

Minnesota BIRDING

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New MOU Members

Keith Barker, *St. Paul, MN*
Barbara Gee, *Woodbury, MN*
Justin Hill, *Sioux City, IA*
Kristin Holsen, *South St. Paul, MN*
Mike Lehrke, *Clearwater, MN*
Joan Osgood, *St. Paul, MN*

Hey, Minnesota Birders, Go Find a Blue Grosbeak!

by Josh Wallestad

Just like birds themselves, birders have certain, almost reliable habits and habitat preferences at certain times of the year. When August rolls around, most birders will seek out a good mud-flat for some shorebird action. For me, though, preferred birder habitat for August is an overgrown gravel pit.

I explore these areas with the hopes of finding one bird—the Blue Grosbeak.

The Blue Grosbeak and its apparent range expansion fascinate me. I became interested in this range expansion in 2014, when it seemed there were more and more reports of these birds outside their go-to location in Blue Mounds State Park in Rock County. One can actually see the expansion unfold year-by-year by looking at maps of sightings on eBird. The explosion of sightings north and east of Rock County in the last five years is dramatic. This uptick in Blue Grosbeak observations on eBird can partly be attributed to the increased popularity of eBird in Minnesota, as well as the tenacious efforts of birders like Garrett Wee and Doug Kieser. But despite those factors, there is

no denying that Blue Grosbeaks are on the move.

In 2014, I used satellite imagery on Google Maps and eBird to find probable sites in northern Renville County. I was interested in the area because it bordered my home county of Kandiyohi, it was at the northeastern fringes of the Minnesota range for this bird, and because Joel Schmidt and Randy Frederickson saw a family group of Blue Grosbeaks in the area in 2012. Using the satellite photos, I looked for new sites showing gravel pits or any kind of disturbed earth. The success of that endeavor surpassed my expectations. I turned up four Blue Grosbeaks in four separate locations spanning a total of three miles.

Other birders who followed up on my reports added even more Blue Grosbeaks. Not only did it appear the species had extended its range to northern Renville County, it seemed to be thriving there.

2015 was a bit of a disappointing year because I could not find Blue Grosbeaks at any of the sites they'd spread to in 2014. Still, I added one brand new site in Renville County in



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2015, and even more exciting was that Ron Erpelding and Chad Heins found more Blue Grosbeaks north and west of that pocket of birds. This put Blue Grosbeaks within three miles of the southwestern corner of Kandiyohi County.

Even though this year's recheck of the 2015 sites turned up negative, 2016 was a productive year for me for adding new sightings to eBird. In early August, Pete Nichols, Ben Douglas, and I discovered two male Blue Grosbeaks at one of the 2014 Renville sites. Additionally, I was able to relocate a Blue Grosbeak found by Bill Marengo at Gneiss Outcrops SNA in the very southeastern corner of Chippewa County; Ron Erpelding and Herb Dingmann had one at this spot in 2014. A recheck of some old Blue Grosbeak sites in southern Renville County listed in the MOU database proved to still hold this species. To my delight, one of these spots, a gravel pit, held two male Blue Grosbeaks while a third was found on a roadside wire a half mile away.

Finding five Blue Grosbeaks in Renville County and one in Chippewa County this August has re-energized my interest in this bird's range and population expansion. Lately I've started to think that gravel waste sites are not necessarily the only factor in finding this bird. I think proximity to water is also a key element. Thinking back on all the Blue Grosbeaks I've found, there has either been a pond, a drainage ditch, or a stream/river in very close proximity to the birds. The species is often found in riparian areas in the south. I'm even wondering if water has actually been the *cause* of its range expansion. Could the river valleys and streams serve as conduits for its movement?

Consider the stronghold of Rock County where the first Minnesota Blue Grosbeaks were found—the Rock River runs right through it. The Big Sioux River, which runs through Sioux Falls



Blue Grosbeak by Josh Wallestad

(another stronghold for BLGR sightings), is also close. In addition, the Minnesota River Valley (MRV) has seen years of Blue Grosbeak sightings. The pocket of birds I found in 2014 is about 12 miles from the MRV, so now when I look at satellite photos of the landscape I get curious. Did the northern Renville County birds come up from the MRV along the creeks and drainage ditches?

I also wonder to what extent the Minnesota River is playing a role in the expansion of the Blue Grosbeak's range across the entire state. Not long after I published this article as a blog post, Milton Blomberg, John Hockema, and Lance Vrieze investigated a probable site in Big Stone County not too far from the Minnesota River. Incredibly, they discovered an entire family of Blue Grosbeaks. Dan Orr also became curious about Blue Grosbeaks in southwest Swift County after reading my blog post, and he found a pair of Blue Grosbeaks just outside of Appleton. That site, a gravel pit, was also located just a couple miles from the Minnesota River, and it was immediately next to the Pomme de Terre River. The Big Stone County and Swift County sightings that occurred

just two days apart were both county records. How many more Blue Grosbeaks are out there?

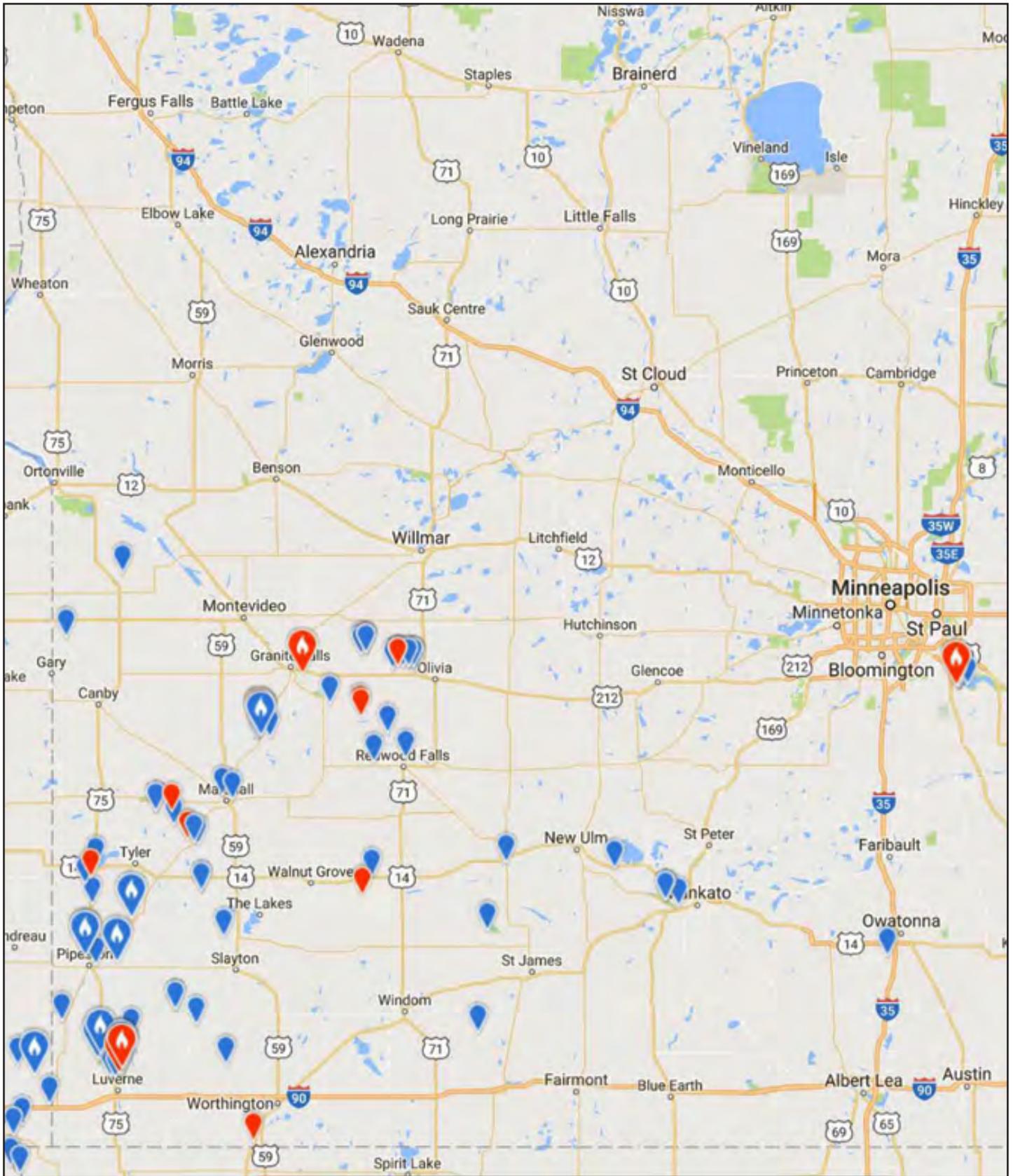
What does all this mean for Minnesota birders?

If you are birding anywhere south and just barely north of the Minnesota River, Blue Grosbeaks should be on your radar as a possibility even if the habitat doesn't have the classic "feel" of being an exposed gravel/waste area. Doug Kieser wrote in one of his eBird reports this summer that he was surprised to find a pair of Blue Grosbeaks while scanning a mowed hay field, of all places. More typical habitats south and barely north of the Minnesota River should be looked over carefully. Anywhere there are municipal brush sites, sewage lagoons, rock outcroppings, landfills, brush-filled drainage ditches and creeks, and—yes—gravel pits, you may just find a brand new Blue Grosbeak.

What is the outlook for Blue Grosbeaks in the future?

Bright. The expansion of the Blue Grosbeak is a well-documented phenomenon that has been occurring throughout the United States for some time. Because this bird seems to favor gravel pits and waste sites, it is one species that possibly has more habitat because of increased construction/industrial activities. These birds are habitat generalists that seem to be thriving around human activity and are popping up in more and more places every year. Keep an eye out because one of those places may be a lot closer to you than you thought.

Josh Wallestad is a high school math teacher who lives in the city of Kandiyohi in Kandiyohi County, where he does most of his birding. Occasionally his peregrinations allow him to bird other parts of the state (mainly St. Louis County) and the country. You can read all about his birding adventures on his blog, www.aboywhocriedheron.com.



Red map pins shown on this eBird map indicate Blue Grosbeak sightings within 30 days prior to August 22, 2016; blue pins represent sightings older than 30 days from the same date.



Red arrows drawn alongside West Fork of Beaver Creek, showing possible expansion route of Blue Grosbeak to where they have been seen in abundance between Danube and Renville.

MOU Calendar



November / December 2016

SAINT PAUL AUDUBON SOCIETY

November 10: Full Life Cycles: Migratory Connections in Birds and Coffee

Details: Join the Saint Paul Audubon Society at the Fairview Community Center from 6:45pm-8pm for a general meeting and presentation free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served before the presentation begins at 7pm. The speaker, Tom Will, works as the Migratory Birds Coordinator with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Midwest Regional Office Migratory Birds staff in Bloomington, MN. He will be presenting on the effects of tropical coffee production on bird migration, tracing the relationship between “migratory” coffee imported to North America, the birds who follow the same migration patterns, and what consumers can do to make a difference.

December 8: Birding and Travel in Senegal, West Africa

Details: The Saint Paul Audubon Society invites you their free, public general meeting from 6:45pm-8pm at the Fairview Community Center. Refreshments will be served before a presentation at 7pm. A member of the Saint Paul Audubon Society for 30 years, Gordon Anderson grew up in Africa and has traveled throughout Ethiopia, Senegal, Rwanda, and Uganda. In his presentation, he shares his knowledge of birding in Senegal and West Africa.

ROBERTS BIRD SANCTUARY

November 12: Friends of Roberts Bird Sanctuary Annual Meeting

Details: Roberts Bird Sanctuary would like to welcome you to the 4th annual Friends of Roberts Bird Sanctuary meeting. A brief board meeting at 12:30pm will recap highlights of the year and elect board members. Sue Leaf, a biographer, will speak at 1pm about sanctuary founder Thomas Sadler Roberts and how he became the father of Minnesota ornithology.

AUDUBON CHAPTER OF MINNEAPOLIS

December 6: Nature Mimicry

Details: Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis will feature Susan Okerstrom’s demonstration on how our human activities improve when we learn from nature—such as when we developed Velcro by studying burdock plants. This presentation will take place at 7pm at Beth El Synagogue and is free and open to the public.

MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER

December 17: Winter Bird Open House

Details: Stop in from 10am-3pm to observe winter birds at our feeders, learn how to use binoculars, and make a pine cone birdfeeder. Compare and contrast our birding field guides and apps. A naturalist will answer nature questions and orient you to the nature center trails. For ages 7 and up with an adult. The program is free and drop-ins are welcome!

December 31: New Year’s Eve Day Nature Chill-Out

Details: Come chill with nature—there’ll be something to do for all ages! Indoor options include gorgeous nature coloring pages, sipping hot cocoa, and a funny scavenger hunt in our indoor exhibits. Outdoor options include a self-guiding trail hike, set up especially for the day, to search for our local yeti and other wildlife. The event will be from 1pm-3pm. Prepay \$5 per person by December 30. To register, go to www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com and click on the Register Online Go button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering.



White-winged Crossbill by Vija Kelly

MINNESOTA BIRDING WEEKENDS & WEEKS

~ <http://MBWbirds.com> ~

MARCH 2017 - FEBRUARY 2018 • OUR 32nd SEASON



Warren Nelson photo

Minnesota Birding Weekends and Weeks (MBW) soon enters its 32nd season offering unique and modestly priced birding trips in association with the MOU. (We originated way back in 1986 under the name MOU Birding Weekends, and MBW participants are still expected to be members of MOU.) The MOU receives a portion of the MBW receipts in return for including the MBW schedule and other updates on the mou-net listserv and in the MOU newsletter.

In all, there have now been 389 MBWeekends, 100 MBWeeks, more than 8,600 total registrations, a composite list of 363 species seen on MBWeekends alone – and a grand total of 703 species (!) including MBWeeks. In addition to MBWeekends, note this season's selection of out-of-state MBWeeks (and be advised that some may even fill up on December 3, the first day of registration!). And note our inexpensive MBWeekends fees are even lower than last year, and MBWeeks are typically less than half the cost of similar tours operated by others.

Please Note – DECEMBER 3, 2016 will be the first day that registrations will be accepted for 2017-18 MBWeekends & MBWeeks. (The confirmation of registrations postmarked before December 3 will be delayed.) Complete descriptions of all MBWs, summaries of previous MBWs, registration information, cost estimates of MBWeeks, and more will be posted on the MBWbirds website (<http://mbwbirds.com>) on December 1 – please read that additional information before registering.

MINNESOTA BIRDING WEEKENDS / WEEKS REGISTRATION

~ Please photocopy this form as needed; MBW registrations may not be postmarked until DECEMBER 3, 2016 ~

NAME(s) _____

E-MAIL _____ *E-mail address required on all registrations*

(Address and telephone not needed if you previously registered for a MBW and contact information has not changed)

U.S. mail address _____

Telephone(s) _____ (home) _____ (cell)

• WEEKEND/WEEK _____ \$ _____ fee/deposit x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Other person(s) included in this registration: _____

• WEEKEND/WEEK _____ \$ _____ fee/deposit x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Other person(s) included in this registration: _____

• WEEKEND/WEEK _____ \$ _____ fee/deposit x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Other person(s) included in this registration: _____

Please make checks payable to **M.B.W.**, and mail to: **MBW,**
c/o Kim R Eckert, 1921 West Kent Rd, Duluth, MN 55812

Total \$ _____

~ March 2017 - January 2018 MBWEEKENDS ~

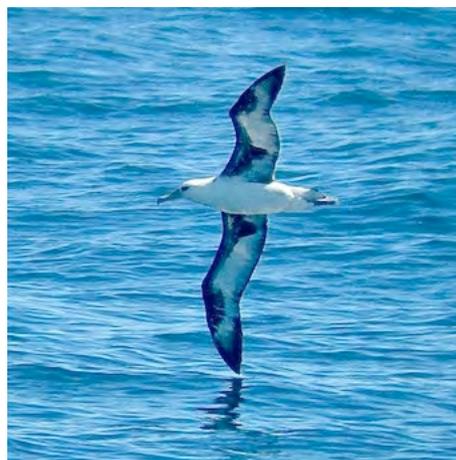
As of December 1, see MBWbirds.com/mbweekends for additional information on each MBWeekend.
Note that future changes in this schedule are possible, and any updates on these will appear on MBWbirds.com.

- March 25 - 26, 2017 ~ Southwestern Minnesota ~ \$40 (Base Worthington)
- April 21 pre-MBW ~ Grant County ~ \$25 (Leader Craig Mandel ~ Base Fergus Falls)
- April 22 - 23, 2017 ~ Rothsay W. M. A., Wilkin County ~ \$40 (Leader Craig Mandel ~ Base Fergus Falls)
 - May 12 pre-MBW ~ Watonwan County ~ \$25 (Base St. James)
- May 13 - 14, 2017 ~ Cottonwood & Murray Counties ~ \$40 (Base Windom)
 - May 26 pre-MBW ~ Fillmore County ~ \$25 (Base Spring Valley)
- May 27 - 28 - 29, 2017 ~ Southeastern Minnesota ~ \$65 (Base La Crosse, WI)
- June 16 - 17 - 18, 2017 ~ Itasca & Koochiching Counties ~ \$65 (Base Grand Rapids / International Falls)
 - July 14 pre-MBW ~ Carlton County ~ \$25 (Leader Craig Mandel ~ Base Moose Lake)
- July 15 - 16, 2017 ~ Aitkin County ~ \$40 (Leader Craig Mandel ~ Base McGregor)
 - August 11 pre-MBW ~ Traverse & Grant Counties ~ \$25 (Base Morris)
- August 12 - 13, 2017 ~ Stevens & Big Stone Counties ~ \$40 (Base Morris)
 - September 1 pre-MBW ~ Lake of the Woods County ~ \$25 (Base Thief River Falls)
- September 2 - 3 - 4, 2017 ~ Northwestern Minnesota ~ \$65 (Base Thief River Falls)
 - October 13 pre-MBW ~ Redwood County ~ \$25 (Base Redwood Falls)
- October 14 - 15, 2017 ~ Lyon & Lincoln Counties ~ \$40 (Base Marshall)
- November 2 - 3, 2017 ~ North Shore I ~ \$40 (Leader Craig Mandel ~ Base Duluth / Grand Marais)
 - November 4 - 5, 2017 ~ North Shore II ~ \$40 (Base Duluth / Grand Marais)
 - January 5 pre-MBW ~ North Shore III ~ \$25 (Base Duluth)
- January 6 - 7, 2018 ~ Winter Duluth ~ \$40 (Base Duluth)

~ March 2017 - February 2018 MBWEEKS ~

As of December 1, see MBWbirds.com/mbweeks for additional information on each MBWeek.
Note that future changes in this schedule are possible, and updates on these will appear on MBWbirds.com.
(E.g., dates may have to be adjusted for some MBWeeks due to limited lodging availability, or to coincide with the schedules of flights, ferries, pelagic trips, etc.)

- MARCH 26 - 30, 2017 ~ PLATTE RIVER & SANDHILL CRANES
\$50 deposit
- APRIL 22 - 30, 2017 ~ SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA I
\$50 deposit
- JULY 2 - 13, 2017 ~ NEWFOUNDLAND & NOVA SCOTIA
\$50 deposit
- SEPTEMBER 9 - 17, 2017 ~ WASHINGTON & BR. COLUMBIA
\$50 deposit
- JANUARY 20 - 28, 2018 ~ SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA II
\$50 deposit
- FEBRUARY 18 - 25, 2018 ~ SOUTH TEXAS
\$50 deposit



Questions? See MBWbirds.com or contact Kim Eckert: 218 349 5953 (cell) ~ eckertkr@gmail.com (e-mail)

Unraveling the Migration Mysteries of the Northern Saw-whet Owl

by Jennifer Vieth

The Northern Saw-whet Owl is one of those boxes on a birder's checklist that often remains annoyingly unchecked. Camouflage artists, these tiny, secretive nocturnal predators eluded birders and scientists for decades. Originally considered rare and resident, even their range was questionable. As recently as 1993, *The Birds of North America: Volume No. 42* had five question marks printed right on the owl's range map!

Far more is known about these tiny owls today, thanks to Mother Nature and partially nocturnal ornithologists. The first clues were in the early 1900s. In one instance, a steamboat crossing Lake Huron reported a "flock" of small owls landing on its deck. In 1906, a severe storm resulted in thousands of dead migrating birds washing up on the shores of the lake. As researchers rushed to document the diversity and number of birds, they found 24 Saw-whet Owls among the deceased.

For the next 50–60 years, banders reported an occasional owl in their pre-sunrise passerine nets. After the introduction of an audio-lure in the 1980s, the mystery deepened. Researchers discovered large numbers of owls *were* actually moving during the autumn. Was it a true migration? How many were out there? Where were they going? In 1994, Project OwlNet was formed to help researchers collaborate to answer questions about owl longevity,

abundance, migration, and conservation.

Today we know Northern Saw-whet Owls migrate in significant numbers, with cyclical peak migration years. Primarily females and hatch-year birds migrate. Similar to Boreal Owls, the males may stay closer to their territories. Most of the migrating birds travel south along the Atlantic Flyway, the Pacific Flyway, around the Great Lakes and down the Ohio River Valley.

To date, researchers have found Saw-whets migrating and wintering as far south as Alabama and Kentucky. Southern researchers display patience and perseverance as they monitor many nights just to encounter one owl. But their nets aren't always quiet—depending on the region, researchers could be visited by flying squirrels or even armadillos!

In his 2015 book, Scott Weidensaul states that "an absence of records should not be assumed to be an absence of owls." That was the case for Carpenter Nature Center. A frequently birded location for 35 years, it was assumed the owls were here...somewhere...but no birder had ever documented one on the 725-acre site.

Not until 2014 and 2015, with help from an MOU grant, did the Carpenter Nature Center team document that Saw-whets were moving through the St. Croix River Valley on chilly October nights. During

that first season, the team was surprised to find that one of the owls in the net already had "jewelry". Previously banded that fall in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, the hatch year owlet traveled more than 843 miles on a southeastern trajectory. An astounding distance for a bird that typically flies only 6.5 miles per night.

There is also strong nationwide evidence of migration route fidelity. In 2015 Carpenter Nature Center re-encountered a hatch year owl originally banded in Lutsen, Minnesota, that same year. This fall, just ten calendar days earlier than the 2015 encounter, the owlet was back at the same Carpenter Nature Center banding station. Owls don't just fly to nature centers. Researchers on the East Coast documented significant owl movements through suburban backyards.

There is still much to learn about this beautiful species. Yet to me, the message that becomes increasingly clear for Saw-whets, and other birds, is that our actions matter. Our personal choices about cats, windows, rodenticides and pesticides impact birds far beyond our state and national borders. Managing your space—whether a yard, a school ground or office park—as a high-quality migratory stop-over makes a difference. Just because you haven't seen Saw-whet Owls passing through your yard doesn't mean they aren't using it and counting on it.

Minnesota Birder Bio: Dedrick Benz



Introduce yourself

44 years old, tucked away in Winona in extreme southeast Minnesota, on the Mississippi River and dangerously close to Wisconsin. Day jobs include repairing brass/woodwind instruments and software development for food co-ops. Crepuscular jobs include giggling on bass and occasional bird guiding.

When did you start birding?

I went on a camping trip in college (UW-Madison) waking up with frost on my sleeping bag. Walked around with a friend who had a field guide—saw one bird (don't know what it was), but the puzzle aspect of ID, flipping through the Peterson guide, had me hooked. Soon after I took Ornithology—as a Russian major who didn't know what a chickadee was, surrounded by Biology folks—I thought I was

“old.” I soon realized that I was lucky to get into birding so young.

How did you originally stumble upon the MOU?

Went to the Bell Museum, and there were a bunch of Winter 1994–1995 *Loon* issues out, presumably (I hope) for the taking. That issue contained some listy stuff, and I knew I was interested. I devoured Eckert's *A Birder's Guide to Minnesota (2nd Edition)*. I am currently honored to serve on MOURC, and am an admin on the Minnesota Birding Facebook page—a huge group—and am pretty proud of how things are going here given what a huge “tent” of birders we are. Lots of learning going on!

Favorite place to bird in Minnesota?

I love being in extreme southeast Minnesota—Winona, Wabasha, and

Houston counties are my passion—and sometimes I wish more people birded along this chunk of the Mississippi River. But I also enjoy a little anonymity. Early trips mostly focused on Duluth and the North Shore, which I still love, but county listing has opened my eyes to every nook, cranny, county park, and sewage pond in the state.

Any advice on how to be a better birder?

Bird alone. Bird with people. Follow up on every tricky ID with field guides and online resources. Stay humble. Early on, make a species list every time you go out, starting at page one and going to the end—you will quickly learn your way around your field guide. Play with eBird and the MOU database. Follow through on any dorky quizzes, map drawing, or any other silly tasks you can come up with for yourself. If it's fun, you'll be motivated, and you'll be surprised how many fun ways there are to learn.

Any other interests or hobbies when you're not birding?

Music. Sometimes the hobbies clash, as playing a bar gig until the wee hours, then getting up for birding can be rough!

Is there a place you love to bird outside Minnesota?

Favorite U.S. spot is probably Southeast Arizona. I've had amazing trips to Costa Rica and Southeast Asia (Burma, Cambodia, Thailand). It'd be nice to do a little more world birding, but if I approach it like Minnesota counties, I'd go broke!

Have you ever had a funny experience while birding?

Every time. And sometimes they don't even involve misidentifications, or going to the wrong “Minnesota lake” for Common Gallinule.

MOU Paper Session Registration



Saturday, December 3rd 2016 • 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota
10 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

At the corner of Church Street and University Avenue

REGISTRATION \$5. ⁰⁰ by mail with this form \$6. ⁰⁰ at the door	LUNCH Add \$12. ⁰⁰ for each Includes sandwich, potato chips, fruit, cookie, and soda (<i>circle drink choice</i>): Coke Diet Coke Fresca Sprite Root Beer Water	DONATIONS <i>The MOU General Fund helps finance all MOU projects and publications</i> <i>The Savaloja Grants help finance bird-related research and education in Minnesota</i>
--	--	---

Name	<input type="checkbox"/> None (<i>no charge</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Smoked Turkey Sandwich w/ lettuce tomato, and swiss cheese on wheat <input type="checkbox"/> Ham Sandwich w/ lettuce, tomato, and swiss cheese on wheat <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Vegetables and Cheese on wheat <input type="checkbox"/> Gluten-free Option: any of the above with gluten-free bread and cookie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Fund \$ _____ • Savaloja Grant \$ _____ • Membership/Renewal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Life (\$500) <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (\$75) <input type="checkbox"/> Family (\$35) <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$25) <input type="checkbox"/> Under 17 years (\$17)
Phone		
eMail		
Mailing Address		

Additional Registrations — if more registrant lines are needed, attach to this form; additional forms are available at <http://moumn.org>

Name	Lunch	Donations \$ _____ Membership \$ _____
Name	Lunch	Donations \$ _____ Membership \$ _____
Name	Lunch	Donations \$ _____ Membership \$ _____
Name	Lunch	Donations \$ _____ Membership \$ _____
SUBTOTALS \$ _____		\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (*sum of registration, lunch, and donations*) \$ _____

Make check payable to the MOU. Send this form and check by November 25th 2016 to:

Robert Dunlap
943 Bayless Avenue #1
St. Paul MN 55114



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The Mission of the M.O.U.

We foster the study and conservation of birds by amateurs and professionals. We promote the conservation of birds and their natural habitats. We support these aims primarily by publishing and sharing information, by serving as a repository for records, by conducting field trips, by awarding grants for research, and by supporting programs that educate members and the public about birds.

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Grants: grants@moumn.org

Youth Mentorship: mentorship@moumn.org

All other MOU functions: mou@moumn.org

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|---|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (under 18) | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign (including Canada) | U.S. \$35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$75.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life, single | \$500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life, joint | \$700.00 |

Send to: Cindy Smith, MOU Membership Secretary
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Hastings MN 55033-9354

Please make a contribution to the Savaloja Grants

The Savaloja Grants supports research and other projects selected by the MOU for special attention. Your contributions help fund a better future for birds in Minnesota. You can add a contribution to your membership check.

Amount: \$ _____