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South Dakota

Bird  Notes

South Dakota Ornithologists' Union



Photo Credit: Ingrid Arlton

Great Blue Heron, Canyon Lake.



President's Page

Kelly Preheim

Hi everyone, I'm honored and humbled to be the new president of SDOU. Many of you know my story. In 2011, Ron Mabie invited me to the first South Dakota Birding Festival. I was so impressed with what I learned and saw that weekend. I knew that first evening that I would begin the study of birds and become a birder. That decision was a wise one for me as it has brought me much joy and many opportunities. It has offered me the chance to teach others about birds by integrating birds into my kindergarten curriculum, starting an after-school bird club, writing articles for magazines and giving bird presentations to children and adults across the state. Birding has also caused me to become interested in bird and nature photography, which I also enjoy. That one gesture of being invited to a birding festival by Ron, as well as that fascinating slide show about birds by Dave Swanson, birding with Ricky Olson, Scott Stolz and other SDOU members sparked me to be fascinated with birds.



Think back to when you first became interested in birds or birding. What was it that sparked your interest in the study of birds? Think of ways you could be that "spark" for someone else. You could point out birds and teach about them. You could give a bird storybook to a child or lend a bird field guide to someone. You could volunteer to lead birding hikes or take friends out for a low-key birding adventure. Now more than ever, we need to distract children and many adults from screen time and technology overload. Birding may just be the way to get people connected to nature, which may result in conservation efforts. I have seen the results of creating a passion for birds among my elementary students. Their nature awareness has increased; they want to know more about birds, and their passion for birds is heartwarming. I know that many of you have done several of these things already and I'd like to thank you for your dedication.

We all know the other benefits of birding. Observing birds creates mindfulness, which helps us to relax and reduce stress. Exploring while birding can also remind us that we are part of something bigger. Birding helps us be more aware of the patterns in nature and the other flora and fauna that we share with this Earth.

As we begin a new year, consider being that spark to get someone interested in birds and birding. You never know what ripples you will create!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming SDOU Meetings.

Planning for SDOU's 2021 biannual meetings is underway. The SDOU Board is discussing whether to proceed with a spring meeting. We ask for your patience as we figure out a safe way to have our meetings while considering our group's needs. More details to come. The decision on whether to have the meeting will be made about one month ahead.

The Sioux Falls Bird Club will host the fall 2021 meeting in the Sioux Falls area.

SDOU 2021 Election Results

SDOU did not have any in-person meetings during 2020 and thus elections for new Board members and 2021 officers were held virtually. The general membership, via mail-in ballots, elected the following for three-year terms on the Board: Ron Mabie (Pickstown), Dan Svingen (Pierre), Cheryl Vellenga (Roberts Co.), Duane Weber (Custer), and Mick Zerr (Sioux Falls). In addition, one 2020 Board member (Dick Latuchie) moved out of state and resigned his position. Peter Binstock (Sioux Falls) was elected to serve the remaining two years of Dick's term.

Board members then elected the 2021 slate of officers. They are: Kelly Preheim of Armour as President, Mark Schmidtbauer of Sioux Falls as Vice-president, Bob Bork of Sioux Falls as Treasurer, Dave Swanson of Vermillion as Secretary, Nancy Drilling of Rapid City as Editor, and Mick Zerr as Librarian.



In Memoriam J. David Williams, 1947-2020

*David Swanson
Vermillion, SD*

Long-time SDOU member and Past-President John David (Dave) Williams died at his residence in Ipswich, South Dakota, on 9 September 2020. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Kristeen, two children, Jamie Stiles of Ipswich and Travis Sutton of Phoenix, Arizona, and five grandchildren.

Dave was born on 20 May 1947 to Edwin and Neva (Middlewood) Williams at Ipswich. He graduated from Ipswich High School and then attended South Dakota State University, where he graduated with a degree in Biology. Following graduation, Dave moved back to Ipswich, first working as a banker in Leola before being employed as a banker at Ipswich State Bank, where he worked for 37 years, retiring as bank president in June of 2020.

Dave enjoyed the outdoors, with hunting, fishing and golf among his favorite activities in addition to birding. He was a life member of SDOU, first joining the Board of Directors in the fall of 1990. He served as SDOU President from 1993-1995 and also served two-year terms as Vice President (1991-1993) and Secretary (1996-1998). In addition to his officer and BOD roles, Dave served as a member of the Rare Bird Records Committee from Fall 1997 until his death. In this role, Dave demonstrated a strong sense of critical evaluation and his comments on submitted reports were integral to the deliberations and effective functioning of the committee. He clearly enjoyed this role, as even though his many commitments kept him from attending some of the recent SDOU meetings, he unflinchingly attended the RBRC meetings on Sunday afternoons, which took place wherever in the state the SDOU meeting happened to be.

Bird photography was another of Dave's interests and several of his photos have graced the cover of issues of South Dakota Bird Notes. Among these are Green Heron (December 1993), Nelson's Sparrow (March 1994), Ancient Murrelet (June 1994), Black-necked Stilt (September 1994), Black-necked Stilt nest (December 1994), Northern Flicker (June 1995), Ferruginous Hawk (December 1995), and Great Gray Owl (June 1997). Dave was a keen and enthusiastic birder and an avid bird bander, contributing numerous banding records to the U.S. Bird Banding Laboratory database from the Ipswich area. He also contributed to our knowledge of the status and distributions of birds of South Dakota, participating in both South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlases as a volunteer observer and regularly contributing to the Seasonal Reports in South Dakota Bird Notes. Dave was involved in the first state records for Ancient Murrelet, a bird which was grounded by a snowstorm in a nearby resident's yard (Williams 1994, SDBN 46:34), and White-winged Dove, originally observed by Myron Zimmer in Bowdle, South Dakota (Williams and Zimmer 1992, SDBN 44:84-85). He also played important roles in establishing first nesting records for Black-necked Stilt (Tallman and Williams 1994, SDBN 46:72-73), Sedge Wren (Williams and Zimmer in Skadsen 1993, SDBN 45:71-75), and Nelson's Sparrow (Williams and Zimmer 1992, SDBN 44:84-85) in South Dakota.

For this memorial, I read through all eight of the President's Pages that Dave authored in South Dakota Bird Notes during his tenure as President of SDOU (December 1993 – September 1995) to illuminate some of his thinking on birds and birding. The importance of habitat to birds was a topic Dave touched on in several of his President's Pages, which reflected his biological background, his sharp powers of observation, and the significant amount of time he spent in the field. Several of his President's Pages highlighted his love and support of hunting, including bird hunting, and the intersection of hunting with birding via purchase and preservation of high-quality habitat from funds provided by the waterfowl stamp purchased by hunters. This is still a timely topic and was recently taken up again by our current President Scott Stolz in his recent President's Page (Fall 2020). The President's Page (December 1994) that engendered the most discussion tackled the topic of tension between animal rights activists and hunting, trapping and ornithological science. Dave landed firmly on the side of hunting and ornithological science, concluding that the goals of the animal rights groups were likely to limit effective wildlife management and scientific knowledge. He also cautioned against wildlife management approaches focused solely on endangered species, rather than on providing healthy habitats in general. The adaptability of birds to winter conditions and the relationship of winter weather to bird abundance were also topics that Dave addressed. He also did some excellent cheerleading for SDOU activities, including spring and fall meetings and the first South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas, much of the work for which occurred during Dave's tenure as SDOU President.

Dave's friendly and affable personality, his enthusiasm while in the field, his analytical approach to birding and bird records, and his expansive knowledge of birds and their habitats in north-central South Dakota will be keenly missed by SDOU.



Painted Redstart - A New Vagrant to South Dakota

*Ricky D. Olson
Ft. Pierre, SD*

On 9/21/2020 at 6:45 pm, I was sitting in my dining room chair. I looked out at my fountain on the patio and about fell off the chair. There at the fountain was a Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*). I rushed to get my camera and was able to get a couple of quick photos before dark. I was sure there would be skeptics if I didn't have pictures.

The next morning I thought it had left, but it finally showed up at 9:00 am. Dan Svingen and his wife viewed it then. It showed about every two hours until 3:00 pm; after that it was never seen again. Scott Stolz was the only other person able to view it.

It was a very beautiful bird. Some people use Painted Whitestart as its common name, because of the amount of white in wing and tail. The normal range of this species is southwestern US where it inhabits oak forests in mountain canyons. If accepted by the Rare Bird Records Committee this would be the 1st state record for this species.

Avian Surveys at Canyon Lake, Rapid City, SD: Grouse through Falcons Species Accounts

Gene K. Hess

INTRODUCTION

This is the second of a series of accounts of species found on weekly avian surveys conducted at Canyon Lake in Rapid City, SD from October 2010 through February 2019. Previously I described the results for the 27 species of waterfowl found during the surveys (Hess 2020). Here I report the results for the 51 remaining non-songbird species.

METHODS

The field survey methods are described in Hess (2019).

Seasonal occurrence percentages are the number of surveys the species occurred on in that season-divided by total number of surveys in that season. Seasonal bar graphs were constructed for the period October 2010 through September 2018. Months are divided into quarters as follows: January, March, May, July, August, October, December 1–7, 8–15, 16–23, 24–31; February, April, June, September, November 1–7, 8–14, 15–22, 23–30. The bar heights from short to tall represent the following abundance categories: 1–3, 4–10, 11–100, 101–1,000. Isolated records are shown as a dot. A bar of narrow width indicates irregular occurrence, usually at the beginning or end of migration (Fig. 1).

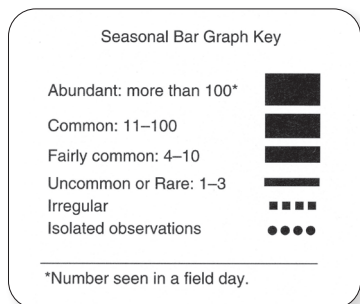


Fig. 1. Seasonal Bar Graph key.

RESULTS

We recorded 51 additional species of non-songbirds. Of these only Rock Pigeon, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Great Blue Heron, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker and Northern Flicker were resident species. The remaining species were either seasonal (13 species), or of irregular or accidental occurrence (31 species). None of these 51 species was found on every survey. For most species the number of individuals recorded was low (10 or fewer).

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Sharp-tailed Grouse – This irregular visitor was observed flying over the park on 12 occasions from 2010 – 2015 and none after that. All observations were from November through March. Flock size ranged from 1 – 45 birds.

Wild Turkey – This species occurred on 24 September 2012 (7 birds) and again on 17 June 2013 (1 bird).

Pied-billed Grebe – This common breeder outside of the Black Hills (Drilling *et al.* 2018) was an irregular winter visitor (Fig. 2). One to four individuals occurred regularly during spring (11.2% of spring surveys) and fall migration (26.4% of fall surveys).

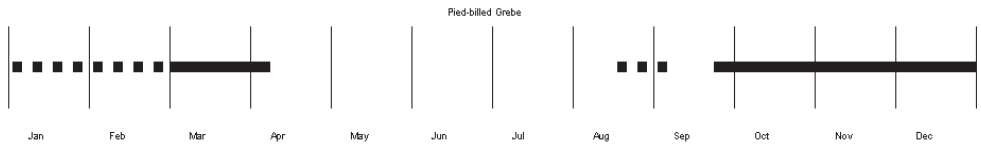


Fig. 2. Pied-billed Grebe seasonal occurrence.

Horned Grebe – A single bird of this uncommon migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) was present on 15 April 2013.

Eared Grebe – Considered a migrant in western South Dakota (Tallman *et al.* 2002) and a scarce breeder there (Drilling *et al.* 2018). One bird was present on four dates in April and May 2013.

Western Grebe – Single birds occurred on 27, 29 April 2013 and 28 April 2014. One found on 19, 24 November 2014 was a bird released by a rehabilitator on 17 November after being found in a ball field with a minor injury. The last occurrence was of three birds on 7 December 2015.

Rock Pigeon – This fairly common bird – found on 98.6% of all surveys – was frequently seen perched on adjacent buildings, and feeding in or flying over the park (Fig. 3). No evidence of nesting in the park was detected.

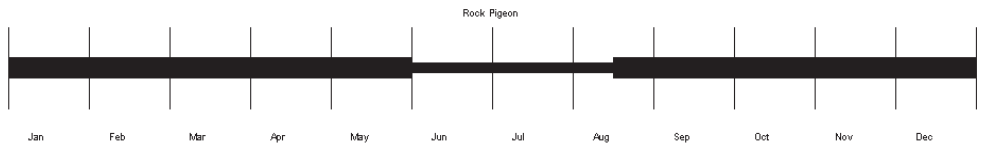


Fig. 3. Rock Pigeon seasonal occurrence.

Eurasian Collared-Dove – This dove was a regular but uncommon visitor to the park (found on 50.1% of all surveys). Usually only a few birds were noted (Fig. 4) but occasionally up to 22 birds were present. This species was seen feeding in or flying over the park. None were found nesting in the park.



Fig. 4. Eurasian Collared-Dove seasonal occurrence.

Mourning Dove – This dove was an uncommon visitor from spring through early fall (Fig. 5). It occurred most frequently in the fall, being recorded on 7.6% of the fall surveys. Nesting in the park was not detected.

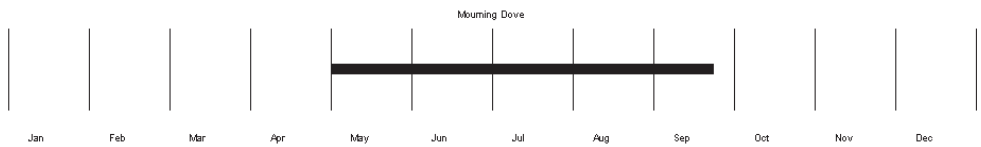


Fig. 5. Mourning Dove seasonal occurrence.

Common Nighthawk – This occasional visitor was recorded on eight surveys from June to mid-September. In each instance a single bird was observed.

Chimney Swift – Although this swift can often be found in small numbers in downtown Rapid City it was found on only 42.9 % of the summer surveys and 23.6% of the fall surveys. Most counts were of only a few birds (Fig. 6). High counts were 17 on 22 August 2011, 50 on 16 September 2013, 15 on 27 August 2018. These were most likely migrants.

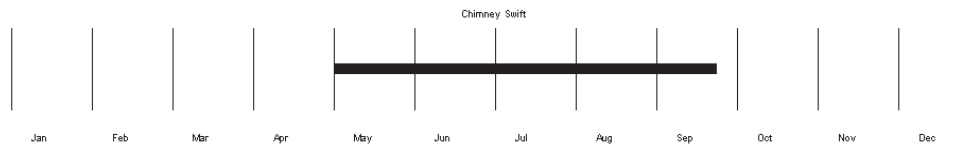


Fig. 6. Chimney Swift seasonal occurrence.

White-throated Swift – An uncommon visitor, this swift was most abundant in fall migration (Fig. 7). High counts include 50 on 31 August 2015, 40 on 5 October 2015, 51 on 5 September 2016. It occurred most frequently in the summer, being recorded on 17.1% of the summer surveys and was slightly less frequent in the fall (10.4% of fall surveys). Several birds were present throughout the spring and summer of 2012, suggesting the possibility of breeding in nearby cliff faces of this locally common breeding bird (Drilling *et al.* 2018).

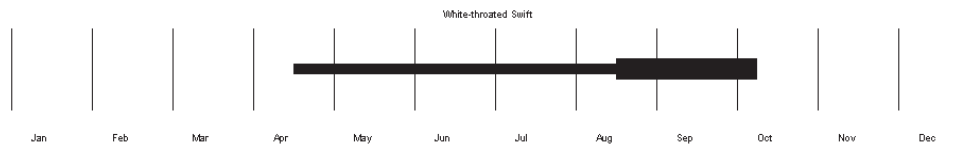


Fig. 7. White-throated Swift seasonal occurrence.

Rufous Hummingbird – This is a rare Black Hills fall migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002). The only hummingbird recorded was found at the butterfly garden on 6 and 29 August 2012. A single bird was observed on each occasion.

Sora – A common migrant and breeder throughout the state (Tallman *et al.* 2002, Drilling *et al.* 2018), one was found in the small marsh on 3 September 2012. A second bird was found dead in the lawn adjacent to the marsh on 10 October 2016.

American Coot – Although this is a breeding bird in western South Dakota (Drilling *et al.* 2018) no evidence of breeding was found at the lake. The May records are of single birds in 2011 and 2014. Coots were fairly common from mid-fall through early spring (Fig. 8). Mid-winter numbers dropped during the dam repair of winter 2014-2015 and have not regained their former abundance (Fig. 9).

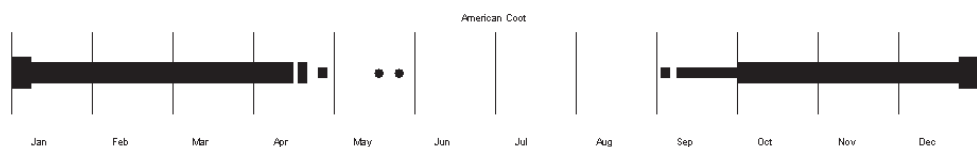


Fig. 8. American Coot seasonal occurrence.

American Coot January Average 2011 - 2019

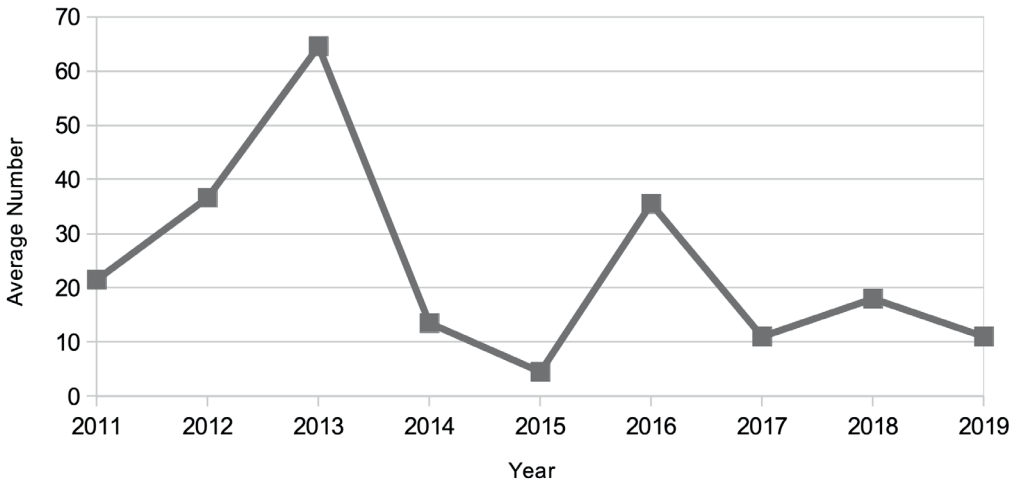


Fig. 9. American Coot average January abundance.

Sandhill Crane – This common migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) was observed twice. A flock of 75 birds was seen flying over on 18 October 2010 and a single bird was observed flying over on 2 May 2011.

Killdeer – Scarce during winter and late summer (Fig. 10), this common breeding bird (Drilling *et al.* 2018) was found nesting in the park in 2015, 2016, and 2017. When the young were capable of flight the birds departed and occurred irregularly until the fall migration.

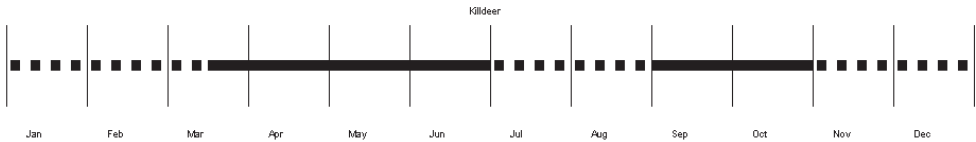


Fig. 10. Killdeer seasonal occurrence.

Wilson's Snipe – This common migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) was found most often in the fall. Single birds were found in April 2015, October 2012, 2013, 2014 and November 2018.

Spotted Sandpiper – This species was an uncommon visitor (Fig. 11). This widespread breeding bird (Drilling *et al.* 2018) was confirmed nesting in 2011 by the presence of adults with one downy young on 25 July and adults with one young bird on 6 July 2015. It was present through the summer in a number of other years but no evidence of breeding was found.

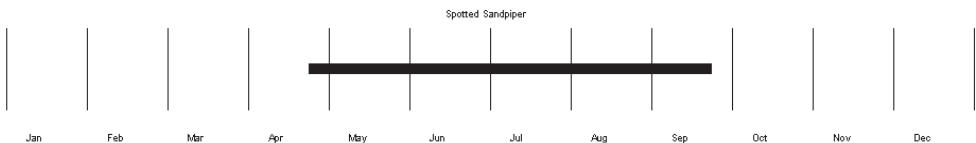


Fig. 11. Spotted Sandpiper seasonal occurrence.

Solitary Sandpiper – One to three individuals of this uncommon migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) were recorded on four days in late April and twice in early August. It was usually found along one of the small channels running through the park.

Greater Yellowlegs – A common migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002), single birds were found on 26 March 2012, 15 April 2013 and 13 May 2013.

Willet – Single individuals of this scarce west river breeder (Drilling *et al.* 2018) were found on 7 May 2012 and on 6 May 2013.

Lesser Yellowlegs – Another common migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002), one bird was found on 3 April 2014.

Franklin's Gull – Single individuals of this common migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) were observed on 28 July 2014 and on 4 August 2014.

Ring-billed Gull – This was the most frequently occurring gull at the lake. One to six birds were noted three times in April, once in September, twice in October, and three times in November.

Herring Gull – One bird was found on 19 November 2012 and one on 26 September 2016.

Caspian Tern – A casual migrant and summer visitor (Tallman *et al.* 2002), this unexpected visitor was seen on 25 April 2011 (1), 1 September 2014 (2) and 31 July 2017 (1).

Common Loon – A single bird of this uncommon migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) was observed on 1 May 2017.

Double-crested Cormorant – Single birds of this common migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) occurred on 28 May 2014, 19 September 2016, 9 October 2017, and 28 May 2018. One was present from 16 July through 10 September 2018.

American White Pelican – Single birds were present on 19 and 28 September 2015.

Great Blue Heron – Present year round and found on 66.0% of all surveys, it usually occurred in ones or twos (Fig. 12). Occasionally during the breeding season 3 or 4 could be found. This common breeder (Drilling *et al.* 2018) was not observed nesting at the park but birds were seen flying to and from the park in directions in which nesting sites were known or strongly suspected. Because birds often moved in and out of the park we counted the maximum present at one time. This may have resulted in under counting the number of birds using the lake. During post-breeding dispersal or migration numbers could reach 3 or 4. A high count of 10 was reached on 5 October 2015.



Fig. 12. Great Blue Heron seasonal occurrence.

Turkey Vulture – Consistently present in the warmer months it was fairly common (Fig. 13). Birds roosted in trees next to the lake in the Chop House parking lot. From 2011 through 2014 the June average number of birds at the roost was 10. In 2015 and 2016 the June average dropped to 4 when an effort was made by the Chop House owners to discourage the vultures from roosting at the property. In the following two years the June count increased to 11 and 22 respectively.



Fig. 13. Turkey Vulture seasonal occurrence.

Osprey – Breeding widely in the Black Hills (Drilling *et al.* 2018) one or two birds (both sexes present) were consistently seen throughout the breeding season (Fig. 14). Birds were seen coming and going, carrying fish, from directions where nests were known to be located. This may have resulted in under counting the number of birds using the lake. A nest platform was installed in 2016 but it has yet to be used. High counts of 3 and 4 occurred in August 2018.

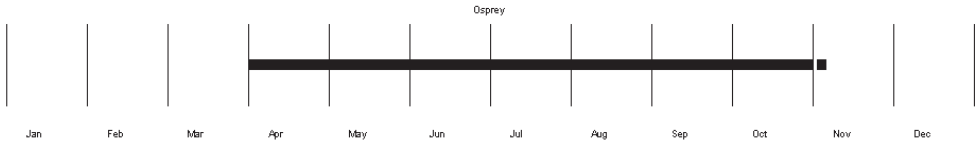


Fig. 14. Osprey seasonal occurrence.

Golden Eagle – An uncommon permanent resident in western South Dakota (Tallman *et al.* 2002), one flew over the park on 11 October 2011.

Sharp-shinned Hawk – This uncommon Black Hills resident (Tallman *et al.* 2002) was an occasional visitor most consistently observed during fall migration (Fig. 15). Only once was more than one bird present, 2 on 3 October 2011.

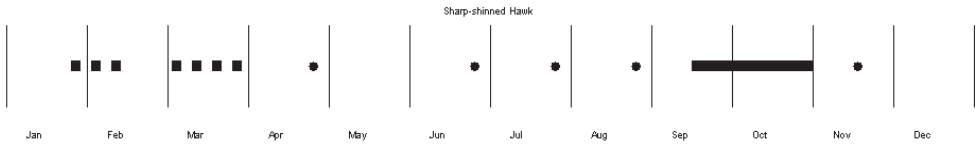


Fig. 15. Sharp-shinned Hawk seasonal occurrence.

Cooper's Hawk – One, rarely two individuals, were occasionally found. It possibly breeds in the Black Hills (Drilling *et al.* 2018) but it is least likely to be encountered at the park during the breeding season (Fig. 16).

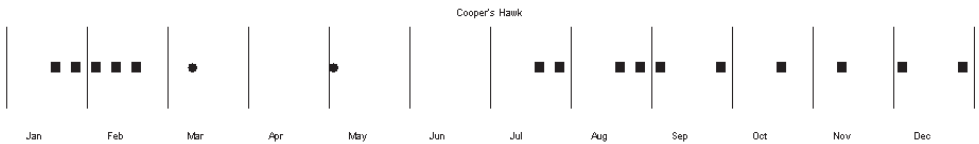


Fig. 16. Cooper's Hawk seasonal occurrence.

Bald Eagle – One or two adults were regularly present outside the breeding season (Fig. 17). It occurred on 81.1% of the winter surveys. In winter an occasional young bird was present. On 9 October 2017 four were soaring together over the nearby hills.



Fig. 17. Bald Eagle seasonal occurrence.

Swainson's Hawk – Single birds of this common migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) were observed on five occasions between 12 June and 15 October in four years.

Red-tailed Hawk – Found most of the year (Fig. 18), most (12.5%) of the observations were during the fall migration. A maximum of 3 birds were seen on a survey. Typically birds were seen soaring overhead.

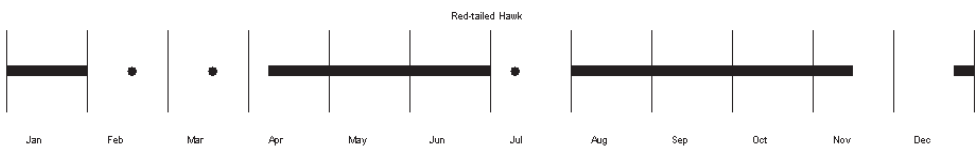


Fig. 18. Red-tailed Hawk seasonal occurrence.

Rough-legged Hawk – Recorded in six years, there were eleven observations, each of one bird, from late fall through early winter.

Great Horned Owl – The only occurrences were single birds on 7 November 2011 and 26 December 2011.

Belted Kingfisher – Found throughout the year (Fig. 19), it was present on 82.7% of all the surveys typical counts were of one or two birds. On 22 and 29 July 2013 young were found with adults. In five years during late summer and early fall high counts of three or four birds were recorded.

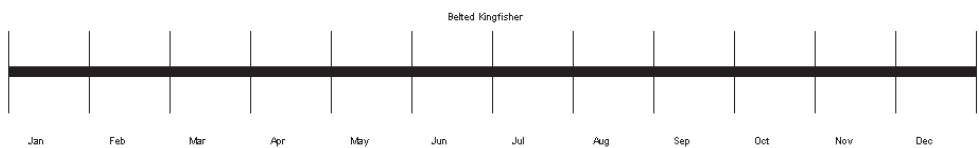


Fig. 19. Belted Kingfisher seasonal occurrence.

Red-naped Sapsucker – One individual of this uncommon Black Hills summer resident (Tallman *et al.* 2002) was present on 15 April 2013.

Lewis’s Woodpecker – This Black Hills resident (Tallman *et al.* 2002) was formerly regular along Skyline Ridge (Baker pers. com.). On 9 May 2011 one bird flew through the park.

Red-headed Woodpecker – The sole occurrence of this uncommon migrant (Tallman *et al.* 2002) was a single individual observed on 28 May 2014.

Downy Woodpecker – Present all year (Fig. 20), this woodpecker was found on 55.1% of all the surveys. Typical counts were of 1 or 2 birds. High counts were 5 on 16 April 2018 and 8 on 23 April 2018. Birds were seen excavating cavities but were not observed using them.

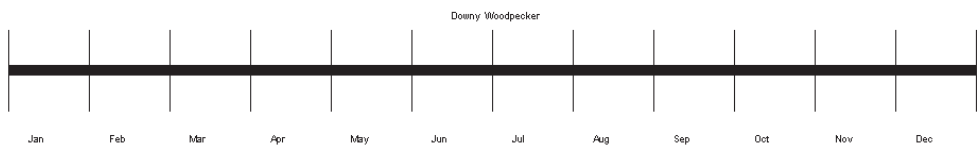


Fig. 20. Downy Woodpecker seasonal occurrence.

Hairy Woodpecker – This uncommon woodpecker (Tallman *et al.* 2002), present year round (Fig. 21), was found on 17.3% of all the surveys. Usually only 1 or 2 birds were found. No evidence of nesting in the park was detected.

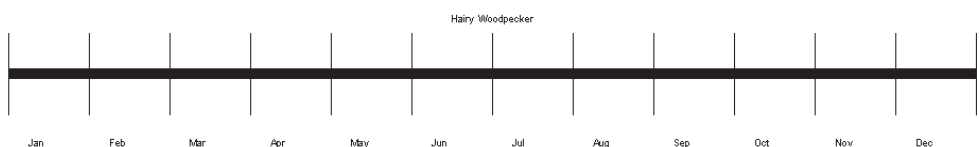


Fig. 21. Hairy Woodpecker seasonal occurrence.

Northern Flicker– Present all year (Fig. 22), flickers were recorded on 70% of all the surveys. One fledgling was found on 27 June 2016. Typically only 1 or 2 birds were found.

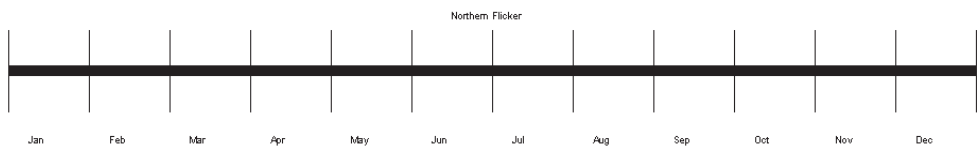


Fig. 22. Northern Flicker seasonal occurrence.

American Kestrel – Seen in five years, single birds of this irregular visitor were noted on seven occasions. Birds occurred in all seasons: spring twice, summer once, fall twice, winter twice.

Merlin – This uncommon to rare falcon (Tallman *et al.* 2002, Drilling *et al.* 2018) occurred in four years. Single birds were seen on nine occasions. It was seen once in every season in 2014.

Peregrine Falcon – This species was being released (hacked) in Rapid City in 2011 – 2013 (Dowd Stukel, undated report). Thus it is not surprising that 8 of the 11 observations were during this period. The remaining observations were on 12 May (2 birds) and 16 June 2014 (1 bird) and on 26 October 2015 (1 bird).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This survey was first conducted during the winters of 2003 – 2004 and 2004 – 2005 by Jocie Baker. She and Hess have co-led the surveys reported here. We thank Maurice V. Barnhill, III for permission to use his seasonal bar graph program. Our thanks are extended to all those volunteers who helped on the surveys.

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The 2020 Summer Season

01 June 2020 to 31 July 2020

Compiled By: Chris Anderson

The primary goal of the Summer Season compilation is to report Confirmed Breeding records observed during the season. There were 123 species reported as Confirmed Breeding this year, including 16 first county breeding records. The ten-year (2010-2019) average of Confirmed Breeding species is 129, with a high of 198 in 2012. 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. Records in bold are either new county records (breeding or otherwise), or new latest spring/earliest fall observations of non-breeding species. There were 243 total species, including 4 rarities (Pacific Wren, Hermit Thrush, Kentucky Warbler, and East River Western Tanager), reported during the season. The ten-year (2010-2019) average is 258 with a high of 278 in 2012. A full listing of all reported sightings can be obtained from the online database (<https://research.dsu.edu/sdousbor/default.aspx>). This report contains those sightings and species which are consistent with the objectives of the Summer Season as described above.

Snow Goose All Reports: 09 Jun Hughes KM; 22 Jun Hughes KM; 03 Jul Brown GO; 10 Jul Marshall CV; 18 Jul Brown JSP; 19 Jul Brown CV

Canada Goose Confirmed Breeding: 01 Jun Pennington (PY) CLG; 05 Jun Stanley RDO; 13 Jun Minnehaha (PY) JSP; 10 Jul Marshall (PY) CV; 17 Jul Brown (PY) CV; 05

Trumpeter Swan Confirmed Breeding: **05 Jun Stanley (ON) RDO**; 15 Jul Tripp (PY) RDO

Wood Duck Confirmed Breeding: 01 Jun Brown (PY) GO; 08 Jun Pennington (PY) CLG; 12 Jun Grant (PY) CA; 06 Jul Roberts (PY) CV; 10 Jul Butte (PY) ND; 18 Jul Minnehaha (PY) CA

Blue-winged Teal Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Charles Mix, Faulk, Grant, Marshall, Meade, and Roberts counties

Northern Shoveler Confirmed Breeding: 11 Jul Miner (PY) JSP; 12 Jul Fall River (PY) ND; 17 Jul Brown (PY) CV; 23 Jul Marshall (PY) GO; 28 Jul Meade (PY) ND

Gadwall Confirmed Breeding: 16 Jul Meade (PY) ND; 19 Jul Brown (PY) CV

American Wigeon Confirmed Breeding: 16 Jul Meade (PY) ND

Mallard Confirmed Breeding: Butte, Bennett, Brown, Charles Mix, Custer, Douglas, Faulk, Marshall, Meade, Minnehaha, and Pennington counties

Northern Pintail Confirmed Breeding: 08 Jul Pennington (PY) ND; 23 Jul Pennington (PY) ND; 28 Jul Meade (PY) ND

Canvasback Confirmed Breeding: **26 Jun Lyman (PY) KM**

Redhead Confirmed Breeding: 08 Jul Meade (PY) ND; 19 Jul Brown (PY) CV

Ring-necked Duck All Reports: 01 Jun Hughes KM; 13 Jun Grant, Roberts CA; 24 Jun Lake JSP; 02 Jul Hughes KM; 20 Jul Meade ND

Hooded Merganser All Reports: 03 Jun Brown GO; 11 Jun Todd RDO; 19 Jun Hutchinson JSP; 22 Jun Hughes KM; 07 Jul Charles Mix ND

Common Merganser Confirmed Breeding: 29 Jun Pennington (PY) CLG; 13 Jul Pennington (PY) CLG

Ruddy Duck Confirmed Breeding: 11 Jul Miner (PY) JSP; 17 Jul Brown (PY) CV

Northern Bobwhite All Reports 10 Jun Charles Mix RM; 04 Jul Gregory RM; 07 Jul Gregory ND; 17 Jul Gregory KP

Ring-necked Pheasant Confirmed Breeding: Bennett, Brown, Marshall, McCook, Meade, and Miner counties

Gray Partridge Only Report: 28 Jul Custer MMM

Ruffed Grouse Only Report: 05 Jun Custer JSP

Sharp-tailed Grouse Confirmed Breeding: 27 Jul Roberts (PY) CV

Greater Prairie-Chicken All Reports: 05 Jun Stanley RDO; 19 Jun Todd RDO; 15 Jul Todd RDO; 16 Jul Charles Mix KP

Wild Turkey Confirmed Breeding: 07 Jun Stanley (PY) KM; 15 Jul Custer (PY) ND; 19 Jul Bon Homme (PY) CA

Pied-billed Grebe Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Charles Mix, Douglas, Hutchinson, Marshall, McCook, Meade, Miner, Moody, and Todd counties

Red-Necked Grebe Only Report: 13 Jun Day CA

Eared Grebe Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Butte, Fall River, Hughes, **Lyman**, Marshall, Meade, and Pennington counties

Western Grebe Confirmed Breeding: 27 Jun Kingsbury (PY) JSP; 03 Jul Brown (PY) GO; 17 Jul Brown (PY) CV; 23 Jul Marshall (PY) GO

Clark's Grebe All Reports: 26 Jun Charles Mix KP; 23 Jul Marshall GO

White-winged Dove Only Report: 02 Jun Fall River JSP

Mourning Dove Confirmed Breeding: 24 Jun Roberts (FL) CV; 06 Jul Roberts (FL) CV; 17 Jul Brown (FL) CV; 23 Jul Marshall (FL) GO; 28 Jul Custer (NE) MMM

Common Poorwill Confirmed Breeding: **16 Jun Stanley (NE) KM**

Eastern Whip-poor-will All Reports: 01 Jun – 23 Jul Charles Mix RM

Ruby-throated Hummingbird West River Reports: 15 Jul Pennington ND; 31 Jul Meade RDO

Broad-tailed Hummingbird Confirmed Breeding: 25 Jun Custer (FY) RDO

Rufous Hummingbird All Reports: 15 Jul Pennington ND; 16 Jul Pennington JF; 31 Jul Lawrence, Meade RDO

Sora Confirmed Breeding: 10 Jul Marshall (PY) CV; 15 Jul Brown (PY) GO; 23 Jul Marshall (PY) GO

American Coot Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Custer, Hutchinson, Lyman, Marshall, Meade, Miner, Minnehaha, and Todd counties

Black-necked Stilt Confirmed Breeding: 23 Jul Marshall (PY) GO

American Avocet Confirmed Breeding: 12 Jun Faulk (PY) MMM; 25 Jun Brown (PY) CV; **26 Jun Charles Mix (FY) KP**; 07 Jul Bennett (PY) ND; 08 Jul Pennington (ON) ND

Semipalmated Plover All Reports: 06 Jun Clay GJS; 12 Jul Clay GJS; 22 Jul Lake JSP; 28 Jul Clay GJS

Killdeer Confirmed Breeding: Douglas, Faulk, Marshall, Miner, Minnehaha, Pennington, and Roberts counties

Upland Sandpiper Confirmed Breeding: 11 Jun Sully (NY) KM

Long-billed Curlew Confirmed Breeding: 05 Jun Custer (PY) MMM, JSP; 08 Jul Pennington (PY) MMM; 12 Jul Fall River (PY) ND

Stilt Sandpiper Late: 11 Jun Lake JSP... Early: 11 Jul Miner JSP; 16 Jul Douglas KP; 18 Jul Brown JSP; 22 Jul Clay GJS

Sanderling Only Report: 27 Jul Hughes RDO

Baird's Sandpiper Early: 07 Jul Bennett ND; 08 Jul Pennington ND; 16 Jul Douglas KP; 20 Jul Charles Mix KP

Least Sandpiper Early: 08 Jul Pennington ND; 11 Jul Miner JSP; 11 Jul Davison, Hanson CA; 12 Jul Clay GJS

White-rumped Sandpiper All Reports: Late 11 Jun Lake JSP; 06 Jun Clay GJS

Pectoral Sandpiper Late: 06 Jun Clay GJS ... Early: 11 Jul Miner JSP; 11 Jul Hanson, Miner CA; 12 Jul Clay GJS

Semipalmated Sandpiper Early: 08 Jul Pennington ND; 11 Jul Miner JSP; 12 Jul Clay GJS

Short-billed Dowitcher Only Report: 28 Jul Sully RDO

Long-billed Dowitcher Early: 11 Jul Davison CA; 11 Jul Miner JSP; 18 Jul Brown JSP; 19 Jul Yankton CA

American Woodcock Only Report: 01 Jun Stanley KM

Wilson's Snipe Confirmed Breeding: 13 Jun Grant (PY) CA

Spotted Sandpiper Confirmed Breeding: **28 Jun Douglas (PY) KP**; 28 Jul Hughes (PY) KM

Solitary Sandpiper Late: 04 Jun Minnehaha CA ... Early: 06 Jul Tripp RDO; 11 Jul Miner JSP; 12 Jul Clay GJS

Greater Yellowlegs Late: 27 Jun Kingsbury JSP ... Early: 07 Jul Bennett ND; 08 Jul Pennington ND; 11 Jul Davison CA; 11 Jul Miner JSP; 19 Jul Yankton CA

Willet Early: 12 Jul Todd RDO; 14 Jul Hughes KM; 23 Jul Marshall GO

Lesser Yellowlegs Late: 27 Jun Kingsbury JSP ... Early: 08 Jul Pennington ND; 11 Jul Miner JSP; 11 Jul Davison, Hanson CA; 12 Jul Clay GJS

Franklin's Gull Confirmed Breeding: 17 Jul Brown (FY) CV; 19 Jul Brown (FL) CV; 21 Jul Roberts (FL) CV

Ring-billed Gull Confirmed Breeding: 19 Jul Brown (FL) CV

California Gull Confirmed Breeding: 20 Jul Butte (NY) ND

Black Tern Confirmed Breeding: 25 Jun Brown (FY) CV; **26 Jun Lyman (NY) KM**; 02 Jul Hughes (CF) KM; 19 Jul Marshall (FY) CV

Common Tern Confirmed Breeding: 19 Jul Marshall (FL) CV

Forster's Tern Confirmed Breeding: 03 Jul Brown (CF) 12 Jul Brown (CF) CV; GO; 17 Jul Brown (FL) CV; 19 Jul Brown (FL) CV

Common Loon Late: 30 Jun Stanley RDO; 27 Jun Kingsbury JSP; 18 Jun Hughes, Stanley RDO ... Early: 19 Jul Hughes RDO; 20 Jul Hughes KM; 20 Jul Meade ND

Double-crested Cormorant Confirmed Breeding: 25 Jun Charles Mix (ON) KP; 25 Jun Brown (FL) CV; 07 Jul Bennett (ON) ND; 12 Jul Marshall (NY) CV; 17 Jul Brown (ON) CV; 19 Jul Brown (FL) CV

American White Pelican Confirmed Breeding: 07 Jul Bennett (NY) ND

Least Bittern All Reports: 03 Jun Hughes KM; 27 Jun Kingsbury JSP; 18 Jul Brown JSP

Great Blue Heron Confirmed Breeding: 03 Jun Hughes (NY) KM; 16 Jun Custer (NY) KP; 08 Jul Pennington (NY) ND; 12 Jul Marshall ((NY) CV; 15 Jul Custer (NY) ND; 16 Jul Pennington (NY) ND

Great Egret Confirmed Breeding: 12 Jul Marshall (ON) CV; 17 Jul Brown (ON) CV

Snowy Egret All Reports: 03 Jul Brown GO; 05 Jul Day KP; 18 Jul Brown JSP; 23 Jul Brookings CV; 25 Jul Beadle KM

Black-crowned Night-Heron Confirmed Breeding: 02 Jul Hughes (CF) KM; 17 Jul Brown (FL) CV

Glossy Ibis Only Report: 18 Jul Brown JSP

Osprey Confirmed Breeding: Custer, Hughes, Lawrence, Lyman, and Pennington counties

Cooper's Hawk Confirmed Breeding: 05 Jul Marshall (NY) KP; 12 Jul Marshall (ON) CV; 19 Jul Brown (FL) GO

Northern Goshawk All Reports: 03 Jun Custer JSP; 18 Jul Custer ND

Bald Eagle Confirmed Breeding: 11 Jun Charles Mix (NY) KP; 25 Jun Douglas (NY) KP; 01 Jul Charles Mix (NY) KP; 16 Jul Charles Mix (ON) KP

Swainson's Hawk Confirmed Breeding: **19 Jun Todd (FY) RDO**; 09 Jul Brown (CF) GO

Red-tailed Hawk Confirmed Breeding: 23 Jun Roberts (CF) CV

Barn Owl Confirmed Breeding: 12 Jun Hughes (ON) KM; 03 Jul Hughes (NY) KM; 20 Jul Hughes (NY) KM

Eastern Screech-Owl Confirmed Breeding: 24 Jun Hughes (FL) KM; 10 Jul Hughes (FL) KM

Burrowing Owl Confirmed Breeding: 19 Jun Todd (FL) RDO; 26 Jun Todd (FL) RDO; 12 Jul Todd (FL) RDO

Long-eared Owl Confirmed Breeding: 07 Jul Hughes (FL) KM ... also reported 09 Jul Marshall KP

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Confirmed Breeding: 26 Jun Roberts (FY) CV

Red-naped Sapsucker Confirmed Breeding: 03-04 Jul Lawrence (NY) EK

Lewis's Woodpecker Confirmed Breeding 18 Jul Custer (NY) ND

Red-headed Woodpecker Confirmed Breeding: 16 Jul Charles Mix (CF) KP; **21 Jul Roberts (FL) CV**

Red-bellied Woodpecker Confirmed Breeding: 02-18 Jul Roberts (FL) CV

American Three-toed Woodpecker All Reports: 01 Jun Lawrence JSP; 20 Jun Lawrence DS; 31 Jul Lawrence RDO

Downy Woodpecker Confirmed Breeding: 14 Jun Hughes (ON) KM; 15 Jun – 07 Jul Roberts (CF, FL, FY) CV

Hairy Woodpecker Confirmed Breeding: 15 Jun – 07 Jul Roberts (FL, FY) CV

Pileated Woodpecker All Reports: 01 Jun – 10 Jul Roberts CV; 10 Jul Marshall CV

Northern Flicker Confirmed Breeding: 16 Jun Lawrence (CF) KP; 22 Jul Brown (FL) GO

American Kestrel Confirmed Breeding: 21 Jul Roberts (FL) CV
Prairie Falcon Only Report: 18 Jul Custer ND
Olive-sided Flycatcher Only Report: Late 03 June Charles Mix KP
Eastern Wood-Pewee Confirmed Breeding: 02 Jun Charles Mix (CF) KP; 12 Jul Marshall (FS) CV
Dusky Flycatcher Confirmed Breeding: 15 Jul Custer (CF) ND; 18 Jul Custer (NY) ND
Cordilleran Flycatcher Confirmed Breeding: 16 Jul Pennington (NY) JF; 18 Jul Custer (NY) ND
Great Crested Flycatcher Confirmed Breeding: 07 Jul Roberts (FL) CV
Western Kingbird Confirmed Breeding: 09 Jul Brown (CF) GO; 12 Jul Minnehaha (CF) CA; 17 Jul Charles Mix (CF) KP; 23 Jul Pennington (FY) ND; 28 Jul Douglas (FY) KP; 30 Jul Brown (FY) GO
Eastern Kingbird Confirmed Breeding: Brookings, Brown, Clay, Custer, Douglas, Pennington, and Roberts counties
Plumbeous Vireo All Reports: 03 Jun Custer JSP; 15-17 Jun Custer KP; 15 Jul Custer ND
Red-eyed Vireo Confirmed Breeding: **10 Jul Marshall (CF) KP**
Canada Jay All Reports: 03 Jun Custer JSP; 14 Jun Custer KP; 25 Jun Lawrence MMM; 10 Jul Lawrence ND; 31 Jul Lawrence RDO
Pinyon Jay Only Report: 02 Jun Fall River JSP
Blue Jay Confirmed Breeding: 24 Jun Union (FY) GJS; 02-18 Jul Roberts (FL, FY) CV; 10 Jul Hughes (FY) KM
Clark's Nutcracker Only Report: 18 Jul Custer ND
Common Raven Only Report: 05 Jun Stanley RDO
Loggerhead Shrike Confirmed Breeding: **04 Jul Custer (FY) MMM**
Black-capped Chickadee Confirmed Breeding: 07 Jul Roberts (FL) CV
Northern Rough-winged Swallow Confirmed Breeding: **26 Jun Todd (ON) KM**, RDO; 06 Jul Roberts (FL) CV; 19 Jul Roberts (FL) CV
Purple Martin Confirmed Breeding: 26 Jun Douglas (FY) KP; 12 Jul Marshall (FY) CV; 14 Jul Douglas (FY) KP; 28 Jul Douglas (FY) KP
Tree Swallow Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Charles Mix, Clay, Custer, Marshall, and Roberts counties
Violet-green Swallow Confirmed Breeding: 16 Jun Pennington (ON) KP
Bank Swallow Confirmed Breeding: 25 Jun Stanley (ON) KM
Barn Swallow Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Charles Mix, Custer, Marshall, Pennington, and Roberts counties
Cliff Swallow Confirmed Breeding: Clay, Fall River, Grant, Pennington, and Roberts counties
Ruby-crowned Kinglet All Reports: 01 Jun Lawrence JSP; 01 Jun Pennington CLG; 05 Jun Custer JSP; 08 Jun Pennington CLG; 16 Jun Custer, Lawrence KP; 25 Jun Custer RDO; 10 Jul Lawrence ND
Red-breasted Nuthatch Confirmed Breeding: **01 Jun Brown (NY) GO**; 15 Jul Custer (CF) ND
White-breasted Nuthatch Confirmed Breeding: 02 Jul Roberts (F) CV; 07 Jul Roberts (FL) CV
Pygmy Nuthatch All Reports: 06 Jun Custer JSP; 17 Jun Custer KP
Brown Creeper Only Report: 12 Jul Pennington JF
Rock Wren All Reports: 02 Jun Fall River JSP; 03 Jun Custer JSP; 13 Jun Custer KP; 25 Jun Stanley KM; 15 Jul Custer ND
Canyon Wren All Reports: 04 Jun Fall River JSP; 13-15 Jun Custer KP; 12 Jul Fall River ND; 18 Jul Custer ND
House Wren Confirmed Breeding: Charles Mix, Clay, Custer, Douglas, Hughes, Lawrence, Marshall, Roberts, and Union counties
American Dipper All Reports: 16 Jun Lawrence KP; 10 Jul Lawrence ND
European Starling Confirmed Breeding: 14 Jun Fall River (NY) KP; 25 Jun Douglas (CF) KP; 12 Jul Fall River (CF) ND
Gray Catbird Confirmed Breeding: 04 Jun Clay (CF) GJS; 18 Jun Lawrence (ON) EK; 19-23 Jun Roberts (FY); 30 Jun Clay (NE) GJS; 10 Jul Marshall (CF) CV
Brown Thrasher Confirmed Breeding: 11 Jun Douglas (CF) KP; 15 Jun Custer (FY) KP; 25 Jun Stanley (CF) KM; 03 Jul Douglas (CF) KP; 10 Jul Marshall (FL) CV; 12 Jul Fall River (CF) ND
Northern Mockingbird Only Report: 25 Jul Beadle KM

Eastern Bluebird Confirmed Breeding: 19 Jun Clay (FY) GJS; 26 Jun Clay (FY) GJS; 14 Jul Clay (FL) GJS

Mountain Bluebird Confirmed Breeding: 15 Jun Custer (CF) KP; 17 Jun Custer (FY) KP

Townsend's Solitaire All Reports: 03 Jun Custer JSP; 13-17 Jun Custer KP; 18 Jul Custer ND

Veery All Reports: 06 Jul Marshall, Roberts CV; 07 Jul Marshall KP; 10 Jul Marshall, Roberts CV; 12 Jul Marshall CV

Swainson's Thrush All Reports: 01 Jun Lawrence JSP; 13 Jun Custer KP; 25 Jun Custer RDO; 10 Jul Lawrence ND

American Robin Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Charles Mix, Clay, Custer, Douglas, Fall River, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marshall, Pennington, and Roberts counties

Cedar Waxwing Confirmed Breeding: 04 Jun Clay (CN) GJS; 22 Jul Gregory (FY) KP

House Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: Douglas, Marshall, Pennington, and Roberts counties

Evening Grosbeak All Reports: **26 Jun Todd KM (first county record)**; 01 Jul Pennington JF

House Finch Confirmed Breeding: 29 Jun Pennington (FL) CLG; 02-07 Jul Roberts (FL) CV; 27 Jul Brown (FY) GO

Cassin's Finch Only Report: 31 Jul Lawrence RDO

Purple Finch Only Report: **Late 07 Jun Stanley RDO**

Red Crossbill Confirmed Breeding: 10 Jul Lawrence (FY) ND

White-winged Crossbill Only Report: 01 Jun Lawrence JSP

Pine Siskin reported West River ... Late East River: 27 Jun Lake JSP; 24 Jun Roberts CV; 13 Jun Lake JSP ... Early: 02 Jul Roberts CV

Lesser Goldfinch All Reports: 04 Jun Fall River JSP; 14 Jun Fall River KP; 12 Jul Fall River ND

Chestnut-collared Longspur Confirmed Breeding: 13 Jun Day (CF) CA

Grasshopper Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: 07 Jul Gregory (CF) ND; 10 Jul Lyman (CF) KM; 11 Jul Miner (CF) JSP; 20 Jul Butte (CF) ND

Chipping Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Charles Mix, Custer, Douglas, Marshall, and Roberts counties

Field Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: **16 Jun Stanley (CF) KM**; 21 Jun Stanley (NE) KM; 30 Jun Stanley (NY) KM; 22 Jul Clay (CF) GJS

Brewer's Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: 12 Jul Fall River (CF) ND

Lark Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: 25 Jun Stanley (FY) KM; 27 Jun Charles Mix (CF) KP; 30 Jun Stanley (CF) KM

Lark Bunting Confirmed Breeding: 02 Jul Custer (CF) MMM

Vesper Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: 15 Jun Custer (CF) KP

LeConte's Sparrow All Reports: 23 Jun Roberts CV; 25 Jun Brown CV; 06 Jul Roberts CV; 10 Jul Marshall CV; 12 Jul Marshall CV; 27 Jul Roberts CV

Savannah Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: **03 Jul Moody (CF) JSP**

Baird's Sparrow All Reports: 12 Jun Faulk MMM; 01 Jul Butte EK

Henslow's Sparrow Only Report: 06 Jul Lyman KM

Song Sparrow Confirmed Breeding: 06 Jul Roberts (CF) CV; 19 Jul Roberts (CF) CV

Spotted Towhee Confirmed Breeding: 31 Jul Stanley (CF) KM

Yellow-headed Blackbird Confirmed Breeding: 10 Jul Marshall (FL) CV

Bobolink Confirmed Breeding: 11 Jun Faulk (CN) MMM

Western Meadowlark Confirmed Breeding: 19 Jun Custer (NE) MMM; 30 Jun Roberts (FL) CV; 23 Jul Marshall (CF) GO

Eastern Meadowlark All Reports: 18 Jun Clay GJS; 07 Jul Bennett ND

Orchard Oriole Confirmed Breeding: 12 Jul Fall River (CF) ND; 16 Jul Charles Mix (FY) KP; 17 Jul Brown (CF) CV

Bullock's Oriole Confirmed Breeding: 12 Jul Fall River (CF) ND

Baltimore Oriole Confirmed Breeding: 05 Jun Charles Mix (CN) KP; 24 Jun Charles Mix (CF) KP; 19 Jul Roberts (FL) CV; 21 Jul Roberts (FL) CV

Red-winged Blackbird Confirmed Breeding: 05 Jun Brown (CF) GO; 11 Jun Douglas (CF) KP; 12 Jun Custer (CF) KP; 06-12 Jul Marshall (FY) CV; 06 Jul Roberts (FL) CV

Brown-headed Cowbird Confirmed Breeding: 15 Jul Custer (FL) ND
Brewer's Blackbird Confirmed Breeding: 10 Jul Lawrence (CF) ND
Common Grackle Confirmed Breeding: Brown, Charles Mix, Custer, Davison, Douglas, Gregory, Marshall, Minnehaha, Pennington, and Roberts counties
Great-tailed Grackle Only Report: **07 Jun Jackson KM**
Ovenbird Confirmed Breeding: 15 Jul Custer (FY) ND
Blue-winged Warbler All Reports: 07 Jun Lincoln CA; 19 Jun Lincoln JSP
Black-and-white Warbler Late: 26 Jun Todd KM, RDO
Tennessee Warbler Late: 03 Jun Roberts CV
Virginia's Warbler Confirmed Breeding: 15 Jul Custer (FY) ND
MacGillivray's Warbler All Reports: 01 Jun Lawrence JSP; 06 Jun Custer JSP; 13 Jun Custer KP; 31 Jul Meade RDO
Hooded Warbler All Reports: 07 Jun Lincoln CA; 19 Jun Lincoln JSP
American Redstart Confirmed Breeding: 10 Jul Roberts (FY) CV; 12 Jul Marshall (FY) CV
Yellow Warbler Confirmed Breeding: 25 Jun Charles Mix (CF) KP; 06 Jul Marshall (FL) KP; 09 Jul Marshall (CF) KP; 10 Jul Marshall (CF) CV
Chestnut-sided Warbler Only Report: Late 14 Jun Stanley RDO
Yellow-rumped Warbler Confirmed Breeding: **26 Jun Todd (CF) KM, RDO**
Scarlet Tanager Confirmed Breeding: 16 Jul Minnehaha (CF) CA
Northern Cardinal Confirmed Breeding: 30 Jul Brown (FL) GO
Rose-breasted Grosbeak Confirmed Breeding: 02 Jul Roberts (CF) CV; 15 Jul Roberts (FL) CV
Black-headed Grosbeak Confirmed Breeding: 25 Jun Stanley (CN) KM; 29 Jun Stanley (FL) KM
Indigo Bunting Confirmed Breeding: 28 Jun Minnehaha (CF) CA
Dickcissel Confirmed Breeding: 07 Jun Lyman (ON) RDO; 12 Jun Clay (CN) GJS; 25 Jun Stanley (CF) KM; **29 Jul Roberts (FL) CV**

Species Expected But Not Reported

Cinnamon Teal, Bufflehead, Red-necked Phalarope, Greater Sage-Grouse, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Herring Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Black-backed Woodpecker, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Cassin's Kingbird, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Sage Thrasher, Sprague's Pipit

Reports Requiring Acceptance By The Rare Bird Records Committee

Pacific Wren: 10 Jul Lawrence ND
Hermit Thrush: 21 Jun Charles Mix RM
Kentucky Warbler: 07 Jun Lincoln CA; 19 Jun Lincoln JSP
Western Tanager: 13 Jun Minnehaha JSP; 24 Jun Minnehaha CA

Contributing Observers

CA	Chris Anderson	KM	Kenny Miller
JLB	Jocelyn L. Baker	GO	Gary Olson
CLG	Canyon Lake Group Survey	RDO	Ricky D. Olson
ND	Nancy Drilling	JSP	Jeffrey S. Palmer
JF	Jennifer Fowler	KP	Kelly M. Preheim
EK	Elizabeth Krueger	GJS	Gary & Jan Small
RM	Ron Mabie	DS	David Swanson
MMM	Michael M. Melius	CV	Cheryl Vellenga

2020 Report of The Rare Bird Records Committee

David L. Swanson.

Department of Biology, University of South Dakota

The SDOU Rare Bird Records Committee (RBRC) conducted business completely electronically this year because both spring and fall SDOU meetings were cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The RBRC acted on records submitted since the last meeting of the committee on 6 October, 2019. The committee met via Zoom on 15 November 2020 to discuss records that did not receive unanimous ratings electronically. The members of the committee were David Swanson (Chair and Secretary), Nancy Drilling, Todd Jensen, Ricky Olson, Jeffrey Palmer, and Scott Stolz. J. David Williams also participated on the committee for the spring records but passed away in September of 2020 so did not provide input on fall records. Chris Anderson of Sioux Falls replaced J. David Williams after the fall Zoom meeting, with a term beginning in 2021.

Springer (1988. *South Dakota Bird Notes* 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 RBRC, preferably via email at david.swanson@usd.edu. A *Rare Bird Report Form* is available in electronic format for this purpose from David Swanson, or a form can be downloaded from <http://www.sdou.org/>. A summary of the type of information desired by the RBRC in a rare bird report can be found in Swanson (2015. *South Dakota Bird Notes* 67:64-71).

The RBRC requests rare bird reports for species listed as hypothetical or accidental in the state, including species reported from a portion of the state or time of year where that species is listed as accidental. A listing of birds belonging to these categories in South Dakota is provided in the latest versions of the Distributional and Seasonal checklists of South Dakota birds, accessible at <http://www.sdou.org/>. The RBRC regularly adds or removes species from the review list, based on current data, and these changes to the review list are reported in the annual reports of the RBRC in *South Dakota Bird Notes*. 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 for records submitted in 2020. The parenthetical numbers accompanying some reports indicate the committee's vote. If no numbers are listed, the vote was unanimous.

CLASS 1 (Accepted - Specimen, photograph, or recording).

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck. 16 November 2019. One adult and four juvenile birds, Lake Yankton, Yankton Co. Photographed. Paul Roisen, Bill Huser, and Mark Brogie; photograph by Sharon Koller. Third state record.

Mute Swan. 9 April 2019. One adult near Bison, Perkins Co. Photographed. Barry Parkin. First accepted record west of the Missouri River for South Dakota.

Mottled Duck. 4 September 2019. One adult near De Smet, Kingsbury Co. Photographed. Sean Fitzgerald. Second state record.

Parasitic Jaeger. 27-28 October 2019. One intermediate morph juvenile, Oahe Downstream Recreation Area, Stanley Co. Photographed. Dan Svingen and Kenny Miller. Second state record.

Iceland (Thayer's) Gull. 13-14 April 2020. One adult at Catron Blvd. Pond, Rapid City, Pennington Co. Photographed. (4 Class 1P, 1 Class 3). The dissenting committee member noted that the wing tips in the bird in the photograph were not visible and that some important field marks, such as the dark eye or pale coloration to the outer underwing, were not mentioned in the report. Thus, this committee member believed that not all other gull species were conclusively eliminated. Accidental in western South Dakota.

Steller's Jay. 24 June 2019. One adult near Spearfish, Lawrence Co. Photographed. Courtney Wika. Accidental visitor.

Pacific Wren. 18 November 2019–10 April 2020. One at Peoria Flats, Hughes Co. Photographed and recorded. Kenny Miller. Fall and winter status not well documented in the state due to recent split of "Winter Wren" complex.

Pacific Wren. 4 December 2019–1 March 2020. One at the Oahe Downstream Area, Stanley Co. Photographed. Kenny Miller. Fall and winter status not well documented in the state due to recent split of "Winter Wren" complex.

Red-breasted Nuthatch. 1 June 2020. Two adult birds and at least one nestling at Wylie Park, Aberdeen, Brown Co. Photographed. Gary Olson and Dan Streifel. Accidental in summer east of the Black Hills. Fourth nesting record east of the Black Hills in South Dakota.

Pygmy Nuthatch. 28 February 2020. Two adult birds at Rosebud Timber Preserve, Todd Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Accidental east of the Black Hills.

Pygmy Nuthatch. 6 August 2020. Two birds at Rosebud Timber Preserve, Todd Co. Photographed. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Potential nesting record as birds were agitated and a nuthatch nest hole was photographed in the area occupied by the agitated bird. Accidental east of the Black Hills.

Thick-billed Longspur. 27 April 2020. One female bird at MDU Loop Road, Butte Co. Photographed. Barry Parkin. Casual migrant west.

Bullock's Oriole. 11-12 May 2019. One adult female at Madison, Lake Co. Photographed. Jeffrey Palmer. First record east of the Missouri River for South Dakota.

Prairie Warbler. 7 June 2020. One adult presumed male singing at D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery, Spearfish, Lawrence Co. Recorded. Nathan Pieplow. Accidental migrant.

CLASS 2 (Accepted – Satisfactory written description).

Tundra Swan. 31 October 2019. Two adults at Sorum Dam, Perkins Co. Scott Stolz. Accidental West away from Missouri River.

Barrow's Goldeneye. 17 November 2019. One adult male at Angostura Reservoir, Fall River Co. (4 Class 2, 1 Class 3). The dissenting committee member felt that the report did not eliminate a hybrid between Common and Barrow's goldeneyes. Casual migrant and winter visitor.

Barrow's Goldeneye. 30 April 2020. One adult female at Camp Crook Road, Harding Co. Scott Stolz. Casual migrant and winter visitor.

Western Sandpiper. 31 August 2020. One juvenile bird at North Alabama Bend, Missouri River, Clay Co. (1 Class 1P, 4 Class 2). Photographs submitted with the report were supportive of the identification of Western Sandpiper but were distant and in poor light, so dissenting committee members felt that the photos were not diagnostic. Accidental migrant.

Lesser Black-backed Gull. 24 March 2018. One adult at Bear Butte Lake, Meade Co. (4 Class 2, 1 Class 3). The dissenting committee member noted that the bird was viewed at a long distance, which prevented some field marks, such as leg color, from being observed and, therefore, did not eliminate all other gull species. Accidental in western South Dakota.

Violet-green Swallow. 26 June 2020. Two adult birds at Chases Her Woman Lake, Rosebud Timber Preserve, Todd Co. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Accidental east of the Black Hills.

Pygmy Nuthatch. 6 August 2020. Two birds at Chases Her Woman Lake, Rosebud Timber Preserve, Todd Co. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Accidental east of the Black Hills.

Brown Creeper. 24 June 2019. One adult bird at Rosebud Timber Preserve, Todd Co. Ricky Olson and Kenny Miller. Accidental in summer away from the Black Hills.

Pacific Wren. 28 February 2020. One bird at Chases Her Woman Creek in the Rosebud Timber Reserve, Todd Co. Kenny Miller and Ricky Olson. (2 Class 2, 4 Class 1 P/R). A single photograph and a short recording of the vocalization were included with the report, but the dissenting committee members felt that while the supplementary material did not eliminate Pacific Wren, it also did not conclusively eliminate Winter Wren. Fall and winter status not well documented in the state due to recent split of "Winter Wren" complex.

Pine Grosbeak. 28 May 2019. One adult male at Ipswich, Edmunds Co. J. David Williams. First post-March spring record east of the Missouri River for South Dakota.

CLASS 3 (Not accepted – Identification possibly correct but description not completely convincing).
No reports were rated as Class 3 in 2020.

CLASS 4 (Not accepted – Identification probably or certainly incorrect or provenance likely not wild).
No reports were rated as Class 4 in 2020.

OTHER BUSINESS

With the recent legal action to classify Goat Island as federal property under the management of the National Park Service, the committee re-visited the hypothetical 2007 report of Magnificent Frigatebird from the south side of Goat Island. This record was classified as hypothetical for South Dakota due to the legal uncertainty surrounding the South Dakota-Nebraska border in that area at the time of the report. The committee voted 5 yes, 2 no, to retain the Class 2H hypothetical rating for this report as the state boundary is still difficult to define in this area.



Contents

President's Page	65
<i>by Kelly Preheim</i>	
Announcements.....	65
In Memoriam J. David Williams 1947-2020	66
<i>by David Swanson</i>	
Painted Redstart - A New Vagrant to South Dakota.....	67
<i>by Ricky D. Olson</i>	
Avian Surveys at Canyon Lake, Rapid City, SD: Grouse through Falcons Species Accounts	68
<i>by Gene K. Hess</i>	
The 2020 Summer Season: 01 June 2020 to 31 July 2020	76
<i>Compiled by Chris Anderson</i>	
2020 Report of The Rare Bird Records Committee.....	82
<i>by David Swanson</i>	

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Painted Redstart, 9/21/2020. Ft. Pierre.