
SOUTH DAKOTA
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



SOUTH
BIRD



DAKOTA
NOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES, the official publication of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union (organized 1949), is sent to all members whose dues are paid for the current year. Life members \$150.00; Family life members (husband and wife) with 1 subscription to *Bird Notes* \$200; sustaining members \$15.00, regular members \$9.00; family members (husband and wife) with 1 subscription \$12.00; juniors (10-16) \$4.50; libraries (subscription) \$9.00. Single and back copies: Members \$2.50, Nonmembers \$3.00. All dues payments, change-of-address notices, and orders for back copies should be sent to the Treasurer, Nelda Holden, 1620 Elmwood Drive, Brookings, SD 57006. Manuscripts for publication should be sent to Editor Dan Tallman, NSU Box 740, Aberdeen SD, 57401.

VOL. 45	SEPTEMBER 1993	NO. 3
<i>IN THIS ISSUE</i>		
SORA by Everett Montgomery		Cover
PRESIDENT'S PAGE		43
IN MEMORIAM —KENNETH KRUMM		44
GENERAL NOTES — Cautionary Comments; Correction To 1992-93 Christmas Counts; Summer Records Of Tennessee Warblers In Aberdeen		45
BOOK REVIEWS.....		47
SEASONAL REPORTS.....		49

SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

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Associate Editor: Erika Tallman



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

During the Spring SDOU meeting in Faulkton, several members of the Board of Directors expressed interest in establishing special field trips for beginning birders, school groups, and special interest groups, such as Boy Scouts. These special field trips would be conducted during SDOU's regular Spring and Fall meetings, and led by experienced SDOU members interested in sharing their birding skills.

Some of the proposals include:

**** Field trips for beginning birdwatchers.** Along with the regular Spring SDOU field trips, beginning birders (of all ages) could sign up for field trips specifically designed for them. These trips would be led at a slow pace, concentrating on identification, field guides, and binoculars.

**** Bird banding demonstrations.** SDOU members who band could provide demonstrations to school and special interest groups. This activity would be scheduled for Friday mornings and afternoons before both Spring and Fall meetings.

**** Special seminars on bird identification, bird feeding, etc.** These seminars could be offered during the Fall SDOU meeting.

**** SDOU members presenting programs at local schools during Spring and Fall meetings.** SDOU members could present programs on special topics, such as bluebird trails, attracting birds, colonial nesting birds, etc.

What benefits would SDOU gain from these programs?

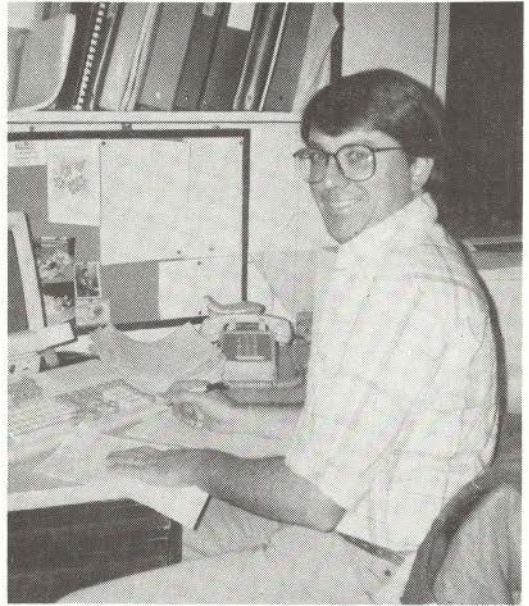
**** New members, especially in the junior category.**

**** Increased exposure to the general public through press releases announcing these special field trips and events.**

**** Increased exposure to youngsters through SDOU activities at schools located in towns and cities hosting SDOU meetings**

During all these activities, participants would be invited to attend the banquet and evening programs. We discussed waiving the registration fee for persons attending these special events.

If you are interested in being placed on a presenter's list, please forward your name, address, and topic. For these events, we will need equipment, such as extra binoculars and spotting scopes in good



working condition and old editions of Peterson or other field guides. Also needed are several copies of Peterson's *First Guide to Birds* to use with younger birders. Please send your comments and further ideas to Dennis Skadsen, RR Box 113, Grenville, SD 57239.

IN MEMORIAM
KENNETH K. KRUMM
1911 - 1993

Kenneth K. Krumm, a Charter Member and the fourth president of South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, died 2 April 1993, at Winona, Minnesota, at the age of 81. Ken was born at Cresco, Iowa, on 25 October 1911, and grew up near Decorah, Iowa. He graduated from Luther College in 1934, and took one year of post-graduate work at Iowa State University in Ames.

In 1935, he took a position as a biologist with the U.S. Biological Survey (now U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service), thus beginning his lifetime professional career. His first assignment was at the Civilian Conservation Corps camp at Thief River Falls, Minnesota, where he stayed for three years. In 1938, he was appointed as the first manager of Swan Lake NWR at Sumner, Missouri, and worked there until he entered the U.S. Army in October 1942.

After three years in the Army, he returned to Swan Lake Refuge for a few months, and then was transferred to Lacreek NWR in Bennett Co., South Dakota, where he remained for twelve years. While here, his responsibilities included Belle Fourche and Bear Butte Refuges, as well as Lacreek. In 1958, he was transferred to Squaw Creek Refuge at Mound City, Missouri, and then, in 1962, to the Upper Mississippi NWR at Winona. For health reasons, he retired in 1971.

When the SDOU adopted the Board of Directors form of organization in 1950, Ken was one of the first fifteen directors elected. At the annual meeting in May 1952, he was elected as President, an office that he held for one year. He continued as an active Director until he was reassigned out of state in 1958. With his family and staff, he hosted a memorable SDOU meeting in May 1957, at Lacreek Refuge, and was a frequent host and birding companion to all SDOU members who visited Lacreek while he was there.

During his years in South Dakota, he was a frequent contributor to *South Dakota Bird Notes*. Besides his four President's Pages, his articles and notes were these:

1949. White Pelicans nesting at Lacreek Refuge. Vol. 1, p. 13. American Egret at Lacreek. Vol. 1, p. 14. West River Federal Refuges. Vol. 1, pp. 32 - 33. West River Notes. Vol. 1, p. 54. **1950.** West River Notes. Vol. 2, p. 59. **1951.** Winter Notes from Southwestern S. D. Vol. 3, pp. 11 - 12. Destruction of birdlife by hailstorm. Vol. 3, p. 60. **1952.** Lacreek Refuge Notes. Vol. 4, p. 14. White Pelicans at Lacreek Refuge. Vol. 4, pp.

28 - 29. 1953. Eastern Meadowlark in South Dakota. Vol. 5, pp. 7, 16. Notes from Lacreek Refuge. Vol. 5, p. 40. Golden Eagle decimates Prairie Dog town. Vol. 5, p. 48. 1954. Delta Redhead Ducks released at Lacreek. Vol. 6, p. 49. Eastern Meadowlark song recorded. Vol. 6, p. 50. 1955. Notes from Lacreek Refuge. Vol. 7, p. 15. Brown Pelican at Lacreek Refuge. Vol. 7, p. 27. Cardinal at Lacreek Refuge. Vol. 7, pp. 29 - 30. Further notes on Redhead Ducks at Lacreek. Vol. 7, p. 46. Least Bittern at Lacreek. Vol. 7, p. 47. Cinnamon Teal at Lacreek. Vol. 7, p. 47. 1956. Scarlet Tanager at Lacreek. Vol. 8, p. 48. Phoebe at Lacreek. Vol. 8, p. 65. 1957. Killdeer nesting on roadway. Vol. 9, p. 28.

Banding studies were among his duties as biologist and refuge manager. His reports, in addition to the specific notes listed above, included his banding White Pelicans (With the Bird Banders, vol. 6, p. 44) and Redheads (vol. 9, p. 4). Observations and comments that he included in personal letters to the editors of *Bird Notes* are also mentioned in their respective informal columns.

He married Emily A. Benson at Bucklin, Missouri, on 12 April 1941. They have one daughter, Mary Ann (Sherby), East Lansing, Michigan; three sons, Donald, Santa Rosa, California; James, Fountain City, Wisconsin; and Allen, Hatfield, Pennsylvania, and six grandchildren. Emily Krumm's address is 511 Laird St., Winona, MN 55987.

During Ken's tenure at Lacreek, he and Emily became close friends of ours, and we enjoyed frequent visits with each other in Rapid City as well as at Lacreek, which Ken once referred to as the "Garden spot of South Dakota." In 1959, we enjoyed a visit with them at Squaw Creek, and subsequently we have enjoyed seeing them whenever they were able to attend SDOU meetings. Although Ken's health prevented him from attending many meetings within the past few years, he enjoyed them when he could attend, and especially was happy to participate in the deliberations of the Board of Directors in his capacity as a Past-president. With his passing, we have lost a careful scientist and a good friend. Nathaniel R. Whitney, 633 Berry Pine Road, Rapid City, SD 57702.



GENERAL NOTES

CAUTIONARY COMMENTS. I'd like to add to the cautionary comments Robert Buckman made in his *Breeding Birds in Upland and Lowland Deciduous Forests/Woodlands* in the September 1991 *Bird Notes*.

The data showed that there were 1092 records of bird species breeding in woodlands/forests (after deleting all species with fewer than five records). Further analysis showed that 545 records came from a category considered largely to represent disturbed rural shelterbelts, while 357 records came from categories considered largely to represent undisturbed riparian woods.

In my opinion, very little can be made from these data. Without knowing how much observer effort was required to secure these records,

how much of the land area of South Dakota is in each habitat category, and how much of each habitat observers sampled, one cannot tell whether these records and habitats are important or insignificant.

For example, if a single observer discovered 1092 records in one morning's work in a 25 acre woodland, and if woodlands constituted 25% of the area of South Dakota, one could probably conclude that woodlands produce an important number of birds in the state. On the other hand, if 100 observers, working full time for a month over 50,000 acres, found only 1092 records (indicating woodlands produce relatively few birds per acre), and if, in addition, woodlands comprised, say, 3% of the area of South Dakota, then one could probably conclude that woodlands were a relatively unimportant producer of wild birds in the state.

My point is that 1092 and the other data are simply numbers, whose significance cannot be judged, except against an appropriate scale. Since, in this case, no scale is presented, there is no way to assess the importance of the numbers.

The only external criterion available by which the data might be judged is the datum that the number of records for all habitat categories is 10,230, indicating that woodlands contributed about 11% of the total number of records. Individuals may or may not consider this level to be important, depending on their subjective outlook. Again, woodlands might have received 75% of the total observer effort, or 3%. Without knowing the actual effort, no realistic judgment can be made.

I would like to comment upon the habitat descriptions. In Southeastern South Dakota, woodlands are typically narrow strips of trees, often dominated by cottonwoods. Such a strip, running as a shelterbelt between a county road and a farm field, is considered to be a relatively disturbed upland woods. Another such strip, running between a creek and a farm field, and very likely almost at the same elevation as the first example, is considered to be a relatively undisturbed lowland woods. The key to whether these similar woods are classified as "disturbed" or "undisturbed" is in whether they sprang from human planting or from natural propagation. The key to "upland" versus "lowland" seems to be merely that of riparian versus nonriparian. I find this method of habitat description to be arbitrary and useless. I do not believe that the data either support or contradict the conclusion that "undisturbed lowland woodlands" and "important." *Steve Van Sickle, 305 East 16th Street, Yankton, SD 57078*

CORRECTION TO 1992-93 CHRISTMAS COUNTS. The 26 Gray Jays indicated for Waubay should be 26 Blue Jays. Thanks to Paul Springer for discovering this error. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401.*

SUMMER RECORDS OF TENNESSEE WARBLERS IN ABERDEEN. During the 1993 summer, I banded and photographed three Tennessee Warblers. On 16 July 1993 I caught an adult female Tennessee Warbler along a Lilac hedge in my back yard in Aberdeen, South Dakota. The bird had a well-developed brood patch, moderate levels of fat, and an ossified skull. On 31 July 1993 I netted an adult male Tennessee Warbler in almost the same location as I had caught the female. This bird, with an ossified skull, was in bright male plumage, but did not show an enlarged

cloacal protuberance or a brood patch. Finally, on 11 August 1993, I trapped a third adult Tennessee Warbler. This bird also had an ossified skull and bright plumage, but was in heavy molt. The bird's cloacal protuberance seemed to be slightly enlarged.

What were these birds doing in Aberdeen? Were they breeding? Early migrants? Nonbreeding summering birds? All were adults and the female appeared recently to have completed breeding. This warbler usually finishes its post breeding molt on the breeding grounds (Pyle et al., *Identification Guide to North American Passerines*. 1987. Slate Creek Press). However, no Tennessee Warbler songs were ever noted during the summer. Breeding habitat, bogs with abundant sphagnum, is missing from the Aberdeen area. But the bird is also known to breed in "deciduous forests, forest clearings, and brushy hillsides" (Johnsgard, *Birds of the Great Plains*, 1979, University of Nebraska Press). Johnsgard writes that nests are usually placed on the ground under shrubs or saplings. Urban yards would not seem to offer nesting locations. However, this spring the estate that borders our backyard embarked on a "beautification" scheme that entailed the cutting down many of their small trees. The result has been a summer tangle of undergrowth that could have hidden a warbler nest.

At the publication of *The Birds of South Dakota* (SDOU 1991), only one summer record of the Tennessee Warbler was listed for the state: a bird seen by Bruce Harris on 19 July 1967 at Buffalo Lake. Since then, the species has been recorded in Day County, at the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, on 12 June 1990 (refuge personnel in Seasons 1990d) and banded by Dennis Skadsen at Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area (Skadsen, pers. comm.). His records include an adult of unknown (but probably male) sex banded on 13 August 1989, two adults of unknown sex banded on 21 July 1990, and an adult male ringed on 4 July 1991.

The Tennessee Warbler should probably be regarded as a Hypothetical Breeder in Northeastern South Dakota. This is the bird's status in North Dakota, were there exist about a half dozen records, including singing males at Fargo in at least four years (Stewart, *Breeding Birds of North Dakota*, 1975, Tri-college Center for Environmental Studies). Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401.



BOOK REVIEWS

MANUAL OF ORNITHOLOGY AVIAN STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION. —Nobel S. Procter and Patrick J. Lynch. 1993. New Haven: Yale University Press. 340 pp. cloth.

This college text can be used by anyone wishing a formal education in ornithology. As the title suggests, the book's main emphasis is avian anatomy.

At least nine of the 12 chapters have a heavy anatomical emphasis (topography, feathers, skeleton, musculature, digestive system, circulatory system, urogenital and endocrine systems, and nervous system). These chapters, which include large, clearly drawn and labeled illustra-

tions, are meant to be studied with a dead pigeon by the student's side. The first chapter is an introduction, including anatomical terminology. All the chapters include references.

The second chapter covers systematics. Included here are clear descriptions of both morphological and biochemical systematic schemes and how they compare. Also discussed are convergence, divergence, hybridization and geographical variation, competition and speciation. The chapter ends with suggestions for field studies on behavior and censuses.

The last chapter covers field techniques, including the preparation of museum study skins. Also here are discussions of migration, binoculars and cameras, field notes, and banding. An appendix gives a DNA-based classification of birds of the world.

As far as it goes, this book is excellent. However, a perfect ornithology text would include everything in this text plus an equal number of pages devoted to avian ecology and behavior. People enter ornithology by different avenues — one of these is avian anatomy. I do not emphasize anatomy in my ornithology course. I concentrate on field identification. Others concentrate on behavior or ecology, with little emphasis on either identification or anatomy. A perfect textbook would dwell on as many of these avenues as possible, thus appealing to the widest possible audience. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401.*

GREAT BIRD ILLUSTRATIONS POSTCARDS IN FULL COLOR. — The Natural History Museum of Natural History. 1993. New York: Dover Publications, Inc. Softbound: \$3.95.

TREASURY OF AUDUBON BIRDS. — John James Audubon. 1993. New York: Dover Publications, Inc. Softbound: \$15.95

These two books will make good Christmas stocking-stuffers for your birding friends. The postcard book contains 24 glossy, color, tear away cards. The paintings are mostly from the 19th century and primarily depict exotic birds, like birds-of-paradise and toucans. Artists include Audubon and Gould. These cards offer a unique way to send a special note. At 3.95, the cards cost about 17 cents each.

Almost every birder is familiar with the paintings from Audubon's *The Birds of America*. The 224 plates reproduced here are presented two to a page. The book is about 12 inches by 9 inches, which results, compared to the originals, in a rather diminished size for the pictures. Nevertheless, the book is fun to peruse, especially if you enjoy Audubon's stylistic work. At 15.95, the price is low for a book of color illustrations. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401.*

The color cover this month was donated by Everett Montgomery. This opportunity to display your outstanding photographs is open to all. For details, contact Dan Tallman, NSU Box 740.



SEASONAL REPORTS

The 1993 Spring Season

Compiled by
Dennis Skadsen
RR Box 113, Grenville, SD

From notes provided by this spring's observers, migration was either early or late, depending on your location. Early dates came from both southern and northern counties of the state. Generally, early spring March migrants were thought to be late, although many of the insectivores (flycatchers, swallows, vireos, and warblers) were early.

This spring's warbler migration was the best observed in several years. Many rarities were reported (note the number of Golden-winged Warbler sightings). During 4 May, a large fallout of warblers occurred at Pickerel Lake. Fourteen species were observed in just a few hours. Other trends noted include an increase of Cinnamon Teal records from Eastern South Dakota, and a decrease in sightings of American Woodcock and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. Shorebirds apparently shifted their migration west of the James River Valley. Very few shorebirds were observed in the northeast corner of the state. Wet conditions left little shoreline for these birds and the late snow cover and cool temperatures may have hampered invertebrate hatches in flooded fields.

Weather varied from region to region. Total snow cover was typical of Northeastern South Dakota until the last week of March. Other people reported below normal temperature and above normal precipitation. The Black Hills experienced 80 degree weather in the last week of March and freezing temperatures in the last week of April.

Observers cited:

MB - Mayline Biltoft	EL - Eric Likness
DB - Dan Brady	JL - Jon Little
N&RB - Nancy & Robert Buckman	MMM - Michael M. Melius
BC - Bob Chabane	MM - Mike Mueller
JC - Jon Clem	NHBC - Northern Hills Bird Club
KD - Kurt Dean	JSP - Jeffrey S. Palmer
MD - Mike Dutenhofer	MJP - Marge J. Parker
KG - Ken Graupmann	RAP - Richard Peterson
BKH - Bruce K. Harris	NP - Nathan Pieplow
AH - Augie Hoeger	BP - B. Porter
MH - Maggie Hachmeister	DGP - D. George Prisbe
JAK - Jan A. Kieckhefer	DRS - Dennis R. Skadsen
JRK - Jon R. Kieckhefer	MSS - Mark S. Skadsen
KJK - Karla J. Kieckhefer	PFS - Paul F. Springer
RWK - Robert Kieckhefer	JCS - Jerry C. Stanford
PK - Patsy Kringil	DS - Dave Swanson

LS - Lisa Swanson
DAT - Dan A. Tallman
WNWR - Waubay National Wildlife
Refuge
DCW - Duane C. Weber
NRW - Nathaniel Whitney
JDW - J. David Williams

KKW - Kristeen Williams
JVD - John Van Dyk
RVS - Rose Van Sickle
SVS - Steve Van Sickle
MZ - MyRon Zimmer
SDOU - South Dakota Ornitholo-
gists' Union

Abbreviations used:

HBSP - Hartford Beach State Park, Roberts Co.; NHSP - Newton Hills State Park, Lincoln Co.; PLSRA - Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area, Day Co.; SLNWR - Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Brown Co.; WNWR - Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Day Co.

Common Loon - Reported from Custer (DCW), Day (DGP) (WNWR), Deuel (BKH), Hughes (JCS), Kingsbury (JSP), Minnehaha (JL), Roberts (BKH), and Yankton (SVS) counties.

Horned Grebe - 25 March, Hughes Co., **ties earliest ever** (RAP). 3,29 April, Yankton Co. (SVS). 17 April, Roberts Co. (BKH). 18 April, Bennett Co. (JSP). 2 May, McPherson Co. (JDW). 11 May, Meade Co. (NHBC).

Red-necked Grebe - 17 April, WNWR (WNWR). 18 April, Deuel Co. (BKH).

Clark's Grebe - 16 May, Brown Co. (JSP).

Double-crested Cormorant - 28 March, Day Co., very early (WNWR).

Least Bittern - 27 May, Grant Co. (PFS). Only report!

Great Egret - 11 April, Deuel Co., early (BKH). Reported from Kingsbury (JSP), Minnehaha (JL), Roberts (BKH), and Yankton (SVS) counties.

Snowy Egret - Reports only from Day (BKH), and Kingsbury (JSP) counties.

Cattle Egret - Reported from Brown (JCS), Day (BKH), and Kingsbury (JSP) counties.

White-faced Ibis - 13 May, SLNWR (DAT, DGP).

Greater White-fronted Goose - 12 May, Ziebach Co., 6, late (RAP).

Snow Goose - 18 May, Marshall Co., late (RAP). 19 May, Day Co., late (DRS). 24 May, Clay Co., late (DB).

Ross' Goose - 20 March, Kingsbury Co. (JSP). 1 April, SLNWR 6 (DAT). 5 April, Clark Co., 4 (BKH).

Mallard - 24 April, Edmunds Co., nest w/10 eggs, very early nest (JDW, KKW).

Cinnamon Teal - 26 April, Pennington Co., pair (NRW). 15 May, Meade Co., pair (NHBC). 13 May, Union Co. (DS, KD, EL). 15 May, Union Co. (SVS). 16 May, Marshall Co. (JSP). 22 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU).

American Wigeon - 8 April, Meade Co., 100-200 (NRW).

Greater Scaup - 18 March, Roberts Co., two pair, and 20 April, Roberts Co., 2 (BKH).

Hooded Merganser - 3 April, McCook Co., 15 (JL). 11 April, WNWR, 6 (WNWR). 13 April, Deuel Co., 5 (BKH). Also reported from Brown (JCS), Lake (JSP), Roberts (BKH), and Yankton (SVS) (BKH) counties.

Red-breasted Merganser - 14 March, Yankton Co., 6; 27 March, 14 April, Deuel Co. (BKH). 3,22 April, Kingsbury Co. (JSP). 1 April, Yankton Co., 125 (SVS).

Turkey Vulture - East river reports from Brookings (RWK, JAK) (BKH), Brown-4 (DAT), Clay (DB) (KD, EL), Day (DRS) (WNWR), Deuel (BKH), Edmunds (MZ), Lincoln (BKH), Minnehaha (JL) (AH), and Yankton (SVS)

Osprey - 26 March, Clay Co., early pair (DB). 11 April, Brookings Co. (MD). 20,25 April, Yankton Co. (SVS). 24 April, McPherson Co. and 16 May, Lake Co. (JSP). 25 April, Custer Co. (DCW). 9 May, Edmunds Co. (MZ). 16 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW, KKW). 22,23 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU).

- Bald Eagle - Reported from Brookings (JRK, JAK, KJK), Custer (MJP), Day (WNWR), Deuel (BKH), Edmunds 27 observed feeding on winter killed fish (JDW), Hughes (JCS), Kingsbury (JSP), Minnehaha 5+ (JL), and Yankton (SVS) counties.
- Northern Harrier - 1 May, Brown Co., earliest ever adult on nest (JCS).
- Sharp-shinned Hawk - Reported from Brookings (RWK), Custer (MJP), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Dewey (RAP), Faulk (MMM), McPherson (JSP), Moody (BKH), Roberts (BKH), and Yankton (SVS) counties.
- Cooper's Hawk - 23 May, Kingsbury Co., adult on nest (JL, MSS). Reported from Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Edmunds (MZ), Grant & Marshall (PFS), and Roberts (BKH) counties.
- Northern Goshawk - 6 March, PLSRA (DRS). 26 April, Pennington Co. (RAP). 10 May, Custer Co. (DCW).
- Broad-winged Hawk - 22 April, Day Co. (DRS). 24,25 April, Minnehaha Co., 2 (JL). 1 May, Minnehaha Co. (NP). 31 May, Marshall Co., Roy Lake (PFS).
- Swainson's Hawk - 19 March, Day Co., **earliest ever** (WNWR). 27 March, Clay Co., very early (DB). 23 May, Meade Co., nesting (NHBC).
- Red-tailed Hawk - 19 March, Brown Co., adult on nest, early (JCS). 28 March, Minnehaha Co., pair building nest (JL). 17 April, Pennington Co., adult on nest (NRW).
- Ferruginous Hawk - Reported from Custer (MMM), Faulk (SDOU), McPherson (JSP) (BKH), Meade-nesting (NHBC), and Roberts (BKH) counties.
- Rough-legged Hawk - Reported from Bennett (JSP), Brown (JCS), Day (WNWR), Hutchinson (PFS), Hyde & Jackson (BKH), Meade (NHBC), and Minnehaha (JL) counties.
- Golden Eagle - East river reports from Brown (JCS), Day (WNWR), also reported nesting Meade (NHBC), and Pennington (MMM) counties.
- American Kestrel - 12 April, Pennington Co., 25 in migration (NRW).
- Merlin - Reported from Custer (DCW), Deuel (BKH), and Pennington (MMM) (NRW), Turner (JL), and Union (JVD) counties.
- Peregrine Falcon - 3 March, Charles Mix Co. (SVS). 3,8 May, Pennington Co. (MMM). 6 May, Clay Co. (DS, KD, EL, KL). 11 May, NHSP; 20 May, Day Co. (BKH). 15 May, Clay Co. (SVS).
- Prairie Falcon - 11 March, Jackson Co., breeding (RAP). Also reported from Faulk (MMM), Hyde & Jackson (BKH), and Pennington (JSP) counties.
- Sage Grouse - 4 May, Fall River Co., 3 on lek (SVS).
- Sharp-tailed Grouse - 14 March, WNWR, 7 (WNWR).
- Virginia Rail - 9 May, Lake Co. (JSP). 22 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU).
- Sora - 8 May, Minnehaha Co., 11 in small area (AH). 24 April, Minnehaha Co., 5, very early (JL). 30 May, Day Co., adult on nest (JCS).
- Black-bellied Plover - Only reports from Faulk (MMM) (SDOU), and Kingsbury (JSP) counties.
- Lesser Golden-Plover - Reported from Brown (JSP), Clay (DB), Faulk 60 (MMM), Kingsbury (JSP), Roberts (DAT, DGP), and Sully (PK et al.) counties.
- Semipalmated Plover - Only report from Custer Co. (MMM).
- Killdeer - 16 May, Edmunds Co., adults with 1 young, earliest ever nest attempt (JDW, KKW).
- American Avocet - 17 April, Brown Co., 20 (JCS).
- Solitary Sandpiper - 18 April, Brown Co., 2, early (JCS). Also reported from Clay (DS, EL), and Deuel (BKH) counties.
- Upland Sandpiper - 27 March, Clay Co., **earliest ever** (DB).
- Long-billed Curlew - 2 April, Custer Co., early (MMM). 29 May, Custer Co., 8 adults w/3 downy young (NRW).

- Hudsonian Godwit - 17 April, Roberts Co., 11 (BKH). 16 May, Turner Co., 20+ (JL). Also reported from Clark & McPherson (JSP), Roberts (DAT, DGP) (BKH), and Spink (JCS) counties.
- Marbled Godwit - 9 April, Kingsbury Co., very early (JSP). 16 May, Turner Co., 20+ (JL).
- Ruddy Turnstone - Only reports from Day (BKH), Faulk (SDOU), and Kingsbury (JSP) counties.
- Sanderling - Reported from Day, Deuel, & Hamlin (BKH), Faulk (SDOU), and Kingsbury (JSP) counties.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper - Reported from Clark (JSP), Clay (DS, KD), Deuel (BKH), Faulk (SDOU), Kingsbury (JSP), and Spink (BKH) counties.
- Least Sandpiper - Only reports from Brown (JSP), Deuel (BKH), and Faulk (SDOU) counties.
- Baird's Sandpiper - 27 March, Kingsbury Co., early (JSP). Also reported from Clay (DS, KD, EL), and Faulk (SDOU) counties.
- Pectoral Sandpiper - Reported from Clay (KS, KD, EL), Deuel (BKH), Faulk (SDOU), and McPherson (JSP) counties.
- Dunlin - 14 May, Day Co., 100+ (BKH). Also reported from Clark (JSP), Deuel & Hamlin (BKH), Kingsbury (JSP), Spink & Roberts (BKH) counties.
- Stilt Sandpiper - 17 May, Hughes Co., +/-1000 (RAP). Also reported from Clark (JSP), Faulk (SDOU), and McPherson (BKH) counties.
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper - 15 May, Brown Co., 4 (JSP).
- Short-billed Dowitcher - 25 April, Spink Co., 2, ties earliest ever (JCS). 1 May, Turner Co., 6 (JL). 19 May, Deuel Co., 5 (BKH). 22 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU).
- Long-billed Dowitcher - 16 May, Haakon Co., +/-150 (RAP). Also reported from Clay (DS, EL), Day & Deuel (BKH), Faulk (SDOU), and McPherson (JSP) counties.
- American Woodcock - 27 March, Yankton Co. (SVS). 5 May, HBSP, and 11 May, NHSP, 10 (BKH). Only reports!
- Common Snipe - 27 May, Grant Co., adult feigning injury (PFS).
- Red-necked Phalarope - Reported from Edmunds (JDW), Faulk (SDOU), McPherson (BKH), and Spink (BKH) counties.
- Bonaparte's Gull - 1 April, Brookings Co., early (BKH). 3 April, Lake Co., early (JSP). 26 April, Pennington Co., 2 (NRW).
- California Gull - 20 May, Day Co., 25+ (BKH).
- Glaucous Gull - 3 March, Hughes Co., 2 (BKH). 8 March, Hughes Co. (JSP).
- Caspian Tern - 6 May, Clay Co., 3 (DS, MD).
- Black Tern - 1 May, Marshall Co., nesting (PFS).
- Black-billed Cuckoo - Only reports from Edmunds (MZ), and Faulk (SDOU) counties.
- Eastern Screech Owl - Only reports from Brookings (RWK), and Roberts (BKH) counties.
- Great Horned Owl - 6 March, Brown Co., 6 occupied nests (JCS).
- Snowy Owl - 6 April, Day Co. (WNWR).
- Northern Saw-whet Owl - 22 March, Pennington Co. (MMM). 4 May, Custer Co., nesting (MM fide DCW). 23 May, Pennington Co., calling (MB fide NRW).
- Common Poorwill - 8 May, Edmunds Co. (MZ fide JDW).
- Whip-poor-will - 3 May, Clay Co., several (DS). 5 May, HBSP, singing; 11 May, NHSP, 7 singing (BKH).
- Chimney Swift - 23 April, Yankton Co., early (SVS).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 11 May, Brookings Co. (RWK). 25 May, Roberts Co. (BKH). Only reports!
- Red-headed Woodpecker - 3 April, Lincoln Co., early (JVD). Also reported from Brown (JCS), Clay (DB), Faulk (SDOU), Grant (BKH), Kingsbury (JSP), Union (DS, KD, EL), and Yankton (SVS) counties.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - Reported from Brookings (JRK), Deuel (BKH), Lake (JSP), Minnehaha (NP), and Roberts (BKH) counties.
 Red-naped Sapsucker - Only report from Custer Co. (DCW).
 Three-toed Woodpecker - Only report from Custer Co. (JSP).
 Black-backed Woodpecker - Reported from Custer (DCW) (JSP), and Pennington (MMM) counties.
 Pileated Woodpecker - 13 May, HBSP (DAT, DGP).
 Olive-sided Flycatcher - 10 May, Clay Co., **earliest ever** (DS, KD, EL). Also reported from Edmunds (MZ), Lake (JSP), Minnehaha (NP), and Roberts (BKH) counties.
 Eastern Wood-Pewee - 1 May, Minnehaha Co., early (NP).
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - 27 May, Deuel Co., singing (BKH). 29 May, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
 Alder Flycatcher - 27 May, Deuel Co., singing (BKH). 31 May, Marshall Co., Roy Lake, 2 singing, very late (PFS).
 Dusky Flycatcher - 12 May, Custer Co., 2 (DCW).
 Western Flycatcher - 28 May, Custer Co., 2 (DCW).
 Eastern Phoebe - 1 April, Brown Co., banded (DAT). 1 April, Yankton Co. (SVS). 2 April, Clay Co., 3 (KD, EL). Very early dates!
 Say's Phoebe - 19 April, **Day Co.**, rare in eastern SD (DJP). 22 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU).
 Great Crested Flycatcher - 29 May, Custer Co., pair at cavity (NRW).
 Western Kingbird - 2 May, Turner Co., early (JL). 2 May, Clay Co., early (DB). 3 May, Yankton Co., early (SVS). 4 May, Brown Co., 4 (JCS).
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow - 20 April, Yankton Co., early (SVS). 22 April, Minnehaha Co., early (JL).
 Bank Swallow - 20 April, Yankton Co., very early (SVS).
 Cliff Swallow - 3 May, Brown Co., 25, early (JCS). 4 May, Yankton Co., early (SVS).
 Barn Swallow - 9 April, Yankton Co., **earliest ever** (SVS).
 Blue Jay - 10 May, Brown Co., building nest, early (JCS). 11 May, Edmunds Co., adult on nest, early (JDW).
 Clark's Nutcracker - 7 March, Custer Co. (JSP). 9 April, 8 May, Custer Co. (DCW).
 American Crow - 26 March, Minnehaha Co., pair building nest (JL).
 Brown Creeper - Reported from Brookings (JRK, JAK, RWK), Brown (JCS), Edmunds (MZ), Lake (JSP), Minnehaha (NP), and Pennington (DCW) counties.
 House Wren - 10 May, Edmunds Co., building early nest (JDW).
 Winter Wren - 10 April, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 12 May, NHSP, singing (BKH).
 Eastern Bluebird - 9 May, Edmunds Co., building nest (MZ). Also reported from Clay (DB), Day (DRS), Faulk (SDOU), Hughes (JCS), Kingsbury (JSP), Minnehaha (JL), and Yankton (SVS) counties.
 Mountain Bluebird - Reported from Custer (MJP) (DCW), Meade (NHBC), and Pennington (NRW) counties.
 Townsend's Solitaire - 8 May, Custer Co., 10 (DCW).
 Veery - 5 May, Brookings Co. (RWK). 5 May, Day Co. (BKH). Only reports!
 Gray-cheeked Thrush - Only reports from Brookings (JAK), and Day (DRS) counties.
 Swainson's Thrush - Reported from Brookings (JAK), Brown (JCS), Custer (DCW), Day (DRS), Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), Minnehaha (NP) (JL), and Union (KD) counties.
 Hermit Thrush - Reported from Brown (DAT) (JCS), Day (BKH, DRS), Deuel (BKH), Lake (JSP), and Minnehaha (NP) (JL) counties.
 Wood Thrush - 5 May, Clay Co. (DS, KD, EL). 11 May, NHSP, 3 singing (BKH).

- Gray Catbird - 28 March, Minnehaha Co., very early (JL).
- Northern Mockingbird** - 16 May, Faulk Co. (JDW).
- American Pipit - 29 March, Clay Co., very early (DB).
- Sprague's Pipit - Reported from Clay (DB), Custer (MMM), and Turner (JL) counties.
- Solitary Vireo - 4 May, PLSRA, early (DRS), 6 May, HBSP, 3 (BKH). Also reported from Brookings (BKH), Brown (JCS), Custer (DCW), and Minnehaha (JL) counties.
- Yellow-throated Vireo - 4 May, PLSRA, early (DRS). 5 May, Clay Co., early (DS, KD, EL). 12 May, NHSP. (BKH).
- Warbling Vireo - 7 May, Minnehaha Co., early (NP). 8 May, Lake Co., early (JSP). 31 May, Edmunds Co., building nest (JDW).
- Philadelphia Vireo - 9 May, Minnehaha Co., 2 (JL). 22 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU).
- Golden-winged Warbler** - 9 May, Minnehaha Co., very early (JL, MSS). 10 May, Clay Co., very early (JC). 11-14 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 18 May, Clay Co., female banded (DS, KD, EL). 21 May, Union Co., very late (DS, EL, JC, MD).
- Tennessee Warbler - 7 May, Union Co. (DS, KD, EL). Also reported from Brown (JCS), Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), and Minnehaha (NP) (JL) counties.
- Nashville Warbler - 3 May, Brown Co., 2, early (JCS). 4 May, Day Co., early (DRS). Also reported from Clay (DS, KD, EL), Edmunds (MZ), Lake (JSP), and Minnehaha (NP) (JL) counties.
- Northern Parula - 8 May, Lake Co. (JSP). 9 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL). 10 May, Deuel Co. (BKH).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler - 4 May, Day Co., **earliest ever** (DRS). 6, 8, 28 May, Edmunds Co., early and late dates (MZ). 7, 10 May, Deuel Co., very early (BKH). 8 May, Lake Co., very early (JSP). Also reported from Brown (JCS), Faulk (SDOU), Minnehaha (JL), Roberts (BKH), and Union (KD) counties.
- Magnolia Warbler - 8 May, Day Co., early (DRS). 8 May, Minnehaha Co., early (NP). Also reported from Brown (RAP) (DAT, DGP) (JCS), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Edmunds (MZ), Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), Lincoln (BKH), Minnehaha (JL), Roberts (PFS) (BKH), and Union (DS, EL) counties.
- Cape May Warbler - 5 May, Edmunds Co., **ties earliest ever** (MZ). 13 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 13 May, Lake Co. (JSP). 19 May, Union Co. (DS, EL, JC, MD). 22 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU et al.)
- Black-throated Blue Warbler - 9 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL). 29, 30 May, Edmunds Co., **latest ever** (MZ).
- Black-throated Green Warbler - 7 May, Union Co., **ties earliest ever** (KD). 18 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 22 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU).
- Blackburnian Warbler - 4 May, Day Co., early (DRS). Also reported from Brown (JCS), Minnehaha (AH), Roberts (DAT, DGP), and Union (DS, EL) counties.
- Palm Warbler - Reported from Brown (JCS), Clay (KD), Day (DRS), and Lake (JSP) counties.
- Bay-breasted Warbler - 15 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 17 May, Brown Co. (RAP).
- Blackpoll Warbler - 1 May, Minnehaha Co., **ties earliest ever** (JL), 4 May, Day Co., early (DRS). Also reported from Brown (JCS), Clay (DS), Deuel (BKH), and Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), and Minnehaha (NP) counties.
- Black-and-white Warbler - Reported from Brown (JCS), Clay (DS, KD, EL), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), Meade (NHBC), and Minnehaha (JL) (NP) counties.
- American Redstart - Reported from Brown (JCS), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), Minnehaha (JL), Pennington (NRW), and Union (KD) counties.
- Ovenbird - 1 May, Clay Co. (DS). 1 May, Minnehaha Co. (NP). 2 May, Brown Co. (JCS). Early dates. Also reported Brookings (JAK), Custer (DCW), Day (DRS), Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), Meade (NHBC), and Minnehaha (AH) counties.

- Northern Waterthrush - Reported from Brown (JCS), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Edmunds (MZ), Faulk (SDOU), Hutchinson (PFS), Lake (JSP), Minnehaha (AH) (NP) (JL), and Union (DS, KD, EL) counties.
- Connecticut Warbler** - 17 May, Union Co., early, and 18 May, Clay Co., banded 1 (DS, KD, EL), 17 May, Brown Co. (JCS).
- Mourning Warbler - Reported from Brown - 6 (JCS), Faulk (SDOU), and Union (DS, KD, EL) counties.
- MacGillivray's Warbler - 26 May, **Brown Co.**, banded (DAT).
- Wilson's Warbler - Reported from Brown (JCS) (RAP), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Edmunds (MZ), Grant (PFS), Lake (JSP), and Minnehaha (JL) (NP) counties.
- Canada Warbler - Reported from Deuel (BKH), Lake (JSP), and Minnehaha (AH) (JL) counties.
- Yellow-breasted Chat - 22 May, Faulk Co. (SDOU). 22 May, Edmunds Co. (MZ). 23 May, Kingsbury Co. (JSP). 29 May, Brown Co. (DAT).
- Scarlet Tanager - 8 May, Lincoln Co., very early (DS, EL). 9 May, WNWR, very early (DRS). 12 May, NHSP, 2 and 19 May, Minnehaha Co. (BKH). 16 May, Minnehaha Co. (NP). 18 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 19 May, Deuel Co. (BKH). 19, 24 May, Union Co. (DS, EL). 23 May, Hand Co. (RAP).
- Western Tanager - 5 May, Meade Co., very early (NHBC). 18 May, Custer Co. (MJP). 27 May, Custer Co., 3 (DCW). 30 May, Pennington Co. (NRW).
- Northern Cardinal - Reported from Brookings (JAK), and Lake (JSP) counties.
- Black-headed Grosbeak - 9 May, Edmunds Co. (MZ).
- Lazuli Bunting - Reported from Meade (NHBC), and Pennington (MMM) (NRW) counties.
- Indigo Bunting - Only reports from Clay (DB), and Minnehaha (JL) counties.
- Dickcissel - 3 May, Brown Co., very early (JCS).
- Rufous-sided Towhee - 28 April, Roberts Co. (BKH).
- Chipping Sparrow - 24 March, Custer Co., earliest ever (MJP). 6 May, Pennington Co., several hundred (MMM).
- Clay-colored Sparrow - 25 March, Custer Co., **earliest ever** by a month (MJP). 24 April, WNWR, early (DRS). 15 May, Custer Co., 100+ (DCW).
- Vesper Sparrow - 25 March, Custer Co., very early (MJP). 28 May, Grant Co., nest w/3 eggs (PFS).
- Lark Sparrow - 24 April, Clay Co. (EL). 29 April, 7 May, Edmunds Co. (MZ). 5 May, Clay Co. (DB).
- Lark Bunting - 9 May, Brown Co., 8 (JCS). 19 May, Roberts Co. (BP). 23 May, Kingsbury Co. (JSP). 27 May, Clay Co. (DB).
- Savannah Sparrow - 30 April, Custer Co. (MJP). 6 May, Custer Co. (DCW).
- Baird's Sparrow - Only reports from McPherson Co. (JSP) (BKH).
- Le Conte's Sparrow - 23 May, Clark Co., 2 (JSP).
- Fox Sparrow - 4, 8, 12 March, Brookings Co., wintering bird (RWK). 3 April, Minnehaha Co. (NP). 12 April, Brown Co. (JCS).
- Swamp Sparrow - Reported from Faulk (MMM), and Kingsbury (JSP) counties.
- White-crowned Sparrow - Reported from Brown (JCS), Clay (DS, KD, EL), Custer (DCW), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), and Minnehaha (JL) counties.
- Harris Sparrow - 6, 12 March, Brookings Co., 3, wintering birds (JAK). Also reported from Brown (JCS), Clay (DB), Day (DRS), Faulk (SDOU), and Lake (JSP) counties.
- Chestnut-collared Longspur - 17 April, Hughes Co., 25 (JCS).
- Rusty Blackbird - 30 March, Deuel Co. (BKH).
- Brewer's Blackbird - 1 April, Roberts Co., pair (BKH). 26 April, Pennington Co. (NRW). 16 May, Custer Co., 4 (DCW). 28 May, Roberts Co., 3 pairs (PFS).
- Western Meadowlark - 25 April, Spink Co., building nest (JCS).
- Rosy Finch - Only report from Custer Co. (MH).

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Purple Finch - Reported from Brown (DAT) (JCS), Clay (DB), Day (DRS), and Deuel (BKH) counties.
Cassin's Finch - 4 March, Pennington Co. (NRW, BKH). 20 April, Custer Co. (MJP). 30 April, Meade Co. (NHBC). 8 May, Custer Co., 3 (DCW).
House Finch - Reported from Brown (JCS), Faulk (SDOU), Lake (JSP), and Meade (NHBC) counties.
Red Crossbill - 20 April, Lake Co. (JSP). 20 May, Day Co., 5 (DRS).
Common Redpoll - Only report Lake Co. (JSP).
Pine Siskin - Reported from Brookings (JAK), Brown - nested (DAT) (JCS), Day (DRS), Faulk (SDOU), and Marshall (JSP) counties.

Observations requiring approval of Rare Birds Records Committee:

Eurasian Wigeon - 10,12 March, Yankton Co., Lake Yankton, photographed (RVS).
Red Knot - 23 May, Faulk Co., 2 (DS, LS, EL, R&NB).
Great Skua - 22 May, Faulk Co. (BKH, KG, EEM).
Alder Flycatcher - 23 May, Minnehaha Co. (NP).
Blue-winged Warbler - 8 May, Lincoln Co., very early (DS, EL). 21 May, Union Co., very late (DS, EL, JC, MD). 16, 22 May, Brown Co., 22 May, late date (JCS).
Black-throated Gray Warbler - 22 May, Brown Co. (JCS).
Prothonotary Warbler - 17, 19 May, Brown Co. (JCS).
Kentucky Warbler - 9 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL).
Hooded Warbler - 9 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL).
Le Conte's Sparrow - 28 April, Brown Co. (JCS).