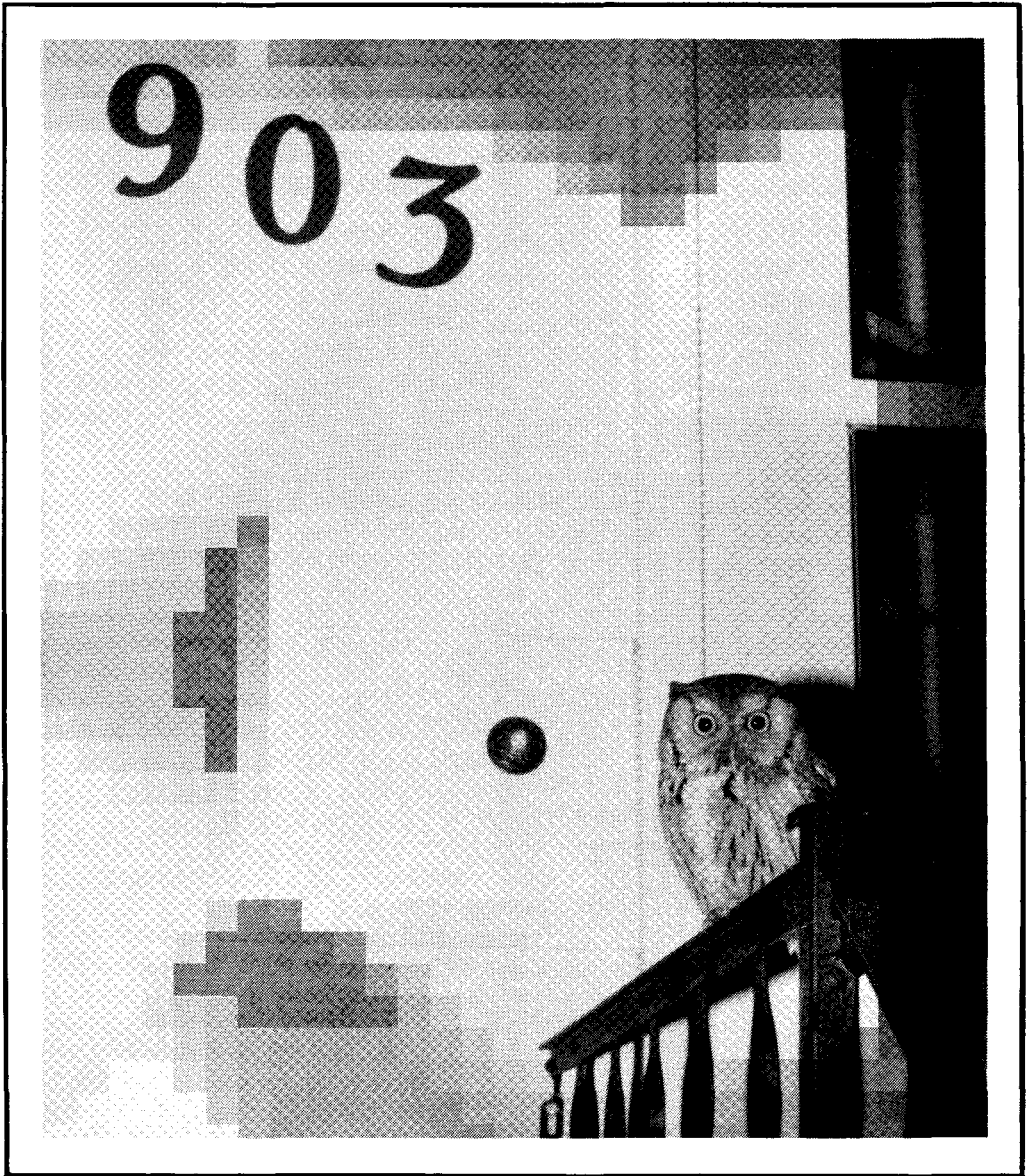


SOUTH DAKOTA
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



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NOTES

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VOL. 43 September 1991 NO. 3

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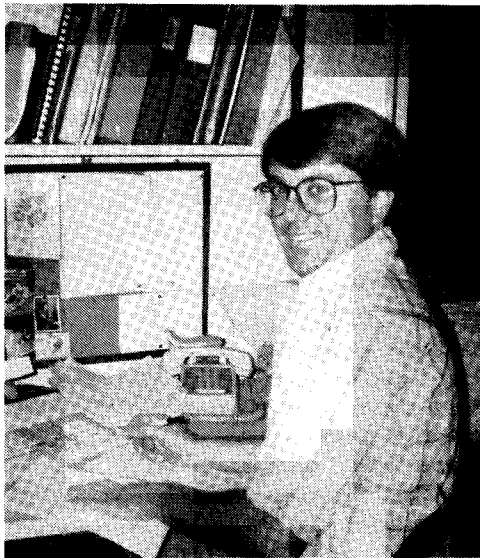
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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By the time you read this page another summer will be gone. You probably observed a few interesting things this past season. A few of us, in addition to watching birds, enjoyed looking at butterflies, wildflowers and other things that crawl, slither or swim. This fascination can create a conflict of interest. You could even injure your neck from bird whiplash, a condition caused by the sudden lifting of your head to see that rare bird you almost missed while looking for *Arisaema triphyllum*. (I can imagine several SDOU members dusting off their wildflower books to look this one up.) This



particular breed of birdwatcher, of which I am a member, has an insatiable need to identify and learn about every living thing and must hire porters on field trips to carry the several dozen field guides (Eastern Birds, Western Birds, Bird Nests, Hawks, Advanced Birding, Mushrooms, Butterflies, Wildflowers, Animal Tracks, etc.) that the true Petersonite cannot live without. Porters and field guides in tow, I observed several interesting things this summer.

Global warming is widely discussed, but a quick glance at the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge's weather data showed that, between 30 April (when it was 90 degrees) and 31 July, the temperature never rose above 85. I recently saw a news report in which El Niño and the eruptions of a volcano in the Philippines were blamed for this abnormal weather. This must be closer to the nuclear winter we used to hear about. How is this cool weather affecting birds? Later in this issue you will find the Spring Season Report—note the out-of-range western species observed late spring in Eastern SD. Is El Niño the cause?

Once again raccoons, defeating every type of guard, have foiled my attempts to protect bluebird nests from predation. However, the losses this season have been far fewer than in previous years. Apparently a disease, either distemper or rabies, is now reducing the raccoon population, which increased so quickly after the conservation reserve program (CRP) provided thousands of acres of habitat. Early last March, I noted several raccoons (evidently too weak or sick to get to the other shore) lying dead on the ice of refuge lakes. This summer in my yard I observed a staggering, disoriented raccoon obviously suffering from some malady. Did the raccoon population go beyond the carrying capacity of all that habitat?

This spring I decided to leave my hummingbird feeder up past migration and, to my surprise, hummingbirds fed on nectar all summer. A pair even put on a loud, exuberant courtship display in my front yard. I have talked to several other birders along the lake. They have observed hum-

mingbirds during the last several years during June and July. Do these birds nest regularly along northeastern SD lakes? I was not as fortunate as Bruce Harris who found a Hummingbird nest near his summer cabin!

The most frustrating events of late spring and early summer were missing by hours Black-necked Stilts at Bear Butte Lake, during the spring SDOU meeting, and a pair at Bitter Lake seen by Everett Montgomery and the Aberdeen Bird and Flower Club. I rushed to Bitter Lake a few hours after receiving word from Everett but, to my disappointment, the birds had already left the area. I did observe several flocks of Marbled Godwits that numbered in the hundreds. For a brief moment I imagined what the area might have been like a hundred years ago, when shorebirds and potholes were much more numerous. Were these late migrants or birds that unsuccessfully bred and were already migrating south on June 13? They were gone the next day.

I had several enjoyable conversations with out-of-state birdwatchers early in June, even selling a Nebraska couple a copy of *The Birds of South Dakota*. A surprising number of birders who travel through our state wonder why we lack good bird finding guides. (I do tell them a guide to the Black Hills is available.)

Once again children were an important part of my summer. I led a group of Boy Scouts on a night hike and taught a group of a hundred or so Girl Scouts about "Mother Nature's Munch Line." One evening, early in July, my son and I stood at the edge of our yard and watched a magical light show as hundreds of fireflies flickered over the now aptly named "firefly meadow." My son asked several questions about fireflies. I could answer a few. I consulted my field guide. We all observed many things this summer and each observation raised more questions. That must mean there is a lot more to observe and learn.

BIRDING THE "HOLE"

by Augie Hoeger
3910 S. Glendale
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

The article by Dennis Skadsen ("Bird Observations and Banding at Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area") in the June 1991 *Bird Notes* is of special interest to me. It serves as a good comparison with my own observations in a Sioux Falls area I call the "Hole." Although the two areas are about 150 miles apart and the two habitats are quite different, Skadsen and I observed many of the same species. Although I regularly birded the "Hole" for the last 15 years and have birded in this and other nearby areas (all along the Big Sioux River within the Sioux Falls' city limit) for 28 years, only my observations of November 1986 to December 1990 are included in this article, so as to be consistent with Skadsen's report.

The "Hole" is an area of about one square block, bounded on the east by Kiwanis Avenue (directly across the street from Randall's Supermarket) and on the north by Park Place, just south of 41st street. The area consists of an old oxbow of the Big Sioux River before the river was channeled. Extensions off the oxbow exist to the west and south.

Next to the ponds, the land is quite heavily forested river bottom, with small fields adjacent to the channeled river.

Of the 180 species observed at Pickerel Lake, 137 were also found in the "Hole." Four of these species were seen only once at both locations (Hooded Merganser, Whip-poor-will, Varied Thrush, and Western Tanager). Of the 43 species that differed, 29 species seen at Pickerel Lake were not seen at the "Hole" during this time. (I saw five of these 29 birds in the "Hole" before or after this time: Bald Eagle, Merlin, Caspian Tern, Northern Shrike, and White-winged Crossbill.) Nineteen of the remaining 24 species not seen in Sioux Falls were probably due to lack of habitat (no lake or large fields). The five remaining species not seen in Sioux Falls are rare: Vermilion Flycatcher, Townsend's Solitaire, Bohemian Waxwing, Worm-eating Warbler, and Pine Grosbeak. Perhaps I missed the waxwing and the grosbeak because I spend most winters in Florida.

Five species were seen only once in the "Hole" but more than once at Pickerel Lake (Pintail, Canvasback, Redhead, Sedge Wren, and Red Crossbill). Nine species were seen only once at Pickerel Lake but more often at the "Hole" (Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Veery, Golden-winged Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Rufous-sided Towhee, and Vesper Sparrow).

Table 1 lists 46 species seen in the "Hole" but not at Pickerel Lake during 1986 - 1990. The total number of species seen in the "Hole" during these years was 183, compared to 180 at Pickerel Lake. The total number of species that I have seen in the area of the "Hole" during the past 15 years is 190. My Sioux Falls area total during the past 28 years is 230.

Table 1. Birds of the "Hole" not seen at Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area. * indicates birds seen only once.

American Widgeon	Wilson's Phalarope	Bay-breasted Warbler
Osprey	Red-necked	Pine Warbler
Black-bellied Plover	Phalarope	Connecticut Warbler*
Solitary Sandpiper	Forster's Tern	LA Waterthrush
Pectoral Sandpiper	Yellow-bellied	Yellow-breasted Chat*
White-rumped	Flycatcher	Scarlet Tanager*
Sandpiper	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Summer Tanager*
Baird's Sandpiper	Bank Swallow	Indigo Bunting
Least Sandpiper	Cliff Swallow	Dickcissel
Dunlin	Rough-winged	Blue Grosbeak
Long-bill. Dowitcher	Swallow	Field Sparrow
Short-bill. Dowitcher	Blue-gray	Savanna Sparrow
Stilt Sandpiper	Gnatcatcher	Grasshopper Sparrow
Semipalm Sandpiper	Wood Thrush	Le Conte's Sparrow
Western Sandpiper	Loggerhead Shrike	Lark Sparrow
Marbled Godwit*	Parula Warbler	House Finch
Hudsonian Godwit*	Cape May Warbler	

The known breeding birds for these two locations are the same, except for six species (Canvasback, Redhead, Cooper's Hawk, coot, snipe, and Red Crossbill). I have seen five species all spring and summer, but I have found no evidence of their nesting (Green-backed Heron, Great Blue

Heron, snipe, Marsh Wren, and Swamp Sparrow). Finally, Table 2 lists 44 additional species that probably nest in the "Hole" area.

Table 2. Birds that probably nest in the "Hole" area.

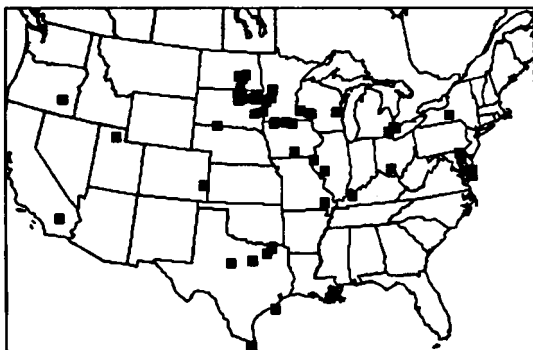
Wood duck	Great Cr. Flycatcher	Yellow Warbler
Broad-winged Hawk	Western Kingbird	Common
American Kestrel	Eastern Kingbird	Yellowthroat
Gray Partridge	Purple Martin	Northern Cardinal
Rock Dove	Rough-winged	Rose-breasted
Common Nighthawk	Swallow	Grosbeak
Chimney Swift (near by)	Bank Swallow	Indigo Bunting
Belted kingfisher	Cliff Swallow	Dickcissel
Red-headed	Blue Jay	Field Sparrow
Woodpecker	Black-capped	Savanna Sparrow
Red-bellied	Chickadee	Grasshopper Sparrow
Woodpecker	White-breasted	Bobolink
Downy Woodpecker	Nuthatch	Red-winged
Hairy Woodpecker	Eastern Bluebird	Blackbird
Northern Flicker	Brown Thrasher	Western Meadowlark
Eastern Wood-Pewee	European Starling	Northern Oriole
Least Flycatcher	Warbling Vireo	House Finch
	Red-eyed Vireo	House Sparrow



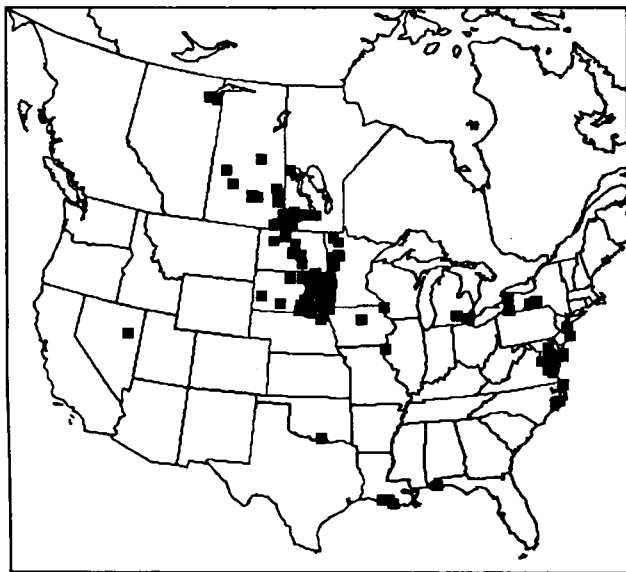
BANDING RECOVERIES OF SOUTH DAKOTA BIRDS PART 8 — WATERFOWL (CONTINUED)

This series of maps continues with more waterfowl banding recovery maps. As in the previous articles in this series, the maps include birds banded outside the state and recovered within our boundaries or birds banded in South Dakota and recovered outside the state. Both the locations of banding and recovery are indicated on the maps.

Canvasback. This species migrates both toward the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans from South Dakota.

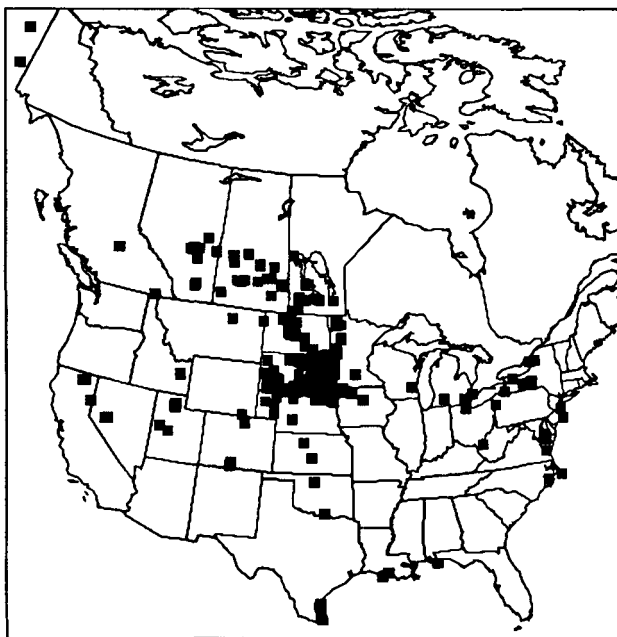


Map 84. Canvasback banded in South Dakota that were recovered elsewhere. Not shown is one Mexican recovery.

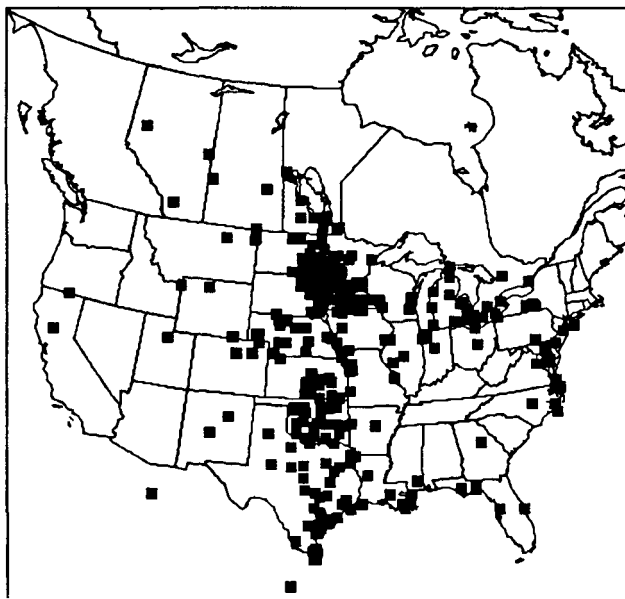


Map 85. Canvasback banded outside the state and recovered in South Dakota.

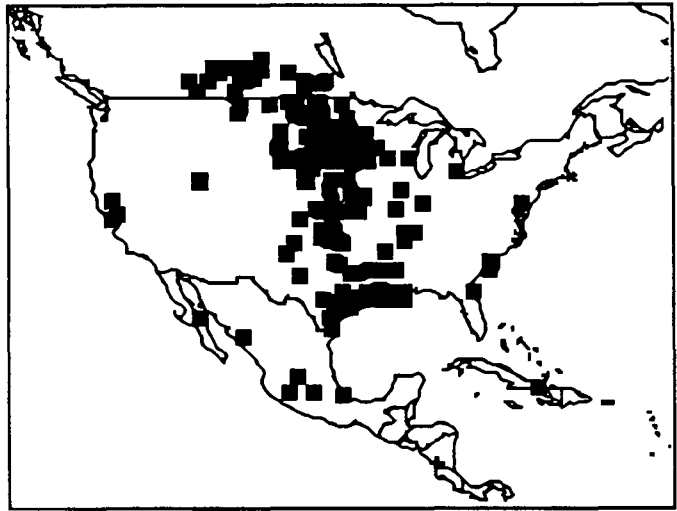
Redhead. These maps show that Redheads have a three-pronged migration, with many flying to the Chesapeake Bay area and the Gulf of Mexico and with a lesser number heading toward the West Coast.



Map 86. Banded Redheads recovered in South Dakota.

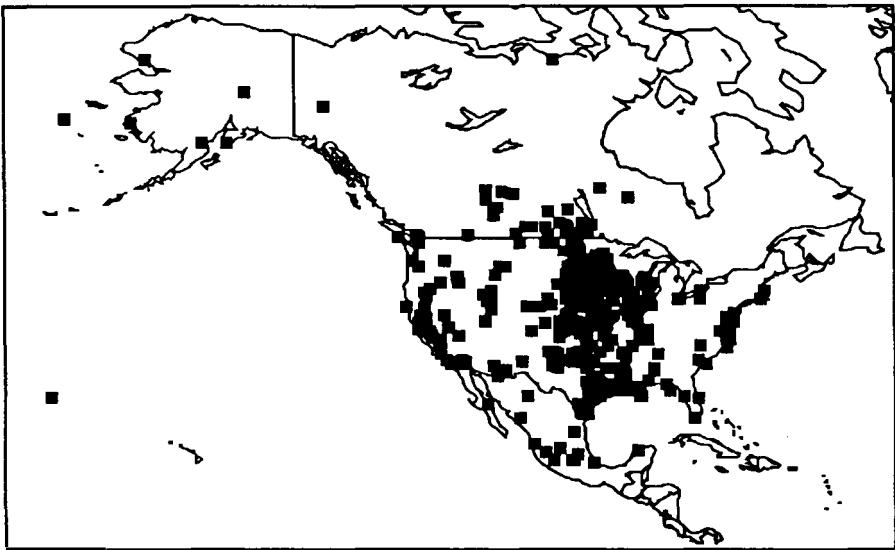


Map 87. Redheads banded in South Dakota and recovered outside the state.



Map 88. Shovelers, both incoming and outgoing.

Shoveler. This duck is clearly a bird of the central flyway with limited strays to each coast.



Map 89. Pintail banded in South Dakota and recovered elsewhere.

Pintail. This species disperses widely from South Dakota. The most remarkable records are from the Midway Islands and from Asia.

BIRD BANDING AT ABERDEEN, 1988 - 1991, AND A TEN YEAR REVIEW OF SOME POPULATION TRENDS

by Dan Tallman
Northern State University
Aberdeen SD 57401

I have banded birds in Aberdeen, South Dakota, since June 1979. I have not reported on my banding since 1987. Table 2 summarizes my banding activities since my last report.

Since 1980, my first full year of banding, I have banded fewer numbers of birds each year. This trend may indicate that numbers of birds are declining, as predicted by those who watch tropical migrants, or may be an artifact of my having less time for banding each year (a comparison between years is unscientific). However, 1992 promises to be a banner year due to a great influx of redpolls during the 1992 winter. Table 1 shows this trend.

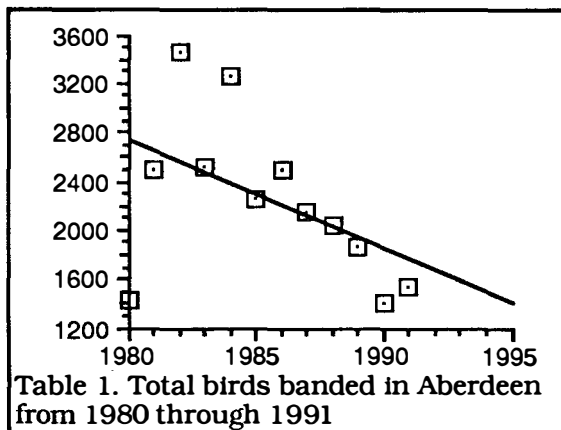


Table 1. Total birds banded in Aberdeen from 1980 through 1991

Table 2. Birds banded at Aberdeen, SD, 1988 - 1991.

	1988	1989	1990	1991	total
Sharp-shinned Hawk	7	5	3	2	17
Cooper's Hawk			1	1	2
Broad-winged Hawk		2			2
Merlin	1				1
Mourning Dove	4	25	4	3	36
Black-billed Cuckoo			1		1
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	1	1	1	5
Northern Saw-whet Owl	8	3	4	2	17
Downy Woodpecker	11	1		5	17
Northern Flicker	6	7	8	6	27
Olive-sided Flycatcher			1		1
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		1	4	1	6
Traill's Flycatcher	3	29		5	37
Least Flycatcher	5	12	32	10	59
Eastern Phoebe				1	1
Barn Swallow		1			1
Blue Jay	3	8	7	1	19
Black-capped Chickadee	49	48	17	27	141
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	13	3		17
White-breasted Nuthatch	8	11	7	5	31

Brown Creeper	6	17	4	6	33
House Wren	7	21	19	18	65
Winter Wren	1				1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	12	31	23	14	80
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	22	20	51	42	135
Veery	1	1		1	3
Gray-cheeked Thrush	11	8		2	21
Swainson's Thrush	60	85	59	57	261
Hermit Thrush	4	3	5	15	27
American Robin	121	111	70	127	429
Gray Catbird	1	12	1	6	20
Brown Thrasher	9	12	11	6	38
Bohemian Waxwing				3	3
Cedar Waxwing	8	6	7	6	27
Northern Shrike	2	1		1	4
European Starling	4	3	1	3	11
Solitary Vireo	1				1
Warbling Vireo	3	4	6	4	17
Philadelphia Vireo		1	1		2
Red-eyed Vireo	6	8	3	2	19
Golden-winged Warbler	1				1
Tennessee Warbler	2	5	4	2	13
Orange-crowned Warbler	54	42	33	20	149
Nashville Warbler	4		3		7
Yellow Warbler	5	9	6	1	21
Chestnut-sided Warbler		2			2
Magnolia Warbler	1	1		1	3
Black-thr. Blue Warbler				1	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	43	39	7	13	102
Black-thr. Green Warbler	1			1	2
Palm Warbler	1				1
Bay-breasted Warbler		1			1
Blackpoll Warbler		4		1	5
Black-and-white Warbler	6	3	3	4	16
American Redstart	3	9	11	4	27
Worm-eating Warbler	1				1
Ovenbird	13	11	6	6	36
Northern Waterthrush		3	1		4
Connecticut Warbler		2			2
Mourning Warbler	5	12	8	6	31
MacGillivray's Warbler		1			1
Common Yellowthroat	2	10	3	3	18
Wilson's Warbler	16	7	9	19	51
Canada Warbler		1	1	1	3
Northern Cardinal				1	1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2		1		3
Rufous-sided Towhee	1	3	1	1	6

American Tree Sparrow	9	8	1	18	36
Chipping Sparrow	8	5	4	2	19
Clay-colored Sparrow		3		2	5
Field Sparrow				1	1
Fox Sparrow	2				2
Song Sparrow	1	1		5	7
Lincoln's Sparrow	14	15	20	4	53
Swamp Sparrow	1	1		2	4
White-throated Sparrow	21	53	40	32	146
White-crowned Sparrow		2	7		9
Harris' Sparrow	3	18	5	4	30
Dark-eyed Junco	276	495	147	626	1544
Red-winged Blackbird	3	5			8
Common Grackle	55	169	45	24	293
Brown-headed Cowbird		2	3	1	6
Orchard Oriole		5			5
Northern Oriole		1		1	2
Purple Finch	26	4	36	18	84
House Finch			4	13	17
Red Crossbill	1			25	26
White-winged Crossbill		7	4		11
Common Redpoll	356	10	15	123	504
Pine Siskin	677	242	588	118	1625
American Goldfinch	38	133	44	57	272
House Sparrow		4	1		5
	2039	1859	1415	1544	6857
	65	72	59	67	92

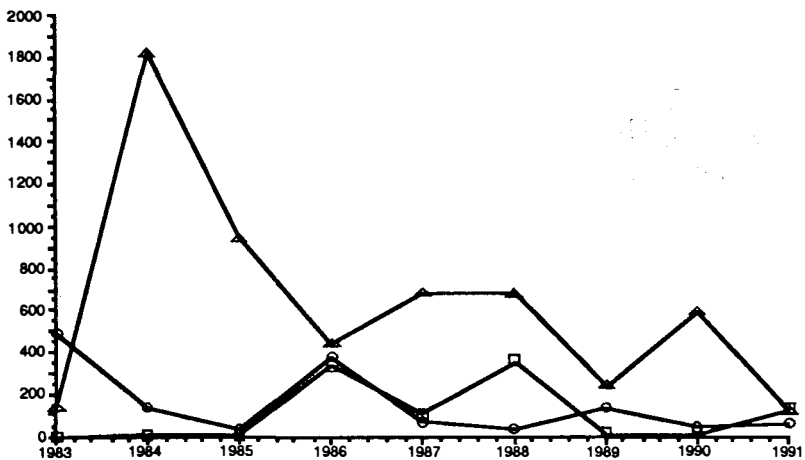


Table 3. Winter finch cycles at Aberdeen, 1980 - 1991. Triangles represent Pine Siskins, circles represent Common Redpolls, and squares represent American Goldfinches.

I have long been interested in winter finch cycles. Table 3 shows these cycles since 1980. In an earlier paper, I thought that there might exist a correlation between influxes of these birds (when one species was abundant, the others might be less common). With more data, such a correlation does not seem to exist, with the influxes of birds being more or less random.

GENERAL NOTES

OWLS AND GEESE NEST WITH HERONS. On 19 May 1991, I visited a Great Blue Heron rookery along the Cheyenne River in Pennington Co. The site is on Forest Service land of the Buffalo Gap National Grasslands. The heronry is relatively new and located in a fine stand of tall, dense cottonwood trees in a riverbed. (Cottonwoods along this part of the river occur more often as scattered single trees.)

As I waded the river to the heronry, a Canada Goose honked at me from the other shore. When I approached the trees, Great Blue Herons started circling overhead. The first nest I sighted contained a goose, crouched low; probably the mate to the honker on shore. As I positioned myself for a better view, I saw another nest with two Great Horned Owl young perched upright in it. Some half-dozen herons were in flight by then, so I promptly retreated. When I reached the bluffs west of the river, I looked down and counted 10 Turkey Vultures sunning their wings in the trees at the edge of the heronry.

From a nest count made on 12 October, I estimated that six pairs of herons may have nested there in 1991. *Michael M. Melius, HCR 89, Box 275, Hermosa SD 57744.*

SKADSEN 1991 BANDING REPORT. The following report covers birds banded under permit 22127 during the calendar year 1991. I banded all species, except Tree Swallows and Eastern Bluebirds, at Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area in Day Co. I banded the Tree Swallows and Eastern Bluebirds on the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, also in Day Co. A total of 1572 individuals of 64 species was banded during the year. Table I lists the significant recaptures.

Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	Brown Creeper	4
Broad-winged Hawk	1	House Wren	34
Mourning Dove	10	Golden-crowned Kinglet	4
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	32
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	Eastern Bluebird	129
Downy Woodpecker	10	Gray-cheeked Thrush	2
Hairy Woodpecker	1	Swainson's Thrush	14
Willow Flycatcher	2	Hermit Thrush	6
Least Flycatcher	4	American Robin	128
Eastern Kingbird	2	Gray Catbird	30
Tree Swallow	130	Brown Thrasher	15
Blue Jay	4	Cedar Waxwing	26
Black-capped Chickadee	45	Northern Shrike	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	Solitary Vireo	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	8	Warbling Vireo	3

Red-eyed Vireo	3	Chipping Sparrow	14
Tennessee Warbler	1	Clay-colored Sparrow	2
Orange-crowned Warbler	44	Song Sparrow	40
Nashville Warbler	23	Lincoln's Sparrow	37
Yellow Warbler	27	Swamp Sparrow	10
Magnolia Warbler	1	White-throated Sparrow	86
Yellow-rumped Warbler	65	White-crowned Sparrow	5
Palm Warbler	1	Harris' Sparrow	34
Black-and-white Warbler	2	Dark-eyed Junco	285
American Redstart	1	Common Grackle	36
Ovenbird	1	Brown-headed Cowbird	4
Northern Waterthrush	2	Orchard Oriole	2
Mourning Warbler	3	Northern Oriole	3
Common Yellowthroat	17	Purple Finch	16
Wilson's Warbler	4	Common Redpoll	55
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	6	Pine Siskin	1
American Tree Sparrow	5	American Goldfinch	80

Table 1. Significant recoveries during 1991.

BAND NUMBER	SPECIES	BANDING DATE	RECOVERY DATE
942-53001	Hairy Woodpecker	24 Nov 1986	7 Dec 1991
1780-98998	Black-capped Chickadee	2 Oct 1987	11 Nov 1991
1771-72564	House Wren	24 Sept 1988	8 Aug 1991
942-53084	American Robin	18 Sept 1988	5 May 1991
8001-25013	Gray Catbird	24 May 1987	15 May 1991
1770-72988	Nashville Warbler	26 Aug 1989	22 Aug 1991
8001-25028	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	10 Sept 1987	9 Aug 1991
1770-72660	Slate-colored Junco	10 Dec 1988	23 Oct 1991
2061-35519	Purple Finch	21 Dec 1987	1 Apr 1991

Dennis Skadsen, RR 1 Box 113, Grenville SD 57239

PREVIOUSLY UNREPORTED SPECIMEN RECORDS FOR DAY COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA. I recently wrote several museums, universities and colleges for information on specimens collected in Day, Marshall, and Roberts counties of South Dakota. Three specimens in the Delaware Museum of Natural History in Wilmington Delaware (DMNH) have not been previously reported in any SDOU publication. Wesley F. Kubichek collected the following specimens in Day County: DMNH 43174, *Gallinula chloropus*, Common Moorhen, taken at Rush Lake on 27 May 1927; DMNH 42354, *Perisoreus canadensis*, Gray Jay, female collected on 26 November 1924; DMNH 42364, *Nucifraga columbiana*, Clark's Nutcracker, female harvested on 20 November 1924.

The Common Moorhen is known from the Fort Sisseton area in Marshall Co. and is considered a possible rare summer resident in Eastern South Dakota (SDOU 1991, *The Birds of South Dakota*.) The Gray Jay is a rare visitor to areas outside of the Black Hills. Two previous East River records are reported by SDOU (1991, *The Birds of South Dakota*.), the most recent being an observation in 1986 at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Clark's Nutcrackers are casual visitors in eastern South Dakota, with most records reported from counties bordering the

Missouri River (SDOU 1991, *The Birds of South Dakota*.) No previous records exist from the northeastern part of the state. At the time he collected these birds, Kubichek was a professor of biology and curator of the museum at Coe College, at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Mr. Kubichek collected extensively in Day Co. during the 1920's and 30's. An excellent article, "On the lighter Side of Bird Work" by William Youngworth (SDBN 17:52-58) expounds on some of Kubichek's exploits with Arthur Lundquist and Youngworth in Day and Marshall counties. Confirmation of this information was provided by Mr. Gene K. Hess, Collections Manager at the Delaware Museum of Natural History. *Dennis Skadsen, RR 1 Box 113, Grenville SD 57239.*

NEW SPECIES MONITORED BY THE NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM. Thanks to all of you who responded to the Natural Heritage Program article in the March 1992 issue of Bird Notes. In that article, I mentioned that the list of species monitored by the Natural Heritage Program would be changing. As of 22 April 1992, the changes are as follows:

SPECIES DROPPED FROM THE NATURAL HERITAGE LIST

MCCOWN'S LONGSPUR
RED CROSSBILL
TUFTED TITMOUSE
BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER

NEW SPECIES ON THE NATURAL HERITAGE LIST

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK
CLARK'S GREBE
RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD
BUFFLEHEAD
BROWN CREEPER
BLACK TERN
LEAST BITTERN
LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE
LEWIS' WOODPECKER
BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER
BURROWING OWL
EASTERN MEADOWLARK
CASSIN'S KINGBIRD

Send breeding records only. At a minimum, send date, location (as precise as possible), nesting evidence and observer(s) name. Additional information is always valuable. *Doug Backlund, Natural Heritage Data Manager, South Dakota Game Fish and Parks, 523 East Capitol, Foss Building, Pierre, SD 57501 (605) 773-4345.*

HOODED WARBLER RECORD FOR UNION COUNTY STATE PARK. While birding at Union County State Park on 20 May 1992 at approximately 10:30 am, I heard an unfamiliar song. The songster was an adult male Hooded Warbler. This bird was singing and calling almost constantly while it foraged at mid-level in an upland woodland dominated by oaks. The song is aptly described by Peterson (1980. *A Field Guide to the Birds*. 4th ed. Houghton Mifflin, Boston) as "weeta-wee-teeo." The bird also gave a single-syllabled metallic "chip" call.

This warbler was slightly larger than a Wilson's Warbler and had bright yellow underparts. The back was yellowish-olive and the wings were olive without wingbars. The most strikingly marked part of this bird was its head, which showed a yellow forehead, cheek and auriculars. The head also showed a black crown and nape and a black chin and throat. These two black patches were connected behind the auriculars forming a hood. The bill was black and the legs were pink. The tail was olive-gray underneath with large white windows running almost the entire length of the undertail. I observed the warbler intermittently for about ten minutes from a distance of 10 - 40 meters. As the bird foraged, it often flicked and fanned its tail.

The normal breeding range of the Hooded Warbler is mainly in the eastern U.S., with the nearest regular (but rare) breeding areas in south-eastern Nebraska and central and northeastern Iowa (American Ornithologists' Union. 1983. *Checklist of North American Birds. 6th ed.* AOU, Lawrence, Kansas). It is listed as a casual migrant in eastern South Dakota (SDOU 1991. *The Birds of South Dakota.* NSU Press, Aberdeen). Stephens et al. (1955. *The Birds of Union County, South Dakota.* Occ. Papers Nebr. Ornithol. Union, No. 1) do not list the Hooded Warbler as occurring in Union County. This record has been reviewed and accepted by the SDOU Rare Bird Records Committee. David Swanson, Department of Biology, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069.

HOUSE FINCHES IN HYDE COUNTY. I observed a pair of House Finches on 6 May 1992 in my yard, and again on 9 May at the Ray home in Highmore. On 28 May, I saw a pair of House Finches at their nest in a hanging flower pot in Highmore. They were later observed feeding young, but I did not try to see how many young inhabited the nest. By 19 June, the birds were gone and we took the pot down to see the nest. It was a shallow bowl about four inches in diameter with a beading of bird droppings around the edge.

In the same time period, several blocks away, House Finches were seen almost daily. As many as 10 to 12 House Finches, males and females, have been using the thistle seed feeders in my yard since early July. Goldfinches keep them company. June Harter, Box 236, Highmore SD 57345.

BOOK REVIEWS

FLIGHT SONG. 1990. Nature Science Network, Inc. Carrboro, NC 48 minutes. VHS \$29.95.

OWLS UP CLOSE. 1991. Nature Science Network Inc. 55 minutes. VHS \$29.95.

Home video is a relatively new medium for birders. In recent years, more selections have become available, with a surprisingly diverse subject matter. These two selections, *Flight Song* and *Owls Up Close*, both filmed by Michael Godfrey and produced by Nature Science Network, feature two completely different methods the medium can put to use.

Flight Song is a 48 minute unnarrated music video, consisting of five vignettes of birds filmed in their natural surroundings. The first, *Fly*

with *Me*, gives an Osprey's-eye view of the bird's domain (along with some excellent footage of feeding Black Skimmers, a species that shares its habitat with the Osprey along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts). *Wedding Wings*, the second segment, displays the diverse breeding behavior and care for nestlings exhibited by birds. In *Littlest Angels*, we are treated to close-up footage of hummingbirds attempting to feed on windblown flowers in Arizona's Sierra Madres. In what is the weakest segment, *Ghost Feathers*, we watch owls in flight, albeit mostly out of focus. In what I feel is the strongest segment, *Of Wings and Water*, excellent pictures of migrating flocks of shorebirds and waterfowl and Sandhill and Whooping Cranes convey the fragile beauty of this country's wetlands and tidal marshes. Each segment is scored with a New Age musical soundtrack (in stereo) by Jack Herrick and Bland Simpson, whose use of traditional instruments enhances the viewing experience.

I enjoyed this video, especially because the viewers are left to interpret the behavior of each species on their own. However, a few problems are inherent to video productions. I miss the richer, warmer colors and textures achieved through the use of regular emulsion films, something that is apparently unobtainable on magnetic formats, such as video tape. Focusing also seems to present problems to the videographer. Another problem with this tape was the poor, choppy editing of some segments. For instance, *Wedding Wings* would have been better without the inclusion of the Barn Owl in-between shots of nesting Red-shouldered Hawks. Longer segments concentrating on one species would be an improvement in future productions such as *Flight Song*. These problems aside, this is a good selection to have in your video library. This video conveys, without words, the continuing need to conserve our natural resources.

Owls Up Close follows a more traditional format. This 55-minute narrated video gives a surprisingly in-depth look at the natural history of North American owls. The first part of the video details the special adaptations that have evolved that enable owls to locate and capture prey in total darkness. By using drawings and actual footage of owls, the video shows how offset ears pinpoint precisely the location of prey and how "motion parallax" increases the effectiveness of an owl's eyesight. In the last part of the tape, we learn how to owl watch, where to find owls, and tips on attracting owls, using tapes and calls. Ken Kaufman co-wrote the narration with Michael Godfrey. Some of the aforementioned problems with video productions are still in evidence with this tape, but, the editing was smoother, the images sharper. Some exceptionally well-done footage was shot in the dark with the aid of a spotlight.

I recommend both tapes for those of you building a home video library. Each costs \$29.95, an affordable price when compared to most cinematic releases and the price of many bird books. Purchase *Owls Up Close* to learn and *Flight Song* to enjoy. Each tape is part of a series, *Flight Song* from the Earth Song Video series and *Owls Up Close* from the National Audubon's Up Close Video Series. Dennis Skadsen, RR 1 Box 113, Grenville SD 57239.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE BLACK HILLS AND BADLANDS, revised edition by Sven G. Froiland. The Center for Western Studies, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 1990.

Sven Froiland, Emeritus Professor of Biology and Emeritus Director of the Center for Western Studies at Augustana College, has been a student of the Black Hills for decades, and now makes his home there. This book is an expanded revision of his *Natural History Of The Black Hills*, published in 1978.

The book is divided into six parts. Part I, titled "General Information," covers geography, topography and geology, geologic history, soil, hydrography, glaciation, and climate. Part II, "Historical Information," discusses early history and exploration, emphasizing both European-American exploration and Native American history from the people of glacial times to the Dakota people. Part III, "Biological Information," is the longest part, with Dr. Froiland appropriately providing the most detailed discussion, since he is by training a botanist, of the plants, both of early botanical explorations and of the major plant communities of the region. The part on biological information concludes with sections summarizing the reptiles and amphibians, the birds, and the land mammals of the Black Hills region.

In Part IV, "Current Environment of the Hills," one of the new sections of the book, Dr. Froiland discusses his deep concern for environmental protection as opposed to commercial exploitation. Dr. Froiland discusses current environmental concerns, including wildlife, insect damage, forest fires, mining, grazing, and waste management. Here also, Dr. Froiland makes an impassioned plea for protection of the environment, and especially for regulation of land uses that consume resources as contrasted with those that use renewable resources.

Part V, the other new section, "Badlands," by Ronald R. Weedon, Professor of Biology and Director of the Herbarium at Chadron State College, summarizes in a few pages the natural history of the Badlands area to the east of the Black Hills, with special emphasis on geology and paleontology. It concludes with brief sections on the Lange/Ferguson Mammoth Kill site in the Badlands and on the Mammoth Site at Hot Springs, in the southern end of the Black Hills (not in the Badlands). At the end of Part V is a thirteen-page "Selected Black Hills Bibliography" that appears to me to be an excellent start for anyone who wants to read more on any of the subjects discussed. However, with the exception of Dr. Weedon's references, it is identical to the bibliography in the original edition.

Part VI, "Appendices," summarizes six subjects briefly: Dakota reservations and populations; Sioux religion, culture and, traditions; rare, threatened, and endangered plant species of the Black Hills; common butterfly species in the Black Hills; elevations of selected sites; and the geologic time table.

Since I'm reviewing this book for SDOU, I think it most appropriate to comment specifically on coverage of birds.

In Part III, pages 106 - 135, Dr. Froiland discusses Black Hills birds. He begins with two pages of zoogeographical and ecological discussion, followed by an annotated list of 25 selected species of birds. These species, all breeding in the Black Hills, were selected on the basis of

attracting "much interest, question, and comments from students and visitors to the Hills." While choosing 25 species from among all the species that we know to nest here is necessarily a matter of personal judgment, I certainly agree in general with the selections of Dr. Froiland and his consultants (who included Les Baylor and Bob Buckman). Following the selected species is a complete listing of the regularly occurring bird species of the Black Hills, divided into four categories: permanent residents (40 species), summer residents (62 species), transients (26 species), and winter residents (13 species and forms). Within each category, species are listed in checklist order. This will undoubtedly be a very useful approach for many readers, but I personally find it somewhat confusing to find one species of duck (Mallard) listed under Permanent Residents, four (Gadwall, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, and Common Merganser) under Winter Residents, none under Summer Residents, and the other nine under Transients, although I agree with the placement of the species in those particular categories.

As far as the other vertebrates are concerned, I have much less field experience, but Dr. Froiland's literature review and discussion appear to cover them well. Both chapters — Amphibians and Reptiles, and Mammals — begin with brief introductory sections on the zoogeographical and ecological distribution of the respective groups. In the herptile chapter, the introductory section is followed by an annotated list of the seven species of amphibians and fifteen of reptiles known from the Black Hills. In the mammal chapter, Dr. Froiland follows the introductory pages with an annotated list of the twenty selected mammal species and then a complete checklist (based on Ronald Turner's 1974 Ph.D. dissertation) of the 63 species known from the Black Hills, plus 19 hypothetical species.

To conclude, I think that Dr. Froiland does an excellent job of bringing together much detailed information concerning the natural and wild Black Hills. I certainly recommend this book to everyone who is interested in the wide range of information that it contains. This is not a field guide. Readers interested in identifying the listed species of birds, mammals, and herptiles will need appropriate field guides. For Black Hills birds, I think that Roger Tory Peterson's *Field Guide to the Western Birds*, 1990 edition, is probably the best identification reference, and of course the 1991 edition of SDOU's *Birds Of South Dakota* and Richard Peterson's *Birdwatcher's Guide To The Black Hills* (1990) are excellent references in which to find more distributional information on any Black Hills species. Nathaniel R. Whitney, 633 S. Berry Pine Road, Rapid City SD 57702.

HANDBOOK OF AUSTRALIAN, NEW ZEALAND AND ANTARCTIC BIRDS. VOLUME 1. RATITES TO DUCKS. Parts A and B. Coordinators S. Marchand and P. J. Higgins. 1990. 1400 pp. Melbourne: Oxford University Press. \$295.00.

These two volumes are the first of a multivolume set on the birds of the Australian realm. Species accounts include sections on field identification, habitat, distribution, movements, banding, and food. There follow sections on social organization and behavior, voice, breeding (seasons, sites, nests, eggs, clutch size, and success) plumages, colors of

bare parts, molts, measurements and weights, structures, and, finally, a list of references. Range maps are provided for each species. From a listing of these topics, this text obviously presents an exhaustive coverage of what is known about the birds of this region. Disappointingly, the book does not discuss the ecology of the region.

Any library with ornithological holdings should acquire this text. Persons who have visited or are planning a birding vacation to Australia or New Zealand will also treasure the book. Readers will appreciate the superb color paintings in the text. Hard-core birders may also wish to acquire these particular volumes since they include the petrels and shearwaters, the Australian birds we in North America are most likely to encounter off California. The bottom line for this book, however, is its price, which will inspire most readers to suggest purchase by local libraries rather than by individuals. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen SD 57401.*

MASTERPIECES OF BIRD ART: 700 YEARS OF ORNITHOLOGICAL ILLUSTRATION. by Roger F. Pasquier and John Farrand, Jr. Abbeville Press, New York. 261 pp. Hardbound \$85.00.

This gorgeous book's price is well worth its lavish color plates. Anyone interested in birds will welcome this text to their coffee table collection. The paintings begin with the Egyptians and continue through contemporary artists. Because many ornithologists have also been painters, through the pictures and text, one learns quite a bit of ornithological history along while enjoying the artistry. One is also introduced to many of the world's exotic birds.

My only complaint is that I know that a few contemporary artists are omitted. I know that the authors could not possibly have included everybody. But I wonder why the book includes six paintings by Roger Tory Peterson (who wrote the forward of this book) at the expense of these other fine artists (for example, Doug Pratt, principle artist for the National Geographic field guide). The book ends with four paintings by Lars Jonsson, a Swedish artist. This number does not seem excessive, because these paintings are stunning (and less familiar, at least to me, than the American works included in the book). The book's last plate by Jonsson, a sand crab's eye view of Caspian Terns, is a true modern work of art, not simply an example of exquisite draftsmanship, like so many other bird paintings.

The accompanying text is brief but interesting, with comments on the artists, the birds and bird ecology. Included in the text is the comment that Audubon plagiarized some of Alexander Wilson's work; unfortunately, examples of this copying (which I have seen in the originals) are not provided in this book. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen SD 57401.*

THE 1992 SPRING SEASON

Compiled by
Dennis Skadsen
RR Box 113
Grenville, SD 57239

One reporter described the weather for the period as "unstable" and I must agree. The whole of March and first half of April were unseasonably warm and quite dry bringing an earlier than usual migration of waterfowl. A late winter storm on 20 and 21 April caused weather and weather related mortality to birds in northeastern counties. Twenty dead robins were observed along an 11 mile stretch of highway in Day Co. Twelve bluebird nests started prior to the storm on the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge were abandoned with dead male bluebirds found in two of these nests. Bluebirds were not observed again for almost two weeks in the area. Cooler than normal temperatures prevailed through May with night temperatures reaching freezing during weeks prior to Memorial Day weekend. Observers in Day and Roberts counties reported large flocks of mixed swallow species, a flock of 700 on Big Stone Lake, trying to locate food during an exceptionally cold and dreary Memorial Day weekend. Strong southerly winds probably caused an over flight of most sparrow and warblers during the first half of May. Near normal precipitation began falling the end of May. Unusual was the number of out-of-range species during the period, most notably several Lazuli Buntings observed in the north central and northeastern portions of the state. Other out-of-range species included Black-necked Stilts, Summer and Western Tanagers.

Please note the special section in this report for species requiring special documentation and acceptance by the SDOU Rare Birds Committee. These reports should not be used in further reports or citations until accepted by the committee.

Dan Brady (DB)
Nancy & Robert Buckman (N&RB)
Sheldon Cooper (SC)
Kurt Dean (KD)
Ken Graupmann (KG)
Kevin & Maggie Hachmeister
(K&MH)
Bruce K. Harris (BKH)
Augie Hoeger (AH)
Jan A. Kieckhefer (JAK)
Jon Kieckhefer (JRK)
Robert W. Kieckhefer (RWK)
John Koerner (JK)
Pearl Krause (PK)
Lester Lauritzen (LRL)
Jim Law (JLa)

Doug Leschisin (DAL)
Jon Little (JL)
Michael M. Melius (MMM)
Ernest Miller (EEM)
Everett Montgomery (ECM)
Jim Parker Sr. (JPSr)
Richard A. Peterson (RAP)
Nathan Pieplow (NP)
D. George Prisbe (DGP)
Esther Serr (ES)
Jaci Seville (JS)
Bud & Alice Shaykett (B&RS)
Bill Schultze (BS)
Dennis Skadsen (DRS)
Mark Skadsen (MSS)
Paul F. Springer (PFS)

Jerry Stanford (JCS)
R. Summerside (RVs)
David Swanson (DLS)
Lisa Swanson (LS)
Dan Tallman (DAT)
Erika Tallman (EJT)
Rose Van Sickle (RVS)

Steve Van Sickle (SVS)
Duane Weinacht (DW)
Nat R. Whitney (NRW)
Tom Wickstrom (TW)
J. David Williams (JDW)
Randall D. Williams (RDW)
MyRon Zimmer (MZ)

Abbreviations used: NHSP - Newton Hills State Park, SLNWR - Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, USF&WS - United States Fish & Wildlife Service, WNWR-Waubay National Wildlife Refuge

- Common Loon — 3 March, Hughes Co., **EARLIEST EVER** RVs). 12 April, Day Co. (DRS).
- Pied-billed Grebe — 24 March, Yankton Co., very early (SVS). 1 April, Day Co., 3, early (DRS). 24 April, Pennington Co. (NRW).
- Horned Grebe — 15 March, Yankton Co. **EARLIEST EVER** SVS). 14 April, Deuel Co. (BKH). 16 April, Lake Co. (N&RB). 19, 20 April, PENNINGTON Co. (ES, NRW).
- Western Grebe — 5 April, SLNWR, very early (SLNWR). 25 April, Jackson Co. (KG). 10 May, McPherson Co., adult on nest, **EARLIEST EVER** NESTING (JDW).
- CLARK'S GREBE** — 11 May, SLNWR, pair (DAT, DGP). 15 May, Jackson Co., Kadoka Lake (KG, MSS, BKH).
- Double-crested Cormorant — 25 March, Day Co., very early (DRS). 25 March, Deuel Co., 2, very early (BKH).
- Least Bittern — 25 May, Brookings Co. (MSS).
- Great Blue Heron — 21 March, Custer Co., 13, early (MMM). 23 March, SLNWR (SLNWR).
- Great Egret — 13 April, Deuel Co., 2, early (BKH). 17 April, Day Co., early (DRS). 18 April and 30 May, Brown Co. (JCS). 29 April, Yankton Co. (SVS).
- Snowy Egret — 24 May, Day Co. (DRS, MSS).
- Cattle Egret — 8 May, SLNWR (SLNWR). 25 May, **BUTTE Co.**, photographed, only 5th west river record (B&RS).
- Green-backed Heron — 12 May, Charles Mix Co. (SVS).
- White-faced Ibis — 13 April, Day Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (TW). 23 April, Brookings Co. (JRK). 23 April, Day Co. (DRS).
- Tundra Swan — 23 March, SLNWR (SLNWR).
- Trumpeter Swan — 4 April, **DEUEL Co** 2 (BKH).
- Greater White-fronted Goose — 27 February, Turner Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (LRL). 1 March, Minnehaha Co., 50, (DRS, MSS). 1 March, Edmunds Co., 3 (JDW). 1 March, SLNWR, peaked on 28 March at 18,000 (SLNWR). 20 May, Hand Co., 1, **LATEST EVER** (PFS).
- Snow Goose — 1 March, SLNWR, 1000, early (JCS). 2 March, Day Co., 12, early (WNWR). 23 May, Lake Co., 10 (MSS).
- Ross' Goose — 8 March, Hamlin Co., 24, earliest ever (BKH). 8 April, Brown Co., 25 (JCS). 20 April, Clay Co., 7 (DLS, KD). 22 April, Brown Co., 8 (JCS).
- Wood Duck — 1 March, Minnehaha Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (JL). 9 May, Lawrence Co. (NRW).
- Green-winged Teal — 1 March, Minnehaha Co. (DRS, MSS). 1 March, Lincoln Co. (NP). 7 March, Deuel Co., very early (BKH). Very early dates.
- Northern Pintail — 1 March, SLNWR (SLNWR). 1 March, WNWR, 8 (WNWR). 14 March, Meade Co., Bear Butte Lake, **5000** (EEM).
- Blue-winged Teal — 12 March, Yankton Co., very early (SVS). 23 March, Deuel Co., very early (BKH).
- Cinnamon Teal — 16 May, Meade Co., 4 on Bear Butte Lake (BKH, DRS, MSS, KG).
- Northern Shoveler — 14 March, Lake Co., 4 early (JCS). 8 April, Meade Co., 100+ (NRW).
- Gadwall — 26 March, Hamlin Co., (BKH).

- American Wigeon — 1 March, Minnehaha Co., early (DRS, MSS). 1 March, Lincoln Co., early (NP).
- Canvasback — 2 March, Deuel Co., early (BKH).
- Redhead — 1 March, SLNWR, 4 very early (JCS). 7 March, Deuel Co., early (BKH). 2 April, WNWR, (WNWR).
- Ring-necked Duck — 4 March, Lincoln Co., early (NP). 7 March, Deuel Co., 14, early (BKH). 7 March, Brown Co., 2 early (JCS).
- Greater Scaup — 26 March, Hamlin Co. (BKH).
- Lesser Scaup — 1 March, SLNWR (JCS). 2 March, Deuel Co., 25 (BKH).
- Oldsquaw** — 8 March, Brookings Co. (JRK). 8 March, Yankton Co. (RVS). Very rare spring migrant.
- Common Goldeneye — 1 March, SLNWR (SLNWR).
- Bufflehead — 2 March, WNWR, early (WNWR).
- Hooded Merganser — 1 March, Brown Co., 6, ties earliest ever (JCS). 7 March, Deuel Co. and 8 March, Hamlin Co., very early (BKH). 11 March, SLNWR (SLNWR). 12 April, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 23 April, WNWR, 14 (DRS). 12 May, Charles Mix Co. (SVS). 22 May, Hand Co., female (PFS). 24 May, Day Co., female (DRS, MSS). 25 May, Deuel Co., female (BKH).
- Common Merganser — 1 March, SLNWR, 40 early (JCS). 7 March, Deuel Co., 4, early (BKH).
- Red-breasted Merganser — 4 March, Lincoln Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (NP). 7 March, Brown Co., 4 very early (JCS). 24 March, Yankton Co. (SVS). 14, 16, 23 April, Deuel Co., 1-3 (BKH).
- Ruddy Duck — 4 March, Lincoln Co., very early (NP). 8 March, Yankton Co., very early (SVS). 19 April, Kingsbury Co., one location **400** (DLS, LS).
- Turkey Vulture — 24 April, Faulk Co. (MMM). 28 April, Clay Co. (DB). 29 April, Yankton Co. (SVS). 25 May, Edmunds Co., photographed feeding on road kill (JDW). 28 May, Brookings Co. (RWK).
- Osprey — 19 April, Pennington Co., four at nest site (ES). Also reported from Fall River (RDW), Minnehaha (3) (JL).
- Bald Eagle — 27 March, Day Co., (TW, DAL). Also reported from Yankton Co. (SVS). **MARCH, ATTEMPTED NESTING OF PAIR AT SLNWR, NEST ABANDONED IN APRIL, BROKEN EGG BELOW NEST; NOT REPORTED AS A NESTING SPECIES SINCE THE 1800'S (SLNWR).**
- Sharp-shinned Hawk — Reported from Brookings (RWK), Clay (DB), and Day (DRS) counties.
- Cooper's Hawk — 30 April, Perkins Co. (MMM). 24 May, Day Co. (DRS, MSS). 31 May, McPherson Co. (JDW).
- Broad-winged Hawk — 29 April, Minnehaha Co. (NP). 11 May, Clay Co. (KD). 16 May, Lawrence Co., dark phase (BKH, DRS, MSS, KG). Present all May in Minnehaha Co. (AH).
- Swainson's Hawk — 1 April, Jackson Co., very early (KG). 3 April, Day Co., very early (WNWR). 20 April, Brown Co., earliest ever report of bird on nest (JCS).
- Ferruginous Hawk — 1 April, Roberts Co., near previous years nest site; and 6 April, Beadle Co., bird on nest (BKH). 23 May, **CLARK Co.**, nesting (USF&WS).
- Rough-legged Hawk — Observed in Brown (JCS), Deuel (BKH), Jackson (KG), Meade Co., dark phase (NRW), Meade (EEM), Mellette (MMM), and Yankton (SVS) counties.
- Golden Eagle — 7 May, Meade Co., nesting (EEM). 5 April, Aurora Co. (MMM). 1 March, Brown Co. (JCS).
- Merlin — 29 March, Yankton Co. (RVS). 23 May, WNWR, **LATEST EVER** (DRS, MSS).
- Peregrine Falcon — 8 May, Brown Co. (DAT). 16 May, Lawrence Co. (BKH, DRS, MSS, KG). 26 May, Clark Co., 2 (USF&WS).
- Greater Prairie-Chicken — 7 April, **BEADLE Co.** (BKH).
- Sharp-tailed Grouse — 10 March, SLNWR (SLNWR). 3 April, Roberts Co., 6 birds on Drywood Lake lek (BKH).

- Sandhill Crane — 23 March, Yankton Co. (SVS). 25 March, Turner Co. (LRL).
- Black-bellied Plover — 18 May, Clark Co. (BKH). 24, 25 May, SLNWR (JK).
- Lesser Golden-Plover — 19 April, Walworth Co., early (SC). 14 May, Roberts Co., 26 (BKH).
- Semipalmated Plover — 20 April, Clay Co., very early (DLS, KD).
- PIPING PLOVER** — 26 April, Jackson Co. (KG).
- Killdeer — 1 March, Lincoln Co., very early (NP).
- American Avocet — 17 May, Meade Co., **EARLIEST EVER NESTING** (EEM).
- Greater Yellowlegs — 6 April, Hamlin Co., 2, early (BKH).
- Upland Sandpiper — 19 April, Walworth Co., early (SC).
- Long-billed Curlew — 27 March, Custer Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (MMM). 23 May, Meade Co., nest w/eggs (EEM).
- Hudsonian Godwit — 25 April, Edmunds Co., 180 on wetland (JDW). 18 May, Hamlin Co., 43 (BKH).
- Marbled Godwit — 9 April, Hughes Co., early (MMM). 15 May, Jackson Co., very early nest w/eggs (KG).
- Ruddy Turnstone — 17 April, SLNWR, **EARLIEST EVER** (SC, JS). 18 May, Hamlin Co., 18 (BKH). 24 May, Day Co., 30+ (DRS, MSS). 24, 25 May, SLNWR (JK, DAT, BS).
- Sanderling — 18 May, Hamlin Co., 3 (BKH). 24 May, Marshall Co. (DRS, MSS).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper — 30 April, Yankton Co., early (SVS).
- Least Sandpiper — 30 April, Yankton Co., early (SVS).
- Pectoral Sandpiper — 5 April, Lincoln Co., very early (NP). 6 April, Clark Co., very early (BKH). 18 May, Clark Co., 200 (BKH).
- Dunlin — 26 May, Roberts Co., 75+ (BKH).
- American Woodcock — 29 April, Yankton Co. (SVS). 28 May, WNWR (DRS).
- Wilson's Phalarope — 17 April, SLNWR, abundant early migrants (SC, JS). 30 April, Yankton Co., early (SVS).
- Bonaparte's Gull — 8 April, Brown Co., 2 very early (JCS). 11 April, Lincoln Co., early (NP). 13 April, Deuel Co., 5 (BKH).
- Ring-billed Gull — 1 March, Lincoln Co., **EARLIEST EVER AWAY FROM MISSOURI RIVER** (NP). 7 March, Deuel Co., 33, very early (BKH).
- California Gull — 24 May, Day Co. (DRS, MSS).
- Herring Gull — 3 March, Hughes Co. (RVs). 7 March, Deuel Co., very early observation away from Missouri River (BKH).
- Glaucous Gull — 3 March, Hughes Co. (RVs). 26 March, **HAMLIN Co.** (BKH).
- Caspian Tern — 12 May, Yankton Co. (DLS). 14 May, Yankton Co., **GROUP OF 8 ON SANDBAR ON MISSOURI RIVER** (DLS, KD, SVS).
- Black-billed Cuckoo — 28 May, Minnehaha Co., 4 (AH). 26 May, Clay Co. (DB).
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo — 20 May, Minnehaha Co. (NP).
- Snowy Owl — 10 March, SLNWR (SLNWR).
- Burrowing Owl — 28 March, Custer Co., early (MMM).
- Long-eared Owl — 21 March, Edmunds Co. (MZ).
- Short-eared Owl — 13 March, Jackson Co., 12 (KG). 30 May, Meade Co., nest w/eggs & young (EEM).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird — 22 May, Brown Co. (JCS). 24 May, Day Co. (DRS). 31 May, Edmunds Co. (MZ).
- Whip-poor-will — 28 April, Clay Co., 2, very early (DLS). 29 April, Yankton Co., very early (SVS). 10-13 May, Deuel Co., singing in residential area of Clear Lake (JLa, BKH).
- Red-bellied Woodpecker — 1, 28 March, Brown Co. (JCS). 3 April, Day Co. (DRS). 10 May, Roberts Co. (BKH). 14 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL).
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker — 6 April, Brown Co., banded, early (DAT). 27 May, Roberts Co. (BKH).
- PILEATED WOODPECKER** — 11 May, Roberts Co., Hartford Beach State Park (DAT, DGP).
- Olive-sided Flycatcher — 21 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 23 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL). 31 May, Deuel Co. (BKH).

- Eastern Wood-Pewee — 2 May, Minnehaha Co., early (JL).
- Eastern Phoebe — 15 April, Roberts Co., nest building (BKH).
- Say's Phoebe — 16 April, Jackson Co., early (KG). 26 April, McPHERSON Co., early (JDW). 21 May, HAND Co (PFS). 25 April, MINNEHAHA Co. (JL). Rare in east river counties.
- Western Kingbird — 29 April, Day Co., early (DRS).
- Horned Lark — 16 May, Meade Co., nest w/young (EEM).
- Tree Swallow — 7 April, Hamlin Co., 6, very early (BKH).
- Violet-green Swallow — 20 April, Pennington Co., 15+, early (NRW).
- Rough-winged Swallow — 1 May, Pennington Co., early (NRW).
- Bank Swallow — 28 April, Clay Co., early (DLS, KD).
- Cliff Swallow — 30 April, Lincoln Co., very early (NP).
- Barn Swallow — 18 April, Lincoln Co., early (NP). 20 April, Pennington Co., early (NRW).
- Black-billed Magpie — 2 March, SLNWR (SLNWR).
- White-breasted Nuthatch — 27 April, Day Co., carrying nest material into cavity (DRS).
- Brown Creeper — Reported from Brookings (JAK, RWK), Brown (JCS), Minnehaha Co. (NP), and Yankton (SVS) counties.
- Rock Wren — 10 May, McPHERSON Co., photographed, first observation for this county (JDW).
- House Wren — 20 April, Clay Co., very early (DLS, KD).
- WINTER WREN — 16 April, Edmunds Co. (JDW).
- BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER — 31 May, Lincoln Co., NHSP, singing (MSS).
- Mountain Bluebird — 1 March, Pennington Co., very early (K&MH). Also reported from Custer (DRS), and Meade (EEM) counties.
- Eastern Bluebird — Reported from Brown (SLNWR), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Jackson (nesting) (KG), and Minnehaha (AH) counties.
- Veery — 20 April, Brookings Co., EARLIEST EVER RWK, JAK). 24 May, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
- Hermit Thrush — 10 April, Brown Co., banded (DAT, EJT). 11 April, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 16 April, Minnehaha Co. (NP). 17 April, Clay Co. (DLS, LS). 20 April, Brookings Co. (RWK). 22 April, Deuel Co. (BKH). 24 April, Brown Co. (JCS). 25 April, WNWR (DRS).
- Wood Thrush — 17 May, Clay Co. (DB). 21-31 May, Minnehaha Co., pair (AH).
- Gray Catbird — 9 May, Minnehaha Co., early (NP).
- NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD — 23 May, Beadle Co., singing (PFS).
- Loggerhead Shrike — 23 March, Deuel Co., early (BKH).
- Bell's Vireo — 14 May, Union Co., early (DLS, KD, SVS). 16 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL).
- Solitary Vireo — 28 April, Brown Co., banded, very early (DAT, EJT). 2 May, WNWR, early (DRS). 4 May, Minnehaha Co., early (NP). 7 May, Union Co. (DLS, KD). 13 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH).
- Yellow-throated Vireo — 11 May, Clay Co., pair (DLS, KD).
- Warbling Vireo — 7 May, Yankton Co., early (SVS). 24 May, Minnehaha Co., 10 (AH).
- Red-eyed Vireo — 24 May, Minnehaha Co., 16 (AH).
- GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER — 20 May, Edmunds Co., rare migrant (MZ).
- Tennessee Warbler — 13 May, Minnehaha Co., 60 (AH).
- Orange-crowned Warbler — 14 April, Clay Co., earliest ever (DLS, KD). 20 April, Minnehaha Co., early (NP).
- Nashville Warbler — 28 April, Brown Co., 3 very early (JCS). 7 May, Union Co. (DLS, KD). 13 May, Minnehaha Co., 6 (AH). 24 May, Day Co. (DRS, MSS).
- Northern Parula — 14 May, Union Co. (DLS, KD, SVS).
- Yellow Warbler — 10 May, Minnehaha Co., 50 (AH).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler — 7 May, Edmunds Co., very early (JDW). 13, 14 May, Union Co. (DLS, KD, SVS). 13, 21 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 25 May, Minnehaha Co. (MSS).

- Magnolia Warbler — 10 May, WNWR (DRS). 11 May, Minnehaha Co., 4 (AH). 12,25 May, Union Co. (DLS, KD). 17 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL). 24 May, Brown Co. (JCS).
- CAPE MAY WARBLER** — 14 May, Yankton Co. (DLS, KD, SVS). 16 May, Minnehaha Co., 4 (JL). 28 May, Minnehaha Co., late (AH). Considered a rare migrant.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler — 7 April, Minnehaha Co., early (NP).
- Black-throated Green Warbler — 14 May, Union Co. (DLS, KD, SVS). 14 May, Minnehaha Co., 4 (AH).
- Blackburnian Warbler — 12 May, Minnehaha Co., 10 (AH). 14 May, Union Co. (DLS, KD, SVS).
- Bay-breasted Warbler — 12 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 14 May, Union Co. (DLS, KD, SVS).
- Blackpoll Warbler — 24 May, WNWR (DRS, MSS).
- Ovenbird — 2 May, Minnehaha Co., early (JL).
- Northern Waterthrush — 8 May, **PENNINGTON Co.**, rare migrant in western SD (NRW).
- CONNECTICUT WARBLER** — 28 May, Minnehaha Co., very late rare spring migrant (AH).
- Mourning Warbler — Observed in Brown (JCS), Minnehaha (JL), (MSS), (AH), and Roberts (DRS) counties.
- Common Yellowthroat — 30 April, Clay Co., early (DLS, KD).
- Canada Warbler — 25 May, Union Co. (DLS). 16,17 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL). 31 May, Minnehaha Co. (MSS).
- Scarlet Tanager — 3 May, Roberts Co., ties earliest ever (JCS). 20 May, Day Co. (WNWR). 30 May, Edmunds Co. (MZ).
- Western Tanager — 2 May, **BROWN Co.** (JCS). 31 May, **EDMUNDS Co.** (MZ).
- Northern Cardinal — 7 March, Brookings Co. (RWK, JAK).
- Black-headed Grosbeak — 23 May, **BEADLE Co.**, pair, male singing (PFS).
- Lazuli Bunting — 19 May, **HAND Co.**, male, and 23 May, **BEADLE Co.**, singing male (PFS). 26 May, **BROWN Co.**, male banded (DAT, EJT). 29 May, **EDMUNDS Co.**, found dead (MZ). Rare visitor in eastern SD.
- Indigo Bunting — 21 May, Minnehaha Co., 3 (AH).
- Rufous-sided Towhee — 7 May, Minnehaha Co. (JL). 8 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 22 May, Hand Co., several pairs (PFS).
- American Tree Sparrow — 1 March, Brown Co., 300 (JCS).
- Clay-colored Sparrow — 7 May, Pennington Co., singing (NRW). 10 May, Minnehaha Co., 60 (AH).
- Field Sparrow — 4 May, Pennington Co., singing (NRW).
- Lark Sparrow — 12 May, Bon Homme Co. (SVS).
- Lark Bunting — 12 May, Charles Mix Co. (SVS). 14 May, Brown Co., 2 (JCS).
- Savannah Sparrow — 24 May, Day Co. (DRS, MSS).
- Fox Sparrow — 12 April, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 18 April, Edmunds Co. (MZ).
- Lincoln's Sparrow — 10 May, Minnehaha Co., 20 (AH).
- Swamp Sparrow — 26 April, Brookings Co. (JAK). 4 May, Minnehaha Co. (NP). 12 May, Charles Mix Co. (SVS).
- White-crowned Sparrow — 25 May, Beadle Co., very late (PFS).
- Harris' Sparrow — 7,12,24,28,31 March & 29, April, **PENNINGTON Co.**, banded on 12 March observed on subsequent dates (NRW).
- Bobolink — 24 May, Minnehaha Co., 20 (AH).
- Yellow-headed Blackbird — 2 April, Day Co., early (DRS).
- Northern Oriole — 18 April, Clay Co., very early (DW).
- Purple Finch — Reported from Brookings (RWK, JAK), Day (DRS), Minnehaha (NP), and Turner (LRL) counties.
- Cassin's Finch — 11 March, Pennington Co., 3 (NRW).
- House Finch — Reported from Brookings, nesting (RWK, JAK), Brown (JCS), Deuel, nesting (BKH, PK), and Meade (EEM) counties.
- Common Redpoll — Observed in Brookings (JAK), Brown (JCS), Day (DRS), and Minnehaha (NP) counties.

Species requiring rare bird reporting form:

Eurasian Wigeon — 14, 21 March, Brown Co., 2 (JCS).

King Rail — 30 May, Yankton Co. (RVS).

Black-necked Stilt — 16 May, Meade Co., 4 (EEM et al.)

Whimbrel — 24,25 May, SLNWR, photographed (DAT, BS, JK, ECM).

Barred Owl — 7 April, Yankton Co., agitated pair responded to taped call (RAP).

Carolina Wren — 6, 15 March, Brown Co., 2 on 15th (JCS).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher — 26 May, Spink Co. (PFS).

Philadelphia Vireo — 16-24 May, Minnehaha Co., 4 (JL). 18 May, Minnehaha Co. (MSS).

Blue-winged Warbler — 11 May, Brown Co., 2 (JCS).

Brewster's Warbler — 10 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH).

Worm-eating Warbler — 30 April, Brown Co. (JCS).

Kentucky Warbler — 21-31 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH fide MSS, BKH, PFS, JPSr).

Hooded Warbler — 20 May, Union Co. (DLS). 23 May, Brown Co. (JCS).

Summer Tanager — 16 May, Butte Co., male, photographed (EEM, B&RS et al.)

Green-tailed Towhee — 12 May, Butte Co., photographed (B&RS).

Le Conte's Sparrow — 24 May, Day Co. (DRS, MSS).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow — 25 May, Beadle Co., singing (PFS).

Hoary Redpoll — 1, 17 March, Brown Co. (JCS).

Published by
SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
EDITOR: DAN TALLMAN
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