

SOUTH DAKOTA  
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



SOUTH  
BIRD



DAKOTA  
NOTES

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SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

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I am happy and honored to assume the presidency of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union. I follow several outstanding ornithologists who served with dedication and distinction. My predecessor, Nathaniel Whitney, presided as president twice during the SDOU's 36-year history. He is regarded as the authority on Black Hills birds. He has also been a member of the checklist committee since its inception in 1963. With Dr. Whitney as its chairperson, this committee has compiled South Dakota's bird records into book format, publishing them in *The Birds of South Dakota* in 1978. This industrious committee is currently working on a revision that, hopefully, will be published in 1987. I also succeed Nelda Holden and the late Ruth Habeger, the only women to have been president. Ms. Habeger, a charter member of SDOU, served in 1960 and 1961. She was an enthusiastic birder and played an important role in the purchase of the Altamont Prairie, perhaps our first grassland preserve. Nelda Holden was president in 1975 and 1976. She also has served as treasurer for 24 years and as a checklist committee member for 22 years. Mrs. Holden is a bird bander and an activist in organizations devoted to ecological issues. I am honored to follow these dedicated, hard working, members and hope that I can emulate their accomplishments.



I am also challenged to implement the objectives of the SDOU in an efficient and responsible manner. Our goals, as stated in our constitution, are to "encourage the study of birds in South Dakota" and "to promote the study of ornithology by more closely uniting the students of this branch of natural science." These objectives traditionally have been achieved by holding semi-annual meetings and publishing a quarterly journal. I will continue to strive for these aspirations with added vigor and creativity. I am also challenged to become more actively involved in issues pertaining to birds and the environment.

While on a leave of absence from my job last year, I traveled extensively. In July 1984 I visited Peru. On a boat in the Amazon River Basin, I saw the jungle being clearcut for agricultural use. I spoke with several ornithologists who were concerned that some South American birds

may become extinct before they have even been discovered. Following that trip, I lived in Florida. I found that shorebird habitat is practically nonexistent along the SE coast of that state. Mudflats have all but disappeared, only to be replaced by sandy beaches, condos, and marinas. The few sandpipers to be found there feed in sewage lagoons and water treatment settling ponds. Other bird species are finding limited nesting habitat. The Wood Stork and Red-cockaded Woodpecker are just 2 examples of birds that are becoming scarce because of the 3 "D's"--draining, dredging, and development. Environmentalists across the country are trying to save good habitat but fear that already it may be too late to save some species. In California last July I traveled to the San Joaquin Valley to see the last of the wild California Condors. Only 1 breeding pair, 8 birds total, fly free. Habitat destruction is a major cause of the condor's demise.

I returned home thinking that habitat loss could not possibly be a problem in South Dakota. We have an abundance of uninhabited land, low population density, limited development, and practically no industry. Yet, even here, habitat loss and consequent species loss are matters of concern. Up to 50% of the wetlands in the Dakotas have already been lost to agriculture. The ecological effects of various water projects require close study. If birds are to remain in sufficient numbers in our future, we must become involved. That we become active in issues related to birds and our environment is imperative.

In an effort to increase our knowledge, I will bring crucial issues to your attention through subsequent President's Pages. Environmentalists will be asked to speak at our meetings so that we can become an informed group. I hope that you, as SDOU members, will increase your participation in groups concerned with habitat preservation. I also urge you to study the issues and, when congress or our state legislature is in session, make your views known so that our representatives can make decisions based on the knowledge that we as an informed citizenry can offer. The challenge is here for all of us. Let us become involved now and make a difference. By our action we can save birds such as the Least Tern and Piping Plover, species in trouble almost everywhere in the United States, from joining the Carolina Parakeet and Passenger Pigeon on the list of species lost forever from our planet.

## GENERAL NOTES

FIRST SOUTH DAKOTA RECORD FOR THE OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT.--A fellow birder in Pierre, Alan Oleson, reported an Olivaceous Cormorant on Capitol Lake. On 13 July 1985 we drove to Pierre, where the 4 of us found the bird standing on rocks at the edge of the lake. The bird was slightly smaller than the nearby Double-crested Cormorants and had a clearly visible narrow white face mask just behind its bill. It also had a tuft of white feathers on each side of its head, as is shown in many field guides (see cover of this issue).

With binoculars and a 60x spotting scope, we observed the bird from as close as 50 feet. We could easily distinguish pointed scapular and back feathers in contrast to the more rounded feathers of the Double-crested Cormorants. We called Bob Summerside who helped us confirm our identification (we could not reach other Pierre birders).

Using my spotting scope set at 1000 mm, I took 2 photos of the bird as it loafed next to a Double-crested Cormorant. These photos have been submitted to the SDOU Checklist Committee. The Olivaceous Cormorant was first seen by Oleson on 3 July 1985 and was still present on 21 July 1985. This record is the first for this species in South Dakota; normally the bird resides along the Gulf Coast, with stragglers in the midwest reaching only to Kansas.--Scott, Gary, and John Purdy, 216 West 7th, Mitchell 57301.

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER IN PIERRE.--On 16 July 1985, Bob Summerside reported that Lonnie Schumacker saw a Clark's Nutcracker in Pierre. The bird was in the large cottonwood tree just east of the cable television towers that overlook the city. A photograph I took has been submitted to the SDOU checklist committee. While I watched, the nutcracker flew down to the grass, captured a grasshopper, and then returned to the tree where the bird ate the hopper. A pair of Western Kingbirds continually harassed the nutcracker whenever it left the cottonwood. The nutcracker eventually flew to the SE with the kingbirds in hot pursuit.--Wallace L. Larsen, Pierre 57501.

INTERIOR LEAST TERN ADDED TO ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST.--The interior population of the Least Tern, a Midwestern subspecies whose historic abundance impressed Lewis and Clark on their explorations, has been added to the U.S. list of endangered and threatened species. This action, announced

by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, expands the list of imperiled species in this country to 365.

The Interior Least Tern joins its relative, the California Least Tern as a population receiving the protection of the Federal Endangered Species Act. A third subspecies of Least Tern, the Eastern or Coastal Least Tern, found along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of the U.S., is not endangered. The Interior Least Tern was once a common resident of the great river systems of the central U.S. Historical data about the bird are poor, and estimates of original numbers are generally not available, although records indicate that it once bred over a much larger area and in far greater numbers than it does today. Lewis and Clark frequently observed the Least Tern along the length of the Missouri River and near the mouth of the Platte River.

An estimated 1400 to 1800 Interior Least Terns are believed to exist within the bird's historic breeding range, which includes Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Tennessee, and inland portions of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. In many of these states, however, the Least Tern is vanishing; in Louisiana and Mississippi, for instance, where it was a common breeding bird, it is now absent, and only 30 terns have been counted in Arkansas and Illinois.

The Least Tern's decline has been attributed to the flooding and destruction of its nesting islands by channelization projects and reservoir construction along the Mississippi River and many of its tributaries. On many of the remaining islands, alteration of river flows has caused unfavorable growth of trees and other vegetation, curtailing use of these sites by nesting terns.--U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWLS AT HURON.--From 8:30 to 8:40 pm, 15 August 1985, we observed 2 saw-whet owls in our backyard. The birds used 2 post perches placed about 10 and 20 feet from us. The sun had long set but the light was sufficient for us to see the owls' markings. At first we assumed they were the same screech-owls that we had seen in the same places on 6 and 9 August.

I noted that 1 owl was smaller than the other and that they were less active and smaller than the screech-owls we had previously observed. The tops of their heads stood out in the dusk and we realized that they had no ear tufts--the heads were smoothly rounded. The smaller owl was facing me

from the far perch. The breast was light, nearly white, with faint stripes down each side and fainter bars towards its center area. The darker feathers on top of the head came down in a sharp V between the eyes.

The next morning I checked with a tape measure the size of the birds from the heights we noted their heads had been above the perches' center posts. The birds were about 7 and 8 inches high, which is in the range for saw-whet owls and 1 to 2 inches shorter than screech-owls.--J. W. and Blanche Johnson, Huron 57350.

UNUSUAL PURPLE MARTIN BEHAVIOR.--Following a hailstorm in Highmore on 17 July 1985, some martins were observed as they performed an apparent rescue mission. The observers were Norbert Faulstich, who maintains a martin house, Walt Prinz, a birdwatcher of many years, and Earl Lusk, on whose lawn the men were sitting after the storm. They noticed about 8 martins flying down towards something in the middle of the street. Closer observation revealed that the birds were trying to get an injured martin to move from the street to an adjacent lawn. The birds continued to herd their injured companion across the lawn to a spruce tree where they "urged" the bird to hop up, branch by branch, until it was about 4 or 5 ft above the ground. Only then did the "rescue crew" leave. The injured bird was still on its perch at dusk but it was gone the next morning.

Some of the hailstones in the storm were the size of walnuts or golf balls, so it seems likely that the martin had been hit by a hailstone. The bird's wings appeared to be uninjured, so presumably the martin flew away after recovering.--June Harter, Highmore 57345.

WAUBAY REFUGE BLUEBIRD TRAIL: THIRD BREEDING SEASON. I do not know why Eastern Bluebird populations have declined at the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge. Plenty of natural nesting sites are still available, although the birds do prefer our nesting boxes to old woodpecker holes, etc.

Refuge personnel and I made several changes this year that we are trying to evaluate. Predator skirts were put on all of the steel posts beneath the bird houses, a measure that seems to have completely stopped animal predation. I thought we were having trouble with some houses getting too hot. I moved a bunch of them to where they would have afternoon shade. This didn't help since bluebirds definitely prefer open locations. Therefore, I am moving the houses back to their previous locations. I thought I could be dis-

turbing the birds too often and cut my visits to about half what I had done before. This strategy seemed to make no difference; I just collected less data.

Some disappointments this year include cattle rubbing on the posts, breaking a few eggs, and causing a couple of nests to be deserted. The very first clutch died at about a week old, possibly from cold weather. Our bluebird results this year were 30 fledglings from 12 nesting attempts, 9 of which fledged young, an average of 2.5 young per nest. From 88 attempts, Tree Swallows produced 367 fledglings, about 4 per nest. The nesting boxes also produced a few House Wrens and House Sparrows.

Why don't we have more bluebirds? Perhaps now too few bluebirds migrate through this area to produce enough breeding stock. Maybe food is scarce when the birds arrive in the spring. Do so many Tree Swallows discourage bluebirds? Do bluebirds have trouble from Tree Swallow parasites? How about competition from House Wrens--this year 1 clutch of eggs was destroyed by House Wrens. Ants seem to cause some trouble in Tree Swallow nests--is the same true for bluebirds? I have just joined the American Bluebird Association and hope to learn from others working with the birds. We definitely need more bluebird trails in eastern South Dakota. The few isolated populations of bluebirds that still remain may be too small to survive. I hope that the bluebird is not like the Passenger Pigeon or the Condor, which had populations reach points where they could not increase or even remain stable.--Kenneth H. Husmann, Box 37, Brookings 57006.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

*Life Ascending* by Alexander F. Skutch. University of Texas Press, Austin. 288 pp, softbound, \$10.95.

Alexander F. Skutch, long known for his many publications on birds, has turned to the vastness of the cosmos and the evolution of life. His account is a very personalized and readable view that holds interest with a nontechnical unfolding of the mysteries of life.

Skutch's purpose in *Life Ascending* is to increase our appreciation of our unique planet and the natural endowment that supports us. He urges that we cooperate with the management and development of our planet in an age long striv-



ing to make existence precious. He believes that our survival is assured if we but intelligently and persistently function within the sphere of life.

His philosophy is that of the 1970's view of the cosmos' origin. The book contains nothing about the new physics and the great singularity debate that leads to the inflationary theory of the universe. The idea that the cosmos originated from a quantum fluctuation has philosophical implications that would be hard to reconcile with Skutch's anthropocentric view. The consequences of this omission can be seen in the following excerpt:

To create beings able to understand and appreciate, capable of gratitude as well as enjoyment, appears to be the end and goal of the world process. What would be the worth of the Universe spread over billions of light-years, containing millions of galaxies and trillions of stars and an unimaginable number of planets, yet devoid of consciousness? A Universe with no single being to enjoy existence in it, celebrate its beauty, or wonder at its immensity would be a barren universe. The cosmos achieves value and a reason for existence exactly to the measure that it contains beings who enjoy, appreciate and understand it. Apparently, this is what, from the beginning, the Universe has been striving to achieve.

So if you are one who is convinced that the universe was made for man, this book is easy reading. If you are not, it is still easy reading but the anthropocentric emphasis may leave one feeling uneasy.— David J. Holden Brookings 57006

Birds of the Texas Coastal Bend by John H. Rappole and Gene W. Blacklock. 1985. Texas A&M University Press, Austin. 126 pp, hardbound, \$19.50.

This modestly priced book will be enjoyed by our members who visit or winter along the Texas coast. The coastal bend runs from just north of Aransas to midway down Padre Island. The area includes 9 counties and extends inland about 50 miles.

The book contains several sections. First the reader is introduced to the geography, geology, and climate of the region. Next the ecology of this remarkably diverse yet small area is discussed. No less than 14 habitats are described along with rather handsome color photographs. The

heart of the book is a review of the occurrence and distribution of the birds. If one visits SE Texas to list birds, one will find this section vital. My only quibble with it is that the records of extremely rare species are not properly referenced. For example, we are told that a Green Violet-ear (a hummingbird) has been sighted in the region, but the authors neglect to inform us by whom or exactly where. However, other statements, such as on breeding data and previous reports on status, are referenced.

The section on migration is of particular interest because this region experiences "fall outs" of exhausted migrants that have met adverse weather over the Gulf of Mexico. A 3-page chapter on conservation shows the effects of the annual migrations of college students and other recreationists to the area. The last chapter contains a species checklist with bar graphs to indicate seasonal distribution and abundance. An appendix summarizes specimens (or lack thereof) known for species with fewer than 5 confirmed records for the Coastal Bend.--Dan A. Tallman, Northern State College, Aberdeen 57401.

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THE 1985 SUMMER SEASON  
by Bruce Harris  
Box 605, Clear Lake SD 57226

During this summer, generally very cool and windy with very few hot days, we obtained some interesting reports. We found the Olivaceous Cormorant for the first time in South Dakota. First nesting records were made for the Common Poorwill, Clark's Nutcracker, and the unspotted race of the Rufous-sided Towhee. Other unusual sightings include Caspian Tern, Sandhill Crane, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cerulean Warbler, Parula Warbler, and both crossbills.

Reporters cited herein are:

LJA	Leon Anderson	PM	Paul Martching
JLB	Jocelyn L. Baker	BM	Brain Meyer
HB	Harry Behrens	WM	William Morlock
GB	Gill Blankespoor	CM	C. Masartz
CB	C. Bosch	MMM	Michael M. Melius
RLB	R. L. Bryant	RAP	Richard A. Peterson
ROB	Robert D. Buckman	SP	Scott Purdy
GoB	Gorden Burke	GP	Gary Purdy
RE	Robert Eubank	JP	John Purdy
MHG	Michael H. Getman	MJR	Mike J. Rabenberg
JMG	John M. Gilman	DRS	Dennis R. Skadsen
KG	Kenneth Graupman	MSS	Mark S. Skadsen
WH	Willis Hall	AS	Arlene Spevak
BKH	Bruce K. Harris	PFS	Paul F. Springer
RH	Randy Hill	RR	Rex Riis
GBH	Gertrice B. Hinds	DAT	Dan A. Tallman
DH	Dave Hilly	SVS	Steve Van Sickle
AH	Augie Hoeger	SJW	Sam J. Waldstein
KHH	Kenneth H. Husmann	DGW	Darrell G. Wells
JJ	John Jave	LIW	Lois I. Wells
JiJ	James Johnson	JEW	Julie E. Wilcox
KK	Karen Kronner	NRW	Nat R. Whitney
PL	Paul Lehman	MY	Michelle Youngquist

COMMON LDDN--Nonbreeders in Fall River, Charles Mix and Codington Co.

HORNED GREBE--17 July, Charles Mix Co. (DRS).

RED-NECKED GREBE--20 April, Waubay NW, nest building (RE, GoB); 3 pairs and 2 nests found at refuge during season (MJR).

"WESTERN" GREBE--22 June, Pennington Co., Pactola Reservoir (PFS). 25 June, Butte Co., 1 (PFS).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN--10 April, Codington Co., 100 nests; Drywood Lake, 1272 nests; Piyas Lake, 798 nests (KHH, MJR, et al.).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT--Drywood Lake, 317 nests; Piyas Lake, 592 nests (KHH, MJR, et al.). Reported nesting also in Charles Mix Co. (DRS).

OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT--See cover and General Notes in this issue; bird still present at Capitol Lake as of 16 August.

LEAST BITTERN--24 July, Edmunds Co. (MMM).

GREAT BLUE HERON--22 March, Charles Mix Co., 3 on nests (DRS). 1 June, Roberts Co., Drywood Lake, 3 ground nests on island (KHH, MJR, RLB).

GREAT EGRET--1 July, Lake Andes NWR, 3 nests (JJ). 9 July, Kingsbury Co., 11 (KHH, DGW). 27 July, Sand Lake NWR, 6 (SJW).

SNOWY EGRET--1 July, Lake Andes NWR, ca. 10 nests (JJ). 9 July, Kingsbury Co., ca. 15 nests (KHH, DGW). 9 July, Day Co., 10 nesting (KHH, MJR).

LITTLE BLUE HERON--1 July, Lake Andes NWR, 3 nests in trees, the second definite nesting record for the state (JJ). 1 June, Kingsbury Co. (DGW, LIW). 12 July, Lake Andes, 2 (DRS).

CATTLE EGRET--9 July, Kingsbury Co., ca. 20 nests; 9 July, Day Co., Rush Lake, ca. 75 adults (KHH, MJR, et al.). 1 July, Lake Andes NWR, ca. 225 adults and 110 nests (JJ). 30 July, Codington Co., Grass Lake, 2B (WM).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON--20 July, Hanson Co., 2 (JP, SP, GP). 11 June, 1 July, and 8 August, Charles Mix Co., Lake Andes NWR (JJ, DH).

WHITE-FACED IBIS--6 July, Day Co., Rush Lake, 4 adults (KHH, MJR). 9 July, Kingsbury Co. 7 adults (KHH, DGW).

CANADA GOOSE--8 May, Day Co., 27 nests on Gull Island (BKH, KHH, DRS, MSS).

WOOD DUCK--12 June, Pennington Co., brood (JLB).

CINNAMON TEAL--2 July, Hanson Co., male (SP, GP).

AMERICAN WIGEON--6 June, Jones Co., brood (JLB).

LESSER SCAUP--McPherson Co., Ordway Prairie, 4-5 pairs (BKH).

HOODED MERGANSER--5 June, McPherson Co., Ordway Prairie (BKH).

COMMON MERGANSER--4 July, Waubay NWR (PL). Second nest record for state reported by at least 3 observers from Rapid City but details lacking (NRW). 12 June, Rapid City, 2 pairs (JLB). Also reported from Meade, Butte, and Fall River Co.

TURKEY VULTURE--12 June, Union Co. (PFS). 13 June, near Vermillion (PFS). 4 July, Lincoln Co., Newton Hills State Park (MSS). 4 July, Waubay NWR (PL).

OSPREY--22 June, Yankton Co., very late date (WH, JEW).

BALD EAGLE--24 June, Charles Mix Co., Karl Mundt NWR, adult (DH, JJ).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK--3 July, Custer Co., female on nest (RAP); possibly only 4 previous state nesting records.

COOPER'S HAWK--1 June, Waubay NWR (MJR). 2 June and 13 July, Fall River Co. (RAP). 22 June, Todd Co. (BKH). 1 July, Pennington Co., nest with 4 young in badlands (MMM). 18 July, Jackson Co., nest with fledglings (KG).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK--9 June, Custer Co., nest and 2 young (RAP).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK--13 June, Newton Hills State Park (PFS).

SWAINSON'S HAWK--13 April, Brookings Co, pair at nest (NJH).

RED-TAILED HAWK--20 March, Miner Co., bird on nest (LJA). 20 April, Codington Co., bird on nest (BKH).

FERRUGINOUS HAWK--15 June, Minnehaha Co., immature (PFS). 3 July, Brown Co., 2 nests (BKH).

GOLDEN EAGLE--Jackson Co., nest with 2 young, same as in 1983 (KG).

MERLIN--16 June, Fall River Co. (RAP).

GREATER PRAIRIE CHICKEN--15 June, Charles Mix Co., still booming (DRS).

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE--Mid-June, McPherson Co., still booming (BKH).

VIRGINIA RAIL--27 July, Brown Co., adult and young (DAT, NE). Observed in Butte Co. (PFS).

SANDHILL CRANE--6 June, McPherson Co. (BKH).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER--18 June, Day Co., late migrant (PFS).

PIPING PLOVER--18 May, Day Co, nest with 4 eggs (BKH). 28 May, Union Co. (PFS). 14 July, McPherson Co. (BKH). 2 pairs bred at Gavin's Point (KK).

AMERICAN AVOCET--19 May, Roberts Co., pair with nest (BKH). 28 June, Butte Co., "broody" pair (JLB). Nests also reported McPherson and Marshall Co.

WILLET--27 June, Harding Co. (PFS).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER--Day Co., nest (MJR).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW--Observed harassing a vulture in Pennington Co. (MMM).

MARbled GODWIT--23 May, Bennett Co. (PFS).

SANDERLING--2 June, Day Co. (DAT).

WESTERN SANDPIPER--14-15 June, near Sioux Falls (PFS).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER--7 June, Sand Lake NWR, late migrants (DAT). 12-19 June, NE South Dakota, 4 sightings of late migrants (PFS).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER--12 and 19 June, Union and Brown Co., late migrants (PFS).

AMERICAN WOODCOCK--20 June, Waubay NWR, adult and 5 young (MJR et al.); young have been very seldom reported in South Dakota.

FRANKLIN'S GULL--15 June, Fall River Co., 15 (RAP).

RING-BILLED GULL--8 May, Day Co., 2504 nests (MJR, KHH, et al.). 1 June, Roberts Co., 21 nests (KHH et al.). 15 June, Fall River Co., Angustora Reservoir (RAP).

CALIFORNIA GULL--7 June, Day Co., 22 nests (KHH, MJR, MHG, RLB).

CASPIAN TERN--27 June, Sand Lake NWR, 1 (RH, CB fide SJW).

COMMON TERN--1 June, Roberts Co., Drywood Lake, 23 nests (KHH, MJR).

FORSTER'S TERN--9 July, Day Co., Rush Lake, ca. 50 nests (KHH, MJR). 15 June, Fall River Co., 10 (RAP).

LEAST TERN--Yankton Co., Gavin's Point, 2 pair nesting (KK).

MOURNING DOVE--17 April, Turner Co., nest with eggs (LJA).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO--20 June, Dewey Co. (PFS).

BURROWING OWL--June-July, Day Co., nesting near Waubay NWR (MJR).

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL--see General Notes.

COMMON POORWILL--28 June, Harding Co., nest with 2 young (PFS); apparently the first confirmed nesting record for South Dakota.

CHIMNEY SWIFT--Regular in Jackson Co. (KG).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD--6 June, Brown Co. (DAT). 12 June, Sioux Falls, 2 (AH). Late migrants?

LEWIS' WOODPECKER--6 July, Wind Cave NP, 4 (RAP).

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER--Nesting in Lincoln and Brookings Co.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER--27 June, Custer Co., (NRW).  
 EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE--Lincoln Co., Newton Hills State Park, nesting (MSS).  
 WILLOW FLYCATCHER--29 July, Charles Mix Co., nest with 2 young (ORS).  
 LEAST FLYCATCHER--12 and 20 June, Pennington Co. (JLB). 16 June, Deuel Co. (BKH). 19 June, Sica Hollow, pair (PFS). 1 July, McPherson Co. (BKH). 5 July, Lincoln Co. (PL). 14 July, Dewey Co, fledglings (BKH).  
 DUSKY FLYCATCHER--22 June, Pennington Co., nest with eggs (PFS).  
 SAY'S PHOEBE--15 May, Perkins Co., forced out of nest by Barn Swallow (GBH). 29 May, McPherson Co., nest and young (BKH, JLB). Observed at 4 locations in Ordway Prairie (BKH).  
 GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER--12 June, Pennington Co., 2 (JLB).  
 WESTERN KINGBIRD--26 July, Charles Mix Co. nest with 2 young, latest record (DRS).  
 PURPLE MARTIN--23 June, Bennett Co., Martin, 22 (PFS).  
 TREE SWALLOW--28 June, Harding Co. (PFS).  
 GRAY JAY--27 February, Fall River Co., nest building; 2 April, incubating; 24 April, 3 downy young (RAP).  
 CLARK'S NUTCRACKER--See last issue's General Notes. 17 July, Hughes Co. (RR).  
 AMERICAN CROW--9 April, Turner Co., carrying nesting material (LJA).  
 RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH--Late July, Jackson Co. (KG).  
 PYGMY NUTHATCH--Regular in Rapid City and Fall River Co. (NRW, RAP).  
 HOUSE WREN--31 July, Charles Mix Co., nest and eggs, latest date (ORS).  
 SEDGE WREN--29 July, Charles Mix Co., 3 (ORS). McPherson Co., common (BKH).  
 BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER--25 May, Lincoln Co., Newton Hills State Park, observed during SDOU trip; 13-14 June, territorial pair but nest not located (PFS); 15 June, 12-13 July (MSS, GB, MY).  
 VEERY--19 June, Roberts Co., Sica Hollow State Park, 8 (PFS). 27 May, Newton Hills State Park, 1 singing (PFS).  
 SWAINSON'S THRUSH--7 and 9 June, Jackson Co., late migrants banded (KG). 5 July, Lincoln Co., singing male (PL).  
 WOOD THRUSH--May, Lincoln Co., nesting (ROB); 5 July, 8 singing males (PL).  
 GRAY CATBIRD--25 May, Lincoln Co., nest with 4 eggs (NRW).  
 SAGE THRASHER--25 June, Harding Co. (PFS).  
 SPRAGUE'S PIPIT--Only 1 found during intensive survey of Ordway Prairie during June and first week of July; observed in 1 other site in McPherson Co. and in Dewey Co. (BKH).  
 CEDAR WAXWING--6 July, Charles Mix Co., nest and young (DRS).  
 LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE--7 July, Kingsbury Co., 2 areas (BKH).  
 BELL'S VIREO--17 July, Charles Mix Co., nest (DRS).  
 YELLOW-THROATED VIREO--14 June, Lincoln Co., Newton Hills State Park (PFS). 15 June-13 July, Newton Hills State Park (MSS, GB, MY).  
 WARBLING VIREO--18 May, Brookings Co., nest building, very early (BM).  
 NORTHERN PARULA--5 July, Lincoln Co., Newton Hills State Park (PL, CM).  
 CERULEAN WARBLER--25 May, Lincoln Co., Newton Hills State Park, observed by many during SDOU meeting; 15 June, 2 males; 22 June, 1 (MSS); 5 July, 1 (PL).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER--July, Black Hills, adults feeding young, first [?] verified nesting in South Dakota, details to follow (HB fide NRW).

OVENBIRD--19 June, Sica Hollow State Park (PFS). 14 July, Dewey Co. (BKH, KHH). Common at Newton Hills State Park (many observers).

SCARLET Tanager--14 June, Lincoln Co., Newton Hills State Park, female with nesting material (PFS). 5 July, Newton Hills State Park, 5 (PL).

NORTHERN CARDINAL--15 May, Yankton, fledgling (SVS). Also observed in Newton Hills (many observers); Aberdeen, 2 adults and 2 fledged young banded (DAT, NE); Watertown, pair with nesting material, seen regularly into July (JMG, AS).

ROSE-BREADED GROSBEAK--2 July, Brown Co., Aberdeen, male banded; 6 July, Aberdeen, female with brood patch banded (DAT).

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK--14 July, Dewey Co., fledglings (BKH, KHH).

BLUE GROSBEAK--30 July, Spink Co., pair and 2 males (PM).

LAZULI BUNTING--26 June, Harding Co., Slim Buttes, 1 male (PFS).

INDIGO BUNTING--26 June, Harding Co., Slim Buttes, 2 males (PFS). 12 June, near Rapid City (JLB). Sioux Falls, very common (AH).

DICKCISSEL--26 July, Charles Mix Co., flightless young, latest record (ORS).

RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE--19 June, Sica Hollow State Park (PFS). Newton Hills State Park, nest and young (PFS); first nesting record for the unspotted race in state; 2 pairs seen at Newton Hills during season (MSS, MY).

BREWER'S SPARROW--30 June, Fall River Co., 8 (RAP, JLB).

BAIRD'S SPARROW--McPherson Co., Ordway Prairie, over 95 sightings during intensive bird survey (BKH). 28 June, Harding Co. (PFS).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW--17 July, Charles Mix Co., adults with food (ORS).

SWAMP SPARROW--McPherson Co., 4-5 in bog (BKH).

WHITE-WINGED JUNCO--29 June, Harding Co. (PFS).

CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR--29 July, Deuel Co., nest with 3 young, latest record (BKH).

BOBOLINK--15 June, Roubaix Lake Breeding Bird Survey, 6 (NRW). 27 June, Custer Breeding Bird Survey, 2 (NRW).

CASSIN'S FINCH--Regular at Rapid City (NRW).

RED CROSSBILL--Apparently bred in eastern South Dakota this spring but nesting not confirmed. 21 March-15 May, Huron, 5 males and 2 females regularly at feeder with female and young on 1 occasion (JiJ). Many other East River reports.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL--24 April and 5 May, Huron, male with Red Crossbills, details later (JiJ). 6 June, Pennington Co., 6 in spruce (RAP).

PINE SISKIN--widespread nesting in South Dakota this season.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH--29 July, Charles Mix Co., 2 nests with young (ORS).

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