

A photograph of three fluffy loon chicks in a nest made of reeds. The chicks are covered in dark, downy feathers and have bright yellow eyes. One chick in the foreground has its beak wide open, as if calling or begging for food. The nest is surrounded by tall, dry reeds and some green grass blades.

The **Loon**

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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 ("MOURC") was conducted at the Trailhead Lodge at the Carpenter Nature Center on 6 December 2015. In attendance and voting at this meeting were MOURC members Dedrick A. Benz (alternate), Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Andrew R. Forbes (alternate), Anthony X. Hertzler, Douglas W. Kieser (alternate), Robert P. Russell, Andrew D. Smith, and Thomas A. Tustison (chair).

At, or subsequent to, the most recent meeting, the following records were voted on (most electronically) and Accepted:

- Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), 21 September 2015, Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve, St. Louis County (record #2015-029, vote 7-0). Juvenile, photographed. Third latest date on record.

- Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinicus*), 23 October 2015, Waseca Street in West Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2015-033, vote 7-0). Juvenile, photographed. Second county and fourth state record. Retrieved after it apparently flew into a window and was stunned. Previous Minnesota records are the following: 11 November 1963, found dead near Toivola, St. Louis County (specimen now at the Bell Museum of Natural History, (*The Flicker* 35:123 and *The Flicker* 36:23); 11 or 12 June 1967, found dead in Sheldon Township, Houston County (specimen also at the Bell Museum), (*The Loon* 39:124); and 5 September 1970, Oakleaf Lake, Nicollet County, (*The Loon* 42:119).

- Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*), 25-27 November 2015, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Wells, Faribault County (record #2015-042, vote 7-0). Apparent adult, photographed. First county record.

- California Gull (*Larus californicus*), 24, 25 September, 1, 9, 28, and 30 October, and 6 December 2015 from the Minnesota side



Record #2015-029, Mississippi Kite, 21 September 2015, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Karl J. Bardon.

of the Superior Entry, and 27 September at Park Point Recreation Area ballfields, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2015-031, vote 7-0). First-cycle, photographed (*The Loon* 88:41-42).

- Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*), 13 October 2015, Sax-Zim Bog, Cross Road (47.15318, -92.659100), St. Louis County (record #2015-032, vote 7-0). Fifth state record and the earliest of five fall records (*The Loon* 88:42-43). Composite dates for all five records range from 1-20 October — a remarkably narrow band of time.

- Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*), 2 November 2015, Kandiyohi County Road 88 southeast of Willmar (record #2015-038, vote 7-0). Juvenile photographed. First county record.

- Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*), 21 October - 16 November 2015, at a private residence near the community of Richwood, Becker County (record #2015-039, vote 7-0). Two sub-adult males were both



Record #2015-039, Vermilion Flycatcher, 6 November 2015, Richwood, Becker County. Photo by Paul E. Budde.



Record #2015-027, Tropical Kingbird, 5 July 2015, Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve, Scott County. Photo by Gerald Hoekstra.

photographed and accepted. First county record, fourth state record, and first occurrence of more than one individual. At least one of the males arrived on 21 October. The exact arrival of the second male is uncertain, but most likely the birds arrived together. At least one bird remained through 16 November, but the exact departure date for both birds is uncertain. All four records have been in the fall season. There have been only three previous Minnesota records: 6–7 November 1977, near Elizabeth, Otter Tail County (adult male), (*The Loon* 50:45), 13–14 October 1991, Duluth (juvenile female), (*The Loon* 64:57–58), and 25–27 November 1994, Kandiyohi County (juvenile female), (*The Loon* 67:57–59).

- Vermilion Flycatcher, 2 November 2015, Lutsen Resort, Cook County (record #2015-037, vote 7–0). Presumed juvenile or adult female, photographed. First county record and fifth state record.

- Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*), 24 June – 19 July 2015, horse/pet trails in Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve, Scott County (record #2015-027, vote 10–0, physical evidence vote 10–0). First state and first county record, photographed, video and audio recorded. Because this is a first state record, all ten members voted accepting the identification. The Committee also voted unanimously that the physical evidence standing alone was sufficient to establish the identification; consequently, the species will be added to the next state Checklist (2019) without a subsript. As part of its deliberations, the Committee consulted several outside experts.

- White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*), 25 October 2015, Sunset Memorial Cemetery, Minneapolis, Hennepin County (record #2015-035, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed.

- White-eyed Vireo, 1–11 November 2015, Wood Lake Nature Center, Richfield, Hennepin County (record #2015-036, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed.

- White-eyed Vireo, 8 November 2015, Artists Point, Grand Marais, Cook County (record #2015-040, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed.

- Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*), 7 September – 10 October 2015, private residence Winona, Winona County (record #2015-030, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. The date first seen is reported to have been on 7 September 2015, although the precise date is unknown.

- Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*), 4 May 2015, southeast of the downtown train depot, Two Harbors, Lake County (record, #2015-010, vote 10–0, vote to determine whether the physical evidence standing alone is sufficient to identify the bird as to species 10–0). Because this species was an A_s species, all ten members were required to vote. The identification as well as the removal of the “s” subsript were both unanimous.

- Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*), 18 October 2015, last seen on an indeterminate date during the last week of April 2016, private residence Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2015-034, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. This is quite possibly the same bird from the previous year returning to the same feeder (see also *The Loon* 87:6–7).



Record #2015-010, Brewer's Sparrow, 4 May 2015, Two Harbors, Lake County. Photo by James W. Lind.

- Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotis*), 14 November 2015, Iona's Beach SNA, Lake County (record #2015-041, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

The following records were voted on and were Not Accepted. (Please note that a record which is Not Accepted only means that the documentation was not complete or convincing enough to include the sighting in *The Loon*, the journal of the 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.)

- Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), 7 September 2015, Camden State Park, Lyon County (record #2015-028, vote 3-4). There are many characteristics not mentioned that would have aided the identification such as the short outermost primary (P10), upperparts description (if visible) such as white secondaries, or reddish/rust colored tones in the upper wing. The observer omitted any mention of falcons in ruling out similar species.

- Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*), 26 November 2014, Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2014-055, first vote 4-3, recirculated vote 2-5). Photographed. Several members felt that some of the features, noted

by the observer to be in the photographs, could not be clearly discerned. There was unease that other species such as Dunlin could not be completely eliminated.

- Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), 9 September 2013, Overlook Circle, Bloomington, Hennepin County (record #2013-073, first vote 4-3, recirculated vote 1-6). Photographed. No one actually observed the bird in person. A single, feedercam photograph (that conveniently includes date, time, location, and weather information) stands alone as evidence. Most members felt that the bird might possibly be a Bewick's Wren. However, because there was an inexplicable white marking visible in the malar region, most members could not accept the sighting based on just one photograph with no additional documentation.

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: Travis Bonovsky, Karl J. Bardon, David A. Bartkey, Patrick B. Beauzay, Conny M. Brunell, Paul E. Budde, Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Wayne Feder, Gerald Hoekstra, Joseph P. Hudick, Paul Kammen, Dee Kuder, James W. Lind, Michael J. Majeski, Craig R. Mandel, Scott B. Meyer, Earl E. Orf, Curt Rawn, John Richardson, Karl Roe, Liz Stanley, Matt Stratmoen, Peder H. Svingen, Tom A. Tustison, Tim Walker, Josh Wallestad, Justin Watts, Garrett Wee, and Roy Zimmerman. Many observers documented records of rare Regular species which were not voted on by the Committee; though not cited here, their efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Committee welcomes questions or comments from MOU members regarding any record in particular or our procedures in general. More information including our bylaws and current checklist can be found at <http://moumn.org/mourc>. Summary: 19 records voted on — 16 Accepted, 3 Not Accepted.

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The 2015 Summer Season

1 June through 31 July 2015

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

The summer of 2015 saw two records of Mute Swans, in Becker and Todd counties. As is often the case, whether they were of wild origin is uncertain. A Surf Scoter could be seen on Lake Superior in the area of Two Harbors for much of June. Park Point was the place to be in mid-June, when three Red-throated Loons in alternate plumage put in an appearance one day, and the next day a Pacific Loon was seen. Eared Grebes nested in Polk County at the East Grand Forks W.T.P., where about a hundred nests were counted.

A Snowy Egret was spotted in northwestern Minnesota in early June, and a Cattle Egret was found in Renville County in mid-July. This latter record represents the lowest number of summer observations of this species in recent years. Unexpected was a Northern Goshawk documented in Hennepin County in mid-June. Common Gallinules were down from the last few years, with reports from only three counties.

Two dozen American Avocets were fun to see in Big Stone County in the middle of July. Two Red Knots were photographed at Park Point in early June. Caspian Tern reports were way up compared to recent years. A late July surprise was an adult male Rufous Hummingbird that visited a Mower County feeder the morning after a storm. A pair of American Three-toed Woodpeckers was found in the Big Bog State Recreation Area in the middle of June.

The big event of the summer was a first state record Tropical Kingbird that lingered for nearly three weeks in June and July in Murphy-Hanrahan Park Reserve, Scott County, and was extensively documented by written descriptions, photographs, and audio recordings. Always a treat, a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher visited Beltrami County in early June.

Bell's Vireo was found in five counties clustered in the southeastern quarter of the

state, and Tufted Titmouse was reported as far north as Hennepin and Ramsey counties. South Minneapolis enjoyed a visit from a Carolina Wren for one day in late July, and a Bewick's Wren spent about a week in early June at Hastings Sand Coulee S.N.A., providing a first record for Dakota County. Northern Mockingbirds were reported from seven counties, more than twice the number of the past few years.

A total of five Hooded Warbler nests were found in Murphy-Hanrahan Park Reserve in Scott County. Whitewater State Park in Winona County again hosted a Yellow-throated Warbler. This species has been seen at this location for several years in a row. A Prairie Warbler was a surprise at Hastings Sand Coulee S.N.A. in Dakota County for one day in June.

A pair of Yellow-breasted Chats nested in Olmsted County, providing the first county breeding record for this species. Unfortunately, the nest was parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbirds, and it's unclear whether any young chats fledged. A Summer Tanager was an exciting find in Afton State Park in Washington County in mid-July. The season saw a dramatic reduction in Evening Grosbeak reports compared to previous years.

Weather Summary: The weather in Minnesota this season was notably mundane. For both June and July, average monthly temperatures were close to historical averages in most areas of the state. While precipitation levels in June varied considerably locally, on an overall basis totals were near normal. In July, rainfall was above-average in most areas from the northwest to the southeast corners of the state, but below-average in the Northeast and Southwest regions.

Insufficiently documented reports: **Common Raven** 7/9 Olmsted (out of range, with no details); **Western Tanager** 6/22 Lyon (an

exceptional midsummer report of a Rare-Regular species that was Accidental/Casual prior to 1998).

Maps: A map is included for each species having at least one confirmed breeding record during 2015 (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 (MBS) data. We are also grate-

ful for the data provided by eBird. Thanks also to Jim Lind and Jeanie Joppru for providing transcripts of weekly hot line 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 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 South] One individual seen 6/19, 7/19 Scott (New Prague W.T.P.) †SWe, BAb.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [1 North] One individual seen in flight, then killed by two Bald Eagles 6/5 Clay KRE, LGL.

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [1 South] Seen 6/1 Pope (single bird in flock of Canada Geese) †RMD.

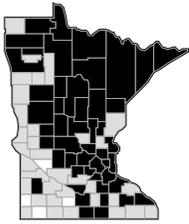
Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [34

North, 49 South] Reported from all counties except Chippewa, Nobles, Pipestone, Watonwan.

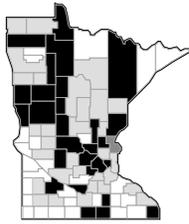
Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [2 North] Observed 6/20–21 Becker (Bisson L., Hamden Slough N.W.R.) JCC, KRE, RZi, †HeH, m.ob., 7/3 Todd (no details) FGo. The provenance of these birds is unknown, though the location of the Hamden Slough bird suggests wild origin.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [28 North, 30 South] Found in all regions of

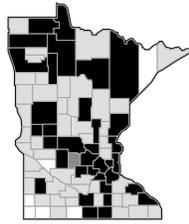
- state. High counts 6/20 Mahanomen (20) IHu, 6/12 Sherburne (19) JIB, 7/4 Kandiyohi (19) JSc. First county breeding records from *Houston* DSt, *Redwood* WCM, *Wilkin* MO.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [2 North] Reported 6/11 Roseau BSi, 7/26 Todd JeM, SwM, 7/28 (2) SwM.
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [33 North, 48 South] Observed throughout state. High count 6/6 Yellow Medicine (350, Spellman Lake) GWe.
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) — [18 North, 14 South] Seen in all regions except Southeast. High count 7/9 Polk (50, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SHD.
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [13 North, 2 South] Observed in all northern regions plus Douglas, Grant, Hennepin, Lyon, Wright.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [8 North, 1 South] Seen in all northern regions plus 6/5 Yellow Medicine (female with 2 male Mallards) DLP. First county breeding record for *Roseau* AXH.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 51 South] Reported from every county except Chippewa, Dodge. High count 6/2 Marshall (500, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) SAU.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [28 North, 37 South] Observed in all regions of state. High counts 6/6 Yellow Medicine (75, Spellman L.) GWe, 7/18 (50, Miedd L.) GWe.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*) — [21 North, 21 South] Seen in all regions. High count 6/2 Marshall (22, Warren W.T.P.) GHo, KDS. First county breeding records from *Douglas* AXH and *Faribault* PEJ.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [9 North, 7 South] Found in scattered locations throughout state, except no records from Southeast. First county breeding record for *St. Louis* SGW.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [17 North, 14 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. High counts 7/19, 7/28 Yellow Medicine (15, Miedd L.) GWe.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [12 North, 6 South] Reported from all western regions plus Dakota, Freeborn, Steele. High count 6/7 Polk (71, Erskine W.T.P.) JLK.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [19 North, 20 South] Seen in all regions except Southeast. High count 7/3 Faribault (102) PEJ, DFN. First county breeding record for *Freeborn* PEJ.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [29 North, 14 South] Found in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record for *Lake of the Woods* MBS.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [3 North] All reports: 6/2 Douglas (pair in flooded farm field with mixed flock) RAE, 6/10 Carlton HHD, RAE, 6/11 St. Louis (male, 37th St., Park Point) CLW.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [18 North, 9 South] Seen in all regions except Southwest, Southeast. High counts 6/7 Pennington (15, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) JLK, 6/8 Polk (14, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) JLK.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 North] Found 6/2–26 Lake (Two Harbors) PAs, JyH, ph. JWL, ph. GHo, KDS, ph. JPR.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [10 North, 4 South] Seen in widely scattered locations in all regions except Southwest, Southeast. Most records from Northwest, Northeast. First county breeding record for *St. Louis* SGW.
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [15 North, 1 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Hennepin.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [29 North, 38 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding record for *Koochiching* AXH.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [11 North, 1 South] Found in North-central, Northeast, plus Lyon, Mille Lacs, Pennington.
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [7 North] Seen in Beltrami, Cook, Crow Wing, Kittson, Lake, Mille Lacs, St. Louis.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [18 North, 27 South] Reported from all regions.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [6 North, 9 South] Observed in all western and southern regions plus Beltrami, Renville, Sibley.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [15 North, 49 South] Observed along and south of a line from Clay to Crow Wing to Pine.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [19



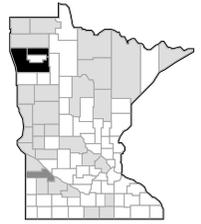
Canada Goose



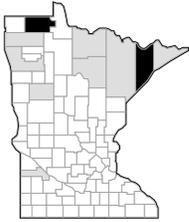
Trumpeter Swan



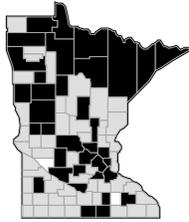
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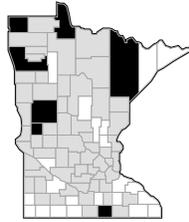
Gadwall



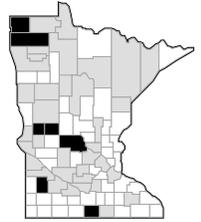
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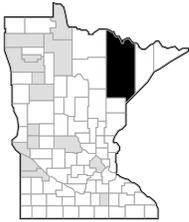
Mallard



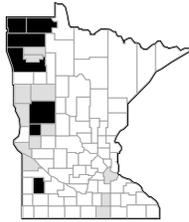
Blue-winged Teal



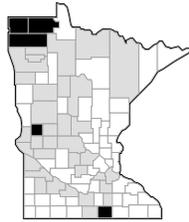
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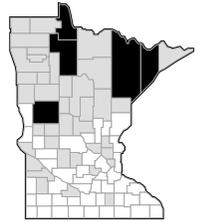
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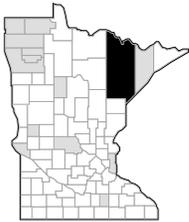
Canvasback



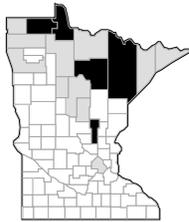
Redhead



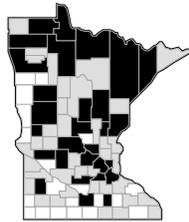
Ring-necked Duck



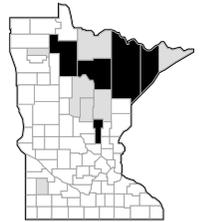
Bufflehead



Common Goldeneye



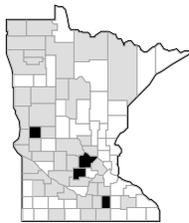
Hooded Merganser



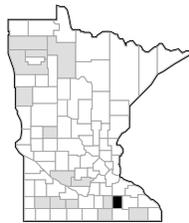
Common Merganser



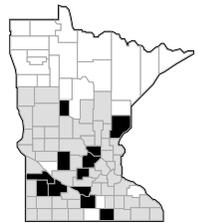
Red-breasted Merganser



Ruddy Duck

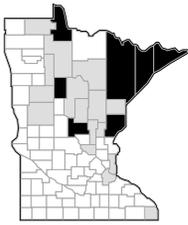


Gray Partridge

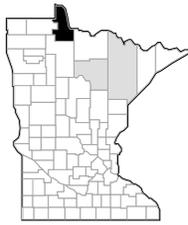


Ring-necked Pheasant

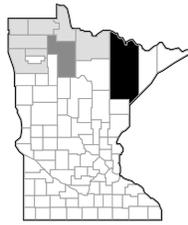
- North, 4 South] Found in all northern and central regions plus Houston.
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falciptennis canadensis*) — [3 North] Seen in Itasca, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [9 North] Reported from Beltrami, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Roseau, St. Louis. High count 6/1 Lake of the Woods (13) MHK.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [4 North] Observed in Becker, Clay, Polk, Wilkin.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [26 North, 38 South] Found in all regions of state.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] Only report: 6/11 St. Louis (3 in alternate plumage, Park Point) CLW. This species normally migrates well into June.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 North] Reported 6/12 St. Louis (seen on L. Superior from Lafayette Square, Park Point) ph. BMu.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [28 North, 20 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. High count 6/11 St. Louis (25, 37th St., Park Point) CLW.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [21 North, 36 South] Seen statewide.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [3 North, 2 South] All reports: 6/2–7/4 McLeod (Clear L.) PRH, BHa, 6/6 Marshall (2, Thief Lake W.M.A.) WaB, 6/8 Pennington (2, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) †WaB, 7/1 Lake (alternate plumage, Burlington Bay, Two Harbors) †JWL, 7/4 Steele (basic plumage, Rice Lake) RZi.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [13 North, 10 South] Observed in all regions except East-central, Southwest, Southeast.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [7 North, 3 South] Found in Northwest, West-central plus Brown. High count 7/3–7/24 Polk (200, about 100 nests in mid-July, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAu.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [8 North, 3 South] Seen in Northwest, West-central plus Scott, Todd.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — No reports.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [21 North, 39 South] Reported statewide. High count 6/13 Meeker (1,000, Pigeon L.) RHi.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [23 North, 43 South] Observed throughout state. High count 6/14 Meeker (400, Pigeon L.) PLJ.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [19 North, 12 South] Found in all regions except Southwest, Southeast. First county breeding record for *Big Stone* KeM.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [10 North, 14 South] Reported from scattered locations in all regions except Northeast. High count 6/18 Sherburne (5, Sherburne N.W.R.) ToL. First county breeding record for *Ramsey* AXH.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [32 North, 48 South] Observed statewide. High counts 6/25 St. Louis (115, Canosia State W.M.A.) JLK, 6/6 Wright (109, Camp Courage) MJB. First county breeding record *Steele* PSU.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [10 North, 33 South] Found in all regions of state. Presumed post-breeding dispersal to unusual locations 7/25 St. Louis (Island L.) CRi, 7/27 Marshall (2, Agassiz N.W.R.) KRi.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [1 North] Only report: 6/2 Marshall (Agassiz Valley Impoundment) JPr, GHo, KDS, ph. SAu.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — No reports.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [1 South] Found 7/18 Renville (Fairfax W.T.P.) ph. DWK, MiO.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [23 North, 39 South] Seen throughout state.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [5 North, 9 South] Reported from scattered areas in all regions except Northwest, Southeast.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — No reports.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in every county. High counts 7/15 Olmsted (80, seen from Apache Mall, Rochester) MiD, 7/11 Fillmore (75, Preston, roosting on cell phone tower and in the air above) DSt. First county breeding record for *Anoka* DPG.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [23 North, 18 South] Observed in all regions except



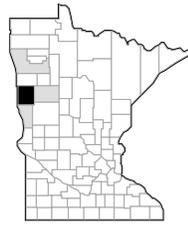
Ruffed Grouse



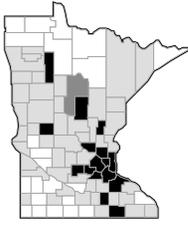
Spruce Grouse



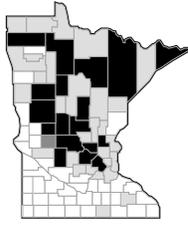
Sharp-tailed Grouse



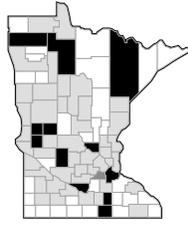
Greater Prairie-Chicken



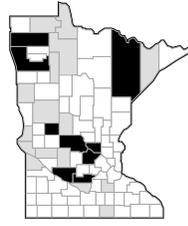
Wild Turkey



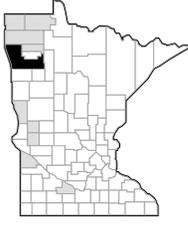
Common Loon



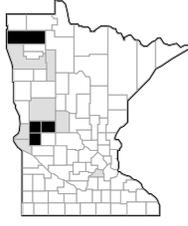
Pied-billed Grebe



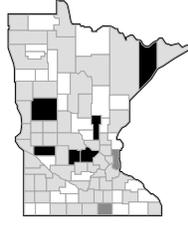
Red-necked Grebe



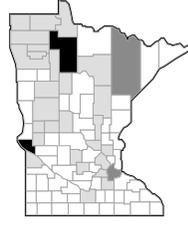
Eared Grebe



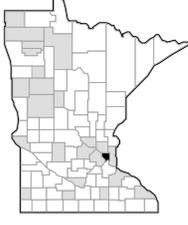
Western Grebe



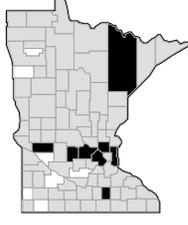
Double-crested Cormorant



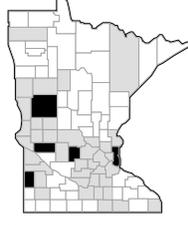
American Bittern



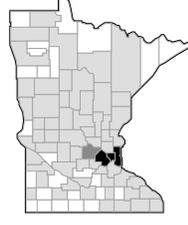
Least Bittern



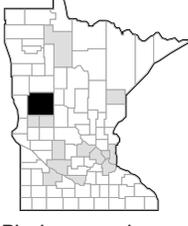
Great Blue Heron



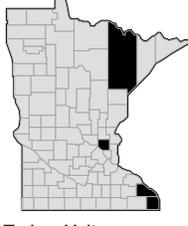
Great Egret



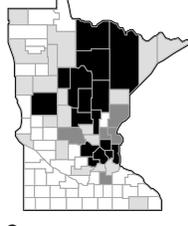
Green Heron



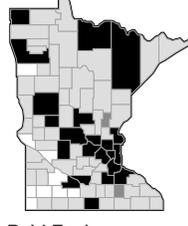
Black-crowned Night-Heron



Turkey Vulture

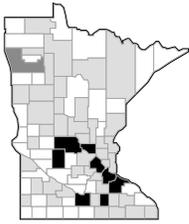


Osprey

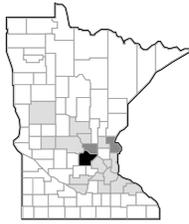


Bald Eagle

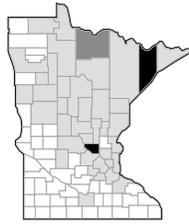
- Southwest. High count 7/22 Carver (7) CRM.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [33 North, 43 South] Found in all regions. High count 6/26 Houston (20, Brownsville Look-out, Pool 8) JnC.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [31 North, 37 South] Seen throughout state. High count 7/1 Clay (6, northern portion of county) JHd, SHd.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [13 North, 3 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Pine. Undocumented summer reports from southern half of state (4 this year) are not published.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [18 North, 33 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding record for Steele PSu.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [7 North, 1 South] Seen in Cass, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Itasca, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis, and 6/12, 6/17 **Hennepin** (adult, Nine Mile Creek, Bloomington) †DWK, †KRo.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [2 North, 17 South] Reported from all central regions plus Goodhue, Nicollet, Rice, Wabasha.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [25 North, 15 South] Observed in all regions except Southwest.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [2 North, 15 South] Found in scattered locations in all western and southern regions plus Dakota, Kandiyohi.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [34 North, 50 South] Seen in every county except Chippewa, Lincoln, Rock.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [4 North] Reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Lake of the Woods, Marshall.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [19 North, 18 South] Found in all regions. High count 7/12 Lyon (13, family groups foraging near marsh edge, including an adult and young crossing 375th St., Cottonwood) GWe. First county breeding record for Clearwater DPJ
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [31 North, 25 South] Reported throughout state. High count 6/14 Roseau (22) AXH.
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [3 South] Observed in Houston, Nicollet, Wabasha.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [13 North, 24 South] Found in all regions.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*) — [29 North, 32 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest. High count 6/1 Anoka (145, Carlos Avery) REH. First county breeding records from Blue Earth ChH, Goodhue AXH.
- American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [2 North, 2 South] Probable northbound migrant 6/1 Todd MJB, RAE. Reported throughout season in Big Stone, including high count 7/16 (24) DLP. Fall migrants 7/3 Polk (1) SAu, 7/18 Stevens (2) DAB, JEB, JWH.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [1 North, 2 South] Northbound migrants 6/1–6/9 McLeod (one adult in partial alternate plumage, one in basic plumage, Eagle Lake) PRH, 6/4 Roseau MBS, 6/9 Brown (6, New Ulm Airport) MiO.
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — No reports.
- Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [5 North, 11 South] Observed in scattered locations in all regions except North-central, Southeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/4 Dakota DVe; late north 6/11 Carlton CRM. Early south (north dates not representative) 7/18 Stevens DAB, JEB, JWH, Yellow Medicine GWe.
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — No reports.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [34 North, 52 South] Found in every county except Wabasha.
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [25 North, 38 South] Seen statewide.
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [8 North, 24 South] Reported from all regions except Northwest. Late spring migrants 6/1 Pine JEB, Brown LMS. Distraction display observed 6/30 Beltrami (Red Lake W.M.A.) MBS. Early south migrants 6/25 Wright DPG, 6/30 Stevens JEB.
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [9 North, 16 South] Observed in all regions except North-central, Southeast. Only northbound migrant 6/6 Cook AXH. Southbound migrants: early north 7/1 St. Louis SGW; early south 6/27 Cottonwood DWK, SBM, 6/29 Wright RbD.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [4 North, 5



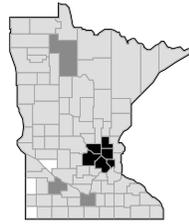
Cooper's Hawk



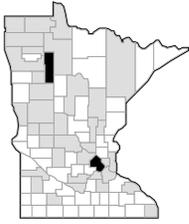
Red-shouldered Hawk



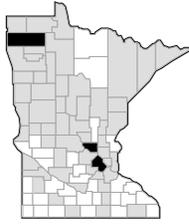
Broad-winged Hawk



Red-tailed Hawk



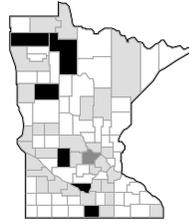
Virginia Rail



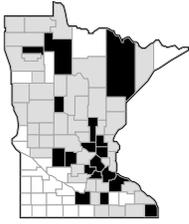
Sora



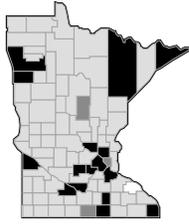
Common Gallinule



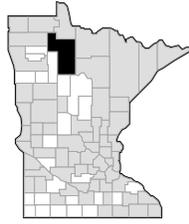
American Coot



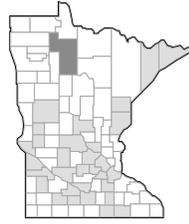
Sandhill Crane



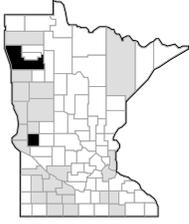
Killdeer



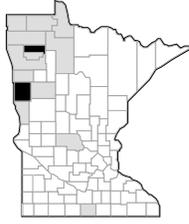
Spotted Sandpiper



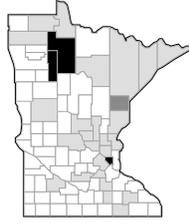
Solitary Sandpiper



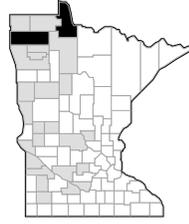
Upland Sandpiper



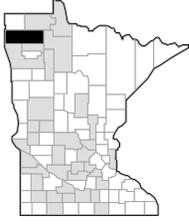
Marbled Godwit



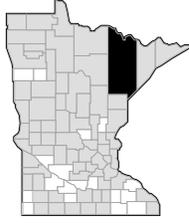
American Woodcock



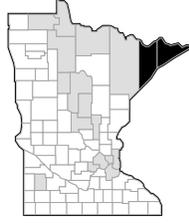
Wilson's Phalarope



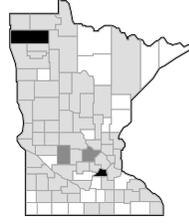
Franklin's Gull



Ring-billed Gull

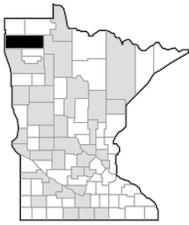


Herring Gull

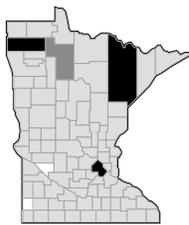


Black Tern

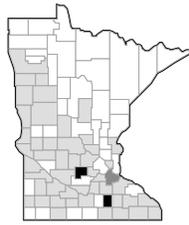
- South] Northbound migrants 6/3 Crow Wing EGa, 6/7 Renville SBn. Unclassified mid-summer reports 6/20 Polk, 6/26 Lake of the Woods, 7/2 (5) Big Stone, 7/11 (2) Dodge/Steele. Southbound migrants 7/24 Swift, 7/25 Traverse DLP.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [10 North, 24 South] Seen in all regions, but least widely observed in North-central, Southeast. Southbound migrants: early north 6/30 St. Louis SGW, 7/3 Polk SAU; early south 6/24, 6/30 Big Stone DLP, 7/3 Faribault, Freeborn DFN.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [10 North, 17 South] Reported from all regions except North-central. First county breeding record for *Stevens* JWH. High count 7/31 Renville (13) RAE.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — No reports.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — No reports.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [12 North, 2 South] Reported from northwestern corner of state, plus Faribault, Stearns. High count 6/9 Clay (24) JLK.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [1 North, 1 South] All reports: spring migrant 6/2 Marshall (Warren W.T.P.) JPr, GHo, KDS, fall migrant 7/19 Yellow Medicine (Miedd L.) GWe.
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — [1 North] Reported 6/2 St. Louis (2, Park Point) ph. JLK.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [3 North, 11 South] Observed in West-central, Central, South-central, plus Crow Wing, Yellow Medicine. Late spring migrant 6/1–4 Brown m.ob. Southbound migrants: early north 7/17 Crow Wing EGa; early south 7/8 Big Stone, 7/11 Lac qui Parle DLP.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [3 North, 1 South] Northbound migrants 6/2 St. Louis (38, Park Point) JLK, 6/3 (4) KRE; 6/3 Brown MJB, 6/3 Crow Wing (Mille Lacs L.) EGa. Only fall migrant 7/31 Douglas JPE.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [4 North, 3 South] Reported from Benton, Brown, Cook, Douglas, Marshall, McLeod, Todd. Northbound migrants: late south 6/3 Benton HHD, RAE; late north 6/7 Cook JPr.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [4 North, 11 South] Observed in all western and central regions plus Brown. Northbound migrants: late south 6/3 Benton HHD, RAE; late north 6/15 Marshall (5) AXH. Early south fall migrants (north dates not representative) 7/18 Carver, Stevens, Yellow Medicine. High count 7/18 Yellow Medicine (75, Miedd L.) ph. GWe.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [11 North, 27 South] Found in all regions. Northbound migrants: late south 6/15 (1), 6/16 (2) Stearns RPR, HHD; late north 6/8 Marshall (3) JLK, 6/11 Carlton (1) CRM. Early south fall migrants (north dates not representative) 7/2 Big Stone, 7/3 Lac qui Parle DLP.
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscollis*) — [5 North, 8 South] Seen in scattered locations in all regions except Southeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/16 Stearns (2) HHD, 6/18 Big Stone DLP; late north 6/11 Carlton (2) CRM, 6/17 Wadena (5) JCC, GLa.
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Calidris subruficollis*) — [1 North, 8 South] Reported from Anoka, Dakota, Douglas, Renville, Yellow Medicine. Early south 7/28 Renville GWe, 7/31 in five counties.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [8 North, 23 South] Observed in all regions except North-central. Northbound migrants: late south 6/13 Lyon (2) GWe; late north 6/8 Marshall (13) JLK. Early south fall migrants (north dates not representative) 7/3 Lac qui Parle DLP, 7/5 McLeod PRH. High count 7/28 Yellow Medicine (300, Miedd L.) GWe.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [11 North, 19 South] Found in every region. Northbound migrants: late south 6/15 Carver (1) PRH, Stearns (24) RPR, 6/16 Stearns (6) HHD; late north 6/12 Aitkin (1) CLW, 6/15 Marshall (3) AXH. Early south fall migrants (north dates not representative) 7/3 Rock SBM, 7/8 Big Stone DLP.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [3 North, 10 South] Seen in West-central, Central, Southwest, South-central, plus St. Louis. Only northbound migrants 6/5 Lac qui Parle (2) DLP. Southbound migrants: early north 7/6 St. Louis (12, Park Point) MJB; early south 7/3 Lac qui Parle (3) DLP. High count 7/11 Lac qui Parle (38, Salt L.) DLP.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [27



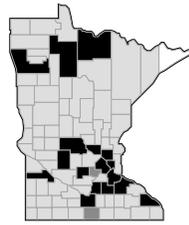
Forster's Tern



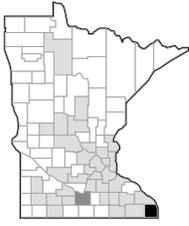
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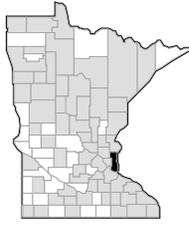
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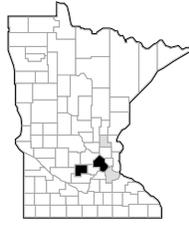
Mourning Dove



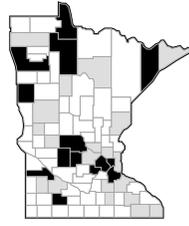
Yellow-billed Cuckoo



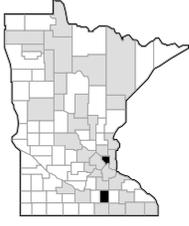
Black-billed Cuckoo



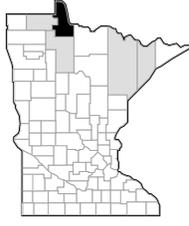
Eastern Screech-Owl



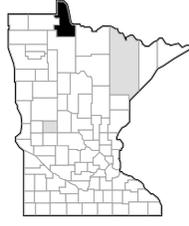
Great Horned Owl



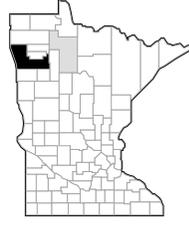
Barred Owl



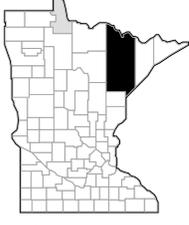
Great Gray Owl



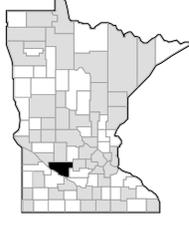
Long-eared Owl



Short-eared Owl



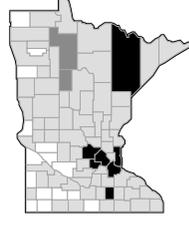
Northern Saw-whet Owl



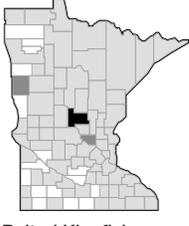
Common Nighthawk



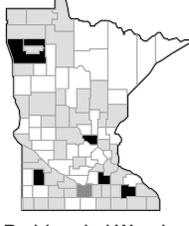
Chimney Swift



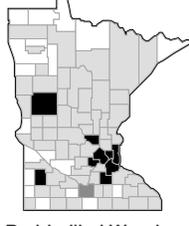
Ruby-throated Hummingbird



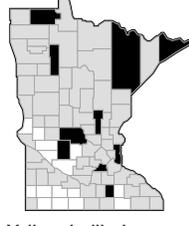
Belted Kingfisher



Red-headed Woodpecker

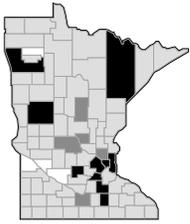


Red-bellied Woodpecker

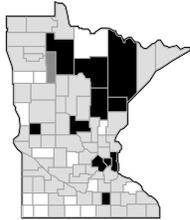


Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

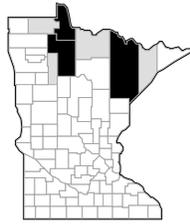
- North, 15 South] Reported in all regions except South-central but most commonly found in northern two-thirds of state.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [14 North, 15 South] Observed in all regions.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [14 North, 12 South] Found in all regions but absent in the east.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [3 North, 1 South] All reports: late north 6/1 Kittson, 6/2 Marshall, Pennington; only fall migrants 7/11 Lac qui Parle (2) DLP. High count 6/2 Pennington (12, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) JPr, KDS.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [4 North, 1 South] Reported from Beltrami, Cook, Crow Wing, Sherburne, St. Louis. Most unusual was the probable early south fall migrant 7/25 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) JcN.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [12 North, 24 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast, Southeast. High counts 7/25 Kandiyohi (1,000, Kandiyohi County Landfill) JWd, 7/25 Douglas (650, some immature birds, Osakis W.T.P.) AXH.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [31 North, 38 South] Found statewide.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [12 North, 6 South] Seen in all regions except West-central, South-central, Southeast.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [14 North, 13 South] Reported from all regions.
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonia niger*) — [26 North, 39 South] Observed in all regions. High count 7/29 Brown (90, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) HCT.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [10 North, 1 South] Found in all northern regions plus Mille Lacs.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [16 North, 20 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [34 North, 51 South] Observed in every county except Chippewa, Pipestone.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [10 North, 40 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. High count 7/23 Big Stone (6, Hillman W.P.A.) KeM. First county breeding records from McLeod AXH, Steele AEB.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [33 North, 53 South] Seen in every county except Cook. First county breeding records from Beltrami AXH, Koochiching AXH.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [5 North, 30 South] Reported from all regions except Northwest, Northeast.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [26 North, 35 South] Observed throughout state.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [3 South] Found 6/8 Isanti BKa, 6/24 Hennepin *vide* RBJ, 7/20 Dakota KvM. McLeod nesting record is from spring season.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [10 North, 21 South] Reported statewide. First county breeding record for Beltrami MBS.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — No reports.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [14 North, 20 South] Found in all regions except Southwest.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [5 North] Seen in Beltrami, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [3 North] Reported 6/14 Lake of the Woods AXH, 6/20 Douglas JPE, 6/27 St. Louis AWi. First county breeding record for *Lake of the Woods* AXH.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [2 North] Observed 6/3, 6/21 Beltrami MBS, RMD, 7/3 Polk (Parnell impoundment area) SAu, 7/9 Polk (Euclid, county road 19) SAu, MSp.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [2 North] Found 6/15 Lake of the Woods MBS, 7/26 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) GWe.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [18 North, 30 South] Seen throughout state. High count 7/3 Rock (14, Blue Mounds S.P.) SBM. First county breeding record for *Renville* BRB.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [9 North, 7 South] Reported from scattered locations in all northern and central regions, plus Goodhue, Houston. High count 6/4 Chippewa (6, county road 40)



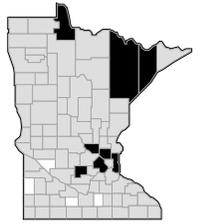
Downy Woodpecker



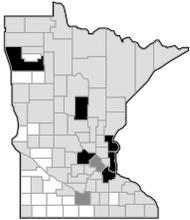
Hairy Woodpecker



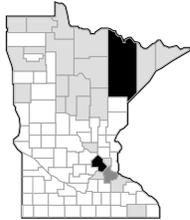
Black-backed Woodpecker



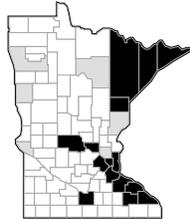
Northern Flicker



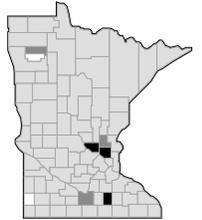
Pileated Woodpecker



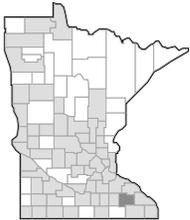
Merlin



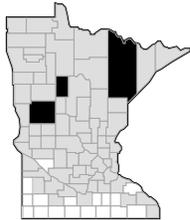
Peregrine Falcon



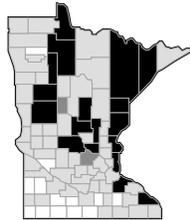
Eastern Wood-Pewee



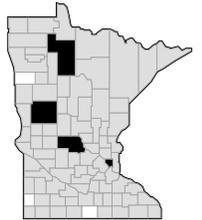
Willow Flycatcher



Least Flycatcher



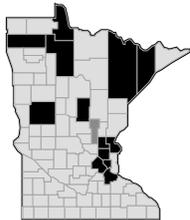
Eastern Phoebe



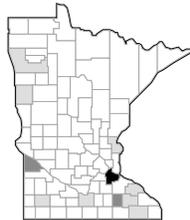
Great Crested Flycatcher



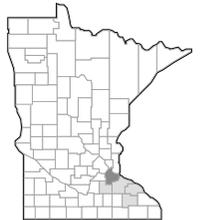
Western Kingbird



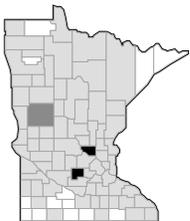
Eastern Kingbird



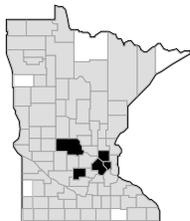
Loggerhead Shrike



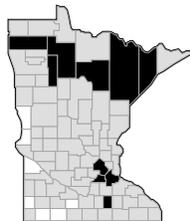
Bell's Vireo



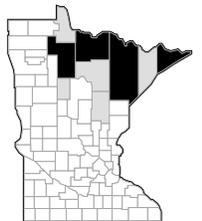
Yellow-throated Vireo



Warbling Vireo



Red-eyed Vireo



Gray Jay

JWd.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [33 North, 45 South] Observed statewide. High counts 7/31 Olmsted (99, 17th St. NE, Rochester) OWB, 7/9 Todd (23, Long Prairie) CSB.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) — [30 North, 42 South] Found in all regions. First county breeding record from Steele PSu.

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus rufus*) — [1 South] Reported 7/28 **Mower** (adult male arrived at feeder after an early morning storm with strong SW winds) ph. DHP (pending acceptance).

Belted Kingfisher (*Megasceryle alcyon*) — [29 North, 42 South] Observed throughout state. High counts 7/27 Otter Tail (8, Maplewood S.P.) BHP, 7/2 Wright (7, County road 9 to county road 12, N. Fork of Crow R.) MJB.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [19 North, 31 South] Found in all regions except Northeast.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [24 North, 44 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding record for Lyon GWe.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [33 North, 39 South] Reported from all regions. First county breeding record from Mille Lacs RKo.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) — [33 North, 50 South] Observed from every county except Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Pennington, Renville. High count 6/26 Ramsey (12, Sucker Lake) TTh.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) — [29 North, 42 South] Found statewide. High counts 6/9 Anoka (9, Coon Rapids Dam) SKS, 6/8 Scott (7, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., North) BAF. First county breeding record for Grant CNn.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [1 North] Observed 6/15 Beltrami (pair, Big Bog State R.A.) MBS.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [7 North] Found in Beltrami, Clearwater, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [34 North, 49 South] Seen in all counties except Chippewa, Lincoln, Waseca, Waton-

wan. High count 7/17 Dakota (13, Whitetail Woods R.P.) DVe.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [29 North, 39 South] Reported from every region. First county breeding record for Chisago JSa.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [32 North, 50 South] Observed in every county except Chippewa, Clearwater, Le Sueur, Pipestone, Traverse. High counts 7/11 Fillmore (11, County road 114) DSt, 7/18 St. Louis (10, Sax-Zim Bog) MoW.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [17 North, 7 South] Found in all regions except West-central, Southwest, South-central.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [7 North, 11 South] Reported from every region except Southwest.

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) — Injured juvenile female picked up 7/20 St. Louis (downtown Duluth) *fide* PHS. Successfully rehabilitated at the Raptor Center and released ~45 days later at Big Stone N.W.R.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) — [14 North, 8 South] Reported from every region except Southwest, Southeast. Late south spring migrant (away from known breeding areas) 6/9 Benton HHD. Early south fall migrant 7/30 Grant CNn.

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [33 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Pipestone, Red Lake. High count 6/5 Scott (24, all singing males, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. — North) BAF.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [10 North, 8 South] Observed in all regions except West-central, Southwest, but most consistently found in northern regions. Presumed spring migrant 6/5 Sherburne JLB.

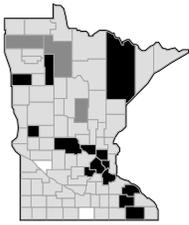
Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) — [1 North, 10 South] Reported in Anoka, Dakota, Fillmore, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Otter Tail (4th consecutive year at Maplewood S.P.), Rice, Scott, Washington, and new county record 6/12 **Sibley** (singing male, county road 6, Jessenland Unit, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) CHH, †CRM. High counts 7/3 Houston (8, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) JCr, 7/25 Washington (7, Falls Creek S.N.A.) DCZ.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) —

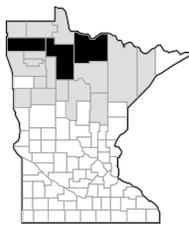


Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 10 June 2015, Lutsen, Cook County. Photo by David Brisance.

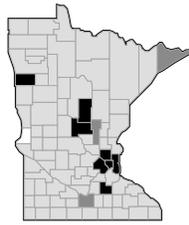
- [28 North, 17 South] Found in all regions except Southwest, Southeast. Late south migrant (away from known breeding locations) 6/20 Ramsey JWH.
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax trailii*) — [16 North, 43 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast. Unusual location 6/7 Lake of the Woods (Butterfield F.R., vocalization well described) WaB. High count 6/6 Hennepin (7 calling, Hyland Lake P.R.) MHu.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [34 North, 36 South] Found in all regions.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [33 North, 41 South] Reported statewide.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [33 North, 51 South] Found in every county except Faribault, Norman, Pipestone.
- TROPICAL KINGBIRD** (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) — [1 South] First state record 6/24–7/19 **Scott** (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., north horse/pet trails) ph. a.t. †BAF; also documented and photographed by m.ob.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [14 North, 16 South] Seen in every region except Southeast. Extraordinary mid-summer report 6/25 Cook (Grand Marais, Artists Point) ph. †MiD.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) — [1 North] Observed 6/4 Beltrami (County road 702, about 6 miles east of Grygla) ph. †KJB.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [2 North, 9 South] Seen in scattered locations in all regions except North-central, Northeast, Central.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [5 South] Reported from Dakota, Goodhue, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [30 North, 44 South] Observed in all regions. First county breeding record for McLeod PRH. High count 7/1 Washington (11, William O'Brien S.P.) TTh.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [15 North] Found in North-central, Northeast, plus Becker, Roseau.
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [31 North, 51 South] Reported from all counties except Cook, Koochiching, Lincoln, Mower, Norman. High count 6/16 Marshall (20) AXH.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [6 North, 1 South] Found in Beltrami, Carlton, Cook, Hennepin, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis, plus late south migrant 6/1 Hennepin DAd.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [32 North, 48 South] Reported statewide.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [8 North] Seen in North-central, Northeast. High count 6/20 St. Louis (9, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [33 North, 51 South] Reported from all counties except Chippewa, Faribault. High count 6/11 St. Louis (67, Park Point) CLW.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [19 North] Observed in all northern regions. High count 7/26 St. Louis (20, Sax-Zim Bog) ph. GWe.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Traverse. First county breeding record for Norman AXH.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [29 North, 5 South] Found north of a line from Clay to Wright to Washington. High count 7/18 St. Louis (19, Sax-Zim Bog) MoW.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [17 North, 44 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast. High count 7/16 Dakota (25) ADS.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [27 North, 39 South] Reported throughout state. High counts 7/1 Wright (500, Otsego) ToL, 6/19 Polk (128) AlH.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [34 North, 52 South] Observed in every county except Pipestone.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [19 North, 39 South] Observed in all regions. High counts 7/29 Washington (68, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) SBM, 7/15 Dakota (50, Mississippi River Lock and Dam 2) PNi. First county breeding record for Carver JCy.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [28 North, 49 South] Found in all regions. First county breeding record from Blue Earth ChH.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [33 North, 51 South] Seen in all counties except Cook, Chippewa, Le Sueur. High count



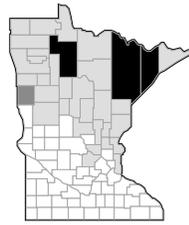
Blue Jay



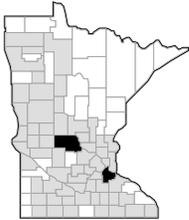
Black-billed Magpie



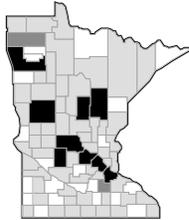
American Crow



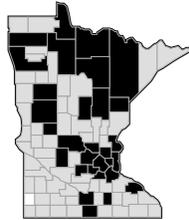
Common Raven



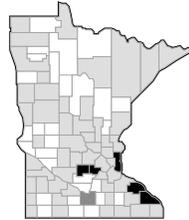
Horned Lark



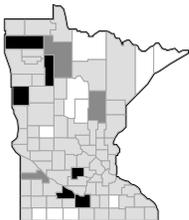
Purple Martin



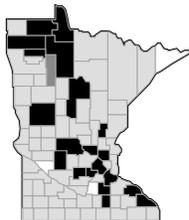
Tree Swallow



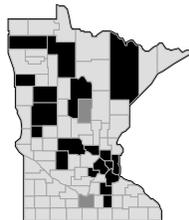
Northern Rough-winged Swallow



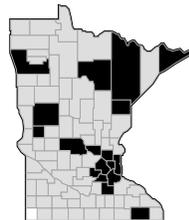
Bank Swallow



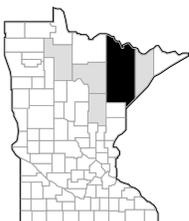
Cliff Swallow



Barn Swallow



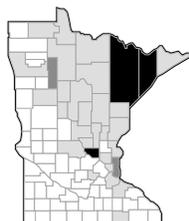
Black-capped Chickadee



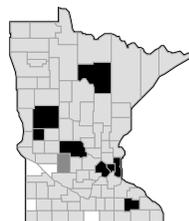
Boreal Chickadee



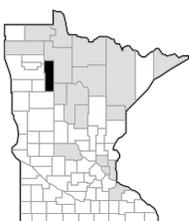
Tufted Titmouse



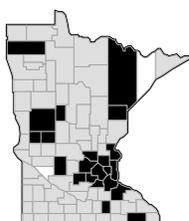
Red-breasted Nuthatch



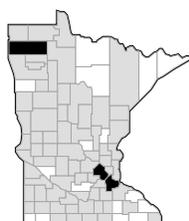
White-breasted Nuthatch



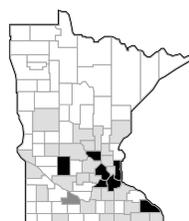
Brown Creeper



House Wren



Marsh Wren



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

7/30 Lake (580, Two Harbors) JWL.

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties.

Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [34 North, 52 South] Seen in every county except Rock. High counts 7/9 Ramsey (50, Crosby Farm R.P.) CSM, 7/19 Hennepin (39, Hyland Lake P.R.) MHu.

Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Itasca, Lake, St. Louis.

Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [6 South] Found in Fillmore, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Ramsey, Winona. First county breeding record for *Hennepin* TAT.

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) — [21 North, 11 South] Seen north of a line from Polk to Mower. High count 6/14 Cook (20, Sawbill Campground) GCa.

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [34 North, 49 South] Reported from all counties except Chippewa, Faribault, Lac qui Parle, Pipestone. High count 7/21 Scott (13, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. — North) BAF. First county breeding record for *Grant* CNn.

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) — [13 North, 5 South] Observed north of a line from Marshall to Stearns to Goodhue. High counts 6/18 Clearwater (4) AXH, 7/5 Crow Wing (4, Crosslake) OOV.

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [33 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Chippewa, Lake.

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [10 North, 2 South] Reported from North-central, Northeast, plus Becker, Isanti, Pine.

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [33 North, 48 South] Found statewide. High count 6/11 Aitkin (40, McGregor Marsh) CLW.

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [28 North, 43 South] Reported from all regions. High counts 6/2 Lyon (50, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) TKA, 6/8 Clay (25, Belsly Park) JLK.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [1 South] Seen 7/18 Hennepin (south Minneapolis) DCZ.

BEWICK'S WREN (*Thryomanes bewickii*) — [1 South] Reported 6/1–9 **Dakota** (Hastings Sand Coulee S.N.A.) †TLe, †ALe, KSc, †BAF, †ADS, SHF.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliotilta caerulea*) — [4 North, 32 South] Observed in all central and southern regions.

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [9 North] Found in North-central, Northeast, plus Roseau. High count 7/17 Cook (6, Eagle Mountain Trail) MoW.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) — [8 North, 1 South] Found in North-central, Northeast, and Roseau, plus early fall migrant **7/29** Chisago (Wild River S.P.) JOB. High count 6/14 Cook (5, Sawbill Campground) GCa.

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [32 North, 49 South] Seen throughout state. High count 7/26 Washington (40, Afton S.P., North Prairie Loop) PNi, ASI.

Veery (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [33 North, 18 South] Reported from all northern and central regions, plus Houston, Mower, Rice.

Swainson's Thrush (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [6 North, 2 South] Found in Beltrami, Cook, Hennepin, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Pipestone, St. Louis, Wadena. Late spring migrants 6/4 Pipestone BSc, **6/14** Hennepin (2 countersinging, Elm Creek P.R.) †TLo.

Hermit Thrush (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [21 North] Reported from all northern regions plus Kanabec, Morrison, Pine.

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [20 North, 30 South] Found in all regions of state, but least abundant in western regions.

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in all counties. High counts 7/17 Dakota (44, Whitetail Woods R.P.) DVe, 6/30 Hennepin (40, Plymouth Creek Marsh) FKO.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [33 North, 53 South] Observed in all counties except Norman. High counts 6/26 Ramsey (17, Sucker L.) TTh, 7/17 Dakota (16, Whitetail Woods R.P.) KDS, DVe.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [29 North, 48 South] Found in all regions. High count 6/19 Sherburne (11, Sherburne N.W.R., Wildlife Drive) JIB.

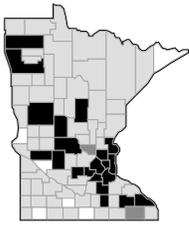
Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [2 North, 5 South] Seen in Cook, Dakota, Lake, McLeod, Rice, Steele, Washington.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High count 7/18 Washington (150,

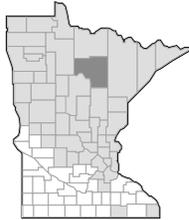


Blue-winged Warbler, 19 June 2015, Kandiyohi County. Photo by David A. Cahlander.

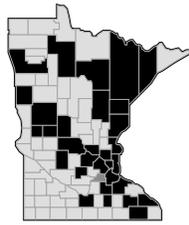
- Lake Elmo Airport) PNi.
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [34 North, 52 South] Observed in every county except Martin. First county breeding record from Steele PSU.
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] All reports from Clay (max. 3, Felton Prairie).
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [29 North, 27 South] Reported from all regions. High count 6/14 Koochiching (40, Nett Lake BBS route) JV.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [1 North, 3 South] Found in Houston, Pine, Washington, Winona.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [16 North, 2 South] Reported from all northern regions, plus Anoka, Isanti, Kanabec. High count 6/11 Lake (4, Parent L.) JW.
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [26 North, 3 South] Observed in northern half of state plus Anoka, Isanti, Sherburne. First county breeding record for Otter Tail SrS.
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [2 North, 22 South] Seen in Central, East-central, South-central, Southeast. High count 6/14 Scott (7, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R., main trailhead) BDo.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [27 North, 9 South] Reported from all northern and central regions, plus Fillmore.
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [18 South] Found in Central, East-central, South-central, Southeast. High count 6/11 Goodhue (5, Vermillion Bottoms) GJM.
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [9 North, 4 South] Found in North-central, Northeast, plus Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Wright. High count 6/4 St. Louis (12, Coe College Wilderness Field Station) CnC.
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [21 North, 7 South] Found in all northern and central regions plus Nicollet, Rice.
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [9 North] Found in Aitkin, Beltrami, Cook, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Pine, Roseau, St. Louis. High counts 6/7, 6/9 St. Louis (4, Sax-Zim Bog) CLN, CLW, 6/8 Itasca (4, Otenagen Rd. Bog) ScW.
- Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [18 North, 5 South] Reported north and east of a line from Becker to Dakota. High count 6/20 St. Louis (10, Superior Hiking Trail at Sucker R.) JW.
- Kentucky Warbler** (*Geothlypis formosa*) — No reports.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [34 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Chippewa. High counts 7/18 St. Louis (47, Sax-Zim Bog) MoW, 6/3 Sherburne (40, Sherburne N.W.R.) CRa, PNi, SKe.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [5 South] Reported from Dakota, Hennepin, Scott, Sherburne, Washington. High count 7/21 Scott (11, total of 5 nests found for the season, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. — North) BAF. First county breeding record for Sherburne PJ.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [33 North, 40 South] Observed in all regions. High counts 6/14 Goodhue (60, Collishan Rd. & State Trail) SWe, 7/7 Hennepin (40, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) DMe. First county breeding records from McLeod PRH, Steele PSU.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [4 North] Found in Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High count 7/23 St. Louis (23, Hawk Ridge/Lester River census) KJB.
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [8 South] Reported from Goodhue, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Stearns, Washington, Winona, Wright. High count 6/14 Goodhue (8, Collishan Rd. & State Trail) SWe.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [15 North, 1 South] Found in all northern regions plus Dakota, Pine.
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [10 North] Reported in North-central, Northeast, plus Pine. High count 6/10 Lake (10, Whyte Rd.) CLW.
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [4 North] Observed in Cook, Lake, Pine, St. Louis. High count 6/14 Cook (4, Sawbill Campground) GCa.
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [16 North, 1 South] Found in all northern regions plus Pine, Washington.
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [34 North, 49 South] Reported from every county except Chippewa, Faribault, Martin, Watonwan. High counts 6/8 Washington



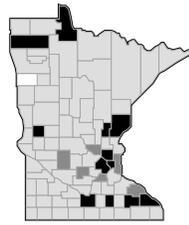
Eastern Bluebird



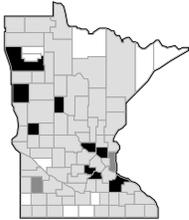
Veery



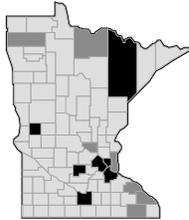
American Robin



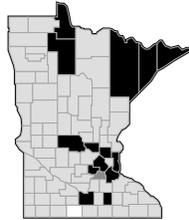
Gray Catbird



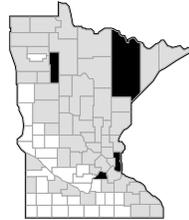
Brown Thrasher



European Starling



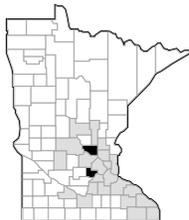
Cedar Waxwing



Ovenbird



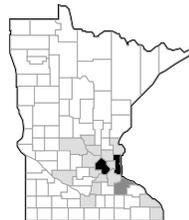
Golden-winged Warbler



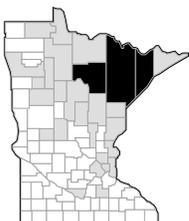
Blue-winged Warbler



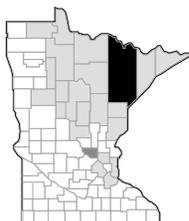
Black-and-white Warbler



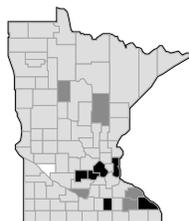
Prothonotary Warbler



Nashville Warbler



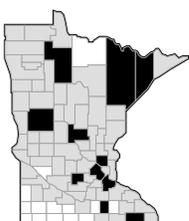
Mourning Warbler



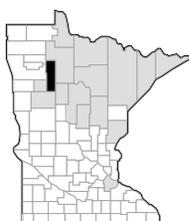
Common Yellowthroat



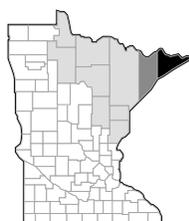
Hooded Warbler



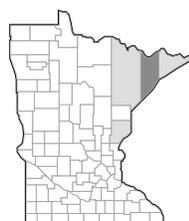
American Redstart



Northern Parula

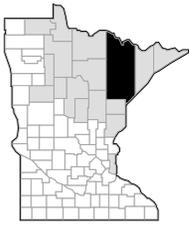


Magnolia Warbler

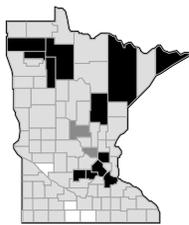


Bay-breasted Warbler

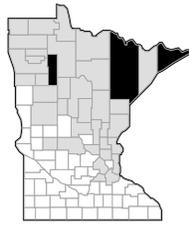
- (33, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) GJa, 6/24 Otter Tail (30, Glendalough S.P.) FKO.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [28 North, 10 South] Found in all northern and central regions.
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [2 North] Late north spring migrants 6/3 Roseau BSi, 6/20 Otter Tail (Grotto L.) ph. SrS.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [3 North] Reported from Cook, Lake, St. Louis.
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [7 North] Observed in Aitkin, Beltrami, Cook, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [20 North, 6 South] Found in all northern regions, Central, East-central. High count 6/8 Clearwater (6, Itasca S.P.) SBM.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [19 North, 1 South] Reported in all northern regions plus Morrison, Pine, Todd.
- YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** (*Setophaga dominica*) — [2 South] Observed 6/6–22 Winona (continuing from spring at White-water S.P.) DBz, DTr, JEd, JoS, ELC.
- PRAIRIE WARBLER** (*Setophaga discolor*) — [1 South] Seen 6/7 Dakota (Hastings Sand Coulee S.N.A.) a.t. †BAF, SHF, †ADS, †ALw.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [16 North] Reported north and east of a line from Roseau to Becker to Pine. High count 6/14 Cook (20, Sawbill Campground) GCa.
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [11 North, 1 South] Found in North-central, Northeast, plus Pine, Roseau. Late spring migrant 6/12 Hennepin (male, Powderhorn Park, Minneapolis) TAT. High count 7/1 St. Louis (7, Twin Lakes near Ely) BHo.
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [6 North] Observed in Beltrami, Crow Wing, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [1 South] Reported 6/21–7/11 Olmsted (80th Ave. SW, Stewartville) DWK, JPr, m.ob. First county breeding record. Nestlings were heard 7/3, 7/4 ChH, JWH, but the only young actually seen was a fledged cowbird 7/7 MJM.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [10 North, 23 South] Found in scattered locations in all regions. High count 6/5 Sherburne (17, Sherburne N.W.R.) JIB.
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [33 North, 47 South] Found statewide. High counts 6/17 Clay (18, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) JDw, 6/14 Polk (17, Tympanuchus W.M.A.) m.ob. First county breeding record for Carver JCy.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [11 North, 48 South] Found in all regions. High count 7/26 Washington (30, Afton S.P. — North Prairie Loop) PNi, JWZ, ASi.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [27 North, 49 South] Observed throughout state. High count 7/28 Yellow Medicine (26, Miedd L.) ph. GWe.
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [9 North, 28 South] Reported from all regions except North-central, Northeast. High count 7/9 Brown (10, Isaac Walton League Road) MiO.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [34 North, 46 South] Found in all regions.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [16 North, 37 South] Reported from every region. High count 6/17 Clay (25, Felton Prairie) PNi, DAd.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [4 North, 13 South] Found in scattered locations in every region except North-central, Northeast. High count 7/26 Washington (12, Afton S.P.) ToL.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [17 North, 1 South] Reported from northern half of state plus 6/14 Lyon (Sham L.) a.t. GWe.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [7 North] Found in Aitkin, Beltrami, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Mahnommen, Norman, Wilkin.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [34 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Chippewa.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [7 North, 1 South] Observed in Beltrami, Cook, Hubbard, Itasca, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [32 North, 47 South] Reported throughout state.



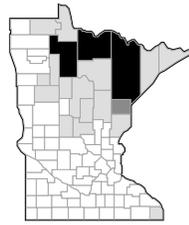
Blackburnian Warbler



Yellow Warbler



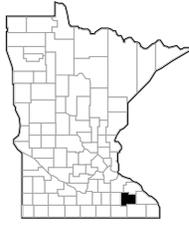
Chestnut-sided Warbler



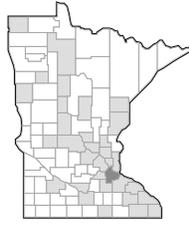
Yellow-rumped Warbler



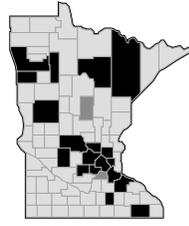
Yellow-throated Warbler



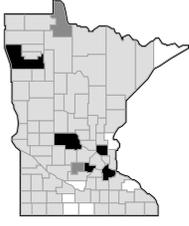
Yellow-breasted Chat



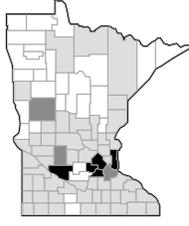
Eastern Towhee



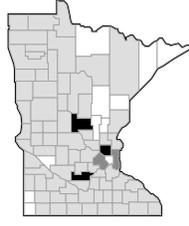
Chipping Sparrow



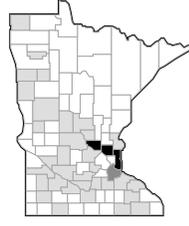
Clay-colored Sparrow



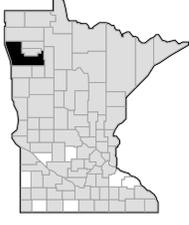
Field Sparrow



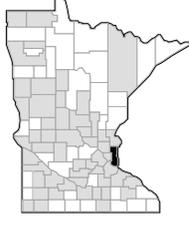
Vesper Sparrow



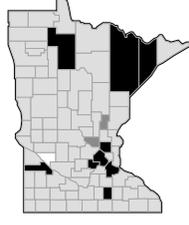
Lark Sparrow



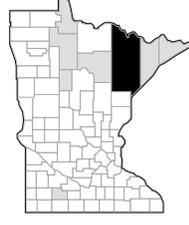
Savannah Sparrow



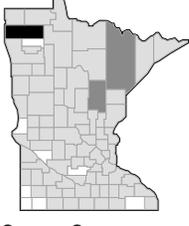
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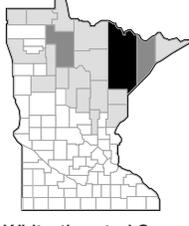
Song Sparrow



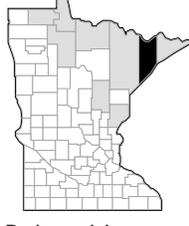
Lincoln's Sparrow



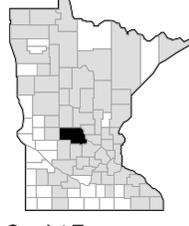
Swamp Sparrow



White-throated Sparrow

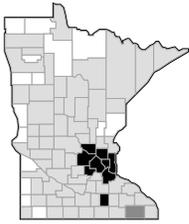


Dark-eyed Junco

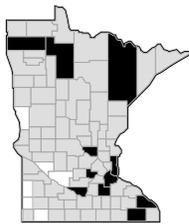


Scarlet Tanager

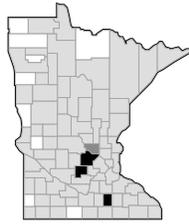
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [19 North] Reported from all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Pine.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [1 North] Seen 6/8 Todd (Beauty L. public access) SwM, ph. JeM.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [3 North] Seen 6/2 Clay JKY, 6/11 Roseau BSi, 6/20 Itasca v.t. SC.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [9 North] Reported from North-central, Northeast, plus Pine, Roseau. High count 6/28 Lake (5, Whyte Road) ph. JWJL.
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [1 South] Observed 7/19 Washington (Afton S.P. — North Prairie Loop) JBu.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [25 North, 33 South] Found in all regions. High count 6/5 Scott (8, Murphy-Hanrehan R.P.) BAF.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [23 North, 49 South] Reported from all regions.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [33 North, 48 South] Found statewide. High count 6/24 Houston (15, La Crescent Twp.) KRz.
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [10 South] Reported from Southwest, western counties of South-central, plus Renville.
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [28 North, 50 South] Found throughout state.
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [4 North, 39 South] Reported from all central and southern regions plus Carlton. Greatest concentration in southern regions.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [31 North, 48 South] Found in every region of state. High count 6/8 Rice (50, Prairie Creek WMA) GHo.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 7/30 Wabasha (483) CRM.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [13 North, 27 South] Found in all central and eastern regions plus Big Stone, Otter Tail. First county breeding record for Carver JCy. High count 6/29 Washington (13, Afton S.P.) GHo.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [21 North, 29 South] Found in all western and central regions plus Dakota, Fillmore, Mower, Olmsted, St. Louis. High count 6/17 Clay (Felton Prairie) DAd, PNi.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [25 North, 44 South] Seen in all regions. High counts 6/6 Yellow Medicine (130, Spellman L.) GWe, 6/12 Becker (125, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) CLW.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [1 North] Observed 6/18 Roseau BSi.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [24 North, 25 South] Seen in all regions. High count 6/26 Ramsey (50, more than four dozen adults in a colony, many feeding young) AXH.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [2 South] Observed in Cottonwood, Swift.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. Parasitized species included Great Crested Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, American Robin, Brown Thrasher, Hooded Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Clay-colored Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [15 North, 44 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast. High count 7/25 Lac qui Parle (9, Big Stone N.W.R.) KeM.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [33 North, 51 South] Found in every county except Chippewa, Cook, Pipestone. High count 6/18 Hennepin (20, Nine Mile Creek) ADr.
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [30 North, 43 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding record for Norman AXH.
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [26 North, 5 South] Found in northern half of state plus Dakota, Isanti, Ramsey, Sherburne.
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [6 North] Observed in Beltrami, 6/11 Carlton (25, Cloquet S.F.) CLW, Itasca, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucop-tera*) — No reports.
- Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [21 North,



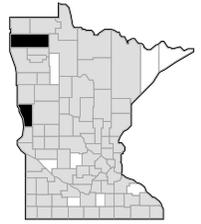
Northern Cardinal



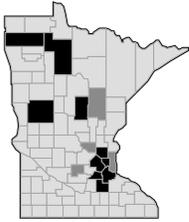
Rose-breasted Grosbeak



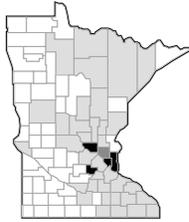
Indigo Bunting



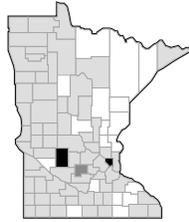
Bobolink



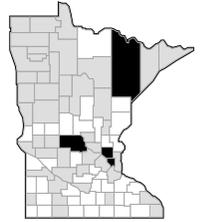
Red-winged Blackbird



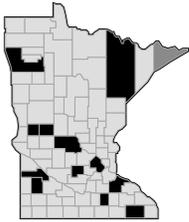
Eastern Meadowlark



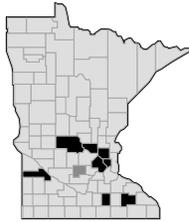
Yellow-headed Blackbird



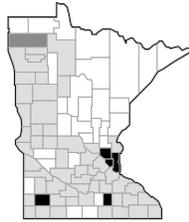
Brewer's Blackbird



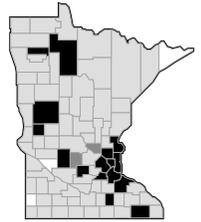
Common Grackle



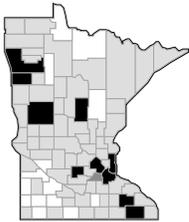
Brown-headed Cowbird



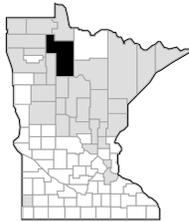
Orchard Oriole



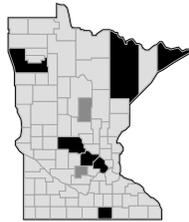
Baltimore Oriole



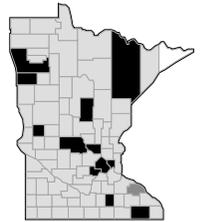
House Finch



Purple Finch



American Goldfinch



House Sparrow

5 South] Found in northern half of state plus Chisago, Hennepin, Jackson, Olmsted, Sherburne.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High counts 6/21 St. Louis (53, Sax-Zim Bog) HBU, 7/17 Dakota (48, Whitetail Woods R. P.) KDS, DVe. First county breed-

ing record for Cook AXH.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [2 North] Observed in Cook, St. Louis.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found in every county except Cook. First county breeding record for Norman AXH.

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DMB	David L. Brisance	JPr	Jerry Pruet	PSu	Paul Suchanek
DMe	Drew Meyer	JSa	Joe Sausen	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding
DMK	Dee Kuder	JSc	John Schladweiler	RBd	Robert Badger
DPG	Dan & Pam Guynn	JSP	Jen Sobiech-Pariseau	RBj	Robert B. Janssen
DPJ	Douglas P. Johnson	JuW	Justin Watts	RBW	Bob Williams
DSt	Delores Steinlicht	JV	Jennifer Vieth	REH	Robert E. Holtz

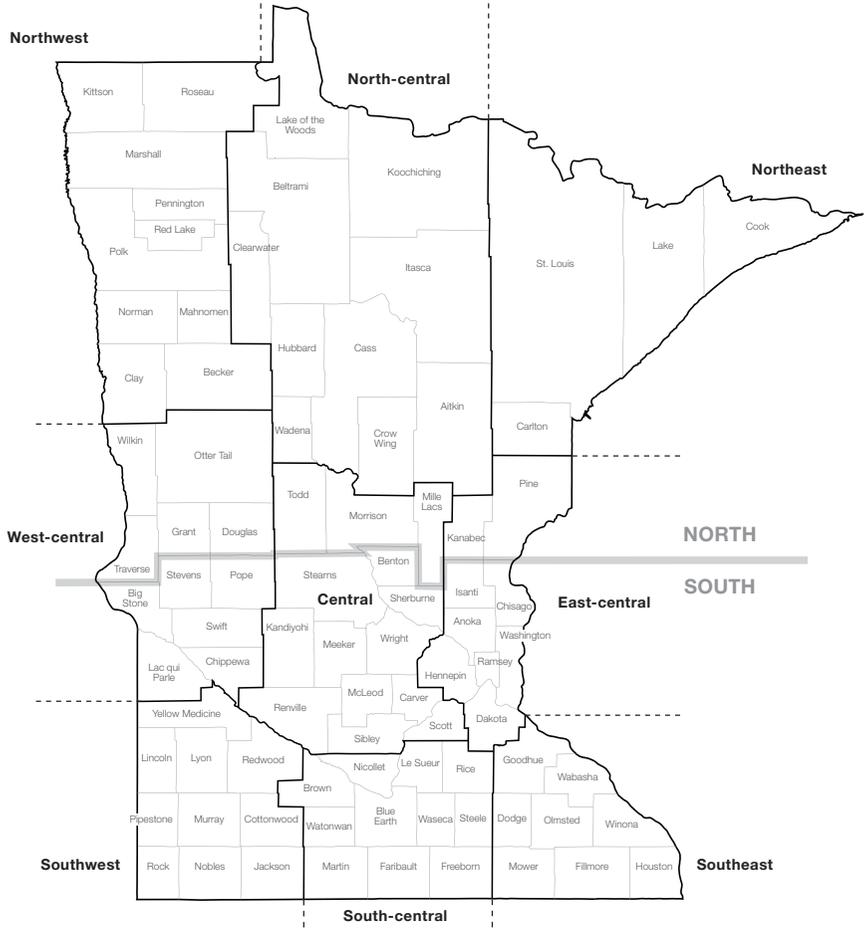
RHi Robert Hinz
 RHO Robert H. O'Connor
 RJW Robert Watson
 RKO Russ Koppendrayner
 RMD Robert M. Dunlap
 RPR Rob Russell
 RSA Renner S. Anderson
 RTE Raymond Tervo
 RTP Ray Potthoff
 RZI Roy Zimmerman
 SAu Sandy Aubol
 SBM Scott B. Meyer
 SBn Steven Brown
 SC Shawn Conrad
 ScW Scott Warsen
 SES Steven E. Schon
 SGW Steve G. Wilson
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 SHF Susan H. Fall

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 SKS Sharon Koval Stiteler
 SLF Steve L. Falkowski
 SLP Susan Plankis
 SMC Scott M. Clark
 SrS Sherree Sheide
 SSc Susan Schumacher
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 SWe Steve Weston
 SwM Shawnee Mc Kenna
 TAT Tom A. Tustison
 TCL Tim Lamey
 TFB Tom F. Boevers
 TKA Tyson Kahler
 TLe Tom Lewanski
 TLo Tom Lochner
 ToL Tony Lau
 ToM Todd Mitchell
 TTh Tom Thalhuber

WaB Wayne Bell
 WCM William Marengo
 WPe Wendy Pepin

Abbreviations

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



Minnesota counties and the major geographic regions mentioned in the Seasonal Report text.

Secretive Marsh Bird Surveys at Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge

Aaron M. Goemann, Nathan R. Haverkamp,
and Margaret A. Kuchenreuther

Introduction and Survey Area

In the United States, 21% of secretive marsh bird species are of special conservation concern because of loss of freshwater wetland habitat (NABCI 2009). Among these species are the American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*), Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), Sora (*Porzana carolina*), Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*), King Rail (*Rallus elegans*), and Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) (Conway 2011). These species are migratory birds that nest in dense cattail and reed canary grass along the edges of shallow marshes (Bolenbaugh et al. 2011; Harms and Dinsmore 2012). Their populations are difficult to estimate using standard breeding bird survey protocols because of their relatively inaccessible habitat and secretive nature (Conway 2009). Despite their conservation importance, these species have never been systematically surveyed at Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge (Big Stone NWR) (Personal communication, Refuge Wildlife Specialist Kristen Fritz).

Big Stone NWR is primarily located in Lac qui Parle County, with only a small portion of the refuge extending northward into Big Stone County (Map 1). The refuge encompasses a diverse landscape along the Minnesota River that includes open water, wetlands, upland prairie, prairie “pothole” pools, lowland hardwood forest, and granite outcrops. This survey spanned the entire refuge, with survey points established along wetlands and open water. Several small, isolated prairie potholes were also surveyed. The goal of this project was to estimate breeding populations of these secretive bird species and assess their relationships with local vegetation types. This survey provides a baseline dataset to help guide refuge management decisions and serve as reference for future surveys.

Methods

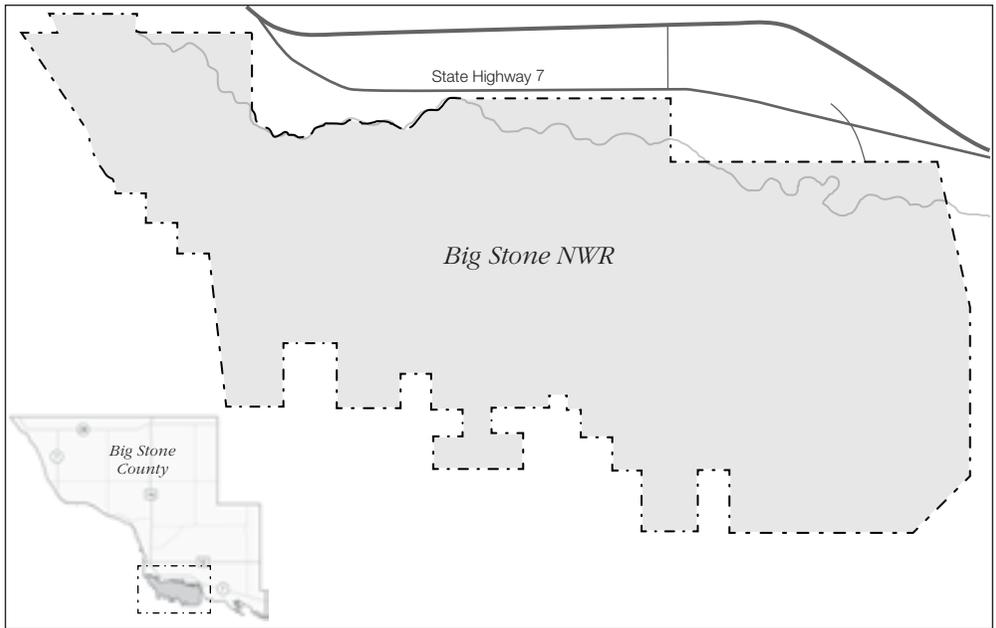
Survey Methods

Data were collected along three survey routes in Big Stone NWR (Map 1). These routes were suggested by refuge staff. Each route contained 10–12 survey points, with each point separated by at least 400 meters. Surveys were conducted during three periods (15–31 May 2013, 1–15 June 2013, and 16 June – 15 July 2013), with each survey beginning 30 minutes before sunrise and continuing until completion of the route. The third survey period was extended into July according to the recommendation of Dinsmore *et al.* (2011) to adequately observe trends in marsh bird response over the southern Minnesota breeding season.

Survey methods followed standard protocols for marsh-dwelling birds (Conway 2011). Breeding and territorial calls of American Bittern, Least Bittern, Sora, Virginia Rail, King Rail, and Pied-billed Grebe were obtained from the Macaulay Library of the Cornell Ornithology Lab and provided to us by the staff of Big Stone NWR. These were broadcast at each point along the survey route using a Primos Alpha Dogg® game call system. Time, temperature, levels of background noise, and sky and wind conditions were recorded at the initiation of each point’s survey period. After five minutes of passive listening, a standardized sequence of the calls was broadcast. This sequence consisted of 30 seconds of a species’ recorded calls followed by 30 seconds of silence before the next species’ calls. If a response vocalization was heard, its distance and direction from the observers was estimated.

Habitat Association, Population Density, and Estimation of Refuge-wide Populations

Refuge-wide land cover maps were ob-



Map 1. Big Stone County and Big Stone NWR.

tained from the staff at Big Stone NWR (see Maps 2–5). Using the geographic information system (GIS) ArcMap 10.2, we identified habitat associations for each species surveyed. We considered habitat within a radius of 50 meters of each vocalization to be of significance to the vocalizing bird, thus assigning each vocalization a territory of 1.57 ha (Bolenbaugh *et al.* 2011). Habitat components for each species were identified by calculating the area of each land cover type found within each bird's territory. The average combination of habitat components was obtained for each species and assumed to approximate each species' habitat preference.

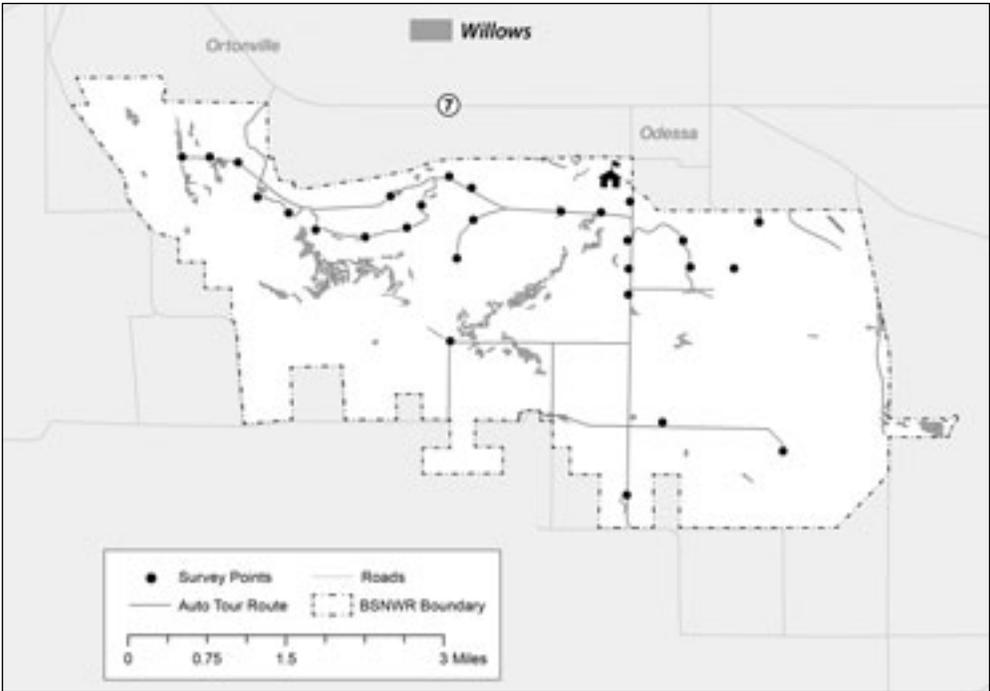
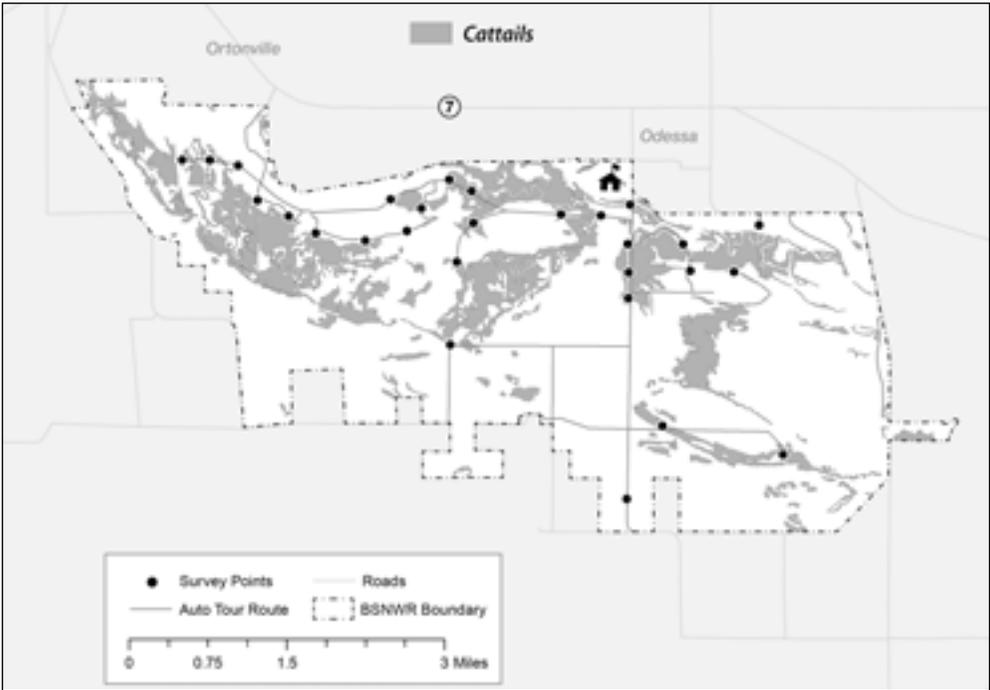
Total refuge-wide habitat availability for each species was calculated using ArcMap with an automated search for all space that contained land cover types in proportions similar to those observed for each species. The ArcMap habitat polygons were assessed for these requirements using the "Buffer" and "Intersect" tools, where a buffer strip (25 or 50m) was made around important habitat units, and then those habitat units were linked to adjacent habitat units that meet the requirements of a particular species. For ex-

ample, Soras were all found within 25m of boundaries between cattail (*Typha* sp.) and reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) units. Thus, a 50 meter buffer along every such boundary was taken to meet the habitat requirements for Sora. The composite area of all such buffer units in the refuge was assumed to be available as Sora habitat.

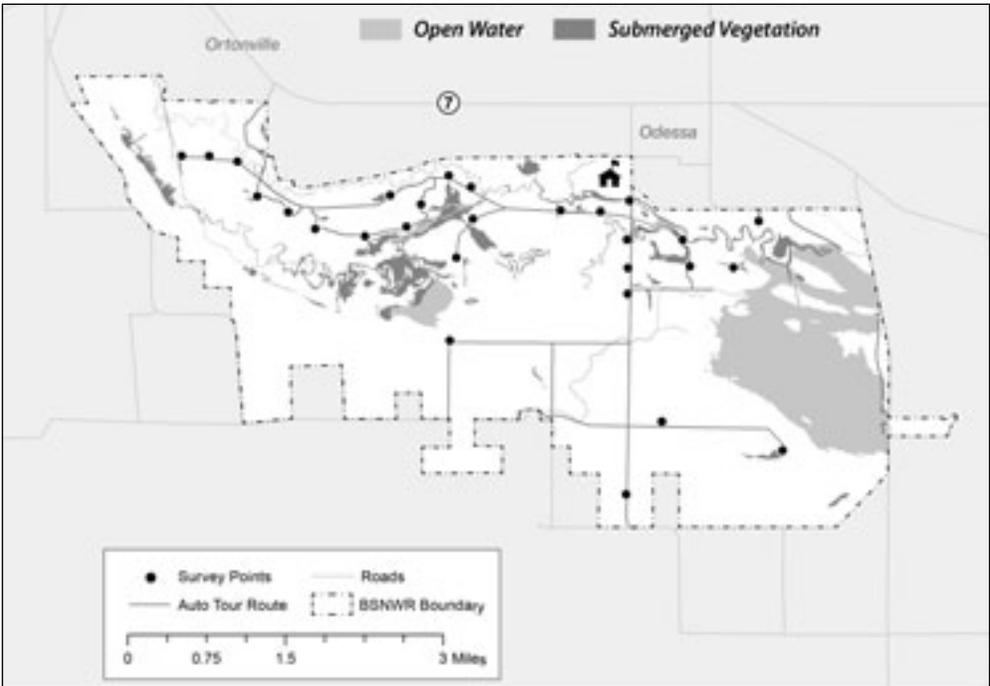
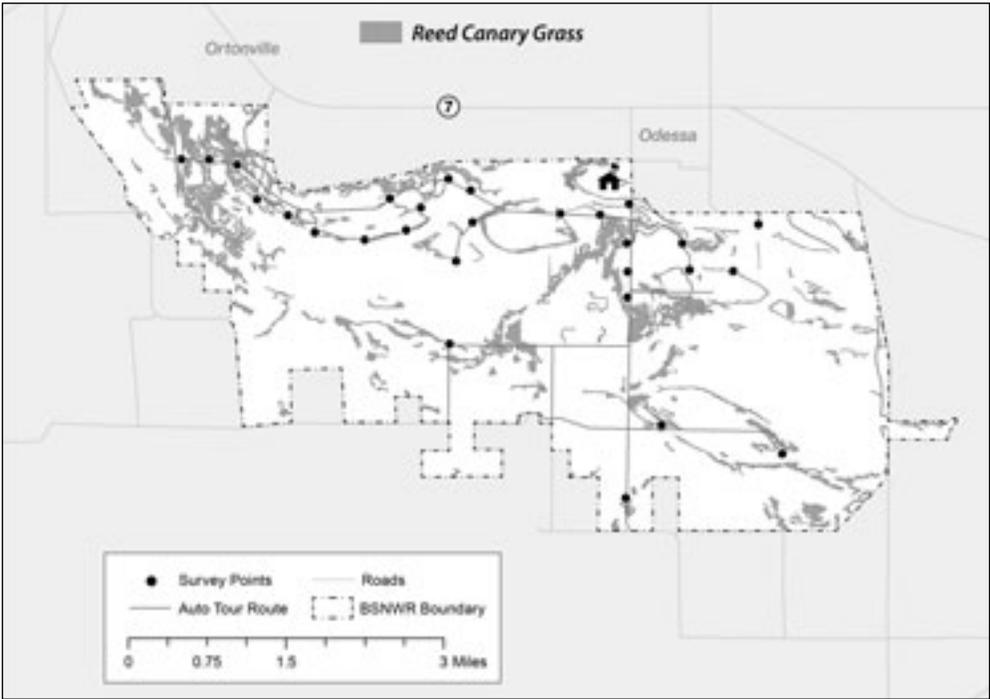
Bird population densities were calculated by dividing the average number of reports per species per survey point by the area attributable to a single survey point (four hectares). Population densities were calculated for each period and averaged for the season. We estimated the total refuge-wide population of each species by multiplying its estimated density by the total area of its preferred habitat type available on the refuge.

Results and Discussion

Species responding to our survey broadcasts included, Sora, Virginia Rail, American Bittern, Least Bittern, and Pied-billed Grebe. No King Rails responded to the call. Survey periods appear to have caught peak breeding seasons for Soras and American Bitterns, and early-to-peak seasons for Virginia Rails



Maps 2-3. Vegetation cover, survey points, and access roads at Big Stone NWR.



Maps 4–5. Vegetation cover, survey points, and access roads at Big Stone NWR.

Table 1. Number of birds detected in each survey period.

Species	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3
Sora	21	14	12
Virginia Rail	3	9	8
American Bittern	5	7	0
Pied-billed Grebe	11	12	15
Least Bittern	0	1	1
King Rail	0	0	0

Table 2. Population densities and refuge-wide estimates based on mean detection of birds in conjunction with observed habitat associations over all survey periods

Species	Population Density (birds/ha)	Estimated Population in Refuge	Detected Population in Refuge
Sora	0.19	131	12–21
Virginia Rail	0.16	31	3–9
American Bittern	0.09	6	5–7
Pied-billed Grebe	0.18	64	11–15

and Pied-billed Grebes (Table 1). Soras were the most commonly detected species, with counts in the first survey period double that of later periods. Pied-billed Grebes were the second most commonly encountered species, with relatively stable counts across all the sampling periods. We detected smaller numbers of Virginia Rails, recording their presence in all three samples, but hearing them most often in later samples. Likewise, we detected only a few American Bitterns, hearing them only in the first and second sampling periods. Finally, we detected Least Bittern only once in each of the second and third samples, and we believed it to be the same individual or pair since both responses were recorded at the same survey point (Table 1).

The small number of Least Bittern responses recorded in our survey may or may not be an accurate indication of its true population within the refuge. It is possible that the taped calls we used were not very effective for Least Bittern, resulting in failure to elicit responses to our broadcasts. Tozer *et al.* (2007) observed that Least Bitterns may not vocalize during call and response surveys even though the birds may be nesting less

than 25 meters from the broadcast location and suggested that a 30-second call and response period may not be sufficient. Swift *et al.* (1988) found a relatively high response rate for Least Bitterns within 30 meters of a broadcast location, but only after at least five minutes of the Least Bittern call playback during each survey. Because of lack of data, we did not pursue further analysis of Least Bittern at Big Stone NWR.

King Rail populations have been declining across the species' entire range, and Minnesota wetlands are at the northern border of the species' breeding range (Cooper 2008; Bolenbaugh *et al.* 2012). Thus, it is not surprising that no King Rails were observed. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a King Rail Conservation Action Plan that includes efforts to protect, restore, and manage King Rail habitat (Cooper 2008). This plan is currently confounded by a lack of data regarding the present distribution and abundance of the species, and by lack of understanding of King Rail population dynamics and ecology (Cooper 2008; Bolenbaugh *et al.* 2012).

Estimated population densities (Table 2) for Soras, Virginia Rails, American Bitterns, and Pied-billed Grebes fall within normal ranges reported for similar environments (Sauer *et al.* 1997; NABCI 2009; Bolenbaugh *et al.* 2011; Harms and Dinsmore 2012). Habitat relationships observed also match those reported in other, similar surveys (Sayre and Rundle 1984; Dinsmore and Johnson 1986; Bolenbaugh *et al.* 2011). Emergent cattail/reed canary grass accounted for 30–40% of habitat for all birds, and up to 50% for Pied-billed Grebes. Reed canary grass was a larger component of Sora, Virginia Rail, and American Bittern habitat relative to Pied-billed Grebe habitat. Submerged vegetation was a significant component of American Bittern and Pied-billed Grebe habitat, but was not associated with the habitat of either Sora or Virginia Rail. The habitats of all bird species included a small component of lowland willow and shrubs.

Refuge-wide populations were coarsely estimated based upon survey responses, bird-habitat associations, and the amount of habitat available within the refuge for each

species. Boundaries 25 meters wide between cattail (*Typha* sp.) and reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) units were identified as Sora habitat. Virginia rail habitat required willow (*Salix* spp.) stands within 25 meters of reed canary grass or cattail units. American Bittern habitat required both willow and reed canary grass units located within 50 meters. The requirement for Pied-billed Grebe was subaquatic vegetation located within 50 meters of cattail. The total area of each of these boundary zones was used as the area of habitat available to each species of bird. Thus, we estimate that at the time of the survey there were 667 ha. of Sora habitat, 201 ha. of Virginia Rail habitat, 74 ha. of American Bittern habitat, and 552 ha. of Pied-billed Grebe habitat available in the refuge. Based upon available habitat, we estimate that the refuge may support 131 Soras, 31 Virginia Rails, 6 American Bitterns, and 64 Pied-billed Grebes (Table 2). Our model correctly predicted the number of American Bitterns detected, but exceeds actual detections for other species. This may be due to uneven sampling of each species' preferred habitat.

This study should set a baseline for future analyses of marsh bird populations at Big Stone NWR. Our data suggest that the refuge hosts significant populations of Soras, Virginia Rails, American Bitterns, and Pied-billed Grebes, and that Least Bittern may be rarely encountered on the refuge.

Acknowledgements

This work would not have been possible without the aid of the staff at Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge, with special thanks to Kristin Fritz. Funding was provided by the University of Minnesota Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program. Anthony X. Hertzell assisted with the production of the maps.

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The 2015 M.O.U. Listing Clubs

Compiled by editors Anthony X. Hertzelt and David A. Cahlander

For the fourth consecutive year, no new species were added to the Minnesota state checklist and the state total remains at 439. Though a first state record Tropical Kingbird was seen in June and July in Scott County, the documentation was still under review by the Records Committee at the end of the year (eventually Accepted in 2016, see *The Loon* 88:4). As a result, the 85% threshold for entry into the Roberts Club remains at 374, and the club now holds 41 members (35 members last year). Were we

to institute a "90% Club," it would host eight members at a threshold of 396.

The following is a tally of each contributing M.O.U. member's state Life List, that is, the sum total of all bird species seen within the state of Minnesota. The guilds included here are the Roberts Club (at least 85% of the state bird list), the 300 Club, and the 200 Club.

Additional birding records, such as Big Days, Big Years, county life lists, nest lists, and many other achievements are available at our web site, <http://moumn.org>.

The Roberts Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 85% of the state's 439 bird species in Minnesota (374)

410 Kim R. Eckert	389 Don O. Kienholz	382 Ronald L. Huber
407 Robert B. Janssen	389 Kim W. Risen	382 Steve Millard
406 Anthony X. Hertzelt	388 Jeff J. Stephenson	382 Howard Towle
406 Peder H. Svingen	387 Richard Wachtler	380 Karol Gresser
404 Bill R. Litkey	386 Dedrick Benz	380 Hap Huber
398 <i>Ray Glassel</i>	386 <i>Don A. Bolduc</i>	380 Charles Krulas
396 Robert L. Ekblad	386 Jerry E. Bonkoski	378 Robert M. Dunlap
396 Dennis D. Martin	386 Bill George	378 Douglas P. Johnson
395 Barbara Martin	386 Tom A. Tustison	378 Craig R. Mandel
394 Paul M. Egeland	386 Gloria Wachtler	375 Susan Schumacher
391 Jo & Steve Blanich	384 <i>Warren E. Nelson</i>	374 Mark S. Citsay
390 <i>Richard Ruhme</i>	384 Andrew D. Smith	374 William C. Marengo
389 David A. Cahlander	384 David P. Sovereign	374 Jerry Pruett
389 John W. Hockema	382 Ronald A. Erpelding	

The 300 Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 300 species in Minnesota

373 Conny M. Brunell	367 Leslie Marcus	356 David A. Bartkey
373 Herb H. Dingmann	366 Diane M. Anderson	356 David R. Benson
373 Rick Hoyme	366 Connie L. Osbeck	356 Janet C. Green
372 Al A. Bolduc	365 <i>David W. Thurston</i>	356 Mark Sparky Stensaas
372 <i>Oscar L. Johnson</i>	365 Mike L. Hendrickson	352 Dave Baden
371 Philip C. Chu	365 Bob Williams	352 Milton J. Blomberg
371 Ben W. Fritchman	364 Bruce B. Baer	352 Terry P. Brashear
371 <i>Terry Savaloja</i>	364 James L. Otto	352 Peter Neubeck
371 Bill Stjern	364 Dick Sandve	350 Betsy Beneke
370 John P. Ellis	364 Jim Williams	350 Marjorie Cahlander
370 Dick Rengstorf	363 Jim R. Eikenberry	349 <i>Nancy A. Jackson</i>
369 <i>Elizabeth Campbell</i>	362 <i>Jerry Gresser</i>	349 Blaine Seeliger
369 Randy S. Frederickson	360 <i>Bill Pieper</i>	348 William R. Bronn
369 J. S. Futcher	359 Joel C. Claus	348 Frank Gosiak
369 Linda Sparling	359 Mike Mulligan	348 James W. Lind
368 Jim Egge	359 Kenneth M. Schumacher	348 Kenneth Oulman
368 <i>Forest V. Strnad</i>	358 Steve J. Roman	345 Mark Junghans

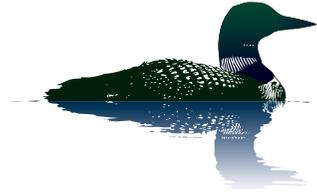
345	Craig A. Menze	326	Tom and Elizabeth Bell	313	Dan T. Thimgan
343	Chet A. Meyers	326	Jeanie M. Joppur	312	Nelvina E. De Kam
343	Andrew Nyhus	325	Gary Simonson	312	Diana Doyle
343	Warren Woessner	324	Dale A. Yerger	312	Clinton Nienhaus
342	Brian T. Smith	323	Shawn Conrad	311	Kathi Berdan
341	Warren Wegener	323	Linda B. Felker	311	Jason Caddy
340	Pete Hoeger	323	Karl Roe	311	Chris Fagyal
340	Douglas Mayo	322	Frank Berdan	311	Pamela S. Perry
340	Roy Zimmerman	322	<i>Kathy A. Heidel</i>	310	K. Scott Foster
338	Bonnie J. Mulligan	322	Lars Benson	310	Fred Z. Leshner
337	<i>Ken LaFond</i>	322	Chad Heins	310	Steven E. Schon
337	Judith Sparrow	321	Dick Hartman	310	<i>Theodore Voelker</i>
336	Mark C. Alt	320	Renner S. Anderson	309	Clara Dahle
335	Erik Collins	320	Gerald Hoekstra	309	Andy Forbes
335	Colin R. Gjervold	320	Steven Midthune	309	Bob Heise
334	Al Schirmacher	319	Jonas Benson	309	Mark Otnes
333	Cindy Risen	319	Janet Majerus	309	Sandy M. Thimgan
332	Kevin D. Smith	319	Roger J. Schroeder	308	Alyssa L. DeRubeis
331	Brad Abendroth	319	Larry Sirvio	307	Connie M. Norheim
331	William R. Bronn	318	Joel Schmidt	307	Anthony M. Smith
331	Robert H. O'Connor	318	Alexander R. Watson	306	Dick Hartman
330	Alice Hennessey	316	Joel Dunnette	305	Tom F. Boevers
330	Robert E. Holtz	316	Ben A. Wieland	305	<i>Burnett Hojnacki</i>
330	Paul L. Johnson	315	Deanne Endrizzi	304	Thomas Malone
330	George Lahr	314	Clay Christensen	302	Michael J. Majeski
330	Nathan Schirmacher	314	Fr Tom Margevicius	302	Molly Malecek
330	Raymond Tervo	314	Michael Steffes	302	Peter Nichols
329	David Johnson	313	Tom A. Nelson	302	Keith T. Pulles
329	John Richardson	313	James F. Ryan	301	Dee Kuder
328	Earl E. Orf	313	Shelley A. Steva	300	Don Starkweather

The 200 Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 200 species in Minnesota

299	Jackie M. Potts	269	Ben Harste	238	Michael Hurben
294	Gary W. Johnson	268	Justin Watts	238	Stephan Bossert
293	Ric Zarwell	266	Fred Eckhardt	236	Anthony Mitchell
291	Richard L. Miller	266	Patrick B. Beauzay	236	Jenni and Sam Ives
290	Jake Musser	265	Bill Bruins	235	Ron Martin
289	Richard N. Smaby	265	R. Fred Arey	235	Scott M. Clark
288	John E. Morrison	265	Sandy Aubol	233	Dan Deutsch
288	Matt Dufort	264	Wendy Pepin	232	Lynn Patricia
286	Melissa Hein	262	Robert Jessen	223	Andy Marnell
284	Alex Franzen	262	Stephen Gardner	221	Alex Lewanski
283	Jim Hughes	261	Andrew D. Bicek	221	Matt Pierce
283	Pat Dewenter	261	David Nafus	221	Paul J. Binek
280	Andrew B. Longtin	260	Jennifer Vieth	221	Paul T. Sullivan
277	Chris Mansfield	260	Ken & Rebecca Vail	220	Carl Runke
277	Terry Wiens	259	Andrew Birch	219	Mark LaRose
276	John Kroll	258	Lynn Glesne	219	Paul A. Hetland
276	Todd Murawski	256	Tim Lamey	216	Jeff Chapman
275	Tom Auer	255	Steve L. Falkowski	215	Molly Jo Miller
274	Dan & Pam Guynn	254	Kyle TePoel	214	Tom Ries
273	Angela Gerend	249	Lane Doering	213	Richard Wood
273	Michael Oetken	246	Janet Reusch	211	Michael Henry
273	Reggie Carlson	245	Russell R. Widner	211	Ray Potthoff
272	Malcolm Gold	241	Derek O. Bakken	209	Neil Skoog
271	Andrew Krenz	239	Cheryl Boyes	208	Jacqueline Hosch
271	Kay Smaby	238	Aaron Lang	207	Glennie Gilleen
270	Nels F. Thompson	238	Josh Anderson		

Notes of Interest



BEWICK'S WREN IN DAKOTA COUNTY — This bird was discovered on 1 June 2015, by Tom Lewanski and Karen Schik. Tom's son Alex alerted me about the bird later that evening. In total, I spent approximately 22 hours over six days (2-5, 7, and 24 June) searching for this bird, and managed to observe it for a total time of less than a minute, and heard it singing for about 25 minutes. Probably one of the most exasperating bird searches I have ever attempted in over 25 years of birding.



The following description is taken from my notes which were written on site approximately one half hour after finally observing and listening to the bird on my 4th day of searching for it. There is additional added material from memory, none of it descriptive. I saw/heard the bird on two different days, and the following were recorded on 5 June 2015.

Walking into the site, I heard the bird singing at approximately 6:50-7:10 A.M. At first the bird was in a grove of trees behind some nearby houses, and as I got closer it flew to some oak trees about 75 yards away, and continued singing. I did not see it fly. Approaching these oaks, I had one momentary look at the bird, then it went into the canopy of the trees, as it continued singing, but it was impossible to detect and frequently changed perches. It then flew back towards the houses, and initially sang from an oak sapling. As I scanned with my binoculars to try and get a look, the bird flew into a large cottonwood. It sang there several times out of view, then flew down to a wood pile stacked by a shed. It began foraging among the openings between the wood, but was frustratingly blocked from view much of the time by a wheelbarrow. I could see the bird was obviously a wren, brown in color (in my notes I describe this as "rich reddish brown," but I had nothing except the mostly gray color of the piled wood for comparison and that may have influenced my perception of the actual color), small-sized, and behaving like others in its genus. It only remained here a few seconds then flew off to investigate under a deck out of view. Then up into a birch tree, where it started singing again. I was able to position myself to finally see the bird, but it was on the west side of the tree in shade. Its back was towards me, and details of the upper parts were obscured in these less than ideal conditions. It continued singing while I observed it, its head turned to the right, and I could see the whitish supercilium on the head even in the shade. Its bill was slightly decurved and pointed. The tail appeared long, but there were no birds close by to compare it to. Then it flew again out towards the street, moving dozens of yards away.

I continued waiting at this location hoping the bird would return. When it did not, I went to my vehicle and wrote my notes. I returned to the site and continued birding, but did not hear the bird in the next couple of hours.

On 7 June, I was on site before 7:00 A.M. Bruce and Susan Fall were also there, and we decided to separate and hopefully have a better chance of relocating the bird. It should be noted that this bird was wandering widely throughout the area. Where I had seen it on 5 June was nearly half a mile from where Bruce had initially observed the bird on 2 June. At approximately 8:35 A.M. I detected the bird singing. I attempted to approach using as much cover as I could, as it seemed the bird was extremely shy and intolerant of nearby people. As I was getting my iPhone set to record the bird's song, I received a call from Bruce alerting me he could hear the bird singing near my location. He and Susan were now heading towards me. Then the bird flew away from me approximately 40-50 feet and continued singing. I was unable to get my video operating quickly and the bird flew again about 30 yards away. It landed in a snag,

but once again in poor lighting conditions, and I could only see a silhouette. It was an obvious wren-shaped bird, and in the open its tail appeared longer than that of a House Wren. While I didn't write this in my notes, it was also a slender bird, not a chunky body profile. It expressively cocked its tail at least twice, sang one last time and dropped down into cover. This observation lasted perhaps 10 seconds. That was the last I saw or heard the bird.

The Bewick's Wren song is very distinctive, and (as Sibley notes in his guide) "recalls Song Sparrow." It is very unlike House Wren or any other wren species more routinely found in Minnesota. In my notes from 5 June, I describe it as "a few high introductory phrases ending with a trill." The cadence was similar to Song Sparrow. Bruce Fall was able to record the bird.

This bird was easily separable from House, Winter, Carolina, and Rock wren by its distinctive song. The white supercilium also separates it from House Wren. Its long tail and slender build further separate it from Winter Wren, Carolina Wren and Rock wren. The song and habitat also separate the Bewick's from Marsh and Sedge wrens. **Andrew D. Smith, 3606 Wildgeon Way, Eagan MN 55123-1124.**

A CROW WING COUNTY BRAMBLING — Around 2:15 P.M. on 20 March 2015, I looked out the window to see a slew of birds. I grabbed my binoculars and observed



around a hundred Cedar Waxwings bathing in the rain puddles and preening in the trees. A cold front was moving through and it was raining. There were many other birds around,

including migrating American Robins, Dark-eyed Juncos, Common Grackles, and numerous other passerines. As I stood out on the back step to observe the action, I noticed movement in the pines at the back of the yard where there were Pine Siskins, juncos, and House Finches. I saw one bird which stood out immediately. Associating with two House Finches was a bird of similar size and, judging by its behavior, a finch. It was its orange breast, orange flanks, and wide wing bar that first caught my attention. Within a second or two, I realized it was a Brambling. I went inside to get my camera and was able to get a couple of pictures — though the lighting was poor because of the rain. The



Brambling, 20 March 2015, Crow Wing County. Photo by John Richardson.

bird flew with the House Finches and I noticed the bird in question had a white rump, which is what you would expect to see in a Brambling. **John Richardson, 409 Holly Street, Brainerd, MN 56401.**

CALIFORNIA GULL IN DULUTH — A first-cycle California Gull (*Larus californicus*) that was originally found by Robbye Johnson on Wisconsin Point, WI, in early September 2015, showed up on the Minnesota side of the Superior Entry on 24 September (first seen there by Karl Bardon). It was last seen 6 December. Size was slightly larger than all adjacent Ring-billed Gulls, but its wings were proportionately longer and its "rocked back on its heels" posture gave it a rakish look. Its two-toned bill looked relatively long and straight, with minimal gonydeal expansion; bill tip was black with proximal bill bright yellowish-pink. Black on the lower mandible was more extensive but still





California Gull, 25 September 2015, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

vertically distinct from the proximal bill, producing a stair-step demarcation. Irides were dark brown. Legs were dull pinkish. Head and neck brownish with an indistinct, narrow, pale half-collar when the gull lowered its head to preen its breast. Back and scapulars were a mixture of brown and medium gray, with the gray a slightly darker shade than the gray on backs of Ring-billed Gull. Wing-coverts were brown with bases of greater upper wing-coverts relatively unmarked, suggesting a dark band across folded wing. Rump and upper tail-coverts were whitish with brown spotting, and contrasted with its dark brown, unmarked tail. In flight, it showed a “double dark bar” formed by the dark trailing edge of its remiges and dark greater upper wing-coverts (it did not show a pale inner primary panel as in first-cycle Herring Gull).

Similar species: Lesser Black-backed Gull of similar age has an all black bill (first-cycle) or a pale tipped bill (2nd-cycle) with darker and more uniform plumage. Lesser Black-backed is also slightly larger with a different bill shape. Some first-cycle Herring Gulls show dark-tipped bills (but not usually so clearly demarcated and not typically “stair-stepped”) and some show relatively pale rumps, but they always show a pale inner primary panel and lack the distinctive dark bar across the greater coverts; Herring Gull also averages larger than California Gull in all respects. **Peder H. Svingen, 2602 East 4th St, Duluth, MN 55812-1533.**

FIFTH STATE RECORD OF THE COMMON GROUND-DOVE — My wife Ellen, son Kyle, and I were birding at the Sax-Zim Bog of St. Louis County on 15 October 2015. We were checking the area south of Arkola Road looking for Sharp-tailed Grouse. While driving on Cross Road, west of Poplar, a small bird flushed from the road. Ellen and I simultaneously shouted “Ground dove!” The identification was immediate and based on the following:



- Rufous wing primaries contrasting with the light brown dorsal surface
- Short rounded tail — dark, almost brown
- Small size — slightly larger and stockier than the numerous juncos we had seen all day

The bird landed a short way ahead and we observed it on the ground. It was small and squat and the base of the bill was light-colored with a black tip and about ½ to ¾ inches long. Its body color was light brown overall and no scaling was noted. Spotting was evident on the folded wings. At rest, a touch of white could be seen on the outer tail feathers.

The bird flushed three times while we tried to get a photograph. Each time, the dark wings contrasting with the light brown body were evident. The white tail edges were also noted the second time it took flight.

The bird was acting skittish and did not allow close approach. The last time it flushed, it flew off the road to the south.

Similar species Inca Dove — I have seen this species on numerous occasions and it was eliminated as a possibility. The tail on the bird we saw was short and rounded, not long like an Inca. While on the ground, the tail of the Common Ground-Dove was very short and projected an inch or so behind the folded wings. The overall color of the bird was light brown with spotting, not scaled like the Inca Dove.

Ruddy Ground-Dove was considered, but I had just seen this species in 2014 in Arizona. They are too dark compared to the Common Ground-Dove that we saw and the white in the outer tail feathers is not found in the Ruddy Ground-Dove.

Mourning Dove is too large and the tail too long to be considered.

Minnesota has four previous records of Common Ground-Dove, all from the fall, having been most recently recorded in 2010. **Joseph P. Hudick, 522 Eric Drive, Osceola, WI 54020.**

WORM-EATING WARBLER IN SCOTT COUNTY — On 30 May 2015, while I was birding Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve in Scott



County, I heard a trilling song, and since my first thought was Pine Warbler, I played the Pine Warbler tape, but the tone was wrong. I also considered Chipping Sparrow. The song was a rapid trill of

thin “chip” notes, very similar to that of a Chipping Sparrow, but seemed to rise somewhat in volume toward the end. I’ve heard many Chipping Sparrows in Minnesota, and I knew that wasn’t right either. I then played a Worm-eating Warbler tape and the audio matched well. The bird came closer and soon flew across the trail into a tree foraging in the leaves. It eventually flew back to the other side of the trail and out of sight. It soon returned and landed close by.

This was an olive-colored warbler with distinct head markings very different from other warblers. It had caramel-colored underparts with duller and grayer tones toward the belly. The head, throat, and breast were slightly brighter. The upperparts were more olive. On the head were four blackish stripes, one through each eye and two across the crown. The eyes were dark and the bill, legs, and feet were pink. **Brad Abendroth, 4425 – 144th Street West, Savage MN.**



Worm-eating Warbler, 30 May 2015, Scott County. Photo by Robert M. Dunlap.

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Purpose of the M.O.U.

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

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



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

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

Suggestions to Authors

The Loon is a peer-reviewed journal on the birds of Minnesota published quarterly by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. The Editor welcomes submissions of articles, Notes of Interest, color slides, and unaltered 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

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First Minnesota Record of Tropical Kingbird

Bruce A. Fall

On 24 June 2015 at about 7:00 A.M. while hiking along the horse/pet trails at Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park (Scott County), I discovered a yellow-bellied kingbird in a bare sapling south of trail marker 37. Initially I thought it was a locally rare Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*). At the time, I had only binoculars and I was unable to approach closer than about 50 m, but it soon became apparent that this bird had features unlike Western Kingbird — its bill was too big, its tail was dark brown (not black) and was forked (not square), the tail lacked white on the outer rectrices, and the yellow underparts continued to the pale gray throat, although the chest was washed with olive and gray in addition to yellow. It seemed like a good candidate for Tropical Kingbird (*T. melancholicus*) or Couch's Kingbird (*T. couchii*). I continued following it until 7:30, lost track of it for an hour, then relocated it at 8:35 and continued watching until 9:10 when it flew off to the east and out of view.

I went back to my car to get my spotting scope and returned at 9:55, but I could not relocate the kingbird by 11:45. I left and returned home, resigned to the likelihood that this was one good bird that got away before it could be positively identified. I posted the checklist to eBird with the kingbird entered as “yellow-bellied” kingbird, probable Tropical/Couch's, and was in the process of posting it to MOU-net when I received a phone call from Bob Williams who, after seeing my eBird post, went to the site and relocated it in the original area. I returned in mid-afternoon and watched it with others from 4:00–6:10 P.M., when it flew from the marker 36 area to the east-southeast across an open field (prairie restoration) to a grove of trees about 300 m away. From there it flew even farther to a line of trees and saplings that was about 500 m southeast of marker 36. It remained there until 6:30 P.M. when I left. Others reported it on the



Tropical Kingbird, 7 July 2015, Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park, Scott County. Photo by Matt Stratmoen.

east side of the 15-ha field later that evening. I assumed it would not be seen again since it had traveled over 500 m southeast from where I initially found it, but fortunately I was wrong — it was reported the following day (25 June) back at its original location.

The kingbird continued to be reported every day from its discovery through 15 July (22 consecutive days), mostly in the area west of the trail between markers 36 and 37. The area it frequented was roughly 150 x 100 m (1.5 ha), but it was seen subsequently a few more times on the east side of the field, including on 15 July. It was not found again until 19 July, back at the original marker 36 location; that was the last reported sighting. In the marker 36 area, it was often seen in various bare branches in and near an isolated tall, slender cottonwood, the tallest tree on the hillside. The area it frequented was open with extensive sumac thickets 1 to 2 m high, with scattered saplings and shrubs and

patches of open grass. Bordering on the west and north were dense deciduous woods (oak, black cherry, basswood, and aspen), and to the east open grassland without any saplings for perches.

I made nine trips to study the kingbird on 24, 26, 27, 30 June, and 2, 3, 7, 9, 14 July. Observation duration when it was in view and within hearing distance (roughly within 100 m) included: 24 June (3 h); 26 June (distant views across the field); 27 June (15 min plus distant views across field); 30 June (2.5 h); 2 July (25 min); 3 July (4 h); 7 July (4.5 h); 9 July (2 h); 14 July (35 min). My total observation time through 14 July was over 17 h (not including field time where it was very distant, or extended periods where its location was unknown). Most of my observation distances with spotting scope were from 35–75 m. Numerous photos were taken of this bird by different observers, including excellent ones by Matt Stratmoen that have been very useful in confirming my field notes, especially regarding the molt sequence. I took field notes on plumage, molt, and prey items as I watched the bird, mostly through my spotting scope (Kowa TSN 773, 20–60x). Later I was in email correspondence with Peter Pyle regarding its molt, following a discussion of this bird on the ID-Frontiers listservice.

General Appearance This was a large flycatcher about the same size and proportions as Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) and somewhat bigger than Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*); individuals of both species perched near the Tropical Kingbird on several occasions for direct comparison. The belly and crissum were bright yellow; the underwing coverts were paler yellow. Yellow continued through the upper breast to the throat, but the upper breast had a band of olive, gray, and yellow separating the pure yellow lower breast from the throat. The throat and chin were ashy grayish white (not pure white). Its head was medium gray, including the crown and nape. There was a broad and not sharply defined darker sooty mask from the bill to behind the eye. The back was olive gray, contrasting (but not sharply) with the gray nape and crown. A large, reddish-orange crown patch was nearly always completely concealed except for a couple instances, including an extended period (20 s) when it



Figure 1. Tropical Kingbird in flight, showing notched outer primaries, truncate outer rectrices, and advanced flight feather molt. 25 June 2015, Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park, Scott County. Photo by Bruce A. Fall.

was agitated by a close Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) and fully exposed the patch while facing me. The old worn tail feathers on 24 June were dark brown, but new incoming rectrices were dark sooty or slate, with thin pale edging on both webs. See *Molt* below for more details on wings and tail. Its bill was black; mouth lining was pink; eye and legs dark. The bill was long and stout. In the field I estimated culmen length to be 60–65% of head width although measurements on a couple photos show it to be about 56%. From photos, culmen length projected posterior from the bill base would extend more than an eye-width behind the eye; bill depth at the nostril was about 1.5 times the exposed eye diameter.

Molt and Age The pronounced forked tail was partly a result of heavy inner rectrix molt. Primary wing feathers were also in molt (Figure 1). On 24 June there were four old, faded, worn outer primaries on each wing (primaries 7–10). Primary 7 was dropped by 27 June, and primary 8 was dropped between 2 and 7 July; on 9 July it still had the two old outer primaries (9 and 10). The rate of outer primary replacement was about one per week for the period 24 June to 9 July. On 24 June, the kingbird had only seven old (worn) rectrices (outer three right, four left) out of

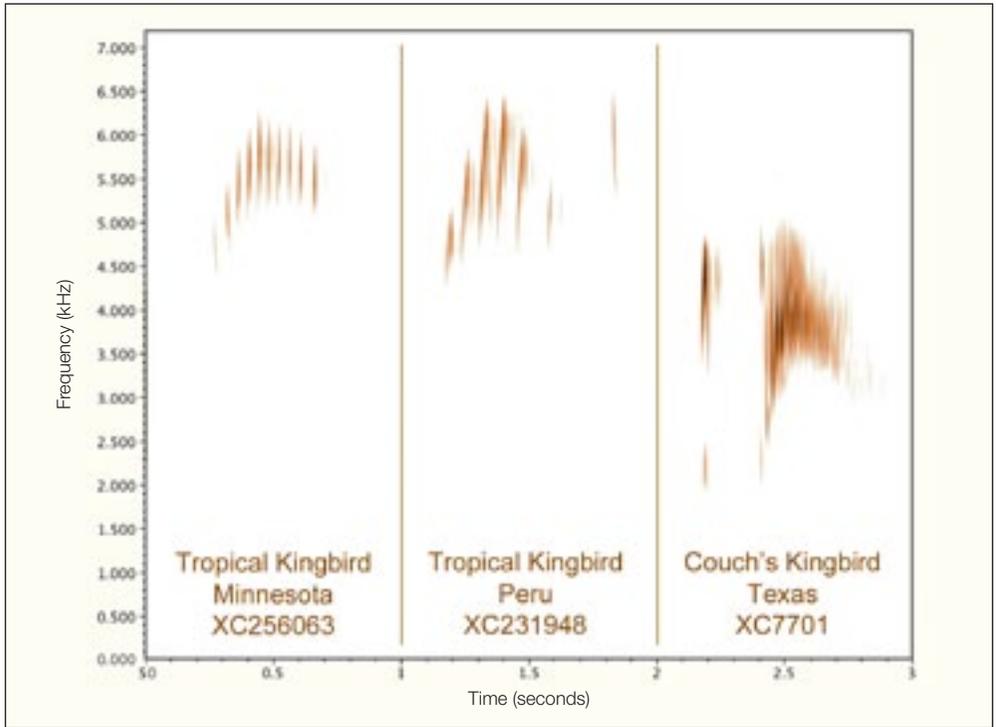


Figure 2. Spectrograms of calls of the Murphy-Hanrehan Tropical Kingbird (left); a Tropical Kingbird from Peru, middle (xeno-canto catalog XC231948); and a Couch's Kingbird from Texas, right (XC7701).

twelve total; the inner five were partly grown or missing. By 9 July, there were only two old rectrices on each side; the other eight were missing or partly to nearly fully grown. The new rectrices were slate gray with a thin pale margin from inner to outer webs and around the tip. Based on several features, the kingbird was an adult and not a first-year bird (P. Pyle, personal communication, 6 July 2015; Pyle 1997). The old rectrices were truncate (broad and squared at the tip), an adult trait, rather than narrow and rounded. The notched shape of the old outer primaries also indicated adult, as did the molt replacement of all primaries (immatures have an eccentric flight feather molt involving replacement of middle but not inner primaries). The extensive red crown patch also indicated adult, since the patch in juveniles is reduced or absent (Stouffer and Chesser 1998). I could detect no evidence of body molt — the breast, back, and head feathers all seemed new and fresh

and there was no evidence of newly erupting feathers. Similarly, the tertials and greater and median wing coverts also appeared fresh and new. One open-wing photo by Matt Stratmoen showed that the primary coverts p1–p8 and p10 were fresh and dark gray, while the one covering p9 was old, brown, and worn. Peter Pyle (personal communication, 7 July 2015) thought this might indicate that this bird was 1.5 years old (the old primary covert appeared to be a retained juvenal one).

Calls In 17 hours of direct observation, I heard only ten calls: 30 June (one, also heard by Karl Roe and Dick Miller); 7 July (one); 9 July (three; one recorded); 14 July (five in 35 minutes). I described these as a high-pitched twittering trill lasting 0.5–1 sec. They sounded somewhat similar in pitch to Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) twittering and also to the first part of Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) whinny call but the notes were closer together. It sounded most similar to



Tropical Kingbird, 30 June 2015, Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park, Scott County. Photo by Matt Stratmoen.

the alarm call of thirteen-lined ground squirrel (*Ictidomys tridecemlineatus*). From listening to many recordings of both Tropical and Couch's kingbirds on xeno-canto (www.xeno-canto.org), I immediately recognized these as Tropical Kingbird and distinctly different from Couch's. Considering how infrequently it called (10 calls in 17 hours), I was fortunate to record one call on 9 July (Marantz PDM-660 digital recorder, Sennheiser ME67 directional microphone). The call duration is about 0.43 sec. This call compares closely with many Tropical Kingbird calls on xeno-canto, including: XC231948 (Peru); XC209818 (Ecuador); XC206928 (Brazil); XC158292 (Ecuador); and many more (there are several hundred xeno-canto recordings of Tropical Kingbird). My recording has been uploaded to xeno-canto, with catalog number XC256063. It is very unlike the single "pip" call notes or longer lower-pitched down-slurred "preer" calls of Couch's Kingbird (e.g., XC7701; many other examples on xeno-canto). On 14 July, I heard five calls in 16 min. At least three of these were accompanied by partial tail and wing stretch, with wings out to sides similar to Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) male territorial display. All five calls on 14 July

were similar to those heard previously and all were easily recognizable as Tropical Kingbird. A spectrogram of the Murphy-Hanrehan Tropical Kingbird call is shown in Figure 2, compared to a Tropical Kingbird call from Peru and a Couch's Kingbird from Texas (both from xeno-canto).

Behavior The kingbird was typically seen on bare exposed branches, including at the top of a large lone cottonwood, the tallest tree on the hillside away from the woods edge. It also frequented lower bare branches, and occasionally fully leaved branches. From these perches, it would fly out to capture flying insects, sometimes as far as 50–75 m or more, and often returning to the same perch. On 24 June, I saw it capture over a dozen large insects, including several dragonflies. I remarked to others at the time that I was amazed that it had room in its crop for all the big insects it was eating. On later days, I tried to quantify its diet, but this was biased toward large prey brought back to a perch. Smaller prey may have been captured and eaten immediately on the wing. Nevertheless, it was clear that the bulk of its prey biomass consisted of medium-sized bumblebees (*Bombus* spp.). Processing of the bumblebees lasted from a few seconds up to 45 sec.

Discussion This is the first record of Tropical Kingbird for Minnesota. The bird was generally cooperative and reliable, and during its over three-week stay, it was seen and reported to the M.O.U. or eBird by 106 different people. There is one previous record of Tropical/Couch's Kingbird from Duluth (St. Louis Co.) on 28 October 2011 (Hendrickson 2012). That bird was seen by three observers for a short period and was photographed, but it was silent and the species could not be determined from the photos.

The normal U.S. range of Tropical Kingbird is in southeastern Arizona and more recently south Texas, but the species (with several subspecies) extends south through Mexico into southern South America to Argentina. The southern populations (*T. m. melancholicus*) are highly migratory, vacating the breeding grounds and moving in southern winter to northern South America (Stouffer and Chesser 1998). In the U.S. and Canada, the species has a well-known pattern of vagrancy, especially along the Pacific coast, but also to the

east (Mlodinow 1998). I searched eBird (eBird 2016) for extralimital occurrences of Tropical Kingbird in the eastern part of the U.S. and Canada. The species has been documented in eBird in 13 states and provinces north of the Gulf Coast states and east of the 105th meridian, with the nearest to Minnesota being Illinois, Missouri, and Michigan. In addition to these, there are dozens of extralimital records each from Florida and Texas (away from south Texas), and also a few from Louisiana and Mississippi. A few additional non-eBird records are noted by Mlodinow (1998) and there may be some more recent valid ones not entered into eBird. The range of Couch's Kingbird is from south Texas south into eastern Mexico (Brush 1999). This species also exhibits vagrancy to the north and east, but apparently less so than Tropical Kingbird. In eBird I found records in seven states and provinces east of the 105th meridian (excluding Texas and Louisiana). The closest to Minnesota were Nebraska and Michigan. Unlike Tropical Kingbird, there are no eBird Couch's Kingbird records for Florida, but there are many in Texas north of the normal breeding range and a few dozen in Louisiana. There are also extralimital records of Tropical/Couch's Kingbird in eBird, including a 2011 record in Wisconsin, but especially along the Gulf coast.

The molt schedule of this adult kingbird is different from that of North American kingbirds in that it was nearly completed by mid July, much earlier than expected for northern Tropical or Couch's. This suggests that the bird was on the molt schedule of an austral (southern South America) kingbird rather than one from the northern hemisphere (i.e., displaced six months). Most North American adult kingbirds undergo body molt first, then a protracted wing and tail molt on the wintering ground (Pyle 1997). If this is also true of austral migrants, wing molt would be expected to be completed in June to July as in this bird. This molt pattern suggests that this bird may be of the nominate race of Tropical Kingbird from southern South America that overshot its wintering grounds, and not one from North America. This could be similar to most U.S. and Canada records of Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*T. savana*), which are of the nominate South American subspecies, a long-

distance migrant that flies north to winter in the northern part of that continent (Howell et al. 2014).

Acknowledgments

Anthony X. Hertzell helped prepare the spectrogram figure and reviewed an earlier draft of the paper. Many photographers submitted photos of this bird to the M.O.U. website. Matt Stratmoen's were especially excellent and very helpful in confirming features of this bird's plumage and molt. The xeno-canto website (www.xeno-canto.org) has hundreds of recordings of both Tropical and Couch's kingbirds publicly available, and these were also very helpful in confirming the identity of the Minnesota kingbird.

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**4300 – 29th Avenue South, Minneapolis
MN 55406.**

The 2015 Fall Season

1 August through 30 November 2015

Paul E. Budde¹, Doug W. Kieser²,
William C. Marengo³, and Brian T. Smith⁴

A regular reader of these *seasonal reports* need not be particularly astute to notice that the taxonomic order followed in this report is significantly different from those of recent years. Our practice is to follow the order of the most recent ABA Checklist. So, with this report we have adopted the dramatic reordering found in their 2016 checklist.

Apart from a Greater White-fronted Goose that spent much of the summer in Scott County, migrant waterfowl arrived in the state close to expected dates. Reports of Harlequin Ducks were confined to Lake Superior. All three scoters were found in each of the North Shore counties — Cook, Lake, and St. Louis. Surfs and White-wingeds were also found away from Lake Superior, but only in counties of the southeastern quarter of the state, while the only Black that strayed from Gitche Gumee was seen on Lake Winnibigoshish. For the second consecutive autumn, no Barrow's Goldeneyes were found.

Eurasian Collared-Doves continue to expand their range in the state. They were seen in more counties (55) than in any prior fall season. A Common Ground-Dove — in the Sax-Zim Bog, of all places — was the fifth for the state. Four of these have been in the Northeast region, and all have been in mid-October.

Bardon and his team of counters for the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census were very busy this season. In addition to counting raptors, they tallied almost 518,000 non-raptors — 150,000 more than in any prior year's census. One reason for this remarkable high count was what they saw on 1 September when over 90,000 birds flew past the observers. As you read the species accounts of this report, you'll see that there were notable high counts for many species on that day, includ-

ing Common Nighthawk, Cedar Waxwing, various vireos and warblers, Scarlet Tanager, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

The first Purple Gallinule since 1970 was a juvenile discovered in Duluth after it apparently struck a window. Though stunned, it recovered nicely and was later released in Florida. Shorebird highlights included a Ruff in Renville County, the first fall report of this species in over ten years, a total of over 200 Buff-breasted Sandpipers, and a late-November Red Phalarope — the latest on record.

Several Parasitic Jaegers were seen at Superior Entry and Park Point in Duluth during the middle two weeks of September. Four Sabine's Gull sojourned past Duluth in early October. In early September a beautiful juvenile Little Gull — a plumage rarely seen in Minnesota — was discovered at the Warroad sewage ponds in the northwest corner of the state. A first-cycle California Gull made sporadic appearances at Superior Entry beginning in late September and persisting through the end of the season. Iceland Gulls arrived north and south earlier than recent median arrival dates, while a first-cycle Glaucous Gull in Duluth was record early. A Great Black-backed Gull was also an early arrival when it appeared at Superior Entry in late September, but it didn't linger and no others were seen until late November.

Several Red-throated and Pacific loons were found in St. Louis County, with a few reports of up to two Pacifics just east in Lake County. Very remarkable was the record high tally of five Pacifics from Park Point in mid-November.

Three Snowy Egrets were seen in the West-central region in late August. A Little Blue Heron was found in Mille Lacs County. Six of the seven Cattle Egrets found were detected in the northern half of the state, while the lone Yellow-crowned Night-Heron for the

season was in Hennepin County. A flock of eleven White-faced Ibis was seen in early August at the Big Stone N.W.R., but all subsequent *Plegadis* were left at the genus level, including two November reports that provided the second and third latest dates on record for any ibis in the state.

The Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory raptor count tallied almost 77,000 birds, an average number for the twenty-five year period with full-time coverage. Enjoying good seasons were Broad-winged, Red-tailed, and Sharp-shinned hawks, both eagles, Peregrine Falcons, and Merlins. A juvenile Mississippi Kite spotted over Hawk Ridge marked the sixth consecutive year this species has been sighted in the state; during five of those years, one has been seen during fall at the Ridge.

Snowy Owls arrived early, with the most widespread incursion since 2011, but there were few reports of Northern Hawk and Great Gray owls, and no reports of Boreals. A Northern Saw-whet Owl found in Washington County in late August may well have been a bird that spent the summer there.

The Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census team was busy through much of the season, as evidenced by record seasonal high counts for many species, including Common Nighthawk, Blue Jay, Cedar Waxwing, most of the swallows, fifteen species of warblers, six species of sparrows, and Common Redpoll. But perhaps the most amazing new record was the seasonal total of almost a thousand Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers — more than ten times the prior seasonal record tally.

A Gyrfalcon made a providential stop on a telephone pole where it was photographed for a first record for Kandiyohi County; alas, it disappeared shortly afterwards and was not refound. A Prairie Falcon in Traverse made it a clean sweep for the falcons this season.

The first Vermilion Flycatcher was found in the state in 1977. Two more, both immature females, were seen in the 1990s. This season that total of three birds doubled as three more were found, a juvenile or female at the Lutsen Resort, and two males at a ranch in Becker County where at least one bird was present for 25 days, affording many an opportunity to add this colorful bird to their state lists.

Only about one in ten Minnesota White-

eyed Vireos are found in the fall, as the bird is seen much more commonly in the spring and summer. So it is particularly noteworthy that three different individuals were discovered this season, one at Grand Marais and two at different locations in Hennepin County.

A Clark's Nutcracker was faithful to a neighborhood in Winona County where it took up residence for a month beginning in early September. Tufted Titmice were reported more widely than in any season since at least the 1960s. Why did their range retreat back then? Why is it expanding now?

The North Shore continues to be the best region to find Mountain Bluebirds in the fall. Of the 19 autumn reports during the last ten years, 14 have been near the shores of Lake Superior, including the only report for the current season. A total of seven Townsend's Solitaires was typical for this season, while the seven Varied Thrushes was an above-average number.

A Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch was photographed at Iona's Beach S.N.A. in Lake County, the fifth record of this species in the last decade. Pine Grosbeaks and both crossbills made their best fall showing since 2012. During a five-day period in November the Hawk Ridge / Lester River Census tallied an amazing 43,705 Common Redpolls — two-thirds of their record season tally of 67,452.

Tarrying much later than its normal late-September departure, a Northern Parula was record-late in Anoka County, where it lingered into the winter season. A Yellow-breasted Chat in Fargo, North Dakota, was seen making several sallies across the Red River into Moorhead, Minnesota.

Field Sparrows also appear to be expanding northward; notable records for this season came from Beltrami and Koochiching. Nelson's Sparrows provided first records for Sibley and Scott counties. Looking different this year was the Golden-crowned Sparrow that returned to a residence in Duluth, no longer in its juvenal plumage. Three Summer Tanagers were the most fall reports since 2011; equally impressive was the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census tally of 21 Scarlet Tanagers on 1 September — three times the next highest fall daily total statewide.

Weather: While average monthly temperatures were near historical averages across

the state in August, for the rest of the season they were well above-average – six degrees (F) above normal in September, two to four degrees higher in October, and five to seven degrees higher than the norms in November. Monthly precipitation totals were highly variable from August through October, but notably above-average in November when there were four significant precipitation events. Heavy rains fell on 11 November in the southern half of the state and on 16–19 November across much of the state. This latter storm also brought wind gusts of up to 40 MPH. It was followed almost immediately by another storm with heavy snows on 19–20 November along the southern edge of the state and a final snowstorm that began 30 November brought snow statewide, but especially to the southwest where maximum totals were 12 inches.

Insufficiently Documented Records of Regular Species: Tundra Swan 8/13 Todd (early date); Sabine's Gull 11/20 Lyon (record late by three weeks); Eastern Wood-Pewee 10/22 Fillmore (very late migrant); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 8/30 Koochiching, Lake of the Woods (out of range); Western Meadowlark 11/26 Winona (late date, why not an Eastern?).

Acknowledgments: We thank Jeanie Jop-

pru and Jim Lind for compiling and providing transcripts of Minnesota's two weekly birding reports. Special thanks to Dave Cahlander for building and maintaining the seasonal reports submission and production web pages 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 December 2015). Bruce Fall has been extremely helpful by providing additional information from eBird data. Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data over the 25-year period 1990 through 2014. Our appreciation goes out to all our contributors, especially 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*) — [2 North, 18 South] All north 10/18 Grant (3, North Ottawa Impoundment) DWK, m.ob., 11/4 Traverse DLP. One summered in Scott and was reported 8/1–2 Scott (New Prague W.T.P.) BAb, WPe. Early south (median 10/1) 9/24 Sherburne (2, Sherburne N.W.R.) JGB, 9/29 Lyon (2, Cottonwood) GWe. High count 11/8 Murray (300, flying overhead) GWe. Late south 11/25 Lyon (25, Cottonwood) GWe, 11/27 Hennepin (12) NWA, 11/29 McLeod BHa (median 12/7), but also see winter report.
- Snow Goose** (*Chen caerulescens*) — [13 North, 17 South] Early north (median 9/11) 9/3 Pennington KMS, SSc, 9/10 St. Louis JPR, 9/11 Otter Tail JSw. Early south (median 9/13) 9/19 McLeod DWK, 9/26 Hennepin BrW, 9/29 Lyon GWe. High counts 11/8 Murray (300) GWe, 11/20 Cottonwood (200, Wolf Lake W.P.A.) KEm. Late north 11/13–14 Aitkin PSm, KMo, 11/14 St. Louis (9) JLK, 11/15 Wadena (6) PJB (median 11/30). Late south 11/21 Olmsted JmP, 11/22–25 Lyon GWe, 11/30 Winona NAN (median 12/16).
- Ross's Goose** (*Chen rossii*) — [2 North, 5 South] All north (median 9/24) 9/11–10/28 St. Louis (max. 3, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, m.ob., 9/28 Mille Lacs ToL. All south (median 10/10) 10/4 Sherburne PMJ, 10/28 Lac qui Parle DLP, 11/7 Hennepin (2) NRa, Stevens DLP, 11/14–11/21 Sherburne (Keller Lake) PLJ, m.ob., 11/24 Big Stone (reported as a dark morph without details, East Toqua Lake) DLP.
- Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [15 North, 27 South] Early north (median 9/13) 9/10–9/15 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KGa, m.ob. Early south (median 9/17) 9/19 Hennepin DaG, 9/26 Houston (6, Brownsville Overlook) DSt, 10/11 McLeod (5, Otter Lake) PRH, High counts 11/25 Lyon (400, total in the Cottonwood area) GWe, 11/14 Brown (110, Sleepy Eye) BTS. Late north 11/15 Wadena (3) PJB, 11/20 Mille Lacs (21, Lake Ogechie) RBJ, 11/21 Mille Lacs (6, Milaca W.T.P.) JCC, Wadena PJB (median 12/17). See winter report for late south 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, 53 South] Reported from all counties in the state and throughout the season. High count 11/25 Lyon (6,000 in the Cottonwood area) GWe.
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [3 South] Three south reports of probable wild birds: 11/27 Kandiyohi (1, Green Lake, with 6 Trumpeter Swans) ALu; 11/27–29+ Wabasha (5, Minneiska, 2 immatures and 3 adults) BAF, m.ob.; 11/29+ Winona (one of the Minnie-ska group wandered into Winona County) DWK.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [31 North, 42 South] Reported in all regions of the state throughout the season. High counts 10/29 Mille Lacs (96, Lake Ogechie) RBJ, 11/21 Wright (80, Maple Lake) RCL.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [11 North, 22 South] Early north (median 9/30) 10/9–11 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/16 Norman KRE, m.ob., Otter Tail, AAz. Early south (median 10/12) 10/16 Houston (20, Brownsville Overlook) DSt, 10/22 Hennepin VWe, Sherburne JGB. High count 11/27 Houston (3,500, Brownsville Overlook) BAF. Late north 11/20 St. Louis JWL, KJB, 11/20–22 Polk (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL, SAu, 11/22 Todd CSh, 11/30 Hubbard REn, m.ob. (median 11/28), but also see winter report.
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [32 North, 52 South] Reported throughout the state and season. High count 10/14 Hennepin (375, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) KvM. Late north 11/10 Becker ToR, 11/21 Wadena RAE, HHD, 11/24 Douglas BEc (median 12/15).
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) — [15 North, 36 South] High count 11/1 Hennepin (1,100, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ. Late north 11/11 Becker RZi, (2, Detroit Lakes) KDS, 11/18 Polk (30, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL, St. Louis (Duluth) JLK (median 11/18).
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [14 North, 30 South] High count 10/10, 10/16 Houston (500, Brownsville Overlook) DSt. Late north 10/26 St. Louis (3, Park Point) JLK, m.ob., 10/29 Mille Lacs (4, Lake Ogechie) RBJ, 11/6 Becker ANy, DBz (median 11/23). Late south 11/29 Carver WCM, Houston (35) RAN, Wabasha DWK (median 12/17), but also see winter report.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [8

- North, 12 South] Reported north from Aitkin, Becker, Cook, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis, Wadena. Early south (median 8/16) 8/26 Hennepin (3) DJa, 9/28 Ramsey (2) JFR. High counts 11/27 Houston (19) PEJ, 9/6 Lake (18) DaE, 11/23 St. Louis (18) JLK.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 51 South] Reported throughout the state. High counts 11/20 Mille Lacs (4,100, Lake Ogechie) RBJ, 11/27 Houston (500, Brownsville Overlook) BAF.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [31 North, 50 South] Reported throughout the state and season. High count 9/5 Yellow Medicine (1,000, estimate at Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 10/22 Mille Lacs (3) CRM, GLa, 11/9 Becker TCL, **11/21** Todd JeM, SwM (median 10/26). Late south 11/11 Houston DFN, PEJ, Lyon GWe, 11/21–22 KeM, 11/23 Cottonwood KEm (median 11/9).
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*) — [24 North, 43 South] High count 10/18 Lac qui Parle (350) WCM. Late north 11/10 Becker ToR, 11/18 Polk (200, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL, 11/24 Douglas (7) BEc (median 11/13). See winter report for late south migrants.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [16 North, 28 South] High counts 11/15 Wabasha (200, Minneiska) DSt, 11/22 Houston (200, Brownsville Overlook) DSt. Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [26 North, 38 South] High counts 10/21–27 Hennepin (400, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BDe, BAF. Late north 11/16 Becker RZi, 11/19 St. Louis KJB (median 11/17). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [18 North, 32 South] High counts 11/27 Houston (48,000, Pool #8) PEJ, 11/28 Houston (40,000, Upper Mississippi River N.W.R.) BAF. Late north 11/21 Mille Lacs JCC, 11/23 Beltrami DPJ, 11/24 Traverse DLP (median 12/1).
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [26 North, 37 South] High counts 10/18 Grant (200, Hodgson Lake) CNn, 10/30 Todd (200) ToR. Late north 11/17–18 St. Louis JLK, 11/18 Polk DaL, 11/23 Beltrami DPJ (median 12/10). Please see winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [30 North, 37 South] High counts 11/27 Houston (25,000, Pool #8) PEJ, 11/15–28 Wabasha (15,000, Pool #5) PEJ. Late north 11/23 Beltrami DPJ, 11/24 Traverse DLP, 11/25 Douglas BEc (median 12/5). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [7 North, 8 South] Early north (median 9/27) 8/27 Koochiching CRM, 9/2 St. Louis ALx, 9/7 Itasca CRM. All south 10/11 Big Stone DLP, 10/17 Anoka IBA, 10/23 Goodhue CRM, KMS, SSc (median 10/17). High count 9/24 St. Louis (45, Park Point) BAF. Late north 11/10–23 St. Louis (Park Point) BDo, JLK, (median 12/4). Please see winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [24 North, 30 South] High count 11/18 Polk (250, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL. Late north 11/18 Polk DaL, 11/21 Hubbard, Wadena RAE, HHD, 11/29 Beltrami SC (median 12/18); but also see winter report.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus bistrionicus*) — [2 North] All north reports: 10/16 Cook (Tofte) ph. JDB; 10/30–11/2 St. Louis (female, Superior Entry) KCR, m.ob.; 11/30 St. Louis (male, Park Point) ph. JPR.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [3 North, 4 South] Early north (median 9/30) 10/1 St. Louis DFe, 10/2–4 St. Louis (2, Stoney Point) DFe, m.ob., 10/9 Lake (2, Flood Bay State Wayside) JLK. Seen in Cook, Lake and St. Louis counties the remainder of the season. All south: 10/26 Hennepin (3, Lake Harriet) CMB, m.ob., 10/29–11/12 Dakota (Orchard Lake) ADS, m.ob., 10/31–11/7 Rice (Cody Lake) DFe, m.ob., 11/2 Olmsted (Silver Creek Reservoir) JWH.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [3 North, 3 South] Early north (median 10/7) 10/8–20 St. Louis (Park Point) JPR, m.ob., 10/19 Lake (2, Two Harbors) JWl. All south 10/29–30 Benton (Little Rock Lake) HHD, HCT, 11/15 Rice (Wells Lake) TFB, 11/21 Faribault (Wells W.T.P.) CLN. High count 11/1 Cook (9, Paradise Beach) WCM.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — [4

- North] Early north (median 10/4) 10/6–18 St. Louis (max. 2, Lake Superior) JPR, m.ob., 10/24 Cook (2, Taconite Harbor) BWF. High count 11/8 Cook (9, Paradise Beach) SBM, Late north 11/14 Cook ClN, JMr, 11/15–17 Cass (Lake Winnibigoshish) DAY, m.ob., (median 11/19).
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [5 North, 2 South] Early north (median 10/17) 10/24 St. Louis (Park Point) JPR, 10/27 Cook ClN, m.ob., 10/31 Lake DAB, m.ob. Two north reports away from Lake Superior: 11/5–16 Becker (male, slough near Stakke Lake) HeH, ShG, m.ob., 11/15–17 Cass (Lake Winnibigoshish) DAY, m.ob. Two south reports: 11/14 Scott (Fisher Lake) JuW; 11/18 Dakota (female, Orchard Lake) ADS. High count 11/1 Cook (59 near Paradise beach) WCM.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [28 North, 32 South] Early south (median 10/1) 8/6 Benton (Foley W.T.P.) ELC, 8/28 Lac qui Parle DLP, 10/3 Brown (2, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, Carver DWK. High counts 10/17 Otter Tail (295) DWK, HCT, 11/28 Houston (200, Upper Mississippi River N.W.R.) BAF.
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [23 North, 30 South] Early south (median 10/16) 10/16–19 Hennepin CMB, WHO, 10/17–18 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) JFR, MRe, WRe, 10/19 Benton HHD. High counts 11/9 Ramsey (475, Vadnais Lake) JFR, 11/22 Stearns (400, Pearl Lake) MJB, 11/27 Hennepin (400, Clifton French R.P.) WFe.
- Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*) — No reports.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [31 North, 41 South] Reported statewide. High counts 11/9 Douglas (200, Stockhaven Lake) MRo, 10/23 Hennepin (135) CMB. Also see winter report.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [17 North, 22 South] Early south (median 10/24) 8/6 Anoka (female, Centerville Lake) ELC, 9/2 Dakota (2) EMH, 10/6 Benton HHD. High count 11/28 Wabasha (4,000, Lake Pepin) BAF.
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [8 North, 9 South] Reports from the Northeast region spanned the season. Late north away from Lake Superior 10/30 Beltrami CRM, RAE, Itasca CRM, 11/18 Polk (2, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL. All south 11/6–11 Sherburne PLJ, PMJ, 11/11 Houston (3) DFN, PEJ, 11/13 Isanti DFe, m.ob., 11/16 Kandiyohi (12, Green Lake) JWD, 11/22 Blue Earth ChH, Carver (Lake Waconia) WCM, Faribault HHD, RAE, 11/23 Hennepin CMB, 11/28 Wabasha (3, Lake Pepin) BAF. Also see winter report.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [15 North, 39 South] High counts 10/7 Freeborn (500, Myre-Big Island S.P.) PSu, 10/31 Benton (500, Watab Twp.) ToL. Late north 11/7 Becker SAu, 11/12 Grant (Hodgson Lake) CNn, 11/20 Becker (Dunton Locks C.P.) MO (median 11/12). Please see winter report for late south migrants.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [1 North, 8 South] One north report 11/28 Polk (6) SAu. All south reports from Freeborn, Lyon, Mower, Olmsted, Pipestone, Redwood, Watonwan, Yellow Medicine. High counts 9/27, 10/11 Yellow Medicine (12) GWe, 9/9 Freeborn (10) TAT.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [16 North, 49 South] Reported as far north as Polk in the Northwest, Itasca in the North-central, and Pine in the East-central.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [21 North, 4 South] All south reports 9/7 Isanti DLC, 9/9–11/24 Sherburne ABm, m.ob., 9/27 Chisago REH, 10/1 Wabasha JHn. All north reports east of a line from Roseau to Otter Tail to Chisago.
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falciipennis canadensis*) — [7 North] Reports more widespread than usual, found in Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Koochiching, Itasca, St. Louis, Lake, Cook. High counts 10/9 Lake of the Woods (9, Beltrami Island S.F.) MHK, 8/24 Cook (6, Sawbill Trail) RMa.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [5 North] Reported from Aitkin, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Polk, St. Louis. High counts 10/17 Polk (18, Belgium Twp.) SAU, 8/29 Kittson (10, Skull Lake W.M.A.) LAi.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [4 North] Found in the northwestern counties of Becker, Clay (10/16 high count of 29, Felton Prairie KRE, m.ob.), Marshall, and Wilkin.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [25



Black-billed Cuckoo, 11 August 2015, Waseca County. Photo by Paul Suchanek.

North, 46 South] Reported as far north as Kittson, Beltrami, St. Louis, Lake. High count 11/28 Hennepin (45, Brooklyn Park) TLo.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [31 North, 50 South] High count 8/22 Grant (200, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToL. Late north 11/14 Itasca SC, (3) EEO, 11/21 Hubbard (2) RAE, HHD, 11/26–28 St. Louis (3) BeA (median 11/30). See winter report for another late north migrant and many individuals found south.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [13 North, 25 South] Early south (median 9/5) 9/9–10 Brown (2, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, MiO, 9/16 Pope DPG, 9/18 Hennepin CMB. High counts 11/7 Mille Lacs (21, Mille Lacs Lake, circle route survey of the entire lake) WCM, 10/24 St. Louis (19, Park Point) JLK. Late north 11/18 Polk (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL, 11/18–25 St. Louis ABi, OGo, JLK (median 11/22). Late south 11/28 Houston (Upper Mississippi River N.W.R.) BAF, 11/24–30 Hennepin CMB, m.ob. (median 11/29), but also see winter report.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [17 North, 11 South] High count 8/29 St. Louis (7, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 11/14 Itasca SC, EEO, 11/17 Cass SC, 11/29 Beltrami SC (median 12/2). Late south 10/26 Rice TFB, Sherburne PLJ, 11/1 Dakota JLO, Steele DFN, 11/12–16 Kandiyohi (Green Lake) JWd (median 11/14).

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [10 North, 6 South] High counts 8/1 Polk (200, East Grand Forks W.T.P., est. 100 nests) SAu. First county record 8/7 **Wadena** (Blueberry Lake) RBJ. Late north 9/25 Clearwater (Clearbrook W.T.P.) RAE, 10/9 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) HHD, JPR, **11/18** Polk (2, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL (median 10/10). Late south 9/28 Faribault (2, Wells W.T.P.) DWK, 10/5 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 11/14 Redwood (Lamberton W.T.P.) BTS (median 10/30).

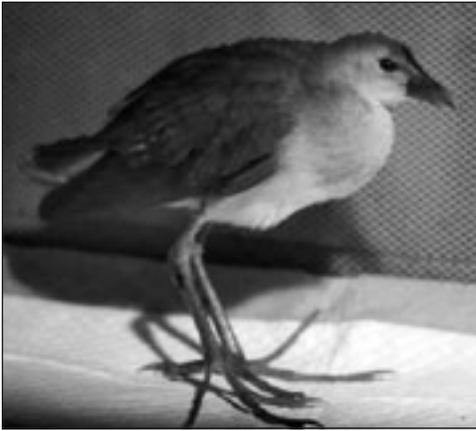
Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [9 North, 8 South] High count 8/22 Grant (100, North Ottawa Impoundment) CNn, ToL. Late north 10/17 Otter Tail (2) CNn, 11/2 Cook ABL, 11/18 Polk (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL (median 11/7). Late south 10/31 Big Stone DLP, 11/1 Stevens (Gorder Lake) RBW, 11/22 Blue Earth (2, Loon Lake) ChH (median 11/18).

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — No reports.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county. High counts 9/10 Ramsey (300, Swede Hollow Park) VWe, 11/3 St. Louis (200, Duluth, Port Terminal) ALx.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [11 North, 44 South] Reported from most counties southwest of a line from Polk to Winona and only a few counties northeast of it. This boundary has shifted northeast in recent years as the range of this species continues to expand. High counts 11/25 Lyon (**100**, Cottonwood Elevator) GWe, 11/21 Faribault (26, residential yard) ClN, 11/29 Brown (25, Sleepy Eye) BTS.

COMMON GROUND-DOVE (*Columbina passerina*) — [1 North] The fourth record for the Northeast — and fifth for the state — was discovered in St. Louis at Sax-Zim Bog 10/13 †JPH. All five records of this spe-



Purple Gallinule, 23 October 2015, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Christa Feely.

cies have been in mid-October, 10/13–20.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High counts 9/19 Yellow Medicine (**300**, Echo W.T.P.) GWe, 8/19 Dakota (250, estimated, along Hwy 3 north of Farmington) ADS.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [1 North, 9 South] No counts higher than 2. Only north report 8/5 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R.) CsB. Late south 9/3 Wright KMS, SSc, 9/5 Anoka TSI, MkK, 9/12 Hennepin DBz.

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [5 North, 17 South] Late north 8/19 Roseau DFe, 9/22 St. Louis (Park Point, near airport) PAs, 9/29 St. Louis (juvenile, H.R.N.R.) FJN, m.ob. Late south 9/7 Winona MYo, SYo, 9/8 Hennepin GrS, 9/10 Sherburne JGb (median 9/16).

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) — [28 North, 36 South] High counts 9/1 St. Louis (**28,054**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/29 St. Louis (13,723, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/29 Lake (9,490, east of Two Harbors; counted with a handheld clicker for the first two hours and then by 5s) JWJL. Late north 9/21 Polk SAu, St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) JSE, 9/22 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, m.ob. (median 9/28). Late south 10/4 Carver WCM, 10/6 Hennepin GrS, Lyon JtH, GWe (median 10/9).

Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [3 North] All north 8/8 St. Louis (Ban Lake) ASi, 8/29 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R.) JSE, 9/12 Pine (St. Croix S.P.) JyS, 9/12, 9/16, 9/26 St. Louis SLF. No south reports.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [21 North, 42 South] High count 8/28 Sherburne (**2,250**, Handke Center, counted by 10s) ToL. Late north 9/7 Roseau LS, 9/9 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, m.ob., 9/14 Otter Tail (50, Fergus Falls) CNn (median 9/14). Late south 9/29 Lyon (7) GWe, 10/2 Hennepin (3) TLo, 10/3 Ramsey VWe (median 10/5).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilobus colubris*) — [29 North, 45 South] High counts 9/10 Washington (**35**, Cottage Grove Ravine R.P.) RBd, 9/10 Hennepin (28) CMB, 9/1 St. Louis (26, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 9/29 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) JeR, 10/2–5 Morrison MEM, KEM (median 9/25). Late south 10/7 Blue Earth ChH, Dakota DVe, Hennepin TAT, 10/8 Blue Earth B.H.W., Scott GLa (median 10/18).

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

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) — [7 North, 18 South] High count 9/17 Freeborn (6: 4 adults, 2 juveniles; Two Island W.P.A.) KEM. Late north 9/14 Crow Wing EGa, 10/3 St. Louis KRE, m.ob. Late south 10/3 Redwood RAE, Wabasha MJB, 10/4 Scott BAB, 10/6 Lyon JtH, GWe (median 10/4).

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) — [20 North, 34 South] High count 9/6 Yellow Medicine (10, Spellman Lake W.P.A.) GWe. Late north 9/22 Crow Wing EGa, 9/25 Cass SC, 10/2 St. Louis CLN (median 9/30). Late south 10/5 Dakota GHo, 10/8 Scott MJM, 11/15 Scott BAB, but also see winter report (median 10/14).

PURPLE GALLINULE (*Porphyrio martinicus*) — [1 North] A juvenile (ph. CFe, ph. LME) flew into a window of a commercial building on Waseca Street in Duluth, St. Louis County on 10/23. It was taken to the Wildwoods rehabilitation facility in Duluth, from where it was eventually transported to Florida for release. This was the fourth state record of this species, and first since 1970.

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) — [4 South] All south 8/8 Wright (Albion



Black-bellied Plover, 8 August 2015, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Tony Mitchell.



Buff-breasted Sandpiper, 17 August 2015, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Larry and Jan Kraemer.

W.M.A.) MJB, 8/9 Houston (2, La Crescent) ToL, 9/25, 10/1 Nicollet (Swan Lake W.M.A., adult) MiO, 10/24 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A., Pool 5) REH.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [31 North, 48 South] High count 10/16–20 Meeker (18,000 tallied on 10/19, Lake Washington) RMa. Observed north and south throughout the season.

Sandhill Crane (*Antigone canadensis*) — [28 North, 34 South] Unusual report 9/13 **Rock** (4, Schoeman Park) MFu. High count 10/25 Sherburne (7,000 at Sherburne N.W.R.) *vide* BAB. Late north 11/14 Pine (18) SBE, 11/21 Mille Lacs (6) JCC, 11/25 Marshall (5,000, just west of Agassiz N.W.R.) CSt (median 11/9). See winter report for late south migrants.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [2 North, 4 South] All north 8/22 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) RAE, ToL, CNn, BAb, 9/28 St. Louis (Superior Entry) JPR. All south 8/3–11 Big Stone (max. 8, season's high count, on 8/3) DLP, 8/10 Ramsey (AHATS observation deck) ELC, m.ob., 9/20 Brown (4, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, MiO, 10/24 Yellow Medicine (2, Miedd Lake) GWe.

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [10 North, 11 South] Early north (median 8/9) 8/7–11 St. Louis (2, Park Point) AaS,

AM, JLK, m.ob., 8/10 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) GHo, KDS. Early south (median 8/7) 8/5 Lac qui Parle DFe, 8/8 Lac qui Parle (2) DLP, 8/19 Chisago (2) ELC. High counts 10/13 Lac qui Parle (37, Big Stone NWR) DLP, 8/22 Grant (9, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToL. After early October, only north reports were 10/18–20 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) DWK, HCT, RZi, JCC, 10/14 Marshall SAu, and frequent sightings from Duluth, where last found 11/2 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) ALx. Late south 10/31 Big Stone DLP, 11/1 Dakota MJB, RAE (median 11/5).

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [12 North, 14 South] Early north (median 8/16) 8/7 St. Louis BTS, 8/16 Grant RAE. Early south (median 8/3) 8/16 Ramsey JFR, REH, Yellow Medicine (3) GWe, 8/17 Brown BTS. High count 10/23 Dakota and Goodhue (104, Lake Byllesby, counted individually) BAF, GHo. Late north 10/20 Grant (8) RAE, HHD, 10/24 Marshall (2) SAu, St. Louis SiP, 10/24–25 Lake (Illgen City) JWJ (median 10/27). Late south 11/4 Goodhue (Lake Byllesby) RBW, 11/15 Stearns PCC, RPR (median 11/7).

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [16 North, 18 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. Late north 9/28 St. Louis JHh, IsH, EzH,

- 10/17 Otter Tail KRE, m.ob. (median 9/28). Late south 9/20 Lyon GWe, 9/22 Dakota (5) BAF, 10/17 Redwood (2) BTS (median 10/9).
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 North] Only report 8/29 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) ph. JLK.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [32 North, 53 South] High count 9/22 Freeborn (200, estimated count of a single flock) TAT. Late north 10/24 Kanabec DFe, 10/27 Otter Tail SRO, 11/6 Becker (12, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) ANy (median 10/25). See winter report for late south migrants.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [12 South] High counts 8/1–3 Redwood (max. 28, 210th and C.R. 6) BTS, DWK, 8/1 Renville (18, C.R.11 and 200th St.) JoS. Late south 8/8 Lac qui Parle DLP, Redwood (8) SOa, 8/9, 8/16 Stevens RAE, 8/30 Yellow Medicine DWK, HCT.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — No fall reports since 2008.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [2 North, 4 South] All north 8/16–29 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ALu, KRE, m.ob., including a peak count of 64 on 8/22 ToL, CNn. All south 9/6 Olmsted JPr, 10/17–19 Lac qui Parle DLP, 10/22–28 Dakota/Goodhue (Lake Byllesby) ALw, m.ob.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [2 North, 2 South] All north 8/1 Marshall (2, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) SAu, 8/8 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) ph. AM. All south 8/4–12 Renville (Bird Island W.T.P.) KDS, ph. GHO, m.ob., 11/8–11 Lac qui Parle (2, Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [3 North] See summer report for earliest south migrant. Only other south report 8/11 Meeker (Cosmos W.T.P.) KDS. All north 8/9–10 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) RAE, m.ob., 8/10 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK, 8/18 St. Louis (Park Point) JPR, 8/19 Pine (Pine City W.T.P.) ELC, 8/22 Grant BAb, 8/29 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK.
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — No reports.
- RUFF** (*Calidris pugnax*) — [1 South] The first fall report since 2003 was also a first county record: 8/8 **Renville** (Renville sugar beet ponds) ph. †MHe.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [18 North, 21 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/16 Polk (40, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) SAu, 8/16 Polk (20, Brandt-Angus Impoundment) SAu. Late north 9/13 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK, 9/17 Carlton JEB, 9/19 Marshall (4, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) SAu (median 9/19). Late south 9/22–23 Dakota (max. 3) BAF, KDS, 10/2–3 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, RAE, 11/8 Lac qui Parle DLP (median 10/15).
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [7 North, 9 South] See summer report for first early north migrant; subsequently reported 8/7 St. Louis (9, Park Point) JLK. Early south 8/20 Washington PNi, 8/30 Renville DWK, HCT. High count 9/27 St. Louis (60, Park Point) JeR, NKr. Late north 10/9 Cook ClN, and then only reported from St. Louis where last seen 10/29 St. Louis (Park Point) PNi, BMu. (median 10/7). Late south 10/18 Lyon (4, Sham Lake) GWe, 10/22–29 Dakota (4, Lake Byllesby) ALw, m.ob.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [4 North, 12 South] One north report in late July, then none until 9/17 Carlton JEB, 9/25 St. Louis (Park Point) m.ob. Early south (median 8/29) 8/2 Isanti MJB, 9/25 Redwood JEB. High count 10/23 Dakota (102, Lake Byllesby, counted individually) BAF. Late north 10/20 Grant (7) RAE, HHD, 10/26 St. Louis JLK. Late south 11/11 Lac qui Parle (30, Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP, 11/21 Lyon GWe (median 11/7).
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [12 North, 23 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/28 Grant (40, North Ottawa Impoundment) MO, 8/10 Yellow Medicine (15, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 9/8 St. Louis (2) JLK, 10/18 Grant DWK, HCT (median 10/2). Late south 11/2 Lac qui Parle DLP, 11/3 Dakota (2, Lake Byllesby R.P.) DVE, KDS (median 11/1).
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [25 North, 39 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/22 Grant (200, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToL, 8/11 Lac qui Parle (150, Walter Twp.) KDS. Late north 9/23 Clearwater RAE, 10/1 Becker RAE, 10/20 Wilkin HHD, RAE (median 10/11). Late south 10/25 Brown BTS, Carver (2) JCy (median 10/26).
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscica*)

collis) — [3 North, 12 South] Many more reports than usual. Early south 8/2 Mower †JPr, 9/16 Stearns DPG, 9/25 Sibley JEB, Stearns MJB. High count 10/17 Redwood (20) BTS. All north 8/27 Grant (6) ToR, 8/27–31 Lake (Castle Danger W.T.P.) KRE, AEg, 9/17 Carlton JEB, 10/18 Grant (5, North Ottawa Impoundment) DWK, RZi, HCT, JCC, 10/20 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) HHD, RAE. Late south 10/23 Carver JCy, 10/23–26 Dakota/Goodhue †BAF. m.ob., 11/3–4 Olmsted (2) JWH, DBz (median 10/2). Note: undocumented reports of fall migrant White-rumped prior to mid-August are not published.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Calidris subruficollis*) — [7 North, 12 South] Approximately 218 individuals reported. See summer report for first early north migrant; subsequently reported 8/4 Crow Wing PSP, JPR, EGa, Kanabec ELC. Earliest south migrants found in July. New county records: 8/3 **Pope** (NE corner of county roads 18 and 220 Ave.) RAE, 8/4 **Kanabec** (cattle pond on 200th Ave. east of Pheasant St.) ELC. High count 8/2 Yellow Medicine (82: 67 were north of 160th Ave at 520th St., at least 15 more were just north of here, west of 520th) DWK. Late north 9/21 St. Louis (2) JJK, KGa, ALx, 10/20 Grant HHD, RAE. Late south 8/25 Rice TFB, 8/29 Mower (3) JWH, 8/30 Renville (Renville sugar beet ponds) DWK, HCT, 9/19 Renville (Bird Island W.T.P.) JWD.

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) — [17 North, 32 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/11 Lac qui Parle (164, Walter Twp.) KDS, 8/10 Yellow Medicine (125, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 10/20 Grant HHD, RAE, Wilkin HHD, RAE, 10/31 Lake JWH (median 10/30). Late south 10/31 Yellow Medicine (2, Spellman Lake) GWe, 11/1 Dakota (Lake Byllesby R.P.) RPR, RAE, 11/10 Lac qui Parle DLP, 11/18–19 Goodhue (Lake Byllesby) BAF, (2) KDS (median 11/11).

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*) — [21 North, 29 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/22 Grant (60, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToL, 8/10 Yellow Medicine (50, Miedd Lake) GWe, 8/16 Polk (50,

Agassiz Valley Impoundment) SAu. Late north 9/19 Marshall (3) SAU, 9/28 Grant (2) DPG, 10/20 Wilkin HHD, RAE (median 9/23). Late south 10/18 Lac qui Parle WCM, Redwood RAE, 10/22–24 Dakota/Goodhue (Lake Byllesby) ALw, BAF, m.ob. (median 10/13).

Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [7 North, 8 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/4 Grant (5, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToL, 9/19 Scott (5) BAB. Late north 9/4 Lake of the Woods CRM, m.ob., 9/5 Roseau KRE, m.ob. Late south 8/15 Nicollet ChH, 9/19 Scott (5) BAB, 10/18 Big Stone DLP, 10/20 Lac qui Parle DLP.

Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [5 North, 13 South] Early north 8/21–29 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) KRE, m.ob., 9/3 Lake of the Woods CRM, m.ob. Early south (median 8/7) 8/23–25 Stevens KRE, m.ob., 9/16 Stearns (3) DPG, 9/21 Renville (Bird Island W.T.P.) HHD. High counts 9/24 Dakota (15) LEC, 10/17 Redwood (15) BTS. Late north 9/7 Koochiching HHD, Lake of the Woods KRE, m.ob., 10/1 Becker RAE. Late south 10/21–22 Dodge RBW, m.ob., 10/19–23 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, 10/27 Yellow Medicine (2, Spellman Lake) GWe (median 10/26).

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) — [24 North, 41 South] High counts 9/6 Roseau (60, Greenbush W.T.P.) KRE, LS, 10/24 Yellow Medicine (35, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 10/20 Wilkin HHD, RAE, 10/25 Beltrami DPJ, and one in Lake from mid-Oct through 11/3 Lake (Two Harbors) JWl, RDC (median 11/13). Late south 11/26 Wirona (3) BwR, 11/27 Hennepin (2, Coon Rapids Dam) NWa, 11/29 Hennepin (3, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BCM.

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) — [7 North, 10 South] Late north 10/26 Itasca SC, 11/7 Itasca MDe, 11/13 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB (median 10/31). Late south 11/5 Fillmore BNo, TaM, 11/6 Carver JCy, 11/13 Hennepin PEJ (median 11/4).

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) — [33 North, 48 South] High count 8/4 Lyon (23, Cottonwood W.T.P.) KDS. Late

- north 10/3 St. Louis KRE, m.ob., 10/22 Lake KRE, Todd JeM (median 10/15). Late south 10/14 Anoka DFe, 10/18 Big Stone DLP, 10/20 Dakota KDS (median 10/12).
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [22 North, 38 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/10 Yellow Medicine (10, Miedd Lake) GWe, 8/13 Carlton (9) CRM. Late north 9/22 Lake of the Woods MHK, St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/3 St. Louis KRE, m.ob., 10/6 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB (median 10/2). Late south 10/3 Goodhue MJB, 10/6 Benton HHD, 10/12 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ph. BCM, 10/13 Hennepin CMB (median 10/7).
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [25 North, 33 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/11 Lac qui Parle (28, Salt Lake) RCL, 10/4 Marshall (25, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) SAU. Late north 10/24 Marshall (4), Polk (4) SAU, 10/25 St. Louis (2) JPR, 10/26 St. Louis (Park Point) KnM, KGa, ALx, 11/6 Mahnommen JPr (median 11/3). Late south 11/7 Sibley DBz, 11/9 Hennepin PEJ, 11/11 Lac qui Parle DLP, Lyon (2) GWe (median 11/12).
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [2 North, 3 South] The second consecutive fall with above-average reports. All north 8/7 St. Louis (max. 8, Park Point) BTS, AaS, ph. AM, JLK. 8/9–16 Grant (max. 3, North Ottawa Impoundment) RAE, GHo, KDS, DgM. All south 8/13 Ramsey ELC, m.ob., 8/16 Stevens RAE, 8/23 Yellow Medicine DBi.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [28 North, 41 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/22 Grant (100, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToL, 8/10 Yellow Medicine (75, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 10/1 Becker RAE, 10/4 Polk (2) DdD, 10/17 Marshall (3) SAU, Polk (2) SAU (median 10/24). Late south 10/25 Olmsted JPr, 10/27 Yellow Medicine (3) GWe, 11/10 Lac qui Parle DLP (median 11/2).
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [6 North, 11 South] High count 8/10 Yellow Medicine (6, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 8/29 Polk SAU, 9/6 Roseau GLa. Late south 8/25 Lac qui Parle ELC, 9/1 Mower
- (2) CRM, 9/7 Brown WCM, MiO (median 9/19).
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [10 North, 14 South] Early north (median 8/2) 8/7 Norman RAE, HHD, 8/10 Grant KDS, Traverse DLP. Early south reports began with one in mid-July, then 8/1 Dakota ERT, Renville JWH, ChH. High counts 8/21 Pennington (25, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) JMJ, 8/22 Grant (19, North Ottawa Impoundment) CNn, 8/15 Polk (15, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAU. Late north 9/4 Lake of the Woods CRM, m.ob., 9/19 Polk (2) SAU (median 9/26). Late south 9/28 Faribault (2, Wells W.T.P.) DWK, 11/6 Lac qui Parle DLP (median 9/30).
- RED PHALAROPE** (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) — [1 South] Nineteenth state record (3 spring, 16 fall): **11/25–27 Faribault** (Wells W.T.P.) ph. WAF, ph. CLN, m.ob. This was the latest fall migrant on record, and only the second November report.
- Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — [1 North] All reports were from Superior Entry in St. Louis, except where noted: 9/7 (first-cycle) CLN, 9/9 St. Louis (second or third-cycle) JLK, 9/12 St. Louis (unaged) JPR, 9/20 St. Louis (unaged) JPR, ToL, 9/24 St. Louis (juvenile, Park Point) ALx, JeR, (third-cycle) RJ, PHS.
- Stercorarius jaeger** (*Stercorarius sp.*) — [1 North] All north 9/10 St. Louis HHD, 9/24 St. Louis (Park Point) BAF, (3 flying together at Superior Entry) RJ.
- Sabine's Gull** (*Xema sabini*) — [1 North] One north report 10/4 St. Louis (4, Park Point R.A.) †JPR.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [25 North, 34 South] Early south reports began in late July, then 8/9 Ramsey ELC, 8/11 Big Stone (4) GHo, KDS, Lyon (2) GWe. High counts 10/10 Jackson (300, Skunk Lake W.M.A.) SYo, MYo, 10/11 Cass (300, Walker W.T.P.) DAY. Late north 11/21–22 Hubbard RAE, HHD, (4, Kabekona Lake) REn (median 11/24). Late south 11/27 Scott BAb (median 11/23). Also see winter report for late migrants north and south.
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — [1 North] Only report was of a juvenile 9/5–9 **Roseau** (Warroad W.T.P.) ph. KRE, ph. CRM, †Bmu, m.ob.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) —

- [19 North, 48 South] High count 8/11 Lyon (3,500, Cottonwood Lake; est. number of birds on an acre of the lake multiplied by the 315 acres of the lake) GWe. Late north 11/5–6 Mahnomen JJS, JPr, 11/7 Becker JMJ, 11/9, 11/15, **11/18** Grant (20) CNn (median 10/30). Late south 11/22 Blue Earth ChH, 11/22–26 Faribault (max. 3, Wells W.T.P.) CRM, JWH, but also see winter report (median 11/10).
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [32 North, 51 South] Found statewide through the end of the season. High counts 11/13 Hennepin (5,000, Lake Harriet; nearly all adults, estimated by scope-field average counts multiplied by number of fields) BAF, 11/20 Hennepin (5,000, Lake Harriet; same estimation technique) BAF.
- CALIFORNIA GULL** (*Larus californicus*) — [1 North] First-cycle seen sporadically 9/24–10/30 St. Louis (chiefly seen at Superior Entry, Duluth) ph. KJB, ph. †PHS, ph. JLK. See the winter report for details of a return visit by this individual.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [17 North, 24 South] Reported north and south throughout the season. High counts 10/17 St. Louis (3,000, Superior Entry) KMS, RJ, 11/13 St. Louis (1,595, Superior Entry) JLK, JPR.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*) — [2 North, 2 South] Many reports from St. Louis and Hennepin, and single reports from Lake and Dakota. Early north (median 10/7) 9/27 St. Louis DBz, 10/1 St. Louis (2 first-cycles, Superior Entry) CLN, 10/2 St. Louis DFe, (second-cycle, Superior Entry) KRE, m.ob. Almost all south reports were from Minneapolis, where this species was first found (median 10/5) 10/21 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun, adult) DPa. High count 11/28 St. Louis (20, comprising two first-cycle, five second-cycle, four third-cycle, 9 adults) PHS.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [2 North, 1 South] Early north 11/1 Cook (adult, Grand Portage Marina) ph. KRE, 11/6+ St. Louis HHD, (second-cycle, Superior Entry) MLH, TPM, (3, season's high count, Duluth Harbor) TPM, (adult Park Point, Dune Bridge) JEd, DTr. Only south 11/29 Hennepin (adult, Lake Harriet) †CMB, DWK, †SBM, †GrS, †BAF.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [2 North, 1 South] All north 9/18 Lake (Knife River Marina) †JWL, PHS, 9/26 St. Louis (Park Point ball fields) ph. JLK, m.ob., 10/1 St. Louis (adult, Superior Entry) CLN, CLN. All south 11/6–8 Hennepin (adult, Lake Calhoun) †BAF, ph. †CMB, JmM, DPa, ph. JPR, 11/23–25 Hennepin (different adult, Lake Harriet) BAF.
- Glauco Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [4 North, 1 South] Early north **10/3** St. Louis (record early, first-cycle, Park Point R.A.) PHS, JPR, 10/17 St. Louis HHD, KMS, SSc, (first-cycle, Superior Entry) KMS, RJ, 10/23 Lake KRE, (Iona's Beach S.N.A.) JWL, 10/29 **Lake of the Woods** CRM, RAE. All south 11/24–29 Hennepin (adult, Lake Harriet) BAF, m.ob.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] One early north report 9/25 St. Louis (Superior Entry) JPR, HHD, then none until at least two showed up in Duluth: 11/21 St. Louis (Superior Entry) JPR, JLK, 11/22 St. Louis BMu, 11/24 St. Louis (adult, Canal Park) JLK, JPR, 11/28+ St. Louis (2, same adult, one first-cycle, Canal Park) ph. JWd, ToL, ph. JPR, ph. PHS.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [15 North, 22 South] High counts only in the 20s: 8/20 Washington (29, Mississippi River) PNi, 8/30 Hubbard (23, Akeley W.T.P.) MJB. Late north 9/6 Roseau KRE, m.ob., 9/11 Otter Tail (2) JSw, 9/14 Crow Wing EGA, St. Louis (2) KJB (median 9/28). Late south 9/26 Wright ELC, 9/28 Blue Earth (2) DWK, 10/4 Hennepin AWi (median 9/30).
- Black Tern** (*Chlidonias niger*) — [13 North, 30 South] High counts 8/5 Roseau (43, Roseau River W.M.A.) CsB, 8/10 Yellow Medicine (40, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 9/1 Becker (Hamden Slough N.W.R.) ASM, 9/3 Red Lake KMS, SSc, 9/12 Traverse DLP (median 9/7). Late south 9/7 Sherburne (2) ABm, JJB, Steele (7) PSU, 9/9 Freeborn (7) TAT, Mower CRM, 9/15 Freeborn (20, est.) TAT, 9/21 Freeborn RTP (median 9/16).
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [9 North, 3 South] After 9/7 only reported north from St. Louis, where last found 9/28 St. Louis (34, season high count, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/29 St. Louis (4, Park Point) JPR, 10/2 St. Louis (juvenile, Park Point) ALx (median 10/6). All south 8/19 Ramsey REH, 8/30 Scott (Spring Lake) JRg,

9/21 Freeborn RTP.

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) — [12 North, 23 South] High counts 8/9 Yellow Medicine (8, Spellman Lake) GWe, (8, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 10/12 St. Louis (6, Park Point) CIN, 10/15 Otter Tail (Glendalough S.P.) DFe (median 10/11). Late south 9/19 Carver WCM, 9/22 Steele (6, Rice Lake S.P.) PSu, (3, Oak Glen Lake) PSu, 10/1 Sherburne PLJ, PMJ, **10/25** Pope (Glenwood) HHD (median 10/1).

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] All reports from St. Louis, beginning 10/9 (Park Point) JPr, ph. JJS, high count of 5 on 10/24 (Park Point) JLK, and final report 10/30 (Superior Entry) JPR.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) — [2 North] All north: 10/14 St. Louis (adult, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) †KGA, †ALX, KJB; 10/15–17 Lake (max. 2, adult and juvenile, Knife River Marina) CIN, HHD, JLK, m.ob.; 10/24–11/25 St. Louis (Park Point and Canal Park) †PNI, †CIN, †JLK, †MLH, v.t. †JED, v.t. †DTr, m.ob., with a tally of **5** at Park Point R.A. on 11/10 JLK; also 11/1 St. Louis (adult, Stoney Point) †MLH.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) — [25 North, 25 South] High counts not representative as all missed the peak staging activity: 10/13 Hubbard (80, Kabekona Lake) REN, 8/12 Becker (51, Detroit Lakes) SIH. Late north 11/21 Hubbard RAE, HHD, Itasca SC, 11/23–25 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK, (median 11/25). Late south 11/27 Scott BAB, 11/28–30 Hennepin CMB, m.ob., Washington MJB, 11/29 Carver WCM, Ramsey BWF, JFR (median 12/2).

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [30 North, 49 South] High counts 9/29 Dakota (1,000, Black Dog Lake) BAF, 10/3 Lyon (350, Sham Lake) GWe. Late north 11/7 Lake JJS, GLA, 11/8 Pennington MJJ, 11/29 Beltrami SC, St. Louis (Canal Park) JLK (median 11/22).

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [23 North, 48 South] High counts 8/30 Carver (425, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 9/20 Hennepin (420, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BAF. Late north 10/11 Becker HeH, ShG, Lake NKr, JeR, 10/20 Grant HHD, RAE, 11/6 Douglas ANY (median 11/6).

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)

— [9 North, 9 South] High counts 8/6 Roseau (2) RAE, 8/14 Chisago (2) CRM, m.ob. Late north 8/29 Aitkin PEJ, 9/1 Becker (Hamden Slough N.W.R.) ASM, 9/5–6 LS, HHD, m.ob. Late south 9/30 Dodge (Iron Horse Prairie) JnS, 10/5 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) RMD, SC, 10/18 Steele JWH.

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [7 South] No north reports. Late south 9/6 Yellow Medicine (Spellman Lake W.P.A.) GWe, 9/7 Anoka (Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) BSp, 9/23 Cottonwood (Wolf Lake W.P.A.) KEm (median 9/2).

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) — [31 North, 53 South] High counts 8/9 Yellow Medicine (21, Miedd Lake) GWe, 8/11 Wright (17, Albion W.M.A.) MJB, Late north 10/24 Marshall (near Warren) SAu, 10/30 Grant (Hodgson Lake) CNn, 11/5 Becker SC (median 11/16).

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) — [12 North, 46 South] High counts 9/7 Hennepin (200, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JEc, 9/7 McLeod (137) ANY. Late north 10/24–11/6 Grant PEJ, HHD, ANY (median 10/16). Late south 11/5 Hennepin WPe, 11/10 McLeod RBW, PRH, 11/15 Houston PEJ, DJa (median 11/7).

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) — [2 North, 1 South] All reports: 8/11–22 Swift (Appleton Twp.) GHO, KDS, m.ob., 8/21–30 Grant (max. 2, North Ottawa Impoundment) KRE, m.ob., 8/21 Traverse (1, flew across road from Grant County) RZi.

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) — [1 North] One report: 8/14 **Mille Lacs** (flushed along the Rum River) †RBj.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [4 North, 1 South] All north reports 8/4 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) CNn, ToL, 8/7 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) AKI, 10/22 Lake (2, Two Harbors) JWL, m.ob., 11/3 Hubbard (2, Laporte) REN, 11/16 Morrison ph. EGA, m.ob. Only south report 10/29–11/1 Hennepin (Maple Grove) ph. SMC, m.ob.

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) — [20 North, 39 South] High counts 8/11 Wright (26, Albion W.M.A.) MJB, 8/3 Sherburne (15, Sherburne N.W.R.) CsB, AHw. Late north 9/26–10/1 Becker DFN, RAE, 10/1 Becker RAE, 10/10 Aitkin PSP (median 10/1). Late south 10/5 Scott SC, 10/7 Cottonwood (Wolf Lake W.P.A.) KEm, Fillmore



Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, 9 August 2015, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Jordan Rogers.

(Geothetic W.M.A.) LFr, Olmsted (South Landfill Reservoir) LAV, 10/14 Scott BHe (median 10/17).

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [3 North, 10 South] High count 10/6 Lincoln (7, Hawks Nest Lake) DLP. All north 8/22 Marshall DLP, 8/29 Grant (Mustinka River) DWK, 9/6 Roseau CRM, m.ob. Late south 10/18 Steele (juvenile, Straight River Marsh) JWH, 10/21–11/1 Hennepin (adult, Powderhorn Park) TAT, m.ob. (median 10/25).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [1 South] Only report: 8/9–14 Hennepin (adult at Shiloh Park, Plymouth) ph. LSe, m.ob.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chibi*) — [1 South] One report 8/3 Lac qui Parle (11, Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP.

Plegadis ibis (*Plegadis sp.*) — [4 South] All reports: 9/17 Lac Qui Parle (1, Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP, 9/19 Renville (1, Bird Island

W.T.P.) †DWK, 10/17 Lac Qui Parle (1, Big Stone N.W.R.) ph. DFa, and then late for either species were reports **11/6** Lac qui Parle (C.R. 7, S of 230th St) JSc, **11/6–11** Lac qui Parle (Haydenville W.M.A.) DLP, **11/14–15** Stearns (juvenile, Getchell Lake) DBz, †MJB, †PCC, m.ob.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) — [32 North, 53 South] High count 10/6 Blue Earth (361) B.H.W.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [25 North, 39 South] High count 9/13 St. Louis (21, H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 10/9 Cook (near Lutsen) ClN, 10/18 Morrison RPR, 10/23 Hubbard †JBr (median 10/28). Late south 10/24 Blue Earth B.H.W., 11/6 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, 11/9 Dakota (Spring Lake P.R.) VWe (median 11/5).

MISSISSIPPI KITE (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) — [1 North] One late record **9/21** St. Louis (juvenile, H.R.B.O.) ph. †KJB, JFr, ClN.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [33

- North, 50 South] Reported in all regions of the state. High counts 11/15 Blue Earth (310) B.H.W., 9/19 St. Louis (276, H.R.B.O.) KJB. Seasonal total of 5,671 at Hawk Ridge (KJB) was the second highest ever—this, despite the fact that by the end of the count on 11/30 conditions north were still relatively mild, and certainly many more eagles remained to the north.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [31 North, 48 South] High count 10/12 St. Louis (75, H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 11/22 St. Louis JWL, 11/23 Clay NaH, 11/29 Crow Wing PSP. See winter report for late south individuals.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [26 North, 42 South] Early south (median 8/13) 8/15 Anoka LBi, 8/25 Ramsey JFR, 8/26 Blue Earth (2) B.H.W., Rice JHL, DAT. High count 10/11 St. Louis (1,055, H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [27 North, 45 South] High count 9/7 St. Louis (10, H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 11/6 Becker PRH, 11/19–21 Crow Wing PSP, EGa, 11/29 Polk SAu (median 11/24), but also see winter report.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [7 North, 5 South] North reports from Carlton, Clay, Cook, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High count 10/16 St. Louis (15, H.R.B.O.) KJB. All south reports 10/8 Wright ToL, 11/6 Dakota DVe, 11/3 Rice TFB, 11/19 Washington EzH, 11/21, 11/27 Blue Earth B.H.W.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [7 North, 22 South] Late north 10/4 Morrison (4, Charles A. Lindbergh S.P.) DLP, m.ob., 10/13 Becker HeH, 10/16 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 10/31). Additional north reports from Carlton, Mille Lacs, Otter Tail, Todd.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [28 North, 38 South] High count 9/19 St. Louis (16,815, H.R.B.O.) KJB. Late north 10/17 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB (median 10/21). Late south 10/17 Mower ph. RNS, 10/19 Sherburne SMC, 11/20 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy (median 10/14).
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [4 North, 15 South] High count 9/28 Blue Earth (4) B.H.W. Late north 9/18 St. Louis (2, H.R.B.O.) KJB, 9/29 Todd CSh. Late south 10/5–12 Blue Earth (max. 2) B.H.W. (median 10/5).
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county in the state throughout the season. High counts were 888 on 10/17 and 824 on 10/16, both from St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [19 North, 24 South] Early north (median 9/20) 10/7–11 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/11 Crow Wing RZi. Early south (median 10/4) 9/20 Stearns STW, 10/7 Blue Earth B.H.W., 10/9 Sherburne JLB. High count 11/1 St. Louis (63, H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [6 North, 6 South] Early north (median 9/26) 9/29 Cook (Carlton Peak) JaJ, 10/1–6 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB. All south 9/22 Freeborn (adult) TAT, 10/29 Stearns (Pearl Lake) HHD, 11/6 Faribault WAF, 11/21 Le Sueur (adult) PRH, 11/23 Washington (adult) EzH, 11/24 Blue Earth (juvenile) B.H.W. High count 10/17 St. Louis (21, H.R.B.O.) KJB. Seasonal total of 209 at Hawk Ridge (KJB) was the third highest ever.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [8 South] No north and very few south reports, where all were within a rectangle bounded by Yellow Medicine, Sherburne, Dakota and Watonwan counties. No details on color morphs reported. Only 10/12 Hennepin (2) SAu noted more than one individual.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [21 North, 36 South] Found statewide.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [13 North, 6 South] Arrived north and south well prior to recent medians. Early north (median 11/4) 10/14 St. Louis AmJ, 10/18 Otter Tail *vide* JMJ, Roseau *vide* JMJ, 10/23 Polk EH. Early south (median 11/14) 10/18 Hennepin (MSP International Airport) SKE, 10/19 Anoka BAB, Hennepin (NE Minneapolis) KDR. Also reported south in Chisago, Lyon, McLeod, Mower.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [1 North] Only report 11/22 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) TCo.
- Barrred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [20 North, 27 South] Observed statewide as far southwest as Redwood.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [2 North] Few reports: 10/4 Lake (south of

- Finland) JMa, 11/22 St. Louis (St. Mary's Lake, south of Eveleth), 11/29 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) JMa.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [1 North, 5 South] Only north reports were from St. Louis where individuals were banded at H.R.N.R. on 10/14 ALx, KGa, and 10/25 ALx, AnF, and one was observed in Duluth 10/30 LME. All south 10/22 Ramsey ELC, 10/27 Hennepin CMB, 10/31 Washington ELC, 11/3 Ramsey AXH, 11/15 Anoka AXH, 11/20 Ramsey (4) AXH, 11/22 Faribault (Rice Lake W.M.A.) JWH, DBz.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [2 North, 5 South] Reported north from St. Louis 10/11 (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/13 (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/15 (1, Park Point R.A.) JLK, and from Wilkin 10/17 (Rothsay) KRE, m.ob., and 10/25 (2) RAE, HHD. All south 10/14 Meeker/Stearns MJB, 10/15 Pope (Stenerson Lake W.P.A.) KeM, 10/23 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) SiP, 11/23 Redwood (Lamberton W.M.A.) JnJ.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports for the fifth of the last six autumns.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [3 North, 7 South] Found north only in the Arrowhead (Cook, Lake, St. Louis counties) where last reported 11/15 Lake JWJ. One south report as early as 8/31 Washington (breeding/summering bird?) LMS, with subsequent migrants noted beginning 10/14 Hennepin DWK, 10/15 Washington (Carpenter N.C.) PNi.
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [30 North, 49 South] High counts 9/6 Hennepin (5, family group at Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo, 9/14 Roseau (5, Hayes Lake S.P.) KHR. Last reported north 11/29 Otter Tail TJa, but also see winter report.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [17 North, 31 South] High count 11/9 Anoka (19, including 5 juveniles, on Fish Lake Nature Trails at the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) LBi. Late north 9/24 Morrison DST, 10/7 Kanabec RAE, 11/7 Becker DAB (median 11/5).
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [26 North, 50 South] Reported from every region, though absent from the extreme northwest (Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Lake of the Woods). High counts 10/24 Steele (10, Rice Lake S.P.) KeA, 9/7 Lyon (9, Camden S.P.) GWe.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [30 North, 43 South] High counts 9/28 St. Louis (437, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/22 St. Louis (278, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/17 Lake JWJ, 11/9 Becker JCC, 11/13 Lake of the Woods GMM (median 10/25). Late south 11/7 Sherburne PLJ, 11/21 Ramsey ph. AXH, 11/27 Washington (Carpenter N.C.) C.N.C.; also see winter report (median 11/15).
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county but Rock. High counts 9/14 Cook (20, Cascade River S.P.) RVa, 9/7 Lyon (15, Camden S.P.) GWe,
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [32 North, 48 South] Reported statewide. High count 11/22 Ramsey (14, Crosby Farm R.P.) JEL.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — No reports.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Reported from Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis. High counts 9/7 Roseau (8) JMj, 9/5 Roseau (6, Thompson Forest Rd. burn) LS, KRE.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Only north reports after early November: 11/21 Otter Tail (Red-shafted) DST, 11/29 Polk (2) SAU. High counts 9/22 St. Louis (278, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/20 St. Louis (129, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [30 North, 44 South] Observed in all regions, as far southwest as Jackson, Murray.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [33 North, 50 South] Only north November reports 11/5 Morrison RBJ, 11/21 Polk SAU. High counts 9/8 St. Louis (159, H.R.B.O.) KJB, 9/22 St. Louis (84, H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [26 North, 34 South] The total of 34 south counties represents a new high for the fall season. High counts both from the H.R.B.O. in St. Louis (KJB), 41 on 9/8 and 22 on 9/28. Probable early south migrants 8/3 Pope HHD, RAE, 8/20 Sibley RAE (median 8/18). Seasonal total of 374 at Hawk Ridge (KJB) was the highest ever.

GYRFALCON (*Falco rusticolus*) — [1 South]

The only report was a first record for **Kandiyohi**, where a gray-morph individual perched on a power pole southeast of Willmar on 11/2 ph. †JWd.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [9 North, 21 South] Highest tallies all from H.R.B.O. in St. Louis (KJB): 17 on 9/27, 11 on 9/20. Continued into the winter season in St. Louis, latest north report elsewhere 11/3 Cook CIN. Seasonal total of 149 at Hawk Ridge (KJB) was the second highest ever.

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) — [1 North] One report 8/21 Traverse (Wheaton W.T.P.) KRE, m.ob.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) — [22 North, 31 South] High counts 8/21 Pine (4) RAE, 8/29 Steele (4) PSu. Late north 9/17 Otter Tail DBi, 9/19 St. Louis LME (median 9/8). Late south 9/19 Hennepin WFe, 9/24 Swift MJB, 9/27 Sibley MJB (median 9/21).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [28 North, 49 South] High count 9/7 Lyon (16, Camden S.P.) GWe. Late north 9/26 St. Louis HHD, JLK, **9/27** Otter Tail ADr (median 9/18). Late south 10/2 Steele ph. PSu, 10/7 Fillmore RTP (median 10/2).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [11 North, 13 South] Reported with details from 4 north, 5 south counties. Early south (median 8/14) 8/5, 8/8 Steele PSu. Late north 9/7 St. Louis JWl (median 9/3). Late south 8/30 Renville DWK, Steele PSu (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*) — [4 South] Reported with ID notes from 2 south counties, 8/2 Dakota DFN, 8/4 Rice TFB (median late 8/23).

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [10 North, 10 South] Reported with details from 3 north and 6 south counties. Late north 8/6 Roseau RAE, 8/7 Kittson HHD, RAE (median 8/24). Late south 9/1 Carver JCy, 9/4 Chisago MPi (median 8/26).

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) — [2 North, 11 South] Reported with details from

1 north and 3 south counties. Only north report 8/31 Grant CNl (median late 8/5). Late south 8/16 Carver MPI, 8/29 Kandiyohi JoS (median 8/31).

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) — [22 North, 34 South] Reported with details from 3 north and 9 south counties. Late north 9/27, 9/28 Lake JWl (median 9/18). Late south 9/21, 9/29 Steele PSu (median 9/25).

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [32 North, 51 South] High count 9/3 St. Louis (**30**, Park Point) JPR. Late north 10/5 Otter Tail DBi, Todd ALu, 10/9 Kanabec RZi (median 10/15). Late south 11/2 Hennepin RCo, Washington VWe, 11/9 Dakota VWe, 11/20 Dakota †CAs (median 11/1).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) — [2 North] An amazing three individuals found this season, representing the fourth and fifth state records, and providing the first reports of this species since 1994. A juvenile male or adult female was spotted at the Lutsen Resort 11/2 **Cook** †KRE, ph. DBM. Two individuals were present at a ranch near Richwood in **Becker**. One of these was first seen by the landowner on 10/21, and the last report was 11/16 RZi. Documentation: ph. DBM, ph. †SBM, ph. †PEB, ph. †DAB, †PBB, ph. DWK, ph. SAu, ph. JPR.

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [25 North, 41 South] High counts 8/3 Hennepin (**8**, Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) JWl, 8/2 Steele (6) PSu. Late north 9/22 St. Louis KJB, 9/27 Becker ADr, 9/30 St. Louis JMr (median 9/19). Late south 9/20 Hennepin CMB, JBs, Stearns STW, 9/24 Steele PSu (median 9/22).

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [7 North, 9 South] High count 8/10 Clay (4, Felton Prairie) DPJ. Late north 8/27 Todd CSh, 8/29 Traverse DWK, 9/5 Roseau LS, KRE (median 9/9). Late south 8/30 Swift DLP, 9/13 Yellow Medicine GWe (median 9/7).

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [32 North, 51 South] High counts 9/1 St. Louis (45, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/3 Sherburne (32, Sherburne N.W.R.) CsB, AHw. Late north 9/12 Mille Lacs SC, 9/14 Traverse RAE, 9/18 St. Louis EBe (median 9/16). Late south 9/19 Yellow



Clark's Nutcracker, 29 September 2015, Winona, Winona County. Photo by Jerry Pruett.

Medicine GWe, 9/20 Hennepin JLL, 9/23 Hennepin DNe (median 9/26).

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [2 South] High count 8/17 Dakota (5) TAT. Only reported from Dakota and Winona, with last reports in each county 8/30 Dakota JLO, 9/11 Winona WPS (median 8/29).

Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) — [19 North, 24 South] Early north (median 10/9) 10/10 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) KJB, 10/12 St. Louis EHe. Early south (median 10/14) 10/10 Ramsey JFR, 10/12 Hennepin JmM, 10/13 Benton HHD.

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*) — [1 North, 1 South] One north report **11/8** Cook (Artist's Point) represents the second county record, and the latest north date on record, SzS, ph. †KRE, ph. †DMK, ph. †PEB, ph. †SBM, m.ob. Two south individuals reported, both from Hennepin, 10/25 (Sunset Memorial Cemetery) ph. †TBo, and 11/1 – **11/11** (Wood Lake N.C.) †CMB, ph. †EEO, ph. †MwS, m.ob.

Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) — [1 South] Only one report, 9/7 Carver (Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) LM.

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [25 North, 39 South] Numerous high counts of 5 individuals. Late south 9/12 Douglas, Otter Tail and Todd MJB, 9/17 Crow

Wing PSP (median 9/19). Late south 9/27 Hennepin CMB, JBu, 10/1 Houston DPG, 10/6 Carver JCy (median 9/28).

Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) — [21 North, 38 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/20 Swift HHD, Waseca PSu, 8/22 Brown RBW. High count 9/28 St. Louis (5, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/4 Cook JaJ, 10/5 Lake JWJ, St. Louis KGa, ALx, KJB (median 10/9). Late south 10/13 Hennepin CMB, 10/18 Winona DSt (median 10/16).

Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [20 North, 32 South] Early south (median 8/17) 8/13 Renville MJB, 8/20 Chippewa KMS, SSc, Renville JJS, JPr. High count 9/1 St. Louis (4, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 9/27 St. Louis JLK, 9/28 St. Louis KJB (median 9/26). Late south 10/3 Stevens JfL, **10/20** Hennepin (Fort Snelling S.P.) †BAF (median 10/3).

Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) — [22 North, 41 South] High count 9/4 Waseca (7) PSu. Late north 9/8 Douglas RAE, Grant CNn, Todd RAE, 9/9 Otter Tail DBi (median 9/14). Late south 9/24 Hennepin DVe, 9/26 Washington JEC, 9/27 Washington GJa (median 9/25).

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [31 North, 48 South] A record high count was tallied 9/1 St. Louis (**478**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, ALx. Late north 9/26 Cook JaJ, 9/27 Polk SAu, 9/29 St. Louis ATh, JeR (median 10/7). Two late south reports well past the 10/6 median, 10/21 Dakota †ADS, and a record-late **11/14** Sherburne †JWH.

Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [12 North] All reports were northeast of a line from Roseau to Cass to Pine.

Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. Peak movement in mid-September at the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis, KJB), with counts of **10,812** on 9/10, 6,090 on 9/18, and 6,009 on 9/11.

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER (*Nucifraga columbiana*) — [1 South] First report since 2012, and a first county record for **Winona** (Cedar Valley Road), present from approximately 9/7 – 10/10, although first reported 9/22 by DBz. This cooperative bird was subsequently reported by many observers,

- with many outstanding photographs.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [20 North] Out of range reports 8/25 Traverse HCT, 10/16 Otter Tail ARo. High count 8/5 Roseau (53, Roseau River W.M.A.) CsB.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High count 10/20 St. Louis (3,832, H.R.B.O.) KJB.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [29 North, 7 South] Reported throughout usual range south to Sherburne, Anoka, Washington. Rare fall records: 10/1 Douglas ToR, 9/9 Stearns CCo. High counts 11/20 St. Louis (81, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/16 St. Louis (69, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [17 North, 42 South] High count 10/9 Lake (78, Two Harbors) JLK. Late north 11/14 Cook DMB, 11/15 St. Louis MLH, Wadena PJB.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [15 North, 33 South] High counts 8/14 Kandiyohi (5,500, Willmar) JWD, 9/5 Lyon (150, Lakeview Public Schools) GWe. Late north 9/1 Otter Tail (42) DBi, 9/2 Morrison GLa, BAB, 9/5 Roseau LS, GLa, KMS, SSs (median 9/7). Late south 9/19 Lyon (9) and Yellow Medicine (4) GWe, 9/20 Lyon (2) GWe (median 9/14).
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [27 North, 48 South] High counts 8/3 Lyon (4,000, Cottonwood Lake) GWe, 8/11 Lyon (1500) GWe, 10/4 Carver (700, New Germany area) WCM. Late north 9/17 Grant CNn, Lake JWL, 9/19 Lake JWL (median 10/3). Late south 10/11 Lyon GWe, Wright RBd, 10/13 Benton HHD, 10/27 Carver JCy (median 10/19).
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [7 North, 27 South] High counts 8/3 Lyon (20, Cottonwood Lake) GWe, 8/26 Dakota (20, 180th St. Marsh) DVe. Late north 8/24 St. Louis LME, 8/30 St. Louis AKO, 9/1 Otter Tail DBi (median 9/4). Late south 9/27 Redwood BTS, 10/3 Scott BAb, 10/4 Lyon GWe (median 9/30).
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [16 North, 35 South] High counts 8/15 Kandiyohi (400) JWD, 8/26 Carver (150) JCy. Late north 8/30 Clay MO, 9/1 Otter Tail DBi, 9/7 Kittson BAb, GLa (median 9/7). Late south 9/14 Stearns HHD, 9/19 Lyon (10) GWe, 9/28 Faribault (Wells W.T.P.) DWK (median 9/16).
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [17 North, 46 South] High counts 8/16 St. Louis (7,109, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/24 St. Louis (1,178, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north, both from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, St. Louis, KJB: 9/19 and 9/20 (median 9/15). Late south 9/24 Freeborn PSu, 9/25 McLeod CRM, 9/28 Faribault DWK (median 9/28).
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [33 North, 53 South] High counts 9/28 Faribault (450, Wells W.T.P.) DWK, 9/12 Cottonwood (323) CRM. Late north 10/5 Marshall (2) DdD, 10/11 Clay (4) PBB, 10/12 St. Louis CLN (median 10/7). Late south 10/18 Jackson JAn, 10/19 Lyon (7) GWe, 10/31 Brown (Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS (median 10/23).
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High counts 10/25 Hennepin (59, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo, 9/7 Lyon (50, Camden S.P.) GWe.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Reported from Beltrami, Cook, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis. Numerous high counts of 6 individuals.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [13 South] New county record: 10/9 **Sherburne** (Sherburne N.W.R. Wildlife Drive) ph. JLB. Other reports outside normal range 11/18–22 Brown BTS, m.ob., 9/17 Chisago JFR, CRM, 11/19–26 Scott ph. PWA, ph. MwS. Seen in 9 additional counties within normal range. High count 8/2 Olmsted (6) OWB.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [26 North, 28 South] High counts 8/10 St. Louis (26, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/24 Lake (19) SPn. Probable early south migrants 8/17 Dakota DVe, KDS, 8/18 Hennepin JcM.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties with the exception of Pipestone. High counts 9/7 Lyon (26, Camden S.P.) GWe, 8/26 Rice (18, Nerstrand Big Woods S.P.) BCL.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [24 North, 36 South] South reports continued



Townsend's Solitaire, 22 October 2015, Sand Dunes State Forest, Sherburne County. Photo by Jill Beim.

from the summer season in Ramsey. Probable early south migrants 8/27 Hennepin BeH, 8/30 Carver JCy, 9/3 Dakota DVe (median 9/2). High counts 9/28 St. Louis (21, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/19 St. Louis (16, Everett Woods) JLK, 9/29 Steele (13) PSu.

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [26 North, 51 South] High counts 8/27 Carver (13) JCy, 8/8 Steele (12) PSu, 8/18 Washington (12) CEH. Late north 10/1 St. Louis AM, 10/2 Lake KRE, DFe, RZi, ALo, 10/4 Polk SAu (median 10/6). Late south 10/13 Ramsey CHi, 10/14 Washington ERH, 10/16 Sherburne MSk (median 10/18).

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [14 North, 21 South] Early south arrivals well ahead of the 9/3 median, 8/21 Sherburne PLJ, 8/23 Hennepin RSA, 8/28 Hennepin MRe, WRe. High count 10/6 Hennepin (10) CMB. Late north 10/30 Crow Wing DAB, 10/31 St. Louis RDC (median 10/23). See winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [16 North, 42 South] High counts 8/5 Roseau (9) CsB, 8/1 Anoka (8) JCr. Late north 9/27 Becker ADr, 9/30 Lake JWl, 10/30 Aitkin PEJ (median 10/13). Late south 10/13 Ben-

ton HHD, Carver CRM, 10/15 Lyon MOs, 10/18 Steele JWH (median 10/12).

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [15 North, 40 South] High counts 10/11 Lyon (14, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe, 9/26 Yellow Medicine (12, Spellman Lake W.P.A.) JtH, GWe. Late north 10/1 Otter Tail SC, 10/2 St. Louis (Duluth, Indian Point) CIN (median 10/15). Late south 11/1 Nicollet JJS, JPr, Sibley RPR, 11/2 Hennepin SKS (median 10/29).

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — No reports.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliptila caerulea*) — [7 North, 41 South] High counts 8/14 Carver (10, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy, 8/17 Washington (9, Afton S.P.) PNi. Late north 8/29 Becker JSE, Pine SBE, 9/1 Morrison HHD, 9/6 Morrison JEm, KEm (median 9/8). Late south 9/22 Hennepin BrW, 9/23 Hennepin BAF, then a very late individual **11/8–11** Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) †DCZ, †CMB.

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [26 North, 38 South] Several very high counts from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis, KJB): **733** on 9/28, and **234** on 10/7. Birds continued into the winter season both north and south.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) — [29 North, 45 South] Several early south arrivals ahead of the 8/28 median, 8/17 Brown MiO, 8/21 Dakota JMs, 8/25 Dakota DJa. High counts 9/28 St. Louis (**125**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/30 St. Louis (47, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 11/4 St. Louis SMC, 11/6 St. Louis KJB (median 10/28). Late south 11/27 Hennepin JKa, 11/28 Anoka BRL (median 11/21).

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [32 North, 49 South] High counts 10/13 St. Louis (135, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/17 Washington (100, Afton S.P.) VDo, THl. Late north 11/3 Todd ALu, 11/8 Hubbard MAW, 11/11 St. Louis KJB (median 11/30).

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) — [1 North] Only report 10/24 St. Louis (female, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, m.ob.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [2 North, 4 South] Early north (median

- 10/11) 10/5 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/9 Lake (Two Harbors) JLK, 10/14 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. All south (median 10/21), very early arrival **9/12** Dakota (Resurrection Cemetery) TAT, 10/22–24 Sherburne (Sand Dunes S.F.) CRA, ToL, m.ob., and two individuals found in late November that lingered into the winter: 11/22+ Anoka CF, m.ob., 11/25+ Carver JCy, RAE, RHe.
- Veery** (*Catharus fuscescens*) — [16 North, 15 South] All high counts from Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis, KJB): 10 on 8/15, 10 on 8/26. Late north 9/14 Beltrami (5) BA, Itasca (2) PLe, 9/20 Lake of the Woods MHK (median 9/14). Late south 9/8 Hennepin CMB, 9/9 Dakota DVe, 9/14 Ramsey DPG, Stearns HHD (median 9/17).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catharus minimus*) — [5 North, 12 South] Early north (median 9/4) 8/29 Itasca MJB, 9/1 St. Louis JLK, KJB, 9/2 Itasca HHD. Early south (median 9/4) 8/28 Wright RBJ, 9/2 Dakota HCT, 9/4 Hennepin SBM. High count 9/12 St. Louis (5, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/4 St. Louis JLK, 10/6–7 Cook DEv (median 10/2). Late south 10/1 Houston DPG, Rice TFB, 10/5 Hennepin BAB, 10/8 Rice DAT (median 10/7).
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catharus ustulatus*) — [20 North, 31 South] Early south (median 8/13) 8/10 Winona KFu, 8/17 Dakota TAT, 8/20 Hennepin CMB. High counts 9/10 St. Louis (52, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/14 Cook (45, Cascade River S.P.) RvA. Late north 10/13 Lake JWl, 10/14 St. Louis JPR, 10/18 St. Louis ALx (median 10/17). Late south 10/16 MRe, WRe, 10/17 Hennepin ACr, 10/18 Carver SOa (median 10/19).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) — [21 North, 35 South] Early south (median 9/14) 9/20 Isanti MHe, Olmsted SHk, 9/21 Hennepin MCo, SCo, JcM, 9/24 Anoka REH, DWK. Several high counts of 12 individuals. Late north 10/22 St. Louis NKr, 10/23 Lake JWl, 10/25 Itasca DMu (median 10/26). Late south 11/11 Anoka JWl, 11/14 Sibley JCC, but see winter report (median 12/11).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [5 North, 11 South] Late north 9/1 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/6 Morrison JEm, KEm, 9/7 Roseau LS (median 9/10). Late south 9/28 Rice DAT, 9/30 McLeod BHa, Olmsted JHD (median 9/27).
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all 87 counties. Highest counts all from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census in St. Louis (KJB): **28,227** on 9/28; 10,836 on 10/13.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north reports (median 11/5): 10/18–28 St. Louis ECo, including 2 on the 26th, 11/21 Hubbard ph. REn, Axb, continued into the winter season, 11/28–29 St. Louis JPR, ToL, KvM, JLK, 11/29 Todd ph. MSr. All south (median 11/9) 11/22 Washington (Cottage Grove) ph. PNi, LMS, PRH, 11/28 Washington (Marine on St. Croix) MJB, ph. DAd, m.ob., also continued into winter.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [32 North, 51 South] High counts 8/12 Washington (25, Sunfish Lake Park) RBd, 9/7 Lyon (19, Camden S.P.) GWe. Late north 11/7 Lake (Beaver Bay) KMS, TPM, 11/6–10 Cook (Grand Marais) CRM, SBE, KMS, TPM, ph. DMB. Late south 11/15 Sherburne PMJ, **11/29** Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) KnM (median 10/31).
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [18 North, 32 South] High count 9/5 Sherburne (6, Sherburne N.W.R.) KEm, JEm, MEM. Late north 11/1–9 Cook DOK, ph. DMB, m.ob., 11/13 St. Louis JPR, and a bird first seen 11/7 Itasca continued into the winter season *vide* RBW (median 11/2). Late south 11/12 Sherburne PRH, 11/26 Winona BwR, but see winter report (median 12/8).
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [1 North] Only reports from Cook, 10/31 (Good Harbor Bay) DAB, ph. JPR, ph. JWl, m.ob., 11/14 (Ray Berglund State Wayside) CIN.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High count 11/30 St. Louis (600, Duluth, mouth of Miller Creek) JLK.
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [13 North] Early north (median 10/3) 9/20 Lake (3) HBr, 9/28 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Most reports from the North Shore, but reported west to the Red River and as far south as

- Otter Tail. High counts 11/14 Lake (106) CIN, JMr, 11/1 Lake (80) JWL.
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [34 North, 51 South] Present 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 (St. Louis, KJB): a record-high tally of **12,842** on 9/1, preceded by **8,368** on 8/31 and 6,025 on 8/29.
- House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) — [32 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High count 8/20 Hennepin (**250**) DJa.
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [17 North, 26 South] Early north (median 9/7) 9/6 Todd RAE, 9/7 Itasca SC, 9/11 Itasca EEO. Early south (median 9/13) 9/19 Brown BTS, 9/20 Lyon GWe, 9/21 Renville HHD. High counts 10/13 St. Louis (82, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/18 Lyon (75, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe. Late north 11/11 St. Louis JLK, KJB, **11/20** Becker (Dunton Locks C.P.) MO (median 11/4). Late south 11/15 Lac qui Parle DLP, Lyon GWe, Stearns RPR (median 11/6).
- GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCH** (*Leucosticte tephrocotis*) — [1 North] Second county record and third earliest fall arrival **11/14 Lake** (Iona's Beach S.N.A.) ph. †TiW.
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [12 North, 2 South] All reports from North-central and Northeast regions. Early north (median 10/20) 10/9 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. First north arrivals away from Hawk Ridge were 10/16 Cass JWM, 10/25 Cook JWL. All south 11/7 Benton (Bend in the River Park) HHD, 11/15 Stearns (River Bluffs R.P.) HHD. High counts all from Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis, KJB): 111 on 11/13, 83 on 11/7.
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [23 North, 41 South] Reported statewide.
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [24 North, 36 South] Reported north throughout the season. Notable high counts all from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis, KJB): 1,819 on 10/11, 1,387 on 10/12, 1,190 on 9/7. Presumed first arrivals south 8/26 Blue Earth ChH, Washington SC, 8/30 Dakota DFN then frequent reports south from late September through the rest of the season.
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [10 North, 1 South] After sporadic reports in August and early September, north observations were fairly regular from the third week of September through the end of the season. All south 11/15 Stearns (Warner Lake C.P.) DBz, MJB, JWH, 11/21 Stearns MJB. High counts 10/16 St. Louis (67, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/22 St. Louis (31, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [4 North, 3 South] No significant numbers this season. Early north (median 9/26) 10/18 Lake CIN, JWf, 10/21 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. All south 10/24 Blue Earth (Mankato) ChH, 11/15 Stearns (River Bluffs R.P.) HHD, 11/27 Hennepin DdS.
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [19 North, 11 South] Early north (median 10/16) 10/9 Cook CIN, 10/14 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/16 Lake ELC, Norman KRE, m.ob. Early south (median 10/30) 10/22, 10/24 Benton HHD, 10/25 Dakota JEd, DTr, 10/29 Blue Earth ChH. High counts from the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis, KJB): **11,587** on 11/13, **9,212** on 11/9, 8,842 on 11/12, 7,365 on 11/10, 6,699 on 11/11.
- Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemannii*) — [2 North] Only a handful of north reports: 10/21 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 10/29 Beltrami CRM, RAE, 11/7 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TPM, 11/27 Beltrami DPJ.
- Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [25 North, 32 South] Reported throughout the season north and south and in all regions. South reports begin in earnest the third week of September. High counts all from Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis, KJB): 653 on 10/10, 625 on 10/13.
- American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide throughout the season. High count 9/20 St. Louis (255, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB.
- Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertina*) — [7 North] Reported in all months from the Northeast. Several reports also from Itasca, Koochiching, and 11/4 Polk (East Grand Forks) SAU, MSP. High counts

- 10/24 Cook (30) JWJ, 11/1 Cook (20) JPR, 10/25 Cook (15) JWJ.
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [17 North, 26 South] Early north (median 9/14) 9/12 Lake JWJ, 9/19 Lake JWJ, St. Louis HHD, ToL, JPR, 9/20 Cook EEO. Early south (median 9/23) 9/27 Washington GJa, 10/2 Lyon GWe, 10/4 Lyon GWe, 10/5 Stearns HHD. High count 11/10 Freeborn (1,000) TAT.
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — No reports.
- Smith's Longspur** (*Calcarius pictus*) — [1 North] Only reports from Wilkin, 10/17 KRE, m.ob., 10/20 HHD. Median early north 10/1, late 10/21.
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [21 North, 24 South] Early north (median 10/8) 10/4 Grant (4) CNn, 10/9 Cook CLN, 10/11 St. Louis JTg. Early south (median 10/17) 10/13 Hennepin BAF, 10/16 Hennepin CMB, 10/17 Anoka IBa, Dakota WPe. High counts 10/25 Lake (500, Birch Lake Dam) STr, 11/14 Cook (200, Taconite Harbor) JSf.
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [25 North, 35 South] High counts 9/1 St. Louis (13, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/7 Kandiyohi (11) MJB. Late north 9/27 Polk SAu, 9/29 St. Louis JeR, 10/12 St. Louis (Enger Park) JLK (median 9/27). All late south reports from Hennepin: 10/11 (Nicollet Island, Minneapolis) RSA, 10/13 (Hennepin County Government Center) DWK, 10/16 CMB (median 10/11).
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [1 South] Only report of this early migrant 9/17 Chisago CRM (median 8/24).
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [18 North, 27 South] High counts 9/3 St. Louis (22, carefully counted at Southworth Marsh, Park Point) PHS, JLK, 9/1 St. Louis (18, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/7, 10/9 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB (median 9/28). Late south 10/5 Scott RMD, SC, 10/6 Hennepin CMB, Ramsey (2) BAF (median 10/3).
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [19 North, 29 South] High counts 8/4 St. Louis (7, Sax-Zim Bog) CsB, 8/1 Crow Wing (5) EGa. Late north 9/12 Pine JyS, 9/22 St. Louis AJa (median 9/12). Late south 9/25 Dakota ADS, Steele PSu, 9/27 Fillmore DWK (median 9/24).
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [17 South] No north reports. High count 8/17 Washington (3, Afton S.P.) PNI. Late south 9/12 Rice TFB, Scott BAB, Washington JEc, 9/18 Washington HHD, RAE (median 9/13).
- Golden-winged Warbler X Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera* X *V. cyanoptera*) — [1 South] One "Brewster's" found 8/19 Carver JCy.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [28 North, 46 South] High counts 9/1 St. Louis (31, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/30 Hennepin (12, Wood Lake N.C.) SBM. Late north 9/27 Cook (2) JaJ, St. Louis JWH (median 10/1). Late south 10/5 Ramsey MJM, Steele PSu, 10/6 Dakota DVe (median 10/6).
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [3 South] All reports: 8/7 Steele ph. PSu, 8/21 Winona PTr, 8/30 Carver (male) JCy, 9/1 Carver (female/imm.) JCy (median late south 9/2).
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [27 North, 46 South] See summer report for early south migrants. Record high counts 9/1 St. Louis (487, almost double the prior record tally, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/16 St. Louis (99, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 10/11 St. Louis KJB, 10/16 Lake (Two Harbors) JWJ, 10/17 Lake (Knife River Marina) JWJ (median 10/16). Late south 10/16 Hennepin TLo, 10/19 Sherburne SMC, 10/24 Rock KEm, MEm (median 10/17).
- Orange-crowned Warbler** (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [23 North, 37 South] Early north (median 9/1) 9/4 Lake of the Woods ALo, 9/6 Becker HeH, Beltrami RAE. Early south (median 8/30) 9/2 Sherburne TSh, 9/4 Faribault BAY, Stearns MJB. High counts 9/27 Polk (30, East Grand Forks Greenway) SAu, 9/19 Scott (20) JcM, 9/25 Hennepin (20) JcM. Late north 10/17 Lake TAT, ADS, JWJ, 10/20 Grant CNn, 10/30 Crow Wing DAB, DBz, BWF (median 10/23). Late south 11/11 Sherburne TSh, 11/14 Sherburne JWH, 11/23 Hennepin BAF (median 10/27). *Note:* Undocumented August reports are excluded.
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [28 North, 46 South] High counts all

from Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (St. Louis, KJB): 57 on 9/9, 51 on 8/17, 50 on 8/12. Late north 10/17 Lake TAT, ADS, JWL, JGB, 10/18 Lake KCR, Morrison MEm, KEm (median 10/21). Late south 10/31–11/6 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park, Minneapolis; with an injured right leg) TAT (median 10/24).

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) — [5 North, 8 South] Late north 9/6 Hubbard RAE, 9/9, 9/12 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. All south (median 8/24) 8/27 Washington (Stillwater) WHe, 8/28 Washington (Afton S.P.) MYg, 9/4 McLeod PRH, 9/7 Kandiyohi MJB, 9/9 Hennepin JWf, Mower CRM, 9/10 Carver JCy, 9/16 Benton RAE, 9/25 Hennepin SBM, 10/5–6 Olmsted JPr (median 9/18).

Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [12 North, 24 South] High counts 8/11 and 8/16 St. Louis (4, Park Point R.A.) JLK. Late north 9/19 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, **9/30** Otter Tail TJa (median 9/14). Late south 9/20 Hennepin JWf, Scott BAb, 9/25 Winona PTr, 9/27 McLeod MJB (median 9/28).

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [30 North, 46 South] High counts 9/5 Sherburne (20, Sherburne N.W.R.) ToL, 8/3 St. Louis (19, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 10/7 Aitkin KCR, 10/18 Lake and St. Louis KCR (median 10/12). Late south 10/20 Lyon GWe, JH, 10/21 Hennepin DCZ, 11/4 McLeod PRH (median 10/20).

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) — [4 South] All reports 8/12 Sherburne (Woodland Trails Park, Elk River) PLJ, 8/23–9/3 **Wright** (Lake Maria S. P.) RAE, HHD, MJB, m.ob., 8/26–28 Washington (Afton S.P.) SC, PNi, 8/28 Hennepin (Minnehaha Falls) SFo.

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [32 North, 44 South] Reported statewide except from the southwest corner. High counts from St. Louis, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (KJB): **463** on 9/1, 99 on 9/7. Other notable counts 9/3 St. Louis (86, Park Point R.A.) ALx. Late north 10/7, 10/12 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB (median 10/8). Late south 10/5 Carver MJa, Olmsted JPr, Ramsey MJM, Steele PSu, 10/7 Hennepin BAF (median 10/9).

Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [10 North, 11 South] Early south (median

8/23) 8/14 Chisago CRM, 8/25 Wright BWF, 8/26 Washington RMD, SC. High count 9/1 St. Louis **58** (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 9/28 Lake JWL, St. Louis m.ob. 10/5 Lake JWL (median 10/17). Late south 9/25 Hennepin SBM, JmM, 9/27 Hennepin MSv, 10/4 Steele PSu (median 9/28).

Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [1 South] Only report 8/17 Wright (Crow River Preserve) JcN.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) — [14 North, 24 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/26 Hennepin TAT, Ramsey JFR, 8/28 Hennepin SFo, Wright RBJ. High count 9/9 St. Louis (8, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 9/27 St. Louis m.ob, 9/28 St. Louis KJB (median 9/27). Late south 10/6 Dakota BRL, Ramsey BAF, 10/9 Olmsted MiD and a record late report that continued into December (see winter report) **11/28–30+** Anoka SSK (median 9/30).

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [21 North, 39 South] Early south (median 8/16) 8/11 Carver JCy, Hennepin TAT, 8/13 Sherburne PLJ. High counts 9/1 St. Louis (27, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/3 St. Louis (24, Park Point R.A.) JPR. Late north 9/29 Todd JLK, 10/3 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB (median 10/3). Late south 10/5 Steele PSu, Washington PNi, 10/22 Hennepin SiP, BDe (median 10/6).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*) — [12 North, 24 South] Early south (median 8/21) 8/19 Hennepin CMB, 8/20 Waseca PSu, 8/21 Hennepin TAT, Washington DBz. High count 9/1 St. Louis (18, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, Late north 9/19 Itasca SC, 9/26 St. Louis HHD, JLK, 9/27 Polk SAU (median 9/28). Late south 10/2 Ramsey VWe, 10/4 Hennepin AWi, 10/5 Steele PSu (median 10/1).

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) — [18 North, 35 South] Early south (median 8/10) 8/4 Waseca PSu, 8/10 Steele PSu, 8/11 Rice TFB, Sherburne PLJ. High counts 9/1 St. Louis (12, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/18 Carver (5) JCy. Late north 9/15 St. Louis KJB, 9/26 St. Louis DAB, ALx, JLK (median 9/20). Late south 9/18 Olmsted JHD, Steele PSu, 9/19 Scott

- JcM, 9/23 Carver JcY (median 9/25).
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [30 North, 41 South] High count 8/4 Crow Wing (25, Mille Lacs Lake) EGa. Late north 9/14 Traverse RAE, 9/17 St. Louis KJB, 9/25 Lake ClN (median 9/26). Late south 9/25 Hennepin JWf, Lyon GWe, Redwood, Renville JEB, Scott BHe, 9/26 Hennepin DGn, 9/27 Lyon GWe (median 9/27).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [27 North, 40 South] High counts 9/1 St. Louis (**31**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/18 Carver (18, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JcY, 8/28 Hennepin (15) CMB. Late north 9/26 St. Louis HHD, JLK, 10/3 Itasca PLe (median 9/28). Late south 10/1 Dakota ADS, 10/2 Steele PSu, 10/7 Dakota ADS (median 10/2).
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [12 North, 21 South] Early north (median 8/24) 8/21 St. Louis (Stoney Point) SKt, 8/21, 8/25, 8/26 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Early south (median 8/21) 8/22 Anoka DFe, 8/24 Sherburne PLJ, PMJ, 8/25 Dakota DVe, Stevens RAE. High counts all from St. Louis, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census (KJB): **50** on 9/17, **35** on 9/16, 26 on 9/22. Latest north reports were of daily migrants 10/3–7 past the Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, St. Louis (KJB) (median 10/3). Late south 9/30 Anoka DWK, 10/1 Houston DPG, 10/5 Dakota ADS (median 9/29).
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [5 North, 8 South] Several reports from St. Louis and Cook counties from 8/11–9/26. Away from the North Shore, 9/6 Morrison (Charles A. Lindbergh S. P.) JEm, KEm, DLP, 9/14 Crow Wing PSP, 10/19 Todd JeM, SwM (median 9/29). High count 9/1 St. Louis (**4**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Several south reports starting 8/20 mostly from the East-central and Southeast. Unusual report 9/25 **Lac Qui Parle** (Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP, and also an amazing single bird that lingered **10/30–11/30** Sherburne (Talahi Park, St. Cloud) TSh, m.ob. (median 10/9).
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [24 North, 34 South] Early south (median 8/27) 8/28 Hennepin JLL, 8/30 Hennepin KDR, 9/1 Wabasha JHn. High counts all from St. Louis, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, KJB: 65 on 9/22, 64 on 10/6. Late north 10/21 St. Louis JPR, 10/24 St. Louis SiP and record late north **11/28** Lake (Tettegouche S.P.) ToL, ph. JPR (median 10/25). Late south 10/14 Carver JcY, Mower RJW, 10/17 Hennepin PNi, m.ob. (median 10/20).
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [16 North, 15 South] Virtually all reports east of a line from Roseau to Dakota counties. High count 9/6 Morrison (4, Charles A. Lindbergh S.P.) JEm, KEm. Late north 9/22 St. Louis KRE, LME, 9/26 Pine (median 9/30). Late south 10/2 Hennepin DGn, NSa, 10/3 Ramsey VWWe, 10/6 Anoka DvS (median 9/24).
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [33 North, 48 South] Early south (median 8/21) 8/4 Benton HHD, 8/13 Sherburne JGb, 8/14 Chisago CRM, m.ob., Sherburne JIB. High counts all from St. Louis, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, KJB: **3,808** on 10/6, **1,868** on 9/22. Late north 11/7 Lake m.ob., 11/10 Itasca SC, 11/21 Cook DMB, 11/22 Cook JBs (median 11/14). South reports continue throughout the season; please see winter report for details.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [13 North, 28 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/13 Steele PSu, 8/19 Sibley HCT, Steele PSu, 8/20 Carver JcY, Hennepin TAT, Swift HHD. High counts 8/26 Cook (5) RMa, 9/6 Morrison (4) KEm, MEm, JEm, 9/27 Hennepin (4) AWi. Late north 10/3 St. Louis RZi, 10/4 St. Louis m.ob., 10/5 Lake JWL, 10/6 St. Louis KJB (median 9/28). Late south 10/6 Benton HHD, 10/7 Washington IsH, 10/9 Olmsted JHD (median 10/6).
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [17 North, 36 South] Early south (median 8/13) 8/6 Carver JcY, 8/10 Rice TFB, Steele PSu. High count 9/1 St. Louis (5) JLK. Late north 9/7 Morrison DLP, 9/8 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) AKO, 9/14 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB (median 9/16). Late south 9/24 Freeborn PSu, 9/25 Dakota JBU, Hennepin DWK, CMB, SBM, 9/26 Hennepin PRH, JcM (median 9/21).
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [22 North, 38 South] Early south (median 8/15) 8/7 Carver JcY, 8/17 Lyon JtH, 8/18 Hennepin CMB, Steele PSu. High counts

- 9/5 Morrison (8) MEm, KEm, 9/3 St. Louis (7) CLN, 9/7 Lyon (7, Camden S.P.) GWe. Late north 9/18 St. Louis CLN, ALo, 9/26 St. Louis HHD, JLK, 10/8 Beltrami LBF (median 9/21). Late south 9/27 Redwood BTS, 9/28 Hennepin RCo, Olmsted JHD (median 9/28).
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [1 North] Only report 9/6 **Clay** †SAU.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [1 North] Only report from downtown Two Harbors, 9/24 **Lake** ph. JWL ph. JPR.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [8 North, 28 South] High counts all from Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.): 8/3 (25) CsB, AHw, 9/5 (12) JEm, KEm, MEm, 9/18 (12) JIB. Late north 9/21 Cass PRH, 9/25 Pine KWi, 9/26 Pine (2 locations) KWi (median 10/7). Late south 10/10 Houston DST, Washington DFN, 10/11 Sherburne JIB, 10/17 Goodhue DTr, JEd (median 11/2).
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizelloides arborea*) — [29 North, 46 South] Early north (median 9/21) 9/27 Kittson CSc, St. Louis AM, 10/2 Pennington DdD. Early south (median 9/28) 9/30 McLeod BHa, 10/2 Redwood BTS, 10/4 Hennepin BrW. High counts 11/4 Hennepin (100, Richfield Gardens) PEB, 11/13 Hennepin (60) JcM, 10/23 St. Louis (57) STr, 11/1 Sherburne (57, Sherburne N.W.R.) RCL.
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [32 North, 53 South] High counts 9/28 Todd (55) JLK, 8/10 St. Louis (37) JLK, 8/23 Polk (35) SAU. Late north 10/18 Itasca SC, 10/19 Beltrami DSE, 11/29 Itasca SC (median 11/4). Late south 11/19 Washington ERH, 11/21 Sherburne ph. JIB (median 11/11).
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [28 North, 31 South] High counts 8/31 Polk (18) SAU, 9/30 Wright (15) RBd, 8/5 Roseau (13) CsB. Late north 10/7 Aitkin KCR, Kanabec RAE, 10/8 Douglas BEC (median 10/19). Late south 10/9 Carver JCy, Hennepin JWf, Stearns MJB (median 10/16).
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [6 North, 35 South] High counts 9/7 Lyon (52, Camden S.P.) GWe, 8/3 Sherburne (24, Sherburne N.W.R.) CsB, AHw. Unusual north reports 8/28, 8/30 **Koochiching** CRM, RAE, FGo, 9/3 **Beltrami** BAb, GLa. Late north 9/28 Todd JLK, 10/2 Otter Tail RAE. Late south 10/24 Rock KEm, MEM, 10/25 Scott DBz, JWH, 10/30 Washington C.N.C. (median 10/22).
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [24 North, 42 South] High count 9/9 Dakota (12) DVe. Unusual north report 8/11 **Cook** JaJ. Late north 10/3 Mille Lacs JCC, 10/5 Otter Tail DBi, 10/13 Todd ALu (median 10/19). Late south 10/22 Lyon JtH, 10/24 Dakota MJB, 10/25 Blue Earth WCM (median 10/26).
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [2 North, 10 South] Only north reports 8/2 Mille Lacs DIH, 8/10 Clay DPJ. Late south 9/10 Sherburne JGb, 9/27 Washington GJa (median 9/4).
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [30 North, 43 South] Reported statewide. High count 10/12 Lake (34, Two Harbors) SMC. Late north 11/9 Lake DWK, m.ob., 11/25 Hubbard (Akeley Twp.) MAW (median 11/2). Late south 11/11 Olmsted JLk, 11/20 Lyon (Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe (median 11/5).
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [2 North, 19 South] High counts 8/8 Hennepin (7, Crow-Hassan P.R.) JBs, 8/7, 8/8, 8/14 Sherburne (6, Sherburne N.W.R.) RCL, JIB. All north 8/4 Grant ToL, 8/11 **St. Louis** (Park Point R.A.) JLK. Late south 9/27 Carver WCM, 10/4 Jackson JAN, 10/17 Chippewa WCM (median 9/22).
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [4 South] All reports 8/5, 8/12 Scott (max. 2, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) MSw, 8/8 Hennepin (3, Crow-Hassan P.R.) JBs, 8/14 Dakota (Great Western Industrial Park) DVe, 8/21 Washington (Carpenter N.C.) PNI.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [6 North, 22 South] High count 10/1 Faribault (30) WAF, next highest tally was 6. Late north 10/4 Kanabec JCC, 10/17 Wilkin DWK, m.ob. Late south 10/21 Faribault WAF, 10/22 Faribault KEm, 10/24 Dakota BAF, 10/25 Cottonwood KEm, MEM (median 10/18).
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [10 South] Numerous reports south this season of this elusive species summarized as follows: 9/20 Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) JWH, 9/25 Cottonwood JEB, Faribault WAF, Nicollet JEB, 9/25–29 Olmsted (Kalmar Reservoir) ph. JPr, m.ob., 9/25

Redwood JEB, 9/25–10/1 Faribault (max. 3, Blue Earth River W.M.A.) WAF, DWK, 9/26–10/6 Dakota (max. 4, 180th St. Marsh) KvM, ph. DAT, m.ob., 9/28 Washington (Afton S.P.) RMD, 10/3–4 **Sibley** (Severance Lake W.M.A.) DWK, RBW, 10/3–6 **Scott** (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ph. †BAB, m.ob., 10/4 Redwood BTS (median 10/9).

Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) — [27 North, 42 South] Early north (median 9/20) 9/14 Cook RVa, 9/18 St. Louis KJB, 9/20 Cook HBr, MnB. Early south (median 9/18) 9/18 Hennepin CMB, 9/19 Isanti ELC, 9/20 Hennepin TLo. High counts 10/22 Hennepin (40) CMB, 10/14 Carver (31) JCy. Late north 11/17 Crow Wing EGa, 11/21 Mille Lacs JCC, 11/23 Itasca SC (median 12/18). Late south 11/28 Washington BDo, 11/30 Winona MyC (median 12/29). See winter report for overwintering records.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) — [33 North, 51 South] High counts 8/8 Houston (24) ToL, 8/5 Roseau (21) CsB. Late north 11/4 Becker HeH, Cook DFe, 11/7 Becker SAu, 11/30 Hubbard REn, AxB (median 12/18). South reports continued well into December.

Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [27 North, 40 South] Early south (median 8/31) 8/26 Sherburne SMC, 9/6 Anoka BSp, 9/7 Anoka DPG, Olmsted MHn. High counts 9/29 Todd (21) JLK, 9/25 Faribault (20) WAF, 9/26 Dakota (18) KvM, 9/28 Faribault (18) DWK. Late north 10/18 Lake JWl, St. Louis KCR, 11/1 Cook DAB, KCR, JPR (median 10/22). Late south 11/1 Hennepin (St. Louis Park) SKS, Nicollet JPr, JJS, 11/2 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) WPe, 11/4 Hennepin (Richfield Gardens) PEB (median 11/2).

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [26 North, 45 South] High count 9/5 Crow Wing (30) EGa. Late north 10/30 Douglas ToR, Lake HHD, St. Louis JLK, 10/31 St. Louis JWl, 11/1 Cook RZi (median 10/28). See winter report for late south individuals.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [31 North, 49 South] High counts all from St. Louis, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, KJB: **1,144** on 9/22, **634** on 9/29, 438 on 10/7. Numerous reports for both south and north regions continued well into the winter season.



Golden-crowned Sparrow, 24 October 2015, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by John P. Richardson.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [27 North, 41 South] Early north (median 9/16) 9/13 St. Louis ph. KGa, 9/21 St. Louis JFr, 9/22 Polk SAu. Early south (median 9/20) 9/26 Jackson KEm, 9/28 Rice TFB, 9/29 Carver JCy, Lac qui Parle DLP, Washington PAL. High counts 10/8 Polk (35, East Grand Forks) SAU, 10/7 St. Louis (24, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB. Late north 11/26–29 St. Louis JPR (median 12/19). Late south 11/28 Washington MJB (median 12/20). Also see winter report for more late migrants and overwintering individuals, north and south.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [28 North, 38 South] Early north (median 9/11) 9/10 St. Louis SMC, 9/11 Lake DaE, 9/12 St. Louis JLK, KJB, 9/15 Itasca SC. Early south (median 9/16) 9/18 Sherburne JIB, 9/22 Hennepin BrW, SBM, 9/23 Winona DAB, 9/24 Freeborn PSu. High counts 10/24 Rock (25, Blue Mounds S.P.) KEm, MEm, 10/8 Hennepin (20, Bass Ponds, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) DTM. Late north 11/9 Lake HCT, m.ob., St. Louis JPR, 11/14 Clay RHO (median 12/15). Late south 11/20 Hennepin TAT, 11/20–28 Hennepin (max. 2) SKE, 11/27 Washington ERH, (me-



Summer Tanager, 17 October 2015, Knife River, Lake County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

dian 12/19). See winter report for late individuals north and south.

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) — [1 North] The 12th state record and fifth for St. Louis County, this is presumed to be the same individual that visited the same location last year. First reported 10/18 and first documented 10/24 St. Louis ph. †JPR, JLK, it continued through the winter and into the subsequent spring season.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) — [33 North, 49 South] Found in 82 of 87 counties. Early south (median 9/10) 9/19 Blue Earth ChH, Carver JCy, Dakota JBu, Ramsey MJM, 9/20 Hennepin JuW, Stearns MSk, 9/21 Ramsey BNW. High counts all from St. Louis, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, KJB: **1,593** on 10/7, 1,224 on 10/13, 958 on 10/11.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) — [1 North, 2 South] Only three reports, but all documented: 10/14–17 Lake (Knife River W.T.P.) ph. KRE, AM, ph. JLK, ph. JWl, ph. PHS, 10/28 Hennepin †CMB, 11/14 Rice (Faribault) ph. †DAB.

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) — [18 North, 30 South] Majority of reports from the eastern two-thirds of the state. High counts from St. Louis, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, KJB: **21** on 9/1, **6** on 8/30, 5 on 9/2; also 9/2 Anoka (5) JWl. Late north 9/16 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/19 Koochiching AMe, 9/27 Becker ADr (median 9/22). Late south 9/28 Faribault DWK, 9/29 Sherburne PMJ, 10/12 Rice DAT, 10/13 Anoka DPG (median 10/2).

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [21 North, 46 South] Reported in most of the state, though absent from many of the far western and North-central counties. High counts 10/25 Hennepin (15, Elm Creek P.R) TLo, 10/31 Hennepin (13) DAs.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [27 North, 42 South] High counts 9/1 St. Louis (**198**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 9/1 St. Louis (**83**, Duluth) JLK, 9/3 St. Louis (26) PHS, JLK. Late north 11/27–29 Pennington (Thief River Falls) *fide* JMJ, †SAS (median 10/3). Late south 10/7 Mower RJW, 10/10 Carver KMO, 11/25–26 Dakota KPa (median 10/15).

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) — [6 South] Several individuals reported in July away from its typical range in the extreme southwest continued into the fall: 8/1–2 Martin RAE, HHD, JWH, 8/2 Watonwan RAE, HHD, KMS, SSc, 8/1–12 Renville ChH, JWH, JWd, DWK, m.ob. Late south 8/13 Pipestone DFe, 8/22 Rock KEm, MEm, 8/30 Redwood DWK (median 8/24).

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) — [15 North, 44 South] High counts 8/3 Sherburne (**22**, Sherburne N.W.R.) CsB, AHw, 8/23 Hennepin (14) TAT, 8/10 Carver (10, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. Late north 9/10 St. Louis KGa, ALx, 9/13 Polk SAU (median 9/24). Late south 10/6 Carver JCy, Hennepin SC, 10/8 Olmsted JPr (median 10/9).

Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) — [1 North, 21 South] Only north report 8/4 Grant CNn. High counts 8/1 Pipestone (10, Pipestone N.M.) TKa, 8/1 Renville (7) JoS. Late south 8/22 Rock KEm, MEm, 8/24 Jackson KEm and a very late 10/2 Nobles RBW (median 8/27).

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [13 North, 22 South] High counts in St. Lou-

- is, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, KJB: **350** on 8/29, **297** on 9/14; also 9/5 Blue Earth (200) ChH. Late north 9/20, 9/21, 9/27 St. Louis (Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB (median 9/24). Late south 9/26 Hennepin ELC, Olmsted JPr, m.ob., 9/28 Washington PNi, 10/2 Dakota TAT, ADS, 10/6 Dakota WPo (median 10/1).
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Notable high counts 10/27 Yellow Medicine (12,000) GWe, 10/31 Yellow Medicine (10,000) GWe, 10/18 Meeker (6,059) RMa. Otherwise reported throughout the state and into the winter both north and south
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [2 North, 13 South] High count 10/8 Sherburne (9, Sherburne N.W.R.) PMJ. Only north reports 8/13 Pine CRM, HHD, 8/14 Pine RAE, 8/17 Kanabec HHD. Late south 10/20 Anoka LBi, 10/22 Sherburne JGb, 10/24 Anoka ToL (median 10/26)
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [15 North, 24 South] As usual, most reports from the western tier of counties. High counts 10/3 Brown (15) JAn, 10/7 Rock (7) KEm, 9/30 Wilkin (6) ToR, Late north 10/31 Lake HHD, 11/3 Polk SAU, 11/5–9 St. Louis (Park Point R.A. identified by call note) JLK, m.ob., (median 11/2). Late south 10/31 Rock PSP, 11/7 Watonwan JAn (median 11/4).
- Sturnella meadowlark** (*Sturnella sp.*) — [2 North, 9 South] Several silent *Sturnella* reports wisely left unidentified from September through late November.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [8 North, 22 South] High count 9/5 Yellow Medicine (250, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north CNn, 8/23 Grant HCT, HHD, 8/26 Grant DFe, 11/7 Becker CRM (median 9/27). Late south 10/9 Chippewa GWe, 10/18 Lyon GWe, 11/5 Lyon GWe, JtH (median 10/14).
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [23 North, 36 South] More reports than usual starting with a potential nesting record 8/26 Lake (Stony River, Superior N.F.) SPn. Presumed early north migrants (median 9/15) 9/10 Lake and St. Louis JWf, Otter Tail *vide* JMJ. Early south (median 9/24) 9/24 Hennepin SOa, 9/30 Washington BDo,
- 10/3 Hennepin JWf. High counts all from St. Louis, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census, KJB: 4,841 on 10/13, 4,537 on 10/7. Late north 11/14 Becker JPE, 11/30 Otter Tail DST (median 11/28). Late south 11/15 Lyon GWe, 11/25 Hennepin TTh (median 11/16).
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [18 North, 25 South] High counts 10/17 Wilkin (**2,000**, near Rothsay) KRE, JCC, 10/25 Blue Earth (300) WCM, 10/27 Carver (180) JCy. Late north 10/25 Polk SAU, 10/26 Todd ALu, 11/4 Douglas BEC, 11/6 Becker ANy (median 11/4). Late south 11/4 McLeod PRH, 11/8 Murray GWe, 11/18 Cottonwood KEM (median 11/11).
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [32 North, 53 South] Reported throughout the state. Notable high counts 10/29 Pope (4,000) DaG, 10/27 Otter Tail (2,000) SRO, 10/9 Chippewa (1,500) GWe, 10/11 Ramsey (1,500) JFR. Reports continued throughout the season and into December and January both north and south.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [1 South] All reports from the same location in Jackson county (Hwy 86 and 730th St): 8/23 CLN, 8/25 KEm, 10/18 BRB.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [12 North, 36 South] High counts all from Cottonwood (Wolf Lake W.P.A.): 8/27 (**200**) KEm, 9/17 (150) KEm; also 9/5 Sherburne (100, Sherburne N.W.R.) ToL. Late north 9/6 Wadena PJB, 9/8 St. Louis LME, 10/17 Becker JMJ (median 10/13). Late south 11/5 Lyon GWe, JtH, 11/10 Freeborn TAT, 11/13 Dakota ADS.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [2 North, 16 South] As is typical for fall, few north reports for this species. All north 8/2–10 Grant CNn, 8/7 Traverse DLP. Late south 8/22 Big Stone SSc, m.ob., Washington KvM, GJa, 8/25 Lac qui Parle DLP, 9/3 Brown MiO (median 8/24).
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [26 North, 44 South] High counts 9/1 St. Louis (**30**, Hawk Ridge/Lester River Census) KJB, 8/1 St. Louis (14) JLK, 8/22 Grant (10) CNn. Late north 9/9–10 Grant CNn, St. Louis KGa, ALx, KJB, 9/22 Wadena PJB (median 9/18). Late south 9/11 Sherburne PMJ, 9/12 Washington GJa, 9/17 Ramsey BNW (median 9/22).

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MwS	Matthew Stratmoen	SIH	Sally Hausken	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
				W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

Third Successful Breeding of Yellow-throated Warbler in Minnesota

Bruce A. Fall

A pair of Yellow-throated Warblers (*Setophaga dominica*) successfully fledged at least two young at Gold Medal Park near downtown Minneapolis (Hennepin County) in 2016. The male was discovered on 12 May by Nick Minor, who reported it to eBird. It was subsequently seen and reported by dozens of observers, and was well-documented with photos and descriptions. From 13 May on, some reports included a second bird, and two (14 and 15 May) reported one bird gathering presumed nesting material (only females exhibit this behavior). There was at least one report of two singing birds (only males sing), but I never recorded more than one singing male plus one female. Sexes are very difficult to distinguish in the field, but the female seemed to have less black on the forehead and thinner and somewhat paler side streaking. In most views, unless the male was singing, it was not possible to distinguish the two.

From 19 May to 24 June, I made 14 trips to the park (accompanied by Susan Fall on five) of 1 to 2½ hours each, totaling 26 hours searching. I recorded the male on all 14 trips, and both male and female together on four occasions. Despite this effort, I was unable to locate the nest, but I did see the male repeatedly carrying food on 21 June, and found recent fledglings being fed on 23 and 24 June.

Gold Medal Park extends from the Guthrie Theater east to 11th Avenue and is bounded by W. River Parkway on the north and 2nd Street on the south. The male's territory included at least the east half of the park and extended east across 11th Avenue where it sang repeatedly from the balcony railings of the condos behind Izzy's Ice Cream, and also numerous times both singing and foraging from the ledges on The Nature Conservancy office building southeast of 11th Avenue and the Parkway. The territory also extended north of the Parkway around the 35W Bridge

Memorial, but apparently not farther north down the slope to the river. From my observations of song posts plotted on Google maps, I calculated its territory was about 180 m north to south by 140 m east to west, or 2.5 ha. From reports of others, I believe the territory (defined by song posts) was at least 3 ha. The original report by Nick Minor was from near the Guthrie Theater along 2nd Street, but I never recorded it that far west. It is possible that it used the entire park plus surrounding areas to the north and east as its territory. High-rise condominiums limited the south boundary, although we once saw an unidentified warbler (almost certainly the male Yellow-throated Warbler) fly to the top of the ten-story building at 11th Avenue and 2nd Street.

Gold Medal Park is a small (about 3 ha) highly manicured city park with mowed lawn and scattered ornamental trees about 5–10 m high and spaced 5–10 m apart or more. There was also much open space without trees and the overall canopy cover was less than 20%. The trees were primarily linden and several species of oaks and maples, plus a few other species. All trees were trimmed to 1.5 m or more above ground, and there was no understory. The only conifers were a few medium-sized pines near the 35W Memorial. The park was typically busy (dog walkers, joggers, and other park users) and noisy with construction and street noise, so it was often difficult to hear, locate, and follow the birds. It seems quite unusual and unsuitable habitat for this species and a very unlikely nesting location, yet the male somehow attracted a female and they raised at least two and probably three young.

Despite my search efforts, I was unable to locate the nest. The male's song rate diminished greatly toward late May and song volume was also reduced, and there were often long periods when neither bird was re-



Yellow-throated Warbler, 13 May 2016, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Peter Nichols.

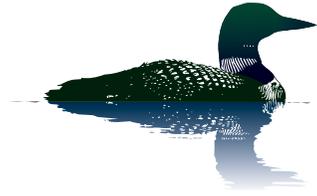
corded. Singing was very sporadic into June. My first confirmation of breeding was on 21 June, when I watched the male gathering and then carrying insects five times from near the southeast corner of the park to the same grove of trees (the likely nest site) about 50 m to the north. Two days later (23 June), I found two recent fledglings that were being fed by an adult (probably the female) in the row of lindens along the sidewalk at the southeast corner (along 2nd Street). The adult made dozens of feeding trips to the two fledglings over the 30 minutes that I watched, as it gathered food almost constantly from the same tree or neighboring ones. The young gave soft begging calls almost continuously, and I made a low-quality recording. The fledglings, mostly hidden in the dense foliage, were pale gray below with indistinct mottling; I could not see their heads well but they did not appear to have any distinct face pattern. Their tails were about 1/3 grown, and the inner webs of the outer three rectrices were white. Once one of the fledglings followed the adult about 15 m to an isolated oak, then returned to the linden; it flew strongly. The next day (24 May) Susan Fall and I watched the male (singing sporadically) feeding one fledgling near the Parkway about 210 m northwest of the previous day's location. That young (with

1/3 grown tail) also was giving begging calls frequently and I recorded a sample of those. In some other warbler species, the male and female typically split the fledged brood and separate from each other, and that is probably true with Yellow-throated Warbler as well. I believe that there were three fledged young, with the female attending two in the southeast part of the territory and the male with at least one young in the northwest part. I don't know when fledging occurred, but I believe the young were out of the nest only a day or two when I found them. With a nestling period of 10 days and incubation of 12 days, and backdating from an approximate 22 June estimated fledging date, egg laying would have started about 28 May, and nest building initiated about 25 May. This is ten days later than the two reports of an adult carrying nesting material (14 and 15 May), so it is likely that nest was unsuccessful (predation?) and this was a re-nesting. Common Grackles, a potential predator, were common in the park.

This is the third successful nesting of this species in the state, and the fourth total. The first known nesting attempt in Minnesota, which was not successful, was at Sibley State Park in Kandiyohi County in 1997 (*The Loon* 70:230–231). At least one Yellow-throated Warbler was reported from this location most years from 1994–2000, but nesting was documented only once. The first known successful nesting in the state occurred at Acacia Park Cemetery, Dakota County, in 2001 (*The Loon* 73:236–240). The three young fledged on 30 June (ten days after hatching), and on the day of fledging flew well from the nest tree to surrounding trees as far as 40 m away. The cemetery habitat was also park-like, with scattered isolated trees and manicured lawn, but unlike Gold Medal Park, there were many spruces and other conifers, and the trees were much taller (the nest tree, a Norway spruce, was 17 m high). A second successful nesting was documented at Whitewater State Park in 2013; an adult was feeding several juveniles, which were photographed. At least one adult was reported at this location every year from 2013–2016, but no other evidence of breeding has been documented.

4300 – 29th Avenue South, Minneapolis MN 55406.

Notes of Interest



GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCH IN LAKE COUNTY — On 14 November 2015, I was



on a trip from Duluth to Grand Marais when I stopped in at Iona's Beach SNA in Lake County. I immediately came upon a dark finch feeding on the ground along with a few Snow Buntings. I grabbed

my binoculars and with them noticed the bird had a brown head with a gray crown. The body was brownish with darker scallops, and the wings were very dark with white markings. I was able to take several photos, and when I tried to get my tripod out of the car, the bird flew off along with the buntings. **Tim Walker, St. Paul MN.**



Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch, 14 November 2015, Iona's Beach SNA, Lake County. Photo by Tim Walker.

VERMILION FLYCATCHER IN BECKER COUNTY — Following several reports of this



and of a second Vermilion Flycatcher at a private residence northeast of Richwood, Becker County, Gene and Susan Bauer and I arrived at the home on 11 November 2015. Several birders were already present and one had the bird already in view. Not

ever seeing one before other than in field guides, I wasn't sure what to expect and was surprised that the bird was noticeably larger than the juncos nearby. (I had always thought of the bird as small, like an empid, for whatever reason...). This bird was maybe Phoebe-sized or slightly larger and had beautiful scarlet red coloring on the belly, undertail coverts, crown, and chin with splotchy white on the throat and upper breast. The scarlet on the crown had some splotchy gray within its color. The upper tail was dark gray/black with lighter gray on the tip. The back, wings, and shoulder areas were a darker shade of gray, lightening to a silver grayish on the nape. The bill was tiny and black and the face had a dark stripe through the eye. The head shape was unique with a peak at the back of the crown and the scarlet red showing brightly on the forecrown. When not perched near the feeders at the back of the house, the flycatcher would fly into the crabapple tree at the corner of the house and pick off houseflies which were sunning themselves on the side of the house. The bird remained silent the entire time. **David A. Bartkey, 1022 SW 3rd Street, Faribault, MN 55021.**



Vermilion Flycatcher, 6 November 2015, near Richwood, Becker County. Photo by Paul E. Budde.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY



White-winged Dove, 11 June 2015, Eagles Nest Township, St. Louis County. Photo by Carolyn Quick.

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK IN CROW WING COUNTY



Black-headed Grosbeak, 18 May 2015, Brainerd, Crow Wing County. Photo by John Richardson.

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Purpose of the M.O.U.

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

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



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

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

Suggestions to Authors

The Loon is a peer-reviewed journal on the birds of Minnesota published quarterly by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. The Editor welcomes submissions of articles, Notes of Interest, color slides, and unaltered 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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Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Thomas A. Tustison, Chairman

The last two meetings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC) were conducted at the Trailhead Lodge at the Carpenter Nature Center on 24 July and 4 December 2016, respectively. In attendance and voting at these meetings were MOURC members Dedrick A. Benz, Robert M. Dunlap (present only at the December meeting), Bruce A. Fall, Andrew R. Forbes, Douglas W. Kieser (alternate), William C. Marengo (alternate), Robert P. Russell, Andrew D. Smith, and Thomas A. Tustison (chair).

At, or subsequent to, these meetings the following records were voted on and were Accepted:

- **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** (*Querquedula autumnalis*), 19–23 May 2016, Eggert Lake, Le Sueur County (record #2016-014, vote 7–0, origin vote 9–0). Two adults, photographed. First county record. The Committee voted that both adults were wild.

- **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**, 6–12 June 2016, Gopher Campfire Wildlife Sanctuary, Hutchinson, McLeod County (record #2016-020, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- **Mottled Duck** (*Anas fulvigula*), 15–16 February 2016, Rum River Dam, Anoka, Anoka County (record #2016-005, vote 10–0, origin vote 10–0). Adult male, photographed. First state record. The Committee also voted to accept the bird as wild. There are two genetically distinct and phenotypically identifiable subspecies of Mottled Duck: the Florida subspecies, *A. f. fulvigula*, occurring primarily in Florida, and the Western Gulf Coast subspecies, *A. f. maculosa*, which ranges from Alabama to south Texas and northeast Mexico. The bird was scrupulously researched and independently described by five observers. In addition, the Committee consulted an outside expert to further evaluate the question of hybridization. After discussion and deliberation,



Mottled Duck, 15 February 2016, Rum River Dam, Anoka, Anoka County. Photo by Kathleen MacAulay.

the Committee unanimously agreed that the bird was a Mottled Duck of the subspecies *maculosa*. While there was some discussion of the remote possibility of Mallard hybridization, the Committee determined that the bird had virtually none of the various plumage characteristics normally associated with a mixed species pairing. Given the range of plumage differences among members of this subspecies, the Committee agreed that the bird was within the normal scope of individual variation for *maculosa*.

- **Rufous Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus rufus*), 28 July 2015, Mower County (record #2015-046, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed. First county record.

- **Calliope Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus calliope*), 13–15 June 2016, dune bridge near beach house at Park Point, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2016-022, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed. Second state record, first county record, and first summer record.

- **Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexicanus*), 31 May – 1 June 2016, flooded field



Calliope Hummingbird, 15 June 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.



Gull-billed Tern, 1 June 2016, Salt Lake, Deuel County, SD. Photo by Kathy Java.

southwest of Tracy, Lyon County (record #2016-017, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- **Purple Sandpiper** (*Calidris maritima*), 26 November 2014, Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2014-055, initial vote 4-3; recirculated vote 2-5, **The Loon** 88:3-5; reconsidered vote 7-0). Photographed. This record was reconsidered based upon new photographic analysis. The analysis proved that the legs were not dark or black in the original photos but were, instead, within the spectral range of yellow to orange. This new information eliminated Dunlin so the Committee voted unanimously to accept the observation based on the written description and photographic evidence.

- **Black-legged Kittiwake** (*Rissa tridactyla*), 16 January – 12 February 2016, Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2016-002, vote 7-0). Two first-cycle individuals, both photographed 16-18 January (**The Loon** 88:138-139). At least one of the two birds lingered until 12 February 2016.

- **Ivory Gull** (*Pagophila eburnea*), 1-24 January 2016, Canal Park, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2016-001, vote 7-0). First-cycle, photographed (**The Loon** 88:95-96).

- **Gull-billed Tern** (*Gelocbelidon nilotica*),

2-6 June 2016, Salt Lake and vicinity, Lac qui Parle County (record #2016-018, vote 10-0). Adult, photographed. First state record (**The Loon** 88:136-137). Originally recorded 1 June 2016 on the western shore of Salt Lake which lies in South Dakota, it was not observed in Minnesota until the following morning. The bird was last reported on 6 June 2016 at Sweetwater State Wildlife Management Area (about six miles southeast of Salt Lake) though no documentation or other details were provided for this date.

- **Arctic Tern** (*Sterna paradisaea*), 2 June 2016, 31st Street / Lafayette Square, Park Point, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2016-028, vote 7-0). Adult.

- **Arctic Tern**, 17 June 2016, County Road 61 just south of 290th Street, Big Stone County (record #2016-025, vote 7-0). Adult, well-photographed. First county record.

- **Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 21 April 2016, Miedd Lake, Yellow Medicine County (record #2016-009, vote 5-2).

- **Black Vulture** (*Coragyps atratus*), 4 May 2016, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, Blue Earth County (record #2016-012, vote 7-0). First county record.

- **Barn Owl** (*Tyto alba*), 1 August 2014, five miles northwest of Houston in Perkins



Ivory Gull, 3 January 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Paul E. Budde.



Burrowing Owl, 29 April 2016, Breckenridge, Wilkin County. Photo by Jeanie M. Joppru.

Valley, Houston County (record #2014-057, original vote 3-4, reconsidered vote 6-1). Audio recorded. This is a heard-only record that was originally Not Accepted. The Committee, at its 6 December 2015 meeting, agreed to reconsider this observation due to confusion regarding the initial audio file labeling (see **The Loon** 87:7-8). At this same meeting, the Committee reviewed the resubmitted spectrograms and compared them to other known Barn Owl recordings. At its most recent 4 December 2016 meeting, the Committee reviewed and discussed the spectrograms again. The Committee, as part of its new deliberations, also reviewed comments regarding the spectrograms and vocalizations submitted by an independent authority. After lengthy discussion, a second vote was taken and the record Accepted.

• **Burrowing Owl** (*Athene cunicularia*), 23 April – 23 May 2016, northeast of Breckenridge, Wilkin County (record #2016-010, vote 7-0). Photographed.

• **Gyr Falcon** (*Falco rusticolus*), 24 January – 21 March 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2016-003, vote 7-0). Juvenile gray-morph female, photographed and banded. One of two that overwintered in Superior, Wisconsin (see next record).

• **Gyr Falcon**, 14 February 2016, St. Louis River near Grassy Point, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2016-004, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

• **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** (*Passer montanus*), 8-13 April 2016, private residence, East Grand Forks, Polk County (record #2016-006, vote 7-0).

• **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, 18-19 April 2016, 1980 Seneca Road, Eagan, Dakota County (record #2016-008, vote 7-0). Two birds, photographed together.

• **Worm-eating Warbler** (*Helmitberos vermivorum*), 14-18 May 2016, east side of the Cannon River Wilderness Area, Rice County (record #2016-013, vote 6-1).

• **Yellow-throated Warbler** (*Setophaga dominica*), 1-10 May 2016, picnic area by nature store/swimming beach, Whitewater State Park, Winona County (record #2016-011, vote 7-0). The species has been recorded at this location for four consecutive years. It has also been recorded breeding at this location (**The Loon** 86:44). Photographed, adult male.

• **Yellow-throated Warbler**, 12 May – 27 July 2016, Gold Medal Park, Minneapolis, Hennepin County (record #2016-027, vote 7-0). Pair of adults, photographed. First county nesting record; at least two fledged young

(*The Loon* 88:84–85).

- **Yellow-throated Warbler**, 3 June 2015, Lake Maria State Park, Wright County (record #2015-044, vote 5–2). Adult male.

- **Prairie Warbler** (*Setophaga discolor*), 15 June 2016, Sand Coulee Scientific and Natural Area, Hastings, Dakota County (record #2016-024, vote 7–0). Audio recorded. Comparison of sonograms with a Prairie Warbler also recorded at this same location on 7 June 2015 indicates the bird is almost certainly different from the 2015 male, taking into consideration pronounced differences in the songs.

- **Lark Bunting** (*Calamospiza melanocorys*), 25–26 May 2016, near the town of Cook, St. Louis County (record #2016-015, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed.

- **Lark Bunting**, 4–6 June 2016, County Road 12, Mehurin Township, Lac qui Parle County (44.8923, -96.3674) (record #2016-019, vote 7–0). Adult male.

- **Lark Bunting**, 11 June 2016, Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge, Polk County (record #2016-021, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed.

- **Lark Bunting**, 21–22 June 2016, Lone Tree Lake, Lyon County (record #2016-026, vote 7–0). Female, photographed.

- **Baird's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus bairdii*), 13–20 June 2016, on Ost Road about one mile west of County Road 6, Douglas County (record #2016-023, vote 7–0). Adult male, video and audio recorded. First county record.

- **Painted Bunting** (*Passerina ciris*), 18–19 May 2015, private residence, Eveleth, St. Louis County (record #2015-045, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed.

The following record was voted on and was 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).

- **Yellow-throated Warbler**, 17 April 2016, immediately behind the Visitor Center at the Rapids Lake Unit of Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Carver County (record #2016-007, vote 0–7). The documentation was very sparse, lacking important details. For example, it did not contain a description of the vocalization. There were no contemporaneous field notes submitted. For a ten minute observation, many details could easily have been provided but were not.

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: Brad Abendroth, Sandy Aubol, David A. Bartkey, Dedrick Benz, Karla Bloem, Milton J. Blomberg, Tom F. Boevers, Paul E. Budde, Charles Bush, Philip C. Chu, John Cyrus, Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Bruce A. Fall, Susan Finnila, Alex J. Franzen, Randy S. Frederickson, Ben W. Fritchman, Juliann Grahn, Chad Heins, Anthony X. Hertz, Daniel Hoppe, Jeanie M. Joppru, Jan and Larry Kraemer, James W. Lind, Kathleen MacAulay, Kathy Java, Kevin Manley, Mark & Joyce Manning, Scott B. Meyer, Bruce Munson, John Richardson, Kathryn Rozovics, Connie Sabetti, Joel Schmidt, Andrew D. Smith, Linda Sparling, Liz Stanley, Peder H. Svingen, Thomas A. Tustison, Butch Ukura, Garrett Wee, and Roy Zimmerman. Many observers documented records of rare Regular species which were not voted on by the Committee; though not cited here, their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Summary: 32 records voted-on: 31 Accepted, 1 Not Accepted.

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>>.

3244 – 10th Avenue South, #2, Minneapolis MN 55407.

An Ivory Gull in Duluth

Larry and Jan Kraemer



Ivory Gull, 1 January 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Larry and Jan Kraemer.

Late in the day on 30 December 2015, Scott Wolff notified Peter Svingen that he believed there might be an Ivory Gull present in the Duluth area. He described it as a “white gull” flying over Lake Superior along Park Point and heading towards Wisconsin. Peder then notified us to be on the lookout for a possible Ivory Gull. We did not expect to see the gull but reviewed our *Sibley* guide to be sure we knew what we might see.

On 1 January 2016, we were standing at the mouth of Miller Creek observing the local birds. Two Red-tailed Hawks flushed hundreds of birds from the compost pile at the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District site.

We were scanning the birds and trying to identify everything we could. A small, white gull separated from the bird cyclone and headed our way. We could see it was different from everything else in the group, with a black face, black spots along its wings, and a black tail band. It moved with a very graceful buoyant flight. When it flew past us, perhaps 50 feet up, we could clearly see it was an Ivory Gull as it headed for Canal Park (or at least Lake Superior). We sent a text to the local birders and the hunt was on.

Several of us searched the rail yard, the Duluth shore, the Port Terminal, Minnesota Point, and Canal Park. We then went to Su-



Ivory Gull, 3 January 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Paul E. Budde.

perior, WI, to search Connor's Point. While there, John Richardson notified us via text that the bird had been refound at Canal Park. A notification was sent to the MOU and the birder invasion was underway.

On 5 January, Bryan Murdock found a dead Ivory Gull at Connor's Point and emailed Laura Erickson who retrieved the carcass the following day and put out the word that the Ivory Gull was dead. Then on 7 January, we were at Canal Park with several of the Duluth birders lamenting the death of our friend from the north, when amazingly the Ivory Gull flew in and landed on the canal wall. A cheer rose from the group! Who would have thought that there were two Ivory Gulls in the Duluth/Superior area at the same time? Again it was salmon fillets for the gull and pictures for the birders.

During the month of January while the

Ivory Gull remained in Duluth, we got to visit with people from all over the United States and from several other countries who came to see this special bird.

The Ivory Gull was seen with regularity through 24 January. On that last day it was noticeably weak and could not stand. It wasn't seen again.

There was a lot of speculation on who saw what first. Did Scott Wolff see the same bird we did (at Canal Park) while nobody saw the Connor's Point bird until it had died? Or did we see different birds? These questions may never be answered. Hundreds of pictures prove that the Ivory Gull we found on 1 January was the only one seen and photographed throughout the month of January in Duluth.

1025 Maple Grove Road, Duluth MN 55811.

The 2015–2016 Winter Season

1 December 2015 through 29 February 2016

Bruce A. Fall¹, Howard C. Towle², and Paul E. Budde³

This winter season was notable for one first state record (Mottled Duck), one Accidental species (Ivory Gull), five Casual species (Black-legged Kittiwake, California Gull, Gyrfalcon, Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch, Golden-crowned Sparrow), and three first winter-season records (Clark's Grebe, Northern Parula, and Indigo Bunting).

A Mute Swan photographed in late February provided a first county record for Yellow Medicine. Minnesota's first Mottled Duck was picked out from a large wintering flock of Mallards and a few other duck species in Coon Rapids, Anoka County, and was seen and reported by at least 17 people during its two-day stay in mid February. There were only two reports of Harlequin Duck and one of Surf Scoter, all from the North Shore, but about seven records of White-winged Scoter including three away from Lake Superior. Also "inland" were at least seven different Long-tailed Ducks on the Mississippi River from the Twin Cities to the southeast.

Providing the first winter record for the state (and the latest by over two months), as well as a first county record, was a Clark's Grebe that was found by a passing motorist in early December stranded on the side of Lake County Road 2 north of Two Harbors. Presumably the grebe mistook the road for open water and attempted to land. It was taken to a wildlife rehabilitation facility and released into Lake Superior the following day.

Eurasian Collared-Doves continue to increase, with reports from a season-record 50 counties. A December Sora in Hennepin was one of very few winter reports of this species and the first in 16 years. Two Sandhill Cranes in Sherburne in late January suggested possible overwintering, and early returning migrants were reported from four Southeast counties in late February; this species was recorded in each of the three winter months.

A juvenile Ivory Gull spent part of January

(through the 24th) at Canal Park in Duluth. It was reported to M.O.U. or eBird by nearly 300 different people. The scavenged carcass of another juvenile was found only a couple of miles away in nearby Superior, WI, in early January, raising the possibility that they arrived together.

Two Casual gull species were reported. A first-cycle California Gull was photographed in early December in Duluth, the state's third winter-season record. Two first-cycle Black-legged Kittiwakes were seen by many in mid January in Duluth. Presumably one of these same gulls was at the same location in mid February and three days later in Two Harbors. The only Lesser Black-backed Gulls reported were in Minneapolis, where there were at least five different individuals in December.

Possibly for the first time, five species of *Ardeids* were recorded during the winter season, including the first January American Bittern (Steele), and December records of Great Egret (two in Houston), Black-crowned Night-Heron (Kandiyohi), and Green Heron (Anoka), in addition to the expected Great Blues (multiple locations).

Two Osprey lingered into early December. Five separate Turkey Vulture records in late February from three Southeast counties were the first winter reports in six years.

A remarkable total of 72 Red-headed Woodpeckers was observed on the Cedar Creek Bog CBC on 12/20. This followed a year in which only two individuals were observed on this count, likely reflecting dramatic variations in acorn crops at the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were observed in more counties than in any of the previous 20 years. American Three-toed Woodpecker reports continue to be scarce, being observed in only three northern counties.

Merlins were widely reported throughout the state and winter season. Peregrine Falcons



Black-legged Kittiwake, 17 January 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

also had a strong showing. Both of these species were observed in the highest number of counties in at least the past ten years. Two Gyrfalcons were reported during the season from the Duluth port area, the first since 2011, and were most likely the same two individuals that overwintered in Superior, WI, at the Gavilon Grain Elevators on Connor's Point.

Tufted Titmouse reports came from eleven counties, the highest number of reporting counties in at least ten years, and from as far north as Isanti. Carolina and Winter wrens were both reported in three counties along the Mississippi River, fairly typical of most winters. Golden-crowned Kinglets were found in 29 counties with reports continuing throughout January and February.

Townsend's Solitaires were reported from eleven counties, the most since 2011, with a particularly strong showing from northern counties (five). Varied Thrushes were reported from eleven counties, the most since 2012, with six of these reports also from the north. Gray Catbirds found in Polk and Olmsted counties marked the fifth winter in a row for this species. Brown Thrashers were found in nine counties, more than double the number in at least the past ten years.

Two reports of Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch coming to feeders in North Shore counties represented the first Minnesota sightings since 2009. Most winter finches were found in good numbers, primarily in the north. Pine Grosbeaks, Red Crossbills, Hoary Redpolls, and Evening Grosbeaks were found in the highest number of counties since 2012, which was a major invasion year for most finch species.

Highly unusual were a late lingering Northern Parula in Anoka County in early December and an even later Ovenbird in Hennepin County in January. Both birds were observed at feeders. A number of sparrows were found in higher abundance than is typical. Savannah Sparrows were reported from an unprecedented five counties, including Lake. Similarly, 27 counties reporting Song Sparrow represented a high mark for this species. And an unusually high number of winter season White-throated Sparrows, Harris's Sparrows, and White-crowned Sparrows were reported. For the second year in a row, a Golden-crowned Sparrow frequented a yard in the Lakeside neighborhood of Duluth throughout the season.

A late female Summer Tanager was observed at a Roseville feeder in Ramsey County on 6 December. Also very late was a Rose-

breasted Grosbeak seen at a feeder in Sherburne County until 26 December. Most remarkable was a well-documented observation of an immature male Indigo Bunting at a feeder in Duluth on 2 January. And a Baltimore Oriole was found in Rolling Stone, Winona County, on Christmas Eve — the first winter report of this species since 2006.

Weather Summary: Average monthly temperatures were seven to twelve degrees above historical means in December, the warmest December of the modern record, and continued above average in January and February. Following on a warmer than usual November, the dates when many lakes froze over were among the latest dates on record. For example, Lake Bemidji (Beltrami County) froze over on 19 December and Lake Calhoun in Minneapolis on the 30th — both one day earlier than these lakes' latest ice-in dates on record. Monthly precipitation totals were one to two inches above average in December, but returned to normal in January and February.

Insufficiently Documented Reports: Blue-winged Teal 12/20 Fergus Falls CBC, Cedar Creek Bog CBC (both CBCs reported a male and female; better details are needed in winter to distinguish from the much more likely Green-winged Teal); Common Goldeneye X Barrow's Goldeneye 1/24 St. Louis (no documentation); 1/22 Mountain Bluebird, Lac qui

Parle (female, unusual winter location); Chipping Sparrow 1/27–2/11 Rice (unexpected in winter).

Acknowledgments: We thank Jeanie Jopru and Jim Lind for compiling and providing transcripts of Minnesota's two 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 March 2016). Steve Weston, serving as Minnesota CBC coordinator, compiled vast amounts of data from 78 counts. Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data from 1990 through 2014. Our appreciation goes out to all our contributors, especially 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*) — [26 South] Scattered south reports through mid December, then none until 2/6 Kandiyohi (5) MJB. Early returning migrants starting late February, with many reports 2/26–29 from 24 south counties. High counts 2/27 Jackson (8,733) PEJ, Yellow Medicine (4,500) RBJ, Nobles (4,000) PEJ.

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [1 North, 19 South] Scattered reports through December from seven south counties. Small group (15) overwintered McLeod (Hutchinson, Gopher Campfire Club Wildlife Sanctuary); these unrestrained feral birds are reported most winters at this location and are present year-round, where they breed *vide* BNn. Early spring migrants starting late February, with many reports from 2/20–29 from 17 south counties and one north (2/27 Wilkin). High counts 2/27 Nobles (6,300) PEJ, Cottonwood (500) TKa, 2/29 Jackson (450) KnM.

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [7 South] One December report 12/8 Olmsted (Silver Creek Reservoir) JmP. No others until late February, when there were a few reports from 6 south counties 2/26–29. High counts 2/27 Nobles (111), Jackson (28) PEJ.

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [1 North, 35 South] Numerous early winter reports (through 1/2) of small numbers (up to 22) from 17 south counties and one north. No others until late February, when there were many reports of early migrants 2/26–29 from 26 south counties. High counts 2/27 Jackson (757), Nobles (85) †PEJ, 2/26 Big Stone (50) KeM. CBC high counts 12/19 Rochester (22), St. Paul (North) (10).

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [23 North, 51 South] Reported from 15 north counties after the CBC period. Season high counts north 12/6 Polk (5,000) SAU, 12/19 Clay (1,612) PBB. Widespread south throughout the season. Reported from all but 2 south counties, with season high counts south 12/6, 12/11 Olmsted (3,000) JmP, 1/2 Wabasha (2,616) SWe, 2/29 Jackson (2,500) KnM. CBC high counts 12/19 Fairmont (9,663), 12/19 Rochester (5,400), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (5,320).

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [4 South] All reports: 12/2–20 Wabasha (2 adults, 3 immatures; Minneiska) PEJ, PGL, 2/22 Winona (south of Minneiska) KnM, 2/27 Goodhue (2, Lock and Dam 3) DVe, **Yellow Medicine** (Wood Lake) ph. GWe.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [17 North, 33 South] Reported from a season record 50 counties statewide, twice as many as last year; previous high was 38 (winter 2012). Reported from 13 north and 29 south counties after December. Season high counts north 1/1 Morrison (500, Camp Ripley) KeM, 12/23 Otter Tail (200) CNn, 1/23 Mille Lacs (200) JIB. Season high counts south from Wright (Monticello), including 1/21 (1,000) CRa, 1/22 (600) SKe, LSe. Away from Monticello, south high count 1/15 Goodhue (246) GHO, KDS. CBC high counts 1/3 Battle Lake (1,263), 1/1 Pillager (518), 12/19 Sherburne NWR (448), 1/2 Northern Wright County (423).

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [3 North, 11 South] One midwinter north report: 1/25–29 Hubbard JPr, m.ob. Large numbers were reported well into December in Houston (Mississippi River Pool 8; includes birds in Wisconsin waters): 12/2 (14,000, U.S.F.W.S. count) *vide* RPR, 12/4 (4,800) SRo, JRo, 12/11 (4,000) GHO, 12/20 (3,000) SOa. Smaller numbers lingered into early January in Wabasha, including 1/2 (166) SWe. Other January–February reports: 1/10 Nicollet (5, Spring Lake Park) DKr, 2/26–27 Goodhue (2, Lake Byllesby) PNi, BDo. CBC high count 12/19 La Crosse-La Crescent (420).

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [3 North, 15 South] Several north reports: 12/4, 12/20 St. Louis (female, Manganika Creek near Virginia) SLF, 12/16 Cass (Leech Lake) DAY, 1/5 Douglas BEC. Mid-January to mid-February records from 5 south counties (Anoka, Benton, Goodhue, Olmsted, Winona), all of 1–2 birds, suggest overwintering.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) — [2 North, 24 South] Three north reports: 12/4 Douglas BEC, 12/19 Fergus Falls CBC, 12/24 Douglas MJB. Mid-January to mid-February reports from ten south counties. Multiple individuals overwintered Goodhue

(up to 17, Colville Park), Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.), and Wabasha/Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) with peak midwinter counts 1/20 Scott (20) TTh and 1/31 Winona (54) DBz. Influx of probable early spring migrants in late February in Scott m.ob., including high count 2/26 (304) PEJ, also 2/28 Rice (45) DAB. Season high count 12/3 Houston (1,700, Mississippi River Pool 8, includes birds in Wisconsin waters) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/19 Winona (202), 12/19 Excelsior (108), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (27).

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) — [1 North, 12 South] One north report 12/19 Fargo-Moorhead CBC. Large numbers lingered into December south along the Mississippi River, with high counts 12/3 Houston (995, Mississippi River Pool 8) PEJ, 12/4 Houston (400) RPR, 12/3 Wabasha (122, Pool 5) PEJ. No reports from early January to late February, when there were scattered reports of probable early migrants from 5 south counties, with peak 2/27 Cottonwood (5) PEJ.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) — [2 North, 19 South] Multiple individuals overwintered St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob., with peak January counts 1/2 (30) SPu, 1/17 (25) CLN. Post-December south reports from 15 counties, with high counts 6 or fewer. CBC high counts 12/19 Duluth (40), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (10).

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [22 North, 48 South] High counts north 12/19 Clay (890) PBB, 1/4, 1/10 St. Louis (Duluth, 800) m.ob. Post-December reports from 16 north counties. Midwinter north high counts away from Duluth 1/8 Morrison (70) KEm, MEm, 2/13 Douglas (45) ToR. Reported from all but five south counties, with season high counts 12/12 Wabasha (1,800) PEJ, 2/29 Jackson (1,200) KnM, 12/3 Olmsted (1,000) LAV. CBC high counts 12/19 St. Paul (North) (2,607), 12/19 Excelsior (1,832), 12/19 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (1,633), 12/19 Duluth (1,577), 12/19 Bloomington (1,511).

American Black Duck X Mallard (*Anas rubripes* X *A. platyrhynchos*) — [2 North, 6 South] By far the most reports of this hybrid were from St. Louis (Duluth), with as many as five from Canal Park m.ob. South reports, all of 1–2 individuals, were from

Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Wright.

MOTTLED DUCK (*Anas fulvigula*) — [1 South] First state record, 2/15–16 **Anoka** (adult male, Rum River Dam) ph. †KnM, ph. †PHS, ph. †AXH, ph. †RMD, ph. †ADS, ph. ToL, m.ob. Photos confirm it was of the Western Gulf Coast subspecies, *A. f. maculosa*.

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) — This species is not expected in winter, though in mild winters would not be unprecedented. Please document any winter sightings of this species. For this season, see Insufficiently Documented Reports.

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) — [10 South] December reports from eight south counties, with high counts 12/17 Martin (200) BRB, 12/3 Houston (72) PEJ. Up to 12 overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. No other post-December reports until 2/26 and later (Goodhue, Chippewa, Rice). CBC high count 12/19 Fairmont (300).

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) — [1 North, 23 South] One north report 12/19 Clay (male, female) PBB. December reports from nine south counties, with peak counts 12/3 Houston (280, Mississippi River Pool 8), Wabasha (80, Pool 5) PEJ, 12/11 Houston (68, Brownsville overlook) GHo. Scattered midwinter reports from Dakota, Hennepin, Scott, Wright. Influx of early migrants starting late February from 15 south counties, including 2/27 Jackson (370) PEJ, 2/29 Jackson (200) KnM.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) — [2 North, 9 South] Three north reports: 12/2 St. Louis (Park Point) KDS, 12/19 Grand Marais CBC, 12/20 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC. December reports from 5 south counties, with high counts 12/3 Houston (63, Mississippi River Pool 8), 12/12 Wabasha (17, Pool 5 near Minneiska MN) PEJ. Single birds overwintered Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin m.ob.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) — [3 North, 19 South] December north reports from Beltrami, Douglas, St. Louis; no north reports after December. Large numbers south remained in Mississippi River Pools 5 and 8 into late December, with high counts (including birds in Wisconsin



Harlequin Duck, 24 February 2016, Two Harbors, Lake County. Photo by John P. Richardson.

sin waters) 12/3 Houston (29,500), Wabasha (5,000), 12/12 Wabasha (3,300), Winona (1,800), 12/24 Wabasha (1,800) PEJ. Smaller numbers continued into January in Wabasha, including 1/30 (305) PEJ. Other midwinter reports of 1–5 birds from Anoka, Benton, Dakota, Goodhue, Stearns, Winona. Presumed early migrants starting in late February, including 2/28 Winona (825), Wabasha (525), Goodhue (175) PEJ. CBC high count 1/2 Wabasha (58).

Redhead (*Aythya americana*) — [3 North, 21 South] December reports from 3 north counties (Beltrami, Douglas, Polk). Last north report 1/5 Douglas BEC. December reports from 11 south counties, with high count 12/8 Hennepin (30) TLo. Midwinter reports (1–4 birds) from Benton, Goodhue, Scott, Stearns, Wabasha, Washington, Wright. Presumed early migrants south starting very late February including 2/27 Jackson (28), 2/28 Goodhue (25) PEJ, Rice (14) DAB, m.ob. CBC high count 12/19 Fairmont (4).

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) — [5

North, 21 South] December reports from 5 north counties. Male overwintered St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) through 2/13 m.ob. December reports from 16 south counties, with high counts 12/3 Wabasha (5,700, Mississippi River Pool 5), Houston (5,000, Pool 8), 12/12 Winona (2,000, Pool 5) PEJ, 12/6 Ramsey (900, Vadnais Lake) KnM. Midwinter reports from 8 south counties; multiple individuals overwintered Goodhue, Ramsey, Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. with peak count 1/20 (30) TTh, Wabasha with peak 1/30 (44) PEJ, Washington with peak 1/8 (30) GJa. Early migrants starting late February, including 2/28 Goodhue (450) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (61), 12/19 Excelsior (56).

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) — [3 North, 12 South] December north reports from Beltrami, St. Louis. All north reports after December: 1/2 Alexandria CBC, 1/4 St. Louis (2, Duluth, Port Terminal) JLK, 1/10 St. Louis (female, Canal Park) KMJ, ACA, CoG. Midwinter reports south from Dakota

and Washington (1–2, Point Douglas area) m.ob., Goodhue (Colville Park) m.ob. with peak 1/23 (7) PEJ, Scott (Shakopee, 1/13 MwS, 1/19 KvM), Wabasha m.ob. with high count 1/16 (13) PEJ. Presumed early migrants starting very late February from Goodhue (Lake Byllesby and Sturgeon Lake), Rice, Winona. CBC high count 1/2 Wabasha (22).

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) — [3 North, 27 South] December reports from three north counties (Clay, Douglas, St. Louis), with high count 12/9 Douglas (10) ToR. Two north reports after December: 1/1 Douglas (5) RBW, 2/20 Douglas JPE. December reports from 16 south counties. South high counts from Mississippi River Pools 5 and 8 (includes birds in Wisconsin waters): 12/3 Houston (15,750), Wabasha (2,700), 12/12 Wabasha (2,700) PEJ. Midwinter reports from 15 south counties, with multiple individuals in several including up to 6 each in Anoka, Goodhue, and Hennepin, Scott (2), Wabasha (up to 20), Winona (10). Influx of early migrants in late February, including 2/28 Goodhue (300), Wabasha (176), Winona (264) PEJ.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus bistrionicus*) — [2 North] All reports: 12/19 Grand Marais CBC, 2/13–27 Lake (female, Two Harbors) m.ob.

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 North] One report: 1/8 Cook (Paradise Beach) DRB, LBe.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) — [3 North, 2 South] All north: 12/3 Cook (3) HHD, RAE, 12/19–25 Douglas (up to 3, Lake Carlos) ph. BEc, †ToR, †MJB, RAE, 1/5 Cook (Grand Marais) ph. †ClN, ph. DMB, m.ob., 2/16–17 Lake (Two Harbors) BAB, ph. †ToL, ph. †JWL, 2/28 Lake (Two Harbors) †ClN, †KvM. Two south reports: 12/1 Dakota (Black Dog Lake) †BAF, 12/24 Wabasha (Lake City) PEJ.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [3 North, 6 South] Numerous north reports from all three Lake Superior counties, with high counts by county: 1/22 Cook (104, Good Harbor Bay) KeL, 2/18 Lake (12, Two Harbors) JWL, 1/7–8 St. Louis (7, Stoney Point) PRo, JJu. All south reports (at least 7 different individuals, including at least 4 in Wabasha/Winona): 12/3

Wabasha and 12/12 Winona (Mississippi River Pool 5, immature male) PEJ, 12/19 La Crosse-La Crescent CBC, 12/20 Wabasha (2, Pool 5 near Minneiska) PEJ, 12/24 Wabasha (Lake City Marina) PEJ, 1/5–7 Dakota (Schaar's Bluff) ph. †ALw, †AlF, 1/15–16 Wabasha DBz, PEJ, 2/6–7 Anoka and Hennepin (Coon Rapids Dam) †TLo, ph. ToL, ph. SOa, m.ob.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [8 North, 19 South] December reports from five north counties. North reports after December include 1/5 Cook (2, Taconite Harbor) ClN, m.ob., 1/11–26 St. Louis (McQuade Public Access / Small Craft Harbor) JPR, m.ob., 1/26 Lake (Knife River) m.ob., 2/10 Itasca SC, 2/15–28 Lake (1–2, Bay-side Park) JWL, m.ob. December reports from 16 south counties, with high counts 12/3 Wabasha (450, Mississippi River Pool 5), 12/12 Wabasha (120, Pool 5) PEJ, 12/8 Hennepin (50, Medicine Lake) TLo. Midwinter reports from 7 south counties, with high count 1/26 Scott (10, Savage) RBJ. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (3), Willmar (3).

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [15 North, 31 South] High counts north 12/19 Douglas (250) BEc, 12/27 St. Louis (164, Duluth) JLK. Post-December reports from 12 north counties, with peak count 1/1 St. Louis (75, Duluth) MLH, JLK. High counts south 1/23 Dakota (1,200, near Prescott, WI) PEJ, 1/13 Goodhue (1,000, Lock and Dam 3) DVe. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (415), Fergus Falls (380), Duluth (360).

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) — No reports.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [5 North, 17 South] December reports from four north counties (1–3 birds). Only north report after December was 1/2 Uppgaard WMA CBC. December reports from 15 south counties, with high count 12/10 Ramsey (400, North Pleasant Lake) MRc, WRc. January–February reports from 12 south counties with high count 2/29 Scott (20) BHe. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (20), Fergus Falls (5).

Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser (*Bucephala clangula* X *Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [2 South] Two individuals were

reported: 1/16, 1/23 Wabasha (adult male, Minneiska and Camp Lacupolis) PEJ, 1/23 Goodhue (immature male, Colvill Park) PEJ.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) — [14 North, 34 South] Reported from more counties statewide (48) than in the previous five winters. December–early January reports from 12 north counties, with high counts 12/3 Beltrami (320, Lake Bemidji) DPJ, 1/1 Morrison (51, Camp Ripley) KeM. Small numbers overwintered in St. Louis with high count 1/24 (27, Canal Park) JLK, and Lake with peak count 2/15 (20, Two Harbors) BeB. There were also midwinter north reports (1–7 birds) from Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Douglas, Itasca, Morrison. Widespread overwintering south, with post-December reports from 30 counties. Season south high counts 12/24 Goodhue (5,000, Lake Pepin) PEJ, 12/25 Hennepin (2,500, Lake Minnetonka) MKj, 2/15 Goodhue (2,000, Lock and Dam 3) GJM. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (13,030), 1/1 Afton (2,414), 12/27 Red Wing (812).

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) — [2 North, 9 South] North reports only from Lake, St. Louis, where overwintered in small numbers. Peak counts north were from Lake (Two Harbors): 2/16 (16) ToL, 2/26 (16) JLB, ABm. December reports south from 7 counties, with peak 12/27 Ramsey (10, Vadnais Lake) TKa, CKa. Midwinter south reports from 3 counties (Dakota, Goodhue, Washington), all singles except 1/14 Goodhue (5, Colville Park) PNi. One 2/28–29 Brown BTS, MiO may have been an early migrant.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [13 South] Reported from 11 south counties in December, with high count 12/24 Wabasha (17, Mississippi River Pool 5) PEJ. Two midwinter reports: 1/9–11 Washington GJa, PNi, 1/30 Wabasha PEJ.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [4 North, 15 South] Scattered north reports from four counties, with high counts 1/18 Clay (16) PBB, 12/26 Polk (15) SAu, 2/11 Red Lake (15) SAS. Reported from the most south counties for the winter season since 2010, with high counts 1/22 Goodhue (15), 1/19 Wabasha (14) HHD, RAE. CBC high counts 12/20 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks (22),

12/19 Crookston (20).

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [15 North, 53 South] Reported from about the same number of counties as the previous three winter seasons, from as far north as Polk and southern St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog). High counts north: 1/2 Douglas (28) ToR, 12/28 Grant (15) JLL. Reported from all 53 south counties, with high counts 12/8 Swift (100) DOR, 1/7 Cottonwood (50) TKa, 2/13 Goodhue (45) MVi. CBC high counts 12/19 Marshall (152), 12/19 Willmar (79), 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom (58).

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [20 North, 7 South] Reported from about the same number of counties statewide as in recent previous winter seasons. North high counts include 1/14 St. Louis (11) KWi, GPe, JLz, 1/8 St. Louis (8) SRo, JRo. South reports from Anoka, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Sherburne, Wabasha, Washington (2, St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC), all of 4 or fewer individuals. CBC high counts 12/20 Carlton-Cloquet (19), 12/26 Cook Area (14), 12/20 Virginia (13).

Spruce Grouse (*Falcipennis canadensis*) — [4 North] Most reports from Lake, a few others from St. Louis, Roseau, Lake of the Woods. High count 12/8 Lake (30, Superior N.F.R. 377) RHg; other reports were of 6 or fewer individuals.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [11 North, 1 South] High counts 1/3 Beltrami (19) TSp, JLS, MGo, 12/5 Polk (10) SAu. All south reports 12/5, 12/23, 1/3, 1/28 Lac qui Parle (2–5 individuals, Plover Prairie Preserve East Unit) DLP. CBC high counts 12/18 Agassiz N.W.R. (146), 12/19 Crookston (31), 1/2 Roseau (27).

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [3 North] Only a few reports, all from Clay, Marshall, Polk. All non-CBC reports: 12/18 Marshall JMP, 1/24 Clay (42, in farm fields across from Spring Prairie Preserve) ShG, HeH, 1/29 Marshall ODa. CBC high counts 12/19 Crookston (89), 12/17 Glacial Ridge (55), 1/2 Bluestem Prairie/ Buffalo River S.P. (13).

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [21 North, 43 South] Reported from 65 counties statewide, second only to the season

record 70 in winter 2013. Absent from the counties bordering Canada (except St. Louis), but reported from as far north as Marshall, Beltrami. North high counts 12/19 Morrison (167; 5 flocks in 87 miles) KEm, MEm, 12/19 Clay (39) PBB, 2/13 Todd (37) ALu. South high counts 12/27 Goodhue (235) JFR, 1/22 Sherburne (69) JIB, 1/2 Washington (64) PRH, 1/31 Dakota (62) ADS. CBC high counts 12/27 Red Wing (350), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (284), 12/19 Henderson (256).

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [2 North, 8 South] All north reports: 12/3 St. Louis (2, Silver Lake, Virginia.) SLF, 12/25 Douglas RAE, 1/2 Alexandria CBC, 1/5 Douglas BEc, 2/20 Douglas JPE. South reports after December include: through 1/13 Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., 1/15 Goodhue (Lock and Dam 3) GHO, KDS, 1/24 Kandiyohi (Mill Pond, New London) RAE, 1/24–2/29 Winona (Prairie Island Road/Riverview Drive, Winona) DBz, m.ob.,

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [1 North, 5 South] One north report: 1/4 Lake (2, Two Harbors) †JWL. All south reports: 12/1–12/9 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) m.ob., 12/3 Wabasha PEJ, 12/22 Rice TFB, 2/21 Anoka (Peninsula Point Two Rivers Historical Park) ph. †KnM, 2/28 Goodhue (Sturgeon Lake) PEJ.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [2 North, 2 South] All north: 12/3–20 Lake (Two Harbors) HHD, RAE, JWL, 12/19 Duluth CBC, 1/6–8 St. Louis (2–4, Stoney Point) †JPR, PRo, ph. JJu. All south: 12/2–9 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) †WPO, ph. CMB, ph. GrS, ph. JBu, m.ob., 12/4 Winona (2, Veterans Memorial Park) CNg.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [1 South] One report: **12/1–27** Hennepin (Lake Harriet) JmM, m.ob. (photographed by many).

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [1 North] One record: **12/7 Lake**. A grounded individual was found by a motorist on the shoulder of C.R. 2 north of Two Harbors and about 3.7 miles northwest of Lake Superior. It was rescued by two DNR employees, Nancy Hansen and Bailey Petersen, and taken to Wildwoods Wildlife Rehabilitation in Duluth, where it

was photographed by staff, determined to be uninjured, and then released in Lake Superior on 12/8 (*vide* AXH, KRE). This is the latest date for the state by over two months (prior late date 4 October 1996), and is only the second record for any of the North Shore counties (the other was 5/7/1987, Duluth).

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [31 North, 53 South] Reported statewide from all south counties and all but three north. High counts 1/2 Douglas (280) ToR, 12/19 Morrison (250) JEm, 1/12 Ramsey (200). CBC high counts 12/19 St. Paul (North) (2,279), Duluth (992), Little Falls (895), Winona (875).

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [11 North, 39 South] Reported from a winter record 50 counties statewide (previous record 41, winter 2012–13) from as far northwest as Pennington and Polk, but no reports from counties east of a line from (and including) Washington to Roseau. High counts north: 1/16 Clay (17) PBB, 1/2 Douglas (12) ToR. South high count 2/6 Lyon (**125**, Cottonwood Elevator) GWe. CBC high counts 12/14 Cottonwood (226), 12/17 Lac qui Parle (58), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (56), 12/19 Fairmont (47).

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) — [26 North, 42 South] Reported from 68 counties statewide, more than in any of the previous ten winters. High counts north: 12/31 Clay (16) PBB, 12/20 Lake (11) JWL, 12/22, 1/8, 1/10 Morrison (10) KEm, MEm, 2/5 Lake (10) JWL. High counts south: 12/11 Olmsted (86, South Landfill Reservoir) MiD, 12/26 Dakota (57) CTS, KDS. CBC high counts 12/26 Hastings-Etter (218), 12/19 Faribault (138), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (137), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (119). CBC high count north: 12/20 Grand Rapids (21).

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) — [1 South] One report: **12/10** Hennepin (Old Cedar Avenue Bridge observation deck) †GrS. This is the first winter record since winter 1999.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [4 North, 19 South] December reports from four north counties, with high count 12/21 Douglas (150, Lake Carlos) ToR. Last north report 1/5 Douglas BEc. December re-



Black-legged Kittiwake, 10 February 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by John P. Richardson.



Ivory Gull, 1 January 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by John P. Richardson.

ports from 17 south counties, with high counts 12/4 Carver (150, Lake Waconia) JCy, 12/29 Hennepin (100, Lake Harriet) SKE. Overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., with peak counts 1/21 (53) DGu, 2/21 (65) PEJ, and at Shakopee Mill Pond (up to 6). Other midwinter reports from Goodhue, Washington (15 on 1/11 PNi), Winona. CBC high counts 12/19 Owatonna (25), 12/19 Excelsior (16).

Sandhill Crane (*Antigone canadensis*) — [8 South] December reports from five south counties including 12/3–15 Olmsted (2–3, Silver Creek Reservoir) m.ob., 12/9 Anoka (7) Bab, 12/17 Washington (20) PSm, 12/19 Sherburne NWR CBC (18), La Crosse-La Crescent CBC. One midwinter report **1/31** Sherburne (2, Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail) ph. ABm, JJB. Presumed early migrants starting late February include 2/26 Wabasha (2) DBz, 2/27 Olmsted MiD, 2/28 Fillmore JWH, Goodhue PEJ.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [5 South] Multiple individuals lingered in Dakota/Goodhue (Lake Byllesby): 12/5 (18) ADS, 12/7 (19), 12/18 (5) KDS. Other reports include 12/11 Houston (2) DBz, 12/27 Red Wing CBC, 1/1 Olmsted JPr, JJS, 1/15, 2/5 Olmsted DBz, MJB. Presumed early migrants starting 2/28 Winona PEJ.

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) — [4 South] All reports: 12/24 Washington (2, Little Carnelian Lake) JuW, 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC, 1/1 Afton CBC, Olmsted JPr, JJS, 1/15 Olmsted DBz, 2/4 Chisago RSG, 2/5 Olmsted DBz, MJB.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (*Rissa tridactyla*) — [2 North] Two first-cycle individuals St. Louis (Canal Park) 1/16–18 StK, ph. †PHS, ph. †JWL, m.ob., then only one from 1/19–23 m.ob. (**The Loon** 88:138–139). Numerous additional photos m.ob. Presumably one of the same birds was rediscovered at the same location 2/10–12 TPM, KRE, ph. JPR, ph. AiP. Additional report (presumed same bird) 2/15 Lake (Two Harbors, Agate Bay) ph. BeB, KBy, ph. JWL, m.ob.

IVORY GULL (*Pagophila eburnea*) — [1 North] Twelfth state record and the first in eight years: juvenile first reported 1/1 St. Louis (W.L.S.S.D., Duluth) JLK, then relocated the same day at Canal Park where it was seen daily through 1/9 m.ob. (**The Loon** 88:95–96). It was not recorded from 1/10–17 except for a brief period on 1/15 (JLK), then continued daily from 1/18–24 m.ob. During its stay it was reported to M.O.U. or eBird by 294 different people, and was documented by many with photos

and descriptions. On 1/24 several observers reported that it appeared to be in poor health, and it died later that day (PHS). An apparently fresh partly eaten carcass of another juvenile was found on 1/5 about two miles south in Superior WI (Connor's Point) *fide* LME. In addition, another juvenile was photographed on 2/17 near Bayfield WI roughly 65 miles east of Duluth.

Bonaparte's Gull (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [1 North, 2 South] All reports: 12/2 Carver (Lake Waconia) JCy, 12/3 Houston (Mississippi River Pool 8) PEJ, 12/12 Cass (Leech Lake) DAY, 12/13 Carver (Lake Waconia) WCM.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [1 South] Reported 12/5–7 Goodhue (Lake Byllesby) ADS, KDS.

Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) — [8 North, 24 South] Reported from 32 counties statewide, the most in at least the past ten winters. December reports from eight north counties. A few lingered into mid January in St. Louis (Duluth, Canal Park), including four as late as 1/9 and two on 1/16 JLK. In several south counties large numbers remained in December, with high count 12/9 Hennepin (2,500, Lake Harriet) BAF; 1,000 were still present at Lake Harriet 12/17 BAF, and 1,500 12/26 Washington (Xcel power plant) TRK. Numbers diminished quickly in January, with the last report 1/10 Hennepin (Coon Rapids Dam) KnM. There were no other south reports until late February, when probable early migrants appeared 2/25 Goodhue (16, Sturgeon Lake) KDS; 1–2 were reported from Blue Earth, Faribault, Dakota, Rice, Wabasha, Washington, Winona after 2/25. CBC high counts 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (1,505), 12/19 Bloomington (400), Excelsior (223), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (127) CBC, 12/19 Minneapolis (North) (126).

CALIFORNIA GULL (*Larus californicus*) — [1 North] One report: **12/6** St. Louis (first-cycle, Superior Entry) ph. JLK.

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) — [6 North, 18 South] Reported from 24 counties statewide, the most in at least the past ten winters. December high counts north 12/5 St. Louis (2,400, Superior Entry) RJ, JLK, 12/12 (1,200, Superior Entry) TRK. Overwintered St. Louis (Duluth) with peak Jan-

uary counts (Canal Park) 1/3 (725) JLK, 1/24 (475) JLK, MLH, and peak February count 2/21 (310) JWL. Also overwintered in smaller numbers in Cook and Lake with high counts in each county 1/25 Cook (52) KDS, 2/12 Lake (270, Two Harbors) JWL. The only north reports away from Lake Superior include 12/3 Beltrami DPJ, 12/16 Cass (3) DAY, 12/19 Walker CBC. High counts south: 12/30 Hennepin (1,775, Lake Harriet) PEB, 12/6 Hennepin (1,500, Lake Harriet) EzH. South numbers dropped quickly in early January, with peak 1/8 Washington (86) KvM but only a few scattered singles after that until late February. CBC high counts 12/19 Duluth (666), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (150), 12/20 Two Harbors (120), 12/19 Willmar (96).

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) — [2 North, 3 South] Record high count 12/12 St. Louis (**24**, Superior Entry and Canal Park) PHS, including six first-cycle, six second-cycle, five third-cycle, and seven adults (individuals distinguished by photos). Other high counts (Duluth) include 12/5 (**21**) PHS, 12/6 St. Louis (15) JLK. A few overwintered in Duluth, with up to 8 in January and 1–3 reported throughout February m.ob. Also 1–2 reported mid February Lake (Two Harbors) m.ob. South high counts: 12/18 Hennepin (4, Lake Calhoun), 12/30 Hennepin (4, Lake Harriet) BAF. No south reports after December.

Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) — [2 North, 2 South] High counts, all St. Louis (Duluth): 12/12 (**5**, Superior Entry) PHS, TRK, JLK, RJ, including three second-cycle, one third-cycle, one adult, 1/1 (4, Canal Park) SBM. Up to two birds overwintered into February (Canal Park) m.ob. One report from Lake (Two Harbors) 2/12 JWL. All south: 12/2–3 Hennepin (adult, Lake Harriet, continuing from 11/29) BAF, PRH, PNi, 2/22 Winona (adult, near Minneiska) †KnM.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) — [1 South] Five different individuals reported Hennepin (Lake Harriet, Lake Calhoun): 12/17–18 (third-cycle) †BAF, SBM, 12/19 (adult) †BAF, 12/23–27 (first-cycle) †CMB, †CIN, 12/30 (adult) †CMB, 12/30 (second-cycle) PEB.

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Reported throughout the season St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob., with high count 1/2 (5, Canal Park) JPR, several counts of 4 through mid January, then 1–2 through the end of February. All south: 12/1–5 Hennepin (adult, Lake Harriet, continuing from November) m.ob., 12/19 Hennepin (adult, Lake Calhoun) BAF, 12/30 Hennepin (first-cycle, Lake Harriet) BAF, TAT, 2/25 Goodhue (Sturgeon Lake) KDS.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) — [2 North] Small numbers reported St. Louis (Duluth) from December to 2/7 m.ob., with high count 12/12 (4, all first-cycle) PHS. At least three different birds (adult, third-cycle, first-cycle) were seen throughout January, mostly individually. One report from Lake: 12/20 Two Harbors CBC. No south reports.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 North] One report: **12/17–19** St. Louis (Canal Park) †JLK.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) — [3 North, 7 South] Reported from ten counties statewide, the most in at least the past ten winters. All north: 12/2 St. Louis (McQuade Public Access / Small Craft Harbor) KDS, 12/12 Cass (4, Leech Lake, Walker Bay) DAY, 12/19 Walker CBC, Duluth CBC, 12/20 Grand Rapids CBC (7). Numerous south reports in December from five counties, as late as 12/17 Hennepin CMB. One juvenile overwintered 1/14–2/29 Benton/Stearns (Sauk Rapids) HHD, m.ob.; this bird had been released 12/29 by a local wildlife rehabilitator (*vide* HHD).

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [2 North, 6 South] Reported from eight counties statewide, the most in at least the past ten winters. All north 12/19–24 Douglas (Lake Carlos) BEC, ToR, MJB, 12/21 St. Louis (adult, Duluth south of Aerial Lift Bridge) PHS. South reports in December from Dakota, Goodhue, Kandiyohi, Rice, Wabasha, with high counts 12/19 Bloomington CBC (4), 12/14 Goodhue (3, Lock and Dam 3) KDS.

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [5 South] Multiple individuals lingered in Houston (Mississippi River Pool 8), including 12/3 (91) PEJ,



American Bittern, 5 January 2016, Owatonna, Steele County. Photo by Matt Stratmoen.

12/11 (22) GHo, KDS. Latest reports 12/19 Bloomington CBC (2), La Crosse-La Crescent CBC, Winona CBC, 12/21 Hennepin (Bass Ponds, appeared to have injured wing) GrS.

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [1 South] First January record for the state: **1/1–5** Steele (84th Avenue near 50th St., Owatonna, in open-water drainage ditch) ph. KDR, ph. †PEB, m.ob., numerous photos. The bittern appeared healthy and was seen in flight by several observers.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) — [2 North, 9 South] Two north reports: 12/12 Hubbard (Kabekona Lake) REn, 12/17 Glacial Ridge CBC. December reports from nine south counties. Overwintered Ramsey (Kaposia Landing) m.ob. with peak counts 2/4 (3), 2/10 (4) BAF, Rice m.ob. CBC high count 12/19 Faribault (3).

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) — [1 South] Reported **12/3–12** Houston (Brownsville overlook) PEJ, m.ob., including two birds 12/11 DBz, GHo, KDS.

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) — [2 South] One reported **12/17** Anoka (Springbrook N.C.) ph. JoJ, 12/19 Minneapolis (North) CBC. The heron, which was hunting in a partially frozen stream and was also seen to fly, was described as ap-

pearing cold and shivering.

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [1 South] One report: **12/19** Kandiyohi (juvenile, Crow River near New London) †RSF.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) — [3 South] Early spring migrants from three south counties: 2/26 Wabasha DBz, 2/27 Houston SHO, Olmsted †MiD, Wabasha (2, Weaver Dunes) †CBv, 2/29 Olmsted JWH. These are the first February records since 2009.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [1 South] All reports: 12/1 Olmsted (Zumbro River near Bamber Lake) †MJM, **12/7** Olmsted (Rochester, 16th St. bridge; with fish in talons) JWH.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [31 North, 52 South] Reported from 83 counties (all but 3 North and 1 South), the most in at least the past ten winters (previous was 80 last year). High counts north: 2/17 Morrison (30, north and west of Pierz) PSP, 1/2 St. Louis (15) JSa. South high counts: 12/5 Blue Earth (197), 12/7 Blue Earth (160) BHW, 12/4 Houston (128, Brownsville north overlook) SRO, JRo. CBC high counts north: 12/19 Walker (43), 12/14 Tamarac N.W.R. (39). CBC high counts south: 12/19 Bloomington (138), Winona (129), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (88).

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) — [5 North, 29 South] Reported from 34 counties statewide, the most for the season since 2011 (35). All north: 12/14 Tamarac N.W.R. CBC, 12/15 Mille Lacs DPG, 12/19 Fargo-Moorhead CBD, 12/20 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 1/2 Pine PRH, 2/28 Mille Lacs KNo. South reports after December from 11 counties (all singles). High counts 12/2 Blue Earth (4) BHW, 12/23 Scott (3, Shakopee) JWZ, ROx, 12/28 Goodhue (3, Prairie Island, Upper Island), Goodhue (3, Prairie Island, Lower Island) GJM. CBC high counts 12/26 Hastings-Etter (4), 12/27 Red Wing (4).

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) — [15 North, 34 South] Reported from 49 counties statewide, similar to most recent previous winters although ten more than last winter. January–February reports (all singles) from ten north counties, including one adult that was present all winter Polk SAu, and from 28 south counties. CBC

high counts 12/19 Duluth (5), 1/2 Northern Wright County (4). Only a few reports included descriptive details.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [7 North, 35 South] All north: 12/17 †Rice Lake NWR CBC, Todd CSh, 12/19 ph. Fargo Moorhead CBC, 12/20 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 12/23 Roseau BSi, 1/15 Pine SBE, 1/16 Hubbard MAW. Widespread reports south from a record 35 counties, including January–February (presumed overwintering) reports from 27. CBC high counts 12/19 Bloomington (6), La Crosse-La Crescent (3), 12/26 Northeast Suburban (3) CBC. Very few reports included descriptive details.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [7 North, 11 South] North reports from Aitkin, Cass, Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis, all singles. Most were from St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog). South reports from 11 counties, the most for the season since 2005. All reports were of single birds. South reports with documentation include 12/06 McLeod ph. DRp, 1/30 Redwood †BTS, 2/16 Carver †JCy, 2/18 Nicollet †MiO, 2/23 Hennepin †JWl.

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) — [1 North, 15 South] One north report: 2/29 Morrison MEm. January–February south reports from ten counties (Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Wabasha, Washington, Wright), all singles except 2/26 Chisago (3) MJM. CBC high counts 12/20 Cedar Creek Bog (2), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (2).

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [19 North, 53 South] Reported statewide, including all 53 south counties. Post-December reports (all of three or fewer individuals) from 14 north counties. North high count 12/19 Morrison (6) KEM, MEM. North CBC high count: 1/1 Long Prairie (8). South high counts: 1/16 Winona (22) JnD, Goodhue (21) DVe, KDS, AIF, 1/15 Dakota (12) ADS, 12/26 Dakota (11) TAT. CBC high counts 12/19 Bloomington (70), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (63), 12/19 Mankato (57), 12/19 Rochester (56), 12/19 Excelsior (53). Dark-morph Harlan's Hawk (*B. j. barlani*) reported 1/20, 1/27 Dakota †ADS. Several dark morphs of the western subspecies *B. j. calurus* were reported includ-

ing 1/4 Dakota ph. JWZ.

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) — [24 North, 37 South] Reported from 61 counties statewide, about normal for most recent winter seasons. All reports north were four or fewer individuals. High counts south: 2/15 Goodhue (6, Prairie Island, Upper Island), 1/4 Goodhue (5, Prairie Island, Upper Island) GJM. Statewide, of those (relatively few) reports where color morphs were described, 37 were dark and 39 were light. CBC high counts 12/17 Rice Lake NWR (12), 1/1 Philbrook (9), 12/17 Glacial Ridge (8), 12/19 Duluth (8), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (7).

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [2 North, 11 South] All north reports: 12/19 Crookston CBC, St. Louis (Duluth, 2 adults reported separately) JWJ, KRE. Many south reports from the traditional wintering areas in Houston, Wabasha, Winona. Other south reports include 2/16, 2/29 Blue Earth ChH, m.ob., 1/23 Fillmore DBz, several reports from Goodhue m.ob., 1/30 Isanti RMD, ELC, 1/3 Rice RBW, 1/19 Washington DaG, 2/24 Waseca TKr. CBC high count 12/27 Red Wing (3).

Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*) — [1 North, 18 South] One north report: 12/19 Fargo-Moorhead CBC (3). Reported from 18 south counties, the most in at least the last ten winter seasons. High count 2/1 Dakota (3, Chimney Rock S.N.A.) GHo, KDS, TKI.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) — [14 North, 39 South] Reported from 53 counties statewide, similar to most recent previous winters. High counts north were three or fewer; south high counts were four or fewer. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (13), Fargo-Moorhead (7), St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (7), 12/14 Cottonwood (6). Earliest reported active nests: 2/15 Hennepin BAF, Big Stone DLP. Several of the pale subspecies *B. v. subarcticus* were photographed: 12/13 Anoka ToL, 1/20 Polk SAu, 2/15 St. Louis JPR.

Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacticus*) — [15 North, 16 South] Reported from 31 counties statewide, fewer than each of the prior two winters but somewhat above average for a non-invasion year. High counts 2/28 St. Louis (6, St. Louis River between Bong



Long-eared Owl, 1 January 2016, Moorhead, Clay County. Photo by Patrick B. Beauzay.

Bridge and Erie Pier) PHS, 1/4 Dodge (4, five miles northeast of Blooming Prairie) ShS.

Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*) — [2 North] Reported from only two counties (Roseau, Lake of the Woods), the fewest number for the season since winter 2002 (1). All reports were of singles except 2/27 Lake of the Woods (2) SAu, KCo.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) — [19 North, 22 South] Reported from 41 counties statewide, but no reports from Southwest or Northwest north of Becker and Clay. All north reports were of 1–2 individuals; all south reports were of 1–3. CBC high count 12/20 Austin (7).

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) — [6 North] Reported only from Aitkin, Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis (which had the most reports by far). High counts (all from St. Louis): 1/7 (4, Sax-Zim Bog) JMa, several others of 3. CBC high

counts were singles.

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) — [3 North, 11 South] All north: 12/19 Duluth CBC, 12/30 Red Lake (Plummer) HHu, 1/1–3 Clay (Moorhead) PBB, KCo, CMN. South reports from Anoka, Blue Earth, Dakota, Hennepin, Houston, Lyon, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Wright, Yellow Medicine. High counts 1/14 Hennepin (4) ToL, 1/3 Dakota (3, Lake Byllesby R.P.) JPR.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — [2 North, 11 South] Two north reports: 12/20 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 2/17 St. Louis (near Burnett) ph. LRU. Reported from 11 south counties (the most in at least the past ten winter seasons), with high counts of 3 from Scott (near Shakopee) m.ob., Steele, Washington (Afton S.P.) m.ob. CBC high count 12/19 Owatonna (3).

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports for the second straight winter, and third of the past six.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [3 North, 12 South] All north reports: 12/20 Grand Forks-East Grand Forks CBC, 2/13 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) AiP, JsL, 2/15 St. Louis (Duluth) LAT, St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) AWL, 2/22 Kanabec CAM. Reported (all singles) from 12 south counties, the most for the season since winter 1998. CBC high count 12/19 St. Paul (North) (2).

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [4 North, 26 South] All north reports: 12/7–21 Cass (Ten Mile Lake) DoH, DAY, 12/17 Hubbard (Steamboat River Twp.) MAW, 12/19 Fergus Falls CBC, 1/3 Battle Creek CBC, 2/5 Aitkin HHD, RAE. Found widely south in usual abundance including 12/3–2/20 Big Stone DLP, FAE. CBC high counts 12/20 Austin (5), 12/19 Marshall (3), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (3).

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [4 North, 5 South] Fewest reports in previous five years with most sightings from counties within Anoka sand plain. All north 12/6 Mille Lacs PSP, 1/1 Pillager CBC, 1/1 Morrison (Camp Ripley) KeM, 1/2 Uppgaard W.M.A. CBC, 2/27 Mille Lacs (Mille Lacs Kathio S.P.) GrS. CBC high count 12/20 Cedar Creek Bog (72).

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [25 North, 50 South] Reported

from all regions throughout the season except extreme northwest counties. Unusual winter report 2/29 Koochiching AMe. High counts 12/27 Wabasha (12) DVe, KDS, 2/8 Mower (12) JGn, 12/26 Dakota (11) TAT, ADS, 1/2 Wright (10) JFR. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (84), 12/26 St. Paul (North-east Suburban) (69), 12/27 Red Wing (69).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [12 South] Reported from more counties than any of the previous 20 winter seasons. Unusual reports 12/19 Brown BTS, 12/24 Stearns HHD, 12/28 McLeod ph. DBt, 2/29 Wright (early migrant?) †ABn.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) — [30 North, 52 South] Reported from all but five counties in western edge of the state throughout season. High counts 2/13 Brown (24) LBr, 1/15 Washington (20) KOd, 1/21 St. Louis (20) KOd. CBC high counts 12/19 Faribault (191), 12/19 Excelsior (171), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (167).

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) — [28 North, 51 South] Reported in all but 8 western counties throughout season. High counts 12/31 St. Louis (15) RTr, 1/21 (15) KOd. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (75), 12/19 Duluth (75), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (74), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (73).

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [3 North] All reports: 12/30 Lake (C.R. 2, Sand River) JuW, 1/2 Fredenberg CBC, 1/2 Isabella CBC, 1/9 Lake of the Woods CMC, 2/13 Lake (C.R. 2, Sand River) †SkH, m.ob. CBC high count 1/2 Fredenberg (3).

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [7 North] Reported from within normal range including Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Cass and Itasca with highest number of reports from Sax-Zim Bog, as is typical. No south reports for fifth consecutive year. CBCs with multiple individuals: 12/26 Ely (3), 12/31 Beltrami Island (2), 1/2 Isabella (2).

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [4 North, 39 South] All north reports: 12/19–1/24 Clay m.ob., 12/20 Polk SAu, 1/8 St. Louis TPW. Widespread south of a line from Stevens to Chicago. High counts 2/16 Carver (8, Rapids Lake Unit, Minnesota

Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 1/3 Dakota (5, Lake Byllesby R.P.) JPR. CBC high counts 12/19 Faribault (10), 12/19 Owatonna (10), 12/20 Cedar Creek Bog (10).

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*)

— [30 North, 44 South] Reported statewide from highest number of counties in past ten years, but scarce in Southwest as usual. High counts 1/1 Cass (8) PSP, 1/2 Wabasha (7) RoC. CBC high counts 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (38), 12/19 Duluth (28), 12/30 Detroit Lakes (25).

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [7

North, 46 South] More reports than previous two winters including most counties south of a line from Stevens to Chisago. Unusual north report: 12/19 Bemidji CBC. Only north reports after December: 1/2 Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River CBC, 1/21 Mille Lacs DPG, 2/5 Polk SAu. CBC high counts 12/26 Hastings-Etter (6), 12/27 Red Wing (6), 12/19 La Crosse-La Crescent (5), 12/19 Henderson (5).

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [10 North, 25

South] Widespread and scattered throughout state and season with highest number of counties reporting in past ten years, only rivaled by 2011 when observed in 33 counties. Unusual winter records: 12/11 Mille Lacs HHD, 12/14 Morris CBC, 2/25 Pipestone HHD. No reports of more than two individuals.

GYRFALCON (*Falco rusticolus*) — [1 North]

First report since 2011: an immature gray-morph female was observed from 1/24–2/28+ in Duluth-Port Terminal area, St. Louis TPW, ph. †PHS, ph. JPR, ph. ARy, ph. KvM, m.ob. A second adult male was described from the same area on 2/14 ph. †PHS.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [1

North, 11 South] Reported from highest number of counties in past ten years with all reports from St. Louis or southern counties. Unusual sightings: 12/5 Benton BWF, CRM, GLa, 12/16 Blue Earth ChH, 12/29 Sherburne PLJ, ToL, 1/13 Stearns DOr. High count 1/29 Ramsey (3, US Bank Building) JLL.

Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) — [28

North, 41 South] Reported statewide from similar number of counties as past five years. High count 1/23 St. Louis (4, Sax-



Northern Shrike, 24 January 2016, Minneopa State Park, Blue Earth County. Photo by Scott Seigfreid.

Zim Bog) m.ob. CBC high count 12/17 Glacial Ridge (8).

Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [8 North]

Reported from fewest number of counties since 2008, when also observed in eight counties. High counts all from Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis: 12/27 (16) GHt, 1/21 (15) KOd, 2/6 BLa. CBC high counts 1/2 Isabella (67), 12/26 Ely (46), 12/31 Beltrami Island (35).

Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [32 North,

52 South] Reported from all but three counties statewide. High counts 12/20 Anoka (61) JSa, SWe, DGn, 12/28 Pine (55) JFR, 12/26 Dakota (44) TAT, ADS. CBC high counts 12/19 Sherburne NWR (516), 12/20 Cedar Creek Bog (357), 12/19 Faribault (213).

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica hudsonia*) —

[18 North] Reported from most counties north of a line from Clay to Wadena to Lake. High counts 12/9 Itasca (13) DVe, 1/3 Roseau (11) TSp, JLS, 1/6 St. Louis (7) JLK. CBC high counts 12/18 Agassiz N.W.R. (36), 1/1 Baudette (28), 1/2 Roseau (18).

American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) —

[31 North, 53 South] Reported statewide

- from all but three counties. High counts 1/5 Hennepin (3,500, North Central University) BrW, 1/31 Hennepin (2,000, Pioneers Cemetery) AxB, 12/7 Hennepin (1,183, Minneapolis) SBM. CBC high counts 12/19 Bloomington (1,302), 12/19 Rochester (1,193), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (1,100).
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [28 North, 8 South] Reported from most counties north of a line from Clay to Washington. High counts 1/2 St. Louis (45) JSa, 12/10 St. Louis (35) JLD, 1/24 St. Louis (30) EzH. CBC high counts 12/14 Sax-Zim (182), 12/26 Ely (156), 12/26 Cook Area (148).
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [16 North, 51 South] Reported throughout season and nearly statewide, but absent from the Northeast. High counts 12/18 Cottonwood (551) BTS, 12/26 Lyon (250) GWe, 1/1 Pipestone (200) TKA, CKa. CBC high counts 12/18 Lamberton (787), 1/1 Albert Lea (219), 12/17 Lac qui Parle (136).
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [31 North, 52 South] Reported from all but four western counties. High counts 12/19 Dakota (176) VWe, 1/2 St. Louis (175) JSa, 12/28 Pine (147) JSa, AmS. CBC high counts 12/19 Duluth (2,017), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (1,143), 12/19 Excelsior (896).
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Many reports from Lake and St. Louis (mostly in Sax-Zim Bog). All additional reports 12/31 Beltrami Island CBC, 1/2 Roseau CBC, 2/29 Carlton SC. CBC high counts 1/2 Isabella (7), 12/14 Sax-Zim (6).
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [11 South] Reported from highest number of counties in past ten years. Northernmost report 2/13 Isanti GSh. High counts 12/25 Houston (6) KRz, 2/13 Isanti (5, Stanchfield). CBC high counts 12/19 Winona (24), 12/27 Red Wing (15), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (6).
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [23 North, 28 South] Number of reports typical of recent winter seasons with most coming north and east of a line from Freeborn to Polk. High counts 2/20 Sherburne (16) ABm, 12/20 Lake (15) CLN, 1/30 St. Louis (15) JWf. CBC high counts 12/19 Duluth (120), 12/19 Grand Marais (99), 1/2 Fredenberg (97).
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [31 North, 52 South] Reported statewide from all but four western counties. High counts 12/19 Dakota (39) VWe, 12/26 Dakota (24) TAT, ADS, 1/2 Wabasha (24) CKe. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (230), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (221), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (213).
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [16 North, 38 South] Reported from all regions of the state in typical abundance. Unusual report 2/21 Roseau (Lost River S.F.) JPR. High counts 1/28 Hennepin (7) DGu, 2/23 Wright (5) ToL, 1/8 Carver (4) MJa, 1/8 Lyon (4) GWe. CBC high counts 12/19 Bloomington (14), 12/19 Faribault (13), 12/26 Hastings-Etter (10).
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [3 South] All reports south of single individuals: 12/5–2/23 Hennepin (Bass Ponds, overwintered) DFe, m.ob., 12/1 Winona (Lake Winona) MSd, 12/21 Houston SHO, 2/19 Houston (Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) CRM, BMu.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [3 South] All reports south: 12/19 La Crosse-La Crescent CBC, 1/13 Ramsey (Shoreview) SeB, 2/13 Hennepin (Plymouth) ApN.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [9 North, 20 South] Reported statewide from most counties since 2011, when also found in 29 counties. Unusual winter records 12/20 Grand Rapids CBC, 1/2 Roseau CBC. High counts 1/7 Wright (5, Mississippi C.P.) NSc, 12/7 Morrison (4) MJB. CBC high counts 12/17 Lac qui Parle (5), 12/19 Faribault (4).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — No reports of this species, which had been found in four of the five prior winter seasons.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [27 South] Reported from highest number of counties in past ten years throughout the season; all reports from southern counties. A number of unusual winter records: 12/8 Chippewa (4) RAE, 12/28 Northern Meeker County CBC, 1/29 Faribault AEB, 2/6 Benton (South Park, Sauk Rapids) JWH, MJB.



Hermit Thrush, 16 January 2016, Brooklyn Center, Hennepin County. Photo by Travis Bonovsky.

High counts 2/15 Sherburne (**19**, Babcock Park) KnM, 2/11 Carver (11, Rapids Lake Unit, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. CBC high count 12/19 Mankato (13).

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) — [1 South] See Insufficiently Documented Reports.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [5 North, 6 South] Most reports since 2011 and most north reports since 2007. All north: 12/3–22 Cook (max. 2, Grand Marais) HHD, RAE, Grand Marais CBC, ph. DLB, 12/13 Crow Wing (Pequot Lakes) ph. ABi, 12/20–22 Lake (Lighthouse Point) Two Harbors CBC, 12/26–27 St. Louis (Cook) Cook Area CBC, ph. JwD, 1/2 Fredenberg CBC, 2/27 Itasca SC. Unusual south reports 12/8 Yellow Medicine (Home-Kollin Unit, Swede's Forest S.N.A.) RAE, 12/8, 1/9 Chippewa RAE, GWe; also found south 12/1–25 Anoka ph. APT, ph. GHo, 12/4–20 Carver (Carver P.R.) ph. JCy, ph. JWZ, 12/19 Carver (3, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) ph. JCC, JLI, 12/19 Roch-

ester CBC.

Hermit Thrush (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [1 North, 5 South] Reported from fewer counties than past two years. Only north report 12/19 Grand Marais CBC. Unusual report 1/2 Wright HHD. Only February report 2/11 Olmsted LAV.

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [23 North, 47 South] Reported statewide from the highest number of counties in the past ten years. High counts 1/4 Ramsey (200, Battle Creek R.P.) VWe, 12/26 Dakota (178) TAT, ADS, 1/9 Dakota (155, Lake Byllesby R.P.) KvM. CBC high counts 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (343), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (267), 12/19 Bloomington (261).

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [6 North, 5 South] Reported from the highest number of counties since 2012. Unusual reports 12/26 Koochiching ph. AMe, 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom CBC, 1/16–2/15 Todd (Long Prairie East) RAE, HHD, ph. ToR, m.ob., 1/23 Kandiyohi (Diamond Lake) JwD.



Varied Thrush, 4 January 2016, Marine on St. Croix, Washington County. Photo by Raymond Tervo.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [1 North, 1 South] Reported for the fifth year in a row. All reports: 12/20 Polk (East Grand Forks) *vide* JMJ, 1/2 Olmsted (Oxbow Park) ph. SHk.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [5 North, 4 South] Reported from more than double the number of counties as any of the previous ten years with an especially high number of observations from north counties. All north: one in Itasca beginning 11/7 remained there through 2/26 *vide* RBW; 12/23, 12/30 Becker KHa, Detroit Lakes CBC; and seen on the Duluth, Fergus Falls, Grand Marais CBCs. South reports 12/19 Willmar CBC, Bloomington CBC, 12/26–1/22 Le Sueur (feeder station) ph. *vide* RBW, 1/1 Dakota (Inver Grove Heights) MDC, 1/4–2/16 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) CWB, m.ob., 1/29 Dakota (Ravenna Twp.) KDS.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [29 North, 53 South] Reported statewide from all but five counties. High counts 12/16

Hennepin (2,000, General Mills Nature Reserve) CRa, 12/22 St. Louis (800, Miller Creek) JLK. CBC high counts 12/20 Austin (1,302), 12/19 Faribault (1,282), 12/19 Duluth (1,053).

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [22 North, 3 South] Highest number of counties reporting since 2012. All south: 12/4 Washington (Oakland Cemetery) JLI, CNn, 12/19 Willmar CBC, 1/3 Goodhue (Richard J Dorer S.F.) JPR. High counts 1/5 St. Louis (475) JLK, MLH, ToL, 12/18 Marshall (300) JMJ. CBC high counts 12/18 Agassiz N.W.R. (300), 12/20 Virginia (211), 1/1 Hibbing (166).

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [20 North, 38 South] Reported statewide and throughout season from highest number of counties in past ten years. High counts 12/31 Washington (270, Afton S.P.) DWK, PEB, 12/9 Anoka (250, Mississippi West R.P.) KDS, GHo. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (768), 12/19 Willmar (188), 12/19 Wild River (178).

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [25 North, 49 South] Reported statewide and throughout season from similar number of counties as past five years. High counts 1/17 Dakota (225) KvM, 1/2 Hennepin (219) GrS, 1/14 Dakota (200) ALw. CBC high counts 12/19 Rochester (1,107), 12/19 Marshall (990), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (907), 12/19 Northwest McLeod (905).

GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCH (*Leucosticte tephrocotis*) — [2 North] First winter reports since 2009. New county record: 12/3, 2/5 **Cook** (private property near Tofte) HHD, ph. RBW, m.ob. Also reported 1/26 St. Louis (“Hepburn’s” subspecies, Birch Lake near Babbitt) ph. KHp.

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [21 North, 2 South] Rebounding from last winter’s low of nine counties, reported in highest number of counties since 2012. Found in most counties north of a line from Chisago to Polk. All south: 12/19–21 Rice (Cannon City) DAB, m.ob., 2/23 Chisago (North Branch) RWz. High counts 12/18 Marshall (100) JMJ, 12/20 Lake (59) JWJ. CBC high counts 12/26 Cook Area (178), 12/20 Two Harbors (125), 1/3 Eagle’s Nest Lakes (119).

House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [14 North, 46 South] Reported throughout state and season from comparable number of counties as past five years. High counts 1/22 Blue Earth (80, single flock) ChH, 1/16 Ramsey (40) WSc, 1/24 Washington (40) SBE, 2/8 Mower (40) JGn. CBC high counts 12/19 Rochester (222), 12/19 Owatonna (189), 12/19 Excelsior (137).

Purple Finch (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [14 North, 34 South] Found in all regions of the state in comparable number of counties as last five years. High counts 2/4 Ramsey (50) OGo, 12/20 Carver (20) JCy, 2/8 Washington (20) MyR. CBC high counts 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (45), 12/19 Willmar (33), 12/19 Northwest McLeod (30).

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [13 North, 3 South] Reported from highest number of counties since 2012. Up to three Type 3 individuals, confirmed by Matt Young of Cornell, were found 12/10–24 Polk a.t., ph. SAu. All south reports: 12/11 Dakota (Whitetail Woods R.P.) DVE,

12/21 Benton (Bend in the River R.P.) HHD, 1/2 Olmsted (Oxbow Park) SHk. High counts 2/24 Beltrami (45, Lake Bemidji S.P.) KCo, 1/28 Beltrami (27) RAE.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [7 North, 3 South] Reported from same number of counties as 2014. All south: 12/19 Wilmar CBC, 2/1–2/27 Sherburne (Blue Hill Trail, Sherburne N.W.R.) RBW, m.ob., 2/6 Benton (Bend in the River R.P.) HHD, RAE. CBC high counts 1/1 Baudette (16), 12/26 Cook Area (7), 12/19 Willmar (6).

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) — [31 North, 38 South] Reported statewide, but scarcest in Southwest. High counts 2/12 St. Louis (400, Sax-Zim Bog) SkH, GPa, 2/21 St. Louis (400, Sax-Zim Bog) DOr, 2/6 Benton (300) HHD. CBC high counts 12/19 Little Falls (728), 12/20 Grand Rapids (566), 1/3 Battle Lake (554).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [16 North, 6 South] Most reports since major invasion year of 2012. All south: 1/2 Yellow Medicine (Spellman Lake) †GWe, 1/31 Scott GLa, 2/1 Anoka KDR, 2/10 Blue Earth (Mankato) †ChH, 2/10–11 Hennepin (Marquette Plaza, Minneapolis) †DwK, TAT, 2/29 Sherburne ABm. High count 1/28 Hubbard (5, Kabekona Lake) AxB, REn. CBC high count 12/19 Bemidji (4).

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [20 North, 26 South] Reported statewide from same number of counties as last year with few reports from Southwest. High counts 1/22 St. Louis (40, Duluth) GJa, 2/6 St. Louis (40, Sax-Zim Bog) GAW, ASA. CBC high counts 1/3 Eagle’s Nest Lakes (169), 12/19 Fargo-Moorhead (94), 12/26 Cook Area (82).

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [20 North, 46 South] Reported statewide throughout season. High count 12/21 Crow Wing (100) JnP. CBC high counts 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (317), 12/19 St. Paul (North) (308), 12/19 Henderson (222).

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [12 North, 1 South] Observed in 12 counties, rebounding somewhat from extremely low counts of previous two years (5 in 2013, 6 in 2014). Only south: 2/13 Isanti (Stanchfield) GSh. High count 1/25

St. Louis (110, at a single feeder in Sax-Zim Bog) MaB, m.ob. CBC high counts 12/26 Cook Area (63), 12/19 Duluth (51), 1/1 Baudette (49).

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*)

— [9 North, 38 South] Reports typical of most winters with fewest from Northeast and North-central. High counts 2/28 Yellow Medicine (4,000, four-mile stretch of 100th Ave during snowstorm) GWe, 2/28 Yellow Medicine (150) GWe, 12/5 Dakota (125, Great Western Industrial Park) ADS. CBC high counts 1/2 Wabasha (150), 12/18 Lamberton (135), 12/19 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (54).

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) —

[27 North, 48 South] Found statewide and throughout the season. High counts 1/2 Douglas (575) ToR, 12/18 Marshall (300) JMJ, 1/2 Roseau (300) SAU. CBC high counts 1/3 Battle Lake (965), 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom (751), 1/4 Kensington (575).

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [1 South]

Minnesota's fourth winter record and second in January: **1/12** Hennepin (Minneapolis residence) ph. ASr, *vide* SRG.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) —

[1 South] Minnesota's first winter record: **12/4–17** Anoka (Blaine, suet feeder) ph. SSK.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) —

[1 North, 5 South] All reports: 1/28 **Koochiching** (Big Falls) HHD, RAE, CRM, 12/1–2/27 Carver (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 12/5–1/21 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) ADS, m.ob., 12/20 Hennepin (Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery, Minneapolis) ph. JWf, 1/16 Wright (Monticello) JLz, GPe, KWi, 1/30 Yellow Medicine (Swede's Forest S.N.A.) BTS.

Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*)

— No reports for first time since 2008.

American Tree Sparrow (*Spizelloides arborea*) —

[17 North, 48 South] Reported statewide, though with few sightings from northern third of the state. High counts 1/6 Dakota (130, Miesville Ravine P.R.) DVe, 1/3 Dakota (124, Miesville Ravine P. R.) ALF, 1/2 Wabasha (87) SWe. CBC high counts 12/28 Northern Meeker County (577), 1/1 Albert Lea (573), 1/2 Wabasha (340).

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) —

[4 South] All detailed reports: 12/19 Sherburne †DKI, 12/4, 12/7 Ramsey DFN, 1/4–26 Dakota (Resurrection Cemetery) ph. †BAF. Also see Insufficiently Documented Reports.

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) —

[1 North, 4 South] Most winter records ever; previous high count was two counties. All reports 12/20 Lake DOK, CLN, ph. JPR, 12/27 Fillmore BMu, 12/27 Goodhue JFR, 1/2 Wright JFR, 1/18 Carver ph. JWZ.

Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) —

[1 North, 13 South] Only north 12/20 Carlton-Cloquet CBC. Several unusual south reports including many overwintering birds: 12/18 Redwood SVo, 12/19 St. Cloud-Collegville CBC, 12/19 La Crosse-La Crescent CBC, 12/20 Austin CBC, 12/20–2/3 Wabasha (between Hammond and Millville) JHn, 12/30–2/29 Fillmore NBO, 1/1–2/11 Carver (Rapids Lake Unit, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 2/9 Stevens (making sporadic visits for at least a month) †MKu.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) —

[5 North, 22 South] By far, reported from the highest number of counties in recent records (previous high 18 counties in 2012). Unusual north winter records 12/8–2/29 Hubbard (2, Kabekona Lake) REn, 2/10–27 Itasca SC. High counts 12/7 Winona (4, Winona) MBh, 2/6 Scott (3, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.).

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*)

— [5 South] Highest number of counties reporting since 2012 including several January reports from Hennepin, Carver and Rice. Unusual winter records: 12/24 Faribault (near Winnegabo) CLN, 1/16 Rice (Hidden Valley Park) GBa, m.ob.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) —

[13 North, 23 South] Highest number of reporting counties in past ten years and well above 10-year average of 20 counties. Unusual winter reports 1/4 Faribault WAF, 12/19 Wild River CBC, 12/4 Itasca SC, 12/21 Nicollet Rji, 12/28 Pine County CBC, 1/1 Scott GLA. High counts 1/6 Hennepin (15, Minneapolis) DWK, 1/9 Hennepin (10, Minneapolis) NFT, 12/3 Washington (8, Cottage Grove) ERH. CBC high counts 12/27 Red Wing (7), 12/19 Winona (5), 12/19 Duluth (4).

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [3 North, 13 South] Reported from most counties since 2011, including unusual reports from 1/16 Big Stone TKA, 2/16 Fillmore DKl, 12/28 Meeker BNn, 12/12 Ramsey OGo, 12/14 Stevens (Morris CBC), 12/2 Washington (continuing bird) HHD, RAE. High count 12/12 Martin (3) BRB. CBC high count 12/19 Fairmont (8).

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [3 North, 5 South] Widely scattered reports from several regions. Unusual winter records: 12/19 Clay (Fargo Moorhead CBC), 12/27 Goodhue JFR, 12/26 Ramsey (St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) CBC), 1/25 Stearns (Melrose) AaL, 12/24 Washington (Stillwater) JuW.

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) — [1 North] For second year in a row, overwintered in the Duluth Lakeside neighborhood, continuing from first observation on 10/24 (see Fall report). Last reported on 2/15 St. Louis JPR, SC.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) — [23 North, 51 South] Reported statewide, although fewer reports from Northwest and North-central. High counts 1/2 Wabasha (135) SWe, KDS, 12/19 Morrison (116) MEm, KEm, 1/2 Wabasha (98) RoC. CBC high counts 1/2 Wabasha (632), 1/1 Whitewater River (528), 12/19 Rochester (491). There were numerous reports to eBird of "Oregon" juncos throughout season, from 13 counties, at least seven records supported by photos.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) — [1 South] Only the sixth winter observation of this species, all of which have occurred during the first week in December: **12/5–6** Ramsey (Roseville, female visiting feeder) ph. GIB, BrJ.

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [19 North, 49 South] Reported from more counties than any of previous five years with fewest reports from Northwest and West-central. High counts 12/26 Dakota (**49**) TAT, ADS, 2/13 Brown (32) LBr, 2/14 Hennepin (26) MCA. CBC high counts 12/19 Excelsior (232), 12/19 Bloomington (213), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (187).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludo-*

vicianus) — [1 South] Unusual winter record: **12/19–26** Sherburne (female, Lake Diane, Baldwin Twp.) ph. DTs, *fide* †DKl.

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) — [1 North] First Minnesota winter record: **1/2** St. Louis (Duluth, first-cycle male visiting bird feeder) ph. †LME.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [8 North, 35 South] Reported widely in south and from eight counties in north, the highest number of counties in past ten years. Unusual winter records: 12/17 Aitkin (McGregor) CLR. High counts 2/27 Cottonwood (600, Talcot Lake State W.M.A.) TKA, 12/19 Blue Earth (300) ChH, 2/28 Brown (200) BTS. CBC high counts 12/19 Mankato (301), 12/26 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (80), 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom (74).

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [1 North, 1 South] One report for second consecutive year: 1/4 Steele ph. HCT.

Sturnella meadowlark (*Sturnella sp.*) — [2 South] Several winter records: 1/1 Lac qui Parle DLP, 1/2 Brown ARW, 1/8 Mower PMM.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — No reports for first winter since 2009.

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [4 North, 4 South] Reported from fewest counties in past five years. All north reports 12/19 Fergus Falls CBC, 12/22 Mahanomen (Tulaby Lake) CSo, 12/26 St. Louis ph. JuG. High count 12/1 Winona (17, Lake Winona) MSd.

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [7 North, 27 South] Scattered reports throughout state and season from typical number of counties. High counts 12/19 Blue Earth (10) ChH, 1/9 Wright (4) BAB. CBC high counts 12/19 Henderson (23), 12/19 Mankato (10), 12/19 Owatonna (8).

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) — [1 North, 13 South] Reported from highest number of counties in ten years. High counts 12/19 Olmsted (**163**) LAV, 2/28 Fillmore (6, early migrants?) JWH, 1/14 Dakota (5, Hampton) ADS.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) — [1 South] First winter report since 2006: **12/24** Winona (adult male, Rollingstone) ph. *fide* DBz

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MSS	Mark Sparky Stensaas	RTe	Raymond Tervo	ToM	Todd Mitchell
MVi	Matt Viken	RTP	Ray Potthoff	ToR	Tom Ries
MwS	Matthew Stratmoen	RT	Ryan Treves	TPM	Thomas Malone
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NSg	Neil Skoog	SBM	Scott B. Meyer	VWe	Vincent Weber
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PBB	Patrick Beauzay	SES	Steven E. Schon	WPe	Wendy Pepin
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PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher	SHo	Steven C. Houdek	WSc	Wolfgang Schweiger
PGL	Pixie & Gary Lanham	ShS	Shari Schwartz		
PHS	Peder H. Svingen	SKe	Sue Keator	Abbreviations	
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PMM	Peter Mattson	SMC	Scott M. Clark	F.R.	Forest Road
PNI	Peter Nichols	SOa	Steve Oakley	N.C.	Nature Center
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RHg	Richard Hoeg	SvO	Skyler Void	W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

Steve Weston

The 116th Christmas Bird Count was well attended and conducted under almost perfect winter birding conditions resulting in 20% more birds than last year. Seventy-eight counts collected and reported data, two higher than last year. One new count (Glacial Ridge) was started and one border count in Wisconsin (Nelson) started reporting their Minnesota data. One new species (Pacific Loon) was reported. Green Heron and Black/Surf scoter were reported for only the

second time while Golden-crowned Sparrow and Blue-winged Teal were reported for only the third time.

On December 14th, Paul Egeland assembled volunteers for the fiftieth year for the Cottonwood count. He missed only one of these counts when he was serving in Vietnam. He usually has five to seven participants in the field and this year he had five. Lee French has been with him for about 45 years and a couple of others have been on the

count for more than twenty years.

The state had a record of about 1,842 participants, including about 479 feeder watchers, for an average of just under 24 participants per count, similar to last year. Like last year, eleven counts had six or fewer participants. Nine had 40 or more, which compares to 5 last year. St. Paul again had the most participants in the field with 69, while Henderson had 84 and Owatonna had 61 feeder watchers showing strong community support.

Temperatures were moderate during the count. Only one count had heavy snow and five had light snow. Three counts had wind gusts greater than 25 miles per hour and two of those were on the plains, where those winds are not out of the ordinary. The temperature range was from 0°F (three counts) to 45°F. While last year half the counts had highs above freezing and half of those had lows above freezing, this year only ten had highs above freezing and, of those, only three had lows above freezing. It was unusual that no counts had lows below zero. The coldest high was 8°F in Agassiz in Northwestern Minnesota. Only 5 counts reported no open water compared to 11 last year and 41 reported the lakes were not frozen completely compared to 58 last year. Twenty-four counts had no snow on the ground compared to all but two last year.

The total individual count (292,627) was over 20% greater than last year's total. Six species made up 50% of the total compared to five last year. The species count (140) was eight more than last year. Five additional species were among the ten reports that were not accepted due to inadequate documentation. Two other species, a Harlequin Duck and a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, were observed during the count week. Trumpeter Swans, Bald Eagles, and Eurasian Collared-Doves continued to increase to ever higher totals. Record counts were also recorded for Common Merganser, Common Raven, and several woodpeckers (Red-bellied, Downy, Hairy, and Pileated).

Waterfowl numbers were significantly better than the last two years' low numbers, but still well below average numbers. These low numbers were not due to the lack of open water. Canada Geese numbers were way below some of the peak years ten to fifteen



Golden Eagle, 28 December 2015, St. Paul Northeast CBC. Trail cam photo.

years ago, but still beat four of the last ten years. Mallards were reported at the lowest numbers in 24 years, and Common Goldeneyes in 13 years. On the other hand, the 4,439 Trumpeter Swans far exceeded the record of almost 3,000 four years ago. And, the 17,863 Common Mergansers was more than twice the previous record four years ago. While the increase in swans reflects increasing numbers of the birds in the state, the increase in mergansers is probably more a reflection of a delay in migration. Although the other migrating species had definitely moved out of the area, four species had more than a hundred counted, another good indicator of the warm temperatures. A first ever Minnesota record of a Pacific Loon was reported in Duluth. Other notable sightings included Greater White-fronted Geese in Cottonwood and Fairmont, Blue-winged Teal in Cedar Creek Bog and Fergus Falls, Wood Duck in Virginia, Canvasback in Bemidji, and Surf/Black scoter in Two Harbors. Just like last year, a Harlequin Duck was reported count week in Grand Marais. Common Loons and Red-necked Grebes were found along Lake Superior, but also one loon was found in Grand Rapids. Other water dependent species, cormorants, pelicans, herons, and kingfishers, were pres-

Table 1. Minnesota Christmas Bird Counts, 2015–2016.

Count	ID Name	Count	Participants	Count	ID Name	Count	Participants
		Date				Date	
Albert Lea	ABLEA	1/1/2016	11	Kensington	KENS	1/4/2016	5
Afton	AFTON	1/1/2016	30	Lamberton	LAMBR	12/18/2015	10
Agassiz N.W.R.	AGASZ	12/18/2015	14	LaCrosse-LaCrescent	LCRLC	12/19/2015	12
Alexandria	ALEX	1/2/2016	14	Little Falls	LFALL	12/19/2015	9
Aurora	AUROR	12/27/2015	9	Long Prairie	LNGPR	1/1/2016	20
Austin	AUSTN	12/20/2015	13	Lac qui Parle	LQPRL	12/17/2015	5
Battle Lake	BATLK	1/3/2016	14	Marshall	MARSH	12/19/2015	8
Baudette	BAUDT	1/1/2016	14	Northern Meeker County	MEEK	12/28/2015	17
Bemidji	BEMID	12/19/2015	13	Mankato	MNKTO	12/19/2015	23
Bloomington	BLOOM	12/19/2015	48	Morris	MORIS	12/14/2015	10
Beltrami Island	BLTRM	12/31/2015	14	Minneapolis (North)	MPLSN	12/19/2015	41
Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River SP	BRSP	1/2/2016	5	Mountain Lake-Windom	MTLKW	1/1/2016	7
Cedar Creek Bog	CEDRC	12/20/2015	26	Nelson	NELS	1/2/2016	3
Cook Area	COOK	12/26/2015	18	New Ulm	NEWUL	12/19/2015	13
Cottonwood	COTTN	12/14/2015	5	Northern Wright County	NWRCO	1/2/2016	18
Carlton-Cloquet	CRLCL	12/20/2015	18	Owatonna	OWATN	12/19/2015	15
Crookston	CROOK	12/19/2015	8	Philbrook	PHILB	1/1/2016	8
Crosby	CROSB	12/19/2015	10	Pillager	PILGR	1/1/2016	17
Detroit Lakes	DLAKE	12/30/2015	11	Pine County	PINEC	12/28/2015	11
Duluth	DULUT	12/19/2015	46	Rochester	RCHST	12/19/2015	31
Ely	ELY	12/26/2015	15	Rice Lake NWR	RLNWR	12/17/2015	12
Eagle's Nest Lakes	ENLA	1/3/2016	4	Roseau	ROSEU	1/2/2016	10
Excelsior	EXCEL	12/19/2015	60	Red Wing	RWING3	12/27/2015	23
Faribault	FARIB	12/19/2015	45	St. Cloud-Collegeville	SCCLG	12/19/2015	15
Fergus Falls	FERGS	12/19/2015	18	Sherburne NWR	SHNWR	12/19/2015	40
Fredenberg	FREDN	1/2/2016	10	St. Paul (Northeast Suburban)	SPNES	12/26/2015	43
Fargo-Moorhead	FRGMH	12/19/2015	9	St. Paul (North)	SPNOR	12/19/2015	69
Fairmont	FRMNT	12/19/2015	8	Sax-Zim	SXZIM	12/14/2015	10
Grand Forks-East Grand Forks	GFEGF	12/20/2015	4	Two Harbors	THRBR	12/20/2015	14
Glacial Ridge	GLACR	12/17/2015	16	Tamarac NWR	TMNWR	12/14/2015	7
Grand Marais	GRMAR	12/19/2015	28	Uppgaard WMA	UPPG	1/2/2016	11
Grand Rapids	GRRAP	12/20/2015	16	Virginia	VIRGN	12/20/2015	4
Hastings-Etter	HASTE	12/26/2015	29	Wabasha	WABAS	1/2/2016	11
Henderson	HENDR	12/19/2015	10	Walker	WALKR	12/19/2015	6
Hibbing	HIBBG	1/1/2016	3	Ellsworth, WI	WIEL	1/2/2016	4
Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson)	HUTCH	12/19/2015	13	Wild River	WILDR	12/19/2015	29
Isabella	ISBEL	1/2/2016	51	Willmar	WILMR	12/19/2015	21
Itasca State Park	ITSCA	12/20/2015	18	Winona	WINON	12/19/2015	16
Jackson County	JACK	12/19/2015	8	Whitewater River	WWATR	1/1/2016	29

ent in unremarkable numbers. Of note were a Green Heron at Springbrook Nature Center in the Minneapolis North count and a Black-crowned Night-Heron on the Willmar count.

All upland game bird counts were above last year's unremarkable numbers, except Ruffed Grouse. Sharp-tailed Grouse peaked for the third consecutive year, all reports are above any previous reports. Wild Turkey numbers were just above average for the last ten years, but this is three times the average for the previous ten.

Raptors were found in record or near record numbers (Bald Eagle: 1,920 (1st), North-

ern Harrier: 31 (2nd), Red-tailed Hawk: 911 (2nd), Golden Eagle: 10 (2nd)). Rough-legged Hawks had a minor invasion year. Owl numbers were all unremarkable. Winter irruptive owls were present only in low numbers. The 22 reported Merlins, including a first record for Morris, represent a high count. American Kestrels were present in about average numbers. Only three Peregrines were reported, the second lowest number in the last 15 years.

Most all Ring-billed Gulls were found in the Twin Cities Metro area or along the lower Mississippi, and had the highest total since

2001. Herring Gull numbers were about the same as last year. Small numbers of four uncommon gull species (plus two hybrids) were found along the shore of Lake Superior.

While Mourning Doves counts were about average, Rock Pigeons numbers were close to the peak of eight and nine years ago. Eurasian Collared-Doves hit a record of 604, almost twice the record of two years ago. Cottonwood's 94 collared-doves last year multiplied to 226 this year. Is this a harbinger of an explosion in numbers for the rest of the state?

Common woodpeckers all surpassed last year's actual or near records and hit records this year with 3,744 Downys, 1,841 Hairys, 1,387 Red-bellieds, and 722 Pileateds. A decent acorn crop at Cedar Creek Bog resulted in 72 Red-headed Woodpeckers overwintering, which contributed to the highest count (77) in 35 years. Perhaps this is an indication that management programs are working to turn around the crashing population of this species of concern. Other less common woodpeckers were reported in typical numbers.

Corvid numbers were strong for another year with Blue Jays at the third highest and magpies at second highest and ravens at record levels with 1,935. Highly variable Horned Lark numbers rebounded from last year's low. Northern Shrike and Brown Creeper numbers were close to last year's depressed reports. Black-capped Chickadee and White-breasted Nuthatch numbers were up from last year, but might reflect better count conditions rather than population changes. Red-breasted Nuthatch and Boreal Chickadee numbers were down. Tufted Titmouses for the seventh year and Golden-crowned Kinglets for the second year were plentiful. For the first time since 2000, no wrens were reported.

The most abundant thrush, the American Robin, shows an interesting pattern over the last 12 years. Three years of relative abundance (average of ~7,400) and nine years of relative scarcity (average of ~2,450). This year we counted 2,493 robins. How this relates to open water and the availability of fruit is easy to hypothesize, but not verified by any studies we know of. Unexpected thrushes and mimics included a Gray Catbird in East Grand Forks, a Hermit Thrush in Grand Marais, four

Eastern Bluebirds in Cottonwood, and a Varied Thrush in Mountain Lake. Also seen were a Gray Catbird in East Grand Forks and a Brown Thrasher in Mountain Lake/Windom.

Waxwings, buntings, and longspurs are extremely variable. Waxwings show certain trends with Bohemians declining and Cedars increasing, although the increase could be a factor of more CBC participants.

Lapland Longspurs were only found on 14 counts with the lowest number in the last eight years. Snow Buntings were found in slightly more than half the counts. Their numbers, while considerably above last year's, were the third lowest in the last eight.

The two common winter sparrows were both more plentiful than last year and accounted for over 99% of the ten sparrow species reported. The 4,388 American Tree Sparrows were above average and the 8,353 Dark-eyed Juncos were below average. The other sparrows reported: Savannah 3, a record (Northern Wright County, Red Wing, Two Harbors); Fox 7 (first time for Lambertson); Song 18; Swamp 1 (Bloomington); White-throated 43; Harris's 12; White-crowned 3; and Golden-crowned 1 (in the same yard in Duluth for second year). Blackbird totals were below last year's low numbers, except for the 177 Brown-headed Cowbirds (the third highest count) — Rochester had 163. Two silent meadowlarks (probably Western) were found (Agassiz NWR and Long Prairie).

The two "southern finches," House Finch and American Goldfinch, were again scarcer than at any time in the last decade. The "northern finches," which are the most variable bird category in the state, were generally below average for the decade. The exception was the 10,010 Common Redpolls, the third largest invasion in the past ten years. Pine Grosbeaks (1,395) and Red Crossbills (123) were higher than last year, but they, along with Purple Finches (490), White-winged Crossbills (42), Hoary Redpolls (9), Pine Siskins (1,032) and Evening Grosbeaks (300), were all below the average for the decade. The only notable report outside of a species' expected range was a Pine Grosbeak in Faribault.

**MOU Christmas Bird Count compiler,
cbc@moumn.org.**

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	ABLEA	AFTON	AGASZ	ALEX	AUROR	AUSTN	BATLK	BAUTD	BEMID	BLOOM	BLTRM	BRSP	CEDRC
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada Goose	109	965	—	85	2	1140	54	6	6	2171	—	—	537
Cackling/Canada Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trumpeter Swan	2	187	—	145	—	cw(1)	1263	—	12	192	—	—	141
Tundra Swan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Gadwall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mallard	35	36	—	410	—	179	5	—	8	1511	—	—	1
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Greater Scaup	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—
Lesser Scaup	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
scaup sp.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Surf/Black Scoter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	—	12	—	10	—	—	8	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—
Hooded Merganser	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	3	—	—	—
Common Merganser	—	2414	—	1	—	—	cw(1)	—	1	59	—	—	cw(1)
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merganser sp.	—	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ruddy Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
duck sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	11	1	—	28	—	9	4	—	—	—	—	11	11
Ruffed Grouse	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	8	4	—	4	—	1
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	cw(1)	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	146	—	1	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
Wild Turkey	142	48	38	49	—	77	178	—	3	113	—	46	95
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pied-billed Grebe	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
grebe sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	322	132	32	182	93	280	154	59	62	667	—	217	62
Eurasian Collared-Dove	23	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	18	—	—	2	—	1	—
Mourning Dove	15	18	—	12	1	5	—	2	—	14	—	—	21
American Coot	—	2	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sandhill Crane	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killdeer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
gull sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	664	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	400	—	—	1
Herring Gull	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—
Thayer's Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thayer's Gull X Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull X Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pacific Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Double-crested Cormorant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Green Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bald Eagle	14	33	7	12	13	12	13	19	19	138	—	8	36
Northern Harrier	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
Cooper's Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Northern Goshawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Red-tailed Hawk	—	—	—	3	—	31	—	—	—	70	—	—	10
Rough-legged Hawk	2	2	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barn Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Horned Owl	—	1	—	cw(1)	—	4	2	—	—	2	—	4	4
Snowy Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barred Owl	—	1	—	1	—	7	—	—	1	2	1	—	1
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 2. Minnesota CBC totals, 2015–2016, (Albert Lea through Cedar Creek Bog).

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	ABLEA	AFTON	AGASZ	ALEX	AUROR	AUSTN	BATLK	BAUTB	BEMID	BLOOM	BLTRM	BRSP	CEDRC
Short-eared Owl	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	—	0	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	72
Red-bellied Woodpecker	9	30	—	21	—	25	20	—	4	52	—	2	40
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	25	50	1	50	16	61	54	8	20	141	2	11	74
Hairy Woodpecker	23	27	3	22	17	17	24	8	15	71	7	9	38
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—
Northern Flicker	—	11	2	8	1	6	20	2	7	19	4	4	10
Pileated Woodpecker	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	21
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Kestrel	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Merlin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	1	2	2	3	—	2	1	4	—	2	1	2	2
Gray Jay	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	2	—	—	35	—	—
Blue Jay	62	75	11	38	50	160	139	9	95	72	1	20	357
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	36	—	1	—	—	28	5	—	—	3	—
American Crow	239	347	134	163	55	463	234	92	115	1302	—	79	383
Common Raven	—	—	9	—	141	—	—	77	35	—	37	7	6
corvid sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horned Lark	219	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-capped Chickadee	122	289	18	387	537	216	299	210	282	852	102	80	573
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
Tufted Titmouse	—	0	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	0	—	3	28	—	3	13	40	6	44	—	10
White-breasted Nuthatch	29	44	2	64	12	78	104	29	37	153	2	26	131
Brown Creeper	3	2	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	14	—	1	2
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	1
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Robin	—	114	1	19	—	30	41	—	1	261	—	7	95
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	270	111	11	232	51	1302	193	37	233	1049	—	484	41
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	300	—	85	—	—	40	38	—	—	—	—
Cedar Waxwing	—	159	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	30	1
waxwing sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Sparrow	685	67	5	125	38	338	389	24	15	312	—	172	57
Pine Grosbeak	—	—	101	—	94	—	—	63	20	—	16	—	—
House Finch	39	88	—	5	—	83	35	—	—	88	—	—	2
Purple Finch	3	1	—	4	—	—	25	—	19	—	—	—	24
haemorrhous sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	—	12	—	—
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—
crossbill sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	—	—	—	—	—
Common Redpoll	1	24	215	62	308	—	554	217	70	20	33	457	208
Hoary Redpoll	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—
Pine Siskin	—	10	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	21	31	—	20
American Goldfinch	43	36	—	55	3	70	94	—	4	196	—	7	88
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	46	—	—	49	—	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	—	—	—	—
Snow Bunting	202	—	250	121	—	6	965	142	—	40	—	77	—
American Tree Sparrow	573	13	—	24	—	94	19	—	2	122	—	22	32
Savannah Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Harris's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	179	122	—	50	6	117	118	—	—	296	—	33	150
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Tanager	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	27	64	—	4	—	44	5	—	—	—	—	—	38
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	5	—
Western Meadowlark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Grackle	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Species	38	43	25	37	27	39	34	29	38	59	18	33	46
Individual Count	3481	5672	1347	2404	1615	4880	5039	1175	1276	10733	309	1861	3394

Table 2, continued.

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	COOK	COTTN	CRCLCL	CROOK	CROSB	DLAKE	DULUT	ELY	ENLA	EXCEL	FARIB	FERGS	FREDN
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Canada Goose	—	114	5	—	30	1	826	—	—	2031	2905	1500	—
Cackling/Canada Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trumpeter Swan	—	—	—	—	6	25	—	—	—	116	—	209	—
Tundra Swan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	108	—	1	—
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	—	2	—	—	—
Mallard	—	24	3	—	—	161	1577	—	—	1832	1048	200	cw(1)
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	56	—	—	—
Greater Scaup	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lesser Scaup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
scaup sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Surf/Black Scoter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	—	—	—	—	—	—	360	22	—	415	—	380	66
Hooded Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	20	2	—	—
Common Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	13030	1	10	cw(1)
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merganser sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ruddy Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
duck sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	—	22	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	4	9	cw(1)	—
Ruffed Grouse	14	—	19	—	—	19	7	10	2	—	—	—	4
Spruce Grouse	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	—	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	—	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wild Turkey	—	2	11	—	—	109	—	—	—	120	60	6	8
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pied-billed Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
grebe sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	187	130	274	90	59	60	992	161	—	186	306	323	58
Eurasian Collared-Dove	—	226	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	28	—
Mourning Dove	—	18	11	—	2	2	3	7	—	26	138	6	—
American Coot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	2	—
Sandhill Crane	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killdeer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
gull sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	223	3	—	—
Herring Gull	—	1	—	—	—	—	666	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thayer's Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thayer's Gull X Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull X Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pacific Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Double-crested Cormorant	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Green Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bald Eagle	14	6	7	10	8	14	25	12	1	78	26	15	26
Northern Harrier	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	—	1	—	1	—	1	5	—	—	1	3	—	2
Cooper's Hawk	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Northern Goshawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Red-tailed Hawk	—	2	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	53	32	—	—
Rough-legged Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
buteo sp.	1	—	3	—	—	1	8	—	—	1	1	cw(1)	—
hawk sp.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Barn Owl	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Horned Owl	1	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	13	1	2	—
Snowy Owl	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barred Owl	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	cw(1)	—
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Long-eared Owl	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 2. Minnesota CBC totals, 2015–2016, (Cook Area through Fredenberg).

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	COOK	COTTN	CRCLCL	CROOK	CROSB	DLAKE	DULUT	ELY	ENLA	EXCEL	FARIB	FERGS	FREDN
Short-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	cw(1)	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	cw(1)	—
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	—	4	7	2	18	40	7	—	—	84	53	13	—
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	42	16	40	8	19	59	97	28	21	171	191	54	33
Hairy Woodpecker	38	13	35	13	26	42	75	42	15	75	46	17	17
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	cw(1)	9	10	—	—
Northern Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—
Pileated Woodpecker	6	—	7	5	21	25	28	14	4	19	15	13	7
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Kestrel	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—
Merlin	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	2	—	cw(1)	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	—	—	3	1	1	4	3	1	1	1	2	1	2
Gray Jay	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	22	—	—	—	6
Blue Jay	145	7	97	19	141	157	50	54	61	149	213	68	15
Black-billed Magpie	4	—	—	13	—	3	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—
American Crow	90	44	143	103	86	50	800	36	19	510	698	113	57
Common Raven	148	—	41	1	2	—	119	156	42	—	—	—	108
corvid sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horned Lark	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—
Black-capped Chickadee	361	34	492	55	205	354	2017	527	351	896	360	295	534
Boreal Chickadee	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Tufted Titmouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	47	—	42	—	2	4	120	58	48	1	2	2	97
White-breasted Nuthatch	30	23	40	24	32	145	75	16	9	230	138	52	8
Brown Creeper	—	6	2	2	—	4	3	cw(1)	—	9	13	—	—
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	1
Eastern Bluebird	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	6	—	—
Townsend's Solitaire	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	cw(1)
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Robin	95	10	7	3	—	6	25	2	—	147	71	2	—
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	85	284	255	299	29	57	1053	53	—	703	1282	142	13
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	86	—	—	—	45	89	—	—	—	cw(1)	—
Cedar Waxwing	—	10	6	—	25	—	8	—	—	768	110	85	—
waxwing sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Sparrow	22	226	—	398	116	205	39	cw(1)	11	279	338	289	—
Pine Grosbeak	178	—	41	—	—	5	83	93	119	—	1	—	13
House Finch	—	5	—	76	4	9	16	—	—	137	124	2	—
Purple Finch	—	—	—	—	6	16	1	2	4	—	13	27	—
haemorhous sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2
White-winged Crossbill	7	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	2
crossbill sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Redpoll	277	—	118	196	116	545	466	533	240	52	6	—	100
Hoary Redpoll	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Siskin	82	1	3	—	1	50	50	14	169	1	10	2	cw(1)
American Goldfinch	13	14	25	—	20	56	39	12	7	153	132	43	—
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Evening Grosbeak	63	—	—	—	—	—	51	1	9	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Snow Bunting	—	33	76	290	—	90	1	—	—	1	—	77	—
American Tree Sparrow	—	20	1	5	—	7	—	—	—	85	87	9	—
Savannah Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fox Sparrow	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	1	—	3	1	cw(1)	1
Harris's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	150	33	6	26	9	86	54	1	—	252	177	104	—
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Tanager	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	—	2	4	—	10	17	10	2	—	232	124	10	—
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	5	4	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Western Meadowlark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
blackbird sp.	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Common Grackle	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	cw(1)	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Species	26	40	35	32	26	42	63	31	20	58	51	41	27
Individual Count	1885	1358	1915	1788	994	2434	9909	1999	1155	23331	8783	4122	1189

Table 2, continued.

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	FRGMF	FRMNT	GFEFG	GLACR	GRMAR	GRRAP	HASTE	HENDR	HIBBG	HUTCH	ISBEL	ITSCA	JACK
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Snow Goose	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	0	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada Goose	3612	9663	2500	286	—	68	5320	339	—	2531	—	—	226
Cackling/Canada Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trumpeter Swan	—	cw(1)	—	1	—	65	106	4	—	cw(1)	—	—	7
Tundra Swan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
swan sp.	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Wigeon	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mallard	890	650	145	—	cw(1)	99	200	—	—	1633	—	—	53
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	2	—	0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Scaup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lesser Scaup	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
scaup sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Surf/Black Scoter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Buffhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	5	—	—	—	23	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hooded Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Merganser	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merganser sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ruddy Duck	—	cw(1)	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
duck sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	13	—	22	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	—	22	0	—	—	—	6	24	—	49	—	—	4
Ruffed Grouse	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	2	—	3	9	—
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	0	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	0	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wild Turkey	39	26	0	—	—	cw(1)	84	256	—	—	—	17	48
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Pied-billed Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
grebe sp.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	139	18	146	58	52	108	333	235	18	369	—	—	247
Eurasian Collared-Dove	0	47	0	—	—	—	56	2	—	16	—	—	8
Mourning Dove	0	9	0	—	cw(1)	21	218	71	—	28	—	—	—
American Coot	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sandhill Crane	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killdeer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
gull sp.	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	127	—	—	—	—	—	—
Herring Gull	—	cw(1)	—	—	17	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thayer's Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thayer's Gull X Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull X Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pacific Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Loon	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Double-crested Cormorant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bald Eagle	12	8	6	26	14	26	88	27	6	8	2	10	11
Northern Harrier	0	—	0	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	cw(1)	1	cw(1)	—	—	1	3	3	—	1	—	—	—
Cooper's Hawk	1	cw(1)	cw(1)	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)
Northern Goshawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-tailed Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	63	25	—	20	—	—	5
Rough-legged Hawk	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
buteo sp.	2	—	0	8	4	3	7	4	—	2	—	1	1
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barn Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Great Horned Owl	7	1	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	5	—	—	2
Snowy Owl	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barred Owl	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 2. Minnesota CBC totals, 2015–2016, (Fargo-Moorhead through Jackson County).

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	FRGMH	FRMNT	GFEFG	GLACR	GRMAR	GRRAP	HASTE	HENDR	HIBBG	HUTCH	ISBEL	ITSCA	JACK
Short-eared Owl	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	7	18	0	3	1	24	45	42	—	15	—	2	11
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	31	51	7	5	85	30	100	137	22	80	37	29	24
Hairy Woodpecker	26	16	4	7	24	30	36	54	21	24	15	13	13
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Northern Flicker	0	3	0	—	—	—	5	6	—	3	—	—	1
Pileated Woodpecker	3	—	0	8	6	21	14	18	6	5	2	11	—
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
American Kestrel	0	—	2	1	—	—	6	5	—	3	—	—	3
Merlin	0	—	0	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	1
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	1	—	0	8	1	2	—	—	3	4	1	—	—
Gray Jay	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	67	6	—
Blue Jay	42	44	7	17	69	151	173	157	66	71	15	142	34
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	0	9	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
American Crow	57	93	54	24	29	166	520	181	51	199	1	29	54
Common Raven	—	—	—	4	102	36	—	—	73	—	125	73	—
corvid sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Horned Lark	0	—	0	—	—	—	—	4	—	25	—	—	50
Black-capped Chickadee	107	77	37	52	743	424	543	280	301	234	188	272	95
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
Tufted Titmouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	—	—	0	—	99	37	4	2	36	—	47	59	—
White-breasted Nuthatch	42	39	15	14	11	85	104	92	10	55	2	26	29
Brown Creeper	0	—	—	—	—	1	10	1	—	9	—	—	1
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	0	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Robin	7	—	0	22	1	—	185	23	2	15	—	—	1
Varied Thrush	—	—	0	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	54	445	38	115	33	67	534	105	159	299	—	3	530
Bohemian Waxwing	0	—	—	59	—	115	—	—	166	—	—	—	—
Cedar Waxwing	0	—	0	22	—	—	117	88	—	—	—	—	—
waxwing sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Sparrow	201	404	140	35	—	17	584	519	21	905	—	14	313
Pine Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	60	55	—	—	116	—	52	19	—
House Finch	12	56	48	1	—	—	126	79	3	33	—	—	10
Purple Finch	0	—	0	11	—	—	1	29	—	30	—	—	4
haemorhous sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—
finch sp.	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	—	20	9	—	—	—	—	3	10	—
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
crossbill sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Redpoll	31	—	84	414	62	566	3	—	383	—	38	82	—
Hoary Redpoll	0	—	0	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Siskin	94	1	46	1	47	9	1	—	—	—	19	9	—
American Goldfinch	24	55	—	6	24	34	164	222	—	66	—	2	23
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	4	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	54	—	—	17
Snow Bunting	62	60	70	110	—	—	—	62	—	210	—	—	3
American Tree Sparrow	3	92	13	—	—	—	106	46	—	128	—	—	12
Savannah Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	0	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	0	—	0	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harris's Sparrow	0	8	0	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	59	41	126	20	—	—	283	180	—	111	—	1	55
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	1	—	4	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Tanager	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	1	44	0	—	2	4	177	120	—	30	—	—	15
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	0	34	—	1	—	—	—	19	—	15	—	—	9
Western Meadowlark	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Grackle	0	—	0	—	—	2	—	23	—	2	—	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	0	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Species	38	36	24	36	35	38	53	39	22	42	19	27	37
Individual Count	5598	12344	3514	1415	1562	2297	10509	3496	1497	7294	626	847	1923

Table 2, continued.

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	KENS	LAMBR	LCRLC	LFALL	LNNGPR	LQPR	MARSH	MEEK	MNKTO	MORIS	MPLSN	MTLKW	NELS
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Canada Goose	—	559	0	58	—	2000	29	2	921	1075	1043	—	463
Cackling/Canada Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trumpeter Swan	—	—	—	19	—	—	—	5	10	—	49	cw(1)	0
Tundra Swan	—	—	420	—	—	—	39	—	—	—	—	—	0
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Wigeon	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Mallard	—	—	0	240	—	55	—	32	144	37	1271	—	0
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Scaup	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lesser Scaup	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
scaup sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Surf/Black Scoter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	—	—	0	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	18	—	70
Hooded Merganser	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Merganser	—	—	0	2	—	45	—	—	37	—	3	—	0
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merganser sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ruddy Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
duck sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	31	23	—	6	11	10	152	39	4	23	1	58	0
Ruffed Grouse	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wild Turkey	7	—	43	196	18	2	4	92	60	cw(1)	126	cw(1)	0
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pied-billed Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
grebe sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	286	110	663	895	204	49	28	320	311	212	126	98	33
Eurasian Collared-Dove	12	2	—	—	—	58	15	1	1	26	—	5	—
Mourning Dove	2	13	60	8	5	20	3	43	29	—	20	—	14
American Coot	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sandhill Crane	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killdeer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
gull sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	126	—	2
Herring Gull	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Thayer's Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thayer's Gull X Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull X Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pacific Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Double-crested Cormorant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	1	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bald Eagle	6	2	70	17	11	10	3	29	40	7	29	1	25
Northern Harrier	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	0
Sharp-shinned Hawk	—	—	0	—	2	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	0
Cooper's Hawk	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Goshawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-tailed Hawk	1	6	17	6	8	3	6	13	57	2	37	4	6
Rough-legged Hawk	—	1	4	4	1	—	—	3	5	—	—	1	2
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Barn Owl	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	—	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Horned Owl	—	4	1	—	cw(1)	1	1	—	2	2	1	1	—
Snowy Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barred Owl	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 2. Minnesota CBC totals, 2015–2016, (Kensington through Nelson).

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	KENS	LAMBR	LCRLC	LFALL	LNGBR	LQPR	MARSH	MEEK	MNKTO	MORIS	MPLSN	MTLKW	NELS
Short-eared Owl	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	7	11	29	18	18	1	5	18	43	2	37	1	12
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	27	21	42	37	44	13	23	64	50	12	72	12	4
Hairy Woodpecker	13	15	21	12	18	9	29	13	26	14	32	3	16
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Flicker	—	1	0	—	—	1	—	5	3	cw(1)	1	2	—
Pileated Woodpecker	7	1	6	14	16	1	2	3	1	—	6	—	10
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Kestrel	—	1	5	—	—	3	—	—	3	2	—	—	1
Merlin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	—	2	—	4	4	1	—	4	1	1	2	2	0
Gray Jay	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blue Jay	45	45	73	111	112	41	19	65	94	20	129	16	41
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Crow	42	63	85	291	371	37	37	237	312	49	501	24	92
Common Raven	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
corvid sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horned Lark	—	787	0	1	19	136	8	90	—	88	—	58	1
Black-capped Chickadee	101	64	153	204	162	43	116	136	166	62	395	9	100
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tufted Titmouse	—	—	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Red-breasted Nuthatch	—	—	3	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-breasted Nuthatch	19	24	71	49	61	10	32	33	48	24	93	2	37
Brown Creeper	—	4	0	3	—	3	3	—	2	cw(1)	8	—	2
Winter Wren	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	2	0	2	—	5	2	—	1	—	—	—	0
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	13	—	7	—	0
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Robin	—	6	12	22	5	3	1	86	28	2	53	23	23
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	224	73	128	335	68	130	63	651	282	433	358	73	14
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cedar Waxwing	—	53	0	22	—	103	—	91	163	34	40	54	10
waxwing sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Sparrow	214	323	522	235	277	215	990	223	380	824	209	216	259
Pine Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Finch	2	5	7	—	9	15	22	102	100	7	66	8	1
Purple Finch	10	10	3	15	9	5	—	14	7	—	1	—	8
haemorrhous sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
crossbill sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Redpoll	67	—	—	728	158	7	46	95	—	19	12	—	2
Hoary Redpoll	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Siskin	—	—	6	4	—	—	7	—	cw(1)	cw(1)	—	—	13
American Goldfinch	51	17	82	109	132	4	14	73	35	16	102	26	34
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	—	135	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	cw(1)	—	9	—
Snow Bunting	575	246	—	—	70	4	3	135	—	127	—	751	0
American Tree Sparrow	23	17	93	65	44	14	20	577	64	2	53	—	29
Savannah Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fox Sparrow	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Song Sparrow	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	0	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Harris's Sparrow	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	12	12	221	234	138	56	18	200	176	7	205	31	144
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Tanager	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	2	14	78	10	16	10	3	22	83	—	85	3	14
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	1	5	2	—	—	1	2	5	301	—	—	74	0
Western Meadowlark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Grackle	—	—	5	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	10	—	—	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	0
Total Species	27	43	37	40	31	41	35	37	45	33	45	31	33
Individual Count	1789	2685	2940	3986	2018	3129	1749	3540	4021	3142	5327	1568	1486

Table 2, continued.

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	NEWUL	NWRCO	OWATN	PHILB	PILGR	PINEC	RCHST	RLNWR	ROSEU	RWING3	SCCLG	SHNWR	SPNES
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	4	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada Goose	cw(1)	196	672	—	61	—	5400	31	—	1311	916	53	698
Cackling/Canada Goose	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trumpeter Swan	—	423	—	—	518	—	4	1	—	1	7	448	123
Tundra Swan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1
Mallard	—	247	411	—	40	—	1083	—	—	31	1253	9	818
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	61
Greater Scaup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lesser Scaup	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	17
scaup sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Surf/Black Scoter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Common Goldeneye	—	146	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	126	20	—	7
Hooded Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Common Merganser	—	70	—	—	51	—	—	—	—	812	—	—	373
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merganser sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ruddy Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
duck sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	3	32	40	9	—	—	4	—	—	5	6	4	50
Ruffed Grouse	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	2	—	1	2
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wild Turkey	54	41	43	88	51	56	110	8	—	350	86	42	284
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pied-billed Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
grebe sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	160	163	256	201	179	55	461	97	34	459	154	202	434
Eurasian Collared-Dove	15	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
Mourning Dove	15	39	54	2	1	1	61	2	1	50	9	15	137
American Coot	—	6	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Sandhill Crane	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—
Killdeer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
gull sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64	—	—	1505
Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	150
Thayer's Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thayer's Gull X Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull X Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pacific Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Double-crested Cormorant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Green Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bald Eagle	21	19	18	8	21	9	48	23	3	87	14	39	51
Northern Harrier	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	2	3	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	—	4	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	—
Cooper's Hawk	2	1	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	3
Northern Goshawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-tailed Hawk	10	17	29	5	3	1	56	—	—	42	6	17	33
Rough-legged Hawk	—	1	2	9	1	3	4	12	—	1	1	6	2
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Barn Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Horned Owl	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	7
Snowy Owl	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Barred Owl	—	1	—	1	2	—	4	—	—	—	1	1	4
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 2. Minnesota CBC totals, 2015–2016, (New Ulm through St. Paul, Northeast Suburban).

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	NEWUL	NWRCO	OWATN	PHILB	PILGR	PINEC	RCHST	RLNWR	ROSEU	RWING3	SCCLG	SHNWR	SPNES
Short-eared Owl	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	23	32	42	7	11	1	55	1	—	69	29	39	69
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	46	44	108	10	25	23	143	12	—	105	30	65	162
Hairy Woodpecker	19	14	45	12	11	18	53	10	3	27	13	35	74
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Flicker	1	1	10	—	—	—	4	—	—	5	—	3	8
Pileated Woodpecker	2	21	16	6	16	2	9	3	—	18	17	17	38
woodpecker sp.	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Kestrel	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	—	—	—
Merlin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	1	2	—	1	—	1	2	2	3	—	1	4	4
Gray Jay	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blue Jay	41	71	171	71	117	154	122	89	12	150	122	516	193
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—
American Crow	119	238	372	234	213	262	1193	67	20	526	246	276	682
Common Raven	—	—	—	6	13	51	—	39	57	—	—	3	6
corvid sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horned Lark	10	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—
Black-capped Chickadee	129	314	274	90	280	377	422	120	25	365	240	407	1143
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Tufted Titmouse	—	—	—	2	—	18	3	—	—	15	—	4	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	—	4	2	8	18	2	5	—	1	8	4	11
White-breasted Nuthatch	60	91	97	18	39	27	130	13	10	123	77	81	213
Brown Creeper	7	3	2	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	7
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
Eastern Bluebird	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	6	—
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Robin	1	39	17	—	—	1	78	—	—	7	55	102	343
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	549	595	149	43	113	240	660	166	67	529	344	61	350
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	20	11	—	—	—	—
Cedar Waxwing	28	20	1	—	—	17	15	15	—	91	58	51	105
waxwing sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Sparrow	422	204	668	71	65	29	1107	52	81	482	130	51	180
Pine Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	32	—	26	11	—	—	—	—
House Finch	79	27	189	—	—	—	222	—	—	31	57	21	78
Purple Finch	8	11	6	—	—	—	5	—	—	6	—	18	45
haemorrhous sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	12	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
crossbill sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Redpoll	—	16	15	380	137	214	—	230	29	41	90	81	14
Hoary Redpoll	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Siskin	—	—	65	—	—	1	20	—	—	10	5	3	63
American Goldfinch	39	29	144	34	66	4	139	4	—	62	51	26	317
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Snow Bunting	—	—	6	530	25	3	—	—	226	—	10	14	—
American Tree Sparrow	17	97	105	47	—	—	41	—	—	201	26	232	118
Savannah Sparrow	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Song Sparrow	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	7	—	—	—
Harris's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Golden-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—
Dark-eyed Junco	39	82	163	24	103	2	491	2	—	444	155	255	265
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Tanager	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	23	34	127	2	4	1	133	—	—	133	26	25	187
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Western Meadowlark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Grackle	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	163	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Species	38	50	44	32	32	32	52	32	25	52	42	47	56
Individual Count	1952	3412	4378	1929	2189	1610	12498	1107	649	6841	4274	3263	9526

Table 2, continued.

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	SPNOR	SXZIM	THRBR	TMNWR	UPPG	VIRGN	WABAS	WALKR	WIEL	WILDR	WILMR	WINON	WWATR	TOTAL
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Cackling Goose	10	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	50
Canada Goose	1716	—	—	cw(1)	6	3	2612	—	120	556	1058	649	29	59269
Cackling/Canada Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Trumpeter Swan	96	—	—	35	25	—	86	7	60	32	9	—	—	4439
Tundra Swan	—	—	—	—	—	—	166	—	—	—	—	105	—	742
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	5
Wood Duck	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	3	—	11
Gadwall	27	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	202	—	—	372
American Wigeon	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
American Black Duck	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	63
Mallard	2607	—	3	cw(1)	43	71	251	—	—	44	30	259	19	19698
American Black Duck x Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	305
Northern Pintail	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	58	—	—	—	—	—	—	58
Redhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	124
Greater Scaup	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Lesser Scaup	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	30
scaup sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Surf/Black Scoter	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
Buffhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	7
Common Goldeneye	15	—	20	—	1	6	30	5	30	—	25	—	—	1838
Hooded Merganser	2	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	41
Common Merganser	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	753	—	—	116	36	—	17863
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	65
Merganser sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60
Ruddy Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	5
gull sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Gray Partridge	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	97
Ring-necked Pheasant	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	79	—	1	826
Ruffed Grouse	—	3	6	2	1	13	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	139
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	225
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	158
Wild Turkey	66	7	—	4	11	—	59	5	—	28	54	—	88	3658
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pied-billed Grebe	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
grebe sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rock Pigeon	2279	5	157	3	3	290	336	—	26	346	345	875	393	18059
Eurasian Collared-Dove	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	604
Mourning Dove	119	—	13	—	—	—	76	—	—	16	17	45	53	1591
American Coot	7	—	—	—	—	—	5	cw(1)	—	—	cw(1)	2	—	67
Sandhill Crane	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Killdeer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
gull sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	735
Ring-billed Gull	106	—	2	—	—	—	3	cw(1)	—	—	3	25	—	2629
Herring Gull	11	—	120	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	96	—	—	1106
Thayer's Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Thayer's Gull X Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Glaucous Gull X Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pacific Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Common Loon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	9
Double-crested Cormorant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
Great Blue Heron	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Green Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Bald Eagle	57	13	18	39	12	17	72	43	2	34	18	129	45	1920
Northern Harrier	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	31
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	1	3	2	1	59
Cooper's Hawk	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	7
Northern Goshawk	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Red-tailed Hawk	41	—	—	—	1	1	19	—	6	21	7	39	24	911
Rough-legged Hawk	—	4	2	1	—	—	4	—	—	3	2	4	3	145
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
hawk sp.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	10
Barn Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Eastern Screech-Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Great Horned Owl	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	—	—	102
Snowy Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Barred Owl	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	48
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

Table 2. Minnesota CBC totals, 2015–2016, (St. Paul North through Whitewater River).

The 2015–2016 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	SPNOR	SXZIM	THRBR	TMNWR	UPPG	VRGN	WABAS	WALKR	WIEL	WILDR	WILMR	WINON	WWATR	TOTAL
Short-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Northern Saw-whet Owl	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Belted Kingfisher	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	1	—	31
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77
Red-bellied Woodpecker	51	—	—	5	13	—	20	7	—	34	28	31	19	1387
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Downy Woodpecker	167	4	45	14	17	10	40	19	—	130	97	42	35	3744
Hairy Woodpecker	73	1	17	16	12	11	15	12	—	37	38	23	13	1841
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Northern Flicker	6	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	8	1	2	122
Pileated Woodpecker	16	—	13	6	14	4	10	17	—	22	13	8	3	722
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
American Kestrel	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	4	4	69
Merlin	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
Peregrine Falcon	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Northern Shrike	2	1	1	1	—	2	3	—	1	2	—	1	2	120
Gray Jay	—	12	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	243
Blue Jay	76	44	59	63	93	48	77	40	—	152	115	74	91	6825
Black-billed Magpie	—	5	cw(1)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	134
American Crow	1100	138	74	31	127	72	308	53	10	360	243	287	379	17,584
Common Raven	—	182	90	7	20	89	—	16	—	13	—	—	—	1935
corvid sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Horned Lark	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	—	—	—	—	—	18	1588
Golden-capped Chickadee	726	273	579	94	425	364	141	152	2	526	318	159	132	23,589
Boreal Chickadee	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28
Tufted Titmouse	1	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	3	61
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5	60	88	7	18	33	1	14	—	6	1	3	1	1170
White-breasted Nuthatch	221	13	11	27	60	10	38	10	—	142	81	33	44	4229
Brown Creeper	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	5	6	2	1	160
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37
Golden-crowned Kinglet	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	81
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
American Robin	267	—	4	1	1	10	29	—	—	30	87	58	1	2493
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
European Starling	852	162	181	—	6	359	262	15	—	387	677	491	37	20,778
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	15	—	54	211	—	24	—	—	1	—	—	1361
Cedar Waxwing	—	—	38	—	2	—	22	—	—	178	188	10	—	2846
waxwing sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
House Sparrow	907	32	7	4	21	71	469	25	—	28	307	843	550	18,996
Pine Grosbeak	—	5	125	—	—	67	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1395
House Finch	106	—	—	—	3	—	6	7	—	54	101	16	54	2476
Purple Finch	1	—	—	2	—	1	9	10	—	14	33	3	16	490
haemorrhous sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
finch sp.	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	123
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	42
crossbill sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39
Common Redpoll	4	188	396	83	25	283	4	117	—	33	15	—	—	10,010
Hairy Redpoll	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Pine Siskin	2	9	28	—	5	24	4	8	—	37	—	20	—	1032
American Goldfinch	308	3	—	13	2	—	80	2	—	133	133	108	22	4144
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Evening Grosbeak	—	9	—	—	—	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	300
Lapland Longspur	—	—	—	—	—	—	150	—	—	—	—	—	18	468
Snow Bunting	—	7	—	—	—	—	181	—	—	—	72	—	45	5978
American Tree Sparrow	101	—	—	1	—	—	340	—	14	124	48	209	151	4388
Savannah Sparrow	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Song Sparrow	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	18
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
White-throated Sparrow	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	43
Harris's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	12
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Golden-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29
Dark-eyed Junco	209	—	9	19	6	3	632	—	13	159	181	420	528	8353
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
Scarlet Tanager	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Northern Cardinal	137	—	3	—	—	—	46	—	—	—	40	69	37	2610
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Red-winged Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	573
Western Meadowlark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Common Grackle	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	68
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	177
Total Species	56	28	40	26	34	33	59	29	12	42	55	48	39	
Individual Count	12,538	1192	2139	480	1035	2116	6791	1370	285	3745	4743	5342	2872	292,803

Table 2, concluded.

A First State Record Gull-billed Tern in Lac qui Parle County

Kathy Java



Gull-billed Tern, 4 June 2016, Salt Lake, Lac qui Parle County. Photo by Brad Abendroth.

The Gull-billed Tern is a medium-sized, heavy set, coastal seabird with a black cap, dark eye, and a thick, blackish, gull-like bill. The long wings are light gray above with dark edging trailing along the outer primaries. The back is pale gray and the undersides of the wings and body are white. The short, white tail is moderately forked, and the legs and feet are black.

On 1 June 2016, I was birding with a friend and his non-birding wife at Salt Lake on the Minnesota–South Dakota border. By 4:00 P.M., we were about ready to leave the South Dakota side of the lake, and made one final scan of the water. There was a Forster's Tern on a sand bar, but then, as we were pulling out, we saw what we thought was another Forster's Tern flying about, hovering, and feeding along the western shore. Already in the truck at this point, we decided to photograph the bird rather than confirm a positive identification, and because we were watching it through our cameras' viewfinders, we did not notice its black bill and legs.

At a local motel later that night, I uploaded the day's photos to my laptop and as I was looking them over, I realized this last bird was not a Forster's Tern. I went over to my friend's room and knocked on his door. He was looking at his photos at the same time and noticed the black bill and legs, and he also concluded that this was not a Forster's Tern. He got out his bird book and identified it as a Gull-billed Tern.

I went back to my room and, using the camera in my cell phone, took a photo of the tern image displayed on my laptop and posted it to the Minnesota Birding *Facebook* group. At the time, I was unaware that the western side of Salt Lake was in South Dakota.

The following day, and for a few days after that, the Gull-billed Tern was seen by many people on both the South Dakota (Deuel County) and Minnesota (Lac qui Parle County) side of Salt Lake. It had a habit of leaving the area for extended periods of time, probably to feed in the nearby fields, but returned



Gull-billed Tern, 4 June 2016, Salt Lake, Lac qui Parle County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

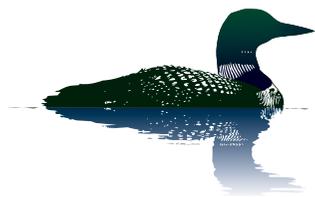
periodically to loaf on the sand bars or cruise the shore of the lake. It did not associate with any of the other terns, though it didn't seem to avoid them either. It was last documented at Salt Lake on 4 June, though there was a second-hand report from there on 5 June, and another on 6 June at the Sweetwater WMA in Lac qui Parle County.

The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee accepted this observation as a first state record (*The Loon* 88:91–94). The

records committee for South Dakota also accepted it as a first state record. There are fewer than a dozen other Gull-billed Tern occurrences away from the coastal states. There are records from Michigan (2005), Wisconsin (2014), Kansas (1998, 2002), Kentucky (1994), Tennessee (2004, 2006), Arkansas (2009), and New Mexico (2008).

22180 Spirit Lake Road East, Frederic, WI 54837.

Notes of Interest



BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE IN DULUTH



— I was standing on the observation deck at the Lake Superior Maritime Visitors Center in Canal Park on 16 January 2016 with Jan and Larry Kraemer, and Steve Kolbe, when Steve spotted and called out “kittiwake!” as it approached the north pier

of the shipping channel. Steve had noticed the bird while it was still east of the end of the pier and called out directions so that we all got on the bird as it approached and veered around the lighthouse. Steve ran down to the gate to alert others of the kittiwake’s approach. The kittiwake landed in the water and was bathing next to another gull. Before doing anything else, I snapped several photos, but did not notice until reviewing them the next day that there were actually two kittiwakes bathing side by side!

One of the kittiwakes eventually took off and flew around the back side of the lighthouse and followed the shipping channel towards the green gate. The second kittiwake took off and flew directly towards the green gate. At least one of the kittiwakes landed on the floor of the pier east of the green gate and preened for a while. One of the kittiwakes appeared to be preening in flight at one point. It was impossible to keep track of which bird was which during the time that they circled overhead and flew back and forth on both sides of the pier. My photo of a kittiwake sitting on the floor of the pier depicts a bird with fewer markings on its head compared to my other images, so it seems that I’ve captured both individuals photographically.

The following physical description was written from memory two days later and refers to both birds, since their plumage was essentially identical. A small gull with a buoyant flight not unlike that of Bonaparte’s Gull. Small black bill and dark irides. Legs and feet color not noted. Head and body plumage white except for dark auricular spot (smudged on one individual) and obvious, black, nuchal bar. Classic black M pattern across mantle with gray back and inner forewing, narrow black triangle along leading edge of outer wing, and pale gray/whitish triangle across inner primaries and outer secondaries. Narrow black trailing edge to wing. Under wing mostly whitish. Tail white with shallow notched shape and narrow black band across tip.

Juvenile Ross’s Gull is smaller with wedge-shaped tail and whitish trailing edge along secondaries. First-cycle Bonaparte’s Gull shows a white wedge on outer wing and lacks the black nuchal bar. First-cycle Little Gull is smaller, with a black cap and no nuchal bar. First-cycle Black-headed Gull lacks the black nuchal bar and shows a white wedge on its outer wing.

Peder H. Svingen, 2602 East 4th Street, Duluth MN 55812.



Black-legged Kittiwake, 17 January 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.



Black-legged Kittiwake, 16 January 2016, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

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Purpose of the M.O.U.

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

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



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

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

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, and original photographs. All text submissions on paper should be typed, double-spaced, and single-sided. Notes of Interest should be less than two full pages. If possible, please include a digital copy of your submission. Digital documents may be e-mailed to the Editor of *The Loon* — see inside front cover for contact information. Printed photographs should be no smaller than 5" x 7". Digital photographs should be original format, unaltered, and full resolution. Club information and other announcements of general interest should be sent to the Editor of our newsletter *Minnesota Birding* — see inside front cover for contact information. Bird sighting reports for each season should be sent to the Editor of "The Seasonal Report" — see "Key to The Seasonal Report" for contact information.



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A group of mallards is shown on a snowy surface. In the foreground, two mallards are standing with their wings spread wide, revealing their characteristic blue wing patches. Behind them, several other mallards are visible, some with their heads turned. The background is a soft-focus snow-covered ground.

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Minnesota's First Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*)

Anthony X. Hartzel, Peder H. Svingen, and Kathleen MacAulay

On 15 February 2016, Kathleen MacAulay discovered and photographed a drake Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*) just below the Rum River Dam in downtown Anoka, Anoka County. Though lacking any experience with the species, she immediately recognized its distinctive appearance amongst hundreds of Mallards (*A. platyrhynchos*), a handful of American Black Ducks (*A. rubripes*), and two American Black Duck X Mallard hybrids.

Despite significant fog accumulating overnight, Robert Dunlap, Anthony Hartzel, and Drew Smith refound the bird the following morning and obtained over one hundred additional photographs under overcast skies. Almost two dozen observers saw it throughout the day, including Peder Svingen who obtained images in the afternoon after the fog lifted and sunshine began filtering through the clouds. Hundreds of waterfowl continued to congregate along the river in subsequent days and weeks, but the Mottled Duck was not seen again after the 16th.

The Rum River Dam area is popular with local residents who walk and bike (in season) along the river and sometimes feed the ducks. Hoping to obtain close-up photos, we put out cracked corn and bread on the 16th, but it had no discernable effect on the Mottled Duck's behavior.

Careful scrutiny of its plumage showed no evidence of captivity, and our images document intact halluces (Photos A and B). MacAulay observed the Mottled Duck feeding, preening, and swimming, and noted that it did not associate with any of the American Black Ducks. The following day, Svingen saw it walk across the ice side-by-side with a Black Duck; they entered the water together and swam upstream together. Otherwise, the Mottled Duck showed no predilection for any other species or individual.

We aged and sexed this bird as an adult

male based on its dark brown plumage (Bielefeld et al. 2010, Reeber 2015), yellow bill (all male Mottled Ducks have yellow bills from November through April; Stutzenbaker 1988, Bielefeld et al. 2010, Lasley 2016), lack of any dark markings on the upper surface of the maxilla (females show black spots; Baldassarre 2014, Reeber 2015), and mottled vermicular breast feathers rather than female-type "pin-stripes" (Stutzenbaker 1988). We further classified it as being from the interior population (sometimes referred to as the "Western Gulf Coast Mottled Duck") and usually given the trinomial *A. f. maculosa* (Stutzenbaker 1988, Baldassarre 2014, Reeber 2015, Leukering and Pranty 2015, Lasley 2016). Mottled Ducks from this isolated population (Figure 1) differ in overall plumage from the disjunct "Florida Mottled Duck" (*A. f. fulvigula*) by being darker (Bielefeld et al. 2010, Baldassarre 2014, Reeber 2015), showing whiter wing linings (Lasley 2016), and displaying violet-blue specula rather than bluish-green (Baldassarre 2014). It should be noted that male *maculosa* individuals vary from moderately dark to very dark (Bielefeld et al. 2010, Baldassarre 2014).

MacAulay documented the Rum River duck with photos and notes from the 15th. Dunlap, Hartzel, Smith, and Svingen composed detailed written descriptions of its behavior and appearance on the 16th. Hartzel and Svingen captured spread-wing digital images, and Dunlap took digital video. The following point-by-point analysis and discussion are based on the written descriptions and images submitted by these five observers. We also conducted a comprehensive literature search and solicited expert opinion from Peter Pyle.

Figure 1 depicts all acceptable records of Mottled Duck known to the authors during the sixty-year period from 1957–2016 (n=48). These records were gleaned from peer-reviewed journals, published proceedings of state and local bird Records Committees,



Figure 1. Primary breeding range (colored areas) and extralimital records of Mottled Duck. Red (Western Gulf Coast) = *maculosa*; green (Florida) = *fulvigula*. States with at least one record have each indicated with dark circles. Large white circles indicate states with more than ten records. Paler region in the center of the continent depicts the Mississippi Drainage. Adapted from Bielefeld et al. 2010, Robbins et al. 2010, and sources cited in text.

USF&WS band recoveries, publications devoted to waterfowl, and personal communications with local birders, ornithologists, and field researchers. Some previously published records may not have been included if the evidence was scant, ambiguous, or rejected by later authorities. The decision whether to include or omit those was ultimately made by the authors. Note that as the species is apparently expanding its range northward, records in many southern states adjacent to the Mottled Duck's historic breeding areas are no longer considered extralimital. Additionally, all records from 2015–2016 had yet to be published at the time of this writing.

Description

Bare Parts: The Mottled Duck's bill was very yellow with black tomlia and a small, dark nail. The bill was otherwise unmarked, except for an irregular, large, blackish spot at the gape (Photos A and B). Though this mark

was marginally less substantial than is illustrated in most field guides, these gape spots tend to be more indistinct in *maculosa* than in *fulvigula*, and this difference is not an indication one way or the other of the presence of interspecific DNA (Leukering and Pranty 2015). The size and shape of its gape mark are entirely consistent with all male *maculosa* at this time of year. Most hybrids with Mallard and American Black Duck lack the dark gape spot (Leukering and Pranty 2015) and also lack the dark tomlia (Reeber 2015). Its irides were dark, and the legs and feet were bright reddish-orange. We carefully scrutinized its feet when it was out of the water and noted intact halluces.

Face and Head: Overall, the face was considerably paler than the rest of the body with a clean delineation to its darker crown, eye-line, and hind neck. The face itself was light caramel-buff, with a slight pinkish cast to the cheeks and lores ("ruddy ground color," Bent



Photo A. Mottled Duck at Rum River Dam, Anoka County, 15 February 2016. Note bill color in shade, black gape mark, abbreviated eyeline, peach-buff wash on cheek, caramelized body plumage, brown tail, and intact halluces. Ice crystals are clinging to its upper tail-coverts. Photo by Kathleen MacAulay.

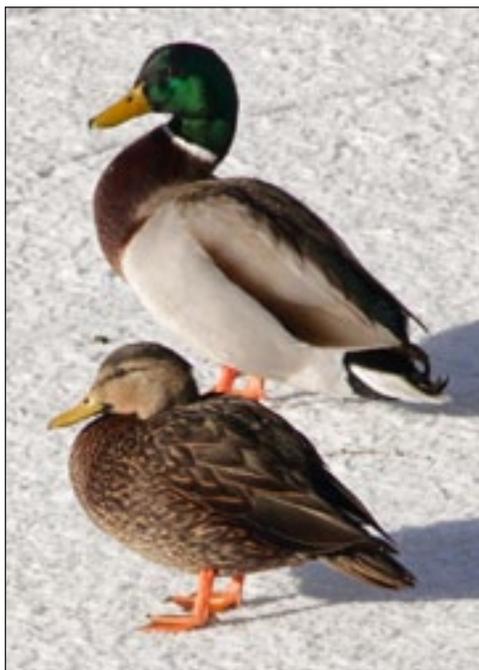


Photo B. Mottled Duck with Mallard at Rum River Dam, Anoka County, 16 February 2016. Compare bill color and overall size. Note bill color in full sun, black gape mark, abbreviated eyeline, intact halluces, and straight, brown tail. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

1923; “pale pinkish buff,” Oberholser 1974). Subtle brownish streaking crossed through the cheeks below the eye (Photo A). The darker feathers of the hind neck formed a continuous stripe from the crown down to merge with the dark back feathers. The posterior face became slightly more mottled and patterned, with slightly darker feathering near the hind neck stripe. These features are all entirely consistent with *maculosa*.

Supercilium: A light supercilium extended from the front of the bill to the darker hind neck. It was a pale caramel-buff, matching the color of the cheeks and becoming slightly pinkish above the eye (Photos A and B). This is consistent with *maculosa*. The supercilium in hybrids with Mallard is paler than the cheeks (Leukering and Pranty 2015). At this time of year, a male Mallard X Mottled Duck would typically show some green feathering in this region, especially at the rear of the supercilium toward auriculars (Nelson 1980), which this bird lacked. Hybrids with American Black Duck would be darker in the supraloral area (Lee 2016).

Eyeline: Its eyeline was as dark as the crown and extended from near the culmen and through the eye, but terminated behind the eye well before the darker hind neck stripe, leaving a wide, pale area at the back of the face (Photos A and B). This strongly indicates — and would be expected for — Mottled Duck. In most all hybrids with Mallard, the eyeline continues to the back of the head and merges with the darker feathering of the hind neck (Leukering and Pranty 2015).

Cheeks: Its cheeks were caramel-buff, subtly streaked beneath the eye, but essentially clear elsewhere, which is typical of Mottled Duck (Bielefeld et al. 2010). There was a noticeable pinkish cast to the face near the bill (Photos A and B). These characteristics are again consistent with *maculosa*. Hybrids with Mallard almost always have heavier streaking throughout the cheek and loreal area. As stated by Leukering and Pranty (2015), “streaking across the cheeks, a Mallard trait, seems to be a dominant feature expressed in nearly all birds of mixed parentage.”

Breast: The Mottled Duck’s breast was rich, dark brown mottled with brighter buff-cinnamon; this was about the same color and general patterning as the rest of its body plumage

(Photos A and B). This is entirely consistent with *maculosa*. Hybrids with Mallard usually show a distinct reddish hue and are paler overall on the breast, which contrasts with the rest of the body plumage (Leukering and Pranty 2015). No such color or contrast differences were noted on the Rum River bird.

Flanks: Similar to its breast feathering, the flanks were a rich, dark brown mottled with brighter buff-cinnamon (Photos A and B). This is indicative of *maculosa*. First generation hybrids (F1) with Mallard usually show pale gray feathers vermiculated with dark (Reeber 2015).

Upperparts: The Mottled Duck's mantle, scapulars, and tertials were dark brown with rich caramel-buff edging producing an elegant, scalloped appearance (Photos A and B). At rest, the secondaries were obscured and folded primaries were dark brown.

Wing Pattern including Specula: The upperwings were overall dark brown, while the underwings showed white wing linings dramatically contrasting with the grayish-brown ventral surface of the remiges. The Mottled Duck's specula were dark iridescent purplish-blue, bordered fore and aft with black. In certain wing positions, the iridescence shifted to solid blue, but this was always temporary and an obvious artifact of lighting (Photo C). There was absolutely no white on the anterior or lateral margins of the specula. The trailing edge of each speculum was very thinly bordered with white. The greater secondary-coverts were marginally edged at the anterior border of each speculum with cinnamon-buff, but this was thin, laterally incomplete, and not white. These details are consistent with *maculosa*. In Stutzenbaker's study (1988), the second most common Mallard hybrid characteristic was a thick, abnormal amount of white in the trailing edge of the speculum and the presence of white in the leading edge of the speculum. This field mark is consistently referenced by other authors as nearly diagnostic of hybridization with Mallard (Nelson 1980; Stutzenbaker 1988; Baldassarre 2014; Ford 2015; Leukering and Pranty 2015; Reeber 2015).

Tail: The Mottled Duck's tail was dark brown and marginally lighter than the upper tail-coverts. Each rectrix was bordered with lighter ginger-tan. The very dark central pair of rectrices were held flat and exhibited no upward curl (as in Mallard) (Photo B). This

is expected for both races of Mottled Duck. Stutzenbaker (1988) examined 10,000 Mottled Ducks in the course of a study and of the more than 100 Mottled Duck X Mallards he identified, the most common hybrid trait was a curled central rectrix. This was also the most common characteristic of Mottled Duck X Mallard hybrids found by Williams et al. (2005). Curved central rectrices are retained well beyond the F2 stage of hybridization (Reeber 2015). Leukering and Pranty (2015) indicate that any amount of white visible in the tail is a common and incriminating field mark of hybrids, and Nelson (1980) noted that the central rectrices of a hybrid would be tipped with black. The Rum River bird had neither of these attributes.

Comparative Species

Male "Mexican" Duck (*A. p. diazi*) is paler, has a greener bill, and only very rarely shows a dark gape spot which, when present, is weak and reduced (Bielefeld et al. 2010; Baldassarre 2014; Reeber 2015). The cheeks are darker than in Mottled Duck and the eye-line continues to the back of the head, merging with the darker hind neck feathers (Baldassarre 2014; Reeber 2015). It also lacks the faint pinkish cast to the cheeks and throat of Mottled Duck (especially *maculosa*). Mexican Duck's face is strongly streaked with dark and a "velvety green sheen" to the crown is typical of males (Reeber 2015). Its specula typically show anterior and posterior white borders and are lighter blue but tinted green (Madge and Burn 1987; Baldassarre 2014) or turquoise (Reeber 2015).

Male American Black Duck (*A. rubripes*) has a very thin white border to the trailing edge of the speculum (Baldassarre 2014), and in some cases it's absent entirely (Stutzenbaker 1988; Kirby et al. 2000). Its upperparts are very dark with colorless blackish tones and poorly contrasting grayish-brown edging, and its dull pale head and neck are streaked with brown (Baldassarre 2014). It also lacks the pronounced black gape spot.

Hybrids and Origin

From the very beginning, we recognized the need to consider and eliminate hybrids between Mottled Duck and Mallard. We also realized that issues of origin needed to be



Photo C. Mottled Duck spreading wings at Rum River Dam, Anoka County, 16 February 2016. Note absence of white anterior to speculum and a thin, pale, trailing edge along the posterior margin of speculum. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

addressed. Images clearly show that both halluces were intact (Photos A and B) and there were no signs of aberrant plumage or damaged feathers. Mottled Ducks are rare in private collections (Reeber 2015). More than a decade ago, Dinsmore and Silcock (2004) pointed out that extralimital reports of Mottled Ducks have increased in the Great Plains states. North American observations of Mottled Duck away from its coastal range are routinely treated as natural vagrants regardless of the distance involved (Reeber 2015). Extralimital records from Midwestern states and Canadian provinces include Colorado (Semo and Faulkner 2010, Faulkner 2014), Oklahoma (Sutton 1971, with numerous recent records from Red Slough W.M.A.), Kansas (McHenry 1968, with numerous records from Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira N.W.R.), Nebraska (Lemburg 1980, Silcock et al. 1986, Sharpe et al. 2001, Grzybowski and Silcock 2015), South Dakota (Martin 2011, Selman et al. 2011), North Dakota (Svingen and Martin 2009), Missouri (Hobbs 1998; J. Dinsmore 2009; Wehtje

2010, 2012; Eades 2015; Uffman and Douglas 2015), Iowa (Dinsmore and Brees 2007, S. Dinsmore 2009, Silcock 2010, Wehtje 2010, Uffman and Douglas 2015), and Ontario (Richards 2009). Neither Wisconsin nor Michigan have accepted records.

Species known to naturally hybridize (i.e., not in captivity) with Mottled Duck are Muscovy Duck, Northern Shoveler, Mallard, American Black Duck (McCarthy 2006; Leukering and Pranty 2015; Reeber 2015), and “possibly Mexican Duck” (Reeber 2015). Note that Mexican Duck is currently treated as a subspecies of the Mallard, though its classification is vexed (Johnsgard 1961, Bellrose 1980, AOU 1998, Webster 2006, Lavretsky et al. 2014). For obvious reasons, Muscovy Duck and Northern Shoveler will not be discussed here.

Hybridization with Mallard has been an issue in the Florida subspecies for several decades now, and one study indicated that more than 10% of all Mottled Ducks there had some Mallard genetic influences. In certain Florida localities, hybrids comprised as much as 24%

of the local population (Williams et al. 2002; Williams et al. 2005), while in others it was as low as 0%. Interspecific gene flow into the Western Gulf Coast population has been less acute because it is farther from the Mallard's traditional breeding areas which substantially minimizes opportunities for hybridization (Bielefeld et al. 2010; Reeber 2015). Intraspecific gene flow between *maculosa* and *fulvigula* is "non-existent" (McCracken et al. 2001; Baldassarre 2014); there is apparently no contact between these two subspecies during the breeding season (Williams et al. 2005) (but see Weng 2006).

As of late, there has been an upward tick in reports of hybridization between Mallard and *maculosa*, though this appears to be a result of misidentification rather than increased contact. While genetic introgression with Mallard is discussed extensively for *fulvigula* in Florida, Baldassarre (2014) makes no mention of it with regard to *maculosa*. Hybridization between Mallard and *maculosa* was recently studied by Peters et al. (2014), and of 38 individuals taken in Texas and Louisiana and visually classified as hybrids, 32 were determined by DNA analysis to have been pure Mottled Ducks. And of more than 300 free-flying *maculosa* sampled between 2011–2014 in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, DNA analysis showed that 95% carried no genetic markers that indicated hybridization (Ford 2015). Also in this second study, 70% of the ducks initially classified as probable hybrids — based on plumage — were genetically determined to be pure Mottled Ducks. The author summarized these two findings as representing "very low rates of hybridization in the western Gulf Coast."

Hybridization between *maculosa* and American Black Duck is extremely unlikely as the latter are very rare transients to the western Gulf Coast where *maculosa* breeds. American Black Duck is a review species in Texas with only eight accepted records since 1914 (Lockwood and Freeman 2014) (but see Johnson and Garrettson 2010). Louisiana has no accepted records of American Black Duck since 1993 (Louisiana Bird Records Committee 2015). Reeber (2015) characterized reports of this particular hybrid as "ancient and very occasional."

The chance that this bird may have been an American Black Duck X Mallard was con-

sidered, but at this time of year a male of this cross would undoubtedly show some green feathering about the head — especially near the crown (Longcore et al. 2000; Reeber 2015) — which this bird lacked. Furthermore, all male American Black Duck X Mallard hybrids show curled central tail feathers (Baldassarre 2014; Reeber 2016), a field mark entirely absent on the Rum River bird.

Conclusion

Based on the research presented here, we conclude that the bird was a phenotypically "pure" male Mottled Duck from the Western Gulf Coast population, showed no discernible plumage characteristics associated with hybridization, and was a wild vagrant to the state. All of the documentation was submitted to the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee, which reviewed and discussed the material at its December 2016 meeting. The Committee unanimously voted to accept this first state record and also to accept the digital documentation as conclusive physical evidence of this species' placement on the official state list (***The Loon*** 88:91–94).

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The Spring Season

1 March through 31 May 2016

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Mild winter weather that continued through March undoubtedly contributed to a spring migration that was quite early this year. This was especially apparent for waterfowl, shorebirds, and sparrows.

A pair of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks in Le Sueur County during the latter half of May was the eleventh state record of this species. Mute Swans were more frequently encountered than usual, with most reports from counties along the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers. The lone Cinnamon Teal was a drake found in Lac qui Parle State Park in late April. A female Harlequin Duck was seen over a three-week period at the Knife River Marina in Lake County. Scoter reports were also few. A drake Surf Scoter was in Steele County for two weeks in early May, and three were seen on Lake Superior during the same period. White-winged Scoters were only found in St. Louis County, both on Lake Superior and away from the big lake on Bear Island Lake. Black Scoters were undetected, if present. The only Long-tailed Duck away from Lake Superior was on Long Meadow Lake in Hennepin County where it was enjoyed by many during its two-week layover.

The most intriguing representative of the Galliformes reported was a Greater Prairie-Chicken in Pipestone County. Eurasian Collared-Doves continued their expansion into Minnesota. This spring saw new county records for Anoka, Pine, and Red Lake counties, leaving only nine with none.

Shorebird migration through Minnesota was exceptionally early this season. Of the 30 regular spring species, 26 arrived south and 23 arrived north earlier than 25-year medians. On average, south arrivals were a full week early, and north arrivals were six days early.

With reports of Black-necked Stilt from both Grant and Lyon counties this season, this species now has been documented in 12 of the past 14 springs. Three Piping Plovers in

as many counties provided the best spring showing of this species since 2009 when at least seven individuals were found. Whimbrels were reported from five locations in the Central and Northwest regions, for a total of 28 individuals, while the three Northeast reports — where the species is more expected — were all of single birds. An alternate-plumage Red Knot provided a first record for Wilkin County in late May. A record-early Baird's Sandpiper was photographed at the Sleepy Eye W.T.P.; the three earliest dates for this species are now from 2012, 2015, and 2016.

In spring, jaegers show up about every other year in Duluth; this year a lone Parasitic was found at the end of May. Three Little Gulls also made their way to Duluth, all at Minnesota Point. Six south reports of Thayer's Gull — all in the southeastern quarter of the state — was surprising, as this species is infrequently detected south in the spring. An Iceland Gull was in Scott County in late March. Sherburne County got its first record of Lesser Black-backed Gull when up to three — a record high tally for this species — were found at Lake Fremont in late April.

Red-throated Loons were seen in five counties including, for the first season ever, reports from three south counties. One remarkably early individual was discovered in Crow Wing County on 10 March. Two Pacific Loons were found this spring. One was where one might hope for one, in Duluth off Park Point. The other, however, was a totally unexpected first record for Rock County.

Two Glossy Ibis records were the first for Yellow Medicine and Traverse counties and represented the ninth and tenth records for this species in Minnesota. All ten have been between mid April and mid May, and eight of the ten have been in the last ten years. The total of 96 White-faced Ibis was the second highest seasonal tally ever, only surpassed by the 157 of spring 2013.

The seventh state record for Black Vulture came from the Bethany Hawk Watch in Blue Earth County. Apart from the first of this species in fall 2001, all have been from the spring season. Snowy Owls were present in typical numbers for spring and departed the south and north regions near their 25-year medians. For only the second spring in 25 years, no Northern Hawk Owls were found in the state, while a Burrowing Owl in Wilkin County was the first for that species in the last five years. The two overwintering Gyrfalcons in Duluth-Superior that seemed to spend most of their time in the Badger State were last seen in Minnesota 21 March.

A push of passerines into the state in mid April provided a record early north Great Crested Flycatcher in Duluth and two record early Blue-headed Vireos near the Twin Cities. Two Say's Phoebes were found at Felton Prairie, probably the best location in the state to search for this species. Male Mountain Bluebirds were seen by many in Sherburne and Dakota counties, both in March. Seven Townsend's Solitaires was a good total for the season. Two Varied Thrushes were found, including a first record for Red Lake County and an individual that overwintered in Beltrami County until mid April.

Fifteen Northern Mockingbirds was the highest total reported in a season since 21 were found in spring 2006. Large numbers of Bohemian Waxwings migrated past the West Skyline Hawk Count site at the end of March. Only a few lingered north past mid April, all in St. Louis County. The 13th and 14th state records of Eurasian Tree Sparrow were of one in East Grand Forks and two in Eagan. The latter was the eighth in the last ten years.

Another early migrant for the season was American Pipit, which was found south almost two weeks earlier and north over three weeks earlier than the median. The movement of winter finches around the state this spring was not particularly noteworthy; perhaps the most interesting observation was of a well-documented Evening Grosbeak that crossed the Red River from Fargo, ND, into Moorhead. A total of 17 Smith's Longspurs were found as they clipped the southwestern corner of Minnesota during their mid-April migration.

In mid May, a Worm-eating Warbler was discovered in the Cannon River Wilderness

Area. While it might have been expected that a Yellow-throated Warbler would show up at Whitewater State Park for the fourth consecutive year, it was very surprising that two paired up and nested at Gold Medal Park in downtown Minneapolis (*The Loon* 88:84-85). Two records of warblers proved to be first county records: a Kentucky in Fillmore and a Hooded in Steele County.

Sparrows also arrived notably earlier than in recent years. Dates of first appearances averaged eleven days prior to median arrivals south and seven days early north. Henslow's Sparrows were found more widely than in any spring in recent history. They were already in ten counties by the time their typical arrival date passed. White-crowned Sparrows were another example of early migrants. In addition to an apparent lone migrant in Hennepin County that was 39 days early, this species was already present in six south counties prior to their expected arrival date. In Cook, St. Louis County, a male Lark Bunting provided the state's 18th record of this Great Plains species since 2000; surprisingly, 11 of these have been found in the Northeast region.

Five Summer Tanagers were discovered in the state, all during the second week of May. Western Tanagers were in Lac qui Parle and Kandiyohi counties in the last week of April. A Blue Grosbeak in late May was a first for Steele County. Great-tailed Grackles continued to expand ever so slowly out of their stronghold in Jackson County. This season they were found in four southwestern counties, including a first record for Redwood. For the first time, Baltimore Orioles were reported from all 87 counties.

Weather: March was a warm month in Minnesota, with average temperatures well above historical averages in much of the state for the seventh consecutive month. In April cooler than normal temperatures at the beginning and end of the month balanced warmer than normal temps mid month to result in monthly averages near normal. In early May temperatures rose into the mid-90s as far north as Lake County, only to be followed by frost across much of the state and even snow flurries in some regions by mid-month.

Precipitation totals were quite variable each month, with some areas above normal by two inches and others below by nearly the same.

Major events included a rain/snow mix in mid March that fell on North-central and Northeast Minnesota, and a major snow event that resulted in four to twelve inches of snow across the southern third of the state on 23 March.

Insufficiently documented records of Regular species: Ruffed Grouse 4/22 Carver, 4/23 Waseca (both out of range); Sanderling 4/1 Scott (early migrant); Least Sandpiper 3/30 St. Louis (early migrant); Semipalmated Sandpiper 4/16 Grant (early migrant, description didn't rule out Baird's Sandpiper); Great Black-backed Gull 3/26 Scott (Casual away from Lake Superior); Common Tern 4/19 Blue Earth (early migrant); Golden Eagle 5/18 Hennepin (late migrant); Prairie Falcon 4/26 Swift (rare statewide); Eastern Wood-Pewee 4/13 Renville, 4/17 Hennepin (early migrants); Say's Phoebe 5/21 Becker (rare, no details); Western Kingbird 5/27 Fillmore (out of range); Northern Shrike 4/8, 4/22, 4/25 Waseca (late migrants, possible confusion with Loggerhead Shrike); Yellow-throated Vireo 3/22 Anoka (very early migrant); House Wren 3/12 Morrison (very early migrant); Wood Thrush 3/26 Dakota, 4/15 Dakota (very early, easily mis-identified migrants); Black-throated Blue Warbler 5/19 Mahnomen (out of range, potential first county record); Chipping Sparrow 3/10 Douglas (very early migrant); Henslow's Sparrow 3/13 Rice (very early migrant); White-

crowned Sparrow 3/6, 3/16 Todd (early dates, no suggestion of overwintering).

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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.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK (*Querquedula discoloripennis*) — [1 South] Elev-enth state record 5/19–23 **Le Sueur** (2, Eg-gert Lake) RBJ, RBW, ph. †DAB, †PCC, ph. †SBM, †TAT, ph. GHo, plus photographs from ten additional observers via eBird.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [47 South, 14 North] Many south migrants appeared in February. Early north (median 3/25) 3/7 Traverse DLP, 3/10 Douglas JPE, 3/11 Clay SAu. High counts 3/6 Watonwan (5,900) PEJ, DFN, 3/6 Yellow Medicine (4,000, Miedd Lake) GWe, 3/12 Lac qui Parle (4,000) KeL. Late south 5/21 Brown (2) ChH, APi, Mower SWm, 5/27–31 Nobles (2) KRE, m.ob. (median 5/17). Late north 5/14 Marshall PEB, 5/17 Clay (3) ANy, DBz, 5/19 Norman CRM, m.ob. (median 5/18).

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) — [44 South, 14 North] See winter report for early south. Early north (also see winter report) 3/6 Otter Tail RHj, Polk (3, East Grand Forks) SAu, 3/7 Traverse DLP. High counts 3/6 Nobles (4,890) PEJ, DFN, 3/8 Lyon (2,500) GWe. Late south 5/15 Benton HHD, 5/18 Nobles HHD, 5/27–31 Nobles (2) KRE, m.ob. (median 6/1). Late north 4/21 Douglas (max. 3, Osakis W.T.P.) ToR, SDS, 5/11 Traverse ANy, 5/20 Grant AFA, DSc (median 5/29).

Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) — [35 South, 5 North] See winter report for early south. All north 3/7–12 Traverse DLP, MO, 3/12 Grant AaL, Crow Wing PSP, ph. EGa, m.ob., 4/6 Douglas ALu, 5/15 Polk (Brandt-Angus Impoundment) PEB, 5/21 Polk (Angus-Oslo Impoundment) SAu. High counts 3/6 Nobles (187) PEJ, DFN, 3/8 Lyon (100) GWe. Late south 4/12 Rice DAT, 4/13 Yellow Medicine GWe, 5/14 Washington JEc (median 5/14).

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [34 South, 13 North] See winter report for early south. Early north (median 3/18) 3/6 Todd MJB, 3/7 Traverse DLP, 3/10 Douglas JPE. Descriptions provided in varying detail from 9 counties. High counts 3/12 Douglas (300, Little Rachel Lake) BEC, 3/6 Lyon (75, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe, 3/6 Nobles (75) PEJ, DFN. Late south 5/14 Wash-ington (2) WCM, 5/18 Isanti RMD, 5/31 Hennepin (46) CMB (median 5/13). Late



Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, 19 May 2016, Le Sueur County. Photo by Jerry Pruett.

north 4/19 Hubbard (2) REn, AxB, 4/30 Cass (5, Longville W.T.P.) KHe, 5/14 Aitkin TLa, Hubbard (2) REn, AxB (median 5/21).

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [7 South] All reports: 3/1–27 Kandiyohi (1, Little Kandiyohi Lake) RAE, m.ob., 3/2–4/18 Goodhue (4, Mississippi River Lock & Dam #3) SMu, m.ob., 3/5 Goodhue (imature, Sturgeon Lake) DBz, 3/7 Nicollet (1, near Nicollet) MiO, 3/10 Wright (1, Pelican Lake) RBW, 3/13 Houston (1, Brownsville Overlook) KvM, 4/3 McLeod (1, Eagle Lake) HCT, 5/8–18 **Redwood** (1, Gales Lake W.M.A.) DFN, PEJ, m.ob., 5/12–20 Nicollet (1, near Nicollet) CRM, m.ob., 5/30 (1, Frontenac S.P.) BCM.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [48 South, 32 North] High counts 3/15 Hennepin (300, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BHc, 3/17 Chisago (140, C.R. 17) DPi, 3/18 Mille Lacs (100, Lake Onamia) KNo, 3/26 Meeker (100) BNn.

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [37 South, 30 North] Early south (but also see winter report) 3/2 Rice (15) DAB, 3/3–7 Goodhue (max. 8, Lake Byllesby) NSc, BAF, 3/7 Carver (3) JCy, Dakota ADS, Olmsted (6) LAV. Early north (median 3/20) 3/13 Morrison (95, Crane Meadows N.W.R.) SEm, m.ob., Pine (68) TJo, 3/16 Becker (4)

- ShG, HeH, Pine (35) JFR, (40) KrM. High counts 3/24 Mille Lacs (1,800, Lake Onamia) RBJ, 3/20 Grant (1,560, North Ottawa Impoundment) KnM. Late south 4/22–23 Lac qui Parle (max. 24, Salt Lake) KvM, m.ob., 5/5–7 Le Sueur RAE, HHD (median 5/4). Late north 5/28 Becker (2) DBa, Clay DBa, m.ob., Norman RBJ (median 5/28).
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [53 South, 34 North] A drake overwintered in Douglas (Goose Park) and was still present 3/6 along with a female that arrived in February BEC. Early north migrants (median 3/17) 3/8 Todd (7) ALu, 3/11 Clay (3) PBB, Douglas (4) BEC, Morrison MEm, KEm. High count 4/10 Hennepin (225, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) KvM.
- Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early north (median 3/18) 3/7 Crow Wing EGa, Traverse DLP, 3/12 Grant AaL, Traverse MO. High counts 3/19 Houston (1,000, Blue Lake) SPu, 3/20 Lac qui Parle (750, Big Stone N.W.R.) JPR, CLN.
- American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*) — [50 South, 29 North] See winter report for first south migrants. Early north (median 3/27) 3/12 Grant AaL, Morrison FGo, 3/13 Clay PBB, Morrison SEm, m.ob, Traverse DLP. High counts 3/19 Houston (500, Blue Lake) SPu, 3/26 Lyon (225, Lone Tree Lake) GWe.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [21 South, 13 North] High count 3/8 St. Louis (20, Interstate Island W.M.A.) JPR. Late south 5/5 Scott RCu, 5/8 Hennepin BCl, JGo, 5/28–29 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) PCC, HHD (median 5/16).
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties.
- American Black Duck X Mallard** (*Anas rubripes* X *A. platyrhynchos*) — [1 South, 1 North] Two reports: 3/27 Carver JCy, 4/9 Mille Lacs (5) PEJ.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/6–8 Hennepin AGu, m.ob., 3/7–8 Yellow Medicine GWe. Early north (median 3/30) 3/10 Douglas JPE, 3/12 Grant AaL, 3/27 Otter Tail WPI. High count 4/16 Morrison (405, Crane Meadows N.W.R.) JEm, SEm.
- Cinnamon Teal** (*Anas cyanoptera*) — [1 South] One south report 4/30–5/1 Lac qui Parle (drake with Blue-winged Teal, Lac qui Parle S.P.) ph. †CSc, GWe.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported in all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/26) 3/11–13 Douglas RnB, BEc, 3/14 Clay ShG, HeH, 3/15 Morrison SEm. High counts 4/9 Lincoln (820, Lake Hendricks) RCl, 4/5 Yellow Medicine (650, Spellman Lake) GWe.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [50 South, 26 North] See winter report for overwintering birds and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/18) 3/7 Traverse DLP, 3/7–8 St. Louis JPR, CLN, 3/11 Becker TCL, NaH. High count 3/20 Lac qui Parle (900, Big Stone N.W.R.) JPR, CLN.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [53 South, 32 North] See winter report for overwintering birds and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/26) 3/7 Cass PSP, Traverse DLP, 3/8 Otter Tail BRL. High count 4/7 Hennepin (770, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) BAF.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [47 South, 27 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 3/28) 3/8 St. Louis JPR, 3/13 Douglas BEc, Morrison SEm, m.ob. High counts 3/20 Freeborn (8,500) PEJ, 3/11 Winona (4,400, Pools #5 & 5A) PEJ, 3/27 Lac qui Parle (2,200, Boland Slough) KRE.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [53 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Reported in all 87 counties. Early north (median 3/23) 3/12 Grant AaL, Traverse MO, 3/13 Douglas BEc, Morrison SEm, m.ob. High counts 3/29 Steele (500, Oak Glen Lake) JnS, 3/12 Brown (300, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) KRE.
- Canvasback X Redhead** (*Aythya valisineria* X *A. americana*) — [1 South] One report 4/10 Freeborn (Geneva Lake, male) †PEJ.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [52 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/17) 3/6–11 Douglas RnB, LGL, 3/11 Mille Lacs KNo, Morrison MEm, KEm. High counts 3/9 Goodhue (1,000, Prairie Island) DVe, 3/19 Houston (1,000, Blue Lake) SPu.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [42 South, 23 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 3/31) 3/8

- Crow Wing PSP, Douglas BEc, 3/12 Traverse AaL. High count 4/16 St. Louis (500, Park Point) BeA. Late south 5/13–15 Lyon GWe, DaB, 5/27 Benton HHD (median 5/17). Late north 5/25–27 St. Louis (all reports from Park Point) BMu, m.ob., 5/28 Douglas DPG (median 6/1).
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [52 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (also see winter report) 3/6 Todd MJB, 3/11 Becker TCL. High counts 3/19 Houston (1,001, Blue Lake) SPU, 4/1 Winona (1,000, Prairie Island Park) DST.
- Ring-necked Duck X Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya collaris* X *A. affinis*) — [1 South] One south report: 4/10 Freeborn (male, Geneva Lake) †PEJ.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [1 North] Two north reports: 3/30, 4/19 Lake (female, Knife River Marina) ph. JWJL.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 South, 2 North] All reports: 5/1–15 **Steele** (adult male in alternate plumage, Rice Lake) JPr, †DAB, m.ob., 4/28–5/4 St. Louis (male and female, Park Point) BMu, m.ob., 5/18 Lake (1, Two Harbors) JWJL.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [2 North] All reports: 5/12 St. Louis (3, Bear Island Lake) SLF, 5/12–17 St. Louis (max, 4, Park Point) CLN, m.ob., 5/16 Douglas (sub-adult male) DBz, ANY.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — No reports.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [1 South, 3 North] One south report 3/15–4/1 Hennepin (male, Long Meadow Lake) ANY, m.ob. North reports through 5/27 in Cook, 5/20 in Lake and 5/21 in St. Louis. High counts 4/16 Lake (26, Two Harbors) JWJL, 3/12 St. Louis (25, Lakewood Pumping Station) JWJL.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [50 South, 33 North] See winter report for overwintering and early spring migrants. Early north (median 3/22) 3/6 Todd MJB, 3/10 Pine MJn, 3/12 Traverse AaL. High count 4/18 Hennepin (133) CMB. Late south 5/22 Le Sueur BMu, 5/22–25 Stearns ALU, DOr, 5/29 Freeborn BBU, OBU (median 5/29).
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [45 South, 32 North] High count 3/6 Anoka (350, Coon Rapids Dam) RCL. Late south 5/4 Carver JTg, 5/5 Steele JnS, 5/6 Dakota SuE, SEg (median 5/12).
- Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*) — No reports.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [52 South, 34 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/15) 3/6 Douglas BEc, 3/7–8 Cass PSP, 3/7 Crow Wing LMS, Pine KrM, Todd ALU. High counts 3/17 Goodhue (63, Mississippi River Lock and Dam #3) KDS, 3/24 Mille Lacs (54, Lake Onamia) RBj.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [51 South, 32 North] High counts 3/13 Houston (155, Brownsville Overlook) KvM, 3/21 Pope (150, Malmedal Lake) BEc, Late south 5/19 Dakota (2) FHa, 5/20 Ramsey (2) VDO, 5/21 Freeborn (Albert Lea Lake) PEJ (median 5/25).
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [44 South, 24 North] Early south (but also see winter report) 3/1 Ramsey (Pigs Eye Lake) BAF, 3/5 Rice DAB, ELC, and nine additional counties on 3/6. Early north (median 3/31) reports from counties away from Lake Superior: 3/18 Douglas (2) RnB, 3/22 Pine (2) TJo, Traverse DLP. High counts 5/7 Lake (126, Castle Danger) JWJL, 4/7 Hennepin (84) CMB. Late south 5/21 Scott MAK, 5/28 Hennepin (10) CPa (median 5/20).
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [52 South, 22 North] Early south (also see winter report) 3/1 Scott PEJ, 3/6 Blue Earth, JWJL, m.ob., Chippewa DLP, Nobles PEJ, DFN. Early north (median 3/30) 3/11–16 Douglas RnB, BEc, 4/16 Crow Wing AaL, followed by reports from 4 other counties. High counts 4/19 Lyon (400, Cottonwood Lake) GWe, 4/15 Martin (360, Pierce Lake) HCT.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [14 South, 4 North] Most reports south of the Minnesota river or in the western third of the state. High count 4/30 Goodhue (7, Warsaw W.M.A.) Alf. All other reports were of 1–3 birds.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [53 South, 22 North] High counts 4/16 Yellow Medicine (16, Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/16 Washington (15, Lost Valley Prairie S.N.A.) RBd. All reports southwest

- of a line from Roseau to Pine.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [13 South, 28 North] Found throughout normal range, essentially northeast of a line from Clay to Fillmore. Spring drumming counts were up 18% statewide in 2016 (MN DNR).
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falcipennis canadensis*) — [6 North] All reports: 3/12 Lake (2, FR. 1902) NLM, 3/28 Koochiching AME, 4/22 Itasca DBz, m.ob., 4/23–26 St. Louis WPe, 4/27 Lake GA, 5/10 Lake of the Woods BSi, 5/28 Cook DFN.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [11 North] Reports from Carlton, Kanabec, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau, and St. Louis. High counts 4/20 Roseau (25, 290th St.) AxL, 4/13 Kittson (24, Richardville Twp.) AxL.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [2 South, 7 North] Two south reports: 4/9 **Pipestone** (one bird seen in flight east of Winter W.M.A., Altona Twp., **The Loon** 88:186) JSc, 4/17 Chippewa (2, Chippewa Prairie) RAE. All other reports from Becker, Clay, Mahnomon, Norman, Polk, Red Lake, Wilkin. High counts 5/20 Clay (40, Felton Prairie) LSm, 4/1 Clay (38, Bluestem Prairie) AKu.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [50 South, 27 North] Reported as far north as Marshall, Beltrami, Itasca, St. Louis. High counts 3/20 Hennepin (43, Fort Snelling S.P.) PNi, MAI, 3/21 Goodhue (42, Pleasant Valley) DVe.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [52 South, 31 North] Overwintering bird 3/2–5 Kandiyohi HHD, JoS. Early south 3/7 Carver JCy, Hennepin CMB, PEJ, 3/8 Dakota DVe, Olmsted KNK, Scott JEB. Early north (median 3/25) 3/11–18 Mille Lacs KNo, Morrison MEM, KEM, 3/20 Wadena PJB, 3/24 Becker HeH, ShG. High count 4/14 Hennepin (**329**, Lakes Harriet, Calhoun and Nokomis in Minneapolis) CMB.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [40 South, 25 North] Early south (also see winter report) 3/15–18 Hennepin CMB, m.ob., 3/18 Washington GJa. Early north (median 4/6) 4/13–15 St. Louis JLK, BMu, 4/15 Beltrami DPJ, 4/16 Hubbard AxB, Lake JWJL, Marshall MSp, Pennington JMJ. High count 4/18 Hennepin (428, Lakes Harriet, Calhoun and Nokomis) CMB. Late south 5/15 Olmsted LAV, 5/18 Isanti DPG, 5/19 Pope ANy, DBz (median 5/20). Late north 5/23 Pennington CAs, St. Louis JLK, 5/25 Beltrami DPJ (median 6/3).
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [27 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/3) 3/20 Steele JWH, 3/29 Goodhue (2) PEJ, †KDS, 3/30 Faribault DFE. Early north (median 4/7) 4/5–14 St. Louis JPR, JLK, 4/9 Lake JWJL. High count 5/13 St. Louis (356, Park Point) JLK.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [26 South, 12 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/20 Hennepin (Lake Calhoun) †TLo, 4/23–24 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) KEM, m.ob., 4/24 Big Stone DLP, Freeborn PSu. Early north (median 4/21) 5/1 Polk NWi, 5/2 Douglas JLK. High counts 5/9 Polk (35, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAU, 5/14 Stearns (18, Albany W.T.P.) RPR.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [15 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/8–17 Big Stone DLP, ALw, 4/16 Lyon GWe, 4/17 Faribault RBW. Early north (median 4/20) 4/21 Douglas SDS, 4/24–25 Todd JAn, SEm, 4/27 Polk SAU. High counts 5/2 Douglas (**426**, Lake Osakis, counted individually) JLK, 5/30 Big Stone (76, Prairie State W.M.A., breeding colony, 38 pairs counted) GWe.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — No reports.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/13 Ramsey (100, Falcon Heights, University of Minnesota) OGo, 4/20 Dakota (100, Great Western Industrial Park) AlF.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [50 South, 18 North] Reported from almost all counties south of a line from Pennington to Pine, also reported from St. Louis. New county records: 5/7 **Anoka** (2, Fish Lake Nature Trails) AxB, 4/15 **Pine** (Pine City) SvM, 5/27 **Red Lake** SC. High count 4/23 Lac qui Parle (12) SEm, KEM, MEM.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaidura macroura*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 4/26 Brown (25, Milford Twp.) CoM, 5/8 Chisago (20, Wild River S.P.) TAr.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americana*) — [23 South, 4 North] Early south (median 5/15) 5/10 Steele PSu, 5/11 Washington PNi, 5/11–14 Carver JCy, ANy, DBz. All north reports: 5/21 Todd RSF, 5/23–28 Becker HeH, ShG, 5/28 Carlton JEd, DTr, Douglas FPE. High count 5/31 Goodhue (7, Prairie Island Indian Community survey, 1 seen, 6 heard) JEn.

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [31 South, 23 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/8 Jackson RAE, 5/10 Goodhue JTo, Murray HHD, Pipestone HHD, 5/12 Blue Earth CRM, m.ob., Chisago MHe. Early north (median 5/16) 5/16 Douglas ANy, DBz, 5/20 Otter Tail JsS, 5/21 reports from Becker, Clay, Kanabec, Morrison, Pine, Todd.

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) — [41 South, 28 North] Early south (median 5/3) 4/21 Ramsey REH, 5/3 Washington PNi, 5/6 Winona DBz. Early north (median 5/10) 5/17 Otter Tail JsS, Wadena ANy, DBz, 5/18 Clearwater ASu, Crow Wing EGa, Traverse ANy, DBz. High count 5/28 Pine (30, Snake River) TJo.

Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [15 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/21 Houston KAB, 4/23 Lac qui Parle BMu, 4/26 Sherburne JOs. Early north 5/11–13 Pine SC, 5/18 Carlton (2) GWe, St. Louis (3) SLF. High counts 5/24 Chippewa (7, Pete's Point Rd.) GWe, 5/17 Chippewa (5) WCM.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [50 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/17 Blue Earth AGo, 4/21 Dakota JMn, Scott RCu. Early north (median 5/1) 5/5 Otter Tail DST, 5/5–7 St. Louis JPR, FJN, JLK, 5/6–7 Morrison DSt, PSP. High count 5/14 Hennepin (120, Minneapolis) EBr.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) — [42 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/25–5/2 Mower RJW, SWm, 5/4 Carver WCM, Hennepin GAn, Wabasha JHn. Early north (median 5/5) 5/6 Red Lake fide JMW, 5/7 Becker NaH, 5/8 Itasca EEO, Morrison SEm, Otter Tail RTo. High count 5/29 Dakota (9, at home feeder) ALF.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [3 North] All north 5/10 **Todd** (Hartford W.M.A.) SEm, 5/21 Roseau (Roseau Lake

bed, likely several dozen birds heard calling, but could not distinguish one from another) PEB, DWK, SBM, HCT, 5/27–29 Aitkin (max. 3, McGregor Marsh) BBa, m.ob.

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) — [40 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/14) 4/16 Hennepin THa, Isanti JWH, ELC, 4/17 Blue Earth ChH, Faribault RBW. Early north (median 5/4) 4/24 Hubbard JWH, DBz, ANy, SC, 4/30 Otter Tail HHD, RAE, 5/1 Aitkin JdB. High counts 5/12 Lyon (5, 375th St. marsh) GWe, 5/24 Marshall (5, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM.

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) — [50 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/10 Lac qui Parle DLP, 4/14 Big Stone DLP, Dakota DAB, 4/15 Stevens DLP, Swift DLP. Early north (median 4/23) 4/20 Crow Wing EGa, 4/24 Hubbard JWH, DBz, ANy, SC, 4/28 Otter Tail JsS. High counts 5/21 Roseau (20, estimated, Roseau Lake bed) SBM, HCT, PEB, DWK, 5/24 Marshall (13, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM.

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) — [2 South, 1 North] One north report 5/31 **Grant** (Niemacki Lake Park) †JFl. All south reports: 5/7–9 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) †TJo, †CMB, m.ob., 5/21 Wabasha (3, Whitewater W.M.A.) SHo.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [52 South, 30 North] Overwintered in Scott and probably in Goodhue and Washington. Away from these locations, early south 3/4 Steele HHD, then in eight additional counties on 3/6. Early north 3/6–16 Douglas, BEc, RnB, 3/12 Grant AaL, 3/14 Crow Wing ph. EGa. High counts 4/13 Dakota (1,200, Lakeville) KvM, 4/17 Hennepin (1,050, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) RCl.

Sandhill Crane (*Antigone canadensis*) — [43 South, 33 North] First south migrants appeared in late February. Early north (median 3/18) 3/9 Pine TJo, 3/10 Douglas JPE, Mille Lacs (2) KNo, Todd (2) CSh. High counts 4/16 Clay (300) JSc, 4/9 Norman (290, Agassiz-Olson W.M.A.) JCC.

BLACK-NECKED STILT (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [1 South, 1 North] All reports: 5/18 Grant (1, North Ottawa Impoundment) †DBz, ph. ANy, 5/31 **Lyon** (1, flooded field near Tracy) DFe, ph. †GWe, m.ob.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [18 South, 7 North] Early south (median

4/18) 4/13 Big Stone (2) DLP, Yellow Medicine (34, Miedd Lake) GWe, 4/15 Renville (21, Bird Island W.T.P.) TAT. Early north 4/20 Crow Wing (max. 10, St. Mathias rice paddies) ph, EGa, m.ob., Todd (4, Browerville W.T.P.) BWF, 4/23 Marshall (1, near Warren) SAu, Polk (1) SAu. High count 4/25 Yellow Medicine (37, Miller-Richter State W.M.A.) SBE, LiH, KeL.

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

— [10 South, 13 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/23 Goodhue (2) GJa, m.ob., Jackson JJu, 5/6–7 Stearns (max. 2, Getchell Lake) PCC, m.ob. Early north (median 5/16) 5/12 St. Louis (4) CLN, 5/18 Grant ANy, DBz, 5/19 Crow Wing ABi, Itasca (2) SC, RAE. High count 5/21 Marshall (15, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) SAu. Late south 5/26 Stearns (2) PCC, 5/27 Nobles KRE, m.ob., 5/30 Lac qui Parle (2, Salt Lake) GWe (median 6/6). Late north 5/26 St. Louis JLK, 5/28–29 Lake JWJ, 5/29 Becker (2) CLN, (median 6/5).

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*)

— [17 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/8) 3/17 Faribault WAF, 3/18–26 Carver JuW, JCC, 3/29 Dodge JnS. Early north 4/23 Lake of the Woods BWF, Roseau JWH, m.ob., 5/2 Clearwater RMD, 5/21 Marshall SAu. High count 3/30 Freeborn (12) TAT. Late south 5/24 Big Stone DLP, but also see summer report (median 6/1). Late north 5/24 Grant DWK, PEB, HCT, SBM.

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*)

— [33 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/16 Chippewa (Lac qui Parle) WCM, 4/17 Dakota (max. 3, Lake Byllesby) DAB, DGu, Yellow Medicine GWe. Early north (median 5/8) 5/4 Grant CoM, 5/15 Polk SAu, Red Lake HCT. High count 5/19 Dakota (200, Lake Byllesby R.P.) PNI. See summer report for late migrants statewide.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)

— [2 South, 1 North] All reports: 5/7 Stearns (one at Lake Maria and up to 2 at Getchell Lake) ph. AaL, ph. ABm, ph. JIB, ph. MJB, ph. ToL., 5/21–23 St. Louis (Minnesota Point) FJN, ph. JLK, ph. BeA, 5/22 Kandiyo-hi (Robbins Island Park) ph. JWd, ph. BA**b**

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*)

— [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties.



American Avocet, 20 April 2016, Crow Wing County. Photo by Elissa Gallien.

Early south (but also see winter report) 3/3–5 Houston SHo, HHD, followed by reports from 14 other counties on 3/6. Early north (median 3/17) 3/6 Otter Tail KTe, 3/6–7 Todd MJB, JeM, 3/8 Douglas BEC. High counts 5/30 Yellow Medicine (41, Miedd Lake) GWe, 3/19 Carver (36, near Cologne) ToL.

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*)

— [16 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/29 Renville KBR, 5/1 Lyon GWe, 5/2 Faribault (2) WAF, Rock KE**m**. Many north reports from Clay beginning 4/30 Clay (Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) ToL; additional early north reports 5/3 Polk (3, Tympanuchus Prairie) SAu, 5/10 St. Louis (2, Arkola & Poplar) JLK. High count 5/14 Clay (8, Bluestem South) HeH, ShG.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)

— [1 South, 5 North] Only south report 5/17 **Stearns** (max. 9, Albany W.T.P.) †PCC, m.ob. All north 5/15 Marshall and Polk (11, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) PEB, 5/18 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) SDi, 5/19 St. Louis (Arkola & Poplar) JLK, 5/23 **Red Lake** (8 total: three at gravel pit in extreme southwest corner of county, five at rice paddies near Oklee) PEB, DWK, HCT, SBM, 5/27 Lake (Agate Bay) EEO, JPR.

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*)

- [14 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/13 Yellow Medicine GWe, 4/16 Big Stone PEJ, DFN, 4/17 Hennepin (2, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) DTr, DGu. All north 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz, 5/14 Hubbard AxB, 5/15 Itasca SC, Polk (max. 4) PEB, SAu, 5/19 Mahnomen SC, 5/20–22 St. Louis (Duluth) JPR, CIN, 5/24 Pine (Pine City W.T.P.) TJo. High count 5/15 Pipestone (12, Edgerton W.T.P.) SBM. Late south 5/30 Big Stone (2, Artichoke Lake W.P.A.) GWe, 5/31 Lyon DFe, RAE, GWe, but also see summer report (median 5/31).
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [17 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/12 Swift DLP, 4/16 Big Stone ALw, DOr, Chippewa (2) WCM, Lac qui Parle (2) WCM, DOr, Swift DOr. Early north (median 4/12) 4/15 Marshall (2) AxL, 4/16 Wilkin (3) ToL, 4/17 Marshall (2) SAu. Additional notable north reports 5/4 **Koochiching** RMD, 5/17 **Itasca** SC. High count 5/16 Hennepin (30, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) CRM, m.ob.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [10 South, 8 North] Early south (median 5/13) 5/8 Stearns (2, Getchell Lake) nine observers, 5/16 Hennepin ASu. Early north (median 5/14) 5/12 Wilkin (10) ANy, DBz, 5/17 Douglas ToR, 5/20 St. Louis BMu. High counts 5/26 Crow Wing (21, Garrison Wayside) ABi, 5/22 Marshall (17, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) PEB, DWK, SBM, HCT. Late south 5/30 Lac qui Parle GWe. Late north 5/31 Crow Wing (2) PSP, but also see summer report for late migrants north and south.
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — [1 North] Only report 5/20 **Wilkin** (adult in alternate plumage at the Brown W.P.A.) BWF.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [21 South, 6 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/1 Hennepin DAK, 5/8 Yellow Medicine (4) GWe, 5/12 Hennepin (4) GrS, 5/13 Jackson, Le Sueur and Rock. Early north 5/13 Grant ANy, DBz, 5/18 Kanabec RMD, 5/20 Wilkin (Brown W.P.A.) BWF. High count 5/22 Yellow Medicine (31, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late south 5/31 Lac qui Parle DFe; also see summer report. Late north 5/23 Red Lake (2) DWK, PEB, HCT, SBM, 5/27 Clearwater SC, 5/29 Grant TiW.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [19 South, 5 North] Early south (median 5/4) 4/24 Yellow Medicine BMu, 4/25 Lac qui Parle (2) CMz, 5/7 Redwood BTS. Early north (median 5/11) 5/12 St. Louis JPR, Wilkin (2) ANy, DBz. High counts 5/28 St. Louis (46, Park Point R.A.) MLH, 5/25 Yellow Medicine (28, Miedd Lake) GWe. See summer report for late migrants, north and south.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [38 South, 14 North] Early south (median 4/16) 4/10–14 Goodhue / Dakota (Lake Byllesby) BDO, m.ob., 4/12 Swift DLP, 4/15 Hennepin (2) CMB, KvM, Yellow Medicine (4) GWe. Early north (median 5/11) **4/17–20** Crow Wing ph. EGa, PSP, 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz, 5/12 Wilkin ANy, DBz. High count 5/8 Yellow Medicine (68, Miedd Lake) GWe. See summer report for late south migrants. Late north 5/31 Cook (4) JWJ, St. Louis (2) PNi, but also see summer report.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [28 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/5) **3/9–10** Brown (record early, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, ph. MiO, 3/27 Yellow Medicine (5) KRE, LS, 4/5 Big Stone DLP. Early north (median 4/27) 4/14 Crow Wing (2) PSP, 4/15 Beltrami DPJ, 4/16 Crow Wing SEM, Grant ToL. High count 4/24 Lac qui Parle (30, Salt Lake) KeL. Late south 5/31 Lac qui Parle DFe. Late north 5/27 Clearwater, Polk and Red Lake SC, 5/29 Lake JWJ, but also see summer report for more late migrants north and south.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [44 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/10 Lincoln (2) JPR, JWH, 4/12 Swift DLP, 4/13 Yellow Medicine (4) GWe. Early north (median 5/6) 4/20 Crow Wing PSP, 5/1 Traverse DLP. High count 5/13 Yellow Medicine (346, careful count, Miedd Lake) GWe. See summer report for late south migrants. Late north 5/30 Aitkin (5) DMu, Wadena PJB, but also see summer report.
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [28 South, 13 North] Early south (median 4/28) 5/3 Yellow Medicine GWe, 5/6 Mower SWm. Early north (median 5/13) 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz, 5/12 Wilkin ANy, DBz, 5/15 Polk (4) PEB, SAu. High count 5/27 Yellow Medicine (325, estimate, Miedd Lake) GWe. See summer report for late south migrants. Late north 5/28 St. Louis MLH, JLK, Wilkin RBJ, 5/30 Wadena

- PJB, but also see summer report.
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Calidris subruficollis*) — No reports.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [39 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/1) 3/22 Freeborn (2 locations) TAT, 3/29 Wright (4) DWK, 4/3 Hennepin RaF. Early north (median 4/17) 4/14–17 Crow Wing (3) PSP, m.ob., 4/16 Grant (2) ToL, DFN, Morrison (4) JEm, SEM. High counts 4/19 Dakota (312, Lake Byllesby R.P.) GH0, 4/23 Stearns (127, Getchell Lake.) PCC. See summer report for late south migrants. Late north 5/31 Douglas (5) DBi, but also see summer report.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [36 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/10 Yellow Medicine (2) GWe, 4/12 Swift DLP. Early north (median 5/4) 4/30–5/1 Polk (2) JPR, 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz. High counts 5/30 Hennepin (650, counted by 5s, many more likely hidden in vegetation, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) BAF, 5/25 Yellow Medicine (364, Miedd Lake) GWe. See summer report for late south migrants. Late north 5/30 Wade-na PJB, 5/31 St. Louis PNi, (4) PNi, but also see summer report.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [28 South, 14 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/23, 4/26 Big Stone DLP, 5/3 Stevens DLP, Yellow Medicine (3) GWe, 5/5 Faribault WAF. Early north (median 5/11) 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz, 5/12 Wilkin (9) ANy, DBz, 5/13 Grant ANy, DBz. High count 5/16 Hennepin (50, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) SBM. Late south 5/27 Yellow Medicine (14) GWe, but also see summer report. Late north 5/21 Clearwater HCT, PEB, DWK, SBM, St. Louis JLK, 5/22 Marshall and Polk HCT, PEB, DWK, SBM, St. Louis CIN, JPR (median 5/27).
- Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [24 South, 2 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/1 Scott JLO, 4/15 Yellow Medicine GWe, 4/17 Chippewa WCM, Rice DAT. All north 5/16 St. Louis (9, Meadowlands W.T.P.) TPM, 5/19 Marshall CCr, 5/22 St. Louis (Duluth) CIN, JPR. High counts 4/24 Yellow Medicine (30, Miedd Lake) GWe, 4/24 Lac qui Parle (21, Salt Lake) KeL. Late south from six counties on 5/16, then 5/17 Pipestone HHD, Stearns DOR (median 5/19).
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [43 South, 31 North] Early south (no winter reports from these counties) 3/5 Hennepin MPi, 3/8 Yellow Medicine (2) GWe, 3/10 Carver MJB. Early north (median 3/31) 3/29 Aitkin (2) SNe, 3/31 Crow Wing PSP, 4/3 Crow Wing (2, Ray Cook W.M.A.) JPR, 4/5 Traverse and Wilkin HHD. High counts 4/7 Dodge (60, Ripley Twp.) JnS, 4/18 Stearns (51, Getchell Lake) MJB.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [34 South, 26 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/4 Houston DBz, 3/6 Rice TFB, 3/7 Washington RBd. Early north (median 3/26) 3/12 Pine MJn, 3/13 Todd (2) ALU, 3/14 Mille Lacs (2) KNo, St. Louis (2) CLN. High counts 4/13 St. Louis (28, Sax-Zim Bog) CLN, 3/28 Washington (20, Afton S.P., North Prairie Loop) EZH, ISH.
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [51 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/14 Hennepin SKS, TLo, 4/16 Goodhue BHe, Lyon BAB. Early north (median 4/29) 4/15 Beltrami DPJ, 4/21 Crow Wing DBz, ANy, DAB, BWF, 4/25 Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Todd. High counts 5/22 Rice (24, Cannon River, Faribault to Wilderness Area) DAT, 5/15 Lac qui Parle (13, Salt Lake) KnM.
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [43 South, 13 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/16–17 Dakota (4, Lake Byllesby) SOa, LFr, 4/17 Swift WCM, Wright (2) RBd. Early north (median 4/30) 4/21 St. Louis RHg, 4/28 Morrison (5) JLK, 5/1 Douglas ToR, Todd AaL. High count “5/9 Dakota (15, Lake Byllesby) AlF. Late south 5/28 Ramsey OGo, 5/29 Pipestone DFe, CRM, 5/30 Big Stone GWe (median 6/1). Late north 5/21 Crow Wing AaL, Kanabec JWH, MJB, 5/23 Red Lake PEB, DWK, HCT, SBM, 5/30 Cook (2) AaL (median 6/3).
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [48 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/15 Big Stone DLP, 3/16 Dakota KDS, 3/17 Hennepin DWK, BAF. Early north (median 4/7) 3/22 Grant (North Otawa Impoundment) DPG, 3/31 Mille Lacs RBJ, 4/5 Crow Wing EGa, Wilkin HHD. High count 5/7 Yellow Medicine (148, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late south 5/30 Big Stone (2) GWe, Yellow Medicine (Miedd

- Lake) GWe (median 5/31). Late north 5/23 Pennington CAS, 5/27 Red Lake RBJ, 5/29 Itasca SC (median 5/30).
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [33 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/19 Hennepin (3) SBE, 4/22 Kandiyohi JoS, JWd, Lyon (2) GWe, JPR. Early north (median 4/30) 4/29 St. Louis BMu, (4) JPR, JLB, ABm, 5/7–8 Crow Wing EGa, KNo, 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz. High counts 5/12 Wilkin (11) ANy, 5/3 Olmsted (7, Silver Lake) MMe, 5/11 Dakota (7) RAE. Late south 5/24 Faribault WAF, BAY, Stearns PCC, 5/29 Hennepin BAF (median 5/26). Late north 5/24 St. Louis JLK, 5/27 Red Lake SC, RBJ, 5/29 Itasca SC (median 6/1).
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [50 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/30) 3/18–20 Carver JuW, m.ob., 3/20 Hennepin AtK, 3/30 Big Stone DLP. Early north (median 4/8) 4/3 Polk SAU, 4/9 Cass RBJ, 4/13 Crow Wing (3) PSP, 4/14 Itasca SC. High counts 5/7 Stearns (347, Getchell Lake.) PCC, 5/8 Dakota (310, Lake Byllesby) ALw. Please see summer report for late south migrants. Late north 5/25 Beltrami DPJ, 5/27 Red Lake SC, RBJ, Wadena RBJ (median 6/6).
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [34 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/23–24 Lac qui Parle DGu, JJo, m.ob., 4/25 Big Stone DLP, Scott (2) HCT, JWZ, Yellow Medicine SBE, LiH. Early north (median 5/1) 4/15 Beltrami DPJ, 4/30 Polk (2) JPR, 5/8 Douglas (5) SEM. High counts 5/23 Red Lake (210, Red Lake Falls W.T.P.) PEB, HCT, SBM, DWK, 5/23 Polk (156, Crookston W.T.P.) KnM.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [13 South, 4 North] Early south (median 5/12) 5/8 Scott RBW, DBz, 5/14 Stearns RPR, GVa, 5/16 Pipestone (2) HHD. Early north 5/23 Pennington CAS, Polk (8) KnM, Red Lake (2) PEB, DWK, HCT, SBM. High counts 5/30 Yellow Medicine (42, Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/26 Faribault (26, South Wells W.T.P.) WAF. See summer report for late migrants, south and north.
- Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — [1 North] Only report 5/28–29 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) †JWL, JLK.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [40 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/3) 3/26 Rice (Cody Lake) BAB, 3/27 Rice (same location?) DAB, 3/28 Hennepin (Purgatory Creek wetlands) WFe, (2, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF, Pope MJB. Early north (median 4/12) 4/14 Crow Wing ABi, Todd DFe, 4/15 Cass, Crow Wing and St. Louis. High count 5/18 St. Louis (410, Park Point, counted by 10s) JGB, JLK, CLN, KSt, JPR. Late south 5/26 Faribault GLa, 5/30 Sherburne SOa, RCL (median 6/2).
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — [1 North] All reports: **5/2** St. Louis (Superior Entry) BMu, 5/18 St. Louis (2 adults, Park Point) †PHS, †JLK, ph. JPR, m.ob.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [28 South, 14 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/26–27 Lyon GWe, 4/3 Yellow Medicine GWe, 4/5 Rice HCT. Early north (median 4/9) 4/10 Roseau JMJ, 4/14 Otter Tail KPe, 4/16 Polk MSP. High count 5/16 Brown (105, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) KnM.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [53 South, 32 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north 3/2 St. Louis (1, Canal Park) JPR, 3/4 St. Louis (10, Canal Park) JPR. High count 3/27 Isanti (3,200, pig farm; about 4,000 gulls, 80% Ring-billed) RCL.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [40 South, 24 North] Overwintered north and early south migrants appeared in February. High counts 3/29 Lake (975, Knife River Marina, counted by fives) JWl, 3/27 Isanti (800, pig farm; about 4,000 gulls, estimate 20% Herring Gulls) RCL.
- Thayer's Gull** (*Larus thayeri*) — [6 South, 1 North] Often absent from south in spring, so reports (though none with details beyond age class) from Goodhue, Hennepin, Scott, Sherburne, Wabasha, and Washington were unusual. Early south **3/6** Washington PNi, BDo, GJa, ToL, JWZ, BDo, **3/10** Goodhue (first-cycle, Prairie Island) BRL. Late south 4/29 Sherburne (Lake Fremont) RBJ. Late north 5/10 St. Louis (first-cycle, Canal Park) KRE.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [1 South, 1 North] All south 3/26–27 **Scott** (flooded field on S.R. 13, 1/2 mile south of C.R. 8) BAB, †RMD, RBW, DWK, 4/3 Scott (same location) BAB. All north 3/3–4 St. Louis (Canal Park) ph. JPR, 3/6 St. Louis (Canal

Park) YK, 3/7 St. Louis (Interstate Island W.M.A.) JPR, 3/15 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) JPR, 4/9 St. Louis (2, Superior Entry) PHS, 4/27–29 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) PHS, JWL, MLH, 5/1 St. Louis (first-cycle, Superior Entry) CLN.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*)

— [5 South, 1 North] All south **3/9–13** Wabasha (second-cycle, Lake City) ph. †DAB, m.ob., **3/12** Washington (across Mississippi River from Lake Rebecca Park) ph. †BAF, 3/26 Hennepin (adult, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ChM, TAT, RBW, 4/10 Isanti ph. †ELC, HHD, 4/11 Hennepin (adult, Pur-gatory Creek wetlands) ph. †DWK, 4/27–29

Sherburne (max. 3 adults or near adults, Lake Fremont) ToL, DWK, m.ob. All north 4/25, 4/28 St. Louis (3rd/4th-cycle, Park Point R.A.) PHS, ph. JPR, ph. CLN, ph. TJo, AM, BMu, 4/28 St. Louis (second-cycle, Park Point R.A.) †MLH, ph. CLN.

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [3

South, 2 North] All south 3/3 Goodhue (adult, Lake Pepin) HHD, RAE, 3/13 Wabasha JPr, (first-cycle, Lake Pepin) JWH, JmP, ph. JPr, 4/11 **Isanti** (first-cycle) RBJ. Late north 4/19 St. Louis (immature, Virginia) DBF, 4/28 St. Louis BMu, (first-cycle, Park Point R.A.) MLH, JPR.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)

— [1 South, 1 North] All south 3/9–13 Wabasha (2, both third-cycles) †DAB. All north reports were from St. Louis, where last seen 4/28 (three age groups), then 5/3 (first-cycle, Duluth harbor) CLN. High count 3/15 St. Louis (4, Park Point R.A.) JPR. Also see Insufficiently Documented Reports.

Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [24

South, 17 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/20 Goodhue DBz, 5/1 Freeborn PEJ, 5/4 Hennepin JBs, Olmsted MiD, Swift HHD. Early north (median 5/1) 4/15 Beltrami DPJ, 4/28–29 St. Louis BMu, MLH, 4/30 Cass (15) KHe. High counts 5/14 Hubbard (50, Akeley W.T.P.) AxB, 5/22 Carver (45, Wahibo Marsh) JWZ. See summer report for late south migrants.

Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*) — [45 South,

22 North] Early south (median 4/30) 5/4 Stearns (10) DOr, 5/7 Goodhue SWE, 5/8 Sherburne RFr, Yellow Medicine PEJ, GWe. Early north (median 5/8) 5/12 Clay (3) THv, Wilkin ANy, 5/17 Hubbard DFe,



Red-throated Loon, 15 March 2016, Crow Wing County. Photo by Kevin Smith.

Wadena ANy, DBz. High count 5/30 Lyon (115, Lone Tree Lake) GWe.

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) — [15

South, 13 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/24 Jackson DAK, 5/7 Goodhue (Villa Maria Retreat Center) SWI, (Frontenac S.P.) SWe, TLg, (Hok-Si-La Park: seen just north of park) SWe. Early north (median 5/1) 5/7 St. Louis (4) JLK, 5/8 Crow Wing KNo, Otter Tail RTo, St. Louis (5) JPR. High count 5/19 St. Louis (219, Park Point near Sky Harbor Airport) JLK. Late south 5/26 Olmsted (2) LAV, 5/29 Dakota (4) MJM (median 6/4).

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) — [40 South,

21 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/2 Yellow Medicine GWe, 4/9 Washington NHy, 4/10 Wright JLB, ABm. Early north (median 4/17) 4/24 Clay (2) THv, 4/29 Crow Wing PSP, 4/30 Douglas ToR, Otter Tail HHD, RAE. High counts 5/17 Dakota (30, Lake Byllesby R.P.) LiH, 5/18 Olmsted (28, Chester Woods) ShG, HeH.

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) — [3

South, 2 North] All south **4/3–4 Olmsted** (East Landfill Reservoir) RLE, JPr, JmP, †LAV, ph. MiD, †JWH, m.ob.; 4/26–28 **Sherburne** (Lake Fremont) †PLJ, †DWK, †PRH; 5/15–16 **Le Sueur** (Eggert Lake) RBW, PRH, †DAB, ph. DWK. North reports included a record-early individual found **3/10** by Clayton Pederson in Baxter, **Crow Wing** County, where it apparently landed on wet pavement and could not take flight. It was

- brought to a rehabilitator, Katie Baratto, and released on 3/13 in Brainerd, and then was serendipitously refound 3/14–19 (PSP, ph. EGa, ph. LMS, m.ob.). Additional north reports from Park Point in St. Louis: 5/2 (1) MLH, 5/23, 5/25 (1) JLK, 5/29 (5) JLK.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 South, 1 North] An adult in alternate plumage was discovered just east of Blue Mounds S.P. in **Rock** 5/15–17 †RPE, ph. †DAB, ph. JWD, ph. JmP, ph. DWK, ph. JcK, ph. ChA, ph. KEm. A bird in basic plumage was found off Park Point in St. Louis 5/30 †PHS.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [41 South, 32 North] One overwintered in Benton/Stearns. First migrants found south **3/13** Wabasha (Lake Pepin) DBz, JWH, 3/15 Hennepin CMB, 3/18 Rice RBW. Early north (median 4/1) 3/19 Mille Lacs (2) KNo, 3/22 Lake JWl, 3/25 Cass DAY. High counts 5/6 Lake (14, Burlington Bay) JWl, 4/14 Hennepin (13) CMB.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [50 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/14) 3/7 Rice (3, Sakatah Lake S.P.) WPS, 3/9–10 Rice (locations?) TFB, MJB, 3/11 Blue Earth ChH, McLeod (2) ANy, LSe, JWZ. Early north (median 3/31) 3/19 Otter Tail (Hansel Lake) AaL, 3/27 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) WPl, 3/29–30 Lake (4) JWl. High counts 5/28 Meeker (600, Pigeon Lake, Dassel) PlJ, 4/19 Becker (265, LaBelle and Duck lakes) ShG, HeH.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [51 South, 25 North] Early south (median 3/16) **3/6** Winona (15) †RSA, 3/8 Freeborn BLs, Wabasha (25) JmP. Early north (median 4/5) **3/12** Douglas (2, Little Rachel Lake) †BEC, 4/5 Traverse HDD, 4/10 Cass (10, Shamps Pond) DAY, Douglas (Osakis W.T.P.) BEc, Marshall (3) RAE, Roseau JMj. High counts 4/23 Lac qui Parle (500, total for county) SEM, KEm, MEm, 5/6 Meeker (500, Pigeon Lake) DSt, 4/15 Washington (427, Carpenter N.C.) CNC.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [33 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/16) 4/4 Le Sueur DWK, 4/11–23 Dakota (180th St. Marsh) RWh, CRa, ADS, 4/12 Dakota (Hastings S.N.A.) AlF. Early north (median 4/17) 4/17 Aitkin SNE, 4/26 Crow Wing EGa, 4/28 Itasca SC. High counts 5/8 Sherburne (6, Sherburne N.W.R., Wildlife Drive) ABm, 5/21 St. Louis (6, Duluth) NWi, 5/24 Marshall (6, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [3 South, 4 North] All south 5/6–30+ Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) JIB, m.ob., 5/7 Lyon (Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) RJS, 5/27–29 Anoka (3, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) RMD, ELC. All north 5/17 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R., South Tamarac Access Drive) PEB, 5/20 Morrison (Scandia Valley) RPR, 5/21 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R. Visitor's Center) DPI, LSm, NaH, 5/24 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) CAS, 5/27 Red Lake RBJ.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [53 South, 32 North] Reported from all counties except Kittson and Norman. Early south away from overwintering areas 3/7 Blue Earth MJB, Hennepin (2) CMB, (3, Marshall Terrace Park) AsB, Houston SHO, Rice (2, Sakatah Lake S.P.) WPS. Early north (median 3/20) 3/16 Douglas BEc, 3/20 Pine TJo, 3/21 Kanabec RAE. High counts 4/14 Hennepin (160, Marshall Terrace Park Rookery, Minneapolis) SKS, 4/17 Wright (125, 80th St. Rookery) RbD.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [46 South, 11 North] Early south (median 3/23) 3/16 Ramsey REH, 3/18 Hennepin RSA, 3/22 Goodhue (2) GJM, Washington ECl. Early north (median 4/1) 4/5 Grant HHD, 4/7 Otter Tail DST, 4/10 Douglas BEc. High counts 5/1 Otter Tail (146, Grotto Lake) ToL, 4/17 Washington (41, Boomsite Rookery) BCo.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [7 South] All south 4/23 Big Stone (six miles south of Thielke Lake) DLP, 4/24 Big Stone (Thielke Lake) KvM, DGu, 4/25 Renville (Bird Island W.T.P.) SBE, LiH, 4/29 Lyon (375th St. marsh near Runholt's Slough) ph. GWe, 5/1 **Freeborn** (Bear Lake) PEJ, 5/13 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) ph. †DAB, 5/16 Dakota (2, Lake Byllesby) ph. JBu, 5/20 Olmsted (South Landfill Reservoir) RLE, m.ob.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — [1 South, 1 North] One south 5/10 Jackson (immature, Sioux Valley Twp.) ph. Cody Wiig *vide* KEm. An adult found near Indian Point (LME) and refound along the Western Waterfront Trail (ph. JLK) in Duluth 5/15–



White-faced Ibis and Glossy Ibis (third from left), 21 April 2016, Miedd Lake, Yellow Medicine County. Photo by Daniel Baker.

16 was the first in St. Louis County since 1985; it was subsequently photographed by many.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [6 South, 1 North] All south 5/8 Kandiyohi (C.R. 27 marsh east of C.R. 1) †JoS, †DWK, 5/15 Redwood (Willow Lake W.M.A.) MiO, JSc, BTS, 5/24 Watonwan JEB, 5/27 Nobles (8, season high count, C.R. 57 south of Worthington) KRE, m.ob., Scott (Belle Plaine W.T.P.) BAAb, RBW, 5/30 Big Stone (Artichoke Lake W.P.A.) GWe. Only north report 5/22 **Kittson** (Hallock W.T.P.) ph. SBM, HCT, ph. PEB, DWK.

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) — [37 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/16 Hennepin (2, Shiloh Park) LSe, 4/17 Hennepin (Lower Riverside Park) ASu, 4/18 Washington RBd. Early north (median 5/3) 5/3 Marshall JSm, 5/4 Crow Wing DMu, 5/6 Otter Tail JSm. High count 5/18 Hennepin (5, Veterans Memorial Park, Richfield) JmM.

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [15 South, 4 North] Early south (median 4/1) 4/13 Big Stone (4) DLP, 4/15 Hennepin (Golden Valley) ToL, 4/16 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park, Richfield) SBM, CMB, JRg. All north 4/20+ Otter Tail (Grotto Lake) DST, m.ob., 5/20–21 St. Louis (mouth of Miller Creek) BFr, JPR, CLN, 5/24 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) CAS, 5/29 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R.) WPl. High count 5/16 Houston (16, flying over La

Crescent) SHo.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — No reports.

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*) — [1 South, 1 North] Two new county records: 4/21 **Yellow Medicine** (Miedd Lake) ph. †GWe, ph. DaB, 5/11 **Traverse** (marsh 0.7 miles east of C.R. 2 and C.R. 3) †DBz, ph. ANy.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chibi*) — [10 South, 2 North] Most reports were southwest of a line from Wilkin to Martin. Early south (median 4/26) 4/12 Lincoln (32) TAT, 4/16–18 Lac qui Parle (max. 4, Lac Qui Parle W.M.A.) DOr, ALw, ph. KeM, 4/18 **Hennepin** (2, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) SLc, BAF, m.ob. All north 5/20 Wilkin (Brown W.P.A.) BWF, 5/31 Grant (2, Mud Lake W.P.A.) CoM. High count 4/21 Yellow Medicine (44, Miedd and Spellman lakes) GWe. Late south 5/23 Kandiyohi (C.R. 27 wetland east of C.R. 1) ph. JWd, 5/30 Big Stone (2, Artichoke Lake W.P.A.) GWe, **Hennepin** (3, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ph. DyP, DGn, ph. AmS. A total of 96 individuals reported.

BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*) — [1 South] Seventh state and sixth spring record: 5/4 **Blue Earth** (Bethany Lutheran College) †ChH.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) — [53 South, 34 North] Seen in every county. Numerous south arrivals during February. Ear-

- ly north (median 3/26) 3/7 Pine KrM, 3/13 Itasca SC, 3/20 Crow Wing ToL. High count 4/5 St. Louis (67, W.S.H.C., Thompson Hill) FJN.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [35 South, 25 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/20 Hennepin PNi, MAI, 3/21 Carver JTg, 3/28 Rice TFB. Early north (median 4/2) 3/27 Crow Wing JPR, 3/31 Mille Lacs RBJ, 4/5 Morrison DLP. High count 4/24 Olmsted (12, Lake Zumbro) SHo.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/12 St. Louis (607, W.S.H.C., Thompson Hill) FJN, 3/12 Dakota (223, including one kettle of 42, all viewed from Freedom Park overlook) BAF.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Found in every county but Cook. Overwintered south, with probable early migrants also in February. Early north (median 3/10) 3/7 Pine (Pine City) KrM, St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) SJu, SNe, Traverse DLP. High count 4/3 Blue Earth (11) BHW.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [51 South, 28 North] Reported south and north from the beginning of the season. High counts 4/29 St. Louis (104, W.S.H.C.) FJN, 5/5 St. Louis (69, W.S.H.C.) FJN.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [53 South, 26 North] Early north (median 3/15) 3/6 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) FJN, m.ob., 3/11 Clay (2) KaS, 3/12 Cass JWM, Morrison FGo. High count 3/29 St. Louis (7, W.S.H.C.) FJN.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [4 South, 11 North] All south 3/30 Ramsey JFR, 4/15–5/12 Hennepin (pair breeding in Bloomington; also see summer report) ADS, RBW, †CMB, ph. DIC, m.ob., 4/25 Blue Earth BHW, 5/8 Washington BDo.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [25 South, 14 North] Most reports from the Southeast, East-central, and Central regions. Early north (median 3/14) 3/6 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) FJN, m.ob., 3/7 Crow Wing (2) EGa, 3/9 Otter Tail KPe, Pine TJo.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [41 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/7) 3/22 Blue Earth BHW, 4/4 Ramsey LMK, 4/6 Carver JCy. Early north (median 4/11) 4/14 Carlton AVa, 4/15 Mille Lacs JSa, 4/16 Clearwater NMr, St. Louis BHo. High counts 4/25 Blue Earth (547) BHW, 4/29 St. Louis (421, W.S.H.C.) FJN, 4/25 Scott (350, Spring Lake R.P.) BHe.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [22 South, 4 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/9 Lincoln JWH, JPR, Pipestone JSc, 4/12 Lincoln (4) TAT, Mower (2) SWm. Early north 4/16 Clay (2) SHg, 5/5 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) FJN, 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz. High count 4/15 Big Stone (7) DLP.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in all 87 counties. High counts 3/29 St. Louis (271, W.S.H.C., including one adult dark/rufous and an adult Krider's) FJN, 4/5 St. Louis (258, W.S.H.C.) FJN, 3/28 St. Louis (255, W.S.H.C., including 5 adult dark/rufous) FJN.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [33 South, 24 North] High counts 3/3 Polk (12, Tilden Twp.) SAU, 4/10 Roseau (11) RAE, 3/11 St. Louis (8, W.S.H.C.) FJN. Late south 5/6 Dakota (2) JhS, 5/7 Anoka ASL, 5/29 Pipestone BMu (median 5/8). Late north 5/10 Lake of the Woods BSi, 5/14 Aitkin (Rice Lake N.W.R.) TLR (median 5/25).
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [14 South, 6 North] Fairly frequent south reports in March, then only 4/4 Olmsted (juvenile) PRH, 5/14 Washington (immature, William O'Brien S.P.) WCM. Many reports from the W.S.H.C. in St. Louis from early March through mid April, chiefly FJN, m.ob. Late north 4/16, 4/19 Hubbard (Kabe-kona Lake) AxB, REn, 4/29 St. Louis (2, W.S.H.C.) FJN, 5/5 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) FJN, JLK (median 5/2).
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [18 South, 1 North] Widely reported south of a line from Lac qui Parle to Washington. Only north report 4/28 Otter Tail JSs. Successful breeding in Hennepin (JBC) and Houston (KAB, AXH). Two individuals noted as gray morphs, none as red morphs.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [45 South, 22 North] Reported throughout the season and state. Adults on nests or with newly fledged young in 13 counties.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [5 South, 7 North] Wintering birds were scattered around the state as the spring season began. Late south 3/15 Olmsted (C.R. 9 just



Golden Eagle, 20 March 2016, Sherburne N.W.R., Sherburne County. Photo by Jill Beim.

west of C.R. 10) THu, 3/16 Jackson DOB, 4/2 Scott DAs. Late north 3/30 Pine *fide* MJB, 4/10 Polk (two miles east of Eldred) *fide* JMJ, 4/24 Polk (6 miles east of Climax) LnT.

Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*) — [1 North] No reports.

BURROWING OWL (*Athene cunicularia*) — [1 North] One was present in Wilkin, northeast of Breckinridge, 4/23–5/23 MJM, ph. †JMJ, ph. PHS.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) — [34 South, 20North] Observed statewide, though few reports from the Southwest region and northernmost tier of counties. Unusual report 5/14 **Rock** DAB.

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) — [6 North] Found in Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Aitkin, St.Louis, Lake.

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) — [7 South, 5 North] Found in five south counties in March, then only 4/6 Hennepin RFo, 4/10 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP. North reports began 3/21 Pine LEv, 3/31 Polk (Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) DCl. Confirmed breeding in St. Louis (AXH).

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — [7 South, 4 North] Found south in Lac qui Parle, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Steele, Rice, Hennepin, Washington; only report after mid-April was 5/20 Rice TFB. All north 4/5

St. Louis (Park Point) JPR, 4/13 Kittson (2) AxL, 4/23 Lake of the Woods JWH, RMD, SC, ANy, DAB, BWF, 4/26 Roseau BSi.

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) — [1 North] The only report was of one calling 4/17 Lake SGW, which was not refound on subsequent visits.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [1 South, 10 North] Early north 3/3 Pine LEv, 3/7 Cook (Trail's End Campground) DDd, 3/12 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) LME, JWJ, 3/13 St. Louis (Park Point) JPR, 3/14 St. Louis (4, season high count, Sax-Zim Bog) CLN, 3/15 Lake JWJ. All south 3/24 Benton (Little Rock Lake) MJB.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [53 South, 32 North] Found south throughout the winter. Early north (median 3/24) 3/8 Todd (Ahrens Pond) ALu, 3/12 Morrison GLA, BAB, 3/15 Polk SAU.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [38 South, 22 North] Overwintered south in Anoka; one reported 3/11 Dakota AIF may also have overwintered. First south report apart from these was 4/14 Hennepin (2) SGt (median 4/12). Early north (median 4/25) **3/20** Mille Lacs (2, Mille Lacs Lake, Vineland Bay) ToL, **4/4** Mille Lacs (location?) PSP, 4/13 Crow Wing PSP. High counts 5/7 Anoka (**8**, Fish Lake) VDo, THL, 4/30 Rice (7, Nerstrand Big Woods S.P.) AIF.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [53 South, 29 North] Reported from every county except Kittson, Norman, Lake of the Woods, Carlton, Cook. High counts 4/16 Hennepin (10, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo, 4/26 Washington (10, Afton S.P.) DAd, 5/1 Wright (10, Lake Maria S.P.) MiH.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [48 South, 34 North] Early south migrants were difficult to distinguish from overwintering individuals. Early north (median 4/2) **3/29** Pine (Audubon Center of the North Woods) JTy, 3/31 Mille Lacs (2) RBJ, 4/5 Polk SAU. High counts 4/23 Fillmore (12, Magelsen Bluff Park) MHN, 5/8 Goodhue (12, Frontenac S.P.) CEL.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported from every county but Pennington. High counts 3/17 Crow Wing (22, Kiwanis Park) JnP,

- 4/10 Lyon (16, Camden S.P.) JtH.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [53 South, 32 North] Found statewide. High counts 3/27 Washington (15, Oakdale Nature Preserve) JDS, 3/26 St. Louis (10, Sax-Zim Bog) TmP.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — No reports.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Reported from Clearwater (Itasca S.P.), Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods (two nests, GMM), Roseau, St. Louis. No reports of more than two individuals.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Early north (median 3/26) 3/3 Clay (S. Moorhead; apparent migrant as none reported here since early January) RHO, 3/17 Kanabec ELC, 3/20 Crow Wing BMr. High counts 4/10 Hennepin (81, Powderhorn Park: 61 counted from 7:35 to 7:45 A.M., all flying low WNW, plus an additional 10 birds before 8:49 A.M.) TAT, 4/15 St. Louis (41, Enger Tower, Duluth) ClN.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [46 South, 32 North] Reported statewide. High count 4/15 Cass (8, North Country Trail) DoH.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early north (median 3/8) 3/6 Morrison PSP, 3/8 Morrison SwM, 3/9 Crow Wing PSP, ph. EGa, Mille Lacs PSP, Otter Tail BEC, Pine TJo, Wadena BEC. High count 4/26 Brown (10) CoM.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [34 South, 27 North] Early north (median 3/13) 3/6 Polk SAu, St. Louis JPR, ClN, FJN, 3/7 Polk SAu, 3/12 Pennington ZL. Numerous high counts of 3 individuals. Probable late south migrants 5/20 Mower JEB, 5/24 Nicollet JEB, 5/27 Nobles DOK (median 5/18).
- GYRFALCON** (*Falco rusticolus*) — [1 North] Two overwintering individuals in the Duluth-Superior harbor area continued through 3/21 St. Louis KRE (median 3/21).
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [30 South, 17 North] Overwintered south, and Duluth in the north. Early south migrants/returnees 3/6 Blue Earth KnM, Dakota BAF, SHF, Washington BAF, SHF (median 3/14). Early north 3/25 Crow Wing JPR, PSP, 3/31 Lake JWL (median 3/23). High counts 3/21 Ramsey (4, US Bank Building) JLI, 4/5 St. Louis (4, W.S.H.C.) ClN.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — One West-central report, but without sufficient documentation.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [35 South, 13 North] Early south (median 5/8) 5/7 Goodhue MSz, PPa, Olmsted SPe, LyH, 5/8 Goodhue TLg, Steele PSu, 5/10 Waseca BAb. Early north (median 5/13) 5/14 St. Louis BMu, 5/15 Crow Wing EGa, 5/17 Cass DAY, Roseau PEB. High counts 5/15 Carver (3) RHe, 5/28 St. Louis (3) JLK. See summer report for late south migrants (median 6/11).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [44 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/7 Chisago ToF, TSI, Jackson BAb, Mower RTP, 5/8 Goodhue SHk, Hennepin CRz, SKe. Early north (median 5/12) 5/15 Todd ALu, 5/18 Carlton GWe, Clearwater LSm. High counts 5/25 Carver (9, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake) JCy, 5/30 Scott (9, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) EHg
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [20 South, 8 North] Reported with identification notes from 6 south and 2 north counties. Early south (median 5/12) 5/13 Hennepin CMB, 5/20 Rice TFB, 5/22 Carver JCy. Early north (median 5/20) 5/26 St. Louis BHo, DFN, 5/28 St. Louis ph. ACr. High count with details 5/24 Steele (4) PSu. Please see summer report for late south migrants. **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*) — [7 South] Identification notes included from all 7 reporting counties! Early south (median 5/17) 5/14 Goodhue (2) ODa, 5/19 Rice DWK, JWH, BWF, 5/19 Houston ph. SHo. Found as far north as 5/21 Chisago (Interstate S.P.) RMa, MBg, ATa. High count 5/21 Washington (6, Falls Creek S.N.A.) DCZ.
- Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [26 South, 21 North] Reported with identification details from 18 south and 7 north counties. Early south (median 5/16) 5/14 Mower ph. BLs, 5/16 Hennepin CMB, 5/19

- Isanti ELC. Early north (median 5/20) 5/18 Crow Wing EGA, 5/22 Becker JBu, BBd, 5/24 Pine LEv. High counts 5/29 Lake (**22**, Whyte Rd) ASn, 5/28 St. Louis (18, Sax-Zim Bog) BBa, DBa, RBk.
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [28 South, 6 North] Reported with details from 1 north and 10 south counties. Early south (median 5/10) 5/11 Hennepin CMB, 5/14 Goodhue ODa, Hennepin ACr, Washington ECl. Only north report (median 5/18) 5/28 Douglas DPG. High count 5/23–25 Dakota (8, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Cliff Fen) GHo, LiH, SBE.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [51 South, 33 North] Reported with details from 17 south and 14 north counties. Early south (median 5/1) 5/7 Rice TFB, Steele PSU, Winona DWK, 5/8 Hennepin CMB, TLo, Steele PSu, Yellow Medicine GWe. Early north (median 5/9) 5/12 Itasca EEO, 5/14 Cook JBS, 5/15 Red Lake HCT.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/21) 3/15 Hennepin SBE, 3/21 Hennepin WFe, and from seven additional counties on 3/22. Early north (median 3/30) 3/27 Morrison PAv, 3/29 Pine LEv, 3/31 Pine MJn. High counts 4/13 Carver (11, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake) JCy, 4/18 Washington (11, Lake Elmo R.P.) TEB.
- Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 North] Only documented reports 5/8 Clay (2, Felton Prairie) ph. †JuW, 5/20 Clay (Felton Prairie) CRM, m.ob.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [49 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/30 Washington (2) GaJ, 5/1 Ramsey BNW, 5/4 Dakota AGu. Record-early north (median 5/7) **4/12–14** St. Louis (Duluth, Indian Point) JLK, JPR, 5/6 Douglas JSw, JsS. High count 5/30 Scott (12, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) EHg.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [19 South, 9 North] Early south (median 5/7) **4/30** Pipestone BMu, 5/8 Yellow Medicine GWe, 5/13 Rock DAB. Early north (median 5/10) 5/9 Polk SAU, 5/11 Otter Tail JSm, 5/16 Traverse RAE. High counts 5/19 Yellow Medicine (4, Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/22 Kittson (4, Kennedy W.T.P.) PEB, DWK, SBM, HCT.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [51 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/26 Ramsey RSn, TSI, 4/27 Fillmore RTP, 4/29 Washington MiO. Early north (median 5/7) 5/2 Todd ALu, 5/11 St. Louis CLN, CLN, Traverse ANy. High counts 5/19 Yellow Medicine (22, Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/18 Hennepin (20, Crow-Hassan P.R.) GAn, 5/23 Hennepin (20, Westwood Hills N.C.) JcM, 5/28 Clay (20, Felton Prairie) SAU.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [12 South, 2 North] Early south (median 3/23) 3/23 Steele KRh, 3/26 Swift KRE, m.ob., 3/30 Dakota TJo. Early north (median 4/15) 4/30 Clay (2) ToL, Polk JPR, 5/3 Clay SAU.
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*) — [18 South, 20 North] Late south 4/11 Lac qui Parle ToR, 4/14 Sherburne JOs, 4/16 Hennepin JAn (median 4/8). Late north 4/12 St. Louis JWL, 4/13 Polk SAU, 4/14 St. Louis JLK (median 4/19).
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [5 South] Reported from Dakota, Goodhue, Rice, Wabasha, and Washington. Early south (median 5/15) 5/12 Wabasha MJM, 5/21 Dakota BCh, Rice TFB. High count 5/25 Dakota (3, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Cliff Fen) LiH, SBE.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [48 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/5 Washington PNi, 5/6 Rice TFB, 5/7 Goodhue SWe, m.ob., Washington PRH, PNi, ASu, Winona DWK. Early north (median 5/9) 5/11 Kittson LSm, Pine TJo, 5/12 Pine SC, 5/13 Otter Tail ANy, DBz. High count 5/12 Steele (6, Oak Glen Lake) JnS.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [47 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/28): Two record-early reports of birds singing in the observer's yards, **4/15** Dakota ADS, **4/16** Washington KIs, then 4/22 Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/4) 4/30 Morrison JEm, SEm, 5/8 Morrison RPR, Wadena PJB, 5/10 Cass DAY, Itasca SC. High count 5/20 Becker (**12**, Tamarac N.W.R.) ShG, HeH. Late south 5/29 Washington JDS, 5/30 Dakota JBu, Rock m.ob. (median 6/2).
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [30 South, 12 North] Early south (median 5/8) 5/5 Fillmore RTP, 5/8 Sherburne ABm, 5/9 Ramsey ASi. All north 5/16 Todd JMK,

- 5/18 Traverse CoM, 5/20 Clay CRM, m.ob., Pine LEV. High count 5/28 St. Louis (4, Park Point) NWn, StK. Late south 5/30 Rock CRM, m.ob. (median 5/31), but see summer report.
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [51 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/2 Kandiyohi JWd, 5/2–4 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park, Richfield) CMB, m.ob., 5/4 Dakota ALF, Lyon GWe. Early north (median 5/8) 5/8 Cass DAY, 5/10–11 Beltrami DPJ, 5/11 Crow Wing ABI, Itasca SC, Kittson LSm, Traverse ANy. High counts 5/16 Hennepin (**25**, Westwood Hills N.C.) ASu, 5/14 Hennepin (**16**, Westwood Hills N.C.) ASu, 5/20 Ramsey (**16**, Crosby Farm R.P.) DAd.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [50 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/2 Ramsey MaK, EFe, 5/6 Scott ECg, ARn. Early north (median 5/10) 5/14 Douglas JPE, 5/16 Pine DFN, Todd JMK. High counts 5/28 Carlton (**46**, Jay Cooke S.P.) DTr, JEd, 5/28 St. Louis (32, Minnesota Point) JLK.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [8 North] Reported from all counties northeast of a line from Carlton to Beltrami. High count 3/7 St. Louis (6, Sax-Zim Bog) SNe.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High migration counts, all from St. Louis (Park Point): 5/12 (1,500) CLN, 5/4 (1,245) JLK, 5/19 (1,038) CLN.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [20 North] Reported throughout traditional range, as far south as Otter Tail. High counts 3/18 Hubbard (7) AxB, REn, 5/27 St. Louis (7, Sax-Zim Bog) DBa, BBa, RBk.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 3/1 Hennepin (1,500, evening roost at University of Minnesota–East Bank campus) JuW.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [8 South, 32 North] Reports from nearly the entire north region, plus 8 south counties. Among them 3/27 Wilkin PSP and 3/8 Wright RBJ were outside this species' normal, but expanding, range. High count 3/6 St. Louis (19, W.S.H.C.) CLN.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [53 South, 26 North] Largely absent east of a line from Carlton to Roseau counties, with only single reports from Koochiching and St. Louis in this area. High counts 3/17 Polk (100) SAu, 3/26 Lac qui Parle (100, Salt Lake) WSc, AHn.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [43 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/5) 4/6 Wright ToL, 4/10 Fillmore RTP, Lincoln JWH, JPR, KnM. Early north (median 4/11) 4/17 Crow Wing PSP, 4/22 Morrison SEM. High count 5/29 Wright (**150**) ToL.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/19) 3/12 Lyon GWe, Mower SWm, Olmsted LAV, 3/15 McLeod KdB. Early north (median 4/3) 3/31 Mille Lacs RBJ, 4/1 Morrison MEm, KEm, 4/3 St. Louis JSa. High counts 4/30 Lyon (**3,000**, Runholt's Slough) GWe, 5/10 Yellow Medicine (**2,800**, Miedd Lake) GWe, 4/28 Todd (1,000, county total) JLK.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [46 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/13 Ramsey WRe, MRe, 4/14 Carver ANy, 4/15 Rice TFB. Early north (median 4/21) 4/24 Pine JWL, Wadena JWH, SC, ANy, 4/25 Mille Lacs JWH. High counts 5/14 Anoka (**100**, Cenaiko Lake) JKe, 5/14 Goodhue (**100**, Hok-Si-La Park) KeA, 5/24 Washington (50) NSa.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [45 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/14 Hennepin SKS, 4/15 Dakota ALF, Washington GJa, 4/16 Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/1) 4/15 Otter Tail DST, 4/24 Wadena JWH, ANy, SC, 5/4 Lake KRE, JWL. High counts 5/10 Yellow Medicine (**300**, Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/20 St. Louis (100, Duluth, 40th Ave. West / Erie Pier) CLN, JPR, 5/22 St. Louis (100, Duluth, 40th Ave. West / Erie Pier) CLN, JPR.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [52 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/14 Hennepin NiT, 4/19 Stearns DOr, 4/22 Washington PNi, Winona JPR. Early north (median 4/25) 4/25 Kanabec DBz, ANy, 5/1 Marshall JMJ, Polk NWi, Traverse DLP, Wadena PJB. High counts 5/10 Yellow Medicine (400, Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/16 and 5/24 Olmsted (200, Mayo Park) ShG, HeH, PAR.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/9)

- 4/2–3 Hennepin ph. JBs, 4/5 Ramsey DFN. Early north (median 4/19) 4/16 Otter Tail DST, Pine MHs, 4/22 Wadena PJB. High counts 4/26 Brown (100) CoM, 5/12 Washington (100) KvM, 5/14 Anoka (100) JKe, 5/14 Goodhue (100) KeA.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [6 North] Reported from Beltrami, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, and St. Louis. High counts 3/5 Lake (6, East Tomahawk Road) NLM, 5/29 St. Louis (6, nest with six chicks) AXH.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [11 South] Reported from the Southeast counties north to Ramsey, Washington. High counts 3/9 Goodhue (4) SMu, 3/9 Houston (4) KRz, 3/13 Houston (4) KvM.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [26 South, 24 North] High counts 3/5 St. Louis (25, Sax-Zim Bog) DGu, 5/11 Otter Tail (10, Reames Lake) KiF. Probable late south migrants 5/22 Wabasha KnM, 5/22 Watonwan LKo (median 5/23).
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts 3/20 Hennepin (24, Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo, numerous reports of 14 individuals.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [49 South, 30 North] High counts 4/10 Benton (25, Bend in the River R.P.) DOOr, 4/4 Hennepin (15, Wood Lake N.C.) CoM, 4/12 Washington (14, Gateway State Trail) BDo. Late south 5/19 Dakota FHa, DTJ, JEd, 5/27 Nobles DFe (median 5/16).
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/16 Dakota RaM, Ramsey RMD, SWI, 4/17 Hennepin MHu, Olmsted LNe. Early north (median 4/30) 5/1 Polk NWi, 5/4 Morrison DLP, DSt, Otter Tail DST. High counts 5/15 Steele (19) PSu, 5/16 Ramsey (19) JDv.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [27 South, 14 North] Likely overwintering birds 3/7 Dakota (Miesville Ravine) AlF, 3/9 Hennepin OGo, 3/17 Hennepin DWK, 3/19 Hennepin DGu. Early south migrants (median 3/27) 3/19 Rice TFB, 3/22 Olmsted JHB, 3/26 Murray GWe. Early north (median 4/9) 3/27 St. Louis ph. JMa, 3/29 Crow Wing EGa, 3/31 St. Louis BHo. High count 4/16 St. Louis (6) BHo. Late south 5/1 Benton HHD, Big Stone DLP, Hennepin CMB, 5/6 Hennepin JAn, CMB, 5/11 Brown BTS (median 5/13).
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [49 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/25 Rice TFB, 4/26 Washington JDS, 4/27 Dakota BAb. Early north (median 5/2) 4/29–5/3 Todd JLK, 5/5 Polk SAu, 5/6 Otter Tail DST, Todd JeM. High counts 5/24 Marshall (48, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM, 5/24 Wright (15, Robert E. Ney Memorial Park) RbD.
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [47 South, 20 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/17 Lyon DaB, 4/18 Olmsted LAV, 4/22 Lyon JPR. Early north (median 5/4) 5/3 Todd JLK, 5/7 Morrison RPR, 5/10 Crow Wing EGa, Hubbard AxB. High counts 5/24 Marshall (29, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM, 5/7 Lyon (17, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) RJJS.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [1 South] Only report 3/27 Houston (Twin Island) KnD.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [48 South, 10 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/16 Winona DBz, 4/17 Goodhue KeA, 4/19 Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/6) 5/4 Cass MMd, 5/12–14 Pine SC, MJn. Out-of-range north reports 5/24 Beltrami FlE, Hubbard AxB, REn. High counts 5/14 Ramsey (20, Crosby Farm Park) OGo, 5/14 Scott (14, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp) RCu.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [44 South, 26 North] Probable overwintering birds 3/5 Sherburne LSf, 3/8 Lyon GWe, 3/12 Carver WRe, MRe, likely early south migrants (median 3/23) 3/14 Hennepin (2) CWB, 3/15 Ramsey KCh, 3/17 Hennepin DWK. Early north (median 3/26) 3/27 Lake NLM, 3/29 Morrison SEm, Polk (4) SAu. High count 4/9 Dakota (22, Miesville Ravine P.R.) AlF. Late south 5/5 Dakota AlF, 5/8 Hennepin WFe, 5/15 Lac qui Parle FAE (median 5/7).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/28) 3/25 Washington JDS, 3/26 Waseca DAB, Washington KCr, 3/27 Renville DFe, JMs. Early north (median 4/6) 3/29 Polk SAu, 4/2 Becker HeH, 4/5 Tra-

- verse HHD, Wilkin HHD. High count 4/24 Hennepin (50, Lower Riverside Park) ASu. Late south 5/20 Cottonwood JnH, Goodhue AIF, 5/21 Brown APi, 5/30 Rock CRM, m.ob. (median 5/27).
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Present throughout the south region as the season commenced (median 3/1). Early north (median 3/16) 3/7 Morrison LMS, 3/8 Crow Wing JnP, Douglas BEc. High count 3/26 Washington (32, Afton S.P.) BDO.
- Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*) — [2 South] Two south reports. Long-staying adult male 3/5–28 Sherburne (Island View R.P.) ph. †MJB, ph. MwS, m.ob. Second adult male seen 3/12–16 Dakota (Spring Lake P.R., Schaar's Bluff) CWa, NAW, ph. †AIF, †CMB, ph. GHo, m.ob. Both birds also well-documented by photographs submitted to eBird.
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [1 South, 4 North] Only south report 3/27 Carver (Lowry N.C.) RBW. All north: overwintering bird continued through 4/17 Cook (Grand Marais) JWn, ph. ISO, ph. SRr, ph. DMB, 3/14–17 Crow Wing (Kiwanis Park) PSP, ph. EGa, ph. KDS, m.ob., 3/20 Morrison (Rice Area Sportsmen's Club W.M.A.) ph. KnM, 3/21 St. Louis FJN, 4/12–15 St. Louis (Indian Point) ph. JLK, ph. JPR, 5/8 St. Louis (Cadotte Lake) ph. MaN (median late 4/14).
- Veery** (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [37 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/7 Mower RTP, SWm, Olmsted LyH, 5/8 Goodhue CMz, CEL, Hennepin GAn. Early north (median 5/8) 5/6 St. Louis JcT, 5/9 Beltrami DPJ, 5/11 Pine SC. High counts 5/28 Carlton (33, Jay Cooke S.P.) JEd, DTr, 5/26 Clearwater (17, Itasca S.P.) ASu, 5/17 Lake (14) JWL.
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catbarus minimus*) — [44 South, 19 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/4 Hennepin SBM, 5/7 Hennepin CMB, Mower SWm, Olmsted SPe, Rice TFB, Winona DWK. Early north (median 5/7) 5/11 Kittson LSm, Traverse ANy, DBz, 5/12 Becker HeH, ShG, Otter Tail ANy, DBz. High count 5/16 Hennepin (8, Westwood Hills N.C.) ASu. Late south 5/24 Hennepin BAF, Stevens JfL, 5/27 CRM, KRE, DOK, 5/29 Hennepin BAF (median 5/27). Late north 5/28 St. Louis MMq, JLK, 5/29 St. Louis EHg (median 5/27).
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [51 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/25 Hennepin CMB, JD, TDv, Lac qui Parle DLP, 4/26 Hennepin BAB, CMB, JmM, 4/27 Dakota ADS, Olmsted MiD. Early north (median 5/2) 5/4 Clay KaS, 5/5 Cass DAY, 5/7 Clay LbK, Pennington MJJ. High counts 5/16 Lac qui Parle (43, Lac qui Parle S.P.) WCM, 5/16 Nicollet (35, Fort Ridgely S.P.) KnM. Late south 5/30 Hennepin DCZ, Rock KRE, m.ob., Sherburne RCl, 5/31 Lac qui Parle DLP, but see summer report (median 6/2).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [42 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/28) 3/20 Washington DCZ, 3/26 Meeker JAN, 3/27 Dakota KDS. Early north (median 4/6) 4/1 Clay MO, Crow Wing DMu, Todd ALu, 4/2 Morrison MJB, St. Louis JWL. High count 4/21 Hennepin (24) CMB. Late south 5/20 Hennepin TAT, 5/23 Stearn AaL (median 5/18).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [34 South, 17 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Wright MiH, 5/2 Washington PSm. Early north (median 5/8) included multiple reports from Pine beginning 5/11 SC, then 5/16 St. Louis CyM. High count 5/30 Scott (9, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) EHg.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. High counts 4/8 Dakota (250) JBU, 4/11 Stearns (250) DOR.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [2 North] Two north reports: a first county record 3/2 **Red Lake** (Plummer) ph. PCt, and an overwintering bird continued through 4/15 Beltrami DPJ.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/15 Ramsey REH, 4/16 Scott MMy, 4/25 Hennepin RBt. Early north (median 5/5) 5/1 Otter Tail DST, Todd JLK, widespread arrivals 5/10. High count 5/18 Washington (14, Oakdale Nature Preserve) JDS.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [53 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/12) 3/22 Brown JSc, 4/9 Dakota AIF, 4/10 Goodhue LEC. Early north (median 4/23) 4/16 Crow Wing ph. EGa, 4/17 Morrison SEM, 4/19 Itasca SC, Morrison SEM, Todd



Northern Mockingbird, 21 May 2016, Steele County. Photo by Paul Suchanek.



Eurasian Tree Sparrows, 18 April 2016, Eagan, Dakota County. Photo by Kevin Manley.

SDi. High count 4/23 Washington (10, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) JuW.

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [9 South, 5 North] A major influx of this species, with 15 individuals reported. Early south (median 4/25) 4/16 Lac qui Parle PEJ, DFN, 4/17 Hennepin MHu, 4/29 Ramsey TAN. Also reports from Brown, Dakota, Olmsted, Rock, Sherburne, Steele. All north (median arrival 5/5) 4/14 Morrison JVI, 4/28 Otter Tail JsS, 5/2 St. Louis BET, 5/4 Koochiching RMD, 5/14 Aitkin TLR, 5/23 St. Louis BMu, JPR.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported statewide. High counts all from the Hampton feedlot, Dakota, including 4/4 (600) BAF, 3/6 (450) SHF, BAF.

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [13 North] Widespread north reports. Several high counts of over 1,000 individuals, including 3/17 St. Louis (2,000, Portman Park) ph. JPR, 3/28 St. Louis (1,751, W.S.H.C.) FJN, 3/29 St. Louis (1,685, W.S.H.C.) FJN. Late north reports from Lake and Itasca on 4/14, then only from St. Louis including 4/22 (18) EHl, JLK, 4/23 (2) KEJ (median 4/18).

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [49 South, 32 North] Present north and south as the period commenced. North reports increased dramatically in late May. High counts 5/12 Scott (250) RCu, 5/30 Steele (205) PSu.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported from all coun-

ties except Cook. High count 3/13 Ramsey (75) OGo.

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW (*Passer montanus*) — [1 South, 1 North] Reported from two counties in a season for the first time; the fourth consecutive year this species has been reported. One north report 4/8–13 Polk (feeder, East Grand Forks) ph. †SAu, ph. MSp, HHD, RAE, represents the second county record. One south report of two birds frequenting a feeder in Eagan 4/18–19 Dakota (third county record) ph. †KvM, m.ob.

American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*) — [27 South, 11 North] Early south reports almost two weeks early (median 3/31) 3/18 Hennepin BAF, SHF, 3/20 Dakota (5) BAF, SHF, 3/29 Hennepin WPe. Early north (median 4/26) 4/2 Todd (2) ALu, 4/30 Marshall JPR, Polk JPR. High counts 5/8 Faribault (41) WAF, 5/15 Steele (29) PSu. Late south 5/22 Dakota RPR, Stearns AaL, 5/24 Nicollet JEB (median 5/20). Late north 5/22 Polk HCT, DWK, PEB, SBM, 5/24 Grant PEB, DWK, HCT, SBM (median 5/23).

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [7 North] Reported from its normal northern range and time frame with last reports 3/10 Carlton AVa, Roseau BSi, 3/11 Itasca SC (median 4/5). Only notable high count 3/5 St. Louis (10, Sax-Zim Bog) DGu.

House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [53 South, 32 North] Reported statewide.

Purple Finch (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [35 South, 28 North] Found in all regions. Most reports north and east of a

- line from Clay to Fillmore counties. Late south 5/23 Stearns AaL, 5/24 Pipestone LFa (median 5/18).
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [3 South, 3 North] Only a handful of reports this season of this unpredictable species. All north 3/4 Mille Lacs AIF, 3/10 Hubbard MaH, 3/29 Polk TuL. All south 4/9 Chisago JSa, 4/10 Washington (east of Hugo) ECL, 4/12 Washington (Woodbury) LWg, 5/10 Olmsted JWH, 5/18 Chisago JSa.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [2 South, 1 North] Few reports this season of this sporadic species: 3/2–14 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail), 3/6 Stearns MJB, 4/11 Otter Tail KPc.
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [20 South, 26 North] Reported mostly north-east of a line from Clay to Rice counties. High counts 4/1 St. Louis (800, Rice Lake) KGr, 4/5 St. Louis (510) FJN, 3/18 St. Louis (470) FJN. Late south 4/13 Chisago DPi, 4/14 Sherburne ABm, 4/19 Benton SWu (median 4/7). Late north 5/16 St. Louis JLK, JWJ, 5/17 St. Louis JLK, CLN, 5/21 St. Louis CLN, JPR (median 4/27).
- Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [1 South, 12 North] Only south report 3/1 Sherburne ABm. Late north 4/9 St. Louis BAb, JLK, 4/14 Itasca EEO, 4/15 Hubbard REn, 4/22 Koochiching DBz, JWH, m.ob. (median 4/5). Documented records 3/4 Lake JWJ, 3/18 Carlton MSS, 3/23 Pine TJo, 3/26 Polk SAu.
- Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [42 South, 34 North] Found statewide with most reports from the northern half of the state. High counts 5/15 Benton (100) SWu, 5/12 St. Louis (63) AM, 5/10 Polk (50) SAu. Late south 5/29 Benton SWu, Steele PSu, 5/30 Yellow Medicine GWe (median 5/22). See summer report for more records in June and July, especially south.
- American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported in every county.
- Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [9 North] Most reports from the North-central and Northeast regions, though one also 3/4 Clay (Moorhead) BoA. No south reports. High counts 3/22 St. Louis (30, Sax-Zim Bog) WHi, 3/20 Itasca (25) BSi.
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [32 South, 11 North] Present both north and south from winter season. High counts 3/20 Stevens (450) JPR, CLN, 3/22 Freeborn (400) TAT, 3/17 Polk (350) SAu, 3/29 Rock (350, Touch the Sky Prairie) KEm. Late south 5/7 Dakota TAT, Mower JBu, 5/15 Lyon GWe, DaB (median 5/5). Late north 5/12 Wilkin ANy, 5/20 Douglas CoM, 5/22 St. Louis CLN, JPR (median 5/19).
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] First reported 4/30 Clay ToL (median 4/27). Continuing reports throughout the rest of the season from the Felton Prairie area. High count 5/20 (6) Clay KRE, m.ob.
- Smith's Longspur** (*Calcarius pictus*) — [4 South] All reports 4/9 **Redwood** (near Wahpeton W.M.A.) MJB, BTS, MiO, JWH, 4/23 Cottonwood JCu, Jackson JJu, Yellow Medicine (13) GWe (median 4/23).
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [8 South, 12 North] High counts 3/21 Roseau (200) BSi, 3/22 Grant (150, North Ottawa Impoundment) BAB. Late south 4/11 Lac qui Parle ToR, Rice GHo, 4/15 Rice GHo (median 4/5). Late north 4/24 Beltrami JWH, ANy, SC, DAB, BWF, Lake of the Woods JWH, ANy, SC, DAB, Polk LnT, 4/29 Lake TJo (median 5/7).
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [47 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/25 Hennepin TAT, 4/28 Hennepin RBW, 4/29 Dakota MKe. Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 Pennington LFi, 5/6 Koochiching SC, 5/7 Cass DAY, Pine SBE. High count 5/28 Carlton (82, Jay Cooke S.P.) JEd, DTr.
- WORM-EATING WARBLER** (*Helminthos vermivorum*) — [1 South] Singing male 5/14–18 Rice (Cannon River Wilderness Area) †CJE, †TFB, †DAB, RBW, BWF.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [7 South] Early south (median 4/17) 4/16 Houston (Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) JoP, 4/17 Carver (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake) JCy, Washington (Falls Creek S.N.A.) DFN, Winona (Whitewater S.P.) DWK, DBz, JPr.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [49 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/22 Hennepin ASu, 4/24 Big Stone DLP, Hennepin KRo, Rice TFB, Washington JDS. Early north (median 5/4) 5/2 Cass DAY, 5/8 Polk SAu, 5/9 St.

Louis SLP, 5/10 Itasca SC, Polk SAu. High counts 5/7 Goodhue (10, Hok-Si-La Park) SWe, 5/16 Hennepin (10, Westwood Hills N.C.) GAn. Late south 5/26 Hennepin EGB, Stearns AaL, 5/28 Hennepin CWB (median 5/29).

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [41 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/5) 4/30 Rice TFB, 5/4 Hennepin SBE, JcM, 5/6 Carver JCy, 5/7 Anoka. Early north (median 5/8) 5/11 Cass SC, Pine SC, St. Louis CLN, 5/12 Pine SC. High counts 5/23 St. Louis (**17**, Sax-Zim Bog) KCR, 5/22 Clearwater (15, Itasca S.P.) NKu.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [30 South, 3 North] Early south (median 5/2) 4/28 Steele PSu, 5/3 Dakota GHo, and from Carver, Fillmore, Houston, Ramsey, Scott, Washington on 5/5. Also noteworthy were these reports beyond the species' typical range: 5/14 **Murray** JPr, 5/15 **Redwood** JSc, MiO, 5/28–30 **Yellow Medicine** (Spellman Lake) RCU, GWe. Only north reports 5/20 Kanabec DPG, 5/21 Morrison JSP, Clearwater (Itasca S.P.) ASu. High counts 5/12 Carver (11, Minnesota River Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake) JCy, 5/16 Scott (9, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) JCa.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) — [50 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/16 Mower DAB, 4/24 Steele PSu, 4/25 Hennepin LSe, BAF. Early north (median 5/2) 4/30 Morrison JEm, SEm, 5/5 Cass DAY, 5/6 Douglas ToR, Hubbard REh, AxB, Koochiching SC, Todd ALu, CSh. High counts 5/23 St. Louis (25, Sax-Zim Bog) KCR, 5/14 Rock (12, Blue Mounds S.P.) LFr.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [14 South] Early south (median 5/4) 4/29 Goodhue (Hok-Si-La Park) ChS, Houston DBz, 4/30 Dakota (Mississippi River Lock and Dam #2) ODA. Noteworthy reports outside its usual range: 5/16 **Lac qui Parle** (Lac qui Parle S.P.) WCM, 5/23 **Swift** (Pomme de Terre River, US 12 Wayside) DOr. High count 5/19 Carver (**6**, Minnesota River Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake) JCy.

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [50 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/24 Rice DAB, 4/26 Steele PSu, 4/27 Brown CoM, Goodhue DVe. Early north (median 5/7) 5/6 Otter Tail JSw, JSs,

5/8 Morrison SEm, 5/9 Polk SAu. High count 5/15 Rock (30, Blue Mounds S.P.) KEm. Late south 5/29 Pipestone LS, m.ob., Rice TFB, 5/30 Rock KRE, m.ob., Scott EHG (median 6/6). See summer report for additional late migrants.

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [47 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/16 Hennepin (Minneapolis) TAT, 4/17 Hennepin (Baker P.R.) MJB, (Minnesota River N.W.R., Bass Ponds) SHF, BAF, Washington JDS. Early north (median 4/25) 4/23 Pennington SAu, Polk RPa, 4/24 Douglas, Hubbard, Morrison, Pine. High count 5/8 Polk (7) SAu. Late south 5/24 Ramsey EGB, 5/26 Hennepin EGB, Stearns AaL (median 5/23). Late north 5/26 St. Louis JPR, ALo, 5/28 St. Louis DBa, m.ob (median 5/28).

Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [50 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/24 Ramsey PRH, JuW, 4/25 Hennepin PRH, TDv, RDA, Washington ECL, BDo. Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 Cass RSA, 5/5 Aitkin JPR, St. Louis JLK. High counts 5/26 St. Louis (32, Sax-Zim Bog) EBr, 5/7 Goodhue (20, Hok-Si-La Park) KeA, 5/29 Lake (20) ASn. Late south 5/25 Washington PNi, 5/26 Hennepin EGB, 5/27 Chisago MPi (median 5/31). Also see summer report for late migrants, potential south breeders.

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) — [11 South, 5 North] Early south (median 5/12) 5/11 Ramsey RbC, 5/14 Chisago JSa, Hennepin ASu, 5/15 Carver JCy. Early north 5/17 Itasca TCL, 5/20 St. Louis AKO, 5/21 Itasca SC, Kanabec RMD, JWH, MJB, St. Louis JLK. Late south 5/28 Hennepin BAF, 5/29 Le Sueur RBW (median 5/30).

Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [26 South, 16 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/7 Goodhue SWE, 5/10 Ramsey PAI, 5/11 Hennepin TAT. Early north (median 5/14) 5/14 Itasca PLe, St. Louis BMu, 5/16 St. Louis TPM. High counts 5/28 Carlton (**15**, Jay Cooke S.P.) JEd, DTr, 5/30 St. Louis (8, Hawk Ridge N.R.) JLK. Late south 5/31 Hennepin TAT, but also see summer report for late migrants and possibly summering individuals.

Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*) — [3 South] All south 5/14–15 **Fillmore** (Ea-

- gle Bluff E.L.C.) HHD, JWH, JmP, 5/19 Hennepin (T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) CMB, 5/31+ Le Sueur (Sakatah S.P.) RBW.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/25 Wabasha JHn, 4/29 Hennepin DAs, Stevens JfI, 5/1 Dakota JDv. Early north (median 5/7) 5/3 Wilkin LSL, 5/6 Otter Tail JSm, 5/10 St. Louis JLK, JPR. High counts 5/24 Marshall (**93**, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM, 5/21 Sherburne (**61**, Sherburne N.W.R.) RCL.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [5 South] All south 5/15–29+ Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) m.ob., 5/15–30 Washington (2, Afton S.P.) JEd, DTr, m.ob., 5/22 **Wabasha** (Carley S.P.) KnM, 5/23 Dakota (Gores Pool #3 W.M.A.) AlF, 5/26 **Steele** (Saco Farms) ph. PSu. See summer report for breeding records.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [51 South, 33 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Dakota JDv, 5/5 Carver RBJ, RBW, JCy, Hennepin DCZ, Houston DFe, Rice GBa. Early north (median 5/7) 5/4 Cass MMd, 5/10 Crow Wing EGa, Hubbard REh, AxB. High counts 5/18 Winona (40, Great River Bluffs S.P.) SHo, 5/28 Carlton (37, Jay Cooke S.P.) JEd, DTr, 5/24 Marshall (36, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [20 South, 11 North] First migrants arrived south with a new early record (median 5/6) **4/24** Hennepin (adult male, Lower Riverside Park) †Asu, 5/7 Dakota GmO, Goodhue RDa, SWe. Early north (median 5/9) **5/3** Lake JWl, 5/7 St. Louis JLK, 5/8 Itasca SC. Late south 5/22 Washington PNi, JDS, 5/24 Hennepin KeL, JDS (median 5/24).
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [14 South] Early south (median 5/6) 5/7 Goodhue (Hok-Si-La Park) KeA, SWe, Rice DAB, (Cannon River Wilderness Area) GBa, 5/8 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) TLg, 5/10 Le Sueur (Sakatah S.P.) BAB. One out-of-range occurrence: 5/15 **Lyon** GWe. No notable high counts.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [27 South, 19 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/20 Rice TFB, 5/1 Dakota JDv, Hennepin JAn. Early north (median 5/6) 4/29 Clay JMj, SAU, 5/6 St. Louis (Miller Hill) JLK, 5/7 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK. High counts 5/22 Itasca (**20**, Scenic S.P.) JEc, 5/30 St. Louis (10) BHo. Late south 5/29 Rice DOB, Washington JEc, 5/30 Scott EHg (median 5/26).
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [46 South, 23 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/6 Faribault WAF, 5/7 Goodhue m.ob, 5/9 Rice TFB then many reports starting 5/10. Early north (median 5/8) 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz, 5/12 Cass DAY, Lake JWl, St. Louis ClN, Wilkin ANy, DBz. High counts 5/26 St. Louis (9) EBr, 5/28 St. Louis (9) ASn, 5/12 Olmsted (8). Late south 5/28 Hennepin TAT, ACr, 5/29 Pipestone m.ob. (median 5/31).
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [24 South, 11 North] Early south (median 5/8) 5/6–10 Faribault BAy, 5/11 Pipestone SRe, Rice DAB. Early north 5/13 Pine SC, 5/18 Morrison JeM, SwM, JMk, Wilkin ANy, DBz, 5/19 Marshall CCr. High counts 5/28 St. Louis (7) ACr, 5/28 St. Louis (5) MMq. Late south 5/22 Isanti ELC, Washington JDS, Yellow Medicine GWe (median 5/26).
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [36 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Rice TFB, 5/5–7 Carver JCy, 5/7–8 Goodhue SHk, m.ob. Early north (median 5/8) 5/7 Cass DAY, 5/8 St. Louis JWl, 5/9–10 Itasca SC. High count 5/28 St. Louis (20, Hartley N.C.) EBr. Late south 5/23 Blue Earth ChH, Olmsted LAV, Steele PSu, Swift DOr, 5/24 Hennepin JWl, JJo, Kandiyohi LFa (median 6/1).
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/25 Hennepin TDv, 4/27 Dakota JBt, 4/29 Hennepin MPi, Houston DBz, Ramsey CHi. Early north (median 5/4) 5/5 Beltrami *vide* JMj, 5/6 Otter Tail JSm, Todd JeM, SwM. High count 5/24 Marshall (**70**, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [48 South, 31 North] Record early south (median 5/6) **4/25** Hennepin (Plymouth) TDv, 5/6 Faribault WAF, Scott ECg, ARn. Early north (median 5/8) 5/10 Cass DAY, 5/11 Pine SC, St. Louis JLK. High counts 5/30 St. Louis (23) JLK, 5/23 St. Louis (21) JLK, 5/27 St. Louis (20) DBa, BBa, RBk.

Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*) — [46 South, 26 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/6 Faribault WAF, Martin BAB, then many reports beginning 5/7. Early north (median 5/8) 5/11 Pine TJo, Polk SAu, Traverse ANy, 5/12 Douglas ToR, Wilkin ANy, DBz. High counts 5/13 Yellow Medicine (12) GWe, 5/15 Crow Wing (12) JPR, 5/15 Rock (10) KEem. Late south 5/28 Carver KSo, Chisago ACr, Hennepin CMB, Houston JWH, Washington JDS (median 5/31). Late north 5/29 Lake ASn, St. Louis DTr, EBr, OGo, 5/30 Pennington JMJ, St. Louis ACr (median 6/1).

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [6 South, 4 North] All south (median 5/11) **5/1** Hennepin (Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) JAn, 5/7 Goodhue (Hok-Si-La Park) SuE, SEg, 5/10 **Waseca** (Maplewood Park) BAB, 5/15 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) SKO, TSI, Goodhue LH, 5/18 Isanti (Spencer Brook W.M.A.) DPG, 5/24 Ramsey (Fort Snelling S.P.) EGB. Early north 5/14 Lake (Wolf Ridge E.L.C.) CEL, 5/16 St. Louis BcM, 5/18 Cook (Oberg Mountain) DMB, JBs, (Carleton Peak Trail) JTo.

Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [50 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/16 Hennepin TAT, 4/17 Brown MiO, Dakota LFr, Hennepin JBs, WFe. Early north (median 4/25) 4/17 Wadena PJB, 4/23 Morrison JBs, Polk RPa. High counts 4/29 Hennepin (35) DGu, 4/29 Hennepin (32) NiT. Late south 5/20 Hennepin RBm, Scott BrT, Washington JDS, 5/21 Hennepin BAF (median 5/23).

Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*) — [18 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/17 Carver ROx, Hennepin MJB, Washington DFN, 4/18 Goodhue HCT. Spring migration reports of this species south are almost always from the southeastern tier of counties, so these reports are unusual: 5/4 **Lyon** (Camden S.P.) GWe, 5/13 **Nobles** JPr, JJS. Early north (median 4/23) 4/16 St. Louis EPy, 4/17 Cass DAY, ABi, Clearwater NMr. High counts 4/30 Morrison (**6**, Charles A. Lindbergh S.P.) JEm, SEM, 5/1 Becker (**6**, Tamarac N.W.R.) WPL, 5/22 Clearwater (**6**, Itasca S.P.) NKu.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early March

reports from overwintering locations. Presumed first migrants south (median 3/31) 3/27 Hennepin BAF, 3/28 Hennepin DCZ, Washington JDS. Early north (median 4/5) 4/1 Becker MO, 4/10 Aitkin SNe, Crow Wing EGa, Mille Lacs JSa, Wadena PJB. High counts 5/13 Jackson (150, Robertson Park) MEM, KEem, 4/27 Hennepin (100, Lake Harriet) CMB, CWB, 4/30 Washington (100, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) PNi. Late south 5/25 Hennepin TDv, 5/26 Washington JBr, 5/28 Washington JDS (median 5/29).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Setophaga dominica*) — [2 South] All reports 5/1–10 **Winona** (for the fourth consecutive season at Whitewater S.P.) †DBz, m.ob. but see summer report for continued observations. Also, 5/12+ **Hennepin** (2, Gold Medal Park, Minneapolis) †NMr, †DWK, †BAF, ph. PNi, ph. JBc, ph. RMD, plus documentation submitted by eight additional observers via eBird. This pair successfully nested into the summer season.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*) — [31 South, 20 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/30 Anoka JH, Houston JAn, Washington WCM, 5/1 Faribault BAY, Stearns AaL. Early north (median 5/4) 5/4 Lake KRE, JWJ, 5/5 St. Louis CiE, 5/6 Hubbard REen, AxB, St. Louis BMu. High counts 5/21 Itasca (20) JEc, 5/28 Carlton (16, Jay Cooke S.P.) JEed, DTr. Late south 5/22 Goodhue SHo, Isanti ELC, Mower BLs, Steele PSu, 5/24 Rice DAT, CRa (median 5/30).

Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [25 South, 17 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/8 Rice DAB, 5/10 Steele PSu, 5/12 Carver JCy, Rice TFB, Steele DFe, PSu. Early north (median 5/14) 5/14 St. Louis BMu, 5/15 Beltrami LSm, Morrison SEM. High counts 5/28 Carlton (8, Jay Cooke S.P.) JEed, DTr, 5/28 St. Louis (8, Park Point) ACr. Late south 5/28 Hennepin SOa, 5/29 Anoka LBi, 5/30 Rock RZi (median 6/1).

Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [44 South, 21 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/4 Rice TFB, 5/7–8 Goodhue m.ob., 5/8 Hennepin CMB, 5/9 Ramsey NMr. Early north (median 5/10) 5/12 Douglas ToR, 5/14 Douglas JPE, Lake JWJ, St. Louis BMu. High count 5/28 St. Louis (21) ASn. Late

south 5/28 Ramsey JZj, 5/29 Hennepin SWk (median 5/30). See summer report for late north migrants and potential breeders.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) — No reports.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [1 South] Only report 4/28 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP

Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [38 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/16) 4/3 Houston DSt, 4/14 Houston ABa, Olmsted LAV, 4/15 Blue Earth, Fillmore, Rice, Washington. Early north (median 5/3) 4/26 Morrison SEm, Todd JLK, 5/4 Pine MJn, LEv. High counts 5/18 Winona (25, Great River Bluffs S.P.) SHo, 5/20 Sherburne (14, Sherburne N.W.R.) JIB.

American Tree Sparrow (*Spizelloides arborrea*) — [52 South, 29 North] High counts 3/20 Lac qui Parle (200, Big Stone N.W.R.) JPR, ClN, 3/13 Cass (135) DAY, 3/20 Sherburne (106, Sherburne N.W.R.) JIB. Late south 5/3 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) DAs, Washington DSf, 5/4 Hennepin (Minnesota River N.W.R., Bass Ponds) OGO, Dyl, Pipestone DbS (median 5/3). Late north 5/14 Lake JWl, 5/15 St. Louis TLs (median 5/12).

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south reports were well before the median (3/25) arrival, but these are presumed migrants since there are no overwintering reports in these areas: 3/7 Lac qui Parle FAE, 3/11 McLeod BHA, 3/12 Cottonwood BRB, Hennepin TPB, 3/15 Lyon GWe. Early north (median 4/10) 4/10 Crow Wing PSP, Itasca SC, 4/11 Todd CSh, 4/13 Douglas BEc. High counts 5/14 Lake (35) JWl, 4/27 Wabasha (30) MJM, 5/8 Polk (30) SAu, 5/15 Crow Wing (28) ABi.

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) — [49 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/21 Mower SWm, 4/22 Lac qui Parle KvM, 4/23 Lac qui Parle BMu, RDa, 4/24 Chippewa CSl. Early north (median 4/27) 4/29 Todd JLK, 4/30 Clay ToL, 5/1 Otter Tail KPe, St. Louis ClN. High counts 5/15 Lac qui Parle (26, Big Stone N.W.R.) KnM, 5/17 Carver (20, Carver P.R.) JCy.

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) — [49 South, 9 North] Early south (median 4/2) 3/26 Washington PNi, 3/29 Hennepin TSk,



Henslow's Sparrow, 22 May 2016, Dell Township, Olmsted County. Photo by Jerry Pruett.

Washington DAd, PNi, 3/30 Olmsted JHD. Early north (median 4/18) 4/16 Todd ALu, 4/17 Pine LEv, 4/20 Crow Wing EGa. High counts 5/1 Goodhue (38, Frontenac S.P.) DTr, JED, 4/16 Lyon (32, Camden S.P.) GWe, 4/24 Scott (24, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAB. All reports were south of a line from Felton Prairie to Duluth, except for 5/28 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) DBa, BBa, RBk.

Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [52 South, 24 North] Early south (median 3/28) 3/15 Faribault WAF, 3/19 Dakota DFN, 3/27 Olmsted MiD. Early north (median 4/12) 4/13 Becker ASM, 4/16 Grant DFN, ToL, Kanabec MJB, ELC, JWH, **Lake** (Two Harbors) JWl. High counts 4/17 Washington (17, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) PNi, 5/3 Ramsey (9, Grove Park) JGo, 4/30 Clay (8, Felton Prairie) ToL.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [34 South, 8 North] Numerous reports all southwest of a line from Polk to Chisago counties. Early south (median 4/22) 4/16 Washington BKn, 4/22 Hennepin JSS, Wabasha JPR. Early north (median 5/2) 4/27 Todd JLK, 5/7 Polk MJJ, SAu, 5/10 Clay RHO, 5/12 Wilkin ANy, DBz. High count 5/20 Clay (8, Felton Prairie) NKu.

LARK BUNTING (*Calamospiza melanoco-*

- rys) — [1 North] Only report of this Casual species 5/25–26 **St. Louis** (male, town of Cook) †SuF, ph. †JuG, ph. †DMK.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [50 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/2) **3/12** Dakota (Great Western Industrial Park) ASu, BDo, **3/13–14** Dakota (Miesville Ravine P.R.) AlF, KDS, **3/14** Lyon (Black Rush W.P.A.) GWe, JtH, 3/25 Olmsted DoH. Early north (median 4/15) 4/13 Becker ASM, 4/16 Aitkin SNe, Cass DAY, Clay PBB, Marshall MSp. High counts 4/23 Lac qui Parle (30) SEm, KEm, MEm, 5/3 Wilkin (22) LSl.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [36 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/18 Washington (Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) RBd, 4/21 Washington (Afton S.P.) PNi, 4/23 Lac qui Parle m.ob. Early north (median 5/5) 5/3 Wilkin LSl, 5/8 Clay JuW, Otter Tail JSw, JsS. High counts 5/14 Washington (15, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) KvM, ToL, BDo, GJa, 5/23 Clay (15, Felton Prairie) KnM, 5/28 Clay (15, Felton Prairie) SAU.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [25 South, 1 North] Reported widely and frequently south. Early south (median 5/5) **4/16** Rice TFB, **4/17** Blue Earth (Lincoln W.P.A.) ChH, 4/19 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) GHo, 4/20 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) MSw. Only north 5/21 Kanabec RMD, MJB, JWH. Record high count 5/14 Washington (**18**, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) BDo, m.ob., 5/21 Washington (17, Afton S.P.) DAd, PNi.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [5 South, 14 North] All south 5/3 Blue Earth ChH, 5/15 Murray JJS, 5/16 Hennepin ASu, 5/25 Sherburne (Lake Ann S.F.) SMn, 5/29 Anoka ELC. Early north (median 5/2) 5/1 Polk NWi, 5/2 Cook JaJ, 5/3 Polk SAU, 5/4 Lake KRE, JWL.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [1 South, 4 North] Only south report 5/12 **Dakota** ADS. All north 5/19 Becker (Hamden Slough N.W.R.) AMd, 5/20 Cass JKe, 5/21 Roseau PEB, SBM, 5/27 Aitkin (McGregor Marsh) ASn, 5/29 Aitkin (McGregor Marsh) JPR.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [48 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/8 Hennepin OGo, LaB, DyL, 3/9 Carver TTh, Fillmore (overwintered) NBO then many reports beginning 3/10. Record early reports north (median 3/29) **3/8** Todd SwM, JeM, **3/11** Becker HeH, **3/12** Traverse MO, **3/13** Crow Wing PSP, Morrison MEm, m.ob. High counts 3/25 Hennepin (39) TAT, 4/13 Sherburne (37, Sherburne N.W.R.) ALu. Late south 5/2 Ramsey EFE, 5/8 Hennepin TMc (median 5/4). Late north 5/4 Beltrami KCo, 5/19 Marshall CCR (median 5/12).
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [53 South, 34 North] As typical, species was reported throughout the state. Numerous and widespread winter reports makes determining arrival of south migrants difficult. Early north (median 3/26) 3/12 Traverse AaL, Todd ALu, Morrison FGo, 3/13 Wade-na PJB. High counts 4/16 Dakota (**100**, 190th St. W, Farmington) SWe, 4/16 Lyon (64, Camden S.P.) GWe.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [37 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/7 Dakota NVs, 4/12 Hennepin KeL, 4/13 Faribault WAF, Hennepin JWd. Early north (median 4/24) 4/16 Becker NaH, 4/20 Clay LSl, 4/30 Wilkin HHD. High count 4/29 Cottonwood (10) JnH and several reports of 5 individuals. Late south 5/24 Hennepin GrS, Le Sueur RCu, 5/30 Rock m.ob., Steele PSu (median 5/26).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [53 South, 33 North] Found statewide, with record early reports south and north. Early south (median 3/24) **3/8** Yellow Medicine GWe, **3/12** Dakota ASu, BDo, Lac qui Parle KeL, Washington JEc. Early north (median 4/15) **3/20** Douglas JPR, ClN, **3/29** Morrison PAv, 4/9 Todd AaL. High counts 4/25 Hennepin (**75**, Bass Lake Preserve) SKS, 5/24 Marshall (47, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM, 4/25 Washington (42) JDS.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south migrants (median 3/18) indistinguishable from the many that overwintered south. Presumed early north **3/18** Hubbard AxB, REu, 4/9 Todd RSF, 4/14 Crow Wing PSP. High counts 4/25 Hennepin (150, Bass Lake Preserve) SKS, 4/25 Lac qui Parle (139, Garfield Twp.) KeL. Late south 5/22 Dakota JEd, DTr, Mower BLs, 5/26 Sherburne JGl (median 5/26).

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*)

— [42 South, 20 North] Presumed first migrant south (median 4/1) 3/12 Lac qui Parle KeL, 3/18 Faribault BAY, 3/20 Rice DAB. Early north (median 4/27) 4/23 Todd AaL, Wadena PJB, 4/24 Clay MO, 4/26 Roseau BSi. High counts 5/7 Jackson (24, Kilen Woods S.P.) BAB, 5/7 Lyon (15) GWe, 5/14 Murray (15) GWe. Late south 5/18 Nobles HHD, Sherburne JLB, 5/19 Hennepin BAF, Yellow Medicine GWe (median 5/24). Late north 5/21 St. Louis RWy, 5/24 Marshall CAs, 5/26 Todd ALu (median 5/22).

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*)

— [45 South, 25 North] Many early south preceding median (4/21) of recent arrivals: **3/13** Hennepin (record early, Maple Grove) †JBs, 4/3 Rice DAB, 4/17 Lyon GWe, 4/18 Redwood EBo. Early north (median 4/25) 4/21 Todd SDi, 4/23 Cass DAY, 4/24 Crow Wing JPR. High count 5/11 Otter Tail (15) KiF. Late south 5/23 Stearns AaL, 5/28 Lincoln DPK, Rock m.ob. (median 5/21). Late north 5/26–28 St. Louis (Park Point) JFc, m.ob., 5/28 Cook DFN (median 5/26).

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*)

— [53 South, 33 North] Seen statewide. High counts 3/29 Polk (200) SAu, 4/10 Lyon (200, Camden S.P.) JtH. Late south 5/18 Nobles HHD, 5/19 Dakota FHa, 5/25 Sherburne SMn (median 5/22).

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)

— [3 South, 1 North] All reports 5/10 **Chisago** (first-year male, Taylors Falls) ph. JoZ, 5/11 **Otter Tail** (feeder at Reames Lake; first appeared around 5/8) ph. KiF, 5/12 **Dakota** (C.P. Adams Park) KWr, 5/14–15 **Murray** (first-year male) JT, ph. JPr, m.ob.

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)

— [43 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/7 Dakota DFN, Goodhue TLg, SWL, 5/8 Dakota RBW, Scott TLg. Early north (median 5/11) 5/11 Cass DoH, 5/12 Morrison SEm, 5/13 Otter Tail ANy, DBz. High counts 5/30 Scott (11, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) EHg, 5/20 Scott (9, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) WCM.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

— [2 South] Two reports of this barely regular visitor: 4/26 **Lac qui Parle** (Mehurin Twp.) ph. KOd, CMz, 4/29 **Kandiyohi** (Pennock) ph. JoS, ph. JWD.

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*)

— [53 South, 21 North] Reported from all regions except for portions of extreme Northeast and much of the Northwest. Noteable high counts 3/12 Hennepin (27, Hyland Lake P.R.) MHu, 4/14 Hennepin (24, Westwood Hills N.C.) JD, 4/3 Hennepin (20, Elm Creek P.R.) TLo.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)

— [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/24 Fillmore ToM, 4/26 Hennepin NHa, Houston KRz, Olmsted LSF, Scott SLP, Washington RBr. Early north (median 5/3) 5/7 Pine SBE, 5/8 Mille Lacs KNo, Wadena PJB then many reports beginning 5/9. High counts 5/14 Carver (24, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake) JCy, 5/13 Houston (16) KRz, 5/16 Dakota (15, Whitetail Woods R.P.) DVE.

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*)

— [5 South] All reports (median 5/21) 5/14 Lyon GWe, 5/24 Cottonwood JEB, 5/27 **Steele** (first-year male, Saco Farm) †PSu, 5/28–30 Rock CRM, m.ob., 5/29 Pipestone CRM, m.ob.

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*)

— [41 South, 23 North] Early south (median 5/3) 4/24 Fillmore ToM, 5/4 Houston KRz, Sherburne ABm. Early north (median 5/9) 5/9 Todd CAR, 5/11 Hubbard AxB, REn, 5/13 Morrison SEm, Pine SC. High counts 5/30 Scott (13, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) EHg, 5/20 Ramsey (10, Crosby Farm R.P.) DAD, 5/26 Steele (10) PSu.

Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*)

— [19 South] First reports south 5/4 Brown BTS, 5/10 Rock KEm, 5/16 Olmsted JWH then, as typical for this species, reported much more frequently beginning the last week of May.

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)

— [48 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Anoka RCL, 5/3 Blue Earth ChH, 5/4 Steele PSu, 5/5 Dodge JnS. Early north (median 5/5) 5/11 Otter Tail JSm, Traverse ANy, 5/12 Clay TCL, Wilkin ANy. High counts 5/21 Becker (30, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) BBd, JBu, 5/28 Clay (30, Felton Prairie) DBa, BBa, RBK, 5/24 Dodge (25, Ashland Twp.) JnS.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)

— [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all counties. Overwintered both north

and south. Presumed first north migrants (median 3/14) 3/6 Douglas BEc, Todd MJB, plu five more counties on 3/7. High counts 3/14 Lyon (2,700) GWe, JtH, 3/20 Swift (2,000) JPR, CIN, 3/5 Cottonwood (1,000) KEm.

Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) — [41 South, 18 North] Early south (median 3/17) 3/6 Stearns MJB, 3/9 Dodge DAB, Steele DAB. Early north (median 3/24) 3/10 Douglas JPE, 3/22 Morrison HHD, 3/25 Aitkin SNe, Crow Wing PSP, JPR, Morrison SEm. High count 5/8 Goodhue (20, Frontenac S.P.) CEL. Noteworthy out-of-range reports occurred in Chippewa, Lac Qui Parle, Nobles, Pipestone, and Pope counties.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [44 South, 26 North] Early south (median 3/15) 3/6 Nobles PEJ, DFN, 3/7 Lyon and Yellow Medicine GWe, 3/8 Dakota SBE, Watonwan JPr, JmP. Early north (median 3/17) 3/12 Polk SAU, St. Louis LAT, Traverse MO, 3/13 Clay MO, PBB. High counts 4/23 Lac qui Parle (24) SEM, KEm, MEm, 3/29 Clay (22, Felton Prairie S.N.A.) YGo.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [48 South, 28 North] Early south (median 3/28) 3/7 Pope RAE, 3/19 Yellow Medicine GWe, 3/27 Lac qui Parle JJS, DFe, JMs. Early north (median 4/9) 4/5 Wilkin HHD, 4/9 Otter Tail DST, Polk SAU. High counts 5/23 Polk (120) KnM, 5/8 Yellow Medicine (114) GWe.

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [47 South, 20 North] A few individuals overwintered south. Presumed early migrants south (median 3/6) 3/6 Carver JCY, 3/7 Hennepin CMB, Houston SHo, KCa, SHo, Washington VWe. Early north (median 3/23) 3/10 Douglas JPE, 3/12 Becker SAU, Morrison FGo. High counts 3/10 Houston (150) SHo, 3/30 Faribault (150) BAY, 3/19 Carver (100) TJo. Late south 5/5 Hennepin KeL, JLL, 5/14 Stearns DCZ (median 5/3). Late north 5/2 Morrison JBi, 5/17 Polk PEB, 5/19 Marshall CCR (median 5/8).

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [39 South, 26 North] Early south (median 3/18) 3/7 Faribault MJB, 3/19 Winona MGo, 3/22 Stevens DPG, 3/24 Yellow Medicine GWe. Record early north (me-

dian 4/3) 3/14 Becker ASM, NaH, followed by 3/29 Morrison PAV, 4/8 Clay JCC. High counts 4/5 Goodhue (260) KDS, 4/10 Yellow Medicine (50) GWe.

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. See winter report for overwintering birds and presumed early south migrants. Presumed early north (median 3/10) 3/7 Traverse DLP, 3/12 Becker SAU, St. Louis FJN, JWJ, Todd ALu, Traverse AaL. High counts 3/14 Lyon (500) GWe, JtH, 3/25 Faribault (500) BAY, 4/19 Pine (500) LEV.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [4 South] All reports 4/17–26 **Swift** (Danvers W.M.A.) †KnM, ph. JPR, m.ob., 5/7 Jackson (Caraway W.M.A.) BAB, 5/15 **Redwood** (2, Gales Lake W.M.A.) MiO, JSc, 5/20 Yellow Medicine (Clarkfield W.T.P.) GWe.

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in all counties. See winter report for overwintering birds. Presumed first migrants south (median 3/13) 3/2 Pipestone LVD, 3/7 Carver JCY, Pope RAE, 3/8 Watonwan JPr, 3/9 Anoka RBW. Early north (median 4/5) 3/21 St. Louis LEC, 3/25 Becker HeH, 4/3 Wadena PJB, 4/4 Polk SAU. High counts 4/4 Dakota (100) BAF, 4/9 Yellow Medicine (100) JBU, 5/5 Washington (100) KvM, 4/17 Olmsted (80) JPr, 5/14 Rice (80) DAT.

Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) — [40 South, 6 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/6 Rice TFB, Washington PSm, 5/7 Goodhue TLg, SWL, 5/10 Chippewa ANy, DBz. Early north (median 5/15) 5/11 Traverse ANy, DBz, 5/17 Morrison SEm, 5/19 Morrison AMd, 5/20 Clay CRM, m.ob. High count 5/22 Yellow Medicine (11, Miedd Lake) GWe.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported in all counties. Early south (median 4/29) 4/21 Goodhue LEC, 4/24 Washington ECL, 4/27 Ramsey JZj. Early north (median 5/4) 5/5 Polk *fide* JMj, 5/6 Red Lake *fide* JMj, 5/8 Crow Wing PSP, Mille Lacs KNo, Otter Tail DST, Todd ALU, then many more reports beginning 5/9. High counts 5/8 Hennepin (30, Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) TLo, 5/11 Hennepin (30, Wood Lake N.C.) GMo, 5/18 Ramsey (30, Lake Phalen) MaK.

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BBu	Ben Burrus	DAs	David Astin	GAJ	Gae Jarvis
BCh	B. Chen	DAT	Dan A. Tallman	GAn	Gavin Anderson
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BHe	Bonnie Heinecke	DFN	David F. Neitzel	HeH	Heather Hundt
BHO	Bill Hohengarten	DGn	Daniel Green	HHd	Herb H. Dingmann
BHW	Bethany Hawkwatch	DGu	Daniel Guerin	IsH	Isaac Hosch
BKn	Barry Knack	DIC	Dale Carlson	ISo	Ian Soumis
BLs	Bruce Lees	DLP	Douglas L. Pierzina	JaJ	Jane Johnson
BMr	Bradley Miller	DMB	David L. Brisance	JAN	Josh Anderson
BMu	Bruce Munson	DMK	Dee Kuder	JBc	Jonathan Beck

The Spring Season

JBi	Jeff Birchem	JSP	Jen Sobiech-Pariseau	LBI	Lynn BIRR
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JBs	Jean Brisance	JSS	Jennifer Sorenson	LEC	Laura E. Coble
JBT	Joe Beattie	JSw	Jack Swelstad	LEv	Laurie Evans
JBu	James Buckingham	JT	Janet Timmerman	LFa	Lee Farrell
JCa	Jason Caddy	JTg	Joy Teigland	LFi	Larissa Fitzgerald
JCC	Joel C. Claus	JtH	Justin Hill	LFR	Linda Fritschel
JCK	Joe Coppock	JTo	John Toren	LGI	Lynn Glesne
JcM	Jacob Marsan	JTy	Jeff Tyson	LiH	Liz Harper
JCt	Jessica Chatterton	JuG	Juliann Grahn	LKo	Logan Korte
JCu	Janice Culver	JuW	Justin Watts	LME	Laura Erickson
JCy	John Cyrus	JVI	Jenni & Sam Ives	LMk	Larry Myking
JdB	Jerold Bahls	JVI	Joe Valesano	LMS	Larry Sirvio
JDS	Jill D Sadler	JWd	Josh Wallestad	LNe	Lori Nelson
JDv	Joshua Davis	JWH	John W. Hockema	LnT	Leon Thoreson
JEB	Jerry E. Bonkoski	JWI	Jeffrey Wells	LS	Linda Sparling
JEc	Joanna Eckles	JWL	James W. Lind	LSe	Laura Segala
JEd	Jeff Eddy	JWM	Jan W. Mattson	LSf	Laura Seifert
JEm	Jeffrey Emerson	JWn	Josh Watson	LSI	Linda Slagter
JeM	Jerome McKenna	JWZ	Julie Zempel	LSm	Lannie Smith
JEN	Josh Engel	JZj	John Zakelj	LVD	Lois Van Dyke
JFc	John Furches	KAB	Karla A. Bloem	LWg	Linda Walling
JFI	Judy Flicker	KAR	Kathryn A. Rivers	LyH	Lynn Hartmann
JFR	James F. Ryan	KaS	Kara Susag	MaH	Marshall Howe
JGB	Joseph G. Bennett	KBR	Keith Raitz	MaK	Mary Kinner
JGI	Jennifer Gleason	KCa	Kathleen Carlyle	MAK	Michael A. Koutnik
JGo	Jamie Goegan	KCh	Kaitlyn Christensen	MAI	Melissa Allard
JH	Jim Hughes	KCo	Keith Corliss	MaN	Marcia Nelson
JHB	Jack & Holly Bartholmai	KCr	Karen Cramer	MBg	Matthew Berg
JHD	Joel Dunnette	KCR	Kim & Cindy Risen	MEm	Marilyn Emerson
JHn	Jason Heinen	KdB	Karen de Boer	MGO	Malcolm Gold
JhS	John Scott	KDS	Kevin D. Smith	MHe	Melissa Hein
JJo	Jonathon Jongmsa	KeA	Keith Anderson	MHn	Michael Henry
JJS	Jeff J. Stephenson	KEJ	Kathy Morales Eric Julson	MHs	Mara Hopps
JJu	Joe Jungers	KeL	Ken Larson	MHu	Michael Hurben
JKe	Jane Kennedy	KeM	Kevin Mortensen	MiD	Michael Degerstrom
JIB	Jill Beim	KEm	Kimberly Emerson	MiH	Michelle Hajder
JLK	Larry & Jan Kraemer	KGr	Kristin Grover	MiO	Michael Oetken
JLI	Joseph Lindell	KHe	Katie Heneghan	MJB	Milton J. Blomberg
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JMA	Jason Mandich	KMS	Kenneth M. Schumacher	MKe	Meagan Keefe
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JMn	Joshua McMahon	KNo	Kari Noble	MMq	Max Malmquist
JmP	Jim Peterson	KOd	Kari Odefay	MMy	Marilyn Maltby
JMs	Janet Majerus	KPe	Kassie Pesch	MO	Mark Otnes
JnH	Jon Harder	KRE	Kim R. Eckert	MPI	Matt Pierce
JnP	Jonny Parker	KRh	Karrie Rhodes	MPS	Midwest Peregrine Society
JnS	Jon Schubbe	KrM	Kris Moulton	MRe	Marco Restani
JoP	JoAnna Pruet	KRo	Karl Roe	MSp	Matthew Spoor
JOs	Jason Osowski	KRz	Kathryn Rozovics	MSS	Mark Sparky Stensaas
JoS	Joel Schmidt	KSh	Kay Shaw	MSw	Michael Sweet
JoZ	Jolene Zendner	KSo	Karen Sowizral	MSz	Mary Schulz
JPE	John P. Ellis	KSt	Karen Stubenvoll	MwS	Matthew Stratmoen
JPR	John Richardson	KTe	Karen Terry	NaH	Nancy Henke
JPr	Jerry Pruet	KvB	Kevan Bohan	NAW	Ned A. Winters
JRg	Jordan Rogers	KvM	Kevin Manley	NBO	Nancy B. Overcott
JRK	Jim Rataczak	KWR	Katie Wrich	NFT	Nels F. Thompson
JSa	Joe Sausen	LaB	Laura Bosacker	NHa	Nina Hale
JSc	John Schladweiler	LaT	Linda Atella	NHy	Noah Holladay
JSm	Joe Schmit	LAV	Lance A. Vrieze	NIT	Nicholas Tangen

NKu	Noah Kuck	RPR	Rob Russell	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
NLM	Norma L. Malinowski	RSA	Renner S. Anderson	THa	Tim Hahn
NMr	Nick Minor	RSF	Randy S. Frederickson	THI	Tammy Holmer
NSa	Nick Sausen	RSn	Ross Screation	THu	Tom Hulshizer
NSc	Nathan Schirmacher	RT0	Randy Toppen	THv	Torre Hovick
NVs	Nick Voss	RTP	Ray Potthoff	TiW	Tim Walker
NWi	Neil Wingert	RWh	Robert Whyte	TJo	Tim Johnson
NWn	Nick Walton	RWy	Renee Wynne	TKr	Timothy Krause
OBu	Oliver Burrus	RZi	Roy Zimmerman	TLa	Terry Lacroix
ODa	Olaf Danielson	SAS	Shelley A. Steva	TLg	Taylor Long
OG0	Otto Gockman	SAU	Sandy Aubol	TLJ	Terry Lee Johnson
PAI	Pam Albin	SBE	Susan Barnes Elliott	TLo	Tom Lochner
PAR	Pablo A Roman	SBM	Scott B. Meyer	TLr	Tom Laeser
PAv	Pat Avery	SBN	Steven Brown	TMc	TJ Mccarty
PBB	Patrick B. Beauzay	SC	Shawn Conrad	TmP	Tom Pearce
PCC	Phillip C. Chu	SDi	Scott Dirks	ToF	Todd Froberg
PCt	Paula Cater	SDS	Sam & Damaris Stoddard	ToL	Tony Lau
PEB	Paul E. Budde	SEg	Suzanne Egan	ToM	Todd Mitchell
PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher	SEm	Steve Emerson	ToR	Tom Ries
PHS	Peder H. Svingen	SES	Steven E. Schon	TPB	Terence Brashear
PJB	Paul J. Binek	SGt	Sarah Garrett	TPM	Thomas Malone
PJK	Pat Korkowski	SGW	Steve G. Wilson	TPW	Terry Wiens
PLe	Peter Leschak	SHF	Susan H. Fall	TrR	Trent Robbins
PLJ	Paul L. Johnson	SHG	Shawn Goodchild	TSI	Tyler S. Imfeld
PNI	Peter Nichols	SHK	Sandy Hokanson	TSk	Tim Stuck
PPa	Patrick Palines	SHo	Steven C. Houdek	TTh	Tom Thalhuber
PRH	Pete Hoeger	SJu	Scott Jung	TuL	Tucker Laultt
PSm	Paul Smithson	SKe	Sue Keator	VDo	Vicky Douglas
PSP	Pamela S. Perry	SKo	Shan Kothari	VWe	Vincent Weber
PSu	Paul Suchanek	SKS	Sharon Koval Stiteler	WAF	Wayne Feder
RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	SLC	Steve L. Carlson	WCM	William Marengo
RaF	Ray Fini	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski	WFe	Wilmer Fernandez
RaM	Randall Mateo	SLP	Susan Plankis	WHi	Wendy Hill
RbC	Rob Cahalan	SMC	Scott M. Clark	WPe	Wendy Pepin
RBd	Robert Badger	SMn	Stephany Mcnew	WPI	Wayne Perala
RBJ	Robert B. Janssen	SMU	Sharon Mulder	WPS	Wally P. Swanson
RBk	Ron Barkley	SNe	Stephen Nelson	WRe	Warren Regelmann
RBm	Robert Baumander	SOa	Steve Oakley	WSc	Wolfgang Schweiger
RBr	Ryan Bradbury	SPe	Samuel Petrie	YGo	Yoav Golan
RBt	Robert Brouillet	Spu	Scott Puchalski	ZL	Zeann Linder
RBW	Bob Williams	SRe	Shannon Regan		
RCI	Richard Clearman	SRr	Sarah Reller		
RCu	Ray Cummins	SSc	Susan Schumacher	Abbreviations	
RDa	Rob Daves	SSe	Scott Seigfreid	C.P.	County Park
REH	Robert E. Holtz	StK	Steve Kolbe	C.R.	County Road
REn	Rebecca Engdahl	STW	Sylvia T. Winkelman	E.L.C.	Environmental Learning Center
REr	Russ Ergen	SuE	Suzanne Egan	F.R.	Forest Road
RFo	Robert Foucault	SuF	Susan Finnilla	N.C.	Nature Center
RFr	Robert Frost	SvM	Ranger Steve Mueller	N.M.	National Monument
RHe	Bob Heise	SWe	Steve Weston	N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
RHg	Richard Hoeg	SWk	Stuart Wainstock	P.R.	Park Reserve
RHj	Rita Hjelle	SWI	Stephen Wolf	P.A.	Recreation Area
RHO	Robert H. O'Connor	SwM	Shawnne McKenna	R.P.	Regional Park
RJS	Roger Jay Schroeder	SWm	Steve Williams	S.F.	State Forest
RJW	Robert Watson	TAN	Tom A. Nelson	S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
RLE	Bob Ekblad	TAR	Todd Arnold	S.P.	State Park
RMa	Rene Martin	TAT	Tom A. Tustison	S.R.	State Road
RMD	Robert M. Dunlap	TBo	Travis Bonovsky	Twp.	Township
RnB	Ron Berget	TCL	Tim Lamey	W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
RNe	Randal Newton	TDV	Tim Davis	W.P.	Wilderness Park
ROx	Robin Oxley	TEB	Tom & Elizabeth Bell	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
RPa	Robert Payton			W.S.H.C.	West Skyline Hawk Count
				W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

The M.O.U. 300 Club

Compiled by editors Anthony X. Hertzelt and David A. Cahlander

In 2016, three species were added to the state's composite bird list, bringing the total number recorded in Minnesota up to 442. These new additions were Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*), Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*), and Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*). As a result, the threshold to the Roberts Club increased to 376, while its membership remains at 43 —

the same number as last year.

The following is a compilation of each contributing M.O.U. member's state life list total, that is, the sum total of all bird species seen within Minnesota. Deceased members are listed in italics.

Additional birding achievements as well as Minnesota Big Day totals are available at our web site, <http://moumn.org>.

The Roberts Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 85% of the state's 442 bird species in Minnesota

411 Kim R. Eckert	397 Robert L. Ekblad	Bill George, Hap Huber, Gloria Wachtler
410 Anthony X. Hertzelt	396	385
409 Peder H. Svingen	395	384 Ronald L. Huber, <i>Warren E. Nelson</i> ,
408 Robert B. Janssen	394 Paul M. Egeland	David P. Sovereign
407	393	383 Howard Towle
406	392 Don O. Kienholz	382 Steve Millard
405 Bill R. Litkey	391 Jo Blanich, Steve Blanich	381
404	390 David A. Cahlander, John W. Hockema,	380 Robert M. Dunlap, Karol Gresser,
403	<i>Richard Ruhme</i> , Richard Wachtler	Charles Krulas, Craig R. Mandel
402	389 Jerry E. Bonkoski, Kim W. Risen	379
401	388 Dedrick Benz, Jeff J. Stephenson,	378 Douglas P. Johnson, Susan Schumacher
400	Tom A. Tustison	377 Herb H. Dingmann
399 Dennis D. Martin	387	376 John P. Ellis, William C. Marengo,
398 <i>Ray Glassel</i> , Barbara Martin	386 <i>Don A. Bolduc</i> , Ronald A. Erpelding,	Jerry Prueett

The 300 Club

Birders who have seen a minimum of 300 species in Minnesota

374 Mark S. Citsay, Randy S. Frederickson	344 Pete Hoeger, Douglas Mayo,	Steven Midthune
373 Conny M. Brunell, Rick Hoyme	Andrew Nyhus, Warren Woessner	319 Jonas Benson, Roger J. Schroeder,
372 Al A. Bolduc, Philip C. Chu,	343 Chet A. Meyers	Josh Wallestad
Ben W. Fritchman, <i>Oscar L. Johnson</i> ,	342 Brian T. Smith	318 Alexander R. Watson
Mark Junghans, Bill Stjern	341 Brad Abendroth, Warren Wegener	317 Dee Kuder
371 <i>Terry Savaloja</i>	340 John Richardson	316 Joel Dunnette, Deanne Endrizzi,
370 Dick Rengstorf, Bob Williams	339 Erik Collins	Ben A. Wieland
369 <i>Elizabeth Campbell</i> , Jim Egge,	338 Bonnie J. Mulligan	315 Fr. Tom Margevicius, Peter Nichols
J. S. Fitcher, Linda Sparling	337 <i>Ken LaFond</i> , Judith Sparrow	314 Clay Christensen, Clinton Nienhaus,
368 Leslie Marcus, <i>Forest V. Strnad</i>	336 Mark C. Alt, Kevin D. Smith	Michael Steffes
366 Diane M. Anderson, Connie L. Osbeck	335 Colin R. Gjervold, George Lahr	313 Bruce Munson, Tom A. Nelson,
365 <i>David W. Thurston</i>	334 Al Schirmacher	James F. Ryan, Shelley A. Steva,
364 Bruce B. Baer, James L. Otto,	333 Cindy Risen, Raymond Tervo	Dan T. Thimgan
Dick Sandve, Jim Williams	331 Paul L. Johnson,	312 Jason Caddy, <i>Nelvina E. De Kam</i> ,
363 Joel C. Claus, Jim R. Eikenberry,	Robert H. O'Connor	Diana Doyle, Andy Forbes,
Kenneth M. Schumacher	330 Alice Hennessey, Robert E. Holtz	Steven E. Schon
362 <i>Jerry Gresser</i>	Nathan Schirmacher	311 Kathi Berdan, Chris Fagya,
360 <i>Bill Pieper</i>	329 David Johnson	Alex Franzen, Pamela S. Perry
359 Mike Mulligan, Steve J. Roman	328 Earl E. Orf	310 K. Scott Foster, Fred Z. Leshner,
358 David A. Bartkey	327 Shawn Conrad	<i>Theodore Voelker</i>
357 Marjorie Cahlander	326 Elizabeth Bell, Tom Bell,	309 Clara Dahle, Alyssa L. DeRubeis,
356 David R. Benson, Milton J. Blomberg,	Jeanie M. Joppu	Deborah Fellows, Bob Heise,
Janet C. Green, Sparky Stensaas	325 Chad Reins, Gary Simonson,	Mark Otnes, Sandy M. Thimgan
353 Frank Gosiak	Dale A. Yerger	308 Connie M. Norheim
352 Dave Baden, Terry P. Brashear,	323 Linda B. Felker, Janet Majerus,	307 Anthony M. Smith
William R. Bronn, Peter Neubeck	Karl Roe, Larry Sirvio	306 Tom F. Boevers
350 Betsy Beneke	322 Lars Benson, Frank Berdan,	305 <i>Burnett Hoinacki</i>
349 Blaine Seeliger, <i>Nancy A. Jackson</i> ,	<i>Kathy A. Heidel</i> , Gerald Hoekstra,	304 Thomas Malone
James W. Lind	Joel Schmidt	302 Michael J. Majeski, Molly Malecek,
348 Kenneth Oulman	321 Dick Hartman	Alex Sundvall, Keith T. Pulles
345 Craig A. Menze, Roy Zimmerman	320 Renner S. Anderson,	300 Don Starkweather

Notes of Interest



GREATER PRAIRIE-CHICKENS IN PIPESTONE COUNTY — In 2012, the Slayton office of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received photos that were taken sometime in the spring of that year which showed a single male Greater Prairie-Chicken displaying on Pipestone County Road 15 adjacent to the Winter Wildlife Management Area (WMA), just south of the junction with County Road 10. The local farmer who took the photographs mentioned that he thought he had seen a prairie-chicken or grouse in this area sporadically over the last ten years.



This confirmed sighting would constitute the only county record for this species since the early portion of the last century. The maximum extent of the range of Greater Prairie-Chickens in MN was about 1900 (http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/recreation/hunting/prairiechicken/pc_mn_97.pdf). Dr. Roberts in his *Birds of Minnesota* lists a nesting occurrence of Prairie-Chickens in Pipestone County in 1919. The hunting season for prairie-chickens in Minnesota was closed in 1942. The MOU considers this bird as Extirpated from Pipestone County.

On 28 August 2013, Dr. Kent Jensen of South Dakota State University posted a message to MOU-net about a student of his who had reported a booming male in March 2013 and subsequently found a brood in a location that apparently was to the south of where the 2012 photographs had been taken. With this background, there was intense searching for Greater Prairie-Chickens in the area in 2014. Booming was heard in late April by Dr. Greg Hoch from the DNR's Madelia research station in the same location where the 2012 photographs were taken, and he also thought he heard booming near the Altona WMA and at the Hole-in-the-Mountain WMA to the north near the town of Verdi. Bill Schuna, Area Wildlife Manager from Slayton, heard and saw a male displaying on 3 May 2014 on the west side of the Winter WMA, about a mile SW of the location of the pictures. I surveyed the area on 5 May, 2014, but found nothing. Bill again surveyed the area on 11 May, 2014, and heard, but did not see, a bird somewhere near the north side of this WMA.

On 14 April 2015, I surveyed the Winter WMA area again. Listening conditions were not ideal, but one faint boom was heard. I returned on 16 April and again heard sporadic booming with one call spaced 5–10 minutes apart. This low frequency of booming did not allow me to pinpoint the location. On 23 April, with perfect weather forecasts, I returned to the Winter WMA and was able to clearly hear and see one male very actively booming about 200 yards north of the Winter WMA in the NE 1/4 of Section 21, Twp 108 N, Range 46 W (Altona Township). The location where this bird was displaying was about 3/8 mile to the west of the location where the 2012 photographs had been taken.

On 9 April 2016, I was again at the Winter WMA. While listening for booming activity, I observed a Greater Prairie-Chicken flying west to east about a mile southwest of the location of the photographs. No birds were heard but listening conditions were not the best due to wind interference. **John Schladweiler, 111 North Washington Street, New Ulm, MN 56073.**

A NORTHERN GOSHAWK WITH FIVE TOES — On 12 March 2015, Dale Trexel reported a dead Northern Goshawk with an extra toe that he discovered in Mendota Heights, Dakota County. He came upon the remains of the hawk while walking a wooded trail, but was unable to examine it closely at the time. Returning the following day, he examined the specimen more closely which turned out to be a juvenile or second-year Northern Goshawk that apparently had died early in the winter. There were no bands on its legs, but the right foot unexpectedly had an extra digit.





Northern Goshawk foot showing five digits, March 2015, Mendota Heights, Dakota County. Photo by Sharon Stiteler.

Polydactylism is an unusual but not extremely rare occurrence in many animals, including birds. Reports of extra flight feathers, digits, or even limbs can be found throughout the literature, though these events appear to be most common in domesticated fowl. Some of the more unusual examples involving wild birds include a Green-winged Teal with four wings collected in 1914 (Johnson 1915) and a Bobolink with “a horny spur, growing from the thumb tip” on each wing and taken in 1887 (Coale, 1887). While there are several published accounts of raptors with supernumerary digits, this appears to be the first to document the occurrence in a Northern Goshawk.

I retrieved the specimen, and donated it to the collection at the Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul. **Sharon Stiteler, 3142 Lyndale Avenue South #28, Minneapolis, MN 55408.**

Literature Cited

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SUPERNUMERARY REMIGES ON BOTH WINGS OF A RED-TAILED HAWK AND NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL

While banding migrating hawks with my Raptor Ecology students on 26 August 2016, we captured a hatch-year Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) east of Fisher in Polk County. This likely female was captured using a bal chatri trap. During processing, we noticed that she had 11 primary feathers on the right side (Figure 1). After carefully counting the feathers on the right side (several times), we examined the left side and again counted 11 primary feathers (Figure 2). All diurnal raptors normally have ten functional primary feathers on each wing (Newton 1990). An abnormal number, referred to as supernumerary primaries (Stresemann, 1963), has been described in many avian species (Stresemann 1963, Ottosson and Waldenstrom 2002, Cimprich 2008), but only a few reports exist for raptors (Mueller and Berger 1966, Melville 1985, Clark et al. 1988, Nicoletti and Alexander 2006, Driscoll et al. 2015). Although not unknown, documented observations of bilaterally symmetrical supernumerary primaries are extremely rare in raptors (Stresemann 1963, Clark et al. 1988).

In the Clark et al. study, conducted in Eilat, Israel, and Cape May, NJ, from 1984–1986, 10,940 raptors were inspected and none of the 328 Red-tailed Hawks had an extra primary feather. In fall 2014, about 11 miles north of our observation, we captured and banded a hatch-year Red-tailed Hawk with an extra primary feather on the right side (Driscoll et al. 2015). To our knowledge, this was the first Red-tailed Hawk with a supernumerary primary feather documented in the literature.

Clark et al. found that in eight of nine cases (89%), the wing with the extra primary had an extra associated greater primary covert. Driscoll et al. (2015) also found an extra associated greater primary covert that corresponded to each of the 11 primaries on the Red-tailed Hawk observed in 2014. On the 2016 Red-tailed Hawk, we found the usual ten greater primary coverts on each side.



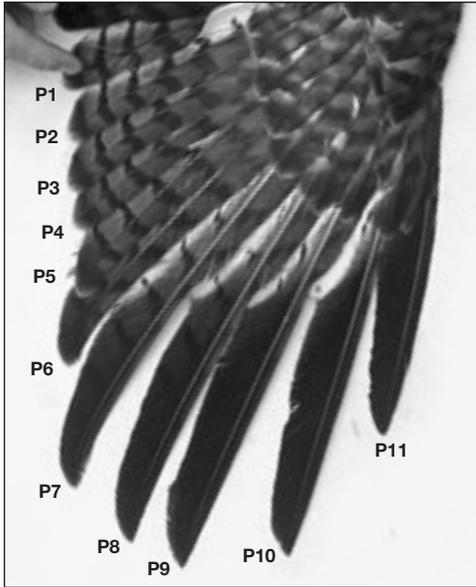


Figure 1. Right wing of Red-tailed Hawk with extra primary, 26 August 2016, Fisher, Polk County. Photo by LaRyssa Nelson.

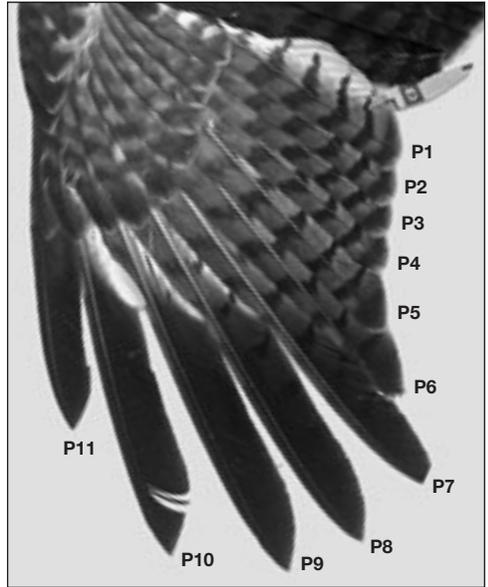


Figure 2. Left wing of Red-tailed Hawk with extra primary, 26 August 2016, Fisher, Polk County. Photo by LaRyssa Nelson.

Both of the supernumerary primaries had normal shape and color and were likely fully functional. Clark et al. reported that the extra primary feather most often occurs between P1 and P4. In our case, it appears that both extra primaries are located between P1 and P4 (Gene Jacobs pers. comm., Linwood Springs Research Station, Stevens Point, WI). As a hatch-year bird, all wing feathers were of uniform age (Pyle 2008), so this was not an example of old feathers being retained while new feathers were growing in adjacent to them.

This developmental abnormality is likely genetically controlled (Pourelis 2011), indicating that the extra feathers originated before the hawk hatched, and it is unlikely that an extra feather on each side would be either a disadvantage (Cimprich 2008), or provide any selective advantage (Clark et al. 1988). Six birds with an abnormal number of rectrices were recaptured and the number of supernumerary feathers persisted after a complete molt (Hanmer 1985). Melville (1985) captured a Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*) in primary molt that had a fully grown extra primary on the right side. Presumably, both supernumerary primaries in this Red-tailed Hawk will be replaced during annual molts and retained throughout its life.

A disproportionate number of extra remiges occurs on the right side (Clark et al. 1988), but the reason for this bias is unclear (Driscoll et al. 2015). Of the 32 raptor species examined in the Clark et al. study, only nine individuals exhibited an extra primary. Six of these nine (67%) were on the right wing, two of nine (22%) were on both wings, and one of nine (11%) was on the left wing. Clark et al. also found eight individuals with extra rectrices. Six of these eight (75%) had supernumeraries on the right side, one of eight (12.5%) was on the left side, and one of eight (12.5%) was on both sides. Nicoletti and Alexander (2006) inspected 349 Boreal Owls (*Aegolius funereus*) in St. Louis County and found a single (0.3%) second-year individual with an extra rectrix on each side. Of 207 owls we captured and banded at Turtle River State Park, ND, in fall 2016, one (0.5%) hatch-year female Northern Saw-whet Owl (*A. acadicus*) also had an extra rectrix on each side (Figure 3). Notably, this owl also had three ivory-colored talons on her right foot instead of the usual black — an interesting combination of a developmental abnormality and leucism.

To our knowledge, this represents the first documented case of supernumerary primary feathers occurring on both wings of a Red-tailed Hawk.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank my Raptor Ecology students, Benjamin Aarsvold, Cierra Amerud, Shane Boehne, Mitch Gebhardt, Ishara Harmon, Ethan Nagel, LaRyssa Nelson, Gabi Patterson, Rylee Peterson, Desariah Santillanez, Lucas Setterholm, Maddy Witt, and Bailey Yliniemi, for their assistance in the field during this observation. I wish to extend my appreciation to Erika Kolbow, Anthony Hertz, and an anonymous reviewer for their contributions in improving this note.

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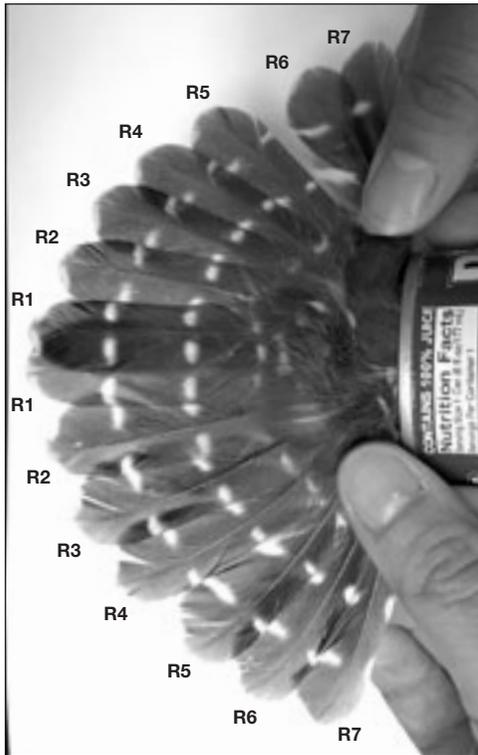


Figure 3. Extra rectrices on a Northern Saw-whet Owl, 3 November 2016, Turtle River State Park, ND. Photo by Erika Kolbow.

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Timothy G. Driscoll, Instructor of Raptor Ecology, University of Minnesota Crookston, Natural Resources Program, 2900 University Avenue, Crookston, MN 56716.

Corrections to *The Loon*

Compiled by Paul E. Budde and Anthony X. Hertzfel

Volume 83

Page 180. **Vesper Sparrow**. Change count for 5/1 record in Stearns to 21.

Volume 87

Page 65. Add **PURPLE SANDPIPER** (*Calidris maritima*) — [1 North] The eighth state record (MOURC #2014-055) was found **11/26** St. Louis (Canal Park) ph. †PHS.

Page 69. Add **BARN OWL** (*Tyto alba*) — [1 South] One report (MOURC #2014-057) 8/1 **Houston** (Perkins Valley) a.t. †KAB.

Page 173. **Eastern Kingbird**. Add Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) as the location of the early south observation on 4/16.

Page 189. Change “Herring Gulls were present in large numbers both at the head of Lake Pepin...” to “Gulls with white heads were present in large numbers both at the head of Lake Pepin....”

Volume 88

Page 51. Change the last sentence of the left hand column to read, “This could be similar to most North American spring and summer records of Fork-tailed Flycatchers (*Tyrannus savana*), which are of the South American subspecies, a long-distance migrant that flies north to winter in the northern part of that continent (Howell et al. 2014).”

Page 65. **American Bittern**. Add Roseau as the location of the late north observations on 9/5–6.

Page 85. Change the date in the left column, fourth line from the bottom from 24 May to 24 June.

Page 103. Add **Bufflehead X Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala albeola* X *B. clangula*) — [1 South] 1/10, 2/15 Wright (Monticello) ph. †KnM.

The following raptor migration table was inadvertently omitted from page 67:

Species	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	2015	1991-2015 Average	Percent from Average	First Date	Last Date	Peak Day	Peak Number
Turkey Vulture	18	575	501	1	1,095	1,302	-16%	20 Aug	7 Nov	9 Oct	135
Osprey	27	206	4	0	237	339	-30%	17 Aug	4 Oct	13 Sep	21
Bald Eagle	230	1,755	1,807	1,879	5,671	3,417	66%	16 Aug	30 Nov	20 Nov	492
Northern Harrier	29	319	191	23	562	514	9%	15 Aug	20 Nov	12 Oct	75
Sharp-shinned Hawk	362	11,923	5,472	55	17,812	15,844	12%	16 Aug	28 Nov	27 Sep	1,052
Cooper's Hawk	23	70	12	0	105	143	-26%	20 Aug	17 Oct	7 Sep	10
Northern Goshawk	2	11	103	37	153	494	-69%	27 Aug	29 Nov	16 Oct	15
Red-shouldered Hawk	0	0	1	0	1	3	-69%	16 Oct	16 Oct	16 Oct	1
Broad-winged Hawk	226	40,529	12	0	40,767	44,972	-9%	15 Aug	13 Oct	19 Sep	16,815
Swainson's Hawk	0	8	0	0	8	7	18%	8 Sep	18 Sep	18 Sep	2
Red-tailed Hawk	46	376	6,302	1,053	7,777	8,005	-3%	15 Aug	29 Nov	17 Oct	898
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	210	377	587	522	13%	7 Oct	29 Nov	1 Nov	63
Golden Eagle	0	0	102	107	209	140	49%	1 Oct	29 Nov	17 Oct	21
American Kestrel	51	1,019	220	0	1,290	1,810	-29%	16 Aug	17 Oct	8 Sep	159
Merlin	36	222	111	4	373	222	68%	22 Aug	28 Nov	8 Sep	41
Peregrine Falcon	0	119	30	0	149	76	96%	1 Sep	20 Oct	27 Sep	17
Mississippi Kite	0	1	0	0	1	1	0%	21 Sep	21 Sep	21 Sep	1
unidentified	1	16	21	0	38						
TOTAL	1,051	57,149	15,099	3,536	76,835	77,833	-1%	15 Aug	30 Nov	19 Sep	17,705

Hawk Ridge fall 2015 summary (main overlook total only).

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Compiled by Anthony X. Hertzelt and David A. Cahlander

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Photo by Anthony X. Hertzelt Front Cover

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Purpose of the M.O.U.

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

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



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

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

Suggestions to Authors

The Loon is a peer-reviewed journal on the birds of Minnesota published quarterly by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. The Editor welcomes submissions of articles, Notes of Interest, and original photographs. All text submissions on paper should be typed, double-spaced, and single-sided. Notes of Interest should be less than two full pages. If possible, please include a digital copy of your submission. Digital documents may be e-mailed to the Editor of *The Loon* — see inside front cover for contact information. Printed photographs should be no smaller than 5" x 7". Digital photographs should be original format, unaltered, and full resolution. 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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