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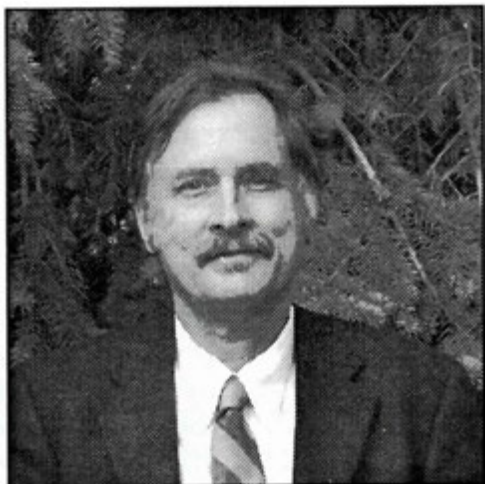
DAKOTA
NOTES



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

As many of you know, I have begun a project to convert past issues of *South Dakota Bird Notes* to an Internet-accessible format. My goal is to have past issues from 1949 through 1999 available free for downloading to anyone in the world. This task is huge and tedious, and occasionally I became distracted by articles from the early years of our organization.

I read J. O. Johnson's December 1955 Presidents' Page. To my surprise, after nearly 50 years, topics of concern for SDOU remain



remarkably similar! Johnson first implored readers to double SDOU membership, which he assured would take very little effort. Still today each SDOU member should have no trouble finding one new member, and the result would be a doubling of our membership.

SDOU's major expense today is the printing and mailing of *Bird Notes*, just as it was in 1955. Among other projects 50 years ago was the publishing of a revised annotated checklist of South Dakota birds. We have traveled a long way, now with three editions of *Birds of South Dakota* and a field checklist downloadable over the Internet.

What surprised me most about Johnson's President's Page, however, was a long essay on the SDOU's policy toward environmental activism. As many of you know, this subject was a matter of hot debate during the last two SDOU meetings (in North Dakota and Pierre). In 1955 the argument was over whether the organization should take an active part in the projects of the Nature Conservancy. (In 2004 we voted to support the establishment of wilderness areas in southwestern South Dakota.) In both years, the arguments were practically identical. In 1955, we noted action taken by the American Ornithologists' Union that "the preservation of suitable habitat in many cases far outranks in importance the protection of birds themselves." But we further declared that the SDOU "take no direct action in conservation matters but that it encourages its members to continue to supply information to conservation groups...and exert all possible effort to teach conservation and to encourage conservation." Finally, the SDOU should "maintain a committee on bird protection whose primary function shall be to provide to the members information on critical conservation problems."

Unlike in 1955, the motion to lend SDOU's name to a list of organizations supporting wilderness areas passed by only one vote. Personally, I am glad to see the SDOU become proactive in conservation matters. However, even during our recent debate, I was conflicted on how to vote, as I could see both sides of the argument. Indeed, with my newfound historical perspective, I might not have voted as I did. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University Box 740, Aberdeen, SD 57401.*

2003 REPORT OF THE RARE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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The SDOU Rare Bird Records Committee (RBRC) met on 18 May 2003 at Pierre and on 12 October 2003 at Madison. The members of the committee were David Swanson (secretary), Paul Springer, Todd Jensen, J. David Williams, and Jeffrey Palmer. All members either attended each meeting or voted *in absentia*.

Springer (1988. SDBN 40:67-70) outlined the purpose and voting procedures of the committee. Observers of rare or unusual birds in South Dakota are encouraged to report their observations to the secretary of the RBRC (currently David Swanson of Vermillion, SD) or to compilers of the quarterly Seasonal Reports in *South Dakota Bird Notes* (Jeffrey Palmer of Madison, SD [spring and fall] and Robb Schenck [winter] and Rosemary Draeger [summer], both of Sioux Falls, SD). A *Rare Bird Observation Form* is available in paper from the secretary of the RBRC. The form is also available at the SDOU website at <http://www.homepages.dsu.edu/palmerj/SDOU/seasonal.html>.

One of the most difficult problems faced by the RBRC is dealing with reports having scanty or incomplete details. Rejection of these reports results in the potential loss of important information on the status and distribution of birds in the state. However, for an accurate picture of the status and distribution of birds within South Dakota, it is imperative that only reports with absolutely conclusive identifications be included in the official state records. For this reason, reports should be as detailed as possible and should describe the entire bird, as well as vocalizations or behaviors exhibited by the bird at the time of observation. Notes on the observation for rare bird reports should be prepared during the observation or as soon afterward as possible, preferably prior to consulting a field guide. Complete descriptions are necessary to provide the committee with the greatest amount of information on which to judge their acceptance or rejection. A summary of the type of information desired by the RBRC in a rare bird report is included at the end of this article. In addition, the RBRC would welcome submission of copies of actual field notes taken at the time of observation along with the rare bird report.

A listing of review species, for which rare bird reports are requested, is pro-

vided on the latest version of the checklist of South Dakota birds (available from Dan Tallman, Aberdeen, SD). Observers are asked to submit reports of any species that is rare or unusual 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. Citations are provided in this report for records that have been published.

Following are the results of the committee's action since the last report in the September 2003 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).

- Mew Gull. 22 October 2002. One adult in basic plumage at Oahe Dam, Stanley Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Doug Backlund. Casual migrant.
- Mew Gull. 26 March-9 April 2003. One adult along the Missouri River near Pierre, Hughes/Stanley cos. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Second spring record.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull. 3-6 April 2003. One adult along the Missouri River near Pierre, Hughes/Stanley cos. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Casual migrant.
- Hermit Thrush. 19-20 September 2002. One at and Farm Island, Hughes Co. Banded and photographed. Doug Backlund and Ricky Olson. Third earliest fall migrant.
- Brown Thrasher. 14 February, 2003. One adult in Brookings, Brookings Co. Photographed. Darrell Napton. First post-December winter record.
- Summer Tanager. 29 April 2003. One first-year male in Ipswich, Edmunds Co. Photographed. J. David Williams. Casual spring migrant east.
- Black-headed Grosbeak. 8-31 July 2003. One first-year male at Highmore, Hyde Co. Photographed. Nancy and Carson Showalter. East of normal breeding range in the state.

CLASS 2 (Accepted – Satisfactory written description).

- Pacific Loon. 18 October 2002. One juvenile at Shadehill Reservoir. Perkins Co. Ron Martin and Clark Talkington. Casual fall migrant.
- Pacific Loon. 26-27 October 2002. One juvenile at Cottonwood Lake, Sully Co. Kenny Miller and Ricky Olson. Casual fall migrant.
- Glossy Ibis. 16 June 2002. One adult in breeding plumage near Hecla, Brown Co. Kenny Miller and Ricky Olson. (4 Class 2, 1 Class 3). Second state record.
- Barrow's Goldeneye. 29 March-1 April 2003. One male at Sand Lake NWR, Brown Co. Bridgette Flanders and John Koerner. Eleventh record away from Pennington Co. wintering sites.
- Rough-legged Hawk. 22 July 2000. One in juvenile plumage near Buffalo, Harding Co. Randy Podoll. First summer record.
- Red Knot. 26 May 2001. One adult in breeding plumage in Miner Co. Jeff Palmer. Casual spring migrant east.
- Red Knot. 7 August 2002. One adult in breeding plumage in Hughes Co. Ricky Olson. Fifth fall record.
- Red Knot. 19 May 2003. Five adults in breeding plumage at Lacreek NWR, Bennett Co. Nathan Pieplow. Accidental migrant west.
- Red Phalarope. 14 October 2002. One juvenile at Stone Lake, Sully Co. Kenny Miller and Ricky Olson. Sixth state record.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull. 6 April 2002. One adult at Lake Whitewood, Kingsbury Co. Jeff Palmer. Casual

- migrant.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull. 7 August-18 October 2002. One in second summer plumage near Pierre, Hughes/Stanley cos. Ricky Olson. Casual migrant. A photograph accompanying this record was suggestive, but not conclusive for Lesser Black-backed Gull, so the committee rated this record as Class 2. Casual migrant.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull. 5 October 2002. One adult at Belle Fourche, Buffalo Co. Randy Podoll. Casual migrant.
- Sabine's Gull. 22 September 2001. One juvenile below Oahe Dam, Hughes/Stanley cos. Jeff Palmer and Robb Schenck. Casual fall migrant.
- Sabine's Gull. 15 September 2002. One juvenile at Oahe Dam and downstream, Hughes/Stanley cos. Ricky Olson, Doug Backlund and Kenny Miller. Casual fall migrant.
- Band-tailed Pigeon. 23 June-3 July 2003. One at Draper. Jones Co. Rosa Lee Styles, Delmer Styles, Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Seventh state record, and the first since 1983.
- White-winged Dove. 25 May 1997. One at St. Onge. Lawrence Co. Randy Podoll and Barry Martin. Second state record.
- White-winged Dove. 5 September 2003. One at Clay Co. Eric Liknes. Sixth state record.
- Calliope Hummingbird. 13 July 2002. One adult male at Hill City, Pennington Co. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Sixth state record.
- Calliope Hummingbird. 23 August 2003. One adult female at Hanna, Lawrence Co. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Seventh state record. (4 Class 2, 1 Class 3).
- Broad-tailed Hummingbird. 21 July 2002. One adult female at Custer, Custer Co. Jeff Palmer and Robert Schenck. Rare summer visitor and fall migrant in the Black Hills.
- Broad-tailed Hummingbird. 12 July 2003. One adult male at Hill City, Pennington Co. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Rare summer visitor and fall migrant in the Black Hills. (4 Class 2, 1 Class 3)
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. 1 June 2003. One adult at Little Bend Recreation Area, Sully Co. Kenny Miller.
- Yellow-throated Vireo. 12 May 2002. One adult at Jackson Park, Rapid City, Pennington Co. Todd Jensen. Accidental migrant west.
- Hermit Thrush. 18 September 2002. One at Fort Pierre, Stanley Co. Ricky Olson. Second earliest fall record.
- Gray Catbird. 8 February 2003. One adult at McGee Game Production Area, Lincoln Co. Robert Schenck. Second post-December winter record.
- Orange-crowned Warbler. 9 November 2002. Two adults in Aberdeen, Brown Co. Jerry Stanford. Latest ever fall migrants.
- Yellow-throated Warbler. 17 September 2002. One adult male at Alkalai Creek Campground, Meade Co. Randy Podoll. Fifth state record.
- Pine Warbler. 26 September 2002. One at Fort Meade Recreation Area, Meade Co. Randy Podoll. Accidental west.
- Bay-breasted Warbler. 19 May 2003. One adult male at Jackson Park, Rapid City, Pennington Co. Jocelyn Baker and Todd Jensen. Fourth record for western South Dakota.
- Prothonotary Warbler. 6 September 2003. One at Newton Hills State Park, Lincoln Co. Paul and Aaron Burgers. Fifth fall record.
- Mourning Warbler. 24 May 2003. One adult male near Picnic Springs Campground, Harding Co. Kenny Miller. Third record for western South Dakota.
- Hooded Warbler. 29 June 2002. One adult male near Sturgis, Meade Co. Randy Podoll. Accidental migrant and summer visitor west.
- Summer Tanager. 14-15 June 2003. One adult male at Great Bear Ski Area, Minnehaha Co. Esther Hanson and Rosemary Draeger, and Doug Chapman. Casual spring migrant east. The bird on the 15th was possibly a different bird than the individual on the 14th.
- Summer Tanager. 3 May 2003. One first-year male near Oahe Dam, Stanley Co. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Casual spring migrant east.
- Cassin's Sparrow. 5 July 2002. One singing adult (at least three individuals were present at this site through at least 21 July) west of Edgemont, Fall River Co. Jeffrey Palmer. Second state record.
- Lincoln's Sparrow. 21 December 2002. One adult at Farn Island State Park, Hughes Co. Kenny Miller. Accidental in winter.
- Harris's Sparrow. 16 August 2002. One adult male at Custer State Park, Custer Co. Jerry Stanford. (4 Class 2, 1 Class 3). Earliest ever fall migrant.
- Black-headed Grosbeak. 22 August 2002. One adult male at Bramble Park Zoo, Watertown, Codington Co. Jerry Stanford. Rare migrant east.

CLASS 2H (Hypothetical – Satisfactory written description, but a single observer sight record that would constitute a first state record).

- Hammond's Flycatcher. 1 September 2003. One in fresh fall plumage at Hell Canyon. Custer Co. Jay Carlisle. This is the third single-observer sight record (all rated Class 2H) of this species during fall migration in the Black Hills.

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

- Long-tailed Jaeger. 13 September 2002. One dark-phase individual in Clay Co. The description was missing some important details due to the relatively limited view of the bird at a relatively long distance, so the committee felt that it did not rule out other species of jaegers.
- Little Gull. 12 November 2002. One in first-winter plumage near Pierre, Hughes Co. The description did not conclusively eliminate Bonaparte's Gull (2 Class 3, 3 Class 2).
- Broad-tailed Hummingbird. 13 July 2002. One adult male at Hill City, Pennington Co. The dissenting committee members felt that the report was lacking some important details that prevented conclusive elimination of Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Thus, the Class 3 rating (4 Class 3, 1 Class 2).
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. 8 November 2002. One adult at Warner, Brown Co. The report contained minimal details and the date would represent the latest record in the state by over three weeks. These reasons resulted in the Class 3 rating (4 Class 3, 1 Class 2).
- Cassin's Vireo. 17 September 2002. One adult at Alkali Creek Campground, Meade Co. The committee felt that this report was suggestive of a Cassin's Vireo and the date fits in well with the major fall migratory period for this species. However, because of the difficulty of distinguishing Cassin's from Blue-headed Vireos, and the fact that this would represent a first state record, the committee desired further documentation and details for acceptance.
- Sage Thrasher. 30 July 2002. One worn adult at Springfield Recreation Area, Bon Homme Co. This location is far to the east of regular nesting areas for Sage Thrasher within the state. The committee noted that some features mentioned in the description were not typical for a Sage Thrasher, and thus rated the report as Class 3 (4 Class 3, 1 Class 2).
- Blue-winged Warbler. 17 June 1998. One in Sturgis, Meade Co. Dissenting committee members felt that the details in this report did not conclusively eliminate all other species of warblers (4 Class 3, 1 Class 2).
- Prairie Warbler. 29 April 2003. One adult male at Amsden Lake, Day Co. Dissenting committee members felt that the report did not conclusively eliminate Palm Warbler (3 Class 3, 2 Class 2).
- White-throated Sparrow. 26 August 2002. One adult in Aberdeen, Brown Co. This is a very early record for a fall migrant of this species and the description did not conclusively eliminate other similar sparrows. These concerns resulted in the Class 3 rating (2 Class 3, 3 Class 2).

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

No reports were rated as class 4.

SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION

- Black Scoter. 28 October 2003. Two females or immatures at Sand Lake NWR, Brown Co.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull. 5 January 2003. One second-third winter bird at Fort Randall Dam, Charles Mix Co.
- Black-chinned Hummingbird. 31 August-2 September. One juvenile female at Hill City, Pennington Co.
- Yellow-throated Warbler. 6-7 June 2003. One adult male at Madison, Lake Co.
- Painted Bunting. 19 October 2003. One adult male at Tollgate Flats, Lawrence Co.
- Baird's Sparrow. 24 April 2001. One adult in Yankton Co.

OTHER ACTION

The committee discussed problems associated with evaluating reports with scanty or incomplete details. The committee is concerned about the potential loss of important data from rejected records, but is also very concerned about including into the official state records only reports for which the committee is completely sure of the correct identification. The committee suggested that Secretary Swanson highlight this problem in subsequent RBRC reports in *South Dakota Bird Notes*, and also requested that observers include copies of the actual field notes at the time of observation along with submitted rare bird reports.

In addition, Paul Springer resigned from the RBRC after the October meeting and was replaced by Ricky Olson. The RBRC would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul for his many years of excellent and dedicated service to the committee and his tremendous efforts in getting the committee formed and operating in its initial years of service. His work will be greatly missed.

PREPARATION OF RARE BIRD REPORTS

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(Originally published SDBN 46:64-71, 1994)

INTRODUCTION

The South Dakota Rare Bird Records Committee, hereafter RBRC, is charged with monitoring the status and distribution of rare and vagrant birds within the state. The RBRC maintains a review list of rare and vagrant birds for which reports are solicited. These review species are marked by an asterisk on the official *Checklist of South Dakota Birds* (copies available from Dan Tallman, NSU Box 740, Aberdeen, SD 57401). The main mechanism by which the responsibility of the RBRC is carried out is by reviewing reports on rare bird observations submitted to the committee by birders (Springer 1988). The RBRC evaluates all submitted reports to determine whether the description and details in the report provide an unquestionable identification of the species being reported or whether the information provided in the report is inconclusive. After review, the RBRC assigns the report a rating based upon the information contained in the report. The rating system includes the following categories: 1S, 1P, 1R, 2, 3, and 4 (Springer 1988). The Class 1 rankings apply to reports that are accompanied by supporting evidence (S for specimen, P for photograph, R for sound recording) that verifies the species claimed in the report. The Class 2 ranking indicates that a satisfactory and convincing written description of the bird was provided in the report. Classes 1 and 2 comprise reports that are accepted into the official bird records for the state. Class 3 rankings indicate that the details and description presented in the report are not sufficient for positive identification and the record is not accepted on this basis. A rating of Class 3 does not necessarily imply that an identification was incorrect, it simply means that the committee did not believe that the submitted materials provided an unquestionable identification. A rating of Class 4 is reserved for reports that the committee believes contain probable or certain misidentifications, and these records are not accepted on this basis.

Since the RBRC is charged with maintaining the official records on the status and distribution of rare birds within the state, the standards for evaluation employed by the committee must be rigorous to ensure scientific accuracy (see Baker 1986a, 1986b). This is particularly true for "sight" records that are not accompanied by supporting evidence. For these reports, the committee requires *very complete* details to classify the report as Class 2 and accept it into the official bird records for the state. Oftentimes, reports are submitted that lack sufficient details for the committee to rule out all other similar species. The committee must rate these reports as Class 3 or 4, even though the observer submitting the report may very well have been correct in his or her identification. The purpose of this paper is to inform birders submitting rare bird reports to the South

Dakota RBRC about the type of information and degree of detail necessary for the committee to make valid scientific judgments on submitted reports.

PREPARATION OF A RARE BIRD REPORT

One of the major problems faced by the RBRC is evaluation of reports with scanty or incomplete details and descriptions. These reports often consist of a brief listing of one or two prominent field marks and nothing else. These reports usually fail to properly treat how the reported bird differs from other similar species. For this type of report, the RBRC is left with no recourse but to reject the report, even if the observation is valid. Acceptable reports include careful and complete details and descriptions of the bird observed. Preferably, this description should be made *at the time of observation* while in the field and *before* consulting a field guide, rather than later from memory. If not in the field, notes should be prepared as soon after return from the field as possible, again preferably without first referring to a field guide, before memory has a chance to fade (or enhance) details.

Birders observing a species on the review list are asked to file a report with the RBRC in a timely manner. In this way the RBRC can speed up the process of reviewing reports without incurring the delay of waiting and then requesting the observer to submit a complete report. This is especially critical in terms of unconfirmed reports of rare birds that are cited elsewhere, such as in the Seasonal Reports section of *South Dakota Bird Notes* or in the Regional Reports sections of *National Audubon Society Field Notes*. Without review by the RBRC, readers of these reports will not know if they have been reviewed and rated as to their acceptability.

On the South Dakota "Rare Bird Observation Form" available in paper from the secretary of the RBRC and on-line at the SDOU website at <http://www.homepages.dsu.edu/palmerj/SDOU/seasonal.html>. Under the "description of bird" section are listed the following characters: size, shape, colors, bill, feet, eyes, plumage, etc. A complete report will deal with most or all of these features and will describe the *whole bird*, rather than just one or two field marks. I will briefly deal with each of these characters to provide some idea of the desires of the RBRC regarding details on rare birds.

SIZE

The size of a bird is notoriously difficult to judge in the field, but a general indication of the size of the bird ("warbler-sized," "robin-sized," etc.) is appropriate. If possible it is even better to report *relative size*, if another bird or other object of known size is nearby. For example, suppose you observe a juvenile Sharp-tailed Sandpiper foraging on the shore of a pond near a couple of Killdeer and some Least Sandpipers with some Blue-winged Teal swimming just beyond the shore. Incidentally, a juvenile Sharp-tailed Sandpiper was observed and photographed in Minot, North Dakota on 4 October 1991 for the first record for the Northern Great Plains region (Berkey 1992). A Sharp-tailed Sandpiper is about the size of a Pectoral Sandpiper, but this judgment may be tough to make

with no Pectorals around. However, you can say that the bird was slightly smaller than a nearby Killdeer, substantially larger than nearby Least Sandpipers, and about half the size of Blue-winged Teal swimming just behind it. This description of relative size, using species observed in the same area as the reported bird, functionally establishes the size of the reported bird within a narrow range appropriate for the species claimed.

SHAPE

A good place to start in describing shape is to include a general statement regarding the overall appearance of the bird ("warbler-shaped," "duck-shaped," etc.). From there, features such as plumpness of the body, lengths (or relative lengths) of bill, neck, legs, wings, and tail, posture (e.g., perched upright like a flycatcher or horizontally like a thrush or vireo), or additional physical characteristics (crest, webbing on feet, primary extension [the distance that the primary flight feathers extend beyond the secondaries and tertials on the folded wing], etc.) should be treated. Of course, all of these features need not be included for every bird reported, but they are often of great help in arriving at a positive identification. For example, *Empidonax* flycatchers are a difficult identification challenge, but the relative length of the tail and bill to the remainder of the body gives some species (Least, Yellow-bellied, Hammond's) a "large-headed look" that is a useful field mark (Kaufman 1990). Furthermore, primary extension is an important field mark in *Empidonax* identification (Kaufman 1990).

COLORS

This feature is fairly self-explanatory, but care should be taken to denote subtleties in coloration and shading, especially between various parts of the body or between possibly confusing species. For example, female Common and Red-breasted Mergansers both have reddish-brown heads and necks, whitish breasts and grayish flanks. However, in Common Mergansers the reddish of the neck is sharply demarcated from the whitish breast, whereas in the Red-breasted the reddish of the neck rather gradually fades into the whitish breast. Another helpful aspect of describing color is to provide precise descriptions of the *shade* of color. As an example, both Long-billed Dowitchers and Red Knots are reddish on the face and underparts in breeding plumage. However, the duller "brownish-red" of the dowitcher is quite different from the brighter red of the knot.

BILL AND FEET

General characteristics such as length, color, webbing or partial-webbing on the feet, droop or upturn to the bill, and feathering around the base of legs or bill can be important identifying factors. A useful method of reporting bill length is to report it in terms of multiples of head width. For example, both Whimbrels and Long-billed Curlews have long, down-curved bills, but in the Whimbrel the bill is about 2.5 times the width of the head, while in Long-billed Curlews the bill is about 4 to 5 head widths.

EYES

If possible, eye color should be noted as this is important in some cases (e.g., White-eyed Vireo, juvenile vs. adult Red-eyed Vireos, female Rusty vs. female Brewer's Blackbirds). Another factor important in the identification of some species (e.g., Black-billed Cuckoo, certain gulls) is the color of the skin immediately surrounding the eye.

PLUMAGE

A careful description of the plumage is, arguably, the single most important feature in most rare bird reports, and yet it is often one of the most incomplete portions of the report. Great care should be taken in describing the various parts of the plumage in reported birds. These descriptions should be as complete as possible, which means the *entire body* should be described. A "bright yellow warbler-shaped bird" could be a Yellow, Prothonotary, Blue-winged, Wilson's, or possibly some other warbler, or even an American Goldfinch. Careful descriptions of the plumage color, shading and appearance on the entire body when viewed in good light are of great benefit to the committee in reaching appropriate decisions on acceptance or rejection. A good place to start is by reviewing the bird topography section in the front of your favorite field guide. Here you will find terms for various portions of bird anatomy that are very useful in providing complete plumage descriptions. In addition, when describing plumage, be sure to note color changes and even subtle differences in shade between various parts of the body (head and nape, wings and back, throat and breast, belly and undertail coverts, etc.).

Furthermore, the *pattern* of coloration is often of great importance to proper identification and features, such as facial pattern (superciliary stripe, eye lines, eye ring, crown stripes, etc.), wing pattern (plain, wing bars, wing tip pattern, scapular pattern, etc.), tail pattern (tail spots, bars across tail, outer retrix pattern, etc.), breast, flank or back streaking or lack of it, should always be searched for and noted if present. A complete and detailed plumage description taking into account as many of these factors as possible is integral to a good (and acceptable) rare bird report.

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

So far, I have dealt primarily with physical (or morphological) characteristics in describing rare birds. However, there are a number of other factors, such as behavior, voice, habitat or microhabitat and overall impression (or "jizz") that can be as important (or even more important) than a careful description of morphological characters.

Alone, behavior is not sufficient for identification of rare birds, but it can be very helpful in supplementing and supporting descriptions of rare birds. For instance, Cerulean Warblers tend to stay near the tops of trees, while *Oporornis* warblers are typically observed on or near the ground. Behaviors such as wing and tail flicking can be important supplementary information in the identification of *Empidonax* flycatchers. Also, a tendency for flocking or solitude can be use-

ful in identification of some birds. Consequently, the behavior that a rare bird exhibits should be carefully noted and included in any rare bird report submitted to the RBRC.

Another very important aspect of rare bird identification is the careful documentation of voice or other sounds, if the reported bird happens to be singing, calling, or making a noise by its actions (e.g., the drumming of a woodpecker). In fact, for identification of some similar species, such as Alder and Willow flycatchers and Eastern and Western meadowlarks, voice is the only reliable method for separation. In describing the voice of a bird, particular attention should be paid to the number of syllables uttered and on which syllable the accent (if it occurs) is placed. It is also useful to describe the call or song phonetically and to document the character of the notes given (clear, musical, buzzy, raspy, nasal, insect-like, etc.). In most birds, especially passerines, voice is as species-specific as plumage, and this makes voice a very important component of rare bird reports. In all cases, the voice or other sound that a bird makes should be described in one's own terms, rather than stating that it is like the description given in a field guide.

The habitat or microhabitat in which a rare bird is found can also contribute to its identification (e.g., Pine Warblers are usually associated with pines). Thus, careful documentation of the habitat where the reported bird was located (open deciduous forest, mixed forest, shortgrass prairie, cattail marsh, etc.) should be included in the report. If possible, mention the particular species of vegetation present, especially those species that the reported bird was using. Microhabitat differences can also be useful as supporting details (e.g., did the bird stay in the understory, was it restricted to the tops of trees, or did it forage at a number of different levels in the canopy?).

A final piece of supporting information that can be useful in identification of rare birds is the "jizz" that a bird exhibits. Jizz is a somewhat nebulous character that includes the actions, behavior and general appearance of a bird and gives the observer an impression of the overall character of the bird (e.g., active, buoyant, energetic, powerful, shy, swift). Oftentimes, a rare bird acts or appears somehow different in overall character from normally observed birds, and this impression (or jizz) alerts the observer to look more closely. Since jizz is an abstract character, it becomes useful for identification purposes only after considerable time is spent in the field. A good way to develop the ability to utilize jizz as an aid to recognizing rare birds is to pay attention to the actions, behavior and general appearance of the more common birds. Then when a bird appears that doesn't quite match the jizz of the common birds, this should alert the observer to make a more careful observation.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

While the description and details of the rare bird constitute the foundation of the rare bird report, the clinching factors in acceptance or rejection of a report often are supplementary materials provided along with the report. These supplementary materials include physical evidence (specimens, photographs or vo-

cal recordings), sketches prepared *while in the field* and verification by other observers. I will briefly treat each of these types of supplementary materials.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Of the types of supplementary materials mentioned above, physical evidence is the most useful to the RBRC. Documentation of first state records ordinarily requires some form of physical evidence along with the report, although corroboration by one or more experienced birders can also suffice. A specimen is the best possible evidence supporting a rare bird report, but since the shotgun is no longer an acceptable ornithological tool, specimen records are now quite rare. However, if a rare bird is found recently dead, the observer should notify appropriate authorities (South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks) or the RBRC so that a specimen may be prepared from the dead bird. Such a scenario resulted in the first South Dakota record for Ancient Murrelet (Williams 1994).

Photographic documentation can be almost as good as a specimen if the photos are of decent quality, and even poorer quality or long-range photos can assist identification. Thus, anyone observing a rare bird, especially an extremely rare bird, should try to get photos of the bird to accompany the rare bird report. If you don't have a camera with you at the time of observation, take careful field notes, then try to come back later for a photograph. If you don't have a camera (and preferably a telephoto lens), try to get someone who does to accompany you to relocate the rarity. Color 35 mm slides are probably best for supporting rare bird reports, as showing them on a screen greatly enlarges the photo, but any color or black-and-white photo can assist in documentation. A good photograph can make the job of the RBRC much easier.

For species difficult to distinguish by sight, a tape recording of its vocalizations can be very helpful in verifying the reported bird if it is singing or calling. This is particularly true for nocturnal or secretive rarities such as Yellow Rails, Chuck-will's-widows or various owls. In such cases, a tape recording of the bird's vocalization is of utmost value as a supplement to the rare bird report. A good, albeit brief, discussion of the necessary equipment for documenting rarities by photograph or tape recorder can be found in Dittmann and Lasley (1992).

SKETCHES

If you observe a rare bird but lack a camera and are in a situation where you cannot gain access to one before the bird is likely to leave, another helpful addition to a careful description is a sketch of the bird produced while in the field. This does not require that the observer have any artistic ability, as crude sketches can still illustrate important field marks (I speak from experience here as anyone viewing any of my sketches will immediately recognize my lack of artistic ability!). Sketches do not even need to include the entire bird to be beneficial in assisting identification, as sketches of important features (i.e., tail pattern, wing tip pattern, facial pattern, etc.) can be very useful as well. One way to get around a complete lack of artistic ability and to allow rapid sketching of a

bird is to carry a small field notebook with outlines of bird bodies traced from a field guide (Dittmann and Lasley 1992). When a rare bird is observed, it is then a simple matter of filling in the blank spaces with the plumage pattern of the observed bird. You need not carry outlines for every possible bird family into the field with you, only those you are likely to encounter in the habitat you are birding. For instance, if you are going to visit Oahe Dam in mid-October to mid-November, you might carry outlines of gulls, but not of vireos. Likewise, if you are going to Sica Hollow State Park in mid-May, you would want to carry warbler outlines in your field notebook. Simple sketches like these can greatly improve or add to a description and are of great benefit to the RBRC.

VERIFICATION BY OTHER BIRDERS

Another important aspect of documenting rare birds, especially for "sight records," is verification by other observers, especially by experienced birders. This verification may involve independent reporting of the rare bird or additional signatures from birders observing the bird but not reporting separately. Single observer sight records always require especially careful scrutiny, particularly if the report represents a new species for the region or state (see, for example, Watson 1987). Therefore, if you are alone and have seen an especially rare bird, after carefully describing it and photographing or sketching it, proceed to the nearest phone and call a nearby experienced birder. This is not only a good practice for verification of the rare bird, but it is a favor to other birders who would also appreciate seeing the rare bird. Thus, not only will you be strengthening your rare bird report, you will be providing a valued service to the birding community.

I should mention that inexperienced birders or birders unfamiliar to the RBRC should make an effort to get to know other birders in their area. This does not imply that sight records submitted to the RBRC from unfamiliar birders will be rejected out-of-hand, as familiarity to the RBRC is not a prerequisite for observing rare birds and the RBRC must act objectively on all submitted material. However, reports from birders with established reputations for careful documentation often proceed through RBRC action with greater rapidity than reports from unknown observers. This may be interpreted by some as favoritism or exclusivity, but in reality the RBRC is simply making an effort to ensure accuracy of accepted reports. For a current discussion of this rather delicate matter, see Contreras (1994). A good way for inexperienced or new birders within the state to become familiar to the RBRC is to attend the spring and fall meetings of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, as most experienced birders within the state attend these meetings regularly. However, if you are a new or unfamiliar observer within the state, do not let this dissuade you from submitting rare bird reports; just carefully describe the rare bird and try the best you can to provide supplementary materials. In addition, if your records are not accepted by the RBRC, do not take this personally or let it prevent you from submitting future reports, as even members of the RBRC have had reports rejected for lack of sufficient details.

Hopefully, this review of the type of information desired in rare bird reports by the RBRC will allow persons observing birds within South Dakota to more carefully document records of rare species. This, in turn, will ensure the greatest scientific accuracy in monitoring the status and distribution of such birds within the state. One final note, in order to make information on the occurrence of rare species in South Dakota more widely known, persons whose records are accepted (Classes 1 and 2) are encouraged to publish them as notes in *South Dakota Bird Notes*.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank Kurt Dean, Paul Springer, the late Nat Whitney, Bruce Harris and Jeff Palmer for providing valuable comments on earlier versions of this manuscript. In addition, I would like to thank all those observers who have submitted rare bird reports to the RBRC in the past and those who will in the future. It is through your efforts that we will gain an ever-improving knowledge of the status and distribution of birds within the state of South Dakota.

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GENERAL NOTES

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER IN VALE, SOUTH DAKOTA. I have a light pole about 40 feet from my house, and in the fall several suet feeders are placed on it. On 16 November 2003, I looked out the kitchen window and noticed an unusual woodpecker feeding on the suet. Bright crimson red covered its head and continued down the back of its neck. It had black and white bars on its back and a reddish tinge on its belly. The male Red-bellied Woodpecker flew to the feeder next to a window and ate sunflower seeds. I was able to observe it better and take a few photos. My neighbor saw the woodpecker several times at his feeder and my mother also observed it. The Red-bellied Woodpecker took its turn at the feeders for about a week before it left. This sighting was accepted by the Rare Bird Records Committee and categorized as Class 1-P. *Monte Richards Box 123 Vale, S.D. 57788*

ABERDEEN BANDING RECOVERIES. Four recent recoveries of birds banded in Aberdeen include a Common Redpoll, a House Finch, a Northern Flicker, and two Mourning Doves. The redpoll is my first recovery for this species, despite large numbers having been banded in the past—only Pine Siskins and American Goldfinches have been caught in greater numbers. The recovered bird was banded on 16 February 2004 and recovered in Jamestown, ND, on 18 March 2004 (band number 1980-60135). I originally banded (1691-83818) the House Finch on 4 July 2001 and retrapped this male on 30 October 2004. The flicker was banded on 1 September 2002 and was recovered locally on 16 May 2004 (band 1453-71253). The first dove was also a local recapture, banded on 4 October 1999 and recovered on 6 August 2004 (band 1253-75697). A second dove was banded in town on 23 July 2003 by Paul Mammenga of Game, Fish and Parks (band 1583-40937) and recovered by me on 14 August 2004. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen SD 57401.*



BOOK REVIEWS

THE BIRDWATCHER'S COMPANION TO NORTH AMERICAN BIRDLIFE. 2004. Christopher W. Leahy. Princeton University Press: Princeton. Hardcover. 1039 pp. \$39.50

Although this huge, inexpensive dictionary is directed toward beginning and intermediate birders, the book will be enjoyed by anyone even remotely interested in birds. Covered in non-technical English, the book has just about anything and everything to do with birds and birding.

It is impossible to summarize the breadth of information included between the covers. Common bird names are explained, physiology and behavior described, birders and birding covered. A wealth of statistics are included, both describing birds (biggest, smallest) and birders (income, ethnicity). Entries range from the arcane (Cave Swiftlets' echolocation noises are lower than those of bats) to trivial (Big Day records from around the world).

The book does have a few drawbacks. Despite a stunning cover color photograph of Tufted Puffins, the text is very sparsely illustrated with black and white line drawings. More illustrations and the inclusion of some color would have been more attractive, especially to beginning birders. Additional plates, on the other hand, would have driven up the price.

The most stunning drawback is the omission of *Birds of South Dakota* from the list of state bird books—either modern edition! Mentioned only is Over and Thomas [sic] 1946 edition—Leahy did not even get Thoms' name correct. This book is published in collaboration with the American Birding Association, which could have easily verified current state bird books. An omission such as this makes me uneasy about accepting all the facts collected in the book as gospel. Randomly researching other entries, I found them to be correct and occasionally

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humorous. For a humorous example, take the entry for hepatic: "it would be surprising to find a truly liver-colored Hepatic Tanager and alarming to find a Hepatic Tanager-colored liver." *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD 57401.*



SEASONAL REPORTS

The 2004 Summer Season
1 June 2004 through 31 July 2004

Compiled by Rosemary Draeger
528 E. Lotta St., Sioux Falls SD 57105

Western South Dakota entered the summer season in drought condition. While normal precipitation occurred through June and July for most of South Dakota, the southwest remained dry, and overall, the state ended the season with accumulated precipitation below normal levels of previous years.

Many birders raised concerns during the summer about the impact of West Nile Virus on bird numbers. Efforts to document the impact of WNV on birds nationwide are in early stages, and no conclusive information is available. We do know that 280 species of birds have been infected since 1999. Questions being researched include: why some species are more susceptible than others, what percent of individuals within a species become ill when infected, what percent of those infected will die, do any birds fully recover after infection, what is the duration of any immunity individuals of a species acquire if they do recover from WNV infection, have some bird species numbers been devastated by WNV, and what is the likelihood that those species will rebound to pre-WNV numbers?

The following tabulation summarizes a large amount of submitted data. More than 3300 individual sightings were recorded, most through the new SDOU reporting database. A total of 249 species were reported, compared to the previous 5-year average of 251. Confirmed breeding was reported for 98 species, compared to the previous 5-year average of 105.

Kenny Miller's discovery of several Barn Owl nests in the midst of Bank Swallow colonies along the Missouri River was a highlight of the season, as was Doug Backlund's discovery of a Bald Eagle nest in Haakon County and confirmed breeding reports of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers for the first time in Roberts, Custer and Union counties.

This report includes all confirmed breeding records reported. Individual sightings are listed in bold type in those instances where, according to *The Birds of South Dakota, 3rd edition*, the sighting marks an early or late nesting record. Also listed in bold type are those nesting sightings recorded for the first time in a county. To save space, sightings of common species for which no nesting records were reported were not listed individually.

Thank you to the 29 observers who submitted data for the Summer Season Report.

Greater White-fronted Goose. **Reported: 12 Jun Miner JSP.**

Canada Goose. Confirmed breeding: 1 Jun Pennington Canyon Lake (PY) JLB; 12 Jun Miner (PY) JSP; 2 Jul Grant Big Stone Lake (FL) PS.

Wood Duck. Confirmed breeding: 1 Jun Pennington Canyon Lake (PY) JLB; 3 Jun Pennington Rapid Creek (FL) MM; 24 Jun Minnehaha (FY) MKZ; 26 Jun Marshall (PY) JSP; 3 Jul Day (PY) female w/8 yg., PS;

3 Jul McCook (PY) JSP; 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge (PY) 7, RSD/LGJ; 10 Jul Clark (PY) JSP; 21 Jul Minnehaha (FY) MKZ; Also observed 8 Jul Haakon, DB; 10 Jul Lawrence, VDF.
 Gadwall. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jun Pennington Quinn Dam (PY) JLB.
 Mallard. Confirmed breeding: 26 Jun Marshall (PY) JSP; 2 Jul Grant Big Stone City (PY) PS; 3 Jul Day (PY) PS; 3 Jul McCook (PY) JSP; 8 Jul, 21 Jul, 27 Jul Minnehaha (FY) MKZ.
 Blue-winged Teal. Confirmed breeding: 19 Jun Hughes (NE) KM; 2 Jul Day (PY) PS; 10 Jul Clark (PY) JSP; 27 Jul Meade Bear Butte Lake (FL) JLB.
 Cinnamon Teal. Reported: 4 Jun Butte JLB.
 Northern Pintail. Confirmed breeding: **27 Jul Meade Bear Butte Lake (FL) JLB.**
 Canvasback. Confirmed breeding: 3 Jul Marshall (PY) PS. Also observed 29 Jul Harding KM.
 Ring-necked Duck. Reported: 7 Jun Day DC; 12 Jun Miner JSP; 26 Jun Marshall JSP.
 Lesser Scaup. Reported: 4 Jun Butte JLB; 12 Jun Miner JSP; 26 Jun Day JSP; 26 Jun Meade APB; 3 Jul Day PS.
 Hooded Merganser. Reported: 1 Jun Pennington Canyon Lake JLB; 5 Jun Brookings JSP; 13 Jun Pennington Canyon Lake JLB; 26 Jun Day JSP; 10 Jul Clark JSP; 13 Jul Stanley RDO.
 Common Merganser. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jun Pennington Rapid Creek (PY)(14) JLB; 21 Jul Pennington (PY) JLB. Also observed 20 Jun Charles Mix RM; 26 Jun Meade APB.
 Ruddy Duck. Reported: 4 Jun Butte JLB; 5 Jun Kingsbury, 10 Jul Clark JSP; 7 Jun Day, 2 Jul Lincoln DC; 12 Jun Miner JSP; 16 Jun, 19 Jun, 14 Jul Hughes KM; 20 Jun Charles Mix RM; 26 Jun Day JSP; 3 Jul Marshall PS.
 Gray Partridge. Confirmed breeding: **4 Jun Harding (PY) RDO**; 1 Jul Meade (FL) (7), EEM. Also observed 5 Jun Kingsbury JSP; 6 Jun Harding KM; 29 Jun Lincoln, 12 Jul Moody DC; 31 Jul Day LH.
 Ring-necked Pheasant. Confirmed breeding: 24 Jun Brown Sand Lake NWR (FL)(8) BLF; 2 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge (NE) RSD/LGJ; 3 Jul McCook (PY) JSP; 7 Jul Hughes (PY) KM.
 Sharp-tailed Grouse. Reported: 2 Jun Day (12 on lek) DRS; 12 Jun, 19 Jun, 11 Jul Sully, 28 Jul Harding KM; 12 Jul, 18 Jul Stanley, 24 Jul Lyman DB; 31 Jul Custer MM.
 Greater Prairie-Chicken. Reported: 2 Jun Tripp RDO; 12 Jul Stanley, 24 Jul Lyman DB.
 Wild Turkey. Confirmed breeding: 4 Jun Harding (PY) KM; 9 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savannah (PY) RSD/LGJ.
 Northern Bobwhite. Reported: 7 Jun Charles Mix RM.
 Common Loon. Reported: 1 Jun Stanley, 8 Jun Hughes RDO; 7 Jun Stanley 27 Jun, 6 Jul Hughes KM; 17 Jun Hughes, 18 Jun Lyman JSP; 18 Jun Stanley CEM; 8 Jul Hughes RDO; 10 Jul Charles Mix RM.
 Pied-billed Grebe. Confirmed breeding: 19 Jun Hughes (PY) KM.
 Red-necked Grebe. Reported: 26 Jun Marshall JSP; 3 Jul Marshall PS.
 Eared Grebe. Reported: 2 Jun Minnehaha DC; 4 Jun Butte, 14 Jun Pennington JLB; 20 Jun Charles Mix RM.
 Western Grebe. Confirmed breeding: 5 Jun Brown Sand Lake NWR (FL)(2) BLF.
 Clark's Grebe. Confirmed breeding: **13 Jun Brown Sand Lake NWR (FL) BLF.** Also reported: 1 Jun Fall River Angostura Res. PEL; 2 Jun Stanley RDO.
 American Bittern. Confirmed breeding: 14 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR (FY) DAT. Also observed: 2 Jun Stanley, 24 Jul Sully RDO; 4 Jun Butte JLB; 16 Jun, 19 Jun Hughes KM.
 Least Bittern. Confirmed breeding: **28 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR (FL) BLF.** Also observed: 14 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR DAT.
 Great Blue Heron. Confirmed breeding: 5 Jun, 23 Jul Custer Stockade Lake (ON) (4 active nests) KH.
 Great Egret. Reported: 4 Jun Charles Mix RM; 5 Jun Brookings, 12 Jun Miner, 26 Jun Marshall, 3 Jul McCook, 10 Jul Clark JSP; 7 Jun Brown, 2 Jul Lincoln, 10 Jul, 30 Jul Minnehaha DC; 3 Jul Day PS; 28 Jul Faulk Scatterwood Lake MM.
 Snowy Egret. Reported: 7 Jun Brown DC; 26 Jun Day, 10 Jul Clark JSP.
 Little Blue Heron. Reported: 31 Jul Day LH.
 Cattle Egret. Reported: 16 Jun, 22 Jun Hughes KM; 10 Jul Clark JSP.
 Green Heron. Reported: 4 Jun Charles Mix RM; 5 Jun Kingsbury JSP; 21 Jun, 30 Jun Minnehaha DC; 23 Jun, 27 Jul Hughes Farm Island DB; 2 Jul Grant Big Stone City PS; 17 Jul, 18 Jul Brown BLF.
 White-faced Ibis. Reported: 5 Jun Day Blue Dog Lake DRS; 21 Jun, 23 Jun, 31 Jul Day LH; 26 Jun JSP; 2 Jul Day PS.
 Osprey. Confirmed breeding: 1 Jun, 30 Jun, 19 Jul, 31 Jul Pennington Pactola Lake (NY) (3) JF; 18 Jul Lawrence Pilot Knob (NY)(2), JLB. Also reported: 10 Jul Minnehaha DC.
 Bald Eagle. Confirmed breeding: 8 Jun Roberts (FY) 13 Jul Marshall (NY)(2) LH; **8 Jul Haakon (FY) nest DB.** Also observed 1 Jun Charles Mix RM; 8 Jun Stanley KM; 13 Jul Minnehaha DC; 31 Jul Clay Goat Island. BFH.
 Cooper's Hawk. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun Brown Aberdeen (ON) DAT; **25 Jul Hughes Farm Island (FL) (2 fledged plus adult) DB;** Also observed: 2 Jun Minnehaha, 29 Jun Lincoln DC; 11 Jul Sully KM, RDO; 5 Jun Brookings JSP; 16 Jun, 19 Jun Hughes KM; 17 Jul Pennington JF.
 Broad-winged Hawk. Reported: 3 Jul Marshall Sica Hollow PS; 8 Jul, 13 Jul Minnehaha MKZ; 25 Jun Pennington JLB.
 Red-tailed Hawk. Confirmed breeding: 9 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savanna (NY) (1) RSD/LGJ; 30 Jun Fall River

(NY)(2) RAP; 3 Jul Day (ON) PS.
 Ferruginous Hawk. Confirmed breeding: 6 Jun Butte (ON) EEM; **24 Jul Lyman (FL) (2 dark phase fledglings) DB.**
 Golden Eagle. Reported: 2 Jun Jackson DC; 2 Jul Fall River (adult with young on ground) RAP.
 American Kestrel. Confirmed breeding: 12 Jul Moody (FY) DC.
 Prairie Falcon. Reported: 3 Jun Butte DC; 4 Jun Harding KM; 26 Jun Custer JF; 25 Jul Pennington (3) JLB; 28 Jul Harding KM 30 Jul, 31 Jul Custer MM.
 Virginia Rail. Reported: 2 Jun Stanley RDO; 5 Jun Kingsbury JSP; 16 Jun Hughes, 20 Jun Stanley KM; 26 Jun Harding CEM 14 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR DAT.
 Sora. Reported: 2 Jun Stanley RDO; 4 Jun Butte JLB; 10 Jul Minnehaha DC.
 American Coot. Confirmed breeding: 26 Jun Day (PY) JSP.
 Sandhill Crane. Reported: 5 Jun Meade Bear Butte Lake, standing on shore, JLB.
 American Golden-Plover. Reported: 2 Jun Pennington DC.
 Semipalmated Plover. Reported: 2 Jun Pennington, 30 Jul Minnehaha DC; 4 Jun Butte JLB; 24 Jul Sully RDO; 28 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR BLF; 30 Jul Sully KM; 31 Jul Day LH.
 Piping Plover. Reported: 11 Jun Hughes, 30 Jun Sully KM; 11 Jul Sully KM, RDO; 29 Jul Clay DS; 31 Jul Clay Goat Island BFH.
 Killdeer. Confirmed breeding: 3 Jul McCook (PY) JSP; 13 Jul, **27 Jul Minnehaha (DD) MKZ.**
 American Avocet. Confirmed breeding: 3 Jun Charles Mix Lake Andes NWR, (ON) RM. Also reported: 5 Jun Meade JLB; 7 Jun, 31 Jul Day LH; 12 Jun Miner, 10 Jul Clark JSP; 16 Jun Hughes RDO; 17 Jul Harding, 30 Jul Sully KM.
 Solitary Sandpiper. Reported: 10 Jul Clark JSP; 12 Jul Jones KM; 14 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR, DAT; 19 Jul Clay DS; 24 Jul Sully RDO; 25 Jul Pennington Tennyson Dam JF, JLB, 27 Jul Meade JLB.
 Willet. Confirmed breeding: 26 Jun Day (PY) JSP. Also reported: 2 Jun Pennington DC; 13 Jun, 16 Jun Pennington JLB; 22 Jun Harding CEM; 24 Jun Stanley, 24 Jul Sully RDO; 25 Jun, 31 Jul Day LH; 25 Jul Pennington JF, JLB; 28 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR, BLF.
 Upland Sandpiper. Confirmed breeding: 12 Jun Fall River (PY) RAP; 19 Jun Sully (PY) KM; 13 Jul Stanley (PY) RDO; **30 Jul Meade (FL) EEM.**
 Long-billed Curlew. Confirmed breeding: 4 Jun Harding (PY) KM. Also reported: 13 Jun Pennington JLB; 7 Jul Custer MM; 28 Jul, 29 Jul Harding KM.
 Marbled Godwit. Reported: 2 Jun Jones, 26 Jun Pennington KM; 2 Jun Pennington DC; 12 Jun Miner, 26 Jun Day JSP; 13 Jun Pennington Quinn Dam JLB; 25 Jul Pennington Tennyson Dam JF, JLB; 13 Jul Stanley RDO; 28 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR, BLF; 28 Jul Edmunds N. Scatterwood Lake MM; 31 Jul Day LH.
 Ruddy Turnstone. Reported: 5 Jun Kingsbury JSP.
 Sanderling. Reported: 24 Jul Sully RDO; 31 Jul Clay Goat Island BFH.
 White-rumped Sandpiper. Reported: 2 Jun Pennington DC; 5 Jun Brookings, 12 Jun Miner JSP; 20 Jul Clay DS.
 Short-billed Dowitcher. Reported: 14 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR, DAT; 31 Jul Day LH.
 Long-billed Dowitcher. Reported: 14 Jul Brown Sand Lake NWR, DAT; 16 Jul Pennington JLB; 24 Jul Sully RDO.
 Wilson's Snipe. Reported: 2 Jun Tripp RDO; 26 Jun Custer KH.
 Bonaparte's Gull. Reported: 1 Jun Fall River Angostura Reservoir PEL; 1 Jun Stanley RDO; **27 Jul Meade Bear Butte Lake JLB.**
 California Gull. Reported: 1 Jun Fall River Angostura Reservoir PEL; 1 Jun, 15 Jun Hughes, 8 Jul Sully KM; 1 Jun Stanley, 8 Jul, 12 Jul Hughes RDO; 4 Jun Day, 30 Jul Minnehaha DC; 17 Jun Hughes, 18 Jun Lyman JSP; 20 Jun Charles Mix RM.
 Herring Gull. Reported: **5 Jun Kingsbury JSP.**
 Lesser Black-backed Gull. Reported: **1 Jun, 15 Jun Hughes KM; 1 Jun, 20 Jun Stanley, 15 Jun Hughes RDO; 18 Jun Hughes JSP.**
 Black-legged Kittiwake. Reported: **2 Jul Lawrence TJ, JF.**
 Caspian Tern. Reported: 1 Jun Hughes, 20 Jun, 6 Jul Stanley KM; 1 Jun Stanley, 12 Jul Hughes RDO; 4 Jun Charles Mix RM; 18 Jun Hughes JSP; 19 Jun Sully CEM; 27 Jul Meade Bear Butte Lake JLB.
 Common Tern. Confirmed breeding: 8 Jul Sully (CF) KM; Also reported: 1 Jun, 23 Jun Hughes, 6 Jul Stanley KM; 1 Jun Stanley, 8 Jul, 12 Jul Hughes RDO; 17 Jun Hughes, 18 Jun Lyman JSP; 26 Jun Meade APB.
 Forster's Tern. Confirmed breeding: **5 Jun Day Bitter Lake colony NW corner (NB) DRS;** 3 Jul Day (CF) PS. Also reported 1 Jun Charles Mix RM; 1 Jun Hughes, 17 Jun Stanley KM; 1 Jun Stanley RDO; 7 Jun Day DC; 26 Jun Day JSP; 18 Jul Potter DB; 31 Jul Day LH.
 Least Tern. Reported: 11 Jun, 8 Jul Hughes, 30 Jun, 11 Jul Sully KM; 11 Jul Sully RDO; 31 Jul Clay Goat Island BFH.
 Eurasian Collared-Dove. Reported: 2 Jun, 11 Jun, 6 Jul Hughes KM; 4 Jun Butte RDO; 10 Jun Charles Mix RM; 25 Jul Pennington Wasta JF, JLB.
 Mourning Dove. Confirmed breeding: 24 Jun Minnehaha (ON) MKZ; 23 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (ON) RSD/LGJ.

Black-billed Cuckoo. Reported: 2 Jun Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA RSD/LGJ; 5 Jun Brookings, 17 Jul Custer JSP; 16 Jun Hughes KM; 19 Jun Hughes RDO; 8 Jul Haakon DB.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Reported: 12 Jun, 20 Jun Stanley KM; 23 Jun Lincoln Oak Ridge DC, LGJ; 1 Jul Stanley RDO.

Barn Owl. Confirmed breeding: 12 Jun Sully Little Bend nest # 1 (ON) (young visible 6/19), 23 Jun Hughes Peoria Flats (NY) 3 nests (1 (NY), 2 (ON) (young visible 13 Jul)), 24 Jun Hughes Spring Creek (ON) (1 nest), 24 Jun Sully Cow Creek (NY) (2 nests), 10 Jul Sully Little Bend nest #2 (NY), 14 Jul Hughes (NY) (1 nest) KM. Also reported 30 Jun, 31 Jul Hughes, 6 Jul Stanley KM; 3 Jul Stanley, 11 Jul Hughes, Stanley, Sully RDO.

Eastern Screech-Owl. Confirmed breeding: 27 Jun Harding (FL) CEM. Also reported: 3 Jun Custer, 30 Jul Minnehaha DC; 23 Jun Clay red phase DS; 31 Jul Custer MM.

Burrowing Owl. Confirmed breeding: 12 Jun Hughes (FL) KM; 12 Jul Stanley (FL) DB; 17 Jul, 30 Jul Harding (FL) CEM. Also reported: 2 Jun Jackson DC; 11 Jun Stanley, 27 Jun, 30 Jul Sully, 8 Jul Hughes KM; 26 Jun, 13 Jul Stanley, 9 Jul Haakon RDO; 16 Jul Pennington Badlands NP JLB; 24 Jul Hyde, 31 Jul Custer Spring Creek MM; 24 Jul Lyman DB; 25 Jul Pennington JF, JLB.

Long-eared Owl. Reported: 1 Jun Stanley KM; 2 Jun Stanley RDO; 3 Jun Harding CEM.

Short-eared Owl. Reported: 1 Jun Fall River PEL; 4 Jun Butte DC, JLB, RDO; 4 Jun Harding KM, RDO; 27 Jun, 10 Jul Sully, 29 Jul Harding KM; 18 Jul Stanley, 24 Jul Lyman DB.

Northern Saw-whet Owl. Confirmed breeding: **29 Jul Harding South Cave Hills (NY) CEM.** Also reported 16 Jul Harding KM.

Common Nighthawk. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jul Stanley (FL) RDO.

Common Poorwill. Reported: 2 Jun Stanley RDO; 13 Jun Meade APB.

Chuck-will's-widow. Reported: **7 Jun, 18 Jun Stanley KM; 17 Jun Stanley JSP.**

Whip-poor-will. Reported: 3 Jun Charles Mix RM; 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA, RSD/LGJ.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Reported: 1 Jun Charles Mix RM; 12 Jun Lincoln DC; 25 Jun Day LH; 26 Jun Marshall JSP; 29 Jun Lake KB; 2 Jul, 23 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA, RSD/LGJ.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird. Reported: **7 Jun Custer Hell Canyon JC; 17 Jul Custer JLB; 17 Jul Pennington RDO.**

Rufous Hummingbird. Reported: **9 Jul, 17 Jul Pennington RDO; 12 Jul Custer KH; 17 Jul Custer JSP; 19, 20, 21 Jul Pennington JF.**

Belted Kingfisher. Confirmed breeding: 17 Jun Stanley (ON) KM.

Lewis' Woodpecker. Reported: 1 Jun Pennington JLB; 4 Jun, 26 Jun, 3 Jul, 24 Jul Pennington JF; 26 Jun Custer KH; 17 Jul Pennington JSP, RDO.

Red-headed Woodpecker. Confirmed breeding: 1 Jun Pennington (CF) JLB; 2 Jun, 23 Jun, 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (ON) 9 Jul Wilson Savanna (NY) RSD/LGJ.

Red-bellied Woodpecker. Reported: 9 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savanna, 2 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA RSD/LGJ; 12 Jun, 23 Jun Lincoln DC; 26 Jun Roberts JSP; 13 Jul Minnehaha MKZ.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun, 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (ON) 9 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savanna (FY) RSD/LGJ; Also reported: 12 Jun, 23 Jun, 28 Jun Lincoln DC; 2 Jul Grant Big Stone Lake PS.

Red-naped Sapsucker. Confirmed breeding: **12 Jun Pennington (CF) JF; 26 Jun Custer (NY) KH.** Also reported: 2 Jun, 13 Jul, 18 Jul Pennington, 3 Jun Custer JLB; 3 Jun Lawrence DC; 12 Jun Lawrence, 24 Jul Meade APB; 26 Jun, 5 Jul, 28 Jul Pennington JF.

Downy Woodpecker. Confirmed breeding: 17 Jun Charles Mix (FY) RM; 24 Jun, **27 Jul Minnehaha (FY) MKZ.**

Hairy Woodpecker. Confirmed breeding: 12 Jun Lawrence Roughlock Falls (ON) JLB.

Three-toed Woodpecker. Reported: 12 Jun Lawrence JLB.

Black-backed Woodpecker. Reported: 2 Jun Pennington, 1 Jul, 17 Jul Hell Canyon Custer JLB; 3 Jun Custer DC; 26 Jun Pennington KM, RDO; 24 Jul Meade APB.

Northern Flicker. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun (ON), 13 Jun (ON), 2 Jul (NY) Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA, RSD/LGJ; 16 Jun Hughes (ON) KM; 30 Jun Charles Mix (FY) RM.

Pileated Woodpecker. Reported: 26 Jun Roberts JSP.

Eastern Wood-Pewee. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jun (FY), 23 Jun (CF) Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA, RSD/LGJ.

Willow Flycatcher. Reported: 12 Jun Miner, 26 Jun Marshall, 3 Jul McCook JSP; 16 Jun Hughes KM; 19 Jun Hughes RDO; 26 Jun Charles Mix, 1 Jul Gregory RM; 26 Jun Marshall JSP; 5 Jul Brookings Oak Lake BFH; 30 Jul Minnehaha DC.

Least Flycatcher. Reported: 2 Jun Stanley RDO; 3 Jun Custer DC; 4 Jun Harding, 27 Jun Stanley KM; 26 Jun Custer KH; 26 Jun Marshall, JSP.

Dusky Flycatcher. Confirmed breeding: **7 Jun Lawrence (CN) JLB.** Also reported: 1 Jun Pennington JF; 3 Jun Custer DC; 26 Jun Custer KH, KM, RDO; 17 Jul Custer, 18 Jul Pennington JLB; 24 Jul Meade APB.

Cordilleran Flycatcher. Confirmed breeding: 5 Jul Lawrence Spearfish Canyon (NE) DB; 7 Jul Lawrence Crook City Rd. (ON) VDF. Also reported: 1 Jun, 29 Jun, 13 Jul, 15 Jul, 18 Jul Pennington, 1 Jul, 17 Jul

Custer JLB; 3 Jun, 26 Jun, 3 Jul Pennington, 30 Jul Custer JF; 26 Jun Custer KH; 9 Jul Lawrence RDO; 24 Jul Meade APB.

Eastern Phoebe. Confirmed breeding: 3 Jul Roberts Sica Hollow (ON) (under bridge) PS; 8 Jul (ON), 13 Jul (FY), 21 Jul (FL) **Minnehaha MKZ**; 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (ON) RSD/LGJ.

Western Kingbird. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jun Pennington (ON) JLB; 16 Jun Hughes (ON) KM.

Eastern Kingbird. Confirmed breeding: 4 Jun Butte (CN), 13 Jun Pennington (CN) JLB; 12 Jun Miner (ON) JSP; 19 Jun Hughes (ON) KM; 11 Jul Sully (FL) KM; 27 Jul Lincoln Oak ridge GPA (FY) RSD/LGJ.

Loggerhead Shrike. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jul Stanley (FY) RDO. Also reported: 2 Jun Tripp RDO; 4 Jun Harding, 21 Jul Custer, 25 Jul Pennington JLB; 6 Jun Perkins, 10 Jul Minnehaha DC; 12 Jun Miner, 17 Jul Custer JSP; 4 Jun, 28 Jul Harding, 19 Jun Hughes, 8 Jul Sully KM; 12 Jul Stanley, 18 Jul Potter, Stanley DB; 20 Jul Custer MM.

Bell's Vireo. Reported: 3 Jun Pennington MM; 8 Jun Stanley, 19 Jun, 31 Jul Hughes, 8 Jul Sully KM; 19 Jun Hughes, 13 Jul Stanley RDO; 13 Jun, 25 Jul Pennington JLB; 3 Jul McCook JSP; 26 Jul Stanley DB.

Yellow-throated Vireo. Reported: 12 Jun Lincoln DC; 26 Jun Roberts JSP; 3 Jul Marshall, Roberts Sica Hollow PS.

Plumbeous Vireo. Reported: 1 Jun, 3 Jul Pennington, 26 Jun, 31 Jul Custer JF; 3 Jun Custer DC; 4 Jun Harding, 26 Jun Custer KM; 26 Jun Custer RDO; 27 Jun Meade APB.

Warbling Vireo. Confirmed breeding: 7 Jun Lawrence (CF) JLB.

Red-eyed Vireo. Confirmed breeding: 7 Jun Lawrence (CF) JLB; 23 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (DD) RSD/LGJ.

Gray Jay. Reported: 1 Jun Lawrence JLB; 2 Jun Custer KH; 3 Jun Custer DC; 12 Jun, 1 Jul, 26 Jul Pennington, 20 Jun Fall River JF.

Blue Jay. Confirmed breeding: 9 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savanna (CF) RSD/LGJ.

Pinyon Jay. Reported: 2 Jun, 29 Jun Meade APB; 3 Jun Custer DC.

Black-billed Magpie. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jun Meade (FY) APB. Also reported: 1 Jun, 30 Jun, 1 Jul, 31 Jul Meade APB; 1 Jun Meade EEM; 1 Jun, 26 Jun, 3 Jul, 30 Jul Pennington JF; 1 Jun Pennington JLB; 2 Jun Jackson DC; 4 Jun, 16 Jul, 29 Jul Harding KM; 8 Jul Haakon DB; 9 Jul Lawrence RDO.

Purple Martin. Confirmed breeding: 4 Jul Brookings Oakwood Lakes (ON) (2 pr.) BFH.

Tree Swallow. Confirmed breeding: 23 Jun Meade (NE) (3) EEM; 2 Jul Grant Big Stone City (FY) (2) PS.

Violet-green Swallow. Confirmed breeding: 1 Jun Pennington (CN) JLB; 21 Jul Custer (NY) KH.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow. Confirmed breeding: 24 Jun Day Waubay NWR (ON) LH.

Bank Swallow. Confirmed breeding: 17 Jun Stanley (ON) KM; 3 Jul Day (ON) PS; 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge (FY) RSD/LGJ; 31 Jul Clay Goat Island (NY) BFH.

Cliff Swallow. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jun Pennington (NB) JLB; 29 Jul Day (NY) LH.

Barn Swallow. Confirmed breeding: 24 Jun (NB), 8 Jul (ON) **Minnehaha MKZ**; 2 Jul Grant Big Stone City (ON) (2 nests) PS; 11 Jul Charles Mix (NY) RM; 24 Jul Lyman (FL) DB.

Black-capped Chickadee. Confirmed breeding: 8 Jul Minnehaha (CF) MKZ.

Red-breasted Nuthatch. Confirmed breeding: 3 Jun Custer (CF) JLB.

White-breasted Nuthatch. Confirmed breeding: 24 Jun, 8 Jul, 27 Jul **Minnehaha (FY) MKZ**.

Pygmy Nuthatch. Reported: 1 Jun Pennington JLB; 17 Jun Pennington JSP, RDO.

Brown Creeper. Reported: 17 Jun Stanley KM; 20 Jun Fall River JF; 26 Jun Custer KH.

Rock Wren. Reported: 3 Jun Custer DC; 4 Jun Harding, 29 Jun Sully, 7 Jul, 31 Jul Hughes KM; 4 Jun, 26 Jun, 3 Jul, 24 Jul Pennington JF; 26 Jun Custer, 11 Jul Sully RDO; 3 Jul, 17 Jul Meade APB; 8 Jul Haakon, 18 Jul Potter, 24 Jul Stanley DB; 17 Jul Custer JLB.

Canyon Wren. Reported: 26 Jun Custer JF; 1 Jul, 17 Jul Custer, 13 Jul, 15 Jul Pennington JLB.

House Wren. Confirmed breeding: 23 Jun Lincoln Oak Ridge (CF) RSD/LGJ; 24 Jun, 8 Jul **Minnehaha (ON) MKZ**.

Sedge Wren. Reported: 5 Jun Kingsbury, 12 Jul Miner, 26 Jun Day, 3 Jul McCook, 10 Jul Clark JSP; 4 Jul Brookings BFH; 10 Jul Minnehaha DC; 26 Jul Faulk MM.

Marsh Wren. Confirmed breeding: 1 Jul Clark (FY) JSP.

American Dipper. Confirmed breeding: 12 Jun Lawrence Hanna Campground (CF) JLB. Also reported 1 Jun Lawrence Hanna (banded) JLB.

Golden-crowned Kinglet. Reported: 3 Jun Custer DC; 12 Jun Pennington JF.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Reported: 1 Jun Lawrence, 3 Jun Custer, 13 Jul, 18 Jul Pennington JLB; 3 Jun Custer DC; 5-Jun Custer KH.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Confirmed breeding: 26-Jun Roberts Hartford Beach SP (NY) JSP; 17-Jul Custer Boyles Canyon (FY) JLB; 20 Jul Union Grove SP (FY) DS. Also reported 1 Jun Fall River Lower Roby Canyon PEL; 3 Jun Custer DC; 21 Jun Fall River RAP.

Eastern Bluebird. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (ON) RSD/LGJ; 5 Jun Charles Mix (NE) RM; 11 Jun Stanley (FY) 19 Jun Hughes (ON) KM; 1 Jul Minnehaha (FY) DC; 12 Jul Moody (FY) DC.

Mountain Bluebird. Confirmed breeding: 1 Jun (ON), 24 Jun (NE) Meade, EEM; 3 Jun Custer (NY) KH; 3 Jun Custer (FY) JLB; Also reported 4 Jun, 29 Jul Harding KM; 1 Jun, 26 Jun, 3 Jul Pennington JF; 17

Jul Custer JSP; 3 Jun Custer DC; 26 Jun Custer KM, RDO.
 Townsend's Solitaire. Reported: 1 Jun Pennington, 17 Jul Custer JLB; 3 Jun Custer DC; 4 Jun Harding KM; 5 Jun Custer KH; 26 Jun Custer, 24 Jul Pennington JF; 17 Jul Pennington JSP, RDO.
 Veery. Reported: 18 Jun, 4 Jul Spearfish Canyon, 5 Jul Lawrence Whitewood Creek DB; 26 Jun Marshall JSP; 3 Jul Marshall, Roberts Sica Hollow PS.
 Swainson's Thrush. Reported: 1 Jun, 2 Jun, 3 Jun 7 Jun Brown DAT; 1 Jun Stanley, 26 Jun Custer KM; 3 Jun Lawrence DC; 9 Jul Lawrence RDO; 10 Jul Pennington JF; 13 Jul Pennington JLB; 24 Jul Meade APB.
 Wood Thrush. Confirmed breeding: 29 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savanna (DD) DC, RSD/LGJ. Also reported: 3 Jun, 2 Jul, 7 Jul, 23 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge RSD/LGJ.
 American Robin. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun Pennington (CF), 7 Jun Lawrence (NE) JLB; 23 Jun Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (CF) RSD/LGJ; 24 Jun Minnehaha (ON) MKZ; 8 Jul Charles Mix (FY) RM.
 Gray Catbird. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (CN) RSD/LGJ; 24 Jun Minnehaha (DD) MKZ.
 Northern Mockingbird. Reported: 1 Jun Gregory RM; 4 Jun Butte DC; 7 Jun Lawrence APB; 27 Jun Hughes RDO; 8 Jul Haakon DB; 10 Jul Lawrence St. Onge VDF.
 Sage Thrasher. Reported: 8 Jul Fall River RAP.
 Brown Thrasher. Confirmed breeding: 20 Jun Stanley (FL) KM.
 Virginia's Warbler. Reported: 3 Jun Custer DC; 26 Jun Custer KM, RDO; 17 Jul Custer Boyles Canyon JLB.
 Yellow Warbler. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun, 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge (NB) RSD/LGJ; 13 Jun Pennington (CF) JLB; 19 Jun Hughes (ON) KM.
 Chestnut-sided Warbler. Reported: 2 Jun, 3 Jun Brown DAT.
 Black-and-white Warbler. Reported: 26 Jun Marshall JSP.
 Mourning Warbler. Reported: 1 Jun, 2 Jun Brown DAT.
 MacGillivray's Warbler. Reported: 1 Jun Lawrence JLB.
 Common Yellowthroat. Confirmed breeding: 11 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savanna (NB) RSD/LGJ; 23 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (FL) RSD/LGJ.
 Scarlet Tanager. Reported: 3 Jun, 23 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA, 9 Jun, 11 Jun, Wilson Savanna RSD/LGJ; 12 Jun, 29 Jun Lincoln DC; 3 Jul Marshall, Roberts PS; 12 Jul Union, Union Grove SP DS.
 Western Tanager. Reported: 1 Jun, 18 Jul Pennington, 3 Jun, 17 Jul Custer, 27 Jul Meade JLB; **1 Jun, 4 Jun Stanley**, 26 Jun Custer, 9 Jul Lawrence RDO; 3 Jun Custer DC; 4 Jun Harding, 26 Jun Custer KM; 7 Jun Meade EEM; 12 Jun, 26 Jun, 3 Jul, 24 Jul Pennington JF; 20 Jun Custer KH; 26 Jun, 30 Jun, 24 Jul Meade APB.
 Eastern Towhee. Confirmed breeding: 23 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (CF) RSD/LGJ.
 Chipping Sparrow. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jul Grant Big Stone City (FL) PS; 8 Jul Minnehaha (CF) MKZ.
 Clay-colored Sparrow. Reported: 7 Jun Deuel DC; 12 Jun Miner, 26 Jun Roberts, 3 Jul McCook, 10 Jul Clark JSP; 13 Jun, 30 Jul Sully KM; 5 Jul Brookings Oal Lake BFH.
 Brewer's Sparrow. Confirmed breeding: 4 Jun Harding (FY) RDO; 9 Jun Fall River (NE) (3) (1 newly hatched) RAP. Also reported: 4 Jun, 28 Jul, 29 Jul Harding KM; 24 Jul Meade APB.
 Field Sparrow. Confirmed breeding: 24 Jun Minnehaha (DD) MKZ; 29 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savanna (CF) RSD/LGJ.
 Lark Sparrow. Confirmed breeding: 13 Jun Meade (CF) APB.
 Lark Bunting. Confirmed breeding: 9 Jun (NE) (1), 28 Jun (NE) (3) Fall River RAP; 13 Jun Pennington (CN) JLB; Also reported: Reports requiring acceptance by the Rare Bird Records Committee: Mountain Plover 13 Jul Pennington Conata Basin (1) Photos DB; Alder Flycatcher 7 Jun Custer (singing male) JC; Willow Flycatcher 30 Jul Minnehaha (FY) DC; Cassin's Kingbird 6 Jun Bennett DC; Scissor tailed Flycatcher 3 Jul Custer TJ; 17 Jul JLB, JSP, RDO; 21 Jul JLB; 31 Jul Minnehaha, SF Bike Trail, RSD.
 Baird's Sparrow. Reported: 4 Jun Harding JLB, KM, RDO; 6 Jun Harding KM; 15 Jun McPherson KB.
 Le Conte's Sparrow. Reported: 26 Jun Day JSP.
 Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Reported: 26 Jun Day JSP.
 Song Sparrow. Confirmed breeding: 12 Jun Lawrence (FY) JLB; 24 Jun Minnehaha, 8 Jul, 13 Jul (CF) MKZ.
 Swamp Sparrow. Reported: 5 Jun Kingsbury, 12 Jun Miner, 26 Jun Day, 10 Jul Clark JSP; 12 Jun, 28 Jun Lincoln, 10 Jul Minnehaha DC; 4 Jul Brookings BFH.
 Dark-eyed Junco. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun Pennington (FL) 12 Jun Lawrence (FL) JLB.
 Chestnut-collared Longspur. Reported: 4 Jun Butte, 25 Jul Pennington JLB; 4 Jun, 6 Jun, 17 Jul Harding KM; 4 Jun Harding, 10 Jul Hughes, 13 Jul Stanley RDO; 5 Jun Kingsbury JSP; 7 Jul Custer MM; 24 Jul Lyman DB.
 Northern Cardinal. Confirmed breeding: 24 Jun Minnehaha (ON) MKZ.
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Confirmed breeding: 24 Jun Minnehaha (CF) MKZ; 29 Jun Lincoln Wilson Savanna (DD) DC, LGJ; 2 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (CF) RSD/LGJ; **29 Jul Charles Mix (FY) RM**.
 Blue Grosbeak. Confirmed breeding: 12 Jul Moody (FY) DC. Also reported 1 Jun Fall River PEL; 2 Jun Tripp, 11 Jul Sully, 13 Jul Stanley RDO; 7 Jun Hughes, 30 Jun Sully, 6 Jul, 30 Jul Stanley KM; 3 Jul McCook JSP; 8 Jul Haakon, 18 Jul, 24 Jul Stanley DB; 20 Jul Pennington Badlands NP DS; 24 July Faulk MM.
 Lazuli Bunting. Reported: 2 Jun Haakon DC; 2 Jun Tripp, RDO; 13 Jun Harding CEM; 26 Jun Custer KM,

RDO.

Indigo Bunting. Confirmed breeding: 1 Jul Minnehaha (DD) DC. Also reported: 8 Jun, 20 Jun Stanley KM; 12 Jun, 23 Jun, 29 Jun Lincoln DC; 3 Jul Meade JF; 7 Jul, 23 Jul, 27 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA RSD/LGJ.

Red-winged Blackbird. Confirmed breeding: 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (CF) RSD/LGJ.

Western Meadowlark. Confirmed breeding: 4 Jun Butte (CF) JLB; 11 Jun Hughes (FL) KM.

Brewer's Blackbird. Reported: 4 Jun Butte DC; 12 Jun Harding CEM; 26 Jun Custer KH; 25 Jul Pennington JLB.

Common Grackle. Confirmed breeding: 16 Jun Charles Mix (FY) RM; 24 Jun Minnehaha (FY) MKZ; 2 Jul Grant Big Stone City (CF) PS.

Orchard Oriole. Confirmed breeding: 3 Jul Minnehaha Makoce Washte (FY) DC; 7 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (CF) RSD/LGJ.

Baltimore Oriole. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jun (NB), 23 Jun, 7 Jul (CF) Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA, 9 Jul Lincoln Wilson Savanna (FY) RSD/LGJ; 24 Jun Minnehaha (CF) MKZ; 8 Jul Charles Mix (FY) RM.

Bullock's Oriole. Reported: 3 Jun Brown Sand Lake NWR BLF; 4 Jun Butte DC; 13 Jun Meade APB; 27 Jun Harding CEM.

Northern Oriole. Confirmed breeding: **27 Jul Faulk (CF) MM.**

Cassin's Finch. Reported: 3 Jun Custer DC, JLB; 26 Jun Custer KM.

House Finch. Confirmed breeding: 15 Jun Charles Mix (FY) RM.

Red Crossbill. Reported: 1 Jun, 30 Jun, 1 Jul, 31 Jul Meade APB; 1 Jun Pennington, 3 Jun Custer JLB; 3 Jun Custer DC; 4 Jun Harding, 26 Jun Custer KM; 4 Jun, 31 Jul Pennington, 20 Jun Fall River JF; 26 Jun Custer RDO.

Pine Siskin. Reported: 1 Jun, 30 Jun, 1 Jul, 31 Jul Pennington JF; 1 Jun Pennington JLB; 3 Jun Custer DC; 10 Jun Meade EEM; 26 Jun Meade APB.

Lesser Goldfinch. Reported: 26 Jun Fall River RAP.

American Goldfinch. Confirmed breeding: 2 Jul Lincoln Oak Ridge GPA (CN) RSD/LGJ.

House Sparrow. Confirmed breeding: 10 Jul Charles Mix (NB) RM.

Reports requiring acceptance by the Rare Bird Records Committee: Mountain Plover 13 Jul Pennington Conata Basin (1) Photos DB; Alder Flycatcher 7 Jun Custer (singing male) JC; Willow Flycatcher 30 Jul Minnehaha FY, DC; Cassin's Kingbird 6 Jun Bennett DC; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 3 Jul Custer TJ; 17 Jul JLB, JSP, RDO; 21 Jul JLB; 31 Jul Minnehaha, SF Bike Trail, RSD.

Common species reported, not recorded individually for this Season Report: Snow Goose, American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Green-winged Teal, Redhead, Sharp-tailed Grouse, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Turkey Vulture, Northern Harrier, Swainson's Hawk, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Black Tern, Rock Pigeon, Great Horned Owl, Chimney Swift, White-throated Swift, Western Wood-Pewee, Say's Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, American Crow, Horned Lark, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Yellow-breasted Chat, Spotted Towhee, Vesper Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Black-headed Grosbeak, Dickcissel, Bobolink, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird.

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|-----------|------------------------------------|-----|------------------|
| DB | Backlund Doug | TJ | Jensen Todd |
| JLB | Baker Jocelyn | PEL | Lehman Paul |
| KB | Bakker Kristel | RM | Mabie Ron |
| APB | Ball Addison and Patricia | MM | Melius Michael |
| JC | Carlisle Jay | CEM | Miller Charlie |
| DC | Chapman Douglas | EEM | Miller Ernie |
| RSD & LGJ | Draeger Rosemary and Linda Johnson | KM | Miller Kenny |
| | | RDO | Olson Ricky |
| BLF | Flanders-Wanner Bridgette | JSP | Palmer Jeffrey |
| VDF | Fondy Vic/Donna | RAP | Peterson Richard |
| JF | Fowler Jennifer | DRS | Skadsen Dennis |
| KH | Hachmeister Kevin, Kris and Lewis | PS | Springer Paul |
| NH | Holden Nelda | DS | Swanson David |
| LH | Hubers Laura | DAT | Tallman Dan |
| BFH | Huser Bill | MKZ | Zerr Mic |

Published by
SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
EDITOR: DAN TALLMAN
NSU BOX 740
ABERDEEN SD 57401

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