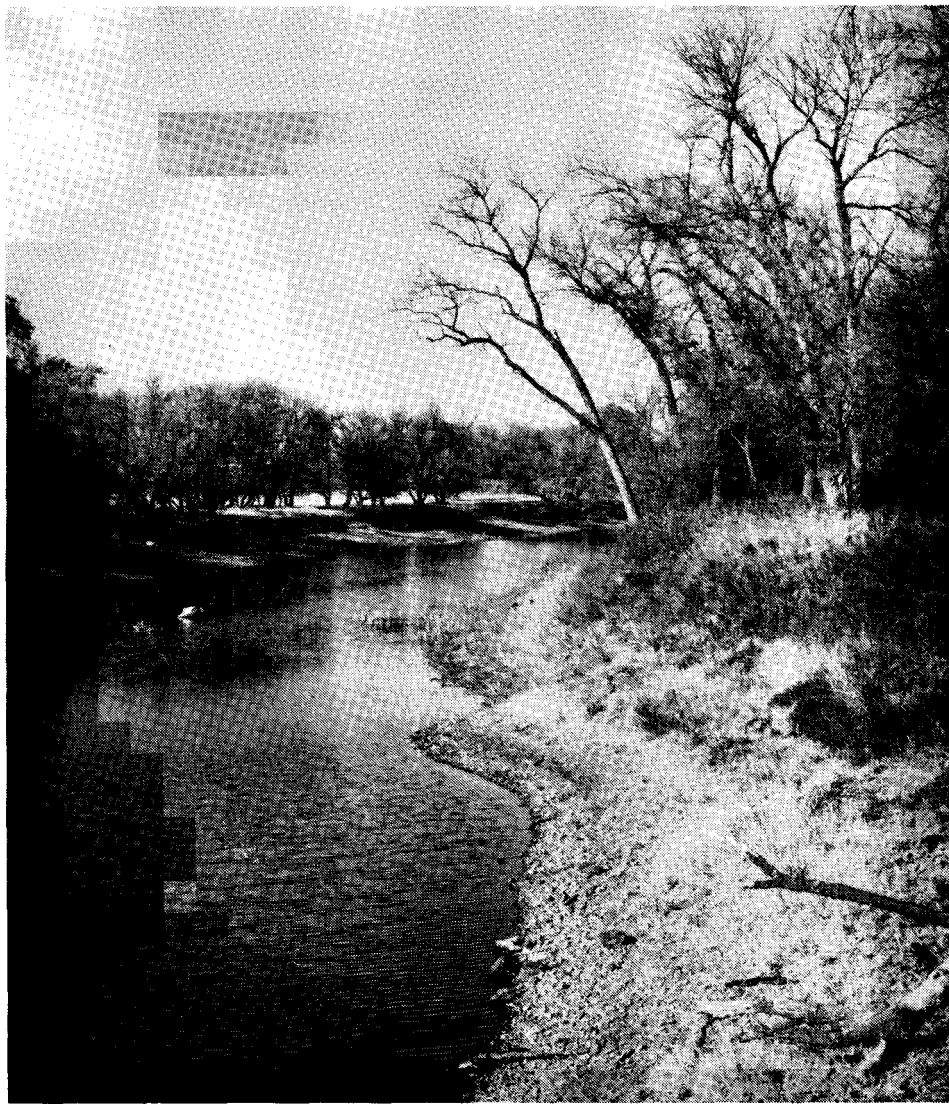


SOUTH DAKOTA  
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



SOUTH  
BIRD



DAKOTA  
NOTES

VOL. 44

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NO. 4

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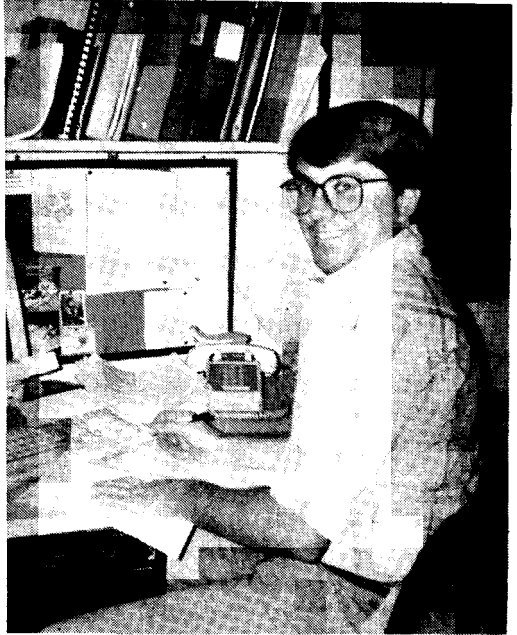
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Associate Editors: Erika Tallman and David Fuller.



## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

This true story is about beavers, people, and a watcher. Several springs ago, a pair of beavers moved into an old beaver lodge that had not been used for several years. The lodge, built along the shore of a small creek (the high water outlet of a popular Northeastern SD glacial lake) is located inside the boundaries of a small state park. The beavers repaired a lodge and then built a dam where the creek narrows and leaves the park through a culvert along a busy highway. A good-sized pond developed behind this dam and attracted several species of wildlife. The watcher loved the pond and the many creatures that frequented it. Often he took his son there to observe the creatures. The public commented favorably on this beneficial wetland.



Soon, however, controversy erupted over the beavers' presence. In their quest for food and building material, the beavers felled several small trees near lakeshore cabins. The property owners were not happy. "This can't continue," they exclaimed. The beavers were trapped, the dam was destroyed. Beaver dams can not be allowed to plug culverts, a public safety issue was solved. The pond and the wildlife disappeared. The watcher was saddened.

A year later the watcher noticed a few sticks strategically placed near the culvert. Could beavers have returned to the creek? The watcher rejoiced! He observed the dam's width thicken and its height increase as summer turned to fall. Muskrats constructed two huts in the growing pond. After the pond froze, the watcher saw the beavers' winter activity. He tried to ignore the telltale marks left on several felled trees. This destruction would not go unnoticed by the public. Late that winter, the beavers were trapped.

In the spring, the pond thawed. The beavers were gone but several new tenants arrived to benefit from their work. A pair of Canada Geese successfully nested on top of one of the muskrat huts. A hen Mallard placed her nest in a hollow stump surrounded by the pond's water. A half dozen male Wood Ducks remained on the pond of several days in May. Many people were happy. "Waterfowl are beneficial, they provide sport and are aesthetically pleasing," they commented. The watcher placed a Wood Duck next box along the pond which, later that summer, housed a brood. A pair of Green-backed Herons also nested near the pond.

However, once again controversy developed, this time about Northern Pike that journeyed to the pond to spawn. A few Northern swam over the beaver dam in search of other suitable spawning sites. As they returned upstream after spawning, they found their way was blocked by the beaver dam. The people said, "This is waste, the Northern must return to the lake for fishermen to catch, the dam must be removed at once!" The dam was not removed. Northern were netted and released into the pond. Others were illegally speared by a few people, but not wasted as wildlife usually is (as some people told the watcher).

Later that summer, carp began their journey down the creek to spawn. In search of other suitable spawning sites, many hundred swam over the beaver dam. Heavy rains began to wash the dam away. When the carp returned upstream to return to the lake, many swam over what remained of the dam. The people exclaimed, "This is not good. The dam should be rebuilt to stop the carp from reentering the lake. Carp pollute the waters and crowd out beneficial game fish!" But the dam could not be rebuilt. Beavers were gone. The people could rebuild the dam. But, first, several committees had to be formed to study the idea and draw up plans and recommendations to accomplish this seemingly monumental task. Maybe other beavers will return to the pond, but maybe there are no beavers left. *Dennis Skadsen Box 113, Grenville SD 57226.*



## GENERAL NOTES

**NEW BIRDING BIG DAY RECORD FOR SOUTH DAKOTA.** The American Birding Association (ABA) "Big Day" is an effort to identify, by sight or by sound, as many bird species as possible during a single calendar day within a certain geographic area. A Big Day team must consist of 2 or more individuals and each member of the team must personally identify at least 95% of the birds making up the grand total to qualify according to ABA rules (ABA Rules Committee, 1991, *Winging It* 3(9):8-10). The ABA maintains Big Day records for each of the 50 states, as well as many other geographic areas. The South Dakota Big Day record has stood since 1974, when B.J. and Lois Rose counted 143 species (Maybank, B., 1991, *Winging It* 3(8):1-16). This record was tied with the champion Big Day from New York for the oldest record on the books for the 50 states. We determined that no one had tried to run a Big Day east-to-west across the state, and we felt that an east-west route would have the potential for breaking the old record. We attempted a Big Day for South Dakota on 14 May 1992, starting at Union County State Park, with the intention of finishing the day at Roughlock Falls in the Black Hills.

The day started early (3:30 am Mountain Daylight Time, 4:30 am Central Daylight Time) at Union County State Park (UCSP) with an Eastern Screech-Owl and Whip-poor-will before dawn. But the best was still to come. At about 8:30 am CDT in UCSP, we encountered a fantastic concentration of migrant passerines, apparently newly arrived from a night's migratory flight pushed by southeast winds. When we left UCSP, we had tallied 17 species of warblers, 4 species of vireos, and a female

Scarlet Tanager. We next visited some sandbars on the Missouri River in Union Co., near Burbank, in an attempt to see Least Tern and Piping Plover. We got the tern, but missed the plover. We also managed to find a Bell's Vireo in riparian thickets along the river in this area. Next, we checked out a farm pond near Vermillion, Clay Co., where we tallied 18 Greater White-fronted Geese (although 2 Snow Geese that were on the pond the night before had apparently moved on).

The area around Gavin's Point Dam, Yankton Co., was our next stop. Highlights there included 8 Caspian Terns, a Cape May Warbler and an American Woodcock. We then visited a farm pond near Utica, Yankton Co., where we saw several species of shorebirds. From there, we went to Lake Andes NWR, which was good for numerous shorebirds, including Black-bellied Plover and American Avocet, and a Marsh Wren. By this time, we were considerably behind schedule, but we decided to head west anyway. We left Lake Andes shortly after 4:00 PM CDT, having recorded 132 species.

In transit to Badlands National Park, which we decided would be our final stop due to time constraints, we picked up only a Short-eared Owl. We arrived at the Cliff Shelf Trail in Badlands NP about 7:20 PM MDT. It was very quiet when we arrived, much to our chagrin, but we managed to see a few species, including Say's Phoebe, Rock Wren and White-throated Swift. When we finished the Cliff Shelf Trail, the sun was sinking very low in the sky, our hopes along with it. We only had 139 species. We had serious doubts about whether we would be able to break the record, but we pushed on anyway. Near the park headquarters, we added a Brewer's Blackbird. Driving west on the major park road, we tallied a Horned Lark and a Loggerhead Shrike shortly after sunset. This put us at 142 species, one short of the record. Steve then suggested that we drive to a prairie dog town he knew of toward the west end of the park, to try for Burrowing Owls. We walked through the colony to flush an owl without success. Our hopes were sinking fast, but then we remembered we had a tape player and a set of Peterson's *Eastern Guide to Bird Songs* tapes. We put on the tape of the Burrowing Owl and presto, number 143! We had tied the record, but how were we going to break it? We decided to drive back to Cliff Shelf to look for Common Poorwills. By now it was 10:45 PM MDT. At Cliff Shelf, we were unable to hear a poorwill, but there was a full moon and a Yellow-breasted Chat was singing! We flushed and spotlighted the chat just to be sure. This was species number 144 and we had broken the record at 11:15 PM MDT. Our list is reproduced below. Of this total, SVS had 139 species, KD had 141, and DS had 144, thus qualifying the list within the ABA 95% rule. In total, we had driven 398 miles and walked about 4 miles.

Eared Grebe  
American White Pelican  
Double-crested Cormorant  
Great Blue Heron  
Great Egret  
Green-backed Heron  
White-fronted Goose  
Canada Goose  
Wood Duck  
Green-winged Teal

Mallard  
Northern Pintail  
Blue-winged Teal  
Northern Shoveler  
Gadwall  
American Widgeon  
Redhead  
Lesser Scaup  
Ruddy Duck  
Turkey Vulture

Swainson's Hawk  
Red-tailed Hawk  
American Kestrel  
Ring-necked Pheasant  
Wild Turkey  
American Coot  
Black-bellied Plover  
Killdeer  
American Avocet  
Lesser Yellowlegs  
Willet  
Spotted Sandpiper  
Upland Sandpiper  
Hudsonian Godwit  
Semipalmated Sandpiper  
Least Sandpiper  
White-rumped Sandpiper  
Baird's Sandpiper  
Pectoral Sandpiper  
Stilt Sandpiper  
Long-billed Dowitcher  
American Woodcock  
Wilson's Phalarope  
Franklin's Gull  
Bonaparte's Gull  
Ring-billed Gull  
Caspian Tern  
Forster's Tern  
Least Tern  
Black Tern  
Rock Dove  
Mourning Dove  
Eastern Screech-owl  
Great Horned Owl  
Burrowing Owl  
Short-eared Owl  
Whip-poor-will  
Chimney Swift  
White-throated Swift  
Belted Kingfisher  
Red-headed Woodpecker  
Red-bellied Woodpecker  
Downy Woodpecker  
Northern Flicker  
Eastern Wood-pewee  
Willow Flycatcher  
Least Flycatcher  
Say's Phoebe  
Great Crested Flycatcher  
Western Kingbird  
Eastern Kingbird  
Horned Lark  
Purple Martin  
Tree Swallow  
Rough-winged Swallow  
Bank Swallow  
Cliff Swallow

Barn Swallow  
Blue Jay  
Black-billed Magpie  
American Crow  
Black-capped Chickadee  
White-breasted Nuthatch  
Rock Wren  
House Wren  
Marsh Wren  
Mountain Bluebird  
Swainson's Thrush  
American Robin  
Gray Catbird  
Brown Thrasher  
Cedar Waxwing  
Loggerhead Shrike  
European Starling  
Bell's Vireo  
Solitary Vireo  
Yellow-throated Vireo  
Warbling Vireo  
Red-eyed Vireo  
Tennessee Warbler  
Orange-crowned Warbler  
Nashville Warbler  
Northern Parula  
Yellow Warbler  
Chestnut-sided Warbler  
Magnolia Warbler  
Cape May Warbler  
Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Black-thr. Green Warbler  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Bay-breasted Warbler  
Blackpoll Warbler  
Black-and-White Warbler  
American Redstart  
Ovenbird  
Common Yellowthroat  
Wilson's Warbler  
Yellow-breasted Chat  
Scarlet Tanager  
Northern Cardinal  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak  
Indigo Bunting  
Rufous-sided Towhee  
Chipping Sparrow  
Clay-colored Sparrow  
Field Sparrow  
Vesper Sparrow  
Lark Sparrow  
Lark Bunting  
Song Sparrow  
Harris' Sparrow  
White-thr. Sparrow  
Bobolink  
Red-winged Blackbird

Western Meadowlark  
Yellow-headed Blackbird  
Brewer's Blackbird  
Common Grackle  
Brown-headed Cowbird

Orchard Oriole  
Northern Oriole  
House Finch  
American Goldfinch  
House Sparrow

As is evident from our list, we missed several "should see" birds. In addition, with better time management East River, we could have made it to the Black Hills and added some species there. We feel an east-to-west route has the potential to generate a species total of 150-170 with a little luck. We'll try again next year. We wish to thank Nat Whitney, Jr., Ken Graupmann, Richard Peterson, Bruce Harris, and Nelda Holden for helpful advise on routes and stopping points. *David Swanson, Department of Biology, University of South Dakota, 414 E. Clark St., Vermillion, SD 57069, Steve Van Sickle 305 E. 16th St., Yankton, SD 57078, and Kurt Dean Department of Biology, University of South Dakota, 414 E. Clark St., Vermillion, SD 57069*

### **N. R. WHITNEY BANDING 1991.**

#### **NEW BANDING:**

Blue Jay	1	Clay-colored Sparrow	3
Black-billed Magpie	1	Lincoln's Sparrow	12
Black-capped Chickadee	8	White-crowned Sparrow	23
Townsend's Solitaire	1	White-winged Junco	30
American Robin	2	Slate-colored Junco	47
Spotted Towhee	1	Oregon Junco	7
American Tree Sparrow	3	Red Crossbill	52
Chipping Sparrow	8	Pine Siskin	58

#### **TWO INTERESTING LONGEVITY RECORDS:**

**BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE # 1550-63347**, was caught by a cat on July 28, 1991, at the home of Sue Ripple on Hill View Drive, Rapid City. This bird had originally been banded by L. M. Baylor on October 9, 1984, at his home about 100 yards southwest of the Ripple home, and was at least 7 years old at the time of its death. Presumably both homes were within the bird's territory.

**RED CROSSBILL # 106-159014**, which I originally banded at my home on June 29, 1986, was found dead there on July 28, 1991, probably of *Salmonella enteritidis*, which had been proven to have infected several crossbills in the region at about that time. It was at least 5 years old at the time of death.

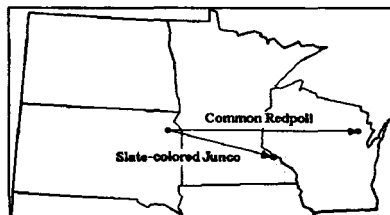
#### **ANOTHER LONGEVITY RECORD FOR 1992:**

**PINE SISKIN # 1810-96827**, banded at my home on July 16, 1989, as an adult male, was retrapped there on April 1, 1992, still apparently in good health. Thus it is now at least 4 years old. *Nathaniel Whitney, 633 S Berry Pine Road, Rapid City, SD 57702.*

**COMMON REDPOLL AND SLATE-COLORED JUNCO RECOVERED OUTSIDE SOUTH DAKOTA.** Recently I received banding returns on the following birds. The first was a Common Redpoll that I banded on 4 February 1987. This bird was recovered in Maiden Lake Wisconsin on 3

January 1992. This record is only the second out-of state-recovery of a redpoll banded in South Dakota.

The other recovery was of a Slate-colored Junco that I banded on 30 March 1987. It was recovered on 4 April 1988 near Prescott, Minnesota. The accompanying map shows both these recoveries, although the arrows do not represent direct migration paths. *Dennis Skadsen, Box 113, Grenville SD 57523.*



**MOURNING DOVE RECOVERED IN JALISCO.** A Mourning Dove that I banded in Aberdeen, South Dakota, on 18 June 1989 was killed in the western Mexican state of Jalisco on 25 October 1991. The dove was hatched the year it was banded, thus the sex is unknown. The bird was a bit over two years old when it was shot. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401.*



**FIRST SHARP-TAILED SPARROW SOUTH DAKOTA NESTING RECORD.** On the morning of 21 June 1992, J. David Williams went atlasing to the Spring Lake Waterfowl Production Area in Walworth County. He heard a Sharp-tailed Sparrow singing from bulrushes about 100 yards east of the high water mark on the western edge of the wetland. He also found adult Sharp-tailed Sparrows in three other locations closer to the eastern edge of this relatively large wetland. Both visual and auditory field marks positively identified this species. He also obtained photographs, now on file with the SDOU Rare Birds Record Committee.

Williams and MyRon Zimmer returned to this area on 11 July 1992. Because Williams previously marked the area where he found the birds, he located the same area and the birds again. The birds were agitated and the adults flushed from dense grass, where they called, "tick." Despite rain, the observers searched for nests or young. Zimmer lives within 10 miles of the area, and decided he would return on a better day.

On 12 July 1992, Zimmer returned. Proceeding directly to the area the Sharp-tails inhabited the day before, Zimmer found a pair flying while



giving constant and continuous warning/distress calls. After about 15 minutes, an adult was observed gathering insects from the medium-sized, 18-inch sedges. The insects in the adult's beak were dark and unidentifiable. Occasionally the bird picked up small, white, moth-like insects. The bird then flew to another area in the sedges and dropped to ground level. When the bird reemerged from the sedges, its beak was empty. Moving 15 feet directly to the area, Zimmer flushed a fledgling that immediately flew a short distance to tall sedge and cattails. The fledgling had an obvious and distinct (although less orange) facial triangle and a tail half the length of the adult's.

About 100 yards away, Zimmer found another pair of sparrows. One adult flew into the medium-sized sedges. The bird went in with food and came out empty-beaked. A fledgling flushed from this spot seemed to have only recently left the nest - its tail was a mere stub and its flight to cover was laborious. On the spot from which the bird fledged, there was a circle of about 10 droppings. Another fledgling belonging to this pair was about 20 feet from the first and in a patch of foxtail barley. This fledgling did not fly, but scurried away on the ground. Again, a circle of droppings surrounded its original perch. The adults carried food to another nearby location, where a third fledgling may have been present, but Zimmer did not locate it.

The adults fed the fledglings every 15 to 20 minutes. We required about 45 minutes to locate each fledgling. The adults constantly gave warning calls except for just before feeding, when they dropped to ground level.

On 14 July 1992, Zimmer returned to the area and flushed one fledgling but found no others. He found no nests. This report is the first documentation of the Sharp-tailed Sparrow nesting in South Dakota. *The Birds of South Dakota* (SDOU, 1991) lists no known nesting activities. *J. David Williams, Box 8, Ipswich, SD 57451 and MyRon Zimmer, Box 100, Bowdle, SD 57428.*

**SABINE'S GULLS AT OAHE DAM.** One of the rarest South Dakota bird species made a timely appearance for SDOU members attending the fall meeting at Pierre, 4 - 6 October 1991. I arrived at the dam at about 3 PM, having birded my way west on back roads. With time to spare, I checked the dam area for birds, finding many Ring-billed Gulls, but nothing unusual. Heading into Ft. Pierre, I noticed a large concentration of gulls over the Spilling Basin, an overflow structure on the west side of Oahe Dam. All six tubes were running full bore. Clouds of birds, apparently feeding on dead and stunned fish coming through the overflow tubes from Lake Oahe, circled over the area.

I drove to the west side of the basin, where a boat ramp and concrete walkway overlook the Stilling Basin. For the first fifteen minutes, I watched the circling mass of gulls (later estimated at a minimum of 1500 birds) whirling, diving, screaming, and swimming below the outlet tubes in the upper 300 yards of the Stilling Basin. I mostly saw Ring-billed Gulls in various plumages. I finally identified an occasional Bonaparte's Gull and several Franklin's Gulls, all in immature or winter plumage.

The weather was quite chilly and overcast, with the sun low over the dam, making it rather difficult to get birds in good light for viewing. I was ready to leave after about 30 minutes, when a gull in the swirling mass

immediately attracted my attention. It was about the same size as the Bonaparte's Gull, with a W-shaped pattern on the upper wing area, but with a much duskier, darker appearance. I first thought of a kittiwake, which I have seen in South Dakota several times during the fall migration. After a closer look, but not before losing sight of it for frustrating periods among the teeming hoards of other gulls, I saw the dark band on the tail, an extensive *black* triangular area on the entire outer wing area (all primary feathers) and a dusky brown back. A quick check in my field guide confirmed that I was seeing my first Sabine's Gull for South Dakota, and I rushed into Pierre to find other birders to share in the sighting and verify my identification. Everett Montgomery and Dan Tallman came back to the dam with me, and Everett was able to take several photos of the bird. Before sundown, a number of SDOU members, including most of the Rare Bird Committee, saw the Sabine's Gull, including Dave Swanson, Gil Blankespoor, Kurt Dean, Ken Graupmann, and others.

The next morning most of this group, plus others, came out soon after sunrise for more viewing of the rare bird. With more observers searching the mass of gulls, we determined that two Sabine's Gulls were present, along with four Franklin's and three Bonaparte's Gulls. The Sabine's Gulls were still present on 6 October, when the SDOU meeting ended.

The Sabine's Gulls seemed to keep away from the larger Ring-billed Gulls, especially when resting on the water. They did not feed in the more congested areas of whirling gulls. The Sabine's Gulls spent much time resting on the water, probably accounting for my not seeing them for nearly 30 minutes when I first discovered the bird. However, they are so boldly marked on the upper side that it would be difficult to overlook them, even with the Bonaparte's Gulls on the scene.

In South Dakota, Sabine's Gulls have been recorded at five locations, all in the fall, except for May 1967 in Perkins County. The fall dates range from 17 September 1988 in Butte Co. to 23 November 1967 in Buffalo Co., when B. J. Rose picked up a mummified bird at Big Bend Dam. Interestingly, Sabine Gulls were reported in unusual numbers during the 1991 fall, with birds found from North Dakota south to Texas. *Bruce Harris, Box 605, Clear Lake, SD 57226.*

**BARRED OWL IN UNION COUNTY.** On 27 August 1992 at 6:30 am, we were erecting mist nets for banding passerines on the South Dakota side of the Big Sioux River, where the river is crossed by Highway 50, in Union Co. We heard a Barred Owl call twice within 30 seconds about one-quarter mile downstream. The call was the Barred Owl's distinctive "Who-cooks-for-you." The owl was silent after these two calls and did not answer our repeated imitations of its call. The habitat at this site is dense riparian deciduous forest that extends for variable distances from the Big Sioux's banks. Unfortunately, we could not see the bird as it called from thick vegetation on private property. However, we believe that this site and adjacent woodlands on the Iowa side of the Big Sioux River are likely to produce more Barred Owl records in the future. The Barred Owl is considered to be of uncertain status in South Dakota and is a possible permanent resident in the southeastern corner of the state (SDOU 1991. *The Birds of South Dakota*, NSU Press, Aberdeen). Stephens et al. (1955. *The Birds of Union County, South Dakota*. Occ. Papers of the Nebr. Ornithol. Union, No. 1) regarded the Barred Owl as a regular resident that

was becoming scarce. This record is accepted by the SDOU Rare Bird Records Committee. *David Swanson and Eric Liknes, Department of Biology, University of South Dakota, Vermillion 57069.*



## BOOK REVIEWS

**THE BIRDS OF JAPAN** by Mark A. Brazil. Smithsonian Institution Press: Washington D. C. 466 pp Hardbound \$55.00.

Japan is an intriguing location to visit. If you are making a short trip to Japan, this book might be worth taking along, but it will probably not meet all of your needs. Although illustrated with fine color plates by Masayuki Yabuuchi, the book does not depict all Japanese birds. Thus this book is not a field guide, rather it seems more of a distributional guide. Indeed, distributional maps for all Japanese birds take up the last 140 pages of the book.

The main body of the text covers the status of each bird, along with notes on habitat, breeding, and subspecies. These accounts are relatively short, with three or four occupying each page. Accidental species often are annotated with a single sentence, explaining when and where the birds were found.

I suspect the main value of this book for casual birders is the five pages in the introduction describing the ten "very best birding areas in Japan." The book's endcovers contain maps of Japan, which may be of interest to zoogeographers and others wanting to know Japanese place names. The introduction also covers aspects of Japan's ecology and includes a brief history of Japanese ornithology.

In summary, this book is valuable for anyone contemplating a trip to Japan. It may not serve as a primary field guide but will serve admirably as a source for secondary and confirming data. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen 57401.*



## SEASONAL REPORTS

### THE 1992 SUMMER SEASON

Compiled by Dennis Skadsen  
RR Box 113, Grenville, SD 57239

Below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation was the norm for the summer across the entire state. A check of temperature data collected by the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge showed the mercury did not rise above 85 degrees Fahrenheit during all of May, June, and July! Reasons for the mild summer weather were the presence of volcanic ash in the atmosphere and/or El Niño.

Weather possibly played a role in some of the early fall shorebird observations and out-of-range species, such as the Sharp-tailed Sparrows. A research group from North Dakota arrived at Churchill on Hudson's Bay on June 25 to discover everything still frozen. Speculation is that no

shorebirds nested in that area this summer, possibly accounting for our earlier than normal fall shorebird migration. Continuing drought in northwestern North Dakota and even colder weather north of this region may account for the Sharp-tailed sparrows nesting in South Dakota. Check the boldfaced and entries for other highlights and interesting observations of the season.

Observers cited:

Jocelyn C. Baker (JCB)  
Charley Cimburek (CC)  
Kurt Dean (KD)

Dick Freithelm (DF)  
Ken Graupmann (KG)  
Bruce K. Harris (BKH)  
Augie Hoeger (AH)  
Jan A. Kieckhefer (JAK)  
Robert W. Kieckhefer (RWK)  
Jon Little (JL)  
Glenn Maravek (GM)  
Michael M. Melius (MMM)  
Everett Montgomery (EM)  
Jeffrey S. Palmer (JSP)  
Juanita Peterson (JP)

Richard A. Peterson (RAP)  
Ellen Rook (ER)  
B.J. Rose (BJR)  
Roger Rose (RR)  
Dennis R. Skadsen (DRS)  
Mark S. Skadsen (MSS)  
Paul F. Springer (PFS)  
Jerry C. Stanford (JCS)  
David Swanson (DS)  
Lisa Swanson (LS)  
Dan A. Tallman (DAT)  
Dave Vetch (DV)  
J. David Williams (JDW)  
Nathaniel R. Whitney (NRW)  
MyRon Zimmer (MZ)

Abbreviations used in this report: NHSP - Newton Hills State Park, Lincoln Co., PLSRA - Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area, Day Co., SLNWR - Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, UCSP - Union County State Park, Union Co., WNWR - Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Day Co.

Pied-billed Grebe - 27 July, Spink Co., adult on nest, late (JCS).  
Eared Grebe - 13 June, Fall River Co., building nest (JP, RAP). 18 June, Meade Co., Curlew Lake, 6 (NRW). 19 July, Jackson Co. (KG).  
Clark's Grebe - 31 July, Grant Co. (BKH, BJR, RR).  
American Bittern - 24, 27 July, Spink Co., adult on nest, late (JCS).  
Great Egret - 21 June, Brookings Co., 14 along Big Sioux River (JAK, RWK). 5 July, WNWR, 5 (DRS). 31 July, Deuel Co., 48 (BKH, BJR, RR).  
Snowy Egret - 12 June, Day Co., Rush Lake, 6 (DRS). 20 July, SLNWR (SLNWR).  
Cattle Egret - 2 June, Roberts Co., Peever Slough (BKH). 9 July, Day Co., 20 (JCS). 14 July, SLNWR, colony of about 26 (SLNWR). 26 July, Walworth Co. (MMM).  
Green-backed Heron - 10 June, Minnehaha Co. (JL). 25 June, PLSRA, nest building (DRS). 18 July, Lake Co. (JSP).  
White-faced Ibis - 13 June, Day Co., Hedtke's Pass (DRS et al.). 18 June, Spink Co., and 26 July, Walworth Co. (MMM). 12 July, **FALL RIVER Co.**, 5, very rare in western SD (JP, RAP). 14 July, SLNWR, probable nesting pair (SLNWR).  
Snow Goose - 17 July, Day Co., appeared healthy and able to fly (DRS).  
Wood Duck - 10 June, Jackson Co., 18 (KG).  
**AMERICAN BLACK DUCK** - 31 July, Roberts Co., Bullhead Lake (BKH, BJR, RR).  
Lesser Scaup - 14 June, Day Co., Bitter Lake, 15+ males (BKH).  
Bufflehead - 7 June, WNWR, pair, late migrants (DRS). 24 June, Edmunds Co., 2 females, 3 males (PFS).  
Hooded Merganser - 20 June, McPherson Co., 3 (PFS). 4 July, WNWR, 8 (DRS).  
Turkey Vulture - 9 June, McPherson Co. (SLNWR). 14 June, NHSP, 9 adults (MSS). 4, 18 July, UCSP, 3 (JL).  
Cooper's Hawk - 9 June, and 20 July, PLSRA (DRS). 13 June, Roberts Co., Sodak Park (BKH). 25 June, Harding Co., adult on nest (RAP).

**NORTHERN GOSHAWK** - 2 July, Pennington Co. (NRW).  
 Broad-winged Hawk - 1 June, Minnehaha Co., Sioux Falls (BKH). 14 June, Minnehaha Co., Sioux Falls (JL). 28 June, Marshall Co., Sica Hollow (JCB, DAT, DRS).  
 Ferruginous Hawk - 18 July, Lyman Co., 3 nests w/young (GM fide RAP). 9 July, Faulk Co. (JSP).  
 American Kestrel - 12 July, Minnehaha Co., 16 (JL).  
**PEREGRINE FALCON** - 19 June, McPherson Co. (PFS).  
 Prairie Falcon - 9 July, Faulk Co. (JSP).  
 Virginia Rail - 7 July, Pennington Co., responded to taped call (NRW, JCB). 11 July, SLNWR, brood of 6 (SLNWR).  
 American Coot - 25 July, Deuel Co., adult on nest (BKH). 27 July, Spink Co., adults on 2 nests (JCS). Late nesting due to poor weather?  
 Semipalmated Plover - 18 July, Marshall Co., early fall migrant (DRS).  
 Piping Plover - 7 June, Sully Co., agitated pair (JP, RAP).  
 Killdeer - 25 July, Grant Co., downy young, very late nesting (BKH).  
**BLACK-NECKED STILT** - 13 June, Day Co., Bitter Lake, 2 (EM, DF).  
 American Avocet - 21 June, Day Co., Bitter lake, agitated pairs (DRS). 28 June, Marshall Co., Stink Lake, 21 (DAT, JCB, DRS).  
 Greater Yellowlegs - 9 July, Faulk Co. (JSP). 12 July, McPherson Co., 3 (JDW). 12 July, Brown Co., 3 (DS, LS).  
 Lesser Yellowlegs - 10 July, Codington Co., Goose Lake, 200+ (BKH). 18 July, Marshall Co., Bitter Lake, 100+ (DRS).  
 Solitary Sandpiper - 14 July, McPherson Co. (JSP). 21 July, Clay Co., 2 (DS, KD). 26 July, Deuel Co., 4 (BKH).  
 Willet - 21 June, Day Co., Bitter Lake, adults with precocial young (DRS).  
 Marbled Godwit - 13 June, Day Co., Bitter Lake, 200+ (DRS). 21 June, Day Co., agitated adult (DRS).  
 Ruddy Turnstone - 6 June, Day Co., Rush Lake, very late (BKH).  
 Semipalmated Sandpiper - 21 June, McPherson Co., 2, latest ever spring (PFS).  
 Least Sandpiper - 26 July, Deuel Co., 2 (BKH).  
 White-rumped Sandpiper - 20 June, McPherson Co., 20 late spring migrants (PFS). 18 July, Marshall Co., early fall migrants (DRS).  
 Pectoral Sandpiper - 8 July, Brown Co., 2, earliest ever fall migrants (DRS).  
 Stilt Sandpiper - 10 July, Codington Co., 3 (BKH). 19 July, Jackson Co. (KG). 21 July, Clay Co., 9 (DS, KD). Early dates.  
 Long-billed Dowitcher - 21 June, McPherson Co., 2, late spring or early fall migrants? (PFS). 19 July, Jackson Co., early (KG). 20 July, SLNWR, 10 (SLNWR).  
 Wilson's Phalarope - 10 July, Codington Co., Long Lake, 150 (BKH).  
 Red-necked Phalarope - 20 June, McPherson Co., 16; and 24 June, Edmunds Co., 24, late spring or early fall migrants? (PFS). 9 July, Faulk Co., early fall migrant (JSP).  
 Franklin's Gull - 14 July, Shannon Co., road-killed immature (RAP). 19 July, Jackson Co. (KG).  
 Ring-billed Gull - 10 July, Codington Co., Grass Lake, active nesting colony (BKH). Colonies also active at Bitter Lake, Day Co. (DRS).  
 Forster's Tern - 14 June, Day Co., Bitter Lake, several pairs nesting on goose platforms (BKH).  
 Black Tern - 19 July, Jackson Co. (KG).  
 Black-billed Cuckoo - 28 June, Brown Co., 2, and 27 July, Spink Co., adult carrying food (JCS). 4 July, Lake Co. (JSP). 18 July, UCSP, nest w/egg (JL).  
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 14 June, NHSP, (MSS). 16 July, Jackson Co. (RAP). 3,4,18,31 July, UCSP (JL).  
 Eastern Screech-Owl - 31 July, Roberts Co., responded to taped call (BKH, BJR, RR).  
 Burrowing Owl - 23 June, McPherson Co. (JSP). 23 July, Spink Co. (JCS).  
 Long-eared Owl - 2 July, Custer Co., road kill (MMM).

- Short-eared Owl - 6 June, Grant Co. (BKH).  
 Whip-poor-will - 3-18 July, UCSP, singing nightly (JL).  
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird - Pair all period PLSRA, courtship display 25 June (DRS). 1 June to 15 July, Brookings Co. (JAK, RWK). 31 July, Roberts Co., Sodak Park, female responded to Screech-Owl tape (BKH, BJR, RR).  
 Lewis" Woodpecker - 29 July, Custer Co. (JSP).  
 Red-headed Woodpecker - 27 July, Spink Co., adult carrying food, and 31 July, Brown Co., adult feeding young (JCS).  
 Red-bellied Woodpecker - 11,14 June, Minnehaha Co., Sioux Falls, 2 nests w/young (JL).  
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 3,22 July, Brown Co. (JCS). 31  
 July, Roberts Co., Sodak Park, immature responded to Screech-Owl tape (BKH, BJR, RR).  
 Red-naped Sapsucker - 2 July, Pennington Co., adult feeding young in cavity nest, and 4 July, Custer Co., adult feeding young in cavity nest (NRW). 27 July, Custer Co. (JSP).  
 Olive-sided Flycatcher - 10 June, Minnehaha Co., very late migrant (JL, DV)  
 Western Wood-Pewee - 17,18 June, Pennington Co., singing (NRW). 27 July, Custer Co. (JSP).  
 Eastern Wood-Pewee - 13 June, Roberts Co., Sodak Park, building nest (BKH). 16 July, **JACKSON CO.**, male singing (RAP).  
 Alder Flycatcher - 1 June, Minnehaha Co., 2 males singing, and 9 June, Deuel Co., singing male (BKH).  
 Willow Flycatcher - 9 June, Jackson Co., banded 2 (KG). 24 June, McPherson Co. (JSP). 31 July, Grant Co. (BKH, BJR, RR).  
 Least Flycatcher - 6 June and 24 July, Brown Co. (JCS). 20 July, Jackson Co., banded (KG).  
 Dusky Flycatcher - 29 July, Custer Co. (JSP).  
 Cordilleran Flycatcher - 4 July, Custer Co., pair at nest (NRW). 28 July, Fall River Co. (JSP).  
 Eastern Phoebe - 10 June, Clay Co. (KD). 13 June, Roberts Co., Sodak Park, nest building, young in nest 4 July (BKH). 20 June, PLSRA, adult carrying food (DRS).  
 Say's Phoebe - 19 June, McPherson Co., pair and nest with young (PFS). 4 July, **EDMUNDS CO.**, pair feeding fledged young, rare in eastern SD (JDW).  
 Western Kingbird - 4 June, Brown Co., adult carrying food, and 27 July, Spink Co., adult feeding young (JCS).  
 Eastern Kingbird - 6 June, Brown Co., adult carrying food, and 27 July, Spink Co., adult feeding young (JCS). 30 June, Brule Co., adult on nest, and 25 July, Custer Co., adult carrying food (NRW).  
 ● Black-billed Magpie - 20 June, McPherson Co., pair (JDW).  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch - 29 July, Edmunds Co., earliest ever fall migrant (MZ).  
 Brown Creeper - 27 July, Custer Co. (JSP).  
 Canyon Wren - 28 July, Fall River Co. (JSP).  
 Sedge Wren - 31 July, Codington and Roberts counties (BKH, BJR, RR).  
 Golden-crowned Kinglet - 27 July, Custer Co. (JSP).  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 14,20 June, NHSP, adults feeding young in nest (MSS). 21 June, Minnehaha Co., Sioux Falls, pair feeding two recently fledged young (AH).  
 Eastern Bluebird - Reported from Brown (JCS), Day - 36 young fledged from nest box trail (DRS), Lake (JSP), Lincoln - 3 adults at next boxes (MSS), and Marshall-56 young fledged from 19 nest boxes (CC),  
 Veery - 28 June, Marshall Co., Sica Hollow, adult carrying food (JCB, DAT).  
 Swainson's Thrush - 7 June, Brown Co., late (JCS). 8 June, Deuel Co., late (BKH). 14 July, Jackson Co., banded 1, earliest ever fall migrant (KG).  
 Wood Thrush - 1 June, Minnehaha Co., Sioux Falls, pair at nest (BKH). 20 June, NHSP, adult feeding recently fledged young (MSS).

Sage Thrasher - 26 June, Harding Co., pair (RAP).  
 Cedar Waxwing - 5 July, Minnehaha Co., Sioux Falls, pair copulating (JL). 20 July, PLSRA, nest with young (DRS).  
 Loggerhead Shrike - 2 June, Grant Co.; 3 July, Brookings and Grant counties; 10 July, Codington Co. (BKH). 20 June, McPherson Co., pair feeding fledged young (JDW). 21 June, Day Co. (DRS). 5 July, Union Co. (JL). 9 July, Faulk Co. (JSP). 31 July, Grant Co. (BKH, BJR, RR).  
 Red-eyed Vireo - 28 July, Lawrence Co., adult feeding fledged young (NRW).  
 Yellow-throated Vireo - 14 June, NHSP, pair at nest and second pair building nest (MSS). 14, 21 July, Clay Co., mist netted and banded females with brood patches (DS, KD).  
 Tennessee Warbler - 6 June, Brown Co. (JCS). 7 June, Edmunds Co., 2 (JDW). 15 June, Minnehaha Co., male singing (MSS). Late migrants.  
 Yellow Warbler - 7 June, Brown Co., nest w/5 eggs (JCS).  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler - 3 June, Roberts Co., late male singing (BKH).  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler - 6 July, Pennington Co., Audubon's form, adult feeding fledged young (NRW).  
 Cerulean Warbler - 14 June, NHSP, male singing (MSS).  
 Black-and-white Warbler - 16 July, Jackson Co. (RAP).  
 American Redstart - 8 June, Deuel Co., male singing (BKH). Nested during period NHSP (MSS). Numerous males, females, and juveniles captured and banded in riparian habitat throughout Clay and Union counties (DS, KD).  
 Ovenbird - 14 June, NHSP, singing (MSS). 8,14,20 July, Jackson Co., banded (KG). 18 July, Union Co., female with brood patch banded (DS, KD).  
**KENTUCKY WARBLER** - 1 June, Minnehaha Co., Sioux Falls, singing male (BKH). 1 - 14 June, Minnehaha Co. (AH).  
 MacGillivray's Warbler - 29 July, Custer Co. (JSP).  
 Yellow-breasted Chat - 15 July, Lawrence Co., agitated adult (NRW).  
 Scarlet Tanager - 26 June, HARDING Co., South Cave Hills, chasing Western Tanager (RAP). 28 June, Marshall Co., Sica Hollow, adult carrying food (DAT, JCB, DRS). 14 July, Clay Co., female with brood patch banded (DS, KD).  
 Western Tanager - 26 June, Harding Co. (RAP). 23 July, Meade Co., pair w/immature (NRW).  
 Northern Cardinal - 2 June to 14 July, Edmunds Co., male (JDW). 2 June, Deuel Co., male (BKH fide ER). 3 July, Gregory Co. (JP, RAP).  
 Blue Grosbeak - 3,18,31 July, UCSP, pair on 7/3 (JL).  
 Indigo Bunting - 28 June, Marshall Co., Sica Hollow, adult with recently fledged young (DAT, JCB, DRS). 3-18 July, UCSP, nesting, eggs observed from 7/3-5, 3 young in nest on 7/18 (JL). 23 July, Meade Co., adult carrying food (NRW).  
 Brewer's Sparrow - 24 June, Custer Co., male singing (MMM).  
 Field Sparrow - 18 July, UCSP, nest with 1 egg (JL).  
 Lark Sparrow - 3 July, Brown Co., 4 (JCS). 4,18 July, UCSP, 2 pair, one pair observed copulating, adult carrying food on the 18th (JL). 15 July, Lawrence Co., adult carrying food (NRW).  
 Lark Bunting - 18 June, Meade Co., adult carrying food (NRW).  
 Savannah Sparrow - 13 June, Day Co. (DRS). 4 July, Lake Co. (JSP).  
 Baird's Sparrow - 5 June, Faulk Co., and 8 June, McPherson Co., males singing (JP, RAP). 24 June, McPherson Co. (JSP). 12 July, McPherson Co., photographed (JDW).  
 Le Conte's Sparrow - 31 July, Grant Co., immature (BKH, BJR, RR).  
 Swamp Sparrow - 20 June, McPherson Co. (JDW). 4 July, Lake Co. (JSP).  
**WHITE-THROATED SPARROW** - 31 July, Codington Co., male, first ever summer observation reported (BKH, BJR, RR).  
 White-crowned Sparrow - 6 June, Custer Co., very late migrant (MMM).  
 Bobolink - 28 June, Marshall Co., Sica Hollow, female carrying food (DAT, JCB, DRS).  
 Western Meadowlark - 21 June, Day Co., adults carrying food (DRS).

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Brewer's Blackbird - 31 July, Roberts Co. (BKH, BJR, RR).  
Orchard Oriole - 4 June, Brown Co., nest building, and 27 July, Brown Co., adult feeding young (JCS).  
Northern Oriole - 4 June, Brown Co., nest building (JCS).  
House Finch - 7 June, Brookings Co., 5 young fledged from nest (JAK, RWK).  
Red Crossbill - 27 July, Custer Co. (JSP).  
Pine Siskin - 1, 14, 27, June, Brown Co., 2 (JCS).

These reports should not be used in further reports or citations until accepted and published by the Rare Bird Records Committee.

Three-toed Woodpecker - 2 July, Brown Co. (JCS).  
Sharp-tailed Sparrow - 19 June, McPherson Co., north Leola, 5; 20 June, McPherson Co., near Long Lake, 1; and 24 June, Edmunds Co., 4 including pair copulating (PFS). 21 June, Walworth Co., photographed (JDW).  
Eastern Meadowlark - 3, 4, 18 July, UCSP, identified by field observations and song (JL).  
Lesser Goldfinch - 28 July, Fall River Co. (JSP).