
SOUTH DAKOTA Ornithologists' Union



Scarlet Tanager
Lincoln County 6/18/2015
Photo: Kelly Prebeida

S O U T H  D A K O T A
B I R D N O T E S

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES, the official publication of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, is sent to all members whose dues are paid for the current year. Life membership: \$400; Family Life membership (one subscription to *Bird Notes*): \$500; Sustaining membership: \$40; Regular membership: \$20; Family membership (one household; one subscription to *SD Bird Notes*): \$25; Junior/Student membership: \$10; Library Subscription: \$30. Single and back copies: Members, \$5; non-members, \$6. Manuscripts for publication and change of address notices should be sent to the editor, Douglas Chapman, by e-mail: sfbirdclub@sio.midco.net or mailed to 3108 S. Holly Ave., Sioux Falls, SD, 57105. All dues, contributions, and orders for back copies should be sent to the SDOU Treasurer: Rosemary Draeger, 2520 E. Whisper Trail, Sioux Falls, SD, 57108. **SDOU website: www.sdou.org**.

©2013 South Dakota Ornithologists' Union. All Rights Reserved.

Editor..... Douglas E. Chapman, Sioux Falls
 Youth Birding Editor..... Jason Thiele, Cassville, WI
 Seasonal Reports Editor Jeffrey S. Palmer, Madison
 Book Reviews..... Dan A. Tallman, Northfield, MN
 Birding Areas (Hot Spots)..... Ricky D. Olson, Ft. Pierre
 Associate Editors/Proofreaders: Bill Draeger, Sioux Falls
 Nancy Drilling, Rapid City
 Linda Johnson, Sioux Falls

Vol. 65

SEPTEMBER 2013

NO. 3

SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
 Officers 2012 - 2013

President Nancy Drilling Rapid City, SD
 Vice President Ricky D. Olson..... PO BOX 622, Fort Pierre, SD 57532
 Secretary David Swanson USD, Vermillion, SD 57069
 Treasurer Rosemary Draeger 2520 E. Whisper Trail, Sioux Falls, SD 57108
 Editor Douglas E. Chapman 3108 S. Holly Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57105
 Librarian..... Jeffrey S. Palmer DSU, Madison, SD 57042

Elected Directors

For Term expiring 2013: Douglas Chapman, Sioux Falls; Marie Curtin, Custer; Nancy Drilling, Rapid City; Gene K. Hess, Rapid City; and Mark Schmidtbauer, Sioux Falls.
 For Term expiring 2014: Jennifer Fowler, Rapid City; Kent Jensen, Brookings; Ron Mabie, Pickstown; Duane Weber, Custer; and Mick Zerr, Sioux Falls.
 For Term expiring 2015: Bill Bossman, Pierre; Roger Dietrich, Yankton; Linda Johnson, Sioux Falls; Ricky Olson, Ft. Pierre; and Mark Otnes, Fargo, ND.

Past President Directors

Jocelyn L. Baker, Addison Ball, L.M. Baylor, Gilbert Blankespoor, Rosemary Draeger, Ken Graupmann, Bruce Harris, Nelda Holden, Todd M. Jensen, Jeffrey S. Palmer, Rex Riis, Robb Schenck, David Swanson, Dan A. Tallman, J. David Williams.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF SDOU:

Membership Committee: Bob Bork, Linda Johnson (chair), Mark Schmidtbauer.
Nathaniel R. Whitney, Jr. Memorial Research Grants: Todd M. Jensen (chair), Linda Johnson, Duane Weber.
Rare Bird Records: Todd M. Jensen, Ricky D. Olson, Jeffrey S. Palmer, David Swanson (chair), J. David Williams.
Scholarships and Awards: Jocelyn L. Baker (chair), Nelda Holden, Galen Steffen.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

This summer, the fourth annual *State of the Birds* report was published (www.stateofthebirds.org). These reports examine the status of birds in the United States and identify high-priority conservation solutions. This year's report focuses on private lands and their essential role to the conservation of our birds. Private lands are used by virtually all of the terrestrial bird species of the United States. Many privately owned working lands that produce a bounty of food, timber, and other resources for society also provide valuable habitat for birds. This topic is especially relevant to conservation of South Dakota's birds – while about 60% of the land area of the U.S. is privately owned, more than 90% of South Dakota is under private ownership.



The report notes that wetland and grassland birds are particularly reliant on private lands. Prairie Pothole wetlands typically are small wetlands within larger expanses of grass. These wetlands provide breeding habitat for dozens of waterbirds species; the eastern Dakotas have supported more than 10 million breeding dabbling ducks in recent years. More than half of the original wetlands in the U.S. have disappeared; three-quarters of the remaining wetlands in the country are on private lands. Thus our wetland birds are dependent on the private landowners who are stewards of these habitats. In turn, the prairie wetland system provides benefits to society such as flood mitigation, improved water quality, and economic benefits of hunting. Federal programs such as those in the Farm Bill, "Duck" Stamps, and the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, play an important role by providing economic incentives to landowners to protect wetland habitat.

Grassland bird populations are decreasing at an alarming rate. Privately-owned grasslands are vital to 29 breeding obligate grassland bird species across the U.S. Habitat requirements vary by species; some require short grasses with heavy disturbance; others require undisturbed, thick patches of taller grasses. Ranchers can manipulate livestock grazing so that some areas are grazed intensely while other areas are lightly grazed or untouched. This variable grazing creates diverse grasslands that are also a more beneficial food resource for livestock. Management that both meets the economic bottom line for agriculture and promotes healthy wildlife habitat is essential for sustaining grassland bird populations. The report notes that grassland birds benefit the most of any bird group from Private Lands programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program.

At a time when we are hearing so much depressing news about the conversion of prairies to corn fields, drainage of wetlands, paving over our forests, etc., this report shows that many voluntary conservation efforts by private landowners are resulting in meaningful bird conservation results. The final piece of the puzzle is monitoring bird populations to ensure that "common species stay common". By tracking changes in bird populations and their habitats, landowners and managers can adapt to the changing landscape and continue to provide income and protect habitat.

Nancy Drilling

BOOK REVIEW

DAN TALLMAN

HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD, Special Volume: New Species and Global Index. J. del Hoyo, A. Elliot, J. Sargatal, and D. Christie, Eds. (2013). Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. Cloth, \$278.29. (www.hbw.com.) 894 pp.

The *Handbook of the Birds of the World* is an awesome, encyclopedic 16-volume series. Almost all of the volumes have been reviewed in *South Dakota Bird Notes*. Just published is a special 17th volume, containing an index to the previous books. The usefulness of an index should be fairly obvious, especially one with references of scientific names and common names in English, French, German, and Spanish. The whole series is currently offered by the publisher for a 20% discount, or about \$3,700.00 (depending on the strength of the dollar). This price may well seem exorbitant, but works out to 30 cents a page—not bad for a book full of stunning photographs, color illustrations and text covering all the birds of the world. This price is comparable to smaller books covering only single bird families. Installment plans and free shipping are offered by the publisher, Lynx Edicions (<http://www.lynxeds.com/catalog/hbw>), along with samples of the format and contents of the books. Note that not all volumes are readily available through other sources like Amazon.com.

Why might someone who does not own this series be interested in this 182-page, \$200 index? This book is not like any other I have ever seen.

This volume contains a center section of 200 stunning photos obtained from the best bird photographers of the world. I have never seen such amazing images. For example, a black and white wagtail feeding in a shallow puddle and looking at its mirror image; an Australian White Ibis in flight with its wings outstretched, the bird's head silhouetted behind the feathers of the wing; a Pelagic Cormorant swimming under water among thousands of fleeing fish.

This book describes 69 new bird species discovered during the series' publication (from 1992 to 2011). These descriptions contain text, distribution maps, photos, and gorgeous color illustrations, much in the format of previous volumes. The book branches out into the unexpected, covering fifteen Amazonian birds never before scientifically named or described. Suddenly the reader enters the world of taxonomic ornithology!

Most birders are aware that avian taxonomy is in a constant state of change. DNA and molecular biology are revolutionizing how we classify birds. This supplemental volume to the handbook includes a long essay on avian classification and how it has evolved in the last twenty years. Another essay discusses where new birds are being found. Most are of limited range in areas of the world that are difficult to explore.

A forward by BirdLife International discusses the history of that august conservation organization, and may be of less interest to the casual reader than are the scientific and artistic sections of the book.

The shortcomings of the whole series are few and far between. There are few or no illustrations of eggs. Domestic birds, for better or worse, are omitted. The series, having been published in Spain, has an Old World bias to common names (e.g., Brown Creepers are called American Treecreepers—but creepers can be successfully found in the index). Texts describing the bird families of the world tend to be poorly referenced. Overall, however, the series is mind-boggling in its coverage. If you cannot afford the price—the books have been described (by an internet reviewer) as “the world’s most expensive Christmas gift”—consider recommending it to your local or college library.

Another option exists for those of you not wedded to the printed page. The publishers have digitized the whole series, calling it “*The Handbook of the Birds of the World—ALIVE*” This website will be constantly updated as new ornithological discoveries are made via vetted “wikicontributions.” It includes videos. By the publisher’s count, that adds up to 15 million words, 20,617 illustrations and photographs, 10,200 maps and about 100,000 bibliographical references. The cost for on-line access is 29.95 Euros (about \$40 per year), plus a 20 Euro registration fee. Ordering, which can be difficult to find on the publisher’s website, can be accomplished at <http://www.hbw.com/pricing>. Compared with the high price per volume of the hard copies, and the ease of Internet searching, the option of this digital subscription seems to me to be worth the expense.

BIRDING HOTSPOTS IN SD

Summer of 2013 Birds of Note

RICKY D. OLSON

It seems without any reporting birders doing a state big year, that the number of rare or accidental bird sightings has drastically dropped from last year.

June

However, in June, Doug Backlund found a **Laughing Gull** on Legion Cabin beach in Pierre. Kelly Preheim reported a singing **Pacific Wren** in its known breeding area, Ward Draw in Lawrence County.

July

During July, Kelly Preheim and Scott Stolz reported a **Neotropic Cormorant** at Torrey Lake in Brule County. It was suspected they bred there in 2012.

With continuing reports of **Lesser Goldfinch** coming to feeders in Rapid City, there appears to be some range expansion from the Hot Springs area occurring.

August

The first week of August Randy Podoll discovered an **Anna’s Hummingbird** in his yard in Sturgis. Once approved by the Rare Bird Records Committee it would be only the second state record. Rosemary Draeger reported a juvenile **Yellow-crowned Night Heron** in her Sioux Falls backyard. A possible **Red Phalarope** was discovered by Kelly Preheim at Torrey Lake on August 21.

It is now fall migration time. It appears that some baitfish are finally coming through Oahe Dam again. So it might be a good gull fall. If the fall warbler migration is even half as good as the spring was, it should be a productive season for migration observing.

BOOK REVIEW

DOUGLAS CHAPMAN

THE WARBLER GUIDE. Tom Stephenson, S. Whittle. (2013). Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ. Flexibound. \$29.95. 560 pp. eReader edition available at several online booksellers for ca. \$16.00.

Warblers were one of my first joys in birding as a young boy, especially watching Yellow Warblers singing in the poplars that bordered our yard. So when I opened this book and was met with heart-stopping photos, I admit that I was excited. Next, while paging through the book, I could not believe the fascinating section on "Eastern Undertails" and "Western Undertails". It was difficult to put down.

The book is certainly complete. Few books in any discipline are as complete as this book: documenting everything known about the warblers of the United States and Canada. From a mind-boggling number of photos of each species in every conceivable position and plumage, to a spectacular array of photos depicting similar birds (wrens, sparrows, towhees) this volume is well thought out and cogent. There is a chip identification guide, a full chart on measurements, and includes a warbler "Quiz and Review". The "Habitat and Behavior" section is especially good. There is even a chapter showing warblers in flight. It would be difficult to find a topic herein concerning warbler identification that has not been well thought out and well researched.

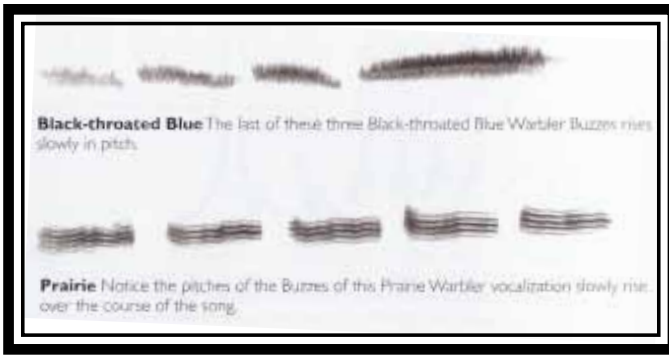
However, as well researched and complete as the identification sections are, the range maps do leave something to be desired. For up-to-date range maps, one still must look to the *National Geographic Guide to North American Birds, 5th Edition* (2006), or even the older *Sibley Guide to Birds* (2000). For just a few examples: the South Dakota population of breeding Virginia's Warbler discovered in the late 1990s is not shown in *The Warbler Guide*, nor is "Audubon's" Yellow-rumped Warbler shown as a breeding species in the Black Hills, where it is a common bird in summer. The breeding Cerulean Warbler in Southeastern South Dakota is also not indicated. All of these appear in the range maps of the two other mentioned guides. No out of range vagrant "dots" are shown, either. In this very complete guide, a sense of where vagrant warblers are to be found would be helpful. Thirteen years ago, the ground-breaking Sibley guide featured dots.

One great map feature is that the authors do include separate fall and spring maps for those species which have differing seasonal migration routes. There are also maps showing discernible subspecies of several warblers. There are graphs showing early, middle, and late migration density for many species. Thus it is perplexing why the *range* maps are not nearly as complete. When posted on the SDOU website, the electronic version of this issue of *SD Bird Notes* will include clickable opportunities to experience the maps discussed here and to hear examples of sonograms as well.

The range maps aside, this volume is a spectacular achievement and a great addition to avian knowledge. The eReader edition is also a boon. Of course, with the song heard with merely a click, sonograms are made a bit obsolete. A CD is also available. For \$5.99 one is able to hear the sounds, presented in order as they are found in the book as sonograms. This begs the question: "Why not just skip the paper volume and play the sound right from the eReader version of the book?"

I grew up with the *Golden Guide to the Birds of America*. I am aware (now) of the shortcomings people speak of, especially regarding the early editions. However, I will defend the Golden Guide strongly as a first guide for young birders. There are many good features for the beginning birder.

Topping the list would be the use of sonograms. Sonograms are a much better way of depicting bird song than other attempts, excepting audio recording. Until I was thrown



Sonograms for Black-throated Blue Warbler and Prairie Warbler

in with other birders, I was unaware that other field guides just strung together buzzy sounding letters in odd syllabifications and multiple vowels. The visual representation of bird song is far superior to the rather silly Lewis Carrollisms which result: such as "zeer-puk treeeeee chido chido kreet-kreet-kreet-kreet trrrrrr or tseeta tseeta tseeta tseeta ...with many variations". All I

can ever think is: "I still need to hear the bird."

Anyone, non-musician or musical neophyte, can understand sonograms better than trying to "hear" while reading *preeeszzzz--wuup*. If the notes go up, the sounds go up; if the notes head lower and lower, so does the sound. Thus, while the book features extensive explanations for nearly all aspects of a bird's life, none are covered better than vocalizations.

Another benefit which sonograms provide is the readily visible small differences in trills and buzzes (which often are just very fast trills). Many warbler species have buzzy or trilled songs. Chip calls are also covered in detail by short sonograms.

I also applaud the decision to list species alphabetically. As taxonomy is always going to change (at least lately), it will be helpful in the future to find species quickly. There is a section on warbler taxonomy for those who need this information. It is valid for the publication date.

Another disappointment, and something that may ruffle feathers in the avian communities in other areas of the world, is the title itself: *The Warbler Guide*. Because the authors then proceed to ignore over 50% of the world's warbler species! Asia, Australia, Africa, Europe and South America are home to dozens of warbler species, from the huge Eurasian family of Old World warblers (Blyth's Leaf-Warbler) to the many warblers of Australasia (White-throated Gerygone) and Africa's many warblers (Victorin's Scrub Warbler). No Central/South American species are included either. The Mexican endemic Red Warbler and the Pink-headed Warbler of Mexico and Guatemala are both stunning birds. Brazil's Riverbank Warbler is but one of many Amazonian warbler species. The book should properly be titled *The Warbler Guide: Canada and the United States of America*.

The book is too large to be an "In-the-Field" field guide. But the eReader version is a great accompaniment in a backpack.

The quiz and review are good ones: informative and a good teaching tool (not just an "I gotcha!").

Both Yellow-breasted Chat and Olive Warbler are given individual sections as "non-New World warblers", the latter now pretty universally accepted as a relict accentor, and assigned to its own monotypic family. The authors seem to be expecting the chat to be removed from the New World warblers as well.

For anyone who loves birds—but especially for the lovers of the little jewels that are North American warblers—this book is a must have.

FLEDGLING TRACTS

JASON THIELE

My Top 10 South Dakota Birding Experiences

By the time this issue of *SD Bird Notes* gets to readers, I will have been gone from South Dakota for almost exactly one year, after enjoying nearly three years studying, working, and birding in the state. A recent online article on eBird profiled the birds and birders of South Dakota, and it got me thinking of all the fond memories I have of birding in South Dakota. I decided to share my “Top 10” South Dakota birding experiences. I think this list conveys just a few of the reasons why South Dakota is among the best (and certainly one of the most underrated) states to bird in the US. I hope it gets you thinking about your own birding experiences in the state. Or maybe entices you to take a young birder out to experience some of them.

10. Seeing my first Long-billed Curlew chicks

The Long-billed Curlew is my second-favorite bird (if you don't know my favorite, I'll get to it later in the list), but I had never seen a youngster until the summer of 2010. I was on the Buffalo Gap National Grasslands looking for my favorite bird, when I heard a curlew calling. Looking out the window of my truck, I saw an adult male and an adult female Long-billed Curlew circling anxiously above me. I was certain that there had to be young curlews very close, so I stopped the truck and turned off the engine. A moment later, I saw four long-legged fuzzballs running along the trail about 30 yards in front of me. I opened the door of the truck and stepped out with my binoculars for a better look. Three of the chicks immediately disappeared into the grass, but the fourth one got tripped up on a plant and rolled onto its back, giving me a few seconds to get a really good look. I was just fascinated at how much different the chick looked from its parents, particularly the bill, which was short and straight, rather than long and curved. Of course, it would take a very large egg to contain an adult-sized bill (and a Long-billed Curlew egg is quite large anyway), but it is still a wonder what a transformation their bills go through in a very short time. The difference between the bills of chicks and adults is so dramatic that I have shown pictures that I took of this particular chick and its parents to people, and they often do not believe me that they are the same species.

9. Experiencing waterfowl migration in the Prairie Pothole Region

Although I knew that South Dakota was a major migration stopover ground for waterfowl and a critical breeding area for many species, I was not particularly enthusiastic about waterfowl before I moved to South Dakota. However, since I left, the waterfowl migration is one of the things that I miss the most. Truly, the waterfowl migration alone it is reason enough for me to come back and bird in South Dakota. Unfortunately far too many of the wetlands and associated grasslands that these birds need are being lost. I hope the trend turns around so that many others can enjoy the thousands of ducks and geese for generations to come.

8. Giving a field ID exam for the South Dakota State University ornithology class

During my final semester at SDSU, I was given a great opportunity to teach one of the lab sections of Dr. Jensen's ornithology class. By far the best day of the semester came during

the final week, when we gave the students their final identification exam. Unlike earlier in the semester, when the students' bird identification skills were tested via photos on a Powerpoint slideshow, this exam took place in the field, where they would have to identify live birds that could hide behind leaves or fly away before every field mark could be seen. Students were very nervous about this test, and it showed during review sessions and even on the bus as we drove to various sites to look for birds.

However, once we got going with the exam, I was delighted to see that many of the students actually started to enjoy the experience. They started looking for birds instead of just waiting for me to locate them. And they were actually appreciating the birds that they were seeing. One of the birds that really got a lot of my students excited was a first-of-the-year Green Heron that I spotted lurking on a fallen log at Oakwood Lakes State Park. Perhaps they were excited just because they knew what it was—every student identified it correctly—but I do think that they were really just in awe of what a striking bird they were seeing. I am also proud to say that one of my students managed to correctly identify every single bird that I pointed out for the exam, and believe me, I tried my best to stump him—a distant Palm Warbler in bad light, a high-flying Broad-winged Hawk, and a couple of shorebird species were all correctly identified. And many other students also did extremely well. It was a very rewarding day, and I hope at least some of these students go on to become avid birders.

7. My first time at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge

This is my most recent South Dakota birding memory. Near the end of last summer, as I was getting ready to move to Wisconsin for a new job, I decided to visit Sand Lake for the first time. I wasn't able to stay for long, but it was a very successful trip. Many birds were seen, but I was most impressed by the sheer number and variety of shorebirds that I was able to see in just a short amount of time. On the whole, shorebirds are probably my favorite group of birds (though my favorite bird is not a shorebird—stay tuned). Yes, they can be somewhat difficult to identify, especially in the fall and especially when you are birding without a spotting scope, as I was at the time, but I actually think the challenge adds to their appeal. It forces you to observe them very closely, and I find them great fun to watch. I especially like comparing all of the different feeding behaviors, from the “picking” of a Semipalmated Plover to the “sewing machine probing” of a Long-billed Dowitcher. The intra- and interspecific encounters between shorebirds can also be amusing, as sometimes they can be pretty territorial even during migration. On this particular day at Sand Lake, I was in shorebird paradise.

6. Spending a summer in Hyde and Hand counties

Last summer I worked for the United States Geological Survey Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center on a study of the effects of wind energy development on grassland birds. My assigned study sites were in Hyde and Hand counties in central South Dakota. I was excited about this opportunity because these are not particularly well-birded counties, and I personally had not previously spent much time at all in either county.

I was doing bird and vegetation surveys for the better part of each day, but I spent virtually all of my free time birding. One of my favorite haunts was Collins Slough, located south of Ree Heights in Hand County. If you haven't visited this site, make it a point to get there

someday. Common birds included Western and Eared Grebes, White-faced Ibises, Black Terns, Marbled Godwits, a variety of ducks, and many more. A Nelson's Sparrow also spent the summer there last year.

Maybe the best part of last summer was the fact that the other person on my crew, Garrett, was also a very serious birder—and one of the most skilled that I've met. Garrett was in the middle of what he called a “poor man's Big Year.” He was working a number of temporary jobs around the country and adding to his year list whenever he could. Last summer was the first time I'd spent a significant amount of time birding with another person. It was great to have an extra set of eyes and ears (especially eyes and ears as sharp as Garrett's), and the opportunities to discuss birds in the field were priceless, as it allowed us to learn a lot from each other.

5. The Snowy Owl irruption of 2011-2012

I was practically salivating as I read the reports coming over the sd-birds listserv about the multiple Snowy Owls that were present in the Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge area during the winter of 2011-12. I was extremely busy with teaching and coursework and couldn't find any time to get down there until I went home for Christmas. The refuge was about an hour's drive out of the way, but I had to try to find my first Snowy Owl. I was not disappointed, as I found several Snowies in short order; it was really almost *too* easy. I spent a long time just “gawking” at each owl—there are few creatures that are so impressive.

4. Seeing my “lifer” American Dipper

Prior to the summer of 2013, I had never been birding in the Black Hills. I decided to take a three-day weekend in July to look for some of the Black Hills “specialties,” several of which would be life birds for me. At the top of this list was the American Dipper. I had only seen them in pictures and on TV, and I really wanted to see one in the wild. I knew they occurred along Spearfish Creek—I wasn't exactly sure where, but I knew that I was going to take some time to look. I decided to spend my second night in the Hills at the Spearfish city campground, and on my way there, I passed by Roughlock Falls, which looked promising based on what I had read about dippers. There were a lot of people in the area that afternoon, but I figured that I could beat the crowds if I went back at first light. I was correct. No one was around when I parked at the trailhead, and I could tell immediately that it was going to be a very “birdy” morning. I took the singing Veery (perhaps one of the most beautiful sounds in the world) that I heard right away as a good omen. And after about 30 minutes, I managed to locate a pair of American Dippers. Based on their behavior, I was quite certain I was near a nest, so I left the area to avoid disturbing them further and found a good observation point further down the trail. I never did confirm that there was a nest, but I did get to see the underwater foraging of one of these birds, which is what I really came for.

3. Observing kleptoparasitism by a Golden Eagle

I won't dwell on this story since I have previously shared it in *SD Bird Notes* (see “Bird Buccaneers” in the September 2012 issue), but without a doubt, watching a Golden Eagle make a high-speed dive from high in the sky to steal a prairie dog from a Ferruginous

Hawk is one of the most spectacular things I have ever witnessed.

2. My first day of field work for my Master's degree

In 2009, I accepted a graduate position at SDSU. I was going to be researching the Burrowing Owl, a species that I had seen before in Nebraska, but not one that I “knew” particularly well. Of course, that would change quickly as I dug into the literature and increased my knowledge of its life history. Still, I didn't know exactly what to expect during my first field season in 2010. I had no sense of where I might find Burrowing Owls or how many I would find. Would I have to spend hours and hours just to find a breeding location? As the spring semester drew to a close, I was itching to get out into the field, but my teaching obligations kept me near campus. Finally, within a couple hours of giving my students their final exam, I loaded up my field vehicle and headed west.

My first day of Burrowing Owl surveys started off very slowly. I visited three prairie dog towns, thoroughly scanning each with a spotting scope. I used call playback to try to elicit a response from a male owl that might have a territory in the area. I came up empty each time. At the fourth dog town, it was looking as if I would strike out again as my standardized survey time came to a close. But, then, after I turned off the recording, I heard a Burrowing Owl calling in the distance. I couldn't see it, but I had located my first owl-occupied dog town! Over the course of the day I found multiple pairs of Burrowing Owls getting ready for the upcoming breeding season, and I got to see many of the amusing behaviors that I had been reading about for months, such as territory defense, breeding displays, and hunting. After one day in the field, the Burrowing Owl became my favorite bird, and western South Dakota one of my favorite places in the world.

1. The Fall 2010 SDOU meeting

At the top of the list, I have to put my very first SDOU meeting. Both of my advisors recommended that I present some of the preliminary results of my Burrowing Owl research at the fall meeting in Vermillion. I wasn't quite sure that I was ready to present anything yet, but I decided to send in an abstract for a talk.

My presentation went OK (I think), and I was very pleased to be speaking to a group of people who were genuinely interested in what I was doing and who had good questions to ask. However, I was more struck by how welcoming everyone was to the new person in their midst. This meeting was the only the second time that I had been in a large group of birders, and it was such a positive experience that I knew right away SDOU was an organization where I belonged. In fact, had it not been for the reception by the SDOU members at that meeting, you would not even be reading this article.

Still, the highlight of the weekend was the field trip to Spirit Mound Prairie, where dozens and dozens of LeConte's Sparrows, arguably the most beautiful of the sparrows were staging. (I say “arguably” because if you say otherwise, I'll argue with you). I probably saw more of these in that one trip than I've seen in all the rest of my birding adventures put together. It was really quite a spectacle, and it was wonderful to be around others who also appreciated these birds.

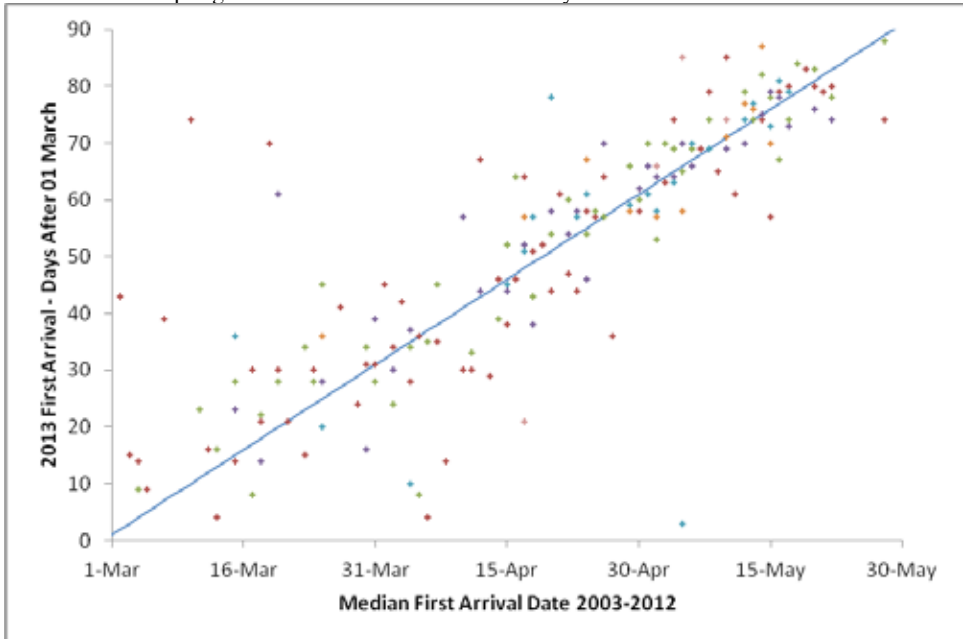
SEASONAL REPORTS

The 2013 Spring Season
Compiled By: Jeffrey S. Palmer
01 March 2013 to 31 May 2013

College of Arts & Sciences
Dakota State University
Madison, SD 57042

There were 323 species, including 11 rarities, reported during the season. The ten-year (2003-2012) average is 323. Below, I have tried to highlight the more significant sightings (dates that are among the earliest/latest included in the online database and species that are out of range). For early/late migration dates, I have listed the three earliest/latest dates (by county); however, if these did not include a sighting East River, West River, and along the Missouri River, I have given the earliest/latest reported date in the missing region also. Finally, included at the end is a list of species (21) that were not reported this year and might be expected during the Spring Season. A species is placed on the list if it was not reported this year but had been reported during spring in at least 2 of the previous 5 years. Numbers in parentheses indicates the number of consecutive years (up to 4) that the species has appeared on the list during the season.

For species with early dates given in this report, the graph below shows the first arrival date reported during the current season (days after 01 March) versus the median first arrival date over the previous ten years (2003-2012). Data points above the line represent species whose earliest reported first arrival this spring was later than the 10-year median and points below the line correspond to species with first arrival spring dates that were earlier than the 10-year median.



Greater White-fronted Goose Early: 03 Mar Charles Mix KP; 09 Mar Lake JSP; 10 Mar Stanley RDO; 24 Mar Bennett ND ... Late: 27 Apr Brown GO; 26 Apr Grant BJU; 25 Apr Edmunds GO; 13 Apr Union BFH; 31 Mar Tripp RDO

Snow Goose Early: 03 Mar Charles Mix KP; 07 Mar Douglas KP; 09 Mar Lake JSP; 17 May Pennington JLB, LB

Ross's Goose Early: 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Mar Gregory RM; 15 Mar Minnehaha CA ... Late: 12 May Brown GO, BP; 27 Apr Clay DS; 26 Apr Minnehaha RSL

Cackling Goose Late: 25 Apr Charles Mix KP; 23 Apr Marshall GO; 23 Apr Grant and Deuel BJU

Trumpeter Swan reported 04 Mar Charles Mix RM; 14 Mar Meade EEM; 31 Mar Grant BJU; 09 Apr Brown BP

Tundra Swan All Reports: 30 Mar Brookings and Deuel BJU; 31 Mar Grant BJU; 05 Apr Grant BJU; 06 Apr Grant BJU

Wood Duck Early: 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 08 Mar Douglas KP; 11 Mar Hughes DB

Gadwall Early: 03 Mar Charles Mix KP; 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 08 Mar Hughes DB; 09 Mar Lake JSP

American Wigeon Early: 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 08 Mar Hughes DB; 11 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 11 Mar Stanley DB; 15 Mar Douglas KP; 15 Mar Minnehaha CA

American Black Duck All Reports: 14 Mar Grant BJU; 24 Mar Hughes RDO; 31 Mar Grant BJU; 09 Apr Day BP

Blue-winged Teal Early: 14 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 15 Mar Douglas KP; 16 Mar Lake JSP; 21 Mar Pennington JLB

Cinnamon Teal Early: 30 Mar Charles Mix RM; 20 Apr Pennington JLB; 21 Apr Perkins ND; 26 Apr Grant BJU

Northern Shoveler Early: 14 Mar Grant BJU; 15 Mar Charles Mix RM; 16 Mar Hughes CA, KP, RDO; 16 Mar Lake JSP; 23 Mar Pennington JLB; 23 Mar Tripp ND

Northern Pintail Early: 03 Mar Charles Mix RM; 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 10 Mar Stanley RDO; 14 Mar Grant BJU

Green-winged Teal Early: 08 Mar Hughes DB; 11 Mar Stanley DB; 14 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 14 Mar Grant BJU; 16 Mar Jones CA

Canvasback Early: 09 Mar Lake JSP; 14 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 16 Mar Jones and Lyman CA

Redhead Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 02 Mar Hughes RDO; 04 Mar Gregory RM; 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 09 Mar Lake JSP

Ring-necked Duck Early: 02 Mar Hughes RDO; 04 Mar Charles Mix and Gregory RM; 09 Mar Lake JSP; 16 Mar Jones CA

Greater Scaup Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 02 Mar Hughes RDO; 04 Mar Gregory RM; 29 Mar Brookings SS; 31 Mar Tripp RDO ... Late: 23 Apr Deuel BJU; 20 Apr Hughes KM; 16 Apr Grant BJU

Lesser Scaup Early: 03 Mar Charles Mix KP; 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 05 Mar Hughes RDO; 09 Mar Lake JSP

Long-tailed Duck All Reports: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 04 Mar Charles Mix RM; 08 Apr Spink BP

Bufflehead Early: 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 12 Mar Charles Mix RM; 16 Mar Brule KP; 16 Mar Hughes and Jones CA; 29 Mar Brookings BJU, SS; 29 Mar Davison, Kingsbury, and Miner SS; 29 Mar Douglas KP ... Late: 15 May Yankton RND; 14 May Roberts MO; 13 May Pennington CLG; 13 May Marshall MO; 13 May Deuel and Codington BJU

Common Goldeneye Late: 23 May Grant BJU; 09 May Pennington JLB; 08 May Day BP; 28 Apr Stanley KM

Hooded Merganser Early: 04 Mar Charles Mix RM; 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 14 Mar Grant BJU ... Late: 27 May Edmunds BP; 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 19 May Potter ND, KP; 20 Apr Pennington JLB

Common Merganser Confirmed Breeding: **31 May Fall River (PY) DS, JSP** ... Late: 27 May Pennington CLG; 26 May Charles Mix RM; 18 May Dewey MS; 09 May Grant BJU

Red-breasted Merganser Early: 02 Mar Hughes RDO; 14 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 16 Mar Lyman and Stanley CA; 29 Mar Brookings SS; 21 Apr Perkins ND ... Late: 09 May Grant BJU; 08 May Day BP; 08 May Charles Mix RM; 06 May Shannon ND

Ruddy Duck Early: 09 Mar Lake JSP; 11 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 16 Mar Lyman CA; 31 Mar Tripp RDO

Northern Bobwhite Only Report: 06 May Tripp ND

Common Loon Early: 30 Mar Gregory RM; 30 Mar Hughes DB; 05 Apr Grant BJU; 21 Apr Meade ND ... Late: 26 May Pennington JLB; 26 May Day BJU; 23 May Charles Mix RM

Pied-billed Grebe Early: 28 Mar Charles Mix RM; 29 Mar Brookings BJU, SS; 29 Mar Davison SS; 31 Mar Meade JLB; 31 Mar Tripp RDO

Horned Grebe Early: 30 Mar Butte RSL; 30 Mar Charles Mix KP; 30 Mar Hughes DB; 31 Mar Grant BJU ... Late: 18 May Walworth RND; 18 May Potter RSL, DS, JSP; 17 May Brule RM; 13 May Deuel and Codington BJU; 25 Apr Pennington JLB

Red-necked Grebe Early: 16 Apr Grant BJU; 24 Apr Hughes DB; 26 Apr Edmunds GO

Eared Grebe Early: 31 Mar Meade JLB; 01 Apr Charles Mix KP; 01 Apr Pennington CLG; 03 Apr Douglas KP

Western Grebe Early: 04 Apr Hughes DB, KM; 04 Apr Stanley RDO; 05 Apr Grant BJU; 20 Apr Pennington JLB

Clark's Grebe Early: **13 Apr Custer ND; 13 Apr Hughes DB**; 25 Apr Charles Mix KP; 26 Apr Grant BJU

American White Pelican Early: 28 Mar Charles Mix KP; 28 Mar Hughes DB; 29 Mar Brookings and Kingsbury SS; 31 Mar Pennington ND; 31 Mar Tripp RDO

Double-crested Cormorant Early: 21 Mar Stanley RDO; 28 Mar Charles Mix KP; 29 Mar Brookings and Kingsbury SS; 29 Mar Hughes DB, KM; 31 Mar Meade JLB

American Bittern Early: 23 Apr Deuel BJU; 04 May Charles Mix RM; 05 May Stanley KM; 06 May Bennett ND

Least Bittern All Reports: 13 May Deuel and Grant BJU; 26 May Day BJU; 27 May Brown BJU

Great Blue Heron Early: 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 21 Mar Charles Mix KP; 23 Mar Walworth RDO; 29 Mar Brookings BJU; 29 Mar Davison SS

Great Egret Early: 31 Mar Clay DS; 04 Apr Stanley DB, RDO; 06 Apr Lake JSP

Snowy Egret Early: 20 Apr Lake JSP; 21 Apr Stanley KM; 04 May Charles Mix RM; 04 May Marshall BK

Little Blue Heron All Reports: 26 Apr Grant BJU; 17 May Kingsbury CA

Cattle Egret Early: 03 May Stanley DB; 04 May Charles Mix RDO, RM; 05 May Grant BJU

Green Heron Early: 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 15 May Grant BJU; 15 May Yankton RND

Black-crowned Night-Heron Early: 12 Apr Hughes KM; 17 Apr Stanley KM; 19 Apr Charles Mix KP; 19 Apr Pennington JLB; 20 Apr Douglas KP; 20 Apr Lake JSP

Glossy Ibis Early: 18 May Brown BK; 18 May Potter CA, GO, KP, RDO; 18 May Walworth CA, LB, RDO, RSL

White-faced Ibis Early: 15 Apr Brown BP; 16 Apr Hughes DB; 20 Apr Hanson KP; 20 Apr Lake JSP; 20 Apr Stanley DB; 06 May Shannon ND

Turkey Vulture Early: 28 Mar Charles Mix RM; 30 Mar Brookings BJU; 30 Mar Pennington RSL

Osprey Early: 11 Apr Lawrence EK; 13 Apr Custer ND; 13 Apr Gregory RM; 13 Apr Pennington JLB; 27 Apr Lincoln JSP

Bald Eagle reported 20 Mar Charles Mix (147) KP

Northern Harrier Early: 03 Mar Charles Mix KP; 12 Mar Hughes DB; 15 Mar Douglas KP; 15 Mar Spink BK; 20 Mar Haakon ND

Sharp-shinned Hawk Late: 02 May Day GO; 27 Apr Minnehaha JSP; 23 Apr Marshall GO; 20 Apr Stanley DB

Cooper's Hawk Confirmed Breeding: 20 Apr Edmunds (NB) JDW

Northern Goshawk Late: 18 Apr Hughes DB; 29 Mar Brookings BJU; 23 Mar Brown GO

Broad-winged Hawk Early: 26 Apr Lake JSP; 27 Apr Lincoln JSP; 27 Apr Union DS; 28 Apr Harding DB ... Late: 27 May Meade ND; 27 May Edmunds GO; 26 May Harding DB; 26 May Brookings DS; 20 May Union GJS

Swainson's Hawk Early: 28 Mar Charles Mix RM; 08 Apr Brown GO; 12 Apr Day GO; 21 Apr Pennington JLB

Ferruginous Hawk Early: 06 Mar Harding CEM; 15 Mar Fall River ND; 16 Mar Stanley KP; 28 Mar Brown BJU

Rough-legged Hawk Late: 27 Apr Edmunds GO; 23 Apr Marshall GO; 22 Apr Pennington MMM; 13 Apr Charles Mix KP

Golden Eagle Late: 17 May McPherson CA; 28 Mar Day BJU; 23 Mar Potter ND

American Kestrel Confirmed Breeding: 15 May Custer (ON) ND

Merlin Late: 14 May Brown GO; 11 May Harding CEM; 07 May Marshall GO; 04 May Charles Mix RM, RSL

Peregrine Falcon Early: 14 Apr Stanley KM; 16 Apr Grant BJU; 19 Apr Brule DB; 19 Apr Charles Mix KP; 21 Apr Custer MMM ... Late: 26 May Pennington JLB; 19 May Deuel BJU; 16 May Potter RDO

Prairie Falcon Late: 24 May Charles Mix RM; 28 Mar Grant BJU; 17 Mar Hughes RSL

Virginia Rail Early: 23 Apr Deuel BJU; 09 May Grant BJU; 13 May Codington BJU; 16 May Sully RDO

Sora Early: 03 May Grant BJU; 10 May Pennington JLB; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 13 May Stanley RDO

Common Gallinule Only Report: **27 May Brown BJU**

American Coot Early: 04 Mar Pennington CLG; 12 Mar Gregory RM; 14 Mar Charles Mix RM; 14 Mar Grant BJU

Sandhill Crane Early: 21 Mar Charles Mix KP; 28 Mar Day BJU; 28 Mar Douglas KP; 29 Mar Meade EEM ... Late: 17 May Walworth MO; 08 May Hughes EDS; 06 May Tripp ND; 29 Apr Grant BP

Whooping Crane Only Report: 13 Apr Charles Mix RM

Black-bellied Plover Early: **27 Apr Pennington JLB**; 06 May Sully KM; 11 May Harding CEM; 13 May Deuel and Grant BJU ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 20 May Clay GJS; 12 May Harding KM

American Golden-Plover Early: 03 May Grant BJU; 04 May McCook JSP; 12 May Harding ND; 15 May Clay DS ... Late: 19 May Edmunds GO; 18 May Potter CA; 17 May Spink CA

Semipalmated Plover Early: 21 Apr Charles Mix RM; 30 Apr Douglas KP; 03 May Grant BJU; 11 May Harding CEM ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 19 May Pennington JLB; 18 May Potter KP, CA

Piping Plover Early: 30 Apr Hughes KM, RDO; 13 May Codington BJU; 15 May Stanley KM

Killdeer Early: 09 Mar Hughes DB, RDO; 14 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 15 Mar Custer MMM; 15 Mar Douglas KP; 15 Mar Minnehaha CA

Black-necked Stilt Early: 04 May Charles Mix RM; 18 May Walworth CA, GO, KP, RDO; 26 May Marshall BJU

American Avocet Early: **14 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM**; **31 Mar Grant BJU**; 13 Apr Bon Homme RM; 21 Apr Pennington ND; 21 Apr Perkins ND

Spotted Sandpiper Early: **05 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 21 Apr Gregory RM; 27 Apr Perkins ND; 01 May Day BP

Solitary Sandpiper Early: 26 Apr Grant BJU; 27 Apr Perkins ND; 28 Apr Stanley KM ... Late: 21 May Lawrence ND; 19 May Grant BJU; 18 May Walworth RND; 18 May Potter RSL, DS, JSP

Greater Yellowlegs Early: **15 Mar Douglas KP**; 28 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 29 Mar Brookings BJU, SS; 29 Mar Davison, Kingsbury, and Miner SS; 31 Mar Tripp RDO ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 23 May Bon Homme KP; 19 May Grant and Deuel BJU; 14 May Pennington LB

Willet Early: 20 Apr Lake JSP; 21 Apr Stanley KM; 25 Apr Charles Mix KP, RM; 30 Apr Meade ND

Lesser Yellowlegs Early: 24 Mar Bennett ND; 28 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 29 Mar Douglas KP ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Tripp RDO; 26 May Pennington JLB; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 26 May Charles Mix RM

Upland Sandpiper Early: 27 Apr Lincoln JSP; 28 Apr Brown GO; 28 Apr Custer MMM; 04 May Charles Mix RSL, RM

Whimbrel All Reports: 17 May Harding CEM; 26 May Brown BJU

Long-billed Curlew Early: 03 Apr Custer MMM; 07 Apr Pennington RSL; 28 Apr Harding ND; 08 May Charles Mix RM

Hudsonian Godwit Early: **07 Apr Hanson CA**; **08 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 13 Apr Union BFH ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 26 May Charles Mix RM

Marbled Godwit Early: **30 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 05 Apr Douglas and Hutchinson KP; 21 Apr Perkins ND

Ruddy Turnstone Early: 13 May Brown MO; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 15 May Union BFH ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 18 May Walworth RND; 18 May Potter RSL, KP, GO, CA

Red Knot All Reports: 19 May Potter ND; **27 May Brown BJU**

Sanderling Early: 09 May Grant BJU; 11 May Harding CEM; 12 May Hughes RDO ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Tripp RDO; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 19 May Potter RDO, ND, KP

Semipalmated Sandpiper Early: **07 Apr Hanson CA**; 20 Apr Stanley DB; 22 Apr Charles Mix RM; 06 May Todd ND ... Late: 31 May Hutchinson and Douglas KP; 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Tripp RDO; 26 May Pennington JLB; 19 May Potter KP

Least Sandpiper Early: 13 Apr Fall River ND; 21 Apr Perkins ND; 21 Apr Stanley DB; 26 Apr Grant BJU ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Tripp RDO; 26 May Pennington JLB; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 18 May Walworth RND, CA; 18 May Potter KP, GO, CA

White-rumped Sandpiper Early: 04 May Charles Mix RSL, RM; 06 May Bennett and Todd ND; 09 May Grant BJU

Baird's Sandpiper Early: 28 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 29 Mar Douglas KP; 30 Mar Brule RM; 31 Mar Tripp RDO ... Late: 26 May Marshall BJU; 21 May Meade ND; 19 May Pennington JLB; 19 May Deuel BJU; 18 May Walworth RND; 18 May Potter RSL, CA; 18 May Dewey ND, MS

Pectoral Sandpiper Early: 28 Mar Charles Mix RM; 30 Mar Brule RM; 30 Mar Douglas KP; 21 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Pennington JLB; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 18 May Walworth RND, LB, CA; 18 May Potter RSL, CA

Dunlin Early: 21 Apr Gregory RM; 27 Apr Brown BK, GO; 03 May Grant BJU; 06 May Todd ND ... Late: 28 May Douglas KP; 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 18 May Walworth RND, GO; 18 May Potter KP, GO, CA

Stilt Sandpiper Early: **22 Apr Hughes DB**; 04 May Brule RDO; 06 May Bennett ND; 09 May Douglas KP; 09 May Grant BJU ... Late: 31 May Douglas KP; 28 May Hutchinson KP; 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Tripp RDO; 26 May Pennington JLB; 19 May Potter ND, KP

Buff-breasted Sandpiper All Reports: **13 May Deuel and Grant BJU**

Short-billed Dowitcher Early: 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 05 May Grant BJU; 06 May Bennett ND ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 18 May Walworth RND; 15 May Pennington ND

Long-billed Dowitcher Early: **29 Mar Douglas KP**; 30 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 05 Apr Hutchinson KP; 07 Apr Pennington RSL ... Late: **26 May Pennington JLB**; 19 May Potter KP; 18 May Walworth RND, RSL, RDO, CA; 17 May McPherson CA

Wilson's Snipe Early: 15 Mar Fall River ND; 30 Mar Brookings BJU; 31 Mar Grant BJU; 08 Apr Charles Mix RM

American Woodcock Early: 28 Mar Day BJU; 04 Apr Lincoln CA; 05 Apr Clay RND

Wilson's Phalarope Early: 15 Apr Hughes KM; 18 Apr Lake JSP; 22 Apr Day BP; 22 Apr Stanley DB; 27 Apr Perkins ND

Red-necked Phalarope Early: 13 May Brown MO; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 13 May Union DS; 19 May Pennington JLB ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 26 May Harding ND; 18 May Walworth RND; 18 May Potter RSL

Bonaparte's Gull Early: 20 Mar Hughes KM; 29 Mar Brookings and Miner SS; 13 Apr Fall River ND ... Late: 17 May Walworth MO; 13 May Marshall MO; 13 May Codington BJU

Franklin's Gull Early: 08 Mar Douglas KP; 08 Mar Hughes DB; 11 Mar Charles Mix KP; 11 Mar Gregory RM; 15 Apr Meade ND

Ring-billed Gull Early: 08 Mar Hughes DB; 14 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 14 Mar Grant BJU; 17 Mar Jones RSL

California Gull Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 02 Mar Hughes RDO; 27 Mar Butte JLB; 28 Mar Day BJU

Herring Gull Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix; 02 Mar Hughes RDO; 14 Mar Grant BJU; 31 Mar Tripp RDO ... Late: 26 May Marshall and Day BJU; 14 May Roberts MO; 23 Apr Stanley RDO

Thayer's Gull Only Report: **14 Apr Hughes RDO**

Iceland Gull Late: **04 Apr Hughes RDO, DB**

Glaucous Gull Only Report: 13 Apr Lake JSP

Least Tern Only Report: 23 May Bon Homme KP

Caspian Tern Early: 21 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Hughes KM; 28 Apr Stanley RDO; 09 May Grant BJU ... Late: 28 May Marshall GO; 28 May Day BP; 23 May Grant BJU; 09 May Stanley RDO

Black Tern Early: 08 May Day BP; 08 May Hutchinson KP; 09 May Bon Homme RM; 09 May Douglas KP; 09 May Grant BJU; 14 May Pennington LB

Common Tern Early: 23 Apr Yankton KP; 26 Apr Grant BJU; 02 May Stanley DB; 26 May Perkins ND

Forster's Tern Early: 13 Apr Charles Mix RM; 24 Apr Hughes DB, RDO; 26 Apr Grant BJU; 26 Apr Yankton GJS; 27 Apr Pennington JLB

Eurasian Collared-Dove Confirmed Breeding: 12 Mar Hughes (NE) CH; 30 Mar Hughes (ON) RDO

Mourning Dove Early: 09 Mar Hughes DB; 14 Mar Charles Mix RM; 17 Mar Lake JSP; 24 Mar Jackson ND

Yellow-billed Cuckoo All Reports: 23 May Grant BJU; 23 May Marshall MO; 27 May Brown BJU; 28 May Stanley DB

Black-billed Cuckoo All Reports: 19 May Grant BJU; 23 May Lake JSP; 26 May Day BJU; 27 May Brown BJU; 27 May Stanley KM

Snowy Owl All Reports: 23 Mar McPherson GO; 28 Mar Grant BJU

Burrowing Owl Early: 03 Apr Custer MMM; 13 Apr Fall River ND; 21 Apr Hughes DB

Barred Owl Only Report: 09 May Grant BJU

Northern Saw-whet Owl All Reports: 01 Mar Hughes KM; 04 Mar Sully KM; 10 Mar Harding CEM; 14 Mar Harding CEM

Common Nighthawk Early: 13 May Codington BJU; 18 May Brown BK; 18 May Clay GJS; 24 May Custer MMM

Common Poorwill All Reports: 24 May Harding ND; 25 May Harding CEM

Whip-poor-will All Reports: 03 May Charles Mix RM; 04 May Charles Mix RM; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 13 May Deuel BJU

Chimney Swift Early: 26 Apr Douglas KP; 29 Apr Hughes EDS; 30 Apr Lake JSP; 14 May Pennington LB

White-throated Swift Early: 29 Apr Harding DB; 29 Apr Pennington CLG; 25 May Fall River JLB

Ruby-throated Hummingbird Early: 08 May Charles Mix RM; 11 May Lincoln AH; 13 May Codington BJU; 13 May Lake JSP

Belted Kingfisher Early: 15 Mar Fall River ND; 16 Mar Lawrence SW; 25 Mar Hughes DB; 30 Mar Lake JSP

Lewis's Woodpecker Only Report: 31 May Fall River DS, JSP

Red-headed Woodpecker Early: 01 Mar Meade EEM; 30 Apr Clay DS; 06 May Tripp ND; 10 May Brookings JSP

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Early: 14 Apr Lake JSP; 16 Apr Grant BJU; 27 Apr Lincoln JSP; 04 May Charles Mix RM

Red-naped Sapsucker Early: 15 Apr Pennington CLG; 17 Apr Lawrence SW; 10 May Custer ND

American Three-toed Woodpecker Only Report: 13 May Pennington LB

Black-backed Woodpecker All Reports: 22 Mar Lawrence SW; 27 Mar Lawrence SW; 29 Mar Lawrence SW; 31 May Custer DS, JSP

Northern Flicker Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Mar Pennington RSL; 02 Mar Lake JSP; 02 Mar Stanley RDO

Pileated Woodpecker All Reports: 14 Mar Grant BJU; 05 Apr Grant BJU; 16 Apr Grant BJU; 03 May Grant BJU; 23 May Grant BJU

Olive-sided Flycatcher Early: 18 May Union KM; 18 May Walworth MOBS; 19 May Grant BJU; 25 May Harding CEM ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Pennington MMM; 26 May Day BJU; 19 May Walworth RDO, DS, JSP

Western Wood-Pewee Early: 21 May Pennington RSL; 25 May Harding DB; 31 May Fall River DS, JSP

Eastern Wood-Pewee Early: 18 May Walworth RND; 20 May Marshall DS, JSP; 20 May Union GJS

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher Early: 19 May Grant BJU; 21 May Douglas KP; 23 May Gregory KP ... Late: 29 May Stanley RDO; 28 May Douglas KP; 27 May Charles Mix KP; 27 May Brown BJU

Alder Flycatcher Early: 18 May Walworth LB, RND; 26 May Brookings DS; 26 May Day, Grant, and Marshall BJU ... Late: 31 May Hutchinson KP; 30 May Minnehaha KP; 30 May Hughes RDO

Willow Flycatcher Early: 18 May Walworth LB, RSL; 19 May Dewey RSL; 22 May Edmunds GO; 22 May Pennington OCW

Least Flycatcher Early: 09 May Brown BP, GO; 09 May Grant BJU; 10 May Douglas KP; 10 May Hughes EDS; 11 May Custer ND

Dusky Flycatcher Only Report: 12 May Pennington LB

Eastern Phoebe Early: 03 Apr Charles Mix RM; 04 Apr Gregory RM; 05 Apr Clay RND; 05 Apr Grant BJU; 13 Apr Fall River ND

Say's Phoebe Early: 03 Apr Charles Mix RM; 06 Apr Gregory KP; 07 Apr Custer MMM; 07 Apr Pennington RSL

Great Crested Flycatcher Early: 08 May Union DS; 17 May Charles Mix RM; 17 May Dewey ND; 17 May Walworth MO; 18 May Brown BK; 26 May Pennington MMM

Western Kingbird Early: 05 May Grant BJU; 08 May Pennington JLB; 09 May Douglas KP; 10 May Hughes EDS

Eastern Kingbird Early: 03 May Grant BJU; 08 May Hutchinson KP; 11 May Harding CEM, KM; 13 May Lyman MO; 13 May Yankton RND

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher All Reports: **17-19 May Dewey ND, MS, RSL**

Loggerhead Shrike Early: 24 Mar Bennett and Tripp ND; 05 Apr Custer MMM; 08 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Grant BJU

Northern Shrike Late: **20 Apr Union DS**; 01 Apr Brown GO, BP; 31 Mar Tripp RDO; 31 Mar Hughes DB

Bell's Vireo All Reports: 14 May Pennington LB; 17 May Brown BK; 18 May Dewey ND; 23 May Lake JSP; 28 May Pennington JLB

Yellow-throated Vireo Early: 13 May Union DS; 15 May Minnehaha CA; 16 May Marshall MO

Plumbeous Vireo Only Report: 31 May Custer DS, JSP

Blue-headed Vireo Early: 05 May Deuel BJU; 08 May Union DB; 09 May Grant BJU ... Late: **26 May Brown BP**; 24 May Lake JSP; 23 May Marshall MO; 23 May Grant BJU; 20 May Walworth DS, JSP; 20 May Hughes RDO

Warbling Vireo Early: 09 May Grant BJU; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 13 May Clay GJS; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 13 May Lake JSP; 13 May Union DS; 13 May Yankton RND; 14 May Custer ND

Philadelphia Vireo Early: **06 May Lincoln AH**; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 17 May Walworth GO ... Late: 28 May Union DS; 28 May Stanley KM, DB; 28 May Hughes DB; 27 May Edmunds GO, BP

Red-eyed Vireo Early: 13 May Douglas KP; 13 May Yankton RND; 14 May Union DS, DB; 21 May Pennington ND

Gray Jay All Reports: 08 Mar Lawrence SW; 04 May Pennington JLB

Pinyon Jay All Reports: 07 Mar Meade AKB; 10 Mar Butte ND; 15 Mar Fall River ND; 15 Mar Meade AKB; 01 Apr Meade AKB; 11 Apr Meade AKB

Clark's Nutcracker Confirmed Breeding: **03 Mar Custer (NB) ND** ... also reported 15 Mar Pennington JLB

Purple Martin Early: 14 Apr Douglas KP; 22 Apr Hughes DB; 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 03 May Grant BJU

Tree Swallow Early: 30 Mar Charles Mix KP; 06 Apr Lake JSP; 13 Apr Hughes KM; 27 Apr Pennington JLB

Violet-green Swallow Early: 27 Apr Meade JLB; 13 May Custer ND; 17 May Lawrence SW

Northern Rough-winged Swallow Early: 26 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Grant BJU; 29 Apr Harding DB; 29 Apr Pennington CLG

Bank Swallow Early: 30 Apr Clay DS; 02 May Day GO; 03 May Grant BJU

Cliff Swallow Early: 27 Apr Edmunds BK, GO; 03 May Grant BJU; 04 May Charles Mix RM; 04 May Stanley DB; 06 May Todd ND

Barn Swallow Early: **08 Apr Minnehaha RDO**; 26 Apr Grant BJU; 27 Apr Brown GO; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 27 Apr Clay DS; 27 Apr Douglas KP; 27 Apr Edmunds BK; 27 Apr Lincoln AH; 28 Apr Custer RSL

Red-breasted Nuthatch Late: 23 May Lake JSP; 22 May Brown GO; 21 May Hughes EDS

Pygmy Nuthatch Only Report: 31 Mar Pennington RSL

Brown Creeper Late: 08 May Charles Mix RM; 04 May Edmunds BK; 02 May Lake JSP; 02 May Day GO

Rock Wren Early: 27 Apr Harding DB; 03 May Pennington JLB; 04 May Stanley DB

Canyon Wren All Reports: 28 Mar Lawrence SW; 28 Apr Custer RSL; 10 May Pennington JLB; 13 May Custer ND

House Wren Early: 27 Apr Lincoln JSP; 28 Apr Charles Mix KP; 01 May Clay GJS; 03 May Pennington JLB

Winter Wren Early: 05 Apr Grant BJU; 07 Apr Brown GO; 27 Apr Lincoln JSP; 07 May Union DB ... Late: 15 May Clay GJS; 09 May Douglas KP; 05 May Deuel BJU

Sedge Wren Early: **27 Apr Clay DS**; 05 May Grant BJU; 11 May Union DB

Marsh Wren Early: 08 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Hughes KM; 27 Apr Clay DS; 29 Apr Pennington CLG; 03 May Grant BJU

American Dipper Confirmed Breeding: 31 Mar Lawrence (ON) ND; 08 May Lawrence (NY) ND; 19 May Lawrence (FY) SW

Golden-crowned Kinglet Late: 08 May Union DS; 08 May Charles Mix RM; 06 May Edmunds GO; 06 May Day BP

Ruby-crowned Kinglet Early: 08 Apr Hughes KM; 12 Apr Clay GJS; 13 Apr Charles Mix KP; 13 Apr Pennington JLB; 13 Apr Stanley KM; 14 Apr Minnehaha MS ... Late: 26 May Brookings DS; 20 May Union GJS; 19 May Grant BJU; 19 May Edmunds and Brown GO

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Early: 27 Apr Lincoln JSP; 27 Apr Union DS; 02 May Day GO; 14 May Pennington LB

Eastern Bluebird Early: 08 Mar Hughes DB; 11 Mar Stanley DB; 14 Mar Charles Mix KP; 28 Mar Day BJU; 31 Mar Tripp RDO

Mountain Bluebird Early: 11 Mar Meade EEM; 15 Mar Fall River ND; 15 Mar Lawrence JLB; 15 Mar Pennington RSL; 15 Mar Stanley DB; 26 Apr McCook RSL

Townsend's Solitaire Late: 29 Apr Stanley KM; 12 Apr Hughes DB; 28 Mar Day BJU

Veery All Reports: 09 May Stanley KM; 13 May Deuel BJU; 21 May Stanley KM; 22 May Edmunds GO, MO; 26 May Clay DS

Gray-cheeked Thrush Early: 02 May Day GO; 06 May Brown GO; 09 May Grant BJU; 09 May Stanley RDO ... Late: 27 May Stanley RDO; 27 May Lake JSP; 26 May Clay DS

Swainson's Thrush Early: 28 Apr Custer RSL; 02 May Marshall GO; 03 May Hughes DB

Hermit Thrush Early: 06 Apr Gregory KP; 07 Apr Brown GO; 11 Apr Clay GJS; 21 Apr Perkins ND ... Late: 10 May Lake JSP; 09 May Grant BJU; 08 May Union DS; 28 Apr Custer RSL

Wood Thrush Early: 10 May Clay DB; 13 May Deuel BJU; 18 May Walworth CS, KP, RND

Gray Catbird Early: 05 May Deuel BJU; 08 May Lake JSP; 09 May Grant BJU; 13 May Pennington CLG; 13 May Yankton RND

Northern Mockingbird All Reports: 17 May Pennington JLB, LB; 26 May Grant BJU

Brown Thrasher Early: 26 Apr Clay DS; 27 Apr Lincoln AH; 28 Apr Charles Mix KP; 06 May Bennett ND; 06 May Custer MMM

American Pipit Early: 02 Apr Douglas KP; 11 Apr Hughes DB; 11 Apr Stanley KM; 21 Apr Custer MMM ... Late: **26 May Pennington JLB**; 14 May Edmunds GO; 13 May Deuel BJU; 24 Apr Charles Mix RM

Bohemian Waxwing All Reports: 02 Mar Union DS; 13 Mar Meade EEM; 31 Mar Grant BJU; 05 Apr Hughes DB; **25 Apr Hughes fide DB**

Cedar Waxwing Confirmed Breeding: 09 May Pennington (CN) ND

Ovenbird Early: 09 May Grant BJU; 10 May Brown BP, GO; 10 May Charles Mix RM; 15 May Custer ND

Northern Waterthrush Early: **27 Apr Brown BK**; 03 May Grant BJU; 05 May Deuel BJU; 07 May Stanley KM; 07 May Union DB; 13 May Pennington CLG ... Late: 23 May Marshall MO, GO; 23 May Grant BJU; 22 May Stanley RDO; 22 May Pennington OCW; 22 May Hughes DB; 22 May Edmunds MO, GO

Golden-winged Warbler Early: 09 May Union DB; 13 May Codrington BJU; 17 May Walworth DB, GO, MO; 22 May Pennington OCW ... Late: 27 May Stanley RDO; 27 May Edmunds GO; 26 May Harding CEM; 26 May Day BJU; 26 May Brookings DS

Blue-winged Warbler Only Report: **26 May Day BJU**

Black-and-white Warbler Early: 27 Apr Custer MMM; 02 May Day GO; 03 May Grant BJU; 07 May Union DB ... Late: 27 May Edmunds GO, BP; 27 May Clay GJS; 27 May Charles Mix KP; 16 May Pennington LB

Prothonotary Warbler Only Report: **17 May Union KM**

Tennessee Warbler Early: 08 May Union DS, DB; 09 May Grant BJU; 13 May Codrington and Deuel BJU; 13 May Lake JSP; 13 May Stanley RDO; 20 May Pennington JLB

Orange-crowned Warbler Early: 26 Apr Grant BJU; 27 Apr Hughes EDS, KM; 28 Apr Charles Mix KP; 28 Apr Stanley KM; 29 Apr Pennington CLG ... Late: 29 May Lake JSP; 28 May Stanley DB; 28 May Douglas KP; 26 May Harding ND

Nashville Warbler Early: 05 May Deuel BJU; 08 May Union DB; 09 May Grant BJU; 27 May Pennington CLG ... Late: 28 May Marshall GO; 27 May Charles Mix KP; 25 May Minnehaha JSP

Connecticut Warbler Early: 22 May Edmunds GO, MO; 23 May Grant BJU; 23 May Lake JSP; 23 May Marshall GO, MO; 30 May Hughes DB, RDO ... Late: 26 May Day BJU; 26 May Charles Mix RM; 25 May Minnehaha JSP

Mourning Warbler Early: 17 May Walworth MO; 19 May Brown GO; 19 May Stanley KM ... Late: 31 May Hughes KM; 30 May Brown BK; 28 May Union DS

Common Yellowthroat Early: 29 Apr Pennington CLG; 30 Apr Charles Mix RM; 05 May Deuel BJU

American Redstart Early: 08 May Union DB; 09 May Grant BJU; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 16 May Pennington LB

Cape May Warbler Early: 12 May Brown GO; 13 May Deuel BJU; 18 May Walworth SDOU ... Late: 28 May Stanley DB; 27 May Edmunds GO, BP; 23 May Marshall MO, GO

Northern Parula Early: 02 May Day GO; 13 May Clay GJS; 13 May Codington BJU ... Late: **27 May Stanley RDO; 27 May Edmunds GO, BP**; 26 May Brookings DS

Magnolia Warbler Early: 08 May Minnehaha KP; 09 May Grant BJU; 09 May Union DB; 23 May Pennington RSL ... Late: 29 May Pennington MMM; 28 May Stanley and Hughes DB; 28 May Day GO

Bay-breasted Warbler Early: 13 May Codington BJU; 16 May Dewey ND; 19 May Grant BJU; 19 May Hughes DB; 19 May Union KM; 19 May Walworth DB, KP, RDO ... Late: 29 May Stanley RDO; 26 May Day BJU; 26 May Brookings DS

Blackburnian Warbler Early: 13 May Codington BJU; 16 May Edmunds JDW; 17 May Hand DS, JSP; 17 May Spink CA; 17 May Union DS; 26 May Butte SW ... Late: 29 May Pennington MMM; 27 May Edmunds GO, BP; 27 May Charles Mix KP; 27 May Brown BJU

Yellow Warbler Early: **26 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 07 May Clay DS; 08 May Minnehaha KP; 08 May Pennington JLB

Chestnut-sided Warbler Early: 16 May Brown GO; 16 May Marshall MO; 17 May Hand and Hyde RND; 17 May Walworth DB, GO, MO ... Late: 29 May Stanley RDO; 29 May Clay GJS; 28 May Union DS; 28 May Marshall GO

Blackpoll Warbler Early: 07 May Stanley KM; 08 May Union DS, DB; 12 May Brown BP, GO; 12 May Minnehaha MS; 12 May Pennington LB, RSL ... Late: 30 May Minnehaha KP; 30 May Edmunds GO; 28 May Stanley DB; 28 May Marshall GO; 28 May Hughes DB; 27 May Perkins ND

Black-throated Blue Warbler All Reports: 18 May Dewey MS; 22 May Stanley RDO; 25 May Stanley RDO; 27 May Stanley RDO

Palm Warbler Early: 01 May Hughes EDS; 02 May Day GO; 03 May Grant BJU; 11 May Pennington RSL ... Late: 19 May Walworth RDO; DB; 19 May Grant BJU; 16 May Potter RDO; 16 May Marshall MO; 15 May Harding JLB

Pine Warbler Only Report: **24 May Edmunds JDW**

Yellow-rumped Warbler Early: 12 Apr Hughes DB; 14 Apr Douglas KP; 14 Apr Lake JSP; 14 Apr Stanley KM, RDO; 22 Apr Pennington JLB ... Late: 29 May Stanley RDO; 27 May Edmunds GO, BP; 26 May Brookings DS

Black-throated Green Warbler Early: 08 May Union DS, DB; 09 May Grant BJU; 12 May Lincoln CA ... Late: 25 May Minnehaha JSP; 23 May Lake JSP; 23 May Grant BJU; 22 May Union DS

Canada Warbler All Reports: 22 May Edmunds GO; 23 May Grant BJU; 26 May Day BJU; 29 May Edmunds JDW

Wilson's Warbler Early: 08 May Union DB; 09 May Grant BJU; 13 May Clay GJS; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 23 May Pennington RSL ... Late: 27 May Stanley RDO; 27 May Edmunds GO, BP; 27 May Clay GJS; 27 May Brown BJU

Yellow-breasted Chat Early: 15 May Hughes EDS; 15 May Pennington LB; 15 May Stanley RDO; 27 May Brown BJU

Summer Tanager Only Report: 23 May Lake JSP

Scarlet Tanager Early: 16 May Union DS; 17 May Dewey ND; 19 May Brown BK; 27 May Perkins ND

Western Tanager Early: 15 May Pennington LB; 22 May Lawrence SW; 23 May Lake JSP

Spotted Towhee Early: 26 Apr Clay DS; 27 Apr Custer MMM; 27 Apr Lincoln JSP

Eastern Towhee Early: **04 Apr Clay GJS**; 03 May Grant BJU; 04 May Charles Mix RM

American Tree Sparrow Late: 01 May Stanley RDO; 30 Apr Walworth DB; 28 Apr Lincoln AH; 28 Apr Harding ND; 28 Apr Charles Mix KP

Chipping Sparrow Early: 10 Mar Harding CEM; 30 Mar Lake JSP; 10 Apr Clay GJS; 10 Apr Lincoln AH

Clay-colored Sparrow Early: 27 Apr Lincoln AH; 30 Apr Charles Mix RM; 30 Apr Clay GJS; 30 Apr Codington BP; 30 Apr Douglas KP; 05 May Pennington MMM

Brewer's Sparrow All Reports: 30 Apr Custer MMM; 08 May Custer MMM; 15 May Pennington LB; 26 May Harding DB

Field Sparrow Early: 13 Apr Lincoln AH; 22 Apr Charles Mix RM; 27 Apr Union DS; 30 Apr Custer MMM

Vesper Sparrow Early: 05 Apr Deuel BJU; 07 Apr Gregory RM; 11 Apr Clay DS; 26 Apr Custer MMM

Lark Sparrow Early: 26 Apr Douglas KP; 27 Apr Clay DS; 27 Apr Pennington JLB

Lark Bunting Early: 30 Apr Meade ND; 04 May Stanley DB; 08 May Custer MMM; 13 May Roberts MO

Savannah Sparrow Early: 04 Apr Gregory RM; 06 Apr Lake JSP; 11 Apr Clay DS; 11 Apr Lincoln AH; 25 Apr Pennington JLB

Grasshopper Sparrow Early: 09 May Grant BJU; 10 May Custer MMM; 11 May Harding CEM, KM; 15 May Yankton RND

Le Conte's Sparrow Early: 06 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Grant BJU; 12 May McCook KP ... Late: 27 May Brown BJU; 26 May Day BJU; 15 May Grant BJU

Nelson's Sparrow All Reports: **13 May Deuel and Grant BJU**; 26 May Marshall BJU; 27 May Brown BJU

Fox Sparrow Early: 23 Mar Hughes KM; 31 Mar Grant BJU; 06 Apr Lake JSP ... Late: 03 May Grant BJU; 02 May Marshall and Day GO; 27 Apr Clay GJS, DS

Song Sparrow Early: 07 Mar Hughes DB; 10 Mar Lawrence ND; 29 Mar Brookings BJU; 29 Mar Douglas KP

Lincoln's Sparrow Early: 14 Apr Lincoln AH; 20 Apr Clay DS; 22 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Pennington JLB ... Late: 26 May Douglas KP; 26 May Clay DS; 23 May Lake JSP; 22 May Pennington RSL

Swamp Sparrow Early: 21 Mar Pennington JLB; 24 Apr Douglas KP; 26 Apr Grant BJU; 28 Apr Charles Mix KP

White-throated Sparrow Early: 23 Mar Hughes KM; 21 Apr Clay GJS; 23 Apr Grant BJU; 09 May Pennington ND ... Late: 31 May Hutchinson KP; 22 May Stanley RDO; 22 May Edmunds and Brown GO; 12 May Harding KM

Harris's Sparrow Early: 03 Mar Stanley RDO; 16 Mar Clay GJS; 23 Mar Tripp ND; 16 Apr Lake JSP ... Late: 23 May Marshall GO; 22 May Stanley RDO; 19 May Walworth RM, KP, DB; 19 May Hand RM; 19 May Grant BJU; 19 May Edmunds GO; 19 May Dewey RSL; 16 May Ziebach ND

White-crowned Sparrow Early: 10 Apr Stanley SS; 25 Apr Charles Mix KP; 26 Apr Custer MMM; 26 Apr Douglas KP ... Late: 22 May Stanley RDO; 19 May Grant BJU; 19 May Edmunds GO; 19 May Dewey RSL; 17 May Pennington LB, JLB

Dark-eyed Junco Late: 28 May Hughes DB; 23 May Marshall MO; 11 May Charles Mix RM

Lapland Longspur Late: 23 Apr Marshall GO; 22 Apr Stanley DB; 21 Apr Hughes DB; 24 Mar Tripp ND

Smith's Longspur Only Report: 23 Apr Grant BJU

Chestnut-collared Longspur Early: **16 Mar Lyman CA**; 08 Apr Buffalo DB; 21 Apr Pennington MMM; 21 Apr Perkins ND; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU

Snow Bunting Late: **11 Apr Day BP**; **11 Apr Davison RDO**; 05 Apr Grant BJU; 23 Mar Walworth RDO, ND; 06 Mar Harding CEM

Northern Cardinal reported 19 Mar Pennington ND; 21 Mar Pennington JLB

Rose-breasted Grosbeak Early: 04 May Charles Mix RM; 05 May Deuel BJU; 05 May Gregory ND, RSL, RM; 15 May Pennington LB; 15 May Meade EEM

Black-headed Grosbeak Early: 05 May Gregory ND, RSL, RM; 08 May Hughes EDS; 08 May Pennington JLB

Blue Grosbeak Early: 15 May Charles Mix RM; 24 May Custer MMM; 25 May Minnehaha JSP

Lazuli Bunting Early: 13 May Edmunds JDW; 14 May Clay GJS; 14 May Stanley KM; 16 May Pennington JLB

Indigo Bunting Early: 04 May Charles Mix MOBS; 13 May Clay GJS; 13 May Union DB; 15 May Minnehaha CA; 25 May Harding CEM

Dickcissel All Reports: 20 May Clay GJS; 25 May Minnehaha JSP; 27 May Brown BJU; 31 May Charles Mix RM

Bobolink Early: 09 May Grant BJU; 12 May Turner KP; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 14 May Pennington LB; 15 May Yankton RND

Red-winged Blackbird Early: 03 Mar Pennington MMM; 09 Mar Hughes DB; 11 Mar Charles Mix KP; 13 Mar Douglas KP

Eastern Meadowlark Only Report: 06 May Shannon ND

Western Meadowlark Early: 03 Mar Pennington MMM; 09 Mar Hughes DB; 11 Mar Stanley DB; 15 Mar Beadle BK; 15 Mar Douglas KP

Yellow-headed Blackbird Early: 14 Mar Charles Mix RM; 05 Apr Hughes KM; 07 Apr Douglas KP; 07 Apr Hanson and McCook CA; 20 Apr Meade ND

Rusty Blackbird Early: 09 Mar Lake JSP; 28 Mar Brown BJU; 30 Mar Brookings and Deuel BJU; 30 Mar Hughes DB ... Late: 26 Apr Grant BJU; 23 Apr Deuel BJU; 14 Apr Brown BP; 10 Apr Charles Mix RM

Brewer's Blackbird Early: 08 Mar Clay GJS; 29 Mar Miner SS; 09 Apr Douglas KP; 28 Apr Custer MMM

Common Grackle Early: 10 Mar Clay GJS; 19 Mar Douglas KP; 20 Mar Lincoln AH; 31 Mar Tripp RDO

Great-tailed Grackle Early: 05 Apr Hutchinsonson KP; 08 Apr Charles Mix RM; 05 May Grant BJU; 06 May Bennett ND

Brown-headed Cowbird Early: 16 Mar Lake JSP; 16 Mar Lincoln AH; 28 Mar Brown BJU; 10 Apr Clay GJS; 23 Apr Pennington ND

Orchard Oriole Early: 08 May Lincoln AH; 13 May Codington and Deuel BJU; 13 May Lake JSP; 14 May Charles Mix RM; 14 May Clay GJS; 14 May Hughes KM; 14 May Pennington LB; 14 May Roberts MO; 14 May Union DB

Bullock's Oriole Early: 14 May Pennington LB; 16 May Dewey ND; 25 May Fall River JLB

Baltimore Oriole Early: **30 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 05 May Deuel BJU; 07 May Lake JSP; 15 May Pennington OCW

Purple Finch Late: 08 May Union DS; 01 May Brown GO; 25 Apr Minnehaha MRZ

Red Crossbill Late: 27 May Edmunds GO, BP; 17 May Brown BK; 16 Mar Stanley KM

White-winged Crossbill Late: 01 Apr Pennington CLG; 24 Mar Charles Mix RM

Common Redpoll Late: **12 May Brown BP**; **05 May Charles Mix RM**; 28 Apr Harding DB

Pine Siskin Late: 31 May Clay GJS; 28 May Lake JSP; 23 May Brown BP

Evening Grosbeak Only Report: **07 Apr Yankton RND**

Reports Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

Cackling Goose 26 May Pennington JLB

Eurasian Wigeon 11-17 May Harding CEM, KM, RDO, JLB

Barrow's Goldeneye 01 Mar Gregory RM

Neotropic Cormorant 05 May Brule RSL; 27 May Brown BJU

Iceland Gull 05 Apr Grant BJU

Lesser Black-backed Gull 21 Apr Perkins ND

Great Black-backed Gull 10-23 Apr Hughes and Stanley SS, RDO, KM, DB

White-winged Dove 22 Apr Minnehaha DC

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 26 May Harding DB

Western Wood-Pewee 22 May Edmunds MO

White-eyed Vireo 13 May Brown GO

Philadelphia Vireo 25 May Harding CEM

Black-billed Magpie 13 May Codington BJU

Common Raven 24 May Harding DB

Townsend's Warbler 24 May Stanley RDO

McCown's Longspur 28 Apr Butte ND; 28 Apr Harding CEM, DB; ND

Snow Bunting 22 Apr Grant BP

Hoary Redpoll 17 Mar Stanley RDO; 25 Mar Charles Mix RM; 28 Mar Brown, Day, and Marshall BJU

Species Expected But Not Reported

Surf Scoter (2), White-winged Scoter (2), Ruffed Grouse, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (2), Gyrfalcon, Mew Gull, Barn Owl, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Cordilleran Flycatcher, Cassin's Kingbird (2), Varied Thrush, Sage Thrasher, Sprague's Pipit, Worm-eating Warbler (2), Virginia's

Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Baird's Sparrow, Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, Cassin's Finch, Lesser Goldfinch

Corrections/Additions from Past Reports

Lesser Black-backed Gull 19 Jul 2012 Brown (delete)

Northern Goshawk 18 Nov 2012 Meade (delete)

28 Oct 2012 Hughes and Mellette ND (date should be 28 Sep 2012)

29 Oct 2012 Lincoln and Union ND (date should be 29 Sep 2012)

30 Oct 2012 Clay ND (date should be 30 Sep 2012)

Contributing Observers

CA Chris Anderson
DB Doug Backlund
JLB Jocelyn L. Baker
AKB Anna K. Ball
LB Lynn Barber
JB Joshua Boldt
DC Doug Chapman
RND Roger N. Dietrich
ND Nancy Drilling
CLG Canyon Lake Group
AH Alice Hill
BFH Bill Huser
CH Corey Huxoll
LJ Linda Johnson
BK Brian Kringen
EK Elizabeth Krueger
RSL Richard S. Latuchie
RM Ron Mabie
MMM Michael M. Melius
CEM Charlie Miller

EEM Ernest E. Miller
KM Kenny Miller
MOBS Multiple Observers
GO Gary Olson
RDO Ricky D. Olson
MO Mark Otnes
JSP Jeffrey S. Palmer
BP Barry Parkin
KP Kelly M. Preheim
MS Mark Schmidtbauer
GJS Gary & Jan Small
SS Scott A. Stolz
EDS Eileen Dowd Stukel
OCW Outdoor Campus West Survey
DS David Swanson
BJU Bill J. Unzen
SW Scott Weins
JDW J. David Williams
MRZ Mick Zerr

BOOK REVIEW

DOUGLAS CHAPMAN

THE UNFEATHERED BIRD. Katerina van Grouw (2013). Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ. Cloth. \$49.95. 304 pp. 385 duotones/color illustrations.

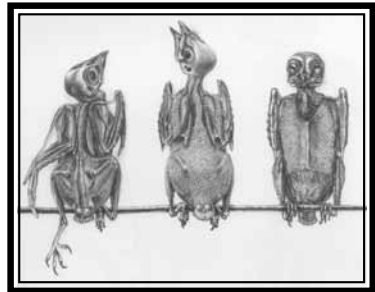
This book is one of the most amazing books I have ever picked up. It includes drawings, all from specimens, from the Dodo to House Sparrow – always from the inside out. It's an "Anatomy of a Bird" book. An artist's depiction of a short ornithology course if you will.

Katerina van Grouw is a world-renowned artist and a former curator of ornithological collections at London's Natural History Museum. She is also an experienced taxidermist, as is her husband. Who better to depict the musculature of a porpoising penguin? Or a Rock Dove, first depicted with feathers removed, then with its skin stripped away and finally a de-fleshed skeleton? Lest one think that the extensive text would be dry as dust, be advised that her witty, informative text is both exciting and hard to put down.

I showed this book to an artist friend who was also amazed at the fine quality of the drawings. She marveled at the line-work and detail. The author worked for 25 years to produce this book. It shows.

I don't think it is really for children, excepting perhaps adolescent boys into "That's gross. It's so cool!"

Seeing beneath the fluff and feathers is both disturbing and fascinating. Perhaps not for the coffee table, it would make a great conversation piece nonetheless. But I would probably not enjoy this book on an eReader. "Real" books will always have a place for some depictions.



Barn Swallows – featherless



Contents

PRESIDENT'S PAGE.....	55
by Nancy Drilling	
BOOK REVIEW: <i>Handbook of Birds of the World, Vol. 17</i>	56
by Dan Tallman	
BIRDING HOTSPOTS	57
by Ricky D. Olson	
BOOK REVIEW: <i>The Warbler Guide</i>	58
by Douglas Chapman	
FLEDGLING TRACTS: <i>My Top 10 SD Birding Experiences</i>	60
by Jason Thiele	
SPRING 2013 SEASONAL REPORTS	64
by Jeffrey S. Palmer	
BOOK REVIEW: <i>The Unfeathered Bird</i>	75
by Douglas Chapman	
REGISTRATION FOR FALL SDOU MEETING .. Inside Mailing Cover	
by Douglas Chapman	
Least Tern, Charles Mix Co., 7/16/2013	Back Cover
Photo: Kelly Preheim	