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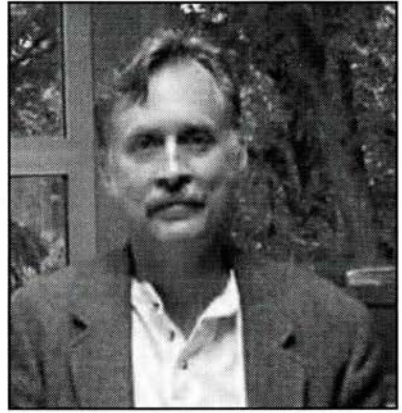
President's Page



Dan Tallman, 1200 South Jay Street, Aberdeen SD 57401.

In last December's President's Page I mistakenly reported that Nat Whitney had financed the first Bird Notes color photo when, in fact, the sponsors were Les and Mary Baylor. My apologies to Les and Mary; such lapses in memory seem more common for me as I age.

Risking further memory failures, I look back at SDOU during my first 27 years as a member. Curiously, our membership numbers have remained fairly steady, albeit with different individuals over the years. This strength is a good thing; much better than a fading organization. On the other hand, birding is said to be one of the fastest growing hobbies in the nation. Certainly we might expect a parallel growth in SDOU



membership. I have always felt that, if each of us signed up only one new member, our ranks would double! The robust sales of *The Birds of South Dakota* indicate that grassroots interest in state birding exists.

Why don't people join SDOU? Some are intimidated by what they perceive as their relative lack of birding skills. This perception, of course, is unfortunate, since there is no better way to become a competent birder than to go out with other birders. SDOU meetings can be intimidating for the novice birder. Some of our better birders, for various reasons, go off birding on their own, leaving the newcomers feeling slighted. This has always been the case in our bird meetings. Perhaps many of our better birders seldom have the opportunity to bird with their colleagues except at SDOU meetings. Beginners easily feel slighted if their identifications are doubted or if their birding techniques are criticized. I usually introduce people to the SDOU by explaining that we are an esoteric, and often cantankerous, collection of birders of all abilities, despite the pretentious sound of our title, the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union. I also advise newcomers not to be shy, to introduce themselves, and to enjoy the fellowship. I was impressed at the recent Belle Fourche meeting by Vic Fondy and Addison Ball's efforts to make new birders feel welcome by joining them at meals and inviting them to share rides during the field trips.

It is my opinion that the SDOU currently is stronger and more vibrant than during any time I can recall. The quality of our publications is excellent, as is the content of our fall paper sessions. Along with a healthy cadre of independent and nonprofessional birders, we have strong ties with the university ornithological community as well as with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks. The SDOU listserv has transformed us into efficient communicators. (In an earlier era, telephone calling trees seldom made it around the state.) The various Internet photo galleries maintained by individual SDOU members are not only aesthetically inspiring, but also have transformed rare bird reporting.

Don't be shy in promoting this fine organization. If you do not feel like you have the time or the energy to participate in the committees or governance of SDOU, a great way to

contribute is to offer SDOU membership to birders you know around the state. If there are aspects of the SDOU that irritate you, make your feelings known. Only in this way will our group continue to better meet the needs of South Dakota birders.

In Memoriam: Everett Montgomery 1913-2006



Dan Tallman, 1200 South Jay Street, Aberdeen SD 57401.

Everett Montgomery, a long-time SDOU member and former vice-president of the organization, died on 9 May 2006, after many years of failing health. Everett was a modest soul and a passionate birder. He never boasted about his abilities nor faulted others for their errors. He was so modest, in fact, that he did not feel capable of ascending to the SDOU presidency, as do most of our vice-presidents.

One reason for this modesty was his depression-era upbringing. Everett was born in Onawa, Iowa, on 5 February 1913. After graduating from high school, it fell upon Everett to support his siblings. He married Marjorie Keegan in December 1939, and moved to South Dakota when she became ill. He established a contracting company, Montgomery Decorating Services, and specialized in painting churches. Traveling with Everett could be quite interesting, as, due to garrulous parish priests, Everett was privy to the gossip of many South Dakota towns.

Marjorie died in 1970 and Everett was fortunate to marry Jeanette Dalton in January 1974. Jeanette oversaw Everett's business affairs and, because of her work, Everett was able to retire in the late 1970s and devote his time to birding and traveling.

Everett was the second South Dakota birder I ever met. The first was Byron Harrell of USD, whom I met at a Wilson Ornithological Society meeting in Omaha, Nebraska. After the meeting, I interviewed at Northern State University. Byron clairvoyantly knew my job application would be successful and alerted Everett to expect a young ornithologist in Aberdeen. The first weekend Erika and I were in town, Everett took us out to Mina Lake State Recreation Area and showed us a Long-eared Owl roost. I was reassured about my decision to come to South Dakota.

Over the next years, Everett and I birded throughout the state. Everett introduced me to many South Dakota birding hotspots. Often Everett gave Erika a break from child rearing when he packed me and toddler David into his pickup truck for an afternoon of birding. These jaunts resulted in a plethora of adventures and fond memories.

Early in our friendship, Everett and I drove to an AOU meeting in Boulder, Colorado. It was there that I became aware of Everett's modesty concerning his education. I tried to assure him that he was more competent than most of the AOU attendees, especially when it came to bird identification. But Everett was intimidated by all the famous ornithologists we met, although he enjoyed the field trips into the Rocky Mountains.

Once, after driving Everett to the Mayo Clinic where he required a small surgery, I squeaked up a Barred Owl. Everett seemed so impressed by my ability to attract birds in this fashion that I decided not to admit to dumb luck. During that trip, Everett introduced me to peppermint schnapps. He was not averse to a small drink before dinner, and this became somewhat of a ritual for us after a hard day's birding during many an SDOU meeting. I was also impressed by Everett's religious devotion, which led him to local

churches, even during SDOU weekends.

During the last years of his life, I did not take very good care of our friendship. Everett and Jeanette moved from their beautiful home to an assisted living apartment. As his health failed, Everett was heartbroken to have to curtail his annual winter Texas birding trips. We saw less and less of the Montgomery's and then he was gone.

Everett's funeral was beautiful. The service was entitled, "On Eagle's Wings." When Debi Dusseault, a professionally trained opera singer and church cantor, sang that same hymn at the end of the service, both Erika and I wept, for we knew there upon an eagle, Everett was certainly soaring.

2005 Report Of The Rare Bird Records Committee



David L. Swanson. Department of Biology. University of South Dakota. Vermillion 57069. Email: David.Swanson@usd.edu.

The SDOU Rare Bird Records Committee (RBRC) met on 22 May 2005 at Vermillion and on 2 October 2005 at Brookings. The members of the committee were David Swanson (secretary), Ricky Olson, Todd Jensen, J. David Williams, and Jeffrey Palmer. All members either attended each meeting or voted in absentia.

Springer (1988. SDBN 40:67-70) outlined the purpose and voting procedures of the RBRC. The RBRC strongly encourages observers of rare or unusual birds in South Dakota to report their observations to the secretary of the RBRC (David Swanson of Vermillion, SD), preferably via email at David.Swanson@usd.edu. A Rare Bird Observation Form is available in electronic format for this purpose at <http://homepages.dsu.edu/palmerj/SDOU/rbrf.doc>.

One of the most difficult problems faced by the RBRC is dealing with reports having 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 can be found in Swanson (2004. SDBN 56:88-95). 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 provided on the latest version of the checklist of South Dakota birds (available from K.C. Jensen, Brookings, 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.

Following are the results of the committee's action since the last report in the December 2005 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).

Eurasian Wigeon. 3 April 2005. One adult male at Chief White Crane Campground, Yankton Co. Photographed. Roger Dietrich. Fourth state record.

Pacific Loon. 26 May 2004. One in winter plumage at Oahe Dam Tailrace, Hughes Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund. Fourth spring record.

Red-shouldered Hawk. 19-20 March 2005. One adult at Farm Island, Hughes Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund and Kenny Miller. Casual visitor.

Common Moorhen. 3 June 2005. One at Hansen WPA, Lake Co. Photographed. Nancy Drilling.

Sandhill Crane. 19 May-27 June, 2005. 2 adults and two recently fledged young at Lacreek NWR, Bennett Co. Photographed. Tom Koerner. First confirmed nesting record in South Dakota since the early 1900s.

Dunlin. 11 December 2004. One in non-breeding plumage at Big Bend Dam, Buffalo Co. Jeff Palmer. Latest fall record.

Arctic Tern. 12 May 2005. One in breeding plumage at Oahe Dam, Stanley Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund and Carol Aron. Second state record.

Magnificent Hummingbird. 16-17 June 2005. One adult female at Sturgis, Meade Co. Videotaped. Randy Podoll. First state record.

Costa's Hummingbird. 8-24 September 2005. One juvenile male near Nemo, Lawrence Co. Photographed. Mark and Mary Zimmerman. First state record.

Calliope Hummingbird. 13 June 2004. One adult male at Sturgis, Meade Co. Randy Podoll. Videotaped. Casual migrant in the Black Hills.

Calliope Hummingbird. 13 August 2005. One adult male at Deer Mountain, Lawrence Co. Photographed. Shari Kosel. Casual migrant in the Black Hills.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird. 25 August 2004. One juvenile in Hell Canyon, Custer Co. Jeff Palmer, Jay Carlisle and Madeline Schickel. Rare summer resident and fall migrant in Black Hills.

Rock Wren. 6 April 2004. One singing bird at Oahe Dam, Stanley Co. Photographed. Doug Backlund. Earliest spring record.

Hermit Thrush. 6 January 2005. One at Aberdeen, Brown Co. Photographed. Dan Tallman. Fourth winter record.

Black-headed Grosbeak. 9-12 May 2005. One adult male at Madison, Lake Co. Photographed. Jeff Palmer. Rare migrant east.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow. 29 April 2005. One adult collected in a sparrow nestbox trap at Huron, Beadle Co. Specimen and photograph. Ryan Thompson. First state record.

CLASS 2 (Accepted – Satisfactory written description).

Brant. 11 November 2003. One adult bird at Big Bend Dam, Buffalo Co. David Swanson and Jeff Palmer. Casual fall migrant.

Black Scoter. 11 November 2003. One adult female at Big Bend Dam, Buffalo Co. Jeff Palmer and David Swanson. Casual fall migrant.

American Golden-Plover. 29 May 2004. One in breeding plumage at Tennyson Dam, Pennington Co. Jennifer Fowler. Accidental in western South Dakota.

Snowy Plover. 16 May 2005. One adult in breeding plumage in Hughes Co. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Third state record.

Whimbrel. 26 May 2005. One adult at Bear Butte Lake, Meade Co. Jocie Baker. Casual migrant.

Hudsonian Godwit. 29 May 2004. One adult in breeding plumage at Tennyson Dam, Pennington Co. Jennifer Fowler. Accidental in western South Dakota away from Lacreek NWR.

Baird's Sandpiper. 20 November 2004. One in juvenile plumage at Big Bend Dam, Buffalo Co. Jeff Palmer. Latest fall migrant.

Stilt Sandpiper. 2 April 2004. One in basic plumage near Mitchell, Davison Co. David Swanson and Nathan Thomas. Earliest spring migrant.

Laughing Gull. 12 August 2005. One adult in non-breeding plumage below Oahe Dam, Stanley Co. Ricky Olson. Fifth state record.

Little Gull. 8 October 2004. One in adult winter plumage at Big Bend Dam, Buffalo Co. Jeff Palmer. Casual fall migrant.

Little Gull. 11 December 2004. One in adult winter plumage at Big Bend Dam, Buffalo Co. Jeff Palmer. Casual fall migrant.

Mew Gull. 10 November 2003. One in winter plumage at Angostura Reservoir, Fall River Co. Jeff Palmer and David Swanson. Casual fall migrant.

White-winged Dove. 23 May 2005. One adult at Bowdle, Edmunds Co. MyRon Zimmer. Casual visitor.

Calliope Hummingbird. 14 August 2005. One adult female at Hill City, Pennington Co. Ricky Olson. Casual migrant in the Black Hills.

Calliope Hummingbird. 14 August 2005. One juvenile male at Hill City, Pennington Co. Ricky Olson. Casual migrant in the Black Hills. (3 Class 2, 1 Class 3).

Calliope Hummingbird. 19 July 2004. One adult male near Pactola Lake, Pennington Co. Jennifer Fowler and Jocie Baker. Casual migrant in the Black Hills.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird. 26 May 2004. One adult male in Hell Canyon, Custer Co. Jeff Palmer Rare summer resident and fall migrant in Black Hills.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird. 29 May-7 July 2005. Pair, plus several other individuals, in Hell Canyon, Custer Co. Jocie Baker. Rare summer resident and fall migrant in Black Hills.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird. 14 August 2005. One adult female at Hill City, Pennington Co. Ricky Olson. Rare summer resident and fall migrant in Black Hills.

Northern Shrike. 2 October 2004. One at Newell Lake, Butte Co. Jocie Baker. Earliest fall migrant.

Bewick's Wren. 4-6 September 2005. One along the shore of the Oahe Stilling Basin, Stanley Co. Ricky Olson. Second state record. (3 Class 2, 1 Class 3).

Hermit Thrush. 1 February 2003. One at Pallsades State Park, Minnehaha Co. Jeff Palmer and Robb Schenck. Third winter record.

Black-throated Blue Warbler. 9 November 2002. One male at Oakwood Lakes State Park, Brookings Co. Jeff Palmer. Latest fall record.

Townsend's Warbler. 24 August 2004. One first-year female at Hell Canyon, Custer Co. David Swanson, Jeff Palmer and Jay Carlisle. Casual fall migrant in Black Hills.

Townsend's Warbler. 6 and 15 September 2004. One, possibly two, adult male at Farm Island, Hughes Co. Kenny Miller. Accidental away from the Black Hills.

Townsend's Warbler. 6 September 2004. One adult female at Farm Island, Hughes Co. Kenny Miller. Accidental away from the Black Hills.

Summer Tanager. 14 April 2005. One adult male at Grass Lake GPA, Minnehaha Co. Eric Liknes and Amy Lewis. Earliest spring record.

Northern Cardinal. 18 April 2005. One adult male at Sturgis, Meade Co. Ernie Miller. Fifth record in far western South Dakota.

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

Black Vulture. 25-26 August 2005. One adult below Oahe Dam, Stanley Co. Ricky Olson. The report provided a convincing description of Black Vulture, but the bird was not photographed or seen by corroborating observers and would constitute a first state record. (3 Class 2H, 1 Class 3).

Purple Sandpiper. 2 May 2003. One adult in breeding plumage near Eureka, McPherson Co. This report was originally rated Class 3 by the committee in October of 2003, but the report was reconsidered after the submission of additional information and the solicitation of opinions from experts on Purple Sandpiper identification. Given this new information, the committee rated this report Class 2H (4 Class 2H, 1 Class 3) as it was a single observer sight record that would constitute a first state record.

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

King Rail. 14 May 2004. One calling bird at the wetland north of Davis-Hurley exit directly east of I-29, Lincoln Co. The bird called only twice, which the committee felt was insufficient evidence for conclusive identification since Virginia Rails may make similar calls.

Magnificent Hummingbird. 10 July 2005. One female at Custer Co. The committee felt that the details of the report were insufficient to conclusively eliminate Broad-tailed or Blue-throated hummingbirds.

Cassin's Vireo. July 2005. One adult and one juvenile at Custer State Park, Custer Co. Photographs did not conclusively eliminate Plumbeous Vireo.

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

No reports were rated as class 4.

SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION

Harlequin Duck. 14 October 2005. One male in winter plumage at Sand Lake NWR, Brown Co.

Yellow Rail. 17 June 2005. One in adult breeding plumage in Tripp Co.

Killdeer (early nesting record). 10 April 2005. One adult on nest at Oahe Dam, Hughes Co.

Whimbrel. 16 June 2005. One adult at Bear Butte Lake, Meade Co.

Little Gull. 17 September 2005. One in juvenile plumage at Big Bend Dam, Buffalo Co.

Least Tern. 18 June 2005. One adult at Bear Butte Lake, Meade Co.

Bewick's Wren. 29 August 2005. One near Hanna, Lawrence Co.

Blue-winged Warbler (confirmed nesting record). 14 June 2005. One adult carrying food at Newton Hills State Park, Lincoln Co.

Henslow's Sparrow. 14 June 2005. One adult near Newton Hills State Park, Lincoln Co.

Henslow's Sparrow. 30 June 2005. One adult at Spirit Mound, Clay Co.

OTHER ACTION

In other action, the committee voted to remove Broad-tailed and Calliope hummingbirds observed in the Black Hills from the review list, as both of these species are now rare to casual in the Black Hills.

Seasonal Reports

01 December 2005 to 28 February 2006
The 2005-06 Winter Season



Compiled By: Robert F. Schenck, 422 N. Linwood Ct., Sioux Falls SD 57103

The winter of 2005-06 was once again mild. December started with very cold temperatures, but January and February were very mild. The drought in the west continued. Of note is the winter seasonal report's "Expected But Not Reported" list. Not one species on the 2004-05's "Expected But Not Reported" list appears on this year's list. Three species, Trumpeter Swan, Peregrine Falcon, and Northern Bobwhite, were removed from the list because they had not been reported for five years or more. All others were observed in this season indicating how regular most birds are in their patterns. Northern Bobwhite and Trumpeter Swan are likely in the state but have not been reported for five years. These two need to be looked for in winter. As always, Christmas Bird Counts are not included and are reported elsewhere in South Dakota Bird Notes.

Greater White-fronted Goose Reported: 29 Jan, 14 Feb Stanley RDO; 04 Feb Miner, 25 Lake JSP; 04, 28 Feb Charles Mix RM

Snow Goose Reported from Beadle, Charles Mix, Minnehaha, Lake, and Stanley counties.

Ross's Goose All Reports: 02 & 14 Feb Stanley RDO; 25 Feb Lake JSP; 28 Feb Charles Mix RM

Cackling Goose Reported: 01 Jan, 02 Feb Stanley RDO; 17 Jan Pennington JLB; 19 Feb Minnehaha MKZ

Wood Duck Reported: 07 Jan Hughes DB; 08 Jan Minnehaha DC; 17 Hughes RDO; 23 Jan Pennington JLB

Gadwall No reports from 23 Dec to Jan 23.

American Wigeon Reported from Charles Mix, Hughes, Minnehaha, Lake, Pennington, Stanley and Sully counties.

Northern Shoveler Only Report: 01 Dec Stanley RDO

Northern Pintail Reported: 04 Jan Stanley RDO; 07 Jan Hughes DB; 29 Jan Minnehaha MKZ; 04 Feb Lake JSP

Green-winged Teal All Reports: 01 Dec Stanley RDO; 03 Dec Lake JSP; 23 Dec Hughes RDO; 27 Dec Minnehaha MKZ; 28 Feb Hughes RDO

Canvasback All Reports: 03 Dec Sully RDO; 10 Dec Charles Mix JSP, RFS

17 Dec Stanley RDO; 22 Jan Sully RDO; 28 Feb Charles Mix RM

Redhead Reported: all period Pennington JLB; 01 Jan Stanley RDO; 18 Feb Yankton TS; 19 Feb Stanley DB; 25 Feb Lake JSP; 28 Feb Charles Mix RM

Ring-necked Duck Reported: all period Pennington JLB; 04 Jan Stanley RDO; 20 Feb Minnehaha DC

Greater Scaup All Reports: 03 Dec Sully RDO; 04, 08 & 16 Dec Pennington JLB; 17, 21 Dec, 01 Jan Stanley RDO

Lesser Scaup Reported from Charles Mix, Hughes, Minnehaha, Pennington and Stanley counties.

Surf Scoter Only Report: 16 Dec Sully RDO

White-winged Scoter All Reports: 16 Dec thru 14 Jan Sully RDO & MO; 13 Jan Stanley RDO

Long-tailed Duck All Reports: 01 Dec thru 22 Dec Stanley RDO; 18 Feb Charles Mix RM

Bufflehead Reported from Charles Mix, Pennington and Stanley counties.

Barrow's Goldeneye Reported all period in Pennington County at Canyon Lake, JLB.

Hooded Merganser Reported: all period Pennington JLB, 17 Dec Stanley RDO; 07 Jan Hughes DB

Red-breasted Merganser Only Report: 22 Dec Stanley RDO

Gray Partridge Reported from Day, Minnehaha, Perkins, Roberts, Stanley and Sully counties.

Ruffed Grouse All Reports: 31 Dec, 13 Jan Lawrence DGP

Sharp-tailed Grouse Reported from Beadle, Charles Mix, Custer, Day, Hughes, Jones, Lawrence, Lyman, Meade, Perkins, Roberts, Stanley and Sully counties.

Greater Prairie-Chicken Reported from Charles Mix, Hughes, Jones, Lyman, Stanley and Sully counties ... also 14 Dec Beadle (11) BFW

Common Loon Only Report: 23 Dec Sully RDO

Pied-billed Grebe All Reports: 10 Dec Charles Mix JSP, RFS; 15 Jan Charles Mix RM

Western Grebe All Reports: 03 Dec, 14 Jan Sully RDO; 26 Dec Stanley RDO

Double-crested Cormorant All Reports: 01 Dec Charles Mix RM; 03, 06, 11 Dec Sully RDO; 10 Dec Charles Mix JSP, RFS

Great-blue Heron All Reports: 03 Dec Lake JSP; 26 Dec Minnehaha RFS

Bald Eagle Reported in the following counties away from the Missouri River: Beadle, Butte, Deuel, Harding, Jones, Lake, Lawrence, Meade, Minnehaha, Miner, Pennington, Perkins and Sanborn counties.

Northern Harrier Reported from Charles Mix, Lake, Lyman, Miner, Minnehaha and Sully counties.

Sharp-shinned Hawk Reported from Charles Mix, Harding, Lake, Minnehaha, Stanley and Sully counties.

Coopers Hawk All Reports: 17 Dec Minnehaha MS & MKZ; 09 Jan Minnehaha DC; 14 Jan Davidson RM; 28 Jan Charles Mix RM

Northern Goshawk All Reports: 12 Dec Sanborn BFW; 26 Dec Grant BJU; 04, 18 Jan Hughes RDO; 15 Jan Brown MO; 05 Dec, 24 Jan Charles Mix, 08 Feb Bon Homme RM; 25 Feb Harding CEM

Ferruginous Hawk Reported from Charles Mix, Custer, Harding, Hughes, Jones, Lyman, Meade, Perkins, Stanley and Sully counties.

Rough-legged Hawk Reported from Brookings, Butte, Day, Fall River, Harding, Hughes, Jones, Lyman, Meade, Miner, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Sully and Union counties.

Golden Eagle Reports east of Missouri River: 09 Feb Roberts MO; 23 Feb Deuel BJU

Merlin Reported from Butte, Charles Mix, Harding, Hughes, Lyman, Minnehaha, Pennington, Stanley, Sully and Union counties.

Gyr Falcon Reported from Hughes, Jones, Lyman, Stanley and Sully counties.

Prairie Falcon Reported from Day, Fall River, Harding, Hughes Jones, Kingsbury, Lyman, Meade, Minnehaha, Stanley and Sully counties.

Virginia Rail Only Report: 12 Feb Fall River (1) JLB

American Coot Reported from Beadle, Hughes, Minnehaha, Pennington and Stanley counties.

Killdeer Reported all period from Pennington County, JLB & AKB.

Wilson's Snipe Only Report: 02 Jan Yankton RD

Bonaparte's Gull All Reports: 03 Dec Stanley RDO; 10 Dec Charles Mix JSP, RFS; 01, 14 Dec Charles Mix RM

California Gull Only Report: 01 Dec Charles Mix RM

Herring Gull No reports from 07 Jan thru 11 Feb.

Thayer's Gull All Reports: 02 Dec, 01 Jan, 11 & 25 Feb, Stanley RDO

Lesser Black-backed Gull All Reports: 14 Jan Sully RDO, MO; 11 Feb Stanley RDO; 14 Feb Hughes RDO

Glauous Gull All Reports: 02 Dec Stanley RDO; 06 Dec Sully RDO; 09 Jan Hughes RDO; 14 Jan Sully RDO; 11 Feb Stanley RDO

Black-legged Kittiwake All Reports: 28, 31 Jan Charles Mix RM

Eurasian Collared Dove Reported from Brookings, Brule, Charles Mix, Hughes, Kingsbury, Lake, Meade, Minnehaha, Pennington, Stanley and Sully counties.

Mourning Dove All Reports: 03 Dec Minnehaha RFS; 03 Jan Minnehaha TS; 07 Jan Minnehaha MS

Eastern Screech-Owl All Reports: 17 Dec Stanley RDO; 01 Feb Meade EEM; 11 Feb Pennington JLB; 20 Feb Meade DGP

Snowy Owl Reported from Day, Deuel, Harding, Hughes, Lyman, Meade, Minnehaha, Roberts, Stanley and Sully counties.

Long-eared Owl All Reports: 17 Jan Hughes RDO; 04 Feb Lawrence DGP

Short-eared Owl All Reports: 05 Dec Minnehaha TS; 09 Dec Lyman TS; 11 Dec Perkins AKB; 20 Dec Day LH; 14 Feb Stanley RDO

Northern Saw-whet Owl All Reports: 17 Dec Stanley RDO; 14 Jan Sully MO; 26 Feb Sully DB; 26 Dec, 14 Jan Harding CEM; 23 Feb Deuel BJU

Belted Kingfisher No reports from 11 Feb thru Feb 28

Lewis's Woodpecker Only Report: 12 Jan JLB

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Only Report: 29 Jan Yankton RD

American Three-toed Woodpecker Reported: 10 Jan thru 25 Feb Lawrence DGP

Black-backed Woodpecker Reported: 23 Dec thru 25 Feb Meade (Ricco Burn) AKB

Pileated Woodpecker Only Report: 6 Jan Marshall (6 N, 1 W of Hillhead) LH

Gray Jay All Reports: all period Lawrence DGP; 28 Jan Pennington RC

Pinyon Jay Reported: 5 Dec thru 21 Jan Meade AKB & APB; 01 Feb Custer RC

Black-billed Magpie Reported from Custer, Harding, Hughes, Lawrence, Meade and Pennington counties ... also reported 29 Dec Grant BJU

Canyon Wren All Reports: 22 Dec, 09 Jan, 01 Feb Lawrence DGP; 14 Jan Meade DGP

Carolina Wren Only Report: 02 Dec Brown DAT

Winter Wren Only Report: 08 Dec Pennington DGP

Marsh Wren Only Report: 04 Feb Lawrence DGP

American Dipper Reported: all period Lawrence DGP

Golden-crowned Kinglet Reported from Brown, Hughes, Lawrence, Minnehaha and Pennington counties.

Eastern Bluebird Only Report: 10 Dec Bon Homme JSP, RFS; 14 Dec, 18 Jan Charles Mix RM; 15 Jan, 23 Feb Gregory RM

Townsend's Solitaire Only report east of Missouri River: 15 Jan Brown MO; 23 Feb Deuel BJU

Bohemian Waxwing All Reports: 14 Jan Sully MO; 15 Jan Sully RDO; 12 Feb Minnehaha TS

Yellow-rumped Warbler Only Report: 14 Jan Kingsbury JSP

Fox Sparrow All Reports: 04, 07 Dec Lake JSP; 10 Dec Charles Mix JSP, RFS

Song Sparrow Only Report: 19 Jan Fall River JLB

White-throated Sparrow Only Report: 20 Dec Day LH

Harris's Sparrow 11 Dec Lake JSP; 19 Jan Fall River JLB

White-crowned Sparrow All Reports: 26 Dec Sully RDO; 05 Jan Brown DAT

Brewer's Blackbird Only Report: 31 Dec Charles Mix RM

Common Grackle All Reports: 17 Dec Minnehaha MS, MKZ; 20 Dec Day LH; 26 Dec Minnehaha RFS

Gray-crowned Rosy Finch All Reports: 07 Jan Meade RC; 14 Jan Meade DGP

Red Crossbill Reported from Custer, Lawrence and Pennington counties.

White-winged Crossbill Only Report: 23 Feb Deuel BJU

Common Redpoll All Reports: 17 Dec Minnehaha JSP, RFS; 20 Dec Day LH; 22 Dec Grant, 29 Dec Deuel BJU

Evening Grosbeak 07 Jan Meade RDO

Species Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

Black Scoter 03 Dec thru 11 Jan Sully RDO

Iceland Gull 11, 14, 25 Feb Stanley RDO

Whooping Crane 01 Jan Sully Kyle Cummings & RDO

Yellow-headed Blackbird All Reports: 19, 20 Feb Sanborn BFW

Species Expected But Not Reported

Tundra Swan, American Black Duck, American White Pelican, Barn Owl, Clark's Nutcracker, Pygmy Nuthatch, Varied Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Brown-headed Cowbird, Pine Grosbeak, Rusty Blackbird

Contributing Observers

DB	Doug Backlund	KM	Kenny Miller
JLB	Jocelyn Lee Baker	RDO	Ricky D. Olson
APB	Addison & Patricia Ball	MO	Mark Otnes
AKB	Anna K. Ball	JSP	Jeffrey S. Palmer
DC	Doug Chapman	DGP	Douglas G. Prisbe
RC	Rick Clawges	RFS	Robert F. Schenck
RD	Roger Dietrich	MS	Mark Schmidtbauer
LH	Laura Hubers	TS	Terry Sohl
RM	Ron Mabie	DAT	Dan A. Tallman
CEM	Charley Miller	BJU	Bill J. Unzen
EEM	Ernest E. Miller	BFW	Bridgette Flanders-Wanner
		MKZ	Mick Zerr



Christmas Bird Count 2005-2006

Data taken from National Audubon Society: www.audubon.org/bird/cbc. These data are unreviewed by either the National Audubon Society or by the SDOU. Birds reported as unidentified species are not included in this report. Official count data can be obtained from the Audubon Web site.

Count	Aberdeen	Badlands NP	Bison	Brookings	Huron	Lake Andes	Madison	Piedmont
Abbreviation	Ab	Ba	Bi	Br	Hu	LA	Ma	Pd
Count Date:	Dec 23, 2005	Dec 28, 2005	Jan 05, 2006	Dec 17, 2005	Dec 14, 2005	Dec 15, 2005	Dec 16, 2005	Dec 23, 2005
Number of Participants:	3	1	1	10	16	6	8	12
Number of Party Hours:	9.0	8.0	8.0	25.0	45.25	16.75	32.5	33.5
Species Reported:	30	12	30	45	32	35	33	34
Low Temp.:	32	35	12	3	32	5	5	34
High Temp.:	41	45	26	13	35	21	19	51
AM Weather:	Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly cloudy	Clear	Cloudy	Clear	Cloudy	Cloudy
	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: Light
	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: Light	Snow: Light
PM Weather:	Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	Clear	Cloudy	Cloudy
	Rain: Light	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: Light
	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: Light	Snow: None	Snow: Light	Snow: Light

Count	Pierre	Rapid City	Sand Lake NWR	Shadehill	Sioux Falls	Spearfish	Sturgis	Waubay NWR	Yankton
Abbreviation	Pr	RC	SL	Sh	SF	Sp	St	Wa	Ya
Count Date:	Dec 17, 2005	Dec 18, 2005	Dec 16, 2005	Dec 15, 2005	Dec 17, 2005	Jan 01, 2006	Dec 17, 2005	Dec 20, 2005	Dec 18, 2005
Number of Participants:	17	12	5	4	22	6	10	11	15
Number of Party Hours:	48.0	46.0	24.0	7.0	48.0	22.5	34.75	10.0	39.25
Species Reported:	69	53	35	32	43	50	37	35	48
Low Temp.:	3	-3	8	-5	1	23	5	8	0
High Temp.:	10	17	13	5	10	32	12	15	9
AM Weather:	Clear	Clear	Cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Foggy	Foggy	Cloudy	Clear
	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: Light	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None
	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: Light	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None / Light	Snow: Light	Snow: None
PM Weather:	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Clear	Cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly clear	Clear
	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: Light	Rain: None	Rain: None	Rain: None
	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None	Snow: None



June 2006

	Ab	Ba	Bi	Br	Hu	LA	Ma	Pd	Pr	RC	SL	Sh	SF	Sp	St	Wa	Ya	total
Snow Goose											2		2	2			3	9
Cackling Goose									1280	1		3						1284
Canada Goose		1	220	20		1150	1		16380	501		4000	3820	10			33	26136
Wood Duck									1	3				11				15
Gadwall									2	7				1			32	42
American Wigeon									3	67				9				79
Mallard	8		1	59	9	1055		350	1200	1330	99	3000	643	179	12	3	191	8139
Blue-winged Teal																	1	1
Northern Pintail									1			1					1	3
American Green-winged Teal												1		3				4
Canvasback									6									6
Redhead										4								4
Ring-necked Duck									5	7								12
Greater Scaup									4	1								5
Lesser Scaup									5		1	2						8
Long-tailed Duck									1									1
Bufflehead						8			1	28	1						2	40
Common Goldeneye						13			139	57	2	8	12	1			29	261

35

	Ab	Ba	Bi	Br	Hu	LA	Ma	Pd	Pr	RC	SL	Sh	SF	Sp	St	Wa	Ya	total
Barrow's Goldeneye										2								2
Hooded Merganser									10	6								16
Common Merganser						3			71	12	3		1				14	104
Ruddy Duck						1												1
Gray Partridge			12	6			4							7		23		52
Ring-necked Pheasant	105		157	273	575	593	302	1	368		553	30	137	2		214	120	3430
Sharp-tailed Grouse			200		4	27		4	71	6	17			23	22	123		497
Greater Prairie-Chicken					11				51									62
Wild Turkey	5	319	10		14	52		650	81	201			278	230	969	19	169	2997
Common Loon																	1	1
Double-crested Cormorant						1												1
Great Blue Heron	0			1														1
Bald Eagle			1	3	2	16	1	2	37	9	20	10	8	8	8		19	144
Northern Harrier									1		3	1						5
Sharp-shinned Hawk				1	1				4	1			3	1	2		3	16
Cooper's Hawk				1	1				2	1			1	1				7
Northern Goshawk	2	1		1					1									5

Red-tailed Hawk	2	1		2	8	6	1	1	6	4		1	28	2	1		19	82
Ferruginous Hawk									5	1				1				7
Rough-legged Hawk	1	1	3	3	7	3		1	1		7	1		6	1	2	1	38
Golden Eagle	6					1		1	2	2	1	5			10			28
American Kestrel	1			3	1		1		3				1	1		1	1	13
Merlin				1								1	2		1			5
Gyrfalcon			2						3									5
Prairie Falcon		1	3								1	1				1		7
American Coot									25	7		1	3				12	48
Wilson's Snipe										2				6			2	10
Ring-billed Gull						50			41									91
Herring Gull						75			114									189
Thayer's Gull									4									4
Glaucous Gull																	1	1
Rock Pigeon	228	51	15	45	200	16	229	94	26		16	9	2154	59	269	55	418	3884
Eurasian Collared-Dove			7	1			5		48	6				4	1		20	92
Mourning Dove							1		4		1							6
Eastern Screech-Owl									2	3			1				3	9
Great Horned Owl			2	1	2		3	1	6	2	14	3	3			2		39
Snowy Owl			2													2		4

	Ab	Ba	Bi	Br	Hu	LA	Ma	Pd	Pr	RC	SL	Sh	SF	Sp	St	Wa	Ya	total
Long-eared Owl									1									1
Short-eared Owl			2													1		3
Northern Saw-whet Owl			1						1	1								3
Belted Kingfisher										8			3	4	1		1	17
Lewis's Woodpecker										1					1			2
Red-bellied Woodpecker				4					8				5				12	29
Downy Woodpecker	4		2	19	13	4	18	22	10	11	5	1	28	10	15	21	19	202
Hairy Woodpecker	1		3	5	2	2	3	12	10	4	3		9	2	8	6	2	72
Black-backed Woodpecker								2		9								11
Northern Flicker	1		1	3	2	3	10	4	15		4	3	2	17	5		14	84
Northern Shrike				2	1			1	3	3	4		2	3		1	2	22
Blue Jay	4			69	12	5	83	45	13	96	33		52	39	108	1	19	579
Pinyon Jay								2										2
Black-billed Magpie			3					34		1		12		10	11		1	72
American Crow	5	1		91	79	245	20	137		76		1	222	20	233	19	88	1237
Horned Lark			300	574	74	15	1878		1		78	289	125	64	39	225	10	3672

Black-capped Chickadee	9			52	21	3	29	203	40	208	2		102	70	158	43	61	1001	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5			13			1	42	2	15			1	5	32	3		119	
White-breasted Nuthatch	8		2	13	5	3	9	20	15	5	3		55	9	19	18	12	196	
Brown Creeper	4			2	4		1	4	1	3			10	5			2	36	
Canyon Wren										2				2				4	
Winter Wren										1								1	
Marsh Wren														2				2	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				1				1		5								7	
Eastern Bluebird												1						1	
Townsend's Solitaire	2							17	5	21		1		9	6			61	
American Robin	11	30		3			2256	1	7	184	68		3	7	362	5	2	212	3151
Brown Thrasher									1									1	
European Starling	665		6	49	695	353	481	404	381	1374	102	30	656	909	271	432	811	7619	
Bohemian Waxwing	0											1			43			44	
Cedar Waxwing	60			42	3	1	7		51		51		96	7	150	9		477	
Spotted Towhee															1			1	
American Tree Sparrow				9			12		3	107		81		68	318	6		1	605

	Ab	Ba	Bi	Br	Hu	LA	Ma	Pd	Pr	RC	SL	Sh	SF	Sp	St	Wa	Ya	total
Song Sparrow		6								1			1	2	1		1	12
Harris's Sparrow		1							2								2	5
White-throated Sparrow									2							1		3
Dark-eyed Junco	15		8	75	27	27	86	188	246	334	39		202	102	431	23	148	1951
Lapland Longspur		79		181	1		6		20			51				162		500
Snow Bunting				6			9				16					215		246
Northern Cardinal				11			4		1				34				10	60
Red-winged Blackbird	60			24	1		17		41		107					20		270
Western Meadowlark					20				5									25
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1																	1
Rusty Blackbird				1							28							29
Brewer's Blackbird	1					50												51
Common Grackle			1	1							1		1			1		5
Brown-headed Cowbird	3																	3
Purple Finch	24			5			20				6	3				5	4	67

House Finch	5		20	37	14	11	35	38	271	23			28	13	192		31	718
Red Crossbill								75						7	10			92
Common Redpoll				1			2						2			62		67
Pine Siskin	1		6			6		39		64				11	42		5	174
American Goldfinch			20	142	67	72	81	139	230	21	73	25	247	15	119	42	48	1341
House Sparrow	208		50	377	1298	43	861	129	532	311	208	20	590	168	229	701	390	6115
Total Individuals	1455	492	1060	2233	3174	6181	4210	2673	22214	4937	1585	7519	9645	2752	3432	2458	3001	79021
Total Species	33	12	29	45	32	35	33	34	69	53	35	32	42	49	37	34	48	109

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About the SDOU

Founded in 1949, SDOU has been South Dakota's primary statewide organization to promote the study of wild birds, to encourage ornithological research, and to preserve the state's avian records. Birders, environmentally-concerned individuals, ornithologists and other natural scientists all contribute to these efforts.

The purpose of the SDOU is to encourage the study of birds in South Dakota and to promote the study of ornithology by more closely uniting the students of this branch of natural science.

Suggestions to Authors

South Dakota Bird Notes welcomes submissions of scholarly articles, notes of interest, and high quality color photographs. Whenever possible, electronic submissions of material is preferred via email or compact disc.

