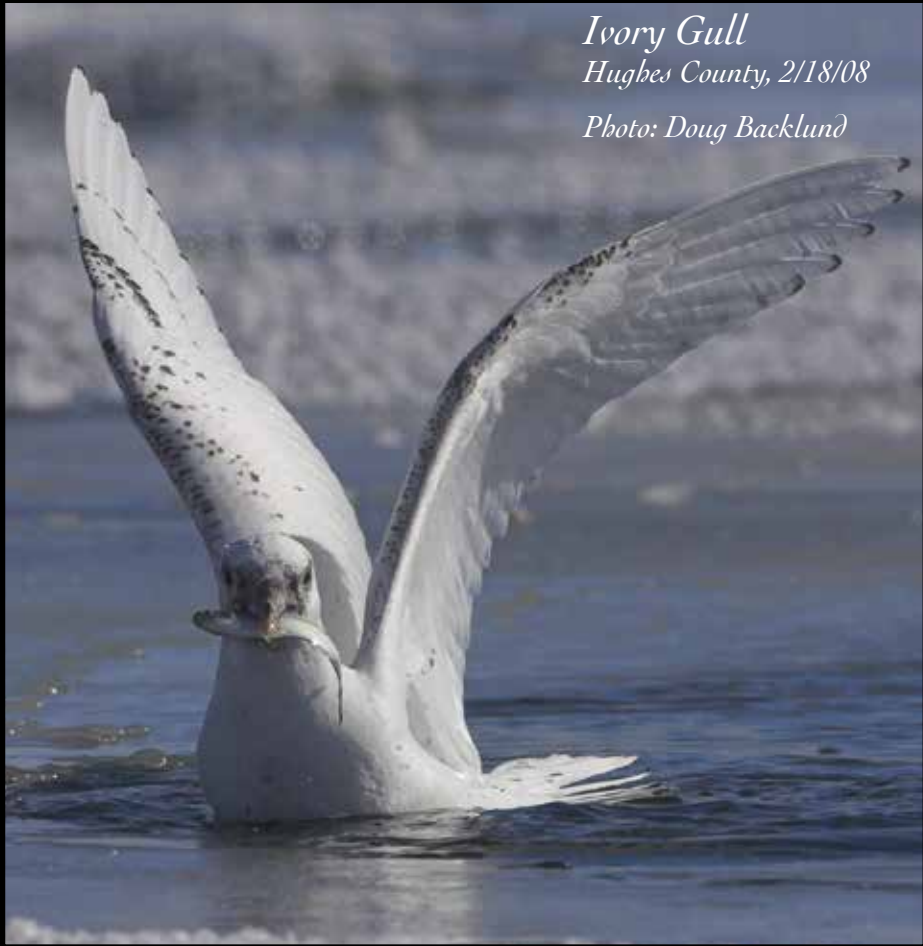

SOUTH DAKOTA Ornithologists' Union



Ivory Gull
Hughes County, 2/18/08
Photo: Doug Backlund

SOUTH DAKOTA
BIRD NOTES



SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES, the official publication of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union (organized 1949), is sent to all members whose dues are paid for the current year. Life members: \$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.**

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March 2008

NO. 1

SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

SDOU President's Page, March 2008

Speaking for the entire SDOU membership, I would like to thank long-time member and past president Les Baylor for his extraordinary gift to SDOU, the Mary E. Baylor Endowment Fund, given to honor the memory of his wife, Mary. Income from this permanent fund each year will support a variety of activities which will enhance the strength and vitality of our organization.



SDOU membership is growing. Welcome new members! I hope you will become active participants in this interesting and spirited birders' organization. We are looking forward to meeting you at our 2008 Spring Meeting in Pickstown.

With regard to the Spring Meeting, please, all members, mark your calendars for May 16-18, 2008. Check the mailing cover of this issue for registration information, or you can get the information online at <www.SDOU.org>.

In the September, 2007, issue of *SD Bird Notes*, the rules for the first annual SDOU Silent Auction at the Spring Meeting were laid out. Proceeds will support speakers and projects selected by the board. This will be fun and profitable for those who have a bird item just kicking around (clean-up) and for those who find a bird item at the auction they can use (recycling at low prices). Please scour your bookshelves and birding equipment for possible contributions to the auction. Here are the rules again:

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 of exceptional value will be auctioned on eBay 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.
7. One added rule is that if we receive several copies of one item, we may hold back the extra copies until the next auction, or sell them on eBay.

If you have an item for the auction, but are unable to attend the Spring Meeting, please ask a friend to bring it or let me know and I will round up a way to get your item picked up. But the best thing would be to just come.

See good birds.

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

FROM OUR PAST...

...IN SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES

L. M. BAYLOR

Vol. 2 No. 1

March 1950

During SDOU's annual meeting, 16 January 1950, members adopted new by-laws that replaced the three-member Executive Committee with a fifteen member Board of Directors elected in three, five member classes. In a related change, the Board of Directors acquired responsibility to elect officers who in turn must be directors. In addition to the newly-elected fifteen members of the Board of Directors, the March 1950 issue of *SD Bird Notes* listed a new President, Dr. Gerald B. Spawn, a new Vice-president, J.S. Findley, and a new Editor/Librarian, Herman F. Chapman. W.B. Mallory and S.H. Rames continued as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

In this issue, a "President's Page" appeared for the first time in *SD Bird Notes*. President Spawn, in reviewing SDOU's early achievements and opportunities, remarked that enjoyment of the out-of-doors "can be greatly increased by...interest in the birds that make their homes in our community and those that pay us a brief visit while migrating through our area". Believing many South Dakotans are interested in birds, President Spawn urged members to recruit new members, as well as to renew their own memberships for 1950.

The appearance of an article by Charles Rogge evoked grateful memories of this old friend. Charles brought to my attention the use of a spotting scope mounted on a sawed-off rifle stock. Over the years this tool enhanced my avian observations.

In the article, "Snowy Owls in South Dakota", Rogge listed the reports of Snowy Owls during the winter of 1949-50, as reported by members and game wardens. Most occurrences were in the eastern half of the state with fairly numerous sightings in the Aberdeen, Sisseton and Webster areas.

Refuge manager F.T. Staunton wrote about the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge in this issue's section "Sanctuary! Sanctuary!". According to Staunton, "Waubay" is an Indian term for "meeting place for birds", which may reflect the Sioux peoples' impression of the area that became the Waubay Refuge. Over time, increasing agricultural usage reduced the area's waterfowl production. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service thus developed the refuge as a sanctuary to restore the place for nesting birds. Through SDOU's spring meetings and individual efforts, members have developed high regard for the refuge and the general northeastern area of South Dakota as prime habitat for nesting and migrating non-game birds.

"Notes on the Sandhill Crane," by Stephen Sargeant Visher (reprinted from the *Wilson Bulletin*, June 1910), delineated behavioral aspects of this species. Visher also noted, without mentioning a specific date, a Sandhill Crane nest in Sanborn County, a simple nest in a moist meadow with "two yellowish-green, brown-spotted eggs... kept off the ground only by a few blades of grass".

For this issue of *SD Bird Notes* in 1950, the editor wrote a review of Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac* (1949). Hermann Chapman concluded the account charmingly: "My owl-feather bookmark moved ever so slowly; there was and must still be much re-reading of this 'classic in wildlife literature.'" Anyone currently unfamiliar with this remarkable text can still share an exceptional reading experience, for the

FLEDGLING TRACTS

CAITY REILAND-SMITH

Birders of a Feather

The summer before my first year in high school, my parents generously sent me to my first experience with birding, a camp for youth in Maine, the Coastal Maine Bird Studies. This was my first encounter with kids my own age interested in birds. They were from all over the country, but mostly from both coasts and Texas. I was the only one from the Midwest. That one week in June taught me the rudiments of not only watching birds, but of being aware of different environments and the different species that live in each habitat. The experience also highlighted the importance of connecting with people my own age who shared the same interests.

Throughout my first two years in high school I would search for someone – anyone in my school – who had the slightest interest in birds. Always with no luck. It was pure coincidence that I met Teddy Schumacher and Nevada Sorenson.

Like me, Teddy has a passion for birds: pet birds, that is. Teddy is the proud owner of two cockatiels and a devilish Quaker Parakeet, known to ornithology as the Monk Parakeet. After asking him if he ever looked at the birds outside, he confessed that he never really noticed them as much, but he wanted to learn more about them. I let him borrow my copy of Ken Kaufman's *Kingbird Highway*, and Kaufman's *Field Guide to North American Birds*.

The first time we actually went out birding was in June of 2007, to Newton Hills State Park near Canton, SD. Our target was the out-of-range Prairie Warbler being seen regularly found by Sandi Carlson, *et al.*, and reported by Doug Chapman. We found it with little trouble. Teddy says his first birding experience was "...a lot of fun: perfect weather, beautiful locale and a rare find." I was glad that he not only understood the importance of finding a rare bird for South Dakota, but that he understood the differences in song, plumage and behavior that made this bird different from the others around it, especially the many Yellow Warblers present. Our trip that day also focused on the plant life and the swarms of butterflies that floated above the trail.

Nevada is a gifted mathematician and chemistry whiz whose interest in birds started with her discovery of an injured Mourning Dove in her driveway. She nursed him back to health only to discover that he didn't want to leave. The compassion she gained from this experience spread to the birds that she was seeing outside. "All of a sudden, these black and brown birds turned into House Sparrows, Common Grackles and Rock Pigeons," she said.

These two, plus four other of my friends have agreed to come along on our various birding outings: through bitter cold and windy to unbearably hot and sunny. While birding with my friend here doesn't get to the same level of competitiveness as it does at bird camps, it is still always an adventure. The look of awe on the faces of my friends when they closely encounter Long-eared Owls or the pre amazement at the size of a Turkey Vulture at close proximity is the best reward I could ask for. I give my thanks and highest regard to my six friends who have "endure" birding with me.

Baylor, cont.

book remains in print, truly a classic, as Hermann Chapman proclaimed.

Finally, in the "I Remember" segment, W.B. Mallory spoke of exceptional nesting sites he had seen: a chickadee's nest in an open sack of chick feed, a House Wren's nest in a clothes pin bag hung on a line, a bluebird's nest in an abandoned wooden pump and a robin's nest on a railroad bridge about twenty inches from a rail.

FIRST NESTING RECORD OF A HERRING GULL IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Ricky D. Olson
PO BOX 622
Ft Pierre SD 57532

It had been long theorized by Doug Backlund, who convinced me, that Herring Gulls probably nested on Lake Oahe. There were enough sporadic summer sightings of adult Herring Gulls to lead us to believe that a small breeding population might exist.

Background information is contained in an article on gull and tern nesting in SDBN 59:42, (Olson, Ricky D. Caspian Tern, Common Tern, Least Tern and California Gull Nesting Colony on Lake Oahe). The following is a short summary of the information in that article.

Several gull and tern species have been documented breeding on Lake Oahe. Bruce Harris documented the first breeding records of California Gulls and a Caspian Tern in 1996 (Harris and Betts 1998). Least Terns, Common Terns, and Ring-billed Gulls have also been documented breeding on Lake Oahe (Tallman, Swanson, and Palmer 2002).

In 2005 I first gained knowledge of three islands in lower Lake Oahe that contained breeding populations of gulls and terns. I visited the islands on July 3, 2005. Present on the largest island were approximately 75 adult California Gulls, with young ranging from recently hatched to individuals that were almost fledged. The smaller islands had several Common and Least Terns on nests.

On June 4, 2006, I revisited the islands with Josh Keisow and Kenny Miller. On the large island, 300+ adult California Gulls were observed with many on nests. Young California Gulls were abundant in all stages of development. But the biggest surprise were 20 Caspian Terns in a group on nests, with many Caspian Tern mates in the area. This was by far the largest Caspian Tern nesting group ever documented in South Dakota.

On June 10, 2007, I ventured to the islands again with my coworker Ray Heuer, who had so kindly taken me in his boat to the islands for the first time in 2005. On the large island I observed over 200 adult California Gulls with many on nest and abundant young present. I also observed 17



Herring Gull chick digis-coped from a rocking boat!

Photo: Ricky D. Olson

Caspian Terns and 12 Ring-billed Gulls on nest with apparent mates present. This was the first time I had observed Ring-billed Gulls nesting on Lake Oahe. The smaller islands contained Common and Least Terns on nests.

I experienced some apprehensive excitement on this outing, as five unexpected adult Herring Gulls were also present on the large island. This inspired me to look diligently for evidence of a Herring Gull nesting. After about an hour of circling the island in the boat, to my glee, I finally spotted a sixth Herring Gull sitting on a nest.



Adult Herring Gull at Nest, Hughes County.

Photo: Ricky D. Olson

To document this record I digiscoped some photos. They are not the best quality, as a rocking boat is not the best base for taking pictures. I also photographed what I believe was a Herring Gull chick next to an adult Herring Gull. The chick displayed more extensive dark markings on the upper body, and a different leg color, than the many surrounding California Gull chicks. The field marks fit the description of a Herring Gull chick in my reference book (Baicich and Harrison 1978).

This is a breeding range extension of the Herring Gull in North America by several hundred miles. As the nearest documented breeding records are from northeast Minnesota and Canada (Howell and Dunn 2007). It is possible that Herring Gulls are also breeding in North Dakota. In a personal conversation with Ron Martin of North Dakota, he stated they also had breeding season sighting records of adult Herring Gulls in North Dakota, but as yet no documented breeding records.

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MEET A SD BIRDER

ROSEMARY DRAEGER

Bruce Harris, Clear Lake

Most South Dakota birders know Bruce Harris. He has been birding in South Dakota, except during periods when he lived and worked in other parts of the country, for the last 75 years or so. The South Dakota Ornithologists' Union's publication, *Birds of South Dakota*, all three editions, reference many species sighting records by Bruce over the years. Bruce is a founding member of South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, which was formed in 1949. He co-authored, along with several other members of the Checklist Committee, the first two editions of *Birds of South Dakota*; he has served as President of SDOU; was a long-time member of the Rare Bird Records Committee; participated as a volunteer observer for the first South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas; and has been a periodic contributor of articles to *SD Bird Notes* since its inception nearly 60 years ago. I recently visited with him about his passionate life-long interest in birds.

When asked what got him started in birding, Bruce observed that it was probably a series of experiences. From his infancy, he and his family were surrounded by birds every summer at the cottage his father had built in 1919, and which still remains, on Big Stone Lake. The family moved to the cottage from town in Clear Lake every summer. His parents were both interested in birds, and he remembers as a young child his mother showing him nests of Yellow-throated Vireos and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds built right over the backyard drinking fountain. Bruce has kept a life list of sightings at the cottage, which stands today at somewhere between 80 and 90 species, at least fifteen of which have nested on the cottage grounds, which include one acre of landscaping and two acres of native woodlands along the lakeshore. Bruce remembers the first bird book published by National Geographic, which his parents kept in their library, as having excellent illustrations which boosted his interest in identifying birds.



Bruce Harris in a family photo.

One childhood experience of seeking out birds that still makes Bruce chuckle was a walk through a cattle pasture and into a wetland near the cottage. Startled only barely describes his reaction when an American Bittern flew

right up into his face. And then there was his sixth-grade teacher, who, each March, would engage her students in locating the first spring birds along their walk into town to school. She kept a list on the blackboard as the reports came in. Bruce kept his own list and created a regular walking route of five or six blocks before school. He still has that list. He thinks that perhaps it was that morning birding route to elementary school that cemented his love of birding.

For his twelfth birthday, Bruce received a pair of 4-power Bausch and Lomb binoculars, and these were the binoculars that went to war with him after his first year of college in wildlife biology at North Dakota State University. Bruce joined the Navy at age 19 and was shipped off to the Pacific in 1943. He still has his list of birds from his stints in the Philippines and New Guinea. It was in New Guinea where his much-loved binoculars were stolen, and he acquired a beat-up pair of French binoculars and an equally beat-up 8-power Bausch and Lomb spotting scope. His list of birds from his WWII service is 80 to 100 species, and it would have been much longer if he had been able to round up any kind of field guide for New Guinea.

Discharged from duty in 1946, Bruce went right back to college at NDSU, and then finished his Wildlife Management degree at Utah State University in Logan. He worked in California and in New Mexico for fifteen years before returning to South Dakota in 1965 to work for Game, Fish and Parks until his retirement. Over the years, Bruce has traveled the continent from as far north as Denali National Park, Alaska and Churchill, Manitoba, to as far south as the Dry Tortugas of Florida and also Mexico, and many interesting birding spots in between. He has accumulated a list so far of 619 species in the continental US, including about 350 for South Dakota alone.

He has a hard time pinpointing specific sightings that were the most exciting or most memorable. Many sightings stand out: California Condor in California in the 60's, Pileated Woodpecker in Minnesota in the 60's, Worm-eating Warbler in Tripp County and McCown's Longspur in Harding County in 1970, and more recently, Great Gray Owl in Sioux Falls, White-phase Gyrfalcon near Hayes, Gray Rosy-Finch in Wyoming, and Cinnamon Teal at Willow Lake, to name just a few. As for bird behavior, Bruce says the courtship display of the Western Grebe is among the most spectacular he has observed.

Bruce's advice for beginning birders is to buy a good bird book of the area and the best seven- or eight-power (not higher) small binoculars you can afford, join a birding group or find another birder who will join you for outings, and write things down. Keep lists, keep notes about areas, and visit as many different habitats as you can.

That is great advice for all of us from one of South Dakota's premier birders.

EDUCATIONAL OASIS HOLDS RESTORATIVE POWERS

By Katie Barth, Communication s Intern
The Outdoor Campus, Sertoma Park
Sioux Falls, SD

Reclining in a chair behind the front desk at Sioux Falls' The Outdoor Campus (TOC), Masako Gould's snowflake socks peek under her khaki pants as her black Velcro shoes barely touch the ground. She isn't the rough, outdoorsy type people might associate with TOC, an educational satellite of the state's Department of Game, Fish and Parks. But with her less than five-foot frame and tufts of wispy hair framing her face, Masako fits in perfectly as the cheerleader for birds at TOC, an educational oasis for people of all ages and outdoor abilities.

PROJECT FEEDERWATCH

During the winter months, Masako and a group of dedicated bird enthusiasts grab their clipboards and tally sheets and cluster around the plush chairs in TOC gallery. Laminated pictures of birds decorate the crossbeams between the glass windows that line TOC's bird viewing room. Acting like tiny cheat sheets, the bird pictures help Masako and her fellow bird lovers identify the variety of feeder birds supported by TOC's simple hanging suet and elaborate multi-tiered feeders.

Every week from November through April, the group joins in a multi-country bird watch called Project FeederWatch. Organized by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Bird Studies Canada, Project FeederWatch uses bird sighting information to track migratory patterns and distribution trends. At TOC, Masako watches for species such as the American Goldfinch, White-breasted Nuthatch and Black-capped Chickadee.

Seeing all the different species of birds excites Masako. She smiles as she remembers the day she was watching the feeders and saw fourteen mallards waddle through and take possession of the area. Over her three years volunteering with TOC, Masako has come to love and appreciate the birds at TOC. She has assumed the role of resident birdfeeder. Every morning Masako refills each of the bird feeders at the Campus. Braving all of South Dakota's extreme climate conditions, every day Masako's tiny figure can be seen replenishing the seed levels in the bird feeders. Her dedication has made TOC an urban refuge for the wildlife in the city limits.

THE BIRD FESTIVAL

Kay Gannon, teacher resource center coordinator at TOC, also plays her part in increasing wildlife appreciation at TOC. Kay organizes Flying WILD, a teachers' workshop about birds.

“I get excited about teaching teachers because they’re going to change the world,” said Kay, her voice bubbling over with passion for the program. Kay frames the workshop to empower teachers. The workshop informs teachers of new curriculum options, up to the state’s life science standards, that they can implement in their own classrooms. After a brief overview of the anatomy, identification and adaptation of birds, the teachers plan their own activities to share at a bird festival open to the public. The bird festival falls in conjunction with the annual International Migratory Bird Day and has included activities from making birdfeeders to origami cranes and chocolate nests.

Flying WILD supports teachers in the region by exposing them to the highest level of curriculum. The Outdoor Campus believes giving teachers the knowledge and confidence they need to teach about birds will enable them to provide the best learning experience for their students. Passionate teachers provide students the best environment to learn about and appreciate the wildlife in our state.

FLOPPER

A quirky Blue Jay has risen to celebrity status at TOC. “Flopper” serves not only as a recognizable and beloved icon at the TOC, but also an educational tool. The lore goes that one windy day, young Flopper fell from her nest and was discovered by a concerned passerby. After a visit to the vet, and a few unsuccessful releases, Flopper came to live at TOC.



Photo: Doug Backlund

Flopper teaches all those who pass through TOC the philosophy “if you care, leave it there.” The Campus shares Flopper’s story to raise awareness about the separation between humans and wildlife. While it might seem that people are doing the right thing by rescuing wild animals, oftentimes their good intentions do more harm than good. Because Flopper was taken by humans when she was young, she was not able to successfully rehabilitate to her natural habitat. Flopper, through a process called imprinting, identified humans as her foster family and came back to people after every release.

The infamous Flopper has landed a permanent position at TOC as resident celebrity and teacher. The Blue Jay helps people get excited about learning TOC’s mission. By sharing Flopper’s story, TOC is able to preserve the heritage of the outdoors through education and appreciation.



Pygmy Nuthatch are found in a “circle” ringing the Black Hills area. They are altitudinally sensitive and do not stray from their preferred range. Custer County, SD. 3/27/05

Photo: Scott Weins

White-throated Swift. This species is seen in western South Dakota where there are canyons or bluffs. Easily told from Chimney Swift by size, light-colored underparts and back. Harding County, SD. 6/11/05

Photo: Scott Weins



Short-eared Owl. The winter of 2007-2008 has produced many sightings of this owl in South Dakota. It is rare that one gets to observe the “ears” of the Short-eared Owl, which show well in this photo as they are often hidden. Fort Pierre National Grasslands, Stanley County, SD. 9/3/07/19/08

Photo: Terry Sohl



Bonaparte's Gull. This beautiful gull is seen in fall and winter where there is either a large body of water or sufficient open water. Often seen in small flocks with Franklin's Gull. Anchorage, Alaska. 6/24/06

Photo: Terry Sohl





Townsend's Solitaire feeding on juniper berries. Solitaires breed and some will winter mostly in western South Dakota, but are very occasionally found in winter, often with American Robins, in eastern South Dakota. Stanley County, SD. 11/4/07

Photo: Doug Backlund



Sage Thrasher. A bird formerly most often seen in South Dakota near Edgemont in Fall River County. Recently not easily seen there. For the last several years it has been found most often in Butte County on "Old Highway 85" north of Belle Fourche. Minnehaha County, SD. 9/3/07

Photo: Scott Weins



Mew Gull is another species seen in the Pierre area with occasional sightings on several large bodies of water. Note the rounded, "soft" look to the head and the large eye. Anchorage, Alaska. 6/24/06

Photo: Terry Sohl

Lark Buntings formerly nested as far east as Minnehaha County (and into states east of SD) but is now found only in semi-arid areas of central and western SD. The male's flight song and display is one of the thrilling sounds of the prairie in early summer. Crook County, WY. 7/3/07

Photo: Michael Retter



SEASONAL REPORTS

The 2007 Fall Season

Compiled By: Jeffrey S. Palmer

01 August 2007 to 30 November 2007

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

There were 305 species reported during the 2007 Fall Season. The 10-year average (1997-2006) is 301. 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 significantly 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 included the earliest/latest reported date from the missing region also. Included at the end of this report is a list of species that were not reported this year but might be expected during the Fall Season. A species is placed on the list if it was not reported this year but had been reported during fall in at least 2 of the previous 5 years. Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of consecutive years (up to 4) that the species has appeared on the list during the season. **Black-legged Kittiwake** and **Cape-May Warbler** have not been reported for the past five fall seasons and were removed from the list.

Greater White-fronted Goose Early: 11 Aug McCook JSP; 21 Oct Buffalo KM; 21 Oct Lyman RDO ... Late: 27 Nov Charles Mix RM; 24 Nov Lake JSP; 21 Nov Hughes RDO

Snow Goose Early: 04 Aug Miner JSP; 11 Aug McCook JSP; 29 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 13 Oct Charles Mix RM ... Late: 30 Nov Davison RM; 25 Nov Minnehaha MRZ; 24 Nov Lake JSP; 21 Nov Hughes RDO

Ross's Goose Early: 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 04 Nov Lyman RDO; 09 Nov Stanley RDO ... Late: 21 Nov Hughes RDO; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 17 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 17 Nov Brown RDO

Cackling Goose Early: **24 Sep Deuel BU**; **30 Sep Hughes DB**; **30 Sep Stanley RDO**; 28 Oct Pennington JLB

Trumpeter Swan Only Report: 21 Nov Stanley KM

Tundra Swan Early: 25 Oct Day WS; 16 Nov Marshall WS; 17 Nov Brown KM, RDO ... Late: 24 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 23 Nov Day WS

Wood Duck Late: 24 Nov Hughes DB; 13 Nov Stanley RDO; 12 Nov Pennington JLB; 14 Oct Minnehaha MS

Gadwall Late: 30 Nov Pennington JLB; 24 Nov Lake JSP; 24 Nov Charles Mix RM

American Wigeon Late: 30 Nov Pennington JLB; 24 Nov Lake JSP; 18 Nov Stanley RDO

American Black Duck Only Report: 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP

Blue-winged Teal Late: 01 Nov Pennington JLB; 21 Oct Charles Mix RM; 07 Oct Minnehaha MS; 07 Oct Hughes RM

Cinnamon Teal Only Report: 11 Aug Charles Mix RM

Northern Shoveler Late: 24 Nov Lake JSP; 24 Nov Charles Mix RM; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 31 Oct Pennington JLB

Northern Pintail Late: 17 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 17 Nov Brown RDO; 16 Nov Day MO; 15 Nov Fall River JLB; 04 Nov Stanley RDO; 04 Nov Lyman RDO

Green-winged Teal Late: 24 Nov Lake JSP; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 17 Nov Marshall RDO; 17 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 17 Nov Brown RDO, KM; 31 Oct Pennington JLB

Canvasback Late: 25 Nov Stanley DB; 17 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 17 Nov Brown RDO, KM; 21 Oct Fall River JLB

Redhead Late: 30 Nov Pennington JLB; 24 Nov Lyman RDO; 24 Nov Lake JSP; 24 Nov Charles Mix RM

Ring-necked Duck Late: 30 Nov Pennington JLB; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 17 Nov Brown RDO, KM

Greater Scaup Early: 21 Oct Stanley RDO; 28 Oct Lyman RDO; 29 Oct Sully RDO; 07 Nov Grant BU ... Late: 18 Nov Stanley RDO, KM; 17 Nov Brown RDO; 16 Nov Day MO

Lesser Scaup Late: 24 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 17 Nov Lake JSP; 17 Nov Brown RDO; 17 Nov Bon Homme RM; 31 Oct Pennington JLB

Surf Scoter Early: 20 Oct Stanley RDO; 21 Oct Buffalo KM, RDO; 21 Oct Lyman RDO; 21 Oct Yankton DS; 28 Oct Fall River JLB; 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP ... Late: 21 Nov Stanley RDO; 17 Nov Charles Mix RM; 10 Nov Yankton DS

White-winged Scoter Only Report: 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP

Long-tailed Duck Only Report: 23 Nov Yankton DS

Bufflehead Early: 10 Oct Pennington JLB; 13 Oct Lake JSP; 15 Oct Stanley RDO

Common Goldeneye Early: 27 Oct Stanley DB, KM; 28 Oct Fall River JLB; 28 Oct Lyman RDO; 28 Oct Pennington JLB; 07 Nov Grant BU

Barrow's Goldeneye Early: **01 Nov Pennington JLB**

Hooded Merganser Early: 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 25 Sep Pennington JLB; 21 Oct Stanley KM, RDO ... Late: 30 Nov Pennington JLB; 25 Nov Hughes KM, DB; 24 Nov Lyman RDO; 24 Nov Lake JSP; 24 Nov Charles Mix RM

Common Merganser Early: 25 Aug Pennington JLB; 04 Oct Yankton DS; 23 Oct Meade EEM; 07 Nov Grant BU

Red-breasted Merganser All Reports: 14 Nov Hughes RDO; 18 Nov Stanley RDO

Ruddy Duck Late: 24 Nov Lake JSP; 21 Nov Hughes RDO; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 01 Nov Pennington JLB

Gray Partridge All Reports: 29 Aug Meade JLB; 02 Sep Harding KM; 03 Oct Harding CEM; 09 Oct Custer MMM; 14 Oct Brookings JSP; 04 Nov Stanley RDO; 23 Nov Custer MMM

Ruffed Grouse All Reports: 13 Sep Lawrence DGP; 23 Oct Lawrence DGP; 24 Oct Lawrence DGP; 01 Nov Custer JLB

Greater Prairie-Chicken reported 22 Nov Jones (100) DB

Northern Bobwhite All Reports: 02 Aug Gregory RM; 13 Sep Gregory RM

Common Loon Early: **02 Aug Stanley RDO**; 30 Sep Hughes DB; 13 Oct Charles Mix RM; 21 Oct Fall River JLB ... Late: 12 Nov Sully KM; 04 Nov Stanley RDO; 04 Nov Fall River JLB

Pied-billed Grebe Late: 24 Nov Charles Mix RM; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 10 Nov Hughes KM; 24 Oct Pennington JLB

Horned Grebe Early: 30 Sep Lyman RDO; 30 Sep Stanley RDO; 07 Oct Hughes KM, RM; 12 Oct Deuel BU; 20 Oct Pennington JLB ... Late: 24 Nov Lyman RDO; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 18 Nov Fall River JLB; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP

Eared Grebe Late: 12 Nov Pennington JLB; 04 Nov Stanley RDO; 04 Nov Lyman RDO; 12 Oct Deuel BU

Western Grebe Late: 24 Nov Lyman RDO; 18 Nov Stanley RDO, KM; 18 Nov Fall River JLB; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP

American White Pelican Late: 15 Nov Day WS; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 04 Nov Hughes KM; 07 Oct Jones RM

Double-crested Cormorant Late: 24 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 22 Nov Charles Mix RM; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 04 Nov Fall River JLB

American Bittern All Reports: 23 Aug Hughes KM; 03 Sep Charles Mix RM; 14 Oct Aurora MS

Great Blue Heron Late: 26 Nov Hughes DB; 17 Nov Marshall RDO, KM; 17 Nov Brown RDO; 04 Nov Fall River JLB

Great Egret Late: 28 Oct Brookings JSP; 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP; 13 Oct Charles Mix RM

Snowy Egret All Reports: 04 Aug Kingsbury JSP; 09 Aug Brown RDO; 11 Aug Spink GO; 25 Aug Day JSP; 15 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 29 Sep Kingsbury JSP

Little Blue Heron Only Report: 09 Aug Brown RDO

Cattle Egret All Reports: 09 Aug Brown RDO; 25 Aug Day JSP; 08 Sep Charles Mix RM; 22 Sep Lyman JSP; 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP

Green Heron Late: 22 Sep Charles Mix RM; 08 Sep Moody JSP; 25 Aug Minnehaha MRZ; 25 Aug Marshall JSP

Black-crowned Night-Heron All Reports: 08 Aug Charles Mix RM; 09 Aug Brown RDO; 25 Aug Minnehaha MRZ; 16 Sep Charles Mix RM; 17 Nov Kingsbury JSP

White-faced Ibis All Reports: 09 Aug Brown RDO; 25 Aug Sully RDO; 03 Sep Charles Mix RM; 16 Sep Charles Mix RM; 19 Oct Lincoln DC; 21 Oct Minnehaha MRZ

Turkey Vulture Late: **13 Nov Pennington EB**; 07 Oct Stanley DB; 07 Oct Minnehaha MS; 07 Oct Lyman JSP

Osprey Early: 11 Aug McCook JSP; 27 Aug Roberts MO; 06 Sep Hughes DB; 06 Sep Stanley RDO
 ... Late: 04 Nov Fall River JLB; 02 Nov Yankton DS; 30 Oct Gregory RM; 29 Sep Lake JSP

Sharp-shinned Hawk Early: 12 Sep Hughes KM; 11 Oct Stanley DB; 23 Oct Charles Mix RM

Northern Goshawk All Reports: 24 Aug Meade EEM; 17 Nov Brown KM, RDO

Swainson's Hawk Late: **03 Nov Bon Homme RM**; 27 Oct Tripp RAP; 17 Oct Harding CEM; 29 Sep Kingsbury JSP

Rough-legged Hawk Early: 20 Oct Harding CEM; 27 Oct Stanley DB; 03 Nov Minnehaha MRZ

Golden Eagle Early: **05 Aug Sully RDO**; 28 Oct Lyman RDO; 03 Nov Stanley DB

Merlin Early: **03 Aug Lake JSP**; 26 Aug Sully KM; 29 Sep Haakon RDO

Gyr Falcon All Reports: 11 Nov Stanley DB; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 23 Nov Stanley DB; 24 Nov Stanley DB

Peregrine Falcon Early: 02 Sep Meade JLB; 12 Sep Hughes KM; 28 Sep Custer MMM; 29 Sep Minnehaha MRZ ... Late: 13 Nov Hyde JDW; 05 Oct Pennington MMM; 13 Sep Hughes DB

Prairie Falcon Early: **03 Aug Sully KM**; 08 Sep Charles Mix RM; 28 Oct Lyman RDO

Virginia Rail Only Report: 12 Aug Hughes KM

Sora All Reports: 04 Aug Charles Mix RM; 12 Aug Hughes DB; 25 Aug Minnehaha MRZ; 08 Sep Hughes DB; 15 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 17 Oct Hughes KM

American Coot Late: 24 Nov Lake JSP; 17 Nov Brookings JSP; 17 Nov Bon Homme RM; 12 Nov Pennington JLB

Sandhill Crane Early: 30 Sep Hughes DB; 04 Oct Custer MMM; 04 Oct Pennington JLB ... Late: 01 Nov Custer MMM, JLB; 28 Oct Meade AKB; 27 Oct Stanley DB

Black-bellied Plover Early: 25 Aug Sully RDO; 09 Sep Deuel BU; 15 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 05 Oct Pennington JLB ... Late: 12 Oct Deuel BU; 07 Oct Sully JSP

American Golden-Plover All Reports: 14 Sep Sully RDO; 05 Oct Day MO; 14 Oct Sully KM

Semipalmated Plover Late: **14 Oct Charles Mix RM**; 07 Oct Sully JSP; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 25 Aug Pennington JLB

Piping Plover Only Report: 05 Aug Sully RDO

Killdeer Late: 12 Nov Pennington JLB; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 04 Nov Gregory RM

American Avocet Late: **03 Nov Kingsbury JSP**; 27 Oct Hughes KM; 14 Oct Sully KM; 24 Sep Meade JLB

Greater Yellowlegs Late: 29 Oct Sully RDO; 28 Oct Stanley RDO; 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP; 10 Oct Lawrence RM

Lesser Yellowlegs Late: 21 Oct Minnehaha MRZ; 14 Oct Sully KM; 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP; 08 Sep Pennington JLB

Solitary Sandpiper Late: 08 Sep Moody JSP; 26 Aug Sully RDO; 26 Aug Minnehaha MRZ; 26 Aug Charles Mix RM

Willet All Reports: 03 Aug Sully KM; 04 Aug Kingsbury JSP; 05 Aug Sully RDO; 18 Aug Kingsbury JSP; 26 Aug Sully RDO

Spotted Sandpiper Late: 29 Sep Lake JSP; 09 Sep Hughes DB; 08 Sep Moody JSP

Upland Sandpiper All Reports: 04 Aug Charles Mix RM; 04 Aug Kingsbury JSP; 05 Aug Sully RDO; 11 Aug McCook JSP; 11 Aug Sully KM; 03 Sep Custer MMM

Long-billed Curlew Only Report: 05 Aug Custer MMM

Marbled Godwit All Reports: 03 Aug Sully KM; 04 Aug Kingsbury JSP; 11 Aug McCook JSP; 22 Aug Meade JLB; 26 Aug Sully RDO; 02 Sep Harding KM

Ruddy Turnstone All Reports: 25 Aug Sully RDO; 26 Aug Sully RDO

Sanderling Late: **04 Nov Lyman RDO**; **28 Oct Buffalo RDO**; 24 Sep Deuel BU

Semipalmated Sandpiper Late: 14 Oct Sully KM; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 15 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 08 Sep Pennington JLB

Least Sandpiper Late: **03 Nov Kingsbury JSP**; 14 Oct Sully KM; 12 Oct Deuel BU; 24 Sep Pennington JLB

Baird's Sandpiper Late: **10 Nov Kingsbury JSP**; 14 Oct Sully KM; 05 Oct Lyman JSP; 24 Sep Pennington JLB; 24 Sep Meade JLB

Pectoral Sandpiper Late: **10 Nov Kingsbury JSP**; 14 Oct Sully KM; 10 Oct Lawrence RM

Dunlin All Reports: 26 Aug Sully RDO; 07 Oct Sully JSP; 02 Nov Stanley DB; **03 Nov Kingsbury JSP**

Stilt Sandpiper Late: 07 Oct Sully JSP; 29 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 08 Sep Pennington JLB

Buff-breasted Sandpiper All Reports: 11 Aug McCook JSP; 09 Sep Stanley DB; **23 Sep Jones DB**
Short-billed Dowitcher Only Report: 14 Sep Sully RDO
Long-billed Dowitcher Late: 14 Oct Sully KM; 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 29 Aug Meade JLB
Wilson's Snipe Late: 07 Oct Sully JSP; 07 Oct Hughes RM; 06 Oct Jones DB; 15 Sep Kingsbury JSP
American Woodcock Only Report: 08 Sep Hughes RDO
Wilson's Phalarope Late: 14 Sep Sully RDO; 29 Aug Meade JLB; 25 Aug Pennington JLB; 04 Aug Kingsbury JSP
Red-necked Phalarope Only Report: 24 Sep Deuel BU
Franklin's Gull Late: 10 Nov Minnehaha MRZ; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 28 Oct Charles Mix RM; 02 Sep Meade JLB; 02 Sep Harding CEM
Bonaparte's Gull Early: 15 Sep Charles Mix RM; 15 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 20 Sep Stanley RDO; 18 Nov Fall River JLB ... Late: 30 Nov Charles Mix RM; 25 Nov Stanley RDO; 25 Nov Hughes RDO, KM; 16 Nov Day MO
Mew Gull Early: 07 Nov Stanley RDO; 24 Nov Lyman RDO ... Late: 25 Nov Stanley RDO
Ring-billed Gull Late: 24 Nov Lake JSP; 18 Nov Fall River JLB; 16 Nov Day MO
California Gull Late: **24 Nov Charles Mix RM**; 04 Nov Stanley RDO; 04 Nov Lyman RDO; 04 Nov Fall River JLB
Herring Gull Early: **04 Aug Kingsbury JSP**; 06 Sep Stanley RDO; 22 Sep Buffalo RDO; 22 Sep Lyman JSP ... Late: 24 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 07 Nov Grant BU
Thayer's Gull Early: 04 Nov Lyman RDO; 11 Nov Buffalo KM; 21 Nov Hughes RDO
Lesser Black-backed Gull All Reports: 22 Sep Lyman JSP; 24 Nov Stanley RDO; 25 Nov Hughes RDO
Sabine's Gull Early: **15 Sep Kingsbury JSP**; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 24 Sep Stanley RDO ... Late: 21 Oct Lyman RDO; 21 Oct Buffalo RDO, KM; 07 Oct Hughes RM
Caspian Tern Only Report: 25 Aug Marshall JSP
Common Tern All Reports: 18 Aug Minnehaha MRZ; 20 Sep Stanley RDO; 22 Sep Buffalo RDO; 30 Sep Lyman RDO; 04 Oct Yankton DS
Forster's Tern Late: 21 Oct Yankton DS; 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP; 30 Sep Stanley RDO; 08 Sep Harding CEM
Least Tern All Reports: 12 Aug Hughes DB; 19 Aug Sully KM
Black Tern Late: 15 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 08 Sep Pennington JLB; 02 Sep Meade JLB; 02 Sep Harding KM; 18 Aug Charles Mix RM
Mourning Dove Late: 27 Oct Lyman JSP; 26 Oct Stanley KM; 21 Oct Hughes KM; 21 Oct Charles Mix RM; 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP; 13 Oct Custer MMM
Black-billed Cuckoo Only Report: 03 Sep Charles Mix RM
Barn Owl All Reports: 18 Aug Sully KM; 07 Oct Stanley DB
Snowy Owl Only Report: 24 Nov Kingsbury JSP
Burrowing Owl Late: 07 Oct Jones RM; 07 Oct Custer MMM; 05 Oct Buffalo JSP
Long-eared Owl reported 04 Nov Minnehaha (16) TS
Short-eared Owl All Reports: 09 Sep Butte EK; 04 Nov Stanley RDO; 12 Nov Stanley RDO; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 29 Nov McPherson JDW
Northern Saw-whet Owl Early: 09 Nov Sully KM
Common Nighthawk Late: 18 Sep Lake JSP; 12 Sep Hughes KM; 11 Sep Stanley DB; 26 Aug Meade EEM
Common Poorwill Only Report: 02 Sep Harding DB
Whip-poor-will Only Report: 25 Aug Charles Mix RM
Chimney Swift All Reports: 04 Aug Kingsbury JSP; 14 Aug Hughes KM; 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 18 Sep Lake JSP; 20 Sep Lake JSP
White-throated Swift Only Report: 04 Sep Pennington JLB
Ruby-throated Hummingbird Late: 30 Sep Minnehaha MRZ; 27 Sep Lake KB; 17 Sep Pennington JLB; 10 Sep Charles Mix RM
Calliope Hummingbird All Reports: 01 Aug Lawrence DGP; 02 Aug Lawrence DGP; 04 Aug Lawrence DGP; 07 Aug Lawrence DGP
Broad-tailed Hummingbird Late: **18 Aug Lawrence DGP**
Rufous Hummingbird Late: **19 Aug Lawrence DGP**; **18 Aug Pennington JLB**; 10 Aug Meade EEM
Belted Kingfisher Late: 18 Nov Pennington JLB; 17 Nov Lake JSP; 26 Oct Hughes KM

Lewis's Woodpecker All Reports: 01 Sep Custer JLB; 17 Nov Lawrence SW

Red-headed Woodpecker Late: 04 Nov Hughes KM; 19 Sep Stanley RDO; 15 Sep Charles Mix RM; 08 Sep Moody JSP; 02 Sep Harding DB; 02 Sep Custer MMM

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker All Reports: 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 05 Oct Hughes EDS; **18 Nov Charles Mix RM**

Red-naped Sapsucker All Reports: 21 Aug Lawrence DGP; 29 Aug Lawrence DGP; 30 Aug Lawrence DGP; 05 Sep Lawrence DGP; 13 Sep Lawrence DGP

American Three-toed Woodpecker reported from Lawrence County

Black-backed Woodpecker All Reports: 30 Oct Meade AKB; 18 Nov Meade AKB; 22 Nov Meade AKB; 25 Nov Meade AKB

Olive-sided Flycatcher All Reports: 12 Aug Hughes DB; 12 Aug Sully KM; 18 Aug Hughes EDS; 18 Aug Stanley RDO; 21 Aug Lawrence DGP; 06 Sep Hughes KM

Western Wood-Pewee All Reports: 21 Aug Lawrence DGP; 25 Aug Pennington JLB; 29 Aug Meade JLB; 01 Sep Custer JLB

Eastern Wood-Pewee All Reports: 19 Aug Minnehaha MS; 25 Aug Minnehaha MS; 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 26 Aug Clay GJS; 26 Aug Minnehaha MS; 27 Aug Roberts MO

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher Only Report: 24 Aug Union DS

Willow Flycatcher All Reports: 04 Aug Charles Mix RM; 11 Aug Charles Mix RM; 11 Aug Walworth GO

Least Flycatcher Late: 21 Sep Stanley DB; 09 Sep Hughes DB; 03 Sep Charles Mix RM; 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 25 Aug Harding CEM

Cordilleran Flycatcher Only Report: 01 Aug Lawrence DGP

Eastern Phoebe All Reports: 04 Aug Charles Mix; 25 Aug Minnehaha MS; 09 Sep Minnehaha MS; 22 Sep Charles Mix RM

Say's Phoebe All Reports: 25 Aug Sully KM; 02 Sep Harding DB; 11 Sep Custer MMM

Great Crested Flycatcher Late: 15 Sep Charles Mix RM; 02 Sep Pennington JLB; 02 Sep Harding DB; 26 Aug Minnehaha MS

Western Kingbird Late: 12 Sep Charles Mix RM; 02 Sep Pennington MMM; 02 Sep Harding DB; 25 Aug Marshall JSP

Eastern Kingbird Late: 13 Sep Davison RM; 04 Sep Custer MMM; 03 Sep Harding CEM; 25 Aug Hughes DB

Loggerhead Shrike All Reports: 18 Aug Sully KM; 19 Aug Sully KM; 22 Aug Meade JLB; 27 Aug Meade EEM; 03 Sep Charles Mix RM

Northern Shrike Early: 14 Oct Sully KM; 20 Oct Brookings JSP; 20 Oct Custer MMM

Bell's Vireo Late: 03 Sep Harding KM; 02 Sep Clay GJS; 26 Aug Sully KM; 26 Aug Charles Mix RM; 11 Aug McCook JSP

Yellow-throated Vireo All Reports: 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 27 Aug Roberts MO; 02 Sep Roberts DST

Plumbeous Vireo All Reports: 29 Aug Meade JLB; **03 Oct Fall River RDO**

Blue-headed Vireo All Reports: 24 Aug Hughes KM; 24 Aug Union DS; 29 Aug Clay DS; 01 Sep Lake JSP; 09 Sep Minnehaha MS; 11 Sep Hughes DB

Warbling Vireo Late: 08 Sep Moody JSP; 07 Sep Hughes KM; 03 Sep Pennington JLB; 03 Sep Charles Mix RM

Philadelphia Vireo All Reports: 27 Aug Roberts MO; 29 Aug Clay GJS; 06 Sep Hughes DB; 08 Sep Union DS

Red-eyed Vireo Late: 15 Sep Lake JSP; 11 Sep Stanley DB; 07 Sep Hughes KM; 04 Sep Pennington JLB

Gray Jay reported from Custer, Lawrence, and Meade counties

Pinyon Jay reported from Meade County

Clark's Nutcracker Only Report: 01 Sep Custer JLB

Black-billed Magpie reported 04 Nov Lyman RDO

Purple Martin Late: 08 Sep Moody JSP; 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 18 Aug Minnehaha MRZ, MS; 18 Aug Lake JSP

Tree Swallow Late: 29 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 03 Sep Charles Mix RM

Violet-green Swallow Only Report: **04 Sep Pennington JLB**

Northern Rough-winged Swallow All Reports: 01 Aug Charles Mix RM; 11 Aug McCook JSP; 25 Aug Pennington JLB; 29 Aug Charles Mix RM; 04 Sep Pennington JLB

Bank Swallow Late: 15 Sep Kingsbury JSP; 08 Sep Hughes RDO; 25 Aug Minnehaha MRZ

Cliff Swallow Late: 08 Sep Hughes RDO; 25 Aug Minnehaha MRZ; 18 Aug Miner JSP
Barn Swallow Late: 20 Oct Lake JSP; 13 Oct Charles Mix RM; 29 Sep Minnehaha MRZ; 24 Sep Pennington JLB
Red-breasted Nuthatch Early: **01 Aug Lake JSP**; 14 Aug Hughes KM; 24 Aug Union DS
Pygmy Nuthatch All Reports: 08 Oct Custer RM; 08 Nov Meade APB; 17 Nov Meade APB; 27 Nov Meade APB
Brown Creeper Early: 05 Oct Hughes EDS; 20 Oct Lake JSP; 07 Nov Grant BU
Rock Wren All Reports: 01 Sep Custer JLB; 02 Sep Custer MMM; 02 Sep Harding DB; 19 Sep Fall River JLB; 05 Oct Pennington MMM
Carolina Wren reported **02-09 Sep Hughes RDO, KM, DB** ... also reported from Minnehaha County
House Wren Late: 29 Sep Lake JSP; 26 Sep Hughes KM; 21 Sep Stanley RDO; 03 Sep Harding CEM
Winter Wren All Reports: 30 Sep Lawrence DGP; 08 Oct Lawrence DGP; 18 Oct Minnehaha MS
Sedge Wren Late: 13 Oct Stanley DB; 07 Oct Hughes KM; 26 Aug Minnehaha MS
Marsh Wren Late: 17 Nov Yankton DS; 10 Nov Hughes KM; 13 Oct Charles Mix RM; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 17 Sep Meade EEM
Golden-crowned Kinglet Early: 05 Oct Day MO; 20 Oct Brookings JSP; 26 Oct Hughes KM
Ruby-crowned Kinglet Early: 08 Sep Moody JSP; 08 Sep Sully KM; 08 Sep Union DS ... Late: 20 Oct Stanley DB; 20 Oct Lake JSP; 18 Oct Minnehaha MS; 20 Sep Lawrence DGP
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Late: **25 Sep Hughes DB**; 02 Sep Harding KM, DB, CEM; 01 Sep Union DS; 01 Sep Lake JSP
Eastern Bluebird Late: 24 Nov Hughes DB; 18 Nov Charles Mix RM; 01 Nov Custer MMM; 18 Oct Minnehaha MS
Mountain Bluebird Late: 13 Oct Haakon RDO; **12 Oct Deuel BU**; 08 Oct Custer RM
Townsend's Solitaire Early: **18 Sep Hughes DB**; 07 Oct Sully KM; 20 Oct Stanley DB; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP
Gray-cheeked Thrush All Reports: 05 Sep Hughes KM; 09 Sep Hughes KM
Swainson's Thrush Early: 23 Aug Stanley RDO; 31 Aug Clay DS; 06 Sep Hughes DB; 09 Sep Minnehaha MS ... Late: 18 Oct Minnehaha MS; 12 Oct Hughes EDS; 24 Sep Stanley RDO, DB; 09 Sep Harding CEM
Hermit Thrush All Reports: **21 Sep Hughes EDS**; 08 Oct Sully KM; 15 Oct Hughes KM
Gray Catbird Late: **16 Nov Hughes KM**; 06 Oct Stanley JSP; 19 Sep Fall River JLB; 15 Sep Lake JSP
Northern Mockingbird All Reports: 03 Sep Custer MMM; 15 Nov Pennington *fide* MMM
Brown Thrasher Late: 29 Sep Lake JSP; 27 Sep Hughes EDS; 24 Sep Stanley DB; 09 Sep Harding CEM
American Pipit Early: 15 Sep Clay DS; 24 Sep Meade JLB; 24 Sep Pennington JLB; 05 Oct Roberts MO ... Late: 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 02 Nov Yankton DS; 29 Oct Sully RDO; 07 Oct Haakon AKB
Sprague's Pipit All Reports: 11 Aug Faulk GO; 12 Sep Jones DB; 20 Sep Custer MMM; 22 Sep Hughes RDO
Bohemian Waxwing Only Report: 04 Nov Hughes KM
Golden-winged Warbler Only Report: **25 Aug Roberts JSP**
Tennessee Warbler All Reports: 25 Aug Hughes DB; 27 Aug Roberts MO; 09 Sep Hughes DB; 27 Sep Stanley DB; 11 Oct Stanley DB; 12 Oct Stanley DB
Orange-crowned Warbler Early: 25 Aug Hughes DB; 25 Aug Pennington JLB; 26 Aug Charles Mix RM; 03 Sep Brown DST ... Late: 22 Oct Hughes DB; 20 Oct Lake JSP; 13 Oct Stanley DB; 25 Sep Pennington JLB
Nashville Warbler Early: 24 Aug Hughes KM; 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 03 Sep Clay GJS; 03 Sep Union DS ... Late: 01 Oct Stanley DB; 30 Sep Minnehaha MRZ; 29 Sep Lake JSP
Northern Parula All Reports: 26 Aug Minnehaha MRZ; 19 Sep Stanley RDO
Yellow Warbler Late: 24 Sep Stanley RDO, DB; 21 Sep Hughes EDS; 12 Sep Custer MMM; 03 Sep Davison JSP
Chestnut-sided Warbler All Reports: **19 Aug Minnehaha MS**; 24 Aug Minnehaha MS; 27 Aug Roberts MO; 29 Aug Clay DS; 01 Sep Lake JSP; 08 Sep Union DS
Magnolia Warbler All Reports: 10 Sep Hughes EDS; 15 Sep Lake JSP; 19 Sep Stanley RDO; 05 Oct Hughes EDS
Black-throated Blue Warbler 21 Sep Stanley RDO

Yellow-rumped Warbler Early: **25 Aug Minnehaha MRZ**; 03 Sep Brown DST; 08 Sep Sully KM ... Late: 25 Nov Hughes DB; 07 Nov Grant BU; 04 Nov Sully KM; 09 Oct Lawrence RM

Black-throated Green Warbler All Reports: 27 Aug Roberts MO; 28 Aug Hughes KM; 01 Sep Union DS; 08 Sep Hughes KM; 15 Sep Stanley RDO

Blackburnian Warbler All Reports: 27 Aug Roberts MO; 01 Sep Union DS; 03 Sep Union DS; 08 Sep Sully KM

Palm Warbler All Reports: 21 Sep Hughes EDS; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 05 Oct Roberts MO; **16 Oct Hughes DB; 18 Oct Minnehaha MS**

Bay-breasted Warbler Only Report: 03 Sep Union DS

Blackpoll Warbler Only Report: 01 Sep Union DS

Black-and-white Warbler Early: 12 Aug Hughes DB, EDS; 18 Aug Lake JSP; 25 Aug Roberts JSP ... Late: 25 Sep Hughes KM; 08 Sep Moody JSP; 03 Sep Brown DST

American Redstart Late: **18 Oct Edmunds JDW**; 10 Sep Hughes KM; 08 Sep Moody JSP; 02 Sep Harding DB

Ovenbird Late: 01 Oct Stanley DB; 25 Sep Hughes EDS; 02 Sep Harding DB; 01 Sep Lake JSP

Northern Waterthrush Early: 12 Aug Hughes DB; 18 Aug Lake JSP; 25 Aug Pennington JLB ... Late: 08 Sep Moody JSP; 05 Sep Hughes KM; 29 Aug Clay DS

Mourning Warbler All Reports: 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 06 Sep Day WS; 08 Sep Hughes RDO; 08 Sep Union DS

MacGillivray's Warbler All Reports: 02 Aug Lawrence DGP; 28 Aug Lawrence DGP; 08 Sep Stanley RDO

Common Yellowthroat Late: 05 Oct Hughes EDS; 23 Sep Pennington JLB; 20 Sep Custer MMM; 08 Sep Moody JSP

Wilson's Warbler Early: 18 Aug Miner JSP; 18 Aug Stanley RDO; 21 Aug Lawrence DGP ... Late: 12 Oct Stanley DB; 26 Sep Hughes EDS; 23 Sep Pennington JLB; 08 Sep Moody JSP

Canada Warbler All Reports: 24 Aug Hughes KM; 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 29 Aug Clay DS; 01 Sep Union DS

Yellow-breasted Chat All Reports: 26 Aug Harding CEM; 02 Sep Harding KM; 06 Sep Hughes KM

Scarlet Tanager All Reports: 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 27 Aug Roberts MO; 08 Sep Hughes DB, RDO; 08 Sep Union DS

Western Tanager Late: 19 Sep Meade EEM; 09 Sep Harding CEM; 08 Sep Pennington JLB

Spotted Towhee Late: 21 Nov Hughes RDO; 10 Nov Yankton DS; 20 Oct Stanley DB; 29 Sep Lake JSP; 23 Sep Pennington JLB

Eastern Towhee Only Report: 19 Aug Minnehaha MS

American Tree Sparrow Early: 30 Sep Hughes DB; 07 Oct Stanley DB; 13 Oct Sully KM; 20 Oct Lake JSP; 21 Oct Custer MMM

Chipping Sparrow Late: 20 Oct Lake JSP; 12 Oct Charles Mix RM; 07 Oct Stanley MS; 07 Oct Meade AKB

Clay-colored Sparrow Late: 16 Oct Hughes DB; 29 Sep Lake JSP; 24 Sep Stanley DB; 19 Sep Fall River JLB

Brewer's Sparrow Only Report: 09 Sep Butte EK

Field Sparrow Late: 11 Oct Stanley DB; 03 Oct Hughes EDS; 01 Oct Charles Mix RM; 29 Sep Lake JSP; 02 Sep Harding DB

Vesper Sparrow Late: 23 Oct Charles Mix RM; 15 Oct Pennington JLB; 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP

Lark Sparrow Late: 30 Sep Stanley RDO; 29 Sep Haakon RDO; 02 Sep Harding DB; 11 Aug McCook JSP

Lark Bunting Late: 29 Sep Haakon RDO; 02 Sep Harding DB; 01 Sep Custer JLB; 25 Aug Sully KM

Savannah Sparrow Late: 16 Oct Sully RDO; 15 Oct Pennington JLB; 13 Oct Kingsbury JSP; 13 Oct Haakon RDO; 13 Oct Charles Mix RM

Grasshopper Sparrow Late: 22 Sep Charles Mix RM; 08 Sep Moody JSP; 11 Aug Sully KM; 11 Aug McCook JSP

Baird's Sparrow Only Report: 07 Oct Stanley MS

Le Conte's Sparrow All Reports: 01 Aug Deuel BU; 23 Aug Minnehaha MRZ; 24 Sep Deuel BU; 28 Sep Clay DS

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow All Reports: 03 Aug Sully KM; 11 Aug Sully GO

Fox Sparrow Early: 01 Oct Stanley DB; 05 Oct Roberts MO; 07 Oct Hughes KM ... Late: 11 Nov Minnehaha MS; 11 Nov Hughes KM; 07 Nov Grant BU

Song Sparrow Late: 30 Nov Pennington MMM; 07 Nov Grant BU; 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 27 Oct Stanley DB; 27 Oct Lyman JSP; 27 Oct Hughes KM

Lincoln's Sparrow Early: 08 Sep Moody JSP; 09 Sep Hughes DB; 24 Sep Stanley RDO ... Late: 16 Oct Sully RDO; 13 Oct Lake JSP; 10 Oct Hughes EDS

Swamp Sparrow All Reports: 04 Aug Kingsbury JSP; 18 Sep Hughes EDS; 01 Oct Stanley DB; 05 Oct Roberts MO; 10 Oct Hughes EDS

White-throated Sparrow Early: 08 Sep Stanley RDO; 11 Sep Clay DS; 11 Sep Hughes EDS; 15 Sep Lake JSP; 23 Sep Pennington JLB ... Late: 04 Nov Hughes KM; 30 Oct Stanley RDO; 21 Oct Minnehaha MRZ; 20 Oct Pennington JLB

Harris's Sparrow Early: 29 Sep Lake JSP; 30 Sep Hughes DB; 30 Sep Stanley RDO; 07 Oct Meade AKB ... Late: 30 Nov Charles Mix RM; 29 Nov Lake JSP; 11 Nov Stanley DB; 15 Oct Pennington JLB

White-crowned Sparrow Early: 19 Sep Custer JLB; 19 Sep Fall River JLB; 22 Sep Lyman JSP; 22 Sep Harding CEM; 29 Sep Lake JSP ... Late: 25 Nov Hughes DB; 12 Nov Charles Mix RM; 11 Nov Stanley DB; 05 Nov Pennington JLB; 13 Oct Lake JSP

Dark-eyed Junco Early: 15 Sep Stanley RDO; 18 Sep Hughes DB; 28 Sep Charles Mix RM; 05 Oct Brown GO; 05 Oct Roberts MO

Lapland Longspur All Reports: 29 Oct Sully RDO; 07 Nov Grant BU; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 11 Nov Stanley DB; 18 Nov Stanley RDO; 24 Nov Hughes DB

Chestnut-collared Longspur All Reports: 26 Aug Sully KM; 09 Sep Stanley DB; 06 Oct Jones DB; 07 Oct Lyman MS

Snow Bunting Early: **28 Sep Clay (8) DS**; 27 Oct Buffalo JSP; 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 10 Nov Butte APB

Rose-breasted Grosbeak All Reports: 05 Aug Charles Mix RM; 12 Aug Charles Mix RM; 25 Aug Roberts JSP; 27 Aug Roberts MO; 20 Sep Hughes EDS; 22 Sep Hand JSP

Black-headed Grosbeak All Reports: 02 Aug Lawrence DGP; 03 Aug Meade EEM; 14 Aug Hughes KM; 23 Aug Hughes KM; 25 Aug Pennington JLB; 15 Sep Charles Mix RM; **08 Oct Hughes DB**

Blue Grosbeak All Reports: 04 Aug Sully KM; 08 Aug Charles Mix RM; 18 Aug Sully KM; 19 Aug Custer MMM

Dickcissel All Reports: 04 Aug Charles Mix RM; 04 Aug Kingsbury JSP; 04 Aug Sully KM; 11 Aug Charles Mix RM; 11 Aug McCook JSP; 18 Aug Minnehaha MRZ

Bobolink All Reports: 01 Aug Deuel BU; 11 Aug McCook JSP; 25 Aug Roberts JSP

Western Meadowlark Late: 26 Nov Custer MMM; 24 Nov Stanley DB; 04 Nov Lyman RDO; 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP

Yellow-headed Blackbird Late: 17 Nov Marshall RDO; 17 Nov Brown RDO, KM; 19 Oct Hughes DB; 24 Sep Pennington JLB

Rusty Blackbird All Reports: 05 Oct Day MO; 21 Oct Charles Mix RM; 07 Nov Grant BU

Brewer's Blackbird Late: 29 Oct Sully RDO; 21 Oct Charles Mix RM; 20 Oct Lake JSP; 13 Oct Haakon RDO

Common Grackle Late: 11 Nov Charles Mix RM; 10 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 07 Nov Grant BU; 07 Nov Meade EEM

Great-tailed Grackle Only Report: 11 Aug McCook JSP

Brown-headed Cowbird Late: 20 Oct Lake JSP; 13 Oct Charles Mix RM; 07 Oct Stanley MS; 04 Aug Harding CEM

Orchard Oriole Late: **02 Sep Charles Mix RM**; 25 Aug Minnehaha MS; 25 Aug Hughes DB; 22 Aug Custer MMM

Bullock's Oriole Only Report: 01 Sep Harding CEM

Baltimore Oriole Late: 07 Sep Hughes KM; 04 Sep Charles Mix RM; 03 Sep Davison JSP

Gray-crowned Rosy Finch All Reports: 06 Nov Lawrence DGP; 17 Nov Meade JLB

Purple Finch Early: 07 Oct Hughes KM; 13 Oct Lake JSP; 28 Oct Charles Mix RM

Cassin's Finch All Reports: 25 Sep Lawrence DGP; 02 Oct Lawrence DGP; 17 Oct Lawrence DGP

White-winged Crossbill Only Report: 03 Oct Lawrence DGP

Common Redpoll Early: 01 Nov Lawrence DGP; 02 Nov Minnehaha TS; 03 Nov Clay DS
Pine Siskin Early: 25 Aug Charles Mix RM; 13 Oct Sully KM; 25 Oct Lake JSP
Evening Grosbeak Only Report: 05 Sep Meade EEM

Reports Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

Trumpeter Swan 11 Aug Spink GO
Black Scoter 07 Oct Lyman JSP; 23 Oct Stanley RDO; 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP; 10 Nov Yankton DS;
17 Nov Charles Mix RM
Swallow-tailed Kite 03-17 Sep Davison JSP, RM, MS, MRZ, DC
Ruddy Turnstone 03 Nov Kingsbury JSP
Red Knot 04 Aug Kingsbury (30) JSP; 05 Aug Sully RDO
Iceland Gull 04 Nov Lyman RDO; 25 Nov Hughes RDO
Broad-tailed Hummingbird 04 Aug Stanley RDO
Rufous Hummingbird 02 Aug Stanley RDO; 04 Aug Stanley RDO; 18 Aug Stanley KM, RDO; 19
Aug Stanley RDO; 20 Aug Stanley RDO
White-eyed Vireo 19 Oct Meade JLB
Plumbeous Vireo 06 Sep Hughes DB
Blue-headed Vireo 03 Sep Harding CEM
Gray Jay 24 Nov Marshall *file* WS
Common Raven 13 Nov Pennington EB
Rock Wren 25 Nov Meade AKB
Ruby-crowned Kinglet 12 Aug Hughes DB
American Pipit 18 Aug Minnehaha MRZ
Townsend's Warbler 01 Sep Harding KM, CEM

Species Expected But Not Reported

Red-necked Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Least Bittern (2), Broad-winged Hawk, Greater Sage-Grouse, Whooping Crane, Hudsonian Godwit (4), White-rumped Sandpiper (2), Glaucous Gull, Yellow-billed Cuckoo (2), Pileated Woodpecker, Dusky Flycatcher (2), Veery, Wood Thrush (4), Varied Thrush (2), Virginia's Warbler (2), Smith's Longspur, Lazuli Bunting, Indigo Bunting (2), Pine Grosbeak

Corrections/Additions to Past Reports

Eastern Meadowlark Delete Report: 04 Apr 2006 Minnehaha

Contributing Observers

DB	Doug Backlund	MO	Mark Otnes
JLB	Jocelyn L. Baker	JSP	Jeffrey S. Palmer
KB	Kristel Bakker	RAP	Richard A. Peterson
APB	Addison & Patricia Ball	DGP	D. George Prisbe
AKB	Anna K. Ball	MS	Mark Schmidbauer
EB	Ellie Bernier	GJS	Gary & Jan Small
DC	Douglas Chapman	TS	Terry Sohl
EK	Elizabeth Krueger	WS	Waubay NWR Staff
RM	Ron Mabee	STR	Daniel Streifel
MMM	Michael M. Melius	EDS	Eileen Dowd Stukel
CEM	Charles E. Miller	DS	David Swanson
EEM	Ernest E. Miller	BJU	Bill J. Unzen
KM	Kenny Miller	SW	Scott Weins
GO	Gary Olson	JDW	J. David Williams
RDO	Ricky D. Olson	MRZ	Mick R. Zerr

South Dakota Statewide Colonial and Semi-colonial Waterbird Inventory with a Plan for Long-term Monitoring: Final Report. Tech. Rep. M-Colony SD-01. Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, Brighton, CO. 80 pp.

N. E. Drilling

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Colonial and semi-colonial waterbirds prefer to breed in high-density groups in a relatively small number of locations, favoring predator-free habitats such as flooded timber, islands, and marsh reedbeds. However, this 'all eggs in one basket' breeding strategy makes these species vulnerable to natural or manmade catastrophic events that could wipe out a large portion of the breeding population. In addition, populations have been reduced because of land-use changes leading to wetland loss, bioaccumulation of toxins, and degradation of wintering habitat. Thus many of these species are the focus of conservation efforts throughout North America.

Thirty-three species of colonial and semi-colonial waterbirds breed in South Dakota, including herons, night-herons, egrets, grebes, gulls, terns, White-faced Ibis, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, and eight shorebird species. Identifying and monitoring breeding colonies are the primary tools for tracking populations. Yet, no systematic inventories or monitoring of waterbird colonies are conducted in South Dakota, impeding the ability of conservationists to manage this vulnerable group of birds. Therefore, the first objective of the South Dakota Colonial and Semi-Colonial Waterbird Inventory and Monitoring Project was to compile an up-to-date list of waterbird breeding sites. To accomplish this, 1025 sites were surveyed for 46 species of breeding waterbirds during the summers of 2005 - 2007. Of these, 405 sites (39.5%) had confirmed breeding by waterbirds during at least one year. Of those sites with no breeding waterbirds, 43% had suitable habitat while 26.5% had extremely low water levels or were dry. While conducting the surveys, this project also collected data on colonial waterbird breeding population size at each site. Twenty-six sites were identified as being important sites for breeding waterbird colonies, defined as having more than 200 total waterbird breeding pairs and/or more than five breeding species.

Of 46 waterbird species targeted during surveys, breeding was confirmed for 32 species, individuals of another nine species were seen in appropriate habitat but breeding was not confirmed, and five species (Horned Grebe, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, King Rail, and Yellow Rail) were never observed during the survey. American White Pelicans and Double-crested Cormorants were the most abundant nesting colonial waterbirds in the state. Great Blue Herons were distributed in the greatest number of colonies of any species and were the most common waterbird in West River. The inventory and associated population information produced from this project will provide baseline data for future monitoring efforts, as well as contribute to regional and national waterbird conservation efforts.



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