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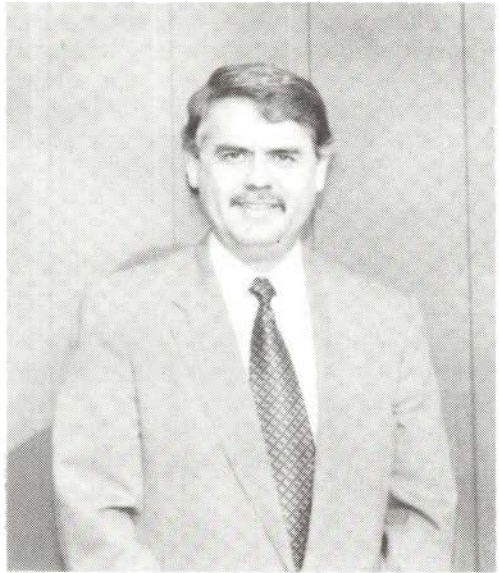
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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

As I begin this President's Page, the thermometer reads minus 10 degrees Fahrenheit. Strong winds are blowing, making it feel as if the temperature were closer to minus forty degrees. A person certainly admires the adaptability of the birds that visit the feeders, the suet and the heated bird bath on days such as this. Somehow, the sight of a Red-breasted Nuthatch feverishly attacking a suet-filled onion sack makes the winter slightly more tolerable. This adaptability of the various bird species is probably partly responsible for the interest many of us have in birds. Nearly every environment and every habitat will support some species that has evolved to make use of that area for feeding, shelter or nesting. Participating in the Breeding Bird Atlas Project for the past six summers certainly has taught me much about the importance of habitat and made me a much better bird observer. Recognizing habitats and knowing what birds to expect or hope to find in the area, make a person a more efficient birder. Habitats in North-central South Dakota, where I live, will be much different this spring than they have been for many years. The prairie potholes and marshes should have good water levels. With last year's above average rainfall and this winter's heavy snow, we should have great conditions for the spring waterfowl migration and nesting season. Areas like the Nature Conservancy's Ordway Prairie Preserve in McPherson county, with nearly 8000 acres of natural grass and wetlands, should provide spectacular birding opportunities, not only for waterfowl, but also shorebirds and many grassland avian species.

Speaking of fantastic birding opportunities, plan on being in Pierre on 20-22 May 1994 for the spring SDOU meeting. The variety of habitats in the Pierre area should be enticing to all birders. Come and participate on one of the organized field trips or go out by yourself and attend the banquet and program later. You are a member of SDOU for one reason, and that is an interest in birds. Take advantage of what we have to offer and attend this gathering of people who share the same interest as you and it is guaranteed that you will learn something new about birds. Watch for details in the *Lark Bunting* newsletter. Who knows — you may just see something you've never seen before and add a new species to your list.



We are hoping that this centrally located spring meeting will draw a large number of members. Our meeting this past October in America's former #1 city produced a dismal attendance. We had a good meeting and the planners did a great job with the banquet and program. Sunday morning we had an excellent field trip to a Nature Conservancy acquisition southeast of Sioux Falls. It is too bad more people were not there to enjoy the weekend. It has always seemed strange to me that we can get more members to a meeting in Bison than we can to a meeting in Sioux Falls.

Pierre is the place this May. Let's reverse this trend and have a big turnout for the spring meeting. Plan on it! You will not regret the experience. *J. David Williams, Box 277, Ipswich, SD 57451.*

UNUSUAL NUMBERS OF BLUE-WINGED AND GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLERS DURING SPRING 1993 MIGRATION IN SOUTHEASTERN SOUTH DAKOTA AND COMMENTS ON THEIR DISTRIBUTION

David Swanson

Department of Biology, Univ. of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069

Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers are not regular migrants in South Dakota. The Blue-winged Warbler is listed as a casual migrant (one record every 2 to 3 years), while the Golden-winged is considered a rare migrant (about one per season) in South Dakota (SDOU 1991). These two warblers are closely related species that often hybridize in regions of sympatry (Gill 1987). The breeding range of the Blue-winged Warbler extends from Eastern Nebraska east across Central Iowa and through the Southern Great Lakes region to the Atlantic coast in Southern Maine (AOU 1983). Golden-winged Warblers breed from Northeastern North Dakota and Southern Manitoba east to New York and Massachusetts and south from Northeastern Missouri to Northern Georgia (AOU 1983).

In the spring of 1993, there were three separate reports of Blue-winged Warblers (all were accepted by the South Dakota Rare Bird Records Committee) and 7 separate records of Golden-winged Warblers in Southeastern South Dakota (Table 1). In addition, I observed another male Golden-winged Warbler in Plymouth County, Iowa, just across the Big Sioux River from Union County, South Dakota, on 7 May 1993. These totals are well above normal for the casual and rare status accorded these species.

A number of studies in the Northeastern and Eastern United States have documented long-term declines in Golden-winged Warbler populations, while Blue-winged Warbler populations have increased over the same period (Gill 1980, Robbins et al. 1989, Hill and Hagan 1991). This trend is in part due to differences in habitat requirements between the two species, as Golden-winged Warblers prefer early succession stages, while Blue-winged Warblers prefer later succession stages (Gill 1980, Confer and Knapp 1981). Where the two species overlap, Golden-winged

Warblers are eventually replaced by Blue-winged. This replacement may be due to competitive interactions (Confer and Knapp 1981) or introgressive hybridization that results in the replacement of the Golden-winged phenotype with that of the Blue-winged (Gill 1980, 1987). The intent of this note is to examine the "outbreak" of these warblers in Southeastern South Dakota in the spring of 1993, with respect to the above noted population trends, especially in nearby breeding areas.

Blue-winged Warblers are regular breeders in Eastern Iowa and Southeastern Minnesota (Dinsmore et al. 1984, Janssen 1987). In Minnesota, the range of the Blue-winged Warbler is apparently expanding northward, at least the current breeding range extends further north than the historical breeding range (Janssen 1987). Golden-winged Warblers nest in East-central and North-central Minnesota and are also showing a recent northward expansion of their breeding range (Janssen 1987). In Iowa, Golden-winged Warblers are uncommon migrants, primarily in Eastern Iowa. Historical breeding records exist for the state, but there are no recent records, possibly suggesting replacement by Blue-winged Warblers (Dinsmore et al. 1984). In the past two fall migrations (1991 and 1992), Golden-winged Warblers have been widely reported in Iowa (Kent et al. 1992, 1993), suggesting good reproductive success in the northern parts of the breeding range. However, there are no verified fall records for either species in South Dakota in the period 1990 to 1992, although there are four spring records of Golden-winged Warblers and one spring record of a Blue-winged Warbler over the same time (Skadsen in Seasonal Reports, SDBN Vol. 42-45).

Species	Date	Location	Observers
Blue-winged Warbler	05-08-92	NHSP	DS, EL
	05-09-93	UCSP	DS, EL, JC
	05-21-93	UCSP	DS, EL, JC
Golden-winged Warbler	05-09-93	Minnehaha Co.	JL, MS
	05-10-93	Clay Co.	JC
	05-11-94	Minnehaha Co.	AH
	05-13-93	UCSP	DS, EL, JC
	05-17-93	Clay Co.	DS
	05-18-93	Clay Co.	DS, EL
	05-21-93	UCSP	DS, EL, JC

Table 1: Records for Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers in Southeastern South Dakota, Spring 1993. Location abbreviations are: NHSP - Newton Hills State Park, Lincoln County; UCSP - Union County State Park, Union County. Initialed observers: DS - David Swanson, EL - Eric Llknes, JC - John Clem, JL - Jon Little, MS - Mark Skadsen, AH - Augle Hoeger.

Do the range expansions of Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers noted for Minnesota and elsewhere account for the high number of observations in South Dakota this past spring and, if so, are increasing numbers of these species during migration something to be expected in the future? Alternatively, was this past spring simply an anomaly that brought a number of more typically southeastern warblers (including

Hooded, Kentucky and Cerulean) to South Dakota? Future observations in the upcoming years should provide answers to these questions.

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NEST SITES OF THE AMERICAN DIPPER IN THE BLACK HILLS

Doug Backlund

*SD Natural Heritage Program, SD Dept. of Game Fish and Parks
523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD. 57501*

Introduction

The American Dipper is monitored by the South Dakota Natural Heritage Program as a species of concern. The dipper in South Dakota occurs only in the Black Hills, and the habitat is limited to high quality mountain streams with suitable nest sites. The population in the Black Hills is probably isolated from the main range of the species. Dipper nesting has been documented on Rapid Creek and in Spearfish Canyon in recent years, but little information has been available on population size or number of nest sites.

On 5-6 April 1993, I conducted a survey of American Dipper nest sites on Spearfish Creek, Iron Creek (a tributary of Spearfish Creek), Little Spearfish Creek, East Spearfish Creek, and portions of Whitewood Creek and French Creek. Dippers were found on all streams surveyed except French Creek. Nests were located on Whitewood Creek, Spearfish Creek, Iron Creek, and Little Spearfish Creek.

Methods

Streams next to roads were surveyed by vehicle, with frequent stops to investigate any structures or natural features that appeared to be

possible nest sites. Sections of the streams not visible from the road were investigated on foot. Iron Creek (Spearfish Canyon), Whitewood Creek, and French Creek were surveyed on foot for the most part. Nest sites that were accessible were measured to determine the minimum dimensions of ledges and crevices used by dippers located in this survey.

Results

Eighteen dippers were seen on surveyed portions of Spearfish Canyon. It is likely some birds were missed, but suitable nesting areas are fairly easy to locate. Seventeen of the dippers were near nest sites and were engaged in activities indicative of breeding, such as nest building, singing, or agitated behavior. Ten active nest sites were located. Active nest sites often had multiple nests, both old and fresh. At four nest sites, only one dipper was seen. Natural nest sites were found at Bridal Veil Falls and about 0.5 miles downstream, Roughlock Falls and a short distance downstream, and on Iron Creek upstream from its junction with Spearfish Creek. One natural nest site with one fresh nest was found on a large rock midstream in Spearfish Creek. The water in Spearfish Creek and its tributaries was generally clear. The exceptions were Rubicon Gulch at Bridal Veil Falls and Squaw Creek, where the water was muddied and frothy.

A one mile section of Whitewood Creek downstream from Deadwood was surveyed. At least two, possibly four dippers, were seen on this section of Whitewood Creek. Two old nests were found under a railroad bridge and one old nest on a limestone cliff. Whitewood Creek was very muddy and running high.

French Creek, from Blue Bell Lodge to about one mile downstream from the West French Creek Primitive Campground, was surveyed, but no dippers were found, despite the presence of a number of apparently suitable nest sites. French Creek was turbid and there was a heavy silt load on the bottom. Patton reported finding six dipper nests in French Creek Canyon in 1924. Dippers may be extirpated from the French Creek drainage. A more thorough survey of the area is needed.

Discussion

The purpose of this survey was to locate nest sites for entry into the South Dakota Natural Heritage Program database. However, a discussion of anecdotal observations from the Black Hills, a comparison of these observations with available literature, and some editorializing may be of interest.

American Dippers have been reported to be both monogamous and polygynous. Polygyny is unusual in altricial birds. Polygyny in dippers seems to be the result of large foraging areas with few nest sites. Nest sites tend to be congregated on suitable cliffs or in areas with numbers of bridges. Price and Bock (1973) reported that polygyny in dippers occurs at high quality nest sites located on sections of streams with no other suitable nest sites for long distances. They found that polygynous males had larger territories, because of the lack of competition due to the lack of nest sites. Polygynous dippers were found to have significantly higher productivity than monogamous dippers, which were reported to use marginal nest sites. This seems to be the case in the Black Hills. High quality nest sites, such as Iron Creek, have numerous nests, both fresh

and old. The nest sites I found with only one dipper were isolated, yet near enough to other nest sites that territory restrictions could have decreased foraging area. These birds may be males without mates.

There are large sections of the surveyed streams that have no suitable nest sites, and no dippers were seen on these sections. High quality nest sites are limited and are used annually. A scarcity of nest sites has been reported in other parts of the dipper's range (Price and Bock, 1973; Bakus, 1959; Hann, 1950; Morse, 1979). The limited number of nest sites raises the possibility of improving nesting conditions for dippers in the Black Hills. Dippers will use artificial nest sites such as bridges. Improvements could be made to many bridges that would increase the quality of these sites. Predator barriers and nest cavities should increase nesting success, especially on sections of streams that have no other suitable nest sites and, therefore, no competition from other dippers. Sections of streams with no nest sites should benefit from artificial nest sites, provided they are properly spaced. On the basis of figures from Price and Bock, polygynous males have territories that average 6660 feet. Artificial nest sites that provide groups of nesting ledges or crevices spaced about one mile or more along sections of streams with no nest sites should increase breeding opportunities for polygynous dippers. To my knowledge, artificial nest sites specifically designed for dippers have never been tried. Ledges or crevices of cliffs, large rocks, and the underside of bridges were the only locations I found nests. Dipper nests that I located were built in crevices as small as six inches wide and on ledges as narrow as four inches.

Nests had three common characteristics: 1) Located over water (with the exception of one built high on a cliff next to Bridal Veil Falls); 2) Nearly inaccessible to terrestrial predators; and 3) Domed structures with a moss exterior.

In my opinion, the Black Hills dipper population is at risk. Most of the high quality nest sites are also high traffic areas for people. Water quality is declining in some streams, due to strip mining, livestock and other activities. A major truck route is along Highway 85 next to Spearfish Creek. Several years ago, a truck accident nearly dumped a load of pesticide into Spearfish Creek. Current evidence indicates that dippers may have been extirpated from at least one stream already. Since dippers are not known to be long distance migrants, there is probably little chance of natural recruitment from the main range of the species. Additional surveys, which I plan to conduct in the spring of 1994, will provide more information on the distribution and numbers of this species in the Black Hills.

The nest sites located in this survey have been mapped and entered in the South Dakota Natural Heritage database. Since nest sites are limited, fairly permanent, and used for many years, protection of the nest sites is important. Now that the locations of the nest sites are in the database, the information can be used quickly and efficiently for environmental review. Also, dipper populations can be monitored from this baseline information.

Acknowledgments

The South Dakota Natural Heritage Program is financially supported by the South Dakota Department of Game Fish and Parks. Funding for the program is from sales of hunting and fishing licenses and federal aid in the form of Pittman-Robertson excise taxes on firearms and ammunition.

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GENERAL NOTES

CERULEAN WARBLER AT UNION COUNTY STATE PARK. On 9 May 1993 at approximately 7:00 PM, I observed an adult male Cerulean Warbler actively foraging from mid- to upper-canopy level (15-35 ft. above the ground) along Brule Creek near the large picnic area in Union County State Park. The bird was foraging among a flock of Orange-crowned and Yellow-rumped warblers. Although the bird remained at least at mid-canopy height, there was good light and little wind and I was afforded several very good views. The upperparts, including the head, wings and upper tail were cerulean blue. There were two white wing bars, the posterior being slightly broader than the anterior. The face exhibited blue cheeks and auriculars, with a thin white crescent immediately below the eye and a thin whitish stripe extending from the back of the eye to the nape. The bird had white underparts, including large white windows on the undertail. The throat and breast were also white except for a complete black necklace across the upper breast and fine black streaking on the sides of the breast extending onto the flanks. The legs were dark pink and the bill was dark gray.

The only other predominately blue, white and black warbler is the male Black-throated Blue. This species was eliminated as males have a black throat and lack wing bars. The Cerulean Warbler is considered a casual spring migrant in Eastern South Dakota (SDOU 1991, *The Birds of South Dakota*, NSU Press, Aberdeen) although it is apparently an occa-

sional breeder at Newton Hills State Park, Lincoln County, about 25 miles northeast of Union County State Park (Springer and Skadsen 1986, SDBN 38:7-16; Skadsen 1992, SDBN 44:15-16). Stephens et al. (1957, *The Birds of Union County, South Dakota*, Occ. Pap. Nebr. Ornith. Union, No. 1) do not list the Cerulean Warbler as occurring in Union County. This record has been reviewed and accepted by the South Dakota Rare Bird Records Committee. David Swanson, Dept. of Biology, USD, Vermillion, 57069-2390.

COMMON GRACKLE PHILOPATRY IN NORTH DAKOTA. On 19 May 1991, we banded a nestling Common Grackle in Fargo, North Dakota. The bird (band 1213-19645) was subsequently recovered in West Fargo, North Dakota, about 3 km west of the banding site, on 3 June 1992. The bird was destroyed in a farm shelterbelt by a house cat and no morphological information could be obtained. Previous banding has shown that adult grackles from Eastern North Dakota winter in Arkansas and Louisiana (Bray et al. 1973, *Bird-Banding* 44:1-11). Common Grackles are considered rare winter residents in South Dakota (SDOU, 1991, *The Birds of South Dakota*) and even rarer in North Dakota. Therefore we believe that this bird provides a case for natal philopatry in North Dakota. David L. Bergman, USDA, Denver Wildlife Research Center, North Dakota Field Station, NDSU, Fargo ND 58105 and H. Jeffrey Homan, Zoology Department, NDSU, Fargo ND 58105.



BOOK REVIEWS

THE BIRDS OF CITES AND HOW TO IDENTIFY THEM.---Johannes Erritzoe. The Lutterworth Press, Cambridge, England. Cloth. 168 pp. \$51.00.

CITES is the acronym for The Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species. This book is a guide to the identification of these birds and is directed primarily toward custom officials and other wildlife officers. Because of the book's numerous color illustrations, the text will have appeal to birders with an interest in endangered birds of the world.

The author's intention is to provide a quick guide to birds in the hand. Thus no mention is made of habits, behavior, or ecology. The text begins with a "Quick Guide to all Bird Families," a list with a black and white drawing of one or two species of each family. A glossary follows, as does a color guide, 54 color squares with names for each (blue, bronze-green, isabelline, to mention but three).

Eighty-five plates, most of them in color, follow, each opposite short species accounts. Every endangered species is not illustrated in color. Some are only shown in black-and-white, including, disappointingly, the hummingbirds. The overall quality of the illustrations is very good. The accounts contain English, French, and German common names, the

species' range, and identification marks. Many references are made to a literature section at the end of the book. The book ends with the text of CITES, an English-French-German-Spanish word conversion table of conservation and bird-related words, an index of scientific names, and a map of the world.

The *Birds of CITES* also is available in ring-bound (\$44.00) and leather-bound (\$161.00) editions. All three are available through The Lutterworth Press, PO Box 60, Cambridge CB1 2NT, England (Fax 0223-66951). Anyone interested in the conservation of the world's endangered species will find this practical book of interest and it should certainly be recommended for local and university libraries. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401.*

A WORLD CHECKLIST OF BIRDS.—Burt L. Monroe, Jr. and Charles G. Sibley. Yale University Press, New Haven. Cloth. 393 pp. \$45.00.

This book is a checklist of the birds of the world. It is a simple list—a box for a check, the scientific name, the common name, the range of the species, and a line for filling in date and place of observation. A book like this has obvious utility for the cosmopolitan bird lister. This list is superior to others similar to it because it contains subspecies that the authors consider to “display characteristics that suggest possible species status.” This inclusion buffers the lister from losing possible species through the vagaries of the taxonomy of the list on which he or she keeps tab.

For the nonlister or for those of us who can ill afford world travel, this list makes available Sibley, Monroe, and Ahlquist's DNA-based world taxonomy of birds. This taxonomy is the wave of the future, and most of it will probably be adopted by the American Ornithologists' Union's checklist, the list that presents the order in which birds appear in our various checklists and books. Basically, the book is a very shortened version of Sibley and Monroe's *Distribution and Taxonomy of Birds of the World*, (reviewed in the June 1991 *Bird Notes* 43:39-40) and a supplement to that text (to be reviewed in a future issue of *Bird Notes*).

I have but two criticisms of this book. First, this book lacks a numbering system for each species used by the authors in the first book is missing. A species number system greatly enhances computer-based listing. For example, species codes would have greatly facilitated the making of a South Dakota bird list based on this new taxonomy. Second, the price of this text seems a little high for a book devoid of illustrations. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401*

PINGFISHERS BEE-EATERS AND ROLLERS, A Handbook.—C. Hilary Fry, Kathie Fry. Illustrated by Alan Harris. 1992. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey. 324 pp. Cloth.

FINCHES AND SPARROWS, An Identification Guide.—Peter Clement. Illustrated by Alan Harris and John Davis. 1993. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey. 500 pp. Cloth \$49.50

These two books represent the fifth and sixth installments of a series that began with the publication of *Seabirds, An Identification Guide*, in 1983. Other published titles to date include: *Shorebirds, An Identification*

Guide: Waterfowl, An Identification Guide to the Ducks, Geese, and Swans of the World; and *Swallows and Martins, An Identification Guide and Handbook*. All these volumes follow a similar format in their presentation of color plates, range maps, and systematic accounts. (This consistency is somewhat surprising since Princeton University Press is the series' third publisher.)

Kingfishers, Bee-Eaters and Rollers includes information on all 123 known species of these colorful and interesting birds. The book begins with an explanation of the plates, maps, and text, and a general summary of the feeding habits, nesting, behavior, and distribution of the Order Coraciiformes. The systematic section (or species accounts) provides data on field identification, voice, geographical variations, habitat and range, population, food, habits, nesting, plumage descriptions, and references for further information on the bird described.

More familiar to South Dakota birders are the species treated in *Finches and Sparrows*. The book describes each of the 290 species found in the families Fringillidae, Estrildidae, and Passeridae. The first chapters include information on using the book, general facts on finches and sparrows, and tips on identifying these birds. The systematic section is similar to that of *Kingfishers*, however, it lacks data on nesting (probably why this volume is designated as an identification guide). Both books end with extensive bibliographies.

The color plates in both volumes (*Kingfishers* has 40 plates, *Finches* 73) show birds either perching on vegetation or standing on the ground. Each plate illustrates plumage variations, when they occur, by age, sex, and subspecies. Colored distribution maps, found on the page opposite each plate, show the range of resident species, breeding-season visitors, and non-breeding visitors. Each illustration is numbered and referenced with a brief description on the opposite page.

Although these books are fun to look at and peruse, some of the problems found in earlier volumes of the series persist. The color plates are well done and pleasing to the eye, but species are still not separated and clearly grouped. This layout makes it hard to tell which of the birds you are viewing without constantly referring to the opposite page. Making this task even more difficult is that similar looking species are grouped together. For those of us not familiar with European vernacular names, finding North American species is a frustrating chore, a problem more prevalent in *Finches and Sparrows*. For instance, in searching for information on the Lesser Goldfinch, you must know the English name Dark-backed Goldfinch, for White-winged Crossbill the English name is Two-barred Crossbill, etc. American names are not mentioned in the plate or index. The only reference to American names is at the beginning of the systematic account.

It will be interesting to see if the series continues. A volume on birds of prey was set for publication in 1990 by a previous publisher, but has not been released.

I can recommend, even at the seemingly high price, *Finches and Sparrows* to South Dakota birders. This guide would prove useful in identifying finches, especially Rosy Finches, and Redpolls. The plates and text for these birds are more detailed and informative than current North

American field guides. Serious students of ornithology will want to add both volumes to their libraries. It's imperative that people who are committed to bird conservation be aware of the global diversity of birds. These two books will introduce the reader to over 400 species of birds, some no doubt will disappear from the planet in the next few decades. *Dennis Skadsen, RR Box 113, Grenville, SD 57239.*

IOWA BIRDLIFE.—Gladys Black. 1992. University of Iowa Press, Iowa City. 175 pp. Cloth \$34.95 Paperback \$15.95

This volume is an expanded second edition of *Birds of Iowa*, first published in 1979. In addition to new essays, the book reprints several of the author's columns first published in the *Des Moines Register* and *Marion County News* between 1969 and 1992. The new edition contains a revised checklist of Iowa species and a detailed description of habitats found across the state. Excellent color photographs by Carl and Linda Kurtz and Jim Messina are included. Black-and-white photographs accompany several accounts. Proceeds from the book's sale will be used by the Nature Conservancy's Iowa Chapter to acquire and preserve habitat.

These articles are mainly written about observations made around the Red Rock Reservoir in South-central Iowa, and essentially are accounts of birds found there. This book will be useful to birders in South Dakota and Iowa. Subject matter ranges from accounts of rare birds seen in the area to descriptions of the behavior and antics of regularly occurring species found throughout Iowa. The author also relates to us the antics of fellow birders. Mrs. Black describes her indignation at learning of a good friend's failure to call about a mysterious bird that had been visiting her feeder for several weeks. The bird, a Clark's Nutcracker, had not been observed in Iowa for 78 years!

Mrs. Black is a keen observer and although she considers herself an amateur, has a knowledge of ornithology that would make many envious of her abilities. I found reading these accounts and columns a pleasure, often recalling my own bird observations and interactions with several birding companions I have come to call good friends over the years. I recommend this book to all. *Dennis Skadsen, RR Box 113, Grenville, SD 57239.*

CRANE MUSIC. A Natural History of American Cranes.—Paul A. Johnsgard. 1991. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington. 136 pp. cloth.

Paul Johnsgard has written a short, surprisingly informative volume on North American Cranes. The first chapter describes the mythology and folklore surrounding cranes, and a general natural history of the group. The second and third chapters provide historical data on Sandhill and Whooping Cranes, data on spring and fall migration, and information on their northern breeding grounds. The final chapter provides short descriptions of the remaining 13 crane species found throughout the world. Pen-and-ink drawings by the author illustrate several aspects of crane behavior.

The book is written as a non technical introduction to cranes, however readers already familiar with the species will find this volume interesting. For example, I was unaware that fossil remains 9 million years

old currently place the Sandhill Crane as the oldest known living bird species, or how flood control has changed the ecology of sandbars on the Platte River, an endangered river that has inextricable ecological links connecting cranes and humanity.

That both Whooping and Sandhill cranes migrate through our state, makes this book an ideal choice for South Dakota birders. *Dennis Skadsen, RR Box 113, Grenville, SD 57239.*



SEASONAL REPORTS

The 1993 Fall Season Report

Compiled by
Dennis Skadsen
RR 1 Box 113
Grenville, SD 57239

Weather for the period was described as dry and mild up to the last week of November. During Thanksgiving week, heavy snows occurred in several locales. Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge received 26 inches, Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area received 18 inches, and Brookings received 17 inches of snow.

An unusually heavy invasion of Red-breasted Nuthatches was noted by several observers. From 30 July through Thanksgiving, 41 Red-breasted Nuthatches and 81 Black-capped Chickadees were banded at Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area. Most of these were hatching year birds, indicating an excellent breeding season for both species. Heavy migrations of Pine Siskins and Purple Finches were reported from the North-central part of the state. More reports than usual were received for Surf Scoter, Winter Wren, and Fox Sparrow. Several warbler sightings were very late or latest ever. Some of the more interesting observations of the period include: Tricolored Heron, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Red Knot, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Carolina Wren, Connecticut Warbler, and Lesser Goldfinch. The most notable find was an emaciated Ancient Murrelet in Edmunds Co. The bird died and the prepared skin was sent to the Smithsonian Institution for verification of identification. Word has been received that, indeed, the skin is that of an Ancient Murrelet, South Dakota's first confirmed record of the species.

Observers cited (EEM includes observations of Northern Hills Bird Club):

RB - Ron Bauer

LB - Les Baylor

GB - Gordon Berkey

NKB - Nancy K. Buckman

RDB - Robert D. Buckman

KC - Ken Cameron

KD - Kurt Dean

KG - Ken Graupmann

BKH - Bruce K. Harris

MH - Mark Harris

TK - Tom Kemp

JAK - Jan A. Kieckhefer

JFK - Joel F. Kieckhefer

JRK - Jon R. Kieckhefer

RWK - Robert W. Kieckhefer

LRL - Lester R. Lauritzen

NL - Norman Levine	WS - William Schultze
EL - Eric Liknes	DRS - Dennis R. Skadsen
JL - Jon Little	LS - Loyal Saugstad
MMM - Michael M. Mellus	JCS - Jerry C. Stanford
EEM - Ernest E. Miller	DS - David Swanson
ECM - Everett C. Montgomery	DAT - Dan A. Tallman
JSP - Jeffrey S. Palmer	EJT - Erika J. Tallman
MJP - Marge J. Parker	NRW - Nathaniel R. Whitney
JLP - Juanita L. Peterson	JDW - J. David Williams
RAP - Richard A. Peterson	JW - Jonathan Wright
NP - Nathan Pieplow	MZ - MyRon Zimmer
JS - Jim Schmalbach	

Abbreviations used: HBSP - Hartford Beach State Park, Roberts Co.; LNWR - Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Bennett Co.; OLSP - Oakwood Lakes State Park, Brookings Co.; PLSRA- Pickerel Lake State Recreation Area, Day Co.; SDOU - South Dakota Ornithologists Union; SFBC - Sioux Falls Bird Club; SLNWR-Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Brown Co.; UCSP - Union Co. State Park, Union Co.; WNWR-Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Day Co.

Common Loon - Reported from Day (DRS), Deuel and Roberts (BKH) counties.
 Pied-billed Grebe - 22 September, WNWR, 276 (WNWR).
 Horned Grebe - 26 October, Roberts Co. (BKH). 30 October, Kingsbury Co. (JSP), 9 November, PLSRA (DRS).
 Eared Grebe - 6 November, Lake Co., late (JSP).
 Western Grebe - 8 August, OLSP, 300 (RWK, JAK). 20 November, Kingsbury Co., late (JSP).
 Clark's Grebe - 14 August, Charles Mix Co. (JSP).
 Great Blue Heron - 25 November, PLSRA, very late (DRS). 27 November, Brookings Co. (RWK).
 Great Egret - Reported from Brown (JCS), Day (WNWR), Deuel (BKH), Kingsbury (JSP), Roberts (BKH), and Turner (JAK, JRK) (IRL) counties. Snowy Egret - Reported from Brown (JCS), Day (BKH) (DRS), and Kingsbury (JSP) counties.
TRICOLORED HERON - 4 August, Day Co., Hedtke Pass (BKH).
 Cattle Egret - 2 August, Codington Co., 70 at nesting colony, Goose Lake (BKH). Also reported from Brookings (BKH), Brown (JCS), Clark (BKH) (JSP), Day (DRS) (JCS), and Turner (JAK, JRK) counties.
YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - 22 August, Brown Co. (DAT).
 White-faced Ibis - 2 August, Codington Co., 10 in nesting colony, Goose Lake (BKH). 4 August, Day Co., Hedtke Pass, 20 (BKH). 27 August, Day Co., Rush Lake, 21 (WNWR). 16 October, Kingsbury Co., 3 (JSP).
 American Black Duck - 26 August, Marshall Co., Stink Lake, and 9 November, Grant Co., Big Stone Cooling Ponds (BKH).
 Cinnamon Teal - 7 August, Butte Co., male (GB).
 Gadwall - 21 October, Clark Co., 7000+ (BKH).
 Canvasback - 18 October, WNWR, 2757 (WNWR).
 Redhead - 27 October, Codington Co., Medicine Lake, 800+ (BKH).
 Lesser Scaup - 21 October, Clark Co., 600 (BKH).
SURF SCOTER - 29 September, Roberts Co., Big Stone Lake, 8, earliest ever (BKH, JS). 17 October, Deuel Co., Lake Alice, 2, and 21 October, Clark Co., 2 (BKH). 4 November, WNWR, 1 (WNWR).
WHITE-WINGED SCOTER - 4 November, Hamlin Co., Lake Poinsett (BKH). 6 November, Deuel Co., Lake Alice, 3 (BKH, MH).
 Barrow's Goldeneye - 15 November, Pennington Co., Canyon Lake, 1 (NRW, LB).

Hooded Merganser - 4 November, WNWR, 593 (WNWR). Also reported from Brown (JCS), Lake & Kingsbury (JSP), and Roberts (BKH) counties.

Turkey Vulture - 4 September, Lincoln Co. (JSP). 19 October, Brown Co., flying over Aberdeen (JW).

Osprey - Reported from Brown (DAT), Day (DRS), Lake (JSP), Lincoln (JL), and Roberts (BKH) counties.

Bald Eagle - Reported from Day (DRS) (WNWR), Deuel (BKH), Kingsbury (JSP), and Marshall (JCS) counties. Sharp-shinned Hawk - Reported from Brookings (RWK, JAK) (BKH), Brown (JCS), Custer (MJP), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Lake (JSP), Lincoln (SDOU) (SFBC), Pennington (NRW), and Todd (RAP, JLP) counties.

Northern Goshawk - 1 November, Deuel Co. (BKH, MH).

Broad-winged Hawk - 7 August, Lawrence Co., agitated pair (GB). 26 August, Sica Hollow, immature (BKH). 8 October, Edmunds Co., latest ever (MZ).

Ferruginous Hawk - 26 August, Marshall Co. (BKH). 3 October, Todd Co., 3 (RAP, JLP). 20 November, Meade Co., 6 (EEM).

Rough-legged Hawk - 20 November, Meade Co., 10 (EEM). Also reported from Custer (MJP), Day (DRS), Deuel (BKH), Edmunds (MZ), Pennington (MMM), and Tripp (RAP, JLP) counties.

Golden Eagle - Reported from Brown (JCS), Fall River (JSP), Meade (EEM), and Todd (RAP, JLP) counties.

Merlin - 5 September, Brown Co. (JCS). 30 September, Gregory Co. (RAP, JLP). 2 October, PLSRA (DRS). 16 October, Meade Co., 3 (EEM). 25 October, Deuel Co. (BKH). 23 November, Pennington Co. (MMM).

Peregrine Falcon - 30 August, Hamlin Co. (BKH). 19 September, Minnehaha Co. (JL). 18 October, Pennington Co. (RAP). 3, 13 November, Deuel Co. (BKH).

Prairie Falcon - Reported from Edmunds (MZ), Jackson (KG), and Perkins (EEM) counties.

Virginia Rail - 10 November, SLNWR, latest ever (DAT).

American Coot - 16 October, Roberts Co., Bullhead Lake, 5000 (BKH).

Sandhill Crane - 21 October, Custer Co., 2000 (MJP).

Black-bellied Plover - 1 October, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 2 October, Kingsbury Co. (JSP). 19 October, Bennett Co. (RAP, JLP).

Lesser Golden-Plover - 18 August, Clay Co., very early (DS, KD, EL). 18 September, Kingsbury Co. (JSP). 22 September, Roberts Co., 17; 6 October, Deuel Co., 80+; 19 October, Brookings Co., 85+ (BKH). 1 October, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 8 October, Brown Co., 3 (DAT, ECM).

Semipalmated Plover - 18 August, Clay Co. (DS, KD, EL). 2 September, Deuel Co., 3 (BKH). 18 September, Kingsbury Co. (JSP).

Killdeer - 21 October, Hamlin Co., 31 (BKH). 14 November, Jackson Co., late (KG).

Willet - 3 October, Brown Co., 10 (JCS).

Hudsonian Godwit - 4 August, Day Co., Hedtke Pass, 4, only second fall record reported (BKH).

Marbled Godwit - 4 August, Day Co., 80 (BKH).

RED KNOT - 11 September, Kingsbury Co. (JSP).

Sanderling - 2 October, Kingsbury Co. (JSP).

Western Sandpiper - 28 August, Brown Co. (DAT).

Least Sandpiper - 18 August, Clay Co., several (DS, KD, EL). 28 August, Brown Co. (DAT). 16 October, Kingsbury Co. (JSP).

Dunlin - 2 September, Deuel Co., 1, rare fall migrant (BKH).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER - 14 August, Charles Mix Co., 22+ (JSP).

Short-billed Dowitcher - 5 September, Brown Co., 10 (JCS).

Long-billed Dowitcher - 19 October, Bennett Co., 21 (RAP, JLP). 21 October, Hamlin Co., 138 (BKH). Also reported from Brown (JCS), and Kingsbury (JSP) counties.

American Woodcock - 27 August, WNWR, 1 (WNWR). 30 October, Deuel Co., very late (MH).

Bonaparte's Gull - 28 August, Kingsbury Co., early (JSP). 22 October, Deuel Co., 3 (BKH), 4 November, Day Co., 25 (DRS).

California Gull - 30 August, Hamlin Co., Lake Poinsett, 2 (BKH).

Herring Gull - 9 October, Meade Co., Bear Butte Lake, 2 (EEM).

Forster's Tern - 2 October, Kingsbury Co., **latest ever** (JSP).

Black Tern - 2 October, Kingsbury Co., very late (JSP).

Mourning Dove - 2 September, Brown Co., nest with young (JCS).

Black-billed Cuckoo - Only reports from Brookings (JAK), and Brown (JCS) counties.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 4 September, Union Co. (JSP).

Eastern Screech Owl - Reported from Brown (JCS), and Lawrence (GB) counties.

Snowy Owl - 18 October, SLNWR (WS). 20 October, Edmunds Co., early (JDW). 8 November, Edmunds Co. (MZ). 11 November, Kingsbury Co., 2, and 13 November, Lake Co. (JSP). 15 November, Day Co., and 19 November, Deuel Co. (BKH), 19 November, Day Co. (WNWR). 20 November, Meade Co. (EEM).

Burrowing Owl - 24 October, Meade Co., 2, very late (EEM).

Long-eared Owl - 4 November, UCSP, 4 (DS, KD, EL).

Short-eared Owl - 31 October and 23 November, Deuel Co. (BKH).

Northern Saw-whet Owl - 13 October, Brown Co., banded (DAT).

Common Nighthawk - 14 August, Pennington Co., 20 (NRW).

Chimney Swift - 14 August, Pennington Co., 20+ (NRW).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 11 August, Brown Co. (DAT). 16 August - 15 September, Brookings Co. (RWK, JAK). 16,20,26 August, Roberts Co. (BKH). 18,29 August, PLSRA (DRS). 23 August - 18 September, Edmunds Co., 15 observations (MZ). 25 September, Day Co. (LS).

Lewis' Woodpecker - 6 August, Custer Co., 3 (GB).

Red-bellied Woodpecker - 7 November, Brown Co. (JCS). 25 November, Lake Co. (NKB).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - Reported from Brown (JCS), Edmunds (MZ), and Lake (JSP) counties.

Red-naped Sapsucker - 19 August, Custer Co. (JSP).

Three-toed Woodpecker - 1 August, Pennington Co., Harney Peak (TK). 7 August, Lawrence Co. (GB).

Black-backed Woodpecker - 3 August, Pennington Co. (TK).

Pileated Woodpecker - 20,22 August, 30 September, 15 November, HBSP (HBSP). 8 November, Roberts, Ken Cameron Farm, rarely reported outside HBSP (KC).

Olive-sided Flycatcher - 20 September, Deuel Co., very late (BKH). Also reported from Edmunds (MZ), Roberts (BKH), and Union (JSP) counties.

Western Wood-Pewee - 6 August, Custer Co., adult feeding young (GB).

Dusky Flycatcher - 6 August, Custer Co. (GB).

Eastern Kingbird - 18 September, Tripp Co., very late (JLP, RAP).

Purple Martin - 9 August, Minnehaha Co., 500+ (RAP, JLP).

Barn Swallow - 3 September, Brown Co., adult feeding 6 young (JCS). 5 September, Turner Co., nest w/young (LRL).

Clark's Nutcracker - 1 August, Pennington Co., Harney Peak (TK).

Black-capped Chickadee - 81 banded during period, PLSRA (DRS).

Red-breasted Nuthatch - 41 banded during period, PLSRA (DRS). Also reported from Brookings (JRK, JAK), Brown (JCS) (DAT), Deuel (BKH), Edmunds (JDW), Minnehaha (JL) (NP), Roberts (BKH), Turner (LRL), Union (JSP) (DS, KD, EL), and Yankton (RAP, JLP) counties.

Brown Creeper - Reported from Brown (JCS), Day (DRS), Lake (JSP), and Minnehaha (NP) counties.

CAROLINA WREN - 10 August, Clay Co., **earliest ever** (EL, KD).

Winter Wren - 2 October, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 10 October, Lincoln Co., 2 (SDOU), 11 October, Lake Co. (RDB) (JSP).
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 23 August, UCSP (KD).
 Eastern Bluebird - 16 October, Edmunds Co., 20 (MZ).
 Gray-cheeked Thrush - Only report from Edmunds Co. (MZ).
 Swainson's Thrush - 25 August, UCSP, early (KD). Also reported from Brown (JCS) (EJT), Deuel (BKH), and Pennington (NRW) counties.
 Hermit Thrush - 1,7 October, Edmunds Co. (MZ). 10 October, Lincoln Co. (SDOU). 13 October, Brown Co. (DAT). 17 October, Lake Co. (JSP). 2 November, UCSP, late (DS, KD, EL).
 Wood Thrush - 25 September, Lincoln Co., late (SFBC).
 NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD - 19 October, LNWR, immature (RAP, JLP). 7 November, Roberts Co. (KC).
 American Pipit - 8 October, Deuel Co., 40+, and 21 October, Hamlin Co., 50+ (BKH). 15 October, Brown Co. (DAT, JW). 16,23 October, Kingsbury Co. (JSP).
 Bohemian Waxwing - 29 November, PLSRA, 2 (DRS). Bell's Vireo - 14 August, Charles Mix Co. (JSP).
 Solitary Vireo - 1 September, UCSP (DS, KD, EL). 18 September, Lake Co. (JSP). 18 September, Minnehaha Co. (NP).
 Yellow-throated Vireo - 2 September, Clay Co. (KD). Warbling Vireo - 18 September, Lake Co., late (JSP).
 Red-eyed Vireo - 22 October, Brown Co., banded, very late (DAT).
 Tennessee Warbler - Reported from Brown (JCS), Clay (DS, KD), and Day (DRS) counties.
 Orange-crowned Warbler - 22 October, Brown Co., banded, late (DAT).
 Nashville Warbler - 7 November, Minnehaha Co. (JL). Also reported from Brown (JCS) (DAT), Clay (DS, KD), Day (DRS), Edmunds (MZ), and Minnehaha (NP) counties.
CAPE MAY WARBLER - 15 October, PLSRA, banded & photographed, **latest ever** (DRS).
 Black-throated Blue Warbler - 17 August, Brown Co., banded, **earliest ever**, and 30 October, Brown Co., banded & photographed, **latest ever** (DAT).
 Blackburnian Warbler - 20 September, Deuel Co. (BKH).
 Blackpoll Warbler - 13 October, PLSRA, banded, **latest ever** (DRS).
 Palm Warbler - Only reports from Brown (JCS), and Minnehaha (DAT) counties.
 Bay-breasted Warbler - 2 September, Clay Co., and 6 September, Union Co., 3 (DS). 20 September, Deuel Co. (BKH). 30 September, 3 October, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
CONNECTICUT WARBLER - 17 October, Minnehaha Co., very late rare migrant (JL).
 Mourning Warbler - 19,24 August, 4 September, Clay Co., and 23,28 August, 6 September, Union Co. (DS). 26 August, Roberts Co. (BKH). 4 September, Brown Co. (DAT).
 MacGillivray's Warbler - 16 September, **Brown Co.**, banded (DAT). 7 August, Lawrence Co. (GB). 17 August, Custer Co. (JSP).
 Wilson's Warbler - 6 September, Pennington Co. (fide NRW).
 Canada Warbler - 20 August, 6 September, Union Co. (DS). 27 August, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
 Yellow-breasted Chat - 14 September, Edmunds Co. (MZ). 20 September, Brown Co. (JCS).
 Western Tanager - Reported from Custer (MJP) (JSP), and Pennington (NRW) counties.
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 11 October, Brown Co., late (JCS).
 Blue Grosbeak - 14 August, Charles Mix Co. (JSP).
 Lazuli Bunting - 18 August, Fall River Co. (JSP).

Rufous-sided Towhee - 2 October, Brookings Co. (JSP).
 Chipping Sparrow - 30 October, Minnehaha Co., late (JL).
 Lark Sparrow - 27 September, Edmunds Co. (MZ).
 Savannah Sparrow - 5 October, Pennington Co. (RAP). 9 October, Meade Co., 2 (EEM).
 Le Conte's Sparrow - 7 September, Brown Co. (DAT, JW).
 Fox Sparrow - 25 September, Lincoln Co. (SFBC). 10 October, Lincoln Co. (SDOU). 12, 15 October, Brown Co. (DAT). 14 October, PLSRA (DRS). 16 October, Lake Co. (JSP).
 Swamp Sparrow - 16 September, 6 October, Brown Co. (DAT). 25 September, Lincoln Co. (SFBC). 26 September, Brown Co., 5 (JCS). 29 September, Clay Co. (DS, KD). 7 October, Deuel Co., 2 (BKH). 10 October, Lincoln Co. (SDOU). 20 November, Brookings Co., very late (JSP).
 White-crowned Sparrow - 9 September, Hughes Co., **earliest ever** (DAT).
 Harris' Sparrow - 12 November, Brookings Co., 10 (RWK, JAK).
 McCown's Longspur - 4 October, Fall River Co., 12+, and 5 October, Pennington Co. (RAP).
 Smith's Longspur - 18, 19, 23 October, Deuel Co., up to 25 (BKH).
 Snow Bunting - 15 October, Brown Co., very early (DAT, JW).
 Rusty Blackbird - 19 September, Brown Co. (DAT). 16 October, Roberts Co., 4 (BKH). 30 October, Lake Co., and 11 November, Kingsbury Co. (JSP). 5 November, PLSRA, 6 (DRS).
 Brewer's Blackbird - During period 100+ Roberts Co. (BKH). Common Grackle - 17 October, Turner Co., 10,000+ (LRL).
 Rosy Finch - 3 November, Custer Co., 4+ (NL fide NRW).
 House Finch - Reported from Brookings (JAK), Deuel (BKH), Fall River (RAP, JLP), and Meade (EEM) counties.
 Red Crossbill - All period PLSRA (DRS). Also reported from Brown Co. (JCS).
 Common Redpoll - Reported from Brown (JCS), Day (DRS), Kingsbury (JSP), and Roberts (BKH, KC) counties.
LESSER GOLDFINCH - 18 August, Fall River Co. (JSP).

Observations requiring acceptance by the Rare Bird Records Committee:

ANCIENT MURRELET - 13 November, Edmunds Co., emaciated bird found during blizzard, specimen sent to Smithsonian, first state record and identification confirmed; first state record if accepted by Rare Bird Records committee (JDW).
 Rufous Hummingbird - 19-29 October, Codington Co., observed at feeder (RB, BKH).
 Le Conte's Sparrow - 18 October, Brown Co., 2 (JCS).
 Sharp-tailed Sparrow - 25 September, Brown Co., 4, and 19 October, Brown Co., 2 (JCS).

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