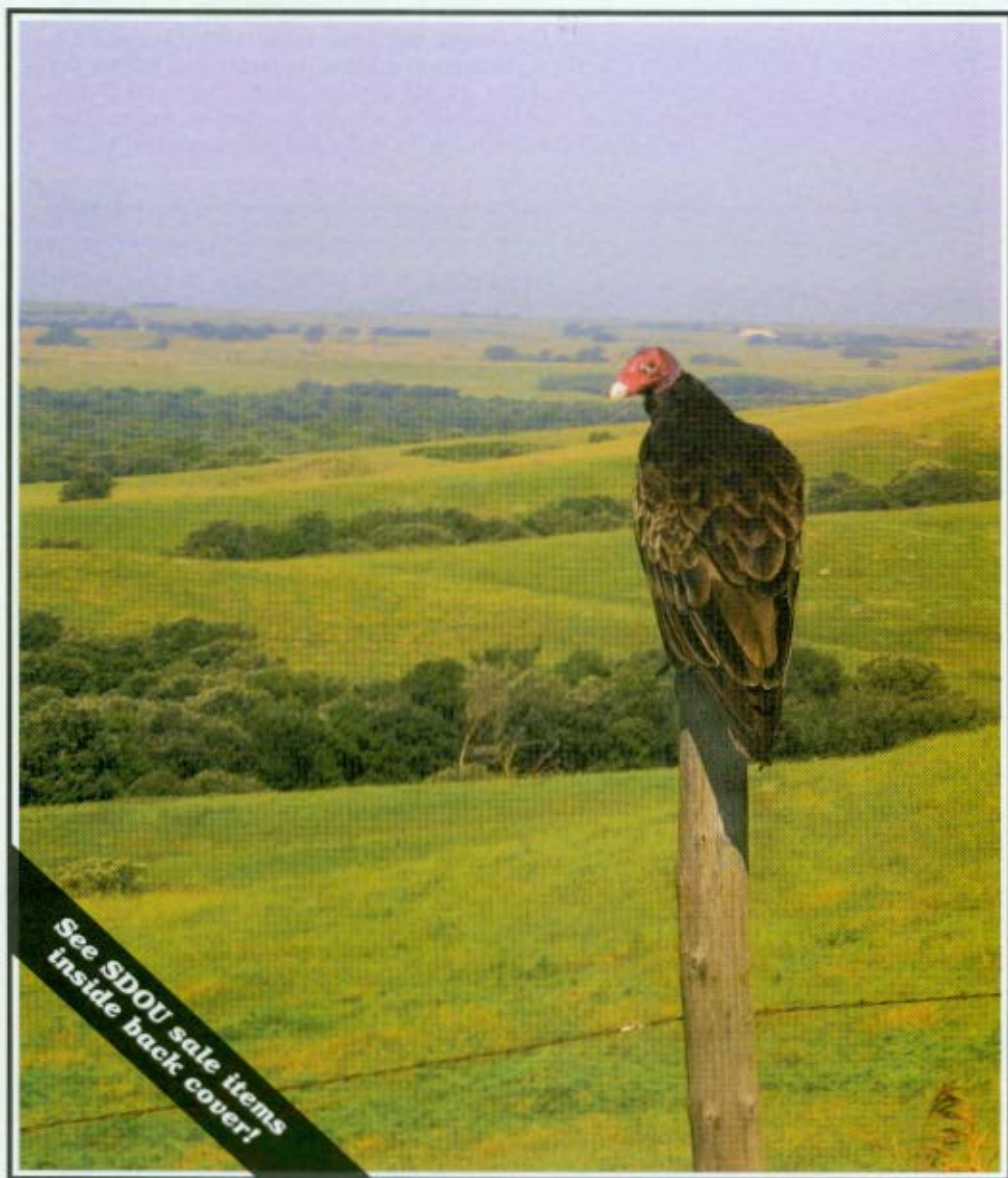


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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Those of you who attended the fall SDOU meeting remember that I presented a paper on a proposed project for SDOU members. The paper was titled, "A Photographic Analysis of South Dakota Bird Habitats." I would like to introduce this project to all of our membership. The purpose of this project is to create a photographic baseline of key bird habitats throughout the state, so that future changes in these habitats can be documented. The idea is to have our members photograph their favorite birding spots, be they state parks, game production areas, local parks or private land. Some of these photographs would be published in *Bird Notes*, and the rest archived in The Center for Western Studies at Augustana College. These photographs will function as a habitat time capsule. Hopefully, twenty, fifty or one-hundred years in the future, someone reviewing past copies of *South Dakota Bird Notes* will discover these photos and use them to document the changes that have occurred. The project could be repeated at that time, giving an account of the change or lack of change that has taken place. The project could even be repeated every ten or twenty years, resulting in a running history of these habitats.

Anyone with a camera can participate in this project. It is my objective to keep this project as simple as possible, so that we have wide participation. These photos will not need to be artistic. Photographs should be taken of typical habitats. Special attention should be given to areas of succession. These will be the areas showing the most change over time. If possible, photos should be taken that exhibit typical vegetation. The photographs, along with negatives and CD, if available, should be sent to me and I will forward copies for publication in *Bird Notes*.

The following information should be included with each photograph. The camera type and the focal length of the lens used. For example, 35mm Minolta pocket camera with a 35mm lens. It is important to include the focal length of the lens (the millimeter number written on the lens) so that the photograph can be accurately duplicated in the future. Include the direction the photograph was taken. A compass is best used for this, although, it can also be described by giving a direction, such as southeast or north by northeast, etc. The precise location from which the photograph was taken is also important. This information can be obtained by determining the coordinates, using a



GPS and giving the coordinates, or by providing a written description of the location (such as the northwest corner of Nine Mile Creek Game Production Area). Every effort should be made to give permanent coordinates. Park boundaries can change and landmarks, such as picnic shelters, can disappear. Lastly, the date the photograph was taken should be recorded. This information could be written on the back of each photograph. To recap, the following information should be included: 1) location of the photograph, 2) direction of photograph, 3) camera type and lens, 4) date of the photograph.

As I bird South Dakota, I often wonder about the natural history of the habitat I am exploring. Sometimes the answer is clear, but other times it remains a question. I would love to look at photographs of these habitats taken fifty or one hundred years ago. We cannot go back in time and take photographs, but we can start taking them now. People fifty and one hundred years from now will thank us and will probably find uses for them we could never imagine.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDY OF THE HORSE CAMP AREA OF NEWTON HILLS STATE PARK

The horse camp area of Newton Hills State Park has caught the attention of birders for years. The area can be described as a grassy valley stretching into the wooded bluffs of Newton Hills with a riparian area, Sargeant Creek, lying to the east side of this valley. The valley supports such species of trees as cottonwood, maple, willow, elm and boxelder. The area is undergoing much change. Sumacs are creeping into the grassy valley from the Bur Oak bluffs, with the Burr Oaks following close behind. Beaver have recently populated Sargeant Creek, resulting in trees being taken for food and dying from submersion in pond water. Birds of note that have been observed in the area are Blue-winged Warbler in the successional grassland, Yellow-throated Vireo, American Woodcock and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher nesting along the Creek, and many rare migrants. The following are two sample photographs I have taken in the area. Both photographs were taken with an Olympus pocket camera. *Robb Schenck, 422 N Linwood Ct., Sioux Falls 57103.*



Newton Hills State Park, Sargeant Creek Valley. Photo location: N 43° 14.083', W 96° 34.550'.
Lens 35 mm, photo orientation: 160°, date: 9/30/01.



Newton Hills State Park, Sargeant Creek. Photo location: N 43° 13.972', W 96° 34.481'. Lens
35 mm, photo orientation: 50°, date: 9/30/01.

BREEDING AVIFAUNA OF THE RESTRICTED PINE-JUNIPER-SHRUB HABITAT IN THE SOUTHWESTERN BLACK HILLS

David L. Swanson, Jeffrey S. Palmer, Eric T. Liknes, and Kurt L. Dean

*Department of Biology, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069
Division of Natural Sciences, Dakota State University, Madison SD 57042*

Pine-juniper habitat with a mahogany-sumac shrub understory is restricted in South Dakota to small areas of the southwestern Black Hills in Custer and Fall River counties (Great Plains Flora Association 1977, Peterson 1993, Van Bruggen 1996). In South Dakota, pine-juniper-shrub habitats occur on rocky hillsides and canyon breaks. Vegetation includes Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and Rocky Mountain Juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*) as overstory species and Skunkbush Sumac (*Rhus aromatica*) and Mountain Mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*) as understory species (Great Plains Flora Association 1986, Van Bruggen 1996). The elevations where this habitat is found range from about 4,500 to 5,500 feet (1,375-1,675 m). The region of the Black Hills where this habitat is located is relatively remote and has received very little ornithological investigation. A breeding population of Virginia's Warblers was recently documented from this area, extending the known breeding range for this species over 200 km to the northeast (Swanson et al. 2000). During the breeding season of 1998, we used line transect surveys and mist netting to quantitatively describe the breeding avifauna of this restricted pine-juniper-shrub habitat in the southwestern Black Hills of South Dakota.

METHODS

Line Transects – Open habitats, such as the pine-juniper-shrub habitat in this study, are well suited for line transect survey methods (Bibby et al. 1992). We established 10 one-kilometer line transects through pine-juniper-shrub habitat in Roby, Boles, and Redbird canyons in Custer County, South Dakota, where this habitat type is prevalent. Contiguous transects were separated end-to-end by at least 200 m and side-to-side by at least 300 meters to avoid double-counting of birds (Bibby et al. 1992). Line transects were conducted according to Emlen (1971, 1977). In this method, individual observers walked slowly (1 km/hour) along the transect and recorded all individuals detected by sight or by sound and whether they were inside or outside of a 25 m band on either side of the transect. This distance provides good detectability in open woodland habitat, even for soft-voiced species (Emlen 1977). Distance was measured with Ranging Model 620 rangefinders. Three transects were conducted simultaneously by different observers familiar with birds of the area and transect counts were completed between sunup and 1100 MDT. Each transect was censused once weekly from 26 May-8 July, except for two transects in Redbird Canyon, one of which was substituted for the other after three weeks (Swanson et al. 2000). This coverage effort (i.e., number of transects and number of replicates) is sufficient to detect most species breeding in an area of open woodland (Bibby et al. 1992). The direction in which observers conducted transect counts was reversed on consecutive counts and observ-

ers were systematically rotated among the different transect lines to reduce observer bias. Transect counts were not conducted on days with precipitation or high winds.

Abundance for all birds and for individual species were calculated from all detections (sight and sound) according to Emlen (1977) for birds inside 25 m to estimate density (birds km²), and for all detections (inside and outside 25 m) to calculate relative abundances (birds/transect). Averages for species' abundances for each transect were calculated from all replicate censuses.

Mist Netting – We erected mist nets (2.6 X 9 m, 30 mm mesh) five days per week from 25 May-6 July in pine-juniper-shrub habitat in Roby, Boles, and Redbird canyons. Generally, six nets were opened from 0630 to 1030 MDT, although in a few cases two to four or seven nets were opened. On a very few occasions nets were also opened in the evening from 1830-2130 MDT. Net sites were located in areas where we had previously observed Virginia's Warblers and new locations were netted every day, with the exception of one site that was visited twice. Audio tapes of Virginia's Warbler songs were played at each location to lure Virginia's Warblers to the nets and the tape player was rotated among nets for at least one hour per day at each net location. Eastern Screech-Owl audio tapes were also used to attract birds to mist nets but proved largely ineffective, so their use was abandoned later in the season.

Nocturnal Sampling – For crepuscular or nocturnal species, such as Common Poorwill and Northern Saw-whet Owl, in Boles, Roby, and Redbird canyons, we conducted surveys patterned after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Surveys. These surveys began in pine-juniper-shrub habitat and extended into Ponderosa Pine forest in the upper reaches of these canyons. Surveys were initiated at civil twilight (approximately 2130 MDT) and consisted of stops along roads leading up these canyons at every mile. Each stop lasted for five minutes and consisted of the following protocol: one minute of silence, followed by two two-minute periods, consisting of one minute of taped calls or whistled imitations, followed by one minute of silence. These two-minute periods were conducted for both Common Poorwills and Northern Saw-whet Owls at each stop. The order in which the calls were played was reversed at each stop so that at one stop poorwill calls were given first and at the next stop saw-whet owl calls were given first. Locations and numbers of calling birds (Common Nighthawks, Common Poorwills, and Northern Saw-whet Owls) were recorded. Birds observed on the road between stations were also recorded. We conducted two surveys each in Roby and Redbird canyons and four surveys in Boles Canyon. The roads leading up Roby and Redbird canyons were unimproved dirt roads, and we had car problems on these roads so we only ran them twice each. Survey dates ran from 27 May-11 July for Boles Canyon, 27 May-26 June for Redbird Canyon, and 10 June-26 June for Roby Canyon. Survey results are recorded as relative abundance (birds per station), because the number of stations varied among canyons.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Line Transect Data

A total of 53 species was observed on transect counts. Density and relative abundance calculations were generally in agreement for most species, with the exception of species that were easily detectable at long distances

(e.g., Mourning Dove, White-throated Swift, Violet-green Swallow, and Western Meadowlark). Chipping Sparrows were the most abundant species in this habitat, followed by Spotted Towhees and Dusky Flycatchers (Table 1). These data are consistent with Breeding Bird Survey data, which suggest that Chipping Sparrows may be more abundant in the Black Hills than anywhere else in North America (Peterson 1993). Abundance estimates or temporal trends in abundance for several other species were noteworthy. Red Crossbills and Pine Siskins showed increases in abundance from no observations during the initial week of censusing to fairly high numbers during the latter part of the study period. Both of these species are irruptive migrants that breed in the Black Hills (Peterson 1995), so perhaps the increasing abundances represent movement of adults and juveniles into this habitat following breeding. Chipping Sparrows and Spotted Towhees also exhibited a trend of increasing abundance over the study period, although not to the same degree as the irruptive species. These increases likely resulted from the recruitment of juveniles into the population during the latter part of the study period. Brown-headed Cowbirds were common in this habitat, ranking fifth in relative abundance and seventh in density (Table 1). This suggests that brood parasitism is a potential problem for host species breeding in this habitat. Virginia's Warblers, which were undocumented in South Dakota prior to 1997 (Palmer 1998), were the ninth most common species in this habitat, both by density and relative abundance calculations (Table 1). The relatively large population of Virginia's Warblers suggests that this is not a new population, but a population that has been overlooked in the past. Two species, Gray Jay and Ovenbird, were located more commonly in this habitat than we expected. Gray Jays are usually associated with coniferous and mixed woodlands at higher elevations in the Black Hills (Peterson 1995), but they were regular in areas with stands of Ponderosa Pine in this location as well. Ovenbirds were found commonly near the bottoms of draws where the pine overstory was essentially complete. Previous reports indicate that Ovenbirds utilize old growth Ponderosa Pine and aspen stands in the Black Hills and prefer a multi-layered canopy (reviewed in Peterson 1995).

Relative abundances for individual transects ranged from 39.7 to 86.1

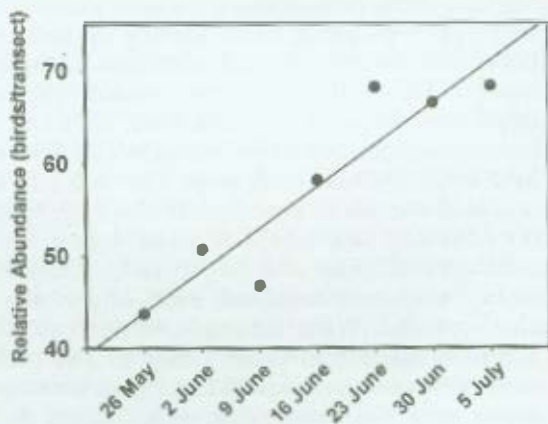


Figure 1. Overall relative abundance for all birds as a function of date. Abundance increased significantly as the breeding season progressed.

birds/transect. The overall average abundance for all 10 transects was 56.9 ± 12.8 birds/transect. The overall relative abundance for all birds increased over the study period from 43.7 birds/transect in the last week of May to 68.2 birds/transect in the second week of July (Fig. 1). Least squares regression indicated a significant positive relationship between abundance and progression of the breeding season ($R^2 = 0.87$, $P = 0.002$). The increase in abundance over the study period probably involved both the recruitment of juveniles into populations and the appearance of irruptive species (e.g., Red Crossbill and Pine Siskin) in this habitat.

Capture Data

A total of 584.33 net hours was generated over the study period and a total of 180 individuals of 21 species was captured. This provided an overall capture rate of 30.8 birds/100 net hours. Chipping Sparrows were the most abundant species captured (Table 2). We captured and banded 27 Virginia's Warblers, 22 of which were males, and all of which were adults. Dusky Flycatchers were the third most commonly captured species (Table 2). Two species, Red-eyed Vireo and American Redstart, were captured but not detected on transects. Both of these species were represented by single captures.

Combined Census and Mist Net Data

A total of 55 species was detected by line transect surveys and mist net captures. Of these 55 species, 26 can be classified as Neotropical migrants with a substantial proportion of the total population wintering south of the United States border (AOU 1998). This yields 49.1% Neotropical migrants in the breeding-season avifauna of the pine-juniper-shrub habitat. This percentage is similar to that for riparian deciduous forests in southeastern South Dakota (50-53%, Liknes et al. 1994) and for woody draws in western North Dakota (49%, Faanes 1984), but lower than typical percentages (65-85%) of Neotropical migrant species in eastern deciduous forests or western montane or intermontane riparian forests (Morse 1980, Dobkin and Wilcox 1986, Terborgh 1989, Freemark and Collins 1992).

Count survey and mist net data were in general agreement regarding relative abundance of individual species. Chipping Sparrows were by far the most common species detected by either method (Tables 1 and 2). Several species had relatively high abundances by count survey methods, but were not captured in high numbers. These included Red Crossbill, Brown-headed Cowbird, Violet-green Swallow, Pine Siskin, White-throated Swift, and Mourning Dove. These species probably avoided capture for a variety of reasons, including remaining relatively high in pine trees, feeding on the wing in open areas, or generally avoiding the low shrubby areas where our capture effort was concentrated.

Nocturnal Sampling

Mean relative abundance for Common Nighthawks was 0.32 birds/station in Boles Canyon, 0.23 birds/station in Redbird Canyon, and 0.17 birds/station in Roby canyon. Common Poorwill mean relative abundance was 0.27 birds/station in Redbird Canyon, 0.28 birds/station in Roby Canyon, and 0.79

Table 1: Relative abundances and estimated densities of birds in pine-juniper-shrub habitat in the southwestern Black Hills, South Dakota. Relative abundances utilized all observations on transects, while densities were calculated only from those observations within the 50 m wide strip centered on the transect.

Species	Relative Abundance (birds/transect)	Density (birds/km ²)
Chipping Sparrow	12.75	172.5
Spotted Towhee	11.00	81.3
Dusky Flycatcher	5.08	24.1
Red Crossbill	4.22	12.7
Brown-headed Cowbird	2.71	11.1
Audubon's Warbler	2.62	17.8
Violet-green Swallow	1.84	3.2
Black-capped Chickadee	1.79	16.8
Virginia's Warbler	1.52	8.3
Western Tanager	1.38	8.6
Pine Siskin	1.35	6.3
Ovenbird	1.30	5.4
White-throated Swift	1.19	0.0
Mourning Dove	1.17	0.6
American Goldfinch	0.86	4.4
Plumbeous Vireo	0.79	5.1
Northern Flicker	0.73	1.6
Vesper Sparrow	0.67	4.8
White-winged Junco	0.56	7.0
Warbling Vireo	0.51	6.3
Mountain Bluebird	0.43	2.5
Cedar Waxwing	0.30	3.8
American Robin	0.29	2.2
Western Meadowlark	0.29	0.0
Rock Wren	0.25	0.0
Townsend's Solitaire	0.22	1.6
Yellow Warbler	0.22	0.0
Gray Jay	0.21	1.3
Black-billed Magpie	0.19	0.0
Yellow-breasted Chat	0.17	0.3
Red-tailed Hawk	0.14	0.0
Turkey Vulture	0.14	0.0
American Crow	0.13	0.0
White-breasted Nuthatch	0.13	0.6
Red-breasted Nuthatch	0.11	0.0
House Wren	0.10	0.3
Pinyon Jay	0.06	0.0
Rock Dove	0.05	0.0
Common Nighthawk	0.03	0.0
Black-headed Grosbeak	0.03	0.0
Cliff Swallow	0.03	0.0

Northern Goshawk	0.02	0.3
Brewer's Blackbird	0.02	0.0
Brown Thrasher	0.02	0.0
European Starling	0.02	0.0
Field Sparrow	0.02	0.0
Lark Sparrow	0.02	0.0
MacGillivray's Warbler	0.02	0.3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	0.02	0.3
Say's Phoebe	0.02	0.0
Swainson's Thrush	0.02	0.3
Western Kingbird	0.02	0.0
Wild Turkey	0.02	0.0

Table 2: Number of individuals captured and capture rate (birds/100 net hours) for bird species in the pine-juniper-shrub habitat over the seven-week study period (25 May - 6 July, 1998). A total of 584.33 net hours were generated.

Species	Number Captured	Capture Rate
Chipping Sparrow	66	11.3
Virginia's Warbler*	27	4.6
Dusky Flycatcher	23	3.9
Spotted Towhee	12	2.1
White-winged Junco	10	1.7
Audubon's Warbler	10	1.7
Black-capped Chickadee	6	1.0
American Goldfinch	6	1.0
●venbird	4	0.7
Pine Siskin	4	0.7
Yellow Warbler	2	0.3
Red-eyed Vireo	1	0.2
Warbling Vireo	1	0.2
Plumbeous Vireo	1	0.2
House Wren	1	0.2
American Robin	1	0.2
American Redstart	1	0.2
MacGillivray's Warbler	1	0.2
Yellow-breasted Chat	1	0.2
Vesper Sparrow	1	0.2
Western Tanager	1	0.2
Totals	180	30.8

* Taped calls of Virginia's Warblers were used to lure this species to the nets so capture rates are overestimated.

Birds/station in Boles Canyon. Finally, no saw-whet owls were detected in Redbird Canyon, and mean relative abundances for saw-whet owls in Boles and Roby canyons were 0.03 and 0.06 birds/station, respectively. We also located at least three calling saw-whet owls along Forest Service Road 301 east of Moon campground, Pennington County. A pair of owls was heard calling on 23 May 1998, about ½-mile east of the campground and another individual was heard calling about 1-½ miles east of the campground on 25 May 1998.

Common Poorwills were relatively common in the open pine-juniper-shrub areas, especially where open grassy areas were also present. Northern Saw-whet Owls were very uncommon, but because our surveys were conducted from late May-early July, we probably missed some saw-whets because territory establishment occurs before this period in South Dakota and fledglings generally appear in May and June (SDOU 1991, Peterson 1995). All of the saw-whet owl observations occurred in areas of Ponderosa Pine forest.

Conclusions

A diverse assemblage of birds occupies the restricted pine-juniper-shrub habitat in the southwestern Black Hills of South Dakota and almost half of these species are Neotropical migrants. This habitat also supports the northeastern-most breeding population of Virginia's Warblers (Swanson et al. 2000). We did not observe any other bird species in this habitat that has not been previously documented as breeding in South Dakota. This finding was noteworthy, considering the restricted extent of this habitat in South Dakota and its proximity to the ranges of some species that have not been documented as breeders in South Dakota, such as Green-tailed Towhee and Black-throated Gray Warbler, which nest in similar habitats in central and southeastern Wyoming (Scott 1993). Future research should address nesting success and nest site characteristics of Virginia's Warblers in this habitat. These data would allow source-sink analyses of population dynamics and would precisely define characteristics important to successful nesting of Virginia's Warblers in this area. Because of the limited extent of this habitat in South Dakota and the diverse assemblage of birds it supports, including a breeding population of Virginia's Warblers, this habitat probably warrants special conservation attention.

Acknowledgments

We thank Kevin Payne for his help in the field and the Long Shot Ranch for providing accommodations. This study was funded by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks Wildlife Diversity Program and by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6, Neotropical Migrant Bird Program. We are grateful for their support. All birds were banded under Federal Banding Permit 22199.

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GENERAL NOTES

RED-THROATED LOON IN DEUEL COUNTY. On 28 May 2001, I was driving the perimeter road around Clear Lake, a route I check regularly during spring migration. On the north side of the small lake (about 600 acres), I found a loon that appeared at first glance to be smaller than a Common Loon. It was only about 50 yards from shore at the time and moved out away from me at a leisurely pace, giving me ample opportunity to study it for more than 20 minutes, up to a range of 150 yards. I used 8-power binoculars before going to the 20-power telescope. Light conditions were good, and the water quite smooth. I noted the slender bill held at an up-turned angle most of the time. The neck was comparatively slender. The bird was apparently a first-spring juvenile, as the head, neck, and upper body were a gray-brown color, with no contrasting markings or area on the throat or neck. I saw nothing that could be called speckling on the back.

When I returned to my home later in the morning, I reported the bird to Rosemary Draeger, asking her to put the report on the hot line. The bird apparently moved off the lake within 24 hours, as I did not see it again. I have one other record for this species in South Dakota, a bird in winter plumage on the Missouri River at Whitlock Bridge on 31 October 1996. I observed this species regularly when I worked in California from 1950-1955, and I have also observed Red-throated loons along the Atlantic coast of New England, and on Lake Superior at Duluth and up the north shore. These are drab birds in winter plumage, or as immatures, but they are extremely beautiful in full adult breeding plumage. *Bruce Harris, Box 605, Clear Lake, SD 57226.*

BUFFLEHEAD NESTING IN ROBERTS COUNTY. The Drywood Lakes area in Roberts County has been a favorite and productive birding area for me for many years. Located in extreme west-central Roberts County (11 miles west and one mile north of Peever), the shallow water area was managed by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks as three separate lakes (North, Middle, and South Drywood) and stocked with fish at various times up to the 1990s, when the lakes experienced severe flooding and became one large body of water, with depths up to 15 feet. The shore of the lake is bordered by cottonwood, with some aspen, ash, and basswood; the understory consists of various shrubs (primarily buckbrush and rose) and tall grasses. A good dry-weather trail runs along the east side of "south" Drywood and crosses between the lakes to the west side of "north" Drywood Lake. This crossing has been under 3 to 4 feet of water since 1996. Before flooding, each lake was approximately 2 by 1.5 miles in diameter, extending now to a full four miles from north to south, and roughly 1.5 miles in width. With a majority of native prairie and shrublands surrounding the lakes, it is a distinctive area of wildlife habitat.

On 9 July 2001, I drove along the southeast road. I was about a mile north of the paved road in the vicinity of a slough area known as Lake Tanaha prior to flooding. The trail was enclosed on both sides by a tall growth of brome

grass. Suddenly, very close to the left-front wheel of the truck, a small duck flushed out ahead of three very small ducklings that scuttled close to the tall bromegrass. I glanced at the ducklings, worrying that they might be run over, but focused more on the adult bird, now flying low over the trail. I saw a distinct white wing patch on the dark-plumaged, female bird, which continued for about 75 yards before it disappeared to the left of the trail into flooded woodland. The ducklings were still fleeing down the left side of the road, and I noticed small patches of white down on the dark little bodies, with a distinct white throat. They ran into the heavy cover, and as I jumped out of the truck, I heard the female bird calling them as she dropped onto the water about 60 yards from the truck. At this time, I noted the white head markings of the female Bufflehead. She milled about in an open area, calling repeatedly to her young, and I was hoping that they would get through the 40 yards of jumbled vegetation and into the water with the mother. It seemed like a daunting task for such tiny little creatures. I should have stayed in the area to see if all went well for the birds, but I drove on, wondering why the hen Bufflehead had her young so far from the edge of the protective pond area. I should have taken some time to look for the nest site, often a flicker nest hole. It's possible that there were more than three ducklings in the brood.

This observation is apparently only the second definite breeding record for the Bufflehead in South Dakota. SDSU research students Peskin and Rohrah (*South Dakota Bird Notes* 43:77) found a nest of six eggs in a Wood Duck nest box on 22 May 1991 at Oakwood Lake, Brookings County. These eggs later successfully hatched. They also found a hen Bufflehead in a nest box in Lake Co. on 24 July of the same year, but with no evidence of egg-laying. Bellrose (*Ducks, Geese, and Swans of North America* 1976) writes that Bufflehead ducks begin egg-laying in the southern part of their range during the period 20 April through mid-May. So, it is interesting to report that I have observed Bufflehead ducks in northeastern South Dakota on 14 dates beginning with 23 June 1978. Most often these sightings were of one or two females with a single male, but at times, groups of 5 to 10 birds were seen. However, it should be noted that Bellrose says that Buffleheads do not breed until their second year. It seems quite possible that we have had Buffleheads nesting in the state some years before the first nests were found. Bruce Harris, Box 605, Clear Lake, SD 57226.



BOOK REVIEWS

FIELDFARE BIRD GUIDE COVERS. Fieldfare, 873 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02888, phone: 888 529-1194, www.fieldfare.com.

Usually books are reviewed here. Instead, I am using this space to tell you about a new birding product, field guide covers by Fieldfare. These protective covers make a valuable addition to your birding equipment. Basically they are a tough, nylon cover into which you slip your field guide. Straps then allow you to throw your guide around your neck, along with binoculars, scopes, and, perhaps, lunch. The two covers reviewed here are slightly different from each other.

The larger cover (Model 2002/\$29.95) is designed for the *Sibley Guide to Birds* (but would also fit other larger guides, such as those to gulls or sandpipers). The book slips securely into the cover, which then zips closed. This provides protection from the elements and errant cups of coffee. A long shoulder strap assures that the Sibley guide, a book that was almost universally criticized for being too large to carry in the field, always will be at your side as you tramp through the wilds.

A smaller cover (Model 2001/\$28.99) exactly fits a *National Geographic Guide*, or any of its competitors. Like the larger version, this cover has a removable neck strap. A few differences do exist between the models. The smaller model lacks a zipper, and is latched shut by a Velcro strap. Inside there are two compartments, one for the field guide and the other for a pen and a small-sized legal pad. Thus, both guide and notepaper are automatically at hand. This cover also has a cute nylon, carrying handle across its top, in case the birder's neck is fully attired.

A big thumbs up for these two products. They are good looking, well-built products. Every birder should give serious thought to their purchase. Here is the perfect gift for the birder who has everything. Check them out at the WEB site listed above. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen SD 57401.*



CHRISTMAS COUNTS

2001-2002

Compiled by Dan Tallman

Aberdeen. 3 Jan 2002. Participants: 5. Low Temperature: 10° F (-12° C); High Temperature: 24° F (-4° C). AM Weather: Clear. PM Weather: Clear. Compiler: Dan Tallman.

Badlands National Park. 27 Dec 2001. Participants: 4. 20-30° F. Clear. Compiler: Eddie Childers.

Brookings. 15 Dec 2001. Participants: 17. Low Temperature: 35° F (2° C); High Temperature: 42° F (6° C). AM Weather: Cloudy. PM Weather: Partly Cloudy. Compiler: Nelda Holden

Burke. 22 Dec 2001. Participants: 27. Low Temperature: 20° F. High Temperature: 25° F. Weather: Partly Cloudy. Compiler: Richard A. Peterson.

Hot Springs. No data.

Huron. 18 Dec 2001. Participants 15. 33-36° F (1-2° C). AM Weather: Cloudy. PM Weather: partly cloudy. Compiler: Carrie Schmidt.

Lake Andes. 19 Dec 2001. Participants: 9. 15-24° F; (-9-+1° C). AM Weather: Clear. PM Weather: Partly cloudy. Compiler: Michael Bryant

Madison. 14 Dec 2001. Participants: 8. Low Temperature: 20° F (-7° C); High Temperature: 40° F (4° C). AM Weather: Clear, PM Weather: Clear. Compiler: Sandy Uecker

Piedmont. 22 Dec 2001 Participants: 11 Party Hours: 37.2. Low Temperature: 16° F (-9° C) High Temperature: 24° F (-4° C) AM Weather: Cloudy., PM Weather: Cloudy. Compiler Vic Fondy.

Pierre. 15 Dec 2001. Participants: 19. Low Temperature: 32° F (0° C); High Temperature: 37° F (3° C). AM Weather: Clear; PM Weather: Partly Cloudy. Compiler: Doug Backlund

Rapid City. 29 Dec 2001. Participants: 14. Low Temperature: 7° F (-14° C); High Temperature: 22° F (-6° C). AM Weather: Cloudy; PM Weather: Cloudy. Compiler: Michael Melius

Sand Lake. 21 Dec 2001. Participants: 9. Low Temperature: 22° F (-6° C); High Temperature: 35° F (2° C). AM Weather: Cloudy, PM Weather: Partly Cloudy. Compiler: William Schultze.

Shadehill. 1 Jan 2002. Participants: 2. Low Temperature: 0° F; High Temperature: 12° F (-11° C). AM Weather: Cloudy PM Weather: Partly Clear. Compiler: Dave Griffiths.

Sioux Falls. 15 Dec 2001. Participants: 26. Low Temperature: 34° F (1° C); High Temperature: 50° F (10° C). AM Weather: Cloudy. PM Weather: Partly Clear Compiler: Robb Schenck.

Spearfish. 30 Dec 2001. Participants: 16. Low Temperature: 9° F (-13° C); High Temperature: 23° F (-5° C). AM Weather: Partly Cloudy, PM Weather: Clear. Compiler Dan Bjerke.

Sturgis. 15 Dec 2001. Participants: 25. Low Temperature: 26° F (-3° C); High Temperature: 39° F (4° C). AM Weather: Partly Cloudy. PM Weather: Cloudy. Compiler: Victor Fondy.

Waubay. 18 Dec 2001. Participants: 8. Low Temperature: 28° F (-2° C); High Temperature: 36° F (2° C). AM Weather: Cloudy PM Weather: Partly Cloudy. Compiler: Laura Hubers.

Yankton. 16 Dec 2001. Participants: 20. Low Temperature: 28° F (-2° C); High Temperature: 40° F (4° C). AM Weather: Clear. PM Weather: Clear. Compiler Juli Wilcox

CW = count week.

	ABR	BAD	BRK	BUR	HOT	HUR	LAND	MAD	PIED	PIR	KAP	SND	SILA	SIU	SPE	STR	WAW	YAN	TOTAL
Wild Turkey	128			27	153				191	6	338			56	38	373		18	1330
California Quail									cw										0
American Coot				28				3		19	3							2	55
Killdeer				1												12			1
Common Snipe									1		cw								13
Bonaparte's Gull				cw			8		25									57	89
Ring-billed Gull				1320			2030	1	75									953	3794
Thayer's Gull									1										1
Herring Gull																			43
Glaucous Gull										1									1
Rock Dove	85	18	99	12	240	51	28	135	24	58	616	44	2	882	81	219	111	184	2889
Eurasian Collared Dove									6										6
Mourning Dove						10		2						1					15
Beau Owl									1										1
Eastern Screech Owl									1	1				1					3
Great Horned Owl	1		7	1	2	2	2	3	6	2	7	cw	3	3	3			3	39
Barred Owl			1									3							4
Snowy Owl						cw		1	cw										1
Bobolink Kingfisher				1					2	2	3					3	cw	1	12
Lewis's Woodpecker																1	cw		1
Red-bellied Woodpecker			3	2				1		8				4				5	23
Red-headed Woodpecker														2					2
Dusky Woodpecker	2		19	4	2	3	2	16	4	21	15	8	1	45	9	13	8	22	194
Hairy Woodpecker			5	3	2	3	3		2	13	6	3	0	3	7	4	5	5	65
Northern Flicker	1		11	8	90	3	11	3	2	36	18	5	2	6	30	2		34	203
Northern Shrike			2	1	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	7				cw		2	30
Loggerhead Shrike										2									2
Gray Jay									1										1
Blue Jay			54	6	15	10	15	25	16	2	38	57		21	116	162	1	53	991
Pinon Jay									9										9
Black-billed Magpie	6			7					22	13	19		5		14	33		4	123
American Crow	40	2	154	24	62	42	257	101	365	6	233	6	7	1185	95	109	36	230	2954
Horned Lark			24	11	7	15	183	15	146	146		30	3	3	1		31		621
Black-capped Chickadee	27	1	133	22	29	39	31	47	57	62	70	37	2	188	124	157	59	118	1303
Red-breasted Nuthatch	12		4	3	24	1		5	15	4	15			8	7	29	1	3	131
White-breasted Nuthatch	6		26	3	1	1	1	6	3	24	9	13		23	5	19	26	51	217
Brown Creeper	1		1	3	2			1	1	8	2	3		10	7	4	1	20	64
Canyon Wren																			7
Winter Wren									1										1
Golden-crowned Kinglet				3					2	1	1				4			5	16
American Dipper															2				2

	ABB	RAD	BBK	BUR	HOT	HUB	LAND	MAD	PIED	PIR	RAP	SND	SHA	SU	SFE	STR	WAW	YAN	TOTAL
Eastern Bluebird							4											11	13
Mountain Blackbird																OW			0
Townsend's Solitaire	2	1		60					5	4	17		2		40	12	1		144
American Robin			22	253	390		59	1	2	630	109		20	4	585	113		2091	4279
Violet Thrush										1									1
European Starling	264	25	784	232	925	1524	138	1776	357	523	1052	207		1843	860	900	272	1381	13665
Bohemian Waxwing										6	12		OW		40	18			74
Cedar Waxwing	40		196	140	161			57	9	620	75	310	141	376	340	238	59	154	2916
Yellow-rumped Warbler										1									6
Spotted Towhee				1	4						1								1
American Tree Sparrow			52	9	18	24	40	1		118	67	40	48	110	13	4	42	584	
Chipping Sparrow											1			1				1	
Song Sparrow										2	1	1	1	4		3	1	5	
Harris's Sparrow						3	1											13	
White-throated Sparrow	1																		1
White-crowned Sparrow													OW						0
Dark-eyed Junco	20		53	45	87	7	125	17	276	102	329	61	15	142	153	315	4	114	1677
Lapland Longspur	134													26		25			183
Snow Bunting			7								19						1		27
Northern Cardinal			9			1	3							12				5	30
Red-winged Blackbird										8	2	2	45	1		3	14	73	
Western Meadowlark										9				1				1	13
Rusty Blackbird												2					3	27	30
Brewer's Blackbird							1			OW									3
Common Grackle			3					5		10			OW	1		5	3	27	25
Brown-headed Cowbird												25							0
Purple Finch	3		3		1	5		16		20		11		7	10	2		11	89
House Finch	95		5	61	5	20			38	181	43	1	30	18	88	75	1	20	681
Red Crossbill					51	2				15						14			80
White-winged Crossbill	OW													2					4
Common Noddy										6	50	1	15				35		107
Pine Siskin	7		25	3	36	10	1		293	49	48			4		265		OW	761
American Goldfinch	9		41	7	50	97	6	57	53	165	133	10	OW	58	240	186	18	167	1317
Evening Grosbeak																	7	30	37
House Sparrow	199	30	661	30	6	1149	70	1190	93	485	420	303	283	516	211	216	618	245	6725
TOTAL	1164	377	2983	1906	6316	3448	7309	6479	2325	36396	4944	1866	3927	8583	4100	3624	3451	6172	100086
species/items	27	16	36	33	49	39	37	40	34	73	60	34	36	48	56	43	43	55	



SEASONAL REPORTS

The 2001-2002 Winter Season
01 December 2001 to 28 February 2002

Compiler: Robert F. Schenck
422 N. Linwood Ct
Sioux Falls SD 57103

The Winter of 2001-02 can only be described as mild, with temperatures above normal and much less snow cover than usual. 136 species are included in this report, which compares to the five year average of 129 and last year's severe winter count of 121. Certainly, the return of the Red-shouldered Hawk to Pickerel Lake and the numerous reports of Goshawks, Gyrfalcons and Snowy Owls were a thrill to everyone. Many ducks remained in the state into January. The second and third sightings of Mew Gull were recorded. The third sighting of Iceland gull was entered. As in the previous three years, the six sightings closest to midwinter, 15 January, were included in this report. Sightings that would have been included in the new addition of *The Birds of South Dakota* are bold. Species with many reports that are known to occur all period are reported by county. Common species that occur throughout the state all period are not included. I should also note that Christmas Bird Counts are not part of this report and are reported separately in *South Dakota Bird Notes*.

Pied-billed Grebe Only Report: 09 Dec Minnehaha RFS
Western Grebe Only Report: 01 Dec Fall River (Angostura) (1) TJ
Clark's Grebe Only Report: 01 Dec Fall River (Angostura) (2) TJ
American White Pelican Only Report: 02 Dec Brookings JSP
Double-crested Cormorant All Reports: 01 Dec Hughes JSC; 04, 16 Dec Charles Mix RM; 22 Dec Yankton DS; 23 Dec Charles Mix JSP
Great Blue Heron All Reports: 08 Dec Yankton DS; 15 Dec Hughes KM; 26 Jan Lawrence APB
Greater White-fronted Goose All Reports: 20 Dec Stanley JSC; 16 Feb Yankton RBA; 23 Feb Lake JSP; 23 Feb Lincoln RFS
Snow Goose Reported: 20 Dec Stanley JCS; 30 Dec (4) TJ; 08 Jan (4) JLB Lawrence; 13 Jan Union BI; 18 Feb Kingsbury (1) DS; 22 Feb Clay (at least 2 flocks of > 100) DS; 23 Feb Lake JSP; 23 Feb Charles Mix RM
Ross's Goose All Reports: 20 Dec Stanley, 21 Dec Brown JSC
Tundra Swan All Reports: 01 Dec Day WS; 08 Dec Union (Missouri River) (1 im.) BH
Wood Duck All Reports: all period Pennington JLB & TJ; 26 Feb Lawrence AKB
Gadwall Reported: all period Pennington JLB & TJ; 18 Dec Day WS; 01 Jan Perkins DCG; 13 Jan Stanley KM; 23 Feb Miner JPS; 24 Feb Hughes KM
American Wigeon All Reports: all period Pennington JLB & TJ; 10 Dec Stanley JSC; 13 Dec Minnehaha RBA; 18 Dec Day WS
American Black Duck Only Report: 09 Dec Minnehaha RFS
Northern Shoveler All Reports: 08 Dec Kingsbury JSP; 10 Dec Stanley JSC; 20 Dec Stanley (1) RDO
Northern Pintail All Reports: 09 Dec Minnehaha RFS; 10 Dec Stanley JSC; 23 Feb Lake JSP; 24 Feb Hughes KM; 25 Feb Stanley (4) RDO
Green-winged Teal Only Report: 08 Jan Meade JLB
Canvasback Reported: 10 Dec Hughes JSC; 11 Dec Pennington (3) JLB; 11 Dec Hughes KM; 18 Dec Day WS
Rdbhead Reported: 13 Dec Day WS; 26 Dec Hughes KM; 12 Jan Pennington JLB; 20 Jan Pennington TJ; 06 Feb Pennington JLB; 23 Feb Lake JSP

Ring-necked Duck Reported: 10 Dec Minnehaha RFS; 18 Dec Day WS; 02 Jan Pennington JLB; 20 Jan Pennington (5) TJ & TJ; 23 Feb Lake JSP; 24 Feb Hughes RDO & KM
Greater Scaup All Reports: 09 Dec Minnehaha RFS; 11 Dec (2), 25 Dec Stanley RDO
Lesser Scaup All Reports: 08 Dec Kingsbury JSP; 09 Dec Minnehaha RFS; 10 Dec Hughes JCS; 30 Dec Stanley KM; 23 Feb Lake JSP
Surf Scoter All Reports: 03 Dec Hughes KM & RDO; 08 Dec Hughes (1) TJ; 11 Dec Hughes KM
White-winged Scoter Only Report: 11 Dec Charles Mix RM
Long-tailed Duck All Reports: 06 Dec Charles Mix RM; 22 Dec Yankton DS; 10 Jan Charles Mix RM; 16 Feb Yankton RBA
Bufflehead Reported: all period Pennington JLB & TJ, Charles Mix RM; 08 Dec Kingsbury; 10 Dec Hughes JCS; 23 Feb Lake JCS
Common Goldeneye Reported from Brookings, Brown, Charles Mix, Day, Hughes, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins and Stanley counties.
Barrow's Goldeneye Reported: all period Pennington (Canyon Lake) (pr.) JLB & TJ; 12 Dec Charles Mix RM
Hooded Merganser All Reports: 01 Dec Hughes RDO; 02 Dec, 20 Jan Pennington TJ; 05 Dec Day WS; 08 Dec Brookings JSP; 02, 20 Jan Pennington JLB; 23 Feb Miner JSP
Common Merganser All Reports: all period Pennington JLB & TJ, Hughes KM, Charles Mix RM; 13 Dec Minnehaha RBA; 18 Dec Day WS; 19 Dec Charles Mix RM; 25 Feb Brown SIS
Red-breasted Merganser Only Report: 13 Dec Minnehaha RBA; 18 Dec Day WS; 20 Dec Hughes JCS
Ruddy Duck Only Report: 23 Feb Lake JSP
Bald Eagle Reported from Beadle, Brown, Charles Mix, Custer, Day, Fall River, Harding, Hughes, Hyde, Lake, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins and Stanley counties.
Northern Harrier Reported from Buffalo, Charles Mix, Day, Fall River, Haakon, Harding, Lyman, Meade, Miner, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Sully and Tripp counties.
Sharp-shinned Hawk Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Hughes, Lake, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington and Tripp counties.
Cooper's Hawk All Reports: 01 Dec, 08 Jan Hughes KM; 06 Dec Stanley RDO; 20 Dec Brown JCS; 28 Jan Meade APB
Northern Goshawk Reported from Brown, Hughes, Hyde, Lake, Lincoln, Perkins, Potter and Sully counties. First sighting 09 Dec, last sighting 16 Feb with most sightings in January.
Red-shouldered Hawk All Reports: 08 Dec (Lake Pickerel) Day RBA; 13 Jan Day RBA; 20 Jan Day KM, RDO; 26 Jan Day JSP; 02 Feb Day DAT
Red-tailed Hawk Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Day, Fall River, Hughes, Lincoln, Meade, Miner, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Sully and Tripp counties.
Ferruginous Hawk All Reports: 01, 20 Jan Pennington JLB; 03 Jan Hughes RDO; 10 Jan Hughes KM; 10 Jan Pennington TJ; 10 Jan Meade REP; 10 Jan (2), 16 Jan Meade EEM; 12 Jan Jackson AKB; 19 Jan Stanley JSP; 24 Jan Sully, 18 Feb Stanley KM; 18 Feb Harding CEM
Rough-legged Hawk Reported from Brown, Butte, Charles Mix, Custer, Day, Fall River, Harding, Hughes, Hyde, Hutchinson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Sully and Tripp counties.
Golden Eagle Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Custer, Faulk, Haakon, Harding, Hughes, Hyde, Jones, Lyman, Meade, Pennington, Stanley, Sully and Tripp counties.
American Kestrel Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Codington, Davidson, Fall River, Haakon, Hughes, Hutchinson, Meade, Minnehaha, Yankton Pennington, Stanley and Tripp counties
Merlin Reported from Beadle, Brown, Day, Gregory, Hughes, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Spink and Stanley counties.
Gyr Falcon Reported from 06 Dec Stanley (1) TJ; 16 Dec Stanley, 25 Dec Hughes RDO; 03 Jan Stanley (1 ad.), 10 Jan Pennington (1) JLB; 04, 31 Jan Lawrence REP; 13, 26 Jan Sully, 16 Feb Stanley (1), Hughes (1) JSP, RFS; 18 Feb Stanley KM
Prairie Falcon Reported from Butte, Charles Mix, Codington, Hand, Harding, Hughes, Lincoln, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Sully counties.
Gray Partridge Reported from Brookings, Harding, Meade, Pennington, Perkins and Sully counties.

Sharp-tailed Grouse Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Day, Harding, Hyde, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Sully counties.
Greater Prairie-Chicken Reported from Hughes (KM & RDO) and Stanley (KM) counties.
Wild Turkey Reported from Clay, Custer, Fall River, Gregory, Harding, Lake, Meade, Pennington, Perkins and Stanley counties.
American Coot All Reports: all period Pennington JLB & TJ; all period Hughes KM; 08 Dec Brookings JSP; 09 Dec Minnehaha RFS
Killdeer Only Report: 18 Feb Minnehaha RBA
Common Snipe All Reports: 01 Jan Pennington JLB; 19 Jan Meade (1) REP
American Woodcock Only Report: 23 Feb Yankton RBA
Franklin's Gull Only Report: 10 Dec Grant JCS
Bonaparte's Gull Reported: 13 Dec Hughes KM; 18 Dec Fall River (18) JLB; 19 Dec Charles Mix RM; 23 Dec Charles Mix JSP
Ring-billed Gull Reported: all period Hughes KM, Charles Mix RM; 01 Dec Pennington TJ; 06 Dec, 03 Jan Stanley JLB; 09 Dec Minnehaha RFS; 10 Dec Grant JCS
Herring Gull Reported: all period Hughes KM; 23 Dec Charles Mix JSP; 29 Dec Charles Mix RM; 03 Jan Stanley JLB; 10 Jan Pennington TJ
Thayer's Gull All Reports: 07 Dec, 18 Feb Hughes KM; 08 Dec Hughes (1) TJ; 22 Dec Yankton DS; 08 Dec-11 Feb Hughes RDO; 03 Jan Stanley JLB; 19 Jan, 16 Feb Hughes JSP, RFS; 25 Jan Hughes DAT
Glaucous Gull All Reports: 02 Dec, 18 Feb Hughes, 26 Jan Sully KM; 02 Dec (2), 03 Feb Hughes RDO
Eurasian Collared Dove All Reports: 09 Dec, 27 Feb Hughes KM; 05 Jan Pennington (2) TJ; 20 Jan Hughes (7) JSP; 28 Feb Butte (5-6) JLB
Mourning Dove All Reports: 02, 10 Dec Hughes KM; 09 Dec Pennington (1) TJ
Eastern Screech-Owl Reported from Charles Mix RM, Hughes KM, Stanley RDO
Great Horned Owl Confirmed Breeding: 21 Feb Custer (ON) JLB, 21 Feb Pennington (ON) JLB
Snowy Owl Reported from Brookings, Brown, Charles Mix, Haakon, Hand, Hughes, Hyde, Kingsbury, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Spink, Stanley and Sully counties ... also 19 Feb Lyman (9) RBA.
Long-eared Owl All Reports: 05 Feb Stanley KM, 17 Feb Tripp RDO
Short-eared Owl All Reports: 10 Dec, 28 Feb Brown JCS; 14 Dec Lyman RDO
Northern Saw-whet Owl All Reports: 04 Jan Hughes RBA, 05, 21 Jan Hughes, 22 Feb Stanley KM; 05 Jan Hughes, 02, 22 Feb Stanley RDO; 19 Jan Harding CEM
Belted Kingfisher Reported: all period Charles Mix RM; all period Meade EEM; 31 Dec Stanley RDO; 06 Jan Hughes KM; 15 Jan Custer JLB; 18 Jan, 07 Feb Meade APB; 02 Feb Hughes KM, 06 Feb Day WS
Lewis's Woodpecker All Reports: all period Meade EEM; 06 Dec Meade REP; 06 Jan Pennington JLB
Red-bellied Woodpecker Reported from Brookings, Charles Mix, Gregory, Hughes, Lincoln, Minnehaha and Stanley counties.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Only Report: 03 Feb Gregory RM
Northern Flicker Reported from Brookings, Brown, Charles Mix, Fall River, Gregory, Hughes, Lake, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins and Stanley counties.
Pileated Woodpecker All Reports: 20 Jan Roberts (near Halford Beach) KM, RDO; 26 Jan Roberts JSP
Northern Shrike Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Day, Fall River, Hughes, Hyde, Lincoln, Lyman, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Sully and Tripp counties.
Gray Jay All reports: 06 Jan Pennington (1) JLB; Custer KM
Pinyon Jay All reports: 09 Dec Meade (2) JLB; 21 Dec Meade AKB
Clark's Nutcracker All Reports: 06 Dec, 21 Feb Custer KM
Black-billed Magpie Reported from Harding, Hughes, Jackson, Lawrence, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Tripp counties.
Black-capped Chickadee Reported: 13 Feb excavating nest cavity (NB) RAP
Red-breasted Nuthatch Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Clay, Custer, Day, Harding, Hughes, Lake, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Stanley and Union counties.
Pygmy Nuthatch All reports: all period Pennington TBW; 14 Dec Pennington (Richland Loop, off Nemo Road) (3 or 4) JLB, RDO; 06 Jan Pennington (Canyon Lake) RBA

Brown Creeper Reported from Brookings, Brown, Charles Mix, Clay, Custer, Day Hughes, Lake, Lincoln, Meade, Pennington and Union counties.
Canyon Wren Only Report: 03 Jan Meade AKB
Winter Wren All Reports: 09 Dec Hughes RBA; 15 Dec Hughes KM; 10 Feb Meade AKB
American Dipper Only Report: 30 Dec Lawrence TJ
Golden-crowned Kinglet All Reports: 14 Dec Day WS; 13, 26 Jan Hughes KM; 03 Jan, 07 Feb Meade AKB; 05 Jan Hughes RDO; 07 Jan Pennington (4) TJ; 12 Jan Lake JSP; 21 Jan Brown JCS; 21 Jan Clay (2) DS; 02 Feb Brookings JSP; 10 Feb Brown DAT
Eastern Bluebird All Reports: 18 Dec (4), 01 Feb Tripp RAP; 14 Jan Gregory, 18 Jan Charles Mix RM; 22 Jan Lincoln (7-8) RBA
Mountain Bluebird All Reports: Meade EEM; 18 Feb Stanley RDO
Townsend's Solitaire Reported from Brown, Custer, Day, Edmunds, Fall River, Harding, Hughes, Jackson, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Sully and Tripp counties ... also reported 19 Jan Union RBA; 26 Jan Union DS.
American Robin Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Custer, Fall River, Hughes, Hyde, Jackson, Lake, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Tripp counties ... early migration reported in Union County week of 11 Feb DS.
Varied Thrush Only Report: 07 Feb Meade (1) EEM
Gray Catbird All Reports: 17 Dec, 20 Jan Pennington (city springs Rapid City) (1) JLB
Northern Mockingbird Only Report: 23 Feb Hughes (Farm Island) (1) EDS
Bohemian Waxwing Reported: 16 Dec Meade JLB; 02 Jan Perkins DCG; 29 Dec Hughes RDO; 05 Jan Harding CEM; 06 Jan, 18 Feb Hughes KM
Cedar Waxwing Reported from Charles Mix, Day, Fall River, Gregory, Hughes, Hyde, Lake, Lincoln, Meade, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Tripp counties.
Yellow-rumped Warbler All Reports: 08 Dec, 04 Jan Hughes KM; 16 Dec Fall River (3-4), 21 Feb (Angostura Res.) (3-4) JLB; 19 Jan Union (1) RBA; 21 Jan Hughes (2) RDO; 17 Feb Lincoln RFS; 23 Feb Haakon RBA
Song Sparrow All Reports: 17 Dec, 05 Jan Pennington (1) JLB; 04, 19 Jan, 24 Feb Hughes KM; 27 Jan Hughes RDO; 17 Feb Meade (2) REP
Swamp Sparrow All Reports: 13, 18 Jan, 28 Feb Hughes KM; 27 Jan Hughes (1) RDO
Harris's Sparrow All Reports: 02 Dec Stanley, 31 Jan, 16 Feb Hughes KM; 06 Dec Charles Mix RM; 25 Dec Stanley RDO; 01 Jan Perkins DCG; 13 Jan Lake JSP
White-crowned Sparrow All Reports: 01 Dec Stanley (1), 18 Feb Hughes (14) RDO; 02 Dec, 10 Feb (5), 24 Feb (10) Hughes KM
Lapland Longspur Reported from Day, Hughes, Hyde, Kingsbury, McCook, Pennington, Perkins and Stanley counties.
Snow Bunting Reported from Day, Hutchinson, Jones, Lake, McCook, Pennington, Roberts, Spink and Stanley counties.
Northern Cardinal Reported from Charles Mix, Hughes, Hyde, Lake, Lawrence, Lincoln and Minnehaha counties.
Red-winged Blackbird Reported: 18 Dec Day WS; 21 Dec Brown DAT; 25 Dec Brown JCS; 01 Jan, 03 Feb Perkins DCG; 15 Jan Fall River (5) JLB; 18 Jan Charles Mix, 18 Feb Gregory RM; 21 Jan, 15 Feb Stanley KM
Western Meadowlark Reported: 16 Dec Sully KM; 23 Dec Brown JCS; 01 Jan Stanley RDO; 10 Jan Haakon (1) TJ; 11 Jan Meade (4) EEM; 12 Jan Stanley AKB; 05 Feb Pennington; 16 Feb Hughes KM ... also reported from Charles Mix, Lincoln and Tripp counties.
Yellow-headed Blackbird Only Report: 20 Dec Brown JCS
Rusty Blackbird All Reports: 11 Dec Roberts JCS; 18 Dec, 19 Feb Day WS; 05 Jan Hughes KM
Brewer's Blackbird Only Report: 10 Dec Brown JCS, 02 Feb Day DAT
Common Grackle All Reports: 12 Dec Lake JSP, 18 Dec Day WS; 31 Dec Stanley, 15, 21 Jan, 27 Feb Hughes KM; 02 Jan, 03 Feb Perkins DCG; 13 Jan Hughes RDO
Brown-headed Cowbird All Reports: 21 Dec Brown DAT; 21 Jan Gregory RM
Purple Finch Reported from Brookings, Brown, Day, Hughes, Hyde, Lincoln, Miner, Stanley and Union counties.
House Finch Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Day, Fall River, Gregory, Harding, Hughes, Hyde, Lake, Lincoln, Meade, Miner, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley and Tripp counties.
Red Crossbill Reported from Custer, Fall River, Harding, Meade and Pennington counties.
White-winged Crossbill Reported from Brown, Charles Mix, Harding, Hughes, Lake, Minne-

haha, Pennington, Roberts, Stanley and Yankton counties.

Common Redpoll All Reports: 01 Dec Stanley RDO; 09 Dec, 28 Feb Hyde NS; 18 Dec, 14-26 Jan, 28 Feb Day WS; 21 Dec Brown DAT; 05 Feb (25), 15 Feb (2) Pennington JLB
Evening Grosbeak All Reports: 29 Dec, 05 Jan Hughes KM; 30 Dec, 28 Feb Hughes RDO; 19 Jan Union RBA

Species Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

Mew Gull 1 Dec Hughes JSP, RFS; 04, 11 Dec Hughes KM, 05, 06 Dec Hughes RDO; 22 Dec Yankton (ad.) DS
Iceland Gull 17 Dec-11 Feb, 28 Feb Stanley RDO; 21 Dec Stanley, 18 Feb Hughes KM; 03 Jan Stanley JLB; 19 Jan, 16 Feb Hughes JSP, RFS; 25 Jan Hughes DAT

Species Expected but Not Reported Trumpeter Swan (2), Peregrine Falcon, Ruffed Grouse, Northern Bobwhite (2), Black-legged Kittiwake (2), Three-toed Woodpecker (2), Black-backed Woodpecker (3), Brown Thrasher (3), White-throated Sparrow (2), Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, Pine Grosbeak, Cassin's Finch (3)

Corrections to Previous Issues The following sightings should be omitted from the summer 2001 report, Vol. 53, No. 4: Brewer's Sparrow 02 Jul Meade (CF); Scarlet Tanager 15 Jul Pennington (ON). The following sighting should be added. Brewer's Blackbird 02 Jul Meade (CF); Western Tanager 15 Jul Pennington (ON)

JLB Jocelyn Lee Baker
APB Addison & Patricia Ball
AKB Anna K. Ball
DCG Dave & Carolyn Griffiths
KH Kevin, Kris & Lewis Hachmeister
BFH Bill Husker
TJ Todd Jensen
RM Ron Mahie
CEM Charley Miller
EEM Ernest E. Miller
KM Kenny Miller
RDO Ricky D. Olson
JSP Jeffrey S. Palmer
RAP Richard A. Peterson
REP Randy Podoll
RBA Rare Bird Alert
SLS Sand Lake NWR Staff
RFS Robert F. Schenck
SS Sherry Schever
NS Nancy Showalter
JCS Jerry C. Stanford
EDS Eileen Oowd Stukel
DS David L. Swanson
DAT Dan A. Tallman
WS Waubay NWR Staff
TBW Tom & Brenda Warren
MKZ Mick Zerr

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