

South Dakota Bird Notes

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Photo courtesy of Willis Hall

Horned Grebe on Active Nest

Photographed May 21, 1978, in McPherson County

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President's Page

Last May the Brown County Commission voted three to two against recommending to the governor the sale of approximately 145 acres of land near Warner, South Dakota, by its owner, Mr. Jacob Mardian of Aberdeen, to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a waterfowl production reserve. Some of the commission members claimed that the sale would take the land out of farm crop cultivation. They wanted it sold to a farmer, although it is reported that at



least one-third of the tract is not farmable. Fortunately, Governor Kneip approved the purchase anyway, after receiving a sensible letter from the Brown County Sportsmen's Club. I am sure that this is not the only occasion

on which the argument will be advanced that wetland acquisitions diminish acreage that should be used for farming. Last spring during SDOU's May meeting at Ordway Prairie I heard one of our party on a field trip say that he had heard a farmer complaining that Deer Creek Canyon, which we stopped to explore, was not being utilized as cropland.

These two incidents suggest what is probably a widespread belief that vacant, accessible land should serve only the purposes of agriculture, and I cannot help thinking that it is derived from what scholars call the "agrarian tradition." By this is meant a set of attitudes, thinking habits, and notions (often evident only when extended by inference and difficult to examine) that are very old and are traceable to the beginnings of Western civilization. Together they form a mysti-

que about the sacred character of farming and country life generally. According to this tradition, the land is believed to be God's gift to man which He intended to be tilled. Closely related are the convictions that agriculture is the foundation of civilization and the proper center of a nation's economy because it alone produces real wealth, all other occupations being of secondary importance; that it is the way of life most conducive to virtue and that it produces the best citizens, the most careful guardians of the nation's destiny, and the best soldiers; that the lives of rural peoples--especially those living on the family-sized farm--are healthier, happier, wiser, more free from vice than those of urban people; and that country life breeds the spirit of independence. Thomas Jefferson, the chief spokesman for the agrarian tradition in America, said that farmers are "the chosen people of God, if ever He had a chosen people."

Placed in this context of a time-honored tradition that exalts farming and its way of life, the Brown County Commission's negative recommendation to Governor Kneip can be better understood, and we can also anticipate one kind of opposition that the wetland acquisition program is going to face, as well as other programs that allegedly sacrifice farm lands to the ideal of wildlife protection and sustenance and of environment restoration. The problem is similar, of course, to all the others created by modern man's zeal for "development," whether it be the Western public lands that organized cattlemen and sheepmen tried to steal in the 1940's and the early 1950's or the Alaskan wilderness today. -- Bill Lemons, Meckling.

Wildlife Land Acquisitions: How Much Do We Know And Appreciate Them?

Bruce K. Harris

When the snow lies deep in the coulees, on the native prairies, and over the wetlands of South Dakota, we look forward to field trips to Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge (N.W.R.), LaCreek N.W.R., Newton Hills State Park, Sica Hollow State Park, and many other parks and public shooting areas where we will find excellent birding. The Samuel H. Ordway Memorial Prairie, one of the largest projects in which The Nature Conservancy has invested its time and money, was the site for 1978 S.D.O.U. spring field trips. In many of the state and federal public land areas that have been set aside in South Dakota for game production and hunting, nature study groups will find some of the finest natural habitats left in the state or the nation in which to study and photograph wildlife species.

A close look at the records of rare or unusual bird sightings around the state will give one a good idea of the value of these public lands for the study of wildlife. Red-necked Grebes nest regularly in South Dakota only at Waubay N.W.R., and the Horned Grebe has recently been found nesting on United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS) wetlands in Edmunds and McPherson Counties. Trumpeter Swans have been brought back from near-extinction on several USF&WS refuges, including the LaCreek N.W.R. in South Dakota. When S.D.O.U. members set out to find American Woodcocks in courtship display they go to Clay County, Newton Hills, Hartford Beach or Sica Hollow State Parks, or to Public Shooting Areas (PSA) in Deuel County. Only at Sica Hollow State Park, in western Roberts County, may we count on finding Cooper's Hawks, Broad-

winged Hawks, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, and Veeries during the breeding season. The Whip-poor-will, Brown Creeper, Wood Thrush, Black-and-white Warbler, and Ovenbird are found during the summer months only along the Missouri River, in undisturbed forest lands. In eastern South Dakota these species may be found on Farm Island near Pierre, in Clay County State Park, and in the one remaining stretch of undisturbed Missouri River habitat in the Greenwood area in Charles Mix County. If we are fortunate we will again have the Bald Eagles nesting in South Dakota, and it is likely that they will establish breeding territories on the new eagle refuge, recently purchased by the USF&WS, which is south of Pickstown in Charles Mix County. Some other examples are Sprague's Pipits on the Fort Pierre National Grasslands and Samuel H. Ordway Memorial Prairie, Baird's Sparrows on USF&WS Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) in Edmunds and McPherson Counties, Snowy and Cattle Egrets nesting at Sand Lake N.W.R., King Rails at LaCreek N.W.R., plus warbler waves and shorebird concentrations in the spring and fall at many PSA's in eastern South Dakota.

It is no coincidence that these bird species are found at the above locations. They are there because their preferred habitats -- woodlands, wetlands, native prairies, or brushy draws -- are at those sites, undisturbed by livestock, haying operations, or cross-country travel by vehicles. This, of course, is the prime reason for wildlife land acquisition programs, and we can take pride in knowing that the South Dakota Department of Wildlife, Parks and Forestry (WP&F) was one of the first state departments in the

nation to emphasize the acquisition of such lands on a large scale, and it has continued over the years to do a fine job of protecting these areas. Similar programs have been adopted by the USF&WS and, more recently, The Nature Conservancy.

I was somewhat surprised and disappointed to find that there has not been more awareness of these acquisition programs by S.D.O.U. members and other nature study groups. Except for The Nature Conservancy, the agencies that purchase wildlife lands in South Dakota have a major responsibility to hunters since the money for the purchase of PSA's and WPA's comes from the excise tax on the sale of hunting supplies and equipment and from the sale of hunting licenses. I can assure you that active hunters know exactly where all of the shooting areas are located in their counties, and they are often quite vocal and concerned about the management of those areas. But how many S.D.O.U. members know these locations, the land they encompass, and the wildlife species that use them?

Local hunters and neighboring land-owners are aware of the many problems we face in the management and preservation of these areas. How many members of S.D.O.U. or of other groups interested in natural history have the same awareness? Because of the high price of land and the high priorities placed upon the use of all lands, we are approaching some very critical times when increased pressures will be placed on agencies that want to preserve native habitat. These agencies need all possible support and public interest if they are going to *retain the lands they have acquired*, to say nothing of being able to continue their land acquisition programs. If you value the lands I have described you will be appalled at the idea of those lands being sold at public auction and returned to private ownership. But this is exactly the situation that

is now facing WP&F as a result of continual public pressure and severe budget problems. I have heard knowledgeable local people say they think that it is just a matter of time before these pressures will force the sale of some PSA's in South Dakota. Some of the pressures stem from a prevailing belief in the agricultural community that land is being wasted if it is not producing crops, opposition to government ownership of any land, and misunderstanding of management practises. Increased land prices and taxes have become additional problems.

The first objective of the USF&WS has been the preservation of habitat for waterfowl production, with the secondary objective being public shooting areas. Three problems now confronting the USF&WS are: (1) weed control, (2) a public that is misinformed about the payment of taxes on WPA's, (3) the requirement that any USF&WS purchase must be approved by County Commissions. Weed control is expensive and time-consuming and any success depends on available monies and manpower. The second problem resulted from federal restrictions on payment of local taxes, leaving the public with the impression that no taxes are paid on WPA lands. The USF&WS makes "revenue sharing" payments to the counties in lieu of taxes, and these payments are comparable to the taxes paid by the former landowner. In 1976 the payments totaled \$138,441.00 to South Dakota counties. The requirement in the third problem is making it increasingly difficult for the USF&WS to acquire wetlands. An agreement signed many years ago between the USF&WS and several states, including South Dakota, makes it necessary for the USF&WS to get authorization from County Commissions before purchasing any wetlands (even from willing sellers) in their particular counties, thus making it possible for county commissioners, as agents of the governor, to



Courtesy of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Photo by Kent Olson

DUCK BROOD IN A SLOUGH

refuse to allow a USF&WS land purchase. This arrangement apparently brought no special problems until recent years when land prices and taxes spiralled upwards. As a result, some County Commissions will not approve the sale of lands to USF&WS because local township boards do not want to have the lands taken off the tax rolls. The USF&WS has the right to present its case to the governor for review, but this is not often done because of the public relation realities.

There are many ways that S.D.O.U. members can help these agencies in the acquisition and management of wildlife lands. You must first become familiar with the wildlife areas in your county and in other parts of the state. Get out on these areas regularly, and if it is necessary, report trespass or other viola-

tions to your local Conservation Officer (CO). If you know of a suitable tract that might be purchased by the WP&F, the USF&WS, or The Nature Conservancy, contact someone who can get the information to the proper organization. The CO is often the most available person. You can also lend your support in any way that will make it easier for the USF&WS to purchase land in your area without obtaining authorization from the county commission. Possibly a review of the standing agreement between the agencies involved might be the answer to this problem. But the first and most important way you can help is to *become informed* about the public land programs and the land areas in the state. A group that is so dependent on public lands, as S.D.O.U. is, cannot afford to do anything less than this at the present time. -- Clear Lake, SD.

SPRING MEETING

J. Harter

The South Dakota Ornithologists' Union and The Nature Conservancy held a joint meeting at the Samuel H. Ordway Memorial Prairie, May 19-21, 1978, with hosts Paul and Susan Bultsma, whose gracious hospitality will be remembered with much pleasure. The site for the meeting, customarily referred to as Ordway Prairie, is in McPherson County; its 7600 acres make up one of the four projects purchased in South Dakota by The Nature Conservancy.

As part of the Friday evening program Paul Bultsma, manager, gave a description of Ordway Prairie and told about some of the management practises that will eventually return the land to its native state. Cattle grazing through May is one of the methods being used to eliminate introduced plant species, particularly cool season grasses. The buffalo, along with other animal species, will again be seen on Ordway Prairie as they were in earlier years. The project is a laboratory for students and researchers who also assist with the work.

Grace Lieberman, Field Representative from The Nature Conservancy Midwest Regional Office, Minneapolis, told about the organization's aims in acquiring and preserving lands of special ecological value. Ordway Prairie is a fine example of the application of their program. David Holden, representing The Nature Conservancy, then used some superb slides for an illustrated talk entitled "Our Prairie Heritage."

On Saturday the field trip participants could take the hay rack ride around Ordway Prairie or go by car caravan to pot hole areas and Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Leaders included Paul Bultsma, John T. Lokemoen, and Harold

Duebbert. Noteworthy finds during the trips were three active Horned Grebe nests and two Ferruginous Hawk nests. There was good attendance later at the delicious banquet served by members of the St. James Lutheran Church in the nearby town of Leola. In the preliminary part of the program Bruce Harris gave a summary of wetlands and wildlife lands programs in South Dakota. His paper on the subject is in this issue of *Bird Notes*. Dr. Dilwyn Rogers discussed The Nature Conservancy, and Grace Lieberman presented two awards: David Holden received The Nature Conservancy Award for his 15 years of work for the organization in South Dakota, and Dr. Rogers was recognized for his efforts which were directly responsible for an increase in membership in the South Dakota chapter of The Nature Conservancy. The main event of the program was an illustrated talk entitled "Distribution and Densities of Waterfowl and Shorebird Nests on an Island in Miller Lake," which was presented by John T. Lokemoen and Harold Duebbert of the Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, Jamestown, North Dakota. In their studies of the island Lokemoen and Duebbert found that the ducks had several hundred predator-free, successful nests per acre, whereas the normal distribution is about four nests per acre. The density on the island is a natural condition but it suggests the possibility that it can be a model for artificial islands and management programs that will maintain or increase waterfowl production. This talk was followed with interest and appreciation, and we hope that a summary will be submitted for publication in *Bird Notes*.

Participants on the Sunday morning field trips returned to the headquarters

at Ordway Prairie for a buffalo barbecue luncheon. This was followed by the species check-off, which included birds observed during field trips across the state line into North Dakota, in McPherson and Brown Counties, and on Ordway Prairie. Among the subsequent announcements was one for a summer field trip to be held at Pierre in July.

REGISTRANTS

From Other States

Denver, Colorado - Gerald M. Nugent, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
 Grand Forks, North Dakota - David, Sharon, Greg and Judy Lambeth.
 Jamestown, North Dakota - Harold Duebert, John T. Lokemoen.
 Minot, North Dakota - Gordon, Judy, Joyce, and Jennifer Berkey.
 Minneapolis, Minnesota - Grace Lieberman.

From South Dakota

Aberdeen - Margerey Arbogast, Roger and Lois Birdseye, William Buster, Camilla Grace, Warren Johnson, David Linehan, Larry and Mrs. Lynch, Everett and Jeanette Montgomery, Cynthia Peck, Wayne and Jessie Phillips, Genevieve M. Tvrdik.
 Brookings - Jim P.M. Chamie, Ava Fogelman, David, Nelda, and Arthur Holden, Ken and Patsy Husmann, Darrell and Lois Wells.
 Bruce - Dick and Esther Edie.
 Camp Crook - Robert and Diane Rogers.
 Caputa - Alice, Francis, and Jackie McGuire.
 Clear Lake - Bruce Harris, Walt Rose.
 Flandreau - Geneva M. Hogue.
 Highmore - June Harter.
 Leola - Paul and Susan Bultsma, Robert Halpern, Gilbert, Orpha, and Arlene Zumbaum.
 Madison - Robert Buckman.
 Meckling - Bill Lemons.
 Mobridge - Mildred Brown.
 Pierre - Augusta E. Eklund, Enid Hyde, Leo R. Larson, Bob Summerside, Velma Vance.

Prairie City - Alfred and Gertrice Hinds.
 Rapid City - Tom and Nancy Hays, L.R. and Ruth Palmerton, Reva Pearce, Helen Schweigert, Esther Serr, Dr. Nat and Mary Whitney, Lenord and Clara Yarger.

Selby - Dorothy Sawinsky.
 Sioux Falls - Georgina and Madeline Dalrymple, Fred Klawiter, Paul and Mrs. Koehler, John Oolman, Dilwyn and Mrs. Rogers, Charles and Gladycy Rogge, Mark S. Staebell, Robert and Lucille Trusler.
 Vermillion - Dr. Byron and Joyce Harrell, Sylvia Wheeler.
 White - Florence W. Kurtz, Mrs. Ronald Shave.
 Yankton - Willis and Rosamond Hall

1978 SPRING MEETING SPECIES LIST

Symbols indicate where birds were observed:

ND = North Dakota
 M = McPherson County
 B = Brown County
 O = Samuel H. Ordway Memorial Prairie

Horned Grebe - ND M Nesting
 Eared Grebe - ND M B O
 Western Grebe - ND M B O
 Pied-billed Grebe - ND M B O
 White Pelican - ND M B
 Double-crested Cormorant - ND M B O
 Great Blue Heron - M B
 Cattle Egret - B
 Black-crowned Night Heron - ND M B O
 American Bittern - M B
 White-faced Ibis - ND M B O
 Canada Goose - B
 Snow Goose - B
 Snow Goose (blue form) - B
 Mallard - ND M B O Nesting
 Gadwall - ND M B O
 Pintail - ND M B O Nesting
 Green-winged Teal - ND M B O
 Blue-winged Teal - ND M B O Nesting
 American Wigeon - ND M B O
 Northern Shoveler - ND M B O Nesting
 Wood Duck - M
 Redhead - ND M B O
 Ring-necked Duck - M
 Canvasback - ND M B O
 Lesser Scaup - ND M B O
 Ruddy Duck - ND M B O
 Red-tailed Hawk - M B
 Swainson's Hawk - ND M B Nesting
 Ferruginous Hawk - ND M B O Nesting
 Marsh Hawk - M

American Kestrel - ND M B
 Sharp-tailed Grouse - M O Nesting
 Ring-necked Pheasant - M B
 Gray Partridge - M O
 Sora - M B O
 American Coot - ND M B O Nesting
 Killdeer - ND M B O Nesting
 American Golden Plover - M
 Common Snipe - ND M O
 Upland Sandpiper - ND M B O
 Spotted Sandpiper - M B
 Willet - ND M B O
 Greater Yellowlegs - B
 Lesser Yellowlegs - M
 White-rumped Sandpiper - M
 Baird's Sandpiper - M
 Least Sandpiper - M
 Long-billed Dowitcher - B
 Stilt Sandpiper - B
 Marbled Godwit - ND M B O
 Hudsonian Godwit - ND M
 Sanderling - M
 American Avocet - ND M B O
 Wilson's Phalarope - M B O
 Northern Phalarope - ND M
 Ring-billed Gull - ND B
 Franklin's Gull - ND B
 Forster's Tern - M B
 Common Tern - M
 Black Tern - ND M B O
 Rock Dove - ND M B
 Mourning Dove - ND M B O Nesting
 Black-billed Cuckoo - ND
 Great Horned Owl - M B
 Burrowing Owl - M
 Short-eared Owl - M
 Common Nighthawk - M B
 Chimney Swift - M B
 Belted Kingfisher - ND
 Common Flicker - ND M B O
 Red-headed Woodpecker - ND M B
 Downy Woodpecker - B
 Eastern Kingbird - ND M B
 Western Kingbird - ND M B O
 Say's Phoebe - M
 Least Flycatcher - ND M B
 Horned Lark - ND M B O
 Tree Swallow - ND B
 Bank Swallow - ND M B
 Rough-winged Swallow - ND M B
 Barn Swallow - ND M B O
 Cliff Swallow - M B
 Purple Martin - M B
 Blue Jay - ND M B
 Black-billed Magpie - B
 Common Crow - M B
 Black-capped Chickadee - B
 Red-breasted Nuthatch - ND M
 House Wren - ND M B Nesting
 Long-billed Marsh Wren - M B
 Gray Catbird - ND B
 Brown Thrasher - ND M B

American Robin - ND M B O
 Swainson's Thrush - ND M B
 Gray-cheeked Thrush - ND B
 Loggerhead Shrike - B
 Starling - M B
 Red-eyed Vireo - ND B
 Philadelphia Vireo - B
 Warbling Vireo - ND B
 Black-and-white Warbler - M B
 Tennessee Warbler - ND M B
 Orange-crowned Warbler - ND M B
 Yellow Warbler - ND M B
 Magnolia Warbler - M B
 Cape May Warbler - M
 Yellow-rumped Warbler - M B
 Blackburnian Warbler - ND
 Chestnut-sided Warbler - B
 Bay-breasted Warbler - ND
 Blackpoll Warbler - M B
 Northern Waterthrush - B
 Mourning Warbler - ND
 Common Yellowthroat - M B O
 Wilson's Warbler - M B
 Canada Warbler - ND
 American Redstart - ND M B
 House Sparrow - ND M B O Nesting
 Bobolink - ND M B O
 Western Meadowlark - ND M B O
 Yellow-headed Blackbird - ND M B O
 Red-winged Blackbird - ND M B O
 Orchard Oriole - ND M B
 Northern Oriole - ND M B
 Common Grackle - ND M B O
 Brown-headed Cowbird - ND M B O
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak - M B
 Pine Siskin - B
 American Goldfinch - ND M B
 Lark Bunting - M B
 Savannah Sparrow - M O
 Grasshopper Sparrow - M B O
 Baird's Sparrow - M B O
 Le Conte's Sparrow - M
 Vesper Sparrow - ND M
 Lark Sparrow - ND
 Chipping Sparrow - ND M B
 Clay-colored Sparrow - ND M B O
 Harris' Sparrow - M O
 Lincoln's Sparrow - M O
 Swamp Sparrow - B
 Song Sparrow - ND M B O
 Chestnut-collared Longspur - ND M O
 TOTAL 144

DUES NOTICE

Unremitted dues for 1979 should be sent to the treasurer as soon as possible. Please check the index page for the correct amount; then mail it to Mrs. David J. Holden, Route 4, Box 68, Brookings, S.D. 57006.

General Notes of Special Interest

YOUNG SAW-WHET OWLS IN ROBERTS COUNTY

In the late afternoon of May 29, 1978, I glanced out the window of our cabin at Big Stone Lake in Roberts County, about one-half mile from the Grant County line, and noticed a small, lovely brown furry object in the grass a few feet beyond our patio. I called the attention of my husband Earl to this furry little ball, thinking it was perhaps a small animal. We watched it a few minutes, then went out on the patio and the little animal turned its head to look at us. To our surprise it was a cute little owl with large white-encircled eyes and a white crescent on top of its head. It flew to a branch of a nearby tree where we observed it for a while. It had moved by the next morning but it was still in front of our cabin.

Later that day, May 30, I was looking for a robin's nest in our evergreen trees and I thought I had found one, but upon looking closer I discovered that it was another owl. This was a larger bird with lighter-colored feathers, but it had the same white markings on the head and around the eyes. It did not appear to be frightened and I continued to watch it at intervals for the rest of the day. It was gone the next morning.

A few days later Earl was clipping the hedge and again saw our little bird. It flew to a tree branch where it was immediately attacked by robins and blackbirds and knocked to the ground. It took refuge between the tree and a log. Perhaps I could have picked it up but I did not try. In another few days the owl was on the roof of our cabin where it was again attacked by other birds.

About dusk we could hear these birds calling "psst, psst," and we knew they were nearby. The last evening we saw the little owls was about June 14. Their

continued "psst" call directed us to their location on a branch in front of our cabin where we saw *three* owls. I am sure that they were two young and an adult. Attempts to photograph them were unsuccessful. We checked our *Birds of North America* and identified them as Saw-whet Owls. Other observers of the owls were Mr. and Mrs. James Cole, Lloyd Jones, and Don Weber.

We reported our observations to Bruce K. Harris, Conservation Officer, Clear Lake, and he informed us that the Saw-whet Owl is a rare species in this area. -- **Kathleen and Earl Spinner, Clear Lake.**

Editor's Note: Bruce K. Harris stated in correspondence that James Cole, resident of Gary, Deuel Co., had described the little owls to him as being so dark in coloration that he at first thought they were small animals on the lawn. Harris commented that this agrees with the literature on the species.

+ + +

CLIFF SWALLOW BEHAVIOR IN DAY COUNTY

In late spring, 1977, I found it necessary to move an old school house that I had been using for a granary. While getting it ready I noticed that two pairs of swallows were building nests under the eaves. These birds did not have the forked tails and rust-colored breasts of the Barn Swallows so I checked their markings with my bird guide and found that they were Cliff Swallows. Being a bird lover, I was unhappy about moving their half-built homes, but it had to be done.

By a roundabout route we moved the building to a field location that was a little over two and one-half miles in a

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES

straight line from the original position. When I next saw the building three days later, I found both pairs of swallows busily completing their jug-shaped nests. The color of the mud in the two stages of building showed distinctly where the birds had been interrupted. They raised two families.

Did the birds follow the building or go scouting for a new location and find it? (Were they the same birds? -- Ed.) Since we did not expect the swallows to follow the moving building, we did not watch for them or see them. -- **Virgil Sikkink, Waubay.**

+ + +

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Persons licensed to band birds as unpaid volunteers in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service are bound by the very strict rules of the Bird Banding Laboratory. In **South Dakota Bird Notes** Vol. 29 No. 4, December, 1977, P. 70 three changes were made in the data which we submitted, titled **Banding Summary**, Oakwood Lakes State Park.

Somewhere in the editing process our "Traill's Flycatcher - 48" became "Willow Flycatcher - 48." We are well aware of the splitting by the AOU of the "Traill's" species into "Willow" and "Alder." However, we followed directive MTAB - 2 --06-26-73 -- Section 1-f in using the "Traill's" designation. In addition many of these birds were banded before the splitting occurred.

Bird number 70 in the list, "Northern Oriole - 37" should have been followed by "(Baltimore)" "MTAB - 21 -- 06-26-73 --Section 1-K.

Bird number 80 in the list, "Dark-eyed Junco (Slate.col.)" should have read, "Northern Junco (Slate-colored)." MTAB - 21 -- 06-26-73 -- Selection 1-. states specifically, "--do not use 'Dark-eyed Junco' on Schedules."

Charles & Gladyce Rogge

The correction is appreciated and an apology is extended to the Rogges. - Ed.

September, 1978



VARIED THRUSH

Wallace L. Larsen photographed this bird April 13, 1978, in a residential area in Pierre, using a 400 mm lens and 2x converter.

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD BOOK

The Birds of South Dakota is now available and may be ordered at \$10 (or \$8 for SDOU members) plus 4% sales tax (on orders from within South Dakota) plus \$1 for shipping. Checks should be made out to South Dakota Ornithologists' Union. Orders and remittance should be sent to:

South Dakota Ornithologists' Union
Nelda Holden, Treasurer
Route 4, Box 68
Brookings, S.D. 57006

1979 SDOU MEETINGS

Lake Andes will be the site for the SDOU Spring Meeting on May 18, 19, and 20, 1979. The dates for the Fall Meeting at Sioux Falls and the informal summer meeting will be announced later.

SPRING MIGRATION REPORT

March 1 - May 31, 1978

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

Late, cool, and wet describes the spring season, and the Black Hills received additional snow in mid-May. Snow runoff filled wetlands, ponds, and lakes over the state; these water levels remained excellent even though precipitation totals fell below normal in eastern areas by the end of the period.

The large numbers of waterfowl had plenty of habitat to meet their needs, but populations of most species of shorebirds were noticeably low because of water-covered habitat.

Spring 1978 was not without its highlights: nesting Horned Grebes, Little Blue Heron, White-faced Ibis, Snowy Egrets, Peregrine Falcons, numerous Short-eared Owls, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, male Hooded Warbler, and the singing Baird's Sparrows observed in several areas.

Species numbers in the following accounts are in parentheses. Observers initials may be indented in the list of contributors at the end of this report.

OBSERVATIONS

LOONS, GREBES, HERONS

- Common Loon** - Early: 4/17 Deuel Co., BKH; reports from Yankton, Bon Homme, and Hughes Counties.
- Horned Grebe** - Early: 4/10 Yankton Co., JEW; concentrations of 40 and 45 in Deuel Co. on 4/20, BKH; 4/28 Gregory Co., GLS; reports from Lake, Day, McPherson, and Edmunds Counties, and Sand Lake N.W.R.
- Eared Grebe** - Early: 4/6 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; reports from Deuel, Lake, Meade, Bon Homme, Yankton, Clay, and Hyde Counties.
- Western Grebe** - Early: 4/6 Lake Co., RDB; reports from Hamlin, Deuel, Lyman, Day, Brookings, McPherson, and Edmunds Counties, and LaCreek N.W.R.
- Pied-billed Grebe** - Early: 3/29 Brookings Co., CMP; reports from Deuel, Day, Yankton, Clay, Meade, Roberts, McPherson, and Edmunds Counties, and Sand Lake N.W.R.

White Pelican - Early: 3/26 Brookings Co., NJH; concentration of (3258) on 5/26 at LaCreek N.W.R., HHB, and (170) on 4/22 in Bon Homme Co., JEW, WH; reports from Deuel, Roberts, Lake, Hughes, Day, and Perkins Counties, and Sand Lake N.W.R.

Double-crested Cormorant - Early: 3/26 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; concentrations of (150) Yankton Co. on 4/8, WH, and (228) Roberts Co. on 5/7, BKH; reports from Day, Brookings, Gregory, Lyman, Hughes, Lake, Perkins, Meade, and Custer Counties, and Sand Lake N.W.R.

Great Blue Heron - Early: 3/24 (4) Bon Homme Co., JEW; reports from Bennett, Custer, Brown, Deuel, Day, Gregory, Brookings, Lake, Perkins, Hyde, Yankton, Grant, and Roberts Counties.

Green Heron - Early: 4/30 Deuel Co., Mark Harris; reports from Day, Brookings, and Bennett Counties.

LITTLE BLUE HERON - 5/30 (1) at a public shooting area west of Vienna, Clark Co., Dave Linehan, USF&WS (*vide* BKH).

Cattle Egret - 5/2 (1), 5/10 (15) Sand Lake N.W.R., BM, SJW.

Great Egret - 4/15 (1) Yankton, JEW; 4/27 (1) Lake Co., RDB; 4/28 (3), 5/28 (2) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK, SJW; 5/16 (2) Waubay N.W.R., DSW.

Snowy Egret - 5/22 (1) L. Poinsett, Hamlin Co., good view at 50 yds., noted yellow feet and lores, Conservation Officer Stan Lundquist (*vide* BKH); 5/26 (1) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW; 5/30 (3) at a public shooting area west of Vienna, Clark Co., Dave Linehan, USF&WS (*vide* BKH).

Black-crowned Night Heron - Early: 4/6 (3) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; reports from Brookings, Lake, Deuel, Hyde, Roberts, and McPherson Counties, and Waubay N.W.R.

American Bittern - Early: 4/6 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; reports from Brookings, Hamlin, Deuel, Day, and Stanley Counties.

White-faced Ibis - 4/20 (7) Lake Co., RDB; 4/25 (1), 5/11 (7) Sand Lake N.W.R., BM, TK; 5/22 (2) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 5/21 (11) Sand Lake N.W.R., RDB.

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS

Whistling Swan - 4/7 (20) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW; 4/9 (2) Deuel Co., T. Korbel (*vide* BKH); 4/10 (20) Roberts Co., RRJ, DSW.

Trumpeter Swan - 3/9 (120), 5/26 six nesting pair, LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Canada Goose - Early: 3/9 Gavin's Pt., WH, and 3/14 (4) *mazima* race, Sand Lake N.W.R., TK; peak concentrations of (2580) on 3/15 and (7500) on 4/2 at Sand Lake N.W.R.; reports from Yankton, Perkins, Brookings, Lake, Gregory, Grant, Deuel, Roberts, Haakon, and Meade Counties, LaCreek N.W.R., and Waubay N.W.R.

White-fronted Goose - 3/21 (4), 4/10 (2000) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW; 4/1 (100) Yankton Co., WH; 3/30 (25), 4/4 two flocks Deuel Co., BKH; 4/13 (30) Lake Co., RDB.

Snow Goose - Early: 3/19 Brookings Co., GKP. Peak concentrations: 3/22 (10,000) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 4/2 (155,000) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW. Reports also from Clay, Yankton, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties, and Waubay N.W.R.

Ross' Goose - 4/4 (2), 4/6 (5) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Mallard - Early: 3/1 Gavin's Pt., WH. Peak concentrations: 3/16 (4000) Gavin's Pt., WH; 3/29 LaCreek N.W.R. (3460) HHB; 4/6 (69,000) Sand Lake N.W.R., RE, SJW. Reports also from Perkins, Deuel, Lake, Hyde, Moody, Grant, Roberts, and Meade Counties, and Waubay N.W.R.

Black Duck - 3/1 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH.

Gadwall - Early: 3/21 Yankton Co., WH; 3/22 LaCreek N.W.R.; 3/23 Brookings Co. Peak concentrations: 3/29 (946) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 4/30 (9000) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW. Reports also from Lake, Deuel, Gregory, Day, Grant, and Roberts Counties.

Pintail - Early: 3/15 LaCreek N.W.R. and 3/19 Bon Homme Co. Peak concentrations: 4/10 (45,000) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK, SJW. Reports also from Deuel, Grant, Roberts, Gregory, Brookings, Perkins, Yankton, Lake, and Hyde Counties.

Green-winged Teal - Early: 3/18 Bon Homme Co., WH. Peak dates: 4/6 Sand Lake N.W.R. and 4/20 LaCreek N.W.R. Reports also from Yankton, Deuel, Grant, Roberts, Clark, Clay, Yankton, and Gregory Counties.

Blue-winged Teal - Early: 3/15 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Peak dates: 4/30 (20,000) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK, SJW; 5/26 (3000) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Reports also from Lake, Yankton, Clay, Day, Gregory, Deuel, Roberts, and Bon Homme Counties.

Cinnamon Teal - 3/29 (4 males) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

American Wigeon - Early: 3/22 Brookings Co., NJH, and LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Peak dates: 3/29 (168) LaCreek N.W.R. and 4/15 (5000) Sand Lake N.W.R. Reports also from Hyde, Deuel, Grant, Roberts, Yankton, Day, Lake and Gregory Counties.

Northern Shoveler - Early: 3/23 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 3/27 Yankton Co., WH. Peak dates: 4/15 Sand Lake N.W.R. Reports from Yankton, Deuel, Grant, Roberts, Lake, Day, and Hyde Counties.

Wood Duck - Early: 4/1 Yankton Co., WH; 4/6 Deuel Co., BKH. Peak date: 4/20 (100) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW. Reports from Bon Homme, Brookings, and Roberts Counties, and LaCreek N.W.R.

Redhead - Early: 3/14 Gavin's Pt., WH; 3/15 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Peak dates: 3/20 Bon Homme Co. and 4/25 Sand Lake N.W.R. Reports from Hyde, Day, Brookings, Deuel, Lake, Gregory (only three sightings), Grant, and Roberts Counties.

Ring-necked Duck - Early: 3/14 Yankton Co., WH. Peak dates: 4/8 (100) Fish L., Deuel Co., BKH; 4/10 (1000) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW. Reports from Brookings, Clark, Hyde, Lake, and Roberts Counties, LaCreek N.W.R. None in Gregory Co.

Canvasback - Early: 3/22 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Peak dates: 3/29 LaCreek N.W.R., 4/8 Deuel Co., 4/21 Sand Lake N.W.R. Reports also from Day, Brookings,

Yankton, Clay, Gregory (only one sighting), and Roberts Counties.

Lesser Scaup - Early: 3/14 Gavin's Pt., WH; 3/18 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Peak dates: 3/29 LaCreek N.W.R.; 4/6 Sand Lake N.W.R.; 4/16 Bon Homme Co. Reports from Clay, Lake, Brookings, Gregory, Day, Deuel, Grant, Roberts, and Hyde Counties.

Common Goldeneye - Early: 3/1 Gavin's Pt., WH. First dates of 3/22 to 3/27 occurred in Hyde, Bon Homme, Brookings, Deuel, and Roberts Counties, LaCreek N.W.R., Waubay N.W.R., and Sand Lake N.W.R.

Bufflehead - Early: 3/9 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Peak dates: 3/29 LaCreek N.W.R.; 4/6 Sand Lake N.W.R. Reports also from Lake, Bon Homme, Brookings, Deuel, Roberts, Day, and Clay Counties.

Ruddy Duck - Early: 3/22 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Reports from Yankton, Clay, Brookings, Day, Hyde, Deuel, and Roberts Counties, Sand Lake N.W.R.

Hooded Merganser - 3/27 (2), 4/10 (30) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW; 4/6 (2) Waubay N.W.R., DSW.

Common Merganser - Early: 3/1 Gavin's Pt., WH. Arrival dates for other reporting points occurred 3/22 to 3/24. Peak dates: 3/24 (170) Bon Homme Co., JEW; 4/1 L. Campbell, Brookings Co., NJH; 4/1 (1800) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW.

Red-breasted Merganser - 3/28 (1), 4/19 (13), 4/29 (14) Gavin's Pt., WH; 3/31 (1), 4/8 (1), 4/4 (3) Deuel Co., BKH.

HAWKS, EAGLES

Turkey Vulture - 4/3 (1) s. Tripp Co., RLH; 4/6 (1), 4/9 (5) Mt. Rushmore, CCM; 4/10 (2) w. Meade Co., EEM; 4/16 (2) Gregory Co., GLS; 4/22 (1) Bon Homme Co., JEW; 4/30, 5/13 (1) Yankton Co., WH.

Sharp-shinned Hawk - An increase in the number of reports. Early: 3/2 Rapid City, NRW; 3/3 Yankton, JEW. Reports also from Lake, Gregory, Hyde, and Deuel Counties, Gavin's Pt., LaCreek N.W.R., and Sand Lake N.W.R.

Cooper's Hawk - 4/12 (1) Waubay N.W.R., DSW; 4/13 (1) Sand Lake N.W.R., RE; 4/15, 5/10 (1) Burke L., GLS; 5/5 (1) Clay Co., KJH; 5/13 (1) Yankton Co., WH.

Red-tailed Hawk - Early: 3/17 Yankton Co., WH, and Gregory Co., GLS; 3/18 Clay Co., KJH. Reports also from Bon Homme, Lake, Clark, Hamlin, Deuel, Grant, Roberts, Hyde, and Pennington Counties.

Broad-winged Hawk - 4/21 (1), 5/11 (4) Deuel Co., 4/25 (1) Hamlin Co., BKH; 4/25 (3) Hyde Co., JHH; 4/30 (1) Brookings, CAT; 5/2 (1) Lake Co., RDB; 5/11 (1) Gregory Co., GLS.

Swainson's Hawk - Migration began early: 4/3 Clay Co., KJH; 4/8 Deuel Co., BKH; 4/11 Waubay N.W.R., RRJ. Reports also from Gregory, Hughes, Meade, Yankton, and Pennington Counties, and LaCreek N.W.R.

Rough-legged Hawk - Late date: 4/29 Deuel Co., where a total of (17) was observed during the period. Reports also from Pennington, Bon Homme, Yankton, Lake, Gregory, and Hyde Counties, and LaCreek N.W.R.

Ferruginous Hawk - 3/12 (1) Meade Co., 3/18 (1) w. Meade Co., NRW; 3/25 (1) Hyde Co., JHH; 4/1 (2) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 5/20, 21 (5) McPherson Co., SDOU.

Golden Eagle - Reported from Custer, Pennington, Bennett, Deuel, and Brown Cos.

Bald Eagle - Late dates: 4/5 Sand Lake N.W.R., 4/20 LaCreek N.W.R. Reports also from Yankton, Bon Homme, Pennington, Custer, Day, Brookings, Moody, and Lake Counties.

Marsh Hawk - Early: 3/10 Gregory Co., GLS. General movement was 3/18 to 3/24. Reports from Yankton, Bon Homme, Day, Butte, Hyde, Brookings, Lake, Meade, Perkins, Pennington, Deuel, Roberts, and Grant Counties.

Osprey - 3/31 (2) Waubay N.W.R., HOS; 4/19 (1) Bismark L., Custer Co., NRW; 4/22 (2), 4/26 (1) Yankton, JEW; 4/22 (1) Bon Homme Co., 4/29 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH; 5/12 (1) L. Campbell, Brookings Co., GKP.

Prairie Falcon - 3/12 (2) c. Pennington Co., NRW; 3/15 (1) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 3/24 (2), 5/31 (1) Sand Lake N.W.R., BM, RE.

PEREGRINE FALCON - 5/10 (2) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 5/29 (1) Deuel Co., dark bird observed on ground at 100 yards with binocular, took off trailing what appeared to be prey, but possibly jesses (an escaped bird?) BKH.

Merlin - 3/9 (1) Belle Fourche, IW; 4/10 (1) Burke L., GLS; 4/24 (1) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

American Kestrel - Early: 3/17 Yankton Co., WH; 3/21 Day Co., HOS. Reports also from Bon Homme, Lake, Clay, Hyde, Gregory, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties, and LaCreek N.W.R.

Sharp-tailed Grouse - Reported from Waubay and Sand Lake Refuges and McPherson County.

Gray Partridge - Reports from Brookings, Bon Homme, Clay, Yankton, Deuel, and Hyde Counties.

Turkey - 3/21 (14) s. Haakon Co., NT; 4/13 (15) Custer State Park, RLH.

CRANES, RAILS, SHOREBIRDS

Whooping Crane - 4/25 (1) e. Bennett Co., HHB.

Sandhill Crane - Early: 3/25 to 3/30 Perkins Co., many flocks, AH. Last dates: 4/11 to 4/15. Exception was (1) bird observed flying south on 4/27 and calling continuously, HHB. Reports also from Brookings (5 flocks on 3/30 totaled 282, ERE), Pennington, Lyman, Gregory, Hyde, Roberts, Deuel, and Lake Counties, Waubay N.W.R., and Sand Lake N.W.R.

Virginia Rail - 5/18 (1) Marshall Co., DSW; 5/26 (6) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Sora - 4/29 (1) dead on barbed wire fence, earliest date I have on record, Deuel Co., BKH; 5/10 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/26 (12) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

American Coot - Early: 3/15 LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Peak dates: 4/10 (2400) Gavin's Pt., WH; 4/30 (20,000) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW. Reports also from Brookings, Gregory, Lake, Day, Clay, Stanley, Deuel, Roberts, Grant, and Hyde Counties.

Piping Plover - 4/17 (1), 4/23 (11) Gavin's Pt., WH, JEW.

Killdeer - Early: 3/15 Roberts Co., DSW; 3/18 Bon Homme Co., WH. Major movement into state occurred 3/21 to 3/24. Reports from Brookings (3/19), Clay, Gregory, Deuel, Grant, Lake, Hyde, Bennett, and Pennington Counties.

American Golden Plover - 4/13 (6) Deuel Co., (1) Hamlin Co., my earliest recorded date, BKH; 5/12 (25) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK.

Black-billed Plover - 5/26 (2) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Ruddy Turnstone - 5/9 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH.

American Woodcock - 4/19 (2) displaying males, e. Deuel Co., BKH.

Common Snipe - Early: 4/2 Gregory Co., GLS; 4/5 Yankton Co., WH. Peak date: 4/19 Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW. Reports also from Brookings, Stanley, Perkins, Meade, Day, Deuel, and Roberts Counties, and LaCreek N.W.R.

Long-billed Curlew - 4/13 (2) s. Pennington Co., NRW; 4/15 (1) s.w. Perkins Co., AH; 4/15 (1) Pennington Co., 5/14 (2) n. Stanley Co., RLH; 4/13 (5) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Upland Sandpiper - Early: 4/27 Brookings Co., NJH; 4/28 Gregory Co., GLS. Reports also from Deuel, Grant, Roberts, Perkins, Lyman, Hyde, Day, and Bennett Counties.

Spotted Sandpiper - Early: 5/1 (1) each at Burke L., GLS, and Deuel Co., BKH. Additional reports: 5/10 (5) Rapid City, GRB; 5/13 (1) Yankton Co., WH; 5/13 (1) Pierre, RLH; 5/26 (6) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Solitary Sandpiper - Early: 4/4 (5) LaCreek N.W.R., also (2) on 5/26, HHB. 5/6 (1) Center L., Custer Co., JEW; 4/30 (1) Rapid City, GRB; 5/6 (1) Burke L., GLS.

Willet - Early: 4/7 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH. Other reports: 4/16 (1) Bon Homme Co., WH; 5/8 (6) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/9 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH; 5/15 (20) s.w. Meade Co., HCB; 5/26 (22) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Greater Yellowlegs - Early: 3/25 Yankton, JEW. Reports also from Hyde, Spink, Stanley, Brookings, Deuel, Roberts, and Grant Counties, and LaCreek N.W.R.

Lesser Yellowlegs - Early: 4/5 Yankton Co., WH. Reports also from Bon Homme, Hyde, Clay, Lake, Hamlin, Meade, Brookings, Day, and Bennett Counties.

Pectoral Sandpiper - 4/28 (5) Hamlin Co., 5/11 (110), 5/15 (70) Deuel Co., BKH; 5/1 (40), 5/17 (80) Clay Co., KJH; 5/2 (8) Brookings Co., NJH.

White-rumped Sandpiper - 5/22 (2) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/21 (1) McPherson Co., S.D.O.U.

Baird's Sandpiper - 4/8 (4) Yankton, JEW; 4/10 (2) Hyde Co., JHH; 4/16 (110) Bon Homme Co., 4/23 (4) Yankton Co., WH; 5/11 (5) Deuel Co., BKH; 5/15 (20) Waubay N.W.R., DSW; 5/22 (1) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Long-billed Dowitcher - 4/20 (10) w. Perkins Co., AH; 5/8 (20) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/11 (5) Deuel Co., BKH; 5/7 (11) s.w. Meade Co., JLM; 5/27 (31) e. Bennett Co., C. Faaness USF&WS *(vide EMS)*.

Stilt Sandpiper - 5/15 (1) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Sempalmated Sandpiper - 5/11 (6) Deuel Co., BKH; 5/27 Brown Co., small flock, Larry Lynch.

Marbled Godwit - 4/5 (1) Yankton Co., earliest date I have on record, 4/16 (2) Bon Homme Co., 5/22 (21) all together in a ditch, Walworth Co., WH; 5 observations beginning 4/11, quite early, Deuel Co., BKH; 4/13 (3) Lake Co., RDB; 4/20 (20) Spink Co., TK; 5/7 (2) Hyde Co., JHH.

Hudsonian Godwit - 4/16 (7) Bon Homme Co., WH; 5/11 (3) Day Co., DSW; 4/13 (7) Hamlin Co., very early, 4/20 (11), 5/14 (1) in winter plumage, Deuel Co., BKH.



BARRED OWL

Photographed by Terry Spitzenberger at Oakwood Lakes State Park, Brookings Co., on January 1, 1977, using a 500 mm lens from about 35 yards.

American Avocet - 4/12 (4) Day Co., DSW; 4/22 (1) Bon Homme Co., JEW; 4/22 (44), 5/9 (5) Gavin's Pt., 4/16 (2) Bon Homme Co., WH; 5/1 (5) w. Perkins Co., AH; 5/2 (7) Brown Co., SJW; 5/14 (4), 5/23 (1) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/19 (14) Edmunds Co., EMS.

Wilson's Phalarope - 4/23 (1) and a concentration of (300) on 5/14, s.w. Meade Co., HCB; 5/26 (147) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Reports also from Gregory, Perkins, Hyde, Clay, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties.

Northern Phalarope - 5/20 small flocks (12-20) in three areas of McPherson Co., S.D.O.U. field trips.

GULLS, TERNS, CUCKOOS

GLAUCOUS GULL - 4/13 (1) second-year bird, good view as bird flew over at 75 yds., very pale with dark-tipped bill, L. Poinsett, Hamlin Co., a new location for South Dakota, BKH.

Herring Gull - 3/13 (11) Yankton, JEW (Wintering birds? - Ed.); 3/23 (1) Canyon L., Rapid City, TMH; 5/19 Oahe Dam (7) NRW; reports also from Brookings, Lake, Yankton, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Ring-billed Gull - Early: 3/18 (120) Bon Homme Co., WH; 3/21 (10) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. Concentrations: 3/25 (100) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK; 4/29 (100's) working on dead fish at L. Poinsett, Hamlin Co., BKH. Reports also from Yankton, Brookings, Lake, Hyde, Day, Meade, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties.

Franklin's Gull - Early: 3/23 (3) Lake Co., RDB; 3/17 Brookings Co. (35) ERE. Concentration: 4/29 (13,000) Yankton, JEW. 5/7 (20) s.w. Meade Co., JLM, NRW. Reports also from Day, Deuel, Clay, Gregory, Hyde, and Roberts Counties.

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Bonaparte's Gull - 4/5 (8), 4/19 (43) Gavin's Pt., WH; 4/11 (10), 4/15 (15) Deuel Co., 4/21 (12) L. Poinsett, Hamlin Co., BKH; 5/17 (2) Sylvan L., Custer Co., NRW.

Forster's Tern - 4/10 (1), 4/29 (15) Gavin's Pt., WH; 4/19 (3), 5/26 (187) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 4/20 (2) Lake Co., RDB; 4/29, 5/10 (1) Yankton, JEW; 5/22 (1) Brookings Co., NJH.

Common Tern - 4/7 (1) Yankton, 4/22 (6) Bon Homme Co., JEW; 4/16 (3) Gavin's Pt., WH; 4/29 (1) Waubay N.W.R., RRJ; 5/7 (2) Burke L., GLS.

Black Tern - Early: 5/1 (6) Clay Co., KJH; 5/6 (2) Burke L., GLS. Reports also from Hyde, Deuel, Grant, Roberts, Codington, Yankton, and Bennett Counties.

Mourning Dove - Arrival dates ranged from 3/23 to 4/6. Good population statewide.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 5/27 (3) Burke L., Gregory Co., watched for ten minutes as they fed on tent caterpillars, GLS.

Black-billed Cuckoo - Early: 5/13 (1) Madison, Lake Co., RDB. Reports also from Brookings, Bennett, Yankton, Moody, Deuel, Roberts, and McPherson Counties.

OWLS, GOATSUCKERS

Screech Owl - 4/5 (1) dead on road with sparrow in talons, Clay Co., KJH; 5/30 (1) Yankton Co., WH.

Great Horned Owl - Reported from Custer, Moody, Yankton, Perkins, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties. Nest reports will be in the December *Bird Notes*.

Snowy Owl - 3/9 (1) Moody Co., Gordon Harris (*vide* BKH); 3/18 (1) Hyde Co., JHH.

Burrowing Owl - 4/15 (6) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 4/13 (1) s. Pennington Co., Dr. Haas (*vide* NRW); 5/7 (2) s.w. Meade Co., JLM, EMS; 5/23 (1) Walworth Co., WH.

Short-eared Owl - Early: 4/3 (3) c. Tripp Co., RLH. 4/26 (9) observed on trip between Sand Lake N.W.R. and Waubay N.W.R., RRJ, DSW; 5/16 (45) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB. The many nest reports will be published in the December *Bird Notes*. The species was also observed in Brown, Deuel, Grant, Bon Homme, Gregory, Brookings, Lyman, and Hand Counties.

Saw-whet Owl - 5/29, 30 (1) Roberts Co., Mr. and Mrs. Earl Spinner.

Whip-poor-will - 5/13-15 (1) seen and heard calling, n. Moody Co., LIW; 5/13 (1) Gavin's pt., WH; 5/18, 22 (1) Yankton, 5/27 (1) in timber above Gavin's Pt., JEW.

Poor-will - 5/14-17 (1) seen and heard daily, Skyline Dr., Rapid City, BLG; Cleghorn Canyon, w. Rapid City, DSM.

Common Nighthawk - 5/19 (1) Brookings, CMP; 5/20 (1) s.w. Haakon Co., NT. Reports from Gregory, Hyde, Custer, Clay, Deuel, and Yankton Counties.

SWIFTS, WOODPECKERS

Chimney Swift - 4/27 Yankton (5) WH; 4/30 (1) Pierre, RLH. Reports also from Gregory, Lake, Clay, and Pennington Counties.

White-throated Swift - 5/15 (3) Cleghorn Canyon, Rapid City, DSM.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 5/17, 18 (2) Brookings Co., ERE.

Belted Kingfisher - Early: 3/29 Brookings Co. (1) GHF. Reports also from Yankton, Gregory, Lake Hughes, Day, and Deuel Counties.

Common Flicker - 3/1 (1) Brookings, CAT -- possibly a wintering bird. Spring arrival dates were mostly in the last week of March and the first week of April.

Red-bellied Woodpecker - Pair present all period, Clay Co., KJH; 5/9 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH.

Red-headed Woodpecker - Early: 4/29 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH; 4/30 (2), common at end of period, Clay Co., KJH. Most arrival dates were mid-May. Reports from Moody, Gregory, Brookings, Lake, Hyde, Pennington, Deuel, Roberts, and Grant Counties.

Lewis' Woodpecker - 3/25 (2) s.w. Meade Co., TMH; 4/30, 5/17 (1) Rapid City, 5/27 (3) near nesting hole, Rapid City, BLG.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 4/8 (1) Brookings, CMP; 4/10 (1) at suet feeder Roberts Co., BKH; 4/23 (1) Waubay N.W.R., RRJ; 4/26 (3), 5/15 (1) all banded, Brookings Co., NJH.

Hairy Woodpecker - Average of one pair at feeders until late spring.

Downy Woodpecker - Average of two pair at feeders until late spring.

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker - 5/2 (1 m.) Palmer Gulch, Pennington Co., viewed on ground as it pecked bark off small branch, JLM, EMS.

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS

Eastern Kingbird - Early: 5/1 Gregory Co., GLS; 5/5 Rapid City, BHAS. Reports also from Clay, Day, Yankton, Hyde, Meade, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties.

Western Kingbird - Early: 5/4 (2) Hyde Co., JHH. Arrival dates generally were 5/11 to 5/15. Reports from Gregory, Hughes, Day, Yankton, Meade, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties.

Great Crested Flycatcher - 5/15 (1) Gavin's Pt., 5/28, 30 (1) Yankton Co., WH; 5/20 (1) Sand Lake N.W.R., PE.

Eastern Phoebe - 4/9 (2) Burke L., GLS; 4/9 (1) banded, Brookings Co., NJH; 4/13 (2) Brookings Co., ERE; 4/22 (1) Bon Homme Co., 4/27 (1) Yankton Co., WH.

Say's Phoebe - 4/15 (1) s.e. Yankton Co., WH; 4/15 (1), 5/24 pair nesting, Perkins Co., AH; 5/6 to 5/13 (1) Enemy Swim, Day Co., Ken Husmann.

Willow Flycatcher - 5/10 (1) Madison, ERE; 5/12 (6) Hyde Co., JHH.

Least Flycatcher - 5/9 (1) Brookings Co., NJH; 5/10 (2) c. Brookings Co., ERE; 5/12 Hyde Co., JHH; 5/12 (1) Pierre, RLH; 5/13 (1) Yankton, JEW; 5/23 (1) Rapid City, NRW.

Western Flycatcher - 5/29 (1) Custer State Park, RLH. *Empidonax*, sp. - 4/30 (1) Burke L., GLS; 5/13 to 5/28 (8) total, Yankton Co., WH.

Eastern Wood Pewee - 5/18 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH; 5/24 (1) s. Brookings Co., NJH.

Western Wood Pewee - 5/15 (1) Rapid City, GRB; 5/28 (5) Custer State Park, RLH.

Horned Lark - Present all areas, nesting during March.

Violet-green Swallow - 4/28 (8) Canyon L., Rapid City, NRW; 5/28 (3) Hill City, JLM.

Tree Swallow - Early: 4/2 (2) Pierre, RLH. Other April dates from Yankton, Deuel, Gregory, Clay Lake, and Pennington Counties. 5/4 (100) Sand Lake N.W.R., SJW.

Bank Swallow - 4/29 (3) Hamlin Co., BKH; 5/1 (10) Waubay N.W.R., RRJ; 5/8 (100) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK; 5/31 Hyde Co., present in two areas, JHH.

Rough-winged Swallow - Uniform movement during 4/25 to 4/29 in Gregory, Lake, Clay, Yankton and Pennington Counties. Reports also from Brookings, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Barn Swallow - Early: 4/15, 16 Yankton Co., JEW, WH; 4/19 Gregory Co., GLS. Reports also from Perkins, Brookings, Hamlin, Lake, Clay, Day, Hyde, Pennington, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties.

Cliff Swallow - Early: 4/30 (12) Burke L., GLS. Concentration of (400) on 5/22, Hwy. 44 bridge across Ft. Randall Res., GLS. Reports also from Meade, Yankton, Perkins, Day, and Brown Counties.

Purple Martin - Early: 4/4 (1) Gregory Co., GLS; 4/6 Yankton (5) WH; 4/7 (4) Brookings Co., CAT. Reports also from Lake, Hyde, Deuel, Grant, and Roberts Counties.

JAYS THROUGH WRENS

Gray Jay - 4/13 (1) Custer State Park, RLH.

Blue Jay - Present most areas, no high numbers.

Black-billed Magpie - 3/4 to 5/28 (total of 10) e. Pennington Co., BHAS; 4/16 (2), 4/23 (1) w. Yankton Co., 4/20 (1) Bon Homme Co., WH; several pair near Burke all period, GLS.

Common Crow - Numbers apparently decreasing each year. 3/13 many migrating into Day Co., RRJ; small flocks of (12-20) occasionally after 3/17, Hyde Co., JHH; 3/16 to 4/20 (total of 41) Lake Co., RDB; 3/4 to 5/28 (total of 12) Rapid City area, BHAS; 3/20, 3/27 (total of 120) Bon Homme Co., WH; 4/2 (35), 4/16 (60) Gregory Co., GLS.

Pinon Jay - 3/4 to 5/27 (total of 40) Rapid City, BHAS.

Black-capped Chickadee - A few present all areas all period.

White-braested Nuthatch - Average of two daily at most feeders during March and April. 3/11 (2) Canyon L. Heights, Rapid City, RAP.

Red-braested Nuthatch - More reports than usual, with late date of 5/21 on S.D.O.U. field trip, McPherson Co.; reports from Brookings, Lake, Hyde, Gregory, Yankton (until 5/15), and Lyman Counties.

Brown Creeper - A total of (23) birds reported from nine counties: Yankton (3), Pennington (3), Day (1), Brookings (2), Moody (1), Gregory (5), Clay (1), Hyde (6), Lyman (1).

House Wren - Early: 4/27 (1) Yankton, WH; 4/30 Clay Co., KJH, and Gregory Co., GLS. Reports also from Pennington, Brookings, Hyde, Lake, Meade, Perkins, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

WINTER WREN - 5/6, 7 (1) good study at close range, Hyde Co., JHH; 5/26 (1) a late date, Gavin's Pt., WH.

CAROLINA WREN - 4/27 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH.

Long-billed Marsh Wren - 5/18 (3) Sand Lake N.W.R., RE; 5/26 nesting pairs present, LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Rock Wren - 5/21 (2), many heard calling Skyline Drive, Rapid City, BLG.

MIMIDS THROUGH SHRIKES

MOCKINGBIRD - 5/19 (1) Grenville, Day Co., DSW; 5/22 (1) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Catbird - 5/5 (1) Brookings, CAT; 5/12 (2) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/14 (2) Gavin's Pt., WH; 5/9 (1) Rapid City, GRB; 5/24 (2) Madison, RDB.

Brown Thrasher - Early: 4/26 (1) Yankton, WH; 4/27 (1) Madison, RDB, and (2) Hyde Co., JHH. Reports also from Pennington, Brookings, Perkins, Clay, Deuel, and Roberts Counties, and Waubay N.W.R.

American Robin - First migrants in early March, common by April 1.

VARIED THRUSH - 4/13 (1) Pierre, photographed, Wallace L. Larsen; (1) appeared at Mellette, Spink Co., on 11/19/77 and stayed through March 1978, Mrs. Earl Watters.

WOOD THRUSH - 5/18 (1) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK; 5/26 (2) Gavin's Pt., WH; 5/31 (1) banded, Brookings, CMP.

Hermit Thrush - 4/4, 4/15 Brookings, CAT, CMP; 4/20 (1) n. Moody Co., LIW; 5/1 (1) Hyde Co., JHH.

Swainson's Thrush - 4/30 (1) Brookings, CAT; 5/5 (2), 5/12 (30), 5/25 (1), good migration through Hyde Co., JHH; 5/6 (2) Burke L. GLS; 5/8 (2) c. Brookings Co., ERE; 5/8 (2) s. Brookings Co., NJH; 5/9 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH; 5/10 (2) Sturgis, EEM; 5/10 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/12, 13 many migrating, Pierre, RLH; 5/12 (1) Rapid City, GRB.

Gray-cheeked Thrush - 5/9 (1) Burke L., GLS; 5/9, 5/11 (1) banded, s. Brookings Co., NJH; 5/10 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/12, 14 (1) Clay Co., KJH; 5/13 (2) Hyde Co., JHH.

Veery - 5/1 (1) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/12 (1) Perkins Co., AH; 5/17 (2) Rapid City, TMH; 5/27 (1) Yankton Co., WH.

Eastern Bluebird - 3/27 (1) Deuel Co., BKH; 3/27 (1) Hyde Co., JHH; 3/30 (1) Day Co., RRJ; 4/21 (1) Brookings Co., NJH; 4/28, 5/15 (1) Yankton Co., WH; 4/21 (1) Rapid City, GRB.

Mountain Bluebird - 3/5 (1) Rochford, Pennington Co., Kelli Green; 3/18 (5) c. Brown Co., TK; 4/15 (20) in two flocks near Moberidge, Winston Hall (*vide* WH).

Townsend's Solitaire - 5/28 (1) Hill City, JLM; 5/29 (1) Custer State Park, RLH.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER - 5/9 (1) Conservation Park, s. Brookings Co., NJH. This is the fourth record for this species in South Dakota.

Golden-crowned Kinglet - 3/25 (2) Deuel Co., BKH. Only sighting statewide!

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - Fairly good numbers after the apparent scarcity of the past two years. Most arrival dates were in the first two weeks of April. 4/3 to 5/19 (total of 13) Yankton, JEW. Reports also from Gregory, Brookings, Deuel, Lake, Stanley, Hyde, and Custer Counties.

Water Pipit - 4/5 (10) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK; 5/14 (3) s.w. Meade Co., HCB.

Bohemian Waxwing - 3/3 to 3/31 (800) Rapid City, BHAS; 3/18 (500) flycatching along creek, c. Pennington Co., NMH, RDM; 3/18 (1) Burke L., GLS; 3/23 (1) Lake Co., RDB; 3/26 (10) Brookings, CAT.

Cedar Waxwing - More reports and numbers than usual. Reports from Deuel, Lake, Yankton, Pennington, Gregory, Brookings, Moody, Hyde, and Roberts Counties.

Northern Shrike - 3/3 (1) Box Elder Creek, DAB; 3/6 (1), 3/11 (1) Rapid City, RDM, JLM; 3/10 (1) Brookings Co., ERE; 3/11 (1) Bon Homme Co., 3/17 (1) Yankton Co., WH; 3/14 (1) Roberts Co., BKH.

Loggerhead Shrike - 3/11 to 5/27 (total of 9) Yankton Co., WH; 4/10 (1) Hyde Co., JHH; 4/11 (2), 5/1 (1) Clay Co., KJH; 4/4 (1) Deuel Co., BKH; 4/28 (1) Perkins Co., AH.

VIREOS, WARBLERS

Bell's Vireo - 5/27 (3 pair) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 5/27 (2 pair) Burke L., singing males clearly observed and heard, GLS.

Solitary Vireo - 4/29 (1) Custer State Park, RLH; 4/29, 5/15 (1) Deuel Co., BKH.

Red-eyed Vireo - 5/15 (1) Rapid City, GRB; steady movement on 5/25-26 in Meade, Yankton, Brookings, and Deuel Counties.

Philadelphia Vireo - 5/20 (2) Sand Lake N.W.R., RE.

Warbling Vireo - Arrival dates: 5/9 Yankton Co., WH; 5/10 Lake Co., RDB; 5/11 Deuel Co., BKH, and Gregory Co., GLS; 5/12 Brookings Co., NJH. Two reports from Pennington Co., GRB, JLM, EMS.

Black-and-white Warbler - Early: 4/26 Yankton, JEW; 4/27 Lake Co., RDB; 4/28 Brookings Co., CMP. May dates for Gregory, Hyde, Brown, and Pennington Counties.

Tennessee Warbler - 5/12 (1) Brookings, CMP; 5/14 (1) Clay Co., KJH; 5/15 (12) Brookings Co., NJH; 5/18 (2) Yankton, JEW.

Orange-crowned Warbler - 4/26 (2) Burke L., GLS; 4/27 Lake Co., RDB; 4/30 in Yankton, Brookings, and Pennington Counties. Reports also from Hyde, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Nashville Warbler - 5/4 (2) Yankton, JEW; 5/13 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/14 (1) Clay Co., KJH.

Northern Parula - 5/9 (2) Oakwood Lakes, Brookings Co., GHF.

Yellow Warbler - Early: 4/28 Yankton, JEW; 4/30 Lyman Co., WCT. May arrivals in Brookings, Lake, Gregory, Clay, Hyde, Meade, Pennington, Hughes, Perkins, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Magnolia Warbler - 5/12 (1 m.) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/13 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/16 (2 m.) Burke, GLS; 5/18 (1) Brookings, CMP; 5/18, 20 (1) Yankton, JEW; 5/25 (1) Brookings Co., NJH; 5/17 (1) Deuel Co., BKH.

CAPE MAY WARBLER - 5/20 (1) Sand Lake N.W.R., RE, PE; 5/21 (1 f.) McPherson Co., S.D.O.U. field trip.

Yellow-rumped Warbler - Early: 4/9 (1) Yankton, JEW; 4/10 (1) Brookings, KH. Reports also from Hyde, Butte, Lake, Stanley, Gregory, Pennington, Lyman, Clay, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Black-throated Green Warbler - 5/1 (1 m.) Deuel Co., BKH; 5/14 (1) Lake Co., RDB.

Blackburnian Warbler - 5/16 (1) Brookings Co., CMP; McPherson Co., S.D.O.U. field trip.

Chestnut-sided Warbler - 5/20 (3) Sand Lake N.W.R., RE; 5/22 (1 m.) Hyde Co., JHH.

Bay-breasted Warbler - 5/22 (1 m.) Hyde Co., JHH.

Blackpoll Warbler - 5/6 (2) Burke L., GLS; 5/12 (3) Sand Lake N.W.R., RE, PE; 5/12 (2) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/14 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/14 (1) Brookings, LIW; 5/20 (2) Yankton, JEW.

Palm Warbler - Early: 4/29 (2) Gavin's Pt., WH, JEW. 5/1 to 5/12 dates for Clay, Brookings, Gregory, and Brown Counties.

Ovenbird - 5/7 (1) Brookings, CAT; 5/9(3) Brookings Co., NJH; 5/11 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/12 (1) Hyde Co., JHH.

Northern Waterthrush - 5/2 (1) Madison, RDB; 5/6 (1) Burke L., GLS; 5/9 (1), 5/10 (5) Brookings Co., NJH; 5/7 (1) Rapid City, TMH; 5/15 (10) Sand Lake N.W.R., TK.

Mourning Warbler - 5/24 (1) Madison, RDB; 5/25 (1 f.) Yankton, JEW.

MacGillivray's Warbler - 5/22 (1 f.) studied carefully for several minutes, two observers, Hyde Co., JHH, Lois Harter.

Common Yellowthroat - 5/11 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/12 (2) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/15 (2) Brookings Co., ERE; 5/17 (2) Clay Co., KJH; 5/27 (24) Yankton Co, WH.

Yellow-breasted Chat - 5/20 (1) Rapid City, GRB; only sighting for period!

HOODED WARBLER - 5/6 (1 m.) studied for 20 minutes at close range, noted all field marks, especially the black hood, Hyde Co., JHH; less than six records for South Dakota

Wilson's Warbler - 5/5, 5/13 (1) Rapid City, GRB; 5/15 (1) Burke L., GLS; 5/15 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/18 (2) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/18 (6) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 5/20 (2) Yankton, JEW.

Canada Warbler - 5/17 (1) Deuel Co., BKH; 5/18 (2), 5/20 (1) Yankton, JEW.

American Redstart - 5/15 (1) Brookings Co., ERE; 5/18 (2) Madison, RDB; 5/18, 5/22 (1) Hyde Co., JHH; 5/20 (1) Yankton, JEW; 5/25 (2) Brookings Co., NJH.

ICTERIDS, TANAGERS

Bobolink - 5/13 (11) Yankton Co., WH, and (1) Brookings Co., NJH; 5/16 (8) c. Brookings Co., ERE; 5/17 (2) Waubay N.W.R., DSW; 5/18 Sand Lake N.W.R., BM; 5/19 (3) Hyde Co., JHH.

Western Meadowlark - 3/18 arrival date for many areas, present in all areas by 3/23, common by end of March.

Yellow-headed Blackbird - Early: 3/14 (1) Sand Lake N.W.R., RLW; 4/7 (1) Yankton Co., WH. Concentrations: 5/3 (150) Oakwood Lakes, Brookings Co., NJH; 5/13 (300) Yankton Co., WH. Reports also from Clay, Deuel, Lake, Lyman, Perkins, Hyde, and Stanley Counties.

Red-winged Blackbird - Arrival dates for most areas were in the third week of March, present all areas by the end of March.

Orchard Oriole - Early: 4/29 (1) Gavin's Pt., WH, JEW. 5/11 to 5/15 dates for Clay, Hyde, Gregory, Hughes, Brookings, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Northern Oriole - Early: 5/8 (2) Clay Co., KJH. Steady movement into state on 5/10 to 5/13. Reports from Brookings, Yankton, Gregory, Hyde, Hughes, Pennington, Meade, Day, Deuel, and Roberts Counties.

Rusty Blackbird - 3/31 (25) Brookings Co., NJH; 4/16 (4), 4/13 (12) Lake Co., RDB; 4/11 (20) Clay Co., KJH; 4/13 (10) Hamlin Co., BKH.

Brewer's Blackbird - 3/22 (50) Sand Lake N.W.R., RE; 3/29 (3) Perkins Co., AH; 4/6 (6), 4/20 (10) Lake Co., RDB; 5/20 (3) Haakon Co., NT; 5/23 (3) Hyde Co., JHH.

Common Grackle - Arrival dates ranged from 3/20 to 3/31.

Brown-headed Cowbird - 3/25 (1) Deuel Co., possibly a wintering bird, BKH; 4/13 (1) Lake Co., RDB. Reports also from Perkins, Brookings, Yankton, Gregory, and Pennington Counties.

Western Tanager - 5/17 (1) Rapid City, GRB; 5/24 (2) Sturgis, EEM; 5/28 (1) Custer State Park, RLH.

Scarlet Tanager - 5/20 Brown Co., Larry Lynch.

FRINGILLIDS

Cardinal - Pair all period, Clay Co., KJH; (1 to 3) occasionally in yard, 4/11 (2) Gavin's Pt., 5/31 (2) Yankton Co., WH; 5/2 (1) Madison, RDB.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 5/9 (1) Brookings Co., NJH; 5/13 (1) Rapid City, NRW. Dates of 5/10 to 5/15 were reported from Clay, Gregory, Lake, Yankton, and Hyde Counties.

Black-headed Grosbeak - 5/5 (1), 5/17 (2) Perkins Co., AH; 5/10 (1), 5/11 (3) Gregory Co. GLS; 5/13 (2) Pierre, RLH; 5/16 (2) Sturgis, EEM; 5/3 (2) Rapid City, GRB.

Indigo Bunting - 5/19 (4) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 5/20 (1) Yankton, JEW; 5/26 to 5/30 Yankton Co., WH; 5/14 (2) Rapid City, EMS; 5/14 (1) Rapid City, DSM.

Lazull Bunting - 5/14-17 (3) Rapid City, LAW; 5/19 (1) LaCreek N.W.R., HHB; 5/24 (1) Sturgis, EEM.

Dickcissel - 4/29 (1) bright male, singling, Deuel Co., very early, BKH; 5/16 (2) Clay Co., KJH; 5/27 (8) Yankton Co., WH; 5/28 (1) Brookings Co., NJH.

Evening Grosbeak - Flocks of (30-40) Rapid City, JLM, VMH, and (35) Belle Fourche, IW; lingered in southeast 5/6 (2) Yankton, WH, and 4/28 (3) Vermillion, KJH; late date: 5/18 (1) Hyde Co., JHH; reports also from Brookings and Moody Counties.

Purple Finch - 3/15, 4/14 (1) Yankton, JEW; 4/5 (6), 4/24 (1), 5/3 (1) Yankton, WH; 3/23 (1) Lake Co., RDB; 4/10 (1) Brookings, CMP.

PINE GROSBEEK - 3/5, 3/16 (2) Deuel Co., BKH.

HOARY REDPOLL - 3/11 (1) banded, Brookings Co., NJH; 3/20 (1) Clear Lake, BKH.

Common Redpoll - Present later than usual, reports of flocks in third week of March. Late date: 4/2 Deuel Co., BKH. Concentrations: 3/6 (300) Rapid City, BHAS; 3/17 (800) Belle Fourche, IW. Reports from Brookings (24? banded), Yankton, Lake, Clay, Gregory, and Roberts Counties.

Pine Siskin - Good numbers in Black Hills (50, Rapid City, 8 in Custer State Park) where nesting is regular; April and May occurrences in Deuel, Roberts, Yankton, Hyde, Bennett, and Brookings Counties are undoubtedly nesting birds also.

American Goldfinch - March and April dates for Yankton and Pennington Counties; 5/13 to 5/16 for Moody, Lake, Gregory, and Perkins Counties. Recorded in Hyde and Brookings Counties.

Red Crossbill - 4/11 (1 ad. 2 imm.), 5/13 (1 pr. 2 imm.) Rapid City, NRW; 5/6 (30) on house roof, Rapid City, RAP; 4/15 (15), 5/28 (3) Custer State Park, RLH.

White-winged Crossbill - 3/18 (1) late migrant, Clear Lake, BKH.

Rufous-sided Towhee - Early: 4/9 (1) Yankton, JEW; 4/10 (1) Brookings, CAT; 4/13 (1) Rapid City, BHAS. Peak: 5/12 (12) Hyde Co., JHH. April and May dates from

Bon Homme, Gregory, Clay, Perkins, and Bennett Counties.

Lark Bunting - 5/10 Pennington Co. (50) NRW, and Hyde Co. (15) JHH; 5/11 (2) Meade Co., EEM; 5/12 (2) Gregory Co., GLS; 5/14 (20) n. Stanley Co., RLH; 5/20 (25) Lyman Co., WCT.

Savannah Sparrow - 4/30 (1), 5/2 (3) Brookings Co., NJH; 5/7 (3) Meade Co., JLM; 5/30 (3) Roberts Co., DSW.

Grasshopper Sparrow - 5/27, 28 (total of 4) Yankton Co., WH; 5/15 (4) Meade Co., HCB; 5/31 present in good numbers LaCreek N.W.R., HHB.

Baird's Sparrow - 5/20, 21 singing males in several areas in McPherson Co. during S.D.O.U. field trips; 5/22 (6) Faulk Co., 5/23 (17) McPherson Co., 5/25 (4) Hyde Co., 5/26 (5) singing in lightly grazed pasture 3 miles east and 1 mile north of Tuthill, Bennett Co., C. Faaness, USF&WS (i.e. EMS).

Vesper Sparrow - Early: 4/1 (1) Brookings Co., NJH; 4/7 (5), 4/8 (9) Yankton Co., WH; 4/7 (1) Gregory Co., GLS; April and May Dates for Lake, Clay, Pennington, and Meade Counties.

Lark Sparrow - 4/29 (3) Gavin's Pt., WH; 4/30 (1) Clay Co., KJH; 5/6 (1) Gregory Co., GLS; 5/8 (1) Moody Co., LIW; 5/10 (4) Rapid City, NRW.

Dark-eyed (W.-w.) Junco - Av. (3) daily Rapid City, BLG; 5/28 (4) Hiii City, JLM, EMS.

Dark-eyed (Slate-col.) Junco - Present in small numbers in most areas until late April, last date 4/27 (1) Brookings Co., NJH.

Tree Sparrow - Present in most areas during late March and early April; late dates: 4/20 (2) Lake Co., RDB; 4/29 (3) Gavin's Pt., WH, JEW.

Chipping Sparrow - Arrivals: 4/6 to 4/14 in eastern counties; 4/26 to 4/29 in western counties. Reports from Yankton, Lake, Brookings, Day, Deuel, Roberts, Hyde, Gregory, and Pennington Counties.

Clay-colored Sparrow - Early: 4/28 Hyde Co. (1) JHH; 4/29 Gavin's Pt. (6) WH, and Burke (4) GLS. Peak: 5/13 Hyde Co. (20) JHH. May dates for Pennington, Brookings, Clay, Day, and Deuel Counties.

Field Sparrow - Early: 4/13 Clay Co. (1) KJH; 4/16 Burke, GLS. Reports also from Yankton, Pennington, Perkins, Hyde, and Brookings Counties.

Harris' Sparrow - Early dates 3/16 Yankton and 3/23 Lake Co. may have been wintering birds. Arrival dates 4/15 to 4/27 for Clay, Gregory, Brookings, and Hyde Counties; 5/ and 5/8 for Perkins and Pennington Counties. Peak dates: 5/7 Gregory Co. (20) GLS, and Hyde Co. (20) JHH; 5/11 Brookings Co. (50) ERE.

White-crowned Sparrow - Early: 4/17 Brookings (1) CAT; 4/23 Belle Fourche (5) IW. Peak: 5/12 Perkins Co. (15) AH. Reports also from Hyde, Gregory, Yankton, Pennington, Day, Lake, and Meade Counties.

White-throated Sparrow - 4/20 to 4/24 arrival dates for Lake, Brookings, and Hyde Counties; 4/30 Gregory Co. and 5/6 Perkins Co.; peak date: 5/11 (30) Brookings Co., ERE. 3/13 Yankton (1) wintering bird, JEW. Good flight Deuel Co.

Fox Sparrow - 4/9 Brookings (1) CMP; 4/3, 9 Brookings Co. (1) NJH; 4/17 (1), 4/24 (2) Hyde Co., JHH.

Lincoln's Sparrow - Early: 4/24 (1) Hyde Co., JHH; 4/27 Brookings Co. (1) NJH. Reports also from Yankton,

Deuel, Pennington, Lake, Roberts, Gregory, and Clay Counties.

Swamp Sparrow - 5/2 Brookings Co. (1) NJH; present in Deuel Co.

Song Sparrow - Early: 3/12 Rapid City (1) BLG; 3/16 Yankton (1) JEW. Arrival dates 3/25 to 4/8 for Moody, Clay, Gregory, Hyde, and Hughes Counties. Reports also from Day, Lake, Brookings, and Deuel Counties.

Smith's Longspur - 4/6 (13) none in full spring plumage, probably rather early migrants, Deuel Co., BKH.

Chestnut-collared Longspur - Arrival dates began with 3/25 in Hyde Co. Reports from Roberts, Perkins, and Pennington Counties.

Snow Bunting - 3/1 to 3/31 seen regularly Day Co., DSW; 3/21 (50), 3/24 (2) Deuel Co., BKH; 4/8 (5) Pennington Co., NRW.

CONTRIBUTORS

EAST RIVER

(CB) - Carol Breen, Hurley, Turner Co.
 (RB) - Robert Buckman, Madison, Lake Co.
 (GHF) - Gladys H. Froiland, Brookings
 (WH) - Willis and Rosamond Hall, Yankton, Yankton Co., Bon Homme Co.
 (BKH) - Bruce K. Harris, Clear Lake, Deuel Co., Grant Co., Roberts Co.
 (JH) - June Harter, Highmore, Hyde Co.
 (RLH) - Richard L. Hill, Pierre, Hughes Co.
 (NJH) - Nelda J. Holden, s. Brookings Co.
 (KJH) - Karolyn J. Hoover, s. Clay Co.
 (JWJ) - J.W. Johnson, Huron, Beadle Co.
 (CMP) - Carol M. Peterson, Brookings
 (CAT) - Charles A. Taylor, Brookings
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 (LIW) - Lois I. Wells, n. Moody Co.
 (JMW) - Juli M. Wilcox, Yankton
 (RRJ, DSW, HOS) - Robert R. Johnson, Mgr.; David S. Wiseman and Harvey O. Smith, Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Day Co.

WEST RIVER

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 (BMN) - Barney Nordstrom, Fairburn, e. Custer Co.
 (GLS) - Galen L. Steffen, Burke, Gregory Co.
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IN MEMORIAM

Lettie Lucille (Mrs. James W.) Johnson

Quiet and unassuming, Lucille, after her family and friends, loved flowers and birds.

Her garden bloomed with wild flowers collected on their trips about the country, and together with her husband, Jim, she also planted trees and shrubs to attract and feed birds.

The window feeder was always full, often with specially prepared foods for fussy palates, and many an orphan bird found a home and loving care with Lucille.

Her knowledge of bird songs and sounds was most helpful in making field counts of the area birds, and when Jim started a robin banding project Lucille was his main helper.

She was an active member of the Huron Bird Club whose main project was sponsoring the Audubon Screen Tours. She also was a long-standing member in S.D.O.U. and a frequent contributor to *South Dakota Bird Notes*.

Lucille made strangers and friends equally welcome in her home with her warm southern hospitality.

On September 25, 1978, after a long illness, Lucille died as she had wished --quietly at home. -- **Blanche Battin, Huron.**