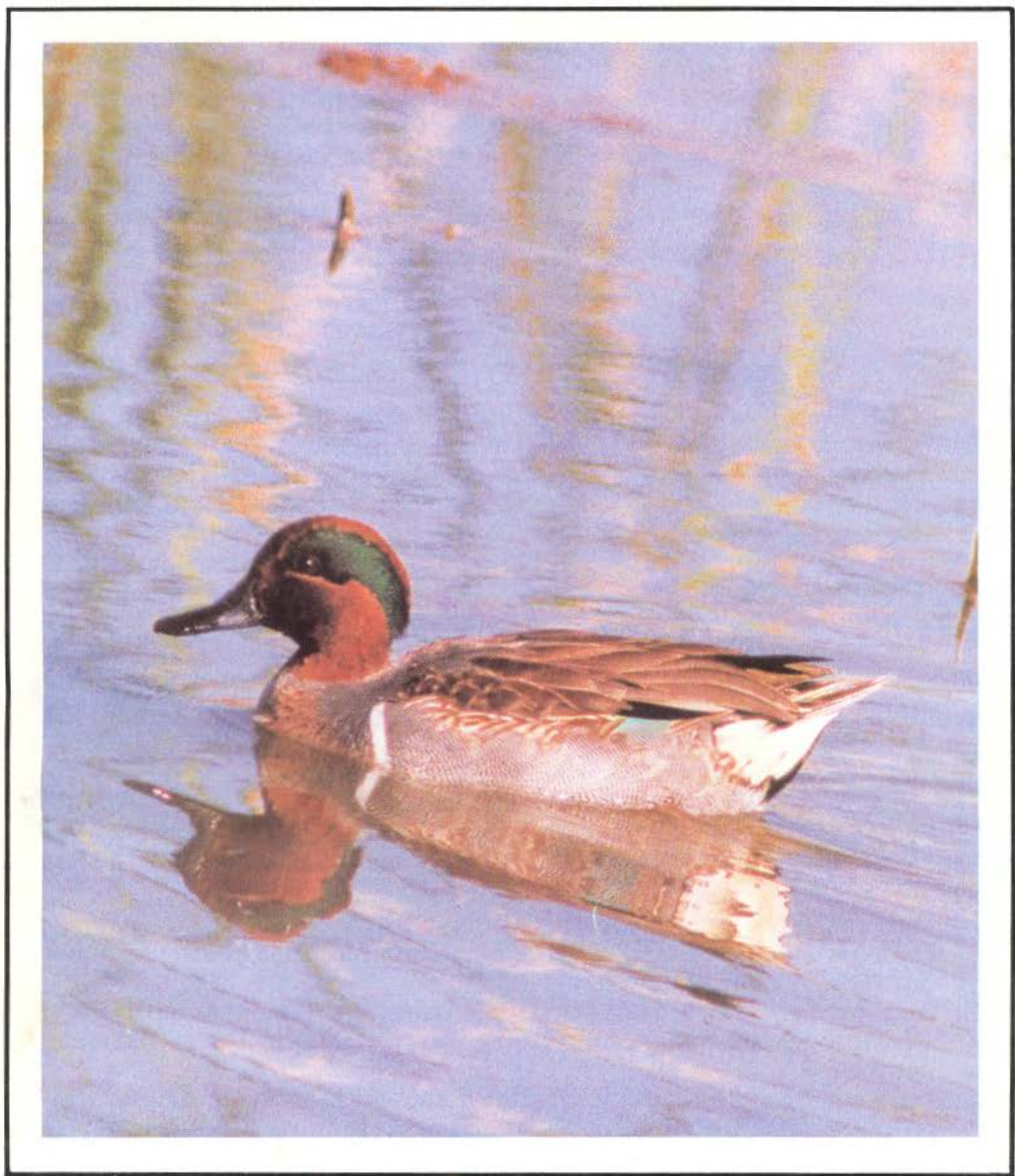


SOUTH DAKOTA  
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



SOUTH  
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NOTES

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## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

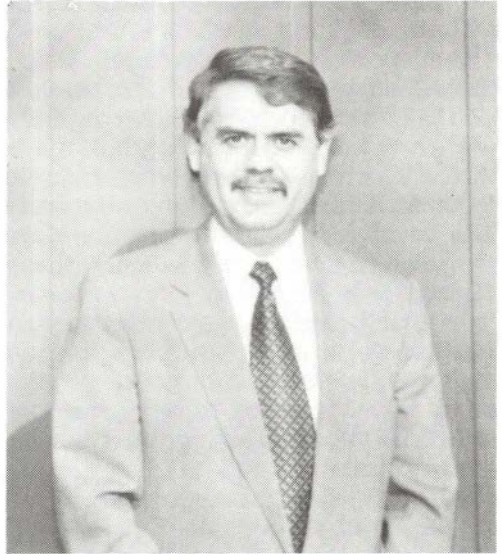
The end of my term is rapidly approaching, so this will be my last President's Page. Time has passed swiftly these past two years. The period has been very enjoyable for me and shall remain in my memory as a very positive experience.

One of the highlights has been the privilege of being involved in the Breeding Bird Atlas Project. The culmination of that work this past spring came with the publication of *The South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas* written by Richard Peterson. Having played a minor role in collection of the field data, I was pleased to see the nearly 20,000 observations of the participants compiled and organized. All of us in SDOU are indebted to Richard for his perseverance and diligence in carrying this project to conclusion.

Incidentally, the atlas is available now and should become part of your book collection. Ordering information is in the June 1995 issue of *Bird Notes*. This atlas, along with SDOU's other book, *The Birds of South Dakota*, are simply the best references available on the birds of this state. SDOU members receive special prices on both of these books, so I encourage you to purchase them, if you have not already done so.

This fall, if the board of directors follows earlier precedents, our current Vice President, David Swanson, will become our new President. SDOU will be in good hands with this knowledgeable and enthusiastic University of South Dakota ornithologist. I believe SDOU will benefit immensely from having Dave in this office.

For me, serving as President has been a pleasure — indeed, an honor. I've had the privilege of working with many good people who have been extremely helpful. I thank the members and especially the board of directors for placing their faith and trust in me. I will not just fade away. I am a life member and hopefully will be active well into the future.



## WARBLER HUNTING IN SOUTHEASTERN SOUTH DAKOTA

Kurt L. Dean, David L. Swanson, and J. S. Martin  
Department of Biology, University of South Dakota,  
Vermillion, SD 57069

Each year thousands of warblers move through southeastern South Dakota on their way to and from more northerly breeding grounds. These species are highly sought after by birders, yet they are elusive and, during spring migration, they usually offer very limited observation periods. These short periods, coupled with low migrant numbers in many of the rarer species, can lead to much consternation for the South Dakota birder. Currently the state warbler list stands at 38 species (SDOU 1991). Of these 38 species, we have observed 30 over the last four years. We would like to give our fellow birders some idea of which species might be observed in Clay and Union counties, and when and where they are most likely to be encountered.

During the spring and fall migrations of 1991-1994, we collected extensive banding and observational data on neotropical migrant species at specific stopover sites within Clay and Union counties. An average day consisted of approximately 5 hours in the field, from dawn until 1200 hours. During these five hours, we opened 4-7 nets and ran a 1 km transect line, and we recorded the neotropical migrants we observed. The spring field season stretches from 15 April-5 June and the fall season from 15 August-5 October. Our work has concentrated on four specific sites, but observations from other sites in SE South Dakota have also been included in this review.

These sites are: Clay County Lake Access Area (CLAY): Riparian woodland located next to the Missouri River approximately 5 km west of Vermillion, SD. Our netting and transect work has focused on the woodland/cropland interface northeast of the boat ramp and within the Cottonwood stand downstream from the boat ramp.

Myron Grove Lake Access Area (MY-GR): Riparian woodland located next to the Missouri River approximately 15 km west of Vermillion, SD. Site has an upper parking lot (near bathrooms) and a lower parking lot (near boat ramp). A well-worn trail follows the riparian woodland up and downstream from the upper parking lot. Of special interest is a small spring or seep located directly east of the bathrooms. Our netting and transect work was focused on the woodland/cropland interface and within the Cottonwood/Boxelder/Hackberry stand up and downstream from the main parking lot.

Big Sioux River Site (BSR): Riparian woodland located next to the Big Sioux River at the Highway 50 bridge. Site is approximately 22 km east of Vermillion, SD. Our netting work was concentrated in a small woodlot north of Highway 50 and within the riparian corridor south of the highway. Both net sites were dominated by Maples and Boxelder. All transect work was conducted within the riparian corridor on the Iowa side of the Big Sioux River. As with the net sites, the transect habitat was dominated by Maples and Boxelder.

Union County State Park (UCSP): This is an isolated, wooded ridge-line and riparian woodland located along Brule Creek, a tributary of the Big Sioux River. The park is located approximately 25 km northeast of

Vermillion, SD. The park is bisected by a roughly southwest to northeast running road (leading to the horse camp). This road divides the park, arbitrarily, into upland and lowland or riparian zones. Our netting work was spread between the riparian lowlands and the wooded ridgeline. Riparian net sites were dominated by Boxelder/Green Ash/Hackberry and the ridgeline or upland sites were dominated by Burr Oak. Transect work was conducted within the riparian corridor along Brule Creek and within the Oak-dominated upland area.

Following is our list of species observed. For each species we will give a brief synopsis of abundance, followed by when and where each species is best observed. The probabilities of seeing each species, by season, will be presented in a table format (Tables 1 and 2). The probabilities are: 0= species not observed at the site, \*= 2 or fewer individuals/season, \*\*= 3-6 individuals/season, \*\*\*= 7-10 individuals/season, and \*\*\*\*= 11 or more individuals/season.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** Listed as a casual migrant in the East, this species occurs in highly sporadic numbers during the spring season (Swanson 1994), when it is most easily detected by its distinctive song. The Blue-winged Warbler has not been observed during the fall season. **When:** The best chance of observing this species is from 9 May to 21 May. **Where:** The best area to observe this species is at Union County State Park. Within the park, look for this warbler in and around the arboretum area and in the thicket habitat west of the horse camp. The Blue-winged Warbler has not been observed at any of our other study sites.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** Listed as a rare migrant in the East, this species, like the Blue-winged Warbler, shows up sporadically and in small numbers (Swanson 1994). Observed during both spring and fall migrations. **When:** The best chance of observing this species is from 7 May to 21 May. Fall records are sparse and our only date is a 3 September bird at UCSP. **Where:** This species most commonly occurs, during spring migration, at UCSP and at the Clay County site. Within UCSP, close attention should be given to the area surrounding the arboretum and the brushy hillside west of the horse corral. At Clay County, check the Cottonwood stand to the northwest of the boat ramp and the thicket habitat bordering the agricultural fields to the east of the main parking lot. During the fall migration, look for this species in the thicketed region upslope (southwest) of the horse camp at UCSP.

**Tennessee Warbler:** Listed as a common to abundant migrant in the East, this species shows up in abundance only during the spring migration. Fall birds are very rarely observed at our study sites. **When:** During the spring migration, the best chance of observing this species is from 27 April to 26 May. During the fall migration, the best chance is from 23 August to 20 September. **Where:** This species is seen consistently, during spring migration, at Union County State Park, Big Sioux River Site and the Myron-Grove State Lake Access site. At UCSP look for the species in both riparian and upland habitats, with special emphasis on the arboretum area. At BSR Tennessee Warblers are frequently observed in the small stand of trees northeast of the Highway 50 bridge and in the riparian habitat on the Iowa side of the river. At MY-GR look for Tennessee warblers in the riparian stand west and northwest of the main

parking lot. During the fall migration, this species may be observed at UCSP and at MY-GR. At UCSP look in the White Pines located within the campground and along the road leading to the horse camp. At MY-GR this species may be observed in the same areas used during the spring migration.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** Listed as a common migrant, this species shows up in abundant numbers during both the spring and fall migrations. Generally, fall numbers are larger than spring, due to the abundance of hatching year birds moving through the region. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 24 April to 20 May. During the fall migration the best chance of observing this species is from 23 August into October. **Where:** This species is likely to be observed at any of our study sites. During the spring migration look for this species foraging in the mid to upper canopy level in areas such as the Oak uplands at UCSP. During fall the Orange-crowned Warbler can often be observed foraging in the lower canopy and within weedy patches bordering woodland habitats. The parking lot of MY-GR is an excellent area to observe this species during fall.

**Nashville Warbler:** Listed as an uncommon migrant, this species is observed in small numbers during the spring migration and much greater numbers during the fall migration. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 3 May to 21 May. During the fall migration the best chance is from 20 August to 2 October. **Where:** During the fall migration this species is observed in abundance at all four study sites. Best bets would be at UCSP, with special emphasis in the upland region and in riparian areas, with dense stands of herbaceous growth. At MY-GR look for this species foraging in dense weeds west of the upper parking lot and near the spring fed seep east of the upper parking lot. During the spring migration this species is most frequently observed at UCSP. Look for this species within the riparian zone next to the arboretum and in the upland zone east of the campground.

**Northern Parula:** Listed as a rare to uncommon migrant in the East, this species has been observed twice over the last four years. **When:** We have one spring date (14 May) and one fall date (2 September)—too little information to infer anything meaningful for this species. **Where:** The species has been observed at UCSP (spring date) and at MY-GR (fall date).

**Yellow Warbler:** Listed as a common to abundant summer resident. This species is a locally common breeder at three of our study sites (CLAY, MY-GR, and BSR). This warbler is observed regularly during both migrations, with higher spring than fall numbers. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 1 May into the summer months. During the fall migration the best chance is from breeding dates to 21 September. **Where:** During the spring migration this species is most easily observed at BSR, where it is commonly observed in the small woodland northwest of the Highway 50 bridge and in the riparian woods on the Iowa side of the river. It is also abundant at MY-GR, where it is frequently observed within the timbered stand east of the upper parking lot. Fall birds are commonly observed at BSR, with birds occurring in habitats identical to those used during the spring migration. It is also common at CLAY, where it is usually observed in the

open Cottonwood stand east of the boat ramp and within the ash and Russian Olive trees surrounding the parking lot.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** Listed as an uncommon migrant in the East, this species is observed in similar numbers during both the spring and fall migrations. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 13 May to 21 May. During the fall migration the best chance is from 20 August to 26 September. **Where:** Spring migrants are regularly observed at UCSP. Within the park look for this bird in the riparian area northeast of the playground area and in the thicketed region southwest of the horse camp. Fall birds have been observed at three of the four study sites (BSR, UCSP, MY-GR). At MY-GR look for this species in the timbered stand WNW of the upper parking lot.

**Magnolia Warbler:** Listed as an uncommon migrant in the East, this species is more commonly observed during the spring migration, with fall numbers being very sparse. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 12 May to 25 May. This species has been observed once during the fall migration (30 August) at UCSP. **Where:** The Magnolia Warbler has not been observed at either Missouri River site. It is most commonly observed at UCSP. Within the park, look for this species in and around the arboretum area, and the riparian habitat just southeast of the park maintenance shed.

**Cape May Warbler** Listed as a rare migrant in the East, this species has been observed three times over the last four years. **When:** The only spring date is 16 May at UCSP. Fall dates are 2 September from Vermillion and 6 September from UCSP. **Where:** Our limited experience with Cape May Warblers seems to indicate that UCSP is the place to observe this species. Lone male Cape May warblers were observed below Gavin's Point Dam on 14 May 1991 and within the city limits of Vermillion on 2 September 1994, indicating that this species may occur in areas other than UCSP.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** Listed as a rare migrant in the East, this species has been observed three times during the last four years. **When:** Two dates are from the fall migration, 2 September and 21 September. The lone spring date is from the BSR site on 9 May. **Where:** Both fall observations have been at Missouri River study sites. At CLAY one individual was observed in a Russian Olive tree east of the main parking lot. At MY-GR a lone individual was seen along the trail leading through the timbered stand west of the upper parking lot. The spring observation was made at the BSR site on the Iowa side of the river southeast of the Highway 50 bridge.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** The Myrtle form is listed as an abundant migrant in the East and this species is observed in large numbers during the spring and fall migration. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 18 April to 14 May. During the fall migration the best chance is from 8 September to well into November. **Where:** During the spring migration this species is observed at all four study sites with higher numbers at UCSP and CLAY. At UCSP look for this species in the oak uplands next to the main road. At CLAY this species is frequently observed in the Cottonwoods east of the boat ramp area. This species is frequently observed at only three sites (UCSP, MY-GR, CLAY) during the fall migration. At UCSP look for this species in

the oak uplands and in the thicketed area southwest of the horse camp. At CLAY and MY-GR this species is commonly observed in both dense Cottonwood stands and in dense herbaceous growth, bordering thicketed areas near the parking lot at MY-GR and along the woodland/cropland interface east of the parking lot at CLAY.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** Listed as an uncommon migrant in the East, this species has been observed in small numbers over the last four years. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 7 May to 14 May. This species has been observed once during the fall migration (22 September) at the BSR site. **Where:** This species has not been observed at either Missouri River study site. This warbler has been observed three times (spring migration) at UCSP in the oak uplands directly east of the campground. A spring and fall date exist for BSR and in both instances the individuals were observed foraging in the understory of the riparian woodland on the Iowa side of the river.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** Listed as an uncommon migrant in the East, this species has been observed infrequently during both the spring and fall migrations. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 14 May to 19 May. During the fall migration the best chance is from 26 August to 30 August. **Where:** This species has not been observed at either Missouri River study site but has been observed within the Vermillion city limits. During the spring migration look for this species at UCSP in the oak uplands east of the campground area. Fall birds are most frequently observed at the BSR site. Look for this species in the wooded area northeast of the Highway 50 bridge (Iowa side of river), and in the small wooded area northwest of the bridge.

**Pine Warbler :** Listed as a rare migrant in the extreme eastern portion of the state. We have observed this species only once over the last four years. **When:** The lone observation date was 9 June from the Austin property, located approximately seven miles south of Elk Point, South Dakota (currently inaccessible to the general public). **Where:** The best place to look for this species is within the White Pines located in and around the campground area at UCSP.

**Prairie Warbler:** Listed as a casual migrant. We have observed this species once over the last four years. **When:** The lone observation was of a singing male on 16 June at the Austin property (see Pine Warbler account). **Where:** The species was observed in a Dogwood thicket surrounded by grassland and sumac thickets. This type of habitat exists downstream from the boat ramp at the CLAY study site.

**Palm Warbler:** Listed as a common migrant in the East, we have observed this species four times over the last four years. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 2 May to 7 May. Our lone fall date is 20 September from the BSR site. **Where:** This species has been observed at only two study sites (CLAY and BSR). At the BSR site look for this species along the edges of the wooded area northwest of the Highway 50 bridge and within the woodland northeast of the Highway 50 bridge (Iowa side of the river). At CLAY look for this species in the thicketed region within the open Cottonwood stand east of the parking lot.



**Bay-breasted Warbler:** Listed as an uncommon migrant in the East, this species appears in higher concentrations during the fall migration. **When:** During the fall migration the best chance of observing this species is from 20 August through 23 September. We have two spring observations, both for 14 May. **Where:** Both spring observations are from UCSP, where this species was observed in the oak uplands east of the campground. Fall migrants are commonly observed at the BSR site. Look for this bird within the small wooded area northwest of the Highway 50 bridge and within the wooded area northeast of the bridge (Iowa side of the river).

**Blackpoll Warbler:** Listed as a common to abundant migrant in the East, this species is observed in abundant numbers only during the spring migration. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 6 May to 23 May. During the fall migration the best chance of observing this species is from 30 August to 6 September. **Where:** Spring migrants are commonly observed at UCSP. Within the park look for this species in the oak uplands and along Brule Creek next to the playground area. Fall birds have been observed at two sites (UCSP and CLAY). At UCSP look for this species in the Oak uplands. At CLAY look in the open Cottonwood stand east of the parking lot.

**Black-and-White Warbler:** Listed as a common migrant and locally common breeder. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 30 April into June. During the fall migration the best chance is from summer to 18 September. We have a lone summer record for a juvenile captured on 29 July at the Burbank boat ramp, located 9 km southeast of Burbank, SD. **Where:** Spring migrants are most commonly observed at UCSP. Within the park look for this species in both the oak uplands and along Brule Creek. Fall migrants are most commonly observed at BSR and UCSP. At the BSR site look for this species in the riparian habitat southeast of the Highway 50 bridge (Iowa side of the river), and within the small wooded area northwest of the bridge. At UCSP individuals are frequently observed in the oak uplands next to the campground and in the thicketed region west of the Horse Camp.

**American Redstart:** Listed as a common migrant and locally common summer resident, this species is a locally common breeder at MYGR and BSR. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 6 May into the summer months. During the fall migration the best chance of observing this species is from summer to 20 September. **Where:** Spring migrants are commonly observed at BSR and UCSP. At BSR individuals are frequently observed within the small woodland northwest of the Highway 50 bridge, and in the riparian habitat southeast of the bridge (Iowa side of the river). At UCSP look for this species exclusively within the riparian zone bordering Brule Creek. Fall migrants are most commonly observed at the BSR site. As with spring migrants, look for this species in the riparian habitat bordering the river northeast and southeast of the bridge (Iowa side of the river).

**Ovenbird:** Listed as a fairly common migrant and uncommon to fairly common summer resident. This species is observed more commonly during the fall migration. **When:** During spring migration the best

chance of observing this species is from 3 May into the summer months. During the fall migration the best chance is from summer to 23 September. **Where:** Spring migrants are most commonly observed at MY-GR and UCSP. At MY-GR look for this species in and around the small spring-fed seep located east of the upper parking lot. At UCSP individuals are commonly observed in the riparian zone along Brule Creek. Fall migrants are most commonly observed at the BSR and UCSP sites. At BSR look for this species in the riparian zone southwest of the Highway 50 bridge. Within UCSP individuals are frequently observed in the riparian zone, and in the thicketed habitat west of the Horse Camp.

**Northern Waterthrush:** Listed as an uncommon migrant along the eastern border, this species is more common during the fall migration. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 30 April to 24 May. During the fall migration the best chance is from 16 August to 1 September. **Where:** Spring migrants are most commonly observed at BSR and MY-GR. At the BSR site look for individuals in the riparian zones southeast (Iowa side of river) and southwest of the Highway 50 bridge. At MY-GR individuals will most commonly be observed near the spring located just east of the upper parking lot. Fall migrants are also commonly observed at BSR and MY-GR. **As** with spring birds, pay close attention to the riparian habitats at BSR and the small wooded area northwest of the bridge. At MY-GR, as with spring birds, most individuals will be observed in and around the spring east of the upper parking lot.

**Connecticut Warbler:** Listed as a rare spring and accidental fall migrant in the East. We have observed this species twice over the last four years. **When:** Both of our dates are spring dates, 18 and 19 May, from CIAY and UCSP. **Where:** The individual observed at UCSP was seen in the riparian habitat east of the playground area. The CIAY individual was captured in the thicketed habitat, bordering the agricultural fields, east of the main parking lot.

**Mourning Warbler:** Listed as a fairly common migrant in the East, this species is observed in abundant numbers only during the fall migration. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 16 May to 26 May. During the fall migration the best chance is from 15 August to 12 September. **Where:** Spring migrants have been observed at UCSP. Within the park, look for individuals in the riparian habitats east of the playground and the arboretum. Fall migrants are commonly observed at the MY-GR and BSR sites. At MY-GR look for this species on the cropland edge of the wooded area east of the upper parking lot. Also look for this species in and around the spring site east of the upper parking lot. At the BSR site individuals are usually seen in association with dense herbaceous growth. This type of growth is found southwest and northwest of the Highway 50 bridge.

**Common Yellowthroat:** Listed as a common to abundant summer resident, this species is a locally common breeder at the CLAY, BSR, and UCSP sites. The Common Yellowthroat is more commonly observed during the spring migration. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 30 April into the summer months. During the fall migration the best chance is from summer to 25 September. **Where:** Spring migrants are most commonly observed at

UCSP and MY-GR. At UCSP look for individuals in the grassland along Brule Creek just east of the playground. At MY-GR, individuals are frequently observed near the spring located east of the upper parking lot. Fall migrants are most commonly observed at the CLAY site. At CLAY look for individuals on the cropland side of the Cottonwood stand east of the parking lot, and within the grassy habitat next to the river up and downstream from the parking lot.

**Hooded Warbler:** Listed as a casual spring visitor in the East. We have observed this species once over the last four years. **When:** The only date is a 20 May observation from UCSP. **Where:** The lone observation was in upland oak habitat.

**Wilson's Warbler:** Listed as a fairly common migrant in the East. We observed this species in abundant numbers only during the fall. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 6 May to 21 May. During the fall migration the best chance is from 20 August to 24 September. **Where:** This species is very uncommon during the spring migration, with individuals observed at BSR and UCSP. At BSR look for this species in the riparian woodlands northeast and southeast of the Highway 50 bridge (Iowa side of the river). At UCSP this species is usually observed in the riparian habitat east of the Arboretum. Fall migrants are common at the BSR, UCSP and MY-GR study sites. At BSR look for this species in the small wooded area northwest of the Highway 50 bridge. At UCSP, individuals are frequently observed in both riparian and upland habitats and special emphasis should be placed on areas with an abundance of herbaceous undergrowth. At MY-GR this species can frequently be observed in the wooded area west of the upper parking lot, with special attention given to the weedy edges bordering the parking area.

**Canada Warbler:** Listed as an uncommon migrant in the East. We observe this species much more frequently in the fall. **When:** During the spring migration the best chance of observing this species is from 6 May to 25 May. During fall migration the best chance is from 16 August to 11 September. **Where:** Spring birds are very uncommon and have been observed at UCSP, MY-GR and CLAY. Within UCSP look for this species in riparian or moist habitats. At MY-GR look around the seep located just east of the upper parking lot. Fall migrants are most frequently observed at the BSR site. Individuals may be observed within the small wooded area northwest of the Highway 50 bridge and within the riparian habitat southwest of the bridge.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** Listed as an uncommon migrant and probable local breeder in the East, this species is an historical breeder within Clay and Union Counties. We have observed the Yellow-breasted Chat once over the last four years **When:** The only date is a 25 May observation from UCSP. **Where:** The individual observed was captured in a willow thicket, along Brule Creek, west of the playground area.

Of the 30 species we documented, 23 were observed during both spring and fall migrations, six during the spring migration only, and one during the fall migration only. Over the four years of field work, 1037 individuals of 29 species were observed during the spring migration and 972 individuals of 24 species during the fall migration. In the 15 species with 20 or more observations, nine species are more likely to be observed

during the fall and six during the spring migration. Generally, if a birder wishes to see a rarity, then the best time to visit southeastern South Dakota is during the spring. However, since several species are more commonly observed in the fall, and if you like the challenge of "confusing fall warblers," then fall would be a perfect time to visit.

Table 1. Probabilities<sup>1</sup> of observing species by study site, spring migration.

Species	CLAY	MY-GR	UCSP	BSR
Blue-winged Warbler	0	0	*	0
Golden-winged Warbler	*	0	*	0
Tennessee Warbler	0	***	***	***
Orange-crowned Warbler	***	***	***	***
Nashville Warbler	*	**	***	***
Northern Parula	0	0	*	0
Yellow Warbler	**	***	**	****
Chestnut-sided Warbler	0	0	**	*
Magnolia Warbler	0	0	**	*
Cape May Warbler	0	0	*	0
Black-throated Blue Warbler	0	0	0	*
Yellow-rumped Warbler	****	****	****	***
Black-throated Green Warbler	0	0	*	*
Blackburnian Warbler	0	0	*	0
Pine Warbler	0	0	0	0
Prairie Warbler	0	0	0	0
Palm Warbler	*	0	0	*
Bay-breasted Warbler	0	0	*	0
Blackpoll Warbler	*	*	**	*
Black-and-White Warbler	*	*	**	*
American Redstart	*	**	**	***
Ovenbird	*	*	*	*
Northern Waterthrush	*	*	*	*
Connecticut Warbler	*	0	0	0
Mourning Warbler	0	*	*	0
Common Yellowthroat	*	*	**	*
Hooded Warbler	0	0	*	0
Wilson Warbler	*	0	*	*
Canada Warbler	*	*	*	0
Yellow-breasted Chat	0	0	*	0

<sup>1</sup> Probability code: 0=spp. not observed at site; \*=2 or fewer individuals/season; \*\*=3-6 individuals/season; \*\*\*=7-10 individuals/season; \*\*\*\*=>11 individuals/season.

#### Literature Cited

- South Dakota Ornithologists' Union. 1991. The birds of South Dakota, 2nd ed. Northern State Univ., Aberdeen.
- Swanson, David. 1994. Unusual numbers of Blue-Winged and Golden-Winged Warblers during spring 1993 migration in southeastern South Dakota and comments on their distribution. South Dakota Bird Notes. 46:4-6.

Table 2. Probabilities<sup>1</sup> of observing species by study site. fall migration.

Species	CLAY	MY-GR	UCSP	BSR
Blue-winged Warbler	0	0	0	0
Golden-winged Warbler	0	0	*	0
Tennessee Warbler	0	0	*	*
Orange-crowned Warbler	****	****	****	**
Nashville Warbler	***	****	****	***
Northern Parula	0	*	0	0
Yellow Warbler	**	*	**	**
Chestnut-sided Warbler	0	*	*	*
Magnolia Warbler	0	0	*	0
Cape May Warbler	0	0	*	0
Black-throated Blue Warbler	*	*	0	0
Yellow-rumped Warbler	**	**	****	0
Black-throated Green Warbler	0	0	0	*
Blackburnian Warbler	0	0	*	**
Pine Warbler	0	0	0	0
Prairie Warbler	0	0	0	0
Palm Warbler	0	0	0	*
Bay-breasted Warbler	0	*	*	**
Blackpoll Warbler	*	0	*	0
Black-and-White Warbler	*	**	**	**
American Redstart	*	*	*	****
Ovenbird	*	*	**	**
Northern Waterthrush	*	*	*	**
Connecticut Warbler	0	0	0	0
Mourning Warbler	*	**	*	**
Common Yellowthroat	*	*	0	0
Hooded Warbler	0	0	0	0
Wilson Warbler	**	***	***	****
Canada Warbler	0	*	*	**
Yellow-breasted Chat	0	0	*	0

<sup>1</sup> Probability code: 0=spp. not observed at site; \*=2 or fewer individuals/season; \*\*=3-6 individuals/season; \*\*\*=7-10 individuals/season; \*\*\*\*=> 11 individuals/season.



## GENERAL NOTES

**LONG-EARED OWLS IN THE ANTELOPE CREEK AREA OF STANLEY COUNTY: NOTES ON NESTING AND PREY SPECIES.** In May 1993 we located nesting Long-eared Owls about one mile east of the mouth of Antelope Creek in Stanley County. The owls were nesting in an area of dense Eastern Red Cedar, growing in a north facing draw. There are many such draws in this area, but this draw is different from most because of the numbers of large, old Eastern Red Cedar. The owls were using what appeared to be an old crow's nest. I returned to the nest area on 26 June and found three fledged young in the area. None of them would fly on my approach. I photographed one. On 24 April 1994 we returned to the nest site. At first I thought there were no owls in the area, but I climbed a tree next to the nest tree to take a look inside. Before I was halfway up, Nick saw a Long-eared Owl flush from the nest. I continued up, and found six eggs in the nest. Our next visit was on 21 May, when I took a group from the SDOU spring meeting to the nest site. Unfortunately, no Long-eared Owls were seen, and the nest was empty. There were no egg shell remains in the nest or on the ground.

During all our visits, we collected all the owl pellets from under the nest tree and from a nearby roost tree. We did not make a systematic attempt to quantify the total number of pellets collected or of prey per pellet. On one occasion, however, I carefully collected all the pellets from under the nest tree and counted the number of prey per pellet. On that occasion, 16 complete pellets were collected. These pellets were from 4 - 5 cm in length and 2.5-3 cm in width. Eleven pellets contained one prey item, five contained two prey items, and one contained three prey items. Moon (1940) reported that, of 59 pellets taken from a Long-eared Owl roost in western Kansas, none contained more than three prey items. This compares with up to six small prey items sometimes found in Great Horned Owl pellets. All prey in Moon's study and the 16 Antelope Creek pellets were small, the largest being the Prairie Vole. From the total Antelope Creek collection of Long-eared Owl pellets, the largest prey was the Bushy-tailed Woodrat. While Great Horned Owl pellets from nearby roosts often contain cottontail bones, the Long-eared Owl pellets never did.

Animal remains in Long-eared Owl pellets were identified from skull and teeth characteristics. No attempt was made to identify mandibles or other bones. Identifications were made using keys in Hall and Kelson, 1959; Jones et al., 1983; and Martin, 1971. I did not feel comfortable in separating the *Peromyscus* and *Reithrodontomys* species, so these species were lumped. The following species were found:

Prairie Vole *Microtus ochrogaster* 247

White-footed or Deer Mouse *Peromyscus* sp. 69

Western Harvest or Plains Harvest Mouse *Reithrodontomys* sp. 34

Meadow Vole *Microtus pennsylvanicus* 15

Unidentified *Microtus* 8

Hispid Pocket Mouse *Perognathus hispidus* 3

Least Shrew *Cryptotis parva* 3

Bushy-tailed Woodrat *Neotoma cinerea* 2

Finding the *Neotoma cinerea* skulls was unexpected. The reported range in South Dakota is the western one third of the state. I found a total of three skulls of the species from owl pellets from the Antelope Creek area. There is little doubt that the range of *Neotoma cinerea* should include the Missouri River breaks, at least in the Pierre area.

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*Doug and Nick Backlund, 1724 E Park, Pierre, SD 57501.*

**NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL ON FARM ISLAND.** On 15 January 1995, I was checking under cedars on Farm Island for owl pellets. I had just found one small pellet that I assumed was from a screech-owl. After a few minutes of searching, I found another. My habit is to check directly above me whenever I find an owl pellet. Usually there is no owl, but this time there was— an adult Northern Saw-whet Owl. It was very tame, and I believe I could have picked it up, if I had been so inclined. The owl was roosting about six feet above the ground, in a small Eastern Red Cedar. I called my son and his friend to see it. I hiked across the lake and contacted Chuck and Myrtle Backlund and Carroll Hanten. When the four of us returned, Chuck photographed the owl and everyone got a good look at it. The two pellets I collected under this owl's roosts each contained the remains of one *Peromyscus* sp., either Deer Mouse or White-footed Mouse.

The Northern Saw-whet Owl is rarely reported in South Dakota. Dan Tallman has found it to be an irregular fall migrant in the Aberdeen area. The only breeding records are from the Black Hills and the Big Stone Lake area. There are few winter records.

*Doug Backlund, 1724 E Park, Pierre, SD 57501.*

#### **PROBABLE BALD EAGLE PREDATION OF A RING-NECKED PHEASANT.**

While conducting research on the wintering behavior of Ring-necked Pheasants on 21 February 1993, we observed an immature Bald Eagle taking flight near a 45 ha wetland in Ransom Co., North Dakota. We first observed the bird from about 150 m, as it flew 2 - 3 m above ground level and noted that the bird clutched some type of prey. Possibly distracted by our vehicle, the eagle dropped the prey. The prey was a female Ring-necked Pheasant missing the superior portion of its skull. Additionally, its skin had been stripped from the neck and upper torso, and some minor puncture wounds were on its breast. The day was cold (-11° C), and we assumed the pheasant had died recently, as the body was warm with no *rigor mortis*. No evidence of old external injuries or internal abnor-

malities was found, and the bird was probably in good health at the time of its death. During our inspection of the carcass, the eagle remained perched on a telephone pole about 100 m away. We found feathers and fresh blood in sparse vegetation next to the cattail-dominated wetland, about 50 m from where the eagle was first seen. No signs of other avian or mammalian predators were observed at or near the site. Snow depth was over 30cm.

In February, we visited this wetland daily and observed no other avian predators, except for an immature eagle, which, over a two week period, was seen twice within 1 km of the wetland. If our observation was an actual attack by the eagle and not an incident of interspecific kleptoparasitism, then, to our knowledge, it would be the first recorded direct observation of predation involving eagles and pheasants. We assume predation of pheasants by migrating eagles to be a common phenomenon (perhaps daily during colder periods; e.g., see Stalmaster and Cessaman, 1994, *Ecol. Monogr.* 54:407-428), but one that is rarely observed. Most sightings of eagle predation occur around nesting sites or when the birds are in winter aggregations. In these cases, the predation usually occurs over water, with the prey being fish or waterfowl.

In general, galliformes are not prey for eagles. Analyses of food pellets and prey remains of wintering eagles in Nebraska (Lingle and Krapu, 1986, *Prairie Nat.* 18:65-78) and Washington (Fielder, 1982, *Murrelet* 63:46-50) suggest that pheasants are a small part of the diet (less than 2%). Eagles are opportunistic predators and scavengers, however, and food availability can dictate their foraging strategies. For example, eagle use of galliformes was high in northcentral Washington, where 46% of the food remains recovered at eagle perch sites were Chukars. Little is known about the diet of migrating eagles in our region. During late winter, as eagles migrate through the northern Great Plains, they may prey on pheasants more frequently than in other regions. Certain environmental conditions may cause eagles to focus on pheasants as their main prey. Examples include: 1) lack of open water, which prevents eagles from obtaining their usual diet of fish and waterfowl; 2) availability of other prey, such as rabbits; 3) local densities of pheasants; and 4) availability of winter cover. The latter factor may be very important when increasing snow depth denies pheasants adequate refuge from predation. *H. Jeffrey Homan and William J. Bleier, Department of Zoology, North Dakota State University, Fargo ND 58105 and George M. Linz, USDA, North Dakota State University, Fargo ND 58105 .*

**FLAMMULATED OWL — A HYPOTHETICAL NEW SPECIES FOR SOUTH DAKOTA.** As part of a bat survey in the Black Hills, I was mist netting over a stock tank at Lower Woodcock Springs (Black Hills National Forest, SE of Pringle) on the evening of 24 August 1994. At about 2200, I netted what I later determined was a Flammulated Owl. Upon freeing the bird from the net, I examined it in hand for several minutes. I was not familiar with the characteristics related to species identification of small owls and was unaware of any potential significance of this capture. Owing to an earlier conversation regarding a taxidermist's mistake replacing the eyes in a mount of a Great Horned Owl, I did note the eye color. They were completely dark brown, with no other coloration present. (It was this feature that led to my identification of the owl.) The bird



was about 6 to 7 inches long, with inconspicuous ear tufts. There was reddish coloration within the gray, although I did not note any other plumage characteristics. As several bats were netted at this time and I was working alone, I took no measurements of the bird, which I released upon completion of my examination. This record has been rated Class 2H (Hypothetical) by the SDOU Rare Bird Records Committee. *Joel Tigner, Biological Technician, PO Box 1702, Rapid City SD 57709.*

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### SOUTH DAKOTA STATE LISTS

Totals as of 31 December 1994

Life	1994	Observer	Life	1994	Observer
339		Bruce K. Harris	252	203	Jerry C. Stanford
310	231	Dan A. Tallman	246		Bill Huser
297	135	Nathaniel Whitney	233		Bob Russell
295		Dave Swanson	215		Gertrude Bachmann
287	264	Jeffrey S. Palmer	150		Lester R. Lauritzen
253		Lowell Anderson			

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### SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTY LISTS

Totals as of 31 December 1994

Life	1994	Observer	Life	1994	Observer
Brown			Lake		
271		Dan Tallman	190	151	Jeffrey Palmer
191		Bob Russell	Meade		
167	140	Jerry Stanford	152		Nat Whitney
Charles Mix			Pennington		
153	104	Ron Mabie	209		Nat Whitney
Clay			Sanborn		
187		Dave Swanson	231		Bruce Harris
Codington			Roberts		
236		Bruce Harris	274		Bruce Harris
213	152	Ron Bauer	Turner		
Deuel			150		Lester Lauritzen
268		Bruce Harris	Union		
106		Lowell Anderson	120		Bill Huser
Grant					
172		Lowell Anderson			

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## BOOK REVIEWS

**WHERE TO WATCH BIRDS IN SOUTH AMERICA**—Nigel Wheatley. 1995. Princeton University Press, Princeton. 431 pp. Hard bound, \$35.00.

This guide covers birding locations across South America. After a brief introduction, each country is covered in a chapter. The book is short, considering the territory being covered. For example, only 28 locations are listed for Argentina; Peru has 17. A whole book could easily be devoted to any of the South American countries. But this size may be enough to get one started in a foreign country where, just walking down city boulevards, one sees new birds.

Within the country chapters, each location is described with a list of endemic, special, and other species. Access to the location and accommodations are listed. Health and safety tips are also provided.

The introduction first describes how to use the book. Then there are short descriptions of the ecology of the continent and how many birds to expect in various locations. Generally, this short section is geared to the bird lister. It ends with two pages on conservation and a third on general tips (a basic understanding of Spanish is an asset in virtually all of South America).

Checking out some of my old stomping grounds in Latin America, I was surprised to read that, near Tinalandia, Ecuador, there is a road leading to forest; I believe this area has been deforested for some time. However, a traveler to South America should expect the unexpected. When we worked in Ecuadorian Amazonia, the forest was being cleared at an alarming rate, sometime being cut around bird nets set in the morning.

A more serious caution occurs in the Peruvian account. Tingo María, where my wife, Erika, and I did research, is covered in an account with the following passage: "This is a very dangerous drug trafficking area under the control of the Shining Path. Two British birders were murdered near here in 1990. Do not go unless you are sure that it is safe." Other areas of Latin America are equally precarious and the advice is well worth heeding. (On the other hand, inner city areas of the United States may be more dangerous but are less likely to be visited by birders.) Because of the birding and the political advice given here, this text is essential for the birding tourist to South America. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen 57401,*

**TERNS OF EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA**—Klus Malting Olsen and Hans Larsson. 1995. Princeton University Press, Princeton. 176 pp. Hard bound, \$39.50.

This is a wonderful book. Twenty-three species of terns (including all of the species to be expected in the United States) are covered. Species are portrayed with many excellent paintings and color photographs. The text also includes pen-and-ink drawings of various field marks. The illustrations make the book well worth the price.

Species accounts include pointers on field identification, plumages, variation, calls, and measurements. With this book in hand, one is prepared to identify rare terns—we ought to be able to add the White-winged Black Tern to our state list, a rare visitor from Europe to North America, if our birders are prepared to identify it. On the other hand, South Dakota birders should study the plumages of Common and Forster's Terns. I suspect, because of their dark primaries, many first summer Forster's Terns have been identified as Common Terns. (The shape of the black mask on the head is a much safer field mark.)

Specialty identification books, such as this, seem to be quite the fad in the birding community. I would like to see a new generation of bird guide with all the birds of a region in one book, with more space provided per species. For example, how about a North American guide with whole pages devoted to single species, with plates showing almost all known plumages and variations? Meanwhile, we have these family guides that are not practical to take to the field, unless one knows, in this case, one is traveling to a region full of terns. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen 57401.*

**UNDER WING AND SKY**—Michael Mellus. 1995. Fenske Companies, Rapid City. 88 pp. Soft bound, \$10.00.

This book may serve as a bare-bones introduction to South Dakota birds. The text includes about 83 color photographs of birds found in the state. The pictures are accompanied by short paragraphs about the birds. The quality of the pictures is generally good (the majority of them are from the South Dakota Department of Tourism). The most noteworthy exceptions are a completely shaded Northern Goshawk and a truly tiny flying Ferruginous Hawk. The text is informative and written for the lay public (with no references).

The publisher (not Michael) printed our SDOU checklist in the back of the book without requesting permission, which certainly would have been granted had he asked. The publisher could have at least corrected the mistakes in the checklist. On the other hand, SDOU is prominently listed in a further resources section on the last page.

Michael wrote me a litany of problems he has with the text. He is disappointed not to have had more say in the book's production (even down to format and species chosen). Mike wrote, "So there's frustration on every page, for me. Friends tell me it looks and reads well, so I'm glad the frustration doesn't show. It ends up being a tale of someone who cares about birds rescuing a book from people who see it as a commercial venture." I have to agree with Michael's friends, this is a nice book for the audience for which it was written. My only comment is that the Pine Siskin picture is clearly pasted in sideways. The bottom line is that, with this modest price, if you know someone who might have the potential for becoming interested in birds, consider buying this book as a gift. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen 57401.*



## SEASONAL REPORTS

### The 1995 Spring Season

01 March 1995 to 31 May 1995

Compiled By : Jeffrey S. Palmer  
College of Natural Sciences  
Dakota State University  
Madison, SD 57042

Wet, wetter, and wettest describes the weather in South Dakota this spring pretty well. Shorebird migration was poor; were they spread out (with all the water) or did they fly over (too much water or cool temperatures which kept them south later than usual)? Warbler migration seemed to be the best in recent years perhaps due to the southerly jet stream and repeated low pressure systems which passed to our south. Below, I have tried to highlight the more significant sightings (dates which are earlier/later than listed in *The Birds of South Dakota* and species which are out of range). For early/late migration dates, I have listed the three earliest/latest dates (by county); however, if these did not include a sighting East River, West River, and along the Missouri River, I give the earliest/latest date in the missing region also. There were 291 species reported during the season. I also heard of, but received no details regarding, a Green-tailed Towhee in Meade County and a Northern Wheatear in Sanborn County. Highlights include our first confirmed Golden-crowned Sparrow and the second and third reports ever of Great-tailed Grackle.

**Common Loon** Early: **26 Mar Davison (1) RGR, JDM**; 31 Mar Yankton SVS; 06 Apr Deuel BKH; Peaks: 29 Apr Fort Randall Dam (16) RM; also 16 Apr Fall River (2) DCW

**Pied-billed Grebe** Early: **16 Mar Sanborn (1) RGR**; 18 Mar Lake JSP; 18 Mar Yankton (2) BH; also 19 Apr Tripp DGS

**Horned Grebe** Early: 31 Mar Yankton SVS; 02 Apr Charles Mix RM; 18 Apr Day DRS; also 26 Apr Tripp (1) DGS

**Red-necked Grebe** All Reports: 17 Apr (early) and 23 May (2 nests) Waubay NWR DRS; 20 Apr Brown DAT; 25 May Mud Lake, Marshall County (1) JSP

**Esred Grebe** Early: **20 Mar Yankton SVS**; 07 Apr Charles Mix RM; 11 Apr Day DRS; also 13 Apr Pennington (2) NRW

**Western Grebe** Early: **30 Mar Davison (1) JDM**; 07 Apr Charles Mix RM; 19 Apr Roberts (3) BKH; also 29 Apr Jackson (3) KG

**American White Pelican** Early: 02 Apr Hamlin (1) BKH; 02 Apr Gregory RM; 05 Apr Yankton SVS; also 08 Apr Fall River (4) DCW

**Double-crested Cormorant** Early: 25 Mar Lake JSP; 26 Mar Sanborn (1) RGR; 02 Apr Hamlin (1) BKH; also 06 Apr Charles Mix SVS; 15 Apr Custer (8) MMM

**American Bittern** All Reports: 26 Apr Yankton SVS; 03 May Day DRS; 16 May Lyman JSP

**Least Bittern** Only Report: 25 May Sand Lake NWR, Brown County JSP

**Great Blue Heron** Early: **16 Mar Brown (1) JCS**; 24 Mar Clay SVS; 25 Mar Kingsbury JSP; also 30 Mar Pennington (16) MMM; 14 May Rush Lake, Day County (adult on nest) DRS

- Great Egret** Early: **30 Mar Davison (1) JDM; 06 Apr Deuel (2) BKH**; 17 Apr Roberts DRS; also 24 Apr Yankton SVS; **26 May Kadoka Lake, Jackson County (1) KG**
- Snowy Egret** Early: 19 Apr Brown JCS; 19 Apr Charles Mix RM; 22 Apr Clark JSP
- Little Blue Heron** Only Report: 16 May approximately 3 miles north of Willow Lake, Clark County (1 imm.) JSP
- Cattle Egret** Early: **14 Apr Day JCS**; 25 Apr Brown (8) SLS; **28 Apr Tripp (1) DGS**; Peaks: 31 May Brown (150) JCS; 14 May Charles Mix (60) RM; **13 May Tripp (24) RAP, DGS**; also 29 Apr Charles Mix RM
- Green Heron** Early: 07 May Day DRS; 09 May Yankton SVS; 15 May Deuel BKH; 15 May Lake JSP
- Black-crowned Night Heron** Early: **30 Mar Douglas (2) JAK**; 07 Apr Charles Mix BKH, JSP; 12 Apr Brown (1) SLS
- White-faced Ibis** All Reports: **19 Apr Brown (12) SLS; 19 Apr Brown DAT**; 25 May Brown JSP
- Tundra Swan** All Reports: 19 Mar Brown (2) SLS; 19 Mar Beadle (7) RGR; 13 Apr Roberts JSP
- Trumpeter Swan** All Reports: 09 Mar Bennett (24) DS; **31 Mar 2 miles south and 5 miles west of Colome, Tripp County DGS**
- Greater White-fronted Goose** All Reports: 04 Mar Lake JSP; 12 Mar Brown (2) SLS; 15 Mar Roberts (25+) BKH; 18 Mar Charles Mix RM; 20 Mar Minnehaha NP
- Snow Goose** Early: 11 Mar Kingsbury JSP; 12 Mar Brown (6) SLS; 13 Mar Yankton SVS; Late: 25 May Brown JSP; 22 May Codington (15-20) JCS; 22 Apr Custer (1) DCW; Peaks: 17 Mar Hamlin (30,000) BKH
- Ross' Goose** All Reports: **11 Mar Lake Herman, Lake County JSP**; 18 Mar and 25 Mar north of Lake Thompson, Kingsbury County JSP; 25 Mar Brown DAT; 17 Apr Sand Lake NWR, Brown County (6) SLS
- Wood Duck** Early: 13 Mar Deuel (3) BKH; 18 Mar Brookings JSP; 18 Mar Yankton (10) BH; also 26 Mar Tripp DGS
- Green-winged Teal** Early: 08 Mar Fall River JSP; 13 Mar Deuel (8) BKH; 16 Mar Brown (10) SLS
- Blue-winged Teal** Early: 18 Mar Yankton (2) BH; 18 Mar Kingsbury JSP; 25 Mar Clay (6) DS; also 28 Mar Tripp DGS
- Northern Shoveler** Early: 11 Mar Lake JSP; 13 Mar Roberts BKH; 16 Mar Brown (2) SLS; also 17 Mar Clay SVS; 18 Mar Meade EEM
- Gadwall** Early: 11 Mar Lake JSP; 13 Mar Roberts (100+) BKH; 14 Mar Brown (5) SLS; also 18 Mar Yankton (1000) BH; 28 Mar Tripp DGS
- American Wigeon** Early: 11 Mar Lake JSP; 13 Mar Deuel BKH; 14 Mar Brown (1) SLS; also 07 Apr Charles Mix RM; 17 Apr Meade EEM
- Canvasback** Early: 04 Mar Kingsbury JSP; 13 Mar Roberts BKH; 15 Mar Brown (5) SLS; also 07 Apr Charles Mix RM; 17 Apr Meade EEM
- Ring-necked Duck** Early: 04 Mar Kingsbury JSP; 12 Mar Day DRS; 13 Mar Roberts (100+) BKH
- Greater Scaup** All Reports: 21 Mar Roberts (2) BKH; 02 Apr Clay (2) DS; 22 Apr Lake Andes NWR, Charles Mix County RM
- Lesser Scaup** Early: 04 Mar Lake JSP; 13 Mar Deuel (300) BKH; 14 Mar Brown (20) SLS; also 18 Mar Meade EEM

**Common Goldeneye** Early: 04 Mar Lake JSP; 13 Mar Deuel BKH; 18 Mar Meade EEM; Late: 08 Apr Charles Mix RM; 01 Apr Kingsbury JSP

**Barrow's Goldeneye** Late: 10 Mar Canyon Lake, Pennington County (pair) DS

**Bufflehead** Early: 11 Mar Lake JSP; 14 Mar Deuel BKH; 19 Mar Brown (4) SLS; Late: 29 May Brookings PFS; 17 May Gregory SVS; 29 Apr Kingsbury JSP; also 23 Apr Custer DCW

**Hooded Merganser** Early: 15 Mar Brown (2) SLS; 18 Mar Kingsbury JSP; 18 Mar Minnehaha SFB; Late: 26 May McPherson JSP; 17 May Charles Mix SVS; 10 May Custer DCW; also 31 Mar Clay (3) DS

**Common Merganser** Late: 31 May Yankton SVS; 06 May Kingsbury JSP; 16 Apr Fall River DCW

**Red-breasted Merganser** Early: 17 Mar Brookings (3) BKH; 18 Mar Lake JSP; 18 Mar Yankton (25) BH; Late: 25 May Yankton (6 female plumaged) PFS; 25 Apr Day (5) DRS; 18 Apr Minnehaha MSS

**Ruddy Duck** Early: 11 Mar Lake JSP; 17 Mar Brookings (15) BKH; 19 Mar Day DRS; also 31 Mar Clay (1) DS; 03 May Meade EEM

**Turkey Vulture** Early: 01 Apr Yankton (3) DS; 16 Apr Roberts DAT; 17 Apr Brookings RWK, JRK; 17 Apr Charles Mix RM; also 18 Apr Meade EEM

**Osprey** Early: 15 Apr Beadle (1) RGR; 16 Apr Deuel BKH; 16 Apr Davison (1) RGR; Late: 30 May Yankton SVS; 05 May Tripp (2) DGS; 01 May Charles Mix RM; also 19 Apr Yankton SVS; 23 Apr Custer (1) DCW

**Bald Eagle** Early: 04 Mar Kingsbury JSP; 08 Mar Jackson KG; 09 Mar Brown JCS; Late: 18 May Charles Mix (1) RM; 07 May Day (1) DRS; 14 Apr Yankton SVS

**Northern Harrier** Early: 02 Mar Yankton SVS; 03 Mar Spink JCS; 04 Mar Lake JSP; also 08 Apr Meade EEM

**Northern Goshawk** All Reports: 04 May Custer (bird on nest) DCW; 13 May Meade EEM

**Broad-winged Hawk** Early: 29 Apr Union (1) DS; 01 May Brown DAT; 01 May Yankton SVS; also 18 May Meade EEM

**Swainson's Hawk** Early: 08 Apr Hutchinson BKH; 14 Apr Yankton SVS; 20 Apr Charles Mix RM; also 22 Apr Tripp DGS

**Rough-legged Hawk** Late: 19 Apr Brown DAT; 18 Apr Meade EEM; 02 Apr Sully (2) MMM

**Merlin** All Reports: 29 Apr Clay (1) DS; 29 Apr Deuel PFS; 23 Apr Day DRS; 20 Apr Yankton SVS; 19 Apr Edmunds MZ; 08 Apr Miner SVS; Tripp RAP; 02 Apr Brown DAT; 19 Mar Brown (1) SLS

**Peregrine Falcon** All Reports: 08 May Folsom, Custer County (1) MMM; 10 May Aberdeen, Brown County (stooping at dove in backyard) DAT; 11 May Lake Herman SP, Lake County (1) JSP

**Prairie Falcon** Only Report: 08 Mar Fall River (1) JSP

**Gray Partridge** All Reports: 11 Mar Spink (16) JCS; 07 Apr Clay (2) DS; 29 Apr Beadle JSP; also from Turner and Yankton counties

**Ruffed Grouse** Only Report: 16 May Pennington (drumming) DCW

**Sage Grouse** Only Report: 11 Mar Butte (8 males on lek) DS

**Greater Prairie Chicken** Only Report: 22 Mar Tripp (6) DGS

**Sharp-tailed Grouse** All Reports: 08 Mar Fall River JSP; 01 May Tripp DGS; 05 May Custer (lek located in Wind Cave NP by Kate Cannon) *fide* DCW

**Northern Bobwhite** reported only from Union and Yankton counties

**Virginia Rail** Early: **05 May Brown (2) SLS**; 16 May Lake JSP; 18 May Tripp DGS; also 21 May Union JSP

**Sora** Early: 01 May Clay DS; 07 May Brown DAT; 09 May Yankton SVS; also 13 May Tripp (2) DGS, RAP

**Sandhill Crane** Early: **12 Mar Pennington (80) NRW**; 23 Mar Brown JCS; 23 Mar Day DRS; 23 Mar Meade EEM; Late: 22 Apr Charles Mix RM; 19 Apr Tripp DGS; 07 Apr Brown DAT; also 02 Apr Clay (24) DS; 02 Apr Hamlin (500) BKH

**Black-bellied Plover** Only Report: 21 May Union JSP

**American Golden-Plover** Only Reports: 07 May Yankton SVS; 11 May Grant (25) BKH; 13 May Brown DAT; 16 May Beadle JSP

**Semipalmated Plover** Only Reports: **08 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 10 May Custer (6) MMM

**Piping Plover** All Reports: 26 Apr Yankton SVS; 29 Apr Clark (1) JSP; 29 Apr Clay (1) DS; 25 May Lake (1) JSP

**Killdeer** Early: 12 Mar Yankton SVS; 13 Mar Brown (1) SLS; 13 Mar Custer MMM; 13 Mar Grant BKH

**BLACK-NECKED STILT** Only Report: **07 May near last years nesting location, Brown County (1 seen once) DAT**

**American Avocet** Early: **05 Apr Yankton SVS**; **08 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 23 Apr Brown JCS; also 28 Apr Deerfield Lake, Pennington County (8) DCW

**Greater Yellowlegs** Early: **16 Mar Beadle (1) RGR**; 30 Mar Clay (2) DS; 01 Apr Kingsbury JSP; Late: **23 May Yankton SVS**; 29 Apr Clark JSP; 29 Apr Day DRS; also 14 Apr Custer (1) MMM

**Lesser Yellowlegs** Early: **25 Mar Clay (1) DS**; 05 Apr Bon Homme SVS; 08 Apr Charles Mix RM; also 19 Apr Roberts (20+) BKH; 26 Apr Tripp DGS

**Solitary Sandpiper** Early: 26 Apr Tripp DGS; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 30 Apr Clay (2) DS

**Willet** Early: 19 Apr Brown DAT; 26 Apr Tripp DGS; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM

**Spotted Sandpiper** Early: 29 Apr Yankton SVS; 06 May Roberts BKH; 06 May Custer (1) MMM; 06 May Kingsbury JSP; 06 May Lincoln (1) DS

**Upland Sandpiper** Early: 29 Apr Roberts BKH; 29 Apr Charles Mix RM; 02 May Tripp DGS

**Long-billed Curlew** Early: 04 Apr Custer (1) MMM; 19 Apr Tripp (3) DGS; 22 Apr Meade EEM; 22 Apr Stanley DB

**Hudsonian Godwit** Early: 19 Apr Brown DAT; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 29 Apr Beadle JSP

**Marbled Godwit** Early: 14 Apr Brown (2) SLS; 22 Apr Clay (1) DS; 24 Apr Tripp (2) DGS

**Ruddy Turnstone** All Reports: 17 May Sand Lake NWR, Brown County (10) SLS; 25 May Hartford Beach SP, Roberts County (1) JSP

**Sanderling** Early: 06 May Kingsbury JSP; 06 May Lincoln (1) DS; 09 May Custer (1) MMM; also 14 May Charles Mix RM

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** Early: 06 May Kingsbury JSP; 10 May Custer (11) MMM; 15 May Clay SVS, RVS

**Least Sandpiper** Only Reports: **08 Apr Clay (2) DS**; 06 May Kingsbury JSP; 17 May Bennett SVS, DS, KD; 22 May Union PFS

**White-rumped Sandpiper** Early: 06 May Minnehaha SFB; 06 May Lincoln DS, SFB; 16 May Beadle JSP; Peaks: 23 May Sprink (300) BKH; also 21 May Yankton SVS

**Baird's Sandpiper** Early: **17 Mar Clay SVS**; 25 Mar Kingsbury JSP; 08 Apr Charles Mix RM; also 13 May Tripp (23) DGS, RAP

**Pectoral Sandpiper** Early: 29 Apr Roberts BKH; 15 May Clay SVS, RVS; 16 May Lincoln JSP

**Dunlin** Early: **24 Apr Roberts (3) BKH**; 06 May Lincoln (1) DS; 15 May Clay SVS, RVS

**Stilt Sandpiper** Early: 13 May Tripp (3) RAP, DGS; 16 May Kingsbury JSP; 17 May Shannon SVS, DS, KD

**Short-billed Dowitcher** All Reports: **01 May Clay (2) DS**; 06 May Lincoln SFB; 23 May Spink (5) BKH

**Long-billed Dowitcher** Early: 29 Apr Charles Mix RM; 06 May Meade EEM; 06 May Lincoln SFB

**Common Snipe** Early: **08 Mar Fall River JSP**; 25 Mar Clay (2) DS; 28 Mar Tripp DGS; also 13 Apr Brookings JRK, JAK

**American Woodcock** Early: 27 Mar Minnehaha NP; 28 Mar Yankton SVS; 01 May Day DRS

**Wilson's Phalarope** Early: 07 Apr Yankton SVS; 19 Apr Union (3) DS; 29 Apr Roberts BKH; also 02 May Tripp DGS

**Red-necked Phalarope** All Reports: **22 Apr Yankton SVS**; 13 May Tripp RAP, DGS; 22 May Union PFS

**Franklin's Gull** Early: 25 Mar Brown (1) SLS; 25 Mar Lake JSP; 02 Apr Yankton SVS; also 16 Apr Fall River (14) DCW

**Bonaparte's Gull** Early: **20 Mar Yankton SVS**; **25 Mar Kingsbury JSP**; **02 Apr Hamlin BKH**; also 24 Apr 1 mile north and 1 mile east of Dog Ear Lake, Tripp County (5) DGS; **28 May Sheridan Lake, Pennington County (3) DCW**

**Ring-billed Gull** Early: 13 Mar Roberts (3) BKH; 18 Mar Brown (10) SLS; 18 Mar Lake JSP; Peaks: 16 Apr Angostura Reservoir, Fall River County (2500) DCW; also 02 Apr Meade (20) NRW

**California Gull** All Reports: **28 Mar Day (6) DRS**; 19 Apr Deuel BKH

**Herring Gull** Early: **04 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 18 Mar Yankton (3) BH; 18 Mar Lake JSP

**Caspian Tern** All Reports: 16 May below Oahe Dam (3+) JSP; 24 May Yankton (4) PFS

**Common Tern** Early: 29 Apr Roberts BKH; 04 May Charles Mix RM; 08 May Hughes JCS

**Forster's Tern** Early: **08 Apr Yankton BKH, JSP**; 17 Apr Clay (1) DS; 25 Apr Day DRS

**Least Tern** All Reports: **12 Apr Yankton SVS**; **20 May Clay (1) JSP**

**Black Tern** Early: **01 May Yankton SVS**; 06 May Lincoln (12) DS; 06 May Kingsbury JSP; also 13 May Tripp

**Black-billed Cuckoo** Only Report: 31 May Day DRS

**Snowy Owl** All Reports: 10 Mar Brown DAT; **28 Apr Brown (1) SLS**

**Burrowing Owl** Early: 06 Apr Custer MMM; 22 Apr Meade EEM; 08 May Hughes (4) JCS

**Long-eared Owl** All Reports: 08 Mar Fall River (2) JSP; 11 Mar Lake (1) JSP; 01 Apr Sully (1) MMM; 06 Apr Sand Lake NWR, Brown County (1) SLS; 21 Apr Davison (possible nesting pair) DAT, DGP

**Short-eared Owl** All Reports: 19 Mar Brown (1) SLS; 07 Apr Custer MMM; 21-22 Apr Stanley (4-8) DB; 22 Apr Kingsbury (1) JSP; 29 Apr Clay (1) RAP; 29 May Pennington MMM



**Northern Saw-Whet Owl** Only Report: 06 May Fall River (1 calling) RAP

**Common Nighthawk** Early: **23 Apr Yankton SVS**; 13 May Brookings RWK; 19 May Clay (3) DS; also 24 May Custer MMM

**Common Poorwill** Only Report: 15 May Fall River RAP

**Whip-poor-will** All Reports: 11 May Minnehaha MSS; 16 May Lincoln JSP

**Chimney Swift** Early: 29 Apr Yankton SVS; 30 Apr Clay (3) DS; 04 May Brown DAT; 04 May Deuel BKH; also 06 May Pennington (6-8) NRW

**White-throated Swift** Early: 15 May Fall River RAP; 18 May Custer DCW

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird** Early: 13 May Lake (1) NB, RB; 16 May Brookings JAK; 16 May Minnehaha MSS

**Belted Kingfisher** Early: 31 Mar Yankton SVS; 01 Apr Lake JSP; 05 Apr Tripp DGS

**Lewis' Woodpecker** All Reports: all season Meade (2-4) EEM; 25 May Custer (2) RAP

**Red-headed Woodpecker** Early: 10 Apr Yankton SVS; 10 May Turner LRL; 14 May Charles Mix RM; also 16 May Tripp DGS

**Red-bellied Woodpecker** reported 19 Mar Brown (1) JCS; 23 May Lake (1) NB, RB; also from Charles Mix, Roberts, Union, and Yankton counties

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** Early: 14 Apr Brown (1) JCS; 15 Apr Deuel (2) BKH; 16 Apr Brookings (3) JRK, RWK

**Red-naped Sapsucker** Early: 23 Apr Custer DCW

**Three-toed Woodpecker** Only Report: 09 Mar Sylvan Lake, Custer County JSP

**Black-backed Woodpecker** Only Report: 09 Mar Custer SP, Custer County JSP

**Pileated Woodpecker** All Reports: 28 Apr Roberts BKH; 15 May Roberts DAT, DGP, AH; 25 May Hartford Beach SP, Roberts County (1) JSP

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** Early: **06 May Lincoln (1) DS; 14 May Davison (1) JDM; 14 May Minnehaha MSS; also 15 May Yankton SVS**

**Western Wood-Pewee** Early: 20 May Meade EEM; 30 May Fall River (1) RAP

**Eastern Wood-Pewee** Early: 19 May Yankton SVS; 20 May Clay JSP; 22 May Turner LRL

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** All Reports: 26 May Eureka, McPherson County (1) JSP; 29 May Lake Herman SP, Lake County (1) JSP; 31 May Pickerel Lake, Day County (1 banded) DRS

**Alder Flycatcher** Only Report: 30 May Union County SP, Union County (1 calling) DS

**Willow Flycatcher** Early: 13 May Pennington (2) NRW; 26 May Minnehaha NP; 29 May Lake JSP

**Least Flycatcher** Early: 05 May Union (1 banded) DS; 06 May Brown DAT; 09 May Yankton SVS; also 13 May Tripp (2) RAP, DGS

**Dusky Flycatcher** Only Report: 29 May Custer DCW

**Eastern Phoebe** Early: **25 Mar Minnehaha fide NP; 01 Apr Lake JSP**; 08 Apr Miner SVS; also 17 Apr Clay (2) DS

**Say's Phoebe** Early: 08 Apr Meade EEM; 08 Apr Charles Mix (1) BKH, JSP; 15 Apr Custer (1) MMM

**Great Crested Flycatcher** Early: 12 May Roberts BKH; 13 May Tripp (2) RAP; 15 May Union SVS

**Western Kingbird** Early: 07 May Custer (1) MMM; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 10 May Brown JCS; 10 May Day DRS

**Eastern Kingbird** Early: 05 May Yankton SVS, RVS; 13 May Meade EEM; 13 May Tripp DGS, RAP; 13 May Charles Mix RM; also 16 May Spink BKH

**Purple Martin** Early: 21 Apr Yankton SVS; 21 Apr Day DRS; 22 Apr Roberts BKH; 22 Apr Lake JSP

**Tree Swallow** Early: **07 Apr Clay (16) DS; 07 Apr Charles Mix BKH, JSP**; 14 Apr Day DRS; 14 Apr Yankton SVS; also 25 Apr Custer DCW

**Violet-green Swallow** Early: 03 May Meade EEM; 07 May Custer MMM; 13 May Pennington (8) NRW

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** Early: **08 Apr Charles Mix RM; 14 Apr Clay (1) DS**; 19 Apr Yankton SVS; also 10 May Custer DCW; 10 May Lake JSP

**Bank Swallow** Early: 01 May Yankton SVS; 06 May Lincoln DS; 16 May Day DRS; 16 May Lake JSP

**Cliff Swallow** Early: 01 May Yankton SVS; 06 May Beadle JSP; 06 May Lincoln DS; also 16 May Custer DCW

**Barn Swallow** Early: 15 Apr Codrington (3) BKH; 17 Apr Clay (8) KD; 22 Apr Meade (1) NRW

**Gray Jay** reported only from Custer County

**Clark's Nutcracker** Only Report: 07 May Sylvan Lake, Custer County (2) JSP

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** Late: 24 Apr Yankton SVS

**Brown Creeper** Late: 22 Apr Lake JSP; 21 Apr Brookings JAK; 18 Apr Meade EEM; also from Custer County

**Rock Wren** Early: **27 Apr and 29 Apr Yankton SVS**; 21 May Jackson KG; 30 May Fall River RAP

**Canyon Wren** reported only from Fall River County

**House Wren** Early: 22 Apr Clay (1) DS; 28 Apr Yankton SVS; 04 May Gregory RM; also 09 May Lake JSP; 09 May Turner LRL; 16 May Tripp DGS

**Winter Wren** Early: **08 Mar Fall River (2) JSP**; 27 Mar Minnehaha NP; 14 Apr Brown (1) JCS; Late: 18 Apr Brookings JRK, JAK; 17 Apr Deuel BKH; 16 Apr Huron, Beadle County (7) RGR; 16 Apr Savo Township, Brown County (5) SLS

**Sedge Wren** Early: **29 Apr Union BH**; 03 May Yankton SVS; 17 May Brown (4) SLS

**Marsh Wren** Early: 01 May Yankton SVS; 10 May Clay (2+) DS; 21 May Union JSP

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** Late: 22 Apr Lake JSP; 19 Apr Brown DAT; 18 Apr Day DRS

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** Early: **26 Mar Minnehaha NP**; 01 Apr Lake JSP; 07 Apr Brown DAT; 07 Apr Clay (1) DS; 07 Apr Charles Mix BKH; Late: **29 May Lake JSP; 27 May Minnehaha MSS; 24 May Brown (2) JCS**; also 16 Apr Custer DCW; 29 Apr Jackson KG; 17 May Union SVS

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** All Reports: 11 May Lake Herman SP, Lake County (1) JSP; 17 May Union County SP, Union County SVS, DS, KD; 26 May Newton Hills SP, Lincoln County (2) PFS

**Eastern Bluebird** Early: 11 Mar Day DRS; 12 Mar Edmunds MZ; 17 Mar Clay SVS; also 26 Apr Tripp DGS

**Mountain Bluebird** Early: 08 Mar Fall River JSP; 10 Mar Pennington NRW, DS; **12 Mar Richmond Lake SRA, Brown County DAT**; also 01 Apr Hughes (7) MMM; **12 Apr Edmunds (4) MZ**

**Townsend's Solitaire** reported **18 Mar Oakwood Lakes SP, Brookings County (1) JSP**; also from Custer, Meade, and Fall River counties

**Veery** Early: 11 May Brown DAT; 14 May Minnehaha MSS; 18 May Day DRS

- Gray-cheeked Thrush** Early: 03 May Brookings RWK, JRK; 06 May Brown DAT; 08 May Minnehaha MSS; Late: **30 May Brown (1) JCS**; 26 May Brookings RWK, JRK; 18 May Minnehaha MSS; also 10 May Clay (1) DS
- Swainson's Thrush** Early: 19 Apr Brown JCS; 03 May Brookings RWK, JRK; 05 May Brown DAT; 05 May Union (1 banded) DS; also 09 May Tripp DGS
- Hermit Thrush** Early: **28 Mar Minnehaha NP**; 12 Apr Yankton SVS; 14 Apr Brown JCS; 14 Apr Day (2) DRS; Late: **15 May Brown (1) JCS**; 01 May Yankton SVS; 29 Apr Union (1) DS; 29 Apr Minnehaha MSS
- Wood Thrush** Early: **01 May Brown JCS**; 10 May Clay (1) DS; 16 May Lincoln JSP
- Gray Catbird** Early: 09 May Charles Mix RM; 10 May Day DRS; 10 May Clay (1) DS
- Northern Mockingbird** All Reports: 06 May Davison and 14 May Davison (1 might have been the same bird, seen about 8 miles apart) JDM
- Brown Thrasher** Early: 30 Apr Yankton SVS; 02 May Charles Mix RM; 03 May Brown JCS; 03 May Turner LRL; also 09 May Jackson KG
- Bohemian Waxwing** Only Report: 11 Mar Cheyenne Crossing, Lawrence County (100+) DS
- Northern Shrike** Late: 19 Mar Yankton SVS; 11 Mar Day DRS; 06 Mar Custer JSP
- Loggerhead Shrike** Early: 06 Apr Tripp DGS; 08 Apr Yankton SVS; 28 Apr Pennington DCW; also 29 Apr Beadle JSP
- Bell's Vireo** Early: **09 May Tripp DGS**; 20 May Union SVS; 20 May Clay JSP; also 25 May Minnehaha NP
- Solitary Vireo** Early: **27 Apr Gregory fide BKH**; 06 May Brown DAT; 06 May Lincoln (2) DS; also 15 May Fall River (1) RAP
- Yellow-throated Vireo** Early: 10 May Clay (1) DS; 16 May Lincoln JSP; 28 May Day DRS
- Warbling Vireo** Early: 09 May Yankton SVS; 09 May Clay (1) DS; 11 May Lake JSP; also 16 May Custer DCW
- Philadelphia Vireo** All Reports: 26 May (6), 27 May (4+) and 29 May (4) Minnehaha MSS; 26 May Newton Hills SP, Lincoln County PFS; 27 May Lake Poinsett SP, Brookings County (1) JSP; 30 May Union County SP, Union County (3) DS
- Red-eyed Vireo** Early: 15 May Union SVS, RVS; 17 May Clay (1) DS; 25 May Roberts JSP; 25 May Day DRS; 25 May Hughes (2 banded) DB
- BLUE-WINGED WARBLER** Only Report: **24 May Union County SP, Union County (1 singing male) DS**
- Golden-winged Warbler** All Reports: **11, 17, 19, 24 May Union County SP, Union County (1) DS; 14 May Clay (1 banded) DS; 17 May LaCreek NWR (1) DS, SVS, KD; 18 May Lake Herman SP, Lake County JSP; 27 May Madison, Lake County NB, RB, 27 May (1 female) and 29 May (1 male) Minnehaha MSS**
- Tennessee Warbler** Early: 01 May Brown JCS; 06 May Lincoln (1) DS; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Yankton SVS
- Orange-crowned Warbler** Early: **17 Apr Brown DAT**; 25 Apr Clay (1) DS; 29 Apr Yankton SVS; also 09 May Tripp DGS
- Nashville Warbler** Early: 04 May Brown JCS; 09 May Lake JSP; 09 May Union (1) DS

**Northern Parula** Early: 11 May Lake JSP; 11 May Minnehaha (2) MSS; 11 May Union DS

**Yellow Warbler** Early: 05 May Tripp DGS; 06 May Yankton SVS; 06 May Lincoln (1) DS

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** Early: 17 May Union DS; 17 May Clay SVS, DS, KD; 26 May Minnehaha MSS; Late: **31 May (1 banded) Day DRS; 29 May Minnehaha PFS; 29 May Lake JSP; 29 May Roberts BKH, DS**

**Magnolia Warbler** Early: 10 May Clay (1) DS; 11 May Lake JSP; 11 May Minnehaha MSS

**Cape May Warbler** All Reports: 14 May Huron, Beadle County (6) RGR; 16 May Oakwood Lakes SP, Brookings County (1) RGR; 18 May Brown DAT

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** All Reports: 11 May Union County SP, Union County (1 male) DS; 16 May Clay (1 female) DS; **23 May Union PFS**

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** Early: **28 Mar Hughes DB**; 15 Apr Deuel (9) BKH; 15 Apr Clay (2) DS; also 28 Apr Pennington DCW; 28 Apr Jackson KG

**Black-throated Green Warbler** Early: 11 May Lake JSP; 11 May Union (3+) DS; Late: 19 May Union (1) DS

**Blackburnian Warbler** Early: 11 May Lake (1) JSP; 15 May Brookings RWK, JAK, JRK; 15 May Union (1) KD; Late: **30 May Brown (2) JCS; 29 May Lake JSP; 29 May Deuel (1) BKH; 29 May Day DRS**

**Pine Warbler** Only Report: **09 May Union County SP, Union County (1) DS**

**Palm Warbler** Early: 01 May Brown JCS; 06 May Kingsbury JSP; 06 May Lincoln (2) DS; Late: 18 May Lake (1) JSP; 15 May Deuel BKH; 11 May Clay (2) DS; also 08 May Clay (1 banded) DS

**Bay-breasted Warbler** All Reports: 18 May Lake (1) JSP; 24 May Lake (1) RGR; 30 May Edmunds MZ

**Blackpoll Warbler** Early: 09 May Lake JSP; 09 May Tripp DGS; 09 May Clay DS

**Cerulean Warbler** All Reports: 16 May Newton Hills SP, Lincoln County JSP; 26 May Newton Hills SP, Lincoln County (1 singing male) PFS

**Black-and-white Warbler** Early: 28 Apr Brown DAT; 29 Apr Union PFS; 05 May Hughes DB; also 09 May Tripp DGS

**American Redstart** Early: 10 May Clay (1) DS; 13 May Lake JSP; 15 May Yankton SVS; also 19 May Meade EEM

**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER** Only Report: **19 May Lake Herman SP, Lake County (1 photographed) JSP**

**Ovenbird** Early: **03 May Minnehaha MSS**; 06 May Lincoln (10+) DS; 08 May Brown DAT; also 09 May Tripp DGS; 11 May Yankton SVS

**Northern Waterthrush** Early: 04 May Clay (1) DS; 05 May Brown DAT; 06 May Brookings JSP; Late: **29 May Sanborn (1) RGR, JDM**; 25 May Roberts JSP; 17 May Edmunds MZ

**Connecticut Warbler** Early: 19 May Lake Herman SP, Lake County (1) JSP; 28 May Brown (banded) DAT; 28 May Sanborn (1) RGR

**Mourning Warbler** Early: 16 May Lake JSP; 19 May Faulk BKH; 20 May Union SVS

**MacGillivray's Warbler** Only Report: **16 May Brown (banded) DAT**

**Common Yellowthroat** Early: 03 May Yankton SVS; 05 May Hughes (1) DB; 06 May Custer (2) MMM; 06 May Clay (1 banded) DS; also 09 May Lake JSP

**HOODED WARBLER** Only Report: **15 May Sand Lake NWR, Brown County (1 male) DAT, DGP, AH**

**Wilson's Warbler** Early: 10 May Clay (1) DS; 13 May Minnehaha MSS; 14 May Yankton SVS; Late: **30 May Union (1) DS; 29 May Lake JSP; 29 May Deuel (2) BKH; 29 May Brown (1) JCS**

**Canada Warbler** Early: 25 May Hughes (2) DB; 25 May Clay (1) KD; 26 May McPherson (1) JSP; 26 May Minnehaha MSS; 26 May Yankton SVS, RVS

**Yellow-breasted Chat** Early: 18 May Fall River RAP; 23 May Brown (1) SLS; 24 May Lake (1) RGR; 24 May Union (1 banded) DS

**Scarlet Tanager** Early: 15 May Union SVS, RVS; 24 May Lake (1) RGR

**Western Tanager** All Reports: 18 May Custer DCW; 30 May Pennington (1) NRW

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** Early: 06 May Lincoln (1) DS; 08 May Lake JSP; 09 May Yankton SVS; also 14 May Meade EEM; **26 May Kadoka, Jackson County KG**

**Black-headed Grosbeak** Early: 13 May Tripp DGS, RAP; 16 May Hughes JSP; 16 May Charles Mix RM; also **17 May Edmunds MZ**

**Blue Grosbeak** Only Report: 24 May Custer MMM

**Lazuli Bunting** All Reports: 13 May Meade EEM; 13 May Custer (pair) MJP; **24 May Lake Herman SP, Lake County (1 male calling) RGR**

**Indigo Bunting** Early: 13 May Meade EEM; 13 May Yankton SVS; 19 May Charles Mix RM; also 25 May Roberts JSP

**Dickcissel** Early: 11 May Yankton SVS; 21 May Clay NRW; 21 May Union JSP

**Rufous-sided Towhee** Early: 24 Apr Yankton SVS; 24 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Pennington NRW; also 06 May Brown (1) SLS

**American Tree Sparrow** Late: 01 May Brown JCS; 22 Apr Lake JSP; 16 Apr Yankton SVS

**Chipping Sparrow** Early: **05 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 08 Apr Bon Homme BKH, JSP; 09 Apr Clay DS; 16 Apr Turner LRL; also 01 May Pennington NRW

**Clay-colored Sparrow** Early: 29 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 29 Apr Union DS; 04 May Yankton SVS; also 05 May Tripp DGS

**Field Sparrow** Early: 08 Apr Bon Homme BKH, JSP; 10 Apr Clay (1) DS; 24 Apr Yankton SVS; also 13 May Tripp DGS, RAP; 25 May Roberts JSP

**Vesper Sparrow** Early: 07 Apr Clay SVS; 24 Apr Custer MMM; 29 Apr Kingsbury JSP

**Lark Sparrow** Early: 07 May Meade (1) NRW; 07 May Custer (3) MMM; 10 May Yankton SVS

**Lark Bunting** Early: 05 May Custer MMM; 13 May Meade EEM; 13 May Tripp (4) RAP, DGS

**Savannah Sparrow** Early: **25 Mar Kingsbury JSP**; 10 Apr Yankton SVS; 28 Apr Pennington DCW

**Grasshopper Sparrow** Early: 13 May Yankton SVS; 13 May Tripp (3) RAP, DGS; 16 May Stanley JSP; also 26 May McPherson JSP

**Le Conte's Sparrow** Only Report: 09 May Yankton SVS

**Fox Sparrow** Early: 25 Mar Brown DAT; 26 Mar Minnehaha NP, MSS; 27 Mar Turner LRL; Late: 22 Apr Clay (1) DS; 22 Apr Minnehaha MSS; 21 Apr Union SVS

**Song Sparrow** Early: 08 Mar Fall River JSP; 14 Mar Clay (1 singing) DS; 26 Mar Minnehaha NP

**Lincoln's Sparrow** Early: 28 Apr Jackson (1) KG; 29 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 29 Apr Union (1) DS; Late: 24 May Minnehaha NP; 22 May Yankton SVS; 18 May Brown JCS; also 13 May Tripp (2) RAP

**Swamp Sparrow** Early: 26 Mar Minnehaha NP; 08 Apr Hutchinson SVS; 14 Apr Clay (3) DS

**White-throated Sparrow** Early: 14 Apr Brown JCS; 15 Apr Deuel (2) BKH; 16 Apr Beadle (1) RGR; Late: 26 May McPherson JSP; 24 May Minnehaha MSS; 11 May Turner LRL; also 30 Apr Charles Mix RM

**White-crowned Sparrow** Early: 14 Apr Brown JCS; 27 Apr Custer MMM; 30 Apr Charles Mix RM; Late: 26 May Minnehaha MSS; 16 May Lake JSP; 15 May Day (banded) DRS; 15 May Turner LRL; 15 May Meade EEM; also 11 May Yankton SVS

**GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW First Confirmed Record for South Dakota 10 May 906 N Lincoln Ave Madison, Lake County (1 adult first seen by Robert Buckman, also by JSP, Dale Droge, and at least 5 other observers)**

**Harris' Sparrow** Early: 21 Mar Clay (1) DS; 24 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Apr Turner LRL; Late: 24 May Yankton PFS; 21 May Union JSP; 19 May Turner LRL; also 08 May Custer (1) MMM; 13 May Tripp DGS, RAP

**Dark-eyed Junco** Late: 06 May Brookings JSP; 05 May Charles Mix RM; 03 May Tripp RAP

**Lapland Longspur** Late: 31 Mar Deuel (100+) BKH; 09 Mar Bennett (50+ in flocks) DS; 06 Mar Custer JSP; 06 Mar Brown DAT

**Chestnut-collared Longspur** Early: 02 Apr Sully (3) MMM; 22 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 22 May Tripp DGS

**Snow Bunting** Only Report: 06 Mar Brown DAT

**Bobolink** Early: 08 May Brown (1) SLS; 11 May Day DRS; 11 May Yankton SVS; also 13 May Meade EEM; 13 May Tripp (12) RAP

**Eastern Meadowlark** Only Report: 17 May LaCreek NWR, Bennett County SVS, DS, KD

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** Early: 29 Mar Minnehaha NP; 01 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 03 Apr Yankton SVS; also 26 Apr Tripp DGS

**Rusty Blackbird** All Reports: 10 Apr Clay (1 male and 2 females at feeder) DS; 12 May Charles Mix RM

**Brewer's Blackbird** Early: 14 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Apr Deuel (12) BKH; 03 Apr Yankton (300) SVS; also 03 May Meade EEM

**GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE All Reports: 06 Apr Lake Andes NWR, Charles Mix County SVS; 26 May Vermillion, Clay County (1 male first seen by Jan Small on 24 May) DS, subsequently observed 28 May (1 female) DS, 28 May (4 males and 1 female) JSP**

**Common Grackle** Early: 13 Mar Lake JSP; 14 Mar Deuel BKH; 15 Mar Gregory (4) RAP; 15 Mar Yankton SVS; also 28 Mar Tripp DGS

**Brown-headed Cowbird** Early: 17 Mar Clay SVS; 29 Mar Tripp DGS; 03 Apr Deuel (12) BKH

**Orchard Oriole** Early: 11 May Jackson (pair) KG; 16 May Lincoln JSP; 16 May Tripp DGS; also 19 May Yankton SVS

**Northern Oriole** Early: 07 May Charles Mix RM; 07 May Yankton SVS; 10 May Clay (2) DS; also 11 May Roberts BKH; 13 May Pennington (2) NRW; 13 May Tripp (1) RAP

**Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch** All Reports: 07 Mar Custer, Custer County (6-12 at feeder) JSP; 09 Mar Sylvan Lake, Custer County (1) JSP; 11 Mar Custer SP, Custer County (100) DS

**Purple Finch** All Reports: 01 May Lake and 18 Mar Brookings JSP; 28 Apr Brown DAT

**Cassin's Finch** All Reports: 06 Mar Rapid City, Pennington County (2 females) NRW; 06 Mar Custer, Custer County JSP; 08 Mar Fall River JSP; 22 Apr Custer DCW

**Common Redpoll** Only Report: **25 Apr Meade EEM**

**Pine Siskin** Late: 29 May Charles Mix (1) RM; 29 May Lake JSP; 23 May Brown (4) JCS; also 13 May Tripp (3) RAP, DGS

**Evening Grosbeak** All Reports: all season Meade EEM; 10 May Custer DCW; 11 Apr Pennington (6) NRW; 12 Mar Brown DAT; 07 Mar Custer JSP

### Reports Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

**WHIMBREL** 23 Apr Milbank, Grant County (1) Doug Buri

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** 14 Apr Brown JCS

**Eastern Wood-Pewee** 14 Apr Brown JCS

**Clay-colored Sparrow** 24 Mar Brown JCS

### **Species Expected But Not Reported**

Clark's Grebe, Cinnamon Teal, Whooping Crane, Western Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Glaucous Gull, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barn Owl, Barred Owl, Cordilleran Flycatcher, Pinyon Jay, Pygmy Nuthatch, American Dipper, Sage Thrasher, American Pipit, Sprague's Pipit, Brewer's Sparrow, Baird's Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, McCown's Longspur, Smith's Longspur, White-winged Crossbill

### **Corrections/Additions from Past Reports**

Mountain Bluebird add 23 Feb, 1995 Meade EEM

The Gray Jays and Pinyon Jay attributed to MMM in the 1994-95 Winter Season Report were actually reported by MJP

The Greater Prairie Chicken reported by MJP in the 1994-95 Winter Season Report was actually a Sharp-tailed Grouse

### **Contributing Observers**

DB	Doug Backlund	RAP	Richard A. Peterson
NB	Nancy Buckman	NP	Nathan Pieplow
RB	Robert Buckman	DGP	D. George Prisbe
KD	Kurt Dean	RGR	Robert G. Rogers
KG	Ken Graupmann	SLS	Sand Lake NWR Staff
AH	Arlen Hanson	SFB	Sioux Falls Bird Club
BKH	Bruce K. Harris	DRS	Dennis R. Skadsen
BH	Bill Huser	MSS	Mark S. Skadsen
JAK	Jan Kieckhefer	DGS	Daniel G. Snethen
JRK	Jon R. Kieckhefer	PFS	Paul F. Springer
RWK	Robert W. Kieckhefer	JCS	Jerry C. Stanford
LRL	Lester R. Lauritzen	DS	David Swanson
RM	Ron Mabie	DAT	Dan A. Tallman
JDM	James D. McLaird	RVS	Rose Van Sickle
MMM	Michael M. Melius	SVS	Steve Van Sickle
EEM	Ernest E. Miller	DCW	Duane C. Weber
JSP	Jeffrey S. Palmer	NRW	Nathaniel R. Whitney
MJP	Marge J. Parker	MZ	MyRon Zimmer

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## SDOU SALE

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