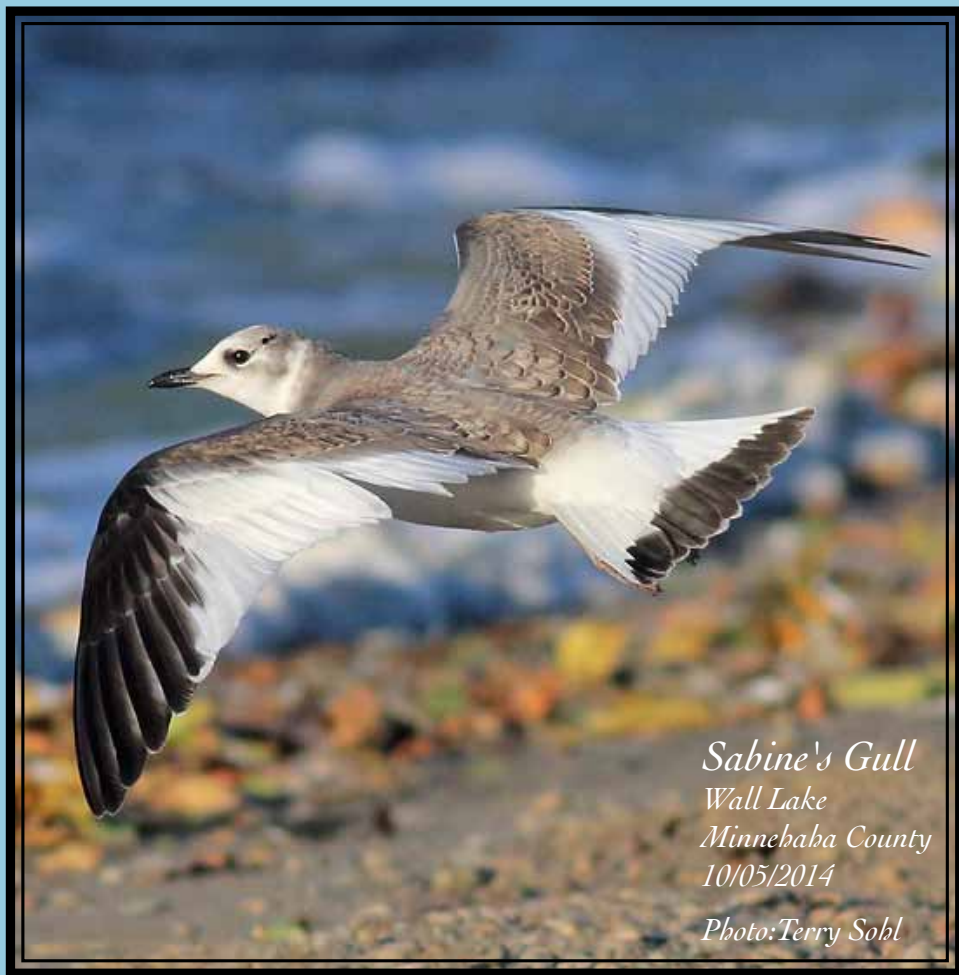


SOUTH DAKOTA Ornithologists' Union



SOUTH  DAKOTA
BIRD  NOTES

***SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES*, the official publication of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, is published quarterly in March, June, August and December. One copy is sent to all members whose dues are paid for the current year.** Life membership: \$400; Family Life membership (one subscription to *SD Bird Notes*): \$500; Sustaining membership: \$40; Regular membership: \$20; Family membership (one household; one subscription to *SD Bird Notes*): \$25; Junior/Student membership: \$10; Library Subscription: \$30. Single and back copies: Members, \$5; non-members, \$6. Manuscripts for publication and change of address notices should be sent to the editor, Douglas Chapman, by e-mail: sfbirdclub@sio.midco.net or mailed to 3108 S. Holly Ave., Sioux Falls, SD, 57105. All dues, contributions, and orders for back copies should be sent to the SDOU Treasurer: Rosemary Draeger, 2520 E. Whisper Trail, Sioux Falls, SD, 57108. **SDOU website: www.sdou.org.**

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Vol. 66

DECEMBER 2014

NO. 4

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Listing is what some birdwatcher's consider sacrilege. I am what is defined as a lister. I keep a lifetime state and several counties list of birds seen. I also have kept a yearly Tri-county List (Hughes, Stanley, and Sully) for 14 years. Most years I also do a list of bird species seen in South Dakota.



As many of you know, I have included in previous *Bird Notes* articles the benefits of people listing. The number one factor being that it gets people out birding. It gets people to check out all the habitats in the county or state they are listing in. It has led to many rare vagrant birds being found in our state. It has also help find isolated breeding populations.

Every "January First" is like I just started birding again. Common bird species are vigorously looked for and there is joy in finding them. I look in old bird haunts and find new ones.

Here is what is alarming to me. Listing has shown me how hard it is to find many previous common birds now. Lately I have been birding some counties with limited public land and limited woodlands. The cavity nesters, ground nesters and insect eaters are becoming very hard to find in some counties.

Cavity nesters such as Black-capped Chickadee's and White -breasted Nuthatches have virtually disappeared in some counties. My opinion why, is they were already under attack by European Starling's competing for their nest holes. Then came West Nile Virus and killed many. The counties without continuous woods the repopulation effort would be slow. But what is now happening is that high grain prices have made the farmers want to plant every square inch. So many shelterbelts, homestead sites and wooded areas are being burnt and bulldozed and planted to grain the same year. Also I have seen a quarter to a whole section of native prairie rock picked, plowed and air seeded in just a few weeks.

The gist of this article is to encourage you to go to a few counties and do a county list. The you can see for yourself the alarming rate that habitat is being lost and how much the diversity of bird species and bird populations are definitely declining. Don't rely on me, academia or anybody else on whether this is happening, go look for yourself!

A few years ago I would not have believed that Black-billed Magpie, Loggerhead Shrike, American Kestrel, Eastern Bluebirds, Common Nighthawk and Black-capped Chickadee common breeders would become hard to see in many areas of our state.

Ricky D. Olson

THE MYSTERY OF THE 1913 JOURNAL: PART TWO

See *SD Bird Notes*, March 2014 (Vol. 66, No. 1) for Part I

By Ricky D. Olson

This second part will document in print Edward Perkins' avian observations in South Dakota and also briefly discuss what he saw and did not see.

The following list is the birds observed or heard by Edward Perkins in the Northern Black Hills and surrounding plains from June 24 thru August 3, 1913. On the left is the species name Perkins listed in the journal if changed the present common name on the right.

Bird List by Common Name

Gray Ruffed Grouse – Ruffed Grouse
Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse – Sharp-tailed Grouse
Swainson's Hawk
Spotted Sandpiper
Killdeer
Mourning Dove
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Western Night Hawk - Common Nighthawk
Poor-will - Common Poorwill
White-throated Swift
Belted Kingfisher
Lewis Woodpecker – Lewis's Woodpecker
Red-headed Woodpecker
Rocky Mt. Hairy Woodpecker - Hairy Woodpecker
Red-shafted Flicker – Northern Flicker
Sparrow Hawk – American Kestrel
Traill's Flycatcher – Willow Flycatcher
Say Phoebe - Say's Phoebe
Arkansas Kingbird – Western Kingbird
Kingbird – Eastern Kingbird
Warbling Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Rocky Mountain Jay – Gray Jay
Black-billed Magpie
Crow – American Crow
Desert Horned Lark – Horned Lark
Northern Violet-green Swallow – Violet-green Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow

Chickadee – Black-capped Chickadee
Red-breasted Nuthatch
Aztec Wren – House Wren – western race
Water Ouzel – American Dipper
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Bluebird – Eastern Bluebird
Olive-backed Thrush – Swainson’s Thrush
Robin – American Robin
Catbird - Gray Catbird
Ovenbird
Macgillivray’s Warbler – MacGillivray’s Warbler
Audubon Warbler – Yellow-rumped Warbler- Audubon’s race
Louisiana Tanager – Western Tanager
Arctic Towhee - Spotted Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Western Vesper Sparrow – Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Slate-colored Junco – Dark-eyed Junco
Western Meadowlark
Brewer’s Blackbird
Red Crossbill
Goldfinch - American Goldfinch

Discussion

Part of the fun of this project was figuring out what species the old bird common names belonged to. Many I already knew but I double checked all the names in my old Bird Guide. (Reed, 1916).

But one name I could not find in my guide or by searching the internet. It was the journals entry of Aztec Wren. Perkins already had House Wren listed in his journal so I thought it was either a Rock or Canyon Wren as he had no entries of either and he was reporting the Aztec Wren from Spearfish Canyon. I noticed on the Nebraska list serve that Rick Wright had posted a message talking about old common bird names. Rick Wright is from New Jersey and at that time was a review Editor for Birding and a Senior Leader for Wings Bird Guiding Company. I contacted him and he replied Aztec Wren at that time was an old common name for the western race of the House Wren (Bailey, 1902).

So this leads me to some of the questions. Perkins was pretty thorough in his journal listing numbers seen, whether the bird was calling, some weather notes and bird life history notes such as nest or young. The best I can figure out is that his camp was somewhere near Spearfish Canyon, because the most visited sites were near Spearfish Canyon, Lead, Deadwood and what he called Spruce Gulch.

Perkins was a geologist and many of the sites he visited were mines that you would

assume were rocky areas. But he never recorded Rock or Canyon Wrens. Some fairly common species that are found in these areas today but he did not observe were: Black-backed Woodpecker, Three-toed Woodpecker, Red-naped Sapsucker (then still Yellow-bellied), Mountain Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, any oriole species, Townsend's Solitaire, White-breasted Nuthatch, Turkey Vulture, or any owl species.

Perkins' most frequently observed birds were: Ovenbird, Dark-eyed Junco, Black-capped Chickadee, Swainson's Thrush, Chipping Sparrow, Black-billed Magpie, American Robin, Northern Flicker, Spotted Towhee and Yellow-billed Cuckoo. His only report of a Red-eyed Vireo was from Whitewood, SD.

Basically the main surprise to me was the many sightings of Yellow-billed Cuckoo. There must have been a banner year of some food source like tent caterpillars. I have rarely if ever seen or heard a cuckoo in the Black Hills. The list of common birds not seen was very puzzling to me. But we must consider the habitat changes over the hundred years. Also Perkins was only in the Black Hills a little over a month. As we all know many populations rise and fall and maybe it was a down year for some of these species. A recent major weather or fire event might have decimated some populations. Even though this article left us wondering about species not seen, to me the most important reason for submission of this article was to share the information, the story and have the observations documented in print. The following lists by sites I wanted to include so people can go to the Black Hills to some of these sites and compare list a little over one hundred years later. Other sites Perkins visited within the Black Hills were: Lost Camp, Terry Camp, Blacktail, and Pluma. He did not record many bird sightings from these so I didn't include them. Also Red Valley includes areas in the Redwater River Valley, Bear Butte, Sturgis, and Spearfish as he visited these areas the same days and listed the headings for the day as Red Valley & Plains.

SITE LISTS

Deadwood

Black-capped Chickadee, American Robin, Chipping Sparrow, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Swainson's Thrush, Violet-Green Swallow, Western Tanager, Spotted Towhee, Northern Flicker, Western Meadowlark, Ovenbird, Eastern Bluebird, Dark-eyed Junco, Black-billed Magpie, American Goldfinch, House Wren

Lead

White-throated Swift, Black-capped Chickadee, Dark-eyed Junco, American Robin, Ovenbird, Chipping Sparrow, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Swainson's Thrush, Spotted Towhee, Black-billed Magpie, American Goldfinch, Violet-Green Swallow, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Western Kingbird, Warbling Vireo

Spearfish Canyon

Gray Catbird, American Robin, Red Crossbill, MacGillivray's Warbler, Black-billed Magpie, Ovenbird, Western Tanager, American Dipper, Lewis's Woodpecker,

Spotted Sandpiper, Traill's Flycatcher, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Warbling Vireo, Spotted Towhee, Ruffed Grouse, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Northern Flicker, Violet-green Swallow, Chipping Sparrow, American Kestrel, Swainson's Thrush

White Rock

Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Spotted Towhee, Hairy Woodpecker, Gray Jay, American Kestrel, Red Crossbill, Black-billed Magpie, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Dark-eyed Junco, Eastern Bluebird, Western Kingbird, Chipping Sparrow

Spruce Gulch

Belted Kingfisher, Black-capped Chickadee, Chipping Sparrow, Common Nighthawk, Ovenbird, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Say's Phoebe, Swainson's Thrush, Common Poorwill

Trojan

Black-capped Chickadee, Chipping Sparrow, American Kestrel, Spotted Towhee, Gray Jay, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Spotted Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco, Northern Flicker, Black-billed Magpie, Hairy Woodpecker, American Robin, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Say's Phoebe

Red Valley

American Kestrel, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Kingbird, Red-headed Woodpecker, Western Meadowlark, Mourning Dove, Black-billed Magpie, Vesper Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Cliff Swallow, Horned Lark, American Goldfinch, Eastern Bluebird, Barn Swallow, Western Kingbird, Black-capped Chickadee, American Crow, Killdeer

Annie Creek

Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Spotted Towhee, Traill's Flycatcher, Lewis's Woodpecker, Black-billed Magpie,

Bald Mountain

Black-capped Chickadee, Dark-eyed Junco, Northern Flicker, American Robin, Ovenbird, Black-billed Magpie, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Swainson's Thrush, Ruffed Grouse.

Green Mountain

MacGillivray's Warbler, Warbling Vireo, Northern Flicker, Black-billed Magpie, Black-capped Chickadee, Dark-eyed Junco, Ovenbird.

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2013 SOUTH DAKOTA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT SUMMARY

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Introduction

By publishing a summary of the 2013 CBC results at this time it is hoped that a review will encourage participation in the upcoming count. Many counts have few observers and would no doubt benefit from increased participation with its attendant more thorough coverage of the count circle. With nearly two dozen counts held each year in South Dakota there is no room to publish the results of each count here. The focus here is summary data, interesting observations and notes. The reader interested in viewing the raw data is referred to the National Audubon Society's (NAS) CBC web site at <http://birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count>. The summaries presented here are based on the data available at the NAS web site or made available by the CBC compiler. For future reports compilers are encouraged to provide any appropriate commentary that helps the reader gain insight into the count's results.

SUMMARY

For the 2013 CBC season 19 counts were reported to NAS and two other counts were reported directly to me. Statewide, excluding subspecies, forms, and "sp." etc., 118 species (down from 129 in 2012) and a total of 194,378 individuals were found compared to 172,188 in 2012.

Species found on only one count (21): Greater White-fronted Goose, American Black Duck, Northern Shoveler, Green-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, Long-tailed Duck, Bufflehead, Pied-billed Grebe, Swainson's Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, Killdeer, California Gull, Iceland Gull, Red-headed Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Marsh Wren, American Dipper, Spotted Towhee, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Yellow-headed Blackbird. Twenty-seven species were found on only one count last year. Carolina Wren and both towhees were the only species found only one count in 2012 and 2013.

Species found on all counts (4): Rock Pigeon, European Starling, Dark-eyed Junco, House Sparrow.

Waterfowl: Canada Goose was again the most numerous species reported with 55,310 of the 73,628 reported coming from Pierre. As in the past Canada Goose comprised the bulk of all birds reported, 37.5%, an increase from 24.7% last year. Cackling Goose numbers were significantly lower than last year so they made only a minor contribution to the total number of birds recorded. Mallard contributed 11.3% of the total number of birds recorded. All 23 waterfowl species contributed 53.4% to the total number of birds counted. Greater Scaup at Lake Andes (6) and Pierre (15) were the only reports of this scarce winter visitor.

Grouse – Herons: Gray Partridge was not reported this year. A total of 395 Sharp-tailed

Grouse was reported on nine counts (with one count from 2012 not reporting) compared to 527 on thirteen counts last year. Greater Prairie-Chicken was recorded on three counts this year for a total of 89 birds. Comparing the same two counts (Lake Andes and Pierre) from 2012 there was an increase of 42 birds. Hot Springs recorded the only Pied-billed Grebe this year. Great Blue Herons (6) were found on four counts.

Hawks: In addition to all the expected winter hawks a late Swainson's Hawk was found on the Lake Andes count. The 2013 Bald Eagle statewide total was similar to the 2012 total; the high count was 51 on the Pierre count. Ferruginous Hawk was found on only three counts for a total of five birds. Golden Eagle was reported on nearly half as many counts and nearly half as many birds as in 2012. A single Peregrine Falcon was found on the Shadehill count. No Gyrfalcons were reported. Prairie Falcon reports were modestly higher, 7 birds on six counts (5 birds on four counts in 2012). Interestingly only Pierre and Badlands repeated from 2012.

Rails – Doves: American Coot numbers were down 93% from last year. No doubt many perished or were driven away by the October blizzard. Only one Killdeer was recorded (Pierre). Wilson's Snipe was about one-third of last year's total. Ring-billed Gull was found on fewer counts and much reduced numbers. Herring Gull numbers remained essentially the same as in 2012. The Pierre count recorded the only California and Iceland gulls. Eurasian Collared-Dove was found on four fewer counts than last year (with one count not reporting this year).

Owls – Woodpeckers: Single Barred Owls were found on two counts. Snowy Owl numbers were down, only single birds found on two counts. Single Long-eared Owls were reported on three counts, two more counts and one more bird than last year. No Short-eared Owls were reported this year. Northern Saw-whet Owl was found on two counts for a total of six birds. Belted Kingfisher numbers were about half that of last year and found on only one less count than in 2012. Lewis's Woodpecker numbers were down from twelve to four primarily, I think, because the Sturgis count did not find any. Red-headed Woodpecker (9) was found only on the Canton count. Red-bellied Woodpecker was found on two fewer counts but in modestly higher numbers.

Shrikes – Waxwings: Northern Shrike numbers were slightly lower than last year. Only Wind Cave and Piedmont reported Gray Jay, both in numbers similar to last year. Black-billed Magpie was found on nine West River counts and one East River count but the total numbers were down 45%. There were no reports of Pinyon Jay and Clark's Nutcracker. Pygmy Nuthatch was found on five of the Black Hills counts. Canyon Wren was found on three counts for a total of 6 birds. The other wren reports were Carolina from Yankton (2), and Marsh from Spearfish (1). A solitary American Dipper was found on the Spearfish count. Eastern Bluebird was reported from three East River counts for a total of 17 birds. Unlike in 2012, there were no Townsend's Solitaire reports outside of West River. Bohemian Waxwing was found on six West River counts but not in as large a number as last year.

Longspur – Finches: Lapland Longspur and Snow Bunting continue to be difficult to find on West River counts. The Lapland Longspur high count (1,120) was on the Canton count. The only Yellow-rumped Warblers were found on the Lake Andes and Mitchell counts.

Yankton recorded the only Spotted and Eastern towhees, one each. Sand Lake reported the only Chipping Sparrows (9). Yankton and Brookings had the only Fox Sparrows. There were fewer Song Sparrows on fewer counts than in 2012 but they remained equally divided between East and West River counts. The only Lincoln's (1) and Swamp (2) sparrows were on the Yankton count. White-throated Sparrow was recorded only on the Yankton (2) and Sturgis (1) counts. Harris's Sparrow was found on five counts and White-crowned Sparrow on three. White-winged Junco was found on four of the Black Hills counts. Oregon Junco was reported on seven counts around the state. Rapid City had the only West River Northern Cardinal (1). Western Meadowlark was recorded on six counts. The only Yellow-headed Blackbird was recorded on the Sand Lake count. Rusty Blackbird was found on five counts and Brewers Blackbird on Waubay (3) and Sand Lake (2). Shadehill had the only West River report of Purple Finch (15). Red Crossbill was reported only on four Black Hills counts. Common Redpoll was found on the Spearfish (2) and Aberdeen (4) counts.

Table 1. CBCs from W to E, N to S.

1. Spearfish	2. Sturgis	3. Hot Springs
4. Piedmont	5. Wind Cave	6. Rapid City
7. Bison	8. Shadehill	9. Badlands
10. Pine Ridge	11. Pierre	12. Lake Andes
13. Aberdeen	14. Sand Lake	15. Huron
16. Mitchell	17. Yankton	18. Waubay
19. Madison	20. Brookings	21. Sioux Falls
22. Canton		

COUNT REPORTS

Any count not mentioned here either was not conducted or no report was available. The reports are arranged from west to east, north to south (Table 1). Hours reported here include feeders and nocturnal hours.

West River

Spearfish — 5 January, Daniel Bjerke, compiler. Six participants contributed 24 party hours, recorded 48 species and 2,370 individuals. Canada Goose set another high count at 912 birds. Sharp-tailed Grouse was about twice as numerous as last year, but still was much lower than in 2009 and 2010. Great Blue Heron (1) and American Coot (4) were found for the third consecutive year. Bald Eagle set a new high (40), nearly twice the previous high set in 2011. After being found five consecutive years Lewis's Woodpecker was missed. Black-billed Magpie numbers remain stable in the low thirties. After a two year lapse Marsh Wren (1) was once again reported. It looks like the best chance (7 of the last 9 years) of seeing a Marsh Wren in winter is in Spearfish. American Dipper continues to be consistent on this count. Interestingly Bohemian Waxwing (40) were found but no Cedar Waxwing. Common Redpoll (2) and Pine Siskin (7) were the only winter finches recorded.

Sturgis — 14 December, Vic Fondy, compiler. Nine participants contributed 48.9 party hours, recorded 37 species and 2,087 individuals. Sharp-tailed Grouse (82) numbers continue to increase but are still less than the record 1996 high count (402) and the recent 2008 high (130). After last year's high count Eurasian Collared-Dove numbers declined by 44%. One Northern Shrike was found. Black-billed Magpie was in single digits (9) for the first

time since 1989 and American Crow numbers were down by about half from recent years. For the second year Pygmy Nuthatch (3) was recorded. Like the Spearfish count Bohemian Waxing (64) was found but not Cedar Waxwing. White-throated Sparrow (1) was present for its second count occurrence. Oregon (4) and White-winged (28) juncos were found in typical numbers. Two late Western Meadowlarks were found. Red Crossbill (3) and Pine Siskin (2) were the winter finches. Evening Grosbeak was missed for the first time since the count began in 1988.

Hot Springs — 14 December, Duane Weber, compiler. Three participants contributed 16 hours, recorded 43 species and 5,242 individuals. Mallard numbers more than doubled to 1,748 from 2012 but still did not reach previous typical counts. One Pied-billed Grebe was a first for the count and the only report for the state. Eurasian Collared-Dove numbers tripled to 172. No lingering blackbirds or winter finches were found.

Piedmont — 17 December, Addison Ball, compiler. Thirteen participants contributed 54.2 hours, recorded 37 species and 1,564 individuals. Lewis's Woodpecker (1) was a new species for the count. Three Gray Jays were average for the count while Pinyon Jay was missed for the second consecutive year. Pygmy Nuthatch (12) had its highest count on record as did Brown Creeper (8). Canyon Wren (2) continues to be found. One Bohemian Waxwing was found as were 30 Cedar Waxwing. Among the juncos were 3 Oregon Junco but for the first time since the count began (in 2000) no White-winged Juncos were recorded. A single Red Crossbill and 7 Pine Siskin comprised the winter finch show.

Wind Cave — 15 December, Dan Roddy, compiler. Sixteen participants contributed 114 hours, recorded 36 species and 1,320 individuals. Sharp-tailed Grouse numbers were down about 77% and Wild Turkey numbers were up to 55 from 4 last year. Gray Jay numbers remained about the same at 6 birds. After last year's count of 35 Pinyon Jay, not finding any was disappointing. Black-billed Magpie numbers (22) declined by 46%. Pygmy Nuthatch numbers were down to 1 from last year's 8. Canyon Wren (3) missed in 2012 was found this year. The White-winged Junco count (391) is one of the highest reported in recent years.

Rapid City — 15 December, Michael Melius, compiler. Thirteen participants contributed 72 party hours, recorded 59 species and 4,633 individuals. Cackling Goose (1) occurred for the fourth time on the count. One Ring-necked Pheasant was the first since 2002. Only 1 Sharp-tailed Grouse was recorded. Wild Turkey numbers were about half of last year's. Great Blue Heron (2) was present for the second year in a row. American Coot numbers were the lowest they have been in seven years. One Mourning Dove was found. Two Lewis's Woodpeckers were the first in three years. After being found in 2011 and 2012 no Gray Jays were reported. Black-billed Magpie numbers remained at 10. One Bohemian Waxwing was the first in five years. Five White-winged Junco were recorded. For the second consecutive year one Northern Cardinal was found. House Finch numbers were back to normal after a low count last year. Duplicating last year, 12 Pine Siskin were found.

Bison — No count was held this year.

Shadehill — 17 December, Dan Svingen, compiler. Twenty-three participants contributed 28.25 hours recording 41 species and 11,404 individuals. Canada Goose numbers were down 56%. One Northern Pintail was the first since 2007 and only the fourth occurrence on the count. A single Canvasback was the first for the count and 1 Redhead was the second occurrence. Ring-necked Pheasant numbers were down 51% while Sharp-tailed Grouse numbers were up 73% and Wild Turkey numbers remained essentially the same. The Black-billed Magpie count was 2, down from the 6 or 7 of the past three years. A single

Brown Creeper was a first for the count. American Goldfinch reached a high count of 81. **Badlands** — 17 December, Eddie Childers, compiler. Six participants contributed 20.55 hours recording 19 species and 371 individuals. Sharp-tailed Grouse numbers were up from 1 to 5 but this is well below the 2009 high of 73. Hawks found in 2012 but missed in 2013 are Bald Eagle, Ferruginous Hawk, American Kestrel, and Peregrine Falcon. No woodpeckers were found. Black-billed Magpie numbers remain low at 3.

Pine Ridge Reservation — 5 January, Peter Hill compiler. Two observers contributed 9 hours recording 21 species and 713 individuals. The area's second CBC resulted in the addition of Common Merganser, Northern Harrier, Bohemian Waxwing, and Red Crossbill to the cumulative species list. The American Goldfinch count, 241, was the highest reported in the state this year.

East River

Pierre — 14 December, Doug Backlund, compiler. Twenty-five participants contributed 108 hours recording 71 species and 71,985 individuals. Three fewer goose species were recorded than in 2012. Cackling Goose numbers were down 33% from 2012 while Canada Goose numbers were up 47%. Mallard numbers were down 63% from 2012. Ring-necked Pheasant numbers were down 67% while Sharp-tailed Grouse numbers were up to a modest 12 from 5 and the Greater Prairie-Chicken count was up 64%. A single California Gull was the fifth count record. Eurasian Collared-Dove numbers doubled, reaching an all-time high of 656 birds. The Eastern Screech-Owl count reached a high of 14. Black-billed Magpie numbers remain low at 2. Ten Rusty Blackbirds, while not as high as last year, is still a good number.

Lake Andes — 20 December, Michael J. Bryant compiler. Eleven participants contributed 21.35 hours recording 47 species and 12,854 individuals. Canada Goose numbers were up from 329 to 4,145. An American Wigeon was the first since 2007. Greater Scaup (6) made its first appearance on this count. Long-tailed Duck (8) made its first "official" appearance this year, the previous two occurrences being during count week. Sharp-tailed Grouse was missed but Greater Prairie-Chicken and Wild Turkey numbers remained the same. One Swainson's Hawk was the first since 1999 and the third occurrence on the count. Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier and Rough-legged Hawk numbers were significantly higher than last year. Prairie Falcon (1) was back after a three year absence. Eastern Bluebird set a high count of 10, twice last year's high count. Yellow-rumped Warbler (4) was a count first. White-crowned Sparrow (6) made its third count appearance.

Aberdeen — 14 December, Gary Olson, compiler. Eight participants contributed 14 hours recording 39 species and 1,654 individuals. One Northern Pintail was the first since 1999 and 1 Common Goldeneye was a first for the count. No Eurasian Collared-Doves were reported after first being reported last year. Did they all move away or die? Hairy Woodpecker was missed this year after continuing its recent pattern of absence, being found only once since 2005. Six Rusty Blackbirds was the second highest count this year. This was the only East River CBC to record Common Redpoll (4). Purple Finch (16) was the only other winter finch found.

Sand Lake NWR — 18 December, William Schultze and Allen Olson co-compilers. Twenty-four participants contributed 31 hours recording 34 species and 3,620 individuals. After a two year absence Common Goldeneye (2) returned. Ring-necked Pheasant num-

bers were down 44% and no Sharp-tailed Grouse or Wild Turkeys were found. American Crow was a conspicuous miss. Chipping Sparrow (9) was the first report since 1999. One Yellow-headed Blackbird was the only report for the state. Purple Finch (10) was the only winter finch recorded.

Huron — 20 December, Brent Jamison, compiler. Fourteen participants contributed 41.5 hours recording 36 species and 4,505 individuals. Ring-necked Pheasant numbers were down while Sharp-tailed Grouse (4) absent in 2012 was found this year. Rough-legged Hawk (9) was the highest count since 2001. Absent this year were Golden Eagle and all falcons. Rock Pigeon went from 2012's high count (702) to a low count this year (145), 82% fewer birds per party hour. A single Red-bellied Woodpecker was present for the second consecutive year. Horned Lark (861), American Robin (217), and Cedar Waxing (125) set new high count records. Harris's (12) and White-crowned (2) sparrows also had high counts; the latter being the first occurrence since 2007. Pine Siskin (3) was the only winter finch present.

Mitchell — 27 December, Jeff Hansen, compiler. Twenty-three participants contributed 51.75 hours recording 47 species and 10,639 individuals. This count was last conducted in 1967. Three Northern Goshawks was the high report for the state. The Northern Shrike count (8) tied with Pierre for the high count. The Red-winged Blackbird count (5,720) was the highest in the state.

Yankton — 15 December, Roger Dietrich, compiler. Thirty-six participants contributed 93.25 hours recording 78 species and 29,540 individuals. The Snow Goose count was greatly reduced (6) from last year's extraordinary high (13,760). Cackling Goose established a high count (54). Canada Goose numbers while 30% lower than last year's high count was still nearly twice that of the 2006 – 2011 average. Wood Duck set a new high count record (55). Northern Shoveler (2) put in its fifth appearance. Green-winged Teal set a new record (33), as did Hooded Merganser (6). The Ring-necked Pheasant count (58) was much higher than last year's (5). Wild Turkey numbers were 60% lower than last year but essentially the same as 2010 and 2011. Two Great Blue Herons endured the subfreezing temperatures. Eight Cooper's Hawks was a new high count. One Northern Goshawk was the first since 2009. Rough-legged Hawk set a high count record (18) as did American Coot (145). Ring-billed and Herring gull numbers were noticeably down from 2012. Eurasian Collared-Dove numbers continue to increase, setting a high count record for the second consecutive year. Hairy Woodpecker (21), Blue Jay (115), and Golden-crowned Kinglet (12) set high count records. Single individuals of both Spotted and Eastern towhees were recorded, the latter for the third count record. Fox (2) and Lincoln's (1) sparrows were second count records. Two White-throated Sparrows were the first since 2007. Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco set a high count record (1,025). Rusty Blackbird (5) was missed in 2012. Purple Finch (2) was the only winter finch reported.

Waubay — 17 December, Laura Hubers compiler. Eighteen observers contributed 32.5 hours recording 25 species and 1,734 individuals. Seventeen fewer species were found than in 2012. Among the missing were five waterfowl species, Gray Partridge, three raptor species, and six songbird species. Ring-necked Pheasant and Sharp-tailed Grouse numbers were down 15% and 56% respectively from 2012. After two consecutive years of high counts Wild Turkey numbers returned to numbers slightly higher than the 2004-2010 average. Blue Jay numbers (20) were in the twenties for the first time since 1992, the intervening years typically recording fewer than ten birds. Brown Creeper (2) was found for the first time since 2009. No American Goldfinches or winter finches were reported.

Madison — 19 December, Jeffrey Palmer, compiler. Nineteen participants contributed 35.5 hours recording 33 species and 3,699 individuals. Snow and Canada goose, Mallard, and Northern Shoveler present in 2012 were missed this year. Ring-necked Pheasant numbers were down 44% from last year. Blue Jay for the second consecutive year set another high count (114). Red-breasted Nuthatch was missed for the first time since 2000. American Robin set a high count record of 89 birds. Cedar Waxing reached triple digits (200) for the first time since 2004. Purple Finch (27) was the only winter finch reported.

Brookings — 14 December, Nelda Holden, compiler. Twenty-two observers contributed 32 hours recording 44 species and 2,411 individuals. Canada Goose had its lowest count (2) since 1992, also 2. Mallard was missed for the first time since 1994. One Northern Goshawk was the first since 2008. Eurasian Collared-Dove after several years of declining numbers has returned to close (64) to its former high (91). Red-breasted Nuthatch was missed for the first time since 1978. American Tree Sparrow numbers (4) were substantially lower than the usual double and triple figure counts. Fox Sparrow (1) made its second occurrence on the count. Purple Finch (28) and Pine Siskin (5) were the only winter finches recorded.

Sioux Falls — 14 December, Todd Jensen, compiler. Seventeen participants contributed 53.25 hours recording 48 species and 16,410 individuals. Cackling Goose (1) made its second count appearance. One Wood Duck was a good find. Ring-necked Pheasant numbers continued their modest increase. Wild Turkey numbers were essentially unchanged. Rough-legged Hawk had its highest count (8) since 1960 also 8 birds. One Prairie Falcon was the first since 2004. Eurasian Collared-Dove continues its increase, setting another high count record (44). Blue Jay set a new high count record of 94. Eastern Bluebird (1) occurred for the first time since 1949. American Robin for the second consecutive year set a high count record (69). The only icterids found were 2 Rusty Blackbirds. Purple Finch (7) was the only winter finch recorded.

Canton — 28 December, Todd Jensen, compiler. Sixteen participants contributed 39.5 hours recording 53 species and 5,357 individuals. Previously Snow and Canada geese were recorded during count week; this was the first time Snow Goose (60) was found on count day and the second time for Canada Goose (482). Northern Goshawk (1) was a good find and Rough-legged Hawk (17) set a new high count. Common Snipe (2), Northern Saw-whet Owl (4) and Red-headed Woodpecker (9) were new count species. Northern Shrike (2) made its second count appearance. Blue Jay had a new high count (149) that far exceeded the previous high count (39). Eastern Bluebird (6) was a new species for the count. American Robin set a count high record of 337 as did Lapland Longspur (1,120) and Red-winged Blackbird (200). Purple Finch (5) and Pine Siskin (1) were only winter finches noted.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I thank Nancy Drilling for the suggestion to undertake this report. Thanks are also due to the many observers doing the field work and to the compilers for sending the results to the National Audubon Society.

DATA SOURCE

National Audubon Society. 2014. The Christmas Bird Count Historical Results [Online]. Available <http://www.christmasbirdcount.org>. Accessed February 2014.

SEASONAL REPORTS

The 2014 Summer Season

Compiled By: Jeffrey S. Palmer

01 June 2014 to 31 July 2014

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

The primary goal of the Summer Season compilation is to report Confirmed Breeding records observed during the season. There were 96 species reported as Confirmed Breeding this year. The secondary objectives of the Summer Season summary include sightings of rare (or at least infrequently reported) species, late spring and early fall migration dates, and species that are reported from unusual locations. There were 248 species, including 5 rarities, reported during the season. The ten-year (2004-2013) average is 261. A full listing of all reported sightings can be obtained from the online database. This report contains those sightings and species which seemed to be consistent with the objectives of the Summer Season as described above.

Canada Goose Confirmed Nesting: **Fall River**, Lake, Miner, Minnehaha, Pennington, Perkins, and Walworth counties

Wood Duck Confirmed Nesting: Brown and Pennington counties

Gadwall Confirmed Nesting: **12 Jul Harding (PY) ND; 27 Jul Bon Homme (PY) ND**

Mallard Confirmed Nesting: **Bon Homme**, Brown, Charles Mix, Fall River, Harding, Lincoln, Miner, Pennington, and Yankton counties

Blue-winged Teal Confirmed Nesting: Bon Homme, Brown, Fall River, McPherson, Meade, Pennington, and Perkins counties

Northern Shoveler Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jul Perkins (PY) ND; 20 Jul Perkins (PY) ND

Northern Pintail Confirmed Nesting: 24 Jun Miner (PY) JSP; 13 Jul Harding (PY) ND; **27 Jul Bon Homme (PY) ND**

Ring-necked Duck Confirmed Nesting: 19 Jul Marshall (PY) ND

Hooded Merganser Confirmed Nesting: 04 Jul Brown (PY) GO ... also reported 03 Jun Douglas KP; 24 Jun Miner JSP; 28 Jun Minnehaha CA; 12 Jul Moody JSP

Common Merganser Confirmed Nesting: 16 Jun Pennington (PY) CLG; 30 Jun Pennington (PY) CLG

Gray Partridge Only Report: 01 Jun Meade ND

Ring-necked Pheasant Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jun Lincoln (PY) AH; 14 Jul Lincoln (PY) AH; **19 Jul Spink (PY) ND; 26 Jul Douglas (PY) ND**

Ruffed Grouse All Reports: 12 Jun Lawrence SW; 14 Jun Lawrence DGP; 16 Jun Lawrence DGP; 20 Jul Lawrence DGP

Greater Prairie-Chicken Only Report: 08 Jun Tripp RDO

Wild Turkey Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Harding (PY) ND; **12 Jun Clay (PY) DS; 18 Jun Meade (NE) EEM; 20 Jul Meade (PY) EEM**

Northern Bobwhite All Reports: 07 Jun Turner RND; 08 Jun Tripp RDO; 13 Jun Clay DS

Pied-billed Grebe Confirmed Nesting: 19 Jul Meade (PY) JLB; 30 Jul Meade (PY) ND

Red-necked Grebe Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jul Marshall (PY) DB ... also reported 12 Jul Day GO; 19 Jul Roberts ND

Eared Grebe Confirmed Nesting: **07 Jun Harding (NB) ND; 12 Jul Fall River (ON) ND**

Double-crested Cormorant Confirmed Nesting: 24 Jun Miner (ON) JSP

American Bittern All Reports: 14 Jun Brown GO; 22 Jun Roberts CV; 26 Jun Custer MMM; 01 Jul Custer MMM; 04 Jul Brown GO

Least Bittern Only Report: 05 Jun Hughes DB, RDO

Great Blue Heron Confirmed Nesting: **24 Jun Miner (ON) JSP; 19 Jul Spink (NY) ND**

Great Egret Confirmed Nesting: 24 Jun Miner (ON) JSP

Snowy Egret All Reports: 13 Jun Campbell and Walworth ND; 14 Jun Brown GO

Cattle Egret All Reports: 13 Jun Walworth ND; 14 Jun Brown GO; 15 Jun Potter RDO; 04 Jul Brown GO; 05 Jul McPherson DB

Black-crowned Night-Heron All Reports: 04 Jun Brown GO; 03 Jul Brown GO; 05 Jul McPherson DB

White-faced Ibis All Reports: 13 Jun Walworth ND; 14 Jun Brown GO; 15 Jun Potter RDO; 04 Jul Brown GO; 05 Jul McPherson DB

Osprey Confirmed Nesting: 01 Jun Pennington (ON) JLB; 23 Jun Pennington (ON) ND; 20 Jul Pennington (NY) JLB; 31 Jul Pennington (NY) JLB ... also reported 12 Jul Day GO

Bald Eagle Confirmed Nesting: **17 Jun Fall River (NY) ND**

Sharp-shinned Hawk All Reports: 11 Jul Lawrence DGP; 30 Jul Lawrence DGP; 31 Jul Lawrence DGP

Northern Goshawk Only Report: 01 Jun Custer RSL

Broad-winged Hawk Only Report: 12 Jul Lawrence JLB, LB

Swainson's Hawk Confirmed Nesting: 19 Jun Custer (ON) MMM; **24 Jun Lawrence (NY) ND**; 07 Jul Perkins (NY) ND

Red-tailed Hawk Confirmed Nesting: 15 Jun Custer (CF) MMM

Ferruginous Hawk All Reports: 07 Jun Harding ND; 24 Jun Butte ND; 17 Jul Pennington LB; 27 Jul Potter MMM

Golden Eagle Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jun Meade (NY) ND

Virginia Rail All Reports: 02 Jun Charles Mix KP; 05 Jun Charles Mix RM; 10 Jun Hutchinson KP; 22 Jun Roberts CV; 12 Jul Moody JSP

American Coot Confirmed Nesting: 19 Jul Meade (PY) JLB

Semipalmated Plover All Reports: 07 Jun Harding ND; 30 Jul Minnehaha CA

Piping Plover All Reports: 14 Jun Charles Mix RM; 07 Jul Charles Mix RM

Killdeer Confirmed Nesting: Brown, Butte, Harding, Lincoln, Minnehaha, and Yankton counties

Black-necked Stilt Only Report: 16 Jul Stanley DB

Spotted Sandpiper Confirmed Nesting: 25 Jun Pennington (PY) OCW; 02 Jul Pennington (PY) OCW

Solitary Sandpiper Late: 07 Jun Harding ND ... Early: 28 Jun Meade RSL; 09 Jul Douglas KP; 12 Jul Moody JSP; 19 Jul Clay DS

Greater Yellowlegs Early: 29 Jun Aurora SS; 01 Jul Meade RSL; 03 Jul Douglas KP; 21 Jul Charles Mix KP

Lesser Yellowlegs Early: 02 Jul Brown GO; 03 Jul Charles Mix and Douglas KP; 07 Jul Perkins ND

Upland Sandpiper Confirmed Nesting: 23 Jun Charles Mix (PY) RM; 05 Jul McPherson (NE) DB

Long-billed Curlew Confirmed Nesting: 27 Jun Custer (DD) MMM ... also reported 07 Jun Harding ND; 13 Jun Custer MMM; 04 Jul Pennington JLB

Ruddy Turnstone Only Report: 03 Jun Minnehaha KP

Red Knot Only Report: **31 Jul Clark BM**

Stilt Sandpiper Late: 05 Jun Meade RSL; 03 Jun Minnehaha and Douglas KP ... Early: 03 Jul Douglas KP; 13 Jul Pennington JLB; 17 Jul McPherson ND; 27 Jul Bon Homme ND

Dunlin Only Report: 03 Jun Minnehaha KP

Baird's Sandpiper Late: 03 Jun Minnehaha KP ... Early: 13 Jul Meade RSL; 17 Jul Pennington LB; 18 Jul Douglas KP; 21 Jul Charles Mix KP

Least Sandpiper Late: 03 Jun Minnehaha KP ... Early: 11 Jul Douglas KP; 19 Jul Pennington RSL; 20 Jul Perkins ND; 27 Jul Bon Homme and Yankton ND

White-rumped Sandpiper Late: 15 Jun Potter RDO; 07 Jun Harding ND; 03 Jun Minnehaha KP ... Early: 20 Jul Perkins ND; 27 Jul Yankton ND

Buff-breasted Sandpiper Only Report: 31 Jul Yankton RND

Pectoral Sandpiper Late: 15 Jun Potter RDO; 03 Jun Meade RSL ... Early: 13 Jul Meade RSL; 18 Jul Douglas KP; 20 Jul Perkins ND; 21 Jul Charles Mix KP

Semipalmated Sandpiper Late: 15 Jun Potter RDO; 10 Jun Pennington LB; 01 Jun Charles Mix KP
... Early: 07 Jul Pennington LB; 18 Jul Douglas KP; 20 Jul Perkins ND; 26 Jul Charles Mix KP

Short-billed Dowitcher Only Report: 27 Jul Aurora ND

Long-billed Dowitcher All Reports: 19 Jul Pennington RSL; 20 Jul Perkins ND; 27 Jul Aurora and
Bon Homme ND; 30 Jul Charles Mix KP; 31 Jul Douglas KP

American Woodcock Only Report: 29 Jun Charles Mix KP

Wilson's Phalarope Confirmed Nesting: 13 Jul Pennington (PY) JLB

Franklin's Gull Confirmed Nesting: 13 Jun Walworth (CN) ND

Caspian Tern Only Report: 02 Jul Butte JLB

Forster's Tern Confirmed Nesting: 04 Jul Brown (CF) GO ... also reported 02 Jun Charles Mix KP;
14 Jun Brown GO; 05 Jul McPherson DB

Mourning Dove Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (ON) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (FL) AH; 14 Jul
Lincoln (FL) AH; 26 Jul Todd (ON) ND

Barn Owl Confirmed Nesting: 05 Jul Charles Mix (NY) KP

Eastern Screech-Owl All Reports: 04 Jun Charles Mix RM; 13 Jun Minnehaha MRZ; 09 Jul Charles
Mix RM; 23 Jul Brown GO; 27 Jul Yankton KP

Burrowing Owl Confirmed Nesting: 28 Jun Custer (CF) MMM; 04 Jul Custer (FL) MMM

Short-eared Owl All Reports: 24 Jun Butte ND; 16 Jul Deuel BM

Northern Saw-whet Owl Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Harding (NY) ND

Common Nighthawk Confirmed Nesting: 13 Jun Custer (DD) MMM

Common Poorwill All Reports: 12 Jun Pennington MMM; 14 Jun Custer ND; 19 Jul Fall River
RDO

Eastern Whip-poor-will All Reports: 04 Jun Charles Mix RM; 15 Jun Charles Mix RM; 30 Jun
Charles Mix RM; 01 Jul Charles Mix RM; 04 Jul Gregory MMM; 31 Jul Charles Mix RM

Ruby-throated Hummingbird reported 13 Jun – 31 Jul Stanley RDO

Rufous Hummingbird Early: 13 Jul Lawrence DGP; 19 Jul Custer RDO; 25 Jul Pennington RSL

Lewis's Woodpecker All Reports: 01 Jun Custer RSL; 18 Jun Pennington LB

Red-headed Woodpecker Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 20 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH;
14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH; 29 Jul Charles Mix (FY) RM

Red-bellied Woodpecker Confirmed Nesting: 16 Jun Charles Mix (FY) RM; 06 Jul Charles Mix
(FL) RM; 16 Jul Charles Mix (FY) RM

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker All Reports: 07 Jun Lincoln CA, RND, MRZ; 17 Jun Roberts CV; 24 Jun
Minnehaha CA; 27 Jun Roberts MO

Downy Woodpecker Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 01
Jul Brown (FY) GO; 06 Jul Minnehaha (FL) MMM; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH; 14 Jul Pennington
(CF) CLG

Hairy Woodpecker Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 21 Jun
Pennington (CF) ND; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

American Three-toed Woodpecker All Reports: 19 Jun Lawrence DGP; 20 Jun Lawrence LB; 03
Jul Lawrence DGP; 21 Jul Lawrence DGP; 27 Jul Lawrence DGP

Black-backed Woodpecker All Reports: 06 Jul Lawrence DGP; 15 Jul Lawrence DGP; 24 Jul
Pennington LB; 26 Jul Lawrence DGP; 30 Jul Lawrence DGP

Northern Flicker Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 06 Jul
Brown (FY) GO; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH; 26 Jul Charles Mix (FY) RM

Pileated Woodpecker All Reports: 14 Jun Marshall GO; 19 Jul Roberts ND

Merlin Only Report: 14 Jul Pennington CLG

Peregrine Falcon Only Report: **16 Jun Pennington CLG**

Western Wood-Pewee Confirmed Nesting: 23 Jul Custer (NY) JF

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher Only Report: 04 Jun Brown GO

Alder Flycatcher All Reports: 01 Jun Charles Mix KP; 04 Jun Clay DS; 21 Jun Pennington ND

Eastern Phoebe Confirmed Nesting: **16 Jun Pennington (CN) CLG**

Say's Phoebe reported 06 Jun Roberts BM; 10 Jun Day BM

Western Kingbird Confirmed Nesting: **27 Jul Yankton (FY) ND**

Eastern Kingbird Confirmed Nesting: Custer, Lawrence, Lincoln, and Pennington counties

Loggerhead Shrike Confirmed Nesting: 22 Jun Pennington (CF) MMM

Warbling Vireo Confirmed Nesting: **07 Jun Harding (NY) ND**; 15 Jun Custer (ON) ND

Philadelphia Vireo Only Report: **05 Jun Gregory RM**

Red-eyed Vireo Confirmed Nesting: 17 Jun Custer (CF) ND

Blue Jay Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 13 Jun Charles Mix (FL) RM; 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 05 Jul Charles Mix (FL) RM; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

Clark's Nutcracker All Reports: 19 Jul Custer RDO; 20 Jul Pennington JLB

American Crow Confirmed Nesting: **14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH**

Horned Lark Confirmed Nesting: 12 Jul Fall River (FY) ND

Tree Swallow Confirmed Nesting: 28 Jun Custer (NY) MMM; 29 Jun Custer (FL) MMM; 13 Jul Pennington (ON) JLB; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH; 20 Jul Pennington (NY) JLB

Violet-green Swallow Confirmed Nesting: 01 Jun Pennington (ON) JLB; 20 Jul Pennington (NY) JLB

Bank Swallow Confirmed Nesting: 04 Jul Brown (FY) GO; **19 Jul Spink (NY) ND**

Cliff Swallow Confirmed Nesting: 03 Jul Brown (FY) GO; 04 Jul Pennington (FY) JLB; 12 Jul Fall River (NY) ND; 20 Jul Pennington (NY) JLB

Barn Swallow Confirmed Nesting: Lincoln, Minnehaha, and Pennington counties

Black-capped Chickadee Confirmed Nesting: 15 Jul Brown (FY) GO

Red-breasted Nuthatch reported 03 Jun Brown GO; 03 Jul Brown GO

White-breasted Nuthatch Confirmed Nesting: 13 Jul Brown (FL) GO

Pygmy Nuthatch Confirmed Nesting: 15 Jun Custer (NY) ND ... also reported 18 Jun Pennington LB; 30 Jul Pennington OCW

Brown Creeper All Reports: 03 Jun Lawrence DGP; 15 Jul Lawrence DGP

Rock Wren All Reports: 15 Jun Custer ND; 06 Jul Harding RSL

Canyon Wren All Reports: 14 Jun Lawrence SW; 26 Jun Lawrence JLB; 28 Jun Pennington RSL; 02 Jul Meade DGP; 19 Jul Custer RDO

House Wren Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (ON) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 20 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 01 Jul Meade (ON) EEM; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH; 22 Jul Charles Mix (NY) RM

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher All Reports: 07 Jun Lincoln CA, MRZ; 10 Jul Minnehaha KP

Eastern Bluebird Confirmed Nesting: 03 Jun Charles Mix (NE) RM; 19 Jun Charles Mix (FL) RM

Swainson's Thrush Late: 01 Jun Hughes DB

Wood Thrush All Reports: 01 Jul Minnehaha MS; 09 Jul Charles Mix RM

American Robin Confirmed Nesting: Custer, Douglas, Fall River, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meade, Moody, Pennington, and Spink counties

Gray Catbird Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

Brown Thrasher Confirmed Nesting: 02 Jun Charles Mix (CN) RM; 07 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 26 Jun Meade (CF) JLB; 07 Jul Perkins (FL) ND; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

Sage Thrasher All Reports: 03 Jul Pennington LB; 24 Jul Pennington JLB

Northern Mockingbird Only Report: 15 Jun Custer ND

European Starling Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (FL) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (FL) AH; 12 Jul Pennington (CF) ND; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

Sprague's Pipit Only Report: 07 Jul Perkins ND

Cedar Waxwing Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jul Lincoln (CF) AH

Blue-winged Warbler Only Report: 07 Jun Lincoln CA, MRZ

Black-and-white Warbler All Reports: 14 Jun Marshall GO; 20 Jun Lawrence LB; 28 Jun Roberts CV; 02 Jul Meade DGP; 26 Jul Todd ND

Tennessee Warbler Only Report: 04 Jun Yankton RND

Virginia's Warbler Only Report: 15 Jun Custer ND

Common Yellowthroat Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jun Lincoln (ON) AH; 20 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH; 19 Jul Meade (CF) JLB; 30 Jul Pennington OCW

Yellow Warbler Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; **07 Jul Perkins (CF) ND**; 12 Jul Day (CF) GO; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

Chestnut-sided Warbler Only Report: 02 Jul Meade DGP

Spotted Towhee Confirmed Nesting: **08 Jul Charles Mix (FL) RM**

Chipping Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: Charles Mix, Day, Lincoln, Pennington, and Todd counties

Clay-colored Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: **05 Jul McPherson (NE) DB**

Brewer's Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: 24 Jun Butte (CN) ND ... also reported 07 Jun Harding ND; 12 Jul Fall River ND

Field Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: 30 Jul Lincoln (CF) MMM

Lark Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: 17 Jun Custer (CF) ND; 17 Jul Stanley (NY) DB; 23 Jul Fall River (CF) ND

Lark Bunting Confirmed Nesting: 12 Jul Fall River (CF) ND; 13 Jul Butte (FY) ND

Savannah Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: **27 Jul Aurora (CF) ND**; 28 Jul Potter (FL) MMM

Grasshopper Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: 01 Jun Sully (NE) KM; 24 Jun Custer (NE) MMM; 07 Jul Perkins (CF) ND; 27 Jul Pennington (CF) JLB

Baird's Sparrow All Reports: 11 Jun Perkins BM; 26 Jun Perkins LB; 07 Jul Perkins ND

Henslow's Sparrow All Reports: 27 Jun Roberts MO; 12 Jul Jones RDO

Song Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 23 Jun Lawrence (CF) ND

White-throated Sparrow Only Report: **11 Jun Perkins BM**

Northern Cardinal Confirmed Nesting: 19 Jul Spink (CF) ND

Rose-breasted Grosbeak Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jun Charles Mix (FY) RM; 15 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 07 Jul Charles Mix (FY) RM; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

Black-headed Grosbeak Confirmed Nesting: 23 Jul Fall River (CF) ND

Dickcissel Confirmed Nesting: 18 Jun Lincoln (NB) AH; 14 Jul Lincoln (CF) AH

Bobolink Confirmed Nesting: 29 Jun Meade (CF) JLB; **28 Jul Potter (FL) MMM**

Red-winged Blackbird Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (FL) AH; 06 Jul Custer (CF) JLB; 07 Jul Pennington (FL) CLG; 12 Jul Fall River (CF) ND; 12 Jul Pennington (CF) ND; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

Western Meadowlark Confirmed Nesting: Butte, Custer, Fall River, **Lincoln**, Meade, and Pennington counties

Brewer's Blackbird Confirmed Nesting: 04 Jul Pennington (CF) JLB; **12 Jul Fall River (CF) ND**

Common Grackle Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (FL) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (FL) AH; 24 Jun Butte (CF) ND; **24 Jun Lawrence (CF) ND**; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

Great-tailed Grackle Only Report: 23 Jul Charles Mix RM

Brown-headed Cowbird Confirmed Nesting: **14 Jun Lincoln (FL) AH**; **14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH**

Orchard Oriole Confirmed Nesting: Charles Mix, Custer, Fall River, Lincoln, and **Tripp** counties

Baltimore Oriole Confirmed Nesting: 14 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 20 Jun Lincoln (CF) AH; 28 Jun Charles Mix (FL) RM; 14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH

House Finch Confirmed Nesting: **14 Jun Lincoln (FL) AH**; 12 Jul Fall River (FY) ND; **14 Jul Lincoln (FL) AH**

Cassin's Finch Confirmed Nesting: 15 Jun Custer (CF) ND

White-winged Crossbill All Reports: 16 Jul Lawrence DGP; 29 Jul Lawrence DGP

Lesser Goldfinch All Reports: 22 Jun Pennington APB; 30 Jun Pennington APB; 01 Jul Pennington APB; 19 Jul Fall River RDO; 23 Jul Fall River ND; 31 Jul Pennington APB

American Goldfinch Confirmed Nesting: 07 Jun Lincoln (CN) AH; 14 Jun Lincoln (CN) AH; 14 Jul Lincoln (ON) AH

Evening Grosbeak All Reports: 10 Jul Lawrence DGP; 14 Jul Lawrence DGP

House Sparrow Confirmed Nesting: Fall River, Lincoln, Minnehaha, and Pennington counties

Reports Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

Lesser Scaup 26 Jul Meade (PY) JB

Horned Grebe 03 Jun Meade RSL; 19 Jul Pennington RSL

Neotropic Cormorant 29 Jun Aurora SS
Sharp-shinned Hawk 26 Jul Jackson ND
Yellow Rail 06 Jun Roberts BM
Black-necked Stilt 16 Jun Brown (ON) SJD
Baird's Sandpiper 15 Jun Potter RDO
Least Tern 31 Jul Clark BM
Ruby-throated Hummingbird 05 Jul, 23 Jul, 28 Jul, and 29 Jul Lawrence DGP
Pacific Wren 14 Jun – 31 Jul Lawrence SW, ND, DGP
Northern Cardinal 16 Jul Pennington (CN) *vide* JLB
Eastern Meadowlark 21 Jun Meade RSL

Contributing Observers

CA	Chris Anderson	BP	Barry Parkin
DB	Doug Backlund	KP	Kelly M. Preheim
JLB	Jocelyn L. Baker	DGP	D. George Prisbe
APB	Addison & Patricia Ball	MS	Mark Schmidtbauer
LB	Lynn Barber	GJS	Gary & Jan Small
RND	Roger N. Dietrich	SS	Scott Stolz
SJD	Stephen J. Dinsmore	DS	David Swanson
ND	Nancy Drilling	CLG	Canyon Lake Group Survey
JF	Jennifer Fowler	OCW	Outdoor Campus West Survey
AH	Alice Hill	CV	Cheryl Vellenga
RSL	Richard S. Latuchie	SW	Scott Weins
RM	Ron Mabie	MRZ	Mick Zerr
BM	Brad McDonald		
MMM	Michael M. Melius		
KM	Kenny Miller		
GO	Gary Olson		
RDO	Ricky D. Olson		
MO	Mark Otnes		
JSP	Jeffrey S. Palmer		

PYGMY NUTHATCH NEST EXCAVATION

by Jon & BJ Little

On 15 May 2014 we were birding at the top of Battle Mountain, Fall River County. We were specifically looking for Pygmy Nuthatches. I was originally alerted to Battle Mountain as being a place to find PYNU by Richard A. Peterson's 1990 *A Birdwatcher's Guide to the Black Hills*. He noted at the time that "it is the most consistent location to find Pygmy Nuthatch in the Black Hills". Taking that advice, we encountered a few up there in 2009 but merely heard them high in the trees. This year, we got what we hoped for - visual contact, and better than expected.

After checking the area near the tower, we walked downhill along an old, non-passable vehicle trail on the south side of the peak. Partway down, we heard 2 Pygmy Nuthatches call from behind us as they flew overhead. One briefly landed in the tree right over us and we both got a good look at it. We did not see the second

bird. Right then, it flew down in front of us and popped into a hole in a pine tree about 25 feet away on the other side of the trail.

The pine tree had three small holes (1 1/4" diameter or so) in a vertical line, roughly 4-5 feet from the ground with approximately 6 inches between each hole. The bird had flown into the bottom hole. What the other two holes were, we don't know. If they were connected to the bottom one previously, or were earlier dead ends, we can't say. We didn't want to look and so disturb the birds at close range.

Immediately, we heard tapping from inside and soon saw the bird pop its head out of the hole and discard a tiny morsel of debris. It would then return and continue its excavation, tap, tap, tap, then spit out another chip. We watched it do this for a minute or more, then I ran down the hill to retrieve my cameras from the car, while my wife watched the scene. Upon return, I took a number of still photos as well as about 20 minutes of video. All together, we watched this spectacle for about 30 minutes.

I videoed the bird as it worked steadily in the hole, first tapping for a minute or so, and then spitting out pieces of debris. During one 5 minute segment of the video, it popped its head out of the hole 32 times to spit tiny pieces of debris. Sometimes, it would spit it out directly away from the hole (up to 18 inches or so from the tree). Other times, it looked out and spit it down and off to the side, always returning back into the hole. In a few of my many digital pictures, we can see the tiny piece right before he spit it, but it all happened so fast, it was tough to capture.

At one point while we were watching, the bird popped out of the hole and flew to a tree right over our heads, then flew away. Shortly, within a half minute or so, a bird returned to the hole and continued the work. Whether this was the same or a second bird, we don't know. Since we had heard two birds earlier, it could have been the mate trading places. After another 10 minutes, this bird stopped working, came out of the hole and flew away, after which we left the scene.

Previous nesting records of Pygmy Nuthatch in South Dakota are few. *The South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas 1988-1993* by Richard A. Peterson lists Pygmy Nuthatch as having one Confirmed nesting record (NW Fall River County), two Probable (NW Custer County), and one Possible (N. Fall River County). Previous nest excavation records in 1983 and 1987 were by Peterson himself (*Birds of South Dakota* SDOU 2002).

Although I rarely note the exact location of nests, I find that this spot is so hard to get to because of the poor road, for records sake, I feel free to divulge it: 43°26'34.90"N, 103°27'17.95"W. Altitude: 4290.

FLEDGLING TRACTS

JASON THIELE

Some Changes in Ornithology in the Last Century or So: The Good and the Bad

Over the last few years, I've accumulated a number of old books about birds. Most of them date from the 1910s to the 1940s. These include an ornithology textbook, several natural history accounts, some government publications, and more. I have grown quite fond of browsing through these roughly century-old volumes, for many reasons. I especially enjoy seeing how the field of ornithology has changed over the decades. As I read the works of birders and ornithologists from my great-grandparents' generation, I sometimes find myself having thoughts of "Wow, I'm sure glad we've made it past those days!" However, perhaps even more often I think to myself, "Things were so much better back then!" I would like to share just a few of my personal reflections on the changes in ornithology in the last century or so.

Taxonomy Has Apparently Always Been Confusing...

Even for an avid birder with a master's degree in biology who makes some effort to follow the latest ornithology literature, it seems that every time I get comfortable with the taxonomic order of the birds, it gets shuffled again ["comfortable" is a relative term here: I get comfortable with taxonomy the same way I get comfortable finding a spot to sleep on the ground]. Sometimes I think that there must be some kind of conspiracy between taxonomists and authors of field guides so that there is always an excuse to put out a new edition. I do think we can safely say, however, that advances in genetics and molecular biology have helped us to get a better sense of the relationships between various taxonomic groups, even if the use of new techniques may sometimes lead to excessive "splitting" of groups (for a fascinating commentary on this subject, see "Why Avian Systematics are No Longer Scientific" by Vladimir Dinets in the March 2014 issue of *SD Bird Notes*).

Looking through an old book I acquired titled *Birds of America* (editor-in-chief T. Gilbert Pearson, ©1936), the differences in the arrangement of taxonomic groups between that time and today are staggering. The first thing I noticed was that none of the order names used in that book are still used today, and many of these orders have been broken up. The most dramatic changes may have been to the order that was known at that time as Raptores and included all hawks, eagles, kites, falcons, owls, and vultures. The owls were split apart into their own order (Strigiformes) some time ago; in fact, some taxonomists had already separated them at the time of the previously mentioned book's publication. Classification of the vultures has been a subject of much debate over the years, with some taxonomists placing them in the same order as other raptors, other taxonomists placing them in the same order as storks, herons, and ibises, and others giving them their own order apart from other birds. And recently, the falcons were given their own order Falconiformes, leaving the rest of the birds of prey in the newly proposed order Accipitriformes for the time being. It would not surprise me one bit if this arrangement changes by the time this issue gets to readers. And I can't help but wonder what the ornithologists of the next century will think as they look back as the taxonomies of our time.

But Bird Names Were So Much Cooler Back Then

I will start off here by saying that I am truly grateful that birds have standardized common

names. Reading through a variety of old sources, it can indeed get perplexing as different common names were sometimes used for the same species even within the same text. I'm not sure exactly when the American Ornithologists' Union's checklist became the generally accepted standard for bird nomenclature in North America (this list has been around since 1886, but it was clearly not as widely accepted in its early days as it is today), but that was a good step. Communication among birders and ornithologists from different regions is much easier when everyone speaks the same "language."

Nevertheless, I feel that a lot of historical common names have been tragically replaced with very dull substitutes, and if I had any influence in the ornithological community, I would make a plea to bring some of these old common names back into usage. Some are just fun to say, like Water Ouzel (now known as the American Dipper) and Timberdoodle (American Woodcock). Some of the old names did a better job than their modern counterparts of describing something unique about the species. For example, the American Bittern was once called the Thunder Pumper by some because of its unmistakable calls. The Gray Jay was commonly known as the Camp Robber for its habit of showing up around campgrounds, picnic sites, cabins, etc. to snatch an easy meal. A couple of old common names for the Palm Warbler were Wagtail Warbler and Tip-up Warbler, which called attention to its characteristic tail-wagging behavior. The Snow Bunting was once called the Snowflake, which I think is a very appropriate name considering the way flocks of this species swirl and descend slowly over a field, but I suppose telling someone you saw a flock of Snowflakes could be a little confusing. And the Northern Harrier was widely known to birders at the Marsh Hawk because of its habitat preferences (to be fair, plenty of harriers nest in drier grasslands, so that name may be a bit misleading, but I still say Marsh Hawk has more charm than Northern Harrier). Others are just plain ridiculous, like Bill-willy (Willet). Was this some sort of attempt to make a mnemonic for its call? I don't know, but it's a shame that name didn't stick.

Waterfowl names have probably suffered more than those of any other group. If there was a silver lining to the dark cloud of history that was the market hunting era, it was that the gunners came up with some really creative names for ducks, geese, and other water birds. What was so wrong with "Baldpate" that the powers that be insisted on American Wigeon instead? And couldn't at least one of the grebe species have kept the name "Hell-diver" (from their ability to dive so quickly at the sight of a muzzle flash that they could frequently escape the hunters' shot)? What a shame.

People Actually *Knew* Birds Back Then

In many of the older ornithology texts that I've had an opportunity to read, the descriptions of birds' appearances and behaviors are often superior to what can be found in comparable contemporary texts. The authors of these accounts clearly spent a lot of time in the field observing their subjects, and they really got to know the species in a way that many of us short-attention-spanned digital-agers may never know. They beautifully describe each bird's quirks and offer many interesting stories of encounters with the birds in the field. In my opinion, a lot of modern books about birds tend to read more like a fifth-grader's book report—they just sort-of rehash the discoveries of others. I am by no means suggesting that there aren't some phenomenal books out there today about birds and birding; they do still exist. And there are certainly still some outstanding naturalists out there today. In fact, I know that a number of them subscribe to this publication. But I do feel that our modern approach to ornithology, with individual researchers getting more and more specialized in

their areas of study, has caused us to lose some appreciation of the birds we study.

In fairness, the direction that ornithological study has moved is probably in the proper direction. Without a doubt, our collective knowledge of birds has increased dramatically in the last hundred-ish years. We've been able to move beyond the simple natural history studies that dominated the literature for many years. Although there is always more to learn in this area, we do have a pretty good base knowledge on the natural histories of most bird species (at least in North America). But birds face an increasing number of threats every year, so it has become more important to focus on conservation and to build on our existing knowledge to research ways that can help to ensure that bird populations remain stable or improve in the years to come. In the variety of bird studies I have had the good fortune to participate in, the main focus has always been trying to find out how to improve the welfare of the species being studied. This is a good thing.

Nevertheless, it can't be denied that the writing in a typical scientific journal article today is much drier than it was a century ago. However, I do think that in some respects, it has greatly improved. For example, I think that modern ornithologists do a much better job of avoiding anthropomorphism when they seek to explain bird behaviors than our predecessors did. And I think that we've also gotten better at asking "why" questions and learning the mechanisms behind the behaviors we observe in birds. I'll just keep the old books in my personal library for when my brain needs a little break from browsing through the latest journals.

But They Sure Didn't Like Raptors

One theme that stands out in most of the "classic" works of ornithology that I've read is a vehement hatred of birds of prey. A few authors were kind enough to remind readers that hawks and other raptors do a service by preying on mice, rats, and other such species that are also widely disliked by humans, but in general, the early 20th-century ornithologist was even more concerned with pointing out those "destructive" raptors that preyed on other birds. Several authors even boasted of shooting hawks to save "valuable" songbirds and game birds. Certainly today there are bird enthusiasts who don't have a lot of love for some raptors. I've seen more than one birder get quite angry at a Sharp-shinned Hawk that picked a small songbird off a feeder, and anyone who raises poultry has probably wanted to put out a warrant for a Red-tailed Hawk or Great Horned Owl that developed a fondness for fresh chicken. However, I don't think I've heard anyone describe these birds with the same kind of language used in some of the old ornithology literature--phrases like "winged devil" or "murderous little villain." The disdain for many of the *Accipiter* hawks in the old literature is particularly heavy, presumably because they are most likely to prey on other birds. I suspect this attitude was closely related to the widespread anti-predator mentality that was so pervasive at the time (think Aldo Leopold in his younger years killing wolves for the government). While raptors will probably never be as popular among most birders as cuddlier, prettier, less dangerous species such as orioles or warblers or ducks, it does seem that education has increased appreciation for the birds with talons and made people more aware of their valuable role in the ecosystem.

...from **Birder Watcher's Digest**: November/December 1979.
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[I have updated this some, mainly nomenclature. ~ Ed.]

NAMING THE BIRDS: WHO WAS HENSLOW?

by Cora Wellman, Federation of New York Bird Clubs.

Birds have received their names for a variety of reasons. The name may tell us about the bird: bluebird, Marsh Wren, Worm-eating Warbler, towhee. Some have been called by the name of the place where first discovered; for example, Alexander Wilson found a new warbler in Nashville, Tenn., in 1810 and named it the Nashville Warbler.

Birds have also been named for people. We speak of Wilson's Plover and Audubon's Warbler and know for whom the bird were named: Alexander Wilson and John James Audubon. But how about Henslow, Bonaparte, Lincoln, Traill and others?

Many of the men whose names the birds are perpetuating, lived in the 19th century and were explorers and naturalists, or were friends of Audubon. At the beginning of the century, the northern and western parts of this continent were little known. Our government sent out expeditions, such as that of Lewis and Clark, and the Pacific Railway Surveys. Naturalists often accompanied these expeditions to collect animals and plants. More western birds than eastern have thus been named for people because these birds were first discovered in uninhabited country. The names of several English explorers are familiar to us today because of the birds we associate with them: Barrow, Forster, Franklin, Sabine.

Audubon named birds for men who had accompanied him or had collected for him: Bachman, Bell, Harris, Lincoln, and Sprague. In England he met naturalists and others who helped him to prepare his books for printing or assisted him in their sale. He gave their names to American birds: Bewick, Henslow, MacGillivray, Swainson, and Traill.

The following list provides brief biographical information about some of the people for whom birds have been named:

John James Audubon, 1785-1851 (shearwater, caracara). Ornithologist, painter, and author.

John Bachman, 1790-1874 (warbler, sparrow). Lutheran Pastor in Charleston, SC, he discovered both the Bachman's and Swainson's warblers and helped Audubon with the text of *Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*. Audubon's two sons married his two daughters. The black Oystercatcher's scientific name (*Haematopus bachmani*) also honors him. There is a plaque to him on the church.

Spencer Fullerton Baird, 1823-1887 (sandpiper, sparrow). Author of books on birds, organizer of the zoological work of the Pacific Railways Surveys, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, founder of the United States National Museum. As a young man, he corresponded with Audubon and sent him specimens, including two new flycatchers, least and yellow-bellied.

- Sir John Barrow**, 1764-1848 (duck). English explorer, chief founder of the Royal Geographical Society, author of *Voyages of Discovery and Research in the Arctic Regions*. Point Barrow was named for him, as well as Barrow's Golden-eye (now common name only).
- John Graham Bell**, 1812-1889 (vireo)[sparrow, too.] Taxidermist with Audubon on his journey up the Missouri River in 1843. Bell's Vireo was then discovered and named by Audubon. The Sage Sparrow's scientific name (*Amphispiza belli*) is also after Bell.
- Thomas Bewick**, 1753-1828 (wren). English ornithologist, wood engraver, and illustrator of *History of British Birds*, 1787. Audubon visited him in 1827 and named Bewick's Wren for him.
- Charles Lucien Bonaparte**, 1803-1857 (gull). Naturalist, nephew of Napoleon, author of *American Ornithology* (four volumes). Came to Philadelphia in 1822. The Bonaparte's Gull was first described from the vicinity of Philadelphia.
- William Brewster**, 1851-1919 (warbler). A founder of the American Ornithologists' Union, author of books on birds. Brewster's Warbler was described by him as early as 1874; but by 1881 he had decided that it is a hybrid of the Golden-winged and Blue-winged.
- Captain William Clark**, 1770-1838 (nutcracker). One of the leaders of the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806, the object of which was to find a water route to the Pacific. The expedition went up the Missouri River, then overland, and down the Columbia River. Clark made maps and drew birds and animals with great care. Clark's Nutcracker and Lewis's Woodpecker were found and described.
- William Cooper**, 1798-1864 (hawk). Ornithologist, one of the founders of the New York Lyceum of Natural History. Friend of Audubon, Bonaparte and Nuttall.
- Elliot Coues**, 1842-1899 (flycatcher). Naturalist on the Northern Boundary Commission, 1873-1876. Author of *Key to North American Birds* and *Birds of the Northwest*. [Now Greater Pewee. ~Ed.]
- John Reinhold Forster**, 1729-1798 (tern). English naturalist on Captain Hook's second voyager to the Pacific; author of a treatise on the birds of Hudson Bay, 1772. Forster's Tern was named by Nuttall.
- Sir John Franklin**, 1786-1847 (gull). English explorer, commander of four expeditions to search for the North Pole and a northwest passage. Franklin's Gull was taken on the Saskatchewan River and described by Sir John Richardson, who was with Franklin on his first two trips.
- William Gambel**, 1819-1849 (quail, sparrow: a subspecies of White-crowned Sparrow). Pioneer in bird study of California. The Mountain Chickadee's scientific name (*Parus gambeli*) honors Gambel.
- Edward Harris**, 1799-1863 (hawk, sparrow). With Audubon on Missouri River Expedition.
- John Stevens Henslow**, 1796-1861 (sparrow). Professor of Botany at the University of Cambridge. Recommended Charles Darwin as naturalist for the *Beagle* and took charge of the specimens Darwin sent back to England. Audubon found a new sparrow in Kentucky and named it for Henslow—"to manifest my gratitude for many kind attentions".
- Jared Potter Kirkland**, 1793-1877 (warbler). Zoologist for the Geographical Survey of Ohio, 1837.
- George Neubold Lawrence**, 1806-1895 (goldfinch, warbler: hybrid). Classified birds collected on Pacific Railway Surveys.
- John Lawrence Le Conte**, 1825-1883 (thrasher, sparrow). Ornithologist, first to map faunal areas of the West.
- Thomas Lincoln**, 1812-1883 (sparrow). With Audubon on his Labrador Expedition, during which the Lincoln's Sparrow was found.
- William MacGillivray**, 1796-1852 (warbler—common name only). Professor of Natural History at the University of Aberdeen, author of *history of British Birds*. Audubon wrote: "He has aided me in completing scientific details and smoothing down the asperities of my ornithological biographies."
- Thomas Nuttall**, 1786-1859 (woodpecker). Author of *Manual of the Ornithology of Unit-*

ed States and Canada, 1832. Explored the West on three expeditions. The scientific names of the Poor-will, the Yellow-billed Magpie and the Olive-sided Flycatcher (genus) also honor Nuttall.

Bernard Rogan Ross, 1827-1874 (goose). Factor of Hudson Bay Company and correspondent with the Smithsonian Institution. [A factor was a mercantile agent, manager of a trading company outpost, i.e. Hudson Bay Company. ~Ed.]

J. C. Ross, 1800-1862 (gull). Scottish admiral and Polar explorer; made voyages to both the Arctic and Antarctic and discovered the North magnetic pole in 1831.

Sir Edwin Sabine, 1788-1883 (gull). English naturalist and astronomer on an Arctic expedition in 1818. Found the new Sabine's Gull in Greenland.

Thomas Say, 1787-1843 (phoebe). Naturalist with the U.S. Expedition to The Rocky Mountains, 1819, and went to the source of the Minnesota River, 1823. The scientific name of Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) doubly honors the naturalist, while the Eastern and Black phoebes both take their generic name from him.

Isaac Sprague, 1811-1895 (pipit). With Audubon on the Missouri River Expedition.

George William Steller, 1709-1746 (eider, sea eagle—common name, jay). Naturalist on Vitus Bering's Expedition to Bering Sea, 1741.

William Swainson, 1789-1855 (hawk, warbler, thrush—common name only). English zoologist, author. Praised Audubon's bird plates in an English magazine in 1828.

John Eliot Thayer, 1862-1933 (gull). Owner of one of the most complete collections of North American birds in the country at Thayer Museum, Lancaster, Massachusetts.

John Kirk Townsend, 1809-1851 (shearwater: common name only, solitaire, warbler). With Nuttall on an expedition to the mouth of the Columbia River, 1834.

Thomas Stewart Traill, 1781-1862 (flycatcher). Scottish professor of medical jurisprudence, editor of the eighth edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, friend of Audubon. The common name of Traill's Flycatcher is now the Willow Flycatcher.

Alexander Wilson, 1766-1813 (plover, phalarope, and petrel—common names only; warbler—common and generic). Author of *American Ornithology*. The Hooded and Canada warblers take their generic names from Wilson. [Since revised.~ Ed]

William Rich Hutton, 1826-1901 (vireo). Hutton was a surveyor and artist; his sketches of Los Angeles were done when he was one of two surveyors who mapped >Los Angeles in 1849. His six year stay in California led to the Hutton's Vireo being named for him.

A few birds have been named for women—small and dainty birds, such as warblers and hummingbirds, suitable to the Victorian concepts of the nineteenth century.

Blackburnian Warbler (common name) for a **Mrs. Blackburn**, an English lady who had a collection of birds; a specimen of this warbler was sent to her.

Lucy's Warbler for **Lucy Baird**, 1848-1913, daughter of Spencer Fullerton Baird.

Grace's Warbler for Grace Darling Coues, 1847-1939, sister of Dr. Eliot Coues, famous ornithologist. [See page 106. ~Ed.]

Anna's Hummingbird, for **Anna, Duchess of Rivoli**, wife of Prince Victor Massena, a collector of specimens, especially of hummingbirds.

Virginia's Warbler for **Virginia Anderson**, wife of W. W. Anderson, who discovered the bird in New Mexico; named by Baird.

The March 2015 issue of SD Bird Notes will continue with several other biographies of birds named for people.



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