

SOUTH DAKOTA Ornithologists' Union



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**.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I have mentioned before that I read old copies of *SD Bird Notes* often. I challenge every SDOU member to look at least at two previous issues from differing years. If you have access to a computer, old issues of *SD Bird Notes* can be read online at www.sdou.org. Click on "Bird Notes Online" on the menu at the left side of the SDOU home page. Then select a the year you want to read. Also, some libraries still have old issues; I know the State Library in Pierre has a set.



I actually can get very jealous reading the articles reporting sightings, because you can *feel* the joy the observer felt when seeing the bird. They did not have the internet, with thousands of pictures and many online videos to browse, or the ten thousand field guides (okay, maybe not quite that many) to consult to look at birds. If they were lucky, they had one field guide. So when seeing a new bird, these observers had more of the "awe" factor and studied the bird more closely, because it might be the only time in their life they might see the species.

Many people did not travel outside their home town area during the year. So SDOU meetings could be the only time they would ever visit that part of the state. I believe in the past the birders were harder. The small towns that they held SDOU meetings in definitely did not have enough motels for everybody. Evidently many were tent campers or slept in their cars.

The science of observation is evident when reading about first records: documenting first sighting of species in the state. One can see the cumulative progression of the state species list and the resulting enrichment of possibilities in our state. The changing distribution of colonial waterbird colonies is also trackable. By reading these issues you notice that species such as King Rail previously nested in southeast South Dakota, but now, even a sighting requires a rare bird report. To me it's very interesting to track the changes in makeup and distribution of avian species of South Dakota.

So seek them out and look them up and – good reading!
The past is often a good teacher of what to do in the future!

Ricky D. Olson

OUR KILLDEER NEST WATCH

by Rosemary Draeger

It all started on April 25, 2014. Our son came to our house in a newly developing area of Sioux Falls twice that day. On his second departure he commented that, "Those Killdeer in the front yard are making a huge fuss every time I come in or out." After he left, I looked out our guest room window at the front yard to see what the Killdeer were doing. I was surprised to see one squatting down in a small depression in our gravel-landscaped flower garden about eight feet from the window, and also eight feet from the front door.

The bird wiggled its tail a few times, called out a few times, then left. My husband Bill and I walked out and discovered an egg in the depression. But the Killdeer did not come back to incubate. The next day, I heard the Killdeer, watched them run around the front lawn, one doing distraction displays as walkers passed by on the sidewalk. Then, surprisingly, the female laid a second egg; then they both left again. On the third day a third egg appeared, but still no incubating. Finally, on April 29, one more egg was laid, and incubation started. The female was lighter gray-backed than the male, so I could tell when, usually in the evening, the male would replace the female on the nest at least for some time, though by morning the female was always on the nest again.

In those first few days, whenever someone came to our front door, both Killdeer would create a great noisy distraction display, so we began asking all visitors to enter and leave through the garage. We had read that Killdeer incubate for 25 to 28 days approximately, and I wanted to capture the hatching on video if possible, so I marked the days. When we left for the Spring SDOU meeting in Milbank on May 23, I feared that I would miss the whole thing while we were gone. When we got home on the late afternoon of May 25 we were greeted by a distraction display as we pulled the car into the driveway. I ran in to check the nest out the guestroom window and just before the female Killdeer nestled back down I saw downy feathers. I ran to get my camera and had the amazing experience of getting a video of all four chicks emerging and staggering around on wobbly legs for their first venture out of the nest. That brief video is still available for viewing at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/brdfsd/14278608685/>.

From the start of incubation, it was 26 days until hatching. For the next week we observed the parent Killdeer with their chicks every now and then in the field next to our house, or on our front or back lawn. The day after hatching, the chicks were gone from the nest, never to return. The parent Killdeer very aggressively chased off all birds in a wide area around the chicks as they ran around pecking at weeds and the ground and crouching down when hearing the parents' frequent alarm calls.

By May 28, the third day after leaving the nest, the family had moved farther away to a field around the corner. Every now and then for the next month I would see a young Killdeer, although they were nearly adult size by late June. Through June and July two more Killdeer families showed up in the fields beside our house, so we have watched at least ten Killdeer grow up and I think I can identify the specific call parent Killdeer use to keep track of their fledglings as they scatter across fields. The main things we learned from this wonderful experience were that ground nesting Killdeer lay much larger eggs than, say, tree nesting robins, and that Killdeer chicks, born larger and more mature than tree-nesting birds, are on the move almost immediately after hatching. We surmise that the purpose of the delayed incubation, five days after the first egg was laid, and only after the fourth egg was laid, is to accomplish hatching all at once.

Ground-nesting birds have safety issues that tree-nesters don't face, but our front-yard Killdeer proved that their method of nesting could succeed at producing a healthy foursome.

THIS LAND IS MY LAND, THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND...

by Trey Wren (SDOU member Tracy Rosenberg)

When I first came to Blue Cloud Abbey in March of 2013 to meet with the monks about leasing their land, I traveled northbound on I-29 from Iowa to South Dakota. As I drove, the skies ahead darkened, not from weather, but from thousands upon thousands of migrating geese, gray masses of birds that churned like storm clouds. This was a harbinger for what would transpire—that I, myself, would soon migrate north, and that birds would become my leitmotif, apropos for a few years earlier when deciding a pen name I'd chosen: Trey *Wren*.

In April 2013, I moved into a small hermitage on the upper bank of the abbey's six-acre lower lake, my new backyard seven-hundred-and-fifty acres of native grassland. Besides the three monks that resided in the monastery, my neighbors were a diverse group of migrating waterfowl and melodic songbirds. By year-end I had fallen in love with the landscape and its inhabitants, and when given the opportunity that winter, I purchased the abbey's native range and hayfields.

I'm delighted when others share my enthusiasm for habitat and wildlife, love a flock that flocks together, so on Memorial weekend 2014, when South Dakota Ornithologists' Union members gathered in Milbank for their annual spring meeting, I welcomed participants here—*The Abbey Grasslands of the Prairie Coteau*—part of the Glacial Lakes and Prairie Region of northeast South Dakota. Thirty-three birders toured my grasslands sighting ninety-three species over the two days. On day one, the sightings luckily included a variety of warblers—Tennessee, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Blackpoll, and Yellow-rumped—for by the second day, they had already vanished, migrating farther north.

Birders amaze me as much as do birds. While meandering through a wooded timber beside a creek lined with cascades of polished rock, my fellow birders successfully navigated the terrain of felled logs and tree stumps while staring straight up. Amazingly, not one person ended up in the creek while scanning the tree canopy for flits and swoops, ears tuned to faint trills and loud chirps. Our group spotted vibrant Scarlet Tanagers that flashed tomato-red through spread branches, and spied a pair of Great Horned Owl nestlings that gawked from a nest in a tree fork, walnut-size eyes burrowed within down-tufted faces, adolescents that require thirteen to seventeen mice per night compared to their parents' meager consumption of four mice per day.

When the group ascended from the creek coulee and entered the fallowed pasture a Bobolink swayed on a tall spike of grass litter. The Bobolink, a prized tall grass prairie bird, is to me the coconut-filled bonbon of the bird world, their feathers a dichotomy of rich textures and colors. But I didn't expect such a fuss over one bird, for on my pasture there's not one, not a pair, but many—so many that half a dozen somersaulted through the sky right over our heads. Bobolinks nest on the ground in dense vegetation, their declining populations an argument for placing rangeland in permanent grassland easement (as is mine) and for building up grass litter.

Another ecological marker found that day was the Grasshopper Sparrow, nesting grounds also the open prairie, whose notable song impersonates the grasshopper—*tik tuk zeeeeeee*—a shrill, distinct call. Even without hearing a vocalization a member of our group identified this bird by its complete eye-ring and for its flat, and somewhat Neanderthal-ish forehead.

This sighting provided another thumbs up, for this sparrow's population is in decline as a result of prairie fragmentation.

The second part of our birding excursion each day was on one-hundred-and-twenty acres of native hay land west of the abbey. The field offers potholes and marshes, natural wetlands that attract water and shore birds. On day one, a group member called for a Virginia Rail that instead provoked a Black Crowned Night-heron's exploration. The second day the call enticed a rail's return call but alas, no sightings; the group seemed subdued. An interesting observance I discovered is the more enthusiastic the sighting the quieter birders become. And for this reason I withheld my excitement when Marbled Godwits appeared on the hay field, even though I was shouting and dancing inside. Their presence portends the future—land heals. A year of fallow followed by an early spring burn had already provided suitable habitat for this Pothole Prairie Region's grassland bird.

What the group couldn't know is that I had found my way here because of prairie potholes. While taking a class at Iowa State University in the fall of 2012, I'd heard about the declining populations of Lesser Scaup, the disappearance of the potholes within native land tracts, and the rapid conversion to tillable farmland, an ecological culprit that had already spoiled my home state of Iowa. But enough of me on my personal soap box...long live the prairie.

To close let me say that even before Woody's popularity, birders have been infatuated with the Pileated Woodpecker. For two days the groups searched for a Pileated, noting tree holes and listening for jackhammers, but to no avail. As the group slowly completed their pasture walk the last day, a silhouette approached from the north, a rapid projectile traveling in a line straight south, beak lifted, wings outstretched and primaries spread like fingers, red flame ablaze atop a smug, lifted head. This anthropomorphized Pileated Clint Eastwood smirked "*make my day*" as it flew over our heads, but made our day instead.

SAVING BIRDLIFE, ONE SMALL LIFE AT A TIME

OR

Carefully Watch Your Grape Jelly Feeders!

by Susan Gilmore

Golden Valley, Hennepin County, MN

The morning of 22 August 2014, there was a traumatic incident at my home which involved a juvenile goldfinch and some grape jelly I put out for the orioles. As I approached the hanging oriole feeder that was filled with grape jelly, I noticed something odd in the feeder tray. When I got closer I realized it was a juvenile goldfinch literally stuck in the grape jelly. His little body was deep in the grape stuff and he literally could not move. I scooped him out and ran to the backyard blabbing to my husband to meet me at the garden hose. I held the bird while my husband gently gave him a shower with the hose nozzle until he looked less grape-like. There were blobs of jelly on his face that I removed with my fingers so we didn't have to shower near his eyes.

Keeping him cupped in my hand, I held him in the sun for a few minutes—he simply let me—then he shook the water off and safely flew to the nearest bush!

I was exhausted afterwards, but so grateful that he was all right!

INTRODUCING PEER-REVIEW FOR *SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES*

David Swanson SDOU Secretary
Department of Biology
University of South Dakota.

The reality of academic ornithology is that publication must be in peer-reviewed outlets to be highly valued for current academic merit-based systems. This is becoming increasingly the norm within non-academic systems (e.g., government or non-government organizations) as well. The reason for the higher value for peer-reviewed journal articles is that these articles must pass through a thorough evaluation by “experts” in the particular field of study, which increases the chances that the science in the peer-reviewed article is sound and not flawed. In an effort to attract more articles dealing with ornithological science content to *South Dakota Bird Notes*, the SDOU Board of Directors at the spring 2014 meeting, agreed to institute a peer-review process for certain articles, at the request of the submitting author, in *South Dakota Bird Notes*. To this effect, President Olson appointed a Peer-Review Editorial Board at the spring 2014 meeting, consisting of Nancy Drilling (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory), K.C. Jensen (South Dakota State University), Jeffrey Palmer (Dakota State University) and David Swanson (University of South Dakota).

South Dakota Bird Notes (SDBN) will continue to publish current non-peer-reviewed content, but will add peer-reviewed content beginning with Volume 67 in 2015. Peer-reviewed content will be clearly marked as such in the journal to distinguish it from non-peer-reviewed content and to reflect that the manuscript underwent a rigorous process of peer-review prior to publication. The content of peer-reviewed papers in SDBN may include any aspect of bird biology pertaining to birds in South Dakota and the Northern Prairie and Northern Great Plains regions, but we especially encourage manuscripts treating status and distribution, ecology, conservation and natural history topics.

Submission of Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts and Manuscript Structure

The author of a manuscript submitted to SDBN for peer-review should submit the manuscript to the Editor requesting that the manuscript undergo the peer-review process. Submitted manuscripts should follow the preparation guidelines currently listed on the SDOU website (www.sdou.org; click on Publications and Stuff, then on Instructions to Authors under the *South Dakota Bird Notes* tab). Manuscripts intended for peer-review must be submitted electronically to facilitate the peer-review process. Acceptable types of manuscripts include original research articles, which report the results of specific studies, or review articles, which summarize the literature on a particular ornithological topic. Both types of manuscripts must relate to the biology of birds of South Dakota or the Northern Prairie or Northern Great Plains regions. Both types of manuscripts must include an introductory Abstract summarizing the findings of the article in no more than 300 words. Original research manuscripts should include the following sections: Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments and Literature Cited. The use of subheadings where appropriate is encouraged.

Citations within the text should be listed by author(s) and date (e.g. Drilling 2010; Drilling and Palmer 2012). If the cited paper contains more than two authors it should be cited as Drilling et al. (2012). Citations in the Literature Cited section should follow the following format:

Journal article

Swanson, D.L. and J.S. Palmer. 2009. Spring migration phenology of birds in the northern prairie region is correlated with local climate change. *Journal of Field Ornithology* 80:351-363.

Chapter in a book

Kaczor, N.W., K.C. Jensen, R.W. Klaver, M.A. Rumble, K.M. Herman-Brunson, and C.C. Swanson. 2011. Nesting success and resource selection of Greater Sage-Grouse. Pp. 107-118 in B.K. Sandercock, K. Martin, and G. Segelbacher (Eds.). Ecology, conservation, and management of Grouse. Studies in Avian Biology (no. 39), University of California Press, Berkeley, CA.

Book

Tallman, D.T., D.L. Swanson, and J.S. Palmer. 2002. Birds of South Dakota, Third Edition. South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, Aberdeen, SD.

Technical Report

Drilling, N.E. 2011. South Dakota breeding bird atlas II: 2011 field season report. Tech. Rep. M-SDBBAS-05. Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, Brighton, CO.

Online article

Swanson, D.L., J.L. Ingold, and R. Galati. 2012. Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*), The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY. <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu.bnaproxy.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/301>; doi:10.2173/bna.301

Peer-Review Process

Once a manuscript for which peer-review is requested by the author is received by the Editor, the Editor will forward the manuscript to a Peer-Review Editorial Board Member (EBM) with appropriate expertise for the topic of the manuscript. The EBM will then send out the manuscript for review to at least two external reviewers with recognized expertise in the subject matter of the manuscript. These reviewers will be charged with evaluating the scientific accuracy of the manuscript, the appropriateness of the study design and methods, including statistical analyses, whether the conclusions follow from the results, and other matters relating to the scientific validity of the manuscript. The reviewers will provide a ranking of the manuscript into one of the following four categories: Publish as is – no revisions needed, Minor Revisions required, Major Revisions required, or Reject. Upon receiving the reviews, the EBM will make a decision on whether to accept, ask for revisions, or reject the manuscript. If revisions are required, it is the responsibility of the submitting author(s) to revise the manuscript and to respond, in a point-by-point manner to comments and criticisms raised by the reviewers and EBM. Manuscripts with Minor or Major revision status will not be officially accepted for publication until the revised manuscript has been approved by the EBM. Final approval may be subject to another round of review. Rejected manuscripts may not be resubmitted to *SDBN* after a rejection decision.

Ethics Statement

All procedures included in manuscripts submitted to *SDBN* must conform to the Ornithological Council's *Guidelines to the Use of Wild Birds in Research* (Gaunt A.S., L.W. Oring. 2010. Guidelines to the use of wild birds in research, Third Edition. Ornithological Council, Washington, DC). In addition, all procedures must be approved by an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, if applicable, and an approved protocol number should be provided. Lastly, all activities in the study must be conducted under appropriate state and federal permits, with collecting permit numbers provided, if applicable. Statements assuring compliance to these requirements should be provided in the Methods and Materials section of the manuscript.

AN ACCIDENTAL RECORD

by Cheryl Vellenga

All sightings of “record birds,” I suspect, must be accidents; happy accidents if the observer is blessed with the means to prove said sighting. Perhaps this proof is by way of his or her respectability as an avian specialist, whose vast experience and knowledge of species and their field marks lends inarguable credence to the birder’s report. The observer may have developed great skill in sketching birds in the field, quickly diagramming field marks, noting behavior and habitat. But best of all, quick access to a camera is a wonderful thing. I fall into the latter category.

It’s ironic that the reason I wasn’t very well prepared for migratory feeding this year was because of birding. Let me explain. I’ve wanted to be “a birder” for almost as long as I can remember. Life gets in the way of pursuing personal desires sometimes. In April of this year, I succumbed to a mid-life crisis of sorts, and presented to my husband, Bill, whose own enjoyment of bird watching was coming to the surface (part of the reason for my timing), the idea that we should actually join the SDOU and attend the Spring Meeting of same to meet some South Dakota birders. He was delighted.

I was determined to have my “life list” compiled before my first-ever group birding experience. Surely, the upcoming trip to Milbank, SD, would permit me to garner many new bird species and I wanted to know definitively where I stood before attending. E-bird was my choice for officially organizing and documenting my vast collection of post-its, bird book notations, napkins, paper scraps and bird journal attempts. Two and a half large plastic tubs of developed photos had to be searched through for documentation followed by years of digital pictures on the computer. Several of the birds on my list had been seen while on trips; others during our infrequent outings to bird local sloughs. The vast majority however, had been experienced in our own yard.

The project took a few weeks and I convinced myself to not feel too guilty about letting some things slide to get it done. Once finished, I’d only need to keep up with it, I reasoned, and so my time was spent at the computer, away from the window, away from the birds. I ventured outside only briefly each day to keep the seed and suet feeders supplied, not concerning myself with fruit offerings; no orioles or catbirds yet.

Many people are surprised to hear that there are some warblers that enjoy fruit offerings, especially, and some exclusively, during migration. The Peterson Field Guide to Warblers of North America states, “*Fruit and nectar can be critically important food for many wood-warblers in the fall and winter months. Many warblers, as well as the Cape May Warbler, are regular nectar-feeders for much of the year. Small fruits sustain many warblers during fall migration and the winter months...Lingering warblers wintering well north of their normal range often visit suet feeders and other feeding stations.*” Likewise, we have had Tennessee and Cape May Warblers spend days frequenting our grape jelly and raisin feeders during migration. Until now, I’ve only been reactionary in my fruit feeding. I put the fruit out as soon as I see the first oriole or catbird. If a warbler or thrush shows up to partake, that’s an added delight for us, but I’ve never before put out fruit ahead of the birds. I will from now on.

The weather was ugly on 8 May 2014; cold and rainy and the wind was blowing, so it promised to be a good day to work on my project. I was finishing my morning household chores before retreating to the computer when I glanced around at the ground under the feeder tree 20 feet directly across from the window, a Russian Olive that had died at least 15 years ago, leaving the perfect natural fixture for hanging feeders and perching birds.

White-throated, White-crowned and Harris' Sparrows, rain-soaked, dotted the trees and the yet-to-sprout lawn. Goldfinches were on the sunflower hearts feeder hanging on the right side of the window.

My gaze moved to the left side of the window where I had a peanut dough suet cake feeder. A flash of bright yellow there made me think for an instant a goldfinch was there, too, but NO. *"Oh my gosh, what is that? OK, that's a warbler. Has to be. Looks like a warbler, has the right beak, shaped right, right size, but what IS it? Why don't I know my warblers? I was going to study them this winter! It's why I bought the book!"* My mind was racing. *Run for the camera? It's in the hall closet, on the top shelf, IN THE BAG. Is there time? No. Memorize it. Yellow head, **bold** yellow head. No head markings, no eye line, no eye ring, Okay. Round little guy. Eye is black. So are the legs. He's a funny color on the back, gray but kind of greenish and it goes up the nape. Wing bars, how many? Two bold white ones. Okay. Look at that black throat patch, wow, bold. Is it that, uh, what was that a few years ago? That Black-throated Green Warbler? No, I don't think so, something is different. This bird looks so – "clean." OK, stay, stay. Let me get the camera. Please, stay.*

I ran to the hall closet, pleading out loud. "I need a photo to help me ID this bird." Back to the rain-sheeted window which was spotted from a winter's season of blowing dirt and snow, I quickly scanned for the mystery bird. There, on the spruce. Get the camera on it. *"Now, where? On the ground,"* Snap, snap, snap. *"Is the flash going? I think so; that's not good but keep shooting. What's he want? He ate some suet but nothing on the ground. Now he's on the jelly feeder, but no jelly in it. Why don't I have jelly in it?"* And then it was over. A semi roaring by on the highway scattered all of the birds to the nearby trees. A moment later they all returned. All but one.

Later that afternoon I decided to sit down and find the bird in my books. My photos were terrible from the rain on the window and the camera flash going off. But – they would do for identification. [See Back Cover of this issue. ~Ed.] I was confounded when I didn't see it in the Eastern guides. I had learned to do an initial search of a new bird by perusing the range maps first, then looking at the photos/drawings of the birds common to our area, but that wasn't working this time. I was elated to finally find a matching photo in the National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to the Birds of North America. "There's my bird!" My eyes dropped to the range map and I swallowed hard. "But what's it doing here?" It was a Hermit Warbler.

It was a while before the impact of my accident sank in. How strange. I confirmed for myself in book after book and on the internet – Hermit Warbler. I wondered if one had ever been seen in our state, so I looked on e-bird under first sightings in South Dakota. Wow, not there, but perhaps not everything gets reported on e-bird. *"I guess I need to report it,"* I thought. *"I wonder what will happen. I wonder if I'm right."*

So here I was, not new to birding, but certainly new to the birding world, and to submitting a report of a possible state first record bird! I didn't hear anything for a couple of weeks on my report to e-bird and having finished my "life list" project, I thought I'd revisit the SDOU website to get up to speed before the much anticipated Spring Meeting. On the website, I found that the SDOU has a Rare Bird Reporting Form, and realized I absolutely must fill it out and submit it, preferably before the Spring Meeting. After all, though I had not met a single one, these were my people and they would decide what I had seen.

The 2014 Spring Meeting in Milbank exceeded my hopes in every way imaginable. The SDOU members were welcoming and friendly, and though I was a bit apprehensive about how my "accident" would be viewed by birders far more experienced than myself, I was warmed by the genuine congratulations offered this newcomer. I have spent the summer months trying to develop some of the field birding skills I observed from my new associ-

ates and learning from the observations and comments on the SDOU list serve. Soon, I hope to be a useful, contributing member of this wonderful organization!

Hermit Warbler accepted records for the states surrounding South Dakota are as follows:

Iowa: No records for Hermit Warbler. (Ann Johnson, pers. comm.)

Minnesota: Isanti Co., 05/03/1931; Lac Qui Parle Co., 05/14/1983. (retrieved 08/11/14)

Montana: No records for Hermit Warbler. (Jeff Marks, pers. comm.)

Nebraska: One male, 5.5 miles north of Creighton, Knox Co., 5/15/2002. (Mark Brogie). One bird at Crescent Lake NWR, Garden Co., 5/21/2010. (Mark Brogie). (Ross Silcock, pers. comm.)

North Dakota: No records for Hermit Warbler. (Ron Martin, pers. comm.)

Wyoming: Fontenelle Migrant Trap, Lincoln County, 05/26/1990 (retrieved 08/13/14).

SDOU SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT – 2014
by Jocelyn L. Baker

The Mary E. Baylor Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a South Dakota college or university undergraduate student who is in her/his junior or senior year. A biology major with a particular interest in ornithology, ecology, wildlife management, biological education or medicine is a requirement. The recipient of this year's \$1,200.00 scholarship is Don E. Poeckes who is majoring in biology in the Biodiversity and Conservation track at the University of South Dakota. According to Dr. David Swanson who nominated Mr. Poeckes for this award, Don has a strong interest in ornithology, particularly field ornithology.

Three scholarships/awards will be offered in the 2014-15 academic year by SDOU. The first is the Mary E. Baylor Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,200.00. The requirements for this scholarship are listed above. Students wishing to be considered for this scholarship should ask a department head, advisor or professor to nominate them.

Second is the Kenneth H. Husmann Memorial Scholarship. First awarded in 1989, this scholarship is presented to a graduate student attending a South Dakota college or university. Faculty members nominate a deserving student who is majoring in ornithology, ecology or wildlife management. The \$500.00 award will be presented to the winning student at the beginning of the 2015 fall term.

The Alfred E. Hinds Memorial Award for Ornithology, established in 1983, is presented to a deserving individual, student or an organization/agency that has made a significant contribution to the advancement of ornithology in South Dakota. It may also be used to fund a special SDOU project which needs financial support. Nominations may be submitted at any time with the award being announced in spring of 2015.

Scholarships and Awards Committee: Jocelyn Lee Baker (Chair), Nelda Holden and Galen Steffen.

SEASONAL REPORTS

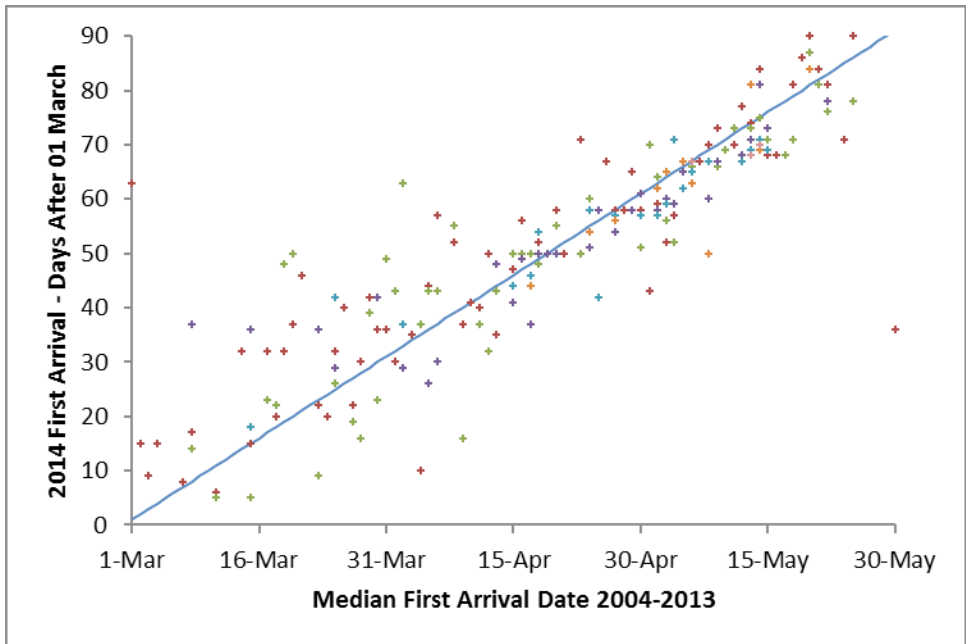
The 2014 Spring Season

Compiled By: Jeffrey S. Palmer
01 March 2014 to 31 May 2014

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There were 324 species, including 13 rarities, reported during the season. The ten-year (2004-2013) average is 324. 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 (20) 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 (2004-2013). 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: 10 Mar Minnehaha MKZ; 11 Mar Brown BP; 13 Mar Charles Mix RM; 27 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 23 May Grant KP; 10 May Union DS; 08 May Yankton RND

Snow Goose Early: 02 Mar Pennington JLB, RSL; 08 Mar Charles Mix KP; 09 Mar Clay GJS; 10 Mar Douglas KP; 10 Mar Minnehaha MKZ

Ross's Goose Early: 08 Mar Hughes RDO; 16 Mar Stanley KM; 18 Mar Brown BP ... Late: 01 May Brown BP; 19 Apr Minnehaha DC; 05 Apr Edmunds and Day BP; 01 Apr Stanley RDO

Cackling Goose Late: **28 Apr Pennington CLG**; 07 Apr McPherson GO; 05 Apr Day and Brown BP; 01 Apr Stanley RDO; 01 Apr Charles Mix RM

Canada Goose Confirmed Breeding: 29 Mar Custer (ON) ND

Trumpeter Swan All Reports: 10 Mar Yankton DS; 17 Mar Clay DS; 13 Apr Harding CEM; 19 Apr Tripp RDO; 16 May Pennington RSL

Tundra Swan Only Report: 06 Apr Douglas KP

Wood Duck Early: 07 Mar Yankton RND; 15 Mar Hughes RSL; 15 Mar Pennington JLB; 22 Mar Douglas KP; 22 Mar Lake JSP

Gadwall Early: 02 Mar Pennington JLB; 05 Mar Yankton RND; 09 Mar Hughes RDO; 20 Mar Brown GO

American Wigeon Early: 02 Mar Pennington JLB, RSL; 05 Mar Yankton RND; 09 Mar Hughes RDO; 16 Mar Lincoln CA

American Black Duck All Reports: 09 Mar Hughes RDO; 11 Mar Hughes RDO; 01 Apr Day BP

Mallard Confirmed Breeding: 20 Apr Lincoln (CN) AH

Blue-winged Teal Early: 15 Mar Charles Mix KP; 28 Mar Day BP; 29 Mar Douglas KP; 29 Mar Minnehaha CA; 16 Apr Pennington ND

Cinnamon Teal All Reports: 21 Apr Aurora KP; 24 Apr Pennington JLB; 25 Apr Brown BP; 26 Apr Brown GO; 27 Apr Pennington ND; 02 May Pennington JLB

Northern Shoveler Early: 15 Mar Hughes RSL; 15 Mar Stanley KM; 16 Mar Yankton RND; 20 Mar Davison and Douglas KP; 20 Mar Marshall BP; 23 Mar Bennett and Todd ND

Northern Pintail Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 10 Mar Douglas KP; 12 Mar Butte JLB

Green-winged Teal Early: 05 Mar Yankton RND; 06 Mar Meade EEM; 15 Mar Hughes RDO; 19 Mar Brown BP

Canvasback Early: 12 Mar Butte JLB; 15 Mar Charles Mix KP; 16 Mar Fall River ND; 16 Mar Stanley RDO; 16 Mar Yankton CA; 20 Mar Davison, Douglas and Hanson KP

Redhead Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 02 Mar Pennington JLB, RSL; 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 08 Mar McCook CA

Ring-necked Duck Early: 02 Mar Pennington JLB, RSL; 05 Mar Yankton RND; 11 Mar Hughes RDO; 20 Mar Douglas and Hanson KP; 20 Mar Marshall BP

Greater Scaup Early: 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 09 Mar Hughes RDO; 20 Mar Douglas KP ... Late: 21 Apr Brown BP; 20 Apr Sully RDO; 12 Apr Union DS; 12 Apr Minnehaha MKZ, CA

Lesser Scaup Early: 05 Mar Charles Mix RM; 05 Mar Yankton RND; 15 Mar Stanley RSL; 18 Mar Brown and Day BP; 23 Mar Todd ND

Surf Scoter Only Report: **26 Apr Brookings JSP**

Long-tailed Duck Late: **07 May Charles Mix RM**; 12 Apr Minnehaha MKZ, DC, CA; 12 Apr Kingsbury JSP

Bufflehead Early: 02 Mar Pennington JLB; 04 Mar Charles Mix RM; 15 Mar Hughes RSL; 15 Mar Stanley KM; 20 Mar Douglas, Hanson, and Hutchinson KP ... Late: 14 May Fall River JSP; 09 May Meade RSL; 09 May Harding CEM; 06 May Marshall GO; 02 May Charles Mix RND

Common Goldeneye Late: 18 Apr Brown MO; 12 Apr Minnehaha MKZ, CA; 12 Apr Brookings JSP; 09 Apr Butte JLB; 06 Apr Yankton RND

Hooded Merganser Early: 02 Mar Pennington JLB; 05 Mar Yankton RND; 09 Mar Hughes RDO; 20 Mar Brown GO; 20 Mar Douglas KP ... Late: 27 May Douglas KP; 25 May Roberts JSP, CA; 23 May Day RND; 03 May Charles Mix CA; 19 Apr Fall River ND

Common Merganser Late: 29 May Gregory KP; 28 May Pennington CLG; 13 May Lawrence JSP; 19 Apr Minnehaha DC

Red-breasted Merganser Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 15 Mar Hughes RDO; 18 Mar Yankton RND; 20 Mar Douglas KP ... Late: 13 May Yankton RND; 11 May Charles Mix RM; 30 Apr Hughes DB; 12 Apr Brookings JSP

Ruddy Duck Early: 15 Mar Charles Mix KP; 20 Mar Douglas KP; 22 Mar Lake JSP; 09 Apr Butte JLB

Gray Partridge All Reports: 20 Mar Jones ND; 10 Apr Custer MMM; 10 Apr Pennington ND; 24 Apr Pennington JLB; 21 May Custer MMM

Ruffed Grouse All Reports: 04 Apr Lawrence DGP; 20 Apr Lawrence DGP; 03 May Lawrence RSL

Northern Bobwhite All Reports: 20 Apr Clay DS; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 03 May Charles Mix CA

Common Loon Early: 01 Apr Gregory RM; 05 Apr Lake JSP; 06 Apr Hughes KM; 20 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 20 May Lake JSP; 20 May Charles Mix RM; 18 May Hughes DB; 01 May Pennington ND

Pied-billed Grebe Early: 05 Mar Pennington CLG; 04 Apr Day BP; 05 Apr Lake JSP; 05 Apr McCook CA, MKZ; 05 Apr Yankton RND

Horned Grebe Early: 01 Apr Charles Mix and Gregory RM; 02 Apr Stanley RDO; 11 Apr Minnehaha CA; 18 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 25 May Deuel RND; 13 May Yankton RND; 09 May Harding CEM

Red-necked Grebe All Reports: 10 May Marshall BP; 23 May Marshall GO; 26 May Marshall RND

Eared Grebe Early: 11 Apr Minnehaha CA; 12 Apr Butte ND; 12 Apr Charles Mix RM; 12 Apr Hutchinson KP

Western Grebe Early: 12 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 17 Apr Edmunds BP; 17 Apr Hughes DB; 19 Apr Fall River ND; 19 Apr Pennington RSL

Clark's Grebe Early: 19 Apr Fall River ND; 21 Apr Marshall GO; 27 Apr Hughes DB; 27 Apr Stanley KM, RDO

American White Pelican Early: 22 Mar Charles Mix KP; 30 Mar Hutchinson CA; 05 Apr Day BP; 05 Apr Hughes KM; 05 Apr McCook and Minnehaha CA, MKZ; 12 Apr Butte ND

Double-crested Cormorant Early: 01 Apr Gregory RM; 04 Apr Charles Mix KP; 05 Apr Day BP; 05 Apr Douglas KP; 05 Apr McCook and Minnehaha CA, MKZ; 05 Apr Yankton RND; 18 Apr Meade and Pennington ND

American Bittern Early: 27 Apr Hughes KM; 03 May Charles Mix RDO; 11 May Brown BP; 27 May Bennett JL

Great Blue Heron Early: 17 Mar Pennington CLG; 23 Mar Bennett ND; 29 Mar Custer ND; 30 Mar Charles Mix RM; 30 Mar Douglas CA, KP

Great Egret Early: 05 Apr Lake JSP; 06 Apr Charles Mix RM; 08 Apr Brown BP; 06 May Pennington ND

Snowy Egret Early: 21 Apr Marshall GO; 26 Apr Brown GO; 28 Apr Stanley DB, RDO; 14 May Bennett JL

Cattle Egret Early: 19 Apr Stanley RDO; 25 Apr Douglas KP; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 27 Apr Hughes KM

Green Heron Early: 26 Apr Lake JSP; 01 May Brown GO; 01 May Hughes DB; 19 May Jones DB

Black-crowned Night-Heron Early: 19 Apr Lake JSP; 20 Apr Stanley CEM; 21 Apr Brown GO; 23 Apr Pennington JLB

Glossy Ibis All Reports: 23 May Brown RDO; 26 May Brown ND

White-faced Ibis Early: 25 Apr Day BP; 26 Apr Brown GO; 27 Apr Hughes KM; 27 Apr Pennington ND

Turkey Vulture Early: 26 Mar Day BP; 28 Mar Clay GJS; 31 Mar Charles Mix RM; 03 Apr Meade EEM

Osprey Early: 04 Apr Hughes EDS; 07 Apr Pennington CLG; 12 Apr Minnehaha CA, MKZ

Northern Harrier Early: 02 Mar Charles Mix KP; 09 Mar Custer RSL; 09 Mar Douglas KP

Sharp-shinned Hawk Late: 01 May Hughes DB; 21 Apr Brown BP; 19 Apr Minnehaha DC

Cooper's Hawk Confirmed Breeding: **08 Apr Brown (NB) BP**

Broad-winged Hawk Early: 24 Apr Stanley KM; 25 Apr Hughes DB; 26 Apr Lake JSP; 26 Apr Pennington ND; 26 Apr Union DS ... Late: 25 May Marshall GO; 24 May Grant JSP; 22 May Roberts RND; 16 May Walworth KM; 14 May Fall River JSP

Swainson's Hawk Early: 23 Mar Charles Mix KP; 05 Apr Harding CEM; 09 Apr Marshall GO

Ferruginous Hawk Early: 05 Mar Charles Mix RM; 08 Mar Harding CEM; 14 Mar Pennington ND

Rough-legged Hawk Late: 14 Apr Harding CEM; 12 Apr McCook MKZ, CA; 06 Apr Yankton RND; 06 Apr Douglas KP

Golden Eagle Late: 30 Mar Charles Mix KP; 22 Mar Lake JSP; 12 Mar Marshall GO

Virginia Rail Early: 02 May Charles Mix RDO; 10 May Brown GO; 14 May Fall River JSP

Sora Early: 04 May Hughes KM; 06 May Marshall GO; 06 May Pennington JLB, ND

American Coot Early: 02 Mar Pennington JLB, RSL; 15 Mar Hughes RSL; 20 Mar Marshall BP

Sandhill Crane Early: 20 Mar Douglas KP; 26 Mar Custer MMM; 29 Mar Charles Mix KP ... Late: 20 May Charles Mix RM; 14 May Lincoln MKZ, CA; 12 May Lake JSP; 03 May Custer MMM

Whooping Crane All Reports: 12 Apr Brown BP, GO; 12 Apr Charles Mix RM; 13 Apr Edmunds JDW

Black-bellied Plover Early: **12 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 24 Apr Pennington JLB, ND**; 09 May Douglas RM; 16 May Potter RDO ... Late: 25 May Kingsbury DS, JSP; 23 May Edmunds RDO; 22 May Potter BP

American Golden-Plover Early: 19 Apr Brown BP; 07 May Edmunds GO; 10 May Faulk MMM; 10 May Union DS ... Late: 23 May Faulk and Brown RDO; 23 May Brookings DS, JSP

Semipalmated Plover Early: 19 Apr Hutchinson KP; 23 Apr Clay DS; 25 Apr Minnehaha CA; 27 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 26 May Brown ND; 22 May Minnehaha JSP; 21 May Potter RDO; 02 May Pennington JLB

Piping Plover Early: 19 Apr Hutchinson KP; 27 Apr Pennington ND; 28 Apr Stanley RDO

Killdeer Early: 14 Mar Yankton RND; 15 Mar Charles Mix KP; 15 Mar Lincoln AH; 23 Mar Todd ND

Black-necked Stilt All Reports: **21 Apr Aurora KP**; 16 May Potter RDO; 20 May Brown MO; 23 May Brown RDO; 25 May Brown GO

American Avocet Early: 13 Apr Charles Mix RM; 15 Apr Yankton RND; 17 Apr Hughes DB; 18 Apr Marshall MO; 20 Apr Meade RSL

Spotted Sandpiper Early: 27 Apr Pennington ND; 28 Apr Stanley DB; 28 Apr Yankton RND; 02 May Douglas CA

Solitary Sandpiper Early: 27 Apr Stanley RDO; 29 Apr Hughes DB; 05 May Lake JSP; 05 May Yankton RND; 06 May Meade and Pennington ND ... Late: 20 May Hughes ND; 17 May Minnehaha CA; 15 May Stanley KM; 10 May Pennington RSL

Greater Yellowlegs Early: 22 Mar Charles Mix DS; 22 Mar Stanley RDO; 30 Mar Brown BP; 30 Mar Hutchinson CA; 05 Apr Pennington JLB ... Late: 29 May Pennington ND; 23 May Minnehaha CA; 23 May Edmunds RDO; 06 May Yankton RND

Willet Early: 17 Apr Hutchinson RM; 21 Apr Aurora KP; 21 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Lawrence JLB; 26 Apr Pennington ND

Lesser Yellowlegs Early: 30 Mar Charles Mix RM; 03 Apr Pennington JLB; 05 Apr Minnehaha CA, MKZ ... Late: 26 May Brown ND; 25 May Deuel RND; 23 May Grant KP; 22 May Meade RSL; 15 May Union GJS

Upland Sandpiper Early: 29 Apr Custer MMM; 30 Apr Pennington JLB; 02 May Shannon ND; 07 May Edmunds GO; 16 May Potter RDO

Whimbrel All Reports: 20 May Meade RSL; 21 May Potter RDO

Long-billed Curlew Early: 06 Apr Custer MMM; 12 Apr Butte ND; 13 Apr Pennington RSL; 20 Apr Hughes RDO

Hudsonian Godwit Early: 16 Apr Douglas KP; 17 Apr Hutchinson RM; 18 Apr Brown MO; 18 Apr Charles Mix KP; 18 Apr Lake JSP ... Late: 26 May Aurora JLB; 24 May Deuel DS, JSP; 23 May Brookings DS, JSP; 10 May Union DS

Marbled Godwit Early: 06 Apr Douglas KP; 09 Apr Charles Mix RM; 10 Apr Davison and Hutchinson RM; 18 Apr Pennington ND

Ruddy Turnstone All Reports: 16 May Day BP; 16 May Sully RDO; 20 May Roberts MO; 21 May Minnehaha CA; 22 May Minnehaha JSP; 25 May Kingsbury (100+) DS, JSP

Sanderling Early: 28 Apr Stanley RDO; 03 May Hughes KM; 04 May Charles Mix ND; 14 May Douglas KP ... Late: 25 May Kingsbury DS, JSP; 23 May Marshall GO; 23 May Hamlin DS, JSP; 22 May Potter BP

Semipalmated Sandpiper Early: **06 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 12 Apr Minnehaha CA, MKZ; 15 Apr Yankton RND; 27 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 28 May McPherson ND; 28 May Lincoln JL; 26 May Meade RSL; 26 May Marshall and Brown ND; 26 May Aurora JLB; 22 May Potter BP

Least Sandpiper Early: 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 19 Apr Hutchinson KP; 20 Apr Hughes RDO; 23 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 29 May Pennington ND; 26 May Brown ND; 22 May Minnehaha JSP; 15 May Hughes RDO

White-rumped Sandpiper Early: 04 May Charles Mix ND; 12 May Hutchinson RDO; 12 May Lake JSP; 19 May Jones RDO

Baird's Sandpiper Early: 19 Mar Clay DS; 29 Mar Yankton RND; 30 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 30 Mar Douglas CA, KP; 30 Mar Hughes RDO; 30 Mar Hutchinson CA; 19 Apr Pennington RSL ... Late: 28 May Lincoln JL; 26 May Meade RSL; 25 May Roberts CA; 21 May Potter RDO

Pectoral Sandpiper Early: 30 Mar Charles Mix RM; 06 Apr Douglas KP; 06 Apr Minnehaha CA; 06 Apr Yankton RND; 27 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 28 May McPherson ND; 26 May Marshall ND; 25 May Roberts DS, JSP, CA; 22 May Potter BP; 15 May Pennington ND

Dunlin Early: 18 Apr Lake JSP; 26 Apr Brown BP, GO; 06 May Yankton RND ... Late: 26 May Marshall and Brown ND; 25 May Edmunds RDO; 25 May Deuel RND

Stilt Sandpiper Early: 03 May Charles Mix CA, KP; 06 May Yankton RND; 12 May Hutchinson RDO; 17 May Pennington JLB ... Late: 29 May Pennington ND; 28 May Lincoln JL; 26 May Meade RSL; 26 May Marshall ND; 26 May Aurora JLB; 22 May Potter BP

Buff-breasted Sandpiper Only Report: 25 May Kingsbury (16) DS, JSP

Short-billed Dowitcher Early: 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 06 May Yankton RND; 09 May Douglas RM ... Late: **23 May Hamlin DS, JSP; 21 May Minnehaha CA**

Long-billed Dowitcher Early: 10 Apr Hutchinson RM; 12 Apr Minnehaha CA, MKZ; 20 Apr Charles Mix RM; 27 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 26 May Meade RSL; 26 May Brown ND; 25 May Edmunds RDO; 16 May Sully and Potter RDO

Wilson's Snipe Early: 08 Mar Meade JLB, EEM; 12 Apr Brown BP, GO; 15 Apr Charles Mix RM

American Woodcock All Reports: **09 Mar Charles Mix KP**; 04 Apr Hughes EDS; 09 Apr Lincoln CA, MKZ; 12 May Lincoln RDO

Wilson's Phalarope Early: 17 Apr Charles Mix and Hutchinson RM; 19 Apr Minnehaha DC; 19 Apr Tripp RDO

Red-necked Phalarope Early: 09 May Harding CEM; 15 May Meade JLB; 16 May Sully RDO; 20 May Brown and Roberts MO; 20 May Faulk ND ... Late: 23 May Brookings DS, JSP; 22 May Minnehaha JSP; 21 May Potter RDO; 19 May Jones RDO

Bonaparte's Gull Early: 29 Mar Fall River DS, JSP; 31 Mar Charles Mix RM; 03 Apr Gregory RM; 12 Apr Brookings JSP ... Late: 17 May Minnehaha CA; 13 May Yankton RND; 04 May Hughes DB; 27 Apr Pennington ND

Franklin's Gull Early: 23 Mar Hughes RDO; 29 Mar Minnehaha CA; 30 Mar Charles Mix RM; 19 Apr Fall River ND; 19 Apr Pennington RSL

Mew Gull Only Report: **17 Apr Hughes DB, RDO**

Ring-billed Gull Early: 10 Mar Hughes RDO; 14 Mar Yankton RND; 15 Mar Charles Mix KP; 15 Mar Pennington JLB; 20 Mar Davison and Douglas KP; 20 Mar Turner RND

California Gull Early: 09 Mar Hughes RDO; 16 Mar Fall River ND; 16 Mar Pennington JLB; 07 May Day BP

Herring Gull Early: 05 Mar Charles Mix RM; 08 Mar Hughes RDO; 16 Mar Yankton RND; 20 Mar Douglas KP; 29 Mar Fall River DS, JSP, ND ... Late: 25 May Kingsbury DS, JSP; 08 May Hughes DB; 02 May Charles Mix RND; 19 Apr Fall River ND

Thayer's Gull Only Report: 21 Mar Hughes RDO

Iceland Gull Late: **14 Apr Stanley RDO; 04 Apr Hughes RDO, KM**

Lesser Black-backed Gull All Reports: 22 Mar Charles Mix DS, KP; 23 Mar Charles Mix KP, RM; 05 Apr Lake JSP; 05 Apr McCook CA, MKZ

Glaucous Gull Only Report: 04 Mar Hughes RDO

Least Tern All Reports: 29 May Charles Mix and Gregory KP

Caspian Tern Early: 19 Apr Fall River ND; 24 Apr Stanley RDO; 25 Apr Hughes DB; 15 May Day and Roberts GO ... Late: 18 May Meade ND; 14 May Fall River JSP; 13 May Stanley JL, KM

Black Tern Early: 06 May Yankton RND; 08 May Hughes and Stanley DB; 08 May Lake JSP; 17 May Pennington JLB

Common Tern All Reports: 27 Apr Yankton KP; 28 Apr Yankton RND; 29 Apr Yankton RND; 04 May Stanley RDO; 18 May Butte ND

Forster's Tern Early: 19 Apr Charles Mix RM; 20 Apr Hyde RDO; 21 Apr Aurora KP; 21 Apr Marshall GO; 14 May Fall River JSP

Mourning Dove Early: 08 Mar Miner JSP; 18 Mar Clay GJS; 21 Mar Hughes EDS; 05 Apr Custer MMM

Yellow-billed Cuckoo All Reports: 26 May Charles Mix RM; 30 May Charles Mix and Gregory KP

Black-billed Cuckoo Only Report: 31 May Pennington RSL

Barn Owl All Reports: 02 May Charles Mix ND; 03 May Charles Mix CA

Snowy Owl Only Report: 18 Mar Roberts BP

Burrowing Owl Early: 05 Apr Custer MMM; 06 Apr Charles Mix RM; 06 Apr Pennington JLB

Barred Owl All Reports: 09 Apr Lincoln CA, MKZ; 14 May Lincoln CA, MKZ

Common Nighthawk Early: 07 May Clay DS; 20 May Minnehaha CA; 20 May Pennington JF
Common Poorwill All Reports: 08 May Harding KM; 09 May Harding CEM; 12 May Harding ND
Eastern Whip-poor-will Early: 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 06 May Yankton RND; 07 May Minnehaha CA
Chimney Swift Early: 27 Apr Minnehaha CA; 03 May Charles Mix KP, RDO; 03 May Lake JSP; 20 May Pennington MMM
White-throated Swift Early: 19 Apr Fall River ND; 20 Apr Pennington ND; 09 May Harding CEM, KM; 09 May Lawrence DGP
Ruby-throated Hummingbird Early: 06 May Charles Mix RM; 07 May Lake JSP; 09 May Clay GJS; 09 May Lincoln AH
Broad-tailed Hummingbird Only Report: 29 May Pennington JLB
Belted Kingfisher Early: 01 Mar Lawrence EK; 05 Mar Pennington CLG; 08 Mar Fall River PM; 16 Mar Hughes RDO; 04 Apr Douglas KP
Lewis's Woodpecker All Reports: 06 Mar Lawrence JLB; 03 May Meade RSL; 10 May Custer ND; 17 May Custer JL
Red-headed Woodpecker Early: 16 Mar Lincoln CA; 29 Mar Brown GO; 07 Apr Brule RND; 19 May Jones DB; 19 May Pennington RSL
Red-bellied Woodpecker reported **02 May Shannon ND**
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Early: 14 Apr Brown BP; 13 May Lincoln RDO; 15 May Minnehaha CA
Red-naped Sapsucker Early: 20 Apr Lawrence DGP; 20 Apr Pennington ND; 26 Apr Custer ND
Black-backed Woodpecker All Reports: 14 Mar Lawrence DGP; 22 Mar Lawrence DGP; 27 Mar Lawrence DGP; 15 Apr Lawrence DGP; 20 May Lawrence DGP; 20 May Pennington JF
Northern Flicker Early: 01 Mar Pennington RSL; 02 Mar Hughes and Stanley RDO; 06 Mar Douglas KP
Pileated Woodpecker reported from Grant and Roberts counties
Merlin Late: 17 May Custer JL; 12 May Pennington CLG; 24 Apr Stanley KM; 21 Apr Brown BP
Peregrine Falcon Early: 11 Apr Minnehaha CA; 19 Apr Fall River ND; 20 Apr Hughes RDO; 20 Apr Lake JSP ... Late: 23 May Minnehaha CA; 19 May Jones DB; 16 May Sully RDO
Prairie Falcon Late: 13 May Stanley JL; 10 May Hughes KM; 26 Mar Brown GO
Olive-sided Flycatcher Early: 07 May Brown and Edmunds GO; 12 May Lincoln MO; 12 May Pennington CLG; 26 May Hughes KM ... Late: 27 May Douglas KP; 24 May Roberts RDO, ND, KP, GO; 24 May Grant MKZ, RND, CA
Western Wood-Pewee All Reports: 14 May Fall River JL; 16 May Pennington RSL; 20 May Pennington JF; 31 May Pennington RSL
Eastern Wood-Pewee Early: **10 May Union RND**; 13 May Clay GJS; 20 May Charles Mix RM; 23 May Marshall GO
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher All Reports: 23 May Day RDO; 26 May Roberts RND
Alder Flycatcher All Reports: 23 May Day RDO; 23 May Marshall GO; 24 May Grant DS, JSP
Willow Flycatcher Early: 06 May Minnehaha CA; 10 May Brookings KP; 11 May Custer ND; 18 May Stanley RDO
Least Flycatcher Early: **27 Apr Hughes DB**; 01 May Brown BP; 03 May Charles Mix CA, RDO; 06 May Pennington ND
Dusky Flycatcher All Reports: 20 May Pennington JF; 22 May Lawrence DGP; 31 May Lawrence DGP
Cordilleran Flycatcher All Reports: 20 May Pennington JF; 21 May Lawrence DGP; 28 May Pennington CLG; 29 May Pennington JLB; 31 May Lawrence DGP
Eastern Phoebe Early: 05 Apr Charles Mix RM; 05 Apr Yankton RND; 07 Apr Clay DS; 07 Apr Pennington MMM; 09 Apr Minnehaha RND
Say's Phoebe Early: 06 Apr Pennington JLB; 19 Apr Fall River ND; 19 Apr Stanley RDO; 21 Apr Marshall GO
Great Crested Flycatcher Early: 12 May Stanley KM; 13 May Hughes DB; 13 May Lincoln RDO
Cassin's Kingbird Only Report: **10 May Custer ND**
Western Kingbird Early: 27 Apr Charles Mix KP; 27 Apr Hughes KM, RDO; 04 May Douglas ND; 06 May Custer MMM; 06 May Pennington ND
Eastern Kingbird Early: 05 May Douglas KP; 05 May Yankton RND; 06 May Marshall GO; 14 May Fall River JSP

Loggerhead Shrike Early: 29 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Apr Douglas RND; 18 Apr Custer MMM; 18 Apr Meade ND

Northern Shrike Late: 06 Apr Pennington JLB; 30 Mar Meade ND; 29 Mar Fall River ND; 16 Mar Stanley RDO; 09 Mar Douglas KP

Bell's Vireo Early: 10 May Union DS; 17 May Charles Mix KP; 21 May Custer MMM; 21 May Hughes EDS

Yellow-throated Vireo Early: 07 May Clay DS; 12 May Lincoln MO; 15 May Union GJS

Plumbeous Vireo All Reports: 20 May Pennington JF; 26 May Custer JL

Blue-headed Vireo Early: **29 Apr Brown GO**; 03 May Edmunds GO; 05 May Douglas KP; 07 May Clay DS, GJS ... Late: 23 May Day RDO; 18 May Hughes DB; 17 May Minnehaha CA

Warbling Vireo Early: 06 May Clay GJS; 06 May Yankton RND; 07 May Minnehaha CA; 13 May Pennington RSL

Philadelphia Vireo Early: 10 May Douglas KP; 12 May Union MO; 14 May Charles Mix RM ... Late: 31 May Gregory RM; 27 May Clay GJS; 23 May Roberts MO, KP

Red-eyed Vireo Early: 13 May Lincoln RDO; 14 May Charles Mix RM; 16 May Douglas KP; 19 May Jones DB

Blue Jay Confirmed Breeding: **20 Apr Lincoln (NB) AH**

Black-billed Magpie reported 06 Apr Yankton RND; 10 May Hughes KM

Purple Martin Early: 10 Apr Faulk BP; 12 Apr Hughes EDS; 19 Apr Charles Mix RM; 19 Apr Lyman RDO; 19 Apr Minnehaha DC

Tree Swallow Early: 06 Apr Clay DS; 11 Apr Hughes KM; 11 Apr Yankton RND; 12 Apr Brookings JSP; 12 Apr Brown BP; 12 Apr Hutchinson and Turner KP; 12 Apr Pennington ND; 12 Apr Meade EEM

Violet-green Swallow Early: 26 Apr Pennington ND; 03 May Meade RSL; 06 May Lawrence DGP

Northern Rough-winged Swallow Early: 19 Apr Charles Mix RM; 23 Apr Pennington ND; 27 Apr Stanley KM; 27 Apr Yankton KP; 28 Apr Douglas KP

Bank Swallow Early: 27 Apr Stanley KM; 28 Apr Yankton RND; 30 Apr Hughes DB; 09 May Harding CEM; 12 May Lake JSP

Cliff Swallow Early: 27 Apr Pennington JLB; 27 Apr Stanley KM; 28 Apr Charles Mix RM; 03 May Lake JSP

Barn Swallow Early: 19 Apr Lake JSP; 19 Apr Minnehaha DC; 21 Apr Aurora KP; 23 Apr Hughes DB; 23 Apr Pennington ND

Black-capped Chickadee Confirmed Breeding: **24 Apr Pennington (CN) ND**

Red-breasted Nuthatch Late: 09 May Lincoln AH; 15 Apr Brown GO

Pygmy Nuthatch Confirmed Breeding: **15 May Fall River (NB) JL** ... also reported 08 Mar Fall River PM; 23 Apr Pennington OCW

Brown Creeper Late: 08 May Brown GO; 03 May Edmunds GO; 18 Apr Lake JSP; 18 Apr Douglas KP; 17 Apr Hughes DB

Rock Wren Early: **11 Apr Custer MMM**; 20 Apr Pennington ND; 21 Apr Stanley DB

Canyon Wren All Reports: 12 Mar Lawrence DGP; 12 Apr Lawrence DGP; 19 Apr Fall River ND; 17 May Custer JL

House Wren Early: 19 Apr Hutchinson KP; 20 Apr Clay DS; 21 Apr Yankton RND; 02 May Shannon ND

Winter Wren Early: **18 Apr Marshall MO**; 25 Apr Edmunds JDW; 26 Apr Lake JSP; **13 May Hughes EDS** ... Late: **07 May Brown GO**; 21 Apr Marshall GO

Sedge Wren Early: **21 Apr Aurora KP**; 03 May Charles Mix CA, KP, ND, RDO; 05 May Minnehaha CA

Marsh Wren Early: 08 Mar Fall River PM; 03 Apr Lawrence EK; 19 Apr Yankton RND; 17 May McCook and Minnehaha CA

Golden-crowned Kinglet Late: 08 May Brown GO; 03 May Edmunds GO; 19 Apr Lake JSP; 19 Apr Hughes DB

Ruby-crowned Kinglet Early: 12 Apr Brookings JSP; 12 Apr Clay GJS; 13 Apr Brown BP; 13 Apr Pennington RSL ... Late: 19 May Minnehaha CA; 18 May Lincoln CA; 18 May Hughes DB

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Early: **20 Apr Union DS**; 26 Apr Lake JSP; 02 May Charles Mix RND; 10 May Custer ND

Eastern Bluebird Early: 05 Mar Charles Mix RM; 08 Mar Gregory KP; 22 Mar Lake JSP; 19 Apr Tripp RDO

Mountain Bluebird Early: 09 Mar Custer RSL; 12 Mar Butte ND; 15 Mar Pennington JLB; 23 Mar Charles Mix RM

Townsend's Solitaire Late: **10 May Charles Mix ND**; 12 Apr Hughes EDS; 07 Apr Edmunds GO

Veery Early: 08 May Lincoln AH; 23 May Marshall and Roberts MO

Gray-cheeked Thrush Early: 04 May Hughes KM; 04 May Stanley RDO; 05 May Brown GO; 13 May Pennington JLB, ND ... Late: 26 May Hughes KM, DB; 20 May Minnehaha CA; 17 May Walworth KM; 16 May Pennington JLB

Swainson's Thrush Early: **27 Apr Brown GO**; 01 May Hughes DB; 01 May Stanley RDO; 08 May Pennington JLB

Hermit Thrush Early: 12 Apr Brookings JSP; 13 Apr Minnehaha CA; 14 Apr Brown GO; 24 Apr Stanley RDO ... Late: 04 May Minnehaha CA; 03 May Lake JSP; 03 May Edmunds GO

Wood Thrush Early: 08 May Brown BP, GO; 08 May Clay DS; 13 May Lincoln RDO

American Robin Confirmed Breeding: **11 Apr Lincoln (CN) AH**; **12 Apr Brown (CN) GO**

Gray Catbird Early: 28 Apr Yankton RND; 05 May Clay DS; 06 May Brown BP; 06 May Lake JSP; 06 May Minnehaha CA; 10 May Pennington RSL

Brown Thrasher Early: 13 Apr Clay DS; 20 Apr Lincoln AH; 24 Apr Custer MMM

Northern Mockingbird Early: 23 Apr Brown BP; 04 May Minnehaha CA; 13 May Pennington JLB

European Starling Confirmed Breeding: **11 Apr Lincoln (CN) AH**

American Pipit Early: **16 Mar Yankton RND**; 22 Mar Charles Mix DS; 29 Mar Minnehaha CA; 19 Apr Pennington RSL ... Late: 09 May Faulk MMM; 04 May Hughes KM; 28 Apr Stanley DB

Sprague's Pipit Only Report: 09 May Harding CEM, KM

Bohemian Waxwing All Reports: 18 Mar Lawrence DGP; 04 Apr Lawrence DGP; **08 Apr Lawrence DGP**

Ovenbird Early: 01 May Brown GO; 04 May Hughes EDS; 06 May Lake JSP; 06 May Marshall GO; 18 May Harding ND

Northern Waterthrush Early: 29 Apr Brown GO; 04 May Hughes DB, KM; 06 May Lake JSP; 06 May Marshall GO; 13 May Pennington JLB, RSL ... Late: 24 May Grant ND; 22 May Brown GO; 19 May Stanley KM; 19 May Hughes EDS; 18 May Pennington RSL

Golden-winged Warbler Early: **06 May Hughes EDS**; 07 May Minnehaha CA; 12 May Lincoln and Union MO; 25 May Pennington RSL ... Late: 20 May Minnehaha CA; 17 May Lake JSP; 14 May Union DS

Blue-winged Warbler Early: 12 May Lincoln MO; 15 May Union GJS; **23 May Marshall MO** ... Late: 28 May Lincoln JL

Black-and-white Warbler Early: 26 Apr Brown BK; 26 Apr Union DS; 28 Apr Charles Mix RM; 08 May Harding KM ... Late: 26 May Roberts RND; 25 May Marshall GO; 23 May Day RDO; 21 May Gregory KP; 15 May Jones DB

Tennessee Warbler Early: **04 May Pennington RSL**; 06 May Day GO; 07 May Brown GO; 07 May Clay DS; 07 May Gregory RM; 07 May Hughes EDS

Orange-crowned Warbler Early: 23 Apr Hughes KM; 23 Apr Lake JSP; 23 Apr Pennington ND ... Late: 25 May Pennington RSL; 22 May Roberts RND; 22 May Brown GO; 21 May Walworth BP; 21 May Gregory KP

Nashville Warbler Early: 06 May Lake JSP; 06 May Marshall GO; 07 May Brown BP, GO; 07 May Clay DS, GJS; 07 May Edmunds GO; 07 May Minnehaha CA ... Late: 24 May Roberts RDO; 24 May Grant ND, DS, JSP; 23 May Marshall GO; 17 May Walworth KM; 17 May Union GJS; 17 May Charles Mix KP

Virginia's Warbler Only Report: 17 May Custer JL

Connecticut Warbler Only Report: **15 May Hughes DB**

MacGillivray's Warbler All Reports: 17 May Custer JL; 25 May Lawrence DGP; 26 May Custer JL; 31 May Lawrence DGP

Mourning Warbler All Reports: **07 May Clay DS**; 17 May Walworth KM; 18 May Clay GJS; 20 May Hughes EDS; 22 May Roberts RND; 24 May Grant DS, JSP

Common Yellowthroat Early: 30 Apr Hughes DB; 02 May Stanley KM; 03 May Charles Mix CA, ND; 04 May Pennington RSL; 05 May Douglas KP

Hooded Warbler Only Report: **10 May Union DS**

American Redstart Early: 06 May Brown BP; 06 May Day GO; 06 May Lake JSP; 07 May Clay DS; 07 May Gregory RM; 14 May Fall River JSP

Cape May Warbler Early: 10 May Brown GO; 10 May Day BP; 12 May Lincoln and Union MO ...
Late: 17 May Lake JSP; 17 May Brown GO; 14 May Union DS

Northern Parula Early: 10 May Union DS, RND; 10 May Yankton RND; 12 May Lincoln MO ...
Late: 16 May Union RND; 14 May Lincoln RDO; 13 May Lake JSP

Magnolia Warbler Early: **05 May Brown GO; 06 May Day and Marshall GO**; 07 May Stanley
KM; 15 May Jones DB ... Late: 24 May Roberts RDO, KP, GO; 24 May Grant MKZ, RND, CA;
23 May Minnehaha KP; 23 May Marshall GO; 23 May Day RDO; 19 May Stanley KM

Bay-breasted Warbler Early: **08 May Lake JSP**; 12 May Union MO; 13 May Lincoln RDO ...
Late: 22 May Brown GO; 21 May Edmunds GO; 16 May Union RND

Blackburnian Warbler Early: 12 May Clay DS; 14 May Day BP; 23 May Marshall GO ... Late: 24
May Grant MKZ, RND, CA

Yellow Warbler Early: 26 Apr Union DS; 03 May Charles Mix RDO; 04 May Hughes DB, EDS,
KM; 04 May Pennington RSL; 04 May Stanley RDO; 06 May Brown BP, GO; 06 May Lake JSP

Chestnut-sided Warbler Early: 10 May Union RND; 19 May Lake JSP; 20 May Minnehaha CA ...
Late: 26 May Day GO; 25 May Roberts DS, JSP, CA; 24 May Grant MKZ, RND, ND, CA

Blackpoll Warbler Early: 04 May Hughes DB; 05 May Brown GO; 06 May Marshall GO; 14 May
Fall River JSP ... Late: 26 May Day GO; 25 May Roberts DS, JSP, CA; 25 May Marshall GO; 25
May Grant RND, RDO, ND, KP; 22 May Walworth BP; 22 May Clay GJS; 21 May Custer MMM

Palm Warbler Early: **26 Apr Hughes DB, KM; 26 Apr Lake JSP**; 29 Apr Minnehaha MKZ; 06
May Pennington ND ... Late: 19 May Stanley KM; 19 May Jones DB; 19 May Douglas KP

Yellow-rumped Warbler Early: 06 Apr Yankton RND; 12 Apr Hughes KM; 16 Apr Edmunds GO;
21 Apr Pennington CLG ... Late: 28 May Hughes EDS; 25 May Grant RND, RDO, ND, KP; 23
May Marshall GO

Black-throated Green Warbler Early: 06 May Brown GO; 07 May Clay DS; 08 May Harding KM;
08 May Lake JSP ... Late: 17 May Union GJS; 17 May Minnehaha CA; 14 May Stanley KM

Canada Warbler All Reports: 23 May Day RDO; 23 May Marshall GO; 23 May Roberts MO; 24
May Grant DS, JSP; 24 May Roberts KP

Wilson's Warbler Early: 02 May Shannon ND; 06 May Stanley DB; 07 May Clay DS; 07 May
Minnehaha CA ... Late: 23 May Marshall GO; 23 May Day RDO; 22 May Clay GJS; 20 May
Jones DB

Yellow-breasted Chat Early: **08 May Brown GO**; 13 May Pennington ND; 14 May Fall River JSP;
18 May Stanley DB

Summer Tanager All Reports: **26 Apr Edmunds JDW**; 22 May Hughes EDS; 25 May Lake JSP

Scarlet Tanager Early: 20 May Union DS; 24 May Grant CA, RND, MKZ; 26 May Roberts RND

Western Tanager All Reports: 11 May Hughes *fide* DB; 17 May Harding CEM

Spotted Towhee Early: 09 Apr Lincoln CA, MKZ; 13 Apr Clay DS; 17 Apr Stanley RDO; 23 Apr
Pennington OCW

Eastern Towhee Early: 13 Apr Clay DS; 19 Apr Yankton RND; 01 May Charles Mix RM; 02 May
Minnehaha CA

American Tree Sparrow Late: 19 Apr Hutchinson and Douglas KP; 19 Apr Deuel CEM; 16 Apr
Pennington ND; 11 Apr Yankton RND

Chipping Sparrow Early: 08 Apr Brown GO; 10 Apr Clay DS, GJS; 11 Apr Lincoln AH; 23 Apr
Meade JLB; 23 Apr Pennington OCW

Clay-colored Sparrow Early: 25 Apr Douglas KP; 25 Apr Hughes DB; 26 Apr Lincoln AH; 26 Apr
Stanley RDO; 27 Apr Pennington ND

Brewer's Sparrow All Reports: 09 May Harding CEM, KM; 11 May Lawrence DGP

Field Sparrow Early: 06 Apr Yankton RND; 12 Apr Lincoln and Minnehaha CA, MKZ; 29 Apr
Custer MMM

Vesper Sparrow Early: **26 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 12 Apr Brookings JSP; 12 Apr Clay DS; 12 Apr
Hutchinson and Turner KP; 12 Apr Meade RSL; 12 Apr Minnehaha CA, MKZ

Lark Sparrow Early: 23 Apr Hughes DB; 23 Apr Stanley RDO; 25 Apr Douglas KP; 27 Apr Butte
EK; 27 Apr Custer MMM; 27 Apr Harding CEM; 27 Apr Pennington ND

Lark Bunting Early: 06 May Custer MMM; 06 May Pennington ND; 08 May Haakon KM; **10 May
Union DS**; 13 May Stanley DB

Savannah Sparrow Early: 30 Mar Charles Mix RM; 06 Apr Douglas KP; 12 Apr Brookings JSP; 12 Apr Brown BP; 12 Apr Clay DS; 12 Apr Hutchinson KP; 12 Apr Minnehaha CA, MKZ; 23 Apr Custer MMM

Grasshopper Sparrow Early: 06 May Yankton RND; 09 May Faulk MMM; 09 May Harding CEM

Baird's Sparrow Only Report: 09 May Harding CEM, KM

Le Conte's Sparrow All Reports: 27 Apr Hughes KM; 26 May Marshall ND

Fox Sparrow Early: 01 Apr Lake JSP; 01 Apr Lincoln and Minnehaha CA; 05 Apr Yankton RND; 10 May Custer ND ... Late: 27 Apr Minnehaha CA; 27 Apr Brown BP; 21 Apr Marshall GO

Song Sparrow Early: 15 Mar Charles Mix KP; 25 Mar Pennington MMM; 30 Mar Douglas CA, KP; 30 Mar Hutchinson CA

Lincoln's Sparrow Early: 01 Apr Gregory RM; 01 Apr Minnehaha CA; 09 Apr Pennington RSL ... Late: 18 May Stanley RDO; 17 May Pennington JLB; 17 May Minnehaha CA; 17 May Douglas and Charles Mix KP; 17 May Clay GJS, DS; 17 May Brown GO

Swamp Sparrow Early: 19 Apr Yankton RND; 20 Apr Union DS; 26 Apr Lake JSP

White-throated Sparrow Early: 05 Mar Yankton RND; 05 Apr Clay GJS; 24 Apr Brown BP; 24 Apr Lake JSP; 28 Apr Custer MMM ... Late: 26 May Hughes DB; 20 May Minnehaha CA; 18 May Lincoln CA; 15 May Jones DB

Harris's Sparrow Early: 05 Mar Minnehaha CA; 05 Apr Clay GJS; 19 Apr Hutchinson KP; 09 May Harding CEM ... Late: 23 May Lincoln AH; 21 May Brown BP; 18 May Clay GJS; 16 May Pennington RSL

White-crowned Sparrow Early: 19 Apr Charles Mix RM; 19 Apr Hutchinson KP; 22 Apr Custer MMM ... Late: 19 May Brown GO; 18 May Stanley RDO; 18 May Clay GJS; 18 May Butte ND

Dark-eyed Junco Late: 13 May Clay GJS; 11 May Hughes DB; 07 May Sully MMM; 07 May Edmunds GO

Lapland Longspur Late: 05 Apr Brown BP; 01 Apr Stanley RDO; 01 Apr Custer MMM

Chestnut-collared Longspur Early: 11 Apr Custer MMM; 18 Apr Hughes KM; 20 Apr Hyde and Sully RDO; 28 May McPherson ND

Snow Bunting All Reports: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 02 Mar Charles Mix KP; 04 Mar Meade EEM; 26 Mar Day WS

Rose-breasted Grosbeak Early: **28 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 04 May Brown GO; 04 May Clay GJS; 04 May Gregory ND; 14 May Harding CEM

Black-headed Grosbeak Early: 01 May Charles Mix RM; 04 May Stanley RDO; 07 May Gregory RM; 07 May Hughes KM; 10 May Meade EEM; 11 May Edmunds JDW

Blue Grosbeak Early: 18 May Clay DS; 19 May Custer MMM; 22 May Stanley KM; 23 May Aurora JLB

Lazuli Bunting Early: 12 May Stanley RDO; 14 May Fall River JSP; 16 May Pennington RSL; 19 May Edmunds JDW

Indigo Bunting Early: **19 Apr Edmunds JDW**; 12 May Hughes RDO; 17 May Charles Mix KP; 17 May Union GJS

Dickcissel Early: **07 May Clay GJS**; 16 May Charles Mix RM; 21 May Gregory KP; 23 May Jackson JLB; 25 May Grant ND

Bobolink Early: 06 May Yankton RND; 07 May Clay DS; 10 May Charles Mix RM; 10 May Faulk MMM; 10 May Marshall BP; 10 May Moody JSP; 15 May Pennington ND

Red-winged Blackbird Early: 02 Mar Clay GJS; 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 08 Mar Charles Mix KP; 08 Mar Miner JSP; 15 Mar Jones RSL

Eastern Meadowlark Only Report: 14 May Bennett JL

Western Meadowlark Early: 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Charles Mix RM; 15 Mar Jones RSL; 20 Mar Day BP; 20 Mar Douglas and Hanson KP; 20 Mar Turner RND

Yellow-headed Blackbird Early: 05 Apr Minnehaha CA, MKZ; 06 Apr Douglas KP; 11 Apr Brown BP; 12 Apr Meade RSL; 14 Apr Clay GJS

Rusty Blackbird Early: 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 10 Mar Douglas KP; 16 Mar Lincoln CA ... Late: 14 Apr Charles Mix RM; 13 Apr Clay DS; 06 Apr Minnehaha CA

Brewer's Blackbird Early: 20 Mar Douglas KP; 28 Mar Day BP; 09 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Pennington ND

Common Grackle Early: 11 Mar Charles Mix RM; 12 Mar Clay GJS; 16 Mar Douglas KP; 10 Apr Pennington ND

Great-tailed Grackle Early: 15 Apr Brown GO; 17 Apr Douglas KP; 23 Apr Turner DS; 29 Apr Hughes DB, KM; 02 May Shannon ND

Brown-headed Cowbird Early: 18 Mar Clay GJS; 20 Mar Douglas KP; 22 Mar Lincoln AH; 13 Apr Jones RDO

Orchard Oriole Early: **27 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 06 May Lincoln AH; 10 May Union DS; 14 May Fall River JSP

Bullock's Oriole Early: **07 May Hughes MMM**; **10 May Custer ND**; 14 May Fall River JSP

Baltimore Oriole Early: 04 May Charles Mix RM; 04 May Clay GJS; 06 May Douglas KP; 06 May Lake JSP; 06 May Lincoln AH; 06 May Minnehaha CA; 06 May Yankton RND; 16 May Pennington RSL

Purple Finch Late: 21 Apr Brown GO; 18 Apr Edmunds BP; 04 Apr Stanley RDO

Cassin's Finch All Reports: 05 Apr Lawrence DGP; 12 Apr Lawrence DGP; 14 Apr Lawrence DGP; 11 May Lawrence DGP

Pine Siskin Late: 07 May Brown GO; 06 Mar Clay GJS

Evening Grosbeak Only Report: 26 Apr Lawrence JLB

House Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: **11 Apr Lincoln (CN) AH**

Reports Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

Snowy Egret 24 Apr Pennington JLB; 06 May Meade ND

Green Heron 18 May Pennington RSL

Red-shouldered Hawk 02 Apr Minnehaha MKZ

Long-billed Curlew 04 May Douglas ND

Western Sandpiper 13 May Yankton (14) RND

White-rumped Sandpiper 17 Apr Hutchinson RM

Laughing Gull 13 May Sully JL

Great Black-backed Gull 01 Apr – 18 Apr Stanley and Hughes RDO, KM; 05 Apr Minnehaha JSP

White-winged Dove 03 May Pennington RSL

Yellow-throated Vireo 18 May Pennington JLB

Blue-headed Vireo 11 May Pennington RSL

Pacific Wren 01 May Lawrence DGP; 26 May Lawrence DGP

Louisiana Waterthrush 06 May Stanley RDO

Cerulean Warbler 07 May Clay GJS

Prairie Warbler 07 May Pennington ND

Black-throated Gray Warbler 01 May Shannon PH

Hermit Warbler 08 May Roberts CV

Green-tailed Towhee 12-13 May Lawrence VDF, JSP

Rose-breasted Grosbeak 12 Apr Lincoln CA, MKZ

Indigo Bunting 08 Apr Gregory RM

Painted Bunting 10 May Lake DGW, JSP

Species Expected But Not Reported

White-winged Scoter (3), Black Scoter, Barrow's Goldeneye, Least Bittern, Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (3), Northern Goshawk, Gyrfalcon (2), Pinyon Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, Varied Thrush (2), Sage Thrasher (2), Worm-eating Warbler (3), Prothonotary Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Pine Warbler, Gray-crowned Rosy Finch (2), White-winged Crossbill, Common Redpoll, Lesser Goldfinch (2)

Contributing Observers

CA	Chris Anderson	RSL	Richard S. Latuchie	KP	Kelly M. Preheim
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CLG	Canyon Lake Group	GO	Gary Olson	CV	Cheryl Vellenga
AH	Alice Hill	RDO	Ricky D. Olson	DGW	Don & Glenda Wiken
PH	Peter Hill	MO	Mark Otnes	JDW	J. David Williams
BK	Brian Kringen	JSP	Jeffrey S. Palmer	MRZ	Mick Zerr
EK	Elizabeth Krueger	BP	Barry Parkin		

Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World, Vol. 1. Non-passerines. Josep del Hoyo and Nigel J. Collar. 903 pp. Hardbound. \$194.65.

Handbook of the Birds of the World—Alive. Subscription website. Approximately \$40 or \$60 annually. (Two levels; Priced in Euros.)

Almost any birder will greatly enjoy the *Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World, Volume 1*—but it is a large, heavy, expensive book. The book contains 357 plates containing 8290 small, thumb-sized illustrations of the non-passerines of the world. These drawings are generally very good, but tend to be in a cookie-cutter style, with birds often in identical poses.

The book is not meant to be an identification guide, but rather is a review of avian diversity. The color plates each contain about two-dozen birds and show species and many subspecies. Small range maps are included on each plate. Opposite each plate is a page giving alternative names, taxonomic notes, and subspecies and distribution. There is also a note on population status and a reference to where the bird appears in the 17-volume, *Handbook of the Birds of the World*, thus serving as an index to that monumental work.

The 30-page introduction is an interesting discussion about how species evolve and how they are defined. Also covered are definitions of terminology and the general layout of the species accounts. The book ends with at least 30 large atlas-sized maps of the regions of the world, including topographical landmarks and often political boundaries within countries (states and provinces). Finally, the book ends with a list of 2126 bibliographic references.

If you don't have the \$400 required for this volume and the upcoming checklist for all the passerines, or the \$3760 (a 20% discount) for the whole 17-volume, *Handbook of the Birds of the World*, then consider the *Handbook of Birds of the World—Alive (HBW—Alive)*.

HBW—Alive is the web version of the *Handbook*. You can buy a yearly subscription for approximately \$40 annually. The website is massive, covering all 13,367 pages written by 277 authors, 10200 maps, and containing some 15 million words. You can search for bird families and species accounts for any of the birds of the world. But what is awesome is that *HBW—Alive* is being continually updated with new ornithological information, making the website truly alive and a vision into our technological future.

HBW—Alive lacks the sumptuous photographs of the *Handbook*. In their place are links to a wide array of still and video sequences of the birds. At this time, this includes over 82,000 videos, 111,000 photos and 12,000 sound recordings covering 94% of the bird species of the world. Links also exist to the original literature cited in the text—although this ability is available only to Supporting Members for about \$60 per year.

HBW—Alive also allows you to keep personal notes and to create printable country checklists, complete with color illustrations of every species. Keeping life-lists is also possible for Supporting Members. Updates from the ornithological journals of the world are also available.

I have barely scratched the surface of what a stupendous resource this website offers. Anyone seriously interested in birds should check out this address:

<http://www.lynxeds.com/content/hbw-alive-entire-contents-hbw-your-fingertips>.



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