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# SOUTH DAKOTA

## Ornithologists' Union

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*Prairie Warbler*  
*Lincoln County, SD. 6/5/07*  
*Photo: Terry Sobl*

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SOUTH  
BIRD



DAKOTA  
NOTES

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VOL. 59

September 2007

NO. 3

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*SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES*, the official publication of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union (organized 1949), is sent to all members whose dues are paid for the current year. Life members: \$320; Family life members (one subscription to *Bird Notes*): \$480; sustaining members: \$30; regular membership: \$16; Family membership (one household with one subscription to *Bird Notes*): \$20; Junior membership (10-16): \$8; Library Subscription: \$20; Single and back copies: Members, \$4; Non-members, \$5. All dues, payments, change of address notices and orders for back copies should be sent to the SDOU Treasurer, Nelda Holden, 1620 Elmwood Drive, Brookings, SD 57006. Manuscripts for publication should be sent to Douglas Chapman, 3108 S. Holly Ave., Sioux Falls, SD, 57105 or e-mailed to SFbirdclub@sio.midco.net. **SDOU website: [www.sdou.org](http://www.sdou.org).**

VOL. 59

September 2007

NO. 3

**SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION**  
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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

SDOU has a fine tradition of providing scholarships and grants to students and researchers engaged in ornithological study. Our scholarship and grant programs have been made possible through the great generosity of a few individuals who have made large endowment gifts as a lasting contribution to ornithology in South Dakota. We are especially thankful for the vision of the Husmann, the Holden, the Hinds, the Whitney and the Baylor families.



An idea has presented itself that would engage all of us in a fun and profitable activity which would benefit both the SDOU organization and ourselves as members. At a recent out-of-state ornithology meeting, Doug Chapman encountered a silent auction of birding gear, books, and equipment, with proceeds going to that organization's programs. Both Iowa and Minnesota conduct such an auction. I would like to conduct one at our spring meeting 16-18 May 2008 in Pickstown. Proceeds from the auction will go to SDOU projects to be determined by the board. If this auction succeeds with both donors and bidders, the board could decide to implement it as a regular part of our spring or fall meetings.

In a typical silent auction, all items to be auctioned are put on display, each with a sheet attached, to write a bidder's name and the amount that person will pay for the item. Each new entry must show an amount higher than the previous entry. At the end of the allotted time period for the auction, highest bidders claim their items by paying for them on the spot.

Rules for this SDOU silent auction:

1. Minimum value must be at least \$1.00, but may be higher if you have a valuable item you are willing to donate as long as it commands a price worthy of its value. Donated items with exceptional value will be auctioned on e-bay with proceeds to SDOU, with donors' consent.
2. Birding-related items only: birding gear, bird books, bird photos, bird paintings, bird sculpture, bird houses, bird baths, bird feeders, bird décor, bird jewelry, bird note cards, bird ornaments, plus, of course, binoculars, walking sticks, new or slightly used and very clean birding clothing and hats (no seed caps please), and so forth that are in excellent condition.
3. No taxidermy please (no stuffed birds).
4. No bird seed.
5. No baked goods.
6. The auction will run from set-up Friday evening until 15 minutes prior to start of the banquet Saturday evening. This will give winners time to pay for and pick up their items before the banquet and evening's program.

If you have birding things knocking about, cluttering closets and bookshelves, and you think SDOU could benefit from extra funds, then this silent auction is for you. If you have questions about it, please contact me.

See good birds.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosemary Gaeger".

# FROM OUR PAST...

...IN SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES

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L. M. BAYLOR

Vol. 1 No. 3

December 1949

The lead article of this issue of *Bird Notes* is J. S. Findley's compilation of early records of mockingbirds in South Dakota. These records involve wide occurrences throughout the state, especially during the 1930s and 1940s. The earliest record, however, is the mockingbird collected by F. V. Hayden in the Black Hills in 1860.

In the "Sanctuary! Sanctuary!" section, refuge manager C. T. Rollings provides details about the birds of Sand Lake Wildlife Refuge northeast of Aberdeen. In addition to geese and ducks commonly important on the refuge, many non-game birds utilize the refuge's habitat: everything from grebes, herons, pelicans and swans to gulls and terns. SDOU members know the habitat also supports grassland and other songbirds.

Editor Lamster reprinted a letter to the editor of the *Sioux Falls Argus Leader*. The letter writer proposed that the legislature should require the licensing of all cats. According to his judgement, the fee would deter the keeping of cats as pets and in turn would reduce the number of "songbird killers" in the state.

Professor Ruth Habeger authored an article in which she reported on bird study courses at General Beadle State College and Southern State College. Miss Habeger taught the course at General Beadle, and Prof. M. E. Burgi taught the course at Southern State.

Habeger's texts were Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds*, his *How to Know the Birds*, and A. A. Allen's *Book of Bird Life*. Prof. Burgi required J. J. Hickey's *Guide to Bird Watching* and also sections of *Birds of South Dakota* by Over and Toms and L. G. Atherton's *Dakota Birds*. In addition to classroom study, the professors scheduled field trips and emphasized careful record keeping in pocket-sized notebooks with attention to recording the "who, what, where, and when" about bird observation.

Gabriel Smith Agersborg is the prairie ornithologist featured in this issue. Born in Norway and raised in Wisconsin, Agersborg came with his family in 1869 to Union County, Dakota Territory. As a collector of birds and a taxidermist, he may be the first resident bird student in what is now South Dakota. In *The Auk*, Vol. II, No. 3 (1885), Agersborg's "The Birds of South Dakota" listed 225 avian species for the state.

W. B. Mallory's contribution to the "I Remember" section involved a wild predator that he regarded with displeasure. In fact, he proclaimed, "the Screech Owl should not be tolerated among birds which have been invited to make their homes at one's place." In defense of his view, he cited his experience involving a Screech Owl's devastating destruction of Purple Martins at his sixteen-compartment martin house.

The "General Notes" section provided items of interest about such species as Black-crowned Night Herons nesting near Webster, a Coot banded in 1941 near Redfield and recovered northeast of San Francisco in 1948, migrating Avocets and Wilson's Phalaropes near Freeman, and more. As a Black Hills resident, this writer found special interest in Mrs. H. B. Stevens' report that starlings had reached Hot Springs in 1948. Then Harry Behrens noted starlings at Rapid City, October 1949.

With this issue we add a feature page to *Bird Notes* that is dear to my heart.

I always think that any organization worth its salt should do all it can to encourage the youth of the day to participate. Thus, let me introduce our Youth Editor to you. Caity Reiland-Smith will be writing "Fledgling Tracts" for us periodically. I have known Caity for several years, back to when she was a child. When I found out she was interested in birds, I tried to make sure she was welcomed into field trips and alerted to good bird sightings. However, I had no idea that her interest was as strong as it was. I found out when birding on Mt. Lemmon near Tucson, AZ, at the 2005 American Birding Association's convention. From behind me I hear, "Hi Doug." I turn around...and there is Caity! She is birding at ABA with the youth group. She went back to Arizona the next summer, to attend Camp Chiricahua with Victor Emmanuel. She wrote up her adventure for *A Bird's-Eye View*, the ABA newsletter for young birders. This year she attended the youth bird adventure at Big Bend National Park in Texas. Next year she will be attending "Bird Camp" at Yosemite National Park in California. Meanwhile, she quickly joined the Sioux Falls Bird Club, participated in several Christmas Bird Counts and actively reports birds she sees. She has already brought three other teenage birders along with her on outings. Caity has recently joined SDOU.



Caity Reiland-Smith

So it is indeed with pleasure that we introduce her first column with this issue of *Bird Notes*, on the birds of the Missouri River near her family's cabin south of Gayville. We welcome you, Caity.

### FIRST AMATEUR BIRD RECORDER IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

I am in possession of a postcard mailed from Springfield, South Dakota on 6 March 1909 to Washington, D.C. The front is a photo of a very large snow-bank from a blizzard in February 1909. In the text, the writer, signed only as "W.L.H." states:

"...the Missouri has been frozen solidly since December but the ice is apt to go out any time now..."

Miss Kennedy is writing of spring birds but the red polls [*sic*] and tree sparrows are still our only songsters..."

Since it would be over seventy years before House Finches would show up in South Dakota, they were no doubt really redpolls. Or could they have been Purple Finches? Is this the first known recorded sighting by a "yard-birder" in South Dakota?

*Doug Chapman*

# A PRAIRIE TALE

## I

The twenty-fourth of May, 2007, was a good birding morning. Three members of the Sioux Falls Bird Club (SFBC)—Judy Richards, Sandi Carlson, and Ellen Granberg—hopped in the car for a trip to Newton Hills State Park in search of Scarlet Tanagers, Indigo Buntings, Red-headed Woodpeckers and anything else late spring had brought to the park. We compose a good group: Sandi has the musical ear to pick up vocalizations, Ellen has the eagle eyes for spotting, and Judy has been part of the birding community long enough to categorize a sighting even if she can't identify it readily. Experts we are not, but our enthusiasm makes up for any lack of experience!

About 11 a.m. we were walking through a mix of grassland, scrub and tall trees near the horse camp, when we heard a clear, ascending call of notes which we had never heard before. It was a little reminiscent of a field sparrow but not close enough for us to dismiss the nagging feeling that we were on to something new. The very distinct ascending call was persistent from nearby thickets until we finally pinned it down to a fifteen-foot high clump of bushes and tall grasses. Unfortunately, after a lot of time spent looking, we were still unable to see the bird even though we knew it was in there. Time ran out and we left the area, satisfied with a great day of birding but curious to find out the name of the bird singing the musical scale.

Once home, it was like a page out of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind....* we had the haunting tune of a bird call in our heads that would not leave! Was it a finch? A sparrow? A warbler? Or something else we had heard? In desperation, Ellen dug out her Kaufman *Field Guide to the Birds of North America* and began skimming bird call descriptions. It was a time-consuming task but eventually...Eureka!...the call of the Prairie Warbler jumped off the page screaming, "It's Me!" A visit with Sandi to listen to her recordings of bird calls and an excerpt from the calls on the Cornell University website had us convinced that we had identified the bird.

We did experience a shadow of a doubt though, when we learned that Prairie Warblers are not supposed to frequent our area. We e-mailed a few seasoned birders to ask if it was possible that a "Prairie" could be in South Dakota. We were met with some skepticism since we were identifying the bird based strictly on its voice. We were undeterred, however, as we knew what we had heard and all we needed was a sighting to confirm it.

Luckily for us, we do have an enthusiastic member of the SFBC by the name of Doug Chapman who was willing to drive to Newton Hills to try to find the elusive warbler. We will let him tell his bit of the story now but let it be known that we were ecstatic to have him give us a positive sight ID on that wayward little bird with the clear distinctive call. ~Ellen Granberg, Brandon



...sent by e-mail 25 May 2007.

*Hi Doug—Judy, Ellen and I birded at Newton Hills yesterday and saw a wide variety of birds, which was really fun. However, we were mystified when trying to identify the song of a bird we couldn't see. Its song was really high-pitched, began with a slight warble on the first note some of the time, then ascended about six notes like it was playing a musical scale. After pausing, it repeated the song. We couldn't remember ever hearing this song before. Do you have any ideas as to what it could be? I e-mailed Rosemary [Draeger] and she suggested a Field Sparrow, but we know what the "normal" song of the Field Sparrow should sound like, and it wasn't what we were hearing. I'm going to see what Mick [Zerr] thinks too, but would really appreciate your opinion if you have one. Thanks--Sandi Carlson.*

I must say that when I got Sandi's e-mail I first thought: "That describes a Prairie Warbler's song pretty well, but we are not in Virginia, Missouri or Georgia." So I quickly decided, as Rosemary before me, that it must be a Field Sparrow. There are many of them in that particular area and on occasion are known to vary their song a bit. I didn't even want to mention Prairie Warbler to the three ladies, the chance seemed so remote.

I am honored that Ellen describes me as she does, but I assure all birders who read this that it is not a hardship to agree to go birding in Newton Hills State Park in May! So I drove down hoping to find something, but not really expecting to find much other than what the SFBC outing on 19 May had found there. I quickly discovered the singer, and at once became excited. It was a Prairie Warbler singing. After about fifteen minutes of listening and searching I spotted the bird foraging and scribing a territory about twenty feet up in a patch of sumac. I saw the distinct rusty stripes on the olive-greenish back, the bright yellow breast and head with the proper crisp black facial markings and ticking on the flanks, and the small size. It was indeed a perfect Prairie Warbler and I so reported.

Within a week, there were many people from around the tri-state area of South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska that came to see this bird, especially after it moved its territory to across the road from camp stall No. 125 and was easier to see. This singing male performed reliably for many, including the scheduled 9 June field trip of the SFBC, when Ellen and Judy finally got to see their little songster (but alas, Sandi could not be there). It was not heard or seen after 26 July 2007. A strange interaction with a Yellow Warbler pair will be the subject of a separate report. ~Douglas Chapman, Sioux Falls

To see a map of the Prairie Warbler's normal summer/breeding range go to:  
**<http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/id/framlst/i6730id.html>**

To hear the Prairie Warbler's song go to Cornell Lab at:  
**[http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/Prairie\\_Warbler.html#fig1](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/Prairie_Warbler.html#fig1)**  
Then click "play the sound from this species."



# FLEDGLING TRACTS

CAITY REILAND-SMITH

## BIRDING ON THE MISSOURI

**M**y family owns a small cabin on the Missouri River, and it didn't take me too long to realize what a birding haven it is. During the late summer months when the spring flooding subsides, our family takes a couple of kayaking trips with family and friends. Paddling downstream from a number of launch sites upriver, we spend entire mornings, afternoons, or



*Least Tern taking off. These endangered birds are fairly common along the Missouri. Hughes County, SD.  
Photo: Doug Backlund*

even an entire day trip enjoying the calm, shallow waters, frequently stopping for snack or lunch breaks on various sandbars. In the fall and winter, when the shallow parts dry up and become icy, we go for walks along the frozen river bottom, collecting the iridescent purple shells of a native shellfish. During this time of year, the river sports giant flocks of Snow Geese and other waterfowl that congregate on the open water along the opposite shore.

It was on this river where I discovered the joys of birding alone.

While my family supports my hobby, they do not share the enthusiasm I have for the search and identification of birds. So while they would spend afternoons swimming in the river, I would spend them looking for all the birds I could find. One especially fun aspect of watching the birds was finding their nests, and watching the parents bring food to their young. It was this interest in discovering how to find breeding birds, and my love of photography that drove me to document the Piping Plovers and Least Terns that were nesting nearby on a sandbar.



*Piping Plover on its favorite foraging habitat—rocky shores. Hughes County, SD.*

*Photo: Doug Backlund*

It was during one of these cool summer mornings when the mastermind



behind Missouri River Expeditions, Chad Cadwell and I took a kayak to cruise around St. Helena's Bend Sandbar. On this sandbar, students from the University of South Dakota have set up a blind to observe and research the breeding Piping Plovers and Least Terns. Because of their endangered status, docking at the island is strictly prohibited, so we watched from a distance in our kayak. Upon circling the island once, I counted at least fifteen pairs of plovers and five pairs of terns, along with several difficult-to-spot chicks, weaving in and out of the cover of the grass. Taking some brief photos, we turned back to the mainland, glad to get to see such wonderful birds. From the cabin we occasionally see as many as five to ten terns fly by in a day, either coming from or going to their sandbar. The plovers are harder to see, but easier to hear at the cabin.

Getting to visit the cabin is exciting at any time of year. The diversity of the birds, many opportunities for great photography, swimming and kayaking makes the river house one of my favorite places to bird.

I look forward to being a part of SDOU and *Bird Notes*.

Breeding birds I've taken note of include:

Canada Goose	Eastern Wood Pewee
Gray Partridge	House Wren
Bald Eagle	Mourning Dove
Piping Plover	Eastern Bluebird
Least Tern	American Robin
Red-headed Woodpecker	Orchard Oriole
Northern Flicker	Baltimore Oriole
Killdeer	Indigo Bunting
Yellow Warbler	Rose Breasted Grosbeak
Eastern Kingbird	American Goldfinch

Non-breeding birds seen (breeding not confirmed, seasonal, or rare):

Sabine's Gull <sup>1</sup>	Red-bellied Woodpecker
Ring-billed Gull	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Snow Goose	Northern Waterthrush
Northern Pintail	Upland Sandpiper
Mallard	Belted Kingfisher
Blue-winged Teal	Whip-poor-will
Wood Duck	Black-capped Chickadee
Common Goldeneye	Dickcissel
Northern Harrier	Savannah Sparrow
American Kestrel	Vesper Sparrow
Cooper's Hawk	Horned Lark
Great Blue Heron	Western Meadowlark
Green Heron	Red-winged Blackbird

<sup>1</sup>Seen on the road to the Myron Grove launch, September 2006

## PREY OF THE LONG-BILLED CURLEW (*NUMENIUS AMERICANUS*) IN CENTRAL SOUTH DAKOTA

Doug Backlund • 114 South Poplar • Pierre, S.D. 57501

The long, decurved bill of the Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) seems out of place on the upland prairies that this largest of the North American shorebirds inhabits. Why would a shorebird that breeds in grassland evolve such an adaptation? Certainly the bill is not efficient for probing in substrate, especially the drier upland soils where the Long-billed Curlew nests. Nor is a long, decurved bill efficient for pecking prey from the surface, where a shorter, straight bill similar to the Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) would function well. A long, decurved bill does function efficiently for preying on animals in burrows. Dugger and Dugger (2002) suggested that the bill of the Long-billed Curlew evolved for efficient foraging on shrimp and crabs in deep burrows on tidal mudflats in wintering habitats. Dugger and Dugger reported that extensive observation during winter suggests that burrow probing is a major foraging method while limited observations of foraging on breeding grounds suggest that pecking is the most common foraging method, which seemingly does not require the specialized bill.

However, feeding adaptations, especially striking morphological characteristics like the curlew bill, could be strongly influenced by effectiveness during breeding season as well. Additionally, the Long-billed Curlew's winter range is in upland habitats of Texas and Mexico. This grassland and open, dry country is similar to the habitat on the breeding range (Bent, 1929). Little is known about the ecology of curlews wintering in the Mexican interior (Dugger and Dugger, 2002).

In this paper I report observations of foraging by Long-billed Curlews on burrowing wolf spiders (*Lycosidae*) in central South Dakota and suggest that the development of the Long-billed Curlew's striking bill may have occurred due to coevolution with burrowing wolf spiders inhabiting grasslands. Although the role of selective pressures in the development of morphological specialties is experimentally difficult to prove (Benkman and Lindholm, 1991), the Long-billed Curlew seems to be exquisitely adapted to preying on a rich food source with little or no avian competition.

I made my first observation of Long-billed Curlews preying on burrowing wolf spiders on April 29, 2002 at the Triple U Buffalo Ranch in northern Stanley County, South Dakota, 44.58333N 100.85000W. The habitat is native mixed grass prairie, dominated by western wheatgrass, *Pascopyrum smithii*. The 24,283 hectare ranch has been managed as a buffalo ranch since 1974.

Using a Pentax 80-ED spotting scope with a 20-60x Pentax eyepiece, I observed the Long-billed Curlews probing deep into the ground and occasionally pulling out large spiders. This was the only prey I observed the Long-billed Curlews capture.

In the spring of 2003 I made several trips to the same area of the Triple U Buf-

falo Ranch to observe foraging Long-billed Curlews. On 9 April, I observed two Long-billed Curlews foraging, walking through the short grass and obviously searching for prey. Occasional probes into the ground resulted in the capture of at least two large spiders in about ten minutes of foraging. Once again this was the only prey I observed taken.

I returned on 25 April and again observed Long-billed Curlews foraging by probing in burrows. The first bird I watched caught three spiders in ten minutes. Another pair I observed for twenty-three minutes caught at least three spiders. I located another Long-billed Curlew and watched it for twenty minutes;



*Long-billed Curlew eating a burrowing wolf spider just dug from a burrow. Stanley County, SD.*

*Photo: Doug Backlund*

it caught one spider but spent most of the time loafing. I located another pair of Long-billed Curlews that were copulating. After copulation, I watched the male forage for twelve minutes and observed it take one large spider from a burrow. The foraging behavior of all observed Long-billed Curlews seemed to be focused on a

search for the burrows of the large spiders, as the birds were constantly moving on a fairly straight course through the short grass.

A search of the grassland on 25 April revealed many burrows of burrowing wolf spiders. Availability of other prey on the ground appeared to be nearly nonexistent with the exception of ants and a few small crickets. At this time of year and at this latitude, insects are not abundant in grassland habitat.

I located a spider burrow that appeared active and photographed it. A quart of water forced a single spider to the surface where I captured it. The spider was 33 mm in body length excluding the legs and had a dry live weight of 2.3 g. The opening of the burrow was 26 mm in diameter. I located another burrow and excavated from one side. The spider burrow was about 250 mm deep. At the bottom of the burrow there was a chamber to one side that was occupied by a single burrowing wolf spider. A second burrow that I excavated was similar with a single spider in side chamber at the bottom. These two spiders weighed 3.0 g and 2.3 g respectively. The species was identified as *Lycosa aspersionis* Hentz.

Bill length of Long-billed Curlews is variable over the range of the species. Bill length of males ranges from a mean of 121 mm in Canada to 147 mm in the southwest United States. Female bill length ranges from a mean of 146 mm

in Canada to 195 mm in the southwest United States (Dugger and Dugger, 2002). No information seems to be available on tongue length or use of the tongue while burrow probing. My observations verify that Long-billed Curlews can access the spiders in deep burrows. The decurved shape of the bill may assist the Long-billed Curlews to reach spiders in chambers located at the bottom of the burrows.

Long-billed Curlews are the earliest upland shorebirds to return to the grasslands in central South Dakota, sometimes arriving in late March, usually 3-4 weeks before Upland Sandpipers and 2-3 weeks before Marbled Godwits, based on my observations. The food source of burrowing wolf spiders appears to be abundant in early spring and may explain why Long-billed Curlews are the first upland shorebirds to return to this area.



*A captured burrowing wolf spider.  
Stanley County, SD.  
Photo: Doug Backlund*

Abbott (1944) provides the only other report of Long-billed Curlews feeding on spiders. The observations reported by Abbott occurred on 7 April 1940 in California. Abbott reported Long-billed Curlews feeding on trapdoor spiders, did not identify the spiders and did not describe the spider burrows. The generic term “trapdoor” spider is often applied to various spider species in different families of the *Araneida*. Allen (1980) reported no observations of curlews feeding on spiders

in Idaho, instead reported pecking as the major foraging method on large beetles. King (1978) reported grasshoppers and other insects taken from the ground surface as the primary food source and observed little probing.

Further investigation focusing on the productivity of nesting Long-billed Curlews and how that relates to the abundance of burrowing wolf spiders could prove rewarding for researchers. Additional research could also be important for long-term conservation and habitat management of the Long-billed Curlew, which is a species in decline. The Long-billed Curlew has been extirpated from most of the former eastern portions of the breeding range, once extending east to Michigan, Iowa, Illinois and Minnesota (Dugger and Dugger 2002). The species continues to decline in much of the west (Dugger and Dugger 2002).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Spider specimens were independently identified by Dr. Samuel Marshall, Assistant Professor of Biology, Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio and Jim Kalisch, Extension Technologist, Department of Entomology, University of Nebraska.

I am grateful to the Kaye Ingle, owner of the Triple U Buffalo Ranch, for allowing access to her wonderful, unbroken native prairie and for giving me permission to dig some holes.

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***The World's Largest American Robin's Nest?***

***You decide.***

***Photo: Mary Braley***

# SEASONAL REPORTS

## The 2007 Spring Season

Compiled By: Jeffrey S. Palmer

01 March 2007 to 31 May 2007

College of Arts & Sciences  
Dakota State University  
Madison, SD 57042

There were 314 species, including 15 rarities, reported during the season. This is below the ten-year (1997-2006) average of 320 and is considerably lower than the record 331 species reported in 2005. Below, I have tried to highlight the more significant sightings (dates that are earlier/later than listed in *Birds of South Dakota* by Tallman, Swanson, and Palmer and species that 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 have given the earliest/latest reported date in the missing region also. Finally, included at the end is a list of species (24) that were not reported this year and might be expected during the Spring Season. A species is placed on the list if it was not reported this year but had been reported during spring in at least 2 of the previous 5 years. Numbers in parentheses indicates the number of consecutive years (up to 4) that the species has appeared on the list during the season.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** Early: 03 Mar Hughes RDO; 05 Mar Yankton GJS; 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Mar Beadle BFW; 11 Mar Miner BFW; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW ... Late: 26 Apr Beadle BFW; 21 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 26 Mar Charles Mix RM

**Snow Goose** Early: 01 Mar Stanley RDO; 03 Mar Hughes RDO; 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Mar Beadle BFW; 11 Mar Miner BFW; 11 Mar Minnehaha MS; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW; 31 Mar Shannon PH ... Late: 21 May Pennington JLB; 28 Apr Sanborn RGR; 28 Apr Beadle JSP; 22 Apr Hughes DB

**Ross's Goose** Early: 01 Mar Stanley RDO; 03 Mar Hughes RDO; 08 Mar Clay DS; 15 Mar Deuel BU; 15 Mar Grant BU ... Late: 21 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 08 Apr Sully RDO; 23 Mar Marshall MO

**Cackling Goose** Early: 01 Mar Hughes RDO; 01 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Gregory RM; 15 Mar Deuel BU; 15 Mar Grant BU ... Late: **22 Apr Hughes DB**; 15 Apr Brule RM; 02 Apr Clay GJS; 26 Mar Roberts BU

**Canada Goose** Confirmed Breeding: 03 May Pennington (PY) JLB

**Trumpeter Swan** All Reports: 27 Apr Bennett ND; 27 Apr Tripp ND

**Tundra Swan** Only Report: 06 Apr Roberts MO

**Wood Duck** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 03 Mar Hughes RDO; 18 Mar Lake JSP

**Gadwall** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 05 Mar Yankton GJS; 08 Mar Hughes KM; 15 Mar Deuel BU; 15 Mar Grant BU

**American Wigeon** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 05 Mar Yankton GJS; 08 Mar Hughes KM; 15 Mar Deuel BU; 15 Mar Grant BU

**Mallard** Confirmed Breeding: 28 May Minnehaha (PY) MRZ

**Blue-winged Teal** Early: 24 Mar Charles Mix RM; 24 Mar Deuel BU; 25 Mar Hughes KM; 21 Apr Pennington JF

**Cinnamon Teal** All Reports: **24 Mar** – 28 May **Charles Mix RM**; 31 Mar Shannon PH; 14 May Meade JLB; 21 May Brown *vide* MO

**Northern Shoveler** Early: 15 Mar Charles Mix RM; 17 Mar Hughes RDO; 18 Mar Lake JSP; 18 Mar Sully KM; 18 Mar Harding CEM

**Northern Pintail** Early: 04 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Yankton GJS; 08 Mar Charles Mix RM; 08 Mar Hughes KM; 10 Mar Pennington JLB; 11 Mar Beadle BFW; 11 Mar Miner BFW; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW

**Green-winged Teal** Early: 08 Mar Hughes KM; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW; 11 Mar Stanley RDO; 19 Mar Pennington JLB

**Canvasback** Early: 08 Mar Hughes KM; 10 Mar Meade JLB; 11 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW

**Redhead** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 03 Mar Stanley KM, RDO; 05 Mar Charles Mix RM; 05 Mar Yankton GJS; 13 Mar Jerauld BFW

**Ring-necked Duck** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 02 Mar Hughes KM; 04 Mar Stanley RDO; 13 Mar Beadle BFW

**Greater Scaup** Early: 03 Mar Stanley RDO; 04 Mar Hughes KM; 08 Mar Charles Mix RM; 26 Mar Grant BU; 26 Mar Roberts BU ... Late: 25 Apr Sully RDO; 06 Apr Roberts MO; 11 Mar Stanley RDO

**Lesser Scaup** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 03 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Mar Beadle BFW; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW

**White-winged Scoter** Only Report: **08 Apr Yankton GJS**

**Long-tailed Duck** All Reports: 04 Mar Hughes RDO; 07 Mar Hughes RDO; 10 Mar Hughes KM; 11 Mar Stanley RDO

**Bufflehead** Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 08 Mar Custer JLB; 08 Mar Fall River JLB; 11 Mar Beadle BFW; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW ... Late: 12 May McCook JSP; 07 May Pennington JLB; 05 May Moody JSP; 25 Apr Sully RDO

**Common Goldeneye** Late: 21 Apr Lake JSP; 15 Apr Pennington JF; 15 Apr Brule RM

**Hooded Merganser** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 03 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Yankton GJS; 18 Mar Lake JSP ... Late: 26 May Minnehaha JSP; 28 Apr Beadle JSP; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 01 Apr Fall River JLB; 01 Apr Custer JLB

**Common Merganser** Late: 21 May Meade JLB; 06 May Pennington JLB, JF; 14 Apr Harding CEM; 10 Apr Stanley KM; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 07 Apr Brown GO

**Red-breasted Merganser** Early: 01 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Charles Mix RM; 05 Mar Yankton GJS; 26 Mar Roberts BU; 31 Mar Shannon PH ... Late: 30 May Stanley RDO; 14 Apr Minnehaha MKZ; 11 Apr Hughes KM

**Ruddy Duck** Early: 18 Mar Charles Mix RM; 18 Mar Lake JSP; 24 Mar Deuel BU; 14 Apr Harding CEM

**Ruffed Grouse** Only Report: 14 May Lawrence JSP

**Greater Sage-Grouse** Confirmed Breeding: **22 Apr Butte (NE) EK**

**Common Loon** Early: 25 Mar Charles Mix RM; 28 Mar Stanley RDO; 08 Apr Yankton GJS; 20 Apr Day MO; 28 May Pennington JLB ... Late: 30 May Stanley RDO; 30 May Hughes JSP; 16 May Charles Mix RM

**Pied-billed Grebe** Early: 08 Mar Charles Mix RM; 02 Apr Clay GJS; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 21 Apr Pennington JF

**Horned Grebe** Early: **12 Mar Charles Mix RM; 12 Mar Stanley RDO; 17 Mar Hughes KM, RDO**; 25 Mar Fall River JLB; 06 Apr Roberts MO ... Late: 28 May Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Sully RDO; 22 Apr Hughes DB; 21 Apr Kingsbury JSP

**Red-necked Grebe** All Reports: 20 Apr Day MO; 09 May Marshall ND; 19 May Day JSP; 20 May Day MS

**Eared Grebe** Early: **12 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 02 Apr Clay GJS; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 25 Apr Perkins ND

**Western Grebe** Early: 10 Apr Stanley KM; 20 Apr Day MO; 21 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 21 Apr Sully RDO; 14 May Pennington JLB

**Clark's Grebe** All Reports: 21 Apr Stanley RDO; 18 May Day MO; 28 May Pennington JLB

**American White Pelican** Early: 23 Mar Sully RDO; 24 Mar Charles Mix RM; 24 Mar Meade JLB; 14 Apr Minnehaha MKZ

**Double-crested Cormorant** Early: **18 Mar Hughes KM**; 23 Mar Butte EK; 23 Mar Sully RDO; 26 Mar Roberts BU

**American Bittern** Early: 23 Apr Brookings KCJ; 26 Apr Faulk JDW; 08 May Beadle BFW; 08 May Hanson BFW; 12 May Sully KM

**Great Blue Heron** Early: 06 Mar Charles Mix RM; 17 Mar Minnehaha MS, MKZ; 19 Mar Pennington JLB

**Great Egret** Early: 07 Apr Lake JSP; 15 Apr Clay GJS; 19 Apr Brookings KCJ; 21 May Pennington JLB

**Snowy Egret** All Reports: 21 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 20 May Codington RDO; 20 May Day JSP, MS; 23 May Day ND; 26 May Brookings BFH

**Little Blue Heron** All Reports: 19 May Roberts MS; 20 May Day MS

**Cattle Egret** Early: 20 Apr Day MO; 24 Apr Sully RDO; 28 Apr Sanborn JSP

**Green Heron** Early: 06 May Stanley RDO; 10 May Lake JSP; 13 May Union GJS



**Black-crowned Night-Heron** All Reports: 06 May Stanley RDO; 07 May Marshall ND; 15 May Beadle BFW; 20 May Codington RDO; 23 May Day ND; 24 May Brown GO

**White-faced Ibis** All Reports: 07 May Pennington JLB; 24 May Brown GO; 26 May Sully RDO

**Turkey Vulture** Early: **16 Mar Clay NT**; 27 Mar Pennington JLB; 29 Mar Sully RDO; 14 Apr Minnehaha MKZ

**Osprey** Early: 31 Mar Custer JF; 08 Apr Pennington JF; 13 Apr Hughes RDO; 29 Apr Lake JSP

**Bald Eagle** Confirmed Breeding: **09 May Roberts (NY) ND**

**Northern Harrier** Early: 01 Mar Butte JLB; 03 Mar Hughes RDO; 03 Mar Stanley KM; 07 Mar Beadle BFW ... Confirmed Breeding: **19 May Harding (NE) CEM**

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** Late: 20 Apr Brookings KCJ; 17 Apr Charles Mix RM; 04 Mar Hughes RDO

**Cooper's Hawk** Confirmed Breeding: **23 Apr Brown (NB) GO**; 08 May Hughes (ON) DB

**Northern Goshawk** All Reports: 09 Mar Hughes KM; 25 Mar Hughes KM; 13 May Pennington JF

**Broad-winged Hawk** Early: 22 Apr Hughes DB; 25 Apr Stanley RDO; 06 May Minnehaha MKZ

**Swainson's Hawk** Early: 02 Apr Hughes DB, KM; 04 Apr Harding CEM; 20 Apr Brookings KCJ

**Red-tailed Hawk** Confirmed Breeding: **20 May Harding (NY) CEM**

**Ferruginous Hawk** Early: 04 Mar Stanley RDO; 04 Mar Sully RDO; 09 Mar Hughes KM; 12 Mar Harding CEM

**Rough-legged Hawk** Late: 15 Apr Butte CEM; 06 Apr Pennington MMM; 02 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Mar Faulk MMM

**Golden Eagle** Late: 14 Apr Sully KM; 10 Mar Buffalo RDO; 07 Mar Beadle BFW

**Merlin** All Reports: 04 Mar Sully RDO; 10 Mar Davison RDO; 11 Mar Stanley RDO; 07 Apr Stanley DB; 14 Apr Stanley DB; 26 May Harding KM, CEM

**Peregrine Falcon** Early: 30 Apr Sully RDO; 08 May Hughes DB ... Late: 26 May Sully RDO

**Prairie Falcon** Late: 01 May Dewey ND; 04 Mar Sully RDO; 04 Mar Hughes RDO

**Virginia Rail** All Reports: 14 May Pennington JLB; 16 May Brown ND; 16 May Pennington JLB

**Sora** Early: 07 May Hand BFW; 09 May Lake KB; 09 May Marshall ND; 13 May Hughes KM

**American Coot** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 03 Mar Hughes RDO; 05 Mar Yankton GJS; 15 Mar Deuel BU

**Sandhill Crane** Early: 21 Mar Harding CEM; 22 Mar Sully RDO; 24 Mar Hughes EDS; 24 Mar Pennington JLB; 25 Mar Faulk MMM ... Late: 15 Apr Stanley KM, DB; 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 13 Apr Harding CEM; 11 Apr Sanborn BFW

**Whooping Crane** Only Report: **08 Apr Charles Mix (8) RM**

**Black-bellied Plover** Early: **30 Apr Sully RDO**; 14 May Meade JLB; 15 May Stanley RDO; 20 May Roberts MO ... Late: 26 May Sully RDO

**American Golden-Plover** Early: 15 Apr Brule RM; 28 Apr Clark JSP; 03 May Beadle BFW ... Late: 25 May Davison RM; 22 May Brown GO; 19 May Day MO; 18 May Sully KM

**Semipalmated Plover** Early: 18 Apr Clay DS; 24 Apr Sully RDO; 28 Apr Clark JSP ... Late: 19 May Sully KM; 19 May Deuel BU; 15 May Clay GJS

**Piping Plover** Early: 25 Apr Sully RDO; 12 May Union BFH

**Killdeer** Early: 05 Mar Yankton DS; 08 Mar Hughes KM; 11 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Mar Minnehaha MS; 11 Mar Stanley RDO; 15 Mar Pennington JLB

**Black-necked Stilt** All Reports: 08 May Sully KM, RDO; 27 May Sully RDO

**American Avocet** Early: 21 Apr Stanley RDO; 24 Apr Sully RDO; 27 Apr Union BFH; 28 Apr Beadle JSP; 04 May Harding KM, CEM

**Greater Yellowlegs** Early: 22 Mar Sully RDO; 27 Mar Fall River ND; 07 Apr Davison RM; 07 Apr Lake JSP ... Late: 26 May Sully RDO; 16 May Pennington JLB; 14 May Meade JLB; 05 May Moody JSP

**Lesser Yellowlegs** Early: 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 18 Apr Clay DS; 21 Apr Sully RDO; 26 Apr Douglas RM; 07 May Meade JLB ... Late: 20 May Day MS; 19 May Marshall JSP; 19 May Deuel BU; 16 May Sully RDO; 16 May Pennington JLB

**Solitary Sandpiper** All Reports: 04 May Clay GJS; 05 May Pennington JF; 13 May Deuel ND; 13 May Pennington JF; 16 May Sully RDO

**Willet** Early: 23 Apr Clay GJS; 23 Apr Stanley RDO; 24 Apr Sully RDO; 28 Apr Clark JSP; 12 May Pennington JLB

**Spotted Sandpiper** Early: 05 May Clay GJS; 05 May Moody JSP; 05 May Stanley RDO; 07 May Meade JLB

**Upland Sandpiper** Early: 26 Apr Beadle BFW; 27 Apr Lyman ND, RDO; 28 Apr Custer MMM; 28 Apr Jones DB; 28 Apr Stanley DB

**Long-billed Curlew** Early: **27 Mar Custer MMM**; 04 Apr Haakon ND; 06 Apr Pennington MMM; 07 Apr Stanley DB

**Hudsonian Godwit** Early: 21 Apr Sully RDO; 28 Apr Clark JSP; 01 May Charles Mix RM ... Late: 27 May Brookings BFH; 18 May Day; 12 May Charles Mix RM

**Marbled Godwit** Early: 13 Apr Hughes RDO; 13 Apr Sully KM; 15 Apr Stanley DB; 17 Apr Custer MMM; 20 Apr Day MO

**Ruddy Turnstone** All Reports: 12 May Sully KM, RDO; 19 May Sully KM; 24 May Brown GO

**Sanderling** Early: 01 May Stanley RDO; 07 May Meade JLB; 08 May Sully RDO ... Late: 29 May Hughes JSP; 26 May Sully RDO; 15 May Stanley RDO

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** Early: 21 Apr Sully RDO; 29 Apr Stanley RDO; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 14 May Beadle BFW; 14 May Pennington JLB ... Late: 30 May Meade JLB; 30 May Hand BFW; 26 May Sully RDO

**Least Sandpiper** Early: 29 Apr Stanley RDO; 10 May Sully RDO; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 16 May Pennington JLB; 18 May Day MO ... Late: 26 May Sully RDO; 20 May Day MS; 19 May Marshall JSP

**White-rumped Sandpiper** Early: 08 May Clay DS; 08 May Sully RDO; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 18 May Day MO; 21 May Meade JLB ... Late: 30 May Meade JLB; 26 May Sully RDO; 24 May Brown GO

**Baird's Sandpiper** Early: 22 Mar Sully RDO; 24 Mar Deuel BU; 07 Apr Charles Mix RM; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 12 May Harding CEM ... Late: 30 May Meade JLB; 26 May Sully RDO; 19 May Deuel BU

**Pectoral Sandpiper** Early: 18 Apr Clay DS; 10 May Sully RDO; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 19 May Deuel BU ... Late: 26 May Sully RDO; 04 May Clay GJS

**Dunlin** Early: 25 Apr Sully RDO; 15 May Clay GJS; 19 May Deuel BU ... Late: 26 May Sully RDO; 26 May Brookings BFH; 20 May Roberts MO; 20 May Day MS, JSP

**Stilt Sandpiper** Early: 08 May Sully RDO; 14 May Meade JLB; 14 May Pennington JLB; 19 May Deuel BU ... Late: 27 May Brookings BFH; 26 May Sully RDO; 21 May Pennington JLB

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** All Reports: **25 May Davison RM; 26 May Sully RDO**

**Short-billed Dowitcher** All Reports: 29 Apr Brown GO; 26 May Sully RDO; 27 May Brookings BFH

**Long-billed Dowitcher** Early: 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 24 Apr Sully RDO; 14 May Meade JLB; 14 May Pennington JLB; 24 May Brown GO ... Late: 18 May Sully KM; 16 May Pennington JLB; 12 May Charles Mix RM

**Wilson's Snipe** Early: 02 Apr Lawrence EK; 08 Apr Beadle BFW; 22 Apr Meade RDO; 30 Apr Stanley DB

**American Woodcock** All Reports: **11 Mar Hughes KM**; 25 Mar Hughes RDO; 26 Mar Hughes KM

**Wilson's Phalarope** Early: 21 Apr Sully RDO; 26 Apr Clay GJS; 28 Apr Beadle JSP; 28 Apr Stanley DB; 01 May Pennington JLB

**Red-necked Phalarope** Early: 08 May Sully RDO; 16 May Pennington JLB; 19 May Deuel BU ... Late: 26 May Sully RDO; 24 May Harding KM; 24 May Brown GO

**Franklin's Gull** Early: 16 Mar Charles Mix RM; 17 Mar Hughes KM; 18 Mar Lake JSP; 15 Apr Pennington JF

**Bonaparte's Gull** Early: **25 Mar Sully KM, RDO**; 26 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Apr Hughes KM; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 07 May Meade JLB ... Late: 26 May Sully RDO; 15 May Charles Mix RM; 28 Apr Clark JSP

**Mew Gull** All Reports: **14 Mar Hughes RDO**; 17 Mar Hughes KM, RDO

**Ring-billed Gull** Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Mar Hughes RDO; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW; 18 Mar Harding CEM

**California Gull** Early: **09 Mar Hughes KM; 11 Mar Stanley RDO; 18 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 08 Apr Pennington JF; 10 May Day ND

**Herring Gull** Early: 01 Mar Hughes RDO; 01 Mar Stanley RDO; 18 Mar Lake JSP ... Late: 29 May Hughes JSP; 20 May Kingsbury SJD; 25 Apr Sully RDO

**Thayer's Gull** All Reports: 15 Mar Hughes RDO; 17 Mar Hughes RDO

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** All Reports: 22 Mar Sully RDO; 08 Apr Sully RDO

**Glaucous Gull** All Reports: 15 Mar Hughes RDO; 16 Mar Hughes KM; 17 Mar Hughes RDO; 01 Apr Sully RDO

**Caspian Tern** Early: **19 Apr Stanley RDO**; 27 Apr Hughes ND; 04 May Day MO

**Common Tern** Early: 22 Apr Hughes DB; 28 Apr Stanley DB; 10 May Day ND

**Forster's Tern** Early: 20 Apr Day MO; 23 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Stanley RDO; 27 May Meade JLB

**Least Tern** All Reports: **12 May Union BFH**; 26 May Sully RDO; 29 May Hughes JSP; 30 May Stanley RDO

**Black Tern** Early: 07 May Clay NT; 10 May Day ND; 12 May McCook JSP; 16 May Pennington JLB

**Eurasian Collared-Dove** reported from Beadle, Butte, Charles Mix, Clay, Custer, Haakon, Hand, Hughes, Hyde, Kingsbury, Lake, Lawrence, Lyman, Meade, Pennington, Stanley, and Sully counties

**Mourning Dove** Early: 03 Mar Clay GJS; 12 Mar Minnehaha MKZ; 24 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Apr Meade AKB ... Confirmed Breeding: **20 May Harding (NY) CEM**

**Black-billed Cuckoo** All Reports: 13 May Stanley KM; 19 May Lincoln MKZ; 19 May Roberts MS; 26 May Minnehaha JSP; 28 May Charles Mix RM

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo** Early: **08 May Hughes EDS**; **10 May Union DS**; 13 May Charles Mix RM; 20 May Roberts MO

**Barn Owl** All Reports: **23 Mar Sully KM**; 28 Apr Stanley DB; 12 May Sully DB; 28 May Charles Mix RM

**Eastern Screech Owl** Confirmed Breeding: **14 Apr Harding (NE) CEM**

**Great Horned Owl** Confirmed Breeding: **25 Mar Minnehaha (NY) MS**

**Snowy Owl** All Reports: 10 Mar Hughes KM; 07 Mar Hughes RDO; 04 Mar Hughes KM; 03 Mar Hughes RDO

**Burrowing Owl** Early: 24 Mar Jerauld GB; 13 Apr Hughes KM, RDO; 14 Apr Stanley DB; 15 Apr Harding CEM ... also reported 31 May Edmunds JDW

**Short-eared Owl** reported from Butte, Custer, Hughes, and Lawrence counties

**Northern Saw-whet Owl** reported 28 May Slim Buttes, Harding County (8) CEM ... Confirmed Breeding: **14 Apr Harding (NE) CEM**; **03 May Harding (NY) CEM**

**Common Nighthawk** Early: 05 May Lincoln DS; 21 May Hughes KM; 21 May Pennington JLB

**Common Poorwill** Early: **29 Apr Meade APB**; 19 May Harding CEM; 29 May Stanley JSP

**Whip-poor-will** All Reports: 26 Apr Charles Mix RM; 10 May Sully RDO; 31 May Charles Mix RM

**Chimney Swift** Early: 28 Apr Beadle JSP; 30 Apr Clay GJS; 01 May Charles Mix RM; 11 May Pennington MMM

**White-throated Swift** Early: 22 Apr Lawrence RDO; 03 May Harding KM; 11 May Meade AKB

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird** Early: **05 May Clay GJS**; 06 May Charles Mix RM; 19 May Roberts JSP, MS

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird** Only Report: 25 May Custer RDO

**Belted Kingfisher** Early: 06 Mar Pennington JLB; 18 Mar Hughes KM; 24 Mar Gregory RM; 27 Mar Minnehaha MS

**Lewis's Woodpecker** Only Report: 25 May Pennington RDO

**Red-headed Woodpecker** Early: 06 May Clay GJS; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 12 May Hughes EDS; 12 May McCook JSP; 12 May Pennington JLB; 12 May Harding CEM

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** Early: 07 Apr Lake JSP; 21 Apr Brown GO; 27 Apr Marshall MO

**Red-naped Sapsucker** Early: **06 Apr Meade AKB**; 22 Apr Lawrence RDO; 22 Apr Pennington RDO

**American Three-toed Woodpecker** All Reports: 26 Mar Custer JLB; 22 Apr Lawrence RDO

**Black-backed Woodpecker** Only Report: 22 Apr Meade RDO

**Northern Flicker** Early: 01 Mar Hughes RDO; 01 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Butte JLB; 15 Mar Deuel BU

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** All Reports: **07 May Union DS**; 15 May Union GJS  
**Western Wood-Pewee** All Reports: 13 May Custer MMM; 25 May Harding KM; 26 May Pennington JF  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee** Early: 15 May Union GJS; 18 May Day MO; 18 May Roberts JSP  
**Alder Flycatcher** Only Report: 26 May Minnehaha JSP  
**Willow Flycatcher** All Reports: 10 May Union DS; 12 May Sully KM, RDO; 15 May Stanley RDO; 28 May Charles Mix RM  
**Least Flycatcher** Early: 01 May Stanley RDO; 02 May Pennington JLB; 03 May Clay DS; 10 May Lake JSP  
**Dusky Flycatcher** All Reports: 13 May Pennington JSP; 26 May Pennington JF  
**Cordilleran Flycatcher** Only Report: 26 May Pennington JF  
**Eastern Phoebe** Early: **20 Mar Union BFH**; **24 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 01 Apr Minnehaha MKZ; 06 May Pennington JLB  
**Say's Phoebe** Early: 14 Apr Sully KM; 17 Apr Custer MMM; 23 Apr Stanley RDO; 27 Apr Marshall MO  
**Great Crested Flycatcher** Early: 05 May Moody JSP; 08 May Union DS; 12 May Hughes DB, EDS, KM; 16 May Pennington JLB  
**Western Kingbird** Early: 01 May Charles Mix RM; 03 May Dewey ND; 04 May Stanley RDO; 06 May Jones DB; 06 May Minnehaha MKZ; 06 May Pennington JF, JLB  
**Eastern Kingbird** Early: 03 May Dewey ND; 05 May Lincoln DS; 05 May Moody JSP; 06 May Jones DB; 06 May Pennington JF  
**Loggerhead Shrike** Early: 24 Mar Charles Mix RM; 27 Mar Tripp ND; 07 Apr Lake JSP  
**Northern Shrike** All Reports: 04 Mar Hughes RDO; 05 Mar Butte JLB; 10 Mar Butte EK  
**Bell's Vireo** Early: 13 May Custer MMM; 13 May Stanley KM; 21 May Meade JLB  
**Yellow-throated Vireo** All Reports: 12 May Clay DS; 18 May Day MO; 19 May Day JSP; 19 May Roberts MS  
**Plumbeous Vireo** All Reports: **13 May Pennington JF**; 23 May Meade APB; 25 May Custer RDO; 26 May Pennington JF  
**Blue-headed Vireo** Only Report: 12 May Union DS  
**Warbling Vireo** Early: **29 Apr Clay GJS**; 03 May Minnehaha MS; 06 May Charles Mix RM; 06 May Minnehaha MKZ; 12 May Pennington JLB  
**Philadelphia Vireo** All Reports: 12 May Union DS; 16 May Clay GJS; 20 May Roberts JF, MO  
**Red-eyed Vireo** Early: 05 May Lincoln DS; 10 May Lake KB; 11 May Clay GJS; 12 May Meade AKB  
**Gray Jay** reported from Custer, Lawrence, and Pennington counties  
**Pinyon Jay** reported from Meade County  
**Clark's Nutcracker** All Reports: 04 Mar Pennington APB, JF; 09 May Custer JLB  
**Horned Lark** Confirmed Breeding: **19 May Harding (NE) CEM**  
**Purple Martin** Early: 17 Apr Hughes KM; 21 Apr Charles Mix RM; 22 Apr Clay GJS; 04 May Douglas RM  
**Tree Swallow** Early: 02 Apr Hughes KM; 06 Apr Stanley RDO; 08 Apr Yankton GJS; 21 Apr Lake JSP; 01 May Pennington JLB  
**Violet-green Swallow** Early: 06 May Pennington JLB; 14 May Lawrence JSP; 20 May Harding CEM  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** Early: 19 Apr Stanley RDO; 23 Apr Charles Mix RM; 27 Apr Minnehaha MS; 01 May Pennington JLB  
**Bank Swallow** Early: **18 Apr Clay NT**; **19 Apr Stanley RDO**; 12 May Harding CEM; 18 May Moody JSP  
**Cliff Swallow** Early: 27 Apr Lyman RDO; 28 Apr Beadle JSP; 29 Apr Stanley RDO; 12 May Pennington JLB; 12 May Harding CEM  
**Barn Swallow** Early: 17 Apr Clay GJS; 18 Apr Union BFH; 19 Apr Stanley RDO; 21 Apr Kingsbury JSP; 03 May Pennington JLB  
**Red-breasted Nuthatch** Late: **19 May Day JSP**; 10 May Lake JSP; 21 Mar Brown GO  
**Pygmy Nuthatch** reported from Custer, Meade, and Pennington counties  
**Brown Creeper** Late: 04 May Lake JSP; 23 Apr Brown GO; 17 Apr Hughes DB

**Rock Wren** All Reports: 21 Apr Meade APB; 26 Apr Pennington MMM; 05 May Harding KM; 12 May Pennington JLB

**Canyon Wren** reported from Fall River, Lawrence, and Meade counties

**Carolina Wren** All Reports: **01 May Clay GJS**; **08 May Clay GJS**

**House Wren** Early: **15 Apr Minnehaha MS**; 21 Apr Clay GJS; 23 Apr Charles Mix RM; 04 May Harding KM, CEM

**Winter Wren** All Reports: 08 Apr Minnehaha MS; 04 May Minnehaha MS

**Sedge Wren** Early: 05 May Moody JSP; 12 May Clay GJS; 12 May McCook JSP

**Marsh Wren** Early: 23 Apr Hughes DB, RDO; 05 May Moody JSP; 09 May Marshall ND

**American Dipper** All Reports: 23 Mar Lawrence (ON) DB; **22 Apr Lawrence (NY – 20 active nests) DB**; 22 Apr Lawrence (CN) RDO; 14 May Lawrence JSP; 15 May Lawrence JSP

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** All Reports: 13 Apr Hughes KM; 21 Apr Lake JSP; 22 Apr Lawrence RDO; 24 Apr Sully RDO; 27 Apr Minnehaha MKZ; 09 May Custer JLB

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** Early: 31 Mar Clay DS; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 15 Apr Minnehaha MS; 21 Apr Pennington JF ... Late: 06 May Minnehaha MS; 05 May Moody JSP; 01 May Stanley RDO

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** All Reports: **21 Apr Union DS**; 12 May Pennington JLB; 20 May Roberts MO; 26 May Minnehaha JSP

**Eastern Bluebird** Early: 11 Mar Stanley KM; 12 Mar Custer MMM; 16 Mar Brown GO; 16 Mar Pennington MMM

**Mountain Bluebird** Early: 06 Mar Custer MMM; 07 Mar Pennington EK; **11 Mar Stanley KM, RDO**

**Townsend's Solitaire** Late: **15 Apr Stanley KM**; 04 Mar Sully KM

**Veery** All Reports: 19 May Roberts MS; 25 May Roberts MO

**Gray-cheeked Thrush** All Reports: 06 May Minnehaha MKZ; 11 May Stanley RDO; 15 May Stanley KM; 16 May Stanley KM

**Swainson's Thrush** Early: 02 May Stanley RDO; 04 May Minnehaha MS; 05 May Harding KM; 05 May Moody JSP ... Late: 31 May Minnehaha MKZ; 31 May Hughes EDS; 30 May Stanley JSP

**Hermit Thrush** Early: 07 Apr Lake JSP; 14 Apr Clay DS; 15 Apr Minnehaha MS ... Late: **22 May Beadle BFW**; 21 Apr Brown GO; 20 Apr Day MO; 19 Apr Clay GJS

**Wood Thrush** All Reports: 09 May Union JSP; 26 May Minnehaha JSP; 27 May Lincoln RDO

**Varied Thrush** All Reports: 03 Mar Pennington JF; 04 Mar Hughes RDO; 05 Mar Pennington APB

**Gray Catbird** Early: 06 May Minnehaha MS; 07 May Clay GJS; 10 May Lake JSP; 10 May Sully RDO; 12 May Pennington JLB

**Northern Mockingbird** All Reports: 06 May Pennington JF, JLB; 11 May Custer MMM; 13 May Pennington MMM

**Brown Thrasher** Early: **25 Mar Pennington JF**; 20 Apr Clay GJS; 21 Apr Union DS; 27 Apr Minnehaha MS

**American Pipit** All Reports: 07 Apr Lake JSP; 15 Apr Clay GJS; 18 Apr Stanley RDO

**Golden-winged Warbler** All Reports: **05 May Lincoln DS**; 12 May Union DS

**Tennessee Warbler** Early: 05 May Lincoln DS; 10 May Lake JSP; 12 May Clay GJS

**Orange-crowned Warbler** Early: 20 Apr Harding CEM; 21 Apr Lake JSP; 21 Apr Union DS ... Late: 19 May Harding CEM; 16 May Hughes EDS; 12 May Sully KM; 12 May Pennington JLB; 09 May Lake JSP

**Nashville Warbler** All Reports: 29 Apr Hughes DB; 05 May Lincoln DS; 05 May Moody JSP; 08 May Clay GJS

**Northern Parula** All Reports: **21 Apr Lake JSP**; 03 May Stanley RDO

**Yellow Warbler** Early: 01 May Hughes EDS; 02 May Stanley DB, RDO; 05 May Lincoln DS; 05 May Moody JSP; 06 May Pennington JF

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** All Reports: 12 May Union DS; 19 May Roberts MS

**Magnolia Warbler** All Reports: 11 May Hughes EDS; 12 May Clay GJS; 12 May McCook JSP; 26 May Brookings BFH

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** Early: 07 Apr Lake KB; 12 Apr Clay DS; 12 Apr Hughes RDO; 21 Apr Pennington JF ... Late: 19 May Marshall JSP; 16 May Hughes EDS; 12 May McCook JSP

**Black-throated Green Warbler** All Reports: 05 May Hughes EDS, RDO; 12 May Clay DS

**Blackburnian Warbler** Only Report: 26 May Minnehaha JSP

**Palm Warbler** All Reports: 03 May Stanley RDO; 05 May Moody JSP; 12 May Sully KM, RDO  
**Blackpoll Warbler** Early: 08 May Clay DS, GJS; 08 May Sully RDO; 10 May Lake JSP; 11 May Pennington JF ... Late: 27 May Brookings BFH; 19 May Roberts MS; 19 May Day JF; 16 May Stanley KM; 16 May Hughes EDS  
**Black-and-white Warbler** Early: 05 May Hughes EDS; 05 May Moody JSP; 05 May Stanley RDO ... Late: 23 May Stanley DB; 19 May Day JSP; 12 May McCook JSP  
**American Redstart** Early: 08 May Hughes DB; 11 May Stanley RDO; 12 May McCook JSP; 14 May Lawrence JSP  
**Ovenbird** Early: 05 May Lincoln DS; 06 May Hughes KM; 11 May Meade AKB  
**Northern Waterthrush** Early: 02 May Stanley RDO; 05 May Clay GJS; 05 May Hughes RDO; 05 May Lincoln DS; 06 May Pennington JLB ... Late: 15 May Hughes EDS; 13 May Stanley KM; 12 May McCook JSP  
**Connecticut Warbler** Only Report: 25 May Roberts MO  
**Mourning Warbler** All Reports: **09 May Hughes EDS**; 11 May Stanley DB; 12 May Edmunds JDW; 15 May Stanley KM; 19 May Hughes KM; 20 May Roberts MO  
**MacGillivray's Warbler** All Reports: **13 May Pennington JF**; **19 May Marshall DS**; 26 May Pennington JF  
**Common Yellowthroat** Early: 04 May Stanley RDO; 05 May Lincoln DS; 06 May Minnehaha MRZ; 06 May Pennington JLB  
**Wilson's Warbler** All Reports: 10 May Hughes EDS; 13 May Pennington JSP  
**Canada Warbler** All Reports: 20 May Roberts JF, MO; 27 May Stanley RDO  
**Yellow-breasted Chat** Early: 12 May Pennington JLB; 13 May Stanley KM; 18 May Edmunds JDW  
**Summer Tanager** All Reports: 13 May Stanley KM; 14 May Stanley DB  
**Scarlet Tanager** Early: 12 May Union DS; 18 May Roberts MO; 19 May Marshall JSP  
**Western Tanager** Early: 14 May Lawrence JSP; 20 May Harding CEM; 25 May Meade APB  
**Spotted Towhee** Early: **25 Mar Hughes KM**; **25 Mar Pennington JF**; 22 Apr Charles Mix RM  
**Eastern Towhee** All Reports: **11 Apr Clay GJS**; 13 May Minnehaha MS; 26 May Minnehaha JSP; 27 May Lincoln RDO  
**American Tree Sparrow** Late: 09 Apr Hughes KM; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 06 Apr Stanley RDO; 06 Apr Meade AKB  
**Chipping Sparrow** Early: 25 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Apr Hughes EDS; 12 Apr Clay DS; 12 Apr Lake JSP; 26 Apr Pennington MMM  
**Clay-colored Sparrow** Early: 28 Apr Union DS; 30 Apr Clay GJS; 01 May Stanley RDO; 04 May Pennington MMM; 05 May Moody JSP  
**Brewer's Sparrow** Only Report: 13 May Custer MMM  
**Field Sparrow** Early: 14 Apr Charles Mix RM; 14 Apr Clay DS; 21 Apr Hughes EDS; 27 Apr Minnehaha MS; 28 Apr Custer MMM  
**Vesper Sparrow** Early: 07 Apr Lake JSP; 19 Apr Stanley RDO; 21 Apr Custer MMM; 21 Apr Kingsbury JSP  
**Lark Sparrow** Early: 22 Apr Meade RDO; 23 Apr Clay GJS; 29 Apr Union ND; 19 May Roberts JSP  
**Lark Bunting** Early: 03 May Butte KM; 06 May Pennington JLB; 10 May Custer MMM; 12 May Stanley DB; 30 May Beadle BW  
**Savannah Sparrow** Early: 07 Apr Lake JSP; 15 Apr Clay GJS; 17 Apr Custer MMM  
**Grasshopper Sparrow** Early: 28 Apr Jones DB; 07 May Marshall ND; 12 May Pennington JLB; 12 May Stanley DB  
**Fox Sparrow** Early: 01 Apr Stanley RDO; 02 Apr Clay GJS; 02 Apr Lake JSP ... Late: 08 May Sully RDO; 21 Apr Brown GO; 13 Apr Hughes KM  
**Song Sparrow** Early: 03 Mar Clay GJS; 10 Mar Hughes KM; 24 Mar Charles Mix RM; 25 Mar Minnehaha MS; 25 Mar Pennington JF  
**Lincoln's Sparrow** Early: 15 Apr Clay GJS; 21 Apr Brown GO; 21 Apr Lake JSP; 21 Apr Union DS; 24 Apr Custer MMM ... Late: 16 May Pennington JLB; 12 May McCook JSP; 11 May Hughes KM  
**Swamp Sparrow** Early: 20 Apr Day MO; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM; 03 May Dewey ND

**White-throated Sparrow** Early: **13 Mar Lake JSP**; 20 Apr Clay GJS; 21 Apr Brown GO; 21 Apr Union DS ... Late: 26 May Minnehaha JSP; 15 May Stanley KM; 12 May Hughes DB

**Harris's Sparrow** Early: 17 Mar Clay GJS; 18 Mar Meade AKB; 25 Mar Charles Mix RM; 12 Apr Lake JSP ... Late: 16 May Brown GO; 12 May Sully KM; 12 May Hughes DB; 01 Apr Meade AKB

**White-crowned Sparrow** Early: **10 Mar Hughes KM**; **27 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 20 Apr Custer MMM; 27 Apr Minnehaha MRZ ... Late: 15 May Hughes EDS; 15 May Brown GO; 13 May Custer MMM

**Dark-eyed Junco** Late: 01 May Gregory RM; 22 Apr Minnehaha MS; 21 Apr Lake JSP

**Lapland Longspur** All Reports: 07 Apr Edmunds GO; 02 Apr Deuel BU; 21 Mar Brown GO; 15 Mar Deuel BU; 10 Mar Clay DS; 03 Mar Hughes RDO

**Chestnut-sided Longspur** Early: 24 Mar Sully KM; 27 Mar Faulk MMM; 02 Apr Meade JLB

**Northern Cardinal** reported **25 Mar Pennington JF**; **28 Mar Pennington JLB**

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** Early: 03 May Clay DS, GJS; 05 May Lake KB; 06 May Minnehaha MS, MRZ; 12 May Pennington JLB

**Black-headed Grosbeak** Early: **01 May Stanley RDO**; 03 May Hughes EDS; 07 May Meade APB; 27 May Lake KB

**Blue Grosbeak** All Reports: 28 May Custer MMM; 30 May Stanley JSP

**Lazuli Bunting** Early: **29 Apr Stanley RDO**; 12 May Pennington JLB; 13 May Hughes EDS

**Indigo Bunting** Early: 09 May Lake KB; 12 May Clay GJS; 12 May Pennington JLB

**Dickcissel** All Reports: 12 May Charles Mix RM; 26 May Minnehaha JSP; 28 May Charles Mix RM; 28 May Hutchinson MS

**Bobolink** Early: 08 May Clay GJS; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Hand BFW; 09 May Hyde BFW; 12 May Meade APB; 12 May Pennington JLB

**Red-winged Blackbird** Early: 01 Mar Clay GJS; 02 Mar Sanborn BFW; 03 Mar Hughes RDO; 08 Mar Custer JLB

**Western Meadowlark** Early: 05 Mar Custer MMM; 10 Mar Buffalo RDO; 11 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Mar Minnehaha MS; 11 Mar Sanborn BFW

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** Early: 23 Mar Marshall MO; 07 Apr Lake JSP; 16 Apr Brown GO; 16 Apr Stanley RDO; 10 May Custer MMM

**Rusty Blackbird** Only Report: 26 Mar Roberts BU

**Brewer's Blackbird** Early: 14 Apr Sully KM; 15 Apr Clay GJS; 20 Apr Marshall MO; 01 May Pennington JLB

**Common Grackle** Early: 01 Mar Clay GJS; 11 Mar Charles Mix RM; 11 Mar Minnehaha MS; 22 Mar Custer JLB

**Great-tailed Grackle** All Reports: **13 Mar Minnehaha MRZ**; 21 Apr Clay DS; 28 Apr Bennett VDF; 20 May Lake SJD; 27 May Brookings BFH

**Brown-headed Cowbird** Early: 17 Mar Clay GJS; 25 Mar Minnehaha MS; 01 Apr Sully RDO; 05 May Pennington JF

**Orchard Oriole** Early: 08 May Clay DS; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 12 May Pennington JLB; 12 May Sully KM; 16 May Brown GO

**Bullock's Oriole** All Reports: 09 May Custer MMM; 25 May Fall River RDO

**Baltimore Oriole** Early: 02 May Clay DS, GJS; 03 May Minnehaha MS, MRZ; 06 May Lake KB

**Purple Finch** All Reports: 24 Mar Clay GJS; 10 Mar Clay GJS

**Cassin's Finch** Only Report: 02 Mar Lawrence VDF

**White-winged Crossbill** Only Report: 28 May Lawrence DS

**Common Redpoll** All Reports: 12 Apr Clay NT; 24 Mar Brown GO; 07 Mar Hughes RDO

**Pine Siskin** Late: 23 May Hughes KM; 17 May Lake JSP; 06 May Minnehaha MRZ

**Evening Grosbeak** reported 21 Apr Lawrence VDF

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

**Trumpeter Swan** 06 Apr Roberts MO

**Surf Scoter** 01 Apr Yankton RD

**Tricolored Heron** 15 May Brown ND

**Mississippi Kite** 18 May Butte *fide* SW



**Peregrine Falcon** 10 Mar Buffalo RDO  
**Common Moorhen** 24 Apr Charles Mix *fide* RDO; 27 Apr Charles Mix RM  
**Red Knot** 17 May Sully RDO; 20 May Sully RDO  
**Laughing Gull** 26-30 May Hughes and Stanley RDO  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull** 20 May Kingsbury SJD  
**White-winged Dove** 21 Apr Beadle *fide* RDO; 28 Apr Beadle JSP; 17 May Brown *fide* MO; 28 May Beadle BFH  
**Common Nighthawk** 23 Mar Hughes EDS  
**Eastern Phoebe** 13 Mar Clay DS  
**Cassin's Kingbird** 06 May Custer CMW; 25 May Custer RDO  
**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** 31 May Mellette *fide* DB  
**Gray Jay** 21 Apr Harding CEM  
**Black-throated Gray Warbler** 09 May Union NT, DS  
**Prairie Warbler** 27-29 May Lincoln RDO, JSP  
**Prothonotary Warbler** 15 May Davison JM  
**Green-tailed Towhee** 13 May Pennington JF  
**McCown's Longspur** 15 Apr Stanley DB, RDO  
**Purple Finch** 04 Mar Lawrence VDF  
**Hoary Redpoll** 07 Mar Hughes RDO

**Species Expected But Not Reported**

Least Bittern, American Black Duck, Barrow's Goldeneye (4), Gyrfalcon, Northern Bobwhite, Chuck-will's-widow, Pileated Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Sage Thrasher, Sprague's Pipit, Bohemian Waxwing, Blue-winged Warbler (2), Virginia's Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Baird's Sparrow, Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Smith's Longspur (3), Snow Bunting, Eastern Meadowlark, Gray-crowned Rosy Finch (2), Lesser Goldfinch (3)

**Corrections/Additions from Past Reports**

**Broad-winged Hawk** Delete Report: 04 May 2006 Custer JLB

**Contributing Observers**

DB	Doug Backlund	CEM	Charlie Miller
JLB	Jocelyn L. Baker	KM	Kenny Miller
KB	Kristel Bakker	GO	Gary Olson
APB	Addison & Patricia Ball	RDO	Ricky D. Olson
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GB	Gene Bauer	JSP	Jeffrey S. Palmer
RD	Roger Dietrich	RGR	Bob Rogers
SJD	Stephen J. Dinsmore	MS	Mark Schmidtbauer
ND	Nancy Drilling	GJS	Gary & Jan Small
VDF	Vic & Donna Fondy	EDS	Eileen Dowd Stukel
JF	Jennifer Fowler	DS	David Swanson
PH	Peter Hill	NT	Nathan Thomas
BFH	Bill Huser	BU	Bill Unzen
KCJ	Kent C. Jensen	BFW	Bridgette Flanders-Wanner
EK	Elizabeth Krueger	SW	Scott Weins
RM	Ron Mabie	JDW	J. David Williams
JM	Jim McLaird	CMW	Cheryl M. Wormstadt
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