

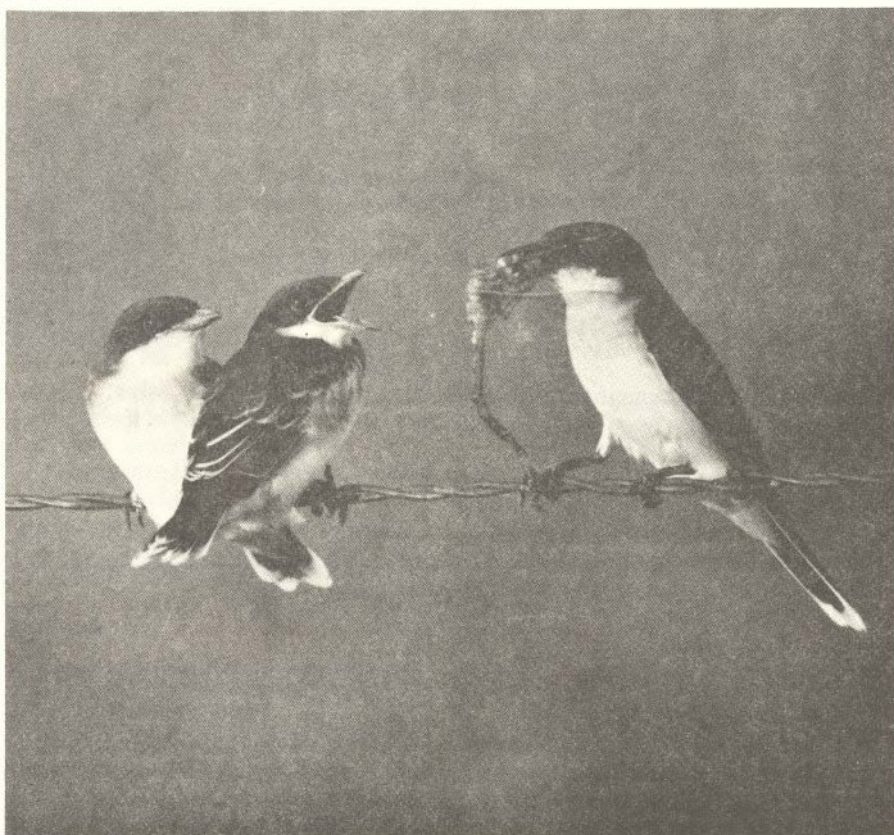
South Dakota Bird Notes

Official Publication
of
SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
(Organized 1949)

Vol. 29, No. 4

December, 1977

Whole No. 115



Courtesy of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Photo by Kent Olson

Eastern Kingbird Adult and Young

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President's Page

It is a pleasure to address you as SDOU's new president. I first joined our group in the fall of 1969 at Huron, my journey there spurred by sheer impulse to satisfy my curiosity about you after seeing an advertisement somewhere about the meetings. There I met the Halls and others who have since become good friends, and I recall the warm welcome I received from J.W. Johnson on his "President's Page" in the following issue of BIRD NOTES.



At the November meeting in Vermillion the membership present decided to retain the name "South Dakota Ornithologists' Union" for our organization and to postpone for a year any decision to change the name of BIRD

NOTES. Bruce Harris explained the state's small wetlands acquisition program and urged support of it, and I have since asked him to chair an *ad hoc* committee including Esther Edie and Ken Husmann to study this program's problems and to recommend appropriate actions that we might take as a group to aid the realization of its objectives.

The Board of Directors, concerned about the sharply rising costs for printing BIRD NOTES, empowered a committee composed of Editor June Harter, Treasurer Nelda Holden, and myself to select a less expensive publisher. After investigating the known alternatives, that committee voted unanimously to accept the bid of Thomas H. Odenbrett, Vermillion, whose

charges will be considerably lower than those of the other bidders.

We wish to thank our former publisher, Larry Ingalls, Webster, for the excellent service he has provided over the years. We also wish to thank Ellen Williamson, Webster, for her faithful efforts in labeling and mailing out all the copies of BIRD NOTES for many years. Her job will be taken over by SDOU members residing in Vermillion and Yankton.

Our Spring Meeting will be held this year at the Samuel H. Ordway Prairie near Leola, and Paul M. Bultsma, its manager, is making plans to receive us there. Looking still further ahead, I want to suggest that we consider in the near future the study of a portion of one of our state's eight Indian Reservations at the time of our May get-together. For various reasons, one of which is my personal knowledge of the Standing Rock Reservation (most of it is in South Dakota), I suspect that these reservations have been much neglected by birders. We might make some surprising discoveries in these habitats. Obviously, the problems of organizing field trips would be unusual, but they need not be insurmountable.

An important problem that our organization has perhaps not fully considered is how to attract young people to our cause, for, after all, the young, properly schooled, must succeed us. Surely, we must do something different to encourage the young to join us, and that something probably requires us to endorse some changes in our activities and programs. I trust we are not believers in Lord Falkland's famous dictum: "When it is not necessary to change, it is necessary not to change."
--- Bill Lemons, Meckling.

SDOU AUTUMN MEETING NOVEMBER 11 - 12, 1977

L.M. Baylor

Despite a severe snow storm throughout the state a few days before the meeting, about the usual number of members were able to gather at USD's new Churchill-Haines Laboratories in Vermillion for SDOU's autumn meeting, November 11-12, 1977. Members in attendance were amply rewarded by the program assembled by hosts Joyce and Byron Harrell, William Lemons, Adelene Siljenberg, Rosamond and Willis Hall, and Karolyn Hoover. The informal social activity on Friday evening included the sharing of bird and scenery slides provided by a new collection at USD's Biology Department and by the Holdens, the Edies, Everett Montgomery, Juli Wilcox and Les Baylor.

Saturday's program began with a "Symposium on the Vertebrates of South Dakota" with emphasis on the status of various species. Participants included James Schmulbach, USD, reporting on fish; Nathaniel Whitney, Jr., on birds; and Byron Harrell, on mammals. With regret and sympathy we learned that illness prevented Donald Dunlap from bringing his scheduled presentation on amphibians and reptiles.

The program continued in the afternoon session with Gervase Hittle speaking on "Falconry in Art" -- a remarkably appropriate sequel to his "Falconry and Literature: A Reclamation" (see BIRD NOTES, 26:38-41). Edward Fortner, in his "A Study of Catbird Song," discussed the complex character of catbird vocalization as revealed through analysis of sonagrams. Robert Buckman could not attend the meeting to present his scheduled report on "Black Hills Bird

Population Studies;" thus, Les Baylor substituted with impromptu remarks from his experiences with this ongoing Forest Service project. William Lemons then concluded the paper session by sharing his lucky discovery of historical records revealing "Fort Randall Birds a Century Ago."

Following the formal program, President Nelda Holden led us through the affairs of the business meeting. The treasurer's report indicated SDOU survived the critical year of a dues increase with a modest advancement in new worth and a net loss of only three members. Of course, we regret the loss of any members and hope for their eventually rejoining SDOU. We were pleased to welcome 18 new members in 1977.

Principal discussion during the business meeting focused on the issue of SDOU's possibly changing its official name. Ken Husmann read a letter from SDOU member Jon Rickert, of Elizabethtown, KY, in which Rickert thoroughly analyzed ramifications of a name change. This letter was instrumental in leading the members present to vote in favor of SDOU's retaining its present name. Bruce Harris reported on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's program of land acquisition for wildlife and urged individual members to support this program through letters to the appropriate political agencies and officials.

Everett Montgomery earned election to the Board of Directors--along with incumbent directors Chilson, Harris, Whitney, and Baylor--for the term ex-

(Continued on page 71)

Courtesy of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Young Burrowing Owls

Photo by Kent Olson



December, 1977

BANDING SUMMARY

OAKWOOD LAKES STATE PARK

Charles and Gladyce Rooge

Between 05-30-65 and 05-09-77 we banded birds at Oakwood Lakes State Park during parts or all of 115 days. This banding station is 80 miles from our home. Traveling time left us with few hours for banding.

During this period we banded 89 species of birds and 2732 individuals. Results depended on dates and types of weather.

We recaptured 73 birds; the shortest time interval between banding and recapture was four months and the longest was 109 months. The latter was for a Common Grackle banded 04-27-67 as an adult and recaptured 05-18-76, nine years and one month later. We do not record the many recaptures of birds we have banded unless the interval is four months or more.

Five of the birds we banded at Oakwood were recovered by others. The intervals between banding and recovery were 4 days, 4 months, 11 months, 69 months, and 74 months. Three recoveries were made at Oakwood, one at Lake Kampeska, So. Dak., and a Myrtle Warbler recovery was made at Lake Charles, Louisiana, 11 months after it was banded.

We recovered one grackle that was banded at Oakwood by another bander 12 months earlier.

During the period we banded as follows: April -- 1 day; May -- 42 days; June -- 19 days; July -- 4 days; August -- 17 days; September -- 26 days; October -- 6 days. The earliest date was April 27 and the latest was October 24.

SPECIES AND NUMBERS OF BIRDS BANDED AT OAKWOOD LAKES STATE PARK

05-30-65 to 08-09-77

Green Heron	2
Black-crowned Night Heron	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2
Sora	1
Killdeer	3
Solitary Sandpiper	2
Mourning Dove	38
Belted Kingfisher	1
Common Flicker (Y.-s.)	11
Hybrid Flicker	2
Hairy Woodpecker	2
Downy Woodpecker	20
Eastern Kingbird	7
Eastern Phoebe	1
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	4
Least Flycatcher	122
Willow Flycatcher	48
Eastern Wood Pewee	1
Tree Swallow	5
Bank Swallow	22
Rough-winged Swallow	32
Barn Swallow	8
Blue Jay	7
Black-capped Chickadee	24
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2
Brown Creeper	1
House Wren	24
Winter Wren	3
Long-billed Marsh Wren	3
Gray Catbird	171
Brown Thrasher	44
American Robin	175
Wood Thrush	1
Swainson's Thrush	162
Gray-cheeked Thrush	54
Veery	2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	10
Cedar Waxwing	23
Solitary Vireo	4
Red-eyed Vireo	2
Philadelphia Vireo	5
Warbling Vireo	29
Black-and-white Warbler	22
Tennessee Warbler	40
Orange-crowned Warbler	53
Nashville Warbler	4
Yellow Warbler	152
Magnolia Warbler	12

Cape May Warbler	1
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)	203
Blackburnian Warbler	1
Chestnut-sided Warbler	3
Blackpoll Warbler	25
Pine Warbler	5
Palm Warbler	3
Ovenbird	40
Northern Waterthrush	69
Connecticut Warbler	2
Mourning Warbler	15
McGillivray's Warbler	3
Common Yellowthroat	80
Wilson's Warbler	17
Canada Warbler	3
American Redstart	26
House Sparrow	4
Yellow-headed Blackbird	16
Red-winged Blackbird	57
Orchard Oriole	38
Northern Oriole	37
Common Grackle	249
Brown-headed Cowbird	41
Scarlet Tanager	3
Summer Tanager	1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	33
Indigo Bunting	2
Pine Siskin	2
American Goldfinch	45
Rufous-sided Towhee (western)	1
Dark-eyed Junco (Slate col.)	31
Tree Sparrow	1
Chipping Sparrow	18
Clay-colored Sparrow	9
Harris' Sparrow	26
White-crowned Sparrow	4
White-throated Sparrow	70
Lincoln's Sparrow	61
Swamp Sparrow	18
Song Sparrow	84

89 species
2732 individuals

SDOU AUTUMN MEETING (Continued from page 68)

piring in 1980, and members extended gratitude to S. G. Froiland for his service on the Board. SDOU's officers elected for the coming year are William E. Lemons, president; Robert Buckman, vice president; Esther Edie, secretary; Herman Chilson, librarian; June Harter, editor; and Nelda Holden, treasurer - Nelda returning to her traditional role as treasurer after her

two effective years as SDOU's president.

The autumn meeting in 1978 will be at Rapid City, the date to be announced later.

Banquet speaker Dr. Harold Smith, of the Department of Biology at USD, impressively brought the meeting to its climax with his captivating presentation on "Seeing More in Landscape." With sensitive perception Dr. Smith transcended his professional role as a botanist to combine passages of poetry, prose, and music with the technique of dissolved projection of beautiful colored slides (one slide fades from the screen as another slide fades into projection). His theme stressed the mutually interacting roles of scientific, aesthetic, and spiritual awareness in one's response to the landscape. - Rapid City

Registrants at Meeting

November 11-12, 1977

From Other States

Sioux City, Iowa -- Edward Fortner.
Westfield, Iowa -- Larry Farmer.
Omaha, Nebraska -- Emma and Clyde Johnson.

From South Dakota

Aberdeen -- Jeanette and Everett Montgomery.
Brookings -- Arthur, David, and Nelda Holden; Kenneth Husmann.
Bruce -- Esther and Richard Edie.
Burke -- Galen Steffen.
Clear Lake -- Bruce Harris.
Meckling -- Gervase Hittle, Jean Husat, William Lemons.
Rapid City -- Mary and Les Baylor, Mary and Nathaniel Whitney, Clara Yarger.
Sioux Falls -- Gil Blankespoor.
Vermillion -- Joyce and Byron Harrell, Karolyn Hoover, James Schmulbach, Adelene Siljenberg, Harold Smith.
Yankton -- Rosamond and Willis Hall, Juli Wilcox.

General Notes of Special Interest

FIRST NEST RECORDS FOR CATTLE EGRETS AND SNOWY EGRETS IN SOUTH DAKOTA -- Twenty pairs of Cattle Egrets and one pair of Snowy Egrets were observed nesting at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge from about June 27, 1977, to about July 22, 1977. All the egrets were nesting in a colonial situation along with about an equal number of Black-crowned Night Herons. The colony was located in a stand of phragmites (about 0.5 hectare) in the central portion of Mud Lake.

The adults and subsequent young birds were observed on a weekly basis until mid-July when the young birds became mobile enough to walk away from observers. At last observation, there were three young Snowy Egrets and 40-50 young Cattle Egrets.

The primary observers were Biological Aides Bill Schulte and Bob VandenBerge from Sand Lake N.W.R. After August 1, 1977, only occasional sightings were made. Since no dead young egrets were found it is assumed that a high percentage reached flight stages. -- Sam Waldstein, Manager, Sand Lake N.W.R., Columbia 57433.

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BROAD-WINGED HAWK NESTING IN THE BLACK HILLS -- On or about May 20, 1977, Carla Olsson, while walking down the northwest slope of Terry Peak, Lawrence County, was scolded by two hawks. About May 25, she found the nest, built on a main branch of a ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) approximately 20 feet above ground, and immediately against the main trunk. She showed the nest to her mother, Merial Scott, and together they identified the bird as a Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) by comparison with

the standard field guides, and by comparison of the call with records of Broad-winged Hawk calls. They noted nestlings about July 4.

Mrs. Scott notified the Whitneys of the find, and on July 20, 1977, they, with Mrs. Robert Branch and Mrs. Scott, visited the nest. At that time they found two well-feathered young still in the nest, and watched them for several minutes. On July 27, L.M. Baylor and N.R. Whitney returned to the nest site, and found the adults in the area, although the nest was empty. Whitney had photographed the nest and young on July 20, and on July 27, Baylor succeeded in obtaining good photographs of one adult, to document the identity.

Mrs. Scott heard the young calling once in August, and Miss Olsson saw all four birds, both adults and both young, on August 18. On one occasion, she found bone fragments under the nest tree. Mrs. Scott observed the adults in the area into October.

This is the first observation of which we are aware of the Broad-winged Hawk nesting in the Black Hills. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hurd observed one in Canyon Lake Park, Rapid City, on May 1, 1960 (S.D.B.N., 12:60, 1960), and B.J. Rose observed one at Rapid City on May 7, 1967. The only nests previously reported in South Dakota were located in Roberts County (Bruce Harris and others) in 1924 and 1942. -- Merial Scott, Boulder, Colo., and Nathaniel R. Whitney, Jr., 633 So. Berry Pines Rd., Rapid City, S.D. 57701.

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HOME LOVING MALE KESTRELS

After the 1977 S.D.O.U. convention at Bison, Rosamond and I stayed in the Slim Buttes for two days. On May 23,

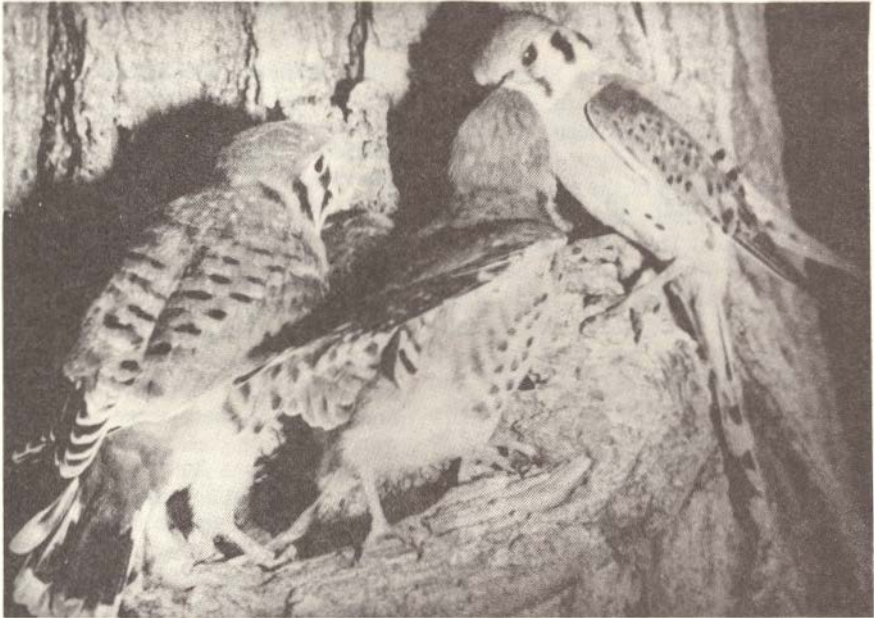


Photo courtesy of Willis Hall

Male American Kestrel Feeding Young

we explored some of the Buttes to the north of Highway 20.

On my walk west of the trail to an interesting formation featuring a large vertical window, I found a male American Kestrel (*Falco Sparverius*) apparently in possession of the skeleton of a pine. The next morning, while the strong hot wind, which had blown all night, continued, I returned to the pine. By degrees I moved closer and observed, apparently without affecting the behavior of the bird.

At 10:05 the male Kestrel entered a hole in the trunk about eighteen feet up. At 10:44 he came out and perched and preened on one of the upper limbs of the pine. At 10:47 he entered the hole and remained until 11:20. Again he preened and made a short flight within sight, then perched on a limb until 11:28 when he entered the hole. He had not

reappeared when I left at 12:45. While I was making these observations I also noted a second male perching on a dead limb of a pine about 150 yards to the northeast. Once, this bird came to the tree of the nearer Kestrel and remained for several minutes before returning to his own tree. A female Kestrel twice flew within a few feet of the tree I was observing, but showed no inclination to enter the nest cavity.

I regretted that I could not continue my watch because I should like to have known whether this male Kestrel was having just an average day or whether a female would later come to do her share of incubation. Perhaps his mate had left him. Perhaps she was taking care of a nest in the more distant pine.

Brown and Amadon, in their book *Eagles, Hawks and Falcons of the World* (Vol. 2, p. 776), state: "The

female does most of the incubation but the male occasionally sits."

This experience at the Slim Buttes reminded me of another, in June 1953, when nesting Kestrels inspired me to build my first rope ladder. At that time I obtained pictures of the male bringing food to the nest and young three different times. This also, according to authorities, was unusual behavior. Brown and Amadon (*loc. cit.*) state: "Usually the male feeds the female, calling her off the nest with food-begging calls like those of the young." And Althea Sherman in her *Birds of an Iowa Dooryard*, p. 163, wrote: "According to the economy of these hawks (Kestrels), incubation, the brooding and feeding of the young, and the guarding of the nest was the part of the female, while the male hunted for the family; only once was he seen in or near the nest. -- Willis Hall, Yankton.

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NORTHERN PARULA WARBLER SIGHTED IN THE BLACK HILLS -- On a mountain ridge near Sheridan Lake, Pennington County, South Dakota, during the time period July 3, 1977, to July 23, 1977, I heard and or saw a pair of Northern Parula Warblers no fewer than six times. The sighting of this species in the Black Hills is noteworthy since it undoubtedly is of rare occurrence in the western part of the state. Pettingill and Whitney in their *Birds of the Black Hills* make no mention of it.

Although most of my observations were of the male alone, at two different times I saw the male and female together. As far as I could tell, the birds' territory surrounded the top of a 5000-ft.-high, mostly north-facing ridge. From my observation point on top of the ridge, I could observe (or hear) the male as it moved in a circular direction through the ponderosa pines. On occasion, he would move down the east-facing slope into a portion of the forest

where paper birch and quaking aspen predominated.

The following identification characteristics were noted: (1) the main territorial song was that expected for a Northern Parula Warbler and can be described as a buzzy trill which rose in pitch and then became a bit more musical as it "snapped over the top"; (2) the birds were noticeably smaller than most other warblers, smaller than a Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler with which I was able to visually compare it; (3) the back of the male was blue with a yellowish patch below the neck; (4) there were two distinct wing-bars; (5) the throat was yellow, and there was a hint of a dark throat stripe. (I did not notice a suffused patch of red which might be expected on the throat of a male in good plumage.)

On Sunday, July 10, 1977, Les Baylor accompanied me to the site to confirm the identification. -- Gil Blankespoor, Augustana College, Sioux Falls

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EGYPTIAN GOOSE IN DEUEL COUNTY -- A brief note on this bird appeared in the September 1977 issue of *BIRD NOTES* (29:56). The following account gives the details of the sighting.

On May 19, 1977, Jim Anderson, Brandt, Deuel County, called me to say that an unfamiliar goose had joined his flock of Canada Geese that he kept pinioned in an enclosed pond. His description of the bird, emphasizing pinkish legs and a dark spot on the breast, enabled me to find the colored picture of the Egyptian Goose in Peter Scott's "A Coloured Key to the Wildfowl of the World" (The Wildfowl Trust, 1957). It was about the only goose pictured that had a dark mark in the center of the breast.

With Walter Rose accompanying me, we drove to Brandt early the next morning, May 20, enroute to the S.D.O.U. Spring Meeting in Perkins

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES

County. Arriving in Brandt, we had no difficulty finding the medium-sized goose in the pen with the Canada Geese and miscellaneous waterfowl. We studied the bird at leisure for about 20 minutes under good light conditions, at a range of about 70 yards. There was no doubt about its identify, as it matched the picture of the Egyptian Goose in Scott's "Coloured Key" (Plate 6, p. 45). Anderson said the bird had been around for several days. They had seen it in the air on at least one occasion as it took a short flight over the pinioned birds before alighting again in the pen.

After returning from the S.D.O.U. meeting, I asked zoo officials in Watertown and Sioux Falls if they had lost an Egyptian Goose. They knew nothing about the bird, and had not heard of any escapes of this species from breeders in Minnesota or elsewhere, but they said it is not unusual for birds to escape from handlers when they are being banded, or transferred from pen to pen. The bird in Brandt was not banded, but as there are no records of this species in the wild in the U.S., it is likely that this bird was an escape. N.R. Whitney informed me that he and others observed an Egyptian Goose at Rapid City, and they had also assumed that it was a bird that had escaped from some breeder. -- Bruce K. Harris, Clear Lake.

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REQUEST FOR PINE GROSBEAK RECORDS

Your cooperation is needed for an article that will be done on the irruption of Pine Grosbeaks during the 1977 - 78 winter. Please send So. Dak. records to: Bruce K Harris, Box 605, Clear Lake, SD 57226.

SDOU SPRING MEETING

May 19-21, 1978

A newsletter containing full information about the program and the accommodations for the 1978 Spring Meeting at the Samuel H. Ordway Memorial Prairie will be mailed to members at a later date, but some brief notes at this time will be helpful to those planning to attend the meeting.

Lodging and camping improvements are not available at Ordway, and camper vehicles are restricted to the headquarters area. However, there is a lab-conference room, with cement floor and bathroom, where some of the hardier souls may sleep if they bring army cots or sleeping bags.

Leola, nine miles from Ordway, has a hotel with a limited number of rooms, and a park with adequate facilities for campers. There is a modern motel at Eureka, 26 miles west of Ordway, and many facilities at Aberdeen, 50 miles from Ordway.

Breakfasts, lunches, and coffee for thermos bottles may be obtained at two cafes in Leola and one cafe in Long Lake. Paul Bultsma, manager at Ordway, also suggested that a camp stove could be set up in the lab-conference room. The Saturday night banquet will probably be in Leola.

Briefly, the accommodations will be sufficient and the birding will keep you busy with your binoculars, scopes and cameras. Start planning now for the fellowship and a memorable weekend at Ordway Prairie. -- Editor.

1977 NESTING SEASON

Compilers: B.K. Harris, G.L. Steffen, J. Harter

Summer rainfall over most of South Dakota was sufficient for maintaining adequate topsoil moisture and plant growth. Locally heavy rains filled some of the sloughs and wetlands in the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, water and crop conditions in Gregory and Tripp Counties were the best since 1962, and the sloughs and wetlands in Deuel County had ample water levels through most of the nesting season. Exceptions to these improvements over the 1976 season were the Yankton area, where the smaller ponds and marshes were dry or nearly so by the end of the period, and the northwest corner of the state, where the drought conditions seriously affected the crops and pastures.

In contrast to 1976, when food and water supplies were scarce or non-existent, the improved conditions in the summer of 1977 provided good habitat, seed and berry crops, and water sources. The comeback in water bird nesting was particularly noticeable.

The higher summer temperatures began in the first week of June -- about two weeks earlier than usual.

Some of the important events of the period were several nest records and the sightings of unexpected or seldom observed species. The first Cattle Egret and Snowy Egret nesting in South Dakota occurred on Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge; a Broad-winged Hawk nest in the Black Hills is apparently the first record for the western part of the state; the Badlands had its first confirmed Blue Grosbeak nest, and three Brewer's Sparrow nests were found in Butte County. The Black-necked Stilts at Spearfish were a treat for the Black Hills birders; a netted and banded male

Rufous Hummingbird in Rapid City is probably the first record for the species in South Dakota; the Sage Thrasher was observed in Butte County; a pair of Northern Parula Warblers in the Black Hills and a singing male Clay-colored Sparrow were out of their normal ranges, and singing male Baird's Sparrows were found on Ordway Prairie.

In South Dakota we now have about 200 verified breeding species of birds. This summer report lists 187 species, but some of those on the list do not breed in this state. More importantly, there are a few of the regularly reported species, such as the Savannah Sparrow, that are absent this time.

In the following species accounts the numbers of individuals are in parentheses. Observers' initials can be identified in the list of reporters at the end of the article.

LOONS, GREBES, HERONS

- Common Loon -- 6--21 Missouri R., Yankton (1) JW.
Eared Grebe -- 7--22 Lawrence Co. (12 nests) JLM, EMS; 6--25 Tripp Co. (50 GLS; reports from Brown Charles Mix, McPherson, Day, Marshall, Meade, and Gregory Counties.
Western Grebe -- 6--1 to 7--27 Waubay N.W.R. (75) adults present but no nests or young observed, MHP; a few present 6--10 in Deuel Co. and 6--13 in Marshall and Roberts Counties, 6--16 McPherson Co. (25) birds nesting, on eggs and with young, BKS; 6--12 many at Lacreek N.W.R., BHAS; reports also from Charles Mix, Yankton, Brown, and Fall River Counties.
Pied-billed Grebe -- Nesting in Lawrence, Meade, and Fall River Counties, JLM; Marshall Co. (10) young in 3 broods, MHP; numbers continue low in Deuel Co.; reports from Roberts, Edmunds, and McPherson Counties.
White Pelican -- 6--2 Clay Co. (15) KJH; 6--13 Waubay L., Day Co., 105 nests with (108 young, 10 eggs) MHP, KFH; 6--13 n. Drywood L., Roberts Co., 293 nests with (404 young, plus eggs), and Piyas L., Marshall Co., had colony of (300) adults with nests, BKH and Ken Husmann; 6--18 L&C L., Bon Homme Co., (13) WH.

Double-crested Cormorant -- 6-13 Waubay L., Day Co., 85 nests with (119 young, 40 eggs) KFH, MHP; 6-13 Drywood L., Roberts Co., colony of 427 nests, but with few eggs, young or adults in the area (Was the colony crowded out by a large pelican colony and enlarged Ring-billed Gull colony on the same Island?), a colony at Piyas L., Marshall Co., contained (190) young, BKH and Ken Husmann.

Great Blue Heron -- 6-5 Custer Co. (28 adults, 18 nests) BMN; 6-13 Piyas L., Marshall Co., 12 nests with about (24) young, BKH and Ken Husmann; 6-18 L&C L., Bon Homme Co. (5), 7-4 to 7-29 Yankton Co. (6 total) WH.

Green Heron -- 6-18 L&C Lake (3), 7-18 Gavin's Pt. (3) WH; observed in five areas in Deuel Co. during period, BKH.

CATTLE EGRET -- Nesting at Sand Lake Refuge. (See "General Notes")

SNOWY EGRET -- One pair nested at Sand Lake Refuge. (See "General Notes")

Black-crowned Night Heron -- Reports from Brown, Brookings, Lynn, Marshall, Deuel, and McPherson Counties.

Least Bittern -- 7-28 Gavin's Pt. (1) WH.

American Bittern -- 6-12 Lacreek N.W.R. (6) BHAS; 6-18 Bon Homme Co. (1) WH; 6-23 Butte Co. (1) JLM; observed in four areas in Deuel Co. during period, BKH.

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS

Trumpeter Swan -- 6-12 Cedar Pass (2), Lacreek N.W.R. (3) BHAS.

Canada Goose -- 5-17 to 5-24 Lacreek N.W.R. (211) young, JMN; 6-1 to 7-27 Waubay N.W.R. (15 nests), nests common in Day and Marshall Counties, KFH, MHP; pair present in Deuel Co. until 7-4, no nest or young observed, but local sportsmen reported seeing two broods, BKH. Broods in Roberts Co.

Snow Goose -- 5-19 Sand Lake Refuge, pair of cripples with nest and incubating eggs, Bill Baer, Refuge manager (fide RLH).

Mallard -- 6-1 to 7-27 Waubay N.W.R. (108) young in 33 broods, KFH, MHP; 7-24 Yankton Co. (25 ad. and imm.) WH; broods common in Gregory and Tripp Counties, GLS; broods in Deuel and Roberts Counties.

Gadwall -- 6-1 to 7-27 Waubay N.W.R. (85) young in 16 broods, KFH, MHP; common in McPherson Co. on 6-16, most common breeding duck, BKH; present in Deuel and Roberts Counties.

Pintail -- 6-1 to 7-27 Waubay N.W.R. (61) young in 10 broods, KFH, MHP; common in Deuel, Roberts, and McPherson Counties, BKH.

Green-winged Teal -- 6-11 Deuel Co., males observed at four locations, no broods found, BKH.

Blue-winged Teal -- Present and breeding in most areas.

Cinnamon Teal -- 6-6 Spearfish Lagoon, Lawrence Co. (2) TMH; 6-20 Spearfish (2) JLM; 6-13 Meade Co. (1), 7-2 Spearfish (2 males) C. Faanes (fide EMS)

American Wigeon -- Deuel Co., 3 pair during period, nest with 9 eggs located on 7-16; observed in 4 areas in McPherson Co. on 6-16, BKH.

Northern Shoveler -- 6-1 to 7-27 Waubay N.W.R. (16) young in 5 broods, KFH, MHP; not common in Deuel Co. after a good spring flight, 6-17 common in McPherson Co., BKH.

Wood Duck -- 6-23 Butte Co. (2 ad., 2 imm.) JLM; 7-12 Spink Co. (1 ad., 4 imm.) RLH; reports from Brown, Bon Homme, Yankton, Meade, and Gregory Counties.

Redhead -- 6-1 to 7-27 Waubay N.W.R. (35) young in 6 broods, KFH, MHP; 6-3 Sand Lake N.W.R. (190) NRW; 6-11 Deuel Co. (65 pair) plus extra males on several different lakes, a big increase over last year, BKH; 6-15 Tripp Co. (15) on one pond, 6-22 Burke Lagoon (1 m.), first time for summer observation in area, GLS.

Ring-necked Duck -- None observed in northeast counties during summer, unusual, BKH.

Canvasback -- 6-1 to 7-27 Waubay N.W.R. (38) young in 7 broods, KFH, MPH; 6-13 Ottau L., Deuel Co. (1 f.), only (8-10) sighted in McPherson Co. on 6-16, not encouraging, BKH.

Lesser Scaup -- 6-4 Chas. Mix Co. (4) WH; 6-10 Missouri R., Yankton (7) JW; 6-13 Piyas L. (4 m., 1 f.), 6-18 surprising numbers in McPherson Co. with (15 m., 3 f.) at Long L. and both sexes observed in small groups at six other areas in county, BKH; 7-17 Burke Lagoon (1 m.) GLS.

Ruddy Duck -- 7-1 Waubay N.W.R. (5) young in one brood, MHP; observed in: Chas. Mix Co. (25) WH; Deuel Co. (26), McPherson Co. (200) BKH; Meade Co. (12) JLM; and at Sand L. N.W.R. (200) NRW. Red-breasted Merganser -- 6-23 to 7-29 (1) sighted several times at Gavin's Pt. area, WH. Possible cripple?

VULTURE, HAWKS, EAGLES

Turkey Vulture -- (6) in Badlands during period, compared to (13) in 1976 and (60) in 1975, RAW; reports from Chas. Mix, Bon Homme, Meade, and Gregory Counties, and the Black Hills.

Sharp-shinned Hawk -- 7-6 e. Penn. Co. (1) EMS.

Red-tailed Hawk -- (16) young in 11 nests, Waubay N.W.R., RRJ; few observed in day-long trip in Roberts, Day, and Marshall Counties, BKH; reports from Bon Homme, Yankton, Hyde, Spink, Deuel, Grant, McPherson Counties, and the Black Hills.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK -- 7-20 Terry Peak, Lawrence Co. (2 young) in nest in pines, Merial Scott (fide NRW), possibly first nest for western So. Dak.; 6-4 Sodak Park, Robert Co., small birds mobbing an immature bird -- probably a non-breeder from 1976 hatch, BKH.

Swainson's Hawk -- Reported nesting in Day and Custer Counties; observed in Dewey, Chas. Mix, Spink, Hyde, Jackson, Penn., Gregory, Deuel, Marshall, Roberts, and McPherson Counties.

Ferruginous Hawk -- 6-23 Perkins Co., pair with nest in old owl nest, AH; 6-16 observed in 4 areas in McPherson Co., also seen in Potter Co., BKH; 7-2 w. Jackson Co. (2) NRW.

Golden Eagle -- 6-5 Custer Co. (2 eaglets) well feathered, BMN; 7-8 (1 imm.) Meade Co., 7-10 (2 (2 imm.) and 7-12 (1 imm.) in Fall River Co., JLM; 7-4 Meade Co. (1) NRW; 7-14 Perkins Co. (1) AH.

Marsh Hawk -- Nest with 2 eggs on Harlan Goetz farm, Deuel Co. (only record known for Deuel and Roberts Cos. in last 15 years) BKH; fewer observations in Badlands, RAW; reports from Aurora, Yankton, Grant, Roberts, Marshall, and McPherson Counties.

Prairie Falcon -- 7-2 Jackson Co. (1) NRW; observed in McPherson Co., BKH.

American Kestrel -- (4) fledged in nesting box at Husmann cottage, Day Co., observed in 10 locations in Deuel Co. on 7-28, unusual number for area, BKH; reports from Roberts, McPherson, and Yankton Counties, and Black Hills.

Pheasants, Grouse, Quail -- Present and nesting in usual areas.

RAILS, GULLS, TERNS, CUCKOOS

Virginia Rail -- 7-24 Sioux Park, Rapid City (1 imm.) injured, later died, L.M. Baylor (fide NRW); 6-20 Spearfish Lagoon (2) answered recording, 6-23 Bulte Co. (2), 7-8 Rapid City (1) heard, 7-12 Custer Co. (2), Fall River Co. (5) JLM.

Sora -- 7-17 Rapid City (1 ad., 1 imm.) TMS; observed in Lawrence, Butte, Penn., Custer, and Fall River Counties, JLM; (1) Clark Co., KFH.

American Coot -- Nesting in good numbers at Sand Lake N.W.R. (2; birds) and in Marshall (Piyas L. 100 birds), McPherson (Long L. 400 birds), and Gregory (5; nests) Counties; 7-19 Waubay N.W.R. (5 young) in 3 broods, Day Co. (19 young) in 12 broods, KFH, MHP; also reported from Pennington, Lawrence, Fall River, Jackson, Yankton, Tripp, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Piping Plover -- 7-13, 14 Gavin's Pt. (5) JW, WH.

Killdeer -- Present and nesting statewide.

American Woodcock -- 7-8 (2) flushed by Willie Foss at Pickerel L., Day Co. (fide BKH).

Common Snipe -- Winnowing males at 3 areas in Deuel Co., also observed in McPherson and Roberts Counties, BKH; 6-12 Lacreek N.W.R. (1) BHAS.

Long-billed Curlew -- 6-8 Perkins Co. (1) flew over house, (1 pr.) present during period at neighbor's place, AH; 6-12 Lacreek N.W.R. (2) BHAS; 7-6, 7-26 Rapid City (9) EMS.

Upland Sandpiper -- 7-26 Rapid City (1 ad., 4 imm.) EMS; nesting in Perkins Co., AH; observed in Dewey, Aurora, Deuel, Roberts, McPherson, Meade, Tripp, and Jackson Counties.

Spotted Sandpiper -- Young birds observed in Lawrence Co., JLM, and Roberts Co., BKH; reports for Penn., Fall River, Bon Homme, Yankton, Spink, and Gregory Counties.

Willet -- Adults present all period, Waubay N.W.R., RRJ; 6-16 McPherson Co. (10) in one location, (1) in Deuel Co., small numbers in Roberts and Marshall Counties, BKH.

Marbled Godwit -- Adults present all period, Waubay N.W.R., RRJ; 6-15 Aurora Co. (2) WH; 6-16 McPherson Co. (23) in 2 locations, present in Deuel and Roberts Counties, BKH.

American Avocet -- 6-13 n. Drywood L., Roberts Co. (16 - including 1 nest with 4 eggs), 6-16 Long L., McPherson Co. (10), 7-19 n. Drywood L. (80) and (2) in Marshall Co., BKH and Ken Husmann; 6-6 (25), 6-20 (10), 7-22 (1) Spearfish Lagoons, JLM, EMS; 6-3 Sand L. N.W.R. (23) NRW; 6-25 Tripp Co. (1) GLS; 6-29 Waubay L. (2 imm.) KFH; 7-1 Badlands (4) RAW.

BLACK-NECKED STILT -- 6-6 to 7-29 (6 to 8) present at Spearfish Lagoons, first discovered by Tom Hays and thereafter viewed by many members of Black Hills Audubon Society. There are few So. Dak. records.



Courtesy of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Photo by Kent Olson

Upland Sandpiper

Wilson's Phalarope -- Good increase in Deuel Co., observed in 6 areas, 7-19 (65) Drywood L., 6-16 common in McPherson Co., BKH; 6-1 Bear Butte L. (2) JLM; 6-4 Lyman Co. (3) WCT.

CALIFORNIA GULL -- 6-13 n. Drywood L., Roberts Co. (1) in company with many Ring-billed Gulls for comparison, noted bill and rarer call, second time for species at this same location, BKH and Ken Husmann; 7-25 below Oahe Dam (1) TMH.

Ring-billed Gull -- 6-13 s. Waubay L., Day Co. (123 nests with 74 young, 217 eggs) MHP, KFH; 6-13 n. Drywood L. Roberts Co. (155 nests with young and eggs) BKH and Ken Husmann; 6-18 L&C Lake, Bon Homme Co. (5), 7-28 Gavin's Pt. (3) WH; 7-10 to 7-16 Angostura (av. 81) JLM.

Franklin's Gull -- 6-11 Yankton Co. (5), 6-18 L&C Lake, Bon Homme Co. (11) WH; 7-16 Angostura Res. (225) JLM.

Forster's Tern -- 6-16 Long L., McPherson Co. (6), also small numbers in 3 areas in Deuel Co., BKH; 6-17 (3), 6-25 (5), 7-12 (6) Gavin's Pt., WH; 6-12 many at Lacreek N.W.R., BHAS.

Common Tern -- 6-13 n. Drywood L. (32 nests, most with eggs, but 10 young found) BKH and Ken Husmann; 6-25 (2), 7-8 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH.

LEAST TERN -- 6-16 Missouri R., Clay Co. (6) KJH; 6-18 L&C Lake (1), 7-2 (2), 7-8 Gavin's Pt. (1) WH; 7-7 (2) and possibly (4) upstream 3 miles from Hwy. 63 bridge, n.e. Haakon Co., L. McDaniel M. Anderson (fide RLH).

CASPIAN TERN -- 6-25 Gavin's Pt. (1) WH.

Black Tern -- Reported from Deuel, McPherson, Yankton, Bon Homme, and Fall River Counties, Waubay N.W.R. and Sand Lake N.W.R.

Mourning Dove -- Present and nesting statewide, appears to be an increase in most areas.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo -- Reported from Perkins, Hyde, Hughes, Penn., Yankton, and Fall River Counties.

Black-billed Cuckoo -- Reported from Clay, Chas. Mix, Bon Homme, Aurora, Yankton, Brookings, Moody, Hyde, Deuel, Roberts, McPherson, and Pennington Counties.

OWLS TO WOODPECKERS

Screech Owl -- (3) young observed in Moody Co., D. Wells (fide NJH); (4) young fledged in Sodak Park, Roberts Co., also reported from 2 areas in Watertown, Codington Co., BKH.

Great Horned Owl -- 6-1 to 7-27 Waubay N.W.R. (8) young in 5 nests, KFJ; present in all other areas of So. Dak.

Burrowing Owl -- Several pair nesting in Hyde Co., JH; observations reported from Brule, Lyman, Potter, Aurora, Penn., Meade, and Gregory Counties.

Long-eared Owl -- 7-20 (2 ad., 1 imm.) nest in 1976 nest location, Badlands, RAW.

Short-eared Owl -- Reported from Meade (where actions indicated nesting, JLM), Perkins, Jackson, and Penn. Counties.

Whip-poor-will -- 6-10 Gavin's Pt. (1) JW.

Poor-will -- 7-2 French Cr. Canyon, Custer Co. (1) RLH.

Common Nighthawk -- Nesting in Butte Co., TMH; reported from Hughes, Hyde, Yankton, Penn., Fall River, and Gregory Counties.

Chimney Swift -- Present in Hughes, Yankton, Penn., Lawrence, and Gregory Counties.

White-throated Swift -- 7-2 Jackson Co. (15), 7-4 Meade Co. (10) NRW; 7-2 Custer Co. (2) RLH.

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD -- 6-26 (1 m.) captured in mist net and banded by Tom Hays. Location: Canyon L. area of Rapid City. Bird viewed by many members of BHAS. It probably is a first state record.

Belted Kingfisher -- 6-23 Gavin's Pt. (5) WH; widespread in Black Hills, BHAS.

Common Flicker -- Common and nesting statewide.

Red-headed Woodpecker -- Good numbers in Gregory, Deuel, and Roberts Counties; 6-23 Lawrence Co. (3) JLM; also reported from Bon Homme, Yankton, Fall River Counties.

Lewis' Woodpecker -- (1) at feeder throughout July, Rapid City, BLG.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker -- 6-22 two occupied nests, Custer State Park, NRW; pair observed regularly during June at Sodak Park, Roberts Co., and probably nested, BKH.

Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers -- Present and nesting statewide.

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker -- 7-10 Palmer Gulch, Hill City (1) TMH, FMM; 7-2 Blue Bell Lodge, Custer Co. (1) C. Faanes (fide EMS).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS

Eastern Kingbird -- Common and nesting statewide.

Western Kingbird -- Common and nesting statewide.

Great Crested Flycatcher -- Reports from Yankton, Hughes, and Roberts Counties.

Eastern Phoebe -- Only two reports: Yankton Co. (1) WH, and Roberts Co., BKH.

Say's Phoebe -- Nests and young observed in Perkins Co. (AH, WH) and Penn. Co. (JLM); reports from Fall River and Jackson Counties.

Least Flycatcher -- 6-16 several observed in McPherson Co., none seen in Roberts Co., BKH; 6-1 Lawrence Co. (1) JLM; 7-2 Rapid City (2) JLM.

Western Flycatcher -- 6-11 Rapid City (1) JLM; 6-26 Roubaix L. (5), 6-22 Custer Co. (20) NRW.

Willow Flycatcher -- At least one pair all period, Hyde Co., JH; (4) on June B. Bird Surveys, NJH; 6-1 (1) clearly seen and heard calling, Burke L., GLS.

Eastern Wood Pewee -- 6-23 Vermillion (1) KJH; 7-1 to 7-28 Yankton Co. (5 total) WH; 7-6 c. Penn. Co. (1) clearly seen and heard calling, matched call to tape recording, JLM, EMS.

Western Wood Pewee -- Reports from Penn., Custer, and Fall River Counties.

Horned Lark -- Nesting statewide.

Violet-green Swallow -- Numerous in Black Hills, BHAS.

Tree Swallow -- 7-2 Bon Homme Co. (4), one nest, 7-19 Yankton (3) WH; 6-5 to 7-2 Rapid City (8) including one nesting attempt which failed, BLG; present in Day, Deuel, and Roberts Counties, BKH.

Bank Swallow -- 5-9 Armdale Park, Spink Co., nesting colony of (30-40) pairs, RLH; 6-4 Gregory Co. (40), 7-14 Gavin's Pt. (80) WH; at least one colony in Hyde Co., JH.

Rough-winged Swallow -- 6-4 Gregory Co. (50), 6-6 Gavin's Pt. (25) with nests, WH; 7-10 Rapid City (23) JLM, NRW; present in Deuel, Roberts, and McPherson Counties, BKH.

Barn Swallow -- Common and nesting statewide.

Cliff Swallow -- Present and nesting in Hyde Co., JH; present also at Gavin's Pt. and in Bon Homme, Custer, Deuel, Roberts, and McPherson Counties.

Purple Martin -- (4) fledged from one nest, Hyde Co., JH; (8) nesting pairs, banded (19) young, s. Brookings Co., NJH; estimate 60 nesting pairs fledged about (250), banded (185) young in four colonies in Burke, GLS; 6-12 Martin, Bennett Co. (4) JLM; from (1 to 40) observed during July in Yankton, WH; present in Deuel and Roberts Counties, BKH.

JAYS TO WRENS

Gray Jay -- 6-3 Rapid City (2 ad., 3 imm.), av. (6) daily during July, AMB.

Blue Jay -- Present and nesting statewide.

Black-billed Magpie -- Reported from most West River areas; 7-25 Rapid City (30) BLG.

Common Crow -- Few reported from all areas.

Pinyon Jay -- 6-6 to 7-28 Rapid City (30) almost daily in yard; 7-24 and almost daily (90) at base of Skyline Drive, Rapid City, BLG.

Black-capped Chickadee -- Nest in Perkins Co., first record for area, AH; 6-10 Gregory Co., pair feeding young in nest in former Downy Woodpecker nest hole, GLS; reported in small numbers from other areas.

White-breasted Nuthatch -- Pair at feeder most of period, Burke, GLS; 7-9 and 7-26 Yankton Co. (1) WH; also in Roberts Co., BKH.
 Red-breasted Nuthatch -- 6-1 Lawrence Co. (2) JLM.
 Dipper -- 7-2 Custer Co. (7) RLH; 7-6 Penn. Co. (2) GRB.
 House Wren -- Common and nesting statewide.
 Long-billed Marsh Wren -- 6-12 Lacreek N.W.R. (2) BHAS; 7-12 Gavin's Pt. (5) WH; an increase over last year in the northeast part of the state, BKH.
 Canyon Wren -- 7-2 French Creek Canyon, Custer Co. (3) RLH.
 Rock Wren -- Three pairs during July, Rapid City, BLG; 7-2 Badlands (14) RAW; 7-12 Red Canyon, Fall River Co. (1) JLM.

MIMIDS TO SHRIKE

Mockingbird -- 6-23 Gavin's Pt. (2) JW; 7-2 n.w. Yankton Co. (3) WH.
 Gray Catbird -- Nesting reports from most areas of the state.
 Brown Thrasher -- Common and nesting statewide.
 Sage Thrasher -- 7-17 s.w. Butte Co. (1), Tim Shaide saw (4) in this same area earlier in the period, TAMH.
 American Robin -- Common and nesting statewide.
 Wood Thrush -- 6-4 Roberts Co. (1) singing male, but not observed on later visits, BKH.
 Swainson's Thrush -- 7-4 (6) s.w. Meade Co., 7-6 (1) Penn. Co., NRW.
 Veery -- 6-27 Penn. Co. (3) heard calling, responded to tape recording, JLM.
 Eastern Bluebird -- 7-4 (1 ad., 2 imm.), 7-22 (8), 7-26 (16) Yankton Co., WH; 6-11 nest failure due to predator, Rapid City, DHK; 6-28 to 7-17 Penn. Co. (1 pr.) NJE; 7-22 Rapid City (2) GRB; numbers still down in northeast part of state, BKH.
 Mountain Bluebird -- Small numbers reported from several areas in Black Hills, BHAS.
 Townsend's Solitaire -- 7-28 Cleghorn Canyon (2 ad., 2 imm.) DSM.
 Golden-crowned Kinglet -- 7-2 n.w. Custer Co. (1) C. Faanes (fide EMS).
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet -- 6-27 Penn. Co. (15) JLM; 6-22 Custer Co. (2) NRW.
 Cedar Waxwing -- 6-22 Yankton (1) JW; good numbers in northeast part of state, BKH.
 Loggerhead Shrike -- 6-1 nest with young, 6-15 (3) Deuel Co., observed in Grant Co., 6-13 Marshall Co. (1), encouraging numbers after lack of birds during breeding season the past few years, BKH; 6-13 to 7-27 Yankton Co. (total of 30) WH; 6-9 to 7-26 Penn. Co. (total of 24) BHAS.

VIREOS, WARBLERS

Bell's Vireo -- 6-26 Rockyford, Shannon Co. (1) RAW; 7-8 Gavin's Pt. (1) WH.
 Solitary Vireo -- 6-19 Rapid City (1) DSM; 6-23 Custer Co. (3) NRW.
 Red-eyed Vireo -- Reported from Herding (1), Penn. (4), end meade (6) Counties; apparent increase in northeast S. Dak., BKH.
 Warbling Vireo -- Nesting in Yankton Co.; reports also from Penn. (numerous), Custer, Clay, Moody, Bon Homme Counties.
 Black-and-white Warbler -- 6-18 (1), 7-22 (1) Rapid City, DSM, GRB.

Tennessee Warbler -- 6-10 (1) Yankton, JW.
 Orange-crowned Warbler -- 7-25 Rapid City (1) GRB.
 Northern Parula Warbler -- 6-1, 6-24, 27, 28 (1) in yard at Yankton, JW; 6-22, 28 Penn. Co. (1 m.) JLM; 7-3 to 7-23 Penn. Co. (1 pr.) G. Blankspeer, L.M. Baylor.
 Yellow Warbler -- Reported in small numbers for most areas.
 Yellow-rumped Warbler -- 6-11 to 7-13 Black Hills (total 74) BHAS.
 Blackpoll Warbler -- 6-10 Yankton (1) JW. (Late migrant?)
 Ovenbird -- 6-11 to 7-6 Penn. Co. (4) JLM; 6-23 (3) Meade Co., 6-22 (15) Custer Co., NRW.
 MacGillivray's Warbler -- (3) Penn. Co., (1) Lawrence Co., JLM.
 Common Yellowthroat -- Common and nesting in all areas with suitable habitat; 8-15, 16 male observed feeding fledgling, Hyde Co., JM.
 Yellow-breasted Chat -- July records for (1) Penn. Co., (2) Custer Co., (14) Fall River Co., JLM; pair present during June in Badlands, RAW.
 Wilson's Warbler -- 7-10 Rapid City (2) TAMH.
 American Redstart -- (10) in Penn. Co. during June, JLM, GRB.

ICTERIDS, TANAGERS

Bobolink -- Reported from Meade, Moody, Yankton Counties.
 Western Meadowlark -- Common and nesting statewide.
 Yellow-headed Blackbird -- Good increases in Gregory, Tripp, Deuel, and Lyman Counties; reported also from Hyde, Moody, Yankton, Bon Homme, Penn., and Meade Counties.
 Red-winged Blackbird -- Common and nesting statewide.
 Orchard Oriole -- Nesting in Penn., Hyde, Yankton, and Bon Homme Counties; reported also from Fall River, Perkins, Moody, Deuel, Roberts, and McPherson Counties.
 Northern Oriole -- Present and nesting statewide.
 Brewer's Blackbird -- Reports from Yankton, Penn., Meade, and Custer Counties.
 Common Grackle -- Common and nesting statewide.
 Brown-headed Cowbird -- Common statewide.
 Western Tanager -- 6-3 to 7-25 Penn. Co., adults and young (total 29) GRB, NJE, JLM, NRW.

FINCHES, SPARROWS

Cardinal -- Several all period, s. Clay Co., KJH; several almost daily in yard, (5) in rural areas during period, 6-18 Bon Homme Co. (2) WH, JW.
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak -- Reported from Clay, Yankton, Penn., Butte, and Roberts Counties.
 Black-headed Grosbeak -- Reported from Penn., Butte, and Hughes Counties.
 Blue Grosbeak -- Nesting in Badlands (first confirmed record, RAW); good increase and expanding in Miner and Lake Counties, NJH; pair in Moody Co., D. Wells; reported also from Fall River, Yankton, Chas. Mix, Bon Homme, and Clay Counties.
 Indigo Bunting -- Reported from Clay, Yankton, Bon Homme, Penn., and Meade Counties.
 Lazuli Bunting -- Nesting at Rapid City, BLG; (2) in Fall River Co., JLM.



Chestnut-collared Longspur

—H. W. Steffen

Dickcissel -- Reported from Bon Homme and Yankton Counties, Lacreek N.W.R., and Badlands.

Evening Grosbeak -- (31 adults and young) in Rapid City, BHAS; (10) in Belle Fourche in July, IW.

Cassin's Finch -- 7—2 Custer Co. (2) JLM.

PINE GROSBK -- 6—1 Rapid City (1 pr.) AMB. Size, beak, and colors noted.

Pine Siskin -- Total (74) for period, no nest records but young were brought to feeders, GRB, NJE.

American Goldfinch -- Nest record in Hyde Co., JH; reports also from Perkins, Spink, Yankton, Penn., Fall River, Roberts, Deuel, Marshall, and McPherson Counties.

Red Crossbill -- (126 ad. and imm.) Penn. Co. and Rapid City, BHAS.

Rufous-sided Towhee -- Reports for Black Hills (widespread), Yankton Co. (1), La Rambois Island, Pierre (1), and Sodak Park, Roberts Co. (1 singing male), a first summer season record for BKH.

Lark Bunting -- Common and nesting in West River areas; reports also from Miner, Lake, Aurora, Hyde, n.w. Yankton (first sighting in area, WH), and n. Codrington (first sighting in 10 years, Earl Drake) Counties.

Grasshopper Sparrow -- Reports from Miner and Lake (decreasing numbers again, NJH), Yankton, Penn., Meade, and Jackson Counties, and Badlands (good recovery after being almost absent in 1976, RAW).

Baird's Sparrow -- 6—16 observed singing males at six locations in McPherson Co., five of the locations were on Ordway Prairie, BKH.

Vesper Sparrow -- Reported from Lake, Miner, Yankton, Penn., Meade, Deuel, Roberts, Marshall, and McPherson Counties.

Lark Sparrow -- Reported from Yankton, Penn., and Fall River Counties.

Dark-eyed (W. - w.) Junco -- Observations of adults and young in Penn. Co., DSM, JLM, NRW.

Dark-eyed (Stat-col.) Junco -- Adults and young observed in Rapid City, AMB.

Chipping Sparrow -- Reported from all areas, good numbers in Brookings, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Clay-colored Sparrow -- Singing male present during period, n. Moody Co., D. Wells (fide NJH).

BREWER'S SPARROW -- 6—2 (3 nests) in sagebrush, w. Butte Co., TMH; 7—12 Igloo, Fall River Co. (6) JLM.

Field Sparrow -- Reports from Yankton, Roberts, and McPherson Counties.

Song Sparrow -- Reports from Penn., Yankton, Spink, Hyde, Deuel, Roberts, Marshall, and McPherson Counties.

Chestnut-collared Longspur -- Scarce in Rapid City area, BHAS; common in Hyde Co., JH; (12) sighted in Miner and Lake Counties, NJH; (5) in Aurora Co., WH; many in w. Roberts, Marshall, and McPherson Counties, BKH.

REPORTERS

WEST RIVER --

Black Hills Audubon Society (BHAS)

Members: Gertrude Bachmann (GRB); Harry Behrens (HCB); Dorothy Borerson (DAB); Adelaide Brodsky (AMB); Norma Eckmann (NJE); Bonnie Green (BLG); Tom Hays (TMH); Doris Knecht (DHK); Dorothy McCulloh (DSM); Richard Michael (RMM); Jocie Mortimer (JLM); Esther Serr (EMS); Jon Sharps (JS); Elizabeth Southmayd (EAS); N.R. Whitney (NRW).

(AH) -- Alfred and Gertrude Hinds, west Perkins County.

(EEM) -- Ernest E. Miller, Sturgis, Meade County.
(JMN) -- James M. Nissen, compiler for Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Bennett County.

(BMN) -- Barney Nordstrom, east Custer County.
(GLS) -- Galen L. Steffen, Burke, Gregory County, Tripp Co.

(WCT) -- Walter C. Thietje, Reliance, Lyman County.

(RAW) -- Richard A. Wilt, Badlands National Monument, Jackson County.

EAST RIVER --

(WH) -- Willis and Rosamond Hall, Yankton, Bon Homme, Chas. Mix, and Aurora Counties.

(BKH) -- Bruce K. Harris, Clear Lake, Deuel Co., plus Grant, Roberts, Marshall, and McPherson Counties.

(JH) -- June Harter, Hyde County.

(RLH) -- Richard L. Hill, Pierre, Hughes Co., plus Spink and Custer Counties.

(NJH) -- Nelda Holden, s. Brookings Co., plus Lake and Miner Counties.

(KJH) -- Carolyn J. Hoover, s. Clay County.

(JW) -- Juli Wilcox, Yankton.

(RRJ, KFH, MHP) -- Robert R. Johnson, Mgr., Kent F. Hall and Michael H. Phillips, Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Day County.

SDOU MEMBERS . . . 1977

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