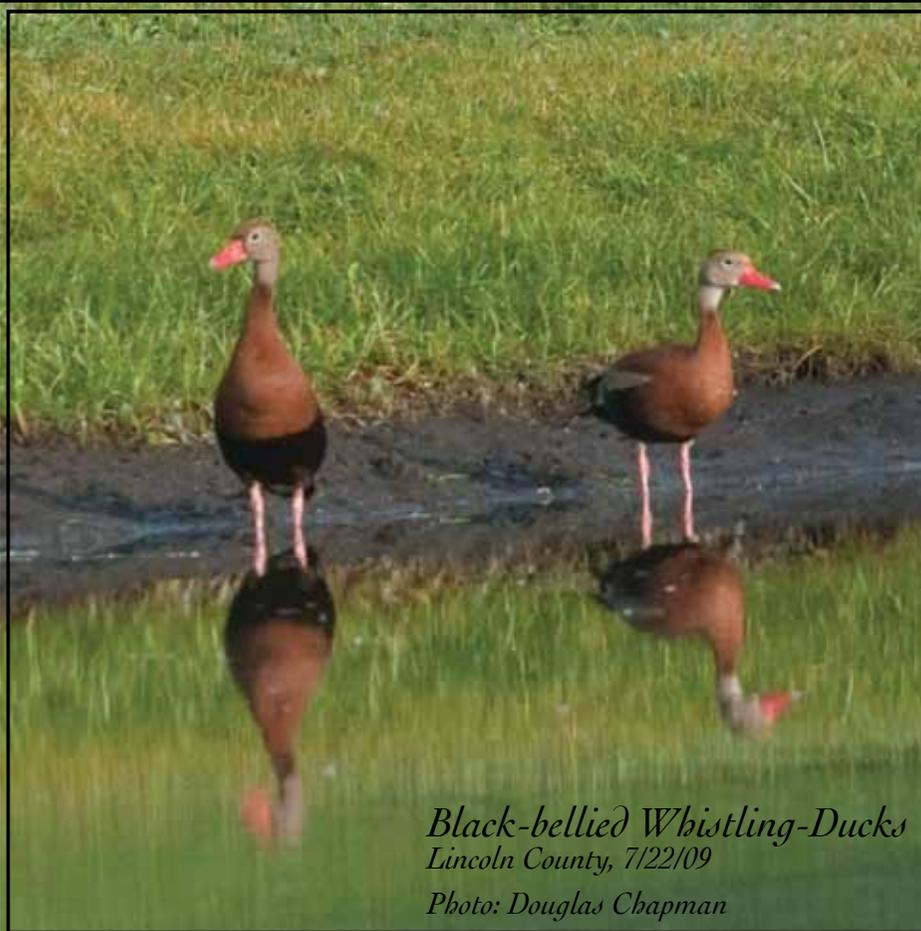

SOUTH DAKOTA Ornithologists' Union



SOUTH



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BIRD

NOTES

Vol. 61

September 2009

NO. 3

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Vol. 61

September 2009

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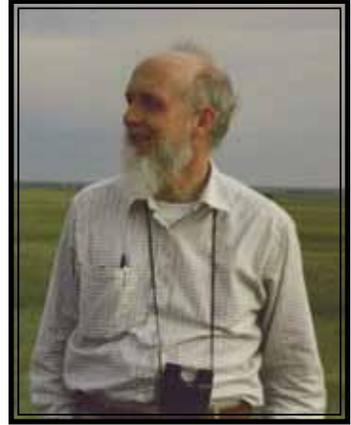
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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Once more, I'll start with the aim of SDOU as stated in the SDOU Constitution: "...to encourage the study of birds in South Dakota and to promote the study of ornithology by more closely uniting the students of this branch of natural science". The Spring 2009 meeting of SDOU, held in Custer, SD, May 15-17, more than lived up to my expectations as an opportunity to share information about birds and birding. As many of you know, the Spring meetings traditionally focus on field trips – and the field trips from Custer were exciting and productive, as attested to by participants from ten different states. In addition to the field trips, four interesting and accessible talks were presented. And the meeting featured a Bird Calling Contest which may become the "first annual" of its kind. Look for a report on page 56 in this issue of SDBN.



There have been some controversies recently about the purpose of the SDOU List-Serve, sd-birds at Yahoo! Groups, including questions about what sorts of things are appropriate to post. I suspect that the original SDOU list serve was created as an Internet version of the telephone-based Rare Bird Alerts and Bird Hotlines that were prevalent in the past; if so, then it may have had a fairly narrow scope at the beginning. But to "more closely unite the students of ornithology", we need tools with broad scopes.

The current version of the list-serve, hosted at Yahoo! Groups, has the simple description "This is a listserv about South Dakota birds", which leaves a lot of latitude for the content of posts. The e-mail medium provides the opportunity to use the list-serve for far more than rare bird alerts, and many group members have been taking advantage of the forum to ask questions, request assistance, post short but thoughtful essays, and announce bird-related events. My view is that this broad use is both acceptable and desirable. Occasionally, a post seems inappropriate; rarely, posts are offensive to a wide range of group members. But my observation is that usage is largely self-regulating. By this, I mean that individual group members communicate (ideally, privately, not on sd-birds) with other members whose posts they find deficient. (I know this because some of them tell me that they have done so.) Sometimes, a group member will post a correction or rebuttal; I think that these posts, when they don't involve personal attacks or other remarks that are themselves inappropriate, are an excellent mechanism to assist all group members in reaching an understanding of what is appropriate. Our sd-birds moderators are ready, of course, to ban a member who posts spam or repeated and obviously inappropriate material, but this has seldom been necessary. As you consider what to post, don't forget that anything you post to sd-birds will almost certainly be available to anybody on the Internet for a very long time!

Congratulations to the Division of Wildlife of South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks on their latest birding publication, *Backyard Birds of South Dakota*. This nicely-done booklet should be of great value for recruiting new birders.

I hope to see you at the Fall 2009 meeting in Pierre, 20-22 November 2009.

Addison Ball

2008 REPORT OF THE RARE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

David L. Swanson. Department of Biology. University of South Dakota,
Vermillion, SD 57069. E-mail: david.swanson@usd.edu

The SDOU Rare Bird Records Committee (RBRC) met on 18 May 2008 at Pickstown and on 12 October 2008 at Pierre. The members of the committee were David Swanson (secretary), Ricky Olson, Todd Jensen, J. David Williams, and Jeffrey Palmer. All members either attended each meeting or voted in absentia.

Springer (1988. *South Dakota Bird Notes* 40:67-70) outlined the purpose and voting procedures of the RBRC. The RBRC strongly encourages observers of rare or unusual birds in South Dakota to report their observations to the secretary of the RBRC (David Swanson of Vermillion, SD), preferably via e-mail at david.swanson@usd.edu. A *Rare Bird Report Form* is available in electronic format for this purpose from David Swanson, or a form can be downloaded from <http://www.sdou.org>, by clicking on the Seasonal Reporting link and then clicking on the link for the Rare Bird Report Form. A summary of the type of information desired by the RBRC in a rare bird report can be found in Swanson (2004. *South Dakota Bird Notes* 56:88-95).

The RBRC requests rare bird reports for species listed as hypothetical, accidental or casual in the state. A listing of birds belonging to these categories is provided on the latest version of the checklist of South Dakota birds, accessible at <http://www.sdou.org> by clicking on the Seasonal Reporting link and then clicking on the link for the South Dakota State Checklist. The RBRC regularly adds or removes species from the review list, based on current data, and these changes to the review list are reported in previous reports of the RBRC in *South Dakota Bird Notes*. The RBRC also requests reports for any species that is casual or accidental at a particular time or at a particular location within the state. This information can be found in Tallman et al. (2002. *Birds of South Dakota, 3rd Edition*, SDOU, Aberdeen, SD). In addition, reports are requested for observations listed in the "Species Requiring Acceptance by the Rare Bird Records Committee" section in the Seasonal Reports of *South Dakota Bird Notes*. Observers whose records are accepted (Classes 1 and 2) are encouraged to publish these records in *South Dakota Bird Notes*, so details of the observation can be communicated to a wider audience.

Following are the results of the committee's action since the last report in the September 2008 issue of *South Dakota Bird Notes*. The numbers included in parentheses along with some reports indicate the committee's vote. If no numbers are listed, the vote was unanimous (5-0) or 4-0 if a committee member submitted the report. The committee wishes to emphasize that a rating of Class 3 or 4 (non-accepted record) does not imply any personal criticism of the observer. Such a rating only means that the information provided in the report, in the opinion of the committee, did not conclusively eliminate other similar species.

CLASS 1 (Accepted - Specimen, photograph, or recording).

- Greater Scaup. 27-28 January 2008. One male at Canyon Lake, Pennington Co. Jocelyn Baker. Fourth record for western South Dakota.
- Black Scoter. 23 October 2007. One in female/juvenile plumage at Oahe Marina, Stanley Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson. Casual fall migrant.
- Black Scoter. 10 November 2007. Four in female/juvenile plumage at sewage treatment ponds near Chief White Crane Campground, Yankton Co. Photographed. David Swanson. Casual fall migrant.
- Red-necked Grebe. 11 May 2008. One in nearly alternate plumage at New Wall Lake, Pennington Co. Jocelyn Baker. Fifth record for western South Dakota.
- Peregrine Falcon. 22 June 2008. One adult at Stone Lake, Sully Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson. Casual summer visitor.

Snowy Plover. 19 April-15 May 2008. Two in alternate plumage at Stone Lake, Sully Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller.

Ruddy Turnstone. 22 June 2008. One in alternate plumage in Sully Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson. First summer record.

Red Knot. 15-21 May 2008. One in alternate plumage at Cottonwood Lake, Sully Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Casual spring migrant.

Western Sandpiper. 26 April 2008. One in alternate plumage at Stone Lake, Sully Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Casual migrant.

Dunlin. 16 December 2007. Two in basic plumage below Big Bend Dam, Buffalo Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Latest ever fall migrant.

Laughing Gull. 20 September 2008. One in first-winter plumage below Big Bend Dam, Lyman Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson. Casual visitor.

Little Gull. 20 September 2008. One in basic plumage below Big Bend Dam, Lyman Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson. Casual fall migrant.

Little Gull. 21 September 2008. One in basic plumage below Big Bend Dam, Lyman Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson. Casual fall migrant.

Ivory Gull. 16-26 February 2008. Lake Oahe, Hughes and Stanley Cos. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Doug Backlund. First state record. *South Dakota Bird Notes* 60:38-41.

California Gull. 1 February-April 2008. One in basic plumage at Pierre, Hughes Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Casual winter visitor.

White-winged Dove. 3 June 2008. One adult at Aberdeen, Brown Co. Photographed. Gary Olson and Dan Streifel. Casual visitor to South Dakota.

Red-bellied Woodpecker. 10 November 2007-12 January 2008. One male at Piedmont, Meade Co. Photographed. Addison Ball, Jocelyn Baker, and Larry and Elaine Ebbert. Accidental in western South Dakota.

Red-bellied Woodpecker. 13-14 May 2008. One male at Blucksberg, Meade Co. Photographed. Jane Murphy. Accidental in western South Dakota.

Pileated Woodpecker. 15 May 2008. One female at Myron Grove GPA, Clay Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund. Accidental outside of northeastern South Dakota.

White-eyed Vireo. 19 October 2007. One adult near Piedmont, Meade Co. Photographed. Jocelyn Baker and Dan Tallman. Second record for western South Dakota.

White-eyed Vireo. 10 May 2008. One in alternate plumage at Echo Point Road, Stanley Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund, Charlene Bessken and Ricky Olson. Casual spring migrant.

Plumbeous Vireo. 6 September 2007. One adult at Farm Island, Hughes Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund and Silka Kempema. Second record outside of far western South Dakota.

Canyon Wren. 2 September 2006. One in Cave Hills, Harding Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund and Charlene Bessken. Second record outside of Black Hills.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. 4 June 2008. Pair building nest at Badlands National Park, Jackson Co. Photographed. Nancy Schaefer. First nest record for western South Dakota.

Cassin's Sparrow. 21-22 June 2008. Three singing males and one female at White Ranch, Pennington Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund and Charlene Bessken. Fourth state record.

Northern Cardinal. 24 May 2008. Pair at Deadwood, Lawrence Co. Photographed. Vic Fondy. Casual in western South Dakota.

CLASS 2 (Accepted – Satisfactory written description).

Pacific Loon. 7 September 2008. One in basic plumage at Lake Sharpe, Hughes and Stanley Cos. Ricky Olson. Casual fall migrant, earliest ever fall record.

Eared Grebe. 13 November–8 December 2007. One in basic plumage at Canyon Lake, Pennington Co. Jocelyn Baker. Second December record.

Tricolored Heron. 15 May 2007. One at Sand Lake NWR, Brown Co. Nancy Drilling. Casual in South Dakota.

Western Sandpiper. 3-11 May 2008. One in alternate plumage near Onida, Sully Co. Ricky Olson. Casual migrant.

Whimbrel. 31 August 2008. One at Lake Sharpe, Hughes and Stanley Cos. Ricky Olson. Second fall record.

Ruff. 5 July 2008. One male molting from alternate to basic plumage east of Pierre, Hughes Co. Ricky Olson. Fifth state record.

White-winged Dove. 7 July 2007. One adult at Sturgis, Meade Co. Ernie Miller and Lynelle Chapman. Casual visitor to South Dakota.

Common Nighthawk. 23 March 2007. One at Pierre, Hughes Co. Eileen Dowd Stukel. (4 Class 2, 1 Class 3). Earliest ever spring record.

Red-headed Woodpecker. 24 January 2008. One adult in Lawrence Co. Jocelyn Baker. Accidental in winter.

Red-bellied Woodpecker. 15 June 2008. One female at Cottonwood Creek, Pennington Co. Jennifer Fowler and Jocelyn Baker. Accidental in western South Dakota.

Common Raven. 2 December 2007. One at Boulder Canyon, Lawrence Co. Ricky Olson. Accidental.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet. 12 August 2007. One female at Farm Island, Hughes Co. Doug Backlund. (4 Class 2, 1 Class 3). Earliest fall record away from breeding grounds.

Hermit Thrush. 29 December 2007. One adult at Frost GPA, Clay Co. David Swanson. Fifth winter record.

Townsend's Warbler. 1 September 2007. One male at East Short Pine Hills, Harding Co. Charles and Kenny Miller. Casual fall migrant west.

Green-tailed Towhee. 13 May 2007. One adult at Silver City, Pennington Co. Jennifer Fowler. Accidental visitor.

Green-tailed Towhee. 14 May 2008. One adult at Piedmont, Meade Co. Addison and Patricia Ball. (4 Class 3, 1 Class 3). Accidental visitor.

CLASS 3 (Not accepted – Identification possibly correct but description not completely convincing).

No records were rated Class 3 in 2008.

CLASS 4 (Not accepted – Identification probably or certainly incorrect).

No records were rated Class 4 in 2008.

OTHER BUSINESS

The committee decided to remove Black Scoter from the review list due to the proliferation of fall records for this species over the past few years. The committee also discussed what to do with records from the area of the Missouri River immediately below Gavin's Point Dam, which is legally considered Nebraska. The consensus was that the committee would continue to act on records submitted from this area, but that these records will be included in the official records for South Dakota marked with an asterisk.

SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION

Greater Scaup. 3-8 December 2008. One adult male at Canyon Lake, Pennington Co.

Black Scoter. 19 November 2008. One in juvenile plumage below Oahe Dam, Stanley Co.

Anna's Hummingbird. 19 August–29 October 2008. One immature male from Rapid City, Pennington Co.

Mountain Bluebird. 12 January–15 March 2008. One in basic plumage at Lake Vermillion State Recreation Area, McCook Co.

McCown's Longspur. 14 October 2008. One in female or immature plumage at Grand River National Grasslands, Perkins Co.

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER AT HIGHMORE, SD

Erik Bruhnke • Ashland, WI

On 23 April 2009 I saw a beautiful and very striking adult male Black-throated Gray Warbler. It was a life bird for me.

A solid black throat and thick black eye stripe and the yellow supralorals were apparent. Also seen were the white supercilium, a solid black crown and pure white malar stripe. The belly was also pure white and the flanks were streaked with black. This record has been submitted to the South Dakota Rare Birds Committee for consideration.

There are five previous records of Black-throated Gray Warbler in South Dakota: 5/2/1973, 5/5/2001, 5/9/2007, 8/4/1973 and 9/1/1986. It is considered a hypothetical species in North Dakota (Revised Checklist of North Dakota Birds) and Nebraska. Black-throated Gray Warblers have been observed in Iowa: Cedar Co., Jefferson Co., Winnebago Co., and Woodbury Co., (Iowa Birds Checklist); Minnesota has five records (St. Louis Co., Lake Co., Chisago Co., Hennepin Co. and Lac qui Parle Co.) (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union website). The warbler breeds in Wyoming, and there are ten records of Black-throated Gray Warblers in Montana: Carbon Co., Flathead Co., Gallatin Co., Lewis and Clark Co., Liberty Co., Powell Co., Valley Co., Wheatland Co. and Yellowstone Co. (Montana field guide website).

SOUTH DAKOTA'S FIRST PROTHONOTARY WARBLER BREEDING RECORD

Douglas Chapman • Sioux Falls, SD

Charles Mills of Newburgh, IN, called Roger Dietrich of Yankton, SD, to inform him of a bird he had observed in Union County just off SD Highway 48 at the Iowa border. His follow-up e-mail is presented in full:

On 10 June 2009 at about 11:45 AM, we crossed the Big Sioux River from Akron, Iowa on SD Highway 48. We turned left just as soon as we cleared the bridge. There is a river access point located there. It was very muddy so we parked at the edge of the woods. We walked down the muddy road about 100 feet toward the river. I placed a tape player at the base of one of the trees. I then started playing a screech owl tape that also contains several other bird alarm notes (Blue Jay, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Black-capped Chickadee). The Prothonotary male started to sing almost immediately and approached the tape player location. A second, drabber-colored Prothonotary (female) then came in. We saw the female only for about one or two minutes. The male was seen off and on for about fifteen minutes. The male was a bright yellow-orange color with a very black bill and eyes; the wings and tail were a soft blue-gray. The undertail was white. The male sang the entire time we were present. Also seen were Eastern Wood-Pewee, Northern Cardinal, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Red-bellied Woodpecker, and White-breasted Nuthatch. I am doing breeding bird atlasing in Indiana. The behavior of the two Prothonotaries would indicate probable breeding. I have extensive experience with this species in Indiana. It is very common in our creek and river woods. Adele Mouakad also saw the birds.

Roger drove to Appley/VonHagel Wetlands and found the Prothonotary nest. He subsequently photographed the male at the nest carrying food and later removing a fecal sac [See back cover]. Many other birders saw this first record of nesting Prothonotary Warbler in South Dakota. Six days later, I observed two very small, flightless fledglings. They were just minutes out of the nest. Three days later the fledglings were observed again—much larger and now capable of short flights—by three people, including a member of the VonHagel family who kindly offered a tour of this unique area of South Dakota. Two days later, Mick Zerr and I observed the adults feeding nearly full-grown fledglings; there were signs of these young being weaned. The male Prothonotary Warbler was still singing occasionally, usually after a puzzling confrontation with a male Yellow Warbler.

Even sight records of Prothonotary Warbler in South Dakota are rare, so this potentially confirmed (and successful) breeding record is very exciting. This record has been submitted to the South Dakota Rare Birds Committee for consideration.

Surrounding states with Prothonotary Warbler breeding records include: IA (several, at least 20); MN (12); ND, NE, WY, and MT have no breeding records.

SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION SPRING 2009 MEETING IN CUSTER

The SDOU spring meeting was held at Outlaw Ranch in Custer on 15-17 May 2009 and was well attended with seventy-eight people registered from 10 states (California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming). One hundred and twenty seven bird species were observed on field trips to Custer State Park, Wind Cave National Park, Elk Mountain, Sylvan Lake, canyons in Custer and Fall River Counties and other areas. A complete list of birds observed can be accessed at the SDOU web-site, <<<www.sdou.org>>>. Click on "Upcoming Meetings" and then "Meeting Checklists". A walking field trip was led by Duane Weber on Friday afternoon to observe an active Osprey nest located on a snag at near-by Bismarck Lake. On Friday and Saturday evenings, informative presentations included the following subjects: SD Breeding Bird Atlas 2 project (Nancy Drilling), Black-backed Woodpecker Research: Custer State Park (Chad Lehman), "White-winged" Dark-eyed Junco Research in Western South Dakota (Christy Bergeon Burns) and Northern Goshawks in the Black Hills (Patti Lynch).

Nelda Holden was honored for her many years of service to the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union. Nelda served as treasurer for forty-six years and also as President for two years. In recognition of this service, dozens of members contributed over \$1,200.00 to the Dr. David J. Holden Scholarship Fund which annually awards money to a deserving South Dakota State University environmental education student. Dr. Holden was a biology department professor at SDSU for 31 years. The Holden scholarship was established with memorial gift money after his death in 1988.

Jocelyn Lee Baker, Rapid City, SD.

ON BIRD STRIKES AT WINDOWS

L. M. Baylor, Rapid City

For many years I have had on my picture window a life-size silhouette of a flying falcon. In all frankness, it probably has served more as an ornament than as an effective deterrent to keep small birds from injury as they struck the window. At a prairie ranch home, an SDOU member had better success by hanging children's whirligigs in front of windows. While somewhat more successful in preventing injuries to birds, the whirligigs had the disadvantage of being damaged or blown away by the strong prairie winds.

Promising options to minimize birds' injuries from striking windows appear in "Preventing Bird/Window Collisions," by Daniel Klem, Jr., *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology*, vol. 121, pp. 314-321 (June 2009). Through cleverly designed experiments, Klem determined more effective prevention of birds' injuries occurred at window panes covered by stripe or grid patterns of ultraviolet reflecting or absorbing film. UV-reflecting or UV-absorbing film should be available at building supply stores and most hardware stores.

Klem's experiments also determined significant effectiveness by use of many decals or similar objects to cover an ordinary window pane with the objects separated by no more than five to ten cm. This technique, however, will seriously obstruct the amount of light desired from a window. By contrast, Klem found that the UV-reflecting or absorbing film did not significantly restrict the amount of light received in the house.

Before using the technique with UV-film, one ought to read Klem's description in the *Wilson Journal of Ornithology*, concerning the various methods for applying the film.

Please welcome Tucker J. Lutter of Bronson, IA, the new *South Dakota Bird Notes* Youth Editor. Caity Reiland-Smith is very busy with work and college. On behalf of SDOU, I thank Caity for her informative columns regarding birds and our youth. We wish her well in her future studies and bird encounters. Birding with Tucker reflects the joy of youth as he will be sixteen on 16 September 2009. Would that all of our legs were this young and agile! Please visit his birding blog at: <http://youngbirders.blogspot.com/2009/02/snowy-owl-day.html> ~Douglas Chapman, ed.

BIRDING WITH A BACKPACK ON

After hiking over 150 miles this past spring and summer I have found that backpacking is a great way to find birds and to enjoy the outdoors. I hope to inspire others to go bird watching the same way.

Birders are always trying to find new and fun ways to go bird watching. Perhaps one of the best and most enjoyable ways to go bird watching (especially for us young people "who have so much energy" as the adults say) is to strap on a backpack and start hiking with binoculars in hand. Backpacking is a great way to be able to get away from the roads and from civilization to a place where many interesting birds are hiding, often just out of eyeshot of the birdwatchers on the road.

In the parks and wildlife refuges I have enjoyed finding many birds while hiking, including Acadian Flycatcher, Cerulean Warbler and Prothonotary Warbler. Black-billed Cuckoos and Blue-winged Warblers are regular in the Sioux City, IA, area but were only seen from the trail this past summer. Northern Parula, Louisiana Water-thrush, and Summer Tanager are also found regularly in the area and are seen along the road but are found with much more ease while out hiking the trails. All of these very notable birds plus many more were found in forty to fifty miles of hiking over the span of about six weeks in multiple locales.

Not that roadside birding is not productive, but for those able, not only does it allow you to see some great birds but it at times takes you to some amazingly scenic places that lie just out of view "over the hill from the road". I have seen more wildlife and more plants up close while hiking than I have while birding from a car. I also hear and see things better while hiking than when I am in a car. Any sounds I hear are not drowned out by the noise of the engine running and I can see the birds with much more ease because there are no mirrors or roofs in the way. Backpacking helps you to better experience all aspects of the outdoors to the fullest. All of these things come together to make backpacking my favorite way to enjoy the outdoors and to find birds. You may find this to be yours as well.

Before you head out the door to go backpacking it might be helpful to know where to go. If you go online to <http://www.travelsd.com/thingstodo/hiking.asp> you will find lots of information on where to hike across South Dakota.

My love of backpacking was tested this past summer on a ten day trek through the mountains of New Mexico. Cordilleran Flycatchers, Plumbeous Vireos, Steller's Jays, and Mountain Chickadees were just a few of the many western birds I saw while hiking. The trek was amazing and my love for backpacking grew even more.

Whether you go birding from a car or on a trail, may you find good birds and may you have safe travels.

Tucker J. Lutter

FIRST RECORD OF BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Douglas Chapman, Sioux Falls

John Carlson, the vice-president of the Lenkota Golf Club, Lennox, SD, noticed two ducks that he didn't recognize on the golf course pond. Though he's not a dedicated birder, the ducks continued arrivals interested him enough that he looked them up in a bird guide book and thought they were Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, even though the range map showed them not present anywhere near South Dakota. He took a few pictures and sent them in to South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks in Pierre. They ended up on Doug Backlund's desk and on 20 July 2009 Doug sent an e-mail to several birders in Southeast South Dakota asking if anyone would like to check on these birds. He pointed out that the club directors did not want a public announcement as to location since the pond was adjacent to the ninth hole fairway, and possible injury was of great concern to them. Also, disturbing members who would be playing golf was a secondary consideration.

As the admittedly fuzzy pictures John took looked good, I telephoned him immediately and, though concerned about safety, he did agree to allow limited public access early in the morning before 8 AM. He then told me that the birds were seen that day at 5:20 PM and that there were few golfers playing in the rainy weather, so I drove in a soaking rain the half-hour to Lennox and found Jeffrey Palmer and David Swanson already there waiting for the ducks' arrival. Mick Zerr joined us later for about ninety minutes of this fruitless wait. The location of Lenkota Golf Club is one and one-half miles west of Lennox, SD, on SD Highway 44.

At 5:45 AM, Tuesday, 21 July 2009, Palmer and Swanson observed two Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks at the pond. The ducks flew off at 7 AM. I arrived at 7:30 AM and within two minutes the ducks flew in and I observed them for thirty minutes or so.

At 6:30 AM on Wednesday morning, 22 July, Todd Jensen telephoned me to report that he had just seen the birds; they were at the same pond. Kelly Reum, a new member of the Sioux Falls Bird Club, and I drove to Lennox. We arrived at 7:20 AM; at 7:40 the pair of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks flew in, again in tandem. We both had great views and this time I had my camera. When we left the ducks were still at water's edge [See cover]. They were not seen again, though several birders tried on both 24 and 25 July.

Thanks go to all the members and staff of Lenkota for their hospitality. They never failed to offer a free golf cart for us to ride to the pond where the ducks were being seen. Most club members, who had all seen the ducks, were glad to know what they were called.

If accepted by the Rare Bird Records Committee, this sighting will be a state record for Black-bellied Whistling-Duck.

South Dakota's bordering states have the following records for Black-bellied Whistling-Duck; ND: One record. 10-16 September 2006, Jamestown lagoons. (pers. comm., Ron Martin); MN: 9 records, David Cahlander, via MNBirds website page. NE: 8 records: 22-24 May 2004; 26 May 1993; 16 Jun 2006; 21-25 Jul 2008; 2-28 Aug 1999; 29 Oct 1989; early Dec, 2008. (pers. comm. Ross Silcock). IA: 18 records from May 77-June 08. (pers. comm., Steven Dinsmore, Ann Johnson). MT: No records. (pers. comm., Patrick Toomey); WY: No records. (pers. comm., Andrea Orabona).

FROM OUR PAST...

...IN *SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES*

L. M. BAYLOR

Vol. 3 No. 2

June 1951

Following the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union's annual meeting at Vermillion on 5 May 1951, J. S. (Scott) Findley became the president of SDOU. In his first "President's Page" he stressed the role of *South Dakota Bird Notes* as "interesting reading because it is the record of our own birding and valuable because it deals with ornithology of a part of the country not dealt with in other journals." Related to the goal of supplying information in *Bird Notes*, Findley offered this comment: "We amuse ourselves with our bird-watching, but we can have added pleasure by working with others on definite projects and sharing our experience by telling about them."

Findley's assumption of the Presidency serves to remind us of the organization's benefiting through leadership from individuals representing various careers. Memory (though too often a feeble historical resource) tells me that Findley held an administrative position (personnel director, I believe) at the meat packing company in Sioux Falls. Over the years, SDOU's presidents have included biology professors (at least nine), wildlife managers, a high school teacher, an attorney, businessmen (at least seven), a businesswoman, a pharmacist, a medical doctor, a librarian, a homemaker, a civil engineer and three English professors.

The account of SDOU's annual meeting at Vermillion on 5-6 May 1951, includes the following topics presented during the formal session: birds of the short grass, a demonstration of methods to interest junior high school students in bird study, record keeping, methods of making bird surveys, birds of the Black Hills and Willis Hall's slide program on cover and feed for birds. Additionally, the "General Notes" section provides a list of species observed during the scheduled field trips. Among the 76 species, five were noted as not being in Visher's list of "Birds of Clay County" (1915): Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-throated Vireo, Ring-necked Pheasant, House Sparrow and Starling. The latter three species remind us of South Dakota's pristine days before the invasion or introduction of exotic species.

In a general note, Professor Ruth Habeger shared an interesting commentary about the Lincoln's Sparrow. She had difficulty getting unobstructed views of this bird the first time she encountered it because it kept out of view on the far side of the bushes. For this reason, she remarked: "Why such an inconspicuous bird should be so wary is a mystery to me. Mr. Dawson writes that this sparrow is the 'Bird-afraid-of-his-shadow,' and I agree...."

For the section "Pioneer Prairie Ornithologists," Rosamund Burgi Hall provided information about Arthur Park Larrabee. Originally from Maine, Larrabee graduated from Bowdoin College (B.A.), Harvard University (M.A.), and the University of Iowa (Ph.D.). He became a professor of biology at Yankton College in 1916 and retired in 1949. [I lived in the Larrabee Dormitory on the Yankton College campus as a freshman. ~DC, ed.] Throughout his long tenure, he taught ornithology courses during the regular school year and summer sessions. The account may justify wonder as to whether Dr. Larrabee was the first person to provide an ornithology course at a college or university in South Dakota.

BOOK REVIEW

LINDA JOHNSON

Living on the Wind: Across the Hemisphere With Migratory Birds.
2000. Weidensaul, Scott. Softcover. \$16.

To collect information for *Living on the Wind*, Scott Weidensaul traveled 70,000 miles to the edges of the North American migration routes—the Argentine pampas and the Bering Sea—as well as multiple points in between. The book is divided into three sections: Northbound, Hiatus, and Southbound. In 420 pages, Weidensaul recounts his visits to various migration points, weaving into the discussion a detailed history of migration research and recent discoveries. He explains where birds go and how they find their way. Black and white maps of migration routes clarify the text, and each chapter has notes, citations, and a bibliography. The book is meticulously researched, yet still highly readable.

According to Weidensaul, migration is not a simple north-south and back again event, but rather a highly complex phenomena. Even within one species—Dunlin, for example—the three different populations have different migration patterns. The northernmost breeders cross to Siberia and fly south to China and Japan. Another set travels to Baja California, and a third group migrates overland to the Gulf Coast.

I find Weidensaul's poetic style highly engaging. Here's a sample: "...the night was alive with secret sounds; for even after I folded my tripod and put away my clipboard, the multitudes overhead spilled music across the land...I heard the chips and squeaks of several species of warblers, ...a rose-breasted grosbeak [sic]; ...a flock of Swainson's thrushes [sic] passed above me, their reedy, piping voices like the spring peepers that sing in my backyard..."

Although the text reads like a narrative rather than research, it is rich with research information. Chapter after chapter includes anecdotes of Weidensaul's trips and meetings with other scientists. One chapter recounts the story of researchers who traced a lone Swainson's Hawk (with a radio transmitter) to the pampas of Argentina, the first proof that the hawks migrated there. Unfortunately, the researchers also found hundreds of dead hawks (later attributed to pesticides used on the crops; pesticides that had been banned in the U.S.). In this and other chapters, Weidensaul goes beyond reporting to raising thought-provoking questions. The last chapters conclude with a discussion (aptly called "Trouble in the Woods") about habitat degradation, species decline, and conservation efforts. *Living on the Wind* is a superb read.

SEASONAL REPORTS

The 2009 Spring Season

Compiled By: Jeffrey S. Palmer
01 March 2009 to 31 May 2009

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

There were 319 species, including 14 rarities, reported during the season. The ten-year (1999-2008) average is 321. Below, I have tried to highlight the more significant sightings (dates that are earlier/later than listed in the online database 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 (17) 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: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 04 Mar Hughes DB; 05 Mar Meade JLB; 06 Mar Brookings KCJ ... Late: 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 13 Apr Hyde SAS; 11 Apr Miner JSP; 13 Mar Tripp SAS
- Snow Goose** Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Mar Hughes KM; 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Beadle *vide* BFW ... Late: 30 May McCook JSP; 26 May Marshall GO; 26 May Brown RM; 18 May Stanley KM
- Ross's Goose** Early: 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 08 Mar Hughes DB ... Late: 03 Apr Roberts MO; 02 Apr Brookings KCJ; 28 Mar Yankton BFH
- Cackling Goose** Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Mar Gregory RM; 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 13 Mar Tripp SAS ... Late: 13 Apr Hyde SAS; 03 Apr Sully KM; 03 Apr Roberts MO
- Canada Goose** Confirmed Breeding: **13 Apr Stanley (ON) MMM**
- Trumpeter Swan** Confirmed Breeding: **17 May Bennett (ON) MO**
- Tundra Swan** All Reports: 17 Mar Grant BU; 20 Mar Brookings DGP; **03 Apr Roberts (1000) MO**
- Wood Duck** Early: 04 Mar Pennington JLB; 14 Mar Hughes DB; 17 Mar Lincoln KCJ
- Gadwall** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 07 Mar Yankton RND
- American Wigeon** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 07 Mar Yankton RND
- Mallard** Confirmed Breeding: **05 May Custer (NE) MMM**
- Blue-winged Teal** Early: 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 21 Mar Harding CEM
- Cinnamon Teal** Early: 24 Apr Hughes KM, RDO; 26 Apr Sully KM, RDO; 05 May Dewey SAS; 08 May Harding CEM, KM
- Northern Shoveler** Early: 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Yankton RND; 08 Mar Stanley RDO; 17 Mar Grant BU; 17 Mar Roberts BU; 21 Mar Meade JLB
- Northern Pintail** Early: 01 Mar Stanley RDO; 05 Mar Meade JLB; 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 07 Mar Yankton RND
- Green-winged Teal** Early: 05 Mar Meade JLB; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 07 Mar Pennington JLB; 07 Mar Yankton RND
- Canvasback** Early: 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 07 Mar Yankton RND; 19 Mar Meade JLB
- Redhead** Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Mar Gregory RM; 01 Mar Hughes KM; 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 07 Mar Lake JSP
- Ring-necked Duck** Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 01 Mar Stanley RDO; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 07 Mar Yankton RND
- Greater Scaup** Early: 08 Mar Stanley RDO; 11 Mar Hughes RDO; 13 Mar Tripp SAS; 25 Mar Minnehaha DC ... Late: **05 May Dewey SAS**; 05 May Corson SAS; 18 May Minnehaha DC
- Lesser Scaup** Early: 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Lake JSP; 07 Mar Yankton RND; 11 Mar Custer JLB

Long-tailed Duck All Reports: 13 Mar Charles Mix RM; **07 Apr Charles Mix RM**

Bufflehead Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 06 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Yankton RND; 17 Mar Grant BU; 17 Mar Roberts BU ... Late: 14 May Meade JLB; 12 May Pennington JLB; 08 May Minnehaha DC; 08 May Harding CEM; 05 May Dewey SAS

Common Goldeneye Late: 18 Apr McPherson GO; 18 Apr McCook JSP; 13 Apr Hyde SAS; 12 Apr Meade RSL

Hooded Merganser Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 06 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Yankton RND; 17 Mar Grant BU; 17 Mar Roberts BU ... Late: 31 May Charles Mix RM; 25 May Kingsbury BFH; 09 May Brown GO; 11 Apr Meade RSL

Common Merganser Late: 31 May Charles Mix RM; 25 May Pennington JLB; 10 May Meade RSL; 08 May Minnehaha DC

Red-breasted Merganser Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Yankton RND; 27 Mar Moody KCJ ... Late: 05 May Charles Mix RM; 30 Apr Hughes KM; 25 Apr Moody JSP

Ruddy Duck Early: 07 Mar Lake JSP; 07 Mar Yankton RND; 14 Mar Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Meade RSL

Gray Partridge All Reports: 01 Mar Harding CEM; 21 Mar Charles Mix RM; 12 Apr Custer MMM; 12 Apr Harding CEM; 24 May Harding DB

Ring-necked Pheasant Confirmed Breeding: **20 May Faulk (NE) MMM**

Ruffed Grouse Only Report: 11 May Pennington JLB

Greater Sage-Grouse All Reports: 21 Mar Harding CEM; 18 Apr Harding CEM; 07 May Harding KM; 08 May Harding CEM

Northern Bobwhite All Reports: 09 Apr Gregory RM; 11 May Charles Mix RM; 14 May Gregory RM; 31 May Charles Mix RM

Common Loon Early: 20 Mar Charles Mix RM; 23 Mar Hughes KM; 26 Mar Stanley RDO; 28 Mar McCook JSP; 24 Apr Pennington JF ... Late: 31 May Stanley DB; 27 May Lyman KM; 15 May Pennington RSL, JLB; 18 Apr McCook JSP; 18 Apr Clark DGP

Pied-billed Grebe Early: 21 Mar Charles Mix RM; 26 Mar Brookings KCJ; 28 Mar McCook JSP; 18 Apr Meade RSL

Horned Grebe Early: 17 Mar Hughes DB; 19 Mar Stanley RDO; 21 Mar Charles Mix RM; 22 Mar Pennington JLB; 11 Apr Miner JSP ... Late: 21 May McPherson GO; 05 May Walworth SAS; 27 Apr Meade DGP

Red-necked Grebe Only Report: 25 Apr Day GO

Eared Grebe Early: 28 Mar Charles Mix RM; 28 Mar Yankton BFH; 17 Apr Sully KM; 18 Apr McCook JSP; 25 Apr Meade RSL

Western Grebe Early: 12 Apr Hughes KM; 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 20 Apr Jones SAS; 23 Apr Marshall GO

Clark's Grebe All Reports: 24 Apr Hughes KM; 25 Apr Marshall GO; 30 May Marshall GO

American White Pelican Early: 27 Mar Hughes DB, KM; 28 Mar Charles Mix RM; 28 Mar McCook JSP; 28 Mar Minnehaha MRZ; 09 Apr Haakon CEM

Double-crested Cormorant Early: 14 Mar Minnehaha MRZ; 22 Mar Stanley RDO; 26 Mar Brookings KCJ; 18 Apr Meade RSL

American Bittern Early: **12 Apr Stanley CEM; 18 Apr Butte CEM;** 02 May Pennington JLB, RSL; 12 May Marshall GO

Great Blue Heron Early: 14 Mar Lawrence SW; 21 Mar Charles Mix RM; 21 Mar Hughes EDS; 21 Mar Stanley RDO; 26 Mar Brookings KCJ

Great Egret Early: **28 Mar Stanley CEM;** 10 Apr Charles Mix RM; 11 Apr McCook MS; 11 Apr Miner JSP

Snowy Egret Early: 16 Apr Faulk MMM; 18 Apr Stanley KM; 25 Apr Brown GO; 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Day GO; 25 Apr Moody JSP

Cattle Egret Early: 18 Apr Hughes KM; 22 Apr Faulk MMM; 24 Apr Marshall MO

Green Heron Early: **18 Apr Minnehaha DC;** 28 Apr Gregory SAS; 03 May Union GJS

Black-crowned Night-Heron Early: 21 Apr Beadle DGP; 24 Apr Roberts MO; 25 Apr Day GO; 26 Apr Stanley KM, RDO; 08 May Harding CEM

White-faced Ibis Early: 17 Apr Minnehaha DC; 18 Apr Lincoln MRZ; 23 Apr Marshall GO; 09 May Butte EK; 16 May Potter GO

Turkey Vulture Early: 25 Mar Stanley RDO; 29 Mar Pennington JLB; 30 Mar Minnehaha MS

Osprey Early: 08 Apr Pennington JF; 12 Apr Stanley DB; 18 Apr Minnehaha DC, MS
Northern Harrier Early: 01 Mar Hughes DB; 02 Mar Jones SAS; 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 12 Mar Aurora SAS
Sharp-shinned Hawk Late: **26 May Roberts GO**; 09 May Marshall GO; 23 Apr Hughes KM
Northern Goshawk All Reports: 06 Mar Hughes KM; 07 Mar Sully KM; 08 Mar Lawrence DGP; 18 Mar Hughes DB; 06 Apr Hughes KM; 16 May Custer BFH, TJ, RSL
Broad-winged Hawk Early: **26 Mar Brookings KCJ**; **08 Apr Meade APB**; 24 Apr Hughes KM ... Late: 20 May Hughes KM; 18 May Stanley KM; 18 May Lincoln MO; 09 May Harding KM
Swainson's Hawk Early: 02 Apr Harding CEM; 11 Apr Charles Mix RM; 11 Apr Hyde EB; 11 Apr Miner JSP
Ferruginous Hawk Early: 01 Mar Lyman DB; 04 Mar Jones DB; 05 Mar Dewey SAS; 05 Mar Stanley SAS; 14 Apr Faulk MMM
Rough-legged Hawk Late: 25 Apr Minnehaha DC; 14 Apr Faulk MMM; 12 Apr Stanley CEM; 11 Apr Meade RSL
Golden Eagle Late: 19 Apr Hughes KM; 11 Apr Stanley RDO; 28 Mar Sully RDO, KM
Merlin Late: 17 May Custer MS; 05 May Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Minnehaha DC
Gyr Falcon Only Report: 08 Mar Lyman DB
Peregrine Falcon Early: 10 Apr Custer MMM; 24 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Sully KM, RDO ... Late: 24 May Meade JLB; 19 May Hughes KM; 15 May Pennington BFH
Prairie Falcon Late: 21 Apr Hand DGP; 10 Apr Charles Mix RM; 12 Mar Aurora SAS
Virginia Rail All Reports: 03 May Union DC; 05 May Stanley KM; 25 May Kingsbury BFH
Sora Early: 02 May McCook JSP; 03 May Union DC; 08 May Minnehaha DC; 11 May Pennington JLB
American Coot Early: 01 Mar Pennington JLB; 06 Mar Charles Mix RM; 07 Mar Lake JSP
Sandhill Crane Early: 14 Mar Charles Mix RM; 14 Mar Gregory RM; 16 Mar Custer MMM; 18 Mar Sanborn *fide* BFW ... Late: 29 May Beadle TJ; 14 May Butte DGP; 10 May Custer MMM; 20 Apr Hughes SAS
Whooping Crane Only Report: **17-20 Apr Hughes (5) KM, DB, SAS**
Black-bellied Plover Early: 08 May Harding CEM, KM; 09 May Sully RDO; 10 May Hughes KM, RDO; 10 May Perkins KM; 30 May Marshall GO ... Late: 31 May Minnehaha DC; 21 May Hughes RDO; 16 May Walworth GO
American Golden-Plover Early: 05 May Walworth SAS; 07 May Beadle *fide* BFW; 09 May Brown GO... Late: 23 May Kingsbury BFH; 16 May McCook JSP; 14 May Edmunds MO; 14 May Beadle *fide* BFW
Semipalmated Plover Early: 24 Apr Hughes KM; 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 03 May Lincoln DC; 08 May Harding CEM, KM ... Late: 31 May Charles Mix RM; 21 May Hughes RDO; 20 May Roberts MO
Piping Plover Early: 24 Apr Hughes KM, RDO; 26 Apr Stanley KM; 26 Apr Sully RDO; 05 May Edmunds DGP
Killdeer Early: 15 Mar Brookings JSP; 15 Mar Clay GJS; 15 Mar Minnehaha MS; 18 Mar Custer MMM
American Avocet Early: 09 Apr Hughes RDO; 09 Apr Stanley KM; 11 Apr Meade RSL; 14 Apr Faulk MMM
Spotted Sandpiper Early: **24 Apr Charles Mix RM**; 30 Apr Stanley RDO; 01 May Pennington JLB; 03 May Lincoln DC
Solitary Sandpiper Early: 02 May Charles Mix RM; 03 May Union DC, GJS; 04 May Brown GO; 07 May Harding KM ... Late: 10 May Hughes RDO; 09 May Sully RDO; 09 May Pennington JLB; 09 May Marshall GO
Greater Yellowlegs Early: 19 Mar Meade JLB; 22 Mar Sully RDO; 26 Mar Brookings KCJ ... Late: 31 May Minnehaha DC; 10 May Hughes RDO; 09 May Meade RSL; 09 May Marshall GO; 09 May Lincoln MS; 09 May Brown GO
Willet Early: 17 Apr Sully KM; 23 Apr Meade RSL; 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Day GO
Lesser Yellowlegs Early: **28 Mar Minnehaha MRZ**; 02 Apr Brookings KCJ; 10 Apr Charles Mix RM; 16 Apr Haakon MMM ... Late: 30 May McCook JSP; 25 May Meade RSL, JLB; 23 May Kingsbury BFH; 21 May Hughes RDO

Upland Sandpiper Early: 28 Apr Gregory SAS; 01 May Custer MMM; 02 May McCook JSP; 02 May Meade APB; 02 May Pennington JLB, RSL; 02 May Sully KM, RDO ... Confirmed Breeding: 19 May Faulk (NE) MMM

Long-billed Curlew Early: 08 Apr Custer MMM; 09 Apr Butte CEM; 10 Apr Todd SAS; 12 Apr Stanley CEM

Hudsonian Godwit Early: 17 Apr Minnehaha DC; 05 May Walworth SAS; 14 May Edmunds MO ... Late: 23 May Kingsbury BFH; 16 May McCook JSP; 16 May Edmunds GO

Marbled Godwit Early: 10 Apr Charles Mix RM; 11 Apr Miner JSP; 13 Apr Hyde SAS; 23 Apr Meade RSL

Ruddy Turnstone Early: 12 May Marshall GO; 16 May McCook JSP; 19 May Hughes KM, RDO ... Late: 30 May Marshall GO; 23 May Kingsbury BFH; 21 May Hughes RDO

Sanderling Early: **24 Apr Hughes KM, RDO; 25 Apr Brown GO**; 09 May Sully RDO; 23 May Meade JLB ... Late: 26 May Marshall GO; 24 May Meade RSL; 21 May Hughes RDO

Semipalmated Sandpiper Early: 24 Apr Hughes KM, RDO; 26 Apr Sully RDO; 03 May Lincoln DC ... Late: 31 May Minnehaha DC; 31 May Hughes KM; 30 May McCook JSP; 30 May Marshall GO

Least Sandpiper Early: 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Lincoln DC; 30 Apr Hughes KM; 08 May Harding CEM ... Late: 31 May Hughes KM; 23 May Kingsbury BFH; 16 May McCook JSP; 16 May Edmunds GO

White-rumped Sandpiper Early: 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Lincoln MRZ; 09 May Sully RDO

Baird's Sandpiper Early: 28 Mar Yankton BFH; 30 Mar Stanley KM; 06 Apr Charles Mix RM; 11 Apr Miner JSP; 08 May Harding CEM ... Late: **31 May Hughes KM; 31 May Charles Mix RM**; 23 May Kingsbury BFH

Pectoral Sandpiper Early: 10 Apr Charles Mix RM; 12 Apr Hughes KM, RDO; 09 May Brown GO; 09 May Marshall GO ... Late: 31 May Hughes KM; 30 May McCook JSP; 23 May Kingsbury BFH

Dunlin Early: 02 May Sully KM, RDO; 12 May Marshall GO; 16 May Potter GO ... Late: 31 May Minnehaha DC; 30 May McCook JSP; 30 May Marshall GO; 21 May Hughes RDO

Stilt Sandpiper Early: 02 May Charles Mix RM; 07 May Stanley SAS; 10 May Hughes KM, RDO; 12 May Marshall GO ... Late: 31 May Hughes KM; 26 May Marshall GO; 26 May Brown GO

Short-billed Dowitcher All Reports: 05 May Walworth SAS; 07 May Stanley SAS; 09 May Brown GO; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Marshall GO

Long-billed Dowitcher Early: 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Sully KM, RDO; 02 May McCook JSP; 07 May Ziebach SAS ... Late: **25 May Meade RSL**; 19 May Hughes RDO; 16 May Edmunds GO

Wilson's Snipe Early: 04 Apr Moody JSP; 11 Apr Miner JSP; 13 Apr Faulk MMM; 17 Apr Custer MMM; 20 Apr Hughes SAS

American Woodcock Early: 20 Mar Hamlin DGP; 25 Mar Brown *vide* DB; 28 Mar Hughes KM, RDO

Wilson's Phalarope Early: **09 Apr Hughes KM**; 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 26 Apr Lincoln DC; 26 Apr Sully KM, RDO; 28 Apr Mellette SAS; 28 Apr Tripp SAS

Red-necked Phalarope Early: **02 May Sully KM, RDO**; 08 May Minnehaha DC; 09 May Hughes RDO; 09 May Pennington JLB ... Late: 25 May Meade RSL, JLB; 21 May Hughes RDO

Bonaparte's Gull Early: 21 Mar Charles Mix RM; 21 Mar Hughes JSP; 23 Mar Stanley RDO; 26 Mar Brookings KCJ; 18 Apr Meade RSL ... Late: 23 May Moody JSP; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 08 May Minnehaha DC; 06 May Meade JLB

Franklin's Gull Early: 20 Mar Stanley RDO; 21 Mar Hughes RDO; 22 Mar Charles Mix RM; 22 Mar Sully RDO; 26 Mar Brookings KCJ; 15 Apr Pennington JF

Mew Gull All Reports: 21 Mar Stanley TJ, JSP, RDO; 22 Mar Hughes RDO; 30 Mar Stanley RDO

Ring-billed Gull Early: 07 Mar Charles Mix RM; 08 Mar Stanley RDO; 11 Mar Fall River JLB; 14 Mar Minnehaha MRZ

California Gull Early: 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 17 Mar Grant BU; 20 Mar Hughes RDO; 07 Apr Meade JLB

Herring Gull Early: 02 Mar Stanley RDO; 11 Mar Hughes RDO; 20 Mar Meade JLB; 21 Mar Roberts MO ... Late: 10 May Charles Mix RM; 12 Apr Stanley RDO; 10 Apr Brown BK

Thayer's Gull Late: **09 Apr Sully RDO; 04 Apr Stanley RDO**; 22 Mar Hughes RDO

Lesser Black-backed Gull Early: 22 Mar Hughes RDO; 22 Mar Sully RDO; 04 Apr Stanley DB, KM, RDO ... Late: 17 Apr Sully KM; 12 Apr Stanley EB

Glaucous Gull Late: **17 Apr Sully KM**; 04 Apr Stanley RDO, KM, DB; 22 Mar Hughes RDO

Caspian Tern Early: **17 Apr Stanley DB**; 18 Apr Hughes KM; 09 May Marshall GO

Black Tern Early: 08 May Yankton RM; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 12 May Clay GJS; 12 May Marshall GO; 24 May Meade RSL

Common Tern All Reports: **19 Apr Hamlin DGP**; 09 May Stanley RDO; 23 May Kingsbury BFH; 26 May Stanley RDO; 28 May Stanley KM; 30 May Stanley DB

Forster's Tern Early: 18 Apr Hughes KM; 22 Apr Stanley KM; 25 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Day GO; 25 Apr Minnehaha DC

Mourning Dove Early: 08 Mar Hughes KM; 14 Mar Clay GJS; 17 Mar Brown GO; 07 Apr Pennington JF

Black-billed Cuckoo All Reports: **16 May Mellette BFW**; 24 May Lincoln TJ

Barn Owl All Reports: 05 Apr Hughes DB, KM; 06 Apr Hughes KM; 07 Apr Custer (dead) MMM; **05 May Edmunds DGP**; 11 May Stanley RDO

Great Horned Owl Confirmed Breeding: **11 Apr Beadle (NY) fide BFW**

Snowy Owl All Reports: 17 Mar Roberts BU; 21 Mar Buffalo JSP

Burrowing Owl Early: 28 Mar Custer MMM; 09 Apr Hughes RDO; 16 Apr Ziebach DGP; 07 May Beadle BFW

Barred Owl All Reports: 01 Apr Lincoln TJ; 03 Apr Lincoln TJ; 15 Apr Lincoln MS; 09 May Lincoln MS, MRZ; 24 May Lincoln TJ

Northern Saw-whet Owl Late: **17 Mar Grant BU**; 14 Mar Sully KM; 13 Mar Hughes KM

Common Nighthawk Early: 18 May Minnehaha MO; 22 May Lake JSP; 25 May Brown GO; 27 May Stanley RDO; 29 May Custer MMM; 29 May Meade APB

Common Poorwill Early: 13 May Meade APB; 15 May Custer KM; 19 May Mellette DB

Whip-poor-will All Reports: 04 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 31 May Charles Mix RM

Chimney Swift Early: 03 May Union DC, GJS; 04 May Lake JSP; 16 May McCook JSP

White-throated Swift Early: 09 May Pennington JLB; 14 May Harding CEM; 15 May Custer KM

Ruby-throated Hummingbird All Reports: 18 May Charles Mix RM; 18 May Lincoln MO; 31 May Charles Mix RM

Broad-tailed Hummingbird All Reports: **15 May Custer TJ**; 16 May Custer TJ; 17 May Custer TJ; 25 May Pennington JLB

Belted Kingfisher Early: 02 Mar Lawrence DGP; 04 Mar Pennington JLB; 14 Mar Minnehaha MRZ; 27 Mar Hughes DB

Lewis's Woodpecker Confirmed Breeding: 30 May Custer (ON) KM, RDO

Red-headed Woodpecker Early: 03 May Lincoln DC; 06 May Clay GJS; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 16 May Custer RSL

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Early: 16 Apr Minnehaha MRZ; 17 Apr Lake JSP; 19 Apr Charles Mix RM

Red-naped Sapsucker Early: 22 Apr Lawrence DGP; 10 May Pennington JF; 16 May Custer JF, KM, MS

American Three-toed Woodpecker All Reports: 17 Mar Lawrence DGP; 25 May Lawrence DGP

Black-backed Woodpecker Confirmed Breeding: **16 May Custer (ON) DB**

Northern Flicker Early: 01 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 Mar Hughes DB; 03 Mar Meade EEM; 17 Mar Roberts BU

Pileated Woodpecker All Reports: 17 Mar Roberts BU; 03 Apr Roberts MO; 22 May Roberts GO

Olive-sided Flycatcher Early: 12 May Union GJS; 16 May Minnehaha MRZ; 17 May Custer TJ ... Late: 25 May Brown GO; 22 May Harding CEM, KM; 20 May Yankton RND

Western Wood-Pewee All Reports: 15 May Custer TJ; 22 May Pennington JLB; 23 May Pennington MMM; 27 May Pennington JLB; 30 May Custer KM, RDO

Eastern Wood-Pewee Early: 18 May Charles Mix RM; 18 May Lincoln MO; 20 May Yankton RND

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher Only Report: 23 May Moody JSP

Alder Flycatcher All Reports: 23 May Union DS; 30 May McCook JSP

Willow Flycatcher Early: **02 May Charles Mix RM**; 15 May Pennington JLB; 16 May Walworth GO; 26 May Marshall GO; 26 May Roberts GO

Least Flycatcher Early: 04 May Brown GO; 06 May Clay GJS; 06 May Hughes EDS; 09 May Pennington JLB

Dusky Flycatcher Early: 15 May Custer TJ ... Confirmed Breeding: **30 May Custer (NB) RDO**

Cordilleran Flycatcher All Reports: **15 May Custer TJ**; 30 May Custer KM, RDO

Eastern Phoebe Early: **20 Mar Charles Mix RM**; 08 Apr Gregory RM; 08 Apr Minnehaha MS; 28 Apr Mellette SAS

Say's Phoebe Early: **20 Mar Jackson DB**; 12 Apr Custer MMM; 12 Apr Stanley DB; 25 Apr Faulk MMM

Great Crested Flycatcher Early: 12 May Union GJS; 19 May Hughes DB; 26 May Marshall GO; 26 May Roberts GO

Western Kingbird Early: 25 Apr Stanley KM; 07 May Dewey SAS; 07 May Hand BFW; 07 May Ziebach SAS

Eastern Kingbird Early: 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Clay GJS; 09 May Marshall GO; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 14 May Pennington JLB

Loggerhead Shrike Early: 03 Apr Stanley RDO; 10 Apr Pennington DGP; 10 Apr Todd SAS; 23 Apr McPherson GO

Northern Shrike Late: **05 Apr Harding CEM**; 28 Mar McCook JSP; 22 Mar Hughes RDO

Bell's Vireo Early: 19 May Mellette DB; 19 May Pennington MMM; 19 May Stanley RDO; 30 May McCook JSP

Yellow-throated Vireo All Reports: 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 18 May Lincoln MO; 21 May Walworth GO; 23 May Moody JSP; 26 May Roberts GO

Plumbeous Vireo Early: 15 May Custer TJ, KM; 22 May Harding CEM, KM; 27 May Pennington JLB

Blue-headed Vireo All Reports: 09 May Union GJS; 13 May Clay GJS

Warbling Vireo Early: 10 May Clay GJS; 12 May Stanley RDO; 15 May Custer KM; 18 May Brown GO

Philadelphia Vireo All Reports: 24 May Clay GJS; 28 May Stanley RDO

Red-eyed Vireo Early: 16 May Custer JF; 18 May Lincoln MO; 20 May Stanley DB

Pinyon Jay reported from Meade County

Clark's Nutcracker All Reports: 10 May Pennington JF; 16 May Custer BFH, RSL; 19 May Custer JLB; 30 May Custer KM, RDO

Horned Lark Confirmed Breeding: **14 May Custer (NE) MMM**

Purple Martin Early: 16 Apr Hughes DGP; 16 Apr Lake JSP; 21 Apr Brown GO

Tree Swallow Early: 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 15 Apr Faulk MMM; 15 Apr Hughes DB; 19 Apr Meade EEM

Violet-green Swallow Early: 26 Apr Pennington RSL; 09 May Meade APB; 15 May Custer KM

Northern Rough-winged Swallow Early: 16 Apr Hughes KM; 18 Apr McCook JSP; 19 Apr Minnehaha MS; 25 Apr Meade RSL

Bank Swallow Early: 04 May Stanley RDO; 09 May Brown GO; 09 May Lincoln MS; 09 May Marshall GO; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 16 May Harding CEM

Cliff Swallow Early: **16 Apr Hughes KM**; 03 May Lawrence RSL; 04 May Stanley RDO; 09 May Brown GO; 09 May Marshall GO; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ

Barn Swallow Early: 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 16 Apr Hughes KM; 18 Apr Meade RSL; 18 Apr Pennington RSL; 02 May McCook JSP

Red-breasted Nuthatch Late: 22 May Marshall GO; 18 May Union MO; 04 Apr Brown GO

Pygmy Nuthatch Only Report: 30 May Custer KM, RDO

Brown Creeper Late: **18 May Lincoln MO**; **09 May Union GJS**; 18 Apr McCook JSP; 18 Apr Hughes KM, EDS

Rock Wren Early: 28 Apr Gregory SAS; 01 May Charles Mix RM; 07 May Harding CEM, KM

House Wren Early: 19 Apr Lake KB; 24 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Hughes KM; 25 Apr Minnehaha DC; 29 Apr Harding CEM

Winter Wren Early: 31 Mar Lake JSP; 03 Apr Roberts MO; 13 Apr Faulk MMM; 16 Apr Hughes DGP ... Late: 01 May Stanley KM; 20 Apr Brookings DGP; 19 Apr Hamlin DGP

Sedge Wren Early: 03 May Hughes KM; 03 May Union DC, GJS; 07 May Minnehaha MS

Marsh Wren Early: 14 Mar Lawrence SW; 18 Apr Hughes EDS, KM; 25 Apr Moody JSP

American Dipper Confirmed Breeding: 31 May Lawrence (28 active nests) *fide* DB

Golden-crowned Kinglet Late: **17 May Union DS**; 13 Apr Hughes DB; 12 Apr Stanley RDO; 05 Apr Lake JSP

Ruby-crowned Kinglet Early: 06 Apr Hughes DB; 12 Apr Brown GO; 12 Apr Charles Mix RM; 12 Apr Lake JSP; 15 Apr Lawrence DGP ... Late: 16 May Walworth GO; 10 May Beadle BFW; 09 May Marshall GO; 09 May Charles Mix RM

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Early: 09 May Lincoln MS, MRZ; 14 May Union DS; 16 May Custer BFH, RSL; 16 May Minnehaha MRZ; 16 May Walworth GO

Eastern Bluebird Early: 04 Mar Charles Mix RM; 05 Mar Hughes DB; 06 Mar Gregory RM; 17 Mar Roberts BU; 21 Apr Meade APB

Mountain Bluebird Early: 04 Mar Custer JLB; 05 Mar Stanley SAS; 08 Mar Butte JLB, RSL; 08 Mar Meade AKB

Townsend's Solitaire Late: **21 Apr Brown GO**; 05 Apr Hughes KM; 28 Mar McCook JSP

Veery All Reports: 16 May Walworth GO; 18 May Walworth RDO; 21 May Clay DS; 22 May Harding CEM, KM; 25 May Harding CEM, KM

Gray-cheeked Thrush All Reports: 02 May Stanley KM; 05 May Hughes RDO; 08 May Harding CEM; 09 May Harding KM; 10 May Clay GJS; 11 May Brown GO; 14 May Harding CEM; 18 May Lincoln MO

Swainson's Thrush Early: 03 May Pennington RSL; 06 May Brown GO; 06 May Lake JSP; 07 May Clay GJS ... Late: 28 May Brown GO; 27 May Stanley DB; 23 May Moody JSP; 23 May Kingsbury BFH

Hermit Thrush Early: 03 Apr Roberts MO; 18 Apr Hamlin DGP; 18 Apr McCook JSP ... Late: 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 21 Apr Lincoln DGP; 21 Apr Brown GO

Wood Thrush Only Report: 18 May Lincoln MO

American Robin Confirmed Breeding: **19 Apr Stanley (ON) KM**

Varied Thrush All Reports: 01 Mar Pennington RSL; **20 Apr Hughes KM**

Gray Catbird Early: 02 May Charles Mix RM; 02 May Minnehaha MS; 09 May Lincoln MS; 09 May Pennington JLB

Northern Mockingbird All Reports: 11 May Charles Mix RM; 12 May Charles Mix RM; 23 May Harding CEM, KM; 27 May Harding CEM

Brown Thrasher Early: 06 Apr Lake KB; 18 Apr Minnehaha MS; 24 Apr Clay GJS; 07 May Harding KM; 07 May Ziebach SAS

American Pipit All Reports: 26 Apr Sully KM, RDO; 30 Apr Hughes KM; 08 May Harding CEM, KM; 09 May Marshall GO; **20 May Roberts MO**

Sprague's Pipit All Reports: 01 May Custer MMM; 08 May Harding CEM; 09 May Harding KM; 19 May Stanley RDO

Bohemian Waxwing Only Report: 17 Mar Roberts BU

Blue-winged Warbler All Reports: 19 May Lincoln MO; 23 May Union DS; 25 May Lincoln TJ

Tennessee Warbler Early: 09 May Charles Mix RM; 12 May Stanley RDO; 14 May Brown GO; 22 May Harding KM

Orange-crowned Warbler Early: 19 Apr Hughes EDS; 24 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Moody JSP; 25 Apr Stanley RDO; 28 Apr Tripp SAS ... Late: 18 May Stanley KM; 18 May Lincoln MO; 18 May Brown GO; 16 May Custer MS, JF

Nashville Warbler All Reports: **17 Apr Union GJS**; 05 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ

Virginia's Warbler All Reports: **15 May Custer TJ**; 16 May Custer BFH, TJ, RSL; 17 May Custer TJ; 19 May Custer JLB; 30 May Custer KM, RDO

Yellow Warbler Early: 07 May Brown GO; 08 May Clay GJS; 09 May Marshall GO; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 09 May Pennington JLB

Chestnut-sided Warbler Early: 18 May Hughes EDS; 18 May Union MO; 20 May Brown GO ... Late: 27 May Brown GO; 26 May Roberts GO; 26 May Marshall GO; 23 May Union DS

Magnolia Warbler Early: **09 May Union GJS**; 18 May Brown GO; 18 May Hughes EDS; 18 May Lincoln MO ... Late: 26 May Hughes EDS; 21 May Stanley RDO; 19 May Brown GO

Yellow-rumped Warbler Early: 12 Apr Charles Mix RM; 12 Apr Stanley DB; 16 Apr Lake JSP; 20 Apr Jones SAS ... Late: 23 May Kingsbury BFH; 21 May Walworth GO; 18 May Sully RDO; 18 May Stanley KM; 18 May Brown GO

Black-throated Green Warbler All Reports: 09 May Lincoln MS; 21 May Walworth GO

Blackburnian Warbler All Reports: 18 May Lincoln MO; 19 May Brown GO; 21 May Minnehaha TJ; 24 May Lake JSP

Pine Warbler Only Report: 09 May Minnehaha MRZ

Palm Warbler All Reports: 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Clay GJS; 09 May Marshall GO

Bay-breasted Warbler Only Report: **29 May Edmunds JDW**

Blackpoll Warbler Early: 07 May Dewey SAS; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 09 May Union GJS; 15 May Custer KM ... Late: 27 May Brown GO; 26 May Hughes KM, EDS; 23 May Lake JSP; 23 May Faulk MMM; 23 May Brookings BFH; 16 May Custer JF

Black-and-white Warbler Early: 09 May Marshall GO; 09 May Minnehaha MRZ; 09 May Union GJS; 16 May Custer JF ... Late: 26 May Roberts GO; 26 May Marshall GO; 23 May Harding CEM, KM; 16 May Walworth GO

American Redstart Early: 12 May Clay GJS; 12 May Hughes KM, RDO; 14 May Brown GO; 15 May Custer KM

Ovenbird Early: 09 May Union GJS; 10 May Minnehaha MS; 14 May Stanley DB; 16 May Custer JF, MS

Northern Waterthrush Early: 02 May Minnehaha MS; 04 May Pennington JLB; 09 May Marshall GO; 09 May Union GJS ... Late: 18 May Lincoln MO; 14 May Stanley RDO; 14 May Hughes EDS, DB

Connecticut Warbler All Reports: 20 May Minnehaha TJ; 24 May Lincoln TJ

Mourning Warbler Early: 18 May Brown GO; 18 May Lincoln MO; 24 May Clay GJS ... Late: 28 May Hughes EDS; 27 May Stanley DB; 26 May Roberts GO

MacGillivray's Warbler All Reports: 16 May Custer BFH, RSL; 17 May Custer MS; 30 May Custer KM, RDO

Common Yellowthroat Early: **25 Apr Moody JSP**; 03 May Union GJS; 05 May Hughes EDS; 05 May Stanley KM; 09 May Pennington JLB, MMM

Wilson's Warbler All Reports: 10 May Pennington JF; 10 May Stanley KM; 11 May Brown GO; 19 May Brown GO

Canada Warbler All Reports: 18 May Union MO; 23 May Moody JSP

Yellow-breasted Chat Early: **09 May Pennington JLB**; 14 May Stanley DB; 16 May Mellette BFW; 29 May Edmunds JDW

Summer Tanager All Reports: **24 Apr Pennington CDH**; **27 May Stanley DB, RDO**

Scarlet Tanager All Reports: 14 May Union DS; 18 May Lincoln MO; 20 May Brown GO; 24 May Brookings BFH

Western Tanager Early: 13 May Pennington RSL; 15 May Custer KM; 19 May Meade APB

Spotted Towhee Early: 17 Apr Charles Mix RM; 24 Apr Clay GJS; 24 Apr Hughes KM; 02 May Pennington JLB; 03 May Lincoln DC

Eastern Towhee Early: 19 Apr Minnehaha MS; 02 May Clay GJS; 03 May Lincoln DC

American Tree Sparrow Late: **25 Apr Meade RSL**; 18 Apr McPherson GO; 17 Apr Stanley KM; 17 Apr Minnehaha MRZ, DC

Chipping Sparrow Early: **05 Mar Meade APB**; 02 Apr Brookings KCJ; 06 Apr Charles Mix RM

Clay-colored Sparrow Early: 27 Apr Stanley RDO; 30 Apr Lake JSP; 01 May Custer MMM

Brewer's Sparrow All Reports: 08 May Harding CEM, KM; 22 May Harding CEM, KM; 22 May Perkins DGP

Field Sparrow Early: 18 Apr McCook JSP; 19 Apr Union RDO; 24 Apr Charles Mix RM; 24 Apr Roberts MO; 07 May Ziebach SAS; 07 May Harding CEM

Vesper Sparrow Early: **28 Mar Minnehaha MRZ**; 11 Apr Miner JSP; 12 Apr Stanley KM, RDO; 24 Apr Pennington JF

Lark Sparrow Early: **01 Apr Minnehaha MRZ**; 25 Apr Moody JSP; 28 Apr Gregory SAS; 07 May Harding KM; 07 May Ziebach SAS

Lark Bunting Early: 06 May Custer MMM; 07 May Stanley SAS; 07 May Ziebach SAS

Savannah Sparrow Early: 28 Mar Minnehaha MRZ; 16 Apr Sully DGP; 17 Apr Charles Mix RM; 17 Apr Custer MMM

Grasshopper Sparrow Early: **24 Apr Clay GJS**; 02 May Charles Mix RM; 02 May Pennington JLB, RSL; 30 May Hutchinson MS

Baird's Sparrow Early: **06 May Custer MMM**; **08 May Harding CEM**; 23 May Hyde MMM

Le Conte's Sparrow Only Report: 29 Apr Beadle *fide* BFW

Fox Sparrow Early: 17 Mar Lincoln KCJ; 21 Mar Minnehaha MRZ; 26 Mar Brookings KCJ; 27 Mar Hughes DB, KM, RDO ... Late: 21 Apr Brown GO; 17 Apr Charles Mix RM; 14 Apr Clay GJS

Song Sparrow Early: 20 Mar Brookings KCJ; 21 Mar Minnehaha MS; 23 Mar Charles Mix RM; 01 May Pennington JLB

Lincoln's Sparrow Early: **26 Mar Stanley RDO**; 03 Apr Minnehaha MS; 19 Apr Hamlin DGP; 07 May Harding KM ... Late: 23 May Union DS; 22 May Harding KM; 18 May Stanley KM; 18 May Hughes EDS; 10 May Minnehaha MS

Swamp Sparrow Early: 19 Apr Union RDO; 24 Apr Marshall MO; 27 Apr Hughes KM; **White-throated Sparrow** Early: 27 Mar Hughes DB, KM, RDO; 21 Apr Clay GJS; 24 Apr Charles Mix RM; 25 Apr Moody JSP ... Late: 18 May Hughes EDS; 18 May Brown GO; 16 May Walworth GO

Harris's Sparrow Early: 15 Mar Clay GJS; 21 Mar Hughes EDS; 28 Mar Brookings KCJ ... Late: 24 May Brookings BFH; 19 May Brown GO; 16 May McCook JSP; 14 May Stanley RDO

White-crowned Sparrow Early: 17 Mar Charles Mix RM; 12 Apr Stanley RDO; 22 Apr Minnehaha MS; 02 May Pennington JLB, RSL ... Late: 20 May Hughes KM; 19 May Union MO; 18 May Brown GO; 17 May Custer RSL

Dark-eyed Junco Late: 04 May Clay GJS; 01 May Charles Mix RM; 29 Apr Stanley RDO; 26 Apr Brown GO

Lapland Longspur Late: 14 Apr Faulk MMM; 11 Apr Miner JSP; 10 Apr Sully KM, CEM; 15 Mar Jones DB

Chestnut-collared Longspur Early: 28 Mar Sully KM, RDO; 10 Apr Todd SAS; 11 Apr Custer MMM; 18 Apr McPherson GO ... Confirmed Breeding: 30 May Stanley (NE) DB

Snow Bunting Late: **04 Apr Harding CEM**; **03 Apr Roberts MO**; 14 Mar Butte JLB; 05 Mar Dewey SAS

Northern Cardinal reported 13 Mar Tripp SAS; 27 Mar Pennington JLB

Rose-breasted Grosbeak Early: 03 May Clay GJS; 03 May Union DC; 04 May Charles Mix RM; 07 May Minnehaha MS; 16 May Custer JF, KM, MS

Black-headed Grosbeak Early: 02 May Clay GJS; 04 May Stanley RDO; 05 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Pennington JLB; 26 May Brown BK

Blue Grosbeak All Reports: 20 May Tripp RDO; 31 May Minnehaha DC

Lazuli Bunting Early: 12 May Charles Mix RM; 14 May Stanley RDO; 20 May Meade APB; 20 May Pennington JLB; 25 May Brown GO

Indigo Bunting Early: 09 May Beadle *vide* BFW; 10 May Lake JSP; 18 May Charles Mix RM; 20 May Tripp RDO

Dickcissel All Reports: **09 May Charles Mix RM**; 23 May Minnehaha MS; 30 May Hutchinson MS; 30 May McCook JSP; 31 May Custer RSL; 31 May Minnehaha DC

Bobolink Early: 07 May Hughes RDO; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Union GJS; 13 May Jerauld BFW; 24 May Meade JLB

Red-winged Blackbird Early: 02 Mar Butte JLB; 06 Mar Charles Mix RM; 06 Mar Douglas RM

Eastern Meadowlark All Reports: **10 Apr Todd SAS**; 17 May Bennett MO

Western Meadowlark Early: 04 Mar Custer MMM; 04 Mar Jones DB; 05 Mar Dewey SAS; 06 Mar Douglas RM; 06 Mar Hutchinson RM

Yellow-headed Blackbird Early: 07 Apr Brookings KCJ; 11 Apr Miner JSP; 13 Apr Clark BK; 15 Apr Charles Mix RM; 23 Apr Meade RSL

Rusty Blackbird All Reports: 02 Mar Butte JLB; 17 Mar Roberts BU; 28 Mar Minnehaha MS; 03 Apr Roberts MO; 05 Apr Charles Mix RM

Brewer's Blackbird Early: **02 Mar Butte JLB**; 22 Mar Sully RDO; 02 Apr Brookings KCJ

Common Grackle Early: 01 Mar Hughes DB; 14 Mar Minnehaha MRZ; 16 Mar Lake JSP; 22 Mar Pennington JLB

Great-tailed Grackle Early: 10 Apr Charles Mix RM; 10 Apr Todd SAS; 21 Apr Lincoln DGP

Brown-headed Cowbird Early: 15 Mar Clay GJS; 04 Apr Lake JSP; 11 Apr Miner JSP; 20 Apr Jones SAS

Orchard Oriole Early: 10 May Charles Mix RM; 12 May Clay GJS; 16 May Minnehaha MRZ; 20 May Tripp RDO

Bullock's Oriole Early: 16 May Custer JF; 22 May Harding CEM, KM; 22 May Pennington JLB

Baltimore Oriole Early: 05 May Clay GJS; 09 May Charles Mix RM; 09 May Lincoln MS; 09 May Marshall GO; 16 May Mellette BFW

Gray-crowned Rosy Finch All Reports: 04 Mar Custer JLB; **05 Apr Meade APB**; **11 Apr Lawrence DGP**

Purple Finch Late: 27 Apr Stanley RDO; 10 Apr Minnehaha RD; 04 Apr Brown BK

Cassin's Finch Only Report: 16 May Custer BFH, TJ, RSL

House Finch Confirmed Breeding: **19 Apr Brown (CN) GO**

Red Crossbill Late: **28 May Hughes *vide* DB**; 28 Mar Brown GO

White-winged Crossbill All Reports: 04 Mar Lawrence DGP; 06 Apr Lawrence DGP; 12 Apr Lawrence DGP

Common Redpoll Late: 26 Apr Lawrence DGP; 16 Apr Brown GO; 11 Apr Meade AKB; 28 Mar Stanley RDO
Pine Siskin Late: 31 May Lake JSP; 31 May Charles Mix RM; 24 May Clay GJS ... Confirmed
 Breeding: 28 Apr Hughes (ON) KM

Reports Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

Harlequin Duck 20 Apr Brown CMG
Surf Scoter 25 Apr Minnehaha DC
Barrow's Goldeneye 02 Apr Brookings KCJ
Snowy Egret 14 May Butte DGP
Black-crowned Night-Heron 01 Mar Minnehaha TWP
Mississippi Kite 26 May Minnehaha TJ
Snowy Plover 19 May Hughes KM, RDO; 21 May Hughes RDO
Whimbrel 20 May Yankton RND
Western Sandpiper 09 May Sully RDO
Dunlin 28 Mar Yankton BFH
Lesser Black-backed Gull 29 Apr Day WS
Great Black-backed Gull 19 Mar – 04 Apr Hughes and Stanley KM, RDO, TJ, DB
Yellow-throated Vireo 14 May Meade DGP
Sage Thrasher 11 May Ziebach SAS
Black-throated Gray Warbler 23 Apr Hyde EB
Yellow-throated Warbler 16 May Walworth DST, GO
Worm-eating Warbler 23-24 May Harding CEM, KM
Green-tailed Towhee 22 May Harding CEM, KM
Rose-breasted Grosbeak 09 Apr Beadle BFW
Hoary Redpoll 05 Mar Dewey SAS; 05 Mar Walworth SAS

Species Expected But Not Reported

Least Bittern (3), Little Blue Heron (2), American Black Duck (3), White-winged Scoter (2), Black-necked Stilt, Buff-breasted Sandpiper (2), Least Tern (2), Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Chuck-will's-widow (3), Carolina Wren (2), Golden-winged Warbler, Northern Parula, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (3), Smith's Longspur, Evening Grosbeak

Contributing Observers

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KB	Kristel Bakker	GO	Gary Olson
APB	Addison & Patricia Ball	RDO	Ricky D. Olson
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EB	Erik Bruhnke	JSP	Jeffrey S. Palmer
DC	Doug Chapman	TWP	Thomas W. Parlman
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CEM	Charlie Miller		

BOOK REVIEW

DAN TALLMAN

LARS JONSSON'S BIRDS. Lars Jonsson. Princeton University Press, Princeton. \$55.00. 2009. 192 pp, Hardbound.

Many excellent wildlife artists work today. Lars Jonsson is, in my opinion, the greatest. He seems like a heir of the renowned bird artists John J. Audubon and Louis Agassiz Fuertes. This book, based on a 2008 exhibition in Germany of Jonsson's work, is divided into chapters covering Jonsson's early work, his sketchbooks, watercolors, oils, field guides, and lithographs. Preceding these chapters are three introductory pieces written by others. These introductory chapters on Jonsson and the meaning of art would have been more complete if written by Jonsson himself in the chronology of Jonsson's life which appears at the book's end. Suffice it to say that we learn that Jonsson's fame as a wildlife artist is greater in Europe than in North America.

Six stunning color photographs of Jonsson at work begin the book: the artist walking in the field, studying from his car, painting in his studio from his notebooks—basically a visual introduction to much of the description of his art that is to follow. In the book, Jonsson briefly describes his paintings and his techniques, comments that will be of interest to any wildlife artist. What makes Jonsson such a great painter is that he does not rely on photorealism. Instead he is able to capture the essence of the bird in front of an almost surrealistic landscape. The result is an instantly recognizable Jonsson masterpiece.

Although he utilizes specimens and photographs, Jonsson primarily relies on observation to capture his subjects. Armed with spotting scope and sketchbooks, Jonsson records his field observations in a series of notebooks. All birders, whether artists or not, will find the examples of his notebooks to be of interest. He comments that he starts drawing within eight seconds of observing his birds—otherwise the birds' images are already fading from his retinas. Thus, one key to Jonsson's greatness is his ability to instantaneously convert images to paper.

Jonsson also writes of his increasing interest in painting wildflowers. He wryly comments that his flower paintings have benefited from his wearing eyeglasses with his increasing age. Jonsson, however, is at his most poetic as he describes his use of watercolors. "The



Gyrfalcon, white morph. Oil on canvas. ©Lars Jonsson

watercolour...lives its own life... the friction between eye and hand can suddenly disappear and it is more the feeling rather than the intellect that is the fibre cable that runs between the eye lens and brush." Seabirds, often with stunning water in motion behind them, are Jonsson's fortes. Jonsson's birds are often in uncommon poses—looking away from the observer or sleeping with their bills tucked under their wings. These poses even find their way into Jonsson's field guides.

Jonsson's paintings are examples of superb rendering of light, color, and mood. He writes that a painting is "like the moment of writing a poem; if it is edited too much it dies. It can become something else, maybe as beautiful, maybe better, but it can never convey the actual experience at the time."



Contents

President's Page.....	51
by Addison Ball	
2008 Report of the Rare Bird Records Committee	52
by Dave Swanson	
Black-throated Gray Warbler in Highmore	55
by Eric Bruhnke	
First Breeding Record of Prothonotary Warbler for SD ..	55
by Charles Mills and Douglas Chapman	
2009 Spring Meeting in Custer	56
by Jocelyn L. Baker	
On Bird Strikes at Windows	56
by L. M. Baylor	
Fledgling Tracts: "Birding with a Backpack On"	57
by Tucker J. Lutter	
First Record of Black-bellied Whistling-Duck in SD.....	58
by Douglas Chapman	
From Our Past...in <i>SD Bird Notes</i>	59
by L. M. Baylor	
Book Review: <i>Living on the Wind</i>	60
by Linda Johnson	
2009 Spring Seasonal Reports	61
by Jeffrey S. Palmer	
Book Review: <i>Lars Jonsson's Birds</i>	71
by Dan Tallman	
Prothonotary Warbler, <i>Union Co., 6/15/09</i>	Back Cover
Photo: Roger Dietrich	