



**South Dakota Ornithologists' Union
2026 Fall Meeting
Yankton, SD, 6-8 November 2026**

Friday, 6 November (Mount Marty University Campus, South Dining Hall)

6:30-7:30 pm Registration and Social Hour
7:30-8:30 pm Evening Program: **Jeff Palmer**, *Birds and Birding in South Africa*

Saturday, 7 November

7:30-10:45 am Field Trip – Meet at Cimpl Arena Parking Lot

10:20 am-Noon Morning Paper Session (Mount Marty University Campus, South Dining Hall)

10:20 **Jillian Murphy** – *Big windows, small steps: improving campus safety for birds at USD*

10:40 **Kathryn Yurek** – *Preliminary data on microclimate benefits of eastern red cedar to wintering riparian forest birds*

11:00 **David Swanson** – *Burrowing Owls in Clay County, Summer 2026*

11:20 **Abigail Sosa and Owen Bell** - *Measuring genomic integrity of American dippers in the Black Hills region*

11:40 **Melissa Riley** - *This is your genome on creek: Environmental stress, telomere length, and population decline in the American Dipper*

12:00-1:30 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:30-3:30 pm Afternoon Paper Session (Mount Marty University Campus, South Dining Hall)

1:30 **Emma Brownlow** - *It's not selenium*

1:50 **Jessica Graham** - *Everybody's fledging for the weekend*

2:10 **Ricky Olson** – *Documentation of a hybrid dove mating with a female Eurasian-collared Dove in Pierre*

2:30 **Cole Heronimus** - *Experiences as an Avian Field Technician for the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies*

2:50 **Mikayla Call** - *Using range-wide, collaborative monitoring data to inform a regionally specific integrated population model for the U.S. American oystercatcher population*

3:10 **Cristy Wails** – *Habitat availability is a key demographic driver of an Atlantic coast Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) population*

3:30-4:30 pm General Membership Meeting (Mount Marty University Campus, South Dining Hall)

4:30-6:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting (Mount Marty University Campus, South Dining Hall)

6:30-8:30 pm Banquet/Program (Mount Marty University Campus, South Dining Hall)
Program: **Jordan Smith, USFWS Piping Plover Lead** – *Piping Plover population status along the Missouri River*

Sunday, 8 November

7:30 am-12:00 pm Field Trip – Meet at Cimpl Arena Parking Lot

12:00-12:30 pm Species Count-Off (Cimpl Arena Parking Lot)

12:30-2:00 pm Rare Bird Records Committee Meeting (MMU Biology Department, Room __)