scope. Other previous late dates for the Swainson's Hawk include October 22nd and November 7th. **Oscar L. Johnson, 7733 Florida Circle, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445**

A VERY LATE PINE WARBLER — On November 20, 1985 I was weather-stripping my front door when I noticed an unusual bird 20 feet away. It was feeding on the ground near Pine Siskins and American Goldfinches. It was colored quite similar to the latter. I could see it was a warbler but because it was a dull fall bird, a positive I.D. wasn't made until the next day when a better observation was made. The bird was olive above, pale brownish below, grayish wings with broad but diffused wing bars, under-tail coverts slightly lighter than belly, tail with white corner spots when the tail was spread, discernable streaking down the breast starting at shoulder of wing, dark eye with buffy spectacled effect, yellowish wash to throat and sizeable warbler bill. This bird, a Pine Warbler, fed on cracked corn and less on sunflower and suet. The bird was seen in the area until November 24 by myself, Bill Litkey and Bob Janssen. **Gary N. Swanson, Rt. 3, Box 166D, Buffalo, MN 55313**

RUFF AT COTTONWOOD, LYON COUNTY — On the afternoon of July 18, 1985, my wife and I were birding in the Cottonwood area. We stopped by a slough just south of the overpass at the south side of the town where there were a number of shorebirds, Pectoral, Semipalmated, and Least Sandpipers as well as both yellowlegs and many Killdeers. We noted one sandpiper about the size of a Lesser Yellowlegs but browner on the back and with brownish-orange legs, a shorter bill that was light-colored at the base. It had dark blotches on the lower breast but without a sharply defined line between

breast and abdomen. The bird had a plumper look than either the yellowlegs or Pectoral. It did not fly, but we watched it preen and could see white ovals at the sides of the tail. The bird fed along the muddy edge from thirty to fifty meters away and we watched with 9x30 binoculars and a 25x Spacemaster scope. Light was good, from the west at about 40 degrees above the horizon. We believe that this bird was probably an immature male Ruff. It was there again on the following afternoon, but we did not find it on the 24th or any later date. **Henry Kyllingstad, 205 S. 6th, Marshall, MN 56258**

NOVEMBER SIGHTING OF A YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER (AUDUBON'S) AT GRAND MARAIS — On November 21, 1985 we spotted what seemed to be a late Yellow-rumped Warbler jumping about on a roof. The bird was drinking melt water from the previous day's snow that was trickling off the steep south-facing roof. The observation became even more interesting as we noted that this bird had a yellow throat, a field mark of the western form of the Yellow-rumped Warbler formerly known as Audubon's Warbler. We followed the bird through the city streets; it appeared to be catching small insects at windows and low foundation plantings on the south sides of buildings. The breast was white with very faint streaking on the sides just below the bright yellow side patches. The rump was bright yellow as was the throat. The head and back were brown-green with dull streaking on the back below the nape and a dull yellow-green crown patch. The bill, legs and eyes appeared black and a light colored broken eye ring was conspicuous against the dark cheek. The wings were marked with only a single narrow white bar. The exact position of the white on the tail was difficult to see because the bird was so active. The warbler moved and behaved as the eastern form of Yellow-rumped we are most familiar with but the chip it frequently made was not the same robust call we are accustomed to hearing but a lighter thinner sound. The observation was made with 7x35 binoculars on a calm sunny afternoon at distances as close as 25 feet. It is always with some sadness that such observations are made as it is certainly not likely that this lively little warbler is equipped to survive the cold and wind and snow of the long winter months ahead. **Ken and Molly Hoffman, P.O. Box 949, Grand Marais, MN 55604**

Index to Volume 57

- Allison, Taber D., David E. Blockstein, Bonita C. Eliason and Harrison B. Tordoff, flock of 5,000 Bohemian Waxwings in Duluth, 59-60
- Anhinga, 35
- Ani, Groove-billed, 36, 178
- Avocet, American, 43, 92, 142, 158
- Baker, Janet, Barrow's Goldeneye at Black Dog, 61-62
- Barry, Robert & Jan, Rufous Hummingbird at Cascade River State Park, 177
- Bell, Ronald, Bufflehead brood at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, 136
- Bittern,
American, 40, 80, 88, 118, 154
Least, 39, 40, 88, 154
- Blackbird, 148, 178
Brewer's, 31, 48, 103, 131, 168
Red-winged, 30, 37, 48, 81, 83, 84, 85, 102, 107, 109, 118, 130, 168
Rusty, 31, 48, 103, 131, 168
Yellow-headed, 31, 48, 103, 115, 168
- Blockstein, David E., book review, 176
- Blockstein David E., Taber D. Allison, Bonita C. Eliason and Harrison B. Tordoff, flock of 5,000 Bohemian Waxwings in Duluth, 59-60
- Bluebird,
Eastern, 45, 98, 118, 129, 163
Mountain, 87, 98, 129, 153, 163
- Bobolink, 30, 81, 85, 102, 107, 118, 168
- Bobwhite, Northern, 87, 118, 126, 157
- Bohm, Robert T., use of artificial nests by Great Gray Owls, Great Horned Owls and Red-tailed Hawks in northeastern Minnesota, 150-152
- Bolduc, Donald, Steve Carlson, Richard Ruhme and Oscar Johnson, the fall season, (Aug. 1 to Nov. 30, 1984), 86-104; the spring season (March 1-May 31, 1985), 153-170
- Bonkoski, Jerry, Worm-eating Warbler—Olmsted County, 142-143
- Brambling, 49
- Brant, 35, 87, 89
- Bufflehead, 40, 80, 90, 117, 118, 124, 136, 156
- Bunting,
Indigo, 24, 47, 85, 101, 167
Lark, 154, 167, 18
Lazuli, 35, 110-111, 119, 154, 167
Snow, 102, 130, 168
- Campbell, Elizabeth, a very early Lazuli Bunting, 110-111
- Canvasback, 40, 80, 89, 124, 156
- Cardinal, Northern, 24, 47, 101, 130, 167
- Carlson, Steve, fall migration of warblers in Hennepin County, 174-175
- Carlson, Steve, Donald Bolduc, Richard Ruhme and Oscar Johnson, the fall season, (Aug. 1 to Nov. 30, 1984), 86-104; the spring season (March 1-May 31, 1985), 153-170
- Catbird, Gray, 45, 81, 98, 107, 118, 129, 164
- Chamberlain, Horace, male House Finch at LeSueur, 134
- Chamberlain, John A., the origin of the term hack, 140
- Chat, Yellow-breasted, 39, 47, 153, 167
- Chickadee,
Black-capped, 45, 81, 83, 84, 97, 107, 128, 162, 182
Boreal, 45, 97, 121, 128, 162
- Chuck-wills-widow, 39, 44
- Coot, American, 41, 80, 92, 126, 135, 157
- Cormorant, Double-crested, 39, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 75, 76, 83, 88, 123, 135, 154
- Cowbird, Brown-headed, 32, 37, 48, 82, 83, 84, 85, 103, 118, 131, 168

- Crane, Sandhill, 41, 92, 157
 Creeper, Brown, 45, 97, 128, 163
 Crossbill, 36, 87, 123, 153, 169
 Red, 33, 48, 103, 131, 153, 169
 White-winged, 48, 103, 131
 Crow American, 45, 81, 83, 84, 85, 97, 118, 128, 162
 Cuckoo,
 Black-billed, 44, 95, 118, 160
 Yellow-billed, 44, 95, 118, 160
 Curtler, Linda, American Avocet breeding record for Lyon County, 142
 Dickcissel, 25, 47, 101, 167
 Dorff, Carol J. and Pamela Skoog Perry, hummingbird mortality on electric fencelines using red plastic insulators, 37-38; egg and nest collection from Benton County donated to the Nongame Wildlife Program, 117-118
 Dove,
 Mourning, 43, 85, 95, 118, 127, 160
 Rock, 43, 80, 95, 118, 126, 160
 DOWITCHER, 49, 94, 159
 Long-billed, 43, 93, 159
 Short-billed, 43, 85, 93, 137, 159
 Duck, 59, 148, 153
 American Black, 40, 89, 124, 155
 Harlequin, 87, 89, 135
 Ring-necked, 40, 83, 89, 124, 156
 Ruddy, 41, 90, 125, 156
 Wood, 40, 80, 82, 86, 89, 117, 123, 148, 155
 Dunlin, 43, 49, 93, 138, 159
 Eagle,
 Bald, 41, 90, 109, 125, 156
 Golden, 36, 39, 41, 91, 125, 157
 Eckert, Kim, proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee, 34-36, 119-120; first Duluth record for the California Gull, 60-61; another Arctic Loon in Duluth, 61; first Snowy Egret record for St. Louis County, 141-142
 Eckert, Kim and Mike Hendrickson, the summer season, (June 1 to July 31, 1984), 39-49
 Egret,
 Cattle, 39, 40, 69, 70, 72, 76, 88
 Great, 40, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 77, 120, 142, 154
 Snowy, 40, 69, 70, 72, 77, 88, 141-142, 153, 154
 Eliason, Bonita, book review, 51-52
 Eliason, Bonita C., David E. Blockstein, Taber D. Allison and Harrison B. Tordoff, flock of 5,000 Bohemian Waxwings in Duluth, 59-60
 Esler, Dan, a May 1985 survey of birds in selected Pine County water areas, 79-86
 Falcon, 140, 183
 Peregrine, 91, 125, 138, 157, 183
 Prairie, 39, 41, 91, 126
 Falk, Laurence L. and Carol J., Yellow-throated Warbler at Moorhead, 105-106; Western Tanager in Clay County, 140-141
 Fall, Bruce A., first Minnesota breeding record of the Hooded Warbler, 9-11; Yellow-throated Warbler in Scott County, 111
 Finch,
 Cassin's, 134
 House, 36, 39, 48, 134, 137, 154, 169
 Purple, 32, 36, 48, 103, 131, 134, 137, 169
 Flicker, Northern, 44, 81, 82, 84, 85, 96, 118, 128, 161
 Flycatcher, 87, 153, 174
 Acadian, 44, 109, 161
 Alder, 44, 48, 96, 161
 Great Crested, 37, 44, 82, 84, 97, 162
 Least, 44, 81, 82, 84, 96, 118, 162
 Olive-sided, 44, 49, 96, 161
 Scissor-tailed, 35, 36, 86, 97, 109, 119, 153, 162, 181
 Vermilion, 49
 Willow, 44, 96, 161
 Yellow-bellied, 39, 44, 49, 96, 161
 Gadwall, 40, 98, 155
 Gillette, Laurence N. and Judy Voigt Englund, the Hennepin County Park Reserve District's Osprey reintroduction project, 52-58
 Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray, 45, 98, 117, 118, 163, 174, 182
 Godwit
 Hudsonian, 39, 43, 93, 138, 158
 Marbled, 43, 93, 158
 Goldeneye, 61
 Barrow's, 35, 61-62, 119, 124
 Common, 40, 62, 90, 119, 124, 135, 156
 Goldenfinch, American, 33, 48, 82, 84, 103, 118, 131, 169, 182, 183
 Goodermote, Donald L. and Jack J. Mooty, Common Loon numbers in the Knife Lake Area—Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, 12-13
 Goose, 118, 153
 Canada, 40, 80, 85, 89, 123, 155, 179
 Greater White-fronted, 39, 40, 87, 88, 123, 155
 Snow, 36, 39, 40, 89, 123, 155, 179
 Ross' 36, 87, 89
 Goshawk, Northern, 41, 50, 91, 125, 150, 156
 Grackle
 Common, 31, 48, 82, 84, 85, 103, 107, 118, 131, 168
 Great-tailed, 49
 Grebe, 67
 Clark's, 134
 Eared, 39, 68, 69, 70, 71, 74, 87, 88, 120, 154
 Horned, 39, 69, 70, 74, 88, 154
 Pied-billed, 39, 80, 83, 85, 88, 123, 154
 Red-necked, 39, 68, 88, 123, 154
 Western, 39, 68, 69, 70, 71, 75, 88, 134, 154
 Grosbeak,
 Blue, 25, 47, 87, 101, 167
 Evening, 33, 48, 103, 131, 169
 Pine, 103, 121, 131, 169
 Rose-breasted, 24, 37, 47, 82, 83, 84, 101, 118, 130, 167
 Grouse
 Ruffed, 41, 50-51, 84, 86, 91, 118, 126, 153, 157
 Sharp-tailed, 41, 91, 126, 157
 Spruce, 41, 91, 123, 126, 157
 Guertin, David S. and Lee A. Pfannmueller, colonial waterbirds in Minnesota 67-78
 Gull, 61, 67, 73, 86, 87, 119, 136, 138, 180
 Bonaparte's, 43, 80, 94, 123, 126, 160
 California, 35, 60-61, 87, 94, 123, 126
 Common Black-headed, 120
 Franklin's, 43, 68, 69, 70, 73, 78, 87, 94, 138, 160, 177
 Glaucous, 94, 126, 160
 Herring, 43, 60, 61, 67, 68, 94, 126, 135, 160, 179, 180, 183
 Lesser Black-backed, 49, 87, 94
 Little, 35, 86, 87, 94, 153, 160, 177-178
 Mew, 49
 Ring-billed, 43, 60, 61, 68, 69, 70, 73, 77, 80, 94, 126, 160, 179
 Ross', 35, 49, 143
 Sabine's, 35, 87, 94, 180
 Thayer's, 84, 121, 126, 160
 Gullickson, Joe, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Rochester, 109
 Gyrfalcon, 87, 91, 123, 125, 157
 Hanson, Margo, Boreal Owl in Mahanomen County, 110
 Harrier, Northern, 41, 83, 85, 90, 118, 125, 156
 Hawk, 121, 153, 180
 Broad-winged, 41, 80, 82, 83, 91, 119, 152, 156
 Common Black, 49
 Cooper's, 41, 90, 125, 156
 Ferruginous, 86, 87, 91, 138-139, 153, 157, 180
 Red-shouldered, 41, 91, 125, 156
 Red-tailed, 41, 91, 125, 138, 139, 150-152, 157, 183
 Rough-legged, 36, 39, 41, 91, 125, 157
 Sharp-shinned, 41, 80, 85, 90, 125, 156
 Swainson's, 36, 41, 91, 157, 183
 Hendrickson, Mike, book review, 51
 Hendrickson, Mike and Kim Eckert, the summer season, (June 1 to July 31, 1984), 39-49
 Heron, 67
 Black-crowned Night, 40, 59, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 77, 88, 142, 154
 Great Blue, 40, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 75, 76, 80, 83, 85, 88, 120, 123, 135, 142, 154
 Green-backed, 40, 80, 88, 135, 142, 154
 Little Blue, 39, 69, 70, 71, 72, 76, 88, 135-136, 153, 154
 Yellow-crowned Night, 39, 40, 69, 70, 72, 86, 88, 142, 154
 Hoffman, Ken and Molly, winter Field Sparrow in Cook County, 61;
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Grand Marais, 181; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Grand Marais, 182; an observation of a Peregrine Falcon, 183; November sighting of a Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's) at Grand Marais, 184.
 Horn, Charles L., a Townsend's Solitaire in Bloomington, 109
 Howitz, James L., skins again nest in Winona, 141
 Hummingbird,
 Ruby-throated, 37-38, 44, 96, 118, 161, 177, 179
 Rufous, 177
 Ibis,
 Glossy, 49, 59
 White-faced, 35, 59, 87
 Jaeger, 87, 94, 119, 179
 Long-tailed, 179
 Parasitic, 119, 179
 Pomarine, 119, 179
 Janssen, Robert B., book review, 122; life of the woodpecker (and Dana Gardner), 147
 Janssen, Robert B. and Gary Simonson, Minnesota's breeding bird distribution, (part III), 15-34
 Jay,
 Blue, 45, 81, 83, 84, 85, 97, 128, 162
 Florida Scrub, 51-52
 Gray, 45, 97, 121, 128, 162
 Johnson, Oscar L., Buff-breasted Sandpipers in Hennepin County, 109; Clark's Grebe reported seen in Minnesota, 134; two late fall migrant raptors in Hennepin County, 183

- Johnson, Oscar, Steve Carlson, Donald Bolduc, and Richard Ruhme, the fall season, (Aug. 1 to Nov. 30, 1984), 86-102; the spring season (March 1-May 31, 1985), 153-170
- Johnston, Arthur, summer record of a Harlequin Duck, 135; Parasitic Jaegers on Lake of the Woods, 179; Sabine's Gulls on Lake of the Woods, 180
- Junco, Dark-eyes, 29, 48, 62, 102, 104, 130, 168
- Kestrel, American, 41, 80, 91, 125, 157, 181
- Killdeer, 41, 80, 82, 84, 85, 92, 107, 118, 158, 183
- Kingbird, 181
- Eastern, 44, 81, 85, 97, 107, 118, 121, 162
- Western, 44, 97, 118, 162
- Kingfisher, Belted, 44, 81, 82, 84, 96, 118, 127, 161
- Kinglet, 174
- Golden-crowned, 45, 98, 128, 163
- Ruby-crowned, 45, 81, 98, 163
- Kite, Black-shouldered, 35, 120
- Kittiwake, Black-legged, 86, 87, 94, 119, 120
- Knot, Red, 43, 48, 93, 159
- Kubic, Paul, Eurasian Wigeon at Wood Lake Nature Center, 181-182
- Kyllingstad, Henry, Kentucky Warblers in Redwood County, 107; American Avocet breeding record for Lyon County, 142; Ruff at Cottonwood, Lyon County, 83-184
- LaFond, Kenneth J., the winter season, (December 1, 1984 to February 28, 1985), 123-133
- Lark, Horned, 44, 49, 97, 107, 128, 162
- Larson, Goodman, Snow Geese summer in Lac Qui Parle County, 179
- Leshar, Fred, Fillmore County Coteau's, 107; book review, 121; Ferruginous Hawk, 138-139
- Longspur, 181
- Chesnut-collared, 29, 48, 107, 168
- Lapland, 48, 102, 130, 168
- Smith's, 87, 102
- Loon, 170, 178
- Arctic, 35, 61, 87, 88
- Common, 12-13, 39, 59, 61, 80, 83, 88, 122, 123, 154, 170, 178
- Red-throated, 39, 61, 154
- Maggie, Black-billed, 39, 45, 97, 128, 162
- Mallard, 40, 80, 82, 83, 85, 89, 124, 148, 155
- Martin, Purple, 44, 63, 81, 97, 118, 162
- Mattsson, Jim, first sight record for the Sage Thrasher in Minnesota, 115-117
- Mauritz, Marilyn, Red-eyed Vireo sighting on November 4, 1984, 62
- McKenzie, Ann and Jon Peterson, Ruff in Goodhue County, 137-138
- Meadowlark, 131
- Eastern, 30, 48, 102, 118, 168
- Western, 30, 48, 102, 107, 118, 131, 168
- Merganser,
- Common, 41, 80, 90, 125, 156
- Hooded, 40, 80, 90, 124, 156
- Red-breasted, 41, 80, 90, 125, 156
- Merlin, 41, 42, 91, 125, 157, 181, 183
- Millard, Steve, mysterious hybrid warbler at Afton State Park, 3-5
- Mockingbird, Northern, 46, 115, 129, 164
- Moorhen, Common, 41, 92, 153, 157
- Mooty, Jack J. and Donald L. Goodermote, Common Loon numbers in the Knife Lake Area-Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, 12-13
- Morrison, John, Worm-eating Warbler at Austin, 108
- Newman, Jeff, Minnesota's first wintering Clay-colored Sparrow 104-105
- Nighthawk, Common, 6, 8, 44, 95, 161
- Nuthatch,
- Red-breasted, 45, 84, 86, 97, 128, 163, 174
- White-breasted, 45, 81, 83, 84, 97, 128, 163
- Oldsquaw, 87, 89, 124, 153, 156
- Oriole,
- Northern, 32, 37, 48, 82, 83, 84, 103, 107, 118, 131, 169
- Orchard, 32, 39, 48, 103, 168
- Scott's, 49
- Osprey, 41, 52-58, 90, 140, 156, 183
- Otto, William, Groove-billed Ani taken in Stearns County, 178
- Ovenbird, 22, 46, 81, 83, 84, 85, 100, 166, 174, 175
- Owl, 8
- Barred, 48, 95, 127, 160
- Boreal, 95, 110, 127, 153, 161
- Burrowing, 107
- Common Barn, 36
- Eastern Screech, 8, 44, 95, 127, 160
- Great Gray, 39, 44, 95, 127, 150-152, 160
- Great Horned, 44, 50, 84, 95, 127, 150-152, 160
- Long-eared, 95, 127, 160
- Northern Hawk, 160
- Northern Saw-whet, 8, 44, 87, 95, 110, 127, 161
- Short-eared, 95, 127, 153, 161
- Snowy, 95, 127, 10
- Partridge, Gray, 41, 91, 126, 157
- Parula, Northern, 18, 46, 99, 109, 165, 175
- Peirson, Paul and Holly, Lark Bunting in Cook County, 181
- Pelican, American White, 39, front cover No. 2, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 75, 88, 109, 122, 154, 180
- Perry, Pamela Skoog and Carol Dorff, hummingbird mortality on electric fenceins using red plastic insulators, 37-38; egg and nest collection from Benton County donated to the Nongame Wildlife Program, 117-118
- Peterson, Jon and Ann McKenzie, Ruff in Goodhue County, 137-138
- Pewee,
- Eastern Wood, 44, 81, 82, 86, 96, 118, 161
- Western Wood, 35, 96
- Pfannmueller, Lee A., and David S. Guertin, colonial waterbirds in Minnesota, 67-78
- Phalarope,
- Red-necked, 43, 94, 160
- Wilson's, 43, 94, 159
- Phasant, Ring-necked, 41, 91, 118, 126, 148, 158
- Phoebe,
- Black, 49
- Easter, 44, 81, 82, 96, 118, 162
- Say's, 119
- Pigeon, Band-tailed, 35
- Pintail, Northern, 40, 89, 155
- Pieper, W. R., Arctic Tern at Duluth, 136
- Pipit, 181
- Sprague's, 39, 46
- Water, 99, 164
- Plover,
- Black-bellied, 41, 92, 157
- Lesser Golden, 41, 92, 153, 158, 183
- Piping, 39, 41, 68, 92, 121, 158
- Semipalmated, 41, 92, 158
- Poorwill, Common, 49
- Prairie-Chicken, Greater, 41, 91, 117, 118, 126, 157
- Rail,
- King, 36, 39, 41
- Virginia, 36, 41, 80, 84, 85, 92, 157
- Yellow, 35, 41, 92, 157
- Raven, Common, 45, 81, 97, 128, 150, 153, 162
- Redhead, 40, 80, 89, 124, 156, 181
- Redpoll,
- Common, 103, 131, 137, 169
- Hoary, 103, 123, 131, 169
- Redstart, American, 9, 21, 46, 81, 83, 100, 166, 175
- Robin, American, 45, 81, 83, 84, 98, 118, 129, 153, 164
- Ruff, 43, 86, 93, 119, 137-138, 153, 159, 183-184
- Ruhme, Dick, Don Boldue, Steve Carlson, and Oscar Johnson, the fall season, (Aug. 1 to Nov. 30, 1984), 86-104; the spring season (March 1-May 31, 1985); 153-170
- Sanderling, 43, 49, 93, 159
- Sandpiper,
- Baird's, 43, 93, 159
- Buff-breasted, 39, 43, 93, 109, 153, 159
- Least, 43, 49, 93, 159, 183
- Pectoral, 43, 87, 93, 153, 159, 183, 184
- Semipalmated, 43, 49, 93, 159, 183
- Solitary, 39, 43, 80, 82, 83, 85, 92, 158
- Spotted, 43, 80, 82, 92, 118, 158
- Stilt, 43, 93, 159
- Upland, 43, 92, 158
- Western, 43, 93, 159
- White-rumped, 39, 43, 93, 159
- Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied, 44, 82, 96, 118, 127, front cover No. 4, 147, 161
- Scaup,
- Greater, 89, 124, 156
- Lesser, 40, 80, 83, 89, 124, 156
- Schladweiler, John, summer loon in Lac Qui Parle County, 178, Ferruginous Hawk in Big Stone County, 180
- Schon, Steven, Little Blue Heron at Ely, 135-136
- Schneider, Henry A., House Finch in Winona County, 137
- Scoter, 87
- Black, 90
- Surf, 90, 133, 156
- White-winged, 90, 124, 133, 156
- Shoveler, Northern, 40, 89, 124, 155
- Shrike,
- Loggerhead, 3, 46, 99, 117, 118, 164
- Northern, 61, 99, 130, 164
- Simonson, Gary and Robert B. Janssen, Minnesota's breeding bird distribution (part III), 15-34
- Siskin, Pine, 33, 36, 48, 82, 84, 103, 131, 141, 169, 183
- Smew, 36
- Snipe, Common, 43, 80, 85, 94, 126, 159
- Snyder, Ellen J., American Woodcock nesting in Pipestone County, 108
- Solitaire, Townsend's, 87, 98, 109, 129, 153, 163
- Sora, 35, 41, 80, 84, 85, 92, 118, 157
- Sparrow, 87, 143, 153
- American Tree, 62, 101, 118, 130, 167

- Brewer's, 49
 Chipping, 15, 26, 47, 82, 87, 101, 110, 118, 130, 142, 167
 Clay-colored, 26, 47, 82, 87, 101, 104-105, 107, 130, 167
 Field, 26, 47, 61, 101, 118, 130, 167
 Fox, 102, 130, 167
 Grasshopper, 27, 47, 82, 86, 102, 167
 Harris', 102, 130, 168
 Henslow's, 27, 47
 House, 15, 34, 48, 81, 103, 104, 105, 118, 131, 134, 169
 Lark, 27, 39, 47, 101, 107, 167
 LeConte's, 28, 47, 86, 102, 167
 Lincoln's, 28, 47, 102, 168
 Savannah, 27, 47, 82, 85, 101, 167
 Sharp-tailed, 28, 35, 47, 49, 102, 167
 Song, 15, 28, 37, 47, 82, 83, 84, 86, 102, 107, 118, 130, 168
 Swamp, 29, 47, 83, 84, 102, 130, 168
 Vesper, 26, 37, 47, 101, 107, 118, 130, 167
 White-crowned, 102, 130, 168
 White-throated, 29, 47, 61, 102, 130, 168
 Starling, European, 15, 16, 46, 81, 99, 107, 130, 164
 Swallow, 86
 Bank, 45, 97, 162
 Barn, 45, 81, 82, 84, 85, 97, 107, 118, 162
 Cliff, 45, 81, 82, 85, 97, 118, 162
 Northern Rough-winged, 45, 97, 107, 162
 Tree, 45, 81, 82, 84, 85, 97, 118, 162
 Swan, 153
 Trumpeter, 153
 Tundra, 39, 40, 49, 88, 123, 154
 Swanson, Gary N., a very late Pine Warbler, 183
 Swanson, Gustave A., Purple Martin specimens requested, 63
 Swanson, Wally, hummingbird impaled on fence, 179
 Swift, Chimney, 44, 96, 118, 161
 Tanager
 Scarlet, 24, 47, 101, 140, 167, 174
 Summer, 47, 101, 154, 167
 Western, 35, 119, 140-141, 154, 167
 Tasler, Wayne and Doug Wells Little Gull in Jackson County, 177-178
 Teal
 Blue-winged, 40, 80, 82, 83, 85, 89, 124, 155
 Cinnamon, 153, 155
 Green-winged, 40, 89, 124, 155
 Telfer, Pat, Yellow-crowned Night Herons, 142
 Tern, 67, 86, 36
 Arctic, 119-120, 121, 136, 153, 160
 Black, 43, 49, 80, 95, 160
 Caspian, 43, 68, 94, 160
 Common, 39, 43, 69, 70, 73, 77, 80, 95, 120, 136, 160
 Forster's, 43, 67, 69, 70, 73, 78, 95, 136, 160, 177
 Least, 173
 Thrasher
 Brown, 46, 98, 118, 129, 164
 Curve-billed, 49
 Sage, 49, front cover No. 3, 115-117
 Thrush, 153
 Gray-cheeked, 98, 163
 Hermit, 45, 98, 129, 163
 Swainson's, 45, 98, 115, 163
 Varied, 98, 129, 164
 Wood, 45, 98, 164
 Titmouse, Tufted, 45, 97, 128, 153, 163
 Tordoff, Harrison, B., book review, 50-51
 Tordoff, Harrison B., David E. Bloostein, Taber D. Allison and Bonita C. Eliason, flock of 5,000 Bohemian Waxwings in Duluth, 59-60
 Towhee
 Green-tailed, 49
 Rufous-sided, 25, 47, 101, 167
 Turkey, Wild, 41, 92, 118, 126, 157
 Turnstone, Ruddy, 43, 49, 93, 158
 Tustison, Tom, White-faced Ibis at Gun Club Lake, 59
 Veery, 45, 48, 81, 98, 118, 163
 Vireo, 174
 Bell's, 16, 46, 99, 164
 Philadelphia, 17, 46, 99, 164
 Red-eyed, 17, 46, 62, 81, 83, 84, 87, 99, 118, 164
 Solitary, 16, 46, 99, 164
 Warbling, 17, 46, 84, 86, 99, 118, 164
 Yellow-throated, 16, 46, 81, 83, 99, 164
 Vulture
 Black, 36
 Turkey, 41, 49, 82, 90, 139, 147, 156, 170, 183
 Warbler, 3, 4, 5, 86, 87, 153, 174-175, 182, 183
 Audubon's, 5, 165, 184
 Bay-breasted, 21, 46, 100, 166, 175
 Black-and-white, 21, 46, 100, 166, 175
 Blackburnian, 20, 46, 100, 106, 147, 165, 175
 Blackpoll, 81, 100, 166, 175
 Black-throated Blue, 19, 46, 100, 121, 153, 165, 175
 Black-throated Green, 20, 46, 83, 100, 165, 175
 Blue-winged, 5, 11, 17, 39, 46, 99, 165, 174, 175
 Brewster's, 5
 Canada, 5, 24, 47, 101, 166, 175
 Cape May, 46, 100, 165, 175
 Cerulean, 21, 46, 100, 166
 Chesnut-sided, 19, 46, 81, 83, 100, 165, 175
 Golden-winged, 5, 18, 46, 99, 165, 175
 Grace's, 5
 Hooded, 9-11, 23, 39, 47, 153, 166
 Kentucky, 3, 4, 46, 107
 Macgillivray's, 39, 49
 Magnolia, 19, 46, 100, 165, 175
 Mourning, 3, 4, 5, 23, 39, 46, 101, 166, 174, 175
 Nashville, 18, 46, 83, 99, 165, 174, 175
 Orange-crowned, 99, 165, 175
 Palm, 20, 81, 83, 85, 100, 166, 175
 Pine, 20, 46, 100, 165, 183
 Prothonotary, 22, 39, 46, 100, 166
 Tennessee, 46, 99, 165, 175
 Townsend's, 35, 49
 Wilson's, 23, 47, 101, 121, 166, 175
 Worm-eating, 108, 119, 120, 142-143, 153, 166
 Yellow, 18, 46, 81, 83, 84, 85, 99, 118, 165, 175
 Yellow-throated, 87, 100, 105-106, 111, 119, 153, 165
 Yellow-rumped, 19, 46, 81, 83, 84, 100, 111, 165, 175, 184
 Waterthrush
 Louisiana, 22, 39, 46, 166
 Northern, 46, 83, 100, 166, 174, 175
 Waxwing
 Bohemian, 59-60, 99, 129, 164
 Cedar, 46, 99, 118, 130, 164
 Wells, Doug and Wayne Tasler, Little Gull in Jackson County, 177-178
 Whimbrel, 39, 43, 92, 153, 158
 Whip-poor-will, front cover No. 1, 6-8, 44, 95, 161
 Wigeon
 American, 40, 59, 89, 124, 155, 181, 182
 Eurasian, 173, 181-182
 Willet, 43, 92, 158
 Wilson, Steven G., summer distribution of Whip-poor-wills in Minnesota, 6-8
 Woodcock, American, 43, 94, 108, 159
 Woodpecker, 86, 147
 Black-backed, 44, 87, 96, 128, 161
 Downy, 44, 81, 82, 84, 96, 127, 161
 Hairy, 44, 81, 82, 84, 96, 127, 161
 Lewis', 49
 Pileated, 44, 82, 84, 85, 96, 128, 161
 Red-bellied, 44, 96, 127, 161
 Red-headed, 44, 81, 82, 85, 96, 118, 127, 161
 Three-toed, 96, 121, 127
 Wren, 87
 Carolina, 119
 House, 45, 98, 107, 118, 163
 Marsh, 45, 98, 118, 163
 Rock, 35, 39, 45
 Sedge, 45, 85, 86, 98, 118, 163
 Winter, 45, 98, 128, 163
 Yellowlegs, 183, 184
 Greater, 43, 92, 158
 Lesser, 43, 80, 85, 92, 138, 158, 183
 Yellowthroat, Common, 4, 15, 23, 47, 81, 83, 84, 101, 166, 175

PURPOSE OF THE MOU

The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union is an organization of both professionals and amateurs interested in birds. We foster the study of birds, we aim to create and increase public interest in birds and promote the preservation of birdlife and its natural habitat.

We carry out these aims through the publishing of a magazine, *The Loon*; sponsoring and encouraging the preservation of natural areas; conducting field trips; and holding seminars where research reports, unusual observations and conservation discussions are presented. We are supported by dues from individual members and affiliated clubs and by special gifts. The MOU officers wish to point out to those interested in bird conservation that any or all phases of the MOU program could be expanded significantly with gifts, memorials or bequests willed to the organization.



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The editors of *The Loon* invite you to submit articles, shorter "Notes of Interest" and color and black/white photos. Photos should be preferably 5x7 in size. Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced and on one side of sheet with generous margins. Notes of Interest should be generally less than two typewritten pages double-spaced. If reprints are desired the author should so

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Club information and announcements of general interest should be sent to the Newsletter editor. See inside front cover. Bird-sighting reports for "The Season" should be sent promptly at the end of February, May, July and November to Kim Eckert. See inside front cover.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER

Painting by Dana Gardner (see page 147) Front Cover

LIFE OF THE WOODPECKER (and Dana Gardner)

by Robert B. Janssen 147

IN MEMORIAM MARVIN C. BORELL

..... 148

USE OF ARTIFICIAL NESTS BY GREAT GRAY OWLS, GREAT HORNED OWLS, AND RED-TAILED HAWKS IN NORTHEASTERN MINNESOTA

by Robert T. Bohm 150

THE SPRING SEASON (March 1-May 31, 1985)

by Dick Ruhme, Oscar Johnson, Steve Carlson, Don Bolduc 153

THE 200 COUNTY CLUB

..... 171

THE M.O.U 300 CLUB

..... 173

FALL MIGRATION OF WARBLERS IN HENNEPIN COUNTY

by Steve Carlson 174

BOOK REVIEW

..... 176

NOTES OF INTEREST

..... 177

INDEX TO VOLUME 57

..... 184