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Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Tom Tustison, Chairman

The most recent meeting of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC) was conducted at the Minnesota Valley NWR Headquarters Building in Bloomington on 5 December 2010. In attendance and voting at this meeting were members Robert M. Dunlap (alternate), Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall (alternate), Anthony X. Hertzler, Ann E. Kessen, James W. Lind, William C. Marengo, Andrew D. Smith (alternate), Steve Stucker, and Tom A. Tustison (chair).

Among the topics on the agenda and discussed at the meeting were the following:

The issue of whether or not to amend the bylaws to include a formal policy requiring all heard-only records to be supported by additional documentation was discussed and tabled indefinitely.

A potential first state record Bean-Goose was discussed. The Committee decided to table the record for further research and evaluation prior to submitting it for a vote.

Ann Kessen's term expired at the end of 2010. This vacancy was filled by Bruce Fall who will now be a Regular Member. Because Bruce had been an Alternate Member, that vacancy is now filled by Bob Russell. The Chair wishes to express its thanks, on behalf of the Committee, to Ann for her service and to welcome Bruce and Bob to their new roles.

The Committee will develop criteria to evaluate migration dates for Regular species. The Chair will circulate a draft to members who will be asked to provide comments and suggestions. This draft will be considered at the next regular Committee meeting. The concept is to provide written date ranges for certain Regular species that can be relied upon by the Seasonal Reports editor and compilers for inclusion — or exclusion — of such observations in the Seasonal Report. Observations outside of these date ranges will be automatically excluded from

future Seasonal Reports unless supported by documentation. The final results of this effort will be made public upon completion. Discussions included a desire to make a list of the date ranges readily accessible on the MOU website. There was also discussion about the desirability of creating a method to automatically 'flag' records entered into the MOU website. The purpose would be to alert birders, at the time of data entry, to provide documentation, if required. Casuals and Accidentals will continue to require documentation for acceptance in the Seasonal Reports.

Two species that occur in Minnesota have been split. Whip-poor-wills have been split into Eastern Whip-poor-will and Mexican Whip-poor-will. Whip-poor-wills in eastern North America, including Minnesota, are now the Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*); Winter Wren has been split into Pacific Wren and Winter Wren. The Winter Wren population of central and eastern North America will retain its common name, with scientific name change to *Troglodytes hiemalis*. The Committee will assume that all past records of Whip-poor-wills were of Eastern Whip-poor-wills, and that all past Winter Wren records were of *T. hiemalis*. However, the Committee will consider all documented records that may be submitted regarding any purported Mexican Whip-poor-wills or Pacific Wrens.

The following records were voted on and Accepted.

- Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*), 21 through 23 May 2010, Agassiz NWR, Agassiz Pool, Marshall County (record #2010-015, vote 7–0). Photographed. Its origin was unanimously accepted as wild (origin vote 10–0). The lack of observable bands was cited as the reason for accepting the bird as wild. A Whooping Crane biologist, after seeing the bird on an aerial survey and also from the



Record #2010-021, Whooping Crane, 30 May 2010, Newfolden, Marshall County. Photo by Jason King.



Record #2010-032, Common Ground-Dove, 19 October 2010, Bloomington, Hennepin County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

ground, noted the absence of bands. Bob Russell, in attendance at the 5 December meeting, commented that all Wisconsin (eastern flock) birds are banded with conspicuous leg bands, but virtually no Aransas/Wood Buffalo birds are anymore, except for a handful for a radio telemetry project. This is only the third accepted record since the formation of MOURC in 1974.

- Whooping Crane, 30 May 2010, about five miles west of Newfolden, Marshall County (record #2010-021A, vote 7–0). The identification of the sighting (photographed) was unanimously accepted (second round vote 7–0), but see Not Accepted records. The question of origin will be voted after discussion at the next regular MOURC meeting.

- Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*), 20 September 2010, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-030, vote 7–0). This juvenile bird was carefully identified and photographed.

- Sabine's Gull, 25 September 2010, Duluth, Superior entry of Park Point, St. Louis County (record #2010-031, vote 7–0). The observation was of a single flock of ten juvenile birds.

- Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*), 18 through 20 October 2010, Highland Regional Park, Hennepin County (record #2010-032, vote 7–0). Fourth state record and first county record. This bird was seen and photographed by many observers.

- Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*),

15 May 2010, Clay County (record #2010-026, vote 5–2). The original documentation lacked a description of the sighting. Subsequently, additional information was obtained via e-mail providing a description. Some members felt that allowing additional information to be considered subsequent to the original documentation was a break from tradition and therefore inappropriate. At the 5 December meeting, it was decided to re-vote on the record and permit consideration of the additional information. The record was accepted on the second round (record #2010-026, second round vote 5–2). Establishment of a written procedure addressing situations where additional information is submitted subsequent to the original documentation will be a priority of the Committee at its next meeting.

- Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*), 4 September 2010, Anoka County, (record # 2010-033, vote 7–0). This fourth state and first county record was seen and documented by a single observer. Photographed. Due to privacy considerations, the exact location will remain undisclosed. There are now three fall records and one spring record of this accidental species. Previous records are from 1982 in Ramsey, 1995 in St. Louis, and 2005 in Cook (only spring record).

- Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*), 17 August 2010, Sherburne NWR, Mahnommen Trail, Sherburne County (record #2010-028, vote 7–0).



Record #2010-033, Northern Wheatear, 4 September 2010, Anoka County. Photo by Joe Conley.

The following records were voted on and were Not Accepted. (Please note that a record which is Not Accepted only means that the documentation was not complete or convincing enough to include the sighting in *The Loon*, the journal of the MOU, or in the MOU's archives of confirmed bird records. Such a vote does not necessarily mean the observer misidentified the bird or did not see it. Summaries of the reasons why a record was Not Accepted are included here. These are in no way intended to be critical of the observer. The only purpose is to highlight the difficulties an observer may encounter while identifying or documenting these and similar species.)

- Whooping Crane, 1–2 June 2010, near Newfolds, Marshall County (record #2010-021B, vote 0–7). This sighting was unanimously not accepted in a second round vote 0–7 due to lack of a description.

- Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*), 16 September 2010, Wabasha County (record #2010-029, vote 0–7). The observers may have seen this distinctive species, but the members uniformly agree that the observers unfortunately provided too few details.

- Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*), 6 December 2009, Black Dog Lake, Dakota County (record #2010-004, second round vote 0–7). This record (original vote 5–2) was discussed at the 5 December meeting and re-circulated for a second vote. This record was

submitted by a highly competent observer, but was rejected primarily due to insufficient details. This difficult-to-identify species was also viewed under rather poor lighting conditions and at a considerable distance. Some members thought the description under these poor viewing conditions did not eliminate possible hybrids or other large larids such as Glaucous-winged Gull or “Vega” Herring Gull.

- Sprague’s Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*), 2 August 2010, Becker County (record #2010-027, vote 0–7). This was a heard-only observation. While several members initially expressed a desire to accept the record, it was overridden by the observer’s lack of actual field experience regarding vocalizations. Similarly, the brevity of the auditory encounter weighed heavily against acceptance.

The efforts of all those observers who document unusual species are greatly appreciated, whether or not the records are accepted. Though photographs are always welcome, observers are strongly encouraged to submit written documentation based on contemporaneous field notes for all records. The Committee acknowledges with thanks those who provided written descriptions for the records listed in this article: Barbara McGregor, Sue Bergman, Brad R. Bolduan, Paul E. Budde, David A. Cahlander, Joe Conley, Herb Dingmann, Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Ben W. Fritchman, Peter Harrison, Anthony X. Hertzler, Jeanie M. Joppru, Jason King, Gregory A. Knutsen, Larry Kopschke, William C. Marengo, James P. Mattsson, Douglas Mayo, Robert H. O’Connor, Judith O’Neale, Jeff J. Stephenson, Steve Stucker, Peder H. Svingen and Steve Weston. Many observers documented records of rare Regular species which were not voted on by the Committee; though not cited here, their efforts are also appreciated.

The Committee welcomes questions or comments from MOU members regarding any record in particular or our procedures in general. More information including our bylaws and current checklist can be found at <<http://moumn.org/mourc>>.

Summary: 11 records voted on, 7 Accepted, 3 Not Accepted, and 1 Origin.

4214 Wentworth Avenue S., Minneapolis MN 55409.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) Nesting in Minnesota

Anthony X. Hertzelt¹, T. Benjamin Hertzelt², and Robert M. Dunlap³

Around 11:45 A.M. on 16 June 2010, Bob Dunlap found a singing adult Say's Phoebe in a wooded ravine near a small bridge that crosses Florida Creek in Florida Township, western Yellow Medicine County. The bird was actively foraging within a 20–25 meter radius of the bridge, often perching on low-hanging tree branches or on nearby barbed wire fencing. Frequently the bird would sing a song that consisted of four syllables: “pip-pip-PEE-er,” with the accent on the third syllable and the song falling or down-slurring on the fourth syllable. Occasionally only one “pip” note would be given in the song's introductory phrase, with the result that just three syllables were present: “pip-PEE-er.” This bird also gave several short “pip” calls unaccompanied by the full song.

Dunlap was able to take several photos as the bird perched, sometimes as close as five meters. Present on its plumage was the characteristic pink or peach coloration extending from the lower belly and the vent to the undertail coverts, contrasting with the overall dark gray-brown plumage of the rest of the bird (Figure 1). The bird's tail was darkest, while the upperparts were slightly lighter and the throat and breast lighter still. This individual had a contrasting darker gray-brown band of feathering between the pink/peach underparts and the lighter gray-brown breast, appearing almost as a thick “belt.” The lores and irises appeared to be very dark gray-brown, approaching black and contrasting with the uniform gray-brown of the remainder of the face. The overall plumage, while bright, seemed a bit worn, and the left outer rectrices appeared to be only thin shafts missing the barbs. Both the legs and bill were dark slate-gray. An adult Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) was present in the same location and the Say's was slightly larger by comparison but nearly identical in shape and profile.



Figure 1. Say's Phoebe, 16 June 2010, Florida Township, Yellow Medicine County. Photo by Robert M. Dunlap.

The wooded ravine in Florida Township is about five miles west and four miles north of Canby (Figure 2). This is a riparian area characterized by large eastern cottonwoods lining the creek edge with smaller trees and shrubs in the understory becoming very dense in some areas, especially on the western side of the bridge. The bridge itself was part of a minimum maintenance road that transected a farmstead to the south and agricultural fields and livestock grazing pastures to the north. Directly north of the bridge the gravel road sloped sharply upward into open fields, and directly south of the bridge the road intersected with another road. The wooded area abutting the stream and surrounding the bridge accounted for approximately 100 yards of the minimum maintenance road.

During his first half-hour of the 16 June observation, Dunlap twice observed the Say's Phoebe fly beneath the bridge. Within the same radius, the Eastern Phoebe was foraging and giving no vocalizations. Eventually the Say's Phoebe flew west of the bridge and

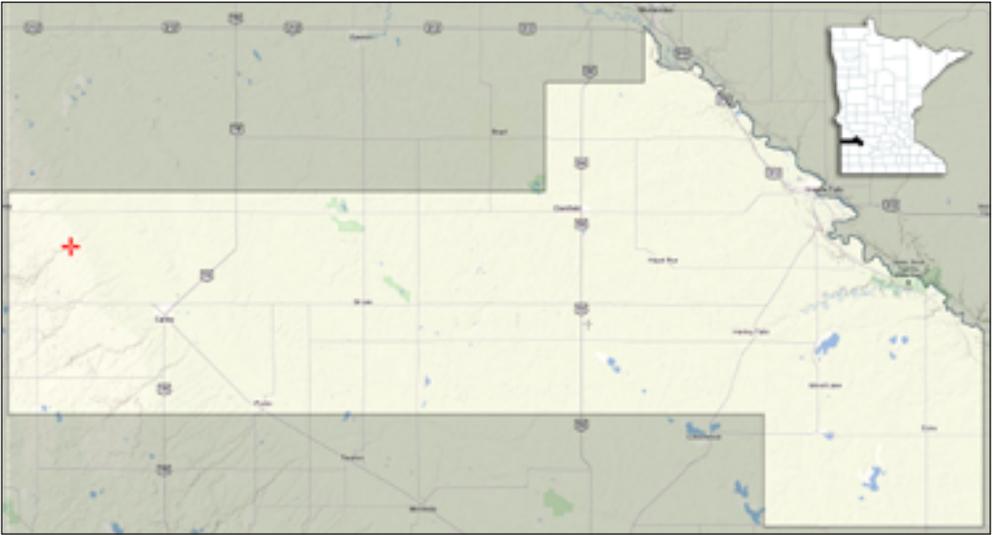


Figure 2. Location of Say's Phoebe nest in Yellow Medicine County.

was not relocated. For the next half hour, Dunlap remained near the bridge and ventured down to the creek side in an attempt to look under the bridge for a nest. Looking from the western side of the bridge on the south bank, an Eastern Phoebe was observed flying up onto one of the concrete beams with nesting material in its bill. Not viewable from that side, a nest about one-fourth complete was observed under construction by Dunlap from the eastern side of the south bank.

The site was visited several times during the next eight weeks by several observers. On 24 June, Paul Egeland found an adult Say's Phoebe carrying nesting material and later heard and saw a Say's Phoebe singing. While Egeland never simultaneously observed two Say's Phoebes, this was the first suggestion that possibly two adult Say's Phoebes were present. On 26 June, Bill Marengo observed an adult Say's Phoebe carrying grassy nesting material under the bridge. Marengo was able to observe the nest at or near completion, and described it as "...built in two parts. A lower Eastern Phoebe style nest (lined externally with moss), and seemingly built right on top of it, was the Say's Phoebe nest (lined externally with what appeared to be fine grasses). The upper nest was visibly different than the lower nest." He

later observed the Say's Phoebe fly up to the nest and settle on it. His description of this bird matched Dunlap's photos. Marengo also noticed the nest of an Eastern Phoebe under the bridge nearby, although no phoebe was ever seen at this second nest.

On 3 July, Anthony Hertz and Benjamin Hertz visited the site, finding three nests under the bridge. An adult Say's Phoebe was found on a nest in the extreme southeast corner of the penultimate eastern I-beam. An Eastern Phoebe was feeding young in a nest situated on the same I-beam span but at the bridge's center point. A third apparent phoebe (sp?) nest was located in the far northwest corner of the western-most I-beam, but no activity was observed there. The Say's Phoebe was noted to be in similar condition as had been described by Dunlap and Marengo, i.e. rather worn plumage with damaged tail feathers, especially one retrix which appeared broken, and a dark band of either soiling or missing contour feathers present across the bird's mid-section. As noted by Marengo, the Say's Phoebe nest appeared to have been built in two sections, with the lining being much newer and composed of different materials than the rest of the structure, suggesting that this was a refurbished nest and perhaps a second clutch. The late date of this observation supports this supposition.



Figure 3. Say's Phoebe adult on nest, 17 July 2010. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzelt.



Figure 4. Say's Phoebe nest and eggs, 25 July 2010. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzelt.



Figure 5. Approximate locations of all Minnesota Say's Phoebe records, 1963–2010 (n=35).

Later that same day, Herb Dingmann visited the site and observed an adult Say's Phoebe hawking insects over a grassy field near the wooded stream. Dingmann's description of this bird did not closely match Marengo's nor the photos by either Dunlap or Hertzelt and Hertzelt: "Chest, head, and back were a uniform lighter gray than Eastern Phoebe; tail was black and longer than an Eastern Phoebe's. I could not clearly see a rufous color to the belly, but it was not whitish." Dingmann's

observation, then, suggests this was a second individual.

Hertzelt and Hertzelt visited the site three more times in the following weeks. On 17 July, an adult Say's Phoebe was photographed on the nest (Figure 3), and on 25 July, four unmarked white eggs were observed in the same nest when the adult left briefly (Figure 4). The interior of the nest was composed of grasses, natural and artificial (twine) fibers, hair, and plant stems.

On a final visit on 7 August, Hertzelt and Hertzelt found the Say's Phoebe nest empty, but it did not appear to have been predated as it was intact and the walls were firm and undamaged. An adult Say's Phoebe was seen along the creek close to the bridge and this bird's plumage did not match Marengo's description or any of the photographs from previous visits by Dunlap or Hertzelt and Hertzelt, lacking the damaged barbs on the tail, broken retrix, and the dark band across the mid-section. Instead this bird showed plumage that was very clean and bright. Bill Unzen had photographed a very similar adult Say's Phoebe in the area on 26 July.

Prior to this record, Say's Phoebe — which is a Casual species in Minnesota (MOURC 2009) — has not been known to nest in the state. Its normal breeding range occurs almost entirely west of Minnesota, extending from northwestern Mexico and west-

ern Texas north through the western plains and Rocky Mountain states and well into the interior of Alaska. In North Dakota, it is a fairly common breeder throughout the Little Missouri Slope and in the southeastern portion of the Missouri Slope and uncommon elsewhere (Stewart 1975). In South Dakota, it breeds primarily west of the Missouri River (Peterson 1995). In Nebraska, it nests primarily in the western panhandle and sparingly eastward nearly to the Iowa border (Mollhoff 2001). The species is a Casual transient in summer in Missouri (MBRC 2010), and Accidental in Wisconsin (Robbins 1991). Though currently also Accidental in Iowa, there are several breeding records from 1960 to 1987 (Kent and Dinsmore 1996), mostly from the state's far northwestern counties. Of note was the Say's Phoebe seen 1 July 2010 in Dickinson County, IA, 11 miles south of the Minnesota state line. A pair of birds was confirmed there on 4 July and while nesting was suspected (adult seen carrying food), it was never confirmed (Stephen J. Dinsmore, Pers. Comm.). Say's Phoebe was also observed twice during the 1985–1990 Iowa Breeding Bird Atlas project, but nesting was not confirmed (Jackson, Thompson, and Dinsmore 1996).

The authors suggest that this Say's Phoebe was incubating a second brood, and that she was using a refurbished nest from her (or another phoebe's) first brood. Say's Phoebe is typically double-brooded and the adults should be well done with their first clutch by early July if not much earlier (Schukman and Wolf 1998.). In North Dakota, Say's Phoebes are often building their first nest by mid-May and the young are independent by mid-June. In Kansas, the mean initiation date for the second clutch is 19 June (Schukman and Wolf 1998).

Say's Phoebes routinely reuse nests of both their own and of other species, usually by simply adding an additional lining. The Yellow Medicine County nest was particularly large, appearing as if the lower 80% was constructed much earlier than the top portion that held the lining.

Minnesota has had 35 Say's Phoebe records since the first in 1963 up through 2010 (Figure 5). Of these, only five were summer observations. Note that there were two addi-

tional accepted Say's Phoebe records in Minnesota in 2010: one on 8 May in Clay County and another seen 14–15 May in Nobles County (Svingen 2010).

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The Summer Season

1 June through July 31 2010

Ann E. Kessen¹, Peder H. Svingen², and Paul E. Budde³

New counties continue to be added to the breeding range of Trumpeter Swans in Minnesota, with six being added to the record books in 2010. A Ruddy Duck showed up unusually far northeast, in Koochiching County, in mid-June. Another unexpected bird was a Wild Turkey found north of Two Harbors in Lake County, also in June.

A Clark's Grebe paired with a Western Grebe produced two chicks at Gorder Lake in Stevens County. Cattle Egrets were easier to find during 2010, with reports from five counties, mostly in July. A Yellow-crowned Night-Heron spent some time in Hennepin County, also in July. A pair of Merlins delighted many observers by breeding in Dakota County, providing the southernmost breeding record in Minnesota.

Common Moorhens produced chicks in both Houston and McLeod counties. A remarkable 777 Killdeer were found at Hamlin W.M.A., Lac qui Parle County, in July. Piping Plovers nested on Pine-Curry Island in Lake of the Woods. In July, a Marbled Godwit reported from Island Lake, near Duluth, was unexpected. Eurasian Collared-Doves were found breeding in Blue Earth County for the first time.

Several successful Northern Hawk Owl nests were reported from Lake County, as well as one in Lake of the Woods County. An observer found seven adult Red-headed Woodpeckers in Vermilion Township of Dakota County. Unusual was a June report of an Acadian Flycatcher from Jackson County, well outside its normal breeding range. To the delight of many, a Say's Phoebe was present in Yellow Medicine County from mid-June to late July.

A White-eyed Vireo was found in Waseca County in mid-June during the Minnesota County Biological Survey, and Bell's Vireos nested near Lake Nokomis in Hennepin County. Unusually high numbers of Cape May Warblers were found in Lake and St. Louis

counties. Great-tailed Grackles were found nesting again in Jackson County; four nests were found.

Weather Summary

June was characterized by storms and rain throughout much of Minnesota. In particular, the southern half of the state was very wet, as were isolated areas of the northwestern and north-central parts of the state. The second half of the month saw several large-scale episodes of severe weather. Temperatures hovered around historical averages, with slightly higher readings in western and central Minnesota and slightly lower readings in some northern counties. In spite of the abundant rain, the effects of the previous years' drought could be seen in persisting lower lake levels in many areas.

July's weather was more spatially varied. Rainfall amounts differed considerably in different areas of the state. While some areas in west-central and northern Minnesota saw record high precipitation, portions in the northeast had below average rainfall. Severe weather was frequent in various regions of the state throughout the month. Temperatures were close to average or slightly above, and many lake levels remained low.

Undocumented Reports

Orange-crowned Warbler 7/23 Washington; **Canada Warbler** 7/4 McLeod; **Rusty Blackbird** 6/8 Mille Lacs, 7/12 Aitkin. Once again this year there were several undocumented reports of **Sharp-shinned Hawk** in southern Minnesota, well outside their normal summer range.

Maps

A map is included for each species having at least one confirmed breeding record during 2010 (not necessarily just in summer). A county is colored black to show confirmed breeding, medium gray for probable breeding, and light gray for a summer observation.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to all those who submitted summer season reports and breeding records. Their data make this report possible. Special thanks go to Steve Stucker and the Minnesota DNR for providing MCBS data. Thanks also go to Anthony Hertzal, Jim Lind, and Jeanie Joppru for providing transcripts of weekly birding reports, to Paul Budde for compiling early and late dates, to Bob Janssen and Peder Svingen for maintaining a list of county and seasonal

occurrence records, and to Dave Cahlander for his work on the online seasonal report. Anthony Hertzal and Dave Cahlander produced the maps used in this report.

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KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species are listed in brackets [**Whooping Crane**] if there is a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species' name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties with reports.
4. Dates listed in bold (**10/9**) indicate an occurrence either earlier, later, or within the three earliest or latest dates on file.
5. Counties listed in bold (**Aitkin**) indicate an unusual occurrence for that county.
6. Counties with an underline (**Becker**) indicate a first county record.
7. Counties listed in italics (*Crow Wing*) indicate a first county breeding record.
8. Counts listed in bold (**150**) indicate a total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
9. Dagger "†" preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
10. "ph" denotes a species documented with a photograph.
11. "v.t" denotes a species documented by video tape.
12. "a.t." denotes a species documented by audio tape.

The *Seasonal Report* is a compilation of seasonal bird sightings from 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, contact the Editor of the Seasonal Report, Paul E. Budde, 4612 Colfax Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, or via e-mail at paul.budde@aonbenfield.com.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [2 South] Observed 6/10 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU, 6/30 Blue Earth ChH.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [5 South] Seen 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/5 Blue Earth ChH, 6/5 Dakota DWK, 6/10 Hennepin RBJ, DAC, 6/13 Brown BTS, 7/5, 7/8 Dakota DWK.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [29 North, 45 South] Reported throughout state.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [1 North] Found 6/27 Pine (2, Hinckley) TAB.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [23 North, 21 South] Observed in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for

Clay fide BBA, *Crow Wing* BCS, *Goodhue* DDo, *Isanti* AXH, *Lyon* AXH, *Pine* MSS.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [29 North, 39 South] Found in all regions of the state. High count 6/12 Hennepin (303, Old Cedar Ave. Included ~25 small ducklings, ~75 adult males, ~50 adult females, and ~150 large ducklings) MDu. First county breeding record from *Benton* MRN.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) — [13 North, 15 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record from *Stearns fide* BBA.

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) — [9 North, 2 South] Observed in Aitkin, Becker, Clearwater, Cook, Faribault, Itasca,

- Koochiching, Lake, Marshall, Roseau, Lac qui Parle.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [6 North] Found in Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Marshall, St. Louis.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [32 North, 48 South] Seen throughout the state.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [24 North, 35 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*) — [9 North, 14 South] Observed in all western and central regions. First county breeding record from *Roseau* BCS.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [3 North, 3 South] Reported from Beltrami, Big Stone, Faribault, Lac qui Parle, Marshall, Polk.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [14 North, 13 South] Found in all regions except Southeast.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [8 North, 7 South] Observed in all western regions plus Central and East-central. First county breeding record from *Grant* DPG.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [9 North, 19 South] Seen in all regions of the state. First county breeding records from *Isanti* DBM, *Stearns* RPR.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [24 North, 15 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records for *Grant* DPG, *Redwood* WCM, *Todd* MSK.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [1 North] Observed 7/8 St. Louis (Minnesota side of Interstate Island W.M.A.) †PHS.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [5 North, 5 South] Reported primarily from Northwest, North-central, South-central, but also Lac qui Parle, Sibley.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [4 North] Seen in the counties of Becker, Koochiching, Marshall, Roseau.
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [11 North] Reported from all northern regions of the state plus Mille Lacs. First county breeding record from *Mahnomen* MRN.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [28 North, 35 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Isanti* DPG, *Kittson* LW, *Sibley* LS.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [11 North, 1 South] Observed in North-central, Northeast, Central, and East-central regions. First county breeding record from *Aitkin* MRN.
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [5 North] Seen in Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Lake, Mille Lacs. First county breeding record from *Crow Wing* PSP.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [10 North, 25 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast. An individual unusually far northeast was reported 6/17 **Koochiching** DBM. First county breeding record from *Redwood* WCM.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [3 North, 9 South] Found in all western regions plus Central and South-central.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [17 North, 45 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [20 North, 4 South] Found in all northern and central regions plus Goodhue. High count of 27 reported 6/20 Cook (Gunflint Trail) SCO.
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falciipennis canadensis*) — [5 North] Observed 6/6, 6/22, 6/30 Lake DAG, SSw 6/9, 6/16 Lake of the Woods GMM, JDr, 6/12, 6/16, 6/25, 7/17, 7/18 St. Louis DMK, JSc, *fide* BBA, NLM, SLF, 6/30 Cook *fide* BBA, 7/8 Roseau BCS.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [7 North, 1 South] Reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Kittson, Lac qui Parle, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Roseau, St. Louis.

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [2 North, 1 South] All north reports: 6/23, 6/24 Clay LMS, 7/24 Mahnommen HHD. Probable DNR releases 6/10, 6/17 Lac qui Parle BJU, RMD.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [17 North, 34 South] Reported from all regions of the state. Unusual report from ~15 miles north of Two Harbors 6/23 **Lake KRE**. First county breeding records for *Carlton* DCr, *Douglas* JPE, *Isanti* JZe, *Mille Lacs* DBM.

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] Observed 6/5 St. Louis (3) PHS, 6/13 St. Louis (7) PHS, 6/27 St. Louis (5) PHS. All individuals in alternate plumage, seen in the vicinity of Park Point, Duluth.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) — [27 North, 17 South] Found in all northern and central regions plus Rice.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [18 North, 34 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Reported 6/1 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU, 6/2 St. Louis (2) PHS, 6/5, 6/13 St. Louis PHS.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [16 North, 17 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records for *Grant* DPG, *Stevens* AXH, *Traverse* DPG.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [2 North, 7 South] Seen in Big Stone, Dakota, Freeborn, Lac qui Parle, Pine, Polk, Renville, Sibley, Yellow Medicine.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [6 North, 6 South] Found in all western regions plus Todd. High count 7/10 Big Stone (46 adults and 30 downy chicks at

Thielke Lake) PCC.

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [3 South] Found 6/10 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/18 Big Stone RMD, 7/3, 7/17, 7/25 Stevens (2, hybrid pairing with Western Grebe, feeding two chicks, Gorder Lake) †DBM, AXH, LS.

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [19 North, 34 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding record from *Traverse* DPG.

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [24 North, 40 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding records for *Carver* DAB, *Marshall* fide BBA.

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [19 North, 9 South] Found throughout state except for southern regions.

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [6 North, 14 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) — [27 North, 46 South] Found statewide. First county breeding record from *Traverse* DPG.

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) — [9 North, 33 South] Seen in all regions of the state.

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) — [3 South] Reported 6/10 Big Stone BJU, 6/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/16 Hennepin JMo.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [5 South] Reported 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 7/3 Jackson (3) AXH, 7/6 Dakota JPM, SLP, RTe, 7/10 Big Stone PCC, 7/16–18 Sibley (2) ph. DWK, m.ob..

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) — [23 North, 36 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records from *Cass* fide BBA, *Todd* MSK.

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [2 North, 10 South] Reported from all regions except North-central, Northeast, South-central.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [1 South] Observed 7/19, 7/24 Hennepin *vide* AXH, ph. AWi.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) — [30 North, 45 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding records from *Marshall vide* JMJ, *Morrison* MRN.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [20 North, 15 South] Reported from all regions except the Southwest.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [26 North, 36 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Douglas* JPE, *Grant* DPG, *Jackson vide* BBA, *McLeod* SMA, *Mower vide* BBA, *Nicollet* BTS, *Olmsted* CHA.

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) — [29 North, 35 South] Seen throughout the state. First county breeding records for *Beltrami* RPR, *Chippewa* DPG, *Pope* DPG.

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) — [14 North] Reported from all northern and central regions.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [18 North, 29 South] Observed in all regions. First county breeding records for *Clay* RHO, *Itasca vide* BBA, *Mower vide* BBA.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [5 North] Found 6/7, 6/20, 7/12, 7/28 St. Louis *vide* BBA, LBF, 6/14, 6/17, Lake SSw, *vide* BBA, 6/16 Beltrami PBD, 7/9, 7/16 Cook RBJ, RMD. First county breeding record from *Itasca* SC.

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) — [5 North, 10 South] Reported from Cass south to Rice. First county breeding record from *Rice vide* BBA.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) — [18 North, 17 South] Observed east of a line from Roseau to Mower, plus Douglas, Lac qui Parle. First county breeding records from *Fillmore vide* BBA, *Rice vide* BBA.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [1

North, 13 South] Reported south of a line from Big Stone to Dakota, plus Polk.

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [31 North, 46 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records for *Dodge* TEB, *Douglas* JPE.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [29 North, 46 South] Observed throughout. First county breeding records for *McLeod* PRH, *Scott vide* BBA, *Yellow Medicine* SWE.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [16 North, 3 South] Found in all northern regions as well as Central and East-central. First county breeding record from *Dakota* (male *F. c. richardsonii* and female *F. c. columbarius* produced four young, **The Loon** 83:44–46) JPM, ADS, m.ob..

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [4 North, 12 South] Seen in all eastern and central regions, plus Chippewa.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [4 North] Found all June through 6/25 in Aitkin (all reports from McGregor Marsh?) m.ob., with high count of 15 on 6/23 CMB. Additional reports: 6/5 Cass (4, Swamp Lake Marsh) BAW, 6/15 Roseau (4) JDr, 7/7 Roseau BCS, 7/9 Wilkin (2, Manston Marsh) BJU.

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) — [16 North, 21 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record from *Washington vide* BBA.

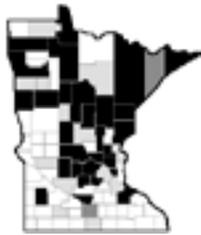
Sora (*Porzana carolina*) — [19 North, 23 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast, Southeast.

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) — [4 South] Seen 6/2 – 7/9 Sherburne (Big Bluestem Pool, Sherburne N.W.R.) PLJ, ASC, 6/12 – 7/3 *McLeod* PRH, ph. CMB, m.ob. 7/16–24 Sibley RBW, m.ob., 7/24 Houston (7, 3 ad. and 4 juv.) APA.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [10 North, 23 South] Found in all regions except Northeast, Southeast.



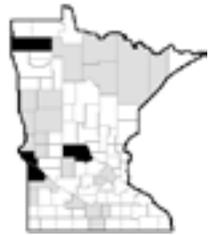
Canada Goose



Trumpeter Swan



Wood Duck



Gadwall



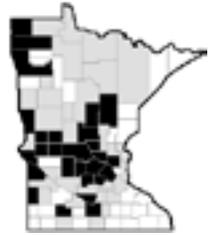
American Wigeon



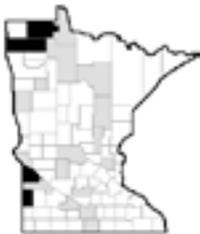
American Black Duck



Mallard



Blue-winged Teal



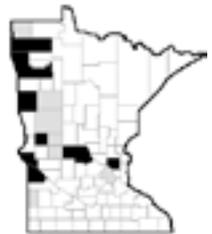
Northern Shoveler



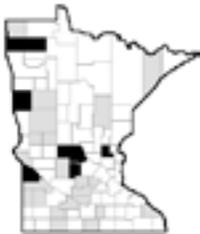
Northern Pintail



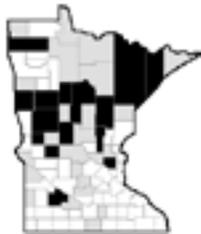
Green-winged Teal



Canvasback



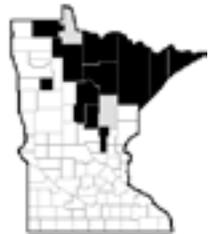
Redhead



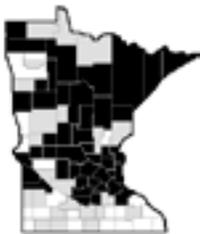
Ring-necked Duck



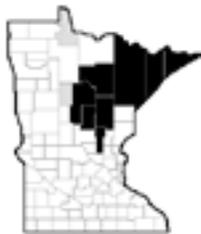
Bufflehead



Common Goldeneye



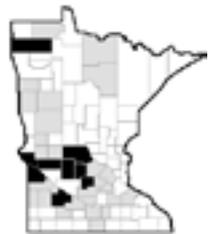
Hooded Merganser



Common Merganser



Red-breasted Merganser



Ruddy Duck

Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*) — [24 North, 21 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest. First county breeding records for *Lake JWL*, *Wright fide BBA*.

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [1 North, 2 South] Northbound migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/8 Blue Earth ChH. Early fall migrant 7/30 Otter Tail (2) KRu.

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [2 South] Late south 6/3 Big Stone (4) RMD, 6/8 Blue Earth ChH.

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [5 North, 9 South] Observed in all regions except Southwest and Southeast. Northbound migrants 6/7 Brown BTS, 6/10 Big Stone BJU and Sherburne PLJ. Southbound migrants: early north 7/17 Kittson JMJ, 7/24 Clay and Mahnomen HHD; early south 7/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 7/24 Sibley DWK, RBW.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 North] Nested in Lake of the Woods (Pine-Curry Island) KVH.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [31 North, 49 South] Seen throughout the state. First county breeding records for *Mower fide BBA*, *Rock AXH*. Record high count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (1,616 including 777 at Hamlin W.M.A.) PCC.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [2 South] Seen 6/10 Big Stone (7) BJU, 6/27 Big Stone (6) PCC, 7/3 Big Stone DBM, 7/10 Big Stone (7) PCC, 7/31 Houston DBM.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) — [24 North, 33 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Ramsey REH*, *Wright fide BBA*.

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) — [7 North, 17 South] Observed in all regions of the state except Southeast. Southbound migrants: early north 7/7 Becker (12) LBF; early south 7/5 Dakota DWK and Sherburne PLJ.

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*)

— [5 North, 11 South] Seen in all western regions plus Central and South-central. Only northbound migrant 6/7 Brown BTS. Southbound migrants: early north 6/27 Grant PCC, 7/9 Clay BJU, early south 6/27 Big Stone PCC, 7/5 Dakota DWK. First juvenile 7/25 Grant PCC. No significant counts.

Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [1 South] Reported 7/24 Lac qui Parle BJU.

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) — [9 North, 19 South] Observed in all regions of the state. Northbound migrants 6/4 Brown BTS, 6/8 Blue Earth ChH. Southbound migrants: early north 6/27 Grant PCC, 7/3 Lake JWL; early south 6/27 Big Stone PCC and Rice TFB. First juvenile 7/25 Grant PCC. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (283) PCC.

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [6 North, 15 South] Found south and west of a line from Polk to Hennepin. First county breeding record from *Otter Tail LS*.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Observed 6/1–3 St. Louis ph. PHS, ph. SCZ, 7/28 Dakota KRo, † JPM, † CMB, JWH, ADS, RTE.

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) — [2 South] Northbound migrants 6/3 Brown (2) BTS, (4) MCBS, 6/5 Sibley (1) DWK, RBW.

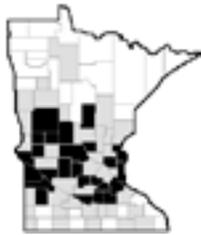
Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) — [10 North, 4 South] Reported from all northern regions, West-central and Central. High count 6/8 Clay (30, Felton Prairie and surrounding area) CMB. Unusual report 7/8 St. Louis (Island Lake, near Duluth) †JLK.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) — [3 North, 1 South] Northbound migrants 6/1 Stearns PLJ, 6/2 Cass (5) BAW, 6/2, 6/4, 6/6 St. Louis PHS, 6/4, 6/5 Cook RBJ, SLP, JWH, JaL.

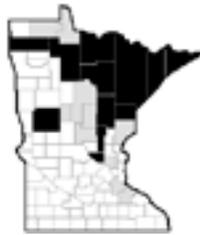
Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) — [4 North, 3 South] Northbound migrants: late south 6/7 Brown BTS, 6/10 Big Stone BJU; late north



Gray Partridge



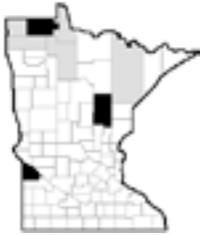
Ring-necked Pheasant



Ruffed Grouse



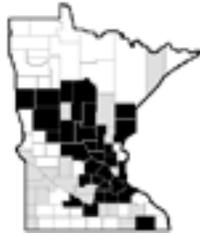
Spruce Grouse



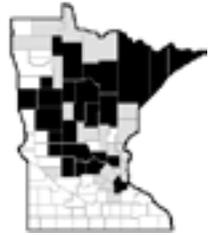
Sharp-tailed Grouse



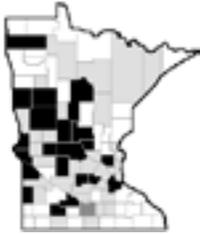
Greater Prairie-Chicken



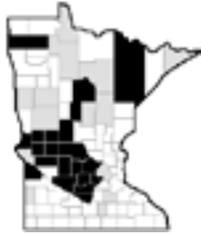
Wild Turkey



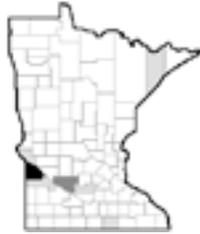
Common Loon



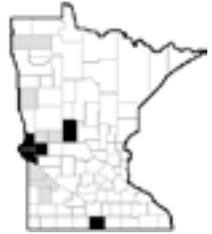
Pied-billed Grebe



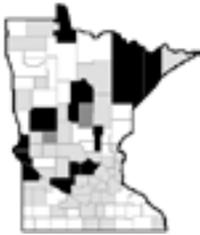
Red-necked Grebe



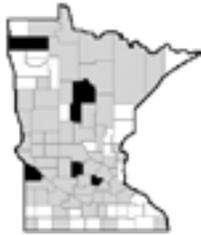
Eared Grebe



Western Grebe



Double-crested Cormorant



American White Pelican



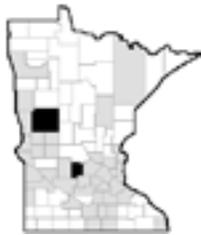
American Bittern



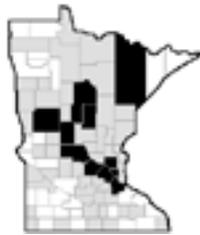
Least Bittern



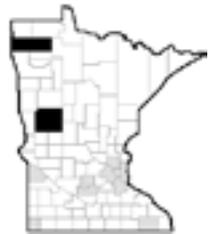
Great Blue Heron



Great Egret

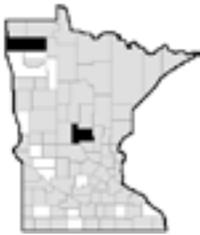


Green Heron

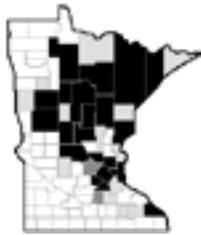


Black-crowned Night-Heron

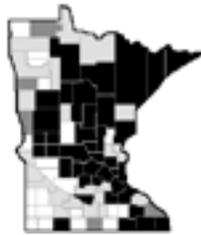
- 6/6 St. Louis (29) PHS, 6/8 Mille Lacs FGo. Only southbound migrants 7/25 St. Louis (2) PHS.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [5 North, 16 South] Reported from all regions except North-central and Southeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/13 Brown BTS; late north 6/5 Cook JEB. Southbound migrants: early north 6/27 Grant PCC; early south 7/7 Sherburne ASC. High counts 6/1 Lac qui Parle (225, northbound) BJU, 7/31 Lac qui Parle (311, southbound) PCC.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [12 North, 25 South] Seen in all regions of the state. Late south northbound migrants 6/8 Blue Earth ChH, 6/9 Sherburne PLJ. Southbound migrants: early north 7/4 Otter Tail LSp, 7/9 Morrison MJB; early south 7/5 Dakota DWK and Sherburne PLJ. First juvenile 7/25 Grant PCC. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (381) PCC.
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [1 North, 7 South] Northbound migrants: late south 6/10 Big Stone and Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/12 Lac qui Parle BJU; only north report 6/8 Clay CMB. High count 6/1 Lac qui Parle (180) BJU.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [2 North, 9 South] Late south northbound migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/10 Sherburne PLJ. Southbound migrants: early north 7/24 Clay HHD; early south 7/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 7/17 Dakota JPM.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [2 North, 14 South] Reported from all western regions plus Central, East-central, South-central. Late spring migrants 6/7 Brown BTS, 6/10 Sherburne PLJ. Mid-summer report 6/25 Cottonwood RPR; earliest fall migrants 7/9 Dakota CMB, 7/10–13 in four south counties. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (983, including 906 at Hamlin W.M.A.) PCC.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [1 North, 1 South] Northbound migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle (3) BJU, 6/4, 6/5 Cook RBJ, SLP, JWH, JaL, JEB.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [3 North, 6 South] Northbound migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/9 Brown (1) BTS. Southbound migrants: early north 7/17 Kittson JMJ; early south 7/7 Dakota JPM, 7/10 Big Stone PCC.
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Tryngites subruficollis*) — [1 North, 3 South] Observed 7/25 Chisago (5) DWK, Dakota SWe, 7/26 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU, 7/27 Chisago LS, 7/28 Dakota (8) DAB, (8) LS, (4) JWH, JPM, (2) RTe, St. Louis (2) *fide* JWJ, 7/29 Dakota (5) RBW, (2) LEC, (2) JLO, 7/30 Chisago (7) LS, Dakota (6) ChM, 7/31 Lac qui Parle (4) PCC.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [3 North, 8 South] Late south 6/3 Kandiyohi RPR. Southbound migrants: early north 7/11 Otter Tail LSp; early south 7/7 Sherburne ASC, 7/8 Dakota DWK. All counts single digits.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [24 North, 17 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [14 North, 10 South] Found in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records for Wilkin AXH, Yellow Medicine BR.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [5 North, 7 South] Seen west of a line from Kittson to Hennepin. First juvenile 7/10 Big Stone PCC. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (164) PCC.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [3 South] Late spring migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle (4, Salt Lake) BJU, 6/7–8 Brown (female at Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS. Early southbound migrants 7/18 Dakota BAF, 7/26 Lac qui Parle (3, Salt Lake) BJU, 7/31 Lac qui Parle (6, Salt Lake) PCC.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [5 North, 2 South] Found in Beltrami, Big Stone, Cass, Crow Wing, Dakota, Lake, Mille Lacs.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*)



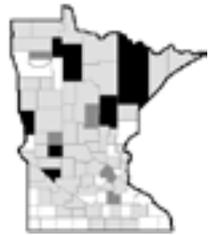
Turkey Vulture



Osprey



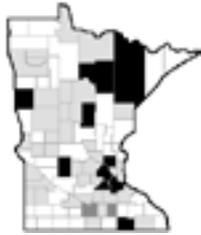
Bald Eagle



Northern Harrier



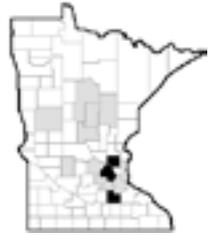
Sharp-shinned Hawk



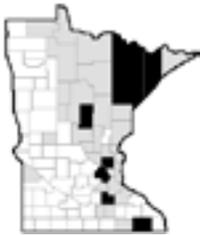
Cooper's Hawk



Northern Goshawk



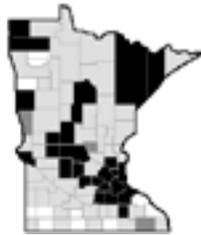
Red-shouldered Hawk



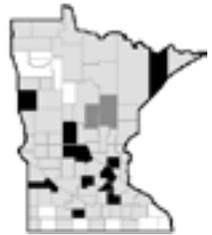
Broad-winged Hawk



Swainson's Hawk



Red-tailed Hawk



American Kestrel



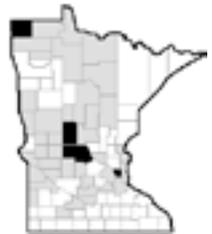
Merlin



Peregrine Falcon



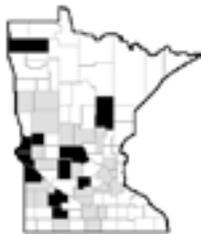
Virginia Rail



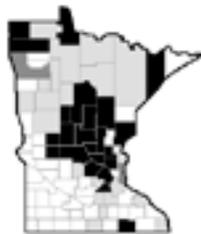
Sora



Common Moorhen



American Coot

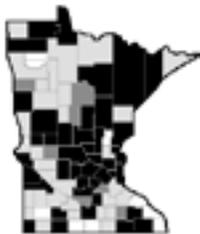


Sandhill Crane

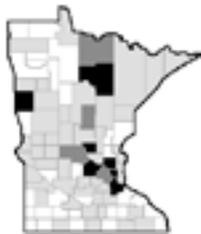


Piping Plover

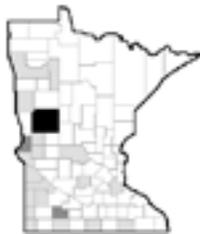
- [5 North, 15 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast, Southeast.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [24 North, 30 South] Reported throughout.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [12 North, 4 South] Seen in North-central and Northeast plus Dakota, Lac qui Parle, Mille Lacs. First county breeding record from *Crow Wing* PSP.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [4 North, 5 South] Reported from Cass, Cook, Hennepin, Mille Lacs, Pope, Ramsey, Roseau, Sherburne, Waseca.
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonias niger*) — [21 North, 34 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding records for *Kittson* LW, *McLeod* PRH.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [10 North, 1 South] Found in all northern regions plus Kandiyohi, Mille Lacs. First county breeding record from *Crow Wing* PSP.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [9 North, 14 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [26 North, 50 South] Seen statewide.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [1 North, 27 South] Found in all southern and central regions. First county breeding record from *Blue Earth* AXH.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [31 North, 52 South] Observed throughout state. First county breeding records for *Crow Wing* JLK, *Dodge fide* BBA, *Meeker fide* BBA, *Nicollet* JCC.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [5 North, 15 South] Found in all central regions plus South-central, Southeast.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [21 North, 22 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding records from *Douglas* JPE, *Pipestone fide* BBA, *Todd* MSK.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [1 North, 6 South] Found in Anoka, Brown, Chippewa, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Morrison, Ramsey. First county breeding record from *McLeod* PRH.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [12 North, 20 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast. First county breeding records from *Scott* DWK, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [5 North] Male from a pair found in spring reported carrying prey in Aitkin through 6/4 ASC, WEN. Though spring saw several failed nesting attempts in Lake, but June and July brought evidence of successful breeding: 6/6 Lake (4, 3 fledglings) ph. JWL, 6/11 Lake (3; pair with one juvenile) CLW, CDo, 6/14 (family) MSS, 7/8–9 Lake (4, 3 fledglings) MCBS. Found in Lake of the Woods 6/19 RMD, 6/29 (3, including 2 juveniles) BJS. Additional reports: 6/14 Roseau JDr, 6/19 St. Louis EFP, 6/22 Lake NLM, 6/23 Lake KRE.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [16 North, 17 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. First county breeding record from *St. Louis* DMK.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [4 North] Found in Aitkin 6/2 ASC, 6/6 (C.R. 18) DBM, 6/10 CLW, 6/22 WEN, 6/24 (C.R. 18) CMB, 6/26 (Hedbom F.R.) KCR, 6/28 (2 south of C.R. 18 and Pietz's Rd.) DWK, KRE; in Koochiching 6/5 (C.R. 13 near C.R. 77) HHD, 6/17 (1 ad. and 1 juv.) DBM; in Lake 6/9 SES, 6/11 CLW, CDo, 6/12 *fide* NLM, 7/17 LEC, 7/22 (near Spruce Rd. and S.R. 1) NLM; and in St. Louis 6/16 RIr, 7/23 MMa.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [1 North] Observed 6/12 St. Louis SGW.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [4 North, 2 South] Reported from Aitkin, Lac qui Parle, Marshall, Pennington, Roseau, Yellow Medicine.



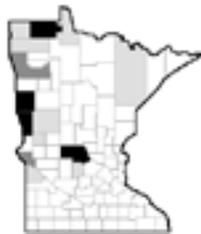
Killdeer



Spotted Sandpiper



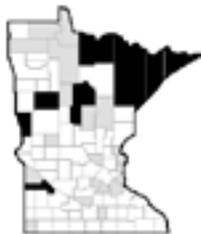
Upland Sandpiper



Marbled Godwit



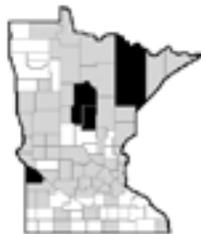
Wilson's Snipe



American Woodcock



Wilson's Phalarope



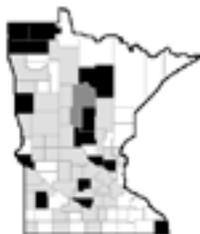
Ring-billed Gull



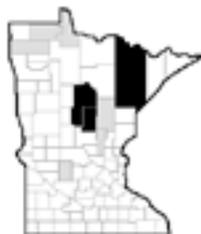
Herring Gull



Caspian Tern



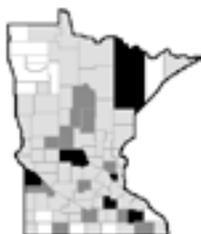
Black Tern



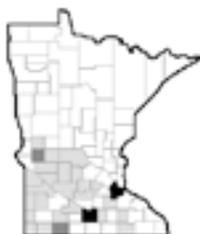
Common Tern



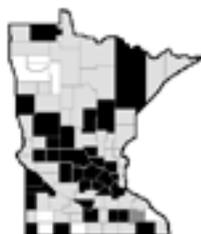
Forster's Tern



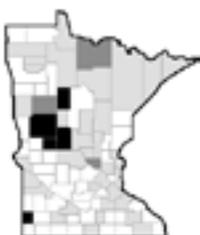
Rock Pigeon



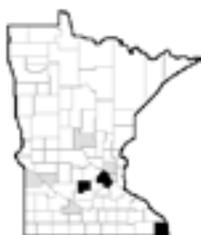
Eurasian Collared-Dove



Mourning Dove



Black-billed Cuckoo



Eastern Screech-Owl



Great Horned Owl



Northern Hawk Owl

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [4 North] Found 6/2 Crow Wing KRW, 6/8 Lake SGW, 6/13 Roseau TAF, 6/15, 7/24 St. Louis JCG.

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) — [13 North, 30 South] Observed in all regions of the state.

Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) — [9 North, 6 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Anoka, Big Stone, Goodhue, Renville, Sherburne.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [25 North, 47 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records from *Becker fide BBA, McLeod PRH*.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) — [25 North, 39 South] Seen in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Rice DAB, Todd JLK*.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [24 North, 38 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records for *Hennepin SHF, Meeker RPR, Todd MSK, Yellow Medicine SWe*.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [11 North, 28 South] Seen in all regions except Northwest, Northeast. First county breeding records for *Cottonwood BSa, Scott fide BBA*. High count 6/20 Dakota (7 adults, Vermilion Twp.) JPM.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [17 North, 40 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Benton MRN, Cass fide BBA, Crow Wing JSB, Dodge TEB, Hubbard fide BBA, Nicollet WCM*.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [28 North, 36 South] Observed throughout state. First county breeding records for *Benton MRN, Stevens MKu*.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) — [30 North, 45 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for *Douglas*

fide BBA, Lake of the Woods RPR.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) — [24 North, 36 South] Found in all regions.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [3 North] Observed 6/7, 6/26 Lake MCBS, 6/17 Koochiching (2) DBM, 6/27 St. Louis NLM. First county breeding record from *Koochiching DBM*.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [7 North] Seen in Aitkin, Cass, Cook, Itasca, Kanabec, Lake, St. Louis.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [29 North, 47 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding records for *Carlton fide BBA, Chisago MRN, Kittson LW, Koochiching DMK, Lake of the Woods fide BBA, Morrison fide BBA, Pipestone fide BBA, Scott fide BBA*.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [23 North, 30 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records from *Clay fide BBA, Dakota ADS, Douglas JPE, Sherburne PLJ*.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) — [12 North, 4 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest, Southeast.

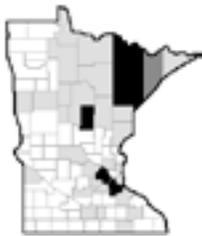
Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [27 North, 48 South] Found in all regions of the state.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [10 North, 2 South] Observed in North-central and Northeast plus Mille Lacs, Sherburne.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) — [1 North, 8 South] Found in all northern and central regions, plus migrants in Goodhue, Jackson. Late south (away from known breeding range) 6/16 Jackson MJB.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [23 North, 15 South] Found in all northern and central regions plus Goodhue, Jackson.

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) — [8



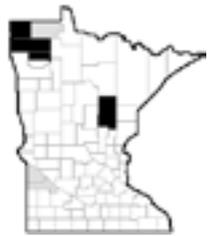
Barred Owl



Great Gray Owl



Long-eared Owl



Short-eared Owl



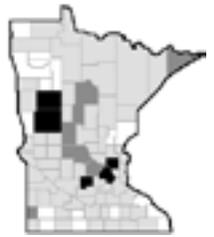
Northern Saw-whet Owl



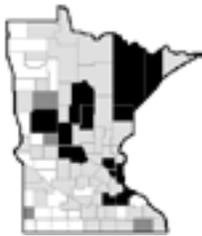
Common Nighthawk



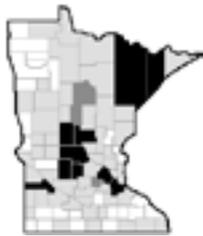
Eastern Whip-poor-will



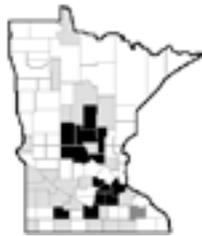
Chimney Swift



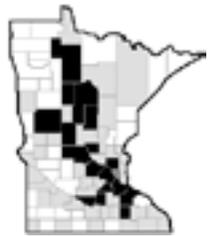
Ruby-throated Hummingbird



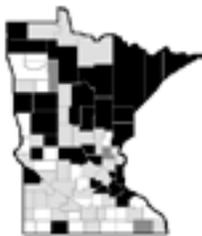
Belted Kingfisher



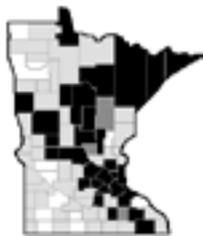
Red-headed Woodpecker



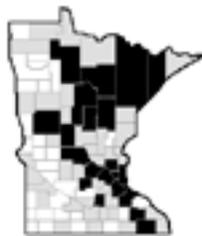
Red-bellied Woodpecker



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker



Downy Woodpecker



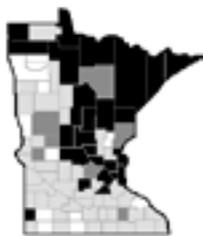
Hairy Woodpecker



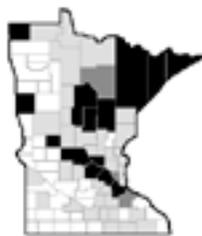
American Three-toed Woodpecker



Black-backed Woodpecker



Northern Flicker

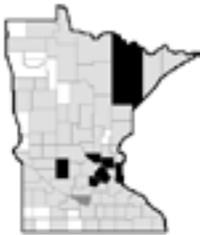


Pileated Woodpecker



Olive-sided Flycatcher

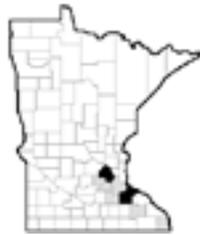
- North, 36 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast. First county breeding record from *Kandiyobi* DPG.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [27 North, 31 South] Reported from throughout state. First county breeding records for *Douglas* JPE, *Otter Tail* CBr, *Ramsey fide* BBA, *Todd* JLK.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [29 North, 39 South] Found statewide. First county breeding record from *Benton* MRN.
- SAY'S PHOEBE** (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 South] Two individuals in Florida Twp., Yellow Medicine first found 6/16 ph. †RMD and subsequently documented 6/26 †WCM, 7/3 †HHD, 7/17 ph. †AXH, 7/26 ph. BJU. First state and county breeding record for *Yellow Medicine* (nest with four eggs) ph. AXH (*The Loon* 83:6–9).
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [30 North, 47 South] Observed in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Douglas* JPE, *Kittson* LW, *Todd* JLK, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [10 North, 12 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast, South-central. First county breeding records from *Benton* MJB, *Yellow Medicine* BJU.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [32 North, 49 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records for *Douglas* JPE, *Jackson* BSa, *Yellow Medicine* SWe.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [1 North, 9 South] Seen in Clay, Dakota, Fillmore, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Pope, Sherburne, Waseca, Washington, Yellow Medicine.
- White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) — [1 South] Found 6/15 Waseca (during MCBS surveys) †SPS.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [4 South] Reported 6/2 – 7/7 Dakota (Black Dog Nature Preserve S.N.A.) m.ob. (max. 6 on 6/20 BAF), 6/2 – 7/16 Hennepin (Lake Nokomis) DWK, BAF, ph. AXH, ph. †DDo (*The Loon* 83:42–43).
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [24 North, 39 South] Observed in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Carlton* MSS, *St. Louis* MTh.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [12 North, 1 South] Seen in northern regions plus Dakota.
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [23 North, 46 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for *Clay* DPW, *Douglas* JPE, *Otter Tail* CBr.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [3 North] Observed 6/7, 7/1, 7/10 Lake GLa, SSw, MDN, 6/14, 7/4 St. Louis *fide* BBA, SLF, 6/20, 7/8 Cook MDN.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [30 North, 44 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Kittson* LW, *Pope* DRa.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [10 North] Seen in Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [28 North, 48 South] Reported from throughout the state. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Douglas fide* BBA, *Pope* DRa, *Rock* AXH.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [13 North] Observed in all northern regions. First county breeding record from *Crow Wing* PSP.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [30 North, 51 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records for *Beltrami* BLLe, *Dodge fide* BBA, *Douglas* JPE, *Itasca* JLK, *Koochiching* DMK, *Morrison* RPR, *Sherburne* RBy, *Todd* MSK.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [22 North, 5 South] Seen north and east of a line from



Eastern Wood-Pewee



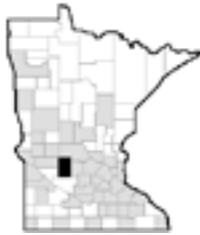
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher



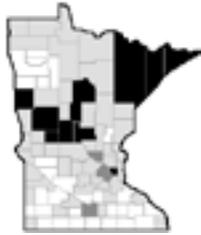
Acadian Flycatcher



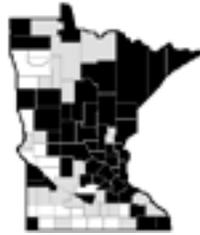
Alder Flycatcher



Willow Flycatcher



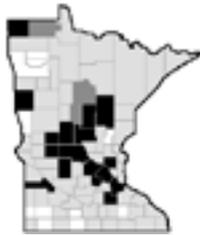
Least Flycatcher



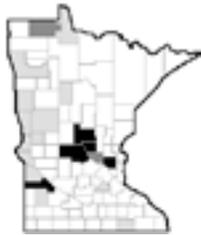
Eastern Phoebe



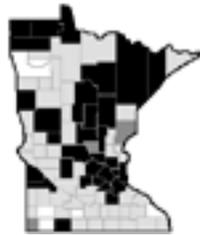
SAY'S PHOEBE



Great Crested Flycatcher



Western Kingbird



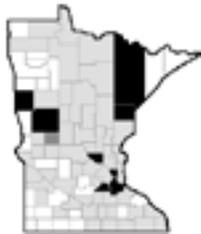
Eastern Kingbird



Loggerhead Shrike



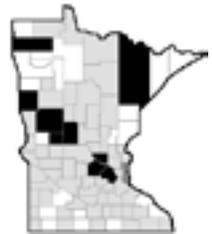
Bell's Vireo



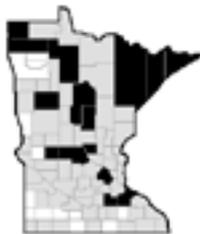
Yellow-throated Vireo



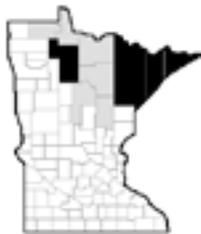
Blue-headed Vireo



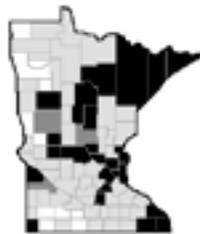
Warbling Vireo



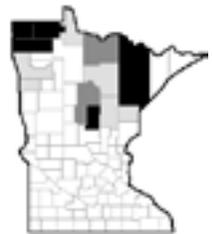
Red-eyed Vireo



Gray Jay

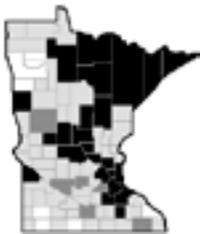


Blue Jay

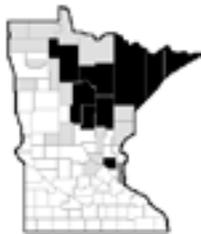


Black-billed Magpie

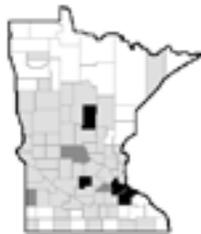
- Norman, through Douglas to Washington. First county breeding record from *Itasca* *vide* BBA.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [18 North, 41 South] Reported throughout state, except the far north. First county breeding records for *Crow Wing* PSP, *McLeod* PRH.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [21 North, 35 South] Observed in all regions of the state. First county breeding records from *Mower* *vide* BBA, *Pine* MRN.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [32 North, 50 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records for *Goodhue* LEC, *Grant* DPG, *Rock* AXH.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [21 North, 33 South] Seen in all regions of the state. First county breeding record from *Douglas* JPE.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [21 North, 41 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding record from *Jackson* RPR.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [30 North, 50 South] Observed throughout state.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [33 North, 51 South] Found statewide. First county breeding record from *Goodhue* BSa.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [29 North, 49 South] Seen throughout the state. First county breeding records for *Carlton* *vide* BBA, *Chisago* *vide* BBA, *Douglas* JPE, *Jackson* BSa, *Mower* *vide* BBA, *Stevens* MKu, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [6 North] Observed in Aitkin, Beltrami, Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [2 South] Found 7/18, 7/31 Olmsted LAV, OWB, 7/31 Houston DBM.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [21 North, 5 South] Seen north and east of a line from Clay to Dakota. First county breeding record from *Itasca* JLK.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [24 North, 45 South] Reported throughout the state. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Itasca* JLK, *Nicollet* *vide* BBA, *Stevens* JWL, *Todd* JLK.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [8 North, 2 South] Reported from Aitkin, Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Hennepin, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Ramsey, St. Louis.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [2 South] Reported 7/6, 7/10 Fillmore NBO, 7/24, 7/25 Houston *vide* BBA.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [30 North, 49 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records from *Cook* ARu, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [11 North, 1 South] Observed north and east of a line from Roseau to Sherburne, plus Douglas.
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [30 North, 46 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding record from *Aitkin* WEN.
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [26 North, 38 South] Seen throughout. First county breeding record from *Nicollet* MJF.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliptila caerulea*) — [7 North, 36 South] Found as far north as northern Cass. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Carver* DAB, *Crow Wing* JLK, *Pope* *vide* BBA, *Rice* *vide* BBA.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [9 North, 1 South] Found in Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Sherburne, St. Louis. First county breeding record from *Crow Wing* *vide* BBA.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [9 North] Reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake,



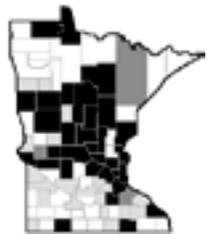
American Crow



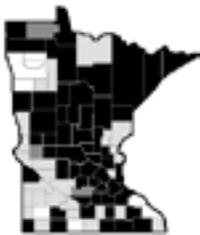
Common Raven



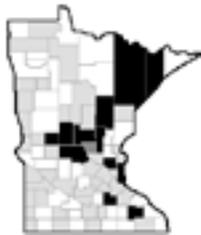
Horned Lark



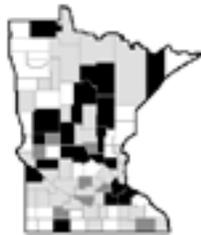
Purple Martin



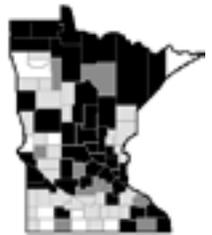
Tree Swallow



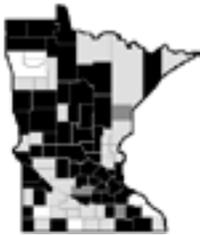
Northern Rough-winged Swallow



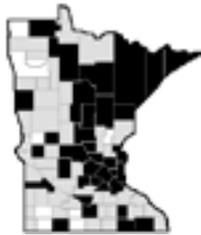
Bank Swallow



Cliff Swallow



Barn Swallow



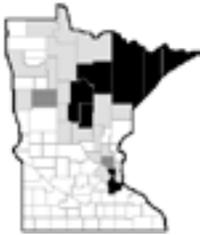
Black-capped Chickadee



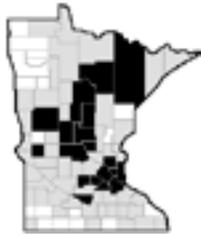
Boreal Chickadee



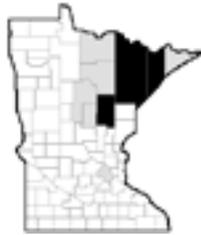
Tufted Titmouse



Red-breasted Nuthatch



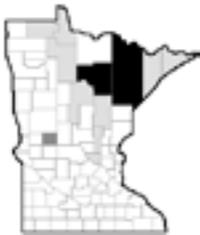
White-breasted Nuthatch



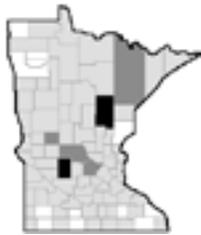
Brown Creeper



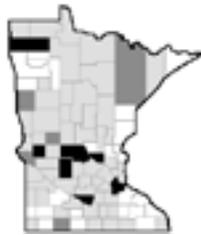
House Wren



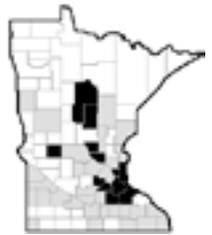
Winter Wren



Sedge Wren



Marsh Wren



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

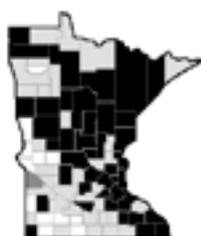
- Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. First county breeding record from *Lake fide* BBA, NLM.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [32 North, 43 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding record from *Carlton fide* BBA.
- Veery** (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [26 North, 17 South] Reported from all regions except the Southwest.
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [7 North] Found in Aitkin, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. First county breeding record from *St. Louis* JLK.
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [19 North, 2 South] Found in all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Morrison.
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [14 North, 25 South] Reported from all regions of the state except Northwest.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [31 North, 51 South] Observed in all but six counties. First county breeding record from *Kittson* LW.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [31 North, 49 South] Seen in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Itasca* JLK, *McLeod* SMA, *Yellow Medicine* SWe.
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [2 South] Observed 6/3 *Waseca fide* BBA, 6/26 *Hennepin fide* AXH.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [27 North, 44 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records from *Pipestone fide* BBA, *Scott fide* BBA.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [28 North, 49 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding records for *Aitkin* RBJ, *DAC*, *Benton* MRN, *Clay fide* BBA, *Cottonwood* BSa, *Douglas* JPE, *Mower* RPR, *Nicollet* JCC, *Pipestone fide* BBA, *Rice fide* BBA, *Roseau* BCS, *Scott fide* BBA, *Steele* PSu, *Washington* RBy.
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [1 South] Reported 7/27 *Dakota* JPM.
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [32 North, 48 South] Observed throughout state. First county breeding records for *Clay fide* BBA, *Kittson* LW, *Lincoln* AXH.
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] All reports from *Felton* Prairie in *Clay*. High count of 5 on 7/9 *BJU*.
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [1 North, 15 South] Found in southeastern quarter of state as far north as *Mille Lacs* (6/4, ASC). First county breeding record from *Sherburne* PLJ, PMJ.
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [17 North, 3 South] Observed in all northern and central regions.
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [6 North, 8 South] Found in all northern and central regions. Late northbound migrant 6/7 *Olmsted* JWH. Early southbound 7/17 *Hennepin* SLC.
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [18 North, 6 South] Reported north and east of a line from *Becker* to *Hennepin*, plus *Lac qui Parle*.
- Northern Parula** (*Parula americana*) — [12 North, 2 South] Found in all northern regions, plus *Anoka*, *Sherburne*.
- Yellow Warbler** (*Dendroica petechia*) — [32 North, 47 South] Found statewide. First county breeding record from *Rock* AXH.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) — [24 North, 9 South] Reported from all northern and central regions.
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Dendroica magnolia*) — [12 North, 1 South] Observed in North-central and Northeast, plus *Mille Lacs*, *Roseau*, *Steele*. First county breeding record from *Itasca* BCS.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Dendroica tigrina*) — [8 North] Seen in *Aitkin*, *Cass*, *Cook*, *Koochi-*



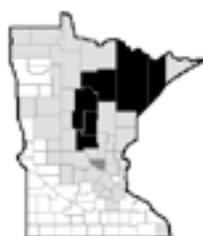
Golden-crowned Kinglet



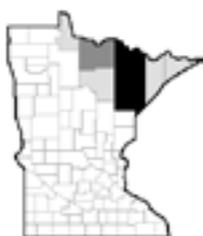
Ruby-crowned Kinglet



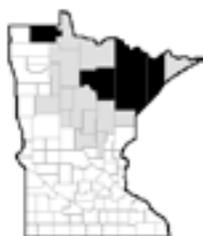
Eastern Bluebird



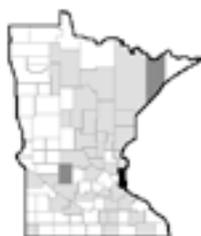
Veery



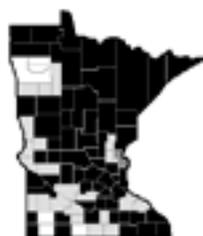
Swainson's Thrush



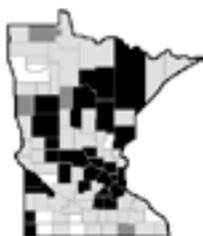
Hermit Thrush



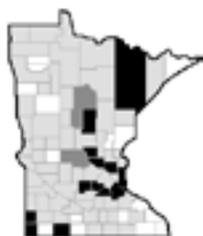
Wood Thrush



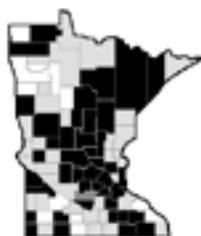
American Robin



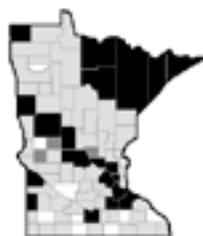
Gray Catbird



Brown Thrasher



European Starling



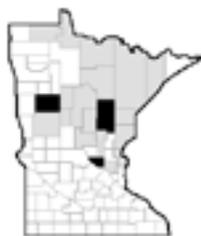
Cedar Waxwing



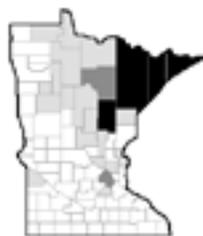
Chestnut-collared Longspur



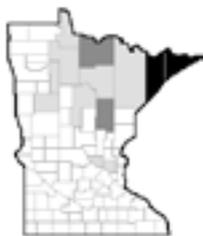
Blue-winged Warbler



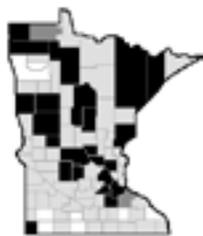
Golden-winged Warbler



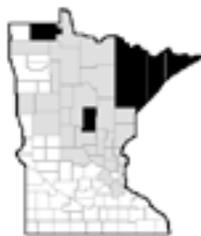
Nashville Warbler



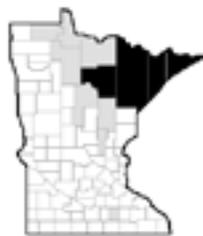
Northern Parula



Yellow Warbler



Chestnut-sided Warbler

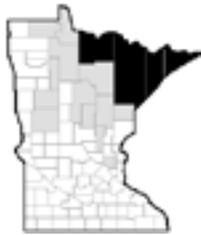


Magnolia Warbler

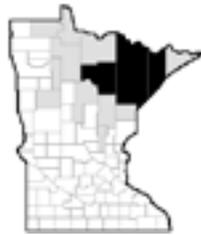
- ching, Lake, Morrison, Roseau, St. Louis. First county breeding record from *Roseau* BCS.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Dendroica caerulescens*) — [3 North] Many reports from Cook and Lake, along with scattered records from St. Louis, though mid-July.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Dendroica coronata*) — [16 North, 1 South] Seen north and east of a line from Otter Tail to Anoka. First county breeding record from *Koochiching* AXH.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Dendroica virens*) — [14 North] Found north and east of a line from Becker to Mille Lacs. First county breeding records from *Itasca* BCS.
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Dendroica fusca*) — [14 North, 1 South] Reported from North-central and Northeast, plus Kittson, Mille Lacs, Sherburne.
- Pine Warbler** (*Dendroica pinus*) — [18 North, 6 South] Seen north and east of a line from Becker to Ramsey.
- Palm Warbler** (*Dendroica palmarum*) — [8 North] Found in Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Dendroica castanea*) — [4 North] Reported 6/5, 6/10 Cook JCG, 6/13 Itasca EEO, 7/4 Lake MCBS, 7/8 Lake RBJ, 7/31 Koochiching RMD, DWK.
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Dendroica striata*) — [1 South] Observed 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU.
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Dendroica cerulea*) — [1 North, 14 South] Reported from the south-eastern quarter of the state.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [21 North, 4 South] Seen in all northern regions plus Central and East-central. First county breeding record from *Morrison* RPR.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [30 North, 44 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records from *Benton* MRN, *Dodge* TEB, *Kittson* LW.
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [11 South] Reported south and east of a line from Chisago to Nicollet, plus Lac qui Parle.
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [24 North, 31 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding record from *Crow Wing* *fide* BBA.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [9 North, 1 South] Reported in Aitkin, Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Hennepin, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [2 South] Found 6/21 Chisago (Franconia S.N.A.) MJB, 7/30 Washington (Otisville-Fitz) JoF.
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [11 North] Observed in all northern regions.
- Mourning Warbler** (*Oporornis philadelphia*) — [13 North, 4 South] Reported north and east of a line from Roseau to Scott. First county breeding records from *Beltrami* *fide* BBA, *Roseau* RPR.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [31 North, 49 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Chippewa* DPG, *Douglas* JPE, *Meeker* *fide* BBA, *Otter Tail* CBr, *Pope* DRa, *Roseau* BJS, *Sherburne* PIJ, *Stevens* JWJ.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Wilsonia citrina*) — [2 South] Reported 6/2 Dakota (2) JPM, 6/9 Scott CLW, 6/18 Dakota JPM, (6) ADS, 6/19 Dakota JPM, 7/6 Scott SLP.
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Wilsonia pusilla*) — [4 North, 1 South] Observed 6/6 Lake DAG, 6/8 Lake SGW, 6/9 Lake SES, 6/10 St. Louis SGW, 6/11 Lake CLW, CDo, 6/12 Lake MCBS, 6/16 St. Louis SGW, 6/22 Lake (6)



Cape May Warbler



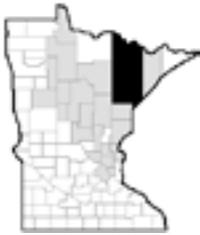
Yellow-rumped Warbler



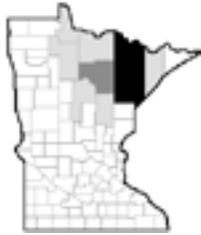
Black-throated Green Warbler



Blackburnian Warbler



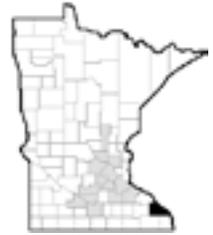
Pine Warbler



Palm Warbler



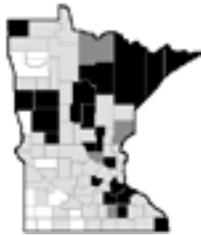
Bay-breasted Warbler



Cerulean Warbler



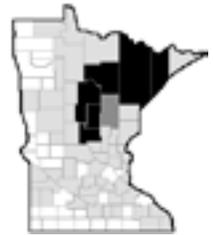
Black-and-white Warbler



American Redstart



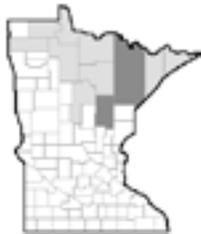
Prothonotary Warbler



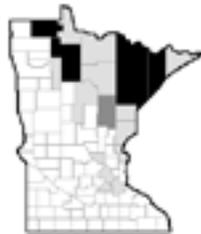
Ovenbird



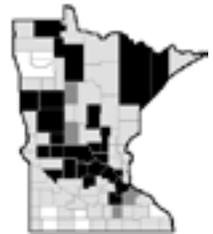
Northern Waterthrush



Connecticut Warbler



Mourning Warbler



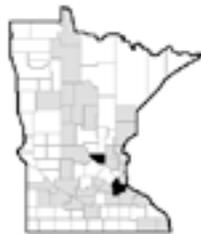
Common Yellowthroat



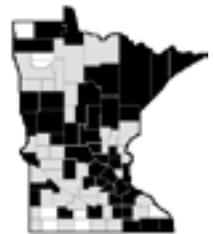
Wilson's Warbler



Canada Warbler

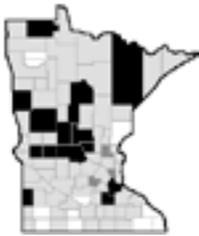


Eastern Towhee

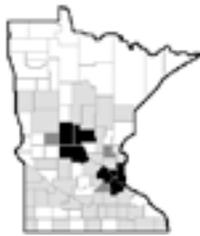


Chipping Sparrow

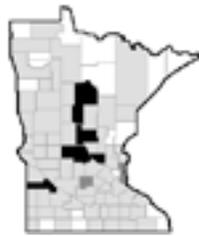
- MCBS, 6/23 Lake (2) KRE, 6/24 Marshall *vide* JMJ, 6/26 Douglas *vide* JMJ, 6/27 Lake JWL, 7/7 Lincoln DBM, 7/31 St. Louis PRH.
- Canada Warbler** (*Wilsonia canadensis*) — [9 North, 2 South] Observed in North-central and Northeast.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [11 North, 25 South] Found in all regions except West-central. First county breeding record from *Sherburne* PLJ, PMJ.
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [31 North, 49 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Dodge* *vide* BBA, *Isanti* DPG, *Lake of the Woods* BCS, *Roseau* BJS, *Wilkin* LBF, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [31 North, 45 South] Observed throughout state. First county breeding record from *Rice* *vide* BBA.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [12 North, 38 South] Found throughout state south of a line from Clay to Cass to Carlton. First county breeding record from *Todd* JLK.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [23 North, 47 South] Seen in all regions of the state. First county breeding record from *Yellow Medicine* SWe.
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [5 North, 22 South] Observed south and west of a line from Kittson to Chisago. First county breeding record from *Isanti* DPG.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [32 North, 40 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Carver* JCy, *Stearns* MRN, *Washington* *vide* BBA.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [13 North, 32 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding record from *Hennepin* SLC.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus hens-*
- lowii*) — [2 North, 13 South] Found in all central and southern regions, plus Polk.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [19 North, 5 South] Seen in all northern and central regions. First county breeding record from *Kittson* LW.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [4 North, 1 South] Reported 6/2 Aitkin ASc, 6/5 Aitkin DBM, Cass (2) BAW, 6/6 Polk *vide* JMJ, 6/10, 6/12 Lac qui Parle (2) a.t. BJU, 6/17 Clay DDo, 7/24 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [32 North, 49 South] Observed in all but seven counties. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Chisago* MHe, *Steele* PSu, *Stevens* JWL, *Yellow Medicine* SWe.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [10 North] Observed in Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Cook, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [30 North, 44 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Marshall* *vide* BBA, *Mille Lacs* DPG, *Morrison* LPf, *Todd* JLK.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [15 North, 4 South] Reported north and east of a line from Marshall to Washington, plus Stearns.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [1 North] Seen 6/5 Cass BAW.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [10 North, 2 South] Observed in all northern regions and Central, plus Goodhue.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [27 North, 31 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records from *Douglas* JPE, *St. Louis* MTh.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [17 North, 44 South] Seen throughout the state. First county breeding records from *Cass* MRN, *Cook* ARU, *Pine* EMH.



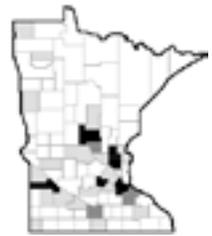
Clay-colored Sparrow



Field Sparrow



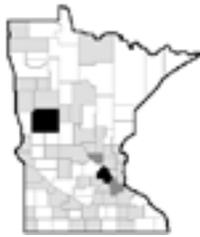
Vesper Sparrow



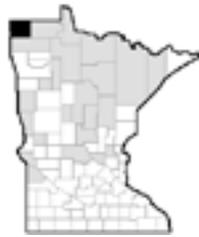
Lark Sparrow



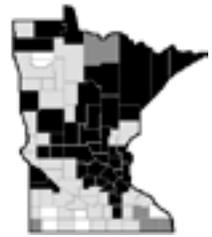
Savannah Sparrow



Grasshopper Sparrow



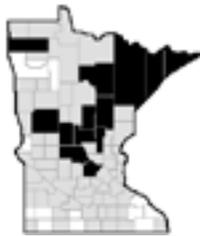
Le Conte's Sparrow



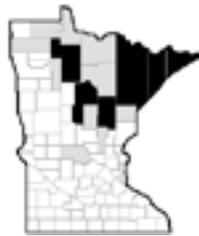
Song Sparrow



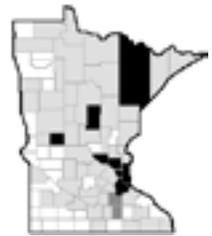
Lincoln's Sparrow



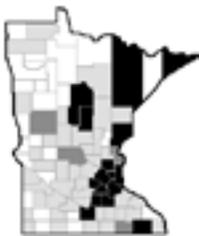
Swamp Sparrow



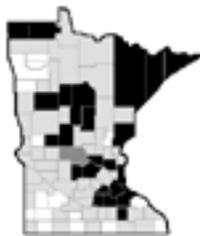
White-throated Sparrow



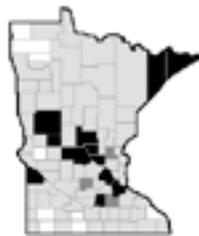
Scarlet Tanager



Northern Cardinal



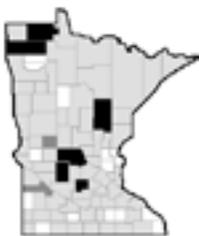
Rose-breasted Grosbeak



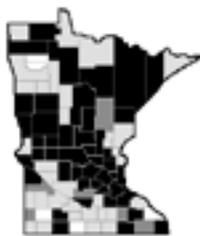
Indigo Bunting



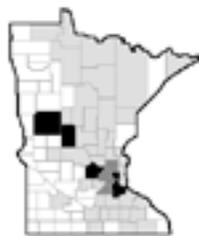
Dickcissel



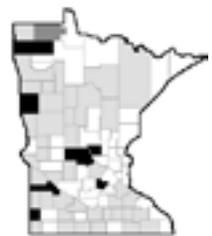
Bobolink



Red-winged Blackbird

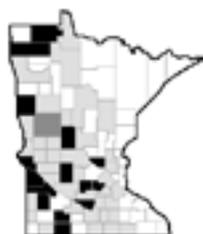


Eastern Meadowlark



Western Meadowlark

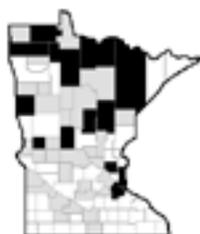
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [29 North, 43 South] Reported throughout the state. First county breeding records from *Cook* ARu, *Dodge* TEB, *Kittson* LW, *Pine* BSa, *Rice* fide BBA, *Roseau* BJS.
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [4 South] Seen 6/1 Rock (5) RMD, 6/8 Yellow Medicine (2) RAE, SWe, 6/12 Brown (2) BTS, Lac qui Parle (2) BJU, Yellow Medicine (2) BJU, 6/15 Rock (5) MJB, 6/16 Rock fide BBA, 6/24 Brown (2) RBW, 6/26 Yellow Medicine WCM, 7/5 Rock GLa, 7/10 Brown (2) RMD.
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [31 North, 49 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Cook* ARu, *Douglas* JPE, *Lac qui Parle* BJU, *Otter Tail* CBr.
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [8 North, 36 South] Observed in all central and southern regions, plus Aitkin, Clay. First county breeding records from *Dakota* LMS, *Todd* JLK.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [32 North, 42 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding record from *Marshall* fide BBA.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [32 North, 53 South] Seen in all but five counties. First county breeding records for *Carlton* fide BBA, *Grant* DPG, *Meeker* fide BBA.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [17 North, 29 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Otter Tail* fide BBA, *Ramsey* REH, *Todd* MSK.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [19 North, 30 South] Reported throughout the state. First county breeding records for the counties of *Benton* MJB, *Marshall* fide BBA, *Pipestone* BRB, *Yellow Medicine* SWe.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [17 North, 36 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding records for *Cottonwood* BSa, *McLeod* DAB, *Nicollet* MJF.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [25 North, 18 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records for *Grant* DPG, *Koochi-ching* FSw, *Washington* fide BBA.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [32 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Dodge* fide BBA, *Meeker* fide BBA, *Mower* DNO, *Nicollet* MJF, *Steele* PSu.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [1 South] Seen 6/13 Jackson AXH, 7/3 Jackson (three nests, each with two chicks; a fourth nest held one chick and one unhatched egg) ph. AXH.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [28 North, 48 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records for *Benton* MRN, *Stevens* MKu, *Yellow Medicine* SWe.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [7 North, 37 South] Observed in all regions except North-central and Northeast. First county breeding records for *Carver* DML, *Kandi-yobi* JoS, *Meeker* JAn, *Roseau* BCS, *Stearns* MJB.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [31 North, 42 South] Reported throughout the state. First county breeding records for *Marshall* fide BBA, *Mower* fide BBA, *Nicollet* WCM, *Pope* LMS, *Renville* DWK, *Scott* SLP, *Yellow Medicine* RPR.
- Purple Finch** (*Carpodacus purpureus*) — [19 North, 5 South] Seen in all northern and eastern regions, plus Scott. First county breeding records for *Kittson* LW, *Morrison* RPR, *Roseau* BJS.
- House Finch** (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) — [21 North, 38 South] Found in all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Chisago* fide BBA, *Dodge* fide BBA, *Hous-*



Yellow-headed Blackbird



Rusty Blackbird



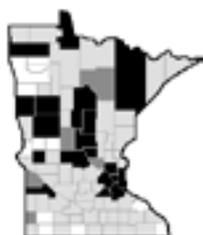
Brewer's Blackbird



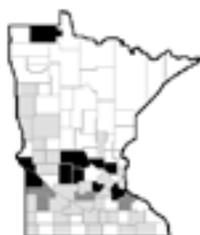
Common Grackle



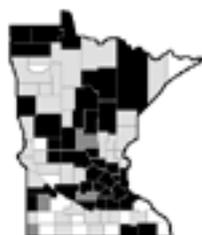
Great-tailed Grackle



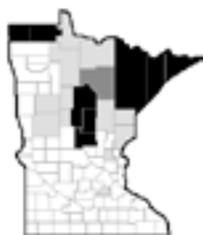
Brown-headed Cowbird



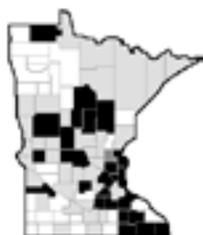
Orchard Oriole



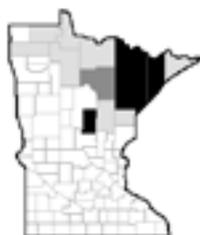
Baltimore Oriole



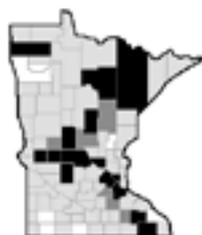
Purple Finch



House Finch



Pine Siskin



American Goldfinch

ton fide BBA, Yellow Medicine PME.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [5 North] Observed 6/4, 6/10, 6/20 Lake MCBS, 6/5 Cass (3) BAW, Cook JEB, JWH, 6/13 Roseau KMo, 6/24 Cook *fide BBA*, 6/25 Cook (different location) *fide BBA*, 7/6, 7/7 St. Louis MDN.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [2 North] Reported 6/17 Koochiching DBM, *fide JWJL*, 6/22 Lake JWJL.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [13 North] Seen in all northern regions.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [31 North, 49 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records from *Marshall fide BBA, Stevens MKu*.



Evening Grosbeak



House Sparrow

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [8 North] Seen in Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Lake, Mille Lacs, Roseau, St. Louis.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [28 North, 51 South] Reported from all regions of the state. First county breeding records for *Roseau BJS, Scott fide BBA, Steele PSu*.

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 NP Nate Popkin
 OWB Bill Bruins
 PBD Pat & Bob Dewenter
 PCC Philip C. Chu
 PEB Paul E. Budde
 PHS Peder H. Svingen
 PJB Paul J. Binek
 PJK Pat Korkowski
 PK Pat Kinner
 PLJ Paul L. Johnson
 PMa Peter Mattson
 PME Paul M. Egeland
 PMJ Paul M. Johnson
 PRH Pete Hoeger
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 PSu Paul Suchanek

RAE Ronald A. Erpelding
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 RBW Bob Williams
 RBy Bob Bystrom
 REH Robert E. Holtz
 RHe Robert Heise
 RHO Robert H. O'Connor
 Rlr Ruben Irizarry
 RLL Robin L. LaFortune
 RLR Ronald L. Refsnider
 RLW Richard Wood
 RMa Robin Maercklein
 RMD Robert M. Dunlap
 RPR Bob Russell
 RSA Renner C. Anderson
 RTe Raymond Tervo
 RTP Ray Potthoff
 RZi Roy Zimmerman
 SBe Scott Berglund
 SC Shawn Conrad
 SCo Sandy Conway
 SCZ Shawn Zierman
 SES Steven E. Schon
 SGW Steve G. Wilson
 SHF Susan H. Fall
 SHu Stan Hunter
 Slv Samuel Ives
 SKr Scott Krych
 SLC Steve L. Carlson
 SLF Steve L. Falkowski
 SLP Susan Plankis
 SMa Suzanne Maki
 SMe Steve Mortensen
 SSw Scott Swanson
 STe Susan Tertell
 STW Sylvia T. Winkelman
 SuW Suzanne Weber
 SVa Sara Vacek
 SWe Steve Weston
 TAb Taylor Abbott
 TAF Troy A. Foster
 TAT Tom A. Tustison
 TD Tim Dawson
 TEB Tom & Elizabeth Bell
 TFB Tom F. Boevers
 TLy Toni Lyrenmann
 TRP Three River Parks Staff
 WCM William C. Marengo
 WEN Warren E. Nelson

Abbreviations

C.R. County Road
 F.R. Forest Road
 N.W.R. National Wildlife Refuge
 S.N.A. Scientific and Natural Area
 S.P. State Park
 Twp. Township
 W.M.A. Wildlife Management Area
 W.T.P. Wastewater Treatment Pond

Birding by Hindsight

A Second Look at The Crossley ID Guide

Kim R. Eckert



With the arrival of this spring, along with it came the weather we've come to expect — another miserably cold April, with snowfall persisting into the first of May.

And just as predictable in late March came the expected array of suspected bird identification errors. Reports of a Swainson's Hawk (probably a Red-tailed or adult male Rough-legged or immature Bald Eagle, all of which can show a dark throat-upper breast suggesting a Swainson's-like "bib")... a Broad-winged Hawk (accipiters and Red-shoulders also have banded tails)... a heard Common Nighthawk (which the observer, to his credit, later withdrew and allowed he probably heard a woodcock).

Early and mid-April continued with another nighthawk report (if heard-only, most likely another woodcock — or perhaps a male goldeneye, which many birders don't know sounds quite nighthawk-like)... an Eastern Wood-Pewee (if just heard, how about a starling instead; if seen, too many birders and field guide authors still seem unaware that phoebes often show pewee-like wing bars)... a Painted Redstart (a what was reported?).

Usually, on this annual list of suspicious early-April arrivals, the wood-pewee entry is followed by a Swainson's (or another thrush's) identity mistakenly pinned on a Hermit Thrush. But not this time — perhaps our thrush ID skills are improving? Instead, for a jarring change of pace, a bird thought to be a Painted Redstart is seen, and, as expected, it turns out the presumably inexperienced observer simply made an error. Not expected, though, was the source of confusion reported a couple weeks later. It was

actually an Eastern Towhee!

You might recall the previous *Hindsight* article mentioned that a birder mistook a Gray Catbird for a Northern Shrike last summer. So, was that error more surprising than confusing a towhee with a redstart from the southwestern U.S.? Hard to say, but please take note that neither observer is being criticized here, and absolutely no one is being ridiculed. Certainly not by me.

After all, you *Hindsight* readers have been taking identification advice from someone who long ago misidentified swimming Bonaparte's Gulls as Common Goldeneyes, who assumed a distant sleeping Black Oystercatcher was probably a pigeon, who glimpsed a Northern Wheatear and had the initial notion it might be a Solitary Sandpiper. Someone who saw a group of pelicans in early spring far out on the Mississippi and tried to pass them off as just ice floes. So, far be it from me to deride other birders who now make errors no worse than my historical blunders.

But, more to the point of this essay, I wonder which field guide they used to lead them astray. Would another guide have prevented these misidentifications, both that completely unexpected one and those other more predictable annual Rites (or Wrongs) of Spring?

Some previous *Hindsight* columns have reviewed field guides, sometimes in depth (e.g., the reviews of the *Geographic* and *Sibley* guides), and sometimes just in passing. But hardly any of these have appeared in recent years, and there has been a flurry of field guides published during this millennium. Has our current selection of field guides

improved since the Year 2000, the year *The Sibley Guide to Birds* was published — i.e., that Ancient Book of Wisdom from the final year of the previous millennium? Are the guides now any better than they were 1,000 years ago?

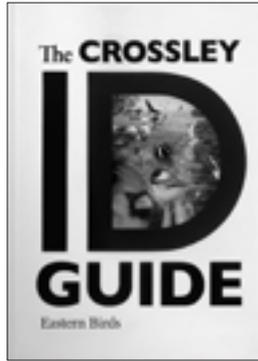
The Crossley ID Guide

You can't judge a book by its cover, so they say, and in this case I'm relieved I don't have to. Otherwise, I'd have to give the contents of this book an automatically unfavorable assessment, since I find its cover unappealing and awkwardly designed. The thick black letters I and D dominate and overwhelm more than half of the white background, with a photo collage of birds enclosed by the giant D.

The title itself is an oddity as well, since the word "birds" is not included. So, for all we know, it could be a guide to ice floes or some other non-avian entities. And is it an identification reference per se, if only the informal term "ID" appears as part of the formal title? However, this title does continue a quaint trend popularized by David Sibley and Kenn Kaufman in their respective field guides from an earlier millennium: author Richard Crossley includes his name in the title.

I have to admit, though, if anyone deserves such top billing, Crossley certainly does. He's as skilled and accomplished as any of the top birders out there, and his approachable personality makes him a natural for teaching his approach to bird identification. But particularly amazing is his prolific talent for photography, since the guide includes some 10,000 images, virtually all of them of high quality, and — incredibly — virtually all of them were taken by the author! The acknowledgements page lists only 80 images contributed by a handful of other photographers.

These photos include 660 species, and note this is coverage for the eastern U.S. and Canada only. (It's easy to miss the relatively small words "Eastern Birds" crammed at the bottom of the cover.) But more like two-thirds of the continent is defined as "East-



ern" here, so numerous marginal species from the western U.S./Canada are included. Those thousands of images are arranged on mostly full-page displays of each species, with relatively rare, local, and peripheral species relegated to a half page or less. If you do the math, the average is about 15 images per page.

These photo collages might remind you of those dioramas at the Bell Museum of Natural

History in Minneapolis, since each set of images is arranged on a background depicting a habitat appropriate for the bird. Images in the foreground are naturally larger and more useful, with coverage of each species as it varies by sex, season, and age. In addition, several smaller images of the bird also appear in the background, showing flight styles, typical postures, and flocking behaviors.

The amount of text is limited, usually about half of it with habitat, behavior, and similar information about the species, and half on identification. Vocalization information only appears briefly, if at all, and is far less complete than what you'll find in Sibley's guide. The small range maps seem no better or worse than those in other guides. More relevant and noticeable is this guide's extensive use of those four-letter banding codes as abbreviations, which will not appeal to many readers, and some might be disoriented by the book's non-standard arrangement of the sequence of species.

Without question, this guide is an attractive, truly unique, and amazing achievement, and I have every confidence that its overall accuracy is on a par with the *Geographic* and *Sibley* guides. Despite the hype I've read from some reviewers, though, I have doubts that it will become an essential addition to birders' libraries, or that it will improve or revolutionize our field identification skills. For one thing, it is larger and even heavier than *Sibley*, and may prove to be more of a secondary reference and coffee-table book.

One negative is that none of the photo displays seems to include any images of similar species. The treatment of Red Phalarope, to give just one of many examples, would

have been much more useful if some Red-necked Phalarope images had been included on the page for direct comparison.

Also, while 10,000 photos amounting to 15 photos per species are indeed a lot of pictures, are they enough? Are Crossley's species accounts superior to those in other guides, and will they translate into more accurate identifications?

Take Red-tailed Hawk and Herring Gull, for example, which I consider two key indicator species because they are widespread, have a variety of plumages, and often are mistaken for other birds. Crossley has 13 useful Red-tailed images (i.e., excluding small background photos), which compares favorably with only eight illustrations in *Geographic*, but it's far fewer than the 39 pictures in *Sibley* spread over two facing pages. And Crossley's 12 useful Herring Gull pictures are just one more than in *Geographic* and, again, far fewer than *Sibley*'s 26 images on two pages.

I suspect that birders will continue to make just as many errors even if *The Crossley ID Guide* makes it into everyone's library. Maybe no one will ever mistake a towhee for a redstart again, but it's safe to assume some of this spring's perennial misidentifications will be repeated next year.

Other Photographic Field Guides

Besides the trend of authors naming field guides after themselves, another pattern in this genre has seemed to emerge in recent years. Even though guides illustrated with paintings are generally better, almost all the new ones are illustrated with photographs, and, including Crossley's, there have been five of these in just five years. While I don't recommend any of them as sufficiently adequate and accurate (photo guides typically don't include nearly enough photos for each species), if you insist on buying one, here are the other four:

- *The Stokes Field Guide to the Birds of North America* by Don and Lillian Stokes (2010)

Given their superficial public television series several years ago, and their inadequate photo guides to eastern and western birds from 1996, I was surprised to find this guide better — or at least significantly more com-

prehensive — than the other three. It includes 854 species, about 100 more than the Floyd and Brinkley guides (see below), with generally one or two species per page. In all, there are more than 3,400 photographs, compared to only 2,000 and 2,100 respectively in Floyd and Brinkley. There is also an accompanying CD with vocalizations for some 150 species.

Using again my two indicator species mentioned earlier, the number of images in Stokes compares favorably with other field guides:

Red-tailed Hawk — *Geographic* 8, *Sibley* 39, *Crossley* 13, *Stokes* 23, *Floyd* 10, *Brinkley* 10

Herring Gull — *Geographic* 11, *Sibley* 26, *Crossley* 12, *Stokes* 11, *Floyd* 5, *Brinkley* 3

Keep in mind, though, that quality is at least as important as quantity, and the Stokes do not share the acknowledged level of bird ID expertise of a Jon Dunn (editor of *Geographic*), David Sibley, or Richard Crossley. In sum, this remains just another photographic guide within its non-recommended genre, but at least it looks better than the following three.

- *Smithsonian Field Guide to the Birds of North America* by Ted Floyd (2008)

Although this author lacks the fame of a Dunn or Sibley, Floyd (editor of *Birding* magazine) is thoroughly experienced and more than qualified to produce a field guide. This one consists of 2,000 photos of 750 species, with one or two species per page, and a DVD of vocalizations of 138 species. Although I'd certainly consult with Ted before Don & Lillian on a bird ID issue, his photo guide will not measure up to the level of a *Geographic* or *Sibley* guide.

- *National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to Birds of North America* by Edward Brinkley (2007)

Also an editor (of the journal *North American Birds*) and a lesser-known authority on bird ID, Brinkley is similarly qualified to author a field guide. His guide is much like Floyd's: 2,100 photos, 750 species, and generally two species per page (the inadequate coverage of gulls is especially surprising).

Again, while Ned's birding knowledge is enviable, his photo guide will prove no more useful than any of the others.

- *American Museum of Natural History Birds of North America: Eastern Region*, edited by François Vuilleumier (2009)

Only 390 eastern birds are included, I have no idea who the editor is, and I've only heard of 8 of his 22 contributors. Recommended? Yeah, right!

Peterson Field Guides

So, where are the bird artists of this current millennium? Why are virtually all the new field guides illustrated with photos rather than paintings? True, those smaller Eastern and Western *Sibley* guides appeared in 2003, but the artwork remained the same as in the original. And, while the fourth and fifth editions of the *Geographic* field guide appeared since 2000 with a handful of new illustrations, most of the paintings and text were unchanged from the third.

But wait, hold on. What about those venerable Peterson field guides? Didn't the *Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America* (with both eastern and western birds) appear in 2008, and a sixth edition of the *Peterson Field Guide to Birds of Eastern and Central North America* come out in 2010? Yes, but you weren't fooled into buying them, were you, thinking they'd be something entirely new?

True, the 2008 guide includes 40 new paintings plus some digital updates and new range maps, but mostly it's just Peterson's paintings and text from his 1990 *Western* guide combined with those from the 1980 *Eastern* guide. Similarly, the 2010 *Eastern* guide includes some updates in the text and plates, but most of it is outdated material which does not measure up to the comprehensive accuracy of the *Geographic* and *Sibley* guides.

Minnesota Field Guides

I often meet birders looking for field guides targeted to the species of a single state. Such guides do exist, but unless you're a beginner, none of them are recommended. All are limited in the number of species covered, with relatively superficial and basic ID material, and such oversimplification natural-

ly leads to misidentifications.

- *Birds of Minnesota and Wisconsin* by Robert Janssen and Daryl Tessen (2003)

At least this regional field guide in the Lone Pine Publishing series relies on paintings rather than photos, and the overall quality of the attractive illustrations appears more than adequate. Still, there are generally only one or two paintings for each of the 322 species included, not nearly enough to illustrate the variety of plumages found on many species. Despite its title and the reputations of its authors in their respective states, I don't think I've ever seen anyone using this guide in the field. You'll do better with a *Geographic* or *Sibley*.

- *Birds of Minnesota Field Guide* by Stan Tekiela (2nd edition, 2004)

This widely distributed booklet (often found by convenience store cash registers) may have come out with a new edition, but it's nothing new. Nor is it a field guide. It's essentially a bird book for non-birders, including just 111 species (with uncertain logic behind their selection), merely one photo per bird, superficial material in the text (much of it oddly irrelevant), and a flawed and inconsistent arrangement of birds by color. It's hard to see how even beginning birders could use it to any advantage, and if only this booklet would quit calling itself a field guide, I'd be less critical of it.

There seems to be a pattern here: Crossley, Kaufman, Peterson, Sibley, and Stokes — field guides known by the authors' names in their titles. (I wonder if that American Museum of Natural History book would sell better as *The François Vuilleumier ID Guide*. You know, instead of saying "Hey, anybody got a *Geo*?" or "Yo, lemme see your *Sibley*!", we could all be asking: "Alors, mon ami, may I see your *François Vuilleumier*?" Catchy, n'est-ce pas?)

Well, if you can't beat 'em, join 'em. How does this sound for my next column: "Birding by Eckert: an Eckert Look at Pelicans and Ice Floes"?

1921 West Kent Road, Duluth, MN 55812.

Successful Bell's Vireo Nest in Hennepin County

Diana Doyle

For four years, from 2007 to 2010, a Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) has been reported singing from mid-May through mid-July near Lake Nokomis in south Minneapolis. In 2010, a pair successfully fledged two young. The nest was visible with a scope from 25m, allowing for detailed observation at the northern extent of this species' Mid-west range (N 44° 54' 12.3", W 093 14' 56.6").

The only prior documented Hennepin County breeding record for Bell's Vireo is from 1922 when Thomas S. Roberts observed a nest at Fort Snelling with one egg on 27 May, but no eggs on 31 May (Roberts, 1932 *The Birds of Minnesota*, Volume II, pp 173). Bell's Vireo nesting has been confirmed since 1991 in Winona, Wabasha, Blue Earth, and Dakota counties (*The Loon* 63:206–207; MOU Seasonal Reports; Steve Stucker, Minnesota County Biological Survey, DNR; James P. Mattsson).

On 2 June 2010, Julie Brophy observed a pair of Bell's Vireos carrying nesting material. Paul Budde independently reported a pair on 12 June, which was corroborated by myself on 14 June. On 20 June, I located the nest suspended from terminal boxelder twigs, 5.5m above ground, less than 1m above the vegetated understory. Nests have been documented as high as 4.8m in New Mexico (*Birds of North America Online*). Both birds were observed at the nest, vocalizing as they initiated exchanges of nesting duties. On 25 June, 23 days after the initial pair sighting, the birds were observed on the nest, but that night MSP Airport (less than half a mile away) recorded hail, 0.62 inches of rain in 16 minutes, and winds up to 48 mph.

The following morning, 26 June, Bruce Fall observed no activity at the nest, discovering the pair constructing a new nest 50m away. This nest was in the terminal twigs of another boxelder shrub, 1.2m above the ground. Nest building lasted for five days

(26–30 June). Although the male participated in nest building throughout, including forming the nest cup, the female was the primary nest-builder. During this time, the male sang on territory and the female occasionally responded quietly from the nest.

Incubation began with the laying of the penultimate egg on 2 July. A quick nest check showed two cream-white eggs (approx. 13mm) with small, thinly-dispersed brown spots on the larger end. On 4 July, Bruce Fall observed three Bell's Vireo eggs. Although both male and female incubated, the male's duty typically lasted only about ten minutes. The female also nestled lower into the cup than the male. If the female heard or saw a threat, she sank deep into the nest cup and held still, only the tip of her bill and tail exposed.

On 13–15 July, days 12 to 14 of incubation, the pair became very quiet and restless, touching the eggs every minute or two. On the afternoon of 16 July, after 14 days of incubating, I observed the female fly to the nest with food in her bill. I checked the nest and found two newly hatched chicks and one egg. A nest check on 21 July revealed three live Bell's Vireo chicks, eyes closed, with pinfeathers on wings, spine, breast, and throat.

I observed many feedings over the 11 days of the nestling stage. Both adults brought food, the male always offering the food to the female. If the female was absent, the male fed the chicks directly. When the female brought food, she typically fed the chicks then began brooding. The food diversity increased daily, from tiny green larva (16 July), small flying insect (17 July), tiny grasshopper-like insect (18 July), bumblebee (19 July) (eaten then regurgitated to the chicks), large moth (20 July), to full-sized moth or butterfly caterpillar (24 July).

By 24 July, two chicks' bills were visible above the nest edge. If the nest was unat-



Bell's Vireo nest with three eggs, 4 July 2010, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Diana Doyle.



Bell's Vireo nest with three young, 21 July 2010, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

tended, the cantilevered branch holding it trembled, presumably from their movement. On 25 July, the day before fledging, the female still brooded and I observed her eat a fecal sac (previously fecal sacs were carried off).

The chicks fledged during mid-day on day 11. That morning, 26 July, the female was on the nest. That afternoon, I heard the male sing several times, then fly circuitously and quietly into the dense boxelder shrubs behind and above the nest, carrying a large-bodied bee in his bill, emerging without the insect. The nest contained one dead chick with pinfeathers. Oddly, in between trips into the shrub, one adult (sex unknown) would return to the nest, vigorously hacking at the stem fibers along the top edge of the twig support and picking along the underside

of the stem like cutting and pulling thread stitches. This behavior continued for several minutes at each session. At one point, a large black ant crawled onto the nest, interrupting this activity, and was promptly snatched and delivered into the same area of the brush behind the nest.

I neither saw nor heard the vireos during brief visits over the next few days. Because of nearby mowing, I suspect they moved from the small island of remaining brush into a nearby extensive thicket area. The airport runway and highway noise precluded hearing the fledglings begging. On 2 August, I noticed there was a hole in the lower side of the nest and the dead chick was missing.

7135 Shady Oak Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

First Breeding Record of Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) for Dakota County

F. c. richardsonii X *F. c. columbarius*

James P. Mattsson

This article documents 1) the first county breeding record of Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) for Dakota County, 2) the southernmost breeding record for the state (and possibly the eastern U.S.), and 3) the first photographic record of nestling Merlins involving *richardsonii* X *columbarius* parents in Minnesota.

On April 14, 2010, I found an adult “Prairie” Merlin (*F. c. richardsonii*) perched in a hardwood in the center of Acacia Park Cemetery, Mendota Heights. Through binoculars, I could see a pale blue-gray back, cinnamon-orange thighs, light brown streaking on breast and underparts, and the absence of an obvious moustacial stripe. It soon flew off toward the Minnesota River, where it stooped repeatedly at a passing Red-tailed Hawk. Shortly I saw a Merlin fly toward me chasing a grackle. It landed nearby and I was able to identify it as a female “Taiga” Merlin (*F. c. columbarius*), based on the dark brown mantle and dark brown streaks on the breast and flanks. I assumed both birds were migrants. In mid-June, Drew Smith informed me he had seen a Merlin at the cemetery on 10 June. I was aware of only one previous summer sighting of Merlin in Dakota County, a very worn individual I found 15 June 2005 (*The Loon* 78:20) at Lebanon Hills Regional Park. The chronology of nest discovery and outcome are described below.

15 June — I revisited the cemetery and soon located what appeared to be the same two birds I had seen on 14 April, and in the same part of the cemetery. I was able to take digiscoped photos of each bird. While I watched, each bird was observed to take flight to chase a distant raptor. Although I saw no evidence of a nest, I felt that one was probably present based on the territorial behavior of these two birds.

17 June — At 8:00 A.M., I arrived and

found the “Taiga” female perched on top of a spruce in the same location as 15 June. Eventually she flew off, but soon returned to perch in a nearby ash. She immediately began to tear at a small brown passerine and remove its feathers. Five minutes later, she flew west about 40m and landed just below the top of a pine. With binoculars, I could see she was at a stick nest and two downy young were readily visible. I took digiscoped photos and she eventually returned to her previous perch, where she remained for about one-half hour. I contacted Drew Smith, who arrived about 20 minutes later. While we watched, the female dropped from her perch and flew directly at us, only to pull up at the last second and land just overhead in an ash where the male was quietly waiting with a prey item. She immediately took it from him and flew to the nest to feed the young. One-half hour later, she arrived at her previous feeding perch with another small brown passerine that we felt was most likely a juvenile Chipping Sparrow based on size and the narrow width of streaks on flanks. Eventually we saw at least four downy chicks in the nest. I saw an older chick wing flapping — a behavior which begins at 9–11 days (Warkentin et al., 2005). I estimated the young were approximately 10–12 days old. The female was observed to pursue unidentified small birds and twice she delivered food to the nest in a two-hour period. It was not clear if she or her mate made the kills.

24 June — The chicks’ down was now sooty gray and facial feathers were a darker shade of gray. Primaries were about one inch long and rectrices and secondaries were just erupting from their sheaths, indicating the young were 17–19 days old (Warkentin et al. 2005). At least 2–3 young could stand and walk and one walked off the nest onto a branch.



Figure 1. Male *F. c. richardsonii*, 15 June 2010, near nest tree. Digiscoped photo by James P. Mattsson.

1 July — 8:20 P.M., Diana Doyle observed one chick fly from the nest tree to a nearby spruce. She noted, “It was not particularly graceful, the flapping looking more like an injured crow than a falcon! It didn’t gain altitude, instead losing a bit of altitude during the crossing. Ten minutes later... another fledgling left the pine... in the opposite direction...crash landing about a third of the way down from the top on the small twigs of a hackberry...”

2 July — 10:00 A.M. Both adults were present today. Female delivered food twice in about one hour, first to the nest where one young was still present, then to another young perched near the top of a spruce about 25m from the nest tree. Young appeared nearly the same size as the adult female, but with tails not quite full length, and only two white bands visible. The underparts were tawny-buff and heavily marked with brown streaks and chevrons on the breast, flanks, and lower belly. Some remnant downy feathers were still evident on the flanks. Mustache stripes were distinct. The heavily marked juvenile plumage appeared more similar to *columbarius* than to *richardsonii*.

4 July — 10:30 A.M. Heard Killdeer-like calls north of the nest tree and soon spot-



Figure 2. Female *F. c. columbarius*, 16 June 2010, near nest tree. Digiscoped photo by James P. Mattsson.

ted and photographed two nearly fully developed fledglings in a tall spruce about 100m west of the nest tree. The adult female delivered unidentified food.

Discussion

Assuming a) a four-egg clutch, b) one egg laid every other day, c) incubation beginning on the second-to-last egg, and d) a 30-day incubation period, I estimated egg laying to have commenced on or about 2 May (+/- 2-3 days). Sodhi et al. (1992) state that egg laying begins in late April to late May in Saskatoon, Alberta.

Svingen (2000) summarized the status of Merlin breeding in Minnesota and also provided evidence of the first known breeding by *richardsonii* (male and female) for Minnesota in 1998, and probable nesting in 1999 and 2000, all in the northwest. Highly unexpected so far south, Solensky (2000) documented the first breeding by Merlins in the Twin Cities metro area (Hennepin County) in 2000, which also involved a male *richardsonii* and a female *columbarius*. He was able to capture and band both adults. Neither of the Acacia adults was banded, indicating these were different birds. The Hennepin County site was roughly ten miles north-northeast of the Acacia Cemetery, Dakota County, site.



Figure 3. Three Merlin nestlings about 18 days old, 24 June 2010. Digiscoped photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.



Figure 4. Two fledged Merlin chicks about 50 meters from nest tree, 4 July 2010. Digiscoped photo by James P. Mattsson.



Figure 5. Merlin fledgling, 4 July 2010. Digiscoped photo by James P. Mattsson.

Acknowledgments

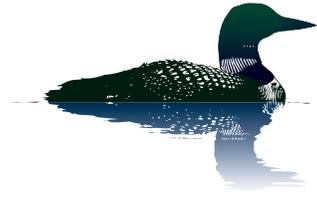
Drew Smith and Tom Tustison informed me of their early June Merlin sightings at Acacia cemetery which prompted me to investigate further. Thanks to Diana Doyle for providing observational information on post-fledging movements. I also thank Anthony Hertzell for the use of his nestling photo.

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570 South Greenleaf Drive, Eagan, MN 55123.

Notes of Interest



MISSISSIPPI KITE IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY



While counting raptors at Hawk Ridge in Duluth, St. Louis County on 1 September 2010, counter Cameron Rutt alerted me to the presence of a possible kite very high overhead. I quickly saw the bird as it came directly overhead, and recognized it as a Mississippi Kite. I followed the bird as it continued gliding overhead and behind us into the sun. When behind us, the bird swooped down a little bit as if trying to catch a dragonfly, but otherwise it was only seen gliding with occasional flaps. The kite appeared mostly dark, especially the tail. Other birds at the same height seen at the same time did not appear so dark — for example, American Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk, and Broad-winged Hawk were all seen at this time and these species showed typical pale undersides. The kite's tail was definitely all dark, as were the underwings. The head appeared small relative to the size of the bird and paler in color, but the bird was too high to distinguish any further detail. The overall coloration was smooth, with even transitions from dark to paler, and no streaking or spotting. The identification was based mostly on shape, since the kite showed a long tail that appeared noticeably fanned. The wings in particular were unique, being long and pointed, but having a characteristic broadness at the bend of the wing, not falcon-like (for example, a Peregrine's wing appears more tapered with a broader base and a sharper tip). **Karl J. Bardon, 11 Pheasant Lane, Saint Paul, MN 55127.**

BLACK-NECKED STILT IN MARSHALL COUNTY



On 23 May 2010, Peder Svingen, Shelley Steva, and I found a Black-necked Stilt at Dahl Pool at Agassiz NWR. We had spotted a large shorebird about 40–50 yards from the Northgate Road, and with binoculars, it was obvious that this was something unusual. We immediately put a scope on it and was indeed a Black-necked Stilt.

The bird was slender and elegant with a long, thin, neck and a very long, narrow, needle-like black bill. The head was marked in black with a black cap and hind neck. There was a black band running below the eye looking like black eyeglasses. The back was dark brownish black, with black wings, the undersides of which were also blackish almost the whole length, lighter near the body. The most striking part was the brilliant red very long legs. The underside of the bird was pure white. The bird was smaller than an Avocet, and much more slender.



Black-necked Stilt, 23 May 2010, Agassiz NWR, Marshall County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

The stilt spent the whole time feeding within a very small area, going back and forth frequently. It would locate some food item, and lean forward to get it, unlike any other shorebird that I have watched. The bird did not fly, but did stretch its wings several times, allowing us to see the undersides. No vocalizations were heard. **Jeanie Joppru, 16269 – 160th Street NE, Thief River Falls, MN 56701.**

In This Issue

Mourning Warbler, 1 July 2010, Cook County

David Brisance Front Cover

Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Tom Tustison 3

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) Nesting in Minnesota

Anthony X. Hertzelt, T. Benjamin Hertzelt, and Robert M. Dunlap 6

The Summer Season

1 June through 31 July 2010

Ann E. Kessen, Peder H. Svingen, Paul E. Budde 10

Birding by Hindsight: A Second Look at The Crossley ID Guide

Kim R. Eckert 38

Successful Bell's Vireo Nest in Hennepin County

Diana Doyle 42

First Breeding Record of Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) for Dakota County

F. c. richardsonii X *F. c. columbarius*

James P. Mattsson 44

Notes of Interest

Mississippi Kite in St. Louis County — Karl J. Bardon

Black-necked Stilt in Marshall County — Jeanie Joppru 47

Purpose of the M.O.U.

The purpose of the MOU is the promotion of a broad program of conservation and natural history study, primarily in the field of ornithology.

To achieve this objective, the Union urges and promotes interest in field studies and observation of birds by individual members and affiliated bird clubs. We publish a quarterly journal, *The Loon*, and a newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*; we conduct



field trips; we encourage and sponsor the preservation of natural areas; and we hold seminars where research reports, unusual observations, and conservation discussions are presented.

We are supported by dues from members, affiliated clubs, and special gifts. Any or all aspects of the MOU program could be expanded significantly with gifts, memorials, or bequests willed to the organization.

Suggestions to Authors

The Loon is a peer-reviewed journal on the birds of Minnesota published quarterly by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. The Editor welcomes submissions of articles, Notes of Interest, color slides, and photographs. All submissions should be typed, double-spaced, and single-sided. Notes of Interest should be less than two full pages. Photographs should be no smaller than 5"x7". Whenever possible, please include a digital copy of your submission in any standard format on CD, DVD, flash drive, or via e-mail. Digital documents may be e-mailed to the Editor of *The Loon* — see inside front cover for contact information. Club information and other announcements of general interest should be sent to the Editor of our newsletter *Minnesota Birding* — see inside front cover for contact information. Bird sighting reports for each season should be sent to the Editor of "The Seasonal Report" — see "Key to The Seasonal Report" for contact information.

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Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) Incubates on an Open Stick Nest

Neal D. Mundahl,¹ John M. Beranek,²
S. Keith Anderson,³ and Dave Hoffman⁴

A Wood Duck hen nested on an open stick and leaf nest in a residential yard on the shoreline of a Mississippi River backwater in southeastern Minnesota in May/June 2009. The hen occupied the nest for approximately 35 days, exhibiting normal incubation behavior and defending the nest against a potential avian predator. Several natural tree cavities and nest boxes were available in the immediate vicinity, but were not chosen for nesting. No hatchlings were observed and nest inaccessibility prevented confirmation of either nesting success or failure.

The Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) is one of the most important species of waterfowl in eastern North America, both in terms of number of breeding birds and number of birds harvested (Bellrose 1981, Bellrose and Holm 1994). They normally nest in natural tree cavities or artificial nest boxes (Bellrose and Holm 1994), but in rare cases they have been reported nesting in the open on the ground (Zipko and Kennington 1977, Mason and Dusi 1983), on a muskrat house (McIlquham and Bacon 1988), and in open leaf and stick nests (Hall 1969, Stout and Rapp 1993). Open nesting in trees has been documented only twice, with varying success (Hall 1969, Stout and Rapp 1993). We observed an open nesting attempt in Minnesota during the 2009 nesting season and recorded behaviors of the nesting hen over a 35-day period.

Study Site and Nest Description

The open Wood Duck nest was located in a green ash tree within 25 m of the northwestern shoreline of Weaver Bottoms (44° 15' 06" N, 91° 55' 13" W), a 1,600-hectare backwater marsh in Pool 5 of the Upper Mississippi River of Wabasha County in southeastern Minnesota. The marsh was the site of a large-scale wetlands habitat restoration project in 1987 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The nest tree was located at the top of a 13-meter-high steep, wooded, sandhill overlooking the water, in the side yard

of a residence that was part of a small rural subdivision (18 homes along the shoreline, 11 more homes inland). The subdivision lies adjacent to Weaver Dunes Scientific and Natural Area, a 240-hectare complex of sand prairie, savanna, and woodland habitats southeast of Kellogg.

The nest tree (~20 m high, 45 cm DBH) was approximately 40 m from an established residence and 25 m from a new home that was under construction during 2009. Other trees on the wooded hillside included mostly black oak and green ash, with lesser numbers of silver maple, hackberry, river birch, and American elm. Many red (or Norway) pine, planted in 1955, were located in the residential yards. Numerous tree cavities were present in the mature oaks along the wooded hillside, and one cavity in particular had contained a Wood Duck nest for several years in succession (until the tree was felled by a windstorm in 2008).

Numerous nest boxes were located along the shoreline in the vicinity of the nest tree. Two nest boxes were within 80 m of the nest tree, and several others were attached to trees on the hillside or mounted on poles in the shallow marsh slightly further away. Property owners reported use of these boxes by Wood Ducks in recent years.

The open Wood Duck nest was located approximately 10–11 m high in the tree, at a point where two large branches joined the northernmost portion of a forked trunk (Fig-



Figure 1. Green ash tree where a Wood Duck hen nested in an open stick and leaf nest during May/June 2009 in Wabasha County. Arrow indicates nest location. Photo by Neal Mundahl.

ure 1). The nest was comprised largely of ash twigs and dried ash and oak leaves, and resembled an old squirrel nest (Figure 2). Although not observed directly, the bowl of the nest apparently was filled with down, as down feathers often drifted downward from the nest as the hen flew off. Most observations of the nest and hen were made with a spotting scope from the deck or yard of the adjacent residence.

Nesting Behavior

The Wood Duck hen was first sighted on the open nest during the week of 15–22 May 2009 by the homeowner. She was observed many times over the next five weeks by the homeowner and others, usually flushing from the nest when the homeowner walked nearby in the yard. The homeowner originally assumed that the hen was perching in the

tree, but using some nearby tree cavity as its nesting site. During the first week of June, the homeowner realized that the hen always flushed off the old squirrel nest, and that the bird was actually nesting at that location.

During the morning of 7 June, we observed the bird leaving the nest at 9:25 A.M., returning briefly at 10:05 A.M. and departing again. At 10:43, a Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) landed on a branch a meter or more above the vacant nest. The Wood Duck hen immediately flew in from somewhere nearby, chased the grackle away, settled onto the nest, and remained there as long as the observers watched (observers departed at 10:50 A.M.). The hen was photographed on the nest after chasing the grackle (Figure 2).

The homeowner observed the hen either on the nest or arriving/departing regularly through 22 June. She spent the majority of the time on the nest between mid-May and 22 June. She sometimes flushed off the nest in early morning (~6:30 A.M.) when the homeowner walked around the yard. When returning to the nest, she would rarely, if ever, fly directly to it. She would always arrive from over the water and land on a branch in the large oak halfway down the hill, remain there for a moment and observe and then finally fly up to the nest. Her nest attentiveness declined noticeably over the last several days (June 19–22). After being off the nest for at least three hours, she was observed landing on the nest at ~9:00 P.M. on 22 June. She was never seen on or near the nest again. No drake Wood Duck was ever observed with the hen or in the vicinity of the open nest during the entire nesting period.

The homeowner did not observe the Wood Duck hen or any hatchlings swimming in Weaver Bottoms in the vicinity of the property after June 22. The height of the nest and the angle of the trunk and branches made it impossible to safely access the nest via ladder to inspect it closely. Consequently, we were unable to determine either the number of eggs in the nest or whether they hatched.

Discussion

This is only the third reported attempt by a Wood Duck to nest on an open stick



Figure 2. Close-up of Wood Duck hen on the open stick nest, 10:45 A.M., 7 June 2009, Wabasha County. Photo by Dave Hoffman.

and leaf nest in a tree (Hall 1969, Stout and Rapp 1993), and the first in close proximity to human habitation. Although this open nesting strategy may be much more common in Wood Ducks than documented (Stout and Rapp 1993), it is rarely described and a Wood Duck hen has not been photographed on an open nest previous to this report.

The Wood Duck hen's behavior during

nesting was typical of her cavity-nesting conspecifics. She remained on or near the nest for five weeks, demonstrating a high degree of nest attentiveness during the normal incubation period (Stewart 1962, Hepp et al. 2006). She left the nest briefly at irregular times each day, presumably to feed (Bellrose and Holm 1994, Schaefer et al. 2003). She defended the nest and its contents from a po-

tential avian predator in a predictable fashion (Montgomerie and Weatherhead 1988, Caro 2005).

Success of this nesting attempt could neither be refuted nor affirmed because of lack of safe access to the nest. Although the hen incubated normally and for the typical duration (Stewart 1962, Hepp et al. 2006), the decline in nest attentiveness at the end of the period was atypical for a normal cavity-nesting Wood Duck (Stewart 1962), suggesting nest failure. No sightings of hatchlings in the days following hen abandonment of the may also suggest nest failure. However, without direct examination of the nest, nesting failure could not be definitely confirmed.

Previous open nesting attempts by Wood Ducks have produced mixed results. Hall (1969) reported "numerous Wood Duck shell fragments and the presence of a newborn duckling in the nest" at the end of incubation, which could imply either a successful hatch for most eggs or nest destruction by a predator. In contrast, Stout and Rapp (1993) attributed a complete nest failure (six undeveloped eggs, four partially pipped eggs containing dead embryos) to a combination of a late snowstorm and late-term nest abandonment by the hen.

Open nesting by Wood Ducks would seem to be a non-preferred strategy only undertaken as a last resort. Eggs and hens incubating in open nests would be at greater risk from inclement weather (Stout and Rapp 1993) and nest predators (Montgomerie and Weatherhead 1988, Caro 2005), suggesting that selection should act against this strategy within populations. Intense competition for limited cavity nest sites may force some birds to seek alternative nest locations. However, in all three instances where Wood Ducks have nested on open stick nests in trees, unused natural cavities in trees and/or nest boxes were readily available to the birds (Hall 1969, Stout and Rapp 1993, present study). Why Wood Ducks would choose to nest in the open remains unclear, although high densities of cavity-dwelling mammals (e.g., squirrels and raccoons) may be a factor in this choice (Stout and Rapp 1993).

Acknowledgements

We thank the Beranek family for alerting

us about the Wood Duck nest and for allowing us to access it for observations.

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The Fall Season

1 August through 30 November 2010

**Paul E. Budde¹, Robert M. Dunlap², Douglas W. Kieser³,
James W. Lind⁴, and William C. Marengo⁵**

A Ross's Goose was record-early in Roseau, and another provided a first record for Cass. Fall reports of Cackling Geese continue to climb, with reports from 63 counties this season, vs. 45 in 2009 and 46 in 2008. Both north and south had record-early Greater Scaup this fall. In addition to two or three female/immature Harlequin Ducks along the North Shore was a striking male briefly on Lake Calhoun. Together with the appearance of a Surf Scoter on Lake of the Isles and four White-winged Scoters on Lake Harriet, it was a good year for sea ducks in Minneapolis. Nearby Lake Vadnais in Ramsey produced three White-winged Scoters and a Long-tailed Duck, while to the west Lake Waconia in Carver harbored Surf and Black Scoters. An adult male Barrow's Goldeneye in Duluth marked the 11th consecutive year this species has been found in the state. Both Red-throated and Pacific Loons were reported away from Lake Superior, but few of these reports had details.

In August, a Clark's Grebe was photographed at Lake Osakis, while another photographed on Thielke Lake showed characteristics intermediate with Western Grebe. West-central Minnesota had Snowy and Cattle egrets, along with two Little Blue Herons. Additional Cattle Egrets were found in Aitkin, St. Louis, and in the East-Central region. The only Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was a juvenile photographed in Roseau.

Late August and early September at Hawk Ridge is the most expected place and time to find the Casual Mississippi Kite in the state, and this season proved to be no exception as our faithful counters spotted one on the first of September. Another Casual species, Ferruginous Hawk, was photographed in Lac qui Parle in late October. However, the most remarkable raptors of the season were the two Prairie Falcons banded near Duluth in mid-August and again in mid-September.

Yellow Rails are hard enough to find in spring migration when they're calling, so two southbound migrants flushed from grassy areas that produced two first county records for Dakota and McLeod were particularly noteworthy. Common Moorhens were found in predictable locations such as Houston, Sherburne, and Lac qui Parle, plus one from McLeod. There were, disappointingly, no reports of Piping Plover, Whimbrel, or Red Knot this season, and only one of Hudsonian Godwit. The high count for Buff-breasted Sandpiper was only 14, though the 119 Red-necked Phalaropes in Lac qui Parle in late August was a very respectable total.

Thankfully, gulls proved to be more exciting than shorebirds this season. An immature Black-legged Kittiwake was in Lac qui Parle near the end of November. Sabine's Gulls were found in Duluth on two occasions in late September. Duluth also harbored two adult California Gulls in November and the only Iceland and Great Black-backed gulls of the season. Lesser Black-backed and Glaucous gulls were also found in Duluth, along with other locations on Lake Superior. Wisconsin Point in Superior, Wisconsin, was an excellent location for viewing all three species of jaegers in mid-October. On occasion, several of these jaegers were also located in Duluth.

A fourth state record Common Ground-Dove was located in Bloomington, where it delighted Twin Cities birders for three days.

American Three-toed Woodpeckers were found in Itasca, Lake, and St. Louis, while Black-backed were reported from seven counties. Two November White-eyed Vireos were nicely documented — one in Hennepin, the other in Lac qui Parle. Record numbers of Blue Jay and American Crow were counted by H.R.B.O. A Common Raven in Houston was surprising, but given their range in Wisconsin, not totally unexpected.

One large gathering of pre-migratory Purple Martins was found this season at Lake Osakis in Douglas, with a conservative estimate of 50,000 birds in the flock. (Martin watchers track these flocks by radar!)

A Northern Wheatear in Anoka was the third fall and fourth state record of this species. Eight Townsend's Solitaires were located, along with two Varied Thrushes. Three Northern Mockingbirds were found in October — in Jackson, Kandiyohi, and McLeod. Bohemian Waxwings were well represented in 17 counties, but were confined to the north. At the end of August migrating Cedar Waxwings set a new high count record as over 12,000 of them moved through Duluth in a single day and 19,000 in a three-day period. Smith's Longspurs were only found in Duluth and at Sherburne N.W.R.

Unexpected early August warblers included an Orange-crowned documented in Duluth Township and a Blackpoll found in Carlton. Late migrants included two Common Yellowthroats found in St. Louis in mid-November. A Spotted Towhee was discovered in Lyon in October, while a Lark Bunting was in Sherburne in mid-August. Scarlet Tanagers had departed from the state by the end of September, except for one mid-November report that was photographed. Contrast this with the fact that in October and November Summer Tanagers were found in Crow Wing, Dakota, McLeod, Morrison, Lake, and Roseau! There was no notable southward push of winter finches during the season. A Eurasian Tree Sparrow that spent a week in late November visiting a feeding station in Kandiyohi rounded out the season.

Weather summary: August temperatures statewide were between 2° and 6° F above average, though St. Louis County did see 33° towards month end. Monthly mean temperatures in September averaged 1° to 3° below normal. October was quite warm, averaging 3° to 5° above normal. Local extremes ranged from 92° on the 8th to 14° on the 31st. November was only slightly above average. The first half of the month was quite warm, but this was offset by colder-than-average temperatures towards the end of the month.

Severe weather outbreaks were frequent in August, with 14 different dates reporting

tornadoes, hail, damaging winds, or flooding rains. Monthly precipitation totals exceeded 8 inches in the central part of the state, while the Northwest, Northeast, and South-central were below average. Rainfall in September made the month the wettest in modern history. The southern third of the state was particularly hard hit, with totals in many areas exceeding 10 inches. October was exceptionally dry across the state through the 22nd, after which a very active four-day period nearly made up for the month's precipitation deficit. A major storm that marched across the state 26–27 October produced the lowest atmospheric pressure ever recorded in the state — 955 mb! It also created wind gusts exceeding 60 mph at many locations and dropped up to 9 inches of snow in areas of St. Louis County. November precipitation came mostly in the form of snow, including a major storm on the 13th–14th that dropped 6–10 inches over an area from the South-central, up through the Twin Cities to Duluth and the North Shore, and another that brought 6–12 inches across much of the state from the 29th through 1 December.

Documented reports still under review:
Long-tailed Jaeger 10/15 St. Louis (Duluth);
Cave Swallow (potential first state record) 10/30 Cook.

Undocumented reports: **Red-throated Loon** 10/16 Mille Lacs (2); **Clark's Grebe** 10/9 Big Stone; **White-rumped Sandpiper** 8/9 Kittson; **Short-billed Dowitcher** 10/6 Lac qui Parle; **Iceland Gull** 11/18 St. Louis; **Forster's Tern** 10/28 Ramsey; **Parasitic Jaeger** 10/31 St. Louis; **Black-billed Magpie** 8/10 Carlton; **Hermit Thrush** 9/2 Dakota (2); **Orange-crowned Warbler** 8/20 Douglas; **Wilson's Warbler** 8/7 Douglas; **Eastern Towhee** 8/23 Lake (2, Isabella); **American Tree Sparrow** 8/1 Kandiyohi, Ramsey, 8/23 Lake, 8/25 Ramsey, 9/18 Sherburne; **Henslow's Sparrow** 9/22 Carver (Assumption Lake); **Fox Sparrow** 8/9 Lincoln, 9/7 Ramsey; **Lincoln's Sparrow** 8/3 Lac qui Parle, 11/24 Polk; **White-crowned Sparrow** 9/6 Chisago (25); **Dark-eyed Junco** 8/1 Kandiyohi; **Scarlet Tanager** 11/15 Kittson; **Eastern Meadowlark** 10/12 Wilkin; **Pine Siskin** 8/9 Lincoln.

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especially grateful to those who respond to our requests for details and who submit observations online.

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KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species are listed in brackets [**Whooping Crane**] if there is a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species' name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties with reports.
4. Dates listed in bold (**10/9**) indicate an occurrence either earlier, later, or within the three earliest or latest dates on file.
5. Counties listed in bold (**Aitkin**) indicate an unusual occurrence for that county.
6. Counties with an underline (**Becker**) indicate a first county record.
7. Counties listed in italics (*Crow Wing*) indicate a first county breeding record.
8. Counts listed in bold (**150**) indicate a total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
9. Dagger "†" preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
10. "ph." denotes a species documented with a photograph.
11. "v.t." denotes a species documented by video tape.
12. "a.t." denotes a species documented by audio tape.

The *Seasonal Report* is a compilation of seasonal bird sightings from 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, contact the Editor of the Seasonal Report, Paul E. Budde, 4612 Colfax Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, or via e-mail at paul.budde@aonbenfield.com.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [3 North, 4 South] All north 9/25–26 Lake (3, Beaver Bay W.T.P.) DBz, DAB, JWH, 10/2 St. Louis (McQuade public access) MTA, 10/10 Clearwater (Clearbrook W.T.P.) HHD. All south 9/25 Fillmore (12, Forestville S.P.) DAC, RBJ, 10/18 Lac qui Parle (3, Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 10/25 Big Stone (Thielke Lake) BJU, 11/14 Lincoln HHD, 11/21 Lac qui Parle (14, Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [22 North, 19 South] Early north (median 9/11) 9/4 Kittson DBM, CRM, LS, St. Louis ABL, 9/5 Marshall PRH, LMS, 9/6 Lake DaE. Early south (median 9/13) 9/30 Lac qui Parle

BJU, 10/1 Olmsted JPr. High counts 11/12 Lac qui Parle (350) PEJ, 11/11 Kanabec (250) BJU. Late north 11/12 Douglas ARW, 11/13 Todd HHD (median 11/30), but also see winter report.

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [4 North, 9 South] All north reports: **9/3** (record early) Roseau (3, Greenbush W.T.P.) KRE, 10/5 **Cass** (near Pine River) ABi, †DAY, 10/9 Roseau (Badger W.T.P.) HHD, 10/14 – **11/17** Lake (Two Harbors) KRE, JWJ, m.ob., 10/22 Mahnomen HHD, KRE, LS. All south reports: 9/22 Lac qui Parle (Colbert W.P.A.) BJU, 10/1–3 Olmsted (2, Rochester) JWH, JPr, 10/3 Faribault CRM, Stearns (Paynesville W.T.P.) †PCC,

- 10/16 McLeod (Hutchinson) PLJ, 10/17–21 Hennepin (Rogers W.T.P.) HHD, m.ob., 10/31 Carver HHD, RAE, Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) †RBW, DWK, 11/12 Lac qui Parle (18) PEJ, BJU, 11/12 Lac qui Parle (Perry Twp.) BJU, 11/21 Big Stone (2, Odessa) BJU, 11/27 Kandiyohi (Eagle Lake) BWF.
- Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [26 North, 37 South] Early north (median 9/17) 9/13 St. Louis PLJ, 9/24 Lake KRE, m.ob. Early south (median 9/19) 9/14 Blue Earth ChH, 9/26 Wright HHD, 9/30 Stearns †PCC. High counts 10/2 St. Louis (269, Duluth) KJB, CRu, 11/6 Stearns (255, Albany Twp.) †PCC. Late north 11/20 Traverse, Wilkin RBW, 11/25 Hubbard PBB (median 11/20), but also see winter report. New county records: 11/11 **Carlton** (3, Moose Lake) BJU, 10/8 **Red Lake** HHD. Observers are asked to document all sightings of this species in the state when encountered in unusual locations, dates, or in unusual numbers.
- Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported throughout the state and the season.
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — No reports.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [26 North, 29 South] High counts 11/25 Hubbard (57) PBB, 11/7 Hennepin (34, Long Meadow Lake) BAF, 11/16 Otter Tail (22) *vide* JMJ.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [15 North, 20 South] Early north (median 10/1) 9/20 Lake of the Woods BSi, 9/24 Lake KRE. Early south (median 10/12) 9/30 Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/17 Houston JWH. High count 11/13 Houston (5,000, Browns Island) RTe. Late north 11/14 Beltrami KVH, 11/15 Hubbard MAW, Pine SC (median 11/28). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [30 North, 48 South] High counts 8/16 Hennepin (67, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BeS, 10/4 Crow Wing (50, Agate Lake) JSB. Late north 11/2 Hubbard MAW, 11/23 Cass DAY (median 12/15).
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) — [13 North, 31 South] High count 10/18 Wabasha/Winona (5,800, Pool 5, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. Late north 11/10 Cook BJU, 11/13 Douglas
- HHD (median 11/17).
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [12 North, 23 South] High count 10/18 Wabasha/Winona (3,070, Pool 5, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. Late north 11/8 Aitkin BJU, 11/11 Carlton BJU (median 11/28). Please see winter report for late south migrants.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [11 North, 11 South] All north reports: Aitkin, Becker, Carlton, Cook, Lake, Marshall, Mille Lacs, Pennington, Polk, St. Louis, Todd. Early south (median 8/25) 8/3 Hennepin BeS, 9/8 Freeborn RTP, 9/21 Hennepin SMC, 10/17 Houston JWH.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [32 North, 52 South] Reported throughout the state. High count 11/23 Houston (13,530, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [29 North, 46 South] High counts 9/27 Houston (615, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. Late north 10/23 Wadena PJB, 10/24 Clearwater LS (median 10/25). Late south 10/31 Blue Earth ChH, 11/13 Houston RTe (median 11/3).
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*) — [24 North, 45 South] High counts 9/30 Stearns (695, Albany W.T.P. and Paynesville W.T.P.) PCC, 11/20 Hennepin (320) PEJ. Late north 11/11 Carlton BJU, 11/13 Douglas HHD (median 11/7). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [14 North, 22 South] High count 10/18 Houston (4,165, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. Notable count for Northeast: 10/8 St. Louis (25, Park Point, Duluth) PHS. Late north 10/24 St. Louis ABL, 11/8 Aitkin, Morrison BJU (median 11/25).
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [26 North, 32 South] High counts 9/27 Wabasha/Winona (325, Pool 5, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R., 9/28 St. Louis (126, Park Point, Duluth) PHS. Late north 11/10 Cook BJU, 11/11 Carlton, Pine BJU, Mille Lacs RBJ, DAC (median 11/9). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwin-

tering birds.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) — [13 North, 28 South] High count 11/1 Houston (93,505, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. Late north 11/8 Aitkin, Morrison BJU, 11/13 Todd HHD, 11/14 Beltrami DAY, St. Louis PHS (median 11/25). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Redhead (*Aythya americana*) — [18 North, 36 South] High counts 11/1 Houston (610, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R., 10/23 Meeker (502, Lake Washington) RMa, 10/24 Carver (240, Lake Waconia) DWK. Late north 11/7 Polk MJM, 11/13 Douglas, Todd HHD, 11/26 St. Louis KJB (median 12/10). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) — [27 North, 39 South] High counts 11/1 Wabasha/Winona (4,940, Pool 5, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R., 11/6 Ramsey (1,000, Lake Vadnais) BeH, 11/19 Carver (520, Carver Park) JCy. Late north 11/14 Morrison FGo, 11/16 St. Louis DBF (median 12/4). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) — [8 North, 10 South] Early north (median 9/30) **8/4** (record early) St. Louis (Hearding Island, Duluth) KJB (same bird as 7/8 PHS?), 8/16 St. Louis (2) KJB, then no other north reports until 10/8 Pennington HHD, 10/12 Lake SCZ. Early south (median 10/17) **8/24** (ties record early south) Brown BTS, 10/3 Pope HHD, 10/15 Lyon RMD. High counts 10/29 St. Louis (61, Park Point, Duluth) PHS, 11/17 Carver (54) JCy. Late north 11/9 Lake BJU, 11/10 Cook BJU, 11/19 St. Louis KJB (median 12/3). Please see winter report for late south migrants.

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) — [20 North, 30 South] High counts 11/12 Nobles (750, Lake Okabena) BTS, 10/28 Aitkin (500, Twenty Lake) RBJ, DAC. Late north 11/14 Morrison FGo, 11/20 St. Louis SLF, but also see winter report.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [4 North, 1 South] More reports than usual: adult male found mid-October in

Clearwater (Upper Rice Lake) SCo, 10/19 St. Louis (female/immature, Park Point, Duluth) PHS, 10/24 **Morrison** (3 imm. found by DNR wildlife specialist on Rice-Skunk-Mud Lake complex) BeL, 10/30–31 Cook (female/immature, Grand Marais) KRE, m.ob., 11/7–10 Cook (possibly same female/immature, mouth of Brule River) CAK, ph. CMB, m.ob., 11/22 Hennepin (male, Lake Calhoun) ChM, ph. DAC, m.ob.

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [4 North, 3 South] All north reports: 9/27–11/9 St. Louis (max. 5, Park Point, Duluth) PHS, m.ob., 10/14 Lake (two at Knife River, one at Two Harbors) KRE, JWJ, 10/15 St. Louis (2, Stoney Point) JCC, 10/24 Pennington (4, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) MJM, 10/27–11/9 Lake (max. 7, Two Harbors) JWJ, 10/30–11/10 Cook (2, Grand Marais) KRE, m.ob. All south reports: 10/18 Lac qui Parle (2, Lac qui Parle Lake) BJU, 10/29–11/3 Carver (female, Lake Waconia) ph. JCy, m.ob., 11/2–11 Hennepin (female, Lake of the Isles) NiT, ph. DAC, †PEB, †BAF, m.ob.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) — [6 North, 4 South] All north reports: 9/25–11/5 St. Louis (max. 5, Duluth) NAN, m.ob., mid-October Clearwater (10, Upper Rice Lake) SCo, 10/17–30 Pennington (3, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) MJM, 10/23–11/7 Cook (max. **38** between Five Mile Rock and Hovland) JWH, PLJ, m.ob., 10/23 St. Louis (9, Stoney Point) JTa, 10/27 Lake (14, Two Harbors) JWJ, 11/6–19 **Morrison** (Green Prairie Fish Lake) †FGo, †MJB, †BWF, m.ob. All south reports: 10/17 Hennepin (Lake Harriet/Lake Calhoun, Minneapolis) TAT, ph. †CMB, †PEB, m.ob., 10/29 Hennepin (3, Lake Harriet) CMB, 11/20–27 Ramsey (two birds on Lake Vadnais joined by third bird on 11/26) †PEB, MAO, †DWK, †BAF, m.ob., 11/21 Lac qui Parle (3, Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 11/24 Wabasha (found dead at Lake Pepin) *vide* RPR.

Black Scoter (*Melanitta americana*) — [6 North, 2 South] All north reports: **9/15** Cook (3, Grand Marias) CE, 10/8–11/8 St. Louis (max. 5, Park Point, Duluth) PHS, 10/14–11/10 Lake (max. 17, Two Harbors) KRE, JWJ, m.ob., 10/23 Cook (max. 27 between Five Mile Rock and Hovland)

JEB, JWH, m.ob., 10/23 Itasca (Plughat Point, Lake Winnibigoshish) SC, 10/23 St. Louis (6, Stoney Point) JTa, 10/30 Cook (20, Paradise Beach) DRB, Pennington (5, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) JMJ, 11/6–8 Crow Wing (Garrison, Mille Lacs Lake) WCM, BJU, 11/12 Itasca (3, Round Lake) EEO, SC, 11/13–17 St. Louis (adult male, Park Point, Duluth) PHS, m.ob. All south reports: 10/29–11/2 Carver (2, Lake Waconia) JCy, m.ob., 10/30–11/6 Meeker (Lake Ripley) DMF, DBM.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [3 North, 2 South] All north reports: 10/13–11/13 St. Louis (max 11., Duluth) KRE, m.ob., 10/14 Lake (Knife River) KRE, JWJ, 10/24–11/10 Cook (max. 53 between Colvill and Grand Portage) JEB, m.ob., 10/27–11/9 Lake (3, Two Harbors) JWJ, m.ob. All south reports: **10/28** – 11/21 Ramsey (adult male, Lake Vadnais and nearby lakes) BRL, m.ob., 11/28 Wabasha (Lake Pepin) JWH.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [23 North, 28 South] Early south (median 10/2) **8/6** Stearns (St. Martin) MJB, **8/7** Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) PCC, 9/22 Lac qui Parle BJU. High counts 11/1 Houston (record high count of **7,230** in Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R., 11/5 Sherburne (80, Princeton W.T.P.) SWe, 10/3 Cass (75, Walker W.T.P.) DAY.

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [24 North, 24 South] Early south (median 10/16) 10/16 Meeker DPG, 10/18 Hennepin SLC. High counts 11/8 Houston (1,850, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R., 11/8 St. Louis (498, Park Point, Duluth) KJB.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 North] Adult male seen 11/12–13 in St. Louis (Duluth) GGA, ph. †PHS, ph. (**The Loon** 83:91–92). KJB may have been the same individual that overwintered from November to March of 2008–2009 and 2009–2010.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [23 North, 31 South] High counts 11/6 Ramsey (record high count of **3,500**, Pleasant Lake) KJB, 11/12 St. Louis (400, Bear Island Lake) SLF. Late north 11/25 Hubbard PBB, 11/28 Mille Lacs HHD, but

also see winter report.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) — [15 North, 13 South] Early south (median 10/24) 10/25 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/5 Wright DPG. High counts 11/27 Wabasha/Goodhue (15,000, Lake Pepin, includes birds in Wisconsin) BAF.

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) — [7 North, 10 South] All north reports: Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Cook, Lake, Mille Lacs, St. Louis. All south reports: 10/30 Stevens DPG, 11/6 Meeker DBM, 11/7 Blue Earth ChH, 11/12 Hennepin SLC, 11/14 Yellow Medicine HHD, 11/15 Ramsey BNW, 11/18 Rock BJU, 11/21 Big Stone, Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/27–28 Wabasha BAF, JWH.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [15 North, 38 South] High counts 10/8 Lac qui Parle (1,338, Salt Lake) PCC, 10/10 Polk (350, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) CMK, 10/8 Yellow Medicine (330, Tyson Lake) KRE. Late north 11/8 Aitkin, Crow Wing BJU, 11/10 (median) Douglas ARW. Please see winter report for late south migrants.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [3 North, 5 South] All north reports: 8/9 Kittson (6, Joe River W.M.A.) TBr, 9/5 Marshall (12) KRE, 10/23 Polk (12) KRE, m.ob. Also reported from Big Stone, Jackson, Lac qui Parle, Pipestone, Redwood.

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [10 North, 45 South] Reported as far north as Grant in the West-central, Wadena in the North-central, and Pine in the East-central region.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [22 North, 7 South] Only southeast reports: 8/28 Wabasha DPG, 10/20–11/20 Fillmore NBO, DCr, 11/26 Olmsted RMA.

Spruce Grouse (*Falci pennis canadensis*) — [4 North] All reports: 8/15 Lake RTP, 8/17 Itasca (6, Scenic S.P.) BCS, 9/22 Lake (near Isabella) EEO, 9/24 Koochiching SC, 10/2 St. Louis SLF, 10/11 Cook (Gunflint Trail) *vide* JWJ, 11/7 Cook (Lima Mountain Road) DWK, JLO, 11/9 Lake (MN Highway 1) BJU, 11/21 Lake (County Road 2) MSS.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [10 North, 3 South] All north reports: 8/1 Lake of the Woods DWK, RMD, 8/2 Marshall WMu, 8/7 Aitkin KCR, 9/3 Roseau LMS, 9/4 Kittson LMS, 9/5–6

- Marshall KRE, m.ob., 9/15–11/27 St. Louis (max 7, Sax-Zim Bog) PLJ, m.ob., 10/7–11/1 Kittson (max. 15, Joe River Road) TBr, 10/23 Polk (15) KRE, m.ob., 10/31 Pennington SAU, 11/2 Pine (15, Mission Creek Twp.) LMS, 11/11 Carlton (Moose Lake) BJU, 11/29 Lake of the Woods BSi. All south reports: 8/11 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 8/12 Swift (Lac Qui Parle W.M.A.) BJU, 11/21 Big Stone (Odessa), Lac qui Parle (10, Plover Prairie) BJU.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north reports: 8/2 Clay RHO, 9/11 Wilkin DBM, 10/23 Polk (40) KRE. Only south reports: 9/4 Lac qui Parle (3, Agassiz Twp.) BJU, 11/20 Lac qui Parle (7, Plover Prairie) HHD, presumably related to D.N.R. releases at Plover Prairie.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [19 North, 35 South] Reported as far north as Marshall in the Northwest, **Clearwater** (8/21 Itasca S.P.) BNW, Hubbard, and Cass in the North-central, and Aitkin and Pine in the Northeast. Some north reports probably refer to recently released birds.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [2 North] Reported from Park Point 10/1–5 (2), 10/16–17 (juv., also seen at Superior Entry), 11/7–12 (1) St. Louis †PHS, m.ob. Only report away from Duluth 11/1 Cook (2, Grand Marais) †KRE, m.ob. Also see undocumented reports.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [2 North, 2 South] All north reports: 10/18–31 St. Louis (Minnesota Point) †PHS, †JWL, m.ob., 11/5 **Morrison** (Fish Trap Lake) †MJB, †FGO, 11/26 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth; possibly same bird seen in late October) †KJB. Also reported from Aitkin, Crow Wing and Douglas with minimal or no details. Two south reports at the end of October in Carver and Stearns also included few details.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [25 North, 22 South] High count 10/28 Aitkin (**1,900**, Mille Lacs Lake) RBJ, DAC. Late north 11/16 Otter Tail DST, 11/27 St. Louis KJB, PHS (median 11/25).
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [30 North, 46 South] High counts 10/9 Stearns (57, Pearl Lake and Grand Lake) PCC, 8/7 Renville (31) WCM. Late north 11/19 Hubbard MAW, 11/23 Cass DAY (median 11/27), but also see winter report.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [14 North, 17 South] Early north (median 8/18) 9/3 Roseau KRE, m.ob., 9/4 Kittson KRE, m.ob., 9/5 Lake JWL, Pennington KRE, m.ob. Early south (median 9/14) **8/12** (record early) Lac qui Parle (adult in alternate plumage at Marsh Lake) BJU, 9/3 Washington DFN, 9/15 Brown BTS. Late north 11/7 Cook KRE, m.ob., St. Louis PHS, ALo, 11/8 Aitkin, Crow Wing, Mille Lacs BJU (median 11/19). Late south 11/17 Dakota PEJ, 11/26 Hennepin Slv, m.ob. (median 11/27).
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [16 North, 9 South] Late north 11/8 Aitkin BJU, 11/9 Otter Tail DvS, 11/27 St. Louis PHS (median 12/3). Late south 10/25 Big Stone BJU, 11/30 Hennepin m.ob. (median 11/10), but also see winter report.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [5 North, 8 South] All north reports: 9/3 Roseau KRE, m.ob., 9/4 Kittson (2) MBe, 9/5 Marshall KRE, m.ob., Pennington CRM, 10/8 Pennington HHD, 10/10 Polk (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) CMK. Late south 9/28 Big Stone BJU, 10/1 Brown BTS (median 10/31).
- Western Grebe** — (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [9 North, 11 South] High count 8/22 Big Stone (40, Ortonville) RTe. Late north 10/16 Todd DBM, 10/30 Douglas JPE (median 11/3). Late south 10/30 Pope DPG, 11/11 Houston DFN, PEJ (median 11/17). Unusual Northeast report: 10/16 **St. Louis** (5, Park Point, Duluth) †PEB.
- Clark's Grebe** — (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) [1 North] Reported 8/2–26 Douglas (Lake Osakis) ph. DAC, m.ob. Intermediate grebe 8/22 Big Stone (Thielke Lake) with mostly Clark's characteristics: extensive white flanks and yellow-orange bill, but dusky gray surrounding both eyes (KRE).
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [24 North, 45 South] High counts 10/12 Goodhue (2,066, Gores Pool #3 W.M.A.) SKS, 9/27 Dakota (1,870, Mud Hen Lakes) SKS, 10/12 Dakota (1,482, Spring Lake Park Reserve--Schaar's Bluff) SKS, 9/27 Dakota (1,390, Mississippi River Lock & Dam # 2) SKS. Late north 11/8 Aitkin BJU, 11/14 Douglas ARW (median 11/24).

- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [19 North, 37 South] High counts 9/27 Dakota (1,000, Mud Hen Lakes) SKS, 9/27 Houston (882, Blue Target) SKS, 9/27 Dakota (804, Spring Lake Park Reserve--Schaar's Bluff) SKS, 9/27 Winona (750, Prairie Island Park) SKS. Late north 10/17 Polk SAS, 11/7 Polk MJM, 11/9 Lake (4, Two Harbors) BJU (median 10/25). Late south 11/24 Dakota m.ob., 11/27 Wabasha BAF (median 12/18), but also see winter report.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [6 North, 4 South] All north reports: 8/1 Aitkin KCR, 8/2 Lake JEL, 8/2–9/6 Marshall m.ob., 8/4 Polk *vide* MJM, 8/18 Aitkin KCR, 9/1 Wadena DBM, 9/12 Cass DAY. All south reports: 8/4 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/12 Swift BJU, 8/20 Carver JCy, 9/4 Big Stone BJU.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [1 North, 4 South] Only north report: 8/21 Grant (Herman) RTE. All south reports: 8/1–18 Sherburne (2, Sherburne N.W.R.) PLJ, m.ob., 8/4 Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie) BJU, 8/12 Big Stone (Artichoke Lake) BJU, Swift (Lubenow W.P.A.) BJU, 8/22 Big Stone (Thielke Lake) KRE, (Ortonville) RTE.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [29 North, 48 South] Late north 10/21 Crow Wing RBW, 10/23 Wadena PJB (median 12/1).
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [12 North, 34 South] High counts 8/20 Grant (100, Herman) RTE, 8/7 Sibley (63) WCM. Late north 10/21 Clay RGj, 10/28 Pennington MJM (median 10/14). Late south 10/25 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/12 Hennepin SLC, 11/20 Dakota PEJ (median 11/7).
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [1 South] Only report: 9/4 Big Stone (Otrej Twp.) BJU.
- Little Blue Heron** — (*Egretta caerulea*) — [2 South] All south 8/21 **Stevens** (immature, Morris W.T.P.) KRE, m.ob., 9/4 Big Stone (adult, Toqua Twp.) BJU.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [2 North, 5 South] All north reports: 10/29 St. Louis (near French River) ph. SCZ, ph. †PHS, 11/1–8 Aitkin (2, north of Aitkin) WEN, ph. BJU, RAE. All south reports: 8/3 Lac qui Parle (2, Perry Twp.) BJU, 10/8 Lyon (Sham Lake) KRE, m.ob., Scott (near Gifford Lake) DMF, 10/23–24 Carver †JCy, ph. DWK, 10/25 Big Stone (Thielke Lake) BJU, 11/12 Lac qui Parle PEJ.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [17 North, 35 South] High count 9/8 Freeborn (11, Big Island S.P.) RTP. Late north 9/20 Morrison DBM, St. Louis (Duluth) JWJ, 10/1 (median) Becker DFN. Late south 10/6 Jackson BJU, 10/8 Hennepin BAF, 10/12 Dakota SKS (median 10/20).
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [1 North, 8 South] Only north report: 8/6 Otter Tail (Grotto Lake, Fergus Falls) DST. Late south 10/18 Big Stone BJU, 11/1 Hennepin LVI (median 11/8).
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [1 North] Only report: 8/31–9/3 **Roseau** (juvenile, Warroad) †KRE, ph. LMS, ph. BSi, m.ob.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [29 North, 47 South] High counts 10/2 St. Louis (176 at H.R.B.O.) KJB, 9/18 Rice (106) DAB. Late north 10/20 Marshall *vide* MJM, 10/31 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 10/30). Late south 10/20 Hennepin CMB, 11/6 Kandiyohi JSr (median 10/21).
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [24 North, 26 South] Late north 10/10 Itasca EEO, 10/31 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 10/24). Late south 11/2 Hennepin MDa, 11/3 Carver WCM (median 11/11).
- MISSISSIPPI KITE** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) — [1 North] Only report: 9/1 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) †KJB, CRu, ABL (**The Loon** 83:47).
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [33 North, 50 South] High counts 11/26 St. Louis (388 at H.R.B.O.) KJB, 11/28 Houston (106, Brownsville) RPR.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [29 North, 38 South] High count 9/4 St. Louis (48 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 11/20 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 11/27 Mille Lacs ASC, Todd HHD (median 11/25), but also see winter report.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [25 North, 38 South] Early south (median 8/10) 8/13 Anoka TAF, Washington JaH, 8/14 Carver JCy. High count 9/13 St. Louis (812 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 11/19 Clay RHO, 11/26 Polk SAU, 11/27 St. Louis



Immature Cattle Egret, 4 November 2010, north of Aitkin, Aitkin County. Photo by Warren Nelson.

- (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 11/29), but also see winter report.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [21 North, 43 South] High count 9/25 St. Louis (9 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 11/14 Morrison FGo, 11/25 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 11/2), but also see winter report.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [7 North, 4 South] All north reports: Aitkin, Clay, Douglas, Lake, Pine, Roseau, St. Louis. Seasonal total of 185 from H.R.B.O., Duluth well below average of 656. All south reports: 9/30 Steele PSu, 10/16 Ramsey SeH, 10/24 Wright (Lake Maria S.P.) HCT, 11/6 Swift DBM.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [10 North, 13 South] Late north 10/7 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/16 Douglas JPE, St. Louis PEB, 10/20 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/29 Carlton (adult, east of Moose Lake) RPR (median 10/28). Other north reports from Becker, Beltrami, Cass, Douglas, Mille Lacs, and Morrison.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [24 North, 20 South] High count 9/14 St. Louis (6,933 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Peak count away from Hawk Ridge: 9/18 Rice (790, River Bend N.C.) DAB. Late north 9/29 Otter Tail DST, 10/21 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 10/16). Late south 10/13 Hennepin SLC, Sherburne PLJ, 10/16 Dakota SWE (median 10/10).
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [5 North, 11 South] All north reports: 8/28 Red Lake JMJ, 9/4 Kittson KRE, m.ob., 9/5 Marshall KRE, m.ob., 9/12 & 9/19 St. Louis (Duluth) KJB, ABL, 9/19 Marshall JMJ, 9/26 Polk SAu. Late south 10/6 Murray BJU, 10/9 Lincoln CRM, 10/22 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/5).
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [33 North, 53 South] High count 10/26 St. Louis (960 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Subspecies *barlani* in Blue Earth 11/21 ph. †ChH
- FERRUGINOUS HAWK** (*Buteo regalis*) — [1 South] Light-morph adult found 10/25 Lac qui Parle (near Rosen) ph. BJU.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [22 North, 25 South] Early north (median 9/17) 10/11 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/13 Cass BAW, 10/14 Aitkin PEJ. Early south (median 10/2) 10/9 Lyon CRM, 10/14 Lac qui Parle BJU. High counts 11/17 & 11/23 St. Louis (61 at H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [5 North, 2 South] H.R.B.O. reported 201 individuals 9/16 – 11/27, with a peak count of 26 on 10/28. All north reports away from Hawk Ridge: 10/14 Lake (ad., Castle Danger) KRE, JWJ, 10/15 Cook (Hovland Woods S.N.A.) RBJ, 10/18 St. Louis (Duluth Twp.) JGr, (Duluth) ALO, 10/23 Carlton (ad., S.R. 210) PHS, 10/29 St. Louis PLJ, 10/30 St. Louis (Stony Point) KRE, WCM, LS, 11/4 Kittson (C.R. 10) TBr, 11/10 Cook (S.R. 61) BJU. Only south reports: 11/2 Sherburne PLJ, 11/28 Houston (Brownsville) RPR.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [32 North, 52 South] Observed north as late as 11/27 Todd HHD, 11/28 Mille Lacs HHD. Observed south throughout the season. High count 8/14 Aitkin (17) ASC.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [24 North, 24 South] Early south (median 8/18) 8/7 Dakota (breeding birds from summer season) ADS, 8/8 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) RBJ, 8/10 Hennepin (Bloomington) SLC, 8/11 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU. High count 9/24 Lake (20, non-migrants along the North Shore) KRE. Last reported north 11/26 Clay (Moorhead) RHO and Polk SAU.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [9 North, 23 South] Last reported north 11/24 Hubbard PBB. Observed south throughout the season.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — [1 North] Two individuals banded in St. Louis 8/25 and 9/12 by FJN at Moose Valley in Lakewood Twp. (**The Loon** 83:89–91).
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [2 South] First county records: 10/2 **Dakota** (Lakeville) †MAO, 10/10 **McLeod** (Schaefer Prairie Preserve) †DWK. Both observations were of birds flushed from grasses.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [2 North, 9 South] Only north reports: 8/16 Cass LMS, CRM, 8/20 Douglas (Alexandria) RTe (median 9/10). Late south 10/2 Carver (2, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy, 10/4 Martin CRM (median 10/7).
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [6 North, 12 South] High count 8/28 Lake (11) JWJ. Late north 9/11 Douglas JPE, 9/20 St. Louis JWJ (median 10/1). Late south 10/18 Lac

- qui Parle BJU, 10/23 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) CRM (median 10/11).
- Common Moorhen** (*Gallinula chloropus*) — [4 South] All reports: 8/2 Houston DBz, 8/2 – 9/30 Sherburne (three immatures resulting from breeding during summer season, Sherburne N.W.R.) AXH, PLJ, ASc, 8/4 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 9/10 McLeod RZi.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [24 North, 46 South] High count 10/22–23 Meeker (7,500, Lake Washington) RMA. Last reported north 11/14 Morrison FGo, 11/18 St. Louis (30) NAJ. Observed south throughout the season.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*) — [28 North, 21 South] High counts 10/22 Sherburne (4,314, Sherburne N.W.R.) *vide* BAB, 10/24 Pine (3,000) JZa. Late north 11/18 Mille Lacs ASc, 11/24 Mille Lacs (3) ASc (median 11/4). Late south 11/21 Big Stone (2) BJU, 11/23 Sherburne (2, Sherburne N.W.R.) BAB and Washington (30, Mahto-medi) BRL (median 11/8).
- [WHOOPIING CRANE]** (*Grus americana*) — [1 South] One in Goodhue on 9/13 NBr, presumably from the Necedah N.W.R. flock.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [4 North, 6 South] Early north (median 8/9) 8/9 Kittson (Joe River S.W.A.) TBr. Early south (median 8/8) 8/3 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) BJU. High count 8/11 Kittson (17, Joe River S.W.A.) TBr. Late north 10/16 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) PHS (median 10/26). Late south 10/17 Houston (3, south of Brownsville) JWH and Lincoln (3) RMD (median 11/5).
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [10 North, 18 South] Early north (median 8/17) 8/16 Todd (4) LMS. Early south (median 8/4) 8/3 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) BJU. High count 10/10 Sibley (140) DWK. Late north 10/30 Douglas JPE (median 10/27). Late south 11/4 Lac qui Parle PEJ, 11/6 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) BAF, BRL (median 11/3).
- Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [10 North, 12 South] See summer report for early migrants north and south. High count 8/28 Lac qui Parle (30) PCC. Late north 9/18 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) AM, 9/25 Lake DBz (median 10/2). Late south 10/8 Lac qui Parle PCC (median 10/8).
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — No reports.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [28 North, 53 South] High counts 8/7 Lac qui Parle (917) PCC, 8/28 Lac qui Parle (867) PCC. Late north 10/30 Douglas JPE, 11/11 St. Louis BJU (median 10/26). Late south 11/20 Fillmore DCr, 11/22 Cottonwood BRB (median 12/4).
- American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [4 South] All reports: 8/3 Lac qui Parle (2, Cory Lake) BJU, 9/4 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.) BJU, 9/12 Lac qui Parle (7, Hamlin W.M.A.) PCC, 9/18 Stearns (Eden Valley W.T.P.) DWK, 9/22 Lac qui Parle (2, Cory Lake) BJU, 10/6 Jackson (6, west of Skunk Lake) BJU (median 10/3).
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [26 North, 33 South] High count 8/2 Crow Wing (24, Ironton W.T.P.) JSB. Late north 9/26 Lake DAB, JWH, 9/30 Mille Lacs (Isle) RBJ (median 10/13). Late south 9/25 Brown BTS, 10/6 Lac qui Parle RZi (median 10/10).
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [21 North, 30 South] High count 8/7 Pine (13, Askov W.T.P.) HHD. Late north 9/26 Itasca (2) EEO and Lake DAB, JWH (median 10/1). Late south 10/16 Le Sueur (Waternville fish hatchery ponds) JWH, 10/17 Houston (Eitzen W.T.P.) JWH (median 10/5).
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [20 North, 25 South] High count 9/12 Lac qui Parle (13) PCC. Late north 11/8 Aitkin BJU, 11/11 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) KJB (median 11/3). Late south 11/12 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) PEJ (median 11/9).
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [2 South] Only reports: 8/3 Lac qui Parle (juv., Mehurin Twp.) BJU, 9/5 Renville (Bird Island W.T.P.) DPG (median 8/20).
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [22 North, 33 South] High count 8/7 Lac qui Parle (184) PCC. Late north 10/24 Kittson (15, Joe River S.W.A.) TBr (median 10/25). Late south 10/25 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 11/2).
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — No reports.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*)

- [2 North, 3 South] Only north reports: 8/1 Clay WMu, 9/5 Marshall PRH, LMS, CRM (median 8/15). Reported south in Big Stone, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle as late as 8/15 Kandiyohi JoS (median 8/22). High count 8/7 Lac qui Parle (**33**, record high southbound count, included 13 juv., Arena Twp.) PCC.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [1 South] Only report: 9/17 Lac qui Parle (2, Walter Twp.) BJU (median 9/29).
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [2 South] Only reports: 8/3 Lac qui Parle (5, Perry Twp.) BJU, 8/12 Big Stone (2, Akron Twp.) BJU, 8/26 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU (median 8/20).
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [2 North, 3 South] Early north (median 8/7) 8/24 Lake *fade* JWJ, also reported north in St. Louis as late as 9/21 (2, Park Point) EBr (median 9/27). Only south reports: 8/3 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) BJU (before early median 8/5), 8/15 Ramsey RZi, 9/4 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.) BJU (after late median 8/30).
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — No reports.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [6 North, 11 South] See summer report for early migrants north. Early south (median 7/23) 8/5 Rice TFB. High count 9/11 St. Louis (120, Park Point, Duluth) KRE. Late north 9/26 St. Louis HCT (median 10/11). Late south 10/17 Pope JJS (median 10/22). First county record: 8/27 **Itasca** JJS.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [14 North, 22 South] High count 8/21, 8/28 Lac qui Parle (256) PCC. Late north 9/16 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) PHS (median 9/27). Late south 10/18 Dakota (2) JPM (median 10/12).
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [22 North, 33 South] High count 8/28 Lac qui Parle (463) PCC. Late north 10/10 Kittson (3, Joe River S.W.A.) TBr and Polk JWH (median 10/13). Late south 10/25 Blue Earth DBM (median 10/25).
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [3 South] All reports: 8/15 Dakota (1) JPM, 8/27 Rice TFB, 9/22 Lac qui Parle (4, Salt Lake) BJU. **Note:** undocumented reports of fall migrant White-rumped pri- or to mid-August are not published.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [15 North, 22 South] High count 8/28 Lac qui Parle (75) PCC. Late north 9/20 Crow Wing (Ironton W.T.P.) JSB (median 10/3). Late south 11/6 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) BAF (median 10/31).
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [15 North, 27 South] High count 8/28 Lac qui Parle (288) PCC. Late north 10/24 Kittson (3, Joe River S.W.A.) TBr (median 10/30). Late south 10/31 Renville RBW, DWK (median 11/12).
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [3 North, 7 South] All north reports: 9/19 Cass (2) DAY (after early median 9/2), 10/5 St. Louis (40th Ave. West) JWJ, 10/30 Douglas JPE and St. Louis (Superior Entry) PHS (before median late north 10/31). Early south (median 8/25) 8/20 Dakota RZi. Late south 11/6 Dakota (2, Lake Byllesby) BAF (median 11/5).
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris bimantopus*) — [9 North, 16 South] High count 8/28 Lac qui Parle (158) PCC. Late north 9/6 Marshall PRH, CRM (median 9/21). Late south 10/10 Redwood JJS (median 10/10).
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Tryngites subruficollis*) — [2 North, 13 South] See summer report for early migrants north and south. High count 8/7 Lac qui Parle (14) PCC. Only north report away from St. Louis: 8/30 Crow Wing (Ironton W.T.P.) JSB. Late north 9/21 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) TAb (median 9/22). Late south 9/22 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) BJU, 10/6 Lac qui Parle (3) RBJ, RZi, **10/24–25** Blue Earth (east of Perch Lake) †ChH, †RMD, DBM (median 9/20).
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [3 North, 7 South] Only north reports: 8/9 Kittson (2, Joe River S.W.A.) TBr, 8/22 St. Louis ph. SCZ, 9/5 Polk CRM, LS (median 9/7). Late south 9/4 Big Stone BJU, 9/5 Stearns (Zion Twp.) PCC (median 9/11).
- Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [1 North, 10 South] Only north report: 9/26 Carlton DBz. Early south (median 8/1) 8/7 Lac qui Parle (2) PCC, 8/9 Lincoln JJS. High count 10/6 Nobles (27) BJU. Late south 10/29 Dakota (1) JPM, 10/31 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) BAF, 11/1 Dakota LEC (median 10/25).
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [15

- North, 28 South] High count 10/24 Blue Earth (45) ChH. Late north 11/8 Aitkin BJU (median 11/9). Last reported south 11/7 Blue Earth (4) ChH, but see winter report for over-wintering birds.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [8 North, 8 South] Late north 10/23 Mahnommen *vide* JMJ, 10/25 St. Louis JWL (median 10/29). Late south 10/23 Sibley RBW, 11/6 Ramsey LMS (median 11/3).
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [6 North, 7 South] High count 8/7 Lac qui Parle (59) PCC. Late north 8/17 Todd CRM, 9/3 Roseau LMS, CRM (median 9/6). Late south 9/5 Renville DPG, 9/12 Lac qui Parle (2) PCC (median 9/15).
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [13 North, 11 South] Early north (median 8/1) 8/9 Kittson (5, Joe River S.W.A.) TBr. See summer report for early migrants south. High count 8/28 Lac qui Parle (119) PCC. Late north 9/25 Cass (Cass Lake W.T.P.) BAW and Lake (Castle Danger W.T.P.) RTe, 9/26 Carlton DBz (median 9/22). Late south 10/6 Nobles (2, Worthington W.T.P.) BJU, 10/8 Lac qui Parle (5) PCC (median 9/26).
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** (*Rissa tridactyla*) — [1 South] Immature found **11/21** (third earliest date south) **Lac qui Parle** (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU and relocated the next day 11/22 RAE.
- SABINE'S GULL** (*Xema sabini*) — [1 North, 1 South] Two juveniles and one adult photographed in flight at Superior Entry 9/20 St. Louis ph. †KJB; possibly a fourth individual (juv.) observed later that day at Park Point ph. †KRE, ph. †PHS, m.ob. Also reported from St. Louis 9/25 (10 juv., Superior Entry) †PHS. Only south report: 9/12 **Stevens** (juv., Gorder Lake) †BWF, CH, JWH (**The Loon** 83:92–93).
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [18 North, 28 South] See summer report for early migrants north and south. High counts 9/19 Brown (200, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 10/2 Crow Wing (200, Ironton W.T.P.) JSB. Late north 11/16 Douglas ARW, 11/17 Beltrami ARW (median 11/23). Late south 11/22 Olmsted (4, Silver Creek Reservoir) JWH, 11/23 Hennepin (4, Lake Calhoun) DWK and Ramsey (2, White Bear Lake) BRL (median 11/24).
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — [1 North] Only report: 9/19 Crow Wing (Ironton W.T.P.) JSB, LS.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [17 North, 37 South] High count 10/3 Stearns (400) DAK. Late north 11/8 Crow Wing (Garrison) BJU, 11/13 Todd (2, Browerville W.T.P.) MJB (median 10/24). Late south 11/12 Carver (Assumption Lake) JCy and Nobles BTS, 11/14 Lincoln HHD and Steele RBW (median 11/11).
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [32 North, 49 South] Reported throughout the season in all regions of the state. High count 11/28 Wabasha (3,200 at Lock & Dam 4) RPR.
- CALIFORNIA GULL** (*Larus californicus*) — [1 North] Two reports from St. Louis, representing two different adults, both at Superior Entry: 11/12 ph. †KJB, 11/23 ph. †KJB (**The Loon** 83:93–94).
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [14 North, 25 South] First reported south 8/8 Houston AKe, 8/9 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) BNW. High count 11/24 St. Louis (3,660, Duluth) KJB.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*) — [2 North, 1 South] Early north (median 10/15) 9/23 St. Louis KJB; also reported north in Cook. First juv. 10/10 St. Louis KJB. Only south reports from Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) beginning 10/28 PEB. High count 11/29 St. Louis (**14**, Duluth) KJB. Seasonal total from Duluth was 46 (26 first-cycle, 9 second-cycle, 7 third-cycle, 4 adults, distinguished by KJB via photographs).
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [1 North] Only report: St. Louis: 11/14 (adult, Duluth, Superior Entry) ph. †PHS. Second-cycle presumed hybrid Thayer's X Iceland Gull first found at Wisconsin Point 10/20 ph. MLH, ph. PHS, JLK, seen regularly in Duluth (primarily at Canal Park) beginning 10/31 ph. KJB, m.ob.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [2 North] Early north (median 9/21) 9/13 Lake (adult, Agate Bay, Two Harbors) JCG, ph. †KRE, refound at Superior Entry in St. Louis 9/16–30 KJB, ph. PHS. Additional reports from Superior Entry in St. Louis: 9/25 (third-cycle) ph. PHS, ph. KJB, 10/28 – 11/24 (adult) KRE, ph. PHS, KJB, 11/17 (first-cycle) ph. †KJB, 11/29 (first-cycle) ph.

- †KJB.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [2 North] Early north 11/9 St. Louis (first-cycle, Duluth) KJB, 11/10 Cook (first-cycle, Grand Portage) BJU. High count 11/24 St. Louis (4, Duluth) KJB. One adult “Nelson’s” Gull (Herring X Glaucous Gull) reported from Canal Park, St. Louis 11/21 PHS and 11/28+ PHS, KJB.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] Early north (median 11/15) **10/9** St. Louis (juv., Superior Entry) ph. PHS, all other reports from Duluth in St. Louis beginning 11/6 (juv., Canal Park) ph. †PHS. Total of 6 for the season including 5 first-cycles and a second-cycle bird 11/12+ KJB.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [7 North, 20 South] High count 8/30 Carver (19, Rapids Lake Unit, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. Late north 9/24 Crow Wing (2, Ironton W.T.P.) JSB (median 10/2). Late south 9/24 Winona DBz, 9/25 Hennepin RZi (median 10/2).
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonias niger*) — [9 North, 20 South] High count 8/14 Lac qui Parle (163, Salt Lake) PCC. Late north 8/21 Grant (Herman) and Traverse (Lake Traverse) RTe, 9/3 Lake of the Woods CRM and Roseau (2) KRE, LMS, CRM (median 9/7). Late south 9/21 Ramsey (White Bear Lake) BRL, 9/22 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 9/15).
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [7 North, 3 South] All south reports: 9/5 Dakota (3, Black Dog Lake) DAd, 9/6 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 9/22 Lac qui Parle (9, Bolland Slough) BJU. High counts 8/2, 8/4 St. Louis (36, Interstate Island) KJB. Late north 9/26 St. Louis (2, Park Point, Duluth) KRE, 10/16 Mille Lacs RZi (median 10/1).
- Forster’s Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [8 North, 12 South] High count 9/18 Pope (27, Starbuck Beach) DWK. Late north 9/19 Cass (4) DAY, 9/25 St. Louis (Superior Entry) NAn, TPr (median 10/11). Late south 10/6 Nobles BJU, 10/9 Big Stone (Big Stone Lake) RBJ (median 9/27).
- POMARINE JAEGER** (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) — [1 North] One Juvenile plus an unaged individual see together 10/12 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) †KJB.
- Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — [1 North] All reports from Duluth in St. Louis beginning 9/16 (juv., Superior Entry) ph. KJB. Last reported 10/15 (subadult, Park Point) PHS.
- Jaeger sp.** (*Stercorarius* sp.) — [1 North] Unidentified jaegers observed in Duluth, St. Louis 9/16 (Park Point) KRE, 9/25–26 St. Louis (Superior Entry) NAn, TPr, PHS, 10/15 St. Louis (juv. with subadult Parasitic, Park Point) PHS.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Observed statewide. High count 11/15 St. Louis (200, Interstate Island) KJB.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [3 North, 25 South] North reports from Grant (Herman), Polk (Fertile), Wilkin (C.R. 12 / US 75). South reports from Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Dakota, Faribault, Freeborn, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Nobles, Pipestone, Renville, Rock, Sibley, Stearns, Stevens, Swift, Winona, Yellow Medicine.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [32 North, 53 South] Observed statewide. High count 8/21 Lac qui Parle (**315**) PCC.
- COMMON GROUND-DOVE** (*Columbina passerina*) — [1 South] Individual discovered 10/18 **Hennepin** (Hyland P.R.) WMS subsequently seen and photographed (ph. †DAC, ph. ChG, ph. BeH, ph. †AXH, †PEB, †CMB, m.ob., **The Loon** 83:94) through the morning of 10/20. Interestingly, another was at Whitefish Point, Michigan on 10/20.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [1 North, 7 South] Only north report: 8/7 Otter Tail ChA. Late south 8/25 Yellow Medicine BJU, 9/4 Big Stone (Big Stone Lake) BJU (median 9/17).
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [1 North, 6 South] Only north report: 8/1 Beltrami DWK, JJS, KLa, RMD. Late south 8/27 Fillmore NBO, 9/4 Big Stone BJU (median 9/25).
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [2 North, 15 South] Only north reports: 9/9 Aitkin RBJ, 10/9 Todd DBM. South reports from Brown, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Dakota, Faribault, Hennepin, Houston, Lac qui Parle, McLeod, Nobles, Pipestone, Ramsey, Swift, Winona, Wright.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [13 North, 29 South] Observed statewide.

- Snowy Owl** (*Nyctea scandiaca*) — [1 North] Only report from Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) 11/18 MAN.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [5 North] First reported north (median 10/22) 11/4 Lake of the Woods BSi. Also reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [15 North, 18 South] Observed in all regions of the state but only as far southwest as Lac qui Parle.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [2 North] Reported from the northeast in Aitkin and St. Louis beginning 10/24 Aitkin (C.R. 18) WEN, WMS.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [2 North, 4 South] All north reports: 9/1 Itasca (Dunning Lake) EEO, 11/22 Cook (C.R. 7) JRI, 11/28 Cook (C.R. 2) JJ. All south reports: 10/6 Kandiyohi (Willmar) RAE, 11/1–2 Nicollet (Linnaeus Arboretum, Gustavus Adolphus College) RMD, 11/12 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 11/28 Hennepin (2, Hyland P.R.) SLC, DWK, PEB, CMB, 11/29 Hennepin (3, Hyland P.R.) SLC.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [6 North, 3 South] Reported north from Beltrami, Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, St. Louis as late as 11/12 Kittson (C.R. 1) TBr. All south reports: 10/8 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 10/18 Lac qui Parle (Cerro Gordo Twp.) BJU, 11/18 Lyon (Nordland Twp.) BJU, 11/27 Stearns (Freeport) HHD, FGo, MJB, RAE. High count 8/14 Kittson (12) LW.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [2 North, 3 South] All north reports: 10/2 St. Louis ABL, 11/9 Aitkin BJU, 11/19 Aitkin KCR. All south reports: 11/5 Rice TFB, 11/10 Ramsey AXH, 11/14 Hennepin DWK, 11/28 Hennepin (Hyland P.R.) PEB, DWK.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [25 North, 36 South] High count 8/29 St. Louis (1,563, Duluth) KJB, CRu. Late north 9/26 Pennington (2) JMJ, 9/27 Otter Tail (8) DST (median 9/27). Late south 10/8 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) CMB, 10/9 Lincoln (Tyler) KRE, m.ob. (median 10/9).
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) — [3 North, 3 South] All north reports: 8/2 Cass (Ponto Lake Twp.) BAW, 8/11 Roseau (Hayes Lake S.P.) CMK, 8/21 St. Louis SLF, 9/8 Cass (Ponto Lake Twp.) BAW (median 9/4). All south reports: 8/5 Anoka (Nowthen) CKB, 8/17 Sherburne (2, Sand Dunes S.F.) PLJ, 8/24 Anoka (Andover) CKB, 9/12 Sherburne (2) PLJ, 9/26 Cottonwood (Windom, injured male) BRB (median 9/12).
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [21 North, 37 South] High count 8/6 Ramsey (146) HCT. Late north 9/5 Morrison (8, Little Falls) RPR and Wadena PJB, 9/12 Douglas JPE (median 9/14). Late south 9/26 Hennepin KRo, SLC, 9/30 Blue Earth ChH (median 10/6).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilobus colubris*) — [26 North, 42 South] High count 8/22 Dakota (20, Miesville Ravine) SWe. Late north 9/24 Otter Tail BDE, 9/25 Polk SAu (median 9/25). Late south 10/10 Rice TFB (median 10/13).
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [28 North, 46 South] Last reported north 11/6 Mille Lacs WCM. Reported south throughout the season.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [11 North, 20 South] Late north 9/27 Lake (imm., Two Harbors) JWJ, 10/16 Mille Lacs JFR Tab (median 11/7). Last reported south 10/17 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) MFa, 10/29 Houston DBz.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [23 North, 46 South] Observed in all regions of the state as far northeast as Lake. High count 10/23 Meeker (20, Lake Washington) RMa.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [27 North, 30 South] High count 9/18 St. Louis (58, Duluth) KJB, CRu. Late north 10/10 Beltrami JWH and Lake of the Woods HHD, 10/16 Mille Lacs RZi (median 10/19). Late south 11/27 Hennepin TAT, JJo. Late migrants difficult to distinguish from potential over-wintering birds.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*) — [32 North, 53 South] Observed statewide.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [30 North, 48 South] Observed statewide.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [3 North] All reports: 8/18 Itasca (Scenic S.P.) BCS, 10/25 St. Louis

- (Hoyt Lakes) NAJ, 11/1 St. Louis (Duluth Twp.) JCG, 11/1 St. Louis (Knute Lake) DMK, 11/9 Lake (C.R. 2) BJU.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [7 North] Reported from Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Hubbard, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [30 North, 50 South] High count 9/21 Steele (22) PSu. Last reported north 11/20 Traverse (Wheaton) RBW, 11/26 Clay (Moorhead) RHO (median 12/19). Observed south throughout the season.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [30 North, 36 South] Observed in all regions of the state as far southwest as Lyon. High count 11/5 Morrison (7, Lincoln) MJB.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [16 North, 25 South] Summering individual continued into the fall season, Blue Hill trail, Sherburne. Early south migrants (median 8/3) 8/4 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/8 Blue Earth ChH, 8/11 Benton MJB. High count 8/21 St. Louis (6) CRu. Late north 9/6 Marshall PRH, CRM, MBe, 9/12 St. Louis ABL (median 9/7). Late south all from Hennepin: 9/16 SLC, 9/18 RTe, 9/20 (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BeH (median 9/21).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [29 North, 44 South] High count 9/4 Scott (18, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF. Late north 9/11 Wilkin DBM, 9/12 Douglas PJK, 9/18 Otter Tail HHD (median 9/19). Late south 9/21 Hennepin SLC, Rice TFB, 9/27–28 Steele PSu (median 10/3).
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [1 North, 5 South] Only north report with identification notes 8/21 St. Louis (3) PHS. Median late 9/2. All south reports 8/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/21 Dakota JPM, Stearns RBW, 9/5 Wright DWK, 9/21 Steele PSu. Median early south 8/12, late south 9/16. Reported from an additional 3 north and 7 south counties without details. **Note:** During spring and fall migration, undocumented records of silent *Empidonax* flycatchers are not included in this summary. Observers are encouraged to include identification details in their reports.
- Acadian Flycatcher** (*Empidonax virens*) — [2 South] All reports: 8/2 Rice TFB, 8/5, 8/9 Goodhue (Cannon Valley Bike Trail) SLP. Median late 8/25. Reported from 2 additional south counties without details.
- Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [1 North, 5 South] Only north report 8/6 Cook (Superior N.F.) ph. DMB. Median late north 8/27. All south 8/2 Rice TFB, 8/9, 8/10 Hennepin SLC, 8/15 Anoka DWK, 8/27 Sherburne PLJ, 9/5 Blue Earth ChH. Median late south 8/30. Undocumented reports from an additional 7 north, 1 south counties.
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [4 South] All south 8/1 Rice TFB, 8/3 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/4 Big Stone BJU, 8/11 Sherburne PLJ. Median late north 8/9, south 9/9. Undocumented reports from an additional 2 north, 3 south counties.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [2 North, 7 South] All north with identification notes 8/17 Cook ph. DMB, 8/21 St. Louis (25, Park Point, record high fall count) CRu, PHS, 8/30 Cook ph. DMB. Median late north 9/20. Late south 9/5 Fillmore NBO, 9/11 Anoka REH, 9/19 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. bridge) BAF (median 9/26). Reported from an additional 15 north and 22 south counties without details.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [29 North, 45 South] Late north 10/2 Douglas JPE, 10/3 Wadena PJB, 10/9 Douglas JPE (median 10/14). Late south 10/16 Renville HHD, 10/22 Houston DBz, 10/25 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/31).
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [16 North, 37 South] Late north 8/27 Itasca EEO, 9/5 Wadena PJB, 9/11 Wilkin DBM (median 9/20). Late south 9/19 Hennepin TAT, 9/20 Rice TFB, 9/21 Steele PSu (median 9/22). High count 8/16 Ramsey (5) NMA.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [6 North, 6 South] High counts 8/3 Lac qui Parle (8) BJU, 8/21 Traverse (6) KRE. Late north 8/23 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) RSt, 9/13 Lake (Two Harbors) KRE (median 9/10). Out of range migrants in St. Louis 8/15 FJN, 8/19 FJN. Late south 9/4 Big Stone (2) BJU, Lac qui Parle (3) BJU, 9/8 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 9/9).
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [27 North, 42 South] High counts 8/24 St.

- Louis (153) CRu, 8/29 St. Louis (60) CRu. Late north 9/5 Morrison DFN, 9/7 Lake DBz, 9/11 Douglas JPE (median 9/18). Late south 9/15 Hennepin PME, 9/25 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/29 Ramsey (Maplewood N.C.) AGu (median 9/23).
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [3 South] All south reports 8/3 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/14 Dakota (4) BAF, Lac qui Parle PCC, HHD, 9/4 Big Stone BJU (median late south 9/2).
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*) — [22 North, 22 South] Early north (median 10/8) 10/4 St. Louis *fide* JWJ, 10/9 Clearwater HHD, 10/11 Kittson TBr. Early south (median 10/15) 10/10 Anoka JMu, 10/11 Dakota (Ritter Farm Park) SLP, Hennepin DAH, 10/16 Chippewa WCM. High count 10/23 Polk (8) KRE.
- White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) — [2 South] Two very late south reports: **11/3 Hennepin** (Pond-Dakota Mission Park) †SLC. A record-late, first county record individual was found **11/20 Lac qui Parle** (C.R. 66, Hantho Twp.) †HHD, still present **11/21** ph. BJU.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [1 South] Only one report, 8/27 Wabasha PME (median late south 8/21).
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [19 North, 32 South] High counts 9/4 Scott (6, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF. Late north 9/11 Traverse DBM, 9/18 Otter Tail HHD (median 9/19). Late south 9/21 Hennepin SKS, SLC, 10/1 Carver DBM, followed by 10/10 Rice (banded) ph. DAT, two weeks after the 9/27 median.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [18 North, 31 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/22 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/25 Yellow Medicine BJU, 8/26 Carver JCy, Dakota HHD, Hennepin TAT. High count 8/23 Lake (6) BWe. Late north 9/24 Koochiching SC, 9/26 Lake DAB, JWH, well before the 10/10 median. Late south 10/13 Hennepin SLC, 10/14 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park) JJo (median 10/16).
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [10 North, 28 South] Late north 9/12 Douglas JPE, 9/18 Douglas HHD, Grant HHD (median 9/12). Late south 9/13 Isanti LMS, CRM, 9/15 Hennepin SLC, 9/20 Fillmore CRM (median 9/25).
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [8 North, 21 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/18 Hennepin SLC. High counts 9/4 Chisago (4) DWK, 9/4 Washington (3) DAB. Late north 9/7 Lake DBz, 9/18 Douglas HHD (median 9/26). Late south 9/26 Steele PSu, 10/1 Hennepin CMB, followed by **10/18 Hennepin** (Mother Lake) TAT well past the 10/1 median.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [28 North, 45 South] High count 8/27 Carver (15, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 10/2 Lake MTA, 10/19 Cook (2) HFH (median 9/30). Late south 10/2 Carver (2) JCy, Washington KCr, 10/6 Jackson BJU, Nobles CRM (median 10/3).
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [14 North] Well-represented with many reports from across north. Some seasonal movement indicated, with 50 individuals counted from late September through mid-October at H.R.B.O. in St. Louis, including a high count of 10 on 10/11 KJB, CRu.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [32 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. Record-high seasonal count of 65,116 from H.R.B.O. (St. Louis), with a new record single-day count of **7,612** on 9/14 KJB, CRu.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [16 North] Reported throughout normal range. High counts 8/23 Marshall (25, Agassiz N.W.R.) RSt, 9/4 Kittson (20) MBE.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. This fall's extraordinary corvid movement continued with this species, H.R.B.O. (St. Louis) recorded a new seasonal record of 16,020 individuals, with a record-high count of **3,252** on 10/23 KJB. Away from Hawk Ridge was another notable high count of 700 on 10/15 in Cook (Hovland Woods S.N.A.) RBJ.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [26 North, 5 South] Reported throughout usual north range. South reports from Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, plus an out-of-range report 11/28 Houston (2, Browns-ville) RPR. High count 11/5 St. Louis (62, H.R.B.O.) KJB, CRu.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [20 North, 44 South] Late north reports 11/11 Carlton BJU, Pine BJU. High counts

- 11/14 Carver (52) JCy, 10/6 St. Louis (50, H.R.B.O.) KJB, CRu.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [12 North, 22 South] A huge roost conservatively estimated at **50,000** birds gathered at Lake Osakis, Douglas on 8/26 KAp, RBJ, DAC. Late north 8/29 St. Louis CRu, 9/12 Douglas JPE (median 9/8). Late south 9/4 Nobles BTS, 9/9 Anoka RBW (median 9/15).
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [24 North, 47 South] High counts 9/12 Lac qui Parle (316, Salt Lake) PCC, 8/21 Stevens (300) RTe, 9/6 Rice (300) FVS. Late north 9/20 Crow Wing JLO, 9/25 Traverse HHD (median 10/2). Late south 10/16 Rice and Waseca DAB, JWH, 10/23 Rice DAB (median 10/18).
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [5 North, 21 South] High count 8/20 Washington (25, Carpenter N.C.) JaH. Late north 8/20 Douglas and Grant (4) RTe, 9/1 Wadena DBM (median 9/6). Late south 9/7 Scott GLa, 9/8 Stearns STW, 9/15 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/3).
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [12 North, 27 South] High counts 8/22 Sibley (320, Gaylord W.T.P.) DWK, 8/3 Lac qui Parle (300, Salt Lake) BJU. Late north 8/21 Grant (Herman) and Traverse (100, Lake Traverse) RTe, 8/26 Douglas (Lake Osakis) RBJ, DAC, 9/11 Douglas JPE (median 9/10). Late south 9/7 Blue Earth ChH, 9/23 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 9/16).
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [14 North, 33 South] High count 8/16 St. Louis (1,575, H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 9/1 Wadena DBM, 9/4 Wadena PJB, 9/11 Douglas JPE (median 9/15). Late south 9/23 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/28 Big Stone BJU (median 9/28).
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [29 North, 48 South] High count 8/20 Douglas (208, Alexandria) RTe. Late north 9/25 St. Louis KRE, LS, RTe, Traverse HHD, 10/28 St. Louis (2, Sax-Zim Bog) MaA (median 10/8). Late south 10/9 Lincoln CRM, ALo, Winona DBz, 10/16 Rice DAB, JWH (median 10/17).
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile budsonicus*) — [6 North] Reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Cook, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis. High count 8/23 Lake (20, Isabella) BWe.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [6 South] Reported from Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Olmsted, Wabasha, Winona.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [30 North, 35 South] Earliest south migrants difficult to distinguish from summing birds. Probable early migrants 8/2 Anoka DaS, 8/7 Ramsey BNW (median 8/18). High count 8/26 Cook (22, Hall Road, Superior Hiking Trail) CRu.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High count 9/21 Scott (22, Cleary Lake R.P.) SLP.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [20 North, 37 South] Early south (median 8/30) 8/15 Dakota RLW, 8/21 Anoka (Linwood-Island-Martin R.P.) DWK. High count 9/20 Hennepin (10) CMB.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — No reports.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [16 North, 40 South] High counts 8/8 Dakota (6) RTe, 8/16 Ramsey (6) NMa. Late north 9/19 Polk SAU, St. Louis IHu, 10/10 Pine MHe, a week past the 10/3 median. Late south 10/10 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) BAF, 10/18 Lac qui Parle BJU, (median 10/14).
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [8 North, 20 South] Early south (median 9/7) 9/4 Big Stone BJU, 9/5 Hennepin TAT. New fall high count 9/28 St. Louis (**33**, H.R.N.R. hiking trails) KJB. Late north 10/8 Red Lake HHD, 10/10 St. Louis (13) PHS well before the 10/23 median. Late south 10/16 Carver JCy, Lac qui Parle WCM, followed by November Hennepin reports (Pond-Dakota Mission Park): 11/14, 11/21 DWK, 11/26 SLC (median 12/13).
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [16 North, 23 South] Late north 10/2 St. Louis JWJ, 10/15, 10/21 Aitkin PEJ (median 10/12). Late south 9/18 Hennepin SLC, 9/19 Dodge JWH, 10/9 Carver JCy, Dakota RTe, Lincoln CRM, ALo (median 10/12).
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [8 North, 25 South] Late north 10/8 Itasca EEO, 10/16 Douglas JPE (median 10/11). Late south 10/17 Dakota BAF, Hennepin



Brown Creeper, 14 September 2010, Cook County. Photo by Earl Orf.

(2) BWe, Winona (2) JWH, 10/23 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. bridge) BAF, 10/24 Hennepin SLC (median 11/1).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliptila caerulea*) — [7 North, 33 South] High count 8/5 Carver (7, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 8/23 Douglas HHB, Polk JCC, then one well out-of-range bird 9/4 Kittson (Lake Bronson S.P., same location as May 2009) KRE, m.ob. Late south 9/19 Anoka DWK, 9/21 Hennepin LMS, Steele PSu (median 9/23).

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [31 North, 41 South] Early south migrants (median 9/17) 9/14 Hennepin SLC, 9/16 Meeker RBW, 9/17 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU. High counts 10/12 Anoka (80, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) MDu, 10/1 Fillmore (24) NBO, 10/10 St. Louis (24) PHS. Late north 11/24 Hubbard (2) PBB, 11/26 St. Louis KJB, 11/27 Mille Lacs Asc, but see winter report (median 11/22).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) — [28 North, 47 South] Early south (median 8/28) 8/21 Le Sueur DBM, 8/22 Dakota

JLO. High counts 10/1 Carver (48, Carver P.R.) JCy, 10/1 Washington (30, Washington) LMS. Late north 11/5 Lake CRM, St. Louis KRE, 11/12 Clay RHO (median 10/30). Late south 10/28 Fillmore NBO, 10/29 Ramsey REH, 11/7 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha) BAF, (Powderhorn Park) JJo (median 11/21).

NORTHERN WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) — [1 South] Fourth state record 9/4 **Anoka** ph. †JCo. First county record, and third fall record, found foraging in a harvested wheat field.

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [28 North, 47 South] High counts 10/7 St. Louis (96, H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/22 Washington (72, Carpenter N.C.) JaH. Late north 10/30 Douglas JPE, 11/8 Morrison BJU, 11/29 Clay RHO (median 11/17).

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) — No reports.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [3 North, 2 South] All north reports (median arrival 10/12): 10/10 St. Louis (2, Duluth Twp. and West Skyline Parkway) *fide* JWJ, up to 3 individuals present 10/23 – 11/9 Lake BSt, ph. KRE, m.ob., first county record 11/8,9 **Morrison** (Fish Trap Lake) BJU, †FGo. All south (median early 10/28) 10/28 – 11/17 Sherburne (Sand Dues S.F., seventh consecutive fall at this location) PLJ, Asc, 11/12+ Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) GWi, ph. m.ob.

Veery (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [10 North, 7 South] High count 8/25 Anoka (5) DWK. Late north 9/3 Roseau CRM, 9/7, 9/25 Itasca PLe (median 9/14). Late south 9/5 Chisago (Wild River S.P.) JCC, 9/6 Anoka (2) DWK (median 9/17).

Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catbarus minimus*) — [2 North, 6 South] Only three north reports 9/4 St. Louis ALO, 9/26 St. Louis LS, 10/1 Aitkin Asc (median early 9/3, late 10/3). All south 9/2 Dakota (Miesville Ravine P.R.) MaK, 9/8 Sherburne PLJ, 10/1 Carver DBM, 10/2 Chisago DBM, Wright DPG, 10/12 Stearns (St. Cloud) MJB (median early 9/2, late 10/7).

Swainson's Thrush (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [14 North, 21 South] Early south (median 8/12) 8/16 Hennepin SLC, 8/17 Anoka BWe, 8/21 Le Sueur DBM. High counts 9/6 Anoka (9) DWK, 9/5 Chisago (8, Wild

River S.P.) JCC. Late north 9/26 St. Louis LS, 9/28 Hubbard MAW, 10/3 Mille Lacs SMC (median 10/17). Late south 10/8 Carver JLO, 10/9 Hennepin KRo, 10/19 Dakota SWe (median 10/17).

Hermit Thrush (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [18 North, 31 South] Early south (median 9/14) 9/6 Hennepin JLO, (2) RTe, 9/19 Anoka DWK. High count 10/5 Hennepin (9, T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT. Late north 10/23 Polk *vide* JMJ, 10/24 Polk HHD (median 10/28). Late south 11/26 Hennepin SLC, 11/27 Winona (2, Whitewater W.M.A.) BAF, but see winter report.

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [2 North, 7 South] All north 8/11 Mille Lacs ASc, 8/25 Beltrami DFN, 9/8 Mille Lacs ASc (median late 9/9). Late south 9/13 Hennepin (2, Westwood Hills N.C.) BTo, JuC, 9/20 Steele PSu (median 10/1).

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 10/6 St. Louis (6,124, H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/23 Hennepin (2,660, Bloomington) PME, 10/29 Otter Tail (300) *vide* JMJ.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [3 North] Three individuals reported, 11/20 Morrison ph. DHa, 11/22–30+ Kittson ph. TBr, 11/27 Beltrami *vide* JMJ. Median north arrival 11/4.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [28 North, 42 South] High counts 8/8 Anoka (14, Springbrook N.C.) BSa, 9/18 Hennepin (10) CMB. Late north 9/22 Morrison LBF, 9/25 Cook DAB, JWH, 9/26 St. Louis ALo well before the 10/30 median departure. Late south 10/10 Dakota RTe, 10/18 Hennepin SLC, 10/29 Hennepin NTa (median 11/12).

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [3 South] All south 10/6 Jackson (north end of Spirit Lake) BJU, 10/8 – 11/21 McLeod (residence in Hutchinson) BEH, †PRH, ph DAC, m.ob., 10/21 Kandiyohi JSr.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [9 North, 20 South] Late north 9/25 Polk SAu, 10/3 St. Louis NAJ, 11/4 Lake (Two Harbors) CRU (median 12/13). Late south 10/18 Swift BJU, 10/22 Dakota CTa, 10/29 Hennepin ChC (median 12/22).

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [34 North, 53 South] High counts 8/20 Hennepin (500) JaC, 11/17 St. Louis (500,



Varied Thrush, 20 November 2010, Little Falls, Morrison County. Photo by Daven Hanson.

27th Avenue West, Duluth) KJB.

American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*) — [18 North, 28 South] Early north (median 9/9) 9/4 Crow Wing JSB, 9/5 Lake DaE, 9/7 Lake DBz. Early south (median 9/15) 9/19 Stearns (6, Albany W.T.P.) RHi, 9/22 Lac qui Parle (4) BJU, 9/26 Anoka MDu. Record high count 9/27 St. Louis (**1,056**, H.R.B.O.) CRu, KJB, also 9/24 Lake (300 along North Shore) KRE. Late north 10/29 Cook PLJ, 10/30 Douglas JPE, 11/5 Aitkin RBJ (median 11/4). Late south 10/31 Lac qui Parle RBW, DWK, 11/14 Pipestone HHD, Steele RBW, **11/27** Meeker DAB (median 11/4).

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [17 North] Best fall showing for this species in several years, with reports from the northeast, far northwest, and as far south as the southern tier of north counties. Early north (median 10/4) 9/24 Lake (3, Beaver Bay) KRE, ALo, 9/25 Cook DAB, JWH, Lake (3) KRE, LS, RTe. High counts 11/20 St. Louis (450, Virginia.) SLF, 11/29 St. Louis (300, Virginia) *vide* JWL.

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [30 North, 49 South] Spectacular flight during late August in Duluth, with many

counts of more than 1,000 birds. Record count 8/29 St. Louis (**12,612**, H.R.B.O., 11,661 of these from the Lester River location, CRu, KJB). Other notable Duluth counts: 8/28 (3,291) CRu, 8/30 (3,102) CRu, 8/30 (1,566 in 2 hours) PHS. H.R.B.O. season total 35,041. Present both north and south at the end of the season.

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [24 North, 25 South] Record early north (median 9/13) **9/1** Cook DAG, 9/10 St. Louis (2) KuS, PHS, 9/13 St. Louis SCZ. Early south (median 9/24) 9/17 Lac qui Parle (4) BJU, 9/26 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) MDu, 9/28 Big Stone BJU. Reports of this species continue throughout the winter both north and south (see winter report). Season high counts 10/23 Polk (1,000) KRE, 9/24 St. Louis (714, Duluth) KJB, CRu, 10/24 Kittson (300, Joe River S.W.A.) TBr.

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] Only report 8/2 Clay (Felton Prairie) RHO. Median late north 8/23.

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) — [1 North, 1 South] All north 9/25, St. Louis (27th Avenue West, Duluth) ph. MFu, †CRu, m.ob. Median early north 10/2, late 10/22. Only south 10/7 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R. wildlife drive) PLJ. Median early south 10/17, late 10/22. No reports from usual west region haunts.

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [24 North, 18 South] Early north (median 10/5) 10/15 Aitkin PEJ, Kittson (Lake Bronson S.P.) TBr, Lake of the Woods (12) TBr, 10/16 Douglas JPE, St. Louis KRo, (Park Point) PHS. Early south (median 10/17) 10/15 Brown (3, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) RMD, 10/21 Dakota (5) LEC, Sherburne JGb, 10/22 Stearns (5) JoS. High counts 10/31 Polk (540) SAU, 10/28 St. Louis (200, Sax-Zim Bog) MaA, 11/21 Blue Earth (175) ChH.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [1 North, 13 South] Only north 8/3 Mille Lacs ASC (median late 8/27). High count 8/6 Carver (**3**, Rapids Lake) JCy. Late south 9/13 Sherburne ASC, 9/20 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha.) DDo (median 9/11).

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [15 North, 20 South] High

count 8/15 Wadena (4) LMS. Late north 9/5 Marshall PRH, LMS, CRM, LS, 9/19 Todd HHD, then **11/6** Crow Wing †KRW, 18 days later than any previous records (median 9/9). Late south 9/16 Blue Earth (2) ChH, 9/17 Hennepin SLC, 9/18 Hennepin (2) CMB (median 9/22). "Brewsters" hybrid 9/4 Scott (male, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF.

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [23 North, 33 South] See summer report for early south migrants. High counts 8/24 St. Louis (29, H.R.B.O.) KJB, CRu, 8/21 St. Louis (17, Park Point) CRu, 8/25 Carver (15, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 9/26 St. Louis ALo, 9/30 Mille Lacs RBJ, 10/8 St. Louis PHS (median 10/17). Late south 10/8 Washington JaH, 10/10 Hennepin BAF, 10/17 Hennepin SLC (median 10/15).

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [17 North, 36 South] Early north (median 8/22) **8/2** St. Louis (Duluth Township) †JCG, 9/4 St. Louis ALo. Early south (median 8/27) 9/3 Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) JJo, 9/4 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/11 Sibley RBW. High counts 10/1 Carver (7, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 10/9 Pine RBW, 10/10 Lake of the Woods HHD, 10/11 Mille Lacs ASC (median 10/22). Late south 10/24 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) DWK, 10/30 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) PNi, SLC (median 10/25).

Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [28 North, 36 South] High counts 8/21 St. Louis (49, Park Point) CRu, 8/9 Hennepin (20) DDo. Late north 10/8 Itasca EEO, 10/16 St. Louis AM (median 10/20). Late south 10/13 Sherburne PLJ, 10/17 Hennepin SMC, 10/18 Hennepin SLC (median 10/21).

Northern Parula (*Parula americana*) — [8 North, 15 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/4 Anoka REH, 8/6 Sherburne REH, 8/18 Hennepin TAT. High count 9/18 Hennepin (7) DDo. Late north 9/1 Todd DBM, 9/2 Beltrami DBM, St. Louis ABL, 9/14 St. Louis (Duluth) ALo (median 9/27). Late south 9/26 Dakota DFN, 10/12 Hennepin SLC, 10/22 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) DWK (median 9/28).

Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) — [21 North, 23 South] High count 8/6 Carver (12) JCy. Late north 9/18 Mille Lacs ASC,

- St. Louis AM, 9/25 Polk SAu, 9/26 St. Louis KRE (median 9/25). Late south 9/17 Mower RJW, 9/19 Hennepin KRo, 9/25 Anoka (2) DvS (median 9/29).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) — [18 North, 32 South] High counts 8/22 Carver (9, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 9/16 Mille Lacs (Mille Lacs Kathio S.P.) BTo, JuC, 9/19 St. Louis (Park Point) IHu (median 9/28). Late south 9/27 Hennepin SLC, 9/29 Steele (Saco Farm Woods & Fields) PSu, 10/1 Washington LMS (median 10/2).
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Dendroica magnolia*) — [12 North, 27 South] Early south (median 8/15) 8/15 Anoka DWK, Hennepin SLC, 8/17 Anoka (2) BWe, Carver JCy. High count 8/21 St. Louis (15, Park Point) CRu. Late north 9/25 Lake LS, RTe, TAB, Polk SAu, 10/3 St. Louis AM (median 10/1). Late south 10/1 Washington (2) LMS, 10/3 Hennepin CMB, 10/6 Jackson BJU (median 10/6).
- Cape May Warbler** (*Dendroica tigrina*) — [9 North, 5 South] Early south (median 8/22) 8/11 Sherburne MJB, 8/21 Anoka JLO, DWK, 8/24 Hennepin DDo. High count 8/24 St. Louis (25, Duluth) KJB, CRu. Late north 9/21 Cook EEO, Lake JWl, 9/22 Lake EEO, 9/26 St. Louis (4, Stoney Point) CRu (median 10/24). Late south 9/21 Hennepin SKS, 10/9 Carver JCy, followed by a very late individual first reported **11/23** Hennepin Kiv, DBM, m.ob., a first-fall female that lingered at an Edina residence into December (median 9/27).
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Dendroica caerulescens*) — [1 North, 6 South] Many south reports, mainly from Hennepin where about 14 were tallied — 8 by SLC alone! New county record 9/20 **Steele** PSu. Early south (median 9/3) 8/29 Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) DDo, BAF, 9/8 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) JMc, Sherburne PLJ. High count 9/20 Hennepin (3, Cedar Lake) SLC. Only north report 9/19 Clay *fide* JMJ (median late 9/28). Late south 9/25 Hennepin PRH, 9/27 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. bridge) SLC (median 10/7).
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Dendroica coronata*) — [31 North, 48 South] Early south (median 8/21) 8/4, 8/8 Freeborn (Big Island S.P.) RTP, 8/10 Hennepin DDo, Ramsey NMa. High counts 9/27 St. Louis (547, Duluth) KJB, CRu, 9/16 Mille Lacs (80, Father Hennepin S.P.) JuC, BTo, 10/1 Fillmore (76) NBO. Late north 11/5 Aitkin KCR, 11/25–27 Pennington JMJ (median 11/21). Late south 11/26 Ramsey DAB, JWH, 11/27 Winona (4, Whitewater W.M.A.) BAF.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Dendroica virens*) — [8 North, 19 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/18 Hennepin DDo, 8/20 Rice TFB, 8/21 Anoka JLO, DWK, Hennepin SLC. Late north 9/18 St. Louis ABL, 9/26 Lake DAB, JWH, 9/28 St. Louis NAJ (median 9/29). Late south 9/30 Hennepin BAF, 10/13, 10/23 Hennepin SLC (median 10/4).
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Dendroica fusca*) — [10 North, 18 South] Early south (median 8/9) 8/7 Anoka DWK, 8/8 Hennepin DDo, Isanti HHD. High count 8/21 St. Louis (5, Park Point) CRu. Late north 9/9 Lake DaE, 9/11 Morrison JWH, 9/21 St. Louis ABL (median 9/20). Late south Waseca DAB, 9/16 Hennepin SLC, 9/26 Olmsted JPr (median 9/25).
- Pine Warbler** (*Dendroica pinus*) — [12 North, 9 South] New county record 9/12 **Douglas** JPE. High counts 9/5 Chisago (4, Wild River S.P.) JCC, 9/12 Anoka (4) DWK. Late north 9/12 Douglas JPE, 9/21 Cook (Taconite Harbor) EEO (median 10/1). Late south 9/12 Anoka (4) DWK, 9/13 Isanti LMS, CRM, 9/28 Big Stone (Lindquist W.M.A.) BJU (median 9/24).
- Palm Warbler** (*Dendroica palmarum*) — [22 North, 28 South] Early south (median 8/25) 9/4 Hennepin HCT, Ramsey REH, 9/5 Dakota (2) BAF, Isanti (4) JCC. High counts 9/29 Carver (13) JCy, 9/18 Hennepin (9) DDo. Late north 10/3 Cook MTA, Douglas JPE, St. Louis ChH, 10/9 Kittson HHD (median 10/23). Late south 10/10 Dakota TAT, Lyon LS, Rice TFB, 10/16 Hennepin SLC (median 10/18).
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Dendroica castanea*) — [8 North, 17 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/16 Goodhue LS, 8/19 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/21 Anoka JLO, Anoka (3) DWK, Carver (2) WCM, Hennepin SLC. No significant high counts. Late north 9/9 Aitkin RBj, 9/11 Morrison

- JWH, 9/21 St. Louis ABL (median 9/28). Late south 9/27 Ramsey REH, 10/1 Washington LMS, 10/2 Chisago DBM (median 10/1).
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Dendroica striata*) — [12 North, 13 South] Early north (median 8/25) **8/7** Carlton HHD, 8/21 Grant RTe, St. Louis CRu. Early south (median 8/21) 8/21 Anoka DWK, 9/1 Blue Earth ChH, 9/3 Carver JCy. High count 9/6 Hennepin (5, Minnehaha Creek) BeH. Late north 9/17 Clay RHO, 9/18 Mille Lacs ASc, 9/30 Hubbard *vide* JMJ (median 10/7). Late south 10/2–4 Hennepin (same bird feeding in a hackberry tree) TAT, 10/4 Martin CRM (median 9/29).
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Dendroica cerulea*) — [1 North, 5 South] Only north report **8/20** Douglas JPE. All south 8/16 Goodhue LS, 8/18 Sherburne ASc, 8/19 Sibley RBW, 8/28 Carver JCy, **9/6** Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) TAT median 8/29.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [27 North, 38 South] High counts 9/12 St. Louis (23, Duluth) KJB, CRu, 9/6 Nicolet (12, Seven Mile Creek C.P.) JCC. Late north 9/18 Grant HHD, 9/19 St. Louis IHu, Todd HHD, 10/9 St. Louis SLF (median 10/1). Late south 9/28 Steele PSu, 9/29 Fillmore NBO, Rock NED, 10/6 Jackson BJU (median 10/4).
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [29 North, 38 South] High counts 9/12 St. Louis (**199**, Duluth) KJB, CRu, 8/26 Cook (19) CRu. Late north 9/25 Cook (Grand Portage S.P.) DAB, JWH, 9/28 Roseau *vide* JMJ (median 10/7). Late south 9/27 Hennepin TAT, SLC, Ramsey BNW, Steele PSu, 9/28 Steele (3) PSu, 9/29 Steele PSu, 10/6 Jackson BJU (median 10/10).
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [3 South] All south 8/6 Carver JCy, Washington (William O'Brien S.P.) LS, followed by several reports from Hennepin along Minnehaha Creek near Lake Hiawatha, 8/14 DDo, 8/20 BAF, 8/23 DDo, 8/26 TAT (median late 9/1).
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [14 North, 30 South] High count 9/6 Scott (7) JCC. Late north 9/7 Clearwater LMS, 9/12 Douglas PJK, St. Louis ABL, 9/23 Polk *vide* JMJ (median 9/27). Late south 9/22 Hennepin CMB, Steele (2) PSu, 9/25 Goodhue LEC, 10/1 Hennepin SLC (median 10/11).
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [13 North, 23 South] Early south (median 8/7) 8/7 Hennepin SLC, Redwood WCM, 8/12 Hennepin BSa. High counts 8/24 St. Louis (5) CRu, 9/4 Scott (5, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF. Late north 9/4 Kittson LMS, CRM, 9/5 Marshall LMS, LS, Polk LMS, 9/6 Clearwater LMS well ahead of the 9/28 median. Late south 10/3 Hennepin BAF, Ramsey (Maplewood N.C.) KCr, 10/4 Hennepin DWK, 10/6 Hennepin SLC (median 10/3).
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [2 South] Only two reports, both south: 8/2 Houston SC, 8/24 Rice TFB (median late 8/25).
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [3 North, 1 South] Very few sightings this season. All reports 8/16 St. Louis TAb, 8/25 Beltrami TAb, 8/28 Mille Lacs ASc, 8/29 Hennepin DDo, 9/16 Hennepin RTe.
- Mourning Warbler** (*Oporornis philadelphia*) — [11 North, 15 South] Late north 9/1 Todd DBM, 9/8 Mille Lacs ASc, 9/13–14 Polk SAu (median 9/14). Late south 9/6 Chisago MJB, 9/14 Hennepin SLC, 9/17 Hennepin DWK (median 9/29). Bulk of season's reports are from the third week of August to the first week of September.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [26 North, 39 South] Abundant north until late September. Late north **11/8** and **11/11** St. Louis ph. KJB (median 10/13). Reported throughout the season south until mid-October. Late south 10/24–25 Hennepin BAF, TAT, 11/14–15 Hennepin SLC, DWK (median 10/23).
- Hooded Warbler** (*Wilsonia citrina*) — Only reported from its normal range in Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. 9/4 Scott BAF.
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Wilsonia pusilla*) — [13 North, 29 South] Early north (median 8/16) 8/14 Kittson TBr, 8/16 Mille Lacs ASc, 8/20 Douglas JPE, RTe, 8/21 Carlton, Grant, St. Louis. Early south (median 8/15) 8/8 Lac qui Parle FAE, 8/14 Carver BeS, 8/15 Pope JCC, 8/16 Hennepin SLC. Late north 9/8 St. Louis ERo, 9/12 Douglas JPE, PJK, 9/16 Cass ABi, 9/21 Lake JWJ (median 9/22). Late south 9/22 Anoka DvS, 9/25 Olmsted JPr, 9/26 Hennepin KRo, 10/6 Nobles BJU (median 9/27). Bulk of reports are

- from mid-August through the third week of September. Season high count 8/21 St. Louis (15) CRu.
- Canada Warbler** (*Wilsonia canadensis*) — [8 North, 28 South] Early south (median 8/12) 8/7 Anoka DWK, 8/9 Hennepin DDo, 8/11 Hennepin TAT, 8/12 Lac qui Parle BJU. Late north 8/24 Carlton MJB, St. Louis CRu, 8/25–28 Mille Lacs ASC, 9/18 St. Louis TAB (median 9/15). Late south 9/16 Hennepin CMB, Stearns RBW, 9/18 Chisago DBM, 9/19 Hennepin MJB (median 9/22). Bulk of reports south are from mid-August to the first week of September. Season high counts 8/21 Carver (7) WCM, 8/23 Lake (5) BeW, 8/21 Anoka (4) DWK, 8/21 St. Louis (4) CRu.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — Only report 10/9 Lyon ph. †KRE, LS.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [3 North, 17 South] All north 8/24 Kittson TBr, 9/24 Otter Tail BDE, 9/27 and 10/27 Kittson TBr. Late south 10/4 Steele PSu, 10/6 Jackson BJU, 10/18 Swift BJU, 11/24 Hennepin DeK (median 11/10). Season high count 9/29 Fillmore (20 in Preston) NBO.
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizella arborea*) — [28 North, 39 South] Early north (median 9/25) 9/14 Beltrami JEB, 9/26 St. Louis AM, 9/30 Aitkin RBJ, 10/1 St. Louis BeW. Early south (median 9/30), 9/26 Dakota GaB, 10/4 Steele PSu, 10/6 Hennepin JJo.
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [30 North, 50 South] Late north 10/10 Beltrami JWH, Mahnomen JWH, 10/11 Grant JWH, Otter Tail JWH (median 11/4). Late south 11/14 Hennepin SeH, 11/20 Fillmore DCr, 11/21–29 Hennepin BeH (median 11/10). Season high counts 8/10 Hennepin (43) TAT, 8/7 Otter Tail (40) ChA, 9/22 Hennepin (20) JJo.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [19 North, 24 South] Abundant reports statewide until mid-October. Season high count 8/22 St. Louis (14) CRu. Late north 10/8 Itasca EEO, 10/31 Cook LS, 11/1 Cook DBM (median 10/16). Late south 10/16 Lac qui Parle WCM, 10/17 Hennepin BeW, 10/18 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/14).
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [6 North, 32 South] Unusual north report 9/26–28 St. Louis RTE, PHS. Season high counts 9/5 Carver (12) JCy, 10/9 Scott (11) BAF, 8/1 Carver (9) JCy. Reported throughout its normal range until mid-October. Late north 10/3 Mille Lacs SMC, 10/11 Mille Lacs ASC, 10/22 Douglas JPE (median 10/20). Late south 10/18 Hennepin TAT, Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/21 McLeod RTE, Sherburne JGB, 10/22 Hennepin ALD (median 10/26).
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [17 North, 36 South] Reported throughout its normal range until mid-October. Season high counts 10/3 Stearns (10) MJB, 10/11 Olmsted (7) OWB. Late north 10/3 Douglas JPE, Wadena PJB, 10/4 TBr, 10/8 Clay HHD, 10/9 Marshall HHD (median 10/20). Late south 10/18 Big Stone BJU, Stearns CRM, Swift BJU, 10/24 Blue Earth ChH, 10/25 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/27).
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [2 North, 7 South] Unusual north reports in St. Louis 9/11 MJB, 9/19–22 (H.R.N.R.) ABL, AM, m.ob. Late south 8/14 Lac qui Parle HHD, 8/17 Anoka (Cedar Creek Natural History Area) BeW, 8/25 Yellow Medicine BJU, 8/26 Anoka DPG, 9/4 Big Stone BJU. Follows normal pattern of reports ceasing in late August to early September.
- LARK BUNTING** (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) — A second county record 8/17 Sherburne (Mahnomen Trail, Sherburne N.W.R.) †DMA.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [28 North, 44 South] Reported statewide through late October. Season high counts 9/24 Lake (100) KRE, 9/26 Lake (34) RTE, 10/9 Dakota (24) RTE. Late north 10/30 Douglas JPE, 10/31 Cook WCM, 11/1 Cook RPR, 11/6 Lake KRE (median 11/2). Late south 10/31 Blue Earth ChH, Dakota BAF, 11/1 Nicollet RMD, 11/6 Carver JCy (median 11/5).
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [3 North, 11 South] All north reports 8/1 Clay WMu, Morrison JWH, 8/16 Todd LMS. All south reports after August: 9/30 Steele PSu, 10/10 Big Stone LMS, Lyon CRM and a record-late 10/24 Dakota BAF.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [3 South] All reports 8/1 Chisago MJB, 8/4–12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/20 Dakota RZI.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus lecontei*)

- teii*) — [10 North, 21 South] Late north 9/13 Lake (Two Harbors) KRE, 10/16 Todd DBM (median 10/4). Late south 10/11 Nicollet RMD, 10/12 Winona DBz, 10/16 Rice DAB, JWH, Waseca DAB, JWH (median 10/17). Season high counts 10/11 Nicollet (19) RMD, 8/4 Lac qui Parle (11) BJU. Noteworthy was an observation of an adult and juvenile 8/20 Douglas KRE.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [5 South] All south 8/1 Lac qui Parle (Walter W.M.A.) BJU, 9/17 Olmsted JPr, 9/19 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BAF, 10/1 Olmsted JPr, 10/3 Olmsted JWH, 10/4 **Martin** CRM, 10/9 Lincoln (Lake Benton W.T.P.) KRE, LS.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [22 North, 37 South] Early north (median 9/20) 9/13 Morrison JEB, 9/14 Beltrami, Lake of the Woods JEB, 9/25 Aitkin KCR, Polk SAU. Early south (median 9/19) 9/16 Stearns RBW, 9/18 Sherburne ASC, 9/19 Anoka DWK, Hennepin TAT. Season high counts 10/21 Hennepin (30) ChC, 10/3 Hennepin (15) CMB. Late north 10/31 St. Louis ALO, Wadena PJB, 11/10 St. Louis ERo, 11/14 Otter Tail DST (median 12/15). Late south 11/20 Chippewa HHD, 11/27 Hennepin SLC, Rice TFB (median 12/20). See winter report for over-wintering records.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported throughout the state through end of October with only a few records into November. Also see winter report. Season high counts 10/3 Hennepin (34) BAF, 9/20 Hennepin (25) ChD, 8/22 St. Louis (22) CRu, 10/3 Stearns (20) MJB.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [16 North, 28 South] Early south (median 8/31) 8/25 Dakota GLa, 8/28 Hennepin SLC, 8/31 Ramsey REH, 9/4 Big Stone BJU, Carver JCy, Lac qui Parle BJU. Season high count 10/3 Stearns (20) MJB. Late north 10/9 Douglas JPE, 10/11 Otter Tail JWH, 10/16 Todd DBM, **11/24** Polk DLT (median 10/22). Late south 10/25 Hennepin TAT, SLC, 10/29 Houston DBz (median 11/9).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [23 North, 38 South] Season high counts 10/5 Sibley (15) JCC, 10/6 Carver (9) JCy. Late north 10/11 Otter Tail JWH, 10/16 Douglas JPE, Todd DBM, 11/11 St. Louis KJB (median 10/30). Late south 10/30 Hennepin KRo, Siv, 10/31 Olmsted JWH, 11/17 Hennepin SLC (median 12/8).
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [28 North, 46 South] Early south (median 8/29) 8/26 Sherburne ASC, 9/3 Hennepin SLC, 9/4 Anoka DWK, Big Stone BJU, Carver JCy, Lac qui Parle BJU, Ramsey REH, Washington DFN. Late north 11/25 Douglas PJK, 11/27 St. Louis NAJ, Todd HHD (median 12/21). South reports continue into winter season. Season high count 9/16 Crow Wing (100, Agate Lake) JSB.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [21 North, 28 South] Early north (median 9/16) 9/20 Roseau BSi, St. Louis SES, 9/22 Cook DMB, St. Louis SCZ, 9/23 Polk SAU, DLT. Early south (median 9/22) 9/17 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/25 Dakota BAF, 9/26 Carver JCy. Late north 10/23 Beltrami DPJ, Mahnomen JMJ, 10/30 Douglas JPE, 11/2–6 Polk SAU, 11/20 Cass DAY (median 12/16). Late south 11/14 Lincoln HHD, 11/16 Steele NFT, 11/17, 11/19 Hennepin SLC (median 12/19). Bulk of species reports this season occur from the third week of September through the end of October.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [17 North, 32 South] Early north (median 9/10) 9/12 St. Louis ABL, 9/13 Lake KRE, Morrison JWH, 9/14 Cook EEO, Polk SAU. Early south (median 9/16) 9/18 Sherburne ASC, 9/21 Hennepin TAT, 9/22 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/24 Carver JCy. Late north 10/23 Mahnomen JMJ, 10/27 St. Louis ERo, 10/29 St. Louis WCM, 11/27 St. Louis NAJ (median 11/14). Late south 10/31 Olmsted JWH, 11/14 Freeborn RBW, 11/21 Olmsted JWH (median 12/13). Bulk of reports for this species occur from mid-September through the end of October.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [34 North, 49 South] Early south (median 9/9) 8/21–26 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 9/4 Hennepin GiH, 9/14 Anoka SKS, 9/18 Sherburne ASC. Season high counts 10/6 St. Louis (314, Duluth) KJB, CRu, 10/11 Sherburne (120) PLJ. Otherwise reported throughout the state and season.
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [4 North, 4 South] There were many reports

- this season: 8/14, 21 Le Sueur (Chamberlain Woods S.N.A.) RMD, DBM; 10/8–11 **McLeod** ph. BEH, †PRH, †CMB, ph. DAC, m.ob.; 11/5 Clearwater (Gonvick) RLE; 11/4–11 Lake (Two Harbors) CRu, SaG, ph. KRE, ph. MLH, m.ob.; 11/7–13 **Morrison** (Fishtrap Lake) †FGo, HHD, DBM, m.ob.; 11/19 **Roseau** (Greenbush) RAE; 11/24–28 Crow Wing ph. GeS; 11/28 Dakota ph. †MiM. Another was in Redwood in mid-November for about a week *vide* PME.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [11 North, 18 South] Late north 9/12 Douglas JPE, 9/13 Mille Lacs ASc, 9/16 Cass ABI (median 9/20), plus an almost record-late individual without details from Kittson. Late south 9/21 Hennepin SKS, 9/25 Rice TFB, 9/26 Hennepin SLC, followed by record late south **11/20** Stearns (female, St. Augusta) ph. DJD (median 10/1).
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [14 North, 47 South] Reported in most counties south of a line from Clearwater to Cook.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [22 North, 35 South] Late north 9/16 Crow Wing JSB, 9/18 Wadena PJB, 10/19 Itasca RoS (median 9/29). Late south 10/9 Hennepin KRo, 10/10 Hennepin TAT, 10/23 Washington JFR (median 10/15). High counts 8/24 St. Louis (**38**) CRu, Dakota (17, Miesville Ravine P.R.) MaK, 9/5 Carver (10, Carver P.R.) JCy.
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — All reports from one observer: 8/4 – 9/18 Pipestone (Osborne Twp., adult female feeding one young) NED, 8/7–13 Murray NED, 8/14–21 Nobles NED (Leota Twp., adult with a young bird) NED.
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [14 North, 38 South] Few north reports after mid-August: 8/17 Todd LMS, CRM, 8/25 Kanabec HHD, 9/2 Aitkin KCR (median 9/23). Late south 9/24 Winona DBz, 9/25 Hennepin BAF, 10/3 Hennepin BAF, Olmsted JWH, 10/8 Hennepin SLC (median 10/9). Bulk of reports south cease after the third week of September. Season high count 8/6 Carver (8) JCy.
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [7 South] Late south 8/8 Blue Earth ChH, 8/11 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/14 Brown BTS, 8/15 Lyon DBM, 8/20 Dakota RZi, 9/4 Lac qui Parle BJU.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [9 North, 19 South] Season high counts 8/4 Lac qui Parle (35) BJU, 8/24 St. Louis (28) CRu, 8/14 Carver (18) JCy. Late north 9/4 Kittson KRE, LS, 9/5 Marshall KRE, LS, 9/18 St. Louis KRE (median 9/20). Late south 9/19 Dodge JWH, 10/4 Martin CRM, 10/6 Jackson BJU, Nobles CRM (median 9/30).
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [29 North, 51 South] Seen throughout the state and into the winter (see winter report). Notable high counts for the season 8/24 St. Louis (1,327) CRu, 10/12 Anoka (1,000) MDu, 10/23 Carver (1,000) JCy.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [6 North, 7 South] Very few reports north with the latest being 9/26 Carlton DBz, 9/30 Pine LMS, 10/16 Mille Lacs TAB, RZi. Late south 10/5 Dakota LEC, 10/10 Carver, 10/13 Dakota RLW (median 10/29).
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [12 North, 21 South] Late north 10/23 Polk HHD, LS, 10/24 Kittson TBr, 11/14 Morrison FGo (median 11/8). Late south 10/30 Pope and Stevens DPG, 10/31 Yellow Medicine DWK, 11/12 Lac qui Parle PEJ, 11/17 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 11/3). Notable season high count 10/10 Kittson (25) TBr.
- Meadowlark sp.** (*Sturnella* sp.) — [4 South] These late sightings were left unidentified: 10/29 Anoka WCM, 10/30 Sibley RBW. An even later bird 11/21 Blue Earth ph. ChH never vocalized.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [5 North, 19 South] No reports north after 8/26 Douglas RBJ, DAC (median late north 10/8). Late south 10/6 Jackson, Murray, Nobles BJU, 10/24 Blue Earth ChH, 11/21 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/25).
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [16 North, 26 South] Early north (median 9/17) 9/7 Lake DaE, 9/13 Morrison JEB, 9/19 Lake JWL. Early south (median 9/21) 9/25 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/29 Steele PSu. Season high count 9/30 St. Louis (exact count of **5,100** at Duluth) KJB, CRu, with noteworthy counts of 2,101 on 9/28 and 2,144 on 10/1 at the same location. Late



Scarlet Tanager, 20 November 2010, St. Augusta, Stearns County. Photo by Don J. Dinndorf.

north 11/11 Carlton BJU, 11/14 St. Louis PHS (median 12/6). Late south 11/21 Chipewewa, Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/26 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 12/15), but also see winter report.

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [11 North, 16 South] Late north 9/25 Grant, Traverse HHD, Morrison MJB, 10/1–30 Douglas JPE, 11/21 Clearwater *vide* JMJ (median 11/7). Late south 10/31 Blue Earth ChH, McLeod RBW, Renville DWK, Wright HHD, Yellow Medicine RBW, DWK, 11/3 Carver JCy, 11/20 Big Stone HHD (median 11/11). Season high counts 10/28 Carver (250) JCy, 10/10 McLeod (50) DWK.

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [28 North, 48 South] Reported throughout the state. See winter report for over-wintering records. Notable high counts 10/24 Sibley (5,000) RBJ, 9/28 Steele (900) PSu, 10/12 Anoka (500, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) MDu.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [3 South] All reports 10/6 Jackson (5, C.R. 86, Minneota Twp.) BJU, 10/23 **Carver** JCy, **Sibley** DBM (probably same

individual).

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) — [10 North, 21 South] Late north 9/18 Wadena PJB, 9/20 Cass LBF, **11/30** Polk SAu (median 9/30). Late south 10/24 Blue Earth ChH, Hennepin DWK, 10/25 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/6 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/20 Big Stone HHD (median 1/1).

Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) — [1 North, 6 South] Only north report 8/20 Grant KRE, RTe. Late south 8/12 Lac qui Parle, Swift BJU, 8/14 Lac qui Parle HHD, 8/18 Carver JCy. Season's reports follow typical pattern of departure by late August.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) — [20 North, 35 South] Late north 9/5 Wadena PJB, 9/8 Otter Tail ARo, 10/5 Otter Tail TJa (median 9/14). Late south 9/11 Martin LMu, 9/15 Hennepin HCT, 9/19 Lac qui Parle FAE and a very late report 10/25 Blue Earth ph. JCN (median 9/23). Notable high counts 8/30 Lac qui Parle (15) FAE, 8/24 Kittson (11) TBr, 8/29 Stearns (10) MJB.

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [7 North] Early north 10/19 Itasca RoS, 10/23 St. Louis SLF, 10/30 Lake WCM. Season

high count 11/4 St. Louis (186, Duluth) KJB, CRu.

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*) — [24 North, 31 South] Reported north throughout the season. Early south 8/5 Carver GLa, 8/9 Scott GLa then beginning the last week of August reported throughout the remainder of the season. Season high count 10/29 St. Louis (**1,244** at Duluth) KJB, CRu, with noteworthy counts of **1,170** on 10/13 and **1,077** on 10/8 at the same location.

House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) — [26 North, 43 South] Reported from all regions.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [9 North] Early north 9/27 Clearwater PJJ, then remainder of north reports start in mid-October and continue sporadically through mid-November. No south reports this season.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [8 North] All reports 8/2 Lake JEL, 8/26 Cook CRu, 9/3 Roseau CRM, 10/24 Clay HHD, 11/5 Itasca SC, 11/6 Cook CMB, Lake CMB, CRM, St. Louis (23, Duluth) CRu, 11/8 Aitkin BJU, Roseau BCS, 11/9 Lake BJU, Otter Tail (12) ARW, St. Louis BJJ, 11/10 Cook BJU, 11/16 Aitkin KCR.

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) — [13 North, 2 South] Early north (median 10/15) 10/11 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB,

10/31 St. Louis ABL, 11/3 Polk SAu, 11/4 Lake CRu, 11/5 Aitkin RBJ, Itasca SC, Lake CRM, St. Louis ALo. All south 11/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/27 Kandiyohi RMD. Season high counts 11/11 Lake (57) CRu, 11/22 Hubbard (35) MaH, 11/7 Cook (30) DWK.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [23 North, 25 South] Reported throughout the season north. Early south (median 9/10) 9/4 Big Stone BJU, 9/10 Blue Earth ChH, 9/14 Lac qui Parle BJU, Nicollet RMD then reported throughout the remainder of the season. Notable high counts 10/8 St. Louis (835 at Duluth) KJB, CRu, 11/11 Polk (110) SAu.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide throughout the season. Record high count 9/18 St. Louis (**877** at Duluth) KJB, CRu.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [13 North] More reports than last year. Early in the season 8/5 St. Louis KJB, 8/12 Roseau CMK, 8/16 St. Louis ABL. Frequent reports north begin in mid-October and continue for the rest of the season. No reports south.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [30 North, 52 South] Reported statewide.

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW (*Passer montanus*) — New county record: **11/20–28** **Kandiyohi** RAE, †HHD, ph. DAC, m.ob.

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 TAT Tom A. Tustison
 TBr Tracy Brewer
 TeH Terry Hams
 TFB Tom F. Boevers
 TJA Teresa Jaskiewicz
 TJM Todd J. Merefield
 TPB Terry P. Brashear
 TPr Tom Prestby
 TPW Terry P. Wiens
 WCM William C. Marengo
 WEN Warren E. Nelson
 WMS William M. Stauffer
 WMu William Mueller

Abbreviations

C.P. County Park
 C.R. County Road
 H.R.B.O. Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory
 H.R.N.R. Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve
 N.C. Nature Center
 N.F. National Forest
 N.W.F.R. National Wildlife & Fish Refuge
 N.W.R. National Wildlife Refuge
 P.R. Park Reserve
 R.P. Regional Park
 S.F. State Forest
 S.N.A. Scientific and Natural Area
 S.P. State Park
 S.R. State Road
 S.W.A. State Wildlife Area
 Twp. Township
 W.M.A. Wildlife Management Area
 W.P.A. Waterfowl Protection Area
 W.T.P. Wastewater Treatment Pond

Birding by Hindsight

A Second Look at RQD

Kim R. Eckert



Psst....hey, pal...over here. Down the alley behind the dumpster. Yeab, you! I heard all about that rare bird you wrote up and how they — uh, whaddaya call 'em — MOURC turned you down. Yeab, the Mean Old Ugly Rejections Committee. I got it right here in a plain brown wrapper, just what you're looking for — the answer sheet for that form! Uh, whaddaya call it — an RQD? Geez, how did they come up with that? Request for Documentation should be RFD. Hey, fubgetta-boutit, your worries are over, pal. With these answers you'll know exactly what to say when they ask for details on your next — Geez, I hear sirens! Gotta go...

...So, that's who I ran into the other day. He always calls himself Niko, but I doubt that's his real name. (I think he got it from some character in one of those dumb Steven Seagal movies he likes.) Oddly enough, the contents inside that plain brown wrapper are quite helpful and entirely legal. Despite what Niko apparently thinks (he has this shadowy outlaw image he likes to project), it's hardly cheating or unethical to have the Request for Documentation answer key.

In case you're unfamiliar with it, you can find this form on the MOU website (<http://moumn.org/cgi-bin/rqd.pl?op=new>). And Niko's right about RQD, of course — it makes little sense to apply this abbreviation to "Request for Documentation." (What's the form requesting: Quaint Documentation...Quirky Details...a Quasi-Description? Is it a Request for Quesadillas for Dinner?) But no matter what you call it, this form is simply intended to guide observers through the process of

providing evidence to support their exceptional sightings.

Keep in mind that the form itself is optional and you're free to document rarities in your own way, but it does conveniently include the questions you should ask yourself about what you saw. (And now, thanks to Niko, you have the answers!) While your description of the bird itself is always more important than anything else, some observers forget there are other considerations to ponder in the identification process. The ambient conditions and other circumstances involved with your observation can significantly affect what you think you're seeing. In other words, bird ID is a lot more than just looking at field marks.

It's also important to remember that these are not just issues to consider when documenting something after the fact — they can be involved on some level with every bird while you're looking at it, no matter how easily identified or common it may be. So, take a second look at the RFD form, follow along down the page with the questions it raises, and you'll see it's sort of a fill-in-the-blanks exam. Here's Niko's answer key:

- **Location**
- **Reason Observation is Unusual**
- **Date**

Near the top of the page it simply asks where and when you saw the bird, and the line in between is for noting what makes your bird unusual. These entries present no real problems here on the form, but they do represent information that some birders don't pay enough attention to — namely, that a

common species can become a rarity when appearing at a different time or place. While most birders could accurately identify something like a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher during May in Minneapolis, I suspect that some of them wouldn't think it strange to report one in March or up in Grand Marais — nor, then, would they see any reason to document this.

So, as Niko would suggest, by all means go ahead and become familiar with the ID of gnatcatchers and other birds, but it's often more useful to learn when these species are out of range or out of season, and when they should be documented. (Not sure if it's the right place or time for your bird? Simply visit the MOU website: <http://moumn.org/moureports/birdref.html> and <http://moumn.org/cgi-bin/migration.pl>. Also see the *Hindsight* article in **The Loon** 67:40–44 — <http://mbwbirds.com/Calendar.html>.)

- **Description**
- **Size**
- **Vocalizations**
- **Behavior**

The section on description — which may include size and shape, songs and call notes, and behavior — is obviously important. And here it's not simply a matter of filling in the blanks: this is more of an essay question. Unless the bird is described as completely as possible, nothing else really matters.

Consider as well that it matters little if you can't write or draw well. A simple field sketch is fine and typically more informative than a written description. Artistic or writing talent isn't necessary, as long as your sketch or description is of the actual bird you saw in the field, not what it looks like in the book.

The bird's size is an essential part of any observation, field notes, or documentation, but it's surprising how often this is not considered. If possible, it's always best to determine size in direct comparison with something else, like another nearby bird of known identity. In some cases, rarities have been accurately measured and documented by later putting a ruler up to the branch or rock or whatever the bird was sitting on.

Niko would also advise that simply looking at the bird's overall length or height may not be enough. It's often more useful to note smaller features like bill size, wingspan, a

folded wing's primary projection, tail length, etc.

Related to size, consider as well the bird's shape overall, or perhaps just something like its bill shape — often an essential but overlooked part of the ID process. Also include in the description any songs or call notes you hear, since there are lots of species more easily told by sound than sight. (See below for a good way to document vocalizations, which are typically difficult to portray in words.)

Finally, keep in mind that bird behavior can often be a useful feature in an ID or RFD, although I'd have to guess it's unlikely that any record would be suspect solely because it lacked correct behavior information. (Still, it may be worth rereading the *Hindsight* installment on bird behavior in **The Loon** 77:251–256 — <http://mbwbirds.com/Behavior.html>.)

• **Similar Species**

It's important to realize it may not be enough to just say you saw field marks A and B and C, and so it must have been Species X. In many cases that may be fine, but what if there are other Species Y and Z that also have A, B, and C? Accordingly, then, without noting additional features D and F, you haven't identified anything for sure. Just as those who review RFDs always do, be sure to ask yourself what else it might have been.

One could reasonably argue that this section is the most critical part of the entire form, since here it can amount to nothing less than a Pass-Fail Final Exam. Unless those other similar species are considered and can be eliminated, your ID may fail to be entirely convincing.

• **Experience**

Bird identification is no different than any other human skill. Some people are more experienced than others; some can do things well with little effort, while others can't get the hang of it no matter how long or hard they try. Just as some carpenters or doctors or bridge partners or fishermen (or anyone else you care to name) are better than others, the same holds true for birders.

It's no mystery and no big deal. I, for one, will readily admit that my experience and knowledge related to hummingbirds is lim-

ited compared to an expert like Steve Howell or Sheri Williamson who have written field guides on the subject. So, if one of them reported, say, a female Costa's seen briefly at a Minnesota feeder, I'd believe it. But if I tried to report the same thing, I wouldn't expect anyone to consider my sighting credible.

If known, therefore, the experience and ability of the observer is taken into account when a rarity is reported. And keep in mind that one's skill level with any similar species is important as well. For example, if I report a female Common Eider here after having seen many on Hudson Bay over the years, my report means less if I have no experience with female King Eiders or fail to consider them an ID contender.

• Other Observers

The more the merrier, as the saying goes, and so much the better if others see and document the rarity, especially if they happen to be more experienced. It's perhaps surprising but important to realize, though, that the presence of multiple observers does not necessarily guarantee an accurate ID. It's human nature to simply see what we expect or want to see.

There have been several sightings over the years of apparent rarities seen by many that never really were. Birders on subsequent days would then see it and repeat the same mistake, thinking the original observer's ID must have been accurate. Or they would think they're finding the same species elsewhere, mistakenly assuming there would be more of them around. Or multiple observers of a bird can end up with a collective and simultaneous misidentification if a few start off on the wrong ID track and the others present listen to them rather than look at the bird.

• Aware the Record Was Unusual

Niko considers the first line in Section IV a trick question, so be careful. Some might assume the best response is: "No, I didn't know it was unusual — if I did, you might think I was trying to impress you by claiming to find a rarity." But that scenario is not nearly as likely as this: birders not knowing that something would be unusual are less likely to carefully study and identify it. Nor would they have any reason to take notes

and document it.

The "correct" answer (i.e., the response that lends credence to the report) is to check that the observer did know at the time it was unusual. There's always a better chance of a cautious and thorough ID, along with some notes and documentation, when the observer is aware of the importance of the find.

- Photos
- Recordings
- Field Notes
- Sketches

Obviously, physical evidence will always be an asset when supporting any sighting, whether it's in the form of photos, sound recordings, field notes, or sketches. Remember that the best notes and sketches are made during the observation or shortly thereafter, not days or weeks later. And don't forget to include them with your RFD: sometimes an observer will check that one of these or a photo exists, but nothing is ever submitted.

It's easy to submit notes and sketches, by the way — simply take digital photos of them and upload the images on the form in the same way as a bird photo. It's also easier than you think to document bird vocalizations, and you don't need an expensive and unwieldy microphone and recorder. Even inexpensive digital cameras take sound movies, and, while your movie may not show much, the camera's microphone can pick up recognizable songs and call notes.

• Field Guides

Niko may be getting paranoid. Now he's seeing other trick questions in Section IV where it asks if and when you used a field guide. While it may seem that using a lot of references would enhance ID accuracy, the opposite actually tends to be true. Instead, checking the "Field guides neither used or needed" line indicates experience: you knew what it was before looking it up.

Of course, most birders rely on field guides to identify birds, but some spend too much time looking in the book and not enough studying the bird or making notes and sketches. There's a natural tendency for the guides to unduly influence what was really seen. Especially after the passage of time, even if it's only a minute or two, you

tend to remember the field guide illustration more than the bird itself. Saying “it looked just like the picture in the book” will often raise the eyebrows of the reviewer rather than the credibility of the sighting.

- **Light Conditions**
- **Length of Observation**
- **Distance**
- **Optics**
- **Habitat**

There’s nothing tricky about the questions or answers in the RFD’s fifth and final section, which merely indicate how well the bird was seen.

Starting with light conditions, note that time of day is seldom relevant; more useful is an indication of where the bird was relative to you and the sun. One thing to keep in mind is that sunshine at dawn or dusk could make your bird’s plumage appear unnaturally bright or more yellow, orange, or red than it really is. Conceivably, this could lead to something like an Eastern Phoebe being mistaken for a Say’s, or perhaps a Least Flycatcher mistaken for a Yellow-bellied.

As for the duration of your observation, it’s easy to overestimate how long you watch a bird — usually it’s just several seconds or a minute or two, rather than several minutes. More importantly and related to this, it’s difficult to adequately view a bird while you’re driving. You’re not focused on it, you’re not using binoculars, and it can’t be viewed for more than a second or two if you’re also watching the road. Many times I thought I saw something at highway speeds that turned out to look quite different after I turned around and stopped for a second look.

While birders typically overestimate how long they observe a bird, at the same time they tend to underestimate how close it is to them. I’ve read many RFDs which claimed a feeder bird was a mere five feet or so away, or a raptor was perched only 20 feet away, when they likely were two or three times farther off.

Related to distance but not considered as often as it should be, the angle of the bird relative to you can be important. Unless a bird is perpendicular to your position, it will look shorter overall than it actually is, some parts of its plumage will appear darker than

normal (e.g., mantle color on gulls), and the visibility of field marks can be obscured.

The quality of optics is hardly ever an issue, as long as the power of your binoculars and scope can handle the distance involved. So, 2X opera glasses won’t do in most situations, nor will not using any optics — unless somehow that bird really is only 5 to 20 feet away.

Habitat considerations don’t really fit in this section, and it’s not often they affect the credibility of a reported rarity. Still, most species are partial or restricted to certain habitats, so they are worth noting. (For more on this, see the *Hindsight* article in ***The Loon*** 70:232–237 — <http://mbwbirds.com/Maps.html>.)

Finally, there’s something missing from the form that’s worth considering for extra credit. When faced with a potential rarity, always ask yourself if the species is especially challenging to identify, if it’s exceptionally unusual in Minnesota, or if the bird has a history or pattern of being misidentified. If the answer is yes to any of these, be sure to use special care in its identification and documentation. Birds of this calibre will deserve extra attention, more so than something relatively easy to identify and document like a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher or male Painted Bunting. (Note, however, even these have been reported and had their documentations turned down.)

So, the next time you see Niko, be sure to tell him thanks for the answer key, that it helps not just with documentation forms but also with how to look at birds in the first place, and that he’s right about RQD being the wrong initials. But don’t let on it was OK all along to have the answers — again, he has this image to uphold.

You might suggest, though, that he change his taste in movies. After all, Steven Seagal movies really are dumb and have nothing to do with seagulls. But Niko must somehow think he’ll learn something about gull ID from them and enhance his plain-brown-wrapper-behind-the-dumpster business.

1921 West Kent Road, Duluth, MN 55812.

Two Prairie Falcons Banded in Lakewood Township, St. Louis County

Frank J. Nicoletti

While banding raptors at the Moose Valley Farm banding station in the fall of 2010, I captured two Prairie Falcons. Moose Valley Farm is just outside the Duluth city limits in St. Louis County. These two Prairie Falcons are the first to be banded in northeastern Minnesota and the state's first instance of multiple reports from the same location and in the same season.

The first bird was a hatch-year female (band #1687-30839) caught on the morning of 25 August 2010 (Figure 1). She weighed 677 grams, her tail measured 196 mm, and wing chord was 342 mm. She had an old but healed injury on the axillary of the right wing.

The second individual was a hatch-year male (band #2206-86018) netted three weeks later, 12 September 2010. He was smaller than the female, weighing 521 grams, with a tail measurement of 162 mm and wing chord 302 mm (Figure 2).

Both sets of measurements fall within the normal ranges for males and females of this sexually dimorphic species. Both birds seemed healthy and there were no indications of previous captivity (bands, jesses, etc.)

There are about 240 records of Prairie Falcon in Minnesota going back to 1890. Since 1974, the species has been rare but regular in the state, occurring primarily as a migrant in western Minnesota. They are very rare outside the migrations, and most summer records are probably of juveniles dispersing from their natal grounds.

There are 51 previous records of Prairie Falcon from the state's eastern counties:

- Aitkin 1
- Anoka 1
- Dakota 6
- Hennepin 21
- Kanabec 1
- Lake 1
- Olmsted 3

Table 1. All Prairie Falcon records for the North Shore of Lake Superior, 1974–2009.

DATE	LOCATION	COUNTY	LOON REF
6 Aug 1974	Duluth	St. Louis	46:168–169
30 Sep 1979	Hawk Ridge	St. Louis	51:205–206
19 Apr 1980	Castle Danger	Lake	52:90
28 Aug 1982	Duluth	St. Louis	55:70
6 Aug 1989	Duluth	St. Louis	62:83
30 Aug 1991	Hawk Ridge	St. Louis	[MOU files]
6 Nov 1993	Hawk Ridge	St. Louis	66:78
10 Nov 1996	Hawk Ridge	St. Louis	69:45–46
2 Aug 1999	Duluth Twp	St. Louis	72:85
24 Jul 2005	Duluth	St. Louis	78:21

- Ramsey 4
- St. Louis 9
- Stearns 1
- Steele 1
- Washington 1
- Wright 1

Between 1974 and 2009, there have been ten records of Prairie Falcon along the north shore of Lake Superior (Table 1).

I contacted Dan Bystrak of the U.S. Geological Survey Bird Banding Laboratory at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland and inquired about Minnesota banding data. He reported that he had records of four previously banded Prairie Falcons in the state. Two were birds found injured which were subsequently rehabilitated and released. The first was a hatch-year male captured on 2 February 1985, and released in Underwood, Otter Tail County. The second, a second-year female, was found 2 June 2002 and released at Heron Lake, Jackson County. J. K. Malone banded the other two in Oak Port in western Clay County. Both were after-hatch-year females, the first netted on 22 November 1987 and the other 31 December 1989.



Figure 1. Hatch-year female Prairie Falcon, 25 August 2010, Lakewood Township, St. Louis County. Blood on the primary coverts is the author's. Photo by Frank J. Nicoletti.



Figure 2. Hatch-year male Prairie Falcon, 12 September 2010, Lakewood Township, St. Louis County. Photo by Andrew Longtin.

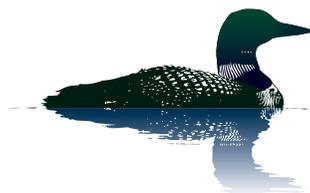
Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Anthony X. Hertzell and Peder H. Svingen for reviewing this article. Also, special thanks to Kim and Connie

Ellerman for allowing me to band on their property.

5826 Morning Star Drive, Duluth, MN 55804.

Notes of Interest



BARROW'S GOLDENEYE IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY — An adult male Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) was discovered by Gregory R. Garmer on 12 November 2010 along the Duluth Lakewalk at 21st Avenue East and Water Street, Duluth. When I arrived at 1:30 P.M., there were no goldeneyes in sight. I walked southwest toward Leif Erikson Park and spotted the Barrow's among several dozen Common Goldeneyes (*B. clangula*). I managed to obtain a few photos before the Barrow's inexplicably flushed while all of the other goldeneyes remained in place. The Barrow's flew back towards 21st Avenue East and disappeared. Eventually, it and about two dozen Common Goldeneyes returned to the original location. Then once again, the birds flushed and flew towards Leif Erikson Park. I obtained several more in-flight images and after the birds settled, had excellent looks and took additional images.

The Barrow's was easily distinguished from the Common Goldeneyes by its head shape, white facial crescent, larger white markings on its scapulars, and black shoulder spur. The shoulder spur was somewhat truncated and blunt at the tip, suggesting that this was a return-





Barrow's Goldeneye, 12 November 2010, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photos by Peder H. Svingen.

ing individual since a similarly shaped shoulder spur was seen on last winter's adult male in Duluth. Its overall size was similar to the male Common Goldeneyes. Its all dark, triangular-shaped bill was stubbier than the male Common Goldeneyes' bill. Its irides were golden. Its head looked puffier than the male Common Goldeneyes', but I was unable to detect any difference in head color between these two species. Unlike last winter's hybrid Common Goldeneye X Barrow's Goldeneye, the Barrow's showed a normal-sized and complete white crescent on its face. Its upperparts were mostly blackish with white rhomboidal patches on its scapulars that were larger than those on the male Common Goldeneyes. It also showed two narrow white patches posterior to the scapular patches that presumably represented the white markings seen in flight on its secondaries and upper secondary wing-coverts. As depicted in the flight photos, the Barrow's showed less white on its upperparts and a black bar divided the white patch on its inner wing into two segments.

Similar species

Male Common Goldeneye has a completely different head shape, a round facial spot, smaller white spots on its scapulars, and lacks the black shoulder spur. In flight, it shows more white on its upperparts and the white patch on its inner wing is not divided. There was nothing intermediate in any of these field marks to suggest the possibility of hybrid Common Goldeneye X Barrow's Goldeneye (which I found and documented at Duluth last winter). **Peder H. Svingen, 2602 East 4th Street, Duluth, MN 55812.**

SABINE'S GULL IN STEVENS COUNTY —

It was getting towards evening on 12 September 2010, and the sun was near the horizon. John and Chris Hockema and I were birding Stevens County. We had heard of a Clark's Grebe on Gorder Lake earlier in the year, so we decided to take a stab at it. We arrived at a vantage point on the south side of the lake, and noticed dozens of Western Grebes. We took out our scopes and started scouring them for the possible Clark's. We noticed a large raft of Franklin's Gulls in the center of the lake... easily numbering a couple hundred birds. We were mainly focused on the grebes... but while scanning across the lake, I noticed a gull 25 yards away from the raft, closer to the shore and floating alone. It was an immature bird, and I paused on it, and assuming it was a Franklin's Gull, took a mental note of how much it looked like a Sabine's Gull. I continued across the lake searching for a Clark's. About five minutes later, John happened upon the lone gull and started to raise suspicion about its identity. I replied, "Yeah I saw that gull too, it's just a juvy Franklin's, weird how hard it is to separate from a Sabine's." In fact before reaching the lake, we had been discussing how there had been no Sabine's yet



reported this fall, but that it was getting to that time.

Eventually, I happened back on the lone gull. Something felt uneasy, and I stayed on the bird. I watched it for a good minute or two, wondering why it wasn't a Sabine's. Looking through my scope, I watched as it lifted its wings momentarily, and I was immediately aware of the actual identity of the bird. The bold black/white/brown pattern on the wings was very apparent even after roughly a one-second observation. I yelled, "It *is* a Sabine's!" John and Chris got on the bird and about ten seconds later it took off from the water. We could clearly see the bold wing pattern of the juvenile Sabine's.

The primaries (p 8–10) were black up to the elbow. The coverts were a chocolate brown, extending to the back/mantle. The secondaries were white, and with the black of the primaries, and the brown coverts, it formed a brilliantly white triangle on each wing. The tail was white with black at the tip. The head was a dusky gray when the bird was on the water, and what made me consider a Sabine's gull in the first place was the slightest indication of a gray 'spur' that extended down the neck. The bill was dainty, all black, and the bird also had an all black eye, with no eye crescents like all the Franklin's. The black eye stood out within the all gray head. I've heard juvenile Sabine's have more scaled scapulars, but unfortunately I did not notice this. After confirming the bird was a Sabine's when it raised its wings, I only had 5–10 seconds before it flew off, so I was not able to see this field mark. The bird was mostly alone, but it seemed slightly smaller than nearby Franklin's in the area, but with longer/more slender wings. Franklin's always seem to have rounded wingtips, but this gull had pointed slender wings.

We watched the bird fly away, and it took about 30 seconds before it was out of sight. **Ben W. Fritchman, 27737 – 285th Avenue, Long Prairie, MN 56347.**

CALIFORNIA GULL IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY — While birding at the Superior Entry on 23

November 2010, on the Wisconsin side, I saw an adult California Gull come in with the other gulls, close enough to take good photos, and I watched as the bird flew into Minnesota and landed on the breakwall of the Minnesota side of the entry. Identification as a California Gull was straightforward since it was a closely viewed, well-marked adult. I immediately noticed its slightly darker upperparts coloration compared to the numerous Herring and Ring-billed Gulls close at hand, so quickly focused on the bird and saw the other features diagnostic of California Gull, including dark iris, yellow legs, large white mirrors on the outermost two primaries including a nearly terminal white mirror on the outermost P10 (although this is more unusual for Herring Gulls and only a few can show this pattern, it is typical for California Gull). The dark subterminal ring on the bill adjacent to the prominent red gonys is also typical for California Gull, but this is also typical for third/fourth cycle Herring Gulls (and probably many definitive adults that develop some dark in the bill in winter).

This was a different individual than the adult California Gull seen at the same location on 12 November 2010, which also flew into Minnesota waters. The 23 November bird had much less head streaking, with only light, crisp streaks compared to the previous bird's prominent



California Gull, 23 November 2010, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Karl J. Bardon.

hood of dusky, blurry streaks, especially on the nape. The 12 November bird also had a slightly different bill pattern with a paler, greener bill, a noticeably less red gonydeal spot, and a differently shaped subterminal dark bill ring. I felt the 12 November bird to be an *albertainensis* based on its mantle gray scale being barely (but consistently) darker than the adjacent Herring and Ring-billed gulls, and its overall structure appeared bulkier with shorter primary projection than my previous experience with *californicus*.

Since the 23 November bird was well photographed with many shots of the spread wing, my main interest was in attempting to identify the race as *californicus* or *albertainensis*. My photos of the spread upperwing in flight show dark pigment extending proximally along the shaft of the inner web on P7, apparently the most consistent feature for separating *californicus* from *albertainensis*. Other features typical of *californicus* include the gray subterminal tongue of P7 falling shorter than the distal tip of P5, and dark pigment on the outer webs of P7-9 extending proximally all the way to the primary coverts. My photo of the spread underwing, however, shows the subterminal tongue on P7 extending slightly beyond the distal tip of P5, contrary to the photo of the upperwing. This photo also shows a gray tongue on the inner web of P10 about 25–30% the length of the feather, which is apparently acceptable for *californicus* (which can show such a gray tongue up to a third the length of the feather).

Thus, my initial attempt to identify the race of this individual was inconclusive, though I lean towards *californicus*. Perhaps others can try to interpret the known differences between *albertainensis* and *californicus* in relation to the 23 November Duluth individual. **Karl J. Barndon, 11 Pheasant Lane, Saint Paul, MN 55127.**

COMMON GROUND-DOVE IN HENNEPIN COUNTY — William Stauffer first found the bird on 18 October 2010 at Hyland Park Reserve in Bloomington. I arrived about 5:00 P.M. that afternoon and watched it in good light for about ten minutes.

This was a small, plump-bodied dove, not much larger than the Dark-eyed Juncos which fed near it. Basic color was similar to that of a Mourning Dove — perhaps a trifle more brownish. It had a small, rounded head with an orangish crown. Feathers had a scaled appearance, especially on the forehead, throat, breast, side of face, and nape. Scaling through the crown was more subtle. Bill was straight and thin, dark tipped with a paler base. Eye was dark and plain-looking.

The bird had dark (blackish brown) markings on the wing coverts. Its scapulars, back, mantle, and rump were concolorous and unmarked. Tips of secondaries and tertials showed a thin, pale edge. The belly and vent were whitish, and the undertail coverts black, with what appeared to be a white edge. The latter could well have been part of the vent area. The tail was noticeably short and rounded, and its upper side was solid-colored and slightly darker than the rump/back/etc. Legs were thick (solid looking for this small bird!) and pale gray.

I saw the bird briefly in flight, and it showed short, rounded wings with rusty flashes. **Paul E. Budde, 4612 Colfax Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55419.**



Common Ground-Dove, 19 October 2010, Bloomington, Hennepin County. Photo by David A. Cahlander.



Blue Jay, 1 October 2010, Dunning Lake, Itasca County. Photo by Earl Orf.

In This Issue

Spruce Grouse, 22 September 2010, Lake County

Earl Orf Front Cover

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) Incubates on an Open Stick Nest

Neal D. Mundabl, John M. Beranek, S. Keith Anderson, and Dave Hoffman 51

The Fall Season

1 August through 30 November 2010

Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, Douglas W. Kieser,

James W. Lind, and William C. Marengo 55

Birding by Hindsight: A Second Look at RQD

Kim R. Eckert 85

Two Prairie Falcons Banded in Lakewood Township, St. Louis County

Frank J. Nicoletti 89

Notes of Interest

Barrow's Goldeneye in St. Louis County — Peder H. Svingen

Sabine's Gull in Stevens County — Ben W. Fritchman

California Gull in St. Louis County — Karl J. Bardon

Common Ground-Dove in Hennepin County — Paul E. Budde 91

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The purpose of the MOU is the promotion of a broad program of conservation and natural history study, primarily in the field of ornithology.

To achieve this objective, the Union urges and promotes interest in field studies and observation of birds by individual members and affiliated bird clubs. We publish a quarterly journal, *The Loon*, and a newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*; we conduct



field trips; we encourage and sponsor the preservation of natural areas; and we hold seminars where research reports, unusual observations, and conservation discussions are presented.

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The Loon is a peer-reviewed journal on the birds of Minnesota published quarterly by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. The Editor welcomes submissions of articles, Notes of Interest, color slides, and photographs. All submissions should be typed, double-spaced, and single-sided. Notes of Interest should be less than two full pages. Photographs should be no smaller than 5"x7". Whenever possible, please include a digital copy of your submission in any standard format on CD, DVD, flash drive, or via e-mail. Digital documents may be e-mailed to the Editor of *The Loon* — see inside front cover for contact information. Club information and other announcements of general interest should be sent to the Editor of our newsletter *Minnesota Birding* — see inside front cover for contact information. Bird sighting reports for each season should be sent to the Editor of "The Seasonal Report" — see "Key to The Seasonal Report" for contact information.



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A photograph of two loons, likely Common Loons, perched on a rugged, reddish-brown rock face. The loon in the foreground is facing the viewer, while the one behind it is looking slightly to the left. Both birds have dark, mottled plumage with lighter streaks on their heads and necks. The background is a textured wall of rock with various shades of brown, orange, and grey.

The Loon

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Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Tom Tustison, Chairman

The most recent meeting of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC) was conducted at the MVNWR Headquarters Building in Bloomington on 28 August 2011. In attendance and voting at this meeting were MOURC members Robert M. Dunlap (alternate), Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Anthony X. Hertzell, James W. Lind, William C. Marenco, Bob Russell (alternate), Andrew D. Smith (alternate), Steve Stucker, and Tom A. Tustison (chair).

The following records from 2010 were voted on by e-mail and were Accepted:

- **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 12 November 2010, adult male in Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-045, vote 7-0, photographed).

- **Mississippi Kite** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), 1 September 2010, Hawk Ridge, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-036, vote 6-1; **The Loon** 83:142).

- **Ferruginous Hawk** (*Buteo regalis*), 25 October 2010, adult in Walter Township, Lac qui Parle County (record #2010-042, vote 6-1, photographed).

- **Sabine's Gull** (*Xema sabini*), 12 September 2010, Gorder Lake, Stevens County (record #2010-038, vote 7-0).

- **Sabine's Gull** (*Xema sabini*), 20 September 2010, one adult and two juveniles on the Minnesota side of Superior Entry, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-039, vote 7-0, photographed).

- **California Gull** (*Larus californicus*), 12 November 2010, adult on the Minnesota side of Superior Entry, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-044, vote 7-0, photographed).

- **California Gull** (*Larus californicus*), 23 November 2010, adult on the Minnesota side of Superior Entry, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-046, vote 7-0, photographed).

- **Slaty-backed Gull** (*Larus schistisagus*),



Record #2010-042, Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*), 25 October 2010, Walter Township, Lac qui Parle County. Digital photo by Bill J. Unzen.

- 19 December 2010, adult at Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-048, vote 7-0, photographed; **The Loon** 83:141-142).

- **Pomarine Jaeger** (*Stercorarius pomarinus*), 12 October 2010, two juveniles at Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-040, vote 7-0).

- **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** (*Passer montanus*), 22-28 November 2010, adult male at Atwater, Kandiyohi County (record #2010-047, vote 7-0, photographed).

The following records from 2011 were



Record 2010-048, Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*), 19 December 2010, Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County. Digital photo by Karl J. Bardon.



Record 2011-012, King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*), 5 May 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Digital photo by Jan and Larry Kraemer.

voted on by e-mail and were Accepted:

- **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*), 14 May 2011, two adults in a wetland adjacent to north side of Madelia, Watonwan County (record #2011-018, vote 7-0 for each individual).

- **Brant** (*Branta bernicla*), 9 April 2011, southwest of Herman, Grant County (record #2011-009, vote 7-0). This bird was documented as an adult *brotta* which may be of consequence because the species may eventually be split.

- **King Eider** (*Somateria spectabilis*), 5 May 2011, immature male at St. Louis Bay, Park Point Recreation Area, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2011-015, vote 7-0).

- **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 27 February – 5 March 2011, adult male at Swan Park, Monticello, Wright County (record #2011-004, vote 7-0; **The Loon** 83:141).

- **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 8 April 2011, adult male at Park Point Recreation Area, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2011-008, vote 7-0).

- **Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*),

9 May 2011, adult in alternate plumage in Preston Township, Fillmore County (record #2011-016, vote 7-0, photographed).

- **Black Vulture** (*Coragyps atratus*), 11 May 2011, North Oaks, Ramsey County (record #2011-017, vote 7-0, photographed and videotaped).

- **Mississippi Kite** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), 6 June 2011, Lake Girard Park, Bloomington, Hennepin County (record #2011-025, vote 7-0).

- **Ferruginous Hawk** (*Buteo regalis*), 21 March 2011, Section 33, adult light morph at Garfield Township, Lac qui Parle County (record #2011-006, vote 6-1, photographed).

- **Gyrfalcon** (*Falco rusticolus*), 5 January 2011, adult gray morph along county roads 66 and 69 in Hantho Township, Lac qui Parle County (record #2011-001, vote 7-0, photographed).

- **Gyrfalcon** (*Falco rusticolus*), 10 January 2011, Manganika Creek, south of Virginia, St. Louis County (record #2011-003, vote 7-0).

- **Whooping Crane** (*Grus americana*) 30 May 2010, Newfolden area, Marshall County, (record 2010-021, vote 10-0). Origin



Record 2011-016, Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 9 May 2011, Preston Township, Fillmore County. Digital photo by Jerry Pruett.



Record 2011-012, Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*), 28 April 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Digital photo by Jan and Larry Kraemer (also see page 143).

Vote was to unanimously Accept as a wild bird.

- **Laughing Gull** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*), 28–29 April 2011, adult in alternate plumage at the Park Point Recreation Area, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2011-012, vote 7–0, photographed on both dates).

- **Laughing Gull** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*), 3 May 2011, Eggert Lake, Montgomery, Le Sueur County (record #2011-014, vote 7–0).

- **California Gull** (*Larus californicus*), 13 April 2011, adult in alternate plumage at Clear Lake, Stevens County (record #2011-010, vote 5–2). Dissenting members commented that the submitted photographs did not clearly depict mantle shade and soft parts color.

- **California Gull** (*Larus californicus*), 23 April 2011, Sections 29 and 20, Perry Township, Lac qui Parle County (record #2011-011, vote 7–0). Two adults in alternate plumage were voted on separately and both Accepted.

- **Band-tailed Pigeon** (*Patagioenas fasciata*), 22–26 May 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2011-023, vote 7–0, photographed).

- **Barn Owl** (*Tyto alba*), 1 April 2011, sec-

tions 25/36 Walter Township and section 30, Perry Township, Lac qui Parle County (record #2011-007, vote 7–0, photographed; **The Loon** 83:143).

- **Burrowing Owl** (*Athene cucularia*), 18–19 May 2011, Clow Township, Kittson County (record #2011-021, vote 7–0).

- **Clark's Nutcracker** (*Nucifraga columbiana*), 11 March 2011, Section 9, Hantho Township, Lac qui Parle County (record #2011-005, vote 7–0, photographed).

The following records were voted on and were Not Accepted. (Please note that a record which is Not Accepted only means that the documentation was not complete or convincing enough to include the sighting in **The Loon**, the journal of the MOU, or in the MOU's archives of confirmed bird records. Such a vote does not necessarily mean the observer misidentified the bird or did not see it. Summaries of the reasons why a record was Not Accepted are included here. These are in no way intended to be critical of the observer. The only purpose is to highlight the difficulties an observer may encounter while identifying or documenting these and



Record 2011-023, Band-tailed Pigeon (*Patagioenas fasciata*), 26 May 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Digital photo by Anne Karakatsoulis.



Record 2010-047, Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*), 22–28 November 2010, Atwater, Kandiyohi County. Digital photo by Richard Phillips.

similar species.)

- Taiga Bean-Goose (*Anser fabalis*), 14 April 2010, Section 12, Arena Township, Lac qui Parle County (record #2010-034, vote 0–10). Two outside experts were consulted, and only one provided comment. It was Mr. Martin Reid's opinion that the possibility of a Greater White-fronted Goose could not be conclusively eliminated from consideration and a number of Committee members agreed with this view. There was no effort made by the observer to eliminate an immature Greater White-fronted Goose or an escaped domestic. The apparent height differential in a digital photo between nearby Greater White-fronted Geese and the purported Bean-Goose was determined to be an artifact of perspective as the bird in question is standing on elevated ground in alert posture while the Greater White-fronted Geese are relaxed. This was reinforced by measurements of the neck length made directly on the photo. Overall, many members felt that there were inconsistencies between the less-than-adequate photos and the written documentation, especially differences in the bill. The record was unanimously Not Accepted as Taiga/Tundra Bean-Goose (*A. fabalis serrirostris*). The record was also unanimously

Not Accepted as a Bean-Goose sp.

- Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*), 30 April 2011, Albert Lea Lake, Albert Lea, Freeborn County (record #2011-013, vote 1–6). This record was initially Accepted, vote 5–2. At the 28 August 2011 meeting, a majority decided to reconsider this record. These very experienced observers may have seen a Neotropic Cormorant, but sufficient details are lacking to effectively eliminate all other small cormorants. While the possibility of these birds being small cormorants other than a Neotropic is extremely remote, the Committee has rejected other records based on this same reasoning. Consequently, neither bird was Accepted.

- Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*), 15 May 2011, Carver Park Reserve, Victoria, Carver County (record #2011-019, vote 0–7). Many members agreed that this may have been a Black Vulture, but the description was not adequate for such a rarity. Though the observer indicated the flight differed from Turkey Vultures, that was not clearly described. Other raptors besides Black Vultures have white in the wings. There is no mention of leg color which can be visible at long distances. Also, no mention of the tail size in relation to the feet was given which

would clearly aid in the evaluation.

- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*), 8 September 2010, eight miles southeast of Warroad on County Road 2, Roseau County (record #2010-037, vote 2–5, photographed). Many members thought the photo and description were insufficient to rule out the more probable Red-tailed Hawk. The observer also had reservations about the bird and thought it possibly may have been a Red-tailed Hawk.

- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*), 15 May 2011, Carver Park Reserve, Victoria, Carver County (record #2011-020, vote 0–7). The description is far too brief and casual for a species that's often involved in misidentifications in Minnesota. Several members felt that the more likely "Krider's" Red-tailed Hawk was not eliminated by the description.

- Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*), 8 January 2011, Cass County (record #2011-002, vote 0–7). Behavior, more than the field marks, is convincing, but this is insufficient. Size is subjective without direct comparison. The description is somewhat vague and inconclusive. Also, an observation from a moving car can be difficult depending on glass angle, speed etc. This record was only reluctantly Not Accepted by several members.

- Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*), 15 October 2010, Superior Entry, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2010-041, vote 1–6). This recirculated Record 2010-041 Long-tailed Jaeger, St. Louis County, was split into two separate sightings: (15 October 2010, vote 4–3, and 17 October 2010, vote 5–2) and was discussed at the 28 August 2011 Committee meeting. After lengthy debate, the record was voted on again. The consensus was that there was too much supposition without enough actual detail to support a positive vote for either bird. Neither bird was Accepted.

- Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*), 30 October 2010, about one mile south of Judge C.R. Magney State Park entrance on state highway 61, Cook County (record #2010-049, vote 0–10). A significant number of members thought that this experienced birder may have actually seen a Cave Swallow. However, the consensus was that there were insufficient details to Accept as a first state record.

- Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*), 20

May 2011, Courthouse County Park, St. Mary Township, Waseca County (record #2011-022, vote 0–7). The description is quite casual and could have been much more informative given the closeness of the bird and the length of the observation.

- Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*), 28 May 2011, near Hamden Slough headquarters, Becker County (record #2011-024, vote 2–5, adult male). The observer seems to have limited experience with only one other observation. He does not seem to consider possible hybridization. This might well have been a Lazuli, but the documentation falls short of what is expected for this species.

The efforts of all those observers who document unusual species are greatly appreciated, whether or not the records are Accepted. Though photographs are always welcome, observers are strongly encouraged to submit written documentation based on contemporaneous field notes for all records. The Committee acknowledges with thanks those who provided written descriptions for the records listed in this article: Josh Anderson, Nick Anich, David A. Bartkey, Conny M. Brunell, John Cyrus, Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Steve L. Falkowski, Susan Felege, Frank Gosiak, Janet C. Green, Chad Heins, Paul E. Jantscher, Anne Karakatsoulis, Douglas W. Kieser, Jan and Larry Kraemer, Andrew Krenz, Allen Loken, Gabriel Miller, David F. Neitzel, Tom A. Nelson, Jerry Pruett, Brian Ratcliff, Peder H. Svingen, Bill J. Unzen, Garrett Wee, Bob Williams, Christopher Wood, Dale A. Yerger and Tracy Brewer.

Many additional observers documented records of Rare Regular species which were not voted on by the Committee; though not cited here, their efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Committee welcomes questions or comments from MOU members regarding any record in particular or our procedures in general. More information including our bylaws and current checklist can be found at <<http://moumn.org/mourc>>. Summary: 39 records voted on, 29 Accepted, 10 Not Accepted, 1 Origin Vote.

4214 Wentworth Avenue S, Minneapolis MN 55409.

The Winter Season

1 December 2010 through 28 February 2011

Bruce A. Fall¹ and Paul E. Budde²



Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*), 8 January 2011, Granite Falls, Yellow Medicine County. Photo by Bill Van der Hagen.

Greater White-fronted Geese arrived early in the West-central region, while a Tundra Swan overwintered in Scott. All five *Aythya* species were found at Blue Lake W.T.P. in Scott this season, where four of them overwintered. Five Harlequin Ducks was an exceptional number; the only one that lingered more than a day, however, was a male — also at Blue Lake. Long-tailed Ducks were confined to the Northeast. There were two reports of Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser hybrids, one in St. Louis and the other in Dakota. A Barrow's Goldeneye was documented at Swan Park in Wright, while a Common Goldeneye X Barrow's Goldeneye first found in November lingered in Duluth until mid-December. Up to three Red-breasted Mergansers seen through mid-winter in Dakota were unusual.

Sharp-tailed Grouse set a record high count in Kittson. A mid-February Horned Grebe was either a record early migrant or an undetected overwintering bird. Gray-morph Gryfalcons were found in Lac qui Parle and St. Louis.

Twenty-three Thayer's Gulls and eight Iceland Gulls in Duluth on 5 December were both new high counts for the state. The only Lesser Black-backed Gulls were two first-cycle birds in Duluth in early December. In the middle of the same month, an adult Slaty-backed Gull was the seventh record for Minnesota — all since 2006. At the end of the season, nine Great Black-backed Gulls in Duluth set a new single-day record for this species.

Benton and Marshall counties picked up their first Eurasian Collared-Doves. A *sub-arcticus* Great Horned Owl was seen in Scott. Snowy Owl reports continued to decline in number, with only 12 individuals reported this season. Northern Hawk Owls were present in respectable numbers; they moved as far south as Aitkin, and a high count of ten was impressive for a non-invasion year. Great Grays were more scarce and confined to Aitkin, Lake of the Woods, and the Northeast.

The Cedar Creek Bog CBC censused 37 Red-headed Woodpeckers, while no other CBC produced more than 2! Several Yellow-

bellied Sapsuckers were present through mid-December. A Black-backed Woodpecker was as far south as the Sand Dunes S.F. in Sherburne. A January Northern Flicker was notable for St. Louis.

A Black-billed Magpie was photographed in Lac qui Parle in February. Tufted Titmice were as far north as Dakota and Ramsey. Two Carolina Wrens were located in December — one in the Metro area and the other in the Southeast region. A Winter Wren overwintered in Hennepin, while another was caught by a mouse trap near Henderson.

Ten Townsend's Solitaires were found in the season, but only one was documented as overwintering. Similarly, only one of the 11 Hermit Thrushes found in the season was noted as overwintering. Eleven Varied Thrushes were found — all either in the far north or in the southeast quarter of the state.

An immature female Cape May Warbler first found in the fall lingered into early December. Five Yellow-rumped Warblers were reported in the season, the last one from the Wabasha CBC in early January. Another late migrant was a Chipping Sparrow frequenting a Minneapolis feeder until 1 December, while a Savannah Sparrow seen in Kandiyohi in mid-January may have been trying to overwinter. White-crowned Sparrows successfully outlasted the season in St. Louis and Rice.

Among the winter finches, Pine Grosbeaks were found as far south as Pine. A nice find on the Faribault CBC was a Red Crossbill. This species made appearances in four south counties, while White-wingeds were only in the north Metro and in Stearns (and their numbers were down in the northern half of the state). Common Redpolls were absent from the southern third of Minnesota, and only one flock — at the very end of the season — exceeded 100 birds. Hoary Redpolls made a good showing in 15 north counties. Ely hosted huge numbers of Pine Siskins at the end of the season, and south reports of this species were also up. Evening Grosbeak numbers were also up, including two reports from CBCs in the south and several north high counts of over 50 birds.

Weather summary: A warm November gave way to a cold December in Minnesota. Temperatures during the first half of the month were 5°–10° below normal, though by

the end they were only slightly below normal for the full month. Many parts of the state received record or near-record precipitation for December. Most of this came from two storms: 8–9 December and 23–26 December.

January precipitation levels were near normal. Again, there were two major precipitation events — a heavy snowstorm in western and southern Minnesota on 6–7 January and a rain/snow event on 23–25 January. Monthly mean temperatures were about 4° above average in the north and 3°–4° below average in the Southwest and South-central regions.

February temperatures were below average statewide, except for the Northeast. In the West-central, Southwest, and South-central regions, temperatures were more than 5° below average. Precipitation, on the other hand, was near normal statewide. There was only one major storm, 5–7 February. The last half of the month was cold, but with little storm activity.

Undocumented reports: **BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** 1/16 St. Louis (Lake Superior, near Lakewood Road), 12/27–29 Washington; **Sandhill Crane** 12/27 Mille Lacs; **Red-shouldered Hawk** 1/12 Morrison (4), 2/5 Todd; **Gray Jay** 1/5 Fillmore; **Common Raven** 12/17 Hennepin, 12/26 St. Paul CBC (NE Suburban), 2/13 Stearns; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** 12/27 Hennepin; **Spotted Towhee** 12/18 Grand Marais CBC; **Chipping Sparrow** 12/1 Dakota; **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** 12/30 Washington (female), 1/1 Afton CBC; **Brewer's Blackbird** 12/23 Northern Meeker County CBC (20).

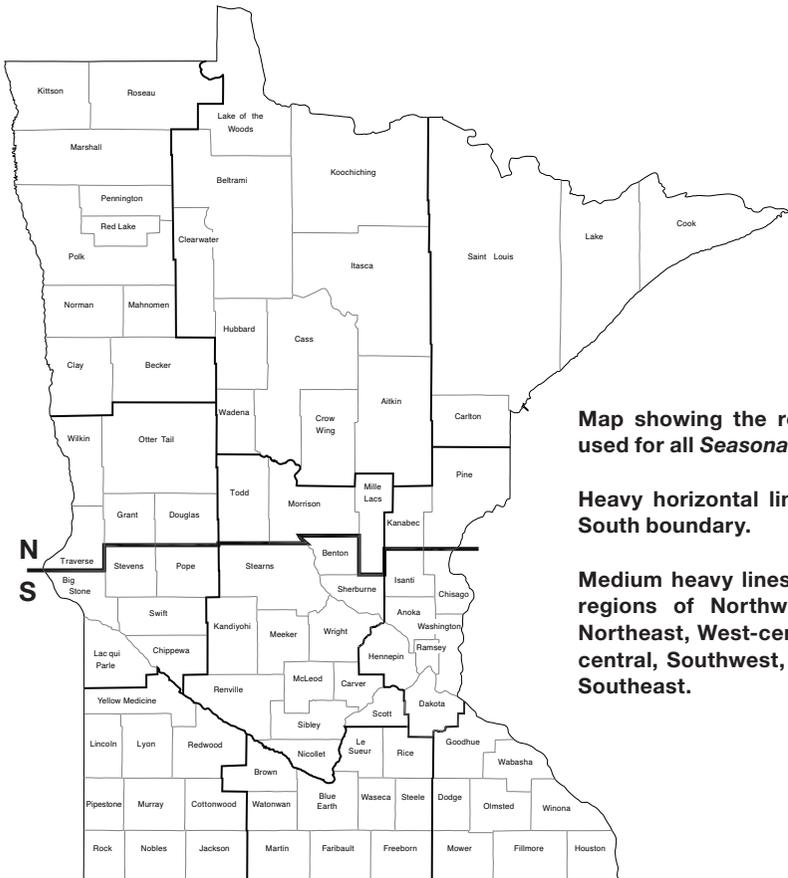
Acknowledgements: Thanks to all who submitted seasonal reports and documentation, especially to those using the on-line seasonal report at the MOU website. Special thanks to Dave Cahlander for his continuing efforts to streamline and improve this process. Carl Greiner, serving as Minnesota CBC coordinator, compiled and summarized vast amounts of data from 70 counts. Bruce Fall, as the Minnesota eBird coordinator, tracked down details for many of the records considered. Finally, thanks to Anthony Hertzell, Jeanie Joppru, and Jim Lind for their tireless compilations of weekly birding summaries available via the RBAs and on-line.

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KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species listed in brackets [**Smew**] indicate a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species' name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties with reports.
4. Dates listed in bold (**10/9**) indicate an occurrence either earlier, later, or within the three earliest or latest dates on file.
5. Counties listed in bold (**Aitkin**) indicate an unusual occurrence for that county.
6. Counties with an underline (Becker) indicate a first county record.
7. Counties listed in italics (*Crow Wing*) indicate a first county breeding record.
8. Totals in bold (**150**) indicate a total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
9. Dagger “†” preceding observer’s initials denotes documentation was submitted.
10. “ph.” denotes a species documented with a photograph.
11. “v.t.” denotes a species documented by video tape.
12. “a.t.” denotes a species documented by audio tape.

The *Seasonal Report* is a compilation of seasonal bird sightings from 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, contact the Editor of the Seasonal Report, Paul E. Budde, 4612 Colfax Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, or via e-mail at paul.budde@aonbenfield.com.



Map showing the regional boundaries used for all *Seasonal Reports*.

Heavy horizontal line indicates North-South boundary.

Medium heavy lines delineate the nine regions of Northwest, North-central, Northeast, West-central, Central, East-central, Southwest, South-central, and Southeast.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [2 South] All reports: 12/18 Fairmont CBC, **2/15** Lac qui Parle (three small northbound flocks totaling 27 birds, Walter Twp.) ph. BJU, 2/28 Lac qui Parle BJU.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [1 North, 2 South] All reports: 12/2 Lac qui Parle (12) BJU, 12/18 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) CBC (20), 12/30 Hubbard (2, Akeley Township) MAW, 1/30 McLeod (Hutchinson, flock of 10+ in nature preserve; origin uncertain but birds appeared free-flying and unband-ed) DPG.

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [3 North, 3 South] All reports: 12/2 Lac qui Parle (16) BJU, 12/5 Washington (1) RTE, Douglas (2) JPE, 12/11 Clay (4) PBB, 1/2 Pillager CBC (6), Cass (7) DAY, 1/19 Ramsey (1) SKS. None of these reports included any descriptive details.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [15 North, 35 South] Reported from six north counties after the CBC period, with high count 2/24 St. Louis (40) LKn. High counts south 12/8 Olmsted (946) OWB, 12/22 Dakota (750) YK, MJL. CBC high counts 12/17 Lac qui Parle (10,600), 12/18 Rochester (4,000).

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [1 South] One adult 12/16–1/1 Dakota (Black Dog Lake and vicinity) JPM, †PEB, †MDu, m.ob.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [9 North, 22 South] High counts north: 12/13 Otter Tail (100) DST, 1/9 Hubbard (67, Park Rapids) DBM, 2/5 Otter Tail (50) BDE *vide* MJM, 2/19 Cass (42, Federal Dam) DBM. High count south: 12/25 Wright (**1200**, Monticello) PKr. CBC high counts 1/2 Northern Wright County (1500), 12/26 St. Paul Northeast Suburban (69), 12/18 Fergus Falls (64). Numerous January and February reports south especially from Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Scott, Wabasha, Washington, Wright. Away from Wright (Monticello), post-December high counts included 2/3 Carver (50) DPG, 1/29 Dakota (18, Black Dog Lake) PEJ.

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [1 South] All reports 12/17–2/27 Scott (overwintered Shakopee, Mill Pond) †DWK, †RSA, †PEB, m.ob.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [16 South] All reports were of 1 or 2 birds. Overwintered Hennepin (male and female, Bass Ponds)

m.ob., Olmsted (two males) JWH. Midwinter reports from Nicollet, Rice, Scott, Sibley, Steele, Wabasha, Watonwan also suggest overwintering.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) — [10 South] Overwintered Scott (Blue Lake, Shakopee) with high counts on 1/28 (38) PEJ, 1/14 (35) ALD. Other mid-winter records were of 1 to 3 individuals, presumably overwintering: Dakota, Goodhue, Ramsey, Winona. CBC high counts 1/1 Whitewater River (42), 1/2 Wabasha (27).

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) — [4 South] All reports, of single birds: 12/1 Hennepin JyH, 1/1–8 Scott (Mill Pond, Shakopee) DBM, JCy, PEJ, 1/11–2/12 Wabasha (county road 32) CH, JWH, DBM, RBW, 2/17 Dakota (Black Dog Lake) PEJ.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) — [4 North, 14 South] High counts 2/3 St. Louis (9) LDa, 12/26 Wabasha (8) PEJ, 1/29 Dakota (8, Black Dog Lake) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/18 Duluth (33), 12/18 St. Paul North (9), 12/18 Dakota Bloomington (8). Numerous January and February records of up to nine birds overwintering St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob. Other post-December north reports included 1/2 and 2/20 Itasca SC, 2/23 Douglas ARW.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [18 North, 34 South] High counts: 12/18 Dakota (1,990) PEB, 12/28 Scott (1,550, Shakopee Mill Pond) MJL, 12/18 Clay (1,365) *vide* MJM. CBC high counts: 12/18 St. Paul (North) (3,580), Bloomington (3,157), Minneapolis (North) (2,352), Excelsior (2,061), Fargo-Moorhead (1,365), Duluth (1,129). Numerous overwintering reports from January and February of as many as 183 individuals St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob.

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) — [2 South] All reports: 12/15 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha) DDo, 12/18 Dakota (Bloomington CBC).

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) — [1 North, 9 South] One north report: 2/18 Clay (male, Moorhead W.T.P.) RHO. Mid-winter south reports of presumably overwintering birds included up to 3 Dakota (Hastings, Lake Rebecca) m.ob., Scott (male, Blue Lake, Shakopee) m.ob., Ramsey TAT, Freeborn KSm. Probable early migrants 2/16 Dakota (7, Black Dog Lake) PEJ. Reports from other

- south locations increased in mid to late February.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [6 South] December through 1/1 records included numerous reports of up to five birds Dakota (Black Dog Lake) m.ob., plus single birds 12/2 Lac qui Parle BJU, 12/7 Hennepin PIJ, Excelsior CBC, 12/16 Martin BRB. High count 12/18 Dakota (5) PEB. There were no January records later than 1/1. February records included 2/6 Steele RBW, 2/23 Blue Earth ChH, and probable early migrants 2/28 Dakota (8) PEJ.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [1 North, 6 South] One north report: 12/18 Otter Tail (male, Fergus Falls) DST. Overwintered Scott (up to 5, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. High counts 12/3 Hennepin (12) TAT, 2/28 Goodhue (11, Prairie Island, probable early migrants) PEJ.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [10 South] Overwintered Scott (male, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. Male 1/1–17 Washington (Pt. Douglas Park) BAF, JPM, PEJ. Four were reported 1/14 Scott (2, Blue Lake W.T.P.; 2, Schroeder Acres Park, Shakopee) ALD. High counts 2/28 Goodhue (8, probable new migrants) PEJ, 2/19 Jackson (5) KSm, 2/27 Wright (5) PEJ.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [9 South] Overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) with up to 31 present January to mid-February PEJ, ALD, BAF, m.ob. One female overwintered Dakota (Lake Rebecca, Hastings) m.ob. Also reported 1/8 Stearns (2) MJB, and 2/28 Lac qui Parle (4) BJU.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [4 South] All reports: 12/1 Hennepin (female) †SLC, 12/6, 12/12 Washington (Pt. Douglas) JPM, PEJ, 12/19 Hennepin (female, Bass Ponds) †PEJ, 12/26 Goodhue (2 females) †SWe, 1/1 Scott (female, Blue Lake W.T.P.) PEB.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [4 North, 7 South] Two north reports after December: 1/2 Itasca SC, 2/26 St. Louis RZi. Overwintered south Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., including post-December high count 1/14 (7) ALD. Other January–February south reports (single birds except as noted) included: 1/9 Lac qui Parle RBW, 1/17 Goodhue (Colville Park) SKS, 2/14 Ramsey TAT, 2/28 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU. CBC high count 12/31 Hastings-Etter (8).
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus bistrionicus*) — [3 North, 2 South] All reports of single female-plumage birds except as noted: 12/17–26 **Scott** (imm. male, Blue Lake W.T.P.) PEJ, †MJI, ph. RTe, m.ob., 12/18 **Ramsey** †KS, MJM, BaD, Otter Tail (Otter Tail River near downtown Fergus Falls) DST, 12/18, 12/28 St. Louis (Lake Superior at mouth of French River) ph. KRE, KRo, 2/6 Lake (Knife River harbor) †ChH.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [2 North] All reports: 12/1 Lake SC, 2/17 St. Louis (4, Stoney Point) JCG *vide* JWJ, 2/25 Lake (12, Two Harbors) LKn.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [4 North, 9 South] All reports of 1–2 birds. Scattered December reports from 4 north and 7 south counties. All north reports after December: 2/6 Lake ChH, AnK, 2/17 Lake (Knife River marina) AmB. All south reports after December: 1/1 Dakota (Black Dog Lake) SHU, 1/1–3 Scott (Shakopee Mill Pond) m.ob., 1/29–2/4 Dakota (Black Dog Lake) PEJ.
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [10 North, 22 South] High count north: 12/10 St. Louis (440, Duluth, Canal Park) PHS, with 358 still at that location 1/9 PHS. All post-December north records away from Lake Superior included 1/2 Pillager CBC, 1/6 Lake (19, Ely) YK, 1/9 Lake (57, Birch Lake dam) KJB, 2/27 Lake (Kawishiwi River) PEB, St. Louis (peak of 14, Silver Lake, Virginia, where overwintered) SLF. High count south: 1/2 Washington (475, Prescott WI area) BAF. CBC high counts 1/2 Wabasha (783), 12/18 Fergus Falls (550).
- BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 North, 2 South] Only documented report: 2/27+ Wright (adult male, Mississippi River, Monticello) †PEJ, †DFN, †DWC (*The Loon* 83:141).
- Common Goldeneye X BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** — A hybrid adult male discovered 11/27 continued through 12/19 St. Louis (Duluth, Canal Park) ph. †KJB, ph. †MLH, ph. PHS.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [5 North, 12 South] All north reports 12/1 Cass BAW, 12/18 Otter Tail (3) BDE *vide* MJM, 12/23 St. Louis (Duluth, Canal Park) JLK, PHS, 2/23 Douglas ARW, St. Louis (3, Duluth Port Terminal) LKn, 2/25 Lake (6, Two Harbors) LKn. Apparently overwintered (re-

ports in January to mid-February) in small numbers (up to 4) south in Blue Earth, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Washington. High count 12/9 Ramsey (12) CMB. CBC high count 12/18 St. Paul (North) (11).

Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser

— Two reports of this hybrid: adult male discovered 11/27 continued through 1/11 St. Louis (Duluth, Canal Park) ph. †KJB, ph. PHS, 12/18 Dakota (first-year male, Mississippi River at Prescott WI) ph. †BAF, ph. †JPM.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) —

[8 North, 25 South] High count north: 12/1 Cass (67) BAW. High count south: 12/26 Wabasha (4,000, east end Lake Pepin) PEJ, with several other reports late December to early January of 2,000 from the same location. CBC high counts 12/26 Red Wing (845), 1/1 Afton (327), 12/18 St. Paul (North) (311). There were a number of north reports January to mid-February of presumably overwintering birds in small numbers (up to 29) from St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob. Two January reports away from Lake Superior included 1/2 Pillager CBC (7), 1/25 Beltrami JnS. There were many mid-winter reports south, especially in the Twin Cities Metro area, including 1/22 Dakota (650, near Prescott WI) BAF.

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*)

— [3 North, 5 South] Scattered north reports of small numbers of birds from throughout the period, all from Lake Superior including 1/8 St. Louis (5, Duluth) RTe, 1/15 and 1/18 St. Louis (4, Stoney Point) KJB. CBC high count 12/18 Duluth (8), 12/19 Two Harbors (8). Numerous mid-winter south reports of up to 3 individuals from Dakota (Black Dog Lake, near Prescott WI, Hastings) m.ob.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) —

[1 North, 7 South] One north report: 12/11 Clay (Crystal Sugar lagoons, Moorhead) PBB. All south reports were from December and February, with high count 12/16 Martin (3) BRB. Last December report 12/22 Ramsey MJI, YK. Earliest February report 2/16 Dakota (2, Black Dog Lake) PEJ.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) —

[4 North, 21 South] All north reports: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC (17), 12/19 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 1/5–1/16 Morrison (12–

14, Elmdale) MJB, RAE, HHD, 2/5 Polk (12) *fide* JMJ, 2/6 Pennington (4) JMJ. Numerous south reports across the region excluding Twin Cities Metro counties, with high count 1/9 Chippewa (20) RBW. CBC high count 12/18 Owatonna (21).

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) —

[15 North, 44 South] Only one report north of line from Clay to Pine: 12/19 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC. From Clay to Pine and south reported from nearly all counties except not extreme southwest. High counts 12/16 Martin (60) BRB, 12/18 Steele (35) NFT. CBC high counts 12/17 Lac qui Parle (362), 12/18 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (257), 12/23 Northern Meeker County (249), 12/18 Marshall (218).

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) —

[18 North, 2 South] Reported from fewer counties both north and south than last year. Only two south reports: 12/18 Sherburne CBC, 12/31 Hastings-Etter CBC. CBC high counts 12/18 Duluth (14), 12/19 Virginia (14), 1/3 Hibbing (14), 12/19 Two Harbors (11), 12/19 Fredenberg (10).

Spruce Grouse (*Falcipectennis canadensis*) —

[5 North] Reports throughout the period from Cook, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High count 2/27 Lake (6, county road 2, 2.3 miles north of Sand River) PEB, MAO. All other reports were of 1–3 birds.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) —

[10 North, 3 South] All south reports were of single birds, except as noted: 12/28 Lac qui Parle (one each section 24 Riverside Twp., Big Stone N.W.R.), 1/5 Lac qui Parle (section 35 Perry Twp.), 2/12 Chippewa (1 mile west of Clara City), 2/15 Big Stone (0.5 miles east of Odessa) BJU. North reports from northwest counties plus St. Louis and Aitkin. High count 1/8 Kittson (81, all in one field) TrB. Other individual high counts were 11 or fewer, including 2/24 St. Louis (11, Sax-Zim Bog) LKn. CBC high counts 1/2 Baudette (24), 12/20 St. Sax-Zim (14), 12/29 Aurora (11).

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) —

[3 North, 1 South] All reports with details: 12/28 Lac qui Parle (1, section 33, Perry Twp.) BJU, 1/25 Wilkin (2, Rothsay W.M.A.) YK, 2/15 Lac qui Parle (1, Plover Prairie) BJU. Also reported on two CBCs:

- 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead, 12/28 Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River S.P.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [16 North, 42 South] Statewide expansion continues with reports from 58 counties, 4 more than last year and 15 more than 2008. No reports from counties north of line from Clay to Cass to Carlton (except St. Louis), or from extreme southwest. High counts south 12/18 Nicollet (94) ChH, 12/18 Dakota (50); high count north 12/2 Clay (24) RHO. CBC high counts 12/18 Henderson (250), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (210).
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [1 North, 3 South] All reports: 12/2 Lac qui Parle (Minnesota River below Churchill dam) BJU, 12/8 Rice TFB, Scott RZi, 12/18 Fergus Falls CBC.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [1 South] One report **2/16–17** Dakota (Black Dog Lake, record early by two weeks!) PEJ was possibly a very early migrant rather than overwintering.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [2 South] All reports: 12/2 Hennepin (continuing from 11/27, Lake Calhoun) TAT, 12/5 Goodhue (Red Wing, Bayfront Park) JWH.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [2 South] Two reports: 12/19 Dakota (Mississippi River, Hastings) YK, 2/13 Goodhue (Prairie Island) PEJ.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [3 South] Overwintering birds in the Twin Cities were injured and flightless: through 2/14 Dakota and Ramsey (2, Kaposia Landing) m.ob., through 2/24 Dakota (Black Dog Lake) m.ob. One additional report 12/2 Lac qui Parle of a fresh road-killed bird near north end of Lac qui Parle Lake BJU; this bird had been banded 6/26/10 in Minnesota (no further details).
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [1 North, 7 South] One north report: 12/9 St. Louis (Manganika Lake, south of Virginia) SLF *vide* JWL. Overwintered Ramsey (Mississippi River, Pig's Eye outflow), with from 1–5 birds reported throughout January to 2/13 m.ob. Also overwintered Hennepin (2, Bass Ponds) m.ob., and possibly Martin (one report 1/23) HHD, RAE. High counts from December in Ramsey (Pig's Eye outflow) included 12/22 (16) YK, MJI, 12/29 (9) BAF.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — No reports (see Undocumented Reports).
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [24 North, 44 South] Reported from 68 counties (a record), from all regions of the state except extreme southwest. High counts 12/10 Ramsey (47, Mississippi River) CMB, 2/26 Houston (40) DJa, 12/22 Houston (39) NKe, AKe. All individual north counts were of 1–3 birds. CBC high counts 2/18 Winona (116), 1/2 Wabasha (85); CBC high counts north 12/18 Duluth (12), 12/29 Aurora (12).
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [2 North, 5 South] Two north reports: 12/18 Fergus Falls CBC, 2/17 Grant RBW. Only one south report after CBC period: 1/14 Lac qui Parle (female, Madison W.M.A.) BJU. All reports of single birds except 12/18 Willmar CBC (2).
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [11 North, 33 South] Numerous reports statewide from 43 counties (12–16 more than in any of the past 5 years); relatively few were documented. Individual north reports after December totaled about 8 different individuals. North reports with details: 1/1 Roseau DWi, Pine HHD, RAE, 1/23–2/5 St. Louis DMK. South reports with details after December: 1/8 Dakota PEB, 1/23 Hennepin BAF, 1/27 Hennepin MDu, 2/8 Hennepin BAF, 2/9, 2/13 Hennepin (different locations) SLC, 2/12 Hennepin PEB, 2/13 Anoka DPG.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [4 North, 30 South] All north 12/4 Polk (East Grand Forks, blue band on bird identified it as having been locally banded) DL, 12/5 Beltrami DPJ, 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC (2, no details), 12/19 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC (same as 12/4 bird?), 12/28 Kanabec (Mora) RBW, RMD. SLC documented 4 individuals at disparate locations in Hennepin. Also documented in Hennepin at 3 additional locations by SF, MDu, PEB. Only other bird with identification details: 2/12 Olmsted DAB.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [14 North, 4 South] Reported widely north (found in 8 or fewer counties north in prior four winters). One documented report: 12/18 Sibley (adult) ph. *vide* CWG. Additional south reports from Big Stone, Lac qui Parle and Dakota were without details. Because of identification problems, seasonal

compilers request documentation for this species outside its normal range.

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) — [1 North, 10 South] All north 2/4 Cass (Woodrow Twp.) BAW, but also see undocumented reports. South reports limited to the East-central and Southeast regions. SLC noted one overwintered in Hennepin (Bass Ponds).

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [15 North, 46 South] Reported statewide, except for the Northwest. High counts: 12/16 Martin (8) BRB, 2/6 Steele (8) DBM. CBC high counts 12/18 St. Paul (North) (69), Faribault (49), Bloomington (48).

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) — [20 North, 43 South] More reports than in any of the previous 5 years. Fewest reports from the western third of the state. High counts 12/10 Aitkin (11) ASc, 2/19 St. Louis (8, Sax-Zim Bog) ASt. CBC high count 12/18 Faribault (13), 12/20 Sax-Zim (11).

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [3 North, 5 South] Most reports from traditional wintering areas in Houston, Wabasha and Winona. Additional reports: 12/16 Lake ABL, 12/28 Kanabec ph. †RMD, RBW, 2/24 Hubbard (*vide* MAW). Also reported from the Austin, Sherburne N.W.R. and Two Harbors CBCs without details.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [9 North, 29 South] Averages over prior three years were 5 north and 27 south counties, so north reports up. After 1/1, only 3 north reports: 2/11 Douglas JPE, 2/17 Douglas, Traverse RBW. South sightings spread uniformly across the season.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [5 North, 14 South] Approximately 24 (8 north, 16 south) individuals. Found on 7 CBCs, with only Duluth producing multiple birds (2). Prairie subspecies reported 12/28 Big Stone (Odesa) BJU, 1/23 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) ph. BWN.

GYRFALCON (*Falco rusticolus*) — [1 North, 1 South] An adult gray morph was photographed in Lac qui Parle (Hantho Twp.) on 1/5 ph. BJU. An immature gray morph was found away from roads along nordic ski trails in St. Louis (Manganika Creek, near Virginia) on 1/10 †SLF.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [1 North, 6 South] All north reports from Du-

luth in St. Louis: 12/26 Canal Park EGy, 1/8 Duluth harbor KRE, LS. South reports from usual sites in the Twin Cities and Olmsted, and one 1/13 Rice RTE.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [3 North, 7 South] All north 12/5 Douglas JPE, 12/11 Clay (2, Crystal Sugar lagoons, Moorhead) PBB, 12/18 Fergus Falls CBC (6). Overwintered south in Scott, where high counts varied over the season: 1/14 Scott (50, Blue Lake W.T.P.) ALD, 12/18 Scott (20, (Blue Lake W.T.P.) RSA, 2/20 Scott (17, Blue Lake W.T.P.) PEJ. Possible early migrants 2/27 Wright DFN, PEJ, 2/28 Lac qui Parle BJU.

Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*) — See Undocumented Reports.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [1 South] Two early migrants found 2/26 in Houston (south of Brownsville) Dja.

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) — [2 South] Reported from the Bass Ponds in Hennepin 12/9 SLC, 12/27 TAT. Also found in Olmsted 12/5 Dover Twp. JWH, 1/2 JPR, 1/16 Dover Twp. JWH.

Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) — [3 North, 7 South] North high counts 12/1 Cass (3, Gull Lake) BAW, 12/11 St. Louis (3) PHS. Reported south through 1/19 in Dakota, then not again until 2/13. South high counts 12/2 Dakota (150) MDu, Washington (100) MDu, Hennepin (24) TAT may represent some of the same individuals. After 12/2 only single digits reported except that 16 were found on the St. Paul (North) CBC.

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) — [3 North, 3 South] Only found near Lake Superior (Cook, Lake, St. Louis) and near the Twin Cities (Dakota, Hennepin, Washington). North December high counts of 2,867 (12/25, Superior Entry, (MN and WI) KJB) and 1,807 (12/23 St. Louis (Canal Park) PHS) tapered off to 940 in January (1/16 St. Louis KJB) and 100 in February (2/23 St. Louis LKn). Last reported south 1/19 Dakota (21) KSm. South high counts 12/18 Dakota (600, Black Dog Lake) PEB, 12/26 Dakota (500, Black Dog Lake) JPM, 1/1 Dakota (295, near Hastings) BAF.

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) — [1 North, 3 South] Reported north only from St. Louis. Peak numbers in December, with high counts of **23** (7 adults, 3 third-cycles, 3



Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*), 19 December 2010, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

second-cycles, and 10 first-cycles) on 12/5 Duluth KJB and 12 on 12/10 (6 first-cycle, 1 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, and 3 adults at Canal Park, Duluth) PHS. Total for the season based on photographic identification of individuals was 33 (14 first-cycles, 5 second-cycles, 5 third-cycles, and 9 adults) ph. KJB. South reports limited to Dakota, Ramsey, Washington. High counts 12/18 Dakota (3 — first-cycle, third-cycle, adult) PEB, 1/16 Dakota (3 — first-cycle, second-cycle (possible intergrade with Iceland), adult) BAF. Last reported south 1/18 Dakota (adult) JPM.

Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) — [1 North, 3 South] North reports all from St. Louis, where a peak count of **8** (1 first-cycle, 2 third-cycles, 5 adults) were seen in Duluth on 12/5 by KJB. Total for the season in Duluth was ten (1 first-cycle, 2 second-cycles, 2 third-cycles, 5 adults) ph. KJB, though by January at most only two were present at any one time. Additional photographic documentation of many of these individuals by ph. PHS, ph. MLH. South reports began with an adult Kumlien's at Kaposia Land-

ing in Ramsey/Dakota 12/5–6 ELC, †JPM and 12/15 SLO, and possibly the same adult in Dakota/Washington at Lock and Dam #2 and Pt. Douglas Park 12/18–1/18 ph. †BAF, m.ob. Probable second-cycle Thayer's X Iceland intergrade in Dakota (Lake Rebecca) 12/19–1/16 ph. YK, BAF.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) — [1 North] Two first-cycles found in St. Louis (Superior Entry) in November lingered into December: one until 12/3 ph. KJB, the other until 12/5 ph. KJB.

SLATY-BACKED GULL (*Larus schistisagus*) — [1 North] Adult first seen on 12/19 at the Superior Landfill in Wisconsin was later found that same day in St. Louis at Canal Park where it was exhaustively documented and photographed ph. †KJB, ph. †PHS (*The Loon* 83:141–142). It was last seen in Minnesota on 1/16 KJB. Seventh state record and third for St. Louis.

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [1 North, 2 South] All north reports from St. Louis, where overwintered. High count of 13 on 2/16 in St. Louis (9 first-cycle, 1 sec-

ond-cycle, 1 third-cycle, 1 adult in Duluth) PHS. KJB photographically identified 24 individuals in the Duluth-Superior harbor during the season, including 14 first-cycles, 1 second-cycle, 4 third-cycles, and 5 adults

Herring Gull X Glaucous Gull — An adult “Nelson’s” Gull, discovered in November, lingered in Duluth until 12/2 KJB.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] Only found in Duluth, St. Louis, but present there in record numbers. Numbers slowly grew throughout the winter, from 4 in late December, 6 in mid-February, 7 on 2/23 (5 first-cycle, 2 adults) ph. LKn, and culminating in a state high count of 9 on 2/26 (8 first-cycle and 1 second-cycle at 27th Ave. W.) PHS. At least one adult and another second-cycle were also present during the season, making a total of at least 11 birds.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [26 North, 48 South] Found statewide. High counts 1/8 St. Louis (200, Canal Park) RTe, 12/7 Wadena (180) RPR. CBC high counts 12/18 St. Paul (North) (1,642), 12/23 Northern Meeker County (682).

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [5 North, 25 South] North reports limited to counties bordering the Dakotas. Two new county records: 12/4 **Benton** (Rice) HHD, 1/13 **Marshall** (Alvarado) LEG. High counts 12/26 Dodge (47) RAE, 1/25 Faribault (47, Winnebago) DBM, 12/10 Traverse (37, Wheaton) HHD, 1/9 Swift (30, Kerkhoven) JoS.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) — [17 North, 37 South] Reported as far north as Beltrami, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High counts 1/2 Chisago (35) DWK, 1/1 Carver (21) RBJ, 12/19 Lake (19, seen in one yard in Two Harbors during CBC) JWJL. CBC high count totals 12/19 Cedar Creek Bog (147), 12/18 Faribault (137), 12/18 Winona (133).

Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*) — [2 North, 13 South] All north reports: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC and Fergus Falls CBC. Scattered throughout the south with most observations in the East-central and South-eastern regions, as is typical. Absent from the Central zone. CBC high count 12/19 Austin (6). Red morphs were noted 1/29 and 2/2 Rice TFB (same bird?), and 2/5 Freeborn DAB, DWK, JLO. Gray morphs were only

noted 1/28 Hennepin RTe.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) — [17 North, 35 South] Reported from 52 counties statewide, same as last year. CBC high counts 12/18 St. Paul (North) (13) and 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (11). A well described *B. v. subarcticus* located 2/19 Scott DWK (Mohoney’s Marsh W.M.A.).

Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [6 North, 3 South] Widely scattered throughout the state excluding the extreme southern counties, with a total of only about 12 individuals observed, and continuing the downward trend in overall numbers since 2005. Seen on only 4 CBCs north and 1 south, with the high count 12/18 Duluth (2). All south reports include 12/18 Hennepin SMC (and possibly later), 1/6 Rice TFB, and likely different birds 1/11–13 Rice *vide* DAT (possibly earlier according to locals), m.ob., 1/23–2/13 Rice *vide* TFB, m.ob., and 2/15 Lac qui Parle BJU.

Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*) — [9 North] Observed across the northern counties in a rough triangle between Roseau, Aitkin and Cook. Not quite the invasion experienced last year, but still a respectable number of individuals reported beginning 12/7 St. Louis SCZ and Cook *vide* JWJL continuing through the end of the season. Observed on 4 CBCs with the high count 1/2 Baudette (4). This total was dwarfed by the individual high count 2/12 Roseau (10) SAU. One to two individuals were noted in the Sax-Zim Bog beginning with the 12/20 Sax-Zim CBC through 2/28 St. Louis m.ob.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) — [14 North, 22 South] Reports spanned the season and the state except absent from the Southwest. CBC high count 12/19 Austin (6), which typically has one of the higher counts. Individual high counts were 1/5 Rice (5) TFB and 2/4 Hennepin (5 at Pond Dakota Mission Park and Mound Springs Park, Bloomington) SLC.

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) — [4 North] Approximately 8–10 individuals reported, significantly fewer than numbers reported the past 5 years. As is typical, the Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis was the hub of activity beginning 12/9 with observations extending through the period (m.ob.), with a high count 1/13 St. Louis (4) MSS, m.ob.

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) — [2 North, 5



Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*), 8 January 2011, Sax-Zim Bog, St. Louis County. Photo by Linda Sparling.

South] All north 12/23 Clay (S. Moorhead) RHO, 2/6 Morrison (Little Falls) MJB, FGO. All south 12/1 Rice TFB, 12/6 Kandiyohi JoS, RJF, 12/28 Lac qui Parle (Camp Release Twp.) BJU, 1/3 Blue Earth ph. CJS, 1/4 Freeborn AEB, 1/26 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — [3 North, 2 South] All north 12/5 Kittson LW, 12/19 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 1/22 Kittson (2) LW, 2/12 Roseau SAu, 2/16 Roseau MM. All south 12/10–1/25 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 12/18 Lac qui Parle (Hastad W.P.A., Hantho Twp.) BJU, 1/27 Kandiyohi RJF.

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [8 North, 8 South] Approximately 23 individuals, including 14 north and 9 south. December north reports all from CBCs: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead (2), 12/19 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks, 12/31 Cook Area. Only mid-winter record was 1/7 St. Louis (Duluth, near Chester Bowl) DRB, ph. KRE, ph. MLH, CMB. Late January records from Otter Tail (1/22 *fide* JMJ), Becker (1/27 *fide* JMJ) and Hubbard (1/30 MAW). North

reports more common in February, coming from Aitkin, St. Louis (4), Roseau, Polk, Hubbard. The season's south reports were from Blue Earth, Carver, Hennepin (2), Lac qui Parle, Ramsey, Rice, Sherburne, Stearns.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [4 North, 17 South] All north 12/18 Fergus Falls CBC (2), St. Louis (female, Hartley N.C.) *fide* JWJ, 1/1 Long Prairie CBC (2), 1/2 Cass DAY. Overwintered in Hennepin SLC. CBC high counts 1/1 Whitewater River (5), 12/18 Bloomington (4), Faribault (4).

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [1 North, 9 South] Only north report 12/1 Mille Lacs (Princeton) ASC. South reports throughout the season from Anoka (Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) and Rice (Nerstrand-Big Woods S.P.) Additional south reports from Houston, Olmsted, and from the following CBCs: Albert Lea, Cedar Creek Bog (37 birds; no other CBC reported more than 2!), Rochester, St. Paul (Northeast Suburban), Henderson, Winona.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [24 North, 45 South] Reported statewide, though few sightings along the northern tier of counties. Northernmost records included 12/3 St. Louis (Ely) *fide* JWJ, 1/1 Roseau CBC. CBC high counts 12/18 Henderson (78), Winona (75), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (73), 12/18 Bloomington (70), Willmar (70).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [4 South] All reports: immature found in late November lingered in Minneapolis, Hennepin (4200 block of Wentworth Ave. S.) through 12/19 TAT. Another was in Minneapolis (Powderhorn Park) 12/1–19 JJo. Three others found on CBCs (no details): 12/18 LaCrosse-LaCrescent, Winona, Jackson County.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) — [28 North, 43 South] Seen in most regions statewide, but missing from the far southwestern counties. CBC high counts 12/18 Bloomington (218), Faribault (183), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (158), 12/18 Rochester (156).

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) — [28 North, 44 South] Found in most regions statewide, but missing from the far southwestern counties. CBC high counts 12/18

- Henderson (92), Bloomington (81), St. Paul (North) (73), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (73).
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [4 North] Only 7 individuals: 12/26, 2/20 St. Louis (max. 2, along the Cloquet Line near the Low Lake boat access) NLM, 1/1 Lake (female, F.R. 387 about five miles east of S.R. 1) MM, 1/3 Lake of the Woods (2, Faunce Rd.) DWi, 1/8 St. Louis (male, McDavitt Rd., Sax-Zim Bog) DWK, ph. RTe, KRE, m.ob., 2/11 Itasca SC.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [9 North, 1 South] Reported north from normal range, including Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Cass, Itasca, Aitkin, Carlton, St. Louis, Lake, and Cook. Two south reports, neither with details: 12/18 Sherburne N.W.R. CBC, 12/20 Sherburne (Ann Lake) ASc. CBC high count 12/26 Ely (8, of which 5 found by NLM near Low Lake boat access).
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [6 North, 31 South] Most reports south of a line from Clay to Chisago. Exceptions were 12/18 Grand Marais CBC, 1/3, 1/10 St. Louis (Woodland neighborhood of Duluth) *fide* JWJ. High count 1/15 Hennepin (3) DWK. CBC high counts 12/31 Hastings-Etter (10), 12/18 Willmar (9), Henderson (9).
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [25 North, 39 South] Reported statewide, except from the Southwest. CBC high counts 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (40), 12/18 Crosby (29).
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*) — [28 North, 40 South] Reported widely throughout the season except from the Southwest. County totals were the highest in at least five years. High count 12/18 Stearns (7) RPR, PCC. Duluth CBC held the honors with the highest count (12) on 12/18.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [12 North] Found as far south as Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, and Carlton. CBC high counts all from the Northeast: 12/26 Ely (56), 1/1 Isabella (29), 12/29 Aurora (28). Also see Undocumented Reports.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [30 North, 47 South] Found statewide. CBC high counts 12/19 Cedar Creek Bog (373), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (341).
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [12 North, 1 South] Very unusual was one south 2/19 Lac qui Parle (Walter/Perry Twps.) ph. BJU. North reports from this species' traditional range. CBC high count 1/2 Baudette (35).
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [28 North, 47 South] Reported statewide. High counts were from roosts in Hennepin 12/4 south side of downtown Minneapolis (**6,035**) PEB, 1/15 Elliot Park, south Minneapolis (**3,000**) BAF.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [24 North, 5 South] Reported from traditional locations northeast of a line from Washington to Otter Tail. Also see undocumented records. Please provide details for any extra-limital observations. CBC high counts 12/26 Ely (187), 1/2 Baudette (134), 12/20 Sax-Zim (121).
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [20 North, 43 South] More north reports than usual, with most of the observations in February. Unusual north was 12/17–18 St. Louis (Canal Park) ph. PHS. South reports were widespread and throughout the season. High counts 12/5 Rock (180) DWK, 2/23 Steele (170) NFT. CBC high count 12/14 Cottonwood (210) was well below the average high CBC count of the prior three winters (863).
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [30 North, 48 South] Found throughout the season in all but 9 western counties. High counts 1/2 Lake of the Woods (73) DWi. CBC high counts 12/18 Duluth (2,248), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (1,082), 12/18 Bloomington (888).
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Found in Aitkin, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High counts 12/26 Lake (17, along Spruce Rd. and S.R. 1) JWJ, 12/25 Lake (8, Stony River F.R. between S.R. 1 and the Whyte Rd.) *fide* JWJ, 1/3 Lake of the Woods (7, Faunce Rd., Beltrami Island S.F.) DWi. CBC high count 12/26 Ely (21).
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [8 South] Scattered reports from the traditional Southeast range, with the farthest north reports from Dakota (12/31 Ravena Twp. (2) ADS, plus two more found on the 12/31 Hastings-Etter CBC) and Ramsey (12/1 MWi). CBC high count 12/18 Winona (47); no other CBC tallied more than 6.



Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonicus*), 15 February 2011, Lutsen, Cook County. Photo by David Brisance.

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) — [25 North, 30 South] Most reports north of a line from Freeborn to Clay. High counts 2/3 Lake (18) LDa, 1/2 Lake of the Woods (9) DWi, 2/17 Itasca (9) JnS. CBC high counts 12/26 Ely (286), 12/31 Cook Area (139).

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [28 North, 46 South] Found in all regions, though with the fewest reports from the western third of the state. High counts 12/26 Washington (28) RMa. CBC high counts 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (264), 12/18 Bloomington (193).

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) — [18 North, 31 South] Reported statewide except from the extreme southwest. Numerous January and February records, both north and south. High counts 1/5, 2/6 Hennepin (5, Minnehaha Creek east of Lake Hiawatha) DDo, 2/13 Hennepin (4, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF. CBC high counts 12/18 Faribault (14), Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (13).

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [2 South] Two reports: 12/6 Dakota (Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat

Center, Farmington) DKa, 12/18 LaCrosse-LaCrescent CBC.

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [2 South] All south 12/10+ Hennepin (overwintered, Pond Dakota Mission Park) SLC, 12/18 Hennepin (same location) †MAO, RBJ, DAC, approx. 12/18 Henderson CBC (perished in a mouse trap) ph. ABS.

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [6 North, 12 South] All north reports were from December except 1/1 Rice Lake N.W.R. CBC. Only south reports after December were from Blue Earth, Rice and Wright. CBC high count 12/27 Pine County (7). No individual high counts greater than 2.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) — [1 North] One report: 12/8 Hubbard (deer hunter observed one perch next to his stand, close enough to see ruby crown and absence of yellow and eye line) *fide* MAW. Also see Undocumented Reports.

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [13 South] Limited to the southeast corner of the state, as far north as Anoka and west as Blue Earth, except for two reports from Lac qui Parle: 12/2 BJU, 12/10 HHD, RAE. The ma-

majority of sightings were in December; only found in 3 counties in February. High count 12/18 Olmsted (9) LAV. CBC high counts 12/18 Winona (33), LaCrosse-LaCrescent (20).

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [2 North, 4 South] All north reports: 12/19–24 Lake (Two Harbors) JWL, ph. MLH, 12/24 Lake (second bird in Two Harbors) JWL, 1/10 St. Louis (downtown Duluth) *fide* JWL. All south: one overwintered in Ramsey (November – March, Lake Vadnais) m.ob., 12/2–1/9+ Lac qui Parle (max. 2, Hantho Beach W.M.A.) BJU, m.ob., 12/18 Carver (Carver P.R.) PCA, Excelsior CBC (second bird, loc.?), 12/28 Lac qui Parle (near Louisburg) BJU, 1/22+ Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission Park) DWK, †SLC, TAT.

Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) — [1 North, 7 South] Only north report 12/5 St. Louis (Ely) †SES. South reports 12/5 Winona (near Elba) JWH, 12/8 Scott RBW, 12/9–2/24 Rice (overwintered at River Bend N.C.) †TFB, 12/10 Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission Park) SLC, 12/18 Dakota (Apple Valley) TCB, Ramsey (Lake Owasso) ph. Ben Wilson, †CCh, 12/19 Hennepin (Minnetonka) ChP, 1/5–10 Ramsey (St. Paul) DCZ, 1/10 Yellow Medicine (Granite Falls) *fide* AXH, 2/7 Hennepin (Izaak Walton League, Bloomington) SLC, DWK.

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [17 North, 38 South] Reported statewide throughout the season, though north reports diminished as the season progressed. High counts 12/18 Hennepin (400, Logan Park, Minneapolis) JT, 12/22 Hennepin (185, Bass Ponds) TAT. CBC high counts 12/18 St. Paul (North) (1,047), Bloomington (709). No counts above 80 after 1/1.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [4 North, 6 South] North reports: female overwintered in Kittson (Lancaster) November – March LW, ph. TrB, m.ob., 12/26+ St. Louis (male, overwintered in Ely) *fide* JWL, ph. YK, ph. DMK, m.ob., 1/5–9 Aitkin *fide* MMc, JPr, 2/1 Pennington *fide* JMJ. South reports: 12/4 Blue Earth (male) ph. DER, 12/15–18 Hennepin (female, Champlin) ph. SJR, 12/18 Scott (Savage) ph. ThA, 1/1–2/18 Freeborn (male, rural Hartland) AEB, m.ob., 1/11 Hennepin JRJ, 1/20 Goodhue (male, Cannon Falls) LEC, 1/26 Wabasha MNO.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [2 North, 1 South] All north 12/19 Lake (Two Harbors) JWL, 1/25–26 St. Louis (East Duluth) *fide* JWL. All south 12/18 Steele ph. WTH, 12/31 Ramsey (Maplewood) MMA.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [28 North, 46 South] Found statewide. High counts 12/27 St. Louis (700, 27th Ave. West, Duluth) YK, MI, 1/19 St. Louis (700, 27th Ave. West) KJB. CBC high counts 12/26 Red Wing (1,535), 12/18 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (1,441).

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [26 North, 11 South] Much more widespread than usual. Average county counts of last five winters only 15 north and 3 south counties. High counts north 2/15 St. Louis (800, Duluth) MSS, 2/17 St. Louis (400–500, Ely) *fide* JWL. South reports began 12/1 Sherburne ASC, 12/2 Lac qui Parle (14) ph. BJU, 12/3 Ramsey (60) AXH, 12/8 Sherburne (90) ASC. Additional documented reports south 12/19 Dakota (2) †ADS, Kandiyohi (7) ph. ARa, JoS. CBC high counts 12/18 Duluth (1,294), 12/19 Virginia (688). Also notable was 12/18 Wild River (153). Very few south reports after December.

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [14 North, 31 South] Reported from about the same number of counties (north and south) as in the prior three winters, though north reports after early January were limited to a regular flock in Polk and a single report from Roseau. High counts 12/2 Lac qui Parle (250, Hantho Beach on Lac qui Parle Lake) BJU, 12/26 Blue Earth (130, Calvary Cemetery, Mankato) ChH. CBC high counts 12/18 Willmar (546), 12/18 Bloomington (102).

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [16 North, 35 South] Reports up for the second consecutive winter. Only absent from the Northeast. High counts 12/5 Rock (250) DWK, 2/12 Nicollet (80) DWK. CBC high counts 12/31 Hastings-Etter (170), 12/18 Ferguson Falls (95).

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [29 North, 51 South] Found in all but 7 counties. High counts 1/15 Blue Earth (520) ChH, 1/15 Blue Earth (500) AnK. CBC high counts 12/18 Crookston (925), 12/18 Marshall (802).

Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [1 South] One from fall lingered in Hennepin (Edina) through **12/10** SLC.

- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [5 South] All reports: 12/2 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Beach) BJU, 12/5 Ramsey (Lake Vadnais) YK, Winona (near Elba.) JWH, 12/18 Winona CBC, 12/27 Hennepin ATF, 1/2 Wabasha CBC.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — See Undocumented Reports.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [2 North, 3 South] North reports 12/10 – early January when taken by Sharp-shinned Hawk (male, Otter Tail) JSz, DST, m.ob., 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC. Three south reports including 12/5 Hennepin (Eden Prairie) DKO, 12/11 – 2/4 Kandiyohi (female) †RJF, m.ob., and a male that overwintered in Blue Earth ph. JPB.
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizella arborea*) — [14 North, 42 South] Reports north and south comparable to the last four winters. Few sightings from the northern third of the state. High counts 12/15 Olmsted (45) LAV, 12/18 Scott (40) RSA. CBC high counts 12/18 Winona (485), Rochester (304).
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [1 South] Only report with details 12/1 Hennepin (lingered at feeding station since mid-November) BeH. Also see Undocumented Reports.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [1 South] Only report **1/9–15** Kandiyohi RJF, DBM.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [1 North, 9 South] One north report 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC. Two south reports after December: 1/1 Kandiyohi (Willmar) JoS, 1/13 Nicollet TRo. CBC high count 12/18 Bloomington (4).
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [1 North, 6 South] Reported from fewer counties (7) than in any of the previous five years. Only north report 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC. South reports were all from East-central and Southeast regions, from Isanti to Houston. Two birds were reported after the CBC period, both in Hennepin: one overwintered through the end of the season at a Richfield feeder PEJ, and one through 1/22 at Richardson N.C. DWK, BeH.
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [2 South] All reports: 12/5 Hennepin (Bloomington, Izaak Walton League) SLC, 12/15 Goodhue (Prairie Island) GMi.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [10 North, 15 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as last year. Only one north report after the CBC period: 2/5 St. Louis SES. Also reported on 10 north CBCs, with a high count 12/18 Duluth (4). South reports were lacking in the Southwest, with most from the Twin Cities and the Southeast. South reports after the CBC period included apparently overwintering birds: Carver (Laketown Twp., WCM), Scott (Jordan, SMi), and multiple birds in Hennepin (2, Richfield, PEJ; Excelsior, DBM; Minnesota Valley N.W.R. Headquarters, m.ob.). CBC high count 12/18 St. Paul (North) (11).
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [2 North, 10 South] Reported from more counties than in 4 of the previous 5 years. Two north reports: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC, 12/19 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC. All south reports after the CBC period: 12/26–1/26 Meeker (feeder near Dassel) PKF, ph. YK, ph. DAC, 1/13 Freeborn DBM, 1/20 Stearns FGo, 1/22 Faribault RBW, 1/26 Jackson KSm.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [2 North, 3 South] All reports: 12/8–2/21 Rice (overwintered, backyard feeder) TFB, 12/18–2/6 St. Louis (immature overwintered at feeder, Grand Lake) ph. NP *vide* JWL, CWG, 12/31 Hastings-Etter CBC, 1/1 Pine (immature at feeder, Sturgeon Lake) HHD, RAE, 1/20 Stearns FGo.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [24 North, 45 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as last year. High count 12/19 Mower (78) NFT. CBC high counts 12/18 Winona (1,472), 12/18 Rochester (611). Three reports of the “Oregon” subspecies were documented by photos: 12/2–2/28 Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek near Lake Hiawatha) ph. DDo, 12/22 Dakota (Eagan) ph. JPM, 1/16 Washington (Dellwood) ph. KMe.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [17 North, 45 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as last year, although including only one (Polk) north of line from Clay to Itasca. Farthest north reports 12/18 Grand Marais CBC, 12/2–22 Polk (East Grand Forks) SAu. High count north 12/2 Mille Lacs (4) RBW. South high

- counts 12/18 Hennepin (24) MDu, 1/13 Hennepin (24) YK. CBC high counts 12/18 Henderson (350), 12/18 Excelsior (298), 12/18 Faribault (288). CBC high count north 12/19 Little Falls (26), 12/18 Duluth (25).
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — See Undocumented Reports.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [7 North, 28 South] Reported from fewer counties than last year. All north reports were from December except 1/8 Wilkin DBM, 1/28 Otter Tail ARW. South reports after December were relatively few but included high counts 1/9 Swift (110, west of Appleton near Marsh Lake) WCM, 2/24 Waseca (75, Goose Lake Park) DCu. CBC high counts 12/14 Cottonwood (91), 12/28 Albert Lea (35).
- meadowlark species** (*Sturnella sp.*) — [1 South] One report: 1/14 Lac qui Parle (2, section 12, Mehurin Twp.) BJU.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [1 South] Only report 12/10 Chippewa HHD.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [3 North, 11 South] Found in more counties (14) than in any of the previous 5 years. All north reports: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC, 12/28 Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River S.P. CBC (3), 1/22–24 Mahnomen (Tulaby Lake) ph. CSO, 1/28 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R) *fide* JMJ. All south reports after CBC period 1/4–2/15 Lac qui Parle (2–3 overwintered section 25, Walter Twp.) BJU, 1/5–2/18 Dakota (overwintered near Hastings) KSm, †PEB, 1/6 Freeborn AEB, 1/16 Olmsted (section 3, Dover Twp.) JWH, 2/13 Blue Earth ChH. CBC high count 12/17 Lac qui Parle (21).
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — See Undocumented Reports.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [11 North, 26 South] Reported from more counties both north and south than in any of the previous 5 years; most of these were prior to and during the CBC period. All north reports after CBC period included 1/8 Wilkin (Breckenridge) DBM, 1/22 Mahnomen (Tulaby Lake) CSO, 2/17–18 Polk (East Grand Forks) SAu, 2/19 Douglas JPE. All south records after CBC period included 1/16 Swift (4) RAE, JoS, 1/24 Ramsey BNW, 1/31–2/14 Dakota (1–2) KSm. CBC high count 12/18 St. Paul (North) (11).
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [1 North, 6 South] One north report: 12/1–2 Polk (female at feeder, East Grand Forks) SAu. All south reports after CBC period include 1/13–15 Hennepin (up to 4, Minnesota Valley N.W.R. Headquarters) YK, DWK, 1/15 Freeborn (3) HHD, RAE, 1/30 Dakota SWe, 2/1 Hennepin SLC, 2/9 Dakota (7) KSm. High count 12/31 Dakota (74 at feed lot near Hastings) ADS.
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [20 North] Reported from nearly all counties north of a line from and including Pine to Becker to Polk, but from no counties south of this line. High counts 1/2 Lake of the Woods (55) *fide* JMJ, 1/6 St. Louis (54, Ely) YK. CBC high counts 12/31 Cook Area (515), 12/26 Ely (332).
- Purple Finch** (*Carpodacus purpureus*) — [22 North, 38 South] Reported from throughout the state except extreme southwest, from more counties (60) than in any of the previous 5 years. High count 2/27 St. Louis (100, Ely feeders) PEB; high counts south 2/4 Fillmore (26) NBO, 1/5 Fillmore (24) RTP. CBC high counts 12/26 Ely (186), 12/19 Itasca S.P. (55).
- House Finch** (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) — [15 North, 41 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as last year, from throughout the season. High count 12/14 Blue Earth (60) ChH; north high count 1/4 Polk (18) SAu. CBC high counts 12/18 Bloomington (335), 12/26 St. Paul (North-east Suburban) (275), 12/18 St. Paul (North) (256) CBC high count north 12/18 Duluth (63).
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [10 North, 4 South] All south reports 12/7 Benton DBM, 12/18 Faribault CBC, 1/17 Lac qui Parle BJU, 12/18–2/19 Sherburne (1–2 birds, Sand Dunes S.F.) ASC, KRo. Reported from about the same number of north counties as the previous five years, with high counts 1/13 St. Louis (23) KJB, 1/25 St. Louis (19) KJB, 2/5 Roseau (10) SAu. Reported on only 3 CBCs, with high count 1/2 Pillager (6).
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [8 North, 2 South] All south reports: 12/18 Minneapolis (North) CBC (6), 2/18 Stearns (4, Collegetville) MJB. Reported from far fewer north counties than last year (8 vs.

24); most were from CBCs including high counts 12/26 Ely (67), 1/2 Baudette (30), 12/31 Cook Area (26). Individual high count 2/12 Roseau (30) SAu.

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) — [28 North, 11 South] Reported from four more counties than last year, but far fewer than in 2008 (major invasion year). No reports south of a line from and including Yellow Medicine to Dakota. South high count 12/28 Chippewa (20, Lac qui Parle W.M.A.) BJU. Reported from all but seven north counties, with high count 2/28 Hubbard (320) MAW; other high counts were 100 or fewer. CBC high counts 1/1 Isabella (300), 12/26 Ely (295).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [15 North] Reported from more north counties than in any of the previous 5 years. All documented records include 1/2 St. Louis (Cromwell) ph. LSc, 1/5–2/17 Kittson (Lancaster feeder, multiple birds with a maximum of 8 on 1/4) ph. TrB, 2/5 St. Louis ChH, 2/16 Cook (Lutsen) ph. DBM, 2/26–27 St. Louis (up to 3, Sax-Zim Bog) †PEB, †WLe, ph. MLH. Observers are encouraged to include documentation of all reports of this species.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [24 North, 32 South] North reports from about the same number of counties as the previous three years. South reports from ten more counties than last year, but still well below the 2008 invasion year total. High count 2/27 St. Louis (1,000, Ely feeders, with one feeder alone hosting at least 600) PEB, MAO; this represents the highest count since 1993. Other north high counts were much more modest (48 or fewer). South high count 1/19

Hennepin (27, Minnehaha Creek east of Lake Hiawatha) DDO; this flock continued throughout the season and some apparently remained to nest in early spring (see Spring report). CBC high counts 12/31 Cook Area (252), 12/26 Ely (135), St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (131).

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [26 North, 42 South] Reported from 68 counties (slightly fewer than last year but more than the previous five) from throughout the state. High counts 12/26 Washington (52) LS, 12/18 Steele (47) NFT. CBC High counts 12/18 St. Paul (North) (466), 12/18 Bloomington (446), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (399). All north reports after the CBC period were of 39 or fewer birds and south reports for the same period did not exceed 45 birds.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [14 North, 2 South] All south reports 12/19 Cedar Creek Bog CBC (8), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC (6). Reported from the most north counties since 2005. High counts 1/25 St. Louis (86) KJB, 1/2 Lake of the Woods (55, Baudette) DWi. CBC high counts 12/26 Ely (130), 1/2 Baudette (67). There were only six reports after January, all of 30 or fewer birds.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [26 North, 47 South] Reported from 73 counties, the most in the past 5 years. Reported from every county (except Koochiching) east of a line from and including Lake of the Woods south to Jackson, but unreported from 13 counties west of that line. High count 12/18 Hennepin (295) JCC. CBC high count 12/18 St. Paul (North) (1,785), which also had last year's high count with nearly the same total.

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Abbreviations

C.P.	County Park
C.R.	County Road
N.C.	Nature Center
N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
P.R.	Park Reserve
R.P.	Regional Park
S.F.	State Forest
S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
S.P.	State Park
S.R.	State Road
S.W.A.	State Wildlife Area
Twp.	Township
W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
W.P.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Pond

The 2010–2011 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count Summary

Carl Greiner

The 2010–2011 Christmas Bird Count in Minnesota tallied 219,755 birds of 133 distinct species. The count was down from last year's total of 303,427 birds of 145 species. Eighty-three species were noted during the count week but not on count day. Of the birds recorded during count week, only the Northern Shoveler, Slaty-backed Gull, Carolina Wren, Spotted Towhee (undocumented), and Rose-breasted Grosbeak would have affected the overall species total had they been seen on count day. All of the other count week birds were observed somewhere in the state on count day.

Seventy counts were performed this year, surpassing last year's total by one. However, this year, results were not received from Battle Lake, New Ulm, Redwood Falls, and Warren. Sax-Zim and Hibbing returned results this year and Hibbing submitted last year's results which were not in last year's analysis. Alex Watson started a new count in Alexandria. Bloomington and St. Paul North tied for the high species count at 60. No new species were recorded on this year's count and the composite total remains at 215 species.

Weather and Effort

This year was our snowiest CBC since 1996, and our coldest since 2000. Last year we had an average snow depth of 6.2" with a high of 18", while this year the average was 14.6" with a high of 50" (Cook). Last year the average temperature was 6.1°F with a low of -36°, while this year the average was 5.1° with a low of -31°. The 2009–2010 season had 69 counts with 1,337 participants and 454 feeder watchers. This year, 70 counts were performed by 1,225 counters and 399 people watched feeders. Henderson once again led the way when 110 participants turned out at the Ney Learning Center to help.

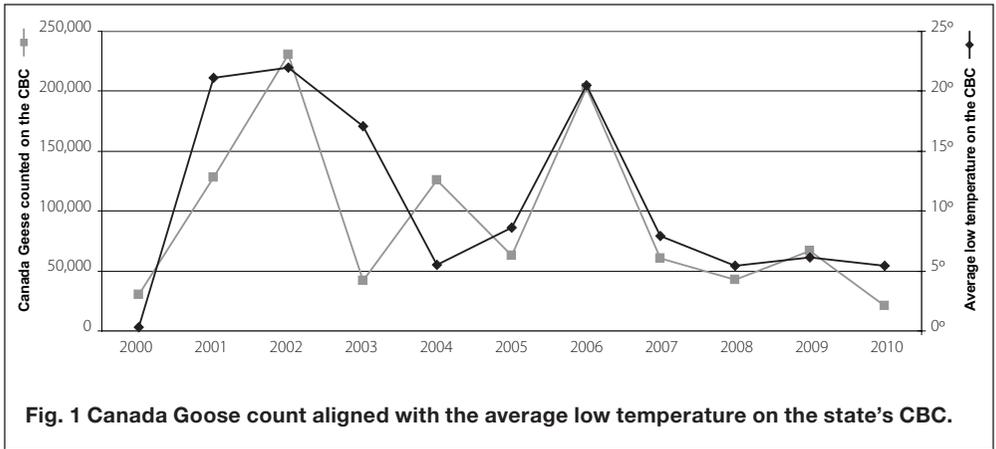
Water Birds

The cold and snow appears to have a drastic effect on water-associated species.

Only 20,856 Canada Geese were counted. This is the lowest Canada Goose count since 1983 when only 36 locations found them. The only species increased over last year were the Gadwall, American Black Duck, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Herring Gull, Thayer's Gull, and Great Black-backed Gull. Most of these species are uncommon so a very low number observed would be an increase over last year. One Greater White-fronted Goose, a Mute Swan, 12 Canvasback, 3 Harlequin Ducks, and a Slaty-backed Gull (count week) were seen that were not on last year's count. Greater White-fronted Goose, Mute Swan, Trumpeter Swan, Greater Scaup, Harlequin Duck, Red-breasted Merganser, Herring Gull, Thayer's Gull, Iceland Gull, and Great Black-backed Gull were the only species that increased in comparison to their 20-year average. It is interesting to see the enormous rise in numbers of Trumpeter Swans. Trumpeters were almost 2.5 times the 20-year average (albeit slightly decreased from last year). In comparison, the Tundra Swan only had a single individual counted this year while the 20-year average is 613.5 per year.

Widespread and Numerous Species

The Black-capped Chickadee, Downy Woodpecker, American Goldfinch, and Blue Jay were observed on all 70 counts. The Hairy Woodpecker and White-breasted Nuthatch were recorded on all but one of the counts. Other birds with an extensive distribution included Rock Pigeon (68 counts), American Crow (68 counts), European Starling (65 counts), House Sparrow (65 counts), Bald Eagle (64 counts), and Pileated Woodpecker (64 counts). The Red-breasted Nuthatch was observed on all 70 counts in 2007–2008, only 42 in 2008–2009, 65 counts last year, and 56 counts this year. The Pine Siskin was observed on 62 counts two years ago, 43



counts last year, and 54 counts this year.

The most numerous species included: Black-capped Chickadee (21,617 down from 23,786 last year), Mallard (21,094 down from 31,707), Canada Goose (20,856 down from 67,137 last year), American Crow (17,375 up from 15,892), European Starling (16,743 down from 17,207), House Sparrow (16,616 down from 19,558), Rock Pigeon (12,145 down from 13,354), Snow Bunting (9,351 down from 9,981), Dark-eyed Junco (9,232 down from 15,392), American Goldfinch (6,323 down from 9,504), and Blue Jay (6,248 down from 7,580). The American Robin and American Tree Sparrow were decreased from last year and dropped below 5,000, which is the criteria for this category.

Uncommon Species

Birds that have average counts of fewer than five per CBC over the last 20 years included: Slaty-backed Gull (count week only), Greater White-fronted Goose, Rose-breasted Grosbeak (count week only), Turkey Vulture, Spotted Towhee (count week only), Great Black-backed Gull (3), Winter Wren (2), Iceland Gull (4), Mute Swan, Harlequin Duck (3), Eastern Towhee, Carolina Wren (count week only), Greater Scaup (2), Hermit Thrush (3), Yellow-rumped Warbler (2), Brewer's Blackbird (20), Brown Thrasher (2), Short-eared Owl, White-crowned Sparrow (2), Townsend's Solitaire (4), Varied Thrush (2), Pied-billed Grebe, Northern Saw-whet Owl (2), American Three-toed Woodpecker (3),

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (3), Ruddy Duck (3), American White Pelican (3), Golden Eagle (5), Glaucous Gull (2), Thayer's Gull (13), Spruce Grouse (2), and Peregrine Falcon (4).

Absence/Presence in Relation to Last Year

Eight species were observed this year that were not on last year's count: Greater White-fronted Goose, Mute Swan, Canvasback, Harlequin Duck, Turkey Vulture, Slaty-backed Gull (count week only), Winter Wren, and Brewer's Blackbird. Twenty species observed last year did not return: Northern Shoveler, Carolina Wren (seen during count week), Spotted Towhee (seen during count week), Black Scoter, Long-tailed Duck, Barrow's Goldeneye, Horned Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Osprey, Wilson's Snipe, Franklin's Gull, White-winged Dove, Long-eared Owl, Gray Catbird, Chipping Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Rose-breasted Grosbeak (seen during count week), and Black-headed Grosbeak.

Increasing Species

Birds that were counted in numbers at least 1.5 times their 20-year average and that are increased from last year included: Greater White-fronted Goose, Mute Swan, Greater Scaup, Harlequin Duck, Common Goldeneye, Ruddy Duck, Gray Partridge, Ring-necked Pheasant, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Wild Turkey, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Herring

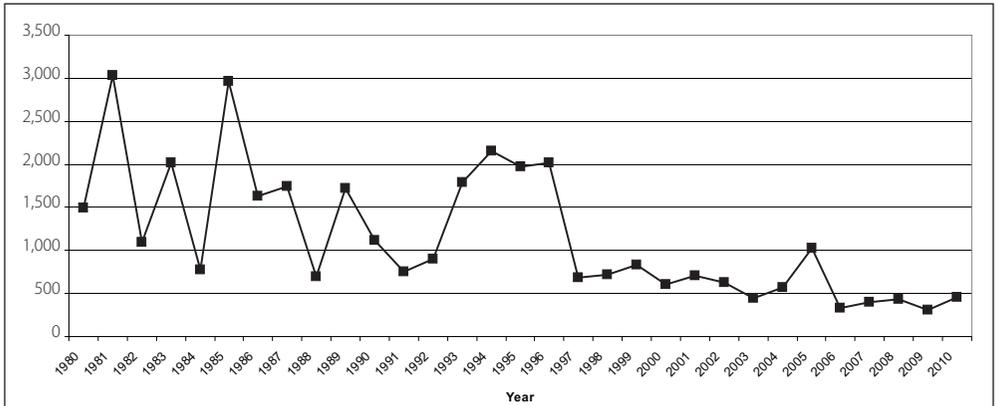


Fig. 2 Evening Grosbeaks counted on the Minnesota CBC (1980 – 2010).

Gull, Thayer's Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech-Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Black-backed Woodpecker, Northern Shrike, Gray Jay, Black-billed Magpie, American Crow, Winter Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Hermit Thrush, Bohemian Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Harris's Sparrow, Brown-headed Cowbird, Pine Grosbeak, House Finch, and Hoary Redpoll.

Decreasing Species

Birds that are at least 10% below their 20-year averages and also decreased by at least 10% from last year included: Snow Goose, Cackling Goose, Canada Goose, Tundra Swan, Wood Duck, Mallard, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Canvasback, Hooded Merganser, Spruce Grouse, Great Blue Heron, Red-shouldered Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Ring-billed Gull, Glaucous Gull, Snowy Owl, Great Gray Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Horned Lark, Brown Creeper, Varied Thrush, Cedar Waxwing, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Red Crossbill, White-winged Crossbill, and House Sparrow.

Over the past 20 years, Evening Grosbeaks have been declining (although this year there was a slight increase over last year). This decline has been noticed not only in Minnesota, but across North America. Figure 2 depicts the decrease. It is even more pronounced if the numbers are standardized by the number of observers as the participa-

tion in the CBC has more than doubled over the same time period.

Conclusion

The 2010–2011 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count was for mostly disappointing. Many species were decreased from the last few counts. The total count was only about two-thirds of last year. For the first time in the last few years, participation slightly fell. No new or Accidental species were recorded. The weather was cold and snowy. Yet this year's count wasn't a total loss. The number of locations counted increased with the addition of Alexandria. Forty-five Red-headed Woodpeckers were counted, up from both last year and the 20-year average. Evening Grosbeaks, a species that has garnered a lot of concern over the past decade were increased.

Although still only half their 20-year average, the 458 grosbeaks counted is a step in the right direction. Nearly 5,000 Bohemian Waxwings were counted, a species that many people have on their favorites list. This was an astronomical year for Bohemians with nearly five times last year's count (1,101) and over two-and-a-half times the 20-year average (1,886). Although the participation decreased slightly from 1,337 to 1,225 this is still the second highest total ever and with the weather conditions is a fantastic turnout. Thanks to everyone who participated.

1616 Hill Street Southwest, Chatfield, MN 55923.

Table 1. Minnesota 2010–2011 CBC, dates, compilers, and totals. CW=Count Week.

	Location	Date	Compiler	Species	CW	Total Birds	Participants
1	Albert Lea	12/28/10	Allen Batt	45	0	3,172	10
2	Afton	1/1/11	Joseph Merchak	41	1	3,426	24
3	Alexandria	12/28/10	Alex Watson	29	5	632	9
4	Aurora	12/29/10	Steve Falkowski	28	0	1,794	8
5	Austin	12/19/10	Terry Dorsey	40	1	4,071	16
6	Baudette	1/2/11	Martin Kehoe	31	1	1,503	9
7	Bemidji	12/18/10	Kelly Larson	34	1	1,496	11
8	Bloomington	12/18/10	Randy Hills	60	2	11,255	38
9	Beltrami Island	1/3/11	Martin Kehoe	27	1	375	6
10	Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River SP	12/28/10	Matthew Mecklenburg	32	0	1,214	3
11	Cedar Creek Bog	12/19/10	James Howitz	37	2	2,333	21
12	Cook Area	12/31/10	Charlotte Jacobsen	23	2	2,290	8
13	Cottonwood	12/14/10	Paul Egeland	31	2	2,170	6
14	Carlton-Cloquet	12/19/10	Eileen Schantz-Hansen	32	0	1,348	15
15	Crookston	12/18/10	Tom Feiro	23	0	1,500	6
16	Crosby	12/18/10	Josephine Blinich	34	0	2,297	12
17	Detroit Lakes	12/18/10	Colleen Nelson	29	0	1,227	7
18	Duluth	12/18/10	Jim Lind	56	1	8,791	25
19	Ely	12/26/10	Bill Tefft	37	3	2,797	12
20	Eagle's Nest Lakes	1/2/11	Elizabeth Urban	20	2	981	24
21	Excelsior	12/18/10	Howard Towle	56	0	6,099	46
22	Faribault	12/18/10	Gene Bauer	49	2	6,473	32
23	Fergus Falls	12/18/10	Steve Millard	48	1	4,089	16
24	Fredenberg	12/19/10	Celeste Kawulok	24	0	636	6
25	Fargo-Moorhead	12/18/10	Robert O'Conner	39	2	2,692	30
26	Fairmont	12/18/10	Brad Bolduan	43	4	2,357	13
27	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks	12/19/10	Dave Lambeth	21	4	846	2
28	Grand Marais	12/18/10	Jeremy Ridlbauer	33	6	822	5
29	Grand Rapids	12/19/10	Kenneth Zimmer	38	0	1,502	16
30	Hastings-Etter	12/31/10	Roger Field/Tammy Field	53	2	6,432	23
31	Henderson	12/18/10	Arthur/Barbara Straub	46	0	3,805	110
32	Hibbing	1/3/11	Christine Olson	21	0	903	12
33	Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson)	12/18/10	Tammy Field	42	2	6,460	16
34	Isabella	1/1/11	Steve Wilson	18	1	746	33
35	Itasca State Park	12/19/10	Douglas P. Johnson	26	1	863	11
36	Jackson County	12/18/10	Don Vrchota	37	0	1,499	14
37	Lamberton	12/15/10	Lee French	32	0	572	5
38	LaCrosse-LaCrescent	12/18/10	Daniel E. Jackson	33	0	2,204	10
39	Little Falls	12/19/10	Frank Gosiak	35	0	2,821	7
40	Long Prairie	1/1/11	John and Sue Kroll	33	5	1,352	22
41	Lac qui Parle	12/17/10	Paul Egeland	41	0	12,236	6
42	Marshall	12/18/10	Roger Schroeder	39	0	2,740	13
43	Northern Meeker County	12/23/10	Milton Blomberg	37	0	3,630	9
44	Mankato	12/18/10	Merrill Frydendall	39	3	2,156	16
45	Morris	12/30/10	Donna Oglesby	24	5	1,447	5
46	Minneapolis (North)	12/18/10	Siah St. Clair	39	0	6,300	27
47	Mountain Lake-Windom	1/1/11	Edna Gerber	21	0	850	8
48	Northern Wright County	1/2/11	Claudia Egelhoff	44	0	4,818	14
49	Owatonna	12/18/10	Darryl Hill	45	0	3,119	9
50	Philbrook	1/1/11	John and Sue Kroll	17	3	115	3
51	Pillager	1/2/11	Michael R. North	37	2	1,500	18
52	Pine County	12/27/10	Rich Peet	25	0	930	11
53	Rochester	12/18/10	Clifford Hansen	48	3	11,436	28
54	Rice Lake NWR	1/1/11	Michelle McDowell	22	1	228	2
55	Roseau	1/1/11	Pat Roth	28	0	1,411	7
56	Red Wing	12/26/10	Laura Coble	49	0	6,303	21
57	St. Cloud-Collegeville	12/18/10	Brian Jungels	40	0	3,251	14
58	Sherburne NWR	12/18/10	Dean Kleinhans	39	3	1,832	31
59	St. Paul (Northeast Suburban)	12/26/10	James Howitz	48	2	6,069	47
60	St. Paul (North)	12/18/10	Julian Sellers	60	0	15,069	69
61	Sax-Zim	12/20/10	Sparky Stensaas	28	0	640	11
62	Two Harbors	12/19/10	Jim Lind	38	2	1,730	8
63	Tamarac NWR	12/20/10	Lowell Deede	28	0	1,238	22
64	Virginia	12/19/10	Deborah Buria-Falkowski	30	0	2,694	9
65	Wabasha	1/2/11	Jonathan Peterson	44	0	4,112	12
66	Walker	12/18/10	Ben Wieland	27	4	888	17
67	Wild River	12/18/10	Joe Sausen	41	0	4,108	25
68	Willmar	12/18/10	Joel Schmidt	42	1	3,353	30
69	Winona	12/18/10	Walt Carroll	49	0	5,819	18
70	Whitewater River	1/1/11	Dave Palmquist	39	0	1,888	16

SPECIES	ABLEA	AFTON	ALEX	AUROR	AUSTN	BAUDT	BEMID	BLOOM	BLTRM	BRSP	CEDRC	COOK	COTTN	CRCLC
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	3	708	5	-	9	-	3	414	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	1	44	3	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	143	83	221	-	398	-	4	3157	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	461	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	-	327	-	1	-	-	-	215	-	-	1	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	30	15	23	-	32	-	-	-	-	27	75	-	147	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	8	-	4	4	-	7	-	-	4	-	4
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	cw	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	11	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	81	59	cw	-	90	-	-	148	-	-	61	-	3	36
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkey Vulture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	1	12	1	12	10	-	6	34	1	4	8	8	2	7
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	cw	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	cw	-
Cooper's Hawk	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	10	16	cw	-	20	-	-	48	-	-	14	-	3	-
Rough-legged Hawk	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	7
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	617	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slaty-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
gull sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	450	96	42	74	277	112	75	389	-	44	84	76	62	92
Eurasian Collared-Dove	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	63	-
Mourning Dove	12	14	-	14	25	1	-	61	-	-	147	-	4	26
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	1	-	6	-	8	-	-	4	-	2	1	-	1	-
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Hawk Owl	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	1	-	1	-	8	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 2. CBC totals for Albert Lea, Afton, Alexandria, Aurora, Austin, Baudette, Bemidji, Bloomington, Beltrami Island, Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River SP, Cedar Creek Bog, Cook Area, Cottonwood, and Carlton-Cloquet.

SPECIES	ABLEA	AFTON	ALEX	AUROR	AUSTN	BAUDT	BEMID	BLOOM	BLTRM	BRSP	CEDRC	COOK	COTTN	CRCLC
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	2	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	29	25	3	-	28	-	3	70	-	2	29	-	4	2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	80	44	12	13	78	6	21	218	2	15	59	38	12	25
Hairy Woodpecker	28	17	8	7	26	15	9	81	14	16	24	40	13	24
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	-
Northern Flicker	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	3	2	-	-	-
Pileated Woodpecker	2	6	3	5	5	1	18	12	5	7	19	8	1	3
woodpecker sp.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	1	3	cw	3	-	5	1	7	1	1	2	-	-	5
Gray Jay	-	-	-	28	-	7	-	-	22	-	-	13	-	3
Blue Jay	161	80	13	43	99	28	41	108	2	30	373	114	22	96
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	35	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
American Crow	332	307	32	43	566	156	79	1079	3	35	327	-	63	143
Common Raven	-	-	-	101	-	134	28	-	23	-	8	80	-	91
corvid sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	210	-
Black-capped Chickadee	222	261	76	616	204	256	194	888	51	103	538	667	34	313
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	8	4	106	-	40	36	1	65	5	11	139	2	60
White-breasted Nuthatch	79	35	20	10	52	13	41	193	1	31	86	73	18	21
Brown Creeper	-	1	2	1	5	-	1	12	1	-	7	cw	2	2
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	1	121	2	-	5	-	cw	709	-	-	-	-	-	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	149	69	25	102	633	18	53	448	-	123	105	63	299	114
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	185	-	50	484	cw	-	11	-	-	-	60
Cedar Waxwing	-	16	4	-	-	-	25	102	-	-	-	-	-	-
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	28	24	6	-	51	-	-	25	-	41	15	-	2	2
Fox Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	344	86	4	-	324	-	11	132	-	10	74	-	46	-
dark-eyed (oregon race) junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Lapland Longspur	-	70	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	8	-	-	44	-
Snow Bunting	74	36	cw	8	106	180	8	-	-	448	7	-	485	7
Northern Cardinal	76	105	4	-	112	-	-	257	-	-	45	-	7	-
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91	-
Rusty Blackbird	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	-	-	-	cw	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	164	-	154	57	-	47	-	-	515	-	50
Purple Finch	2	15	10	20	8	1	9	-	-	1	6	11	-	1
House Finch	67	75	-	-	56	-	5	335	-	-	-	-	cw	-
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	19	-	-	26	-	-
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	1	116	-	107	176	-	79	2	cw	27	-	6
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	26	11	10	-	13	2	46	25	3	-	39	252	-	2
American Goldfinch	173	84	21	51	81	1	29	446	1	44	100	93	4	134
carduelis sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	37	-	67	10	-	-	-	8	36	-	-
House Sparrow	506	81	70	4	722	49	6	925	-	164	12	5	522	6
Total Species	45	41	29	28	40	31	34	60	27	32	37	23	31	32
Total Birds	3172	3426	632	1794	4071	1503	1496	11255	375	1214	2333	2290	2170	1348

Table 2, concluded.

SPECIES	CROOK	CROSB	DLAKE	DULUT	ELY	ENLA	EXCEL	FARIB	FERGS	FREDN	FRGMH	FRMNT	GFEFG	GRMAR
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	-	-	20	31	-	-	32	63	800	-	120	617	-	cw
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	-	-	14	-	-	-	6	6	64	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	-	-	-	33	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Mallard	-	-	145	1129	-	-	2061	460	510	2	1365	334	-	1
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	528	38	-	165	-	550	89	10	1	-	34
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	7	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	76	38	-	-	35	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	2	-	14	8	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	2
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-chicken	93	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	-	18	8	-	-	-	71	188	20	-	25	cw	-	-
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkey Vulture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	2	2	4	12	7	2	12	12	7	1	4	5	2	7
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	cw	-	-
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	cw	1
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	-	22	49	1	-	1	3	-	-
Rough-legged Hawk	-	1	-	4	cw	-	-	13	-	-	-	1	-	-
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
Merlin	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	-	818	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slaty-backed Gull	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
gull sp.	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	119	50	31	461	29	5	48	282	276	36	51	71	60	95
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mourning Dove	-	3	-	14	12	-	131	137	-	4	-	12	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	cw	-	-	1	-	-
Great Horned Owl	-	-	1	3	-	-	4	3	2	-	3	cw	-	-
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-
Northern Hawk Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	3	2	-	-	-	-	-
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 3. CBC totals for Crookston, Crosby, Detroit Lakes, Duluth, Ely, Eagle's Nest Lakes, Excelsior, Faribault, Fergus Falls, Fredenberg, Fargo-Moorhead, Fairmont, Grand Forks-East Grand Forks, and Grand Marais.

SPECIES	CROOK	CROSB	DLAKE	DULUT	ELY	ENLA	EXCEL	FARIB	FERGS	FREDN	FRGMH	FRMNT	GFEGF	GRMAR
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	2	-	-	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	15	6	1	-	-	42	59	16	1	8	13	-	-
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	10	34	16	77	34	28	131	183	60	14	21	40	10	38
Hairy Woodpecker	9	28	8	60	32	17	48	51	26	9	19	11	12	12
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Northern Flicker	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	7	1	-	1	-	-	cw
Pileated Woodpecker	-	29	6	14	8	3	16	10	6	5	3	1	-	2
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	1	3	1	12	3	1	5	7	4	4	-	-	1	2
Gray Jay	-	-	-	5	56	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Blue Jay	9	185	37	34	78	49	161	223	52	35	18	30	1	27
Black-billed Magpie	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Crow	19	48	22	706	10	2	363	962	93	84	64	106	69	62
Common Raven	-	11	-	35	187	59	-	-	-	39	-	-	-	74
corvid sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	17	-	-	5	154	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	70	549	109	2248	582	333	636	514	302	85	66	64	28	242
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	6	9	-	116	286	39	-	5	-	64	1	1	4	35
White-breasted Nuthatch	26	71	32	83	23	21	149	133	82	5	31	33	11	8
Brown Creeper	-	3	1	6	3	cw	4	14	1	1	2	6	cw	-
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	4	-	1	20	2	-	116	94	3	-	7	3	19	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	-	221	35	563	9	21	310	1122	194	103	19	43	3	76
Bohemian Waxwing	-	625	400	1294	106	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	30	4
Cedar Waxwing	-	2	25	26	-	-	65	70	2	-	16	cw	59	-
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	-	5	-	-	-	-	71	56	2	-	-	1	-	2
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	1	-	4	cw	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	cw
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	cw	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	26	5	16	67	3	-	165	285	39	-	24	107	26	3
dark-eyed (oregon race) junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	95	-	-	3	-	-
Snow Bunting	925	-	121	-	cw	-	-	193	359	-	360	214	300	2
Northern Cardinal	-	7	5	25	-	-	298	288	15	-	2	37	-	11
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	12	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	5	-	-	-	5	-	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	2	-	-	82	332	107	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	19
Purple Finch	-	26	18	6	186	cw	-	10	6	-	8	2	2	-
House Finch	38	25	10	63	3	-	132	152	20	-	28	36	46	3
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	67	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	2	67	-	10	295	59	-	-	80	12	-	-	-	cw
Hoary Redpoll	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	63	4	8	135	52	18	118	-	12	48	12	5	cw
American Goldfinch	29	127	44	46	87	156	262	237	52	14	55	45	1	1
carduelis sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	130	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	97	59	87	87	11	-	438	345	272	-	277	282	157	21
Total Species	23	34	29	56	37	20	56	49	48	24	39	43	21	33
Total Birds	1500	2297	1227	8791	2797	981	6099	6473	4089	636	2692	2357	846	822

Table 3, concluded.

SPECIES	GRRAP	HASTE	HENDR	HIBBG	HUTCH	ISBEL	ITSCA	JACK	LAMBR	LCRLC	LFALL	LNGPR	LQPRL	MARSH
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	25	146	70	-	680	-	-	323	-	-	-	-	10600	7
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	65	585	-	-	695	-	-	1	-	134	25	35	16	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	16	155	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	8	-	48	-	-
Hooded Merganser	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	1	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	26	177	-	257	-	-	58	20	1	25	67	362	218
Ruffed Grouse	-	2	-	14	-	8	8	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	-	73	250	-	-	-	8	9	16	45	139	15	7	17
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkey Vulture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	11	31	6	-	3	-	3	1	1	17	5	cw	4	2
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	4	6	-	3	-	-	3	1	-	-	cw	2	-
Cooper's Hawk	-	4	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1
Northern Goshawk	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	-	34	8	-	23	-	-	6	5	15	7	6	7	17
Rough-legged Hawk	2	7	4	1	7	-	-	1	2	3	1	-	3	1
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	3	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	cw	-	-
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	333	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slaty-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
gull sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	87	399	112	149	378	-	98	165	20	73	151	185	64	185
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	24	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	5	2
Mourning Dove	-	71	80	2	14	-	-	1	-	36	6	cw	31	3
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	4	-	2	-	5	-	-	1	2	-	2	cw	4	1
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Hawk Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 4. CBC totals for Grand Rapids, Hastings-Etter, Henderson, Isabella, Itasca SP, Jackson County, Lambertton, LaCrosse-LaCrescent, Little Falls, Long Prairie, Lac qui Parle, and Marshall.

SPECIES	GRRAP	HASTE	HENDR	HIBBG	HUTCH	ISBEL	ITSCA	JACK	LAMBR	LCRLC	LFALL	LNGPR	LQPR	MARSH
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	6	44	78	-	26	-	-	8	4	26	8	12	4	6
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	11	99	145	19	89	18	10	21	10	19	28	33	21	24
Hairy Woodpecker	19	32	92	29	31	8	13	5	4	8	5	11	17	10
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	-	10	9	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pileated Woodpecker	12	7	16	1	4	-	4	-	1	2	11	9	2	-
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	3	6	2	1	1	2	2	-	-	1	1	2	1	1
Gray Jay	2	-	-	10	-	29	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	41	180	240	30	120	17	65	36	16	112	77	42	55	34
Black-billed Magpie	1	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Crow	142	311	138	23	287	-	19	23	121	135	230	169	106	139
Common Raven	62	-	-	2	-	39	33	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
corvid sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	2	14	11	-	26	-	-	112	19	44	-	2	40	32
Black-capped Chickadee	362	351	344	247	226	144	257	58	22	129	274	119	59	147
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	28	-	6	27	3	53	30	2	-	-	19	6	-	-
White-breasted Nuthatch	41	96	122	1279	87	1	37	21	15	47	42	53	26	44
Brown Creeper	-	5	3	-	13	-	-	-	1	3	3	2	-	1
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	-	350	4	1	10	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	59	857	144	115	1441	-	-	78	90	175	534	2	27	417
Bohemian Waxwing	192	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	6	-	6	-	9	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	25	37
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	-	233	115	-	70	-	-	-	17	131	23	41	77	112
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1
White-crowned Sparrow	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	4	571	410	-	186	-	1	39	34	586	51	68	160	115
dark-eyed (oregon race) junco	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	170	3	-	78	-	-	1	-	-	20	17	3	11
Snow Bunting	-	8	110	1	294	-	-	151	1	-	655	301	169	802
Northern Cardinal	2	196	350	-	52	-	1	11	9	69	26	22	7	16
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	10	-	21	-	-	1	1	24	-	-	1	1
Rusty Blackbird	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	21	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	70	-	-	47	-	86	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	36	4	23	9	1	2	55	-	-	-	44	18	2	1
House Finch	-	141	36	1	113	-	-	7	3	7	6	4	7	12
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	22	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	118	-	-	33	-	300	100	-	-	-	-	22	-	-
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	cw	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	25	1	3	63	cw	9	9	3	3	-	38	1	-	13
American Goldfinch	27	92	230	22	48	7	75	37	8	84	157	76	98	62
carduelis sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	13	-	-	34	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	3	600	421	9	1128	-	1	291	120	376	86	17	129	229
Total Species	38	53	46	21	42	18	26	37	32	33	35	33	41	39
Total Birds	1502	6432	3805	903	6460	746	863	1499	572	2204	2821	1352	12236	2740

Table 4, concluded.

SPECIES	MEEK	MNKTO	MORIS	MPLSN	MTLKW	NWRCO	OWATN	PHILB	PILGR	PINEC	RCHST	RLNWR	ROSEU	RWING
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	-	4	7	358	-	422	27	-	1	-	4000	-	-	10
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	-	-	-	-	-	1500	6	-	48	-	2	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	12	94	20	2352	-	372	293	-	7	-	221	-	-	147
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	57	-	-	cw	-	4	-	-	413
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	845
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	12	-	-	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Ring-necked Pheasant	249	10	116	8	45	43	78	4	-	-	60	-	-	14
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	-	4	-	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Greater Prairie-chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	76	116	5	39	-	14	76	cw	163	46	193	-	-	144
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Turkey Vulture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	3	30	cw	14	-	6	2	-	2	3	34	1	-	40
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	4	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	7	-	1	1
Cooper's Hawk	1	1	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	1
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	19	17	-	15	3	21	14	1	1	-	44	-	-	35
Rough-legged Hawk	-	5	-	1	-	3	3	cw	-	8	1	cw	1	5
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slaty-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
gull sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	682	290	74	212	37	155	117	17	88	52	392	26	72	524
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	cw	cw	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mourning Dove	5	13	-	45	3	44	33	-	2	-	110	-	-	68
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	2	1	-	2	-	4	2	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Hawk Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Barred Owl	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

Table 5. CBC totals for Northern Meeker County, Mankato, Morris, Minneapolis (North), Mountain Lake-Windom, Northern Wright County, Owatonna, Philbrook, Pillager, Pine County, Rochester, Rice Lake NWR, Roseau, and Red Wing.

SPECIES	MEEK	MNKTO	MORIS	MPLSN	MTLKW	NWRCO	OWATN	PHILB	PILGR	PINEC	RCHST	RLNWR	ROSEU	RWING
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	15	19	6	21	1	37	29	1	16	2	57	-	1	40
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	42	51	14	69	13	75	96	3	51	11	156	8	3	61
Hairy Woodpecker	16	23	10	34	8	25	31	2	19	11	39	13	-	18
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	1	3	-	3	-	4	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	2
Pileated Woodpecker	8	4	cw	2	-	12	5	1	28	2	8	2	-	20
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	5	2	cw	3	-	4	1	-	-	4	3	1	2	2
Gray Shrike	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Blue Jay	111	67	16	175	14	136	133	7	136	131	198	11	5	167
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
American Crow	269	190	23	707	62	135	330	16	150	120	2394	20	25	571
Common Raven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	50	-	2	45	-
corvid sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	13	-	14	-	63	14	-	-	2	-	21	-	-	20
Black-capped Chickadee	170	142	67	480	10	369	231	12	277	247	377	67	44	213
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	-	-	1	1	2	5	-	7	8	1	2	4	-
White-breasted Nuthatch	57	36	16	97	8	96	72	5	64	10	105	6	11	53
Brown Creeper	4	2	1	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	1	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	7
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	104	92	-	17	-	78	1	-	-	-	21	-	1	11
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	675	167	184	405	22	178	47	11	38	89	471	24	36	1535
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	22	-	-	305	1
Cedar Waxwing	-	45	-	18	-	78	-	-	-	25	cw	-	-	43
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	77	3	10	8	-	32	54	-	3	1	304	-	-	78
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	223	60	31	82	25	138	266	5	12	-	611	1	15	275
dark-eyed (oregon race) junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	8	-	20	-	-	2	1	-	3	-	13	-	1	-
Snow Bunting	142	-	466	-	353	165	29	14	102	-	158	2	700	51
Northern Cardinal	24	103	3	94	3	46	172	1	1	-	234	-	-	81
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	1	2	-	-	4	1	2	-	-	-	cw	-	-	5
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-
Purple Finch	1	2	5	1	-	1	22	-	11	-	2	-	2	11
House Finch	18	78	17	219	8	113	211	-	-	-	208	-	-	18
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	cw	14	-	-	-	cw	50	18	-	13	16	-
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	21	-	-	-	-	97	-	2	-	39	8	-	6
American Goldfinch	112	48	61	203	10	38	174	8	126	3	244	3	2	61
carduelis sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	459	395	261	584	157	386	419	7	28	30	667	12	76	618
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Species	37	39	24	39	21	44	45	17	37	25	48	22	28	49
Total Birds	3630	2156	1447	6300	850	4818	3119	115	1500	930	11436	228	1411	6303

Table 5, concluded.

SPECIES	SCCLG	SHNWR	SPNES	SPNOR	SXZIM	THRBR	TMNWR	VIRGN	WABAS	WALKR	WILDR	WILMR	WINON	WWATR	TOTALS
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Canada Goose	361	34	53	828	-	-	-	55	-	14	2	3	1	20856	1
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Trumpeter Swan	1	23	69	16	-	-	7	-	3	-	12	-	1	1856	1
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Wood Duck	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Gadwall	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	42	101
American Black Duck	-	-	2	9	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	1	66
Mallard	903	7	496	3580	-	-	4	133	388	-	87	-	300	109	21094
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Canvasback	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Redhead	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Ring-necked Duck	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Bufflehead	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Common Goldeneye	150	-	cw	58	-	23	-	2	783	-	35	-	-	-	3643
Hooded Merganser	1	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Common Merganser	6	-	4	311	-	cw	-	-	87	-	6	-	-	-	1867
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	104
Ring-necked Pheasant	3	38	50	4	-	-	-	4	-	107	201	-	3	-	2756
Ruffed Grouse	-	1	-	-	5	11	-	14	-	1	-	-	-	-	147
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Greater Prairie-chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120
Wild Turkey	22	77	210	67	-	-	-	21	-	94	124	39	-	-	2913
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
American White Pelican	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	8
Turkey Vulture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Bald Eagle	14	12	13	42	7	9	2	7	85	cw	21	2	116	9	743
Northern Harrier	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	5
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	1	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	2	66
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	cw	4	1	4	45
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Red-tailed Hawk	11	6	38	69	-	-	-	29	-	16	7	29	7	7	698
Rough-legged Hawk	-	2	-	-	11	1	-	-	4	-	3	-	4	3	119
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Golden Eagle	-	1	-	-	-	cw	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	5
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Kestrel	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	25
Merlin	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	cw	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
American Coot	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	31
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Herring Gull	-	-	-	2	-	86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1882
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Slaty-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
gull sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Rock Pigeon	138	89	319	1642	14	185	18	205	240	25	128	168	438	245	12145
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	111
Mourning Dove	7	2	60	21	-	24	-	6	43	-	111	21	133	6	1618
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Great Horned Owl	1	1	11	13	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	105
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Northern Hawk Owl	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Barred Owl	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	2	-	45
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

Table 6. CBC totals for St. Cloud-Collegeville, Sherburne NWR, St. Paul (Northeast Suburban), St. Paul (North), Sax-Zim Bog, Two Harbors, Tamarac NWR, Virginia, Wabasha, Walker, Wild River, Wilmar, Winona, and Whitewater River plus species totals.

SPECIES	SCCLG	SHNWR	SPNES	SPNOR	SXZIM	THRBR	TMNWR	VIRGN	WABAS	WALKR	WILDR	WILMR	WINON	WWATR	TOTALS
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5	33
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	45
Red-bellied Woodpecker	16	26	73	53	-	-	13	-	23	7	27	70	75	17	1224
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3
Downy Woodpecker	44	37	158	143	6	36	32	11	52	12	110	29	109	19	3317
Hairy Woodpecker	16	21	73	73	5	21	32	11	8	14	34	28	40	4	1577
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	cw	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	22
Northern Flicker	2	-	5	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	9	3	2	101
Pileated Woodpecker	6	6	40	9	2	7	13	6	4	19	26	19	11	3	530
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Northern Shrike	8	2	3	10	9	7	-	11	2	2	5	2	4	-	188
Gray Jay	-	-	-	-	10	4	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	219
Blue Jay	76	255	341	128	17	62	81	72	133	58	198	62	184	60	6248
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
American Crow	328	222	665	1638	44	78	16	132	330	17	322	266	397	290	17375
Common Raven	-	3	1	-	121	113	28	39	-	29	1	-	-	-	1443
corvid sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Horned Lark	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	2	23	79	961
Black-capped Chickadee	221	272	1082	745	209	633	469	433	205	261	673	381	290	47	21617
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	-	62
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	1	15	3	42	86	15	41	4	41	5	-	1	-	1509
White-breasted Nuthatch	64	34	264	162	4	8	59	17	42	40	117	-	120	16	3596
Brown Creeper	2	-	2	4	-	-	3	1	-	cw	-	2	-	-	132
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	18
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	33	3	99
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
American Robin	3	-	257	1047	-	1	-	1	3	1	16	82	8	3	3222
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
European Starling	95	39	395	1131	30	64	-	573	196	57	608	332	339	143	16743
Bohemian Waxwing	-	1	-	-	-	63	26	688	-	132	153	-	-	-	4916
Cedar Waxwing	-	7	83	40	-	-	1	-	54	-	9	546	-	-	1450
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
American Tree Sparrow	96	116	43	46	-	-	-	-	118	-	22	62	485	86	2794
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	9
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	36
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Dark-eyed Junco	199	198	176	273	-	11	2	-	474	1	171	131	1472	358	9232
dark-eyed (oregon race) junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	-	-	2	1	11	619
Snow Bunting	40	124	14	-	17	4	20	-	11	-	384	197	30	4	9352
Northern Cardinal	36	28	116	205	-	1	2	-	102	5	150	72	172	27	3733
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	221
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Common Grackle	-	-	-	11	-	3	-	-	-	cw	2	1	3	-	60
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	145
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	33	39	64	141	-	7	-	-	-	-	2055
Purple Finch	3	9	19	-	-	1	24	-	6	20	22	18	27	18	768
House Finch	23	1	275	256	-	24	2	-	5	3	93	90	85	5	3183
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Red Crossbill	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	210
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Common Redpoll	-	cw	-	2	1	46	89	34	-	77	-	-	-	-	1972
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Pine Siskin	1	3	131	75	-	2	-	6	47	11	45	18	42	5	1631
American Goldfinch	41	40	399	466	2	19	177	53	86	13	155	87	213	38	6323
carduelis sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	6	-	-	-	15	16	-	33	-	-	-	-	458
House Sparrow	306	91	86	1785	26	42	21	17	387	cw	206	217	517	210	16625
Total Species	40	39	48	60	28	38	28	30	44	27	41	42	49	39	-
Total Birds	3251	1832	6069	15069	640	1730	1238	2694	4112	888	4108	3353	5819	1888	52691

Table 6, concluded.

Birding by Hindsight

A Second Look at MBW (Part I)

Kim R. Eckert



So, what's the deal with abbreviations in these *Hindsight* titles? In the last issue (*The Loon* 83:85–88), the article was subtitled “A Second Look at RQD,” which I'm sure readers found to be a thoroughly absorbing and fascinating discussion about the letter Q being mysteriously assigned as the initial representing the word “For.”

And now we have MBW in this present title, but at least there's nothing illogical about these initials. If you don't know what they stand for, I suppose you could Google it, and on the first page you'll find www.mbw.com, the website of MBW inc., a compaction and concrete construction equipment company in Slinger, Wisconsin. No, for our purposes it's not that. Nor is it what a dyslexic driver might call his German luxury car.

Actually, here it stands for Minnesota Birding Weekends — or Weeks, when referring to longer trips out of state. These trips have been around for over 25 years (when originally named MOU Birding Weekends), with one of its goals to assist MOU members with both the basics and the more advanced challenges of bird identification. After a quarter of a century, I sometimes wonder if we're getting anywhere with improving our ID skills.

This *Hindsight* column has often addressed the ID difficulties involved in records reviewed by the MOU's Records Committee, the discussions on the “Frontiers of Field Identification” listservice, or the postings on our own mou-net. After all, these represent actual problems encountered by birders in the field, rather than merely academic or hypothetical ID challenges.

What I've tended to overlook, however, is that my own MBWs also provide a rich source of ID confusion, tentative or dubious conclu-

sions, and outright blunders to learn from. Taking a second look at what we encountered this year, in reverse chronological order, what follows are some of the problems MBW participants have dealt with. (OK, I admit it, at times I found myself wondering what some of those birds were.)

I admit as well that many of these ID issues have been addressed in previous *Hindsight* installments, so you may not learn anything new from some of our experiences. But as consolation — and as a public service — I introduce the following entries with some traditional MBW idioms we frequently use. That way, if you join us on a MBW, you can at least know what the heck we're talking about even if we sometimes don't know what the heck we're looking at.

- *Flip around*: Rothsay MBW, October 2011

After announcing at one point during this weekend that we needed to make yet another U-turn (i.e., “flip around”, as one MBW leader calls it), I was asked by one of the participants if we set the record for flipping around. Of course, birders are always missing a turn on some road or failing to stop in time for a bird, and on this trip it seemed we had done this more than usual.

But I digress. Flipping around had nothing to do with the main ID challenge faced during this weekend: i.e., that Purple Sandpiper in Swift County. Though it wasn't an official part of our itinerary, several of us stopped to see it on the way to or from the MBW, and we all dutifully ticked it off as a Purple. The question remains, though, why wasn't it a Rock Sandpiper?

How do you tell the two apart when out of range? Has anyone ever actually ruled out

Rock Sandpiper on Minnesota's four previous sight records (the first record in 1966 became a specimen), or were they all just assumed to be Purples? And what about all the other "Purple" Sandpiper records from the Great Lakes and Midwest: were their identities definitively determined or merely assumed?

Take a look at any of the shorebird references, and they all agree the two species can look essentially the same in fall and winter, with perhaps no solid field marks to consistently separate them. Accordingly, field identification of Purple vs. Rock sandpipers is difficult at best, and I submit it's a pretty shaky premise to assume a bird's identity if all the other previous records within a thousand miles had only been based on the same assumption.

- *Junior Tour Leader Merit Badge*: Nobles and Jackson counties MBW, October 2011

Even though I frequently offer this honorary title and badge of recognition to MBW participants for finding something rare, or making a difficult ID, or taking the lead at the head of the car caravan, it's seldom they accept the honor. Too much responsibility, I guess. Or they're afraid they'll just end up like Craig: i.e., fired. (See the Mower and Freeborn counties MBW below.)

And there were several opportunities on this weekend to earn a JTLMB. The most curious instance was when some took the initiative to keep birding while most were taking a restroom break, and they had a brief and mostly obscured look at something they initially thought would be a Smith's Longspur. But when the rest of us arrived on the scene — after the bird had disappeared, of course — it became evident that their uncooperative bird with buffy-orange underparts and black markings on the face might have actually been a Black-headed Grosbeak.

As unlikely as this confusion seems at first, take a look at any field guide to see there are some similarities in the two species. Of course, there are more differences than similarities, but these were mostly hidden from view. This brought to mind my first trip years ago up to Churchill where Smith's Longspurs breed. When the first Smith's flew by, I still remember my brief, initial impression: Black-headed Grosbeak.

Some more typical ID issues also arose,

and one of these involved a skulking juvenile Marsh Wren which was first thought to be a Sedge Wren until it emerged into clearer view. While adult Marsh Wrens sport an obvious white supercilium, this juvenile did not, and it wasn't until we could see its unstreaked crown that I could tell it wasn't a Sedge.

Earlier, along this same stretch of road, yet another juvenile bird had us fooled until it came out into the open. It was with Le Conte's Sparrows, and its buff underparts, white median crown stripe, lack of malar stripe, and no hint of gray on the face all suggested Grasshopper Sparrow. Finally, I had a decent look at its nape, and those alternating gray and maroon stripes which are characteristic of a Le Conte's became visible. While the ID of these two closely-related sparrows as adults is pretty straightforward, those juveniles are another matter.

Also somewhat confounding was an actual Grasshopper Sparrow later the same day. For some reason it was perched up on a limb in an open oak woodland, which is something Vesper Sparrows often do. Also quite Vesper-like was its obvious eye ring, a field mark we're not used to seeing on Grasshopper Sparrows in spring and summer. But in fresh plumage later in fall and in winter, when Grasshoppers are scarce to non-existent in Minnesota, they do have a bold eye ring that's hard to get used to.

There were still other sparrow issues during this MBW. When someone found our first Harris's Sparrows of the day, they were mistaken for Lapland Longspurs — and this can happen more than you might think, since both birds have a pink bill, buff tones on the face, and varying amounts of black on the breast.

Finally, a pink-billed Chipping Sparrow had some of us wondering for awhile why it wasn't a Field Sparrow. Careful: both Chippings and Clay-colored in fall (adults and juveniles) can have pinkish bills.

- *Canadian honkers*: Duluth MBW, September – October 2011

Unless you want to sound like some big-city tourist from out East, you don't call them Canada Geese in Minnesota. They're just honkers. Or, if you want to sound all educated and scientific about it, I suppose it's OK to call them Canadian honkers.

Of course, it's best not to call them that if they're actually Cackling Geese, but sometimes you can't really tell. In reality, there are several sizes of both of these "species," and no one knows for sure how to separate the smallest Canadian honkers (subspecies *parvipes*) from the largest Cacklings (subspecies *taverneri*) in the field. So you're sometimes just guessing when confronted with one of those medium-sized geese — which is just what we did at times during the weekend.

At least there were a couple of ID issues actually worth dealing with this weekend (i.e., more important than whether or not something's a honker). One of these was a juvenile Dunlin which took me a few minutes to figure out. We rarely see this plumage here, and it's quite unlike that typical dull gray winter plumage normally seen on fall Dunlins.

Much more challenging was the distant juvenile jaeger we spotted far out on Lake Superior. Its manner of flight and overall size relative to the Ring-billed Gulls it attacked suggested a Pomarine, and the nice photos and much closer views by others later in the day certainly seemed to confirm our tentative ID. But remember, this was still a jaeger, and, though the strong consensus eventually settled on Pom, one experienced reviewer looked at the photos and called it a Parasitic without hesitation!

There was one other ID that day which confused at least one of the participants. Please be aware that the *Geographic* field guide's immature White-crowned Sparrow illustration bears no resemblance to the species in real life. They have reddish-brown crowns, and it's easy to end up calling them Field or Chipping or American Tree sparrows if you let *Geographic* — rather than your conscience — be your guide.

- *Yellow car jokes*: Northwestern Minnesota MBW, September 2011

There's a long-standing rule on MBWs: No yellow car jokes after 12:00 noon. The participants are free to make fun of my yellow Toyota all they want during the morning, but by the afternoon I'm afraid my sense of humor has worn thin.

I didn't drive the yellow car on one day of this MBW, a relatively rare event and one way to avoid the jokes, but we were unable to avoid two chronic ID challenges. One was

the frequent problem of telling an American Golden-Plover from a Black-bellied, especially in early fall when some Black-bellieds look more brown than gray. Sure, if they fly it's easy, or if both are present for direct comparison. But I have to admit sometimes I'm just guessing on some birds... until they take off... and usually contradict my tentative ID.

Just as challenging, if not more so, was our problem of separating Horned from Eared grebes, since they were in transition from summer to winter plumage. At this time (or when changing from winter to summer plumage in spring), their plumages can be a confusion of breeding color mixed with winter drabness, and we ended up relying on subtle differences in head shape.

- *Sounds good!* (or *Okey dokey*): Stevens and Big Stone counties MBW, August 2011

While it's typical to merely say something routine like "OK" to express agreement, one MBW leader prefers his trademark "Sounds good!" response. To say it right, though, you have to drag out the first word a bit and follow with a sudden rising inflection on the second. (But that's tough to get the hang of, so most of us settle for an acceptable alternative: "Okey dokey.")

It's also important that birds sound good, since some songs may be the best or only way to reach reliable identifications. Empidonax flycatchers certainly fit in this category, but I was puzzled when one of the best listeners in the group reported hearing the full "free beeur" song of an Alder Flycatcher.

A migrant Alder in mid-August in west-central Minnesota giving just a call note made sense, but a full song from one well south of its breeding range didn't. It was never seen or heard from again, and I had to wonder if it had actually been a Willow Flycatcher (which could nest where we were) doing an Alder's song. After all, I had heard Willows elsewhere in the past giving Alder-like call notes.

Also curious was this meadowlark in Morris a couple days later repeatedly giving an Eastern's song. But this was where there should only be Western Meadowlarks, well outside the normal range of Easterns. This was not the first time I had heard Eastern songs in western Minnesota, so what were they? Genuine out-of-range Eastern Meadowlarks? Meadowlark hybrids? Or perhaps, as

has been documented, Western Meadowlarks singing the wrong song?

This MBW nearly succeeded as well in shaking our confidence when it came to deciphering vireos — but not their songs this time, just their plumages. Here was this non-descript vireo that was clearly yellowish on the breast and sides, so at first we naturally thought it a migrant Philadelphia. But then I remembered some recent and disconcerting encounters with Warbling Vireos showing some Philadelphia-like yellow on their breasts.

Here's the difference: if the yellow on the breast is brightest at the center, then odds are you've got a Philadelphia. If the yellow fades towards the center, then it's one of those confusing Warbling Vireos that none of the field guides choose to warn you about.

Finally, this perennial August MBW tends to focus on shorebirds, and in doing so it exposes some chronic difficulties that participants struggle with. Tail-bobbing Solitary Sandpipers are mistaken for Spotted, while at the same time their shape and plumage frequently result in Solitaires being overlooked and passed off as Lesser Yellowlegs. Stilt Sandpipers can also be overlooked since they resemble Lesser Yellowlegs in their size and shape and whitish tails. Or, because of their relatively long bills and vertical probing behavior, they can be missed among a group of dowitchers.

- *You're fired:* Mower and Freeborn counties MBW, July 2011

I suppose you've already figured out that such characters as Lulu Belle and Niko from previous *Hindsight* articles are merely fictitious. But not Craig, the one getting fired. He really does exist, he's been an integral part of MBW for several years, and he does tend to get fired a lot — fictitiously, anyway. Indeed, it's rare for him to co-lead a MBW and not get "fired." Often two or three times, and usually for no reason. (You might say my views on labor relations are somewhat tyrannical.)

When in hired — rather than fired — mode, Craig handles MBWs as sole leader as well as when he co-leads. So, it seemed a brilliant decision this time to check the Janesville sewage ponds, since they distantly saw something that vaguely resembled a Black-bellied Whistling-Duck: pink bill and feet,

large white wing patch, upright posture.... He called right away, and I could hear excited voices in the background, but they still needed a better look. Five minutes later the phone rang again: now it didn't look quite right for a whistling-duck but was still unidentified. Another phone call came after they finally had a decent look at something they'd never seen before — an Egyptian Goose.

Normally, exotic waterfowl raise thorny questions of origin and whether or not listers can count them. Questions that often are never fully resolved. But sometimes, like this odd goose at Janesville, they can present ID challenges as well.

- *Proper adult supervision:* Lac qui Parle MBW, April 2011

MBW participants often wander off from the group and they may even try to identify things then — without my proper adult supervision, of course. Typically, despite my admonitions, some disastrous result invariably follows, like a misidentified bird.

On this weekend, we added Brewer's Blackbird to the trip list on the basis of a dark-eyed female seen by just one of the more experienced members of the group who had undoubtedly wandered off on his own. But I have to wonder if it might have been something else, like a dark-eyed juvenile Rusty. The tricky thing about blackbirds is they can hold on to juvenile plumage into spring, dark eyes and all. And I still remember those large-tailed grackles in Rock County a few years back: their eyes were dark, normally an apparent field mark of Boat-tailed Grackles. I later learned, though, that juvenile Great-taileds have dark eyes — sometimes even in May.

The next *Hindsight* installment promises to be a drama-filled and action-packed continuation of MBW-inspired identification difficulties: i.e., those from our 2010 season. So stay tuned! In the meantime, you might want to spend some time practicing that proper inflection on "Sounds good!" Or coming up with some yellow car joke I haven't heard before. Who knows — you might even earn a Junior Tour Leader Merit Badge if you succeed.

1921 West Kent Road, Duluth, MN 55812.

A Brown Creeper Winter Roost

Diana Doyle

In January 2011, I discovered that three Brown Creepers (*Certhia americana*) were using a crevice on a park-planted Douglas-fir near Lake Hiawatha, Minneapolis, as a nightly winter roost. The crevice was on the east side of the main trunk, about six feet above the ground.

This photo is one of a series taken on the morning of 18 January 2011, between civil twilight (7:13 A.M.) and sunrise (7:45 A.M.). The temperature was 8°F with north winds at 13 mph.

The birds slept clinging to the bark in a herringbone pattern, huddled together with their heads tucked and their downy feathers fluffed. This particular morning they woke at 7:36 A.M., untucking their heads and making soft “scree” calls. Within a minute, the uppermost bird began to creep up the trunk, followed a minute later by the middle bird, also contact calling. Within seconds, at 7:38 A.M., the lowermost bird crept out of the crevice to join the others foraging up the trunk.

This kind of communal winter roosting may not be unusual in Brown Creepers, but it is only rarely documented. Most records are of two or three in the same nightly roost (Heil et al. 2002). As many as 11 birds have been recorded in a single roost (Tyler 1948). In some cases, the same winter roosts were used over a period of several years (Kingery and Anderson 1995).

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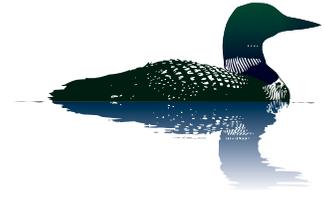


Three sleeping Brown Creepers, 18 January 2011, Lake Hiawatha, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Diana Doyle. See also front cover.

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7135 Shady Oak Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

Notes of Interest



BARROW'S GOLDENEYE IN WRIGHT COUNTY — On 27 February 2011, I found an adult male Barrow's Goldeneye while viewing waterfowl from the observation deck at Swan Park in Monticello, Wright County. It was associating with a group of Common Goldeneyes. Prominent features separating it from the Common Goldeneyes were as follows:



1) The extensive black region of its back extended forward on each side from the shoulders, forming two downward pointing "lobes". The scapulars featured smaller white spots as opposed to the extensive white stripes displayed on the scapular region of the drake Common Goldeneyes.

2) Its larger dome-shaped head, beginning with an abrupt forehead and tapering back to a thick mane, was quite different than the high-peaked, triangular-shaped heads of the Common Goldeneyes.

3) The white cheek spot near the bill was crescent-shaped, not round as in the Common Goldeneyes.

No features were present to indicate a hybrid. **Paul E. Jantscher, 7533 - 15th Avenue S., Richfield, MN 55423.**

SLATY-BACKED GULL IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY — At 11:40 A.M. on 19 December 2010,



I spotted an adult dark-mantled gull sleeping near the lighthouse on the north pier at Canal Park, Duluth. Thanks to a text message from Karl Bardon, I knew that he had just seen an adult Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) flying over the Superior landfill. The bird showed broad white scapular and tertial crescents and the mantle shade looked good for Slaty-backed, but I could not see its bill, legs, or wingtips. An eagle flushed all of the gulls and by the time I found it again, it had landed on the lake several hundred yards away. The bird eventually returned to the pier where I found

it sleeping on the floor of the pier. It was facing towards me while sleeping, so once again, I was unable to see anything useful and still could not identify the bird. When the *Walter J. McCarthy Jr.* departed Duluth via the shipping canal at 12:55 P.M., all of the gulls flushed and although I managed to take a few photos as the dark-mantled gull took off, I lost it among the flock of more than 800 gulls in the area. At 1:15 P.M., the bird came in very close to shore where I was able to photograph it at point blank range. Karl Bardon and Dan Jackson arrived shortly before the bird took off again at 1:45 P.M. It landed on the water near the lighthouse and then joined several hundred gulls on an ice floe that continued to drift farther out in the lake. Later in the afternoon, it returned to Canal Park and landed on some ice in the shipping channel, where Karl obtained additional photos. The following description is based on my field notes and images taken while the bird was being observed.

General appearance: Adult-cycle dark-mantled gull estimated to be about the same size or slightly larger than an average-sized Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*). It was not particularly aggressive towards other gulls. Species present for direct comparison were Herring, Thayer's (*L. thayeri*), and Glaucous (*L. hyperboreus*) gulls. Also seen but not tete-a-tete were three Iceland Gulls (*L. glaucoides*), and single first-cycle, second-cycle, and adult Great Black-backed Gulls (*L. marinus*).

Bare parts: Bill slightly expansive at the gonys, yellowish in color especially on the upper

mandible, with a reddish gonydeal spot. Irides pale lemon yellow. Images show a rudimentary reddish-pink orbital ring. Legs and feet deep pink and sturdy-looking in comparison to other gull species.

Head and neck: Head and neck whitish with sparse grayish-brown streaking on crown, face, nape, sides of neck, and draping down onto breast-sides; streaking thicker on nape and neck-sides. Unlike all other basic-plumaged Slaty-backed that I have seen, streaking was not clearly concentrated around the orbit.

Back and wings: Back, scapulars, and upper wing-coverts dark slate gray, with minimal contrast between its mantle shade and the black of its folded primaries. It showed a broad white scapular crescent and a broad white tertial crescent. Each folded primary showed a large white apical spot. At rest, the ventral surface of P10 showed a large white mirror. A smaller mirror on P9 was seen when its wings were open. The underwing showed contrast between white wing linings and grayish remiges, with a broad white trailing edge to the inner wing visible on both wing surfaces. Every time the bird unfurled its wings, I obtained as many images as possible in order to document the “string of pearls” formed by white subapical tongue tips on P5 through P8. These were easiest for me to see on the ventral wing surface, but they were also visible on the dorsal surface; images show them to be relatively small on P8, perhaps an indication that this bird is in its fourth plumage cycle and thereby supporting the assumption that this may be the same individual seen last fall at the Superior Entry and Canal Park 28 October – 13 December 2009.

Tail-coverts and tail: Entirely white.

Underparts: Except for blotchy grayish-brown streaking on its breast-sides, its underparts were whitish. **Peder H. Svingen, 2602 East 4th Street, Duluth, MN 55812.**

BARN OWL IN LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY — I was returning home in the evening of 1



April 2011 after birding the northwestern part of the county and decided to drive around before calling it a day. I was approaching the south end of a farm when several hundred meters ahead a very pale bird flew over the road. It was quite clear even at this distance it was a Barn Owl and I sped up past the trees that were now blocking my view. When I reached its crossing point, I looked east and saw the owl flying upwards and strikingly illuminated in the evening sunlight. Then the owl wheeled southwest and out over a field where it started coursing low over the long grass. It was working its way farther out into the center of the section as the daylight dimmed.

The nape, back and upperwing coverts were a bright tawny color with some light gray mottling. The dorsal side of the remiges were pale and whitest toward the distal ends and gradually tawnier closer to the coverts. The underside of the wings was nearly pure white with only some light dusky color near the wing tips. The wings were broad and had well-rounded tips. It had a large blocky head and appeared very front-heavy. The underside of the body was pure snowy white. The tail was short and rounded and had a tawny-colored upper surface. The face was pure white with contrasting black eyes. The face was heart-shaped and had a thin dark border outlining its lower half. The feet were dark and projected slightly beyond the tail-tip. The beak was pale and positioned low on the face. Its flight was faster, lighter and it had quicker movements than a Short-eared Owl typically shows. The pure white underparts and paleness of the remiges suggest this was a male individual.

This represents the third occurrence I've had of this species within this one mile radius in recent years. In the early morning hours of 2 May 2007, a pair was very vocal (including twittering calls given in flight) around my silos for several hours and they could be seen in the yard lights and moonlight. On four occasions from 12 September to 4 October 2009, at least one bird (possibly two) was heard and seen over the same grasslands where this individual was observed. This suggests the possibility of returning or even resident owls. **Bill J. Unzen, 2997 — 151st Avenue, Bellingham, MN 56212.**



Laughing Gull, 29 April 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

In This Issue

Brown Creepers, 18 January 2011, Minneapolis, Hennepin County

Diana Doyle.....Front Cover

Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Tom Tustison 99

The Winter Season

1 December 2010 through 28 February 2011

Bruce A. Fall and Paul E. Budde 104

The 2010–2011 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count Summary

Carl Greiner..... 122

Birding by Hindsight: A Second Look at MBW (Part I)

Kim R. Eckert 136

A Brown Creeper Winter Roost

Diana Doyle..... 140

Notes of Interest

Barrow's Goldeneye in Wright County — *Paul E. Jantscher*

Slaty-backed Gull in St. Louis County — *Peder H. Svingen*

Barn Owl in Lac qui Parle County — *Bill J. Unzen* 141

Laughing Gull, 29 April 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County

Peder H. Svingen..... 143

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The purpose of the MOU is the promotion of a broad program of conservation and natural history study, primarily in the field of ornithology.

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Obituary
James Paul Mattsson
10 December 1944 – 16 September 2011

Andrew Smith

I recall the date and place of my first meeting with Jim Mattsson with vivid clarity: 1 January 2001, at Black Dog Lake, in Burnsville, Dakota County, where we were observing the gulls, ducks, and other wintering birds. Of particular interest to us both at that time was the immature Golden Eagle, a local rarity in any season, that had spent the last few weeks at that location. It was putting on quite a show that day, defending a Canada Goose carcass from several Bald Eagles. This chance meeting led to a deep friendship lasting for the next decade.

Jim grew up in Minneapolis, near Lake Harriet, and told me about his early interest in the natural world when he and other young friends would try and sneak up on turtles sunning on partly submerged branches in the lake. Later, as a teenager, he would hitch-hike to Montana with his brother Donn, and work as a cowboy in Glacier National Park during the summer. This experience led him to pursue a vocation in the natural sciences. He earned a Masters Degree at St. Cloud University, with his thesis on the Bald Eagle. This served him well as he went on to a 30-year career as a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), initially working with the recovery of Bald Eagles and Kirtland's Warblers, both critically endangered at the time. Through the USFWS he also worked with waterfowl, another of his birding passions.

His first assignment for the USFWS was in Michigan, but he soon returned to Minnesota to work at Agassiz N.W.R. for nearly a decade. This was his favorite assignment of his career. He commented more than a few times how he never worked a single day during his time there. He felt like the proverbial kid in the candy store, getting out every day to enjoy the birds and other wildlife. Although he had developed an interest in birds and birding while in college, it was at Agassiz where he

first came to the attention of the Minnesota birding community. He began contributing reports from the Refuge in the early 1980s, but it was his discovery there of the first state record Ross's Gull (4–14 April 1984) that cemented his reputation as a highly skilled birder. This was followed the next year by his discovery of the first "live" Sage Thrasher observed in the state (the first record was of a salvaged specimen). He continued making important bird observations at Agassiz until his next assignment required him to move to Quincy, Illinois, in the late 1980s.

A final move with the USFWS brought him back to the Twin Cities area in late 2000. Shortly thereafter, changes in politics began reducing the funding for the USFWS, and also the role of science in making environmental policy decisions. Jim was losing interest in adapting to this new climate, and decided to retire in mid-2004. He never regretted the decision. He began birding every day, and also pursued his other passions of hunting and playing guitar.

As a birder, Jim traveled throughout the USA and the world. He was especially enthralled with birding in the tropics, and his travels took him to Belize, Costa Rica, Mexico, Ecuador, Peru, India, South Africa, and finally Australia. At this last destination, he observed his 2500th species, a Red-browed Finch. At home in Minnesota, he enjoyed chasing new state birds, but his friendships with Tom Tustison, Mark Ochs, and me instilled a love of birding in Dakota County. It became another of his passions, and he never tired of his daily visits to favorite hot-spots. This diligence paid-off with several important first county records to his credit, including Red-throated Loon, Slaty-backed Gull, Arctic Tern, and Golden-crowned Sparrow (the latter showing up at his backyard feeder). With his keen eye and scientific curiosity, he also was quick to note unexpected bird behav-



Jim Mattsson and his dog, Coulee. Photo by Donn Mattsson.

iors and unusual plumages, finding Minnesota's first Common X Barrow's Goldeneye, a mixed sub-species pairing of Merlin at Acacia Park Cemetery, the first successful nesting in Minnesota of Yellow-throated Warbler (also at Acacia Park Cemetery), and the rarely known hybridization of a female Scarlet Tanager and male Summer Tanager at Lebanon Hills Regional Park. Almost all of these were followed with articles in *The Loon*.

A favorite time of year for him was observing the fall and winter gull spectacle at Black Dog Lake. The subtleties of gull identification fascinated him. He was there nearly every late afternoon in November and December — until it was too dark to see — studying gulls and helping others with less expertise identify the various species. When the power plant closed off the dike area to all outside visitors, it was Jim who contacted the plant management and helped draft a plan that allowed continued birder access to this important site.

Jim also served on the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC), and continued to attend all meetings after his term had expired. He had a reputation for objectively evaluating documentation, and

offered thoughtful and carefully considered comments to support his conclusions. In addition to the rare birds he found, Jim also provided written and photographic documentation of unusual birds found by others.

All of these outstanding contributions to the MOU and to Minnesota ornithology earned him the T. S. Roberts Award in 2011, presented in August at his home shortly before his passing. Several of his colleagues from the USFWS and the MOU were present at the ceremony along with friends and family. To know Jim was to love him for his sincerity, wit, and generosity. He was extremely well-grounded, dependable, and fun to be with. Jim leaves behind his wife Laura and sons Brady and Monte, their wives, and four grandchildren. Perhaps his greatest legacy is his love of nature and birds, which is being carried on through his two children who have also chosen careers in ornithology and biology.

Many thanks to Jim's family and to Peder Svingen who contributed much to this remembrance.

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American White Pelicans at the Head of Lake Pepin, 2010–2011

Arnie Fredrickson

A large flock of non-breeding American White Pelicans spent much of the summer at the head of Lake Pepin in 2009, and they were there in at least the two previous summers, too (Fredrickson 2010). I first saw this flock on 29 July 2009 and it stayed until mid-October. They had several roosting places with the biggest one on a sandbar behind a tree snag at the place where the Wisconsin Channel of the Mississippi River enters Lake Pepin. I counted 3,751 pelicans on that bar on 31 July and, considering that there were other places where smaller numbers roosted, I thought it safe to say that there were at least 4,000 birds in the flock. It is not unusual to see flocks of hundreds of non-nesting pelicans in Minnesota during the summer, but to see a flock of thousands of them in the state during that time is unusual. Although rare, such large flocks are not unknown; for example, Lies and Behle (1966) mention a flock of 5,000 non-nesting pelicans on Tampa Bay in Florida in the summer of 1956. The rarity of large flocks of non-breeding pelicans in the summer makes it important to record observations of them and the purpose of this paper is to add the 2010 and 2011 observations of the Lake Pepin flock to those of 2009.

Spring and Summer 2010

The spring flood was very high this year and it carried away the dead tree at the head of the sandbar on which the pelicans had roosted. Nevertheless, I waited eagerly for the big flock to return in the summer of 2010. I made ground excursions down the Mississippi as far as Prairie du Chien in June, July, and August. I saw flocks of pelicans on Pools 5 (the Weaver Marshes), 7 (Lake Onalaska), and 8, but none on Lake Pepin. The pelicans in these flocks numbered in the hundreds, not thousands; the big flock had not come back. As the summer went on, I began to think it wasn't going to return. I also began to

think it hadn't shown up because the summer had been very rainy and the water level in Lake Pepin had been higher, sometimes much higher, than it had been last year so there was no place for a big flock of the birds to loaf and roost. American White Pelicans have the ability to perch (at least on certain objects), but unlike their relative the Brown Pelican, they don't perch in trees or bushes; they loaf and roost on barren ... beaches, preferably of islands, and on mudflats, sandbars, sand spits, and dead trees stuck in the water (Nelson, 2005; Tommy King, pers. comm.). They will loaf on a submerged mudflat or sandbar if the water over it isn't too deep for them to stand on the bottom (see Figure 1), and they will even sleep on such a place although they then don't lie down as they normally do when they sleep. Safe places to loaf and roost are a necessary feature of a pelican habitat just as is the availability of food.

Autumn 2010

By Labor Day weekend of 2010, the water level of Lake Pepin had gone down to only a foot or so above what it had been most of the time in the summer of 2009 and the big flock of pelicans did come back that weekend. Jeff Hartman of Bay City called me on 7 September and said that he'd seen hundreds of pelicans out on the bay on 4 September. I made a ground excursion on 8 September and saw the birds on the bay at Bay City and at the mouth of the Rush River at Maiden Rock. I had Rob Seifert at the Red Wing Airport fly me from Maiden Rock at Mississippi River mile 780 above the mouth of the Ohio River to Spring Lake at river mile 820 on the morning of 12 September. Figure 1 was taken during that flight. In 2010, the pelicans were not concentrated in one or a few big flocks at the head of Lake Pepin as they had been in 2009, but instead were present as several flocks at different places along the 40-mile reach of the river.



Figure 1. A flock of about 1,000 loafing pelicans on Mud Lake, Minnesota, 12 September 2010.

I counted the number of pelicans in each flock by making a 13x19 inch print of a picture of it, punching a hole through each bird on the picture, turning the picture over, and counting the number of holes in it. The results are given in Table 1. Many of the flocks were very densely packed so that some of the holes on a print represent more than one bird and some represent no bird (see Figure 1). The counts cannot therefore be exactly accurate. To get an idea of the uncertainty involved, I made multiple prints of the picture shown in Figure 1 and counted three of them, all that I could stand to do. The results were 1009, 971, and 965. The sample mean and standard deviation of these numbers are 982 and 24, respectively; this mean is what is reported in Table 1. Multiple counts of other flocks were not made but it is reasonable to assume that the coefficient of variation (ratio of standard deviation to mean) would be roughly the same in all cases. The total number of pelicans present was a bit greater than the total in the table because a few small, scattered flocks were not counted. In round numbers, the flock size was 5,000.

I looked forward to a month or more of enjoyable and interesting pelican observations but on 22–23 September, torrential rains, in some places up to ten inches, fell on the area. The levels of Lake Pepin and the small lakes upriver from it rose almost at once. The level of Lake Pepin at Lake City rose by six feet from 24 September to 5 October so all the pelicans' loafing and roosting places on the lake were flooded. The pelicans' response to the flooding was documented by the weekly aerial survey flights made by the Fish & Wildlife Service — hereafter F&WS — beginning on 27 September. Observations are to be found in www.fws.gov/midwest/uppermississippi.

The birds' first response to the rise of Lake Pepin caused by the September rains was for them to abandon the lake and go both upriver and down river to places where they could roost. The 27 September F&WS flight found 1,525 pelicans upriver from Lake Pepin, none on the lake, and 3,365 on pools 4–9 below the lake, a total of 4,890 birds, almost identical with the count I made on 12 September. The levels of Lake Pepin and the

Table 1. Counts of American White Pelicans made from aerial photographs taken on 12 September 2010.

Site	Nearest River Mile	Number of Pelicans	Remarks
Delta of Rush River	780	689	A few gulls present also
Head of Lake Pepin	785	1047	Eight flocks ranging from 52–404 birds, some densely packed
Goose Lake	788	408	Densely packed flock
Mud Lake E of U.S. 63	790	982	Biggest flock seen, very densely packed
Mud Lake W of U.S. 63	791	222	Individual pelicans scattered over lake
Sturgeon Lake	800	191	—
North Lake SE	801	252	—
North Lake middle	802	235	—
North Lake NW	803	259	Off delta of Jackson Run
Twin Lakes	804	45	—
Conley Lake E	813	535	Foraging birds at Hastings marina
Conley Lake W	814	45	Foraging birds at Hastings marina
Spring Lake	820	24	Many gulls, 43 cormorants present
Total	—	4,934	—

Table 2. Counts of American White Pelicans made from aerial photographs taken on 9 September 2011.

Site	Nearest River Mile	Number of Pelicans	Remarks
Head of Lake Pepin	785	692	Flocks of 428, 31, and 233 pelicans loafing on sandbars
Dead Slough Lake	789	172	162 pelicans fishing, 10 loafing
Sturgeon Lake	800	12	Pelicans loafing
North Lake SE	801	78	2 Great Blue Herons, too
North Lake middle	802	52	Pelicans fishing
North Lake NW	803	108	Pelicans loafing
Twin Lakes	804	24	Pelicans fishing
River NW of Nininger	819	10	Pelicans loafing
Spring Lake	820	45	Many gulls, 35 cormorants, some Great Egrets, 1 Great Blue Heron also present.
Total	—	1,193	—

smaller lakes upriver from it kept on rising into October and most of the pelicans that had gone upriver abandoned the lakes there, too. The 4 October F&WS flight found only 159 pelicans upriver from Lake Pepin, none on it, and 3,503 on Pools 4–9, with almost 3/4 of the birds below Lake Pepin being on Pool 6 (Trempealeau NWR). A long period of fine weather during which water levels fell followed the rains of late September but the pelicans did not return to Lake Pepin, those on the lakes upriver left them, and numbers on the pools down river fell week by week after 4 October. Another heavy rainfall accompanied by powerful winds occurred on 26–27 October and water levels rose again, although not quite as much as they had at the end of September. There was a small increase of

pelicans on Pools 5–9 after the rain but then their numbers dwindled again and only 80 were seen on the 15 November F&WS flight. By this time, many migratory waterfowl — Tundra Swans, Canada Geese, and many species of puddle and diving ducks — as well as coots were on the river. Temperatures fell into the teens on the weekend of 20–21 November and on 1 December the backwaters were frozen over and ice was forming on Lake Pepin and the pools down river from it. Some Tundra Swans and other waterfowl remained but the pelicans were gone.

Spring and Summer, 2011

The spring flood of 2011 was even higher than that of 2010 and the spring and first part of the summer of 2011 were both very

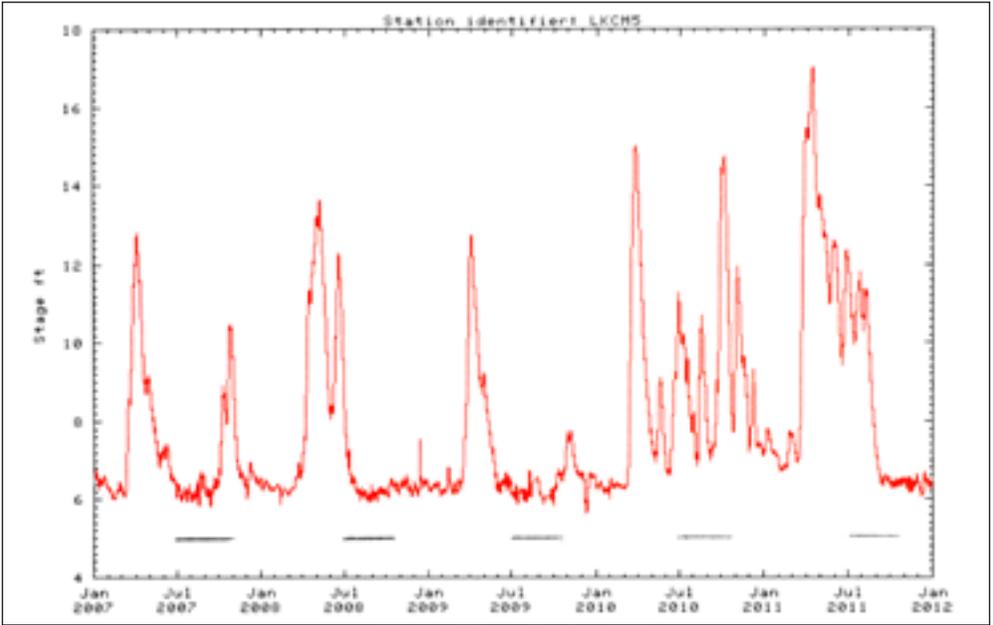


Figure 2. Stages of Lake Pepin at Lake City during the years 2007 through 2011. Underlines show the periods 1 July to 15 October. Source: Real time data link in www.mvp-wc.usace.army.mil. Used with the permission of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

rainy so water levels remained high until mid-August, when the rainy period ended and an extended period of drought began. The level of Lake Pepin began to fall at that time. I saw no pelicans at the head of Lake Pepin in June, July, and August although on an 8–9 August ground excursion down the Mississippi as far as Lansing, Iowa I did see flocks of pelicans on Pools 7 (Lake Onalaska) and 8, and others reported seeing them on Pool 5. These flocks numbered in the hundreds, not thousands, and were not the big flock that had been coming to the head of Lake Pepin.

Autumn 2011

By 1 September 2011, the water level of Lake Pepin had gone down to what it had been on Labor Day weekend 2010, when the big flock came back. Melvin Shilts, manager of the Bay City Campground, called me on 3 September 2011 and said he'd seen pelicans on the bay opposite the campground that afternoon. I drove to Bay City on 5 September and saw the birds loafing on what proved to be the sandbar at the mouth of the Wisconsin Channel of the Mississippi where the big

flock had loafed and roosted in 2009. Floods in 2010 and earlier in 2011 had changed the appearance of the bar but it was in about the same place that it had been in 2009. Dennis Ahern of Red Wing keeps a Cessna 150 airplane at the Red Wing Airport and he very kindly volunteered to fly me over the head of Lake Pepin and I accepted his offer with alacrity. He refused to take any pay for the flight and he wouldn't even let me pay for the fuel. The pelicans were indeed on the sandbar at the mouth of the Wisconsin Channel and enough of it was above water to provide loafing and roosting space for about 700 of them, which was the count I made, and a few gulls. We saw no pelicans foraging; all were on the sandbar. This was in the early afternoon. I had come by North Lake northwest of Prairie Island and Mud Lake opposite Red Wing on my drive to Bay City and I saw no pelicans at either place. Later that day, I saw boats at the mouth of the Rush River west of Maiden Rock, Wisconsin, so there were no pelicans there, either. In previous years, pelicans from the big flock were seen quite often at the aforementioned places. Thus, the birds

on the sandbar at the mouth of the Wisconsin Channel were very likely the vanguard of the big flock.

I had Rob Seifert of Seifert Skyways at the Red Wing Airport fly me from the head of Lake Pepin up the Mississippi as far as Gray Cloud Island and Spring Lake around midday of 6 September. Most of the pelicans were foraging at that time and we saw many of them on the head of Lake Pepin, but now we also saw many of them on North Lake and Twin Lakes as well as a few on Sturgeon Lake and Spring Lake. I didn't try to count these flocks but I got the impression that the number of pelicans had increased significantly since the previous day. To check this, I had Rob Seifert take me on the same flight on 9 September. The results are set out in Table 2.

The most striking thing revealed by the table is that the 2011 flock was much smaller than the 2009–2010 flocks: the 2011 flock was only about one fourth as large as the 2010 flock. I do not know the cause of this drastic reduction. The next thing shown is that about 500 more birds came to the head of Lake Pepin and the lakes upriver from it in the four days since my first flight on 5 September. These birds could be late-coming members of the flock or, less likely, they could be birds from broken-up nesting colonies. Finally, the table shows again that the flock tends to concentrate at the head of Lake Pepin: 58% of the flock was on three sandbars at the mouths of the main and Wisconsin channels of the river.

Tracing the whereabouts of the Lake Pepin big flock after the middle of September is complicated by the likely arrival of birds from nesting colonies that have broken up. For example, during flights over the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge on 16 and 19 September, I observed many flocks of pelicans in the refuge, but on a ground excursion on 2 October, I saw no pelicans. It's highly likely that the thousand or more birds that had been in that refuge in mid-September had gone down the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers and perhaps augmented the flocks of pelicans already present on the Mississippi. The presence of flocks of non-nesting pelicans down river from Lake Pepin is another complicating factor.

In spite of these complications, I did try to track the whereabouts of the Lake Pepin flock

by making two flights from the Red Wing Airport in October and five flights from the La Crosse Airport in October and November. The flights from Red Wing were over the 35-mile reach of the river from Bay City to Gray Cloud Island as flocks of pelicans, likely from the big flock, forage on the many lakes in the bottoms upriver from the head of Lake Pepin. The flights from La Crosse were over Pools 7 and 8 of the river as the numbers of pelicans on these pools increase substantially in late October and early November.

The 4 October flight from Red Wing showed small flocks of pelicans loafing on the sandbars at the mouths of the Main and Wisconsin Channels at Bay City and larger flocks foraging on Catherine Pass and Mud Lake between Bay City and Red Wing as well as on Jones Lake south of the Prairie Island nuclear plant. In addition, another flock was loafing on the point between Goose Lake and Indian Slough southwest of the nuclear plant. The numbers of birds in these flocks varied from about 50 up to maybe ten times that number. On the 20 October flight from Red Wing, I saw pelicans only at the sandbars at the head of Lake Pepin, and their total number was less than 50. I didn't try to count pelicans seen on the flights from La Crosse as more systematic data were available from survey flights made by the Fish & Wildlife Service. The survey flies a transect and so doesn't attempt to count all the pelicans, but the numbers obtained do show trends of increase and decrease. These show large but fluctuating numbers of pelicans on Pools 7 and 8 through 24 October but a declining trend after that, with only seven pelicans seen on the entire transect of 21 November. The aerial and ground observations that I made are in agreement with these trends. These observations make me think that the big flock at the head of Lake Pepin left there and went down river during the third week of October. In 2009, the pelicans left the head of Lake Pepin in the third week of October, also. The heavy rains of September 2010 drove them away earlier that year. I won't hazard a guess as to the whereabouts of the flock after they left the head of Lake Pepin.

Interpretation of the Observations

The US Army Corps of Engineers keeps

real time data on water levels, river flow rates, water temperatures, etc. for many rivers and streams in the Upper Midwest; see www.mvp-wc.usace.army.mil. Figure 2, generated by that website, shows stages of Lake Pepin at Lake City during the five years 2007 through 2011. "Stage" means level above an arbitrarily chosen datum; the corps measures stages in feet. Lake City is somewhat more than halfway down Lake Pepin from the head of the lake where the pelicans loaf and roost, but changes in lake level at Lake City cannot be much different from changes at the head of the lake.

The figure shows that lake levels were consistently low during July, August, September, and early October of 2007–2009. These were times when many sandbars, mudflats, etc. were above water level in Lake Pepin and a large flock of pelicans was present at the head of the lake (Fredrickson, 2010). However, the figure shows that the situation was quite different during the same parts of 2010 and 2011. Lake levels were almost always a foot or more above the low levels of 2007 to 2009, and sometimes they were much higher. These high lake levels flooded or decreased the areas of pelican loafing/roosting sites and thus removed an essential feature of a pelican habitat. High water in the lake is therefore sufficient to explain the late arrival of the birds in 2010.

What happened when and after the big flock arrived on Labor Day weekend of 2010 is consistent with the high water explanation for the flock's late arrival. When I arrived, the level of Lake Pepin was still a foot or so higher than it had been the previous summer so the areas of loafing/roosting sites were reduced, that of the big one on the sandbar at the mouth of the Wisconsin Channel to zero. Consequently, the 2010 flock split up into a bunch of smaller flocks that occupied sites spread out along 40 miles of the river instead of almost the whole flock occupying one big sandbar as in 2009. The birds did concentrate near the head of Lake Pepin, however; 54% of the flock was located in the six river miles from the mouths of the Wisconsin and Main Channels of the Mississippi to Mud Lake opposite Red Wing. There was some reshuffling of roosting sites as the birds found some sites occupied initially uncomfortable and/or unsafe and so looked for better ones. The

site shown in Figure 1 is an example. It was on Mud Lake and when I went there on the ground two days after the aerial picture was taken, the pelicans were gone. When loafing/roosting sites were flooded in early October, the flock deserted Lake Pepin and the small lakes upriver from it and went down the river. Observations made in 2011 are consistent with the foregoing interpretation.

It might be that the big flock didn't come back to Lake Pepin until late summer in 2010 and again in 2011 because of some condition at the place where it was before that kept it there. But the facts that the flock did come to Lake Pepin around midsummer in three previous years when the water level was low but failed to do so in two years when the level was high make it likely that the water level in Lake Pepin rather than conditions at some other place determined when the pelicans arrived at Lake Pepin. It might be argued that forage fish resources of Lake Pepin weren't sufficient earlier in the season. Those resources may or may not have been sufficient then, but even if they had been, the high water in Lake Pepin would have kept the birds away anyway; pelicans have got to have places to loaf/roost as well as continuously available food if they are to stay at a site for an extended period of time.

Discussion

In 2009, when the water was low all summer, the big flock came to the head of Lake Pepin in July or perhaps even earlier. That rules out the possibility that it had come from nesting colonies that had fledged their chicks and were then breaking up. In the latitude of southern Minnesota, departure from nesting colonies occurs in late August and early September (Wollenberg, pers. comm.), and that's at least a month too late to explain the arrival of the big flock at the head of Lake Pepin in July or maybe earlier in 2009.

Obviously, it's not too late to explain the arrival of the big flock at the beginning of September in 2010 and 2011. However, I think the flock that came in these years was not from breaking-up nesting colonies but rather had the same status as the flock that came in 2009. This is based on the fact of the arrival of a big flock of pelicans at the head of Lake Pepin each summer season. That is *prima fa-*

cie evidence that the flock is the same one and that it's doing what it traditionally does, with differences in times of arrival from year to year being explicable by environmental circumstances being different from year to year. By "same" I don't mean that all the individual birds in a flock are the same from year to year but only that every year there are birds in it that were in it the previous year, these birds being the ones that maintain the flock's traditions, in particular, its migration path. If this argument is valid, and if the low water levels of the summers of 2007–2009 return in the summer and autumn of 2012, then the big flock should arrive at Lake Pepin in July or June instead of September and they should leave around the third week of October.

In my first paper on the flock, I concluded that it was composed of birds too young to breed; that is birds that were one, two, and perhaps three years old (Fredrickson, 2010). I now have second thoughts about that because when I wrote the earlier paper, I didn't think of the possibility that the big flock might contain some sexually mature but unmated adults in addition to juveniles. An imbalance between the sexes of mature birds might be one reason to cause some of them to take up with a flock of juveniles. King et al. (2010) found an apparent sex imbalance in pelicans wintering down on the Lower Mississippi River; apparent because the techniques they used to capture and collect birds may have contributed to or even caused the bias. It was this paper that led me to reconsider the conclusion of my first paper, and I now think it was unjustifiably narrow: that the flock that comes to Lake Pepin is a mixed flock of juveniles and mature but non-breeding adults cannot be ruled out on the available evidence. I think it may in fact be a mixed flock.

Nelson (2005) writes that "as soon as their young become independent, most adult pelicaniforms disperse to moult and recuperate. None is known to accompany its young either to sea or on migration," and "flocks of migrating or dispersing pelicans may contain immature birds but recently fledged young do not typically accompany adults." This must mean that segregation of fledglings from their parents begins when or shortly after the nesting colonies break up and it raises the question of how the young birds learn a migration

route, if indeed they must learn it. The presence of a few adult birds among the fledglings would answer this question and that is the reason I think the Lake Pepin flock may contain some mature but non-breeding pelicans. Such birds, spinster or bachelor teachers if you will, would also help young pelicans learn effective ways of foraging and selecting foraging and roosting sites. Of course, this raises the question of when and where do yearling and older but still non-breeding birds join the flock.

Still other questions remain. Are there big (thousands, not hundreds) flocks of non-nesting pelicans elsewhere or is the Lake Pepin flock unique? Why is the Lake Pepin flock so much more numerous than the flocks that summer on the pools down the river? Is it because the forage fish resources available to the Lake Pepin flock are much more abundant or is there some other reason? Do the smaller flocks on the down river pools have the same status (age and sex composition) as the big flock on Lake Pepin? It's easy to raise such questions, but not at all easy to answer them.

Acknowledgments

I thank Dennis Ahern for flying me *gratis* over the head of Lake Pepin. I thank Carol Urness for helping me with the preparation of Figure 2. And I thank Jeff DiMatteo, Tommy King, and John Wollenberg for helpful conversations.

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The Spring Season

1 March through 31 May 2011

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A pair of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks found in Watonwan was the tenth record for the state. Record numbers of geese were found in the West-central region in late March and early April. Also nearby in Grant was the 17th state record of Brant in early April. Cinnamon Teal were discovered in Grant and Lac qui Parle in April. A King Eider at Park Point, Duluth, was the state's 18th and the 3rd record in the spring. Three Harlequin Ducks were seen, all on Lake Superior. Though no Surf or Black scoters could be found, White-wingeds were located in five south counties and in St. Louis. Long-tailed Ducks were in three south counties, Roseau, and in all three Lake Superior counties. An adult male Barrow's Goldeneye first found in Wright in the winter season lingered through early March, while another was discovered in St. Louis in April. A lone Red-throated Loon in Isanti and up to five in St. Louis were all found in May. Also in May were the only two Pacific Loons seen — one in Lac qui Parle and the other on Leech Lake.

Eared Grebes migrated more easterly than usual and produced first county records for Chisago and Kanabec. The only Clark's Grebe was in Nicollet. Snowy Egrets were found in nine counties, predominantly along the western edge of the state. Little Blue Herons were in Sibley and Rice, while Cattle Egrets made appearances in 16 counties. The only Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was photographed along a street in a Twin Cities suburb. The fourth state record of Glossy Ibis, and third since 2005, was discovered in Fillmore. White-facedes were found in nine counties, while flocks of 21 ibis in Lyon and 9 in Nicollet were left as *Plegadis* sp.

Another species found with increasing regularity is Black Vulture. One found in May in Ramsey was the sixth state record. Lac qui



Summer Tanager, 23 April 2011, Lake Calhoun, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Dave McIntosh.

Parle produced several interesting raptors, including a Ferruginous Hawk in March and a Prairie Falcon in May. Common Gallinules were in four south counties, including a very cooperative individual visiting a small marsh in a Minneapolis suburb.

An American Golden-Plover was record early in Otter Tail. Piping Plovers were found in Lac qui Parle and Wright. Another very early migrant was a Whimbrel at Park Point in April, while one at the end of the season was a first county record for Kittson. Red Knots were seen in late May in Wright and Lac qui Parle. Buff-breasted Sandpiper is normally not found in Minnesota during spring

migration, but one was photographed in Lac qui Parle in mid-May.

An adult Little Gull and two California Gulls were photographed in Lac qui Parle. Another California Gull was in Stevens. Several Iceland Gulls were in Duluth, one almost lingered into May. Lesser Black-backed were in three counties in March, while Great Black-backed were found in Cook and St. Louis. At the latter location, one lingered through the end of the season. Also in Duluth in late May was an adult Parasitic Jaeger.

A Band-tailed Pigeon lingered in St. Louis for a few days in late May, while Eurasian Collared-Doves were in 36, predominantly south, counties, including two more first county records. Though reports of northern owls were not notable (aside from another breeding record for Boreal Owl), two excellent finds were a Barn Owl in Lac qui Parle and a pair of Burrowing Owls in Kittson.

Red-headed Woodpeckers made an excellent showing in 54 counties, but the only American Three-toed was in Roseau. A pair of Say's Phoebes returned to Yellow Medicine where they nested the prior summer.

Late May brought a White-eyed Vireo to Lac qui Parle. In the same county at the beginning of the season was a Clark's Nutcracker — the first spring report since 1972. Also out of range was a Black-billed Magpie seen at the Sherburne N.W.R. headquarters. Tufted Titmice wandered as far north and west as Hennepin and Waseca, while a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher made it north to Koochiching to establish another first county record.

After two springs in which they were absent, two Mountain Bluebirds showed up in the West-central region. Three overwintering Townsend's Solitaires and three Varied Thrushes made it to spring. Seven Northern Mockingbirds were slightly below recent spring counts.

Smith's Longspurs were in five counties, including new county records for Brown and Wabasha. Louisiana Waterthrushes were discovered as far west as Lyon and Lac qui Parle. Continuing their northward march were Blue-winged Warblers; one was in Pine and another established a first county record for Itasca. One Kentucky Warbler was at the recent traditional location in Blue Earth; another stopped over briefly at Wood Lake in

Hennepin.

Spotted Towhees made an excellent showing with five individuals (possibly six). Two Spotted X Eastern Towhees were also found. (We appreciate the care being taken with this species to watch for possible hybrids.) Lark Sparrows were more widespread than they've recently been; they established new county records for Waseca and Watonwan. The Grasshopper Sparrow high count record was smashed in Yellow Medicine at the season's end.

Very impressive were the 25 Summer Tanagers found this season from a total of 14 counties! St. Louis led the way with five, while Hennepin produced three individuals. Western Tanagers were seen at feeding stations in four north counties. Among the northern finches, Pine Grosbeaks and Hoary Redpolls were more widespread than usual, though limited to the north.

Weather: Continuing a trend from the prior four months, temperatures in each month of this season were generally below average by 1°–3° F across the state. In April, mild temps early in the month were countered by relatively cold temps at the end, leading to a delayed onset of spring.

Much of the precipitation of March was associated with a large, intense storm on 22–23rd. In April, three different storm systems on the 10th (rain), 15–16th (snow), and 26–27th (rain south, snow north) of April produced significant precipitation for much of the state. Only the West-central region was below average for the month. Much of the state experienced significant flooding, though but for the cool temperatures at the end of the month, it could have been much worse. Severe storms also hit the state frequently in May — on the 10th, 22nd, 28th, and 30th. The first two dates produced tornadoes in the state, including one that destroyed a heronry along the Mississippi River in North Minneapolis.

Undocumented records: **Least Bittern** 4/22 Sherburne (early date); **Broad-winged Hawk** 3/26 Ramsey (early date); **Golden Eagle** 5/14 Aitkin, 5/15 Carver (1-3) (late dates); **Yellow Rail** 4/24–25 Rice (out of range); **Sora** 4/6 Clay (early date); **Semipalmated Plover** 4/9 Morrison (early date); **Common Tern** 4/23 Dakota (early date); **Great Gray**

Owl 5/5 Mahnomen (2, south of Lengby) (out of range); **Common Nighthawk** 4/5 Ramsey (early date); **Eastern Whip-poor-will** 4/9 Morrison (early date); **Pileated Woodpecker** 5/18 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) (out of range); **Great Crested Flycatcher** 4/24 Rice (early date); **Western Kingbird** 5/7 Goodhue, 5/17 Hennepin (out of range); **Eastern Kingbird** 4/17 Aitkin (early date); **Gray Jay** 3/5 St. Louis (17) (high count for season); **Boreal Chickadee** 5/2 Pennington (5) (high count, out of range); 5/17 Kittson (2) (out of range); **Carolina Wren** 5/30 Lincoln (out of range); **Winter Wren** 5/25 Dakota (Ritter Farm Park) (late date); 5/28 Lac qui Parle (late date); **House Wren** 5/5 Dakota (**75**, 180th Street Marsh) (unusually high count); **Mountain Bluebird** 3/20 Otter Tail (8) (high count); **Veery** 3/1 Ramsey (early date); **Swainson's Thrush** 4/12 Carver (early date); **Bohemian Waxwing** 5/31 Marshall (late date); **Hooded Warbler** 4/17 Lyon (early date; out of range); **Pine Warbler** 4/11 Scott (record early); **Yellow-breasted Chat** 5/28 Hennepin (Hyland Lake P.R) (heard only, no details); **American Tree Sparrow** 5/8–22 Rice (late date); **Savannah Sparrow** 3/23 Washington (early date); **Nelson's Sparrow** 5/15 Lac qui Parle (unusual location); **Fox Sparrow** 5/12 Mower (late date); **Harris's Sparrow** 4/1 Becker (early date for migrant); **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** 3/15 Hennepin, 4/10 Dakota (early

dates); **Eastern Meadowlark** 3/30, 4/15 Kittson, 4/23 Traverse, 4/29 Polk, 5/18 Rock (all out of range); **Rusty Blackbird** 5/29 Yellow Medicine (late date).

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KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species listed in brackets [**Smew**] indicate a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species' name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties with reports.
4. Dates listed in bold (**10/9**) indicate an occurrence either earlier, later, or within the three earliest or latest dates on file.
5. Counties listed in bold (**Aitkin**) indicate an unusual occurrence for that county.
6. Counties with an underline (**Becker**) indicate a first county record.
7. Counties listed in italics (*Crow Wing*) indicate a first county breeding record.
8. Totals in bold (**150**) indicate a total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
9. Dagger “+” preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
10. “ph.” denotes a species documented with a photograph.
11. “v.t.” denotes a species documented by video tape.
12. “a.t.” denotes a species documented by audio tape.

The *Seasonal Report* is a compilation of seasonal bird sightings from 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, contact the Editor of the Seasonal Report, Paul E. Budde, 4612 Colfax Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, or via e-mail at paul.budde@aonbenfield.com.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) — [1 South] Tenth state record 5/14 **Watonwan** (2 adults, Madelia) †ChH, ph. †AnK.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [39 South, 7 North] Early south (median 3/7) 3/11 Brown BTS, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle (400), Swift BJU, 3/13 Nobles, Pipestone HHD, RAE, 3/14 Hennepin m.ob., Jackson DOB, Olmsted JWH, JPr, LAV. All north reports: 3/26 **St. Louis** (Canal Park; no other details) DED, 4/2–8 OtterTail GO, m.ob., 4/2–10 Traverse (max. 2,000) JoJ, RMD, m.ob., 4/7 Clay RHO, 4/9–10 Grant (max. 9,500) BJU, m.ob., 4/17–18 Kittson LW, TrB. High counts 3/27 Jackson (**19,820**, record high) PEJ, DFN, 3/26 Cottonwood (10,000, near Talcot W.M.A.) BRB. Late south 5/7 Nicollet KRE, m.ob., 5/17 Lac qui Parle ASc (median 5/15).

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [32 South, 12 North] Early south (median 3/2) 3/11 Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/12 Lincoln RAE, 3/14 Jackson DOB, Olmsted JWH. Early north (median 3/23) 3/26 Morrison GDJ, 4/1 Cass BAW, 4/2 Otter Tail *vide* JMJ. High counts 3/27 Jackson (11,516) PEJ, DFN. Late south 5/14 Dakota SWe, Goodhue DWK, PEB, 5/17 Lac qui Parle ASc (median 5/24). Late north 5/21 Pennington DBz, 5/30 Clay JMN (median 5/24).

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [23 South, 6 North] Early south (median 3/18) 3/11 Brown (5, Sleepy Eye Lake) †BTS, 3/13 Scott DFN, PEJ, 3/17 Olmsted (2, Silver Creek Reservoir) JWH. All north reports: 4/1 Cass (4, Walden Twp.) BAW, 4/3 Otter Tail GO, 4/8–10 Traverse (max. 24) BJU, m.ob., 4/8 Wilkin m.ob., 4/9 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU, 5/25 St. Louis (Duluth Harbor) MSS. High counts 3/27 Jackson (**600**, estimated after carefully counting several flocks of white geese and finding 5% of them to be Ross's Geese) PEJ, DFN, 4/1 Lac qui Parle (348), Big Stone (40, Odessa) BJU. Late south 4/17 Brown (2, Boise Lake) BTS, DWK, Dakota (Lake Byllesby) RTe, 5/15 Steele †PSu (median 5/13).

BRANT (*Branta bernicla*) — [1 North] Atlantic subspecies discovered in **Grant** (Nach-

bor W.M.A.) 4/9 †RMD, †DAB. This is the fourth state record in the last 20 years.

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [39 South, 9 North] All north reports: 3/30 Otter Tail JeW, 4/2 Clay RHO, 4/5 Polk (3) SAu, 4/8 Otter Tail m.ob., Wilkin DBz, 4/9–10 Grant m.ob., 4/9–10 Traverse (**3,450**, high count) BJU, †KRo, m.ob., 4/29 Lake (5, Beaver Bay W.T.P.) RAE, HHD, 5/12 Beltrami MHe. Other high counts 3/27 Jackson (759) PEJ, DFN. Late south 4/16 Swift JOr, 5/8 Rice BJB (median 5/13). Descriptions provided for just a handful of additional records: 3/17 Hennepin †KRo, 3/19 Blue Earth, Renville †DPG, 3/20, 3/21, 3/29 Lac qui Parle (3 different locations) ph. BJU, 4/2 Stearns (11, Grove Twp.) †PCC, Wright †DWK, 4/9 Big Stone ph. BJU.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported throughout the state.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [1 South] Released birds 3/5–19 Goodhue (2, Prairie Island casino) PEJ, DBM.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [41 South, 32 North] High counts 3/6 Wright (200) JPr, 3/19 Otter Tail (50) BDE, 3/4 Cass (35) ABi.

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [46 South, 21 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/15 Hennepin TAT, 3/16 Big Stone BJU, Dakota BAF, ADS, Goodhue PEJ, Lac qui Parle BJU, Rice DAB, Winona PEJ. Early north (median 3/26) 3/23 Kanabec CAM, 3/27 Clay MM, 3/29 Morrison MJB. High counts 3/30 Carver (1,341) JCy. Late south 4/25 Benton JEB, 5/6 Chisago FKB, 5/7 Nicollet ChH (median 5/4). Late north 5/15 Clearwater, Mahnomen JPr, 5/16 Kittson TrB (median 5/28), but also see summer report.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early north (median 3/18) 3/29 Morrison MJB, 3/31 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, Mille Lacs ASc.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) — [51 South, 27 North] Early north (median 3/24) 3/16 St. Louis ANy, 3/18 Itasca SC, EEO, 4/3 Kanabec RAE.

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) — [47 South, 24 North] Early south (median 3/1)

- 3/11 Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift BJU, 3/15 Blue Earth AKr, 3/16 Goodhue, Winona PEJ. Early north (median 3/26) 3/27 Clay MM, 4/3 Kanabec RAE, 4/4 Mille Lacs ASc. Late south 5/29 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/30 Swift BJU, but also see summer report.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [15 South, 9 North] Late south 4/16 Lac qui Parle PEJ, DFN, 4/17 Big Stone PEJ, DFN, Wabasha DBz (median 5/17).
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported throughout the state.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/16 Goodhue GaM, 3/17 Rice DAB, TFB, 3/18 Dakota BAF, SHF. Early north (median 3/29) 4/6 Cass ABi, 4/7 Kittson TrB, 4/8 Otter Tail, Traverse, Wilkin DAB, m.ob. High count 4/17 Dakota (200, 180th St. Marsh) ThM.
- Cinnamon Teal** (*Anas cyanoptera*) — [1 South, 1 North] All reports: 4/9 Grant (male, near Herman) †RMD, †DAB, 4/18 Lac qui Parle (male, Cory Lake) ph. †BJU.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/3) 3/4 Nobles DBM, 3/11 Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift BJU, 3/13 Dakota PEJ, CMB. Early north (median 3/27) 4/7 Clay RHO, Otter Tail, Todd SC, 4/8 Grant DAB, Kittson TrB, Marshall MA, Traverse, Wilkin m.ob.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [43 South, 22 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/20) 3/19 Otter Tail BDE, 3/27 Clay MM, 4/4 Marshall MA.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [49 South, 30 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 3/27) 4/7 Wadena RBJ, DAC, 4/8 Otter Tail, Traverse, Wilkin m.ob., 4/9 Douglas, Grant, Pope m.ob., Mille Lacs DBM, ASc, St. Louis PHS. A “Common Teal” (*A. c. crecca*) reported on 4/9 in Freeborn (Freeman Twp.) †PEJ (pending evaluation by MOURC).
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [50 South, 22 North] Early south away from overwintering areas (median 2/29) 3/1 Hennepin PEJ, 3/4 Scott PEJ, 3/5 Dakota, Goodhue PEJ, DFN, BRL. Early north (median 3/28) 4/1 Hubbard MaH, 4/8 Cass BAW, Kittson TrB, Otter Tail m.ob., St. Louis PHS, Traverse, Wilkin m.ob. High count 3/26 Wabasha (2000, Lake Pepin) BRB.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [51 South, 26 North] Early south away from overwintering areas (median 2/26) 3/7 Dakota PEJ, Rice DAB, Winona ANy, 3/8 Rice TFB, 3/11 Chippewa BJU, Goodhue RSA, Lac qui Parle, Swift BJU. Early north (median 3/24) 4/7 Mille Lacs ASc, Morrison SC, 4/8 Cass BAW, Otter Tail, Traverse, Wilkin m.ob. High count 4/24 Ramsey (159, Goose Lake) ELC.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [51 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/20) 3/19 Otter Tail BDE, 3/29 Morrison MJB, 3/30 Cass ABi.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [38 South, 25 North] Early south (median 3/8) 3/3 Wright JLO, 3/8 Dakota PEJ, 3/11 Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 3/31) 4/4 Morrison MJB, 4/8 Traverse, Wilkin m.ob. High count 4/25 St. Louis (2,617, Park Point, Duluth, with 750 unidentified scaup) PHS. Late south 5/16 Stearns FGO, 5/18 Big Stone RTP (median 5/14). Late north 5/28 Douglas HHD, RAE, 5/29 Otter Tail LS (median 5/29).
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [51 South, 33 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/15) 3/12 St. Louis RZi, 3/24 Cass BAW, 4/1 Itasca EEO, SC. High counts 4/9 Grant (2,300, North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU, 4/25 St. Louis (1,450, Park Point, Duluth) PHS.
- KING EIDER** (*Somateria spectabilis*) — [1 North] Third spring record for the state: 5/5 St. Louis (immature male, Park Point, Duluth) ph. †JLK, ph. †KRE, m.ob.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [2 North] All reports: 4/1–13 Lake (2 imm. males, Silver Bay) BMy, 5/11 St. Louis (adult male, Brighton Beach, Duluth) ph. †JLK, ph. PHS.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — No reports.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [5 South, 1 North] All reports: 3/19 Houston (male, Reno Bottoms) DBM, 4/12–16 **Chippewa** (imm. male, Shakopee Lake) †DPG, m.ob., 4/18–23 **Fillmore** (Preston

- Twp.) ph. †JWH, CH, m.ob., 4/23–24 Stearns (Pearl Lake) PCC, m.ob., 5/2 Jackson (Illinois Lake) TAT, 5/16–28 St. Louis (max. 19, Duluth) MH, m.ob.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — No reports.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [3 South, 4 North] All south 4/18 Lac qui Parle (Madrena W.M.A.) ph. BJU, 4/30–5/2 Yellow Medicine (Clarkfield W.T.P.) DWK, BWF, HCT, ph. BJU, **5/21** Wright (Swartout Lake) DWK, PEB. All north 3/5–4/29 Lake (max. 72, Agate Bay, Two Harbors) JWJ, m.ob., 5/7 Roseau (S.R.310) BSm, 5/16 St. Louis (8, Duluth) MH, 5/28 Cook (9, Grand Marais and Paradise Beach) DFN.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [50 South, 29 North] Early south away from overwintering areas (median 3/4) 3/5 Hennepin PEJ, 3/7 Winona ANy, 3/15 Rice DAB. Early north (median 3/23) 4/2 Kanabec CAM, 4/3 Cass DAY, Douglas PJK. High count 4/9 Grant (200, North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU. Late south 5/21 Wright DWK, PEB, 5/26 Houston RTe, CRM (median 5/30). Late north 5/27 Clay DWK, 5/29 Kittson JMJ, Pennington JWH, but also see summer report.
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [46 South, 30 North] High count 4/2 Benton (1,000, St. Cloud) MJB. Late south 5/15 Waseca DPG, 5/24 Stearns MJB (median 5/12).
- BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 South, 1 North] All reports: 3/1–5 Wright (adult male lingered from late February, Monticello) PEJ, m.ob., 4/8 St. Louis (adult male, Park Point R.A.) †PHS.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [51 South, 32 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/17) 3/5 Morrison FGo, 3/10 St. Louis KRE, 3/19 Otter Tail BDE, 3/20 Wadena PJB. High count 3/19 Dakota (100, Vermillion River Bottoms) LPf.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [50 South, 27 North] High counts 3/20 Wabasha (400, Lake Pepin) RPR, 3/23 Hennepin (200, Bass Ponds) RTe, 4/14 St. Louis (151, Fond du Lac, Duluth) PHS. Late south 5/19 Dakota DaO, 5/20 Hennepin KaN (median 5/24).
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus ser-*
- rator*) — [46 South, 24 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (away from Lake Superior) 3/28 Otter Tail BDE, 4/3 Douglas PJK. Late south 5/20 Waseca AnK, ChH, 5/23 Hennepin DaO (median 5/19).
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [50 South, 19 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 4/3) 3/26 Itasca SC, 4/9 Douglas DPG, Grant m.ob., Lake (Burlington Bay, Two Harbors) NAJ, Morrison FGo, Traverse BJU. High count 4/23 Yellow Medicine (200, Spellman Lake) SVo. Additional Northeast reports 4/10 St. Louis (7, Park Point R.A.) PHS, 4/29 Lake (male, Beaver Bay W.T.P.) HHD, RAE, 4/30 Lake (female, Castle Danger W.T.P.) RAE, 5/31 St. Louis (3, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [10 South, 4 North] High count 3/18 Kittson (4, Lancaster) RBJ, DAC; all other reports were of 1–2 birds. All other north reports: 4/10 Traverse (2) m.ob., 5/3 Clay (2) RHO, 5/16–21 Red Lake JPr, DBz.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [53 South, 19 North] High count 3/11 Blue Earth (41) ChH. Reported as far north as Norman, Mahnomon, Hubbard, Cass, Aitkin, and Carlton.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [13 South, 29 North] Found throughout normal range, including Anoka DvS, Dakota (Miesville Ravine) m.ob., Fillmore NBO, Goodhue m.ob., Olmsted ShK, Wabasha CAB, JWH, Washington ARW, DFN, Winona NBO. Drumming counts essentially unchanged from 2010 in the forested regions (MN DNR).
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falcpennis canadensis*) — [5 North] High count 3/1 Lake (11 on county road 2) MLH. Also reported from Cook HHD, RAE, Koochiching m.ob., Lake of the Woods MHK, JEB, St. Louis m.ob.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [5 South, 13 North] South reports outside of typical range in Chippewa (Chippewa Prairie) BJU, Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie and Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, JMN, Swift (Chippewa Prairie North), Yellow Medicine (Florida Twp.) BJU. Total of 2,212 individuals observed on 216 dancing grounds; similar to 2010 (MN DNR). North

- reports from Aitkin, Beltrami, Carlton, Clay, Clearwater, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Roseau, St. Louis, 4/9 Traverse (5, Croke Twp.) BJU. High counts 4/7 Kittson (40, county road 1) TrB, 3/19 Marshall (32) JMJ, 5/2 Kittson (25, county road 56) TrB.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [4 South, 4 North] Presumed releases seen in Big Stone, Chippewa (Chippewa Prairie), Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie), Swift (Chippewa Prairie North) BJU. All north reports: Becker ALo, SPe, Clay (max. 20, Felton Prairie) NAA, m.ob., Red Lake DBz, Traverse BJU.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [49 South, 24 North] Reported as far north as Kittson, **Roseau, Beltrami**, Cass, Aitkin, Carlton. Probable escapees or released birds also seen in southern St. Louis. Peak count 3/30 Cass (47) ABi.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 South, 1 North] All reports: 5/7 **Isanti** (South Stanchfield Lake) HHD, 5/12 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) PHS, 5/18–29 St. Louis (max. 5, Park Point, Duluth) JLK, ph. SCZ, m.ob.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 South, 1 North] All reports were away from Lake Superior: 5/5 **Lac qui Parle** (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU, 5/28 Cass (Boy Bay, Leech Lake, no details) BAW, ABi.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [44 South, 30 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/16 Ramsey REH, 3/20 Lac qui Parle, Swift BJU, 3/25 Washington LS. Early north (median 4/2) 4/8 Cass BAW, Otter Tail SC, Wadena PJB, 4/9 Grant BJU, Kanabec CAM, DBM, Morrison FGo, St. Louis PHS, MSo. High counts 4/17 Kanabec (159, Ann Lake) HHD, 4/17 Chisago (150, Rush Lake) DBM.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [52 South, 24 North] Early south 3/5 Goodhue DFN, PEJ, 3/11 Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift BJU, Rice DAB, 3/13 Dakota CMB, PEJ. Early north (median 3/27) 3/18 Itasca EEO, SC, 3/19 Polk SAu, 3/21 Cass BAW, Polk SRo.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [43 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/23 Dakota LEC, 4/1 Olmsted JWH, 4/2 Rice DAB. Early north (median 4/10) 4/2 St. Louis NAJ, 4/9 Douglas DPG, Grant, Traverse BJU, 4/12 Cass BAW, Morrison FGo, MJB. High counts 4/28 St. Louis (688, Park Point R.A., Duluth) PHS, 4/14 Hennepin (576, lakes Harriet, Calhoun, and Nokomis) CMB, 4/23 Stearns (477 in 3 locations). Late south 5/16 Murray WCM, 5/20 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 5/14). Late north 5/18 Norman DBz, St. Louis JLK, 5/22 Morrison GDJ (median 6/3).
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [33 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/7 Hennepin JLO, CMB, SHF, 4/9 Sherburne PLJ, Wright HCT, 4/10 Chisago MHE, Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 4/7) 4/9 Douglas DPG, 4/11 Cass BAW, Grant DBM, Morrison FGo, St. Louis PHS, DBF, 4/14 Otter Tail DST. Record high count 4/28 St. Louis (**1,213**, Park Point) PHS.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [27 South, 13 North] More widespread than normal. Early south (median 4/9) 4/11 **Chisago** CAB, 4/14 Dakota DWK, 4/15 Stearns PCC. Early north (median 4/22) **4/9** Traverse BJU, 4/12 Morrison FGo, 4/16 Grant GLa. Additional new county record 4/20 **Kanabec** CAM.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [22 South, 10 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/13 **Rice** (Cannon Lake) DAB, Stevens, Swift BJU, 4/17 Big Stone PEJ, DFN, Brown BTS, DWK, 4/23 Hennepin DDo, †MDu, m.ob. Early north (median 4/21) **4/12** Douglas ARW, 4/27 **Crow Wing** FGo, 4/28 Kittson TrB. High count 5/21 Douglas (30, Lake Osakis) JEL.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [1 South] Only report 5/7 Nicollet (Oak Leaf Lake) KRE, m.ob.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early north (median 3/30) 4/4 Otter Tail BDE, 4/7 Cass DAY, Morrison, Otter Tail SC, 4/8 Grant DAB, Marshall MA, Traverse SC. High count 4/12 Rice (700, Sakatah Lake) DCu.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [51 South, 31 North] Early south (away from overwintering areas) 3/11 Swift BJU, 3/19 Wabasha OWB, 3/20 Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 4/7) 4/5 Douglas ARW, 4/7 Cass ABi, Otter Tail ARo, 4/8 Kittson TrB, Traverse, Wilkin m.ob. High counts 4/12 Dakota (500) LEC,

- 4/14 Wright (315, Pelican Lake) PEB. Unusual location 4/12 Lake (2, Two Harbors) JWJ.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [19 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/5 Rice TFB, 4/9 Swift KRE, m.ob., 4/11 Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 4/18) 4/12 Marshall MA, 4/23 Traverse JOJ, 4/24 Kittson TrB. High counts 5/28 Lyon (8) RJS, 4/24 Lac qui Parle (7, Florida Creek W.M.A.) BJU, 5/20 Aitkin (6) ASc.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [11 South, 5 North] All south reports: 5/8 **Isanti** DBM, 5/9–20 Lac qui Parle (Madrena W.M.A.) BJU, 5/12 Hennepin CMB, 5/13–14 Dakota JLO, 5/14 Sherburne RZi, 5/23 Watonwan AnK, 5/26 Houston (2, Caledonia) RTe, CRM, 5/28 Lyon (2) RJS, Murray (Big Slough W.M.A.) DPG, 5/29 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) MHe, Lac qui Parle RMD, BJU, Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) RBW. All north 5/7 Morrison FGo, 5/8 Kittson LW, 5/9 Marshall MA, 5/22 Cass ABI, 5/29 Pennington JWH, BWF.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/8) 3/5 Goodhue PEJ, DFN, 3/7 Winona ANy, 3/11 Olmsted JWH, LAV, Ramsey TAT, Rice TFB. Early north (median 3/20) 3/17 Douglas JPE, 3/20 Cass BAW, 3/27 Hubbard MAW, Kanabec HHD. High counts 4/17 Hennepin (50, North Mississippi R.P.) JMN, 5/7 Rice (50, Sakatah Lake S.P.) JMN.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [47 South, 17 North] Early south (median 3/22) 3/18 Dakota SLP, 3/19 Hennepin BeH, Houston DBM, 3/20 Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 4/1) 3/31 Otter Tail DST, 4/3 Douglas PJK, Otter Tail GO, 4/5 Cass BAW. High counts 5/16 Otter Tail (100, Grotto Lake and Lake Alice, Fergus Falls) DST, 4/29 Rice (55, Sakatah Lake) DCu. Unusual Northeast report 5/23 St. Louis (Schultz Lake) AMc.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [7 South, 2 North] All south reports: 4/24 Jackson (near Little Spirit Lake) †DPG, 4/30–5/1 Lac qui Parle (3, Salt Lake) ph. ANy, m.ob., 5/6 Big Stone (Thielke Lake) BJU, 5/15 Faribault WAF, 5/16 **Blue Earth** (Minnesota Lake) ph. RMD, AnK, ph. †ChH, m.ob., Murray (Buffalo Lake) WCM, Ramsey LMS. All north reports: 4/17 Grant (2 near Thorstad Lake) †DFN, PEJ, 4/26 Grant (Pelican Lake) RAE, 5/8 Otter Tail (Tumuli Twp.) CAM.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — [2 South] All reports 4/24 Sibley (adult, Mud Lake, Severance Twp.) †DBM, 5/5 Rice (adult, Morristown Twp.) DAB.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [13 South, 3 North] All south reports: (median 4/20) 4/12 Olmsted ph. CJS, CAK, JWH, 4/13 Jackson (2, Grovers Lake) KSm, 4/15 Rock (3) NED, 4/17 Nicollet ph. ChH, 4/18 Chipewewa (Milan) BJU, 4/24–5/10 Houston ANy, Jackson (Minneota Twp.) ph. DPG, 4/28 Big Stone (Big Stone Twp.), Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 4/29 Faribault (near Lura Lake) CRM, RBW, 5/1 **Benton** (Gilmanton Twp.) †MJB, Lac qui Parle (2, Pegg Lake) BJU, 5/2 Lac qui Parle (Quilitz W.M.A.) ph. BJU, 5/3 Rice TFB, 5/6 Sibley (New Auburn) JCC, 5/13 Olmsted (South Landfill Reservoir) JPr, m.ob., 5/14 Fillmore RAE. All north reports: 4/10 Grant (near Herman) KRE, m.ob., 5/28 **Red Lake** (near Huot) JWH, BWF, 5/30 Clay RZi, ALo.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [46 South, 20 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/10 Blue Earth AnK, 4/11 Hennepin MDu, 4/16 Winona DBz. Early north (median 5/3) 4/14 Morrison FGo, 5/1 Wadena PJB, 5/3 Marshall MA, Otter Tail DST, St. Louis ALo, JLK. High counts 5/7 Hennepin (6, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) MaK, 5/8 Washington (6, Lake McKusick) PSm, 5/10 Hennepin (5, Veteran's Memorial Park, Richfield) SBM.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [18 South, 7 North] Early south (median 3/29) 4/2 Hennepin CMB, 4/10 Goodhue VTh, 4/12 Lac qui Parle BJU. All north reports: 4/10 Grant m.ob., 4/12 Marshall MA, 4/28 St. Louis (Duluth Harbor) ph. JWJ, 5/4 Todd DTM, JeM, 5/5+ Otter Tail DST, 5/21 Douglas JPE, JEL, Traverse BJU. High count 4/22 Hennepin (16, Minnehaha Creek) DDo.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [1 South] Only report 5/21 Hennepin (Eden Prairie) ph. KSo.
- GLOSSY IBIS** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) — [1 South] Fourth state record (third since 2005) 5/9 **Fillmore** (near Preston) JWH, ph. †RLE, JPr, RTP.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [8

- South, 1 North] All reports: 4/17 Grant (2, North Ottawa Twp.) †DFN, PEJ, 4/24 Lac qui Parle (3, Florida Creek W.M.A.) ph. †BJU, 4/28 Martin (2 near Clayton Lake, no details) CRM, 4/29 Lyon (2, Tracy, no details) RJS, 4/30 Nicollet (near Nicollet) ph. RMD, 5/11 Chippewa (Kragero Twp.) ph. †BJU, Swift (Lubenow W.P.A.) ph. †BJU, 5/13–18 Lyon (3, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) WCM, 5/16 Nobles (near East Graham Lake) MDu.
- Plegadis ibis** (*Plegadis sp.*) — [3 South] All reports: 4/19 Lyon (21, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) RJS, 4/28 Big Stone (near Ortonville) ph. BJU, 5/2 Nicollet (9, Nicollet W.M.A.) ph. RMD, ChH.
- BLACK VULTURE** (*Coragyps atratus*) — [1 South] Sixth state record, all since 2001: 5/11 **Ramsey** (North Oaks) ph. vt TAN.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/16 Goodhue PEJ, GMi, Nicollet RMD, Olmsted LAV, Wabasha PEJ, 3/17 Fillmore NBO, Hennepin SLP. Early north (median 3/30) 3/24 Cass BAW, 3/26 St. Louis DED, 3/31 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, Hubbard MAW. High counts 4/7 St. Louis (145, W.S.H.C.) EBr, 4/5 Washington (100) BRL.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [35 South, 22 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/25 Olmsted JWH, 4/2 Scott JEB, 4/3 Anoka CAB, Carver StB, Hennepin RBJ, ABL, SLC. Early north (median 4/1) 4/6 Cass BAW, ABI, Otter Tail ARO, 4/7 Lake JWJ, 4/8 St. Louis EBr, NAJ, ALO. High count 4/24 St. Louis (19, W.S.H.C.) EBr.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/16 St. Louis (290, W.S.H.C.) EBr, FJN, Rice (200) TFB, 3/19 Dakota (84, Freedom Park) SHF, 3/19 Rice (75) DAB.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early north (median 3/10) 3/5 Morrison FGo, 3/6 Clay *vide* JMJ, 3/10 Pennington SAS. High count 5/2 Kittson (10) TrB.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [38 South, 25 North] Early north (median 3/7) 3/10 Polk (overwintered) SAU, 3/12 St. Louis RZi, 3/22 Otter Tail ARO. High count 5/8 St. Louis (263, W.S.H.C.) DSC. Late south 5/29 Olmsted ShK, 5/31 Sherburne JSP (no details for either sighting; our understanding of this species' status in southern Minnesota is compromised by potential confusion with other species).
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [48 South, 28 North] Early north (median 3/18) 3/5 Morrison FGo, 3/11 Hubbard MAW, 3/27 Clay MM.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [4 South, 9 North] All south reports: 3/14 Hennepin (migrant, Lakewood Cemetery) TAT, 3/19 Lac qui Parle (immature, Perry Twp.) †BJU, 4/1 Ramsey REH, 4/16 Swift JOr. North reports from Aitkin, Becker, Cass, Cook, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [21 South, 11 North] Early north (median 3/14) 3/11 Mille Lacs ASC, 3/19 Morrison FGo, 3/26 Todd JeM. All other north reports: Becker, Carlton (no details), Cass, Clay, Crow Wing, Douglas, Hubbard, Otter Tail.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [37 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/7) 4/16 Rice TFB, 4/19 Sherburne EMa, 4/23 Goodhue KRo. Early north (median 4/10) 4/1 Otter Tail DST, 4/5 Hubbard MAW, 4/12 Douglas ARW, St. Louis EBr, PHS. High counts 5/8 St. Louis (653, W.S.H.C.) DSC, 4/30 Blue Earth (500) AnK, ChH.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [22 South, 2 North] Early south (median 4/3) 3/26 Washington RLW, 4/8 Yellow Medicine KRE, m.ob., 4/9 Big Stone LS, Lac qui Parle, Stevens m.ob. New county record 5/15 **Isanti** LS. All north reports: 5/7 Todd FGo, 5/28 Douglas HHD, RAE.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. Seasonal total of 1,774 at W.S.H.C. (peak of 581 on 4/7) EBr, included single Harlan's on 4/2. Harlan's also reported 3/21 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU, 3/31 Aitkin DAC, RBJ, 4/17 Traverse †RPR. Kriider's reported 3/20 Brown BTS, 4/8 Wilkin JWH, 4/30 Big Stone RPR, m.ob.
- FERRUGINOUS HAWK** (*Buteo regalis*) — [1 South] Only documented report 3/21 Lac qui Parle (Garfield Twp.) ph. †BJU.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [29 South, 18 North] High counts 4/1 Kittson

- (63) TrB, 4/11 Roseau (30, near Roseau) LeG. Late south 4/23 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/24 Rice DAB (median 5/10). Late north 4/25 Roseau LeG, 5/15 Kittson JMJ (median 5/24).
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [10 South, 4 North] All south reports: 3/3 Rice TFB, 3/11 Sibley (2, Minnesota River valley) JnS, 3/20 Wabasha (Lake Pepin) RPR, 3/26 Olmsted (2 imm., Silver Creek Reservoir) CH, JWH, 3/30–31 Lac qui Parle (first-year, Walter Twp.) ph. BJU, Nicollet AnK, 4/8 Hennepin ABL, 4/15 Murray JnS, 4/21 Isanti CKB (late median 4/14). All north reports: 3/5 Polk SAu, 3/17 Kittson (Orleans) RBJ, DAC, 3/26 St. Louis (Canal Park, Duluth) NAJ, 4/23 Aitkin (Rice Lake N.W.R.) PEJ. Additional north reports from W.S.H.C. in St. Louis from 3/15 to 4/8, with a peak of **15** on 3/16 (EBr).
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Observed statewide. Early north 3/5 Morrison FGo, 3/14 Red Lake SAS (median 3/7). High counts 3/20 Lac qui Parle (26) BJU, 4/2 Brown (18) BTS.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [17 South, 22 North] Early north (median 3/14) 3/8 Kittson TrB, 3/10 Lake JWL. Late south 5/14 Anoka REH, 5/23 Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) DDo (median 5/18); reports in Dakota in late May probably refer to breeding birds (see summer report).
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [24 South, 15 North] Early north (median 4/8) 3/27 Clay MM, 4/7 St. Louis (Duluth harbor) JWL. No significant counts.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — [1 South] One photographed near Dawson in Lac qui Parle 5/9 ph. †BJU.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [2 South, 3 North] South reports 4/22 **Carver** (MN Landscape Arboretum) JCy, 4/28 **Lac qui Parle** (voice-recorded pre-dawn at Plover Prairie) still present 5/6 BJU. Two other south reports lacked convincing details. All north reports (early median 5/11) 5/9 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) MA, 5/11 Cass (Battleground S.F.) ABi, 5/23 Aitkin (McGregor marsh) SLo.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [28 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/15) 4/13 Swift BJU, 4/18 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/23 Wright PEB. Early north (median 5/5) 5/4 Hubbard MAW, 5/5 Marshall MA.
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [40 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/14) 4/12 Blue Earth (Perch Lake W.P.A.) ChH, 4/13 Swift BJU. Early north (median 4/23) 4/20 Clay NAa, 5/1 Itasca SC. High count 4/29 Hennepin (12, Veteran's Memorial Park, Richfield) SBM, 5/5 Dakota (12) Swe.
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [4 South] All reports: 4/27 Sherburne ASC, 4/30–5/3 Rice (River Bend N.C.) DAB, m.ob., 5/5 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 5/7 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) MJB, 5/9–10 Hennepin (Veteran's Memorial Park, Richfield) SBM, m.ob.
- American Coot** (*Fulca americana*) — [52 South, 26 North] Observed statewide; first reported north 3/19 Otter Tail (5) BDE. High count 4/19 Stearns (1,000, Gretchell Lake) MJB.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*) — [40 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/14) 3/4 Dakota (12) ADS, 3/6 Houston Dja, 3/8 Chisago MHe. Early north (median 3/21) 3/17 Morrison (4, Bowlus) MJB, 3/19 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) MA, Morrison FGo, Pennington (2) JMJ. High count 4/24 Clay (400, Moorhead) RHO.
- [WHOOPIING CRANE** (*Grus americana*)] — [1 South] Two juvenile males from the Wisconsin experimental flock present 5/21–25 Rice (Dennison) m.ob.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [7 South, 5 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/12 Blue Earth (2) ChH, 5/13 Big Stone, Lac qui Parle (2) BJU. Early north (median 5/16) 5/21 Pine (Sandstone W.T.P.) WCM, 5/23 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) PHS. High count 5/28 Aitkin (10, Cedarbrook) BU. Late south 5/30 Chippewa, Swift BJU (median 6/6). See summer report for late migrants north.
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [11 South, 3 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/8 Lac qui Parle (Perry Twp.) BJU, 4/9 Blue Earth (2) ChH and Lac qui Parle HHD. All north reports: **4/8** Otter Tail (Western Twp.) DBz, ph. RMD (earliest north date on record, well before median of 4/29), 5/24 Cass JEB, 5/30 Aitkin (13, Cedarbrook) BU (median 6/4). High count 5/5 Lac qui Parle (63, Agassiz Twp.) BJU. Late south 5/12 Blue Earth (25) ChH, 5/20 Lac

- qui Parle (2, Perry Twp.) BJU (median 6/4).
- Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [22 South, 10 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/24 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU, 4/28 Big Stone BJU. Early north 5/13 Itasca EEO, SC, 5/14 Douglas JPE. See summer report for late migrants.
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — [2 South] Two reports: 4/24 Lac qui Parle (Augusta Twp.) ph. BJU, 5/13 Wright (Smith Lake) PCC.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/2) 3/6 Houston DJa, 3/9 Dakota CMB. Early north (median 3/18) 3/20 Mille Lacs ASC, 3/30 St. Louis FKB. No significant counts.
- American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [12 South, 3 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/9 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.) BJU, Lac qui Parle KRE, m.ob., 4/10 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 4/17 Big Stone (7, Graceville) RPR. All north reports before recent median of 4/30: **4/9 Hubbard** (Potato Lake) ph. ANy, 4/11 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) DBM, 4/24 Polk JMJ. High count 4/25 Goodhue (18, Prairie Island) CMB, RBW, BRL.
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [43 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/17 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) RTe, ThM, Winona DBz, 4/19 Goodhue BRL. Early north (median 4/29) 5/1 Beltrami DPJ, Carlton RAE, HHD, Itasca SC, Pine RAE, HHD. High count 5/31 Lake of the Woods (13, Zippel Bay S.P.) JCC.
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [40 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/21 Renville DPG, 4/23 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU. Early north (median 4/30) 4/22 Morrison FGo, 4/25 Cass (Ponto Lake Twp.) BAW. High count 5/1 Rice (15) DAB. See summer report for late migrants.
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [46 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/21 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/2 Brown (3, Mulligan Twp.) BTS. Early north (median 4/8) 4/7 Crow Wing SC, 4/8 Otter Tail DBz, RMD, DAB, JWH. High counts 5/6 Sibley (60) JCC, 5/1 Carver (55) JCy. See summer report for late migrants.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [17 South, 1 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/23 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, Swift JoS, 4/25 Blue Earth (4, Lake Ida) ph. JNe, Lac qui Parle (7, Cerro Gordo Twp.) BJU. High counts 5/2 Dakota (24, 180th St. marsh) MDu, 5/3 Olmsted (23, Silver Creek Reservoir.) JWH, 5/2 Dakota (18, Lake Byllesby) CMB. Late south 5/22 Dakota ADS, 5/25 Dakota LMS (median 5/26). Only north report: 5/1 St. Louis (8, Canal Park) AM.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [48 South, 21 North] Early south (median 3/29) 4/2 Brown (Mulligan Twp.) BTS, 4/3 Brown (7) BTS, Dakota ELC. Early north (median 4/9) 4/9 Traverse BJU, 4/10 Cass (Bull Moose Twp.) DAY. High counts 5/5 Carver (250, Laketown Twp.) WCM, 5/13 Wright (242, Smith Lake) PCC. See summer report for late migrants.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [12 South, 5 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/24 Lac qui Parle, Yellow Medicine BJU, 4/26 Martin TAT. Early north (median 5/3) 5/3 Clay (2, Felton Prairie) RHO. No significant counts.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [1 South, 3 North] One bird in St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) beginning **4/22** (second earliest date on record) ph. PHS and present through 4/29 m.ob. Two north reports away from St. Louis: 5/29 **Pennington** (Thief River Falls W.T.P.) †JWH, BWF, 5/30 **Kittson** †JMJ. High count 5/28 St. Louis (18, Park Point R.A.) JLK. Only south report: 5/13 Lac qui Parle (Yellow Bank Twp.) ph. BJU.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [11 South, 3 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/17 Dakota (2, 180th St. marsh) ThM, RTe, 4/23 Dakota (9, 180th St. marsh) BAF, SHF. High count 4/27 Redwood (25, west of Delhi) RAE. All north reports: 5/22 Becker (2) DBM, 5/25 Becker (6) KVH, 5/27 Otter Tail (6) DWK, Wilkin JWH, BWF. Late south 5/20 Waseca (2) AnK, ChH, 5/28 Lac qui Parle (2, Perry Twp.) BJU (median 5/31). See summer report for late migrants north.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [11 South, 12 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/9 Big Stone, Lac qui Parle KRE, m.ob., 4/10 Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 4/13) 4/11 Kittson TrB, 4/12 Marshall MA. High counts 4/24 Lac qui Parle (39, Augusta Twps.) BJU, 5/29 Roseau (30,

Greenbush W.T.P.) JWH.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) — [5 South, 4 North] Early south (median 5/14) 5/13 Wright (2, Smith Lake) PCC, 5/20 Lac qui Parle (2, Perry Twp.) BJU. Early north (median 5/14) 5/21 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) KuS, 5/23 St. Louis (5, Park Point R.A.) JLK. High count 5/27 St. Louis (19) DFN. Late south 5/28 Wright (2) PLJ, 5/30 Swift (Lubenow W.P.A.) BJU (median 6/1). See summer report for late migrants north.

Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*) — [2 South] Two reports: 5/21 **Wright** (Smith Lake) †PEB, †DWK, 5/28 Lac qui Parle (Perry Twp.) ph. BJU.

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) — [8 South, 4 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/3 Stearns FGo, 5/9 Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 5/11) 5/21 Douglas (Osakis W.T.P.) JPE, JEL, 5/22 Becker DBM, St. Louis CAB. High count 5/27 St. Louis (100+) DFN. Late south 5/28 Lyon (8) DPG, 5/30 Chippewa (Milan), Swift (8, Lubenow W.P.A.) BJU (median 6/1). See summer report for late migrants north.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*) — [24 South, 14 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/23 Fillmore (2, Preston Twp.) JWH, 4/25 Redwood DBM. Early north (median 5/4) 5/4 Morrison FGo, 5/19 Becker DBM. See summer report for late migrants.

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) — [36 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/15) 4/15 Fillmore DBz, 4/16 Swift JOr. Early north (median 5/6) 5/8 Cass (4, Kego Twp.) BAW, 5/10 St. Louis (5, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK. High count 5/13 Wright (319, Smith Lake) PCC. See summer report for late migrants.

White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [19 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/23 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/5 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) PCC. Early north (median 5/14) 5/9 Morrison FGo, 5/19 Becker DBM. See summer report for late migrants.

Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*) — [14 South, 3 North] Early south (median 4/6) 4/10 Lac qui Parle (4) BJU, 4/12 Blue Earth (2) ChH. All north reports well after early median of 4/23: 5/19 and 5/22 Becker DBM, 5/28 Aitkin (Cedarbrook) BU, 5/31 St. Louis (Duluth) ALo. See summer report

for late migrants.

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) — [32 South, 10 North] Early south (median 4/1) 4/6 Dakota CMB, Freeborn, Steele RBW. Early north (median 4/19) 4/30 Itasca SC, 5/3 Polk SAS. High count 5/6 Dakota (50, 180th St. marsh) SHF. See summer report for late migrants.

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) — [29 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/29 Dakota CMB, then 4/30 in several counties. Early north (median 5/10) 4/28 Morrison (Bowlus) MJB, FGo, 5/16 Otter Tail DST. High count 5/25 Becker (100) KVH. See summer report for late migrants.

Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*) — [8 South, 3 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/5 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/8 Wright PLJ. All north reports: 5/4 Morrison (2, Upsala) MJB, FGo, 5/22 Becker DBM, 5/24 Morrison JEB, 5/29 Kittson (Hallock W.T.P.) JWH, BWF. See summer report for late migrants.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*) — [1 South] One bird photographed 5/11 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Twp.) ph. BJU. This species is a Casual spring migrant in Minnesota.

Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [18 South, 4 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/30 Blue Earth (3) AnK, ChH, Dakota (25, Lake Byllesby) PEJ, DFN, Lac qui Parle (10) DWK, 5/2 Dakota (9, Lake Byllesby) CMB, Lac qui Parle (5) BJU, Yellow Medicine BJU. All north reports: 5/14 Douglas JPE, 5/22 Becker DBM, 5/25 Becker (10) KVH, Mille Lacs JEB. Late south (median 5/24) 5/28 Waseca DAB, 5/30 Chippewa (2), Swift (10) BJU. See summer report for late migrants north.

Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [14 South, 1 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/17 Lac qui Parle (4) BJU, 4/23 Big Stone (2) BJU, Fillmore (Preston Twp.) DBz, JWH. Only north reports: 5/16 Kittson (5) TrB, 5/19 Kittson RAE. Late south 5/11 Freeborn (5, Newry Twp.) RPR, 5/20 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU (median 5/19).

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) — [37 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/22) 3/27 Wabasha DBM, 3/31 Lincoln CRM. Early north (median 3/31) 4/7 Douglas ARW, Kittson TrB, Morrison SC, Wadena

- RBJ, DAC, 4/8 Hubbard MAW, Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) MA, Wilkin DBz, RMD, DAB, JWH. High count 4/16 Rice (55) DAB.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [40 South, 25 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/17 Hennepin SLC, Rice TFB, 3/18 Hennepin (Hyland Lake P.R.) DWK. Early north (median 3/26) 3/28 Otter Tail GO, 3/30 Mille Lacs ASc.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [28 South, 14 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/22 Brown (3) WCM, 4/23 Dakota BAF, SHF, MDu, KSm, Lac qui Parle (Perry Twp.) BJU. Early north (median 5/1) 5/1 Pine RAE, HHD, 5/4 Morrison FGo, MJB, Roseau (Roseau River) LeG. High count 5/20 Lac qui Parle (36, Salt Lake) BJU.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [7 South, 5 North] Early south (median 5/12) 5/13 Big Stone (2, Ortonville W.T.P.), Lac qui Parle (2, Salt Lake) BJU, 5/15 Jackson (2, Jackson W.T.P.) MDu. All north reports: 5/21 Douglas (Osakis W.T.P.) JPE, JEL, 5/27 Traverse (2, Wheaton W.T.P.) JWH, BWF, 5/28 Red Lake (6, Red Lake Falls W.T.P.) JWH, BWF, 5/29 Kittson (4, Hallock W.T.P.) JWH, BWF, 5/30 Clay (2, Felton Prairie S.N.A.) ThM. See summer report for late migrants.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [39 South, 20 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/2 Carver JCy, Cottonwood RTe. Early north (median 4/13) 4/8 Otter Tail RMD, DAB, JWH, 4/9 Grant, Traverse BJU, Kanabec CAM. High count 5/5 St. Louis (1,270, Park Point R.A.) KRE. Late south 5/17 Carver JTe, 5/22 Ramsey LS (median 6/6). Please see summer report for late migrants north.
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — [1 South] Adult photographed 5/29 Lac qui Parle (Section 4, Walter Twp.) ph. BJU.
- LAUGHING GULL** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) — [1 South, 1 North] Adult found 4/28 **St. Louis** (Park Point R.A.) was seen and photographed by many through 4/29 (Canal Park) ph. †JLK, ph. †PHS, †KRE, †JCG, ph. MLH. Another adult was found 5/3 **Le Sueur** (Eggert Lake) †RBW, ph. †RMD, †DWK, †CMB, m.ob. (**The Loon** 83:193).
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [33 South, 13 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/18 Goodhue (Colvill Park) BAF, SHF, 3/19 Washington (Grey Cloud Island) BAF, SHF. Early north (median 4/6) 4/9 Douglas ARWm.ob., Grant, Traverse BJU, 4/10 Traverse HHD, LS. High count 4/22 Dakota (60, Lake Byllesby) ADS.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [51 South, 34 North] Observed statewide throughout the season. High counts 4/25 St. Louis (10,000, Interstate Island W.M.A.) PHS, 4/14 St. Louis (7,758, Duluth) PHS.
- CALIFORNIA GULL** (*Larus californicus*) — [2 South] Two reports with photographs: 4/13 **Stevens** (ad., Clear Lake) ph. †BJU, 4/23 **Lac qui Parle** (2 ad., Perry Twp.) ph. †BJU.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [34 South, 24 North] Last reported south 5/21 Pope RPR, 5/29 Pope HHD, RAE, but see summer report.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*) — [1 North] Frequent reports in St. Louis (various locations from Duluth) where this species overwintered through 4/2, then one imm. found 4/20 RAE, HHD, followed by one adult 5/7–10 (Superior Entry) ph. PHS, ph. MLH, and with both a first-cycle (ph. PHS) and a second-cycle present 5/31+. As many as four individuals counted at once on several dates in March.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [1 South, 1 North] Third-cycle overwintered through 3/24 St. Louis (Duluth) ph. PHS, m.ob. First-cycle reported 3/13 St. Louis (Duluth) PHS, and presumably a different individual 4/29 St. Louis (Hearding Island) ph. PHS. Three presumed Thayer's Gull X Iceland Gull intergrades were also seen in March PHS (two overwintered).
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [2 South, 1 North] First-cycle bird observed 3/19–20 St. Louis (Canal Park, Duluth) PHS, ph. MLH. Adult photographed 3/21 **Lac qui Parle** (Farrell W.P.A.) ph. BJU. Another adult was a first county record 3/27 **Jackson** (Loon and Little Spirit Lakes) PEJ, †DFN.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [1 South, 1 North] First county record 4/13 **Stevens** (first-cycle, Clear Lake) ph. BJU. Observed in St. Louis (various locations in Duluth) beginning 3/4 (3, two first-cycle and one ad.) PHS; last reported 5/27 (2

first-cycle, Superior Entry) PHS.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) — [2 North] Overwintered in St. Louis (various locations in Duluth) where an astounding **8** were found 3/13 (6 first-cycle, 1 second-cycle, and 1 adult at 27th Ave. West, Duluth) PHS. Smaller numbers reported through 5/7, then another appeared 5/25 (age?) ANy, and a second-cycle at Superior Entry 5/29 through **5/31+** (latest date on record, but see summer report!) ph. PHS. Only report away from St. Louis: 5/28 **Cook** (ad., Grand Marais) SLL, SG.

Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [27 South, 17 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/14 Wright (Beebe Lake) PEB, 4/24 Lac qui Parle (Florida Creek W.M.A.) BJU. Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 Cass (2) DAY, 5/4 Hubbard MAW. High count 5/11 Dakota (32) CMB.

Black Tern (*Cblidionias niger*) — [35 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/30 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) PEJ, DFN, 5/4 Lac qui Parle BJU, Olmsted (East Landfill Reservoir) JWH, Scott RAE. Early north (median 5/8) 5/15 Cass ABi, 5/16 Otter Tail DST. High count 5/21 Brown (70, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS.

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) — [15 South, 12 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/28 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 4/30 Lac qui Parle JFR, SWe, 5/1 Yellow Medicine CAB. Early north (median 5/1) 5/7 Douglas JPE, Otter Tail (7, Middle Leaf Lake) RTo, Todd FGo, 5/9 Otter Tail GO. High count 5/15 Cass (180, Blackwater Cabins) ABi. Late south 5/18 Pope DAC, 5/20 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) BJU (median 6/1).

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) — [42 South, 17 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/10 Stevens HHD, 4/11 Hennepin CMB, Olmsted JWH. Early north (median 4/19) 4/16 Grant GLa, 4/22 Douglas JPE. High counts 4/30 Dakota (60, Lake Byllesby) BAF, 5/3 Freeborn (60, Albert Lea Lake) RPR.

Sterna tern (*Sterna sp.*) — [1 South] An early white tern was left unidentified 4/10 Chisago (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) MHe.

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — [1 North] Adult light morph observed 5/25 St. Louis (Lake Superior just west of Lester River, Duluth) †MH *vide* JWL.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [53 South,

34 North] Reported from every county.

BAND-TAILED PIGEON (*Patagioenas fasciata*) — [1 North] One individual discovered 5/22 and photographed 5/23 St. Louis (Duluth) ph. †AKa.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [30 South, 6 North] First county record 4/19 **Hennepin** (New Hope) HFH; also observed south in Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Dakota, Faribault, Fillmore, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, Mower, Nicollet, Nobles, Olmsted, Pope, Redwood, Rice, Rock, Sherburne (4/13 †RBW), Sibley, Stearns, Stevens, Swift, Waseca, Watonwan, Yellow Medicine. First county record 4/7 **Wadena** (Wadena) RBJ; also observed north in Clay, Grant, Itasca, Todd, Traverse.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported statewide.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [12 South, 2 North] Early south (median 5/15) **5/7** Goodhue JLO, SWe, RTe, 5/8 Sibley (Vale W.M.A.) LS. Only north reports (median 5/25) **5/4** Morrison FGo, 5/28 Grant HHD, RAE.

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [30 South, 10 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/7 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) ThM, 5/8 Ramsey (4, Lake Phalen and Frost Pond) KSi. Early north (median 5/16) 5/14 Morrison FGo, 5/21 Pine (Sandstone W.T.P.) WCM. High count 5/22 Brown (7, Eden Twp.) BTS.

BARN OWL (*Tyto alba*) — [1 South] Adult male 4/1 **Lac qui Parle** (Walter and Perry Twps.) ph. †BJU.

Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*) — [12 South, 1 North] Observed south in Brown, Freeborn, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Olmsted, Ramsey, Yellow Medicine. Only north report 3/29 Otter Tail SPM.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) — [42 South, 25 North] Observed statewide. High count 4/5 Lincoln (**11**) BJU.

Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [1 South, 1 North] Only south report 3/16 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU. All north reports 3/4 Kittson (imm. female) RAE, 3/5 Kittson (ad. male) HHD, RAE.

Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*) — [2 North] Observed in St. Louis as late as 3/26

- (Sax-Zim Bog) DED. Several observations of a pair in Roseau (Roseau River/Lost River S.F.) throughout the first half of the season culminated in the discovery of a nest with two fledged young 5/22 BJS.
- BURROWING OWL** (*Athene cunicularia*) — [1 North] First county record 5/18–19 **Kittson** (2, Joe River State Wildlife Area) ph. LW, ph. †TrB, RAE.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [33 South, 21 North] Observed statewide as far southwest as Brown. High count 5/3 Freeborn (22, Myre-Big Island S.P.) RPR.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [6 North] Found in Aitkin, Cass, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Mahnomen, St. Louis. High count 3/5 St. Louis (7) ASE.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [11 South, 5 North] Observed south in Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Dakota, Freeborn, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Pipestone, Ramsey, Rice, Sibley as late as 4/10 Pipestone NED. Reported north from Cass, Kittson, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis. Adults observed on a nest in Kittson beginning 4/27 LW.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [10 South, 4 North] Observed south in Blue Earth, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Hennepin, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Rice, Steele, Swift, Yellow Medicine as late as 5/30 Chippewa (Chippewa Prairie) BJU. Early north (median 3/22) 3/29 Kittson TrB. Also observed north in Hubbard, Marshall, Polk. High count 4/24 Kittson (9) TrB.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — [1 North] A male found on territory in Lake 3/19 SGW was joined by a female and successfully bred. Last seen 5/18 (ad. feeding young in tree cavity) SGW. One additional report 4/2 Lake (Stony River F.R.) MSo.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [6 South, 8 North] Reported south in Anoka, Hennepin, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Olmsted, Ramsey as late as 5/18 Houston KKB. Found north in Cass, Hubbard, Itasca, Lake, Marshall, Mille Lacs, Roseau, St. Louis beginning 3/9 Cass ABI.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [40 South, 14 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/4 Hennepin GDJ, 5/7 Goodhue MDe. Early north (median 5/10) 5/7 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) MA, 5/11 Carlton DCr. High count 5/11 Hennepin (56, Minneapolis) MDu.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) — [9 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/30 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) TAT, 5/4 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Cass (Ponto Lake Twp.) BAW, 5/7 Clearwater CoC. High count 5/16 Goodhue (7, Florence Twp.) SWe.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [46 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/28 Big Stone BJU, Olmsted LAV, 4/29 Faribault CRM. Early north (median 5/1) 5/6 Lake JWL then 5/9 in five counties. High count 5/3 Ramsey (200, Highland Park, St. Paul) CGa, 5/13 Hennepin (200) DMB.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [45 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/4) 4/30 Steele NFT, 5/3 Olmsted JoP, Ramsey TJM. Early north (median 5/7) 4/30 Kanabec AXH, 5/7 Douglas JPE, Otter Tail BDE, DST.
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [53 South, 32 North] Observed south throughout the season. Early north (median 3/26) 3/26 Wadena PJB, 4/5 Otter Tail ARo.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [36 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/19 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) EMA; earlier reports 3/3 Rice TFB, 3/5 Washington (2, Carpenter N.C.) DDo, 3/7 Waseca BL, 3/16 Rice JLO, 3/24 Rice (Nerstrand-Big Woods S.P.) RTE probably refer to overwintering birds. Early north (median 4/25) 4/18 Morrison FGo, 5/7 Morrison FGo and Todd JeM.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [52 South, 24 North] Observed statewide as far northeast as St. Louis and as far northwest as Roseau.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [51 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/28) 3/27 Ramsey RPR then 4/3 in ten counties. Early north (median 4/5) 4/3 Otter Tail ARo, 4/4 Douglas ARW, Mille Lacs Asc, Polk SAU. High count 4/29 Goodhue (13, Frontenac S.P.) DAD.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*) — [53 South, 33 North] Observed statewide.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [50

South, 31 North] Found statewide.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [1 North] Only report 5/6 Roseau TAF.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Reported from Cass, Cook, Itasca, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Present south throughout the season. One in Clay 3/3 RHO likely overwintered as there was also a report from January. Early north migrants (median 3/26) 3/27 Morrison FGo. High counts 4/21 Mower (24, Lake Louise S.P.) RTP, 4/17 Fillmore (21, Forestville S.P.) NBO.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [46 South, 30 North] Observed statewide as far southwest as Lyon and Murray. High count 4/7 Cass (6) ABi.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) — [29 South, 20 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/6 Hennepin CMB, 5/7 Carver JCy, 5/9 Olmsted JPr. Early north (median 5/15) 5/9 Hubbard MAW, 5/13 Itasca (Ladies Tresses Swamp S.N.A.) RBJ, DAC, 5/14 Becker JPr. High count 5/30 Swift (3) BJU. Reported south through end of period, see summer report for late migrants (median 6/11).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [42 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/5) 4/25 Anoka REH, 4/30 Rice JLO, 5/5 Hennepin DDo, MaK. Early north (median 5/12) 5/14 Morrison FGo, 5/16 Clearwater DBz. High count 5/28 Scott (10, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) JJo.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [28 South, 16 North] Reported with details from only 15 south and 4 north counties. Early south (median 5/11) 5/9–10 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) TAT, SLC, CMB, Lac qui Parle (Madison W.M.A.) BJU, 5/14 Goodhue DWK, PEB. All north (median 5/20) 5/22, 5/23 St. Louis PHS, 5/27 Grant DWK, 5/29 Cook DFN, Lake DFN. Late south 5/29 Hennepin TAT, 5/30 Hennepin JJo, Steele PSU, Swift BJU (median 6/6). High count 5/22 St. Louis (12, Duluth) JLK. **Note:** During spring and fall migration, undocumented records of silent *Empidonax* flycatchers are not included in this report. Observers are encouraged to in-

clude identification details in their reports.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) — [4 South] Only report with details 5/10 Rice TFB (median early 5/17). Reported without details from two additional south counties.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [23 South, 17 North] Reported with details from only 17 south and 3 north counties. Early south (median 5/16) 5/21 Lac qui Parle BJU, Ramsey TAT, Scott BAF, SHF, 5/22 Blue Earth ChH, Scott DAB, JWH. All north with details (median early 5/17) 5/21 Traverse BJU, 5/22 Lake JWL, 5/28 Lake of the Woods MHK. High count 5/29 Hennepin (9, T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT. See summer report for late south migrants.

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) — [26 South, 2 North] Reported with details from 12 south counties. Early south (median 5/9) 5/15 Jackson MDU, 5/21 Nicollet JCC, Rice DAB. High counts 5/28 Anoka (5, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) PEB, 5/30 Lac qui Parle (5) BJU. No north reports with details.

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) — [48 South, 34 North] Reported with details from 20 south and 4 north counties. Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Fillmore NBO, 5/2 Brown BTS. Early north (median 5/5) 5/15 Lake NLM, 5/16 St. Louis JJo.

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/21) 3/19 Rice TFB, 3/20 Lac qui Parle, Swift BJU. Early north (median 3/29) 3/30 Cass ABi, 4/3 Clay RHO, Otter Tail BDE. High count 4/11 Scott (10, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) JMN.

SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 South] Pair at summer 2010 Yellow Medicine nesting location, first reported 5/28+ RLW, SWe. See summer report for documentation.

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [48 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/30 Dakota DAC, Hennepin CMB, TAT. Early north (median 5/8) 5/9 Hubbard MaH, 5/10 Kanabec RAE, 5/11 Cass JeM, DTM. High counts 5/14 Morrison (8) MJB, 5/17 Carver (8) JCy, 5/28 Scott (8) JJo.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [8 South, 6 North] Restricted to the western third of the state, except for birds in Anoka

- (2) and Morrison. Early south (median 5/7) 5/2 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/6 Big Stone BJU. Early north (median 5/10) 5/16 Clay (Blue-stem Prairie) RHO, 5/17 Marshall MA.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [50 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/27) 5/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/3 Fillmore DBz, 5/5 Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/6) 5/8 Carlton DCr, 5/9 Grant RAE, 5/10 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, Cass BAW, Douglas ARW.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [11 South, 2 North] Early south (median 3/20) 3/31 Dakota (4) CMB, 4/6 Goodhue LEC, 4/7 Dakota JLO. All north reports (median early 4/13) 4/23 Clay (Felton Prairie) RHO, 5/14 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) TaB.
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*) — [30 South, 16 North] Reported from all regions. High count 4/3 Kanabec (3) RAE. Late south 4/3 Brown BTS, 4/5 Anoka HFL, Rice TFB, 4/6 Washington KCr (median 4/5). Late north 4/3 Kanabec (3) RAE, 4/9 Morrison FGo, 4/21 Marshall MA (median 4/19).
- White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) — [1 South] One photographed 5/28 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) ph. BJU.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [6 South] Early south (median 5/15) 5/15 **Jackson** (Black Bridge Rd.) MDu. Also reported from Dakota, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Rice, Waseca. High count 5/17 Dakota (3) CMB.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [44 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/7 Carver JCy, Dodge DBz, Goodhue JFR, SWe, RTe, Isanti HHD, Olmsted JWH, Rice DAB, JMN, Stearns PCC. Early north (median 5/9) 5/10 Hubbard MaH, Kanabec, Mille Lacs RAE, 5/11 Carlton LAW, Cass BAW, JeM, DTM. High count 5/17 Carver (7, Carver P.R.) JCy.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [40 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/30 Carver (3) JCy, WCM, Dakota BAF, ADS, Hennepin CMB, BeH, SLC, Rice DAB, TFB. Early north (median 5/5) 5/4 Crow Wing JeM, DTM, 5/6 Lake JoB, 5/7 Wade-na PJB. High count 5/9 Lac qui Parle (12) BJU. Late south 5/29 Ramsey FKB, Stevens HHD, RAE, 5/30 Lac qui Parle SWe, RLW (median 5/31).
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [45 South, 27 North] Early south (median 5/1 5/1 Hennepin SLC, 5/5 Big Stone BJU, Hennepin DDo, 5/6 Hennepin DWK, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/7 Morrison FGo, 5/9 Grant, Todd RAE, 5/11 Kanabec MHe. High count 5/15 Hennepin (11, Veteran's Memorial Park, Richfield) SBM.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [30 South, 15 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/7 Goodhue RTE, 5/8 Dakota BAF, SWe, 5/9 Carver WCM, Hennepin PEB, Nicollet RMD, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/14) 5/10 Kanabec RAE, 5/12 Cass BAW, 5/14 Morrison FGo. Late south 5/29 Big Stone (2) BJU, Lac qui Parle SWe, Pope RAE, Stevens HHD, RAE, 5/30 Swift BJU (median 5/30).
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [43 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/7 Dodge DBz, 5/8 Chisago MHe, Hennepin SLC. Early north (median 5/10) 4/27 Crow Wing FGo, 5/3 St. Louis SES, 5/7 Morrison FGo. High counts 5/25, 5/26 Steele (15) PSu, 5/28 Hennepin (15) MDu, 5/28 Scott (15) JJo.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [10 North] Reported from Lake to Roseau, south to Aitkin and Cass. High count 3/20 St. Louis (7, Sax-Zim Bog) DaJ.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 5/12 St. Louis (**1,800**, Park Point R.A.) JLK.
- CLARK'S NUTCRACKER** (*Nucifraga columbiana*) — [1 South] One found 3/11 in **Lac qui Parle** ph. †BJU in a spruce stand in the Hantho Beach area. First report since 2004, first spring report since 1972.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [1 South, 18 North] Out-of-range report 3/25 **Sherburne** (Sherburne N.W.R. headquarters) ph. BAB. ALSO reported from usual Northwest and North-central range as far east as St. Louis. High count 3/5 Kittson (15) RAE.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/11 Olmsted (100, Silver Lake) LAV, 3/3 Hennepin (80) DDo.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [6 South, 29 North] Reported throughout the forested areas of the North, including along the western border as far south as Norman. South reports from Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, Stearns, Washington. This spe-

- cies appears to be expanding its range; please include details with any extra-limital sightings. High count 3/6 Aitkin (20) DWK.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [52 South, 27 North] Common statewide other than the Northeast, where the only reports came from St. Louis in May. High counts 3/1 Fillmore (70) RTP, 3/13 Carver (70) JCy.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [42 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/5) 4/5 Freeborn RPe, 4/9 Freeborn PEJ, Rice PEJ, Waseca PEJ, 4/10 Rice TFB. Early north (median 4/11) 4/8 Otter Tail BDE, 4/23 Otter Tail DST, 4/26 Grant RAE. High count 5/26 Houston (50, Caledonia) RTe.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/20) 3/19 Houston DBM, Winona DFN, PEJ, 3/20 Wabasha DBz, SKS, Winona DBz. Early north (median 4/3) 4/5 Cass BAW, 4/7 Cass ABi, Morrison SC, Wadena RBJ, DAC. High counts 5/1 Ramsey (300, Crosby Lake) SeH, 5/16 Ramsey (110) BNW.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [47 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/8 Hennepin SLC, 4/10 Hennepin CMB, 4/13 Ramsey REH. Early north (median 4/21) 4/26 Grant RAE, 4/27 Crow Wing FGo, 5/5 Carlton FKB.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [43 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/16 Winona DBz, 4/24 Rice DAB, 4/25 Houston DWK, Rice TFB. Early north (median 4/30) 5/7 Cass DAY, 5/8 Kanabec DWK, 5/9 Grant RAE. High count 5/20 Becker (50, Tamarac N.W.R.) SPe.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [48 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/10 Scott PEJ, Stearns PCC, 4/12 Hennepin SLC. Early north (median 4/25) 4/14 Morrison MJB, 4/18 Morrison FGo, 5/7 Mille Lacs ASC, Todd FGo. High count 5/26 Houston (300, Caledonia) RTe.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/7 Hennepin BeH, 4/8 Carver RZi, Goodhue RSA. Early north (median 4/19) 4/22 Morrison FGo, 4/25 Hubbard MAW, 4/26 Grant RAE. High count 5/26 Houston (200) RTe.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported statewide.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [7 North] Reported from 7 counties in the Northeast and North-central.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [8 South] Reports from Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, and Winona; plus out-of-range reports 3/10 Hennepin RKi, 4/30 Waseca DCu.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [32 South, 31 North] High count 3/14 St. Louis (9) KSm. Late south 5/24 Washington RMa, 5/25 Anoka CAB (median 5/23). See summer report for additional south observations.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [52 South, 34 North] Reported from all counties except Pipestone.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [42 South, 22 North] Present north and south as the season commenced. High count 3/15 Le Sueur (21, Sakatah Lake S.P.) DCu. Late south 5/20 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park) JJo, 5/28 Scott (Murphy Hanrehan P.R.) JFR (median 5/21).
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — No documented reports.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [53 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/3 McLeod (Brownnton) LS, 4/17 Hennepin SKS, 4/22 Rice DAB. Early north (median 4/29) 4/28 Morrison FGo, 5/6 Lake JWL, Otter Tail ARO, St. Louis ALo. High count 5/23 Steele (22, Saco Farm Woods & Fields) PSu.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [28 South, 18 North] Overwintering bird reported 3/7 Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission Park) SLC. Early south migrants (median 3/27) 3/30 Freeborn RBW, 4/1 Freeborn HHD, RAE, 4/3 Olmsted (2) JWH. Early north (median 4/6) 4/9 Cass BAW, Traverse BJU, 4/12 Kanabec RAE. High count: 5/2 Hennepin (3) PEB. Late south 5/10 Hennepin CMB, 5/14 Carver JCy, 5/17 Freeborn RoJ, Hennepin LMo (median 5/13).
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [32 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/28 Big Stone BJU, 4/30 Carver JCy, 5/1 Rice (2) RTe. Early north (median 5/3) 5/5 Carlton LAW, Cass ABi, 5/7 Douglas ARW, JPE. High count 5/24 Washington (10, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) PNI.

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [36 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/27 Sherburne ASC, 4/28 Big Stone and Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 5/4) 5/9 Kittson TrB, Todd RAE, 5/16 Clay (2, Felton Prairie) RHO, Otter Tail DST.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [48 South, 13 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/28 Waseca DCu, 4/29 Hennepin (2) SBM, Mower BPL. Early north (median 5/6) 4/24 Todd DTM, 5/7 Douglas ARW, 5/10 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, Douglas ARW. High counts 5/8 Carver (16) JCy, 5/13 Scott (14) SHF. New county record 5/25 **Koochiching** (Bartlett Lake) JEB. Other unusual north reports 5/18 Norman DBz, 5/21 Hubbard (Spider Lake) ARW, Traverse (Lake Traverse) BJU, 5/23 St. Louis (Schultz Lake) AMC.

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [35 South, 19 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/17 Hennepin JMN, 3/20 Hennepin SLC, Lac qui Parle (2) BJU. Early north (median 3/25) 3/27 Itasca SC, 4/7 Morrison SC, 4/8 Cass BAW, Traverse SC. High counts 4/3 Hennepin (8) DDo, 4/23 Hennepin (7) CMB. Late south 5/5 Hennepin (2, Richardson N.C.) MaK, 5/7 Waseca (2) DCu (median 5/7).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) — [51 South, 28 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/17 Hennepin (Cedar Lake) SKS, 3/30 Scott JEB, 4/1 Hennepin SLC. Early north (median 4/6) 4/7 Douglas ARW, Wadena RBJ, DAC, 4/8 Traverse SC. High counts 5/3 Carver (37) JCy, 4/29 Hennepin (35) SBM. Late south 5/25 Steele PSu, Waseca DCu, 5/26 Blue Earth RBJ, Carver JCy (median 5/24).

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [51 South, 33 North] Present Southeast at start of season, migrants widely reported 3/16. Early north (median 3/16) 3/17 Douglas JPE, 3/19 Morrison FGo, 3/21 Mille Lacs ASC. High counts 3/27 Washington (30) JHe, 3/19 Fillmore (23) RTP.

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) — [2 South] All south reports 3/20 Lac qui Parle (male, Marsh Lake) ph. BJU, 4/10 **Stevens** (male, county road 1, just south of S.R. 28) ph. KRE, PME, HHD, LS, RAE.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [3 South] All reports were of over-

wintering individuals: reported through 3/8 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) RZi, 3/24 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Beach) BJU, DBM, RAE, 4/18 Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission Park) SLc.

Veery (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [31 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/21 Carver JCy, 5/1 Hennepin CMB, 5/2 Hennepin PEB, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/8 Cass BAW, 5/10 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, Hubbard MaH, Kanabec RAE, St. Louis NAJ. High count 5/31 Scott (5, Murphy Hanrehan P.R.) ADS.

Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catbarus minimus*) — [35 South, 8 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Hennepin TAT, Ramsey BAF, SHF, 5/2 Lac qui Parle BJU, Ramsey BNW. Early north (median 5/8) 5/10 Douglas ARW, 5/13 Douglas FGo, Itasca EEO. High count 5/6 Hennepin (4) CMB. Late south 5/21 Big Stone and Lac qui Parle BJU, Lyon RAE, 5/24 Carver JCy, Hennepin CMB (median 5/27). Late north 5/22 St. Louis (2) JLK, 5/23 Marshall JMJ, 5/26 Marshall SC (median 5/28).

Swainson's Thrush (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [52 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/29 Sherburne PLJ, 4/30 Blue Earth, Carver, Dakota, Freeborn, Hennepin, Nicollet, Rice, Stearns, Steele. Early north (median 5/2) 4/23 Carlton LAW, 5/1 Marshall MA, St. Louis (3) JLK. High counts 5/9 Martin (62, Cedar Creek C.P.) JCC, 5/17 Fillmore (32, Forestville S.P.) NBO. See summer report for late south migrants.

Hermit Thrush (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [42 South, 26 North] Probably overwintering was one 3/1 Hennepin LS. Early south migrants (median 3/28) 3/27 Fillmore DBz, JWH, 3/30 Hennepin SLc, 4/2 Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 4/10) 4/4 Otter Tail BDE, 4/7 Douglas ARW. High count 4/16 Hennepin (21) CMB. Late south 5/16 Hennepin TAT, 5/24 Washington RMa (median 5/16).

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [34 South, 13 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/30 Hennepin TAT, 5/2 Rice TFB, 5/3 Fillmore RTP. Early north (median 5/8) 5/11 Aitkin MHe, Lake JWL, 5/12 Beltrami MHe, 5/13 Douglas FGo. High count 5/19 Scott (8, Murphy Hanrehan P.R.) CMB.

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every



Albinistic American Robin, 26 May 2011, Northfield, Rice County. Photo by Gerald R. Hoekstra.

county. High counts 4/3 Clay (100) KBr, 4/6 Polk (100) SAU.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [2 North] Overwintered in St. Louis (Ely) where last reported 3/5 ph. RTE. Two individuals reported from Kittson: a male that overwintered through 3/17 Lancaster TBr, LW, ph. DAC, RBJ and a female 3/13–23 near Skull Lake W.M.A. TBr.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/21 Dakota RLW, 4/24 Steele JHD, 4/29 Hennepin SBM. Early north (median 5/6) 5/2 Douglas ARW, 5/5 Carlton FKB, 5/6 Pine FKB. High counts 5/13 Scott (14, Louisville Swamp) SHF, 5/20 St. Louis (14, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK.

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [4 South, 3 North] All south 4/23 Big Stone (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 4/30 Rice (River Bend N.C.) DAB, TFB, 5/19 Washington (Cottage Grove) *vide* BAF, 5/26 Nicollet (Benson Park, North Mankato) AnK, ChH. All north 5/6 Hubbard *vide* JMJ, 5/14 Cook (Grand Marais) ANy, and 3 locations

in St. Louis: 5/9 (east Duluth) FKB, 5/11–19 (Duluth Rose Garden) DOK, PHS, 5/13–30 (Park Point R.A.) NAJ, EBr, ph. PHS, m.ob., 5/19 Brown (New Ulm) *vide* AXH.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [52 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/9 Waseca BWL, 4/11 McLeod PRH, Waseca DCu. Early north (median 4/23) 4/25 Lake JWJ, 4/26 Otter Tail, DST, 4/28 Itasca SC, Morrison FGo. High count: 5/26 Houston (11) RTE.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported statewide. High count 4/2 Dakota (350) JFR.

American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*) — [20 South, 3 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/1 Lac qui Parle (3) BJU, 4/3 Hennepin SKS. Early north (median 4/28) 4/8 Wilkin SC, 5/9 Cass (2, Longville) BAW. High count 5/14 Goodhue (40) DWK. Late south 5/15 Watonwan JWH, 5/16 Murray (35) WCM, 5/20 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 5/16). Late north 5/17 St. Louis NAJ, 5/28 St. Louis (2) JLK (median 5/22).

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garru-*

- lus) — [6 South, 15 North] High counts 4/10 St. Louis (2,300, Lakewalk extension, Duluth) PHS, MSo, 4/10 St. Louis (1,000) AM. All south 3/11 Big Stone BJU, Stearns (25) BWF, 3/13 Wright MJB, 3/16 Sherburne ASc, 3/20 Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/21 Lincoln (5, Hendricks) BJU (median late 4/4). Late north 4/19 Itasca SC, 4/24 St. Louis (68) SLF, 4/25 St. Louis (7) SLF (median 4/17).
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [44 South, 26 North] Early north 3/15 Polk SAu, 3/26 Wadena PJB, 4/8 Kittson TrB. Most birds did not arrive north until May. High count 5/30 Hennepin (100) DDo.
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [33 South, 9 North] Only found south-west of a line from Kittson through Washington. High counts 3/19 Cottonwood (4,000) BRB, 3/20 Lac qui Parle (3,500) BJU. Late south 5/9 Lac qui Parle (24) BJU, 5/14 Dakota (15, Douglas Twp.) SWe (median 5/4). Late north 4/16 Polk JMJ, 4/17 Grant DFN, 4/23 Clay (300) RHO (median 5/19).
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 South, 1 North] Only south report 4/28 Lac qui Parle (male, near Plover Prairie) ph. BJU. All north reports from traditional Felton Prairie location where first reported 5/21 Clay (3) RHO (median 4/15).
- Smith's Longspur** (*Calcarius pictus*) — [5 South] Two new county records: 4/10–23 **Brown** (Mulligan Twp., as many as 30 individuals) †BTS, m.ob, 4/23–24 **Wabasha** (Weaver Dunes) †DBz. Other reports 4/8 Lac qui Parle (Perry W.M.A.) BJU, 4/12 Nicollet (St. Peter) †RMD, 4/28 Big Stone (30) BJU, 5/4 Lac qui Parle (Yellow Bank Hills S.N.A.) *vide* RPR.
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [30 South, 20 North] High count 3/27 McLeod (760) DWK. Late south 4/12 Stearns (3) RHi, 4/19 Sherburne EMA (median 3/28). Late north 4/23 Aitkin PEJ, Itasca SC, St. Louis (2) TPW, 5/5 Marshall MA (median 5/8).
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [43 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/23 Hennepin LMo, 4/29 Hennepin SLC, and from six more counties 4/30. Early north (median 5/4) 5/1 St. Louis JLK, 5/6 Cass BAW, and four more counties 5/7. High count 5/14 Morrison (15) MJB.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [11 South] Early south (median 4/23) 4/17 Rice DAB, 4/23 Washington (Falls Creek S.N.A.) DFN, Winona DBz. No north reports. New county record 5/13 **Lyon** (Camden S.P.) WCM. Also unusual was one 5/9 Lac qui Parle (Lac qui Parle C.P.) ph. BJU. High count 4/25 Houston (7, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) DWK.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [38 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/24 Steele JHD, 4/28 Big Stone BJU, 4/29 Hennepin SBM. Early north (median 5/4) 5/1 St. Louis (2) JLK, 5/3 St. Louis ALo, JLK, 5/5 Cass BAW, 5/7 Itasca SC, Polk SAu. High count 5/6 Hennepin (12) CMB. Late south 5/28 Anoka (Boot Lake S.N.A.) PEB, 5/29 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 5/29).
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [33 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/5 Hennepin ChH, 5/6 Hennepin DWK, CMB, TAT, then widespread arrivals 5/7. Early north (median 5/8) 5/10 Cass (2) BAW, Kanabec RAE, 5/11 Aitkin MHe, Becker ASM, Cass (2) ABi. High counts: 5/21 Pine (15, Nemadji S.F.) WCM, 5/15 Carver (12) MDe. Late south away from breeding areas 5/26 Dakota (Ritter Farm Park) NSK, 5/28 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU (median 5/28).
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [29 South, 3 North] Early south (median 5/2) 4/30 Carver JCy, Rice JLO, JWH, 5/5 Hennepin CMB, MaK. New county record south 5/21 **Watowan** HHD. All north (median early 5/23) 5/13 Mille Lacs ASc, 5/21 Pine WCM, 5/24 **Itasca** (Forest History Center, Grand Rapids) ph. †SC, 5/26 Itasca ph. †EEO. High counts 5/9 Goodhue (10, Hok-si-la Park) JMN, 5/19 Scott (10, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) CMB.
- Golden-winged Warbler X Blue-winged Warbler** — “Lawrence’s” hybrid 5/26 Blue Earth (Minneopa S.P.) RBJ.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [50 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/22 Ramsey (Crosby Farm Park) SeH, 4/23 Dakota CAB, KCr, 4/29 Hennepin (3) SBM. Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 Pine RAE, HHD, St. Louis JLK, 5/3 Cass BAW. High count 5/9 Hennepin (21) CMB.
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*)

- [10 South] Early south (median 5/4) 5/1 Hennepin (T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) PEB, 5/8 Hennepin (Hyland P.R.) SLC, 5/12 Goodhue RZi, 5/16 Steele (Rice Lake S.P.) JHD. No north reports. New county record 5/25 **Waseca** (Blowers Park area) DCu. No reports of more than three individuals.
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [48 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/30 Hennepin CMB, StB, SLC, 5/2 Dakota JLO, Lac qui Parle and Yellow Medicine BJU. Early north (median 5/7) 5/9 Beltrami DPJ, Cass BAW, Morrison FGo, and six more counties on 5/10. Late south 5/30 Chippewa, Lac qui Parle and Swift BJU, 5/31 Carver JCy, Hennepin SLC (median 6/3). See summer report for additional late migrants.
- Orange-crowned Warbler** (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [42 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/23 Hennepin CMB, SLC, 4/24 Hennepin CMB, Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/27 Nicollet. Early north (median 4/25) 5/2 St. Louis JLK, 5/3 Beltrami DPJ, Cass BAW, Clay RHO. Late south 5/24 Pope MMa, 5/26 Waseca DCu, 5/27 Hennepin DDo (median 5/22). Late north 5/23 Aitkin WCM, St. Louis PHS, 5/26 Marshall SC, 5/28 Cook DFN, Douglas RAE (median 5/27).
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [48 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/26) **4/17** Hennepin TAF, 4/29 Faribault CRM then many reports beginning 4/30. Early north (median 5/3) 5/2 St. Louis NAJ, 5/3 Morrison MJB, 5/4 Itasca PLe, 5/5 Cass ABi. Season high counts 5/5 Hennepin (35) ThM, 5/11 St. Louis (35) JLK, 5/9 Goodhue (30) JMN, 5/15 Hennepin (30) DDo. Late south 5/29 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/30 Swift BJU, 5/31 Hennepin SLC (median 5/29) but see summer report for lingering migrants or possible breeding.
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [13 South, 11 North] Early south (median 5/11) **5/4** Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) KRS, CMB, 5/13 Hennepin CMB, 5/14 Fillmore RTP, Sherburne ASC, 5/17 Anoka (singing) DFN. Early north (median 5/17) 5/13 Itasca RBJ, DAC, Mille Lacs ASC, 5/16 Mille Lacs ASC, 5/20 Aitkin ASC, Becker SPE. Late south 5/26 Waseca RAE, 5/28 Anoka PEB, Hennepin SLC (median 5/30).
- Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [28 South, 16 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/6 Hennepin SLC, 5/7 Rice TFB, 5/9 Hennepin CMB, TAT, RZi, ADS, PEB, Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 5/14) 5/11 Aitkin MHe, 5/12 Beltrami MHe, 5/14 Marshall MA, but north reports begin in earnest starting 5/20. See summer report for late migrants south and also for reports into late June indicating potential breeding activity. Season high counts 5/22 St. Louis (6) JLK, 5/23 St. Louis (6) PHS.
- Kentucky Warbler** (*Geothlypis formosa*) — [2 South] Only reports 5/8–9 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) JCo, †CMB, DBM, 5/22 Blue Earth (Williams N.C.) HHD.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 5/2) 4/30 Dakota PEJ, DFN, Dodge JWH, Hennepin StB, Redwood SVo. Early north (median 5/7) 5/7 St. Louis JLK, 5/8 Cass BAW, ABi, 5/9 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) MA, Morrison FGo. Noteworthy high counts 5/16 Steele (30) JHD, 5/11 Hennepin (25) Ssa, 5/23 St. Louis (21) PHS.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [9 South] All reports: 5/1 Rice (banded) ph. DAT, 5/9 Lac qui Parle (adult male, Madison W.M.A.) ph. BJU, 5/10+ Dakota and Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) SBM, m.ob., 5/15 Sherburne PLJ, 5/19 Washington (Lee & Rose Warner N.C.) KMo, 5/21–30 Hennepin (T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT, 5/29 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy. On 5/15 SAF and BAF identified 5 territories at Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/5 Big Stone BJU, Dakota CRM, Fillmore NBO, Hennepin (3 locations) m.ob., Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/6 from three additional counties. Early north (median 5/8) 5/7 St. Louis (2) JLK, 5/9 Clay RHO, Morrison FGo, 5/10 from five additional counties. High counts 5/23 St. Louis (81 from Southworth Marsh, Park Point R.A., and hike past Sky Harbor Airport) PHS, 5/22 St. Louis (65, Park Point R.A.) JLK, 5/18 Rice (50, Sakatah Lake S.P.) DCu.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [34 South, 22 North] Many more south reports than usual. Early south (median

5/7) 5/6 Chisago (2) DPI, Hennepin TAT, (2) DWK, (2) SBM, SLC, 5/7 Goodhue (2) m.ob., Isanti HHD. Early north (median 5/9) 5/7 Todd JeM, 5/9 Cass ABi, 5/10 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, St. Louis ALo, (6, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK. High counts 5/13 Hennepin (20, Veteran's Memorial Park, Richfield) SBM, 5/14 Itasca (18, Splithand Lake) JLK. Late south 5/23 Hennepin DDo, Stearns MJB, 5/26 Sherburne JEB (median 5/22).

Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [10 South, 1 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/7 Goodhue MDe, BNW, 5/8 Goodhue LEC, 5/10 Brown BTS, Rice TFB, 5/11 Olmsted JWH, JPr, Wright HCT. One north report 5/21 Douglas (Lake Irene) JPE. High count 5/21 Houston (9 on territories at Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) AXH.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) — [34 South, 21 North] Found in all regions. Early south (median 5/1) 4/18 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha) DDo, JFR, 4/21 Hennepin JeG, 4/30 Dodge JWH, 5/5 Hennepin SLC, Lac qui Parle BJU, Ramsey (2) BNW. Early north (median 5/6) 5/5 Cass ABi, 5/6 Carlton LAW, 5/8 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) AM, (different location) JLK. Also notable north 5/15 **Douglas** (Lake Carlos S.P.) ARW. High counts 5/14 Itasca (12, Splithand Lake) JLK, 5/15 Scott (11, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. north trails; 9 males, 2 females) BAF, SHF. Late south 5/23 Olmsted LAV, 5/26 Blue Earth ChH (median 5/26).

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [51 South, 30 North] Reported abundantly this season, from all but six counties. Early south (median 5/5) 4/30 Dakota BAF, 5/2 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/3 Washington PSm. Early north (median 5/9) 5/8 St. Louis JLK, AM, 5/9 Itasca SC, Polk SAu. Noteable high counts 5/23 St. Louis (39, Park Point, Duluth) PHS, 5/9 Hennepin (22) CMB. Late south 5/30 Chippewa BJU, Hennepin TAT, SLC, Swift BJU (median 5/31).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*) — [33 South, 20 North] Early south (median 5/8) 5/7 Goodhue JLO, m.ob., Hennepin CMB, Rice TFB, 5/9 Goodhue JMN, Hennepin CMB, DBM, Jackson JCC. Early north (median 5/13) 5/10 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, 5/13 Mille Lacs ASc, 5/14 Itasca JLK. Late south 5/26 Steele PSu, 5/28 Blue Earth

RMD, 5/30 Swift BJU (median 5/25). High count 5/13 Hennepin (20) SBM.

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) — [44 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/5 Carver RDE, Dakota ADS, Hennepin ChH, CMB, AnK, (Bass Ponds) RTe, SLC and then reported from throughout the south frequently for the rest of the month. Early north (median 5/7) 5/7 Douglas ARW, 5/10 Cass BAW, Clay RHO, Kanabec RAE, Pennington JMJ. Late south 5/28 Anoka PEB, Blue Earth RMD, Hennepin SLC, Lac qui Parle BJU, RLW, SWe, Steele DAB, PSu, 5/30 Chippewa BJU, Hennepin SHF (median 5/31).

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported in all counties. Early south (median 4/27) 4/29 Hennepin SBM, 4/30 Carver JCy. Early north (median 5/4) 5/7 Douglas ARW, Morrison FGo, St. Louis JLK, Todd FGo, JeM, 5/8 Cass BAW, ABi. High count 5/23 St. Louis (41, Park Point, Duluth) PHS.

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [47 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/5 Hennepin RTe, eight additional counties on 5/7. Early north (median 5/8) 5/10 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, Kanabec RAE, Todd JeM, and three more counties 5/11. Season high counts 5/23 St. Louis (30, Park Point R.A., Duluth) PHS, 5/22 St. Louis (20, Park Point R.A.) JLK. Late south (away from known summer breeding locations) 5/30 Hennepin SLC, DDo. Also see summer report.

Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*) — [46 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/4) 4/30 Sherburne (Talahi Woods) MJB, Yellow Medicine (adult male) DWK, 5/1 Sherburne FGo, 5/3 Sherburne PlJ. Early north (median 5/9) 5/6 Cass (Woodrow Twp.) BAW, 5/7 Wadena PJB, 5/9 Morrison FGo, 5/10 Todd JeM. Late south 5/30 Big Stone HHD, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle and Swift BJU (median 5/30). Late north 5/29 Kittson JWH, BWF, JMJ, Pennington JWH, BWF, 5/31 Hubbard MaH, Lake of the Woods JCC (median 5/30), but see summer reports for June migrants.

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [1 South, 3 North] All south (median 5/11) 5/14–15 Hennepin (Veteran's Memorial Park, Richfield) CMB,



Albinistic Eastern Towhee, 18 May 2011, Cook County. Photo by David Brisance.

SMC, SBM, 5/23 Hennepin (male, Wood Lake N.C.) CMB, SLC. All north (median 5/18) 5/9 St. Louis JCG, 5/22–23 St. Louis PHS, JLK, AM, 5/28 Lake Siv, 5/29 Cook DFN, KRo, SLP, Siv.

Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [47 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/23 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/25 Fillmore RTP, Waseca DCu, 4/26 Olmsted JHD. Early north (median 4/25) 4/30 St. Louis RAE, HHD, (12, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK, 5/1 Pine RAE, HHD. Late south 5/22 Carver JCy, Goodhue SWe, 5/24 Hennepin CMB, JJo, Sherburne PJJ (median 5/23).

Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*) — [18 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/16 Scott CRM, Winona HHa, 4/17 Nicollet RMD, Mower BPL, 4/18 Lac qui Parle (Madison) ph. BJU, 4/22 Carver JCy. Early north (median 4/25) 4/18 Morrison FGo, 4/28 Cass BAW, Hubbard MAW, 5/1 Pine RAE, HHD.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) — [53 South, 32 North] See winter report for overwintering birds. Early south (median 4/2) 3/27 Hennepin TAT, Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/1 Hennepin SLC then many reports beginning 4/3. Early north (median

4/7) 3/22 Aitkin WEN, 3/27–28 Lake (*S. c. auduboni*, hybrid?) ph. †JWL, ph. †PHS, 4/7 Hubbard MaH, 4/9 Traverse BJU. Late south 5/27 Fillmore RTP, Hennepin LMo, 5/30 Hennepin SLC, Swift HHD (median 5/28). Notable high counts 5/15 Itasca (250) JLK, 5/5 Anoka (200) DWK, 5/6 Ramsey (200) IHu, SHu, 5/10 Anoka (200) DWK.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*) — [36 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/30 Hennepin CMB, SLC, Rice DAB, 5/1 Hennepin CMB, PJK, Waseca DCu. Early north (median 5/4) 5/7 St. Louis JLK, 5/8 Cass BAW, ABi, 5/11 Itasca EEO, St. Louis FKB, SC. Late south 5/28 Blue Earth RMD, Steele DAB (median 5/30).

Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [30 South, 18 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/5 Hennepin CMB, 5/7 Goodhue JLO, m.ob. 5/9 Hennepin CMB, RZi. Early north (median 5/14) 5/13 Mille Lacs ASC, 5/14 Mille Lacs JSP, 5/15 Crow Wing and Morrison FGo. Late south 5/30 Chippewa BJU, Hennepin TAT, SLC, Redwood SVo, Rice TFB, Swift BJU (median 5/31). Notable high counts 5/22–23 St. Louis (13, Park Point R.A.) PHS.

Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [43

South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/3 Carver JCy, 5/5 Anoka DWK, Big Stone BJU, Hennepin MDu, Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 5/10) 5/7 Douglas ARW, 5/8 St. Louis ALo, 5/10 Aitkin RBJ, DAC, Douglas ARW, Itasca SC. Late south 5/30 Hennepin CMB, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle and Swift BJU (median 5/29). Notable high counts 5/15 Hennepin (16) SBM, 5/23 St. Louis (11, Southworth Marsh, Park Point R.A. and hike past Sky Harbor Airport along Minnesota Point) PHS.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) — See Undocumented Reports.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [3 South, 1 North] Reported in expected range 5/9 Lac qui Parle (Colbert W.P.A.) ph. BJU, 5/11 Lac qui Parle (female, Hantho Beach) ph. BJU, 5/13 Big Stone (male, Ortonville) ph. BJU. Also unexpected 5/1 **Dakota** (Gun Club Lake) PEJ and far out-of-range 4/30 **St. Louis** (male, Duluth) ph. MLH, ph. †PHS, m.ob. One report 5/11 Hennepin (T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT was a female towhee with heavy spotting on shoulder, but not seen well enough to distinguish as a Spotted Towhee or a hybrid.

Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [36 South, 12 North] Two south reports in March of overwintering birds: 3/11 Blue Earth ChH, 3/16 (last date) Kandiyohi RSF. First migrants south (median 4/16) 4/3 Nicollet RPe, 4/9 Hennepin CMB, 4/13 Hennepin SHF. Early north (median 5/4) 5/3 St. Louis JCG, 5/4 Lake JWJ, 5/8 Clay RHO, Kittson LW, 5/9 St. Louis ALo. Unusual Northeast report 5/19 Cook ph. DBM.

Spotted Towhee X Eastern Towhee — Two reports: 5/6 Blue Earth ph. †ChH, AnK, 5/21 Lyon RAE.

American Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea*) — [49 South, 26 North] Late south 5/2 Anoka CKB, 5/4 Freeborn RTP, 5/8 Dakota SWe (median 5/2). Late north 5/7 Morrison FGo, 5/11 St. Louis SLF, 5/26 Todd DTM (median 5/7).

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/25 Scott KiH, 3/26 Hennepin StB, 3/31 Ramsey KMo, 4/1 Chisago DPi. Early north (median 4/11) 4/10 Grant RAE, Hubbard ANy, Otter Tail BDE, 4/13 Mille Lacs ASc. Season high counts 5/14 Morrison (60)

MJB, 4/2 Ramsey (50) SeH.

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) — [49 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/12 Winona NBO, 4/23 Big Stone, Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/29 Hennepin SMY, SLC, Washington KCr. Early north (median 4/27) 4/30 Otter Tail ARo, 5/1 Lake JWJ, Wadena PJB, 5/4 Douglas ARW, Kittson TrB, Mille Lacs ASc, St. Louis JLK. Notable high counts 5/4 Goodhue (30) GMi, 5/5 Hennepin (15) DDo, 5/17 Blue Earth (15) DCu.

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) — [49 South, 12 North] Reported from most south but few north counties. Unusual north were 4/28 **St. Louis** (Sky Harbor Airport) MH, 5/4 **Kittson** TrB. Early south 4/3 Blue Earth ChH, 4/5 Scott (2) JMN, Stearns EMa, 4/6 Rice DAB, TFB. Early north (median 4/21) 4/18 Mille Lacs ASc, 4/20 Becker ASM, 4/22 Morrison FGo. High count 5/24 Washington (20, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) PNI.

Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [51 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/29) 4/2 Faribault HHD, RAE, 4/3 Brown BTS, Wright HHD, 4/6 Freeborn RBW. Early north (median 4/12) 4/8 Otter Tail DBz, DAB, JWH, Wilkin SC, DBz, 4/9 Grant JWH, DAB, Traverse BJU. High count 5/1 Stearns (51, Ashley Twp.) PCC.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [30 South, 12 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/17 Wabasha DBz, 4/23 Carver JCy, Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/25 Sherburne ASc, Wabasha ANy. New county records: 5/20 **Waseca** AnK, 5/15 **Watonwan** RMD. Early north (median 5/4) 4/23 Mille Lacs ASc, 5/7 Hubbard MaH, Polk SAu, 5/12 Beltrami MHe.

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [47 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/1) 4/3 Brown BTS, 4/9 Big Stone BJU, Lac qui Parle HHD, Nobles BTS, Stearns DPG. Early north (median 4/17) 4/14 Morrison FGo, 4/20 Kittson TrB, 4/23 Wadena PJB.

Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus saviannarum*) — [26 South, 9 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/20 Sherburne ASc, 4/25 Dakota CMB, Wabasha ANy, 4/26 Stearns BAB, 4/28 Big Stone and Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 5/8) 4/27 Crow Wing FGo, 5/7 Morrison and Todd

- FGo. Unusual report 5/25 **Koochiching** JEB. Season high counts 5/29 Yellow Medicine (**115** singing males in Florida Twp.) RMD, 5/31 Sherburne (**22**, Sherburne N.W.R.) ASC.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [14 South] Early south (median 5/11) 4/23 Wabasha DBz, 5/14 Goodhue PEB, 5/20 Chisago (Wild River S.P.) MHe, 5/21 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU. Season high counts 5/22 Blue Earth (4, Minneopa S.P.) ChH, 5/24 Washington (3, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) PNI.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [12 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/21 Wright JEB, 4/23 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/24 Rice TFB, 4/25 Dakota DWK, RBW. Early north (median 5/2) 4/27 Cass FGo, 5/5 St. Louis DBF, 5/11 Aitkin MHe. Late south 5/20 Lac qui Parle BJU, Waseca AnK, ChH, but see summer summary for reports south that continue into June. High counts 5/20 Aitkin (12) ASC, 5/26 Aitkin (6) CMB.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [1 South, 4 North] South reports 5/20 Lac qui Parle (Gollnick W.M.A.) BJU. North reports **5/5+** Cass (Battleground S.F.) ABI, 5/7 Morrison FGo, 5/20 Aitkin ASC, Kittson DBz, 5/23+ Aitkin (McGregor Marsh) SLo, 5/25 Kittson SC.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [45 South, 26 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/17 Hennepin BAF, Olmsted JoP, Rice TFB, 3/18 Dodge DBM, Fillmore RTP, RTP, Hennepin TAT, Rice DAB, RZi, Washington JaH, SLP. Early north (median 3/29) 4/2 Douglas PJK, 4/3 Clay RHO, Otter Tail BDE, DST. Late south 5/4 Hennepin SKS, TMa (median 4/29). Late north 4/27 Crow Wing FGo, St. Louis JLK, 5/1–4 Kittson TrB (median 5/9). High count 4/16 St. Louis (91, Southworth Marsh, Duluth) PHS.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported throughout the state. Only one report of an overwintering individual in Hennepin (see winter report). Presumed early south migrants 3/11 Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/15 Fillmore NBO, Washington PNI. Early north (median 3/26) 3/4 St. Louis EBr (overwintering?), 3/26 Wadena PJB, 3/31 Mille Lacs ASC.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [42 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/15 Hennepin RTe, Jackson KeS, 4/17 Lac qui Parle BJU, Mower Kku. Early north (median 4/24) 4/18 Douglas ARW, 4/27 Crow Wing FGo, 4/30 Otter Tail ARo. Late south 5/26 Blue Earth ChH, Steele PSu, 5/30 Hennepin SLC, Scott MiT (median 5/25).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [48 South, 30 North] Early south (median 3/24) 3/19 Waseca DCu, 3/21 Hennepin TAT, JM, 3/27 Carver JCy, Hennepin SLC. Early north (median 4/15) 4/11 Morrison FGo, 4/13 Mille Lacs ASC, 4/14 Morrison FGo, MJB, 4/17 Kanabec HDD.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [49 South, 33 North] Reported throughout the state. See winter report for overwintering individuals. Presumed early south migrants (median 3/20) 3/21 Hennepin CMB, 4/3 Hennepin DWK, CMB, Rice DAB, 4/4 Olmsted LAV. Early north (median 4/11) 4/5 Polk MC, 4/13 Otter Tail ARo, St. Louis JLK, 4/15 Hubbard MAW. Late south 5/21 Big Stone BJU, Dodge JWH, Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/22 Carver JCy (median 5/27). Season high counts 4/30 Hennepin (T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) with reports of 100 (TAT, CMB) to 200 (JJo) individuals, also 4/30 Rice (100) DCu.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [38 South, 16 North] See winter report for overwintering individuals. Early south (median 4/3) 4/11 Lac qui Parle FAE, 4/19 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/26 Rice TFB, 4/28 Big Stone BJU, Jackson KeS, Martin CRM. Early north (median 4/28) 5/4 Kittson TrB, 5/5 Pennington BRe, 5/6 Polk SAu, 5/7 Marshall and Pennington JMJ. Late south 5/26 Pipestone NED, 5/30 Chippewa BJU (median 5/22). Late north 5/18 Kittson and Pennington RAE, 5/20 Polk SAu, 5/21 Traverse BJU (median 5/21).
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [41 South, 27 North] Overwintered in Rice TFB. Early south (median 4/21) 4/24 Lac qui Parle FAE, 4/28 Big Stone and Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (median 4/23) 4/26 Marshall MA, 4/28 Morrison FGo, 4/30 Otter Tail ARo, Polk (2) SAu, Todd JeM. High count 5/3 Hennepin (**30**, Westwood Hills N.C.) ThM. Late south 5/24 Carver JCy, Isanti DPG (median 5/21). Late north 5/26 Wadena

- (2) MGo, 5/27 Wilkin JWH, BWF (median 5/25).
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [53 South, 32 North] Seen statewide. Late south 5/25 Washington RBl, 5/27 Hennepin LiM, 5/29 Kandiyohi JoS (median 5/19). Notable high counts: 4/7 Cass (500) ABi, 4/7 Roseau (300) LeG, 4/23 St. Louis (300) TPW.
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [11 South, 3 North] A most impressive 25 individuals reported — 18 south and 7 north! Early south 4/23 Hennepin (female, Lake Calhoun) ph. DMc, WHO, 5/5 Rice (first-spring male) ph. BJB, 5/5–8 Olmsted (first-spring male) ph. REJ, m.ob. Late south 5/28 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, Steele (Rice Lake S.P.) DAB, 5/29 Hennepin LMS. Additional documented south reports 5/14 **Watonwan** ph. AnK, 5/23 Blue Earth ph. MRu. All north reports: 5/9–15 St. Louis (near UMD campus) ph. fide JWl, 5/10 **Kanabec** (first-spring male, west of Ogilvie) RAE, 5/12 St. Louis (first-spring male, Lakeside neighborhood of east Duluth) ph. JWl, MH, 5/12–16 St. Louis (Duluth Twp.) fide JWl, 5/13 St. Louis (near Cotton) fide JWl, 5/13 Cook (Lutsen) ph. JuH, 5/28–31 St. Louis (first-spring male, West Orange St., Duluth) ph. CEd, ph. PHS, m.ob.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [42 South, 20 North] Early south (median 5/5) **4/23** Stearns ARW, 5/7 Goodhue BNW, Rice JM, 5/8 Martin JCC, Rice BJB. Early north (median 5/12) 5/5 Mahnomen DTh, 5/10 Cass BAW, Todd JeM, 5/14 Becker MMD.
- Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*) — [4 North] All reports were from feeding stations: 5/1–2 Pine (Pine City) NJo, 5/11 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) MA, 5/14 Becker (Detroit Lakes) MMD, 5/27–28 ph. Polk JOJ.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [50 South, 23 North] Reported statewide. Northernmost records 3/5 Cook DMB, 5/25 Kittson TrB.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [53 South, 33 North] First reported south on 4/30 (median 4/28) from nine different counties! Early north (median 5/3) 5/3 Otter Tail BDE, 5/5 Carlton DCr, 5/6 Cass BAW, Clearwater CoC, Otter Tail ARo. Season high counts: 5/13 Scott (21, Louisville Swamp) SHF, 5/14 Carver (20, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. Also see undocumented reports.
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [2 South] Only reports for this late spring arriving species 5/24 Pipestone NED, 5/29 Yellow Medicine RMD.
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [47 South, 23 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/1 Fillmore NBO, Goodhue LEC, 5/3 Anoka DPG, 5/5 Hennepin CRM, 5/6 Washington JaH. Early north (median 5/9) 5/4 Polk SAu, 5/10 Becker DBH, Todd JeM, 5/11 Otter Tail ARo. Season high counts 5/16 Fillmore (**14**) RTP, 5/28 Steele (11) PSu.
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [7 South] Early south (median 5/10) 5/9 Blue Earth ChH, 5/11 Dakota RLW, and then 5 more counties beginning 5/28.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [46 South, 28 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/30 Blue Earth ChH, 5/3 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/5 Big Stone BJU, Dakota JLO, SWe, SLP, Olmsted JWH. Early north (median 5/5) 5/7 Cass BAW, Kanabec HHD, 5/10 Aitkin and Mille Lacs RBJ, DAC, Kanabec RAE.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Please see winter report for overwintering records. Presumed early south migrants 3/5 Rock DBM, JPr. Early north (median 3/10) 3/16 Otter Tail TJa, 3/17 Douglas JPE, Otter Tail RBJ, 3/19 Morrison FGo, Otter Tail DST, St. Louis BNW. High count 4/2 Meeker (3,000) MJB.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [33 South, 13 North] Early south 3/17 Carver JCy, Rice TFB, 3/18 Fillmore RTP, Mower DBM, Olmsted JWH, Rice RZi. Early north (median 3/25) 3/9 Mille Lacs ASc, 3/22 St. Louis EBr, 4/5 Cass BAW, 4/7 Crow Wing SC, Morrison SC, Wadena RBJ, DAC. High count 3/18 Fillmore (16) RTP.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [36 South, 16 North] Early south 3/6 Houston SWe, 3/11 Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/18 Dakota JLO, CMB. Early north (median 3/16) 3/19 Marshall MA, 3/20 Otter Tail GO, 3/27 Clay MM. Season high count 3/26 Lac qui Parle (**60**) DPG.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [46 South, 24 North] Early south (median 3/29) 3/26 Lac qui Par-

- le BJU, 4/2 Wright HCT, 4/8 Lac qui Parle HHD, four more counties on 4/9. Early north (median 4/10) 4/8 Otter Tail DAB, JWH, 4/9 Mille Lacs DBM, Traverse BJU. Season high counts 4/30 Lac qui Parle (80, Kibler W.M.A.) KeS, 4/9 Traverse (45) BJU.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [46 South, 16 North] Found throughout the south. Few reports from the Northwest and North-central regions. Early south (same as median) 3/6 Winona ANy, 3/13 Pipestone HHD, RAE, 3/16 Big Stone (5) and Lac qui Parle (3) BJU. Early north (median 3/20) 3/31 Mille Lacs ASc, 4/7 Douglas (8) ARW, Otter Tail SC. High count 4/2 Murray (60, Lake Shetek S. P.) RTe. Late south 5/1 Blue Earth AnK, Hennepin CMB, 5/3 Stearns FGo (median 5/1). Late north 5/15 Marshall SAS, 5/21–22 Otter Tail DvS (median 5/3).
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [37 South, 28 North] Early south (median 3/15) 3/18 Mower RAE, 3/20 Wabasha RAE, 3/24 Waseca DCu, 3/25 Dakota JLO. Early north (median 4/2) 4/7 Polk SAS, 4/9 Traverse BJU, 4/12 Morrison FGo, 4/17 St. Louis JLK. Season high counts 4/24 Lac qui Parle (80) BJU, 4/17 St. Louis (75) JLK, 4/30 Lac qui Parle (60) KeS.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [53 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering records. Early north (median 3/9) 3/14 Douglas CAn, 3/16 Lake JWJ, 3/25 Todd JeM, 3/27 Crow Wing ABi, 3/29 Polk SAU. Season high counts 4/2 Meeker (500) MJB, 3/19 Fillmore (195) RTP.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [2 South] Only reports 4/18 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) ph. BJU, 4/26 Martin TAT.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [53 South, 33 North] See winter report for overwintering records. Early south (median 3/13) 3/4 Dakota KeS, 3/13 Murray HHD, RAE, 3/16 Dakota KeS, 3/17 Carver JCy. Early north (median 4/6) 4/2 Otter Tail GO, ARo, 4/7 Crow Wing SC, Polk SAU, Todd SC. Season high counts 4/23 Cass (500) DAY, 4/21 Dakota (135) KeS.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [42 South, 12 North] Early south (median 5/7) 4/30 Rice DAB, 5/4 Fillmore NBO, Rice TFB, Scott GLa, Sherburne ASc, 5/6 Blue Earth ChH with many reports starting May 9 and onward. Early north (median 5/15) 5/9 Otter Tail GO, 5/14 Becker *fide* JMJ. Noted out-of-range report 5/22 St. Louis ph. GMa.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [52 South, 32 North] First south reports of this species arrived nicely in 8 counties on 4/30, one day after their median arrival date (4/29). Early north (median 5/4) 5/6 Otter Tail DST, Todd JeM. Reports from six additional north counties on 5/7. High count 5/10 Hennepin (20) ThM.
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [10 North] All reports 3/1 St. Louis NAJ, JLo, 3/2 St. Louis (22) JLo, 3/3 Hubbard MaH, Itasca SC, 3/4 St. Louis SFa, 3/5 Cass (35) DWK, ABi, JWH, Lake RTe, Marshall and Roseau HHD, RAE, St. Louis SES, RTe, ASe, 3/6 Cass JLO, DWK, JWH, Itasca SC, St. Louis RTe, 3/7 Aitkin JWH, Lake of the Woods *fide* JMJ, 3/9 Lake of the Woods *fide* JMJ, 3/10 St. Louis KJa, 3/12 Itasca SC, St. Louis RZi, 3/13 Cook DMB.
- Purple Finch** (*Carpodacus purpureus*) — [33 South, 28 North] Found in every region. Late south 5/22 Anoka DPG, 5/22 Rice JFR. Reported north throughout the season. Season high counts 4/10 St. Louis (60) LSc, 5/1 Goodhue (30) LEC.
- House Finch** (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) — [53 South, 29 North] Reported statewide.
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [6 North] All north 3/1 Itasca SC, 3/27 Itasca SC, 4/5 Roseau WBa, 4/9 Douglas ARW, m.ob., 4/18 Lake of the Woods WBa, 4/27–28 Hubbard (15) MaH, 5/23 Becker DBM, 5/25 Lake of the Woods JEB.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [3 North] Only reports 3/3 Itasca SC, 3/5 Roseau (7) HHD, RAE, 3/7 Aitkin (5) JWH, 3/11 Itasca SC.
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [9 South, 26 North] High counts 3/11 Hubbard (510) MAW, 4/9 Hubbard (250) MAW. Late south 3/20 Chisago MHe, Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/22 Washington KMo, PSm, 3/30 Sherburne ASc, 4/23 Hennepin JHe, Olmsted GPe. Late north 4/29 Cook HHD, 4/30 Cook RAE, 5/4 St. Louis AM (median 5/4).
- Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemannii*) — [13 North] Numerous reports this season, though all confined to the northern third of the state. Late north 4/3 Beltrami DPJ, 4/9 Hubbard MaH, 4/16 St. Louis †JLK, JCG

(median 4/7). Three additional sightings were documented: 3/1 St. Louis (Ely) ph. NLM, 3/6 Cass (Hackensack) †JWH, 3/7 St. Louis (Duluth) ph. MLH.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [34 South, 27 North] Late south 5/21 Martin HHD, 5/24 Hennepin SLC, 5/27 Rice TFB, 5/30-31 Hennepin ABL (median 5/21). Reported throughout the season north.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [53

South, 34 North] Reported statewide.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [9 North] Reported throughout the season in Northeast and North-central parts of the state. Season high counts 3/4 Cass (33) ABi, 3/19 Clearwater (15) CoC, 5/7 St. Louis (13) SLF.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [53 South, 29 North] Reported statewide, except from the far Northeast.

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ANy	Andrew Nyhus	CJS	Chris & Jen Selvey
ARo	Alma Ronningen	CKB	Christopher Brown
ARW	Alexander R. Watson	CMB	Conny M. Brunell
ASc	Al Schirmacher	CMK	Chris Merkord
ASe	Adam Sell	CRM	Craig R. Mandel
ASM	Steven Midthune	DAB	David A. Bartkey
ATF	Andrew T. Freeland	DAC	David A. Cahlander
AXH	Anthony X. Hertzel	DAd	David Adair
BAB	Betsy Beneke	DaO	Dakota Otto
BAF	Bruce A. Fall	DAT	Dan A. Tallman
BAn	Bart Anderson	DAY	Dale A. Yerger
BAS	Bonnie A. Sample	DBF	Deborah Buria-Falkowski
BAW	Ben A. Wieland	DBM	Dennis & Barbara Martin
BCS	Ben Stubbs	DBz	Dedrick Benz
BDE	Brad & Dee Ehlers	DCr	Donna Crider
BDS	Beau Shroyer	DCu	Dan Cunningham
BeH	Ben Harste	DDo	Diana Doyle
BeS	Ben Sandstrom	DED	D. Edward Davis
BJL	Bruce Lees	DEn	Deanne Endrizzi
BJS	Beth & Jeff Siverhus	DFN	David F. Neitzel
BJU	Bill J. Unzen	DJa	Dan Jackson
BL	Bob Lenertz	DLW	Debbie Waters
BMy	Bob Myers	DMB	David M. Brislance
BNW	Ben Wilson	DMc	dave mcintosh
BPI	Brian Plath	DMK	Dee Kuder
BRB	Brad R. Bolduan	DML	Dodie M. Logue
BRL	Bill R. Litkey	DOB	Derek O. Bakken
BSe	Blaine Seeliger	DPG	Dan & Pam Guynn
BSm	Ben Smith	DPi	Darcy Pinotti
BTS	Brian T. Smith	DPJ	Douglas P. Johnson
BU	Butch Ukura	DST	Dan & Sandy Thimgan
BWa	Beth Walters	DTh	David Thorstad

DTM Shawne Mc Kenna
 DvS Dave Stenger
 DWK Douglas W. Kieser
 EBr Erik Bruhnke
 EEO Earl E. Orf
 EFP Ethan F. Perry
 ELC Erik Collins
 EMa Eric Margenau
 EMH Beth Hamel
 FAE Fred A. Eckhardt
 FGo Frank Gosiak
 FKB Frank Berdan
 FVS Forest V. Strnad
 GaB Gale Brown
 GDJ Glenn DesJardin
 GJN Gerald J. Niemi
 GLa George Lahr
 GLH Gary L. Huschle
 GMa Gordy Martinson
 GMi Gabriel Miller
 GMM Gretchen M. Mehmel
 GO Gary Otnes
 GW Gail Wieberdink
 HCT Howard C. Towle
 HFH Hap Huber
 HFI Hilda Flamholtz
 HHa Heath Hamilton
 HHD Herb H. Dingmann
 IHu Ian Hunter
 JAn Josh Anderson
 JCC Joel C. Claus
 JCG Janet C. Green
 JCo Joe Conley
 JCy John Cyrus
 JDB Judd Brink
 JEB Jerry E. Bonkoski
 JeG Jennifer Gillen
 JEI Jesse Ellis
 JEM John E. Morrison
 JeM Jerome McKenna
 JeW Jeff Wolfe
 JFR James F. Ryan
 JHD Joel Dunnette
 JHg Jay Heggerness
 JJo Jonathon Jongsma
 JLH James L. Howitz
 JLK Larry & Jan Kraemer
 JLO James L. Otto
 JMJ Jeanie M. Joppru
 JMN James McNamara
 JNe John Nelson
 JnS Jon Schubbe
 JOJ Joanne Johnson
 JoP JoAnna Pruettt
 JOr Joseph Orr
 JoS Joel Schmidt
 JPE John P. Ellis
 JPM James P. Mattsson
 JPr Jerry Pruettt

JPS Julian P. Sellers
 JSP Jen Sobiech-Pariseau
 JSS Jack Sprenger
 JTe J Teigland
 JuH Judith W. Hidde
 JV Jennifer Vieth
 JWH John W. Hockema
 JWJ James W. Lind
 JWR Jim W. Rataczak
 KaN Katie Nelson
 KBr Kathy Bresee
 KCr Karen Cramer
 KeS Kevin Smith
 KiH Kim Hansen
 KKB Karla Kinstler Bloem
 KMo Kirk Mona
 KRE Kim R. Eckert
 KRo Karl Roe
 KRS Kurt R. Schulzetenberg
 KRW Kevin Woizeschke
 KSc Karen Schik
 KSi Kathy Sidles
 KSm Kevin Smith
 KSo Karen Sowizral
 KuS Kurt Schulzetenberg
 KVH Katie
 LAV Lance A. Vrieze
 LAW Larry A. Weber
 LBF Linda B. Felker
 LEC Laura E. Coble
 LeG Lee Giesbrecht
 LMo Linda Mona
 LMS Larry Sirvio
 LMu Linda Munson
 LPf Lee Pfannmuller
 LS Linda Sparling
 LW Larry Wilebski
 MA Maggie Anderson
 MaH Marshall Howe
 MaK Mary Kinner
 MAW Marlene A. Weber
 MDe Mark Demos
 MDN Mark D. Nieters
 MDu Matt Dufort
 MGo Malcolm Gold
 MH Matti Hakkila
 MHe Melissa Hein
 MHK Martin H. Kehoe
 MJB Milton J. Blomberg
 MJM Michael J. Majeski
 MKu Margaret Kuchenreuther
 MLH Mike L. Hendrickson
 MM Matt Mecklenburg
 MMD Mike & Mary Davis
 MMi Mary Miller
 MO Mark Otnes
 MoM Molly Jo Miller
 MRN Mike North
 MRu Megan Rupnow

MSc Mike Schrage
 MSM Mark S. Martell
 MSo Mathew Sorensen
 NAa Naomi Aasheim
 NAJ Nancy A. Jackson
 NBO Nancy B. Overcott
 NED Nelvina E. De Kam
 NFT Nels F. Thompson
 NJo Nate Johnson
 NLM Norma L. Malinowski
 NP Nate Popkin
 NSk Nick Skramstad
 OWB Bill Bruins
 PCC Philip C. Chu
 PEB Paul E. Budde
 PEJ Paul E. Jantscher
 PHS Peder H. Svingen
 PJB Paul J. Binck
 PJK Pat Korkowski
 PLe Peter Leschak
 PLJ Paul L. Johnson
 PMJ Paul M. Johnson
 PNi Peter Nicholas
 PRH Pete Hoeger
 PSm Paul Smithson
 PSP Pamela S. Perry
 PSu Paul Suchanek
 RAE Ronald A. Erpelding
 RBJ Robert B. Janssen
 RBI Rachel Blume
 RBW Bob Williams
 RBy Bob Bystrom
 RDE Roger D. Everhart
 REH Robert E. Holtz
 REJ Ruth E. Johnson
 RHe Robert Heise
 RHO Robert H. O'Connor
 RJS Roger J. Schroeder
 RJW Robert Watson
 RLR Ronald L. Refsnider
 RLW Richard Wood
 RMa Robin Maercklein
 RMD Robert M. Dunlap
 RNe Randal Newton
 RoJ Ronald Johannsen
 RPe Ralph Peterson
 RPR Robert Russell
 RSA Renner S. Anderson
 RSF Randy S. Frederickson
 RTe Raymond Tervo
 RTo Randy Toppen
 RTP Ray Potthoff
 RZi Roy Zimmerman
 SAS Shelley A. Steva
 SAu Sandy Aubol
 SC Shawn Conrad
 SCZ Shawn Zierman
 SeH Seth Hayden
 SES Steven E. Schon

SGW Steve G. Wilson
 SHF Susan H. Fall
 ShK Sharon Kaufman
 SHu Stan Hunter
 Slv Samuel Ives
 SKr Scott Krych
 SKS Sharon Koval Stiteler
 SLC Steve L. Carlson
 SLF Steve L. Falkowski
 SLo Scott Loss
 SLP Susan Plankis
 SMa Suzanne Maki
 SMC Scott M. Clark
 SMi Sandi Miller
 SPe Samuel Petrie
 SRo Stephen Rossiter
 SSa Stephen Savior
 SSw Scott Swanson
 StB Steve Brandt
 STW Sylvia T. Winkelman
 SuW Suzanne Weber
 SVo Skyler Vold
 SWe Steve Weston
 TAF Troy A. Foster
 TAN Tom A. Nelson
 TAT Tom A. Tustison
 TEB Tom & Elizabeth Bell
 TFB Tom F. Boevers
 ThM Thomas Malone
 TJa Teresa Jaskwicz
 TJM Todd J. Merefield
 TLy Toni Lyrenmann
 TPW Terry P. Wiens
 TrB Tracy Brewer
 VTh Vicky Thomas
 WAF Wayne Feder
 WCM William C. Marengo
 WEN Warren E. Nelson
 WHo William Holton
 WPe Wendy Pepin

Abbreviations

C.P. County Park
 F.R. Forest Road
 N.C. Nature Center
 N.M. National Monument
 N.W.R. National Wildlife Refuge
 P.R. Park Reserve
 R.P. Regional Park
 S.F. State Forest
 S.N.A. Scientific and Natural Area
 S.P. State Park
 S.R. State Road
 Twp. Township
 W.M.A. Wildlife Management Area
 W.P. Wilderness Park
 W.P.A. Waterfowl Protection Area
 W.S.H.C. West Skyline Hawk Count
 W.T.P. Wastewater Treatment Ponds

Birding by Hindsight

A Second Look at MBW (Part II)

Kim R. Eckert



Discussions of flip-arounds, Canadian honkers, yellow car jokes.... With these among the topics included the last time around in this column (*The Loon* 83:136–139), has “Hindsight” finally run out of ideas after 17 years? Could be, although these expressions and others have become quintessential aspects of the Minnesota Birding Weekends program (i.e., MBW), which has provided numerous bird identification challenges over the years.

The previous column discussed some ID issues faced during last year’s MBW season, and — brace yourselves — here are some more from the 2010-11 season. Again, for your edification and with your permission, these entries will be introduced with MBW idioms. Okey dokey?

• *Proper Scope Etiquette*: Duluth MBW, January 2011

Since it’s contrary to the concept of “Minnesota Nice,” some MBW birders have difficulty getting the hang of the proper etiquette when given the opportunity to look through someone’s spotting scope. The correct strategy is to barge right in there and don’t defer to other waiting birders. If you get bogged down into a polite “after you” exchange, birds have a way of flying off before either of the hesitating birders finally looks through the scope.

And keep in mind that spotting scopes are not just for distant waterfowl or perched raptors. They can be essential when dealing with birds closer at hand when their identities rely on inspection of minute and subtle field marks. So it was on this MBW (and on

the November 2010 MBW) with the gulls standing on the nearby breakwater at Canal Park in Duluth. The particular individual we puzzled over was a possible Iceland Gull which eventually overwintered there.

Or was it a pale Thayer’s Gull? Or a Thayer’s X Iceland hybrid? Or if indeed an Iceland, would it be of the *glaucooides* or *kumlieni* subspecies (which some consider separate species)? Intense scrutiny over several weeks focused on things like irides color, orbital rings, gonydeal angles, subapical spots, primary mirrors, P10 vs. P9 patterns, tertials, primary extensions, subterminal tail bands....

So what was it? My answer is the same as the response to this riddle: What would be the worst quality of a birding tour guide — ignorance or apathy? Answer: I don’t know and I don’t care. Sorry, but when it comes to larger gulls (especially immatures) with ambiguous or anomalous features, I have to admit my attention span is seriously limited. This is especially true with the issue of paler Thayer’s Gulls vs. darker Iceland, since many are of the opinion that the two are simply nothing more than the same species and often cannot be separated. (Or in my case, all this is Proven Scientific Fact — see below.)

So, why fret over an ID problem if it just gives you a headache and even tends to ruin your enjoyment of birding, especially if the problem cannot be resolved? Consider the Frontiers of Field Identification on-line discussion group about bird ID issues (<http://listserv.arizona.edu/archives/birdwg01.html>). Almost invariably when it

comes to a mystery gull, the ID is tediously discussed at length but hardly ever resolved. Indeed, even the experts typically don't know what these gulls are, even if they do care.

So, now that you know Proper Scope Etiquette, how about Proper Gull Etiquette? My advice, at least when dealing with the ID of atypical immatures: it's perfectly OK to ignore them, to avoid potential headaches, and maintain your sanity. To simply say you don't know and you don't care.

- *No Refunds*: Lyon-Lincoln County MBW, October 2010

This MBW mantra has been an oft-repeated tradition with us for over 20 years, although it has now become something we typically say in jest, either just after we've found something really good or, conversely, when the birding is not going well.

And things certainly seemed refund-worthy at times on this MBW's Friday option, when birds were really hard to come by as it reached 90 degrees, some 30 degrees above normal. It did cool off the next day, although the recently warm, dry, and uneventful weather was not conducive to migration activity: migrant woods birds were almost non-existent, and — if ever there was a reason for refunds — even the sewage ponds we checked were virtually empty.

But among other things, our MBW was highlighted by a total of 17 sparrow species, with two of these presenting some reminders about ID issues. One was the Spotted Towhee we found which had to be carefully studied to be sure it wasn't a hybrid: such individuals do occur in Minnesota and always have to be considered. Eventually we could see enough white spotting and streaking on both the back and wings to rule out hybridization, but keep in mind that some Spotted Towhee races are less spotted than others and more closely resemble Easterns.

Le Conte's was the other sparrow that caused some uncertainty on our part. Though I had long known that some Le Conte's can appear more orange than buff on the face, I apparently had forgotten how orange and Nelson's Sparrow-like some of them could be. There was one field espe-

cially where we'd flush orange-faced sparrows that I was sure would be Nelson's. But as we tracked them down to get better looks, they proved to be Le Conte's once the two more reliable field marks became visible: white median crown stripes (not gray as on Nelson's) and streaked napes (not solid gray).

- *Proven Scientific Fact*: Duluth MBW, September 2010

As I like to remind anyone on a MBW who'll listen, I never express mere personal opinions, because everything I say is Proven Scientific Fact! (My fist pounding on the table for emphasis often accompanies this claim, and then even I start to believe it.) Even when I'm way off about something, which is frequent, I've at least found this can be an effective way to avoid giving refunds.

I do have to admit that any claim to infallibility can be especially shaken when it comes to swan identification, as it was on this MBW. Here was this lone swan at the Castle Danger sewage ponds in September, which I tentatively claimed would be a Trumpeter, by virtue of it being a single individual and because of the early date. After all, migrant Tundras are typically in flocks and should not start appearing until later in October. A second look, though, revealed the diagnostic yellow lores of a premature and lonely Tundra Swan.

Interestingly, a year later on the 2011 edition of this late September MBW, a group of five swans flew over us at Park Point in Duluth and continued out of sight. Again, I found myself assuming they were Trumpeters because of the modest number and early date, although, shaken by that Tundra the year before, I listed them as unidentified. As has been addressed before in previous "Hindsight" columns, swans can be deceptively difficult to identify at times, and I continue to maintain this means we have an imperfect concept of what the status of Trumpeter and Tundra swans actually is in Minnesota.

- *Lily-livered Lollygagging Listers*: Northwestern Minnesota MBW, September 2010

I have to admit that most serious list-

ers do not tend to be lily-livered, nor do they lollygag very much on MBWs. Those dedicated to adding birds to their lists (e.g., county lists) usually don't shy away from adversity (such as braving the perils of gull and swan ID), nor do they like to waste time (with non-essentials like eating and sleeping). Still, I like to call them this, perhaps because all that alliteration appeals to my roots as an English major.

One challenge on this MBW arose when some turkeys happened by in Marshall County. No, their ID wasn't the problem. Rather, the dilemma was deciding whether or not these really were *Wild Turkeys* up here in northwestern Minnesota, something one could fairly count on a county list. Or were they merely recent, non-established releases from some game farm or barnyard? (You guessed it: they were boldly and swiftly listed.) However, just as swan distribution is clouded by ID difficulties, the true status of Wild Turkeys in northern Minnesota remains uncertain as long as not-so-wild turkeys are out there as well.

But even better than these turkeys was the immature night-heron we saw way up in Warroad. It had been found earlier in the week by others and naturally assumed to be a Black-crowned, but our careful study showed it was actually a quite unexpected Yellow-crowned. Separating these immatures is not easy, but the best field marks involve the Yellow-crowned's all-dark bill color (bicolored on Black-crowned) and the smaller, rounder spots on its upperparts (larger, tear-drop-shaped spots on Black-crowned). There are also subtle differences mentioned in the field guides (the Yellow-crowned's thicker bill, rounder head shape, darker overall plumage, and longer legs), but I'd consider these hard to judge without direct comparison.

Later on this MBW, another ID challenge arose while we were split into two groups, and some found a flycatcher they called an Olive-sided. After they moved on and the others arrived at the exact same site a few minutes later, an Eastern Wood-Pewee was identified. So, did the Olive-sided take off and a wood-pewee move in? Perhaps, but it's more likely there was just one bird which one of the groups misidentified. Be

aware that it's easier to confuse these two flycatchers than most birders think, especially since some wood-pewees can look relatively dark below and somewhat "vested," much like an Olive-sided.

Of course, a far more difficult and well-known problem involves telling Western Wood-Pewees from Easterns. Silent, out-of-range wood-pewees are not considered safe to identify by appearance alone, and there was this one wood-pewee we found that suggested it might be a Western. But we had to leave it as unidentified since it refused to utter even a single call note during the entire time we studied it. Even if it had, though, anything short of the full territorial song (a burry, nasal, hoarse, falling-in-pitch "beeerr") wouldn't be enough to call it a Western.

I had previously thought that it was OK to use call notes alone to ID something as a Western — i.e., burry, nasal, and hoarse like the song, but rising-in-pitch instead: "bree". This is what was heard in Norman County on a 2009 MBW, and the references agreed only Westerns could sound this way. Not so, unfortunately, as I learned last year with two Eastern Wood-Pewees giving Western-like notes, one each in Ohio and Ontario. My field notes indicate both birds uttered burry, nasal, soft "pee-yee" call notes that rose in pitch, much like what I had heard in Norman County.

Alas, this Lily-livered Lollygagging Norman County Lister still has only one of the wood-pewees on that list.

• *Aliens*: Stevens-Traverse County MBW, August 2010

I can't imagine doing any MBW without carpooling, normally limited to four vehicles with four persons each to keep the line of cars manageable, or without every vehicle equipped with an FRS or GMRS radio, so everyone knows what's being seen and where the next stop is. (I understand that some field trips manage to operate without either strategy, but I don't know how they do it.) Radios also come in handy when announcing the presence of what we fondly and traditionally call Aliens (i.e., vehicles approaching us from the rear), so we know when to either speed up or pull over to let them by.

Of course, the word aliens also refers to other things, including strange visitors from other planets (e.g., county listers?), or exotic plants and animals introduced from one area to another. One of the latter encountered on this MBW was a pair of Eurasian Collared-Doves in the town of Herman, a species now routinely seen and taken for granted in towns in much of southern and western Minnesota. But when first discovered in the state in 1998 and for the next few years, close attention was involved with any sighting to be sure the dove wasn't an exotic Ringed (or African) Turtle-Dove.

After collared-doves became Regular in status in the next few years, no one bothered with the turtle-dove ID issue any more, but perhaps there are times when we should. For example, while one of that pair in Herman looked like a typical Eurasian Collared-Dove, the other was much paler and looked much like a Ringed/African Turtle-Dove. While turtle-doves may just be "non-countable" exotics, be aware they can still be out there and could interbreed with collared-doves, but there are still ways to tell the two apart: e.g., see the "Hindsight" article on doves in *The Loon* 72:107-110 (<http://www.mbwbirds.com/Doves.html>).

Along with those doves in Herman, it's worth mentioning that this MBW featured another challenging ID issue at Thielke Lake, another bird we did not identify with any certainty. As has been seen several times before in Minnesota, here was one of those puzzling intermediate Western-Clark's grebes. In this case, its bill was somewhat orange-yellow, but not as strikingly so as on a typical Clark's, and the feathering around its eyes was only partly white. Again, birders need to be prepared to occasionally encounter grebes such as these and to do the right thing about their ID: i.e., don't identify them.

- *White Starlings*: Houston-Winona County MBW, April 2010

Well, their plumage is white, they're pests introduced from Europe, and they negatively impact native waterfowl species. So why not refer to Mute Swans as White Starlings? (I've also heard a rumor

that Trumpeters are sometimes called the same thing, though you can't believe everything you hear.) But at least Mute Swans don't share the ID difficulties involved with the other two swans. The problem birders have with them is provenance. When a Mute Swan turns up in Minnesota, how do you determine if it's a genuine, countable stray from an established population or just someone's pet?

The season involved and the swan's behavior might provide some clues, but more telling is the habitat. A more natural wetland, especially if there are other migrant waterfowl around, might suggest a wild bird; an urban or suburban park-like setting, especially when other exotic waterfowl are there, tends to indicate a recently escaped or released bird.

But on this MBW, we encountered a couple of Mute Swans at a site not so easily categorized. While a casino's sewage ponds would normally be one of those suspicious "park-like" locations, Treasure Island Casino is in an obviously rural setting along the wooded backwaters of the Mississippi River, and there were lots of migrant waterfowl accompanying these swans. Indeed, we almost had them listed, when one of the MBWers simply called the casino (he even had them on speed dial on his cell phone!) and learned the casino had recently released them. Only then did we have to admit these were nothing more than White Starlings.

So, you're now ready to fit right in on any MBW you attend, both in what you say and in what we struggle to identify. After all, you've learned a lot — that proper etiquette can include rudeness (when scopes are concerned), when to expect refunds, the best way to separate fact (the Proven Scientific variety) from fiction, how to distinguish lily-livered lollygagging county listers from aliens, and what the difference is between a White Starling and a Canadian Honker.

1921 West Kent Road, Duluth, MN 55812.

The MOU 300 Club

Compiled by Anthony X. Hertzelt and David A. Cahlander

The Roberts Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 85% of Minnesota's 438 bird species

406 Kim R. Eckert	384 David P. Sovereign
403 Robert B. Janssen	382 Steve Millard
401 Peder H. Svingen	381 Richard Wachtler, Warren E. Nelson
400 Anthony X. Hertzelt	380 Don O. Kienholz, Gloria Wachtler, John W. Hockema, Hap Huber
399 Bill R. Litkey	378 Jerry E. Bonkoski, David A. Cahlander, Bill George, Charles Krulas
398 <i>Ray Glassel</i>	376 Karol Gresser, Jeff J. Stephenson
394 Paul M. Egeland	375 Ronald L. Huber, Tom A. Tustison
391 Jo Blanich, Steve Blanich	374 Andrew D. Smith
390 <i>Richard Ruhme</i>	373 Dedrick Benz, Rick Hoyme
389 Dennis D. Martin, Kim W. Risen	
388 Barbara Martin, Robert L. Ekblad	
386 Don A. Bolduc	

The 300 Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 300 bird species in Minnesota

372 Al A. Bolduc, Oscar L. Johnson	333 Cindy Risen
371 <i>Terry Savaloja</i>	332 Al Schirmacher
370 Ronald A. Erpelding, Dick Rengstorf	331 William R. Bronn
369 <i>Elizabeth Campbell</i> , Douglas P. Johnson, Howard C. Towle	330 Alice Hennessey, Nathan Schirmacher
368 Forest V. Strnad	329 Betsy Beneke
367 Mark S. Citsay	326 Tom Bell
366 Conny M. Brunell, William C. Marengo, Connie L. Osbeck	325 Robert E. Holtz, Robert H. O'Connor, Gary Simonson
365 Mike L. Hendrickson, David W. Thurston	322 Lars Benson, Kathy A. Heidel, Dale A. Yerger
364 Jim Williams	321 Milton J. Blomberg, Dick Hartman, Pete Hoeger, Paul L. Johnson, Brian T. Smith
363 Bruce B. Baer, Robert M. Dunlap, Jim R. Eikenberry	320 Jeanie M. Joppru, Earl E. Orf
362 John P. Ellis, <i>Jerry Gresser</i> , Craig R. Mandel	319 Jonas Benson, Linda B. Felker, Roger J. Schroeder
361 Bill Stjern	318 David Johnson
360 Diane M. Anderson, Jim Egge, <i>Bill Pieper</i>	317 Frank Berdan, Frank Gosiak
359 Randy S. Frederickson, Mike Mulligan, James L. Otto	316 Joel Dunnette, Douglas Mayo
358 Dick Sandve	314 Mike W. Steffes
357 Philip C. Chu, Herb H. Dingmann, Linda Sparling	313 Clay Christensen, Tom A. Nelson, Shelley A. Steva, Dan T. Thimgan
356 David R. Benson, Janet C. Green, Sparky Stensaas	312 Nelvina E. De Kam, Diana Doyle
355 Leslie Marcus, Jerry Pruett, Susan Schumacher	311 Chris Fagyal, Kenneth M. Schumacher, Ben A. Wieland
353 Steve J. Roman	310 K. Scott Foster, Fred Z. Leshner, <i>Theodore Voelker</i>
352 Dave Baden, Ben W. Fritchman, Peter Neubeck	309 Clara Dahle, Steven E. Schon, Sandy M. Thimgan
350 Terry P. Brashear, J. S. Futcher, Bill J. Unzen	308 Mark Otnes
349 Nancy A. Jackson, Blaine Seeliger	307 Deanne Endrizzi, Steven Midthune, Anthony M. Smith
348 Marjorie Cahlander, Kenneth Oulman	306 Dick Hartman, Robert T. Heise
345 Mark Junghans, Craig A. Menze	305 Kathi Berdan, <i>Burnett Hojnacki</i>
343 Joel C. Claus, James W. Lind, Bob Williams	304 Alexander R. Watson
341 Warren Wegener	303 Chad Heins
339 David A. Bartkey	302 Molly Malecek, Connie M. Norheim, Keith T. Pulles
338 Bonnie J. Mulligan, Warren Woessner	301 Shawn Conrad, Tom Margevicius
337 <i>Ken LaFond</i> , Judith Sparrow	300 Tom F. Boevers, Don Starkweather, Roy Zimmerman
336 Mark C. Alt	
335 Colin R. Gjervold	
334 Chet A. Meyers	

Notes of Interest



BANDED MINNESOTA CHICKADEE SETS NEW LONGEVITY RECORD — On 9 December and again on 22 December 2011, I recaptured banded Black-capped Chickadee number 2280-26903 at my banding station four miles east of Pillager in Cass County. I originally banded the bird on 5 May 2002 and assigned it an age of after-second-year (meaning it was hatched in 2000 or earlier) based on rounded rectrix tips with a fair amount of white coloring extending around the tip of the tail feathers and onto the inner web (see Pyle et al. 1997 for sexing and aging criteria; birds hatched in 2001 should have had pointed and worn rectrices with no white extending onto the inner web). I also identified it as a male based on a wing length measurement of 68 mm. Thus when last recaptured this bird had a minimum age of 11 years and 6 months, which makes it a new longevity record holder for Black-capped Chickadees. (I based my age on a conservative hatch date estimate of 1 June; the Bird Banding Laboratory may assign it a later hatch date, i.e., 1 July). The current record for a Black-capped Chickadee in the Bird Banding Laboratory database is for an 11-year-2-month old bird banded in Massachusetts on 22 July 1970 and recaptured there 28 August 1980 (USGS Bird Banding Lab 2011).

This chickadee is unusual for other reasons besides its longevity. First, I very rarely capture new adults in May, as most new birds I band are hatch-year individuals in fall or winter, and the few birds I initially band as adults are also usually caught in the fall or winter. Second, the next time I caught this bird after the initial banding was on 7 November 2008, 6-1/2 years after initial banding, and I caught it twice that day. I have never recaptured a banded chickadee after such a long interval. The fact I caught it twice that day and three more times in 2009 and 2010 suggests it was not simply adept at avoiding capture at my nets and traps. Instead, I believe it was not a resident bird, but rather a migrant or transient individual. Apparently it was not present during the winter of 2010–2011. A complete capture history of this bird is presented in Table 1.

Another longevity note of interest for Black-capped Chickadees is a bird (2200-84757) I banded on 28 August 2001 and recaptured 27 times through 20 December 2010, also four miles east of Pillager. This bird, a male, was a hatch-year bird when banded, and was about 9 years and 6 months old when last recaptured. It exceeded the second oldest Black-capped Chickadee longevity record posted on the Bird Banding Laboratory's website. Interestingly, I captured this bird 18 times from 28 August 2001 – 15 November 2003; not at all between November 2003 and October 2006; and then 10 more times from 9 October 2006 – 20 December 2010.

Table 1. Capture history of Black-capped Chickadee #2280-26903, near Pillager, Cass County.

Capture Date	Minimum Age	Wing (mm)	Tail (mm)	Weight (g)
5 May 2002	1year, 9 months	68	67	12.0
7 November 2008	8 years, 5 months	70	67	11.8
22 January 2009	8 years, 7 months	70	68	12.1
12 December 2009	9 years, 6 months	71	69	11.8
24 January 2010	9 years, 7 months	70	67	12.5
9 December 2011	11 years, 6 months	70	67	11.0
22 December 2011	11 years, 6 months			11.1



Figure 1. Black-capped Chickadee recaptured near Pillager, Cass County, on 22 December 2011.



Laughing Gull, 3 May 2011, Eggert Lake near Montgomery, Le Sueur County. Photo by Robert M. Dunlap.

References

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Michael R. North, 13261 – 21st Avenue SW, Pillager, MN 56473.

LAUGHING GULL IN LE SUEUR COUNTY — On 3 May 2011, I was scanning Eggert Lake near Montgomery, when I focused on a bird I first thought was a Franklin's Gull. After consulting the field guides, I realized that it looked more like a Laughing Gull. There were no white markings on the tips of the wing feathers and the wing tips were distinctly dark with no white separating the darker ends from the gray mantle of the wing. The bill looked larger than a Franklin's Gull. **Bob Williams, 5254 West 95th Street, Bloomington, MN 55437.**



This was an adult bird in breeding plumage, with a full black hood extending to the nape. It had a long, dark, reddish bill which curved slightly downwards at the tip. The legs, seen in flight, were also a dark reddish color. Narrow, incomplete white eye arcs were obvious around dark irides. The mantle was a dark slate gray and the under parts — including the tail — were a clean white. At rest, the primaries appeared black and showed no white at the tips. In flight, the long pointed wings were dark gray with extensive black in the outer primaries. There was no white band separating the gray from the black of the wing tips, a characteristic that was more boldly emphasized during its frequent, leisurely flights. This lack of banding is markedly different from that of an adult Franklin's Gull, which in breeding plumage has dark gray upper wings that are separated from the limited black wing tips by a white band. The only other gulls on the lake were Bonaparte's, which were smaller and had a lighter mantle.

The Laughing Gull snapped at insects while on the water, as well as in flight. It did not appear aggressive, and was indifferent to the nearby Bonaparte's Gulls and Ruddy Ducks. After I observed them for nearly an hour, all the other gulls flew up and circled away, leaving the Laughing Gull to settle down alone on the lake. **Connie Brunell, 6801 Sheridan Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423.**

DISJUNCT WESTERN KINGBIRD BREEDING POPULATION REDISCOVERED DURING BREEDING BIRD ATLAS SURVEYS



The Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) is a common grassland nesting species in the Dakotas, but is uncommon in the tallgrass prairie and aspen parkland ecoregions in Minnesota (Figure 1).

In 2009, the five-year *Breeding Bird Atlas* project started in Minnesota. In 2010, I committed to survey Langola Township in northwestern Benton County, an area characterized by grasslands and croplands with remnant native prairie tracts and deciduous forests above the bluffs of the Mississippi River; wetlands are rare. Adjacent Bellevue Township in Morrison County is similar.

In 2010, I found three Western Kingbird pairs with nests, and a fourth pair with fledged young in Langola Township and adjacent Bellevue Township.

On 17 May, I found a single adult on a powerline guywire in the NW1/4SW1/4 of Section 3. On 28 May and 4 June, the pair was nest-building on the steel beams of a power pole. The female was periodically seen incubating from 7–28 June.

On 24 and 25 May, I found three adult Western Kingbirds at a power substation along U.S. Highway 10 in SE1/4 Sec. 12. By 28 May, a pair settled at this location and were nest building on steel support brackets within the substation. The female was incubating by 2 June. On 28 June, an adult was at the nest with a dragonfly.

On 7 June, I found a female on a nest on a steel bracket attached to a power pole in the SE1/4 Section 33 of Bellevue Township with the male nearby. I had seen kingbirds in this area (and up to ½ mile away) from 27 May – 4 June. The female was still at the nest 18 and 28 June.

On 28 May, a single adult was seen on a pine snag in a shelterbelt along the east section line road of Section 3, and a pair was present there 7 June. On 20 July, I found a family group in this shelterbelt, including one adult feeding two fledglings.

On 28 June 2011, I revisited all nest sites found in 2010. Adults were on nests at each of the three nest sites, and in addition there was a fledgling still with some down near the nest in Bellevue Township. The shelterbelt where a family group was seen in 2010 had been destroyed by the landowner.

Both Pam Perry and Kevin Woizeschke of the DNR Nongame Program separately recalled regularly seeing Western Kingbirds in this area in the early 1990s while conducting Loggerhead Shrike surveys. These data complement each other and document the persistence of this relict or disjunct population. Both Pam Perry and I have also seen Western Kingbirds along highway 10 in Sherburne County in shrubby grasslands and in extreme southwestern Benton County, and breeding was reported in Anoka County in 2010 (*The Loon* 83:25). Thus it appears the Western Kingbird is sparsely distributed throughout the Anoka Sandplain Ecoregion. **Michael R. North, 13261 – 21st Avenue SW, Pillager, MN 56473.**

Editor's Note — In central Minnesota, the Western Kingbird apparently nests sparingly along a narrow corridor from Morrison County southeast through Benton, eastern Stearns, Sherburne, Anoka, and occasionally Ramsey and Washington counties. — AXH.

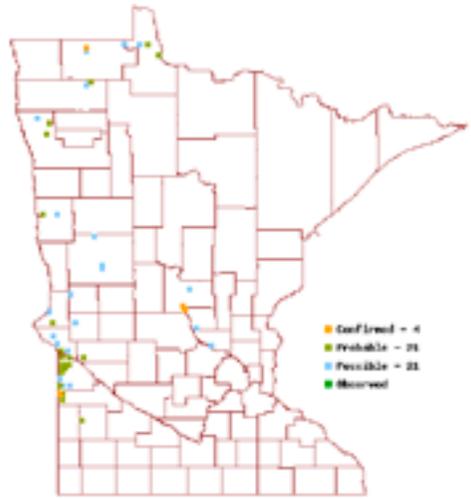


Figure 1. BBA map of Western Kingbird breeding records, 2009–2011.

Corrections to *The Season*

Peder H. Svingen and Ann E. Kessen

Volume 78

Summer 2005 – Spring 2006

- Page 149.* **American Crow.** Add high count 1/19 Steele (1,000) NFT.
Page 153. **Northern Cardinal.** Add high count 12/17 Rice (36) DAB.

Volume 80

Summer 2007 – Spring 2008

- Page 86.* **Canada Warbler.** Add high counts 8/27 Dakota (10, Spring Lake P.R.) JPM, 8/25 Hennepin (8, Wood Lake) CMB.
Page 90. **Western Meadowlark.** Add high count 10/12 Lac qui Parle (50) BJU.
Page 196. **IBIS sp.** Change date for Lyon from 5/15 to 5/15–18.
Page 202. **Bonaparte's Gull.** Add date (5/6) to high count in Duluth.

Volume 81

Summer 2008 – Spring 2009

- Page 18.* **Great Egret.** Add high count 7/17 Lac qui Parle (458, Big Stone N.W.R.) KJB.
Page 36. **White-winged Crossbill.** Add high count 7/16 Cook (235 migrating SW along the North Shore at Cascade S.P.) Stephen Rossiter.
Page 79. **Eurasian Collared-Dove.** Add 7/29–8/4 Wilkin (Rothsay) †SPM.
Page 124. **Wild Turkey.** Add high counts 2/21 Dakota (106) TJM, 1/19 Morrison (73) MJB.
Page 126. Add **Herring Gull X Glaucous Gull** 12/13 St. Louis (Duluth) †KRE, †PHS.
Page 126. **Great Black-backed Gull.** Change initial date for fourth-cycle bird from 11/24 to 11/25.
Page 130. **American Crow.** Add high count 2/7 Hennepin (4,000) BAF.
Page 177. Add **MISSISSIPPI KITE** 5/19 **Pipestone** †CRM et al.
Page 183. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.** Change date to 5/30 for high count in Scott.

Volume 82

Summer 2009 – Spring 2010

- Page 9.* **Mute Swan.** Add 6/3 Wright (pair in small wetland along US 12, west of Howard Lake) RPR.
Page 65. **Piping Plover.** Change date to 9/24–9/29 St. Louis and add observer CRU.
Page 117. **American Crow.** Add non-CBC high count 1/6 Hennepin (810, Hopkins) WCM.

Volume 83

Summer 2010 – Spring 2011

- Page 13.* **Great Egret.** Add high count 7/27 Hennepin (114, Purgatory Creek) DWK.
Page 18. **Killdeer.** Remove first county breeding record for Mower. The first county breeding record was from 2009.
Page 18. **Dunlin.** Add high count 5/22 Dakota (240) JPM.
Page 22. **Eastern Whip-poor-will.** Delete Big Stone and add 6/26 Lac qui Parle m.ob.
Page 22. **Acadian Flycatcher.** Should read "Reported from Carver, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, Scott. Unusual report 6/10 Pine RMA."
Page 26. **Tree Swallow.** Add high count 7/29 Stearns (1,200) Robert Hinz.
Page 26. **Bank Swallow.** Add high count 7/17 Sibley (600, Gaylord W.T.P.) WCM.
Page 61. **Pacific Loon.** Change last date seen at Minnesota Point to 11/1.
Page 64. **Peregrine Falcon.** Add high count 10/2 St. Louis (11, H.R.B.O.) KJB, CRU.
Page 68. **Eurasian Collared-Dove.** Add high count 11/7 Blue Earth (32, Mapleton) ChH.
Page 70. **Northern Flicker.** Add high count 9/20 St. Louis (73, H.R.B.O.) KJB, CRU.
Page 75. **Snow Bunting.** Add high count 10/28 St. Louis (509, H.R.B.O.) KJB, CRU.
Page 109. **Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser.** Change dates to 11/27 through 1/11.

Index to *The Loon* Volume 38

Compiled by Anthony X. Hertz, Ann M. Hertz, and Theresa Hertz

Authors

- Anderson, S. Keith, Neal D. Mundahl, John M. Beranek, and Dave Hoffman "Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) Incubates on an Open Stick Nest" 51–54
- Bardon, Karl J. "Mississippi Kite in St. Louis County" 47, "California Gull in St. Louis County" 93–94
- Beranek, John M., Neal D. Mundahl, S. Keith Anderson, and Dave Hoffman "Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) Incubates on an Open Stick Nest" 51–54
- Brunell, Connie and Bob Williams "Laughing Gull in Le Sueur County" 193
- Budde, Paul E. "Common Ground-Dove in Hennepin County" 94
- Budde, Paul E., Robert M. Dunlap, Douglas W. Kieser, James W. Lind, and William C. Marengo "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2010" 55–84, "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2011" 156–186
- Budde, Paul E. Bruce A. Fall "The Winter Season, 1 December 2010 through 28 February 2011" 104–121
- Budde, Paul E., Ann E. Kessen, and Peder H. Svingen "The Summer Season, 1 June through 31 July 2010" 10–37
- Cahlander, David A. and Anthony X. Hertz "The MOU 300 Club" 191
- Doyle, Diana "Successful Bell's Vireo Nest in Hennepin County" 42–43, "A Brown Creeper Winter Roost" 140
- Dunlap, Robert M., Paul E. Budde, Douglas W. Kieser, James W. Lind, and William C. Marengo "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2010" 55–84, "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2011" 156–186
- Dunlap, Robert M., Anthony X. Hertz, and T. Benjamin Hertz, and "Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) Nesting in Minnesota" 6–9
- Eckert, Kim R. "Birding by Hindsight: A Second Look at *The Crossley ID Guide*" 38–41, "Birding by Hindsight: A Second Look at RQD" 85–88, "Birding by Hindsight: A Second Look at MBW (Part I)" 136–139, "Birding by Hindsight: A Second Look at MBW (Part II)" 187–190
- Fall, Bruce A. and Paul E. Budde "The Winter Season, 1 December 2010 through 28 February 2011" 104–121
- Fredrickson, Arnie "American White Pelicans at the Head of Lake Pepin, 2010–2011" 149–155
- Fritchman, Ben W. "Sabine's Gull in Stevens County" 92–93
- Greiner, Carl "The 2010–2011 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count Summary" 122–135
- Hertz, Anthony X. and David A. Cahlander "The MOU 300 Club" 191
- Hertz, Anthony X., T. Benjamin Hertz, and Robert M. Dunlap "Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) Nesting in Minnesota" 6–9
- Hertz, T. Benjamin, Anthony X., Hertz, and Robert M. Dunlap "Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) Nesting in Minnesota" 6–9
- Hoffman, Dave, Neal D. Mundahl, John M. Beranek, and S. Keith Anderson "Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) Incubates on an Open Stick Nest" 51–54
- Jantscher, Paul E., "Barrow's Goldeneye in Wright County" 141
- Joppru, Jeanie "Black-necked Stilt in Marshall County" 47
- Kessen, Ann E., Peder H. Svingen, and Paul E. Budde "The Summer Season, 1 June through 31 July 2010" 10–37
- Kieser, Douglas W., Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, James W. Lind, and William C. Marengo "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2010" 55–84, "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2011" 156–186
- Lind, James W., Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, Douglas W. Kieser, and William C. Marengo "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2010" 55–84, "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2011" 156–186
- Marengo, William C., Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, Douglas W. Kieser, and James W. Lind "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2010" 55–84, "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2011" 156–186
- Mattsson, James P. "First Breeding Record of Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) for Dakota County *F. c. richardsonii* X *F. c. columbarius*" 44–46
- Mundahl, Neal D., John M. Beranek, S. Keith Anderson, and Dave Hoffman "Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) Incubates on an Open Stick Nest" 51–54
- Nicoletti, Frank J. "Two Prairie Falcons Banded in Lakewood Township, St. Louis County" 89–91
- North, Michael R. "Banded Minnesota Chickadee Sets New Longevity Record" 192–193, "Disjunct Western Kingbird Breeding Population Rediscovered During Breeding Bird Atlas Surveys" 194
- Smith, Andrew "Obituary: James Paul Mattsson" 147–148
- Svingen, Peder H. "Barrow's Goldeneye in St. Louis County" 91–92, "Slaty-backed Gull in St. Louis County" 141–142
- Svingen, Peder H. and Ann E. Kessen "Corrections to The Season" 195
- Svingen, Peder H., Ann E. Kessen, and Paul E. Budde "The Summer Season, 1 June through 31 July 2010" 10–37
- Tustison, Tom "Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee" 3–5, "Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee" 99–103
- Unzen, Bill J. "Barn Owl in Lac qui Parle County" 142
- Williams, Bob and Connie Brunell "Laughing Gull in Le Sueur County" 193

Photographers

- Bardon, Karl J.: California Gull 93, Slaty-backed Gull 100
Brislance, David: Mourning Warbler 1, Boreal Chickadee 116, Eastern Towhee 179
Cahlander, David A.: Common Ground-Dove 94
Conley, Joe: Northern Wheatear 5
Dinndorf, Don J.: Scarlet Tanager 81
Doyle, Diana: Bell's Vireo 43, Brown Creeper 97, Brown Creeper 140
Dunlap, Robert M.: Say's Phoebe 6, Laughing Gull 193
Fredrickson, Arnie: American White Pelican 150
Hanson, Daven: Varied Thrush 74
Hertzel, Anthony X.: Common Ground-Dove 4, Say's Phoebe 8, Bell's Vireo 43, Merlin 46, Common Raven 145
Hoekstra, Gerald R.: American Robin 175
Hoffman, Dave: Wood Duck 53
Karakatsoulis, Anne: Band-tailed Pigeon 102
King, Jason: Whooping Crane 4
Kraemer, Jan: King Eider 100, Laughing Gull 101
Kraemer, Larry: King Eider 100, Laughing Gull 101
Longtin, Andrew: Prairie Falcon 91
Mattsson, Donn: Protrait of James P. Mattsson 145
Mattsson, James P: Merlin 45, Merlin 46
McIntosh, Dave: Summer Tanager 156
Mundahl, Neal D.: Wood Duck 52
Nelson, Warren: Cattle Egret 63
Nicoletti, Frank J.: Prairie Falcon 90
North, Michael: Black-capped Chickadee 193
Orf, Earl: Spruce Grouse 49, Brown Creeper 73, Blue Jay 95
Phillips, Richard: Eurasian Tree Sparrow 102
Pruett, Jerry: Glossy Ibis 101
Sparling, Linda: Great Gray Owl 114
Svingen, Peder H.: Black-necked Stilt 47, Barrow's Goldeneye 92, Slaty-backed Gull 112, Laughing Gull 143
Unzen, Bill J.: Ferruginous Hawk 99
Van der Hagen, Bill: Hermit Thrush 104

Bird Species

- Avocet, American 16, 65, 166
Bean-Goose, Tiaga 102
Bittern, American 13, 17, 62, 163
Least 13, 17, 62, 157, 163
Blackbird 122-135
Brewer's 34, 35, 81, 105, 119, 122-135, 183
Red-winged 33, 34, 80, 119, 122-135, 182
Rusty 10, 35, 80-81, 119, 122-135, 158, 183
Yellow-headed 34, 35, 80, 119, 182-183
Bluebird, Eastern 28, 29, 73, 116-117, 122-135, 174
Mountain 73, 157, 158, 174
Bobolink, 33, 34, 80, 182, 193
Brant 100, 159
Bufflehead 12, 15, 60, 108, 122-135, 161
Bunting, Indigo 33, 34, 80, 182, 193
Lark 4, 56, 78
Lazuli 103
Snow 75, 117, 122-135, 176, 195
Canvasback 12, 15, 59, 108, 122-135, 160
Cardinal, Northern 32, 33, 80, 118-119, 122-135, 182, 195
Catbird, Gray 28, 29, 74, 175
Chat, Yellow-breasted 158, 180
Chickadee, Black-capped 26, 27, 72, 115, 122-135, 173, 192-193
Boreal 26, 27, 72, 115, 116, 122-135, 158, 173
Collared-Dove, Eurasian 10, 20, 21, 68, 104, 113, 122-135, 157, 169, 195
Coot, American 14, 19, 65, 111, 122-135, 151, 165
Cormorant, Double-crested 13, 17, 61, 110, 151, 162
Neotropic 102
Cowbird, Brown-headed 34, 35, 81, 119, 122-135, 183
Crane, Sandhill 16, 19, 65, 105, 111, 165
Whooping 3-4, 5, 65, 100-101, 165
Creeper, Brown 26, 27, 72, 73, 97, 116, 122-135, 140, 173
Crossbill 122-135
Red 35, 82, 105, 119, 122-135, 183
White-winged 35, 82, 105, 119-120, 122-135, 183, 195
Crow, American 24, 27, 55, 71, 115, 122-135, 172, 195
Cuckoo, Black-billed 20, 21, 68, 169
Yellow-billed 20, 68, 169
Dickcissel 33, 34, 80, 182
Dove, Mourning 20, 21, 68, 113, 122-135, 169
Dowitcher, Long-billed 66, 167
Short-billed 18, 66, 167
Duck 122-135
American Black 12, 15, 58, 107, 122-135, 160
Harlequin 55, 59, 104, 108, 122-135, 156, 160
Long-tailed 55, 60, 104, 108, 156, 161
Ring-necked 12, 15, 59, 108, 122-135, 160
Ruddy 12, 15, 60, 109, 122-135, 161
Wood 11, 15, 51-54, 58, 107, 122-135, 159
Dunlin 18, 66, 167, 195
Eagle, Bald 14, 19, 62, 110, 122-135, 164
Golden 64, 111, 122-135, 157, 165
Egret, Cattle 10, 13, 55, 62, 63, 156, 163
Great 13, 17, 62, 151, 163, 195
Snowy 13, 55, 62, 156, 163
Eider, King 100, 156, 160
Falcon, Peregrine 14, 19, 64, 111, 122-135, 165, 195
Prairie 55, 64, 89-91, 156, 165
Finch 122-135
House 34, 35, 82, 119, 122-135, 183
Purple 34, 35, 82, 122-135, 183
Flicker, Northern 22, 23, 70, 105, 115, 122-135, 171, 195
Flycatcher, Acadian 10, 22, 25, 70, 171, 195
Alder 22, 25, 70, 171
Great Crested 24, 25, 70, 158, 171
Least 24, 25, 70, 171
Olive-sided 22, 23, 70, 171
Willow 22, 24, 25, 70, 171
Yellow-bellied 22, 25, 70, 171, 195
Gadwall 11, 15, 58, 107, 122-135, 159
Gallinule, Common 10, 14, 19, 65, 156, 165
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray 26, 27, 73, 157, 174
Godwit, Hudsonian 16, 55, 66, 166
Marbled 10, 16, 21, 66, 166-167
Golden-Plover, American 16, 65, 156, 165-166
Goldeneye, Barrow's 55, 60, 91-92, 99, 100, 104, 105, 108, 141, 156, 161
Common 12, 15, 60, 104, 108, 109, 122-135, 141, 161, 195
Goldfinch, American 35, 82, 120, 122-135, 184
Goose, Cackling 55, 58, 107, 122-135, 159
Canada 11, 15, 58, 107, 122-135, 151, 159
Greater White-fronted 11, 57, 104, 107, 122-135, 159
Ross's 55, 57-58, 159
Snow 11, 57, 107, 122-135, 159

Goshawk, Northern 14, 19, 64, 110-111, 122-135, 164
 Grackle, Common 34, 35, 81, 119, 122-135, 183
 Great-tailed 10, 34, 35, 81, 183
 Grebe, Clark's 10, 13, 55, 61, 156, 162
 Eared 13, 17, 61, 156, 162
 Horned 13, 61, 104, 110, 162
 Pied-billed 13, 17, 61, 110, 122-135, 162
 Red-necked 13, 17, 61, 110, 162
 Western 10, 13, 17, 55, 61, 162
 Grosbeak, Blue 34, 80, 182
 Evening 35, 82, 105, 120, 122-135, 184
 Pine 81-82, 105, 119, 122-135, 157, 183
 Rose-breasted 33, 34, 80, 105, 119, 122-135, 158, 182
 Ground-Dove, Common 4, 55, 68, 94
 Grouse 122-135
 Ruffed 12, 17, 60, 109, 122-135, 161
 Sharp-tailed 13, 17, 60-61, 104, 109, 122-135, 161-162
 Spruce 12, 17, 49, 60, 109, 122-135, 161
 Gull, Bonaparte's 18, 67, 168, 195
 California 55, 67, 93-94, 99, 101, 157, 168
 Franklin's 18, 20, 67, 168
 Glaucous 55, 68, 112-113, 113, 122-135, 141, 168-169, 195
 Great Black-backed 55, 68, 104, 113, 122-135, 141, 157, 169, 195
 Herring 20, 21, 67, 111, 113, 122-135, 141, 168, 195
 Iceland 55, 67, 104, 112, 122-135, 141, 157, 168
 Laughing 101, 143, 168, 193
 Lesser Black-backed 55, 67-68, 104, 112, 157, 168
 Little 67, 157, 168
 Ring-billed 20, 21, 67, 111, 122-135, 168
 Sabine's 4, 55, 67, 92-93, 99
 Slaty-backed 5, 99, 100, 104, 112, 122-135, 141-142
 Thayer's 67, 104, 111-112, 122-135, 141, 168
 Gyrfalcon, 100, 103, 104, 111
 Harrier, Northern 14, 19, 62, 110, 122-135, 164
 Hawk 122-135
 Broad-winged 14, 19, 64, 157, 164
 Cooper's 14, 19, 64, 110, 122-135, 164
 Ferruginous 55, 64, 99, 100, 103, 156, 164
 Red-shouldered 14, 19, 64, 105, 111, 122-135, 164
 Red-tailed 14, 19, 64, 111, 122-135, 164
 Rough-legged 64, 111, 122-135, 164-165
 Sharp-shinned 10, 14, 19, 62, 64, 110, 122-135, 164
 Swainson's 14, 19, 64, 164
 Heron, Great Blue 13, 17, 62, 110, 122-135, 151, 163
 Green 13, 17, 62, 163
 Little Blue 55, 62, 156, 163
 Hummingbird, Ruby-throated 22, 23, 69, 170
 Ibis 156, 164, 195
 Glossy 100, 101, 156, 163
 White-faced 156, 163-164
 Jaeger 68
 Long-tailed 103
 Parasitic 68, 157, 169
 Pomarine 68, 99
 Jay, Blue 24, 25, 55, 71, 95, 115, 122-135, 172
 Gray 24, 25, 71, 105, 115, 122-135, 158, 172
 Junco, Dark-eyed 32, 79, 118, 122-135, 182
 Kestrel, American 14, 19, 64, 111, 122-135, 165
 Killdeer, 10, 16, 21, 65, 111, 166, 195
 Kingbird, Eastern 24, 25, 70-71, 158, 172
 Western 24, 25, 70, 158, 172, 194
 Kingfisher, Belted 22, 23, 69, 114, 122-135, 170
 Kinglet, Golden-crowned 26, 29, 73, 116, 174
 Ruby-crowned 26, 28, 29, 73, 105, 116, 122-135, 174
 Kite, Mississippi 47, 55, 62, 99, 100, 195
 Swallow-tailed 5
 Kittiwake, Black-legged 55, 67
 Knot, Red 66, 156, 167
 Lark, Horned 26, 27, 71-72, 115, 122-135, 173
 Longspur, Chestnut-collared 28, 29, 75, 176
 Lapland 75, 117, 122-135, 176
 Smith's 75, 157, 176
 Loon, Common 13, 17, 61, 162
 Pacific 55, 61, 156, 162, 195
 Red-throated 13, 55, 61, 156, 162
 Magpie, Black-billed 24, 25, 71, 105, 115, 122-135, 157, 172
 Mallard, 12, 15, 58, 107, 122-135, 160
 Martin, Purple 26, 27, 56, 72, 173
 Meadowlark 80, 119
 Eastern 33, 34, 80, 158, 182
 Western 33, 34, 80, 182, 195
 Merganser, Common 12, 15, 60, 109, 122-135, 161
 Hooded 12, 15, 60, 104, 108-109, 109, 122-135, 161, 195
 Red-breasted 12, 15, 60, 104, 109, 122-135, 161
 Merlin, 10, 14, 19, 44-46, 64, 111, 122-135, 165
 Mockingbird, Northern 28, 56, 74, 157, 175
 Night-Heron, Black-crowned 13, 17, 62, 163
 Yellow-crowned 10, 14, 55, 62, 156, 163
 Nighthawk, Common 22, 23, 69, 158, 170
 Nutcracker, Clark's 101, 157, 172
 Nuthatch, Red-breasted 26, 27, 72, 116, 122-135, 173
 White-breasted 26, 27, 72, 116, 122-135, 173
 Oriole, Baltimore 34, 35, 81, 183
 Orchard 34, 35, 81, 183
 Osprey, 14, 19, 62, 164
 Ovenbird, 30, 31, 77, 176
 Owl 122-135
 Barn 101, 142, 157, 169
 Barred 20, 23, 69, 113, 122-135, 170
 Boreal 69, 114, 157, 170
 Burrowing 4, 101, 157, 170
 Great Gray 20, 23, 69, 104, 113, 114, 122-135, 157-158, 170
 Great Horned 20, 21, 68-69, 104, 113, 122-135, 169
 Long-eared 20, 23, 69, 113-114, 170
 Northern Hawk 10, 20, 21, 69, 104, 113, 122-135, 169-170
 Northern Saw-whet 22, 23, 69, 114, 122-135, 170
 Short-eared 20, 23, 69, 114, 122-135, 170
 Snowy 69, 104, 113, 122-135, 169
 Partridge, Gray 12, 17, 60, 109, 122-135, 161
 Parula, Northern 28, 29, 75, 178
 Pelican, American White 13, 17, 62, 110, 122-135, 149-155, 162-163
 Phalarope, Red-necked 18, 55, 67, 168
 Wilson's 18, 21, 67, 168
 Pheasant, Ring-necked 12, 17, 60, 109, 122-135, 161
 Phoebe, Eastern 24, 25, 70, 171
 Say's 6-9, 10, 24, 25, 157, 171
 Pigeon, Band-tailed 101, 102, 157, 169
 Rock 20, 21, 68, 113, 122-135, 169
 Pintail, Northern 12, 15, 58, 107-108, 122-135, 160
 Pipit, American 28, 74, 175
 Sprague's 5
 Plover, Black-bellied 16, 65, 165
 Piping 16, 19, 65, 156, 166, 195
 Semipalmated 16, 65, 157, 166
 Prairie-Chicken, Greater 13, 17, 61, 109-110, 122-135, 162
 Rail, Virginia 14, 19, 64, 165
 Yellow 14, 55, 64, 157, 165
 Raven, Common 24, 26, 27, 55, 71, 105, 115, 122-135, 146, 172-173
 Redhead, 12, 15, 59, 108, 122-135, 160
 Redpoll, Common 82, 105, 120, 122-135, 183
 Hoary 105, 102, 122-135, 157, 183-184
 Redstart, American 30, 31, 77, 177
 Robin, American 28, 29, 74, 117, 122-135, 174-175, 175
 Sanderling, 16, 18, 66, 167
 Sandpiper, Baird's 18, 66, 167
 Buff-breasted 18, 55, 66, 156, 167

Least 18, 66, 167
 Pectoral 18, 66, 167
 Semipalmated 18, 66, 167
 Solitary 16, 65, 166
 Spotted 16, 21, 65, 166
 Stilt 18, 66, 167
 Upland 16, 21, 65-66, 166
 White-rumped 18, 66, 167
 Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied 22, 23, 69, 104-105, 114, 122-135, 170
 Scaup 122-135
 Greater 12, 55, 59, 108, 122-135, 160
 Lesser 12, 59, 108, 122-135, 160
 Scoter, Black 55, 59-60, 156, 161
 Surf 55, 59, 156, 160
 White-winged 55, 59, 156, 160-161
 Screech-Owl, Eastern 20, 21, 68, 113, 122-135, 169
 Shoveler, Northern 12, 15, 58, 107, 122-135, 160
 Shrike, Loggerhead 24, 25, 71, 172
 Northern 71, 115, 122-135, 172
 Siskin, Pine 35, 82, 105, 120, 122-135, 184
 Snipe, Wilson's 18, 21, 66-67, 111, 167-168
 Solitaire, Townsend's 56, 73, 105, 117, 122-135, 157, 174
 Sora, 14, 19, 64-65, 157, 165
 Sparrow 122-135
 American Tree 78, 118, 122-135, 158, 180
 Chipping 31, 32, 78, 105, 118, 180
 Clay-colored 32, 33, 78, 180
 Eurasian Tree 82, 99, 102
 Field 32, 33, 78, 180
 Fox 79, 118, 122-135, 158, 181
 Grasshopper 32, 33, 78, 157, 180-181
 Harris's 32, 79, 118, 122-135, 158, 181
 Henslow's 32, 78, 181
 House 35, 82, 120, 122-135, 184
 Lark 32, 33, 78, 157, 180
 Le Conte's 32, 33, 78-79, 181
 Lincoln's 32, 33, 79, 181
 Nelson's 32, 79, 158, 181
 Savannah 32, 33, 78, 105, 118, 15, 180
 Song 32, 33, 79, 118, 122-135, 181
 Swamp 32, 33, 79, 118, 181
 Vesper 32, 33, 78, 180
 White-crowned 79, 105, 118, 122-135, 181-182
 White-throated 32, 33, 79, 118, 122-135, 181
 Starling, European 28, 29, 74, 117, 122-135, 175
 Stilt, Black-necked 47
 Swallow, Bank 26, 27, 72, 173, 195
 Barn 26, 27, 72, 173
 Cave 103
 Cliff 26, 27, 72, 173
 Northern Rough-winged 26, 27, 72, 173
 Tree 26, 27, 72, 173, 195
 Swan, Mute 11, 58, 107, 122-135, 159, 195
 Trumpeter 11, 15, 58, 107, 122-135, 159
 Tundra 58, 104, 107, 122-135, 151, 159
 Swift, Chimney 22, 23, 69, 170
 Tanager, Scarlet 32, 33, 56, 80, 81, 182
 Summer 56, 79-80, 156, 157, 182
 Western 157, 182
 Teal, Blue-winged 12, 15, 58, 160
 Cinnamon 156, 160
 Green-winged 12, 15, 58-59, 108, 122-135, 160
 Tern 169
 Black 20, 21, 68, 169
 Caspian 20, 21, 68, 169
 Common 20, 21, 68, 157, 169
 Forster's 20, 21, 68, 169
 Thrasher, Brown 28, 29, 74, 117, 122-135, 175
 Thrush, Gray-cheeked 73, 174
 Hermit 28, 29, 74, 104, 105, 117, 122-135, 174
 Swainson's 28, 29, 73-74, 158, 174
 Varied 56, 74, 105, 117, 122-135, 157, 175
 Wood 28, 29, 74, 174
 Titmouse, Tufted 26, 27, 72, 105, 115, 122-135, 157, 173
 Towhee, Eastern 31, 32, 78, 118, 122-135, 157, 179, 180
 Spotted 56, 78, 105, 118, 122-135, 157, 180
 Turkey, Wild 13, 17, 61, 110, 122-135, 162, 195
 Turnstone, Ruddy 16, 66, 167
 Veery, 28, 29, 73, 158, 174
 Vireo, Bell's 10, 24, 25, 42-43, 71, 172
 Blue-headed 24, 25, 71, 172
 Philadelphia 24, 71, 172
 Red-eyed 24, 25, 71, 172
 Warbling 24, 25, 71, 172
 White-eyed 10, 24, 55, 71, 157, 172
 Yellow-throated 24, 25, 71, 172
 Vulture, Black 100, 102-103, 156, 164
 Turkey 14, 19, 62, 110, 122-135, 164
 Warbler, Bay-breasted 30, 31, 76-77, 178
 Black-and-white 30, 31, 77, 176
 Black-throated Blue 30, 76, 178-179
 Black-throated Green 30, 31, 76, 179
 Blackburnian 30, 31, 76, 178
 Blackpoll 30, 56, 77, 178
 Blue-winged 28, 29, 75, 157, 176
 Canada 10, 31, 32, 78, 179, 195
 Cape May 10, 28, 30, 31, 76, 105, 117, 177-178
 Cerulean 30, 31, 77, 178
 Chestnut-sided 28, 29, 76, 178
 Connecticut 30, 31, 77, 177
 Golden-winged 28, 29, 75, 176
 Hooded 30, 77, 158, 177
 Kentucky 157, 177
 Magnolia 28, 29, 76, 178
 Mourning 1, 30, 31, 77, 177
 Nashville 28, 29, 75, 177
 Orange-crowned 10, 56, 75, 177
 Palm 30, 31, 76, 179
 Pine 30, 31, 76, 158, 179
 Prothonotary 30, 31, 77, 176-177
 Tennessee 28, 75, 177
 Wilson's 30, 31, 32, 77-78, 179-180
 Yellow 28, 29, 75-76, 178
 Yellow-rumped 30, 31, 76, 105, 118, 122-135, 179
 Waterthrush, Louisiana 30, 77, 157, 176
 Northern 30, 31, 77, 176
 Waxwing 122-135
 Bohemian 56, 74, 117, 122-135, 158, 175-176
 Cedar 28, 29, 56, 74-75, 117, 122-135, 176
 Wheatear, Northern 4, 5, 56, 73
 Whimbrel, 16, 65, 156, 166
 Whip-poor-will, Eastern 3, 22, 23, 69, 158, 170, 195
 Whistling-Duck, Black-bellied 100, 156, 159
 Wigeon, American 11-12, 15, 58, 107, 159-160
 Willet, 16, 65, 166
 Wood-Pewee, Eastern 22, 25, 70, 171
 Woodcock, American 18, 21, 67, 168
 Woodpecker, American Three-toed 22, 23, 55, 69-70, 115, 122-135, 157, 171
 Black-backed 22, 23, 55, 70, 105, 115, 122-135, 171
 Downy 22, 23, 69, 114, 122-135, 170
 Hairy 22, 23, 69, 114-115, 122-135, 170-171
 Pileated 22, 23, 70, 115, 122-135, 158, 171
 Red-bellied 10, 22, 23, 69, 114, 122-135, 170
 Red-headed 22, 23, 69, 104, 114, 122-135, 157, 170
 Wren, Carolina 26, 72, 105, 116, 122-135, 158, 173
 House 26, 27, 72, 158, 173
 Marsh 26, 27, 72-73, 174
 Sedge 26, 27, 72, 173
 Winter 3, 26, 27, 72, 105, 116, 122-135, 158, 173
 Yellowlegs, Greater 16, 65, 166
 Lesser 16, 65, 166
 Yellowthroat, Common 30, 31, 56, 77, 177

In This Issue

Common Ravens, 16 April 2011, Carlton County <i>Anthony X. Hartzel</i>	Front Cover
Obituary: James Paul Mattsson <i>Andrew Smith</i>	147
American White Pelicans at the Head of Lake Pepin, 2010–2011 <i>Annie Fredrickson</i>	149
The Spring Season 1 March through 31 May 2011 <i>Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, Douglas W. Kieser, James W. Lind, and William C. Marengo</i>	156
Birding by Hindsight: A Second Look at MBW (Part II) <i>Kim R. Eckert</i>	187
The MOU 300 Club <i>Anthony X. Hartzel and David A. Cablander</i>	191
Notes of Interest Banded Minnesota Chickadee Sets New Longevity Record — <i>Michael R. North</i> Laughing Gull in Le Sueur County — <i>Bob Williams, Connie Brunell</i> Disjunct Western Kingbird Breeding Population Rediscovered During Breeding Bird Atlas Surveys — <i>Michael R. North</i>	192
Corrections to The Season <i>Peder H. Svingen and Ann E. Kessen</i>	195
Index to <i>The Loon</i>, Volume 83 <i>Anthony X. Hartzel, Ann M. Hartzel, and Theresa Hartzel</i>	196

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The purpose of the MOU is the promotion of a broad program of conservation and natural history study, primarily in the field of ornithology.

To achieve this objective, the Union urges and promotes interest in field studies and observation of birds by individual members and affiliated bird clubs. We publish a quarterly journal, *The Loon*, and a newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*; we conduct



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The Loon is a peer-reviewed journal on the birds of Minnesota published quarterly by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. The Editor welcomes submissions of articles, Notes of Interest, color slides, and photographs. All submissions should be typed, double-spaced, and single-sided. Notes of Interest should be less than two full pages. Photographs should be no smaller than 5"x7". Whenever possible, please include a digital copy of your submission in any standard format on CD, DVD, flash drive, or via e-mail. Digital documents may be e-mailed to the Editor of *The Loon* — see inside front cover for contact information. Club information and other announcements of general interest should be sent to the Editor of our newsletter *Minnesota Birding* — see inside front cover for contact information. Bird sighting reports for each season should be sent to the Editor of "The Seasonal Report" — see "Key to The Seasonal Report" for contact information.

