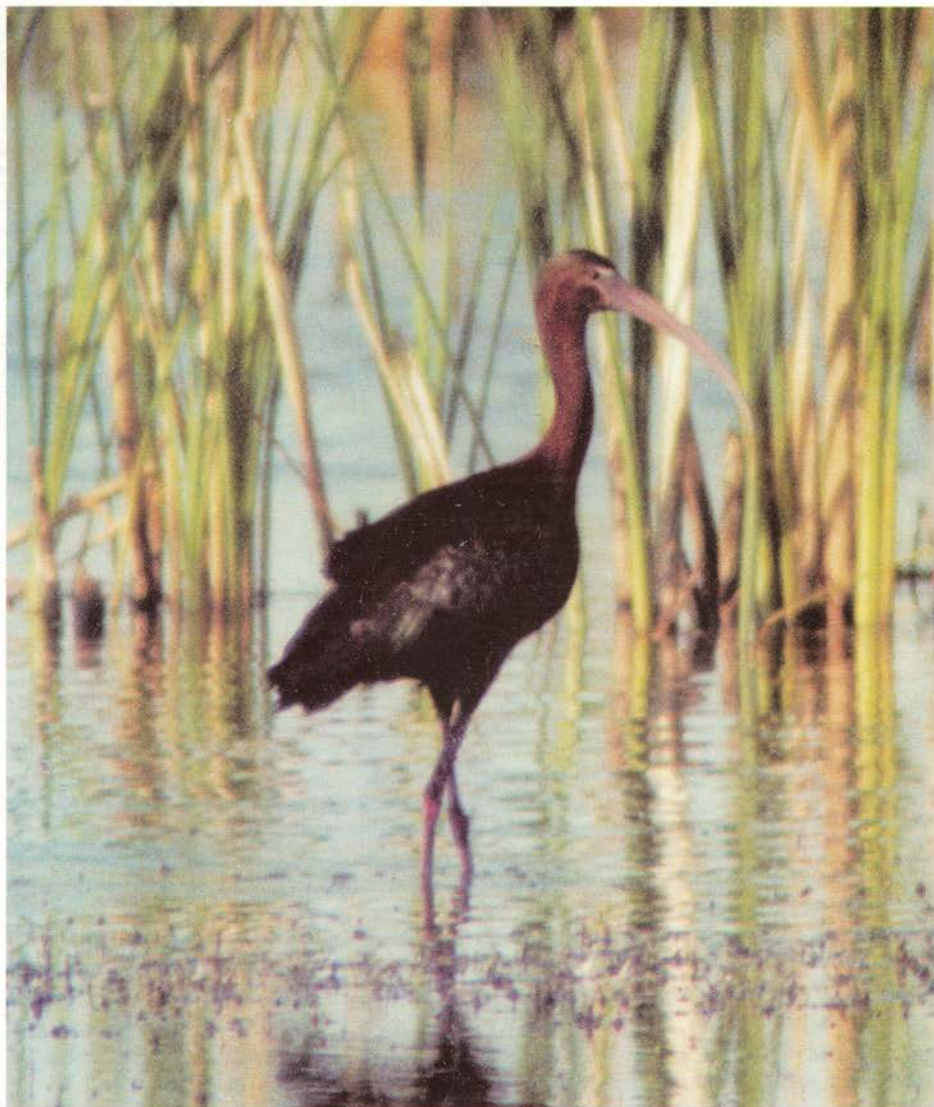

SOUTH DAKOTA
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



SOUTH
BIRD



DAKOTA
NOTES

VOL. 53

JUNE 2001

NO. 2

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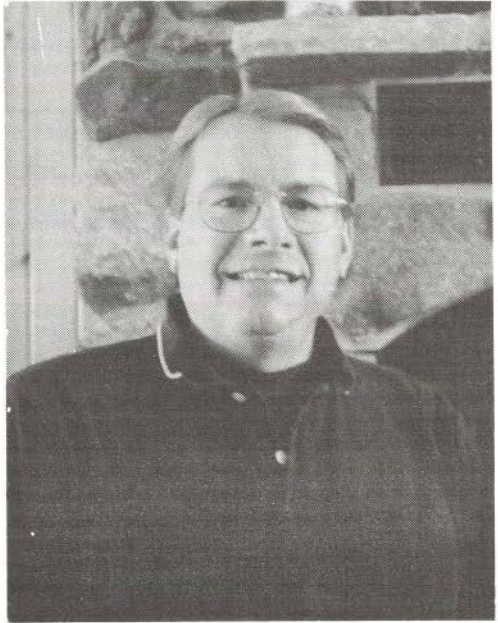
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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

At the fall 2000 meeting of SDOU, Todd Mortenson of Pierre talked about beavers' integral part in retaining water, improving water quality and stopping erosion on his land. On a recent trip to Newton Hills State Park, I observed that beavers had begun building a series of terraced ponds along Sargeant Creek. Those familiar with Newton Hills know that erosion is a problem in the park and along Sargeant Creek. Spring runoff and storm water have ripped through Sargeant Creek, cutting deep into the earth. A series of beaver ponds slows this runoff, giving time for the soil to settle to the bottom of the ponds, thus filling the deep cuts. The water entering the Big Sioux River from Sargeant Creek would not contain as much sediment. Ponds provide a source of water



during the summer months for birds and other animals, as well as plant species. Another benefit I have observed from beaver dams is that the spillways of these dams remain open in the winter, giving wildlife a valuable source of water during the cold months. It occurs to me that beaver dams along Sargeant Creek must be valuable parts of the ecology of Newton Hills, but since the time of the Hudson Bay Company, beaver have been trapped in South Dakota. Today, beaver can be trapped in East River South Dakota from 4 November to 30 April, within Newton Hills, as well as other areas. Jon Corey, the Park Manager at Newton Hills, believes it would be unlikely for the beaver at Sargeant Creek to be trapped. Beaver are thought by most to be destructive animals, because they cut down trees they use for food and dam building. I believe this view is shortsighted, and if beavers were allowed to continue, the long-term result would be a healthier ecosystem. Make no mistake, the initial result of beaver would be the destruction of trees, including trees of great age, but, in time, new growth would begin along the edges of the ponds, creating new plant communities. The ecology of Newton Hills developed with beaver being an integral part. The plants and animals are adapted to the activities of beaver. I would like to watch how beaver affect Sargeant Creek, and trust that the final outcome would be beneficial. I hope beaver will remain in Newton Hills State Park, but anyone with a trapping permit can remove them. The worst case would be if the beavers were allowed to work for a few years and then be removed, leaving the creek without trees or a dams to control erosion; beaver need to be protected.

At Beaver Creek Nature Area near Sioux Falls there is another natural proc-

ess that is being fought against. Here Beaver Creek swings back on itself in a horseshoe. At the closest point, there remain only ten meters of land between two sections of the creek. If the creek bank were allowed to continue to cave-in, the creek would ultimately join at this point leaving behind an oxbow pond. The erosion is being controlled by dumping boulders along the creek banks, preventing the formation of an oxbow pond. Oxbow ponds are part of the ecology, with flora and fauna adapted to their formation. This process should be allowed to continue without interference.

These events go to the heart of our philosophy of wild lands management. There seems to be an uncontrollable urge by people to manage nature, to take control and prevent change. I believe that we should only intervene when human activities are having adverse effects on ecosystems. For example, the elimination of wild fire on the prairies must be compensated. If human influence is not a factor, we should have a hands-off policy. Why must we manage nature just to prevent change? Change is a part of nature. If natural processes are not allowed to take place in our Nature Areas and State Parks, where can they take place in South Dakota? It is our responsibility to give Game Fish and Parks and other agencies the input they need to adopt hands off policies. *Robb Schenck, 422 N Linwood Ct., Sioux Falls 57103.*

FIFTY YEARS OF SOUTH DAKOTA CHRISTMAS COUNTS

Dan Tallman

Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401

In this paper, I review 50 years of Christmas Bird Counts (CBC), as reported in *South Dakota Bird Notes* from 1949 through 1998. Not reported in the journal are counts from 1949 through 1951 and 1970 through 1973. Be advised that reports in *Bird Notes* are not officially sanctioned by the National Audubon Society (NAS). Most of these counts are submitted to *Bird Notes* at the same time as compilers send them to NAS. When submitted to NAS, the reports undergo a review process during which questionable species may be deleted. Reports coming to SDOU may or may not be edited by the various editors, past and present. Thus reports appearing in NAS's *American Birds* may differ from reports of the same count appearing in *Bird Notes*. Finally, a few counts appearing in *Bird Notes* have never been submitted to NAS.

Table 1 lists the 45 CBC locations around the state. Table 2 lists the 165 species tabulated in South Dakota's CBC. The table shows the species, the percentage of counts from which the species have been noted at least once, and the number of counts from which the species were reported at least once. Species reported from only one or two locations have the location of the counts from which they were reported included in the table.

Breaking these data into units of abundance, it can be seen quickly in Fig 1 that most species are rare in the winter in South Dakota. In fact, this pattern seems to hold in a roughly exponential curve, with many species that occur only rarely and only a few species that occur on almost all counts—not unexpected findings, considering how inhospitable most South Dakota winters are.

I am grateful to Linda Richards, Kristi Mert, Angie Johnson, and Lori Jacobs for the tedious task of reviewing past issues of *Bird Notes*.

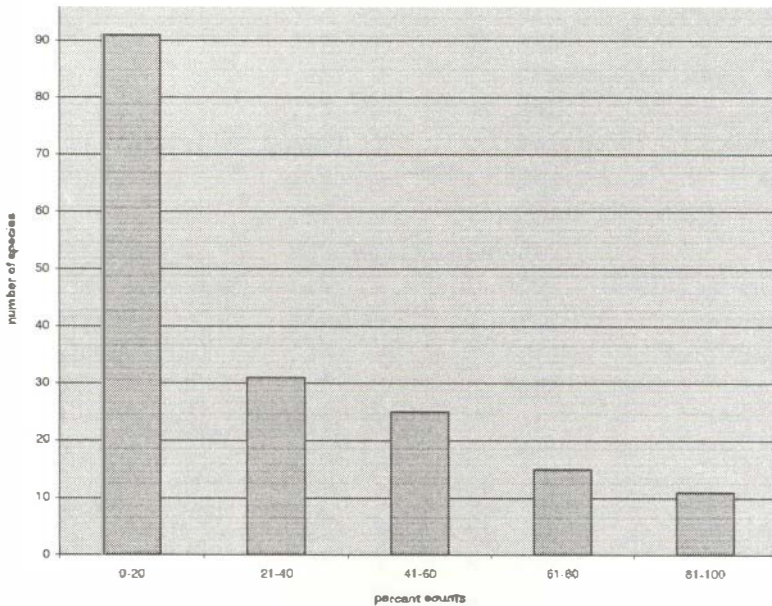


Figure 1. Percentage of abundance of bird species on South Dakota Christmas Bird Counts, 1949-1998.

Table 1. Christmas Bird Count locations from South Dakota, 1949-1998, as reported in *South Dakota Bird Notes*.

Aberdeen, Armour, Badlands, Belle Fourche, Big Sone, Brandt, Brookings, Burke, Canton, Cresspard, Deuel Co., Fort Thompson, Highmore, Hurley, Huron, Hotsprings, Jefferson, Jewel Cave, Lacreek, Lake Andes, Madsion, McCook, Milbank, Mitchell, Mobridge, Ortonville, Pierre, Platte Creek, Rapid City, Redfield, Sand Lake, Shade Hill, Sioux Falls, Spearfish, Springfield, Sturgis, Vermillion, Wall Lake, Watertown, Waubay, Wind Cave, Webster, Wilmot, Winner, Yankton.

Table 2. Species reported from South Dakota Christmas Bird Counts, the percentage and number of counts each has occurred at least once, and the locations of counts for species reported from only one or two counts.

Species	%	#	Location of rarest birds
Common Loon	2%	1	Spearfish
Pied-billed Grebe	13%	6	
Horned Grebe	2%	1	Rapid City
Eared Grebe	2%	1	Rapid City
Western Grebe	2%	1	Pierre
American White Pelican	7%	3	
Great Blue Heron	33%	15	
Black-crowned Night Heron	2%	1	Yankton
Turkey Vulture	4%	2	Rapid City, Sturgis

White-fronted Goose	13%	6	
Snow Goose	27%	12	
Ross' Goose	7%	3	
Canada Goose	53%	24	
Trumpeter Swan	4%	2	Lacreek, Sioux Falls
Tundra Swan	9%	4	
Wood Duck	16%	7	
Gadwall	24%	11	
European Wigeon	2%	1	Rapid City
American Wigeon	20%	9	
American Black Duck	13%	6	
Mallard	69%	31	
Blue-winged Teal	4%	2	Pierre, Rapid City
Northern Shoveler	13%	6	
Northern Pintail	38%	17	
Green-winged teal	29%	13	
Canvasback	18%	8	
Redhead	27%	12	
Ring-necked Duck	20%	9	
Greater Scaup	2%	1	Pierre
Lesser Scaup	27%	12	
White-winged Scoter	2%	1	Pierre
Long-tailed Duck	4%	2	Pierre, Yankton
Bufflehead	22%	10	
Common Goldeneye	33%	15	
Barrow's Goldeneye	4%	2	Pierre, Rapid City
Common Merganser	36%	16	
Hooded Merganser	13%	6	
Red-breasted Merganser	11%	5	
Ruddy Duck	20%	9	
Bald Eagle	49%	22	
Northern Harrier	60%	27	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	38%	17	
Cooper's Hawk	36%	16	
Northern goshawk	36%	16	
Red-Shouldered Hawk	2%	1	Pierre
Broad Winged Hawk	2%	1	Madison
Swainson's Hawk	4%	2	Pierre, Rapid City
Red-tailed Hawk	51%	23	
Ferruginous Hawk	20%	9	
Rough legged hawk	73%	33	
Golden Eagle	53%	24	

American Kestrel	47%	21	
Merlin	36%	16	
Gyrfalcon	4%	2	Pierre, Sand Lake
Peregrine Falcon	22%	10	
Prairie Falcon	42%	19	
Gray Partridge	49%	22	
Chukar	2%	1	Sioux Falls
Ring-necked Pheasant	93%	42	
Ruffed Grouse	2%	1	Rapid City
Sharp-tailed grouse	47%	21	
Greater Prairie-chicken	20%	9	
Wild Turkey	36%	16	
Bobwhite	11%	5	
American Coot	27%	12	
Sandhill Crane	2%	1	Sioux Falls
Killdeer	18%	8	
Lesser Yellowlegs	2%	1	Yankton
Common Snipe	36%	16	
Franklin's Gull	4%	2	Pierre, Yankton
Bonaparte's Gull	2%	1	Pierre
Ring-billed gull	9%	4	
Herring Gull	18%	8	
Glaucous Gull	4%	2	Pierre, Yankton
Black-legged Kittiwake	4%	2	Pierre, Yankton
Mourning Dove	53%	24	
Rock Dove	60%	27	
Barn Owl	4%	2	Brookings, Sioux Falls
Eastern Screech Owl	40%	18	
Great Horned Owl	80%	36	
Snowy Owl	36%	16	
Burrowing Owl	2%	1	Madison
Barred Owl	2%	1	Wilmot
Long-eared owl	27%	12	
Short-eared owl	38%	17	
Saw-whet owl	9%	4	
Belted Kingfisher	36%	16	
Lewis's Woodpecker	7%	3	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	33%	15	
Red-headed Woodpecker	2%	1	Waubay
Yellow Bellied Sapsucker	9%	4	
Red-naped Sapsucker	4%	2	Hot Springs, Sturgis
Downy Woodpecker	89%	40	

Hairy Woodpecker	91%	41	
Black-backed woodpecker	4%	2	Rapid City, Wind Cave
Northern Flicker	73%	35	
Pileated Woodpecker	2%	1	Ortonville
Northern Shrike	64%	29	
Loggerhead Shrike	16%	7	
Gray Jay	18%	8	
Blue Jay	76%	34	
Pinyon Jay	11%	5	
Clark's Nutcracker	9%	4	
Black-billed Magpie	42%	19	
American Crow	93%	42	
Horned Lark	84%	38	
Black-capped Chickadee	96%	43	
Tufted Titmouse	2%	1	Brookings
Red-breasted Nuthatch	67%	30	
White-breasted Nuthatch	89%	40	
Pygmy Nuthatch	4%	2	Hot Springs, Rapid City
Brown Creeper	73%	33	
Canyon Wren	9%	4	
Carolina Wren	9%	4	
Winter Wren	9%	4	
Marsh Wren	7%	3	
American Dipper	4%	2	Spearfish, Rapid City
Golden-crowned Kinglet	53%	24	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	9%	4	
Eastern Bluebird	16%	7	
Mountain Bluebird	20%	9	
Townsend's Solitaire	42%	19	
American Robin	78%	33	
Varied Thrush	13%	6	
Gray Catbird	2%	1	Pierre
Northern Mockingbird	4%	2	Aberdeen, Pierre
Brown Thrasher	22%	10	
European Starling	84%	38	
Water Pipit	2%	1	Pierre
Bohemian Waxwing	56%	25	
Cedar Waxwing	53%	24	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	13%	6	
Common Yellowthroat	2%	1	Sioux Falls
Spotted Towhee	18%	8	
American Tree Sparrow	93%	42	

Chipping sparrow	11%	5	
Clay-colored Sparrow	2%	1	Brookings
Field Sparrow	16%	7	
Vesper Sparrow	2%	1	Rapid City
Lark Sparrow	4%	2	Lake Andes, Pierre
Fox Sparrow	2%	1	Pierre
Song sparrow	40%	18	
Lincoln's Sparrow	7%	3	
White-throated Sparrow	31%	14	
Harris's Sparrow	64%	29	
White-crowned sparrow	16%	7	
Slate-Colored Junco	93%	42	
McCown's Longspur	2%	1	Huron
Lapland Longspur	62%	28	
Chestnut-collared Longspur	2%	1	Sioux Falls
Snow Bunting	60%	27	
Northern Cardinal	51%	23	
Red-winged Blackbird	56%	25	
Western Meadowlark	67%	30	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	18%	8	
Rusty Blackbird	38%	17	
Brewer's Blackbird	29%	13	
Common Grackle	51%	23	
Brown-headed Cowbird	20%	9	
Northern Oriole	4%	2	Rapid City, Sturgis
Rosy Finch	13%	6	
Pine Grosbeak	27%	12	
Purple Finch	53%	24	
Cassin's Finch	7%	3	
House Finch	40%	18	
Red Crossbill	38%	17	
White-winged Crossbill	27%	12	
Common Redpoll	64%	29	
Hoary Redpoll	9%	4	
Pine Siskin	67%	30	
American Goldfinch	71%	32	
Evening Grosbeak	56%	25	
House sparrow	98%	44	



GENERAL NOTES

A FIRST RECORD FOR GLOSSY IBIS IN SOUTH DAKOTA. An adult Glossy Ibis was seen and photographed near Hecla, in Brown County, on 1 July 2000. I first saw this bird 1.7 miles east of Hecla along County Road 5, while viewing the many herons, egrets, and White-faced Ibises nesting in this there. I also viewed the bird again on 8 July 2000 at exactly the same location.

I initially noticed this ibis because it appeared to have considerably less white on the face than the White-faced Ibises, and views through a Swarovski scope confirmed that I was indeed viewing an adult Glossy Ibis in breeding plumage. The whitish facial markings were not only more limited in extent from White-faced Ibis, but had a blue tint, which was quite obvious and repeatedly seen at many angles, and which is present in the developed photos. These whitish facial markings (with blue tint) occurred in two locations on the face: one line extended from the near the top of the eye to the base of the upper mandible, while the other extended from near the bottom of the eye to the base of the lower mandible (but did not extend down to the bottom of the chin and underneath the base of the lower mandible as in White-faced Ibis). Also, these lines did not extend behind the eye and join together as in White-faced Ibis.

The facial skin, in the area of the lores between the eye and the base of the bill, was grayish-blue in color, in contrast to the White-faced Ibises in which the facial skin was strongly reddish-pink. The eye of the Glossy Ibis was dark blackish-brown, with no red tint visible, viewed in direct comparison on 8 July to two White-faced Ibises in which their red iris color was clearly visible. The bill of this bird was pale grayish-brown, similar in color to the legs. The legs were mostly the same grayish-brown color as the bill, but had obvious reddish color at the "ankle" joints. By contrast, the legs of the White-faced Ibises had pinkish tones throughout their length.

These features are diagnostic for Glossy Ibis, and confirm this individual as South Dakota's first record of this species. Records from adjacent states include 8 to 18 May 1991 in Jackson County, Minnesota (Janssen 1992), 24 April 1999 in Fillmore County, Nebraska (Grzybowski 1999), and 4 May 1999 at Jackson, Wyoming (Truan and Percival 1999), all representing the only sightings for their respective states. A sighting on 15 June 1996 in Kidder County, North Dakota (Berkey 1996) has not been reviewed and the observer recommended the sighting not be accepted (Peder Svingen, pers. comm.). There are additional records from Manitoba (Gollop 1989, Koes and Taylor 1990) and Saskatchewan (Gollop 1986), two records in Iowa (Kent and Dinsmore 1996), and multiple records as far west as Colorado, New Mexico and California (Patten and Lasley 2000).

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- Karl Bardon, 13073 Hastings St. NE, Blaine, MN 55449*



CHRISTMAS COUNTS

2000-2001

Compiled by Dan Tallman

- Aberdeen:** 2 January 2001, 2 observers. Weather: clear to cloudy; 1 to 31°F, 100% snow cover. Compiler: Dan Tallman.
- Badlands N. P.** 18 December 2000, 3 observers. Weather: partly cloudy; 12 to 17°F, heavy snow. Compiler: Eddie Childers.
- Brookings:** 30 December 1999, 16 observers. Weather: partly cloudy; -6 to 6° F, 3 to 4 inch snow cover. Compiler: Nelda Holden.
- Burke:** 23 December 2000, 3 observers. Weather: cloudy to partly cloudy, 0 to 3 °F, wind 10 to 25 mph, 100% snow cover. Compiler: Richard A. Peterson.
- Hot Springs:** 16 December 2000, 7 observers. Weather -10 to 2 °F, wind 10 to 15 mph, 3 to 4 inch snow cover. Compiler: Cheryl Wormstadt.
- Huron:** 29 Dec 2000, 11 observers. Weather 7 to 14 °F, cloudy, heavy snow in AM. Compiler: Karrie Schmidt.
- Madison:** 15 Dec 2000, 13 observers. Weather 10 to 20 °F, cloudy, light snow in AM Compiler: Sandy Uecker.
- Piedmont:** 14 Dec 2000, 15 observers. Weather: partly cloudy 10 to 40° F. Compiler: Addison Ball.
- Pierre:** 16 December 2000, 19 observers. Weather -5 to 10 °F, wind 20 to 30 mph, no snow cover. Compiler: Doug Backlund.
- Rapid City:** 23 Dec 2000, 24 observers. Weather 5 to 11 °F; cloudy, snow in AM. Compiler: Todd Jensen.
- Sand Lake:** 15 December 2000, 5 observers. Weather: Cloudy, light snow PM, -3 to 14 °F. Compiler: Bill Schultze.
- Sioux Falls:** 30 December 2000, 22 observers. Weather: cloudy 8 to 9 °F. Compiler: Robb Schenck.
- Spearfish:** 30 December 2000, 3 observers. Weather: snow in AM, partly cloudy PM. 15 to 23 °F. Compiler: Dan Bjerke.
- Sturgis:** 30 December 2000, 31 observers. Weather: foggy AM, partly clear PM. 14 to 20 °F. Compiler: Vic Fondy.
- Waubay:** 19 December 2000, 8 observers. Weather: partly clear. -8 to 0 °F. Compiler: Laura Hubers.
- Wilmot:** 27 December 2000, 12 observers. Weather: mostly clear, 10 to 17 ° F, wind 3 to 5 mph, 15 in snow cover. Compiler: Bruce Harris.
- Yankton:** 31 December 2000, 16 observers. Weather 4 to 13 °F, clear. Compiler: Juli Wilcox.

	ABR	BAD	BRK	BUR	HOT	HUR	MAD	PIED	PIR	RAP	SND	SIU	SPE	STR	WAU	WIL	YAN	TOTAL
Pied-billed Grebe					3													3
Great Blue Heron																	1	1
White-fronted Goose									2									2
Snow Goose										213			3					216
Ross' Goose									1									1
Canada Goose					190	1	11		85,900		26	1274	18					87420
Wood Duck										5			4					9
Gadwall										18			8				18	44
American Wigeon					6					71								77
Mallard	51		12		941		7	470	4,300	1,406	20	719	346	55	6	5	218	8556
Northern Pintail												1	3					4
Green-winged Teal					1				1	cw			7	6			5	20
Canvasback													1					1
Redhead									1	4			1					6
Ring-necked Duck					31					9								40
Lesser Scaup									2	3								5
Long-tailed Duck											1							1
Bufflehead									1	22							1	24
Common Goldeneye									16	49	5		23				20	113
Barrow's Goldeneye										2								2
Hooded Merganser									1	2								3
Common Merganser									88	19	4	2					135	248
Red-breasted Merganser									cw									0
Bald Eagle				1	4			8	23	5	5	2	19	16		1	38	122
Northern Harrier		1							1									2
Sharp-shinned Hawk		5	1	1					4	3		2		1			1	18
Cooper's Hawk									1	1		1		1			1	5
Northern Goshawk	1		1	1					cw					2		2		7
Red-tailed Hawk	1	1	2	3		2	4	1	20	6		16		1			11	68
Ferruginous Hawk						3				2								5
Rough-legged Hawk	3	6		4	7	16		6	9	11	11		30	2		6	5	116
Golden Eagle		3		2	1	1		3	3	1			8	10				32
American Kestrel					1	2	4	2	1	2	1	4	3	3				23
Merlin					1		2	1		1		1				1	2	9
Prairie Falcon				1		1			1					3				6
Peregrine Falcon		1																1
Gyrfalcon													1					1

	ABR	BAD	BRK	BUR	HOT	HUR	MAD	PIED	PIR	RAP	SND	SIU	SPE	STR	WAU	WIL	YAN	TOTAL
Gray Partridge			16				18		14		5	CW			29	6	2	90
Ring-necked P.asant	776	60	514	12	19	1846	139		151		484	141	4		112	442	19	4719
Sharp-ailed Grosbeak		59		32	97			56	44	160	54		7	162	56	3		730
Greater Prairie-Chicken				112					282									394
Wild Turkey		262		60	106			215		373		118	81	279			22	1516
American Coot					21				2	1							16	40
Common Snipe					1								8	1				10
Ring-billed Gull									4									4
Herring Gull									4								2	6
Glaucous Gull									CW								1	1
Rock Dove	125	37	38	6	301	127	183	189	144	753	62	754	61	167	134	205	55	3341
Mourning Dove							2		1		1	9				CW		13
Eastern Screech Owl								1	7	1		1						10
Great Horned Owl	3	1	7			3	1	CW	4	3	3	7	2	1	6	2	1	44
Snowy Owl											1							1
Northern Saw-whet Owl										1								1
Belted Kingfisher					1			4	1	4		1	5	2				18
Lewis's Woodpecker													2	58				60
Red-bellied Woodpecker			1	1			1		2			3				3	10	21
Red-headed Woodpecker				1			1											2
D. ny Woodpecker	3		24	4		8	10	8	8	13	3	35	8	15	12	14	19	184
Hairy Woodpecker	1		8	7	1	2	1	5	7	7	1	11	4	11	7	10	6	89
Northern Flicker	1	3	5	1	43		13	1	6	14	2	6	11	13	1	2	7	129
Northern Shrike				1	2	2	1	1	1	3	5	3	2	3	3		1	28
Loggerhead Shrike															1			1
Gray Jay														1				1
Blue Jay	4		73	6	14	11	61	102	3	16	36	43	87	251	5	21	46	779
Pinyon Jay								27		3								30
Clark's Nutcracker								CW										0
Black-billed Magpie		12			3			50	23	14			13	47				162
American Crow	23	50	182	72	275	72	138	237	36	113		646	90	467	24	24	328	2777
Horned Lark		61	173	70	46	40	673	3	37		20	217			43		62	1445
Black-capped Chickadee	23	1	111	14	176	65	81	50	45	143	9	152	63	232	43	64	71	1343
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3		10	CW	2	3		23	5	14		3	13	29			3	108
White-breasted Nuthatch	1		19	4		2	8	9	5	6	10	31	5	21	15	25	24	185
Pygmy Nuthatch										1								1
Brown Creeper	4			3			1	1	CW	3		2	2	1				17

	ABR	BAD	BRK	BUR	HOT	HUR	MAD	PIED	PIR	RAP	SND	SIU	SPE	STR	WAU	WIL	YAN	TOTAL
Canyon Wren					1					1								2
Golden-crowned Kinglet									CW	12								12
American Dipper													2					2
Townsend's Solitaire	1	5			16			6	CW	12			16	3				59
American Robin			1	15	241				151	189		3	22	5			12	639
Northern Mockingbird				1														1
European Starling	527	30	30	4	4	434	1143	239	45	1197	92	409	308	697	252	175	310	5896
Bohemian Waxwing									8	179			253	400				840
Cedar Waxwing			10	7	28		22		99	293		16	3		35			513
Spotted Towhee				1					2									3
American Tree Sparrow		28	27	9	34		23	5	70	122	86	117	45	9	1	2	137	715
Song Sparrow			1						14	3		1	1		1		1	22
House Sparrow					1	2			1				2				2	8
White-crowned Sparrow																	CW	0
Dark-eyed Junco	3		53	9	558	13	79	285	45	662	27	119	169	527		26	428	3003
Lapland Longspur		80									1					1		82
Snow Bunting							12		30						54	7	30	133
Northern Cardinal	2		7			1	4					17				CW	12	43
Red-winged Blackbird	1			2			1		21	1	2	65				CW		93
Western Meadowlark					9	9	5		27		2	3		20		CW	9	84
Rusty Blackbird									1									1
Brewer's Blackbird								1	32				1					34
Common Grackle			2				4		4	3					1	CW	CW	14
Brown-headed Cowbird												1						1
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch														27				27
Purple Finch	CW								17							2	24	43
House Finch	10		91	23	74	2	84	8	109	95		99	72	149		25	11	852
Red Crossbill	12														21			33
Common Redpoll			1															1
Pine Siskin	CW		36	9	3	3	19	62		54		17	329	242		2	6	782
American Goldfinch	6		36	66	64	8	23	16	90	47	6	40	13	25		17	102	559
Evening Grosbeak													8	163				171
House Sparrow	383	2	426	75	98	547	3277	154	459	510	198	547	110	324	471	176	225	7982
TOTAL	1968	708	1918	640	3425	3226	6056	2249	92437	6881	1183	5659	2297	4452	1333	1269	2460	138161
species/forms	27	21	31	37	40	28	35	36	69	60	31	44	50	43	24	33	48	



BOOK REVIEWS

A GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF THE PHILIPPINES. 2000. Robert S. Kennedy, Pedro C. Gonzales, Edward C. Dickinson, Hector C. Miranda, Jr., and Timothy H. Fisher. Oxford University Press, Oxford. Softcover. 369 pp. \$34.95.

This guide is indispensable for any birder travelling to the Philippines, 7100 islands "scattered over 3.2 million [square km] of the tropical Pacific and South China Sea." The Philippines melds birds of Malaysia and Indochina, southeast Asia, China, Korea and Japan—572 species in all. The book's focus is field identification; the ecology of the Philippines is barely covered.

Eleven artists contributed to 72 color plates at the beginning of the text. Unavoidably, with such a number of contributors, some range of quality exists—from acceptable herons by John Agnew to superb paintings by a number of artists, including swallows by William Zimmerman. Usually only a male and a female are depicted; thus, North American birders spoiled by recent field guides showing a range of plumage variation will be somewhat disappointed.

The species accounts are sparse and to the point. Each species takes up about half of a page. About a third of each account is devoted to a species description and comparisons similar species. There follows a paragraph of habits and a sentence or two on voice. Finally, regional and Philippine ranges are summarized and, where justified, a few sentences on taxonomy and/or conservation are included.

Unlike some other guides to regions of the world in political upheaval, there is no section on safety in the field. Perhaps the political situation in the Philippines is such that birders in the field just know where to venture. However, here and there in the acknowledgements are hints to the possible situation—"friends helped make our field work safe...for looking after our well-being..." *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401.*



SEASONAL REPORTS

The 2000/2001 Winter Season
1 December 2000 to 28 February 2001

Compiler: Robert F. Schenck
422 N. Linwood Ct.
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After three consecutive mild winters, the winter of 2000-01 was colder than normal, with more precipitation than usual. The National Weather Service's unofficial results have South Dakota's statewide temperatures nearly four degrees below normal, with precipitation one quarter of an inch above average. The number of species reported for the winter season reflects these weather conditions, with a total of 121 species reported. This number compares with the average of 135 species for the last three mild winters. Highlights of the season were a large number of Gyrfalcons and Lewis's Woodpeckers reported. As with the previous two years, the six sightings closest to midwinter, 15 January, were included in this report. Sightings that would have been included in the last addition of *The Birds of South Dakota* are bolded. The large number of bolded waterfowl

Brookings KIE; 11 Feb Hughes RDO

Red-tailed Hawk reported from Brown, Butte, Charles Mix, Custer, Davidson, Fall River, Gregory, Hughes, Lawrence, Lyman, Meade, Miner, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Union and Yankton counties.

Ferruginous Hawk reported from Custer, Harding, Hughes, Pennington and Stanley counties.

Rough-legged Hawk reported from Beadle, Brookings, Brown, Buffalo, Charles Mix, Custer, Davidson, Fall River, Harding, Hughes, Lawrence, Meade, Miner, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Yankton counties.

Golden Eagle reported from Butte, Custer, Fall River, Harding, Hughes, Lawrence, Pennington, Perkins, Potter, Stanley, Sully and Todd counties.

American Kestrel reported from Bon Homme, Brookings, Brown, Butte, Charles Mix, Custer, Davidson, Douglas, Fall River, Gregory, Hughes, Hutchinson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meade and Minnehaha counties.

Merlin Reported: 23 Dec, 19 Feb Perkins (1) DCG; 29 Dec, 20 Jan Butte RAS; 12 Jan Lake JSP; 18 Jan Yankton SVS; 27 Jan, 03 Feb Hughes KM

Gyrfalcon All Reports: 04 Dec Stanley RDO; 31 Dec Lawrence (1), 23 Jan Stanley (1) JLB; 30 Dec Lawrence (1) TJ; 05 Jan Lawrence RAS; 05 Jan Perkins (1) DCG; 04 Feb Stanley, 19 Feb Perkins KM; 20 Feb Potter DAT

Peregrine Falcon All Reports: 27 Jan Sully KM; 14 Feb Hughes (1) RDO

Prairie Falcon reported from Bon Homme, Buffalo, Charles Mix, Hughes, Meade, Perkins, Stanley and Sully counties.

Gray Partridge reported from Buffalo, Day, Harding, Hughes, Jerauld, Lake, Marshall, Perkins and Sully counties.

Ruffed Grouse All Reports: 07 Dec (2), 31 Dec (3) Pennington JLB

Sharp-tailed Grouse reported from Buffalo, Butte, Charles Mix, Custer, Day, Fall River, Hughes, Lawrence, Meade, Stanley Pennington, Perkins and Sully counties.

Greater Prairie-Chicken All Reports: 16 Dec Hughes (270) RDO; 30 Dec Sully, 21 Jan Stanley KM; 20 Jan Lyman JSP, RFS

Wild Turkey reported from Butte, Charles Mix, Custer, Fall River, Harding, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Yankton counties.

American Coot All reports: all period Pennington TJ; 04 Jan Hughes RDO; 05 Jan Pennington, 18 Jan Fall River SS; 08, 18 Jan Yankton SVS; 19 Jan Fall River JLB; 20 Jan Hughes JSP, RFS; 20 Feb Hughes DAT

Common Snipe All Reports: 03, 18 Dec Meade REP

Thayer's Gull Only Report: 01 Feb Hughes RDO

Glaucous Gull All Reports: 05 Dec (4), 28 Feb Hughes RDO; 17 Dec Stanley, 05, 21 Jan, 10 Feb Hughes KM; 31 Dec Yankton DS; 20 Jan Lake JSP, RFS

Herring Gull All Reports: 01 Dec Stanley RDO; 07 Dec Fall River (2) JLB; 13 Dec, 12 Feb Charles Mix RM; 01, 21 Jan, 10 Feb Hughes KM; 20 Jan Hughes JSP, RFS; 28 Feb Hughes RDO

Franklin's Gull All Reports: 06 Dec Yankton SVS; 09 Dec Yankton (in breeding plumage) DS

Bonaparte's Gull All Reports: 01 Dec Stanley RDO; 02 Dec Hughes KM; 08 Dec Charles Mix SVS; 09 Dec Charles Mix JSP, RFS; 11 Dec Charles Mix RM

Ring-billed Gull Reported: 07 Dec Fall River (~1000) JLB; 08 Dec Charles Mix SVS; 19 Dec Charles Mix RM; 20 Dec Yankton SVS; 05 Jan Hughes, 03 Feb Stanley KM; 28 Feb Hughes RDO

Mourning Dove All Reports: 01 Dec, 18 Jan Minnehaha (1) MKZ; 16 Dec Stanley RDO; 03 Jan Brookings JSP

Eastern Screech-Owl All Reports: 13 Dec Meade (1) JLB; 16 Dec Stanley (7) RDO; 16 Jan Hughes KM; 23 Jan Lake JSP; 19 Feb Edmunds JDW; 21 Feb Brown DAT

Snowy Owl reported from Beadle, Brown, Day, Deuel, Edmunds, Kingsbury, McPherson, Moody and Stanley counties.

Long-eared Owl All Reports: 10 Dec, 04 Feb Stanley (1) RDO; 11 Feb Stanley KM; 21 Feb Brown (8) DAT

Short-eared Owl Only Report: 02 Dec Sully RDO

Belted Kingfisher All Reports: 09 Dec Charles Mix RM; 09 Dec Lawrence SVS; 18 Dec Hughes RDO; 31 Dec Lawrence (1), 23 Feb Pennington (1) JLB; 11 Jan Custer KH; 11 Jan Lawrence RAS; 12 Jan Meade APB

Lewis's Woodpecker All Reports: 05 Dec Lawrence SS; 08 Dec Lawrence (20+) RBA; 12 Jan Meade REP; 13, 17 Jan Lawrence RAS; 17 Jan Meade SS; 31 Dec (1), 23 Jan (5) Lawrence JLB; 20 Jan Lawrence RDO ... unusually large number of reports.

Red-bellied Woodpecker reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Gregory, Hughes, Minnehaha, Lin-

coln and Yankton counties.

Northern Flicker reported from Brookings, Brown, Butte, Charles Mix, Day, Fall River, Gregory, Hughes, Lawrence, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Roberts, Stanley and Yankton counties.

Northern Shrike reported from Bennett, Brown, Butte, Charles Mix, Custer, Day, Edmunds, Fall River, Hughes, Meade, Miner, Lake, Lawrence, Lyman, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Sully counties.

Gray Jay reported from Custer and Pennington counties.

Pinyon Jay All Reports: 12 Dec Meade, 18 Jan (50), 17 Feb (6) Custer JLB; 14 Dec, Jan 01 Meade APB; 13 Jan, 3 Feb Meade AKB

Clark's Nutcracker All Reports: 11 Dec Meade AKB; 08, 23 Jan Custer KH

Black-billed Magpie reported from Harding, Hughes, Lawrence, Lyman, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Sully and Yankton counties.

Red-breasted Nuthatch reported from Brookings, Brown, Butte, Charles Mix, Custer, Harding, Hughes, Lawrence, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins and Yankton counties.

Pygmy Nuthatch Only Report: all period Pennington TBW

Brown Creeper reported from Brookings, Brown, Charles Mix, Day, Hughes, Lake, Meade, Minnehaha and Pennington counties.

Canyon Wren Only Report: 21 Feb Custer KH

American Dipper All Reports: 09 Dec Lawrence (1) SVS; 13 Jan Lawrence (1) SS; 20 Jan Lawrence RDO

Golden-crowned Kinglet All Reports: Pennington TBW; 17 Dec Yankton SVS; 05 Dec, 13 Jan Lawrence SS; 24 Dec Meade AKB

Eastern Bluebird All Report: 20 Dec, 25 Jan, 18 Feb Yankton SVS

Mountain Bluebird All Reports: 10 Dec Stanley (2) RDO; 19 Jan Fall River JLB; 25 Jan Yankton (1) SVS

Townsend's Solitaire reported from Brown, Custer, Fall River, Hughes, Meade, Lawrence, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Yankton counties.

American Robin reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Fall River, Gregory, Hughes, Lake, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Stanley, Pennington, counties...also reported 24 Dec Mellette (400) KH

Varied Thrush Only Report: 22 28 Jan Butte RAS

Bohemian Waxwing All Reports: 08 Dec Lawrence (1000+) RAS; 13 Jan, 04 Feb Hughes KM; 14 Jan, 05 Feb Hughes RDO; 05 Feb Perkins (40) DCG; 10 Feb Hughes EDS; 25 Feb Pennington (1) JLB

Cedar Waxwing reported from Brookings, Brown, Day, Hughes, Lake, Lincoln, Minnehaha, Pennington, Stanley and Yankton counties.

Spotted Towhee All Reports: 07 Dec, 14, 22 Jan, 28 Feb Butte RAS

Song Sparrow All Reports: 01 Dec, 28 Feb Minnehaha (1) MKZ; 15, 16 Jan Day WS; 18 Feb Yankton SVS

Harris's Sparrow All Report: 02 Dec Lake JSP; 02 Dec Minnehaha RFS; 10 Dec Brown DAT; 10 Dec Hughes (2) RDO; 16 Dec Hughes KM

Dark-eyed Junco (White-winged) Only Report: 31 Dec Yankton DS

Lapland Longspur reported from Butte, Hughes, Meade, Perkins and Stanley counties.

Snow Bunting reported from Brookings, Brown, Butte, Brookings, Charles Mix, Clay, Day, Lincoln, Meade, Miner, Minnehaha and Stanley counties.

Northern Cardinal Reported from Brookings, Brown, Charles Mix, Edmunds, Gregory, Hughes, Lake, Lincoln, Minnehaha... also reported 22 Dec Brown (pr)DAT; 27 Jan Edmunds JDW

Red-winged Blackbird All Reports: 01 Dec Hughes RDO; 16 Dec Hughes KM; 02 Jan Brown DAT; 20 Jan Brown (100) JCS; 27 Jan Hughes KM; 06 Feb Sully RDO

Western Meadowlark Reported: 19 Dec Meade REP; 05, 21 Jan Hughes KM; 15 Jan Lawrence RAS; 20 Jan Stanley JSP, RFS; 22 Jan Bon Homme RM; 10 Feb Yankton SVS

Yellow-headed Blackbird All Reports: 02 Jan Hughes RDO; 06 Feb Sully (2) RDO

Rusty Blackbird Only Report: 30 Dec Sully (5) RDO

Brewer's Blackbird All Reports: 14 Dec Meade APB; 06 Feb Sully (1) RDO; 27 Dec Hughes, 27 Jan Sully KM

Common Grackle All Reports: 01 Dec Brown DAT; 19 Dec Day WS; 30 Dec Yankton SVS; 18 Jan Lake JSP; 29 Jan Yankton SVS

Brown-headed Cowbird Only Report: 02 Dec Lake JSP

Gray-crowned Rosy Finch All Reports: all period Lawrence (Lead) SS; 14, 16 Jan Custer KH; 20 Jan Lawrence (100) RDO

Pine Grosbeak All Reports: 31 Dec, 15 Jan Hughes KM; 01 Jan Hughes (1) RDO; 04 Jan Hughes

TJ; 20 Jan Hughes JSP, RFS

Purple Finch All Reports: 01 Dec Stanley RDO; 01 Jan Brown DAT; 15 Jan Hughes, 27 Jan Stanley KM; 03 Feb Brown (6) JCS; 11 Feb Hughes (6) EDS

House Finch reported from Brookings, Brown, Butte, Charles Mix, Hughes, Lake, Lawrence, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Yankton counties.

Red Crossbill All Reports: 01 Dec Stanley RDO; 03 Dec Charles Mix RM; 06 Dec, 17 Jan Custer KH; 19 Dec Day WS; 29 Dec (5), 24 Feb (1) Pennington TBW; 31 Dec (6), 28 Feb (9) Hughes EDS; 08, 17 Jan Hughes KM; 20 Feb Meade AKB; 21 Feb Hughes RDO

Evening Grosbeak All Reports: 01 Dec Meade (7) REP; 02 Dec Lawrence RAS; 12 Dec Meade (40+) RBA; 20 Jan Lawrence SS

Species Requiring Acceptance by The Rare Bird Records Committee

Broad-winged Hawk 27 Jan Gregory RM

Crested Caracara 01 Dec Bennett (Lacreek Wildlife Refuge) Mike Artmann

Eurasian Collared Dove 10 Jan Walworth (2) Dr. Linde

Loggerhead Shrike 19 Dec Day WS

Common Raven 04 Jan Haakon (12.5 miles west of Midland) TJ

Tufted Titmouse 06 Meade Ernie Miller

Pygmy Nuthatch 03 Feb Brown JCS

Chestnut-collared Longspur 16 Feb Butte RAS

Chestnut-collared Longspur 26 Feb Butte CEM

Species Expected but Not Reported

Pied-billed Grebe, Western Grebe, American White Pelican, Trumpeter Swan, American Black Duck (3), Northern Shoveler, Ruddy Duck, Northern Bobwhite, Killdeer, Black-legged Kittiwake, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Three-toed Woodpecker, Black-backed Woodpecker (2), Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Winter Wren (2), Brown Thrasher (2), White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Cassin's Finch (2), White-winged Crossbill, Common Redpoll

Corrections to Previous Issues The following sightings should be omitted from the December 2000 issue of Bird Notes: Pied-billed Grebe 14 Jun Meade (20) (ON) APB; 02 Jul Meade (ON) APB and from the December 1999 issue Blue-winged Teal 07 Jul Meade AB. The following should be added to the December 1999 issue of Bird Notes: Eared Grebe 14 Jun (ON) (20) Meade APB; 02 Jul (ON) APB

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KM Kenny Miller

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JSP Jeffrey S. Palmer

RP Randy Podoll

RFS

SS

BAS

SVS

JCS

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