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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 (hereafter "MOURC") was conducted at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center in Bloomington, Minnesota, on 2 December 2012. In attendance and voting at this meeting were MOURC members Terry P. Brashear (alternate), Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Anthony X. Hertzler, James W. Lind, William C. Marengo, Robert P. Russell (alternate), Andrew D. Smith (alternate), and Tom A. Tustison (chair).

The following records were subsequently voted on electronically and were Accepted:

- Brant (*Branta bernicla*), 20 November 2012, Duluth, Park Point Recreation Area, St. Louis County (record #2012-041, vote 7-0). Juvenile, photographed. First fall record for St. Louis County. While the MOURC does not review records with regard to specific subspecies, it is clear from the documentation this record was that of the "Atlantic" or "Pale-bellied" subspecies (*B. b. brota*). The "Atlantic" Brant breeds in eastern Arctic Canada, Greenland, and Spitzbergen, and winters along the Atlantic Coast of North America and Ireland. The "Black" Brant (*B. b. nigricans*) ranges geographically from extreme northeast Siberia to northern Canada, and winters to northern Mexico and China (Clements Checklist 2012). Both of these subspecies have occurred in Minnesota and may be split into distinct species in the future. A search of MOU archives reveals only two "Black" Brant records out of a total eighteen Brant records for the state. The first was an adult 17-31 May 1966 at Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Aitkin County (see cover page of *The Loon*, volume 38, September 1966) and the second was a purported juvenile at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, Marshall County on 31 October 1972. Neither "Black" Brant record has



Brant, record #2012-041, 20 November 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Shawn Zierman.

been formally reviewed by MOURC because both records precede its formation in 1974.

- Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*), 25 December 2012 – 16 April 2013, Minnesota side of Superior Entry and at least four Duluth locations including Park Point and Kitchi Gammi Park, St. Louis County (record #2012-046, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. This is most likely the same adult returning to the Duluth area for the fifth consecutive winter. Its plumage appears to be identical when compared to images from previous years with its distinctive shoulder spur which appears truncated and blunt-tipped.

- Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), 6 September 2012, Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve, St. Louis County (record #2012-029, vote 7-0). Juvenile, photographed. There are several good images of this individual on file.

- Mississippi Kite, 16 September 2012, Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve, St. Louis County (record #2012-030, vote 7-0). This juvenile bird was seen for over an hour and well-photographed by several observers.

- Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)



Mississippi Kite, record #2012-029, 6 September 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Cory A. Ritter.



Black-legged Kittiwake, record #2012-042, 28 November 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Jan and Larry Kraemer.

tyla), 10 November 2012, Canal Park in Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2012-040, vote 7–0). Juvenile. While not photographed, the record is supported by written details from a highly-knowledgeable gull observer.

- Black-legged Kittiwake, 28 November 2012, Canal Park in Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2012-042, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. This appears to be the first documented adult on record in the state.

- Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*), 21 September 2012, Purgatory Wetlands in Eden Prairie, Hennepin County (record #2012-031, vote 7–0). Juvenile, photographed. First county record. The bird was documented by several practiced observers.

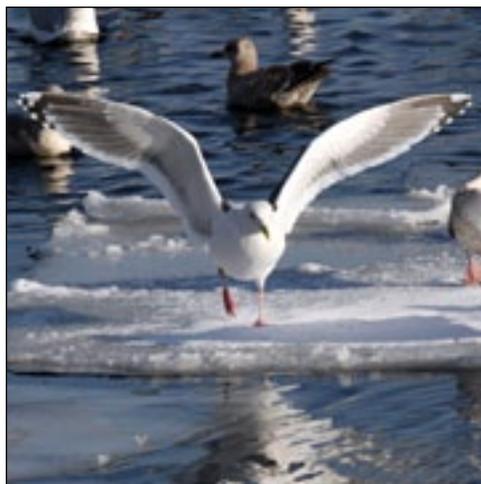
- Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*), 30 December 2012 – 5 January 2013, Superior Entry Minnesota side and Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2012-047, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. The record was well-documented by two veteran gull observers. It is interesting to note that a Slaty-backed Gull has been seen in Duluth every year since 2008. At a minimum, there have been two different birds because the 2008 record was an adult, whereas the 2009 record was a third-cycle individual.

- White-winged Dove (*Zenaidura asiatica*), 9 November 2012, Taconite Harbor, Cook County (record #2012-039, vote 7–0). First

fall record for Cook County. Predictably, this Casual species will be relegated to Regular status when the next Checklist of The Birds of Minnesota is updated in 2014. Contemporaneous field notes would have been helpful, but MOURC members thought the description was adequate. The experience of the observer with this particular species weighed significantly in favor of acceptance.

- Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), 7 October – 11 October 2012, McQuade Road Safe Harbor, northeast of Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2012-033, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. The bird was seen and documented by numerous observers over the course of its five-day stay at the same location (*The Loon* 84:46).

- Cassin's Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*), 27 October – 12 November 2012, Grand Marais, near East Bay Hotel and Suites, Cook County (record #2012-025, vote 10–0, physical evidence vote 10–0). First state record. All ten members vote on potential first state records and, if Accepted, on the physical evidence. The latter vote only requires a majority for acceptance and decides whether or not the species can be identified from the physical evidence alone. The physical evidence vote obviates the "s" subscript on the state checklist. This species had been anticipated in the state for many years. It was seen and



Slaty-backed Gull, record #2012-047, 30 December 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.



Say's Phoebe, record #2012-033, 7 October 2012, McQuade Road Safe Harbor, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

photographed at various locations within the city of Grand Marais by at least 67 observers over the course of its 17-day stay. In addition to the sightings near the East Bay Hotel and Suites, it was frequently observed in the vicinity of the Cook County Courthouse as well as the intersection of Third Street and Second Avenue West.

- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*), 2 August 2012, U.S. Highway 71 one mile south of the Redwood County line, Cottonwood County (record #2012-028, vote 7-0). Photographed. First county record. Though the image of the bird in the photograph was poor, the observer has had extensive experience with the species in another state, having seen approximately one hundred Scissor-tailed Flycatchers there.

- Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*), 12 October 2012, Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve, St. Louis County (record #2012-034, vote 7-0). Photographed. There were six ostensible records of this species during the 2012 fall season — all from different counties. Only five of these reports were documented, and only three of these were Accepted. This represents a significant movement into the state comparable to 1972 when the species was reported from four Minnesota counties. These 1972 records were never formally reviewed because they preceded the

formation of MOURC. Interestingly, an examination of eBird data for the 2012 fall season showed no reports of this species in any contiguous state other than in the Black Hills of South Dakota where it might be expected. It is also noteworthy that there were no subsequent winter reports of this species in Minnesota despite the significant number of fall records.

- Clark's Nutcracker, 10–12 October 2012, Cloquet, Carlton County (record #2012-035, vote 7-0). Photographed. First county record. The record is supported by several high-quality images.

- Clark's Nutcracker, 30 October – 2 November 2012, near the intersection of County Road I and Hodgson Road, Shoreview, Ramsey County (record #2012-037, vote 7-0). First county record. This bird was seen by roughly 50 observers and documented photographically by several individuals.

- Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*), 11 October 2012, Mankato, Blue Earth County (record #2012-036, vote 7-0). Photographed. First county record. The record was Accepted primarily on the strength of a single image.

- Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*), 20 April 2012, restricted area in Zimmerman, Sherburne County (record #2012-048, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record and ninth state record.



Cassin's Kingbird, record #2012-025, 27 October 2012, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.



Clark's Nutcracker, record #2012-037, 31 October 2012, Shoreview, Ramsey County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

This bird occurred simultaneously, in part, with the state's eighth record #2012-007 in Fredenberg Township, St. Louis County (see *The Loon* 84:111).

- Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*), 14 July 2012, Shoreview, Ramsey County (record #2012-026, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed. First summer record for Ramsey County. Fifth summer record for the state; the first summer record was 4 June 1935 in Madison, Lac qui Parle County.

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 Minnesota Ornithologists' Union (hereafter "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.)

- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*), 21 July 2012, County Road 24, Pope County (record #2012-027, vote 0–7). Photographed. The observers themselves indicated that they were not comfortable with the identification. MOURC members overwhelmingly thought this was a juvenile Red-tailed Hawk.

- Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*), 21 September 2012, middle of Mille Lacs Lake, Mille Lacs County (record #2012-032, vote 0–7). The record is undermined because no optics were used, no field notes were taken, and the identification was made solely from memory two days later after consulting a field guide. Most MOURC members were of the opinion that Red-necked Phalarope was not adequately eliminated from consideration.

- Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*), 2 December 2012, Red Wing, Goodhue County (record #2012-044, vote 0–7). The observation, made without optics, lacked sufficient detail in the description to completely eliminate Franklin's Gull from consideration. This possibly correct identification did not adequately rule out a second-year Franklin's Gull, which can be difficult to differentiate and is often mistaken for this species.



Rock Wren, record #2012-036, 11 October 2012, Mankato, Blue Earth County. Photo by Franklin Selvey.

- White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes saxatalis*), 27 June 2012, Cottonwood, Lyon County (record #2012-022, first vote 4–3; re-circulated vote 0–7). The drawing illustrates a dark eye within a white face which is not consistent with this species. Several MOURC members who originally accepted this record had other reservations with statements such as “Chimney Swifts that were near were considerably smaller.” After a thorough discussion at its 2 December 2012 meeting, those uncertainties were augmented with no one speaking in favor of accepting the record.

- Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*), 20 December 2012, 155th Avenue, just south of Lac qui Parle County Road 12, Lac qui Parle County (record #2012-045, vote 0–7). There were not enough details to satisfactorily eliminate other possible raptor species.

- Clark’s Nutcracker, 6 November 2012, Golden Valley, Hennepin County (record #2012-038, vote 0–7). The principal supporting documentation was a sketch made from memory seven days after the observation. White wing patches should have been partially visible when the bird was at rest and certainly when in flight. However, no mention was ever made of this distinctive char-

acteristic even though the bird was seen in flight. The observer had no previous experience with the species.

- Clark’s Nutcracker, 29 November 2012, County Road 11 roughly half a mile north of the intersection with County Road 2, Lac qui Parle County (record #2012-043, vote 2–5). Although the description seems consistent with Clark’s Nutcracker, it is difficult to accept a record of an Accidental species based exclusively on a five-second view of the bird in flight, made while driving at forty miles per hour, apparently without any attempt to stop to relocate it for purposes of obtaining detailed information.

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: Karl J. Bardon, Brad R. Bolduan, Conny M. Brunell, Paul E. Budde, David A. Cahlander, Kim R. Eckert, Jason Frank, Kent Goble, Gregory, Dan and Pam Guynn, Mike L. Hendrickson, Anthony X. Hertzler, Rich and Barb Houston, Marcia Johnson, Paul L. Johnson, Tom Jones, Jan and Larry Kraemer, James W. Lind, Andrew B. Longtin, Mike Majeski, Gabriel Miller, Carolyn Papke, Cory A. Ritter, Karl Roe, Franklin Selvey, Peder H. Svingen, Tom A. Tustison, Garrett Wee, Dan and Barbara Williams, Shawn Zierman, 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: 25 records voted on — 18 Accepted, 7 Not Accepted.

4214 Wentworth Avenue South, Minneapolis Minnesota 55409.

The Summer Season

1 June through 31 July 2012

Ann E. Kessen¹ and Peder H. Svingen²

As usual, a wide selection of waterfowl was found throughout the state during the season. There were several American Black Duck sightings from unusually far south, in Grant, Rice, and Stearns. There were also noteworthy sightings of Greater Scaup in Hubbard and Roseau. A Bufflehead with five ducklings on Hurricane Lake provided the first evidence of breeding in Cottonwood. Another unexpected waterfowl sighting was a female Common Goldeneye at Prairie Island, Goodhue, in the middle of June. Common Mergansers bred in Sherburne.

A pair of Ruffed Grouse in White Woods C.P. provided a first county record for Freeborn. Up to eight Red-throated Loons were found in St. Louis on Lake Superior in June. Also in St. Louis was an unexpected Eared Grebe. A Least Bittern was found in the BWCA in mid-June, and a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was found near the Old Cedar Avenue bridge in Hennepin in July. Two Red-shouldered Hawks in Kittson were an unusual discovery.

Common Gallinules added Dakota and Swift to the list of counties in which they've been found breeding. Solitary Sandpipers nested in Lake of the Woods, providing just the third breeding record for the state. A feeder in La Prairie, Itasca, enjoyed a week-long visit from a White-winged Dove in June. Most unexpected were mid-June Snowy Owl sightings in Clay and Norman. Also unanticipated was a Northern Hawk Owl found in Toivola in St. Louis. A late-July occurrence of a Prairie Falcon east of Park Rapids provided a first county record for Hubbard. Eastern Whip-poor-will reports were up slightly, which was good news.

Acadian Flycatchers surprised observers when individuals were seen and heard in Kittson and Otter Tail. A Blue-headed Vireo was found unusually far south, in Anoka, at the end of June. A Carolina Wren in the Two Harbors Cemetery in Lake was a July surprise.



American Robin, 7 July 2012, Mounds View, Ramsey County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

Sprague's Pipit delighted many observers with a three-week stay at the Felton Prairie in Clay in June.

The number of Hooded Warbler territories in Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. (Dakota and Scott) was lower than usual, but the species turned up in Hennepin, Morrison, and Washington. Well outside of its normal range in the state, Cerulean Warbler was found in Pine (where it was a first county record) and Lyon. Another new county record was provided by a Lark Sparrow in Todd. A Lark Bunting was photographed in Jackson in mid-June. Henslow's Sparrows were relatively abundant, and provided a first county record for Lake. Nelson's Sparrow was recorded for the first time in Crow Wing.

A Blue Grosbeak was a surprise in Clay, but more unexpected was a Lazuli Bunting visiting in Ramsey. The species of the summer had to be the Dickcissel, which was found everywhere (except Cook). Also having a good year was the Bobolink, for which fourteen new counties were added to the breeding list.

Eastern Meadowlarks were found for the first time in Pipestone. Great-tailed Grackles were reported as usual from the southwestern part of the state, with no evidence that their Minnesota range is expanding much beyond that area. Four Red Crossbills were unexpected in Dakota in mid-July.

Weather Summary: This season brought Minnesota its ninth and tenth consecutive months of above average temperatures. In June, temperatures were 2 to 4 degrees (F) above average, while in July they were 4 to 7 degrees above average. July was, in fact, the second warmest month in the modern climate record. June and July were relatively dry months in the state except for two exceptional events: on 14 June a storm dropped 4 to 6 inches of rain in the East-central region, and on 19–20 June the Northeast region received 6 to 10 inches overnight. Both events caused major flooding.

Undocumented or insufficiently documented reports of Regular species: **Long-billed Dowitcher** 7/15 Carver, 7/17 Kittson (early dates, normally arrives in August); **Philadelphia Vireo** 6/21 Roseau, 7/10 Kittson (both out of range and identified by voice only); **American Pipit** 6/18 Cass (Hackensack W.T.P., normally not present in summer); **Prothonotary Warbler** 7/2 St. Louis (out of range); **Black-throated Blue Warbler** 6/25 Kittson (out of range); **Yellow-rumped Warbler** 6/2 Sibley, 7/8, 7/12 Fillmore (all out of

range); **Lincoln's Sparrow** 6/21 Cottonwood, 7/21, 7/23 Redwood (all of these out of range); **Purple Finch** 6/10 Olmsted (out of range).

Maps: A map is included for each species having at least one confirmed breeding record during 2012 (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 Minnesota Biological Survey data. This report is improved by the addition of eBird and Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas 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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KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

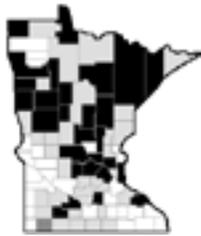
1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species listed in brackets [**Smew**] indicate a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species' name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties 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*) — [2 North, 2 South] Found 6/8 Cottonwood RBa, 6/12, 6/13, 6/15 Norman (2) RAE, HHD, 6/17 Scott PEJ, 6/22 Red Lake RBW.
- Snow Goose** (*Chen caerulescens*) — [2 North, 2 South] Observed 6/1 Lac qui Parle †BJU, 6/9 Traverse DLP, 6/10 Stearns JLO, 6/15 Norman HHD.
- Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Traverse.
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [1 North, 4 South] Seen 6/2 Dakota (Farmington) GHO, 6/23 **Grant** (2, Pelican Lake) MiG, 7/6–7 McLeod CRM, PRH, m.ob., 7/7–25 Sibley (Gaylord W.T.P.) DWK, SBM, m.ob., 7/13 Goodhue (Prairie Island) GJM. Whether or not any of these records represent wild birds is unknown.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [29 North, 30 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding records for *Kittson fide* BBA, *Morrison fide* BBA, *Wabasha* (August record) JWH, *Washington* KMo.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [2 North] Reported 6/1 Lake of the Woods RAE, 6/3 Lake of the Woods (16, Brown's Lake) MHK, 6/9 Grant (Ash Lake) PCC.
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [32 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Cook, Traverse, and Mower.
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) — [15 North, 13 South] Observed in western and central regions, plus St. Louis and Hennepin.
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [5 North, 4 South] Seen in Aitkin, Big Stone, Hennepin, Itasca, Lac qui Parle, Lake of the Woods, Pennington, Roseau, Sherburne.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [11 North, 2 South] Reported from all northern regions plus 6/9 Grant (Ash Lake) PCC, 6/12 Rice DAT, JHL, 7/27 Stearns (Willow Creek Pond) MJB.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Seen in all counties. High count 7/28 Hennepin (400, Bass Ponds, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) SHF. First county breeding record from *Faribault* DAB.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [28 North, 45 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Watonwan* AnK.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas chrypeata*) — [23 North, 23 South] Observed in all regions.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [8 North, 7 South] Reported from all western regions plus Lake of the Woods, St. Louis, Sherburne.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [20 North, 14 South] Found in all regions except Southeast.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [13 North, 5 South] Seen in all western regions plus Clearwater and Hubbard. High count 6/10 Douglas (**25**, Jennie Lake) SBM.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [14 North, 20 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records for *Cottonwood* RPR, *Norman* DBM.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [29 North, 14 South] Found in all regions except East-central and Southeast. First county breeding records for *Meeker* DPG, *Stevens* DPG.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [3 North] Reported 6/2 **Roseau** RAE, 6/4 St. Louis Any, 6/22 **Hubbard** CRM, GLa, LS.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [11 North, 9 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast and Southeast.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [5 North, 2 South] Observed in Cass, Cottonwood, Grant, Itasca, Lac qui Parle, Marshall, Roseau. First county breeding record from *Cottonwood* (hen with brood of 5 ducklings on Hurricane Lake) ph. RBa.
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [13 North, 1 South] Seen in all northern regions plus **6/13** Goodhue (Prairie Island, one female observed in the southern-most backwater bay of North Lake) GJM.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [29 North, 36 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding records for *Jackson* JSc, *Murray* SWE, *Watonwan* JSc.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [16 North, 3 South] Observed north and east of a line from Becker to Douglas to Dakota. First county breeding record from *Sherburne* PMJ.
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [5 North] Found in Cass, Cook, Itasca, Lake, St. Louis.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [14 North, 28 South] Found in all regions.



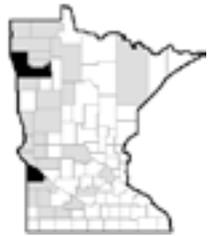
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Trumpeter Swan



Wood Duck



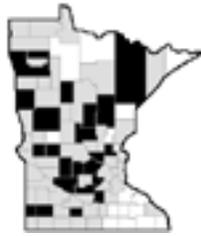
Gadwall



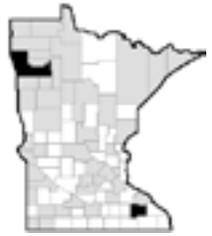
American Black Duck



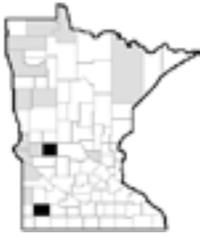
Mallard



Blue-winged Teal



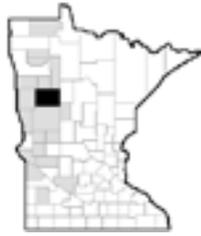
Northern Shoveler



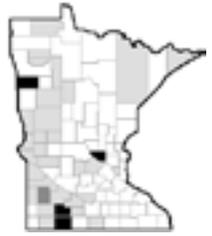
Northern Pintail



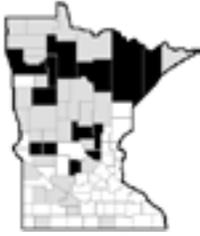
Green-winged Teal



Canvasback



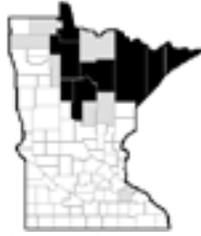
Redhead



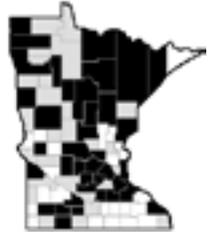
Ring-necked Duck



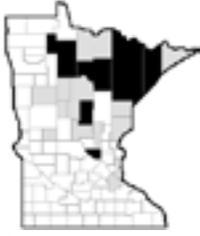
Bufflehead



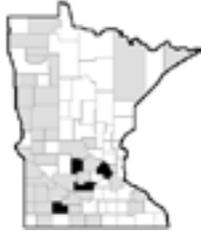
Common Goldeneye



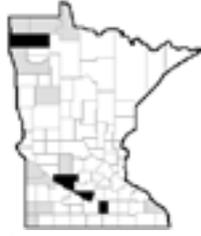
Hooded Merganser



Common Merganser



Ruddy Duck



Gray Partridge



Ring-necked Pheasant

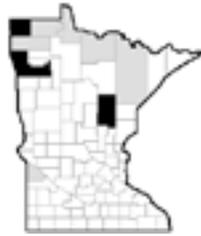
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [6 North, 10 South] Observed in scattered locations in all regions except Northeast.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [21 North, 53 South] Reported from all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Mahnomen* DBM, *Wadena* PJB.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [25 North, 7 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. New county record: 7/7 **Freeborn** (2, White Woods C.P., male and female flushed from trailside) BBu.
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falciptennis canadensis*) — [3 North] Reported 6/2, 6/17, 6/26 Lake of the Woods MHK, GMM, BWA, 6/16, 6/19 Lake NLM, 7/5 St. Louis NLM.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [7 North, 1 South] Observed in Aitkin, Kittson, Lac qui Parle, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Polk, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [5 North, 1 South] Seen in Clay, Lac qui Parle (released birds), Norman, Polk, Red Lake, Wilkin.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [22 North, 44 South] Reported from all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Murray* SWe, *St. Louis* MSc, *Waseca* PCo, *Wilkin* CCa.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] All reports from St. Louis: 6/1 (8 seen from boat on Lake Superior) JLK, 6/4 (location?) ANy, 6/18 (3, 12th St. public access on Park Point) ELC.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [32 North, 18 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [26 North, 43 South] Seen throughout state. High count 7/30 Marshall (**33**, impoundment near Warren) HHu. First county breeding records for *Kanabec* DPG, *Red Lake* fide BBA.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [2 North, 1 South] Found 6/2 Sherburne (Rush Lake) SMC, 6/2, 6/5, 6/22, 6/29, 7/3, 7/8 St. Louis (2, Lake Superior) JLK, ANy, ph. PHS, 6/10 Douglas (Jennie Lake) SBM. The mid-summer records from Lake Superior almost certainly represent non-breeding birds.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [22 North, 12 South] Found in all regions except South-central and Southeast.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [7 North, 5 South] Observed in scattered locations west of a line from Lake of the Woods to Sibley, plus 6/12–17 **St. Louis** AEK.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [7 North, 7 South] Observed in all western regions plus Meeker, Sherburne, Sibley, Todd.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — No summer reports. One August breeding record from Douglas, possibly involving hybridization with Western Grebe †AXH. Please see Fall report.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [28 North, 42 South] Seen throughout state.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [23 North, 39 South] Seen in all regions of state. High count 7/22 Yellow Medicine (300, Curtis Lake) SVo.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [23 North, 7 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest and Southeast.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [11 North, 18 South] Found in all regions except North-central. New county record 6/15 **Cook** (Frost Lake, BWCA) ChJ. First county breeding record from *Sherburne* (August record) PLJ.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [32 North, 53 South] Seen in all counties except Cook.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [10 North, 43 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast. High count 7/28 Carver (250, New Germany area) JCy.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [1 North, 1 South] Observed 6/7 Stearns (Paynesville W.T.P.) RPR, SBM, 6/10, 7/21 Grant SBM, DWK.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — [1 South] Observed 6/6, 6/14 Hennepin (first observation at Minnehaha Creek near Methodist Hospital) †BrD.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [3 North, 2 South] Found 6/2 Lac qui Parle (4) DLP, 6/5 Becker (2) JDr, 6/13 Grant JSP, 6/16 Mower LMe, Otter Tail CCo.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [30 North, 49 South] Reported throughout state.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [6 North, 10 South] Seen in



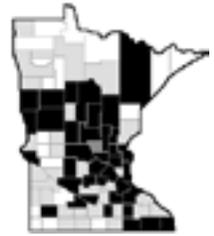
Ruffed Grouse



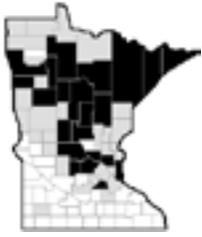
Spruce Grouse



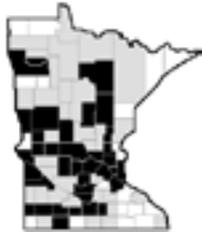
Sharp-tailed Grouse



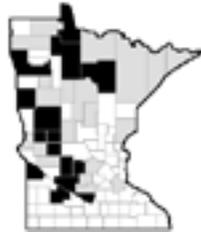
Wild Turkey



Common Loon



Pied-billed Grebe



Red-necked Grebe



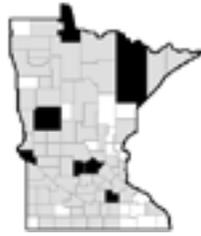
Eared Grebe



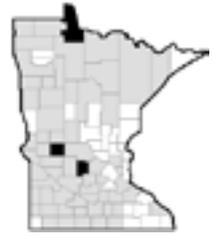
Western Grebe



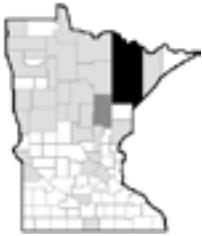
Clark's Grebe



Double-crested Cormorant



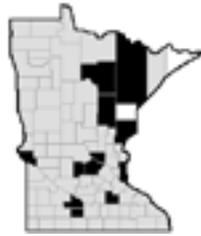
American White Pelican



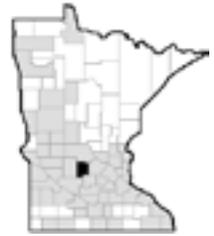
American Bittern



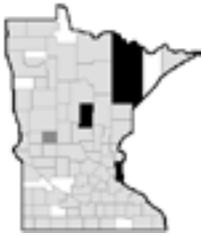
Least Bittern



Great Blue Heron



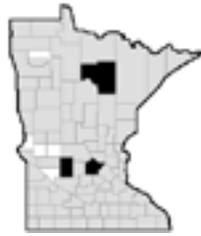
Great Egret



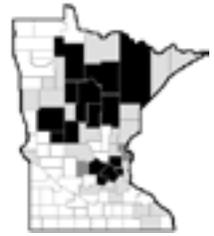
Green Heron



Black-crowned Night-Heron

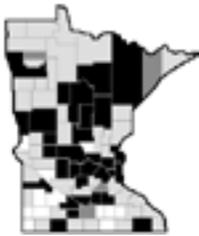


Turkey Vulture

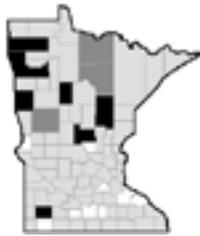


Osprey

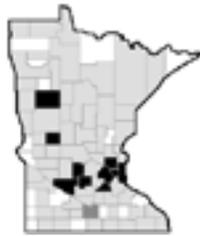
- scattered locations in all regions except Northeast, Southeast. First county breeding records for *Dakota* JV.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [1 South] Observed 7/11 Hennepin (observation deck at Old Cedar Avenue bridge, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BBB.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [32 North, 50 South] Found in all but five counties. High count 7/4 Nicollet (**129**, coming into roost in North Mankato) ChH. First county breeding records for *Itasca* SC, *Kandiyohi* JoS, *Wright* CTr.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [22 North, 17 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest. First county breeding record from *Douglas* fide BBA.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [32 North, 42 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Wilkin* CCa.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [33 North, 45 South] Seen throughout state. First county breeding records for *Clay* DLW, *Hubbard* RPR, *Morrison* MJB.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [18 North, 4 South] Observed in all northern regions plus West-central and Central.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [27 North, 44 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Douglas* fide BBA, *McLeod* CTr, *Meeker* CTr, *Renville* CTr.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [9 North] Reported from Cass, Hubbard, Itasca, Kittson, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Pennington, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [15 North, 15 South] Seen in all regions except South-central, Southwest. Unusual location 7/10 **Kittson** (2, Beaches Lake W.M.A.) RCa.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [27 North, 21 South] Reported from all regions, but primarily the northeastern portion of state. First county breeding record from *Carver* CTr.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [5 North, 14 South] Observed in all regions except North-Central, Northeast.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county. First county breeding records for *Nobles* SC, *Pipestone* SWe.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [3 North] Reported from usual Aitkin locations, plus 6/2 Cass (Swamp Lake) DWK, SBM, 6/21, 7/7 Becker (Hellikson Prairie W.P.A.) DBM.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [13 North, 22 South] Found in all regions of state.
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [20 North, 26 South] Reported throughout state.
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [6 South] Observed in Blue Earth, Dakota, Sherburne, Sibley, Wabasha, Winona. First county breeding records for *Dakota* (7 or 8 young) SWe, *Swift* (1 young, September record) DBM.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [13 North, 40 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*) — [32 North, 27 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. First county breeding record from *Meeker* fide BBA.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [2 North] Northbound migrants 6/6 St. Louis (Duluth, Park Point) DBr, 6/9 Traverse DLP.
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [1 South] Northbound migrant 6/8 Big Stone DLP.
- Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [8 North, 11 South] Found in scattered location in all regions except Northeast and East-central. Northbound migrants: late south 6/11 Nobles SC and Wright RAE; late north 6/12 Becker and Clearwater RAE. Southbound migrants: early north 7/17 Kittson TBr; early south 7/7 Lyon GWe, 7/9 Lac qui Parle BJU.
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 North] Observed 6/4 Lake of the Woods (nest with four eggs) KVH, 6/28 BLE, BWa., ph. ErR.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Carlton. First county breeding records for *Clearwater* fide BBA, *Dodge* CHa, *Red Lake* fide BBA.
- American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [4 North, 3 South] Found in Carver, Faribault, Grant, Lac qui Parle, Pennington, Polk, Roseau.



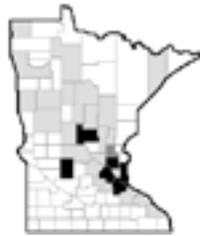
Bald Eagle



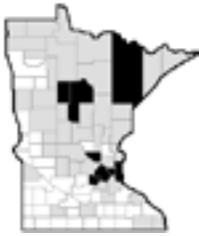
Northern Harrier



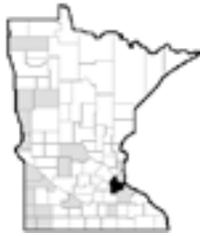
Cooper's Hawk



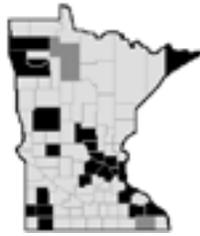
Red-shouldered Hawk



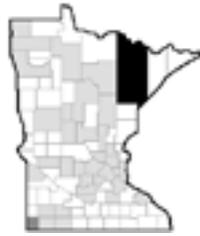
Broad-winged Hawk



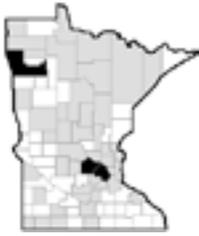
Swainson's Hawk



Red-tailed Hawk



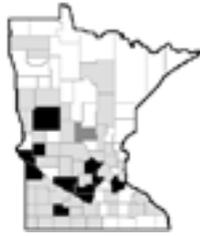
Virginia Rail



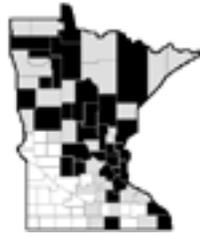
Sora



Common Gallinule



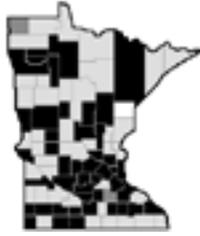
American Coot



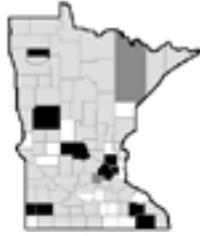
Sandhill Crane



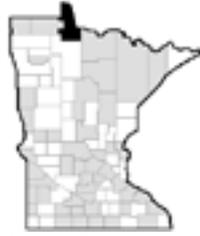
Piping Plover



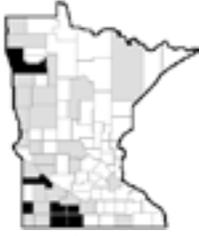
Killdeer



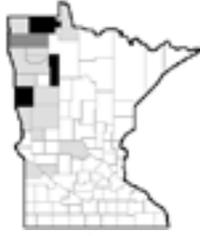
Spotted Sandpiper



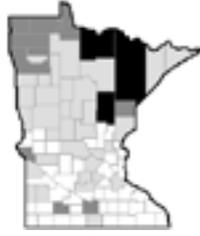
Solitary Sandpiper



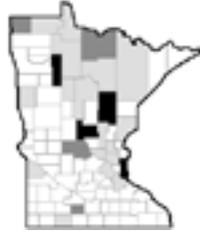
Upland Sandpiper



Marbled Godwit



Wilson's Snipe

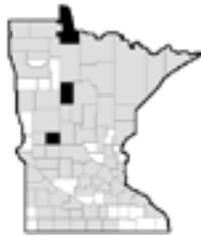


American Woodcock

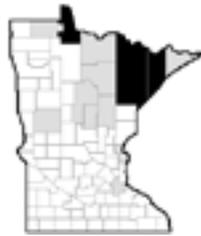
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [31 North, 41 South] Seen throughout state. First county breeding records for *Fillmore* ShK, *Otter Tail* CCa, *Pennington* fide BBA, *Pipestone* SWe.
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [15 North, 32 South] Observed in all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Lake of the Woods* MCBS. Northbound migrants: late south **6/8** Stearns RPR; late north **6/12** St. Louis (Duluth) AM. Southbound migrants: early north 6/30 Wilkin KRo; early south 7/1 Carver (6) JCy. High count 7/12 Roseau (25, Nereson W.M.A.) RCa.
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [13 North, 17 South] Reported from all regions of state. All northbound migrants: 6/2 Kittson TBr and Pine DBM. Southbound migrants: early north 6/22 Hubbard CRM *et al.*, 6/23 Norman RBW; early south 6/26 Carver JCy, 6/27 Sibley SBM. No significant counts.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [4 North, 3 South] Seen 6/5, 6/25 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/6 St. Louis DBr, **7/1** Red Lake ANy, **7/5** Carver JCy, Grant MCBS, 7/13 Aitkin DBM, 7/28 Renville JCC. Dates scattered throughout the summer are typical of this species and directional classification is vexed (*The Loon* 74:65–82); all of these July dates are best classified as southbound migrants.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [18 North, 34 South] Reported from all regions of state. Northbound migrants: late south 6/9 Carver JCy and Wright PEB; late north 6/12, 6/16 Becker RAE, HSt. Southbound migrants: early north 6/21 Norman DBM, 6/25 Red Lake RAE; early south 6/21 Swift DLP, 6/22, 6/25 Lac qui Parle DLP, BJU. High count 7/28 Grant (996, includes 938 at Ash Lake) PCC.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [12 North, 20 South] Reported from all regions, but mainly the western half of the state. First county breeding records for *Cottonwood* fide BBA, *Martin* (May record) ChH, *Pipestone* SWe, *Watonwan* fide BBA, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [1 North] Two reports from St. Louis (on or near Hearing Island, Duluth: 6/2 (25) ph. AM, 6/5 (2) ANy.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [2 North] All reports: 6/1 Lake of the Woods RAE, 6/2 Roseau RAE.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [14 North, 3 South] Found in Northwest and West-central, plus Clearwater, Lake of the Woods, Stearns. All counts ≤ 20 birds.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [2 North, 1 South] All northbound migrants: 6/1 Cook (Grand Marais) RBJ, Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake.) BJU, 6/4, 6/6 St. Louis (Duluth) ANy, DBr. All southbound migrants: 7/24, 7/26 (Salt Lake.) BJU, PLJ.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [2 North, 7 South] Seen in Aitkin, Carver, Jackson, Lac qui Parle, Renville, St. Louis, Sibley, Stearns, Swift. Northbound migrants: late south 6/3 Carver JCy; late north 6/4 St. Louis ANy. Southbound migrants: early north **7/13** Aitkin DBM; early south 7/16 Sibley JCy.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [15 North, 25 South] Reported from throughout state. Northbound migrants: late south 6/15 Blue Earth ChH; late north 6/15 Becker HHD. Southbound migrants (no reports between 6/15 and 6/27): early north **6/28** Kittson (4) TBr, 6/30 Lake (2) ACr; early south **6/27** Sibley (5) SBM, 7/5 Carver (1) JCy. High count 7/28 Grant (1,203, includes 921 in Lawrence Twp. at Denton Slough) PCC.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [14 North, 33 South] Observed in all regions of state. Northbound migrants (no reports between 6/15 and 6/25): late south 6/10, **6/15** Blue Earth (1) ChH; late north 6/12, **6/15** Becker RAE, HHD. Southbound migrants: early north **6/25** Red Lake RAE, 6/30 Lake ACr; early south 6/25 Watonwan AnK. High count and first juvenile 7/9 Carver (326) JCy.
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [10 North, 11 South] Found in scattered locations in all regions except Northeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/11 Nobles SC and Sibley RAE, 6/15 Blue Earth ChH; late north 6/15, 6/16 Becker HHD, HSt, 6/23 Traverse DLP. Three mid-July reports from Aitkin County had no details.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [6 North, 16 South] Seen in scattered locations in all regions of state. Northbound migrants: late south 6/2 Murray SC; late north



Wilson's Phalarope



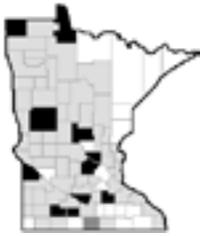
Ring-billed Gull



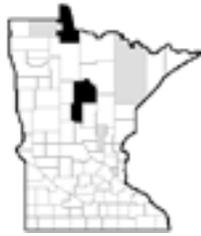
Herring Gull



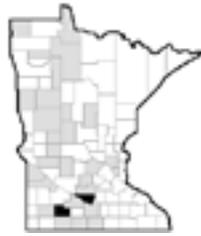
Caspian Tern



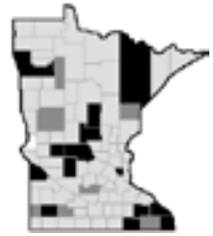
Black Tern



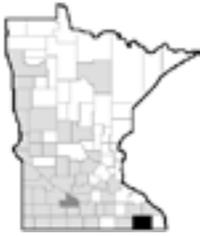
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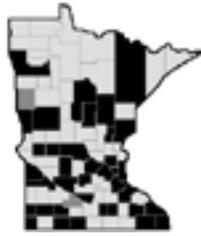
Forster's Tern



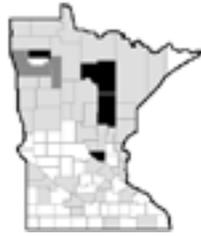
Rock Pigeon



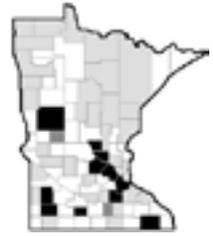
Eurasian Collared-Dove



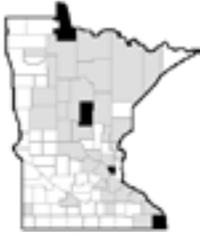
Mourning Dove



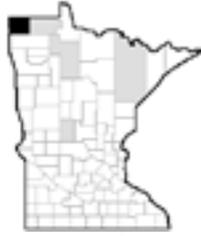
Black-billed Cuckoo



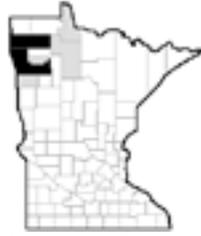
Great Horned Owl



Barred Owl



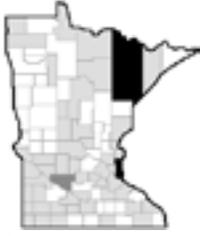
Long-eared Owl



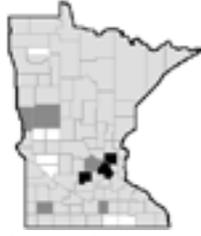
Short-eared Owl



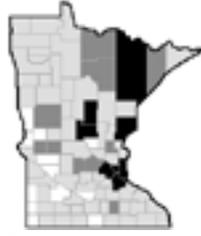
Northern Saw-whet Owl



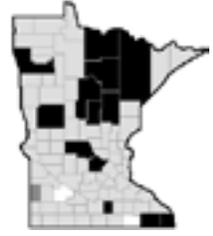
Common Nighthawk



Chimney Swift

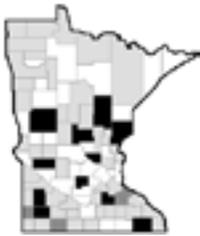


Ruby-throated Hummingbird

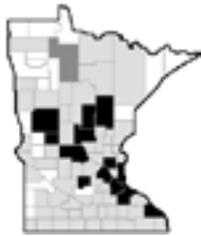


Belted Kingfisher

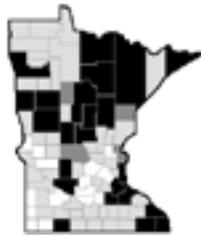
- 6/2 Pine DBM. Southbound migrants: early north 7/12 Aitkin CRM; early south 7/4, 7/5 Carver JCy.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [13 North, 35 South] Reported throughout state. Northbound migrants: late south 6/11 Sibley RAE; late north 6/14 Polk ANy, **6/15** Becker HHD. Southbound migrants: early north 7/12 Aitkin RAE, CRM; early south 7/4 Carver JCy. High count 7/28 Grant (1,842, includes 1,770 at Ash Lake.) PCC.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [5 North, 3 South] Northbound migrants: late south 6/3 Carver KDS; late north 6/11 Becker (8) PaT, PrT. Mid-summer reports 7/8 Nicollet (1) RAE, 7/13 Aitkin MJB, cannot be satisfactorily classified (**The Loon** 74:65–82). Only southbound migrant 7/26 Lac qui Parle PLJ.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [10 North, 14 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/11 Carver JCy; late north 6/9 Grant PCC, Traverse DLP. Southbound migrants: early north **6/28** Kittson (1) TBr, 7/12 Aitkin RAE; early south 7/8 Meeker MJB. High count 7/28 Grant (365, including 292 at Ash Lake.) PCC.
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Tryngites subruficollis*) — [3 North, 5 South] Fall migrants observed in Brown, Cass, Dakota, Grant, Lac qui Parle, Pipestone, St. Louis, Wright. Early north 7/25 Cass RMD, RBW. Early south 7/24 Dakota ALw, SVo, Pipestone BJU. High count 7/24 Dakota (30, Jirik Sod Farm) ALw.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [3 North, 14 South] Observed in scattered locations south of a line from Otter Tail to Aitkin. Southbound migrants: early north 7/12 Aitkin RAE, CRM; early south 7/1, 7/3, 7/5 Carver JCy, 7/6 Sibley DWK. High count 7/14 Carver (33) JCy.
- Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [2 North, 2 South] Fall migrants are exceptional before late July / early August (**The Loon** 74:65–82). Documentation including description of calls is requested for all summer reports. Southbound migrants: early north 7/28 Grant PCC; early south 7/25 Lac qui Parle DLP. Also see undocumented reports.
- Limnodromus dowitcher** (*Limnodromus* sp.) — [1 South] Observed 7/22 Carver (34) JCy.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [30 North, 15 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record from *Koochiching* *fide* BBA.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [15 North, 8 South] Seen in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record from *Morrison* *fide* BBA.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [12 North, 15 South] Found in all regions except Northeast and East-central. High count 7/25 Lac qui Parle (71, Salt Lake) PLJ. First county breeding record from *Stearns* MRN.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [4 North, 1 South] All reports: northbound migrants 6/1 Koochiching RAE, Lac qui Parle (Cory Lake) BJU, 6/2 Kittson (11, Hallock) ph. TrB, Roseau RAE; southbound migrants 7/13 Aitkin (CR 15) MJB, 7/24 Lac qui Parle (2, Salt Lake.) BJU.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [4 North, 2 South] Observed in Beltrami, Brown, Cass, Hubbard, St. Louis, Sibley. Probable fall migrants beginning 7/22 Beltrami (12), 7/25 Sibley FGo.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [9 North, 19 South] Found in all western and central regions. High count 7/28 Grant (683, includes 644 in Lawrence/Stony Brook twps. at Ash Lake) PCC.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [27 North, 39 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding record for *Douglas* DPG, *Hubbard* ANy.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [11 North, 2 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Chisago, Dakota, Otter Tail.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [4 North, 4 South] Seen in Carver, Cass, Grant, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Lake, St. Louis, Sibley.
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonias niger*) — [28 North, 41 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding record from *Watonwan* AnK.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [5 North, 1 South] Observed in Cass, Lake of the Woods, Mille Lacs, Ramsey, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [12 North, 18 South] Reported from all regions except



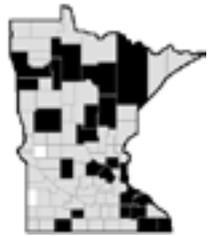
Red-headed Woodpecker



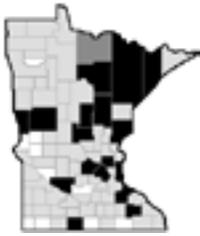
Red-bellied Woodpecker



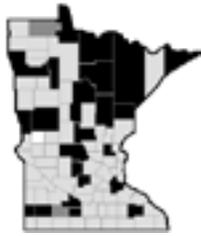
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker



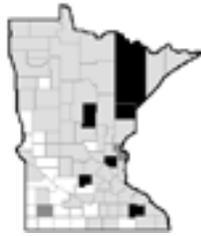
Downy Woodpecker



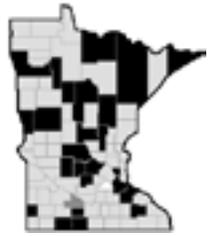
Hairy Woodpecker



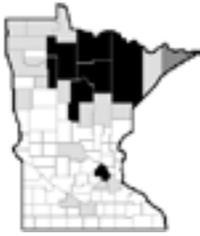
Northern Flicker



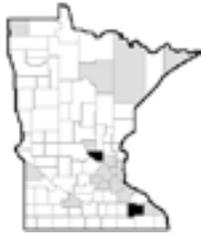
Pileated Woodpecker



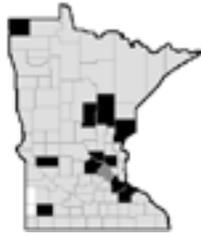
American Kestrel



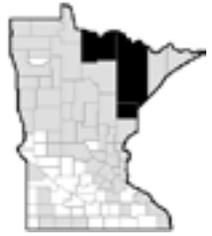
Merlin



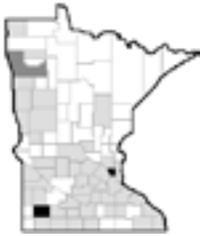
Peregrine Falcon



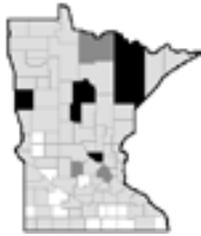
Eastern Wood-Pewee



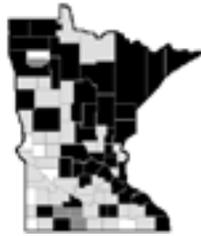
Alder Flycatcher



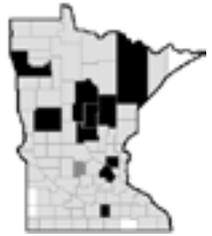
Willow Flycatcher



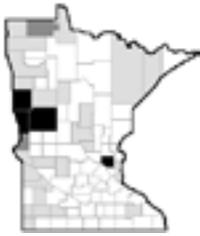
Least Flycatcher



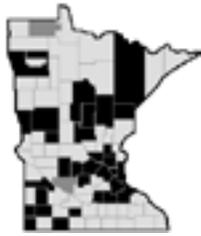
Eastern Phoebe



Great Crested Flycatcher



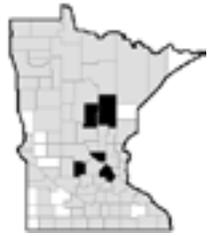
Western Kingbird



Eastern Kingbird



Loggerhead Shrike



Yellow-throated Vireo

Northeast, Southeast.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Seen in all counties except Traverse.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [10 North, 37 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. High count 7/30 Lyon (15, Cottonwood Lake) GWe. First county breeding record from *Fillmore* (April record) DBM.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE (*Zenaida asiatica*) — [1 North] Observed 6/17–22 **Itasca** (feeder in La Prairie) ph. SC, m.ob.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county in state. First county breeding record from *Renville* JoS.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [11 North, 22 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast.

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [28 North, 19 South] Observed in all regions of state, but mostly north. First county breeding record from *Pennington* *vide* BBA.

Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*) — [2 North, 7 South] Reported from Carlton, Dakota, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Nobles, Polk, Stearns, Wabasha, Winona.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) — [17 North, 21 South] Found in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Watonwan* (April record) AnK.

Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [2 North] Seen **6/12, 6/17** Clay (south of Moorhead) ph. †DLW, ph. HdG, **6/17** Norman (just east of Perley) ph. †DLW (**The Loon** 85:44–46).

Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia uhula*) — [1 North] Observed 6/29 St. Louis (Toivola Swamp) MCBS.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) — [19 North, 18 South] Reported from all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Lake of the Woods* BWa.

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) — [5 North] Found in Aitkin, Itasca, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) — [4 North] Observed 6/6 Roseau TrB, 6/10–25 Kittson LW, m.ob., 6/12 St. Louis EMO, 6/28 Todd FGo. First county breeding record from *Kittson* RBJ.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — [6

North] Found in Beltrami, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Norman, Polk, Red Lake.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [6 North] Reported from Aitkin, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Otter Tail, St. Louis. First county breeding record from *Aitkin* WEN.

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) — [13 North, 37 South] Observed in all regions of state. First county breeding record from *Washington* (August record) SLI.

Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrastomus vociferus*) — [13 North, 6 South] Reported from all regions except West-central and South-central. High counts 6/23 Kittson (**20**) LW, 6/3 Anoka (**10**, Bunker Hills R.P.) MDu.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [31 North, 49 South] Seen in all but seven counties.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) — [31 North, 44 South] Seen throughout state. First county breeding record from *Morrison* MRN.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [34 North, 51 South] Found in all counties except Mower, Redwood. First county breeding records for *Otter Tail* MRN, *Waseca* PCo.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [22 North, 36 South] Reported from all regions of state.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [21 North, 47 South] Observed throughout state. First county breeding records for *Douglas* *vide* BBA, *McLeod* PRH.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [33 North, 38 South] Reported from all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Koochiching* *vide* BBA, *Morrison* *vide* BBA, *Renville* JoS.

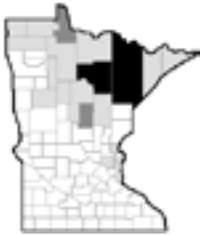
Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) — [34 North, 51 South] Observed in all counties except Lincoln, Stevens. First county breeding records for *Beltrami* *vide* BBA, *Norman* NRRI, *Watonwan* SWE.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) — [31 North, 46 South] Found throughout state. First county breeding records for *Martin* JSc, *Renville* PRH, 6/28 *Wilkin* CCA.

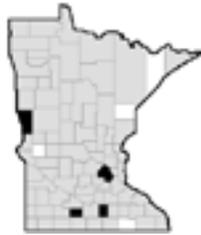
American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [2 North] Reported 6/2 Lake of the Woods RAE, 7/15 Cook (2) NCr.

- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [5 North] Reported from Clearwater, Cook, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found in all counties except Grant. First county breeding records for *Meeker fide* BBA, *Wilkin* CCA.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [30 North, 34 South] Seen in all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Carlton fide* BBA, *McLeod* PRH.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county in state. First county breeding records for *Clearwater fide* BBA, *Goodhue* JFR, *Koochiching* AXH, *Meeker fide* BBA, *Mille Lacs* CTr, *Wilkin* CCA.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [20 North, 6 South] Seen in all regions except West-central, Southwest, Southeast. First county breeding records for *Beltrami* DPJ, *Clearwater fide* BBA.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [4 North, 14 South] Found in scattered locations in all regions except Southwest.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — [1 North] New county record 7/27 **Hubbard** (Todd Twp. east of Park Rapids) RBW, †RMD.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [12 North, 5 South] Reported from all northern regions. Late spring migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/2 Blue Earth AnK, 6/7 Dakota EdM, Scott AHa. Early south fall migrant 7/28 Chisago MRo.
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [34 North, 51 South] Found in all counties except Lincoln and Pipestone. High counts 6/3 Washington (10, Falls Creek S.N.A.) ACr, MCBS, 6/13 Goodhue (10, Prairie Island) GJM. First county breeding records for *Aitkin* WEN, *Goodhue* JFR, *Swift* (August record) JoS.
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [16 North, 5 South] Observed north and east of a line from Norman to Pine, plus late spring migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, Scott JFR, 6/11 Benton MJB, 6/17 Brown RAE, 6/21 Ramsey RAE. High count 6/10 St. Louis (5, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr.
- Acadian Flycatcher** (*Empidonax virescens*) — [2 North, 12 South] Reported from south and east of a line from Hennepin to Brown, plus 6/19 **Kittson** (Caribou W.M.A.) KJB, 6/20, 6/23, 7/3 **Otter Tail** DBM, RBW, LS.
- Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [31 North, 24 South] Found in all regions of state. High counts 6/7 Carlton (18) JLK, 6/26 St. Louis (18) EBr. First county breeding records for *Carlton fide* BBA, 6/7 *Koochiching fide* BBA.
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [10 North, 39 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. High counts 6/2, 6/6 Hennepin (**18**, Hyland Lake P.R.) CMB.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [33 North, 40 South] Reported throughout state. High count 6/7 Clearwater (20) DOv.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [32 North, 48 South] Seen statewide. High count 7/1 Hennepin (**15**, pond at south end of Central Park) SOa. First county breeding records for *Jackson* WCM, *Steele* PSu, *Waseca* PCo.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [33 North, 50 South] Observed in all counties except Cook, Lincoln, Mower, Pipestone. High count 6/29 Hennepin (**12**, Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo. First county breeding record from *Waseca* PCo.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [16 North, 14 South] Seen in all regions except South-central. Unusual locations 6/6 St. Louis (Arkola Rd, 2 miles E of county road 7) ANy, 7/3 Lake (Two Harbors, Lakeview Cemetery) JWL.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county in the state. First county breeding records for *Carlton fide* BBA, *Isanti fide* BBA, *Rock* AXH, *Watonwan* JSc.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [4 North, 6 South] Observed in Clay, Dakota, Dodge, Lac qui Parle, Lyon, Marshall, Otter Tail, Pope, Rice, Wilkin. High counts 7/7–13 Dakota (3) PEB, ADS, MiO. First county breeding record from *Wilkin* MCBS.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [7 South] Found in Dakota, Goodhue, Ramsey, Rice, Wabasha, Washington, Watonwan. All counts ≤ 3 individuals.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [30 North, 45 South] Observed in all regions of state. High count 7/2 Cass (8, Home Brook Twp.) PME. First county

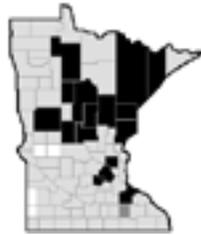
- breeding record from *Aitkin* WEN.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [16 North, 3 South] Reported from all northern regions, plus late spring migrants 6/5 Chisago RMA, 6/6 Washington LMS. Unusual summer record 6/30 **Anoka** BAS. High count 6/7 St. Louis (6, Sax-Zim Bog) RFI, JM. First county breeding record from *Itasca* GCr.
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [32 North, 51 South] Found in all counties except Carlton, Lake, Mower, Stevens. High count 6/13 Goodhue (20, Prairie Island) GJM. First county breeding records for *Waseca* PCo, *Watonwan* AnK, *Wilkin* CCA.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [1 North] Reported 6/30, 7/12, 7/23 St. Louis DAB, JJD, BKA. Two heard-only reports from outside this species' known breeding range were excluded.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [34 North, 49 South] Reported from every county except Lincoln, Pipestone, Pope, Stevens. High counts 6/9 Aitkin (30, Hedbom Logging Trail Rd) RFI, JM, 6/15 St. Louis (27, Arrowhead Twp.) JLK.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [10 North] Seen in North-central and Northeast. High count 6/16 St. Louis (5, Sax-Zim Bog) HdG, 7/13 Itasca (5, CR 74) EEO.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [33 North, 52 South] Found in every county except Stevens and Traverse. High count 6/2 St. Louis (22, Minnesota Point) JLK. First county breeding records for *Koochiching* fide BBA, *Waseca* PAL.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [18 North] Observed in all northern regions. High count 7/11 Kittson (15) RCA. First county breeding record from *Red Lake* fide BBA. Unusual location 7/8 Clay (Spring Prairie) RHO.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county in the state. First county breeding records for *Cottonwood* JSc, *Fillmore* BAS, *Jackson* JSc, *Martin* JSc, *Pipestone* SWe, *Pope* RPR, *Steele* PSu, *Wabasha* RPR, *Waseca* PCo, *Wright* SMa, *Yellow Medicine* RPR.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [30 North, 3 South] Seen in all northern and central regions. High count 7/12 Lake of the Woods (15, Baudette) MGo. First county breeding records for *Becker* RPR, *Pennington* (April record) JMJ, *Red Lake* fide BBA.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [25 North, 48 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. High count 7/19 Kittson (18) TrB. First county breeding records for *Dodge* (August record) DAB, *Douglas* fide BBA, *Meeker* fide BBA, *Morrison* PSP, *Polk* fide BBA, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [28 North, 42 South] Observed in all regions of the state. High count 6/1 Wright (55 pairs; produced 270 young) fide BBA.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. First county breeding records for *Faribault* DAB, *Sibley* PRH, *Waseca* PAL, *Watonwan* JSc.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [27 North, 45 South] Seen in all regions of state. High count 7/25 Chisago (25, along St. Croix River) RMA. First county breeding record from *Murray* SWe.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [30 North, 50 South] Found in all regions of state. High count 6/18 Clay (200, Felton Prairie gravel pits) CLW. First county breeding record from *Wilkin* CCA.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [33 North, 53 South] Observed in every county except Douglas. High count 6/16 Fillmore (250 nests, Old Barn Resort) APA. First county breeding records from *Goodhue* BAS, *Itasca* SC, *Pipestone* SWe, *Pope* fide BBA, *Sibley* BAS, *Waseca* PCo.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 7/26 Lyon (50, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe. First county breeding record from *Waseca* PCo.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Seen in every county in the state. First county breeding records for *Red Lake* fide BBA, *Sibley* (May record) JSc, *Wilkin* CCA.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [8 North] Reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [6 South] Observed in Fillmore, Houston, Olmsted, Wabasha, Waseca, Winona.



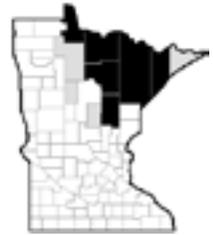
Blue-headed Vireo



Warbling Vireo



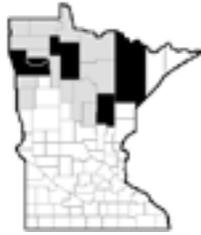
Red-eyed Vireo



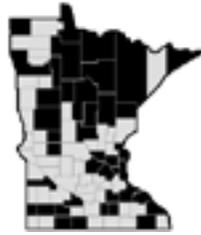
Gray Jay



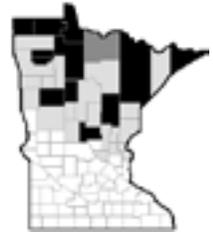
Blue Jay



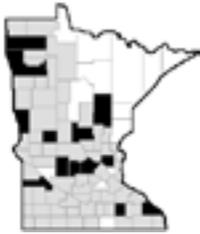
Black-billed Magpie



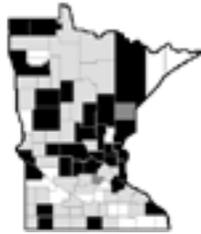
American Crow



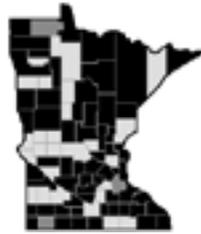
Common Raven



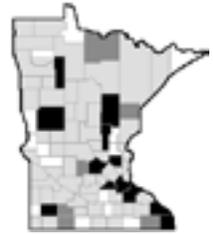
Horned Lark



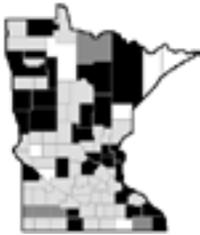
Purple Martin



Tree Swallow



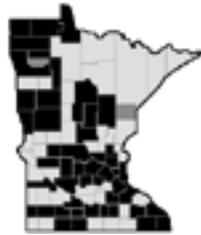
Northern Rough-winged Swallow



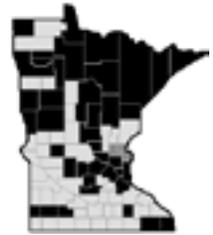
Bank Swallow



Cliff Swallow



Barn Swallow



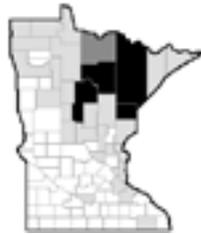
Black-capped Chickadee



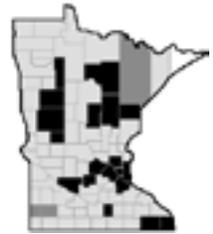
Boreal Chickadee



Tufted Titmouse

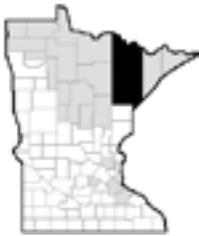


Red-breasted Nuthatch



White-breasted Nuthatch

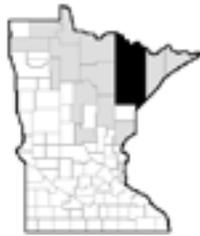
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [23 North, 9 South] Found in all regions except West-central, Southwest. First county breeding record from *Carlton fide* BBA.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [33 North, 53 South] Observed in every county except Cook. High count 7/4 Hennepin (15, Normandale Lake Park) KKu. First county breeding records for *Carlton fide* BBA, *Douglas fide* BBA, *Renville* PRH, *Waseca* PCo.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [17 North, 5 South] Reported from all northern regions plus East-central plus unusual reports 6/14 Carver (Lake Ann Park) MaS, 7/10 Goodhue (Frontenac S.P.) GJM.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Seen 7/3 Fillmore (Preston) NBO, 7/8 **Lake** (Two Harbors Cemetery) ph. JWL, PHS.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High county 6/13 Goodhue (20, Prairie Island Conservation Area) GJM. First county breeding records for *Big Stone* AXH, *Waseca* PCo, *Wilkin* CCo.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [14 North, 1 South] Found north and east of a line from Marshall to Morrison to Chisago. High count 6/15 Cook (6, Lima Mountain Rd.) HdG.
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [33 North, 53 South] Observed in every county except Cook. High count 7/7 Washington (18, Lake Elmo R.P.) PNi. First county breeding records for *Blue Earth* ChH, *Cottonwood* JSc, *Crow Wing* (August record) *fide* BBA, *Douglas fide* BBA, *Meeker fide* BBA, *Pennington fide* BBA, *Pope fide* BBA, *Stearns* (August record) RPR, *Wright* PRH.
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [29 North, 49 South] Reported from all regions of state. High counts 6/26 St. Louis (15, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr, 7/7 Washington (15, Lake Elmo R.P.) PNi. First county breeding records for *Sibley* BAS, *Wright* RLL.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [12 North, 35 South] Found south of a line from Norman to Cass to Pine. High counts 6/1 Washington (8, Afton S.P.) PNi, 6/26 Carver (8, Carver P.R.) JCy.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [11 North, 1 South] Seen in all northern regions plus Sherburne. High count 7/13 Cook (5, Brule Lake) JEL. First county breeding record from *Koosiching fide* BBA.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [11 North] Reported from North-central and Northeast plus Roseau.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [33 North, 50 South] Observed in all counties except Faribault, Stevens, Swift, Traverse. High count 6/28 Washington (20, Afton S.P.) PAI. First county breeding records for *Martin* JSc, *Pipestone* SWE, *Red Lake fide* BBA.
- Veery** (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [32 North, 23 South] Found in all regions. High count 6/7 Carlton (19, near Esko) JLK. First county breeding records for *Beltrami fide* BBA, *Roseau fide* BBA.
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [11 North, 2 South] Seen in all northern regions plus late migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 6/3 Mower RTP.
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [24 North, 1 South] Reported from all northern and central regions. High count 6/18 St. Louis (11, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr. First county breeding record from *Clearwater* MaH.
- Wood Thrush** (*Hyllocichla mustelina*) — [21 North, 24 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. First county breeding record from *Scott* BAF.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in every county. First county breeding records from *Faribault* RPR, *Red Lake fide* BBA.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [34 North, 51 South] Found in every county except Benton, Stevens. High counts 6/1, 6/26 Hennepin (13, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo. First county breeding records for *Dodge* CHA, *Jackson* JSc.
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [2 North, 1 South] Seen 6/6 Murray RMD, SC, St. Louis FKB, 6/20 Goodhue BRL, 6/25 Polk *fide* BBA.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported from every county except Chippewa, Grant, Mower. High count 6/2 Washington (10, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) JJo. First county breeding records for *Fillmore* BAS, *Waseca* PAI, *Wilkin* CCo.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [34



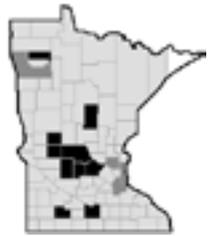
Brown Creeper



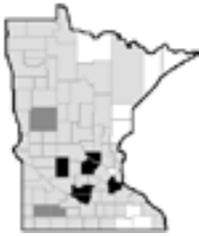
House Wren



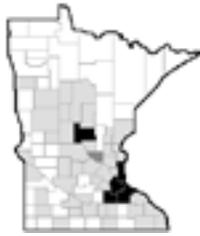
Winter Wren



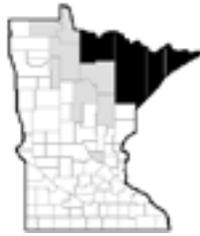
Sedge Wren



Marsh Wren



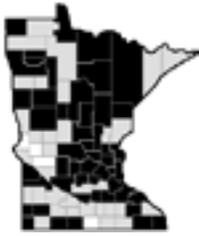
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher



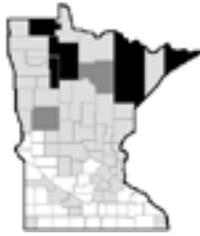
Golden-crowned Kinglet



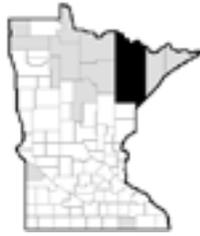
Ruby-crowned Kinglet



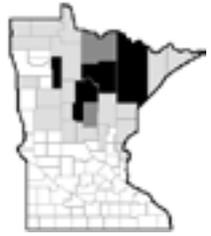
Eastern Bluebird



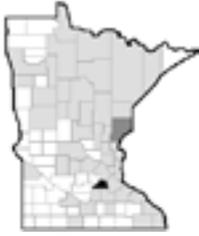
Veery



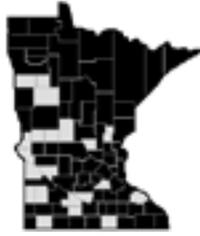
Swainson's Thrush



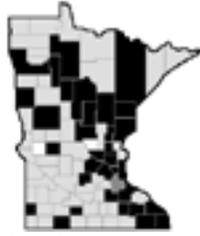
Hermit Thrush



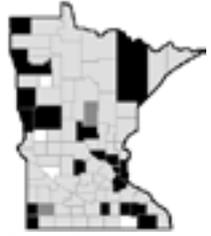
Wood Thrush



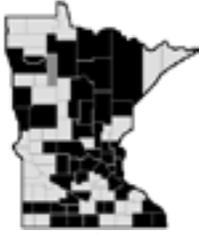
American Robin



Gray Catbird



Brown Thrasher



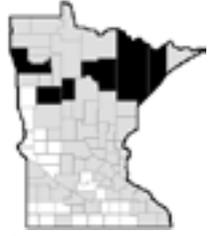
European Starling



Cedar Waxwing

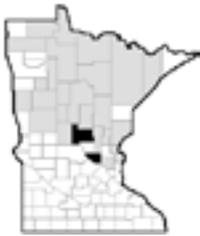


Chestnut-collared Longspur

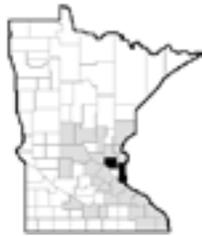


Ovenbird

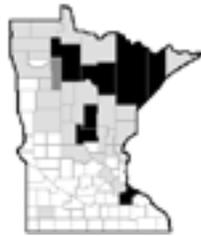
- North, 53 South] Seen in all counties in the state. First county breeding records for *Isanti* fide BBA, *Martin* JSc, *Renville* JoS, *Waseca* PCo.
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — No documented records.
- SPRAGUE'S PIPIT** (*Anthus spragueii*) — [1 North] Reported 6/8–29 Clay (Felton Prairie) BGi *et al.* (VENT); refound by m.ob., including †JoS, †PCC, ph. BU, †DAB (**The Loon** 85:43–44).
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [33 North, 51 South] Observed in every county except Big Stone, Stevens, Traverse. First county breeding records for *Dodge* fide BBA, *Douglas* fide BBA, *Jackson* JSc, *Renville* JoS, *Watonwan* DBM.
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] Reported 6/8–7/8 Clay (max. 5, Felton Prairie) m.ob.
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [30 North, 33 South] Found in all regions of state. High counts 6/7 Clearwater (30) DOv, 6/9 Aitkin (25, Hedbom Logging Trail Rd) RFi, JM. First county breeding record from *Polk* fide BBA.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [4 South] Observed in Chisago, Houston, Washington, Winona.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [15 North] Reported from all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine.
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [23 North, 3 South] Observed in all northern and central regions. High count 6/4 Aitkin (8, McGregor) DBr. First county breeding record from *Morrison* fide BBA.
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [4 North, 22 South] Found in Central, East-central, South-central, Southeast. High count 6/7 Houston (8, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) DSt.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [27 North, 8 South] Seen in all regions except South-central. High count 6/15 Lake of the Woods (10, C.R. 2) ErH, First county breeding records for *Beltrami* fide BBA, *Goodhue* (August record) fide BBA.
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [14 South] Reported from Central, East-central, South-central, Southeast. High count 6/16 Hennepin (4, Nine Mile Creek) DWK. First county breeding record from *Goodhue* GJM.
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [7 North, 4 South] Found within normal summer range in Beltrami, Cook, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis. Late spring migrants 6/2 Murray SC, 6/2, 6/4 Lyon (2) GWe. Early south fall migrant 7/24 Hennepin TAT. High count 6/9 St. Louis (4, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr.
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [23 North, 3 South] Observed in all northern and central regions. High count 7/8 St. Louis (27, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr. First county breeding record from *Morrison* MRN.
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [12 North] Reported from all northern regions. High counts 6/7, 6/10 St. Louis (5, Sax-Zim Bog) JM, RFi, EBr.
- Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [19 North, 7 South] Found in all regions except West-central, Southwest, Southeast. High count 6/7 Carlton (12, near Esko) JLK. First county breeding records for *Hubbard* MaH, *Itasca* SC.
- Kentucky Warbler** (*Geothlypis formosa*) — No reports.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High count 7/7 St. Louis (**108** - record high summer count, Sax-Zim Bog) PHS, MLH. First county breeding records for *Goodhue* fide BBA, *Isanti* DPG, *Waseca* PCo.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [1 North, 4 South] Reported from Dakota and Scott (six territories in Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve, less than in recent years) as well as 6/2 Washington (Afton S.P.) KDS, 6/14 **Hennepin** (Nine Mile Creek) BeH, 6/18 **Morrison** (BBA block T42R32a) MRN.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [33 North, 46 South] Seen throughout state. High counts 6/7, 6/23 Houston (30, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) DSt, 6/13 Goodhue (30, Prairie Island) GJM. First county breeding records for *Pope* fide BBA, *Renville* PRH, *Swift* (August record) JoS, *Wright* RLL.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [9 North] Found in Aitkin, Beltrami, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the



Golden-winged Warbler



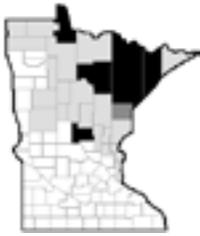
Blue-winged Warbler



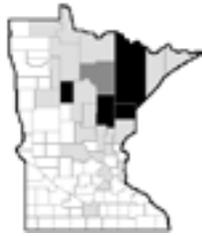
Black-and-white Warbler



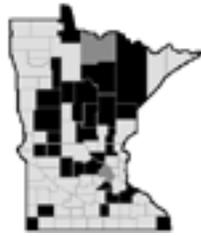
Prothonotary Warbler



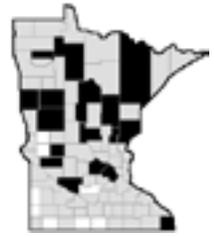
Nashville Warbler



Mourning Warbler



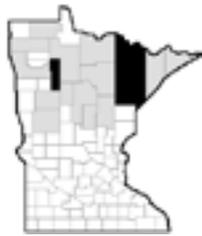
Common Yellowthroat



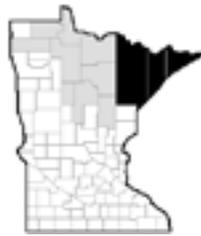
American Redstart



Cape May Warbler



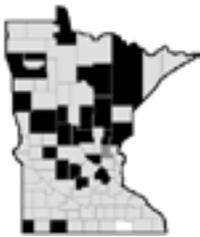
Northern Parula



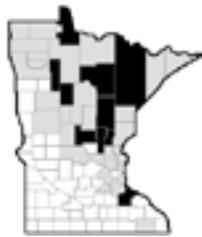
Magnolia Warbler



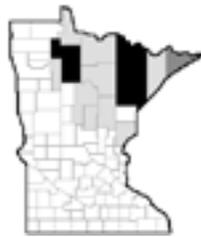
Blackburnian Warbler



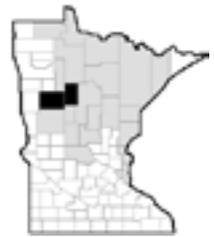
Yellow Warbler



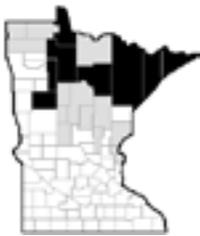
Chestnut-sided Warbler



Palm Warbler



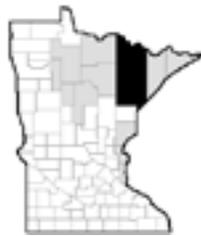
Pine Warbler



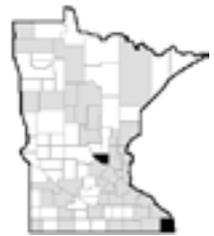
Yellow-rumped Warbler



Black-throated Green Warbler



Canada Warbler

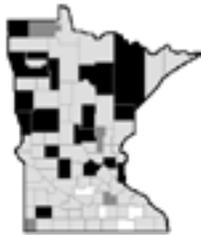


Eastern Towhee

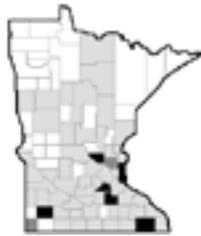
- Woods, Morrison, St. Louis. First county breeding record from *Cook* JEL.
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [2 North, 13 South] Observed in scattered locations in all central and southern regions. New county record 6/16 **Pine** (T40R20b) NRRI. Unusual location 6/15 Lyon (Garvin C.P., first found 5/17) RAE. High counts 6/23 Houston (5, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) DSt, 6/24 Scott (3, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [16 North] Reported from all northern regions plus Otter Tail. First county breeding record from *St. Louis* DMK.
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [12 North] Found in all northern regions. High counts 6/25 Lake (8, Ogishkemuncie Lake area) APa, 6/15 Cook (7, Lima Mtn. Rd.) HdG.
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [4 North] All reports: 6/3 Lake of the Woods MHK, 6/4, 7/13 Cook NRRI, JEL, 6/17, 6/29 St. Louis *fide* BBA, SGW, 7/15 Itasca PLe.
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [16 North] Observed in all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Pine.
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Mower. High count 7/10 Hennepin (25, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo. First county breeding records for *Jackson* KSm, *Wadena* LPf.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [27 North, 11 South] Found in all regions except Southwest, South-central. High count 6/4 Aitkin (13, near McGregor) DBr. First county breeding records for *Goodhue* *fide* BBA, *Kanabec* DPG.
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [1 North, 1 South] Late spring migrants 6/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, **6/10** St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) EBr.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [8 North] Reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis.
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [11 North] Seen in North-central and Northeast, plus Pine. High count 6/6 Beltrami (6, Big Bog S.N.A.) JDr. First county breeding record from *Beltrami* *fide* BBA.
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [19 North, 4 South] Found in all northern and central regions. High counts 6/7 Clearwater (6) DOv, Lake of the Woods (6, Norris Camp) JDr.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [20 North, 1 South] Observed in all northern regions plus Chisago, Mille Lacs, Pine, Todd. First county breeding record from *Becker* RPR.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [18 North] Reported from all northern regions plus Pine. High counts 6/13 Lake (**12**, Tettegouche S.P.) BoN, MaR.
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [10 North, 2 South] Found in North-central and Northeast plus Pine, and late migrants 6/1 Washington PNi, 6/4 Chisago RMA.
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [7 North, 1 South] Observed in Aitkin, Cass, Clearwater, Cook, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis, and late south migrant 6/12 Dakota JLO.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [1 North] Seen 6/24 Clay (Buffalo River S.P.) ph. BCS, MO.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [13 North, 29 South] Found in all regions except West-central. High counts 6/5 Winona (10, Great River Bluffs S.P.) DSt, 6/9 Anoka (10, Cedar Creek Natural History Area) MDu.
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in every county in state. High count 6/17 Washington (20, St. Croix Trail) JoD. First county breeding records for *Jackson* JSc, *Sibley* SBM, *Waseca* PCo.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [34 North, 49 South] Reported from all counties except Mower, Olmsted, Sibley, Waseca. High counts 6/11, 6/17 Polk (**20**, Tympanuchus W.M.A.) ErH. First county breeding records for *Clearwater* MaH, *Crow Wing* *fide* BBA, *Itasca* *fide* BBA, *Wright* PRH.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [12 North, 45 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. High count 6/30 Washington (**25**, William O'Brien S.P.) PNi.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [29 North, 50 South] Observed throughout state. High count 7/21 Otter Tail (10, Otter-tail Prairie S.N.A.) SBM. First county breed-



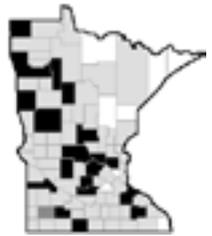
Chipping Sparrow



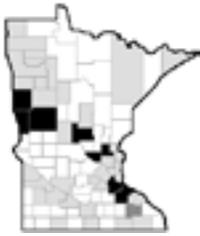
Clay-colored Sparrow



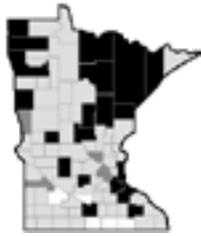
Field Sparrow



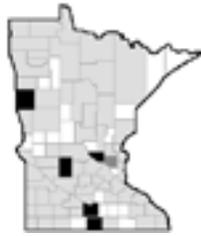
Vesper Sparrow



Lark Sparrow



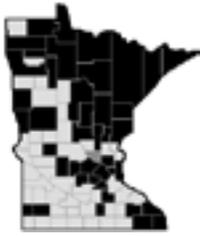
Savannah Sparrow



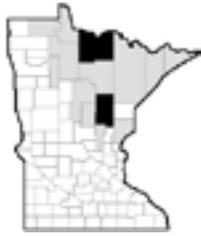
Grasshopper Sparrow



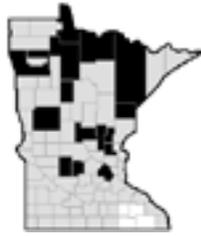
Henslow's Sparrow



Song Sparrow



Lincoln's Sparrow



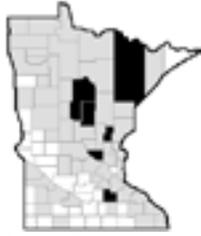
Swamp Sparrow



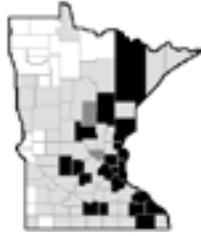
White-throated Sparrow



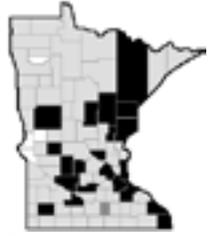
Dark-eyed Junco



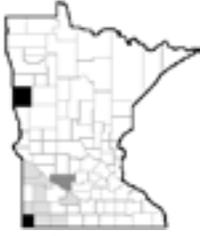
Scarlet Tanager



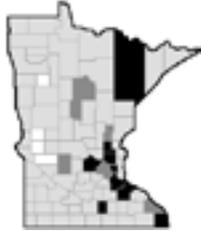
Northern Cardinal



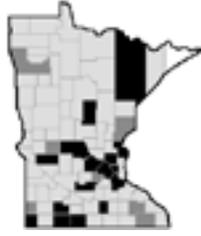
Rose-breasted Grosbeak



Blue Grosbeak



Indigo Bunting

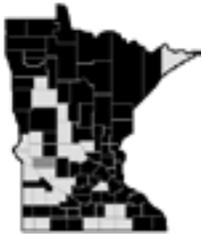


Dickcissel

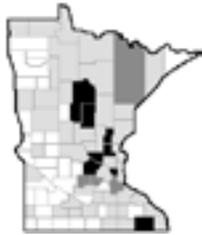


Bobolink

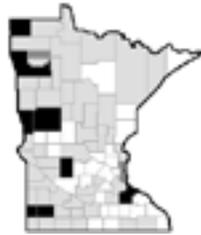
- ing records for *Kandiyohi* JoS, *Martin* JSc, *McLeod* PRH, *Sibley* SBM.
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [18 North, 24 South] Reported from all regions of state. New county record 6/16 **Todd** (C.R. 6 just W of Hwy 71) †DAB, *JWH*. High count 7/20 *Isanti* (9, *Spencer Brook W.M.A.*) DPG. First summer record 7/21 **St. Louis** (*Waseca Industrial Road*) PHS. First county breeding record from *Wilkin* CCa.
- LARK BUNTING** (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) — [1 South] Seen 6/14 *Jackson* (Round Lake Twp.) ph. †JSc.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [34 North, 48 South] Seen throughout state. High counts 6/3 *Red Lake* (53, CRP fields north of C.R. 49, east of MN 32) RMD, 6/17 *Polk* (30, *Tympanuchus W.M.A.*) ErH. First county breeding records for *Blue Earth* ChH, *Carlton* fide BBA, *Crow Wing* fide BBA, *Goodhue* JFR, *Kittson* fide BBA, *Koochiching* fide BBA, *Morrison* PSP.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [23 North, 44 South] Found in all regions of state. High counts 7/11 *Blue Earth* (16, *Lincoln W.P.A.*) ChH, 6/6 *Pipestone* (15, *Prairie Coteau S.N.A.*) ErH. First county breeding record from *Faribault* DAB.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [5 North, 32 South] Observed in all regions except North-central. Record high count 6/2 *Scott* (27, *Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park*, south trails) BAF; 32 territories were eventually plotted and all were clustered in restored prairie. New county record 7/15 **Lake** (*Stanley Rd.* west of *Two Harbors*) †JWH. First county breeding record from *Murray* (August record) RMD.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [25 North, 4 South] Found in all regions except southern regions and East-central. High count 6/3 *Red Lake* (18, CRP fields north of C.R. 49 and east of Hwy 32) RMD.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [8 North, 1 South] Observed in *Aitkin*, *Cass*, *Clay*, *Kittson*, *Lac qui Parle*, *Marshall*, *Pennington*, *Polk*, and new county record 6/6 **Crow Wing** (*Dean Lake Twp.*) fide BBA. High count 6/2 *Cass* (3 at *Swamp Lake* & 4 at *CR 8 bridge over Boy River*) DWK.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High counts 7/11 *Hennepin* (50, *Elm Creek P.R.*) TLo. First county breeding records for *Pennington* fide BBA, *Pipestone* Swe, *Waseca* PAL.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [14 North] Seen in all northern regions plus *Mille Lacs*, *Pine*. High count 7/13 *Lake* (7, *Split Rock Lighthouse S.P.*) RSa, 6/18 *St. Louis* (6, *Sax-Zim Bog*) EBr. First county breeding record from *Koochiching* fide BBA.
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [34 North, 49 South] Found in all counties except *Dodge*, *Fillmore*, *Mower*, *Olmsted*. High count 7/14 *Hennepin* (20, *Old Cedar Avenue Bridge*) PNi. First county breeding records for *Hennepin* fide BBA, *Hubbard* MaH, *Isanti* (August record) DPG, *Kanabec* DPG, *Kandiyohi* fide BBA, *Koochiching* fide BBA, *Meeker* fide BBA, *Pennington* fide BBA.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [21 North, 4 South] Reported from all northern and central regions plus *Fillmore*. High count 6/15 *St. Louis* (21, T50R19a) JLK. First county breeding record from *Itasca* fide BBA.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [1 North, 1 South] Late spring migrants 6/1 *Lac qui Parle* (*Walter W.M.A.*) ph. BJU, 6/12 **Becker** (*Tamarac N.W.R.* visitor center) ph. MFS.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [10 North, 1 South] Found in North-central, Northeast, East-central, plus 7/20 *Watsonwan* fide BBA.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [29 North, 29 South] Reported throughout the state. High count 6/24 *Dakota* (8, *Lebanon Hills R.P.*) TAT. First county breeding record from *Rice* KSm.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [22 North, 48 South] Observed in all regions of state. First county breeding records for *Aitkin* WEN, *Waseca* PCo.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [31 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except *Big Stone*, *Grant*, *Red Lake*, *Traverse*. High counts



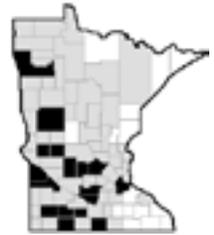
Red-winged Blackbird



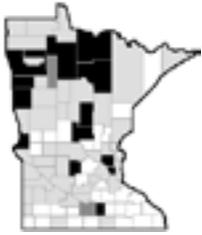
Eastern Meadowlark



Western Meadowlark



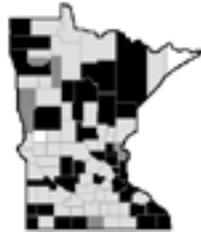
Yellow-headed Blackbird



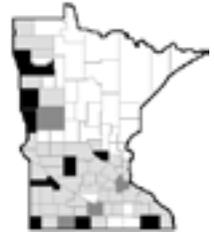
Brewer's Blackbird



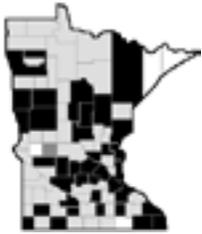
Common Grackle



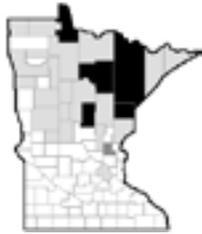
Brown-headed Cowbird



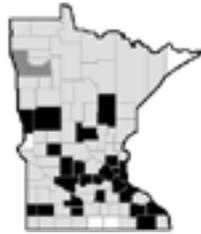
Orchard Oriole



Baltimore Oriole



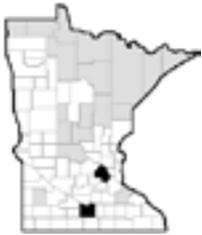
Purple Finch



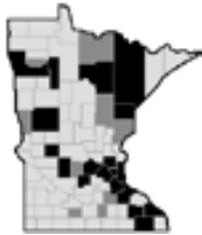
House Finch



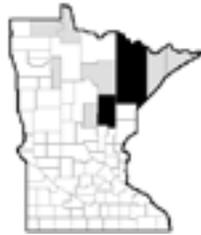
White-winged Crossbill



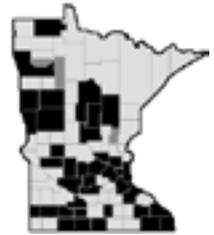
Pine Siskin



American Goldfinch



Evening Grosbeak



House Sparrow

6/22 Carver (16, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake Unit) KKa, 6/7 Carlton (11, near Esko) JLK. First county breeding records for *Kanabec* DPG, *Renville* PRH, *Sibley* SBM, *Waseca* PCo.

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) — [1 North, 10 South] Seen in Southwest plus Brown, 7/1–22 **Clay** (NE of Glyndon) DPW, Lac qui Parle, Renville. First county breeding records for *Clay* MM, *Renville* JoS.

LAZULI BUNTING (*Passerina amoena*) — [1 South] Adult male 7/14 Ramsey (Shoreview) ph. †BaH.

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported from all counties except Grant, Mahnomens, Stevens, Swift. High count 6/17 Fillmore (Jungle Rd area) APa. First county breeding records for *Goodhue fide* BBA, *Houston* CWG, *Waseca* PAL, *Wright* DPG.

- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [33 North, 53 South] Observed in every county except Cook. New county record 6/22 **Koochiching** RBJ. High counts 6/23 Carver (62, in nine locations) JCy, 6/12 Rock (41, Blue Mounds S.P.) KDS. First county breeding records *Anoka* AXH, *Chisago* SuL, *Cottonwood* JSc, *Crow Wing* PSP, *Fillmore* DOK, *Hennepin fide* BBA, *Ramsey* AXH, *Sibley* PRH, *St. Louis* SGW, *Waseca* PAL, *Wright* RLL.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [33 North, 51 South] Seen in every county except Grant, Wabasha, Waseca. High counts 6/29 Rice (est. 60, Nerstrand Big Woods S.P.) GHo, 6/17 Polk (30, Tympanuchus W.M.A.) ErH. First county breeding records for *Blue Earth* PCo, *Chisago* KSc, *Clearwater fide* BBA, *Houston* APa, *Itasca* AXH, *Jackson* JSc, *Martin* JSc, *Morrison* PSP, *Otter Tail* CCa, *Polk fide* BBA, *Pope fide* BBA, *Rice fide* BBA, *Watonwan* AnK, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High counts 7/31 Sibley (300, along 200th Street) JCy, 7/16 Roseau (200, Roseau River W.M.A.) TBr. First county breeding records for *Pipestone* SWe, *Sibley* PRH, *Waseca* PAL, *Watonwan* AnK.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [22 North, 32 South] Reported from all regions of state. Unusual locations 6/10 **Kittson** (T163R47c, heard) *fide* BBA, 6/10, 6/14 Clay (Felton Prairie) FGo, ANy, MJB, 6/22 **Pipestone** JSP, 7/16 Roseau (2, Roseau River W.M.A.) TBr. High count 6/28 Washington (8, Afton S.P.) PAL. First county breeding records for *Cass* MRN, *Crow Wing* PSP, *Isanti fide* BBA.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [27 North, 32 South] Found in all regions. High count 7/17 Kittson (22, C.R. 55) TrB. First county breeding records for *Goodhue* JFR, *Kittson fide* BBA, *Washington* PAL.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [27 North, 45 South] Seen in all regions of state. High counts 6/19 Polk (30, East Grand Forks) SAu, 6/29 Kandiyohi (30, Wubben's Slough) SSy. First county breeding records for *Polk fide* BBA, *Watonwan* DBM.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [27 North, 30 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records for *Meeker fide* BBA, *Norman* NRRI, *Pennington* JMJ, *Traverse* RPR, *Waseca* PCo.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High counts 7/21 Carver (200) JCy, Redwood (200, Benedict's Slough) PVo. First county breeding records for *Isanti fide* BBA, *Koochiching fide* BBA, *Red Lake fide* BBA, *Wilkin* CCa.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [2 South] Seen 6/1, 7/25 Jackson (3 females, 2 males at traditional location near MN 86 / C.R. 4) SC, ANy, JWH, 7/7, 7/8, 7/24, 7/26 Lyon female at Cottonwood W.T.P. and nearby Sham Lake) ph. GWE, †DWK, †HCT.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [32 North, 53 South] Observed in every county except Cook, Grant. High counts 7/17 Hennepin (35, Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo, 6/10 Clay (30, Bluestem Prairie) RHO. First county breeding records for *Carlton fide* BBA, *Martin* JSc, *Meeker* JoS, *Renville* PRH. Parasitizing species include Eastern Phoebe, Wood Thrush, Common Yellowthroat, Chipping Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Dickcissel, Common Grackle, Orchard Oriole, and House Sparrow.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [10 North, 47 South] Found in all regions except North-central, Northeast. High count 7/23 McLeod (9, Schaefer Prairie) DAs. First county breeding records for *Jackson* KSm, *Martin* JSc, *Otter Tail* CCa, *Yellow Medicine* PME.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported from every county except Cook, Lake, Mower, Stevens. High counts 6/12 Rock (13, Blue Mounds S.P.) KDS, 6/7 Houston 10, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) DSt. First county breeding records for *Dodge* CHa, *Rock* AXH, *Swift* RPR, *Waseca* PAL, *Wilkin* CCa.
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [25 North, 2 South] Observed in all northern and central regions. High count 7/28 Itasca (15, Dunning Lake) EEO.
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) —

[32 North, 51 South] Found in all counties except Cook, Faribault, Freeborn, Traverse. High count 7/17 Hennepin (**60**, Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo. First county breeding records for *Meeker fide* BBA, *Morrison* LaM, *Pope fide* BBA, *Renville* JoS, *Watonwan fide* BBA, *Wilkin* CCA.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [6 North, 1 South] Seen in Beltrami, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis, and 7/20 **Dakota** (4, Spring Lake P.R., Schaar's Bluff) DAT. High count 7/17 St. Louis (8, Duluth) *fide* JWL.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [8 North] Reported from Beltrami, Carlson, Cook, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis. High count 6/25 Lake (5, Ogishkemuncie Lake area) APa. First county breeding record from *Roseau* BCS.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [15 North, 4

South] Observed in all regions except West-central.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county. High count 7/17 Hennepin (50, Coon Rapids Dam R.P., same number estimated at Elm Creek P.R. 7/10–11) TLo. First county breeding record from *Carlton* (August record) *fide* BBA.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [9 North] Seen in Aitkin, Clearwater, Cook, Crow Wing, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 7/31 Lyon (**200**, backyard feeder in Cottonwood) GWe. First county breeding records for *Aitkin* WEN, 6/2 *Cottonwood* JSc, *Martin* JSc, *Renville* JoS, *Sibley* PRH, *Waseca* PCo, *Watonwan* JSc.

Contributors

ABi	Andrew Birch	BGi	Brian Gibbons	DBM	Dennis & Barbara Martin
ABL	Andrew B. Longtin	BJL	Bruce Lees	DBr	Danner Bradshaw
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AdJ	Adam Johnson	BKa	Bill Kass	DEn	Deanne Endrizzi
ADS	Andrew D. Smith	BLe	Bruce Lenning	DFN	David F. Neitzel
AEB	Al E. Batt	BNW	Ben Wilson	DJa	Dan Jackson
AEK	Ann E. Kessen	BoN	Bonnie Nelson	DLP	Douglas L Pierzina
AGu	Arjun Guneratne	BrD	Bridget Doyle	DLW	Debbie Waters
AHa	Adam Ham	BRL	Bill R. Litkey	DMB	David M. Bris lance
ALE	Audrey L. Evers	BSi	Beth Siverhus	DMK	Dee Kuder
ALo	Allen Loken	BTS	Brian T. Smith	DML	Dodie M. Logue
ALw	Alex Lewanski	BWa	Beth Walters	DNO	Don N. Orke
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AMe	Allan Meadows	CBu	Cheryl Burgmeier	DOV	Doug Overacker
AnK	Andrew Krenz	CCa	Carol Carter	DPG	Dan & Pam Guynn
ANy	Andrew Nyhus	CCh	Clay Christensen	DPi	Darcy Pinotti
APa	Andy Paulios	CCo	Carey Cooper	DPJ	Douglas P. Johnson
ARu	Ann Russ	CDo	Chris Douglas	DPW	Dennis P. Wiesenborn
ARW	Alex Watson	CHa	Clifford Hansen	DST	Dan & Sandy Thimgan
ASc	Al Schirmacher	ChH	Chad Heins	DSt	Doug Stratton
ASi	Abrahm Simons	ChJ	Christopher Jensen	DTM	Shawne Mc Kenna
AXH	Anthony X. Hertzfel	CLa	Carly Lapin	DVe	Dan Versaw
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BAF	Bruce A. Fall	CMB	Conny M. Brunell	DWK	Douglas W. Kieser
BaH	Barbara Houston	CoN	Collin Nienhaus	DwS	Dwight Smith
BaS	Barbara Jacobs-Smith	CRM	Craig R. Mandel	DYo	David Yount
BAS	Bonnie A. Sample	CTr	Cathy Troendle	EBa	Ericka Bailie
BBB	Bruce B. Baer	CWG	Carl W. Greiner	EBr	Erik Bruhnke
BBu	Brett Budach	DAB	David A. Bartkey	ECo	Elizabeth Copper
BBy	Brian Byrne	DAC	David A. Cahlander	EdM	Eddie Mueller
BCS	Ben Stubbs	DAS	David Astin	EEO	Earl E. Orf
BDA	Brad Dawson	DAT	Dan A. Tallman	ELC	Erik Collins
BeH	Ben Harste	DAY	Dale A. Yerger	EMH	Beth Hamel
BET	Bill E. Tefft	DBF	Deborah Buria-Falkowski	EMo	Elton Morel

ErH	Eric Harrold	KCr	Karen Cramer	NBO	Nancy B. Overcott
ErR	Erika Rowe	KCR	Kim & Cindy Risen	NCR	Nathan Cross
FAE	Fred A. Eckhardt	KDS	Kevin Smith	NFT	Nels F. Thompson
FGo	Frank Gosiak	KKa	Kenn Kaufman	NLM	Norma L. Malinowski
FKB	Frank Berdan	KKu	Kathy Kuyper	NMU	Nathan Mueller
GaB	Gale Brown	KMo	Kirk Mona	NRRI	Natural Resources Research Institute
GCr	Gaea Crozier	KRE	Kim R. Eckert	NSg	Neil Skoog
GDJ	Glenn DesJardin	KRo	Karl Roe	OWB	Bill Bruins
GHo	Gerald Hoekstra	KRW	Kevin Woizeschke	PAI	Pam Albin
GJa	Gregory Jahner III	KSc	Karen Schik	PaT	Paul Thut
GJM	Gabriel Miller	KSi	Kathy Sidles	PCC	Philip C. Chu
GLa	George Lahr	KSo	Karen Sowizral	PCCo	Pam Coy
GLH	Gary L. Huschle	KSt	Karen Stubenvoll	PDK	Penelope Hillemann & David Keyes
GMM	Gretchen M. Mehmel	KuS	Kurt Schulzetenberg	PEB	Paul E. Budde
GWe	Garrett Wee	KVH	Katie V. Haws	PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher
HCT	Howard Towle	LaM	Laura May	PHS	Peder H. Svingen
HdG	Hans de Grys	LAV	Lance A. Vrieze	PJB	Paul J. Binek
HHH	Herb H. Dingmann	LBF	Linda B. Felker	PJM	Peter Makousky
HHu	Heidi Hughes	LEC	Laura E. Coble	PLe	Peter Leschak
HSt	Harald Steensland	LeG	Lee Giesbrecht	PLJ	Paul L. Johnson
IHu	Ian Hunter	LFr	Linda Fritschel	PME	Paul M. Egeland
JaA	Jacob Anderson	LMe	Lisa Mettel	PMJ	Paul M. Johnson
JaJ	Jane Johnson	LMS	Larry Sirvio	PNI	Peter Nichols
JaL	Jana Lind	LoM	Lorrene Maroney	PRH	Pete Hoeger
JaM	Jason Multerer	LPf	Lee Pfannmuller	PrT	Priscilla Thut
JAN	Josh Anderson	LS	Linda Sparling	PSe	Peter Sebastian
JaR	James Rauch	LW	Larry Wilebski	Psm	Paul Smithson
JBB	Jason Bolish	LWa	Linda Wadsworth	PSP	Pamela S. Perry
JBo	Josie Boyle	MaH	Marshall Howe	PSu	Paul Suchanek
JCC	Joel C. Claus	MaR	Marcus Roening	PVo	Payton Vold
JCG	Janet C. Green	MaS	Matthew Schaut	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding
JCy	John Cyrus	MAW	Marlene A. Weber	RaM	Randall Mateo
JDB	Judd Brink	MBS	Matthew Bribitzer-Stull	RBa	Rob Baden
JDr	John Drummond	MCBS	Minnesota County Biological Survey	RBJ	Robert B. Janssen
JEB	Jerry E. Bonkoski	MDe	Mark Demos	RBW	Robert B. Williams
JEI	Jesse Ellis	MDu	Matt Dufort	RBBy	Bob Bystrom
JeM	Jerome McKenna	MFS	Mark & Farrish Sharon	RCa	Rob Cahalan
JFR	James F. Ryan	MGo	Malcolm Gold	RCB	Bob Butson
JHg	Jay Heggerness	MHK	Martin H. Kehoe	RDa	Rob Daves
JHI	John Holden	MHm	Mark Hoffmeyer	RDE	Roger D. Everhart
JJD	Jon J Duerr	miG	Mike Goodman	REH	Robert E. Holtz
JJo	Jonathon Jongsma	MiO	Michael Oetken	RFI	Robbie Fischer
JLk	Larry & Jan Kraemer	MJB	Milton J. Blomberg	RHe	Robert Heise
JLO	James L. Otto	MJM	Michael J. Majeski	RHO	Robert H. O'Connor
JM	Joseph Morlan	MKu	Margaret Kuchenreuther	RJW	Robert Watson
JMJ	Jeanie M. Jopru	MLH	Michael L. Hendrickson	RLL	Robin LaFortune
JnS	Jon Schubbe	MLi	Madeleine Linck	RLR	Ronald L. Refsnider
JoD	Josh Davis	MM	Matt Mecklenburg	RMa	Robin Maercklein
JoS	Joel Schmidt	MO	Mark Otnes	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap
JPE	John P. Ellis	MoM	Molly Jo Miller	RPR	Robert P. Russell
JSa	Joe Sausen	MRN	Mike North	RSa	Robert Sams
JSB	Jo & Steve Blanich	MRo	Mark Roberts	RSt	Ruth Stearns
JSc	John Schladweiler	MSc	Mike Schrage	RTe	Raymond Tervo
JSP	Jen Sobiech-Pariseau	MSM	Mark S. Martell	RTP	Ray Potthoff
JSS	Jack Sprenger	MSS	Mark Sparky Stensaas	RWa	Robert Watson
JTe	J. Teigland	MSw	Mike Sweet	RZI	Roy Zimmerman
JV	Jennifer Vieth	MtB	Matt Baer	SaH	Sauli Hirsimaki
JWH	John W. Hockema	MTh	Molly Thompson		
JWL	James W. Lind				

SaK	Sam Krerowicz	SSw	Scott Swanson	VDo	Vicky Douglas
SAu	Sandy Aubol	SSy	Sara Sytsma	WCM	William Marengo
SBM	Scott B. Meyer	STW	Sylvia T. Winkelman	WEN	Warren E. Nelson
SC	Shawn Conrad	SuL	Susan Leaf	WLe	Will Lewis
SES	Steven E. Schon	SuW	Suzanne Weber	WPe	Wendy Pepin
SGW	Steve G. Wilson	SVa	Sara Vacek		
SHF	Susan H. Fall	SVo	Skyler Vold		
ShK	Sharon Kaufman	SWe	Steve Weston		
SHo	Steven Houdek	SWs	Stephen Wasson		
SHu	Stan Hunter	TAb	Taylor Abbott		
SKS	Sharon Koval Stiteler	TAT	Tom A. Tustison		
SLF	Steve L. Falkowski	TEB	Tom & Elizabeth Bell		
SLi	Susan Lippolt	TFB	Tom F. Boevers		
SLo	Scott Loss	THI	Tammy Holmer		
SLP	Susan Plankis	ThM	Thomas Malone		
SMa	Suzanne Maki	TLo	Tom Lochner		
SMC	Scott M. Clark	TLy	Toni Lyrenmann		
SMe	Steve Mortensen	TMa	T.P. Mahan		
SOa	Steve Oakley	TPB	Terry P. Brashear		
SRO	Stephen Rossiter	TrB	Tracy Brewer		

Abbreviations

C.P.	County Park
C.R.	County Road
N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
P.R.	Park Reserve
R.P.	Regional Park
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.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

The 2012 Dickcissel Irruption in Minnesota

Peder H. Svingen and Anthony X. Hertzell

Summer 2012 was the quintessential “Dickcissel Year” in Minnesota with a total of about 1,650 reports from 86 of the state’s 87 counties; Cook County has very little suitable habitat for this grassland species and was the only county where they could not be found. Nesting was documented for the first time in several counties, including Crow Wing and at several locations in St. Louis. This article summarizes the 2012 irruption in Minnesota and provides information on migration, high counts, breeding phenology, and historical irruptions. Though beyond the scope of this article, it should be noted that the 2012 irruption was widespread across the Upper Midwest from North Dakota through the Western Great Lakes region and into eastern Ohio and Pennsylvania, with additional records in southern Manitoba, Ontar-

io, and western New York (eBird 2012). Dickcissels were found in all 72 Wisconsin counties in 2012, with “staggeringly high numbers” in northwest Wisconsin (Prestby and Anich 2012). In Michigan, the irruption began in the Lower Peninsula in May and by mid-June, Dickcissels could be found in suitable habitat throughout the Upper Peninsula (Louis Dombroski *in litt.*).

This species’ breeding range extends as far north as eastern North Dakota, western and southern Minnesota, central Wisconsin, and the Lower Peninsula of Michigan with localized breeding in the western Upper Peninsula (AOU 1998, Temple 2002). About 70% of the population breeds within the prairie grassland region of southeastern South Dakota, eastern Nebraska, southern Iowa, central and eastern Kansas, northern and western

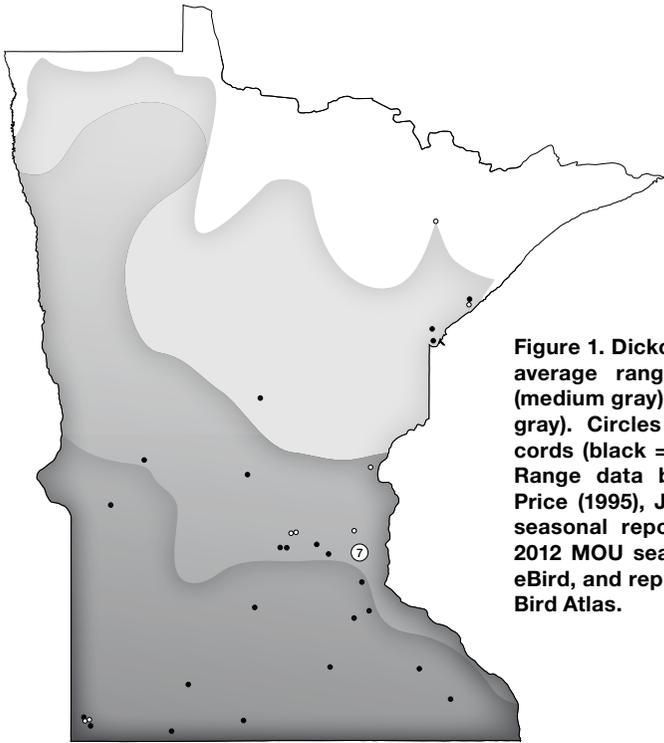


Figure 1. Dickcissel normal range (dark gray), average range during previous irruptions (medium gray), and 2012 irruption range (light gray). Circles represent 2012 breeding records (black = confirmed, white = probable). Range data based on Price, Droege, and Price (1995), Janssen (1987, 1988), and MOU seasonal reports. Breeding data based on 2012 MOU seasonal reports, submissions to eBird, and reports to the Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas.

Missouri, west-central Illinois, central Oklahoma, northeast Texas, east-central Arkansas, and southern Texas (Price *et al.* 1995, Temple 2002). Most of the Dickcissel's breeding range experienced moderate to extreme drought during summer 2012. Drought within the core breeding range is thought to be the driving force behind expansion into its peripheral breeding range (Emlen and Wiens 1965, Sealy 1976, Igl 1991). Weekly maps showing the extent of drought in the United States during June and July 2012 can be retrieved from the archives of the U.S. Drought Monitor <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Dickcissel Migration

Spring migration of this species into Minnesota is typically late and somewhat erratic, and early May arrivals do not necessarily signal the start of an irruption. There were only three reports from northern counties (Aitkin, Crow Wing, Otter Tail) by the end of May 2012. Dickcissels were not found in most northern counties until the second or

third week of June. In the Northeast region, the first reports came from Hans de Grys, a Seattle birder visiting the Sax-Zim Bog area in central St. Louis County on 16 June. Observers subsequently found Dickcissels in six northern Carlton County locations and more than a dozen additional southern St. Louis County sites through the end of June, suggesting a continuing influx of birds from drought-stricken areas in the heart of this species' normal breeding range.

Late-summer pre-migratory flocks begin forming soon after completion of nesting (Gross 1968, Zimmerman 1993). Huber (1967) suggested that the presence of fall migrant flocks in Minnesota might correlate with irruption years; he and others found a flock of 50–60 Dickcissels just south of Hendricks, Lincoln County, 10 September 1966. There were no reports of migrant flocks in Minnesota following the 2012 irruption; however, Karl Bardon (*in litt.*) recorded a total of 12



Figure 2. Typical Dickcissel nest hidden in the grass. 22 June 2012, Rock County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

Dickcissels during the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in Duluth, including 4 birds on 16 September. Most of these were seen in flight and were identified by call note; this species had never before been recorded at either census location (but note there are a very few records from the nearby Lakewood pumping station). Though Dickcissels have lingered as late as 10, 23, and 24 October in the northern half of the state, the 23-year median north departure date of 20 August is nearly identical to the median south departure date of 21 August (Budde 2010), and the vast majority of Dickcissels have exited the state by early September.

Dickcissel Nesting

Dickcissel nests are usually placed close to the ground in dense grasses and forbs with overhead vegetation, but may be located up to 3–4 m above ground in saplings (Gross 1968, Harmeson 1974, Patterson and Best 1996). Males establish territories and some males are polygynous, but nest-building

is done solely by the female according to Zimmerman (1966, 1971). Egg laying begins shortly after nest completion with an average clutch of four (range three to six eggs, Gross 1968). Seven-egg clutches are rare and may represent conspecific brood parasitism (Peer 2010). Incubation averages 12 to 13 days and nestlings fledge 8 to 10 days after hatching (Gross 1921, Temple 2002). Fledglings are fed for up to 14 days (Zimmerman 1993).

According to Temple (2002), only the female incubates and broods, and only the female brings food to the nestlings; the male “does not participate in any aspects of parental care, but continues to defend his territory while females tend to parental activities.” Maddox and Bollinger (2000) refuted Temple’s assertion that only the female feeds nestlings by observing eight males feeding nestlings in eastern Illinois; they speculated that this might have occurred to offset limited food resources, since feeding by males was not observed in their study area the following year. Igl and Best (2001) studied 150 male



Figure 3. Dickcissel nest, 15 July 2012, St. Louis County. Photo by Steven G. Wilson.

Dickcissels in alfalfa fields in Adair County, Iowa, in 1988 and 1989. They observed only one male feeding young and that was a parasitized nest containing two Brown-headed Cowbird nestlings. Igl and Best (2001) reviewed nine reports of male Dickcissels provisioning food to young and suggested that this may be more likely to occur later in the breeding season, when males are unlikely to attract another female, and/or may be more likely in the periphery or outside of its usual breeding range where females are outnumbered by unmated males.

Observations in Anoka (AXH), Ramsey (AXH), Rock (AXH), and St. Louis (Jan Green, Mike Hendrickson, and PHS) counties showed that males do occasionally participate in parental care by bringing food to nestlings and feeding fledglings. On 4 July in Duluth Township, St. Louis County, Green observed both parents carrying food, with the male constantly calling at the site along Homestead Road where a nest was found on the 8th.

On 7 July in Rock County, Hertzell observed both adults carrying food to the same location in the grass. On 8 July in Ramsey County, Hertzell observed both adults carrying food to four nestlings estimated to be six days old. On 10 July in St. Louis County, Hendrickson and Svingen observed a male carrying food to the nest along Homestead Road. Svingen subsequently observed the male carrying away a fecal sac from the Homestead Road nest site. And on 1 August in Olmsted County, Susan Wasson observed both parents carrying food to a concealed location

In 2012, breeding evidence was submitted for 19 Minnesota counties (Anoka, Chisago, Cottonwood, Crow Wing, Dakota, Fillmore, Hennepin, Jackson, Martin, Olmsted, Pope, Ramsey, Rock, Sibley, St. Louis, Stearns, Swift, Waseca, and Wright) between 11 June and 11 August (Figure 1, black circles). Of 49 confirmed breeding reports, 5 were of adults nest-building, 1 was an incubating adult, 9 involved a nest with eggs, 3 were of chicks



Figure 4. Dickcissel hatchlings, 21 July 2012, Ramsey County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

in the nest, 7 were of adults carrying food, 1 was of an adult carrying a fecal sac, and 23 involved adults feeding fledged young. Probable breeding (Figure 1, white circles) was reported in another eight counties (Aitkin, Carlton, Carver, Murray, Nicollet, Pine, Pipestone, and Polk plus three duplicates — Anoka, Hennepin, and St. Louis). The probable breeding records were of agitated adults, singing males, or courtship. Nesting was confirmed for the first time in St. Louis, Anoka, Chisago, and Ramsey counties, and for just the second time in Wright.

Territories in 2012 were usually described by observers in general terms, such as grassy meadows, ditches and weedy areas adjacent to alfalfa fields, or overgrown brush. Tom Klein from the Minnesota D.N.R. found Dickcissels in an open area near downtown St. Paul that was dominated by invasive grasses and forbs, including white and yellow sweet-clover, sowthistle, hairy vetch, and bird's-foot trefoil with some black-eyed susan, hoary

vervain, and Canada wildrye. Beau Shroyer found a territorial male in a newly created industrial park in Detroit Lakes, Becker County, dominated by alfalfa and clover with some reed canarygrass.

Most of the Minnesota nests were found low to the ground in dense vegetation. Two were placed in young saplings at 1 m and 1.5 m off the ground, and one was built high in a tree. Twelve of the 13 observed nests were typical for the species, being bowls spun of coarse grass and weed stems then lined with finer grasses (Figure 2). One unusual nest in Ramsey County was made entirely of stiff plant stems and weed stalks with no grassy interior lining. An unfortunate result of this latter design was the death of one of the four nestlings.

First County Breeding Records

St. Louis County: On 7 July, Steve Wilson found a woven Dickcissel nest within the city limits of Hoyt Lakes, ~7.25 km southeast of

Embarrass in central St. Louis County (Figure 3). The nest, which held three eggs, was about 10 cm above the ground in dense herbaceous vegetation at an old taconite tailings basin; the open landscape in this otherwise forested area was a result of previous iron ore mining operations. Also on 7 July, Mike Hendrickson and Svingen found a partially completed nest along Watsula Road, between St. Louis County Roads 201 and 29 in the Sax-Zim Bog area. On 8 July, Hendrickson and Svingen found an active nest on the west side of St. Louis County Road 43 (Homestead Road), ~4.83 km north of Old North Shore Road. The cup of woven grasses was approximately 15 cm above the ground and was attached to the surrounding vegetation. The nest was located on the west side of the road in a ditch near the fence line, and contained five nestlings with open eyes that were estimated to be five days old. The hayfield on the west side of the fence line was eventually mowed, but the Dickcissels persisted into late July. At several other locations in Carlton and St. Louis Counties, singing males in alfalfa fields, ditches, and hayfields disappeared soon after mowing.

Anoka County: On 18 July, Hertzelt discovered a Dickcissel pair in an open, rather barren, dirt field with sparsely scattered grasses and stunted weeds. A few immature oaks were scattered about, but there was none of the usual dense, scrubby vegetation where a Dickcissel would be expected to hide a nest. Investigating the trees revealed a Dickcissel nest about 1.5 m off the ground in a small fork. It was made of grasses and plant stems, and held three eggs.

Chisago County: On 11 June, Susan Leaf and Joe Sausen discovered three Dickcissel young in a nest while conducting Breeding Bird Atlas surveys in Rushsheba Township, northeast of Rush City. The nest was about 76 cm off the ground in a small sapling, approximately 1.5 m from a gravel road with an adjacent ditch. The nest was effectively concealed by grasses growing up around the base of the tree.

Ramsey County: The MOU files contain an old reference to a St. Paul, Ramsey County nest dated 16 August 1941. The documentation is limited to the single statement “two left the nest, 3 ft up on dead sweet clover.”

This record is difficult to evaluate and would represent a record-late fledging date in the state.

Between 13 June and 14 July 2012, Hertzelt located numerous territories and seven Dickcissel nests in an overgrown, abandoned industrial park. The first was a very unusual nest which had been built more than 5 m up in a deciduous tree with both adults present — the female on the nest and the male singing on a nearby branch. This nest was unsuccessful, being washed-out by heavy rains shortly after completion. On 4 July, a fledgling Dickcissel was discovered perched on the rim of an otherwise empty nest built low to the ground in a thick, woody weed. It was being attended to by an adult female. On the same day, a nest with two eggs was found with both adults close by. A brief search four days later produced a nest with three Brown-headed Cowbird chicks and another with four Dickcissel chicks. Both adults were observed feeding the Dickcissel young, which appeared to be about six days old. A female was found incubating in a nest with three eggs on 10 July and the following morning the nest contained four eggs. This clutch was observed throughout the incubation period. All four eggs hatched on the afternoon of 21 July (Figure 4) for an incubation period of about 11.5 days. This is at the minimum range of published incubation periods (Temple 2002). The final Ramsey County nest was found on 14 July, and it held a clutch of three eggs.

High Counts

Breeding density in Minnesota is poorly understood. Zimmerman (1966, 1971) showed that territory size correlated with number of mates; unmated males had the smallest territories and polygynous males had the largest, with monogamous males on intermediate-sized territories. Other studies have shown that territory size varied inversely with population density. High counts at single locations in southern Minnesota during the 2012 irruption included 41 at Blue Mounds State Park, Rock County, 30 at the I-94 / Maple Grove Parkway cloverleaf, Hennepin County, 28 at Randolph Great Western Industrial Park, Dakota County, and 28 at Jeffers Petroglyphs, Cottonwood County.

There are few data with respect to high counts during spring and fall migration in Minnesota, and most of these are from late May when males have already begun arriving on breeding territories. The highest fall count was of 50–60 birds in Dramman Township, Lincoln County, 10 September 1966 (Huber *et al.* 1967). Summer high counts have not been consistently published in *The Loon*, and vague terms such as “hundreds” or “very common” have been used to summarize abundance in the past. The highest specific summer count published was of 50 singing males in Polk County, 10 July 1983 (*The Loon* 56:61). Estimates of breeding density in Minnesota using point counts, roadside surveys, and area counts of singing males are needed.

Historical Irruptions

The first mention of a “Dickcissel Year” in Minnesota was in 1874, but there is very little data on this event. The first detailed irruption was 1925 when Roberts (1932) described a “deluge of Dickcissels, the like of which the writer had never seen before.” Roberts wrote that between 1874 and 1932, there had been perhaps nine or ten years of “general abundance” but nothing like the irruption of 1925 when they were reported “from everywhere in the state *within its range*” [authors’ emphasis]. Another such year was 1933 when nests were found in Pennington County in the Northwest and at Sturgeon Lake, Pine County (*The Flicker* 5:45). The next significant irruption occurred in 1939 when Carlander found them in good numbers around Detroit Lakes, the Brainerd region, and eventually near Lake of the Woods on 7 July (Carlander 1940).

Janssen (1988) reviewed the fluctuation in Dickcissel numbers since 1948, including irruptions in 1952, 1956, 1963, 1966, 1974, 1977, and 1988. Curiously, there was no evidence of a summer 1973 irruption in Minnesota (reported from 27 counties including Aitkin) despite extraordinary numbers in southern Manitoba that year (Sealy 1976). Janssen (1988) did not include summer 1964, when Dickcissels were “very numerous” in the southern half of the state with records as far north as Clay and Wadena counties (*The Loon* 36:88) and the species staged an invasion in Wisconsin (Emlen and Wiens 1965).

During summer 1983, Dickcissels were widespread as far north as Pennington, Wadena, and Crow Wing counties, and no fewer than 50 singing males were found in Polk County (*The Loon* 56:61). The northern limits of this species’ breeding range are in dynamic flux from year to year and may be affected by agricultural practices, micro-climate, food availability, and competition from other grassland-breeding bird species, making it particularly difficult or even impossible to define its “normal” breeding range in the state. Prior to 2012, the farthest north confirmed breeding records were in Pennington (1933), Polk (1890), Todd (2010), Morrison (1933), Aitkin (1988), and Pine (1933) counties.

During the 1988 irruption — also a drought year — Dickcissels were recorded in 73 Minnesota counties, but were not found anywhere in Lake of the Woods, Koochiching, Itasca, Lake, or Cook counties. The species was also absent from central and northern St. Louis County (Janssen 1988). More recent irruption years in Minnesota include the summers of 1995 (41 counties as far north as Polk and Aitkin, *The Loon* 68:54); 2000 (54 counties as far north as a line through Polk, Red Lake, Crow Wing, and Kanabec counties, *The Loon* 73:32); 2002 (48 counties as far north as a line through Polk, Red Lake, Wadena, Morrison, and Pine counties, *The Loon* 75:38); and 2006 (78 counties, *The Loon* 79:41).

Summary

In 2012, as moderate to extreme drought intensified across its core breeding range, Minnesota joined Wisconsin, Michigan, eastern Ohio, and Pennsylvania in hosting what was probably the largest-ever invasion of the Dickcissel to date. Dickcissels were found in 86 of 87 Minnesota counties, males were observed feeding nestlings and fledglings in several locations, and nesting was documented as far north as central St. Louis County. Drought conditions have persisted into 2013 in the heart of this species’ normal breeding range. Population density may increase in the peripheral breeding range as adults return to the areas where they previously nested (Taber 1947, Wiens and Emlen 1966). It should be interesting to survey peripheral locations in Minnesota in 2013!

Acknowledgements

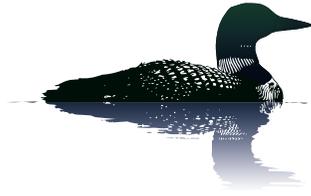
We thank the many observers who contributed their observations of Dickcissel in 2012, especially those who provided detailed notes on courtship, habitat, nesting behavior, and breeding success. Thanks also to the Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas for providing us with their Dickcissel data. Special thanks to Lawrence D. Igl, Janet C. Green, and Steven G. Wilson for reviewing earlier drafts and offering helpful suggestions.

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Notes of Interest



SPRAGUE'S PIPIT IN CLAY COUNTY — On 8 June 2012, a Victor Emanuel Nature



Tours group led by Brian Gibbons discovered a Sprague's Pipit in Section 19 of Keene Township, Clay County — a portion of the Felton Prairie area.

On 12 June, I visited the site, and from 9:20 A.M. to 10:50 A.M., the pipit engaged in a lengthy song flight, delivering multiple songs per minute. I didn't try to determine the singing rate, but Robbins (1998) documented a maximum of about seven songs per minute; he found the number of songs per minute to be higher in May than in June, but the duration of June song flights to be longer, with the longest such flight lasting 219 minutes.

For each song, what I heard was a series of up to five reedy syllables, e.g., *tszee tszee tszee tszee tszeeuw*. In any one series, each successive *tszee* was a little lower-pitched than the last, with the terminal *tszeeuw* being lowest of all and downslurred at the end.

During the period from 9:20 A.M. to 10:50 A.M., as the pipit was flying overhead — I estimated it to be 100 yards up — it was in view with binoculars or telescope for a total of 20 to 25 minutes. In my judgment, it was roughly similar in size and shape to a Horned Lark, and from beneath it had a lark-like tail, black with white outer feathers. Its underbody and underwings appeared to be buff-colored — not as white as the outer rectrices — and mostly unmarked; in my closest views, some darker sullying was visible on the breast, but even then I couldn't tell if the sullying resulted from streaking, mottling, or a simple wash of color.

Whenever the pipit was in view, it showed the following routine. It gave three or four quick flaps, folded its wings for a moment, gave three or four quick flaps, folded its wings for a moment, gave one or two quick flaps, then glided with its wings and tail fully spread and delivered a song. This routine was repeated over and over again.

There was a light breeze from the northwest, and most of the glides were made to the west, northwest, or north — i.e., most of the glides were, to some extent, into the breeze.

At 10:50 A.M., I saw the pipit drop to the ground. There it almost immediately interacted with another bird that was within a few feet of its landing site — with the result that, within ten seconds of landing, it took off again.

I note that, although the pipit began its song flight at 9:20 A.M., I was on site by about 7:20 A.M. and heard nothing for the first two hours of my visit — and, in fact, Robbins and Dale (1999) describe this species as singing later in the morning than other prairie songbirds. In a variety of environments, singing is most effective near dawn (Henwood and Fabrick 1979): early in the morning, before the nighttime air-temperature inversion has dissipated, songs can



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

be heard from farther away, and wind-related background noise tends to be lower. However, the pipit may delay singing for two reasons (Robbins 1998). First, it may need to feed before assuming the energetic costs of its display flight; Robbins (1998) estimated that, under ideal conditions, three hours of displaying would consume 36% to 60% of a male's body fat. And second, the pipit may wait until the wind speed increases in order to obtain more lift – and, so, lose less altitude — during each of its many glides into the wind; if it lost less altitude then it would require less energy to regain the lost height.

Although my own observations ended at 10:50 A.M. on 12 June, a succession of other observers reported the pipit over more than two additional weeks, with the last report being on 29 June.

According to an unpublished compilation by K. J. Bardon, A. X. Hertzler, and P. H. Svingen, the 91 records of Sprague's Pipit accepted for Minnesota span the period from 11 April to 25 October. Forty-one of the records include a June date, and, indeed, June is the month with the most records. Given this fact, it is unsurprising that May has the second-most records, and July the third-most; 28 records include a May date, and 18 or 19 include a date in July, with the July number depending on how one interprets the Sprague's Pipit account in Wiens (1992).

Considering these data another way, 66 of the 91 accepted Sprague's Pipit records are from the northwest region of Green and Janssen (1975). Of those 66 records, Clay County has hosted 27 — nearly twice as many as any other county; as Tustison (2012) notes, fully 21 of the Clay County records are from the Felton Prairie area.

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SUMMER SNOWY OWLS IN CLAY AND NORMAN COUNTIES — While conducting avian point count surveys for the Natural Resources Research Institute during the summer of 2012, I observed two different Snowy Owls (*Bubo scandiacus*) — the first on 12 June and the second on 17 June.

The first observation occurred around 9:30 A.M. approximately nine kilometers south of Moorhead in Clay County. The bird was observed first in the middle of the gravel road and jumped to the roadside upon the approach of my vehicle. I observed and photographed the owl for about 30 minutes, during which time it flew twice and showed no observable signs of distress or injury. This owl was all white except for a few dark markings on the primaries, secondaries, primary coverts, and secondary coverts.

The second observation occurred at 5:20 A.M. just east of Perley in Norman County. I observed the backlit silhouette of a large owl lacking ear tufts perched on a road sign. I snapped a few photographs of the bird and drove past it toward my survey point. I observed the bird



Snowy Owl, 12 June 2012, near Moorhead, Clay County. Photo by Debbie Petersen.



Snowy Owl, 17 June 2012, near Perley, Norman County. Photo by Debbie Petersen.

throughout my ten-minute survey, then drove back to take more photos in better light. It flew once during my survey, returning to the same road sign, and did not appear to suffer from any distress or injury. The brown markings on this bird were more extensive than on the bird observed on 12 June. **Debbie Petersen, 35919 Main Horseshoe Road, Laporte, MN 56461.**

SAY'S PHOEBE NEAR DULUTH — At about 9:30 A.M. on 7 October 2012, a Say's Phoebe was discovered at the McQuade Safe Harbor, just north of Duluth. As Kim Eckert's Minnesota Birding Weekend (MBW) group was heading from the parking lot toward the harbor area, we were alerted to a possible Say's Phoebe by birder Don Wanschura. Once we emerged from the pedestrian tunnel leading to the harbor, we immediately encountered the bird and confirmed its identity.



The cooperative bird afforded the group great looks as it hunted mainly from low branches and from the rocks of the breakwater. This bird's size, shape, and behavior appeared similar to Eastern Phoebe. The upperparts were uniform gray-brown with an indistinct pale wing bar. The top of the head was not noticeably darker than the rest of the face and back, though when seen from behind, it was clear that the tail was darker than the rest of the bird. Its breast was uniform grayish, with the rest of the underparts a pale orange-buff. The bird did not vocalize.

The MBW group had also visited the harbor late in the evening on the 6th. A phoebe was found at the same location as this bird, but in the failing light, no plumage details could be seen. In hindsight, this bird was very likely the same Say's Phoebe found the following morning. Unlike Say's Phoebe, Eastern Phoebe has a distinctly darker crown compared to the neck and back. The gray on an Eastern's breast is more of a smudgy vest instead of the uniform color of the Say's Phoebe. I've seen Eastern Phoebes with a pale yellow wash on the underparts, but never with the richer buff-orange of this bird. **Karl Roe, 3121 - 34th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN, 55406.**



Say's Phoebe, 7 October 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Kim R. Eckert.



Eastern Kingbird, 29 June 2012, Loman, Koochiching County. Photo by Allan Meadows.

In This Issue of *The Loon*

Volume 85 Number 1

Dickcissel, 14 July 2012, Ramsey County

Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell Front Cover

Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Tom A. Tustison 3

The Summer Season

1 June through 31 July 2012

Ann E. Kessen and Peder H. Svingen 8

The 2012 Dickcissel Irruption in Minnesota

Peder H. Svingen and Anthony X. Hertzell 35

Notes of Interest

Sprague's Pipit in Clay County

Philip C. Chu

Summer Snowy Owls in Clay and Norman Counties

Debbie Petersen

Say's Phoebe Near Duluth

Karl Roe 43

Eastern Kingbird, 29 June 2012, Loman, Koochiching County

Photo by Allan Meadows 47

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

A photograph of a hummingbird hovering over a pink zinnia flower. The bird is in the lower-left quadrant, facing right towards the flower. The background is a dense garden of various colorful flowers, including red and yellow ones, which are out of focus. The overall scene is bright and natural.

The Loon

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Minnesota's First Cassin's Kingbird

Peder H. Svingen and Anthony X. Hartzel

On 27 October 2012 at 10:36 A.M. (CDT), the authors discovered a Cassin's Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*) in a mountain ash tree on the east side of the East Bay Hotel & Suites in downtown Grand Marais, Cook County, Minnesota. We had stopped to check a small retention pond on the north side of the hotel, and caught a glimpse of a thrush-sized bird flying around the corner of the building. Since we had found very few migrant passerines along the North Shore up to that point, we drove around to the south side of the hotel and parked. Before getting out of the vehicle, we scanned the trees and shrubs along the shoreline. Peder soon spotted a kingbird that was perched in a mountain ash tree about eight feet above ground and facing towards us.

Unlike the vast majority of mountain ash trees that we had seen along the North Shore, this tree was laden with berries and had already attracted a flock of several dozen Bohemian Waxwings (*Bombycilla garrulus*). Almost immediately, and without giving it much thought or seeing the kingbird's tail, Peder called out "Cassin's Kingbird!" based on the stark contrast between its whitish chin and malar area, and its gray head and grayish upper breast. We watched the bird continuously until 11:12 A.M. and obtained numerous digital images. Peder also recorded a ten second HD video clip using a Canon 7D digital SLR. We knew that this represented a potential first state record, and speculated that Cassin's Kingbird and Bohemian Waxwings had rarely (if ever) been photographed together in the same tree!

Behaviorally, the kingbird was rather skittish and flushed several times when the flock of waxwings was swirling about and landing in the ash tree. The bird also flushed when unsuspecting tourists passed beneath the tree, and when people passed by while walking their dogs or looking for agates. The kingbird was flycatching from a variety of



Cassin's Kingbird, with Bohemian Waxwings. 27 October 2012. Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Anthony X. Hartzel.

perches, including mid-level branches of the mountain ash and nearby dogwood, as well as the very top of the mountain ash. On one occasion, it perched briefly on the edge of the roof at the Shoreline Motel, which is south of the East Bay Hotel & Suites, and ranged as far south as the Java Moose coffee shop. On another occasion, it flew out over the water and returned to shore about 250 yards northeast of the East Bay Hotel & Suites. Although the tip of its upper mandible was deformed and/or damaged, we saw no other evidence of injury as it flew energetically and briskly from perch to perch. The bird never vocalized in our presence and was still in the area when we left at 11:12 A.M. Numerous observers saw the bird that afternoon



Cassin's Kingbird. 27 October 2012. Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

and throughout the following day.

After the supply of mountain ash berries near the East Bay Hotel was depleted, the bird was relocated in residential areas surrounding the Cook County Courthouse at 411 West 2nd Street in Grand Marais. We returned to Grand Marais a week later and watched the bird capture insects by hunting from low perches on a residential lawn. The bird was last documented in Grand Marais by Mike Majeski on 11 November 2012.

Description

The following description is based on our field notes and analysis of digital images, including Anthony's images of the bird in flight taken with a Nikon D90 and Nikkor 300 mm f/4 lens. This robust, short-tailed, chunky-looking kingbird superficially resembled Western Kingbird (*T. verticalis*). Its

head, nape, and neck-sides were smoky gray with darker gray auriculars. Its whitish chin and malar area contrasted strongly with its pearly gray throat and upper breast; the gray on its upper breast blended unevenly into a grayish-yellow lower breast and bright yellow belly. The vent was lighter yellow than the belly and became very pale distally. Its olive-gray back was paler and showed greenish tones in comparison to the gray of its head and neck. Its wings were a cold, medium brown overall, with the upper wing-coverts and tertials neatly and uniformly edged pale buff. Images of the folded wing showed that the 8th primary (P8) was the longest, with P7 and P9 a bit shorter, but about the same length as each other. P6 was slightly shorter than P7 and P9, while P5 and P10 were about the same length as each other, but clearly not as long as P6. The outer primaries (P10 to at

least P6) were heavily emarginated with broadly rounded tips. Its wing linings were lemon yellow, while the ventral surface of its pale brown remiges appeared almost colorless and showed no yellow whatsoever. The tail was dark grayish-brown (blackish, but not true black) above and below, with a narrow buff tip. The sides of the tail showed very thin, pale gray edging along the entire length of the tail; this was more conspicuous ventrally on the distal half of the tail. Its black bill was damaged or deformed, with the upper mandible compressed as it projected well beyond the tip of the lower mandible. The irides were dark and its legs and feet were dark gray (blackish).

Similar Species

Western Kingbird (*T. verticalis*) shows a more obvious dark “mask” on its face because its head and nape are paler gray compared to Cassin’s. Western Kingbird also shows a paler gray back and upper breast, resulting in much less contrast between its chin and upper breast. Western Kingbird’s wings appear plainer and darker overall, since they lack the pale buff wing-covert edging shown by Cassin’s. Western Kingbird normally shows an all-white outer web on its outermost pair of rectrices (R6); however, the white may be reduced or completely absent if the tail is heavily worn or if one or both R6s are missing. While reviewing our images in the field, we noticed that some of them showed thin pale edging along the sides of the tail. Cassin’s Kingbird normally shows an indistinct, pale (but not white) edge along the outer web of its R6s (Kaufman 1992, Pyle 1997, National Geographic Society 2006). Structurally, Cassin’s Kingbird looks relatively long-winged and short-tailed compared to Western Kingbird, and Anthony remarked that the bird seemed short-tailed as we were watching it. The BNA account states that the outer prima-



Cassin’s Kingbird, 27 October 2012. Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

ries of Cassin’s Kingbird are emarginated by at least 8 mm in adults — less so in females — with p10 shorter than p6 (Tweitt and Tweitt 2000). The outer primaries are more deeply emarginated on Western Kingbird and its p10 is longer than p6 (Gamble and Bergin 2012).

Tropical Kingbird (*T. melancholicus*) and Couch’s Kingbird (*T. couchii*) both have larger and heavier bills, paler backs, shorter wings, more deeply yellow breasts, and longer, more brownish, and more deeply notched tails. Much less likely, based on current range and known pattern of vagrancy, is Thick-billed Kingbird (*T. crassirostris*). Thick-billed Kingbird has a much larger bill, darker crown/nape, plainer-looking wings, and olive tail. Other members of this genus either look completely different (e.g., Eastern Kingbird,



Figure 1. Breeding range of the Cassin's Kingbird.

Gray Kingbird, Loggerhead Kingbird, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Fork-tailed Flycatcher) or never have been recorded in the U.S. (e.g., Snowy-throated Kingbird and White-throated Kingbird from South America, and Giant Kingbird from Cuba and Isle of Pines).

Distribution

Cassin's Kingbird is primarily a southwestern species (Figure 1), breeding from northwestern Baja California and much of Mexico into central California, as far east as west Texas, extreme western Oklahoma and Nebraska, and locally as far north as central and eastern Wyoming, southeastern Montana,

and southwestern South Dakota (AOU 1998, Tweit and Tweit 2000, Tallman et al. 2002). Although this species breeds sparingly in the Pine Ridge area of Bennett, Shannon, and Washbaugh counties of South Dakota (Peterson 1995, Tweit and Tweit 2000), North Dakota's first and only record was near Grand Forks in northeastern North Dakota — not in southwestern North Dakota where the potential breeding habitat is similar to, and much closer to, the periphery of its known breeding range. The Grand Forks County Cassin's Kingbird was discovered by Sandy Aubol and Tim Driscoll 7 November 2010, while they were banding raptors a few miles northwest

of Grand Forks. Peder was fortunate to see and photograph this first Cassin's Kingbird for North Dakota. His photos, taken 8 November 2010, can be viewed at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/cochon/sets/72157625345848992/>

Cassin's Kingbird has been found twice in Ontario, including Canada's first record from the beach of Grand Lake at Achray, Algonquin Provincial Park, 4–5 June 1953 (Snyder 1954, Royal Ontario Museum #81283). The second for the province was at Britannia, Ottawa Regional Municipality, 19 September – 9 October 1970 (Brunton 1971, Crins 2003). A published report from Point Pelee National Park, Ontario, 16 September 1963 (Woodford 1964), is not considered valid for a number of reasons, including the fact that documentation for the sighting does not exist (A. Wormington, pers. com.). Farther east in Canada and out of sync with the preponderance of late fall records in the east was one photographed at Little Harbour, Shelbourne County, Nova Scotia, 16–18 July 1999 (Mactavish 1999).

In the eastern United States, it has been recorded as far east as New York, Massachusetts, Virginia, Louisiana, and Florida (AOU 1998). Andy Baldelli discovered New York's first Cassin's Kingbird at Montauk, Suffolk County, 13 October 2007 (Mitra 2007, NYSARC 2009). Four records/reports from Massachusetts include a hatch-year (HY) bird collected (MCZ #331367) at the Eastham Town Hall in Barnstable County, 21–22 October 1962 (Rines 2009); one at the south end of Monomoy Island, Chatham, Barnstable County, 9 October 1965 (Veit and Petersen 1993); a HY bird photographed at Whately, Franklin County, 1–2 November 2002 (Rines 2003); and another HY bird photographed at Cherry Hill Reservoir, Essex County, 14 November 2011 – 10 January 2012. The latter record has not yet been reviewed by the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee. Virginia has a sight record of a silent bird observed for five hours near Clifton, Fairfax County, 30 August 1976 (Elke 1978).

The first Cassin's Kingbird for Arkansas was discovered at Faulkner Lake, Pulaski County, 12 June 1965, and another was seen at El Dorado, Union County, 19 May 1967 (James and Neal 1986). Louisiana's first record was a female collected on 7 November 1964, 4.6 miles east of Holly Beach, Cameron

Parish (LSUMZ #33856, Dittman and Cardiff 2010); the Pelican State also has a pending report of one photographed on 18 November 2009 at Ewing Cemetery, Cypremort Point, St. Mary Parish (Johnson 2009). In Florida, a sight record of a non-vocalizing bird at Ft. DeSoto Park, Pinellas County, 29 October 1984 (*American Birds* 39:43–46) was followed by a vocalizing bird on the eastern side of the Arthur B. Marshall Loxahatchee N.W.R., Palm Beach County, 17 December 1988; the latter was found during the West Palm Beach Christmas Bird Count and remained in the same area through 8 May 1989, where it was photographed by many observers and tape recorded (Sykes et al. 1989). Kratter (2009) acknowledged 12 accepted records for Florida through 2008, some of which probably involve the same individual returning for successive winters.

Closer to Minnesota, this species is considered hypothetical in Wisconsin based on single observer sight records at Racine, 17 June 1969 (Erickson 1970) and Wisconsin Point, Douglas County, 29–30 May 1978 (Tessen 1979). Iowa, Illinois, and Michigan have no records (Domagalski 2010).

Acknowledgments

We thank Bob Domagalski for compiling records from the midcontinent, and Alan Wormington for information on records from Ontario.

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Integrating Habitat Use and Availability Data into a Christmas Bird Count

Michael R. North

Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) are conducted across North America annually, resulting in tallies of birds that reflect their continental distributions. However, habitat use is rarely, if ever, recorded. Breeding habitat for birds is widely studied, but winter habitat rarely is. A perusal of species accounts in the series *Birds of North America* reveals three to five times more space devoted to describing breeding habitat than winter habitat. While breeding habitat is widely recognized as being critical for replenishing populations, winter survival, which must be correlated with quantity and quality of winter habitat, is less recognized as the critical factor that often establishes the size of the subsequent breeding population (e.g., the “bottle-neck” theory of Paul Errington).

As part of a wildlife and habitat management planning exercise for federal lands in the Beltrami Island State Forest area, I worked with the Beltrami Island CBC compiler Martin Kehoe to incorporate habitat use data into the CBC for 2011–2012.

Methods

I recognized seven cover types: deciduous forest, upland coniferous forest, lowland coniferous forest, mixed forest, brushlands, openlands (e.g., grasslands, wetlands), and developed (e.g., homesteads, roads). For the four forest types, I recognized two age classes: young and mature. CBC participants were asked to record their bird observations into these categories to the best of their ability. The count was conducted 30 December 2011 under very mild conditions for northern Minnesota. Eight people in five groups participated.

Habitat availability data was obtained from Forest Inventory Module (FIM) data from 2011. The data was mined from a GIS database by clipping the area within a 7.5 mile radius of the count circle’s center

Table 1. Rectification (crosswalk) of Forest Inventory Module cover classes and Christmas Bird Count cover classes.

FIM Cover Type	CBC Cover Type (F=Forest)	Young Stand Ages	Mature Stand Ages
Ash	Deciduous F.	0-30	31-160
Aspen	Mixed F.	0-30	31-180
Balm of Gilead	Mixed F.	0-30	31-110
Balsam Fir	Mixed F.	0-30	31-160
Birch	Mixed F.	0-30	31-130
Lowland Black Spruce	Lowland Coniferous F.	0-50	51-200
Upland Black Spruce	Upland Coniferous F.	0-50	51-110
Cutover Areas	Openland	–	–
Industrial Development	Developed	–	–
Jack Pine	Upland Coniferous F.	0-30	31-100
Lowland Hardwood	Deciduous F.	0-30	31-130
Lowland Brush	Brushland	–	–
Lowland Grass	Openland	–	–
Marsh	Openland	–	–
Muskeg	Openland	–	–
Norway Pine	Upland Coniferous F.	0-30	31-110
Oak	Deciduous F.	0-30	–
Offsite Oak	Deciduous F.	0-30	–
Offsite Aspen	Deciduous F.	0-30	31-160
Stagnant Cedar	Lowland Coniferous F.	0-50	51-200
Stagnant Spruce	Lowland Coniferous F.	0-50	51-170
Stagnant Tamarack	Lowland Coniferous F.	0-30	31-180
Tamarack	Lowland Coniferous F.	0-30	31-200
Upland Brush	Brushland	–	–
Upland Grass	Openland	–	–
White Cedar	Lowland Coniferous F.	0-50	51->211
White Pine	Upland Coniferous F.	0-30	31-140
White Spruce	Mixed F.	0-30	31-120
Water	Openland	–	–

(48.5000°N, -94.9667°E). FIM data includes dominant tree species, acreage of coverage, and age (in 10-year age classes) for each forested stand, or acreage of non-forested habitats by cover type (e.g., marsh, lake, brushland). Because FIM does not recognize mixed forests, I did a crosswalk with the FIM data to match the habitat use data (Table 1). I considered forest stands ≤ 30 years old in the FIM database to be young forests, except for

Table 2. Avian use of habitat on the Beltrami Island Christmas Bird Count, 2011–2012. Openlands and developed areas are excluded as no birds were recorded in those cover types. Openlands accounted for 6.48% of the area, and developed areas accounted for 0.05% of the area.

Bird Species	Decid. Mature	Decid. Young	Upland Conifer Mature	Upland Conifer Young	Lowland Conifer Mature	Lowland Conifer Young	Mixed Mature	Mixed Young	Brushland
RUGR	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	1	–
SPGR	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
NOGO	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	–	–
BAOW	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–
GGOW	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
DOWO	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	1	1
HAWO	–	–	2	–	1	–	6	1	–
TTWO	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
PIWO	–	–	–	–	2	–	2	1	–
GRJA	2	–	10	–	7	3	3	4	–
CORA	–	–	3	–	12	–	6	11	1
BCCH	–	4	12	–	20	1	11	11	4
BOCH	–	–	–	–	6	–	8	–	–
RBNU	–	–	4	–	3	–	–	1	–
WBNU	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–
PIGR	7	–	3	–	1	–	11	–	4
WWCR	–	–	–	–	8	–	–	–	–
PISI	–	–	–	–	47	–	–	–	–
CORE	–	–	–	–	135	2	28	25	16
Total Birds	9	4	35	1	257	6	81	57	27
% Available	1.53	0.12	2.62	5.64	45.14	9.26	9.73	8.14	11.29
% Use-Total	1.89	0.84	7.34	0.21	53.88	1.26	16.98	11.95	5.67
% Use GRJA	6.9	–	34.5	–	24.1	10.3	10.3	13.8	–
% Use BCCH	–	6.3	19.0	–	31.7	1.6	17.5	17.5	6.3
% Use PIGR	27.0	–	11.5	–	3.8	–	42.3	–	15.4
% Use CORE	–	–	–	–	65.5	1.0	13.6	12.1	7.8

white cedar and black spruce, where stands ≤ 50 years old were considered young. All older stands were considered mature.

Habitat selection was assessed using a single classification chi-square test with 1 degree of freedom (Dixon and Massey 1951) in which each habitat was assessed individually against the other habitats combined. The observed values were the absolute numbers of birds observed in the habitat types, and the expected values were the number of birds expected out of the total count proportional to the amount of habitat available. Expected values were rounded to the nearest whole number, except where it would round to zero; in that case, the expected values was rounded to the nearest $1/10^{\text{th}}$. Chi-square values were calculated by equations in Dixon and Massey (1951), and probabilities

were generated by Excel spreadsheet statistical functions.

Results

A total of 477 birds of 19 species was recorded during the Beltrami Island CBC (Table 2). Common Redpolls were the most abundant species, representing 43.2% of all observations. The most heavily used habitat was mature lowland conifer, by 257 birds; its use (53.9%) significantly exceeded its availability (45.1%; $\chi^2=15.93$, $p=.0001$; Table 3). Other cover types where use substantially exceeded availability based on numbers of birds included mature upland conifers and mature and young mixed forests. Statistically, however, five habitats received use significantly greater than their proportionality (in order of preference: mature upland conifer, ma-

Table 3. Habitat preferences for Gray Jay, Black-capped Chickadee, Pine Grosbeak, Common Redpoll, and all species observed on the 2011–2012 Beltrami Island CBC. ++ = statistically significant preference, + = non-significant preference, 0 = no preference, - = non-significant under-use, -- = significant under-use or avoidance.

	Rank	Habitat Cover Type	No. Birds Observed	No. Birds Expected	Chi-square test value	Probability	Significance
Gray Jay	1	Mature Upland Conifer	10	1	83.89	<0.0001	++
	2	Mature Deciduous Forest	2	0.4	6.49	0.0109	++
	3	Young Mixed Forest	4	2	2.15	0.1427	+
	4	Young Lowland Conifer	3	3	0	1	0
	4	Mature Mixed Forest	3	3	0	1	0
	4	Young Deciduous Forest	0	0	0	1	0
	7	Young Upland Conifer	0	1	1.04	0.3088	-
	7	Other	0	1	1.04	0.3088	-
	9	Brushlands	0	3	3.35	0.0674	-
	10	Mature Lowland Conifer	7	13	5.02	0.0251	--
Black-capped Chickadee	1	Young Deciduous Forest	4	0.1	1521.25	<0.0001	++
	2	Mature Upland Conifer	12	2	51.64	<0.0001	++
	3	Young Mixed Forest	11	5	7.82	0.0052	++
	4	Mature Mixed Forest	11	6	4.61	0.0319	++
	5	Mature Deciduous Forest	0	1	1.02	0.3134	-
	6	Brushlands	4	8	2.29	0.1301	-
	7	Other	0	3	3.15	0.0759	-
	8	Mature Lowland Conifer	20	28	4.12	0.0425	--
	9	Young Upland Conifer	0	4	4.27	0.0388	--
	10	Young Lowland Conifer	1	6	6.69	0.0319	--
Pine Grosbeak	1	Mature Deciduous Forest	7	1	37.44	<0.0001	++
	2	Mature Mixed Forest	11	3	24.11	<0.0001	++
	3	Mature Upland Conifer	3	1	4.16	0.0414	++
	4	Brushlands	4	3	0.37	0.5393	+
	5	Young Deciduous Forest	0	0	0	1	0
	6	Young Upland Conifer	0	1	1.04	0.3078	-
	6	Other	0	1	1.04	0.3078	-
	8	Young Mixed Forest	0	2	2.17	0.1410	-
	8	Young Lowland Conifer	0	2	2.17	0.1410	-
	10	Mature Lowland Conifer	1	12	18.72	<0.0001	--
Common Redpoll	1	Mature Lowland Conifer	135	93	34.58	<0.0001	++
	2	Young Mixed Forest	25	17	4.10	0.0428	++
	3	Mature Mixed Forest	28	20	3.54	0.0598	+
	4	Young Deciduous Forest	0	0	0	1	0
	5	Brushlands	16	23	2.4	0.1215	-
	6	Mature Deciduous Forest	0	3	3.04	0.0810	-
	7	Mature Upland Conifer	0	5	5.12	0.0236	--
	8	Young Upland Conifer	0	12	12.74	0.0004	--
	9	Other	0	14	15.02	0.0001	--
	10	Young Lowland Conifer	2	19	16.76	<0.0001	--
All birds	1	Mature Upland Conifer	35	12	45.22	<0.0000	++
	2	Mature Mixed Forest	81	46	29.47	<0.0000	++
	3	Mature Lowland Conifer	257	215	15.93	0.0001	++
	4	Young Mixed Forest	57	39	9.05	0.0026	++
	5	Young Deciduous Forest	4	1	9.02	0.0025	++
	6	Mature Deciduous Forest	9	7	0.58	0.4463	+
	7	Brushlands	27	54	15.22	<0.0001	--
	8	Young Upland Conifer	1	27	26.54	<0.0000	--
	9	Other	0	75	34.30	<0.0000	--
	10	Young Lowland Conifer	6	44	36.15	<0.0000	--

ture mixed, mature lowland conifer, young mixed, and young deciduous). One habitat received use greater than its proportionality, but the difference was not significant (mature deciduous), and four habitats received significantly less use than their proportionality (brushland, young upland conifer, other, young lowland conifer).

Common Redpolls, Black-capped Chickadees, Gray Jays, and Pine Grosbeaks occurred in sufficient numbers and habitat types to assess habitat use versus availability for those species. Gray Jays (n=29) used mature upland coniferous forest and mature deciduous forest at significantly greater proportions than were available (Table 3). Interestingly, the second highest abundance of Gray Jays (n=7) was in mature lowland coniferous forest, but the level of use (24.1%; Table 2) was significantly below the level of availability (45.1%). Black-capped Chickadees (n=63) preferred young deciduous forests, mature upland coniferous forests, and mixed forests (both young and mature; Table 3). All other habitat types were under-utilized or avoided. Again, interestingly, the most chickadee observations (n=20) occurred in mature lowland coniferous forest, but the level of use (31.7%) was significantly below the level of availability (45.1%). Pine Grosbeaks (n=26) showed a significant preference for mature deciduous, mature mixed forest, and mature upland conifers, and a weak preference for brushlands (Table 3). Only mature lowland conifers were significantly under-used. Common redpolls (n=206) significantly preferred mature lowland coniferous forests and young mixed forests, and non-significant preference for mature mixed forests (Table 3). All other habitats were avoided or under-utilized.

Biases

An assessment of total avian habitat use versus availability based on a single year is going to be skewed by the strength of the presence (or absence) of Common Redpolls in that year. Ideally, data should be collected and combined for several years for assessment of avian habitat use versus availability for each species and for total birds. Another bias is that individual observers likely had different concepts of what constituted a mature versus a young forest stand, and dif-

ferent concepts of what constituted a mixed stand versus a pure stand. Also, tamaracks are both deciduous (i.e., they lose their needles) and coniferous, and should be separated out in future years. Removing tamarack from the lowland conifer cover type would probably show an increase of importance of that cover type (i.e., cedars and spruces) to wintering birds. (Mature tamarack would constitute 11.36% of the land cover, leaving mature lowland cedar and white spruce at 33.78% cover, and young tamarack would constitute 7.73% of the land cover, leaving young lowland cedar and white spruce at 1.53% cover.) Another bias is that part of the road system favors upland areas, so not all habitats are surveyed proportionally. Also, I considered basing use-availability assessments on the forest cover types only for the four individual species assessed, dropping out brushlands, openlands, and developed areas which account for 17.82% of the area, which would affect availability ratios. However, all of those species except Gray Jays used brushlands, and dropping only openlands and developed areas (which account for only 6.53% of the area) would not have changed availability ratios appreciably. This technique can enhance CBC data collection in natural areas, but may not work well where birds are concentrated at feeders.

Acknowledgments

Martin Kehoe distributed revised data forms to count participants and compiled the data. Gretchen Mehmehl helped determine the habitat categories and age breakdowns for mature versus young stands, and helped develop the crosswalk table. Chris Scharenbroich clipped FIM data within the count circle, and provided the descriptive FIM age class and acreage statistics. Pam Perry reviewed the manuscript and provided useful comments.

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The Fall Season

1 August through 30 November 2012

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A Brant in St. Louis provided Minnesota with its 18th state record and first for the fall since 1989. Several very early Cackling Geese reminded us that we're still trying to fully understand the timing of migration for this species through the state. Please continue to provide identification details with reports of this species. Waterfowl high counts were unremarkable, but sea ducks made a nice showing. At least five Harlequin Ducks were located along Lake Superior — the most since Winter 2010. While all three scoters were each found in Cook, Lake, and St. Louis counties, each was also well-represented away from Lake Superior, including three new county records for Surf Scoter and five for Black Scoter. Even Long-tailed Duck produced a first county record, this one for Pine. For the first fall since 2006, no Barrow's Goldeneye could be found.

Red-throated Loons were reported sporadically along the Duluth shoreline, from Superior Entry to the Lester River; one additional bird was found in Lake. At least two Pacific Loons were also found at Duluth. A Clark's Grebe successfully bred on Lake Osakis, though it was unclear whether the second parent was another Clark's or a Western. Another two Clark's were found on St. Mary's Lake in Traverse.

Ash and Mud Lakes in Grant were productive in the fall, due in part to the drought and Ash Lake being in draw down. Birders found four Snowy Egrets and a Little Blue Heron there. While fall numbers of Cattle Egret never rival spring counts, a paltry two in Grant and a lone bird in Houston was disappointing. A juvenile Yellow-crowned Night-Heron in Hennepin left observers wondering where the more-striking parents might have been roosting.

In September, two Mississippi Kites at Hawk Ridge in St. Louis got the annual raptor count off to an excellent start. Though the total raptor count for the season was about 30% below average, counts of Bald and Golden



Adult Clark's Grebe with dependent young, 5 August 2012, Lake Osakis, Todd County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

eagles were over 50% above the norm, and 18 Swainson's Hawks compared very nicely to the average of 7. November 12th was an excellent day at the Ridge, when counters had their peak numbers of Bald Eagle, Rough-legged Hawk and Golden Eagle (a record high 57).

Reports of Common Gallinules in six south and one north counties were the most since Spring 2008, which, coincidentally, was the last season when this species was found north.

The only Piping Plover was at Minnesota Point in St. Louis. American Avocets and Willets were also scarce, with only 5 and 3 individuals reported, respectively. There have been no fall reports of Whimbrel since 2008, and of Red Knot since 2009; this year continued those trends. Hudsonian Godwit, Marbled Godwit, and Ruddy Turnstone are also much more widely reported in spring than in fall, so it was not surprising to see that each was found in only a few counties. Pectoral and Semipalmated sandpipers were tallied in impressive numbers, however.

Prior to 2012, there had been approximately 37 Black-legged Kittiwakes documented in the state — all first-cycle birds. In early November,

yet another first-cycle kittiwake was discovered, but near the end of the month, the state's first adult was finally found at Canal Park in Duluth. A juvenile Sabine's Gull in Hennepin extended the streak of fall occurrences for this species to ten years! Iceland Gulls were seen at traditional locations in Duluth, the Twin Cities, and along the lower Mississippi River. Lesser Black-backed Gulls were also in Duluth and the Twin Cities, while a second county record for Lyon was unexpected. Great Black-backed Gulls were located only in Duluth. The sole jaeger of the season was a Parasitic seen in mid-August.

With reports from spring and summer 2012, the currently Casual White-winged Dove has now been seen in each of the last ten years; one this fall in Cook, however, marked the fifth county record for this species over this same ten-year span! Only St. Louis, with seven reports, has had more individuals.

Among the winter owls, there were no indications of an unusual influx. In August, two Prairie Falcons were documented in Big Stone, which is a typical fall count and location for this species.

A Say's Phoebe stayed in St. Louis for a few days, producing the third record for that county. Also in the Northeast was the state's first Cassin's Kingbird; it found Grand Marais inviting enough to linger there for two weeks, providing many an opportunity to see the 439th addition to the Minnesota State Checklist (see pages 51–56 in this issue). Cottonwood County's first Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was the tenth for the state in the last five years.

It had been 35 years since multiple Clark's Nutcrackers showed up in a single season. This fall, three birds were well-documented within the state. Interestingly, all were found in the eastern side of the state, and (per eBird) only Minnesota in the Upper Midwest seems to have enjoyed wandering nutcrackers this season.

Tufted Titmice were more widespread than usual, with reports as far north as Aitkin and as far west as Stevens. A Rock Wren in Blue Earth was the first in the state since 2008 and the first ever for that county. Carolina Wrens made a very impressive showing; 21 individuals found in 13 counties is the most ever in a single season.

Three Mountain Bluebirds were detected along the North Shore, and another was found

in the Twin Cities. A very early Townsend's Solitaire was seen in Hennepin in late September; the other seven of the season showed up beginning in late October. Four Varied Thrushes were typical for the fall. So were the four Northern Mockingbirds, though it was interesting that three of the four were discovered far north in counties bordering Canada.

Bohemian Waxwings were plentiful in the north, and a few even made it to the southern half of the state. The Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census tallied near-record numbers of Cedar Waxwings in August and September. A few Smith's Longspurs were found outside their typical migration corridor through the West-central and Southwest regions, producing first county records for Pine and Faribault.

Among the warblers, the season's highlight was a record-late Yellow-breasted Chat discovered in Duluth in November. Nelson's Sparrows are often difficult to discover during migration, but this season was notable for the number of locations where multiple individuals could be found over periods of a week or more. Summer Tanagers were in Aitkin in August and McLeod in October.

Winter finches put on an excellent showing this season. Pine Grosbeaks made their most impressive incursion south since winter 1989–90. Reports of both crossbill species were also up, with Reds reported from 41 counties and White-wingeds from 34. The Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census tallied Reds moving down the North Shore on 56 days this season, and White-wingeds were almost a daily sighting after mid-October. Numbers for both redpolls, Pine Siskin, and Evening Grosbeak were also up, exceeding totals from any of the five prior autumns.

Finally, many of the passerine high counts for the season were tallied as part of the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census. These included record high counts for Eastern Kingbird, American Pipit, Bobolink, Red Crossbill, White-winged Crossbill, and American Goldfinch.

Weather: Precipitation levels in much of the state were well below normal throughout the season, especially in August and September. In contrast, the Northwest region received an early season snow storm on 4 October, and many locations in the northern third of the state had snowfall totals between 10 and 20 inches during November.

Monthly mean temperatures for August and September were very close to historical average. October temperatures were actually below average — marking the first time Twin Cities monthly average temperatures were below normal since May 2011. In November, above average warmth returned as temperatures ranged from normal to five degrees (F) above normal, especially in the south. On 10 November temperatures actually hit 69° at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport; the same warm, humid weather brought four tornadoes to Twin Cities suburbs.

Undocumented or insufficiently documented records of Regular species: **Snow Goose** 8/16 Mower (early date); **Tundra Swan** 8/11 Todd (early date); **White-winged Scoter** 11/6 Goodhue (lack of details); **Spruce Grouse** 9/7 Mille Lacs (out of range); **Pacific Loon** 11/20–22 Carver (Casual away from Lake Superior); **Clark's Grebe** 11/9 Big Stone (record late by five weeks); **Sharp-shinned Hawk** 8/1 Washington, 8/3 Hennepin (early dates); **Glaucous Gull** 10/27 Sherburne (2) (early date); **Northern Shrike** 9/5 Polk (record early first-year bird); **Common Raven** Scott 10/18 (out of range); **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** 8/7 Lyon (200), 8/12 Lyon (100) (record high counts); **Blackpoll Warbler** 8/9 Martin (extremely early); **Wilson's Warbler** 8/2 Lac qui Parle (early date); **LeConte's Sparrow** 9/9 Dakota (record early); **Rusty Blackbird** 8/18 Cass (out of range/early); **Orchard Ori-**

ole 9/29 Dakota (record late by three weeks); **White-winged Crossbill** 8/13 Crow Wing (20) (out of range).

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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 listed 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 pbudde@earthlink.net.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [5 North, 15 South] All north (median arrival 10/4) 9/9 (Duluth lakewalk) St. Louis †PHS, 9/16 Polk SAu, 10/11 Norman ALo, CRM, 10/17 Cook SC, 10/22–11/22 St. Louis (2 juveniles, Bayfront Park, Duluth) ph. DOK, m.ob. Early south (median 10/1) **9/16** Wabasha DBz, 9/29 Rice DAB, ANy, 9/30 Hennepin (40) BAF, Rice GHo. High count 11/22 Murray (45) GWe.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [15 North, 22 South] Early north (median 9/11) 9/23 St. Louis KJB, ABL, 9/25 Polk VLa, 9/27 Marshall LyK. Early south (median 9/13) 9/14 Dakota TAT, 9/20 Lac qui Parle DLP, 9/26 Chippewa DBM. Late north 11/7 Hubbard MaH, 11/9 Traverse BJU, 11/11 Polk SAu (median 11/30). Please see winter report for late south migrants.

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [5 North, 11 South] All north (median 10/4) 9/14 Lake ALo, CRM, St. Louis LMS, 9/16–10/7 Lake (Two Harbors golf course) ph. LMS, JWL, m.ob., 9/22 St. Louis KJB, ABL, 9/23 **Morrison** (Upsala W.T.P.) JCC, 9/28 **Cook** (Lutsen W.T.P.) HHD, RAE, 11/9 Traverse (St. Mary's Lake) BJU, 11/10 Morrison (Lake Shamineau) RPR. All south reports: 10/16 Blue Earth ChH, 10/21 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) DPG, 10/26 Faribault (Wells W.T.P.) MGo, HHD, RAE, McLeod ALo, CRM, 11/6 Steele (Lake Kohmier) NFT, 11/9 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.), Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 11/12 Olmsted JPr, 11/13 Pope DBM, 11/14 Big Stone (Big Stone Lake), Lac qui Parle ph. BJU, 11/16 Chippewa DLP, 11/22 Nobles BTS. A presumed **Snow x Ross's Goose hybrid** was present 10/9–11/22 St. Louis (Bayfront Park) ph. DOK, PHS, KRE, m.ob. (median 10/18).

BRANT (*Branta bernicla*) — [1 North] The first fall report since 1989 was of the *brota* subspecies: 11/20 St. Louis (Park Point Recreation Area) ph. †SCZ, ph. †PHS, ph. JLK, m.ob. (**The Loon** 85:93–94).

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [24 North, 43 South] Record early north (median 9/17) **8/29** St. Louis FKB, **9/7** St. Louis KJB. Early south (median 9/19) **9/15** Winona DBz, **9/16** Ramsey RZi. Please see winter report for late migrants. Observers are asked to document all sightings with notes, photographs, or recordings to improve our

understanding of this species in the state.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported throughout the state and season.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [1 North, 4 South] Only north report 9/7 of a probable wild bird **Mille Lacs** (Mille Lacs Kathio S.P.) MbH. All south reports of probable wild birds 9/22 Wright PEB, RBW, MJB, 10/19 Sherburne (Lake Orrock) PLJ. Reports of uncertain origin 9/2 Washington (5) JFR.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [26 North, 38 South] Reported in all regions of the state throughout the season. High counts 11/16 Wright (102, Smith Lake) HCT, 10/22 Becker (100) *vide* MJM, 11/24 Scott (44, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Wilkie Unit) KrR, 11/24 Hennepin (42, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF.

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [18 North, 25 South] Early north (median 10/1) 9/27 Marshall GAK, 10/6 Clearwater VLa, 10/11 Aitkin PEJ, Marshall LyK. Early south (median 10/12) 10/10 Lac qui Parle BJU 10/12 Anoka ThM, 10/25 Big Stone BJU, Rice TFB. High count 11/18 Houston (est. 15,000, Upper Mississippi N.W.R., near Brownsville, some birds probably in Wisconsin waters) TPr. Late north 11/18 Clay RAE, 11/19 Itasca SC, 11/23 Aitkin ACr, 11/25 St. Louis EBr, KJB, ACr (median 11/28). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [27 North, 52 South] Reported throughout the state and season. High counts 10/14 Hennepin (247) TAT, 10/19 Houston (200) DSt, 8/11 Otter Tail (175, Neumann W.P.A.) APA.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) — [16 North, 40 South] High counts 11/21 Houston (est. 1,500, Brownsville Overlook) DSt, 11/10 Houston (500) ALD. Late north 10/25 Clay, Douglas LMS, 10/26 Itasca EEO, Pine (Pine City W.T.P.) DAC, RBJ, 11/9 Traverse BJU (median 11/17).

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) — [15 North, 31 South] High count 11/18 Houston (est. 350, Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) TPr. Late north 11/5 St. Louis JLK, 11/9 Mille Lacs RAE, Traverse BJU, 11/13 St. Louis KJB (median 11/28). Please see winter report for late migrants.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) — [6

North, 14 South] All north reports: Cook, Itasca, Lake, Marshall, Polk, St. Louis. Early south (median 8/25) 9/16 Ramsey RZi, 9/19 Hennepin ThM, 10/6 Hennepin DFN, PEJ, 10/14 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) 10/24 Winona MGo.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported throughout the state. High count 11/2 Stearns (est. 800, Albany W.T.P.) RPR.

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) — [29 North, 51 South] Reported throughout the state and season. High count 9/1 Stearns (est. 600, Paynesville W.T.P.) ANY. Late north 10/20 Cass SC, Itasca RAE, 11/2 Itasca SC, 11/14 St. Louis JLK (median 10/25). Late south 11/14 Lyon GWe, 11/17 Houston PEJ, DFN, 11/24 Hennepin PEJ, Houston (Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) SOa, 11/25 Hennepin PEJ (median 11/3).

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) — [21 North, 45 South] High counts 10/14 Stearns (est. 500, Paynesville W.T.P.) DPG, 11/23 Hennepin (230, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ. Late north 10/28 Cook DBM, Pennington JMJ, 11/9 Traverse BJU, 11/10 Cass PBB, 11/13 Crow Wing JSB (median 11/7). Please see winter report for late south migrants.

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) — [11 North, 30 South] High count 11/10 Houston (est. 400) ALD. Late north 11/13 St. Louis JLK, 11/17 Lake PHS, St. Louis JLK (median 11/25). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) — [21 North, 42 South] High counts 11/12 Hennepin (est. 450, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ, 11/10 Houston (400) ALD. Late north 11/8 Pine RBJ, DAC, 11/9 Crow Wing HHD, RAE, Traverse BJU, 11/13 Beltrami SVo (median 11/9). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) — [17 North, 34 South] High count 11/2 Houston (est. 1,000) JaL. Late north 11/9 Beltrami PBB, Traverse BJU, 11/18 Becker HHD, RAE, 11/19 Beltrami DPJ, 11/24 Douglas JPE (median 11/25). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Redhead (*Aythya americana*) — [23 North, 37 South] High count 10/16 Cass (146, Walker W.T.P.) BAW. Late north 11/12 Bel-



Surf Scoter, 20 October 2012, Lake Waconia, Carver County. Photo by Bob Buston.

trami DPJ, 11/16 St. Louis JLK, 11/24 Douglas JPE, 11/27 St. Louis KJB (median 12/10). Please see winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) — [24 North, 36 South] High counts 11/21 Houston (est. 1,500) DSt, 11/4 Aitkin (350, Rice Lake N.W.R.) JeB. Late north 11/16 Itasca SC, 11/21 Mille Lacs RAE, 11/22 Hubbard PBB, 11/24 Douglas JPE (median 12/4). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) — [8 North, 15 South] Early north (median 9/30) 9/29 St. Louis RPR, 10/14 Cass DAY, 10/16 St. Louis PHS, JLK, EBr, 10/17 Cook SC. Early south (median 10/17) 10/20 Houston DBz, 10/22 Sherburne PLJ, 10/25 Lac qui Parle BJU. No notable high counts. Late north 11/9 Beltrami DPJ, Traverse BJU, 11/12 Beltrami DPJ, 11/13 St. Louis JLK (median 12/3). Please see winter report for late migrants.

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) — [21 North, 35 South] High count 11/18 Houston (75, Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) TPr. Late north 11/16 Becker, Polk HHD, RAE, St. Louis JLK, 11/19 St. Louis KSt, 11/22 Hubbard PBB, but see also winter report.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [3 North] All north **9/20–29** Cook (Grand Marais Harbor) ECo, m.ob., 10/5

- Lake (Burlington Bay, Two Harbors) KRE, PRH, ALo, 10/9 St. Louis (Canal Park) JLK, EBr, 10/27 Cook (2, southwest of Paradise Beach) AXH, PHS, 11/3 Cook (Artists' Point, Grand Marais) PHS, AXH, 11/4-5 Cook (Paradise Beach) LBe, DBM.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [4 North, 8 South] Early north (median 9/30) 9/23 Cass (Blackwater Lake) ABi, BAW, DAY, 10/7 Lake (female, Burlington Bay) KRo, KRE. Seen in St. Louis and Cook counties the remainder of the season. All south 10/13-23 Carver (Lake Waconia) ph. DWK, ph. JCy, ph. CMB, ph. JTe, ph. RCB, ph. RTe, m.ob., 10/19 Lac qui Parle (adult male) ph. BJU, 10/20-23 **Lincoln** (Perch Lake) RZi, ph. BJU, m.ob., 10/21-27 Faribault (Wells W.T.P.) DBz, m.ob., 10/22 Blue Earth (Stokman W.M.A.) ANY, JWH, 10/22-27 **Pope** (Lake Minnewaska) DBM, MJB, 10/23 **Yellow Medicine** (Del Clark Lake) ph. BJU, 10/23-11/11 Hennepin (Lake Harriet) CMB, m.ob.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [5 North, 2 South] All north reports: 10/16-11/27 St. Louis (max. 8, Park Point Recreation Area) KJB, m.ob., 10/17-11/5 Cook (many locations: 5 Mile Rock, Paradise Beach, Chicago Bay, max. 4, Lutsen Sea Villas), m.ob., 10/28-11/7 (max. 4, Iona's Beach S.N.A.), KRE, m.ob., 11/2-11/10 Beltrami (max. 13, Lake Bemidji) SVo, DPJ, 11/18 Becker (Boyer Lake) HHD, RAE. Two south reports: 11/7 Hennepin TAT, 11/9 Big Stone (Big Stone Lake) ph. BJU.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — [6 North, 8 South] All north reports: 10/10-11/27 St. Louis m.ob., 10/14-11/7 Lake (max. 3, Two Harbors and Iona's Beach S.N.A.) JWl, DBM, m.ob., 11/2 Becker (Big Cormorant Lake) MO, 11/4 Cook DPJ, 11/8 Beltrami (Lake Bemidji) DPJ. All south reports: 10/21-26 **Faribault** (Wells W.T.P.) DBz, m.ob., 10/22-27 **Pope** (Lake Minnewaska) DBM, MJB, 10/23 **Yellow Medicine** (Del Clark Lake) ph. BJU, 10/25 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU, 11/5 Winona ANY, 11/9 **Mower** (Brownsdale W.T.P.) DBz, **Traverse** (Wheaton W.T.P.) ph. BJU, 11/19 **Lincoln** (Lake Benton) ph. BJU, 11/26 Wabasha ANY, 11/26 Winona (Minneiska) MGo, 11/29-30 Winona (Lake Winona) ANY, m.ob.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [4 North, 3 South] Early north (median 10/18) 10/16 St. Louis (4) FKB, 10/22 Lake (Two Harbors, Burlington Bay) PHS. New county record for **Pine** 11/8 (Pine City) RBJ. All south 11/17 Lac qui Parle (Lac qui Parle Lake) ph. BJU, 11/21 Houston (35, Brownsville Overlook) SSp, 11/25 Wright DWK, RAE. High count 11/5 Cook (295) DBM.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [21 North, 37 South] Early south (median 10/2) 10/5 Big Stone, Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/6 Hennepin DFN, PEJ, Stearns DPG, 10/9 Chisago RAE. High counts 10/16 Cass (445, Walker W.T.P.) BAW, 11/10 Houston (est. 200) ALD, 10/29 Goodhue (160, Prairie Island) GJM.
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [23 North, 28 South] Early south (median 10/16) 10/17 Hennepin SBM, 10/22 Ramsey ASi, 10/27 Carver JCy, Pope MJB, Ramsey JFR, REH, ASi. High count 11/26 St. Louis (1,859, Park Point) KJB.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [27 North, 35 South] High counts 11/14 Ramsey (est. **2,400**, Pleasant Lake, second highest recorded state count) KJB, 11/23 Ramsey (540, Vadnais Lake) MJM. Please see winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [18 North, 21 South] Early south (median 10/24) 10/22 Goodhue (Prairie Island) GJM, 10/28 Brown BTS, 11/2 Carver BeS, 11/3 Houston DKa, Ramsey EBa. High count 11/30 Goodhue (est. 50,000, Lake Pepin) RBJ, DAC.
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [6 North, 11 South] North reports from Cass, Cook, Hubbard, Mille Lacs, Lake and St. Louis, predominatly from Lake Superior after early September, with only two exceptions: 11/24 Hubbard MaH, Mille Lacs DBM. All south reports: 10/13+ Hennepin m.ob., 11/3-21 Carver GJa, DBM, 11/9-11/18 Lac Qui Parle BJU, 11/11-14 Meeker HHD, PRH, 11/12-25 Blue Earth ChH, 11/17-28 Wabasha m.ob., 11/19 Lincoln BJU, 11/21 Martin DPG, 11/22 Freeborn BBu, 11/26 Goodhue ANY, 11/28 Goodhue (**40**, Lake Pepin) DVe.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [12 North, 42 South] High count 10/26 Faribault (est. 150, Wells W.T.P.) MGo. Late north

- 11/16 Polk RAE, HHD, 11/18 Becker HHD, RAE, 11/19 Beltrami DPJ (median 11/10). Please see winter report for late south migrants.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [1 North, 10 South] Only north report: 10/26 Polk DLT. Also reported from Lac Qui Parle, Mower, Murray (12), Nicollet, Olmsted, Pipestone, Renville (10), Rock, Swift and Winona (12).
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [17 North, 48 South] Reported as far north as Clay and Becker in the Northwest, Wadena, and Crow Wing in the North-central and Aitkin, Carlton, Pine, St. Louis, and Cook (probable released bird) in the Northeast.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [21 North, 5 South] All south reports 8/26 Dakota RaM, 9/26–10/7 Chisago RMa, LS, 10/14–11/21 Sherburne PJM, PLJ, PRH, 10/26 Winona ANy, 11/10 Fillmore DCr.
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falciptennis canadensis*) — [3 North] All reports: 9/6 Lake (Kawishiwi River) DaE, 9/15 Lake (Whyte Road) MSS, 9/29 Cook (South Brule Road) HHD, RAE, 11/2 Cook CRM, GLa, 11/4 Lake (Iona's Beach S.N.A.) ANy, m.ob., 11/5 St. Louis SLF.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [9 North, 1 South] All north reports: 8/1–11/25 St. Louis (max. 8, Sax Zim) m.ob., 8/20 Marshall PLJ, 8/31 Lake of the Woods KRE, m.ob., 9/1–03 Roseau KRE, m.ob., 9/13 Pine (C.R. 20) RBJ, 9/25 Polk (Tympanuchus W.M.A.) VLa, 9/30 Pennington JMJ, 10/20 Polk (Glacial Ridge N.W.R.), 10/25 Aitkin FGo, 11/9 Traverse BJU. Only south report 10/10 Lac Qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north reports: 9/25–27 Polk (Tympanuchus W.M.A.) VLa, 10/11 Norman CRM, ALo, 11/17 Red Lake HHD, RAE. Only south reports: 8/1, 11/14 Lac Qui Parle (Plover Prairie S.N.A.) BJU.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [23 North, 41 South] Reported as far north as Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, and Roseau in the Northwest and St. Louis in the Northeast. Some north reports probably refer to recently released birds.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [2 North] All reports 10/6 St. Louis (Lester River) KJB, 10/9 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK, EBr, 10/13 St. Louis (Superior Entry) KJB, 10/22 St. Louis (3, Park Point) KJB, 10/26 St. Louis KJB, 10/28 Lake (Iona's Beach S.N.A.) ANy, m.ob., St. Louis (Superior Entry) KJB, 11/6 St. Louis (Park Point) KCo.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 North] All north reports from Park Point R.A. (except as noted) in St. Louis: 9/23 †PHS, 11/7 (adult) JLK, †PHS, **11/17 – 12/3** (Park Point and the Superior Entry) KJB.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [25 North, 25 South] High count 10/16 Crow Wing & Mille Lacs (239: 120 in Crow Wing, 119 in Mille Lacs, described by the observer as “a dismal survey of Lake Mille Lacs”; see MOU Occasional Paper #3 for more typical fall counts at staging areas in the state) AXH. Late north 11/21 Mille Lacs RAE, 11/22 Hubbard PBB, St. Louis KJB, 11/25, 11/27 St. Louis KJB (median 11/25). Late south 11/28–29 Hennepin CMB, TAT, m.ob., 11/30 Rice TFB (median 11/29), but also see winter report.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [33 North, 49 South] High counts 10/11 Aitkin (72) PEJ, 10/8 Wabasha (50, Weaver Bottoms) KLi, 9/13 Hennepin (48) CMB. Late north 11/9 Traverse BJU, 11/10–13 Beltrami DPJ, SVo, 11/16 Todd JeM (median 11/27), but also see winter report for late lingering migrants.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [23 North, 20 South] Early north (median 8/18) **8/2** Lake RAE, **8/5** Cass DAY, 8/12 Wilkin DST, 8/15 Cass BJL. Early south (median 9/14) 9/2 Brown ANy, 9/22 Ramsey ELC, 9/23 Hennepin CMB, Meeker RZi, m.ob. High counts 10/16 Mille Lacs (59) AXH, 10/28 Hennepin (18) CMB. Late north 11/13 Beltrami SVo, 11/19 Otter Tail DST, 11/25 St. Louis ACr, KJB (median 11/19). Late south 11/18 Lac qui Parle BJU, Meeker DPG, Rice DAB, Winona ANy, 11/21 Carver DBM, PRH, 11/25 Blue Earth ChH (median 11/27). But see winter report for late lingering migrants.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [17 North, 13 South] Late north 11/8 Cook JLK, 11/9 Aitkin HHD, RAE, Traverse BJU, 11/17 Lake JLK (median 12/3). Late south 11/10 Carver WCM, Pope HHD, RAE,



American White Pelican, 8 September 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Tony Mitchell.

11/17 Anoka DWK, 11/28 Wabasha DVE (median 11/10), but see winter report.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [5 North, 9 South] All north 8/8 Marshall DaW, 9/1 Roseau (2), 9/2–3 Pennington (6), 9/3 Red Lake (2) KRE, m.ob., 9/14 Grant HHD, RAE. Late south 9/26 Sibley RBW, 10/5 Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/21 Big Stone DLP (median 10/31).

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [11 North, 10 South] Late north 10/20 Becker GT, 10/29 Lake DBM, 11/8 St. Louis DAY, 11/14 St. Louis †PHS (median 11/3). Late south 11/9 Big Stone (Big Stone Lake) ph. BJU, 11/13 Pope DBM, 11/14 Big Stone (Big Stone Lake) BJU, 11/15 Wabasha DBz, 11/20 Big Stone DLP (median 11/17).

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [2 North] All reports: 8/5 Douglas (Lake Osakis, adult with flightless juvenile, second parent unknown; though seen in Douglas, almost all grebe nesting habitat is on the Todd side of this lake) †AXH, 8/11 Todd (Lake Osakis, possible hybrid) †DBM, 8/28 Traverse.

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [28 North, 49 South] High

counts 9/30 Hennepin (est. 500) BAF, 8/21 Cass (300) DAY. Late north 11/9 Beltrami, Lake of the Woods, Roseau PBB, Traverse BJU, 11/28 St. Louis EBr (median 11/24).

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [17 North, 40 South] High counts 8/25 Dakota (est. 1,000+, Lake Isabelle) TAT, 9/10 Hennepin (780, Purgatory Creek) HCT. Late north 9/28 Cook HHD, RAE, 10/10 St. Louis KJB, 10/12 Traverse RAE, 10/19 Traverse RBJ, 11/9 Lake of the Woods PBB (median 10/25). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [9 North, 8 South] High count 8/24 Grant (6, North Ottawa Impoundment) KRE. Late north 9/7 Pine PRH, 9/14 Grant HHD, RAE, 10/18 Aitkin PEJ (median 10/8). Late south 10/1 Big Stone DLP, 11/8–10 Carver (Lake Waconia) JCy, CRM, GJa (median 10/10).

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [11 South] No north reports. Late south 8/25 Nicollet (2) MiO, 9/1 Sherburne PLJ, 9/16 Hennepin SBM, ACr (median 9/2).

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) — [29



Northern Goshawk, 14 October 2012, Hawk Ridge, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Darcy Pinotti.

North, 52 South] High counts 8/5 Aitkin (42) JLK, 8/2 Carver (25) JCy, 9/2 Hennepin (25) ThM. Late north 10/21 Grant DBM, JMJ, 10/27 St. Louis JLK (median 12/1).

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) — [11 North, 39 South] High counts 8/2 Carver (est. 300, New Germany area) JCy, 8/19 Grant (168, Ash Lake) PCC. Late north 10/12 Traverse (7) RAE, 10/14 Marshall (2) MJM (median 10/14). Late south 10/29 Rice ANy, 11/2 Rice DAK (median 11/7).

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) — [1 North] All reports: 8/11–26 Grant (Mud Lake and Ash Lake) where as many as 4 individuals were present on 8/19 PCC and 8/24 KRE, m.ob., 9/1 Becker (north of Frazee) BDS.

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) — [1 North] Only reported from Grant, where an immature bird was at Mud Lake 8/24 KRE, m.ob., 8/25 LMS.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [1 North, 1 South] Only north report 9/8 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) DBM. One south report 10/22 (present since late September) Houston KAK.

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) — [20

North, 42 South] High counts 8/4 Hennepin (18, Theodore Wirth Park) HCT, 8/18 Sherburne (15, Sherburne N.W.R.) BAB. Late north 10/2 Cass JWM, 10/3 St. Louis JLK, 10/9 Douglas JWa (median 10/1). Late south 10/2 Rice (2) GHo, 10/3 Hennepin TAT, 10/7 Washington DFN (median 10/20).

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [3 North, 8 South] High count 8/4 Nicollet (18: 10 adults, 8 juveniles) MiO. Late north 9/14 Grant HHD, RAE, 9/18 Otter Tail TJa (median 9/16). Late south 9/23 Hennepin DAB, ANy, 10/10 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/9 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 11/8).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [2 South] All reports: 9/8–15 Hennepin (juvenile, Long Meadow Lake, Minnesota River Valley N.W.R.) ph. †BAF, †SHF, CMB, DWK, HCT, 9/24 Dakota (Gun Club Lake) SWe.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) — [29 North, 48 South] High count 9/23 St. Louis (195, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Late north 10/31 St. Louis KJB, ABL (median 10/30). Late south 10/27 Goodhue BRL, 11/9 Freeborn DBZ (median 10/21).

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [26 North, 25 South] High count 9/7 St. Louis (15, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Late north 10/14 St. Louis KJB, ABL, 10/19 Traverse RBJ (median 10/24). Late south 10/20 Steele HCT, 11/12 Rice TFB (median 11/11).

MISSISSIPPI KITE (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) — [1 North] Two documented reports, both from H.R.N.R. in St. Louis: 9/6 (juv.) ph. CAR, KJB, 9/16 (juv.) ph. †KJB, ph. ABL.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [33 North, 47 South] High count 11/12 St. Louis (488, H.R.N.R.) KJB.

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) — [27 North, 44 South] High count 9/9 St. Louis (41, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Late north 11/23 St. Louis KJB, ABL, 11/24 Douglas JPE and Otter Tail RAE, HHD (median 11/25), but also see winter report.

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) — [26 North, 33 South] Early south 8/7 Hennepin ABL (median 8/10). High count 9/13 St. Louis (1,319, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Late north 11/29 Polk SAu, 11/30 Wadena PJB (median 11/29), but also see winter report.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [23

Table 1. Hawk Ridge fall 2012 raptor summary (main overlook total only).

Species	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	2012 total	1991–2012 average	% from average	First date	Last date	Peak day	Peak number
TV	6	952	670	0	1,628	1,302	25%	21 Aug	31 Oct	23 Sep	195
OS	20	122	7	0	149	352	-58%	18 Aug	14 Oct	7 Sep	15
BE	99	905	2,076	1,724	4,804	3,181	51%	16 Aug	30 Nov	12 Nov	488
NH	38	338	75	1	452	510	-11%	15 Aug	23 Nov	9 Sep	41
SS	458	8,262	3,885	15	12,620	15,877	-21%	15 Aug	28 Nov	13 Sep	1,319
CH	5	52	20	0	77	145	-47%	24 Aug	14 Oct	13 Sep	8
NG	6	34	143	86	269	538	-50%	20 Aug	26 Nov	15 Nov	17
RS	1	0	4	0	5	4	25%	29 Aug	29 Oct	29 Oct	2
BW	737	27,343	4	0	28,084	47,351	-41%	15 Aug	14 Oct	9 Sep	15,204
SW	1	17	0	0	18	7	157%	27 Aug	16 Sep	9 Sep	7
RT	169	844	5,295	159	6,467	8,173	-21%	15 Aug	28 Nov	14 Oct	641
RL	0	1	351	179	531	504	5%	17 Sep	29 Nov	12 Nov	81
GE	0	0	61	150	211	134	57%	7 Oct	28 Nov	12 Nov	57
AK	115	1,126	140	0	1,381	1,884	-27%	15 Aug	24 Oct	13 Sep	120
ML	21	116	57	3	197	215	-8%	16 Aug	23 Nov	3 Sep	17
PG	0	40	13	0	53	68	-22%	7 Sep	24 Oct	24 Sep	6
MK	1	2	0	0	3	-	-	27 Aug	16 Sep	-	-
hours	139.0	302.5	264.4	182.7	888.7	765.4	16%				
days	16	30	30	30	106						
TOTAL	1,677	40,166	12,809	2,322	56,974	80,219	-29%	15 Aug	30 Nov	9 Sep	16,135

North, 42 South] High counts 9/13 St. Louis (8, H.R.N.R.) KJB, 9/14 Blue Earth (8) ChH. Late north 11/4 Lake MJB, 11/13 Mahnomomen CSo (median 11/2), but also see winter report.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [12 North, 3 South] North reports from Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Kittson, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Mahnomomen, Otter Tail, Red Lake, St. Louis. All south reports: 11/10 Olmsted JPr, 11/17 Rice TFB, 11/21 Hennepin ThM. High count 11/15 St. Louis (17, H.R.N.R.) KJB.

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) — [9 North, 19 South] High count 9/23 Olmsted (5, Cascade Meadow Wetlands and Environmental Science Center) MHn. Late north 10/29 St. Louis KJB, 11/2 Becker MO (median 10/28). Other north reports from Aitkin, Douglas, Grant, Hubbard, Morrison, Otter Tail, Todd.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) — [25 North, 20 South] High count 9/9 St. Louis (15,204, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Peak count away from Hawk Ridge 9/17 Blue Earth (581, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato) ChH. Late north 10/14 St. Louis KJB, ABL (median 10/16). Late south 10/15 Hennepin DCK, 10/21 Olmsted MkS (median 10/10).

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [3 North, 14 South] High count 9/9 St. Louis (7, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Late north 9/16 St. Louis KJB, ABL (median 9/30); also reported north in Clay and Traverse. Late south 10/1 Big Stone DLP, 10/4 Blue Earth ChH (median 10/5).

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [33 North, 53 South] High count 10/14 St. Louis (641, H.R.N.R.) KJB.

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) — [22 North, 18 South] Early north (median 9/17) 9/17 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) KJB, 9/29 St. Louis ChH. Early south (median 10/2) 9/18 Jackson Vsa, 9/28 Hennepin ThM. High count 11/12 St. Louis (81, H.R.N.R.) KJB.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [3 North, 11 South] Early north (median 9/29) 10/7 and 10/9 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) KJB, ABL, m.ob. Record high count of **57** at Hawk Ridge 11/12 KJB; last reported there 11/28 KJB. All north reports away from Hawk Ridge: 10/14 St. Louis (Lester River condominiums, Duluth) KJB, 10/17 St. Louis (juv., Ryan Rd. and Shilhon Rd., Duluth) PHS, 10/28 Cook (Lutsen ski area) WCM, 10/31 St. Louis (Lester River condominiums) KJB, 11/4 Cook (Taconite Harbor) KRE, ThM, 11/9 Marshall HHu, 11/12



American Coot, 1 August 2012, Vermillion, Dakota County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

St. Louis (Paine Farm) SmR, 11/13 St. Louis (Lester River condominiums) KJB, 11/23 St. Louis (Lester River condominiums) KJB. Early south 11/2 Ramsey (ad., Shoreview) CRM, ChH, 11/7 Dakota (ad., Rosemount) ADS. Also reported south in Blue Earth, Houston, Kandiyohi, Lyon, Meeker, Nicollet, Pipestone, Sherburne, Stearns.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — No reports.

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) — [7 North, 18 South] High count 8/7 Meeker (8, Eden Valley) MJB. Late north 9/3 Marshall KRE, m.ob., 9/4 St. Louis AM, 9/10 St. Louis JLK (median 9/10). Late south 10/7 Rice TFB, 10/12–20 Hennepin (Bass Ponds, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JSh, m.ob. (median 10/7).

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) — [15 North, 28 South] High counts 9/8 Hennepin (max. 21, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) GJa, BAF, SHF, 10/3 Wabasha (20) ANy, 9/12 Hennepin (18, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) KLi. Late north 10/3 St. Louis JLK, 10/6 Douglas JPE (median 10/1). Late south 10/10 Goodhue BRL, Hennepin (Staring Lake Park) GJa, Lac qui Parle BJU, and through 10/21 in Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF (median 10/11).

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) — [1 North, 6 South] Only north report: 9/10

Grant (ad. in winter plumage, North Ottawa Impoundment) DBM. High counts of 9 on 8/3 Dakota JLO and 8/5 Dakota BAF refer to 2 adults with 7 young at 180th St. Marsh; last reported there 9/28 GJM, well past the recent south median 9/8. Also reported south in Sherburne (Big Bluestem Pool, Sherburne N.W.R.), Stevens (Morris Wetland District auto loop), Swift (Lubelow W.P.A.), Wabasha (Whitewater W.M.A.), Wright (Peyton Ave. SW).

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [28 North, 45 South] High count 10/27 Pope (est. 10,000, Lake Minnewaska) MJB. Observed north and south throughout the season.

Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*) — [26 North, 24 South] High count 10/13 Marshall (est. 1,600) SAS. Late north 11/6 Marshall GT, 11/9 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) PBB (median 11/4). Late south 11/9 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/10 Wabasha PEJ, DFN, 11/12 Anoka PSm, 11/22 Sherburne RZi, MHu, 11/23 Anoka CKB and Sherburne ACr, 11/26 Anoka DvS all after recent median 11/8.

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [9 North, 18 South] Early north (median 8/9) 8/8 St. Louis EBr, 8/14 Grant RAE. Early south (median 8/8) 8/7 Jackson KJB, 8/10 Big Stone PLJ. High count 10/30 Brown (8, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS. Late north 10/14 Marshall JMJ and St. Louis JLK, 10/21 Douglas and Grant DBM (median 10/26). Late south 10/30 Brown BTS, 11/10 Steele DWK, HCT (median 11/5).

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [15 North, 35 South] Early north (median 8/17) 8/5 Grant (probably a one-year old bird overwintering) PCC, 8/19 Grant (ad., Towner Lake) PCC. Early south (median 8/4) 8/7 Jackson KJB, 8/9 Carver JCy. High count 10/10 Lac qui Parle (127, Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU. Late north 10/14 Marshall JMJ, 10/21 Douglas DBM (median 10/27). Late south 11/11 Brown BTS, 11/21 Lac qui Parle DLP (median 11/3).

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [8 North, 26 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/1 Grant (73, Ash Lake, Denton Slough, and Towner Slough) KJB. Late north 9/9 Douglas JPE and St. Louis ANy, 9/22 Grant DBM (median 10/2). Late south

- 9/14 Swift HHD, RAE, 9/17 Lac qui Parle DLP and Ramsey LMS (median 10/8).
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 North] Only report: 8/22 St. Louis (Minnesota Point) JLK.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [33 North, 52 South] High count 8/1 Lac qui Parle (194, Haydenville W.M.A.) BJU. Late north 10/22 Douglas DBM, 11/6 Cass BAW (median 10/26). See winter report for late migrants and potentially overwintering birds south.
- American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [3 South] Only reports: 8/9 Big Stone (Big Stone N.W.R.) and Lac qui Parle (2, Salt Lake) PLJ, 8/10 Lac qui Parle CRM, ALO, 8/15 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 9/21 Redwood (Willow Lake) HHD, RAE.
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [23 North, 43 South] High count 8/6 Freeborn (44, Myre-Big Island S.P.) RTP. Late north 10/11 Pine RBJ, DAC, 10/21 Douglas DBM (median 10/13). Late south 10/3 Hennepin GHo and Wabasha ANy, 10/16 McLeod PRH (median 10/10).
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [24 North, 39 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/23 Wadena (36) MaH. Late north 9/27 St. Louis KJB, 10/20 Itasca SC (median 10/1). Late south 10/6 Fillmore DBz and Washington HHD, RAE, 10/7 Hennepin ThM (median 10/5).
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [20 North, 41 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 10/13 Brown (47, Somsen W.M.A. and Rosenau-Lambrecht W.M.A.) BTS. Late north 11/4 Aitkin JeB, 11/6 Itasca SC (median 11/3). Late south 11/7 Olmsted LAV, 11/10 Faribault CoN (median 11/9).
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [3 South] Only reports: 8/7 Jackson (North Heron Lake) KJB, 8/11 Carver (New Germany) JCy, 8/24–26 Mower (Dexter W.T.P.) RAE, JWH, m.ob.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [18 North, 41 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/1 Grant (1,617, Ash Lake, Denton Slough, and Towner Slough) KJB. Late north 10/21 Grant DBM, 10/27 Lake BWF, m.ob. (median 10/25). Late south 10/30 Brown BTS and Dakota TAT, 11/4 Dakota CAs (median 11/2).
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [4 North, 7 South] Late north 8/15 Todd HHD, 8/24 Douglas JPE (median 8/15). Late south 8/12 Murray GWe, 8/15 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 8/22).
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — No reports.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [3 South] Only reports: 9/25–28 Hennepin (Bass Ponds, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) CMB, m.ob., 9/26 Chippewa (4, Shakopee Lake) DBM, 10/16 Carver (juv., Chevalle neighborhood wetlands, Chaska) JCy.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [2 North, 3 South] High count 8/3 Lac qui Parle (32, Salt Lake) RBJ, m.ob. Late north 8/19 Grant (Ash Lake) PCC, 8/26 Grant (Mustinka W.M.A.) PCC (median 8/18); only north report away from Grant was 8/8 St. Louis (21, Park Point) ph. EBr. Late south 8/7 Jackson (6, North Heron Lake) KJB, 8/28 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.) BJU (median 8/20).
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [3 North, 2 South] All north reports: 8/21 Cass (Pelican Island, Leech Lake) DAY, 9/3 St. Louis (Park Point) EBr, 9/28 Itasca (2) SC, EEO, 10/7 St. Louis PRH. Only south reports: 8/1 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) BJU, 8/7 Jackson (North Heron Lake) KJB.
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — No reports.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [5 North, 9 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/8 St. Louis (34, Park Point) EBr. Late north 9/18 St. Louis (Park Point) ALO, EBr, 9/23 St. Louis DAB, ANy (median 10/11). Late south 9/15 Ramsey RMD, 10/4 Yellow Medicine RBJ (median 10/22).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [17 North, 32 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/1 Grant (2,270, Ash Lake, Denton Slough, and Towner Slough) KJB, 8/5 Grant (728, 503 of which were at Ash Lake) PCC. Late north 9/26 and 10/1 Grant DBM (median 9/27). Late south 10/15 Hennepin JLO, 11/6 McLeod PRH (median 10/12).
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [22 North, 47 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/26 Grant (1,112 — 519 of which were at Ash Lake, and another 500 at Mustinka

- W.M.A.) PCC. Late north 10/1 Grant DBM, 10/13 Douglas JPE (median 10/13). Late south 10/21 Hennepin BAF, SHF, 10/26 McLeod CRM, ALo (median 10/25).
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [3 North, 3 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants north (median 8/21). All north reports: 8/1 Grant KJB, 8/11 Grant (Ash Lake) PCC, 8/16 Becker BDS, 10/1 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) DBM, 11/3 Cook (Lake Superior shoreline near Croftville) PHS, AXH (late median 10/14). Only south reports (early median 8/7): 8/10 Lac qui Parle PLJ, 8/22 Goodhue GJM (late median 10/5).
- Baird Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [12 North, 29 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/26 Grant (88, 72 of which were at Ash Lake) PCC. Late north 9/26 Grant DBM, 10/13 Douglas JPE (median 10/3). Late south 10/19 Lac qui Parle BJU and Yellow Medicine KRE, m.ob., 10/21 Yellow Medicine (Curtis Lake) JCC (median 10/31).
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [18 North, 42 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/7 Jackson (**8,439**, North Heron Lake, second highest count on record) KJB, 8/1 Grant (**4,351**, Ash Lake, Denton Slough, and Towner Slough) KJB, 8/11 Grant (est. **3,500**, Ash Lake) APa. Late north 10/13 Douglas JPE, 10/21 Grant DBM (median 10/30). Late south 11/12 Houston SHO, 11/16–22 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS (median 11/12) .
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [5 North, 10 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants well before recent median north (9/2) and south (8/25). Late north 10/28 Cook WCM, BWF, 11/13 Lake JWL. Late south 11/14 Ramsey BRL, **11/18–22** Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS (median 11/5).
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris bimantopus*) — [15 North, 28 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/19 Grant (496, 402 of which were at Towner Lake) PCC. Late north 9/23 Grant BWF, JWH, 9/26 Grant DBM (median 9/21). Late south 10/18 Brown BTS, 10/21 Olmsted JPr (median 10/10) .
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Tryngites subru-*
- ficollis*) — [3 North, 21 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 9/3 Faribault (11, Minnesota Lake) DAB, JWH. Late north 9/23 Grant BWF, JWH, 9/26 Grant DBM (median 9/22); only other north reports from Carlton and St. Louis. Late south 9/9 Nobles JWH, 9/12 and 9/17 Lac qui Parle DLP (median 9/20).
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [4 North, 16 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/1 Grant (10, Ash Lake, Denton Slough, and Towner Slough) KJB. Late north 9/10 Cook DBz and St. Louis JLK, 10/1 Grant DBM (median 9/7). Late south 9/25 McLeod PRH, 10/1 Chippewa DBM (median 9/11).
- Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [1 North, 18 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants before recent medians north (8/14) and south (8/1). High count 9/26 Grant (19) DBM. Late north 10/19 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) RBJ, 10/21 Grant DBM (median 10/15). Late south 10/24 Faribault RBJ, RAE, DAC, 10/26 Blue Earth HHD, MGo, SBM, Faribault RAE, Lac qui Parle DLP (median 10/25).
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [22 North, 44 South] High count 9/6 Sherburne (46, Sherburne N.W.R.) PLJ. Late north 10/28 Cook WCM, 11/4 Aitkin JeB (median 11/9). Last reported south 11/17 Anoka RZi, but see winter report for late migrants and possibly overwintering birds.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [9 North, 12 South] High count 9/28 Hubbard (5, Shingobee Creek) MAW. Late north 10/22 Lake JWL, 10/31 Hubbard MAW (median 10/29). Late south 10/28 Dakota DVE, 10/29 and 11/6 Goodhue GJM (median 11/3).
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [5 North, 9 South] High count 8/1 Grant (32, Ash Lake, Denton Slough, and Towner Slough) KJB. Late north 8/26 Grant DWK, PCC, SBM, 9/1 Grant ANy (median 9/6). Late south 9/7 Carver JCy, **10/21** Redwood †MJM (median 9/15).
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [13 North, 21 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/29 Brown (44, Sleepy Eye

- W.T.P.) BTS. Late north 9/23 Pine (Sandstone W.T.P.) DWK, SBM, 9/27 Pine (C.R. 20/Hwy. 48) RBJ, DAC (median 9/22). Late south 9/24 Sibley GLa, CRM, RZi, 9/26 Sibley (Gaylord W.T.P.) RBW (median 9/26).
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** (*Rissa tridactyla*) — [1 North] Two reports from St. Louis (Canal Park, Duluth): 11/10 (first-cycle) †KJB, 11/28 (ad.) ph. †JLK.
- SABINE'S GULL** (*Xema sabini*) — [1 South] Only report: 9/21 **Hennepin** (juv., Purgatory Creek, Eden Prairie) †CMB, †TAT, †PEB, ph. GJa.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [20 North, 30 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 9/25 Cass (146, Walker W.T.P.) BAW. Late north 11/21 Mille Lacs RAE, 11/24 Morrison JTe (median 11/23). Late south 11/18 Lac qui Parle and Swift BJU, 11/21 Carver HCT, PRH (median 11/24).
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — No reports.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [17 North, 43 South] High count 9/15 Wright (est. 2,500, Albertville W.T.P.) DWK. Late north 11/9 Mille Lacs HHD, RAE and Traverse BJU, 11/24 Douglas JPE (median 10/24). Late south 11/17 Lac qui Parle, 11/18 Kandiyohi BJU (median 11/11).
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [32 North, 48 South] Statewide. High count 11/24 Hennepin (est. 4,000, Lake Harriet) BAF.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [17 North, 27 South] Observed north throughout the season. First reported south 8/2 Rice TFB, 8/6 Freeborn RTP. High count 11/4 St. Louis (**6,300**, Duluth, record high count) KJB.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*) — [3 North, 2 South] Early north (median 10/15) **9/24** St. Louis (ad., Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/5 St. Louis ABL, then observed in St. Louis throughout the remainder of the season. All other north reports away from St. Louis: 10/7 Lake (ad., Knife River) DBM, 10/27 Cook (first-cycle, Grand Marais) DAB, WCM, JWH, KRE, 10/28 Cook (2 first-cycle) TAT. Early south (median 10/5) **9/22** Hennepin (ad., Lake Calhoun) PEB; last reported from Hennepin 11/25 (ad., Lake Harriet) SMY, BAF. Only other south report away from Hennepin: 11/8 Wabasha (Lake City Marina) EGY.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [1 North, 2 South] At least three individuals reported from Superior Entry and Canal Park in St. Louis beginning 11/17 (first-cycle, Superior Entry) KJB (early median 11/18). Reported south 11/16–19 Goodhue (first-cycle, Frontenac boat landing) ANy, DBz, m.ob., 11/24–25 Hennepin (first-cycle, Lake Harriet) BAF, SMY.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [1 North, 3 South] All north reports from Duluth beginning 9/20 (ad., Superior Entry) CHk (early median 9/21). Total of one adult and two first-cycle birds present in Duluth (Canal Park/Superior Entry) in October; first-cycle last reported 10/26 (Superior Entry) BWF, m.ob. All south reports: 10/20–21 Dakota (ad., Burnsville) CMB, KRo, 10/21 Lyon (first-cycle, landfill southeast of Camden S.P.) KRE, m.ob., 11/28–29 Hennepin (2 ad., Lake Calhoun) m.ob., 11/30 Hennepin (ad., Lake Harriet) CMB.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [1 North, 1 South] All north reports from St. Louis (Duluth) beginning 11/4 (first-cycle) KJB (early median 10/31). Only south report: 11/30 Hennepin (first-cycle, Lake Harriet) CMB.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] All reports from St. Louis (Duluth) beginning 11/6 Canal Park (first-cycle) KJB (early median 11/15), 11/7 mouth of Lester River (adult) KJB, 11/10 Western Lake Superior Sanitary District facility (second-cycle). The first third-cycle bird was found 11/25 Canal Park PHS, and all four of these age classes were seen at Canal Park 11/27 KJB.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [8 North, 10 South] High count 9/21 Hennepin (21, Purgatory Creek, Eden Prairie) CMB. Late north 9/24 Traverse BWF, JWH, 9/24–28 Crow Wing JSB (median 10/2). Late south 10/3 Hennepin (Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo, 10/3–9 Hennepin (Purgatory Creek) WCM, GJa, HCT, DWK (median 10/2).
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonias niger*) — [11 North, 30 South] High count 8/11 Douglas (35, Lake Osakis) APa. Late north 9/3 Marshall KRE, m.ob., Morrison ALa, JPr, Pennington KRE, m.ob., 9/8 Grant DBM (median 9/7).

- Late south 9/13 Chippewa DLP, 9/15 Scott HDD (median 9/15).
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [8 North, 1 South] High count 8/21 Cass (**185**, Leech Lake) PLJ. Late north 9/17 St. Louis JFr, 10/9 Mille Lacs SMC (median 10/1). Only south reports from Hennepin: 9/24 (Old Cedar Av. Bridge) RDa, 9/28 (Bass Ponds, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) RDa, 9/30 (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) SOa (late median 9/16).
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [10 North, 17 South] High count 8/26 Grant (12, Mud Lake) SBM. Late north 9/26 Grant DBM, 10/13 Douglas JPE (median 10/11). Late south 10/19 Pope (2, Lake Minnewaska) RBJ, **10/22** Pope (ad., Lake Minnewaska) DBM (median 9/27).
- Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — [1 North] Light-morph adult photographed from Park Point R.A. in St. Louis 8/17 ph. EBr.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Statewide. High count 11/15 Dakota (est. 120, Hastings) DVe.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [10 North, 37 South] North reports from Becker, Clay, Grant, Itasca, Marshall, Morrison, Norman, Polk, Todd, Traverse. High count 9/21 Redwood (16, Clements) HDD, RAE.
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE** (*Zenaida asiatica*) — [1 North] One bird observed **11/9** Cook (Taconite Harbor) †PLJ.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [33 North, 53 South] Statewide. High count 9/1 Winona (65, Lewiston W.T.P.) MGo.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [2 North, 13 South] Only north reports: 9/6 Aitkin KCR, 9/23 Cook REr (late median 9/12). Late south 10/1 Hennepin TAT, 10/10 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 9/17).
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [6 North, 8 South] Late north 9/14 St. Louis SmR, 9/21 Pine LMS (median 9/7). Late south 8/23 Carver JCy, 9/3 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) BeH, 9/4 Hennepin CMB (median 9/25).
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [21 South] No north reports. Reported south from Benton, Big Stone, Brown, Cottonwood, Dodge, Faribault, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Lyon, Martin, McLeod, Nobles, Olmsted, Pipestone, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Wabasha, Washington.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [15 North, 29 South] Statewide. High count 10/18 Nicollet (5) APi.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [6 North, 1 South] All north reports (early median 11/7): 10/24 Clay JoC, 11/1 Polk ph. JeH, 11/8 Beltrami *fide* DPJ, 11/9 Marshall (south of Warren) *fide* AXH, 11/12 Aitkin (Fleming Twp.) *fide* AXH, 11/24 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) ABL, KJB. Only south report (early median 11/13) 11/4 Hennepin (Maple Grove) ph. JaS.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [3 North] All reports: 10/17 Lake of the Woods GMM, 11/4 St. Louis SmR, 11/9 Cook PLJ.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [17 North, 24 South] Observed in all regions of the state but only as far southwest as Lac qui Parle and as far northwest as Becker.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [5 North] Observed in St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) throughout the season beginning 10/17 EBr. Reports away from St. Louis: 11/3 Cook (Caribou Trail) JaJ, 11/5 Lake (Hwy. 1) CWG, DWK, THL, SBM, 11/6 Lake of the Woods GMM, 11/27 Aitkin KCR.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [3 North, 7 South] All north reports: 10/12 St. Louis ABL, 10/16 St. Louis KJB, 10/27 Lake AXH, PHS, 11/9 St. Louis JLK and Traverse BJU. Early south (median 11/2) 10/2 Hennepin WKn, 10/13 Anoka AXH. Also observed south in Carver, Goodhue, Ramsey, Washington, Wright.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [6 North, 4 South] Reported north from Aitkin, Cook, Marshall, Roseau, St. Louis, Traverse as late as 11/9 Traverse BJU. Early south (median 10/7) 10/19 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) BJU, 11/7 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [3 North, 8 South] Observed north in Cook, Lake, St. Louis. Found south in Big Stone, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Olmsted, Ramsey, Rice as early as 10/12 Olmsted SHk.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [25 North, 41 South] High counts 8/24 St.

- Louis (6,877, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/14 St. Louis (4,241, Duluth Lakewalk) PHS. Late north 9/29 Douglas JPE, 10/7 Clay RHO (median 9/27). Late south 10/2 Rice TFB, 10/13 Lyon GWe (median 10/9).
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Antrastomus vociferus*) — [3 North, 2 South] All north reports: 8/28 Cass JWM, 8/31 Pine DaE, 9/1 Pine (3) MJM, 9/24 Lake JWL (late median 9/4). All south reports: 8/28 Sherburne PLJ, 9/4 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU (late median 9/12).
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [17 North, 42 South] High count 9/1 Fillmore (est. **500**, Preston) NBO. Late north 9/2 Otter Tail PJK, then two reports well past recent median (9/14), both from St. Louis (H.R.N.R.): 10/17 and 10/20 KJB. Late south 9/22 Winona DBz, 9/23–26 Lyon GWe (median 10/6).
- Bruy-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [31 North, 42 South] High count 9/6 Hennepin (**30**, Westwood Hills N.C.) RZi. Late north 9/27 St. Louis AM, 10/6 Clearwater VLa (median 9/25). Late south 10/3 Carver JTe, **11/13–14** Winona AnL, ANY (median 10/13).
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [30 North, 49 South] High count 8/3 Dakota (5, Lake Rebecca) DwS. Last reported north 11/14 Itasca SC, 11/17 Lake PHS. Reported south throughout the season.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [12 North, 35 South] High counts 8/8 Polk (6, East Grand Forks Greenway) SAu, 8/11 Goodhue (6) LEC. Late north 10/1 Lake MO, 11/21 Mille Lacs RAE (median 11/7). Late south 11/24 Houston RTP, 11/25 Dakota SK, but late migrants difficult to distinguish from possibly overwintering birds.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [28 North, 49 South] Statewide. High counts 10/3 Wabasha (10) ANY, 11/16 Ramsey (10, Crosby Farm R.P.) BRo.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [30 North, 41 South] High count 9/21 St. Louis (18, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 11/18 Norman RAE, 11/24 Grant RAE, HHD (median 10/20). Late south 10/28 Isanti MHe, 11/22 Freeborn BBU (median 11/30). Late migrants difficult to distinguish from possibly overwintering birds.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*) — [33 North, 51 South] Statewide. High counts 11/16 (**19**) and 11/20 (16) Ramsey (Crosby Farm R.P.) BRo.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [32 North, 49 South] Statewide. High count 11/20 Ramsey (**11**, Crosby Farm R.P.) BRo.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [2 North] All reports: 8/28 Lake of the Woods MRN, 9/26 Lake SC.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [4 North] Reported from Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, and St. Louis.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [33 North, 52 South] High count 9/17 St. Louis (**207**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. North November reports 11/9 Traverse BJU, 11/29 Otter Tail DST, also see winter report (median 12/19).
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [30 North, 37 South] Observed in all regions, though absent from southwest outside of Minnesota River valley.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [32 North, 52 South] High counts of 120 on 9/13 and 109 on 9/29 both reported from St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) by KJB. Still present both north and south at the end of the season, although most birds had departed the north before November.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [25 North, 26 South] Several early August reports from the Twin Cities metro were likely breeding/summering individuals. Early south outside the metro (median 8/18) 8/15 Cottonwood RMD, 8/19 Blue Earth ChH. High counts 9/3 St. Louis (17, H.R.N.R.) KJB, 9/30 St. Louis (11, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Late north St. Louis KJB, ABL, 11/24 Douglas JPE, but also see winter report.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [13 North, 24 South] High count 9/24 St. Louis (6, H.R.N.R.) KJB. Late north (median 10/26) 10/24 St. Louis KJB, 10/31 Aitkin KCR.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — [1 South] Two reports: 8/10 Big Stone (Big Stone N.W.R. Auto Tour) †PLJ, and 8/28 Big Stone (Graceville W.T.P.) ph. BJU.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [19 North, 28 South] Early south (median



Say's Phoebe, 10 October 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Douglas W. Kieser.

8/3) 8/3 Sherburne PLJ, 8/8 Scott RMD, 8/9 Hennepin TAT. High counts 8/25 Dakota (6) TAT, 8/22 and 8/26 Hennepin (5, Lakewood Cemetery) TAT. Late north 9/1 Roseau CRM, ALo, JPr, Todd JLK, 9/3 Lake SHT, RSA, Norman MJJ (median 9/7). Late south 9/14 Hennepin CMB, 9/15 Carver JCy, 9/24 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 9/21).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [29 North, 49 South] High counts 8/5 Scott (13, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF, 8/25 Ramsey (13, Sucker Lake) JSl, AWh. Late north 9/8 Clearwater MbH, Grant DBM, St. Louis DWK, 9/14 Traverse HHD, RAE (median 9/19). Late south 9/23 McLeod LS, 9/24 Carver JTe, Steele PSu, 9/25 Anoka ThM (median 10/3).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [10 North, 19 South] Reported from 1 north and 6 south counties with identification details. Only north report 8/11 Koochiching AMe. Early south (median 8/12) 8/3 Rice DAT, 8/11 Rice DAT, 8/15 Lac qui Parle BJU. Late south 9/9 Wright MJB, 9/15 Hennepin CMB (median 9/16).

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*)

— [5 South] All reports with identification notes 8/1 Hennepin CMB, 8/7 Rice TFB, 8/11 Hennepin CMB (median late 8/23). Reported from an additional 3 counties without details.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alorum*) —

[15 North, 9 South] Reported with ID notes from 2 north and 2 south counties. All north 8/11 Aitkin DPG, 8/11 Kanabec DBG (median late 8/26). All south 8/5 Scott BAF, 8/8 Dakota RMD, 9/2 Dakota ACr (median late 8/30).

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) — [2

North, 9 South] Reported from 5 south counties with ID notes. All south reports: 8/1 Lac qui Parle BJU, 8/4 Hennepin (2) BAF, 8/23 Pope DBM, 8/28 Ramsey HST, 9/2 Dakota ACr (median late 9/4).

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) —

[19 North, 34 South] Reported from 0 north and 8 south counties with ID notes. Late south 9/20 Hennepin TAT, 9/22 Ramsey JWH (median 9/25).

Empidonax flycatcher (*Empidonax sp.*) —

[9 North, 20 South] Late north *Empidonax* reports 9/21 St. Louis (2) KJB, 9/22 Cass BAW, St. Louis (2) SBM; late south 10/2 Blue Earth ChH, 10/10 Lac qui Parle BJU.

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [31

North, 47 South] High counts 9/2 Crow Wing (11, Pointen Lake) JLK, 8/20 Washington (10, Lake Elmo R.P.) BTw. Late north 10/11 Aitkin PEJ, Lake RBJ, DAC, St. Louis JLK, 10/13 Douglas JPE, Otter Tail) JsS (median 10/14). Late south 10/30 Hennepin ACr, Washington MJM, 11/10 Dakota JoD (median 10/31).

SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 North]

One individual present **10/7–11 St. Louis** (McQuade Public Access/Safe Harbor) ph. †KRE, ph. †KRo, ph. MLH, ph. †PHS, ph. BU, ph. JLK, ph. DWK, ph. AMi, m.ob. Third county record (**The Loon** 85:46).

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [20 North, 43 South] High counts

8/20 Washington (8, Lake Elmo R.P.) BTw, 8/12 Hennepin (6, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo, 8/25 Dakota (6) TAT. Late north 9/8 Carlton RMD, 9/13 St. Louis CRM, ALo, 9/15 Lake LMS (median 9/20). Late south 9/15

Carver JCy, 9/16 Scott ChA, 9/18 Hennepin GHo (median 9/22).

CASSIN'S KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus vociferans*)

— [1 North] First state record was discovered 10/27 by AXH and PHS in **Cook** near the East Bay Hotel and Suites, Grand Marais (*The Loon* 85:51–56). It was observed and photographed by many (ph. †AXH, ph. †PHS, †KRE, ph. ANy, ph. DAC, ph. †MJM, ph. RZi, m.ob.) through 11/12, generally east of the Cook County Courthouse.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [4

North, 10 South] All north 8/6 Traverse DLP, 8/14 Traverse (4, 2 adults 2 young) ANy, 8/19 Clay DLP, Polk JMJ, 9/3 Grant LS (median late 9/9). Late south 8/26 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) SLP, LMS, 8/28 Stevens RMD, 9/4 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 9/9).

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) —

[31 North, 50 South] Record-high count 8/26 St. Louis (**304**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 9/13 St. Louis LMS, KJB, 9/14 St. Louis KJB (median 9/18). Late south 9/23 Lyon GWe, 9/24 Lac qui Parle BJU, 9/26 Lyon GWe (median 9/23).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Tyrannus*

forficatus) — [1 South] First county record 8/2 **Cottonwood** (U.S. Highway 71, one mile south of Redwood County line) ph. BRB.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [2 South]

Reported from Dakota and Lac qui Parle. High count 8/7 Dakota (4) SVo. Late south (median 8/31) 9/1 Dakota SOa, 9/3 Dakota TAT, ADS.

Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) — [24

North, 33 South] Early north (median 10/8) 10/10 St. Louis SmR, 10/11 Norman CRM, ALo. Early south (median 10/15) 10/6 Anoka RNe, 10/13 Sherburne PLJ, 10/14 Anoka CKB, Goodhue SHk, Stevens RAE. High count 11/25 St. Louis (7, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr.

Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) — [4 South] All reports:

8/5 Goodhue DFN, 8/8 Dakota (2) RMD, 8/12 Wabasha JCC, 9/1 Dakota BAF, SHF, 9/8 Washington LEC (median late 8/27).

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [24 North, 40 South]

More reports than usual for the fall season. High count 8/28 Carver (5, Rapids Lake Unit Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. Late north 9/14 Traverse HHD, RAE, 9/15 Clay MO, 9/17



Clark's Nutcracker, 31 October 2012, Shoreview, Ramsey County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

Cass (2) BAW (median 9/19). Late south 9/24 Sibley GLa, CRM, RZi, 9/29 Carver JCy (median 9/27) .

Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) — [24

North, 35 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/18 Faribault (2) CLN, CoN, Sherburne RBJ, BAB. Both high counts of **7** from St. Louis: 9/13 JLK, 9/21 KJB. Six found on 9/1 in Nobles by BTS is notable for the southwest region. Late north 9/29 St. Louis KJB, 9/30 St. Louis HHD, RAE (median 10/10). Late south 10/10 Dakota KDS, 10/13 Ramsey JFR, PSe (median 10/16).

Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) — [21 North, 43

South] High counts 8/31 Dakota (**13**, Fort Snelling S.P.) MaB, 8/21 Carver (7, Rapids Lake Unit, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. 9/11 Cook RSt, 9/13 St. Louis LMS, CRM, ALo (median 9/12). Late south 9/25 Anoka CKB, 9/26 Lyon GWe, 9/29 Hennepin RBJ (median 9/25).

Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*)

- [18 North, 37 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/15 Lac qui Parle BJU, Redwood SVo, 8/17 Stearns PRH. High count 9/13 St. Louis (6, Indian Point, Duluth) JLK. Late north 9/21 St. Louis (2) KJB, 9/22 St. Louis DWK, PNi, SBM (median 9/26). Late south 9/27 Carver JCy, 10/4 Rice DAT (median 10/1).
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [32 North, 50 South] High counts 8/31 Todd (16) JLK, 8/27 St. Louis (15) JLK. Late north 9/26 Polk SAu, 10/1 Grant DBM, 10/11 St. Louis KJB (median 9/30). Late south 10/1 Hennepin TAT, Steele PSu, 10/9 Rice DAT (median 10/3).
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [8 North] All reports from traditional range, where seen in seven Northeast counties and Roseau in the Northwest. High count 11/5 Lake (9) JCC.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. North Shore migration peaked in mid-September with several high counts in the thousands from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, including 9/13 (4,715) KJB, followed by 9/14 (5,038) KJB.
- CLARK'S NUTCRACKER** (*Nucifraga columbiana*) — [2 North, 1 South] First fall reports since 2004, and first season with observations from multiple counties since 1977. First county record for **Carlton** (Cloquet) 10/10–12 ph. KGo. Second county record for **St. Louis** (H.R.N.R.) 10/12 ph. †KJB, ABL, †RDC (*The Loon* 85:93). First county record for **Ramsey** (Shoreview) discovered 10/30 TH1, observed and photographed by dozens of birders through 11/2 ph. †AXH, ph. †CMB, ph. DAC, †DWK, †BAF, †PNi, m.ob.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [21 North] Reported from a well above-average 21 counties within normal range, east to Lake. High counts 9/1 Roseau (50) KRE, 8/31 Lake of the Woods (15, all in a single tree near Williams) KRE.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High counts 11/27 Hennepin (est. 5,000, Powderhorn Park) JJo, 10/15 St. Louis (2,228, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census; 2,177 of these were tallied from H.R.N.R.) KJB.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [27 North, 6 South] Noteworthy reports 9/9, 9/29, 10/6 Douglas JPE, 10/20, 11/21 Stearns (max. 3, vocalizing) MJB. High counts from St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) 10/29 (83), 11/26 (76), 10/31 (72) KJB.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [20 North, 41 South] Late north 11/24 Douglas JPE, but see winter report. High counts 10/6 St. Louis (42) KJB, 10/7 Lake (42) JLK.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [12 North, 28 South] High count 8/7 Mille Lacs (30) NKi. Late north Todd JLK, 9/1 Roseau RZi, 9/2 Roseau KRE, m.ob. (median 9/8). Late south 9/4 Lac qui Parle BJU, Yellow Medicine (5) BJU, 9/9 Lyon (5) GWe, 9/15 Lyon (15) GWe (median 9/15).
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [27 North, 51 South] High counts 8/6 Jackson (589, Heron Lake area) KJB, 8/11 Grant (343, Ash Lake) APa, PCC. Late north (median 10/3) 10/7 Douglas HHD, RAE, 10/9 Douglas JWa (median 10/2). Late south 10/14 Carver CRM, Rice DAB, 10/17 Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/25 Big Stone (2) BJU (median 10/18).
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [7 North, 27 South] Late north 8/28 Traverse BJU, 9/8 Clearwater MbH, 9/24 Traverse BWF, JWH (median 9/8). Late south 9/13 Washington (18) PAL, 9/15 Dakota (2) TAT, HSt, Lyon GWe (median 10/3).
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [15 North, 38 South] Record-high count 8/6 Jackson (est. 6,234, Heron Lake area; driving around North and South Heron lakes by road) KJB. Late north 9/3 Grant LS, Marshall CRM, Pennington CRM, Polk CRM, 9/4 Mahnomen DBM (median 9/10). Late south 9/15 Dakota TAT, Lyon (3) GWe, 10/13 Brown (2) BTS (median 9/16).
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [22 North, 47 South] High counts 8/27 Mower (est. 300, Brownsdale W.T.P.) ANy, 8/22 Faribault (est. 280, Rice Lake W.M.A.) ClN, CoN. Late north 9/5 St. Louis (4) KJB, 10/6 Lake (2) JWl, St. Louis KJB (median 9/15). Late south 9/21 Fillmore DBz, 9/22 Faribault (2) ClN, CoN (median 9/28).
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [32 North, 52 South] High counts 8/30 Rice (est. 150) GHo, 8/22 Faribault (est. 80) CoN, ClN.



Mountain Bluebird, 31 October 2012, Two Harbors, Lake County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

Late north 9/26 Grant DBM, 10/7 Douglas HHD, RAE (median 10/8). Late south 10/14 Hennepin (3) DJR, ZSl, 10/25 McLeod (3) SBM (median 10/17).

Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High count 11/16 Ramsey (56, Crosby Farm R.P.) BRo.

Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Reported from Beltrami, Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, and St. Louis.

Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [1 North, 12 South] Many extralimital reports of this species, including 1 north report 9/5–7 Aitkin (residence north of Garrison) ASc, RAE, HHD. First county record 11/5 **Swift** (Benson) ph. JOr. Other out-of-range reports 9/6 Anoka †CKB, 9/18 Washington MGr, 10/5 Washington KMo, PSm, 10/12 Stearns (St. Nicholas) ph. PLu, 10/16 Hennepin (Richfield) PEJ, 11/11 Anoka (Circle Pines) JRk, 11/11–24 Ramsey CMu. Also reported from 5 counties within normal range.

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*)

— [32 North, 46 South] Early south migrants (median 8/18) 8/8 Benton SC, Hennepin (2) ThM, 8/9 Carver WCM, Martin LMu. High count 9/22 St. Louis (15) ACr.

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High count 9/25 Hennepin (24, Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo.

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) — [24 North, 40 South] Early south reports (median 8/30) 8/2, 8/3 Washington JoF, 8/11 MJB, 8/22 Isanti DPG, 9/6 Anoka DPG. High counts 10/18 Hennepin (8) CMB, 11/16 and 11/19 Hennepin (8) BRO.

ROCK WREN (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) — [1 South] New county record **10/11 Blue Earth** (rural Mankato) ph. †FSe. First fall report of this species in four years.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [13 South] A very strong showing for this species, with reports from 13 counties representing at least 21 individual birds. Found throughout the season.

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [19 North, 47 South] High counts 8/8 Dakota (20, Hastings S.N.A.) DVE, 8/20 Washington (13, Lake Elmo R.P.) BTw. Late north 9/24 Polk SAu, 9/26 Todd JLK, 9/29 Lake HHD, RAE, Otter Tail (2) JSw, JsS (median 10/3). Late south 10/13 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) GJa, 10/14 Hennepin (T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) EBa, 10/15 Hennepin (Staring Lake Park) GJa (median 10/14).

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [6 North, 16 South] Early south (median 9/7) 8/12 Ramsey MJM, 9/9 Hennepin CMB, 9/12 Hennepin CMB, TAT. High count 9/21 Hennepin (6) CMB. Late north 10/12 Itasca SC, 10/13 Lake RDC, 10/17 St. Louis JLK (median 10/23). Late south 11/21 Rice TFB, 11/24 Ramsey ADe, 11/25 Hennepin CAS (median 12/13).

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [16 North, 34 South] High count 9/13 Hennepin (17, Wood Lake N.C.) TAT. Late north 9/13 Pine RBJ, 9/23 Beltrami DPJ, 9/30 Todd (2) JLK (median 10/12). Late south 10/7 Fillmore (2) JWH, 10/10 Hennepin TAT, 10/11 Hennepin TAT (median 10/12).

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [18 North, 33 South] High counts 10/3 Wabasha (10) ANy, 9/12 Hennepin (9) CMB. Late north 9/29 Douglas JPE, 10/2 Cass JWM,



Bohemian Waxwing, 4 November 2012, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Alex Cruz.

10/7 Douglas HHD, RAE (median 10/11). Late south 10/17 Olmsted LAV, 10/20 TAT, SBM, then reported through 11/17 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF, SHF (median 11/1).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliptila caerulea*) — [8 North, 45 South] High counts 8/18 Carver (13, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/18 Faribault (12, Blue Earth River A.M.A.) CLN, CoN. Found as far north as Mahnomen and St. Louis. Late north 8/24 Grant RZi, JFR, LMS, 9/13 St. Louis LMS, CRM, ALo (median 9/8). Late south 9/24 Hennepin ThM, 10/5 Wright KFr, 10/21 Meeker JAn, all after the 9/23 median.

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [24 North, 37 South] Early south (median 9/17) 9/16 Anoka DPG, 9/17 Hennepin CRM, Ramsey PRH. High count 9/26 St. Louis (19, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. See winter report for late north migrants.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) — [25 North, 43 South] Early south (median 8/28) 8/20 Faribault (3) CoN, Hennepin ThM, Lac qui Parle FAE, Ramsey REH.

High count 9/26 Steele (55) PSu. Late north 10/20 St. Louis SKS, 10/21 Grant DBM, St. Louis JLK, 10/22 Douglas DBM (median 10/30). Late south 10/28 Sherburne PJM, 11/2 Ramsey DAK, 11/8 Dakota EGY (median 11/21).

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [32 North, 44 South] High counts both from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 10/11 (141), 10/10 (111). Late north 10/28 St. Louis ABL, JLK, KJB, Wadena PJB, 10/29 St. Louis KJB (median 11/17).

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) — [2 North, 1 South] Four individuals reported: male seen 10/20 in Ramsey and Anoka AXH; female found by PHS 10/31 Lake (Two Harbors Lakewalk) continued through 11/7 ph. PHS, ph. BU, m.ob.; female seen 11/12–13 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) JHu, ph. AMe, ph. KRE, ph. PHS, m.ob.; one migrating along Hawk Ridge 11/13 St. Louis KJB.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [4 North, 4 South] All north (median arrival 10/11) 10/29 Cook (Grand Marais) ADS, 10/31 (1) and 11/8–9 (2) **Kittson** ph. TrB, 11/3–4 Cook (Croftville Road) KRE, m.ob., 11/20+ Crow Wing (Evergreen Cemetery) JoR, ph. BU, m.ob. All south (median 10/28) 9/28–10/2 Hennepin ph. RCB, 10/26+ Sherburne (Sand Dunes S.F., ninth consecutive year at this location) PLJ, m.ob., 11/17 Lac qui Parle (Hantho Beach) ph. BJU, 11/18 Swift (Appleton Cemetery.) ph. BJU.

Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) — [9 North, 10 South] High count 8/21 St. Louis (5, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 9/9 Itasca PLe, St. Louis SmR, 9/14 Itasca PLe (median 9/14). Late south 9/11 Dakota (2) DVe, 9/20 Hennepin TAT (median 9/17).

Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) — [6 North, 13 South] Early north (median 9/3) 9/6 St. Louis SmR, JLK, 9/7 St. Louis (2) JLK, 9/8 Carlton RMD. Early south (median 9/2) 9/1 Rice DAT, 9/4 Hennepin PJM, Lac qui Parle BJU. Late north 9/26 Grant DBM, 9/29 Lake PSm, 10/2 Cass (2) DAY (median 10/3). Late south 10/4 Brown JSS, 10/7 Carver CRM, Chisago LS (median 10/7).

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) — [17 North, 29 South] Early south (median 8/12) 8/17 Hennepin SBM, 8/20 Hennepin

- (2) TAT, CMB, 8/21 Ramsey CJo. High count 9/20 St. Louis (17, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/7 St. Louis KRo, 10/12 Clay ALo, then one very late report **11/13** St. Louis (Park Point) †KRE (median 10/17). Late south 10/13 Carver KSo, Ramsey JFR, 10/23 Blue Earth ChH (median 10/17).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) — [18 North, 35 South] Early south (median 9/14) 9/10 Hennepin JLO, 9/13 Olmsted (4) MHn. Late north 10/17 St. Louis (2) JLK, 10/19 St. Louis (2) JLK, 11/27 Lake (Gooseberry Falls S.P.) BeH (median 10/28). Late south 11/21 Hennepin (Minneapolis) DWK, 11/24 Stearns RER (median 12/12).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [4 North, 11 South] Late north 9/21 St. Louis SmR, 9/22 St. Louis JLK, 9/23 Morrison DLP. Late south 9/30 Steele PSu, 10/2 Anoka DPG, 10/6 Hennepin RLL (median 10/1).
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High counts from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis) peaked with a count of 5,348 on 10/6 KJB.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [2 North, 2 South] All north 10/7 St. Louis (banded at H.R.N.R.) ABL, 11/29+ Itasca (LaPrairie, first appearance of a bird which overwintered) SC. All south 10/18 Carver RZi, 11/12 Stearns MHL.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [29 North, 48 South] High counts 9/3 Winona (**22**, Great River Bluffs S.P.) CLN, CoN, 8/19 Scott (**21**, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF. Late north 10/12 Cook ph. DMB, 10/18 Traverse DLP, 11/3–4 Cook (Grand Marais) ph. ACr, m.ob. (median 10/26). Late south 10/22 Stevens DBM, 10/23 Lac qui Parle FAE (median 11/12).
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north 8/25 Koochiching †FGo, 9/2 Roseau (Springsteel Island) KRE, 10/28–11/11 Cook (Grand Marais) TAT, also reported by the m.ob. searching for the Cassin's Kingbird present. Only south report 10/30 Dakota JLO.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [13 North, 32 South] Late north 10/5 St. Louis KJB, ABL, 10/6 Douglas JPE (median 12/13). Late south 11/2 Hennepin TAT, 11/26, 11/29 Dakota (Riverwood Park, Hastings) DVE (median 12/22).
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 8/31 Dakota (est. 1,500, 180th St. Marsh) CTa, 11/29 St. Louis (est. 1,200, vicinity of 27th Avenue West) KJB.
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [20 North, 43 South] Early north (median 9/9) 9/2 Roseau KRE, m.ob., 9/6 St. Louis JLK, 9/8 Carlton RMD. Early south (median 9/15) **9/3** Dakota (4) ACr, MBS, SBM, 9/15 Brown (6) BTS, Ramsey RMD, 9/17 Ramsey PRH. Second highest count 9/23 St. Louis (**713**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/27 Cook DAB, 10/28 Cook ANy, SC, LS, St. Louis KJB (median 11/4). Late south 11/9 Big Stone (2) BJU, 11/10 Brown (5) BTS, 11/14 Lyon (20) GWe (median 11/4).
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [23 North, 6 South] Very well represented this season, with reports throughout the north, and scattered south reports as far south as 11/25 Blue Earth (Mankato) ph. ChH, 11/4 Winona DBz. Early north (median 10/4) 10/14 St. Louis ABL, KJB, 10/15 St. Louis ABL, 10/17 Cook SC. Early south 11/4 Winona DBz, 11/13 Ramsey (6) RMD. High counts 11/22 Hubbard (371, Park Rapids) PBB, 11/18 Kittson (200) RAE.
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [34 North, 49 South] This species was well-represented both north and south through the end of the season. All high counts reflect seasonal movement down the North Shore tallied by the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (KJB): 9/11 (**4,467**, second highest state count), 8/24 (**4,208**).
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [15 North, 29 South] Early north (median 9/13) 9/6 St. Louis (2) JLK, 9/9 St. Louis ABL, KJB. Early south (median 9/24) 9/18 Ramsey RMD, 9/22 Dakota BWF, 9/23 Winona (11) HCT. High count 9/24 St. Louis (709, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. This species continued into the winter season in the south, and in the western counties of the north.
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — No reports.
- Smith's Longspur** (*Calcarius pictus*) — [2 North, 4 South] More reports than usual. All north 9/27 **Pine** (2, C.R. 20 and Hwy

- 48) RBJ, DAC, 10/1 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) DBM, 10/21 Grant (30, Spink W.P.A.) DBM (median early 10/1, late 10/21). All south 10/17 Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/21 Lyon (50+, Russell W.T.P., season high count) KRE, m.ob., 10/23 Yellow Medicine BJU, 10/24 **Faribault** (10, Wells W.T.P.) RBJ, DAC (median early 10/15, late 10/21).
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [22 North, 27 South] Early north (median 10/5) 10/6 Cook RMD, 10/10 Lake DWK, 10/11 St. Louis RDC, KJB. Early south (median 10/17) 10/21 Stearns (4) DPG, 10/23 Wright DWK, 10/24 Faribault (3) RBJ, DAC. High counts 11/12 Pennington (150) SAS, 11/3 Cook (est. 100, Grand Marais) ACr.
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [24 North, 38 South] High count 8/31 Dakota (9) MaB. Late north 9/18 Polk SAu, 9/22 St. Louis JLK, 9/23 Polk VLa (median 9/27). Late south 10/6 Hennepin (2) ACr, 10/9–11 Hennepin CMB (median 10/11).
- Louisiana Warthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [2 South] All south 8/3 Washington JoF, 8/8 Washington FGo, 8/9 Washington JoF, 8/15 Washington RMa, 8/30 Dakota MaB, 8/31 Dakota CTa (median 8/22).
- Northern Warthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [11 North, 27 South] Early south (median 8/7) 8/8 Dakota DVe, 8/9 Hennepin CMB, 8/10 Ramsey MJM. Late north 9/18 Lake EEO, 9/19 Cook EEO, 9/21 St. Louis SmR (median 9/28). Late south 10/1 Ramsey SBM, Rice TFB, 10/8 Dakota DVe, 10/10 Lac qui Parle BJU (median 10/3).
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [14 North, 26 South] High count 8/30 Pine (15) RBJ. Late north 9/6 Itasca EEO, St. Louis DY0, 9/9 Morrison DLP, 9/13 St. Louis LMS, CRM, ALo (median 9/9). Late south 9/13 Goodhue GJM, Hennepin CMB, Rice DAT, 9/14 Hennepin CMB, Washington PNi (median 9/22).
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [1 North, 14 South] One north report 8/23 Pine RBJ, DAC (median late 8/27). Late south 9/6 Anoka DPG, 9/13 and 9/19 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) GHo (median 9/11).
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [26 North, 44 South] High count 8/2 St. Louis (8) EBr. Late north 9/23 St. Lou-
- is DAT, GHo, 9/29 St. Louis KJB (median 10/1). Late south 10/1 Hennepin CMB, 10/3 Wabasha ANy, 10/6 Olmsted MHm (median 10/4).
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [8 South] More reports than usual for the season. New county record: 8/5 **Ben-ton** (Bend in the River R.P.) RZi. Late south 8/20 Meeker JAn, Washington LMS, 8/24 Dakota DVe, 9/4 Carver JCy (median 9/1).
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [24 North, 36 South] Early south (median 7/17) 8/1 Hennepin TAT, 8/5 Hennepin TAT, 8/8 Sherburne PLJ. High count 8/21 St. Louis (37, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 10/7 St. Louis PRH, JLK, 10/13 St. Louis BCM (median 10/17). Late south 10/9 Carver JCy, 10/11 Hennepin YK (median 10/15).
- Orange-crowned Warbler** (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [17 North, 38 South] Early north (median 8/22) 9/1 Itasca EEO, 9/5 Cook RBW, St. Louis RCa. Early south (median 8/27) 9/1 Chisago LS, 9/6 Swift BJU, 9/7 Hennepin CMB, Stevens BJU, Watonwan RBJ. High count 9/27 Carver (13) JCy. Late north 10/10 Itasca SC, Lake DWK, St. Louis DWK, 10/14 Itasca SC, Mille Lacs DWK, SBM (median 10/22). Late south 10/21 Faribault DBz, Rice TFB, 10/23 Hennepin TAT (median 10/25).
- Note:** Undocumented August reports were excluded.
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [26 North, 46 South] Early south migrants (median 8/1) 8/8 Sherburne PLJ, 8/11 Hennepin HCT, TAT, Ramsey RZi (median 8/1). High counts 9/21 St. Louis (38, Lakewood) KJB, 9/13 St. Louis (34) JLK. Late north 10/14 Mille Lacs DWK, SBM, 10/21 St. Louis KJB (median 10/20). Late south 10/18 Hennepin TAT, 10/21 Carver JCy, 10/28 Dakota JoD (median 10/21).
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [5 North, 7 South] Early south (median 8/24) 8/20 Rice DAT, JHL, 8/25 Lac qui Parle DLP. Late north 9/5 St. Louis RCa, 9/12 St. Louis JLK, 9/13 Cook RSt (median 9/18). Late south 9/21 Hennepin ThM, 9/22 Niccollet APi, 9/24 Winona ClN (median 9/16).
- Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [5 North, 16 South] High count 8/28 Lac qui Parle (4) BJU. Late north 9/7 St. Louis (2) JLK, 9/14 St. Louis CRM (median 9/14). 9/21 Rice GHo, 9/24 Hennepin RDa, 9/28

Dakota (2) GHo (median 9/29).

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [30 North, 45 South] High counts 9/13 Carver (25, Rapids Lake Unit) JCy, 8/31 Todd (21) JLK. Late north 10/7 Lake KR0, KRE, St. Louis AM, 11/4 Lake KRE (median 10/13). Late south 10/11 Carver JCy, 10/13 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ASi, 10/15 Hennepin (immature, Lake Nokomis) TAT (median 10/23).

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) — [2 South] An adult male found in the summer at Nine Mile Creek in Hennepin was reported through 9/5 HCT, m.ob. Another individual was in Dakota at Lebanon Hills R.P. 9/8 RaM.

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [31 North, 43 South] High count 9/6 St. Louis (28, H.R.N.R.) SmR. Late north 10/6 St. Louis KR0, (2) KRE, 10/7 St. Louis PRH (median 10/7). Late south 10/2 Steele PSu, 10/3 Wabasha ANY (median 10/10).

Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [10 North, 7 South] Early south 8/15 Redwood SVo, 8/17 Carver JCy, 8/22 Hennepin RAE. Late north 9/21 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) DnH, 9/22 Itasca PLe, St. Louis (Hartley Park) JLK (median 10/24). Late south 9/16 Carver JCy, 9/21 Hennepin ThM, 10/20 Goodhue BRL.

Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*) — No reports.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) — [13 North, 21 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/13 Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) TAT, 8/19 Hennepin (Cedar Lake) TAT, 8/20 Washington BTw, 8/21 Carver (2) JCy. Late north 9/18 Cook DMB, 9/21 St. Louis KJB, 9/26 Grant DBM (median 9/27). Late south 9/28 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) TAT, (Bass Ponds) KR0, 9/29 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) RBJ, JCC, Steele PSu, 9/30 Hennepin JCC (median 9/28).

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [20 North, 40 South] Early south (median 8/15) 8/12 Brown (2) BTS, 8/13 Hennepin CMB, (Minnehaha Creek) TAT, 8/14 Hennepin CMB, (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT, Kandiyohi RBW. High counts 9/17 Lake (12, Tettegouche S.P.) JeL, 9/17 St. Louis (10, Hartley Park) JLK, 9/17 St. Louis (10, H.R.N.R.) SmR. Late north 9/25 Crow Wing JLK, 9/28 Cook ph. DMB, 10/7 St. Louis JLK (median 10/1). Late south

9/28 Hennepin (2) TAT, 9/29 Brown MiO, Carver JCy, Steele (2) PSu, Winona ClN, CoN (median 10/6).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*) — [13 North, 23 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/13 Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) TAT, 8/14 Hennepin CMB, Swift RBW, 8/16 Rice TFB, 8/18 Hennepin (Theodore Wirth Park) HCT. Late north 9/3 Lake JWl, Morrison DLP, 9/4 Cook RBW, 9/5 Polk SAU, 9/8 Carlton RMD, then none until 9/22 St. Louis JLK (median 9/28). Late south 9/26 Ramsey REH, 9/28 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) TAT, 9/29 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) TAT, 10/1 Steele PSu (median 10/1).

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) — [16 North, 32 South] Early south (median 8/9) 8/7 Sherburne PLJ, 8/9 Hennepin (2) TAT, Yellow Medicine CRM, ALo. High counts 8/20 Faribault (7, Rice Lake W.M.A.) CoN, ClN, 8/21 St. Louis (6, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 9/5 Polk SAU, St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) RCA, 9/8 St. Louis (Lester River) KJB (median 9/20). Late south 9/17 Ramsey TAT, 9/18 Carver JCy, Fillmore NBO (median 9/25).

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) — [29 North, 39 South] High counts 8/8 Marshall (11, Agassiz N.W.R.) DaW, 8/18 St. Louis (9, 40th Ave West / Erie Pier, Duluth) JLK, 8/18 Faribault (8, Blue Earth River A.M.A.) ClN, CoN. Late north 9/14 Traverse RAE, 9/16 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) KJB, ABL, 9/18 Cook (Eagle Mountain) JPr (median 9/25). Late south 9/18 Carver JCy, Hennepin (Methodist Hospital Wetlands) ACr, 9/23 Cottonwood BTS, 9/24 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) RDa (median 9/29).

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [25 North, 41 South] High count 8/26 Carver (11, Rapids Lake Unit) JCy. Late north 9/21 St. Louis (2, Lakewood) KJB, 9/22 St. Louis (Southworth Marsh) DWK, SBM, (Hartley Park) JLK, 9/23 Itasca PLe (median 9/28). Late south 9/23 Lyon GWe, Winona RMD, 9/25 Hennepin CMB, 9/27 Carver JCy, Hennepin TAT, CMB, 9/28 Hennepin CMB (median 10/2).

Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*) — [11 North, 16 South] Early north (median 8/25) **8/3** Cook (Gunflint Trail) RAE, 8/19 Clearwater PLJ, 8/30 Lake of the Woods RAE.



Yellow-breasted Chat, 5 November 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

Early south (median 8/21) 8/13 Hennepin TAT, 8/22 Hennepin and Washington RAE. High counts 9/17 St. Louis (5, H.R.N.R.) SmR. Late north 9/22 St. Louis (2) JLK, 9/24 and 9/26 Polk SAu (median 10/7). Late south 9/18 Hennepin CMB, 9/22 Anoka DPG, 9/29 Kandiyohi MJB (median 9/29).

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [3 North, 7 South] All north reports: 8/1 Lake (South Kawishiwi Campground) RSt, 8/19–20 St. Louis (Bear Head Lake S.P.) RMa, 9/18 Cook (Naniboujou Lodge) JPr. All south reports: 8/24 Hennepin (adult male, Nine Mile Creek) SLC, CMB, 8/31 Hennepin (Minnehaha Creek) TAT, CMB, 9/1 Anoka (female, Linwood Lake) DWK, 9/2 Rice (Northfield) DAT, 9/7–13 Fillmore (female, Preston) NBO, 9/18–21 Hennepin (female, Westwood Hills N.C.) CMB, ThM, 9/26 Hennepin KRo, 9/28 Olmsted JPr, 10/10 Lac qui Parle (female, Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU, 10/18 Rice (female, Northfield) ph. DAT, 10/21 Freeborn (female) DBz (median

early 9/3, late 10/7).

Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [21 North, 31 South] Early south (median 8/25) 8/18 Faribault CoN, ClN, 8/20 Hennepin TAT. High count 9/13 St. Louis (18, Knowlton Creek) JLK. Late north 10/13 Polk (2) MRi, SRo, 10/14 St. Louis AM, 10/15, 10/17 St. Louis (Hartley Park) JLK (median 10/23). Late south 10/23 Carver JCy, Hennepin TAT, 10/27 Dakota DVe (median 10/18).

Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*) — [17 North, 7 South] Most reports northeast of a line from Washington to Kittson. Late north 9/18 Lake EEO, 9/19 St. Louis (2) JLK, 9/20 Otter Tail (5) DvS (median 10/1). Late south 9/20 Hennepin (2) KCr, 9/24 Anoka (2) DvS, Carver JTe, 10/2 Ramsey REH, 11/20 Washington †CBu (median 9/24).

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) — [30 North, 44 South] Early south (median 8/21) 8/11 Hennepin HCT, 8/17 Anoka DWK, 8/19 Olmsted LAV, Scott BAF. High counts 10/10 St. Louis (351, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/6 St.

- Louis (318, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/27 Cook DAB, St. Louis ABL, 10/28 Cook (Taconite Harbor) ANy, SC, (Grand Marais) JWH, 11/3 Lake JFR, GLa, CRM (median 11/21). Late south 11/15 Dakota DVe, 11/17 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/18 Winona TPr. Also see winter report.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [14 North, 25 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/14 Kandiyohi RBW, 8/17 Dodge RBW, 8/18 Sherburne BAB. High count 8/31 Cook (12, Devil's Track Canyon Trail) DVe. Late north 9/18 Cook (2 locations) JPr, 9/23 St. Louis (Stickney Rd.) DWK, Todd JLK, 9/24 St. Louis (Lester River) KJB (median 9/29). Late south 9/27 Carver JCy, Hennepin TAT, 10/1 Fillmore NBO, 10/5 Wabasha SLm (median 10/4).
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [17 North, 37 South] Early south (median 8/12) 8/4 Brown BTS, 8/8 Ramsey YK, 8/9 Hennepin (2 locations) TAT. High counts 8/19 Carver (10, Rapids Lake Unit) JCy, 8/20 Faribault (10, Rice Lake W.M.A.) CoN, ClN. Late north 9/9 Morrison DLP, 9/15 Pine EMH, 9/27 Marshall (2) *vide* MJJ, followed by record-late 10/11 St. Louis JLK (median 9/15). Late south 9/17 Ramsey LMS, 9/20 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) RZi, 9/24 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) RDa (median 9/22).
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [21 North, 35 South] Early north (median 8/16) 8/10 St. Louis JLK, 8/12 St. Louis (2, Park Point) SBM, 8/13 Polk SAU. Early south (median 8/15) 8/15 Redwood SVo, 8/17 Dodge RBW, Hennepin (3 locations) TAT, SBM, Rice TFB. High counts 9/9 St. Louis (7, H.R.N.R.) SmR, 8/31 Hennepin (6) CMB. Late north 9/13 St. Louis CRM, ALo, 9/15 Polk (2) SAU (median 9/22). Late south 9/23 Carver JCy, Hennepin JTe (median 9/27).
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [1 North, 1 South] A pair was found in Sherburne on 8/14 along the Wildlife Drive of the N.W.R. (JGb). Record late by over two weeks was a juvenile discovered in Duluth 11/3–7 TVi, ph. PHS, ph. JLK, ph. BU, †DOK, †ACr
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — No reports.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [3 North, 20 South] As is typical for the fall, few north reports: 8/1 Mille Lacs ASC, Pine RAE, 8/31 Pine (St. Croix S.P.) DaE, 10/6 Clay (Buffalo River S.P.) MO. Late south 10/15 Dakota RBW, 10/16 Goodhue GJM, 11/8 Lyon GWe, 11/11 Anoka PJM (median 11/10). High count 9/30 Washington (10, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) GJa.
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizella arborea*) — [25 North, 44 South] Early north (median 9/25) 9/21 Lake PSm, KMo, 9/23 St. Louis (Lester River) KJB. Early south (median 9/30) 9/29 Washington PNi, 10/1 Mower RTP, 10/2 Ramsey REH, 10/7 Hennepin DWK. High counts 11/8 Dakota (85, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) EGY, 11/10 Mower (40, Dexter S.P.) HCT.
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [32 North, 49 South] High counts 9/29 Hennepin (49, Mother Lake) TAT, 9/24 Todd (32) JLK. Late north 10/13 Douglas JPE, 10/14 Crow Wing JWH, 10/19 Todd JeM, 11/1 Mahnomen *vide* MJJ (median 11/4). Late south 11/7 Hennepin (2) NCr, 11/8 Lyon GWe, 11/18 Dakota (2, Black Dog Lake) and Hennepin BBy (median 11/10).
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [21 North, 31 South] High count 8/2 St. Louis (19, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr. Late north 9/24 Cook DMB, Polk SAU, 9/28 Itasca SC, Lake HHD, RAE, 9/29 Pine EMH (median 10/16). Late south 10/9 Carver JCy, 10/10 Anoka ThM, Rice TFB, 10/17, 10/20 Hennepin TAT (median 10/14).
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [10 North, 34 South] High counts 8/20 Washington (12, Lake Elmo R.P.) BTw, 8/23 Washington (12, Afton S.P.) BTw. Late north 9/26 Todd JLK, 9/29 Douglas JPE, 10/6 Clay MO, Douglas JPE (median 10/20). Late south 10/26 Freeborn DWa, 10/28 Scott (5, Louisville Swamp, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) †BAF, 11/12 Hennepin (Hyland Lake P.R.) CAs (median 10/26).
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [15 North, 42 South] Departed state a week ahead of recent medians. Late north 10/6, 10/7 Douglas JPE, RAE, 10/11 St. Louis FKB, 10/13 Otter Tail (2) JJs (median 10/20). Late south 10/14 Blue Earth ChH, Dakota PEJ, EEO, 10/17, 10/19 Lac qui Parle BJU, 10/19 Yellow Medicine BJU (median 10/27). High counts 10/4 Lac qui Parle (15, Plover Prairie, East Unit) SBM, 8/12 Murray (9) GWe.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [1 North, 9 South] Only north report 9/26 Todd JLK. Late south 8/23 Blue Earth ChH, 8/25 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) BJU, 8/26 Winona CIN, CoN, 9/4 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 9/14 Hennepin ThM, 9/21 Redwood RAE (median 8/29).

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [28 North, 49 South] High counts 9/29 Dakota (est. 60) JFR, 9/1 Winona (50, Lewiston W.T.P.) MGo. Late north 10/19 Grant RBJ, 10/26 Pine ANy, JWH, 10/28 Cass (3, Longville W.T.P.) BAW (median 11/2). Late south 10/26 Faribault (2) MGo, SBM, McLeod CRM, ALo, 10/27 Blue Earth ChH, 10/31 Goodhue DVe, 11/4 Dakota CAs (median 11/5).

Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [1 North, 11 South] Only north report 9/23 Grant (Pelican Lake area) BWF, JWH. Several south reports much later than recent median departure 9/2: 9/22 Ramsey (Tamarack N.C.) RMD, 9/25 Dakota (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) GHo, 10/1 Sherburne PLJ, 10/9 Hennepin (Purgatory Creek) †DWK, 10/10 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU.

Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [8 South] August south reports from Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Murray, Scott, Watonwan, Washington, followed by 9/13 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ph. HSt, 9/16 Anoka (juvenile) DPG, 9/22 Ramsey (Tamarack N.C.) RMD, 9/25 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) GHo (median 8/28).

Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [6 North, 12 South] Early south away from probably summering areas (median 9/16) **9/13**–14 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) TAT, CMB. Late north 9/17 St. Louis JLK, 9/23 Grant BWF, JWH, 9/27 Polk (2, Tympanuchus W.M.A.) VLa, 9/29 Douglas JPE. Late south 10/13 Fillmore DBz, Hennepin PEJ, (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) TAT, 10/14 Olmsted (15, high count, near Elgin) JPr, 10/15 Olmsted (3, East Landfill Reservoir) LAV, 10/16 Olmsted (4) JPr (median 10/17).

Nelson's Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [4 North, 7 South] All north 9/1 Roseau (Roseau Lake W.M.A.) KRE, m.ob., 9/23 Grant (3, Ash Lake W.M.A.) BWF, JWH, 9/24 Morrison (2, Upsala W.T.P.) FGo,

9/26 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) DBM, 9/29 Douglas JPE. South reports 9/6 Dakota (Dodge N.C.) SBM, 9/12–13 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) CMB, TAT, 9/13–23 Ramsey (max. 3, White Bear Lake) ph. RMD, ph. SBM, ph. ACr, 9/15–17, 9/30 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge boardwalk) KRo, CRM, 9/23–29 Olmsted (max. 3, East Landfill Reservoir) JPr, 9/28–10/20 Hennepin (max. 4, Bass Ponds) CMB, ph. SBM, ph. DCK, ph. LMS, m.ob., 9/29 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) ANy, 9/30 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) ph. BJU, 10/3 Hennepin (3, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge, near parking lot) JJo, RDa, 10/4 Lac qui Parle (2, Plover Prairie, East Unit) SBM, 10/7 Hennepin (Crow-Hassan P.R.) DWK, 10/10 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) BJU, 10/7 Swift (Lubenow W.P.A.) ph. SBM.

Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) — [25 North, 42 South] Early north (median 9/20) 9/17 Lake JWL, Polk SAu, 9/19 St. Louis KJB, 9/20 Itasca SC. Early south (median 9/19) 9/17 Carver JCy, McLeod PRH, 9/19 Ramsey ASi. High count 10/11 Carver (39, Rapids Lake Unit) JCy. Late north 11/14 Hubbard MAW, 11/29 Todd DTM, 11/30 Cass JWM (median 12/15). Late south 11/22 Freeborn BBu, Hennepin BeS (median 12/20). Also see winter report for late migrants north and south.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) — [31 North, 52 South] High counts 10/9 Hennepin (38, Crow-Hassan P.R.) HCT, 9/26 Hennepin (24, Theodore Wirth Park) HCT. Late north 11/5 Cook (Grand Marais) DWK, JLO, 11/9 Traverse BJU, 11/6–16 Polk SAu. South reports continued well into December.

Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [25 North, 44 South] Early south (median 8/31) 8/19 Ramsey REH, 9/2 Hennepin KRo, Redwood ANy, 9/3 Lac qui Parle FAE. High counts 9/25, 9/27 Dakota (25, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) GHo. Late north 10/14 Crow Wing DWK, (2) HCT, 10/15 St. Louis (2) JLK, 10/19 Itasca SC, St. Louis JLK (median 10/22). Late south 10/26 Freeborn DWa, McLeod CRM, ALo, Ramsey REH, 10/27 Dakota DVe, 10/28 Washington ASi (median 11/9).

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [25 North, 41 South] High counts 10/3

- Wabasha (30) ANy, 9/23 Olmsted (25, East Landfill Reservoir) JPr. Late north 10/19 Aitkin PEJ, St. Louis (Indian Point, Duluth) JLK, 10/20 Cass SC, 10/22 St. Louis (2, Hartley Park) JLK, 10/28 Cook (Taconite Harbor) ANy, (Lutsen Sea Villas) JWH (median 10/30). See winter report for late south individuals.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [30 North, 46 South] One found in Anoka in summer lingered until late September. Early south migrants 8/11 Benton DBM, 8/21 Washington LMS, 8/23 Kandiyohi LMS, 8/25 Wright MJB. High counts 9/22 St. Louis (**1,035**, a new state high count seen along a 4.5 mile stretch of East Superior Street between Hwy. 61 and McQuade Rd.) PHS, 9/21 St. Louis (**730**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 11/12 St. Louis JLK, 11/14 Hubbard MAW, 11/30 Polk SAU (but also see winter report). Many south reports into December.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [24 North, 49 South] Early north (median 9/16) 9/15 Polk SAU, 9/18 Itasca SC, St. Louis AM. Early south (median 9/22) 9/18 Ramsey RMD, 9/21 Lac qui Parle FAE, McLeod PRH. High counts 10/6 Le Sueur (40, Kasota Prairie) DWK, HCT, 10/6 Jackson (29, Anderson Park) KDS. Late north 11/1 Polk SAU, 11/6 Otter Tail TJa, 11/12 Clay RHO (median 12/16). See winter report for late south individuals.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [22 North, 37 South] Early north (median 9/10) 9/7 St. Louis (Everett Woods, immature) JLK, 9/12 Polk (immature) SAU, St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) KJB. Early south (median 9/16) 9/8 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C., immature) TAT, 9/17 Anoka CKB, Hennepin (Mother Lake, immature) TAT, Ramsey (immature) TAT, 9/18 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) SBM. High count 10/5 Cook (13, Grand Marais) EEO. Late north 10/27 Cass BAW, 10/28 Cook (Taconite Harbor) ANy, DBM, (2, Grand Marais) JWH, 11/1 St. Louis JLK, 11/4 St. Louis ACr, 11/7 Lake RAE (median 11/14). See winter report for one more late north and many south individuals.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [33 North, 49 South] Found in 82 of 87 counties. Early south (median 9/9) 9/7 Ramsey AdJ, 9/9 Lyon GWe, 9/13 Hennepin TAT. High count 10/9 Mille Lacs (est. **1,000**, over a two-hour period) SMC.
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [1 North, 1 South] All reports: 8/17 Aitkin KCR, 10/19–29 McLeod (female, Hutchinson) †BEH, PRH, †DWK, ph. SBM, m.ob.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [16 North, 23 South] Most reports from the eastern two-thirds of the state. High count 8/21 St. Louis (**4**, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 9/22 Cass (Walker) BAW, 9/23 St. Louis (2) JLK, 10/3 Cass (Stony Point) ph. BJJ (median 9/20). Late south 9/27 Ramsey TAT, 9/29 Winona CoN, CIN, 10/2 Blue Earth ChH (median 10/1).
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [23 North, 47 South] Found in all regions but not the extreme northwest. Reported on the edge of its distribution in the state from Pennington 8/20, 9/1, 9/25 SAS and 10/26 Koochiching ph. AMe. High count 8/12 Hennepin (25, Elm Creek Park) TLO.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [26 North, 37 South] High counts 8/26 St. Louis (**74**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census; census season total was 138) KJB, 8/31 Todd (32, during 15 minute stationary count) JLK. Late north 9/23 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) KJB, ABL, 9/29 Douglas JPE, 10/14 St. Louis KRE (median 9/29). Late south 10/1 Fillmore (Forestville S.P.) NBO, 10/5 Wright (Hanover, female) KFr, 10/7 Fillmore ANy, NBO (median 10/15).
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [2 South] Only reports: 8/3 Brown (2) BTS, Renville ChH.
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [11 North, 40 South] High counts 9/16 Carver (**10**, Rapids Lake Unit) JCy, 9/2 Dakota (8, Acacia Park Cemetery) BAF. Late north 9/4 Crow Wing CAB, 9/7 Pine ANy, 9/9 St. Louis JLK, 9/26 Todd JLK (median 9/23). Late south 10/4 Ramsey JFR, 10/5 Hennepin (2) TAT, Steele PSu (median 10/9).
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [4 North, 24 South] All north 8/5 Polk (2) SAS, 8/6, 8/9 Morrison (Long Lake) NKi, 8/17 Todd JeM, DTM, and first-ever reports from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis: total of 12 individuals 8/24 – 9/16 KJB. Late south 9/3 Dakota (Randolph Industrial Park) TAT, ADS, 9/4 Lac qui Parle

- (Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. BJU, 9/9 Dakota (2, Acacia Cemetery) TAT, 9/23 Olmsted (Cascade Meadow Wetlands and Environmental Science Center) ph. MHn (median 8/21).
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [11 North, 23 South] High counts all from Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 8/26 (471, record state count, Lester River location), 9/11 (158, Lester River location), season total 1,104. Late north 9/23 Grant JWH, 9/24 St. Louis (Lester River) KJB, 10/10 St. Louis (2, Lester River) KJB (median 9/20). Late south 9/15 Ramsey RMD, 9/25 Dakota GHo, Olmsted LAV (median 9/30).
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [30 North, 52 South] Seen throughout the state and into the winter, both north and south.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [6 North, 18 South] High count 10/3 Wabasha (12) ANY. Late north 9/27 Pine (C.R. 20 and Hwy. 48) RBJ, DAC, 10/9 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK, 10/27 Lake BWF. Late south 10/16 Carver JCy, 10/21 Dakota (2) TAT, Washington (Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A., very vocal) SBM, 10/22 Stevens (2, one of the two clearly heard giving a eastern call from 35 feet away) DBM (median 10/29).
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [11 North, 22 South] High counts 10/4 Lac qui Parle (9, Plover Prairie, East Unit) SBM, 10/6 Jackson (9, Sangl W.M.A.) KDS. Late north 10/19 Grant RBJ, Traverse RBJ, 10/20 Polk (2) SRo, 10/28 Cook (Taconite Harbor, calling) ANY, JWH (median 11/8). Late south 11/14 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU, 11/22 Murray GWe, 11/25 Lyon (2, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe (median 11/3).
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [9 North, 23 South] High counts 8/29 Lyon (est. 150, Cottonwood City Park) GWe, 8/4 Lyon (est. 50, Cottonwood W.T.P.) KLi, 8/26 Grant (est. 50, Mustinka State W.M.A.) SBM. Late north 9/3 Polk RAE, CRM, ALo, 9/14 Grant HHD, RAE, 9/17 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/12 Grant RAE (median 10/8). Late south 10/13 Lyon (6, Sham Lake) GWe, 10/19 Lac qui Parle (2) BJU, 11/3 Swift DLP, 11/22 Houston ANY (median 10/25).
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [26 North, 39 South] Early north (median 9/17) 9/9 Hubbard MaH, 9/13 St. Louis (3) KJB, 9/17 St. Louis (303, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Early south (median 9/21) 9/21 Dakota (2) †SBM, Redwood HHD, RAE, 9/22 Sherburne GJa. High counts all from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 10/6 (4,645), 10/1 (3,213), average season total of 10,647. Late north 11/18 Kittson (3) RAE, 11/30 Itasca SC (median 12/6). Late south 11/29 Kandiyohi RAE, Washington MJM (median 12/15), but also see winter report.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [15 North, 27 South] High count 10/9 Carver (est. 1,100, Union/Tacoma Ave., part of a flock of 1,250–1,500 blackbirds) JCy. Late north 10/12 Clay CRM, ALo, St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) RDC, Traverse RAE, 10/13 Douglas JPE, 10/21 Grant DBM (median 11/7). Late south 11/11 Olmsted (2) LAV, 11/13 Rice (12, Wheeling) DAT, 11/14 Lac qui Parle BJU, 11/22 Freeborn (5) BBU (median 11/11). Also see winter report.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [30 North, 50 South] Reported throughout the state in all regions. See winter report for overwintering records.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [2 South] All south 8/16 Jackson (North of 86 & 4 intersection) ELC, 8/29 Lyon (3, Cottonwood C.P.) GWe, 10/6 Jackson (6, Sangl W.M.A.) KDS.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [8 North, 36 South] Late north 8/28 Traverse BJU, then only 10/12 Cass JKe. Late south 11/18 Dakota JFR, 11/22 Freeborn BBU, Murray (4) GWe, 11/25 Dakota TAT, (2) ADS (median 1/1).
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [1 North, 8 South] Reports limited to the portion of the state west of Blue Earth and south of Grant. High count 8/11 Kandiyohi (6) JoS. All north 8/7 Grant DPG, 8/24 Grant LMS. Late south 8/24 Kandiyohi JoS, 8/25 Big Stone (3) KRE, RZi, JFR, (4), KRo, Blue Earth ChH (median 8/27).
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [18 North, 39 South] High count 8/19 Carver (7, Rapids Lake Unit; 5 males and 2 immatures) JCy. Late north 9/2 Crow Wing (3) JLK, 9/5 Aitkin RAE, 9/6 St. Louis AM,

9/15 Wadena PJB (median 9/14). Late south 9/19 Hennepin ChC, 10/13 Redwood GWe, 11/18–27 Brown (Iberia, first-year male that had reportedly been around for most of November) BTS (median 9/23).

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [29 North, 8 South] A remarkable incursion southward as individuals were reported from almost every county north of a line from Anoka to Stearns to Clay, plus 11/17 Lac qui Parle ph. BJU, 11/18 Winona ph. TPr. Early north (median 10/18) 9/29 Wadena JEB, 9/30 Todd JEB, 10/25 Itasca PLE, 10/27 Cook ANy, St. Louis (8) KJB, m.ob. Early south 11/11 Stearns HHD. Additional south reports from Anoka, Benton, Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne. High counts all from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 11/12 (309), 11/22 (262), 11/12 (250), season count an above-average total of 1,731.

Purple Finch (*Haemorbus purpureus*) — [28 North, 32 South] Reported north throughout the season, though only in Douglas and Wadena during the last half of November. High count 10/10 St. Louis (327, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Early south reports 8/4, 8/8 Washington JaA, FGo, then none until many reports beginning in late August 8/26 Dakota KDS. South reports peaked in October, though were frequent through the end of the season.

House Finch (*Haemorbus mexicanus*) — [24 North, 46 South] Found statewide.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [24 North, 17 South] Far more reports than usual for the fall, when county counts have been in the single digits for the previous five seasons. Distribution of reports was statewide and throughout the season, though south reports exhibited a bimodal pattern: many south reports (11 counties) between early August and early September, then a lone report 9/30 Benton JEB, followed by frequent reports from 8 counties from mid-October through the end of the season. North reports were more uniformly spread throughout the season, in part due to the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis which found this species on 56 days and reported the following high counts (KJB): 8/24 (1,252, record high state

count), 8/25 (705), 8/23 (603), and a season total of 4,517.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [19 North, 15 South] Found in most counties northeast of a line from Olmsted to Otter Tail. August reports from Beltrami, Cook, Crow Wing (20), Itasca, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. Fall migrants first showed up north 10/12 (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB and were present almost daily thereafter. Away from St. Louis, early north 10/14 Itasca SC, 10/24 Kittson (2) TrB. Early south (median 11/13) 10/26 Benton (21) RZi, 11/2 Hennepin (Theodore Wirth Park) TAT, 11/3 Kandiyohi (2) JoS, McLeod (15) DDe. High counts all from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 10/28 (831, record high state count), 11/24 (299), 11/13 (209), and an above-average season total of 2,582.

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) — [30 North, 33 South] Much more widespread than usual this fall, with more than double the number of counties reporting individuals than in any of the five prior years. Early north (median 10/15) 10/12 St. Louis (6, H.R.N.R.) KJB, ABL, 10/17 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) KJB, 10/22 St. Louis (13, Page Pond) JLK. Early south (median 10/27) 10/25 Lac qui Parle (3) ph. BJU, 10/30 Sherburne PLJ, 11/1 Carver JCy, 11/2 Dakota (12) RaM, Hennepin PJM. High counts from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 11/9 (968), 10/28 (778). For the season, the census totaled a below-average 5,790.

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [6 North, 8 South] More widespread than usual. Early north (median 11/4) 10/22 St. Louis †JLK, 11/3 Cook PRH, (Grand Marais) JFR, 11/4 Cook (3: 2 at Grand Marias, 1 at Lutsen Sea Villas) KRE, m.ob. All south 11/13 Pope †DBM, 11/15 Steele NFT, 11/18 Rice †DAB, Swift (Lac qui Parle W.M.A.) ph. BJU, 11/19 **Pipestone** (Pipestone N.M.) ph. †BJU, 11/24 Hennepin (Crow-Hassan P.R.) ph. ALD, 11/29 Lac qui Parle (Walter Twp.) ph. BJU, 11/30 **Goodhue** (3, Prairie Island, Lower Island Conservation Area) †GJM.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [29 North, 34 South] Reported more widely than in any of the five prior autumns. Early south (median 9/10) 8/14 Carver (2) JOJ, 8/21 Anoka

DvS, 8/31 Anoka CKB. High counts 10/14 St. Louis (**4,050**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/16 St. Louis (**2,797**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High counts all from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): 9/13 (**1,323**, new state high count), 9/12 (**945**), season total 5,854.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vesper-*

tinus) — [19 North, 2 South] More widespread than usual. South reports 10/24 Kandiyohi (3, Willmar) *vide* RAE, 11/1 Ramsey (3, Shoreview) KMo, PNi. Also reported in most counties north of a line from Carlton to Becker, including 11/1 Polk ph. SAU. High count 11/22 St. Louis (30, H.R.N.R.) KJB.

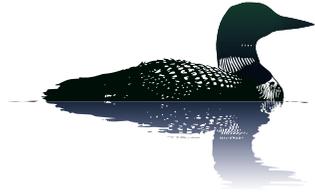
House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide and throughout the season.

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JPE	John P. Ellis	MSS	Mark Sparky Stensaas	SMC	Scott M. Clark
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JSB	Jo & Steve Blanich	NFT	Nels F. Thompson	SOa	Steve Oakley
JSh	John Schaut	NKi	Nick Kiehl	SRO	Stephen Rossiter
JSI	Josh Seibel	PAI	Pam Albin	SSp	Seth Spencer
JSS	Jack Sprenger	PBB	Patrick B. Beauzay	SVo	Skyler Vold
JsS	Jason Swelstad	PCC	Philip C. Chu	SWe	Steve Weston
JSw	Jack Swelstad	PEB	Paul E. Budde	TAT	Tom A. Tustison
JTe	Joy Teigland	PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
JWa	John Walz	PHS	Peder H. Svingen	THI	Tammy Holmer
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KFr	Karlene Froehling	PSe	Peter Sebastian	WCM	William Marengo
KGo	Kent Goble	PSm	Paul Smithson	WKn	William Knebel
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KMo	Kirk Mona	RaM	Randall Mateo		
KRE	Kim R. Eckert	RBJ	Robert B. Janssen	Abbreviations	
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MGo	Malcolm Gold	RTe	Raymond Tervo	W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
MGr	Mara Greenebaum	RTP	Ray Potthoff	W.P.	Wilderness Park
MHe	Melissa Hein	RZi	Roy Zimmerman	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
				W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

Notes of Interest



CLARK'S NUTCRACKER AT HAWK RIDGE — On 12 October 2012, a Clark's Nut-



cracker was spotted flying over the Hawk Ridge main overlook at 2:15 P.M., heading northward. There were only a few seconds to observe this bird, but luckily I caught a glimpse of it as it headed toward

the counting platform. I quickly grabbed my camera and was able to take a few shots as it flew away. I recognized it as a Clark's Nutcracker — it literally came into the view of my binoculars as I was scanning for raptors. This was a lucky few seconds indeed, because the bird was so close and it came by very quickly. I did not take any field notes, but am relying on the series of flight shots to identify it.



Clark's Nutcracker, 12 October 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Karl J. Bardon.

This accidental species has only been seen twice previously in Minnesota since 1977: 14–24 October 2004 at Silver Bay, Lake County, and 13 September 1986 in Mower County. Although there are approximately 19 total records of this species for Minnesota, half a dozen of these have no written description or photo. **Karl J. Bardon, 4990 Maxwell Road, Duluth, MN 55804.**

BRANT IN DULUTH — This "Atlantic" Brant (*Branta bernicla brota*) was originally found



by Shawn Zierman on 20 November 2012. Field notes: small goose with about 30 Canada Geese; harassed by one Canada Goose; black bill, black legs; black head and black neck stocking with thin

white markings on neck sides; body / flanks paler than Canada Goose.

"Black" Brant (*B. b. nigricans*) has much darker underparts with more extensive black on breast and white necklace not limited to neck-sides. *Nigricans* breeds in extreme NE Siberia and the western portion of *bernicla*'s North American range, and winters along the Pacific Coast of California to northern Mexico. The "Atlantic" Brant breeds in eastern



Brant, 20 November 2012, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

Arctic Canada, Greenland, and Spitzbergen, and winters along the Atlantic Coast of North America (Clements Check-list version 6.8). Both forms have occurred in Minnesota and Brant may be split into two or more species in the future; the nominate “Dark-bellied” Brant (*B. b. bernicla*), breeding in Siberia and wintering in England and coastal NW Europe, is already considered distinct from the “Pale-bellied” Brant by some authorities. **Peder H. Svingen, 2602 East 4th Street, Duluth, MN 55812.**

KING EIDER ON LAKE SUPERIOR — On the afternoon of 9 February 2013, Susan Fall



and I found an immature (first-winter) male King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) on Lake Superior about half a mile northeast of the Lakewood Pumping Station (Lakewood Road/Scenic 61) in St. Louis County.

Although the bird was distant (estimated 300–500m), the lake was calm and we were able to note features that confirmed the identification.

It was a large, stout, mostly dark brown sea duck with a paler tan breast, and it dove dozens of times with wings partly open as is typical of eiders and scoters. It was bigger and bulkier (by a third) than three nearby male Common Goldeneyes and a female Red-breasted Merganser. Although it was underwater most of the time, it remained on the surface several times for more extended periods and our total viewing time through spotting scopes (60x) was about five minutes.

Initially I thought it might be one of the three White-winged Scoters that had been reported from the Duluth area in previous weeks, but this bird differed from that species in several ways. The wings were solid dark brown dorsally, lacking white in the secondaries (confirmed when it dove, and also later when it flew), and the bill was dusky yellow-orange. The dark brown head was rather rounded, not blocky, and lacked the scoter's white face patches; it had a pale eye ring that extended behind the eye, and the bill was not as sloping. Overall the head and bill had more the appearance of a bulky dabbling duck than a scoter. First-year male King Eider plumages and bill development are quite variable; this one seemed to have a bill that was shaped more like a female's, without a pronounced expanded frontal shield or bulbous swelling. The dark cheek feathering extended onto the pale bill with a deeply convex margin. Even at that distance, the nostril was visible and was about halfway toward the bill tip from the cheek feathering. This feature and head and bill shape help distinguish King Eider from Common Eider (the latter is an Accidental species in Minnesota, with no records since 1966).

What was almost certainly the same bird was relocated by Michael L. Hendrickson two weeks later (23 February) about seven miles farther northeast and then was seen by many other people later that day and the following mostly in the same general Lakewood area where we found it initially. There were no reports after 24 February. This is the 19th record of this species in Minnesota and the only February record. **Bruce A. Fall, 4300 – 29th Avenue S., Minneapolis MN 55406.**



King Eider, 9 February 2013, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photos by Susan H. Fall.



Northern Shrike, 19 November 2012, Lutsen, Cook County. Photo by David Brisance.

In This Issue of *The Loon*

Volume 85 Number 2

Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 17 August 2012, Ramsey County

Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell Front Cover

Minnesota's First Cassin's Kingbird

Peder H. Svingen and Anthony X. Hertzell 51

Integrating Habitat Use and Availability Data into a Christmas Bird Count

Michael R. North 57

The Fall Season

1 August through 30 November 2012

Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, Doug W. Kieser, and William C. Marengo 61

Notes of Interest

Clark's Nutcracker at Hawk Ridge

Karl J. Bardon

Brant in Duluth

Peder H. Svingen

King Eider on Lake Superior

Bruce A. Fall 93

Northern Shrike, 19 November 2012, Lutsen, Cook County

Photo by David Bris lance 95

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.

The Loon

FALL 2013

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Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Thomas A. Tustison, Chairman

The most recent meeting of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (hereafter "MOURC") was conducted at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center in Bloomington, Minnesota on 2 December 2012. In attendance and voting at this meeting were MOURC members Terence P. Brashear (alternate), Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Andrew R. Forbes (alternate), Anthony X. Hertzler, James W. Lind, Robert P. Russell (alternate), Andrew D. Smith, and Thomas A. Tustison (chair).

Among the topics discussed at the most recent MOURC meeting was a potential first state record Mountain Chickadee (2 October 2012, Lake Vadnais, Ramsey County). The discussion was whether or not to assign a record number to this report and vote on the submitted documentation. The observer did not provide his name and the description was inadequate. There was no mention of similar species such as a female Red-breasted Nuthatch. It was unanimously decided, under recently-amended bylaws, not to vote on this record for reasons above-mentioned. The amended bylaws which have not yet been published provide that the Committee need not review every Casual and/or Accidental record that may be submitted if the Committee determines the record is not worthy of consideration. The amended bylaws now read: "All documented records of Casual and Accidental species and potential first state records are voted on, unless a majority of the Committee votes not to do so."

- Tropical/Couch's Kingbird (28 October 2011, Duluth, St Louis County, record #2011-034) had been previously unanimously accepted (*The Loon* 84:4-5), but a separate vote is needed to determine if this represents a species classified as "A" (no subscript indicating the identification as Tropical/Couch's Kingbird can be determined from the physi-



Record 2013-033, Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*), 4 May 2013, Ortonville, Big Stone County. Photo by Douglas L. Pierzina.

cal evidence alone) or as "A_s" (a qualifying subscript indicating the physical evidence alone is insufficient to determine the identification as Tropical/Couch's Kingbird). After a brief discussion, it was unanimously accepted with the unqualified "A" classification.

The subject of establishing formal guidelines for unusual migration dates for observations of Regular species was discussed. It was decided that the Seasonal Report editors would continue to handle such records and that MOURC would not need to be involved.

Subsequent to the most recent meeting, the following records were voted on electronically and Accepted:

- King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*), 9-24 February 2013, one-half mile northeast of the Lakewood Pumping Station, St. Louis County (record #2013-001, vote 7-0). First-year male, photographed. New winter record for St. Louis County. The bird was observed by sev-

eral experienced observers who satisfactorily eliminated other similar species such as Common Eider. The photographs depict the bird quite far-away, but give support to the identification.

- Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*), 9 March 2013 – 8 April 2013, Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park, Anoka County (record #2013-002, vote 7–0). Adult male (photographed). The bird was also reported in the Hennepin County portion of the Mississippi River on 14 March 2013 and again on 8 April 2013. MOURC determined that the details were sufficient to identify the bird; however, a purported, accompanying female (seen on 9 and 14 March 2013) was Not Accepted by the Committee. There was a report of a Barrow's Goldeneye at this location lingering until 21 April 2013 in Hennepin. However, since no gender was indicated, we don't know which bird was being reported.

- Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), 31 May – 1 June 2013, Myre-Big Island State Park, Freeborn County (record #2013-027, vote 7–0). Adult in alternate plumage, photographed. Fourth state record and first county record.

- Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 24 April 2013, about 12 miles northeast of Lancaster via County Road 4, Kittson County (record #2013-003, vote 7–0). Adult. First county record. An excellent photograph indisputably confirms the identification. No evidence of hybridization.

- Glossy Ibis, 26–27 April 2013, Houston County (record #2013-004, vote 6–1). Adult, photographed. First county record. The photographs alone were inconclusive. Written documentation by one observer augmented the identification. It is regrettable that none of the other observers provided any documentation which might have made the ultimate identification more straightforward.

- Glossy Ibis, 30 April 2013, Silver Creek Reservoir, Olmsted County (record #2013-006, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. First county record. The report makes a disclaimer that part of the written report in the Request for Documentation was cut and pasted from another report of a different Glossy Ibis observed on an earlier date in another county. This practice is strongly discouraged, but there was enough independent evidence to

permit acceptance of the record.

- Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*), 27 May 2013, Duluth, Park Point, beach near Sky Harbor Airport, St. Louis County (record #2013-025, vote 7–0). Third state record. The only previous records of this species in Minnesota are of single birds, both at Duluth: one on 4 July 1981 (*The Loon* 53:123–25) and the other seen 15–20 May 1982 (*The Loon* 54:243). There were various quality photographs and written descriptions from several experienced observers. Age and sex uncertain, but the bird is in all probability a first-spring male. The bird was viewed by more than 20 observers. Coincidentally, a Wilson's Plover was seen the previous day at Peninsula Point in Michigan's Upper Peninsula where it is also considered Accidental. A comparison of the photographs indicates that these birds were not the same individuals (Karl Bardon, pers. comm.).

- Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*), 3–4 May 2013, about three miles southwest of Graceville on the west side of 760th Avenue at 250th Street (Section 24, Toqua Township), Big Stone County (record #2013-034, vote 7–0). Male, photographed. This bird was independently documented at the same location the day after the initial observation.

- Black-necked Stilt, 10 May 2013, Rice Lake State Park, Steele County (record #2013-035, vote 7–0). In spite of the omission of age particulars, the description is convincing.

- Black-necked Stilt, 22 May 2013, Thielke Lake Wildlife Management Area, Big Stone County (record #2013-021, vote 7–0). MOURC generally felt that the description could have been more detailed.

- Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*), 4 May 2013, Ortonville Township, Big Stone County (record #2013-033, vote 7–0). Adult, diagnostic photographs.

- Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*), 14 June 2013, Roseau Lake Wildlife Management Area, Roseau County (record #2013-031, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. First county record. First summer record since the first state record in 1898 in Marshall County when a specimen was taken at Warren (Roberts, Thomas S. 1919. *A Review of the Ornithology of Minnesota*. University of Minnesota Publications Number 11. 101 pp.).

- Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*), 14 April



Record 2013-031, Long-tailed Jaeger, 14 June 2013, Roseau Lake WMA, Roseau County. Photo by Andrew Nyhus.

2013, Great Western Industrial Park, Dakota County (record #2013-019, vote 7-0). Immature gray morph, photographed. The photos were of generally marginal quality, but were sufficiently supplemented by written details.

- Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), 30 April – 7 May 2013, near the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources office on state highway 32, three miles south of U.S. Highway 2 and in Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge, Polk County (record #2013-007, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. The photographs of a distant bird show sufficient detail to confirm the identification.

- Say's Phoebe, 2 May 2013, two miles northeast of Lake Christina, Otter Tail County (record #2013-041, vote 7-0). Adult, diagnostic photographs. First county record.

- Say's Phoebe, 4 May 2013, Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge, Auto Tour Loop, Lac qui Parle County (record #2013-008, vote 7-0). Adult. Both written reports were brief, but the observers were experienced. The Say's Phoebe is now essentially a Regular species, given that it has been reported annually since 2004.

- Say's Phoebe, 12 May 2013, Felton Prairie on the south side of County Road 108

across from the parking area at the interpretive kiosks, Clay County (record #2013-013, vote 7-0). Adult, diagnostic photographs.

- Say's Phoebe, 22 May 2013, Felton Prairie, along a road informally known as "the Longspur Road", Clay County (record #2013-023, vote 7-0). This location is roughly a mile south-southeast of where Say's Phoebe (record #2013-013) was seen ten days earlier, raising the possibility that this may have been the same bird.

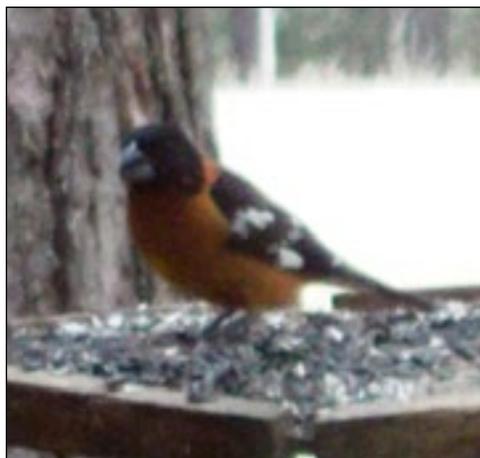
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*), 2-5 June 2013, seen at the mouth of the Brule River, near the Naniboujou Lodge, Cook County (record #2013-028, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First summer record for the county. The 3 June 2013 photograph confirms the identification, although there is no written description. This bird was also seen and photographed by a tour group three days after the initial sighting.

- Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmintheros vermivorum*), 4-5 May 2013, Fridley, Anoka County (record #2013-009, vote 7-0). Adult. First spring record for Anoka County. Confidence in the documentation could have been appreciably improved by supplying contemporaneous field notes.

- Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*), 5-18 May 2013, Carver Creek Loop at the Rapids Lake Unit of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Carver County (record #2013-010, vote 7-0). Adult. First county record. The bird was seen, heard, and photographed by many observers.

- Yellow-throated Warbler, 10 May – 27 July 2013, near the Nature Store parking lot, Whitewater State Park, Winona County (record #2013-012, adult Accepted, vote 7-0). At least one fledged juvenile (and possibly as many as two other juveniles) were seen in the presence of a single adult. Adult and juvenile(s) were both photographed (one or more juveniles Accepted by MOURC, vote 6-1). First county record, first county breeding record, and second successful state breeding record (for the first state successful breeding record see *The Loon* 73:236-240).

- Yellow-throated Warbler, 26 June 2013, Carley State Park, Olmsted County (record #2013-032, vote 7-0). First county record. The record is supported by a detailed description from a knowledgeable observer.



Record 2013-024, Black-headed Grosbeak, 25 May 2013, Embarrass, St. Louis County. Photo by Suzanne Winckler.



Record 2013-014, Bullock's Oriole, 14 May 2013, St. Louis Park, Hennepin County. Photo by Debbie Johnson.

- Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*), 18 May 2013, 140th Street between Roberts and Sundberg Avenues in northeastern Nobles County (record #2013-018, vote 7-0). Adult male. The bird was observed and photographed by several competent observers.

- Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*), 25-26 May 2013, private residence, St. Louis County (record #2013-024, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed. First spring record for the county. Good photographs and no evidence of hybridization.

- Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*), 3 May 2013, private residence, Washington County (record #2013-036, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed. First record for the county. Photographs and descriptions are diagnostic with no apparent evidence of hybridization.

- Lazuli Bunting, 15 May 2013, private residence, Minnesota River Valley four miles southeast of Courtland, Nicollet County (record #2013-016, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed. First county record. The photographs are conclusive, showing no evidence of hybridization.

- Lazuli Bunting, 18 - 22 May 2013, private residence, Hutchinson, McLeod County (record #2013-020, vote 7-0). Adult male, diagnostic photographs. First record for the county.

- Lazuli Bunting, 19 May 2013, Pipestone

National Monument, Pipestone County (record #2013-038, vote 7-0). Adult male. First record for the county. Apparently enough of the bird was seen, if only briefly, to rule out a hybrid Lazuli/Indigo Bunting.

- Lazuli Bunting, 19 May 2013, Pipestone Wastewater Treatment Plant, Pipestone County (record #2013-039, vote 7-0). Immature male, videotaped. The video is barely adequate for identification purposes, but shows the characteristics of a Lazuli Bunting.

- Lazuli Bunting, 21-22 May 2013, near Worthington, Nobles County (record #2013-037, vote 7-0). Immature male, diagnostic photographs. First record for the county.

- Lazuli Bunting, 27-30 May 2013, Westfield Township, Dodge County (record #2013-026, vote 7-0). Immature male, photographed. First record for the county. The photographs are conclusive, with no apparent evidence of hybridization.

- Lazuli Bunting, 6-7 June 2013, Duluth, Allendale Avenue, St. Louis County (record #2013-030, vote 7-0). Apparent second-year male in first-alternate plumage, photographed. First summer record for St. Louis County. The bird was seen and photographed by several observers.

- Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*), 9-10 May 2013, Aitkin County (record #2013-011, vote 7-0). Adult male, diagnostic photograph. Second spring record for the county following

a previous spring record in 2002.

- Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*), 14 May 2013, private residence, St. Louis Park, Hennepin County (record #2013-014, vote 7-0). Adult male, well-photographed. Second state record and the first for the county. Unfortunately, this Accidental species did not linger long enough to be seen by other observers. The first state record was an immature male, 19 October – 13 December 1968, Duluth (mist-netted and photographed), St. Louis County (**The Loon** 41:41-42).

- Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*), 26 May 2013, Corcoran, Hennepin County (record #2013-042, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. Ninth state record and first county record.

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 Minnesota Ornithologists' Union (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.):

- Glossy Ibis, 28-30 April 2013, Nicollet County (record #2013-005, vote 2-5). None of the observers submitted contemporaneous field notes. The photographs were inconclusive, showing either an ambiguous ibis species or a more-likely White-faced Ibis. Some descriptions noted the dark facial skin and dark eyes without red or pink, dark legs with pink only at the ankle joint, and lack of white feathers bordering facial patch and eye. However, one photograph seems to show a faint hint of pink in the eye. A second photograph appears to show a very faint pink tinge to the facial skin. There is nothing in the written material or the photographs that conclusively eliminates an immature White-faced Ibis in pre-alternate plumage. Finally, the possibility of hybridization was not adequately ruled out.

- Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*), 6

May 2013, near Pine City, Pine County (record #2013-040, vote 0-7). The consensus was that the record was insufficient in detail to support the identification. The observer omits comparisons to other large bird species (pelicans, egrets, etc). It may have been a Whooping Crane, but the description makes no mention of the presence or absence of leg bands, which would help in determining whether or not this was a captively raised bird.

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: Karl J. Bardon, David A. Bartkey, Dedrick Benz, Tom F. Boevers, Tracy Brewer, Paul E. Budde, David A. Cahlander, John Cyrus, Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Cole Foster, Malcolm Gold, Carl W. Greiner, Chad Heins, Mike L. Hendrickson, Anthony X. Hertzler, John W. Hockema, Pete Hoeger, Emily Hutchins, Robert B. Janssen, Paul E. Jantscher, Debbie Johnson, Don O. Kienholz, Douglas W. Kieser, George Lahr, Andrew B. Longtin, Tom Middagh, David F. Neitzel, Andrew Nyhus, Michael Oetken, Douglas L Pierzina, Jim Pipher, Brian Plath, Tom Rice, Karl Roe, Gary Sankary, Aaron Steed, Mark Sparky Stensaas, Peder H. Svingen, Jack Swelstad, Jason Swelstad, Raymond Tervo, Thomas A. Tustison, Butch Ukura, Bill J. Unzen, Nancy Voges, Suzanne Winckler, 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: 38 records voted on — 36 Accepted, 2 Not Accepted.

4214 Wentworth Avenue South, Minneapolis MN 55409.

Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region

Part 1 of 3

**Michael R. North, Gretchen Mehmel,
Beth Walters, and Beth Siverhus**

The region of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area (hereafter the Beltrami Island area or “project area”) is a vast expanse of muskeg bog, sedge meadows, lowland brush, lowland conifers, upland conifers, and upland deciduous forests covering about 1,325 square miles. Because the Beltrami Island area represents a vast area of contiguous natural habitat, it has the potential to serve as a natural research laboratory contrasting wildlife population dynamics to the highly fragmented and altered habitats adjoining it.

The Beltrami Island area is part of the Agassiz Lowlands subsection of the Laurentian Mixed Forest biome. The Agassiz Lowlands subsection is a large, very flat, poorly drained area. The water holding capacity of the soils ranks among the highest in the world (NRCS 1998). The subsection is primarily a mix of some of the most significant peatlands in the world interspersed with remnant upland sand islands dominated by conifers and aspen. Peat soils cover 60% of the Beltrami Island area. The peatlands are a mix of black spruce and tamarack forests, sedge meadows, and brushlands. Lowland white cedar stands are common. Heinselman (1963) states “the peatlands stand as a barrier of predominantly boreal vegetation between the outliers of the mesophytic hardwood forest to the south, the prairies to the west, and the true boreal region” to the north and northeast. Thus, the Beltrami Island area is a region where avifauna from three biomes comes together.

Climate change has the potential to modify significantly forest plant community

compositions, with resulting modifications to avian and other animal communities as well. Boreal plant and animal species may be particularly vulnerable, and changes in soil moisture may be the driving force in plant community changes (Galatowitsch et al. 2009). Glaser et al. (1997), however, state “The physical, chemical, and biotic properties of these bogs have no apparent relationship to the westward climatic gradient indicating a high degree of buffering from changes in moisture stress. Most bogs are located where groundwater discharge moderates moisture losses to the atmosphere and may decouple bogs from a direct climatic control.” Thus, this area may make an ideal natural laboratory for understanding the impacts of climate change on avifauna populations, provided that the ecological baseline conditions are adequately understood.

Included in the region defined as the Beltrami Island Area are Hayes Lake State Park, Gustafson Camp SNA, and several peatland SNAs (Red Lake, Mulligan Lake, Winter Road Lake, Luxemburg, and Norris Camp). Although the area has extensive wetlands, most of the water is trapped in saturated peats and soils. Surface water wetlands are scarce, but include four natural lakes (Mulligan Lake, Roseau Lake, Lost Lake, and Winter Road Lake) and several impoundments including Hayes Lake, Roseau Flowage, and Brown’s Slough. The area is also the headwaters of six major watersheds (Roseau River, Rapid River, Warroad River, Winter Road River, Rainy River-Baudette, and Upper/Lower Red Lake), which include the most pristine watersheds remaining in Minnesota (MNDNR and USFWS 2013).

Owing to the remoteness and inhospitable

terrain, no systematic surveys of bird use had ever been conducted in the area until 1978 (see Niemi and Hanowski 1992) when the prospect of peat mining necessitated the collection of biological data. The first systematic and comprehensive surveys were made by Dwain Warner, Susan Doehlert, and Doug Wells (Warner and Doehlert 1978, Warner and Wells 1984) and by Gerald Niemi and Joann Hanowski (Niemi and Hanowski 1984, 1992) beginning in 1978 and concluding in 1982. These systematic surveys, however, focused on peatland habitats and not upland forested habitats. Warner and Doehlert (1978) also used mist netting in lowland conifer habitats, which provided a wealth of data on timing of migration (which has not been summarized for this article), as well as timing of shifts in habitat use by species (some of which are summarized in Parts 2 and 3 of this paper). The first Breeding Bird Surveys in the area (Waskish and Lude routes) were also initiated in 1978, which turned out to be an anomalous year with extraordinary abundances of several species on both routes.

The lack of specific knowledge about the birds of this vast area led Niemi and Hanowski (1992) to speculate about the possibility of discovering a new species there, not because they anticipated it, but because of the longstanding mystique about the possibility that persisted among bird watchers and naturalists. Indeed, the Red Lake WMA master plan (1980) contained a list of 188 avian "species that may occur on the management area" based on lists and field notes provided by D. Warner, Robert Janssen, and WMA field staff (e.g., Bill Berg), and gleanings of anecdotal information from Roberts (1932), who included limited data on raptors and a few other non-passerine species from eastern Roseau County, Williams, and Warroad.

A few species-specific studies and surveys had been conducted in the area prior to 1980. These included Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) drumming counts and American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) counts by DNR staff, and a study of Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*) habitat use by Bruce Fall (see Warner and Wells 1984). Comprehensive avian surveys were also conducted at Hayes Lake State Park in May and June 1992, in which 124 species were detected (Powell

1992).

Since these earlier efforts at describing and quantifying avian occurrence and habitat use in the Beltrami Island area, various long-term and short-term monitoring of avian occurrence and habitat-use were conducted in the area. These include operation of a Breeding Bird Survey route along the Rapid River since 1993, Christmas Bird Counts in the Spina-Gustafson Camp SNA area since 1985 and the Baudette area since 1982, a comprehensive effort to provide Breeding Bird Atlas coverage in 2011 (with additional effort from 2009–2012), and initiation of two nightjar survey routes in 2012. (BBS routes originating near Warroad, Lude, and Waskish cover part of the Beltrami Island area. They are excluded from detailed analysis but referenced anecdotally because the data specific to the Beltrami Island area cannot be parceled out from the entire data sets.)

This paper is an effort to compile disparate data on avian use of the Beltrami Island area into a comprehensive overview to summarize and provide context to ecological baseline information. However, it is important to bear in mind that these surveys have been focused on the road system, and the road system disproportionately occurs in and follows upland features such as beach ridges, and therefore disproportionately samples upland habitats.

Study Area

An overview of the study area is provided in the Introduction. For the purposes of assessment of Breeding Bird Atlas data, the boundaries of the study area were expanded beyond the 1,325 mi² core project area to include all of the townships in an area from Township 155N-160N and Range 31W-38W, plus Ranges 34W-37W in Township 161N (Figure 1). This area incorporated all of the Beltrami Island area and allowed for identifiable boundaries based on roads and ownership patterns (e.g., the Red Lake Indian Reservation boundary on the south). This expanded area covers 52 townships (1,872 mi²). The expanded area includes numerous public lands and private agricultural lands at the western, northern, and northeastern margins of the core study area.

There is no assessment of vegetation com-

Table 1. Vegetation cover on state-owned and state-managed federal lands in the Agassiz Lowlands ecological subsection in 2003.

Cover Type	% Area
Stagnant lowland conifer	22.7
Brushlands	20.0
Aspen	14.5
Non-forest	11.9
Lowland black spruce	10.9
Lowland tamarack	10.4
Lowland white cedar	2.9
Jack pine	2.1
Ash, willow, lowland hardwoods	1.7
White spruce, balsam fir	1.7
Red pine	0.7
Birch	0.3
Upland white cedar	0.2
Upland black spruce/tamarack	0.1
Northern hardwoods	<0.1
White pine	<0.1

Table 2. Vegetation cover on 83,000 acres of state-managed federal lands in the core project area, based on DNR Forest Inventory Modules.

Cover Type	% of Area
Aspen	25.5
Lowland brush	20.8
Jack pine	12.0
Tamarack	9.4
Black spruce	6.1
Lowland white cedar	5.6
Upland grass	3.3
Lowland grass	3.3
Balsam fir	2.6
Stagnant lowland cedar	2.4
Marsh	2.3
Balsam poplar	2.2
Red pine	2.0
Ash	1.6
White spruce	1.5
Muskeg	1.3
Upland brush	0.8
Stagnant lowland tamarack	0.8
Birch	0.7
Stagnant lowland black spruce	0.7
Water	0.5
Upland black spruce	0.3
White pine	0.2
Oak	0.1
Developed and agricultural	0.1

Table 3. Vegetation composition of state, federal, Tribal and private lands within the boundary of the Red Lake WMA, 1980.

Cover Type	% Total Area
Lowland coniferous forest	34.1
Lowland deciduous forest	32.3
Fen/bog	18.5
Deciduous aspen/birch forest	9.2
Upland coniferous forest	2.3
Mixed deciduous/coniferous	1.1
Marsh, open water	1.4
Bottomland hardwood	0.7
Unforested uplands	0.7

position for the specific project area, however, several vegetation assessments for the general area (e.g., the Agassiz Lowlands ecological subsection) and subsets of the project area are described in a planning document by the Minnesota DNR and USFWS (2013; Tables 1–3). The Beltrami Island area is dominated by lowland coniferous forests composed of black spruce, tamarack, and northern white cedar; lowland deciduous forests; aspen and jack pine. Natural stands of white pine and red pine are rare. However, numerous planted red pine plantations are scattered throughout the northern half of the Beltrami Island area, which tends to be higher and drier than the southern part of the area. Northern hardwoods are also rare; bur oaks are concentrated along the Rapid River in the east-central part of the study area, and there is a unique stand of yellow birch along the north shore of Upper Red Lake. There are also extensive sedge meadows (fens), lowland brushlands, and bogs, including some of the most ecologically significant patterned peatlands in the world (MNDNR and USFWS 2013), especially across the southern margins of the Beltrami Island area. There have been marked decreases (>5%) in lowland coniferous forest and aspen forest, with concurrent increases in cropland, from pre-settlement conditions (Minnesota DNR 2006).

Methods

Two Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) are conducted and compiled in the area annually by Martin Kehoe. The Beltrami Island CBC lies entirely within the project area and has

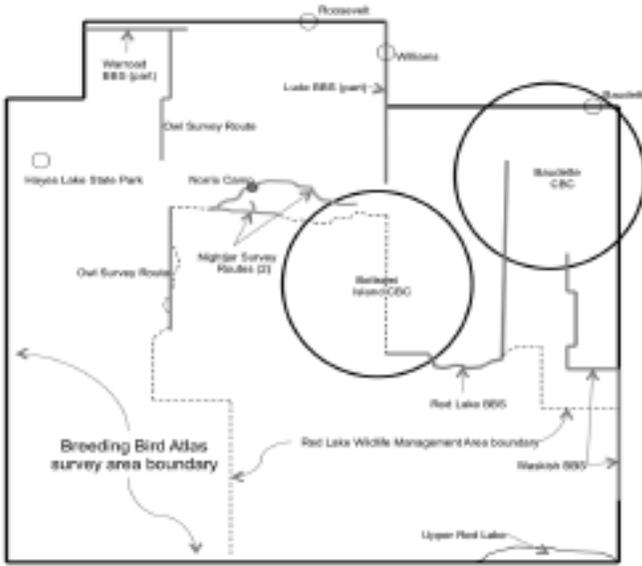


Figure 1. Beltrami Island avian study area. Bold outline shows area from where Breeding Bird Atlas data were compiled. Also indicated are the Baudette and Beltrami Island Christmas Bird Count circles, four Breeding Bird Survey routes that cover the area at least in part, two owl survey routes, and two nightjar survey routes.

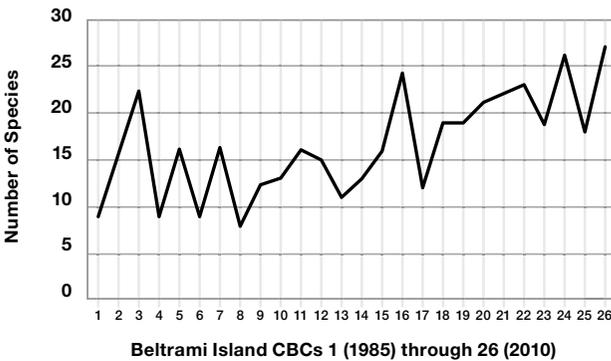


Figure 2. Relationship over time for the number of species detected on the Beltrami Island CBC. Statistical regression on the data give a line estimate equation of $y = 15.37128 + (0.468718)x$, where 15.37128 is the y-intercept, and indicating that the number of species detected on the CBC is increasing at a rate of 0.47 species/year, or by about one species every two years. The correlation coefficient for the equation is 0.658783.

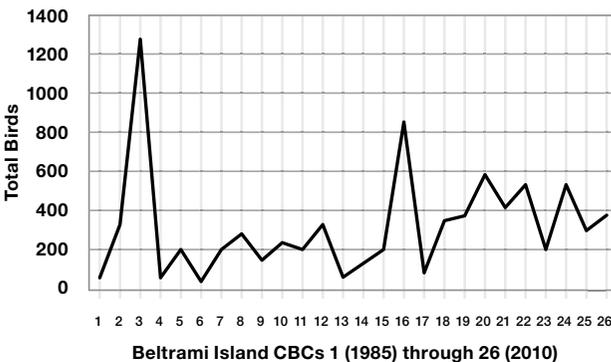


Figure 3. Relationship over time for the total number of birds detected on the Beltrami Island CBC. Statistical regression on the data give a line estimate equation of $y = 259.7754 + (5.122)x$, where 259.7754 is the y-intercept, and indicating that the number of birds detected on the CBC is increasing at a rate of about 5 birds/year, even taking into account the fact that there was an invasion of a large number of common redpolls in 1987. The correlation coefficient for the equation is 0.145439.

Table 4. Avian keystone species identified based on abundance and frequency of occurrence on Breeding Bird Survey route data, and compared with Breeding Bird Atlas data and point count data from Hayes Lake State Park.

Species	BREEDING BIRD SURVEY		BREEDING BIRD ATLAS		HAYES LAKE STATE PARK
	Abundance (No./survey)	Frequency (No. surveys detected) (n=16)	Importance Value ¹	Importance Value Rank	Point Count Rank ²
Red-eyed Vireo	66.31	100%	79	4	2
White-throated Sparrow	48.25	100%	82	3	—
Nashville Warbler	45.00	100%	73.5	6	4
Common Yellowthroat	36.88	100%	89	2	16
Ovenbird	35.62	100%	76	5	6
Veery	22.62	100%	68	12	—
Chestnut-sided Warbler	22.44	100%	66	13.5	—
Least Flycatcher	17.81	100%	71	9	8
Hermit Thrush	17.06	100%	53	26	—
Black-and-white Warbler	15.06	100%	64	16.5	—
Swamp Sparrow	14.19	100%	65	15	—
American Robin	12.56	100%	92	1	11
Alder Flycatcher	11.56	100%	63.5	18	—
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	10.12	100%	55.5	24	16
Song Sparrow	9.88	94%	70	10	14
Blue Jay	9.44	100%	62.5	20	12
Mourning Warbler	9.38	100%	41	38.5	—
Winter Wren	8.31	100%	18	70.5	—
Wilson's Snipe	7.88	94%	63	19	—
Chipping Sparrow	6.56	94%	43	36.5	7
American Redstart	6.12	94%	64	16.6	9.5
Connecticut Warbler	6.12	88%	11	89	—
Cedar Waxwing	6.00	94%	54	25	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	5.38	94%	45	33	—
Eastern Wood-Pewee	4.81	100%	48	30	—
Black-capped Chickadee	4.62	94%	59	22	—
Great Crested Flycatcher	4.19	94%	51.5	27	—
Black-throated Green Warbler	3.50	94%	19	65.5	—

¹ Species ranking high on the Breeding Bird Atlas importance value but not appearing on the list of keystone species from the Breeding Bird Survey include (importance value; rank): Ruffed Grouse (72.5; 7), Northern Flicker (72; 8), Red-winged Blackbird (69; 11), Yellow Warbler (66, 13.5), Alder Flycatcher (63.5; 18), Sedge Wren (61; 21), American Goldfinch (56; 23), and Barn Swallow (50; 28). Reasons for discrepancies may include the fact that the BBS is primarily an auditory survey whereas the BBA incorporates a strong visual component; patchy versus widespread distribution by species; seasonal disparities (e.g., American Goldfinches are late nesters); species-specific surveys incorporated into BBA (i.e., Ruffed Grouse drumming counts, with drumming considered evidence of probable breeding [i.e., courtship]); and potential misidentifications of some species with similar songs (e.g., warblers, wrens).

² Species ranking high (i.e., top 17) on the HLSP list but not appearing on the list of keystone species from the Breeding Bird Survey include (rank): American Goldfinch (3), Brown-headed Cowbird (5), Tree Swallow (9.5), Yellow Warbler (13), and Common Grackle (16; tied for 15, 16, and 17).

been conducted since 1985–86 (n=28 years). Approximately 90% of the Baudette CBC circle lies in the project area and has been conducted since 1982–83. The Beltrami Island CBC consists entirely of native vegetation communities, has poor road coverage, and lacks residences with bird feeders, while the Baudette CBC consists of substantial areas of agricultural and urban development, and has much greater road coverage. The data from both circles were reviewed to calculate percent frequency of occurrence and average abundance of wintering birds. “Count week” observations were included in the calculations for percent frequency of occurrence, but not for average abundance. Total species and total numbers in the Beltrami Island CBC from 1985–2010 were graphed, and changes in trends were correlated with years.

A Breeding Bird Survey route (Red Lake, 50-080) was run annually since 1993 (with the exception of 2002 and 2004) along the Rapid River road by G. Mehmel. The survey follows the protocol established for conducting a Breeding Bird Survey. Here, data was compiled for the years 1993–2010 (n=16 years). Data from three other BBS routes that partially cover the Beltrami Island area (Lude 50-047, Waskish 50-048, and Warroad 50-081) were downloaded from the Breeding Bird Survey website for comparative trends and for elucidating habitat relationships. The Waskish route begins in the Red Lake Peatlands and ends in agricultural areas, but 79% of the coverage area is within the Beltrami Island Area. The Lude and Warroad routes both traverse substantial agricultural areas, with 38% and 33% of their respective coverage areas in the Beltrami Island area. Data from the Waskish BBS could be assessed fully as part of the Beltrami Island area, but it appears to have been collected by several observers with differing skills. For example, the data from 1982 contains incongruities with all other years for certain species including Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*), Northern Waterthrush (*Parkeesia noveboracensis*), Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*). Therefore, it has been treated as ancillary data.

A hierarchical step-down process was employed to attempt to identify ecological key-

stone species in the core of the Beltrami Island area based on the Breeding Bird Survey data from the Red Lake route.

First, all species (n=18) that were detected on all 16 of the surveys were compiled, and their average number of detections (range 4.81–66.31/survey) were calculated as a measure of abundance. All species detected on 100% of the surveys were considered likely keystone species.

Second, all species (n=9) found on “n-1” (i.e., 15 out of 16) surveys were compiled and their average number of detections were calculated (range 3.50–9.88/survey) to see if there was any overlap in abundance. Finding overlap (i.e., 9.88 is >4.81), all species detected on “n-1” surveys were included as likely keystone species.

Third, the average number of detections for the remaining species were calculated to determine if any had an average detection rate above 3.50/survey. Only one species (Connecticut Warbler [*Oporornis agilis*]) fit into this category, with a detection rate of “n-2” surveys and an abundance of 6.12 birds/survey. The Connecticut Warbler was missed on the first two BBS surveys, and may have not been detected due to observer unfamiliarity. Its average rate of encounter for the subsequent 14 surveys (in which it was found) was 7.00/survey.

Fourth, the list of species with average number of detections below 3.50 — and the number of years they were detected — were examined to see if the threshold should be lowered, and if there was a logical cutoff. A reasonable case could be made for adding an additional 9 to 11 species to the list of keystone species, but this was eventually limited to those with an average abundance >3.50/survey (see Table 4).

The Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas project was initiated in 2009. G. Mehmel assumed ownership of one priority block and one non-priority block in 2009. In 2011, as part of a planning effort for federal lands in the Beltrami Island area, the authors partnered with Audubon Minnesota to hire an intern to complete surveys on an additional 23 priority blocks that were accessible by forest roads. M. Kehoe has also collected data in a 25th priority block in the Gustafson Camp SNA area. M. North collected additional data on

Table 5. Importance values of primary and secondary cavity nesting species in the Beltrami Island area, and their overall rank based on Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas data. Table excludes large owls and water-fowl which use primarily natural cavities.

Species	Primary or Secondary	Importance Value	Rank
Northern Flicker	1°	72	8
Black-capped Chickadee	both	59	22
Great Crested Flycatcher	2°	51.5	27
Tree Swallow	2°	43	36.5
House Wren	2°	37	40.5
Hairy Woodpecker	1°	36	42.5
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1°	35	44
Red-breasted Nuthatch	both	34	45.5
Pileated Woodpecker	1°	25	50.5
Eastern Bluebird	2°	23	54.5
Downy woodpecker	1°	19	66
American Kestrel	2°	18	70.5
White-breasted Nuthatch	2°	13	81.5
Boreal Chickadee	both	12	86
Northern Saw-whet Owl	2°	10	93
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1°	9	99
Three-toed Woodpecker	1°	3	136.5
Black-backed Woodpecker	1°	2	146.5
Eastern Screech-Owl	2°	1	159

three priority blocks along Highway 72, in several non-priority blocks along the north shore of Upper Red Lake, and in non-priority blocks along the forest road system on an ad-hoc basis. The Breeding Bird Atlas database was searched for additional records contributed through 2012 by surveyors from the Natural Resources Research Institute and other casual observers.

Data from the Breeding Bird Atlas was extracted in early January 2013, prior to the commencement of the 2013 season, for all blocks within the 52-township area shown in Figure 1. Data from the four blocks within a township were combined, since survey efforts were not uniform due to inaccessibility of many priority blocks, yielding 47 townships with data. A species-by-township matrix was created and populated with the highest breeding evidence code from among the four surveys blocks within the township. Codes were checked for obvious errors and corrected (e.g., any American White Pelican [*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*], Great Blue Her-

Table 6. Importance values of breeding waterbirds, marshbirds, and shorebirds in the Beltrami Island area, and their overall rank based on Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas data.

Species	Importance Value	Rank
Wilson's Snipe	63	19
Sandhill Crane	45	33
Canada Goose	37	40.5
Killdeer	19.5	64
Mallard	18.5	68
American Bittern	18	70.5
Yellow Rail	13	81.5
American Woodcock	13	81.5
Wood Duck	9.5	96
Sora	9	99
Marsh Wren	9	99
Trumpeter Swan	8	104
Pied-billed Grebe	8	104
Ring-necked Duck	6	116
Lesser Scaup	6	116
Hooded Merganser	6	116
Common Loon	6	116
Virginia Rail	6	116
Spotted Sandpiper	5	125
American Wigeon	4	128.5
Red-necked Grebe	4	128.5
Blue-winged Teal	3	136.5
Least Bittern	3	136.5
Marbled Godwit	3	136.5
Wilson's Phalarope	3	136.5
Black Tern	3	136.5
Gadwall	1	159
Green-winged Teal	1	159
Northern Shoveler	1	159
Common Merganser	1	159
Great Blue Heron	1	159
Solitary Sandpiper	1	159
Nelson's Sparrow	1	159
Northern Pintail	0.5	168
American White Pelican	0	170
Ring-billed Gull	0	170

on [*Ardea herodias*], or Ring-billed Gull [*L. delawarensis*] observations that were coded as "possible" were changed to "observed" unless there was additional supporting data to justify a higher evidence code). Also, field notes were checked and species that were observed outside of safe dates were added to the spreadsheet as "observed" species. Data

Table 7. Importance values of breeding raptors in the Beltrami Island area, and their overall rank based on Breeding Bird Atlas data. Also included are results of 9 owl surveys by B. Siverhus, 2006–2012; 7 owl surveys by G. Mehmel, 2007–2012; and 50 surveys by various observers on various routes, 1991–2006.

Species	Importance Value	Rank	Owls/survey (Siverhus)	Owls/survey (Mehmel)	Owls/survey (1991–2006)
Red-tailed Hawk	21	59.5	—	—	—
American Kestrel	18	70.5	—	—	—
Northern Harrier	17	74.5	—	—	—
Broad-winged Hawk	17	74.5	—	—	—
Great Horned Owl	12	86	0.56	0.29	0.66
Turkey Vulture	10.5	90	—	—	—
Bald Eagle	10	93	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	10	93	7.67	1.43	1.36
Barred Owl	9	99	1.22	0.14	0.12
Cooper's Hawk	5	125	—	—	—
Great Gray Owl	3	136.5	—	0.14	0.28
Merlin	3	136.5	—	—	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	146.5	—	—	—
Short-eared Owl	2	146.5	0.11	—	0.04
Long-eared Owl	2	146.5	2.11	0.29	0.08
Northern Goshawk	1	158.5	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	158.5	—	—	0.10
Boreal Owl	0	—	—	—	0.08

were scored to develop a ranking process to create importance values for each species. "Confirmed" breeding records were given a score of 3, "probable" breeding records were given a score of 2, "possible" breeding records were given a score of 1, "observed" species that potentially nested (e.g., Turkey Vultures [*Cathartes aura*], songbirds outside of safe dates) were given a score of 0.5, and observed species that were clearly visitors or migrants (e.g., American White Pelicans, Ring-billed Gulls, Great Blue Herons) were given a score of 0. Scores were summed to compute importance values for 171 species. The importance values, then, are a function of abundance, dispersion, and ease of detection. Importance values were used to identify ecologically dominant species. Although this method may not accurately assess all species across all guilds, it is especially pertinent within guilds (e.g., raptors) or within taxonomic groups (e.g., warblers).

From 2006–2012, a Western Great Lakes Owl Survey was run by B. Siverhus along the north end of Dick's Parkway Forest Road. Nine surveys were conducted during this seven-year period (three in 2006) in March and/or April beginning between 8:20 P.M.

and 9:00 P.M. and ending by 10:30 P.M. Protocols followed those established by the Western Great Lakes Owl Survey.

From 2007–2012, a Western Great Lakes Owl Survey was run by G. Mehmel along the central part of Dick's Parkway Forest Road. Seven surveys were conducted during this six-year period. From 1991–2006, 50 ten-stop owl surveys were conducted by various observers on various routes. In June 2012, two nightjar survey routes were established both originating at Norris Camp. Protocols followed those established by the Nightjar Survey Network. For both the owl and nightjar surveys, all birds heard calling at night were recorded.

Lastly, information was compiled from published papers and unpublished reports (e.g., Warner and Doehert 1978, Niemi and Hanowski 1984, 1992, Warner and Wells 1984, Powell 1992); from checklists for Hayes Lake State Park and Red Lake WMA; and from other sources (e.g., Natural Heritage Database, marshbird surveys, grouse and woodcock surveys, and Spruce Grouse [*Falciptennis canadensis*] studies, although data from some of the latter surveys had already been incorporated into the Breeding Bird Atlas da-

Table 8. Importance values of aerial insectivores in the Beltrami Island area, and their overall rank based on Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas data.

Species	Importance Value	Rank
Least Flycatcher	71	9
Alder Flycatcher	63.5	18
Cedar Waxwing	54	25
Great Crested Flycatcher	51.5	27
Barn Swallow	50	28
Eastern Wood Pewee	48	30
Cliff Swallow	45	33
Tree Swallow	43	36.5
Eastern Phoebe	30	47.5
Eastern Whip-poor-will	24	52.5
Eastern Kingbird	21.5	58
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	8	104
Olive-sided Flycatcher	5	125
Bank Swallow	5	125
Purple Martin	3	136.5
Common Nighthawk	1	159
Chimney Swift	1	159
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	1	159

tabase). The checklist for RLWMA provides a generalization of the status of birds over a larger area with more habitat types, is based on older data, and ranks birds as rare, uncommon, common, or abundant; and it indicates breeding status. The checklist for HLSP, conversely, provides the status of birds within a smaller specific area, is based on newer data (primarily 1992), and ranks birds as occasional, uncommon, or common; but does not indicate breeding status. RLWMA is in the southeast quarter of the project area and is surrounded by undeveloped public lands; HLSP is on the western margin of the project area and abuts private agricultural areas.

Warner and Doelhart (1978) and Niemi and Hanowski (1984) provide some breeding density data for the Red Lake Peatlands, and Warner and Doelhart (1978) and Warner and Wells (1984) provide some data on species' habitat affinities in the Red Lake Peatlands. Warner and his colleagues conducted their field work from 1978–1979. (Data from the Waskish and Lude BBS routes, both of which were initiated in 1978, showed 1978 to be a highly unusual year in terms of species presence/absence and abundance.) Nie-

Table 9. Importance values of warblers, vireos and other foliage gleaners in the Beltrami Island area, and their overall rank based on Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas data.

Species	Importance Value	Rank
Common Yellowthroat	89	2
Red-eyed Vireo	79	4
Ovenbird	76	5
Nashville Warbler	73.5	6
Chestnut-sided Warbler	66	13.5
Yellow Warbler	66	13.5
Black-and-white Warbler	64	16.5
American Redstart	64	16.5
Sedge Wren	61	21
Black-capped Chickadee	59	22
Yellow-rumped Warbler	45	33
Mourning Warbler	41	38.5
House Wren	37	40.5
Red-breasted Nuthatch	34	45.5
Golden-winged Warbler	28	49
Blue-headed Vireo	23	54.5
Pine Warbler	22	56.5
Black-throated Green Warbler	19	66
Winter Wren	18	70.5
Black-billed Cuckoo	18	70.5
Blackburnian Warbler	17	74.5
Wilson's Warbler	16	77
Golden-crowned Kinglet	15	78
White-breasted Nuthatch	13	81.5
Warbling Vireo	12	86
Boreal Chickadee	12	86
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	12	86
Connecticut Warbler	11	89
Magnolia Warbler	10	93
Palm Warbler	8	104
Brown Creeper	7	109
Yellow-throated Vireo	6	116
Tennessee Warbler	6	116
Northern Parula	6	116
Northern Waterthrush	5	125
Canada Warbler	3	136.5
Cape May Warbler	2	146.5
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	159

mi and Hanowski conducted their field work from 1980–1982, however, only their shrub-swamp transect was specifically within this study area. All of their other habitat transects were within about 3 km of Highway 72 on the east side of the highway, with the exception of their closed spruce community tran-

sect which was 20 km east of Highway 72, in Koochiching County (Nevers et al. 1981, Hanowski et al. 1982, Hanowski and Niemi 1983). Density data was converted from these publications into birds/ha for uniform metrics for this manuscript. Niemi and Hanowski (1992) provided a wealth of information on habitat affinities for peatland nesting birds. However, their data on species occurrence and abundance is a compilation from peatlands throughout Minnesota (Gerald Niemi, pers. commun.), and although the data is primarily from the Red Lake Peatlands, species-specific occurrence data pertinent to the Beltrami Island area cannot be extracted from the greater data set.

Results

The avifauna of the Beltrami Island area consists of 234 species (108 confirmed breeding species, 33 probable breeding species, 24 possible breeding species, 35 spring and fall migrants, 8 summer visitors, 9 winter visitors, 12 occasional or accidental species, 4 exotic species, and 1 extirpated exotic species); there are also 4–10 species that hypothetically occur in the Beltrami Island area. There are 27 species of true permanent residents (e.g., grouse, most owls and woodpeckers, corvids, parids, and sittids), and another 12 species which may be found year-round, although the individuals present at any given time may not be the same as those present in other seasons (e.g., Dark-eyed Juncos [*Junco hyemalis*], finches, and Bald Eagles [*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*]).

The avifauna is dominated by forest passerines. The five most abundant species based on 16 years of data from the Red Lake Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) route are Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*), White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*), Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*), Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*), and Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) (Table 4). These five species also rank in the top six species with the highest “importance values” derived from Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA) data, in which American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) had the highest importance value (Table 4). The only non-passerine species among the 28 most abundant species from BBS data was Wilson’s Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*), which

ranked 19th on both the BBS and BBA lists. Other non-passerines that ranked among the top 28 species in importance values from the BBA list were Ruffed Grouse and Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*), ranked 7th and 8th respectively.

Among primary cavity-nesting birds (i.e., keystone ecological species that excavate nesting cavities that are re-used in subsequent years by secondary cavity-nesters), Northern Flickers were the most important species, followed by Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*; Table 5).

Four secondary cavity-nesting species (Black-capped Chickadee [*P. atricapillus*], Great Crested Flycatcher [*Myiarchus crinitus*], Tree Swallow [*Tachycineta bicolor*], and House Wren [*Troglodytes aedon*]) ranked below Northern Flicker in BBA importance values, but above Hairy Woodpecker and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. (Although chickadees and nuthatches will excavate their own cavities in soft wood, such as rotten birch trees, other species do not usually use their old nests, so they are more appropriately thought of as secondary cavity nesters instead of primary cavity nesters). Pileated Woodpeckers (*Dryocopus pileatus*) ranked higher than species that use their old nests, such as American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*), Northern Saw-whet Owls (*Aegolius funereus*), and Eastern Screech-Owls (*Megascops asio*). Logically, primary cavity nesters have to rank higher than the secondary cavity nesters that use their old nests, unless the old nests receive multiple years of use.

The Beltrami Island area is not very important for waterfowl production (Table 6). The species with the highest BBA importance value was Canada Goose, which ranked 40.5 out of 171. BBA surveys confirmed breeding by only Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*), Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*), Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*), Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), and Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) from 2009–2012, although seven other species have been known in the past to breed in the area. Waterfowl breeding is limited by suitable brood-rearing habitat. Brood-rearing habitat consists of a few natural lakes in peatland bogs, a few impoundments such

Table 10. Results of the Beltrami Island and Baudette Christmas Bird Counts, from inception through 2012–2013 count year.

Species	Beltrami Island CBC (n=28 years)		Baudette CBC (n=31 years)	
	% Occurrence	Mean No.	% Occurrence	Mean No.
Mallard	—	—	3	0.1
Common Merganser	—	—	3	0.03
Ruffed Grouse	89	4.0	77	2.7
Spruce Grouse	57	2.1	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	7	0.1	87	10.3
Bald Eagle	21	0.3	55	1.4
Northern Harrier	—	—	6	0.1
Northern Goshawk	46	0.8	39	0.5
Red-tailed Hawk	—	—	3	0.03
Rough-legged Hawk	14	0.4	39	3.9
Golden Eagle	7	0.04	—	—
Merlin	—	—	3	0.03
Gyr Falcon	—	—	6	0.1
Rock Pigeon	—	—	100	86.4
Mourning Dove	—	—	23	0.5
Great Horned Owl	4	0.04	26	0.5
Snowy Owl	—	—	23	0.3
Northern Hawk Owl	25	0.3	29	0.8
Barred Owl	21	0.4	16	0.2
Great Gray Owl	32	0.5	52	1.1
Boreal Owl	4	0.04	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	11	0.25	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	79	2.5	97	6.3
Hairy Woodpecker	100	5.6	97	9.3
American Three-toed Woodpecker	46	0.7	—	—
Black-backed Woodpecker	68	1.7	29	0.4
Pileated Woodpecker	75	2.0	81	1.8
Northern Shrike	25	0.3	81	2.3
Gray Jay	89	13.1	81	4.1
Blue Jay	75	3.3	100	23.0
Black-billed Magpie	43	0.7	97	15.3
American Crow	7	0.3	81	28.7
Common Raven	100	36.6	100	85.4
Black-capped Chickadee	100	54.75	100	123.0
Boreal Chickadee	68	4.7	13	0.7
Red-breasted Nuthatch	86	19.6	81	6.9
White-breasted Nuthatch	50	0.9	100	8.4
Brown Creeper	36	0.6	19	0.2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4	0.1	—	—
American Robin	—	—	3	0
Brown Thrasher	—	—	3	0.03
European Starling	—	—	97	21.8
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	52	33.3
American Tree Sparrow	—	—	3	0.03
Field Sparrow	—	—	3	0
Song Sparrow	—	—	3	0
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	6	0.1
Dark-eyed Junco	—	—	16	0.2
Lapland Longspur	—	—	10	0.5
Snow Bunting	11	0.2	94	834.9
Northern Cardinal	—	—	3	0.03
Red-winged Blackbird	—	—	13	0.1
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	6	0.2
Brewer's Blackbird	—	—	6	0.03
Common Grackle	—	—	29	0.4
Pine Grosbeak	93	28.0	94	41.7
Purple Finch	4	0.3	5	0.2
House Finch	—	—	3	0.1
Red Crossbill	75	16.6	3	0.1
White-winged Crossbill	54	19.3	35	6.1
Common Redpoll	86	102.6	90	366.8
Hoary Redpoll	11	0.2	26	0.3
Pine Siskin	36	13.8	35	17.0
American Goldfinch	14	1.0	29	5.2
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	97	89.5
House Sparrow	—	—	100	105.5

as Hayes Lake and Roseau Flowage, natural rivers, excavated drainage ditches, and rice paddies. Wetlands and forests adjacent to the north shore of Upper Red Lake may be important, albeit unassessed, nesting habitat for several species of waterfowl. Much of the diversity in Table 6 comes from BBA observations from rice paddies near Upper Red Lake and in the human-inhabited townships at the margin of the study area. Important waterbird species of sedge meadows and lowland brushland habitats are Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*), American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*), Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*), Wilson's Snipe, and American Woodcock (Table 6).

BBA surveys documented 17 potential breeding species of raptors in the project area from 2009–2012. These fell into three distinct groups based on importance values (Table 7). The four species with the highest importance values were Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), American Kestrel, Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), and Broad-winged Hawk (*B. platypterus*). Species with intermediate importance values were Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*), Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*), Bald Eagle, Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*), and Barred Owl (*Strix varia*).

Aerial insectivores are an important species guild experiencing widespread population declines (Nebel et al., 2010). The guild includes flycatchers, swallows, swifts, night-hawks, whip-poor-wills, and Cedar Waxwings (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) (which are frequently aerial insectivores during the breeding season). The two species with the highest BBA importance values are Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) and Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) (Table 8). Least Flycatcher also had the most consistent average abundance across three of the four BBS routes, with 17.35, 17.81, and 17.84/census/route (the Warroad BBS being the exception, with 7.18/census). Nine species had intermediate importance values, including Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*). The Beltrami Island area is one of the centers of abundance for Eastern Whip-poor-wills in Minnesota, which seem to have an affinity for sandy habitats. Seven species had low importance values, including two species of

concern, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) and Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*).

The guild of foliage gleaning insectivorous birds includes warblers, vireos, chickadees, nuthatches, creepers, kinglets, wrens, cuckoos, and woodpeckers (DeGraff and Wentworth 1986, Ehrlich et al. 1988). The species in this guild are important both for their value to birdwatchers and ecologically as regulators of potentially destructive insects. The top four species with the highest BBA importance values were Common Yellowthroat, Red-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, and Nashville Warbler (Table 9), followed closely by Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pennsylvanica*), Yellow Warbler (*S. petechia*), Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*), American Redstart (*S. ruticilla*), Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*), and Black-capped Chickadee. Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) had an intermediate BBA importance value, while the Connecticut Warbler had a low BBA importance value (Table 9). The Connecticut Warbler, however, was among the 28 most abundant species on the Red Lake BBS route. Both species are of management concern. The Beltrami Island area offers extensive lowland brushland and earlier successional upland forest habitat for Golden-winged Warblers, and extensive lowland conifer habitat for Connecticut Warblers.

Christmas Bird Counts have documented 66 species wintering in the Beltrami Island area, 35 more-or-less regularly (Table 10). These include 39 species found on the Beltrami Island CBC and 60 species found on the Baudette CBC. Extraordinary differences in frequency of occurrence and/or abundance between these two count circles, which come within about one mile of each other, exist for Spruce Grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*), Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*), American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*), Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*), Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*), Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*), and House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*). Substantial differences exist also for Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*), Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginia-*

nus), Snowy Owl (*B. scandiacus*), American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*), Black-backed Woodpecker (*P. arcticus*), Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), Black-billed Magpie (*Pica hudsonia*), White-breasted Nuthatch (*S. carolinensis*), and Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*). Most of the differences between count areas can be attributed to differing habitats (including bird feeders), but some is due to differences in road coverage. For example, if habitat was equal between the two areas, one would expect greater numbers and frequency of occurrence in the Baudette CBC than the Beltrami Island CBC because of greater road access. Differences are discussed in the Species Accounts section that follows.

Number of species and total numbers of birds were plotted against year for the Beltrami Island CBC from 1985–2010. Figure 2 shows that the number of species detected annually increased at a rate of 0.47/year ($R^2=0.66$). Figure 3 shows that the total number of birds detected annually increased at a rate of 5.1/year ($R^2=0.145$). A perusal of the raw data from the Beltrami Island CBC shows which species are contributing to these trends: no Bald Eagles were detected before 1996–97; Northern Goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*) increased in frequency and abundance since 2003–04; Barred Owls and Pileated Woodpeckers increased in frequency and abundance since 2002–03; Hairy Woodpeckers increased in abundance since 2000–01; American Three-toed Woodpeckers have increased in frequency since 2004–05; Northern Shrikes (*Lanius excubitor*) increased in frequency since 2005–06; American Crows were absent prior to 2007–08; White-breasted Nuthatches increased in frequency since 2000–01; Snow Buntings were absent prior to 2004–05, and American Goldfinches (*Spinus tristis*) were absent prior to 2002–03. These changes may reflect avian responses to climate change. Another notable trend involved Black-backed Woodpeckers, which were absent seven of eight years from 1990–91 through 1997–98, but were present every year from 1985–86 through 1989–90 (i.e., > 5 years) and 1998–99 through 2010–11 (i.e., 13 years).

Notable trends from the Baudette CBC include: Bald Eagles increased in frequen-

cy and abundance since 1998–99; Northern Hawk Owls (*Surnia ulula*) increased in abundance since 2000–01; Downy Woodpeckers showed a general decrease in abundance starting circa 1994–95 while Hairy Woodpeckers showed a general decrease in abundance starting in 1997–98; Black-backed Woodpeckers were absent 15 of 16 years from 1982–83 through 1997–98, then present 8 of 15 years afterwards; Black-billed Magpies increased in abundance since 1998–99; American Crows were absent the first 3 years and increased in abundance since 2007–08; Common Ravens (*Corvus corax*) increased in abundance since 2004–05; Black-capped Chickadees occurred in record numbers three of six years since 2007–08; Red-breasted Nuthatches (*Sitta canadensis*) showed a general increase in frequency and abundance starting in 2000–01; Bohemian Waxwings showed a general increase in frequency and abundance starting in 1997–98; Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) showed a general increase in abundance since 2000–01; White-winged Crossbills (*Loxia leucoptera*) are indicating a possible increase in frequency since 2007–08; American Goldfinches increased in frequency since 2003–04 but decreased in abundance; and Evening Grosbeaks decreased in abundance since 1996–97. Also, four of the highest seven counts of Gray Jays (*Perisoreus canadensis*) occurred in the last four CBCs. Again, some of these changes may reflect avian responses to climate change, especially if boreal species are being released from population regulation mechanisms, but some changes also likely reflect changes in forest age classes and tree species composition.

Detailed species accounts and a discussion of the relevance of the data will be provided in Parts 2 and 3 to be published later.

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The Winter Season

1 December 2012 through 28 February 2013

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One Snow Goose was reported in mid-winter at Monticello in Wright County; no other goose species except Canada were known to have overwintered. Five Cackling Geese in Olmsted in mid-February were presumed very early returning migrants and by the end of the month small numbers were found in Nobles and Martin. Up to three Mute Swans reported from Goodhue in midwinter probably originated from the Treasure Island Casino, but the sources of single individuals in Scott and Dakota were undetermined.

Higher than normal numbers of Gadwall and Ring-necked Ducks overwintered in Scott at the Blue Lake wastewater treatment plant. Greater Scaup were reported in early January in St. Louis and Goodhue. An immature male King Eider discovered in Duluth on 9 February was relocated two weeks later when many others were able to see it. This was the nineteenth state record. Four Harlequin Ducks were found, including three on Lake Superior and one along the Mississippi River in the Southeast Region. All three scoter species were reported in December, but only a few White-winged ducks lingered into January in Duluth, three of which overwintered. Long-tailed Ducks were reported in higher-than-normal numbers from all three Lake Superior counties, but there were no reports from any south counties, in contrast to the previous year when at least eight different birds were reported. Unprecedented for the season was the number of Red-breasted Mergansers reported from Duluth in January and February. Ruddy Ducks lingered into mid-December in Duluth (St. Louis County) and Moorhead (Clay County), and five overwintered in Dakota.

An adult Pacific Loon was found at Park Point, Duluth in early December, while several Common Loons were reported in the state until the middle of the month. A Red-necked Grebe lingered in Two Harbors, Lake

County, until late January; only the second Western Grebe ever to overwinter in the state did so at the same location. A Great Egret in Olmsted was a very late migrant, but it was outdone by the two juvenile Black-crowned Night-Herons that provided Minnesota's first overwintering record in Winona. Sightings of all three accipiters were higher than usual for recent winters, though details accompanied few of these reports. Record late by two weeks was an American Golden-Plover foraging at Black Dog Lake in Dakota. Three Killdeer in Olmsted were the first to overwinter in the state since 2001.

Most unusual was the apparent adult Black-legged Kittiwake reported from Lake in early February; this record is still pending a vote by the records committee. Up to four Iceland Gulls wintered in Duluth, St. Louis; two in the Twin Cities departed by early January. The only two Lesser Black-backed Gulls found in the state were both in the Twin Cities. The state's eighth Slaty-backed Gull — and fourth for Duluth — was an adult documented at Canal Park. Both Glaucous and Great Black-backed gulls overwintered at Duluth. High counts of both of these species occurred around the New Year holiday, with numbers tapering off through February. Eight Glaucous Gulls in a flock roosting in Hennepin in mid-December was a record high count away from Lake Superior.

The season saw a significant number of northern owls move into the state. While Snowy Owl numbers did not match those of the prior winter, they were still well above-average. Northern Hawk Owls were found in nine northern counties, predominantly in the Northwest region. Great Gray Owls made a very concentrated incursion in mid-February into Roseau County, also in the Northwest, where there were several daily high counts in the 50s and 60s. Remarkably, the highest count away from Roseau was only 5! Boreal Owls also made a good showing in the

state in February, though this incursion was more centered in the Arrowhead, especially near the Lake Superior shoreline. Was this a true measure of where the Boreals were to be found, or was it due to this being where the birders were looking? For a more complete summary of this season's owls, see *The Loon* 85:148–149.

In prior winters, the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve has been the best location in the state for Red-headed Woodpeckers. However, the local CBC held there could not find one this season — perhaps due to a failed acorn crop. Hopefully, this is not indicative of future numbers of this species in the East-central region. Five American Three-toed Woodpeckers were located in Lake of the Woods; the only other reports were from Itasca. Black-backed Woodpecker reports were also down.

Among the corvids, the most interesting sighting was of a Black-billed Magpie during the Two Harbors CBC. This species has a regular vanguard in St. Louis County, but is rarely found east of the Sax-Zim Bog. Common Ravens were well-documented as far south as Stearns.

There were more reports than usual of Tufted Titmice as far north as the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Even more remarkable, however, was the approximately 31 Carolina Wrens found in 18 different counties of the state. This was by far the most ever found in Minnesota during any season.

Among the winter thrushes, Townsend's Solitaire numbers were down, with only eight birds found. For the third consecutive year a Hermit Thrush was found north, this season in Otter Tail. Eighteen Varied Thrushes scattered across the state were the most since 2008. Both Eastern Bluebirds and American Robins were reported in good numbers.

A Gray Catbird was seen into late December, and a Brown Thrasher into early January. Bohemian Waxwings were widespread across the north, with a few making it as far south as Nicollet and Olmsted. Snow Buntings were reported from 94% of the state's counties. The only warbler seen in the season was Yellow-rumped, which now has been found during 18 of the last 19 winters!

Two different Spotted Towhees were photographed at different locations in Rice.

Chipping Sparrows were reported from five counties, but, unfortunately, none was documented. Observers in three different counties did document five Field Sparrows, the most ever in the winter for this species. Another unusual winter sparrow was a Savannah seen in Kandiyohi in mid-December, marking the fourth consecutive winter for this rare winter species. Other wintering sparrows were those more typically expected.

The fifth winter record for Summer Tanager was one that lingered in McLeod into early December. A Yellow-headed Blackbird in Le Sueur in early January was record late south; it was also the sixth winter report of this species over the last seven years. A small flock of Brewer's Blackbirds in Rice in mid-December was notable. Common Grackle is not an unexpected wintering bird in the state, but individuals in Roseau and Koochi-ching were unusually far north.

Many of the winter finches made major incursions into the state, reaching much farther south than they usually do. Pine Grosbeaks were seen throughout the north and into the northern tier of south counties, plus one exceptional report from Winona. The strong fall occurrence of Red Crossbills in the state presaged an excellent winter for this species which rivaled the winter of 1996–97. One had to go back to the winter of 1984–85 to find more Reds. White-winged Crossbill numbers were also excellent and included many reports from the Twin Cities south and east to the state's borders. Common Redpolls were in almost every county, while Hoarys were found in a record number of counties, including all but five north counties. Pine Siskins were also more widespread than usual, as they were found statewide except in the extreme west and southwest corner. Even the Evening Grosbeak, whose numbers statewide have been declining, was more plentiful than usual, with multiple reports just north of the Twin Cities.

Weather summary: Average temperatures in the state were generally near normal. A warm beginning to December was counter-balanced by a colder than average end of the month. January temperatures were near normal, while February averaged two to four degrees (F) colder than the historical average. For some communities this was only the sec-

ond time in almost two years when the mean monthly temperature was below average.

Precipitation totals were at or slightly above average for the season. Some of the more significant weather events included a winter storm on 8–9 December that produced snowfall totals in excess of ten inches in a swath from Canby to the Twin Cities; a storm on 28–29 January that dropped totals of 6 to 12 inches of snow from the West-central region through the North-central; and a winter storm that produced over 18 inches of snow in the West-central part of the state on 9–11 February.

Documented reports still under review:

Black-legged Kittiwake 2/3 Lake (Two Harbors).

Undocumented or insufficiently documented reports: **Ring-necked Duck** 2/12 St. Louis (record late north); **Black Scoter** 2/9 St. Louis (late date); **Osprey** 12/1 Rice (late date); **Bonaparte's Gull** 2/18 Koochiching (very late date); **Common Raven** 12/3 Blue Earth, 2/13 Rice (2) (all out of range); **Bohemian Waxwing** 12/3 Rice (out of range); **Chipping Sparrow** 12/15 St. Paul (North) CBC, Owatonna CBC, Winona CBC, 12/16 Stearns, 12/19 Ramsey, 1/21 Nicollet (all late dates); **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** 12/15 Sibley (late date); **Brewer's Blackbird** 1/5 Alexandria CBC (4) (late date).

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KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species listed in brackets [**Snew**] 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 listed 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.
13. High counts that are multiples of 100 are assumed or known to be estimates unless otherwise noted.

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 seasons@moumn.org.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [1 North, 3 South] All reports: 12/1 Big Stone (2, Big Stone Lake) DLP, 12/2–8 Clay (1–2 adults, Moorhead) DWR, PBB, 12/4 Houston NBO, 12/15 McLeod PRH.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [1 North, 6 South] All north: 12/1–8 Clay (blue morph, Moorhead) DWR, PBB, HHD. All south: 12/1 Lac qui Parle (3) DLP, 12/6 Olmsted (1 white and 2 blue morphs) LAV, STh, 12/15 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) CBC (37), Owatonna CBC (4), 2/10 Wright (white morph, Monticello) EPI, RQu, RSm, 2/28 Martin (immature) PEJ.

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [3 South] All reports: 12/1 Chippewa / Lac qui Parle (Lac qui Parle Lake), 12/8 Big Stone (Big Stone Lake) DLP.

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [4 North, 20 South] All north (only one with details): 12/1–16 Clay (multiple individuals with peaks of 28 on 12/4, 10 on 12/8) PBB, DWR, 12/17 Otter Tail †DST. Reported from about the same number of south counties as last year, and more than in previous years. High count 12/1 Rice (62) MDu. Numerous December reports through 12/17 included the following that were documented: 12/1 Brown †BTS, 12/7 Olmsted †JWH. No further reports until presumed northbound migrants **2/18–28** Olmsted (5, Zumbro River) †JWH, and then 2/28 Martin (7), Nobles (4) PEJ.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [17 North, 45 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as last year, both north and south. North reports after the CBC period included 11 counties. Season high counts north 12/8, 2/16 Clay (5,000, Moorhead) PBB, RTo. Season high counts south 1/1 Olmsted (3,000) SHk, 2/27 Olmsted (2,500) LEV. CBC high counts 12/14 Lac qui Parle (20,000) 12/15 Rochester (11,000), Fairmont (10,620).

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [4 South] Reports of up to three from January and February Goodhue (Prairie Island, Lock and Dam 3) m.ob. that probably originated from Treasure Island Casino. Other reports of single birds of unknown origin include 12/15–16 Scott (Shakopee Mill

Pond) m.ob., 2/2 Dakota (Miesville Ravine C.P.) KDS.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [13 North, 25 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as last year, both north and south. High counts north 12/31 Otter Tail (400) BDE, 12/1 Cass (60) BAW. North reports after the CBC period included 12 counties. High counts south 1/27, 2/4, 2/10 Wright (500, Monticello) m.ob. Numerous south reports from January and February were concentrated in Southeast and around the Twin Cities. Away from Wright (Monticello), south high count included 12/23 Scott (160) CAS. CBC high counts 12/30 Battle Lake (1,041), 1/5 Northern Wright County (915), 1/1 Afton (382).

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [11 South] Large numbers lingered in Wabasha into late December, with 276 still present 12/23 (includes birds in Wisconsin waters) and one on 1/7 (Reads Landing) PEJ. Mid-January reports (1/11–17) Olmsted (Silver Lake) ANy, JWH, JPr suggest overwintering, as does one on 2/20 Scott (Shakopee Mill Pond) ph. †KDS. High count 12/2 Houston (9,212, Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [3 North, 17 South] All north reports: 12/8–16 Clay (female, Moorhead, American Crystal Sugar lagoons) PBB, 12/15 Fergus Falls CBC, overwintered St. Louis (female, 27th Ave. West, Duluth) KJB. Overwintered south in Olmsted (male, Silver Lake dam), and mid-January to mid-February reports south from Benton, Dakota, Goodhue, Ramsey, Washington, Winona also suggest overwintering. High count 12/13 Hennepin (14, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ. CBC high count 12/15 Bloomington (10).

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) — [1 North, 14 South] Several north reports from St. Louis (Duluth) including 12/10 (Canal Park) MLH, 1/1 (Canal Park) KJB, ANy, PHS; overwintered from 1/16 (male, 27th Ave. West) JLK, KJB, m.ob. Multiple individuals overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., with peak 2/13 (105) PEJ, and Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) m.ob., including 1/18 (12) HCT, 2/1 (12) JWH, ANy. Elsewhere, singles or a few individuals

reported post-CBC period from Chipewa, Dakota, Goodhue, Ramsey, Washington. High count 12/5 Houston (300, Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB. CBC high counts 12/15 Excelsior (66), 1/5 Wabasha (66).

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) — [1 North, 7 South] One north report: 12/5 Cook BRL. Numerous December records from several Twin Cities and Southeast counties, then no reports from January through early February although one 2/11–13 Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) GLa, CRM, PEJ probably overwintered and five were at the same location 2/20 GHo, KDS. Two 2/18 Olmsted JWH were thought to be early migrants. High counts 12/4–5 Houston (30, Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB. CBC high count 12/15 (3) St. Paul (North).

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) — [5 North, 16 South] Numerous midwinter reports from St. Louis (Duluth), with high counts 27th Ave. West) 1/27 (31) JLK, 2/12 (28) KJB. Other midwinter north reports away from Duluth from Cass, Clay, Itasca, Morrison. South reports mostly from Twin Cities and Southeast counties, with midwinter south high count 2/20 Wabasha (32) PEJ; elsewhere south, midwinter high counts were ten (Scott) or fewer. CBC high count 12/15 Bloomington (4).

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [17 North, 40 South] Reported from about the same number of counties both north and south as last year. State high counts were from St. Louis (Duluth, 27th Ave. West): 2/13 (2,500) EKl, 2/12 (2,350) KJB, 1/19 St. Louis (2,250) JLK. South high counts were 1,000 or fewer; this is substantially lower than in most recent winters, perhaps due in part to the increased access restrictions at Black Dog Lake (Dakota). CBC high counts 12/15 Minneapolis (North) (2,899), 12/15 St. Paul (North) (2,811), 12/15 Faribault (1,942).

Northern Shoveler (*Anas chlypeata*) — [8 South] Numerous south December reports mostly Hennepin through 12/17. Several midwinter reports Dakota (Black Dog Lake) of probable overwintering birds m.ob., with four recorded on 1/12 MJM and 1/29 PEJ. Probable early migrant

2/25–26 Scott CRM, CA, PEJ. High counts 12/2 Carver (48, Lake Waconia) DWK, 12/13 Hennepin (35, Lake Harriet) CMB. CBC high count 12/14 Lac qui Parle (16).

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) — [1 North, 11 South] All north: 12/8–16 and 2/3 Clay (Moorhead, American Crystal Sugar lagoons) PBB, DWR; the latter date suggests overwintering. Up to seven individuals overwintered Dakota (Black Dog Lake) PEJ; elsewhere in Dakota one bird was reported 1/20 (Spring Lake) BAF. Other midwinter south reports include 1/26 Scott GLa, 2/10 Wright (2, Monticello) EPl, RSm. CBC high counts 12/15 Bloomington (5), 12/16 Cedar Creek Bog (4).

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) — [1 North, 7 South] All north: 12/15–30 Clay (Moorhead, American Crystal Sugar lagoons) PBB. Up to ten overwintered Dakota (Black Dog Lake) PEJ and one male overwintered Olmsted (Silver Lake) JWH, LAV. One male reported 1/12 Wabasha JWH.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) — [1 North, 13 South] One north report: 12/6 St. Louis (Park Point bay) KJB. Overwintered south Scott (2, Blue Lake W.T.P.) PEJ, and Wabasha (2, Camp Lacupolis/Reads Landing) PEJ, DBz, m.ob. Other midwinter reports 1/5 Goodhue (Wacouta) BRL, 1/26, 2/3 Ramsey (Kaposia Landing) BAF, 2/18 Dakota (Black Dog Lake) PEJ. Late February reports (from 2/23) Goodhue (Prairie Island) m.ob. were probably early migrants. High count 12/4 Houston (19,300, Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.; includes birds in Wisconsin waters) KJB. CBC high counts 12/15 Rochester (4), 12/15 Excelsior (3).

Redhead (*Aythya americana*) — [4 North, 13 South] North records from four counties (more than in any of the previous five winters): 12/1–4 Cass (2 males, Leech Lake) BAW, 12/8 (8) and 12/15–16 (4) Clay (Moorhead, American Crystal Sugar lagoons) PBB, 12/15 Fergus Falls CBC, 1/29 St. Louis (male, Duluth, 27th Ave. West) †JLK. Overwintered south Goodhue (male, female, Colville Park) m.ob. A flock of up to 11 from 2/18 Washington (Pt. Douglas Park) DVE through the end of February m.ob. were probably early migrants.

Another small flock (7 males, 7 females) 2/17–18 Steele (Lake Kohlmier) NFT may also have been early migrants. Elsewhere smaller numbers were reported from mid to late February from Hennepin, Martin, Scott, Winona, Wright.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) — [5 North, 17 South] Reported from more north counties than in any of the previous five winters, including 12/1–4 Cass (4, Leech Lake) BAW, 12/2 St. Louis (Duluth, Park Point) RQu, 12/4–20 Cook (Grand Marais) BRL, DBM, 12/8–16 Clay (up to 3, Moorhead, American Crystal Sugar lagoons) PBB, 12/15 St. Louis (Duluth, 27th Ave. West) KJB, 12/22 Uppgaard W.M.A. CBC. December high counts 12/2 (22,520), 12/4 (10,400) Houston (Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB. Overwintered south Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) with high counts on 1/9 and 2/8 (76) PEJ, 2/11 (101) CRM, and numerous other reports of fewer individuals m.ob. Other south midwinter reports include Goodhue (3, Prairie Island) m.ob., Ramsey (up to 10, Simon's Ravine, Kaposia Landing) m.ob., and Olmsted (1, Silver Lake) JWH. End of February reports beginning 2/23 Goodhue KDS and 2/27 Washington may have been early migrants.

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) — [1 North, 7 South] All north: 12/25 St. Louis (4, Superior Entry) KJB, 1/5 St. Louis (female, Superior Entry) KRE, m.ob. Several December reports south from Hennepin, Goodhue, Houston, Wabasha, Winona, with high count 12/23 Wabasha (19) PEJ. One January report: 1/7 Goodhue (6, Lake City) PEJ, may have been late migrants. No further reports until late February (probable early migrants) 2/22 Goodhue and Winona m.ob. CBC high count 12/30 Red Wing (27).

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) — [3 North, 21 South] All north reports: 12/2 St. Louis (male, Virginia, Silver Lake) SLF, 12/4 Cass (2) BAW, 12/8–16 Clay (up to 5, Moorhead, American Crystal Sugar lagoons) PBB, 12/25–1/13 St. Louis (Superior Entry) KJB, LME. Numerous December reports south. Overwintered Scott (2, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Winona (up to 7) m.ob., Goodhue m.ob., and possibly Steele (2, 2/17–18)

NFT. Reports and numbers increased in late February, of probable early migrants, including 2/26 Scott (8) PEJ, CAs, 2/27 Wabasha (20), 2/28 Martin (13) PEJ. High counts 12/2 Houston (203, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.; only a small fraction of the 5,000 scaup were identified to species) KJB, 12/23 Wabasha (60) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/15 Rochester (41), 12/30 Red Wing (29).

KING EIDER (*Somateria spectabilis*) — [1 North] Immature male 2/9 St. Louis (Duluth, Lake Superior near Lakewood Pumping Station) †BAF, ph. SHF. Rediscovered in the same general area 2/23–24 MLH, †PHS, †BWF, †PEB, †ELC, ph. †DWK, †HCT, m.ob.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [2 North, 1 South] All reports north: 12/18 Cook (2, Grand Marais Harbor) KJB, 2/2 Cook (2 first-winter males, Grand Marais) CLW, m.ob., 2/20 St. Louis (female, near Lester River) JCG. One south report: 1/5–2/3 Wabasha (subadult male, Lock and Dam 4) ph. AnG, RoC, †SWe, †MGo, m.ob.; probably the same bird relocated 2/27 Wabasha (Camp Lacupolis) PEJ.

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 North] One report: 12/1 Cass (female plumage, Leech Lake, Walker Bay) BAW.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) — [2 North, 2 South] All reports: 12/8–22 Lake (Two Harbors) DWK, KRE, KJB, 12/14 St. Louis (Superior Entry) KJB, 12/14–19 Winona and Wabasha (Minneiska) MGo, DWK, 12/16 Wabasha (Lake City) PEJ, **12/30–2/27** St. Louis (Duluth; 4 initially, then at least 3 overwintered) KRE, ph. †JLK, m.ob.

Black Scoter (*Melanitta americana*) — [1 South] One record: 12/14–17 Winona (Minneiska) †MGo, DWK, DBM. Also see undocumented records.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [3 North] Numerous north reports from all 3 Lake Superior counties, with high counts by county: 12/18 Cook (67, Paradise Beach) KJB, 2/24 Lake (110, Two Harbors) DWK, HCT, 2/23 St. Louis (145, near McQuade Harbor) KJB; other late February reports of somewhat lesser numbers from Lake and St. Louis m.ob. These numbers are much higher than in any of the winter

seasons of the previous five years. However, unlike last year there were no south reports.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [5 North, 14 South] Overwintered north St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob., Lake (up to 4, Two Harbors) m.ob. January reports south 1/2 Stearns (St. Cloud) MJB, 1/5 Goodhue (Wacouta) BRL, and overwintered Winona (Prairie Island Road) m.ob. High count 12/2 Houston (57, Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB. CBC high count 12/15 Duluth (5).

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [10 North, 31 South] High count north 1/1 St. Louis (1,162, Superior Entry and Canal Park) PHS. South high count 12/1 Ramsey (650, Pleasant Lake) KJB. Midwinter counts south from the Twin Cities and Mississippi River were lower than in most recent years, with a peak 1/29 Dakota (500) TLo. CBC high counts 12/15 Excelsior (846), 12/30 Red Wing (758).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 North] Adult male overwintered St. Louis (Duluth, mostly Superior Entry) 12/25–2/17+ ph. KJB, ph. †PHS, †DWi, ph. †HCT, ph. †KRE, ph. JLK, ph. BU, ph. SLP, ph. AM, m.ob. Plumage characteristics from photos indicate this is probably the same male that has returned to this area annually since 2008.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [6 North, 21 South] Reported from about the same number of counties north and south as last year. Overwintered north St. Louis (up to 4, at Canal Park and other Duluth locations) m.ob. Multiple individuals overwintered at several Twin Cities sites, including Dakota (up to 28 on 2/8, Black Dog Lake) PEJ, m.ob., Scott (up to 45 on 2/20, Blue Lake W.T.P.) KDS, GHo, m.ob. One to two were reported midwinter elsewhere, including Benton, Chipewa (2/15, Minnesota River) DLP, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Fillmore, Ramsey, Rice, Wabasha, Washington. High count 12/1 Ramsey (600, Pleasant Lake) KJB. CBC high counts 12/15 St. Paul (North) (19), 12/15 Excelsior (7).

Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser — Two hybrids reported: 1/7 and 2/28 Goodhue (female, Prairie Island),

2/12 Dakota (male, Mississippi River near Prescott, WI) PEJ.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) — [10 North, 23 South] Multiple individuals overwintered St. Louis (up to 40, Duluth area) m.ob., Lake (up to 4, Two Harbors) m.ob.; also Cook (1, Grand Marais) m.ob. High counts south 12/3 Wabasha and Goodhue (21,500, Lake Pepin) KJB, 12/16 Goodhue (5,000) PEJ, 12/16 Wabasha (4,500) PEJ, 12/8 Hennepin (3,000, Lake Minnetonka) HCT. High counts north: 12/6 Mille Lacs (931, Lake Mille Lacs) KJB, 12/1 Cass (122, Leech Lake) BAW. Midwinter high counts 1/15, 1/23 Goodhue (2,500, Colville Park) GJM, DVe. CBC high counts 12/15 Excelsior (7,502), 12/15 Bloomington (697), 1/1 Afton (545).

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) — [5 North, 7 South] Midwinter records north from Cook (up to 12, Grand Marais) m.ob., Lake (up to 12, Two Harbors) m.ob., and St. Louis m.ob., with high count 2/5 (112, Canal Park) JLK. Winter season high counts from the previous five years have been 30 or fewer. Two midwinter reports south: 1/19 Wabasha (female, Reads Landing) BAF, 2/3 Ramsey (female, Kaposia Landing) BAF. CBC high counts 12/22 Two Harbors (8), 12/15 Duluth (7).

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [2 North, 9 South] All north reports: 12/2 St. Louis (2, Silver Lake, Virginia) ph. DBF, †SLF, 12/8–16 Clay (Moorhead, American Crystal Sugar lagoons) PBB, 12/15–16 St. Louis (Duluth, 27th Ave. West) KJB, †JLK. Overwintered south Dakota (5, Black Dog Lake) m.ob.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [7 North, 7 South] Reported from more north counties than last winter, all Northwest. North high count 2/2 Marshall (37) SAU, 2/19 Roseau (22) KJB. CBC high count Crookston (79). Reported from about the same number of south counties as last year, but only one-third as many as in 2009 and 2010. South high counts were all fewer than ten.

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [18 North, 50 South] Reported from more counties both north and south than in any of the previous five years, including almost all counties (except 5) from Clay to Pine and south. There were

- no reports north of a line from Polk to southern St. Louis counties. High counts north 12/22 Morrison (16, Little Falls) KEm, 1/18 Wilkin (15, Rothsay W.M.A.) MO. South high counts 2/25 Big Stone (84 in single flock) ANy, 2/15 Big Stone (60) DAT. CBC high counts 12/16 Cottonwood (377), 12/22 Wild River (141), 12/15 Marshall (132). These high counts (CBC and individual) were considerably greater than the modest totals reported last year.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [19 North, 7 South] Reports from Twin Cities south include Ramsey, Dakota, Wabasha, Winona. No reports from South-central, Southwest, or West-central. CBC high counts 12/27 Crosby (17), 12/16 Carlton-Cloquet (15), 12/15 Duluth (11).
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falcipectus canadensis*) — [4 North] Reported throughout the season from Lake, with a high count 2/24 (10, C.R. 2, 0.3 miles north of Sand River) MLH. Also reported from Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. Not reported on any CBCs.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [11 North] High counts 12/29 Roseau (45) JMJ, 2/17 Marshall (37) Cls. CBC high counts 12/29 Roseau (114), 12/31 Baudette (6). No south reports, and reported from only Aitkin south of a line from Polk to St. Louis.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [4 North, 1 South] North reports from Clay, Marshall, Polk, Wilkin. High count 12/17 Clay (26) RHO. CBC high counts 12/15 Crookston (144), 12/22 Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River S.P. (45). One south report: 1/6 Lac qui Parle (5, Plover Prairie) DLP.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [20 North, 41 South] Reported from more north counties than in any of the previous five winters, as far northwest as Marshall, Beltrami. No reports from border counties Lincoln to Rock to Faribault. High counts 1/4 Nicollet (130, in two nearly adjacent fields) RBW, 2/17 Olmsted (112, single flock) SHk, 12/15 Blue Earth (102) ChH. CBC high counts 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (450), 12/15 Henderson (421), 1/1 Afton (340).
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 North] One record: **12/2** St. Louis (adult, Park Point) †PHS.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [1 North, 2 South] All reports: 12/1 Washington BRL, 12/3–19 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) CMB, m.ob., 12/6 Mille Lacs (south shore, Lake Mille Lacs) KJB.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [1 North, 6 South] Two north reports: 12/3 Cass (4, Gull Lake) BAW, 12/4 Cass (Leech Lake) BAW. December south reports from Hennepin (1–2, through 12/10, Lake Harriet, Lake Calhoun) CMB, m.ob., 12/5 Houston (Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB, Winona (through 12/15, Lake Winona) ANy, 12/16 Washington DWK, 12/22 Dakota DFN. January reports from Wabasha (Lock and Dam 4): 1/6 MGO, 1/19 CRM, 1/26 (2) ph. RQu.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north: 12/4 Cook (2, Hovland) BRL, 12/15 St. Louis (Duluth) DRB, 12/16 Lake (mouth of Stewart River) JWl, 12/22 Lake (Two Harbors) DAG. CBC high count 12/22 Two Harbors (6). One south report: 12/11 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) CMB.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [3 North] All north: 12/3 Cass (Gull Lake) BAW, 12/15 St. Louis (2, Duluth CBC), 12/16–1/26 Lake (Two Harbors) JWl, m.ob. CBC high count 12/22 Two Harbors (4). No south reports.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [1 North] Only the second individual to overwinter in the state. Seen in **Lake** (Two Harbors) from 12/2 ph. †PHS through **2/13** †JWl, m.ob. The first to overwinter was in Big Stone, through 2/11/1978. Another lingered in Two Harbors as late as 1/20/2001, but not through the winter.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [2 South] Multiple individuals present Dakota (up to 9, Black Dog Lake) through mid-December, and at least two remained until 1/12 (one was injured but the other could fly well) m.ob.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [5 South] Overwintering birds (through 2/25) Dakota and Ramsey (3, Kaposia Landing) m.ob. included two with wing injuries although one was re-

- ported flying. These may have been some of the same injured birds reported in previous winters at this location. Other reports: 12/1 Lac qui Parle (below Marsh Lake dam) DLP, 12/2–3 Houston (2) PEJ, DFN, ANy, 12/3–25 Dakota (1 injured, Black Dog Lake) m.ob., 12/9 Freeborn AEB.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [1 North, 10 South] One north report: 12/16 Carlton-Cloquet CBC. December reports from Dakota, Hennepin, Jackson, Lac qui Parle, Ramsey, Rice, Sibley. Overwintered Dakota (2, Black Dog Lake) PEJ, CAs, Ramsey (up to 5, Kaposia Landing) m.ob. CBC high counts 12/15 St. Paul (North) (13), 12/15 Bloomington (5).
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [1 South] One report: 12/13–17 Olmsted (below Silver Lake Dam) JWH, ph. REJ, m.ob.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [1 South] Two juveniles overwintered 12/1–2/25 Winona (Gilmore Creek, Winona) BDr, ph. ANy, ph. DSt, ph. LMS, ph. CBf, m.ob. Unusual **overwintering** record (previously overwintered 1997–98. **The Loon** 70:171–172).
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — See undocumented reports.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [30 North, 48 South] Reported from 78 counties (a record), although no reports from extreme southwest. High counts 12/5 Houston (606, Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB, 12/30 Goodhue (483, Red Wing) KDS. High count north 12/6 Mille Lacs (23) KJB. CBC high counts 12/30 Red Wing (584), 12/15 Winona (80), 12/15 Bloomington (52).
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [4 North, 17 South] December north reports from Beltrami, Hubbard, Otter Tail, Wilkin. Only one north report after December: 1/18 Wilkin (Rothsay W.M.A.) MO. January to mid-February south reports from Anoka, Big Stone, Cottonwood, Fillmore, Hennepin, Olmsted, Scott, Sibley.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [14 North, 39 South] Reported from more counties both north and south than in any winter since 2003–2004. North reports with details include 1/1 St. Louis ph. LME, 2/4 Roseau RAE. Numerous other January and February north reports without details from Crow Wing, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochi-ching, Lake, Morrison, Otter Tail, Polk, Roseau, St. Louis, Todd, Wadena. Many south reports (including 2 photographed) from throughout the season from 39 counties (8 more than last year). CBC high counts 12/15 Winona (3), 12/30 Battle Lake (3), 1/5 Wabasha (3).
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [4 North, 32 South] All north (only 1 with details): 12/15 Morrison (Little Falls) CBC, 12/24 Wadena PJB, 1/2 Cook †JAJ, 1/22 Crow Wing JSB. Reported from more south counties (32) than in any previous winter, but only a few were documented, including 12/27 Hennepin ALD, 1/12 Mower ph. RNS, 1/18 Dakota DVe, 2/28 Dakota KDS.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [15 North, 4 South] All south (none included any details, including age): 12/14 Rice TFB, St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC, 1/1 Lac qui Parle DLP, 1/5 Carver MaP. Reported from more north counties than in any of the previous five winters, but only two reports were documented: 12/16 St. Louis (Virginia) SLF, 1/21 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog). Most north reports were from the Sax-Zim Bog.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [1 North, 19 South] One north report: 12/23 Douglas (adult) DBM. Reported from more south counties than in any of the previous five winters (19 vs. 12 last year). There were numerous January-February records from a total of 13 counties (Anoka, Benton, Carver, Dakota, Fillmore, Goodhue, Hennepin, Olmsted, Pope, Ramsey, Scott, Washington, Winona).
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [17 North, 47 South] South reports from all but 6 counties. January–February north reports from 13 counties. High counts 1/19 Houston (32) JPr, 1/19 Winona (32, Wisconsin Valley) MGo. High count north 12/22 Morrison (13) KEM. CBC high counts 12/30 Red Wing (73), 12/15 Rochester (67), 12/15 Bloomington (59), 12/29 Hastings-Etter (51). Several dark-morph individuals reported: 1/1 Chisago (adult) JSa, Dakota and Ramsey (Kaposia Landing) PEB, DWK, 1/2 Goodhue (juvenile, Prairie Is-

- land) GJM, 2/27 Goodhue (adult, Prairie Island) GJM. Dark-morph "Harlan's" Hawk (*B. j. harlani*) photographed 12/22 Dakota (near Black Dog Park, Burnsville) DEJ; possibly the same bird was reported in the same area 1/6 (as dark-morph Red-tailed Hawk) RDE, JFR.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [23 North, 38 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as the previous two winters, but only two South-west. High counts 12/1 Beltrami (36) TDr, 2/26 Blue Earth (8) ChH. CBC high counts 12/28 Pine County (7), 12/29 Northern Meeker County (6). Of those (relatively few) described, dark morphs were slightly more frequent than light morphs (25 to 22).
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [3 North, 10 South] All north reports: 1/18 Wilkin MO, 2/2 Polk SAU, 2/14 St. Louis (adult, Hermantown) and 2/15 St. Louis (sub-adult, Meadowlands) RPN. Most south reports from known wintering areas in Wabasha, Winona, Houston, but other reports include 12/3 Blue Earth (juvenile, Bethany hawkwatch, Mankato) ChH, 12/22 Sherburne CBC, 12/29 Meeker (immature, 328th St. west of C.R. 34) HHD, RAE, RZi, MJB, 12/30 Goodhue (2) DAT, 1/15 Rice (Walcott) JLn, 2/8 Chipewewa (juvenile, Lac qui Parle Lake) DLP. High counts 1/5 Winona (3, Whitewater W.M.A.), 1/19 Winona (3, Wiscoy Valley) MGo.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [5 North, 20 South] Reported from more counties both north and south than in any of the previous five winters. All north reports: 12/3 Cass (166, Gull Lake) BAW, 12/5–18 Cook (Grand Marais) BRL, KJB, 12/8 Clay (Moorhead, American Crystal Sugar lagoons) PBB, 12/15 Fergus Falls CBC (48), 12/29 Douglas JPE, 1/5 Alexandria CBC (2), 1/21 Otter Tail (2, Otter Tail River) JTa. Numerous January-February reports south, including Scott (up to 22, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Dakota, Goodhue, Olmsted, Washington, Winona, Wright. High count 12/2 Houston (500, Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB. CBC high counts 12/15 Fergus Falls (48), 12/15 Excelsior (46), 12/15 Owatonna (12).
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [1 South] One individual reported 12/7 Dakota (west end mudflats, Black Dog Lake) ph. †CMB and still present at the same location 12/8 †BAF, CAS. This is the latest date on record by two weeks. The bird was foraging actively and appeared healthy.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [4 South] All reports: 12/2 Lyon (3, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe, 12/5–15 Rice TFB, 1/6 Sherburne (Elk River) ToL, overwintered (12/24–2/24) Olmsted (up to 3, Dover Twp.) CH, JWH, m.ob.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [2 North, 7 South] Reported from more counties than in any of the past five winters. All north 12/13–16 St. Louis (Manganika Creek south of Virginia) SLF, 12/17 Becker (Round Lake outlet) JDB. Overwintered Olmsted (3, through 2/24, Dover Twp.) CH, JWH, and Rice (1/23–2/24) TFB. CBC high count 12/15 Winona (12).
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIIWAKE** (*Rissa tridactyla*) — [1 North] See documented reports still under review.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [2 North] All reports: 12/1 Cass (3, Gull Lake) BAW, 12/6 Mille Lacs (12, Lake Mille Lacs) KJB.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [4 North, 14 South] Several individuals remained through late January St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob., including two on 1/25 (27th Ave. West) JLK and at least 1 continued into February m.ob., through 2/12 (Canal Park) KJB. Possibly the same bird was reported Lake 2/11–25 (Two Harbors) †PHS, m.ob. Several hundred remained Hennepin through mid-December, including 12/18 (200, Lake Harriet) RDa, but numbers dwindled rapidly after that. A few were reported through early January Dakota (Black Dog Lake) until 1/6 (2) BAF, and 1/5 Goodhue (3, Red Wing) BRL, and through early February Winona, including 1/29 (6) MGo, DBz, ANY, and 2/3 (3) MGo. High counts 12/3 Wabasha (505, Lake Pepin, Lake City) KJB, 12/1, 12/8 Hennepin (500, Lake Harriet) BAF. CBC high counts 12/15 Bloomington (248), 12/15 St. Paul (North) (241), Minneapolis

(North) (54).

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) — [5 North, 11 South] As in recent previous years, large numbers overwintered St. Louis (Duluth) with January high counts 1/1 (750, Canal Park) PHS, 1/6 (405, Superior Entry) KJB, and February high counts 2/8 (163) CRM, 2/2 (160 Canal Park) KJB. Also overwintered Lake with midwinter high count 2/4 (142, Two Harbors) KJB, and Cook with midwinter high count 2/2 (40, Grand Marais) CLW, m.ob. There were no midwinter north reports away from Lake Superior. Large numbers reported south through mid-December in the Twin Cities, but numbers dwindled quickly by the end of December. January south high count 1/5 Dakota (75, Black Dog Lake) BAF, and only one south report after mid-January: 2/5 Dakota (1, Black Dog Lake) PEJ. High counts 12/8 St. Louis (1,110, Canal Park) KJB, 12/15 Hennepin (1,000, Lake Harriet) BAF, 12/18 Dakota (1,000) TAT, Hennepin (1,000, Lake Harriet) RDa. CBC high counts 12/15 Duluth (1,167) CBC, 12/15 Bloomington (225), 12/22 Two Harbors (98).

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) — [2 North, 4 South] High counts (all St. Louis, Duluth): 12/8 (11, Canal Park: 3 first-cycle, 3 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, 3 adult) KJB, 12/30 (9, Superior Entry: 1 first-cycle, 4 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, 2 adult) KJB, 1/1 (9, Canal Park: 2 first-cycle, 3 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, 1 fourth-cycle/adult, 2 adult) PHS. Overwintered in Duluth area, with February high count 2/2 (4) KJB. The only north reports away from Duluth: 2/1–23 Lake (Two Harbors) CLW, m.ob. All south reports were of single individuals (Dakota, Hennepin) except 1/14–15 Ramsey (adult, first-cycle, downtown St. Paul) SBM and last reported there (first-cycle) 1/19 CRM, RAE.

Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) — [1 North, 2 South] All north records from St. Louis (Duluth), where at least seven individuals were reported throughout the season m.ob., including four adults (one of which was confirmed by images 12/8 KJB as returning for the fourth consecutive winter), three first-cycles ph. PHS, m.ob., and a third-cycle type 12/1–1/5 JLK, ph.

PHS that may have been a Thayer's/Iceland intergrade. South reports: 12/19–1/1 Hennepin and Dakota (first-cycle, Lake Harriet and Black Dog Lake) †KRo, †CMB, †PEB, m.ob., 1/1, 1/6 Dakota (adult, Black Dog Lake, with some characters intermediate between typical Kumlien's and Thayer's gulls) †PEB, ph. CAs, ph. TPB.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) — [3 South] All reports: 12/1–19 Hennepin/Dakota (adult, continuing from fall season) ph. CMB, †BAF, m.ob. **1/14** Ramsey (Upper Landing Park, St. Paul, possible third-cycle) SBM.

SLATY-BACKED GULL (*Larus schistisagus*) — [1 North] One adult seen 12/30–1/5 St. Louis (Superior Entry then at Canal Park) ph. †KJB, ph. †PHS, ph. JLK, m.ob. This is the eighth record for the state.

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [2 North, 4 South] Reported throughout the season St. Louis (Duluth area) m.ob., with peak counts 12/30 (11, Superior Entry: 3 first-cycle, 4 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, 2 adult) KJB, 1/1 (10, Canal Park: 8 first-cycle, 1 second-cycle, 1 third-cycle) PHS. High counts from mid-January through February were five or fewer. Reported south December through mid-January Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey m.ob., and 12/3 Wabasha (Lake City) KJB. South high count 12/19 (**8**, Lake Harriet: 7 immature, 1 adult; second highest count away from Lake Superior) CMB, KRo. Last reported 1/10–19 Ramsey (first-cycle, Upper Landing Park, St. Paul) SBM, m.ob.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) — [2 North, 2 South] Reported throughout the season north St. Louis (Duluth area) m.ob., with high counts 12/28 (Canal Park): **8** JLK and 7 (3 first-cycle, 1 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, 1 adult) KJB. January-February counts were five or fewer. One report away from Duluth area: 2/22 Lake (Two Harbors) SMY. One adult south 12/8–18 Dakota, Hennepin (Black Dog Lake, then Lake Harriet) †CAs, ph. †CMB, †PEB, m.ob.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported from all but 2 counties. High counts 12/7 Washington (473) CRM, 1/21 Ramsey (468, including 450 in one flock near Pig's Eye Lake) MDU, 1/4 Good-

- hue (318) RMa. CBC high counts 12/15 St. Paul (North) (1,824), 12/15 Duluth (620).
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [10 North, 31 South] Reported from a winter record-high 41 counties, including Roseau, Marshall, and Polk in far northwest. New county records 12/22 **Chisago** (Wild River CBC), 1/23 **Mahn-omen** KMy. North high count 12/7 Wilkin (29, Breckenridge) RAE, HHD. South high counts 2/22 Brown (44) BTS, 12/29 Dakota (30) DVe. CBC high counts 12/16 Cottonwood (81), Lamberton (44).
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [22 North, 44 South] Reported from more counties than in any of the previous five winters (66 vs. 55 last year). North reports from 20 counties, including 1/10 Kittson LW and 2/2 Cook (2, Grand Marais) CLW, m.ob. A few north counts were as high as 15, but most were fewer than 10. High counts south: 1/27 (105), 1/6 (102) Hennepin ABL. CBC high counts 12/22 Wild River (147), 12/16 Cedar Creek Bog (146), 12/15 Winona (101).
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [1 North, 14 South] All north reports: 12/15 Morrison CBC, and a different bird noted as a red morph, 12/22 Morrison RAE, HHD, and again 12/27 KEm. More reports south than any of the previous five winters, and concentrated in a broad band from Stearns southeast to Houston. Reports from 12/2 Lac qui Parle FAE and 2/20 Brown BTS, were the only reports outside of that area. A frequently observed bird was noted 12/14 – 2/27 Hennepin m.ob. Reports of color morphs other than gray: 12/19 Ramsey (intermediate) ph. AXH, 2/3, 2/15 Hennepin (red, Edina) SBM, CMB. High count 2/21 Fillmore (3) JWH; CBC high count 12/16 Austin (4).
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [16 North, 39 South] Reported from 55 counties statewide, down slightly from last year (58), but the second highest number from the previous five winters. Early nesting was reported 2/16 Washington DSc, 2/18 Hennepin SWe. High counts 12/16 Washington (4) PNi, 1/1 Washington (4) ECl; CBC high count 12/29 St. Paul (North-east Suburban) (18).
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [13 North, 12 South] Widely scattered sightings statewide, with no clear pattern of dispersal. While reports were down from last year's invasion (48 counties, 100 individuals), the overall number of counties with records was higher than any of the five winters prior to last year, with approximately 40 individuals found during winter (but see **The Loon** 85:148–149 for a review of the complete incursion of all winter owls, which lasted from October into May). The highest concentration of individuals was in the Duluth area, beginning 12/7–2/27 St. Louis (5), m.ob.; these included numerous observations of a bird at Canal Park. Only one bird was noted at the MSP airport, typically another hotspot, 12/16, 1/3, 1/29 Hennepin CMB, fide AXH. The farthest south reports were from Dodge, where two were frequently reported 1/1–2/9 KRV, m.ob.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [9 North] Best incursion into the state since winter 2009–2010. Individuals were found across the north in a rough triangle from Roseau in the northwest, southeast to Aitkin, and northeast to Cook. Most numerous in the Northwest region with high counts 2/16 Roseau (9) SPM, DKM, 1/5 Roseau (6) JMJ, 2/9 Lake of the Woods (4) BSi, and CBC high count 12/29 Roseau (5). Unusual was the report 1/18–2/9 **Clearwater** (south of Shelvin) SVo, DPJ, m.ob. In the Sax-Zim Bog, typically a good location for this species, only 1 or 2 birds were reported 12/21+ St. Louis m.ob. Also reported from Beltrami, Koochiching and Lake.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [22 North, 29 South] Significantly more reporting counties than any of the previous five winters. Reported east of a broad arc from Lake of the Woods to Otter Tail to Faribault. Within that vast area, it was reported in every county except five southern counties! High count 1/15 Meeker (17) JAn. Interestingly, all CBC high counts were in the north: 12/17 Tamarac N.W.R. (22), 1/1 Pillager (8), 12/27 Crosby (6).
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [12 North] An invasion year, second only to winter 2004–2005, but individuals were only found northeast of a line from Mar-

shall through Aitkin. Unusually, the highest numbers of birds were very localized in a single county, Roseau. Not so atypically, these high numbers occurred in late February: 2/23 Roseau (68) JMJ, 2/16 Roseau (59) SPM, DKM, 2/23 Roseau (47) HHD, 2/20 Roseau (28) DaL. Compare with high counts in neighboring counties: 2/22–24 Kittson (2), 2/13 Marshall (1), 2/10 Lake of the Woods (3), and 2/18 Beltrami (2). Farther afield, highest counts were 5 in Koochiching 2/16 KJB and 4 in St. Louis and Lake, also in mid-February. Found on four CBCs, with high counts 12/29 Roseau (5), 12/21 Sax-Zim (3).

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) — [1 North, 8 South] Only report north: 12/2 Polk (Wetlands, Pines, and Prairie Audubon Sanctuary) VLa. All south 12/1–6 Washington GJa, m.ob., 12/15 Marshall CBC (2), 12/15 Ramsey AXH, 1/2–22 Goodhue (max. 4) GJM, m.ob., 1/5 Carver (Carver P.R.) MaP, 1/7, 2/16, 2/23–24 Hennepin CMB, JSn, SBM, VDo, THl (possibly 2 or 3 different birds/locations), 2/17 Wright DWK.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — [4 North, 3 South] All north 12/7 Wilkin (along Hwy. 9 southeast of Campbell) HHD, RAE, 12/17–18 Clay (max. 3, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) RHO, PBB, 1/17 Clay HHe, 1/18 Wilkin (Rothsay W.M.A.) MO, 2/2 Polk RiM, 2/10 **Koochiching** fide AMe. All south 12/16 Stearns (southwest of Melrose) HHD, 12/28 McLeod (Hutchinson State W.M.A.) NKa, 2/4 Dodge KRV.

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) — [10 North] No reports in December and only 1/5 Cook (3 miles west of Grand Marais) BWS, 1/10 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) ChH through 20 January, but then the fourth largest invasion ever commenced and extended into the spring season. While the highest numbers were in St. Louis and Lake counties, individuals were also reported from Itasca, Roseau, Marshall, and **Polk** beginning in late January, and from Koochiching and Aitkin in February. Farthest south report 2/17 Pine (St. Croix S.P.) MaC.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [8 North, 8 South] Reported from a broad band of counties along either side of a line from Polk to Winona,

plus St. Louis and Lake. Notable winter records: 12/1 Hubbard PBB, 12/4–5 Clay PBB, 12/15 Little Falls CBC, 2/3 Becker LIS, 2/9 Stearns MRE, m.ob., 2/26 Polk EH. Numerous reports from the Twin Cities area, including high count of three on 1/1 and 1/15 in Ramsey (all at the same location) ELC. Also reported from the following CBCs: Battle Lake, Two Harbors, North Minneapolis, and Faribault.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [9 North, 25 South] Second highest number of reporting counties of the previous five winters, topped only by 34 in the prior year. Reports were spread out across the state, from St. Louis in the Northeast region, west to Otter Tail and Stevens, south to Jackson and east to Houston. Most unusual was the new winter record 12/2 Lake of the Woods (Dicks Way, Roseau River) DBM. Overwintering was only noted 1/2–2/28 Olmsted (Zumbro River below the Silver Lake Dam) JWH. CBC high counts 12/16 Austin (6), 12/15 Excelsior (5), 12/15 Minneapolis (North) (5), 12/15 St. Paul (North) (5), 12/15 Winona (5).

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [2 North, 9 South] All north: 1/4 Mille Lacs ToL, 1/20 Crow Wing MRN. Widely scattered across the south with no discernable pattern of dispersal. Notable winter record south: 12/25 Faribault CoN. CBC high count was significantly lower than any in the previous 5-year period: 12/15 Rochester (4). Compare to 2011 (56), 2010 (37), 2009 (7), 2008 (25) and 2007 (29). (Most of these CBC high counts were from the Cedar Creek Bog count, which reported none of this species in 2012.)

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [27 North, 49 South] Reported from all regions, as this species continues to consolidate its range expansion throughout the state. Notable winter records: 12/15 Grand Marais CBC (2), 12/29 Roseau JMJ, Roseau CBC (2), 2/3 Roseau RAE, CRM. CBC high counts 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (94), 12/15 Winona (48).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [7 South] Only one well-documented record: 12/27–1/6 Winona (Stock-

ton) ph. Cbf, †JWH, m.ob. Additional reports: 12/1 Stearns ToJ, 12/15 Owatonna CBC (4), 12/20 Blue Earth ChH, 12/21 sporadically through 2/22 Olmsted (adult male) LAV, 1/5 Wabasha CBC (2), 1/6 Olmsted (male, near Zumbro Lake) SHo, 1/26–27 Ramsey (Lombard Woods, present “for weeks”) †BMz, RW, 2/16–17 Blue Earth LKu. 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*) — [33 North, 50 South] More reporting counties this winter than in at least 50 years. Reported from all regions statewide. CBC high counts 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (178), 12/15 Henderson (152), 12/15 Rochester (128), 12/15 Faribault (110), 12/15 Excelsiorb (109), 12/15 Bloomington (104).

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) — [31 North, 47 South] Highest number of reporting counties than in any of the previous five winters. Reported from all regions statewide, but missing from a few western border and southwestern counties, as is typical. CBC high counts 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (88), 12/15 Henderson (63), 12/15 Bloomington (60), 12/15 St. Paul (North) (46).

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [2 North] Five individuals found by MHK in Lake of the Woods over the period 12/29–1/2; two of these also seen 12/30 Beltrami Island CBC (2). Only other reports: 1/29 Itasca (Old Hwy 6 Bog, north of Deer River) SC, 2/27–28 Itasca DBM, CRM (same bird as 1/29?).

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [5 North] Reported from within normal range in the North-central and Northeast regions, with the fewest number of winter reporting counties since 1996. Approximately 20 individuals reported. CBCs with multiple individuals: 12/30 Isabella (4), 12/16 Itasca S.P. (2).

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [8 North, 33 South] Widespread south of a line from Pennington in the Northwest region to Pine in the East-central. CBC high

counts 12/15 Willmar (12), 12/15 St. Paul (North) (9), 12/15 Rochester (7). There were two reports of the “Red-shafted” form: 12/9 infrequently until 1/21 Pine (female) JMP, 1/4 Pennington (with “salmon-colored wing linings” — possibly an intergrade?) JMJ. No birds were noted as overwintering.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [29 North, 40 South] More reporting counties than in any of the previous five winters. Reported from all regions statewide, but very scarce south and west of a line from Lac qui Parle to Freeborn. All reports from that southwestern area include: 12/15 Faribault CLN,CoN, Marshall CBC (2), Fairmont CBC. CBC high counts 12/27 Crosby (42), 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (41).

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [11 North, 41 South] Reporting counties down slightly from last year (55). Observed south of a line from Polk to Pine. Still quite scarce north including: 12/1 Mille Lacs JCC, 12/2, 12/8, 12/24, and 1/16 Wadena PJB (same bird?), 12/3 Cass BAW, 12/8 Douglas JPE, 12/15 Morrison CBC, 12/16 Polk VLa, 12/22 Clay CBC, Morrison RAE, HHD, 12/27 Crow Wing CBC, 1/1 Pine RQu, 1/5 Pine FKB, 1/10 Todd SVo, 1/29 Aitkin KDS. CBC high counts 12/15 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (8), 12/15 Henderson (7).

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [8 North, 10 South] Reports down from last winter, yet higher than totals for the prior four winters. Widely scattered across the state, but missing from the North-central and Southwest regions. Prairie subspecies reported only from Winona: 1/25 (Bartlett Lake) ph. ANy, 2/16 (Gilmore Creek) ph. DSt (different locations, but possibly same bird?). Only CBCs with multiple counts: 12/15 Crookston (3), 12/15 St. Paul (North) (2), 12/15 Duluth (2).

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [2 North, 6 South] Reports away from the usual Duluth and Twin Cities sites include the following new winter reports: 12/14 Carver JTe, 12/23 Douglas DBM, 2/9 Sherburne DPG, 2/17 Steele SWr.

Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) — [31 North, 41 South] The number of report-

- ing counties matched the total from the prior year and exceeded those of any other winter in the past 50 years. Reported statewide, including the Southwest region where typically scarce. CBC high counts 12/29 Rice Lake N.W.R. (14), 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (14), 12/15 Faribault (13), 12/15 Bloomington (10).
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [12 North] Widespread across normal range in the north, with reports spanning the season. Less expected was the report 1/18 Aitkin C.Sa. CBC high counts 12/30 Beltrami Island (32), 12/28 Aurora (22), 1/3 Eagle's Nest Lakes (16).
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [32 North, 52 South] Highest number of reporting counties from the previous five winters, missing from only three counties statewide. CBC high counts 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (232), 12/15 Rochester (193).
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [19 North] Reported north of a broad "V" formed by Norman, southeast to Morrison, and northeast to Lake. Unusual sighting in **Lake** on 12/22 Two Harbors CBC (SuO). Additional less common reports include 12/1 Cass (2) BAW, 12/6 Crow Wing ph. BU, 12/10 Morrison JLK, 12/16 Itasca S.P. CBC, 1/1 Pillager CBC, 2/14 Hubbard MAW. CBC high counts 12/31 Baudette (35), 12/29 Roseau (26).
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [32 North, 52 South] Reported from 84 of 87 counties. High count of 2,500 in Hennepin heading to a downtown Minneapolis roost on 2/16 (TJo) exceeded all CBC high counts.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [31 North, 8 South] Reported within normal range across the north, along with more reports in the southern half of the state than any of the previous five years. Observed north of an arc from Clay, south to **Stearns** (2/22, PCC), and east to Washington where there were multiple, documented reports. Most extra-limital reports were submitted without details (see Undocumented Reports). NOTE: This species continues to expand its range in the south, and observers are encouraged to please provide details for any extra-limital observations.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [12 North, 48 South] Reported nearly statewide, but absent from the Northeast region. As usual, most observations were in February. Widespread south with high counts including 2/22 Brown (700) BTS, 2/24 Rice (237) DAB. CBC high counts 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom (316), 12/16 Austin (266). As has been the recent trend, the CBC high counts were well below-average from recent years.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [32 North, 52 South] Found in all but three counties. CBC high counts 12/15 Duluth (1,741), 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (1,076), 12/15 Excelsior (717), all significantly lower than last year's highest count (2,449, Duluth CBC).
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Reported from the same number of counties as the previous two years: Lake of the Woods, Koochiching, Itasca, St. Louis, and Lake. The Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis produced the most reports. CBC high counts 12/30 Beltrami Island (7), 12/30 Isabella (6), 12/21 Sax-Zim (3), 12/31 Baudette (3).
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [9 South] Northernmost reports: 12/1 Scott (Savage) MwS, 12/8 Washington (2, Oakdale) JSr, 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC (2), 1/1 Afton CBC, 1/13 Ramsey CMu. Additional reports from Goodhue, Wabasha, Olmsted, Winona, Fillmore, and Houston. CBC high counts 12/15 Winona (32), 12/30 Red Wing (9), 12/15 Rochester (8).
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [30 North, 39 South] More reports than any of the previous five winters, and observed in all regions statewide. CBC high counts 12/15 Duluth (105), 1/3 Eagle's Nest Lakes (73), 12/22 Two Harbors (71).
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [32 North, 53 South] Found in all but two counties. CBC high counts 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (256), 12/27 Crosby (171).
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [19 North, 39 South] Reported from more counties than any of the previous five years. Found north and south throughout

the season, including many reports from the Sax-Zim Big in St. Louis. CBC high counts 12/15 Bloomington (27), 12/15 Faribault (17).

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes biemalis*) — [4 South] Same high number of reporting counties as last year. All reports: 12/1 Rice TFB, 12/2, 12/4, 12/5 Houston (Pool 8, Upper Mississippi River N.W.F.R.) KJB, 12/7 Fillmore (Camp Creek) MJM, 12/8 Houston JWH, ANy (same bird as KJB?), 12/24 Rice TFB, 2/3, 2/9 Winona (Trout Run Trail) DBz, ANy, JWH.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [1 North, 17 South] An unprecedented winter season for this species, with more counties and individuals (approx. 31) than previously recorded. One north report: 12/15–16 **Cass** (Walker CBC), BAW. South reports all southeast of an arc from Isanti to McLeod to Martin, and included the following: 12/7–9 Washington CRM, m.ob., 12/8 Goodhue (Canon Falls) LEC, 12/15 Winona CBC, 12/18 **Isanti** ph. JLH, 12/18–2/28 Anoka JMM, m.ob., 12/21 Steele (Owatonna) LTA, 12/23 Martin (Fairmont) ph. JNB, 12/23 Wabasha (Lake City) DBz, 12/25–1/5 Winona (Stockton, same bird as Winona CBC?) ph. Cbf, m.ob., 12/26–2/2 **McLeod** RoF, m.ob., 12/29–1/28 Freeborn (Albert Lea) AEB, m.ob., 1/26 Blue Earth DAB, ChH, JWH. Additional reports from Hennepin (3), Ramsey, Dakota (2), Olmsted (2), and Houston (3). CBC high count 12/16 Austin (6).

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [5 North, 11 South] Reports down significantly from last year (29 counties). All north 12/2 St. Louis EBr, 12/4 Cass (2) BAW, 12/15 Walker CBC (2, same birds in Cass?), 12/7 Polk (2) SAu, 12/16 Carlton-Cloquet CBC (3), Itasca S.P. CBC, 1/8 St. Louis GLa. Widespread south including 12/1 Kandiyohi JoS, 12/2 Houston ANy, 12/4 Houston KJB, 12/8 Le Sueur RAE, 2/19 and 2/21 Wright SC, 2/28 Hennepin BAB. Also reported from these additional CBCs: Fairmont (2), St. Paul (North) (2), Faribault (2), St. Cloud-Collegeville, and Cedar Creek Bog.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) — [1 South] Only report: 12/2 Winona

MGo.

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [1 North, 19 South] Only report north 1/7 St. Louis DOK. All other reports were southeast of arcs extending from Stearns, south to Blue Earth, and east to Isanti. High count 12/1 Hennepin (12) TAT. Scattered reports in Hennepin (Minneapolis) throughout the season suggest overwintering. An increase of reports in mid-February probably represents early migrants. CBC high count 12/15 Winona (11), 1/5 Northern Wright County (6).

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [2 North, 5 South] Total of eight individuals, down significantly from last year (17). All north 12/1–2 Crow Wing (Evergreen Memorial Gardens, near Brainerd) MJB, m.ob., 12/20 St. Louis (Lakeside neighborhood) JLK, refound 2/9–24 AM, m.ob. All south 12/1–1/6 Nicollet ph. ChH, ph. API, m.ob., 12/24–2/4 Sherburne (max. 2, Sand Dunes S.F.) ASc, CRM, HCT, 1/1–14 Le Sueur (Kasota Prairie S.N.A.) WCM, m.ob., 2/14–16 Stearns (Fuller Lake) MJB, m.ob., 2/23 Hennepin (St. Mary's Cemetery, Minneapolis) TAT.

Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) — [1 North, 4 South] Third year in a row with a north sighting: 12/23–25 Otter Tail (near Pelican Rapids) ph. HJS. Reported south 12/3 Hennepin (Government Center, downtown Minneapolis) DWK, 12/7 Dakota (Kenwood Trail School, Lakeville) SLP, 1/1 Afton CBC, 1/7 and 2/15 Hennepin (Bloomington, overwintering) CMB, 2/21 Houston CRM.

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [18 North, 36 South] Same number of counties reporting as last year, and scattered statewide from all regions. Overwintering specifically noted 2/17 (and presumably earlier) Douglas TWA. CBC high count 12/15 St. Paul (North) (481).

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [7 North, 5 South] More reporting counties than any of the previous five winters; 18 individuals observed. In the north, long-staying birds included one throughout the season in Beltrami (sec. 27, Frohn Twp.) CPe, m.ob., 12/1+ Itasca (female) SC, m.ob., 1/1–2/8 Beltrami (male, just east of Lake Bemidji) ph. LHi, m.ob., 1/12–2/28

- Clay (male) PBB, ph. BaM, m.ob. Additional observations in Otter Tail, Hubbard, Cass, and St. Louis. All south reports: 12/31–1/21 Olmsted (Salem Corners) JPr, m.ob., 1/3–11 **Meeker** (Litchfield) ph. BAl, 1/6–26 **Watowan** (female, Madelia) AEB, ph. MiO, m.ob., 1/12–2/16 Anoka (female, Lino Lakes) ph. LGn, ph. SBM, m.ob., 1/20 Hennepin (Medina) KRr.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [1 South] New winter record first found on the Willmar CBC: 12/15–26 Kandiyohi †JWt, ph. AKi.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [2 South] New winter record 12/21 **Carver** JCC. Also, continuing from November, 12/4–1/1 Dakota DVe, including 12/29 Hastings/Etter CBC.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [32 North, 48 South] More reports than any of the previous five winters, and found in all regions statewide. CBC high counts 12/15 Bloomington (4,288), 1/5 Wabasha (1,963). High count 12/15 Dakota (**4,000** at Burnsville Landfill) PEB.
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [27 North, 6 South] More reports north than any of the previous five years. Observed north of an arc from Clay and Otter Tail in the west, south to Stearns, east to Isanti and Pine. Additional south reports with details: 12/11 Olmsted (1) †LAV, JPr, 1/6 Nicollet DBz, DAB. High counts, all from late in the season: 2/9 Lake (1,250, Scenic Hwy 61 near Two Harbors) TKe, 2/22 St. Louis (1,000, Duluth) NLe. CBC high counts 12/16 Virginia (569), 12/15 Duluth (290).
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [16 North, 32 South] Reports down slightly from last year, but overall about average when compared to the previous five winters. CBC high counts 12/15 Willmar (113), 12/15 Minneapolis (North) (103).
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [11 North, 36 South] Number of reports similar to the past 3 years. Observed southwest of a line from Roseau, southeast to Cass, Mille Lacs, and Washington. CBC high counts 12/16 Austin (1,566), 12/15 Jackson County (835), 12/15 Owatonna (564).
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [32 North, 50 South] Reported from more counties than in any of the previous five years, missing from only 6 counties. High counts 1/13 Dodge (1,000) NFT, 12/30 Polk (500) SAu. CBC high counts 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom (1,112), 12/15 Marshall (1,105), 12/16 Lamberton (722).
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [4 South] Winter reports of this species have continued to increase; it has been observed in 18 of the last 19 winters. All reports: 12/10 Olmsted (Rochester) ph. DAn, 12/15 St. Paul (North) CBC, 12/17 Dakota DWK, 2/17 Fillmore (3) JWH, CH.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [1 South] Two different individuals provided first records for **Rice**: 12/29–1/6 (immature) †DAB, ph. GHo, 1/13–2/27 (adult male, south of Faribault) ph. JLn, m.ob.
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizella arborea*) — [15 North, 50 South] More reports than any of the previous five years. Observed in all regions, but mostly absent from the northern third of the state. High counts 12/8 Stearns (**300**, St. Joseph) MJB, 12/30 Goodhue (212) JFR, 12/8 Wabasha (200, Whitewater W.M.A.) ANy. CBC high counts 12/15 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (739), 12/30 Red Wing (599).
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — Winter reports of this species seem to be increasing, with reports from four south counties in December and one in late January. However, no details were submitted for any of these sightings (see Undocumented Reports).
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [3 South] Second year in a row of this rare winter species: 12/11 and **12/22** Dakota (Riverwood Park) †DVe, **12/19** McLeod (Schaefer Prairie) DAs, **2/9** Washington (3, presumably overwintering, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A., 1 photographed) ph. SBM.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [1 South] Fourth winter in a row for this species rarely found in this season: **12/15** Kandiyohi (2, Willmar Twp.) †RAE, ADT.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [3 North, 6 South] Widely scattered across the state. All north 12/1 Todd JeM, 12/30 Battle Lake CBC, and a possibly injured bird originally seen in December, again in January, and

then 2/16 St. Louis CiE. All south 12/1 Hennepin HFH, 12/7 Washington CRM, 12/16–23 Lyon ph. GWe, 12/23–24 Faribault (2) ph. CoN, ClN, 12/29 Albert Lea CBC, and through at least 2/15 in Fillmore (2, overwintered) GER.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) — [1 North, 17 South] More reports than any of the previous five winters. One north report: 12/15 Little Falls CBC. Overwintered in Stearns (Sartell) BWF; additional mid-February reports from Anoka, Dakota, Fillmore, Hennepin, Houston Ramsey, Sherburne, Washington, and Winona all were likely also overwintering. CBC high counts 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom (8), 12/15 Bloomington (2).

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [9 South] More reports than any of the previous five winters: 12/1 Wabasha (Whitewater W.M.A.) ANy, 12/1 Rice TFB, 12/2 Houston KJB, 12/8 Washington (2) RQu, 12/14 Scott (2) DWK, 12/22 Sherburne N.W.R. CBC, 12/28 Hennepin DWK, and from additional Hennepin locations 12/30 DWK, 2/9 CAs, 2/21 CMB; also 1/3, 1/5 Olmsted JWH, ANy, m.ob., 1/8 Carver JCy. CBC high count 12/15 Faribault (4).

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [7 North, 15 South] Widely scattered reports from all regions statewide. All north: 12/2–2/3 Polk (2) SAU, 12/15 Duluth CBC, Fergus Falls CBC, 12/16 Carlton-Cloquet CBC, 12/22 Two Harbors CBC (3), Uppgaard W.M.A. CBC, 12/27 Crosby CBC, 12/29 Cook Area CBC, 12/31 **Roseau** BSi, 1/19–28 St. Louis (Duluth, overwintering) BDk, m.ob., 1/19 Lake JWL, and 2/24 Lake JWH (overwintering?). Numerous south reports with several individuals also overwintering. CBC high counts 12/15 Excelsior (7), 12/15 Rochester (4).

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [1 North, 13 South] Only north report: 12/16 Fargo-Moorhead CBC. Widely scattered south, though absent from Southeast region. Overwintered 12/15–2/10 Lyon ph. GWe, 12/20–2/17 Faribault (2) ph. ClN, CoN, with additional February reports 2/4 Meeker PKF, 2/8 Rice TFB, 2/28 Hennepin ABL. CBC high count 12/16 Lamberton (8).

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [2 North, 7 South] More re-

ports than any of the previous five years. North reports 12/2–6 **Polk** ph. †SAU, 12/16 Fargo-Moorhead CBC. South reports from mid-November through 12/17 in Olmsted (1 to 3 individuals, Cascade Lake) LAV, m.ob., 12/8, 12/13 Lac qui Parle FAE, 12/15 Lyon GWe, 12/29 Litchfield CBC, 1/18 Winona HCT, 2/18 Houston RMO, 2/21 CRM, and several reports from Dakota including 12/11 (2 immatures, near Cannon River) GHo, 12/29 Hastings-Etter CBC (immature and adult), KDS, DwS, and 2/24 (adult, 205th and Joan Ave., likely the same bird seen on the Hastings-Etter CBC) TAT.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) — [27 North, 51 South] More reports than any of the previous five winters. Seen in all regions statewide and throughout the season. CBC high counts 12/30 Red Wing (1,031), 1/5 Wabasha (555). There was an unprecedented number of reports of the “Oregon” subspecies group involving at least 22 different birds, 14 of which were documented (7 with photos). Documented records include 12/2–2/17 Polk ph. SAU, 12/5–1/17 Hennepin ph. BeS, 12/15 Carver ph. BeS, 12/16 Nicollet ChH, 12/18 (2) Faribault CoN, ClN, 12/20, 12/29 Dakota ph. KDS, CTS, DwS, 12/22 Rock ChA, 12/23–2/23 Lyon ph. GWe, 12/28 Rice RQu, 1/1 Anoka DPG, 1/28–2/15 Winona ph. KyS, 2/1–17 Kandiyohi ph. JWD, 2/16 Douglas TWa. Good details, and if possible photos, of any races of juncos other than Slate-colored are always requested.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) — [1 South] Fifth winter record: **12/7** McLeod (Hutchinson) ph. KyC.

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [23 North, 43 South] More reports than any of the previous five years. Widespread across the state, but mostly missing from the western border counties. Rare winter record: 2/15 **Lake of the Woods** CaP. CBC high counts 12/15 Excelsior (283), 12/15 Faribault (226), 12/15 Rochester (219). This species continues to expand its range north and west throughout the state.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — See Undocumented Reports.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeni-*

- ceus*) — [9 North, 25 South] Widely scattered statewide and reported from all regions. All north 12/2 Lake of the Woods (2) DBM, 12/9 Todd DTM, 12/12 JeM, 12/15 Detroit Lakes CBC, Little Falls CBC, Fergus Falls CBC (3), 12/17 St. Louis (2) EBr, 12/20 Marshall LyK, 12/22 Morrison RAE, HHD, 1/2 Mahnomen KMy, 2/11 Otter Tail (14) BDE, 2/17 Douglas JPE. High counts 1/6 Le Sueur (800) DAB, 1/6 Le Sueur (700) ANy, 2/13 Goodhue (200) DVe. CBC high count 1/1 Whitewater River (150). Winter reports of this species are increasing.
- Sturnella meadowlark** (*Sturnella sp.*) — [2 South] Two reports of Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*), but neither included information as to how it was distinguished from Eastern Meadowlark (*S. magna*): 12/16 Cottonwood CBC, 12/18 Rock JSn.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [1 South] One report: 1/6 Le Sueur (near St. Peter W.T.P.) DAB, ANy, DBz, JWH. Winter reports of this species are averaging nearly one per year recently.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [2 North, 7 South] Widely scattered reports. All north 12/15 Crookston CBC, 1/29 Becker LiS. All south 12/8 Houston ANy, JWH, 12/15 Houston (4) DKa, Marshall CBC, Rochester CBC, 12/16 Cottonwood CBC (3), Lamberton CBC (3), 12/20 and 2/5 Steele NFT, 12/22 Chisago †RMa (with excellent documentation), 2/8 Steele (Hope, MN; 1.25 miles from other Steele location) ph. LTA, 2/22 Brown (9) BTS.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [1 South] One documented report: 12/15 Rice (5) †GHo.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [9 North, 22 South] Widely scattered throughout the state, but missing from the Northeast region. Unusual far north reports 12/31 Baudette CBC (2), 12/31, 1/14, 2/24 **Roseau** BSi, 2/5 **Koochiching** ph. AME. Additional reports north after December: 2/3 Polk (2) RAE, CRM, 2/15, 2/23 Mahnomen (3 different locations in Waubun, presumed to be the same bird each time) HHD., High count 12/9 Blue Earth (50) ChH. Several reports from Le Sueur beginning 1/1 (7) WCM and continuing until 2/18 m.ob. indicate probable overwintering. CBC high counts 12/16 Austin (20), 12/15 Henderson (19).
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [9 South] Reported from the same number of counties as last year. All reports were from the Twin Cities area and McLeod, southeast to Mower and Winona, including the following reports after the CBC period: 1/14 and 2/4 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., overwintering?) SKS and RBW, respectively; 2/3 Hennepin (different location) ABL; 1/1, 1/19 Dakota (Hampton feedlot, where overwintering has occurred previously) KDS; 1/6 and 1/23 Le Sueur DAB, DBz, ANy, JWH, and CRM, respectively. CBC high count 12/16 Austin (30).
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [31 North, 8 South] An invasion year for this species, with significantly more reporting counties than any of the previous five years. Most reports were north of an arc from Clay, south to Stevens, and east to Stearns, Anoka, and Chisago. There was one Southeast report: 12/5 Winona (3) DBz, ANy, JWH. Additional reports south after December include 1/12, 1/19 and 2/1 Stearns MJB, and 1/6 infrequently until 2/18 Isanti m.ob., with numbers peaking 2/17 (23) HNe. High count 12/6 Morrison (50) BWF. CBC high counts 12/16 Virginia (284), 12/28 Pine County (214), 12/17 Tamarac N.W.R. (176).
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [18 North, 46 South] Reported statewide from all regions, with more reports than any of the previous five winters. Less concentrated in the far Northwest and North-central regions. High count 12/7 Polk (63) SAu. CBC high counts 12/15 Owatonna (241), 12/15 St. Paul (North) (167), 12/15 Bloomington (154), 12/15 Henderson (152).
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [20 North, 31 South] Widespread throughout the state, but fewer reports from the Northwest and Southwest regions. High count 12/7 Washington (22) CRM. CBC high counts 12/14 Morris (62), 12/17 Tamarac N.W.R. (56), 12/15 Willmar (54), 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (46).
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [12

- North, 7 South] More reports than any of the previous five years. While an invasion of Type 3 birds was noted nationally since summer, this did not manifest into a significant invasion in Minnesota and overall the number of individuals was somewhat low. The pattern of dispersal was unusual. In the north, from Becker and Otter Tail, north to Lake of the Woods, and southeast to Morrison, then northeast into the Arrowhead. There were no reports from from the western border counties, nor Koochiching, Crow Wing, Aitkin, Carlton, Mille Lacs, Kanabec and Pine. High counts: 12/30 Lake of the Woods (41) JMJ, 1/17 Cook (25, Grand Marais). All reports south (where the birds were still very scarce): 12/3 Ramsey REH, 12/14 Ramsey RMD, 12/16 Cedar Creek Bog CBC (8), 12/22 Wild River CBC, 12/27 Chisago (12) JSa, 12/28 Hennepin ALD. There were no reports in January, but then 2/1 Dakota (2) DVe, 2/9, 2/16–17, 2/23 Wright (max. 8) DPG, m.ob., 2/15 Jackson (2) TPe. CBC high counts 12/30 Beltrami Island (66), 12/30 Isabella (51), 12/30 Battle Lake (36).
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [21 North, 15 South] The most reports since the prior major invasion in 2008 (63 counties), and far more numerous than Red Crossbills. While heavily concentrated in the North-central and Northeast regions, reports were widely scattered east of a line from Clay, southeast to Douglas, Stearns, McLeod, Le Sueur and Freeborn on the southern border. High counts: 12/18 Cook (77, Grand Marais Harbor) KJB, 12/18 Cook (50, Cascade River) KJB. In the south, reports persisted until 2/26 Hennepin (9) TAT. CBC high counts 12/15 Duluth (428), 12/22 Two Harbors (163), 12/15 Grand Marais (70).
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [32 North, 49 South] A major invasion year, with more reports than the last significant invasion in 2008 (78 counties). Reported statewide. Reflective of the magnitude of the invasion are the CBC high counts: 12/15 Little Falls (2,067), 1/1 Pillager (1,685), 12/15 St. Cloud-Collegeville (1,198), 12/16 Cedar Creek Bog (1,140), 12/30 Battle Lake (1,062), 12/29 Northern Meeker County (917).
- Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [29 North, 16 South] A major invasion year, with more reports than the last “significant” invasion in 2008 (a mere 16 counties). Reported from most counties northeast of a line from Stevens southeast to Steele. South reports with details include 12/15–17 Stearns MRe, MJB, †PCC, 12/27 Hennepin (Minneapolis) TFi, 12/29, 1/26, 2/8 Chisago (Harris) ph. DPI, 1/1 Hennepin (Corcoran) ph. ABL, 1/20 Anoka DPG, 1/31–2/2 McLeod (northeast of Hutchinson) PRH, †DWK. High count 1/10 St. Louis (12; also notable were 8 on 12/26 and 9 on 1/23 at this same location) KJB, 1/8 Kittson (8) TRB.
- Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [24 North, 37 South] A major invasion year, with the most reports since the last significant invasion in 2008 (73 counties). Reported from all regions statewide, but reports more scattered in the western third of the State. High count 12/1 Ramsey (100) CMu. CBC high counts 12/15 Faribault (277), 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (215).
- American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [24 North, 48 South] Reported statewide, with the same number of reporting counties as last year (72). High count 2/10 Fillmore (115) NBO. CBC high counts 12/15 St. Paul (North) (358), 12/29 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (347), 12/15 Henderson (322), 12/15 Bloomington (250).
- Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [16 North, 3 South] More reports than any of the previous five winters. In the north, reported east of an arc extending from Marshall, south to Becker, and continuing southeast to Pine. All reports south (and the highest number of reports in years): 12/23 Sherburne (1, Clear Lake) ph. LJo, 1/18 Wright (1) JBm, 2/17 Washington (1 male, present “at least a month earlier”) BJo. CBC high counts 12/31 Baudette (163), 1/1 Hibbing (68).
- House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) — [30 North, 50 South] More reports than any of the previous five winters, and seen in all regions statewide. Number of reporting counties continues to increase annually. CBC high counts 12/29 Hastings-Etter (744), 12/15 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (712).

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BMz	Bob Mazanec	EEO	Earl E. Orf	KRE	Kim R. Eckert
BRL	Bill R. Litkey	EKi	Ethan Kistler	KRo	Karl Roe
BSi	Beth Siverhus	ELC	Erik Collins	KRr	Kathleen Roer
BTS	Brian T. Smith	EMH	Beth Hamel	KyC	Kyle Cross
BWF	Ben W. Fritchman	EPI	Eric Plage	KyS	Kay Shaw
BWS	Bruce W. Stahly	FAE	Fred A. Eckhardt	LAV	Lance A. Vrieze
CAB	Cheryl Boyes	FGo	Frank Gosiak	LEC	Laura E. Coble
CaP	Carol Parker	FKB	Frank Berdan	LGN	Lisa Green
CAs	Caleb Ashling	GEr	Gary Erickson	LHi	Lainie Hiller
Cbf	Chris Butenhoff	GHo	Gerald Hoekstra	LiS	Linda Schumann
CBu	Cheryl Burgmeier	GJa	Gregory Jahner III	LJo	Lee Johnson
ChA	Chris Anderson	GJM	Gabriel Miller	LKu	Larry Kuchenbecker
ChH	Chad Heins	GLa	George Lahr	LME	Laura M. Erickson
CIE	Cindy Edwardson	GWe	Garrett Wee	LMS	Larry Sirvio
CIN	Clinton Nienhaus	HCT	Howard Towle	LS	Linda Sparling
CIS	Clifford Steinhauer	HFH	Hap Huber	LTA	Leanne T. Alt
CLW	Chris Wood	HHd	Herb H. Dingmann	LyK	Lynda Knutsen
CMB	Conny M. Brunell	HHe	H. Heerklotz	MaC	Matt Curtis
CMu	Craig Mullenbach	HHu	Heidi Hughes	MaP	Matthew Pierce
CoN	Collin Nienhaus	HJS	Hebe & Jim Shipp	MAW	Marlene A. Weber
CPe	Carol Pelton	HNe	Heidi Nelson	MDu	Matt Dufort
CRM	Craig R. Mandel	JaJ	Jane Johnson	MGo	Malcolm Gold
CSa	Carlos Sanchez	JAN	Josh Anderson	MHe	Melissa Hein
CTS	Cindy Thury Smith	JBm	Janice Bergstrom	MHK	Martin H. Kehoe
DAB	David A. Bartkey	JCC	Joel C. Claus	MiO	Michael Oetken
DAC	David A. Cahlander	JCG	Janet C. Green	MJB	Milton J. Blomberg
DAG	David A. Grosshuesch	JCy	John Cyrus	MJM	Michael J. Majeski
DaL	David Lambeth	JDB	Judd Brink	MLH	Michael Hendrickson
DAn	Don Anderson	JEB	Jerry E. Bonkoski	MO	Mark Otnes
DAs	David Astin	JeM	Jerome McKenna	MRe	Marco Restani
DAT	Dan A. Tallman	JFR	James F. Ryan	MRN	Michael R. North
DBF	Deborah Buria-Falkowski	JLH	James L. Howitz	MwS	Matthew Stratmoen

NBO	Nancy B. Overcott	RJW	Robert Watson	Smy	Seth Meyer
NFT	Nels F. Thompson	RMa	Robin Maercklein	SPM	Steve Millard
NKa	Noah Kahn	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap	STh	Stefan Theimer
NLe	Norm Lewis	RMo	Roxanne Morgan	STW	Sylvia T. Winkelman
NSg	Neil Skoog	RNS	Richard N. Smaby	SVo	Skyler Vold
OWB	Bill Bruins	RoC	Rory Cameron	SWe	Steve Weston
PBB	Patrick Beauzay	RoF	Roger Field	SWr	Sharon Walker
PCC	Phillip C. Chu	RPn	Rob Pendergast	TAT	Tom A. Tustison
PEB	Paul E. Budde	RPR	Bob Russell	TDr	Tim Driscoll
PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher	RQu	Robert Qually	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
PHS	Peder H. Svingen	RSA	Renner S. Anderson	TFi	Thomas Fitzgerald
PJB	Paul J. Binek	RSm	Ron Smith	THI	Tammy Holmer
PJK	Pat Korkowski	RTo	Randy Toppen	TKe	Ted Keyel
PKF	Paul & Koni Fank	RTP	Ray Potthoff	TLo	Tom Lochner
PNi	Peter Nichols	RWh	Robert Whyte	ToJ	Toni Johnson
PRH	Pete Hoeger	RZi	Roy Zimmerman	ToL	Tony Lau
RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	SAu	Sandy Aubol	TPB	Terence Brashear
RBJ	Robert B. Janssen	SBM	Scott B. Meyer	TPE	Ted Pederson
RBW	Bob Williams	SC	Shawn Conrad	TrB	Tracy Brewer
RDa	Rob Daves	SHF	Susan H. Fall	TWa	Tony Warner
RDE	Roger D. Everhart	SHk	Sandy Hokanson	VDo	Vicky Douglas
REH	Robert E. Holtz	SHo	Steve Houdek	VLa	Vanessa Lane
REJ	Ruth E. Johnson	SKS	Sharon Koval Stiteler	WCM	William Marengo
RHO	Robert H. O'Connor	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski	WPe	Wendy Pepin
RiM	Richard Mcgurrin	SLP	Susan Plankis		

Abbreviations

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

CBC totals. Numbers represent totals for each count. Also see Tables 1-4.

45	Albert Lea CBC	23	Fredenberg CBC	50	Owatonna CBC
49	Afton CBC	38	Fairmont CBC	40	Pillager CBC
36	Alexandria CBC	34	Grand Marais CBC	30	Pine County CBC
27	Aurora CBC	39	Grand Rapids CBC	57	Rochester CBC
44	Austin CBC	53	Hastings-Etter CBC	29	Rice Lake NWR CBC
46	Battle Lake CBC	44	Henderson CBC	30	Roseau CBC
31	Baudette CBC	23	Hibbing CBC	61	Red Wing CBC
29	Bemidji CBC	45	Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) CBC	44	St. Cloud-Collegeville CBC
54	Bloomington CBC	17	Isabella CBC	43	Sherburne NWR CBC
21	Beltrami Island CBC	36	Itasca State Park CBC	53	St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC
37	Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River SP CBC	33	Jackson County CBC	58	St. Paul (North) CBC
46	Cedar Creek Bog CBC	34	Lamberton CBC	32	Sax-Zim CBC
23	Cook Area CBC	44	Little Falls CBC	41	Two Harbors CBC
41	Cottonwood CBC	33	Long Prairie CBC	31	Tamarac NWR CBC
33	Carlton-Cloquet CBC	45	Lac qui Parle CBC	30	Uppgaard WMA CBC
35	Crookston CBC	38	Marshall CBC	36	Virginia CBC
38	Crosby CBC	37	Northern Meeker County CBC	46	Wabasha CBC
33	Detroit Lakes CBC	47	Mankato CBC	24	Walker CBC
57	Duluth CBC	38	Morris CBC	45	Wild River CBC
23	Eagle's Nest Lakes CBC	48	Minneapolis (North) CBC	42	Willmar CBC
52	Excelsior CBC	29	Mountain Lake-Windom CBC	54	Winona CBC
56	Faribault CBC	43	Northern Wright County CBC	41	Whitewater River CBC
48	Fergus Falls CBC				

	Afton	A_Lea	Alex	Aurora	Austin	B_L	Baud	B_I	Bem	Bloom	BP/BR	C/C	C_C_B	Cook	Cotton	Crook	Crosby
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	663	408	556	-	2505	891	-	-	581	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose [Giant]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	382	5	67	-	-	1041	-	6	96	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	325	47	351	-	569	29	-	6	1377	4	-	16	-	-	-	-	1
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
American Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	24	-	-	5	1	65	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	545	-	-	-	-	12	-	1	697	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp. X Mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck X Mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	30	46	24	-	2	7	-	-	-	26	-	36	-	377	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	3	-	cw	cw	4	-	-	15	-	6	-	-	-	17
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	4	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	-	-	-	-	-	144	-
Wild Turkey	340	112	45	-	62	245	-	-	107	-	26	94	-	41	-	5	-
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-necked Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	16	4	4	8	24	8	4	-	6	52	6	11	12	9	1	5	14
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Cooper's Hawk	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	38	6	5	-	15	1	-	-	59	-	-	10	-	7	-	1	-
Rough-legged Hawk	1	1	1	1	-	cw	2	4	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	5	1
Buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	-	3	-	1	-
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Killdeer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	248	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	225	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull/Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
gull sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	447	213	190	73	190	300	58	-	244	157	224	107	86	41	286	424	458
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	15	-	-	4	7	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	81	2	-
Mourning Dove	51	5	4	1	23	9	2	-	32	1	12	146	-	12	1	6	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	3	1	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	-	1	1	1

Table 1. CBC results for Afton, Albert Lea, Alexandria, Aurora, Austin, Battle Lake, Baudette, Beltrami Island, Bemidji, Bloomington, Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River, Carlton-Cloquet, Cedar Creek Bog, Cook Area, Cottonwood, Crookston, and Crosby.

	Afton	A_Lea	Alex	Aurora	Austin	B_L	Baud	B_I	Bem	Bloom	BP/BR	C/C	C_C_B cw	Cook	Cotton	Crook cw	Crosby
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Hawk Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	-	-	-	1	5	cw	2	-	-	4	-	1	3	1	-	-	6
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	2	-	2	-	6	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	cw
Red-bellied Woodpecker	25	5	15	-	25	26	-	-	2	33	3	5	27	-	13	1	30
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	63	31	41	4	76	52	6	2	11	104	8	15	54	8	33	14	54
Hairy Woodpecker	26	11	36	10	33	27	10	9	7	60	6	19	23	14	16	19	42
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	1	-	5	-	1	-	cw
Pileated Woodpecker	6	2	14	7	2	19	1	2	10	6	2	4	19	1	-	3	42
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	4	1	1	2	1	3	8	3	-	10	2	2	4	1	1	1	3
Gray Jay	-	-	-	22	-	-	12	32	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Blue Jay	106	39	44	69	90	63	18	1	51	88	23	54	131	16	46	26	188
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	cw	2	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	18
American Crow	922	161	191	33	623	231	149	-	74	800	37	133	390	10	24	113	136
Common Raven	2	-	-	140	-	-	111	20	20	-	-	55	3	55	-	2	55
Horned Lark	-	11	-	-	266	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	24	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	424	67	255	424	200	307	258	86	196	566	70	276	498	219	104	81	692
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	6	4	3	6	5	16	8	26	16	7	8	25	3	40	5	3	20
White-breasted Nuthatch	74	22	74	8	56	117	15	1	40	107	13	16	93	24	29	18	171
Brown Creeper	1	-	3	-	3	2	1	1	1	27	cw	2	3	-	6	-	1
Carolina Wren	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	206	4	2	-	cw	2	-	-	-	297	29	-	5	-	-	32	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	205	61	66	10	499	164	18	-	105	4288	91	270	480	26	1328	372	139
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	22	-	1	31	-	28	-	20	11	-	-	-	22	137
Cedar Waxwing	29	6	1	-	24	cw	-	-	-	-	24	-	68	-	-	10	-
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	176	271	3	-	242	4	-	-	-	60	1	1	116	-	3	-	7
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	-	105	-	-	309	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-	31	35
Dark-eyed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Dark-eyed	309	-	113	-	-	50	-	-	-	161	-	-	270	-	93	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	99	-	-	1566	-	-	-	-	-	214	-	-	-	1	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	164	46	-	20	147	659	-	90	-	647	6	-	-	206	75	-
Northern Cardinal	150	47	14	-	99	38	-	-	1	206	-	1	53	-	9	-	38
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	3	-	-	20	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	148	-	2	45	2	30	-	83	67	28	133	-	68	79
Purple Finch	-	2	16	-	5	8	-	-	-	5	3	-	8	-	-	9	4
House Finch	30	126	29	-	65	66	-	-	-	154	105	-	13	-	18	51	28
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	66	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	7	-	-	11	-	cw	27	45	8	-	-	21	-	-	-	12	-
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	143	47	331	391	32	1062	362	140	305	17	119	371	1140	150	116	450	619
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	2	2	cw	-	1
Pine Siskin	36	112	2	-	49	6	-	-	-	39	-	-	33	-	-	1	6
American Goldfinch	49	86	43	-	73	91	-	-	9	250	15	48	238	-	16	25	91
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	42	-	-	163	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	-	-	-
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	301	232	102	20	605	410	185	-	72	561	106	33	47	5	445	562	384

Table 1, continued.

	D_L	Dulu	E_N_L	Exc	Fairm	Farib	Fergus	Freden	G_M	G_R	H_E	Hend	Hibb	Isabel	Itasca	Jacks	LqP
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	-	326	-	471	10620	2137	7500	-	-	210	630	1242	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose [Giant]	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1700	20000
Mute Swan	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	2	-	-	165	-	3	50	-	-	6	35	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	cw	-	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
American Wigeon	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	-	16	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	70	1242	-	1443	1895	1942	800	2	12	81	451	2	-	-	1	11	66
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	cw	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	1	-	68	-	-	-	-	1	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	5	-	1	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	169	-	846	-	-	175	61	41	28	4	-	-	-	-	-	18
Hooded Merganser	-	3	-	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Common Merganser	-	4	-	7502	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp. X Mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck X Mallard	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	-	7	5	22	12	-	-	-	2	52	-	-	-	5	110
Ruffed Grouse	3	11	4	-	-	-	-	4	9	6	1	-	4	5	4	-	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	71	-	-	87	-	89	-	5	-	-	3	421	-	-	35	-	9
Horned Grebe	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-necked Grebe	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	1
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	4	11	7	33	7	18	3	4	12	9	11	20	2	-	7	4	9
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	2
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	2
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	-	25	6	27	1	-	-	-	51	19	-	-	2	4	4
Rough-legged Hawk	-	cw	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	3	2	2	-	-	3	-	1
Buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	-	2	2	3	-	-	-	-	3	7	-	-	-	-	4
Merlin	-	2	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	46	-	3	48	-	1	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-
Killdeer	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	4	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	1167	-	-	-	1	-	-	59	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull/Thayer's Gull	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
gull sp.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	63	620	7	101	61	245	516	20	126	124	414	153	124	-	23	112	177
Eurasian Collared-Dove	2	-	-	-	3	5	2	-	-	2	34	-	-	-	-	5	3
Mourning Dove	-	12	-	71	4	84	2	-	-	1	61	91	11	-	-	3	5
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	-	6	1	2	-	cw	1	2	2	-	cw	-	1	2

Table 2. CBC results for Detroit Lakes, Duluth, Eagle's Nest Lakes, Excelsior, Fairmont, Faribault, Fergus Falls, Fredenberg, Grand Marais, Grand Rapids, Hastings-Etter, Henderson, Hibbing, Isabella, Itasca State Park, Jackson County, and Lac qui Parle.

	D_L	Dulu	E_N_L	Exc	Fairm	Farib	Fergus	Freden	G_M	G_R	H_E	Hend	Hibb	Isabel	Itasca	Jacks	LqP	
Snowy Owl	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Northern Hawk Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Barred Owl	4	1	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	5	-	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	12	4	-	42	21	35	13	-	2	14	24	46	-	-	-	10	1	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Downy Woodpecker	22	55	30	109	35	110	36	18	39	12	67	152	4	46	12	27	17	
Hairy Woodpecker	11	28	22	42	13	34	16	9	11	10	26	63	9	7	11	15	7	
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	
Northern Flicker	2	-	-	4	-	6	2	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	-	1	
Pileated Woodpecker	11	12	5	12	1	16	7	4	3	11	9	20	cw	3	3	-	1	
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	
Northern Shrike	-	-	1	3	-	13	1	1	3	4	4	5	1	1	2	-	4	
Gray Jay	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	2	13	2	-	-	-	
Blue Jay	41	39	48	170	38	143	49	32	28	32	121	90	27	15	78	23	27	
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	
American Crow	95	531	4	435	102	798	71	69	39	94	364	320	7	1	7	53	19	
Common Raven	-	16	86	-	-	-	-	37	135	19	-	-	130	98	71	-	-	
Horned Lark	-	-	-	9	-	17	2	-	-	-	13	6	-	-	-	-	3	22
Black-capped Chickadee	128	1741	455	717	109	457	216	334	435	286	365	242	315	211	160	31	35	
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	10	105	73	2	6	8	2	31	64	23	2	4	39	59	33	4	-	
White-breasted Nuthatch	66	56	15	133	47	113	57	8	7	55	56	142	13	-	36	26	8	
Brown Creeper	3	1	1	8	6	17	cw	2	cw	-	4	3	-	-	1	3	5	
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
American Robin	-	14	-	299	-	18	20	-	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	45	
Varied Thrush	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
European Starling	125	891	-	338	350	808	540	-	70	28	1040	105	16	-	10	185	147	
Bohemian Waxwing	-	290	-	-	-	-	-	cw	122	247	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	
Cedar Waxwing	37	-	-	37	-	29	85	-	cw	-	26	48	-	-	-	-	12	
waxwing sp.	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
American Tree Sparrow	1	-	-	123	175	232	4	-	-	-	209	53	-	-	-	95	322	
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
White-throated Sparrow	-	1	-	7	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dark-eyed Junco	-	-	-	292	-	500	-	-	-	1	490	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dark-eyed	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	cw	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dark-eyed	22	34	-	-	86	-	75	-	-	-	-	456	-	cw	2	52	198	
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	215	-	66	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	835	31
Snow Bunting	85	2	-	-	-	-	47	-	-	-	84	112	-	-	60	cw	376	
Northern Cardinal	17	29	-	283	54	226	16	-	5	10	142	197	-	-	-	13	13	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
Red-winged Blackbird	1	-	-	42	16	-	3	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	27	-	
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Common Grackle	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Pine Grosbeak	34	56	110	-	-	-	-	13	52	125	-	-	59	74	99	-	-	
Purple Finch	-	4	-	9	6	8	2	-	-	-	10	37	6	-	12	-	1	
House Finch	1	41	-	140	23	138	39	-	-	5	131	152	1	-	11	4	1	
Red Crossbill	-	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	23	4	-	-	-	51	6	-	-	
White-winged Crossbill	-	428	6	-	-	cw	-	cw	70	3	37	-	-	29	26	-	-	
crossbill sp.	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Common Redpoll	559	393	104	135	7	94	465	87	211	152	175	-	200	15	227	cw	154	
Hoary Redpoll	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	6	1	-	-	cw	-	1	-	-	
Pine Siskin	-	4	-	90	18	277	cw	-	30	5	42	30	14	cw	28	-	-	
American Goldfinch	85	18	-	225	48	113	137	4	4	7	131	322	-	-	2	75	6	
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	-	-	68	-	45	-	-	
finch sp.	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
House Sparrow	55	51	40	310	548	286	113	-	-	104	774	620	44	-	-	412	157	

Table 2, continued.

	Lamb	L_F	L_P	Mank	Marsh	Mpls	Morris	M_L/W	Meek	Wright	McLeo	Owat	Pillager	Pine	R_W	R_L_	Roch
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	cw	-	-	-	5
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	67	cw	1	500	1	165	1049	-	1	300	2355	1753	30	-	8	-	11000
Canada Goose [Giant]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	-	10	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	915	-	-	160	-	14	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	2
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	2	-	1
Mallard	-	49	-	97	-	2899	584	-	-	373	1109	750	110	-	207	-	998
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	29	-	41
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	349	-	-	-	78	-	-	-	-	758	-	2
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1
Common Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	3	1	-	4	-	31	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
duck sp. X Mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck X Mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	35	70	13	9	132	3	50	46	70	33	120	10	-	3	28	-	8
Ruffed Grouse	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	3	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	9	147	98	188	18	57	25	-	48	48	56	31	186	20	162	59	146
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-necked Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	2	10	4	8	1	8	4	-	6	10	3	7	13	5	584	5	17
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	2
Cooper's Hawk	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	7	25	9	21	1	31	-	10	17	2	8	15	2	-	73	-	67
Rough-legged Hawk	cw	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	6	2	-	2	2	7	3	-	1
Buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	1	1	-	2	1	3	-	2	2	-	8	3	-	-	1	cw	3
Merlin	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	12	-	-	-	-	3
Killdeer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	cw
Herring Gull	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull/Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
gull sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Rock Pigeon	101	430	86	139	4	38	62	122	264	188	585	117	109	140	240	78	561
Eurasian Collared-Dove	44	9	-	1	-	-	11	5	-	3	13	-	-	-	5	-	-
Mourning Dove	-	6	4	41	1	82	13	6	23	35	91	21	2	-	97	-	75
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	1	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Great Horned Owl	2	cw	2	2	-	3	-	1	1	2	3	1	1	-	-	-	1

Table 3. CBC results for Lambertton, Little Falls, Long Prairie, Mankato, Marshall, Minneapolis (north), Morris, Mountain Lake-Windom, Northern Meeker County, Northern Wright County, Northwest McLeod County, Owatonna, Pillager, Pine County, Red Wing, Rice Lake NWR, and Rochester.

	Lamb	L_F	L_P	Mank	Marsh	Mpls	Morris	M_L/W	Meek	Wright	McLeo	Owat	Pillager	Pine	R_W	R_L_	Roch
Snowy Owl	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Hawk Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Barred Owl	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	8	3	1	2	2
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	1	1	1	-	-	5	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	2
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Red-bellied Woodpecker	4	15	22	29	9	27	10	3	12	26	20	43	16	4	41	4	47
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	13	27	41	71	14	70	24	12	39	51	70	103	37	16	89	12	128
Hairy Woodpecker	8	15	16	27	4	17	9	7	14	15	23	37	23	20	24	16	26
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Flicker	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	7
Pileated Woodpecker	-	10	17	2	2	5	2	-	3	11	7	9	9	4	10	5	11
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	-	4	4	4	1	3	2	-	3	2	7	-	2	3	8	14	3
Gray Jay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	16	105	84	56	28	104	36	33	56	80	93	138	186	177	129	185	193
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
American Crow	41	282	175	119	14	345	57	141	171	237	190	328	160	66	699	93	2111
Common Raven	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	36	-	73	-
Horned Lark	149	-	-	1	134	-	35	316	-	2	12	203	-	-	8	-	cw
Black-capped Chickadee	46	226	161	160	40	334	69	18	135	421	184	336	380	230	358	322	402
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	8
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	11	-	6	1	1	4	1	-	-	4	32	20	9	5	6	7
White-breasted Nuthatch	18	57	63	47	13	68	22	9	29	103	67	108	76	39	85	20	93
Brown Creeper	7	-	-	4	3	7	3	-	-	5	11	6	3	-	-	-	12
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	-	1	3	10	8	135	10	-	21	32	-	7	-	-	25	-	11
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	32	433	177	1109	53	432	237	112	179	355	1209	687	51	96	359	129	300
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	-	-	-	37	4	103	23	-	-	31	20	-	-	-	13	-	46
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	1	17	20	243	63	78	18	322	176	183	739	146	38	-	599	-	290
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4
Harris's Sparrow	8	-	-	1	1	-	1	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Dark-eyed Junco	-	-	-	-	141	120	-	-	-	-	484	297	-	-	-	-	520
Dark-eyed	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed	34	89	117	238	-	69	51	113	218	-	-	54	-	1031	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	4	-	-	-	84	-	59	1	12	-	182	564	-	-	1	-	cw
Snow Bunting	722	51	9	150	1105	-	580	1112	239	-	120	1	18	37	81	-	-
Northern Cardinal	5	18	21	91	36	122	3	4	35	61	68	153	5	1	156	-	219
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	4	1	-	11	-	1	3	-	1	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	-
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	4	1	-
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	31	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	214	-	74	-
Purple Finch	-	4	2	-	-	1	62	-	2	11	-	36	4	-	6	-	20
House Finch	5	24	1	69	8	100	93	16	13	103	124	241	-	-	111	-	142
Red Crossbill	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	71	2067	530	30	155	11	234	168	917	265	787	130	1685	630	34	330	5
Hoary Redpoll	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	-	3	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	36	3	-	-	cw	-	-	13	101	20	2	91	1	179
American Goldfinch	-	41	76	48	20	177	68	1	21	61	53	203	46	4	84	2	224
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	1	-
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	167	150	145	271	187	141	492	386	303	419	712	379	220	85	532	85	603

Table 3, continued.

	Rose	SZB	Sherb	St.C/C	St.P-n	St.P-ne	Tam	T_H	Upp	Virg	Wab	Walk	WW	Wild_R	Will	Win	TOTALS
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2000
Canada Goose	-	-	74	523	424	157	-	-	11	1	10	-	2	24	80	3960	51242
Canada Goose [Giant]	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	21718
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Trumpeter Swan	-	-	-	29	53	69	2	-	75	-	4	-	-	22	-	-	3223
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1140	1147
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Wood Duck	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	20
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	10	12	-	-	-	-	66	-	20	-	-	-	223
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
American Black Duck	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
Mallard	-	-	2	1149	2811	954	-	-	38	113	107	-	49	-	26	1021	24189
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
American Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	119
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Bufflehead	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	51	4	-	-	25	-	5	12	-	-	6	-	45	2773
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	1	19	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Common Merganser	-	-	-	7	82	24	-	5	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	33	8965
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
duck sp. X Mallard	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Black Duck X Mallard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	90	25	-	72	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	141	99	2	1823
Ruffed Grouse	-	7	-	-	-	2	8	8	1	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	140
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Sharp-tailed Grouse	114	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	130
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	189
Wild Turkey	-	-	238	279	85	450	24	-	4	-	75	cw	7	251	78	70	4656
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Red-necked Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	13	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Bald Eagle	7	10	18	5	24	26	20	9	3	9	37	cw	21	21	4	80	1326
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	6
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	1	1	3	42
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	1	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	32
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	10
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	12	4	44	36	1	-	1	-	22	-	26	25	12	18	770
Rough-legged Hawk	3	3	1	-	1	4	1	-	-	1	4	-	1	3	-	-	88
Buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Golden Eagle	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
American Kestrel	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	1	-	5	75
Merlin	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Coot	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	124
Killdeer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	12	21
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	241	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	583
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1557
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Iceland Gull/Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
gull sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rock Pigeon	171	17	245	178	1824	429	14	135	8	433	177	4	191	395	176	356	14401
Eurasian Collared-Dove	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	264
Mourning Dove	-	-	28	16	89	94	-	4	-	7	53	-	8	147	51	101	1745
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Great Horned Owl	-	-	1	1	4	18	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	4	88

Table 4. CBC results for Roseau, Sax-Zim Bog, Sherburne NWR, St. Cloud-Collegeville, St. Paul (north), St. Paul (northeast suburban), Tamarac NWR, Two Harbors, Uppgaard WMA, Virginia, Wabasha, Walker, Whitewater State Park and Game Refuge, Wild River, Willmar, and Winona, plus totals.

	Rose	SZB	Sherb	St.C/C	St.P-n	St.P-ne	Tam	T_H	Upp	Virg	Wab	Walk	WW	Wild_R	Will	Win	TOTALS	
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Northern Hawk Owl	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	
Barred Owl	-	-	1	-	3	4	22	-	-	-	-	1	-	cw	1	2	95	
Great Gray Owl	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	cw	2	-	2	2	2	5	60	
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	2	-	10	10	43	94	20	3	6	-	18	3	10	29	14	48	1076	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	
Downy Woodpecker	2	9	33	3	95	178	37	62	35	12	40	4	20	83	62	84	2943	
Hairy Woodpecker	1	9	18	9	46	88	24	17	15	23	11	2	6	34	22	34	1362	
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	
Northern Flicker	-	-	1	-	9	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	12	2	82	
Pileated Woodpecker	3	-	7	9	8	41	16	11	12	2	2	4	4	21	6	11	522	
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	
Northern Shrike	5	9	2	1	4	14	8	8	-	9	-	-	1	6	6	3	226	
Gray Jay	1	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	118	
Blue Jay	15	16	132	54	112	232	118	53	50	19	82	23	63	146	71	117	5056	
Black-billed Magpie	26	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	103	
American Crow	40	60	154	144	802	845	55	114	59	135	283	1	141	400	132	511	16141	
Common Raven	109	103	5	1	-	5	19	79	10	110	-	3	-	4	-	-	1621	
Horned Lark	-	-	1	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	-	34	-	5	20	1321	
Black-capped Chickadee	64	337	178	213	593	1076	359	580	383	444	106	97	44	447	309	238	20250	
Boreal Chickadee	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	32	53
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	15	4	2	4	38	15	71	30	35	5	12	-	4	1	2	1017	
White-breasted Nuthatch	11	7	30	44	121	256	64	15	64	14	26	14	14	104	74	104	3595	
Brown Creeper	-	-	-	5	11	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	195	
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	11	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	15	
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	4	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	11	31	
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
American Robin	-	-	15	16	481	184	-	2	-	2	-	-	1	10	174	93	2221	
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
European Starling	46	41	613	81	855	244	-	79	-	166	1963	2	126	308	474	903	24626	
Bohemian Waxwing	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	569	-	15	-	-	-	-	1532	
Cedar Waxwing	-	-	-	4	2	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	62	113	87	1052	
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
American Tree Sparrow	-	-	98	27	76	168	-	-	2	-	336	-	308	157	261	264	6728	
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	3	
Song Sparrow	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	17	
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	32	
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
Dark-eyed Junco	-	-	-	185	227	-	-	5	7	-	555	-	-	296	-	437	5066	
Dark-eyed	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	
Dark-eyed	-	1	281	-	-	286	7	-	-	-	-	-	366	-	355	-	5231	
Lapland Longspur	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	14	-	3992	
Snow Bunting	294	30	23	3	-	-	7	-	-	-	201	-	30	21	128	-	7788	
Northern Cardinal	-	-	22	41	210	202	3	7	4	3	63	2	41	100	73	124	3554	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	40	-	150	1	34	-	352	
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	10	
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	
Common Grackle	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Pine Grosbeak	21	65	32	10	-	-	176	29	51	284	-	8	-	45	-	-	2357	
Purple Finch	-	-	2	-	-	46	56	-	-	-	13	-	17	14	54	1	506	
House Finch	4	-	-	12	167	122	-	3	-	cw	18	1	-	36	118	84	2987	
Red Crossbill	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	219	
White-winged Crossbill	9	19	-	-	-	-	-	163	-	25	-	2	-	-	-	-	952	
crossbill sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	
Common Redpoll	110	146	202	1198	4	305	814	440	62	543	303	221	-	121	792	11	22094	
Hoary Redpoll	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	4	1	3	-	cw	-	1	-	-	48	
Pine Siskin	-	-	2	49	50	215	4	-	1	27	25	1	6	63	-	28	1739	
American Goldfinch	-	5	95	18	358	347	72	-	17	-	88	4	60	130	210	172	4916	
Evening Grosbeak	-	8	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	406	
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	
House Sparrow	141	53	40	95	666	105	13	49	61	2	367	20	142	362	300	673	15950	

Table 4, continued.

The Winter 2012–2013 Irruption of Northern Owls

Peder H. Svingen

All four species of “northern” owls were found in high numbers in Minnesota between late fall 2012 and spring 2013. Using the same methodology as in previous irruptions, all reports of Snowy, Northern Hawk, Great Gray, and Boreal owls were entered into a spreadsheet and carefully sorted to eliminate duplicates. A number of reports had to be excluded because the location was too vague. This was especially true for eBird reports from the Sax-Zim Bog area in St. Louis County. I compiled data from the online seasonal report, the MOU-net listserv, local listserves (such as the Ely Field Naturalists), the state’s three hotlines, The Raptor Center, Hawk Ridge, and eBird. Many entries included GPS data and time of observation, so I am confident that the following totals represent the minimum number of each species during the irruption. At the same time, these totals are preliminary since data are still being gathered with respect to banded birds and dead or injured birds; if necessary, revised totals will be published in *The Loon*.

Snowy Owl — A total of 62 Snowy Owls was reported in 31 counties between 24 October 2012 in Clay County, and 22 April 2013 in Ramsey County. There was no obvious pattern to the influx as birds reached 16 north and 15 south counties as far south as Lyon, Chippewa, Redwood, Dodge, and Winona counties. Some birds, including one in Dodge County and one in Lake County (Two Harbors), stayed for a month or more in the same location, but the vast majority were only reported once. None was found injured or dead.

Northern Hawk Owl — A total of 73 Northern Hawk Owls was reported from 13 north counties between 17 October 2012 in Lake of the Woods County and 4 May 2013 in Kittson County (the latter presumably not nesting). Although none wandered very far from this species’ traditional range, there were noteworthy reports from Pennington and

Red Lake counties on 13 March. The highest concentration was in north-central Roseau County — along and east of state highway 310, and northeast of county road 28, including the Sprague Creek area. A high count of nine Hawk Owls was found in this area by Steve and Diane Millard on 16 February 2013. As usual, there were multiple sightings in the Big Bog area along state highway 72 in northern Beltrami and Lake of the Woods counties. Only one Northern Hawk Owl was known to have died during this time, a well-watched bird that spent more than three weeks near the Dirt Factory on Martin Road in Duluth; it had been banded 28 January and was about 100 grams lighter when it was picked up dead 22 February.

Great Gray Owl — A total of 448 Great Gray Owls was reported from 13 north counties within its traditional winter range, between 3 November 2012 and 29 April 2013. This represents the state’s second highest documented irruption (Table 1). Additional reports from May were excluded since they likely referred to resident or breeding birds. Great Grays begin nesting in April in Minnesota; it should be noted that several reports from late April including two along Jean Duluth Road in Duluth and one at the Hoyt Lakes Golf Course were from non-breeding locations. Unlike some past irruptions, no Great Grays reached southern Minnesota. Most were found in Roseau (180) and St. Louis (138) counties, with the highest concentrations in and around the Lost River State Forest and along Sprague Creek north and east of Roseau. Single party high counts in Roseau County included 68 on 23 February (Jeanie Joppru), and 59 on 16 February (Steve and Diane Millard). Fourteen Great Grays (~3.2%) were found dead with most of these killed by collisions with motorized vehicles or trains.

Boreal Owl — A preliminary total of 229 Boreal Owls was reported from 15 north and 5 south counties between 11 October 2012 in

southern St. Louis County and 7 May 2013 in Wright County. Most (155) of these owls were found in St. Louis County, especially in and around Duluth and along the North Shore. At least 29 were found dead and 4 more were found injured or emaciated; the resultant ratio of about one in seven found dead or injured is well below that of some past irruptions. Banders at Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory in Duluth netted 34 Boreal Owls between 11 October and 15 November; these harbingers of the irruption were followed by a smattering of reports in the Northeast region during January and the unexpected discovery of one subsequently photographed at the Audubon Center in north-central Polk County 25–28 January. There were multiple reports from Marshall and Polk counties in the Northwest, but most unusual was one photographed near Felton, Clay County, during the 4th week of March. Boreal Owls in the south included one found dead in Blue Hill Township, Sherburne County, 8 March; one on private property at Mound, Hennepin County, 16–17 March; one found dead by students at Holdingford Elementary School, Stearns County, 19 March; one found dead at Tamarack Nature Center, Ramsey County, 21 April; and one found dead on private property near Sugar Lake, Lynden Township, Wright County, 7 May.

The Boreal Owl irruption picked up steam in late January and peaked during the second week of February, with no fewer than 125 birds found between the 1st and 21st of the month. Along the North Shore between Stoney Point and Knife River, a 211 acre triangle of relatively undeveloped coniferous forest bounded by Alseth Road, Scenic Highway 61, and Old North Shore Road became a magnet for birds, birders, and photographers. Hundreds of out-of-state visitors came to this area in hopes of seeing a Boreal Owl. Some of the owls were alert and actively hunting during daylight hours and few visitors went away disappointed. On 3 February, Chris Wood and his WINGS tour group found an amazing seven Boreal Owls in a single day! The irruption ultimately spilled over into neighboring states with reports from Fargo, Grand Forks, and central North Dakota, and multiple sightings in Wisconsin.

Thanks to Mike Hendrickson, Jim Lind,

Table 1. Northern owl irruptions in Minnesota ranked by total number of individuals for each species. Years of each irruption and references are shown to the right of each total. Historic irruptions for which totals are unknown are not included.

Snowy Owl — 10th largest invasion

1	351	1993–94	The Loon	66:160–165
2	217	2011–12	The Loon	84:146–150
3	176	2005–06	The Loon	78:134–156
4	153	1996–97	The Loon	69:114–143
5	134	2001–02	The Loon	74:137–153
6	121	1991–92	The Loon	64:189–195
7	111	2000–01	The Loon	73:135–143
8	103	1926–27	<i>The Auk</i>	44:479–493
9	92	1966–67	The Loon	40:90–92
▶ 10	62	2012–13	—	—

Northern Hawk Owl — 7th largest irruption

1	475	2004–05	The Loon	77:132–140
2	190	2000–01	The Loon	73:135–143
3	159	1991–92	The Loon	64:189–195
4	125	1962–63	<i>The Flicker</i>	35:77–78
5	100	1996–97	The Loon	69:114–143
6	96	2009–10	The Loon	82:107–123
▶ 7	73	2012–13	—	—

Great Gray Owl — 2nd largest irruption

1	5,225	2004–05	The Loon	77:194–208
▶ 2	447	2012–13	—	—
3	394	2000–01	The Loon	73:135–143
4	342	1995–96	The Loon	68:222–228
5	218	1991–92	The Loon	64:189–195

Boreal Owl — 4th largest irruption

1	600	2004–05	The Loon	77:123–132
2	263	1996–97	The Loon	69:125–129
3	259	2000–01	The Loon	73:143–151
▶ 4	229	2012–13	—	—
5	214	1995–96	The Loon	68:228–231

Jeanie Joppru, Frank Nicoletti, Mark “Sparky” Stensaas, and Steve Wilson for contributing owl sightings to this report. Thanks also to Lori Arent of The Raptor Center for supplying me with their data. Anthony Hertzell and Paul Budde assisted in the compilation of data and reviewed an earlier draft of this paper.

2602 East 4th Street, Duluth, MN 55812.

Notes of Interest

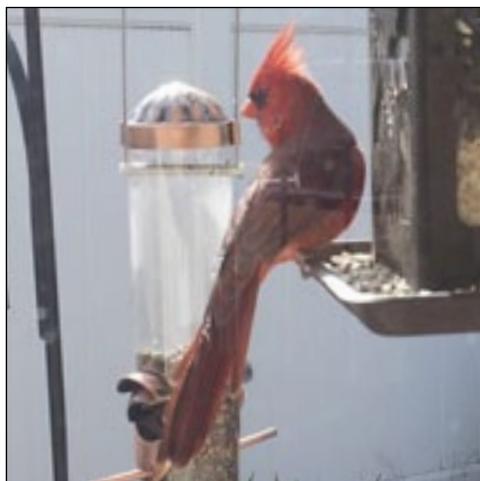


AN UNUSUAL CARDINAL IN MINNEAPOLIS



A male Northern Cardinal visited my feeder in Minneapolis for about a week in October 2012. It was normal in all respects except that it had exceptionally long tail feathers. To my eye, the tail appeared to be about the same length as the whole rest of the bird's body. Its wings were not noticeably longer than what I've seen in other cardinals, and all other parts of the bird also looked normal. Photos taken through a window show a cardinal with a parrot-like tail.

The bird could fly normally and did not seem to be troubled by its unusual tail.



Northern Cardinal, 18 October 2012, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Ray Posterick.

I was unable to find any reference to this kind of condition in birds and so do not know the cause. **Ray Posterick, Minneapolis, MN.**

FLYCATCHERS DISABLED BY MUD



On the afternoon of 26 May 2013, I visited Minnesota Pheasants Waterfowl Production Area (WPA) in southwestern Blue Earth County. This site is located on County Road 32 south of County Road 10. It had been rainy and cool for a couple of days with temperatures in the mid-50s.

As I walked through knee-high grass near a plum thicket, I looked down and saw a small *Empidonax* flycatcher trying to evade me by hiding in the grass. This was atypical behavior for a flycatcher so I looked more carefully. Reaching down, I was able to capture the bird in my hand and judged it to be a Least Flycatcher (*E. minimus*) by size and dark distal half of the beak. Its feathers were disheveled and the bird was clearly in distress. The source of its distress became quite evident when I looked at the feet. In place of the typical four toes on each foot, there was a ball of

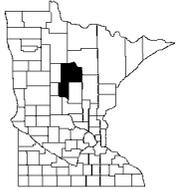
mud at the end of each leg. Closer inspection revealed the toes of the foot were stuck together with compressed mud between them. I was able to gently remove the mud from each foot until the toes were free. I then released the bird and it flew up and perched in a tree in a normal fashion.

Only minutes later, I located two Eastern Kingbirds with the same affliction. The birds were foraging in an adjacent cornfield on the west side of the WPA which was largely mud with one-inch seedlings. The mud balls on their feet appeared proportionately larger and when the birds flew, their legs hung low as those of a raptor do when it is carrying prey, suggesting some fatigue. The extra weight was clearly causing a strain for them in flight as well. As can be expected, both were having difficulty perching on anything; I observed attempted landings on a fence and a bare snag. The only place I saw them land successfully was in the mud of the field. I also observed one other *Empidonax* flycatcher with the same condition at that location. All these birds were foraging successfully in spite of their dilemma.

Earlier in the day, I had seen several *Empidonax* flycatchers foraging on the ground and in the grass alongside the roads. The colder temperatures probably drove them to forage at that height. It is possible that these mud-balled birds may have done the same thing, but in a muddy field instead. The high clay-content found in Blue Earth County may have resulted in a particularly sticky substrate that only added to the ball with each landing, resulting in the accumulation of mud and the ultimate condition observed. No observation of such an accumulation process was made.

A return to the site the next day to try for photographs was unsuccessful. Very few flycatchers were seen compared to the previous day; none had any mudballs. **Chad Heins, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato, MN 56001.**

STATE BIRD VS. NATIONAL BIRD — It was a warm Saturday morning in early August 2013 at Black Water Lake in Cass County. I have been visiting the lake since I was a child, but I'd never seen nature in action — a battle between a loon and an eagle — like I did that weekend.



The eagles from the nest to the east of my property were on the driveway behind the cabin, an adult and two juveniles. They had been flying around and landing in the yard all summer. Out of concern for their safety, I put my two small dogs inside the cabin. When I came back outside, my attention was directed toward the lake where a loon was swimming just offshore, and one of the large juvenile eagles was now flying overhead. To my surprise, the eagle suddenly dropped down and grabbed ahold of the loon. The loon reacted by pulling the eagle partly under water. The eagle popped back up, still holding onto the loon, and the loon again dove, this time pulling the eagle completely under with it. Now with its feathers wet, the eagle struggled to try to get out of the water, but could not. I ran in to get my binoculars for a better view as the eagle attempted to swim to safety. It rotated its wings in a circular motion like it was doing the butterfly stroke and projected itself forward. The wind was blowing to the west and helped propel the eagle across the bay. It seemed to be moving toward a raft about 200 yards away. I was cheering for it to make it to the raft. The loon was now joined by a second loon, both following the eagle. As it moved close to the raft, the loons pulled the eagle under the water again, and I saw a spout of water followed by the eagle popping up. Meanwhile, the adult and other juvenile eagle were watching and screeching frantically. The two loons, as if they had planned a coordinated attack, ran across the water past the eagle, turned around and positioned themselves with one on top of the eagle and one below, and cooperatively pulled and held the eagle under. They repeated this action a second time and the eagle went under and took its last breath.

I couldn't believe what I had just observed. The surviving eagles screeched for several days. The next day, two loons were seen swimming directly in front of the eagle nest, as if to taunt the surviving eagles. Many thanks to Carolyn Dindorf for help with this story. **Tracy Carlyle, Black Water Lake, Longville, MN.**

In This Issue of *The Loon*

Volume 85 Number 3

Hoary Redpoll, 12 February 2013, Sax-Zim Bog, St. Louis County

Photo by Mark "Sparky" Stensaas Front Cover

Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Thomas A. Tustison 99

Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region

Part 1

Michael R. North, Gretchen Mehmel, Beth Walters, and Beth Siverbus 104

The Winter Season

1 December 2012 through 28 February 2013

Paul E. Budde, Bruce A. Fall, and Andrew D. Smith 118

The Winter 2012–2013 Irruption of Northern Owls

Peder H. Svingen 148

Notes of Interest

An Unusual Cardinal in Minneapolis

Ray Posterick

Flycatchers Disabled by Mud

Chad Heins

State Bird vs. National Bird

Tracy Carlyle 150

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



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

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Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region

Part 2 of 3

Michael R. North¹, Gretchen Mehmel²,
Beth Walters³, and Beth Siverhus⁴

This section of our paper follows up on Part 1 in which we described the study area and methods, and provided the primary results (*The Loon* 85:104–117). The reader will have to refer back to that paper when directed to see tables or figures. The following species accounts begin by providing an overview of the status of nonpasserines in the Beltrami Island State Forest (BISF) and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area (RLWMA) using checklists from both the RLWMA and Hayes Lake State Park (HLSP). We then provide quantifiable data on abundance and frequency of occurrence from Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA) data, the Red Lake Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS) route (unless specified otherwise), and Christmas Bird Counts (CBC). “Importance values” are a metric generated from a combination of frequency of occurrence data and level of breeding evidence to quantify and compare species’ ecological importance from BBA data (see *The Loon* 85:111 for more detail). Pertinent comments are made noting areas of data concurrence, data discrepancies, and trends within the primary data bases. Comparisons are made where pertinent with data from ancillary BBS routes. Lastly, data on habitat affinity from early studies is mentioned.

Species accounts for passerines will be presented in Part 3.

Species Accounts: Non-Passerines

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*). Formerly considered a rare spring and fall migrant at RLWMA. No recent data.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*). Common spring and fall migrant at RLWMA. Generic comments on seasonal abundance (such as for Snow Goose) are from the RLWMA bird checklist). No other data available.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*). Once considered a common breeding species and abundant migrant. Now a localized uncommon breeder. Common to abundant migrant. Recorded in 18 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in eight; importance value 37/141 (Maximum attainable importance value from BBA data is 141 if confirmed breeding in all 47 townships). Broods common at impoundments such as Hayes Lake. Formerly a species of focal management effort and wetland habitat manipulation at RLWMA (Minnesota DNR 1980). Recorded on only 1 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*). Localized, uncommon breeder. Recorded in three townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in two; importance value 8/141. Broods found at impoundments such as Roseau Flowage and Brown’s Slough. Also utilizes beaver ponds scattered throughout forest. Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*). Rare to uncommon spring and fall migrant at RLWMA. No other data available.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*). Localized, uncommon breeding species. Recorded in seven townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 9.5/141.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*). Once considered a common spring and fall migrant at RLWMA, and rare breeding species. Recorded as a possible breeder in only one township in BBA; importance value 1/141.

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*). Once considered an abundant spring and fall migrant at RLWMA, and uncommon breeding species at RLWMA. Recorded as a probable breeder (two pairs) in only two townships in BBA, at rice paddies north of Upper Red Lake and at Roseau Flowage; importance val-

ue 4/141.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*). Listed as uncommon at HLSP spring through fall; basis unknown. Not known to occur at RLWMA. No other data available.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*). Once considered an abundant breeder at RLWMA. Recorded in 15 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in only one; importance value 18.5/141. Associated with rice paddies, impoundments, beaver ponds, and ditches. Recorded on 6 of 16 BBS censuses. Niemi and Hanowski (1984) found 0.12 birds/ha in open spruce habitat and 0.06 birds/ha in low shrub habitat along a transmission line corridor in the Red Lake Peatland area. Warner and Wells (1984) reported nesting in open bog, spruce island, and tamarack swamp habitats. Very rare in winter on Rainy River (Table 10).

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*). Once considered a common breeder at RLWMA. Recorded in two townships in BBA, but not confirmed breeding; importance value 3/141. Recorded on three of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses and five of 34 Lude BBS censuses. Warner and Doehlert (1978) listed it as casual in open fen habitat.

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*). Once considered a common breeder at RLWMA. Recorded as a possible breeder in only one township in BBA; importance value 1/141.

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*). Once considered an uncommon breeder at RLWMA. Observed in only one township in BBA; importance value 0.5/141. Warner and Doehlert (1978) listed it as casual in open fen habitat. Recorded on one of 17 Warroad BBS surveys.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*). Once considered a common breeder at RLWMA. Recorded as a possible breeder in only one township in BBA; importance value 1/141. Warner and Wells (1984) reported broods in cultivated wild rice paddies adjacent to the Red Lake Peatlands.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*). Once considered an uncommon spring and fall migrant at RLWMA. No other data available.

Redhead (*Aythya americana*). Once considered an uncommon spring and fall migrant at RLWMA and HLSP. No other data available.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*). Once considered an abundant breeder and spring and fall migrant at RLWMA. Recorded in six

townships in BBA, but not confirmed breeding; importance value 6/141. Two broods of four young each observed in marsh on east side of highway 72 (immediately adjacent to study area) near Big Bog State Recreation Area, 27 July 2011 (M. North, pers. obs.). Recorded on one of 34 Lude BBS surveys.

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*). Once considered an uncommon spring and fall migrant at RLWMA; no recent data.

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*). Once considered a common spring and fall migrant at RLWMA. Recorded in four townships in BBA, but not confirmed breeding; importance value 6/141.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*). Once considered a rare spring and fall migrant at RLWMA, but basis unknown.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*). Common spring and fall migrant, and once considered an uncommon summer visitor at RLWMA. Considering the species breeds regularly at nearby Agassiz NWR and has an affinity for nesting in Northern Flicker cavities, it theoretically should breed in the Beltrami Island area. However, lack of breeding season observations in BBA suggests the Beltrami Island area lacks appropriate brood-rearing habitat (MNDNR and USFWS 2013).

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*). Once considered a common breeder and spring and fall migrant at RLWMA and HLSP. Not recorded in project area in BBA 2009-2012, but recorded in one adjacent township; importance value 0/141. One brood recorded in project area in BBA in 2013. Recorded on 1 of 34 Lude BBS surveys.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*). Common spring and fall migrant, and once considered a common breeder at RLWMA. However, recorded in only four townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in only one; importance value 6/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 BBS censuses.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*). Considered an uncommon spring migrant at RLWMA, and uncommon spring through fall at HLSP. Recorded in one township in BBA, probably on a river system, but not confirmed breeding; importance value 1/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 BBS censuses. Probably occurs on Upper Red Lake adjacent to RLWMA; Warner and Doehlert (1978) listed it as breed-

er in riparian hardwood communities. Very rare in winter on Rainy River (Table 10).

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*). Considered an uncommon spring migrant at HLSP, not known from RLWMA. Probably occurs on Upper Red Lake adjacent to RLWMA. Recorded 2 of 31 years on Waskish BBS route, probably in rice paddies.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*). Rare spring and fall migrant at RLWMA.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*). Formerly considered rare spring through fall at RLWMA. No recent sightings in Beltrami Island area but does occur to west of study area.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*). Widespread and common to abundant permanent resident. Recorded in 36 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in 6; importance value 72.5/141, rank 7/171. Recorded on only 4 of 16 BBS censuses. Recorded on 89% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 4.0/CBC) and on 77% of Baudette CBCs (average 2.7/CBC); differences likely due to habitat.

Spruce Grouse (*Falciennis canadensis*). Uncommon to common permanent resident where suitable habitat (jack pines and lowland conifers) exists. Recorded in four townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in all four; importance value 12/141. Recorded on 57% of Beltrami Island CBCs, average 2.2/CBC; absent from Baudette CBC; differences likely due to habitat. Warner and Doehlert (1978) found 0.05 calling males/ha in swamp conifer-spruce habitat in the Red Lake Peatland area, with nests found in stunted black spruce and tamarack swamps (Warner and Wells 1984). Roberts (1936) referenced their occurrence along the Moose River in Beltrami County and in Clear River and Elkwood Townships in the northwestern corner of the Beltrami Island area.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*). Uncommon to common permanent resident where suitable habitat (grasslands and peatland muskeg and bogs; Warner and Wells 1984) exists. Recorded in 11 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 21/141. Recorded on 7% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 0.1/CBC) but on 87% of Baudette CBCs (average 10.3/count); differences likely due to habitat. Also occurs in Winter Road Lake Peatland.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*). Hypo-

thetical. Two recorded on Warroad BBS, 2003. Wild origin doubtful.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*). Nested on Hayes Lake, 2011, on a partially submerged tree trunk; one of only three confirmed breeding records in BBA north and west of Lower and Upper Red Lake. Also one pair on Mulligan Lake, 2011. Importance value 6/141. Uncommon spring and fall migrant on RLWMA.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*). Once considered an abundant breeder and spring and fall migrant on RLWMA; however, BBA data does not support this. Recorded in two townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in four; importance value 8/141.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*). Considered a rare spring and fall migrant and summer visitor on RLWMA. Not found during BBA surveys.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*). Considered uncommon spring through fall at HLSP. Not listed on RLWMA checklist. Recorded in two townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 4/141. Pair on nest on Brown's Slough, 2012, and two other pairs and a single also present (M. North, pers. obs.).

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*). Considered a rare spring and fall migrant and summer visitor on RLWMA. Not found during BBA surveys.

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*). Uncommon spring and fall migrant on RLWMA, and considered a common summer visitor, but not found during BBA surveys.

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*). Uncommon spring and fall migrant on RLWMA, and considered a common summer visitor. Observed in 13 townships during BBA surveys; importance value 0/141 (but does forage on Brown's Slough, so the project area does have ecological importance for this species).

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*). Considered common spring through fall on RLWMA. Recorded in 12 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in two; importance value 18/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses. Niemi and Hanowski (1984) found 0.2 birds/ha and a nest in high shrub habitat along a transmission line corridor

in the Red Lake Peatland area. Warner and Doehlert (1978) listed it as breeder in "swamp conifer cedar-spruce" habitat. Occurs in Winter Road Lake Peatland.

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*). Not listed on RLWMA checklist. Recorded in two townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 3/141.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*). Considered common spring through fall on RLWMA. Former colony three miles southwest of Winter Road Lake, 1998. Observed in 13 townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 1/141. Recorded on 5 of 16 BBS censuses.

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*). Not listed on RLWMA checklist. Considered uncommon spring migrant at HLSP. Not found during BBA surveys.

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*). Not listed on RLWMA checklist. Considered uncommon spring through fall at HLSP. Not found during BBA surveys. Recorded on 1 of 34 Lude BBS surveys (in 1982).

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*). Not listed on RLWMA checklist. Considered uncommon spring through fall at HLSP. Not found during BBA surveys. Four recorded on 1 of 34 Lude BBS surveys (in 1992).

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*). Common spring and fall migrant at RLWMA, and considered an uncommon breeder. Observed in 16 townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 10.5/141. Recorded on 2 of 16 BBS censuses.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*). Uncommon spring and fall migrant at RLWMA and HLSP (see Powell undated). Not recorded during BBA surveys, but used nest immediately adjacent to project area near shore of Upper Red Lake, north of Waskish and east of Highway 72. Recorded on 1 of 34 Lude BBS surveys.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Uncommon year-round breeding resident at RLWMA, becoming more common in fall at both RLWMA and HLSP. Historically there have been five recorded nesting pairs in the Beltrami Island area (MNDNR and USFWS 2013). Four were along the north shore of Upper Red Lake, including three along the Blanchard Forest Road. These nest sites shifted locations periodically, including one that moved just east of the project area in 2011. A fifth historic

nest was located in Reine Township in Roseau County, which may belong to the pair Powell (undated) reported frequenting the Roseau River in HLSP in 1992. Recently, recorded in six townships in BBA, with confirmed breeding in three; importance value 10/141. There is also a nearby nest near the Waskish airport. Recorded on 21% of Beltrami Island CBCs, average 0.3/CBC; more common on Baudette CBCs probably because of the Rainy River (see Table 10).

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*). Common breeder spring through fall on RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 17 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 17/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses. Recorded on 13 Warroad BBS censuses, with frequency and abundance increasing since 2004. Niemi and Hanowski (1984) found 0.06 birds/ha in closed spruce habitat along a transmission line corridor in the Red Lake Peatland area. Warner and Doehlert (1978) listed it as casual in open fen habitat, where it was a probable breeder (Warner and Wells 1984).

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*). Once considered an uncommon breeder spring through fall on RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in two townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 2/141. Recorded on 2 of 34 Lude BBS surveys and one of 17 Warroad BBS surveys. Should now be considered rare.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*). Rare to uncommon breeder spring through fall on RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in six townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 5/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 BBS censuses.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*). Uncommon year-round; suspected breeder at RLWMA. Recorded in one township in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 1/141. Recorded on 46% of Beltrami Island CBCs, average 0.8/CBC; slightly less common on Baudette CBC. Recorded on one of 34 Lude BBS surveys. Roberts (1936) reported nests in Roseau County (west and north of the project area) in aspen, elm, and red pine, with eggs in April and young in May.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*). Common breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 15 townships in

BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 17/141. Recorded on 5 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses. Uncommon on other regional BBS routes.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). Hypothetical. Recorded on one of 34 Lude BBS surveys.

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*). Common breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 21 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 21/141. Not recorded on any Red Lake BBS censuses, but recorded on 15 of 31 Waskish BBS censuses and 15 of 34 Lude BBS censuses. Rare on Baudette CBC (Table 10).

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*). Considered a common to uncommon spring and fall migrant at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded on 12% of CBCs, average 0.3/CBC. Recorded once on Warroad BBS route, in 2004.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). A rare to occasional spring and fall migrant at RLWMA and HLSP, and occasional winter visitor at HLSP. Recorded on only two (7%) Beltrami Island CBCs, average 0.04/CBC. Roberts (1936) reported overwintering in the Roseau area, where they were occasionally caught in wolf traps.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*). Formerly considered rare spring through fall at RLWMA. Historically, known to have nested in Luxemburg Peatland, Winter Road Lake Peatland, Red Lake Peatland (MNDNR and USFWS 2013), and along Xcel Energy transmission line corridor in southern Lake of the Woods County (at a density of 0.16 birds/ha in natural high shrub habitat and 0.06 birds/ha in cleared right-of-way; Niemi and Hanowski 1984). Recently, recorded in eight townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 13/141; areas found include WRLP SNA, along south end of Dick's Parkway, and along highway 72 north of the Red Lake Peatland SNA.

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*). Considered rare spring through fall at RLWMA. Recorded in six townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 6/141.

Sora (*Porzana carolina*). An uncommon breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in nine townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 13/141. Recorded on 2 of 16 Red Lake BBS

censuses. Occasional on Waskish BBS route 1978–1989, virtually absent thereafter. Regular on Warroad BBS route 1993–2000, virtually absent thereafter. Occasional on Lude BBS route.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*). Formerly considered a common to abundant breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP, but BBA surveys do not support this. In fact, the species was not detected in any of the 47 townships during the BBA or any of the Red Lake, Waskish, or Warroad BBS census routes. Recorded on only 2 of 34 Lude BBS surveys, 1986–1987.

Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*). Considered a common breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 27 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in four; importance value 45/141. Recorded on six of the last eight Red Lake BBS censuses, but not on any of the first eight censuses. Marked increase in abundance and frequency of occurrence on Lude BBS route starting in 1989. Regular on Warroad BBS route, average 13.64/census.

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*). An uncommon spring and fall migrant at HLSP.

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*). An uncommon spring and fall migrant at HLSP.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*). Considered a common breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 12 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in three; importance value 19.5/141. Not recorded on any BBS censuses. Associated with residential areas at periphery of BISEF, or gravel pits within the BISEF. On both Waskish BBS and Lude BBS, decreased in abundance after 1991. Regular on Warroad BBS route, average 13.18/census. Roberts (1936) reported two nests near Williams.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*). Uncommon to common spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in three townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 5/141. Associated with gravel pits and shoreline of Hayes Lake. Powell reported it nesting at HLSP in 1992.

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*). Considered uncommon spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in only one township in BBA, at a gravel pit wetland, but



Wilson's Phalarope, 29 June 2012, Browns Lake, Lake of the Woods County. Photo by Beth Siverhus.

breeding not confirmed; importance value 1/141. Two recorded on 1 of 16 BBS censuses. One adult with one chick found along Rapid River Forest Road east of Oaks Corner 22 June 2012 (Steve Stucker, pers. comm.).

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*). An uncommon spring and fall migrant at HLSP. Niemi and Hanowski (1992) report this species using sedge fens during migration, probably in the Red Lake Peatlands.

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*). An uncommon spring and fall migrant at HLSP. Niemi and Hanowski (1992) report this species using sedge fens during migration, probably in the Red Lake Peatlands.

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*). Considered a rare visitor spring through fall at RLWMA. Recorded once on Waskish BBS route. Regular on Lude BBS route 1981–1989, absent thereafter.

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*). Considered uncommon spring and summer at HLSP. Recorded in agricultural areas in two townships during BBA (including as probable breeder along Roseau County Road 2 just north of BISF); importance value 3/141. Recorded once on Waskish BBS route. Absent

on Lude BBS route 1978–2003, present six of eight years thereafter. Regular on Warroad BBS route, average 7.88/census.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*). An occasional spring and fall migrant at HLSP.

Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*). An occasional spring and fall migrant at HLSP.

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*). An uncommon spring and fall migrant at HLSP.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*). An uncommon spring and fall migrant at HLSP.

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*). An uncommon spring and fall migrant at HLSP.

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*). A common breeding species spring through summer at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 37/47 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in two; importance value 63/141, third highest among non-passerines. Recorded on 15 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses, average 7.88/survey. Ranks 19th on both Red Lake BBS and BBA lists. Recorded on 30 of 31 Waskish BBS censuses (average 12.84/survey) and 29 of 34 Lude BBS censuses (average 10.41/survey). Less common on Warroad BBS route (average 5.00/survey). Niemi and Hanowski (1984) found 0.16 birds/ha in high shrub habitat along a transmission line corridor in the Red Lake Peatland area. Warner and Wells (1984) reported a nest in open fen and broods in muskeg and stunted tamarack. Powell reported it nesting at HLSP in 1992.

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*). A common to uncommon breeding species spring through summer at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in eight townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 13/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses. Recorded on 4 of 31 Waskish BBS censuses, and 1 of 34 Lude BBS censuses, but timing of BBS censuses probably misses period of peak courtship. Powell reported it nesting at HLSP in 1992. In the Red Lake Peatlands, confined to spoil banks associated with ditches and roads (Warner and Wells 1984).

Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*). A rare, localized breeding species in peatlands and wetlands. Considered uncommon spring through fall at HLSP, but this is not supported by data. Only known historic breeding season

records were a pair at Mulligan Lake Peatland SNA in June 1984 and one from the Red Lake Peatlands in 1979 (Warner and Wells 1984). Recently recorded in only one township in BBA, where it was confirmed breeding at Brown's Slough 29 June 2012 by G. Mehmel and B. Siverhus; importance value 3/141. Warner and Wells (1984) suggested they may use rice paddies to a greater extent than peatlands, especially during migration.

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*). Listed as occasional spring and fall migrant at HLSP, but basis for this is unknown.

Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*). An uncommon visitor from colony at Agassiz NWR spring through fall at HLSP, and a rare visitor spring and fall at RLWMA. Two flocks recorded on Lude BBS census and flocks (sometimes large) recorded on 9 of 17 Warroad BBS censuses.

Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*). An uncommon to common non-breeding visitor spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Observed in five townships in BBA in agricultural areas near Baudette; no breeding occurs in study area; importance value 0/141.

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*). Considered an uncommon spring and fall migrant at HLSP (possibly erroneously transposed from Zippel Bay State Park bird surveys in 1992). Recorded three times on Waskish BBS route and twice on Lude BBS route.

Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*). An uncommon to common spring and fall migrant and uncommon breeder at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in only one township in BBA, where it was confirmed breeding at Brown's Slough in 2011 (M. North, pers. obs.) and 2012 (G. Mehmel, pers. obs.); importance value 3/141. Warner and Doehlert (1978) listed it as casual in open fen habitat in the Red Lake Peatlands.

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*). Considered an occasional spring and fall migrant at HLSP (possibly erroneously transposed from Zippel Bay State Park bird surveys in 1992). One flock of 15 recorded on Lude BBS census.

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*). Considered an occasional spring and summer visitor at HLSP (see Powell undated). Recorded twice on Lude BBS route.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*). Recorded in only two townships in BBA in agricultural

areas at periphery of BISF; importance value 2/141. Absent from Beltrami Island CBC but occurred on 31 of 31 Baudette CBCs (average 86.4/count, but general decline since 2002–2003). Virtually absent on Lude BBS until 2001.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*). A common breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 24 townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 34/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses. Absent from Beltrami Island CBC but occurred on 23% of Baudette CBCs (average 0.5/count); differences likely due to habitat. Recorded on 21 of 31 Waskish BBS censuses; decreased in frequency and abundance after 1988. Occurred on 100% of Warroad (average 15.53/survey) and Lude (average 14.82/survey) BBS censuses.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*). Recorded in one township in BBA, in Big Bog State Recreation Area by NRRI staff; breeding not confirmed; importance value 1/141. Two recorded on 1 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses. Five recorded on one Waskish BBS census, but data suspect. Recorded on five Lude BBS censuses (maximum of six), and two recorded on one Warroad BBS census.

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*). An uncommon breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 15 townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 18/141. Recorded on eight of nine Red Lake BBS censuses since 2000, and zero of seven prior to that; average 2.06/survey. Recorded on 23 of 34 Lude BBS censuses (average 4.91/survey), with a maximum of 38 in 2006, and abundance generally increasing after 1996 or 1997. Average 1.94/survey on Warroad BBS. Warner and Wells (1984) reported breeding in swamp thickets and on a spruce island in the Red Lake Peatlands, and Roberts (1936) reported a nest with two eggs at Warroad 30 June 1915.

Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*). Considered a rare permanent resident at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in one township in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 1/141. Rarely recorded during owl surveys (Table 7).

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*). An uncommon to common permanent resident at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in eight town-

ships in BBA, confirmed breeding in two; importance value 12/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 BBS censuses. Recorded at a rate of 0.29–0.56/10-stops on owl surveys since 2006. Recorded on 4% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 0.04/CBC), while occurred on 26% of Baudette CBCs (average 0.5/count); differences likely due to habitat and road coverage. Roberts (1936) reported large numbers killed in traps in Roseau County during winter.

Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiaca*). A rare fall, winter, and spring visitor at RLWMA and HLSP. Roberts (1936) reported large numbers killed in traps in Roseau County during winter. Absent from Beltrami Island CBC while occurred on 23% of Baudette CBCs (average 0.3/count); differences likely due to habitat.

Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*). A rare permanent resident at RLWMA, but apparently becoming more common in winter. Frequently observed in winter along highway 72, especially in open brushlands at Beltrami/Lake of the Woods county line. Recorded on 25% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 0.3/CBC) and 29% of Baudette CBCs (average 0.8/count); differences likely due to road coverage. Roberts (1936) reported fall immigration into Roseau County usually occurs in October and November. Not recorded during BBA or on owl surveys.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*). An uncommon to common permanent resident at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in six townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one (recent fledglings in a red pine plantation); importance value 9/141. Recorded on 2 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses. Recorded at a rate of 1.22/10-stops on one owl survey route since 2006, but much less frequently on others (Table 7). Recorded on 21% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 0.4/CBC) and 16% of Baudette CBCs (average 0.2/CBC); differences likely due to habitat. In summer, observed in red pine plantations and lowland white cedar (M. North, pers. obs.), and in tamarack swamps (Warner and Wells 1984). Roberts (1936) reported large numbers killed in traps in Roseau County during winter.

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*). An uncommon permanent resident at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in two townships in BBA, including a territorial, agitated individual near Winter Road Lake Peatland (WRLP) SNA, but

breeding not confirmed; importance value 3/141. Recorded on only 1 of 16 BBS censuses. Recorded on 32% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 0.5/CBC) and on 52% of Baudette CBCs (average 1.1/count); differences likely due to habitat and road coverage. In summer, observed at edge of tamarack stand (Warner and Wells 1984), in lowland black spruce (S. Laudenslager, pers. comm.), in raised black spruce bog and mixed black spruce-tamarack stand (G. Mehmel, pers. obs.), and in jack pine (Powell undated). Possibly more abundant in 1990s than recently (see Table 7). Roberts (1936) reported large numbers killed in traps in Roseau County during winter, and listed periods of irruptions (the patterns of which suggest a 10-year cycle). Roberts (1936) also reported a female with a probable brood patch 25 April 1926 in Roseau County.

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*). Considered a rare permanent resident at RLWMA, but Roberts (1936) considered it migratory in the northern part of the state. Pair recorded in one township in BBA by Beth Siverhus in a stand of red pines, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 2/141. Two recorded on 1 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses, and one recorded on Warroad BBS. Recorded at a rate of 2.11/10 stops on one owl survey route since 2006, but much less frequently on others (Table 7). Roberts (1936) gives its preferred habitat as tamarack swamps and shrub swamp thickets, and gives egg dates from 10 May – 16 June in Roseau County.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*). Uncommon spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP, and rare in winter at RLWMA; Roberts (1936) reports it year-round in Roseau County. Recorded in two townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 2/141; sightings at Carp Swamp WMA and in agricultural area along Roseau County Road 2. Also regularly observed at WRLP but outside of BBA safe dates (G. Mehmel, pers. obs.). Historic breeding season observations recorded from WRLP SNA and Luxemburg Peatland (Minnesota Natural Heritage Program database). Recorded 6 of 17 Warroad BBS censuses (average 1.06/census; maximum 8) and once visually during owl surveys 2006–2012.

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*). A rare permanent resident at RLWMA. Not detected during BBA surveys. Photographed on one

Beltrami Island CBC (average 0.04/count; M. Kehoe, pers. comm.). Four recorded on 50 owl surveys from 1991–2006. Roberts (1936) mentions an irruption in Roseau County during the winter of 1922–1923.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*). An uncommon to common breeder spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP, and considered a common winter resident at RLWMA. Recorded in six townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 10/141. Recorded at a rate of 7.67/10 stops on one owl survey since 2006, with a peak in 2006, but recorded at a rate of 1.36–1.43 on two other survey routes/datasets (see Table 7). Importance value likely underrated. Recorded on 11% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 0.25/CBC) while absent from Baudette CBCs.

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*). Considered a common breeding species spring through fall at RLWMA, but BBA surveys do not support this; considered uncommon spring through fall at HLSP. Recorded in one township in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 1/141. Recorded on 1 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses, 1 of 31 Waskish BBS censuses, and 1 of 34 Lude BBS censuses.

Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*). The Beltrami Island area appears to be a center of abundance for this species in Minnesota. Considered a common breeding species spring through fall at RLWMA, and uncommon spring through fall at HLSP. Recorded in 21 townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 24/141. Recorded on four of last seven Red Lake BBS censuses, none on first nine censuses. Roberts (1936) mentioned a nest near Williams 28 May 1927.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*). Considered uncommon breeder spring through fall at RLWMA, though BBA data do not support this. Recorded in one township in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 1/141. Recorded twice on Lude BBS census.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*). A common breeding species spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 14 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in one; importance value 19/141. Recorded on 2 of 16 BBS censuses.

Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*). Con-

sidered a common breeding species spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in ten townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in two; importance value 13/141. Associated with riparian areas and gravel pits. Two recorded on 1 of 16 BBS censuses.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*). Considered a rare breeder at RLWMA, and an uncommon species spring through fall at HLSP (but no data to support this). Not observed during BBA surveys. Two recorded on one Waskish BBS census, and one recorded on Lude BBS route.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*). Not included on the RLWMA or HLSP bird list. Recorded in eight townships in BBA, including probable breeding evidence in one township, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 9/141. Recorded once on Lude BBS route.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*). A common breeding species spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 27 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in three; importance value 35/141. Recorded on 13 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses, average 2.56/survey. Average 0.88–1.35/survey on other three regional BBS routes.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*). A common permanent resident at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 18 townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 19/141. Recorded on 5 of 16 BBS censuses; average 0.44/census. On other three routes, averages 1.00/survey on Waskish BBS to none on Warroad BBS. Recorded on 79% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 2.5/CBC) and 97% of Baudette CBCs (average 6.3/CBC); differences likely due to road coverage.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*). A common permanent resident at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 24 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in five; importance value 36/141, second highest among woodpeckers. Recorded on 9 of 16 BBS censuses; average 0.69/census. Average 0.65–1.26/survey on other three regional BBS routes. Recorded on 100% Beltrami Island CBCs (average 5.6/CBC) and 97% of Baudette CBCs (average 9.3/CBC); differences likely due to road coverage. Multiple data sets suggest it is about twice as abundant as Downy Woodpecker.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoi-*

des dorsalis). A rare permanent resident at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in one township in BBA, where a fledgling foraging in a black spruce stand 28 August 2012 provided evidence of confirmed breeding; importance value 3/141. Recorded once on Lude BBS route. Recorded on 46% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 0.7/CBC); absent from Baudette CBC.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*). Considered an uncommon permanent resident at RLWMA, but BBA data do not support this; only considered occasional at HLSP. Recorded in two townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 2/141. Nested in 2008 in a savannah-like red pine plantation in a mowed picnic area near Norris Camp (G. Mehmel and B. Siverhus pers. obs.); cavity <2 m up (M. North, pers. obs.). Not found on any local BBS routes. Recorded on 68% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 1.7/CBC) and 29% of Baudette CBCs (average 0.4/CBC); differences likely due to habitat; notable increase in frequency since 1998–1999. Warner and Doehlert (1978; see also Warner and Wells 1984) listed it as a breeder in swamp conifer cedar-spruce habitat and as casual in swamp conifer-tamarack habitat.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*). A common breeding species at RLWMA and HLSP, but an abundant fall migrant at RLWMA and throughout BISF (M. North, pers. obs.). Recorded in 39/47 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in 13; importance value 72/141, second highest among non-passerines, and highest among woodpeckers. Recorded on 13 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses; average 2.06/census. Average 2.35–3.03/survey on other three regional BBS routes.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*). An uncommon to common permanent resident at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 21 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in 2; importance value 25/141. Recorded on 8 of 16 Red Lake BBS censuses (average 1.12/survey). Averaged 0.45–1.06/survey on other three regional BBS routes. Recorded on 75% of Beltrami Island CBCs (average 2.0/CBC) and 81% of Baudette CBCs (average 1.8/CBC); differences in frequency likely due to road coverage. Frequency and abundance increased on Lude BBS route since 2003.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*).

A common cavity-nesting species spring through fall at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in 12 townships in BBA, confirmed breeding in two; importance value 18/141. Not recorded on Red Lake BBS route, but common to uncommon on other three regional BBS routes. Roberts (1936) mentioned a nest near Williams on 1 May 1927.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*). A rare to uncommon breeder at RLWMA and HLSP. Recorded in three townships in BBA, but breeding not confirmed; importance value 3/141. One winter record during Baudette CBC. Recorded on 1 of 34 Lude BBS surveys and 3 of 17 Warroad BBS surveys.

Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*). Reported hunting Sharp-tailed Grouse in the peatlands north of Waskish December 1978 – March 1979 (Warner and Wells 1984). Two winter records during Baudette CBC.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). A rare to uncommon spring and fall migrant at RLWMA and HLSP. No suitable nest sites in area.

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The Spring Season **1 March through 31 May 2013**

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The northward migration of geese was fairly mundane this season, aside from a record high count of Cackling Geese in Nobles in late March. One Cinnamon Teal in Olmsted was a nice find, though it was outnumbered by three apparent Blue-winged Teal X Cinnamon Teal hybrids. Late April saw impressive numbers of diving ducks in Duluth as open waters in the harbor coupled with extensive ice cover of nearby waters led to significant concentrations of birds. Among the species noted in high numbers was Greater Scaup. A drake Harlequin Duck lingered from fall into early spring in Wabasha. All three species of scoters showed up in Duluth in record numbers in late May. While most Long-tailed Ducks were found on Lake Superior, which is typical, one in Pennington and a remarkable tally of eight in Lac qui Parle were notable. Three Barrow's Goldeneyes, two in Duluth and one on the Mississippi River between Anoka and Hennepin counties, extended the spring streak of this Casual species to eight consecutive seasons.

Red-throated Loons arrived in Duluth early and in record numbers. The first sightings were from late April, equaling the second

earliest arrival date in the state. By the end of the first week of May, the total number of birds in Duluth exceeded 350! Common Loons also established a record-high spring count at the end of April. A lone Pacific Loon in St. Louis provided the eighth year for this species among the last 15 spring seasons. Not to be outdone, Horned and Red-necked grebes also concentrated in Duluth in record and near record numbers. In the western part of the state, Horned Grebes were notable for how easy they were to find well into late May.

The state's first Brown Pelican was not discovered until 2005, yet this season already produced the fourth record for the state when one was found at the end of May in Freeborn. Late April and May saw a good diversity of herons and egrets. Snowy Egrets were located in five counties, including one in Marshall that was tantalizingly close to becoming a first record for Polk. A Little Blue Heron in Nobles was a county first, while another was found in Rice. Twenty-four Cattle Egrets were spread across the southern and western regions. One Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was reported from Ramsey.

The ibis migration was quite impressive, comprising three Glossy Ibis, at least 157 White-faced Ibis, and an apparent hybrid between these two species — seen in Lake of the Woods, of all places! The raptor migration was solid, though unexceptional, with reports of most species from slightly more counties than recent averages. Perhaps the best find was an immature Northern Gosawk in Rock.

Common Gallinules were in Sherburne, Lac qui Parle, and two Southeast locations. In May, two Black-necked Stilts were discovered in Big Stone and another in Steele; this species has been seen in 9 of the last 11 springs. A record-high count of American Avocets was also tallied in Big Stone. The state's third Wilson's Plover was discovered in Duluth in late May; both earlier records were also from Duluth, in the early 1980s. A Piping Plover visited a W.T.P. in Sherburne that was in draw-down, providing a nice record for this rare migrant. This spring saw the most widespread migration of Whimbrel ever documented in the state. In addition to the almost annual reports from Duluth and Lake Superior, there were records from two North-central and four western counties, including the highest count ever (44) away from Lake Superior.

Birders found three first county records of shorebirds for Houston — Marbled Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, and Red-necked Phalarope. The only Red Knots were at Park Point in Duluth. Malardi Lake in Wright went into draw-down during the season and produced nice numbers of shorebirds, including the second-highest northbound count of Least Sandpiper. Yet another highlight for Big Stone was a Western Sandpiper found there in early May, the fifth documented in the state since 2000.

One or more adults and a first-cycle Little Gull were seen in Duluth in the latter half of May. A second-cycle Iceland Gull tarried in Duluth until mid-May and became the second-latest northbound migrant for this species in the state. Lesser Black-backed Gulls were found in six counties around the state from mid-March through early May. Renville's first Glaucous Gull was also the latest south individual ever. A record-high total of ten Great Black-backed Gulls was counted in Du-

luth at the end of March; the last one didn't depart until 22 May.

The lingering irruption of northern owls begun in the winter was still obvious this spring, as counts of Snowy, Northern Hawk, Great Gray, and Boreal owls were well above-normal. Observations of Great Gray and Boreal owls, in particular, were more frequent than usual for the spring season. Though all Great Gray reports were from the northern third of the state, five Boreals were found south; unfortunately, all but one was already dead or died before returning northward. An immature gray-morph Gyrfalcon photographed in southern Dakota County produced the first spring record since 2007.

Prior to this spring, no more than two Say's Phoebes had been documented in a single season, so the fact that there were five records from four different counties this spring was quite remarkable. This also marks the sixth consecutive spring with reports for this currently Casual species. Philadelphia Vireo was well-represented in spring migration with reports from 58 of 87 counties (cf. average over previous five years of only 33) including all regions except the Northwest. Though the prior winter produced an unprecedented number of Carolina Wren reports, this season saw numbers only slightly above-average, with five reports totaling six individuals as far northwest as Anoka and Hennepin. Two Blue-gray Gnatcatchers in Polk at the end of May were a continued sign of this species' expansion towards the northwest.

Mountain Bluebirds seem to show up just about anywhere in the state in the spring. This year, one was found in Rice and another in Lake, both in late April/early May. March saw four Townsend's Solitaires in the state, one of which barely made it into April, so finding one in mid-May in Aitkin was quite surprising. All five *Catbarus* thrushes produced record or near-record high daily counts this spring. Totals from Polk and St. Louis (Park Point) on 19 May were particularly impressive. Not to be outdone, the one-day estimated count of 2,300 American Robins in Dakota was the highest northbound count since 1938. The five reports of Varied Thrush were about average.

This spring's ten Northern Mockingbirds

was the highest total since 2009. There were scattered north reports of Bohemian Waxwings through the end of the season. The state's northbound high counts of Smith's Longspurs are all from western counties bordering the Dakotas, so a flock of about 100 at a W.P.A. in Blue Earth was outstanding. Among them was discovered a Chestnut-collared Longspur.

Worm-eating Warbler was almost annual in the state from spring 1978 through 2001, but since then has only been found in 2005, 2007 and 2009. This spring produced one in early May. Four Kentucky Warblers was a good total for spring, but none could be refound after 18 May. All reports of Hooded Warblers were near the Twin Cities. Most spring Black-throated Blue Warbler reports tend to come from the eastern third of the state, so reports this season from Kandiyohi, Cass, and Itasca were unexpected. A Yellow-throated Warbler spent almost two weeks in Carver in the middle of May, while another found on 10 May in Winona remained into the summer. One Yellow-breasted Chat was seen in Rice. Fallout conditions at Park Point in Duluth on 19 May produced not only high counts of thrushes, as previously noted, but also of many species of warblers. Another good warbler day with several record high counts at Park Point was 30 May. In the southern half of the state, warbler migration was also locally exceptional as birds seemed to linger and build up numbers well into May.

A Spotted Towhee that had overwintered in Rice was there through mid-April, while two others were found at Pipestone National Monument in early May. A male Lark Bunting was a pretty sight in Nobles in mid-May. While Nelson's Sparrows were scarce, Harris's and White-crowned sparrows made their best spring showings on record. Numbers of Harris's were excellent in the west, and the two species were found in 72 and 76 of the 87 counties, respectively.

Four Summer Tanagers showed up in May, all in the southeastern quarter of the state. They were outnumbered by the five Western Tanagers found — the most since spring 2009. Especially unexpected due to where they were seen were an adult male Black-headed Grosbeak in St. Louis and Blue Grosbeaks in Mower and Itasca. All three were

discovered near the end of May. Nine Lazuli Buntings produced six first county records in the largest influx of this species into the state. Spring 2002, when five individuals were found in the state, had been the only other season during which more than three individuals have been reported. Capping off this exceptional season for the Cardinalidae family, an adult male Painted Bunting was photographed in Aitkin.

In McLeod, a Great-tailed Grackle was faithful to a staked-out territory beginning in early May, but could not attract a mate. The state's second Bullock's Oriole was an adult male photographed at a feeding station in Hennepin, but it disappeared before anyone but the homeowner could see it.

The winter's major invasion of Pine Grosbeaks led to more spring reports than usual, including a small overwintering flock that lingered in Anoka into spring. Though during the prior winter, White-winged Crossbills were more prevalent in the state than Reds, by springtime White-wingeds had pretty much retreated northwards, while Red Crossbills tarried in eight south counties and were still found in Dakota, Dodge, and Freeborn in late May. Common and Hoary redpolls and Pine Siskins also had made a significant incursion into the state the prior season; their numbers this spring were comparable to the numbers present in spring 2009, which followed the prior major invasion of these species. A first Eurasian Tree Sparrow for Hennepin was also the ninth for the state.

Weather summary Average monthly temperatures from all three months were below their historic averages: four to ten degrees (F) in March, six to ten degrees in April, and one to three degrees in May. April was, in fact, the sixth coldest on record on a statewide basis.

Precipitation levels in March were slightly above average, except in the Southwest. Much of the state received over eight inches of snow on 4–5 March, while another major storm moved through 17–19 March. April totals were well above average in the east, but slightly below-average in the west. The Northeast received record levels of snow, including 50.8" at Duluth's airport, which broke the prior April record by almost 20". May totals were also well above-average in the

southern half of the state, buoyed to a large extent by an early May storm that brought over a foot of snow to much of the South-central and Southeast regions. The entire month, in fact was labeled “cool and gloomy” by the Minnesota Climatology Working Group, due to a series of low pressure systems which stalled over the state and produced measurable rain in the Twin Cities on over half the days of May.

Documented reports still under review

Glossy Ibis 4/29 Nicollet (south access, Swan Lake); **Ferruginous Hawk** 4/27 Lac qui Parle; **Barn Owl** 5/5 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A.).

Undocumented or insufficiently documented reports **Clark’s Grebe** 4/22, 4/27 Lac qui Parle (difficult ID, no details); **Broad-winged Hawk** 3/11 Brown (early date); **Virginia Rail** 3/1 Scott (early date); **Black Tern** 3/8, 4/8 Rice (early dates); **Forster’s Tern** 3/12 Hennepin, 3/15 Rice (both record early, no details); **Prairie Falcon** 4/7 Anoka (out of range); **Veery** 4/7 Anoka (early date); **Black-and-white Warbler** 3/30 Rice (early date); **Vesper Sparrow** 3/9 Wright (early date); **Western Tanager** 4/29 Hennepin, 5/28 Scott (rare migrant, no details).

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compiling and providing transcripts of Minnesota’s three weekly birding reports. Special thanks to Dave Cahlander for building and maintaining the seasonal reports submission and production web pages (<http://moumn.org/moureports/season.php>) through which most of this data is collected and organized. In addition to the data collected through this MOU website, we are grateful for the data provided for the creation of this report by eBird (<http://www.ebird.org>, accessed June 2013). Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data from 1985 through 2011. 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 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 listed 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.
13. High counts that are multiples of 100 are assumed or known to be estimates unless otherwise noted.

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 seasons@moumn.org.

- Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*) — [40 South, 6 North] Early south (median 3/7) 3/15 Jackson (155), Nobles (42) PEJ, 3/17 Martin DBz, ANy, 3/18 Rock ANy. Early north (median 3/26) 4/2 Traverse DLP, 4/13 Grant, Traverse RAE, HHD, 4/20 Clay TCL. High counts 4/6 Swift (est. 5,000, near Appleton) WCM, 3/30 Jackson (3,400) PEJ, DFN, 3/29 Lyon (2,500, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe. Late south 5/17 Wright ALo, 5/18 Le Sueur ChH, AnK, Stevens DLP (median 5/15). Late north 5/5 **Mahnomen** RAE, 5/15 Grant WCM, but also see summer report.
- Snow Goose** (*Chen caerulescens*) — [43 South, 14 North] Early south (median 3/2) 3/17 Jackson DBz, ANy, 3/19 Rock JSn, 3/22 Wright AKn. Early north (median 3/23) 3/27 Becker KMy, 3/29 Hubbard MAW, 4/4 Mille Lacs ToL. High counts 3/19 Rock (5,000) JSn, 4/4 Jackson (1,356) PEJ, 3/30 Jackson (1,195) DFN. Late south 5/19 Murray, Pipestone, Rock DAB, m.ob., 5/24 Big Stone ANy, JWH (median 5/24). Late north 5/15 Grant WCM, 5/24 Roseau DWK, PEB (median 5/24), but also see summer report.
- Ross's Goose** (*Chen rossii*) — [23 South, 5 North] Early south (median 3/18) 3/22 Lincoln (2) CRM, 3/23 Jackson ALo, 3/24 Nobles (6, Lake Okabena) DAB, Rock RAE. All north reports: 3/29 St. Louis (Duluth Harbor) KJB, 4/13 Grant RAE, HHD, 4/26 Grant, Traverse (16) DBM, 4/27 Wilkin (100, high count) KRE, m.ob., 4/28 Grant ALo, 5/2 Grant (5, North Ottawa Impoundment) PEB, 5/17 St. Louis (Spirit Lake, Duluth) KRE. Late south 5/7 Faribault WAF, 5/9 Rock CRM (median 5/13).
- Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [37 South, 14 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/19) 3/17 Clay RAE, 4/8 Cass MRN, 4/11 Pennington (5) SAS. High counts 3/23 Nobles (**3,500**, record high, Lake Okabena, Worthington) KRE, BTS. Late south 5/3 Renville RPR, 5/12 Ramsey JoD (median 5/13). Late north 5/4 Grant DAC, RBJ, 5/5 St. Louis JLK, 5/9 Mahnomen RAE (median 5/21). Descriptions provided for just a handful of additional records: 3/15 Jackson, Nobles †PEJ, 3/26 Brown †BTS, 3/29 Nicollet, Sibley †JCC, 4/21 St. Louis †BCM, 4/25 Stearns †PLJ, 4/26 St. Louis †PHS.
- Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties.
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [5 South, 1 North] All reports 3/8 Dakota (Miesville Ravine) CKS, 3/8–5/15 Goodhue (2, probable releases at Prairie Island) m.ob., 3/30–4/1 Winona ANy, m.ob. 4/24 Nicollet (near Little Lake) TrR, 5/5–12 Steele (Ellendale) JWH, DAB, m.ob., 5/22 Pine (probable release at Grand Casino) ToL.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [46 South, 31 North] High counts 3/28 Stearns (95, St. Augusta) MJB, 3/13 Washington (56, Afton Marina) CPu, 3/7 Goodhue (52) PEJ. Unusual Northeast report 5/24 Cook (Five Mile Rock) DFN.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [38 South, 21 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/9 Winona MGO, 3/17 Chisago AMA, Wabasha ACr, 3/20 Dakota PEJ. Early north (median 3/26) 3/13 Clearwater PRR, 4/4 Mille Lacs ToL, 4/9 Morrison MJB. High counts 4/6 Swift (710, near Danvers) WCM, 4/6 Carver (682, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. Late south 5/4 Dakota MJM, Swift DLP, 5/9 Sherburne JGb (median 5/4).
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early north (median 3/18) 3/29 Douglas JPE, 3/30 Crow Wing JAn, 4/2 Hubbard MAW, Traverse DLP. High counts 3/30 Carver (120, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 4/13 Dakota (100, 180th St. Marsh) PNi.
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) — [52 South, 28 North] Early north (median 3/24) 3/16 Traverse DLP, 3/29 Itasca SC, 3/30 St. Louis SLF. High counts 4/25 Houston (500, La Crescent) DSt, 5/3 Yellow Medicine (400, Echo W.T.P.) RPR.
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [52 South, 29 North] Overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.). Early south (median 3/1) 3/15 Jackson, Martin, Nobles PEJ, 3/18 Rock ANy. Early north (median 3/26) 4/11 St. Louis (Virginia) SLF, 4/15 St. Louis (Duluth) EBr, 4/23 Clay RHO. High counts 4/25 Houston (300, location?) DJa, 4/25 Houston (200, La Crescent) DSt, 4/28 St. Louis (101, Park Point, Duluth) KJB.

- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [21 South, 11 North] High counts 3/1, 4/8 St. Louis (24, Hearing Island, Duluth) PHS. Late south 4/29 Anoka REH, 5/8 Hennepin ESE (median 5/17).
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/15 Lac qui Parle DLP, Nobles PEJ, 3/21 Rock CRM, 3/22 Lincoln CRM. Early north 3/29 (median) St. Louis KJB, 4/6 Crow Wing FGo, 4/9 Cass MRN, Itasca SC. High counts 4/28 St. Louis (256, Park Point) KJB, 4/18 Dakota (150, 180th St. Marsh) DAd.
- Cinnamon Teal** (*Anas cyanoptera*) — [1 South] All reports 4/8–10, 4/20 Olmsted (male at Silver Creek Reservoir) LAV, †ANY, †CWG, m.ob.
- Blue-winged Teal X Cinnamon Teal** (*Anas discors X A. cyanoptera*) — [3 South] Probable hybrids between Blue-winged and Cinnamon teal 4/9–22 Goodhue (S.R. 56 and Scotia Trail) ph. †GHO, RDa, ph. †CMB, m.ob., 4/17–18 Nicollet †MiO, 4/27 Freeborn (near Geneva) †PEJ, †DFN.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*) — [53 South, 31 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/27) 3/30 St. Louis SLF, 4/2 Traverse DLP, 4/12 Itasca SC, EEO. High count 4/21 Dakota (400, Great Western Industrial Park) BAF.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [45 South, 23 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/20) 4/13 Traverse RAE, HHD, 4/16 Morrison HHD, RAE, 4/20 Becker TCL.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [53 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/6) 3/1 Scott HCT, 3/15 Jackson, Martin, Nobles PEJ, 3/16 Dakota PEJ, Houston ANY. Early north (median 3/27) 3/25 Cass ANY, 4/13 Traverse RAE, HHD, 4/19 Morrison FGo. High counts 4/29 St. Louis (307, Park Point) PHS, 4/20 Dakota (300, Lake Byllesby) BAF.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [50 South, 27 North] Early south away from overwintering areas (median 2/29) 3/3 Washington DFN, 3/9 Winona MGo, 3/14 Goodhue RaM. Early north (median 3/28) 4/2 Traverse DLP, 4/8 St. Louis PHS, 4/13 Grant, Traverse RAE, HHD.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [53 South, 31 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/24) 3/24 Morrison ANY, 4/13 Clay PBB, Grant, Traverse RAE, HHD, St. Louis JLK, 4/16 Mille Lacs ToL. High counts 4/29 St. Louis (1,478, Park Point) †PHS, 4/20 Freeborn (950) PEJ.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [53 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/20) 3/16 Traverse DLP, 3/24 Morrison ANY, 3/29 Itasca SC, St. Louis SLF. High counts 3/29 Goodhue (1,500, Prairie Island) GJM, 3/29 Faribault (1,000, Rice Lake W.M.A.) CoN, 3/30 Dakota (1,000, Lake Byllesby) SHF, BAF, ALW.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [44 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/8) 3/7 Wabasha PEJ, 3/8 Scott PEJ, 3/9 Scott DFN, Winona StD. Early north (median 3/31) 3/31 St. Louis KJB, 4/16 Mille Lacs ToL, 4/19 Itasca SC. Open water in the Duluth Harbor combined with extensive ice cover on surrounding inland waters in late April led to record high counts of many waterbirds at Park Point, including 4/28 St. Louis (**11,154** in a massive three-mile long raft along Park Point) KJB, with **7,613** counted there 4/29 PHS. Late south 5/16 Martin DAC, RBJ, 5/24 Freeborn DBz (median 5/14). Late north 5/26 Hubbard ANY, JWH, 5/30 Lake RAE, CRM (median 5/29).
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [53 South, 33 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/15) 3/24 Morrison ANY, 3/25 St. Louis SLF, 3/26 Itasca SC. High counts 4/28 St. Louis (2,574, Park Point) KJB, 3/29 Goodhue (1,200, Prairie Island) GJM.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [1 South] Only report was of a male discovered during winter and continuing through 3/2 Wabasha (Camp Lacupolis) JWH.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 North] All reports from St. Louis: 4/29–5/18 (max. 2, Park Point) MSS, m.ob., 5/17 (Spirit Lake) KRE, 5/22 (record high count of **27**, Park Point and Leif Erikson Park) KJB, JLK.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) — [3 North] All reports: 5/5 Lake (10, Flood Bay) *vide* JWJL, 5/5–20 St. Louis (max. 12, Park Point) TPW, KJB, m.ob., 5/22 St. Louis (record high count of **377** along Park Point and Leif Erikson Park far exceeded the prior record of 150 from 1975) KJB, GrG, 5/23 Lake DFN, 5/23–30 St. Louis (max. 4, Park Point) m.ob., 5/24 Cook (2) DFN.

Black Scoter (*Melanitta americana*) — [2 North] All reports: 5/6–22 St. Louis (max. **11**, Park Point) ANy, JLK, m.ob., 5/12–14 Lake (2, Two Harbors) JWJL.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [1 South, 4 North] Only reports away from Lake Superior: 4/24 **Lac qui Parle** (8, Marsh Lake) CV, 5/19 **Pennington** (Thief River Falls W.T.P.) AFo, CAs. All Lake Superior reports: 3/3–5/12 Lake (max. 166 on 3/3, Two Harbors) AnG, RoC, PCa, m.ob., 3/29 Lake (Silver Bay) BMy, 4/21–5/22 St. Louis (max. 4, Duluth) EBr, JLK, m.ob., 5/24 Cook (48, Good Harbor Bay to Paradise Beach) DFN.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [53 South, 33 North] High counts 4/24 Goodhue (975, comprising 500 at North Lake and 475 at Sturgeon Lake within Prairie Island) GJM, 4/29 St. Louis (120, Park Point) PHS. Late south 5/23 Scott MJM, 5/24 Hennepin TAT, 5/31 Carver ANy (median 5/30).

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [49 South, 31 North] High counts 4/26 St. Louis (722, Park Point) PHS, 4/3 Houston (500, Brownsville) DSt, 4/22 Cass (500, Gull River) MRN. Late south 5/20 Isanti WAn, 5/26 Houston KRE, CRM (median 5/12).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (*Bucephala islandica*) — [2 South, 1 North] All reports: 3/9–4/8 Anoka/Hennepin (male, Coon Rapids Dam) †CF, †RZi, †HCT, †DWK, 3/25–4/16 St. Louis (overwintering male in Duluth Harbor; female also documented 3/25–26 in the same flock) MFu, †KJB, †PHS, †JLK.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Overwintered widely south and in St. Louis (Duluth). Early north (median 3/17) 3/24 Wadena PJB, 3/28 Pine DAC, RBJ, ToL, 3/29 Clearwater

KLa, Douglas JPE, Hubbard MAW, Itasca SC. High counts 4/13 Ramsey (300, Red Rock Road Lake) MJM, 4/2 Dakota (246, Black Dog Lake) PEJ, 4/9 Anoka (150, Coon Rapids Dam) SaH.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) — [50 South, 29 North] High counts 3/3 Dakota (250, Black Dog Lake) BAF, 3/24 Ramsey (130, Pigs Eye Lake) BAF. Late south 5/12 Chisago ANy, BWF, JWH, Ramsey JaJ, 5/20 Isanti WAn (median 5/24).

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) — [46 South, 25 North] Early south (median 3/10) 3/10 Dakota PEJ, CMB, 3/15 Hennepin ThM, Jackson, Martin, Nobles PEJ, 3/20 Stearns RBo. Early north (away from Lake Superior) 4/6 Cass MJB, Crow Wing FGo, 4/19 Itasca SC, 4/21 Wadena PJB. High counts 5/20 St. Louis (**1,447**, record high count, Park Point) KJB, 4/27 Hennepin (155) CMB. Late south 5/27 Hennepin SOa (median 5/19).

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [53 South, 25 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/7 Wabasha PEJ, 3/15 Anoka ABo, Jackson, Martin, Nobles PEJ. Early north (median 4/3) 3/30 Douglas JPE, 4/2 Traverse DLP, 4/6 Cass, Morrison BAW, MJB. High counts 4/30 Hennepin (400, Medicine Lake) APe, 4/25 Houston (350) DJa, 4/24 Goodhue (236, Prairie Island) GJM.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [13 South, 6 North] All reports from the southern third or western edge of the state, except for 3/19–4/4 **Koochiching** (8, near Loman) ph. AME, DAC, RBJ. Additional high counts 3/1 Kittson (21, St. Vincent) RBJ, DAC, 3/6 Polk (11) SAU, 3/13 Marshall (10) GAK, 3/11 Faribault (9) ANy.

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [53 South, 19 North] High count 3/8 Brown (36) BTS. All reports south of a line through Marshall, Cass, Aitkin, and Carlton.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [13 South, 28 North] Found throughout normal range, essentially northeast of a line from Norman to Mower, and including Anoka ABo, Dakota (Miesville Ravine), Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Wabasha, Winona, Washington. Drumming counts down 10% from 2012 in the forested regions (Minnesota DNR).



Sharp-tailed Grouse, 7 May 2013, Koochiching County. Photo by David Brislane.

Spruce Grouse (*Falci pennis canadensis*) — [4 North] All reports: 3/1 Lake of the Woods MHK, 3/3 Lake ALo, 3/29 Itasca (Scenic S.P.) EO, SC, 4/10 Koochiching AMe, 5/16 Lake (2) BDK.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [1 South, 15 North] Only south report 4/7 Lyon †JCC was well out of range and likely a released bird. High counts 3/30 Pennington (42) KLa, 3/4 Red Lake (32) SAS, 3/2 Polk (30) BJS. Additional north reports from Aitkin, Beltrami, Carlton, Clearwater, Kittson, Koochiching, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Pine, Roseau, St. Louis.

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [2 South, 11 North] Presumed releases seen in Chippewa (Chippewa Prairie) DBM, Lac qui Parle (Plover Prairie) DLP. All north reports: Becker (max. 46, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) PEB, Clay (max. 19, Moorhead) JPr, Clearwater HHD, Mahnomen CAB, Marshall JGr, Norman (max. 23) DWK, PEB, Otter Tail ALo, RZi, Pennington PEB, Polk (max. 27, Tympanuchus W.M.A.) VLa, Red Lake RAE, SAS, Wilkin ALo, RZi.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [49

South, 28 North] Reported as far north as Kittson, Marshall, Beltrami, Itasca, Aitkin, Carlton. Probable escapees or released birds also seen in southern St. Louis. High counts 3/28 Dakota (62) DVe, 3/3 Washington (46) MJB.

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] All reports from Lake Superior in St. Louis, beginning 4/22 Brighton Beach (2) †EBr, 4/23 Brighton Beach (5) †JLK, 4/26 Park Point PHS. Unusually early high count of 14 on 4/29 (PHS), then a string of record-breaking counts at Park Point including 174 on 5/5 (JLK, MLH, PHS), 287 on 5/7 (JLK, PHS), 288 on the morning of 5/8 (KJB) and 355 on the evening of 5/8 (JLK, MLH, PHS), and 132 on 5/22 (KJB). Reports continued into the summer season.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 North] Only report 5/6 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) — [44 South, 30 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/31 Anoka SaH, 4/3 Goodhue PEJ, 4/4 Freeborn ANy, JWH, Nobles PEJ. Early north (median 4/2) 4/10 Itasca SC, 4/16 Kanabec ANy, 4/17 St. Louis JLK. High counts 4/30 St. Louis (686, record spring high count from Park Point to Stoney Point) KJB, 5/1 Benton (146, Little Rock Lake) HHD.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/9) 3/11 Hennepin CMB, 3/28 Chippewa DLP, Goodhue GLM, Dakota GLa, RAE. Early north (median 3/27) 3/25 Mahnomen KMy, 3/29 Itasca SC, 3/30 St. Louis SLF. High counts 5/5 Carver (72) WCM, 4/8 Goodhue (64, Prairie Island) GJM.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [48 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/3 (second earliest south spring record) Dakota (Black Dog Lake) †BAF, 4/3 Scott CMB, 4/6 Anoka ELC. Early north (median 4/10) 4/15 St. Louis SLF, 4/25 Lake JWL. High counts 4/28 St. Louis (4,137, second highest state count, Park Point) PHS, 5/5 Benton/Stearns (1,603, Mississippi River at Sauk Rapids/St. Cloud) MJB, PCC, 5/5 Hennepin (593, Lakes Harriet & Calhoun) CMB. Late south 5/21 Anoka DWK, 5/23 Lyon GWe (median 5/14). Late north 5/27 Clearwater DPJ, Morrison FGo, 5/31 Cook WCM, St. Louis CRM, m.ob. (median 6/3). Also see summer report.



Eared Grebe, 17 April 2013, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by David Brisance.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*)

— [37 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/8 Anoka JFR, SBM, DWK, Goodhue GJM, Hennepin JFR, HCT, Rice DAB, PEJ, 4/9 Olmsted JLO, JWH. Early north (median 4/7) 4/15 St. Louis EBr, 4/21 Lake JWJ, CMn. New county record 5/4 **Houston** DBz. High counts 4/26 St. Louis (2,094, record high state count, Park Point) PHS, 4/29 St. Louis (1,513, Park Point) PHS.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [31 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/9) 3/29 Nobles CRM, ALo, 4/2 Scott PEJ, DWK, 4/3 Kandiyohi DPG. Early north (median 4/22) 4/10 Otter Tail SAv, 4/12 **Itasca** (Grand Rapids) SC, ph. EEO, 4/17 Cook (Grand Marais) ph. DMB. Other notable northeast reports: 5/5 Lake (Flood Bay) ph. SZ, 5/6–23 St. Louis (Park Point) ph. JLK, PHS, 5/22 Lake (2, Two Harbors) JWJ.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [16 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/22 Swift DaB, 4/26 Big Stone DLP, 4/27 Lac qui Parle SMC, Stearns MJB, Swift SMC. Early north (median 4/21) 4/26 Grant, Traverse DBM, 4/27 Marshall

JMJ, CCr, Roseau BSi, 4/28 Becker MO, Clay TCL, Otter Tail m.ob. High count 5/15 Grant (66, Lake Christina, Pomme de Terre Lake, North Ottawa Impoundment) WCM. Unusual northeast reports 5/8–29 St. Louis (max. 4, Duluth) KJB, JLK, †PHS, m.ob, 5/12 Lake (Flood Bay) JWJ, 5/12 Lake (Gooseberry Falls S.P., same bird?) RMD.

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — No documented reports.

Aechmophorus grebe (*Aechmophorus sp.*)

— [1 North] Presumed hybrid or intermediate Clark's/Western grebe 5/29 St. Louis (Park Point) ph. †KRE.

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*)

— [52 South, 30 North] Early south (median 3/17) 3/18 Rock DBz, ANy, 3/22 Ramsey BAF, SHF, 3/24 Dakota SuB, BBy. Early north (median 3/30) 4/2 Traverse DLP, 4/10 Otter Tail GO, 4/13 St. Louis JLK, SLF. High count 4/20 Le Sueur (500, Sakatah Lake) KrR.

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)

— [52 South, 30 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/13 Dakota CPU, 3/28 Lac qui Parle DLP, 3/29 in nine counties. Early north (median 4/7) 3/31 Aitkin CAB, 4/3 Polk *fide* MJJ, St. Louis PLJ, 4/13 Grant RAE, HHD. High counts 4/15 Winona (1,100, Prairie Island Road) DBz, 4/26 Washington (415) JHg.

BROWN PELICAN (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)

— [1 South] Fourth state record 5/31–6/1 **Freeborn** (Myre-Big Island S.P.) BAB, ph. GLa.

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)

— [16 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/16 Rice TFB, 4/21 Dakota BAF, Fillmore MMo, 4/25 Houston JEB, Nicollet RAE. Early north (median 4/18) 4/16 Mille Lacs ToL, 4/26 Pine JMP, 4/29 Marshall *fide* MJJ.

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)

— [5 South, 1 North] All south reports: 5/6 Wabasha (Lake Zumbro) JBn, 5/20 Washington DaR, 5/21 Ramsey (Crosby Farm R.P.) JoD, 5/23 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, 5/25 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) CAs, 5/26 Wabasha (2, Whitewater W.M.A.) SHo, 5/31 Hennepin LMS. Only north report 5/25 Kanabec DPG.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

— [53 South, 30 North] Early south (away from

- overwintering areas) 3/6 Blue Earth ChH, 3/9 Meeker (Litchfield) JAn, 3/13 Dakota CPu. Early north (median 3/20) 3/29 Clearwater KLa, Crow Wing MRN, Douglas JPE, Pine JMP, St. Louis KJB, 4/2 Becker *vide* MJJ, Otter Tail JDo, 4/3 Cass BAW. High count 4/28 Carver (96, Lake Waconia) WCM.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [50 South, 19 North] Early south (median 3/22) 3/29 Dakota RaM, 4/3 Faribault WAF, 4/4 Ramsey RNe, Rice DAB. Early north (median 4/1) 4/10 Otter Tail SAv, 4/15 Douglas PJK, 4/16 Becker ASM. High counts 4/29 Rice (100, Cannon/Wells Lake) JHI, DAT, 5/11 Otter Tail (91, Grotto Lake) DST. Unusual Northeast report 5/23 St. Louis LMS
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [4 South, 1 North] All south 4/26–27 Houston (2, Root River) †MPn, †DSt, †MyH, m.ob., 5/7 Blue Earth (Lake Ida) ph. *vide* ChH, 5/10 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) †CRM, 5/15 Houston ANy, DBz, MGo, JWH, 5/22 Big Stone (2, Long Lake) DLP. All north 5/3–5 Marshall (Agassiz Valley Watershed Impoundment) WHB, ph. †SAu, PEB, DAC, RBJ.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — [2 South] All reports 5/18 **Nobles** (Alternate II plumage, Round Lake) ph. RMD, m.ob., 5/29 Rice (adult, Cowling Arboretum) †JBk.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [8 South, 3 North] Twenty-four individuals. All south reports: 4/22 Dakota (2, 180 St. Marsh) JLO, 4/30 Faribault WAF, 5/3 McLeod PRH, 5/14–15 Houston (max. 7, between Hokah and La Crescent) ph. DSt, ANy, DBz, MGo, JWH, 5/16–21 Winona (Bartlet Lake) MGo, m.ob., 5/22 Steele (Saco) †PSu, 5/23–24 Scott MJM, BAb, GLa, 5/24 Le Sueur (5, near Heidelberg) RBW. All north reports: 4/28 Grant (2, Wendell) KRE, ALo, 5/1 Otter Tail (2) GO, 5/11 Polk RAE.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [34 South, 14 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/16 Fillmore (Geothetic W.M.A.) RTP, 4/26 Fillmore (Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center) StD, 4/27 Hennepin SBM. Early north (median 5/3) 5/5 Mille Lacs DPG, 5/9 Cass MRN, 5/12 Becker RAE. High counts 5/15 Houston (10) ANy, 5/29 Chisago (6, North Dam, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) JSa.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [21 South, 7 North] Early south (median 3/29) 4/1 Hennepin RCB, 4/20 Lyon DaB. All north reports: 4/24 Otter Tail (4, Battle Lake) JSs, JSw, 4/25 Pennington (2) SAS, 4/28 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) SWt, 4/29 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) GAK, 5/1 Polk (Grand Marais Creek) SAU, 5/4 Kittson DAC, RBJ, LW, 5/16–18 Grant WCM, m.ob., 5/22–24 Otter Tail (7, Fergus Falls) PEB, 5/15 St. Louis (Park Point) ph. SZ.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [1 South] Only report 5/2 Ramsey (Little Canada) JGs.
- GLOSSY IBIS** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) — [2 South, 1 North] The end of April produced the state's fifth, sixth and seventh state records, each an adult in Definitive Alternate plumage: 4/24 **Kittson** (near C.R. 4 and 370th Ave.) ph. TB, 4/26–27 **Houston** (C.R. 26 at the Root River) MPn, ph. †ANY, ph. DAC, 4/30 **Olmsted** (Silver Creek Reservoir) CAK, †JWH, ph. ANY. Also see documented reports still under review, and **The Loon** 85:199–212.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [17 South, 9 North] A remarkable total of 43 records comprising 157 birds for the season! All reports were south and west of a line from Winona to Meeker to Marshall counties. Early south (median 4/28) 4/16 Lyon DaB. Early north 4/19 Becker ASM, 4/20 Clay (2) TCL. Many first county records: 4/20 **Freeborn** (Myre-Big Island S.P.) HHD, 4/24–5/1 **Kittson** (max. 7 at C.R. 4 and 370th Ave.) TrB, 5/4 **McLeod** (along Meeker McLeod Avenue about 1/4 mile north of C.R. 14) ph. MiO, 5/3–6 **Pennington** (2, west side of Thief River Falls) PJo, ph. MJJ, 4/27 **Stevens** (2, Alberta) DLP. Freeborn, Kittson and Stevens also had subsequent records this season. High counts were **30** on 5/1 in Stevens (near Donnelly) DO, and 17 on 5/5 in Wilkin (Manston Marsh, with 5 additional *Plegadis*) RAE. See summer report for late spring migrants, north and south, and **The Loon** 85:199–212. for a more complete summary of this season's influx.
- GLOSSY IBIS X White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus* X *P. chibi*) — The first apparent hybrid within this genus documented in Minnesota is also the northernmost ibis ever found in the state and the first for

- this county: 4/26–30 **Lake of the Woods** (Northwest Angle) ph. MFr, KaC.
- Plegadis ibis** (*Plegadis sp.*) — [1 South, 1 North] All reports: approx. 4/24 in Stevens (3 near Danvers) CaG, 5/5 Wilkin (5 at Manston Marsh, along with 17 White-faced Ibis) RAE. Additional reports of *Plegadis ibis* were identified as White-faced by others and have been included in that account.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [51 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/8 Winona ANy, 3/14 Rice TFB, 3/19 Goodhue GJM, Wright HCT. Early north (median 3/30) 4/2 Otter Tail GO, 4/3 Cass MRN, Otter Tail DST, Polk SAu, St. Louis MSS, 4/4 Mille Lacs ToL. High counts 4/9 Washington (168, Afton) BRL, 4/22 St. Louis (93, W.S.H.C.) EBr.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [43 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/26 Washington RZi, 3/31 Hennepin KM0, Winona MGo. Early north (median 4/1) 4/2 Becker *vide* JMJ, 4/4 Cass MRN, 4/10 Itasca SC.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/17 Wabasha (308, Lake Pepin) ACr, 3/13 Wabasha (150, Reads Landing) AMa, 3/30 St. Louis (61, W.S.H.C.) KJB.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/4) 3/1 Dakota RaM, 3/3 Hennepin ThM, 3/14 Rice TFB. Early north (median 3/10) 3/22 Clay RHO, 3/24 Norman KMa, 3/28 Becker ASM, Otter Tail TJa, Polk EH.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [43 South, 26 North] Early south (median 3/3) 3/1 Hennepin TAT, Houston DJa, 3/2 Rice DAB, 3/5 Ramsey JFR, Wright ToL. Early north (median 3/7) 3/2 Otter Tail DST, 3/3 Hubbard MAW, Wadena PJB, 3/6 St. Louis RSt. High counts 5/6 St. Louis (17) ANy, 5/23 St. Louis (11, Park Point) JLK. Late south 5/24 Chisago FKB, 5/26 Ramsey ASi, Sherburne PEB.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [50 South, 23 North] Early north (median 3/18) 3/29 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) KJB, 4/3 Polk SAu, 4/5 Crow Wing JSB. High counts 4/27 Itasca (6) SC, 3/29 Rice (5, Walcott) JLn.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [5 South, 9 North] All south reports: 3/8 Hennepin JCN, 3/15 Lac qui Parle (juvenile, Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP, 3/29 Olmsted MHm, **Rock** (immature, Blue Mounds S.P.) †KRE, 4/24 Chisago JSa, **5/17** Hennepin †DWK. North reports from Cass, Clearwater, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Marshall, Mille Lacs, Otter Tail, St. Louis.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [26 South, 9 North] Early north (median 3/14) 3/16 Morrison KEm, 3/29 Crow Wing JAn, Douglas JPE, 4/8 Cass BAW.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [33 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/7) 4/7 Hennepin KvB, 4/19 Anoka DPG, 4/20 Carver WCM, Washington DAB. Early north (median 4/10) 4/10 Otter Tail GO, 4/18 Marshall CCr, 4/23 Morrison MRN. High counts 4/27 St. Louis (84, W.S.H.C.) JLK, 4/27 Itasca (61) SC.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [24 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/13–24 Dakota ph. CMB, m.ob., 4/16 Goodhue GJM, 4/18 Washington LMS. All north 4/26–27 Wilkin †KRE, RZi, ALo, 4/27–28 Otter Tail ALo, RZi, 4/28 Clay TCL, 5/2 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. PEB, 5/5 Wilkin RAE, 5/12 Polk VLa, SAu, 5/13 Traverse RAE, 5/15–16 Grant WCM.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported from 86 counties statewide. High count 4/22 St. Louis (56, W.S.H.C.) EBr.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [44 South, 25 North] High count 3/29 St. Louis (24, W.S.H.C.) KJB. Late south 5/4 Big Stone PEJ, Goodhue DVe, 5/20 Ramsey EMH (median 5/10). Late north 4/30 St. Louis AM, 5/5 Marshall PEB, Wilkin RAE (median 5/24).
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [10 South, 5 North] All south reports: 3/1 Chippewa DLP, 3/2 Houston JPr, 3/3 Houston StD, DJa and Sherburne JGb, 3/8 Lac qui Parle (presumed to be same bird as 3/1 Chippewa) DLP, 3/14 Winona MGo, 3/17 Goodhue ACr, 3/29 Hennepin RPR, Steele NFT, 4/6 Olmsted SPE, 4/14 Wabasha NMi. All north reports: 3/6 Pine JMP, 3/10 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) RAN, 3/11 Polk CCr, 3/27 St. Louis KGr, 3/29 St. Louis (5, W.S.H.C.) KJB, 4/6 Polk CCr, 4/16 and 4/19

- Hubbard WDe, 4/18 Morrison FGo, 4/20 Polk VLa, LiM.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [1 North] Only report: 5/16 Hubbard (Shingobee Lake) MAW.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [34 South, 13 North] Early south (median 4/15) 4/20 Dakota SLP, LEC, DwS, KFi, 4/21 Hennepin RAE. Early north (median 5/5) 5/10 Crow Wing ANy, 5/15 Grant WCM. High count 5/12 Washington (5, Lake McKusick) MJB.
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [42 South, 17 North] Early south (median 4/14) 4/20 Dakota LEC, 4/22 Hennepin CMB. Early north (median 4/23) 5/7 Clay RHO, 5/9 Becker RZi. High count 5/13 Hennepin (9, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) CRM.
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [4 South] All reports: 5/13 Winona (Bartlet Lake) DBz, m.ob., 5/15 and 5/18 Houston (Mound Prairie Marsh) ANy, DBz, MGo, JWH, HHD, 5/21 and 5/26 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) ASd, DLP, 5/26 Sherburne DWK.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [53 South, 32 North] Reported south throughout the season. Early north (median 3/28) 4/2 Otter Tail JDo and Traverse DLP, 4/7 Cass BAW. High count 4/25 Houston (5,000) DJa.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*) — [39 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/14) 3/10 Scott (2) PEJ, 3/16 Dakota SBM, Houston ANy, Wabasha JPr, Winona MGo. Early north (median 3/21) 3/17 Morrison KEm, 3/23 Pennington JMj. High count 4/5 Hennepin (300, flying over General Mills Nature Preserve) AMA.
- BLACK-NECKED STILT** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [2 South] Three reports: 5/3–4 Big Stone (Thielke Lake) ph. †BJU, ph. †DLP, 5/10 Steele (Rice Lake S.P.) †DAB, HHD, JWH, 5/22 Big Stone (Thielke Lake) †ASd.
- American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [18 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/16 Murray NED, 4/20 Brown BTS, m.ob., Cottonwood TrF, Dakota (Lake Byllesby) m.ob., Murray GWe. Early north (median 4/30) 4/21–22 St. Louis (Duluth Harbor) JGB, PHS, 4/26 Traverse DBM. High northbound counts 5/15 Big Stone (59, record high) DLP, 4/20 Brown (30, Lone Tree Lake, Eden Twp.) BTS.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [11 South, 10 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/28 Lac qui Parle SOa, 5/10 Steele DAB, HHD, JWH. Early north (median 5/16) 4/27 Beltrami (Lake Bemidji) SVo, 5/12 Crow Wing JSB. High count 5/17 Wright (13, Malardi Lake W.M.A.) RBJ, ANy. Late south 5/24 Freeborn (4) DBz, 5/26 Freeborn DBM (median 6/6). See summer report for late migrants north (median 6/8).
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [15 South, 8 North] South reports 3/31 Dakota (Black Dog Lake) TSh, 4/6–7 Brown BTS, DWK, 4/7 Renville DAB, m.ob., 4/8 Dakota JLO, PEJ, HCT, BAB, KDS all before recent median 4/17. Early north (median 4/29) 4/28 Douglas JPE, 5/8 Clay TCL. High count 5/18 Grant (200) DWK. Late south 5/26 Brown MiO, 5/27 Benton JEB and Nobles BTS (median 6/4). Late north 5/25 Morrison JEB, 5/26 Wadena JEB (median 6/4), but see summer report.
- WILSON'S PLOVER** (*Charadrius wilsonia*) — [1 North] Minnesota's third state record was found 5/27 St. Louis (Minnesota Point, Duluth) ph. KJB, ph. †PHS, ph. MLH, ph. MSS, ph. AXH, †KRo, and seen by m.ob. before departing later that day.
- Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [25 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/27 Goodhue BRL, 4/28 Dakota JLO, DWK, Lac qui Parle SOa, Wabasha ANy, Washington ELC. Early north (median 5/8) 5/13 Norman TCL, 5/16 Grant WCM. High count 5/15 Wright (23, Malardi Lake W.M.A.) PCC. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/2) and north (median 6/10).
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 South] Only report: 5/20 Sherburne (Princeton W.T.P.) PLJ.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [53 South, 33 North] South reports 3/1 Houston DJa, 3/2 Olmsted JWH, 3/3 Houston StD, DJa, 3/8 Olmsted LAV refer to birds at known overwintering locations; first probable migrants observed 3/8 Rice TFB (median 3/2). Early north (median 3/18) 3/28 Otter Tail TJa, then 3/29 in five more counties.

High counts 3/29 Dakota (30, Hampton Marsh) RTE, 3/29 Rice (30) DAB, 3/30 Dakota (est. 30) TAT, 4/7 Brown (30, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) DWK.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) — [47 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/24 Houston DBz, 4/25 Hennepin GrS. Early north (median 4/29) 4/28 Itasca SC, Otter Tail RZi, St. Louis PHS, Wadena PJB, 4/30 Itasca SC and St. Louis ALo. High count 5/18 Stearns (30, Albany W.T.P.) DCZ.

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) — [34 South, 20 North] First south report 4/7 Renville ANy, RMD ties earliest date on record, then not reported again until 4/22 Dakota SeH, JFR (median 4/19). Early north (median 4/30) 4/27–28 Otter Tail KRE, RZi, 4/30 Itasca SC. High count 5/18 St. Louis (19, Duluth Twp.) KRE. Late south 5/22 Houston MGo, 5/23 Lyon GWe (median 5/27) . Late north 5/27 Morrison FGo, 5/31 Clearwater ABo (median 5/25).

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [49 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/29 Winona PEJ, 3/30 Cottonwood BRB and Nobles PEJ, DFN. Early north (median 4/8) 4/21 Lake NLM, 4/22 St. Louis JLK. High counts 4/25 and 4/27 Houston (200, “possibly many hundreds more”, La Crescent) DSt, MyH. Late south 5/20 Lyon ANy, 5/21 Kandiyohi FGo and Stearns MJB (median 5/25). Late north 5/31 Itasca SC, EEO (median 5/28). See summer report for late migrants south and north.

Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [33 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/19 Jackson RAE, 4/20 Freeborn PEJ. Early north (median 5/1) 4/26 Traverse DBM, 4/27 Otter Tail KRE, ALo and Traverse DPG. High count 4/27 Fillmore (33, farm pond on C.R.16 about 1 mile west of C.R. 17) HHD, RAE. Late south 5/22 Scott ALS, ABr, 5/29 Dakota DVe (median 5/26). Late north 5/24 Norman DWK, PEB and St. Louis FKB, 5/31 Itasca SC, EEO (median 6/1). See summer report for late migrants south.

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) — [50 South, 30 North] Early south (median 3/29) 4/3 Dodge ANy, DBz, SC, JWH, 4/4 Hennepin HCT and Watonwan ANy. Early north (median 4/9) 4/16 St. Louis JLK, 4/19



Willet, 24 May 2013, Norman County. Photo by Paul E. Budde.

Morrison FGo. High count 5/15 Wright (826, Malardi Lake W.M.A.) PCC. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/6) and north (median 6/1).

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [12 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/26 Swift DBM, 5/5 Blue Earth (Lincoln W.P.A.) m.ob. and Chippewa DBM. Early north (median 5/3) 4/28 Clay TCL, 5/7 Clay RHO. High count 5/12 Clay (7) TCL.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [1 South, 7 North] Only south report and season's high count: 5/24 **Big Stone** (44, highest count away from Lake Superior) ph. ANy, JWH. Several north reports away from Lake Superior beginning 5/12 **Polk** (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) ph. SAu, ph. VL a, 5/18 **Grant** and **Traverse** (North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. PEB, DWK, HCT, 5/20 **Cass** (Walker W.T.P.) BAW, 5/29 **Itasca** ph. SC. All other north reports from Lake Superior: 5/22 St. Louis (19, Park Point) JLK, 5/23 St. Louis DFN, TKe, 5/24 Cook DFN, 5/30 St. Louis (Park Point) MSS, EBr. See summer report for late migrants north (median 6/2).

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) — [15 South, 6 North] Early south (median

- 4/21) 4/15 Olmsted (Rochester) JSn, m.ob., 4/16 Dakota CMB and Olmsted CRM. Early north (median 5/8) 5/13 Norman TCL, 5/15 Grant WCM. High count 5/15 Wright (17, Malardi Lake W.M.A.) PCC. Late south 5/22 Sherburne PLJ, 5/26 Houston DBz (median 5/31). Late north 5/23 St. Louis KDx, 5/24 Marshall DWK, PEB (median 5/30).
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [18 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/16 Dakota PEJ, GJM and Goodhue SLP, 4/20 Cottonwood RAE, Dakota CMB, SMY, BAF, Faribault PEJ, Olmsted SHo, Wabasha AlJ. Early north (median 4/13) 4/21 Marshall lyK, 4/23 Becker ASM. New county record 4/26 **Houston** (C.R. 26 and the Root River) DBz. High count 5/18 St. Louis (20, Hearing Island) JLK.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [15 South, 5 North] Early south (median 5/14) 5/11 Fillmore ANY, HHD, JWH, 5/12 Faribault PEJ. Early north (median 5/14) 5/18 Grant DWK, PEB, HCT, 5/19 Aitkin and Crow Wing JCC. New county record 5/18 **Houston** (3, Blue Lake) HHD. High counts 5/22 St. Louis (40, Park Point) KJB, 5/22 Crow Wing (37, Garrison, second highest count away from Duluth) HHD. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/1) and north (median 6/5).
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — [1 North] Only report: 5/23 St. Louis (5, Park Point) ph. TRK.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [9 South, 4 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/4 Big Stone DLP, DFN, PEJ, 5/6 Rice JEB. Early north (median 5/13) 5/13 Traverse RAE, 5/15 Becker LiS. High count 5/20 Lyon (15) ANY. Late south 5/19 Big Stone DLP, 5/20 Lyon ANY (median 5/28), but see summer report. Late north 5/29 Itasca SC, 5/31 Itasca SC, EEO (median 5/26).
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [6 South, 4 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/4 Big Stone DFN, PEJ, 5/13 Hennepin BPO. Early north (median 5/11) 5/19 Aitkin and Crow Wing JCC, 5/20 St. Louis MAM, DaM, KJB, JLK. High counts from St. Louis (Park Point) 5/30 (235) and 5/31 (175) PHS. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/1) and north (median 6/7).
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [30 South, 11 North] Two south reports well before re-
- cent median 4/19: 4/4 Jackson PEJ, 4/7 Brown BTS. Early north (median 5/10) 5/10 Crow Wing ANY, JSB, 5/16 Grant WCM. High count 5/22 Sherburne (57, Princeton W.T.P.) PLJ. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/6) and north (median 6/4).
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [20 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/6) 4/4 Jackson PEJ, 4/6 Brown BTS. Early north (median 4/23) 4/27 Otter Tail ALO and Wilkin RZi, ALO. High count 4/7 Brown (24, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, DWK. Late south 5/26 Sherburne DWK, PEB, 5/27 Stearns RPR (median 6/1), but see summer report. Late north 5/31 Itasca SC, EEO (median 6/2).
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [36 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/15) 4/7 Brown BTS, 4/8 Dakota HCT. Early north (median 5/6) 4/27–28 Otter Tail KRE, ALO. High count 5/15 Wright (**1,347**, Malardi Lake W.M.A.) PCC. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/3) and north (median 6/2).
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [19 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/30 Ramsey RMD, 5/2 Big Stone DLP. Early north (median 5/14) 5/2 Clay TCL, 5/13 Traverse RAE. High count 5/23 Morrison (19, Flensburg) MJB. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/14) and north (median 6/13).
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Calidris subruficollis*) — No reports.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [40 South, 17 North] Early south (median 4/1) 4/4 Faribault ANY, SC, JWH, then 4/6 in five more counties. Early north (median 4/19) 4/16 Morrison HHD, 4/19 Morrison FGo. High count 4/7 Dakota (80, Lake Bylesby) BAF. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/8). Late north 5/31 Itasca SC, EEO (median 6/5).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [27 South, 10 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/6 Mower HHD, 4/13 Dakota ASi, PNi. Early north (median 5/4) 5/3 Norman PEB, 5/11 Clay ThM. High count 5/30 St. Louis (35, Park Point) PHS. See summer report for late migrants south (median 6/14) and north (median 6/10).
- WESTERN SANDPIPER** (*Calidris mauri*)

- [1 South] A bird in alternate plumage was discovered 5/4 Big Stone (Ortonville Twp.) ph. †PEJ, †DFN, GHu, †DLP.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [17 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/30 Blue Earth ChH, 5/2 Big Stone DLP. Early north (median 5/8) 5/14–15 Cass BAW, DAY, 5/16 Grant (Niemackl Lake Park) WCM. High count 5/15 Wright (23) CRM. Late south 5/22 Houston DBz, MGo, 5/24 Big Stone DLP (median 5/24). Late north 5/24 Itasca SC, EEO, 5/29 Itasca SC (median 5/25).
- Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [15 South, 3 North] Early south (median 4/24) **3/30** Cottonwood (3) BRB, 4/26 Houston ANy, RBW, DBz. All north reports: 4/30 Crow Wing JSB, 5/4 Marshall PEB, 5/13 Norman TCL, 5/23 Marshall CCr. High count 5/1 Houston (9) ANy. Late south 5/15 Olmsted JPr, 5/16 Dakota RaM and Rice LEC (median 5/19).
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [45 South, 27 North] Individual observed 3/9 Houston (Crooked Creek) RSA was likely an overwintering individual; all other south reports after recent median 3/22 beginning with 3/30 Winona DBz. Early north (median 3/31) 3/28 Morrison FGo, 4/17 Becker ASM. High count 4/13 Houston (16) ASz.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [34 South, 22 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/27 Rock CRM, 3/29 Fillmore MMo and Houston BCo. Early north (median 3/26) 3/30 St. Louis KGr, 4/4 Carlton TiH. High count 4/13 Winona (15) MGo, KyS.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [42 South, 25 North] Several very early migrants, including early south (median 4/23) **4/15** Scott ANy, **4/15** Sibley ANy, **4/16** Dakota SLP, CMB, BDo, GJM, CRM, and early north (median 5/1) **4/15** St. Louis SLF, 4/28 Beltrami SVo, Douglas JPE, Wadena PJB. High count 4/17 Lyon (212, S.R. 23 & C.R. 33) RJS.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [9 South, 1 North] Early south (median 5/12) 5/17 Sherburne PLJ, RBJ and Wright ANy, 5/18 Stearns KvB, MJB, DCZ. Only north reports from Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) 5/16 WCM and 5/18 (9, sea-
- son's high count) DWK, PEB, HCT. Late south 5/24 Swift ANy, JWH, 5/26 Big Stone DLP and **Houston** (C.R. 26 and the Root River) DBz (median 5/29). See summer report for late migrants south and north.
- Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — No reports.
- Stercorarius jaeger** (*Stercorarius* sp.) — [1 North] The only jaeger of the season was seen offshore and prudently left unidentified: 5/21 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) PHS.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [48 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/3) 3/30 Scott JEB, 4/4 Faribault WAF, 4/6 Dakota (4), Olmsted (10) and Washington (2). Early north (median 4/13) 4/25 Morrison FGo, 4/26 Grant DBM, Morrison RZi, Traverse DBM. Peak numbers were from Duluth in early May when KJB estimated 1800 on 5/6, and PHS and JLK tallied 1811 on 5/7. Late migrants north and south seen into summer season.
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — [1 North] One (or more?) adults seen in Duluth, St. Louis at various locations 5/16 Harding Island †ALo, 5/20 Park Point KJB, 5/21 Sky Harbor Airport MLH, 5/25 Superior Entry †JLK. First-cycle also found in St. Louis (Superior Entry) 5/21–25 †PHS, †JLK.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [45 South, 20 North] Seen throughout the south beginning (median 3/25) 3/30 Brown (13) BTS, Goodhue (2) BRL, Winona (2) DBz, ANy. North reports predominantly from the western third of the state, but also 4/16–25 St. Louis (max. 2) ph. JLK, ph. †PHS, ph. AM, 4/30 Crow Wing CAB. The first north report away from St. Louis was 4/24 Otter Tail JsS, JSw. High counts 5/3 Polk (195, Erskine W.T.P.) PEB, 5/5 Marshall (150, Agassiz N.W.R.) DSm.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [52 South, 33 North] Observed statewide throughout the season. High counts 5/20 St. Louis (7,000 at Park Point, Duluth) KJB, 4/23 Hennepin (6,000 at Old Cedar Ave. Bridge, Bloomington; very conservative estimate, probably several thousand more) BAF.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [37 South, 23 North] High counts 3/29 Lake (850, Knife River Marina) KJB, 4/17 Sherburne (800, Lake Orono) ADB. Last re-

- ported south 5/21 Stearns RAE, 5/22 Lyon (Sham Lake) GWe.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*) — [1 South, 1 North] One south report 3/29 Ramsey (Upper Landing Park) SBM. All north reports were from Duluth in St. Louis: 3/31 (2, mouth of Miller Creek in Duluth) KJB, 4/14 St. Louis (36th & Minnesota Ave.) JLK, (Park Point) AM, 5/4 St. Louis (adult, Superior Entry) KJB, 5/26–27 St. Louis (first-cycle, Superior Entry) ph. PHS, JLK.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [2 North] All north 3/26 St. Louis (first-cycle at mouth of Miller Creek) KJB, 3/29 Lake (first-cycle, Knife River Marina) KJB, 3/31 St. Louis (2, mouth of Miller Creek) KJB, 4/13 St. Louis (Hearding Island) JLK, 4/21 St. Louis (second-cycle; individual overwintered in the Duluth-Superior Harbor) PHS, (first-cycle, mouth of Miller Creek) JLK, **5/16** St. Louis (second-cycle, Harding Island) ph. †KRE. Also see summer report!
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [4 South, 2 North] All south 3/16 Washington (adult, Point Douglas) BRL, ph. SBM, †DWK, 4/7 Winona (Prairie Island) MGo, DBz, refund 4/14 ANy, 4/21 Wabasha (adult, Wabasha) ph. BAY, 4/21–22 Lyon (Cottonwood Lake) HHD, GWe. All north 4/21 Lake (adult, Two Harbors) ph. JWJ, 5/4 St. Louis (adult, Superior Entry) KJB.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [1 South, 2 North] High count 3/31 St. Louis (8, mouth of Miller Creek) KJB. Late north 4/20 Lake (2, Silver Creek Cliff Wayside Park) CMn, 4/21 Lake (Two Harbors) JWJ, St. Louis (mouth of Miller Creek) JLK, 4/26 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) AM. Only south report **5/4 Renville** (third-cycle, Preston Lake) DBM.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 South, 2 North] All north reports from St. Louis except 3/17 Lake (adult, Knife River Marina) EBr. High counts 3/31 St. Louis (**10**, mouth of Miller Creek) KJB, 4/21 St. Louis (5, mouth of Miller Creek) JLK. Late north 4/28 St. Louis (mouth of Miller Creek) ph. AM, 5/6 St. Louis (third-cycle) ANy, 5/22 St. Louis (Park Point) KJB (median 5/5). Only south report 5/5 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) SMC.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [22 South, 17 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/21 Dakota DCZ, 4/22 Dakota (Fort Snelling S.P.) RCo, 4/23 Winona CLN, CoN. Early north (median 5/3) 4/29+ Crow Wing (3, Ironton W.T.P.) JSB, 5/9 Hubbard MAW, Mille Lacs PEJ, Wadena RAE. High count 5/15 Hennepin (**430**, Purgatory Creek Wetland) CMB. See summer report for late south.
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonias niger*) — [38 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/30) 5/10 Carver PRH, JTe, Sherburne RBW, ANY, 5/12 Faribault PEJ, WAF, Wright HHD. Early north (median 5/8) 5/8 Todd RAE, 5/16 Grant WCM, 5/17 Becker TCL, Itasca SC, EEO. High counts 5/28 Aitkin (69, Rice Lake N.W.R.) TKe, 5/24 Sherburne (60, Sherburne N.W.R.) GJa.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [17 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/27 Martin JPr, 4/28 Hennepin BMa, 4/29 Ramsey BNW, 5/2 Washington (5, Forest Lake) JSa. Early north (median 5/1) 4/27 Marshall (2, near Warren) CCr, 5/5 St. Louis (2) JLK, 5/6 St. Louis (4) ANy. High counts 5/22 St. Louis (1,700 at Superior Entry and along Park Point) KJB, (1,620, Superior Entry only) PHS. See summer report for late south migrants.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [44 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/20 Dakota (2, Lake Byllesby) JLO, RMD, JWH, DwS, KFi, JSn, BAF, ELC, Murray (10, Iron Lake) GWe, 4/21 seven additional counties. Early north (median 4/19) 4/27 Marshall (6, near Warren) CCr, 4/28 Clay TCL, Grant RZi, Otter Tail (10) KRE, m.ob. High count 5/15 Goodhue (44, Prairie Island) GJM.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High count 3/12 St. Louis (160, Canal Park) JHD, JPr, KDS.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [53 South, 33 North] Found statewide, including a new county record 5/2 **Kittson** LW. High counts 3/6 Lyon (29, Cottonwood) GWe, 3/11 Blue Earth (14, Lake Crystal) CHE.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [53 South, 33 North] Found statewide. High counts 4/27 Hubbard (42, C.R. 17 and C.R.

- 13) WDe, 3/8 Faribault (33, Smith W.M.A.) CLN, CoN.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [9 South] Early south 5/15 Houston (2, mating) ANy, DBz, MGo, JWH, 5/18 Le Sueur RBW, 5/20 Washington CTS, 5/21 Fillmore (3) NBO. First spring with no north reports since 2000.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [26 South, 7 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/7 Houston (Brownsville Overlook) LMI, 5/8 Washington DBM, 5/14 Winona MGo, 5/16 Houston (Reno S.F.) SHo, Olmsted JHD. Early north (median 5/16) 5/19 Clay DMu, Todd DTM, JeM, 5/23 Morrison MJB. Only report from the northern third of the state was 5/29 Roseau BSi.
- BARN OWL** (*Tyto alba*) — [1 South] See reports still pending review by the records committee.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [12 South, 1 North] South reports from Brown, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Isanti, Lyon, Nobles, Olmsted, Ramsey, Renville, and Sherburne. Only north report 4/21 Pine FKB. Very little information on color morphs: one red and one gray in Hennepin (m.ob.), and one intermediate morph 3/18 Ramsey AXH.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [38 South, 22 North] Reported throughout the season and state. Adults on nests in 18 counties.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [3 South, 4 North] Lingering birds from the winter irruption included south reports 3/11 Chipewewa JHa, 3/21 Stevens DLP, 4/22 Ramsey (Roseville) KRo. All north 3/10, 3/31 Lake (west side of Two Harbors) *fide* JWJ, 3/14 Kittson (2) *fide* MJM, 3/19 Polk (near Euclid) *fide* MJM, 3/26 Becker JAr, 4/20 Lake (industrial park on the north side of Two Harbors) *fide* JWJ. Also see *The Loon* 85:148–149 for a more complete summary of the irruption.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [9 North] Reported across the northern third of the state. First county record 3/13 **Red Lake** (4 miles north of Oklee) SAS. High count of 4 in Lake of the Woods on various dates between 3/6 and 3/30 BSi, GMM. Late north 4/20 Lake (Finland) CMn, 5/4 Kittson (C.R. 4 and 370th Ave.) RBJ, DAC, LW. Also found in Beltrami, Itasca, Pennington, Roseau, St. Louis. See *The Loon* 85:148–149 for a complete summary.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [31 South, 16 North] Observed in all regions of the state but only as far southwest as Brown and as far northwest as Pennington. High count 5/22 Cass (5) MRN.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [12 North] The remnants of the second largest documented irruption (*The Loon* 85:148–149) were all found north of a line from Carlton to Cass to Marshall. Owls were seen in St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) throughout the season. High count 3/25 Lake of the Woods (12, S.R. 72 and C.R. 2 north of Williams) RPR, 3/9 Roseau (9) KGg.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [7 South, 4 North] Late south 4/27 Sibley DWK. Also reported south from Anoka, Dakota, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Ramsey, Scott. All north reports: 4/10 Otter Tail SAV, 4/24 Morrison FGo, 4/30 St. Louis JLK, 5/24 Marshall DWK, PEB.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [7 South, 2 North] Observed south in Anoka, Blue Earth, Dakota, Lac qui Parle, Nicollet, Scott, Watonwan as late as 4/25 Blue Earth ChH. Only north reports: 5/5 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) PEB, 5/11 Kittson DSm.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — [5 South, 13 North] The fourth largest documented irruption (*The Loon* 85:148–149) lasted into the spring with many continuing north reports, one south report of an apparently healthy bird 3/16–17 Hennepin, and multiple discoveries south of deceased individuals 3/8 Sherburne, 3/19 Stearns, 4/21 Ramsey, and 5/7 **Wright** (record late south, ph. *fide* DAC). Late north 3/24 **Clay** ph. *fide* CRG, 3/24 St. Louis (staff at the Hartley N.C.), 3/26 St. Louis (Lester River Rd.) KJB, 4/1 Polk (deceased, East Grand Forks) VLa, and approx. 4/2 Cook FJN.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [4 South, 7 North] Found south in Hennepin, Ramsey, Rice, and as late as 4/6 Houston JSv. Observed north beginning 3/26 Lake NLM, followed by reports from Becker, Carlton, Cook, Crow Wing, Itasca, St. Louis.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [38 South, 23 North] Early south (median

- 5/1) 5/3 Carver JCy, 5/6 Rice JEB. Early north (median 5/10) 5/15 Kanabec CAM, 5/17 Cass MRN. Three high counts of 50 (all estimates?): 5/21 Washington DFN, 5/22 Martin BBo, 5/23 Isanti WAn.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Anrostomus vociferus*) — [11 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/28) 5/6 Anoka SaH, 5/8 Dakota RPR, Sherburne PLJ, Washington PNi. Early north (median 5/8) 5/16 Hubbard MAW and Kittson DSm, 5/18 Cass BAW, Grant DWK, PEB, HCT, Itasca SC. High count 5/20 Anoka (9, Bunker Hills R.P.) SaH.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [42 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/26 Hennepin ABL, 4/27 Rice DAB, Washington PSm, Winona DBz, ANy, JWH. Early north (median 5/1) 4/27 Polk SAU, 4/30 Mille Lacs ToL and Otter Tail JsS, JSw. High count 5/12 Hennepin (est. 100, Diamond Lake, Minneapolis) TAT.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archibolobus colubris*) — [44 South, 28 North] Early south (median 5/4) 4/30 Mower RJW, 5/3 Washington BAB. Early north (median 5/7) 5/7 Hubbard MaH and Otter Tail DST, 5/8 Cass FAB. High counts 5/21 Marshall (36) JPn, 5/19 Beltrami (11) PBD.
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megasceryle alcyon*) — [50 South, 32 North] Observed south throughout the season. Early north (median 3/26) 3/29 Douglas JPE, 4/4 Otter Tail RJo. High counts 3/29 and 4/6 Carver (4, Rapids Lake Unit, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [38 South, 19 North] First south observation 3/1 Houston DJa probably refers to overwintering individual; probable migrants well before recent median 4/22 first reported 4/5 Faribault WAF, 4/6 Lyon GWe. Early north (median 4/25) 4/19 and 4/27 Hubbard WDe, 5/16 Wadena JDi. High count 5/17 Rock (5, Blue Mounds S.P.) GJa.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [53 South, 28 North] Observed statewide as far northeast as Cook and as far northwest as Marshall. High counts 5/14 Ramsey (12, Crosby Farm R.P.) DAd, 4/20 Dakota (10, Lake Byllesby R.P.) SMY, 5/5 Hennepin (10, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo, 4/21 Hennepin (8, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo, 5/6 Anoka (8, King's Island) SaH.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [48 South, 31 North] South reports 3/1 Benton MJB and 3/12 Ramsey BMz probably refer to overwintering birds; all other south reports after recent median 3/28 beginning 3/30 Blue Earth ChH, Hennepin ABL, Rice JLn, Scott GLa. Early north (median 4/5) 4/5 Clay SHE, 4/7 St. Louis JWL. High count 5/12 Clay (10, Buffalo River S.P.) MO.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*) — [52 South, 33 North] Observed statewide. High counts 4/7 Polk (22) SAU, 5/14 Ramsey (18, Crosby Farm R.P.) DAd.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [53 South, 31 North] Observed statewide. High counts 5/4 Dakota (11, Dodge N.C.) ACR, 4/8 Hennepin (8, Staring Lake Park) GJa.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [1 North] Only report 3/1 Lake of the Woods (Beltrami Island S.F.) MHK.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Reported from Clearwater, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Present south throughout the season. Overwintering "Red-shafted" individual continued through 3/1 Pine JMP. Early north migrants 3/10 Clay RHO, 3/25 Otter Tail DST, 3/29 Marshall CCr. High counts 4/28 Beltrami (150, Lake Bemidji) SVo, 4/27 Hubbard (35) WDe, 4/29 Becker (35) MSg.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [47 South, 27 North] Observed nearly statewide, as far southwest as Lincoln and Murray.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [53 South, 33 North] Found statewide. Overwintered widely south. Early north (median 3/7) 3/3 Wadena PJB, 3/23 Clay RHO, 3/24 Otter Tail ANy. High counts 4/6 Swift (17) ANy, 4/5 Kandiyohi (10) ANy.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [29 South, 27 North] Present north and south as the season commenced. Probable early north migrants 3/6 Pennington ZL, 3/10 Pine JMP, 3/11 Aitkin m.ob. (median 3/17). Late south migrants 5/24 Goodhue RSA, 5/27 Benton JEB, Winona RZi (median 5/18).

- GYRFALCON** (*Falco rusticolus*) — [1 South] Gray morph 4/14 Dakota †KRo, ph. JCo at the Great Western Industrial Park near Randolph represents the first spring report since 2007.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [25 South, 16 North] Present south throughout the season. Early north (median 4/8) 3/29 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) KJB, 3/30 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) KJB, 4/2 St. Louis (Virginia.) SLF, 4/3 Polk SAu, 4/7 Lake JWL.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — No documented reports.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [31 South, 19 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/10 Hennepin (3) GJa, 5/13 Sherburne PIJ. Early north (median 5/15) 5/11 Morrison (Crane Meadows N.W.R.) MJB, 5/14 Beltrami JPr, 5/15 Wadena DBM. High counts 5/25 Washington (6, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) SBM, 5/29 Lyon (6, Camden S.P.) GWe, 5/29 Otter Tail (6) JSe. See summer report for late south migrants.
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [44 South, 23 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/3 Washington BAb, 5/9 Ramsey MaM, Steele PSu. Early north (median 5/12) 5/14 Polk VLa, 5/16 Grant MKu, Itasca SC, Pine JMP. Second highest spring count 5/31 Scott (14, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF.
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [33 South, 15 North] Reported with details from 12 south and 6 north counties. Early south (median 5/11) 5/17 Steele PSu, 5/18 Hennepin CMB, TAT, Stevens DLP. Early north (median 5/20) 5/19 Crow Wing JCC, 5/25 Carlton JCC. High count 5/30 St. Louis (36, Duluth) JLK, PHS. **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*) — [8 South] All south reports with details (median arrival 5/16): 5/20 Rice TFB, 5/21 Dakota BRL, 5/27 Washington MHu, 5/31 Brown BTS.
- Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [38 South, 16 North] Details included from 17 south and 4 north counties. Early south (median 5/16) 5/12, 5/14 Sherburne PIJ, 5/18 Nobles JWH. Early north (median 5/17) 5/27 Pine JCC, 5/30 Douglas RMD, St. Louis SLF. High counts 5/23 Carver (18, all singing/calling, Carver P.R.) JCy. See summer report for late south migrants.
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [26 South, 6 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/13 Dakota TAT, 5/17 Hennepin BAF, 5/19 Dakota DFN. All north reports 5/18 Grant DWK, HCT, PEB, 5/22 Clay PEB. High count 5/26 Murray (12) GWe.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [52 South, 32 North] Reported with details from 22 south and 9 north counties. Early south (median 5/1) 4/30 Ramsey RMD, 5/8 Hennepin CMB, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/6) 5/13 Polk VLa, 5/17 Norman JoF, 5/18 Grant DWK. High counts 5/31 St. Louis (34) PHS, 5/30 St. Louis (28) PHS.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [49 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/21) 3/29 Rice JLn, then reported from seven counties on 3/30. Early north (median 3/29) 4/3, 4/4 Becker LiS, 4/4–5 Cass BAW, 4/5 Morrison (2) MRN. High counts 4/9 Washington (15, Oakdale Park) BDo, 4/13 Dakota (14, Black Dog Lake) CAS.
- SAY'S PHOEBE** (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 South, 3 North] Four or five individuals reported this season, well above average. Only south report 5/4 Big Stone (Big Stone N.W.R.) †PEJ, †DFN. North reports commenced 4/30 Polk (DNR office on highway 32) ph. †EH, this bird reappeared 5/7; 5/2 **Otter Tail** ph. JSw, JsS; one was found by an MBW group 5/12 Clay (Felton Prairie) ph. †KRE, GHo, LS, JPr, RZi; a second record for Clay (perhaps the same individual) was seen just over a mile to the SSE, 5/22 †PEB, †DWK.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [46 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/27 Washington CBU, 4/29 Hennepin SKE, 4/30 Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/10 Crow Wing ANY, 5/16 Grant WCM, 5/17 Clay TCL. High count of 8 recorded 5/21 Hennepin CMB, 5/24 Goodhue GHo, 5/31 Scott BAF.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [7 South, 5 North] Fewer reports than normal. Early south (median 5/7) 5/14 Lyon GWe, Meeker †PRH. Early north (median 5/10) 5/15 Cass JPr, 5/16 Grant WCM, 5/23

- Otter Tail (3) JsS. High counts 5/26 Clay (4) TCL, 5/28 Otter Tail (4) JSe, 5/29 Anoka (4) AXH.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [50 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/25 Rice TFB, 4/27 Hennepin CMB. Early north (median 5/6) 5/8 Carlton ANY, 5/10 Norman RZi, GHo, Pine JMP. High counts 5/27 Stearns (31) RPR, 5/26 Otter Tail (30) JSe.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [10 South, 8 North] All early south reports from Dakota, beginning well after the 3/21 median: 3/30 TAT, 4/8 ADS; first reported outside Dakota county 4/26 Lac qui Parle DLP. Early north (median 4/13) 4/26 Traverse DBM, 4/27 Marshall MJJ, 4/28 Aitkin ph. BU, Clay TCL.
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*) — [29 South, 23 North] High counts 3/2 Lake of the Woods (8) MJJ, 3/12 St. Louis (6, Sax-Zim Bog) SLM, PSc. Late south 4/13 Anoka AMa, Big Stone RAE, HHD, Dakota CMB, 4/16 Chisago JFR, Dakota ADS, CRM (median 4/5). Late north 4/23 St. Louis KGr, ph. JLK, 4/25 Roseau DSm (median 4/19).
- White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) — No reports.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [9 South] Reported from a record-high 9 counties, including a first county record 5/26+ **Chisago** (Shafer W.T.P.) RBW. Early south (median 5/15) 5/12 Hennepin (Hyland Lake P.R.) MHu, 5/12–16 Hennepin (General Mills Research Nature Area) RCB, SFl, AMa, 5/14 Anoka BMc, Dakota DHn. High count 5/31 Wabasha (3) SHo.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [45 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Hennepin CAs, 5/2 Ramsey JaK, 5/5 Carver ALo, CRM. Early north (median 5/9) 5/14 Pine (2) JMP, 5/15 Cass (2) BAW, Douglas JPr, Grant WCM. High counts 5/25 Clay (9), Buffalo River S.P.) MO, 5/26 Becker (8) MO.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [44 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/29 Olmsted MHn, 4/30 Dakota HSt, Hennepin JJo, Steele PSu. Early north (median 5/5) 5/1 Hubbard MaH, St. Louis (2) JLK, 5/7 Carlton MJM. High count 5/15 Dakota (7, Spring Lake P.R.) DVe. Late south 5/30 Carver JCy, Hennepin TLo, Steele PSu, but see summer report for more late migrants (median 5/31).
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [45 South, 19 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/30 Houston SHo, 5/1 Houston ANY, 5/5 Hennepin DMI. Early north (median 5/8) 5/13 Polk SAu, 5/15 Grant WCM, 5/16 Itasca SC, 5/17 Becker DBM, Clay RHO, Mahnomen CAB. High counts 5/15 Hennepin (8) CMB, 5/16 Carver (8) JCy.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [42 South, 15 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/13 Anoka DPG, Hennepin (2) GJa, Kandiyohi WCM, then widespread arrivals 5/14. Early north (median 5/14) 5/14 Cass BAW, 5/15 Todd DBM, 5/16 Pine (2) JMP. High count 5/19 Otter Tail (10) JsS. Late south 5/30 Hennepin TAT, Steele (2) PSu, 5/31 Rice TFB (median 5/30).
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [50 South, 27 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/8 Rice GHo, 5/9 Rice TFB, 5/10 Hennepin CMB, Houston SHo, 5/12 Ramsey JoD. Early north (median 5/10) 5/14 Pine EBr, 5/15 Clay TCL, Todd DBM, 5/16 Cass BAW. High counts 5/25 Houston (23) CRM, 5/25 Carver (19) JCy.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [10 North] Reported from normal range, with outlying reports 3/1 Kittson DAC, RBJ, 5/3 Red Lake RAE. High count 3/1 Koochiching (40) DBM.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [52 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts, both from Park Point, St. Louis: 5/23 (875) JLK, 5/16 (427) JLK.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [18 North] Reported from throughout usual range. High count 3/30 Pennington (19) KLa.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [8 South, 30 North] Reported from throughout the north, as far south as Clay along the western border. South reports from Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, and Washington where this species is Regular, plus exceptional reports 4/16 Benton JGh, 4/9–22 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R. Headquarters) KrR, BDO, 3/6 Stearns Collegeville) MJB, 4/13 Stearns (near Rice) BWF, 4/17 Stearns (2, St. Wendel Twp., Colleg-

- eville) †PCC. High count 3/12 St. Louis (29, Sax-Zim Bog) SLM, PSC.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [53 South, 27 North] Not reported from 7 northern counties. High count 4/13 Carver (190) JCy.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [40 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/5) 3/31 Carver JCy, 4/4 Lyon (2) GWe, 4/6 Freeborn AEB. Early north (median 4/11) 4/16 Mille Lacs (2) ToL, 4/17 Crow Wing MRN, 4/23 Marshall CCr. High count 5/26 Otter Tail (125) JSe.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/20) 3/26 Murray (9) TCu, 3/28 Hennepin GLa, RAE, CMB. Early north (median 4/3) 4/8 Itasca SC, 4/9 Becker ASM, Morrison MJB, 4/10 Todd BWF. High counts of **1,000** on 5/2 and 5/5 Hennepin (Long Meadow Lake) BAF, SHF.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [40 South, 20 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/22 Dakota (three separate locations) ANy, CAS, GHo, Winona DBz, 4/24 Goodhue GJM, Houston DBz. Early north (median 4/21) 4/28 Otter Tail ALo, 4/29 Otter Tail JsS, JSw, 5/2 Mahnomen KMy, 5/3 Beltrami DPJ. High counts 5/10 Goodhue (**100**, Hok-si-la Park) JEc, 5/22 Goodhue (**100**, Prairie Island) DVe.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [40 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/21 Scott JEB, 4/22 Mower RAE, 4/26 Hennepin KvB, (15) SeH, Houston ANy. Early north (median 4/30) 5/9 Itasca ANy, 5/11 Clay RHO, ALo, JPr, Kanabec DAB, DBz, Otter Tail DST. High counts 5/17 Norman (**300**, colony west of Agassiz Dunes S.N.A.) MSS, 5/19 Otter Tail (60) JSS.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [48 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/14 Winona DBz, ANy, 4/22 Mower RAE. Early north (median 4/25) 4/28 Otter Tail RZi, KRE, ALo, 4/30 Mille Lacs ToL. High counts 5/23 McLeod (145) DAs, 5/7 Fillmore (130) NBo.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/11) 3/28 Faribault (3, Rice Lake W.M.A.) ph. CoN, ClN, 4/6 Brown DWK, Goodhue BRL. Early north (median 4/19) 4/17 Doug-
- las BEc, 4/19 Morrison FGo. High count 5/22 Goodhue (120, Prairie Island) DVe.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [52 South, 33 North] Reported statewide. High count 3/12 St. Louis (**54**, Sax-Zim Bog) SLM, PSC.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Reported from Cook, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, and St. Louis.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [8 South] Reported from six counties in usual southeast range, plus 3/4 Anoka (Circle Pines) JRk, 5/15 Washington CBu.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [33 South, 25 North] High count 5/15 Beltrami (10) KCo. Late south 5/27 Rice DAB, 5/31 Chisago HHD, but note that this species is known to breed along the northern edge of the south region.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [53 South, 31 North] Reported statewide. High count 5/4 Ramsey (**23**, Crosby Farm R.P.) SeH.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [48 South, 24 North] Overwintered St. Louis. Early north migrants 3/25 Cass ANy, 4/2 Cass MRN, 4/6 Pine SuB. High count 5/1 St. Louis (15, Southworth Marsh, Park Point) JLK. Late south 5/16 Dakota HSt, Washington JoF (median 5/20). Territorial birds observed in Ramsey (Crosby Farm R.P.) through end of season.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [50 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/18 Hennepin (3) ESe, 4/19 Dakota GJa. Early north (median 4/29) 5/8 Otter Tail ARo, St. Louis ANy, 5/11 Morrison MJB. High counts 5/8 Hennepin (17) CMB, 5/9 Carver (15) JCy.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [30 South, 15 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/8 Houston (overwintered?) SHO, 3/30, 3/31 Dakota ADS, 3/31 Carver JCy, Hennepin TAT, CMB, Rice TFB. In contrast to 2012, early north arrivals were well after the 4/6 median: 4/25 Itasca, St. Louis SC, 4/26 Lake NLM. All late south reports from Houston (Beaver Creek Valley S.P.): 5/18 HHD, DSt, 5/25 RZi, KRE, CRM, 5/29 JEB (median 5/13).
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [32 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/30 Rice TFB, 5/1 Goodhue CBu. Early



Winter Wren, 24 May 2013, Lutsen, Cook County. Photo by David Brisance.

north (median 5/3) 5/1 St. Louis JLK, 5/6 Marshall PEB. High counts 5/29 Aitkin (22, Rice Lake N.W.R.) TKe.

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [42 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/26 Sherburne JGb, 4/27 Faribault CoN, 4/28 Olmsted JP. Early north (median 5/4) 5/8 Polk VLa, 5/11 Otter Tail DST, 5/12 Becker ALo.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [5 South] All south reports: 3/1–4/3 Olmsted (2 overwintering in Rochester) ANy, JWH, SC, 3/2–29 Anoka (overwintering bird in Linwood) DWK, HHD, RAE, CRM, MJB, 3/29–4/6 Winona (near Elba) JPr, HHD, RAE, 4/15 Hennepin SKe, 4/20 Ramsey CCh, 5/4 Mower (successfully overwintered) BPl.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliptila caerulea*) — [45 South, 9 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/23 Wabasha RTP, 4/26 Wabasha GJM. Early north (median 5/6) 5/9 Otter Tail PEB, 5/15 Douglas JPr, Wadena DBM, 5/16 Grant WCM. Out-of-range north report 5/29–30 **Polk** (2, Red Lake River Greenway) ph. †SAu. High counts 5/15 Washington (21) PAI, 5/18 Scott (14) BAF, SHF.

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [43 South, 17 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/30 Carver JCy, Dakota ADS, BDo, ACr, KDS, Hennepin CMB, RDa,

CAs, RSA, Winona ANy, JWH. Early north (median 3/25) 4/6 Pine SuB, 4/8 St. Louis EBr, 4/10 Cook ph. DMB. High counts 4/18 Carver (25, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 4/10 Washington (24, Lake Elmo R.P.) BDo. 5/23 Sherburne (2) JGb, 5/26 Sherburne DWK (median 5/7).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) — [50 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/29 Washington GJa, 3/30 Hennepin SBM, CAs, RSA. Early north (median 4/6) 4/21 Itasca PLe, Lake JWl, 4/22 Cook DKa. High count 4/28 St. Louis (47) JLK. Late south 5/23 Isanti MHe, WAn, Le Sueur PBo, 5/25 Brown JSS, McLeod RBJ (median 5/24).

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [53 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/1) 3/3 Houston (6) DJa, 3/11 Anoka SaH, Rice TFB, 3/13 Goodhue GJM. Early north (median 3/16) 3/29 Douglas JPE, 4/2 Douglas BEC, Traverse DLP, 4/3 Mille Lacs ToL, Morrison (3) JeM, DTM. High counts 4/12 Washington (20) PNi.

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) — [1 South, 1 North] Only south report 4/30–5/2 Rice (female, River Bend N.C.) TFB. One north report 5/6 Lake (Two Harbors cemetery) ph. JWl.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [3 South, 2 North] All south: one found by TAT 2/23 Hennepin (St. Mary's Cemetery, Minneapolis) continued through 3/17 ph. RTe, ph. SBM, m.ob.; 3/1 Lac qui Parle (Hantho boat access) DLP; 3/13, 4/1 Sherburne (Ann Lake campground) PLJ (median late 3/25). Two north reports: 3/3 St. Louis (Duluth) PCa, **5/11** Aitkin (third May record, Rice Lake N.W.R.) ph. BU (median late 4/10).

Veery (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [32 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/4 Houston DBz, Winona DBz, MGo, 5/5 Carver m.ob., Dakota (2) SLP, Hennepin CMB, ThM, Olmsted SHk, MHm, Rice TFB, PDK, DAT, Steele (2) PSu, Winona ClN. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Mille Lacs DPG, St. Louis (2) JLK, 5/9 Hubbard MaH. Record high count of **43** in St. Louis (Park Point) during passerine fallout on 5/19 PHS, JLK, MLH.

Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catbarus minimus*) — [37 South, 13 North] Early south (medi-

- an 5/3) 5/4–5 Winona MGo, 5/5 Blue Earth RBW, Carver LS, MHu, ALo, CRM, Faribault DBz, Hennepin TAT, Olmsted SHk, LAV, Sherburne PLJ, Washington BDo. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Clay TCL, 5/6 Crow Wing MRN, 5/9 Hubbard MaH. Record high count 5/19 Polk (**25**, Oakdale Cemetery) VLa, SAS.
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [46 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/20 Dakota SLP, 4/27 Hennepin TLo, 4/30 Hennepin JJo, Steele PSu. Early north (median 5/2) 5/2 Clay TCL, 5/5 St. Louis JLK, 5/9 Clay RHO, Polk SAu, Wadena RAE. Record high count of **135** in St. Louis (Park Point) on 5/19 PHS, JLK, MLH, also on 5/19, but on the opposite side of the state, **70** were counted in Polk (Oakdale Cemetery) VLa, SAS. Late south 5/30 Chisago RZi, Hennepin m.ob., Rice DAT, but also see summer report (median 6/1).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [50 South, 30 North] Overwintering bird continued through 3/6 Hennepin CMB. Early south migrants 3/23 Winona HHD, RAE, 3/30 Carver JCy, Dakota KDS, Hennepin CMB, MaP. Early north (median 4/10) 4/4 Morrison FGo, 4/5 Clay SHe, 4/6 Morrison MJB. Record high count 4/17 Lyon (**357**, Camden S.P.) RJS, also 5/8 St. Louis (46, Park Point) KJB. Late south 5/24 Dakota DVe, 5/29 Lyon GWe (median 5/16).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [36 South, 17 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/28 Rice TFB, 5/2 Steele PSu. Early north (median 5/8) 5/9 Hubbard MaH, 5/15 Mille Lacs ToL, 5/16 Grant WCM. High count 5/29 Aitkin (**14**, Rice Lake N.W.R.) TKE.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported statewide. High counts 4/20 Dakota (**2,300** at Great Western Industrial Park) BAF, 4/16 Dakota (750, Dodge N.C.) JJa.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [1 South, 4 North] Only south report 3/4–15 Mower RNS, ph. JEM, m.ob. North overwintering birds continued through 3/9 Itasca SC, CRM, and 3/7 Beltrami RAE. Other north reports 3/16–4/21 St. Louis (East Duluth) *fide* JWl, PLJ, 4/11 Clay KBr, 4/19 St. Louis (Duluth) CCE.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/27
- 4/28 Ramsey BNW, 4/29 Carver WCM, 4/30 Isanti JSa. Early north (median 5/6) 4/25 Hubbard MAW, 5/7 St. Louis (Indian Point, Duluth) JLK. High counts 5/17 Hennepin (**30**, Minnesota Valley N.W.R. Headquarters) DaM, MAM, 5/22 Washington (16, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) PNi.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [52 South, 28 North] Overwintering bird continued through 3/16 Carver (Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) KSo. Early south (median 4/12) 4/6 Ramsey FKB, 4/7 Carver JCy, 4/8 Hennepin CMB. Early north (median 4/23) 4/27 St. Louis KGr, Todd DTM, JeM, 4/28 Beltrami FGo, Hubbard MAW, Mahnomen CSo, Otter Tail RZi. High count 4/29 Washington (**12**, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) BDo.
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [6 South, 4 North] All south 5/2–3 McLeod KdB, 5/6 Anoka ph. †CKB, 5/13–14 Ramsey (Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary) JPS, ph. LMS, m.ob., 5/18 Scott DiW, first county record 5/26 **Chisago** ph. †CaC. All north 4/29–5/7 St. Louis (Park Point) DRB, ph. PHS, ph. AM, ph. JLK, m.ob., 5/10–14 Pine †JMP, 5/11 Becker KBl, 5/30 St. Louis RAE, ALo, JLK, CRM, 5/31 Cook KRE, CRM.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [52 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts of 500 at the mouth of Miller Creek, Duluth 4/16, 4/23, 4/27 JLK, 4/28 AM.
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [34 South, 14 North] Early south (median 4/10) 3/29 Blue Earth ChH, 3/30 Nobles DFN, 4/1 Dakota FKB. Early north (median 4/28) 4/27 Grant DPG, Wilkin RZi, KRE, ALo, 4/28 Itasca SC. High counts 4/30 Rice (53) TFB, 5/14 Carver (46) CRM. Late south 5/18 Hennepin EMy, Le Sueur ChH, AnK, Nobles ANy, DAB, RMD, JWH, Stevens DLP, 5/19 Pipestone ANy, JWH (median 5/16). Late north 5/23 Marshall DWK, 5/25 Pine JCC (median 5/22).
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [1 South, 11 North] Only south report 4/22 Stearns (17) MJB. High counts 3/29 St. Louis (1,598, W.S.H.C.) KJB, 3/13 St. Louis (1,100, H.R.N.R.) PSc. Several very late reports north **5/18** Itasca SC, **5/26** St. Louis (6) †TPW, **5/30** St. Louis LBe (median 4/17).

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [41 South, 21 North] Early north migrants 4/1 Wadena JDi, 4/5 Polk SAu. High count 5/30 St. Louis (1,125 at Park Point) JLK.

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [42 South, 12 North] Present north and south as season began. High counts 4/7 Big Stone (300) WCM, 4/13 Dakota (300) SHF. Late south 5/3 Wabasha ANy, Wright RBJ, 5/5 Blue Earth ChH, MiO, Stearns PCC (median 5/4). Late north 5/18 Todd DPG, 5/19 St. Louis JLK, 5/20 St. Louis KJB (median 5/19).

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 South, 1 North] One south report, first county record 5/5 **Blue Earth** (male in Alternate plumage with large flock of Smith's Longspurs, Lincoln W.P.A.) JPr. All north reports from traditional Felton Prairie location, first reports 5/11 RZi, 5/12 ph. GHo (median 4/24).

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) — [3 South, 2 North] All south 4/28 Lac qui Parle LWh, ph. SvB, 5/5–6 Blue Earth (100, estimated number at Lincoln W.P.A.; one photographed) ph. ChH, m.ob., 5/7 Lac qui Parle FGo, **5/15** Kandiyohi JoS (median early 4/19, late 4/28). All north 4/27 Wilkin ALo, KRE, RZi, 5/11–12 Clay KRE, m.ob. (median early 5/7, late 5/8).

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [32 South, 28 North] High count 3/4 Watonwan (1,000, single flock) TSo, Many late south reports after the 3/30 median, final reports 4/17 Lyon RJS, 4/20 Carver JCy, 4/21 Big Stone DLP, Carver DPG. Late north 5/11 Marshall RAE, 5/12 Clearwater JPr, 5/13 Mahnomen JPr (median 5/8).

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [41 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/30 Rice TFB, Washington MJM, 5/1 Hennepin CMB, 5/2 Hennepin CAS, Olmsted JWH. Early north (median 5/4) 4/30 St. Louis JLK, 5/2 Cass FAB. High counts 5/29 Aitkin (**56**, Rice Lake N.W.R.) TKe, 5/26 Becker (30, Tamarac N.W.R.) MO.

WORM-EATING WARBLER (*Helmitheros vermivorum*) — [1 South] The first spring report since 2009 was 5/4 Anoka (Fridey) †CF, same bird also reported 5/5 ELC.

Louisiana Waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [9 South] Early south (median 4/23) 4/13 Rice DAB, 4/27 **Steele** PSU, 4/28

Washington DFN. High counts 5/11 Winona (4, Whitewater S.P.) DCZ, 5/25 Houston (4) CRM.

Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [39 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/25 Winona DBz, 4/26 Wright JCN, 4/27 Houston JWH, ANy. Early north (median 5/4) 4/30 St. Louis (4) KRE, PHS, JLK, 5/2 Clay TCL. High count 5/10 Goodhue (20, Hok-si-la Park) JEc. Late south 5/29 Hennepin CMB, Lyon GWe, Washington PNi, 5/30 Carver JCy (median 5/29), but also see summer report.

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [35 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/8 Olmsted (2) ALJ, Ramsey AZi, TOB, Rice DAT, Washington ASi, PNi, Winona MGo, widespread arrivals 5/10. Early north (median 5/8) 5/16 Cass BAW, Itasca SC, ScW, 5/17 Becker DBM, Clay TCL, Crow Wing SMu, Mahnomen CAB, DBM, Pine RBJ. High counts 5/25 Pine (10) JCC, 5/27 Beltrami (8) PBD. Late south outside of breeding areas 5/29 Carver JCy, Lyon GWe, 5/30 Carver JCy (median 5/28).

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [23 South, 2 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/4 Goodhue (2) RTe, 5/7 Houston LMI, Wabasha DBz, 5/8 Rice DAB, Washington DBM, Winona MGo, CLN. Also notable was one 5/16–17 **Yellow Medicine** (Upper Sioux Agency S.P.) CoN. All north reports (median arrival 5/21) 5/20 Morrison FGo, 5/22 Pine JSa, 5/25 Morrison FGo. High count 5/23 Carver (8, Carver P.R.) JCy.

Golden-winged Warbler X Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera* X *V. cyanoptera*) — [1 North] A "Brewster's" Warbler was photographed 5/23 Pine County ph. DAC.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) — [46 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/25–28 Olmsted MHm, 4/29 Hennepin KvB, 4/30 Dakota ADS, HSt, Faribault WAF, Hennepin KvB, CMB, RDa. Early north (median 5/3) 4/30 St. Louis PHS, 5/2 Clay TCL, 5/3 Becker RAE. High count 5/13 Hennepin (21, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) CRM.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [16 South, 1 North] Well-represented with reports from 17 counties. Early south



“Brewster’s” Warbler, 23 May 2013, Pine County. Photo by David A. Cahlander.

(median 5/4) 5/1 Goodhue GJM, 5/2–3 Hennepin BAF, SHF, CMB. New county record 5/27 **McLeod** (Lake Marion C.P.) PRH. Only north report 5/27 **Otter Tail** JSe. High count 5/15 Sherburne (4, along a one-mile stretch of Elk River) ADB.

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [51 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/28) 5/1 Washington PNi, 5/2 Carver JCy, 5/3 Goodhue FKB, Hennepin *vide* BBA. Early north (median 5/7) 5/10 Pine JMP, 5/13 Clay SHe, Hubbard MaH, 5/14 four more counties. High counts 5/16 Carver (62) JCy, 5/19 St. Louis (61) PHS, 5/22 Washington (60) PNi. Observed late south well into June.

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [43 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/18 Hennepin ESe, 4/21 Ramsey RMD, RAE, 4/22 Dakota GHo, 4/24 Rice GHo. Early north (median 4/25) 4/21 Polk SAU, 4/26 Pennington JMJ, Polk EH, 4/27 Beltrami SVo, Wadena PJB. Late south 5/26 Anoka DPG, Hennepin DMI, BrW, Ramsey BNW, Winona RAE (median 5/22). Late north 5/30 Lake RAE, CRM, St. Louis m.ob., 5/31 St. Louis JLK (median 5/27).

Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [46 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/30 Blue Earth ChH, Dakota

HSt, Mower BPl, Rice TFB, 5/1 four additional counties. Early north (median 5/3) 5/7 Itasca PLe, Pine ANy, 5/9 Douglas JTa, 5/10 Aitkin ANy, St. Louis JLK, NLM. High counts 5/19 St. Louis (53) PHS, 5/21 Hennepin (29) TLo. Late south 5/30 Washington JSP, 5/31 Chisago HHD (median 5/29). Also see summer report.

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) — [21 South, 8 North] Early south (median 5/11) 5/12 Hennepin PRH, 5/16 Hennepin DWK, 5/17 Dakota EGo, Lac qui Parle DLP. All north 5/19 Otter Tail JsS, RTo, 5/21 St. Louis KJB, 5/22 Itasca CRM, Pine ToL, St. Louis RZi, JLK, 5/23 Itasca PLe, Koochiching AXH. Late south 5/28 McLeod PRH, 5/29 Anoka RBW, 5/29–30 Hennepin DWK, TAT, CMB (median 5/30).

Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [31 South, 17 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/9 Hennepin KPu, 5/10 Ramsey AZi, 5/12 Winona DBM, 5/13 Hennepin CMB. Early north (median 5/14) 5/18 Grant (Tipsanah Mounds C.P.) DWK, HCT, PEB, 5/19 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) PHS, JLK, LAV, 5/20 Clay RHO. High counts 5/21 St. Louis (**11**, Park Point) KJB, 5/30 St. Louis (**11**, Park Point) EBr, 5/29 Hennepin (8) CMB. See summer report for late south migrants and potentially summering individuals.

Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*) — [4 South] Four individuals reported: 5/10 **Steele** HHD, 5/16 Blue Earth (Rasmussen Woods) TDh, 5/17 Hennepin (Edina) KvG, 5/18 **Le Sueur** (Chamberlin Woods S.N.A.) ChH, AnK.

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [51 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/2) 4/30 Hennepin RDa, 5/1 Hennepin CAS, Houston ANy, Winona DBz. Early north (median 5/7) 5/10 Aitkin PEJ, 5/12 Douglas *vide* JMJ, 5/14 Pine JMP, 5/15 Cass BAW, Grant WCM, Mille Lacs ToL, St. Louis ALo. Notable high counts 5/25 Hennepin (27, Westwood Hills N.C.) ABo, 5/10 Goodhue (20) JEc, 5/18 Hennepin (18) CMB, 5/30 St. Louis (18) PHS.

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) — [6 South] All reports: 5/8–14 Hennepin (male at T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) CMB, m.ob., 5/15 Washington (Mahtomedi) JHh, 5/19+ Scott (max. 5, Murphy-Hanre-

- han P.R.) BAF, SHF, DFN, MwS, 5/20 Rice (Northfield) DAT, 5/20 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, 5/23 Dakota (Ritter Farm Park) HKr, 5/24–26 Dakota (max. 2, Lebanon Hills R.P.) JSn, RaM, MHu., 5/29 Washington (2, Afton S.P.) PNi, 5/29 Hennepin (female at T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) TAT, 5/29 Scott (Spring Lake R.P.) KDS.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [48 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Houston ANy, 5/2 Rice TFB, 5/5 Dakota HSt, Goodhue GJM, Hennepin SOa. Early north (median 5/8) 5/8 Pine ANy, 5/11 Hubbard MAW, 5/12 Becker RAE, St. Louis DYo. High counts 5/30 St. Louis (244, Park Point) KJB, 5/19 St. Louis (185) PHS.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [29 South, 24 North] Most reports from the eastern half of the state. Early south (median 5/7) 5/6 Isanti MHe, 5/7 Dakota HSt, 5/8 five more counties. Early north (median 5/9) 5/9 Carlton MSS, St. Louis NLM, 5/10 Cass BAW, Norman RZi, m.ob. High count 5/19 St. Louis (92, Park Point R.A. and Southworth Marsh) PHS, JLK, MLH. Late south 5/27 Benton JEB, Hennepin GLa, but also see summer report (median 5/22).
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [15 South, 2 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/5 Hennepin (Elm Creek P. R.) TLo, 5/13 Houston JEB, Olmsted SWs, Ramsey (Crosby Farm R.P.) SeH, Rice TFB, 5/14 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) DWK, Wright (Lake Maria S.P.) RLR. All north 5/25 Morrison FGo, 5/26 Otter Tail JSe.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [36 South, 16 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Goodhue GJM, 5/3 Scott GLa, CRM, 5/5 Hennepin Ave, 5/6 Rice TFB, plus six other counties on 5/9. Early north (median 5/6) 5/14–15 Cass BAW, St. Louis ALo, JLK, 5/16 Itasca SC, 5/17 four more counties. Season high counts all from the Park Point R.A. in St. Louis: 5/30 (10) KJB, 5/19 (8) JLK, 5/21 (8) KJB. Late south 5/28 Carver JCy, 5/29 Hennepin CMB, Lyon GWe (median 5/26).
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [46 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/8 Hennepin JCC, Olmsted JWH, Rice DAB, Washington DBM plus six other counties on 5/9. Early north (median 5/9) 5/8 Lake NLM, 5/13 Hubbard MaH, 5/14 Beltrami DPJ, Cass (2) BAW plus five other counties on 5/15. Highest counts both from the Park Point R.A. and adjacent Southworth Marsh in St. Louis: 5/19 (72) PHS, JLK, MLH, 5/30 (68) PHS. Late south 5/30 Brown JSS, Chisago DAB, Hennepin CMB, Rice DAT, but also see summer report (median 5/31).
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [27 South, 19 North] Early south (median 5/8) 5/9 Rice TFB, 5/10 Ramsey MDv, 5/11 Carver JCy, Hennepin DFN. Early north (median 5/13) 5/11 Hubbard MAW, 5/13 Becker ASM, 5/14 Cass BAW, 5/16 Kanabec CAM. High counts 5/21 Washington (42, Lake Elmo R.P.) BDo, 5/19 St. Louis (7, Park Point R.A.) JLK. Late south 5/29 Anoka, Hennepin, Isanti, Washington (3 locations), but also see summer report (median 5/25).
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [44 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/2 Anoka DvS, 5/4 Hennepin BAF, SHF, 5/8 Dakota GLa, BAb, Hennepin AdJ, Winona ClN. Record early north was one in Crow Wing 4/21 ph. JPR, followed by 5/9 St. Louis KrB, 5/14 Cass BAW, Crow Wing JSB, Hubbard MAW, Lake NLM. High counts all from Park Point R.A. and Southworth Marsh: 5/21 St. Louis (17) KJB, 5/20 St. Louis (10) PHS. Late south 5/30 Chisago RZi, Dodge JWH, but also see summer report (median 5/31).
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/26 Hennepin (8, Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo, 4/28 Anoka ABo, Hennepin (Bass Ponds) BTC, 4/29 Fillmore JWH, ANy plus five additional counties 4/30. Early north (median 5/4) 5/8 Carlton ANy, Kanabec ANy, Mille Lacs MRN, Pine ANy, 5/9 five more counties. High counts 5/14 Carver (68, Minnesota River Valley N.W.R.) CRM, 5/30 St. Louis (55, Park Point R.A. and Southworth Marsh) PHS, 5/9 Carver (50, Rapids Lake Unit, Minnesota River Valley N.W.R.) JCy.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [46 South, 27 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/7 Hennepin GJa, 5/8 Faribault WAF, Goodhue GJM, Hennepin AdJ,

- Ramsey COL, Rice DAB, GHo, plus seven counties on 5/9. Early north (median 5/8) **4/29** Morrison MRN, 5/10 Norman RAE, 5/11 Hubbard MAW, 5/13 Becker ASM. Season high counts all from Park Point R.A. and adjacent Southworth Marsh in St. Louis: 5/21 (40) KJB, 5/30 (40) PHS.
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [47 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/1 Olmsted LAV, Winona DBz, ANy, 5/4 Olmsted JWH, 5/5 Hennepin AMa, GrS, 5/7 Ramsey BTC. Early north (median 5/9) 5/9 Otter Tail PEB, 5/11 Todd DTM, JeM, 5/13 Hubbard MaH, 5/14 Clay TCL, Itasca SC. Season high counts 5/21 Washington (**65**, Lake Elmo R. P.) BDo, 5/18 Carver (41, Carver P.R.) JCy, 5/19 Otter Tail (35) JsS, 5/30 St. Louis (33) PHS. Lingering migrants still reported from eight south and three north counties in June.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [7 South, 4 North] All south (median 5/11) 5/12 Hennepin AMa, 5/13 Olmsted MHm, 5/14 Rice TFB, 5/15 Hennepin (Prospect Park) SAu, 5/17 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) JoM, 5/19 Dakota JLO, 5/21 Olmsted MHm, 5/24 Isanti DPG, **Kandiyohi** ANy, JWH, Scott JSp, m.ob. Early north 5/14 **Cass** (2, Deep Portage Learning Center) BAW, 5/18 St. Louis WCM, JLK, 5/19 **Itasca** SC, St. Louis PHS, m.ob. High counts 5/29 Cook (6, Gunflint Trail) ASd, 5/19 St. Louis (5, second highest northbound count away from breeding areas) PHS.
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [49 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/26 Dakota JBlk, Hennepin ABL, Ramsey ASi, 4/27 Dakota RTe, Hennepin MHu, Yellow Medicine JSc. Early north (median 4/25) 4/27 Beltrami SVo, Roseau BJS, 4/28 Beltrami SVo, Morrison DLP, St. Louis NPo. Highest concentration 5/19–22 St. Louis with peak count 5/21 St. Louis (**452**) KJB. Late south 5/25 Brown JSc, Hennepin AbA, RCB, ABo, Isanti DPG, 5/26 Hennepin DMI, Sherburne DWK, PEB (median 5/23).
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [22 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/21 Hennepin SuB, 4/28 Dakota SuB, Washington DFN, 4/29 Fillmore JEB. Early north (median 4/25) 4/29 Cass BAW, Crow Wing MRN, 4/30 Cass BAW, Itasca SC, 5/1 Hubbard MAW. High count 5/15 Beltrami (**6**, Lake Bemidji S.P.) KCo. First county records: 5/12 **Brown** BTS, 5/18 **Stevens** DLP.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/2) 3/30 Hennepin JnS, 4/1 Hennepin CMB, 4/6 Anoka BRL, Carver JCy, Chippewa ANy, BWF, SC, JWH plus six other counties on 4/7. Early north (median 4/7) 4/2 Becker KBL, 4/4 Morrison FGo, 4/13 Lake JWL, Wadena RAE, HHD. High counts 5/13 Hennepin (235) CRM, 5/1 Hennepin (200) AMa, 5/2 Hennepin (200) CMB. Late south 5/28 Goodhue DAT, Hennepin TAT, Washington KCR, 5/29 Isanti DPG, Ramsey MeJ (median 5/28).
- YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** (*Setophaga dominica*) — [2 South] Two reports: 5/5–18 **Carver** (Minnesota River Valley N.W.R. Carver Creek Loop) ph. JCy, ph. JPi, ph. RZi, †DWC, †BAF, ph. RTe, 5/10+ **Winona** (Whitewater S.P.) ph. †DCZ, †DBz, ph. CWG, ph. ANy, †DWC, †KRE.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [35 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/30) 5/1 Winona DBz, ANy, 5/3 Goodhue GLa, 5/4 Goodhue RTe, ALo, BAB, Hennepin NSa. Early north (median 5/4) 5/8 Pine JMP, 5/12 Morrison DLP, 5/13 Cass BAW. High count 5/31 Cook (20, Judge C. R. Magney S.P.) SRu. Late south 5/29 Hennepin CMB, Washington PNi, 5/30 Chisago DBz, DAB, Washington JSP (median 5/30), but also see summer report.
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [34 South, 20 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/9 Rice DAB, DBz, Wright AKn, 5/10 Steele HHD, JWH, 5/12 Hennepin KeG, Olmsted MHm. Early north (median 5/14) 5/14 Otter Tail SAV, 5/15 Cass DAY, BAW, 5/16 Beltrami PBD, 5/18 St. Louis KRE, JLK. High counts 5/26 Carver (12, Carver P. R.) JCy, 5/25 Carver (11, Carver P.R.) WCM, 5/30 St. Louis (11, Park Point R.A. and adjacent Southworth Marsh) PHS. Late south 5/31 Chisago HHD (median 5/31), but also see summer report.
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [44 South, 28 North] Early south (median 5/4) 4/25 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park, Richfield) WPe, 5/2 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) SHF, BAF. Early north (me-

- dian 5/10) 5/13 Hubbard MaH, Todd JeM, 5/14 Cass BAW, 5/15 Beltrami DPJ. High count 5/30 St. Louis (48, Park Point R.A. and Southworth Marsh) PHS. Late south 5/30 Carver JCy, Chisago DBz, RZi, DAB, Dodge JWH, Hennepin CMB, PRI (median 5/29). See summer report for late south migrants and potential breeders north.
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [1 South] Only report 5/24 **Rice** TFB.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [2 South] One that overwintered in Rice (Faribault) lingered until 4/19 JLn. Two were also seen in Pipestone (Pipestone N.M.) 5/9 CRM.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [33 South, 14 North] One found 3/7 in Dodge KDS is presumed to have been an undetected overwintering individual. Early south (median 4/16) 3/28 Rice TFB, 4/6 Winona DSt, 4/13 Houston JSv, 4/20 Dakota SMY. Early north (median 5/4) 5/1 St. Louis JLK, 5/3 Crow Wing MLa, 5/10 Marshall CCr. High count 5/8 Winona (**10**, Great River Bluffs S.P.) CLN.
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizella arborea*) — [53 South, 26 North] High count 4/30 St. Louis (**432**) KJB. Late south 5/9 Renville MiO, 5/12 Meeker HHD, 5/13 Lac qui Parle DLP, 5/14 Fillmore RTP (median 5/2). Late north 5/16 St. Louis DYø, 5/18 St. Louis CMn, 5/20 St. Louis JLK (median 5/7).
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/21 Dakota JLM, 3/29 Washington NRø, 3/31 Anoka ABo. First north reports from Otter Tail (median 4/11) 4/10 *fide* JMJ, 4/12, 4/19 KFi, followed by 4/26 Morrison RZi, Pine JMP, Todd JeM, Wadena PJB. High counts 5/25 St. Louis (142) JLK, 5/19 St. Louis (140) PHS.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [51 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/7 Lyon GWe, 4/16 McLeod DAS, 4/20 Murray GWe, 4/26 Goodhue JWH, Rice DAB. Early north (median 4/27) 4/28 Marshall CCr, Todd DTM, 4/29 Polk SAU, 5/1 Clay RHO, Grant PEB. High count 5/15 Carver (**50**, Carver P.R.) JCy.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [46 South, 12 North] One reported 3/2 Rice DAB, MJB was likely an overwintering individual. Early south (median 4/1) 4/1 Kandiyohi MJB, 4/5 Rice TFB, 4/6 Winona HHD, 4/7 Brown MiO. Early north (median 4/21) 4/25 Morrison FGo, 4/27 Todd JeM, 4/28 **Beltrami** FGo, Douglas PJK, Otter Tail RZi, VLa. High counts 5/18 Yellow Medicine (18, Upper Sioux Agency S.P.) CoN, 5/7 Scott (16, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAB.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [53 South, 24 North] Early south (median 3/29) 4/4 Hennepin DwS, 4/5 Rice TFB, 4/6 Faribault WAF, Olmsted LAV, Watonwan JCC. Early north (median 4/12) 4/19 Hubbard WDe, 4/25 Morrison FGo, 4/26 Morrison JEM, DTM, Otter Tail JsS, JSw, Polk EH, Traverse DBM. High counts 4/12 Faribault (**29**) WAF, 5/19 Otter Tail (25) JsS.
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [33 South, 9 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/15 Washington BDo, 4/26 Dakota JLO, Stearns PCC, Wabasha RMD, JWH, 4/27 Yellow Medicine JSc. Early north (median 5/4) 4/26 Todd JeM, 5/1 Polk SAU, 5/2 Grant PEB, 5/3 Polk PEB, Red Lake RAE. High count 5/18 Brown (**10**) MiO. New county record: 5/5 **Steele** JWH.
- LARK BUNTING** (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) — [1 South] One report 5/18 Nobles ph. v.t. †RMD, ph. ANy, †DAB, m.ob. This is the tenth modern Nobles county record for this casual species.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [49 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/1) 4/13 Blue Earth ChH, Wabasha DAC, RBJ, 4/14 Dakota TAT, and three other counties on 4/16. Early north (median 4/17) 4/23 Mille Lacs ToL, 4/26 Traverse DBM, 4/27 Beltrami SVO, Grant DPG, Marshall JMJ, Otter Tail ALo, Pine JMP, St. Louis JLK, Wilkin RZi, ALo. High count 5/16 Polk (**55**, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) VLa.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [29 South, 9 North] Reported south of a line from Polk to Pine counties. Early south (median 4/26) 4/19 Renville MiO, 4/23 McLeod KdB, 4/27 Dakota BAF, SHF, RTe, 4/28 Hennepin BMA. Early north (median 5/7) 5/11 Clay RZi, 5/12 Clay LS, GHø, 5/15 Grant WCM, Pine JMP. High count 5/18 Morrison (8, McDougal W.M.A.) JCC.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [18 South, 2 North] Early

- south (median 5/11) 5/7 Wabasha DBz, 5/10 Rice JBK, 5/12 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF, 5/14 Chisago (Wild River S.P.) JFR, Washington (Lake Elmo P.R.) DFN. All north 5/15–16 Grant WCM, 5/19 Polk JMJ, VLa, SAS.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [17 South, 9 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/27 Houston HHD, DBz, JWH, RAE, 4/29 Fillmore JEB, 4/30 Rice TFB, 5/1 Winona DBz. Early north (median 5/2) and unusual location 4/28 **Cook** DvB, 4/30–5/1 St. Louis PHS, JLK, AM, 5/17 Itasca SC, EEO, Mahnomen DBM.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [1 South, 1 North] Only reports 5/23 Marshall (6, Agassiz N.W.R.) PEB, 5/31 **Dodge** (Dodge Center, specimen) WMe, ph. †RLE.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [50 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/9 Scott JEB, 3/23 Scott BAB, then nine counties on 3/30. North report 3/10 St. Louis CCE likely an overwintering individual. Early north (median 3/29) 4/6 Cass MRN, Douglas RnB, 4/9 Douglas BEC. High count 4/22 Hennepin (60) KrR. Late south 5/11 Hennepin TAT, 5/12 Hennepin DCZ, 5/14 Lyon GWe (median 4/29). Late north 5/22 Becker JnF, Marshall CCr (median 5/9).
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported throughout the state. Presumed migrants south (but see winter report for overwintering records) (median 3/21) 3/6 Stearns BWF, 3/11 Fillmore StD, 3/13 Winona ANy. Early north (median 3/26) 4/5 Wadena PJB, 4/13 St. Louis AM, Traverse HHD, 4/18 Douglas BEC, Wadena JDi. High counts 4/22 Hennepin (45) KrR, 4/28 Beltrami (40) SVo, 4/15 Hennepin (39) CRM.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [48 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/5 Hennepin HCT, 4/7 Lincoln JCC, 4/12 Hennepin CMB, 4/14 Ramsey MJB. Early north (median 4/24) 4/19 Morrison FGo, 4/28 Douglas JPE, Polk SAU, 4/29 St. Louis ALo, 4/30 Clay RHO. High counts 5/16 Yellow Medicine (**25**, Upper Sioux Agency S.P.) CoN, 5/14 Carver (**21**) CRM. Late south 5/25 Hennepin RCB, Steele PSu, Washington JJo, 5/30 Hennepin TAT (median 5/25).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [49 South, 33 North] Overwintered south. Early south (median 3/24) 3/22 Rice TFB, 3/31 Hennepin KvB, 4/5 Hennepin CMB, 4/7 Carver JCy, JTe, Winona AlJ. Early north (median 4/15) 4/26 Morrison RZi, Polk SAU, 4/27 Wilkin RZi, ALo, 4/28 four more counties. High counts 4/22 Olmsted (25, Cascade Lake) LAV, 5/5 Hennepin (20, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [49 South, 33 North] Overwintered south and north. Presumed early south migrants 3/17 Martin ANy, DBz, Olmsted SHK, 3/27 Hennepin BeH, ALL. Early north (median 4/11) 4/23 St. Louis CMn, 4/26 Cass FAB, Morrison RZi, Todd JeM, DTM then seven other counties on 4/27. Second highest count 5/8 St. Louis (**1,100**, Duluth, Park Point) KJB. Also 5/9 Steele (150) PSu. Late south 5/30 Benton ToL, Chisago RZi, Hennepin TAT (median 5/27), but see summer report for late migrants.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [44 South, 28 North] Overwintering reports make determining the first true migrants difficult. Presumed first migrants (median 4/3) 3/21 Rock CRM, 3/29 Rock ALo, 4/21 Sherburne JiB. Early north (median 4/28) 4/19 Otter Tail SAv, 5/2 Clay RHO, TCL, St. Louis JLK, NPo. High counts 5/18 Grant (60) DWK, 5/14 Brown (35) MiO. Late south 5/25 Ramsey BNW, 5/26 Hennepin LMS, 5/27 Benton JEB (median 5/22). Late north 5/29 Marshall CCr, 5/31 Mahnomen CSo (median 5/21).
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [46 South, 30 North] Overwintered south in three counties. Presumed first migrants (median 4/21) 4/27 Dakota ASi, PNi, 4/29 Hennepin MaC, CMB, ABL, KOk, 4/30 Fillmore DBz, Houston SHO, Meeker JAn, Olmsted LAV, Rice TFB, Wright ToL, then nine counties on 5/1. Early north (median 4/23) 4/28 Beltrami FGo, Marshall DSm, 4/29 Marshall GAK, 4/30 Hubbard MaH, Lake JWl, Otter Tail DST, JsS, JSw, Pine JMP. High counts 5/22 St. Louis (18, Park Point) JLK, 5/1 Hennepin (15, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) DAd, 5/14 Carver (15) CRM. Late south 5/23 Steele PSu, 5/24 Olmsted KeH (median 5/21). Late

- north 5/31 St. Louis DAB, JDx, KDx, ALO (median 5/25), but also see summer report.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [53 South, 32 North] Seen statewide. High counts 4/14 Dakota (1,000) TAT, 4/13 Carver (860) JCy, 4/15 Rice (500) JHl, DAT. Late south 5/18 Hennepin HSt, Stearns JSP, Yellow Medicine CoN, 5/19 Sherburne JiB, 5/23 Redwood DBM (median 5/19).
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [4 South] Five individuals reported south: 5/1 Freeborn AEB, Hennepin (Corcoran) ph. ABL, 5/11 Hennepin (Minneapolis) KvB, PEB, KRo, SBM, 5/18 Ramsey LeM, 5/28 **Dodge** (Blooming Prairie) JPr.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [40 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/8 Rice GHo, 5/9 Freeborn AEB, Hennepin BAb, Olmsted LAV, Rice DAB, 5/10 Dakota ADS, Ramsey LHo. Early north (median 5/12) 5/15 Hubbard MAW, Kanabec CAM, 5/16 Cass MRN, 5/17 Beltrami DPJ, Crow Wing JSB, Polk SAu plus five counties on 5/18. High counts 5/17 Hennepin (11) TAT, 5/17 Hennepin (9) CMB. New county record 5/18 **Nobles** BWF.
- Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*) — [3 South, 2 North] All south 5/12 Olmsted (male) SRi, 5/12–15 Chisago (male) ph. RRo, 5/17 Dakota (male, Farmington) ph. BSe. All north 4/30–5/1 Becker (male, Big Sugarbush Lake) KFM, ASM, ph. DAC, 5/1 Otter Tail (male, near Battle Lake) JsS, JSw.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [49 South, 22 North] Reported statewide, except for far northwest corner. Extreme north reports 3/8–4/4 Koochiching RAE, DAC, RBJ, 4/26 Cook DKa. High counts 3/18 Rice (30) JLn, 5/10 Hennepin (23) AbA.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [51 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/25 Hennepin TLo, 4/28 Rice JLn, 4/30 Dakota ADS, Fillmore NBO, Ramsey RZi, Sherburne JGb then eight counties on 5/1. Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 Otter Tail SAv, 5/5 Hubbard MaH, Pine SuB, 5/7 Itasca SC, Mille Lacs MRN, Otter Tail DST, ARo. High counts 5/11 Carver (25) JCy, 5/14 Rice (15) JLn, 5/7 Carver (14) JCy, 5/18 Scott (14) BAF, SHF.
- BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK** (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) — [2 North] Adult male seen 5/25–26 in St. Louis at a residential feeder near Embarrass ph. †SWn.
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [4 South, 1 North] Reported from its traditional range 5/17–18 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) GJa, ANy, 5/27 Nobles BTS. Out-of-range reports 5/19 Brown BTS, 5/25 **Mower** JWv, ph. JEM, and especially noteworthy 5/31 **Itasca** †SC, EEO.
- LAZULI BUNTING** (*Passerina amoena*) — [6 South, 1 North] Most spring sightings on record. All reports 5/3 **Washington** (adult male, Woodbury) JG, ph. †ANy, †DAB, †TAT; 5/14 **Pipestone** (male, northeast of Edgerton) LVD, ph. VVD; 5/15 **Nicollet** (adult male, near Courtland) ph. NVo; 5/18–22 **McLeod** (adult male, Hutchinson) ph. †PRH, m.ob.; 5/19 **Pipestone** (adult male, Pipestone N.M.) †RMD, †DAB, m.ob.; 5/19 **Pipestone** (first-year male, Pipestone W.T.P.) v.t. †RMD, †DAB, m.ob.; 5/19–25 **Clay** (Moorhead) ph. †RHO, DWR; 5/21–22 **Nobles** (first-year male, Worthington) ph. †TMI; 5/27–30 **Dodge** (Westfield Twp.) CMW, †JWH, ph. JPr, ph. JJS.
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [46 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/3 Wabasha (Kellogg) DBz, 5/6 Wabasha (Lake Zumbro) JBn, 5/7 Fillmore NBO, Goodhue GJM. Early north (median 5/9) 5/11 Hubbard MAW, 5/13 Wadena PJB, 5/14 Pine EBr, 5/16 Polk SAu. High counts 5/19 Rice (18) JLn, 5/17 Olmsted (10) MHm.
- PAINTED BUNTING** (*Passerina ciris*) — [1 North] The first since spring 2009 was seen in Aitkin 5/9–10 (adult male, Spencer Twp.) CCP, ph. BU, ph. ANy, m.ob.
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [8 South, 1 North] South reports began with an early migrant 5/8 Kandiyohi FGo, followed by 5/18 Le Sueur ChH, AnK, 5/23 McLeod DAs, 5/26 Murray GWe, 5/28 Ramsey MeJ, 5/29 Dakota DVe, Houston JEB, Lyon GWe. Only north report 5/28 Otter Tail (Busko W.P.A.) CSL.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [45 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/5 Blue Earth DAB, 5/7 Blue Earth ChH, Carver JCy, Dakota LEC, Fillmore BWF, JWH, Winona JEB. Early north (median 5/5) 5/7 Pine JMP, 5/8 Carlton ANy, Clay

- TCL, 5/10 Aitkin PEJ, Norman ALo. High counts 5/12 Clay (**45**) TCL, 5/23 Fillmore (23) CRM.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in all counties. Wintered throughout south. Presumed north migrants 3/28 Otter Tail DST, Hubbard WDe, 3/29 Douglas JPE.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [38 South, 14 North] Early south (median 3/17) 3/29 Fillmore DWK, Meeker JoS, Olmsted JWH, then four more counties on 3/30. Early north (median 3/25) 3/30 Douglas JPE, 4/4 Lake PLJ, 4/6 Cass BAW, Morrison JeM.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [41 South, 20 North] Early south (median 3/15) 3/28 Rock CRM, 3/29 Brown BTS, Lac qui Parle DBM, DLP, Lyon GWe, Rock CRM, ALo, plus seven other counties on 3/30. Early north (median 3/16) 3/29 Polk VLa, CCr, 4/1 Clay RHO, 4/2 Otter Tail GO, 4/9 Becker ASM. High counts 4/17 Lyon (22) RJS, 4/7 Faribault (19) WAF. Out-of-range reports 5/18 St. Louis (near Tower) NLM, 5/7 Lake (Two Harbors) ANy.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [51 South, 28 North] Early south (median 3/29) 4/3 Rice DAT, 4/6 Murray JCC, 4/16 Blue Earth ChH, Brown BTS, Dakota SLP, BDo, GJM. Early north (median 4/10) 4/13 Traverse RAE, HHD, 4/26 Itasca SC, EEO, 4/27 six more counties. High counts 5/29 Becker (**117**), Hamden Slough N.W.R.) ASM, 5/7 Redwood (37, Benedict's Slough) SVo, 5/27 Lyon (37, Lone Tree Lake) GWe.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [46 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/6) 3/21 Rock CRM, 3/25 Scott JEB, 3/28 Chippewa DLP, 3/29 Fillmore DWK, Swift DBM. South sightings peaked 4/1–20. Early north (median 3/20) 4/5 Morrison MRN, 4/13 Traverse RAE, HHD, 4/19 Morrison FGo, 4/20 Marshall CCr. North sightings peaked mid-April to the first week of May. High counts 4/18 Washington (**400**) LMS, 4/28 Itasca (**400**) EEO. Late south 5/5 Sherburne SBM, 5/7 Lac qui Parle FGo, 5/8 Ramsey RZi. (median 5/1). Late north 5/22 Pine ToL, 5/27 Clearwater DPJ, 5/30 St. Louis EBr (median 5/3).
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [35 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/15) 4/1 Rice TFB, 4/5 Sibley GLa, RAE, ALo, GHo, 4/6 Lyon GWe, McLeod PRH, Murray JCC, Watonwan JCC. Early north (median 4/2) 4/9, 4/10, 4/16 Becker ASM, then 4/19 Morrison FGo, St. Louis JLK.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [53 South, 33 North] See winter report for overwintering birds statewide and early migrants south. Early north (median 3/9) 4/2 Otter Tail GO, Traverse DLP, 4/4 Morrison FGo, Otter Tail DST, 4/5 Morrison MRN, Polk SAU, Wadena PJB.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [4 South] All reports 5/3+ **McLeod** (male) ph. †PRH, m.ob., 5/3+ Jackson ph. BU, 5/27 **Lyon** (female, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 5/29 Big Stone (Odden W.P.A.) RMD.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in all counties. See winter reports for overwintering birds. Presumed first migrants south (median 3/13) 3/8 Nicollet GLa, CRM, ALo, 3/21 Rock CRM, 3/24 Rice JLn, 3/30 Dakota TAT. Early north (median 4/6) 3/27 Becker KBl, 4/11 Douglas JTa, 4/16 Marshall CCr.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [44 South, 15 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/2 Hennepin JSn, RCB, AMa, 5/3 Washington BAB, 5/6 Wabasha JBn. Early north (median 5/15) 5/16 Grant WCM, 5/17 Mahnomon DBM, Polk SAU. High count 5/25 Lyon (**13**, Meadow Creek W.M.A.) CoN.
- BULLOCK'S ORIOLE** (*Icterus bullockii*) — [1 South] An adult male was found on 5/14 in **Hennepin** at a residential feeder in St. Louis Park ph. †DeJ. This is only the second record for the state.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [52 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/28 Dakota JFs, 4/30 Fillmore JeJ, Freeborn AEB, Goodhue EAa, Hennepin SMC, DbK, Ramsey RZi plus six counties on 5/1. Early north (median 5/4) 5/7 Otter Tail DST, 5/9 Hubbard MAW, Todd DTM, JeM, 5/10 St. Louis JLK. High counts 5/21 Marshall (24) JPn, 5/22 Polk (20) SAU, 5/16 Hennepin (19) CMB.
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [1 South, 13 North] One south report of a small flock (2–10) that overwintered in

Anoka (Nowthen) through 3/17 CKB. Late north 3/17 Cass KdB, St. Louis (6, Duluth) CCE, 3/19 St. Louis SC, 3/23 Itasca SC, Pine JMP, 3/23–29 Cook (max. 3, Tofte) JAJ (median 4/6).

House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [52 South, 29 North] Reported statewide.

Purple Finch (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [35 South, 28 North] Found in every region. Several very late south reports 5/28 Brown BTS, 5/31 Brown MiO (median 5/17). See summer report for more south reports including breeding records. Season high count 5/14 Lake (62) JHy.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [8 South, 13 North] All south reports 3/8 Hennepin ACr, 4/11 Cottonwood TrF, 4/15 Jackson TPe, 4/17 Mower BPI, 4/18 Washington JLM, 5/23 Dakota BSe, 5/26 Freeborn DBM, 5/28 Dodge (Blooming Prairie) JPr. Reported sporadically north throughout the season. Late north 4/28 Hubbard (10) MaH, 5/9 Wadena RAE, 5/19 **Red Lake** *vide* PEB, 5/29 Pine EBr.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [3 South, 1 North] All reports for this sporadic species: 3/3 Olmsted (5, Kutzky Park, Rochester) SHk, 4/2 Hennepin (Minneapolis) MDu, 4/16 Carver (Chaska) JCy, 5/7 St. Louis (Duluth) ANy.

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) — [45 South, 27 North] High counts 3/3 Hubbard (350) MAW, 3/30 Washington (300) ASi, 4/2 Polk (300) SAu, 4/6 Otter Tail (300) DST. Late south 5/2 Hennepin ChC, Isanti MHe, Scott JEB, **5/3–17** JSa (median 4/6). Late north 5/4–7 Itasca (Secret Lake) PLe,

Otter Tail DST, 5/9 Polk SAu, 5/13 Hubbard MaH (median 5/4).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemannii*) — [12 South, 11 North] More reports than is typical especially from the extreme southern third of the state. Late south 4/2 McLeod PRH, Ramsey †MJM, 4/6 Chisago DPi, Hennepin ABL, 4/14 Hennepin DBM (median 3/12). New county records: 3/23

Houston (Caledonia) HHD, RAE, GLa, 3/23 **Nobles** (Hawkeye C.P.) †KRE, ALo, BTS. Also unusual south 3/22 Lyon GWe, 3/2–28 Rice DAB, MJB, JLn. Late north 4/25 St. Louis AM, JLK, **4/30** St. Louis KRE, and one bird seen in East Grand Forks, Polk County since winter through **5/14** when it died ph. SAu.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [44 South, 27 North] Found statewide. Late south 5/27 Carver WCM, Steele PSu, 5/28 Hennepin DCZ, 5/29 Dakota ADS, 5/30 Dodge JWH, Goodhue LEC (median 5/21) but see summer report for records into June. High count 5/17 Polk (100) SAu.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [53 South, 32 North] Reported statewide. High count 5/16 Fillmore (**115**) NBO.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [11 North] Reported throughout the season in the northern third of the state. High counts 3/8 Koochiching (50) RAE, 3/12 St. Louis (36) SLm, PSc.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [53 South, 31 North] Reported statewide.

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW (*Passer montanus*) — [1 South] Ninth state record 5/26 **Hennepin** (Corcoran) ph. †ABL.

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PAI	Pam Albin	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
PBB	Patrick Beauzay	SLm	Steven Lima	W.S.H.C.	West Skyline Hawk Count
PBD	Pat & Bob Dewenter			W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

The Spring 2013 Influx of *Plegadis* Ibis into Minnesota

With Notes on Their Status and Distribution

Paul E. Budde

The 2013 spring migration saw the most impressive influx of *Plegadis* ibis ever recorded in Minnesota. Three different Glossy Ibis (*P. falcinellus*) were discovered – almost doubling the total of Accepted records of this species in the state, and a potential fourth record is still under review by the records committee. White-faced Ibis (*P. chibi*) and birds of this genus unspecified as to species were found in 31 counties, compared with a previous high of only 12 counties during spring 2011. Glossy and White-faced ibis have been expanding their ranges towards Minnesota, but the magnitude of this influx was unprecedented. The state's first presumed hybrid *Plegadis* was also photographed. This report summarizes these observations and examines them within the context of the recent range expansions of both of these species in North America.

Expanding Distribution of Glossy Ibis

Glossy Ibis has its origin in the eastern hemisphere. It is thought to have crossed the Atlantic Ocean from Africa to South America, taking the same route later followed by Cattle Egret. The first report of this species in the United States came from New Jersey in 1817, though most subsequent reports in the 1800s were from the southeastern part of the country, especially Florida. The first breeding record in the United States was from Florida in the 1880s (Patten and Lasley 2000), and by 1900 it was considered a rare and local breeder there (Davis and Kricher 2000).

As late as the 1930s, the largest breeding colonies in Florida were still only about 50 pairs (Patten and Lasley 2000). In the 1940s, however, numbers grew dramatically and the species spread along the Gulf of Mexico towards Louisiana and north along the Atlantic seaboard (Davis and Kricher 2000), with

breeding in New York by 1961 (Post 1962). Numbers in New York peaked in the late 1970s, when 892 breeding pairs were censused in the New York City area, but have been declining since then (NYNHP 2013).

In the 1980s, while declining in the Northeast, Glossy Ibis began expanding westward, producing first records for 17 western states and one Canadian province (Table 1). In recent years, the species has been annual in many of these states: since 1995 in Colorado; since 1999 in Kansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico; since 2000 in California; since 2005 in Arizona; and since 2008 in Utah.

While South Dakota only had three records prior to 2010, a rapid increase in records in 2010 and 2011 led the South Dakota Bird Records Committee to vote in fall 2011 to remove Glossy Ibis from the state's review list. Iowa has had 14 records of Glossy Ibis through 2012. Subsequent to its first record in 1992, this species has been documented there in 1995, 1998, 2001, and then in every year since 2007 except 2009 (IOU 2014, Kent 2000). The first confirmed Glossy Ibis for Wisconsin was found in 1956 (WSO 2012b). Through the early 1990s there had been 32 records of "dark" ibis in the state, with five confirmed as Glossy ("a rare migrant"), two as White-faced ("a casual summer visitant"), and the remainder considered more likely to be Glossy (Robbins 1991). The increase of this species in the state through fall 2012 is illustrated by the temporal distribution of the state's 17 accepted records: six prior to 1990, none between 1990 and 2000, three between 2001 and 2005, and eight since 2006 (WSO 2012b).

Glossy Ibis has been found in every Canadian province east of the prairie provinces (Davis and Kricher 2000), and it is listed as Hypothetical in Saskatchewan (Nature Sas-

katchewan 2012). Manitoba's first individual was found in May 1989, and its status in the province was still Accidental as of 2009 (MARC 2003, 2009). While Ontario has had 59 records of Glossy Ibis through 2012, northern Ontario is still awaiting its first record (Butler 2013).

Expanding Distribution of White-faced Ibis

Within North America, White-faced Ibis was formerly considered a bird of the western states and Gulf coast. In the mid-1960s, this species bred in isolated colonies from south-central Oregon, through the Great Basin, the San Juan Valley of Colorado, Cheyenne Bottoms in Kansas (where it was just establishing a presence), and southward. Major inland breeding colonies were in Utah and Nevada, while coastal colonies were in Louisiana and Texas (Ryder 1967). The northernmost population is migratory, with most individuals wintering in Mexico (Ryder 1967), while the coastal population is resident year-round (Ryder and Manry 1994).

White-faced Ibis have been known to wander widely across the U.S., both prior to breeding and in a post-breeding dispersal. Spring wanderings may be a search for suitable nesting habitat, while fall dispersals are probably more related to searches for food. In the northern Great Plains, extralimital records from the spring appear to be four times more frequent than from late summer/fall (Ryder 1967).

During the first half of the twentieth century this species was quite scarce in the northern Great Plains. Between 1950 and 1975, however, numbers slowly grew. Since the late 1970s, occurrences have dramatically increased (Jorgensen and Dinsmore 2005), perhaps fueled by the surge in the Great Basin population which saw dramatic growth beginning in the 1970s (Ryder and Manry 1994). The first record of successful nesting in Canada occurred in Alberta in 1992 (Goossen *et al.* 1995).

Illustrative of these increases has been the incidence of *chibi* in the Dakotas. South Dakota had its first state record in 1962, after which records slowly increased so that by 1991 it was a "rare to uncommon visitor" and local breeder in the northeast (SDOU 1991). By 2002 it was classified as "locally common"

Table 1. First records of Glossy Ibis for western states and provinces.

Year	State	Reference
1986	Colorado	Bunn 1988
1989	Manitoba	MARC 2003
1991	Minnesota	Janssen 1992
1992	Iowa	Kenne 1994
1992	Kansas	Grzybowski 1992
1992	Wyoming	Kingery 1992
1995	New Mexico	NMOS 2007
1996	Montana	Montana Field Guide 1013
1999	Nebraska	Jorgensen and Paseka 2001
2000	California	CBRC 2013
2000	South Dakota	Bardon 2001
2001	Arizona	Rosenberg <i>et al.</i> 2007
2005	Idaho	Sturts and Peterson 2007
2005	Washington	Mlodinow and Aanerud 2008
2006	Oregon	Nels 2006
2006	Utah	UBRC 2011
2009	Nevada	NBRC 2014
2009	North Dakota	Martin 2009

(Jorgensen and Dinsmore 2005). North Dakota had three records prior to 1920, but the fourth was not until 1961, yet between then and 2002 the species was recorded in 33 of 42 years (Shaffer *et al.* 2007). Its status in North Dakota was changed to "locally uncommon" in 2003 (Svingen and Martin 2003).

Both South and North Dakota had their first confirmed breeding records in 1978 (SDOU 1991, Shaffer *et al.* 2007, Jorgensen and Dinsmore 2005). North Dakota had eight more nesting records prior to 2000, and then annual breeding at multiple locations beginning in 2000 through 2003 when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel stopped tallying such records (Shaffer *et al.* 2007). Today, the species is a regular breeder at Sand Lake N.W.R. in northeastern South Dakota.

Iowa has an early specimen record of White-faced Ibis from 1891 (Kent and Schrimper 1996) but the next accepted record for the state is from 1977 (Kent 2000). The status of White-faced Ibis was Accidental on the state's 1982 checklist, the first after the formation of its records committee (Kent 1982). It became Casual with the 1986 checklist (Kent 1986), and Regular with the 1998 checklist (Kent 1998).

Robbins (1991) listed the status of this species in Wisconsin as Accidental, with first records in the state in 1987 and 1988. Currently it is considered rare or very rare, but regular, and is on the state's review list (WSO

Table 2. Seasonal distribution of White-faced and *Plegadis* ibis in Minnesota, 1890–2012.

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Total	Spring-to-Fall Ratio
White-faced Ibis	64	7	8	79	8.0
<i>Plegadis</i> sp.	43	9	55	107	0.8
White-faced Ibis & <i>Plegadis</i> sp.	107	16	63	186	1.7

Table 3. Distribution of all ibis in Minnesota between 16 April and 8 June 2013 by region.

Region	First Date	Last Date	<i>P. falcinellus</i> Records (count)	<i>P. chihi</i> Records (count)	<i>Plegadis</i> sp. Records (count)	Total* Records (count)
Southeast	24 Apr	6 May	2 (2)	4 (17)	—	4 (19)
South-central	20 Apr	1 Jun	—	7 (9)	—	7 (9)
Southwest	16 Apr	30 May	—	4 (6)	—	4 (6)
East-central	n.a.	n.a.	—	—	—	0 (0)
Central	26 Apr	4 May	—	7 (16)	—	7 (16)
West-central	24 Apr	8 Jun	—	9 (58)	2 (8)	10 (66)
Northeast	n.a.	n.a.	—	—	—	0 (0)
North-central	26 Apr	30 Apr	—	—	1 (1)	1 (1)
Northwest	19 Apr	7 Jun	1 (1)	15 (61)	—	15 (62)
Statewide*	16 Apr	8 Jun	3 (3)	46 (167)	2 (8)	47 (178)

* Numbers do not sum to totals due to ibis found on regional boundaries and mixed-species records.

2012a). Through fall 2012, there have been 28 accepted records, 21 of these since 2000. The seasonal distribution of these birds — with 19 spring, seven summer, and three fall records (WSO 2012b) — supports Ryder's observation (1967) that extralimital occurrences are much more frequent in spring than fall, though these data are probably skewed by the difficult identification problems presented by fall individuals.

Goossen *et al.* (1995) summarizes the 120 reports of White-faced Ibis in Canada through 1992. Only seven of these preceded the mid-1970s, but since then the species has been regular in Alberta, where two-thirds of the reports have originated and where the first breeding record for Canada occurred in 1982. Manitoba also has two reports from 1975, but the first to be documented acceptably was found in 1990 — a year after its first record of Glossy Ibis — and through 2002 it only had five accepted records of this species (MARC 2003). By 2009, however, its summer and fall status in the province became Uncommon.

Hybrids

Though Glossy and White-faced ibis have been reported to interbreed while in captivity, no interbreeding had been detected in breeding colonies along the Gulf coast where both are present. This situation changed in

2002 when four or five apparent hybrids were detected in Oklahoma at a location where Glossy Ibis had recently moved into a colony of White-faced Ibis (Arterburn and Grzybowski 2003). Since then, more apparent hybrids have been found in Wyoming (Faulkner 2005) and Colorado (Semo 2007, Leukering 2008), and there are suggestive reports of hybrids from other states. If this phenomenon increases in frequency, it will compound identification challenges presented by these species.

As expected, these apparent hybrids exhibit characteristics intermediate between *P. falcinellus* and *P. chihi*. Semo (2007) describes birds observed in Colorado as follows: "consistent field marks of the cross include red eyes not as bright as in White-faced, a pinkish-violet narrow facial border that doesn't wrap around the posterior of the eye (or is very thin if it does), and legs with perceptible color contrast between the tibia-tarsus joint and the tibia and tarsus." Arterburn and Grzybowski (2003) considered bill and leg color less reliable characteristics due to overlap between the species. They focused on the color of the eyes and facial soft parts, and the extent of white feathering surrounding the facial skin. The apparent hybrids they observed had brown to brownish-red eyes, the bare facial skin had patches of dark gray and plum-purple, the lines forming the upper

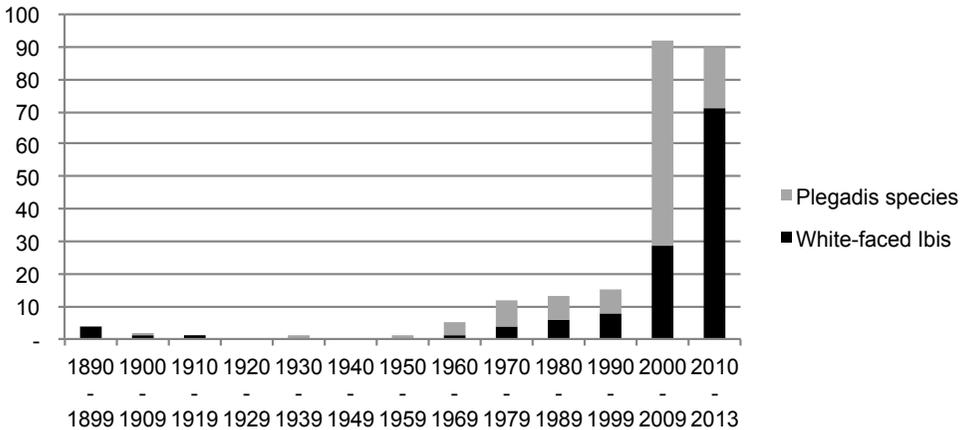


Figure 1. Incidence of White-faced and *Plegadis ibis* records in Minnesota by decade. (Records may consist of multiple individuals.) Source: MOU files.

and lower borders of the facial skin were an intermediate plum coloration, and there was some white feathering above the loreal stripe and on the side of the face near the gape.

With respect to distinguishing these hybrids from Glossy and White-faced ibis, Leukering (2008) posits that the more difficult distinction is between Glossy and the hybrids — that is to say, a purported Glossy Ibis could actually be a hybrid, whereas it is less likely that a bird initially supposed to be a White-faced Ibis is a hybrid. Insofar as any Glossy Ibis in Minnesota receives careful scrutiny due to its Accidental status in the state, it is more probable that hybrids would be detected in Minnesota than they might be farther east — at least adults in alternate plumage — if observers have an opportunity to carefully examine each ibis found. Basic plumaged subadult (and even many adult) Glossy and White-faced ibis are generally considered to be indistinguishable in the field (Kaufman 1990, Patten and Lasley 2000) and this would certainly also be true of hybrids.

There is some debate as to whether or not *P. falcinellus* and *P. chibi* might actually be conspecific. Most North American works (e.g., the American Ornithologists' Union, Sibley and Monroe 1990, Clements *et al.* 2013) consider them distinct species, but a few taxonomists treat them as the same species (Soothill and Soothill 1982, Palmer 1962; also see Ryder and Manry 1994, or MARC 2003).

The recent examples of hybridization could well be due to limited mate selection opportunities for extralimital birds, and do not necessarily provide evidence that these taxa should be considered conspecific. These species have been geographically separated until very recently, possibly allowing for sufficient reproductive isolating mechanisms to evolve (Arterburn and Grzybowski 2003, Faulkner 2005). If the extent of breeding range overlap continues to grow, we should learn whether cross-breeding is exceptional or normative.

Glossy Ibis in Minnesota

There are few records of Glossy Ibis in Minnesota found in the literature. Roberts (1936) listed it as Hypothetical based on an account from Barrows (1912). While discussing Glossy Ibis reports from states neighboring Michigan, Barrows wrote “At Heron Lake, Minn., it is said to occur singly or in pairs nearly every fall, and at least once has been found nesting.” Undoubtedly, this comment is based on Peabody (1895), which tenuously identified birds found at Heron Lake as Glossy Ibis, but a subsequent paper documented White-faced Ibis breeding there (Peabody 1896).

The Redwood County Historical Society has an ibis in their bird collection that is labeled as a Glossy Ibis. It was collected near Redwood Falls around 1900. A recent analysis of this specimen, however, could not confirm

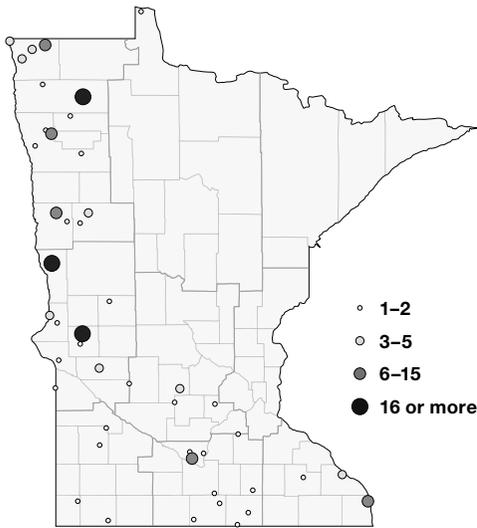


Figure 2. Locations of White-faced and *Plegadis* ibis in Minnesota, 16 April – 8 June 2013.

this identification and, in fact, determined that it was more likely that it is a White-faced Ibis (Hertzell 2006). There is also an 18 August 1912 report of a Glossy Ibis in Otter Tail County in the U.S. Biological Survey records in Patuxent, Maryland, that was not known to Roberts. The next earliest report of Glossy Ibis is from 16 June 1939, when one was identified at Heron Lake in Jackson County (Pettingill and Warner 1939). There is a report from 6–7 October 1956 at Weaver, Wabasha County (Longley 1956), which was followed by reports involving four individuals in 1962 from Goodhue and Lac qui Parle counties (Huber 1962), and two more in Marshall in 1965 (Olsen 1966). Except for the Heron Lake record, Janssen (1987) lists all of these as White-faced Ibis. Another report from Jackson County in 1967 was confusingly listed as a Glossy Ibis in one account (Huber 1967), but as a White-faced Ibis in another (Janssen 1967).

Standards for identification have evolved over time, and our understanding of the confusion between Glossy and White-faced ibis — which was known as White-faced Glossy Ibis until the common name was changed in 1957 (AOU 1957) — has grown. With the formation of the Minnesota Ornithological

Records Committee (MORC) in 1974, only the 1939 record was deemed adequately documented to include the species on the state Checklist. In 1986, however, this record was reconsidered by the Committee and deemed Not Acceptable, as “the possibility of this ibis being a White-faced is not totally precluded” (Eckert 1987). Consequently, Glossy Ibis was removed from the state’s Checklist.

It didn’t take long, however, before it returned. The first endorsed record of this species was an adult in alternate plumage that was photographed and videotaped in the vicinity of Heron Lake 8–18 May 1991 (Janssen 1992). Another adult was photographed in Fleming Township, Aitkin County 19–22 April 2005 (Blanich 2006). The third documented record for the state was discovered southwest of Madison in Lac qui Parle County 29 April – 1 May 2007, where it was also photographed and videotaped (Svingen 2007). The state’s fourth record was a bird found and photographed near Preston in Fillmore County 9 May 2011 (Tustison 2011).

During spring 2013, there were several additional reports of this species in Minnesota. The Minnesota Ornithologists’ Union Records Committee (MOURC, the revised name for the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee as of 2001) considered four reports of this species and found three of them sufficiently documented to be Accepted into the permanent record (Tustison 2013):

- An adult was discovered with seven White-faced Ibis northeast of Lancaster, Kittson County, near the intersection of county road 4 and 370th Street on 24 April (MOURC record #2013–003);
- Another adult along with up to nine White-faced Ibis were in the opposite corner of the state, in Houston County, near where county road 26 crosses the Root River on 26–27 April (MOURC record #2013–004);
- A third adult with a single adult White-faced Ibis was found at Silver Creek Reservoir in Olmsted County on 30 April (MOURC record #2013–006).

All three birds were adults in alternate plumage. They were the fifth, sixth, and seventh documented records for the state. A potential eighth state record was an adult found with five White-faced Ibis at the south access to Swan Lake in Nicollet County on 29 April;

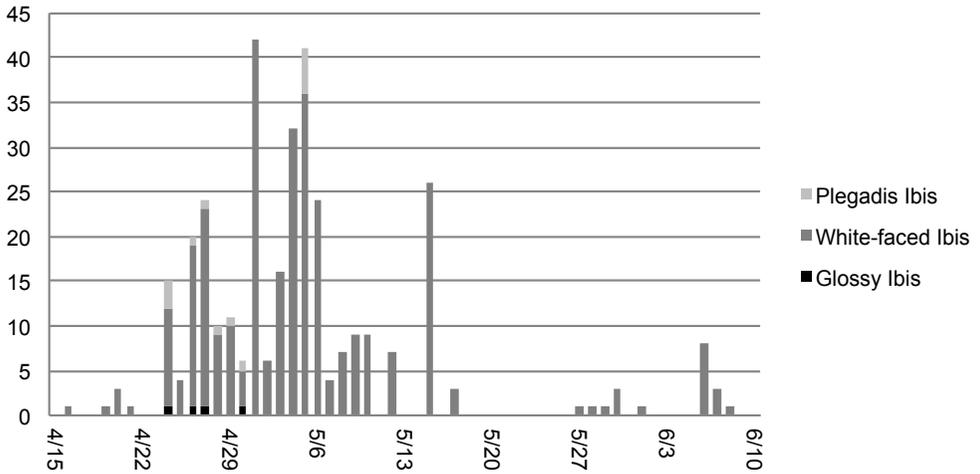


Figure 3. Daily counts of Glossy, White-faced, and *Plegadis* ibis during 2013 northbound migration.

this record is still pending before MOURC.

White-faced Ibis in Minnesota

Roberts (1932) chronicles six records of White-faced Ibis in Minnesota through 1910. Among them are two breeding records from 1894 and 1895 at North Heron Lake in Jackson County (Peabody 1896). In fact, these two records, along with one from Nebraska in 1916, were the only breeding records for this species north of Texas and east of the Rocky Mountains until breeding was discovered again in the Great Plains in 1951, this time in Kansas (Jorgensen and Dinsmore 2005).

After 1910, the next *Plegadis* in the state were the confusing reports from 1939, 1956, and the 1960s which have already been mentioned. When the state records committee was constituted in 1974, this species was included on the Minnesota Checklist as a Casual species. Through the 1970s, 80s and 90s the frequency of this species in the state steadily increased (Figure 1), so that by 2009 its status was changed to Regular (MOURC 2009).

The seasonal distribution of these “extralimital” records differs from the 4:1 ratio observed by Ryder (1967). If one looks at all data through 2012 (Table 2) and considers just records of White-faced Ibis, the ratio is closer to 8:1 (67 to 8). But data for ibis unidentified as to species shows 42 in spring and 55 in fall. If one considers both of these groups

together (as it is highly likely that almost all of the *Plegadis* species were actually *P. chibi*), then the ratio falls to 1.7:1 (109 to 63). In fact, examining all periods beginning from 1890 through any ending year, this ratio never exceeds 1.7:1 for Minnesota, so the recent range expansion of this species towards Minnesota is not the reason for the discrepancy. Instead, it appears that there has been a tendency for post-breeding dispersal to be more towards the east than the north. Based on prevailing summer winds, this should not be surprising.

In 2013, northbound migration of this species in Minnesota extended from 16 April through 8 June. Locations for these observations of White-faced and *Plegadis* Ibis are displayed in Figure 2. While reports of Glossy Ibis were carefully vetted by MOURC as to whether documentation of the occurrence of this Accidental species was sufficient for the record to be Accepted, reports of White-faced or *Plegadis* Ibis are included herein as reported. All birds in this section were reported as White-faced unless they are explicitly mentioned as *Plegadis* species.

Southeast Region — Houston County: Two were found in a flooded field where state highway 26 crosses the Root River on 24–25 April; a second flock joined the first group and numbers grew to nine (plus one Glossy Ibis) on 26 and 27 April.

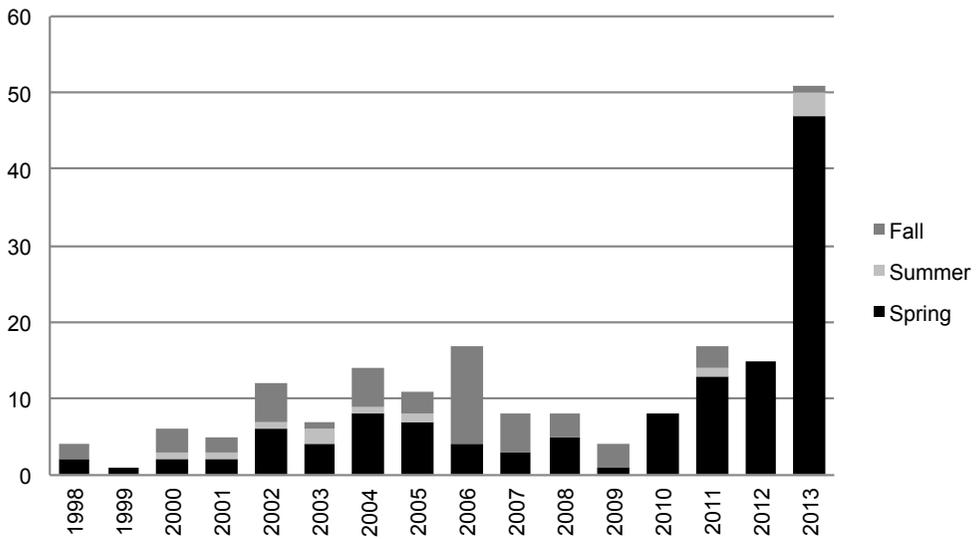


Figure 4. White-faced and Plegadis ibis records over last 15 years

Olmsted County: Two were seen at Silver Creek Reservoir 27–28 April. None were seen the 29th, but on the 30th observers found a third White-faced Ibis together with a Glossy Ibis. Based on information from the observers, these are considered two separate records.

Winona County: Five were reported on the west side of Winona near the airport along Bartlet Lake Road on 5–6 May.

South-central Region — Blue Earth County: One was on the east side of county road 14, 1 mile north of the town of Minnesota Lake on 1 June.

Faribault County: One was at the Wells W.T.P. on 27 April; two others were found 5–7 May on the north edge of Pilot Grove W.M.A. in Pilot Grove Township.

Freeborn County: A lone bird was at Myre-Big Island State Park on 20 April and provided the first record for the county; two were at State Line Lake on 30 May.

Rice County: One was south of state highway 19, 0.5 miles west of county road 86 on 7 May.

Steele County: One was at the Straight River Marsh on 7 May.

Southwest Region — Lyon County: The first

ibis of the season was a White-faced seen near the Walmart in Marshall 16 and 21 April. Another was at Sham Lake on 25 April and was refound just south of there on the west side of state highway 23 on 26 April.

Nobles County: Three adults were seen in a wetland near Lake Ocheda, Bigelow Township 17 May.

Rock County: One was photographed 27–30 May in Section 27 of Battleplain Township.

East-Central Region — No reports.

Central Region — Carver County: One was at Wahibo Marsh, just northwest of county road 10 and county road 30 on 26–30 April. It was joined by a second individual on 30 April.

Kandiyohi County: One found at county road 7 just north of state highway 40 flew southwest into Chippewa County on 27 April. (See West-central Region.)

McLeod County: A first record for the county was photographed on 4 May just east of the county line along Meeker McLeod Avenue, about 0.25 miles north of county road 14 (Prieve State W.M.A.).

Meeker County: Four were seen and well-photographed on 27 April near Lake Washington at county road 14 and county road 33.

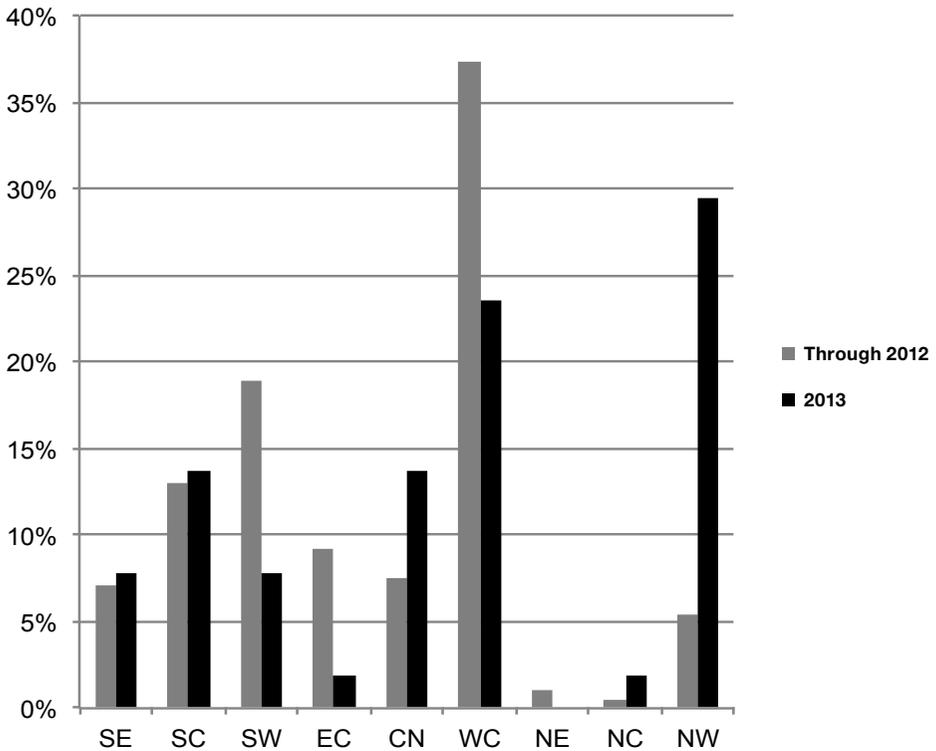


Figure 5. Comparing distribution of White-faced and *Plegadis* ibis records by region.

Nicollet County: One was present 27–28 April about two miles west of state highway 22 along county road 99. Another report came from the north access point to Swan Lake just off county road 4 (about ten miles farther west than the prior sighting) on 28–30 April. A third sighting was of a group of six on 29 April at the public access on the south side of Swan Lake (3.5 miles southeast of the north access point). While five of these were clearly White-faced Ibis, the sixth is still under review by the records committee as a possible Glossy Ibis.

West-central Region — Big Stone County: One was at Thielke Lake on 8 June. This was the latest reported bird from this influx, apart from early July ibis found in Roseau County.

Chippewa County: One flew in from Kandiyohi County on 27 April and quickly departed. (See Central Region.)

Douglas County: One was along county road 5, 0.6 miles east of county road 16 on 28

April.

Lac qui Parle County: Two were seen near Pegg Lake on 26 April.

Stevens County: Two near Alberta on 27 April were the first records for this county. The largest flock of the season consisted of 30 ibis seen 1 May east of county road 18 and county road 9, just outside of Donnelly.

Swift County: Three *Plegadis* were found in late April (24th?) on the north side of US 12 in the northwest corner of Danvers.

Traverse County: Two were reported and photographed 24 April at county road 88 and county road 9; three were seen at this location on 26 April. Also on the 26th, “a few” (assumed to be “two” for this review) were seen along state highway 27 several miles east of Wheaton.

Wilkin County: The second largest flock of the season was the 22 *Plegadis* (17 specifically identified as White-faced Ibis) seen 5 May at Manston Marsh (west of state highway 9 on county road 26).

Northeast Region — No reports.

North-central Region — Lake of the Woods County: A presumed Glossy Ibis X White-faced Ibis hybrid — the first ibis for the county — was seen and well-photographed 26–30 April in the Northwest Angle along county road 49 (Budde 2014).

Northwest Region — Becker County: One was reported 19 April north of Lake Park (1.4 miles west of county road 9 along county road 12, Hamden Township); two were found on 28 April north of Callaway, 0.5 miles east of US 59 at 330th Street, both of which were still present 29 April.

Clay County: Two were found two miles south of Hitterdal along state highway 32 on 20 April, about 11 miles west of the Lake Park location in Becker County. Eight others were seen in a field adjacent to Felton Prairie on 6 June, with three still present 7 June.

Kittson County: Seven (along with one Glossy Ibis) were seen about eight miles northeast of Lancaster near county road 4 and 370th Avenue on 24 April, with one seen near the same location on 27 April, and two present 29 April and 1 May. Three were found between St. Vincent and the Red River bridge along state highway 171 on 1–4 May. Three were on the east side of county road 56, three miles northwest of Lancaster 1–6 May. Another four were seen 4 May along county road 175, three miles west of Hallock. These were the first records for this county.

Marshall County: There were many reports from Agassiz N.W.R. personnel, which have been summarized by G. Knutsen and represent at a minimum 18 individuals. All have been treated as a single record in this review:

1 May, one pair seen on Ditch 11 outlet on west side of the refuge (4th refuge sighting); 1 May, one pair seen on Lower CCC Pool on east side of the refuge; 4 May, group of ten seen on Pool 8 in the northwest corner of the refuge; 6 May, group of 12 seen on Pool 8; 9 May, group of nine seen on Pool 8; 10 May, group of nine found in South Goose Pen in east-central part of the refuge; 15 May, group of about 18 seen from an airplane during a low-level waterfowl survey over Farmes Pool in the southwest corner of refuge.

Away from Agassiz, one was reported on

4 May at 420th Street Northwest and 290th Avenue Northwest.

Pennington County: Two seen just west of Thief River Falls (east of U.S. Highway 59 along 180th Street Northeast) 3–6 May were the first for this county.

Polk County: One was seen in flight at the Euclid East Impoundment on 25 April. Another was found at the Erskine W.M.A. on 28 April. Another was seen 3 May a mile east of Fisher. A flock of seven was at the Parnell Impoundment 3–12 May. Another found at the Euclid East Impoundment 4 May was possibly the same individual from 25 April.

After the period of northbound migration, there were only two additional reports of White-faced Ibis during the remainder of 2013. One report of five individuals at the Roseau River W.M.A. on 4 July provided a first record for Roseau County. There was also one fall report of a *Plegadis* in Dakota County, but it could not be identified as to species.

Discussion

Records of Glossy, White-faced and *Plegadis* ibis during the 2013 northbound migration in Minnesota are summarized in Table 3. The temporal distribution of birds reported over this period is illustrated in Figure 3. It shows a peak around early May, with only a few ibis outside of the mid-April to mid-May window.

Over the last decade, the range of Glossy Ibis has been approaching Minnesota from the southeast and from the west, so it is less surprising that in 2013 individuals were found at both its northwest and southeast corners. The three Glossy Ibis found almost doubled the prior total of four Accepted records.

All seven records of Glossy Ibis in Minnesota have been between mid-April and mid-May, which is consistent with other reports from the region west of Minnesota. Of the first 39 records of Glossy Ibis accepted for Colorado, 36 have been between 11 April and 28 May (Leukering 2008). This pattern is also reflected in states neighboring Colorado (Faulkner 2004). Faulkner (2004) hypothesizes that these birds are migrating with White-faced Ibis, whose peak migration through the western Great Plains coincides with this period. While all the 2013 individuals in Minnesota were accompanied by one or more White-faced Ibis, the four reports in the state

prior to 2013 were actually of solitary ibis, though the 1991 bird was later joined by two White-faced Ibis after its initial discovery. Thus, co-migration has not been the case in Minnesota in the past. In the western Great Plains, White-faced Ibis is a much more common migrant, so co-migration might be more expected there. For 2013, that Glossy Ibis were found in Minnesota with White-faced may have been due to there being many more *chibi* present this spring than in other years when *falcinellus* have appeared in the state. Co-migration may become the norm here if spring counts of White-faced Ibis continue to rise.

Post-breeding dispersal, which produces a second source of White-faced Ibis in Minnesota in the fall, has not produced any Glossy Ibis in the state. This is probably due to the fact that there are so few *falcinellus* breeding near Minnesota, but it may also be caused by the difficulty in distinguishing between these species in late summer and fall.

Spring 2013 counts of Glossy Ibis in states neighboring Minnesota were not that different from observations in recent years. After seven spring records over the period 2007–2012, Iowa only had one Glossy Ibis in spring 2013 (IOU 2014). Wisconsin and Manitoba had none, while North Dakota had two reports in spring, followed by two more in each of summer and fall (Corey Ellingson, pers. comm.) and South Dakota had reports from five northeastern counties, all from the last half of May (SDOU 2014).

The incidence of White-faced Ibis in Minnesota has been increasing since 2000. Figure 4 shows the rise in records over the last 15 years, split by season. Note the sharp increase in spring records, especially beginning with 2011. Counts of individuals have also been growing. The 2013 total of 175 White-faced and *Plegadis* ibis far exceeds previous northbound annual high counts from MOU files: 79 in 2012, 50 in 2011, 29 in 2010.

The summer records shown are either late northbound migrants, summer wanderers, or birds in post-breeding dispersal, as there have been no breeding records in Minnesota for any *Plegadis* since 1895. In most years, the largest number of records is from the spring, though in 2006, 2007 and 2009 fall records outnumbered ones from spring. Higher num-

bers of ibis in spring do not predict higher numbers in the fall. This was certainly the case in 2013 when unprecedented spring numbers led to only one fall report of a lone individual. In fact, these two datasets are negatively correlated (-0.22) over this 15-year period.

Figure 5 looks at the 2013 distribution of White-faced and *Plegadis* ibis by region. (The regions are Southeast, South-central, Southwest, East-central, Central, West-central, Northeast, North-central, Northwest. They are displayed on the map of Figure 2.) Records prior to 2013 and those of 2013 are shown separately to illustrate how this year compares to past years. Note that a much greater percentage of the reports came from the Northwest region in 2013. In fact, Kittson, Pennington and Roseau counties had their first records of White-faced Ibis this year, and neighboring Lake of the Woods had its first ibis ever — albeit a presumed hybrid. Also above average was the percentage of records from the Central region. On the other hand, both the Southwest and West-central regions were below average. Hence, the push of ibis into the state extended farther north and east than usual.

Signs of the large incursion of White-faced Ibis in Minnesota could also be seen in neighboring states during spring 2013. Corey Ellingson (pers. comm.) noted that the distribution of *chibi* in North Dakota was farther east than normal. He theorized that a massive snowstorm that moved through the central Dakotas on 14–15 April (Pereira 2013) as birds were migrating into the state displaced birds to the east. After the storm, wetlands remained frozen for several weeks, which likely encouraged subsequent migrants to also head east. This cold weather also affected Minnesota, which experienced an unusually cold spring — as evidenced by the fact that ice-out dates across the state were quite late (MCWG 2013).

In South Dakota where *chibi* is typically found in the northeast quadrant of the state, numbers were also down (Jeff Palmer, pers. comm.), while the incidence of White-faced Ibis in Iowa was up about 40% over the 2009–2012 average (Tyler Harms, pers. comm.). Northern Ontario had its first White-faced ever when one was found in late April about 100 miles east-northeast of Minnesota's

Lake of the Woods ibis (Butler 2013).

With 16 White-faced Ibis found in ten counties during spring 2013, Wisconsin saw far more reports than usual (Byrne 2013; Quentin Yoerger, pers. comm.). Prior spring reports of White-faced Ibis from Wisconsin never exceeded three reports of at most four individuals per year (WSO 2012b). Even Michigan, with eight White-faced from two counties and another eight *Plegadis* species (Adam M. Byrne, pers. comm.), had record totals. Prior high spring totals for White-faced and *Plegadis* Ibis in that state have been seven in 2011 and six in 2009 and 2012 (MBRC 2013).

In conclusion, it appears that an expanding population of White-faced ibis just west of Minnesota, a major mid-April weather event in the Dakotas, and a generally cold spring resulted in a major eastward shift of White-faced Ibis into Minnesota and states even further to the east. The increase in Glossy Ibis may have been related to these same circumstances, bringing *falcinellus* along with *chichi* eastward from the Dakotas, though it is also possible that some of the Glossy Ibis found during spring 2013 arrived from states south and east of Minnesota where their populations are also growing. If these trends continue, it may not be long before White-faced Ibis returns to breed in Minnesota after an absence of over 100 years — most likely in either the Northwest or West-central region. And as both *Plegadis* species become more common in the state, Glossy X White-faced ibis may become more frequently observed, further complicating identification of ibis in Minnesota.

Acknowledgments

This paper could not have been written without the sightings submitted by several dozens of observers, many of whom graciously and promptly responded to requests for additional information and photographs to help sort out identifications, locations, and counts. Gregg A. Knutsen provided the summary of ibis found by Agassiz N.W.R. personnel. Jeanie M. Joppru and Anthony X. Hertzell assisted with information about records submitted to the various Minnesota state RBAs. Adam M. Byrne (Michigan), Quentin Yoerger (Wisconsin), Tyler Harms (Iowa), and Corey Ellingson (South Dakota) provided information on 2013

records from their respective states. Karl J. Bardon and Peder H. Svingen supplied the compilation of records from the MOU files for White-faced Ibis and Ibis/*Plegadis* Species for Minnesota. Hertzell assisted with the production of the map and figures in this article, and Svingen and Hertzell both reviewed several drafts of this article and provided many helpful comments that led to its improvement.

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The M.O.U. Roberts and 350 Clubs

Anthony X. Hertzell and David A. Cahlander

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Dick Rengstorf	Bill Stjern	Linda Sparling	355
369 <i>Elizabeth Campbell</i>	365 Philip C. Chu	361 Herb H. Dingmann	354 Steve J. Roman
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Notes of Interest



A VERY LATE RED-HEADED WOODPECKER NEST — Here I report a very late Red-



headed Woodpecker nest that fledged two young on 23 September 2013.

I had been observing Red-headed Woodpecker breeding activity at the Cedar Creek Ecology Science Reserve in Anoka County

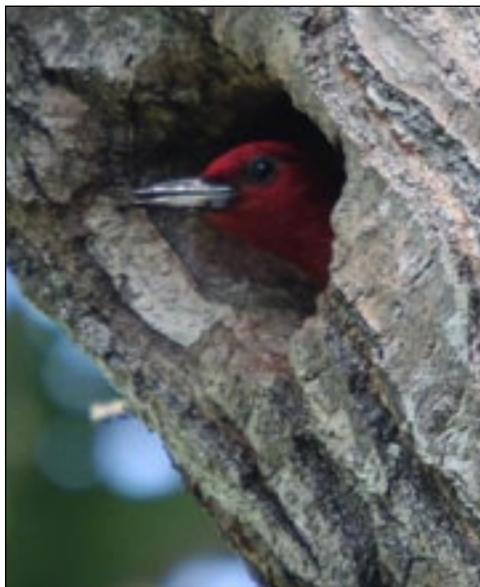
as part of the Red-headed Woodpecker Recovery Project.

On 24 July, a pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers had fledged two young from a nest 8.0 m high in a cavity in a live bur oak there. The female at the nest was color banded, and the male unbanded. The same cavity had been used in 2012. The first egg of the first nest was laid about 12 June and the clutch consisted of three eggs. We color banded the two nestlings that survived on 11 July. The two fledged on 24 July. We saw the two fledglings through 17 August.

On 5 September, I went to the nest area with the intent of trying to band the male. Much to my surprise, I noticed that the nest was again active. I had cut a removable window into the cavity in 2012 in order to band

the nestlings, and so I accessed the cavity via the window. I felt three nestlings and took one out to see how old it was. I estimated about eight days. Backdating, assuming an incubation period of 12 days, the first egg should have been laid about 12 August. We banded three nestlings on 13 September. Two weighed over 75 g and were covered with feathers. The primaries were in sheath and they could not yet fly. The third weighed only 38.5 g and the feathers were just erupting. My impression from September 5 was that, when I felt in the nest, the three babies were about the same size and age. Perhaps the smallest was close in age to the larger two, but was outcompeted for food and did not grow as fast. Typically, our Red-headed Woodpeckers have four or five eggs in a clutch, but only one to three fledglings. So there is generally a loss of at least one egg/nestling for reasons still unknown to us.

No young had fledged by 1:00 P.M. 23 September. One had fledged by 11:00 A.M. 24 September and the other fledged by 3:00 P.M. (We missed seeing it leave the nest.) I saw both fledglings 24 September and 1 October. By 9 October no Red-headed Woodpeckers were on the nesting territory. We last saw the female at the nest on 14 September. The male had been doing most of the feeding for a few days prior to that and alone fed the babies in and out of the nest after that. The pair mostly fed the young with insects caught flycatching. We saw Red-headed Woodpeckers catching grasshoppers, dragonflies, cicadas, and beetles. Grasshoppers were abundant through fledging, so food was available even so late in the season.



Late-nesting Red-headed Woodpecker. 13 September 2013. Anoka County. Photo by Siah St. Clair.

The next-to-last Red-headed Woodpecker nest in 2013 fledged on 8 September. It was also a second brood. In 2012, a year with a very early spring, only two of sixty pairs successfully fledged two broods. In 2013, a year with a very late spring, seven of thirty-one pairs successfully fledged two broods. Red-headed Woodpeckers can still be nesting long after the more familiar Downy, Hairy, and Red-bellied Woodpeckers have finished. **James L. Howitz, 2301 Arnold Palmer Drive NE, Blaine, MN 55449.**

Corrections to *The Loon*

Peder H. Svingen

Volume 75

Page 201. Greater Yellowlegs: Add high count 5/10 Todd (156) BWF.

Volume 76

Page 96. Brown-headed Cowbird: Change high count location to Dakota (Hampton).

Page 201. American Woodcock: Add high count 5/28 Kittson (20) AXH, PHS.

Volume 80

Page 71. Thayer's Gull: Delete 9/15 Crow Wing.

Page 198. Yellow Rail: Add high count 5/28 Aitkin (27, McGregor Marsh) CMB, SLS.

Volume 81

Page 129. American Three-toed Woodpecker. Delete 2/4 Sherburne and change number of south counties to 0.

Page 130. Black-backed Woodpecker. Add 2/4 Sherburne (Blue Hill Trail) DDo.

Volume 82

Page 12. Snowy Egret: Add high count 7/21 Grant (8 adults, Pelican Lake) RPR.

Page 26. Marsh Wren: Add high count 6/9 Anoka (45 at Carlos Avery W.M.A.) CLW.

Page 165. Swainson's Hawk: Add high count 5/9 Brown (4) RMD.

Volume 83

Page 164. Cooper's Hawk: Add high count 3/19 Rice (8) DAB.

Volume 84

Page 73. Cooper's Hawk: Change high count at H.R.B.O. to 9/25 St. Louis (16) KJB.

Page 74. Sandhill Crane: Add high count 11/16 Sherburne (7,000 at Sherburne N.W.R.) refuge staff.

Page 79. Lesser Black-backed Gull: Change date for second-cycle bird at Duluth to 10/16–11/5.

Page 179. Golden Eagle: Add high count 3/15 St. Louis (28 at W.S.H.C., Duluth) FJN.

Page 77. Pectoral Sandpiper: Change late south date from 1/13 to 11/13.

Page 182. Sanderling: Change high count to 5/23 St. Louis (121 at Park Point, Duluth) PHS.

Volume 85

Page 64. Greater White-fronted Goose: Delete 9/30 Hennepin and change number of south counties to 14.

Page 66. Long-tailed Duck: Delete 11/21 Houston (35) and change number of south counties to 2.

Page 66. Red-breasted Merganser: Delete count of 40 at Lake Pepin.

Page 67. Pacific Loon: Add 11/20–22 Carver (Lake Waconia) JCy, ph. JTe, MJM, ACr.

Page 69. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Delete 9/24 Dakota and change number of south counties to 1.

Page 82. Varied Thrush: Add 10/22 Wright (male, St. Michael) ph. Lorri Hedlund.

Page 101. Yellow-throated Warbler. Please change the county from Olmsted to Wabasha.

Index to *The Loon* Volume 85

Compiled by Anthony X. Hertzelt and Teresa Hertzelt

Index to Authors

- Bardon, Karl J. "Clark's Nutcracker at Hawk Ridge" 93
- Budde, Paul E. "The Spring 2013 Influx of *Plegadis* Ibis into Minnesota, With Notes on Their Status and Distribution" 199–212
- Budde, Paul E., Robert M. Dunlap, Doug W. Kieser, and William C. Marengo "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2012" 61–92; "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2013" 165–198;
- Budde, Paul E., Bruce A. Fall, and Andrew D. Smith "The Winter Season, 1 December 2012 through 28 February 2013" 118–147
- Budde, Paul E. and Peder H. Svingen "Corrections to The Loon" 214
- Cahlander, David A. and Anthony X. Hertzelt "The M.O.U. Roberts and 350 Clubs" 212
- Carlyle, Tracy "State Bird vs. National Bird" 151
- Chu, Philip C. "Sprague's Pipit in Clay County" 43–44
- Dunlap Robert M., Paul E. Budde, Doug W. Kieser, and William C. Marengo "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2012" 61–92; "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2013" 165–198;
- Fall, Bruce A. "King Eider on Lake Superior" 94
- Fall, Bruce A., Paul E. Budde, and Andrew D. Smith "The Winter Season, 1 December 2012 through 28 February 2013" 118–147
- Heins, Chad "Flycatchers Disabled by Mud" 150–151
- Hertzelt, Anthony X. and David A. Cahlander "The M.O.U. Roberts and 350 Clubs" 212
- Hertzelt, Anthony X. and Peder H. Svingen "The 2012 Dickcissel Irruption in Minnesota" 35–42; "Minnesota's First Cassin's Kingbird" 51–56
- Hertzelt, Anthony X. and Teresa Hertzelt "Index to The Loon, Volume 85" 215–218
- Hertzelt, Teresa and Anthony X. Hertzelt "Index to The Loon, Volume 85" 215–218
- Howitz, James L. "A Very Late Red-headed Woodpecker Nest" 213–214
- Kessen, Ann E. and Peder H. Svingen "The Summer Season, 1 June through 31 July 2012" 8–35
- Kieser, Doug W., Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, and William C. Marengo "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2012" 61–92; "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2013" 165–198;
- Marengo, William C., Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, and Doug W. Kieser "The Fall Season, 1 August through 30 November 2012" 61–92; "The Spring Season, 1 March through 31 May 2013" 165–198;
- Mehmel Gretchen, Michael R. North, Beth Siverhus, and Beth Walters "Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region, Part 1" 104–117; "Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region, Part 2" 155–165
- North, Michael R. "Integrating Habitat Use and Availability Data into a Christmas Bird Count" 57–60
- North, Michael R., Gretchen Mehmel, Beth Siverhus, and Beth Walters "Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region, Part 1" 104–117; "Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region, Part 2" 155–165
- Petersen, Debbie "Summer Snowy Owls in Clay and Norman Counties" 44–46
- Posterick, Ray "An Unusual Cardinal in Minneapolis" 150
- Roe, Karl "Say's Phoebe Near Duluth" 46
- Smith Andrew D., Paul E. Budde, and Bruce A. Fall "The Winter Season, 1 December 2012 through 28 February 2013" 118–147
- Siverhus, Beth, Gretchen Mehmel, Michael R. North, and Beth Walters "Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region, Part 1" 104–117; "Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region, Part 2" 155–165
- Svingen, Peder H. "Brant in Duluth" 93–94; "The Winter 2012–2013 Irruption of Northern Owls" 148–149
- Svingen, Peder H. and Paul E. Budde "Corrections to The Loon" 214
- Svingen Peder H. and Anthony X. Hertzelt "The 2012 Dickcissel Irruption in Minnesota" 35–42; "Minnesota's First Cassin's Kingbird" 51–56
- Svingen, Peder H. and Ann E. Kessen "The Summer Season, 1 June through 31 July 2012" 8–35
- Tustison Tom A. "Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee" 3–7; "Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee" 99–103
- Walters, Beth, Gretchen Mehmel, Michael R. North, and Beth Siverhus "Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region, Part 1" 104–117; "Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region, Part 2" 155–165

Index to Photographers

- Bardon, Karl J., Clark's Nutcracker 93
Brisance, David, Northern Shrike 95, Sharp-tailed Grouse 172, Eared Grebe 173, Winter Wren 186
Budde, Paul, Willet 177
Buston, Bob, Surf Scoter 65
Cahlander, David A., "Brewster's" Warbler 189
Cruz, Alex, Bohemian Waxwing 81
Eckert, Kim R., Say's Phoebe 46
Fall, Susan H., King Eider 94
Hertzfel, Anthony X., Dickcissel 1, Cassin's Kingbird 6, Clark's Nutcracker 6, American Robin 8, Dickcissel nest 37, Dickcissel 39, Ruby-throated Hummingbird 49, Cassin's Kingbird and Bohemian Waxwing 51, Cassin's Kingbird 53, Clark's Grebe 61, American Coot 71, Clark's Nutcracker 78, Barred Owl 153
St. Clair, Siah, Red-headed Woodpecker 213
Johnson, Debbie, Bullock's Oriole 102
Kieser, Douglas W., Say's Phoebe 77
Kraemer, Jan and Larry, Black-legged Kittiwake 4
Meadows, Allan, Eastern Kingbird 47
Mitchell, Tony, American White Pelican 68
Nyhus, Andrew, Long-tailed Jaeger 101
Peterson, Debbie, Snowy Owl 45
Pierzina, Douglas L., Western Sandpiper 99
Pinotti, Darcy, Northern Goshawk 69
Posterick, Ray, Northern Cardinal 150
Ritter, Cory A., Mississippi Kite 4
Selvey, Franklin, Rock Wren 7
Siverhus, Beth, Wilson's Phalarope 160
Stensaas, Mark "Sparky", Hoary Redpoll 97
Svingen, Peder H., Slaty-backed Gull 5, Say's Phoebe 5, Cassin's Kingbird 52, Mountain Bluebird 80, Yellow-breasted Chat 85, Brant 93
Ukura, Butch, Sprague's Pipit 49
Wilson, Steven G., Dickcissel 38
Winckler, Suzanne, Black-headed Grosbeak 102
Zierman, Shawn, Brant 3

Index to Species (351)

- Avocet, American 14, 61, 72, 166, 176
Bittern, American 12, 13, 68, 110, 115, 157-158, 173
Least 12, 13, 68, 110, 158, 173
Blackbird, Brewer's 31, 32, 89, 114, 119, 120, 136, 140-147, 195
Red-winged 31, 89, 108, 114, 135-136, 140-147, 195
Rusty 63, 89, 114, 136, 140-147, 195
Yellow-headed 31, 32, 89, 119, 136, 195
Bluebird, Eastern 24, 25, 81, 110, 119, 133, 140-147, 186
Mountain 62, 81, 166, 186
Bobolink, 8, 29, 32, 62, 89, 194-195
Brant, 3, 61, 64, 93-94
Bufflehead, 8, 10, 11, 66, 124, 140-147, 156, 171
Bunting, Indigo 29, 31, 88, 194
Lark 8, 30, 102, 167, 192
Lazuli 6, 31, 102, 167, 194
Painted 102-103, 167, 194
Snow 83, 114, 115, 116, 119, 134, 140-147, 188
Canvasback, 10, 11, 65, 122, 140-147, 156, 170
Cardinal, Northern 29, 30, 88, 114, 135, 140-147, 150, 194
Catbird, Gray 24, 25, 82, 119, 134, 140-147, 187
Chat, Yellow-breasted 62, 85, 86, 167, 192
Chickadee, Black-capped 22, 23, 59, 60, 80, 108, 110, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 132, 140-147, 185
Boreal 22, 23, 80, 110, 112, 114, 132, 140-147, 185
Collared-Dove, Eurasian 17, 20, 75, 129, 140-147, 180
Coot, American 14, 15, 71, 127, 140-147, 159, 176
Cormorant, Double-crested 12, 13, 68, 125, 140-147, 157, 173
Cowbird, Brown-headed 31, 32, 89, 108, 136, 140-147, 195, 214
Crane, Sandhill 14, 15, 71, 110, 115, 159, 176, 214
Whooping 103
Creeper, Brown 24, 25, 80, 112, 114, 132-133, 140-147, 185
Crossbill, Red 9, 33, 62, 90, 114, 115, 119, 136-137, 140-147, 167, 196
White-winged 31, 33, 62, 63, 90, 114, 116, 119, 137, 140-147, 167, 196
Crow, American 22, 23, 79, 114, 115, 116, 132, 140-147, 184
Cuckoo, Black-billed 17, 20, 75, 112, 161, 181
Yellow-billed 20, 75, 109, 112, 161, 181
Dickcissel, 1, 8, 29, 32, 35-42, 88-89, 194
Dove, Mourning 17, 20, 75, 114, 115, 129, 140-147, 161, 180-181
White-winged 4, 8, 20, 62, 75
Dowitcher, Long-billed 18, 73, 179
Short-billed 18, 73, 179
Duck, American Black 8, 10, 11, 64-65, 122, 140-147, 156, 170
Harlequin 61, 65, 118, 123, 140-147, 165, 170
Long-tailed 61, 66, 118, 123-124, 140-147, 165, 171, 214
Ring-necked 10, 11, 65, 110, 118, 120, 123, 140-147, 156, 170
Ruddy 10, 11, 66-67, 118, 124, 140-147, 157, 171
Wood 10, 11, 64, 110, 113, 121, 140-147, 155, 169
Dunlin, 18, 73, 178
Eagle, Bald 14, 15, 61, 69, 70, 111, 113, 114, 116, 126, 140-147, 151, 158, 175
Golden 61, 70, 114, 127, 140-147, 159, 175-176, 214
Egret, Cattle 12, 61, 69, 165, 174
Great 12, 13, 69, 118, 126, 140-147, 158, 174
Snowy 12, 61, 69, 165, 174, 214
Eider, King 94, 99-100, 118, 123
Falcon, Peregrine 19, 21, 70, 76, 131, 140-147, 164, 183
Prairie 8, 21, 62, 76, 168, 183
Finch, House 31, 32-33, 90, 114, 136, 140-147, 196

Purple 31, 32, 90, 114, 136, 140-147, 196
 Flicker, Northern 19, 21, 76, 108, 110, 113, 131, 140-147, 164, 182
 Flycatcher, Acadian 8, 21, 77, 183
 Alder 19, 21, 77, 108, 108, 112, 115, 183
 Great Crested 19, 21, 77-78, 108, 110, 112, 113, 183
 Least 19, 21, 77, 108, 112, 115, 150-151, 151, 183
 Olive-sided 21, 76-77, 112, 115, 183
 Scissor-tailed 5, 62, 78, 101
 Willow 19, 21, 77, 183
 Yellow-bellied 21, 77, 112, 115, 183

 Gadwall, 10, 11, 64, 110, 118, 121-122, 140-147, 155, 169
 Gallinule, Common 8, 14, 15, 61, 71, 166, 176
 Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray 24, 25, 81, 166, 186
 Godwit, Hudsonian 16, 61, 72, 177-178
 Marbled 15, 16, 61, 72, 110, 160, 166, 178
 Golden-Plover, American 14, 71, 118, 127, 159, 176
 Goldeneye, Barrow's 3, 61, 100, 124, 165, 171
 Common 8, 10, 11, 66, 124, 140-147, 156, 171
 Goldfinch, American 31, 33, 62, 91, 108, 114, 116, 137, 140-147, 196
 Goose, Cackling 61, 64, 118, 121, 140-147, 165, 169
 Canada 10, 11, 64, 110, 113, 118, 121, 140-147, 155, 169
 Greater White-fronted 10, 64, 121, 140-147, 155, 169, 214
 Ross's 64, 121, 169
 Snow 10, 63, 64, 118, 121, 140-147, 155, 169
 Goshawk, Northern 14, 69, 70, 111, 114, 116, 118, 126, 140-147, 158, 166, 175
 Grackle, Common 31, 32, 89, 108, 114, 116, 119, 136, 140-147, 195
 Great-tailed 9, 32, 89, 167, 195
 Grebe, Clark's 12, 13, 61, 63, 68, 168, 173
 Eared 12, 13, 68, 157, 173
 Horned 12, 67, 125, 140-147, 157, 165, 172
 Pied-billed 12, 13, 67, 110, 125, 157, 172
 Red-necked 12, 13, 67-68, 110, 118, 125, 140-147, 157, 165, 173
 Western 12, 13, 68, 118, 125, 173
 Grosbeak, Black-headed 102, 167, 194
 Blue 8, 29, 31, 88, 167, 194
 Evening 31, 33, 62, 91, 114, 115, 116, 119, 137, 140-147, 196
 Pine 59, 60, 62, 90, 114, 119, 136, 140-147, 167, 195-196
 Rose-breasted 29, 30-31, 88, 108, 120, 135, 140-147, 194
 Grouse, Ruffed 12, 13, 67, 105, 108, 113, 114, 125, 140-147, 157, 171
 Sharp-tailed 12, 13, 67, 114, 115, 125, 140-147, 157, 172
 Spruce 12, 13, 63, 67, 114, 115, 125, 140-147, 157, 172
 Gull, Bonaparte's 18, 74, 120, 127, 179
 Franklin's 18, 74, 161, 179
 Glaucous 63, 74, 118, 128, 140-147, 166, 180
 Great Black-backed 62, 74, 118, 128, 140-147, 166, 180
 Herring 17, 18, 74, 128, 140-147, 161, 179-180
 Iceland 62, 74, 118, 128, 140-147, 166, 180
 Laughing 6
 Lesser Black-backed 74, 118, 128, 166, 180, 214

 Little 74, 166, 179
 Ring-billed 17, 18, 74, 110, 127-128, 140-147, 161, 179
 Sabine's 4, 62, 74
 Slaty-backed 4, 5, 118, 128
 Thayer's 74, 128, 140-147, 180, 214
 Gyrfalcon, 7, 100-101, 114, 164, 166, 183

 Harrier, Northern 14, 15, 69, 70, 111, 114, 115, 126, 140-147, 158, 175
 Hawk, Broad-winged 14, 15, 70, 115, 158-159, 168, 175
 Cooper's 14, 15, 69-70, 70, 111, 118, 126, 140-147, 158, 175, 214
 Ferruginous 6, 168
 Red-shouldered 14, 15, 70, 126, 140-147, 175
 Red-tailed 14, 15, 70, 111, 114, 115, 126-127, 140-147, 159, 175
 Rough-legged 61, 70, 114, 127, 140-147, 159, 175
 Sharp-shinned 14, 63, 69, 70, 111, 118, 126, 140-147, 158, 175
 Swainson's 14, 15, 61, 70, 159, 175, 214
 Heron, Great Blue 12, 13, 68-69, 69, 110, 126, 140-147, 158, 173-174
 Green 12, 13, 69, 158, 174
 Little Blue 12, 61, 165, 174
 Hummingbird, Ruby-throated 17, 20, 49, 76, 163, 182

 Ibis, Glossy 100, 103, 166, 168, 174, 174-175, 199-212
 White-faced 166, 174, 174-175, 199-212

 Jaeger, Long-tailed 100, 101
 Parasitic 62, 75, 179
 Jay, Blue 22, 23, 79, 108, 114, 116, 132, 140-147, 184
 Gray 22, 23, 59, 60, 79, 114, 116, 132, 140-147, 184
 Junco, Dark-eyed 29, 30, 88, 113, 114, 135, 140-147, 194

 Kestrel, American 19, 21, 70, 76, 110, 111, 113, 115, 131, 140-147, 164, 182
 Killdeer, 14, 15, 72, 110, 118, 127, 140-147, 159, 176-177
 Eastern 19, 21, 47, 62, 78, 112, 151, 184
 Tropical/Couch's 99
 Western 19, 21, 78, 183-184
 Kingfisher, Belted 17, 20, 76, 130, 140-147, 163, 182
 Kinglet, Golden-crowned 24, 25, 81, 112, 133, 140-147, 186
 Ruby-crowned 24, 25, 81, 112, 133, 186
 Kite, Mississippi 3, 4, 61, 69, 70
 Kittiwake, Black-legged 3-4, 4, 61-62, 74, 118, 120, 127
 Knot, Red 61, 72, 178

 Lark, Horned 22, 23, 79, 132, 140-147, 185
 Longspur, Chestnut-collared 25, 26, 82, 167, 188
 Lapland 82, 114, 134, 140-147, 188
 Smith's 62, 82-83, 167, 188
 Loon, Common 12, 13, 67, 110, 118, 125, 151, 157, 165, 172
 Pacific 61, 63, 67, 118, 125, 165, 172, 214
 Red-throated 12, 61, 67, 165, 172

 Magpie, Black-billed 22, 23, 79, 114, 116, 119, 132, 140-147, 184

- Mallard, 10, 11, 65, 110, 113, 114, 122, 140-147, 156, 170
 Martin, Purple 22, 23, 79, 112, 185
 Meadowlark, Eastern 9, 31, 32, 89, 195
 Western 31, 32, 89, 140-147, 195
 Merganser, Common 8, 10, 11, 66, 110, 124, 140-147, 156-157, 171
 Hooded 10, 11, 66, 110, 113, 124, 140-147, 156, 171
 Red-breasted 10, 66, 118, 124, 140-147, 157, 171, 214
 Merlin, 19, 21, 70, 76, 111, 114, 131, 140-147, 164, 182
 Mockingbird, Northern 24, 62, 82, 166, 187
- Night-Heron, Black-crowned 12-13, 13, 69, 118, 126, 140-147, 158, 174
 Yellow-crowned 14, 61, 69, 165, 174, 214
 Nighthawk, Common 17, 20, 75-76, 112, 115, 163, 181-182
 Nutcracker, Clark's 5, 6, 7, 62, 78, 79, 93
 Nuthatch, Red-breasted 23, 24, 80, 110, 112, 114, 116, 132, 140-147, 185
 White-breasted 23, 24, 80, 110, 112, 114, 116, 132, 140-147, 185
- Oriole, Baltimore 31, 32, 89-90, 195
 Bullock's 102, 103, 167, 195
 Orchard 31, 32, 63, 89, 195
 Osprey, 13, 14, 69, 70, 120, 126, 158, 175
 Ovenbird, 25, 26, 83, 108, 112, 113, 115, 188
 Owl, Barn 168, 181
 Barred 17, 20, 75, 111, 114, 115, 116, 129, 140-147, 153, 162, 181
 Boreal 75, 111, 114, 118-119, 130, 148-149, 162-163, 166, 181
 Great Gray 20, 75, 111, 114, 129-130, 140-147, 148-149, 162, 166, 181
 Great Horned 17, 20, 75, 111, 114, 115, 115-116, 129, 140-147, 161-162, 181
 Long-eared 17, 20, 75, 111, 130, 140-147, 162, 181
 Northern Hawk 8, 20, 75, 114, 116, 118, 129, 140-147, 148-149, 162, 166, 181
 Northern Saw-whet 17, 20, 75, 110, 111, 113, 114, 115, 130, 140-147, 163, 181
 Short-eared 17, 20, 75, 111, 130, 162, 181
 Snowy 8, 20, 44-45, 75, 114, 116, 118, 129, 140-147, 148-149, 162, 166, 181
- Partridge, Gray 11, 12, 67, 124, 140-147, 157, 171
 Parula, Northern 27, 28, 84, 112, 190
 Pelican, American White 12, 13, 68, 110, 125-126, 140-147, 157, 173
 Brown 100, 165, 173
 Phalarope, Red 6
 Red-necked 18, 73-74, 161, 166, 179
 Wilson's 17, 18, 73, 110, 160-161, 179
 Pheasant, Ring-necked 11, 12, 67, 124-125, 140-147, 171
 Phoebe, Eastern 19, 21, 77, 112, 183
 Say's 4, 46, 62, 77, 101, 166, 183
 Pigeon, Rock 17, 20, 75, 114, 115, 128-129, 140-147, 161, 180
 Pintail, Northern 10, 11, 65, 110, 122, 140-147, 156, 170
 Pipit, American 26, 62, 82, 187
 Sprague's 8, 26, 43-44
- Plover, Black-bellied 14, 71, 159, 176
 Piping 14, 15, 61, 72, 166, 176
 Semipalmated 14, 71-72, 176
 Wilson's 100, 166, 176
 Prairie-Chicken, Greater 12, 67, 125, 140-147, 172
- Rail, Virginia 14, 15, 71, 110, 159, 168, 176
 Yellow 14, 71, 110, 115, 159, 176, 214
 Raven, Common 22, 23, 63, 79, 114, 116, 119, 120, 132, 140-147, 184-185
 Redhead, 10, 11, 65, 122-123, 140-147, 156, 170
 Redpoll, Common 59, 60, 90, 114, 119, 137, 140-147, 167, 196
 Hoary 90, 97, 114, 119, 137, 140-147, 167, 196
 Redstart, American 26, 27, 84, 108, 112, 115, 190
 Robin, American 24, 25, 82, 108, 113, 114, 119, 133, 140-147, 166, 187
- Sanderling, 16, 72, 178, 214
 Sandpiper, Baird's 16-17, 73, 160, 178
 Buff-breasted 18, 73, 178
 Least 16, 72-73, 160, 166, 178
 Pectoral 18, 61, 73, 160, 178, 214
 Semipalmated 16, 61, 72, 160, 178
 Solitary 8, 15, 16, 72, 110, 159-160, 177
 Spotted 15, 16, 72, 110, 159, 177
 Stilt 18, 73, 178
 Upland 15, 16, 72, 160, 177
 Western 99, 100, 166, 178-179
 White-rumped 16, 73, 178
 Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied 19, 20, 76, 110, 113, 130-131, 140-147, 163, 182
- Scaup, Greater 8, 10, 65, 118, 123, 140-147, 156, 165, 170
 Lesser 10, 65, 110, 123, 140-147, 156, 170
 Scoter, Black 61, 66, 118, 120, 123, 171
 Surf 61, 65, 66, 118, 123, 170
 White-winged 61, 63, 66, 118, 123, 140-147, 156, 171
 Screech-Owl, Eastern 20, 75, 110, 111, 113, 129, 140-147, 161, 181
 Shoveler, Northern 10, 11, 65, 110, 122, 140-147, 156, 170
 Shrike, Loggerhead 19, 21, 78, 184
 Northern 63, 78, 95, 114, 116, 131-132, 140-147, 184
 Siskin, Pine 31, 33, 62, 90-91, 114, 116, 119, 137, 140-147, 196
 Snipe, Wilson's 15, 18, 73, 108, 110, 113, 115, 127, 140-147, 160, 179
- Solitaire, Townsend's 62, 81, 119, 133, 140-147, 166, 186
 Sora, 14, 15, 71, 110, 159, 176
 Sparrow, American Tree 86, 114, 134, 140-147, 192
 Chipping 28, 29, 86, 108, 119, 120, 140-147, 192
 Clay-colored 28, 29, 86, 192
 Eurasian Tree 103, 167, 196
 Field 28, 29, 86, 114, 119, 134, 192
 Fox 87, 134-135, 140-147, 193
 Golden-crowned 5-6
 Grasshopper 29, 30, 87, 192
 Harris's 30, 88, 135, 140-147, 167, 193
 Henslow's 8, 29, 30, 87, 192-193
 House 31, 33, 91, 114, 115, 137, 140-147, 196
 Lark 8, 29, 30, 87, 192

Le Conte's 30, 63, 87, 193
 Lincoln's 29, 30, 87, 193
 Nelson's 8, 30, 62, 87, 110, 167, 193
 Savannah 29, 30, 87, 119, 134, 140-147, 192
 Song 29, 30, 87, 108, 114, 135, 140-147, 193
 Swamp 29, 30, 87-88, 108, 135, 140-147, 193
 Vesper 28-29, 29, 86, 168, 192
 White-crowned 88, 135, 140-147, 167, 193-194
 White-throated 29, 30, 88, 108, 113, 114, 135, 140-147, 193
 Starling, European 24-25, 25, 82, 114, 115, 134, 140-147, 187
 Stilt, Black-necked 100, 166, 176
 Swallow, Bank 22, 23, 79, 112, 185
 Barn 22, 23, 79-80, 108, 112, 185
 Cliff 22, 23, 79, 112, 185
 Northern Rough-winged 22, 23, 63, 79, 185
 Tree 22, 23, 79, 108, 110, 112, 113, 185
 Swan, Mute 10, 64, 118, 121, 140-147, 169
 Trumpeter 10, 11, 64, 110, 113, 121, 140-147, 155, 169
 Tundra 10, 63, 64, 121, 140-147, 155, 169
 Swift, Chimney 17, 20, 76, 112, 163, 182
 White-throated 7
 Tanager, Scarlet 29, 30, 88, 194
 Summer 62, 88, 119, 135, 167, 194
 Western 167, 168, 194
 Teal, Blue-winged 10, 11, 65, 110, 156, 165, 170
 Cinnamon 165, 170
 Green-winged 10, 11, 65, 110, 122, 140-147, 156, 170
 Tern, Black 17, 18, 74-75, 110, 161, 168, 180
 Caspian 17, 18, 74, 180
 Common 17, 18, 75, 161, 180
 Forster's 17, 18-19, 75, 161, 168, 180
 Thrasher, Brown 24, 25, 82, 114, 119, 134, 140-147, 187
 Gray-cheeked 81, 186-187
 Hermit 24, 25, 82, 108, 119, 133, 140-147, 187
 Swainson's 24, 25, 81-82, 187
 Varied 62, 82, 119, 133-134, 140-147, 166, 187, 214
 Wood 24, 25, 82, 187
 Titmouse, Tufted 22, 23, 62, 80, 119, 132, 140-147, 185
 Towhee, Eastern 27, 28, 86, 192
 Spotted 28, 86, 119, 134, 167, 192
 Turkey, Wild 12, 13, 67, 125, 140-147, 157, 172
 Turnstone, Ruddy 16, 61, 72, 160, 166, 178
 Veery, 24, 25, 81, 108, 168, 186
 Bell's 21, 78, 184
 Blue-headed 8, 22, 23, 78, 112, 184
 Philadelphia 22, 78-79, 166, 184
 Red-eyed 22, 23, 79, 108, 112, 113, 115, 184
 Warbling 22, 23, 78, 112, 184
 White-eyed 184
 Yellow-throated 19, 21-22, 78, 112, 184
 Vulture, Turkey 13, 14, 69, 70, 111, 115, 158, 175
 Warbler, "Brewster's" 188-189
 Bay-breasted 28, 84, 109, 190
 Black-and-white 26, 27, 83, 108, 112, 115, 168, 188
 Black-throated Blue 28, 85, 167, 191
 Black-throated Green 27, 28, 86, 108, 112, 191
 Blackburnian 27, 28, 84, 112, 190
 Blackpoll 28, 63, 84-85, 191
 Blue-winged 26, 27, 83, 188
 Canada 27, 28, 86, 112, 191
 Cape May 26-27, 27, 84, 112, 190
 Cerulean 8, 28, 84, 190
 Chestnut-sided 27, 28, 84, 108, 112, 115, 190-191
 Connecticut 26, 83, 108, 109, 112, 115, 189
 Golden-winged 26, 27, 83, 112, 115, 188
 Hooded 8, 26, 84, 167, 189-190
 Kentucky 26, 167, 189
 Magnolia 27, 28, 84, 112, 190
 Mourning 26, 27, 83-84, 108, 112, 189
 Nashville 26, 27, 83, 108, 112, 113, 115, 189
 Orange-crowned 83, 189
 Palm 27, 28, 85, 112, 191
 Pine 27, 28, 85, 112, 191
 Prothonotary 26, 27, 83, 188-189
 Tennessee 26, 83, 109, 112, 189
 Wilson's 28, 63, 86, 112, 191-192
 Worm-eating 101, 167, 188
 Yellow 27, 28, 84, 108, 112, 115, 190
 Yellow-rumped 27, 28, 85-86, 108, 112, 119, 134, 140-147, 191
 Yellow-throated 101, 167, 191, 214
 Waterthrush, Louisiana 26, 83, 188
 Northern 26, 83, 109, 112, 188
 Waxwing, Bohemian 51, 62, 81, 82, 114, 115, 116, 119, 120, 134, 140-147, 167, 187
 Cedar 25, 26, 62, 82, 108, 112, 115, 134, 140-147, 188
 Whimbrel, 16, 61, 72, 166, 177
 Whip-poor-will, Eastern 8, 20, 76, 112, 115, 163, 182
 Wigeon, American 10, 64, 110, 122, 140-147, 155-156, 169
 Willet, 16, 61, 72, 177
 Wood-Pewee, Eastern 19, 21, 77, 108, 112, 183
 Woodcock, American 15, 18, 73, 105, 110, 115, 160, 179, 214
 Woodpecker, American Three-toed 20, 76, 110, 114, 116, 119, 131, 140-147, 163-164, 182, 214
 Black-backed 21, 76, 110, 114, 116, 119, 131, 140-147, 164, 182, 214
 Downy 19, 20, 76, 110, 114, 116, 131, 140-147, 163, 182
 Hairy 19, 20, 76, 110, 113, 114, 116, 131, 140-147, 163, 182
 Pileated 19, 21, 76, 110, 113, 114, 116, 131, 140-147, 164, 182
 Red-bellied 19, 20, 76, 110, 130, 140-147, 163, 182
 Red-headed 19, 20, 76, 119, 130, 140-147, 163, 182, 213-214
 Wren, Carolina 8, 24, 62, 80, 119, 133, 140-147, 166, 186
 House 24, 25, 80, 110, 112, 113, 185
 Marsh 24, 25, 80-81, 110, 186, 214
 Rock 5, 7, 62, 80
 Sedge 24, 25, 80, 108, 112, 115, 185-186
 Winter 24, 25, 80, 108, 112, 133, 185
 Yellowlegs, Greater 16, 72, 160, 177, 214
 Lesser 16, 72, 160, 177
 Yellowthroat, Common 26, 27, 84, 108, 112, 113, 115, 189

In This Issue of *The Loon*

Volume 85 Number 4

Barred Owl, 2 April 2013, Minneapolis, Hennepin County

Photo by Anthony X. Hertzelt Front Cover

Birds of the Beltrami Island State Forest and Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Region

Part 2

Michael R. North, Gretchen Mehmel, Beth Walters, and Beth Siverbus 155

The Spring Season

1 March through 31 May 2013

Paul E. Budde, Robert M. Dunlap, Doug W. Kieser, James W. Lind, and William C. Marengo 165

The Spring 2013 Influx of *Plegadis* Ibis into Minnesota

With Notes on Their Status and Distribution

Paul E. Budde 199

The M.O.U. Roberts and 350 Clubs

Anthony X. Hertzelt and David A. Cablander 212

Notes of Interest

A Very Late Red-headed Woodpecker Nest

James L. Howitz 213

Corrections to *The Loon*

Compiled by Peder H. Svingen and Paul E. Budde 214

Index to *The Loon*

Volume 85

Compiled by Anthony X. Hertzelt and Teresa Hertzelt 215

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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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