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Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Tom A. Tustison, Chairman

The most recent meeting of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC) was conducted at the Minnesota Valley N.W.R. Headquarters Building in Bloomington in Minneapolis on 4 December 2011. In attendance and voting at this meeting were MOURC members Robert M. Dunlap (alternate), Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Anthony X. Hertz, James W. Lind, William C. Marengo, Robert P. Russell (alternate), Andrew D. Smith (alternate), Steven P. Stucker, and Tom A. Tustison (chair).

The following records from 2011 were voted on by e-mail and were Accepted:

• **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 19 November 2011 to 22 March 2012, initially found at Duluth Harbor, St. Louis County, near Hearing Island and later seen at other Duluth locations including Canal Park (record #2011-043, vote 7-0). Photos are diagnostic. Presumably, the multiple sightings are of the same bird seen on different dates at various locations in Duluth. This is probably also the same adult male returning to Duluth for the fourth consecutive winter.

• **Barrow's Goldeneye**, 20 December 2011, adult male, Municipal Park in Sauk Rapids, Benton County (record #2011-048, vote 5-2). Several members commented that the written documentation might have been more thoroughly detailed. First county record.

• **White-tailed Kite** (*Elanus leucurus*), 4 August 2011, adult, Bluestem Prairie near Glyndon, Clay County (record #2011-026, vote 7-0). Photos are diagnostic. Third state record and first county record.

• **Mississippi Kite** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), 27 September to 4 October 2011, adult, county road 24 south of Bowlus, one mile north of the Stearns County line, Morrison County (record #2011-040, vote 5-2). The record was accepted with some dissent. This



Record #2011-026, White-tailed Kite, 4 August 2011, Bluestem Prairie near Glyndon, Clay County. Photo by Susan Felege.

sighting is much later than most other fall records in Minnesota. It also seems unusual that it was seen in the same general location a week apart. Previous Minnesota records have been mostly single-day sightings or just a few days apart. First record for Morrison County.

• **Purple Sandpiper** (*Calidris maritima*), 15-27 October 2011, juvenile, Lubenow W.P.A., Swift County (record #2011-035, vote 7-0). There were numerous high-quality photos of this bird. It was well-documented with 13 observers submitting documentation. The Committee did discuss the difficulty of distinguishing Purple Sandpiper from Rock Sandpiper at its 4 December 2011 meeting. The distinctly orange-yellow legs and bill base shown in numerous photos are more typical of Purple Sandpiper. There is virtually no documentation of inland wanderings



Record #2011-035, Purple Sandpiper, 22 October 2011, Lubenow W.P.A., Swift County. Photo by Paul Kammen.



Record #2011-041, Pomarine Jaeger, 2 October 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

of Rock Sandpiper (apparently, there is only one inland record away from the Pacific coast which is a specimen from British Columbia). This is the 6th state record and first county record for this Accidental species.

- **Black-legged Kittiwake** (*Rissa tridactyla*), 13–17 December 2011, first-cycle, Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2011-042, vote 7–0). The 17 December 2011 photo (taken during the Duluth Christmas Bird Count) is diagnostic, as is the description from the original observer.

- **Sabine's Gull** (*Xema sabini*), four juveniles, 24 September 2011, Duluth, Park Point Recreation Area, St. Louis County (record #2011-033, vote 7–0). A detailed description was provided by a very experienced observer. All four birds were Accepted.

- **Glaucous-winged Gull** (*Larus glaucescens*), 22 December 2011 to 15 January 2012, adult, Duluth, Canal Park, St. Louis County (record #2011-049, vote 7–0). There are numerous excellent photos, including those showing the spread wing. The detailed descriptions by experienced gull observers leave little doubt about the identification.

Every feature for distinguishing Glaucous-winged Gull from other large white-headed gulls is shown and described. One might suspect possible hybridization (possibly even several generations back) due to the somewhat rounded head and bill shape. However, without something else anomalous about its plumage, size, or shape, it seems more plausible that the head and bill simply represent a small female Glaucous-winged Gull. Photographed. Fifth state record.

- **Pomarine Jaeger** (*Stercorarius pomarinus*), 2 October 2011, juvenile, Duluth, Minnesota Point near Sky Harbor Airport, St. Louis County (record #2011-041, vote 7–0). The excellent photos, plus detailed descriptions from two experienced observers, leave no doubt about the identification. Eighteenth state record (*The Loon* 84:54–55).

- **White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*), 14–19 June 2011, just south of Millville, Wabasha County (record #2011-029, vote 7–0). Photograph taken 18 June 2011 is diagnostic. First county record.

- **Tropical/Couch's Kingbird** (*Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*) 28 October 2011,



Record #2011-029, White-winged Dove, 18 June 2011, Millville, Wabasha County. Photo by Gabriel Miller.



Record #2011-034, Tropical/Couch's Kingbird, 28 October 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Mike Hendrickson.

West Duluth, Smithville and Riverside neighborhoods, St. Louis County (record #2011-034, vote 10–0). While Accepted as Tropical/Couch's Kingbird, the record was originally submitted as Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*). Prior to voting, it was discussed in detail at the 4 December meeting where it was noted that there are two records of vocalizing Couch's Kingbirds from Massachusetts (7 September 2001) and Michigan (26–28 May 2007). Both the Massachusetts and the Michigan birds were vocalizing, whereas the Minnesota bird did not. The Committee also discussed the extreme difficulty of separating Tropical from Couch's where there were no vocalizations. Two outside authorities, John Arvin and Martin Reid, were also consulted prior to voting. Both agreed the culmen appeared from the photographs to be more like Couch's than Tropical, but was not diagnostic. One of the experts also commented that some of the other important features that might have aided in the diagnosis were not clearly visible in the photographs. First state record. Also see Tropical Kingbird below under Not Accepted records.

- **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** (*Tyrannus forficatus*), 18 October 2011, Wabasha airport, Wabasha County (record #2011-036, vote 7–0). Photographed. First county record.

- **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**, 28–29 October 2011, adult, West Duluth, Waseca Industrial Rd, St. Louis County (record #2011-038, vote 7–0). Well-documented and photographed by several seasoned birders.

- **Yellow-throated Warbler** (*Setophaga dominica*), 21–22 October 2011, adult, Irondale Township, Ironton, Crow Wing County (record #2011-051, vote 7–0). The photos are diagnostic. First county record.

- **Scott's Oriole** (*Icterus parisorum*), 30 October 2011, immature male, Grand Marais, Cook County (record #2011-039, vote 7–0). The bird was photographed and seen by many observers. The Committee consulted Alvarillo Jaramillo and others whose expert opinions supported the identification. Fourth state record and first county record. The last previous record was in Olmsted County (April 2002).

- **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch** (*Leucosticte tephrocotis*), 27 October 2011, 'interior form'



Record #2011-051, Yellow-throated Warbler, 21 October 2011, Irontdale Township, Crow Wing County. Photo by Lorrene Maroney.



Record #2011-039, Scott's Oriole, 30 October 2011, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Robert M. Dunlap.

adult, southwest shore of Bear Island Lake, Babbitt, St. Louis County (record #2011-037, vote 7-0). The photos show sufficient detail to confirm the identification. First fall record for St. Louis County.

• **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** (*Democorygna autumnalis*), 14 May 2011, two adults in a wetland adjacent to the north side of Madelia, Watonwan County (record #2011-018, origin vote 8-2). Accepted as an Accidental (A) — i.e., there is reasonable certainty both birds were wild and arrived under their own power. The identity was previously voted on and Accepted. See *The Loon* 83:100.

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.)

• **Sabine's Gull** 19 September 2011, Glencoe Water Treatment Plant, McLeod County (record #2011-031, vote 0-7). The record was insufficient in the required level of detail. Details about number of birds and age(s) of the bird(s) are lacking. The observer mentioned the distinctive pattern of the wings, but did not describe what was actually seen.

• **Laughing Gull** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*), 10 September 2011, Cottonwood, Lyon County (record #2011-030, vote 2-5). Size is not significantly larger than Franklin's Gull. Photo is not clear enough to be of any real value. The observer does not state his experience with Laughing Gulls — only with Franklin's Gulls. Several members did not think there was enough detail in the photos or the written record to clearly rule out a sub-adult Franklin's Gull.

• **Barn Owl** (*Tyto alba*), 19 November 2008, Meeker County (record #2008-067, vote 2-5). Factors that seemed to influence the members' votes were as follows: lapse of time between the observation and the documentation (submitted 17 April 2011); the lack of an



Record #2011-037 Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch, 27 October 2011, near Babbitt, St. Louis County. Photo by Deborah Buria-Falkowski.

explanation as to how other species might have been eliminated; sparse details in the description; and failure to explain what kind of lighting enabled the observer to see the bird at night.

• **Sprague's Pipit** (*Anthus spragueii*), 5 May 2011, Lac qui Parle County (record #2011-032, vote 0–7). There is no written description of the bird but only a rather fuzzy photo. The opinion of all of the members was the image alone is not diagnostic.

• **Tropical Kingbird** (*Tyrannus melancholicus*), 28 October 2011, potential first state record, West Duluth, Smithville and Riverside neighborhoods, St. Louis County (record #2011-034, vote 0–10). Photographed. But see Tropical/Couch's Kingbird above under Accepted records.

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, Karl J. Bardon, David A. Bartkey, Betsy A. Beneke, Deborah Buria-Falkowski, Jason Caddy, David A. Cahlander, Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Ronald A. Erpelding, Steve L. Falkowski, Susan Felege, Frank Gosiak, Chad Heins, Mike Hendrickson, Anthony X. Hertzell, Kent Jensen, Paul Kammen, Andrew Krenz, Robin LaFortune, Brian Lubinski, Mike Majeski, William C. Marengo, Lorrene Maroney, Gabriel Miller, Peder H. Svingen, Bill J. Unzen, Robert B. Williams, Roy Zimmerman. Many 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: 22 records voted on — 16 Accepted, 5 Not Accepted, 1 Origin.

Corrigenda: In the previous *Proceedings* article, the vote for record #2010-040 of two juvenile Pomarine Jaegers should have stated that first individual was Accepted 7–0 and the second individual was Accepted 5–2 (**The Loon** 83:99). Barrow's Goldeneye (record #2010-045) was also seen 13 November 2010 not just on 12 November 2010 (**The Loon** 83:99). Glossy Ibis (record #2011-016) has an error in photo caption. The ibis photo (**The Loon** 83:101) was submitted by Jerry Pruett, but was taken by Bob Ekblad. Slaty-backed Gull (record #2010-048) the correct dates are 19 December 2010 through 16 January 2011 (**The Loon** 83:99). Eurasian Tree Sparrow (record #2010-047) was actually seen 20–28 November 2010 not 22–28 November 2010. The date in photo caption is, therefore, also incorrect. The reference to the bird as an “adult male” should read “adult”. (**The Loon** 83:99, ph. 83:102). Band-tailed Pigeon (record #2011-023) the actual dates of observation were 22–23 May 2011 (not 22–26 May), and the date in the photo caption should be 23 May 2011 (**The Loon** 83:101, ph. 83:102).

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Fall Diurnal Migration of Passerines and Other Non-raptors at Hawk Ridge and Lake Superior, Duluth (2007–2011)

Karl J. Bardon

Hawk Ridge in Duluth, Minnesota, has long been known as a premier hawk-watching site in North America, and the migration of non-raptors through this area has been gaining increasing awareness as well. The same funneling effect of Lake Superior which draws so many raptors to Duluth also brings thousands of songbirds as birds traveling southward during fall migration encounter the north shore of Lake Superior. Most species prefer to follow the shoreline southwestward rather than venture out over the cold body of the lake, and as a result, many of the birds which encounter the 350 mile north shoreline of Lake Superior (Duluth to Wawa, Ontario) eventually fly through Duluth. During the last five years as the official hawk counter at Hawk Ridge, I have also counted all of the non-raptors I have seen. This report summarizes over a million non-raptors seen in the last five years and it

compares these results to previous non-raptor counts in Duluth.

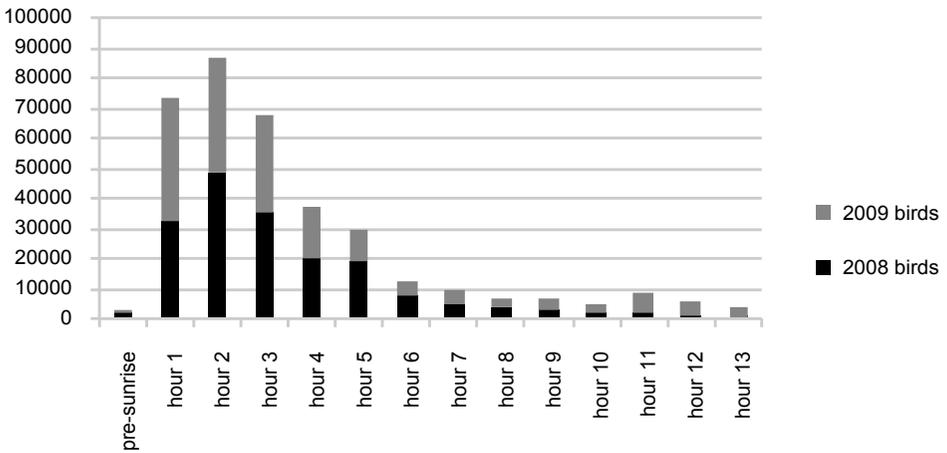
Physical Setting

Hawk Ridge is a prominent bedrock ridge at the eastern edge of Duluth overlooking the Lakeside residential area to the east and the wooded rural landscape of Lakewood Township to the north and west (see Map 1). The ridge is about two miles long, trending northeast to southwest and it sits 620 feet above Lake Superior at its highest point and 520 feet above at the Overlook watch site. The lake is approximately one mile east of the main overlook. The observation platform at the overlook is surrounded by shrubby vegetation and visibility is open to the northeast through southeast and also directly west. Diurnal migrants, both raptors and non-raptors, follow the ridge and the shore's contour lines in various ways, depending on the species and the



Map 1. Map of east Duluth showing Hawk Ridge buffer zone, Hawk Ridge core zone, location of the Lester River condominiums, and the location of the Lakewood pumping station.

Figure 1. Total number of birds at hourly intervals (hour 1 beginning at sunrise), Hawk Ridge, fall migration 2008–2009.



weather (especially wind direction and velocity). The legally protected area of the Nature Reserve itself is 365 acres.

Historical Counts

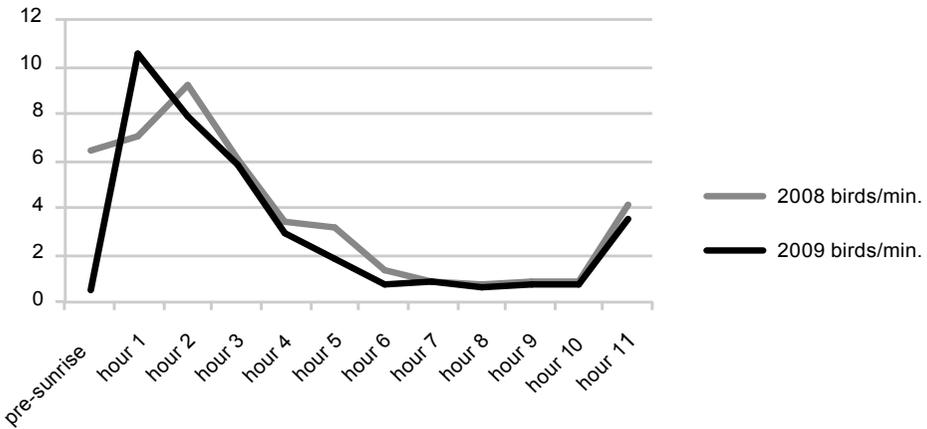
The first systematic attempt to document the full scale of the non-raptor fall migration through Duluth was daily morning counts beginning at sunrise from the main overlook at Hawk Ridge in 1983 and again in 1984 (Eckert 1984) (Table 1). Although these first efforts were fairly modest (40,000 birds in 1983 and 34,000 birds in 1984), binoculars were not regularly used to scan for migrants, and thousands of distant, uncounted birds were seen closer to the shore of Lake Superior (which lies 1.2 miles from the main overlook). As a result, beginning in 1985 these non-raptor counts were moved to the Lakewood pumping station (hereafter just Lakewood), which lies 2.2 miles up the shore from Hawk Ridge but only 0.1 miles from the shoreline. Although the first daily efforts at Lakewood in 1985 and 1987 were done primarily to count raptors and so coverage did not begin until mid-morning, non-raptors were tallied as well, and the results increased to 54,000 birds in 1985 (Eckert 1986) and 104,489 birds in 1987 (Eckert 1990). The best non-raptor coverage at Lakewood was in 1988–1990 when daily counts were done primarily for non-raptors beginning at sunrise and continuing for the first few hours of the day until

the migration had significantly slowed down (average about two hours), and the results peaked at 186,000–250,000 birds (Eckert 1990, 1991). Although there was additional morning coverage at Lakewood for non-raptors in 1994–1996, funding allowed only for coverage on an every other day basis, so it is difficult to compare the overall results with previous years (Eckert 1995, 1996, 1997).

Recent Counts

2007 — Systematic non-raptor counts did not begin again in Duluth until 2007 when I became the official counter for Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory (HRBO). Although my first full-time effort to count non-raptors from the Main Overlook at Hawk Ridge in 2007 was entirely voluntary, beginning daily near sunrise and continuing throughout the day as I was also counting raptors, the results were very disappointing. The total of 76,213 migrants in 2007 was considerably higher than the initial, historical efforts in 1983–1984 when only 34,000–40,000 birds were tallied from the Main Overlook, but note that I continually scanned with binoculars, often counted distant migrants with a telescope, and continued counting throughout the day. I had hoped that by using binoculars and a telescope (which was not done in 1983–1984), I would be able to pick up most of the migrants closer to the shoreline of Lake Superior (and so I was hoping for totals more simi-

Figure 2. Number of birds/minute at hourly intervals (hour 1 beginning at sunrise), Hawk Ridge, fall migration 2008–2009.



lar to Lakewood), but 2007 was apparently a very poor year for migration.

2008–2009 — HRBO considered the 2007 results interesting enough to provide me with funding to continue these counts in 2008–2009, using the same methods as I had used in 2007 (counting all non-raptors from the Main Overlook beginning at sunrise and continuing throughout the day during the raptor count). The results increased to more respectable totals of 183,012 in 2008 and 173,096 in 2009 — the greater number of migrants in these two years compared to 2007 was visually obvious throughout the season. For example, large flights of robins, warblers, and finches, which often continued throughout the day and totaling thousands and thousands of birds, were easily observed in 2008–2009, but had been mostly absent in 2007.

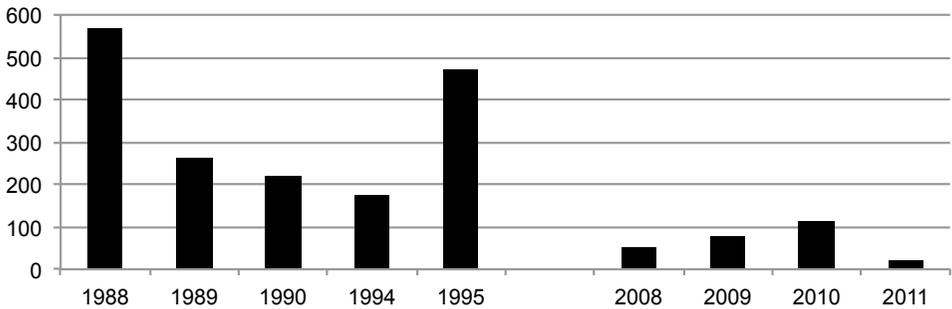
Despite the greater number of migrants in 2008–2009, I also became increasingly frustrated with the difficulty in counting so many small songbirds from the main overlook at Hawk Ridge, since a majority of the birds prefer to travel closer to the shoreline of Lake Superior and about a mile away. Although I continued to believe I was able to catch most of this distant migration by scanning constantly with binoculars and a telescope (especially medium to large songbirds such as crows, Blue Jays, robins, and blackbirds), it became obvious that I was, in fact, missing thousands of birds nearer the shore — especially smaller species such as warblers and finches. In 2009,

Cameron Rutt and I did several experimental, simultaneous counts from the third-story rooftop of the Lester River condominium (while I was counting at the Main Overlook), and the results showed that many birds were being missed from the Ridge, even species as large as Common Grackles, Sharp-shinned Hawks, and American Kestrels.

2010–2011 — Due to the experimental counts at the Lester River condo and the extra funding provided for a second non-raptor counter, we added the Lester River condo as an observation site in 2010–2011, and combined the results with those from the Hawk Ridge Main Overlook to get a composite total of non-raptors migrating through the area. Because the condo lies a block from the shore of Lake Superior near the mouth of the Lester River and directly in line between Hawk Ridge and the shore, it is an ideal site to do a composite count with Hawk Ridge. In 2010–2011, our protocol was to have two raptor/non-raptor counters with at least one observer spending about three hours in the morning (beginning at sunrise) at the Lester River condo before moving up to Hawk Ridge to spend the rest of the day doing the raptor count (in prior years, I had been the primary non-raptor counter, with help spotting birds from various volunteer and assistant counters).

In 2010, I counted at the Lester River condo sporadically in late July and early August prior to the beginning of the official hawk count on 15 August, while assistant counter

Figure 3. Number of migrating warblers/hour during morning censuses at the Lakewood Pumping Station 1988–1995, at Hawk Ridge 2008–2009, and at the Lester River condo 2010–2011, all adjusted for similar effort (2–3 hours beginning at sunrise, 1 August – 31 October).



Cameron Rutt spent mornings counting at the condo throughout the season from late August to 31 October. When Cameron began his count, I initially spent my mornings at the Hawk Ridge main overlook as I had in the past, but by late September, the flight at the rooftop was so intense, it was necessary for both of us to spend our mornings counting there together before moving up to Hawk Ridge for the raptor count. In 2011, I spent all of my mornings at the Lester River condo, again beginning sporadically in late July, then continuing every day after 15 August, while assistant counter Cory Ritter spent all of his mornings at the Main Overlook from 1 September – 31 October. Since many of the same birds can often be seen from both Hawk Ridge and Lester River (the two observers can see each other at the two different sites), we communicated by two-way radio and cell phones to avoid duplication. Using these composite counts from the Main Overlook and the Lester River condominium, the results increased to 274,162 in 2010 and 320,779 birds in 2011, which are even greater than the historical counts done from Lakewood in 1988–1990, though these are composite counts from two sites, and we continued counting non-raptors from the Main Overlook throughout the day during the raptor count.

Methodology

Despite differences in sites and observers, the methodology of counting has remained the same throughout 2007–2011: coverage almost always began at sunrise and continued throughout the day as long as the rap-

tor count continued, binoculars and a telescope were used throughout the day to scan for migrants, all migrant birds were counted (including all unidentified birds), while birds thought to be locals and residents, or stop-overs (lingering in the area for multiple days) were excluded. In all years except 2007, I also kept an hourly tabulation of all non-raptor migrants, using sunrise as the beginning of the first hour. This methodology is similar to that used at the Lakewood pumping station in 1988–1990 and 1994–1996.

Hourly Results

Although there have been many previous efforts to count non-raptors in Duluth during the peak morning hours, the full time counts in 2007–2011 are unique because they document the pulse of migration throughout the day. Migration typically starts about sunrise, even though there is often a half hour of light before sunrise (Figure 1). This is even true for species which are typically considered nocturnal migrants, such as warblers, suggesting that most of these birds are making a conscious choice to begin migration diurnally, rather than just continuing nocturnal migration during the first few hours of daylight. In 2008–2009, the overall number of non-raptors did not peak until the second hour after sunrise, and some species peaked even later; for example, Common Redpolls peaked during the third hour in 2008, Blue Jays peaked during the third hour in 2009, and Rusty Blackbirds and Canada Geese peaked during the fifth hour after sunrise in 2008. Although a majority of non-raptors do migrate during the

Figure 4. Number of migrating Red-winged Blackbirds (n=16,346) and Rusty Blackbirds (n=60,062) at Hawk Ridge/Lester River, 1 August – 30 November, 2007–2011.

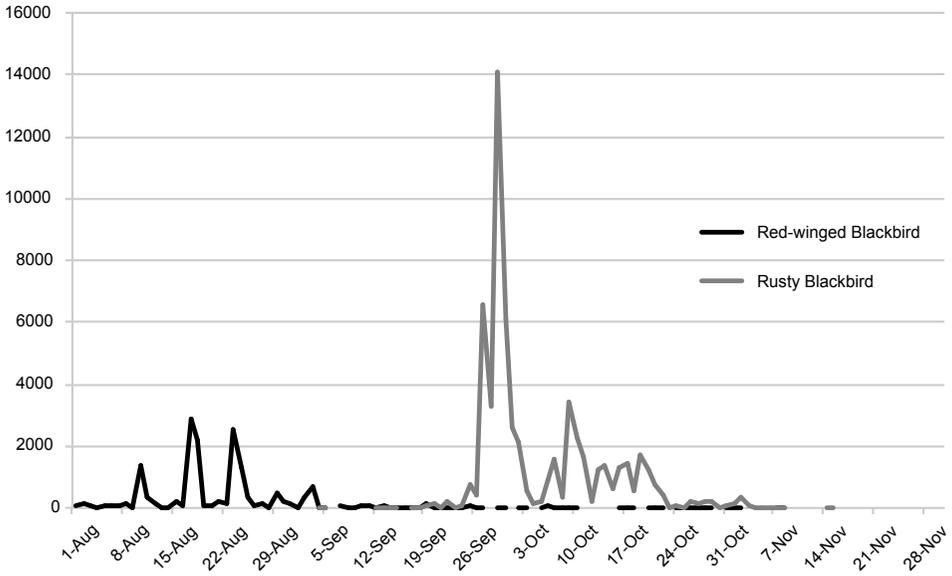
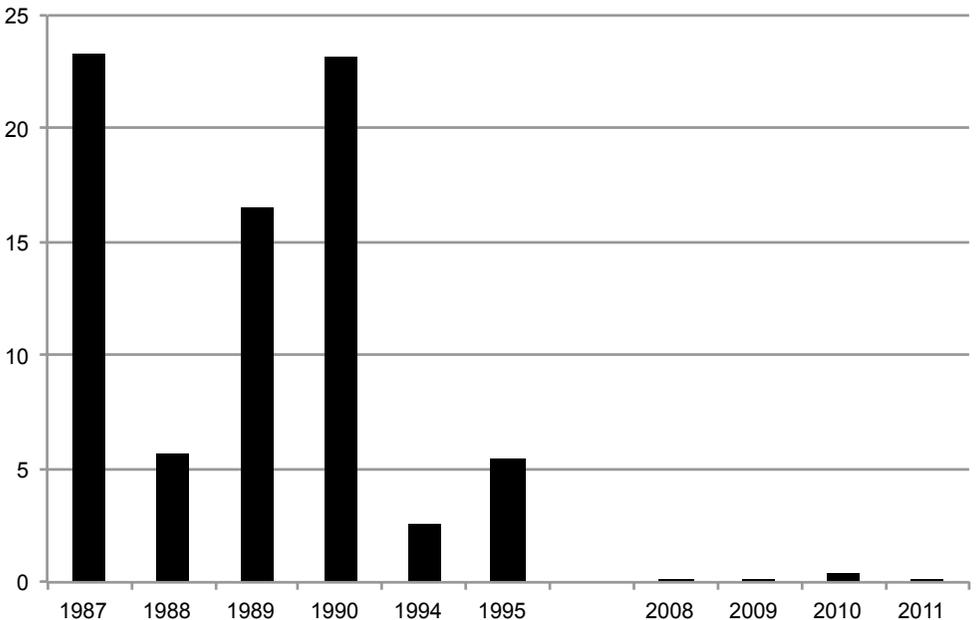


Figure 5. Number of migrating Evening Grosbeaks per hour during morning censuses at the Lakewood Pumping Station 1988–1995, at Hawk Ridge 2008–2009, and at the Lester River condo 2010–2011, all adjusted for similar effort (2–3 hours beginning at sunrise, 1 August – 31 October).



early morning (45% in the first two hours, and 64% in the first three hours), a substantial number are seen later in the day as well; this underscores the value of continuing non-raptor counts throughout the day. Although there is sometimes an increase in non-raptors in the evening near the end of the official raptor count (see Figure 2), we do not routinely census for birds during the last hour or two of daylight, so species such as swallows and nighthawks which routinely migrate at that time are not adequately surveyed.

Flow of Migration

Although migration of most birds generally moves “down” the shoreline of Lake Superior in a southwesterly direction (the “north” shoreline of Lake Superior is actually oriented in a northeast-southwest axis), there are many exceptions (see Map 1). Most waterbirds, such as ducks and loons, which are obviously not affected by the lake as most landbirds are, generally head directly toward the lake from somewhere far inland, cutting perpendicular across the general flow of most other migrants, and geese typically continue directly southward without regard to the shoreline of the lake. Interestingly, many shorebirds, especially American Golden-Plovers, are often seen moving directly westward *away* from the lake. Even more interestingly, most flocks of House Finches, which are not considered locals, are almost always seen moving “up” the shore in a northeasterly direction. Occasionally large flights of birds are also seen moving back up the shore in reverse migration as well. For example, during mild weather, thousands of robins have been seen moving back northeast, and on 27 September 2011, over 1,000 Yellow-rumped Warblers were seen moving back up the shore in reverse migration.

Weather and Big Days

After five years of watching migration on the North Shore every day in the fall, I’ve decided there is no way to predict when good flights will occur, raptor or non-raptor. Although cold fronts and north to west winds do trigger many large flights of birds, there have been numerous occasions when these conditions did not produce a good flight, and many of the biggest days I have seen have

been when I did not expect a large flight. For example, the largest warbler flight I have seen (8,573 warblers plus 4,131 American Robins and 1,138 Blue Jays on 25 September 2009), appeared to be a day like any other, without any associated front or weather pattern. The largest flight of 2010, an amazing 12,612 Cedar Waxwings, occurred on a warm day (morning temp in the 60s and 70s) with no wind or clouds, and the largest flight of 2011, an amazing 39,127 American Robins, occurred on a day with heavy fog, mist, and light rain. Just about every year there has been a day like these when the migration of songbirds was simply overwhelming, with many birds missed due to the intensity of the flight.

Comparisons

Despite the many differences in methodology and sites during all these 15 years of non-raptor surveys (Table 1), it is still possible to make some comparisons. Data from the recent full-time counts at Hawk Ridge/Lester River in 2007–2011 are compared to morning counts at Lakewood in 1987–1990 for a selected number of the most common species, and other species of interest (see Table 2). The additional years of data from Lakewood in 1985 and 1994–1996, and from Hawk Ridge in 1983–1984 were also used for comparison but not included in the table due to substantial differences in methodology. When making comparisons, it is important to remember a number of different factors which influence the results during all these different years: 1) Some species prefer to migrate along the shore rather than the Ridge, so counts are substantially higher at Lakewood and Lester River than at Hawk Ridge, while a few other species prefer to migrate along the Ridge rather than on the shore. 2) Recent counts continued through November, so late migrants such as Tundra Swans, Pine Grosbeaks, and Common Redpolls were mostly missed during the Lakewood counts which ended in late October. 3) Some species continue substantial migration after the early morning hours, resulting in greater counts from full-time coverage at Hawk Ridge compared to morning counts at Lakewood.

Because of these differences between the recent, full-time counts (2007–2011), and the historical morning Lakewood counts (1985–

Table 1. Comparison of coverage parameters during 15 years of non-raptor counts at Duluth.
Notes: 1983–1984: binoculars not used to scan regularly, thousands of distant birds not counted. 1985, 1987: coverage primarily for raptors, average start time several hours after sunrise. 1994–1996: count done on an every other day basis only. 1987–1990: totals differ from those published by Eckert since these were later entered electronically by NRRI. 1990: total excludes evening Common Nighthawk count of 43,690 on 26 August 1990.

Year	Site	Seasonal coverage	No. of days	No. of hours	Average no. hours/day	Start time	Daily coverage	No. of Species	TOTAL
1983	Hawk Ridge main overlook	15 Aug-31 Oct	67	151	2.25	sunrise	morning	124	40,000
1984	Hawk Ridge main overlook	14 Aug-3 Nov	58	110.5	1.9	sunrise	morning	106	34,000
1985	Lakewood pumping station	18 Aug-2 Nov	48	144.5	3	mid-morning	mid-day	83	54,000
1987	Lakewood pumping station	18 Aug-24 oct	33	160.25	4.8	mid-morning	mid-day	101	104,497
1988	Lakewood pumping station	1 Aug-30 Oct	82	151.5	1.8	sunrise	morning	103	240,096
1989	Lakewood pumping station	1 Aug-30 Oct	88	179.5	2	sunrise	morning	96	254,326
1990	Lakewood pumping station	1 Aug-30 Oct	83	167.75	2	sunrise	morning	96	182,106
1994	Lakewood pumping station	21 Aug-30 Oct	33	65.5	2	sunrise	morning	64	59,333
1995	Lakewood pumping station	21 Aug-20 Oct	28	56	2	sunrise	morning	71	70,050
1996	Lakewood pumping station	21 Aug-20 Oct	31	60	2	sunrise	morning	n/a	47,382
2007	Hawk Ridge main overlook	22 Aug-30 Nov	96	725.8	7.5	sunrise	all day	140	76,213
2008	Hawk Ridge main overlook	1 Aug-30 Nov	114	898.4	7.8	sunrise	all day	158	183,012
2009	Hawk Ridge main overlook	15 Aug-30 Nov	102	865.2	8.4	sunrise	all day	132	173,096
2010	Hawk Ridge/Lester River	19 Jul-30 Nov	114	919.5	8	sunrise	all day	160	274,162
2011	Hawk Ridge/Lester River	29 Jul-30 Nov	111	981.3	8.8	sunrise	all day	142	320,779

1996), I have calculated a morning average for the 2008–2011 data (no hourly tabulation was kept in 2007), using only the first three hours of Hawk Ridge Main Overlook data in 2008–2009, and only the morning Lester River data in 2010–2011, which makes for a good comparison with the Lakewood data from 1987–1990. In this morning average, I also used only data from 1 August — 31 October (excluding the late July and November coverage), since this is the seasonal coverage of the Lakewood data.

Overall, these data provide a great comparison of migration in two major time blocks (1987–1990 and 2007–2011) that are twenty years apart, showing that some species have declined precipitously (warblers, Evening Grosbeak), while others have apparently substantially increased (Blue Jays, Purple Finches, etc.). Using these comparisons, following is a detailed description of most of the major species and groups of interest that have been seen in Duluth during these non-raptor counts. Please refer to Table 2 while reading these species accounts.

Species Accounts

Waterbirds — Despite Hawk Ridge’s close proximity to the largest freshwater lake in the world, the lack of substantial numbers of waterbirds is rather astounding. Season counts at Hawk Ridge from 2007–2011 have averaged only 9,796 waterbirds (most of which are Canada Geese). Interestingly,

at Whitefish Point, MI, at the eastern end of Lake Superior, fall waterbird counts generally tally about 100,000 birds, with most of these preferring to fly southeastward off the lake towards wintering areas on the lower Great Lakes and the Atlantic. These birds clearly do not arrive at the Lake Superior basin during daylight hours in the vicinity of Duluth. For unknown reasons, the number of waterbirds counted from Hawk Ridge recently (2007–2011) is substantially higher (morning average of 3,079) than the historical counts at Lakewood from 1987–1990 (average of only 949 waterbirds). Similarly, the average number of waterbird species has increased from just 23 at Lakewood in 1987–1995 to 52 from the Ridge in 2007–2011: recent counts have added most species of ducks including all three scoters and Long-tailed Duck, 18 species of shorebirds, and others difficult to see from Hawk Ridge such as Horned and Red-necked grebes, and Thayer’s and Glaucous gulls.

Ross’s Goose — Although relatively few “western” geese move through Duluth, Ross’s Geese have been seen annually during recent counts 2007–2011, including a peak of 16 with 220 Snow Geese on 7 November 2011 (third highest fall count and perhaps the highest count for eastern Minnesota).

Cackling Goose — Split from Canada Goose in 2004, substantial numbers are now seen, including a peak of 1,071 on 27 September 2008 (highest fall count in Minnesota).

Canada Goose — Surprisingly few at

Table 2. Comparison of selected migrants between Lakewood counts 1987–1990 and Hawk Ridge/Lester River counts 2007–2011. Note: data for “All warblers” includes otherwise unlisted species.

	Lakewood Pumping Station				Average total 1987–1990	Hawk Ridge			Hawk Ridge/ Lester River		Average total 2007–2011	Morning only average 2008–2011
	1987	1988	1989	1990		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
Snow Goose	0	41	188	23	63	27	171	6	201	387	158	43
Ross's Goose	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	2	2	30	9	4
Cackling Goose	0	0	0	0	0	913	1521	208	859	949	890	236
Canada Goose	256	427	540	77	325	6051	6638	3159	6625	5768	5648	1712
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0	0	27	231	146	160	474	208	4
total duck numbers	34	25	4	78	35	477	902	585	1372	1927	1053	507
Common Loon	2	15	18	3	10	25	79	97	85	61	69	39
American White Pelican	0	0	0	0	0	174	133	34	401	384	225	50
Double-crested Cormorant	61	69	211	18	90	166	319	59	130	69	149	63
Great Blue Heron	17	19	168	82	72	10	29	15	36	15	21	11
Sandhill Crane	0	2	3	2	2	187	588	372	550	195	378	30
American Golden-Plover	14	2	6	6	7	151	131	51	115	112	112	24
Solitary Sandpiper	0	15	17	15	12	14	48	23	34	26	29	21
total shorebird numbers	95	123	372	117	177	251	390	147	338	364	298	143
Common Nighthawk	324	29	118	18	122	1504	2702	13541	3803	7313	5773	1249
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	54	29	57	20	40	42	8	10	27	26	23	9
Belted Kingfisher	7	21	16	25	17	13	16	11	20	7	13	5
Red-headed Woodpecker	2	6	14	2	6	0	2	0	2	6	2	1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	65	23	10	12	28	47	40	11	104	34	47	19
Downy Woodpecker	15	0	0	6	5	5	5	11	11	0	6	3
Hairy Woodpecker	14	5	1	2	6	14	3	9	4	0	6	2
American Three-toed Woodpecker	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	1	0
Black-backed Woodpecker	0	0	0	0	0	83	43	18	84	40	54	18
Northern Flicker	568	398	164	316	362	139	112	64	344	195	171	76
Eastern Kingbird	429	593	560	225	452	21	18	12	364	125	108	116
Northern Shrike	1	2	4	4	3	20	31	12	19	59	28	6
Gray Jay	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	50	0	10	14
Blue Jay	13750	6724	10014	10751	10310	25319	15077	30439	65124	25035	32199	24272
American Crow	3212	5636	7818	7839	6126	7889	10815	9210	16695	11720	11266	5968
Common Raven	758	321	339	381	450	548	737	1053	993	883	843	196
Horned Lark	107	34	109	58	77	6	63	2	442	189	140	155
Purple Martin	281	24	13	1	80	3	3	0	5	0	2	1
Cliff Swallow	88	220	36	25	92	44	808	3709	2894	3961	2283	173
unidentified swallow	466	315	153	255	297	286	1236	851	3363	400	1227	181
Black-capped Chickadee	61	0	22	45	32	38	0	0	22	0	12	6
Boreal Chickadee	0	2	1	0	1	6	0	1	1	0	2	0
Red-breasted Nuthatch	24	18	52	4	25	256	66	112	107	78	124	60
White-breasted Nuthatch	20	38	3	0	15	8	6	4	43	8	14	12
Eastern Bluebird	133	69	31	125	90	236	154	76	585	656	341	138
American Robin	18294	85752	43433	67493	53743	11358	51623	44714	34026	137612	55867	45702
European Starling	150	106	0	66	81	60	213	133	250	362	204	101
American Pipit	92	92	92	85	90	222	56	197	2495	260	646	610
Bohemian Waxwing	3	113	30	1	37	100	22	58	73	49	60	12
Cedar Waxwing	7957	16476	19150	17221	15201	2475	3976	17898	35041	18908	15660	15201
Yellow-rumped Warbler	710	331	112	121	319	1142	2473	1532	2903	3578	2326	1706
unidentified warblers	20100	85867	46566	37266	47450	1070	13535	19563	27682	4105	13191	11657
All warblers	21131	86427	46737	37512	47952	2381	16532	21422	31537	7884	15951	13693
Scarlet Tanager	0	2	2	1	1	3	5	9	17	4	8	5
Dark-eyed Junco	39	128	36	852	264	80	57	45	682	55	184	183
Lapland Longspur	1070	817	951	520	840	27	301	70	1467	307	434	185
Snow Bunting	74	446	246	69	209	709	1090	179	1148	867	799	392
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	11	57	18	20	27	17	46	47	170	20	60	54
Bobolink	18	176	54	4	63	52	68	110	106	48	77	73
Red-winged Blackbird	4569	2206	20931	597	7076	2486	2653	143	5083	5981	3269	3010
Rusty Blackbird	455	23	357	23	215	3471	10673	4976	17082	23860	12012	7527
Common Grackle	1502	2732	2538	1701	2118	1686	844	1100	6819	3258	2741	1416
Baltimore Oriole	0	5	6	26	9	5	6	4	19	15	10	5
unidentified blackbirds	2298	14885	13875	20643	12925	1440	4321	3079	775	1592	2241	1756
Pine Grosbeak	0	5	1	25	8	750	399	371	421	1454	679	11
Purple Finch	498	1057	147	737	610	1848	4194	5138	9128	1666	4395	3299
House Finch	0	0	0	0	0	10	9	5	64	65	31	30
Red Crossbill	128	4	117	24	68	150	73	190	162	320	179	43
White-winged Crossbill	63	125	700	0	222	7	3691	1907	227	840	1334	658
Common Redpoll	0	0	114	0	29	548	20139	897	1549	37759	12178	5413
Pine Siskin	14714	2660	59612	1157	19536	329	8051	1906	8621	3379	4457	3574
American Goldfinch	2547	4066	2792	1406	2703	208	148	901	5101	1948	1661	1579
Evening Grosbeak	3737	867	2981	3898	2871	46	24	46	179	66	72	37
unidentified finch	3268	4043	10398	28	4434	530	2494	1813	877	3158	1774	517
unidentified passerine	492	54	6779	7147	3618	0	7341	1404	3507	6010	3652	3199
TOTAL non-raptors	104497	240096	254326	182106	195256	76213	183012	173096	274162	320779	205452	144210

Lakewood in 1987–1990 compared to recent counts in 2007–2011; although many geese were noted throughout the day during the recent full time counts, the morning average of 1,712 in 2008–2011 was still much higher than Lakewood (average only 352). The only noteworthy prior count is 2,600+ at Hawk Ridge on 4 October 1983, which is comparable to recent peaks, including 2,079 on 27 September 2008.

American White Pelican — The substantial increase of pelicans in eastern Minnesota is obvious at Hawk Ridge, with large flocks now being seen annually, including a peak of 102 on 29 August 2007. This compares to only one recorded at Lakewood in seven years of surveys 1985–1996, at a time when this species was considered rare/casual in Duluth.

Sandbill Crane — This species has also probably increased in the Duluth area. Although the season average at Lakewood is only 2 compared to 378 from the Ridge 2007–2011, note that most of these were seen in the afternoon, including a peak of 333 on 1 October 2008.

Common Nighthawk — Most migrate in the evening so these counts are not an adequate sample, but on several occasions the evening migration of nighthawks began while we were still on duty at the Ridge, and we stayed until sunset to accommodate these flights, including a peak of 13,154 on 25 August 2009 and 43,690 on 26 August 1990.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird — Often difficult to distinguish local birds from migrants, but numbers have probably declined, since the average of 40 at Lakewood from 1987–1990 is noticeably higher than both the full-time average of 22 and the morning average of only 9 at Hawk Ridge/Lester River in 2007–2011.

Red-headed Woodpecker — Now only a casual migrant, but formerly regular at Lakewood (average from 1987–1995 is five), and not uncommon at Hawk Ridge in 1983 (season total of 24 and an amazing peak of nine on 26 September 1983).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker — Greater numbers recently are probably due to full-time coverage, since the recent morning average (2007–2011) is only 18, compared with an average of 27 at Lakewood (1987–1990). Greatest recent peak of 58 on 18 September 2010 (sec-

ond highest state fall count).

Black-backed Woodpecker — Aside from a season total of 71 at Lakewood in 1985, previous Lakewood and Hawk Ridge counts do not indicate this species is a regular migrant (none at Lakewood during daily morning coverage in 1988–1990!). But recent counts (2007–2011) have shown many fly by the Ridge every year, including a state high count of 23 on 22 October 2007. More birds apparently prefer the Ridge, since in 2010–2011 only 41 were recorded at Lester River, but 83 were counted at Hawk Ridge.

Northern Flicker — Recent average is similar to historical average, including a peak of 99 on 25 September 2011, but these totals are dwarfed by a count of 2,212 at Stoney Point on 20 September 1985 (Fall and Blockstein 1986).

Eastern Kingbird — Many more are seen from the shore sites than at Hawk Ridge: full-time counts from Hawk Ridge in 2007–2009 averaged only 17 birds compared to an average of 245 in 2010–2011 once the Lester River site was added, but these numbers are still below the average of 459 from Lakewood in 1988–1990, suggesting a decline in this species. Recent peak of 155 on 24 August 2010 compares to historical peak of 236 on 18 August 1987.

Northern Shrike — Most prefer to fly over the Ridge in mid-to late morning rather than along the shore: for example, the season total was 59 at Hawk Ridge in 2011, but only 1 was seen from the Lester River site. Recent Hawk Ridge counts have averaged 28, including a state high count of 15 on 21 October 2011, compared to an average of only 3 from Lakewood (1988–1995).

Gray Jay — Migrants not seen every year, with a modest incursion in 2010, and the last major invasion in 1986 when 470 were counted in Duluth (*The Loon* 59:41–44). There is some evidence this species has a ten year cycle of invasions, (see HRBO fall/winter 2010–2011 newsletter, “Gray Jay — migration and invasions in Minnesota”).

Blue Jay — For unknown reasons, numbers have substantially increased. Daily morning coverage at Lakewood (1987–1990 average only 10,310) is substantially less than recent counts, even when compared with just the recent morning data (average 24,271 from

2007–2011). Although the vast majority of the Blue Jay flight occurs along the shore, because this species is fairly large and flies in large flocks, most of this migration can also be seen from Hawk Ridge. For example, the state high count of 7,612 on 14 September 2010 was taken entirely from Hawk Ridge (since the simultaneous count from Lester River was less). Additional peaks include 4,826 on 10 September 2007, 3,642 on 14 September 2009, and 4,380 on 25 September 2011.

American Crow — Although many migrate early in the morning (over 1,000 crows have been counted *prior* to sunrise on several October mornings), morning coverage only accounts for about 50% of the flight, so the full-time coverage 2007–2011 is nearly double the morning Lakewood coverage 1987–1990. But comparison of recent morning counts to historical morning counts shows the average to be about the same. Noteworthy peaks include 2,663 on 11 October 2007, 2,557 on 17 October 2008, 3,063 on 14 October 2009, 3,252 on 23 October 2010, and 3,232 on 20 October 2011, all state high fall counts.

Common Raven — Since many migrate later in the day, the morning Lakewood counts do not reflect the full migration of this species, and the recent average is nearly double that of Lakewood. Recent peak flights include 115 on 27 October 2007 and 118 on 7 November 2009, but as many as 350 were seen by Frank Nicoletti at Hawk Ridge on 25 October 1996.

Horned Lark — Another “shorebird,” most larks prefer to migrate closer to the shore than the Ridge — adding the Lester River site increased the recent average from 24 in 2007–2009 to 315 in 2010–2011.

Purple Martin — In recent decades only rare to casual in fall at Hawk Ridge, Lester River, and Lakewood. The decline evident in these data shows a marked shift in populations since thousands formerly gathered at Minnesota Point, Duluth, in the 1960s and 1970s.

Cliff Swallow — Similar to Common Nighthawks, most Cliff Swallows migrate later in the day (and often during large nighthawk flights), so recent full time counts at the Ridge document a large, sharp peak that was not detected previously. This includes 2,793 on 18 August 2009, 1,575 on 16 August 2010, and

2,512 on 17 August 2011 (from 2009–2011, 94% of the migration occurred *after* the regular morning coverage). Most swallows migrating through the area are Cliff with only a small proportion of other species.

Black-capped Chickadee — Migrants not noted every year, and despite at least part-time non-raptor coverage in 15 different years, no other years have compared to the amazing season count of 4,800 in 1985 (including a peak of 2,051 on 12 September 1985). Apparently many migrate later than early morning (Eckert 1989), and I also believe most prefer to follow the shore rather than the ridge.

Red-breasted Nuthatch — Although numbers are variable, the data suggests an increase from an average of 25 at Lakewood in 1987–1990 compared to even just the morning average (60) in recent years. This species may also prefer to migrate along the ridge. Incredible was the count from Hawk Ridge of 176 on 31 August 2007 (second highest state count).

White-breasted Nuthatch — A few migrants seen every year, including a remarkable 20 at Lester River on 30 September 2010.

Eastern Bluebird — The greater number recorded at the Ridge in 2007–2011 than at Lakewood in 1987–1990 is probably partly both a preference for the ridge vs the shore, and partly a real increase in number. Recent peaks include 71 on 9 October 2007, 96 on 7 October 2010, and 125 on 24 October 2011.

American Robin — The most abundant migrant. Despite wide variation in numbers, the average has not changed. Recent peaks include 17,667 on 15 October 2008, 14,817 on 31 October 2009, 39,127 on 9 October 2011, and 35,740 on 12 October 2011 (only higher count is 62,707 at Lakewood on 1 October 1988).

European Starling — Migrant flocks noted annually but often difficult to distinguish from locals; peak of 113 on 2 November 2008.

American Pipit — Since this species clearly prefers the shore and the early morning, I am rather surprised the recent average (646) is so much higher than Lakewood (90), but this is probably mostly due to the huge season count of 2,495 in 2010 including an amazing state high count of 1,056 on 27 September 2010.

Bohemian Waxwing — Surprisingly few seen, even with full November coverage 2007–2011.

Cedar Waxwing — Third most common migrant. Virtually all birds migrate along the shore rather than up on the Ridge, but since they move in large, dense flocks, most are detectable from Hawk Ridge anyway. For example, during the record flight of 12,612 on 29 August 2010, a total of 11,661 were seen in the morning from Lester River, of which 10,079 could be seen at the same time from Hawk Ridge. Additional peaks include 3,421 on 6 September 2009 and 1,912 on 23 August 2011.

Warblers — Despite better coverage and more warblers identified during recent counts, numbers have declined sharply compared to previous counts, and the recent peaks of 8,091 on 25 September 2008, 7,486 on 28 September 2009, and 3,976 on 26 September 2010 are all substantially less than prior peaks of 16,020–29,335 in 1988–1990. Adjusting all years for similar morning effort and seasonal coverage (2–3 hours beginning at sunrise, 1 August – 31 October) and calculating the number of warblers per hour of observation, shows this decline most dramatically (see Figure 3). Although 24 species of warblers have been identified in recent counts (average 19 compared to the Lakewood average of 13), the vast majority (83%) are not identified. Most identified warblers (84%) are Yellow-rumpeds, and the peak warbler numbers in late September and early October occurs during the peak Yellow-rumped migration.

Lapland Longspur — It's possible this species prefers to migrate along the shore (but more data needed), which may explain the decrease in overall numbers between recent and historical counts. However, the highest peak of all 15 years of data was the recent count of 714 on 24 September 2010.

Snow Bunting — It's possible this species also prefers the shore over the Ridge (flocks have been seen farther out over the lake than most other passerines). However, recent counts are noticeably higher than previous ones, and the highest peak out of 15 years of data was 722 on 27 October 2008.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak — Numbers appear equally split between the Ridge and the shore, and virtually all migrate in early morning, so the recent increase over previous counts may be real, including a peak of 51 on 24 August 2010 (high state count).

Red-winged Blackbird — Surprisingly early migration for such a hardy species, with peak in August and early September well before the beginning of Rusty Blackbird migration. Recent numbers appear to be less than half that of prior counts, even though proportionately far fewer blackbirds are unidentified, and most are probably detectable from the Ridge. There is an apparent wide range in numbers from year to year (only 143 in 2009 compared to over 20,000 in 1988!). Recent highest peak was 2,830 on 17 August 2011.

Rusty Blackbird — Recent high counts (2007–2011) were apparently undetected during previous non-raptor surveys. Not only have Rustys been more common than Red-wingeds in the last five years, but also there is very little overlap in timing between the two species. Rustys have not been seen during the peak Red-winged flights in late August and early September (though an early individual is possible), while conversely only 1–2% of the total Red-wingeds occur after the beginning of the Rusty flight in mid-September (see Figure 4). Although this may be a relatively new phenomenon, previous counts of unidentified blackbirds at Lakewood in late September and October (6,591 in 1988, 6,109 in 1989 and 11,467 in 1995) could have been mostly Rustys based on my recent observations. Regardless, the recent counts of Rusty Blackbirds are important in light of recent declines of this species (Greenberg and Droege 1999). Recent peaks include 5,574 on 27 September 2008, 5,100 on 30 September 2010, and 13,540 on 29 September 2011; all state high counts.

Pine Grosbeak — Most migration occurs in November, so this species was mostly missed on the Lakewood counts which all ended by 31 October. Recent peaks include 315 on 2 November 2011, 187 on 10 November 2008, and 186 on 4 November 2010. These are meager compared to the 1,025 counted at Hawk Ridge by Frank Nicoletti on 3 November 1997.

Purple Finch — Although I have no idea why, the recent counts (2008–2011 morning average 3,299) are over five times higher than previous counts (1987–1990 average 610). Although this is more of a shore species (a record flight of 2,035 from Lakewood counted by Cameron Rutt on 12 October 2009 was mostly missed at Hawk Ridge), many also move over the Ridge, and it is generally the

most consistent migrant, being seen throughout the day and throughout the season. Recent peaks include 799 on 16 October 2008, 845 on 19 October 2009, and 1,244 on 29 October 2010 (second highest state count).

House Finch — Numbers of this recent invader did not increase in northern Minnesota until the 1990s, so few were recorded at Lakewood. Although a few have been recorded from Hawk Ridge, most are seen from the shore at Lester River, where most “migrants” are seen heading northeast “up” the shore, including a peak of 18 on 11 October 2011.

Red Crossbill — Migrants noted equally on the Ridge and the shore, but many continue migration in November, so recent counts are noticeably higher than previous ones. An exception is an incredible season of 500 in 1994 (during only every-other-day coverage!) including a peak of 205 on 12 October 1994. Also note a peak of 215 at Hawk Ridge on 22 October 1998; recent peak only 56 on 2 November 2011. This species is recognized as an erratic winter invader.

White-winged Crossbill — Highly variable numbers from none (!) despite daily morning coverage at Lakewood in 1990 to an amazing 3,691 from Hawk Ridge in 2008. Peaks include state high counts of 744 on 21 October 2008 and 463 on 8 November 2009. Many continue migration in November. This species is also an erratic winter invader.

Common Redpoll — As with many other finches, much of the migration occurs in November, so Lakewood counts recorded very few. Although this species is typically on a biannual cycle, a very large invasion in 2008 was followed by an even larger invasion in 2011 after two years of lower numbers. Peak counts during these two invasions included 7,723 on 8 November 2008, and a state high count of 16,032 on 28 October 2011.

Pine Siskin — Wide variation in numbers also suggests a biannual cycle, but since this appears to be more of a shore species, more years of data are needed from a single shore site. Recent peaks include 847 on 17 October 2008, 721 on 16 November 2009, 835 on 8 October 2010, and 821 on 23 October 2011.

American Goldfinch — Over 90% prefer to migrate along the shore and are not detectable from Hawk Ridge, so addition of the Lester River site increased the recent counts

substantially. These are now comparable to Lakewood, including a state high count of 877 on 18 September 2010.

Evening Grosbeak — The severe decline of this species is perhaps more noticeable here than anywhere else in the state, since this was formerly a major migration spot for this species, but numbers are now just a tiny fraction of what they used to be 20 years ago (see Figure 5).

Summary

Expansion of non-raptor counts at Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory to full-time, composite site counts has increased our knowledge of fall non-raptor migration in Duluth in many ways, including overall numbers, species’ seasonal and daily timing, and apparent increases and declines compared to similar counts done 20 years ago at the Lakewood Pumping Station. Despite apparent drastic declines in several major groups of birds since the Lakewood data in 1985–1996, including overall numbers of warblers, and especially Evening Grosbeaks, many other species appear to have increased, including Blue Jays, Purple Finches, etc., and the full magnitude of non-raptors migrating through Duluth appears to be greater than previously known, with an average of nearly 300,000 in 2010–2011. Continued monitoring of this important migration corridor will hopefully provide additional information on population trends, migration timing (in reference to climate change and other factors), species cycles, etc. Similar studies could easily be done by other hawk watches, which could ultimately show geographical differences.

Acknowledgements

From humble beginnings at the Ridge in 2007, these non-raptor counts have grown into more than I ever expected, and I have many people to thank. My fellow assistant and volunteer counters at the Ridge have all become increasingly interested and proficient at identifying all the “dickey” birds too, especially Andrew Longtin, Cameron Rutt, Cory Ritter, Dave Carman, Joe Beck, and Russ Edmonds. No one can see all the raptors and non-raptors, even on slow days, so the help of these folks and many others cannot be overstated. Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory

has funded and supported these non-raptor counts since 2008, and I would like to thank Janelle Long, Jan Green, Frank Nicoletti, Jerry Niemi, and the entire Board of Directors for taking an interest in these non-raptor counts and making them a part of the official program at Hawk Ridge. The Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation provided a Biodiversity Fund grant to analyze the non-raptor data and write this report. This grant was facilitated by Jan Green and Janelle Long. Jan also helped with the non-raptor data in many other ways, including reviewing this article and writing the site description. Annie Bracey converted the Lakewood data from Access to Excel, and Paul Budde converted the Excel data into a usable format. Anthony Hertzell created the map. Frank and Kate Nicoletti provided very generous support as I got settled in Duluth. I would like to thank everyone for their help, and continued support as these non-raptor counts continue at Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory.

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The Summer Season 1 June through 31 July 2011

Ann E. Kessen¹ and Peder H. Svingen²

American Black Ducks were found unusually far south for the summer season, being observed in Benton, Lac qui Parle, and Anoka counties. A large flock of 88 Ring-necked Ducks was remarkable in June at Rice Lake N.W.R. in Aitkin County. A Greater Scaup found in Carlton County was unusual for June, as were the records of White-winged Scoters from two locations in St. Louis County and one in Cook

County. A Common Goldeneye surprised many by spending much of the season at the Bass Ponds of the Minnesota Valley N.W.R. in Hennepin County. Also unexpected were Common Mergansers breeding in Lac qui Parle and Ramsey counties.

The Northern Bobwhite is extirpated in Minnesota, but a presumably escaped or released bird singing in Great River Bluffs State Park in Winona County reminded us of the

species' last known range in the state, in the far southeast. The year saw two sightings of Clark's Grebes, both in the western part of the state. Unusual was the White-faced Ibis that tried its luck in Goodhue County, near Treasure Island Casino. A Mississippi Kite put in a brief appearance in Hennepin County, at Lake Girard Park in June. Also in June, a Red-shouldered Hawk in Kittson County was an exceptional sighting.

Once again, Piping Plovers nested on Pine Curry Island in Lake of the Woods. More unusual was the pair of Herring Gulls that nested on a rooftop in downtown Duluth. In St. Louis County, at the Superior Entry, the second and third summer records of Thayer's Gull were reported in early June. Around the same time and at the same location, a first summer record Great Black-backed Gull was observed. Entirely unexpected was a Lesser Black-backed Gull at Smith Lake in Wright County in mid-June.

A Eurasian Collared-Dove provided the first county record for Morrison County at Little Falls in late June. During that same month a White-winged Dove spent a few days in Wabasha County near Millville. Whip-poor-wills have suffered severe declines in the state, so 15 birds counted at Afton State Park in Washington County was welcome news. Say's Phoebes nested again in Yellow Medicine County, using the same nest as last year. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet singing in Minneopa State Park in Blue Earth County in early June was a surprise.

A Hermit Thrush in Freeborn County on 1 June was a very late migrant, and a Blackpoll Warbler in Dakota County on 7 June was also quite late. Henslow's Sparrows put in rare appearances in Otter Tail and Pine counties in June. A White-crowned Sparrow in Rock County on 18 June was very late, as was a Dark-eyed Junco in Le Sueur County in late June. Another June surprise were Blue Grosbeaks which provided a first county record for Stevens and a first breeding record for Dakota (see also **The Loon** 84:53–54).

Weather Summary: In many parts of the state, June saw a continuation of the cool spring weather. Some areas in central and southern Minnesota did, however, experience brief periods of intense heat early and late in the month. Much of the state was drier than

normal for at least the first half of June. Recurring heavy storms during the latter half of the month, particularly in the southern half of the state, more than compensated for the earlier dryness.

July was a month of extremes. The month was stormy and there were numerous days in July that saw heavy downpours. In some areas the precipitation total for the month was more than twice the historical average. Meanwhile, the northeastern part of the state was about 1.5 inches below normal in rainfall. The end of the month was dry almost everywhere, as the coming autumn drought began. Temperatures in July were well above average all across the state. Even more extreme were the dewpoints, which were extremely high over a wide portion of the state for extended periods of time.

Undocumented Reports: **Sharp-shinned Hawk** 6/3 Waseca; **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** 6/27 Goodhue; **Black-headed Grosbeak** 6/1 Ramsey; **Great-tailed Grackle** 6/12 Crow Wing, 6/19 Anoka; **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** 6/27 Todd.

Maps: A map is included for each species having at least one confirmed breeding record during 2011 (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. Those species with no breeding data have no map.

Acknowledgements: Thanks to all who submitted summer season reports and breeding records. Your data make this report possible. Special thanks to Steve Stucker and the Minnesota DNR for providing MCBS data. Thanks also to Anthony Hertzell, 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 Hertzell and Dave Cahlander produced the maps used in this report.

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² **2602 East 4th Street, Duluth, MN 55812.**

KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERM**) 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.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [1 South] Unusual summer record 6/11 Kandiyohi (blue morph, perhaps injured) MJB.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [33 North, 51 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for *Mahnomen* RPR, *Redwood fide* BBA.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [27 North, 22 South] Reports in all regions of state continue to increase. First county breeding records from *Douglas* JPE, *Lake fide* BBA.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [27 North, 47 South] Observed throughout state.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) — [10 North, 11 South] Found in all regions except North-central and Southeast.

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) — [11 North, 3 South] Reported from all northern and central regions.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) — [5 North, 4 South] Found in northeast as well as scattered central and southern locations. Unusually far south 6/13 Benton (Graham W.M.A.) RAE, 6/17 Lac qui Parle SWE, RWO, 6/20 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) TAT.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [33 North, 52 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding records from *Renville* DPG, *Traverse* DPG.

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) — [26

North, 35 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast.

Northern Shoveler (*Anas chlypeata*) — [13 North, 13 South] Reported from scattered locations in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record for *Pine* QYo.

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) — [6 North, 7 South] Observed in scattered locations in all regions except Southeast and Southwest.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) — [18 North, 9 South] Seen in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record from *Koochiching* DBM.

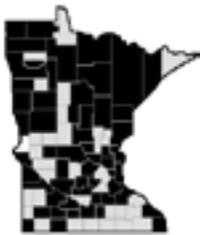
Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) — [7 North, 8 South] Reported from locations in all western and central regions.

Redhead (*Aythya americana*) — [12 North, 22 South] Found in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records for *Itasca* DBM, *Koochiching* DBM, *Lincoln* AXH, *Waseca* DAB.

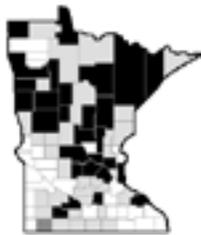
Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) — [24 North, 10 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record from *Norman fide* BBA. Season high count 6/11 Aitkin (88 at Rice Lake N.W.R.) CLW *et al.*

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) — [1 North] Unusual summer record **6/25** Carlton RAE.

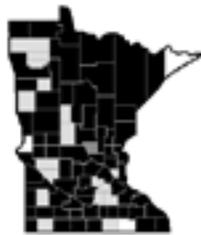
Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) — [11 North, 5 South] Found in northern regions plus



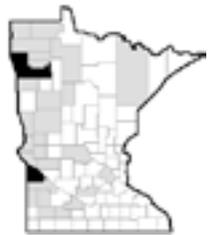
Canada Goose



Trumpeter Swan



Wood Duck



Gadwall



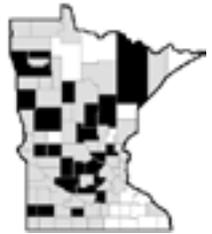
American Wigeon



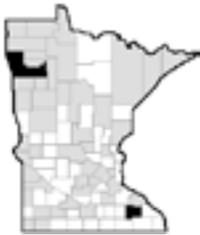
American Black Duck



Mallard



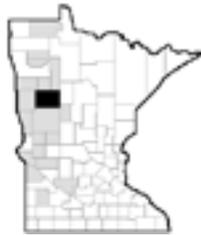
Blue-winged Teal



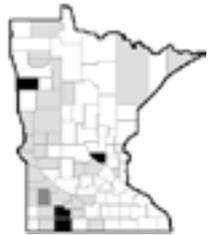
Northern Shoveler



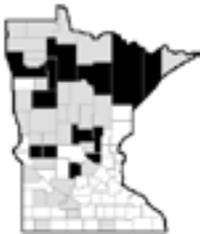
Green-winged Teal



Canvasback



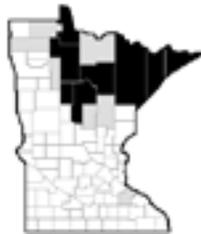
Redhead



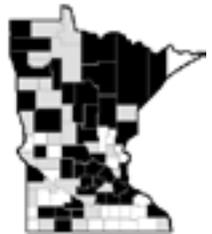
Ring-necked Duck



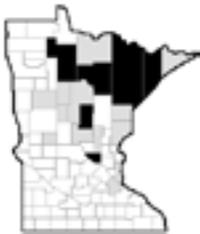
Lesser Scaup



Common Goldeneye



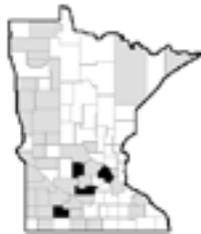
Hooded Merganser



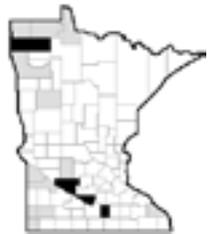
Common Merganser



Red-breasted Merganser

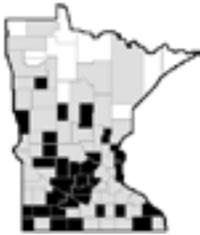


Ruddy Duck

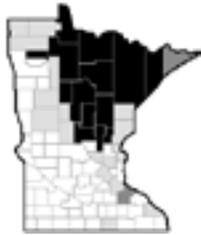


Gray Partridge

- West-central and Central. First county breeding record from *Lac qui Parle* *fide* BBA
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [2 North] Rare summer records 6/1 St. Louis (Minnesota Point, Duluth) ph. SCZ, **6/17** Cook (off Cut Face Creek rest area) DPG, **6/19–20** St. Louis (Fisherman's Point, Hoyt Lakes) ALE.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [4 North] Seen 6/7 Lake *fide* ebd, 6/9, 7/5, 7/11 Marshall SBA, DWK, RBW, 6/23 Cass RMe, 7/12 Kittson DWK, RBW,
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [13 North, 1 South] Found in all northern regions plus **6/22–7/15** Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) MBa, ph. BeH, SLC, TAT, StB.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [27 North, 26 South] Found in all regions of state.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [10 North, 2 South] Reported from Northeast and North-central plus Mille Lacs, Pine, and first county breeding 6/3 **Lac qui Parle** *fide* BBA, 6/26 **Ramsey** MSM.
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [7 North] Observed in Northeast and North-central. First county breeding record from *Itasca* *fide* BBA.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [4 North, 19 South] Found in all western regions as well as Central and South-central. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (**99**, Mehurin Twp., Salt Lake) PCC. First county breeding record from *Blue Earth* ChH.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [2 North, 7 South] Reported from widely scattered locations in western regions plus Dakota, Olmsted.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [15 North, 50 South] Widely found south of a line from Clay to Aitkin to Pine, plus 6/14 St. Louis (escaped or released bird?) FKB.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [22 North, 2 South] Reported from all northern and central regions as well as Goodhue and Houston.
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falcipennis canadensis*) — [5 North] Observed in Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [7 North, 2 South] Seen in northern regions plus Lac qui Parle, Swift, Yellow Medicine.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [1 North, 1 South] Found 6/25, 7/11, 7/19 Clay *fide* BBA, *fide* JM], ARW, 6/12 Lac qui Parle (released birds at Plover Prairie) BJU.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [19 North, 42 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding records for *Aitkin* LS, *Big Stone* LS, *Clearwater* GLH, *Dodge* LS, *Stevens* DBM.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] All reports: single individuals 6/3, 6/7 St. Louis (Park Point) ph. SCZ, DBM; group of alternate plumaged birds 6/8 (8), 6/9 (7), 6/12 (6) St. Louis (Park Point) ph. CLW *et al.*, ph. PHS; 6/24 St. Louis (2, Lester River mouth) JLK; and possibly one individual lingering at Park Point 6/26 (Lafayette Square) PHS, 7/3 (40th Street) *fide* JWJ.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [28 North, 19 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [15 North, 32 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [1 North] Seen 7/3 Roseau SBA.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [15 North, 19 South] Found in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record from *Le Sueur* *fide* BBA.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [4 North, 3 South] Reported from Big Stone, Kittson, Marshall, Lac qui Parle, Polk, Renville, Sibley,
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [7 North, 12 South] Seen in all central regions plus Northwest and North-central.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [1 North, 1 South] Reported 6/12 Lac qui Parle (Pegg Lake) ph. BJU, 6/27 Douglas (Lake Osakis) RHi.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [19 North, 43 South] Found statewide. First county breeding record from *Douglas* DPG.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus eryth-*



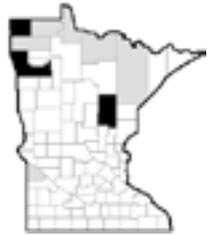
Ring-necked Pheasant



Ruffed Grouse



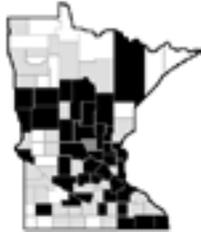
Spruce Grouse



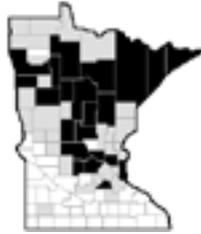
Sharp-tailed Grouse



Greater Prairie-Chicken



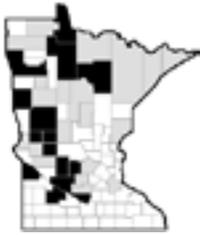
Wild Turkey



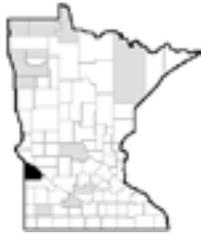
Common Loon



Pied-billed Grebe



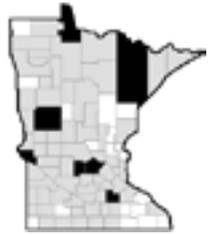
Red-necked Grebe



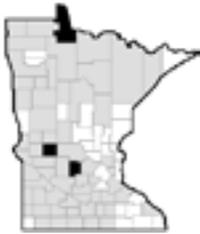
Eared Grebe



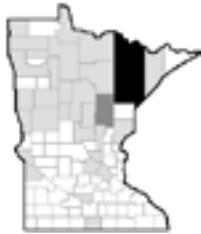
Western Grebe



Double-crested Cormorant



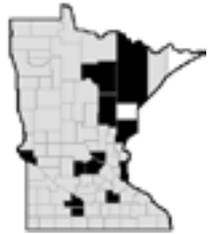
American White Pelican



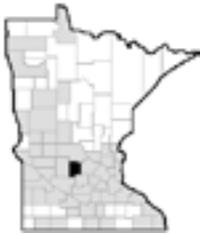
American Bittern



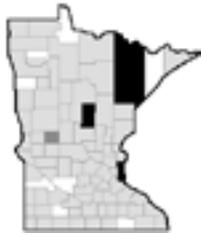
Least Bittern



Great Blue Heron



Great Egret



Green Heron

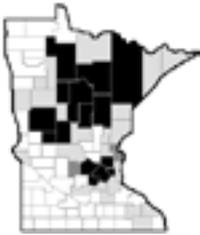


Black-crowned Night-Heron

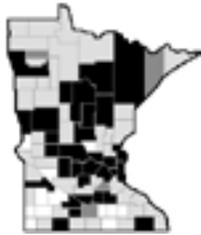


Turkey Vulture

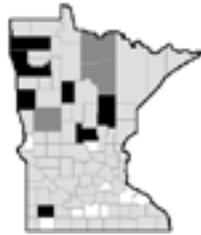
- rorhynchos*) — [20 North, 43 South] Reported from all regions of state.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [18 North, 9 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast and South-central.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [8 North, 21 South] Reported from scattered sites in all regions except Northeast.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [31 North, 48 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding record from *Renville* DPG.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [6 North, 35 South] Reported south of a line from Becker to Morrison to Washington. First county breeding record from *Renville* DPG. High count 7/9 Stearns (137, west of Elrosa) MJB.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [2 South] Observed 6/11 Kandiyohi (Keller Ranch W.M.A.) †MJB, 6/12 Lac qui Parle (Lac qui Parle W.M.A. near Plover Prairie) ph. BJU.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [2 North, 1 South] Found 6/4 Traverse JOJ, 6/19, 20 Nicollet MJM, ph. MOe, 7/28 Otter Tail JGl.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [22 North, 39 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding record from *Meeker* BAS.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [5 North, 10 South] Observed in all central regions plus Lake of the Woods, Lyon, Nicollet.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [1 South] Reported 6/8 **Goodhue** (near Treasure Island Casino complex) ph. GMi.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [31 North, 50 South] Found statewide. First county breeding record from *Washington* fide BBA.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [20 North, 15 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) — [1 South] Observed 6/6 **Hennepin** (first-summer bird at Lake Girard Park, Bloomington) †CLW (**The Loon** 84:55).
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [31 North, 42 South] Reported statewide.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [31 North, 31 South] See in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Kittson* fide JMJ.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [11 North, 4 South] Observed in Northeast, North-central, East-central, Central, as well as Kittson. First county breeding record from *Pine* QYo.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [19 North, 32 South] Reported from all regions of state.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [8 North] Found in all northern regions. First county breeding record from *Roseau* BJS.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [15 North, 9 South] Reported from Northeast, North-central, East-central, Central, plus Douglas and 6/11 **Kittson** (Twin Lakes W.M.A.) BSc.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [21 North, 17 South] Found in all regions except West-central and Southwest.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [3 North, 19 South] Found primarily south of a line from Traverse and Grant to Washington, but also Polk.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [33 North, 50 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding records for *Cook* JCG, *Norman* fide BBA.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [31 North, 49 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for *Beltrami* BWA, *Cottonwood* AXH, *Lake of the Woods* MRN, *Lyon* RJS, *Pipestone* AXH.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [21 North, 2 South] Observed in all northern and central regions. First county breeding records for *Crow Wing* MRN, *Morrison* RPR, SAU.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [6 North, 16 South] Found in all eastern and central regions.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [2 North] Reported from Aitkin and Roseau.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [15 North, 26 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Blue Earth* ChH.
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [16 North, 28 South] Reported from all regions of state.
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [4 South] Found in Blue Earth, Brown, Lac qui Parle, Sherburne. First county breeding records for *Blue Earth* RMD, *Nicollet* (August observation) DBM.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [11 North, 24 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast.



Osprey



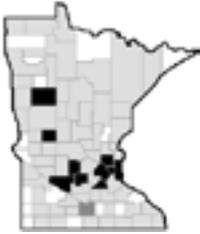
Bald Eagle



Northern Harrier



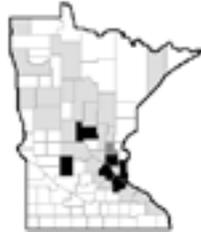
Sharp-shinned Hawk



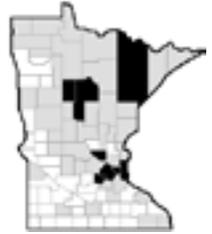
Cooper's Hawk



Northern Goshawk



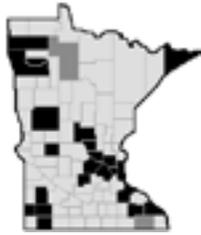
Red-shouldered Hawk



Broad-winged Hawk



Swainson's Hawk



Red-tailed Hawk



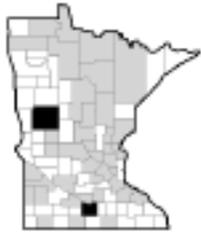
American Kestrel



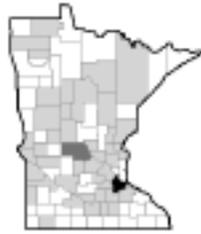
Merlin



Peregrine Falcon



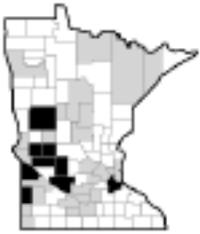
Virginia Rail



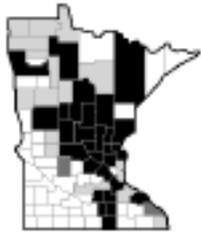
Sora



Common Gallinule



American Coot



Sandhill Crane

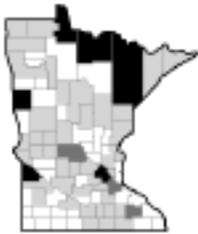


Piping Plover

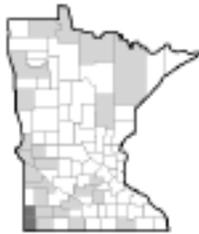


Killdeer

- Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*) — [24 North, 23 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. First county breeding records for *Chisago fide* BBA, *Otter Tail fide* BBA.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [2 North] Northbound migrants 6/3 St. Louis SCZ, 6/5 Aitkin ASC.
- Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [2 North, 10 South] Reported from central regions plus Aitkin, Brown, Cass, Olmsted. Northbound migrants 6/9 Aitkin SC, 6/11 Wright (1) PCC. Southbound migrants: early north 7/26 Cass (2) DAY; early south 7/10 Wright (2) PCC, 7/12 Lac qui Parle (3) BJU.
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 North] Found 6/2 Lake of the Woods (nest with 4 eggs on Pine/Curry Island S.N.A.) KVH.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [32 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Lake, Norman. First county breeding record from *Traverse* DPG. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (366) PCC.
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [22 North, 29 South] Observed in all regions of state.
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [8 North, 22 South] Seen in scattered locations throughout state. Northbound migrants: late south 6/8 Carver DMA; late north 6/5 Lake †JBa, 6/11 Otter Tail RTo. Southbound migrants: north dates not representative; early south 7/4 Sibley DWK, 7/8 Kandiyohi RAE. First juvenile 7/31 Lac qui Parle PCC. High count 7/24 Carver (24) JCy.
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [6 North, 14 South] Found in all regions except Northeast, Southwest. Northbound migrants: late south 6/8 Carver DMA; late north 6/9 Aitkin SC. Southbound migrants: early north 7/2 Marshall VNi; early south 6/27 Goodhue SWe, 6/28 Brown BTS. No significant counts.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [1 North, 2 South] Presumed southbound migrants 7/5 Otter Tail LS, 7/10 Wright (4) PCC, 7/31 Lac qui Parle BJU.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [11 North, 19 South] Found in all regions of state. Northbound migrants: late south 6/8 Carver DMA; late north 6/7 Aitkin RBJ. Southbound migrants: early north 7/2 Marshall VNi; early south 6/24 Lyon GWe, 6/27 Sibley DWK. High count (230) and first juvenile 7/31 Lac qui Parle PCC.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [8 North, 17 South] Reported from all regions except East-central. High count 6/22 Cottonwood (34) MDg.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [1 North] Observed 6/7 – 6/12 St. Louis (max. 2 at Park Point, Duluth) ph. PHS, m.ob.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [1 North] Only report: northbound migrant 6/5 Aitkin LS.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [11 North, 3 South] Found in Northwest, North-central, West-central, Central. First county breeding record from *Clearwater* BWa. High count 6/9 Clay (27, Felton Prairie area) CMB.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [1 North] Only report: northbound migrant 6/1 St. Louis (Duluth) SCZ.
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — No reports.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [1 North, 1 South] All reports: northbound migrants 6/1, 6/11 St. Louis ph. SCZ, DWK, JLO; southbound migrant 7/29 Blue Earth CH.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [5 North, 15 South] Reported from scattered locations in all regions except Northwest. Northbound migrants: late south 6/11 Wright PCC; late north 6/11 St. Louis DKW, JLO. Southbound migrants: north dates not representative; early south 7/10, 7/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 7/16 Dakota BAF, SHF. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (115) PCC.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [11 North, 24 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. Northbound migrants: late south 6/8 Carver DMA; late north 6/5 Aitkin ASC. Southbound migrants: early north dates not representative; early south 6/27 Goodhue SWe, 7/3 Fillmore and Mower JWH. High count 7/10 Wright (190 at Smith Lake) PCC. First juveniles (2) 7/31 Lac qui Parle PCC.
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [2 North, 6 South] Reported from Aitkin, Carver, Cook, Lac qui Parle, Olmsted, Stearns, Wabasha, Wright; as expected, all of these were northbound migrants in-



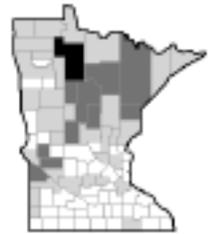
Spotted Sandpiper



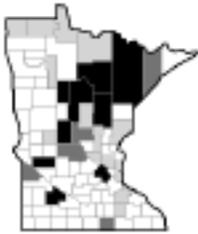
Upland Sandpiper



Marbled Godwit



Wilson's Snipe



American Woodcock



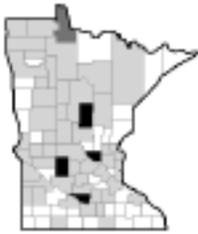
Wilson's Phalarope



Ring-billed Gull



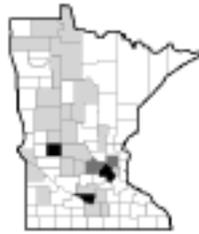
Herring Gull



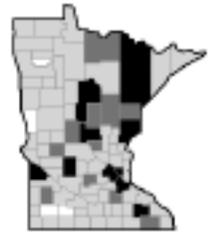
Black Tern



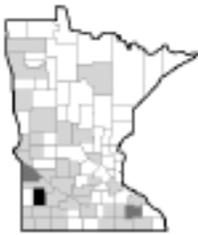
Common Tern



Forster's Tern



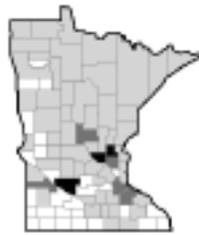
Rock Pigeon



Eurasian Collared-Dove



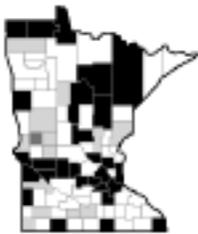
Mourning Dove



Black-billed Cuckoo



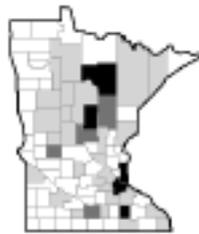
Eastern Screech-Owl



Great Horned Owl



Northern Hawk Owl



Barred Owl



Great Gray Owl

- cluding 6/20 Lac qui Parle BJU. High count 6/10 Lac qui Parle (46) BJU.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [4 North, 7 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast and Southwest. Northbound migrants (all reports) 6/1 Olmsted (2) JWH, 6/5, 6/6 Aitkin BU. Southbound migrants: early north 7/11 Pennington DWK, RBW; early south 7/10, 7/12 Lac qui Parle BJU. No significant counts.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [8 North, 17 South] Found in all regions of state except Southwest. Northbound migrants: late south 6/8 Carver DMA, 6/10 Brown BTS; late north 6/6 Aitkin DBM. Southbound migrants: early north 7/11 Pennington DWK; early south 6/27 Goodhue SWE, 7/8 Big Stone BJU. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (344) PCC.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [2 North, 3 South] Northbound migrants in Aitkin, Cook, Lac qui Parle, Stearns, Watonwan. Late south 6/10 Lac qui Parle BJU; late north 6/5 Aitkin LS.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [3 North, 4 South] Reported from Aitkin, Carver, Crow Wing, Dakota, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Roseau. Northbound migrants: late south 6/10 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU; late north 6/6 Aitkin DBM. Southbound migrants: early north 7/4 Roseau Scott Barnes; early south 7/10, 7/12 Lac qui Parle BJU. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (50) PCC.
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Tryngites subruficollis*) — [4 South] Observed in Carver, Lac qui Parle, McLeod, Rice. Early south migrants 7/29–30 McLeod RBW, RAE, 7/30 Carver (2) JCy.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [4 North, 4 South] Reported from Aitkin, Blue Earth, Freeborn, Lac qui Parle, Marshall, Pennington, Roseau, and Stearns. Only northbound migrant: 6/5 Aitkin ASC. Southbound migrants: early north 7/4 Roseau Scott Barnes, 7/5 Marshall SBA; early south 7/10, 7/12 Lac qui Parle BJU. No significant counts.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [28 North, 14 South] Found in all regions except South-central.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [14 North, 7 South] Observed in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Swift* SVa.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [6 North, 6 South] Seen in Northwest, North-central, Central, West-central, and Southwest. First juvenile 7/16 Lac qui Parle PCC. High count 7/31 Lac qui Parle (143) PCC.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [2 North, 1 South] All reports: northbound migrants 6/6 Aitkin DBM, 6/7 Cook MCBS, 6/10 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU; southbound migrants 7/16 (2), 7/31 (05) Lac qui Parle PCC.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [3 North] All reports: 6/6 St. Louis (flock of 70, all but one were first-summer birds) DBM, 6/9 Lake JSK, 6/12, 7/23 Beltrami PBD, DPJ.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [5 North, 15 South] Seen in all western regions as well as Central and South-central.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [25 North, 33 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding record from *Grant* RPR.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [12 North, 6 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. Rooftop nesting documented in downtown Duluth ph. PHS.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*) — [1 North] Second summer record 6/2 St. Louis (first-cycle bird at Superior Entry) ph. PHS; a second-cycle individual lingered through at least 6/4 at the same location ph. PHS.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [1 South] Unusual observation 6/19 **Wright** (Middleville Twp., Smith L.) †PCC.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] First summer record 6/6 St. Louis (second-cycle bird at Superior Entry) ph. PHS.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [7 North, 6 South] Found in all western and central regions plus Ramsey.
- Black Tern** (*Chlidonias niger*) — [22 North, 31 South] Seen in all regions of state.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [5 North, 1 South] Found in Cass, Houston, Lake of the Woods, Mille Lacs, Otter Tail, St. Louis.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [12 North, 16 South] Reported from all regions except



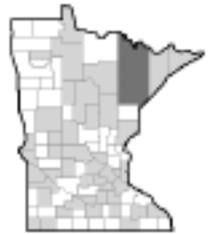
Long-eared Owl



Boreal Owl



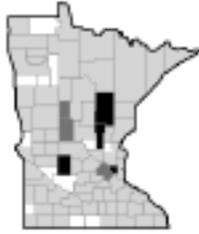
Northern Saw-whet Owl



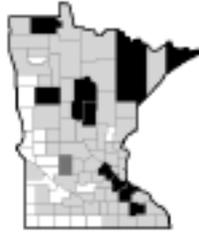
Common Nighthawk



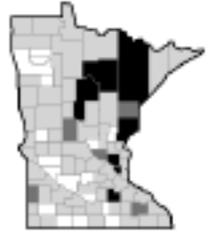
Eastern Whip-poor-will



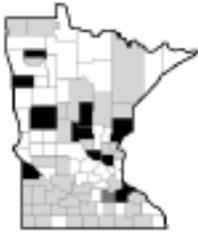
Chimney Swift



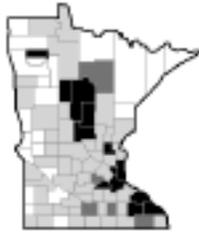
Ruby-throated Hummingbird



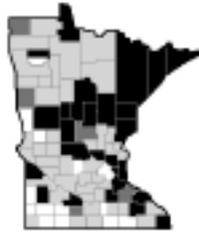
Belted Kingfisher



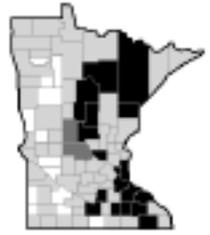
Red-headed Woodpecker



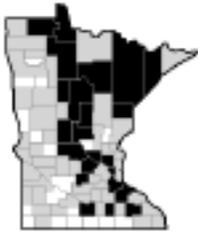
Red-bellied Woodpecker



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker



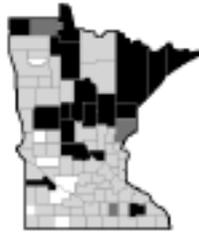
Downy Woodpecker



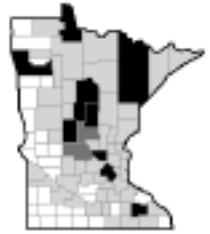
Hairy Woodpecker



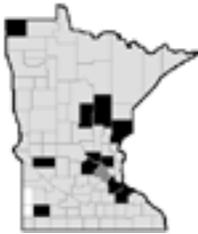
Black-backed Woodpecker



Northern Flicker



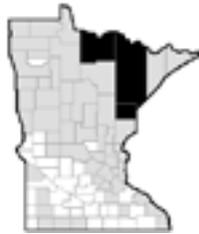
Pileated Woodpecker



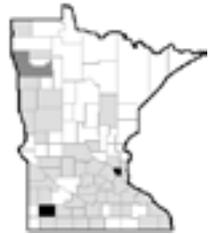
Eastern Wood-Pewee



Acadian Flycatcher



Alder Flycatcher



Willow Flycatcher

- Northeast, Southeast.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [32 North, 51 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding record from Cass MRN.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [9 North, 30 South] Range continues to expand. Reported from all regions except Northeast. First county record 6/25 **Morrison** (Little Falls) FGo. First county breeding record from Lyon GWe.
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE** (*Zenaida asiatica*) — [1 South] Reported 6/14–19 **Wabasha** (S. of Millville) ph. GMi.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [30 North, 53 South] Observed throughout state. First county breeding records for Wadena *fide* BBA, Waseca DPG. High count 7/16 Sibley (100) RBJ.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [4 North, 26 South] Found in all central and southern regions plus Aitkin, Cass. High count 6/5 Dakota (5) RTE.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [29 North, 30 South] Reported from all regions of state. First county breeding records for Isanti DPG, Renville WCM.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [2 North, 3 South] Reported from Beltrami, Dakota, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Morrison. First county breeding record from Morrison MRN.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [12 North, 15 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding records for Itasca *fide* BBA, Jackson DPG.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [2 North] Observed 6/10 Lake CLW *et al.*, 6/12 St. Louis MCBS.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [17 North, 18 South] Found in all regions except Northwest. First county breeding records for Dodge TEB, Itasca *fide* BBA.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [4 North] Seen in Aitkin, Cass, Koochiching, St. Louis.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [4 North, 1 South] Reported from Blue Earth, Clearwater, Kittson, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [3 North, 1 South] Observed in Lac qui Parle, Marshall, Pennington, Polk.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — [1 North] Heard calling 6/23 Lake JBa.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [2 North] Reported 6/1, 6/5, 6/14, 7/14 St. Louis MCBS, NLM, *fide* BBA, 6/8, 6/10, 6/17 Lake SES, *fide* BBA, NLM.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [16 North, 29 South] Found in all regions of state.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) — [11 North, 6 South] Reported north and east of a line from Roseau to Wadena to Goodhue, plus Chippewa. High count 6/4 Washington (15 at Afton S.P.) SeH.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [29 North, 46 South] Seen throughout state. First county breeding records from Mille Lacs MRN, Ramsey RPR.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [27 North, 39 South] Observed in all regions of state.
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [28 North, 42 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records from Pine QYo, Rice *fide* BBA.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [14 North, 34 South] Observed in all regions of state. First county breeding records for Norman *fide* BBA, Pine *fide* BBA.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [19 North, 46 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding records for Isanti DPG, Morrison RPR, Wabasha *fide* BBA.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [31 North, 42 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records for Olmsted CHa, Wadena *fide* BBA.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*) — [28 North, 46 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records for Carlton JLK, Dodge CHa.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [28 North, 41 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for Carlton JLK, Morrison MRN, Steele PSu.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [1 North] Observed 7/8 Beltrami (Knutson Dam) JKe.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Seen in Clay, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis.



Whimbrel, 7 June 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [32 North, 48 South] Found statewide. First county breeding record from *Wadena fide* BBA.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [25 North, 32 South] Reported from all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Todd fide* BBA.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) — [14 North, 13 South] Reported from all regions of state except Southeast. Late spring migrants (away from known breeding range) 6/12 Meeker CCh, 6/14 Hennepin SLC.

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [30 North, 49 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records for *Kittson fide* BBA, *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Morrison fide* BBA. High counts 6/11 Sherburne (12, Sherburne N.W.R.) CJE, 6/7 Scott (11, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) CLW.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [11 North, 7 South] Reported from all eastern and central regions plus Roseau. Late spring migrant 6/3 Steele PSu. High count 6/10 Lake (8, Superior N.F., Whyte Rd) CLW, m.ob.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) — [8 South] Found in Dakota, Goodhue,

Hennepin, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, Scott, Washington. All counts ≤ 3 territories.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [26 North, 21 South] Observed in all regions except Southwest. First county breeding record from *Lake of the Woods* BWa. Presumed northbound migrants 6/12 Sibley RMD. 6/16 Hennepin SLC. Unusual report of singing bird 7/3 Fillmore (Beaver Creek W.M.A.) RMD, JWH. High count 6/4 St. Louis (43 during 50 mile roadside survey in Sax-Zim Bog) PHS.

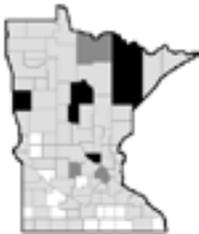
Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) — [6 North, 44 South] Found in all central and southern regions plus Clay, Lake of the Woods, Marshall. High count 6/4 Nicollet (6 singing, Swan Lake area) RMD.

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) — [31 North, 37 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding record from *Carlton* JLK. High count 7/3 Roseau (20, Lost River S.F.) LMa, SBa.

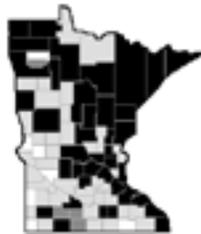
Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [30 North, 44 South] Found statewide. High count 6/9 Crow Wing (8, Pointen Lake) JLK.

SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 South] Observed 6/13 – 7/11+ Yellow Medicine (Florida Creek) DBM, RLW, SWe, MJB, JCC,

- ph. BJU, (used same nest as previous year, producing a clutch of six) AXH.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [32 North, 48 South] Reported from throughout state. First county breeding records for *Beltrami* BWa, *Sherburne* PMJ. High count 7/4 Dakota (17, Lebanon Hills R.P.) TAT.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [11 North, 14 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast, South-central. High count 6/4 Traverse (8) JOJ.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Observed in all counties except Red Lake. First county breeding record from *Pine fide* BBA. High count 7/31 Murray (30) GWe.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [4 North, 11 South] Found in scattered locations in all regions except Northeast. Unusual location 6/23 Cass (2, Ten Mile Lake) RMe. First county breeding record from *Otter Tail fide* JMJ. High count 7/21 Dakota (8) MJB including 6 adults on 4 territories 7/2 BAF.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [7 South] Observed in Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Ramsey, Rice, Wabasha, Washington. All counts ≤ 4 birds.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [24 North, 41 South] Reported from all regions of state.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [14 North, 2 South] Reported from Northeast, North-central, plus Roseau. Late spring migrants 6/2 Steele PSu, 6/14 Dodge LMS. First county breeding record from *Lake of the Woods* BWa. High count 6/4 Itasca (6) ESh, MMA.
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [29 North, 50 South] Found throughout state. High count 6/2 Anoka (14, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) SBM.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [3 North] Found 6/1 Lake of the Woods (Zippel Bay S.P.) JCC, 6/1, 6/15 St. Louis MCBS, SGW, 6/25 Lake SGW.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [32 North, 45 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Olmsted* SLK. High counts 6/5 Aitkin (50, Rice Lake N.W.R.) CCo, 6/19 Beltrami (45) AFo, 7/13 Chisago (44 while paddling 8.4 mile stretch of St. Croix River) RMa.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [10 North] Seen in all northern regions. First county breeding record from *Roseau* BWa. High count 6/16 St. Louis (Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [33 North, 48 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records for *Freeborn* RPR, *Pine* APa, *fide* BBA, *Roseau* BJS. High count 6/16 St. Louis (20, Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [16 North, 1 South] Observed in all northern regions plus Stearns (no details). First county breeding record from *Becker fide* BAB.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [33 North, 50 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records for *Chisago* KSc, *Mower* RPR, *Otter Tail* RPR, *Wadena fide* BBA.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [22 North, 4 South] Reported from all northern regions, East-central, Central. First county breeding record from *Carlton* AXH.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [18 North, 43 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding records for *Chisago* MHe, *Nicollet* RMD, *Otter Tail* RPR.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [24 North, 38 South] Seen in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Kanabec* MRN, *Kittson fide* BBA. High count 7/9 Hennepin (70 nests at colony along county road 116) *fide* TAT.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [32 North, 51 South] Observed statewide. No significant counts.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [20 North, 42 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding records from *Scott fide* BBA, *Wabasha fide* BBA. High counts 7/6 St. Louis (20, Bear Island area) JLK, 7/8 Beltrami (20, Knutson Dam) JKe.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [23 North, 48 South] Reported from throughout state. First county breeding record from *Wadena fide* BBA. No significant counts.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) —



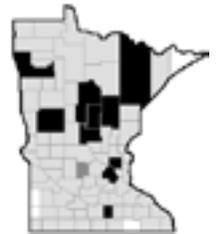
Least Flycatcher



Eastern Phoebe



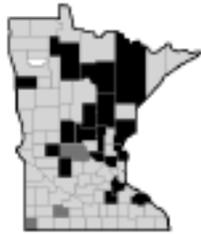
Say's Phoebe



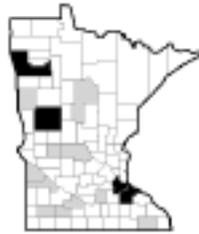
Great Crested Flycatcher



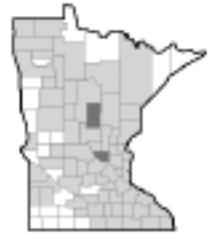
Western Kingbird



Eastern Kingbird



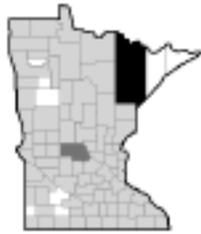
Loggerhead Shrike



Yellow-throated Vireo



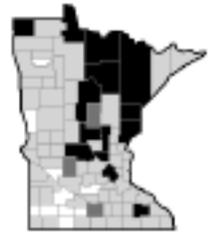
Blue-headed Vireo



Warbling Vireo



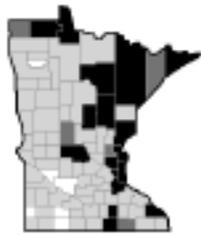
Philadelphia Vireo



Red-eyed Vireo



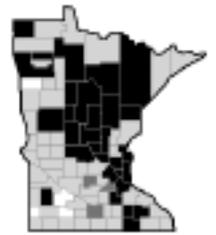
Gray Jay



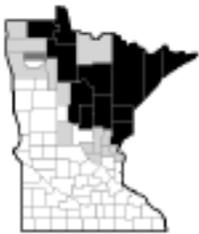
Blue Jay



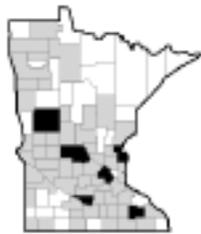
Black-billed Magpie



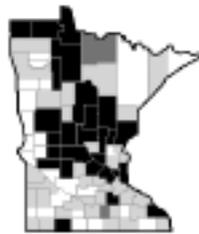
American Crow



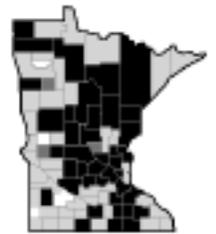
Common Raven



Horned Lark

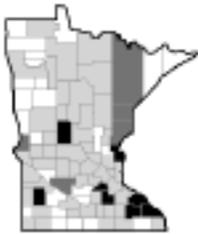


Purple Martin

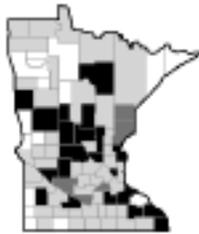


Tree Swallow

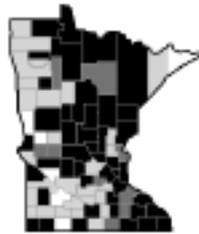
- [31 North, 50 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Blue Earth* DAB, *Fillmore* DOK, *Meeker* BAS, *Pine* QYo, *Wabasba* *fide* BBA, *Wadena* *fide* BBA. No significant counts.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county in state. First county breeding record from *Chisago* *fide* BBA, *Pine* *fide* BBA. High counts 6/25 Hennepin (50, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) JJo, 7/17 Waseca (50, Pondview) DCu.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [32 North, 48 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records for *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Wadena* *fide* BBA.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [8 North] Found in northern regions as far west as Becker (Lake Eunice) and Roseau. First county breeding record from *Lake of the Woods* BWa.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [4 South] Reported from Dakota, Houston, Olmsted, Scott.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [20 North, 8 South] Observed in all northern and central regions plus Rice.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [29 North, 47 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Pine* APa.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [14 North, 3 South] Reported from all northern regions, East-central, and Olmsted, Pipestone.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [2 South] Found 7/5 **Faribault** (no details) WAF, 7/11 Hennepin †SKS.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county in state. First county breeding record from *Wadena* *fide* BBA. High count 7/4 Dakota (25) TAT.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [13 North, 1 South] Reported from all northern regions, East-central, Central, plus Fillmore. First county breeding record from *Pine* APa. High count 6/15 Cook (10, Echo Trail) AJo, BWi.
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [29 North, 45 South] Observed in all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Beltrami* BWa, *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Pine* *fide* BBA. High counts 6/9 Marshall (17, Agassiz N.W.R., Farmes Pool) DWi, 7/24 Scott (17, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., south trails) BAF.
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [27 North, 43 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding record from *Lake of the Woods* BWa. High counts 6/9 Anoka (18, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) SBM, 6/9 Marshall (16, Agassiz N.W.R., Lansing Parker Pool) DWi.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [9 North, 37 South] Reported from all regions except Northwest, including as far north as Cass, Crow Wing, and Aitkin in North-central. High count 7/22 Goodhue (10, Cannon Valley Trail) LKL.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [11 North] Observed in Northeast, North-central plus Pine. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Pine* APa.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [10 North, 1 South] Found in all northern regions, plus late south migrant **6/4** Blue Earth (singing at Minneopa S.P.) CHH.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [28 North, 40 South] Seen in all regions of state. High counts 6/11 Todd (30, Turtle Creek Twp.) JLK, 7/17 Sherburne (25, Sherburne N.W.R.) ACr.
- Veery** (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [28 North, 19 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest. First county breeding records for *Kittson* *fide* BBA, *Stearns* MJB, *Washington* AXH. High count 6/18 Pine (**40** in block T41R17A) *fide* BBA.
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [8 North, 2 South] Observed in Northeast and North-central, plus Roseau in Northwest. Late spring migrants 6/1 Hennepin KRo, 6/1 Clay RHO, 6/2 Rice DBM.
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [20 North, 1 South] Found in all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Pine. Late south migrant **6/1** Freeborn RTP. First county breeding record from *Lake of the Woods* BWa. High count 6/16 St. Louis (30, Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi.
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [17 North, 26 South] Reported from all regions of state. High counts 7/3 Scott (12, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF, 7/16 Benton (10)



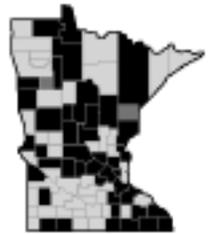
Northern Rough-winged Swallow



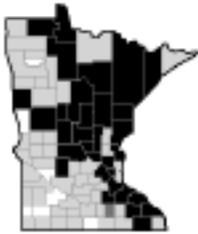
Bank Swallow



Cliff Swallow



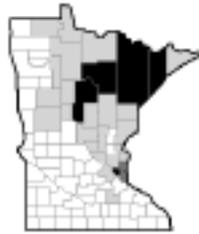
Barn Swallow



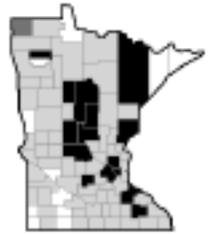
Black-capped Chickadee



Boreal Chickadee



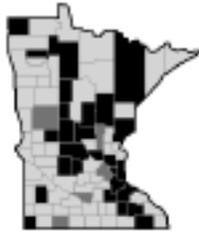
Red-breasted Nuthatch



White-breasted Nuthatch



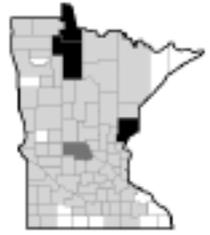
Brown Creeper



House Wren



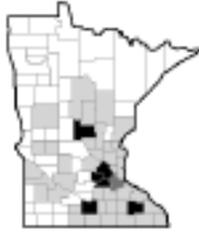
Winter Wren



Sedge Wren



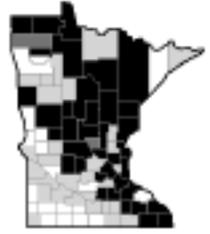
Marsh Wren



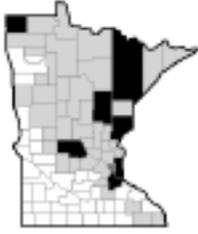
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher



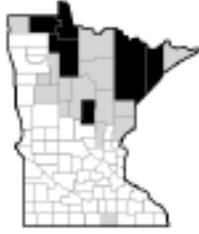
Golden-crowned Kinglet



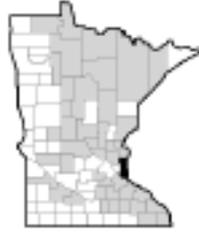
Eastern Bluebird



Veery



Hermit Thrush



Wood Thrush



American Robin

HHD.

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county in the state.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [31 North, 50 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Chisago* fide BBA. High counts 7/22 Goodhue (25, Cannon Valley Trail) LKL, 6/18 Pine (15) fide BBA.

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [1 North, 1 South] Seen 6/5 Lake (Split Rock Lighthouse S.P.) RBe, 6/11 Lake (Two Harbors) AM, 6/24 Houston (location?) RTP.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [26 North, 49 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Dodge* TEB, *Kittson* fide BBA, *Pine* fide BBA, APa. High counts 6/26 Washington (11, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) TAT, 7/17 Sherburne (10, Sherburne N.W.R.) ACr.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [33 North, 50 South] Observed in all but four counties. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Chisago* KSc, MHe, *Freeborn* ANy, *Wadena* fide BBA.

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [32 North, 48 South] Seen statewide. High count 6/4 Scott (300, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp) BeH.

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] All reports from Clay (max. 6, Felton Prairie) m.ob.

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [27 North, 32 South] Reported from all regions of state. High count 6/16 St. Louis (40, Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi; they also reported 35 along the Echo Trail the previous day.

Louisiana Waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [4 South] Found in Chisago, Goodhue, Houston, Washington. High count 7/2 Washington (4, Falls Creek S.N.A.) PSm.

Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [15 North] Reported from Northeast and North-Central plus Pine, Polk, Todd.

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [21 North, 7 South] Found in all northern and central regions. First county breeding record from *Beltrami* BWa. High count 6/18 Pine fide BBA.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [20 South] Reported from East-central, Central, Southeast, South-central. First county breeding record from *Carver* JCy. High counts 6/11 Sherburne (5, Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail) NBa, 6/30 Scott (5, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., pet trails) DKa.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) — [25 North, 9 South] Observed in all northern and central regions plus Lyon. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Roseau* BWa. High counts 6/15 St. Louis (25, Superior National Forest, Echo Trail) AJo, BWi, 6/18 Pine (25) fide BBA.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [16 South] Seen in central regions, Southeast, South-central.

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [19 North, 10 South] Found in all northern regions and scattered locations in all central regions, plus spring migrants 6/1 Steele PSu, 6/5 Blue Earth ChH in southern regions. Late south migrant (non-breeding?) 6/19 Anoka (Coon Rapids backyard) RLR. High count 6/16 St. Louis (10, Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi.

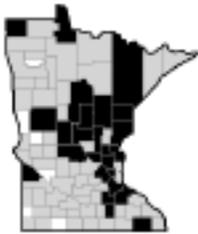
Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [22 North, 7 South] Reported north and east of a line from Marshall to Todd to Hennepin, plus Waseca. First county breeding records for *Pine* fide BBA, *Roseau* BWa. High counts 6/5 St. Louis (52, Sax-Zim Bog) PHS, 6/16 St. Louis (50, Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi.

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) — [13 North] Observed in Northeast, North-central, as well as Pine, Roseau.

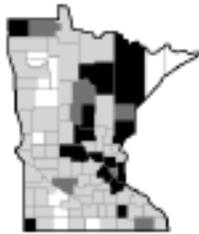
Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [20 North, 8 South] Found in all northern regions, East-central, and Central, plus Rice. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Morrison* fide BBA. High counts 6/4 St. Louis (25, Sax-Zim Bog) PHS, 6/16 St. Louis (20, Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi.

Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*) — No reports.

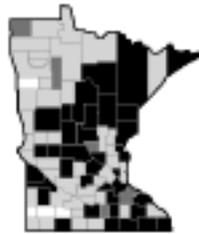
Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Pipestone. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Koochi-ching* GJN, *Wadena* fide BBA. High count



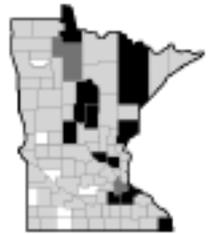
Gray Catbird



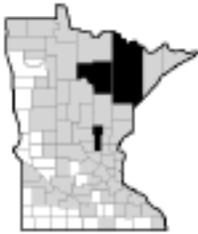
Brown Thrasher



European Starling



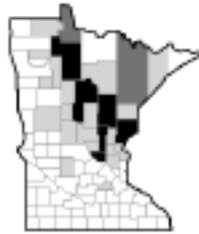
Cedar Waxwing



Ovenbird



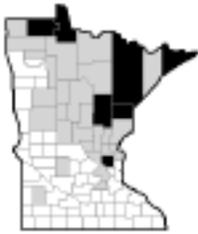
Louisiana Waterthrush



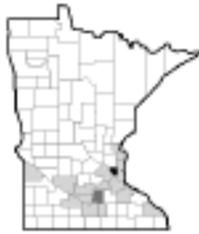
Golden-winged Warbler



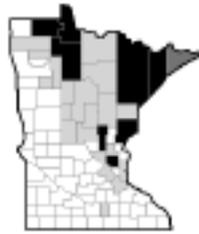
Blue-winged Warbler



Black-and-white Warbler



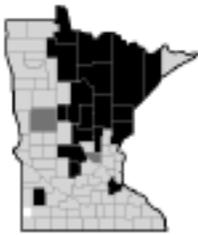
Prothonotary Warbler



Nashville Warbler



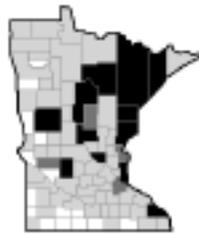
Mourning Warbler



Common Yellowthroat



Hooded Warbler



American Redstart



Cape May Warbler



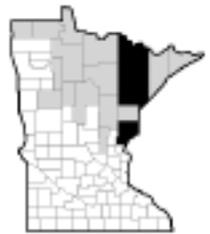
Cerulean Warbler



Northern Parula

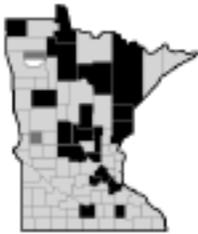


Bay-breasted Warbler

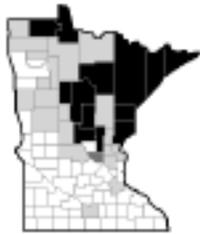


Blackburnian Warbler

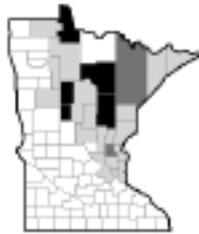
- 6/5 St. Louis (74, Sax-Zim Bog) PHS.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [5 South] Observed in **Chisago**, Dakota, **Hennepin**, Scott, **Washington**. Only 5 territories at Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. (3 in Dakota, 2 in Scott) BAF.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [30 North, 42 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Washington* fide BBA. High count 6/6 Rice (30, Carlton College Cowling Arboretum) LRe.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [9 North] Observed in Northeast, North-central, plus Roseau. High count 6/15 St. Louis (10, Echo Trail) AJo, BWi.
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [1 North, 9 South] Found in East-central, Central, Southeast, South-central.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [12 North, 2 South] Reported from all northern regions, plus presumed non-breeding individuals 6/28 Stearns DKi, 7/3 Brown WCM. High count 6/16 St. Louis (10, Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi.
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [12 North] Seen in all northern regions. High counts 6/6 Cook (10, Superior National Forest) TSk, 6/5 St. Louis (9, Sax-Zim Bog) PHS.
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [2 North] Observed 6/8 Lake (2) CCo, 6/9 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) CLW, m.ob., 7/3 St. Louis (first county breeding record; at least 3 males and 2 females carrying food for short-tailed, poorly flying young) SGW.
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [17 North] Found in all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Pine. First county breeding record from *Pine* APa. High count 6/15 St. Louis (20, Echo Trail) AJo, BWi.
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties except Red Lake. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Dodge* TEB. High counts 6/26 Anoka (47) GFe, 6/4 St. Louis (27, Sax-Zim Bog) PHS.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [27 North, 7 South] Found in all northern and central regions plus Blue Earth. First county breeding records for *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Morrison* fide BBA. High count 6/15 St. Louis (30, Echo Trail) AJo, BWi.
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [3 North, 2 South] Late south migrants 6/1 Blue Earth ChH, **6/7** Dakota (Ritter Farm Park) CLW. Late north 6/1 Clay, Lake of the Woods, Traverse.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [5 North] Unusual location 6/8 Clearwater (Itasca S.P.) BSc. Also observed in Cook, Koochiching (Franz Jevne S.P.), Lake, St. Louis.
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [8 North] Seen in all northern regions.
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [19 North, 7 South] Found in all northern regions, East-central, and Central. First county breeding records for *Itasca* fide BBA, *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Wadena* fide BBA.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [19 North, 4 South] Observed in all regions except South-central, Southeast. First county breeding records for *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Pine* APa, *Roseau* BWa. High count 6/11 St. Louis (64) fide BBA.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [15 North, 1 South] Reported north and east of a line from Kittson to Morrison to Chisago. High count 6/10 Cook (10) TSk.
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [14 North] Late spring migrant 6/1 Clay RHO. Summer reports in Northeast, North-central, plus Pine. High count 6/16 St. Louis (5, Superior National Forest Road 200) AJo, BWi.
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [7 North] Seen in Northeast and North-central.
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [1 South] Reported 6/1 **Hennepin** (male in Hyland Lake Park, same location as 2009) †SLC.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [13 North, 22 South] Found in all regions except West-central. First county breeding record from *Goodhue* fide BBA. High counts 7/17 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) ACr, 7/6 Dakota (11, Lebanon Hills R.P.) TAT.
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported from ev-



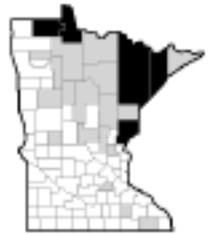
Yellow Warbler



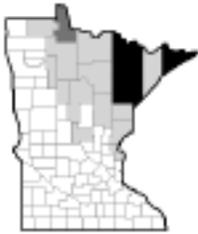
Chestnut-sided Warbler



Pine Warbler



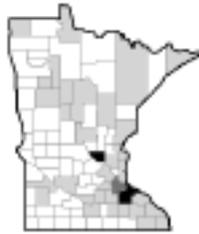
Yellow-rumped Warbler



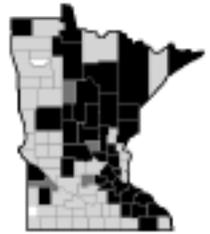
Black-throated Green Warbler



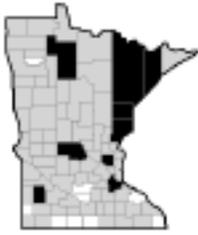
Canada Warbler



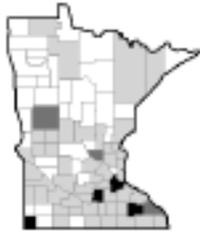
Eastern Towhee



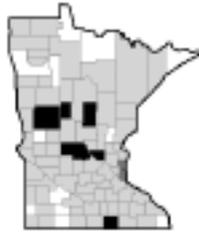
Chipping Sparrow



Clay-colored Sparrow



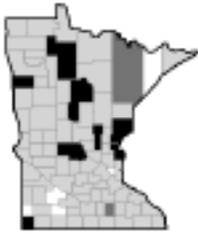
Field Sparrow



Vesper Sparrow



Lark Sparrow



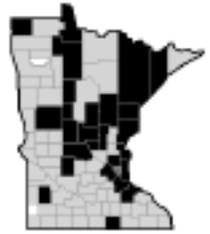
Savannah Sparrow



Grasshopper Sparrow



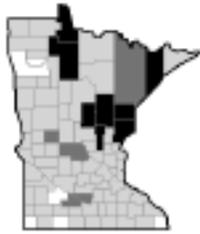
Henslow's Sparrow



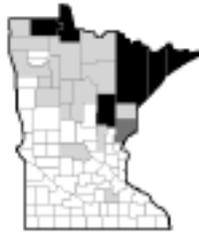
Song Sparrow



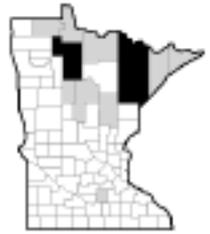
Lincoln's Sparrow



Swamp Sparrow

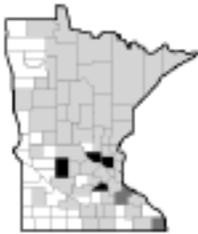


White-throated Sparrow

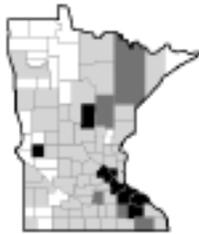


Dark-eyed Junco

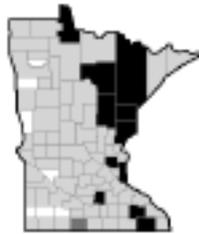
- ery county except Pipestone, Red Lake. First county breeding record from *Kittson fide* BBA. High counts (25) in Goodhue, Hennepin, Rice.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [33 North, 45 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records from *Carlton* JLK, *Pine* BAS, QYo. High counts 6/26 (15+ at Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) TAT, 6/2 Washington (14, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) SBM.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [11 North, 42 South] Found in all regions of state. Unusual location 6/6 Roseau (Beltrami S.F., Thompson Forest Road) DWi. High counts 7/24 Scott (19, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., south trails) BAF, 6/5 Washington (17, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) SBM.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [27 North, 48 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding record from *Freeborn* BAS. High count 6/28 Washington (17, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) SBM.
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [5 North, 21 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast, North-central. High count 7/24 Washington (11, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) SBM.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [33 North, 49 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records for *Cass* MRN, *Norman fide* BBA, *Rock* ANy. High count 6/10 Polk (26, 350th Ave NW) DWi.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savaannarum*) — [11 North, 39 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast. First county breeding record for *Washington* TAT. High counts 7/24 Washington (21, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) SBM, 7/31 Rock (18, Blue Mounds S.P.) BeS.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [2 North, 21 South] Reported from all regions except northern. Unusual north reports 6/4 **Otter Tail** *fide* BBA, 6/18 **Pine** *fide* BBA. High count 6/24 Scott (8 singing males in 40 acre brome field, Murphy-Hanrehan R.P.) BAF.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [17 North, 1 South] Observed in all northern and central regions. High count 6/9 Wilkin (18, Rothsay W.M.A.) CMB.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [3 North] Reported from Aitkin, Polk, Roseau. High count 6/11 Aitkin (7, McGregor Marsh) CLW, m.ob.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [33 North, 52 South] Found in every county except Pipestone, Red Lake. First county breeding records for *Freeborn* BAS, *Wadena fide* BBA. High counts 6/4 St. Louis (39, Sax-Zim Bog) PHS, 6/5 Aitkin (30, Rice Lake N.W.R.) CCo.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [13 North] Seen in all northern regions plus Pine. First county breeding record from *Lake* SGW. High counts 6/5 St. Louis (8, Sax-Zim Bog) PHS, 7/3 Roseau (8, Lost River S.F.) SBA, LMA.
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [32 North, 49 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JLK, *Lake of the Woods* BWa, *Pine* APA. High count 6/11 Todd (24, Turtle Creek Twp.) JLK.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [21 North, 2 South] Found in all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Pine, Rice, Stearns. First county breeding record from *Lake of the Woods* BWa. High counts 6/15–16 St. Louis (45 along Echo Trail and 50 along Superior National Forest Road 200) Ajo, BWi.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [1 South] Remarkably late migrant 6/18 Rock †AXH.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [10 North, 1 South] Observed in all northern regions plus 6/26 **Le Sueur** PRH. First county breeding record from *St. Louis* MCBS.
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [2 South] Observed 6/4 Rice (Nerstrand Big Woods S.P.) JJo, 6/8, 6/19 Blue Earth (east of Rapidan) RMD, ChH, AnK.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [25 North, 30 South] Reported from all regions of state. High count 7/3 Scott (10, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [18 North, 45 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Stevens* MKu. High count 7/22 Goodhue (20, Cannon Valley Trail) LKL.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [31 North, 49 South] Re-



Scarlet Tanager



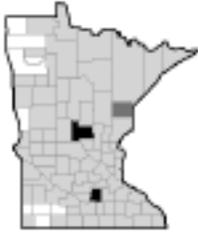
Northern Cardinal



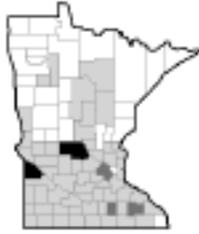
Rose-breasted Grosbeak



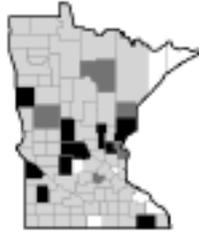
Blue Grosbeak



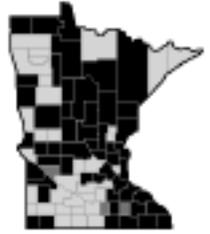
Indigo Bunting



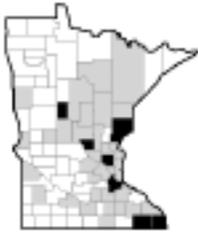
Dickcissel



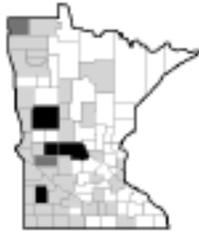
Bobolink



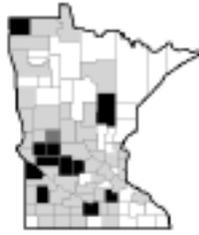
Red-winged Blackbird



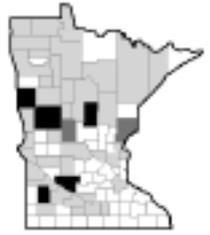
Eastern Meadowlark



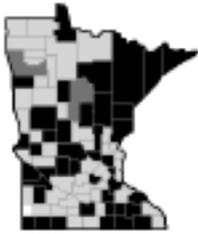
Western Meadowlark



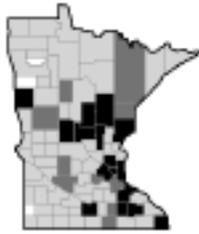
Yellow-headed Blackbird



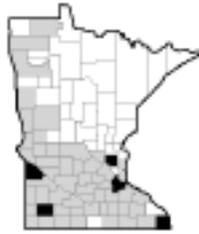
Brewer's Blackbird



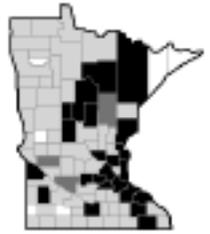
Common Grackle



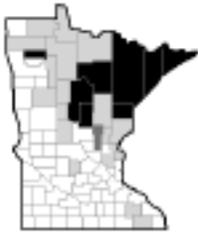
Brown-headed Cowbird



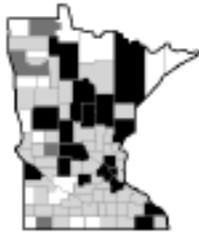
Orchard Oriole



Baltimore Oriole



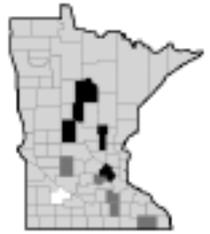
Purple Finch



House Finch



Pine Siskin



American Goldfinch

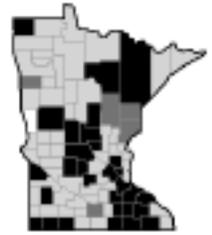
- ported statewide. First county breeding records for *Aitkin* WEN, *Carlton* JJK, *Lake of the Woods* BWA. High count 6/19 Beltrami (12) AFO.
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [11 South] Observed in South-central, Southwest, plus **Dakota** JLO, (first county breeding record) AXH, m.ob. (**The Loon** 84:53–54), Lac qui Parle, **Stevens** (first county record, 6/16 RPR).
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [29 North, 49 South] Found in all regions of state. High counts 6/18 Pine (15) *fide* BBA, 7/22 Goodhue (15, Cannon Valley Trail) LKL.
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [9 North, 51 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast. Unusual location 6/19 Itasca (Rush Lake) JEB. First county breeding records for *Lac qui Parle* *fide* BBA, *Stearns* MJB. High counts 6/11 Rock (30, Blue Mounds S.P. campground area) ChA, 6/5 Yellow Medicine (25) CMB, 6/17 Dakota (25) TAT.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [32 North, 48 South] Observed throughout state. First county breeding records for *Isanti* DPG, *Lyon* RJS. High counts 7/31 Rock (35, Blue Mounds S.P.) BeS, 6/12 Aitkin (30, township road 380) CLW, m.ob.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county in the state. First county breeding records for *Nobles* ANy, *Swift* RZi, *Traverse* RPR, *Yellow Medicine* LPF. High count 7/2 Marshall (200, Agassiz N.W.R.) VNi.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [14 North, 25 South] Reported from all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Fillmore* ShK, *Houston* RPR, *Pine* QYo, *Wadena* *fide* BBA. High count 7/17 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) ACr.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [15 North, 30 South] Found in all regions except Northeast.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [17 North, 40 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast. High count 7/5 Marshall (25, Agassiz N.W.R.) SBa.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [25 North, 19 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records for *Lyon* GWE, *Otter Tail* *fide* BBA, *Renville* AnK. High counts 6/9 Polk (9, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) DWi, 6/25 Clay (9, Felton Prairie) VNi.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties in the state. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JJK, *Freeborn* *fide* BBA, *Nobles* ANy.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [32 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Norman, Pipestone, Red Lake. First county breeding record from *Dodge* *fide* BBA. High count 6/10 Stearns (50 in 3.5 acre cattle pasture) RHi. Parasitized species included Eastern Phoebe, Red-eyed Vireo, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Hooded Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [8 North, 47 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast, North-central. High count 6/26 Washington (8, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) TAT.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [30 North, 51 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding records from *Pine* APA, *QYo*, *Wadena* *fide* BBA. High count 6/6 Rice (12, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) LRe.
- Purple Finch** (*Carpodacus purpureus*) — [21 North, 5 South] Found in all regions except West-central, South-central, Southwest. First county breeding records for *Carlton* JJK, *Itasca* *fide* BBA.
- House Finch** (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) — [24 North, 47 South] Reported throughout state.
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [3 North] Found 6/10, 6/13, 6/14 St. Louis MCBS. 6/11 Itasca SC, 6/19 Beltrami *fide* BBA.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [2 North] Reported 6/8 St. Louis MCBS, 6/25 Lake SGW.
- Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [15 North, 5 South] Found in all regions except Southwest.
- American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Redwood. High count 7/25 Carlton (30) JJK.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [5 North] Seen in Cook, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High count 7/26 Lake of the Woods (15, Angle Inlet) GCo.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Observed in all counties except Wilkin. First county breeding records for *Dodge* TEB, *Mower* ANy. High count 6/24 Scott (32) JEB.



Evening Grosbeak



House Sparrow

Contributors

AaS	Aaron Stutz	CAM	Craig A. Menze	EMA	Eric Margenau
ABi	Andrew Birch	CCh	Clay Christensen	EMH	Beth Hamel
ABL	Andrew B. Longtin	CCo	Chris Conrad	ERo	Earl Rosenwinkel
ACr	Alex Cruz Jr	ChA	Chris Anderson	ESH	Eddie Shea
ADS	Andrew D. Smith	CHa	Clifford Hansen	FAE	Fred A. Eckhardt
AEB	Al E. Batt	ChG	Chad Gustafson	FGo	Frank Gosiak
AFo	Andy Forbes	ChH	Chad Heins	FKB	Frank Berdan
AGu	Arjun Guneratne	CJE	Claudia J. Egelhoff	FVS	Forest V. Strnad
AJo	Andy Jones	CLW	Christopher Wood	GaB	Gale Brown
ALE	Audrey L. Evers	CMB	Conny M. Brunell	GCo	Gary Cowell
ALo	Allen Loken	CRM	Craig R. Mandel	GDJ	Glenn DesJardin
AM	Anthony Mitchell	DAB	David A. Bartkey	GFe	Freg Feinberg
AnK	Andrew Krenz	DAC	David A. Cahlander	GGi	Glennie Gilleen
ANy	Andrew Nyhus	DAd	David Adair	GJN	Gerald J. Niemi
APa	Andy Paulios	DaE	David Eastman	GLa	George Lahr
ARu	Ann Russ	DAT	Dan A. Tallman	GLH	Gary L. Huschle
ARW	Alexander R. Watson	DAY	Dale A. Yerger	GMi	Gabriel Miller
ASC	Al Schirmacher	DBM	Dennis & Barbara Martin	GW	Gail Wieberdink
AXH	Anthony X. Hertzell	DBz	Dedrick Benz	GWe	Garrett Wee
BAB	Betsy Beneke	DCr	Donna Crider	HCT	Howard C. Towle
BAF	Bruce A. Fall	DCu	Dan Cunningham	HHD	Herb H. Dingmann
BAn	Bart Anderson	DDo	Diana Doyle	HHu	Heidi Hughes
BaS	Barbara Jacobs-Smith	DFN	David F. Neitzel	IHu	Ian Hunter
BAS	Bonnie A. Sample	DKa	Doug Karalun	JAN	Josh Anderson
BAW	Ben A. Wieland	DKi	David Kidwell	JBa	Joshua Bailey
BCS	Ben Stubbs	DMA	Diane M. Anderson	JCC	Joel C. Claus
BDA	Bruce Anderson	DMB	David M. Brisance	JCG	Janet C. Green
BeH	Ben Harste	DMK	Dee Kuder	JCy	John Cyrus
BeS	Ben Sandstrom	DML	Dodie M. Logue	JEB	Jerry E. Bonkoski
BJL	Bruce Lees	DOK	Don O. Kienholz	JeM	Jerome McKenna
BJS	Beth & Jeff Siverhus	DPG	Dan & Pam Guynn	JFR	James F. Ryan
BJU	Bill J. Unzen	DPi	Darcy Pinotti	JGI	John Glass
BNW	Ben Wilson	DPJ	Douglas P. Johnson	JHD	Joel Dunnette
BSc	Bill Schmoker	DST	Dan & Sandy Thimgan	JHg	Jay Heggerness
BSe	Blaine Seeliger	DTM	Shawne Mc Kenna	JJo	Jonathon Jongsma
BTS	Brian T. Smith	DvS	Dave Stenger	JKe	Jean Kelley
BU	Butch Ukura	DWi	David Willard	JLH	James L. Howitz
BWa	Beth Walters	DWK	Douglas W. Kieser	JLK	Jan & Larry Kraemer
BWF	Ben W. Fritchman	EEO	Earl E. Orf	JLO	James L. Otto
BWi	Ben Winger	EFP	Ethan F. Perry	JMJ	Jeanie M. Joppru
CAB	Cheryl Boyes	EKa	Endel Kallas	JMN	James McNamara

JOJ	Joanne Johnson	MSc	Mike Schrage	SC	Shawn Conrad
JoS	Joel Schmidt	MSM	Mark S. Martell	SCZ	Shawn Zierman
JPE	John P. Ellis	MTh	Molly Thompson	SeH	Seth Hayden
JPr	Jerry Pruettt	NAJ	Nancy A. Jackson	SES	Steven E. Schon
JPS	Julian P. Sellers	NBa	Nigel Ball	SGW	Steve G. Wilson
JSB	Jo & Steve Blanich	NBO	Nancy B. Overcott	SHF	Susan H. Fall
JSc	John Schladweiler	NED	Nelvina E. De Kam	ShK	Sharon Kaufman
JSK	John Skene	NFT	Nels F. Thompson	Shu	Stan Hunter
JSP	Jen Sobiech-Pariseau	NKe	Noah Kearns	Slv	Jenni and Samuel Ives
JSS	Jack Sprenger	NLM	Norma L. Malinowski	SKS	Sharon Koval Stiteler
JTe	J. Teigland	NP	Nate Popkin	SLC	Steve L. Carlson
JV	Jennifer Vieth	OWB	Bill Bruins	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski
JWH	John W. Hockema	PBD	Pat Dewenter	SLo	Scott Loss
JWL	James W. Lind	PCC	Philip C. Chu	SLP	Susan Plankis
KCr	Karen Cramer	PEB	Paul E. Budde	SMC	Scott M. Clark
KIH	Kim Hansen	PHS	Peder H. Svingen	SRo	Stephen Rossiter
KJB	Karl J. Bardon	PJB	Paul J. Binek	SSw	Scott Swanson
KKB	Karla Kinstler Bloem	PJK	Pat Korkowski	StB	Steve Brandt
KMo	Kirk Mona	PJM	Peter Makousky	STW	Sylvia T. Winkelman
KRo	Karl Roe	PLJ	Paul L. Johnson	SVa	Sara Vacek
KRW	Kevin Woizeschke	PMJ	Paul M. Johnson	SVo	Skyler Vold
KSc	Karen Schik	PNi	Peter Nichols	SWe	Steve Weston
KSi	Kathy Sidles	PRH	Pete Hoeger	Tab	Taylor Abbott
KSm	Kevin Smith	PSm	Paul Smithson	TAT	Tom A. Tustison
KSo	Karen Sowizral	PSP	Pamela S. Perry	TEB	Tom & Elizabeth Bell
KuS	Kurt Schulzetenberg	PSu	Paul Suchanek	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
KVH	Katie Haws	QYo	Quentin Yoerger	TLy	Toni Lyrenmann
LAV	Lance A. Vrieze	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	TPr	Tom Prestby
LBF	Linda B. Felker	RBe	Raoul Beunen	TrB	Tracy Brewer
LEC	Laura E. Coble	RBJ	Robert B. Janssen	Tsk	Timothy Skillin
LKL	Lisa & Kyle Lindemer	RBW	Bob Williams	VNi	Vincent Nichnadowicz
LMa	Linda Mack	RBy	Bob Bystrom	WAF	Wayne Feder
LME	Laura M. Erickson	RDE	Roger D. Everhart	WCM	William C. Marengo
LMS	Larry Sirvio	REH	Robert E. Holtz	WEN	Warren E. Nelson
LPf	Lee Pfannmuller	RHi	Robert Hinz	WPe	Wendy Pepin
LRe	Leighton Reid	RHO	Robert H. O'Connor		
LS	Linda Sparling	RJS	Roger J. Schroeder		
MaH	Marshall Howe	RJW	Robert Watson	Abbreviations	
MAW	Marlene A. Weber	RLR	Ronald L. Refsnider	C.P.	County Park
MBa	Marcia Balestri	RLW	Richard Wood	F.R.	Forest Road
MCBS	Minnesota County Biological Survey	RMA	Robin Maercklein	N.C.	Nature Center
MDe	Mark Demos	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap	N.M.	National Monument
MDg	Maria Digatono	RMe	Randy Menear	N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
MDu	Matt Dufort	RPR	Robert Russell	P.R.	Park Reserve
MHe	Melissa Hein	RSA	Renner S. Anderson	R.P.	Regional Park
MHK	Martin H. Kehoe	RSF	Randy S. Frederickson	S.F.	State Forest
MJB	Milton J. Blomberg	RTe	Raymond Tervo	S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
MJM	Michael J. Majeski	RTo	Randy Toppen	S.P.	State Park
MMa	Monika Maier	RTP	Ray Potthoff	W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
MO	Mark Otnes	RZi	Roy Zimmerman	W.P.	Wilderness Park
MoM	Molly Jo Miller	SAu	Sandy Aubol	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
MRN	Mike North	SBa	Scott Barnes	W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds
		SBM	Scott Meyer		

Birding by Hindsight

A Second Look at Fifty Years

Kim R. Eckert



I stood at the end of my driveway and looked down the alley. As arranged by my parents, he was coming this way on his bike from four houses down to help me out. We had never actually met, but I'd seen him around since his parents and mine were friends. Though they all called him Rob, he introduced himself as Bob. It was April 29, 1962, and we were on our way to Gillson Park.

It was an extra-credit project in 10th grade biology — the only biology class I would ever take — to go out and find birds that spring, identify at least 50 species, and keep notes on what you saw. My notes, kept on carefully typed index cards, show that bird #1 was a Rock Dove (Wilmette, Illinois, March 21, 1962).

Thumbing through these cards today brings back memories. For example, bird #6 was Evening Grosbeak. So how did I manage to find such a sought-after species before I ever saw a House Sparrow (#8) or Blue Jay (#31)? Or could it have been just a misidentified goldfinch?

I clearly remember as well that I had no confidence at all in telling a Common Grackle (#2) from a Starling (#3) from a Common Crow (#12) — back then, they were all just black birds to me. And, while listing Red-tailed Hawk (#9), I recall thinking that hawks should be a cinch to identify: just look for a red tail or red shoulders or shaggier/rougher-looking legs or broader wings.... This was Common Rookie Mistake Number One: assume that a bird's name will indicate a useful field mark leading to its identification.

There were also those Bonaparte's Gulls (#15) swimming around in Wilmette Harbor that I first decided had to be Common Gold-

eneys! At that stage, I had no idea that anything except ducks could swim, and goldeneye was the only duck I could find in my 1947 *Peterson* field guide that even remotely resembled a Bonaparte's. (Never mind that there was no white spot on the face — these birds were whitish overall with black heads, just like goldeneyes.) This was Common Rookie Mistake Number Two: focus in on only one feature, disregard the others, and then choose the closest thing in the book.

For the first five weeks, until April 29, the cards show I only managed to list 32 species on my own, but with Bob's help that day at Gillson Park, my list grew to 46. He was already a four-year veteran of birding and could point out the difference between Herring and Ring-billed gulls (#33 & 43), and between Common and Forster's terns (#45 & 46) — birds which can confuse even more experienced birders at times.

We listed both Hermit Thrush (#35) and Gray-cheeked (#42), though I now have to wonder if a Hermit Thrush would still be around the Chicago area at the end of April. Thrush ID has long been a chronic problem, and perhaps we made a mistake here.

I managed to list 59 species as biology class ended a month later, and then those index cards with new life birds almost stopped appearing that summer. But the spark was still there, Bob was still down the alley to reinforce it, and the pace of adding new cards to the files increased during the fall and in the following months.

Though I would keep birding for decades, my filing system was abandoned after card #193: Western Sandpiper, Wilmette, Illinois, August 14, 1963. I'd have to say this was a most interesting species to appear on my last

card. Given this species' long history of being involved in misidentifications in the Midwest, odds are this sandpiper was not really a Western.

For those birding in the eastern half of the U.S. in the early 1960s, the only field guide out there was the 1947 edition of Roger Tory Peterson's *A Field Guide to the Birds*. We all just called it *Peterson*. Its content is now 65 years old, predating National Geographic's first edition by nearly 40 years and Sibley's guide by over 50. The only alternative to *Peterson* back then would appear in 1966: Robbins' *Birds of North America* (a.k.a. *Robbins* or the *Golden Guide*).

So, I started birding with a field guide that used several odd species names — bird names which were obsolete by the time *Robbins* was published: Holboell's Grebe, White-bellied Booby, Water-turkey, Man-o'-War Bird, Wurdemann's Heron, Cory's Least Bittern, Dusky Duck, Duck Hawk, Hudsonian Curlew, Red-backed Sandpiper, Cabot's Tern, Brünnich's Murre, Richardson's Owl, Arkansas Kingbird, Olive-backed Thrush, British Goldfinch, Towhee: Chewink, and Pine Woods Sparrow. It even still included Carolina Paroquet in the main text.

This field guide I learned from had several black-and-white plates, the plates grouped together and widely separated from the textual accounts, and no range maps. It included a 17-page appendix on subspecies with a curious 3-page introduction in which the author basically debated with himself about whether or not this section should have been included.

Today, looking at Peterson's ID material from 65 years ago, you'll naturally find erroneous information in the text and several flawed illustrations, some of which has been corrected or clarified in the ID references of the following decades. Generally, you could not use *Peterson* to efficiently or consistently identify winter loons, many raptors, peeps, jaegers, immature gulls, female hummingbirds, *Empidonax* flycatchers, several sparrows, and other difficult bird groups.

For its time, though, there's still a lot to like in *Peterson*, as the ID coverage in subsequent field guides has not improved in many cases — and in some cases has gotten worse. Consider the parade of photographic

field guides over the years, none of them including enough images to adequately address the more difficult species. Even the various editions of *Geographic* (including the latest ones) don't include enough illustrations for some species groups, and several of the paintings in earlier editions have been — and some still are — just plain bad.

And especially consider the *Robbins* guide when it appeared in 1966. (Some Minnesota birders, familiar with the Sax-Zim Bog, preferred to call it the Zim book, since one of *Robbins*' co-authors was Herbert Zim.) As the first new field guide in nearly 20 years, it was hugely popular since — unlike *Peterson* — it was entirely in color, covered both eastern and western U.S. and Canada, placed the plates on the pages facing the text, included range maps, and introduced sonograms to depict songs.

But we were deceived by the cosmetics. Several paintings, as attractive as they were, proved to be less accurate than Peterson's. The species accounts were shorter than Peterson's and did little or nothing to advance our knowledge of those ID challenges in those groups listed above. The range maps were almost useless: too small, no state or provincial lines shown, and too many annotations jammed in. The sonograms were even more pointless and less comprehensible, and, with very little description of songs and calls in the text, *Robbins* was clearly inferior to *Peterson* in this regard.

Peterson, too, knew how to write better than other field guide authors, a talent much appreciated by English-major birders. Even though 50 years have passed, I still remember many passages and the impressions they left. A few examples...

— There were repeated references to the expertise of Ludlow Griscom, apparently the Jon Dunn or David Sibley of his day: "I suppose Ludlow Griscom has discovered more accidentals in the East than any other man I know... Griscom takes a second look — for a Bullock's. One day he really did see one, but he has never put it on record, except in his own notes."

— A Big Day was referred to as a "lethal trip" and a "grim grind". (No wonder I don't do them any more.)

— In the section on accidentals, western species along the 100th meridian were said to “edge eastward along the more arid uplands.” And “when hurricanes sweep up the coast, leveling all before them, they often leave in their wake sea-birds, dead or exhausted.” (Who wouldn’t want to run off to look for vagrants after reading this?)

— Euphemisms were used for collecting: “Not long ago, some ornithologists would not accept sight records unless they were made along the barrel of a shotgun.” (I naively thought this meant the bird just had to be at close range, not actually shot; nor did I know then what collecting actually was.)

— Caution was urged when identifying rarities: “A quick field observer who does not temper his judgment with a bit of caution is like a fast car without brakes.”

I kept track of my life birds for awhile on the checklist provided in *Peterson* — the checklist boxes in *Robbins* were never filled in. Further evidence that I favored *Peterson* over *Robbins* were my frequent notes scribbled in the margins to annotate Peterson’s ID material. No annotations were ever written in my copy of *Robbins*.

Admittedly, though, some of my annotations and alleged claims now make little sense... female Harlequin Ducks had light chests; Sharp-tailed Grouse were “very tame” while female and young Spruce Grouse were “very pale”; the mask over the Loggerhead Shrike’s bill was the “only reliable mark”; the Prothonotary Warbler’s song was “fast and soft”, the Cape May’s song included “loud Catbird-like notes”, and a Black-throated Blue sounded “faster and not as buzzy as Black-throated Green”; a Lapland Longspur’s call note was likened to a Yellow-throated Vireo’s. What was I thinking?

On the other hand, several other of my notes from decades ago correcting or clarifying Peterson’s ID information still remain relevant today:

— The Long-tailed Duck characteristically flies in flocks low and erratically over the water.

— Regarding raptors: Black Vultures flap like accipiters, unlike Turkey Vultures (both species assume a dihedral profile when gliding); Red-tailed Hawks often show white at

the base of the tail (which leads to confusion with Rough-legged and Ferruginous hawks).

— Among the shorebirds: the two godwits standing at rest are not always safely separable; do not rely on the number of syllables given by a calling yellowlegs (it’s the quality of the notes that matters in the ID, not how many there are); non-breeding Red Knots and Black-bellied Plovers can appear generally similar (I once mistook an unexpected Red Knot for a Black-bellied); a Pectoral’s brown bib can appear washed-out (and can lead to confusion with Sharp-tailed Sandpiper); a Baird’s Sandpiper’s wing tips extend beyond the tail (though I failed to note this for the White-rumped).

— A first-winter Iceland Gull’s bill is all-dark, unlike the Glaucous’s two-toned bill (amazingly, this basic field mark was not mentioned in *Peterson*).

— The Boreal Owl’s call is not like a high-pitched bell or dripping water (*Peterson*, as well as *Robbins* and other authors, apparently never heard its call — which suggests a winnowing snipe — and quoted unreliable sources).

— The Sedge Wren’s song is similar to a Dickcissel’s; a singing Hermit Thrush sounds similar to a Wood Thrush (sometimes I have to pause and take a second listen to be sure of what I’m hearing).

— Among the warblers: Orange-crowns often appear nondescript and yellower than shown (I’ve seen them mistaken for Yellows, Wilson’s, and Nashvilles); the facial pattern of a Canada suggests a Kentucky (which can lead to an ID error if it’s a young Canada with an obscure necklace).

— Among the sparrows: the necklace on a Baird’s is variable, often indistinct, and unreliable as a field mark (the ochre median crown stripe is a more useful feature); the eye ring on a Vesper is more obvious than *Peterson* illustrated and thus more useful than he indicated.

— And a Purple Finch can give calls which resemble phrases given by Yellow-throated or Red-eyed vireos (and this has led to erroneous reports in winter of heard-only vireos).

So, after 50 years, what has been learned and what words of wisdom are there to pass

along? Probably less than I'd like to think and perhaps not as much as you'd expect.

I've at least come to realize that birders growing up with *Peterson* and *Robbins* have sort of been at a disadvantage. We've had to take the time to relearn (or unlearn) some of those inaccurate or incomplete ID lessons of an earlier age — in the decades before *Geographic*, *Sibley*, and so many other resources in various formats emerged to rewrite those lesson plans. Many younger birders have now acquired impressive skills and knowledge after just a few years of experience.

Despite all the sophisticated ID references out there, I've also come to realize that there will still be those who'll report Northern Hawk Owls in their Minneapolis back yard in June... that I'll have no idea what they really saw... but that I could at least empathize with them after not knowing the difference between Bonaparte's Gull and Common Goldeneye, once upon a time. (Indeed, in the introduction, Peterson expressed hope that his guide could help the advanced birder, not merely "the beginner who can scarcely tell a Gull from a Duck.")

Also, after 50 years, I've come to realize that Bob's sisters and mother will always call him Rob... that he'll always believe that

Ivory-billed Woodpeckers and Eskimo Curlews still exist... that we'll never know the source of that proverbial double-knock sound we heard in Louisiana last March... and that maybe — just maybe! — we actually heard a Bachman's Warbler sing as we stood on a bridge high over that Arkansas swamp some 40 years ago.

Index card #32: White-crowned Sparrow, Wilmette, Illinois, April 28, 1962. This would have been at Gillson Park, the last bird listed before I met Bob on his bike in the alley. Decades more of White-crowns followed, some of them rusty-capped, pink-billed immatures mistaken by others as Field Sparrows. (I always liked to blame that chronic error on a singularly poor illustration in *Geographic*.)

We decided to find our way back to Gillson Park on April 28th of this year, part of a long weekend planned to commemorate all those years. And there, scratching away under a hedge in the park, 50 years to the day after my first one, was a White-crowned Sparrow.

1921 West Kent Road, Duluth, MN 55812.



BOOK REVIEWS

HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD, VOLUME 16: Tanagers to New World Blackbirds. J. del Hoyo, A. Elliott, and D. Christie, editors. 2011. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. 893 pp. ~\$264. Reviewed by Kevin Winker.

This and previous volumes are available from Lynx Edicions, c/o Postal Express & Fulfillment Center, Inc., 265 Sunrise Highway suite 1 #252, Rockville Centre, New York 11570, or through the internet (www.lynxeds.com).

The full set is available through personalized subscription plans; inquiries can be sent by email (lynx@hbw.com).

This wonderful volume completes the coverage of all of the families and species of the birds of the world and is a fitting capstone to the most impressive ornithological publishing endeavor of our age. But wait—it is not over (more on this below). With the first volume appearing in 1992, the *Handbook of the Birds of the World* has been a pillar of publishing

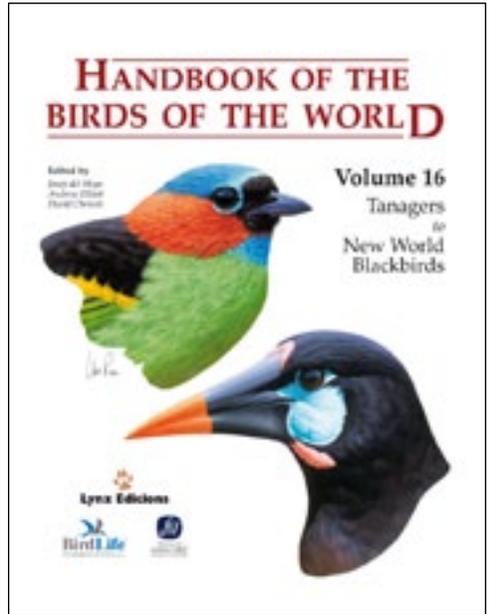
excellence since its inception. It filled a gap in ornithological literature and filled it exceptionally well.

Volume 16 completes the last four families in the order Passeriformes: Thraupidae (tanagers; 283 spp.), Cardinalidae (cardinals; 42 spp.), Emberizidae (buntings and New World sparrows; 326 spp.), and Icteridae (New World blackbirds; 111 spp.). This volume is a must-have for those of us in the Americas, where three of these families are endemic (Thraupidae, Cardinalidae, and Icteridae). Physically, it is as previous volumes have been: big, heavy, and well printed. As expected, it is an authoritative volume, with 81 color plates, 499 photographs, 766 distribution maps, and about 7,000 references. The family and species accounts have been written by ten authors, and the plates represent the work of five artists. The overall quality of the production is excellent.

The Foreword is a very nice, 27-page review of "Climate Change and Birds," by Anders P. Møller. Birds exhibit numerous responses to climate change, and continued study and an improved understanding of how they react will likely help not only bird management and conservation, but also us humans—because, after all, we are all in this together.

The book's format follows previous volumes. Each family section begins with a brief summary box, then a long, authoritative account rich with details on systematics, morphology, habitat, general habits, voice, food and feeding, breeding, movements, relationship with man, status and conservation, and a general bibliography. These sections are well illustrated with photographs that complement the text, and the photos are of very high quality. Following this are accounts for every species in the family. Each species is illustrated on one of the many color plates interspersed through the species accounts. The species are in taxonomic order, grouped by genus, so it is possible to readily compare all closely related species. Both sexes are illustrated if the species is dichromatic, and subspecies are illustrated if they are rather different; the latter may reach its peak at 12 depictions of the Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*, p. 328).

Besides a plate illustration and distribution map, species accounts provide English, Latin, French, German, Spanish, and other common



names and then brief but detailed sections on taxonomy, subspecies and distribution, descriptive notes, habitat, food and feeding, breeding, movements, status and conservation, and a bibliography. Over the years I have found these accounts to be what I use most in these volumes.

Thraupidae is one of the most colorful families of birds, and its section in this volume is exceptionally vibrant in its illustrations. I am struck also by the fact that just one author (Steven Hilty) and one artist (Hilary Burn) produced the entire 284-page account of this family. The volume includes a folio-size, laminated index card for the passerine volumes (8-16); an earlier, similar card was issued for the non-passerine volumes (1-7).

Some North American species that are still considered a single species by the American Ornithologists' Union have been split up in this volume; e.g. four species of Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) and four species of Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*). Species limits are often difficult and contentious, and cases like these are certainly interesting biologically.

My only criticism of this volume is one that I've raised in reviews of prior volumes: the style of the citations is problematic. There

are no in-text citations, except, importantly, in the Foreword. This is especially a barrier in the long, authoritative family-level reviews. The authors of the family accounts have gotten somewhat around these constraints by (in some places) naming the authors of relevant studies, especially in discussing systematics. But the style of providing just a telegraphic series of authors and dates in the general bibliography at the end of the family accounts leaves the bulk of the primary literature very difficult to access. If not for this, the stunning family-level reviews like the 110-page one here on Thraupidae would make a more important scientific impact in addition to its contribution to the popular literature. For although all the detailed work has been done to base these works on the best scientific literature, the door to that literature is not readily opened to provide an easy access point to the rich and ongoing science of birds. It would have been very easy to rectify this without adding much space, using, for example the superscript numeral citation style of journals such as *Nature* and *Science*. Stylistically, I understand that a format decided on 20 years ago might be chosen to be continued, but this particular style does diminish the utility of these authoritative works to the serious student of birds who wishes to go further. I note this as an important design component for future reviews of any type.

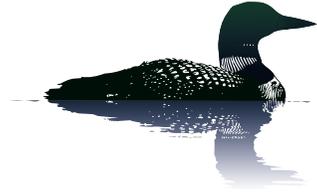
Notwithstanding the citation issue, this is really an outstanding book. This series was initially projected to be just 12 volumes, but the quality and depth of the accounts led to the expansion to 16 volumes instead, and I think the results support the editors' decision on this. What about book publishing in this electronic era? We are living through a transition in which the new electronic media are ascendant and print media is declining. But the tactile and spatial advantages to learning by reading books suggests that they are not likely to disappear any time soon, and the HBW editors are looking to the future. This is not the end.

What is next? In part that depends on us, the ornithological community. The editors are proposing three endeavors, and they are pointedly *not* proposing to simply update older volumes with new ones. First, there have been a lot of changes in avian systematics dur-

ing the 20 years that this set has been in development, and, at present count, 52 new species have been described that have not yet been covered. Thus, a volume will be published (due in fall 2012) on *New Species and Global Index* to the 16 volumes, fully updating the higher taxonomy, discussing changes therein, and making the contents of the full set retrievable within the context of our current, more accurate understanding of avian relationships. Those who have kept track of some of the profound developments that have occurred over this period will understand the necessity of a volume like this. Indeed, the Thraupidae family account in this volume shows the strain quite clearly, beginning by listing many of the genera included that clearly — now — do not belong in that family. As the editors explain, in some cases the writing assignments for this volume were agreed upon as early as 1998, so it is understandable why a few difficult families might now have the wrong species placed within them. This problem is really an exciting one scientifically, though, because changes of this nature are the hallmark of an active, vigorous science, and molecular systematics has solved (and continues to solve) myriad problems in the untangling of avian relationships.

Second, a two-volume illustrated checklist of the birds of the world is planned. This will likely be of great utility to birdwatchers with international interests and to all ornithologists desiring a global checklist fully up to date not only at higher taxonomic levels, but also at species and subspecies levels. The first volume of this set, which will cover the non-passerines, is also due in fall 2012. Finally, a subscription-based online version of "HBW Alive" is planned. When completed, this will contain not only published (and updated) HBW material, but will also include video and audio resources, geographic filters, trackable references, and enable personal notes and record management. It, too, will be launched in fall 2012. With all this coming, should you buy this book? Given its excellence, its position as the capstone volume of the series, and its coverage of so many species important in the Americas, I recommend it to all serious students of birds. **University of Alaska Museum, 907 Yukon Drive, Fairbanks, AK 99775.**

Notes of Interest



BLUE GROSBEAK NESTING IN DAKOTA COUNTY — On 26 June 2011, Jim Otto



discovered a pair of Blue Grosbeaks (*Passerina caerulea*) along 140th Street near Rosemount in Dakota County. The birds were frequenting an overgrown, weedy embankment dike on the south side of the

SKB Environmental landfill. A few cedar trees were scattered about the top of the dike and a wooded, marshy area was directly to the west. Though fenced off, birds flying to and from the site were easily observed from the road. Other species common in the area included Eastern Kingbird, Barn Swallow, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Dickcissel, and several pairs of Brown-headed Cowbirds.

Over the next week, several birders reported that the pair was occupying a territory near the corner of the embankment on the interior side of the large chain-link fence which separated the SKB property from the public road. On 28 June, Connie Brunell and Susan Fall both independently observed the female carrying nesting material to a small grassy area in the approximate center of the dike at the landfill's southwestern corner. On 10 July, Bruce Fall paced the full length of this territory and estimated it to be about 450 meters.

On 18 July, I was granted access to the property by SKB personnel. With both of us donning orange vests and hard hats, plant manager Brad Pederson drove me along the interior perimeter road to the location where the grosbeaks had been seen with nesting material. The moment I got out of the truck, I saw the female flush from a large cluster of weedy burdock. She first flew to the chain-link fence, then up to the boisterous male who was singing on one of the high power lines that run along the road. She sat close to him for several minutes as he continued to sing. I spent no more than 60 seconds walking down the hill and checking the burdocks before I found the nest.

The nest was built about 12 inches off the ground deep in the center of a tight group of tall, thorny stalks. It was composed of coarse plant fibers, cottony-fibers, a few pliable twigs, roots, strips of plastic, a plastic bag, and one snake skin. It held a single egg which had been punctured (almost certainly by a cowbird) and was leaking albumin. The male continued to sing enthusiastically throughout the duration of my visit, but I did not follow the female's actions.

When I returned to the site on 23 July, the nest was empty, the territory appeared to have been abandoned, and no grosbeaks were present. I secured the nest for the Bell Museum's



Blue Grosbeak nest, 18 July 2011, Dakota County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

permanent collection. Earlier that day, Bruce Fall had visited the site and observed the male Blue Grosbeak more than 500 meters to the west but he did not see the female. The male was last seen in the area on 1 August.

Blue Grosbeaks were first reported in Minnesota on 6 June 1961 at Beaver Creek in Rock County (*The Loon* 34:99), but the first definitive breeding record was not until 16 July 1976 at Rock County's Blue Mounds State Park (*The Loon* 49:39). Since then, the species has nested sparingly only in the state's far southwestern counties with records from Rock, Murray, Pipestone, Nobles, and Lyon. Dakota County has had several previous nonbreeding records, the first one from 17 May 1972 (*The Loon* 52:192). **Anthony X. Hertz, 8461 Pleasant View Drive, Mounds View, MN 55112.**



Blue Grosbeak, 28 June 2011, Dakota County. Photo by Connie Brunell.

POMARINE JAEGER IN DULUTH — On



in Duluth, I spotted a distant jaeger swimming on Lake Superior out from the utility buildings near the south end of the Sky Harbor airport runway at Park Point. The surface of the lake was smooth at the

time, providing excellent viewing conditions with the mid-afternoon sun at our backs. It rested on the lake for about ten minutes before taking flight and engaging in pursuit of a Ring-billed Gull, with the flying jaeger in view about one to two minutes. It then landed on the lake again for about five minutes before taking flight and harassing another Ring-billed Gull; again, this observation of the jaeger in flight lasted another one to two minutes. After the second encounter with a gull, the jaeger flew directly away from us and landed farther out on the lake, where it was barely visible.

Because of its dark overall plumage and lack of long protruding central rectrices, I aged this jaeger as a juvenile. Because of the distance involved, none of us could discern much detail in the plumage, although I could observe the following: 1) in flight it showed a white flash on the upper and under surface of

2 October 2011, while leading a birding tour



Pomarine Jaeger, 2 October 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

the primaries, with more white visible on the under surface; 2) the central rectrices extended slightly beyond the rest of the tail (this visible in flight), perhaps less than one inch, but the shape of these tail feather tips could not be determined at the time; 3) at rest on the lake surface, the jaeger's overall plumage appeared uniformly dark, almost blackish-brown or choco-

late-brown, with no sign of any warmer or cinnamon-like tones.

When I initially spotted the jaeger at rest on the lake, it appeared large and bulky, and though nothing was nearby for comparison, this impression was reinforced when the jaeger rested on the lake a second time after chasing the first gull. In flight, the large and bulky size of the jaeger was even more evident, as its “pot-bellied” shape became visible, and its flight seemed relatively slow and direct even as it closed in to harass the two gulls.

My identification of this jaeger as a Pomarine mostly relies on its encounters with the two Ring-billed Gulls, since then we had direct comparison with a known species to judge its bulk, overall length, wingspan, and behavior. During the attacks on both gulls, the jaeger appeared clearly heavier than the gulls in its overall shape. Its overall length and wingspan were both slightly larger (perhaps 1 inch) than both of the Ring-billeds.

In addition, as the jaeger harassed the gulls, its attacks were aggressive but in both cases it did not appear as fast, agile, or as maneuverable as I have seen with Parasitic Jaegers. This jaeger did closely pursue the gulls but its flight was mostly direct with no twists or sharp turns as the gulls attempted to evade the attacks, and the jaeger seemed to break off the pursuit more quickly than would a Parasitic. Most telling was the attack on the second gull, as the jaeger actually seemed to hold the gull in its grasp below it for several seconds as the two dropped towards the water; this encounter was reminiscent of eagles or other raptors locking talons in flight. I wonder if a Parasitic Jaeger would be capable of doing this with something as large as a Ring-billed Gull. **Kim R. Eckert, 1921 West Kent Road, Duluth, MN 55812.**

MISSISSIPPI KITE IN HENNEPIN COUNTY — On 6 June 2011, I was at Lake Girard Park in Bloomington looking for a White-eyed Vireo that had been reported earlier in the day. I wasn't having any luck, so I started scanning the sky for raptors, herons, and other birds. The first raptor I saw turned out to be a first-summer Mississippi Kite. It was circling slowly, perhaps 175 meters overhead and slightly to the east. It circled and glided the entire time I watched it. It got within about 50 meters, then dropped and caught something (dragonfly perhaps) and ate it on the wing. It eventually drifted off to the north.



I immediately knew by its shape and flight style that it was a Mississippi Kite. It was similar in shape to a Peregrine, but slightly narrower wings, narrower tail, and more fluid wingbeats. Its body appeared largely gray, pale head with dark around the eyes (eye color not seen well). There may have been one or two indistinct streaks on the lower belly and perhaps a bit of faint smudging on undertail coverts, but the overall appearance of the body was gray. The underside of the wings appeared darker with primaries appearing brownish (due to wear and lighting). The tail had two distinct tail bands, at least on the innermost rectrices; the outermost appeared uniform. Most of the underwing coverts appeared mottled/streaked with buffy, but those nearest the wings (greater primary and secondary coverts) appeared almost as a darker band with pale tip. These feathers may have had pale centers, but it was too far to be certain. Most of the time, and when the bird was far away, it appeared fairly uniform below, and could have been mistaken for an adult were it not for the tail, rather worn (faded, not heavily abraded) primaries and secondaries, and the “unkept/messy” look to the underwing coverts. I did not see the upperparts well.

No other species has similar shape, coloration, flight style, or foraging behavior. White-tailed Kite is white. Plumbeous Kite (unlikely on this date) should show rufous in primaries. I also suspect I would have recognized a slightly different flight style of Plumbeous Kite because I am very familiar with Mississippi Kite.

I have seen a couple hundred thousand Mississippi Kites, mostly in Veracruz, Mexico during migration but also thousands in Texas, hundreds to dozens in Costa Rica, Panama, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Florida. And I have seen hundreds to hundreds of thousands of all other North American raptors (north of Mexico). I've seen a few dozen Plumbeous Kites, but do not know that species well. **Christopher Wood, 31 Monkey Run Road, Ithaca NY 14850.**

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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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In Memoriam
Dr. Pershing Benard “Jack” Hofslund
13 April 1918 – 21 April 2012

Gerald J. Niemi

Professor Pershing “Jack” Hofslund inspired hundreds of students, colleagues, and friends with his widespread expertise on birds and his breadth of knowledge about life. He was the President of the Minnesota Ornithologists’ Union from 1963 to 1965 and served as the Editor of the *The Flicker*, the publication that preceded *The Loon*, from 1951 to 1958. Jack, as he was known to his family, friends, and colleagues, was born on 13 April 1918 in Jeffers, Minnesota and passed away on 21 April 2012 at the age of 94 in Duluth, Minnesota.

As was documented by the famous ornithologist, Olin Sewall Pettingill Jr. in *The Bird Watcher’s America* (1965, McGraw-Hill Book Company, pp. 378–384), Jack began his interest in birds at an early age without encouragement from others, without any instruction, and even without proper tools such as binoculars or field guides. He apparently identified his first birds from Arm and Hammer Baking Soda cards and pictures that he clipped from magazines and pasted into a pocket notebook. It was not until he was a senior in high school that he borrowed *The Birds of Minnesota* by Thomas S. Roberts from the local library and read both volumes from cover to cover in the allotted ten days.

Jack graduated from Jeffers High School, Minnesota in 1936 and received his B.S. Degree from Mankato State Teachers College in 1940. He went on to teach school in Pequot Lakes and Milaca, Minnesota. At the latter, he established the school forest that is still in existence today. Shortly after graduation Jack married Elaine Warner who became his life-long partner. Elaine preceded him in death on 23 March 2009, and many of us observed that Jack was never really the same after Elaine passed away. Jack and Elaine had a special relationship and they were envy of any married couple. He was absolutely devoted to her.

In 1945 and 1946, Jack served in the United States Navy during World War II. Short-



“Jack” Hofslund, 1974.

ly thereafter he began his ornithological research career, receiving his Masters in 1947 and his Ph.D. in 1954 from the University of Michigan. His doctoral thesis, *A Life History Study of the Yellowthroat*, initiated his long interest in parulid warblers and certainly had a major influence on countless students, including me. During his graduate studies, Jack began his career at the University of Minnesota–Duluth (UMD) in 1949 teaching a variety of life science classes, including ornithology and natural history of vertebrates. Jack retired as a full professor from UMD in 1982 and then became professor emeritus.

Among Jack’s major accomplishments were the establishment of Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve in Duluth, starting the hawk count there, and proving that Duluth was a major hawk migration route in the United States.

Jack, along with many others in the Duluth area, began the long process to educate the public about the benefit of raptors and the protection of Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve. He was recognized for these efforts with a lifetime achievement award by the Duluth Audubon Society in 2003. Besides the MOU and Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve, Jack was active in the Duluth Audubon Society, the board of the Lake Superior Zoological Gardens, Duluth Parks and Recreation, the Board of the Minnesota State Zoo, the American Ornithologists' Union, and the Wilson Ornithological Society (on which he served as President from 1971 to 1973). He was also on the boards of the Raptor Research Foundation and the Hawk Migration Association of North America, as well as serving as a naturalist at Gooseberry Falls State Park. Upon retirement, Jack remained active at the Lakeside Presbyterian Church and continued to teach in the University for Seniors and the local chapters of AARP.

Jack and Elaine loved travelling. They visited all 50 states, many Canadian provinces, and over 50 countries on every continent except Antarctica. Besides birds, Jack enjoyed movies, bridge, the Minnesota Twins and Vikings, and reading. I remember during his move from his home to Westwood Apartments in Duluth, one of his most difficult tasks was parting with the thousands of books he had acquired.

Jack is survived by his son, Jeffrey Hofslund of Duluth, and his daughter, Jennifer Burla of Ironwood, Michigan, plus five grandchildren.

Jack will be remembered as a kind, loving, and gentle man with a flair for dapper dressing. He encouraged and facilitated the development of hundreds of students and colleagues during his years at UMD, Hawk Ridge, and his other professional activities. In his article on "Hawks Above Duluth" in the previously mentioned Pettingill book, Jack wrote "Lewis Carroll could have the hawk flights in Duluth in mind when he penned, 'And thick and fast they came at last, and more, and more, and more.' Certainly this was the case on September 15, 1962 filled with good intentions (to mow the lawn) ... I sat down in a lawn chair and began to count. This was unfortunate — for the lawn — because I did not stop counting until some seven hours and 10,526 hawks later." Such is the life that Jack enjoyed from his neighborhood home in the Lakeside community, from Hawk Ridge, and from the many field trips to local and far-away places. His efforts will long be remembered, especially as the founding father of Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve in Duluth.

Department of Biology and Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota, Duluth.

A Life Well Lived

Reverend Forest Vivian Strnad

12 June 1919 – 2 July 2012

Dave Bartkey

On July 2, 2012, the Minnesota birding community lost a longtime member. One whose tenacious passion for birds, and birding, was second to none. At 93 years of age, Rev. Forest Strnad passed away at Homestead Hospice in Owatonna.

Forest was born on 12 June 1919 in Munden, Kansas, and his birding began as a small

child because of his father, Will, who also had an interest in birds. On car rides, Will would call out the names of birds they encountered along the way. It wasn't long before young Forest caught on.

During his youth, his passion for birding partnered with another passion: religion. Sunday school, church camps, and youth groups



Forest V. Strnad, about 1980.

fueled a fire for the ministry and Forest received a preacher's license as a young man. After graduating from Munden High School in 1937, he enrolled at Kansas Wesleyan, graduating there in 1942. From there it was on to seminary at the Garrett Biblical Institute in Evanston, Illinois. During this time, Forest served an assignment at Castle Rock Methodist Church from 1944–1945. While there, his only mode of transportation was a bicycle, which he rode to call on people locally and in Northfield Hospital. He became known as "The Bicycle Preacher." (Kirsten, Forest's wife, recently told me that on a visit to Castle Rock a couple of years ago, someone showed the Strnads a bicycle in the rafters of someone's garage. It was the very same bike Forest rode all those years ago!) In 1945, Forest was ordained a Deacon in Faribault, Minnesota, and was ordained an Elder four years later.

Forest's ministry began in 1957 at Chatfield United Methodist Church. As with most pastors, Forest was required to move around the state and his assignments called him to Alden, Kasson, Chisholm-Buhl, Wyoming-Forest Lake, Stewartville-Sumner Center, Breckinridge-Foxhome, and finally Hector, where he retired in 1984. He married Kirsten in 1967 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and the two of them moved to Faribault, Minnesota in 1984. There,

Forest served as visitation pastor at Fourth Avenue Methodist from 1986–2001. He also served as hospice chaplain for Faribault Hospice. In January 2001, Forest was named Pastor Emeritus by Fourth Avenue Methodist.

While serving in Kasson, his fervor for birds took another leap when he made the acquaintance of Minnesota DNR biologist Bill Longley. Bill banded Mourning Doves and that grabbed Forest's attention. Later that summer, he also met Carl Johnson of Rochester who taught Forest more about banding and Forest applied for and received his banding permit from the US Fish and Wildlife Service in 1957. From 1957–1998, he banded over 41,000 birds of some 185 species. One of these birds banded proved to be an exceptional case.

In June of 2010, while searching the Cannon River for a drowning victim, Faribault Fire Captain, Todd Rost discovered the remains of a Barred Owl tangled in monofilament fishing line. The owl had a band on its leg. After some research it turned out the owl was banded by Forest as a nestling in May of 1986. This set a longevity record for Barred Owl, breaking the previous record by six years (*The Loon* 82:142–143). This is remarkable as even captive owls typically don't live that long. In 1998, when Forest could no longer carry the nets and poles into the field, he decided to retire from banding and become "just a bird watcher" again.

Forest seemed to have a motor that wouldn't quit. Even with banding and birding and service to his churches and congregants, he also served as MOU's 20th president from 1961–1962. Back then, serving two years was not the norm as it is today.

Around this time, there was a proposal to make the Common Loon our state bird. Forest wrote many letters to senators and legislators advocating this.

Decades ago, folks used to travel to Lake of the Woods and Beltrami counties for northern owls. While serving in Chisholm in 1963, Forest investigated a tip regarding a group of Northern Hawk Owls in what is now known as Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis County. Forest found a family group of six owls that July. He wrote an article about this for *The Flicker* (35:129–134) and he is credited with "accidentally" discovering Sax-Zim Bog.

This was also one of many articles he wrote for *The Flicker* and *The Loon* over the years.

Busy as he was, he still found time to serve as both president and vice president for the Inland Bird Banding Association, work on a newsletter for Minnesota bird banders, write a nature bird column for the *Faribault Daily News*, compile the Rice County CBC for many years, start a CBC for the Wyoming and Carlos Avery WMA area (it lasted just a couple of years in the late 1960s), and participate in the Rochester CBC. He also gave many banding demonstrations and slide shows (from photos he took) at various state parks, schools, and civic groups over his lifetime.

He had pretty much retired from all of these activities by January of 2003. That's when I met Forest. He was "just a bird watcher" again. I was birding along the Straight River near downtown Faribault on New Year's Day of 2003. I was pushing up some White-throated Sparrows, unique for that time of year in their own right, and up popped a Carolina Wren! I went home and emailed Tony Hertzell for the Rare Bird Alert. I received a response from Tony stating that Forest Strnad had reported the same species from his feeders a couple of weeks earlier. Could this be the same bird? I looked up Forest's name in the phone book (miraculously, his was the only listing under that name!) and it turned out that I was birding behind his apartment building! The same bird indeed! Forest ended up contacting me over these email exchanges and we made plans to bird together. We did so and for the next couple of years we were inseparable. Up until that time, I rarely left the county for birding. Forest introduced me to the joys of chasing rarities, county listing, building a state list, the MOU Paper Session, and the camaraderie of meeting and birding with others. During these years, Forest and I made a couple of trips to the arrowhead region of Minnesota and it was an all new experience for me. I added many state birds on these trips.

Unfortunately, Forest's physical health slowly deteriorated over the next several years and he wasn't able to accompany me on longer trips anymore. We still did our share of local birding and occasionally, I would drive him to chase a potential state bird for him, and of course, for me.

It was difficult to witness his health decline, though his zeal for birds never diminished. Even at the end, as he resided at Homestead Hospice in Owatonna, his passion was as strong as ever. He and Kirsten suggested they put up feeders outside the window where Forest took his meals. Binoculars, field guide, and listing book always at hand, Forest identified 21 species of birds there, sharing his knowledge and excitement with workers, visitors, and patients alike.

In the short time I knew him, he taught me more about birds, birding, and birders than anyone else. I don't hesitate to call him my mentor. But he wasn't always pleasant. If he disagreed with something, he told you! Others who knew him can also attest to this, but his passion, excitement and generosity are what made people love him and his mischievous smile!

My favorite memory of Forest came on 27 September 2009. Always looking to add new county birds, Nelson's Sparrow was high on Forest's Rice County wish list. That morning, John and Chris Hockema came over to Faribault to look through the thousands of gulls on Cannon Lake for any oddities. But we decided to check out the lower pond at River Bend Nature Center first, as the time of year was right for the sparrow and the pond had dried up after a very dry summer. We walked out into the pond among the weeds and cattails and found our target bird. The brothers and I knew of Forest's wish to see this bird which produced a dilemma: it was a Sunday morning and the reverend would be going to church. Nevertheless, I felt it my duty to at least let him know and hopefully the birds would stick around. John had his cell phone so I dialed Forest's number and Kirsten answered with her customary, "Strnad's." I said "Hi Kirsten, this is Dave. I'm calling from John Hockema's phone and we are standing in the lower pond at River Bend, looking at some Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows." "Oh, ok", she replied "where are you again? We were just walking out the door to church." I repeated where we were and I heard Forest in the background ask who it was on the phone. She told him who and why and very shortly told me, "We'll be right there!" Since Forest had difficulty walking on uneven surfaces, we were concerned as the pond bed

contained many hummocks and holes. The brothers decided to wait at the parking lot for Forest as I set up a spotting scope in the pond. Forest and Kirsten arrived shortly and Forest found it impossible to walk into the dried pond. John and Chris didn't hesitate. They each put a hand behind one knee and the other behind his back, picking Forest up and carrying him as if he were sitting in a chair out to the spotting scope where he viewed not one but four Nelson's Sparrows! He was ecstatic! Afterward, he asked where our next destination was and we told him we were going to look through the gulls on Cannon Lake. He was exhausted from just this short adventure and informed us he was heading home to nap. But he added with a twinkle in his eye, "if you see something unique, call again." His nap was cut short by our finding a first county record juvenile Sabine's Gull and Forest was able to make it out there for this experience and second county

bird in the same day!

Being able to witness the joy he was feeling and knowing we helped him with this was only a small payback for all that he shared with me during our friendship! I talk about his passion. His passion for sharing birds, his knowledge, his sightings and his experience may have been the greatest of all. He was utterly unselfish in wanting people to know what he saw and where he saw it. He should be remembered for his accomplishments, involvements, and passion, but also for his gracious SHARING! It's a legacy well deserved!

Many thanks to Kirsten Strnad for all of her help and information. I'd also like to thank Anthony Hertzell, Dennis and Barb Martin, Sparky Stensaas, and Jan Green for their valuable information.

1077 - 2nd Street SW #2, Faribault, MN 55021.

Taxonomic Changes to the MOU Checklist

Bruce A. Fall

In July 2012, the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) published the 53rd Supplement to the Check-list of North American Birds (AOU 2012), which is the 12th supplement since the publication of the 7th edition of the Check-list in 1998 (AOU 1998). Of the many taxonomic changes in the supplement, some affect Minnesota birds and the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Checklist (MOU 2011) but no Minnesota species were split or lumped. The biggest change for Minnesota birds is the new checklist location of the falcons. This and other changes involving species recorded in this state are summarized below; most are based on recent mitochondrial and nuclear DNA studies. Justification for these changes, and the committee members' comments, can be found online (AOU

2011). This document also has literature citations for the studies supporting these and the many other changes to non-Minnesota species that were made. Also below, the term clade refers to a group of species that includes the common ancestor and all species and only species descended from it. Clades (or monophyletic groups) serve as the basis for modern classification, and many of the taxonomic revisions are due to new genetic evidence revealing taxa that are not monophyletic.

***Caprimulgus* nightjars** — The genus of Eastern Whip-poor-will and Chuck-will's-widow was changed from *Caprimulgus* to *Antrorstomus*; the scientific names are now *A. vociferus* and *A. carolinensis*, respectively. Evolutionary trees from recent DNA studies

showed four major clades of the nightjar family (Caprimulgidae), one in the Old World and three in the New World. Members of the genus *Caprimulgus* occurred mixed with other genera in three of these four clades, and thus was clearly polyphyletic. All *Caprimulgus* species in the primarily North and Central American clade were changed to *Antrostonus*, a resurrected former name. The genus name *Caprimulgus* is retained for the Old World species.

Calliope Hummingbird — This species, with only a single Minnesota record, was the sole member of the genus *Stellula* (*S. calliope*). It has now been merged into the genus *Selasphorus*, and its scientific name becomes *Selasphorus calliope*. There are a number of hummingbird species in the genus *Selasphorus*, but only one other that has been recorded in Minnesota (Rufous Hummingbird, *S. rufus*). The reason for the merge is that *Stellula* is clearly embedded within the genus *Selasphorus* and that genus would be paraphyletic if Calliope Hummingbird were excluded. The sequence of species in the hummingbird family was reorganized, but the sequence of species recorded in Minnesota is unaffected except that Calliope Hummingbird now follows Rufous Hummingbird.

Falcons — The biggest change is the relocation of falcons and caracaras (Order Falconiformes) from their former position following the order Accipitriformes (vultures and hawks) to the new location between woodpeckers (Piciformes) and passerines (Passeriformes). Parrots (Psittaciformes) were also moved to just after the falcons. This reflects new taxonomic relationships determined by DNA studies showing that parrots and passerines form a clade, and falcons are a sister group to that. Thus falcons are more closely related to parrots (i.e., have a more recent common evolutionary ancestor) and passerines than they are to the superficially similar hawks. The similarity in morphology and behavior of falcons and hawks results from convergent evolution, not common ancestry. The checklist order of Falconiformes in Minnesota is unchanged.

Wrens — Recent molecular studies support a reordering of wren genera, which affects the seven species recorded in Minnesota. The new sequence becomes Rock Wren,

House Wren, Winter Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Carolina Wren, and Bewick's Wren. The scientific names of Minnesota species are unchanged. The reorganization was partly a consequence of studies showing that Carolina Wren is not closely related to the other members of the large mostly neotropical genus *Thryothorus*; reclassification leaves Carolina Wren as its sole member of the genus.

Carpodacus finches — The three native North American species (Purple Finch, Cassin's Finch, and House Finch) were transferred from genus *Carpodacus* into genus *Haemorhous*, and their names are now *H. purpureus*, *H. cassinii*, and *H. mexicanus*, respectively. In Minnesota, Cassin's Finch is an Accidental visitor (one record); the other two are Regular. This move resulted from DNA studies that showed the Old World *Carpodacus* (Eurasian rosefinches) are more closely related to the Hawaiian honeycreepers than they are to the three North American species, which are a monophyletic group distant from the other members of the genus.

Finally, the specific name of **Purple Gallinule** was changed from *Porphyrio martinica* to *P. martinicus*. This change is a correction involving only the gender ending of the specific name.

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The Fall Season

1 August 2011 through 30 November 2011

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First county records for Ross's Goose and Cackling Goose were reported from Itasca this season. Another Cackling Goose was a first record for Koochiching.

Harlequin Ducks were found in Lac qui Parle and Cook in November. It was a good season for scoters. Away from expected locations in Duluth and Lake Superior, 24 Surf, 9 White-winged, and 12 Black scoters were reported. An adult male Barrow's Goldeneye may have been a returning visitor from prior years; it spent the latter half of November in Duluth.

A maximum of eight Red-throated Loons were seen in St. Louis from late October to late November. In contrast, only one Pacific Loon was found. It was also in Duluth. An Eared Grebe in Wabasha was unusual, while a Clark's Grebe discovered in Lac qui Parle in the summer was last seen on 1 August.

Five Snowy Egrets were the most for the fall since 2006. Most were in the West-central region, but one was as far east as Le Sueur. Two Little Blue Herons and six of the seven Cattle Egrets for the season were also in the West-central region. The only White-faced Ibis was photographed in Grant in August. Two other flocks of ibis in Lac qui Parle — 8 in August and 14 in mid-November — were prudently left unidentified.

A White-tailed Kite was photographed at Clay County's Bluestem Prairie in early August. This was the third record of this species in the state. Mississippi Kites were seen at Hawk Ridge and in Morrison — the latter a surprisingly late migrant in early October. Other late migrant raptors included two Swainson's Hawks in November, one of which set a new record. The only Ferruginous Hawk was one photographed in Yellow Medicine in mid-October. Prairie Falcons were found in Grant and Clay at the end of August, and then in Lac qui Parle at the end of the season.

Two Yellow Rails were detected on migration, in Hennepin and Lac qui Parle. Common Gallinules were seen in seven counties, as far north as Traverse.

The season produced first county records of Piping Plover for Itasca and Sherburne, along with another notable sighting in Nobles. In early August, a pair of Willets and the only Whimbrel of the season were found in Lac qui Parle. The shorebird highlight of the season was the very well-photographed, sixth state record Purple Sandpiper that took up residence in Swift for 13 days.

Duluth continues to be the best fall location in the state for larids. In September, a small flock of four Sabine's Gulls was found at Park Point. The only Iceland Gulls of the season arrived in Duluth in November, and three Lesser Black-backed were also found at Superior Entry. Another adult Lesser was discovered in Hennepin, but it could not be refound the next day. Jaeger sightings were also limited to St. Louis County. A juvenile Pomarine was documented in early October. Four Parasitics and five unidentified jaegers were also seen in Duluth, from early September through early October.

Eurasian Collared-Doves provided three more first county records — in Becker, Douglas, and Le Sueur — as they continued their range expansion through the state. By season's end, Snowy Owls had been detected in 27 counties, prefacing an invasion that would continue into the winter. Disappointingly, no Northern Hawk or Boreal owls were found.

It was an exciting season for vagrant flycatchers. A Say's Phoebe summering in Yellow Medicine was still present in early August. A silent, first state record Tropical/Couch's Kingbird was discovered in a Duluth backyard in late October. On that same day a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was also in Duluth, while earlier in the month one in Wabasha provided a first record for that county.

The season's only Carolina Wren was found in Pine. Eight Townsend's Solitaires were reported; the first was quite a surprise in mid-September, while the rest showed up beginning in late October.

The Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory (H.R.B.O.) fall migration count included counts from both Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve (H.R.N.R.) and a location near the mouth of the Lester River (*The Loon* 84:8–20). These counts, led by Karl Bardon and referenced in this summary as the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census, provided a good number of high counts of passerines. Among them were two days during which between 35,000 and 40,000 American Robins were censused.

Varied Thrush began appearing in the state in mid-November; by season's end five had been found. The only Northern Mockingbird was an early September bird in Lac qui Parle. Though the first Bohemian Waxwings showed up much earlier than usual, the total number of individuals was low and reports away from the Northeast region were few.

Three Smith's Longspurs were record early in Sibley, while a flock in Lac qui Parle in mid-October was more expected. While most Hooded Warbler sightings were from traditional locations in Scott and Dakota, migrants were also found in Anoka and Hennepin. A Cerulean Warbler at Miesville Ravine in Dakota may have been a lingering breeder, but a migrant at Cedar Lake in Hennepin was a notable surprise. A Bay-breasted Warbler found in Grand Marais at the end of October was over a month later than the long-term median departure date. Of the ten Black-throated Blues found on migration, eight were in Hennepin, including one in late October and a male in early November. A Yellow-throated Warbler photographed at a feeder in Crow Wing provided a first record for that county. And to round out a good fall for warblers, a Yellow-breasted Chat was photographed in Pipestone in early September.

Male Spotted Towhees were photographed in both Steele and Crow Wing counties. Other notable reports of sparrows included a record high count of Field Sparrows and much more widespread reports of Grasshopper, Henslow's, Nelson's, and Harris's sparrows than we usually see in the fall. Summer Tana-

gers were found in different counties in each month of the season. Reports of Blue Grosbeaks from 12 counties were unprecedented, besting the prior high county count for fall of only five.

Record high numbers of Rusty Blackbirds were counted in Duluth in late September. An immature male Scott's Oriole found in Cook was the fourth state record of this species. It was found two days after the Tropical/Couch's Kingbird was discovered in Duluth. A Gray-crowned Rosy Finch was also in St. Louis at about the same time.

Pine Grosbeaks first showed up in the state in the Northeast in late October; by mid-November one was photographed south in Washington. Crossbill reports were mostly confined to the North. Red Crossbills were rare, except that they were reported regularly from the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census from mid-October through mid-November. The only south report was of a lone individual in Lac qui Parle. White-winged made it south to the Sherburne N.W.R. and to St. Paul. Though no Hoary Redpolls were reported, a high count of over 16,000 Common Redpolls from the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census was quite impressive. An Evening Grosbeak photographed in Lac qui Parle was the only individual to wander away from the northern third of the state.

Weather summary: While temperatures in August and September were near normal, in October and November they were 4° to 6° F above the historical average, making those months among the warmest on record. All four months were much drier than the norm. For the season, precipitation totals in the southern counties were less than 3", a departure from the long-term average of 5"–9" and the driest autumn on record. By the end of the season, the Northeast had 4"–6" of snow cover, while the rest of the state had less or was snow-free.

Undocumented Reports: **Eared Grebe** 11/4 Mille Lacs (unusual location); **Western Grebe** 9/16 Lake (out of range); **Swainson's Hawk** 11/12 Hennepin (late date); **Short-billed Dowitcher** 10/3 Morrison (late date); **Great Black-backed Gull** 10/27 Carver (unusual location); **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** 10/11 Cook (late date); **Loggerhead Shrike** 10/22 Washington (late date); **Northern Shrike**

10/5 Kandiyohei (early date); **Blue-headed Vireo** 8/1 Goodhue (early date); **Common Raven** 11/12 Houston (out of range); **Tufted Titmouse** 9/10 St. Louis (out of range); **American Pipit** 8/21 Dakota (early date); **Lapland Longspur** 8/1 Rice (early date); **Orange-crowned Warbler** 8/1 Goodhue, 8/26 Sherburne (early dates); **Connecticut Warbler** 8/5 Ramsey, 8/26 Blue Earth (2) (early dates); **Cerulean Warbler** 8/21 Hennepin (rare in fall); **Yellow-rumped Warbler** 8/1 Ramsey (early date); **Fox Sparrow** 9/10 St. Louis (early date); **Dickcissel** 11/11 Dakota (extremely late south).

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reports submission web page (<http://moumn.org/moureports/season.php>). Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data from 1985 through 2008. Finally, and most importantly, our appreciation goes out to all our contributors. We are especially grateful to those who respond to our requests for details and to those 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 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.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [3 North, 9 South] All north 10/18 Polk DBM, 10/19–21 Marshall (6, Warren) HHu, 11/7 Clay (2, Felton Prairie) RHO. Early south (median 10/1) 10/8 Murray (**200**, high count) GWe, Nobles KRE, m.ob., 10/9 Lac qui Parle (71, Salt Lake) ACr. Please see winter report for late south migrants.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [13 North, 24 South] Early north (median 9/11) 9/10 Kittson TrB, St. Louis JoP, JPr, 9/16

Carlton JJK, Itasca SC. Early south (median 9/13) **8/6** Renville HHD, 8/13 Sibley DPG, 9/5 Ramsey MJM. Late north 11/5 Lake m.ob., Mille Lacs PEB, 11/7 St. Louis (220, high count, Duluth) KJB (median 11/30). Please see winter report for late south migrants.

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [3 North, 5 South] All north reports: 9/16 **Itasca** (8, Co-hasset) ph. †SC, St. Louis (3, H.R.B.O., Duluth) KJB, 10/22–29 Mille Lacs ASC, †DWK,

- m.ob., St. Louis (11, H.R.B.O., Duluth) KJB, 11/7 St. Louis (16 (high count), H.R.B.O., Duluth) KJB. All south reports: 10/10 Olmsted JPr, 11/4–18 Big Stone (near Barry) DLP, 11/7 Lac qui Parle (Perry W.M.A.) BJU, 11/9–12 Kandiyohi (Foot Lake) RAE, HHD, 11/14 Houston (10) DFN, 11/17 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 11/18 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU.
- Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [24 North, 38 South] Early north (median 9/17) **9/10** St. Louis (H.R.B.O., Duluth) KJB, 9/15 Lake JWJ, St. Louis †PHS. Early south (median 9/19) **9/16** Sherburne RBJ, 9/24–11/4 Itasca SC, ph. †EEO, 9/30 Sherburne PLJ, 10/1 Dakota (25) †BAF, SHF, Hennepin †CMB. High counts 10/22 Stevens (550, between Gorder and Crystal Lake) DWK, 9/15 St. Louis (375, H.R.B.O., Duluth) KJB, 10/18 Polk (315, near Fosston) DBM. Please see winter report for late migrants. New county record 10/18 **Koochiching** RBJ. 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, 53 South] Reported throughout the state and season.
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [1 North, 6 South] Probable wild bird seen 11/17 **Lac qui Parle** (Big Stone N.W.R.) / Big Stone (Marsh Lake) BJU. Birds of uncertain origin: 8/21 Otter Tail (2) CHk, 9/4–24 Wabasha (Peterson Lake) DBz, 10/2 Sherburne (with 12 Trumpeter Swans) DPG, 10/19–20 Washington (Square Lake) MJM, LMS.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [27 North, 37 South] High counts 10/17 Becker (125, Height of Land Lake) DBM, 11/29 Otter Tail (110) BDE, 11/23 Anoka (74, Lake George) JKe, 11/21 Wright (68) DPG.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [15 North, 22 South] Early north (median 10/1) 9/29 Marshall MA, 9/30 Itasca EEO, 10/3 Kittson TrB, Todd DTM. Early south (median 10/12) 10/20 Lac qui Parle PEJ, 10/21 Houston NBO, 10/23 Wabasha DBz, ANy. High counts 11/18 Houston (5,000 at Pool 8, Brownsville-Reno) SHF. Late north 11/16 St. Louis KJB, 11/27 Aitkin DBM (median 11/28), but also see winter report.
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [28 North, 50 South] High counts 10/24 Houston (790 at Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 11/17 Hennepin (135, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ. Late north 11/12 Crow Wing ABi, Morrison MJB, FGo, 11/18 Becker GO (median 12/15), but also see winter report.
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) — [20 North, 37 South] High counts 11/8 Houston (19,495 at Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 11/13 Hennepin (509, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) MDu. Late north 11/12 Beltrami DPJ, 11/13 St. Louis JPr (median 11/17), but also see winter report.
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [12 North, 27 South] High counts 11/7 Houston (9,030 at Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 11/18 Wabasha (200, Weaver Bottoms) SHF. Late north 10/28 Aitkin JLK, Itasca SC, 11/11 St. Louis JLK (median 11/28). Please see winter report for late south migrants.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [6 North, 13 South] All north reports: Aitkin, Cook, Itasca, Lake, Marshall, St. Louis. Early south (median 8/25) 8/11 Meeker PRH, 8/28 McLeod LS, 9/24 Lac qui Parle GLa.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported throughout the state. High counts 11/21 Houston (56,110 at Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 11/18 Hennepin (900, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BeS.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [28 North, 44 South] High counts 10/10 Houston (430, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 8/13 Big Stone (342, David H. Steen W.M.A.) PCC, 8/20 Lac qui Parle (300, Haydenville W.M.A.) PCC. Late north 10/22 Douglas JPE, Otter Tail DvS, 11/12 Morrison MJB, FGo (median 10/25). Late south 11/7 Hennepin WPe, Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/26 Stearns MJB (median 11/3), but also see winter report.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas chlypeata*) — [24 North, 45 South] High counts 11/5 Polk (300, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SRo, m.ob., 10/22 Hennepin (150, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF, SHF. Late north 11/7 Clay RHO, 11/12 Beltrami DPJ (median 11/7). Please see winter report for late south migrants and over-

wintering birds.

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) — [10 North, 21 South] High counts 11/7 Houston (4,050 at Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 11/5 Houston (300, North Brownsville Overlook) DSt, 11/17 Hennepin (230, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ. Late north 10/23 Otter Tail LS, 11/19 St. Louis KJB (median 11/25). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) — [28 North, 37 South] High counts 10/10 Houston (1,215, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 11/17 Hennepin (420, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ. Late north 11/7 Clay RHO, 11/12 Cook JPr, St. Louis ANy (median 11/9). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) — [16 North, 32 South] High counts 11/7 Houston (182,035, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 10/21 Lac qui Parle (1,300, Salt Lake) PEJ. Late north 11/12 Crow Wing ABi, 11/14 Marshall MA, 11/19 Douglas JPE (median 11/25). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Redhead (*Aythya americana*) — [23 North, 34 South] High counts 10/27 Houston (6,270 at Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R., USFWS, 11/18 Houston (490, Houston) RTP, 11/3 Scott (250, New Prague) RBJ, DAC. Late north 11/18 Mille Lacs RBJ, 11/19 Douglas JPE, 11/26 Aitkin ASc (median 12/10). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) — [26 North, 31 South] High counts 11/28 Houston (7,350, Pool #8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 10/14 Aitkin (3500) PEJ. Late north 11/19 Douglas JPE, 11/26 Crow Wing JSB, 11/27 Aitkin DBM (median 12/4). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) — [12 North, 13 South] Early north (median 9/30) 8/28 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 9/16 Cass DAY. Early south (median 10/17) 10/21 Sherburne PLJ, 10/24 Isanti

RAE, RAE. High count 10/19 St. Louis (23, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 11/27 Aitkin DBM, 11/29 St. Louis JLK (median 12/3), but also see winter report.

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) — [21 North, 31 South] Late north 11/22 St. Louis PHS, 11/27 Aitkin DBM (median 12/17), but also see winter report.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [1 North, 1 South] All reports: 11/5 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R., East Pool) BJU, 11/25 Cook (Paradise Beach) LBe.

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [4 North, 7 South] All north reports: 10/1–18 St. Louis (max. 2, Park Point) RAE, KRE, m.ob., 10/4 Pennington (5, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) RLE, 10/25–11/11 St. Louis (Indian Point, Duluth) JLK, m.ob., 10/29–11/7 Cook (max. 2, Taconite Harbor) KRE, m.ob., 11/15–11/25 St. Louis (Park Point) PHS, m.ob., 11/19 Douglas (Lake Osakis) JPE. All south 10/27 Sibley (2, harvested near Winthrop) fide AXH, 10/28–11/1 Wright (max. 4, Howard Lake) DWK, HCT, m.ob., 11/10–11 Carver (Lake Waconia) WCM, CMB, 11/12 Lac qui Parle (Perry Twp.) ph. BJU, 11/12–14 Winona (3, Prairie Island Spillway) DBz, 11/24 Mower (East Side Lake, Austin) ph. BPL, 11/25 Houston (3, Pool 8), Winona (3, Pool 5A) PEJ, DFN.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) — [4 North, 5 South] All north reports 9/24–27 St. Louis (Superior Entry) NAN, PHS, 10/29–11/7 Cook (max. 7, Taconite Harbor) KRE, m.ob., 11/4 Mille Lacs (Mille Lacs Lake) ASC, 11/13 Cook (near Paradise Beach) ANy, PJM, 11/15 St. Louis (2, Park Point) PHS, 11/26 Aitkin ASc, Mille Lacs ASc, 11/27 Aitkin (Wealthwood, Mille Lacs Lake) DBM. All south 10/14 Sherburne (Lake Fremont, Zimmerman) PLJ, 10/27 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Beach, Lac qui Parle Lake) ph. BJU 11/2 Ramsey TAN, 11/12–14 Hennepin (Long Meadow Lake) †BAF, †SHF, †MDu, m.ob., 11/12–26 Houston (max 2, Pool 8) PEJ, m.ob.

Black Scoter (*Melanitta americana*) — [3 North, 5 South] All north reports: 10/1 St. Louis (Park Point) KRE, m.ob., 10/23 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 10/27–11/2 St. Louis (Duluth Harbor) KRE, m.ob., 10/29–11/7 Cook (Taconite Harbor) KRE, m.ob., 11/6 Cook (2, Para-



Flock of 780 Common Loons, 23 October 2011, Mille Lacs Lake. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

dise Beach) KRE, m.ob., 11/10–18 Aitkin (4, Malmo, Mille Lacs Lake) RBJ, 11/12–13 Cook (Grand Marais) JPr, ANy, 11/26–27 Aitkin (Wealthwood, Mille Lacs Lake) ASC, DBM. All south 10/23 Isanti (South Stanchfield Lake) HHD, 11/5 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU, 11/10 Carver (Lake Waconia) WCM, CMB, 11/25 Houston (Pool 8) PEJ, DFN, 11/26 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) ADS, 11/28–29 Houston (2, Reno Bottoms) DBz, ph. ANy.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [4 North, 4 South] All north reports 10/30 Cook (20, Paradise Beach) ARW, DBz, JWH, 11/15 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 11/18 Mille Lacs (Isle) RBJ, 11/27 Aitkin (Wealthwood, Mille Lacs Lake) DBM. All south reports 11/12 Houston (Pool 8), Wabasha (Pool 5) PEJ, 11/13 **Le Sueur** (Lake Henry) †DAB, JWH, 11/21–29+ Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) ChM, †RSA, ph. CMB, m.ob., 11/29+ Houston (near Brownsville) DBz.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [22 North, 31 South] Early south (median 10/2) 8/31 Stearns RZi, 9/27 Big Stone DLP, 10/3 Lac qui Parle BJU. High counts 11/21 Houston (**2,775** at Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 11/18 Wabasha (150, Weaver Bottoms) SHF.

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [22 North, 27 South] Early south (median 10/16) 10/23 Ramsey ELC, 10/29 Meeker PRH, HHD, RAE, 10/30 Pope HHD. High counts 11/28 Houston (2,220 at Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin) Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R. USFWS, 11/22 St. Louis (203, Duluth Harbor) PHS.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 North] Adult male seen 11/19–29+ in St. Louis (Duluth) ph. †PHS, †KRE, †JLK, ph. KJB may have been the same individual seen from November to March of 2008–2009 and 2009–2010, and

April 2011.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [25 North, 39 South] High counts 11/29 Ramsey (**2,120** at Pleasant Lake, second highest count for state) KJB, 11/25 Ramsey (300, Vadnais Lake) BNW, 11/14 Houston (150, Brownsville) DSt, 11/28 Crow Wing (150, Agate Lake) JSB. Please see winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) — [12 North, 20 South] Early south (median 10/24) 9/24 Lac qui Parle GLa, 10/2 Carver RZi, 10/18 Dakota GLa. High count 11/18 Wabasha (600, Lake Pepin) SHF.

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) — [6 North, 12 South] All north reports Cook, Crow Wing, Lake, Mille Lacs, St. Louis, Wadena. All south reports: **9/18**–10/18 Sherburne m.ob., 10/26 Hennepin SBM, 11/2 Wright MJB, 11/6–20 Blue Earth ChH, Meeker PLJ, 11/12–19 Carver JCy, 11/12–17 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/12–25 Houston PEJ, DFN, 11/14–27 Dakota ADS, TAT, 11/17 Big Stone BJU, 11/20 Hennepin TAT, 11/22 Kandiyohi RAE, 11/24 Pope CRM.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [13 North, 43 South] High count 8/20 Lac qui Parle (315, Salt Lake) PCC, PHS. Late north 11/7 Clay RHO, 11/12 Morrison MJB, FGo (median 11/10). Please see winter report for late south migrants.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [2 North, 8 South] Only north reports 11/18 Becker GO, 11/3–5 Morrison FGo. Also reported south from Big Stone (2), Chippewa (2), Lac qui Parle (3), Murray (2), Pipestone (8), Rock, Stearns, Steele (8).

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [13 North, 49 South] Reported as far north as Clay in the Northwest, Wadena and Crow Wing in the North-central, and Pine in the East-central region.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [19 North, 4 South] All south reports 8/8/ Anoka



(Oak Grove) DvS, 8/25 Dakota RZi, 10/10–11/30 Fillmore NBO, DCr, 10/29 Isanti JCC.

Spruce Grouse (*Falci pennis canadensis*) — [5 North] All reports 10/11 Roseau (Highway 310) LeG, 10/12 St. Louis (Big Lake) WPe, 10/21–11/6 St. Louis (Bear Island Lake) SLF, 10/23 Cook (Grand Portage S.P.) PLJ, 11/5–7 Lake (Stony River F.R.) DWK, SBM, 11/6 Cook (Lima Mountain Road) DWK, 11/29 Koochiching (3, Tuomey-Williams Road) AMe.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [8 North, 3 South] All north reports 8/27–10/26 Marshall (max. 12, near Warren) HHu, 8/28–9/9 Kittson (max. 4, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 9/3 Marshall (6, C.R. 12 south of Agassiz N.W.R.) KRE, m.ob., 9/4 Koochiching (2) HHD, RAE, 10/18 Koochiching RBJ, 10/27–11/29 Polk HHu, GT, 11/22 St. Louis (4, Sax-Zim Bog) ZLo, 11/23 Koochiching (west of Loman) AMe, 11/24–26 Pennington JMJ, RAE, 11/27 Red Lake (13) RAE, 11/30 Carlton SC. All south 8/21 Big Stone (2, Browns Valley East Twp.) BJU, 8/29–11/17 Swift (max. 3, Hwy 7) BJU, 10/3–11/22 Lac qui Parle (max. 4, Plover Prairie) BJU.

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [4 North, 1 South] All north reports 9/3–23 Clay (max. 14, Felton Prairie) m.ob., 9/4 Polk (Angus Twp.) KRE, m.ob., 10/22 Wilkin (max. 5) m.ob., 11/18 Becker (20, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) MO. Only south reports 8/1–11/17 Lac qui Parle (max. 7) ACr, BJU, presumably related to D.N.R. releases at Plover Prairie.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [19 North, 45 South] Reported as far north as Marshall in the Northwest, Hubbard and Cass in the North-central, and Aitkin and Carlton in the Northeast. Some north reports probably refer to recently released birds.

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] All reports: 10/23 St. Louis (1) EBr,

11/12–24 St. Louis (max. 8 at Superior Entry on 11/22, record high fall count,) KJB, m.ob.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 North] Only reports 9/23–24 St. Louis (juvenile at Superior Entry and Park Point) KJB, m.ob.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) — [23 North, 28 South] Record high count 10/23 Mille Lacs/Aitkin/Crow Wing (3,030 along western shore of Mille Lacs Lake) AXH. Late north 11/23 Otter Tail BDE, 11/25 Itasca EEO, SC, 11/30 St. Louis KJB (median 11/25), but also see winter report.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [27 North, 48 South] High counts 8/28 Lac qui Parle (50, Salt Lake) ACr, 10/8 Dakota (38, Gun Club Lake) PEJ. Late north 11/12 Beltrami DPJ, Morrison MJB, FGO, 11/15 Itasca SC, 11/19 Douglas JPE (median 11/27).

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [17 North, 27 South] Early north (median 8/18) 8/3 Hubbard ANy, 8/14 Carlton AM, 8/20 Lake JWL. Early south (median 9/14) 9/4 Lac qui Parle PLJ, 9/21 Hennepin TAT. High counts 10/23 Mille Lacs/Aitkin/Crow Wing (170, west shore of Mille Lacs Lake) AXH, 10/13 Sherburne (52, Lake Fremont) PLJ. Late north 11/22 St. Louis PHS, 11/26 Aitkin ASc, 11/27 Mille Lacs DBM (median 11/19). Late south 11/28 Houston DBz, Rice DAB, 11/30 Hennepin CMB (median 11/27), but also see winter report.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [15 North, 17 South] Late north 11/12 Crow Wing ABi, 11/13 Cook ANy, JPr (median 12/3). Late south 11/7 Goodhue GMi, 11/12 Wright HCT, 11/13 Hennepin m.ob., Washington PSm (median 11/10).

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [7 North, 8 South] All north reports 8/20 Grant BJU, 8/21 Traverse BJU, 8/27 Wilkin RAE, 9/1 Mahnomen DBM, 9/2 Polk LMS, 9/4 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) JCC, Pennington m.ob., 9/5 Red Lake KRE, LS.

- Late south 10/23 Lac qui Parle DLP, 10/30 Blue Earth ChH (median 10/31). Unusual southeast report 8/28 **Wabasha** DBz.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [6 North, 14 South] Late north 10/22 Douglas JPE, Wilkin GLa, JPr, 10/23 Otter Tail GLa, 11/12 **St. Louis** (Superior Entry) KJB (median 11/3). Late south 10/27 Swift BJU, 11/12 Big Stone BJU, 11/29 Dakota RLW (median 11/17).
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [1 South] Only report 8/1 Lac qui Parle (Pegg Lake; first seen in June) †BJU.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [25 North, 47 South] High count 9/25 Hennepin (500, Old Cedar Avenue Bridge) BeH. Late north 11/5 Mille Lacs WCM, 11/18 St. Louis BeH (median 11/24).
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [15 North, 42 South] High counts 9/10 Dakota (350) BeH, 9/2 Hennepin (200, Purgatory Creek) BeS, 10/2 Goodhue (200, Barn Bluff) RSA. Late north 11/11 Mille Lacs DBM, 11/17 Marshall *vide* JMJ (median 10/25). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [6 North, 8 South] All north reports 8/20 Grant BJU, 8/21 Traverse BJU, 8/24 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) RBW, 8/27 Marshall (near Warren), Polk HHu, 9/3 Marshall m.ob., 9/7 Lake (2, Two Harbors Airport) RBW, 9/10 Aitkin PEJ. All reports south 8/1–9/19 Big Stone BJU, 8/2 Washington DaR, 8/3–10/15 Lac qui Parle BJU, DLP, 8/20 Swift BJU, 8/29 Chippewa (Chippewa Prairie) BJU, Hennepin (2, Breck School) DaS, 9/5 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) StB, 9/17 Stevens DPG, 10/16 Swift (Lubenow W.P.A.) WCM.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [1 North, 7 South] Only north report 9/9 Douglas JPE. All south reports 8/1 Lac qui Parle (Agassiz Twp.) BJU, 8/7 Hennepin (Gleason Lake) RaR, Lac qui Parle (Pegg Lake) RBJ, 8/10 Nicollet (10, Swan Lake) RMD, 8/12 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) RaR, 8/19 Big Stone/Stevens (640th Avenue) PHS, 8/20 Swift (Lubenow W.P.A.) BJU, 8/21 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.) BJU, Cottonwood RMD, 9/10 Swift DBM.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [25 North, 49 South] High counts 9/4 Grant (35) JCC, 9/9 Hennepin (23) DWK. Late north 10/15 Grant DPG, 10/22 Otter Tail GLa, Wilkin m.ob., 10/27 Crow Wing RBJ, DAC, St. Louis JLK (median 12/1).
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [13 North, 39 South] High counts 9/4 Grant (75, North Ottawa Impoundment) JCC, 8/28 Blue Earth (70) DAB. Late north reports 8/20–24 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. BJU, RBW, **10/22** Douglas (latest north date, no details) JPE. All south reports 9/19 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU, 10/9 Le Sueur (Waterville Fish Hatchery) RBW, **10/17** Chippewa (near Watson) †DAB, JWH, JEB.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [2 North, 3 South] All north reports 8/20–24 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. BJU, RBW, **10/22** Douglas (latest north date, no details) JPE. All south reports 9/19 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU, 10/9 Le Sueur (Waterville Fish Hatchery) RBW, **10/17** Chippewa (near Watson) †DAB, JWH, JEB.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — [3 South] All south 8/29 Lac qui Parle/Chippewa (juvenile, Camp Release Twp.) ph. †BJU, 9/18 Big Stone (adult, Toqua Twp.) ph. BJU.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [4 South] All reports 8/1 Lac qui Parle (2, Marsh Lake) BJU, 8/13 Big Stone (Ortonville) BJU, 9/10 Lac qui Parle (Lac qui Parle S.P.) PJM, 9/25 Kandiyohi JoS, 10/14 Yellow Medicine (2, Florida Twp) ph. BJU.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [15 North, 34 South] Late north 10/1 Crow Wing (2, Pointen Lake) JLK, 10/8 Pine RBW, 10/13 St. Louis (West Duluth) JLK (median 10/1). Late south 10/5 Big Stone DLP, 10/18 Hennepin SLC (median 10/20).
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [3 North, 10 South] All north reports: 8/5–9 Otter Tail (max. 3, Fergus Falls) DST, m.ob., 8/6 Traverse DPG, 8/20 Grant (7) BJU, 8/21 Traverse BJU, 8/27 Grant (11, North Ottawa Impoundment) HHD, RAE. Late south 10/11 Hennepin (Golden Valley) ph. ACr, 10/13 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha/Minnehaha Creek) SHF, 10/22 Hennepin CMB (median 11/8).
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — No reports.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [1 North] Only report 8/20 Grant (North Ottawa Im-



White-tailed Kite, 4 August 2011, Bluestem Prairie, Clay County. Photo by Susan Felege.

poundment) ph. BJU.

Plegadis ibis (*Plegadis sp.*) — [1 South] All reports 8/13 Lac qui Parle (8 immatures, Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU, 11/12–13 Lac qui Parle (14 immatures, Walter Twp) ph. BJU, DLP.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) — [26 North, 50 South] High counts 10/14 St. Louis (138 at H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/13 Blue Earth (85) ChH. Late north 10/22 Crow Wing ABi, 10/26 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 10/30). Late south 11/3 Fillmore RTP, 11/4 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/21).

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [15 North, 28 South] High count 9/11 St. Louis (33 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 10/19 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/22 Crow Wing SC, then no reports until 11/5 Lake RSA, 11/6 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, ABL (median 10/24). Late south 10/13 Blue Earth ChH, 10/15 Winona DBz, 10/29 Blue Earth ChH (median 11/11).

WHITE-TAILED KITE (*Elanus leucurus*) — [1 North] Third state record 8/4 **Clay** (Bluestem Prairie) ph. SFe, DHe.

MISSISSIPPI KITE (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) — [2 North] Only reports: 9/15 St. Louis (adult, Hawk Ridge) †KJB, 9/27 – **10/4 Morrison** (adult near Bowlus) †FGo.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [33 North, 50 South] High counts 11/25 St. Louis (453 at H.R.B.O.) KJB, 11/18 Houston (175, Houston) RTP.

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) — [31

North, 45 South] High count 9/11 St. Louis (116 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 11/18 Becker MO, GO, Mille Lacs RBJ, 11/24 St. Louis KJB, ABL (median 11/25), but also see winter report.

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) — [27 North, 39 South] Early south (median 8/10) 8/4 Hennepin GDJ, 8/21 Washington PSm, 8/24 Anoka DvS. High count 9/4 St. Louis (**1,859** at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 11/27 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, ABL, 11/29 Otter Tail DST (median 11/29), but also see winter report.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [19 North, 43 South] High counts 10/14 St. Louis (11 at H.R.B.O.) KJB, 9/3 Hennepin (6, T.S. Roberts Sanctuary) TAT. Late north 11/4 Crow Wing ABi, 11/5 Morrison FGo (median 11/2), but also see winter report.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [6 North, 2 South] All north reports: Aitkin, Cass, Cook, Itasca, Lake, St. Louis. Seasonal total of 233 from H.R.B.O., Duluth, well below average of 656. Only south reports 10/27 Chippewa (immature, Lac qui Parle W.M.A.) BJU, 11/27 Benton (immature, Sartell W.M.A.) HHD.

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) — [9 North, 14 South] Late north 10/2 Becker DFN, 10/6 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/11 Todd JeM (median 10/28). Other north reports from Aitkin, Crow Wing, Douglas, Marshall, Morrison, and Otter Tail.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) — [17 North, 29 South] High count 9/15 St. Louis (12,790 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Peak count away from Hawk Ridge: 9/23 Blue Earth (1,175, Bethany Hawkwatch) ChH. Late north 10/15 Itasca PLe, 10/26 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 10/16). Late south 10/4 Carver JCy, 10/6 Nicollet RZi, 10/13 Blue Earth ChH (median 10/10).

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [6 North, 16 South] Seasonal total of 10 at H.R.B.O. in Duluth (KJB), all in September. All other north reports: 8/19 Kittson (Halma) LeG, 8/21–9/4 Polk m.ob., 8/21–9/18 Traverse (Walls Twp.) BJU, 8/31–9/18 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) m.ob., 9/24 Clay NAJ. Late south 10/15 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/1 Hennepin LMS, **11/11** Goodhue (record late, juvenile light morph, Minneola Twp.) †PHS (median 10/5).

- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [31 North, 51 South] High count 10/19 St. Louis (686 at H.R.B.O.) KJB. Peak count away from Hawk Ridge: 10/13 Blue Earth (137, includes 1 Krider's) ChH. Krider's also reported 11/13 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- FERRUGINOUS HAWK** (*Buteo regalis*) — No reports.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [22 North, 23 South] Early north (median 9/17) 10/1 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, ABL, 10/19 Kittson RBJ. Early south (median 10/2) 10/16 Wright LS, 10/20 Stearns MJB, 10/22 Freeborn MRo, Swift FGo. High counts 11/13 & 11/20 St. Louis (56 at H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [4 North, 2 South] Early north (median 9/29) 9/15 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, ABL, 10/8 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, KEI, JLK. Only south reports (median early 10/18): 11/17 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 11/28 Winona (Wiscoy Twp.) ANy, JWH. High count 11/27 St. Louis (18 at Hawk Ridge) KJB.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [30 North, 47 South] Reported throughout the season in all regions of the state. High count 9/11 St. Louis (153 at H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [23 North, 28 South] Probable breeding bird from summer season 8/1 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park) JJo. Early south (median 8/18) 8/8 Washington PNi, 8/14 Jackson (Central Park) KSm. Last reported north 11/27 Red Lake RAE.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [9 North, 23 South] Unusual north report 11/13 St. Louis (Indian Point) JPr. Observed south throughout the season. High count 10/5 St. Louis (11 at H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — [2 North, 1 South] One bird discovered 8/30 **Grant** (North Ottawa Impoundment) RLE was subsequently observed 8/31 and 9/6 at the same location ARW. Also observed north 8/31 Clay (Felton Prairie) DBM. One south report: 11/22 Lac qui Parle (Bellingham) ph. BJU.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [1 North, 2 South] Only north report 8/22 Aitkin KCR. Two south reports: **9/10** Hennepin †TAT, 9/20 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [6 North, 19 South] Late north 9/9 Douglas JPE, 9/18 Traverse BJU (median 9/10). Late south 9/19 Big Stone BJU, 11/9 Olmsted JPr (median 10/7).
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [11 North, 27 South] Late north 9/24 Douglas JPE and Itasca SC, 9/25 Crow Wing (Pointen Lake) JLK (median 10/1). Late south 10/14 Yellow Medicine BJU, 11/2 Lac qui Parle (found dead by a trapper north of Boyd) *fide* FAE (median 10/11).
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [6 South] Observed south in Blue Earth (535th Ave. south of Hwy. 60), Brown (Milford Twp.), Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.), Nicollet (Swan Lake), Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.), Swift (Lubenow W.P.A.). High count 8/28 Blue Earth (8, 1 adult and 7 young) JWH, DAB. Late south 10/10 Nicollet (winter-plumaged adult) RPR (median 9/8).
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [25 North, 50 South] High counts at Old Cedar Ave. Bridge/Minnesota Valley N.W.R. in Hennepin 11/13 (10,400) MDu and 11/1 (10,000) BeS. Last reported north 11/12 Morrison MJB, FGo, RPR. Observed south throughout the season.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*) — [25 North, 23 South] High counts 1,500 on 10/12 and 1,344 on 10/19 in Marshall HHu. Late north 11/7 Kanabec MJB and St. Louis KJB, 11/14 Kittson CiC (median 11/4). Late south 11/29 Sherburne ASc (median 11/8), but see winter report.
- [WHOOPING CRANE** (*Grus americana*) — [1 South] Two banded birds from the experimental Wisconsin flock observed 9/9–12 Rice (west of Northfield) m.ob.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [8 North, 18 South] Early north (median 8/9) 8/20 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU, 9/11 St. Louis (Hearing Island, Duluth) PHS. Early south (median 8/8) 8/3 Lac qui Parle (Hamlin Twp.) BJU, 8/13 Big Stone and Lac qui Parle PCC. High count 10/23 Dakota (14, Spring Lake) BAF. Late north 10/20 Douglas RAE, 10/24 Kittson (2, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB (median 10/26). Late south 11/9 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 11/12 Houston (Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) RPN (median 11/5).
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [13 North, 26 South] Early north (median 8/17) 8/20 Grant (North Ottawa



American Avocet, 2 September 2011, North Ottawa, Grant County. Photo by Larry Sirvio.

Impoundment) BJU, 9/2 Polk LMS. Early south (median 8/4) 8/13 Lac qui Parle PCC, 8/20 Big Stone (2) PCC, PHS. High count 9/18 Wilkin (62) DAY. Late north 10/29 Itasca SC and Pine DWK, 11/3 Pine JJS (median 10/27). Late south 11/9 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 11/13 Blue Earth AnK, ChH (median 11/3).

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [10 North, 24 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants; first juvenile reported 8/13 Big Stone PCC. High count 8/27 Big Stone (12) PCC. Late north 9/20 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) PHS, 9/28 St. Louis (Duluth) SCZ (median 10/2). Late south 10/9 Le Sueur RBW, 10/23 Jackson (3, Sandy Point Park) KSm (median 10/8).

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 North, 2 South] First county records 9/7 **Itasca** (Side Lake) PLe, **9/22 Sherburne** (Sherburne N.W.R.) RBJ. Also reported south 8/12 **Nobles** (Round Lake) RBJ.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [25 North, 49 South] High count 8/20 Big Stone (552) PCC, PHS. Late north 10/24 Kittson (Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 10/29 Marshall (2, Warren) HHu and Pine DWK (median 10/26). See winter report for late migrants and po-

tential overwintering birds south.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [1 North, 3 South] All north observations 8/20–9/18 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) m.ob. All south reports: 8/1 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Twp.) BJU, 8/20 Big Stone (4) PCC, PHS, 8/21 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.) BJU, 8/27 Big Stone (2) PCC, 9/10 Big Stone (7) PCC, 9/18 Big Stone (2, Toqua Twp.) BJU, 9/30 Anoka REH. High count 8/20 Grant (15, North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) — [24 North, 43 South] High count 8/1 Crow Wing (24, Ironton W.T.P.) JSB. Late north 10/1 Cook RAE, ALO and St. Louis RAE, 10/2 St. Louis (Duluth) GLa, ALo (median 10/13). Late south 10/9 Big Stone RBJ, Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) ACr, Le Sueur RBW, 10/11 Hennepin BeH (median 10/10).

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) — [22 North, 39 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 9/2 Hennepin (8, Powderhorn Park) JJo. Late north 10/1 Cook RAE, ALO, 10/2 Morrison FGo and St. Louis SLF (median 10/1). Late south 10/21 Yellow Medicine LS, 10/23 Jackson (Sandy Point Park) KSm (median 10/5).

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [19 North, 33 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/20 Big Stone (29) PCC, PHS. Late north 11/7 Crow Wing (Ironton W.T.P.) JSB and St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 11/12 St. Louis (Indian Point, Duluth) AM (median 11/3). Late south 11/10 Carver (New Germany) JCy, 11/13 Blue Earth AnK, ChH (median 11/9).

Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [1 South] Only report: 8/1 Lac qui Parle (2, Agassiz Twp.) BJU.

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) — [22 North, 43 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/12 Nobles (500, Round Lake) RBJ, DAC. Late north 10/21 Otter Tail KRE, m.ob. and Wilkin GLa, 10/22 Otter Tail GLa, LS (median 10/25). Late south 11/1 Lac qui Parle DLP, 11/4 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 11/2).

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [2 North, 8 South] High count 8/1 Lac qui Parle (6, Plover Prairie and Lac Qui



Purple Sandpiper, 19 October 2011, Lubenow WPA, Swift County. Photo by David A. Cahlander.

Parle W.M.A.) BJU. Only north reports: 8/10 Todd (Quistorff W.M.A.) DPG, 8/21 Traverse (Walls Twp.) BJU (late median 8/15). Late south 8/13 Nobles BTS, 8/20 Big Stone (Foster Twp.) PCC, PHS (median 8/22).

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) — No reports.

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) — [1 North, 2 South] One north report: 8/20 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU. All south reports: 9/19 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 10/3 Lac qui Parle (2, Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 10/7 Nobles (juv., Graham Lakes Twp.) BTS.

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) — [2 North, 3 South] Two north reports: 8/20 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU, 8/21 Traverse (2, Walls Twp.) BJU. Observed south in Big Stone, Chippewa, and Lac qui Parle as late as 8/27 Big Stone (David H. Steen W.M.A.) PCC (median 8/20).

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) — [2 North, 4 South] All north reports: 9/4 Marshall (Warren W.T.P.) RZi, MJM, CRM and St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) EBr, 9/24–25 St. Louis (Superior Entry) m.ob. All south reports:

8/13 Lac qui Parle (Agassiz Twp.) BJU, 8/19 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 8/28 Lac qui Parle (Haydenville W.M.A.) ACr, 8/29 Dakota RTe, 9/3 Lac qui Parle (juv., Salt Lake) PCC, 9/4 Rock (Hills W.T.P.) BJU.

Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*) — No reports.

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) — [13 North, 13 South] Early north (median 7/25) 8/6 Traverse DPG, 8/8 St. Louis (3) TAT. Early south (median 7/23) 8/3 Lac qui Parle (Haydenville W.M.A.) BJU, 8/4 Renville DPG, but see summer report. High count 9/27 St. Louis (26, Park Point R.A.) PHS. Late north 10/1 Cook RAE, ALo and St. Louis KRE, LS, 10/2 Cass (3, Pelican Island) DAY (median 10/11). Late south 10/8 Rice TFB, 10/15 Swift DBM (median 10/22).

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*) — [17 North, 36 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/27 Big Stone (167) PCC. Late north 9/29 Grant (4, Pelican Lake) and Otter Tail RPR, 10/20 Douglas (injured bird unable to fly) RAE (median 9/27). Late south 10/14 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 10/21 Yellow Medicine LS (median 10/12).

- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [23 North, 42 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/27 Big Stone (256) PCC. Late north 10/6 Beltrami RBW, 10/8 Pine (2) RBW (median 10/13). Late south 11/1 Winona ANy, **11/9** Olmsted (2) JPr (median 10/25).
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [2 North, 9 South] Only north reports: 8/15 Lake JPr, 8/20 Grant (3, North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU, 9/6 Grant ARW. Early south (median 8/7) 8/13 Lac qui Parle (Madison Twp.) PCC, 8/24 Dakota JLO. High count 9/5 Stearns (**20**) MJB. Late south 10/18 Brown (2, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 10/26 Winona (2, Lewiston W.T.P.) ANy (median 10/5).
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [15 North, 28 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 9/3 Lac qui Parle (30) PCC. Late north 10/3 Morrison FGo, 10/20 Douglas RAE (median 10/3). Late south 10/26 Big Stone (12) BWF, 10/27 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/31).
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [22 North, 38 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/20 Big Stone (788, including first juv. of fall) PCC, PHS, 8/13 Big Stone (659) PCC. Late north 10/20 Douglas RAE, 10/24 Kittson (6, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB (median 10/30). Late south 1/13 Blue Earth AnK, ChH, **11/25** Blue Earth (Perch Lake W.P.A.) ChH (median 11/12).
- PURPLE SANDPIPER** (*Calidris maritima*) — [1 South] A juvenile discovered 10/15 **Swift** (Lubenow W.P.A.) DBM was documented and photographed by m.ob. It was last seen 10/27. Sixth state record.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [5 North, 8 South] Early north (median 9/2) 8/27 Marshall (3, Warren) and Polk HHu, 9/15 St. Louis ABL, KJB. Early south (median 8/25) 8/21 Dakota SWe, 9/4 Lincoln (2, Gislason Lake) BJU. No significant counts. Late north 10/6 St. Louis (Duluth) SCZ, 10/24 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB (median 10/31). Late south 11/8 Big Stone DLP, 11/12 Big Stone (2) BJU (median 11/5).
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris bimantopus*) — [18 North, 28 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 9/10 Lac qui Parle (194) PCC. Late north 9/29 Grant (2, Pelican Lake) and Otter Tail RPR, 10/2 Morrison FGo (median 9/21). Late south 10/27 Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/30 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS (median 10/10).
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Tryngites subruficollis*) — [6 North, 18 South] Early north (median 8/2) 8/1 St. Louis (9, Park Point R.A.) JLK, 8/20 Grant (3, North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU. See summer report for early migrants south. High count 8/1 Dakota (12) JLO. Late north 9/26 St. Louis (juv., Park Point R.A.) PHS, 9/30 Itasca SC, EEO and St. Louis RAE, KRE, ALo (median 9/22). Late south 9/22 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) RBJ, 9/23 Anoka REH (median 9/20).
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [5 North, 13 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. No significant counts. Late north 8/28 Kittson (8, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 9/13 St. Louis (Duluth) SCZ. Late south 9/27 Meeker DPG (median 9/11).
- Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [9 North, 15 South] Early north (median 8/14) 9/9 Itasca SC, EEO, 9/14 Lake KRE, JWL. Early south (median 8/1) 9/4 Pipestone (2) BJU, 9/18 Big Stone BJU. High count 10/1 Meeker (11) DPG. Late north 10/21 Otter Tail KRE, m.ob., 10/22 Wilkin RZi (median 10/15). Late south 11/6 Carver (New Germany) JCy, 11/8 Hennepin (2, Bass Ponds) CMB (median 10/25).
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [17 North, 37 South] High count 11/23 Houston (84) DBz. Late north 11/5 Itasca SC, 11/14 St. Louis JLK (median 11/9). Late south 11/28 Houston DBz, but see winter report for late migrants and potential overwintering birds.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [8 North, 13 South] No significant counts. Late north 11/3 Aitkin PEJ, 11/4 Carlton PHS (median 10/29). Late south 10/9 Kandiyohi JoS and Rice TFB, 11/6 Fillmore DCr (median 11/3).
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [6 North, 12 South] High count 8/1 Lac qui Parle (138, Salt Lake) BJU. Late north 9/4 Douglas (86, Osakis W.T.P.) JCC, 9/9 Kittson (2, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB (median 9/6). Late south 9/10 Lac qui Parle (2) PCC, 9/15 Sibley (Gaylord W.T.P.) RBW (median 9/15).
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [17 North, 16 South] Early north (me-



Thayer's Gull, 7 November 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Mike Hendrickson.

dian 8/1) 8/20 Douglas (3, Osakis W.T.P.) DPG, Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) BJU, Hubbard (3) RAE, HHD, 8/21 Traverse (Wheaton W.T.P.) BJU. See summer report for early migrants south. High counts 9/4 Pennington (135, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) KRE, 8/27 Lac qui Parle (101) PCC. Late north 9/17 Aitkin DAB, 9/18 Traverse (Wheaton W.T.P.) BJU (median 9/22). Late south 9/19 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU and McLeod (3) RBW, 10/14 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) BJU (median 9/26).

SABINE'S GULL (*Xema sabini*) — [1 North] Four juveniles observed 9/24 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) †PHS, DBM.

Bonaparte's Gull (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [20 North, 28 South] See summer report for early migrants north. Early south (median 8/6) 8/13 Big Stone (5) BJU, 8/28 McLeod LS. High count 10/2 Crow Wing (340, Mille Lacs Lake) JLK. Late north 11/19 Mille Lacs MJB, 11/27 Mille Lacs (30) DBM (median 11/23). Late south 11/25 Blue Earth ChH and Houston PEJ, DFN, 11/29 Blue Earth ChH, AnK (median 11/24).

Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — No reports.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [12 North, 43 South] High count 10/4 Wright (1,700 at Howard Lake) DPG. Late north 10/22 Douglas JPE and Otter Tail RZi, GLa, LS, 10/23 Otter Tail KRE et al. (median 10/24). Late south 11/13 Blue Earth AnK, ChH and Le Sueur (3) DAB, JWH, 11/17 Big Stone and Lac qui Parle BJU (median 11/11).

Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) — [33 North, 51 South] Reported throughout the season in all regions of the state. High count 9/26 Dakota (1,500) TAT.

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) — [13 North, 23 South] Observed north throughout the season. First reported south 8/6 Winona (2, Waterworks Park) MGo, 9/12 Hennepin JCC. High count 11/22 St. Louis (4,435, Duluth) KJB.

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) — [2 North, 1 South] Early north (median 10/15) 9/23 St. Louis (ad., Superior Entry) KJB, then observed in St. Louis throughout the remainder of the season. Also reported north in

- Cook, including 10/30 DBz, m.ob., 11/6 KRE, m.ob., 11/12–13 JPr, ANy. All south reports from Hennepin beginning 11/6 (2, Lake Calhoun) PEB (early median 10/5). High count 11/5 St. Louis (12, 11 first-cycle and 1 ad., Superior Entry) PHS, MLH.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucoides*) — [1 North] Six individuals identifiably photographed in St. Louis by KJB, MLH, PHS. All reports: 10/15 (first-cycle at Superior Entry, 2nd earliest date) MLH, PHS, 11/2–14 (second-cycle at Superior Entry) PHS, 11/14+ (third-cycle at Canal Park) KJB, PHS, m.ob., 11/19–24 (first-cycle at Canal Park) KJB, 11/23+ (adult Kumlien's at Canal Park) PHS, m.ob., 11/28–29 (different adult Kumlien's at Canal Park) PHS, KJB.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [1 North, 1 South] All north reports from Duluth: 10/17–31 (adult) †PHS, 11/5 (second-cycle) KJB, ph. MLH, †PHS, 11/14 (adult) ph. †PHS. Only south report: 11/12 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) ph. CMB.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [2 North, 2 South] Early north (median 10/31) 11/1 St. Louis (first-cycle at Superior Entry) PHS, then observed in St. Louis throughout the remainder of the season. Also reported north 11/6 Cook KRE, m.ob. Only south reports: 11/9 Dakota (first- or second-cycle, Pine Bend Landfill) ADS, 11/27 Hennepin (first-cycle, Lake Calhoun) ChM. High count 11/22 St. Louis (7, 6 first-cycle and 1 second-cycle) PHS.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [2 North] All reports: **9/23–27** St. Louis (first-cycle, Superior Entry) ph. KJB, CHk, 11/12 Cook (unaged, Grand Marais) m.ob., plus two individuals at Canal Park, Duluth 11/15–28 (first-cycle) ph. PHS, 11/17+ (second-cycle) ph. KJB, ph. MLH, ph. PHS.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [7 North, 13 South] No significant counts. Late north 9/9 Itasca SC, EEO, 9/30 Otter Tail (Round Lake) JJs (median 10/2). Late south 9/18 Faribault (Minnesota Lake) JWH, BWF, 9/19 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU (median 10/2).
- Black Tern** (*Chlidonias niger*) — [5 North, 21 South] High count 8/20 Lac qui Parle (45, Salt Lake) PCPS. Late north 9/3 Douglas JPE, 9/7 Traverse DLP (median 9/7). Late south 9/8 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/18 Big Stone BJU (median 9/15).
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [4 North, 2 South] No significant counts. Late north 9/23 Crow Wing (6, Lake Mille Lacs) JLK, 9/25 St. Louis (Superior Entry) PHS (median 10/1). Only south reports: 9/5 Murray (Lake Shetek) BJU, 9/19 Lac qui Parle (2, Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU (late median 9/16).
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [6 North, 20 South] High count 8/27 Cass (13) BeH. Late north 9/21 Traverse DLP, 9/24 St. Louis (Superior Entry) AaS, TPr, THa (median 10/11). Late south 10/3 Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/6 Big Stone CRM, 10/9 KRE, m.ob., 10/18 Wright RZi, **10/30** Pope HHD, RAE all after recent median 9/27.
- POMARINE JAEGER** (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) — [1 North] A juvenile discovered 10/2 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) †KRE, m.ob. was photographed later that same day ph. †PHS (*The Loon* 84:54–55).
- Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — [1 North] All reports were from St. Louis beginning 9/6 (juv., Park Point, Duluth) ph. PHS, KRE (early median 9/10); likely the same individual was seen by m.ob. through 9/17. Two juv. were observed together 9/23–27 (Park Point R.A. and Superior Entry) m.ob. Another individual (age?) was found 10/1 at the mouth of the Lester River KJB. A juv. was last seen in the same area 10/5 ph. PHS (late median 9/30).
- Stercorarius jaeger** (*Stercorarius sp.*) — [1 North] Five observations of unidentified jaegers were reported from St. Louis: 9/16 (subadult, Park Point R.A.) PHS, 9/22 St. Louis (4 juv., Park Point R.A.) PHS, 9/25 St. Louis (juv., Superior Entry) PHS, 10/1 St. Louis (probable Parasitic, Park Point R.A.) KRE.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties except Kittson. High count 11/11 Dakota (60) JFR.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [8 North, 35 South] First country records north: 8/31 **Becker** (3, Audubon) DBM, 8/5 **Douglas** (3, Kensington) DBM. Also observed north in Clay (Glyndon and Hawley), Grant (Herman), Itasca (Grand Rapids), Norman (Twin Valley), Traverse (Wheaton), Wadena (Wadena). First country record south: 10/29 **Le Sueur** (2, Montgomery) RBW. Also reported south in Big

- Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Dakota, Faribault, Fillmore, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, Meeker, Mower, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Olmsted, Pipestone, Pope, Redwood, Rice, Rock, Sherburne, Stearns, Steele, Stevens, Swift, Wabasha, Waseca, Watonwan, Winona, Yellow Medicine. High count 8/5 Swift (19, Kerkhoven) CMB.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [31 North, 52 South] Found statewide. High count 9/8 Dakota (200) JFR.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [1 North, 6 South] No north reports. Late south 8/25 Dakota RZi, 9/8 Meeker JEB (median 9/17).
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [3 North, 10 South] Late north 8/12 Kittson TrB, 8/20 Grant BJU (median 9/7). Late south 9/7 Winona MGo, 9/16 Fillmore NBO (median 9/25).
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [2 North, 12 South] Only north reports: 9/2 **Kittson** (3, Lake Bronson) TrB, 9/6 **St. Louis** (Ely) JeP. South reports from Big Stone, Brown, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Nobles, Olmsted, Redwood, Sherburne, Swift, Waseca.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [20 North, 33 South] Reported statewide.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [14 North, 13 South] Early north (median 11/7) 10/28 St. Louis (Duluth) *fide* AXH, 11/14 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) MA. Also observed north in Aitkin, Beltrami, Carlton, Cass, Itasca, Kittson, Lake, Morrison, Otter Tail, Pennington, Polk, Roseau. Early south (median 11/13) 10/31, 11/7 Lac qui Parle (Perry Twp.) BJU, 11/12 Chippewa ph. CAM. Also observed south in Benton, Big Stone, Fillmore, Hennepin, Houston, Isanti, Ramsey, Steele, Swift, Waseca, Winona. Reports increased both north and south during the third week of November.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — No reports.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [17 North, 25 South] Observed in all regions of the state as far southwest as **Pipestone** (10/5 JPr).
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [4 North] Observed in Aitkin, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis beginning 10/24 Lake JWL.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [1 North] Only reports from 9/30–10/27 in St. Louis.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [3 North, 4 South] Reported north from Lake, Marshall, Polk as late as 11/24 Polk. All south reports: 8/1 Lac qui Parle (2, Plover Prairie) BJU, 10/30 Pope (2) RAE, 11/4 Lac qui Parle (Walter W.M.A.) BJU, 11/12 Big Stone (Odessa) BJU, 11/15 Stearns FGo, 11/17 Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie) BJU.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [4 North, 6 South] North reports from Crow Wing, Hubbard, Morrison, St. Louis. South reports from Chisago, Jackson, Olmsted, Ramsey, Wabasha, Winona beginning 10/23 Jackson KSm.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [21 North, 34 South] High counts 9/2 St. Louis (2,973, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 8/23 St. Louis (2,822, Duluth Lakewalk) PHS. Late north 9/26 Becker JAR and Polk SAU, 9/27 Todd (2) JLK (median 9/27). Late south 9/28 Anoka DPG, Kandiyohi DBM, Rice TFB, Stearns RPR, 10/5 Lyon (4) GWe (median 10/9).
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) — [1 North, 3 South] All north reports: 8/11 St. Louis SLF, and 9/17 St. Louis SLF (late median 9/4). All south reports: 9/3 Chippewa (Gniess Outcrops S.N.A.) BJU, 9/4 Houston (Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ACr, Sherburne (Sand Dunes S.F.) PLJ (late median 9/12).
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [14 North, 37 South] High count 8/28 Dakota (144, Lakeview Elementary School) SLP. Late north 9/18 Traverse BJU, 9/24 Douglas (3) JEI (median 9/14). Late south 10/4 Ramsey AXH, 10/5 Lyon (7) GWe (median 10/6).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archibolbus colubris*) — [27 North, 44 South] High counts 8/27 Carver (**30**, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) ACr, 9/4 Houston (**27**, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ACr. Late north 9/23 Marshall CST, 9/24 St. Louis (Park Point) AM (median 9/25). Late south 10/9 Fillmore NBO and Hennepin BAF, SHF, 10/10 Rice TFB (median 10/13).
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [27 North, 48 South] Last reported north 11/12 Todd JeM. Reported south

throughout the season.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [10 North, 30 South] High count 8/11 Sherburne (**12**, Blue Hill Twp.) CMB. Late north 10/29 Mille Lacs (Indian Point) JJo, 11/12 Morrison (4) MJB (median 11/7). Late south 10/9 Jackson KRE et al., Scott (2 juv., Louisville Swamp) BeH, Wright HCT, 11/5 Goodhue (Hay Creek) RTe. Probable overwintering birds observed 11/13 Anoka (Cedar Creek) JFR, 11/28 Anoka (5, Rum River Park) KWo.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [20 North, 51 South] Observed in all regions of the state as far northeast as St. Louis.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [27 North, 42 South] High count 9/28 St. Louis (15, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/18 St. Louis JLK, 10/27 Cass JWM (median 10/19). Late south 11/17 Hennepin (2, Powderhorn Park) JJo, 11/27 Olmsted REJ. Late migrants difficult to distinguish from potential overwintering birds.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) — [31 North, 51 South] Statewide. High count 9/17 Dakota (**19**, Dodge N.C.) ACr.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) — [30 North, 50 South] Statewide.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [2 North] Three individuals reported north: 10/29 Lake (male, Two Harbors) ph. KRE, ph. RMD, m.ob., 10/30 Cook (female, Paradise Beach) ARW, BWF, DBz, JWH, RMD, 11/23 Lake (Superior Hiking Trail near Caribou Wayside) *vide* JWL.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [4 North] Only reported from Aitkin, Cook, Lake, St. Louis. Several reports of North Shore migrants, including a high count of 9 individuals 10/26 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [29 North, 52 South] Reported from all regions. High counts 9/25 St. Louis (99, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 9/18 Clay (55, Gooseberry Park) SHe. Late north 11/12 St. Louis ABL, (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB (median 12/19), but see winter report. Observed south throughout the season.



American Three-toed Woodpecker, 29 October 2011, Two Harbors, Lake County. Photo by Robert M. Dunlap.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [29 North, 39 South] Reported as far southwest as Cottonwood, Redwood; also unreported from the southern tier of counties west of Mower.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) — [11 North, 30 South] Early south (median 8/3) 8/3 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/5 Stevens JPr. High counts 8/20 Swift (4) BJU and Clay (3) RHO, 8/27 Carver (3) ACr. Late north 9/3 Itasca HHD, RAE, Marshall RZi, KRo, LS, JMj, ALo, 9/6 Cook (Temperance River S.P.) EHO (median 9/7). Late south 9/17 Rice JCC, 10/4 Blue Earth AnK (median 9/21).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [23 North, 44 South] High count 8/14 Scott (**24**, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF. Late north 9/21 St. Louis (2) JLK, 9/24 Polk HHu, 9/26 Todd JLK (median 9/19). Late south 9/27 Steele (2) PSu, 9/28 Kandiyohi DBM, 10/4 Blue Earth AnK (median 10/3).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [6 North, 11 South] Only



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 28 October 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

north report 8/13 Koochiching ph. AMe. All south 8/22 Carver JCy, 8/29 Lac qui Parle (Lac qui Parle S.P.) BJU, 9/4 Rice DAB, 9/14 Hennepin ACr. Reported from an additional 5 north and 7 south counties without identification details. **Note:** During spring and fall migration, undocumented records of silent *Empidonax* flycatchers are not included in this report. Observers are encouraged to include identification details in their reports.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) — [4 South] All south 8/1 Hennepin (Hyland Lake P.R.) CMB, 8/5 Rice RMD, 8/8 Hennepin SLC, 8/15 Hennepin SLC, 8/19 Hennepin CMB (median late 8/25). Also reported from Washington, Wright but without identification details.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [8 North, 9 South] Only north report 8/8 Cook (3 singing birds) TAT (median late 8/27). All south 8/6 Scott (5, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF, 8/7 Nobles RBW, RMD, 8/13 Washington DFN, 8/21 Cottonwood RMD, 8/25 Wright RMD (median late 8/30). Reports without details from an additional 7 north and 4 south counties.

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) — [1

North, 15 South] All north 8/5 Traverse JPr, RZi, KRE, JJS. High count 8/1 Hennepin (6) CMB. Vocalizing birds reported from 9 south counties, including late south 8/16 Murray DBM, 9/2 Sherburne PJJ (median 9/9). Undocumented reports from an additional six south counties.

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) — [14 North, 28 South] All north 9/4 Douglas JCC, 9/17 Lake JWJ (median late 9/20). Vocalizing birds reported from only 4 south counties, including late south 9/4 Fillmore NBO, 9/9 Carver (3) JCy (median 9/26). Reported from an additional 12 north and 24 south counties without details.

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [29 North, 46 South] High count 8/12 Hennepin (7, Minnehaha Creek) TAT. Late north 10/8 Clay RHO, Morrison FGo, 10/9 Pine EMH, followed by 10/22 Douglas JPE well after the 10/14 median. Late south 10/19 Dakota (3) RaM, Ramsey (2) BeS, 10/23 Anoka HHD, Wabasha DBz (median 10/31).

SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 South] Only report was of a summering individual through 8/3 Yellow Medicine (Florida Twp.) ph. BJU.

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [13 North, 39 South] High counts: 8/21 Carver (6, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 9/3 Douglas JPE, 9/4 Todd JLK — all well before the 9/20 median. Late south 9/15 Lincoln CRM, 9/18 Blue Earth ChH, 9/21 Hennepin SBM (median 9/22).

TROPICAL/COUCH'S KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*) — [1 North] First state record for either species, found by MLH 10/28 in a Duluth backyard, **St. Louis**, and later relocated in the Riverside neighborhood by MLH and PHS (ph. MLH, †PHS) (*The Loon* 84:98–99).

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [5 North, 10 South] High counts 8/1 Lac qui Parle (10) BJU, 8/5 Traverse (8) KRE. Late north 8/21 Traverse (4) BJU, 8/27 Traverse, Wilkin RAE (median 9/10). Late south 9/4 Pipestone (2), Rock BJU, 9/5 Big Stone JCC, 9/20 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 9/9).

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [21 North, 44 South] High count 8/24 St. Louis (46, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 9/12 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB,

- 9/18 Traverse BJU (median 9/18). Late south 9/20 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/22 Jackson JEB, Ramsey RZi, 10/6 Rice KRE (median 9/23).
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) — [1 North, 1 South] An adult female was found north **10/28–29** St. Louis (Waseca Industrial Road, west Duluth) ph. †RMD, BWF, †PHS, ph. AXH, m.ob. One south was a new county record 10/18 **Wabasha** (Wabasha airport) ph. BLi.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [3 North, 6 South] All north 8/7 Otter Tail (4) *fide* MJM, 8/13 Clay DPJ, (Bluestem Prairie) DPJ, 8/21 Polk HHu (median late 9/1). High counts 8/7 Otter Tail (4) *fide* MJM, 8/13 Dakota (4) JLO. Late south 8/25 Dakota ADS, 8/29 Chippewa BJU (median 9/2). Also see undocumented reports.
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*) — [17 North, 34 South] Early north (median 10/8) 10/10 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 10/11 St. Louis (2, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Early south (median 10/15) 10/15 Kandiyohi JoS, Ramsey RMD, HHD. Record-high count 10/21 St. Louis (**15**, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [3 South] All south reports: 8/14 Houston (sod farm northeast of Hokah) HHD, RAE, 8/15 Hennepin (2 summering birds continuing in Eden Prairie) SLC, 9/3 Dakota (3 males continuing at traditional Black Dog Nature Preserve S.N.A. breeding area) BAF, 9/7 Hennepin (one bird still singing at 8/15 location) SLC (median late south 8/21).
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [19 North, 30 South] High counts 8/14 Carver (5, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/14 Scott (5, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF. Late north 9/16 Lake (Gooseberry Falls S.P.) MFS, 9/19 Crow Wing LBF, 10/2 Morrison FGo (median 9/19). Late south reports included two well after the 9/27 median, 10/8 Sherburne FGo, 10/9 Hennepin SLC.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [18 North, 35 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/24 Hennepin SLC, 8/25 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/26 Hennepin ALD. High count: 9/22 Carver (**6**, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 10/9 St. Louis JLK, **10/30** Cook (Croftville Road) †DBM (median 10/10). Late south 10/15 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, 10/22 Steele (Rice Lake S.P.) HCT (median 10/16).
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [12 North, 37 South] Late north 9/7 St. Louis JLK, 9/8 Otter Tail DST, 9/9 Douglas JPE (median 9/12). Late south 9/25 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, McLeod PRH (median 9/25).
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [16 North, 22 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/16 Brown JSS, 8/20 Hennepin SLC, 8/25 Wright RMD. Late north 9/16 Kanabec RBJ, 9/17 St. Louis MJB, 9/24 Crow Wing JLK (median 9/26). Late south 9/28 Hennepin TAT, ACr, 9/30 Washington (Carpenter N.C.) JHg (median 10/1).
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [28 North, 43 South] High count: 9/3 Carver (15, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy. Late north 10/1 Cook RMD, 10/5 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 10/9 Pine EMH (median 9/30). Late south 10/1 Anoka MJB, 10/2 Dakota ADS, 10/8 Rice DAB, DAT (median 10/3).
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [10 North] Reported from eight Northeast and North-central counties, plus Kittson and Lake of the Woods in the Northwest.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. Strong seasonal movement noted along the North Shore, peaking in late September with high counts of **4,380** on 9/25, and 2,718 on 9/23, both from the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census, St. Louis.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [16 North] Reported throughout the North, with reports from St. Louis west to the Red River Valley, and from the Canadian border south to Polk, Hubbard, and Aitkin.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High North Shore counts include 10/20 St. Louis (**3,232**) and 10/18 St. Louis (1,875), both by the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census. High count away from the North Shore 11/9 Olmsted (998) PHS, with 673 counted at the Olmsted County Fairgrounds, and 325 flying to the fairgrounds.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [29 North, 4 South] Unusual north reports 9/24 Douglas JPE and 10/21 Wilkin (2) JPR. South reports from Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, and Sherburne. High counts, both from St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census), include

- 62 on 10/20 and 50 on 10/24.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [17 North, 45 South] See winter report for late north migrants. High counts 8/29 Dakota (50, Jirik Sod Farms) ACr, 10/18 St. Louis (44, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [12 North, 37 South] High count 9/4 Lincoln (70) BJU. Late north 8/20 Grant BJU, 8/21 Traverse BJU, 8/26 Douglas JPE well before the 9/8 median. Late south 9/5 Stearns RZi, 9/10 Le Sueur DPG, 9/18 Faribault JWH, BWF (median 9/15).
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [22 North, 50 South] High counts 8/20 Lac qui Parle (6,000, birds foraging at Salt Lake) PCC, PHS, 10/9 Wright (800, Ney Park) HCT. Late north 10/7 Aitkin PEJ, Douglas JPE, 10/15 Grant DPG (median 10/2). Late south 10/26 Winona ANy, 10/27 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/9 Sherburne (2, Sherburne N.W.R. Headquarters) †BAB (median 10/18).
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [6 North, 23 South] High count 9/2 Washington (53, Carpenter N.C.) JHg. Late north 8/21 Traverse BJU, 9/5 Red Lake KRE, LS, CRM, 9/18 Grant BJU (median 9/6). Late south 9/17 Waseca JCC, 9/20 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/23 Washington (15, Carpenter N.C.) JHg (median 10/3).
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [11 North, 33 South] Late north 9/4 Koochiching HHD, RAE, 9/5 Red Lake LS, CRM, 9/18 Traverse BJU (median 9/10). Late south 9/18 Faribault JWH, BWF, Nicollet ChH, 9/20 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/24 Olmsted JPr (median 9/16).
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [14 North, 40 South] All high counts reported by KJB from the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census, St. Louis, peaking on 8/17 St. Louis (2,512), also 8/19 (625) and 8/24 (324). Late north 9/18 Grant, Traverse BJU, 9/19 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) RMa, (2, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB (median 9/15). Late south 9/23 Washington (4) JHg, 10/1 Dakota (Great Western Industrial Park, Randolph) BAF, SHF (median 9/28). Also two *Petrochelidon* sp. seen 10/13 Blue Earth ChH.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [30 North, 51 South] High count 8/21 Hennepin (75, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) JJo. Late north 9/29 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 10/7 Douglas JPE, St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) AaB (median 10/8). Late south 10/20 Lac qui Parle PEJ, 10/23 Jackson (Sandy Point Park) KSm (median 10/17).
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High counts 11/7 St. Louis (63, Sax-Zim Bog) DaW, 9/17 Dakota (52, Dodge N.C.) ACr.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [6 North] Reported from Aitkin, Cook, Itasca, Lake, Koochiching, St. Louis.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [7 South] South reports from Dakota (Spring Lake Park) CF, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Olmsted, Rice (banded) DAT, Winona.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [23 North, 25 South] Possible early south migrants (median 8/18) 8/4 Dakota (Acacia Park Cemetery) RTe, 8/16 Scott (4) KRa. Few reports from the Southeast and South central regions. High count 11/23 Crow Wing (27, Pequot Lakes) ABI.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [32 North, 52 South] Reported statewide.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [18 North, 35 South] Early south (median 8/30) 8/1 Goodhue LMS, 8/3 Washington (Falls Creek S.N.A.) KMo, 9/15 Ramsey ADS. High counts 10/9 St. Louis (28, Enger Park) JLK, 11/6 Fillmore (12) DCr.
- Carolina Wren** (*Troglodytes ludoviciana*) — [1 North] Single report: 11/6 Pine, photographed at feeders near Pine City *vide* AXH.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [21 North, 46 South] High count 8/14 Washington (25, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) ACr. Late north 10/7 Douglas JPE, 10/13 Mille Lacs (Mille Lacs Lake) RBJ (median 10/3). Late south 10/13 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, 10/16 Hennepin SLC (median 10/14).
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [4 North, 21 South] Early south (median 9/7) 8/20 Ramsey REH, 8/31 Sherburne PIJ. High count 9/28 Hennepin (6) CMB. Late north 10/19 Carlton LAW, St. Louis (Hartley N.C.) DY0 11/4 St. Louis (Page Pond) JLK (median 10/23). Late south 11/19 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) DWK, 11/26 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) SLC, but see winter report (median 12/13).

- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [10 North, 37 South] High count 8/6 Scott (14 singing males, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF. Late north 9/25 Crow Wing (2) JLK, 9/27, 9/30 Todd JLK (median 10/12). Late south 10/11 Carver JCy, 10/16 Stearns MJB, 10/31 Winona DBz (median 10/12).
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [10 North, 32 South] Late north 9/24 Douglas JPE, (2) JEL, then 10/7, 10/13, 10/27 Aitkin PEJ (median 10/11). Late south 10/31 Hennepin CMB, 11/1 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) SLC (median 11/1).
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [3 North, 37 South] High counts 8/13 Lac qui Parle (7, Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 8/28 Carver (6, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 8/27 Grant HHD, 9/5 Todd (2) JLK, 9/7 Todd JeM, DTM. Late south 9/20 Carver JCy, 9/22 Dakota JbT, Hennepin SLC (median 9/23).
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [14 North, 33 South] Early south (median 9/17) 9/13 Sherburne PLJ, 9/27 Carver (4) JCy. High counts 10/1 Dakota (18, Dodge N.C.) ACr, 10/12 St. Louis (15) JLK. Late north 11/13 Cook JPr, 11/23 Itasca SC (median 11/22).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [23 North, 47 South] Early south (median 8/28) 8/25 Hennepin SLC, 9/4 Carver JTe, Chisago DPG, Hennepin JJo, Pipestone BJU. High counts 10/13 Carver (26, Carver P.R.) JCy, 10/12 St. Louis (25) JLK. Late north 11/1 St. Louis JLK, 11/7 Crow Wing (Pequot Lakes) ABi (median 10/30). Late south 11/8 Hennepin CMB, 11/16 Hennepin (2) GBu, 11/29 Hennepin (3, Bass Ponds) LSc (median 11/21), but see winter report.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [31 North, 47 South] High counts 10/24 St. Louis (125, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 10/19 St. Louis (62, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 11/13 St. Louis ABL, KJB, 11/25 Mille Lacs ASc (median 11/17). Present through end of season south.
- Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*) — No Reports.
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [2 North, 5 South] All north (median arrival 10/12) 11/8 St. Louis (Duluth Twp.) JWl, 11/13 Cook (north of Grand Marais) JPr, ph. ANY. All south reports (median 10/28) 9/17 Anoka (Columbus Twp.) RBJ, 10/27, 11/17 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Beach) BJU, 10/31 Sherburne (Sand Dunes S.F., eighth consecutive year at this location) PLJ, 3 birds reported at this location 11/29 ASc, 11/28 Kandiyohi (Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center) RAE, 11/27+ Washington (Carpenter N.C.) BJZ.
- Veery** (*Catharus fuscescens*) — [10 North, 10 South] Late north 9/1 St. Louis JLK, 9/3 Cook (Pincushion Mountain) CFo, 9/4 Koochiching HHD, RAE (median 9/14). Late south 9/6 Hennepin SLC, 9/9 Hennepin TAT, 9/17 Hennepin CMB (median 9/17).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catharus minimus*) — [4 North, 7 South] All north reports 9/2 Pennington CRM, 9/8 Itasca RBJ, DAC, 9/17 St. Louis ABL, 9/23 Itasca SC, 9/27 Pine JPr (median early 9/3, late 10/3). All south 9/3 Yellow Medicine BJU, 9/5 Lyon BJU, 9/11 Sherburne PLJ, 9/19 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/20 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/23 Ramsey EMH, 9/25 McLeod PRH, 9/22–28 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT, CMB (median early 9/2, late 10/7).
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catharus ustulatus*) — [13 North, 23 South] Early south (median 8/12) 8/20 Swift BJU, 8/25 Wright RMD. Late north 10/5 Crow Wing DTM, JeM, 10/26 Morrison (Little Falls) MJB (median 10/17). Late south 10/7 Cottonwood HHD, RAE, 10/8 Sherburne FGo, 10/9 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) JJo, Rice (Northfield) DAT (median 10/17).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) — [16 North, 25 South] Early south (median 9/14) 9/22 Jackson, Murray JEB, 9/25 Anoka DWK. Record-high fall count 10/9 St. Louis (55, Enger Park) JLK. Late north 10/22 Clay RHO, 10/23 Mille Lacs DWK, St. Louis JLK (median 10/28). Late south 11/9 Scott BeS, 11/11 Sherburne PLJ, 11/20 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. bridge) DWK, but see winter report (median 12/12).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [10 South] No north reports. Late south 9/18 Houston HHD, 10/4 Olmsted (2) OWB, 10/11 Rice (Northfield, hatch-year bird banded) DAT (median 10/1).
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county but Lake of the Woods. Exceptional counts recorded in St. Louis by the

- Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census, including **39,127** on 10/9, **35,740** on 10/12, and 10,329 10/10.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [4 North, 1 South] All north (median 11/4) 11/12, 11/17 Hubbard MaH, 11/19 St. Louis (Duluth) DEd, 11/21+ Becker KBL, m.ob., 11/23 Morrison JDB. Only south report 11/18 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R. Auto Tour) ph. BJU (median 11/12).
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [24 North, 51 South] High counts 8/14 Washington (19, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) ACr, 9/19 Hennepin (13) CMB. Late north 10/11 St. Louis JLK, 10/13 Mille Lacs (2) RBJ (median 10/30). Late south 10/13 Carver JCy, Hennepin BeS, 10/15 Goodhue JWH, Rice DAB (median 11/12).
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [1 South] Only report 9/6 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [6 North, 24 South] High counts 8/14 Washington (6, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) ACr. Few north reports, late north 9/24 St. Louis RZi, 10/11 St. Louis JLK (median 12/13). Late south 10/5 Lyon JEB, 10/13 Olmsted LAV, 11/3 Sherburne PIJ (median 12/22).
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [32 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High count 11/2 St. Louis (380) JLK .
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [24 North, 38 South] Early north (median 9/9) 9/5 Itasca SC, 9/15 St. Louis (3, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Early south (median 9/15) 8/25 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy. High counts 10/9 Dakota (130) DAB, 10/6 Carver (75) DPG. Late north 10/30 Cook DBz, ARW, JWH, 11/12 Cook JPr, Any, PJM (median 11/4). Late south 11/13 Hennepin (2) MDu, Le Sueur (4) DAB, JWH (median 11/4).
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [6 North] A weak fall showing for this species, with the majority of reports from Cook and St. Louis, and single reports from Cass, Crow Wing, Itasca, and Otter Tail. Early north (median 10/4) **9/16** St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 9/20 Otter Tail DST. High count 10/30 Cook (40, Croftville Road) DBM.
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [30 North, 50 South] Present both north and south at the end of the season. All high counts were from KJB and the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census, St. Louis: 8/23 (1,912), 9/12 (1,272), 9/3 (1,236).
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [19 North, 30 South] Early north (median 9/13) 9/13 St. Louis KJB, 9/15 St. Louis KRE, SC, KJB, 9/16 Cass DAY, Itasca SC, St. Louis JHD, 9/17. Early south (median 9/24) 9/24 Hennepin SLC, Sibley RPR, 10/1 Anoka MJB, Dakota BAF, SHF. High counts 10/24 Kittson (200, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 11/6 Dakota (125, Great Western Industrial Park, Randolph) BAF.
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — No reports.
- Smith's Longspur** (*Calcarius pictus*) — [2 South] No north reports. All south reports **9/24** (record early) **Sibley** (3) †RPR, 10/14 Lac qui Parle (30, near Salt Lake) BJU.
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [26 North, 25 South] Early north (median 10/5) 10/15 St. Louis KRE, SLF, KJB, then many observations in seven counties on 10/17. Early south (median 10/17) 10/5 Pipestone JEB, 10/20 Swift MJM, SVo, 10/22 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) BAF, SHF, (Great Western Industrial Park, Randolph) LEC, Swift FGo. High count 11/3 St. Louis (216, Bayfront Park, Duluth.) PHS.
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [18 North, 30 South] High count 9/23 Hennepin (9, T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT. Late north 9/21 St. Louis JLK, 9/24 Clay (Buffalo River S.P.) JFR (median 9/27). Late south 10/4 Washington CBU, 10/8 Hennepin SLC, 10/21 Hennepin TPB (median 10/11).
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [2 South] All south 8/3 Washington (Falls Creek S.N.A.) KMo, 8/10 Fillmore SC, 8/13 Washington (Falls Creek S.N.A.) PJM.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [10 North, 28 South] Early south (median 8/7) 8/9 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/10 Hennepin SLC, Jackson (Independence Lake) RBW. Late north 9/17 St. Louis MFS, 9/18 Grant BJU (median 9/28). Late south 9/28 Hennepin CMB, TAT, SLC, 10/3 Big Stone, Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/3).
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [14 North, 19 South] High counts 8/20 Anoka (5, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) ACr, 9/3 Carver (5, Minnesota Landscape



Cape May Warbler, 10 August 2011, Lutsen, Cook County. Photo by David Brislane.

Arboretum) JCy. Late north 9/6 St. Louis (2) JeP, 9/8 Aitkin (McGregor Marsh S.N.A.) RBJ, DAC, 9/13 Pine LMS (median 9/9). Late south 9/25 Hennepin TAT, CMB, 9/26 Dakota SLP (median 9/22).

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [1 North, 10 South] Only north report 9/4 Douglas (Lake Carlos S.P.) JCC. High counts 9/4 Houston (8, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ACr, 8/21 Carver (4, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late south 9/7 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BeS, 9/9 Rice LMS, 9/18 Houston HHD (median 9/11).

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) — [25 North, 38 South] High counts 8/19 St. Louis (14, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK, 9/4 Houston (13, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ACr. Late north 9/19 Crow Wing LBF, St. Louis (6) JLK, 9/23 Cook (Temperance River S.P.) KHe, MCu (median 10/1). Late south 9/28 Hennepin 10/1 Dakota ACr, 10/5 Lyon JEB, 10/12 Hennepin SLC (median 10/4).

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [6 South] Reported from Car-

ver and Winona, and then late south 8/15 Hennepin (migrant at T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT, 8/20 Brown (2, different locations) BTS, Washington LS, 8/28 Brown BTS, 9/2 Dakota JLO (median 9/1).

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [22 North, 37 South] Early south (median 7/17) 8/3 Yellow Medicine (2) BJU, 8/5 Ramsey REH, 8/7 Lac qui Parle RZi, PRH. High counts 9/4 Houston (18, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ACr, 8/21 Carver (16) JCy. Late north 9/30 Lake RAE, KRE, ALo, Todd (2) JLK, 10/8 St. Louis JLK, 10/12 St. Louis (2) JLK (median 10/17). Late south 10/11 Carver JCy, 10/12 Anoka DvS, 10/13 Carver JCy (median 10/15).

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [17 North, 34 South] Early north (median 8/22) 9/3 Cook CFo, Douglas JPE, 9/4 Polk JMJ, 9/14 Lake KRE. Early south (median 8/27) , 9/3 Carver BeS, 9/4 Houston ACr, 9/5 Lyon BJU, Sherburne StB, but also see undocumented reports. High counts 10/13 Carver (12) JCy, 10/3 Hennepin (8)

SBM. Late north 10/18 St. Louis (2, Brighton Beach) PHS, 10/23 St. Louis (2) JLK (median 10/22). Late south 10/23 Blue Earth ChH, Carver JCy, Winona ANy, 10/24 Hennepin JLO, 10/27 Chippewa, Swift BJU (median 10/25).

Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [25 North, 42 South] Early south 8/9 Carver JCy, 8/10 Sherburne PLJ. High count 9/22 Scott (35, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BeS. Late north 10/8 Polk HHu, 10/10 Douglas ARW, 10/12 St. Louis AM (median 10/20). Late south 10/16 Carver JCy, Hennepin SLc, 10/22 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) BAF, SHF (median 10/21).

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) — [3 North, 9 South] All north reports 8/11 Aitkin KCR, 8/26 **Douglas** JPE, 8/27 Hubbard BeH, 9/4 Aitkin DPG. All south 8/28 Hennepin †SLC, 8/29 Lac qui Parle (Lac qui Parle S.P.) BJU, Swift (Lac qui Parle W.M.A.) BJU, 8/31 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) PLJ, 9/3 Yellow Medicine (Upper Sioux Agency S.P.) BJU, 9/5 Anoka DWK, 9/13 Carver (Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy.

Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [12 North, 24 South] Late north 9/3 Itasca EEO, Todd (3) JLK, 9/9 Douglas JPE, 9/16 Mille Lacs RBJ (median 9/14). Late south 9/18 Houston HHD, Steele PSu, 9/22 Stearns MJB, 9/30 Carver JCy (median 9/29).

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [26 North, 44 South] High count 9/23 Hennepin (20) CMB. Late north 9/30 Itasca EEO, Lake RAE, KRE, 10/9 St. Louis (2) JLK, 10/13 Aitkin PEJ (median 10/13). Late south 10/12 Washington JHg, 10/23 Fillmore NBO, 10/28–**11/30** Hennepin (max. 2 at Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF, SHF, SLc, MDu.

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) — [4 South] Multiple reports from Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. in Scott and Dakota through 8/16. Total number of 2011 breeding territories in Murphy-Hanrehan was 14, down from previous summers, though field time was less and the true total was doubtless greater (BAF). Additional reports 8/7 Anoka (adult female banded at Springbrook N.C.) RLR, 9/7 Hennepin (adult male at Staring Lake Park, Eden Prairie) SLc, Scott JLO.

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [28 North, 42 South] High counts 9/19

St. Louis (21) JLK, 8/28 Carver (18, Carver P.R.) JCy, 9/4 Houston (17, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ACr. Late north 10/2 Clay RHO, Morrison FGo, 10/8 Carlton MRo (median 10/7). Late south 9/29 Hennepin (2) TAT, CMB, 9/30 Anoka DPG, 10/2 Washington CBU (median 10/10).

Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [5 North, 10 South] Early south 8/5 Washington (banded at Carpenter N.C.) ph. LMS, 9/3 Carver JCy, Chippewa, Redwood, Yellow Medicine BJU. Late north 9/24 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 9/30 Cass DAY (median 10/24). Late south 9/15 Lyon CRM, 9/17 Anoka PJM, 9/27 (same as median) Hennepin TAT.

Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [2 South] Reported from Miesville Ravine in Dakota 8/21–27 SWe, m.ob. and **9/2** Hennepin (imm. female at Cedar Lake) †SLc.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) — [10 North, 20 South] Most reports from the eastern two-thirds of the state. Early south (median 8/19) 8/24 Sherburne PLJ, 8/27 Hennepin SLc, 8/28 Blue Earth JWH, DAB, Stearns MJB. Late north 9/9 Itasca RBJ, DAC, 9/15 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, ABL, 9/16 Itasca SC (median 9/27). Late south 10/12 Hennepin SLc, 10/23 Benton MJB, **11/13** Olmsted †LAV (median 9/28).

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [17 North, 29 South] Early south (median 8/15) 8/20 Anoka (Linwood Lake) DWK, Dakota (Acacia Cemetery) TAT, Hennepin SLc, Stevens (2), Swift BJU. High count 9/3 Anoka (12, Columbus Twp.) RBJ. Late north 9/25 Crow Wing (2) JLK, St. Louis JPr, 10/2 Morrison FGo (median 10/1). Late south 9/27 Carver (3) JCy, Hennepin CMB, (4, T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT, (Westwood N.C.) DWK, (Veterans Memorial Park) SBM, 9/28 Dakota (Lebanon Hills R.P.) RaM, Hennepin CMB, (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) TAT, SLc, Rice TFB, Steele PSu (median 10/6).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*) — [9 North, 22 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/14 Carver JCy, 8/25 Blue Earth ChH, Carver JCy, Wright RMD. Late north 9/13 Clearwater ARW, 9/16 Kanabec RBJ, **10/30** Cook (Grand Marais) KRE, m.ob.

(median 9/28). Late south 9/28 Hennepin (2) CMB, 9/30 Yellow Medicine JEB, 10/5 Pipestone, Rock JEB (median 10/1).

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) — [10 North, 20 South] Early south (median 8/9) 8/13 Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) TAT, Rice TFB, 8/14 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT. Late north 9/8 Cook (2) EHo, 9/11 Lake DaE, 9/24 St. Louis RZi (median 9/20). Late south 9/26 Hennepin (Lake of the Isles) EL, 9/27 Carver (Carver Park) JCy, **10/24** (record late) Fillmore ph. ANy.

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) — [22 North, 34 South] High count 8/3 Winona (20, Winona) NKE, AmK. Late north 9/15 Pine EMH, 9/17 St. Louis MJB, 10/1 Lake RAE, 10/8 Carlton MRo (median 9/25). Late south 9/25 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) TAT, 9/25–30 Anoka (Oak Grove) DvS, 10/1 Lyon GWe (median 9/29).

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [26 North, 32 South] High count 9/6 Anoka (16, Linwood Lake) SBM. Late north 9/22 Crow Wing (Agate Lake) JSB, 9/24 St. Louis SHF, 9/25 Crow Wing (Pelican Lakes Conservation Club) ABi, (2, Pointen Lake) JLK (median 9/28). Late south 9/27–28 Hennepin (Westwood N.C.) DWK, ACr, SLC, Rice TFB, 9/30 Yellow Medicine JEB (median 10/2).

Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*) — [10 North, 17 South] Early north (median 8/25) 8/15 Lake JPr, 8/27 Grant HHD, RAE, 9/1 Mahnomen DBM. Early south (median 8/21) 8/22 Cottonwood RAE, 8/23 Sherburne PLJ, 8/28 McLeod LS, Swift RAE. Late north 9/12 Cook RSt, 9/13 Lake DaE, 9/19 St. Louis (2) JLK (median 10/7). Late south 9/26 Hennepin (Lakewood Cemetery) TAT, 9/27 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts) TAT, SLC, Meeker DPG (median 9/29).

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [4 South] All south 9/9 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BeS, 9/10 Anoka (adult male, Linwood Lake) DWK, 9/11 Hennepin (female, Wood Lake N.C.) DWK, 9/16 Rice (juvenile male banded, Northfield) DAT, 9/17–19 Hennepin (hatch-year female, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF, SHF, ph. BeH, 9/19 Hennepin (female, Staring Lake Park, Eden Prairie) SLC, Lac qui Parle (adult male, Big Stone N.W.R.) ph.



Yellow-throated Warbler, 21 October 2011, Irontdale Township, Crow Wing County. Photo by Lorrene Maroney.

BJU, 9/22 Hennepin (female, Courage Center) PJM, 10/24 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) GfE, **11/3** Hennepin (male, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) †SLC.

Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [17 North, 31 South] Early south (median 8/25) 8/27 Washington KRo, 8/30 Hennepin SLC, 9/4 Carver JPr, WCM. High count 9/15 St. Louis (17, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK, 9/19 St. Louis (17) JLK. Late north 10/22 St. Louis KRo, 10/23 St. Louis JLK (median 10/23). Late south 10/15 Ramsey HHD, Rock BJU, 10/27 Chippewa, Swift BJU (median 10/18).

Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*) — [11 North, 7 South] Late north 9/26–28 St. Louis SC, 9/29 Aitkin RBJ, 10/2 Beltrami DPJ (median 10/1). Late south 9/17 Anoka (Linwood Lake) PJM, 9/19 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park) JJo, 9/27 Steele (2) PSu, 9/29 Meeker JEB (median 9/24).

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) — [29 North, 44 South] Early south (median 8/21) 8/27 Hennepin CMB, Wash-

ington PSm, 8/28 Isanti LS. High counts all from KJB in St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census): 9/27 St. Louis (**1,112**), 9/29 (**729**), 9/28 (**638**). Late north 11/25 Becker MO, 11/28+ St. Louis *fide* JWJL, 11/30 Cook *fide* JWJL (median 11/21). South reports through the end of the season; please see winter report.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Setophaga dominica*) — [1 North] First record for **Crow Wing** (Ironton) on 10/21–22 ph. †LoM, JSB.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*) — [12 North, 27 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/19 Meeker RBW, 8/20 Anoka DWK, Carver JCy, Dakota TAT, Stevens, Swift BJU. High count 8/7 Cook (**7**) TAT. Late north 9/23 St. Louis JLK, 9/30 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB (median 9/29). Late south 10/4 McLeod DPG, 10/5 Lyon, Rock JEB (median 10/4).

Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [13 North, 28 South] Early south (median 8/12) 8/13 Big Stone BJU, Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) TAT, Lac qui Parle (3, Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 8/14 Hennepin SLC. High count 8/20 Carver (**9**; 4 males, 5 females at Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy. Late north 9/6 St. Louis (Ely) JeP, 9/30 Todd (2) JLK, **10/2** Morrison FGo (median 9/15). Late south 9/10 Carver (2) JCy, Hennepin StB, 9/17 Hennepin SLC, 9/19 Steele (Saco Farm) PSu (median 9/22).

Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [15 North, 35 South] Early south (median 8/15) 8/14 Carver (2) JCy, 8/15 Hennepin SLC, 8/20 Brown BTS. High counts 8/21 Carver (8, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/22 Carver (8, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy. Late north 9/24 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) SHF, **10/29** Lake (Iona's Beach S.N.A.) RMD, ARW, JWH (median 9/22). Late south 9/19 Hennepin BeH, 9/22 Steele PSu, 10/3 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU (median 9/27).

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) — [1 South] Only report 9/4 Pipestone (Pipestone N.M.) ph. BJU.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Male found 9/30 in Steele (Saco Farm) ph. PSu. Another male found 11/9–11 was a first county record for **Crow Wing** ph. JDB.

Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthal-*

mus) — [6 North, 20 South] Season high counts 8/14 Washington (**6**, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) ACr, 10/8 Scott (4, Louisville Swamp) BAF, SHF. Only north reports after mid-September: 10/8 Carlton MRo, 11/19 Crow Wing FGo, MJB, 11/1–**11/30+** Polk ph. SAu. Late south 10/18 Carver (2) JCy, 10/19 Dakota RaM, Hennepin SLC, Winona DSt (median 11/10).

American Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborrea*) — [30 North, 43 South] Early north (median 9/25) **9/10** St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) SSP, 9/28 St. Louis SC, 9/30 Cass (2) DAY. Early south (median 9/30) 9/22 Jackson JEB, 9/27 Hennepin RZi, 10/2 Meeker (Lake Washington) RMa, . High counts 10/24 St. Louis (67) JLK, 10/23 St. Louis (64) JLK, 11/11 Olmsted (50) LAV.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) — [27 North, 47 South] High counts 8/28 Hennepin (**50+**, Lakewood Cemetery) TAT, 10/4 Hennepin (44, Powderhorn Park) JJo. Late north 10/22 Douglas JPE, 10/23 Otter Tail JPr, LS, then only one lingering at a feeding station through 11/24 Polk SAu (median 11/4). Late south 11/28 Blue Earth ChH, 11/30 Olmsted (2) JGu (median 11/10). Also see winter report.

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) — [20 North, 32 South] High counts 8/14 Washington (15, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) ACr, 8/30 Carver (10, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 10/9 Beltrami DPJ, 10/22 St. Louis KRo, 10/25 Kittson TrB (median 10/16). Late south 10/10 Ramsey (Benson Prairie) BNW, 10/14 Lac qui Parle, Yellow Medicine BJU, 10/15 Hennepin SLC, Rock BJU (median 10/14).

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) — [4 North, 36 South] High counts 10/12 Hennepin (**44**, record high, Eden Prairie) SLC, 9/5 Hennepin (**27**, Crow-Hassan P.R.) BeS, 9/22 Scott (24, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BeS. All north 8/20 Grant BJU, 8/21 Traverse BJU, 9/24 Douglas JPE, 10/2–3 Morrison FGo. Late south 10/24 Rice DAT, Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BeS, 10/31 Hennepin SLC, 11/7 Hennepin (Hyland P.R.) BeH (median 10/26).

Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [17 North, 43 South] Late north 10/15 Grant DPG, 10/19 Kittson RBJ, 10/22 Wilkin RZi, GLa (median 10/20). Late south 10/27 Lac

- qui Parle, Swift BJU, 10/29 Meeker RAE, 11/4 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU (median 10/27).
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [1 North, 16 South] Only north 8/21 Traverse BJU. Late south 9/4 Rock BJU, 9/5 Lyon (near Lynd) BJU (median 8/29).
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [25 North, 42 South] Late north 10/23 Otter Tail GLa, LS, 10/24 Kittson TrB, 10/30 Morrison DLP (median 11/2). Late south 10/29 Washington PNi, Wright RAE, 10/31 Hennepin SLC, 11/4 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 11/5).
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [4 North, 25 South] Far more reports this season than in recent years (14 counties in fall 2010, only 3 in 2009). High counts 8/6 Hennepin (**10**, Crow-Hassan P.R.) SLC, 8/14 Washington (**7**, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) ACr. All north 8/20 Grant BJU, 8/21 Traverse BJU, 10/2 Morrison FGo, **11/30** St. Louis ph. EBr. Late south 9/29 Meeker JEB, 10/7 Hennepin (Eden Prairie) †SLC, 10/8 Nobles KRE, m.ob., Scott DPG (median 9/2).
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [12 South] This season's reports compare well with prior five years when county counts ranged from 3 to 5, though almost all reports were from the first half of August. Late south 8/16 Pipestone (Pipestone N.M.) DBM, 8/19 Washington (Afton S.P.) ph. DAT, 8/19–20 Hennepin (Flying Cloud Airport) SLC (median 8/28).
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [4 North, 15 South] All north 8/5 Traverse JPr, JJS, 8/21 Traverse (2) BJU, 9/2 Pennington CRM, 9/16 St. Louis (2) JLK, 9/18 Traverse BJU, 10/7 Douglas JPE. Late south 10/15 Benton (3, Foley) MJB, Chippewa DBM, Rock BJU, Swift DBM, 10/24 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BeS (median 10/17).
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [1 North, 13 South] Only north report 10/7 Douglas JPE. Early south away from Lac qui Parle (where reported throughout summer) 9/18 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.) BJU, 9/22 Jackson, Murray JEB, 9/24 Olmsted (2) JPr, JoP, 9/25–27 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) †KR0, RZi, 9/25 McLeod PRH. Late south 10/3 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 10/5 Rock JEB, 10/9 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) GHo (median 10/8).
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [21 North, 41 South] Early north (median 9/20) 9/23 Itasca SC, 9/24 Douglas JPE, 9/30 Cass (6) DAY, Itasca SC, Todd (10) JLK. Early south (median 9/19) 9/13 Hennepin BeS, 9/15–16 Anoka PJM, 9/22 Carver JCy, Ramsey REH. High counts 10/9 St. Louis (**110**, Duluth Heights neighborhood, and **100** at Enger Park, Duluth) JLK. Late north 11/20 St. Louis BeH, 11/24 Todd JeM, DTM (median 12/15). See winter report for late south.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported north through the end of October, then only 11/5 St. Louis AM. South reports continued well into December.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [20 North, 37 South] Early south (median 8/31) 8/28 Dakota SWe, RTe, 9/3 Washington DFN. High counts 10/9 Hennepin (27, Crow-Hassan P.R.) DWK, 9/24 Olmsted (12, East Reservoir) JoP. Late north 10/22 Polk (My yard) SAu, Red Lake JMJ, **11/20** St. Louis (French River) BeH (median 10/22). Late south 10/25 Hennepin GLa, 10/27 Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift BJU, 10/28 Sherburne BWF (median 11/9).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [22 North, 39 South] Season high counts 10/2 Crow Wing (27, Pointen Lake) JLK, 10/9 Hennepin (25, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) JJo. Late north 10/24 St. Louis (3) JLK (median 10/30). Frequent south reports well into December.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [29 North, 47 South] Reported statewide. Early south (median 8/29) 8/17 Sherburne PLJ, 8/29 Chippewa BJU. Record high fall count 10/9 St. Louis (**504**, Park Point R.A.) KJB. Frequent north reports through mid-November, then only 11/20 Clay RHO, 11/30+ Polk SAu. Also see winter report.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [29 North, 35 South] More reports than usual, from all regions. Fewest reports from the Southeast. Early north (median 9/16) 9/16 Itasca SC, 9/18 Grant BJU, 9/24 Beltrami (2) PBD, Itasca SC, Polk SAu. Early south (median 9/22) 9/15 Lyon CRM, 9/19 Big Stone, Lac qui Parle BJU, Hennepin TAT. High counts 10/22 Swift (40, east of Artichoke Lake) DWK, 10/22 Brown (20, New



Summer Tanager, 15 November 2011, Carpenter Nature Center, Hastings, Washington County. Photo by Larry Sirvio.

Ulm compost site) MiO, 10/22 Wilkin (20) JPr. For late reports north and south, see winter summary.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [20 North, 32 South] Early north (median 9/10) 9/7 St. Louis (Ely) BET, 9/8 St. Louis (5, Brighton Beach) JLK, (5, Stoney Point) JLK. Early south (median 9/16) 9/13 Sherburne PLJ, 9/15 Hennepin RBW, 9/17 Ramsey REH. High counts 9/15 St. Louis (13) JLK, 10/9 St. Louis (9) JLK. Late north 11/4 Polk (2) HHu, 11/5 Lake KRE, RZi, KRo (median 11/14). Late south 11/1 Hennepin BeS, 11/2 Lyon (5) GWe, 11/4 Lac qui Parle BJU, Washington (4) JHg.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported from 85 of 87 counties. Early south 8/27 Olmsted PSm, 8/29 Swift (3) BJU, 9/1 Rice (2) FVS. High

counts 10/9 St. Louis (**1,000** at Park Point) KJB, 9/30 Cass (500) DAY.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north reports: 8/18 Mille Lacs (Waukon) RBJ, DAC, 9/8 Douglas JPE, 10/16–17 St. Louis (female/immature in Duluth) CCE, ph. KRE. One south report 11/14+ Washington (first-year male, Carpenter N.C.) JV, ph. LMS, ph. ALD, m.ob.

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) — [13 North, 22 South] High count 9/4 Houston (6, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ACr. North reports through 9/8, then only 9/19–20 Crow Wing LBF, 9/26 Todd JLK (median 9/20). Late south 9/26 Dakota SLP, Dodge RBW, Hennepin SLC, 9/28 Kandiyohi DBM, 9/30 Lac qui Parle FAE (median 10/1).

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [16 North, 52 South] Only Northwest

report was from Roseau (near Lancaster) LW. Otherwise, seen statewide.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [18 North, 40 South] High counts 9/10 Hennepin (45, Painter Marsh) RBJ, 9/17 Olmsted (20, Isaac Walton Wetland) JoP. Late north 9/21 St. Louis AM, 9/25, 10/1 Crow Wing (Pointen Lake) JLK (median 9/29). Late south 10/15 Mower RJW, Sherburne (10, Sherburne N.W.R.) CJe, 10/28 Olmsted BJa (median 10/15).

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) — [12 South] Five prior fall seasons each reported birds in only 2–4 counties. Most reports were south of a line from Lac qui Parle through Blue Earth. Also found 8/12–21 **Le Sueur** ChH, ph. RMD, ph. CMB, m.ob., and Dakota through 8/9 SC (where documented breeding in the summer, **The Loon** 84:53–54). Late south 9/3 Nobles BTS, 9/4 Pipestone (2, near Ihlen) BJU, Rock (near Jasper) BJU, 9/13 Murray (4) NED, 9/15 Lyon CRM (median 8/26).

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) — [12 North, 39 South] Found in all regions except the Northwest. Late north 9/25 Crow Wing JLK, 10/5 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 10/11 St. Louis (Knowlton Creek) JLK (median 9/23). Late south 10/9 Jackson RZi, HHD, RAE, JCC, LS, 10/10 Hennepin SLC, 10/13 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) ChD (median 10/9).

Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) — [4 North, 26 South] All north 8/1 Hubbard ANy, 8/6 Douglas DBM, Grant DBM, Traverse (2) DPG, 8/27 Grant HHD, RAE. Late south 9/17 Hennepin (Ft. Snelling National Cemetery) TAT, and then record late **10/24** Hennepin (Eden Prairie) SLC, (median 8/21). Also see undocumented reports.

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [7 North, 20 South] High counts 8/23 Rice (200) TFB, 8/6 Stevens (40) KRE. Late north 9/18 Grant (3) BJU, and the following reports from St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) 9/19 (2) KJB, 9/25 KJB, 10/8 KJB (median 9/20). Late south 9/25 Hennepin BAF, 9/29 Meeker JEB, 10/3 Lac qui Parle (8) BJU, 10/7 Lac qui Parle CRM (median 9/30).

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [31 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. Late north 11/19 Crow Wing, Morrison

FGo, St. Louis KJB, 11/20 Otter Tail DST, 11/26 Mille Lacs ASc (median 12/14), but also see winter report for birds north and south. High count 11/4 Houston (10,000 in continuous wave for 30 minutes at junction state highways 16 & 26) DST.

Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) — [2 North, 16 South] West-central reports of singing individuals 8/5–20 Stevens JPr, m.ob. and 8/1 Lac qui Parle (singing, present since spring) BJU, plus a report without comment from Douglas (10/7). Late north 10/11 Mille Lacs ASc. Late south vocalizing birds 10/8 Anoka JWH, BWF, 10/9 Hennepin DWK. Last report 10/26 Winona (no details) ANy.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [13 North, 22 South] Reported predominantly from the western half of the state, west of a line from Roseau through Hubbard and Blue Earth. Only reports east of this line were from Carver and Dakota. Late north 10/31 Marshall HHu. Late south 11/22 Lac qui Parle BJU.

Sturnella meadowlark (*Sturnella sp.*) — [4 North, 7 South] Late migrant 11/28 St. Louis *fide* JWJL.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [4 North, 25 South] High count 8/20 Big Stone (62, David H. Steen W.M.A.) PCC. All north after August: 9/18 Grant, Traverse BJU, 10/23 Otter Tail GLa, LS. Late south 10/22 Steele HCT, 11/1 Winona ANy, 11/4 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/11 Dakota (10) JFR (median 10/25).

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [26 North, 36 South] More widespread than usual. Early north (median 9/17) 9/10 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) SSp, 9/14 Lake (2) KRE, JWJL, St. Louis GLa, (3, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Early south (median 9/21) 9/24 Rice TFB, 10/1 Hennepin (2) DWK, (2) CMB, Meeker DPG, 10/2 Carver RZi, McLeod CMB. High counts all from the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 9/29 (**13,540**, record high), 10/9 (2,207). Late north 11/20 St. Louis (2) BeH, 11/21 Morrison MJB, 11/29 Cass (4) DAY (median 12/6). Late south 11/26 Lac qui Parle BJU, Ramsey (4) JFR, 11/27 Blue Earth (2) ASm, 11/30 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 12/15). Also see winter report.

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)

- lus*) — [12 North, 27 South] High count 11/1 Carver (950, Assumption) JCy. Late north 10/23 Otter Tail GLa, Wadena RZi, 11/4 Mille Lacs KRE, RZi (median 11/7). Late south 11/9 Le Sueur RBW, 11/11 Dakota (10) JFR, 11/12 Nobles RAE (median 11/11).
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [29 North, 50 South] High counts 9/14 Sherburne (1,000) MJB, 11/10 Mille Lacs (1,000, estimate) RBJ, 10/10 St. Louis (957, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 11/18 Mille Lacs (Isle) RBJ, 11/19 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 11/25 Becker RAE. Also see winter report.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [1 South] All reports from Minneota Twp., Jackson County. High count 10/22 Sangl W.M.A. (26) ARW, RJW. Last reported **10/29** (6) ph. RTE.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [7 North, 34 South] High count 8/12 Martin (200) RBJ, DAC. All north reports after September: 10/12 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) DDK, 11/2 Polk (6) HHu. Late south 11/7 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/11 Dakota (10) JFR, 11/20 Watonwan RAE.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [4 North, 19 South] All north 8/6 Douglas DBM, 8/7 Douglas HHD, 8/14 Otter Tail (3) GO, 8/21 Traverse BJU, 8/27 Grant HHD, RAE. Late south 8/16 Carver JCy, Pipestone DBM, 8/17 Cottonwood (2) KSm, 8/20 Stevens BJU (median 8/27).
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [16 North, 41 South] High counts 8/21 Lyon (9) GWe, 8/25 Carver (9) JCy. Late north 9/10 Pennington MJJ, 9/11 St. Louis KJB, 9/25 St. Louis KJB (median 9/14). Late south 9/19 Big Stone, Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/22 Hennepin BaS, then none until 11/7 Anoka (Oak Grove) DvS (median 9/23).
- SCOTT'S ORIOLE** (*Icterus parisorum*) — [1 North] Immature male found in **Cook** 10/30 ph. JWJ, ph. †KRE, ph. †RMD. Fourth state record (*The Loon* 84:101).
- GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCH** (*Leucosticte tephrocotis*) — [1 North] One "interior form" found 10/27 on the shores of Bear Island Lake in Babbitt, St. Louis County †SLF, ph. DBF (*The Loon* 84:100).
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [7 North, 1 South] Early north reports all from the Northeast (median 10/18): 10/23 St. Louis ABL, KJB, 10/24 Cook PLJ, 10/26 St. Louis (12) KJB. First reports away from the Northeast were 11/12 Aitkin ASC, Itasca SC, 11/14 Lake of the Woods GMM. Only south report 11/18 **Washington** ph. MJM.
- Purple Finch** (*Carpodacus purpureus*) — [26 North, 31 South] Reported throughout the north. South reports began 8/16 Scott KRa, 8/27 Olmsted PSm. High counts well below those of recent years, led by 10/15 St. Louis (326, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB.
- House Finch** (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) — [26 North, 45 South] Found statewide. High count 8/19 Wilkin (110, Breckenridge, mostly juveniles) PHS.
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [3 North, 1 South] Two August reports from the Northeast: 8/7 Cook TAT, 8/26 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. No additional reports until recorded almost daily as part of the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census in St. Louis County beginning 10/16 (33) with a peak of 56 on 2 November KJB. Only other north reports were from Itasca (10/21—11/21, SC). One south report 11/17 **Lac qui Parle** (1 male, Hantho Beach) ph. BJU.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucop-tera*) — [8 North, 2 South] Early north in St. Louis from the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census: 9/2 KJB, 10/18 (2) KJB, 10/20 KJB. Away from Duluth, early north reports 10/22 Beltrami (4, White Fish Lake) PSm, 10/23 Itasca SC. All south 11/14, 11/20 (2), 11/26 (12) Sherburne (Blue Hill Trail, Sherburne N.W.R.) ASC, PJM, ACr, 11/29 Ramsey (10, College Park, St. Paul) RMD. Highest counts were from St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census, KJB): 10/28 (160), 10/27 (149), 10/22 (101). Other notable high count 11/22 St. Louis (59, Sax-Zim Bog, flocks of 45 and 14 individuals) ZLo.
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [19 North, 10 South] Early north (median 10/15) 10/12 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB, 10/20 Hubbard RZi, St. Louis (22, Stoney Point) JLK, (3, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB. Early south (median 10/27) 10/20 Sherburne (4, Sherburne N.W.R.) JGb, 10/26 Washington (2, Lee & Rose Warner N.C.) PSm, 10/27 Lac qui Parle

FAE. Highest counts were from the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 10/28 (16,032), 10/27 (6,024), 10/26 St. Louis (2,251).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — No reports.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [17 North, 16 South] Only scattered north reports until mid-September, then reported frequently. Early south (median 9/10) 9/9 Anoka DvS, 9/18 Lyon (2) GWe, 9/22 Blue Earth ChH. Highest counts of migrants were in October, including 10/23 St. Louis (821, Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [31 North, 52 South] Found statewide. Highest counts were of migrants in Duluth along Lake Superior, including 142 on 9/19 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census) KJB.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertina*) — [8 North, 1 South] Reported from Cook, St. Louis, Koochiching, Itasca, Aitkin, Hubbard, Roseau, Kittson, and one far out of range photographed in **Lac qui Parle** (female, 11/26 Walter Twp. ph. BJU).

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported statewide.

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Birding by Hindsight

A Second Look at Swan Songs

Kim R. Eckert



The first installment of this “Birding by Hindsight” series appeared in the winter 1994–95 issue of *The Loon*. The last was in the Spring 2012 issue. After 70 of these articles over 17+ years, I have decided to retire this column, something I’d been considering over the last couple years. And the last installment which looked back over 50 years of birding seems as good a way as any to end the series.

I thank current editor Tony Hertzell and his predecessor Bob Janssen for their support and patience during this time as they provided a forum in this journal for my ramblings. Note that the archive of these articles can be found at http://mbwbirds.com/Birding_by_

Hindsight.html, in case you ever want to look something up. Among other things, you’ll see there are still some ID topics which have never been addressed and others in need of updates. You might even notice the attempts at humor along with some missing jokes and puns which still need to be told. After all, these essays were intended to entertain as well as enlighten — and never meant to take themselves too seriously.

So, here’s your chance to fill that void as *The Loon* now has some pages to fill, perhaps with your thoughts this time. Perhaps even for the next 17 years, until 2029.

1921 West Kent Road, Duluth, MN 55812.



A Tropical / Couch's Kingbird in Duluth

Mike Hendrickson

On Friday, 28 October 2011 about 11:30 A.M., I was in my living room when I noticed a medium-sized, yellow-breasted bird flitting around outside the window. I got up for a closer look, and realized this bird looked very much like a Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) which I have seen many times in western Minnesota, Colorado, North Dakota, and Texas. Western Kingbird is uncommon in St. Louis County, so I grabbed my camera to document the observation and headed outside.

The bird was perched in our flowering crab apple tree, but as I approached to take a photo, it flew up and over our house. As it flew, I noticed that it did not have any white on the tail — either at the edges or the tips. I immediately went back in the house and phoned Kim Eckert and Peder Svingen to let them know I had what I now assumed was a Cassin's Kingbird (*T. vociferans*) in my yard. At the time, Cassin's Kingbird seemed the most likely species because its range is much closer to Minnesota than that of the other Western-type kingbirds of Tropical (*T. melancholicus*) and Couch's (*T. couchii*).

I went back outside via a different door and immediately refound the bird perched on one of the telephone wires that pass over our driveway. From this perch, it was hawking for the insects that buzzed around our windows. I took four photos before the bird flew over the house toward the backyard. Peder and Kim showed up about 15 minutes later, and for an hour and a half, we searched the yard and the surrounding neighborhoods, but the kingbird had apparently left.

Eventually, I invited Kim and Peder to come inside and view the digital images I had taken of the bird. Based on bill size and shape, throat and breast pattern, color of the underparts, and tail shape, they could tell fairly quickly that the bird was not a Cassin's Kingbird after all, but either a Tropical or a Couch's kingbird. At this point, we realized we were looking at a potential first state re-



Tropical / Couch's Kingbird, 28 October 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Mike Hendrickson.

cord. We were leaning towards the identification of a Tropical Kingbird because of its increasing pattern of vagrancy, with records and reports from Connecticut, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ontario, and Quebec.

We decided to search the adjacent neighborhoods including upper Smithville, Spirit Cove, and Riverside; Kim checked areas in the Morgan Park and Norton Park neighborhoods, while Peder and I headed over to the Riverside neighborhood. As I was driving slowly up Sunnyside Street, Peder spotted the kingbird perched on a telephone wire near the intersection of Sunnyside and Cato Streets. After watching it for about 15 seconds, the bird flew off and was not located again. The straight line distance from my house to the Riverside location is about half a mile and the two sightings were about 2½ hours apart.



Photo by Mike Hendrickson.



Photo by Mike Hendrickson.



Photo by Mike Hendrickson.

Conventional wisdom holds that vocalization is the only reliable criterion for distinguishing between *melancholicus* and *couchii* in the field. Unfortunately, the West Duluth bird never vocalized. The record was therefore accepted by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee at the ge-

nus level as a Tropical/Couch's Kingbird (*The Loon* 84:4-5).

I'd like to thank Peder Svingen and Anthony Hertzell for offering many helpful comments on this paper.

9005 Lenroot Street, Duluth, MN 55808.

Notes of Interest



GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCH IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY — On 27 October 2011, Steven



Falkowski found a Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch on the southwest edge of Bear Island Lake in Babbitt, St. Louis County. It was initially seen on a gravel driveway 200 feet from the lake.

Steve identified the bird and watched it for 10–15 minutes, before it flushed when an ATV passed by. I was called at work about this sighting and I drove (assuredly, the speed limit) for 20 minutes in anticipation of catching a glimpse of it. This was a life bird for me! During the time that I was driving (mid afternoon, about 3:00 P.M.), the bird was very vocal and moved west of the previous sighting. We relocated the finch about 400 feet from the spot of its first sighting, and watched it foraging on the sand



Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch (interior form), 27 October 2011, near Babbitt, St. Louis County. Photo by Deborah Buria-Falkowski.

beach for 12–15 minutes where I was able to photograph it. A few Snow Buntings arrived on the beach and joined the rosy-finch. Within a few seconds they all flew off together northeast towards Ely. The day was an overcast sky/ late afternoon and photos were challenging due to the light. **Deborah Buria-Falkowski, 1214 – 17th Street South, Virginia, MN 55792.**

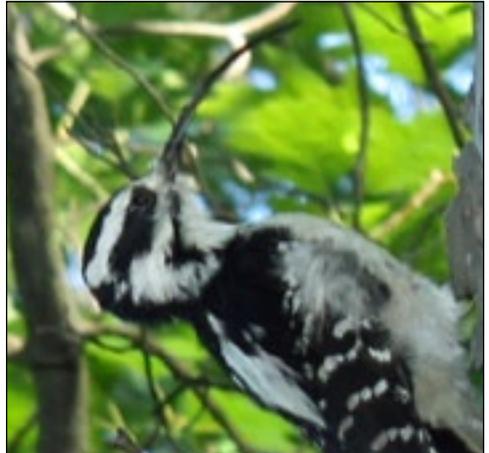
HAIRY WOODPECKER OBSERVED WITH A SIGNIFICANT BILL DEFORMITY — On



25 September 2011, I noticed a Hairy Woodpecker actively foraging on several of the large red pine trees in my yard, which is a fairly common occurrence. However, a quick glance at this particular

bird revealed that it was far from ordinary. While the lower portion of its bill appeared to be normal, the upper part was at least four inches long! The bird seemed to be able to feed by bending the overgrown portion of its bill over against the tree trunks as it worked to glean insects from behind the bark plates. Luckily, I was able to photograph the bird just before it disappeared. I have not seen this individual since.

According to various on-line sources, several types of bill deformities have been docu-



Hairy Woodpecker, 25 September 2011, Side Lake, St. Louis County. Photo by Penny Backman.

mented in numerous different bird species and recently there appears to be certain geographical areas where the defects are becoming alarmingly common. There are several research projects in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest that are currently tracking these apparent outbreaks or clusters of bill deformity cases. Black-capped Chickadees and Northwestern Crows seem to be particularly susceptible, but at least 28 different species have been recently identified with beak deformities in Alaska alone. So far, no definitive causes for these localized clusters of cases have been identified, but the usual suspects include disease, heritable genetic defects, nutritional deficiencies, and environmental contamination. **Penny Backman, 7652 Pine Tree Road, Side Lake, MN 55781.**

SCOTT'S ORIOLE IN COOK COUNTY — On 30 October 2011, while exploring residen-



tial Grand Marais with several other birders, I found an oriole that I initially thought was an Orchard Oriole. After pointing it out to Kim Eckert and other birders, we quickly determined it was not an

Orchard Oriole and was more likely a first-year male Hooded or Scott's oriole. Shortly after the initial sighting, Kim Eckert heard the only vocalization, which he described in his notes as "a 1.5-syllabled, soft, mellow chreep, similar to House Finch, that I remembered was similar to Hooded Oriole," which I then thought would be the identification. However, after getting better views of the bird we decided Scott's Oriole was more likely.

Soon, a rather large group of birders showed up and we followed the bird around as it moved through the neighborhood, losing it several times only to have it relocated a block or two away.

I neglected to take field notes, but managed to get a few photographs and videos, including one photo that showed the bird's smaller overall size compared to a nearby American Robin. I estimated it to be about 10% smaller and 1/2 to 1 inch shorter in length. Plumage details were well described by Bob Dunlap, who noted the "olive-colored upperparts transitioning to a grayish back, streaked back, and black throat that appears rather jagged-edged extending to the upper breast." He also described the bill's shape and color as "rather long with a straight culmen, with a pale basal half of the lower mandible as well as a very small pale portion of the base of the upper mandible." Additionally, the oriole's underparts were yellow with no hint of orange. Two pale wing bars were set in grayish wings. The ragged, black throat noted by Dunlap indicated the bird was a first-year male.

Both Orchard Oriole and Hooded Oriole are smaller than Scott's Oriole, and have shorter, bills. Streak-backed Oriole is generally more orange than yellow.

The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee voted unanimously to accept this as the fourth record of Scott's Oriole in Minnesota and the first for Cook County. Previous records for the state include an immature male in Duluth, St. Louis County from 23 May – 12 June 1974 (*The Loon* 47:22–24), an adult male in Monticello, Wright County from 20 March – 23 April 2002 (*The Loon* 75:44), and an adult male in Oronoco, Olmsted County from 17–20 April 2002 (*The Loon* 74:189–191). **James W. Lind, 320 – 2nd Avenue, Two Harbors, MN 55616.**



Scott's Oriole, 30 October 2011, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Robert M. Dunlap.

GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL IN DULUTH —



At 9:43 on the morning of 22 December 2011, I discovered an adult Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*) at Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County. This bird remained in the area through 15 January 2012, where it was closely seen and photographed by numerous observers. Since Glaucous-winged Gull forms hybrid swarms with multiple other species of gulls (including Glaucous, Western, and Herring), where the majority of some local populations are actually hybrids, care must be taken when identifying this species out of range. No apparent features of hybridity were noted, however. The only feature which some felt was not

typical of classic adult Glaucous-winged Gulls was the overall size similar to an adult Herring Gull, and the relatively rounded head with a modest bill size and minimal swelling at the gonys. This is typical of females, however, which are smaller than males. Also, detailed study of this bird showed that although it did not appear larger than Herring Gulls in length or wingspan, it was clearly more robust in overall size, with a stockier body, heavier legs, wider stance, and broader wings. Additional features typical of adult Glaucous-winged Gull in basic plumage included dark brown irides, violet orbital ring, narrow dark subterminal markings on the bill, smudgy wash of gray-brown rather than distinct streaks on head, slightly darker gray mantle shade compared to adult American Herring Gull, broad white tertial crescent on perched bird, gray on wing tips perfectly matching mantle shade, very short wing projection past tail tip, broad inner wing (arm) with broad white trailing edge in flight, subterminal mirror on p10 and small mirror on p9, and white subapical tongue tips on p6-p8 showing as a row of white spots on both wing surfaces (joining with the mirrors on P9-10 to form a continuous “string of pearls”). This represents the fifth state record, and the third for St. Louis County. **Karl Bardon, 4990 Maxwell Road, Duluth, MN 55804.**



Glaucous-winged Gull, 22 December 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Karl J. Bardon.



Glaucous-winged Gull, 15 January 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Karl J. Bardon.



Parasitic Jaeger, 15 September 2011, Park Point, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

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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.

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Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Tom Tustison, Chairman

The two most recent meetings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC) were conducted at Drew and Becky Smith's home in Eagan on 4 March 2012, and at the Bell Museum of Natural History on 2 December 2012. In attendance and voting at the first meeting were MOURC members, Robert M. Dunlap, Bruce A. Fall, Anthony X. Hertz, Robert P. Russell (alternate), Andrew D. Smith (alternate) and Tom A. Tustison (Chair). The chair appointed Robert B. Janssen to serve as a temporary, alternate member and allow the Committee to reach a quorum. These members were also in attendance at the December meeting, along with MOURC members Terrence B. Brashear (alternate), Kim R. Eckert, James W. Lind, and William C. Marengo.

Prior to these meetings, the following records were voted on by e-mail and were Accepted:

- **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 26 December 2011, Lake Pepin outlet near Camp Lacupolis, Wabasha County (record #2011-053, vote 7-0). The descriptions of this adult male are convincing.

- **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 31 December 2011 – 6 January 2012, Mississippi River one mile south of the Wabasha County border, Winona County (record #2011-055, vote 7-0). The description by an experienced waterfowl observer is diagnostic. First county record. This adult drake may have been the same individual documented five days earlier (see record #2011-053 above) at the Camp Lacupolis overlook 22 miles to the north in Wabasha County. Undocumented reports from the U.S. Highway 61 rest area on Lake Pepin on 5 and 8 December 2011 may also pertain to this individual.

- **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 2 January 2012, Lake City, Goodhue County (record #2012-001, vote 7-0). The



Record #2012-004, Neotropic Cormorant, 30 March 2012, Ellsborough Township, Murray County. Photo by Craig R. Mandel.

photo clearly shows an adult, drake Barrow's Goldeneye. This may be the same male referenced above.

- **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 26 December 2011, Lake Pepin outlet near Camp Lacupolis, viewed from U.S. Highway 61, Wabasha County (record #2011-052, vote 7-0). The documentation from two experienced observers was conclusive. Adult female. While its status is currently Casual in Minnesota, Barrow's Goldeneye likely will become a Regular species when the next Checklist is updated in 2014.

- **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*), 16 March 2012, Lac qui Parle County (record #2012-002, vote 5-2). Although the field notes were not included with the Request for Documentation, the description is adequate. The record would have been appreciably better had a copy of the field notes



Record #2012-005, Brown Pelican, 8 April 2012, Red Wing, Goodhue County. Photo by John Hockema.



Record #2012-006, Black-necked Stilt, 15 April 2012, Long Meadow Lake, Hennepin County. Photo by Connie Brunnell.



Record #2012-006, Purple Sandpiper, 17 March 2012, Split Rock Lighthouse State Park, Lake County. Photo by Heidi Pinkerton.

and a sketch been included in the Request for Documentation. Adult male.

- **Neotropic Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*), 30–31 March 2012, Ellsborough Township, Current Lake, Swensen County Park, Murray County (record #2012-004, vote 7–0). The photos and description are diagnostic. Fifth state record and new county record for this photographed adult bird.

- **Brown Pelican** (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), 4–9 April 2012, at the marina in Red Wing, Goodhue County (record #2012-005, vote 7–0). This adult was photographed by numerous observers, but no one submitted a complete description supported by field notes. The Committee welcomes images and other physical evidence, but always values written descriptions based on field notes taken while the bird was being observed or shortly thereafter. What is believed by the Committee to be the same bird was also seen and photographed in Dakota County on 9 April 2012 at the intersection of U.S. Highway 52 and County Road 46. The Goodhue and Dakota county records are both first county records. Other contemporaneous sightings of a purported Brown Pelican in Hennepin and Chisago Counties (thought to be the same

bird though not photographically documented) were Not Accepted by consensus of the Committee at its 2 December 2012 meeting.

- **Tricolored Heron** (*Egretta tricolor*), 19 May 2012, Succonix WMA (north unit), Clearwater Township, Wright County (record #2012-015, vote 5–2). Although seen only in flight, the observer's documentation is adequate to support the identification. Considerable weight was given to the observer's previous experience with this species in southern states. First county record; sixteenth state record; and ninth spring record. The most recent previous record was in 2007.

- **Mississippi Kite** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), 15 September 2011, Hawk Ridge, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2011-054, vote 6–1). The observer's experience with the species weighed heavily in the decision to accept this record. Prior to 2012, there have been ten records from Hawk Ridge all seen within the narrow time interval of 30 August to 15 September. In fall 2012, there have been five different sightings in Duluth (all pending MOURC review) with three at Hawk Ridge (beginning on 27 August with the latest on 16 September). Adult.

- **Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexi-*



Record #2012-008, Ruff, 18 April 2012, Silver Creek Reservoir, Olmsted County. Photo by Andrew Nyhus.

canus), 15 April 2012, Long Meadow Lake, Hennepin County (record #2012-006, vote 7-0). This record is exceedingly well-documented with photos and descriptions from numerous observers. First spring record for Hennepin County. Adult, photographed.

- **Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexicanus*), 20-23 April 2012, Lily Lake, Blue Earth County (record #2012-009, vote 7-0). The photos of this adult are adequate for positive identification. First county record.

- **Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexicanus*), 19 May 2012, Sleepy Eye wastewater treatment plant, Brown County (record #2012-014, vote 7-0). The photos and descriptions by the two observers of this adult are diagnostic.

- **Purple Sandpiper** (*Calidris maritima*), 17 March 2012, Split Rock Lighthouse State Park, Lake County (record #2012-003, vote 7-0). The photo is diagnostic. Interestingly, this is the seventh state record, first county record, and first documented spring record. The bird appears to be in first winter plumage. The conspicuous orange-yellow bill base and legs are consistent with Purple and not Rock Sandpiper. For a recent discussion of

the rationale for excluding Rock Sandpiper as a possibility, see *The Loon* 84:3-4.

- **Ruff** (*Philomachus pugnax*), 18 April 2012, Silver Creek Reservoir, Olmsted County (record #2012-008, vote 7-0). This colorfully-plumaged adult was documented by several observers and supported by multiple photos. First county record and earliest spring date on record.

- **White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*), 21-29 April 2012, Lewiston, Winona County (record #2012-011, vote 7-0). The record was conclusively documented by written description and excellent photos. First county record.

- **White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*), 17-22 June 2012, Itasca County (record #2012-018, vote 7-0). The high-quality photo was diagnostic. First county record. This species has now been recorded every year since 2003.

- **Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*), 21-22 April 2012, farm pond just east of county road 17 on county road 16, Fillmore County (record #2012-010, vote 7-0). The record was unanimously Accepted based largely on excellent photos. First county record. Coincidentally, the bird was seen on the same farm pond where a Glossy Ibis and a White-winged Scoter were seen in previous years.

- **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** (*Tyrannus forficatus*), 24 May 2012, Kelliher, Beltrami County (record #2012-016, vote 7-0). The photo is diagnostic. First county record.

- **Sprague's Pipit** (*Anthus spragueii*), 8-29 June 2012, Felton Prairie area, Clay County (record #2012-017, vote 7-0). The photos and descriptions of behavior and song leave no doubt about the identification. Many people saw and heard this bird and provided adequate documentation. The bird was displaying and apparently in full song. When a rare species is present for an extended time period such as this one, it would be desirable to attempt to obtain a sound recording. Incidentally, this species has been recorded at Felton Prairie in twenty-one distinct years commencing in 1961.

- **Lark Bunting** (*Calamospiza melanocorys*), 14 June 2012, Round Lake Township (T101N, R38W), Jackson County (record #2012-024, vote 7-0). This observation, submitted by a competent observer, was also



Record #2012-017, Sprague's Pipit, 13 June 2012, Felton Prairie, Clay County. Photo by Butch Ukura.

substantiated by photographic evidence. Only the second post-nineteenth century record for the county; the first was in 1971.

• **Golden-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*), 19–20 April 2012, Fredenberg Township, St. Louis County (record #2012-007, vote 7–0). This adult Golden-crowned Sparrow is documented by superb photographic evidence. This represents the eighth state record and the third for St. Louis County following one that overwintered at Dave Gilbertson's feeder in 1989–1990 (*The Loon* 62:55–56 with a photo published on the cover of that issue) and one seen sporadically at a feeder near UMD in Duluth 20 December 2008 – 2 April 2009.

• **Lazuli Bunting** (*Passerina amoena*), 6 May 2012, Lakefield, Jackson County (record #2012-012, vote 5–2). This difficult identification was determined to be that of a Lazuli Bunting. Some members commented that the bird may have been a hybrid because the bird lacked the clean separation between the blue of the head and the rust of the breast, had a reduced and pale rusty breast, and had thin, dull wing bars, particularly the upper bar. These features might indicate hybridiza-

tion. However, a subadult, or even a second year bird, molting into alternate plumage may also exhibit these same characteristics, particularly in late winter or early spring.

• **Brambling** (*Fringilla montifringilla*), 4 April 1984, Fish Lake, Eagan, Dakota County (record #2012-023, vote 7–0). This second (based on date of discovery) state record may be the oldest historic record that the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee has ever evaluated. The reason for its extremely delayed submission is that the observer was just recently entering his historic records into eBird. That is how this record came to light 28 years later. This record was reviewed many years after the fact based on supporting documentation obtained from the observer by Committee member and Minnesota's eBird reviewer Bruce Fall. Mr. Fall corresponded by email with the observer several times about this record and ultimately received four photos on 12 July 2012. Debatable, this could be the same bird as the Owatonna individual seen and documented by many observers (last seen just eleven days earlier than the present record). It should be noted that Minnesota's first Brambling record was reported from Owatonna (Steele County) from 4 February through 24 March 1984 (*The Loon* 56:79–80). It's unfortunate that with all the photos that were allegedly taken of the Owatonna bird none seems to have been published in *The Loon* — only Dr. Walter J. Breckenridge's cover painting in the same issue depicts the earlier record. Dr. Breckenridge was not listed in this article, *The Loon* (56:79–80), as among the observers that day, so it's unclear if his painting was first-hand. Note the reference in this article, final paragraph (Editor's note), to other numerous Brambling records that same year elsewhere in the U.S. and Canada ("during the fall and winter of 1983–84 Bramblings were recorded in California (one at Crescent City), Utah (one at Logan), Colorado (one at Colorado Springs, another at Boulder) and in Ontario (one at Atikoken). There were other reports in Canada from Nova Scotia, Manitoba and British Columbia."). Second state record and first county record. There are now a total of six state records of this Asiatic vagrant.

The following records were voted on by e-

mail 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 Minnesota Ornithologists' Union, or in its 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.

- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*), 23 June 2012, along U.S. Highway 75, Traverse County (record #2012-019, vote 0–7). The photos clearly show a pale Red-tailed Hawk, possibly a similar-looking juvenile “Kriders.” Both observers mentioned that the legs were feathered (“lower on the legs” and “black spots on the tibia and tarsal feathers”). However, the photos are equivocal and seem to show unfeathered lower tarsi (a Ferruginous Hawk should be feathered to the toes). There are characters that seem at odds with a Ferruginous Hawk, including the white speckling on the upperparts (photo), the seeming lack of a dark eye line (photos), the description of rufous back and shoulders (juvenile Ferruginous Hawks lack rufous on the upperparts). There is no description of the tail or the wing pattern in flight (these are important identification features), even though the bird was seen flying initially. There are too many uncertainties in the description and the photos are too distant for confirmation of this record.

- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*), 23 June 2012, Tanberg Township Road 271, Wilkin County (record #2012-020, vote 2–5). While the identification of this distinctive species is probably correct, the documentation is inadequate to support it. Very little is presented except a statement about “dark colored wings, the long dark tail with a little bit of white patch and the tail did slightly spread as it flew away from us”. The written description lacked sufficient details to support the record.

- Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*), 16 May 2012, Nicollet County (record #2012-013,

vote 0–7). Voice-only records require careful scrutiny. The observer does not state that he has any actual voice-identification field experience with Prairie Warblers. While it is possible to learn the song from tapes alone (especially for species with distinctive calls or songs), the Committee prefers to err on the side of caution with such records. This is especially true when the observer's actual voice-identification field experience is either limited or otherwise unknown. The brief written description might pertain to other species as well.

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: Don Vrchota (*vide* Carl W. Greiner), Karl J. Bardon, David A. Bartkey, Milton J. Blomberg, Conny M. Brunell, Philip C. Chu, Shawn Conrad, Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Jason Frank, Carl W. Greiner, Ben Harste, Chad Heins, John W. Hockema, Paul E. Jantscher, Andrew Krenz, Mike Majeski, Craig R. Mandel, Dennis and Barbara Martin, Stephen Monson-Geerts, David F. Neitzel, Andrew Nyhus, Richard Ouren, Aaron Pietsch, Heidi Pinkerton, Susan Plankis, Karl Roe, John Schladweiler, Joel Schmidt, Brian T. Smith, Kevin D. Smith, Peder H. Svingen, Raymond Tervo, Butch Ukura, Skyler Vold, Garrett Wee, and Roy Zimmerman. Many 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: 27 records voted on — 23 Accepted, 4 Not Accepted.

4214 Wentworth Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55409.

The Winter Season

1 December 2011 through 29 February 2012

Bruce A. Fall¹, Andrew D. Smith², and Paul E. Budde³

Undoubtedly due to the mildness of the winter, the season was marked by many late migrants and overwintering species.

Greater White-fronted, Snow, and Cackling geese overwintered in the state, while one Ross's was found in mid-January in Otter Tail. At least five Tundra Swans in Wabasha also overwintered. An American Wigeon in Duluth produced the first north midwinter record for this species, while a Blue-winged Teal at Fergus Falls was exceedingly late. (Several others reported on CBCs were, unfortunately, undocumented.) All the Regular *Aythya* ducks also overwintered. The only Harlequin Duck of the season was in Duluth for a single day. All three scoters were seen along the lower Mississippi during December; another Surf was seen at Lake Waconia in December, while a White-winged was in Wright in January and for much of February a pair was in Lake Superior off of Duluth. Approximately ten Long-tailed Ducks were found (only one on Lake Superior!), but only two after December. Adult male Barrow's Goldeneyes were documented in Benton and St. Louis counties, and along the lower Mississippi River. Two different Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser hybrids, both an adult and an immature male, were located in Duluth.

Common Loons were found in eight counties during December, in contrast to their complete absence during the prior winter. Another was a late February visitor to Duluth.

Perhaps due to the lack of snow, Northern Harriers were found in 35 counties this winter — triple the average over the previous five years. Golden Eagles were evenly balanced between seven north and six south counties. Sandhill Cranes apparently lingered much later than usual, but many of these reports went undocumented.

A first-cycle Black-legged Kittiwake was seen in Duluth in mid-December. Providing only the second January record of this spe-

cies was a Franklin's Gull that was repeatedly found in and around the Twin Cities. Apparently for the first time, a few Ring-billed Gulls overwintered in Duluth. Eleven different Iceland Gulls were chronicled in Duluth, including a record high day count of six and a probable adult *glaucoides*. Lesser Black-backed were seen in Wright and Hennepin, while the state's fifth Glaucous-winged was nicely documented in Duluth. At least 38 Glaucous Gulls spent time in Duluth, of which a record high count of 34 were found in a single day. Eight Great Black-backed Gulls were seen in Duluth, while additional birds were found in Goodhue and Wabasha.

Minnesota participated in the winter's Snowy Owl invasion that went deep into the middle of the country. The estimated total of 217 birds (*The Loon* 84:146–150) was second only to the invasion during the winter of 1993–1994 (*The Loon* 66:160–165). In contrast to the plentiful Snowys, Northern Hawk Owls could only be found in the Northeast, and Great Grays only in the Northeast and North-central regions. The only Boreal Owl of the season was found on the Grand Marais CBC.

The Cedar Creek Natural History Area continues to be the stronghold for Red-headed Woodpeckers in the state. A remarkable total of 56 was counted on the CBC located there. One Yellow-bellied Sapsucker overwintered in Olmsted. Both an American Three-toed and a Black-backed woodpecker were, surprisingly, found in mid-February in Crow Wing.

Black-billed Magpies wandered farther south than usual, to Crow Wing, Pine, and even to the Sherburne N.W.R. Moving in the other direction, Tufted Titmice were found as far north as Ramsey and Washington. Carolina Wrens were in Chisago at Wild River S.P., and in Hennepin. A Winter Wren spent the winter in Rice, while two were in Hennepin and another in Houston in January. An extremely late Ruby-crowned Kinglet was regular at the Bass Ponds in Hennepin through early Janu-

ary. In mid-February a Mountain Bluebird was discovered in Cook. Well past the midpoint of the season, Hermit Thrushes were seen as far north as St. Louis and Cook. Eleven Varied Thrushes was a typical winter total.

Though no Northern Mockingbirds were seen during the season, a mid-December Gray Catbird and four Brown Thrashers, including one that overwintered in Hennepin, represented mimic thrushes well. Bohemian Waxwings were limited to the northern third of the state. As many as 21 Yellow-rumped Warblers were detected during the season, including a group of five in Carver at the end of January.

A Spotted Towhee was in Austin until the end of January, while an Eastern was in Faribault in mid-January and another overwintered in Polk. There were numerous reports of Chipping Sparrows, which is quite unusual for the winter season, but only one in Lake was documented. Other late sparrows included a Field in Dakota, a Vesper in Lac qui Parle, a Savannah videotaped in Lac qui Parle, and the state's second winter record of Grasshopper Sparrow, which was seen in St. Louis. Winter counts of Harris's and White-crowned sparrows were higher than normal, and both species had overwintering individuals. In Lac qui Parle, an "Oregon" subspecies of Dark-eyed Junco was photographed.

Not to be outdone by the sparrows, a Summer Tanager that lingered in Washington into the season was only a fourth winter record, and a Western Tanager photographed in Hennepin was record late — by four months! Two lingering Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were discovered, one on the St. Paul (North) CBC, the other in Rice in early January. Red Crossbills were found in 4 south counties and White-winged in 16; a cemetery in New Ulm hosted both species in January and February. There was a nice movement of Common Redpolls into the state, as they were found in 70% of the counties. Hoary Redpolls were widespread north, but only seen south in Anoka.

Weather summary: The statewide average temperatures for the season were well above-average, and the season was one of the warmest on record (fourth warmest on record at the Minneapolis – St. Paul International Airport). Average temperatures topped the historical average by 6° to 12° F in December, 9° to 11° in January, and 5° to 8° in February. This marks

five consecutive months of abnormally warm temperatures for the state.

The season was also quite dry. December and January produced precipitation shortfalls across much of the state, though a few areas were closer to normal. The most notable precipitation of the season came in late February. One storm brought 4"-8" of snow to the northern half of the state on 26 February, and another dropped 1"-1.5" of rain over the southern half of the state and snow in the north from 28 February – 1 March.

Undocumented or insufficiently documented reports: **Blue-winged Teal** 1/1 Afton CBC, 1/2 Wabasha CBC (late dates); **BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** 2/6 Cook (immature male, Paradise Beach); **American White Pelican** 12/18 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC (late date); **Turkey Vulture** 12/17 Goodhue (late date); **Osprey** 12/17 Olmsted (near Byron; late date), 2/21 Blue Earth (Mankato; unusually early); **Sandhill Crane** 12/17 Grand Marais CBC, 12/18 Little Falls CBC, 12/23 Morrison (all very late dates north); **Prairie Falcon** 2/7 Otter Tail (no details); **Chipping Sparrow** 12/17 Bloomington CBC (4), Fairmont CBC, Grand Marais CBC, Owatonna CBC (late date); **Western Meadowlark** 1/21 Houston (difficult ID); **Brewer's Blackbird** 12/2 Todd, 12/9 Red Lake, 12/17 Jackson, Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) CBC, 12/19 Tamarac N.W.R. CBC (3), 12/30 Olmsted (late dates), 2/27 Steele (early date); **Pine Grosbeak** 12/30 Goodhue (3) (out of range; more details needed).

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 69 counts. Finally, thanks to Anthony Hertz, 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 TERM**) 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.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [7 South] One adult overwintered Blue Earth (Sibley Park, Mankato) 12/28–2/6 AnK. Two January reports 1/6 Jackson (2) and Martin (4) PEJ were probably late migrants, not overwintering. Several reports early to mid-December Lac qui Parle, McLeod, and one 1/31 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU. Returning migrants starting 2/20 Rice (14) TFB with a high count 2/25 Martin (58) PEJ.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [3 North, 9 South] All north reports: 12/8–18 and 2/19 Clay (1–2, Moorhead) RHO, PBB, DWR, 12/18 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 1/10 Otter Tail RAE. Overwintered Martin (2–3 juvenile blue morphs, Fairmont) PEJ and probably Dakota (1 white morph 2/5, 2/11) BAF and McLeod (Hutchinson, flock of 15+ blue and white morphs, of uncertain origin) DPG; also 1/13 Chippewa (1, Lac qui Parle Lake) DLP.

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [1 North, 1 South] All reports: 12/13 Brown (Sleepy Eye Lake) †BTS, **1/10** Otter Tail (1 in Canada Goose flock) †RAE.

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [3 North, 20 South] All north reports (none included any descriptive details): 12/10 Clay RAE, 12/17 Fergus Falls CBC (7), 12/18 Clay (8, Moorhead) PBB, 12/24 Polk (East Grand Forks) SAu, 2/19 and 2/25

Clay (5, Moorhead) DWR. More south reports than in previous years. Reports with documentation of known or probable overwintering birds include 1 (possibly injured) throughout the season Winona (Lake Winona) †JWH, m.ob., 1/6 (93) and 2/23 (89) Martin, 1/6 (15) and 2/25 (18) Jackson, 1/25 Dakota †PEJ. Other high counts include 12/9 Washington (440, Point Douglas Park) RPR, 12/3 Carver (Lake Waconia, 75 including one identified as possible *B. b. taverneri*) †PEB, †DWC.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [15 North, 45 South] Reported from 11 north counties after the CBC period, with high counts 2/5, 2/9, 2/25 Clay (2,500, Moorhead) DWR, 2/19 Otter Tail (2,400, Dunvilla) RPR, 1/24 Polk (500, East Grand Forks) SAu. Season high counts 12/17 Otter Tail (8,000) BDE, 1/6 (7,000) and 2/25 (6,600) Martin PEJ, 2/25 Jackson (6,000) PEJ, 12/23 Chippewa (5,000) SVo. CBC high counts 12/15 Lac qui Parle (65,000), 12/16 Morris (61,195), 12/17 Fergus Falls (20,000), 12/17 Rochester (17,915).

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [2 South] Reports from Goodhue (Prairie Island, Lock and Dam 3) from throughout the season (m.ob.) may include 3 feral birds originating from Treasure Island Casino as well as up to 3 others of unknown origin, according to GJM (Prairie Island Indian Commu-

- nity wildlife biologist). These may be the source of single individuals reported from Wabasha (Mississippi River, Minneiska) 12/31 PEJ, 1/15 BAF, 2/4 DAB.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [12 North, 23 South] High counts north: 2/12 Otter Tail (550, McGowan Lake) BDE, 2/9 Hubbard (77) MAW, 2/18 Morrison (70) JCC. Other post-CBC north reports from Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Douglas, Itasca, Mille Lacs; no reports Northeast. High counts south 12/31 Wright (487, Monticello) MJB, 1/4 Hennepin (245, Lake Rebecca) HCT. CBC high counts 12/31 Northern Wright County (866), 1/1 Battle Lake (533), Pillager (113), 12/17 Fergus Falls (112). Numerous January-February reports south, mostly from Twin Cities counties and Southeast.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [1 North, 5 South] One north record 12/3 Mille Lacs Asc. At least 5 overwintered Wabasha (Mississippi River, Camp Lacupolis to Minneiska) PEJ, DAB, including undetermined number (calls) in mixed flock with Trumpeter Swans (1/15, Minneiska) BAF, SHF, PEJ. High count 12/4 Houston (3,300, Brownsville) KJB.
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [3 North, 16 South] All north reports: 12/11 Clay (male and female, Moorhead Sewage Lagoons) RHO, 12/11, 12/18 St. Louis (female, Manganika Creek) SLF, 12/18 Clay (Moorhead) PBB, Grand Rapids CBC, Virginia CBC, 2/25 Clay (Moorhead) DWR. Mid-January to mid-February reports from Rice, Washington, Blue Earth suggest overwintering. High count 12/1 Hennepin (35) PEJ, 12/3 Hennepin (20) BAF.
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) — [2 North, 18 South] All north reports: 12/10 St. Louis (Duluth) DFN, PEJ, 12/17 Grand Marais CBC (2). Multiple individuals overwintered Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) with peak counts 1/15 (85) BAF, 1/16 (112) MJB, JWH; Wabasha (Pool 5, 48 on 2/20 presumed overwintering) PEJ; Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P. and Shakopee Mill Pond) m.ob. with peak count 2/4 (35, Blue Lake W.T.P.) BAF; Dakota (Black Dog Lake, up to 14 on 1/10) PEJ. Other midwinter reports of single birds from Washington, Ramsey. High count 2/27 Wabasha (140, Pool 5, including probable migrants and overwintering birds) PEJ.
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [1 North, 5 South] One male 2/5, 2/27 St. Louis (Duluth W.L.S.S.D. treatment plant) KJB represents the first north February record. December reports from Hennepin, Houston, Ramsey, Scott, Wabasha. All post-December records south: Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P., 1–2 birds through 1/14) PEJ, KSm, 1/26 Ramsey (Kaposia Landing) TAT. High count 12/4 Scott (8, Blue Lake W.T.P.) PEJ.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [4 North, 21 South] High count north 2/6 St. Louis (47, Duluth, 27th Ave West / Miller Creek) JLK; numerous other midwinter reports from Duluth. All north reports away from St. Louis: Clay (12/18 PBB, 2/5 DWR), Morrison (12/18 HHD, 12/22 RAE, 1/28 FGo, 2/19 BWF, JWH), Itasca (1/1, 1/6 SC). High counts south 2/20 (32), 12/1 (28), 2/27 (15) all from Wabasha (Pool 5) PEJ; also 1/14 Scott (10, Blue Lake W.T.P.) PEJ. Many other midwinter reports south including Benton, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Martin, Ramsey, Rice, Washington, Winona.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [17 North, 42 South] High counts north 12/18 Clay (1,500) PBB, 2/3 St. Louis (965) CLW. High counts south 2/1 Dakota (5,000, near Spring Lake) MDu, 2/26 Dakota (5,000, feeding in corn field near 215th St./ U.S. 52) BAF. CBC high counts 12/31 Hastings-Etter (10,687), 12/17 Fairmont (5,372), 12/17 Minneapolis (North) (4,608).
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [1 North] One north record: 12/17 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) †DST. Two CBC reports south (see Undocumented Records).
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*) — [10 South] High counts 12/9 Hennepin (50, Lake Harriet) TAT, 12/15 Hennepin (48) CMB. Post-December reports include 1/15 Winona DBz, 2/5 Goodhue (Colville Park) PEJ, 2/25 Martin (2, probable early migrants) PEJ.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [2 North, 12 South] All north reports: 12/18 Clay (Moorhead) PBB, 2/3 St. Louis (pair, Duluth Port Terminal) CLW, 2/27 St. Louis (male, Duluth W.L.S.S.D.) KJB. Mid-Janu-

- ary to mid-February south reports include male overwintering Dakota (Lake Rebecca) m.ob., 1/14 Scott (Shakopee Mill Pond) PEJ. Probable early migrants 2/18–19 Nobles BTS, 2/20 (14) Wabasha, 2/25 (4) Jackson, 2/27 Wabasha (8) PEJ, 2/27 Rice DAB. High counts: 12/1 Hennepin (115, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ, 12/3 Hennepin (70, Long Meadow Lake) BAF, SHF.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [8 South] High counts 12/1 Hennepin (76, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ, 12/3 Hennepin (5, Long Meadow Lake) BAF, SHF. Mid-winter records (possibly the same male) include 2/2 Dakota (Black Dog Lake) PEJ, 2/5 Dakota (Lake Rebecca) ELC, PIJ. Probable early migrants 2/27 Wabasha (3) PEJ.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [1 North, 12 South] One north report: 12/10 Douglas JPE. Overwintered Scott (2, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Wabasha (Pool 5) m.ob. including 1/8 (35) DJa, 1/15 (21) PEJ. Other midwinter reports include 1/8 Benton PCC, Stearns PEJ, High counts 2/27 Winona (154, probable early migrants) PEJ, 12/31 Wabasha (120, Pool 5) PEJ, 2/27 Wabasha (65, Pool 5, including overwintering birds and probable early migrants) PEJ.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [1 North, 18 South] One north report 12/18 Clay (Moorhead) PBB. Probable overwintering Wabasha (as many as 10, Mississippi River) m.ob., Winona (up to 5) m.ob. Among probable early migrants starting late February were 2/23 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU and a season high count 2/27 Winona (25) PEJ.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [1 North, 18 South] One north report: 12/17 Grand Marais CBC. Overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. with high counts 1/14 and 1/22 (75) PEJ and 2/4 (85) BAF, SHF. Other midwinter reports include 1/6 Martin (overwintered) PEJ, 1/8 Benton (male, Sartell) PCC, 1/15 Goodhue (2, Lock and Dam 3) BAF, SHF, Wabasha (2) PEJ, 1/21 Washington (2, Point Douglas) BAF, 1/26 Ramsey (3, Kaposia Landing) TAT, (5) CMB. Probable migrants reported starting late February. CBC high count 12/17 Excelsior (51).
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [3 North, 12 South] All north: 12/1 Aitkin RAE, 12/3 Aitkin ASc, 12/17 Douglas (2, Alexandria CBC), 1/28 Morrison (Little Falls) BWF, RMD, FGo, DBz. Overwintered Wabasha (east end Lake Pepin) m.ob. including 1/15 (22) and 2/5 (21) PEJ. Other midwinter reports 1/6 Martin (2) PEJ, Le Sueur DAB. High counts 12/4 Houston (470, Pool 8 from Reno dike) KJB, 12/26 Wabasha (70, Reads Landing) PEJ. Possible early migrants 2/11, 2/25 Scott CRM, 2/23 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [4 North, 21 South] All north reports: male through 12/27 St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob., 12/18 Clay (Moorhead) PBB, Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC. Overwintered Scott (1, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Wabasha m.ob., peak 1/15 (13) PEJ. Other midwinter records include 1/15 Goodhue (2, Lock and Dam 3) BAF, SHF, 1/22 Washington (Point Douglas) ACr, MBS, 2/5 Goodhue (Red Wing) DAB, JWH, 2/9–19 Hennepin (2, JFR, ACr, RDa). High counts 2/27 Winona (45, probable early migrants) PEJ, 12/26 Wabasha (30) PEJ.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus bistrionicus*) — [1 North] One report 1/18 St. Louis (adult male, 16th Ave. East, Duluth) KJB, PHS.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [3 South] All reports: 12/3 Carver (female/immature, Lake Waconia) †DWK, †PEB, †RTE, JCy, 12/11 Winona (female, Lock and Dam 5) ph. ANy, JWH, 1/4 Winona JPr.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [1 North, 2 South] All reports north: 2/3–25 St. Louis (adult male and female/immature, Duluth) ph. CLW, ph. JLK, m.ob. South reports 12/10 Wabasha (2) DBz, ANy, 12/26 Wabasha DFN, PEJ, 1/1–7 Wright (female/immature, Lake Pulaski) DBM, DWK, †CMB, m.ob.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — [2 South] All reports: 12/2–4 Houston (adult male, Pool 8 from Reno dike) DBM, KJB, 12/5–8 Wabasha (female/immature, Lake Pepin, Lake City) KJB.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [2 North, 7 South] All north: 12/1 Aitkin (adult male, Mille Lacs Lake, Wealthwood access) RAE, 2/25 Lake (mouth of Stewart River) JWL. Numerous south reports of what were probably about 8–10 different individuals, including 12/4 Carver (female,

north shore Lake Waconia) †ACr, HHD, Houston KJB, 12/5–31 Wabasha and Winona (at least 4 individuals from Lake Pepin to Minneiska) PEJ, KJB, m.ob., 12/7–21 Hennepin (female, Lake Calhoun, different from female at this location late November) ph. CMB, m.ob., 12/10–2/19 Washington (2 birds, male early December then female from late December, Point Douglas) ELC, JFR, †RTe, ph. NMa, m.ob., 12/16 Hennepin (Lake Minnetonka) PEJ.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [5 North, 19 South] North reports after December: 2 (male, female) overwintered St. Louis through at least 1/17 (male) and 2/24 (female) (Duluth, Canal Park) m.ob.; one in Lake (Two Harbors) through 2/18 m.ob.; 2/5 Lake (Knife River) CLW; 2/6 Cook (Paradise Beach) CLW; 2/19 Cook (Grand Marais) KeB, LOL. January reports south: 1/15 Goodhue (Prairie Island) PEJ, 1/31 Dakota (2, Black Dog Lake) GLA.

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [15 North, 30 South] High counts north: 1/21 St. Louis (1,059) Duluth) KJB, 1/30 Otter Tail (762, Fergus Falls) KJB. High counts south 12/8 Houston (3,800, Reno bottoms) KJB, 12/30 Goodhue (3,000) JFR, 12/10 Wabasha (2,500, Lake City) RBJ, DAC. CBC high counts 12/30 Red Wing (3,058), 12/17 Duluth (647).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (*Bucephala islandica*) — [2 North, 4 South] One north record of an adult male 12/11–2/19 St. Louis (Canal Park and then various other Lake Superior locations in Duluth from 27th Ave. West to 42nd Ave. East) KJB, ph. †PHS, ph. ANY, ph. CyB, m.ob. This is the same male recorded the previous month at Canal Park (11/19–29; see *The Loon* 84:70) and probably the previous three winters as well (since winter 2008). South reports involve possibly the same adult male found in Goodhue, Wabasha (Lake Pepin) and **Winona** (near Minneiska) 12/5–1/15 KJB, †PEJ, †DFN, ph. JWH, m.ob., and an adult female 12/26 Wabasha (in same flock with adult male) †PEJ, †DFN. Another adult male seen 12/20 **Benton** (Mississippi River) †BAB.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [6 North, 19 South] Post-December records north include 1/1 Itasca SC, 2/3–17

St. Louis (1–2, Duluth W.L.S.S.D.) m.ob. Reported from more counties both north and south than in any of the previous 5 years. Numerous midwinter records south of 1–8 birds including Benton, Hennepin, Goodhue, Olmsted, Ramsey, Scott, Stearns, Wabasha, Washington, Winona, Yellow Medicine (1/29 SVo). High counts 12/4 Hennepin (18, Long Meadow Lake) RTE, 2/29 Winona (18) ANY.

Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser — Two reports of this hybrid: immature male St. Louis (Canal Park, Duluth) from 12/12–21 PEJ, ph. KJB, adult male 12/12–2/7 St. Louis (Duluth, Canal Park and WLSSD / 27th Ave. West) ph. KJB, PHS. The latter is probably the same adult recorded the previous year at Canal Park (see *The Loon* 83:109).

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) — [10 North, 29 South] January north reports away from Lake Superior included 1/1 Pillager CBC (2), 1/22–29 Cass (Sylvan Dam) KEm, 1/28 Morrison FGo. High counts: 12/9 Wabasha (50,000) ANY, 12/5 Wabasha (36,900, Lake Pepin) KJB, 12/17 Wabasha (25,000) PEJ, 12/28 Dakota (3,000, Black Dog Lake) BAF. Midwinter high counts 1/16 Ramsey (1,600, Kaposia Landing) BAF, 2/4 Dakota (1,200, Black Dog Lake) KRo.

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) — [7 North, 9 South] Scattered reports from Lake Superior throughout the season including high counts 2/25 St. Louis (25, Canal Park) RTE, 1/20 St. Louis (16, Canal Park) JLK. North reports away from Lake Superior: 12/1 Aitkin RAE, 12/3 Cass (8) DAY, 12/5 Douglas (3, Lake Carlos) ARW, 1/25 Otter Tail BDE. January reports south all of single birds from Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Wabasha, Washington, Wright.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [2 North, 18 South] All north reports: 12/17 Fergus Falls CBC (2), 1/10 Otter Tail RAE, 1/28 Morrison (Little Falls) BWF, RMD, FGo, DBz. Numerous December to early January reports south. Midwinter south reports include 1/14 Washington (female, Point Douglas Park) BAF, 1/15–2/6 Goodhue (up to 5, Lock and Dam 3) BAF, PEJ, m.ob., 2/15 Hennepin (3) RLL. Also overwintered Martin (Fox Lake) PEJ. Probable

- early migrants 2/27 Steele (2) NFT, 2/28–29 Rice DAB, JLO, TFB.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [3 North, 7 South] Reported from fewer than half the counties than the previous two years. All north: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC, Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 2/4 Marshall (5) SAS. No reports east of Meeker except 12/31 Hastings-Etter CBC. High count 12/26 Nobles (7) NED.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [16 North, 40 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as the previous 5 years although high counts very modest: 2/18 Anoka (6) JaM, 12/9 Watonwan (5) AnK. CBC high counts also comparatively low: 12/17 Owatonna (93), 12/16 Morris (52), 2/17 Faribault (34).
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [20 North, 10 South] Reported from more south counties than in any of the previous five years, including Chisago, Dakota, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Ramsey, Sherburne, Stearns, Wabasha, Winona. CBC high counts 12/18 Itasca S.P. (20), Virginia (19), 12/23 Ely (16).
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falciennis canadensis*) — [3 North] Reported throughout the season from Lake, also reports from 12/23 Ely CBC, 12/30 Beltrami Island CBC, 2/11 Lake of the Woods *vide* JMJ.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [10 North, 3 South] South reports from Big Stone (12/1, section 7, Odessa Twp.), Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie including 17 on 2/23), Chippewa (4 on 2/14, 5 on 2/23, Chippewa Prairie) BJU. High counts north 2/6 St. Louis (22, Sax-Zim Bog) KSm, 2/17 St. Louis (22, Sax-Zim Bog) ASt. CBC high counts 12/17 Crookston (12), 12/30 Aurora (9).
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [4 North, 2 South] All south reports: 1/10 Lac qui Parle (3, Plover Prairie), 2/14 (1) and 2/23 (2) Chippewa (Chippewa Prairie), 2/23 Lac qui Parle (2, Plover Prairie) BJU. North reports from Marshall, Mahnomen, Pennington, Polk. No counts greater than 3 were reported.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [17 North, 40 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as last year, northwest to Pennington (2/4 SAS) and Norman. High counts 1/29 Freeborn (97) RTP, 12/31 Dakota (72) KSm. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (269), 12/17 Rochester (235).
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [3 North, 5 South] Reported from more counties than in any of the past 5 years (none last year). North reports: 12/3 Mille Lacs Asc, 12/10 Douglas JPE, St. Louis DFN, PEJ, 12/17 St. Louis (Canal Park, Duluth) KJB, CBC, **2/25** St. Louis (Canal Park) RZi. South reports 12/1 Rice (Cannon Lake) DAB, 12/4 Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) PEJ, 12/8–16 Hennepin (Lake Harriet, Lake Calhoun) TAT, CMB, GHo, 12/23 Meeker (Lake Ripley) MJB, **12/30** Goodhue (Mississippi River, Red Wing) †GJM.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [5 South] Two overwintered: 12/4–2/25 Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., 12/17–1/31 Dakota (Black Dog Lake/Nicols Road) m.ob. Other reports include 12/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 12/9–17 Hennepin (Lake Harriet) m.ob., 12/26 Goodhue (Prairie Island) PEJ.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [1 North, 3 South] One north record: 12/14–18 Lake (mouth of Stewart River) JWJ, Two Harbors CBC. Three south reports: 12/4 Carver (Lake Waconia), Wright (Griffing Park) AcR, 12/7 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) CMB.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [1 North] All reports: 1/1 St. Louis (Duluth, 23rd Ave. West) BCM, 1/7 St. Louis ANY, SC.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [4 South] All reports: 12/3 Rice DAB, 12/9 Wabasha NSg, ANY, DBM, 12/12 Rice TFB, 12/17 St. Paul North CBC (10), 12/26 Goodhue (2, Prairie Island) PEJ, DFN.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [1 North, 6 South] All reports: overwintering birds 12/17–2/3 Ramsey and Dakota (2, Kaposia Landing) m.ob. had injured wings and were unable to fly, and may be the same crippled individuals present the previous winter. Other reports 12/11 Freeborn AEB, 12/12 Washington (Point Douglas, no evidence of injury) DWK, 12/15 Lac qui Parle CBC (9), 12/17–23 Lac qui Parle/Chippewa (7,

Churchill dam, appeared healthy) DLP, SVo, 1/31 and 2/23 Lac qui Parle (2, south end Lac qui Parle Lake) BJU.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) — [7 South] Overwintered Ramsey at traditional location (Kaposia Landing) m.ob., with peak of 10 on 1/27 and 1/29 BAF, SHF. Also overwintered Hennepin (1/1–2/9, Basset Creek) RCB, Dakota (Black Dog Lake, peak of 5 on 2/9) PEJ, Blue Earth (near Mount Kato) ChH, AnK. Other reports suggesting overwintering include 1/1 Afton CBC, 1/26 Dakota (Cannon River) KSm, 2/3 Ramsey (Lake Phalen) MaK.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [32 North, 45 South] Reported from 77 counties (a record) including all but 2 north. High counts: 12/8 (310) and 12/4 (242) Houston (Pool 8, Reno bottoms) KJB, 12/9 Wabasha (70) CWG, 12/10 Wabasha (70, Lake City) RBJ, DAC. High count north 12/1 St. Louis (37, H.R.N.R.) KJB.

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) — [13 North, 22 South] Reported from 35 counties, more than in any of the previous 5 years (7 total last year, including only 2 north). Midwinter records north include 1/5 Otter Tail DST, 1/6 Wilkin (4) MO, 1/7 Polk (2) SAu, 1/8 Wadena PJB, 1/14–15 Crow Wing ABi, 1/14 Otter Tail HHD, 1/19 Hubbard MaH, 1/22 Polk HHu, 1/30 Crow Wing JLK, 2/7 Otter Tail GO, 2/15 Otter Tail BDE. January to mid-February south reports totaled at least 18 individuals from Brown, Carver, Chippewa, Dakota, Hennepin, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Le Sueur, Nicollet, Pope, Stearns, Winona.

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) — [13 North, 31 South] Reported from about the same number of counties both north and south as last year. North reports with details include 1/29 Hubbard MAW, 2/10 St. Louis TKe, 2/15–18 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) m.ob. Numerous other January and February north reports without details from Aitkin, Clearwater, Kittson, Morrison, Otter Tail, Pine, Polk (overwintered). Numerous reports south from 31 counties, including several with details: 12/4 Hennepin PEB, 12/19 Goodhue GJM, Hennepin DBM, 12/24 Anoka ph. KuS, 2/5 Hennepin BAF.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [7

North, 29 South] All north (only 2 with details): 12/17 St. Louis (Duluth), 12/18 Morrison (Little Falls) RZi, MJB, Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 12/22 Beltrami (Bemidji) DPJ, 1/4 Douglas JaR, 1/6 Crow Wing (Pointon Lake) JLK, 2/4 St. Louis (Duluth) JLK, 2/12 St. Louis †AM, 2/19 Hubbard (Spider Lake) †MAW. Numerous south reports from 29 counties; those with details include 12/11 Hennepin BAF, 12/26 Hennepin PEB, 1/1 Hennepin BAF, ph. SHF, 1/5 Ramsey IHu, 1/30 Ramsey DAB.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [7 North, 3 South] Reported from fewer counties than last year (10 vs. 18). North reports from Aitkin, Clay, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis; those with documentation (all adults) include 12/13 Hubbard (Spider Lake) MAW, 1/10, 1/25 St. Louis ph. JMa, 2/10 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) MTo, 2/18, 2/25 Lake (Two Harbors) JWL. One south 1/31 Lac qui Parle (Riverside W.M.A.) ph. BJU. Neither of the other 2 south reports (Isanti, Rice) were documented.

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) — [2 North, 12 South] Reported from more counties than in any of the previous 5 years. All north reports (none documented): 1/2 Morrison KEm, 2/1 Douglas ARW, 2/18 Douglas (Holmes City) CAn. South reports from 6 East-central counties plus Carver, Olmsted, Rice, Sherburne, Stearns, Winona. CBC high count 12/31 Northeast Suburban (3).

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [19 North, 48 South] Reported statewide, including all but 5 south counties. High count north 12/18 Morrison (7) MJB; other north high counts were 3 or fewer. CBC north high counts 12/18 Little Falls (15), 1/1 Long Prairie (10). More numerous south, with high counts 1/21 Houston (22) RTP, 1/21 Houston (19) JWH, 2/5 Dakota (19) ASm, 12/30 Goodhue (14) JFR. CBC south high counts 12/17 St. Paul (North) (50), Rochester (49), Faribault (45), Bloomington (44). Dark-morph Harlan's Hawk (*B. j. harlani*) reported 12/23 Blue Earth (Land of Memories Park, Mankato) ChH, ph. †AnK.

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) — [30

- North, 35 South] Reported from 2 more counties than last year (65 vs. 63), but only 2 Southwest. High counts: 1/6 Wilkin (16, Rothsay W.M.A.) MO, 12/19 Aitkin (15) RTa. South reports were of 1–2 birds only. CBC high counts (all north) 12/18 Two Harbors (15), 12/17 Crookston (12), 1/2 Warren (10). Highest south CBC total 12/17 Sherburne N.W.R. (4).
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [7 North, 6 South] Total of about 12 individuals north, from Cass, Marshall, Pine, Polk, St. Louis (including 2/11–25 Sax-Zim Bog m.ob.), Todd, Wadena, with high count 12/1 St. Louis (3, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Multiple south reports from Houston, Winona, Wabasha, and single reports from Carver (adult, 1/3 JCy), Goodhue, Lac qui Parle, with high count 1/21 Winona (5, C.R. 17 and S.R. 76) DBz.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [2 North, 18 South] Reported from more counties than in any of the previous 5 years. All north reports: 12/10 Douglas JPE, 12/17 Alexandria CBC (30), overwintered 1/15–2/24 St. Louis (Virginia, Silver Lake) SLF. Multiple individuals overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. with midwinter peak 2/4 (15) BAF, SHF; also 1/6 Winona (4, Minneiska) SSp. High counts were in December: 12/1 Hennepin (100, Long Meadow Lake) MaK, 12/13–14 Hennepin (51, Lake Harriet) TAT, IHu.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*) — [2 North, 4 South] All south reports: 12/1 Washington (50 in flock flying over Carpenter N.C. LEC; 20–30 in circling flock, Hwy. 36 and C.R. 36 ADS), 12/2 Sherburne (14, Sherburne N.W.R.) Asc, 12/3 Anoka (53, flying over Linwood C.P.) DPG, 12/16–17 Kandiyohi (1 foraging in alfalfa field, east side of U.S. Hwy. 71 south of Sibley S.P.) †RAE, also reported from same location on or about **1/9** *vide* RAE. See Undocumented Reports for north records.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [4 South] All south reports: 12/18 Dakota (Vermillion River near Hastings) PEJ, DFN, **1/21** Houston (2, C.R. 32 and C.R.3) ANy, JWH, (3) RTP, **1/24** Houston RTP; probable early migrants 2/27 Olmsted (Cascade Lake) LAV, Wabasha (Pool 5) PEJ.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [1 North, 4 South] All reports: **12/13** and **12/18** St. Louis (Manganika Creek, Virginia) †SLF, 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC, 1/16 Olmsted (5, Section 10, Dover Twp.) JWH, 1/24 (2) and 2/14 Winona (C.R. 4 east of Hart) ANy, 1/28 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) TAT.
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** (*Rissa tridactyla*) — [1 North] Two reports St. Louis (Canal Park) of probably the same first-cycle bird: **12/13** †JCa and **12/18** ph. †KJB.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [1 North, 3 South] All reports: 12/1 Hennepin (3, Lake Calhoun) SHu, IHu, Rice (Cannon Lake) DAB, 12/3 Mille Lacs Asc, Wright (Howard Lake) DWK, PEB.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [3 South] Well-documented adult first reported 12/4 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun, roosting with many Ring-billed Gulls) and subsequently found almost daily there and later into mid-January at various other Twin Cities locations including Lake Harriet and Long Meadow Lake (Hennepin), Kaposia Landing (Ramsey), and Black Dog Lake (Dakota) ph. †BAF, ph. †PEB, ph. †CMB, ph. †ACr, ph. RTe, ph. DAT, †MDu, †SBM, †MBS, †IHu, m.ob. Last reported **1/14** (Black Dog Lake, west end). This is only the second January record for Minnesota (the first was also an adult that overwintered through February at widely scattered Twin Cities locations winter 2009).
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [6 North, 17 South] At least 4 (1 adult, 3 first-cycle) overwintered St. Louis (Duluth, Canal Park and 27th Ave. West). This is apparently the first overwintering record for Duluth with numerous reports of 1–4 (3 first-cycle, 1 adult) throughout January and February until 2/25 ph. PHS, m.ob., with one count of 6 (2 adult, 4 first-cycle) 2/2 JLK. Other north reports Aitkin, Douglas, Lake, Mille Lacs, Morrison in early December. Reported from more south counties than in any of the last 5 years, with peak 12/13 Hennepin (200, Lake Harriet) ACR. A few (up to 5 on 1/25 PEJ) were regularly reported throughout January (Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey) m.ob., and 1 persisted to 2/18 (Black Dog Lake) BAF. CBC high counts 12/17 Bloomington (139), 12/17 St.

Paul (North) (78), 12/31 Hastings-Etter (58).
Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) — [6 North, 10 South] Many overwintered St. Louis (Duluth area), with January high counts 1/4 (1,000) and 1/13 (900) Canal Park JLK, and February high count 2/6 (957, 27th Ave. West) PHS, JLK. As many as 3,508 were in Duluth/Superior area 12/18 (2,550 in Duluth) KJB. Also overwintered north in much smaller numbers in Lake (up to 35), Cook (up to 30). No north reports after mid-December away from Lake Superior. Many reports south (all but one from East-central and Southeast) with December high counts 12/17 and 12/23 Dakota (500, Black Dog Lake) MDu, CMB. Numbers dwindled to 10 or fewer after mid-January except 1/25 (30, Black Dog Lake) PEJ. A few individuals were reported in February, including 2/23 Dakota (3) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (1,750), 12/17 Bloomington (253).
Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) — [2 North, 4 South] All north reports from St. Louis except one from Lake. Many reports (m.ob.) from Duluth area throughout the season, with peak 1/14 (13, most photographed) PHS. Duluth area season totals tallied by KJB (individuals distinguished by photos): at least 33 including 11 first-cycle, 5 second-cycle, 5 third-cycle, and 12 adults. Of these, 12 are known to have overwintered (6 first-cycle, 2 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, 2 adults). Most south reports from Dakota, Hennepin, but also 12/5 Goodhue KJB, 12/5–9 Wabasha KJB, DBM. South high counts 12/30–31 Hennepin (4, Long Meadow Lake) CMB, BAF. A few persisted into January until 1/11 Dakota (2, Black Dog Lake) CMB.
Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) — [2 North, 4 South] All north reports from St. Louis except one (Lake). Duluth area (mostly Canal Park, 27th Ave. West) season total based on individually identifiable photographs by KJB, PHS, MLH: at least 11 individuals (6 first-cycle, 1 third-cycle, 4 adults), with high counts 12/31 (6 including 3 first-cycle, 1 third-cycle, 2 adult) KJB, 1/7, 1/14 (4) PHS, and numerous other reports from area through February m.ob. One photographed adult 12/31, 1/8, 2/7 appeared to be *L. g. glaucooides* KJB, PHS, as did

one first- or second-cycle 2/1–8 KJB, PHS, m.ob, although subspecies designation for subadult plumages is uncertain. Four other birds (1 first-cycle, 3 adult) appeared intermediate between *L. thayeri* and *L. g. kumlieni* KJB. At least 3 individuals south: 12/6–1/9 Hennepin and Dakota (first-cycle, Black Dog Lake/Mississippi River and Long Meadow Lake) †SeP, ph. †PEB, ph. †BAF, ph. †CMB, ph. RTe, ph. DAT, m.ob., 12/28–1/26 Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey (adult, Black Dog Lake, Long Meadow Lake, Kaposia Landing) †BAF, †PEB, PEJ, ELC, 1/2 Goodhue (adult, Lake City) †JWH, ph. ANY.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) — [2 South] All reports: 12/3 Wright (adult, Pulaski Lake) †DWK, †PEB, 12/7–17 Hennepin (Lake Harriet, Lake Calhoun) †CMB, †TAT, †BAF, †ACr, m.ob.

GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL (*Larus glaucescens*) — [1 North] Well-photographed and described adult **12/22–1/15** St. Louis (Duluth, mostly Canal Park) ph. †KJB, ph. †PHS, ph. ANY. This is the fifth record for Minnesota. (See **The Loon** 84:102.)

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [3 North, 4 South] Most north reports from St. Louis (Duluth), also Lake and 12/3 **Crow Wing** (immature, Mille Lacs Lake) KJB. Season total in Duluth area based on individually identifiable photographs by KJB was at least 38 (23 first-cycle, 3 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, 10 adult). High counts (Duluth, W.L.S.S.D. / 27th Ave. West) 2/5 (**34**, record high count for state) KJB, 2/7 (**29**) MLH, JLK, PHS. South reports include 12/31 Wright (Lake Pulaski) JFR, 1/1 Goodhue (2 first-cycle, Red Wing) JWH, and numerous reports (m.ob.) from Hennepin and Dakota into early January; last recorded 1/8. High count south 12/31 Dakota (6: 5 first-cycle, 1 second-cycle, Black Dog Lake) PEB.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North, 2 South] All north reports from St. Louis (Duluth area) m.ob., with a season total of at least 8 different individuals including 3 first cycle and 3 second cycle identified by photos plus 1 third-cycle and 1 adult KJB; most probably overwintered. Single-day high counts 1/10 St. Louis (**11**, Canal Park) TAT, 2/7 (**7**, W.L.S.S.D.

- / 27th Ave. West) PHS, JLK, MLH. South reports 12/7–10 Wabasha (second-cycle) BRL, RLE, RBJ, DAC, 12/26 Goodhue (first-cycle) PEJ, DFN.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [32 North, 48 South] Reported in all but 2 north and 5 south counties. High counts 12/17 Olmsted (213) JPr, 12/28 St. Louis (200, Duluth) JLK, 1/5 Olmsted (200) CWG. CBC high counts 12/17 St. Paul (North) (2,031), 12/17 Winona (843), 12/17 Duluth (807).
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [8 North, 25 South] Recorded from more north counties than in previous years, as far northwest as Marshall (Argyle) JM], SAS. High counts 1/16 Cottonwood (27, Windom) KSm, 1/14 Brown (17, Comfrey and Hanska) BTS, 12/26 Wabasha (11, Plainview) JPr. CBC high counts 12/16 Cottonwood (55), 12/26 Lamberton (14).
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [20 North, 35 South] Scattered north reports of 1–3 birds. High counts south: 12/31 Dakota (54) KSm, 12/8 Rice (35) DAT, 1/17 Washington (35) ANy, 1/29 Carver (32) RBJ, 1/18 Hennepin (31) TAT, 1/21 Dakota (30) ADS. CBC high counts 12/17 Winona (204), 12/31 Hastings-Etter (188), 12/17 Faribault (165), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (142). CBC north high count 12/17 Crosby (30).
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [2 North, 8 South] All north reports: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC, Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC. Scattered throughout the south, from all regions except the Southwest, which had no reports. CBC high count 12/18 Austin CBC (3), down significantly from the six reported last year on that count. Only gray morphs were noted, 12/5 and 1/17 Ramsey AXH.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [17 North, 41 South] Reported from 58 counties statewide, well above the average of 42 counties over the previous five years. Very scarce north of an arc from Marshall County in the Northwest, southeast to Cass County in the North-central and Pine County in the East-central region, with all reports: 12/18 Two Harbors CBC, 2/16, 2/18 Itasca SC, and 2/18 St. Louis SWe. CBC high count 12/17 Rochester CBC (8), down significantly from high counts the past two years (13 in 2010; and 20 in 2009). Earliest report of an adult on a nest was 2/14 Dakota ADS.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [26 North, 42 South] An invasion year for this species, with approximately 217 individuals reported — second only to the winter of 1993–1993. Reports began in the fall, peaked in December, and actually continued well into the following summer! Reports were distributed across the state. Several individuals were reported as moribund or dead. The individual high count was 2/17 Dodge (3) DAC, and the CBC high count was 12/17 Duluth (2). See *The Loon* 84:146–150 for more details.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia uhula*) — [3 North] Observed only in the Northeast region where 3 individuals were reported, the lowest count of the previous 5 years. First noted in the Sax-Zim Bog area 12/10 St. Louis SSP, and infrequently thereafter through 2/19 m.o.b. Most cooperative was the individual found near Gooseberry Falls S.P. beginning 12/30 Lake *fide* JWL, continuing through 2/18 m.ob. Also seen 2/16 Cook WWo.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [13 North, 26 South] Reports spanned the season and most of the state, but was absent from nearly all the westernmost counties, except for 12/3 and 2/23 Lac Qui Parle BJU. The CBC high count was 12/18 Austin (9).
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [7 North] All reports clustered in the North-central and Northeast regions, most frequently from the Sax-Zim Bog, as usual. Reports spanned the season from 12/3 St. Louis JMa, through 2/25 St. Louis RZi. CBC reports included 12/18 Two Harbors, 12/23 Ely, and tying for the CBC high counts were 12/29 Baudette (2), 12/30 Beltrami Island (2). Highest individual counts were of 3 in St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) 1/13 BDa, 1/20 RSm, 2/19 GWo. Additional reports from Beltrami, Koochiching, Itasca, and Aitkin counties.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [3 North, 13 South] More reports than usual with 20 individuals total, and scattered nearly statewide, but missing from the Northwest and most southern border counties. Several reports north, where typically rare in

winter: 12/18 Morrison (Mud Lake W.M.A.) RZi, 12/30 Beltrami FGo, 12/20 St. Louis KJB, 2/2 St. Louis JCG. South reports from Lac Qui Parle, Lyon, Redwood, Pope, Stearns, Sherburne, Wright, Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota, Rice and Houston.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — [4 North, 5 South] A total of 10 individuals reported. Widely scattered across the state in a broad arc from Marshall and Polk in the Northwest; south to Otter Tail, Grant, Lac Qui Parle and Chippewa in the West-central region; and east to Sherburne, Le Sueur in the South-central, to Olmsted in the Southeast. High count was 1/2 Warren CBC (2).

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) — [1 North] Only report was a single individual 12/17 Grand Marais CBC.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [3 North, 10 South] All north reports: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC, Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 1/23 Cass (Woodrow Twp.) DAY. South reports 12/2 Chisago (Interstate S.P.) RMa, 1/5 Chisago (Interstate S.P.) RBJ, 1/6 Ramsey AXH, 1/8 Anoka (near Forest Lake), Chisago (north-east of Stacy) AXH, 1/17 Hennepin TAT, 1/21 Wright FGo, while beginning 12/10–2/20 Rice TFB what is presumed the same individual was reported multiple times. An easily observed individual was reported and photographed 2/23–28 Dakota m.ob. (Dodge N.C.). Also observed on the following south CBCs: 12/15 Lac Qui Parle, 12/17 Wild River, Sherburne N.W.R., Faribault, Rochester.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [6 North, 29 South] More reports than any of the previous 5 years. All north reports: 12/10 Aitkin GPM, 12/12 Todd JeM, DTM, 12/16 Uppgaard W.M.A. CBC, 12/17 Fergus Falls CBC, 1/1 Long Prairie CBC (same bird as 12/12?), 1/18 Becker KLa, 2/2 Hubbard MAW. South reports were concentrated in the Central, East-central and Southeast Regions but were reported in all regions. Unusual was a report 12/29 Rock RHo. CBC high counts 12/17 Faribault (6), 12/17 Excelsior (5), 12/17 Mankato (4), 12/18 Austin (4). None of the birds were noted as overwintering.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes*

erythrocephalus) — [6 North, 10 South] More reports than any of the previous 5 years, but just ahead of 2009 (6 north, 9 south) by one county. North reports 12/10 Douglas JPE, Kanabec (2) DPG, 12/18 Little Falls (5), 1/1 Long Prairie (2), 1/25 Crow Wing JSB, 2/4 Cass (McKinley Twp.) DAY. In the south, all reports were in the Central, East-central, South-central and Southeast regions. An incredible CBC high count: 12/18 Cedar Creek Bog (56). Individual high counts include 12/24 Anoka (8) DFN, 12/26 Anoka (4, Fish Lake Nature Trails) (Joe Reinemann), 1/29 Anoka (4, Fish Lake Trails) DWK. Additional CBC reports include 12/17 Rochester, St. Cloud-Collegeville, 12/30 Red Wing.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [23 North, 44 South] Observed throughout the season and reported statewide, but absent from the extreme northwest, and northeast corners of the state. Unusual north report 12/24 Koochiching (an individual first observed during the Fall season) ph. AMe. CBC high counts include 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (59), 12/17 Rochester (57), 12/17 Faribault (49), 12/18 Austin (47), 12/31 Hastings-Etter (43), 12/17 Excelsior (42).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [1 North, 6 South] Only north report 1/1 Long Prairie CBC. South reports 12/2–3 Hennepin (Lakewood Cemetery) TAT, 12/16 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park) JJo, Winona CBC, 12/17 Rice TFB, 12/30 Red Wing CBC, 1/2 Wabasha CBC, and 1/15 infrequently through 2/12 Olmsted ph. LAV. Efforts from observers to document this species in winter with photographs and detailed notes are appreciated. Sapsuckers pose an identification challenge at the species level, and always include the possibility of hybrid individuals.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) — [24 North, 47 South] Seen in all regions statewide. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (197), 12/17 Excelsior (158), Bloomington (156), St. Paul (North) (153).

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) — [29 North, 43 South] Reported from all regions statewide, but missing from the far south-western counties. CBC high counts 12/17

St. Paul (North) (85), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (74), 12/17 Bloomington (61), 12/17 Faribault (57), 12/17 Duluth (52), 12/17 Owatonna (46).

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [5 North] Only 6–7 individuals: 12/18 Two Harbors CBC, 12/23 Ely CBC, 12/30 Beltrami Island CBC, 1/15 infrequently until 2/18 Lake (Sawbill Landing Rd, 1.3 mi NE of Isabella) KRE, ph. MLH, m.ob., 1/15 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) JWa, 2/4–11 Crow Wing HHD, MJB, ph. ABi, m.ob., 2/19 St. Louis CAB.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [9 North] No south reports for the first time in 5 years. Interesting north reports 12/2 Becker (female, Bad Medicine Lake) MO, 12/30 Cass DAY, and 2/4 and infrequently until 2/18 Crow Wing HHD, m.ob. Several reports from 12/10–1/28 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) m.ob. All other reports from within normal range in the North-central and Northeast regions. CBC reports 12/17 Grand Marais (5), 12/18 Itasca S.P., 12/23 Ely (2), 1/1 Isabella (2).

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [8 North, 31 South] Widespread south of a line from Polk and Pennington in the Northwest region, southeast to Chisago in the East-central. North of this line only found 12/9, 12/22 St. Louis (near Virginia) DBF, and several reports from St. Louis beginning 12/17 Duluth CBC until at least 1/18 *vide* JWL. Reported on 31 CBCs with high counts 12/17 Faribault (16), 12/17 Willmar (9), 12/17 Mankato (8), 12/17 Bloomington (6), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (6), 12/17 Marshall (5). Individual high count 1/14 Blue Earth (4) ChH. There were two reports of the “Red-shafted” form 12/10 Hennepin TJo and 1/1 Rice TFB, “seen over ten times throughout the winter season at home feeder.”

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [27 North, 36 South] Widespread with numerous reports throughout the state north of a line from Lac Qui Parle southeast to Freeborn. South of this line only reported 12/17 Marshall CBC (3), Jackson County CBC. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (44), 12/17 Crosby (27), 12/17 Wild River (21), 12/17 Duluth (18), 12/17 Excelsior (17), 12/17

Faribault (16).

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [14 North, 41 South] Found statewide, except the extreme northern tier counties. Still present in 7 north counties in February.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [10 North, 23 South] Widely reported and overwintered north and south. North reports from 10 counties far exceeded the average of 3 over the prior five winters, while south reports were about double those of an average winter.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [3 North, 6 South] In addition to north reports from St. Louis where this species frequently overwinters were reports 1/7 Lake Ash and 12/23 Lake of the Woods (Baudette) THE. South reports from the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Olmsted and Winona.

Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) — [26 North, 46 South] The highest number of reports from the past 5 years and observed statewide, including the Southwest region where typically scarce. CBC high counts 1/1 Long Prairie (13), 12/17 Faribault (10), 12/18 Cedar Creek Bog (10), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (10), 12/17 Excelsior (9), 12/31 Northern Wright County (9).

Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [14 North] Widespread across normal range in the north, with reports spanning the season. Less expected were reports 1/3 and 2/10 Kittson TrB coming to a feeder, and 2/4 Cass HHD. There were also a handful of reports from 12/19 through 2/18 Aitkin m.ob. CBC high counts 12/23 Ely (56), 12/17 Duluth (38), 12/30 Beltrami Island (29). Individual high counts were concentrated in the Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis: 12/28 (9) KNe, 1/5 (9) ESp, DCo, 2/19 (9) ABi.

Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [30 North, 47 South] Reported from all regions statewide. CBC high counts 12/17 Sherburne N.W.R. (337), 12/18 Cedar Creek Bog (282), 12/17 Crosby (223).

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica hudsonia*) — [18 North, 1 South] Reported from more counties than any of the previous 5 years, most within normal range. Unusual reports include 12/4, 12/20 Hubbard MaH, 12/18

- Hubbard (Itasca S.P. CBC, same bird?), 1/16 infrequently to 2/19 Crow Wing (3) RBJ, DAC, m.ob., 1/16 Pine RPR, 2/2, 2/4 Cass RJB, DAC, DAY. Rare winter record 12/17 Sherburne N.W.R. CBC, the only south report. CBC high count 12/29 Baudette (31).
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [32 North, 50 South] Reported from all regions statewide, with more reports than in any of the previous 5 years. CBC high counts 12/17 Bloomington (5,657), 12/17 Rochester (2,297), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (1,613).
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [28 North, 9 South] Reported within normal range across all of the northern counties, along with more reports into the southern half of the state than any of the previous 5 years. Unusual winter reports 12/17 Stearns (St. Cloud-Collegeville CBC) and infrequently until 2/25 †PCC, m.ob., 2/17 Douglas (2, Miltona) JPE, 2/19 Lac Qui Parle (Section 23/24, Augusta Twp.) ph. BJU. High counts 1/16 Crow Wing (86, Dean Lake Twp) RBJ, DAC. CBC high count 12/23 Ely (161). NOTE: Please provide details for any extra-limital observations.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [14 North, 43 South] Reports down slightly from last year. Widespread throughout the south, with patchy distribution in the north with most reports in February. Unusual north was 12/7 St. Louis (3) *vide* JWL. High counts include 1/21 Houston (500) JPr, 2/14 Jackson (300) KSm. CBC high count 12/17 Fairmont (103), like last year, was well below the average high CBC count of the prior four winters (863).
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [31 North, 48 South] Reported from all regions statewide throughout the season. Number of reporting counties similar to last year. High count 12/30 St. Louis (355) SLF. CBC high count 12/17 Duluth (2,449).
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Reporting counties down only slightly from last year, but the lowest number of the previous 5 years. Reported from Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Itasca, St. Louis and Lake Counties. As expected, most reports were from the Sax-Zim Bog 12/1–2/25 St. Louis m.ob. High counts were all from the same location on consecutive days, 2/16–18 Lake (7–8, Moose Ridge Cafe, Isabella) Ast, DGI, LOL. CBC high counts 1/1 Isabella (16), 12/30 Beltrami Island (14).
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [6 South] Out of range reports 12/14, 12/31 Washington MGr and again 1/1 for the Afton CBC (same bird), and 12/31 Ramsey (St. Paul Northeast Suburban CBC). Numerous observations from Goodhue, Olmsted, Winona and Houston, within normal range. CBC high counts 12/17 Winona (19), 12/17 Rochester (8).
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [26 North, 26 South] Slightly fewer reports than the previous two years, and most numerous in the northern half of the state, except for the western border regions. Reports in the southern half of the state were concentrated in the Central and East-central regions and became more widely scattered west and south. CBC high counts were all north, 12/17 Duluth (168), 12/30 Cook Area (99), 12/23 Ely (80).
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [30 North, 46 South] Reported from all regions statewide, with the highest number of reports of the previous 5 years. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (243), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (176), 12/17 Excelsior (165).
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [21 North, 37 South] Reported from more counties than any of the previous five years. Reported from all regions statewide, but concentrated in the south in the Central, South-central, East-central and Southeast regions. Mid-February north reports from Crow Wing, Lake, Mille Lacs, and St. Louis. CBC high counts 12/17 Faribault (28), 12/17 Bloomington (17).
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [2 South] All reports: 12/11 **Chisago** (Wild River S.P. Visitor Center) RSG reported and photographed frequently through 2/25, and 2/1 Hennepin CMB.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [4 South] More reports than any of the previous 5 years. Reported from Hennepin 12/11 (Pond Dakota Mission) DWK, 12/12 (Mound Springs Park area) DWK, 12/17

- Bloomington CBC, 1/10 (2) CMB. Additional south reports 12/12 Steele (Saco Farm Woods & Fields) PSu, 1/9–13, 2/21 Rice TFB, 1/15 Houston (Beaver Creek S.P.) DBz.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [11 North, 18 South] More reports than any of the previous 5 years. Reported across a broad swath of northern counties from Polk and Clay in the Northwest, east to Lake, but absent from the far Northwest and North-central regions. Reports south were scattered from Lac Qui Parle, Lyon and Nobles in the West-central and Southwest, arcing north to Stearns and Isanti, and then south along the eastern border counties to Winona. CBC high counts 12/31 Rice Lake N.W.R. (7), 12/15 Lac qui Parle (6), 12/18 Itasca S.P. (5).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [2 North, 1 South] All north reports: 12/17 Grand Marais CBC, 12/17 Fergus Falls CBC. All south: 12/6 irregularly through 1/7 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) SLC, ph. SHF, BAF, m.ob. The last date is the latest date ever recorded in the state.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [2 North, 18 South] More reports than any of the previous 5 years. All north reports: 12/18 Fargo-Moorhead CBC, 12/1 St. Louis (mouth of the French River.) MLH. South reports predominantly from counties along a line from Stearns to Houston. Exceptions were 12/1 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Beach) BJU, 12/17 Wild River CBC (4), 12/18 Cedar Creek Bog CBC (2), 1/26 Blue Earth RBJ. CBC high count 12/17 Winona (14). Late reports, and possible early migrants: 2/23 Lac qui Parle BJU, 2/25 Stearns MJB, 2/27 Houston ANy.
- Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*) — [1 North] Rare winter record 2/16 Cook KWR (no details).
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [4 North, 8 South] Total of 17 individuals, the highest number since 2007. North reports from Polk, Otter Tail, St. Louis, Cook. In the south, reports were concentrated in the Central and East-central regions with no reports south of a line from Lac qui Parle east to Dakota.
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) — [2 North, 3 South] Second year in a row with north reports. All north: 1/25 St. Louis (Leif Erikson Park) *fide* JWL, 2/2 Cook *fide* JWL. All south: 12/17 Bloomington CBC, 1/17 Hennepin (Lake Rebecca P.R.) DWK, 1/23 Rice TFB, 2/16 Hennepin (Cedar Lake) JSI, 2/25 Stearns (Warner C.P.) DBM.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [17 North, 37 South] Reported statewide. Individual high counts 12/30 Dakota (200, Lake Byllesby/Lakeside Cemetery) BAF, SHF, 12/13 Olmsted (100) LAV, 1/13 Washington (100, St. Croix Watershed Research Station Pond) KMo, 2/5 Hennepin (100, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF. CBC high count 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (716). Overwintering specifically noted 12/10–2/29+ Dakota ADS (1) and was first heard singing its territorial song on 2/17.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [9 North, 2 South] Total of 11 individuals. North reports 12/9 Becker (female, Tamarac N.W.R.) HHD, RAE, 12/11 Pine ToH, 12/17 Beltrami CBC, Fergus Falls CBC, Hubbard KLa, 12/17–2/17 (overwintered) St. Louis m.ob., 1/2–1/4 Polk SAU, 2/3–2/19 Morrison (female, north of Lastrup) RAE, m.ob., 2/25 Crow Wing KEm. South reports 1/25–1/30 Blue Earth ph. †ChH, AKr, m.ob., 1/17–2/25 Dakota (Ravenna Twp., well-photographed and hosted by a very accomodating homeowner!) m.ob.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [1 South] Only report 12/17 Hennepin (edge of Palmer Lake Park, Brooklyn Center) SSC.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [1 North, 3 South] One north report: 1/28 Morrison FGo. All south reports: 12/17 St. Cloud-Collegeville CBC, 12/18 Austin CBC, 2/12 Hennepin (Golden Valley) ph. JPI, which had been overwintering since December.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [28 North, 48 South] More reports than any of the previous 5 years, and found in all regions statewide. Individual high count 1/15 St. Louis (1,200, 27th Ave West / Miller Creek, Duluth) JLK. CBC high count 12/17 Bloomington (5,913).
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [14 North] All reports were from the northern third of the state, extending as far south as Becker, Hubbard, Wadena,

- and Cass. Most numerous in the Northeast region, as expected, with a high count 1/21 Cook (2,500 in Grand Marais) RSm. CBC high count was from the same area 12/17 Grand Marais (584).
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [18 North, 32 South] Reported statewide, from more counties than any of the previous five years and throughout the season. High counts 12/31 Dakota (130) TAT, 1/5 Goodhue (100, Miesville Ravine P.R.) DVe, 2/14 Blue Earth (100) AnK. CBC high counts 12/17 Grand Marais (490), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (468), 12/17 Faribault (400).
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [10 North, 31 South] Number of reports down from the highs of the previous two years (51 counties 2010, and 47 in 2009). Reported from all regions, but much more scarce in the northern half of the state. Individual high counts 1/13 Rice (400) DAB, 1/23 Faribault (250, Delavan) RBJ, DAC. CBC high counts 12/23 Northern Meeker County (344), 12/17 Owatonna (224).
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [23 North, 34 South] Though found statewide, lowest number of county reports of the previous five year period. Individual high counts 12/12 Hubbard (350) MaH, 1/25 Dakota (300) ANy. CBC high counts 12/29 Baudette (525), 1/2 Warren (475).
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [4 North, 10 South] An unprecedented winter season for this species with more individuals (21) than ever before. Notable were the small flock of 5 found 1/31 Carver (Rapid Lakes Unit of the Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, and the four apparently different individuals discovered in St. Louis throughout the season (12/6 through 1/26) *vide* JW. The only other post-December reports were 1/4 Mille Lacs (Princeton) *vide* ASC, 1/18 Winona ANy.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [1 South] Only report was of an individual first found in October and seen through 1/29 in Mower (Austin) JSG, ph. TDo, ph. RNS, ph. RTe, ph. ANy, †DAB, m.ob.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [1 North, 2 South] Overwintered north 12/1–2/29 Polk SAu. Also found south 1/12–1/23 Faribault WAF, m.ob., 12/17 Winona CBC.
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizella arborea*) — [15 North, 47 South] More reports than any of the previous five years. Observed in most counties south of an arc from Clay east to Cass and St. Louis. Mostly absent from the far Northwest and North-central regions, with the exception of 12/18 Marshall HHD, RAE. High counts 1/25 Goodhue (150, Prairie Island) GJM, 1/16 Winona (100, Whitewater W.M.A.) MJB. CBC high counts 12/17 Winona (238), 12/17 Rochester (136).
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [1 North] Only report with details was 12/18 Lake †JWL, ph. GiW. Second record for the Two Harbors CBC (1st in 2009). Also see Undocumented Reports.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [1 South] Only report was record late: 12/31 Dakota ADS, TAT.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Poocetes gramineus*) — [1 South] Record late south report 12/22 Lac qui Parle DLP.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [1 South] Only report 1/23–24 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) ph. v.t. BJU.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus sавannarum*) — [1 North] Second winter record for the state: 12/1 St. Louis (continuing from 11/30 along Hwy. 61 near the French River) ph. EBr.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [7 South] All south records: 12/4 Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission Park) DWK, 12/13 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) ph. BJU, 12/17 Wild River S.P. CBC, 1/1–2/13 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R. Headquarters) ph. RTe, m.ob., 1/6 Hennepin (Bluff Trail, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF, SHF, 12/2 Washington (Carpenter N.C.) LEC, 12/17 Faribault CBC, 12/17 Rochester CBC, 1/15, 1/21 Winona DBz.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [2 North, 12 South] North reports 12/17 Detroit Lakes CBC (2), 12/25, 1/5 Lake (Two Harbors) JW. Several additional reports south including the following CBC high counts: 12/17 Sherburne N.W.R. (3), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (2).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [8 South] More reports than any of the previous five years, including observa-

- tions from Lac qui Parle, Marshall CBC (5), Scott, Dakota, and as late as February in Carver, Hennepin, Olmsted and Winona.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [4 North, 14 South] CBC high counts 12/17 Rochester (4), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (3). Overwintering noted 12/1–2/13 Polk SAu, 12/18–2/21 Lake JWL, 12/3–2/29 Dakota ADS. Additional north reports from December in Clay (S. Moorhead) and in St. Louis (Duluth, Virginia CBC).
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [7 North, 11 South] More reports than any of the previous five years, widely scattered across the state. Overwintered 12/1–2/27 Polk SAu, 12/8–2/27 Steele NFT, 12/17–2/5 Olmsted JWH, DBz.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [2 North, 5 South] More reports than any of the previous five years. All north reports: 12/15 St. Louis *fide* JWL, 12/17 St. Louis (Duluth CBC) (different birds?), 2/19 Lake (Two Harbors) JWL. All south reports: 12/17 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) CBC, Hennepin (near Elm Creek P.R.) *fide* SSC (who submitted documentation based on interview with observers), 1/16 Winona MJB, 2/18 Anoka (3, Krypton) JaM, and one overwintered 1/4–2/27 Olmsted (3) LAV, m.ob.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [25 North, 45 South] Fairly consistent number of counties reporting over the past three years (69 in 2010, 67 in 2009). Seen in all regions statewide and throughout the season. Individual high count 1/21 Houston (87, Houston) RTP. CBC high counts 12/17 Winona (517), Rochester (516), 1/2 Wabasha (499), 12/31 Hastings-Etter (461). “Oregon” subspecies 1/23–2/2 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) ph. BJU.
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [1 South] Fourth winter record for the state, seen in Washington (Carpenter N.C.) through **12/2** LEC. LMS, JHg.
- Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*) — [1 South] A remarkable first winter record for the state: **1/11–19** Hennepin (Maple Grove) ph. *fide* AXH. This species was observed coming to the feeder at a private residence. Latest previous date 9/16 (1989, in Duluth).
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [17 North, 44 South] Number of reports down just slightly from the last two years (62 counties in 2010 and 2009). Observed in all regions throughout the state, including even 1/2–2/19 **Kittson** LW. CBC high counts 12/17 Faribault (233), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (216), 12/17 Bloomington (198).
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [2 South] Rare winter records: 12/17 St. Paul (North) CBC, **1/4** Rice (first year male) TFB.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [9 North, 28 South] Number of reports up slightly from last year (35 counties), and continuing an upward trend over the past three years. Scattered reports from all regions statewide, but absent from the northernmost counties in the Northwest and North-central regions. Overwintering north likely, as indicated by reports 2/7 Otter Tail GO, 2/9–2/11 Polk (Audubon Center of the Red River Valley) HHu, m.ob., 2/22 Todd JeM, DTM. Individual high count 12/11 Winona (150, Whitewater WMA) JWH. CBC high counts 12/17 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (158), 12/16 Cottonwood (100).
- Sturnella meadowlark** (*Sturnella sp.*) — [1 North, 1 South] Several winter records: 1/10 St. Louis (Duluth) SG, 2/29 Lac qui Parle (6, Walter Twp.) BJU. Also see Undocumented Reports.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [1 South] One report: 12/3 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) ph. BJU. Winter reports of this species are increasing and have been noted in each of the last five years.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [1 North, 7 South] Reports down from last year, and slightly below the five-year average. One north report: 12/3 St. Louis (Duluth) AM. All south: 12/3 Rice DAB, 12/11 Freeborn AEB, 12/16 Cottonwood CBC (50), Marshall CBC (20), 12/17 Jackson (50, Sioux Valley) KSm, 12/22 Freeborn AEB, 12/28 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 12/31 Albert Lea CBC (3), St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC (30), 1/4 Dakota (5, Vermillion Highlands Research Recreation and W.M.A.) RaM, 1/31 Lac qui Parle (4,

- Dawson.) BJU.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — See Undocumented Reports. (Please document all winter records of this species.)
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [9 North, 23 South] Scattered throughout the state in all regions, reports were down slightly from last year, but fairly consistent with number of reports over the past three years (37 counties in 2010, and 34 in 2009). All north reports after December: 1/8 Marshall JMJ, 1/13 Douglas PJK, 1/28 Morrison FGo, 2/3 Douglas PJK, 2/25 Cass SC, 2/28 Lake (downtown Two Harbors, overwintered) JW. CBC high count 12/17 Bloomington CBC (18).
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [9 South] Reported from more counties than any of the previous five years. . Only reports from western half of the state: 12/17 Jackson (5, Sioux Valley area) KSm, 12/28 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp., female) ph. BJU. All other reports from the southeastern portion of the state. Several birds were noted 12/17–2/5 Dakota m.ob., at the feedlot in Hampton, a consistent location where overwintering has occurred in the past. Individual high count 2/29 Winona (120, Prairie Island Road) ANy. CBC high count 12/18 Austin (10).
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [18 North] Most reports north and east of line from Pine to Kittson, with high count 1/29 Lake (55) DJa. CBC high counts 12/23 Ely (138), 12/18 Virginia (130) CBC, 12/30 Aurora (130).
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [14 North, 33 South] Reports from throughout the state (except not northernmost Northwest and North-central counties), from 13 fewer counties than last year. High count north 1/29 Lake (55, Lake) DJa. High counts south 1/17 Fillmore (17) RTP, 1/2 Wabasha (17) KSm. CBC high counts 1/1 Whitewater River (51), 12/19 Tamarac N.W.R. (37).
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [16 North, 42 South] Reported throughout the state and season from more counties than in any of the previous 5 years. North high counts Polk (up to 45 in yard) SAU, 1/5 Lake (30, Two Harbors) JW. South
- high counts 12/5 Ramsey (100) BNW, 1/13 Washington (61) JHg, 12/17 Hennepin (51) MDu. CBC high counts 12/17 Rochester (309), 12/31 Hastings-Etter (263), 12/17 Faribault (248).
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [4 North, 4 South] Scarce; reported from fewer north counties (Aitkin, Carlton, Lake, St. Louis) than in any of the past 5 years, and recorded on only 3 CBCs, with high count 12/18 Carlton-Cloquet (9). All south reports: 12/11 Wabasha ANy, JWH, 1/3 Sherburne ASc, 1/24–28 and 2/29 Brown (up to 3, New Ulm) BTS, m.ob., 2/20 Meeker (Litchfield) HHD.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [15 North, 16 South] Reported from many more counties both north and south than last year (31 vs. 10) but far fewer than in the invasion winter 2008. North high counts were from St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog): 12/29 (200) AmK, NKe, 1/28 (150) DJa, 12/10 (100) JPr, ACr. South high counts included 1/28 Brown (50, New Ulm) DWK, RBW, 1/23 Stearns (35, Colleville) MJB. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (408), 12/31 Rice Lake N.W.R. (166), 12/18 Two Harbors (155).
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [28 North, 33 South] Reported from many more south counties than in any of the previous 5 years except for the invasion winter 2008, and reported from all but 6 north counties. North high counts 12/10 St. Louis (600) JPr, 1/25 St. Louis (420, Sax-Zim Bog) JLK, 1/21 St. Louis (367, Sax-Zim Bog) JLK, 2/1 Hubbard (300, Spider Lake) MAW. South high counts 1/8 Houston (150, Caledonia) KSm, 1/22 Wright (120, Stanley-Eddy C.P.) MJB, 12/19 Washington (50, Stillwater) MJM. CBC high counts 12/31 Rice Lake N.W.R. (528), 1/1 Isabella (426).
- Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [11 North, 1 South] All south: 1/19–2/5 Anoka †DPG. North reports with documentation (more than usual) include 12/17 St. Louis (2, Duluth) ph. †JWL, 1/7 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) ph. RTe, 1/8 Hubbard (Bemidji) †DPJ, Lake (Isabella) †DWK, ph. RTe, 1/16 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) †KR0, 1/23 St. Louis (Ely) †CyB, 1/24 St. Louis (West Duluth) †PHS, 1/28 Itasca ph. †SC,

1/29 Cook (Lutsen) ph. DMB, 2/5 Lake (Gooseberry Falls S.P.) †CLW, 2/11 Beltrami †DPJ, 2/15 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) †MTo, 2/16 Lake (Gooseberry Falls S.P.) ph. MTo, 2/17–18 Lake †JWL.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [22 North, 32 South] Reported from about the same number of counties both north and south as last year. High count north 2/25 St. Louis (125, Sax-Zim Bog) WMu. South high count 12/21 Steele (60) NFT. CBC high counts 1/1 Battle Lake (50), 12/30 Beltrami Island (47), 12/17 Rochester (46).

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [27 North, 45 South] Reported throughout the state from more counties than in any of the previous 5 years. High counts 2/19 Winona (55) RTP, 1/20 Rice (50) DAT, 12/17 Olmsted (43) JPr. CBC high counts 12/17

St. Paul (North) (374), 12/17 Rochester (344), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (325).

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [9 North] No south reports, and all north reports from Northeast and North-central. High counts 12/28 St. Louis (30, Sax-Zim Bog) KNe, DJa, 1/3 Cook (27) RAE, 1/21 St. Louis (26, Sax-Zim Bog) JLK, 12/30 St. Louis (24) SLF. CBC high counts 12/17 Grand Marais (117), 1/1 Hibbing (83), 12/23 Ely (64), 12/30 Aurora (59).

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [29 North, 48 South] Reported from all but 5 north and 5 south counties. High counts 1/8 Dakota (250), 12/30 Goodhue (124) JFR, 12/23 Meeker (105) MJB. CBC high counts 12/17 Winona (767), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (702), 12/17 Rochester (697).

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The 2011–2012 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

Carl Greiner

The 2011–2012 Christmas Bird Count in Minnesota tallied 459,192 birds of 145 distinct species. The count was up from last year's total of 219,756 birds of 134 species. Of the birds recorded on count week only the Long-tailed Duck would have affected the overall species total had it been seen on count day. All of the other count week birds also were observed somewhere in the state on count day.

Seventy-one counts were performed, which is one more than last year. However, results were not received from Sax-Zim or La-Crosse-LaCrescent this year. There were no new count locations performed this year but Battle Lake, New Ulm, and Warren submitted results this year. Bloomington once again recorded the high species count at 68. No new species were added to the list.

Weather and Effort

This year was one of our warmest and least snowy CBCs ever, with an average snow depth of 14.6" with a high of 50" (Cook). This year we had an average of less than an inch with a high of 4" (several locations).

Last year the average temperature was 5.1° with a low of -31°, and this year the average was 19.6° with a low of 5°. The 2010–2011 season had 70 counts with 1,225 participants and 399 feeder watchers. This year 71 counts were performed by 1,307 counters and 325 people watched feeders.

Water Associated Species

The abundance of open water this year resulted in lots of water-associated species being seen. Last year the grand total for all species in all locations was 219,755. This year we had 221,167 Canada Geese alone. There were four species of geese including four Greater White-fronted Geese. The three Greater White-fronted Geese counted at Lac qui Parle was a new record for the most counted in

one location on a CBC. Trumpeter Swan numbers were quite impressive with 2,182 birds at 25 different locations! Twenty-two species of duck were recorded including 306 Wood Ducks, 4 Blue-winged Teals, a Long-tailed Duck (count week), 5,189 Common Goldeneyes, a Barrow's Goldeneye, 6,870 Common Mergansers, 27 Red-breasted Mergansers, and 11 Ruddy Ducks. There were three Common Loons at three different locations. Pied-billed Grebes (3), a Horned Grebe, American White Pelicans (11), Double-crested Cormorants (10), Great Blue Herons (10), American Coots (102), Sandhill Cranes (2), and a Wilson's Snipe were all present. An Osprey, only the second ever on count day, was observed in Rochester. Over a thousand Bald Eagles were counted for the first time ever (up from 743 last year; the 20-year average is 498). Franklin's, Ring-billed, Herring, Thayer's, Iceland, Glaucous, and Great Black-backed gulls were noted, most at numbers at least twice their 20 year average. A second ever Black-legged Kittiwake was counted in Duluth.

Widespread and Numerous Species

The Black-capped Chickadee was the only species observed on all 71 counts. Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Blue Jay were observed on 70 counts. Other birds with an extensive distribution included American Crow (69 counts), Bald Eagle (69 counts), Rock Pigeon (68 counts), American Goldfinch (68 counts), European Starling (66 counts), Pileated Woodpecker (64 counts), House Sparrow (62 counts).

The most numerous species were Canada Goose (221,167, up from 20,856 last year), Mallard (46,941, up from 21,094), European Starling (28,432, up from 16,743), American Crow (24,289, up from 17,375), Black-capped Chickadee (22,196, up from 21,617), Rock Pigeon (15,997, up from 12,145), House Sparrow

(12,485, down from 16,616), Dark-eyed Junco (8,820, down from 9,232), Common Merganser (6,870, up from 1,867), American Goldfinch (6,273, up from 6,323), Blue Jay (5,247, down from 6,248), and Common Goldeneye (5,189, up from 3,643).

Uncommon Species

Birds that have average counts of fewer than 5 individuals per CBC over the last 20 counts include: Greater White-fronted Goose (4), Blue-winged Teal (4), Greater Scaup (2), Barrow's Goldeneye (1), Ruddy Duck (11), Spruce Grouse (4), Common Loon (3), Pied-billed Grebe (3), Horned Grebe (1), American White Pelican (11), Osprey (1), Golden Eagle (9), Peregrine Falcon (10), Sandhill Crane (2), Wilson's Snipe (1), Franklin's Gull (1), Thayer's Gull (12), Iceland Gull (4), Glaucous Gull (13), Great Black-backed Gull (2), Black-legged Kittiwake (1), Long-eared Owl (5), Short-eared Owl (3), Northern Saw-whet Owl (4), Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (6), American Three-toed Woodpecker (3), Carolina Wren (1), Winter Wren (1), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1), Townsend's Solitaire (4), Hermit Thrush (1), Varied Thrush (3), Gray Catbird (1), Brown Thrasher (1), Yellow-rumped Warbler (5), Spotted Towhee (1), Eastern Towhee (2), Chipping Sparrow (7), Field Sparrow (1), Swamp Sparrow (8), White-crowned Sparrow (2), Rose-breasted Grosbeak (1), and Brewer's Blackbird (4).

Increasing

Birds that were counted in numbers at least 1.5 times their 20-year average and in numbers greater than last year included: Greater White-fronted Goose, Cackling Goose, Canada Goose, Trumpeter Swan, Wood Duck, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Common Goldeneye, Barrow's Goldeneye, Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Ruffed Grouse, Common Loon, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Rough-legged Hawk, Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Sandhill Crane, Franklin's Gull, Glaucous Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Snowy Owl, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Shrike, American Crow,

Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Gray Catbird, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Spotted Towhee, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Harris's Sparrow, Lapland Longspur, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Rusty Blackbird, and White-winged Crossbill.

Decreasing

Birds that are at least 10% below their 20-year averages and also decreased by at least 10% from last year included: Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, Redhead, Gray Partridge, Ring-necked Pheasant, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Northern Goshawk, Eastern Screech-Owl, Black-backed Woodpecker, Horned Lark, Hermit Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Bohemian Waxwing, American Tree Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Brown-headed Cowbird, Snow Bunting, Pine Grosbeak, Purple Finch, Hoary Redpoll, Pine Siskin, Evening Grosbeak, and House Sparrow.

Conclusion

The 2011–2012 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count was so warm and the snow cover was so little that comparisons to previous counts are difficult. It is pretty clear that the open water benefitted the water-associated species but it is difficult to draw conclusions on many of the other species. The combination of two relatively hard winters preceding perhaps the mildest winter Minnesota has ever had (at least through our CBC records) make it hard to speculate on the results. Was the decrease in pheasants and grouse due to decreases in breeding because of previous hard winters, part of a longer term trend, or simply because food was abundant and habitat plentiful so they could escape observation this year? This year the weather was so aberrant that it is hard to know whether the count was more affected by the weather, thus masking any trends in the populations. One thing is sure, the increase from 1,225 participants last year to 1,307 this year is indicative of a healthy and increasing population of people with an interest in the welfare of the birds of Minnesota.

Thanks to everyone who participated.

1616 Hill Street S.W., Chatfield, MN 55923.

Location	Date	Compiler	Species	CW	Total Birds	Participants
Albert Lea	12/31/2011	Allen Batt	41	0	10,024	8
Afton	1/1/2012	Joseph Merchak	37	1	4,533	12
Alexandria	12/17/2011	Alex Watson	33	0	2,507	13
Aurora	12/30/2011	Steve Falkowski	26	0	1,760	7
Austin	12/18/2011	Terry Dorsey	42	4	8,015	16
Battle Lake	1/1/2012	Dan Thimgan	41	1	3,799	12
Baudette	12/29/2011	Martin Kehoe	27	0	1,338	4
Bemidji	12/17/2011	Kelly Larson	34	0	1,161	12
Bloomington	12/17/2011	Randy Hills	68	2	24,280	46
Beltrami Island	12/30/2011	Martin Kehoe	19	0	467	8
Bluestem Prairie / Buffalo River SP	—	Matthew Mecklenburg	39	1	1,694	
Cedar Creek Bog	12/18/2011	James Howitz	45	2	2,761	26
Cook Area	12/30/2011	William Conger	22	1	1,007	7
Cottonwood	12/16/2011	Paul Egeland	34	1	1,198	6
Carlton-Cloquet	12/18/2011	Eileen Schantz-Hansen	32	1	1,460	15
Crookston	12/17/2011	Tom Feiro	27	2	980	10
Crosby	12/17/2011	Josephine Blanich	33	0	2,463	11
Detroit Lakes	12/17/2011	Colleen Nelson	38	1	1,616	10
Duluth	12/17/2011	Jim Lind	64	1	11,585	24
Ely	12/23/2011	Bill Tefft	30	4	1,805	34
Eagle's Nest Lakes	1/3/2012	Elizabeth Urban	21	1	792	22
Excelsior	12/17/2011	Howard Towle	54	1	7,119	69
Faribault	12/17/2011	Jake Langeslag	48	0	9,047	33
Fergus Falls	12/17/2011	Dan Thimgan	39	1	22,315	16
Fredenberg	12/18/2011	Celeste Kawulok	22	0	505	6
Fargo-Moorhead	12/18/2011	Keith Corliss	42	2	5,916	18
Fairmont	12/17/2011	Brad Bolduan	39	2	15,155	20
Grand Forks-East Grand Forks	12/18/2011	Dave Lambeth	23	6	1,038	7
Grand Marais	12/17/2011	Jeremy Ridlbauer	36	5	2,510	17
Grand Rapids	12/18/2011	Shawn Conrad	39	1	1,974	15
Hastings-Etter	12/31/2011	Roger Field	50	1	21,916	26
Henderson	—	Arthur & Barbara Straub	39	0	2,870	90
Hibbing	1/1/2012	Christine Olson	18	0	876	12
NW McLeod (Hutchinson)	12/17/2011	Roger Field	45	0	12,027	15
Isabella	1/1/2012	Steve Wilson	22	0	1,041	38
Itasca State Park	12/18/2011	Douglas P. Johnson	30	0	662	12
Jackson County	12/17/2011	Don Vrchota	32	0	763	11
Lamberton	12/26/2011	Lee French	32	0	927	16
Little Falls	12/18/2011	Frank Gosiak	44	2	3,959	9
Long Prairie	1/1/2012	John & Sue Kroll	38	0	1,372	21
Lac qui Parle	12/15/2011	Paul Egeland	47	0	67,564	10
Marshall	12/17/2011	Roger Schroeder & Sue Morton	35	0	2,148	8
Northern Meecker County	12/23/2011	Milton Blomberg	33	0	1,602	7
Mankato	12/17/2011	Merrill Frydendall	36	2	1,823	16
Morris	12/16/2011	Donna Oglesby	40	1	63,654	9
Minneapolis (North)	12/17/2011	Siah St. Clair	42	0	8,159	30
Mountain Lake-Windom	—	Edna Gerber	26	5	1,535	
New Ulm	12/17/2011	Brian Smith	28	1	2,124	17
Northern Wright County	12/31/2011	Claudia Egelhoff	43	0	5,224	5
Owatonna	12/17/2011	Darryl Hill	44	1	4,204	12
Pillager	1/1/2012	Michael R. North	30	0	1,618	17
Pine County	12/26/2011	James F. Ryan	30	0	1,102	10
Rochester	12/17/2011	Clifford Hansen	55	6	26,450	28
Rice Lake NWR	12/31/2011	Michelle McDowell	30	1	2,341	23
Roseau	12/31/2011	Pat Roth	17	0	647	4
Red Wing	12/30/2011	Laura Cogle	50	0	7,659	30
St. Cloud-Collegeville	12/17/2011	Brian Jungels	42	1	6,559	15
Sherburne NWR	12/17/2011	Dean Kleinhans	48	0	2,982	36
St. Paul (NE Suburban)	12/31/2011	James Howitz	54	1	8,325	56
St. Paul (North)	12/17/2011	Julian Sellers	55	0	13,349	60
Two Harbors	12/18/2011	Jim Lind	39	1	2,053	7
Tamarac NWR	12/19/2011	Lowell Deede	31	0	1,038	21
Uppgaard WMA	12/16/2011	Judd Brink	23	0	1,012	8
Virginia	12/18/2011	Deborah Buria-Falkowski	37	0	2,532	9
Wabasha	1/2/2012	Jonathan Peterson	46	0	3,509	14
Walker	12/17/2011	Michael R. North	30	0	1,087	10
Warren	1/2/2012	Heidi Hughes	22	2	702	1
Wild River	12/17/2011	Joe Sausen	40	1	3,264	23
Willmar	12/17/2011	Joel Schmidt	50	1	10,182	21
Winona	12/17/2011	Walt Carroll	48	0	5,882	20
Whitewater River	1/1/2012	Dave Palmquist	30	0	1,625	26
TOTALS					459,193	1,307

Table 1. Minnesota CBCs, winter 2011–2012. CW = species seen only during Count Week.

Bird	ABLEA	AFTON	ALEX	AUROR	AUSTN	BATLK	BAUDD	BEMID	BLOOM	BLTRM	BRSP	CEDRC	COOK	COTTN	CRCLC
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	7542	992	1220	-	3927	1094	-	85	1399	-	4	7	-	cw (0)	-
Trumpeter Swan	2	24	44	-	-	533	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	414	759	346	-	678	5	-	2	3994	-	-	-	-	-	-
hybrid mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue-winged Teal	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	6	105	1	-	31	-	1	76	-	-	-	-	-	6
Barrow's Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	-	1604	86	-	-	-	-	-	2731	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	8	-	-	-	13
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	7	-	2	-	2	-	3	-	-	4	-	10
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	40	8	-	-	16	89	-	-	98	-	3	79	-	-	3
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	5	7	9	13	19	7	3	10	63	-	2	12	4	10	6
Northern Harrier	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	2	-	-	-
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	cw (0)	2	-	1	-
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	4	2	-	-	22	1	-	-	44	-	-	23	-	3	1
Rough-legged Hawk	1	-	-	6	-	5	3	4	1	-	3	-	-	-	3
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Franklin's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	139	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	253	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-legged Kittiwake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	95	121	26	47	245	231	179	99	297	-	212	101	2	40	160
Eurasian Collared-Dove	5	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	55	-
Mourning Dove	6	29	22	2	41	2	6	8	38	-	2	75	-	12	11
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	1	cw (0)	1	-	7	2	-	-	4	-	3	3	-	1	-
Snowy Owl	1	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	2	-	-	-	9	-	-	1	3	2	-	cw (0)	1	-	cw (0)
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Boreal Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (1)	-	-	-	-	-

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

Bird	ABLEA	AFTON	ALEX	AUROR	AUSTN	BATLK	BAUDT	BEMID	BLOOM	BLTRM	BRSP	CEDRC	COOK	COTTN	CRCLC
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	8	16	8	-	47	17	-	3	37	-	3	36	-	9	2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	43	38	28	21	64	68	6	12	156	4	29	52	12	9	29
Hairy Woodpecker	7	11	8	11	8	39	6	10	61	10	23	16	18	20	21
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	1	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	6	-	1	4	-	-	-
Pileated Woodpecker	2	3	3	4	6	13	2	8	9	5	7	16	1	-	4
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (2)	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	-
Merlin	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	1	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
falcon sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	2	1	2	1	5	6	3	2	8	-	2	10	1	-	3
shrike sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Jay	-	-	-	14	-	-	8	-	-	29	-	-	15	-	-
Blue Jay	57	14	10	47	64	31	13	60	94	-	60	282	82	35	46
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Crow	282	251	180	30	577	150	18	52	5657	-	103	360	20	105	183
Common Raven	-	-	-	82	-	-	22	32	-	33	-	2	84	-	72
Horned Lark	50	-	1	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	105	206	145	576	246	331	126	293	829	63	116	420	422	52	358
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	2	1	42	4	1	2	18	9	8	4	6	99	-	78
White-breasted Nuthatch	55	27	35	13	63	102	9	32	155	2	36	100	33	33	37
Brown Creeper	-	1	1	-	9	3	-	2	17	-	1	3	-	10	6
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	2	2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	2	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	101	61	-	-	6	2	-	1	190	-	2	7	-	1	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	490	60	162	120	719	227	60	94	97	5913	-	651	489	41	183
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	194
Cedar Waxwing	-	25	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	205	-	5	104	-	-
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	29	1	-	-	45	-	-	-	63	-	26	53	-	88	2
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	187	128	2	-	192	103	-	21	296	-	64	165	-	112	-
dark-eyed (Oregon race) junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (2)	-
Lapland Longspur	25	30	-	-	113	6	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	1	30	-	-	41	160	525	-	-	-	24	30	-	36	-
Northern Cardinal	29	22	3	-	59	15	-	-	198	-	-	29	-	18	2
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	-
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	1	-	-	1	-
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	130	-	-	26	15	-	26	-	-	90	-	19
Purple Finch	4	-	1	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	3	34	14	2	-
House Finch	104	6	4	-	33	18	-	6	211	-	1	12	-	36	5
finch sp.	-	-	-	NR (33)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	77	-	-	-	-	-	8	4	2	-	-	56
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	396	-	2	107	151	1	206	26	2	38	2	72
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	1	-	-	-	2	50	10	2	-	47	4	cw (0)	3	-	3
American Goldfinch	79	39	13	8	58	152	4	92	256	-	93	82	cw (0)	49	50
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	59	-	-	45	13	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
House Sparrow	234	3	2	42	657	262	27	23	572	-	119	73	20	107	7
Total Individuals	10,024	4,533	2,507	1,760	8,015	3,799	1,338	1,161	24,280	467	1,694	2,761	1,007	1,198	1,460
Total Species	41	37	33	26	42	41	27	34	68	19	39	45	22	34	32

Bird	CROOK	CROSB	DLAKE	DULUT	ELY	ENLA	EXCEL	FARIB	FERGS	FREDN	FRGMH	FRMNT	GFGF	GRMAR	GRRAP
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	cw(0)	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	8	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	11	-	4	660	-	-	114	1106	20000	-	3375	7690	5	-	136
Trumpeter Swan	2	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	112	-	-	-	-	-	10
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (7)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	-	-	-	39	-	-	1	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Mallard	2	-	163	1366	-	-	1633	2105	200	-	1540	5372	-	16	99
hybrid mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	51	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	647	16	-	106	-	150	33	9	-	-	29	27
Barrow's Goldeneye	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Common Merganser	-	-	-	6	-	-	455	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw(0)	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	NR (2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	cw(1)	-	-	-	5	34	2	-	-	4	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	2	-	13	16	4	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	3	6
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	cw(0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-chicken	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	-	16	13	-	-	-	20	16	-	-	39	-	-	-	-
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw(0)	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	2	8	4	45	10	1	24	21	4	2	6	4	1	8	16
Northern Harrier	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	cw(0)	-	1	cw(0)	-	cw(0)	cw(0)
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	3	2	-	-	33	45	2	1	3	9	1	-	-
Rough-legged Hawk	12	4	-	5	cw(0)	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	4
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (3)	-	-	-	NR (1)	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw(0)	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Franklin's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	-	1750	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-legged Kittiwake	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	135	129	104	807	85	4	235	437	662	3	78	144	575	69	174
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mourning Dove	-	30	-	10	6	-	46	165	-	3	cw(0)	cw(0)	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	cw(0)	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3	5	-	-	-
Snowy Owl	cw(0)	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	cw(0)	-	-
Barred Owl	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	cw(0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Boreal Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	cw(0)	-	cw(0)	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

Bird	CROOK	CROSB	DLAKE	DULUT	ELY	ENLA	EXCEL	FARIB	FERGS	FREDN	FRGMH	FRMNT	GFEFG	GRMAR	GRRAP
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	22	10	3	-	-	42	49	8	-	5	14	-	-	7
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	10	43	62	105	7	15	158	140	29	5	17	46	8	35	18
Hairy Woodpecker	12	25	14	52	17	11	43	57	19	9	19	13	11	10	15
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Northern Flicker	-	-	4	1	-	-	2	16	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
Pileated Woodpecker	1	27	13	18	11	-	17	16	3	3	4	-	2	4	11
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-
Merlin	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
falcon sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	2	1	1	4	3	-	9	10	5	-	-	1	-	1	2
shrike sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Jay	-	-	-	38	56	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Blue Jay	6	223	73	38	58	33	163	117	66	24	44	65	2	42	101
Black-billed Magpie	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
American Crow	68	151	105	633	19	11	626	1060	137	161	102	125	101	53	151
Common Raven	1	7	6	38	161	28	-	-	-	39	-	-	-	94	53
Horned Lark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103	-	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	115	701	237	2449	462	329	816	109	230	145	90	106	36	319	524
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	15	3	168	80	38	-	1	-	9	-	-	-	37	60
White-breasted Nuthatch	50	149	92	97	12	17	165	126	66	3	64	37	28	1	74
Brown Creeper	-	3	1	4	-	-	10	28	-	-	1	10	-	2	1
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	4	-	1	37	2	-	225	31	3	-	6	1	10	-	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	148	376	134	1153	38	5	502	1206	77	-	169	565	12	130	162
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	2	107	14	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	584	-
Cedar Waxwing	2	92	-	130	-	-	256	400	77	-	-	-	7	490	-
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	NR (40)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	-	1	26	2	-	-	79	96	-	-	1	49	-	-	-
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	15	31	58	113	3	-	192	404	78	-	49	148	31	12	8
dark-eyed (Oregon race) junco	-	-	NR (58)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120	-	-	-	19	cw (0)	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	86	-	-	-	-	-	133	-	-	4	-	-	1	27
Northern Cardinal	-	19	7	19	-	-	195	233	4	-	3	32	-	5	2
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	85	-	-	-	3	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	2
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw(0)	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	2
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	55	138	35	3	-	3	2	-	-	-	60	15
Purple Finch	-	16	6	1	2	-	3	15	3	-	10	20	-	cw(0)	-
House Finch	71	-	50	123	-	-	188	248	18	-	29	33	44	-	6
finch sp.	-	-	-	NR (15)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	3	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	26	-	408	-	34	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	18	2
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	NR (44)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	32	48	34	240	269	79	-	-	-	34	-	2	-	312	129
Hoary Redpoll	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	7	12	11	16	20	3	-	24	12	-	20	11	-	7	39
American Goldfinch	13	125	63	71	227	125	246	224	44	13	53	57	-	19	16
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	64	4	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	117	-
House Sparrow	221	72	215	39	3	2	352	219	280	-	145	452	156	-	64
Total Individuals	980	2,463	1,616	11,585	1,805	792	7,119	9,047	22,315	505	5,916	15,155	1,038	2,510	1,974
Total Species	27	33	38	64	30	21	54	48	39	22	42	39	23	36	39

Bird	HASTE	HENDR	HIBBG	HUTCH	ISBEL	ITSCA	JACK	LAMBR	LFALL	LNGRP	LQPRL	MARSH	MEEK	MNKTO	MORIS
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	12
Canada Goose	4327	305	-	6446	-	-	5	-	1353	-	65000	1100	95	67	61195
Trumpeter Swan	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	25	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Mallard	10687	-	-	2313	-	-	-	1	190	8	1500	135	36	136	534
hybrid mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	ow (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	96	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	3
Barrow's Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	482	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	4	18	-	17	-	-	2	9	18	1	7	-	-	-	52
Ruffed Grouse	1	-	5	-	3	20	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	144	176	-	26	-	1	-	1	64	49	-	-	-	7	-
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	NR (3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ow (0)	-
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	67	12	-	7	2	6	2	1	12	7	3	3	7	21	2
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-
Cooper's Hawk	4	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	40	10	-	12	-	-	4	9	15	10	3	6	12	16	3
Rough-legged Hawk	-	9	3	3	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	1	1
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ow (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Franklin's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-legged Kittiwake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	530	128	120	541	-	2	172	77	272	231	73	125	193	291	359
Eurasian Collared-Dove	8	-	-	3	-	-	6	14	-	-	12	-	-	-	10
Mourning Dove	188	77	17	41	-	-	3	-	17	13	1	-	-	28	1
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	2	1	-	6	-	-	1	4	-	2	2	-	1	-	1
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	ow (1)	-	-	1	-	-	ow (0)
Barred Owl	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Boreal Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 4. CBC results for Hastings-Etter, Henderson, Hibbing, Hutchinson (NW McLeod), Isabella, Itasca State Park, Jackson County, Lambertson, Little Falls, Long Prairie, Lac qui Parle, Marshall, Northern Meeker County, Mankato, and Morris.

Bird	HASTE	HENDR	HIBBG	HUTCH	ISBEL	ITSCA	JACK	LAMBR	LFALL	LNGPR	LQPR	MARSH	MEEK	MNKTO	MORIS
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	4	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	43	39	-	20	-	1	11	2	11	15	1	9	10	13	4
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Downy Woodpecker	106	108	6	55	4	12	12	22	10	43	7	13	26	37	25
Hairy Woodpecker	35	41	4	22	6	4	8	10	7	16	7	11	12	22	14
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	3	5	-	5	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	5	-	8	-
Pileated Woodpecker	6	12	1	6	1	1	1	-	4	13	2	3	3	1	2
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
American Kestrel	3	3	-	7	-	-	-	-	2	6	1	1	4	3	1
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
falcon sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	4	2	-	3	1	-	1	1	7	13	-	-	2	2	1
shrike sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Jay	-	-	-	-	21	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	104	118	5	84	19	83	20	15	139	54	18	24	46	41	47
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Crow	768	156	5	352	-	30	32	73	465	169	87	76	143	199	63
Common Raven	-	-	78	-	147	87	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	62	-	-	42	3	1	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	670	288	180	164	238	200	40	66	201	119	34	55	103	76	94
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5	1	14	-	39	31	-	-	13	5	-	-	1	-	-
White-breasted Nuthatch	113	88	1	72	-	19	20	19	38	40	11	30	20	30	29
Brown Creeper	9	2	-	9	2	2	1	10	2	-	-	5	3	2	1
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	33	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	21	-	5	13	1
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	1500	75	102	442	-	1	90	100	671	54	352	150	64	234	214
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	240	9	-	11	-	-	-	-	5	10	98	12	-	40	140
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	68	32	-	88	-	-	11	120	14	20	32	23	35	10	17
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	16
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	461	310	-	374	-	-	72	17	106	109	63	66	159	-	127
dark-eyed (Oregon race) junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (2)	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	-	-	-	-	344	35	-
Snow Bunting	20	94	-	70	-	58	-	14	39	89	-	3	-	3	-
Northern Cardinal	84	92	-	27	-	-	2	7	7	15	4	10	7	58	1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	1	5	-	158	-	-	60	6	-	5	20	25	-	1	34
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	NR (1)
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	40	-	24	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	10	22	-	-	-	5	5	1	-	10	5	-	2	-	2
House Finch	263	55	-	75	-	-	6	1	3	2	8	36	38	109	6
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	NR (10)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	66	-	199	-	426	20	-	-	-	2	15	-	-	-	25
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	7	35	-	-	-	18	13
American Goldfinch	155	198	13	65	9	26	37	86	43	120	10	24	31	150	78
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	83	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	494	332	-	445	-	4	133	137	174	53	45	160	191	143	522
Total Individuals	21,916	2,870	876	12,027	1,041	662	763	927	3,959	1,372	67,564	2,148	1,602	1,823	63,654
Total Species	50	39	18	45	22	30	32	32	44	38	47	35	33	36	40

Bird	MPLSN	MTLKW	NEWUL	NWRCO	OWATN	PILGR	PINEC	RCHST	RLNWR	ROSEU	RWING	SCLLG	SHNWR	SPNES	SPNOR
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	282	cw (0)	100	1147	39	179	-	17915	-	-	44	2607	236	196	906
Trumpeter Swan	20	1	-	866	-	113	-	-	-	-	18	27	32	83	42
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	6
Mallard	4608	-	-	637	312	12	-	550	-	-	59	1832	-	360	3264
hybrid mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (1)
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	5
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Common Goldeneye	66	-	-	119	-	-	-	1	-	-	3058	78	-	152	7
Barrow's Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	1	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Common Merganser	11	-	-	13	-	2	-	2	-	-	487	7	-	810	34
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	3	4	2	9	93	-	-	8	-	-	-	7	4	28	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	-	8	-	1	-	-	3	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	27	4	12	14	-	61	44	235	4	-	115	38	90	269	75
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	19	cw (0)	7	15	8	22	9	14	10	2	133	15	26	36	40
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	1	1	2	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	6	1
Cooper's Hawk	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	-
Red-tailed Hawk	24	4	10	19	15	5	-	49	1	-	36	15	20	31	50
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	-	1	7	8	1	9	1	-	-	-	4	-	1
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	10
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-
Franklin's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	78
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	59	13
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-legged Kittiwake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	134	94	316	154	170	66	35	714	162	168	323	255	268	182	2031
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
Mourning Dove	26	-	25	3	49	1	7	98	1	-	21	1	7	142	35
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	3	1	3	2	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	2	4	7
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	1	cw (0)	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Barred Owl	2	-	-	5	1	-	-	1	cw (0)	-	-	3	2	1	1
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Boreal Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 5. CBC results for Minneapolis (North), Mountain Lake-Windom, New Ulm, Northern Wright County, Owatonna, Pillager, Pine County, Rochester, Rice Lake NWR, Roseau, Red Wing, St. Cloud-Collegeville, Sherburne NWR, St. Paul (NE Suburban), and St. Paul (North).

Bird	MPLSN	MTLKW	NEWUL	NWRCO	OWATN	PILGR	PINEC	RCHST	RLNWR	ROUSE	RWING	SCLLG	SHNWR	SPNES	SPNOR
Belted Kingfisher	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	23	4	14	30	38	7	2	57	2	-	25	14	25	59	40
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	63	13	38	52	102	32	8	121	14	-	64	33	34	197	153
Hairy Woodpecker	25	4	8	26	46	9	4	32	25	-	21	10	22	74	85
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	6	2
Pileated Woodpecker	6	-	2	14	7	5	2	7	8	-	14	5	8	44	10
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	1	cw (0)	5	1	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	2	-	2	1	-
Merlin	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
falcon sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	4	cw (0)	-	9	3	1	5	-	7	3	5	2	6	10	3
shrike sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Jay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	120	19	41	53	104	67	22	212	176	1	103	59	337	205	116
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	-	-	1	-	-
American Crow	595	150	93	264	352	276	209	2297	119	47	493	238	334	882	1613
Common Raven	-	-	-	-	8	50	-	44	37	-	-	cw (0)	1	2	-
Horned Lark	-	293	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	428	22	95	301	245	253	246	352	478	11	240	224	235	1297	839
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	3	-	-	1	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	-	-	9	10	10	1	64	-	-	4	8	6	30	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	64	6	36	90	72	46	24	102	51	5	82	83	56	243	176
Brown Creeper	3	-	3	7	-	-	2	8	-	-	5	5	1	3	4
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	1	1	1	-	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	5	-	3	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	98	-	4	27	5	-	1	217	-	-	47	4	37	716	144
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Catbird	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
European Starling	537	255	749	549	737	108	190	1044	240	52	882	382	138	379	1451
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	95	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	167	-	9	105	-	-	-	130	-	14	189	149	350	468	110
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	31	40	-	41	61	-	2	136	-	-	118	41	56	113	87
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	1	2
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Harris's Sparrow	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	121	110	105	161	376	68	-	516	2	-	375	75	386	382	359
dark-eyed (Oregon race) junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	2	-	-	224	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	13	-	-	126	45	43	cw (0)	14	-	-	-	1	-	-
Northern Cardinal	76	cw (0)	24	28	125	-	-	176	-	-	46	17	14	216	149
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Red-winged Blackbird	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	40
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	cw (0)	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	15	15	3	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	-	-	1	-	18	8	-	9	-	2	19	34	28	-	-
House Finch	159	23	14	129	176	-	-	309	-	-	106	80	2	70	223
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	166	-	-	-	12	-	-
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	21	17	100	61	-	528	152	-	-	-	65	-
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	46	-	-	12	22	-	44	-
American Goldfinch	266	25	20	104	156	59	6	344	24	-	109	66	118	325	374
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	122	442	390	180	484	46	75	697	159	31	389	130	-	50	702
Total Individuals	8,159	1,535	2,124	5,224	4,204	1,618	1,102	26,451	2,341	647	7,659	6,559	2,982	8,325	13,349
Total Species	42	26	28	43	44	30	30	56	30	17	50	42	48	54	55

Bird	THRBR	TMNWR	UPPG	VIRGN	WABAS	WALKR	WAREN	WILDR	WILMR	WINON	WWATR	Total	Count
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53	3
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	6
Canada Goose	-	-	24	-	980	-	-	55	7063	130	-	221167	45
Trumpeter Swan	-	8	72	-	6	-	-	28	-	-	-	2182	25
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	60	1
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Wood Duck	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	294	-	-	306	9
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	43	-	94	8
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	66	13
Mallard	1	-	27	110	33	-	4	199	692	7	-	46941	44
hybrid mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	1
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66	8
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	21	7
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Bufflehead	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	6
Common Goldeneye	64	-	277	8	24	-	-	-	7	-	-	5218	30
Barrow's Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	31	11
Common Merganser	3	-	-	-	19	-	-	2	5	100	5	6870	24
Red-breasted Merganser	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	4
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	4
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	11	-	-	385	30
Ruffed Grouse	12	6	2	19	2	6	-	2	-	4	-	187	32
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	28	6
Greater Prairie-chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	2
Wild Turkey	-	1	-	-	40	-	-	108	124	67	67	2303	40
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
Horned Grebe	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	2
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	3
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	16	18	12	14	57	4	1	34	6	68	32	1096	68
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	17	14
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	3	-	-	53	28
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	36	23
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	-	-	19	1	-	21	12	-	8	679	47
Rough-legged Hawk	15	2	-	4	2	-	10	2	1	1	-	152	40
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	9	6
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	102	11
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Franklin's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	303	8
Herring Gull	104	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2207	10
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	2
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	3
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Black-legged Kittiwake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Rock Pigeon	77	5	-	447	325	9	17	149	317	843	126	15997	68
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141	16
Mourning Dove	2	-	3	3	1	-	-	57	12	204	2	1600	50
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4
Great Horned Owl	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	-	-	94	37
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	11	10
Barred Owl	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	54	26
Great Gray Owl	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	3
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	2
Boreal Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw (0)	-	-	-	4	4
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0

Table 6. CBC results for Two Harbors, Tamarac NWR, Uppgaard WMA, Virginia, Wabasha, Walker, Warren, Wild River, Willmar, Winona, and Whitewater River. (In all tables, italics represent records where the documentation was insufficient to be included in the Seasonal Report – AXH).^o

Bird	THRBR	TMNWR	UPPG	VRGN	WABAS	WALKR	WAREN	WILDR	WILMR	WINON	WWATR	Total	Count
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	1	44	20
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	5
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	6	9	-	18	10	-	31	24	42	9	1014	55
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	6
Downy Woodpecker	38	27	14	13	19	11	7	96	49	75	20	3048	70
Hairy Woodpecker	15	25	10	27	16	5	3	30	23	41	3	1404	70
American Three-toed Woodpecker	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	4
Northern Flicker	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	9	-	2	106	34
Pileated Woodpecker	5	10	6	4	3	11	-	21	9	2	2	474	64
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	6	4	65	25
Merlin	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	5
falcon sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (1)	0	0
Northern Shrike	4	4	-	7	-	-	-	7	1	5	-	208	53
shrike sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (1)	0	0
Gray Jay	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	204	11
Blue Jay	39	112	94	34	71	81	5	176	81	112	40	5247	70
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	56	10
American Crow	152	64	66	86	268	110	14	380	330	550	218	24289	69
Common Raven	157	6	23	145	-	29	19	5	-	-	-	1593	33
Horned Lark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	584	12
Black-capped Chickadee	589	408	306	512	207	397	16	377	286	286	62	22196	71
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	5
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	31	4
Red-breasted Nuthatch	74	27	20	33	14	59	3	2	cw (0)	2	-	1172	49
White-breasted Nuthatch	4	103	35	29	47	55	4	109	70	89	29	3953	70
Brown Creeper	-	1	1	1	4	5	-	-	2	2	1	219	49
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	15
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	4	-	14	-	57	11
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
American Robin	5	-	-	2	3	5	-	24	31	168	60	2367	46
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
European Starling	156	7	-	340	294	13	-	514	506	259	517	28431	66
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	141	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1037	7
Cedar Waxwing	40	-	4	-	37	30	-	131	103	35	-	4439	39
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2
American Tree Sparrow	1	2	-	-	87	16	-	41	22	238	6	2170	46
Chipping Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	5
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	3
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	5
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	4
White-throated Sparrow	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	28	15
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	29	12
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NR (4)	0	0
Dark-eyed Junco	5	22	4	2	499	-	17	219	85	517	138	8820	57
dark-eyed (Oregon race) junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	991	13
Snow Bunting	-	14	-	-	6	20	475	-	24	-	-	2269	33
Northern Cardinal	-	-	1	2	37	1	-	44	29	135	22	2350	49
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Red-winged Blackbird	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	8	-	-	627	27
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103	4
Brewer's Blackbird	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Common Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	79	14
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	2
Pine Grosbeak	55	-	-	130	-	6	cw (0)	-	-	-	-	923	22
Purple Finch	-	37	-	-	25	-	-	-	16	4	51	461	38
House Finch	22	-	-	-	26	-	-	60	140	145	37	3569	50
finch sp.	NR (13)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	2
White-winged Crossbill	155	1	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1068	20
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Common Redpoll	197	18	-	329	33	18	55	-	-	18	-	4547	42
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
Pine Siskin	-	1	-	34	3	40	25	-	3	-	-	624	38
American Goldfinch	4	97	-	8	62	137	14	285	122	113	119	6273	66
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	414	12
House Sparrow	26	-	-	33	192	-	5	220	112	767	32	12485	62
Total Individuals	2,053	1,038	1,012	2,532	3,509	1,087	702	3,264	10,182	5,882	1,625	459,193	71
Total Species	39	31	23	37	46	30	22	40	50	48	30	-	-

The 2011–2012 Snowy Owl Invasion in Minnesota

Anthony X. Hartzel

From late fall 2011 and on through winter, spring, and mid summer 2012, Minnesota experienced an extraordinary influx of Snowy Owls in all corners of the state. The final estimate is that a minimum of 217 Snowy Owls found their way into Minnesota. This total, derived from 205 distinct reports over more than nine months, represents the second highest number of Snowy Owls ever documented in the state (Table 1).

This invasion was part of a larger, nearly continent-wide southerly movement that produced records from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific, and reached as far south as Texas, Arkansas, and Georgia (Figure 1). The bulk of these reports was centered in the Midwest, the Great Lakes, and west-central Canada east of the Rocky Mountains, though high numbers were also recorded in New England and the Pacific Northwest. Four of Minnesota's top five record highest counts of Snowy Owls have occurred since 1991 (see Table 1).

To determine the total number of owls in this invasion, I used methods similar to those employed by Eckert (1992, 1996), Svingen (1997), and Svingen *et al.* (2001) when recounting previous irruptions. Records considered likely duplicates of owls already reported (163 reports of 174 birds) were not included, and observations that were too vague or lacked sufficient detail were also omitted (21 reports).

Dates and Distribution

Snowy Owls were reported in Minnesota over a period of nine months and five days (279 total days) from 4 October 2011 through 8 July 2012, with the number of new records peaking in December (Figure 2).

The invasion's distribution of owls was fairly uniform, with 68 of the state's 87 counties reporting at least one bird (Figure 3). This approaches the 1993–1994 record invasion tally of 71 (Schladweiler 1994). Those without a Snowy Owl report in 2011–2012 were Brown,

Table 1. Previous top Snowy Owl invasion events in Minnesota ($n \geq 100$). Column "CBC" lists the total number of Snowy Owls found on all Minnesota Christmas Bird Counts for the listed year.

Total	CBC	Year	Reference
351	11	1993–1994	Schladweiler, 1994
176	13	2005–2006	Mattsson & Svingen, 2006
153	16	1996–1997	Svingen, 1997
134	7	2001–2002	Bardon, 2002
121	15	1991–1992	Eckert, 1992
111	8	2000–2001	Svingen <i>et al.</i> , 2001
103	1	1926–1927	Gross, 1927

Carver, Chisago, Clearwater, Grant, Hubbard, Jackson, Koochiching, Mahnomon, Mille Lacs, Meeker, Murray, Nicollet, Pine, Redwood, Rock, Sibley, Watonwan, and Wilkin. St. Louis tallied the most reports with 21, the majority of these found by Dave Evans as part of his long-term study in the Duluth-Superior Harbor. This was followed by Hennepin (13), Polk (11), Marshall (10), and Lac qui Parle (10). These numbers probably reflect observer coverage more than actual Snowy Owl distribution. There were at least ten reports of two Snowy Owls seen together, while Dodge County had the only report of three, first seen in early February 2012 and last recorded together on 17 February.

The invasion began with the report of an immature Snowy Owl seen in eastern Crow Wing County on 4 October 2011. This date ties the state's third earliest for a fall Snowy Owl. Except in invasion years, Snowy Owls do not typically arrive in Minnesota before November, though there are several records from mid to late October and a perhaps dubious observation from 13 September 1975 (Egeland 1976). Interestingly, the only other October record during this invasion was the report of one bird seen on Halloween in Lac qui Parle County. This contrasts sharply with the 1993–1994 event when 91 Snowy Owls were counted in October (Schladweiler 1994),

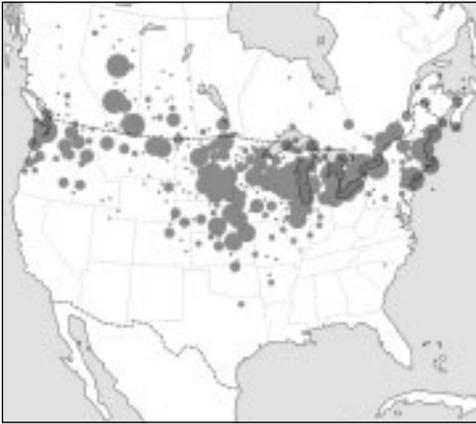


Figure 1. The approximate extent of the 2011–2012 Snowy Owl invasion (eBird 2012).

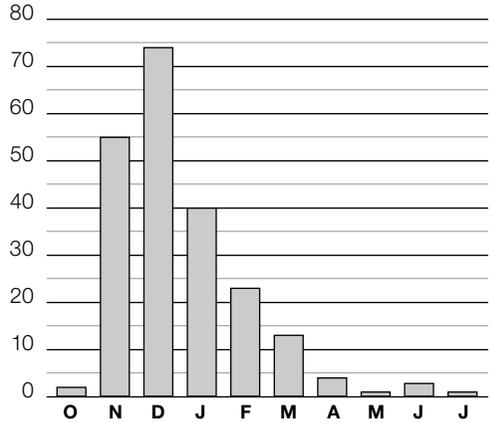


Figure 2. Number of Snowy Owls reported in Minnesota in 2011–2012 by month.

and is more similar to the other invasion years listed in Table 1.

Things picked up in November with 55 reports, although only two of these were from the first half of the month. By the third week, multiple observations were being made daily, including 12 birds seen on the 25th and 10 on the 28th. Thirty-two (58%) of November's Snowy Owls were found in the northern half of the state. The first bird to reach the southern half was seen in Chippewa County on the 12th. November also had four reports of two birds at one location. These were found in the counties of Cass (15 November), Itasca (25 November), Polk (25 November), and Marshall (26 November).

December added 74 new Snowy Owl reports. Though this was the high count for any month during the invasion, this total does not approach the all time monthly record of 108 birds documented in November 1993 (Schladweiler 1994). The number of owls reported in the south (37) equaled the number in the north. Almost half (31) of December's observations were reported in the first week. This was followed by 8 reports in the second week, 19 in the third, 7 in the fourth, and 6 in the last three days of the year.

Of January's 40 new records, 25 occurred in the southern counties. This trend toward a higher frequency of new reports in the southern counties continued into February where just 8 of 23 new owl observations came from

the northern counties. Only 3 of March's 13 new records were from the north. It is unclear whether this trend was due to new arrivals overflying already-established northern territories, a decline in the number of birds entering the state for the first time, a movement of owls returning north from points farther south, or simply fewer observers.

April produced four new Snowy Owl reports (counties of Becker, Big Stone, Carlton, and Lake of the Woods), May had one new record (St. Louis County), and June had an unprecedented three reports — one each in Clay County and Ramsey County on the 12th (but see below), and another in Norman County on the 17th. As all these but two were from northern counties, these likely represented birds returning north.

The most unusual Snowy Owl report was of an adult male first seen by Dave Evans on 14 January 2012 at the high school in Superior, WI. "Ocherface," as Dave called him, was dirty, stained, and a rather "sorry looking specimen that looked like someone dipped him into a blender of yellow mud." Dave tracked Ocherface until 21 March 2012 when the bird disappeared for three months. Then on 12 June, it was rediscovered almost 130 miles to the southwest in Vadnais Heights, Ramsey County. This was its first known appearance in Minnesota. Regular sightings continued for nearly a month until on or about 8 July, it was hit by a vehicle and killed. Though Minnesota now has a hand-

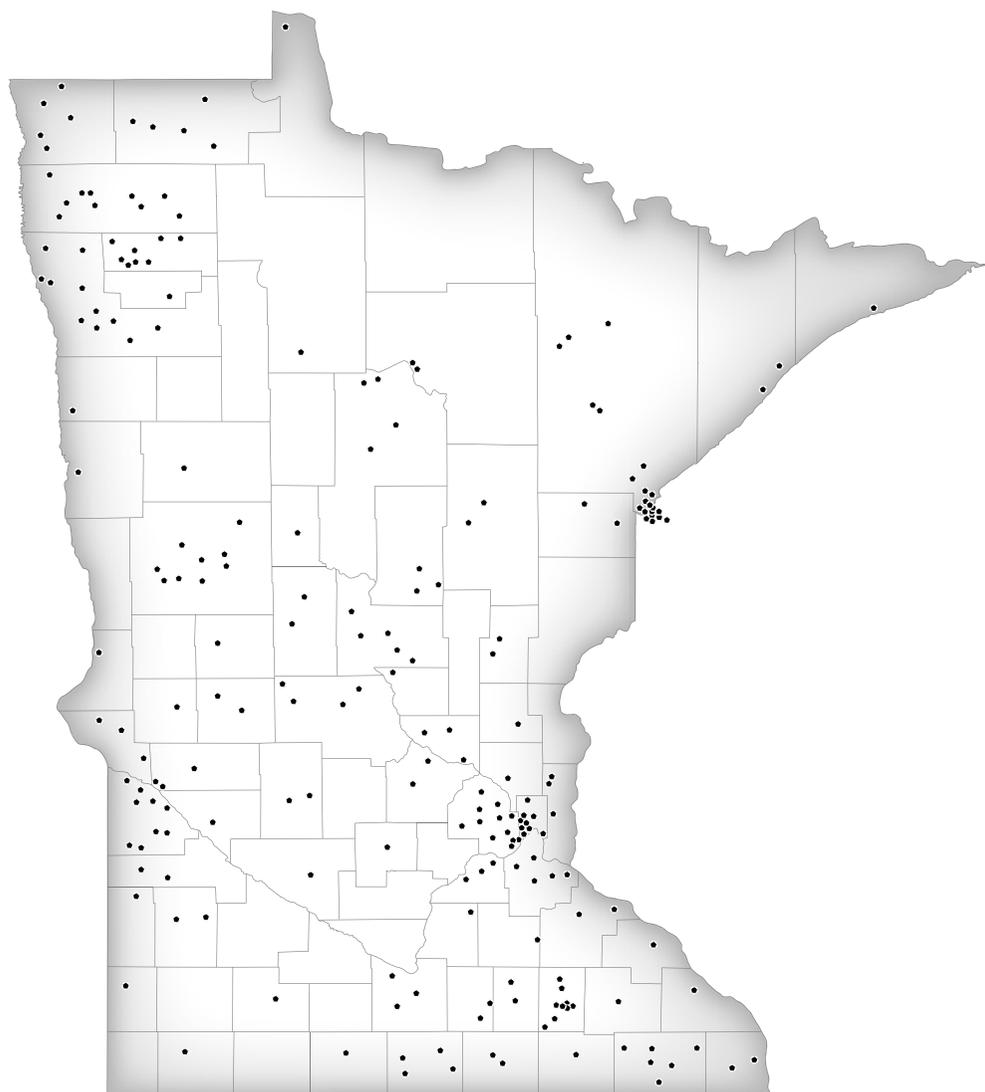


Figure 3. Approximate locations of all Minnesota Snowy Owl records (n=217), 4 October 2011 to 8 July 2012. Not all locations are accurately placed due to a lack of specific data.

ful of June Snowy Owl records, Ocherface is currently the state's only one from July. Note that Schoolcraft (1821) reported finding this species on 28 July 1820 in what is now Stearns County, but this was most likely an error as the bird was apparently identified by voice. It was further described this way, "this animal utters its most hideous cry, a few moments before the first glimpse of day light, and is thus the unerring herald of day."

As Minnesota has an old August record — a bird trapped in Washington County "in the first week of August" of 1927 (Roberts 1927, 1932) — the state now has records of Snowy Owl in all 12 months.

Based on the duplicate reports, the total number of Snowy Owls in the state apparently remained fairly high until early spring. January had 51 duplicate reports — 11 more than the number of new reports. There were

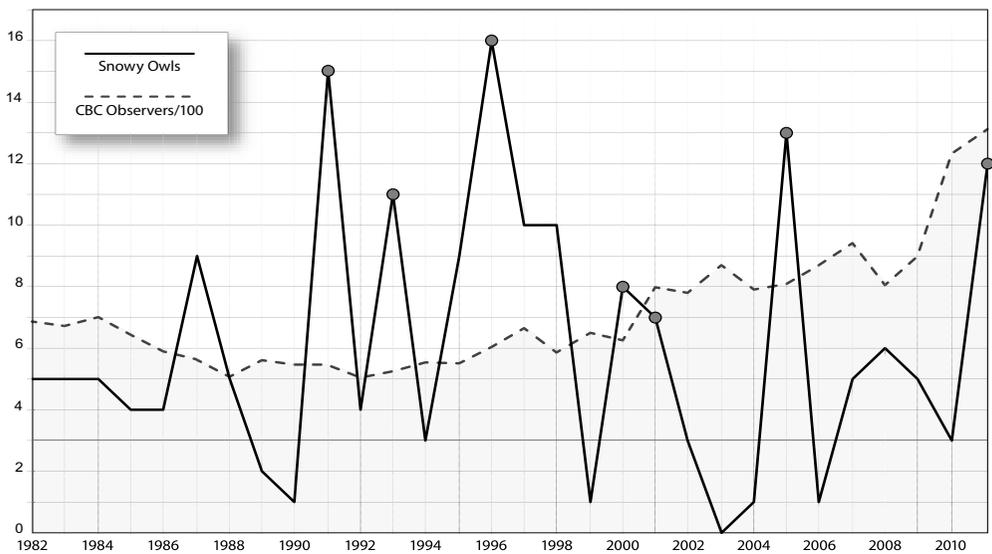


Figure 4. Thirty years of Minnesota CBC data (1982–2011) showing total Snowy Owl numbers for each year’s count (black line). Circles indicate years when at least 100 Snowy Owls were reported statewide. The dashed line representing CBC observers/100 suggests the total number of Snowy Owls found is not dependent on the number of participants.

41 duplicate sightings in February, 18 more than the number of new records for the month (23). Not until March did the number of duplicate Snowy Owl reports decline substantially when just seven reports were of previously observed owls.

Age and Mortality

Slightly more than 42% (n=92) of all Snowy Owl reports included details on the age of the birds. Though the difference was perhaps marginal, 58% (19 out of 33) of the Snowys identified as adults were found in the northern half of the state, and 56% (33 out of 59) of the immatures were reported in the southern half. This trend continued — and was much more pronounced — into Iowa where nearly 90% of all the birds found were immatures (Hertzell and Dinsmore 2012).

The temporal distribution of adult birds was similar to overall occurrences (Figure 2), with owls reported from early November through the end of the invasion. About half of these were found in December, with the majority of the remaining birds first reported in January. This also held true for immatures where about half the reports came in Novem-

ber (10) and December (19), while 13 of the remaining owls were discovered in January.

The Raptor Center in St. Paul received 14 Snowy Owls during this invasion year, five of which had been picked up dead. Of the nine that were brought in alive for rehabilitation, six were immatures, two were adults, and one was unaged. These nine came from the counties of Faribault (2), Hennepin (2), Fillmore, Kanabec, Lyon, Mower, and Scott (Lori Arent pers. comm.).

A Note on Christmas Bird Counts

Years with exceptionally high numbers of Snowy Owls are modestly reflected in the state’s Christmas Bird Count (CBC) data (Figure 4). Since 1982, above normal CBC totals for these owls were recorded during invasion years when the number of owls statewide exceeded 100. The average number of Snowy Owls found in each of these seven CBCs is just under 12, which is twice the thirty year average of 6.1. During the 2011–2012 invasion year, exactly 12 Snowy Owls were found on 11 counts, even though 101 birds had already been documented in the state when the CBC season began.



Snowy Owl, 19 December 2011, Sax-Zim Bog, St. Louis County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

Summary

The remarkable 2011–2012 invasion resulted in a minimum of 217 individual Snowy Owls recorded in Minnesota. Birds were documented over a period of more than nine months in all regions of the state, with concentration centers in the Duluth harbor, the greater Twin Cities area, and the glacial prairies of the northwest. Smaller clusters were also noted in the farm fields of the southeast and the grasslands in the west. The invasion began with the the third earliest date on record for a fall Snowy Owl, went on to produced the second highest total of owls ever recorded, and ended with the state's first authentic July report.

Acknowledgments

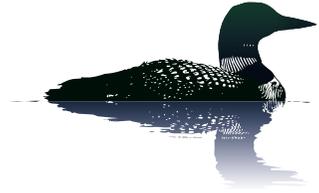
Dave Evans was particularly helpful by providing details of more than a dozen Snowy Owls he observed, banded, and tracked throughout the winter in the Duluth-Superior harbor. His data were invaluable. Lori Arent graciously supplied me with all Snowy Owl data from The Raptor Center in St. Paul, and the majority of those records were new to the compilation. Thanks also to the more than 160 observers, CBC compilers, and other volunteers who contributed their data to the MOU. Bruce Fall and Theresa Hertzell reviewed earlier drafts of this paper. And thanks to Kim Eckert, John Schladweiler, and Peder Svingen who set the standard for articles such as this.

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8461 Pleasant View Drive, Mounds View, MN 55112.

Notes of Interest



LAUGHING GULL IN ST LOUIS COUNTY — On 28 April 2011, while co-leading the spring bird walks for Duluth Audubon with my husband Larry, I found an adult Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*) standing near a group of Ring-billed Gulls on the mud flat near the Park Point Recreation Area boat ramp. The black head, medium white eye arcs, large drooping red bill, reddish legs, darkish gray back, and white breast and nape were immediately noted and I called out “Laughing Gull” to our group of birders. Everyone quickly studied it and Larry said, “it sure is.” He digiscoped a number of pictures for later study. Several people in the group had field guides that we consulted to differentiate it from a Franklin’s Gull. We noted the very small white primary tips versus the large white primary tips of a Franklin’s. We also noted the smaller white eye arcs versus larger



Laughing Gull, 29 April 2011, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

ones of a Franklin's. The gull was smaller than the Ring-billed Gulls but we felt not enough size difference to be a Franklin's. We had recently returned from Texas where I had spent many hours studying Laughing Gull behavior, and I just could not believe that we were really seeing a Laughing Gull in Duluth.

We saw the Ring-billed Gulls harass it several times and it did fly about 15 feet, but we were studying our field guides at the time so we didn't see the wing pattern in flight. It never vocalized and it didn't move while we were watching except to preen extensively. We watched the gull for about 30 minutes and then continued the morning bird walk. Following the walk, we checked the mudflats, but all the gulls had flown. Upon arriving at home, we sent a photo via email to Jim Lind for his opinion. **Jan Kraemer, 1025 Maple Grove Road, Duluth, MN 55811.**

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, WABASHA COUNTY —



While observing a raft of 800+ Common Goldeneyes on the water at Lake Pepin, I saw two adult Barrow's Goldeneyes (adult male and female) on 26 December 2011. I saw the adult male almost immediately and pointed it out to Paul Jantscher and Greg Hunsaker. Paul then mentioned that he found a female Barrow's Goldeneye in a different part of the raft. I scanned that part of the raft with my spotting scope and quickly saw the adult female goldeneye that he'd seen. The following characteristics allowed separation of this bird from surrounding female and immature Common Goldeneyes:

1. Bill shape and color: I was first drawn to the very bright pumpkin-orange color of the bill. I noted that the bill was orange overall (including all the way to the base of the bill adjoining the head feathers). I was then struck by how stubby the bill looked in comparison to nearby Common Goldeneye hens. It was deeper at the base but shorter in overall length than the nearby Commons. There were Common Goldeneye hens in the raft with bills that were partially or largely yellowish orange. However, these were all dullish-colored and slightly longer/narrower bills that were very different from this hen.

2. I then noticed the head shape and color were different from surrounding Common Goldeneye hens. The back of the head was swept down and back with a perceivable mane of long feathers (somewhat similar to a drake Barrow's Goldeneye) unlike the more sharply downward-angled back of the head on the Common Goldeneyes. The color of the head was a dark brown color (much darker than any of the Common Goldeneye hens) and made a nice sharp contrast with the extremely bright orange bill.

The overall size of the bird was similar to the Common Goldeneyes present. Her body coloration included rather dark slate gray sides but the color and shape of the head and bill were most striking. **David F. Neitzel, 7716 Upper 24th Street N., Oakdale, MN 55128.**

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY —



The bird appeared at my feeding station on the morning of 19 April 2012, and was last seen at dusk the following day. Distinguishing features included the prominent crown with a bright yellow center fore-crown and black lower sides, extending down to the eye and nearly to the back of the head. The top of the center crown on the back of the head was white, as was the lower eyelid. The bill was sturdy and bi-colored (darker gray upper mandible and lighter gray to pink lower mandible). The throat, neck and ear patch were a uniform slate gray, grading into a mottled gray/buff breast below. The back and wings were various shades of brown streaked parallel to the body with two prominent white wing coverts (reminded me of two separate strings of pearls). The overall size of the bird was significantly larger compared with the nearby White-throated Sparrows. No vocalizations were heard. The bird acted very sparrow-like — on the ground, kicking-up leaf/needle litter, foraging, and staying near to cover.

The White-throated Sparrow is probably the closest species to consider for comparison. It



Golden-crowned Sparrow, 19 April 2012, Fredenberg Township, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

is slightly smaller, lacks the wide, black crown with the sides that extend to the eye (replaced with white), has a small yellow patch above the bill and in front of the eye, and a prominent white bib below the bill. Nothing else nearby was close! **Stephen Monson-Geerts, 6766 East Cook Lake Road, Duluth, MN 55803.**

LARK BUNTING IN JACKSON COUNTY — On 14 June 2012, I noticed an all black bird



with white wing patches and about the size of a Bobolink near Round Lake Township. The bird was first seen flying so the patches were quite evident. Using a Bausch and Lomb 20X45 variable power

scope, I was able to clearly see the white wing patches and the heavy conical bunting beak of the bird. The bird fed on the side of the road for about 15–20 minutes before another passing vehicle caused it to fly about 200 yards to the south and land out of sight in a corn field. I left the area and returned about an hour later and found the bird sitting on the fence on the north side of the road a couple hundred yards to the west from where I had



Lark Bunting, 14 June 2012, Jackson County. Photo by John Schladweiler

seen it previously. No vocalizations were heard.

I immediately recognized the bird as a Lark Bunting, having seen them growing up in Lac qui Parle County in the 1960s and from time spent in South Dakota. Bobolinks and other expected blackbirds were commonly seen on this and other blocks while doing surveys for the Breeding Bird Atlas.

About a half dozen Bobolinks were in the area and I had been observing them prior to the appearance of the bunting. This bird had no white on the back... or on the nape. The large bunting beak also ruled out Bobolink. **John Schladweiler, 111 North Washington Street, New Ulm, MN 56073.**

BROWN PELICAN IN GOODHUE COUNTY — On 3 April 2012, I was working outside in Bloomington, Hennepin County, when I looked up and noticed a pelican flying in my direction about 30 feet overhead. As it approached, I did not see the expected field marks of an American White Pelican, such as white body, white wings, or trailing black wing stripe, but rather I saw only dark wings and body. It was a cloudy day and I considered the possibility that the bird was silhouetted in such a way that I simply could not see the white and black marks. I watched as it continued overhead and drifted away, but was never able to see anything other than the dark plumage, such as might be seen with Brown Pelican. As I watched it head off to the northeast, I thought this would probably be the end of an uncertain sighting of a Brown Pelican in Minnesota. Interestingly, that same day, there was a report of a Brown Pelican seen four hours earlier near the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway headquarters in Polk County, Wisconsin. Its flight was described as straight and at treetop-level, identical to the flight of the bird that I had seen.

The following day, a flood of reports started coming in of a Brown Pelican at the Baypoint Park marina in Red Wing, Goodhue County, which is about 40 miles southeast of my observation. This bird was well documented at this location until 9 April. It was an adult with a pale face, dark reddish-brown neck, dark belly, and a small patch of white on the lower throat. These markings were consistent with the dark pelican I had seen in Bloomington.

After a final sighting in the early morning of 9 April, the bird disappeared from the Red Wing marina, but was then photographed in the late morning near the junction of U.S. Highway 52 and Dakota County Road 46. This was followed by two additional reports later that same day — one in Hennepin County and another in Chisago County. While the Brown Pelican found in Red Wing and subsequently in Dakota County was unanimously accepted by the MOU Records Committee, these last two were not due to a lack of documentation. **Ben Harste, 5269 Heritage Hills Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437.**



Brown Pelican, 9 April 2012, Dakota County. Photo by David A. Cahlander.



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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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Post-fledging Movements of Purple Martin Populations from Minnesota

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Purple Martin (*Progne subis subis*) populations in Minnesota have declined by about 70% since the onset of the Breeding Bird Survey in 1966. Today, the eastern continental population appears to be entirely reliant on humans to provide housing for nesting (Brown 1997). Historically, Purple Martins nested in tree cavities and rock crevices (Roberts 1932). Perhaps the last known nesting of Purple Martins in natural (i.e., woodpecker-created) tree cavities in Minnesota was a colony located in a stand of tall, over-mature closely-grown jack pines near Baxter, Crow Wing County, in the mid-1960s (Mike Loss, pers. comm.). Colonies are well scattered across Minnesota where human density is relatively high, particularly in lake country (Figure 1). Heavily forested areas in northeastern Minnesota, where human densities are low, support few nesting Purple Martins. However, once Purple Martins fledge their young, they begin to gather at traditional pre-migratory roosts at night and resume a partial to complete reliance on natural habitats.

Most roost sites in Minnesota and perhaps the northern breeding range are in natural habitats, i.e., beds of emergent vegetation associated with lakes. However, some use of artificial habitats still occurs, especially in the southern U.S., e.g., roosts in downtown Tulsa, OK (in landscaped trees near hotel and parking ramp) and the bridge over Lake Pontchartrain near New Orleans, LA. Purple Martins winter in Brazil where habitat use is largely unknown. Effective conservation of Purple Martins requires an understanding of the importance of natural as well as artificial habitats throughout the Purple Martins' annual cycle.

Methods

Weather Radar. We located Purple Martin roosts by monitoring NEXRAD weather radar

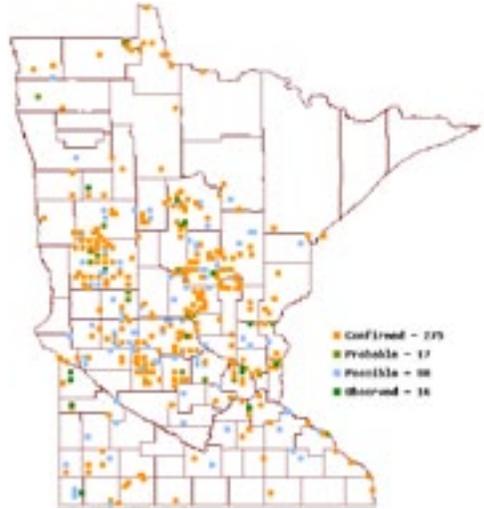


Figure 1. Distribution of Purple Martin breeding locations in Minnesota based on the Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas project, accessed 25 November 2012.

at dawn to detect large flocks dispersing from their nighttime roosts. Dispersing flocks show up on radar as a partial or complete donut-shaped ring once they attain a critical, albeit unknown, altitude (Figure 2). Because radar only provides an approximate location of the roost, ground surveys are required prior to dusk to locate pre-roosting flocks staging on powerlines, and then the flocks have to be followed a short distance (typically <5 km) to the actual roost. The Purple Martin Conservation Association (in Pennsylvania) and a Minnesota affiliate (MNMartin.org) began locating roosts by radar in 2004. The authors have been involved in monitoring weather radar and ground-truthing radar observations since 2005 in order to locate and evaluate roosts. Once roosts are found, they are monitored periodically by volunteers *ad libitum*.

Marking and tracking Purple Martins. Pur-

Table 1. Timing and duration of roosts used, 2008–2012. Locations in bold indicate the primary roost used in the given year. Locations marked by an asterisk indicate period of use determined from radar only.

Year	Roost Location	First Use	Last Use
2008	Willmar	≤14 August	≥12 September
2008	Big Swan	≤13 August	≥17 September
2008	Osakis*	≤23 August	≥28 August
2009	Willmar	≤4 August	≥10 September
2009	Big Swan	≤4 August	≥24 August
2009	Osakis*	~17 August	≥10 September
2010	Willmar	≤28 July	≥2 September
2010	Big Swan*	≤28 July	≥15 August
2010	Osakis	≤14 August	≥12 September
2011	Willmar	≤31 July	≥1 September
2011	Avon	≤9 August	≥14 September
2011	Big Swan*	≤9 August	≥20 August
2011	Osakis	≤22 August	≥28 August
2012	Willmar	≤22 July	≥3 Sept. but <9 Sept.
2012	Big Swan*	≤30 July	≥3 September
2012	Osakis	≤29 July	≥6 September



Figure 2. Flocks of Purple Martins dispersing from roosts in Willmar and Big Swan Lake show up as complete or partial rings on weather radar at 6:03 A.M. on 6 August 2009. Image provided by Larry Leonard.

Table 2. Observations of the 2010 cohort of nestlings from Willmar (n=164).

Observed in 2011	n (2011)	At Doll colony 2012	At Doll colony and roost 2012	At Willmar roost 2012	At Brainerd colony 2012
At Dick Doll colony only	6	1	–	1	–
At colony and roost	8	2	1	1	–
At Willmar roost only	15	1	–	5	–
At Columbia, SD colony	1	–	–	–	–
At Avon roost	1	–	–	1	–
Not observed	133	3	–	8	2

ple Martins have been marked and tracked to roost sites using various means. We first started banding Purple Martins in Brainerd in 2005 using only aluminum federal bands. In 2007, banding was expanded to Willmar. In 2008, our banding efforts incorporated red color bands with alpha-numeric codes and banding expanded to four additional colonies. By 2012, we had color-banded Purple Martins at 61 different colonies and are banding under five different permits. Both aluminum and color bands were read at staging areas near roosts by dedicated volunteers with high-power spotting scopes (e.g., Nikon Field Scope ED25-75, 82mm, with up to 75X magnification).

In 2009, 24 Purple Martins (13 adults, 11

nestlings) were fitted with 1.3g radio-transmitters (Figure 3) with a 90-day battery-life expectancy at seven colonies (three in the Metro area, four in central Minnesota) for the purpose of documenting movements to roosts. Eight of these (four adults and four fledglings, all from central Minnesota colonies), were tracked to roosts with handheld Yagi antennas. The transmitters were attached to the back feathers with a skin-bond glue, and were designed to fall off the bird when it molted its feathers. All three of the Purple Martins radioed at Willmar survived and returned to the Dick Doll colony in 2010 without the radios, as intended. At least three radios were lost to slippage or Cooper’s Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) predation.



Figure 3. Purple Martin nestling fitted with radio transmitter, July 2009, Brainerd. Photo by Michael North.



Figure 4. Adult Purple Martin being fitted with a geolocator, June 2011, Willmar. Photo by Michael North.

In 2011, 41 Purple Martins from four colonies in Minnesota were fitted with geolocators (Figure 4) as part of a continent-wide study of 421 marked birds (Fraser et al. 2012) to track their migrations and locate wintering locations in Central and South America. In Minnesota, we also intended to further document roost site selection and use. Colony sites from which martins were fitted with geolocators were Brainerd, Forest Lake, Mille Lacs Lake, and Willmar. Five geolocators were recovered from recaptured birds in May and June 2012, and were part of a set of 95 recovered geolocators from which continent-wide Purple Martin movements were assessed by Fraser et al. (2012). Colonies from which geolocators were recovered were Brainerd (2), Forest Lake (2), and Mille Lacs Lake (1); an additional marked bird was recaptured at Brainerd but had lost its geolocator. Data from the geolocators were downloaded and assessed at York University in Toronto, Canada (Fraser et al. 2012). Accuracy of the individual geolocators varied, but in general their data is accurate to within about a 50 km (30 mile) radius. Dates shown on migration maps indicate the morning locations of the marked birds.

Results and Discussion

Roost Locations. We identified four primary roosts in Minnesota based on weather radar, ground truthing, and banding. These four primary roosts are Lake Osakis, Big Spunk Lake near Avon, Big Swan Lake in southeast Todd County, and a cornfield near Willmar (Figure 5). Not all roosts receive enough use to be

detected on radar every year. Roosts begin to form in late July or early August (Table 1). As the pre-migratory season progresses, the birds from the various roosts typically congregate around one primary roost. Roosts typically persist into early- to mid-September (latest, 17 September 2008).

Additional minor roosts have been located as well. A small roost has formed briefly but annually in southern Aitkin County every year since at least 2008, and in 2012 a roost was confirmed at Lake Sissabagamah. There is also indication of a roost in the Alexandria area, but the location is in an area where radar coverage from Minneapolis/Chanhassen, Duluth, Grand Forks, Aberdeen, and Sioux Falls are all peripheral. Additional minor roosts have been indicated by radar in Stearns, Otter Tail, Murray, Jackson, Cass, and Big Stone counties. In adjoining states, roosts have been detected near Rice Lake, WI, and there is a major roost with up to 50,000 Purple Martins near Sioux Falls, SD (PMCA 2012). In 1996, ≥ 850 Purple Martins appeared to be going to a roost along the Red River in Fargo-Moorhead (M. North, pers. obs.).

Lake Osakis Roost. Lake Osakis is a 6400-acre lake with a maximum depth of 73 ft; 55% of the lake is littoral (i.e., ≤ 15 ft deep). It has extensive beds of emergent cattails and bulrushes, especially in the southwestern corner of the lake, which is where a major Purple Martin roost formed in 2010. That year, an estimated 50,000–100,000 Purple Martins used it at its peak. The lake also received moderate use in 2008 (~15,000 birds), late 2009, late

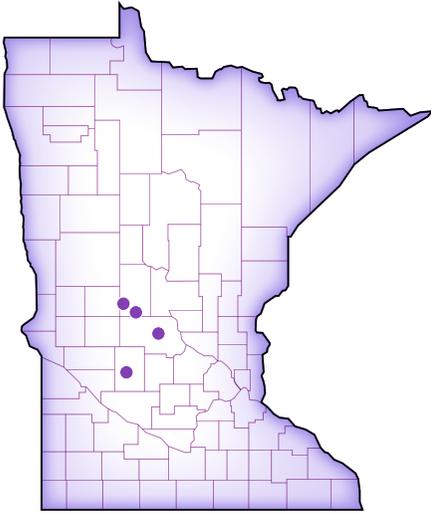


Figure 5. Locations of four primary Purple Martin post-fledging roost sites in Minnesota. Roost locations from north to south are Lake Osakis, Big Swan Lake, Big Spunk Lake, and Willmar.



Figure 6. Source colonies for 234 banded Purple Martins using the Willmar roost, 2009–2012. Open circles may indicate more than one colony in close proximity; for example, the 123 Purple Martins indicated in the Willmar area came from breeding colonies in Willmar, Spicer, and Brooten.

2011, and 2012. In addition to Purple Martins, the roost attracts Tree Swallows (*Tachycineta bicolor* [Luke Barthel, *vide* PMCA]) and Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica* [M. North, pers. obs.]), which enter the roost after the Purple Martins. Prior to entering the roost, Purple Martins congregate on powerlines around the lake. A primary staging area is a major powerline south of Osakis where it crosses over the Osakis wastewater treatment facility. Here the martins fill the upper two lines rather densely. Because the length of powerline between poles can be measured precisely, and the percentage of the powerline occupied by martins can be estimated fairly accurately, and the density of martins per linear foot of powerline can also be estimated fairly accurately, reasonable estimates of staging populations can be obtained. On 25 August 2010, we estimated 22,000–24,000 Purple Martins staged at the WWTF before taking off for the roost. On 12 September 2010, L. Leonard witnessed an early-season goose hunter inadvertently disturbing the staging birds there, after which the birds departed and did not return again that year.

Five color-banded Purple Martins have been documented at the Osakis WWTF in 2010 and 2011. These include one fledgling each from colonies at Mille Lacs Lake, Royalton, and Scandia, and one second-year (SY) adult male and one third-year (TY) adult male from Rice/Little Rock Lake. In addition, a banded fledgling from Willmar was found dead at West Union just south of Osakis in August 2007, which we assume indicated it was using the Osakis roost.

Big Spunk Lake Roost, near Avon. Big Spunk Lake is a 411-acre lake with a maximum depth of 38 feet; 35% of the lake is littoral. It has one or more islands of emergent cattails in the middle of the lake, which is where Purple Martins roost along with Barn and Tree swallows and 10,000s of Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) and possibly other Icterids. This roost was originally discovered on radar in 2004 and deemed a minor roost, but in 2005, radar indicated it was a major roost. The actual roost site was located in 2006 by Larry Leonard, Tony Lau, and Hauns Froehlingsdorf. In 2007, it was used by an estimated 10,000 Purple Martins on one occasion (T. Lau, pers. obs.).



Figure 7. Migration routes and wintering location for SY/TY female Purple Martin fitted with geolocator in Brainerd, MN, 2011-2012.



Figure 8. Migration routes and wintering locations for ASY/ATY male Purple Martin fitted with geolocator in Brainerd, MN, 2011-2012.



Figure 9. Migration routes and wintering locations for SY/TY female Purple Martin fitted with geolocator at Mille Lacs Lake, MN, 2011-2012.



Figure 10. Migration routes and wintering locations for SY/TY female Purple Martin fitted with geolocator at Forest Lake, MN, 2011-2012.



Figure 11. Migration routes and wintering locations for SY/TY male Purple Martin fitted with geolocator at Forest Lake, MN, 2011–2012.

It was not known to have been used again until 2011 when it was the primary roost in the state. In 2011, it was used by an estimated 50,000–100,000 Purple Martins from ≤ 9 August – ≥ 14 September. At dusk, blackbirds first settle into the roost, followed by Purple Martins, and lastly by small numbers of Barn and Tree swallows.

Five color-banded martins were observed at staging areas next to the roost in 2011, including fledglings from Royalton (2), Cedar Lake near Annandale (1), Bowlus/North Prairie (1), and a SY female from Willmar.

Big Swan Lake Roost, Todd County. Big Swan Lake is an 887-acre lake with a maximum depth of 45 feet; 45% of the lake is littoral. It has beds of emergent vegetation in the middle of the south end of the lake where the Purple Martins roost, directly out from the public access. The first known use of this lake was in 2008, when it was discovered by Kelly Applegate, Larry Leonard, and Tony Lau. That year, it supported an estimated 70,000–100,000 roosting martins from ≤ 13 August – ≥ 17 September. We suspect it was also used in 2007, since there was no known roosting in the Avon area that year. This roost received

moderate use in 2009 through late August, and minor use from 2010–2012. No color-banded Purple Martins have been seen here, but six radioed Purple Martins (two adults and four fledglings) were tracked to Big Swan Lake in 2009, including four from Mille Lacs Lake and two from Rice/Little Rock Lake. The two radioed adults arrived four days earlier (6 August, both from Mille Lacs Lake) than the first two radioed fledglings (10 August, from Rice) and seven days earlier than the two radioed fledglings from Mille Lacs Lake. Five of the six radioed birds remained at Big Swan through 13 August, after which time the roost appeared to have moved to Lake Osakis. Of these, one SY female was tracked to the roost at Big Swan Lake on 6, 10, and 13 August, but on 9 August she was located in the Willmar roost. The year 2009 was an anomaly because of poor reproductive success as the result of a prolonged wet- and cold-spell mid-summer, and it was our sense that roosts broke up early as Purple Martins departed early on their southward migration.

Willmar Roost. The roost about two miles southeast of Willmar was discovered in a cornfield by Dick Doll in 2008, although it had been indicated by radar every year since 2004. Some Barn and Tree swallows also use the roost. Although the Willmar roost does not attract the numbers of Purple Martins that the other three roosts do during peak years, the Willmar roost could be considered the most significant roost based on two or three factors. First, it appears to be the first roost to develop; second, it receives considerable use every year; and third, it attracts birds from all around the state. Some of these metrics, however, may simply be the result of human effort to document Purple Martin use there, as Dick Doll has been extremely diligent at reading bands at this site. No estimate of numbers of Purple Martins using the roost has been made, other than a minimum estimate once of 6,000. A total of 162 unique bands have been read (some were read multiple times) and three radioed martins were detected at this site from 22 different colonies (Figure 6), including one Purple Martin from Tofield, Alberta, Canada. The majority of bands ($n=123$, 75%) come from the Willmar area, including Spicer and Brooten. Within Minnesota, the martins traveling the farthest came from Park

Rapids, Aitkin, Pine City, Scandia, Heron Lake and Okabena. Enough effort has been expended at reading bands at the Willmar roost that we can also note colonies where we have banded Purple Martins but from which we have had no recoveries (Figure 6).

Prior to going into the roost, Purple Martins congregate on powerlines along a paved county highway near the cornfield. Another feature unique to this roost is that Purple Martins also congregate on the metal roof of a large turkey barn where we hypothesize they absorb heat into their feathers for added warmth through the night. The Willmar roost seems to dissipate earlier than the other roosts (Table 1), which may be attributable to the progression of the yellowing (i.e., drying and senescence) of the corn.

We have three particularly interesting band recoveries from Willmar:

- Band number 2361-08848, hatched and banded near Tofield, Alberta, 2009. Sighted at the Willmar roost as a fourth-year (FoY) female on 12 August 2012 by Dick Doll. While this may seem like a significant eastward movement from Alberta, Minnesota is actually in a direct line from Alberta to wintering grounds in eastern Brazil when the curvature of Earth is taken into account.

- Color band C935, hatched and banded in Forest Lake in 2010. Observed at the Willmar roost 31 August 2010; returned to natal colony next spring by 26 May 2011. This is the only non-Willmar-area Purple Martin seen at the roost and later back at a breeding colony.

- Color band E853, hatched and banded in Plymouth in 2009. Observed at the Willmar roost 25 August 2009 and 5 August 2012 (as a FoY male). This is the only non-Willmar-area Purple Martin seen at the roost in multiple years.

We obtained 36 records of banded Purple Martins being observed multiple times at the Willmar roost in a single year; this total includes four birds with multiple observations in both 2011 and 2012. Twenty-nine of these records were from birds banded in the Willmar area and seven were from birds from distant colonies. The distribution of “duration of stay” followed a chi-square distribution (mean 9.710 days, mode three and four days, range 2–26 days). From this subset, older birds arrived before younger birds (it would be more

accurate to state that individual marked birds were first observed on a given date, rather than that they arrived on that date. First appearance is used as an estimate of arrival date, and when the population is taken as a whole, it is a reasonable substitute for arrival); 11 of 12 birds that first arrived at the roost in July were adults. All four birds that used the roost multiple times in consecutive years arrived earlier the second year than the first; although this could be an artifact of the different seasons, we believe it is related to age (see below).

Older birds arrived at the Willmar roost earlier than younger birds. The average arrival date for hatch-year (HY) birds was 18 August (n=79, range 28 July – 3 September). The average arrival date for SY birds was 10 August (n=51, range 22 July–27 August). The average arrival date for after-second-year (ASY) birds was 7 August (n=41, range 22 July – 31 August). Males and females are indistinguishable in HY birds, and SY birds are not reliably sexed except in the hand, so we did not evaluate differences in arrival between sexes in these age classes. ASY birds are reliably sexed, and we found that males arrived an average of 1.6 days earlier than females (mean 7 August, n=21 for males versus mean 8–9 August, n=12 for females). The average arrival date for HY birds was statistically different (later) versus both SY (Tukey-Kramer HSD, $p<.0001$) and ASY birds ($p<.0001$). There was no statistical difference in arrival dates between SY and ASY birds ($p=.3687$).

We hypothesize that adult Purple Martins visit previously used roost sites before mass exodus occurs from colonies in order to evaluate which roost(s) their offspring or even the entire colony will congregate at post-fledging. This is a variation of the Information Centre Hypothesis (Ward and Zahavi 1973) in which it is theorized that colonial nesting and communal roosting birds share information directly about food resources. However, we adopt the proposal of Bijleveld et al. (2010) that the Information Centre Hypothesis should be modified by dropping the assumption that information transfer be direct, and by expanding the concept to sharing information about resources other than just food. Information can also be shared by “cueing” (Bayer 1982), “following” (Knight and Knight 1983), or “lo-

cal enhancement" (Knight and Knight 1983). Bayer (1982), a skeptic of the Information Centre Hypothesis, recognized that "information exchange" could benefit flying young that still return to the colony to be fed, as the young could use "information exchange" (via learning from adults) to become familiar with important feeding (or roosting) sites before becoming independent. We believe "information exchange" within Purple Martin breeding colonies can provide information on roosts via "following."

We examined use patterns of the Willmar roost based on colony of origin (i.e., colony where bird was originally banded, realizing there is some unknown amount of dispersal among fledglings in their second-year and beyond). As expected, Purple Martins of local origin (Willmar, Spicer and Brooten; $n=177$) used the roost earlier (mean date of all appearances is 13 August) than martins from more distant colonies ($n=56$, mean date of all appearances is 20 August). A Mann-Whitney U -test indicated this difference was statistically significant ($z=5.3$, $p<.001$).

We further divided the distant colonies into three concentric tiers. Tier 3, the most distant tier, included colonies from Park Rapids, Aitkin, Pine City, and Washington County (Scandia, Forest Lake). Tier 2 included Brainerd, Mille Lacs Lake, Okabena, and Heron Lake. Tier 1 included all other closer-in colonies. The Purple Martin from Alberta was excluded from analysis. The mean date of all appearances of martins from Tier 1 colonies ($n=29$) was 18 August, from Tier 2 colonies ($n=14$) was 24 August, and from Tier 3 colonies ($n=13$) was 21 August. If Tier 2 and Tier 3 colonies are combined, the mean date of all appearances ($n=27$) was 23 August. A Mann-Whitney U -test indicated this difference in dates present between Purple Martins from Tier 1 colonies versus Tier 2 and 3 colonies combined was statistically significant ($z=1.87$, $p=.03$).

Purple Martins from local colonies also departed from the Willmar roost earlier than Purple Martins from distant colonies. Of the Purple Martins recorded at the Willmar roost ≥ 25 August ($n=50$), 27 were from distant colonies and 23 were from local colonies. The 27 from distant colonies represented 48.2% of all sightings from distant colonies, whereas the

23 from local colonies represented only 13.0% of all sightings from local colonies.

Population Dynamics. The proximity of the Willmar roost to the primary banding site in Willmar (i.e., Dick Doll's colony) afforded a unique opportunity to assess fidelity to a breeding colony. In 2010, a cohort of 164 nestlings was banded. Of these, 14 (8.5%) returned to their natal colony in 2011. Of the original cohort, 23 (14%) were observed at the Willmar roost in 2011 (and one was at the Avon roost). Of the 14 birds that returned to the natal colony, 8 (57%) were also observed at the Willmar roost later on in 2011. Thus, 29 birds from the 2010 cohort showed up at the Willmar colony or Willmar roost in 2011.

Applying simple mark-recapture techniques (where the 14 birds that returned to the colony were "marked" and the 8 that were also seen at the roost were "recaptured," and assuming all 14 actually used the Willmar roost, we can apply the 57% recapture rate to the 23 birds from the cohort that were at the Willmar roost (i.e., that the 23 birds represented 57% of the cohort actually there) we can estimate that a minimum of 40 (24.4%) of the 164 birds of the cohort survived their first year. This does not account for other birds that may have dispersed long distance (of this cohort, one dispersed to a breeding colony in Columbia, SD in 2011 and two dispersed to a breeding colony in Brainerd in 2012).

We can also estimate that the 14 birds that returned to their natal colony represents 35% of the local survivors, and that 65% dispersed to other local colonies. Of the 132 birds of this cohort not accounted for in 2011 or known to have dispersed ($n=3$), 9 (5.5% of 164) showed up at the Willmar roost in 2012 and 3 (2% of 164) showed up at their natal colony in 2012 (Table 2). (The bird that was observed at the Avon roost in 2011 is included in the 132 not accounted for in 2011, as it was not seen at the Willmar colony or the Willmar roost that year, and it is not known to have dispersed; it is included in the nine observed at the Willmar roost in 2012; the two birds that dispersed to Brainerd in 2012 are not included in the 132). Over two years, these 38 birds represent a minimum first-year survival rate of 23.2%, which is close to our estimate based on mark-recapture from observations from 2011 only.

However, mark-recapture analysis could be carried out even further. Of the 29 martins that were observed at the Willmar colony or Willmar roost in 2011, 12 (41%) were observed at one or both of these locations in 2012 (i.e., survived two years). If we assume the 12 birds that were only observed at the Willmar colony or Willmar roost in 2012 (i.e., known to have been alive in 2011) represent 41% of the cohort still alive in 2011 but not seen, we can estimate that there was a total of 29 (i.e., 12/41) birds from this cohort that survived until 2011 but were not observed in 2011. This provides an estimate that 61 (37%) of 164 members of this cohort survived one year, with the majority dispersing from their natal colony. Brown (1997) gives a first year survival estimate of $32.2 \pm 4.5\%$ across North America based on band recoveries.

Use of Multiple Roosts. Color banding and radio telemetry have allowed us to document the use of multiple roosts by three Purple Martins, both within and among years. In 2009 we radio-tracked B054, a SY female banded at Mille Lacs Lake, to Big Swan Lake on 6 August, to the Willmar roost on 9 August, and back to Big Swan Lake on 10 August and 13 August. This documents use of multiple roosts within a single season. Color band B938 was applied to a nestling near Royalton, Morrison County, in 2010. It was observed at the Osakis roost on 25 August 2010 and at the Willmar roost on 29 July 2012 (as a TY male). Color band B783 was applied to a nestling at Willmar in 2010. It was observed at the Willmar roost 2 August 2010, at the Avon roost 17 August 2011, and at the Willmar roost 17 August 2012 (as a TY female).

Potential Information Exchange at Roosts. We hypothesize that “information exchange” could be used at roosts to communicate information about patchy food resources (see Hunt and Hunt 1976). If flying insect abundance decreases and becomes more patchily distributed as late summer progresses, then Purple Martins would benefit by knowing where conspecifics find food. Partial rings on weather radar (as opposed to complete or “donut” rings) at dawn dispersal from roosts may indicate “purposeful” movement (see Bayer 1982) towards known food resources. Adult (winged) dragonfly species diversity peaks

in June and July (see phenograms in Mead 2003) and declines as the season progresses; overall dragonfly abundance also seems to follow this pattern (Kurt Mead, pers. comm.; Beletsky 1996, p. 56). There appears to be assortative positioning within the roosts (i.e., first arrivals may use the center of the roost and be lower in the roost, while late arrivals may use the edge of the roost or are higher up). If evening arrival patterns at the roosts are a function of food procurement during the day, then assortative positioning would be a cue by which less successful foragers could follow successful foragers.

Migration and Wintering Grounds. Migration data was obtained from five Purple Martins fitted with geolocators in Minnesota in 2011. These included one martin banded as an ASY male, one SY male, and three SY females. One surprising finding is that none of the five Purple Martins visited roosts in Minnesota. Four of the five birds took a fall migration course due south that took them over the Gulf of Mexico to the Yucatan Peninsula (Figures 7–10). The fifth bird, from the Forest Lake colony, followed a fall migration course typical of east coast populations (i.e., down Florida and over to Cuba before continuing across the Gulf of Mexico; Figure 11). This latter bird commenced migration on 9 August and did spend a prolonged period (12 days, 9–21 August; where a range of dates is given, the first date indicates when the bird entered a roost in the evening, and the second date indicates when the bird left a roost in the morning) at a roost in the Milwaukee, WI area. From Wisconsin, it flew to near Miami, FL in two days, crossed over to Cuba where it spent one week, and then flew across the Gulf of Mexico to Panama. Brown (1997) reported potential but unconfirmed sight records of Purple Martins in Cuba.

The four birds from Minnesota that followed a western route south departed Minnesota between 19 and 27 August. Birds took 2–6 days to reach the Gulf coast, with three departing over the Gulf from Louisiana, and one departing from Texas. Staging at roosts in the U.S. lasted from 1–3 nights. Two of the Purple Martins made landfall on the north coast of the Yucatan Peninsula, one proceeded over the Yucatan Peninsula and stopped on the east coast, and one made landfall on

the south shore of the Bay of Campeche. All four Purple Martins staged for a prolonged period once crossing over the Gulf. One staged on the east shore of the Yucatan from 25 August – 12 September, one staged there from 5–13 September then made a short migration to another site in Belize where it stayed from 13 September – 2 October, one staged in northern Guatemala from 28 August – 15 September, and one staged in Honduras from 1–13 September. From these staging areas, the birds then worked their way down Central America to wintering areas in Brazil. Three of the five Purple Martins appear to have used the same roost on the Colombia-Venezuela border, but none at the same time, and the other two had migration routes that took them over or near this same site with unaccounted for nighttime roost locations.

Purple Martins arrived on their wintering grounds in northern Brazil anywhere from late September to late October. Three (60%) of the five Purple Martins changed wintering locations while two remained at the same location all winter; this matches the entire population of 95 Purple Martins fitted with geolocators, where 63 (66%) shifted locations by an average of 700 km (Fraser et al. 2012). Of the two Purple Martins that did not shift locations, one stayed at the same site from 26 September to 16 April, and the other from 21 October to 17 April. Four of our Purple Martins wintered farther east than the bulk of the other 90 Purple Martins with geolocators (see Fraser et al. 2012). The entire population of 95 marked Purple Martins wintered in largely undisturbed tropical rainforest (91% forest, 4% agricultural land use; Fraser et al. 2012). The mid-April departure dates (16–17 April) are later than the latest date given by Brown (1997) for Manaus, Brazil — 11 April.

The ASY male (now ATY) began its northward migration on 5 April, departed Panama on 15 April, departed the north coast of the Yucatan on 27 April and reached Memphis, TN that night where it staged until 1 May, and reached Brainerd by the night of 1 May. The SY male (now TY) began its northward migration on 10 April, reached Panama on 14 April, departed the north coast of the Yucatan on 23 April and slowly moved north, reaching Forest Lake by the night of 27 April. The three SY females all began their northward

migrations on 16 (n=1) or 17 April (n=2) and worked their ways up Central America. All three appear to have used the same roost (or roosts very near one another) on the north side of the Yucatan Peninsula. One departed the Yucatan 26 April, spent three days in Louisiana, and then arrived in Forest Lake two days later. One departed the Yucatan on 2 May and slowly worked her way to Brainerd, arriving by the night of 6 May. The other female departed the Yucatan on 3 May and stopped over near New Orleans and northern Arkansas until 7 May before arriving at Mille Lacs Lake by the evening of 7 May. Our dates of migration through Central America are later than peak dates given by Brown (1997); he indicated peak migration in Panama was mid-February to mid-March, and in Belize it was the first two weeks of March.

The two martins returning to Brainerd (on 1 May and 6 May) were both recaptured on 7 May, allowing us the unique opportunity to assess their conditions shortly after completing their migrations. The ASY/ATY male weighed 58g at banding on 30 June 2011, and 53.9g on 7 May 2012. The SY/TY female weighed 54g at banding on 30 June 2011, and 50.3g on 7 May 2012. (The mean weight of 19 adults captured on 30 June 2011 in Brainerd was 54.4g, range 50–61g; the mean weight of five adults recaptured after spring arrival in Brainerd was 55.7 g, range 50.3–59.5g). Although the weights of the two recaptured birds were lower than the colony average, we still considered these birds in remarkable condition upon return. The Brainerd colony appears to have more fitness than other colonies. For example, 18 adults captured at the Willmar colony on 28 June 2011 had a mean weight of 51.3g, range 44.8–56.7g).

Summary

There are four major roosts in Minnesota that receive variable levels of annual use. The Willmar roost, located in a cornfield, seems to receive the most consistent use and attracts Purple Martins widely from around Minnesota. Use of cornfields and emergent vegetation in lakes as roost sites, differs from statements in Brown (1997) that roosts are primarily in trees and on bridges. The fact that Purple Martins use multiple roosts within and among years, and that roosts seem to merge as the

season progresses, suggests that there is some “information exchange” occurring, perhaps through “local enhancement” and/or “cueing.” Fledglings arrive at roosts significantly later than adults. Band recovery data at roosts and breeding colonies suggests first year survival is about 37%. Purple Martins from Minnesota winter in the Amazon River Basin in Brazil, with most following a southerly route to the Gulf of Mexico, then over the Gulf to the Yucatan Peninsula and then through Central America. The timing of spring migration for Purple Martins breeding in Minnesota is much later than the literature (e.g., Brown 1997) suggests.

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The Spring Season

1 March through 31 May 2012

Paul E. Budde¹, Robert M. Dunlap², Douglas W. Kieser³,
and James W. Lind⁴

Following the warm winter across much of the country, the season was marked by very early returns of migrants that overwinter in the U.S., but typical arrival dates for neo-tropical migrants.

The migration of Greater White-fronted Geese brought them farther east than usual, resulting in exceptional high counts in the East-central and unusual reports from the Northeast. Waterfowl migration dates are often difficult to track due to confusion with a few overwintering birds of many species, but migration this season was clearly much earlier than usual, as evidenced by the fact that most duck species arrived north at least two to three weeks prior to their recent median arrival dates. Blue-winged Teal, in particular, set records as individuals arrived in five different north counties prior to the previous record early date.

A Harlequin Duck was discovered in Cook. Apart from Surf Scoter reports in Winona and Brown, all other reports of scoters were from St. Louis and Cook. A Barrow's Goldeneye was documented from Lac qui Parle, while an adult male that overwintered in St. Louis lingered until late March.

Gray Partridge counts were down, with no reports exceeding two individuals. Drumming counts of Ruffed Grouse were also down, though reports of this species were spread across its traditional range. Spruce Grouse were only found in Lake and Lake of the Woods. Wild Turkeys were reported from 75 of 87 counties.

Red-throated Loons were confined to St. Louis. They first appeared in mid-April and were found through the end of the season. No Pacific Loons were discovered in the state, however. All grebe species also arrived one to two weeks prior to recent medians.

The fifth state record Neotropic Cormorant was found in Murray at the end of March, while the third state record Brown Pelican

was seen in Goodhue and Dakota, and possibly in other counties as it seemed to wander throughout the East-central region.

The highlight among the long-legged waders was the Tricolored Heron in Wright, though it was only briefly seen. Snowy Egrets were in Lac qui Parle, Swift, and Hennepin, and Cattle Egrets were found in 13 counties. No Little Blue Herons or Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were found. Remarkable was the total of 50 ibises at Cory Lake in Lac qui Parle in mid-April. Of these, 30 were identified as White-faceds, while the remainder were cautiously left as *Plegadis* species. Other White-faceds wandered as far east as the Dakota/Goodhue border and to Hennepin at this same time, and one was found as far north as Agassiz N.W.R. During the last half of May, Common Gallinules were reported from Blue Earth, Houston, and Sherburne.

As with ducks, there were many record or near-record early shorebirds this season. Piping Plovers were discovered in Swift and Lyon in late April. A Black-necked Stilt entertained many in Hennepin for the one day it was present in mid-April. Another lingered for four days in Blue Earth, while a third briefly paused in mid-May at the productive Sleepy Eye W.T.P. in Brown. One Whimbrel was found in Dakota, while north reports were from Cass, Clearwater, and all three counties along Lake Superior. Hudsonian Godwits, with appearances in 22 counties, made their best showing since 2009. While no Red Knots were recorded, a Purple Sandpiper photographed at Split Rock Lighthouse S.P. was the seventh state and first spring record of this species. A Buff-breasted Sandpiper was a nice find in Pipestone, as this species is Casual in the spring. In Olmsted, an alternate-plumaged male Ruff was seen by many in mid-April.

A Little Gull was photographed in late May at Superior Entry in Duluth. Duluth also hosted Iceland and Lesser Black-backed Gulls into

March, Thayer's Gulls into April, and a Glaucous and Great Black-backed Gull into May.

Eurasian Collared-Doves continue to expand. They were found in 48 counties, easily surpassing 2011's spring total of 36. A White-winged Dove—another species being found with more regularity in the state, though far less widespread—lingered in Lewiston, Winona for nine days in late April.

Snowy Owls departed by early April, while Northern Hawk Owls went undetected. Great Gray Owls were only found in Beltrami, Lake, and St. Louis.

An out-of-range American Three-toed Woodpecker was documented in Crow Wing; three other reports came from Lake and Cook. Also away from its traditional range was a Black-backed Woodpecker in Stearns.

A Say's Phoebe provided a first county record for Fillmore in late April. A month later, a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was photographed in Beltrami — also a first county record.

Several reports of Black-billed Magpies in Cook were outside the normal range for this species, as was a Tufted Titmouse found in Scott. An overwintering Carolina Wren was seen in Chisago (Wild River S.P.).

Two Mountain Bluebirds were seen in Cook in early March, while a third was found in Hennepin towards the end of May. All four Townsend's Solitaires seen during the season were holdovers from the winter. Varied Thrushes reported from Dakota and St. Louis (Duluth) also had overwintered, but another from Duluth, one from near Chisholm, and a first county record for Norman were all new for the season. Northern Mockingbirds were located in seven counties, as far north as Marshall County and St. Louis (Ely).

A pair of Bohemian Waxwings seen in Duluth in mid-May were quite late to depart.

Along with traditional locations near the Twin Cities, a Hooded Warbler was discovered in Wabasha for a first county record. The only south report of Black-throated Blue was an individual in Ramsey, but north reports included two new county records for Morrison and Pine. A Yellow-breasted Chat was in Lac qui Parle at the Big Stone N.W.R.

It was a good spring for Spotted Towhees, with singles in Ramsey and Lyon and a pair in Otter Tail. Several sparrows found their way well north of their normal range, includ-

ing a Field Sparrow in Marshall and a Grasshopper Sparrow in Lake. A Nelson's Sparrow in mid-April was a first county record for Ramsey; it was followed by a second less than a month afterwards. Golden-crowned Sparrows in St. Louis and Sherburne provided the eighth and ninth records for the state.

Two first-year male Summer Tanagers were in Rochester, while females were found in Mower and Hennepin and a fifth individual in Aitkin. The only Western Tanager was an adult male seen at Lac qui Parle Lake in early May. In Jackson, a Lazuli Bunting was photographed at a feeder in early May. A Great-tailed Grackle in Waseca at the end of March was a first for the county; two other individuals were seen in Lac qui Parle and Yellow Medicine in April.

Several Hoary Redpolls lingered south through early March; all were gone from the state by the end of the month, as were almost all the winter finches.

Weather: Mean monthly temperatures for March were astonishingly warm, ranging from 10° to 17° F above the historical average. Consequently, such signs of spring as perennial plant development and lake ice out were about three to four weeks ahead of normal. April mean temperatures were only somewhat above average — about one to four degrees. May temperatures were above average in northern Minnesota, and well above average (4+ degrees) in the south. May marked Minnesota's eighth consecutive month of above-normal temperatures, and for many communities the season was the warmest meteorological spring of the modern record.

March precipitation totals were highly variable across the state, with northern regions generally above average and southern regions below average. Several large storms moved through the northern regions in late March (23 March and 28–29 March). April precipitation totals were either at or above normal statewide. The largest storm was mid-month (15–16 April); it dropped one to two inches of rain in the south and five to eleven inches of snow in the north. May precipitation totals were extraordinarily high from the southwest into the northeast. Here, monthly precipitation totals above eight inches were common. Major storms traversed the state 4–6 May and 23–24 May.

Undocumented or insufficiently documented records of Regular species: **Spruce Grouse** 3/10 Polk (out of range); **Western Grebe** 3/20 Lac qui Parle (record early date); **Clark's Grebe** 5/20 Lac qui Parle (no details); **American Bittern** 3/15 Ramsey (early date); **Osprey** 3/12 Ramsey (early date); **Red-shouldered Hawk** 3/31 Polk, 5/20 Marshall (out of range); **Broad-winged Hawk** 3/6 Blue Earth, 3/21 Sherburne, 3/24 Ramsey, 3/25 Goodhue (early dates); **Spotted Sandpiper** 3/30 Becker (record early date); **Semipalmated Sandpiper** 3/20 Lac qui Parle (early date); **Baird's Sandpiper** 3/11 Murray (17) (early date); **Iceland Gull** 5/29 St. Louis (late date); **Common Tern** 4/1 Chippewa (early date); **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** 4/1 Big Stone (early date); **Great Gray Owl** 3/10 Polk (out of range); **Common Nighthawk** 4/14 Wabasha, 4/18 Goodhue (early dates); **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** 3/30 Crow Wing (early date); **Eastern Wood-Pewee** 3/25 McLeod (early date); **Eastern Kingbird** 4/18 Mille Lacs (early date); **Gray Jay** 4/1 Rice (4), 5/7 Fillmore (2), 5/26 Pine (out of range); **Common Raven** 4/1 Lyon, 5/17 Meeker (out of range); **Wood Thrush** 4/3 Cass (3), 4/17 Ramsey, 4/22 Hennepin (early dates); **Gray Catbird** 3/6 Ramsey, 3/9 Anoka (early dates); **Smith's Longspur** 4/10 Otter Tail (no details); **Snow Bunting** 5/31 Sherburne (late date); **Magno-**

lia Warbler 3/31 Chisago, 4/1 Rice (insufficient details); **Indigo Bunting** 4/22 Goodhue (early date); **Dickcissel** 3/13 Fillmore (early date); **Orchard Oriole** 3/12 Ramsey (early 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 in bold and 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.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [48 South, 13 North] Early south (median 3/7) 3/3 Rice m.ob., Wabasha DBM, 3/6 in eight counties. Early north (median 3/26) 3/10 Douglas, Grant DBM, 3/12 Traverse BJU. Unusual Northeast reports: 3/13 St. Louis (W.S.H.C., Duluth) PHS, 3/17–18 St. Louis (max. 23, Mud Lake, Duluth) ALo, SSp, JCC, 4/24 St. Louis (near Hibbing) JMa. High counts 3/10 Jackson (5,633) PEJ, DFN, 3/12 Traverse (~4,500) BJU, 3/11 Dakota (~3,600, Lake Byllesby; exceptionally high count for eastern MN) BAF, SHF. Late south 5/19 Blue Earth AnK, ChH, 5/27 Wabasha (injured?) JWH (median 5/15). Late north 5/17 Wadena HHD (median 5/16).

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [44 South, 9 North] Early south (median 3/2) 3/3 Houston SHo, 3/6 in nine counties, 3/8 in six counties. Early north **3/4** Clay DWR, 3/12 Traverse (19,000) BJU, 3/17 Becker HHD, RAE, Clay RGj, Douglas JPE, Norman SC, St. Louis ALo. High counts 3/10 Jackson (20,380) PEJ, DFN, 3/12 Traverse (~19,000, most birds in two large flocks: one near Dumont and another north of Graceville) BJU, 3/16 Freeborn (9,450) PEJ. Late south 5/21 Benton CRM, Dakota AAn, 5/30 Nobles SC (median 5/24). Late north 5/21 St. Louis JLK, but also see summer report.

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [31 South, 7 North] Early south (median 3/18) 3/3 Mower (Austin) ph. BJL, 3/6 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) ph. †CMB, Lincoln (3) RAE, Watonwan (2) ChH, AnK, 3/7 Dakota (30, Lake Byllesby) AFo, ANy. All north reports: **3/12** Traverse (~800, Croke and Tara Twps.) BJU, 3/19 Mille Lacs ASc, 3/21 Kanabec (2) RAE, 4/7 Clay (Moorhead) RAE, 4/13 **Pine** (Pine City W.T.P) RBj, DAC, 5/14 St. Louis SC, 5/15 Kittson (Joe River S.W.A.) TrB. High counts 3/10 Jackson (**1,077**, record high spring count) PEJ, DFN, 3/12 Traverse (~**800**, Croke and Tara Twps.) BJU, 3/12 Lac qui Parle (~350) BJU, 3/12 Big Stone (283) BJU. Late south 5/10 Sherburne ph. BeA, 5/20 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) BJU (median 5/13).

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [36 South, 10 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants.

Early north (median 3/19) **3/4** Clay DWR, **3/10** Grant DBM. High counts 3/24 Lac qui Parle (~500, Salt Lake) JF, 3/12 Traverse (~420, Tara Twp.) BJU, 3/10 Jackson (351) PEJ, DFN. Late south 5/8 Winona ANy, DBz, 5/9 Lincoln RBj (median 5/13). Late north 4/20 Roseau SC (median 5/21). Descriptions provided for just a handful of additional records: 3/10 Hennepin †KRo, 3/9–11 Dakota †ADS, †BAF, †ACr, 3/24 Grant †DPG, 3/25 Isanti †DwK, 4/17 Stearns †PCC.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [4 South] All reports: 3/8–4/17 Goodhue (2, probable releases at Prairie Island) GJM, 3/20 Anoka TMu, 4/2–6 Waseca (Clear Lake) ANy, DBz, DAB, DBM, 5/27 **Sibley** SC.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [45 South, 29 North] High counts 3/9 Morrison (90, Bowlus) MJB, 5/11 Stearns (76) STW, 3/10 Hennepin (69, Lake Rebecca P.R.) SMC.

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [30 South, 25 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/26) 3/15 Marshall LeG, 3/16 Clearwater KVH, Otter Tail *fide* JMj, Polk SC, 3/17 Becker, Clay, Wilkin HHD, RAE, RGj, Douglas JPE, Hubbard MAW, Mahnomen, Norman SC, Mille Lacs ASc, Morrison MJB, St. Louis KRE, m.ob. High counts 3/18 Sibley (~450, Washington Lake) DWK, 3/25 St. Louis (~400, St. Louis River, Mud Lake) AM, 3/15 Goodhue (~350, Lake Byllesby) SBM. Late south 4/14 Winona SSh, 5/6 Hennepin GLa (median 5/4). Late north 5/17 St. Louis (Duluth) JLK, 5/31 Polk *fide* JMj (median 5/28).

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early north (median 3/18) **3/4** Clay DWR, 3/14 Mille Lacs ASc, 3/17 Becker, Wilkin HHD, RAE, Douglas JPE, Hubbard MaH, Morrison MJB, Wadena PJB, but also see winter report. High counts 4/8 Hennepin (~100, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) DAD, 3/10 Carver (95, Rapids Lake MVN-WR) JCy.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early north (median 3/24) 3/6 Clay, 3/10 Grant DBM, 3/12 Traverse BJU. High

- counts 3/16 Freeborn (~2,600) PEJ, 3/29 Wabasha (~500, Weaver Bottoms) GJM, 3/24 Lac qui Parle (~300, Salt Lake) JF.
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [51 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/1) 3/1 Winona ANy, 3/3 Houston SHO, 3/4 Waseca DAB, ANy. Early north (median 3/26) 3/12 Traverse BJU, 3/17 Becker, Wilkin HHD, RAE, Douglas JPE, Mahnomen SC, Morrison MJB, 3/18 Pine JCC, St. Louis ANy, SSp.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [19 South, 8 North] High count 3/6 Wabasha (23) PEJ. Late south 5/20 Dakota PEJ, 5/27 Stearns RPR (median 5/17).
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. High count 3/7 Dakota (~5,000, Lake Byllesby) AFo.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/7 Dakota AFo, Winona ANy, 3/10 Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/11 Lincoln BJU, Murray BJU, Watonwan DBM. Several record early north records (previous record 3/21; median 3/29): **3/15** Traverse RAE, **3/17** Douglas JPE, Mahnomen SC, **3/18** Douglas RAE, **3/19** Mille Lacs ASc, **3/20** Crow Wing JSB. High counts (record 14,580): 4/22 Lac qui Parle (1,336, including 998 at Hamlin W.M.A.) PCC, 3/24 Houston (~1,000, Reno Bottoms) SPu, 4/17 Lac qui Parle (~900, Cory Lake) KLn.
- Cinnamon Teal** (*Anas cyanoptera*) — [2 South, 1 North] Adult male 4/15–18 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) ph. CV, JF, m.ob., 4/28–5/13 Lac qui Parle (Haydenville W.M.A.) SWe, ph. ANy, m.ob. Possible hybrids with Blue-winged Teal 3/25 Lyon †PEJ, DFN, 4/25 Winona ANy, 5/26 Crow Wing ABI.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas chrypeata*) — [53 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/27) **3/6** St. Louis (Virginia) DBF, SLF, 3/12 Traverse BJU, 3/17 Becker, Wilkin HHD, RAE, Cass DAY, Douglas JPE, Mahnomen, Norman SC, Marshall HHu, Morrison MJB. High counts 3/24 Houston (~1,000, Reno Bottoms) SPu, 4/29 Lac qui Parle (423, Salt Lake) PCC.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [45 South, 22 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/20) 3/12 Traverse BJU, 3/16 Clearwater KVH, 3/17 Becker, Wilkin HHD, RAE, Douglas JPE, Mahnomen, Norman SC, Marshall HHu, St. Louis KRE. High counts 3/13 Brown (~300) JSc, 3/8–11 Dakota (250, Lake Byllesby) MGo, BAF, SHF.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [53 South, 33 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 3/27) 3/12 Traverse BJU, 3/17 Becker, Wilkin HHD, RAE, Douglas JPE, Hubbard MaH, MAW, Mahnomen, Norman SC, Morrison MJB, St. Louis KRE, ALo, 3/18 Beltrami DPJ. High counts 3/24 Houston (~**3,000**, Reno Bottoms) SPu, 4/7 McLeod (~600, near Brownton) LS, 4/24 Hennepin (460, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Rice Lake) WCM.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [50 South, 25 North] Early south (median 2/28) 3/1 Dakota PEJ, Wabasha ANy, 3/6 Goodhue PEJ, Rice m.ob., Washington CMB, Winona PEJ, ANy, but also see winter report. Early north (median 3/28) 3/12 Traverse BJU, 3/17 Douglas JPE, Marshall HHu, Wilkin HHD, RAE, 3/23 Roseau *fide* JMJ, St. Louis DBF. High counts 3/16 Lac qui Parle (~3,000, Bolland Slough W.P.A.) JF, 3/24 Houston (~1,500, Reno Bottoms) SPu, 3/19 Wabasha (~1,000, Weaver Bottoms) GJM. Unusual Northeast concentration 3/24 St. Louis (146, Park Point) PHS.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [52 South, 32 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/24) 3/12 Traverse BJU, 3/17 Becker, Wilkin HHD, RAE, Douglas JPE, 3/18 Pine ANy. High count 3/25 St. Louis (845, Duluth Harbor) PHS.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [53 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/20) **3/6** Clay RHO, 3/9 Traverse MO, 3/14 St. Louis DBF. High counts 3/24 Houston (~**7,500**, Reno Bottoms) SPu, 3/16 Lac qui Parle (~2,000, Bolland Slough W.P.A.) JF, 3/12 Houston (1,006, Houston) SPu.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [38 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/8) 3/1 Houston DSt, Rice DAT, 3/6 Goodhue PEJ, GJM, Wabasha, Winona PEJ, 3/7 Dakota PEJ, Lac qui Parle BJU, but also see win-

- ter report. Early north (median 3/31) 3/18 St. Louis SSp, 3/24 Douglas MJB, DPG, 3/25 Todd JeM. High counts 4/15 St. Louis (1,625, Duluth Harbor) PHS, 4/3 St. Louis (1,501, Duluth Harbor; also 1,341 unidentified scaup and 550 *Aythya* sp.) PHS. Late south 5/12 Rice DAB, DAT, GHo, 5/27 Pipestone KRE, LS (median 5/14). Late north 5/28 St. Louis SBM, 5/31 Beltrami, Koochiching RAE (median 5/29), but also see summer report.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [53 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/15) 3/9 Traverse MO, 3/16 Polk SC, 3/17 Becker, Clay, Wilkin HHD, RAE, Mahnomen SC, Morrison MJB, St. Louis GHo. High counts 3/24 Houston (~5,000, Reno Bottoms) SPu, 3/30 St. Louis (936, Duluth Harbor) PHS.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [1 North] Only report: 3/15–20 Cook (male, Grand Marais harbor) *fide* JWJ, ph. ANy.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [2 South, 1 North] All reports: 4/28–5/1 Winona DBz, m.ob., 5/4 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) MJM, 5/7 St. Louis (Park Point) SBM, ACr, 5/16 St. Louis (2, Park Point) JLK.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [2 North] All reports: **3/17** (record early, overwintered?) Cook (2, near Five Mile Rock) ANy, 4/19 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK, 5/7 St. Louis (9, Park Point) SBM, ACr.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — [2 North] All reports: 4/17–19 St. Louis (5, Park Point) JLK, 5/25–26 Cook (Paradise Beach) DFN.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [1 South, 3 North] All reports: 3/16 Lake (2, Two Harbors) ANy, 3/18 **Freeborn** (Geneva Lake) PEJ, 4/17 Cook (20, Grand Marais) JaJ, 4/23–5/13 Lake (max. 15, Two Harbors) JWJ, 5/6 Carlton (Moose Lake W.T.P.) †ACr, 5/19 Cook (32, Cascade River/Tacomite Harbor) JCG, 5/25–26 Cook (max. 8, Paradise Beach) DFN, 5/25 Lake (5, Beaver Bay) DFN, 5/26 Cook (Tofte) KRo.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [53 South, 34 North] High counts 3/24 Houston (~1,500, Reno Bottoms) SPu, 3/24 Lac qui Parle (~200, Salt Lake) JF, 4/22 Hennepin (150) CMB. Late south 5/21 Benton CRM, 5/27 Pipestone CRM, m.ob. (median 5/30).
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [45 South, 27 North] High counts 3/31 St. Louis (1,695, Duluth Harbor) PHS, 3/24 Houston (~500, Reno Bottoms) SPu. Late south 5/8 Winona ANy, DBz, 5/16 Kandiyohi JAn (median 5/12).
- BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 South, 1 North] All reports: 3/16 Lac qui Parle (Bolland Slough) †JF, 3/22 St. Louis (overwintering adult male, Park Point) †PHS.
- Common Goldeneye X BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** (*Bucephala clangula* X *Bucephala islandica*) — Adult male probable hybrid 4/1 St. Louis (Duluth Harbor) †PHS. Fourth state record of this taxon (**The Loon** 82:147–150).
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Overwintered widely south and in St. Louis (pair). Early north migrants (median 3/17) 3/9 Morrison MJB, St. Louis (migrant?) KRE, Traverse MO, 3/15 Hubbard MaH, MAW, Pine ANy, 3/16 Clearwater KVH, Itasca SC, EEO. High count 3/24 Houston (~500, Reno Bottoms) SPu.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [47 South, 28 North] Early north (away from overwintering locations) 3/9 (median 3/4) Traverse MO, 3/12 Clay BDS, 3/15 Itasca SC, Pine ANy. Late south 5/11 Goodhue GJM, 5/16 Anoka SBM, Kandiyohi JAn (median 5/24).
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [40 South, 16 North] Early south (median 3/10) 3/3 Dakota RTe, 3/6 Wabasha PEJ, 3/7 Lac qui Parle BJU. Early north (away from Lake Superior) 3/20 Marshall *fide* JMJ, 3/24 Douglas FGo, MJB, DPG, 3/30 Itasca BWF. High counts 4/1 Carver (151, Lake Waconia) WCM, 4/18 St. Louis (142, Lester River, Duluth) JLK. Late south 5/25 Sibley WCM, 5/28 Hennepin SoA (median 5/19).
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [50 South, 19 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 4/3) 4/6 Grant ANy, 4/7 Becker ANy, Traverse DFN, 4/14 Kanabec, Pine DBz, m.ob. High counts 4/21 Pope (~1,000, Lake Emily) DPG, 4/15 Sibley (540, Lake Washington)

DWK, 4/22 Dakota (estimated 400, Lake Byllesby) ADS. Unusual Northeast reports: 4/28–5/6 Carlton (Moose Lake W.T.P) HHD, JPr, RAE, 5/9–11 St. Louis (Indian Point, Duluth) JLK.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [9 South, 6 North] All north reports: 3/10 Kittson TrB, 3/11–4/29 Polk HHu, m.ob., 4/22 Clay (Felton Prairie) RHO, 5/21 Morrison CRM, 5/28 Wilkin HHD, 5/29 Pennington MJM. All reports were of 1–2 birds.

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [52 South, 20 North] High count 5/25 Rock (20, Blue Mounds S.P.) TMo. Reported as far north as Marshall, Becker, Wadena, Itasca (released?), and Carlton.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [12 South, 29 North] Found throughout normal range, including Anoka CAB, Dakota (Miesville Ravine) KSm, Fillmore NBO, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona m.ob., Washington DFN. Drumming counts down nearly 50% from 2011 in the forested regions (Minnesota DNR).

Spruce Grouse (*Falciptennis canadensis*) — [3 North] All reports: 3/11 Lake (2) RAE, 4/19 Lake of the Woods SC, 5/12 Lake SES, Lake of the Woods MHK.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [2 South, 12 North] All south reports: 3/12, 5/5 Lac qui Parle (4, Plover Prairie.) BJU, 3/27 Yellow Medicine (2) BRB, 3/31 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Twp.) BJU. High counts 3/10 Polk (18, Wetlands, Pines, and Prairie Audubon Sanctuary) HHu, 3/11 Marshall (16) MJM, 4/25 St. Louis (13, Sax-Zim Bog) ABi. Additional north reports from Aitkin, Carlton, Clearwater, Kanabec, Kittson, Koochiching, Norman, Pennington, Roseau. Total of 1,404 individuals observed on 154 dancing grounds; down slightly from 2011 (Minnesota DNR).

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [1 South, 7 North] Presumed releases seen in Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie, Hegland W.P.A.) BJU, FGo. All north reports: Becker (max. 45) BDS, Clay (max. 35, Bluestem Prairie) SHE, Mahnomen JCC, Marshall (4) CST, Norman (max. 18) JCC, Polk (max. 50, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) AFO, Wilkin MJM.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [50 South, 25 North] Reported as far north as



Ruffed Grouse, 19 March 2012, Cook County.
Photo by David Brisance.

Kittson, Marshall, Beltrami, Itasca, Cass, Aitkin, Carlton. Probable escapees or released birds also seen in southern St. Louis (4 locations). Peak counts 3/5 Dakota (52) CMB, 3/8 Goodhue (49, Frontenac) RBJ.

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] All reports from Lake Superior in St. Louis: **4/18**–5/31+ at Park Point and Lester River (max. 18 on 5/19 and 5/28) JLK, FJN, DWK.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) — No reports.
Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) — [34 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/17 Ramsey YK, 3/18 Hennepin BAF, SHF, 3/20 Anoka TMu, Rice TFB, Stearns MJB. Early north (median 4/2) **3/16** Hubbard MAW, 3/22 Todd JeM, DTM, 3/24 Cass DAY.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [53 South, 30 North] Early south (median 3/9) 3/6 Wabasha PEJ, 3/7 Hennepin JFR, CMB, RTe, Olmsted CWG, Rice JLO, DAB, DAT, Steele NFT, 3/9 Carver JCy. Early north (median 3/27) 3/13 St. Louis SLF, 3/20 Mille Lacs ASC, 3/24 Douglas FGo, JPE. High counts 4/20 Blue Earth (81, Lily Lake) CHH, 4/16 Watonwan (80) AnK, 4/19 Hennepin (75) CMB.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [42 South, 24 North] Early south (median 3/26)

- 3/16 Freeborn PEJ, 3/18 Dakota JoD, 3/19 Hennepin CMB. Early north (median 4/10) 4/3 St. Louis JSI, Siv, 4/5 Marshall SRo, Todd ANy, 4/7 Hubbard ANy. High counts 4/22 St. Louis (750, Park Point) MLH, 4/19 Hennepin (529, lakes Nokomis, Harriet, and Calhoun) CMB. Late south 5/18 Blue Earth ChH, 5/27 Hennepin SHF (median 5/14). Late north 5/30 Marshall GAK, 5/31 Koochiching RAE (median 6/3), but also see summer report.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [29 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/3) **3/20** Lac qui Parle BJU, **3/23** Hennepin (2) CMB, 3/31 Chisago LS. Early north (median 4/7) 4/1 Todd BWF, JWH, 4/3 Clearwater RAE, 4/4 Marshall RAE, JMJ. High counts 4/22 St. Louis (130, Park Point, Duluth) MLH, 4/22 St. Louis (70, Bear Island Lake) SLF.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [15 South, 13 North] Early south (median 4/9) **3/31** Lac qui Parle, Yellow Medicine BJU, 4/6 Renville RBW, 4/11 Hennepin ACr. Early north (median 4/22) 4/9 Morrison FGO, 4/18 Pennington MA, 4/19 Marshall HHu. Notable northeast reports: 5/7 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) SBM, ACr, 5/12 **Itasca** (Splithand Lake) ph. JLK, 5/31 **Koochiching** RAE.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [15 South, 12 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/6 Sibley RBW, 4/11 Lac qui Parle BJU, Stevens DLP, 4/22 Brown DWK, Sibley DWK, SBM. Early north (median 4/21) **4/5** Douglas ANy, 4/14 Douglas JPE, 4/28 Clearwater DWK, SBM. High count 5/24 Marshall (27, Agassiz N.W.R.) GAK. Unusual northeast reports 5/16 **Koochiching** (Rainy Lake) ph. AMe, 5/19–20 St. Louis (2, Park Point) FJN, KJS, †PHS.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — One reported 5/20 in Lac qui Parle ph. BJU.
- NEOTROPIC CORMORANT** (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) — [1 South] Fifth state record 3/30–31 **Murray** (Current Lake) ph. †CRM.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [50 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/17) 3/4 Rice FVS, 3/7 Big Stone BJU, 3/10 Le Sueur PEB, Rice DAB, GLa, DFN. Early north (median 3/30) 3/18 Douglas HHD, Pine ANy, 3/20 St. Louis FKB, DBF, 3/24 Douglas DPG, Morrison DLP. High count 4/9 Becker (~300) BDS.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [46 South, 24 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/17 Winona DBz, 3/20 Goodhue JLO. Early north (median 4/7) **3/24** Douglas PJK, 3/31 Mille Lacs PEJ, Wadena PJB, 4/1 Todd BWF, JWH. High counts 3/30 Winona (~1,000, Verchota Landing) ANy, 3/23 Lac qui Parle (~650) BJU. Unusual location: 5/1 Lake (Knife River) PHS, 5/10 Lake (24, Two Harbors) JWL.
- BROWN PELICAN** (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) — [2 South] Third state record 4/4–9 **Goodhue** (Red Wing) ph. CH, JWH, ph. KRE, ph. RZi, ph. CRM (**The Loon** 84:154). Also photographed 4/9 in **Dakota** (flying over Hwy. 52 and C.R. 46) ph. DAC. Originally found and photographed by a local fisherman on 4/4 at Red Wing *fide* TPB.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [13 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/12 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/18 Rice TFB, 4/21 Anoka DWK. Early north (median 4/18) 4/8 Wadena PJB, 4/11 Itasca SC, Marshall *fide* JMJ, 4/14 Douglas JPE, Kanabec RAE. High count 5/19 Marshall (11, Agassiz N.W.R.) JVe.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [13 South, 5 North] All south reports: 5/8 Wabasha RPR, 5/10+ Lac qui Parle ASc, BJU, 5/13 Swift (Lubenow W.P.A.) SBM, Winona (Dorer Pools) DBz, 5/17 Meeker JEB, 5/17–19 Wabasha (Whitewater W.M.A.) JWH, ANy, SHo, 5/19 Houston (Mound Prairie) WCM, 5/21+ Sherburne PLJ, m.ob., 5/26 Rock (2) CRM, m.ob., 5/27–31 Pipestone (Woodstock W.M.A.) KRE, m.ob., 5/30 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) SBM, Cottonwood SC, Murray SWE, 5/31 Isanti (Crooked Road W.M.A.) DPG. All north reports: 5/19–26 Douglas JPE, 5/24 Kittson LW, 5/25 Otter Tail DST, 5/29 Mille Lacs ASc, 5/31+ **St. Louis** (near Crane Lake) †DMK.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (away from overwintering areas) 3/6 Anoka AXH, Goodhue PEJ, Meeker DPG, Rice GLa, DAB, TFB, Washington PEJ, 3/7 Dakota AFo, Winona ANy. Early north (median

- 3/20) 3/17 Douglas JPE, 3/18 Cass DAY, Pine ANy, 3/19 Hubbard MAW. High counts 5/20 Wright (145, Camp Courage rookery) MJB, 3/21 Hennepin (52, Marshall Terrace Park) SKS, 3/22 Pine (48) AXH.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [45 South, 8 North] Early south (median 3/22) **3/6** Dakota JLO, 3/19 Winona ANy, 3/22 Carver JCy. Early north (median 4/1) 4/2 Otter Tail BDE, 4/6 Douglas PJK, 4/13 Marshall GAK. High count 4/24 Otter Tail (~180) BDE.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [3 South] All reports: All south 4/15 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) DBM, 5/3 Lac qui Parle (Mehurin Twp.) BJU, 5/9 Swift CWG, 5/20 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) JEG, TPB, †CMB, †BAF, †MDu, ph. LMS, m.ob.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — No reports.
- TRICOLORED HERON** (*Egretta tricolor*) — [1 South] Adult seen 5/19 **Wright** (Succo-nis W.M.A.) †MJB.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [12 South, 1 North] All south reports: 4/17–23 Rice (3, Cannon Lake) DAB, m.ob., 4/18 Dakota (180th St. Marsh) †KSm, 4/20 Big Stone (3, Long Lake) DLP, 4/21 Carver LMS, 5/5 Hennepin (Bloomington Ice Garden) ph. BeH, m.ob., 5/7 Lac qui Parle (Providence Twp.) BJU, 5/8 Kandiyohi *vide* JoS, 5/14 McLeod PRH, 5/16 Lyon GWe, 5/19 Nicollet MiO, 5/20 Lincoln (Lake Benton) SC, 5/25 Nobles CRM. Only north report: 5/28 Marshall (near Warren) HHu.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [39 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/17 Dakota KSm, 4/19 Benton FGo, Hennepin CMB, RDa, 4/24 Stearns PCC. Early north (median 5/3) 5/2 Mille Lacs ASc, 5/3 Hubbard MAW, Otter Tail DST, 5/4 Mahnomen JCC.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [10 South, 2 North] Early south (median 3/29) 3/26 Hennepin BAF, SHF, 4/2 Freeborn TeA. All north reports: 4/30 Otter Tail (2) DST, 5/12 Otter Tail (14, Grotto Lake, Fergus Falls) DST, 5/23 Marshall *vide* JMJ.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — No reports.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [5 South, 1 North] All reports: **4/15**–16 Dakota/Goodhue (7, Lake Byllesby) ph. †SHF, †BAF, †RPR, m.ob, **4/15**–21 Hennepin (max. 3, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ph. †BAF, ph. †CMB, ph. †ACr, ph. †BeH, ph. RTE, m.ob., 4/22 Lac Qui Parle (**30** at Cory Lake accompanied by **20** *Plegadis* sp., another one in Walter Twp, and two more in Yellow Bank Twp.) †PCC, 5/4 Dodge (west of **Dodge** Center) †RBW, m.ob., 5/6–8 Dakota (180th Street Marsh) †BAF, 5/20 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) DBM, REH. Note: apparent hybrids among Glossy and White-faced Ibis are increasing. When reporting these taxa, please comment on how individual *Plegadis* are identified at the species level.
- Plegadis ibis** (*Plegadis sp.*) — [4 South] All reports: 3/31 Lac qui Parle (Agassiz Twp.) BJU, 4/15 Martin (7, Pierce Lake W.P.A.) BRB; 4/21 (23), 4/22 (20), 4/23 (4) Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) KSm, RTE, †PCC, DLP; 4/22 Blue Earth (Lily Lake) AnK, ChH, HDD, 5/3 Faribault (Walnut Lake) RBJ, DAC.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [51 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/6 Goodhue JLO, 3/7 Big Stone BJU, Fillmore CWG, Rice JLO, 3/8 Wabasha RBJ. Early north (median 3/30) 3/17 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) DSC, PHS, 3/24 Douglas FGo, Mille Lacs ASc, 3/27 Cass DAY, Todd JeM. High counts 3/23 Wabasha (40) ANy, 4/22 Fillmore (40) CWG.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [33 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/18 Dakota JoD, 3/19 Anoka CAB, 3/24 Sherburne ASc, 3/31 Carver KSo, Hennepin BBy, EBA, Lac qui Parle BJU, Winona NSg. Early north (median 4/1) 3/30 Crow Wing JSB, 4/3 Itasca SC, 4/4 Cass DAY, 4/6 Becker, Otter Tail ANy, Hubbard ANy, MAW, Morrison DLP.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/10 Benton (62) MJB, 3/13 St. Louis (54, W.S.H.C.) EBr.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early north (median 3/10) 3/10 Douglas, Grant DBM, Polk HHu, Wadena PJB, 3/11 Cass ABi, Marshall JMJ, 3/12 Clay RHO, Kittson LW, Traverse BJU. High count 4/2 Polk (15, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) AFO.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [32 South, 25 North] Early north (median



Northern Harrier, 20 May 2012, Clay County.
Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

3/7) 3/5 Hubbard MaH, 3/9 St. Louis SC. High count 5/7 St. Louis (17, Park Point) SBM, ACr. Late south 5/23 Dakota LFr, 5/30 Stevens RMD.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [45 South, 20 North] Early north (median 3/18) 3/13 St. Louis EBr, 3/17 Marshall HHu, 3/20 Clay RHO, Polk SAU.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [3 South, 8 North] All south 3/19 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) CRM, 3/24 Ramsey REH, 3/31 Lac qui Parle BJU. North reports from Cass, Hubbard, Itasca, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake, Marshall, St. Louis.

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) — [22 South, 9 North] Early north (median 3/14) 3/4 Crow Wing JSB, 3/9 Todd DTM, 3/12 Morrison LaM. New county record: 3/21 **Watowan** (near Madelia) ph. †AnK. Unusual Northeast report: 4/1 Lake (immature) MJI. All other north reports: Becker, Douglas, Hubbard, Otter Tail, Wadena.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) — [35 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/7) 4/11 Sherburne PLJ, 4/14 Dakota ADS.

Early north (median 4/10) 4/11 Cass DAY, 4/17 Mille Lacs JSa, 4/18 Grant DaP, Hubbard MAW.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [21 South, 4 North] Early south (median 4/3) 3/31 Lac qui Parle BJU, 4/14 Dakota RTE, 4/15 Martin BRB, Renville DBM. All north reports: 5/5 Wilkin DBz, 5/9 Grant DBM, 5/22 Polk, Wilkin ANy, 5/28 Marshall (near Warren) HHu.

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported from 86 counties statewide.

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) — [26 South, 21 North] High count 3/11 Polk (20, Burnham Creek W.M.A.) DLT. Late south 4/14 Carver JCy, 4/19 Benton FGo (median 5/10). Late north 5/9 Polk SAS, 5/20 Marshall DBM, ENu (median 5/24).

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [7 South, 7 North] All south reports: 3/2 Sherburne ASC, 3/3 Winona (ad., Wisconsin valley) DBM, 3/10 Nicollet AnK, Rice (juv., River Bend N.C.) DAB, Washington LS, 4/12 Hennepin (ad., Old Cedar Ave. bridge) BeH, 4/28 Lac qui Parle (2, Big Stone N.W.R.) FAE (median late 4/14). All north reports: 3/10 Grant (juv.) DBM and Polk (Wetlands, Pines, and Prairie Audubon Sanctuary) HHu, 3/13 St. Louis (2, W.S.H.C.) EBr, 3/17 St. Louis (St. Louis River) SSp, 3/24 Douglas FGo, 3/30 Pine (Hinckley) RBJ, 4/19 Marshall (Warren) HHu, 4/23 St. Louis (2, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK, 5/13 Mille Lacs LeR (median late 4/17).

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [2 North] Early north 4/23 Aitkin KCR was well before recent median 5/11. Only other reports: 5/10 Aitkin (2, McGregor Marsh) KCR and Hubbard MAW, 5/17 Aitkin ASC.

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) — [39 South, 13 North] South reports 4/1 Dakota JFR, 4/2 Washington (3, Valley View Park) SBe, 4/6 Waseca DBM, 4/10 Anoka ELC, 4/11 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 4/14 Fillmore DBM and Meeker PRH all before recent median 4/15. Early north **4/14** Douglas JPE, 4/21 Otter Tail DST, 4/23 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) MA, 4/27 Kanabec JPr, 5/4 Itasca SC, EEO all before recent median 5/5. High count 5/5 Hennepin (**6**, Old Cedar Ave. bridge) GHo.

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) — [38 South, 25 North] South reports **3/30** Olmsted CAK, CHo, JWH, **4/1** Dakota SBM, 4/2 Dakota KSm, SBM and Hennepin DAs, 4/7 Houston RZi and Winona GLa, KRE, 4/11 Lac qui Parle (4) BJU all before recent median 4/14. Early north (median 4/23) 4/24 Mille Lacs ASc, 4/27 Kanabec JPr. High count 4/29 Benton (8, Sartell W.M.A.) MJB.

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) — [3 South] All south reports after recent median 5/7: 5/19 Blue Earth (Maple River W.M.A.) AnK, ChH and Houston (Blue Lake, La Crescent) WCM, 5/24–30 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) m.ob.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [53 South, 25 North] Reported south throughout the season. North reports 3/5 St. Louis (Silver Lake, Virginia) DKa, 3/12 Traverse BJU, 3/16 Beltrami KVH, 3/17 Becker HHD, RAE and Douglas JPE, 3/18 Douglas HHD, 3/24 Douglas FGo, MJB, DPG all before recent median 3/28. High counts 3/24 Houston (~8,500, Reno Bottoms, Upper Mississippi River N.W.R.) SPU, 4/18 Winona (~2,500, Prairie Island) MSn, 4/22 Carver (~2,500, Lake Waconia) JCy.

Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*) — [35 South, 30 North] South reports 3/2 Blue Earth (Mankato) ChH, 3/3 Houston (Houston) SPU, 3/6 Wabasha (2) PEJ, 3/7 Lac qui Parle (2, Hantho Twp.) BJU, Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) ASc and Winona (Prairie Island) ANy, 3/8 Dakota ANy, CMB, MGo, 3/9 Anoka CKB all before recent median 3/14. North reports 3/11 Morrison (Crane Meadows N.W.R.) KEm, 3/13–14 Cass JWM, 3/14 Mille Lacs ASc and Morrison JeM, DTM, 3/15 Hubbard MAW and Todd JeM, DTM, then 3/16 in many locations all before recent median 3/21. High count 4/2 Polk (~300, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) AFo.

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [14 South, 7 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/2 Blue Earth (Gilfillan Lake) RBW, 5/4 Blue Earth RAE, 5/7 Lac qui Parle (2, Salt Lake) BJU. Early north (median 5/16) 5/12 Crow Wing (Ironton W.T.P.) JSB, 5/15 Hubbard DWK and St. Louis (Park Point) PHS. High count 5/22 Blue Earth (30, Gilfillan Lake) RBW. Late south 5/28 Dakota m.ob., 5/30 McLeod JEB, Nobles

SC, Wright JEB (median 6/6). See summer report for late migrants north.

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [15 South, 3 North] South reports 3/24 Lac qui Parle (6, Salt Lake) JF, 3/25 Blue Earth AnK, 3/27 Blue Earth (27, Lincoln W.P.A.) AnK, ChH, 3/28 Dakota (2, Randolph) BRL, 3/30 Blue Earth (30) ChH, 3/31 Lac qui Parle (18, Freeland Twp.) BJU followed by many reports well before recent median 4/17. Only north reports: 5/8 Becker ASM, 5/24 St. Louis (Duluth) PHS, JLK, 5/26 Douglas JPE. High count 5/11 Carver (~150) WCM. See summer report for late migrants south.

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [33 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/16 Dakota (2, Lake Byllesby) ANy, DBz, JWH, 4/17 Lac qui Parle (4, Hamlin W.M.A.) JF and Watonwan (2, Mud Lake) AnK. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Polk JOJ, 5/6 Polk RZi, PRH, JCC and Traverse DBz. High count 4/29 Lac qui Parle (49) PCC. See summer report for late migrants.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) — [2 South] Two reports, both before recent early south median 5/4: 4/20 Swift (ad. male, Lubenow W.P.A.) DLP, 4/26 Lyon RJS.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [53 South, 34 North] See winter report for early migrants south (median 3/2). North reports 3/11 Hubbard MAW and Morrison CMB, 3/12 Mille Lacs ASc, Morrison (Camp Ripley) LaM, Traverse BJU, Wadena PJB followed by many reports before recent median 3/18. High count 3/11 Dakota (75, Lake Byllesby) ACr.

BLACK-NECKED STILT (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [3 South] Three reports: 4/15 **Hennepin** (Old Cedar Ave. bridge) ph. †SLP, ph. †BAF, ph. †CMB, ph. †BeH, ph. ANy, ph. †KRo, m.ob., 4/20–23 **Blue Earth** (Lily Lake) ph. †AnK, ph. †ChH, m.ob., 5/19 **Brown** (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) †BTS, ph. †SVO.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [16 South, 2 North] South reports **3/31** Lac qui Parle ph. BJU; **4/7** Lac qui Parle PEJ, DFN, 4/12 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) BJU, 4/13 Lac qui Parle DLP, 4/14 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. bridge) RDa, 4/16 Blue Earth (3, Perch Lake) AnK, ChH

- and Rice (Millersburg) DAB all before recent median 4/20. All north reports after recent median 4/30: 5/2 Marshall (4) *fide* JMJ, 5/3 Marshall (2, Agassiz N.W.R.) GAK, 5/18 **Morrison** FGo, 5/21–22 Morrison (Pierz W.T.P.) DBM, CRM, BWF, 5/28 Marshall (Warren) HHu. Additional first county report 5/21 **Benton** CRM.
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [42 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/14 Dakota SWe, 4/18 Olmsted DWK, JWH, CRM, SBM and Rice TFB. Early north (median 4/29) 4/20 Mille Lacs ASC, 4/28 Clearwater (Itasca S.P.) DWK, SBM. High count 5/24 St. Louis (18, Park Point, Duluth) PHS.
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [37 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/19) **4/1** Lac qui Parle FGo, 4/16 Dakota JLO and Lac qui Parle DLP, 4/17 Dakota (6) DVe. Early north (median 4/30) 5/2 Morrison FGo, 5/5 Douglas FGo, MJB and Grant DBz. High count 5/1 Goodhue (12, Prairie Island) GJM. Late south 5/27 Lac qui Parle BJU and Rice DAB, 5/30 Carver JCy (median 5/27). Late north 5/22 Morrison FGo, 5/24 Roseau JMJ (median 5/25).
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [47 South, 28 North] South reports **3/6** Wabasha PEJ, **3/8–9** Dakota (Lake Byllesby) ANy, MGo, RMD, MDu followed by many reports all well before recent median 3/27. North reports **3/17** Douglas JPE and Marshall (2, Warren) HHu, **3/22** Kittson (Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, **3/24** Douglas (3, Lake Jennie) MJB followed by many reports all well before recent median 4/8. Late south 5/30 McLeod JEB, 5/31 Lac qui Parle DLP and Ramsey (Crosby Farm R.P.) BNW (median 5/25). Late north 5/25 Morrison (Pierz W.T.P.) MJB, 5/28 Marshall (Warren) HHu (median 5/28), but see summer report.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [18 South, 9 North] South reports **3/24** Lac qui Parle (2, Salt Lake) JF, 4/16 Lac qui Parle (2, Hamlin W.M.A.) JF, 4/21 Lac qui Parle DLP all before recent median 4/24. Early north (median 5/1) 4/29 Morrison (28, Royalton) FGo, MJB and Todd (6, Eagle Bend W.T.P.) DWK, SBM, 5/2 St. Louis (4, Park Point) JLK. High count 4/29 Hennepin (50, Rice Lake) KRo, CMB, RTe. Late south 5/27 Pipestone WCM, RAE, GLa, 5/29 Carver (4 JCy (median 5/26). See summer report for late migrants north.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [50 South, 29 North] South reports **3/14** Olmsted ANy, JWH, **3/15** Carver RBJ and Dakota (Lake Byllesby) CMB, JLO, BAF, GHo followed by many reports all well before recent median 3/29. North reports 3/18 Douglas RAE, 3/20 Becker ASM, 3/24 Douglas FGo, MJB all well before recent median 4/9. High counts 4/22 Lac qui Parle (1,451) PCC, 4/17 Lac qui Parle (~1,000, Cory Lake) KLn, 4/29 Lac qui Parle (511) PCC, 4/21 Lac qui Parle (~500, Cory Lake) RPR, 5/1 Carver (420, Rice Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) WCM. See summer report for late migrants.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [15 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/22 Brown (2, Mulligan Twp.) DWK, SBM, 4/26 Brown ANy, DBM and Yellow Medicine DBM. Early north (median 5/3) 4/30 Kittson TrB and Morrison DBM, 5/1 Crow Wing (Pequot Lakes) ABi. High count 5/12 Clay (11) RHO.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [1 South, 5 North] Only south report: 5/28 Dakota (Vermillion Twp.) BRL, ph. CMB, m.ob. Early north (median 5/18) **4/23** Cass MaH, 5/19 Clearwater (13) PEB, DWK, 5/20 St. Louis (6) JLK; other north reports from Cook and Lake. High count 5/26 Cook (36, Paradise Beach) DFN. See summer report for late migrants north.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [16 South, 6 North] South reports 4/8 Lincoln (2, Lake Benton) LS, 4/14 Dakota (12, Lake Byllesby) GHo, 4/15 Blue Earth (40, Lincoln W.P.A.) DWK, Carver (9, Rice Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) WCM, Lac qui Parle (9, Cory Lake) DBM followed by several reports all before recent median 4/21. Early north (median 5/8) 5/3 Kittson (Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 5/5 Polk JOJ. High count 4/15 Blue Earth (40, Lincoln W.P.A.) DWK. Late south 5/26 Blue Earth (2) ChH and Dakota MJM, 5/27 Dakota DAB, RDE and Pipestone m.ob. (median 5/31). Late north 5/21 **Morrison** CRM, 5/22 Marshall ANy (median 5/30), but see summer report.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [11 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/11 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU, 4/14 Blue Earth

- (Lincoln W.P.A.) RBW. Early north (median 4/13) 4/9 Becker (Becker) BDS, 4/17 Red Lake GT. High count 4/30 Kittson (34, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [10 South, 9 North] Early south (median 5/14) 5/12 Big Stone (Wiley W.P.A.) DWK, 5/13 Swift (2, Lubenow W.P.A.) SBM. Early north (median 5/14) 5/18 Crow Wing (Ironton W.T.P.) JSB and St. Louis (Morgan Park) JLK, 5/19 Clearwater (2, Clearwater River Impoundment) PEB, DWK. High count 5/23 St. Louis (121, Park Point, Duluth) PHS. Late south 5/23 Lac qui Parle DLP, 5/24 Blue Earth CRM and Dakota (3) DWK (median 6/1. See summer report for late migrants north.
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — No reports.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [12 South, 5 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/3 Lac qui Parle (2, Cory Lake) BJU, 5/14 Rock (34) BWF, JWH. Early north (median 5/11) 5/15 St. Louis (Park Point) PHS, 5/17 Wade-na (Sebeka W.T.P.) HHD. High count 5/28 St. Louis (75, Park Point) JLK. See summer report for late migrants.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [32 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/11–12 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 4/17 Blue Earth (Lincoln W.P.A.) AnK, Watonwan (2, Mud Lake) AnK, Winona (Lewiston W.T.P.) ANY. Early north (median 5/4) 4/10 Otter Tail GO, 5/3 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) GAK, 5/12 Otter Tail DST. High count 5/27 Lac qui Parle (~500, Cory Lake) KLn.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [41 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/15) 3/20 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU, 4/11 Stevens DLP, 4/15 Carver (Rice Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) WCM, Dakota (Lake Byllesby) MJM, Martin (2) BRB. Early north (median 5/6) 5/3 Kittson (Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 5/4 Norman (5) JCC. High count 5/5 Lac qui Parle (247) PCC. See summer report for late migrants.
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [33 South, 13 North] Early south (median 4/29) 5/1 Lac qui Parle LS, 5/2 Dakota JLO. Early north (median 5/14) 4/26 Roseau BSi, 5/6 Polk (2) KRE, JCC. High count 5/30 Carver (35) JCy. See summer report for late migrants.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [27 South, 9 North] Record early south 3/14 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, also reported before recent median (4/6) 3/20 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU, 3/29 Sherburne (2, Sherburne N.W.R.) BAB. Early north (median 4/23) 5/3 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) GAK, 5/6 Red Lake (Red Lake Falls W.T.P.) JCC. High count 5/27 Lac qui Parle (52, Cory Lake) KLn. See summer report for late migrants.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [43 South, 26 North] Several reports prior to the previous record early date (3/17): 3/13 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) KSm, 3/14 Olmsted (2, South Landfill Reservoir) JWH, 3/15 Dakota (8, Lake Byllesby) CMB, JLO, BAF, GHo, 3/16 Dakota LEC, BRL; then many reports before recent median 4/1. Record early north 3/24 Douglas FGo, MJB, then reported before recent median (4/19) 3/30 Becker ASM, 4/7 Traverse PEJ, DFN, 4/12 Mille Lacs RBW, 4/14 Douglas JPE. High counts 4/29 Lac qui Parle (1,888) PCC, 4/22 Lac qui Parle (916) PCC, 4/21 Lac qui Parle (~500, Cory Lake) RTe, KSm, 4/28 Lac qui Parle (~500, Cory Lake) JFR. See summer report for late migrants.
- PURPLE SANDPIPER** (*Calidris maritima*) — [1 North] Basic-plumaged bird photographed 3/17 **Lake** (Split Rock Lighthouse S.P.) HPi. Seventh state and first spring record for Minnesota.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [36 South, 17 North] South reports 3/28 Dakota (3, Randolph) BRL, 3/31 Carver and Hennepin CMB, 4/3–6 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 4/7 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) PDK followed by several reports all before recent median 4/19. Record early north 4/10 Otter Tail GO, followed by several reports before recent median 5/10. High count 5/11 Dakota (25, Lake Byllesby) BAF, SHF. See summer report for late migrants.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [18 South, 8 North] Early south (median 5/3) 4/23 Dakota GLA, LS, 4/24 Dakota ANY, RTe and Winona (6) ANY. Early north (median 5/13) 5/11 Cass DAY, 5/12 Grant RBW. High count 4/24 Dakota (12) ANY. See summer report for late migrants south (median 5/28) and north (median 5/26).

- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Tryngites subruficollis*) — [1 South] One individual observed among hundreds of Semipalmated and White-rumped Sandpipers 5/27 Pipestone CRM, m.ob.
- RUFF** (*Philomachus pugnax*) — [1 South] Alternate-plumaged male found 4/18 **Olmsted** (Silver Creek Reservoir) CAK, RLE, ph. DBM, ph. CWG, ph. ANy, ph. JWH, m.ob.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [24 South, 12 North] Early south (median 4/30) **4/26** Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) DBM, 4/30 Dakota (12) JLO, Watonwan (2) AnK. Early north (median 5/8) **4/29** Morrison FGo ties record earliest, then not reported again until 5/11 Douglas RBW. High count 5/12 Big Stone (40, Wiley W.P.A.) DWK. Late south 5/27 Lac qui Parle BJU and Pipestone GLA, 5/31 Lac qui Parle (3) BJU (median 5/24). Late north 5/20 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) m.ob., 5/22 Marshall ANy (median 5/25).
- Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [19 South, 5 North] Record early south **3/17** Dakota JLO, 3/31 Lac qui Parle (4), followed by many reports before recent median 4/24 beginning 4/9 Jackson (Toe W.M.A.) KSm. Early north (median 5/9) 5/6 Polk RZi, 5/11 Carlton BWF. High count 4/28 Lac qui Parle (30, Cory Lake) MBS, ACr. Late south 5/17 Blue Earth (Lincoln W.P.A.) ChH, 5/20 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 5/19). Late north 5/19 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) JVe, 5/20 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) DBM, REH, ENu (median 5/17).
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [45 South, 29 North] Individual observed 3/7 Winona (Prairie Island) ANy probably represents overwintering bird. South reports 3/12 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU, 3/13 Sherburne ASc, 3/14 Big Stone DLP, Lac qui Parle DLP, Olmsted (2) JWH followed by many reports before recent median 3/22. North reports **3/17** Douglas JPE and Mille Lacs ASc, **3/20** Morrison (7) MJB followed by several reports before recent median 3/31. High count 4/6 Lac qui Parle (40) PCC.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [30 South, 25 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/6 Carver (Rapids Lake) JCy, 3/7 Ramsey (St. Anthony Park) RMD. Early north (median 3/26) 3/14 Hubbard MAW and Pine (2, St. Croix S.P.) BSY, 3/15 Itasca SC, then 3/17 in several locations. High count 4/14 Winona (15) KKB, SGM, SSH.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [31 South, 20 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/21 Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) RPR, 4/22 Lac qui Parle (2) PCC. Early north (median 5/1) 4/30 Kittson (14, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 5/2 Morrison (8, Elmdale) MJB, FGo. High count 5/5 Lac qui Parle (123) PCC.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [14 South, 9 North] Early south (median 5/12) **5/2** Lac qui Parle ph. BJU, **5/3** Blue Earth (4, Gilfillin Lake) BWF, 5/7 Lac qui Parle (3, Salt Lake) BJU. Early north (median 5/15) 5/17 **Wadena** (Verndale W.T.P.) HHD, 5/18 Becker (Hamden Slough N.W.R.) JVe and Morrison (Pierz W.T.P.) FGo. High counts 5/20 Lac qui Parle (12, Salt Lake) BJU, 5/27 Lac qui Parle (12, Cory Lake) KLn. Late south 5/27 Lac qui Parle (12, Cory Lake) KLn and Pipestone m.ob., 5/31 Carver (2) JCy and Nobles (Wilmont W.T.P.) SC (median 5/29). Late north 5/25 Pine (6, Hinckley) RBJ, DAC, 5/28 Otter Tail and Wilkin HHD (median 5/30), but see summer report.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [29 South, 15 North] South reports **3/24** Redwood (6, Willow Lake W.M.A., record early) SVo, MJM, **3/25** Stearns (2, Raymond Lake) PCC, 3/27 Winona (7, Lewiston W.T.P.) ANy, NSg followed by many reports all before recent median 4/3. North reports **3/30** Mille Lacs RBW, 4/1 Todd (4, Browerville W.T.P.) BWF, JWH, 4/6 Crow Wing (36, Ironton W.T.P.) JSB and Grant ANy followed by several reports all before recent median 4/13. High count 5/25 St. Louis (365, Park Point, Duluth) JLK. Late south 5/19 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, MiO, PRH, SVo, 5/31 Redwood (Willow Lake W.M.A.) SVo (median 6/6). See summer report for late migrants north.
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — [1 North] First-year bird observed 5/28 St. Louis on Minnesota side of Superior Entry after being photographed on the Wisconsin side ph. TKE, TPr.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [27 South, 14 North] Individual observed 3/6 Goodhue (Prairie Island) GJM may be the adult seen in Dakota through mid-Jan-

- uary. Additional south reports 3/11 Nobles (Fulda W.M.A.) BJU and Waseca HHD, 3/12 Big Stone (Otrej Twp.) BJU, 3/21 Blue Earth (Gilfillin Lake) RBW all before recent median 3/25. Early north (median 4/6) **3/17** Marshall (Warren) HHu, 4/5 Pennington RAE. High count 5/26 Carver (~100) JCy.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [51 South, 33 North] Observed statewide throughout the season. High count 5/19 St. Louis (10,000, Interstate Island W.M.A.) KSt.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [32 South, 17 North] Last reported south 5/5 Washington (2, Warner N.C.) PSm, 5/26 Wabasha (2, Lake City) JCC, but see summer report. High count 3/3 St. Louis (400) TPr, TKe.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*) — [1 South, 1 North] Only south report: 3/18 Ramsey (first-cycle, Lake Vadnais) RMD. Observed north in St. Louis (various locations in Duluth) as late as 4/13 (first-cycle, Hearing Island) PHS with high count 3/2 (**6**, five first-cycle and one third-cycle, Canal Park) PHS.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [1 North] Observed in St. Louis (various locations in Duluth) as late as 3/24 (first-cycle) PHS.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [1 North] Adult bird observed 3/22 St. Louis (20th Ave. West, Duluth) †GJN, m.ob.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [1 North] Observed in St. Louis (various locations in Duluth) as late as 4/12 (2 first-cycle, Hearing Island) PHS with high count 3/4 (5, all subadults) MBS, ACr. An apparent first-cycle was later seen on the Minnesota side of Superior Entry 5/29 TPr, TKe.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] Observed in St. Louis (various locations in Duluth) as late as 3/25 (second-cycle, Interstate Island W.M.A.) PHS. High count 3/2 St. Louis (3, one first-cycle and two second-cycles at Canal Park) PHS. A first-cycle bird was later seen on 5/19 in Duluth ph. PHS, KSt.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [13 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/23) 5/1 Hennepin (Rice Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) WCM, CMB and Olmsted (East Landfill Reservoir) JWH, 5/2 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) GHo, Hennepin LMS, Ramsey (Lake Owasso) PJM. Early north (median 5/3) 4/30 St. Louis (2, Interstate Island W.M.A.) JLK, 5/4 Itasca SC, EEO. High count 5/11 Carver (51, Lake Waconia) WCM.
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonias niger*) — [34 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/19 Benton FGo, 5/2 Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Douglas FGo, Morrison MJB, FGo, Polk JOJ, Todd FGo, 5/10 Grant DBM. High count 5/30 Marshall (~300, Agassiz N.W.R.) GAK.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [14 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/27 Sherburne ASc, 4/29 Washington LMS. Early north (median 5/1) 5/2 St. Louis (5) JLK, 5/5 Douglas JPE. High count 5/15 St. Louis (**2,087**, Duluth) PHS, JLK. See summer report for late migrants south.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [37 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/10) **3/26** Lac qui Parle FAE, 4/6 Hennepin (Purgatory Creek) KRo. Early north (median 4/19) **4/10** Otter Tail GO, 4/14 Douglas JPE. High count 5/2 Dakota (40, Lake Byllesby) GHo.
- Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — No reports.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High count 3/15 Olmsted (~100) CWG.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [38 South, 10 North] First county record: 5/5 **Scott** (New Market) JFR. Observed north in Becker, Clay, Douglas, Itasca, **Lake** (5/21 ph. JWJ), Otter Tail, Polk, Traverse, Wadena, Wilkin.
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE** (*Zenaida asiatica*) — [1 South] One bird found 4/21–29 **Winnona** (Lewiston) HHD, ph. †ANY, m.ob.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High count 4/28 Hennepin (**50**, Elm Creek Park) TLo.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [15 South, 3 North] Early south **5/1** (record early) Goodhue LEC, 5/10 **Stevens** DBM. All north reports: 5/21 Mille Lacs ASc and Morrison CRM, 5/22 Morrison FGo, 5/25 Pine RBJ, DAC, 5/27 Pine (2) EMH.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythroph-*

- thalmus*) — [22 South, 13 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/5 Hennepin CMB and Rice TFB, 5/6 Blue Earth AnK, Carver (Rapids Lake) JCy, Washington DFN. Early north (median 5/16) 5/12 Morrison FGO, 5/14 Mille Lacs ASc and Wadena (2, Dry Sand W.M.A.) HCT, PEB.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [14 South, 1 North] Observed south in Blue Earth, Brown, Dakota, Fillmore, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Isanti, Lac qui Parle, Nobles, Redwood, Washington, Watonwan, Winona. Only north report: 3/9 Morrison (Bowlus) MJB.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [42 South, 20 North] Observed statewide.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [7 South, 4 North] Reported south in Big Stone, Fillmore, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Pipestone, Waseca as late as 4/9 Big Stone DLP. Reported north in Becker, Marshall, Otter Tail, Traverse as late as 4/4 Becker KAn.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — No reports.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [32 South, 19 North] Observed statewide as far southwest as Jackson.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [3 North] Observed in St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) throughout the season. Also observed 3/31 Lake (2) JWL, 4/22 Beltrami (2) JCC, 5/24 Beltrami ANy.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [10 South, 2 North] Observed south in Anoka, Blue Earth, Goodhue, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Pipestone, Redwood, Scott, Watonwan, Wright as late as 5/19 Blue Earth AnK. Only north reports: 3/22 Polk HHu, 3/25 Polk HHu, 4/3 Roseau BSi.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [6 South, 5 North] Observed south in Brown, Cottonwood, Lac qui Parle, Meeker, Pope, Stearns as late as 4/23 Brown BRB. Early north (median 3/22) 3/23 Polk (2) RTe, 4/2 Polk (2, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) AFo. Also observed north in Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Morrison.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [8 South, 7 North] Observed south in Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Houston, **Pope** (4/7 HHD), Ramsey, Rice, Washington as late as 4/29 Washington DBM. Observed north in Cook, Hubbard, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Roseau, St. Louis beginning 3/2 Hubbard MAW.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [34 South, 15 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/3 Winona NSg, 5/4 Big Stone DLP. Early north (median 5/10) 5/3 Todd JLK, 5/13 Morrison FGO. High count 5/20 Hennepin (15, Lake Nokomis) WPe.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [14 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/28) **4/14** Chisago SGM, RSg, 4/23 Waseca (Maplewood Park, Waseca) KSm. Early north (median 5/8) 5/3 Cass (Deep Portage) DAY and Todd JLK, 5/6 Cass JWM. High counts 5/6 Anoka (**14**, Bunker Hills R.P.) SaH, 5/8 Anoka (**8**, Bunker Hills R.P.) SaH. First county record for **Grant** on 5/9 DBM.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [49 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/16 Winona MGo, 4/20 Rice TFB and Winona ANy. Early north (median 5/1) 4/26 Hubbard MAW, 4/30 Mille Lacs ASc and Otter Tail DST. High count 5/5 Winona (25, Saint Mary's University) MGo.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [42 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/4) 4/25 Dakota GaB, 5/3 Carver WCM, Hennepin CMB, SBM, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/7) 5/4 Todd DTM, 5/5 Douglas JPE.
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [52 South, 32 North] Observed south throughout the season. Early north (median 3/26) 3/16 Todd JeM, 3/17 Douglas JPE. High counts 4/15 Washington (**5**, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) GJa, 5/12 Clay (**5**) RHO.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [35 South, 14 North] Many reports south prior to recent median 4/22; overwintering birds difficult to distinguish from early migrants. Early north (median 4/25) 3/24 Cass DAY probably refers to overwintering bird; no other north reports until 4/28 Pine RAE. High count 4/14 Anoka (**12**, Fish Lake) VDo.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [53 South, 22 North] Observed statewide as far northeast as Lake and as

- far northwest as Pennington and Polk. High count 3/31 Anoka (12, Rum River Park) JKe.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [49 South, 33 North] South reports 3/6 Goodhue JLO, 3/14 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha) SHF followed by several reports all before recent median 3/28. Early north (median 4/5) 4/1 Todd DTM, 4/3 Hubbard MAW.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*) — [53 South, 31 North] Observed statewide. High count 4/8 Hennepin (25, Old Cedar Ave. bridge) DAd.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [50 South, 32 North] Observed statewide.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [3 North] Only 4 individuals reported: 3/3 Crow Wing (C.R. 1 & Lows Lake Road) †ACr, MBS, the same individual reported 3/10 CMB, 4/9 Lake (3 miles north of Two Harbors off C.R. 2) *fide* JWJL, 4/23 Cook (Lutsen) ph. DMB, 5/12 Lake SES.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [1 South, 6 North] One unusual south report 4/3 Stearns (Lake Sagatan) ph. JPo. North reports from Clearwater, Cook, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [52 South, 34 North] Present south throughout the season. Early north (median 3/26) 3/11 Crow Wing ABi, Lake of the Woods (Graceton) JeR, 3/12 Traverse BJU. High counts 4/1 Goodhue (30, Warsaw Twp.) JFR, 3/31 Hennepin (15, Veterans Memorial Park) ACr.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [43 South, 30 North] Reported nearly statewide. Unusual southwest reports include 5/15 Lincoln BWF, and 5/6 Rock LS.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Observed statewide. Early north (median 3/7) 3/8 Hubbard MAW, 3/10 Douglas DBM, Grant DBM, Wadena PJB. High counts 4/28 Clearwater (20) DWK, 4/25 St. Louis (18, Sax-Zim Bog) ABi.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [21 South, 21 North] Present north in Polk (SaU's yard) as the season commenced. Early north migrants (median 3/14) 3/10 Grant DBM, Lake JWJL. Late south 5/10 Stearns FGo, 5/11 Goodhue (Prairie Island) GJM, plus probable breeders lingering through season's end in Dakota (Acacia Cemetery) CMB, JFR (median 5/18).
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [28 South, 12 North] Reported south throughout the season. Overwintered in St. Louis (Duluth), early north migrants (median 4/8) 3/18 Lake ANy, 4/7 Grant PEJ, DFN, Traverse PEJ, DFN, 4/21 Marshall SC.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — No documented reports.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [28 South, 13 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/4 Watonwan RAE, 5/5 Hennepin JSI, KRo, Wright HCT. Early north (median 5/15) 5/11 Clay RHO, 5/12 Clay RHO, Morrison FGo. See summer report for late south dates.
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [43 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/5 Goodhue (Frontenac S.P.) BMa, JBo, 5/6 Brown MiO, Hennepin CMB, Scott (2) SOa. Early north (median 5/12) 5/12 Beltrami DPJ, 5/14 Mille Lacs ASC, St. Louis SC, 5/15 Wadena DWK, HCT, PEB. High count 5/31 Scott (17 singing males, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF.
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [17 South, 7 North] Reported with identification details from 13 south, 2 north. Early south (median 5/11) 5/10 Olmsted JWH, 5/12 Stearns PCC, 5/13 Jackson JWH. Only north reports with details 5/26 Cook DFN, 5/28 St. Louis PHS (median 5/20). High count 5/28 Hennepin (4) ALD. **Note:** During spring and fall migration, undocumented records of silent *Empidonax* flycatchers are not included in this report. Observers are encouraged to include identification details in their reports.
- Acadian Flycatcher** (*Empidonax virens*) — [7 South] Reported with details from 5 south counties. Early south (median 5/17) 5/9 Rice TFB, 5/11 Houston KDS, KSm, LMS, ALo, 5/12 Rice DAB. High count 5/19 (8, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) WCM.
- Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [24 South, 25 North] Details included on reports from 18 south and 8 north counties. Early south (median 5/16) 5/11 Carver RMD, 5/15 Rice TFB, 5/15 Steele PSu. Early

- north (median 5/17) 5/17 Hubbard DWK, PEB, 5/18 Clearwater DWK, 5/19 Clearwater DWK, PEB, 5/22 Otter Tail MJM. High counts 5/22 Hennepin (8, Elm Creek P.R.) TLO, 5/20 Hennepin (7) BAF. Please see summer report for late south migrants.
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [22 South, 3 North] Reports with details from 14 south counties. Early south (median 5/9) 5/12 Hennepin CMB, 5/13 Winona DBz. High counts 5/31 Hennepin (**15**, Males all on established territory at Hyland Lake P.R.) CMB. North reports from Douglas, Otter Tail, and Pine without details.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [47 South, 32 North] Reported with details from only 20 south and 9 north counties. Early south (median 5/1) 5/1, 5/2 Hennepin CMB, 5/3 Fillmore NBO, 5/4 Ramsey RMD, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/6) 5/7 Norman JCC, 5/9 Grant DBM, 5/12 Kanabec DPG.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [51 South, 33 North] Many early arrivals both north and south. Early south (median 3/21) 3/10 Cottonwood (Talcot W.M.A.) BRB, 3/11 Pipestone BJU, 3/13 Hennepin CMB. Early north (median 3/29) **3/17** Mille Lacs ASC, Morrison MJB, **3/21** Becker ASM, Mille Lacs RAE, Pine RAE, 3/22 Aitkin KCR. High counts 4/4 Hennepin (12) CMB, 4/1 Goodhue (10, Miesville Ravine P.R.) SBM.
- SAY'S PHOEBE** (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 South] First county record 4/21–22 **Fillmore** HHD, ph. †ANY, m.ob. Individual was present for two days at a small farm pond southeast of Preston.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [47 South, 28 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Brown JSS, Rice TFB, 5/2 Anoka DWK. Early north (median 5/8) 5/3 Mille Lacs ASC, 5/4 Todd JLK, 5/5 Itasca SC, Mille Lacs DPG. High counts 5/15 Scott (**15**, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ACr, 5/31 Scott (11, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [8 South, 11 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/1 Lac qui Parle LS, 5/3 Lac qui Parle BJU, first south reports outside of Lac qui Parle 5/6 Lyon GWe, Rock LS. Early north (median 5/10) 5/9 Grant (4) DBM, 5/10 Traverse DBM, 5/12 Clay (3) RHO, Otter Tail DST. High counts 5/9 Grant (4) DBM, 5/18 Benton (4) HHD.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [50 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/27) 5/1 Goodhue BRL, 5/2 Goodhue GJM, Lincoln BJU, Rice TFB, widespread arrivals 5/3. Early north (median 5/6) 5/6 Clay PRH, Polk RZI, PRH, Traverse DBz, 5/9 Cass DAY, Grant DBM. High count 5/28 Marshall (13, flood control impoundment near Warren) HHU.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) — [1 North] One report, first county record 5/24 **Beltrami** (just north of Kelliher) ph. †ANY.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [5 South, 1 North] Early south (median 3/20) 3/14 Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie) DLP, 3/17 Dakota SWe, 3/18 Dakota ph. RTe, RDE. All north 3/30 Pine (Hinckley) RBJ. High count 4/2 Rice (4, two pairs one mile apart) TFB.
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*) — [29 South, 17 North] High counts 3/11 Marshall (6) JMJ, 3/4 St. Louis (5, Sax-Zim Bog) ACr, MBS. Late south 3/31 Hennepin NCr, Sherburne JFR, (2) ASC, 4/15 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) EEO (median 4/5). Late north 4/3 Aitkin SC, 4/11 Cook JaJ, 4/24 Todd FGo (median 4/19).
- White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) — No reports.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [7 South] Early south (median 5/15) **5/6** Dakota (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Black Dog Unit) MDU, 5/11 Goodhue DFN, Rice TFB. Also reported from Hennepin, Olmsted, Wabasha, and Washington.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [45 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Goodhue GJM, 5/2 Rice TFB, Sherburne ASC, 5/3 Carver KSo, Goodhue (2) LEC, Rice DAB. Widespread arrivals north (median 5/9) beginning 5/5 Douglas JPE, Grant DBz, Mille Lacs DPG, Morrison FGo, MJB, Todd (2) JLK. High count 5/22 Carver (**8**) JCy.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [37 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/24 Carver JCy, 4/29 Rice TFB, 5/1 Olmsted RAE. Early north (median 5/5) 4/28 Morrison TMu, 5/3 Mille Lacs ASC, 5/4 Itasca SC, EEO. High count 5/7 Steele (**6**) PSU.

- Late south 5/20 Lyon GWe, 5/24 Hennepin JJo, 5/25 Hennepin CMB (median 5/31).
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [48 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/29 Winona DBz, JWH, 4/30 Winona ANy, 5/1 Fillmore CWG, Hennepin m.ob., Houston KCa. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Douglas JPE, Morrison MJB, Otter Tail DST, 5/6 Traverse DBz. High counts 5/10 Anoka (10) TLo, 5/13 Hennepin (10, Clifton French R.P.) ACr, 5/31 Hennepin (10, Westwood Hills N.C.) HCT.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [26 South, 6 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/4 Winona (Prairie Island Park) GCa, 5/5 Carver WCM, Freeborn, Martin RAE, Rice DAB. Early north (median 5/14) 5/12 Becker ASM, Douglas JPE, Morrison FGo, 5/20 Lake JWL. Late south 5/26 Pipestone (Split Rock Creek S.P.) TMo, 5/27 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 5/30).
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [46 South, 28 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/3 Hennepin JSI, Olmsted JPr, Ramsey RZi, MDu, Rice TFB, 5/4 Ramsey RMD, Sherburne ASC, Steele DAB, Winona GCa. Early north (median 5/10) 5/9 Cass (2) DAY, Polk HHu, St. Louis (2) JLK, 5/11 Hubbard MAW. High count 5/21 Hennepin (29, South Minneapolis; presumably migrants.) BAF.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [8 North] Reported from traditional range in Northeast and North-central.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. All high counts reported by JLK from Park Point, St. Louis including 5/10 (550), 5/2 (440).
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [15 North] Most reports from traditional Northwest and North-central range, as far east as Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis. Out-of-range reports 3/3 Cook (Colvill) ph. GHe, 3/6 Cook (Grand Marais) *fide* LME. High count 4/28 Clearwater (15) DWK.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 3/10 Steele (~200) DPG.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [6 South, 29 North] Reported throughout the north, as far south along the western border as Clay. South reports from Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, Washington plus unusual location 4/2 Stearns JWH.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [52 South, 23 North] No reports east of a line from Roseau to Carlton counties. High count 3/4 Carver (116) JCy.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [41 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/5) 4/8 Goodhue RBW, Rice DAB, TFB, Wabasha DBz, JWH, 4/9 Winona ANy. Early north (median 4/11) 4/5 Mahnomen *fide* JMJ, 4/15 Aitkin SC, ANy, BWF. High count 5/27 Carver (24) JCy.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [53 South, 33 North] Arrived in several southwest counties well before 3/20 median: 3/8 Big Stone FAE, 3/10 Lyon (Cottonwood Lake) GWe, 3/11 Lincoln (2) BJU. Early north (median 4/3) 3/23 Mille Lacs ASC, 3/25 St. Louis JWL, 3/30 Douglas JPE. High counts 4/9 Houston (~1,700, Reno Bottoms) EBr, 4/18 Hennepin (~500, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) SHF.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [46 South, 22 North] Two south arrivals both prior to previous record early date: 3/17 Redwood †Svo, (Willow Lake W.M.A.) SVo, 3/18 Carver (2, Rapids Lake) †JCy. Early north (median 4/21) 4/10 Otter Tail *fide* JMJ, 4/27 Kanabec JPr. High counts 5/11 Goodhue (65, Frontenac S.P.) BNW, 5/12 Winona (50, Whitewater S.P.) MDe.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [40 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/3 Dakota JLO, 4/14 Dakota RTe, Winona (4) SSh, 4/16 Rice DAB. Early north (median 4/30) 4/28 Kanabec HHD, RAE, 4/29 Morrison FGo, 4/30 Morrison DBM. High count 5/13 Jackson (23) KSm.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [44 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/16 Rice (Fox Lake) DAB, 4/17 Hennepin JSI, EEO, 4/18 Chisago CAB. Early north (median 4/25) 4/26 Roseau *fide* JMJ, 4/29 Morrison FGo, MJB, Wadena DWK, SBM. High counts 5/18 Polk (~500) HHu, 5/16 Polk (400) *fide* JMJ.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/4 Hennepin CRM, 4/5 Hennepin PEJ, 4/6 Wabasha RZi, KRE. Early north (median 4/19) 4/15 Aitkin ANy, 4/19 Clay (3) DaP, 4/22 Grant DFN. High counts 4/21 McLeod

- (~50, Silver Lake) RPR, 5/6 Carlton (~50, Moose Lake W.T.P.) ACr, 5/13 Hennepin (~50, French R.P.) ACr.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported statewide.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [4 North] Few reports, only found in Cook, Itasca, Lake, and St. Louis.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [7 South] Reported from Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Olmsted, Wabasha, and Winona, plus one slightly out-of-range report 4/22 Scott JEB.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [25 South, 27 North] High count 3/17 Winona (20) SPu. Late south 5/27 Chisago JSa, Dakota SWe (median 5/23); see summer report for additional south observations.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [52 South, 32 North] Reported statewide. High count 3/14 Ramsey (20, Fort Snelling S.P.) DAd.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [35 South, 24 North] Present both north and south as the season began, including 3/1 Cass JWM, 3/2 Itasca SC, 3/10 Cass SC, St. Louis AM. High count 4/3 Hennepin (13) CMB. Possibly territorial birds 5/12 Ramsey (Crosby Farm Park) RMD, 5/21 Dakota (Lebanon Hills R.P.) EdM (median 5/21).
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [1 South] Overwintering individual at Wild River S.P. in Chisago continued through 3/17 LS, GLa, RZi.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [51 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/11 Rice TFB, 4/18 Winona NSg, 4/19 Washington (2) KEn. Early north (median 4/29) 4/28 Itasca SC, Kanabec RAE, 4/29 Pine JPr. High count 5/13 Steele (18) PSu.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [20 South, 16 North] Early south arrivals well before 3/26 median: 3/16 Hennepin RTE, 3/17 Olmsted JWH, 3/19 Scott MJM. North arrivals very early as well: **3/17** St. Louis (several heard near Grand Lake and south of Hoyt Lakes) *vide* JWl, **3/21** Hubbard (Itasca S.P.) CoC, 3/24 Itasca SC. Late south 4/27 Renville RAE, 4/29 Isanti DBM, 4/30 Hennepin RDa, well ahead of 5/13 median. Several late May reports of possible breeding birds from Washington (Falls Creek S.N.A.).
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [44 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/27) **4/15** Lac qui Parle (Hamlin W.M.A.) DBM, 4/17 Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/3) **4/24** Kanabec RAE, 4/29 Wadena (Huntersville W.M.A.) DWK, 5/3 Wadena (Dry Sand W.M.A.) ABi. High counts 5/12 Rock (**45**, Touch the Sky Prairie) BMg, 5/16 Jackson (**22**, Heron Meadows W.M.A.) RMD.
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [39 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/11 Rice TFB, 4/14 Wabasha (2) SSh, MiK, SGM, 4/21 Hennepin KRo. Early north (median 5/4) **4/23** Marshall *vide* MJM, 5/4 Todd JLK. High count 5/6 Hennepin (14) MDu.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [46 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/23 Anoka (Bunker Hills R.P.) SaH, Winona DBz, 4/24 Dakota CMB. Early north (median 5/6) 5/4 Todd JEM, DTM, JLK, 5/5 Mille Lacs DPG, Morrison FGo, MJB. High counts 5/8 Hennepin (22, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) TAT, 5/4 Scott (20, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp Unit) BAF, SHF.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [26 South, 16 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/1 Carver (Rapids Lake) JCy, 3/3 Nobles HHD,RAE, 3/7 Lac qui Parle (5) BJU. Early north (median 3/25) 3/16 Roseau *vide* MJM, 3/18 Itasca SC. High count 3/31 Hennepin (10, Bass Ponds) MDu. 5/1 Sherburne JSP, 5/6 Washington PSm, 5/7 Rice (2) LMS (median 5/7).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [46 South, 30 North] Early south arrivals well before 3/27 median: **3/6** Goodhue JLO, 3/14 Hennepin (Cedar Lake) SKS, 3/21 Hennepin RTE, Sherburne ASC. Early north (median 4/6) 3/29 Itasca SC, 3/30 Douglas JPE, Pine RBJ. High counts 4/23 Dakota (34, Dodge N.C.) ACr, 4/19 Hennepin (31) CMB. Late south 5/20 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/27 Mower RWa (median 5/24).
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [53 South, 32 North] Present south as the season commenced (median early 3/2), widespread south migrants 3/10. Early north (median 3/16) 3/11 Morrison (4, Crane Meadows N.W.R.) KEM, 3/12 Clay BDS,

- Morrison LaM, Traverse BJU. High counts 3/15 Carver (14) JCy.
- Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*) — [1 South, 1 North] Two reports: 3/3 Cook (2 birds in Tofte) ph. DeB, *fide* JWJ, 5/21 Hennepin (Ft. Snelling S.P.) *fide* AXH.
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [3 South, 1 North] All south reports were individuals continuing from the winter season: 3/4 Meeker (Litchfield N.C.) HHD, PRH, 3/2–9 Sherburne (Ann Lake Campground) ASc, RZi, RBW, 3/3 – 3/9 Wright (Montissippi C.P.) m.ob. All north 3/14 Polk (Wetlands, Pines, and Prairie Audubon Sanctuary) HHu.
- Veery** (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [30 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/2 Hennepin CMB, 5/3 Fillmore CWG, Hennepin TAT, JJo. Early north (median 5/8) 4/27 St. Louis (Knowlton Creek) †JLK, 5/2 St. Louis JLK, 5/7 Todd JLK. High count 5/19 Houston (5, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) WCM.
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catbarus minimus*) — [31 South, 11 North] Early south (median 5/3) 4/23 Wright (Lake Maria S.P.) †MJB, 5/2 Hennepin TAT, Scott MMz. Early north (median 5/7) 5/9 Grant DBM, 5/10 Polk HHu. High count 5/14 Douglas (4, Lake Carlos S.P.) HHD. Late south 5/22 Carver JCy, Hennepin RBJ, 5/25 Hennepin MDu, Nobles CRM (median 5/27). Late north 5/19 Douglas JPE, 5/26 Morrison DBM (median 5/28).
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [45 South, 20 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/28 Lac qui Parle (2) JFR, SWe, 4/30 Anoka REH. Early north (median 5/2) 5/2 Clay RHO, 5/3 Cook JaJ, Pennington JMJ. High counts 5/13 Clay (31, Buffalo River S.P.) MO, 5/11 Rice (14) DAB. Late south 5/31 Hennepin BAF, Kandiyohi JoS, Lac qui Parle DLP, also see Summer Report (median 6/1).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [37 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/28) 3/24 Rice DAB, 3/25 Hennepin BAF, 3/26 Swift DLP. North arrivals very early (median 4/10) **3/11** Polk (4, Wetlands, Pines, and Prairie Audubon Sanctuary) HHu, **3/15** St. Louis (overwintered?) BCM, 3/30 Pine RBJ. High counts 4/19 Hennepin (24) CMB, 4/20 Beltrami (23) DPJ. Late south 5/14 Olmsted SWs, Ramsey SeH, 5/15 Ramsey SeH, Scott RZi (median 5/16).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [32 South, 11 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/25 Rice TFB, 5/2 Fillmore NBO, 5/3 Goodhue LEC, Hennepin CMB, TAT, Isanti MHe, Ramsey RMD. Early north (median 5/8) 5/3 Mille Lacs Asc, 5/8 Aitkin CAB. High counts 5/11 Scott (**12** singing males, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF, SHF, 5/14 Brown (**11**, Flandreau S.P.) JEB.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 3/30 Washington (~400, Lee & Rose Warner N.C.) KMo.
- Varied Thrush** (*Xoreus naevius*) — [1 South, 2 North] Only south report was an overwintering bird in Dakota (near Hastings) last seen 3/3 PJM. Four individuals north: 3/3 St. Louis (overwintered, East Superior St., Duluth) WLe, 3/8 St. Louis (north of Chisholm) DOL, ph. BUK, 3/8–10 St. Louis (MLH's yard) ph. MLH. First county record 3/18 **Norman** (Halstad) KKH.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [49 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/15 Dakota RZi, Hennepin JSP, 4/17 Winona MGo, 4/19 Anoka AnB, Benton FGo. Early north (median 5/6) 5/2 Otter Tail DST, 5/4 Todd JeM, DTM. High count 5/12 Washington (**30**) NHe.
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [4 South, 3 North] All south 4/30 Rice TFB, Watonwan (Madelia) AnK, 5/13 Brown (Shag Road) MiO, 5/15 Murray (290th Ave. and C.R. 3) RMD. All north 3/23 Wilkin (Rothsay W.M.A.) JBB, 4/16 Marshall *fide* AXH, 5/18 St. Louis (Ely) *fide* JWJ, 5/22 St. Louis (Duluth) ALo, 5/24 St. Louis (Park Point) LBe.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [49 South, 23 North] First arrivals well ahead of median both north and south. Early south (median 4/13) **3/23** Washington (Carpenter N.C.) JHg, 4/4 Olmsted JPr, 4/5 Dakota SKS. Early north (median 4/23) 4/14 Kanabec SC, DBz, RMD, JWH, Morrison FGo, St. Louis SES, 4/15 Wadena PJB. High counts 5/31 Washington (8, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) PNi.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High

- counts 3/5 Fillmore (~500) CWG, 3/6 St. Louis (~500, Duluth) DKa.
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [20 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/10) **3/14** Olmsted (2, South Landfill Reservoir) JWH, CHo, 3/18 Ramsey RZi, 3/27 Blue Earth AnK, ChH, Lac qui Parle DLP. All north **4/1** Morrison (Pierz W.T.P.) BWF, JWH, 4/28 Clearwater DWK, SBM. High count 5/5 Polk (25) RZi. Late south 5/20 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/23 Dakota ILa (median 5/16). Late north 5/15 Kittson (8) TrB, 5/18 St. Louis (3) PHS, JLK.
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [2 North] Very few reports this spring, only reported from Cook and St. Louis. High count 3/2 St. Louis (310, West Knife River Road, Duluth Twp.) JWL. Late north 4/28 St. Louis AM, 5/10 St. Louis (2) MLH (median 4/17).
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [43 South, 28 North] Present north and south at beginning of period, most south migrants arrived after 5/1, north migrants after 5/15. High counts 4/13 Isanti (~100, Long Lake) SLB, 5/28 St. Louis (78) JLK.
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [32 South, 14 North] Early north (median 3/9) 3/10 Grant DBM, 3/12 Traverse BJU. High counts 3/3 Lac qui Parle (~800, Walter Twp.) BJU, 4/22 Clay (~600, Felton Prairie) RHO. Late south 5/12 Washington NHe (median 5/4). Late north 5/15 Kittson (6) TrB, 5/19 St. Louis JLK, AM (median 5/19).
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] Reported from traditional Felton Prairie, Clay County locations; first report 4/28 DaP.
- Smith's Longspur** (*Calcarius pictus*) — [4 South] New county record: 4/22 **Nobles** (Bloom W.P.A.) †BTS. Early south (median 4/21) 3/31 Lac qui Parle (4, Perry Twp.) BJU, 4/7 Brown (6, Mulligan Twp.) BTS. High count 4/18 Brown (47) BTS. Late south 4/29 Brown (20) ANy, MiO, BTS (median 4/28).
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [13 South, 15 North] Late south 3/11 Murray (3) BJU, 3/12 Big Stone (2) BJU, and then **5/15** Pipestone (Pipestone W.T.P.) BWF, JWH (median 3/29). Late north 4/22 Koochiching (8) JCC, 4/26 Lake (2, Two Harbors) JWL (median 5/8).
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [45 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/30) 5/1 Hennepin CMB, Winona ANy, widespread arrivals 5/2. Early north (median 5/4) 5/2 Crow Wing (2) ABi, 5/3 Cass (2) DAY, Mille Lacs ASC, Todd (3) JLK. High counts 5/15 Scott (20, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ACr, 5/28 St. Louis (20) ACr.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [9 South] Early south arrivals were well before the 4/23 median: 4/8 Rice (Cannon River Wilderness Park) DAB, 4/12 Rice TFB, 4/14 Washington (Falls Creek S.N.A.) DFN. Unusual record 5/2 Freeborn AEB.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [42 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/21 Dakota DFN, 4/27 Hennepin CMB, 4/28 Brown RBW. Early north (median 5/4) 5/3 Hubbard MAW, 5/4 Todd JLK. High counts 5/6 Hennepin (17, Wood Lake N.C.) CMB, Carver (14) JCy. Late south 5/26 Hennepin TAT, Rock LS, 5/28 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT (median 5/29).
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [31 South, 20 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/2 Olmsted LAV, Ramsey RMD, 5/3 Hennepin CMB, BBy, JSI, MBS, SBM, CRM, Olmsted JWH, Ramsey RMD, RZi, Rice TFB, Winona ANy. Early north (median 5/8) 5/4 Todd JLK, 5/5 Morrison FGo, MJB, Todd JLK. High count 5/7 Todd (6) JLK. Late south away from known breeding areas 5/20 Wright (Succinix W.M.A.) MJB, 5/27 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU (median 5/28).
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [25 South, 1 North] Early south (median 5/2) **4/26** Rice TFB, 5/2 Hennepin RDa, SBM, **Martin** LBF, Olmsted JWH, Scott (5) MMz, Sherburne ASC, Winona ANy. Only north report 5/13 Morrison FGo (median 5/23). High counts 5/28 Goodhue (7, Pioneer State Trail) GJM, 5/4 Carver (6, Rapids Lake) JCy.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [49 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/20 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) LBi, 4/21 Olmsted MHm. Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 St. Louis ALo, JLK, 5/2 Crow Wing ABi. High counts 5/5 Rice (10) DAB, 5/27 Cass (10) SaK.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*)
— [10 South] Early south (median 5/4)
5/4 Winona (Prairie Island Road) ANy,
5/5 Goodhue DFN, PEJ. High counts 5/19
Houston (4, Millstone Landing) WCM, 5/19
Goodhue (3) JWH.

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*)
— [50 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/28 Lac qui Parle ACr, MBS, 5/1 Hennepin CMB, (Bloomington) MBS, (Powderhorn Park, Minneapolis) JJo, Winona ANy, 5/2 five additional counties. Early north (median 5/7) 5/4 Todd JeM, DTM, 5/5 Douglas JPE, Grant DBz, Morrison FGo, MJB. High counts 5/11 Scott (64 singing males, Murphy-Hanrehan north trails) BAF, SHF, 5/14 Hennepin (45 singing males, counted on 7-mile bicycle commute, South Minneapolis) BAF. Late south 5/28 Blue Earth ChH, Nobles CRM, 5/31 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 6/3). Also see summer report.

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [39 South, 18 North] Two south reports were record early (prior record 4/9): **4/1** Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) ANy, **4/6** Scott JCC. Additional early south reports 4/16 Rice DAB, 4/19 Carver JCy, 4/21 Blue Earth ChH, Fillmore HHD. Early north (median 4/25) 4/21 Clay RHO, Pennington JMj, 4/22 Clay RHO, 4/29 Wadena SBM, 4/30 Polk SAu. Late south 5/16 Rice DAT, 5/19 Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/20 Fillmore CWG (median 5/22). Late north 5/23 Kittson ANy, 5/24 Lake of the Woods, Roseau ANy, 5/28 St. Louis JOJ (median 5/27).

Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*)
— [44 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/26 Rice TFB, 4/30 Ramsey RMD, 5/1 Hennepin DWK, Olmsted (2) RAE, LAV, Ramsey MDu, Stearns PCC. Early north (median 5/3) 5/3 Crow Wing JSB, Mille Lacs ASc, Todd JeM, DTM, 5/4 Itasca SC, EEO, Mahnomen JCC, Todd (4) JLK. High counts 5/21 St. Louis (16, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr, TMO, 5/4 Hennepin (12, Veterans Memorial Park) SBM. Late south 5/27 Brown MiO, Isanti DPG, 5/30 Hennepin TLo, 5/31 Chisago PSm, KMO (median 5/29). Also see summer report.

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) — [12 South, 8 North] Early south (median 5/11) 5/6 Olmsted MHm, Washington DFN,

5/9 Mower NFT, 5/10 Rice TFB, 5/12 Dakota BAF, SHF, Wabasha DBz. Early north **5/7** Hubbard MAW, 5/9 Itasca PLE, 5/17 Roseau BSi, 5/18 Itasca PLE. High counts 5/20 Clay (4, S. Moorhead) RHO, 5/28 St. Louis (max. 4) PHS, JLK, MLH, m.ob. Late south 5/24 Carver (Laketown Twp.) WCM, 5/25 Hennepin (2) (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) SRG, m.ob., 5/27 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) SBM, Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU (median 5/30).

Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*)
— [23 South, 19 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/6 Washington DFN, 5/7 Faribault RAE, Rice TFB, 5/9 Kandiyohi SSy, Olmsted JWH, Wabasha MJM. Early north (median 5/14) 5/12 Itasca JLK, 5/16 Aitkin DPG, Mille Lacs ASc, 5/17 Aitkin GHo, Hubbard DWK, PEB. High counts 5/21 Hennepin (5, Wood Lake N.C.) CMB, 5/21 St. Louis (4, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr, TMO, 5/25 Hennepin (4, T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT. See summer report for late south migrants and potential summering individuals.

Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*) — No reports.

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*)
— [49 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/1 Blue Earth ChH, 5/2 Kandiyohi (3) SSy, McLeod PRH, Olmsted JWH, MHn, Rice TFB, Scott MMz, 5/3 eight more counties. Early north (median 5/7) 4/30 Kittson (Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 5/5 Beltrami DPJ, Douglas JPE, Mille Lacs DPG, Morrison FGo, MJB, Todd FGo, MJB, (4) JLK. High counts 5/19 Scott (20, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) SHF, 5/26 Wabasha (18, Whitewater W.M.A.) SHo.

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*)
— [5 South] Early south (median 5/9) 5/7 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) TAT, 5/11 Dakota (3, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., north trails) BAF, SHF, 5/12 Scott (Murphy Hanrehan P.R.) DFN. First county record for **Wabasha** was discovered at the Krueger Forest Management Unit on 5/17–26 ph. ANy, DBz, JWH, m.ob. Additional south reports 5/21 Dakota (Lebanon Hills R.P.) RDE, m.ob., Washington (Afton S.P.) LWh, 5/28 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT.

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [50 South, 31 North] Early south (median

- 5/3) 5/2 Goodhue GJM, Olmsted LAV, Scott (2) MMz, Winona ANy, 5/3 seven more counties. Early north (median 5/8) 5/3 Mille Lacs ASC, 5/4 Todd JLK, 5/5 Douglas JPE, Itasca SC, Morrison FGo, Pine (2) PSe, Polk JOJ, Todd (2) JLK.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [22 South, 15 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/4 Nicollet MiO, Olmsted JWH, 5/5 Isanti MHe, Martin RAE. Early north (median 5/9) 5/7 Cass SC, Cook DMB, 5/8 St. Louis (3) JLK, 5/11 Hubbard MAW. Late south 5/19 Dakota RTe, Hennepin (2) MDu, Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 5/20 Lac qui Parle (Mehurin Twp.) BJU (median 5/22).
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [13 South, 2 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/2 Rice TFB, 5/5 Rice (4, high count) DAB, 5/9 Le Sueur (Sakatah S.P.) RBW, 5/10 Sherburne ASC, 5/11 Scott (male, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., north trails) BAF, SHF, 5/12 Brown (male, extreme northwest corner of county) BTS, MiO. All north **4/28** Morrison TMu, 5/17 Mille Lacs (male, Mille Lacs Kathio S.P.) ASC, JFR, GHo, KSm. Unusual Southwest record 5/16 **Lyon** (2 singing, Garvin C.P.) BWF.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [36 South, 16 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Houston (2) KCa, 5/2 Hennepin CMB, (Veterans Memorial Park) SBM, Rice TFB, Scott (2) MMz. Early north (median 5/6) 5/5 Hubbard MAW, 5/8 Aitkin KCR, St. Louis JLK, 5/11 Lake ANy. High count 5/28 St. Louis (10) ACr. Late south 5/22 Isanti DPG, Lyon, Rock JEB, 5/25 Redwood SVo, 5/27 Sherburne SC (median 5/26).
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [39 South, 17 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/2 Olmsted LAV, 5/3 Hennepin CMB, (Wood Lake N.C.) TAT, (Theodore Wirth) JSI, (Bloomington) MBS, Olmsted JWH. Early north (median 5/9) 5/4 Todd JeM, DTM, 5/5 St. Louis AM, Todd JLK. Late south 5/28 Blue Earth ChH, 5/30 Washington KMo, 5/31 Dakota (2) RaM, Lac qui Parle DLP (median 5/31). Also see undocumented reports.
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [16 South, 5 North] Early south (median 5/8) **5/2** Kandiyohi (Prinsburg Rail Trail) Ssy, 5/4 Nicollet MiO, 5/5 Sherburne ASC. Early north 5/12 Hubbard MAW, Morrison JeM, DTM, 5/13 Morrison FGo, 5/14 Mille Lacs ASC. Late south 5/19 Hennepin JCC, Lac qui Parle FAE, (Walter Twp.) BJU, Washington KMo, PSm, 5/21 Hennepin CMB (median 5/25).
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [32 South, 20 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/2 Goodhue GJM, 5/3 Blue Earth ChH, Olmsted JWH, Ramsey RMD, MDu, ShW. Early north (median 5/7) 5/5 Grant DBz, Itasca SC, 5/6 Traverse DBz, 5/7 Crow Wing SC. High count 5/28 St. Louis (7, Southworth Marsh, Duluth) JLK. Late south 5/27 Hennepin TAT, Kandiyohi JoS, Lac qui Parle BJU, 5/28 Rock KRE, CRM (median 5/31).
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [51 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/27) **4/20** McLeod PRH, 4/27 Dakota (2) JBT, 4/29 Winona DBz, 4/30 Winona ANy, five more counties on 5/1. Early north (median 5/4) 5/2 Otter Tail DST, Polk SAU, 5/3 Wadena ABi, 5/4 Itasca SC, EEO, five additional counties on 5/5. High counts 5/4 Scott (34, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp Unit) BAF, SHF, 5/5 Carver (30, Carver Park) JCy.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [43 South, 26 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/3 Hennepin JSI, Mower RJW, RWa, Olmsted JWH, Ramsey RZi, Rice TFB, Winona ANy, 5/4 four more counties. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Cass DAY, Todd (3) JLK, 5/6 Beltrami DPJ, Pine PSe. High count 5/12 Itasca (16, Splithand Lake) JLK.
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [42 South, 20 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/3 Carver CRM, Goodhue GJM, 5/4 Nicollet MiO, Olmsted JWH, and ten additional counties on 5/5. Early north (median 5/9) 5/5 Grant DBz, 5/6 Traverse DBz, 5/10 Itasca PLe, plus three more counties on 5/11. Late south 5/31 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 5/30). Late north 5/31 St. Louis JLK (median 5/30). Also see summer report for late migrants south and north.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [1 South, 5 North] Only south report 5/19 Ramsey (St. Anthony Park) RMD. All north 5/10 St. Louis (Hartley N.C.) DY0, 5/19 Cook (Obergr Moun-

- tain) SLP, **Morrison** (female) FGo, **Pine** CAB, 5/20 Lake (female, Lighthouse Point, Two Harbors) JWL, 5/25 Lake (Tettagouche S.P.) DFN, 5/26 Cook (Tofte) KRo.
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [47 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/14 Blue Earth ChH, 4/16 Washington ECl, 4/17 Dakota MJM. Early north (median 4/25) 4/25 Pine RBJ, DAC, St. Louis (2) ABi, 4/29 Polk (5) DLT. High counts 5/4 Todd (44) JLK, 5/6 Hennepin (30) MBS. Late south 5/16 Chisago DPi, Ramsey CDO, 5/19 Rock SC, 5/20 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 5/23).
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [12 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/23) **4/4** Ramsey (Sucker Lake, Vadnais Heights) BRL, Washington †PNi, 4/14 Isanti ANy, SC, DBz, BWF, JWH, Ramsey REH, Washington DFN. Early north (median 4/25) **4/14** Hubbard JEB, 4/17 Pine SC, 4/19 Hubbard MAW, 4/23 Beltrami (3) JCC, Cass DAY, Crow Wing JSB, Itasca SC. All reports were east of a line from Clearwater to Stearns.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [52 South, 34 North] Several overwintered in Carver JCy. Early south migrants 3/19 Hennepin CRM, 3/25 Hennepin (2) BAF, RDE, 3/27 Dakota KSm, DwS, Hennepin (3) CMB, SBM. Early north (median 4/7) 3/19 Itasca CKK, 3/29 Todd JeM, DTM, 3/31 Itasca SC, Polk HHu. High count 4/21 Ramsey (113) NHe. Late south 5/27 Pipestone RAE, 5/29 Ramsey (2) BMa, 5/30 Hennepin BMa (median 5/28).
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [27 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/29 Rice DAB, Wabasha DBz, 5/1 Houston KCa, 5/2 Hennepin MMz, Rice TFB, Sherburne ASC. Early north (median 5/4) 5/3 Mille Lacs ASC, 5/5 Itasca EEO, Morrison MJB, Todd (2) JLK. High counts 5/10 Hennepin (12, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo, 5/19 St. Louis (8, Magney-Snively Park, West Duluth) PHS, KSt, 5/31 Cook (8, Grand Portage S.P.) JOJ. Late south 5/23 Rock SC, 5/25 Hennepin (Elm Creek P.R.) PJM, Sherburne ASC, 5/27 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT (median 5/30).
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [17 South, 12 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/4 Hennepin CMB, Nicollet MiO, 5/6 Anoka PSe, Washington DFN. Early north 5/11 Todd JeM, DTM, 5/12 Douglas JPE, 5/19 Carlton MJM, Clearwater DWK, PEB, Douglas JPE, Lake JaM, Morrison GLa. High counts 5/21 Hennepin (8, Wood Lake N.C.) CMB, 5/28 St. Louis (8, Park Point) DWK. See summer report for later south migrants.
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [33 South, 15 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/2 Anoka DWK, 5/3 Goodhue (2) GJM, Olmsted LAV, five additional counties on 5/4. Early north (median 5/10) **5/5** Douglas JPE, 5/10 Hubbard MAW, 5/11 Beltrami DPJ, Clay (2) RHO. High count 5/28 St. Louis (12, Park Point) DWK, SBM. Late south 5/25 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT, (Minneapolis, Seward neighborhood) MDu, 5/26 Dakota RTE, 5/27 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 5/29). See summer report for late north individuals.
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [1 South] Only report 5/27 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [2 South, 1 North] All south 4/20 Ramsey (Lauderdale) CCh, 5/16 Lyon (Camden S.P.) BWF, JWH. All north 4/22 Otter Tail (2) SPM.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [27 South, 11 North] One in Carver 3/8 JCy may have been an undetected overwintering individual. Early south (median 4/16) 3/31 Sherburne ASC, 4/5 Dakota, 4/6 Wabasha RZi, KRE, 4/7 Houston RZi, GLa, KRE. One overwintered north in Polk SAU. Early north (median 5/4) 5/3 Wadena (4) ABi, Lake SLL. New county record 5/2 **No-bles** LBF. High count 4/27 Sherburne (15, Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail) ASC.
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizella arborea*) — [50 South, 29 North] High count 3/10 Lac qui Parle (~170, Section 25, Walter Twp.) BJU. Late south 4/26 Dakota (2) DVe, Hennepin (4) SSp, 4/28 Brown JSS (median 5/2). Late north 4/29 St. Louis (9) JLK, 4/30 Kittson (2) TrB, St. Louis AM, followed by one much later 5/26 St. Louis (2, Ash River area) JeA (median 5/7).
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south reports

- well before recent median (3/26), but with no January or February records these are almost certainly migrants: **3/1** Meeker JAn, **3/6** Washington SLi, 3/8 Lac qui Parle FAE, 3/10 Hennepin SBM, 3/11 Scott KiH, 3/13 Goodhue GJM. Early north, all record early: **3/14** Otter Tail GO, **3/21** Morrison JeM, **3/24** Cass (20) JWM, St. Louis SaK, **3/29** Mille Lacs ASc, **3/30** Crow Wing JSB, Douglas JPE, **3/31** Polk HHu.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [47 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/15 McLeod (2) DAs, 4/18 Goodhue GJM, 4/21 Olmsted SHK, 4/22 Brown DWK, SBM, Dakota ADS. Early north (median 4/27) **4/20** Clay DaP, 4/25 Mille Lacs ASc, 4/29 Morrison FGo, MJB, Pennington JMJ. High counts 5/10 Hennepin (24, Elm Creek Park area) TLo, 5/5 Carver (20, Carver Park) JCy.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [46 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/1) 3/17 Goodhue (Wacouta and Frontenac S.P.) BRL, 3/18 Dakota CMB, 3/21 Hennepin ALD, Washington KMo, PSm, Winona ANy. Early north (median 4/21) 4/9 Morrison FGo, 4/13 Crow Wing FGo, 4/22 Grant DFN. High counts 4/15 Fillmore (20) CWG, 5/13 Sherburne (20, Sherburne N.W.R.) SOa, 5/27 Sherburne (20, Sherburne N.W.R.) TLo. Only report north of a line from Otter Tail to Aitkin was 5/11 **Marshall** GAK.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [48 South, 21 North] Early south (median 3/29) 3/20 Dakota KSm, Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/23 Carver JTe, 3/24 Rice DAB, TFB, Sherburne ASc. Early north (median 4/12) **3/31** Polk HHu, 4/7 Grant DFN, Wadena PJB, 4/9 Morrison FGo.
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [26 South, 6 North] Scattered reports all south of a line from Polk to Chisago. Early south (median 4/22) 4/15 Goodhue (Lake Byllesby) RPR, 4/21 Dakota JLO, DFN, 4/22 Carver JCy. Early north 4/20 Clay (Felton Prairie) DaP, 5/6 Polk (2) KRE, RZi, PRH, JCC, 5/14 Mille Lacs ASc.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [46 South, 33 North] One apparently overwintered in Lac qui Parle and was seen 3/2–5 BJU. Another report 3/7 Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie East Unit
- BJU may also have been overwintering. Early south 3/21 Watonwan AnK, 3/25 Lac qui Parle BJU, McLeod PRH. Early north (median 4/17) **4/2** Polk (5, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) AFo, 4/12 Pine RBW, 4/14 Kana-bec ANy, SC, 4/19 Clay (Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) DaP.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus sавannarum*) — [33 South, 8 North] Reported from most counties south of a line from Polk to Chisago. Early south (median 4/26) 4/22 Dakota ADS, 4/23 Wabasha (Weaver Dunes) DBz, ANy, 4/24 Dakota ANy, 4/26 Brown ANy, McLeod (Schaefer Prairie) DAs, Redwood ANy, Sherburne ASc. Early north 4/29 Morrison FGo, MJB, 5/5 Morrison FGo, Polk RZi, JCC, Todd FGo. Unusual Northeast report 5/20 **Lake** (Agate Bay, Two Harbors) ph. JWL.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [23 South] More widespread south than usual, but no north reports. Early south 4/23 Wabasha (Weaver Dunes) DBz, ANy, 4/25–27 Carver (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) CRM, 4/28 Washington (Afton S.P.) DFN, 4/29 Sherburne DBM. New county record 5/23 **Nobles** (2, West Graham W.M.A.) RMD. High count 5/26 Scott (**13** singing males, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., south trails) BAF, SHF.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [12 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/15 Nicollet DWK, 4/20 Lac qui Parle RZi, 4/21 Dakota DFN, 4/24 Blue Earth (3, Cobb River W.P.A.) ChH. Early north (median 5/2) 5/3 Itasca SC, 5/4 Becker, Mahnomen, Norman JCC. High counts 5/5 Polk (10) KRE, 5/5 Lac qui Parle (5, Plover Prairie.) BJU. Late south 5/19 Meeker HHD, 5/26 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., south trails) BAF, SHF, Sherburne ASc, 5/30 Sherburne CMB.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [5 South, 1 North] All south 5/12 **Ramsey** (Crosby Farm Park) RMD, 5/16 Jackson (Heron Meadows W.M.A.) RMD, 5/20 Washington DFN, 5/25 Dakota CMB, 5/31 Swift (Danvers W.M.A.) RMD. All north 5/23 Wilkin (3, Kettle Drummer Prairie) MJM.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [42 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/8 Dakota ANy, MGo, Steele NFT, 3/13 Olm-

sted (3) JWH, 3/14 five additional counties. Early north (median 3/29) **3/14** Mille Lacs ASC, Todd JeM, DTM, 3/15 Lake JWl, 3/16 Hubbard MAW. High counts 4/1 Carver (28, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 4/3 Hennepin (27) CMB. Late south 5/8 Washington CBU, 5/14 Hennepin ACr, **5/21** Dakota TWr (median 4/29). Late north 4/26 St. Louis (2) DY0, 5/18 Lake PEJ (median 5/9).

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. Possible early migrants south (few reports in February) 3/1 Carver JCy, Dakota PEJ, Winona ANy, 3/3 Dakota DFN, Lac qui Parle BJU, 3/4 Olmsted (pair on territory, singing) JWH, Sherburne RZi. Early north (median 3/26) **3/12** Cook JaJ, **3/14** Mille Lacs ASC, Otter Tail GO, Todd JeM, 3/15 Cass DAY. High count 4/22 Hennepin (~50, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BAB.

Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [30 South, 12 North] Early south, all preceding recent median 4/12: **3/18** Brown JSc, 3/30 Pipestone CRM, 4/5 Lac qui Parle DLP, 4/6 Scott (2) JCC. Early north (median 4/24) 4/22 Clay RHO, 4/23 Otter Tail ARo, 4/29 Polk SAU. Late south 5/25 Dakota DVe, Hennepin RZi, Steele PSu, 5/31 Redwood SVo (median 5/25).

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [47 South, 31 North] Overwintered south. Early north (median 4/15) 4/9 Morrison FGo, 4/11 Crow Wing FGo, Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) *vide* JMJ. High count 4/22 Hennepin (~100, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [46 South, 31 North] Overwintered south and north. Presumed early south migrants (median 3/20) 3/12 Hennepin (University of Minnesota, West Bank campus) MDu, 3/14–15 Hennepin CMB, 3/17 Ramsey JFR, Winona SPu. Early north (median 4/11) 3/10 Clay (S. Moorhead) RHO, 3/30 Itasca (Dunning Lake) EEO, 4/9 Morrison FGo, 4/10 Kanabec CAM. High counts 5/4 Carver (75, Rapids Lake Unit, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 5/5 Hennepin (43, Veterans Memorial Park) MDu. Late south 5/24 Hennepin KSo, 5/25 Rock (3) TMO (median 5/27).

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) —

[41 South, 23 North] Few reports from the North-central and Northeast; otherwise, found statewide. First migrants south difficult to distinguish from overwintering individuals. Early north (apart from overwintering locations in Polk, Otter Tail and St. Louis) 4/5 Kittson TBr, 4/15 Wadena PJB, 4/17 Clay RHO. Late south 5/17 Chisago JSA, and then all from Lac qui Parle: 5/19 FAE, 5/20 BJU, 5/26 BJU (median 5/22). Late north 5/13 Wadena PJB, 5/16 Polk (2) SAU (median 5/21).

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [36 South, 25 North] Overwintered in Olmsted. Possibly overwintering 3/15 Dakota (3) SBM 3/25–27 Lac qui Parle BJU. Subsequent south reports 4/11 Dakota DMO, 4/14 Hennepin ShM. Probably overwintered in Lake, then record early report 4/6 St. Louis SES, followed by 4/24 Otter Tail BDE, 4/25 Polk SAU.

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) — [1 South, 1 North] Adults in St. Louis (Fredenberg Twp.) 4/19–20 †SMG, ph. †PHS (*The Loon* 84:152–153) and in **Sherburne** (Zimmerman) 4/20 ph. MJo were the eighth and ninth records for the state. Five of these nine records have been since 2008.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) — [52 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 3/29 Sherburne (122, Sherburne N.W.R.) BAB. Late south 5/8 Washington (Lake Elmo R.P.) BDO, 5/9 Anoka (Cedar Creek Natural History Area) DAS (median 5/19).

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) — [3 South, 1 North] All south 5/2 Olmsted (first-year male, Silver Creek Reservoir) JPr, JWH, 5/8 Olmsted (first-year male, Kutzky Park, Rochester; same bird?) ph. SWs, 5/9 Hennepin (female, Eden Prairie) ph. ChC, 5/19 Mower (female, Austin) ph. BPl. One north 5/18 Aitkin KCR.

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) — [34 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/2 Goodhue GJM, 5/4 Dakota ASI, Olmsted RAE, Ramsey RMD, Rice TFB, Scott BAF, SHF. Early north (median 5/12) 5/8 Otter Tail BDE, Todd JeM, DTM, 5/10 Traverse DBM, 5/12 Beltrami DPJ, Itasca SC, Kanabec DPG. High count 5/11 Scott (11, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. north trails; all

- were singing males except one female.) BAF, SHF.
- Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*) — [1 South] One reported 5/7 Lac qui Parle (adult male, Hantho Beach, Lac qui Parle Lake) ph. BJU.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [52 South, 23 North] Reported statewide. High counts 4/8 Hennepin (**40**, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) DAd, 4/29 Hennepin (25, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) DAd, 3/15 Dakota (23, Lebanon Hills R.P.) RaM.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [48 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/28 Dakota CNo, Washington JBl, 4/30 Fillmore NBO, 5/1 Blue Earth, Hennepin, Houston, Olmsted, Rice. Early north (median 5/3) 5/3 Cass DAY, Todd JeM, DTM, JLK, 5/4 Aitkin KCR, Crow Wing JSB, Hubbard MAW, Itasca SC, EEO, Mahnomen JCC. High count 5/4 Scott (**32**, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp Unit; almost all were singing territorial males) BAF, SHF.
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [4 South] Reports confined to the four counties in the southwestern corner of the state. Early south 5/15 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) BWF, JWH, 5/19 Rock SC, 5/21 Nobles, Rock SC. High count 5/28 Rock (**5**, Blue Mounds S.P.) KRE.
- LAZULI BUNTING** (*Passerina amoena*) — [1 South] One report: 5/6 **Jackson** (Lakefield) ph. †DvR.
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [44 South, 20 North] Widespread early arrival south (median 5/4): 5/3 Hennepin JSI, Lac qui Parle BJU, Olmsted JPr, Ramsey ACr, Rice DAB, TFB, Winona MGo, then four more south counties on 5/4. Early north (median 5/9) 5/11 Clay RHO, Crow Wing JSB, Douglas PJK, Wadena PJB, then also Hubbard, Kanabec and Mahnomen on 5/12.
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [35 South, 2 North] Early south (median 5/10) 5/1 Goodhue BRL, 5/7 Pipestone LFr, Sibley JSc, 5/11 Carver WCM, RMD, 5/12 Washington (3) MDA. All north 5/26 Crow Wing ABi, 5/28 Otter Tail HHD. High counts 5/29 Dakota (**28**, males singing on territory at Randolph Great Western Industrial Park) CMB, 5/25 Rock (**24**, Blue Mounds S.P.) TMO.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [43 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/30 Watonwan AnK, 5/3 Faribault RBJ, DAC, Olmsted BWF, JWH, JPr, 5/4 Cottonwood SVo. Early north (median 5/5) 5/3 Marshall GAK, 5/5 Douglas JPE, Pennington JMJ, 5/6 Polk PRH, JCC, Traverse DBz. High counts 5/12 Rock (35, Touch the Sky Prairie) BMg, 5/23 Wilkin (30, Kettle Drummer Prairie) MJM.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Overwintered widely south. Also see winter report for early north migrants. Additional north migrants 3/1 Todd JeM, DTM, 3/10 Douglas, Grant DBM.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [31 South, 16 North] Early south **3/6** Watonwan ChH, AnK, **3/8** Washington LMS, 3/9 Blue Earth AnK, Olmsted JWH, LAV, and four more counties on 3/11. Early north (median 3/25) 3/14 Pine (3, St. Croix S.P.) BSY, 3/17, 3/20 Mille Lacs ASc, 3/21 Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine RAE. High count 3/22 Fillmore (**20**) CWG.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [36 South, 27 North] Early south 3/6 Jackson (4, Skunk Lake W.M.A.) JnS, Watonwan ChH, AnK, 3/7 Chippewa (4) BJU, Lac qui Parle (7) BJU, FAE. Early north (median 3/16) 3/12 Traverse BJU, 3/13 Becker ASM, 3/15 Kittson LeG, then four more counties on 3/17. High counts 5/12 Clay (44) RHO, 4/2 Polk (35, Pankratz Prairie, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) AFo.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [42 South, 24 North] Early south (median 3/29) **3/12** Lyon (Sham Lake) GWE, 3/20+ Lac qui Parle (4) BJU, 3/29 Cottonwood CRM. Early north (median 4/10) 4/7 Douglas PJK, Wadena PJB, 4/9 Morrison FGo, 4/22 Clay (3) RHO, Douglas DFN, Grant DFN. High count 4/22 Sibley (~70, Indian Lake) DWK, SBM.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [45 South, 19 North] Early south (median 3/6) 3/4 Houston (12) JCC, 3/6 Blue Earth ChH, AnK, Carver JCY, Watonwan AnK, 3/7 Rice DAB. Early north (median 3/20) 3/17 Becker HHD, (2) RAE, Clay (12) MO, Douglas JPE, Mille Lacs ASc, 3/18 Carlton (3) JCC, Douglas HHD. High count 3/8

- Carver (92, Minnesota Valley N.W.R. visitor's center feeders) JCy. Late south 4/29 Benton (Gilman) MJB, 4/30 Winona ANy, NSg, **5/30** Sherburne JSP (median 5/1). Late north 5/3 Kittson (2, Joe River S.W.A.) TrB, 5/5 Douglas JPE, 5/28 St. Louis (Big Lake, Ely) ACr (median 5/3).
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [33 South, 29 North] See winter report for early south. Additional south records (median 3/15) 3/11 Brown BTS, Watonwan DBM, 3/12 Houston SPU, 3/13 Dakota JLO, Sherburne ASc. Early north (median 4/2) 3/17, 3/20 Mille Lacs ASc, 3/20 Morrison (12) MJB, 3/21 Mille Lacs RAE, 3/24 Douglas FGo.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. See winter report for overwintering birds and early migrants, north and south. Additional early north migrants (median 3/9) 3/11 Todd JeM, 3/12 Clay RHO, BDS, Todd DTM, Traverse BJU.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [3 South] All south 3/31 **Waseca** (Mott Lake) DBM, 4/11 Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie East Unit) BJU, 4/30 Yellow Medicine LBF.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [51 South, 33 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Many very early north reports where none found during the winter (median 4/6; prior record early 3/23): **3/11** Lake of the Woods (Graceton) JRs, **3/18** Douglas HHD, **3/19** Hubbard MAW, **3/21** Mille Lacs RAE, **3/22** Polk SAu, **3/30** Douglas JPE. High count 3/31 Dakota (~150, Great Western Industrial Park, more than 90% males) BAF, SHF.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [35 South, 7 North] All reports south of a line from Marshall to Washington. Early south (median 5/7) 5/3 Goodhue CBu, Olmsted JPr, Winona ANy, 5/4 Brown MiO, Carver JCy, Meeker RBJ. Early north 5/10 Otter Tail BDE, 5/13 Becker ASM, 5/17 Douglas JVe, 5/19 Clay RHO.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [51 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/25 Hennepin (2, Veterans Memorial Park, Richfield) DWK, SBM, 4/26 Hennepin CMB, 4/28 Dakota (2, MN Zoo) CNo, Hennepin (2, Cedar Lake Trail) TMA, 4/29 Goodhue (Pine Valley Park, Red Wing) GJM, Kandiyohi JoS. Early north (median 5/4) 5/2 Otter Tail DST, 5/3 Morrison FGo, Polk DLT, Todd JeM, DTM. Reports from six additional north counties on 5/4. High counts 5/12 Washington (**40**) NHe, 5/4 Scott (22, almost all singing territorial males, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp Unit) BAF, SHF.
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [5 North] North reports from Itasca, St. Louis, Lake, and late reports 3/19–25 Cook (2, Tofte) JaJ, 3/27 Cass (2) JWM, 3/31 Cook (Gunflint Lake) JSI, Slv (median 4/6).
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [33 South, 30 North] Found in every region. Reported north throughout the season. Late south **5/26** Pipestone TMO.
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [50 South, 31 North] Reported statewide.
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [1 South, 6 North] Up to 2 reported in Brown (New Ulm Catholic Cemetery) were last last seen 3/27 (JSc). North reports from Cass and Lake in March, Roseau and Lake of the Woods in April, and Clearwater and St. Louis in May.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucopiteria*) — [9 South, 6 North] All south reports south of a line from Lac qui Parle to Brown. North reports from Traverse, Grant, Crow Wing, Aitkin, St. Louis. High counts 3/9 Brown (30, New Ulm Catholic Cemetery) BTS, JSc, 3/3 Crow Wing (28) MBS, ACr. Late south 3/17 Brown (12) MiO, 3/18 Brown (14) JSc. Late north 3/17 St. Louis ANy, 3/18 Itasca SC, 3/20 Crow Wing (3, Pequot Lakes) ABI.
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [19 South, 21 North] High count 3/5 Hubbard (410) MAW. Late south 3/26–28 Chisago (max. 4) DPI, 4/8 Hennepin (3) GJa (median 4/6). Late north 3/24 Wadena PJB, 3/25 Itasca SC, PLe, 3/30–31 Cook (Gunflint Lake) JSI (median 5/4).
- Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [2 South, 8 North] All south 3/6 Blue Earth AnK, 3/7 Anoka †DPG. All north 3/1–7, 3/16 Itasca SC, 3/1 Lake †JWL, Polk SAu, 3/2 St. Louis WLe, 3/3 Aitkin ASc, 3/10 Cook RAE, 3/15–16 Crow Wing JSB, 3/24 Cass DAY.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [29 South, 29 North] Found statewide, with fewest reports from the Southwest. Late south reports in Fillmore through 5/26 (NBO) and in Lyon into June.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [52 South, 34 North] Found statewide.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [9 North] Scattered reports, all from counties north of a line from Marshall to Pine.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all counties. High count 3/17 Winona (~300) SPu.

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JSS	Jack Sprenger	NAN	Nick Anich	Slv	Sam Ives
JTe	J. Teigland	NBO	Nancy B. Overcott	SKS	Sharon Koval Stiteler
JVe	Jim Veltman	NCr	Nathan Cross	SLB	Sandra Lee Branzovsky
JWH	John W. Hockema	NFT	Nels F. Thompson	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski
JWL	James W. Lind	NHe	Noah Hensley	SLI	Susan Lippolt
JWM	J.W. Mattson	NMg	Nathan Mueller	SLL	Sharon L. Lind
KAn	Keylor Andrews	NSg	Neil Skoog	SLP	Susan Plankis
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KKB	Karla Kinstler Bloem	PJB	Paul J. Binek	SSH	Stewart Shaw
KKH	Karen Kalin-Horge	PJK	Pat Korkowski	SSp	Seth Spencer
KLn	Kenneth Larson	PJM	Peter Makousky	SSy	Sara Sytsma
KMo	Kirk Mona	PLe	Peter Leschak	STD	Shawn T. Dash
KRE	Kim R. Eckert	PLJ	Paul L. Johnson	STW	Sylvia T. Winkelman
KRo	Karl Roe	PNi	Peter Nichols	SVo	Skyler Vold
KSi	Kathy Sidles	PRH	Pete Hoeger	SWe	Steve Weston
KSm	Kevin Smith	PSe	Peter Sebastian	SWs	Stephen Wasson
KSo	Karen Sowizral	PSm	Paul Smithson	TAF	Troy A. Foster
KSt	Karen Stubenvoll	PSu	Paul Suchanek	TAT	Tom A. Tustison
KuS	Kurt Schulzetenberg	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	TeA	Ted Armstrong
KVH	Katie V. Haws	RaM	Randall Mateo	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
LaM	Laura May	RBJ	Robert B. Janssen	THI	Tammy Holmer
LAV	Lance A. Vrieze	RBW	Bob Williams	ThE	Ted Keyel
LBF	Linda B. Felker	RCB	Bob Butson	TLa	Terry Lacroix
LBi	Lynn Birr	RDa	Rob Daves	TLo	Tom Lochner
LEC	Laura E. Coble	RDE	Roger D. Everhart	TMa	TP Mahan
LeG	Lee Giesbrecht	REH	Robert E. Holtz	TMo	Tresa Moulton
LeR	Lesly Roxana	RGJ	Rick Gjervold	TMU	Todd Murawski
LFr	Linda Fritschel	RHO	Robert H. O'Connor	TPB	Terence Brashear
LMO	Linda Mona	RJS	Roger J. Schroeder	TPr	Tom Prestby
LMS	Larry Sirvio	RJW	Robert Watson	TPW	Terry P. Wiens
LMu	Linda Munson	RLl	Robin LaFortune	TRB	Tracy Brewer
LS	Linda Sparling	RLR	Ronald L. Refsnider	TWr	Toni Wright
LSc	Lynn Schofield	RMA	Robin Maercklein	VBC	Val Cunningham
LWH	Linda Whyte	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap	VDO	Vicky Douglas
MaH	Marshall Howe	RNS	Richard N. Smaby	WCM	William C. Marengo
MaK	Mary Kinner	RPn	Rob Pendergast	WLe	Will Lewis
MAW	Marlene A. Weber	RPR	Bob Russell	WPe	Wendy Pepin
MBS	Matthew Bribitzer-Stull	RSg	Rubin Stenseng	YK	Yann Kolbeinsson
MDa	Matthew Daw	RSt	Ruth Stearns		
MDe	Mark Demos	RtE	Raymond Tervo		
MDN	Mark D. Nieters	RTP	Ray Potthoff		
MDu	Matt Dufort	RWa	Robert Watson		
MGo	Malcolm Gold	RZi	Roy Zimmerman		
MGr	Mara Greenebaum	SaH	Sauli Hirsimaki		
MHe	Melissa Hein	SaK	Sam Krerowicz		
MHK	Martin H. Kehoe	SAU	Sandy Aubol		
MHm	Mark Hoffmeyer	SBe	Steve Beecher		
MHn	Michael Henry	SBM	Scott B. Meyer		
MiK	Mike Kennedy	SC	Shawn Conrad		
MiO	Michael Oetken	SCZ	Shawn Zierman		
MJB	Milton J. Blomberg	SeH	Seth Hayden		
MJM	Michael J. Majeski	SES	Steven E. Schon		
MJo	Marcia Johnson	SGM	Sara Gavney Moore		
MLH	Michael Hendrickson	SHe	Sujan Henkanaththegedara		
MMz	Mike Menzel	SHF	Susan H. Fall		
MO	Mark Otnes	SHK	Sandy Hokanson		
MRo	Mark Roberts	ShM	Sharon Meister		

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.W.A.	State Wildlife Area
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

The M.O.U. 300 Club

Anthony X. Hertzell and David A. Cahlander

The Roberts Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 85% of Minnesota's 439 bird species

407 Kim R. Eckert (92.7%)	390 Dennis D. Martin	Richard Wachtler	Charles Krulas
404 Robert B. Janssen	<i>Richard Ruhme</i>	381 David A. Cahlander	379 Jeff J. Stephenson
401 Anthony X. Hertzell	389 Robert L. Ekblad	John W. Hockema	378 Jerry E. Bonkoski
Peder H. Svingen	Barbara Martin	Warren E. Nelson	376 Dedrick Benz
400 Bill R. Litkey	Kim W. Risen	Gloria Wachtler	Tom A. Tustison
398 <i>Ray Glassel</i>	386 Don A. Bolduc	380 Bill George	375 Karol Gresser
394 Paul M. Egeland	385 David P. Sovereign	Hap Huber	Ronald L. Huber
391 Jo Blanych	382 Steve Millard	Don O. Kienholz	Andrew D. Smith

The 300 Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 300 of Minnesota's 439 bird species

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Rick Hoyme	Linda Sparling	Kenneth M. Schumacher	313 Tom A. Nelson
Howard Towle	357 —	332 —	Shelley A. Steva
372 Al A. Bolduc	356 David R. Benson	331 Betsy Beneke	Dan T. Thimgan
Oscar L. Johnson	Ben W. Fritchman	William R. Bronn	312 Nelvina E. De Kam
371 <i>Terry Savaloja</i>	Janet C. Green	330 Alice Hennessey	Diana Doyle
370 Douglas P. Johnson	Mark Sparky Stensaas	Robert E. Holtz	311 Chris Fagyal
Dick Rengstorf	355 —	Robert H. O'Connor	Chad Heins
369 <i>Elizabeth Campbell</i>	354 Steve J. Roman	Nathan Schirmacher	310 Shawn Conrad
J. S. Futcher	353 Bill J. Unzen	329 Milton J. Blomberg	K. Scott Foster
368 Conny M. Brunell	352 Dave Baden	David Johnson	Fred Z. Leshner
William C. Marengo	Peter Neubeck	328 —	<i>Theodore Voelker</i>
<i>Forest V. Strnad</i>	351 Terry P. Brashear	327 —	309 Clara Dahle
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Craig R. Mandel	Kenneth Oulman	323 Frank Gosiak	307 Dianne Endrizzi
<i>David W. Thurston</i>	347 —	Dale A. Yerger	Steven Midthune
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362 Jim Egge	342 —	Douglas Mayo	James F. Ryan
<i>Jerry Gresser</i>	341 David A. Bartkey	320 Renner S. Anderson	304 —
361 —	Warren Wegener	319 Jonas Benson	303 —
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<i>Bill Pieper</i>	Judith Sparrow	316 Joel Dunnette	301 Fr. Tom Margevicius
Jerry Pruet	336 Mark C. Alt	315 Andrew Nyhus	Pamela S. Perry
Susan Schumacher	Chet A. Meyers	Ben A. Wieland	300 Tom F. Boevers
359 Leslie Marcus	335 Colin R. Gjervold	314 Clay Christensen	Don Starkweather
Mike Mulligan	334 Al Schirmacher	Mike W. Steffes	

Notes of Interest



MISSISSIPPI KITE AT HAWK RIDGE — A juvenile Mississippi Kite was seen in flight over



Hawk Ridge, Duluth, on 16 September 2012. This bird was in view off and on for over an hour from 4:08 P.M. to 5:18 P.M., and was seen by many observers. This was the fifth sighting in Duluth this fall, and

the third during the official hawk count. Although a Casual species with many records, it has seldom been photographed. This also represents one of the latest dates on record.

The bird was initially very high and circling near a kettle of Broad-winged Hawks and other species, and it was seen to make several long stoops, probably to catch dragonflies. I watched it make a long stoop, coming much closer than it had been, and I realized it was a Mississippi Kite. Since the bird was seen for over an hour, and well photographed by several observers, a lengthy description is probably unnecessary. The very noticeable banding in the tail, the streaked underparts, and the finely banded underwing coverts all mark the bird as a juvenile, though I am puzzled why I could also see a noticeable white trailing edge to the secondaries, and contrast between the gray back and dark outerwing, all more similar to an adult in pattern. **Karl J. Bardon, 4990 Maxwell Road, Duluth, MN 55804.**



Mississippi Kite, 16 September 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Note the pale head, streaked underparts, narrow white bars on mostly dark tail, and dark underwings including dark flight feathers but with narrow barring on the underwing coverts. Photo by Karl J. Bardon.

Corrections to *The Loon*

Volume 84

Page 87: The bird in the photograph is a Blackburnian Warbler.

Pages 105 and 108: Photo credit for the Brown Pelican should be Chris Hokema.

Page 122: Iceland Gull: extend date of first-cycle along Minnesota River from 1/9 to 1/10 (SLC).

Page 124: Northern Saw-whet Owl: Add 1/10–2/29 Hennepin (Old Cedar Avenue Bridge) SLC; 2/7, 2/10 Hennepin (Theodore Wirth Park) SLC.

Page 126: Carolina Wren: Add 1/30–2/27 Hennepin (Bloomington) SLC.

Pages 126–127: Winter Wren: Add 12/18–1/11 Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission Park) SLC, 12/28–2/29 Hennepin (Old Cedar Avenue Bridge; 2 together on 1/11, otherwise one) SLC.

Page 127: Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Add 12/25–1/18 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) SLC. (This record is in the SR, but only through 7 Jan.)

Hermit Thrush: Add 12/2–2/29 Hennepin (Old Cedar Avenue Bridge) SLC.

Page 128: Add Common Yellowthroat 12/3 Hennepin (imm. male, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) SLC.

Fox Sparrow: Add 12/19–1/14 Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission Park) SLC; 2/27, 2/29 Hennepin (Old Cedar Avenue Bridge) SLC.

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Compiled by Anthony X. Hertzelt and Teresa Hertzelt

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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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