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Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Thomas A. Tustison, Chairman

The most recent meeting of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC) was conducted via electronic media 19 November 2022. In attendance and voting at this meeting were MOURC members Kimberly A. Emerson (alternate), Rebecca R. Engdahl (alternate), Anthony X. Hertz, Ann E. Kessen, Douglas W. Kieser, Andrew D. Smith, Steven P. Stucker, Howard C. Towle (alternate), and Thomas A. Tustison (Chair).

The following records were voted on at, or subsequent to, the meeting and were Accepted (Note: in general, dates given for each record represent the first and last dates of observation; some records may not have been documented on each intervening date):

- **Eurasian Wigeon** (*Mareca penelope*) [Casual], 10 April 2023, George Watch Lake, Peltier Channel, near Lino Lakes, Anoka County (record #2023-005, vote 5–2). Adult male. Dissenting members mentioned that lack of significant details was the main reason not to accept. Concern was also expressed not only with this record, but others as well, that simply submitting an eBird report is one of the root causes of non-acceptance because much of the important information in the Request for Documentation (RQD) form is missing. For example, the distance from the bird could make a huge difference when evaluating a record.

- **Eurasian Wigeon**, 18 April – 1 May 2023, near the intersection of Kent Avenue and 80th Street West, west of Lonsdale, Rice County (record #2023-008, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed.

- **Tufted Duck** (*Aythya fuligula*) [Accidental], 12 May 2023, Park Point Recreation Area, near the Sailing Club, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2023-044, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed. Fourth state record.

- **Band-tailed Pigeon** (*Patagioenas fasciata*) [Accidental], 6 February 2023, private residence, Winona, Winona County (record

#2023-001, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. First county and twelfth state record.

- **Chuck-will's-widow** (*Antrostomus carolinensis*) [Accidental], 30 May 2023, private residence, Baihly Estates Lane Southwest, Rochester, Olmsted County (record #2023-065, vote 7–0). Audio recorded. First county and sixth state record. First spring record; all others were summer records. The last previous record was in 1984 (*The Loon* 56:200).

- **Limpkin** (*Aramus guarauna*) [Accidental], 6–8 August 2022, Lake George, Rochester, Olmsted County (record #2022-084, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. First seen at Lake George then it was seen two days later about 0.7 miles to the northeast near the Apache Mall. First county and second state record.

- **Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) [Casual] 23 April – 8 May 2023, county road 26 south of 320th street, Geneva Lake near Geneva, Freeborn County (record #2023-012, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. As many as three birds were reported but only one was documented.

- **Black-necked Stilt**, 23 April 2023, near the intersection of Houston County roads 21 and 16, north of Hokah, (record #2023-011, vote 7–0). First county record.

- **Black-necked Stilt**, 27–29 April 2023, near the intersection of county road 37 Northwest and Minnesota State Highway 55, west of Maple Lake, Wright County (record #2023-023, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed.

- **Black-necked Stilt**, 7 May 2023, Lac qui Parle Lake, Swift County (record #2023-036, vote 7–0). Adult female, photographed.

- **Black-necked Stilt**, 7–13 May 2023, flooded area near Wabasha County Road 24 about 0.6 miles west of county road 76 where the backwater/channel of Robinson Lake crosses the road, Wabasha County (record #2023-035, vote 7–0). Ten birds were accepted with some photographed.



Limpkin, 6 August 2022, Lake George, Rochester, Olmsted County. Photo by David Jorgenson.



Ross's Gull, 31 May 2023, Lake Superior, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

• **Black-necked Stilt**, 8 May 2023, the intersection of Carver County Road 32 and Tacoma Avenue, Carver County (record #2023-039, vote 7-0). Pair of adults, photographed.

• **Black-necked Stilt**, 8 May 2023, southeast quadrant of the intersection of Minnesota State Highway 30 and county road 16, Watonwan County (record #2023-040, vote 6-1). Two adults.

• **Black-necked Stilt**, 8 May 2023, 115th Avenue about one mile south of state highway 95, Greenbush Township, Mille Lacs County (record #2023-037, vote 5-2). Two adults. First county record.

• **Black-necked Stilt**, 11 May 2023, wetland just north of Interstate 94 about halfway between Keats Avenue North and Lake Elmo Avenue North, Washington County (record #2023-042, vote 7-0). Adult photographed.

• **Black-necked Stilt**, 15 May 2023, near Wilmont, Bloom Township, Nobles County (record #2023-048, vote 7-0). Adult female, photographed.

• **Black-necked Stilt**, 16 May 2023, near the town of Nicollet just north of Mud Lake and county road 99, Nicollet County (record #2023-050, vote 7-0). Pair of adults, photographed.

• **Black-necked Stilt**, 21-22 May 2023, just southwest of the intersection of county road 8 and 120th Street, Brown County (record #2023-058, vote 7-0). Pair of adults, photographed.

• **Black-necked Stilt**, 22-31 May 2023, on county road 18 roughly 0.5 miles east of county road 8 just north of Wood Lake WMA, Brown County (record #2023-060, vote 7-0).

Two adults photographed and were possibly the same birds as the previous record, being only 1.3 miles apart.

• **Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) [Casual], 20-24 May 2023, beach by Sky Harbor Airport, Minnesota Point, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2023-055, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

• **Red Knot**, 25-27 May 2023, just north of 130th Street about 0.4 miles west of Kale Avenue between Biscay and Glencoe, McLeod County (record #2023-062, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

• **Ruff** (*Calidris pugnax*) [Casual], 12-13 May 2023, Albany sewage ponds, Albany Township, Stearns County (record #2023-045, vote 7-0). Reeve, photographed.

• **Black-legged Kittiwake** (*Rissa tridactyla*) [Casual], 16 December 2022, Lake Pepin, Wabasha County (record #2022-100, vote 7-0). Juvenile/first cycle, photographed.

• **Ross's Gull** (*Rhodostethia rosea*) [Accidental], 31 May 2023, Lake Superior, (viewed from Wisconsin Point), St. Louis County (record #2023-067, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record and fifth state record.

• **California Gull** (*Larus californicus*) [Casual], 24 April 2023, flooded field just south of 40th Avenue South about 0.4 miles west of the Clay County Landfill, Clay County (record #2023-014, vote 5-2). First cycle, photographed.

• **Arctic Tern** (*Sterna paradisaea*) [Casual], 25 May 2023, 31st Street South, Park Point, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2023-063, vote 7-0). Adult.



Burrowing Owl, 23 April 2023, Mulligan Township, Brown County. Photo by Brian T. Smith.



Swallow-tailed Kite, 20 August 2022, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Frank Nicoletti.

• **Yellow-billed Loon** (*Gavia adamsii*) [Accidental], 3 December 2022, Bde Maka Ska, Minneapolis, Hennepin County (record #2022-097, vote 7-0). Apparent adult, photographed. First county and seventh state record.

• **Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) [Casual], 23 April 2023, Woodstock WMA, Pipestone County (record #2023-013, vote 5-2). Apparent adults, photographed. Three birds were reported, but only two were accepted. First county record.

• **Glossy Ibis**, 23-29 April 2023, Lyon County (record #2023-019, vote 5-2). Also seen in Yellow Medicine County. Adult, photographed.

• **Glossy Ibis**, 1 May 2023, 191st Street about 0.5 miles east of 140th Avenue, Lake Sarah Township, Murray County (record #2023-031, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

• **Black Vulture** (*Coragyps atratus*) [Casual], 22 May 2023, Forestville State Park, Fillmore County (record #2023-059, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record and eleventh state record.

• **Swallow-tailed Kite** (*Elanoides forficatus*) [Accidental], 20 August 2022, Hawk Ridge Nature Preserve, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2022-126, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

• **Mississippi Kite** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) [Casual], 17 May 2023, Riverside Cemetery, Breckenridge, Wilkin County (record #2023-052, vote 7-0). Adult. First county record.

• **Mississippi Kite**, 18 May 2023, adja-

cent to Chippewa County Park #1, Chippewa County (record #2023-054, vote 6-1). Adult. First county record.

• **Barn Owl** (*Tyto alba*) [Casual], 5 May 2023, state highway 26 and county road 16 intersection, Houston County (record #2023-032, vote 7-0). Specimen, photographed.

• **Burrowing Owl** (*Athene cunicularia*) [Casual], 23 April 2023, 330th Avenue about one mile south of county road 20, Mulligan Township, Brown County (record #2023-018, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

• **Burrowing Owl**, 24-30 April 2023, 210th Street about 0.4 miles east of 450th Avenue, northwest of Delavan, Faribault County (record #2023-021, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

• **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) [Casual], 28-29 May 2023, Grey Cloud Dunes SNA, Washington County (record #2023-064, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

• **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**, 30 May 2023, state highway 64, just south of 112th Street, Cass County (record #2023-066, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

• **White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) [Casual], 8 May - 13 July 2022, northwest of Whalan along the Root River State Trail, Fillmore County (record #2022-074, vote 6-1). Singing adult, audio-recorded.

• **White-eyed Vireo**, 15 May 2023, Minnesota, the southeast quadrant of the intersection of Lincoln County Road 114 and an unnamed road that runs parallel to, and one mile north of, Minnesota State Highway 19, northeast of



Worm-eating Warbler, 2 May 2023, Bass Ponds, Bloomington, Hennepin County. Photo by Trey Weaver.

Ivanhoe, Lincoln County (record #2023-049, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- **White-eyed Vireo**, 18–20 May 2023, Mound Creek Trail, Blue Mounds State Park, Rock County (record #2023-056, vote 7-0).

- **Rock Wren** (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) [Accidental], 13 April 2023, private residence about 1.0 miles northwest of Herman, Grant County (record #2023-006, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- **Curve-billed Thrasher** (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) [Accidental], 19–22 April 2023, private residence, 490th Street, Correll, Big Stone County (record #2023-009, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- **Sage Thrasher** (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) [Accidental], 13 May 2022, Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge, Sherburne County (record #2022-127, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- **Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*) [Casual], 1 May 2022, on the north side of 270th Street Southwest, 1.6 miles west of Minnesota State Highway 32, Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County (record #2022-125, vote 5-2). Female.

- **Mountain Bluebird**, 28 April 2023, southeast of Downer in the southwest quadrant of the intersection of county road 71 and 110 Avenue South, Clay County (record #2023-024, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

- **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, (*Passer montanus*) [Casual], 31 December 2022, northeast quadrant county road 89 and Hogan Avenue,

Dakota County (record #2022-102, vote 5-2). Adult.

- **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, 30 March 2023, unspecified location, Wabasha County (record #2023-004, vote 7-0). Three adults, photographed. First county record.

- **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, 13 April 2023, northeast corner of the intersection of Wilkin Avenue and Maple Street, Breckenridge, Wilkin County (record #2023-007, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, 17–23 April 2023, private residence, near the southeast quadrant of the intersection of 670th Street and 305th Avenue, Lake City, Wabasha County (record #2023-010, vote 7-0). Three adults reported, but only one photographed and Accepted.

- **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, 27 April 2023, Rochester, Olmsted County (record #2023-022, vote 7-0). Two adults, photographed.

- **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, 29 April 2023, private residence, Tindolph Avenue North, Thief River Falls, Pennington County (record #2023-027, vote 6-1). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, 30 April 2023, private residence, East Madison Street, Ely, St. Louis County (record #2023-029, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- **Brambling** (*Fringilla montifringilla*) [Accidental], 23–25 April 2023, near the intersection of Big Pine Road and Big Pine Cutoff, about six miles west of Finlayson, Pine County (record #2023-017, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record and tenth state record.

- **Lark Bunting** (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) [Casual], 21 May 2023, 50th Avenue East, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2023-057, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

- **Worm-eating Warbler** (*Helminthos vermivorum*) [Casual], 1–3 May 2023, Bass Ponds, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Bloomington, Hennepin County (record #2023-030, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- **Swainson's Warbler** (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*) [Accidental], 29 April – 2 May 2023, Arden Park, Edina, Hennepin County (record #2023-026, vote 10-0). Adult, photographed. First county and first state record. Amazingly, it stayed in the same location for four straight days possibly making it one of the most pho-

tographed observations ever of this species.

• **Kentucky Warbler** (*Geothlypis formosa*) [Casual], 8–10 May 2023, Wood Lake Nature Center, Richfield, Hennepin County (record #2023-038, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed and audio-recorded.

• **Kentucky Warbler**, 13–14 May 2023, private residence, Edina, Hennepin County (record #2023-046, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed.

• **Kentucky Warbler**, 15 May 2023, T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary, Minneapolis, Hennepin County (record #2023-084, vote 7–0). Adult male.

• **Yellow-throated Warbler** (*Setophaga dominica*) [Casual], 22 April – 17 May 2023, Pine Bend Bluffs SNA, Dakota County (record #2023-015, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed and audio-recorded.

• **Yellow-throated Warbler**, 24 April – 27 May 2023, Hillside Road, near Reno, Houston County (record #2023-020, vote 7–0). Presumed singing male.

• **Prairie Warbler** (*Setophaga discolor*) [Casual], 17–19 May 2023, Silverwood Park, St. Anthony, Ramsey County (record #2023-051, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed. First county record (*The Loon* 95:50–51).

• **Hermit Warbler** (*Setophaga occidentalis*) [Accidental], 6 May 2023, Park Point Recreation Area, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2023-033, vote 7–0). Single bird of indeterminate sex. First county record and third state record. Previous records were a male specimen taken near Cambridge, Isanti County 1931 (*The Auk* 48:435) and Yellow Bank River, Lac qui Parle County 1983 (*The Loon* 80:118). With reference to the 1931 specimen, T.S. Roberts (Roberts, T.S. (1932) *The Birds of Minnesota*: Vol. 2 pp. 226–227) states that “this is a most exceptional occurrence, for there appear to be no other records east of the Rocky Mountains.”

• **Hermit Warbler**, 9 May 2023, unspecified location, Roseville, Ramsey County (record #2023-041, vote 6–1). Single bird of indeterminate sex. First county record and fourth state record. All four state records were in May. It is interesting to note that it was 40 years after the second record in 1983 that two new records occurred nearly simultaneously (only three days apart) in the spring of 2023.

• **Lazuli Bunting** (*Passerina amoena*) [Casual], 11 May 2023, Sucker Lake, Ramsey

County (record #2023-043, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed.

• **Painted Bunting** (*Passerina ciris*) [Casual], 7–9 May 2023, Red Jacket Trail, Rasmussen Woods, Mankato, Blue Earth County (record #2023-034, vote 7–0). Adult male, photographed. Second county record.

The following records were voted on and were Not Accepted. (Please note that a record which is Not Accepted only means that the documentation was not complete or convincing enough to include the sighting in *The Loon*, the journal of the MOU, or in the MOU's archives of confirmed bird records. Such a vote does not necessarily mean the observer misidentified the bird or did not see it. Summaries of the reasons why a record was Not Accepted are included here. These are in no way intended to be critical of the observer. The only purpose is to highlight the difficulties an observer may encounter while identifying or documenting these and similar species.)

• **Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) [Casual], 28 April 2023, state highway 22, about a mile southeast of Biscay, McLeod County (record #2023-025, vote 0–7). While the identification may possibly be correct, the description does not meet minimum standards for a Casual species.

• **Pacific Golden-Plover** (*Pulvialis fulva*) [Accidental], 26 May 2022, Tacoma Avenue Fields, Carver (record #2022-065, vote 0–10). A potential first state record must meet a high bar for acceptance. While the observer should be complemented for submitting the record, the photographic evidence is not adequate for the Committee to definitively conclude that the identification was correct. An outside expert was consulted who agreed.

• **Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) [Casual], 29 April 2023, northwest quadrant of the intersection of state highway 40 and county road 5, east of Marietta, Lac qui Parle County (record #2023-028, vote 2–5). Many members felt that the documentation was too casual regarding the facial features to eliminate an immature White-faced Ibis or even a possible hybrid ibis.

• **Mississippi Kite** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) [Casual], 24 May 2023, fields behind Saint Peter High School, Nicollet County (record #2023-061, vote 0–7). The Committee unanimously agreed the brief observation in low light by a

birder inexperienced with the species did not provide enough information for acceptance.

• **Black-headed Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) [Casual], 7 May 2022, near the state highway 99 bridge at the east end of Lake Sakatah, Rice County (record #2022-019, original vote 4–3, recirculated vote 1–6). The report lacks details surrounding the circumstances of the brief observation that would have been helpful for the Committee to evaluate the record, such as the amount of time and distance while perched versus in flight. Additionally, some of the written description of the bird is inconsistent with Black-headed Grosbeak.

A correction: a Lark Bunting record from Wilkin County from 6 June 2016 was originally assigned MOURC record number #2016-051, evaluated by the Committee, and Accepted 7–0. When published, however, it was erroneously listed as #2016-054 (*The Loon* 91:91). Record #2016-054 already had been assigned to a Least Tern documented in Big Stone County for 19 July 2016. This record was also voted on and Accepted 7–0, but never published. To correct this, on page 91 in the fall 2019 issue of *The Loon*, please change the record number for Lark Bunting from #2016-054 to #2016-051. And in the *Proceedings* report from spring 2019 (*The Loon* 91:3–5), please add the following: Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) [Accidental], 19 July 2016, west of Graceville in Toqua Township, Big Stone County (record #2016-054, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. First county and twenty-third state record.

The efforts of all those observers who document unusual species are greatly appreciated, whether or not the records are Accepted. Though photographs are always welcome, observers are strongly encouraged to submit written documentation based on contemporaneous field notes for all records. The Committee acknowledges with thanks those who provided written descriptions for the records listed in this article: Pam Albin, Maria Bauman, Lon Baumgardt, Dedrick Benz, Matthew Berg, Karla A. Bloem, Julie Brophy, Steve Broste, Kathy Carroll, Philip C. Chu, Anne Conway, Jeremy Cushman, Herb H. Dingmann, Jody Doll, Ben Douglas, Carl Ebeling, Kim R. Eckert, Kimberly A. Emerson, Steve Emerson, Ronald A. Erpelding, Paul & Koni Fank, Wayne Feder, Cole Foster, John Frentz, Tom Gilde, Cory Gregory,



Least Tern, 19 July 2016, Toqua Township, Big Stone County. Photo by John P. Richardson.

Scott F. Gruwell, Charles Dennis Huber, Liz Harper, Chad Heins, Diana Hensley, Anthony X. Hertzfel, Edward Hicks, Rachel Ann Hill-esheim, Henry Hinchcliffe, Carl Hoang, Luke Hollander, Ezra Hosch, Paul E. Jantscher, Tom Jones, David Jorgenson, Jessica Kainz, Darlene Kelley, Douglas W. Kieser, Valerie Klumper, Michael Kurtz, Tim Lamey, Justin Lehman, Tucker Lutter, Craig R. Mandel, William C. Marengo, Nolan Meyer, Jennifer Miller, Todd Mitchell, Yasushi Nakagawa, Frank Nicoletti, Mark Noble, Andrew Nyhus, Michael Oetken, Dan Orr, Wayne Ostlie, Paula Perdoni, Aaron Pietsch, Jerry Pruett, Tate Putman, Larry Sirvio, Andrew D. Smith, Brian T. Smith, Dalton Spencer, Dana Sterner, Tim Stuck, Peder H. Svingen, Michelle Terrell, Matthew Thompson, Howard Towle, Chad Unruh, Curt Vacek, Alexander R. Watson, Trey Weaver, Garrett Wee, Steve Weston, Jen Widmer, Dustin Wrolstad, Mathew Zappa, and Roy Zimmerman. Many observers documented records of rare Regular species which were not voted on by the Committee; though not cited here, their efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Committee welcomes questions or comments from MOU members regarding any record in particular or our procedures in general. More information including our bylaws and current checklist can be found at <<http://moumn.org/mourc>>. Summary: 74 records voted on — 69 Accepted, 5 Not Accepted.

Edina, MN.

The Ecological Importance of Woodpeckers and Considerations for Effective Management

Part II: Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers

Michael R. North¹ and Kaysie Maleski²

The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*; Figure 1) is the second most abundant woodpecker of nine species of woodpeckers that breed regularly in Minnesota (Partners in Flight [PIF] 2008, 2023), and it is distributed widely across the state. It reaches its highest abundance throughout the forested northern regions (Figure 2), but is also known to nest along the Minnesota River Valley, and most of southeastern and southcentral Minnesota (Pfanmuller et al. 2017). There were no recorded observations of the species in Wilkin, Pipestone, Rock, Nobles, or Steele counties during the five-year Breeding Bird Atlas project (Pfanmuller et al. 2017); and other counties without confirmed breeding records include Traverse, Redwood, Freeborn, Mower, and Dodge (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union 2023). Its continental breeding range includes most of the Canadian boreal forest and a small area extending into east-central Alaska, north-eastern North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, northern Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York, and northern New England, with isolated locations in the central and southern Appalachian Mountains (Walters et al. 2002).

Unlike most of the other woodpecker species that occur in Minnesota, the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is completely migratory, overwintering in the southeastern United States, eastern Mexico, and throughout Central America and the Caribbean (Walters et al. 2002). It returns in spring typically in April, or May in late years, and trickles out of the state in autumn migration in September and October, although a few may occasionally linger into early winter (see Janssen 1987).

Estimates of statewide population sizes based on Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) results



Figure 1. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at sapwells on a paper birch. Photograph by Beth Siverhus, 2023.

were 310,000 in 2008 and 410,000 in 2023 (Partners in Flight 2008, 2023). Over the longer term, populations increased at a rate of 1.83%/year from 1966–2019 (USGS 2023). Minnesota contributes an estimated 3.07% of the global population (PIF 2023). Long-term point count surveys (from 1995 to 2011) by the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth (Niemi et al. 2016) show increasing population trends in Minnesota and Wisconsin national forests (which support the BBS results): 4.20%/year in Chippewa NF, 2.34%/year in Superior NF, 3.69%/year in Chequamegon NF, and 6.20%/year in Nicolet NF.

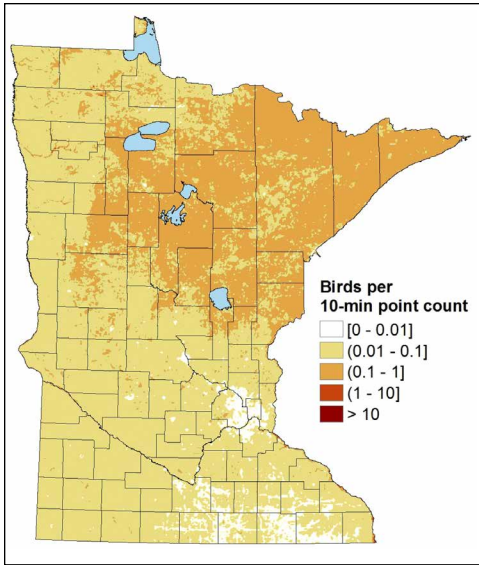


Figure 2. Density of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers in Minnesota based on Pfnammuller et al. 2017.

Woodpeckers are considered both ecosystem engineers and ecological keystone species because the cavities they excavate for nesting are subsequently used for nesting, denning, and shelter by other cavity-dependent species. In Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario, sapsucker cavities have been identified as providing critical habitat for southern flying squirrels following logging of flying squirrel habitat (Holloway and Malcolm 2007). Farther north along the Ontario-Quebec border, red squirrels and northern flying squirrels were the primary users of old sapsucker cavities (Cadieux et al. 2023).

Habitat and Interspecific Species Interactions

Across their breeding range outside of Minnesota, the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker has been characterized as a species of deciduous forests, inhabiting sugar maple-basswood, oak, aspen, and mixed deciduous-coniferous forests. In southern Ontario, maple forests can support twice the density of sapsuckers as aspen forests (Tozer et al. 2009); however, aspen trees are strongly preferred for nesting (Runde and Capen 1987, Harestad and Keisker 1989, Savignac and Machtans 2006, Cooke and Hannon 2012, Squires and Bunnell 2018, Cadieux et al. 2023)

everywhere except in the Atlantic provinces of Canada where they are moderately important (Towers et al. 1992, Warren 2004); see also North (2021). Walters et al. (2002, p. 4) state the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker “favors early-successional tree species for both nesting and feeding... quaking aspen, birch, maple and mixed conifer forest, usually along riparian zones...” They further state, in part incorrectly, that “In n. Michigan, abundant in relatively young forests which grew up after extensive timber harvest; unlike most woodpeckers that are influenced by availability of dead snags for nesting or feeding, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker has very specific habitat requirements for young forests.” We disagree with this latter characterization, as do Tozer et al. (2009) who indicated aspen forest habitat quality for sapsuckers increases with age past 90 years, and Savignac and Machtans (2006) who recommended timber rotation ages “should exceed 90 years to promote the keystone role of this species.” In an old forest management case study near Hackensack, MRN (pers. obs.) found nests only in designated old growth northern hardwoods >100 years old, and pairs and individuals using two other northern hardwoods stands 99 years old, but no use of aspen stands 33 to 45 years old.

Squires and Bunnell (2018) note the importance of paper birch as a foraging substrate in British Columbia, usually within 50 m of nest trees, but conifer sap was also important in early spring before deciduous sap runs. Others note the importance of paper birch, yellow-birch, sugar maple, red maple, juneberry, American beech, green alder, eastern hemlock, and bigtooth aspen (Eberhardt 2000, Savignac and Machtans 2006, Tozer et al. 2011), but specifically not quaking aspen (Savignac and Machtans 2006), or rarely quaking aspen (Tozer et al. 2011) as a forage species. Because Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers dip food for their young in sap from sawwells before delivery to the nest cavity, Eberhardt (2000) suggests that a sap tree resource is more limiting than a nest tree resource.

In Minnesota basswood, mountain ash, and American elm are important foraging substrates in addition to paper birch. Basswood, birch, and mountain ash often exhibit the tell-tale signs of regularly spaced columns and rows of drill holes, with the patterns in basswood still visible in old growth forests many decades later



Figure 3. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker foraging substrates. Top left, clockwise: mountain ash, old basswood in old growth forest, white cedar (with bird), and young basswood with sapwells (17 July 2021). Photos by Michael North.

Table 1. Nest tree selection by Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers in Minnesota.

Nest Tree	Our Data Set					Adkins Giese (1999)	
	Alive	Dead	Unrecorded	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Aspen	67	11	3	81	95	37	88
Balsam Poplar	1	–	–	1	1	–	–
Oak	–	1	1	2	2	2	5
Black Ash	1	–	–	1	1	–	–
American Elm	–	–	–	–	–	3	7

(Figure 3). Ironically, basswood does not seem to be mentioned in important literature (e.g., Walters et al. 2002, Eberhardt 2000) as a source of sap. Although we have not seen American elm used for sapwells, MRN observed a family group foraging continuously on an American elm for >1 hour on 17 July 2021. And earlier in the spring, foraging was noted on white cedars. We have seen multiple Yellow-bellied Sapsucker pairs feeding red berries, presumed to be swamp red currants, to nestlings from 28 June into early July in the Beltrami Island State Forest. Serviceberries have been reported fed to young in Michigan (Walters et al. 2002).

Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*) — and hummingbirds in general — have a symbiotic relationship, where feeding holes drilled by sapsuckers provide a source of sap important to hummingbirds upon their arrival in spring, prior to widespread flowering by nectar-producing plants (Southwick and Southwick 1980, Squires and Bunnell 2018). It appears that sapsuckers have a unique ability to get sap to flow in sapwells that other species, and including scientists (e.g., Eberhardt 2000), cannot. So, bees, red squirrels and other species also use sapwells created by sapsuckers (Eberhardt 2000, Squires and Bunnell 2018). Used sapsucker nest cavities are used for nesting, denning, and shelter by other species including Tree Swallows (*Tachycineta bicolor*), Black-capped Chickadees (*Poecile atricapillus*), Red-breasted Nuthatches (*Sitta canadensis*), red squirrels, flying squirrels, and big brown bats, leading Squires and Bunnell (2018) to label Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers a “double keystone species.”

Nesting

Chronology: As a generality, nesting occurs later for Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers than it does for our other woodpecker species (except for

American Three-toed Woodpeckers [*Picoides dorsalis*]). Nest construction begins mid-May, and fledging commences about the end of June and goes into mid-July. During the Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas project, 109 records characterized the chronology of the breeding season for sapsuckers. MRN mined the records following the lock-down of the MNBBA results, in 2013. The records included documenting nest-building activity (13 May), 15 records of birds incubating or otherwise occupying the nest cavity (27 May to 4 July), 35 records of nestlings in the nest cavity (10 June to 17 July, with a discernible peak 16 June to 7 July), and 23 records of adults feeding young (whether in the nest or as fledglings was unspecified) from 12 July to 7 August.

We have a longer set of chronological data, running from 1996 to 2023, that confirms the MNBBA data set. We have 3 records of nest building from 3 to 27 May, 3 early records of nestlings from 6 to 12 June, 157 records of nestlings during a discernible peak from 14 June to 7 July, 6 records of nestlings post-peak from 8 to 12 July, and 3 records of fledglings as early as 2 to 9 July.

Nests: In Minnesota, aspen trees are strongly preferred for nesting. Aspen (primarily quaking, but also bigtooth) accounted for 95% of our nests (n=85) statewide and 88% of Adkins Giese’ (1999) nests (n=42) in SE Minnesota (Table 1). Ninety percent of Adkins Giese’ (1999) nest trees were alive, while 83 to 86% of our aspen trees were alive. Nest trees are often at the edge of forest stands, or openings within stands such as road or trail edges.

We collected tree diameters at breast height (dbh) from 57 aspen nest trees from 1996–2023. Aspen nest trees ranged from 21.7 to 48.3 cm dbh, with a mean of 31.54 cm and a standard deviation (s.d.) of 6.35 cm (i.e., 68% of nest trees were within the range of the mean +/- the s.d., 25.19 to 37.89 cm dbh; and 16% were

Table 2. Forest stand types and ages selected for nesting by Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers on State of Minnesota lands. Stand ages are from Forest Inventory Module data, which are intended to characterize the overall condition of a stand but may not be precise for stands of mixed species compositions.

Stand Age	Aspen	Balsam Poplar	Oak	Northern Hardwoods	Jack Pine	Black Spruce	Planted Red Pine	All Stands
<30 years	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	5
30–39	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
40–49	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	4
50–59	2	–	–	–	–	–	1	3
60–69	1	–	–	–	2	1	–	4
70–79	3	1	2	–	–	–	–	6
80–89	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	2
90–99	–	–	2	3	–	–	–	5
100–109	–	–	–	1	3	–	–	4
110–109	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
120–129	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1

below the range and 16% above the range). A threshold of 25 cm has been identified in British Columbia as a cutoff where woodpeckers in general select trees for nests in greater proportion than to their abundance on the landscape (Martin et al. 2004).

Although aspen may be the preferred nest tree, the stand itself may be dominated by northern hardwoods (e.g., maple, oak, basswood, birch, ash), with or without a pine component. Stand types and ages are shown in Table 2. Median stand age for all stands with nesting sapsuckers was 69 to 70 years, and modal stand age was 70 to 79 years. The youngest stand used, a quaking aspen stand, was 17 years. Nests in young aspen stands are in older “leave trees” (trees intentionally left standing after logging), and most nests, regardless of stand cover type, are close to stand edges. Median aspen stand age used was 45 to 46 years; all oak, northern hardwoods, and balsam poplar stands used were over 70 years. In 2021 and 2022 we collected cores from seven quaking aspens and one black ash to be professionally examined under a microscope at the Bemidji State University Tree Ring Lab; nest tree ages for aspen were 37, 51, 71, 75, 79, 89, and 92 years; and 124 years for the black ash. Savignac and Machtans (2006) found that the minimum aspen nest tree size used was attained at 52 years (based on coring) in 68 year old stands (based on inventory data) in British Columbia.

We have not collected data on territory spacing or size. However, in Algonquin Pro-

vincial Park, Ontario, territory size was 2.8 ha/pair with mean of 168 m between nests in maple forests, but 5.3 ha/pair and 229 m between nests in aspen forests (Tozer et al. 2011). Nests in maple forest were more successful and productive than those in aspen stands, perhaps due to greater food (primarily arthropods) availability. Savignac and Machtans (2006) found 8–10 ha/nest in preferred habitat types (mature deciduous or mature mixed, >90 years old) vs. 100 ha/nest in immature deciduous.

Management Implications

Aspen is a key tree species for Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers. Aspen in Minnesota are typically harvested on a 40- to 50-year rotation. In northern Minnesota, the average age of aspen 20–25 cm dbh is 45.8 years; 25–30 cm dbh is 50 years; 30–35 cm dbh is 58 years, and 35–40 cm dbh is 67.8 years (North et al. 2023). A 40-year rotation age does not grow aspen to the size sapsuckers can nest in. A 50-year rotation age will provide below average diameter nest trees for a few years prior to harvest. A 60-year rotation age will provide average to above-average diameter nest trees for a few years prior to harvest. Forestry best management practices call for leaving a minimum of 5% leave trees in clearcut situations (Minnesota Forest Resources Council 2005). However, because of climate change, Minnesota DNR management recommendations often call for diversifying stand species composition, which means trees other than aspen are often the “leave trees”. We

recommend that some aspen of multiple size ranges always be retained as leave trees. These should be situated along the edge of the harvested stand or in close proximity to trees that have sapwells. Trees with sapwells should also be retained as leave trees. If aspen are going to be harvested at less than a 60-year rotation age and forest stand diversification is a goal, then leave tree amounts should exceed 5% to allow for the retention of some aspen. Aspen that are retained as “leave trees” should reflect a variety of size classes so that some can grow into the appropriate size class as the regenerating stand ages. Savignac and Machtans (2006) and Squires and Bunnell (2018) reported that older stands have both nest sites (aspen) and foraging sites (e.g., birch).

A Note on Methods

This paper is an analysis of metadata collected between 1995 and 2023. It includes incidental observations from field studies conducted for various reasons, including nest searching for NRR in the Chippewa NF (1996) and the Breeding Bird Atlas (2009–2013), a woodpecker nest searching pilot project using transects (2018), citizen-science contributions (2018–2023), an old forest case study (2021), a Black-backed Woodpecker study (2022), and a woodpecker nest tree selection study commencing 2023. From 1996–2017, data collected varied from nest tree species, tree diameter (measured or estimated), and nest and tree height, depending on accessibility (e.g., public vs. private property). Beginning in 2018 we measured all tree diameters, added metrics of detectability of begging nestlings (distance from nest, seasonal duration), but still estimated heights. In 2021 we began collecting tree cores (for aging) and having the rings read under a microscope at Bemidji State University’s Tree Ring Lab. Data were collected northward from the Twin Cities metropolitan area, but concentrated in northcentral Minnesota and north of the Red Lakes.

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The 2022 Summer Season

1 June through 31 July 2022

Ann E. Kessen¹ and Peder H. Svingen²

A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck seen on Grass Lake, Hennepin County, on 11 July provided a Minnesota record for the fourth consecutive summer. Grass Lake was also one of several sites in the county where Mute Swans were found during the season. Continuing the fun for Hennepin County, a Clark's Grebe lingered for about a week in June and July at Westwood Hills Nature Center.

Hummingbirds made a good showing, with an adult male Rufous Hummingbird in Forest Lake at the end of the season providing a second county record for Washington County. Considerably more surprising was a Broad-billed Hummingbird seen and photographed for about fifteen minutes on 23 July at a backyard feeder in Elk River, Sherburne County.

Big Stone, Sibley, and Stearns counties enjoyed Black-necked Stilts during the season, and a pair in Big Stone County fledged two chicks. A Least Tern at Woodstock W.M.A., Pipestone County, in mid-June was unexpected. Also in June, up to 18 Red-throated Loons were viewed from Park Point in St. Louis County. For the fourth consecutive year, Richfield Lake in Hennepin County hosted a Neotropical Cormorant, which remained for much of the season. An adult and a juvenile Yellow-crowned Night-Heron visited the Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley, Dakota County, for a couple of weeks in July.

A Barn Owl was present in Bancroft Township of Freeborn County on 1 June. Providing a third state record and a first record for Carlton County was an adult female Acorn Woodpecker at a residence in a rural area of Corona Township in early July. Later in the month a White-eyed Vireo was found along the Root River Trail in Fillmore County. A Eurasian Tree Sparrow continued into early June at Park Point, St. Louis County.

A Black-throated Sparrow was a surprise visitor to a backyard in Marshall, Lyon County,

in early June. It provided a first county record. Later that same month, a Lark Bunting was observed for the first time in Washington County. Mid-July was the time for a first county visit to Carver County by a Blue Grosbeak, which was seen at the Dahlgren Road gravel pits.

By far the biggest excitement of the summer resulted when two Abert's Towhees spent the season in Grand Rapids, Itasca County, resulting in a first state record. At least one of the birds sang persistently and gathering of nesting material by both birds was observed, but no nest or young was ever found.

Weather Summary: The statewide average temperatures for both June and July were above normal, though only by 1.8° F in June and 0.9° in July, so not nearly as extreme as in summer 2021. The 100-degree mark was reached in both months, at several locations on 19–20 June and at Gaylord on 2 July. The coldest temperature of the season was 29° on 5 June at Celina in northern St. Louis County.

Precipitation totals in most of the state were below normal in both June and July. The Twin Cities, for example, had their fifth driest June in the last 152 years, and in July only saw 30% of their expected precipitation.

Several severe weather events struck in late June. On the 20th, a series of thunderstorms struck central and northern Minnesota; Polk County recorded gusts of 91 mph. Hail and extreme rainfall hit central Minnesota again on 23–24th when baseball-sized hail fell in Otter Tail and an 11-inch rain gauge overflowed in Morrison County. A third major event struck northern Minnesota on 24–25th with damaging wind gusts and at least two tornadoes that touched down, one in Mahanomen and the other in Becker and Wadena counties.

Major storms in July included a derecho event along the Iowa border on the 5th, large hail on the 14th in Becker County, and strong winds and hail along a line from Renville to

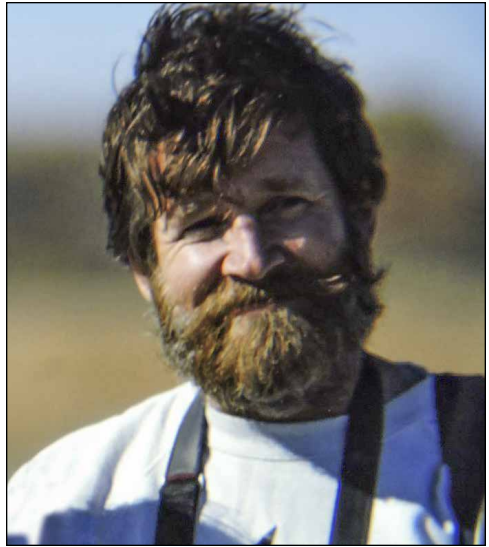
Houston counties on the 23rd.

Insufficiently Documented Reports of Regular Species: Philadelphia Vireo 6/20 Aitkin (out of range; this heard-only record could easily be confused with Red-eyed Vireo).

Maps: A map is included for each species having at least one confirmed breeding record during 2022 (not necessarily just in summer). A county is colored black to show confirmed breeding, medium gray for probable breeding, and light gray for a summer observation. Those species with no breeding data have no map.

Acknowledgements: For over thirty years, Peder Svingen has worked on the quarterly seasonal reports that have been published in **The Loon**. He began with the Winter 1990 season, and he has continued in various capacities as an author, editor, and reviewer until today. This season, summer 2022, will be his last. Peder brought an incredible knowledge of the distribution and occurrence of the state's avifauna to this effort. Just as important has been his carefulness and attention to detail in completing these reports. We are very grateful to him. He will be missed.

Thanks also to all who submitted summer reports and breeding records. Your data make this report possible. We are grateful for the data provided by eBird. Thanks also to Paul Budde for compiling early and late dates, to Bob Janssen and Peder Svingen for maintaining a list of



Peder.

county and seasonal occurrence records, and to Dave Cahlander for his work on the online seasonal report. Weather data is from the Minnesota DNR's HydroClim Minnesota newsletter (<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/hydroclim/index.html>). Anthony Hertzell and Dave Cahlander produced the maps used in this report.

¹Stacy, MN; ²Duluth, MN.

KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species listed in brackets [**Smew**] indicate a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species' name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties with reports.
4. Dates listed in bold (**10/9**) indicate an occurrence either earlier, later, or within the three earliest or latest dates on file.
5. Counties listed in bold (**Aitkin**) indicate an unusual occurrence for that county.
6. Counties listed in bold and with an underline (**Becker**) indicate a first county record.
7. Counties listed in italics (*Crow Wing*) indicate a first county breeding record.
8. Totals in bold (**150**) indicate a total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
9. Totals in bold-italic (***55***) indicate a CBC total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
10. Dagger "+" preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
11. "ph." denotes a species documented with a photograph.
12. "v.t." denotes a species documented by video.
13. "a.t." denotes a species documented by audio.
14. High counts that are multiples of 100 are assumed or known to be estimates unless otherwise noted.

The *Seasonal Report* is a compilation of seasonal bird sightings from throughout Minnesota. We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To become a contributor, contact the Editor of the Seasonal Report, Paul E. Budde, seasons@moumn.org.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK (*Querquedula discors*) — [1 South] Adult seen 7/11 Hennepin (Grass Lake, Eden Prairie) †SLC.

Snow Goose (*Anser caerulescens*) — [1 North, 6 South] Found in Marshall, McLeod, Mower, Nobles, Pipestone, Rock, Yellow Medicine.

Ross's Goose (*Anser rossii*) — [1 South] Observed 6/5 Rock (Hills W.T.P.) ebd.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [1 North, 1 South] Reported 6/2 – 7/17 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment, possible broken wing) PLJ, RAE, BLz, CnN, DOr, RBW, 6/4–23 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) DOr, PCC, HHD, MJB, ebd.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Seen in every county except Martin.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [1 South] Continuing from spring 6/2 – 7/31 Hennepin (various locations) CMB, DVe, BAF, m.ob.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [33 North, 49 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding record: 6/22 Martin KEM. High count 6/17 Aitkin (308, Rice Lake N.W.R., plus 3 at Loon Lake) PNi, DnS.

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [1 North] Reported 6/10 Itasca (2 individuals vocalizing overhead, Grand Rapids) PPe.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [33 North, 52 South] Observed in every county except Red Lake and Faribault.

Blue-winged Teal (*Spatula discors*) — [30 North, 47 South] Found in all regions.

Northern Shoveler (*Spatula chrypeata*) — [21 North, 26 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. High count 6/5 Marshall (48, Agassiz Valley) HHu.

Gadwall (*Mareca strepera*) — [21 North, 22 South] Reported from every region except Southeast. First county breeding record 7/6 Douglas PEJ.

American Wigeon (*Mareca americana*) — [14 North, 7 South] Seen in all northern and central regions plus 6/9 Faribault WAF.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Dodge.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) — [12 North, 1 South] Seen in all northern regions plus 6/15 Le Sueur (L. Pepin) ph. DOr. First county breeding record 6/18 Crow Wing JLa.

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) — [15 North,



Ruddy Duck, 23 July 2022, Rushford, Fillmore County. Photo by Todd Mitchell.

11 South] Observed in all regions except South-central, Southeast. First county breeding record: 7/6 Cottonwood ebd.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) — [24 North, 23 South] Reported from all regions.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) — [14 North, 8 South] Seen in all western regions plus Hennepin, 6/4 St. Louis (Park Point) ALW, Stearns, Watonwan.

Redhead (*Aythya americana*) — [17 North, 25 South] Found in all regions except Southeast.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) — [28 North, 18 South] Observed in all regions.

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) — [3 North] Reported from Cook, Marshall, St. Louis.

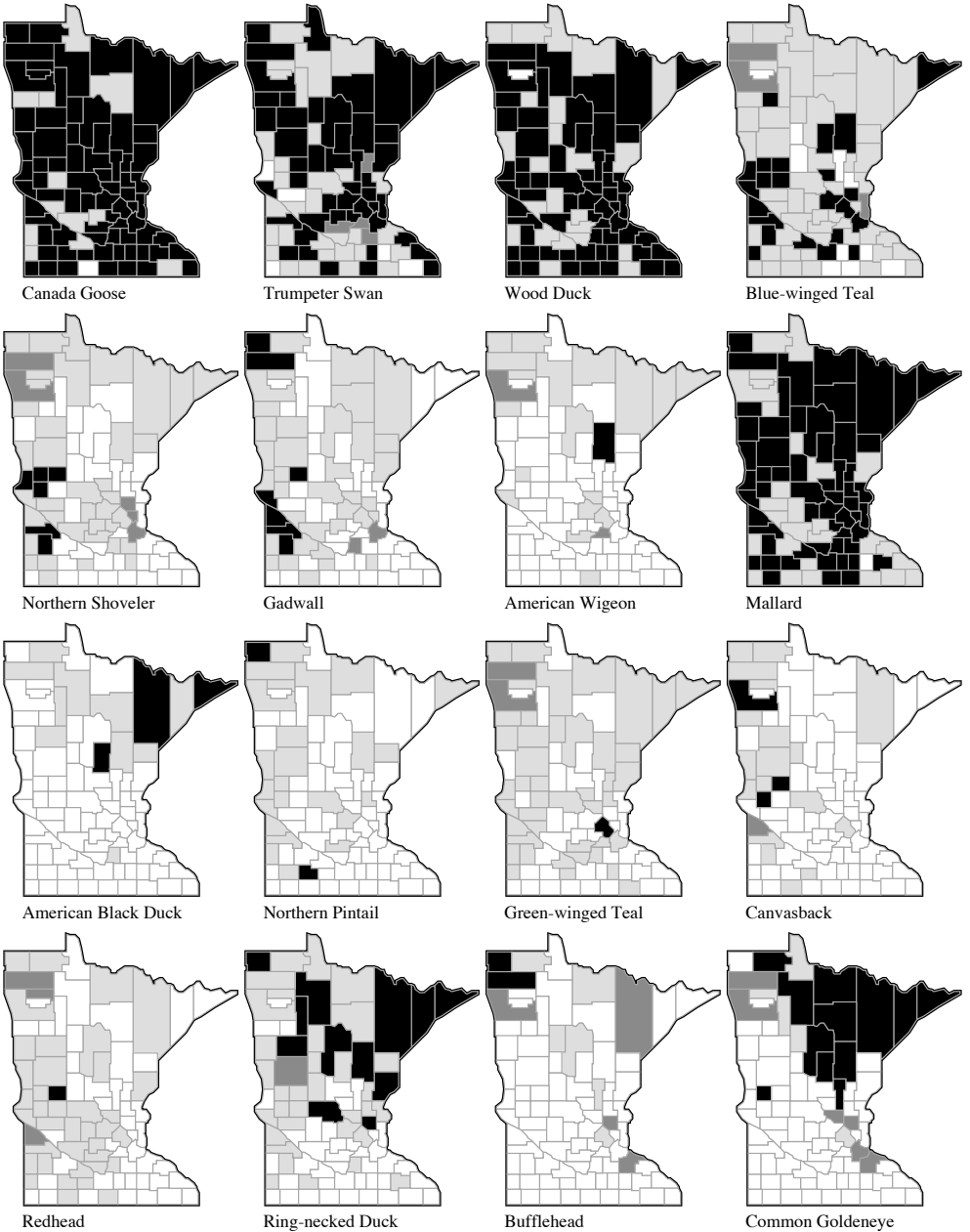
Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) — [22 North, 14 South] Seen in all regions except Southeast.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [1 North] Seen 6/1 – 7/16+ Cook (female continuing since 5/30, Grand Marais Harbor) EHi, m.ob.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) — No reports.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [9 North, 1 South] Found in all northern regions plus Hennepin, Mille Lacs. High count 7/4 Kittson (18, Twin Lakes W.M.A.) DnS, PNi.

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [16 North, 1 South] Observed in all northern regions plus Grant, Hennepin, Mille Lacs. High count 6/16 Koochiching (50, International Falls W.T.P.) KRE, m.ob.



Nesting maps for each species which has at least one confirmed breeding record during 2022 (not necessarily just in summer). A county is colored black to show confirmed breeding, medium gray for probable breeding, and light gray for a summer observation.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [30 North, 45 South] Reported throughout state. High count 6/18 Lyon (27, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) — [16 North, 4 South] Seen north and east of a line from Otter Tail to Hennepin.

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) — [6 North, 1 South] Found in Aitkin, Cook, Crow Wing, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis, Wabasha.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [12 North, 32 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding record: 8/25 Crow Wing CRM.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [32 North, 45 South] Reported statewide.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [25 North, 10 South] Found in all regions except Southwest, South-central.

Spruce Grouse (*Canachites canadensis*) — [3 North] Seen in Cook, Lake, St. Louis.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [12 North] Observed in all northern regions.

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [6 North, 1 South] Seen in Becker, Clay, Lac qui Parle, Otter Tail, Polk, Red Lake, Wilkin.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [5 North, 15 South] Scattered reports from all regions except North-central, Northeast, East-central.

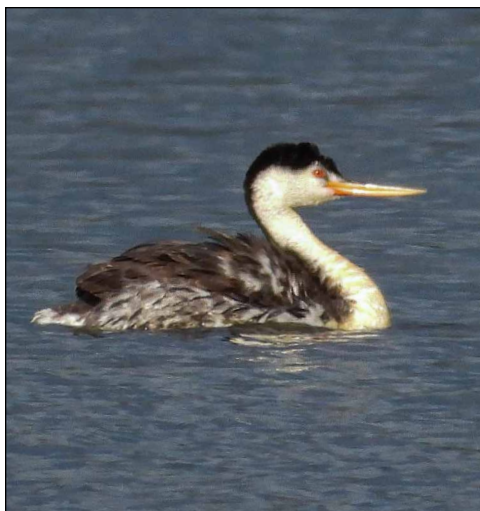
Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [19 North, 51 South] Found along and south of a line from Clay to Carlton, plus Marshall, Roseau.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [21 North, 46 South] Reported throughout state.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [4 North] All reports were of single birds: 6/15 Roseau (Roseau W.T.P.) PEJ, 6/28 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) ebd, 7/16 Pennington (Thief River Falls W.T.P.) ABL, 7/29 St. Louis (Stony Point) ALw, NGi.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [18 North, 16 South] Found in all regions except Southeast. High count 7/6 Wright (23, Clearwater Lake) HBu. First county breeding record: 7/2 Yellow Medicine GWe.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [6 North, 9 South] Primarily located in Northwest region, but also West-central, Central, Southwest, South-central. High count 6/4 Mar-



Clark's Grebe, 30 June 2022, Westwood Hills Nature Center, St. Louis Park, Hennepin County. Photo by Rose Shea.

shall (50, paired and displaying at Agassiz Valley) HHu.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [10 North, 11 South] Observed in scattered locations south and west of a line from Marshall to Sherburne, plus unusual location 6/17–26 Olmsted (Chester Woods) ebd, ph. JPr, m.ob.

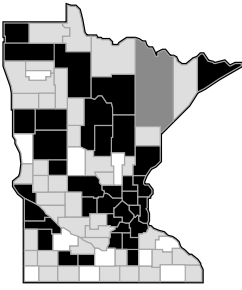
Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [1 South] Second county record 6/29 – 7/6 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) †JSz, ph. †LBa, ph. TBu, m.ob.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Clearwater,

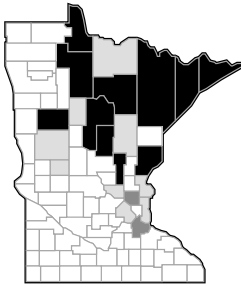
Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [13 North, 47 South] Found in all central and southern regions plus Becker, Clay, Pennington, Red Lake. High count 6/18 Lyon (17, Cottonwood) GWe. First county breeding record: 5/22 Goodhue AXH.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county.

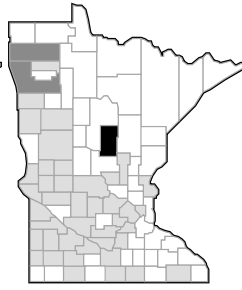
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [13 North, 42 South] Encountered in all regions. High count 6/1 Wright (5, Lake Maria S.P.) ebd, likely reflected peak spring migration. Unusual report 6/11 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog, Admiral Rd.) †Herb Elliott.



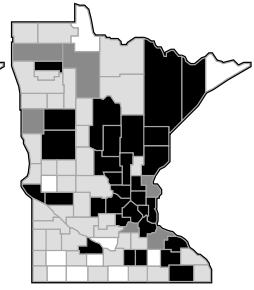
Hooded Merganser



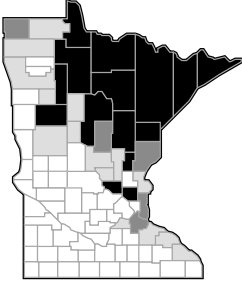
Common Merganser



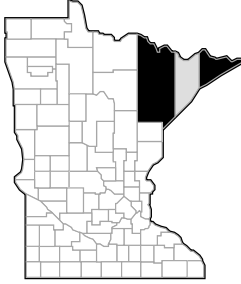
Ruddy Duck



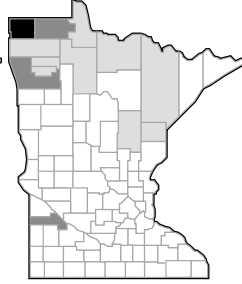
Wild Turkey



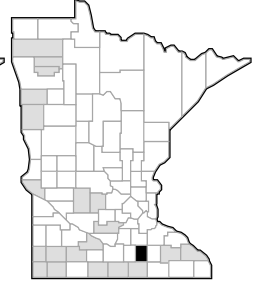
Ruffed Grouse



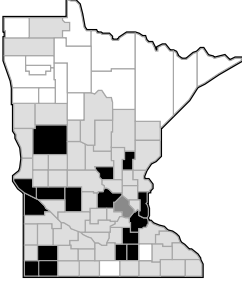
Spruce Grouse



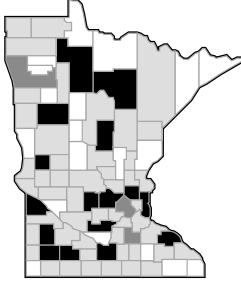
Sharp-tailed Grouse



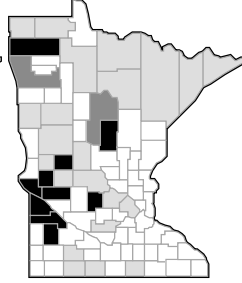
Gray Partridge



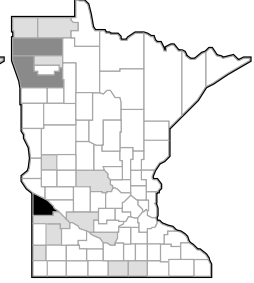
Ring-necked Pheasant



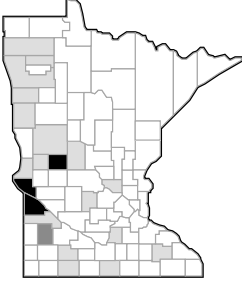
Pied-billed Grebe



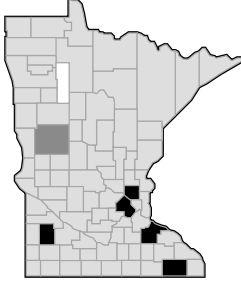
Red-necked Grebe



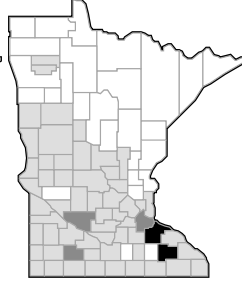
Eared Grebe



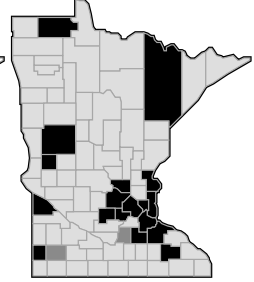
Western Grebe



Rock Pigeon

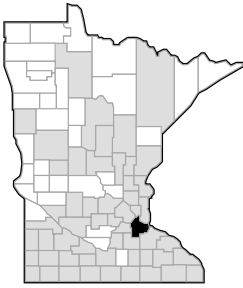


Eurasian Collared-Dove

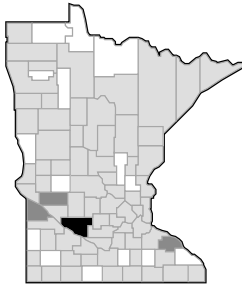


Mourning Dove

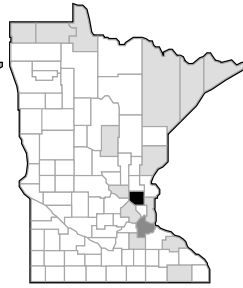
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [24 North, 34 South] Found throughout state. High count 7/6 Sherburne (5, Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail) ebd.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [27 North, 45 South] Reported statewide. Counts of 20 in early June (6/1 Crow Wing, 6/1 Kittson, 6/4 Polk) represented the tail end of spring migration.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Anrostomus vociferus*) — [8 North, 8 South] Found in all eastern regions plus Crow Wing, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Rice, Roseau, Sherburne.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [33 North, 49 South] Reported from all counties except Dodge, Mahnomen, Pope, Waseca, Watonwan. High count 7/15 Wabasha (380, carefully counted by 10s using mechanical clicker at St. Felix Catholic Church in Wabasha) †ebd. First county breeding records: 8/16 Lincoln SSP, 7/13 Scott BDG.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [32 North, 44 South] Encountered in all regions.
- RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD** (*Selasphorus rufus*) — [1 South] Second county record 7/25 – 8/8 Washington (adult male, Forest Lake) ph. SDA.
- BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Cyanthus latirostris*) — [1 South] First state record: 7/23 **Sherburne** (Elk River backyard bird feeder) ph. †JrG.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [21 North, 33 South] Encountered in all regions.
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [29 North, 32 South] Reported from every region. High count 6/28 Marshall (12, Agassiz N.W.R.) ebd.
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [1 North, 8 South] Seen in Big Stone, Carver, Lyon, Rice, Sibley, Steele, Traverse, Wabasha, Wright. First county breeding record: 7/21 Traverse DLP.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [14 North, 30 South] Observed in all regions.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [2 North, 2 South] Found in Aitkin, Anoka (continuing from spring through 6/13), Morrison, Stearns (continuing from spring through 6/4). High count 6/28 Aitkin (12, McGregor Marsh) ebd.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Antigone canadensis*) — [34 North, 38 South] Reported from all regions. High count 6/12 Sherburne (**212**, Sherburne N.W.R.) PLJ. First county breeding record: 6/2 Jackson KEm.
- BLACK-NECKED STILT** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [3 South] All reports: 6/1 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) †PCC, 6/26 – 7/31+ Big Stone (C.R. 61, just N of C.R. 28) ph. †DLP, †EHI, †TWE, 7/23–26 Sibley (Indian Lake W.M.A.) †DWK, m.ob. First county breeding record: 8/3 Big Stone (nesting pair fledged 2 young) DLP.
- American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [3 North, 6 South] Seen in all western regions plus Stearns, and 7/30 **Chisago** (cattle pond on Olinda Trail south of 270th St.) ELC. Presumed southbound migrants 7/11 Marshall (2, Warren W.T.P.) HHu. High count 7/13 Big Stone (23) DLP.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [3 North, 2 South] Encountered in Aitkin, Marshall, Rock, St. Louis, Sibley. One in mostly basic plumage 6/15–17 Aitkin (Rice Lake N.W.R.) ASu, ebd, dnS, PNI was presumably still northbound based on dates. Southbound migrant 7/28–29 Sibley RBW, DWK, SKe.
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [3 South] Northbound migrant 6/2–3 Sibley EHI, JKu. Probable non-breeding bird in basic plumage 7/10 Big Stone †DLP. Southbound migrant 7/20 Cottonwood RAE.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties.
- Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [9 North, 19 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/8–9 Dakota KDS, m.ob., late north 6/11 Polk SAU. First fall migrants 7/1 Big Stone DLP, 7/10 Grant CJa.
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — No reports for the 5th time in the last nine summers.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [11 North, 20 South] Found in all western and central regions plus Carlton. First county breeding record: 7/27 Lincoln SSP.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [2 North, 1 South] All reports: 6/1–3, 6/19, 6/24–25 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) m.ob., and exceptional locations 6/4 **Renville** (Bird Island W.T.P.) †RBW, 6/28 **Pennington** (Thief River Falls W.T.P.) †ebd.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa baemastica*) — [2 South] Single northbound migrants 6/1 Sherburne (E of Santiago) PLJ, 6/4 Murray (E of



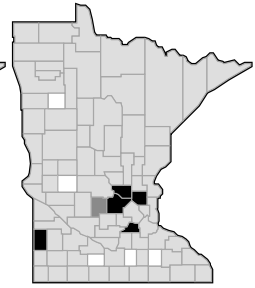
Yellow-billed Cuckoo



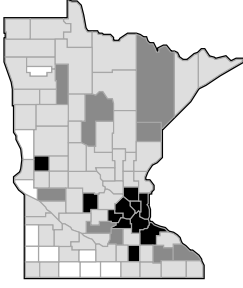
Common Nighthawk



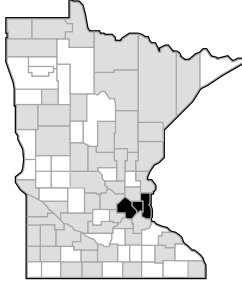
Eastern Whip-poor-will



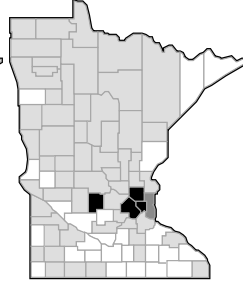
Chimney Swift



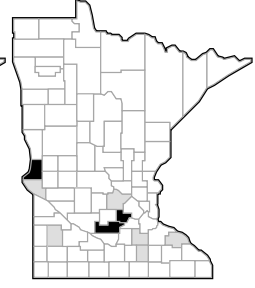
Ruby-throated Hummingbird



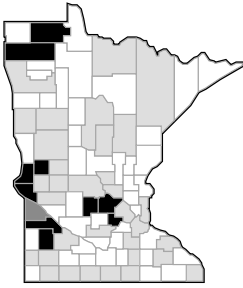
Virginia Rail



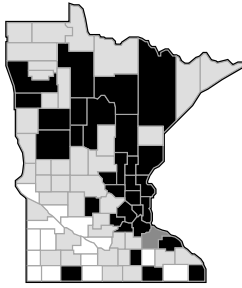
Sora



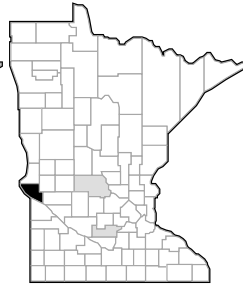
Common Gallinule



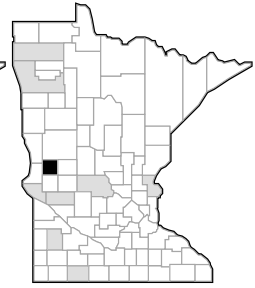
American Coot



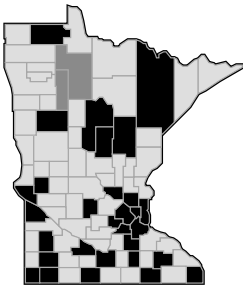
Sandhill Crane



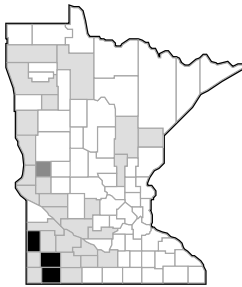
Black-necked Stilt



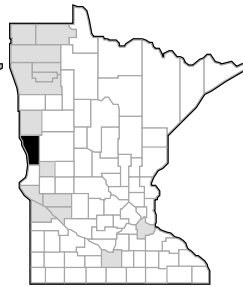
American Avocet



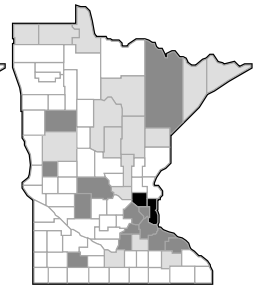
Killdeer



Upland Sandpiper

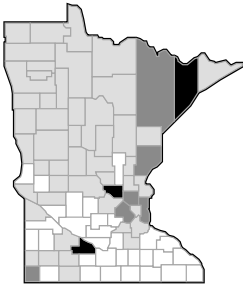


Marbled Godwit

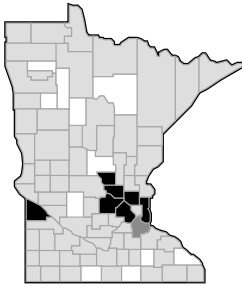


American Woodcock

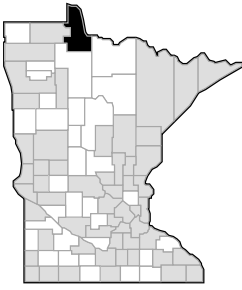
- Ruth-ton) GWe.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [9 North, 6 South] Seen in Northwest, West-central, plus Blue Earth, Dakota. High count 6/15 Roseau (73, Roseau River W.M.A.) PEJ.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [3 North, 3 South] Northbound migrants: late south 6/3 Sibley (2) DnS, 6/8 Stearns (3) CLB, HHD; late north 6/9 Cook (1) JGW, St. Louis (3) NAn. Southbound migrants: early north 7/29 Marshall HHu; early south 7/30 Lyon GWe.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris bimantopus*) — [9 North, 19 South] Encountered in all regions except Southeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/5 Lyon (4) GWe; late north 6/2 Marshall (2) JH. Southbound migrants: early north 7/6 Aitkin (1) JLa; early south 6/29 Brown (1) ph. BTS, Big Stone. (2) DLP. High count 7/21 Big Stone (92) DLP.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [7 North, 9 South] Reported from every region except South-central, Southeast. High count 6/2 St. Louis (94, Park Point R.A.) APi. Northbound migrants: late south 6/5 Lyon (1) GWe; late north 6/13 Grant (6) ebd, 6/14 (3), 6/16 (1) St. Louis ALw, ebd. Southbound migrants: early north 7/23 St. Louis (10) ebd; early south 7/16 Big Stone (2) DLP, 7/20 Swift (13) and Lac qui Parle (2) DLP.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [3 North, 7 South] Northbound migrants: late south 6/7 Lyon NMe, 6/9 Dakota (3) PAL, WPo, ebd; late north 6/11 St. Louis HTo, 6/12 Marshall ebd. Only southbound migrants 7/28 Nobles (3) DaH.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [4 North, 17 South] Found in all regions except North-central, Southeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/10 Dakota (1) ebd; late north 6/3 St. Louis (6) JEL. Southbound migrants: early north 7/21 Traverse DLP; early south 7/5 Big Stone DLP. All counts were single digits.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [16 North, 36 South] Seen in every region. Northbound migrants: late south 6/6 Stearns MtS, 6/11 Rice NiR; late north 6/11 Polk (1) SAu, 6/12 Marshall (2) TJJ. Unclassified midsummer reports 6/15–16 Benton RBW, HHD, 6/16 Yellow Medicine (1) GWe, 6/18 Nobles (1) BTS; none of these had details. Southbound migrants: early north 7/1 Marshall (1) HHu, Traverse (7) DLP; early south 6/29 Big Stone (2) DLP, 6/30 Brown (2) BTS.
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [9 North, 27 South] Encountered in all regions. High count 6/5 Lyon (135, by Russell) GWe. Northbound migrants: late south 6/28 Big Stone ANy, 6/30 – 7/2 Brown (2) ph. BTS; late north 6/26 Marshall (2) HHu, 6/28 Marshall, Polk ebd. Documented reports of presumed fall migrants 7/16 Big Stone (Kleindl Pond) †DLP, 7/18 Lake (2, Agate Bay) †ebd.
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Calidris subruficollis*) — [1 North, 2 South] Extraordinary midsummer record 6/14 Sibley (C.R. 8 south of Buffalo Lake) ph. ANy. Southbound migrants 7/31 Lyon (2) EHi, GWe, Traverse (3) EHi.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [9 North, 31 South] Observed in all regions except North-central. Northbound migrants: late south 6/14 Dakota ebd, 6/15–17 Benton RBW, HHD, 6/18 Lyon (2, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe; late north 6/10 Marshall (8) HHu, 6/11 Grant (1) BAR. Southbound migrants: early north 7/1 Traverse (4) DLP, 7/2 Grant (4) CnN; early south 6/29 Big Stone (4) DLP, 6/30 Brown (1) BTS. High count 7/24 Sibley (est. 600, High Island Lake) EzH, ASu.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [15 North, 35 South] Reported from all regions. Northbound migrants: late south 6/18 Brown (6) BTS, 6/19 Dakota (1) ALw, 6/24–25 Sibley TWe; late north 6/17 Cook (1), St. Louis (1) ebd, 6/17 (5), 6/18 (3) 6/23 (5), 6/26 (4) Marshall (Warren W.T.P.) HHu. Southbound migrants: early north 7/4, 7/11 Marshall (2) HHu; early south 7/8 Hennepin (5) VRL, 7/9 Lyon RJS, Brown KEm, JWH.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [6 North, 15 South] Observed south and west of a line from Roseau to Hennepin. The absence of spring migrants was puzzling. Southbound migrants: early north 7/2 Grant ((3) CnN, 7/3 Roseau (3) DnS, PNi; early south 7/6 Sibley DWK, 7/7 Faribault RBW.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [14 North, 12 South] Found in every region except Southwest.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [32 North, 24 South] Reported from all regions except Southeast. High count 6/28 Marshall (14, Agassiz N.W.R.) ebd.



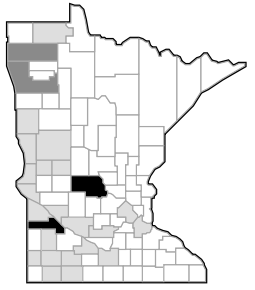
Wilson's Snipe



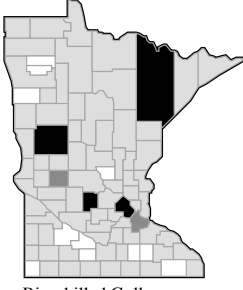
Spotted Sandpiper



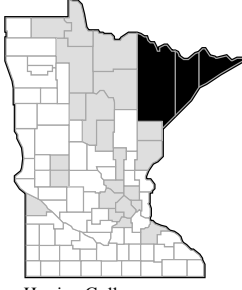
Solitary Sandpiper



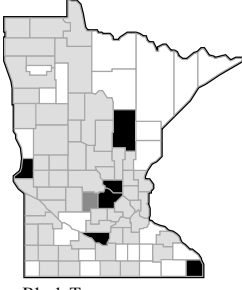
Wilson's Phalarope



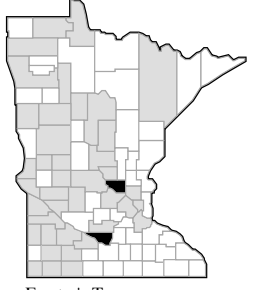
Ring-billed Gull



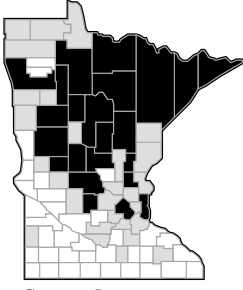
Herring Gull



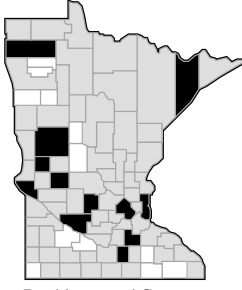
Black Tern



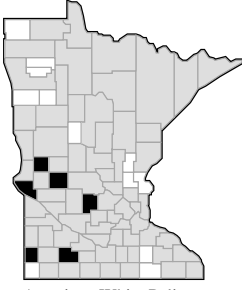
Forster's Tern



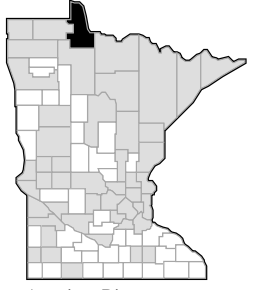
Common Loon



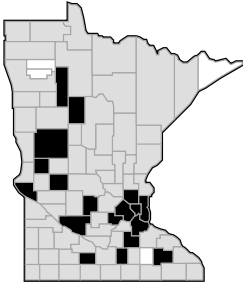
Double-crested Cormorant



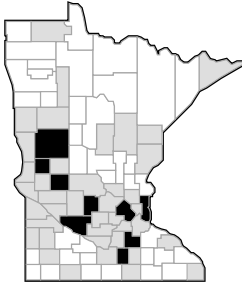
American White Pelican



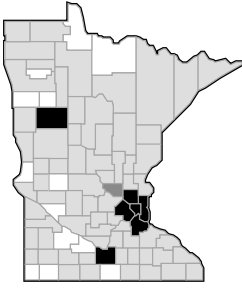
American Bittern



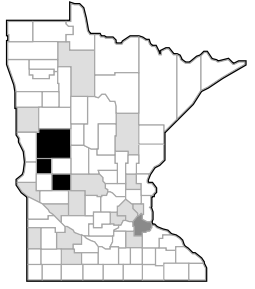
Great Blue Heron



Great Egret

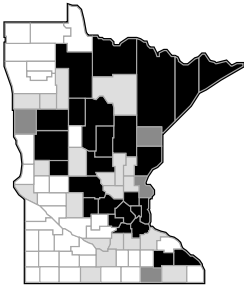


Green Heron

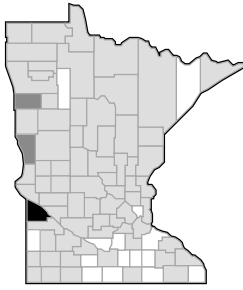


Black-crowned Night-Heron

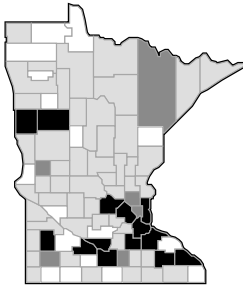
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [28 North, 48 South] Found statewide.
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [20 North, 35 South] Seen in every region. Late spring migrants 6/1 Ramsey ebd, 6/4 Pipestone VKL. Southbound migrants: early north 6/29 Marshall HHu; early south 7/2 Sherburne, Waseca, Washington. High count 7/29 Sibley (13, High Island Lake) ebd.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [18 North, 35 South] Encountered in all regions. Northbound migrants: late south 6/6 Dakota (2) KDS, ebd, **6/14**, **6/17** Sibley (1, south of Buffalo Lake) †NMe, ph. JWZ; late north 6/5, 6/6 Marshall HHu. Southbound migrants: early north 6/22 Polk (3) HHu, 6/23 Marshall (8) and Polk (6) HHu; early south 6/24 Sibley (3) TWe, 6/28 Big Stone ANy. High count 7/24 Sibley (est. 600, High Island Lake) EzH, ASu.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [4 North, 6 South] Late spring migrants 6/17 Marshall HHu, **6/28** Roseau (South Shore W.M.A.) †ebd. Southbound migrants: early north **7/3** Traverse (1, Metz W.M.A.) GWe, 7/21 Traverse (White Rock Dam) EHi; early south 7/16 Lyon (1) GWe, 7/17 Yellow Medicine (2) GWe.
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [12 North, 24 South] Seen in all regions. Late south migrants 6/5 Lyon (1) NMe, 6/6 Dakota (1) ebd. Southbound migrants: early north 6/23 Marshall (3) HHu, 7/2 Grant (1) CnN and Kanabec (1) SPS; early south 7/3 Ramsey (1) BAR and Big Stone (1) GWe, 7/5 Big Stone DLP.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [9 North, 17 South] Reported from all regions except North-central, Northeast, Southeast. High count 6/4 Pipestone (45, Pipestone W.T.P.) VKL.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [4 North, 13 South] Observed in every region except North-central, Northeast, Southeast. Northbound migrants: late south 6/5 Stearns (2) LFr, 6/6 Lyon (1) NMe; late north 6/5 Grant (1) ebd, 6/6 (12), 6/7 (5) Marshall (Warren W.T.P.) HHu, ebd. One photographed by Hughes at Warren W.T.P. **6/26** and **7/1** would normally be considered a record late migrant, but was inexplicably joined by 3 more **7/2** — were these three record early fall migrants, record late spring migrants, or non-breeding birds? Subsequent reports from this location (all by Hughes) 7/7 (3), 7/16 (4), 7/18 (4), 7/24 (2) suggests the possibility of a few non-breeding birds summering at Warren. Confounding this analysis were apparent record late migrants **7/2** Lac qui Parle DLP, **7/2** Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) †CNn, and **7/2** Norman (2, Ada W.T.P.) ph. SAu. Making matters worse were apparent early fall migrants **7/9** Brown (1, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) ph. KEm, JWH, **7/11** Stearns (male, direct comparison to Wilson's) ANy, HHD, 7/14–15 Brown (female) ebd, BTS, 7/17 Chippewa (3) GWe. High count 7/24 Big Stone (23, Graceville W.T.P.) EHi, TWe.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [8 North, 2 South] Found in all northern regions plus early south migrants 7/29 Le Sueur DOr, 7/30 Sibley ToL, TWe. High count 6/17 Lake of the Woods (**200**, flooded field south of Baudette) TBH, AXH.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [17 North, 29 South] Observed in all regions. Unusual location 6/1–4 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) ALw, ebd, FJN. High count 6/30 Roseau (1,500, Roseau W.T.P.) StK.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [31 North, 45 South] Reported statewide. High count 6/11–12 St. Louis (**28,000**, Interstate Island W.M.A.) PHS. First county breeding record: 7/9 Meeker PKF.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [15 North, 10 South] Seen in all regions except Southwest, South-central. High count 7/16 Lake (330, Knife River Marina) ALw.
- LEAST TERN** (*Sterna antillarum*) — [1 South] Seen 6/12–13 **Pipestone** (Woodstock W.M.A., West Unit) ph. †KEm, JWH, RAE, †NMe, EHi, VKL, Sch, LVD, ebd.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [13 North, 15 South] Encountered in all regions except Southwest.
- Black Tern** (*Chlidonias niger*) — [23 North, 41 South] Found in every region except Northeast. High counts 6/2 Murray (110, Big Slough W.P.A.) ebd, 6/4 Pipestone (90, Pipestone W.T.P.) VKL.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [13 North, 3 South] Reported from all northern and central regions. High count 6/5 St. Louis (estimated 100, Interstate Island W.M.A.) PHS.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [16 North, 26 South] Observed in every region except



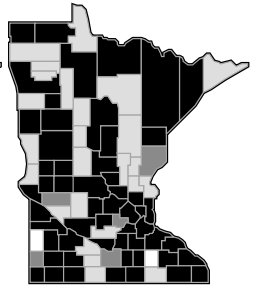
Osprey



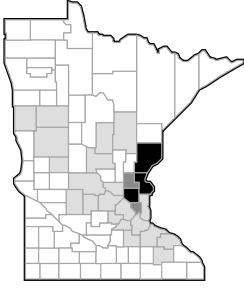
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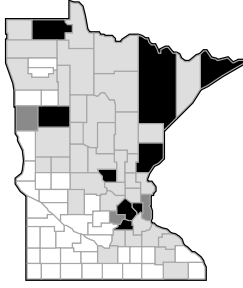
Cooper's Hawk



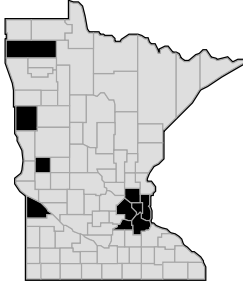
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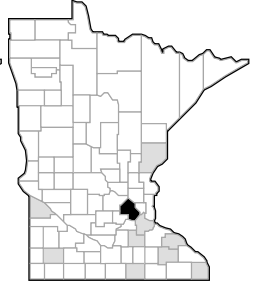
Red-shouldered Hawk



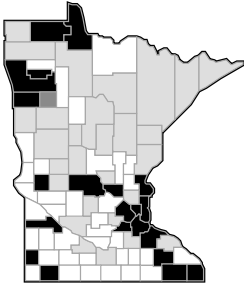
Broad-winged Hawk



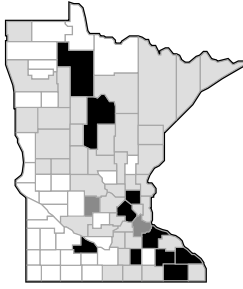
Red-tailed Hawk



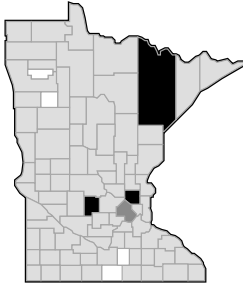
Eastern Screech-Owl



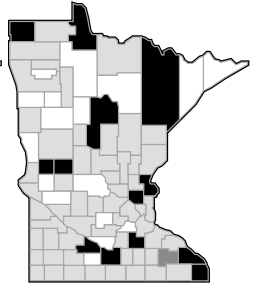
Great Horned Owl



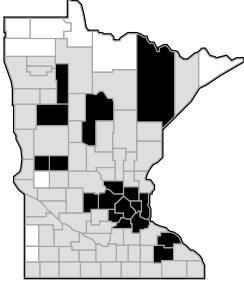
Barred Owl



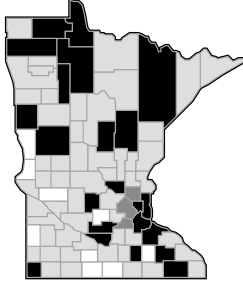
Belted Kingfisher



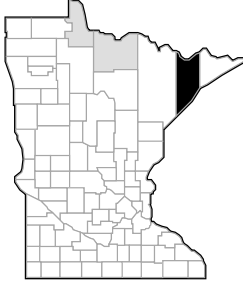
Red-headed Woodpecker



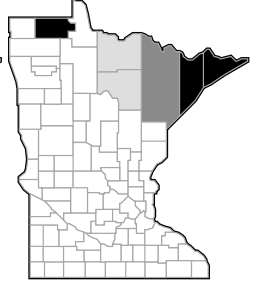
Red-bellied Woodpecker



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

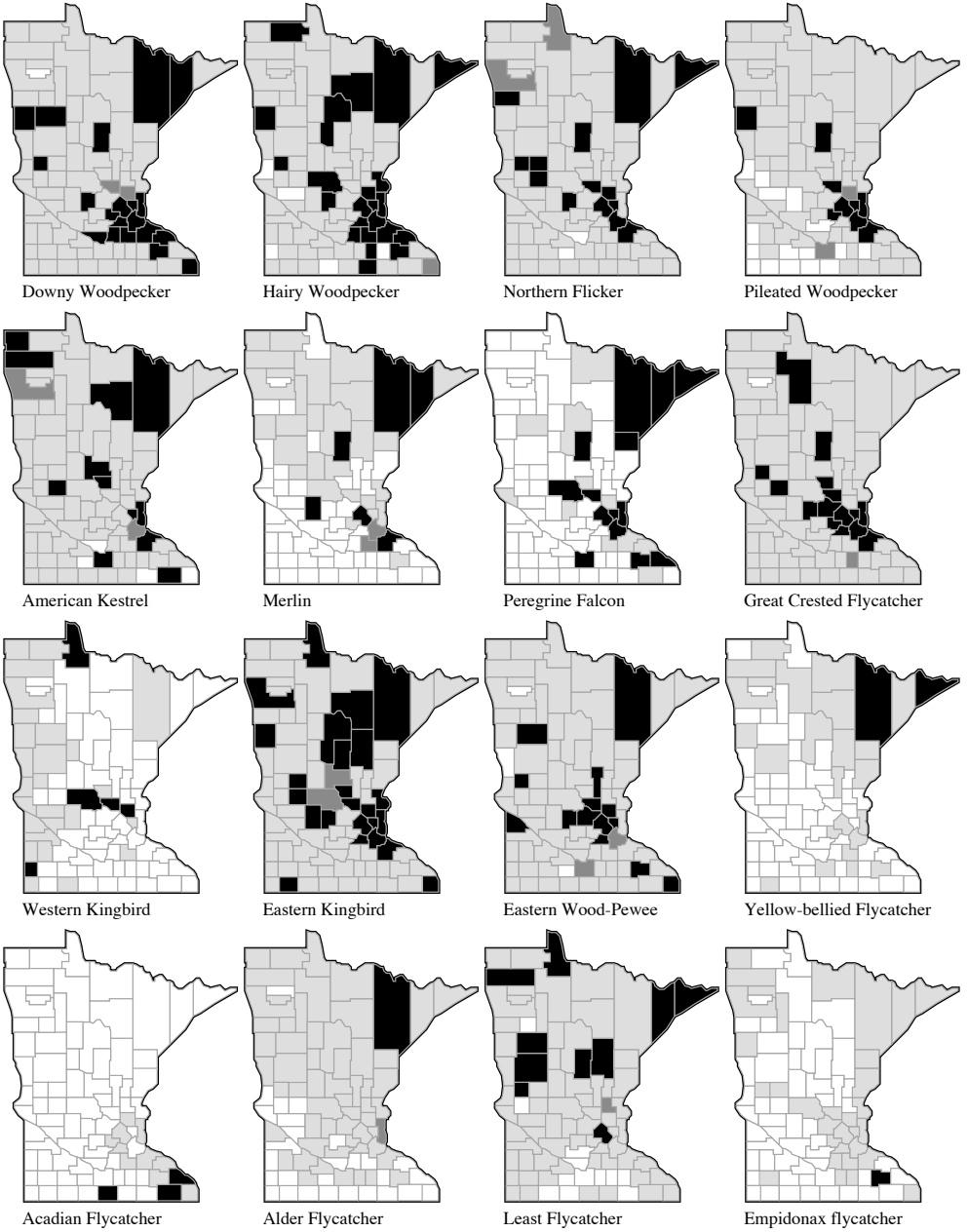


American Three-toed Woodpecker



Black-backed Woodpecker

- Southeast. First county breeding record: 7/26 Sberburne ebd.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] Observed 6/1–10 St. Louis (up to 18, Park Point) ALw, PHS, NGi, ebd.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [30 North, 21 South] Found in all regions. Unusual locations 6/2–15 Olmsted (immature, Silver Creek Reservoir) LAV, m.ob., 6/17 Lincoln (Perch Lake) GWe. High count 7/25 Becker (26, Detroit Lake) NaH.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Nannopterum auritum*) — [28 North, 47 South] Encountered statewide. High count 7/29 Renville (710, Preston Lake) WCM.
- NEOTROPIC CORMORANT** (*Nannopterum brasilianum*) — [1 South] Seen 6/8 – 7/31+ Hennepin (Richfield Lake) †BAF, ph. †CMB, RBW, m.ob. This is the fourth consecutive year that at least one individual of this species has been found at this location.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [27 North, 48 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding records: 5/21 Cottonwood KEm, 4/27 Pipestone LVD. High count 7/25 Grant (**3,585**, North Ottawa Impoundment: one group of about 3,000 (counted by 10s, then 100s), another group of 500 (counted by 100s), a group of 65 and a group of 20) ChP, ebd.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [21 North, 27 South] Encountered in all regions.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [8 North, 22 South] Found in every region, but only St. Louis (Duluth, Mud Lake area) in Northeast.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [31 North, 51 South] Seen in all counties except Cook, Dodge, Pennington, Red Lake. High count 6/18 Washington (75, St. Croix River Boat Ramp and Boom Site) JEc.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [14 North, 35 South] Reported from every region. Unusual location 7/28 Cook (Grand Portage N.M.) ebd. High count 7/29 Renville (229, Preston Lake) WCM.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [3 South] Observed 6/2, 7/31 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) EHi, ebd, 6/19 Stevens (Alberta) GWe, 7/4 Big Stone (Ortonville) GWe.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — No reports.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [4 North, 4 South] Found in Chippewa, Dakota, Grant, Hennepin, Jackson, Otter Tail, Traverse, Wilkin.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [28 North, 46 South] Reported statewide. High counts 6/22 Hennepin (**15**, Bloomington, Goodrich Rd. access) ebd, 7/21 Ramsey (12, St. Paul Downtown Airport) DnS, PNi.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [5 North, 13 South] Seen in every region except Northeast, Southeast. High count 6/29 Otter Tail (12, Fergus Falls) TBH, AXH.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [1 South] Observed 7/9–17 Dakota (adult and juvenile by Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley) Jeff Little, LMo, GMo, ph. m.ob.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [3 South] All acceptable reports: 6/22 (3), 6/26–29 (3), 7/24 (7) Big Stone (C.R. 61 at MN 28) DLP, m.ob., 7/28–30 Sibley (1, plus 3 unidentifiable *Plegadis* at High Island Lake) RBW, TWe, 7/20 Stearns (I-94 at Sauk River) †ebd. Though now considered a Regular species, observers still need to consider the possibility of Glossy Ibis and hybrids between White-faced and Glossy, both of which continue to expand westward.
- Plegadis ibis** (*Plegadis* sp.) — [1 South] A flock of ibis seen only in flight 6/7 Lyon / Lincoln (28 of the **34** in Lyon were followed as they flew west 8+ miles across the county line into Lincoln; though probably all or most were White-faced, none landed and none was seen well enough to describe beyond “dark birds with decurved bills and long legs”) NMe. Prudently left unidentified due to distance: 7/30 Big Stone (**16**, Artichoke W.P.A.) DLP.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [34 North, 53 South] Seen in all counties. High count 6/8 Fillmore (100, Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood S.F.) ToM.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [24 North, 26 South] Reported from every region except Southwest.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus hudsonius*) — [32 North, 40 South] Encountered in all regions.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [12 North, 3 South] Observed in all northern regions plus Mille Lacs. Undocumented reports from 3 south counties were excluded.
- Cooper’s Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [26



North, 43 South] Found throughout state.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [7 North] Seen in North-central, Northeast, plus Mille Lacs.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [34 North, 49 South] Reported from every county except Dodge, Lincoln. High count 6/11 Isanti (104, hog farm near Crown) RCl.

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) — [8 North, 18 South] Found in every region except Northeast, Southwest.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) — [28 North, 21 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest. First county breeding record: 8/8 Benton DOR.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [8 North, 13 South] Observed in all western regions plus Mille Lacs, Renville, Rice, Stearns, Winona.

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties.

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) — [1 North] Unusual record 6/5 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog, McDavitt Rd.) KTP.

BARN OWL (*Tyto alba*) — [1 South] Detected 6/1 Freeborn (Bancroft Twp.) a.t. KAB.

Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*) — [1 North, 9 South] Reported from Dakota, Freeborn, Hennepin, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Murray, Olmsted, Pine, Rice, Wabasha.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) — [21 North, 20 South] Found in all regions. First county breeding record: 6/14 Pipestone RMD.

Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*) — No reports.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) — [23 North, 29 South] Encountered in all regions except Southwest. High count 6/23 Hennepin (6, Staring Lake Park) BHw.

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) — [1 North] Reported in June from Beltrami, Kittson and St. Louis, and 7/18 St. Louis ABL. (This is considered a Sensitive Species in eBird and their records are not public. This summary includes eBird records although they are not in the M.O.U. database.)

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) — [2 North] Vocalizing 6/8 St. Louis †JEl, 6/20 Carlton (no details) ebd.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — No reports.

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*)



Eastern Phoebe nest, 12 June 2022, Stillwater, Washington County. Photo by Michelle Mortimer.

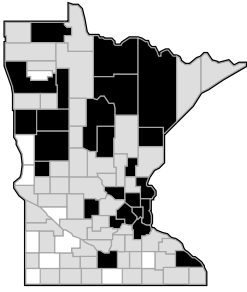
— [3 North] Found 6/15 Cook (Tofte) ebd, 6/18 Koochiching (C.R. 13, Littlefork) KRE, m.ob., 7/10 Cass (Upper Sylvan Rd. SW) JBu.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [32 North, 51 South] Found in all counties except Faribault, Mahnomon, Red Lake, Waseca. High count 7/23 St. Louis (7, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.

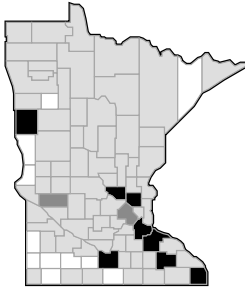
Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [23 North, 46 South] Encountered statewide. High count 6/19 Anoka (11, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) ebd.

ACORN WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) — [1 North] Third state record: 7/2–5 **Carlton** (adult female, Corona Twp., found by Russell Stewart) †EzH, ph. †LBa, †RZi, ph. †PHS, ph. †AXH, †KEm, m.ob. (**The Loon** 94:120–122).

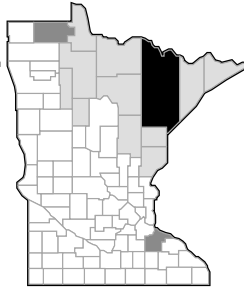
Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [28 North, 50 South] Reported throughout state. High counts 6/28 Hennepin (**12**, Crow-Hassan P. R.) ebd, 6/4 Meeker (**11**, Lake Washington) RMA.



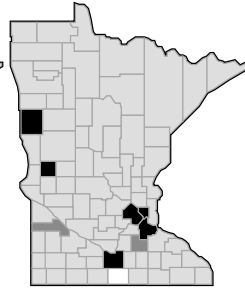
Eastern Phoebe



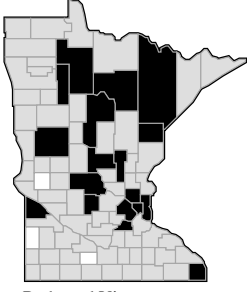
Yellow-throated Vireo



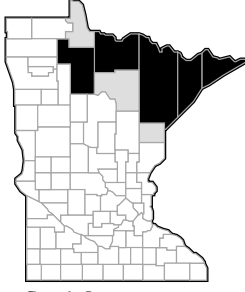
Blue-headed Vireo



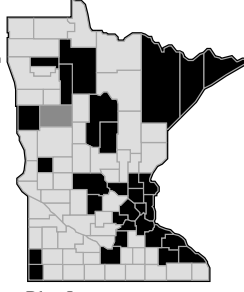
Warbling Vireo



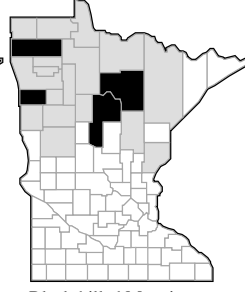
Red-eyed Vireo



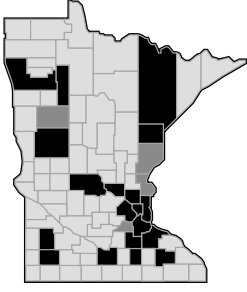
Canada Jay



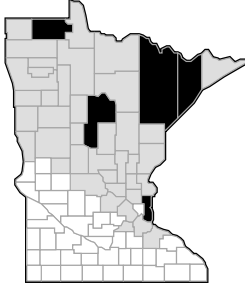
Blue Jay



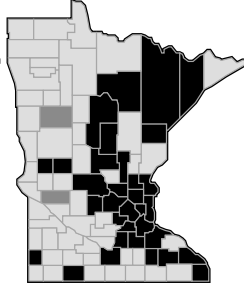
Black-billed Magpie



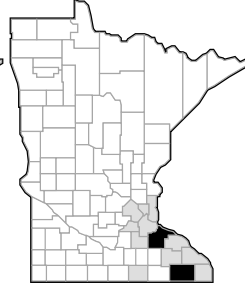
American Crow



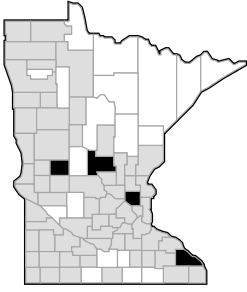
Common Raven



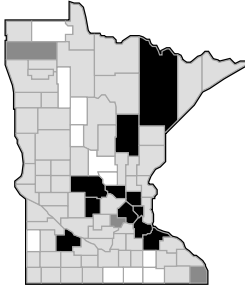
Black-capped Chickadee



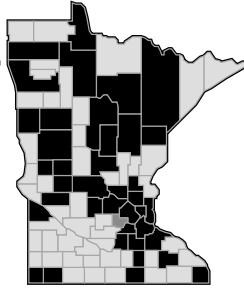
Tufted Titmouse



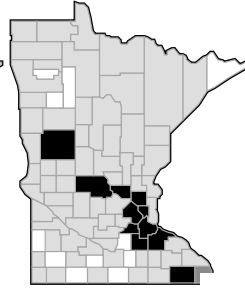
Horned Lark



Bank Swallow



Tree Swallow



Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*)

— [32 North, 46 South] Found in every region. High count 7/1 St. Louis (9, Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve) HTo. First county breeding records: 7/8 Rock ebd, 7/27 Sibley ebd.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [3 North] Observed in Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Encountered in Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis. First county breeding record: 7/7 Roseau MRN.

Downy Woodpecker (*Dryobates pubescens*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found in every county except Red Lake.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus*) — [33 North, 49 South] Reported statewide.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [34 North, 51 South] Encountered in every county except Nicollet, Watonwan.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [33 North, 38 South] Found in all regions.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [34 North, 49 South] Found in all counties except Houston, Mower, Nicollet, Watonwan. High count 6/14 St. Louis (17, Sax-Zim Bog) FJN.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [23 North, 13 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest. First county breeding records: 6/27 Goodhue ebd, 6/28 Kandiyobi SGA.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [8 North, 16 South] Seen in all regions except Southwest.

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Red Lake. High count 6/5 Washington (15, Sunfish Lake Park) ebd. First county breeding record: 7/7 Meeker PKF.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [14 North, 17 South] Observed in every region except Southeast. Unusual location 6/1, 6/14, 6/27 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) †JLK, †ALW, ebd.

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High counts 7/24 Sherburne (25, Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd, 7/17 Dakota (20, Lake Marion) BxP. First county breeding record: 7/21 Nobles SHO.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) — [19 North, 15 South] Encountered in all regions. Late south migrants (away from known breeding locations) 6/8 Fillmore ebd,



Bell's Vireo, 1 June 2022, Grey Cloud Dunes SNA, Washington County. Photo by Steven Meisel.

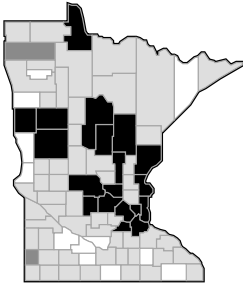
6/9 Ramsey DnS, 6/12 Hennepin ebd. Fall migrants are sometimes detected by the end of July, but none was found this season.

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [32 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Red Lake, Watonwan, Wilkin. High counts 6/10 Carver (20, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic/Rec. Area) JcY, 6/12 Scott (20, Murphy Hanrehan P.R.) Tpp. First county breeding records: 8/19 Grant ebd, 9/1 Mille Lacs JWZ.

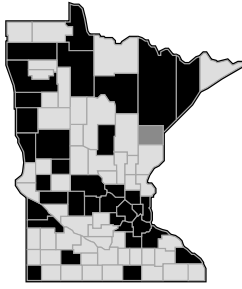
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [17 North, 9 South] Reported from every region. Late south migrant 6/8 Dakota (vocalizing) DFN. High count 6/3 Cook (12, Gunflint Lodge) BAn.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) — [13 South] Encountered in East-central, Southeast, plus Carver, Faribault, Rice, Scott. High counts 7/2 Fillmore (6, Rushford Village) ToM, 7/30 Houston (6, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ToM. First county breeding record: 7/28 Fillmore ToM.

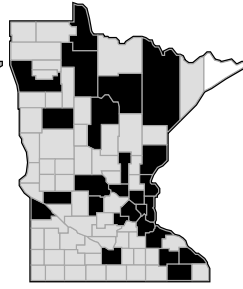
Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [32 North, 27 South] Reported from all regions. High count 6/4 Roseau (20, Nereson W.M.A.) BCS. Late south migrant (vocalizing, outside of known breeding range) 6/16 Steele PSu.



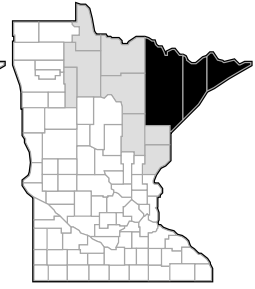
Purple Martin



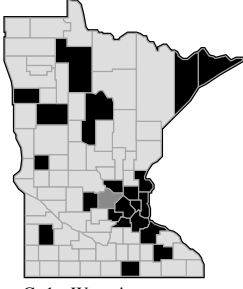
Barn Swallow



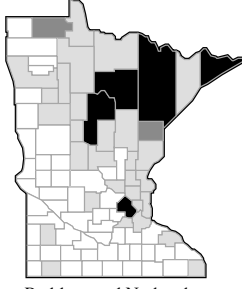
Cliff Swallow



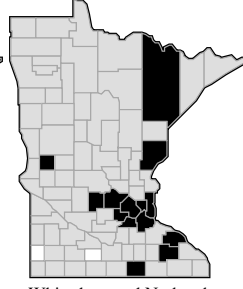
Golden-crowned Kinglet



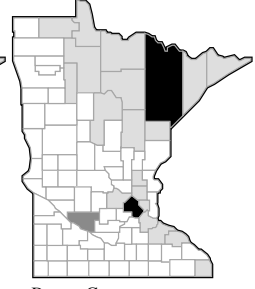
Cedar Waxwing



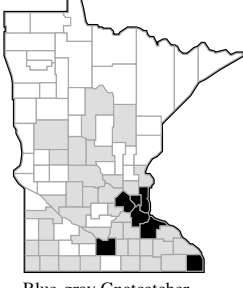
Red-breasted Nuthatch



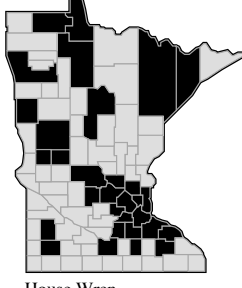
White-breasted Nuthatch



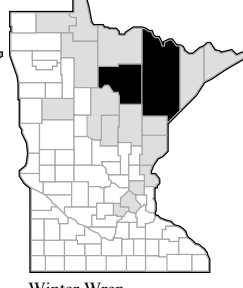
Brown Creeper



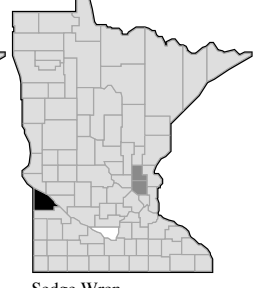
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher



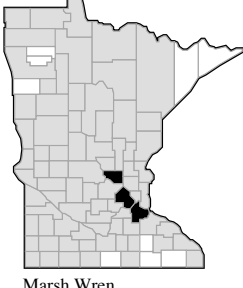
House Wren



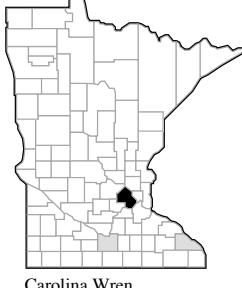
Winter Wren



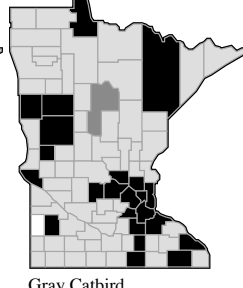
Sedge Wren



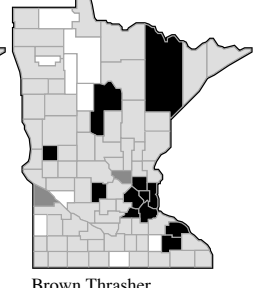
Marsh Wren



Carolina Wren

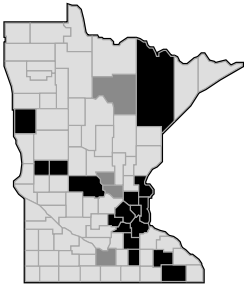


Gray Catbird

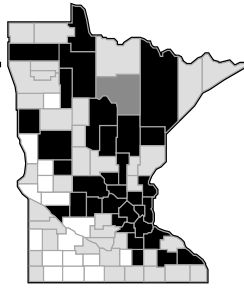


Brown Thrasher

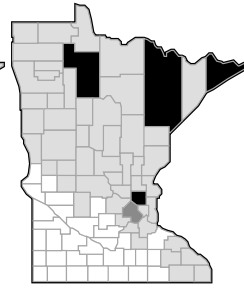
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [12 North, 45 South] Found in every region except North-central. High count 6/5 Pipestone (23, Woodstock W.M.A., East Unit) GWe. Unusual reports of vocalizing birds 6/8–20 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, MLH, PHS, 6/15 St. Louis (Mud Lake) NGi, ALw; the former was at the exact same spot as in 2020.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [33 North, 42 South] Found throughout state. High counts 7/3 Lake of the Woods (31, Zippe Bay S.P.) DnS, PNi, 6/20 St. Louis (29, F.R. 200) ebd, 6/19 Aitkin (28, Savanna Portage S.P.) DnS.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [31 North, 46 South] Encountered statewide. Nesting documented in no fewer than 24 counties.
- WHITE-EYED VIREO** (*Vireo griseus*) — [1 South] Found 7/10–13 Fillmore (Root River Trail) †EHI, †LHL.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [14 South] Reported from East-central, South-central, Southeast, plus Redwood, Scott, Sherburne.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [30 North, 46 South] Encountered throughout state. High counts 6/1 Scott (11, Cleary Lake R.P.) BxP, 6/17 Goodhue (11, Lake Lylesby) BxP. First county breeding records: 7/13 *Blue Earth* ebd, 7/21 *Olmsted LAV*.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [13 North] Found in all northern regions and Pine. High count 7/25 Lake (5, Superior N.F., Isabella area) ebd.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [12 North, 6 South] Found in all regions except South-central, Southeast. Late south migrant 6/3 Rock GWe.
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county except Faribault. High counts 6/2 Hennepin (12, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) DVe, ALV, 6/5 Beltrami (12, Bemidji, Paul Bunyan Bike Trail) ebd, 6/18 Hennepin (12, Fort Snelling S.P.) ebd.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [34 North, 50 South] Found in all counties except Lincoln, Stevens, Watonwan. High counts 6/17 Aitkin (47, Rice Lake N.W.R.) DnS, Phi, 7/3 St. Louis (45, Bass Lake Trails) ebd.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [2 North, 8 South] Seen in Benton, Clay, Dakota, Lyon, Murray, Olmsted, Polk, Rice, Sherburne, Wabasha.
- Canada Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [8 North] Reported from North-central, Northeast. High count 7/22 Koochiching (7, Pine Island S.F.) NKu, ebd.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. Spring migration extended into early June along the North Shore as usual; high counts 6/4 St. Louis (299, Park Point R.A.) ALw, 6/2 St. Louis (228, Minnesota Point, migration watch site) NGi. First county breeding records: 7/13 *Beltrami* JEc, 8/27 *Isanti* ebd.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [21 North] Encountered in all northern regions plus Otter Tail, Pine. First county breeding record: 6/1 *Cass* MRN.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [32 North, 12 South] Reported from all northern and central regions plus Goodhue.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High count 7/27 Hennepin (35, Eden Prairie) ebd.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [4 North] Found in Cook, Koochiching, Marshall, St. Louis.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [13 South] Encountered in East-central, South-central, Southeast plus Scott. High count 6/28 Fillmore (7, Schueler W.M.A.) ToM.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [22 North, 46 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [29 North, 47 South] Seen statewide. No counts >100.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High count 7/15 Olmsted (300, Viola Twp.) JmP.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [30 North, 46 South] Observed throughout state. High counts 7/17 Winona (50, Quarry Hill Rd.) ebd, 7/18 Dakota (38, Miesville Ravine P.R.) ebd.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [29 North, 46 South] Encountered in every region. High count 7/3–4 Wright (375, includes nestlings, Otsego) ToL.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in all counties. High



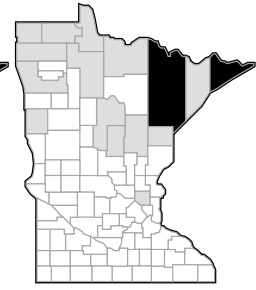
European Starling



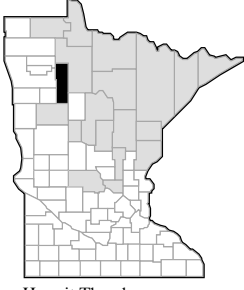
Eastern Bluebird



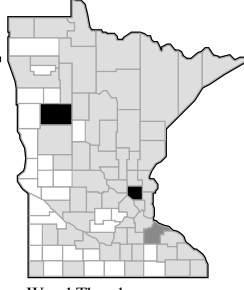
Veery



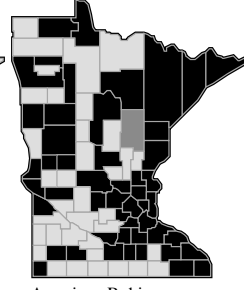
Swainson's Thrush



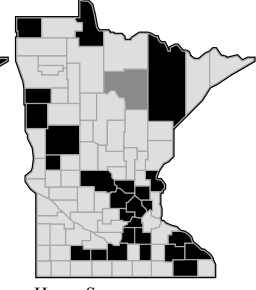
Hermit Thrush



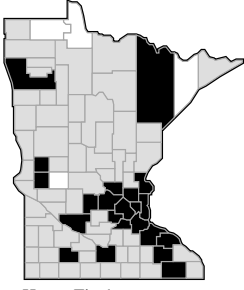
Wood Thrush



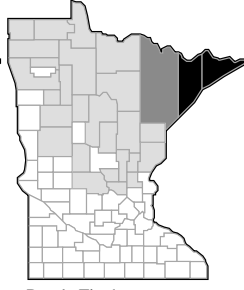
American Robin



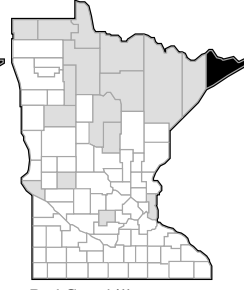
House Sparrow



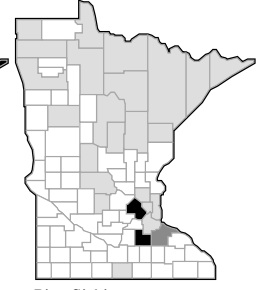
House Finch



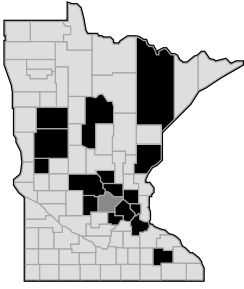
Purple Finch



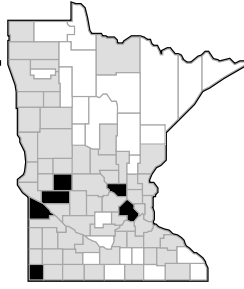
Red Crossbill



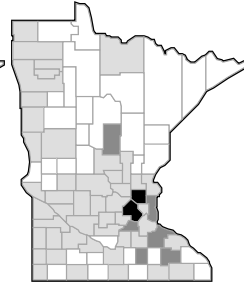
Pine Siskin



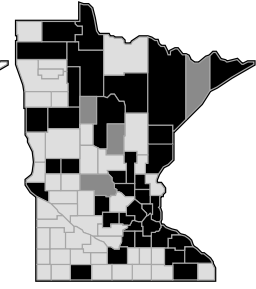
American Goldfinch



Grasshopper Sparrow

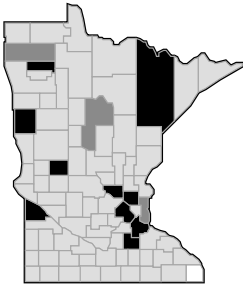


Lark Sparrow

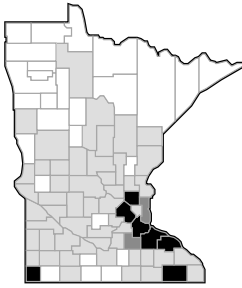


Chipping Sparrow

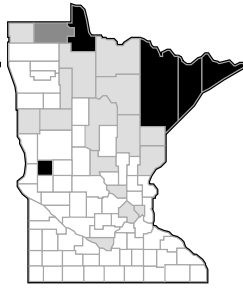
- count 7/25 Grant (135, North Ottawa Impoundment) ChP, ebd.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found in every county except Cook. High counts 6/30 Swift (340, Lac qui Parle Lake, northwest end) ebd, 6/11 Hennepin (300 adults in the air, attending ~600 nests between spandrels 31 and 36 at Fort Snelling S.P.) BBr.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Corthylio calendula*) — [10 North, 3 South] Found in all northern regions plus late spring migrants 6/2 Dakota ebd, 6/2 Ramsey JDv, **6/12** Anoka (Rice Creek West Regional Trail, continuing since 5/22) †CF, JBe. High count 6/25 Cook (8, Superior N.F., Eagle Mountain Trail) ebd.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [11 North] Found in North-central, Northeast, plus Pine. High count 6/3 Cook (8, Gunflint Lodge) BAn.
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [34 North, 53 South] Encountered in all counties. High count 7/24 St. Louis (101, Park Point R.A.) ALw. First county breeding records: 8/15 Freeborn AEB, 7/29 Norman TCL.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [22 North, 14 South] Reported in every region except West-central, South-central. High count 7/3 St. Louis (16, Bass Lake Trails) ebd.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [34 North, 51 South] Found in every county except Pipestone, Watonwan. High count 6/28 Hennepin (13, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ebd.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [12 North, 9 South] Reported in all regions except West-central, Southwest, South-central. Presumed late migrant 6/1 Houston AAZ.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [6 North, 39 South] Encountered in all regions except Northwest, Northeast. High count 6/3 Dakota (11, Lebanon Hills R.P., Jensen Lake Loop) DSh.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High counts 6/28 Ramsey (est. 30, Fort Snelling S.P., Pike Island) LAi, 6/30 Dakota (29, Lebanon Hills R.P.) ebd.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [14 North, 4 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Pine, Chicago, and vocalizing birds 6/7–15 Hennepin (Minneapolis, Bryant Ave) a.t. GrS, 7/21 Anoka (Ramsey) †DPG, 7/31 Carver (Chaska) †ANY. Though some-
- times territorial along the Mississippi River in Southeast, summer records in residential areas of the Twin Cities are most unusual.
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus stellaris*) — [34 North, 52 South] Found in every county except Nicollet. High counts 6/17 Pipestone (42, Winter W.M.A.) GWe, 6/28 Marshall (34, Agassiz N.W.R.) ebd. First county breeding record: 8/18 Lac qui Parle SSP.
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [29 North, 49 South] Encountered throughout state. High count 7/3 Steele (30, Rice Lake S.P., carefully counted while circling entire lake) ebd.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [3 South] All reports: 6/1 Blue Earth (Rasmussen Woods Park) MiO, 6/22–23 Winona (Goodview Rd.) SGz, DSt, 7/7–31 Hennepin (Skyview Rd.) BLW. First county breeding record: 8/12 Hennepin BLW.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county except Lincoln. High counts 7/7 Scott (22, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BxP, 7/3 Anoka (20, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) ebd.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [29 North, 49 South] Found statewide. High count 6/5 Pipestone (11, Woodstock W.M.A., East Unit) GWe.
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [1 North, 1 South] Encountered 6/4 Cook (continuing at Grandview Park, Lutsen) ebd, 6/7 Cook (Naniboujou Lodge) ebd, and 6/18 Dakota (Miesville Ravine Park) ebd.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in all counties. High count 7/28 Dakota (**1,500**, rough estimate at 140th St. Marsh) JBn.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [31 North, 40 South] Found statewide. High count 7/12 Goodhue (18, Frontenac S.P., Prairie Trail) SDz.
- Veery** (*Catharus fuscescens*) — [33 North, 21 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest. High counts 6/17 Aitkin (31, Rice Lake N.W.R.) DnS, PNi, 7/3 Lake of the Woods (29, Zippel Bay S.P.) DnS, PNi.
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catharus ustulatus*) — [15 North, 1 South] Observed in all northern regions plus spring migrant 6/1 Anoka ebd. High counts 7/3 St. Louis (**15**, Bass Lake Trails) ebd, 7/18 Cook (7, Hungry Jack Lodge) ebd.
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) — [17



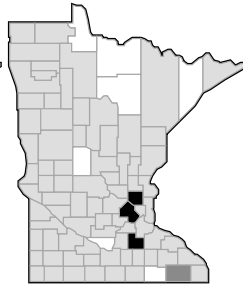
Clay-colored Sparrow



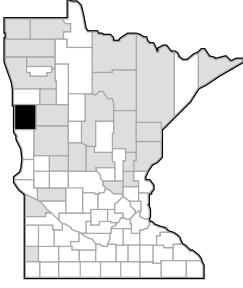
Field Sparrow



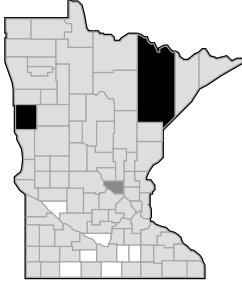
White-throated Sparrow



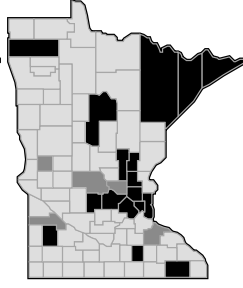
Vesper Sparrow



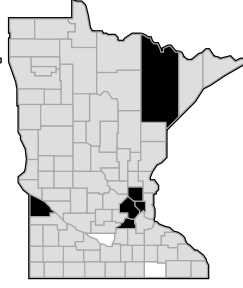
LeConte's Sparrow



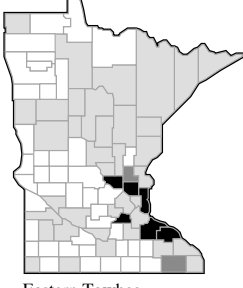
Savannah Sparrow



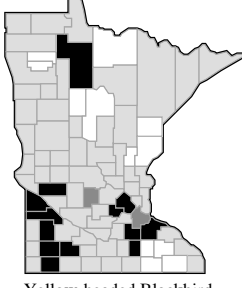
Song Sparrow



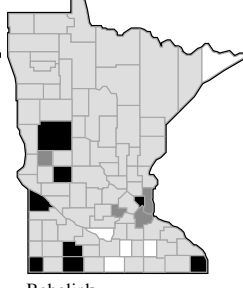
Swamp Sparrow



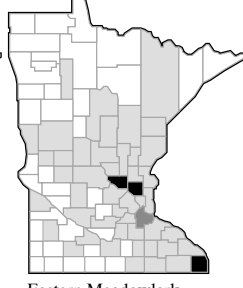
Eastern Towhee



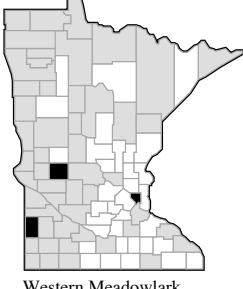
Yellow-headed Blackbird



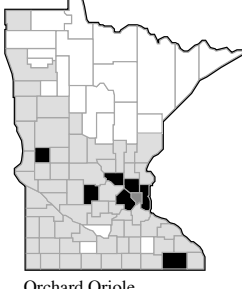
Bobolink



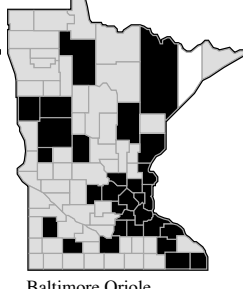
Eastern Meadowlark



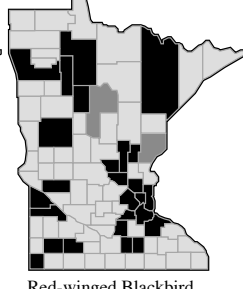
Western Meadowlark



Orchard Oriole

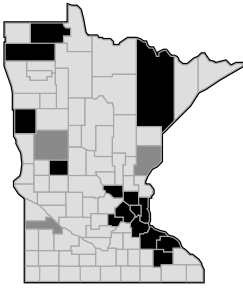


Baltimore Oriole

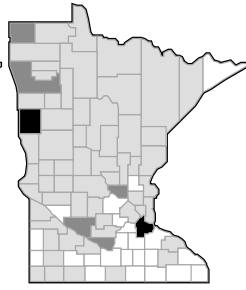


Red-winged Blackbird

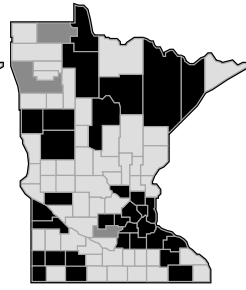
- North, 2 South] Found in all northern regions and Mille Lacs, Pine, Sherburne, Stearns.
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [25 North, 34 South] Encountered throughout state including unusual midsummer reports from Jackson, Lyon, Redwood, and Rock in Southwest. High counts 6/21 Washington (7, William O'Brien S.P.) SLP, 6/27 Wright (7, Stanley Eddy Memorial C.P.) PRH.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 6/18 Lyon (90, Cottonwood) GWe.
- House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Seen in all counties. High count 6/18 Lyon (125, Cottonwood) GWe.
- EURASIAN TREE SPARROW** (*Passer montanus*) — [1 North] Reported 6/5 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) ALw.
- Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [3 North] Reported from Cook, Lake, St. Louis.
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [31 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Lake, Lake of the Woods, Pope, Roseau. First county breeding records: 7/11 *Blue Earth* BSa, 7/14 *Grant* CNn.
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [25 North, 4 South] Encountered in northern half of state plus Benton, Isanti, Sherburne, Stearns. High counts 6/3 Cook (**22**, Gunflint Lodge) BAN, 7/1 St. Louis (**20**, Meadowlands Twp.) IaG.
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [1 North, 1 South] Seen **6/5** Anoka (Blaine, private residence) JkS, **6/12–16** St. Louis (Duluth, private residence) ph. SLd.
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [13 North, 4 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Big Stone, McLeod, Pope, Washington.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [3 North] Found in Beltrami, Cook, St. Louis.
- Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [16 North, 8 South] Encountered in all regions except West-central, Southwest, Southeast.
- American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High counts 6/3 Rock (40, Blue Mounds S.P.) GWe, 6/5 Pipestone (40, Woodstock W.M.A., East Unit) GWe.
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — No reports.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus sava-*
narum) — [19 North, 44 South] Found in all regions except Northeast. High counts 6/5 Pipestone (**25**, Woodstock W.M.A., East Unit) GWe, 6/4 Pipestone (24, Eden W.M.A.) GWe, 6/28 Hennepin (20, Crow-Hassan P.R.) EHO.
- BLACK-THROATED SPARROW** (*Amphispiza bilineata*) — [1 South] Eighth state and first county record: 6/2–5 **Lyon** (Marshall) MOs, ph. †KEM, †EzH, ph. †NMe, ph. †LBa, †PCC, ph. RZi, ph. †LS, m.ob.
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [13 North, 42 South] Reported from every region except Northeast. New county record: 6/16 **Koochiching** (C.R. 32, 1.2 miles S of MN 11) DOK, LMc.
- LARK BUNTING** (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) — [1 South] New county record: 6/13 **Washington** (Lone Oak Trail) RSd, ph. †BAB, †EzH, †LiH, m.ob.
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High count 7/22 St. Louis (28, Stony Point) JLK.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county except Houston. High counts 7/6 Polk (**32**, Central Polk Co.) JHD, SHd, 7/10 Kittson (25, Norway Dunes) BCS.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [14 North, 46 South] Encountered in every region, but only as far north as Beltrami (Bemidji). High counts 6/16 Washington (**30**, Afton S.P.) ebd, 7/6 Hennepin (28, Crow-Hassan Park Reserve) MaS.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [9 North, 1 South] Found in North-central, Northeast plus late spring migrant 6/6 Meeker ph. PKF. High count 6/19 St. Louis (4, Johnson Rd.) ebd.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [1 South] Seen **6/2** Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha Park) WPe.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [17 North, 4 South] Reported from all northern and central regions plus Nicollet. Late spring migrants **6/26** Hennepin †LKT, CMB. Possible early southbound migrant **7/5** Ramsey (downtown St. Paul) a.t. ebd. High count 7/4 Lake (40, Range Lake) JEL.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Poocetes gramineus*) — [29 North, 51 South] Encountered throughout state. First county breeding record: 7/27 *Pipestone* SSP.
- LeConte's Sparrow** (*Ammospiza leconteii*) —



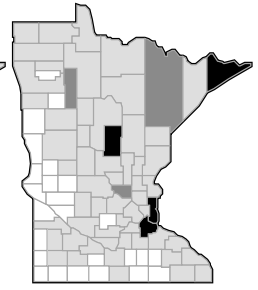
Brown-headed Cowbird



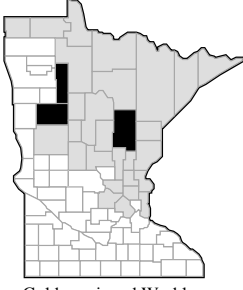
Brewer's Blackbird



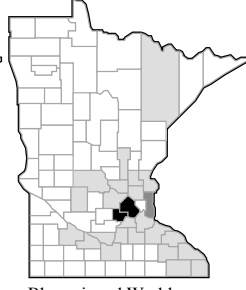
Common Grackle



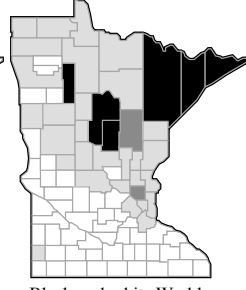
Ovenbird



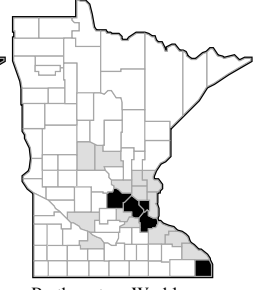
Golden-winged Warbler



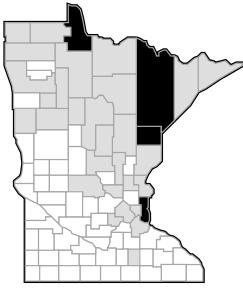
Blue-winged Warbler



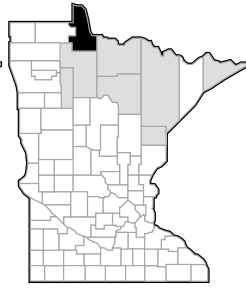
Black-and-white Warbler



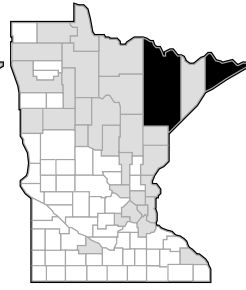
Prothonotary Warbler



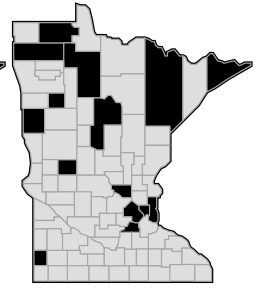
Nashville Warbler



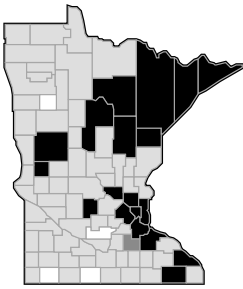
Connecticut Warbler



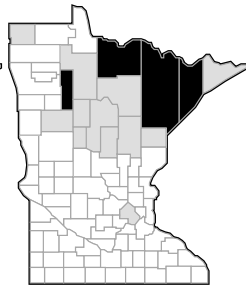
Mourning Warbler



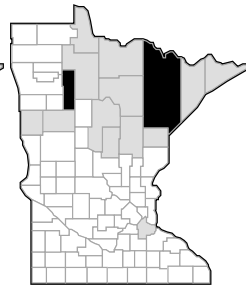
Common Yellowthroat



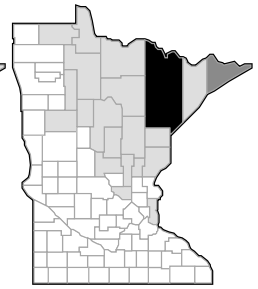
American Redstart



Northern Parula



Magnolia Warbler



Blackburnian Warbler

[21 North, 5 South] Found in all northern and central regions plus 6/4 Pipestone (Eden W.M.A.) †GWe.

Nelson's Sparrow (*Ammospiza nelsoni*) — [5 North] Encountered in Aitkin, Cass, Kittson, Morrison, Polk.

Henslow's Sparrow (*Centronyx henslowii*) — [1 North, 24 South] Encountered in all central and southern regions. Only north report: 7/18 Wilkin (Rothsay W.M.A.) ebd.

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [34 North, 46 South] Reported statewide. High counts 6/4 Pipestone (29, Eden W.M.A.) GWe, 7/8 Kittson (25, conservative estimate, 480th Ave.) BCS.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High counts 7/22 St. Louis (68, Stony Point) JLK, 7/31 St. Louis (57, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.

Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [9 North] Reported from North-central, Northeast. High count 7/22 Koochiching (9, Pine Island S.F.) NKu, ebd.

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [34 North, 51 South] Found in all counties except Mower, Nicollet. High counts 6/25 Anoka (44, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) RCL, 7/4 Marshall (32, Agassiz N.W.R.) DnS, PNi.

ABERT'S TOWHEE (*Melozona aberti*) — [1 North] First state record 6/17 – 7/30+ **Itasca** (2, Grand Rapids) D. Troumbley; ph. SC, ph. †PHS, ph. †LiH, a.t., ph. †JGW, †PCC, ph. †LBa, ph. JJS, m.ob. (**The Loon** 94:174–178).

Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [18 North, 27 South] Reported from all regions. High count 7/9 Sherburne (21, Sherburne N.W.R., Wildlife Drive) RCL.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) — [1 South] Reported 6/18–25 Redwood (Cedar Rock S.N.A.) CHh, a.t. GWe, a.t. EHi, m.ob.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [26 North, 49 South] Found in all regions. High count 7/17 Yellow Medicine (250, Spellman Lake) GWe. First county breeding record: 7/21 Nobles JtM.

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [33 North, 49 South] Reported from every county except Cook, Dodge, Faribault, Nicollet, Waseca. High counts 6/17 Pipestone (105, Winter W.M.A.) GWe, 6/4 Pipestone (45, Eden W.M.A.) GWe, 6/5 Rock (44, Touch the Sky Prairie) ebd. First county breeding record:



Immature Veery, 1 July 2022, Washington County. Photo by Tara Plum.

8/11 Cottonwood KEm.

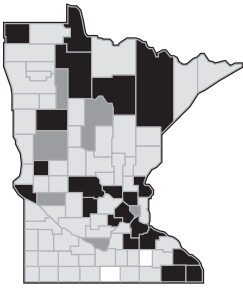
Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) — [15 North, 34 South] Reported from all regions except Northwest. High counts 7/6 Hennepin (20, Crow-Hassan P.R.) MaS, 6/16 Washington (15, Afton S.P.) ebd.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [24 North, 29 South] Found in every region. Unusual report 6/4 Cook (Lutsen) ebd. High counts 6/23 Wilkin (17, Rothsay W.M.A.) ebd, 6/22 Clay (15, Felton Prairie) ebd, 7/8 Rock (13, Touch the Sky Prairie) ebd.

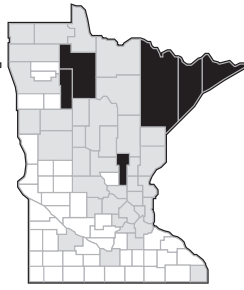
Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) — [16 North, 50 South] Encountered Northwest and in all central and southern regions, plus Wadena. High counts 6/18 Lyon (13, Cottonwood) GWe, 6/3 Rock (11, Blue Mounds S.P.) GWe.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found in all counties except Lake. High count 6/16 Morrison (22, Crane Meadows N.W.R.) CsB.

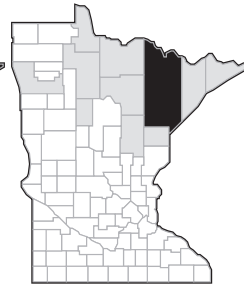
Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 7/24 Washington (800, Otisville; "Persistent appearance of small flocks well upstream over large grassy border where the river forks come together; flocks



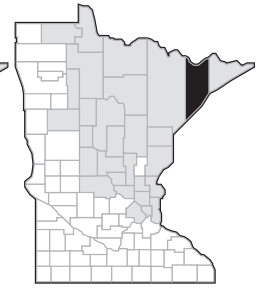
Yellow Warbler



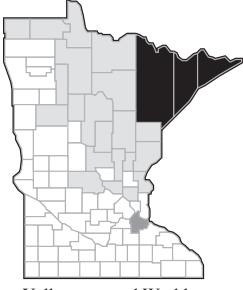
Chestnut-sided Warbler



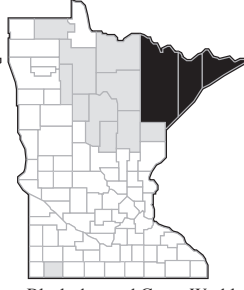
Palm Warbler



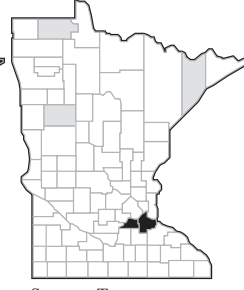
Pine Warbler



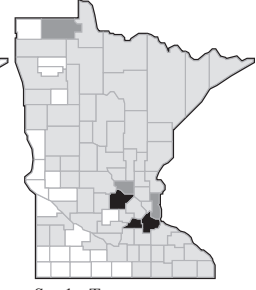
Yellow-rumped Warbler



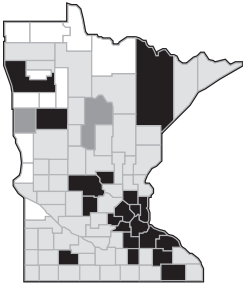
Black-throated Green Warbler



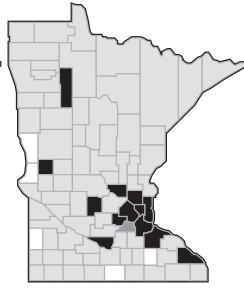
Summer Tanager



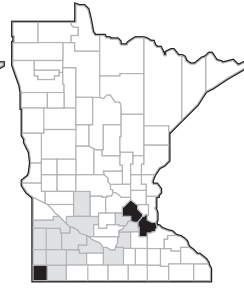
Scarlet Tanager



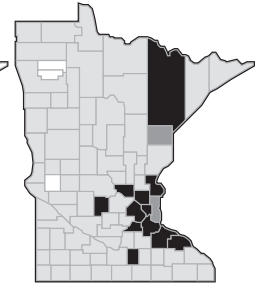
Northern Cardinal



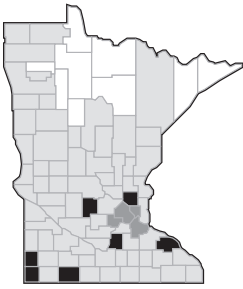
Rose-breasted Grosbeak



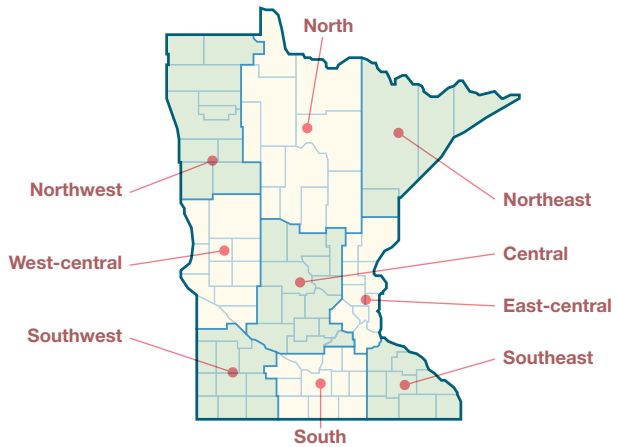
Blue Grosbeak



Indigo Bunting



Dickcissel



then flying as loose assemblages downstream, passing directly over our section of the river, and disappearing well south still over the river. Presumably these birds are already migrating!! Groups numbered 5 to >100, with a remarkably consistent modal size of about 35.)” JoF.

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High counts 7/23 Anoka (80, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) ebd, 6/17 Pipestone (55, Winter W.M.A.) GWe. Parasitized species included Red-eyed Vireo, Veery, American Robin, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Orchard Oriole, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, Northern Cardinal.

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) — No reports.

Brewer’s Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [33 North, 31 South] Observed in all regions. High counts 6/25 Wilkin (58, Rothsay W.M.A.) MZa, 7/31 Roseau (40, MN 89) ebd.

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county. High count 7/7 Olmsted (300, conservative estimate, C.R. 9 Marsh) ebd.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [1 South] Observed 6/3 Murray (MN 91, Chandler) GWe.

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [28 North, 34 South] Encountered statewide. High counts 6/17 Aitkin (49, Rice Lake N.W.R.) DnS, PNi, 6/17 Cass (36, Deep Portage Learning Center) TWe, 6/22 St. Louis (36, Fox Farm Rd.) MLH.

Louisiana Waterthrush (*Parquesia motacilla*) — [5 South] Found in Blue Earth, Chisago, Olmsted, Washington, Winona.

Northern Waterthrush (*Parquesia noveboracensis*) — [15 North, 4 South] Reported from all northern regions and East-central. High count 7/4 Lake (10, Range Lake) JEL.

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [23 North, 7 South] Reported from all northern and central regions. High counts 6/14 Crow Wing (27, Old Grade Road) TWe, 6/17 Aitkin (12, Rice Lake N.W.R.) DnS, PNi, 6/4 Becker (11, Tamarac N.W.R.) ebd.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [2 North, 24 South] Found in all regions except Northwest, North-central, West-central. High counts 6/10 Carver (19, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic/Rec. Area) JCy, 6/5 Da-



Yellow-throated Warbler, 2 June 2022, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H . Svingen.

kota (15, Ritter Farm Park) TPU et al., 6/5 Washington (12, William O’Brien S.P.) ebd.

Golden-winged Warbler X Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera* X *V. cyanoptera*) — [1 North, 3 South] All south 6/4 Wright (“Brewster’s” singing Golden-winged song, Stanley Eddy Memorial Park) Dck, 6/8 Washington (Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area) ebd, 6/26 Dakota (“Brewster’s”) DFN. Extraordinary north report 7/22 St. Louis (2, Stony Point; “Brewster’s” seen following a Golden-winged female and a Blue-winged male along Alseth Rd.) †JLK.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) — [27 North, 10 South] Encountered in all northern and central regions plus 6/5 Pipestone (2) GWe. High counts 6/14 Crow Wing (19, Old Grade Road) TWe, 6/17 Aitkin (17, Rice Lake N.W.R.) DnS, PNi.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [2 North, 17 South] Reported from Central, East-central, South-central, Southeast regions. First county breeding record: 7/10 Wright RSk.

Tennessee Warbler (*Leiothlypis peregrina*) — [12 North, 15 South] Found in scattered locations statewide. Late south migrants 6/9 Steele PSu, 6/11 Scott CF., 6/4–14 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha Park, a.t. on 6/12) BAF, 6/17

- Washington †KTP. Fall migrants: early north (away from known breeding locations) 7/17 St. Louis (Stony Point) JLK, 7/21–22 (Stony Point) ALw, JLK; early south 7/23 Carver JCy, 7/23–24 Freeborn ebd.
- Nashville Warbler** (*Leioblyptis ruficapilla*) — [23 North, 10 South] Encountered in all regions except West-central, Southwest, Southeast. High count 6/11 St. Louis (40, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd. Early fall migrant 7/13 Steele PSu. First county breeding record: 7/9 *Washington* MZA.
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [8 North] Found in Beltrami, Carlton, Clearwater, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. First county breeding record: 6/23 *Lake of the Woods* (nest with 4 young in Sphagnum hummock along abandoned trail) MRN.
- Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [21 North, 10 South] Encountered in every region except West-central, Southwest. Late spring migrants 6/1 Brown BTS, 6/2 Winona SHo. High count 6/3 Cook (12, Gunflint Lodge) BAN.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county. High counts 7/4 Marshall (89, Agassiz N.W.R.) DnS, PNi, 6/17 Aitkin (67, Rice Lake N.W.R.) DnS, PNi.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [5 South] Found in Dakota, Hennepin, 6/25 – 7/7 **Isanti** (Wayside Prairie Park, Poor Fen) †JGW, m.ob., Scott, Washington.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [33 North, 50 South] Reported from every county except Mahnomen, Martin, McLeod, Nobles. High count 7/3 Lake of the Woods (46, Zippel Bay S.P.) DnS, PNi.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [8 North, 1 South] Encountered in North-central, Northeast plus late migrant **6/5** Pipestone (female, Pheasant Terrace State W.M.A.) †GWe.
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [13 South] Found in Central, East-central, South-central, Southeast. High count 6/4 Wright (8, Stanley Eddy Memorial Park) RSK.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [15 North, 1 South] Encountered in all northern regions plus Hennepin. High counts 7/3 St. Louis (11, Bass Lake Trails) ebd, 6/18 Itasca (9, Scenic S.P.) DnS, PNi. First county breeding record: 7/28 *Koochiching* ebd.
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [14 North, 1 South] Found in North-central, Northeast plus Becker, Clay, Dakota. High count 7/23 Cook (20, all or most of these fall migrants at Sugarloaf Point S.N.A.) ebd.
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [4 North] Reported from Cook, 6/5 Kittson (wandering migrant at Lake Bronson S.P.) SAu, Koochiching, St. Louis.
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [19 North, 2 South] Encountered in all northern regions and Central, East-central. Interesting report of a singing bird south of its normal range 6/1 – 7/3 Washington (Crystal Spring S.N.A.) TAR, m.ob. High counts 7/3 St. Louis (18, Bass Lake Trails) ebd, 7/2 Lake (13, Superior N.F., Snowbank Lake Rd.) ebd.
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [34 North, 51 South] Reported from all counties except Dodge, Faribault. High counts 6/17 Aitkin (48, Rice Lake N.W.R.) DnS, PNi, 7/1 St. Louis (42, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [26 North, 17 South] Encountered in all regions. Late south migrants 6/2, 6/4 Houston (Reno) AAz, EHi, TWe, 6/3 Redwood DRL, 6/10 Blue Earth (Mankato) ChH. High counts 6/14 Crow Wing (36 singing males, Old Grade Road) EHi, 6/17 Cass (27, Migizi Trail) SHd, JHd.
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [2 North, 5 South] Extraordinary report of vocalizing male seen and/or heard on 11 dates **6/8 – 6/23** Fillmore (Schueler W.M.A.) ph. †ToM. Initially found in a stand of oak trees, it moved into a nearby stand of mixed oak, spruce, pine, and walnut in mid-June, then primarily foraged in oak or walnut trees the rest of its stay. Kudos to Todd Mitchell for intensive follow-up! All other reports this season were spring migrants on or before 6/4 in Anoka, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Marshall, St. Louis, Sherburne.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caeruleascens*) — [6 North] Found in Cook, 6/12 Hubbard ebd, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis.
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [11 North] Encountered in all northern regions. High count 6/27 Beltrami (8, Big Bog State R.A.) ebd.
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [20 North,

9 South] Found in all northern regions and Central, East-central. High counts 6/17 Cass (14, Migizi Trail) SHd, JHd, 7/2 Cass (9, Chipewewa N.F., Cass Lake area) DnS, PNI.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) — [20 North, 4 South] Reported from all northern regions, Central, East-central. High counts 6/3 Cook (16, Gunflint Lodge) BAN, 6/2 Cook (13, Oberg Mountain) KMa.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Setophaga dominica*) — [1 North, 1 South] Reported 6/2 St. Louis (Park Point) ph. †AdP, ph. TaP, ph., a.t. †PHS, ebd. Continuing from spring through 6/18 Houston (Hillside Rd., Reno) m.ob.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga vi-rens*) — [13 North, 1 South] Encountered in all northern regions plus late migrant 6/2 Nobles ebd. High counts 6/16 Lake (20, Superior N.F., Spruce Rd.) EHI, 7/3 St. Louis (16, Bass Lake Trails) ebd.

Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [11 North, 2 South] Reported within normal breeding range in North-central and North-east, plus Roseau. Late spring migrants 6/3 Brown SLH, 6/9 Ramsey TAN. High counts 7/4 Lake (10, Range Lake) JEL, 7/2 Lake (9, Superior N.F., Snowbank Lake Rd.) ebd.

Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [8 North, 2 South] Found in North-central, Northeast plus Clay. Late south migrants 6/2 Olmsted JPr, 6/5 Pipestone GWe.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) — [3 North, 1 South] All reports: 6/1–2 Roseau (Warroad) ph. BSI, 6/3 Lake (Secret Cove) ph. ABm, 6/10 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) TAT, 6/16 – 7/17 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R.) †NHc, 7/24–31+ Scott (2, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) RBW,

BLZ, TWe. First county breeding record: 8/7 Scott GWe.

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) — [28 North, 38 South] Encountered in all regions. High count 6/9 Scott (12, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BxP.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) — [1 North] Continuing from spring 6/1–2 Lake (male, Silver Bay) ABm, ph. JLB.

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [24 North, 52 South] Found throughout state. High count 6/25 Hennepin (32, Hyland Lake P.R.) ebd. First county breeding record: 7/1 Benton DOR.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovi-cianus*) — [32 North, 50 South] Reported from every county except Dodge, Faribault, Lincoln, Traverse, Wilkin. High counts 6/2 St. Louis (12, Meadowlands Twp.) IaG, 6/7 Washington (12, Lake Elmo R.P.) BDO.

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) — [18 South] Encountered in Central, East-central, Southwest, South-central. New county record: 7/17–24 **Carver** (Dahlgren Rd. gravel pits) TWe, m.ob.

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) — [32 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Pennington, Red Lake, Stevens. High counts 6/25 Dakota (20, Pine Bend Bluffs S.N.A.) MaS, 6/28 Ramsey (20, Fort Snelling S.P.) JHv, 6/10 Carver (18, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic/Rec. Area) JCY.

Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) — [25 North, 53 South] Reported from all regions. High counts 6/3 Rock (45, Blue Mounds S.P.) GWe, 7/9 Rock (45, Touch the Sky Prairie) ebd, LKt. First county breeding record: 7/27 Pipestone SSP.

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The 2022 Summer Season

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DOK	Don O. Kienholz	KTP	Kyle Te Poel	SES	Steven E. Schon
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DPG	Dan and Pam Guynn	LAV	Lance A. Vrieze	SGW	Steve G. Wilson
DRL	Demelza Larson	LBa	Lon Baumgardt	SGz	Stephanie Guzman
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ebd	eBird	LKt	Lisa Keitel	SLH	Sharon Holzer
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HTo	Hannah Toutonghi	MRN	Michael R. North	TOm	Todd Mitchell
IaG	Ian Galeski	MtS	Matthew Scott	TPp	Tim Popp
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JBe	Joe Beck	MWS	Michael W. Sack	TPW	Terry Wiens
JBn	Jonah Brian	MZa	Mathew Zappa	TWe	Trey Weaver
JBs	Jean Brislance	NaH	Nancy Henke	VKI	Valerie Klumper
JBu	James Buckingham	NAN	Natalie Anderson	VRL	Vai R. Landwehr
JCC	Joel C. Claus	NGi	Neil Gilbert	WAF	Wayne Feder
JCJ	Judy Johnson	NHe	Noah Hensley	WCM	William C. Marengo
JCy	John Cyrus	NiR	Nick Rosen	WPe	Wendy Pepin
JDv	Joshua Davis	NKu	Noah Kuck	WPI	Wayne Perala
JEc	Joanna Eckles	NMe	Nolan Meyer	WPo	Walt Popp
JEl	Jesse Ellis	PAI	Pam Albin		
JGw	Josh Watson	PCC	Philip C. Chu		
JHd	Jim Hengeveld	PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher		
JHe	Jason Hedlund	PHS	Peder H. Svingen	C.P.	County Park
JHv	James Hovey	PJB	Paul J. Binek	C.R.	County Road
JJS	Jeff J. Stephenson	PKF	Paul and Koni Fank	F.R.	Forest Road
JkS	Jack Sweno	PLJ	Paul L. Johnson	N.C.	Nature Center
JKu	Jocelyn Kuo	PNI	Peter Nichols	N.F.	National Forest
JLa	John Lawrey	PPe	Patrick Peters	N.M.	National Monument
JIB	Jill Beim	PRH	Pete Hoeger	N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
JLK	Larry and Jan Kraemer	PSu	Paul Suchanek	P.R.	Park Reserve
JMJ	Jeanie M. Joppru	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	R.A.	Recreation Area
JmP	Jim Peterson	RBW	Bob Williams	R.P.	Regional Park
JMS	Janet Majerus	RCI	Richard Clearman	S.F.	State Forest
JoF	John Fitzpatrick	REn	Becca Engdahl	S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
JPE	John P. Ellis	RJS	Roger Jay Schroeder	S.P.	State Park
JPr	Jerry Pruet	RJW	Robert Watson	Twp.	Township
JrG	Jerisa Grulke	RLF	Robert L. Freeman	W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
JSc	John Schladweiler	RMa	Rene Martin	W.P.	Wilderness Park
JSz	Joel Schwartz	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Production Area
JtM	Janet Malotky	RSA	Renner S. Anderson	W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

Abbreviations

C.P.	County Park
C.R.	County Road
F.R.	Forest Road
N.C.	Nature Center
N.F.	National Forest
N.M.	National Monument
N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
P.R.	Park Reserve
R.A.	Recreation Area
R.P.	Regional Park
S.F.	State Forest
S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
S.P.	State Park
Twp.	Township
W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
W.P.	Wilderness Park
W.P.A.	Waterfowl Production Area
W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

A Previously Undescribed Distraction Display of the Common Nighthawk

Anthony X. Hertzell

During a 28 May 2022 nesting bird survey with Thomas Hertzell, I flushed an adult female Common Nighthawk off a clutch of two eggs near Redwood Falls, Redwood County. The nest was on the ground in a railroad grade right-of-way atop a packed substrate of dirt and gravel and situated among sticks, pebbles, and a few small green plants (primarily common purslane). The retreating bird flopped to a rough landing about twenty feet to my right on to a paved pull-off of packed gravel, sand, and asphalt. She softly grunted once, holding her wings well out from her body at the shoulder but angling in tightly over the tail in an obvious display (Figure 1, photo 1).

I made no move toward her or the nest, but raised my camera to get some photos. As I did this, she turned her head toward me and stared for a moment while pulling in her wings to a more natural position. She then straightened and began to walk backwards in my general direction while circling slightly to her left — photo 2 of Figure 1 illustrates the approximate midpoint of this maneuver. After traveling about eighteen inches, she stopped with her body aligned perpendicular to mine (Figure 2, photo 1). Here she paused for several seconds before opening her bill very wide and hissing at me. She then turned away to begin walking backwards again, hissing once more as she did this (Figure 2, photos 2–6). After half a foot or so, she stopped and defecated. With only a brief pause, she began walking forward, but after reaching her approximate original location, continued on for another two feet before settling down to silently stare at me. I took one step in her direction, which caused her to rise up and begin walking away from me in the same direction (and also away from the nest). Accelerating over several steps, she began to run, covering a measured distance of 16 feet before taking flight, ending the display.

Many birds perform some version of a distraction display, and over the years I have witnessed these actions from a wide variety of

species, including shorebirds, cranes, flycatchers, sparrows, and even wrens. The nightjars are particularly well-known for such behaviors and I have witnessed their performances on many occasions, but I have never encountered something like this.

I was able to find a few anecdotal reports of captive, health-compromised gallinaceous birds which exhibited somewhat similar behaviors, but found no formal description in the ornithological literature. Gramza (1967) delineated six types of nighthawk “diversionary behaviors,” but none involved walking backwards. Among other sources I checked, neither Brigham et. al (2020), Tompkins (1942), Bent (1940), Bendire (1895), or other authors described this behavior.

I contacted Dr. Elly Knight, a Statistical Ecologist who studies nighthawks at the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute and asked for her thoughts. She replied that she has “spent hundreds of hours watching nighthawks and have checked dozens and dozens of nests and have never seen such a display” (Knight, pers. comm.). Similarly, Dr. R. Mark Brigham in the Department of Biology at the University of Regina and who specializes in nightjars concurred, writing “I have never seen it” (pers. comm.).

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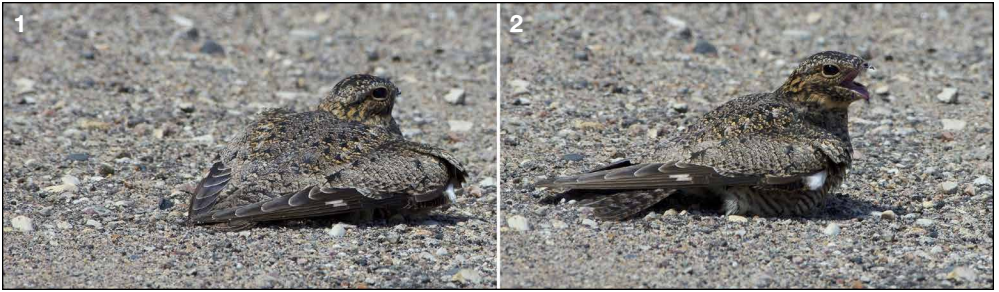


Figure 1. Common Nighthawk, 28 May 2022. Redwood Falls, Redwood County. See text.



Figure 2. Six key images from a sixteen-frame sequence showing a Common Nighthawk walking backwards, 28 May 2022. Redwood Falls, Redwood County.

Auk 84:72–86.
Tomkins, Ivan R. 1942. The “injury-feigning” behavior of the Florida Nighthawk. *The Wilson*

Bulletin 54:43–49.
Mounds View, MN.



The Owl in the Attic

Minnesota's Residents

George H. Selover

Abridged and reprinted from Selover, George H. 1886.
Minnesota's Residents. *The Sunny South Oologist* 1(3):32-35.

Editor's Note: The number of errors in this old, abridged note is surprising. Of the nine species mentioned and said here to nest in Minnesota, only four are actually known to do so. Don't believe everything you read. — AXH

From the title, the contents of this sketch may ill be told. But, as all of my readers who are interested in Ornithology know, this term is applied to those birds which remain in any particular locality the year round. Almost all of our birds migrate to some extent and thus the species which are entirely resident are limited somewhat in number. They are chiefly different kinds of Owls, Woodpeckers and Grouse, although some I notice is also taken of various other species.

Though comparatively few, they afford plenty of material for close and profitable study; this may easily be done since they are always within reach and do not seek Southern homes in winter as do the other birds.

The largest among them is the White or Snowy Owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*), a beautiful bird at any age, but especially so when in its first soft, white down. In the south-eastern portion of the State, the bird is very rare, while in the western and northern parts it is quite common. One was shot here (on the Miss. River) on Nov. 17, 1885, and was the first seen since 1882; this bird was an adult male in full plumage, measuring about twenty-five inches in length and fifty-eight inches in extent.

This species, unlike most of the Owls, builds its nest on the ground in an open prairie; it is a large heap of sticks, straw, grass, etc., and is used for several years if the birds are undisturbed. It is generally placed in a natural hollow in the ground, surrounded by a dense growth of grass. In this, during the month of March, are deposited the set of from three to five eggs. These are nearly pure white, and measure somewhat less than the egg of the

Great-horned owl. This bird is not very sociable, as regards either man or those of its own kind, for in winter it is generally found away from its mate, and hardly ever near the habitations of man. But it is very fierce, and proves to be no mean antagonist even for a man to deal with.

The Great-horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) is next in size and importance, and is very much more common than the foregoing species. This bird is not found except in limited numbers in the western portions of the State, but prefers the wooded regions of the north. It has less fear of man than any other owl, and on some occasions is quite sociable. Many a farmer's son has watched early and late for the stranger who was nightly reducing the number of his chickens. And from this same cause a great many owls come to an untimely end. Living together for several years, winter and summer alike, they begin to build their nest and lay their eggs in the month of March, and by the first of April the young are generally hatched. The eggs are two, three, or rarely, four in number, nearly round, measuring about 2.35 by 2.05 inches; the color is a dirty or creamy white, unspotted. The nest is usually one used the year before by a pair of Red-tailed Hawks, or other large birds; seldom of its own construction. The young are able to fly by the first of June.

The Barred Owl (*strix nebulosa*) is a somewhat smaller bird, and is much less common, if indeed it is not to be called rare. Its habits are about the same as those of the Great-horned Owl, except that the former is much more solitary. The eggs are about the same, only a little smaller, and pure white in color. They are placed in almost any kind of a nest or hole, in

a tree or rock that will hold them. The nesting season is a few weeks after that of the preceding species.

The Great Northern Shrike (*Lanius borealis*) is another of our residents, coming early in December to the southern countries, in very small numbers. It returns about the middle of March to breed in the northern part of the State. It is considerably larger than the White-rumped Shrike or "Butcher-bird," and has a broad band of black extending from the base of the bill around the back of the head. Its habits are about the same as those of the other shrikes, and is, even more than them, addicted to the practice of killing small birds. One of its chief articles of food in winter is the little American Goldfinch.

The Northern Waxwing (*Ampelis garrulus*) probably nests in the northern portions of this State, visiting the southern parts in winter and early spring. These birds are a trifle larger, and in all other ways closely resembles the common Waxwing or Cedar-bird. They assemble in flocks late in the fall, and roam about the lower counties during the winter in considerable numbers. On arriving at a suitable locality, a flock of about thirty take up their abode there for a few months, wandering quite a distance in day-time in search of food, but always returning at nightfall to the same roosting place, if they are undisturbed. The chief sound seems to be a few chips and those are only varied by their cries of alarm.

This year very few were seen in this locality until the middle of January, when they became quite common. About the 10th of March they left in a body to nest in early spring in our northern countries. The eggs are almost exactly the same as those of the Cedar bird, and are three, four or five in number.

In company with this species, the Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) comes in the role of a winter visitor, but it undoubtedly breeds in the northern parts of the State. Its stay is comparatively short here, for, coming in the latter part of December, it returns before January is spent. This bird is the most beautiful of all the species found in winter; the anterior half of the body is yellowish olive; wings, crown, upper tail, coverts and tail, black; most of other parts yellow; there is some white on the wings and back, making altogether an odd-looking, but beautiful bird. The female is

somewhat lighter and the back is a dark brown. These birds are not so numerous as the Waxwings and go in flocks of about the same size. They are found in old fields, picking the seeds from the blue maples and from various weeds. When one of a flock is killed, the remainder fly around and will not leave the place, and in this way the whole flock is easily taken. The males are few compared with females, being about one-third the number. They are very tame and easily approached.

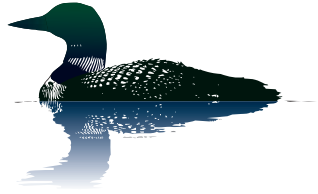
With these the Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*), a smaller bird is often seen. They are very few in number, travelling in pairs and in three and fours. In habits they are similar to the Grosbeaks and nest in the same latitude.

The Common Redpole (*Aegiothbus linaria*) arrives here early in December and remains until February. Flocks of about twenty-five are often seen in the trees about old farm houses. This bird breeds early in the spring and deposits three, four, or sometimes five eggs about the first of May. The eggs are a light blue, marked irregularly about the larger end with black.

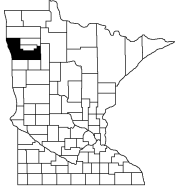
One of the best known as well as one of the commonest residents of this State is the American Goldfinch (*Astrogalinus tristis*). This little bird is called by quite a variety of names; in almost every part of the state it is called "Wild Canary," and in many sections it is known, especially to the egg-collector as "Thistle-bird," "Yellow-bird," etc. Who would think that the little brown twittering birds he sees picking seeds and grain out of the snow were the ones, brilliant with bright yellow and black, singing so merrily among the green leaves of summer? But it is true, though the color and habits change, they will return with the warm summer sun and these birds will be as bright and joyous as before. It is one of our latest, if not *the* latest bird to breed in the state, never beginning to nest until July and often some especially tardy ones will be found building their nests early in August. This nest is made principally of soft fine thistle down and is about three inches by two. Generally this structure is placed three or four feet from the ground in a thistle or small bush. The eggs are from four to seven in number more often five; they are unspotted, of a beautiful light blue tint after being blown. Before this the yolk gives the shell the appearance of being pink.

Lake City, Minn.

Notes of Interest



PAINTED BUNTING (*PASSERINA CIRIS*) IN NORTHWESTERN POLK COUNTY — I was



watching birds at the Agassiz Audubon Center feeders on 22 November 2022 — the morning after the first significant snow of the fall season. The feeders had been busy all week with White-throated Sparrows

and Dark-eyed Juncos. But that morning, I spotted another bird with them. It was small, green, and finch-like. It had white eye-crescents and no wing-bars. And it was yellowish underneath. Side-by-side, the green bird was slightly smaller than the sparrows and juncos.

I grabbed my camera, took a photo and ran the image through the Merlin *Bird ID* app which suggested two species: Painted Bunting and Connecticut Warbler. I ruled out the warbler because the bird did not have a thin “warbler” bill, and it was feeding on millet and cracked corn.



Painted Bunting, 22 November 2022, Warren, Marshall County. Photo by Heidi Hughes.

I watched the bird for about an hour before it flew off and did not return.

According to *The Birds of North America* (Lowther et al. 2020), Painted Buntings have two geographically disjunct breeding populations: the western — Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana which winters in Mexico and Central America; and the eastern which is limited to coastal portions of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and northern Florida and winters in the Florida peninsula, the Keys, the Bahamas, and Cuba.

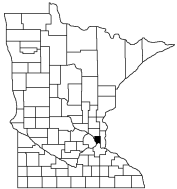
According to Janssen (2019), there have been 25 records of Painted Bunting in Minnesota since 1965, but only 4 in the fall season. This is the first sighting in Polk County.

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— **Heidi Hughes, Warren MN.**

PRAIRIE WARBLER IN RAMSEY COUNTY — I regularly bird in Silverwood Park, a Three



Rivers Park on the shores of Silver Lake in St. Anthony and near the junction of Hennepin, Ramsey, and Anoka counties. In this park, the path along the north shore of the lake near the picnic area is a great place to find warblers in the springtime, and on the afternoon of 17 May 2023, I was enjoying the expected variety of warblers — Palm, Yellow-rumped, Black-and-white, Yellow, and even a Blackpoll and a Magnolia. Around 3:45 P.M., I noticed a different warbler that wasn't one of the expected variety. I initially noted a solid yellow



Prairie Warbler, 18 May 2023, St. Anthony, Ramsey County. Photo by Jennifer L. Miller.



Prairie Warbler, 18 May 2023, St. Anthony, Ramsey County. Photo by Tate Putman.

breast with black streaked sides and distinctive black and yellow face pattern. After watching the bird for a few minutes, I looked up possibilities in my *Sibley* field guide and came to the conclusion that this was a Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*) that was outside its usual range.

I then re-found the bird and confirmed details that made me more confident in my identification. The bird was about the size of the Yellow Warblers near it, with a bright yellow face, throat, and belly, olive wings, and black marks on the face and along the sides. The black face markings, which initially caught my attention, were three distinct lines: one through the eye, one curved below, and one at the neck. The bird's distinct facial lines, rather than dark eye mask, helped me rule out Magnolia Warbler, and its bright, plain yellow throat without marks eliminated other possibilities like Cape May, Yellow-rumped ("Audubon's"), and Magnolia warblers. It had a yellow belly, which eliminated a Blackburnian Warbler and the Yellow-throated Warbler. I was also able to observe two rows of dark black streaking along the sides, which, together with the black face lines, eliminated Yellow Warbler. It did not have a red cap on its head, which eliminated Palm Warbler. I saw both Yellow Warblers and Palm Warblers in the same tree, which also helped rule out these species, as this bird was distinctly different. I saw the bird mostly from below, so I wasn't able to see the rufous patch on the back, but this viewpoint from below did give me a very clear view of the solid yellow throat and belly. The three distinct eye lines (rather than a mask), the yellow throat and belly without black markings, and the black streaking along the sides (rather than red) together led me to the ID of Prairie Warbler.

Initially, I was unable to provide confirmation, as the bird was not vocalizing, and I didn't have a camera. I returned the following morning with a camera, and together with fellow birder Liz Richards, found the bird yet again in the same area along the path by the lake. I was able to get a few photos that were clear enough for positive identification.

This was the first sighting of a Prairie Warbler in Ramsey County. Prairie Warblers have previously been seen in the metro area in Hennepin, Dakota, and Anoka counties. Prior to this, the last time a Prairie Warbler was recorded in Minnesota was 6–28 June 2020 in Houston County (Kessen and Svingen, 2021, pp 38).

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— Jennifer L. Miller, New Brighton, MN

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The purpose of the MOU is the promotion of a broad program of conservation and natural history study, primarily in the field of ornithology.

To achieve this objective, the Union urges and promotes interest in field studies and observation of birds by individual members and affiliated bird clubs. We publish a quarterly journal, *The Loon*, and a newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*; we conduct



field trips; we encourage and sponsor the preservation of natural areas; and we hold seminars where research reports, unusual observations, and conservation discussions are presented.

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Agassiz N.W.R. Shorebirds Status and Occurrence

Peder H. Svingen and Jeanie M. Joppru

Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge in northwestern Minnesota was established in part “to protect waterfowl, upland game birds, and shorebirds” (Barrett 1947). The refuge is considered to be one of Minnesota’s premier birding destinations, with a staggering array of rarities recorded over the years.

Agassiz is well-known for its abundance of waterfowl, its historical colony of Franklin’s Gulls, and highly sought-after species such as Short-eared Owl, Yellow Rail, and LeConte’s and Nelson’s sparrows. Its diversity ranges from bears and wolves to rails and frogs. Scientific research and educational activities are encouraged and strongly supported. The refuge has also been designated an Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy. In spite of all this, the status of migrant shorebirds at Agassiz remains poorly understood. Carlsen and Harris (1955) listed 27 species of shorebirds. Since that time, 8 species have been added (Black-necked Stilt, Piping Plover, Snowy Plover, Whimbrel, Ruff, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, American Woodcock, Willet) and the dowitchers have been split, raising the total to 36.

This article aims to review the historical occurrence and the current status of shorebirds at Agassiz. Records of shorebirds were gleaned from refuge files, Annual Narrative Reports to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, back issues of *The Loon* and its predecessor, *The Flicker*, and personal records maintained by members of the Northwest Minnesota Bird Society. Jeanie Joppru begins with a section on water management and its implications for shorebirds at the refuge. Results from intensive shorebird surveys 2001 through 2010 are followed by an annotated checklist of shorebirds at Agassiz that includes species predicted to occur in the future, based on records in nearby areas.

Water Management at Agassiz N.W.R.

Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge (Figure 1) was formerly known as the Mud Lake National



Piping Plover, 18 June 1980, Agassiz N.W.R., Marshall County. Photo by James P. Mattsson.

Wildlife Refuge. It was established by Executive Order dated 23 March 1937, “as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife” (from the Executive Order). The area was dubbed a “waterfowl paradise” before drainage in 1909. Minimal land was brought into cultivation after drainage (Dill 1960) and settlers in the area were eventually unable to make bond payments on the project (Barrett 1947). Restoration efforts in the late 1930s led to regrowth of the marshes. No fewer than 217 bird species were recorded on the refuge between 1937 and 1958 (Carlsen and Harris 1955, Dill 1960).

After the refuge was formally established, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) began constructing dikes and control structures to inundate the abandoned farmland and control flooding in the area. Water enters Agassiz from the north via the Thief River coming from Thief Lake. This flow can be controlled by a control

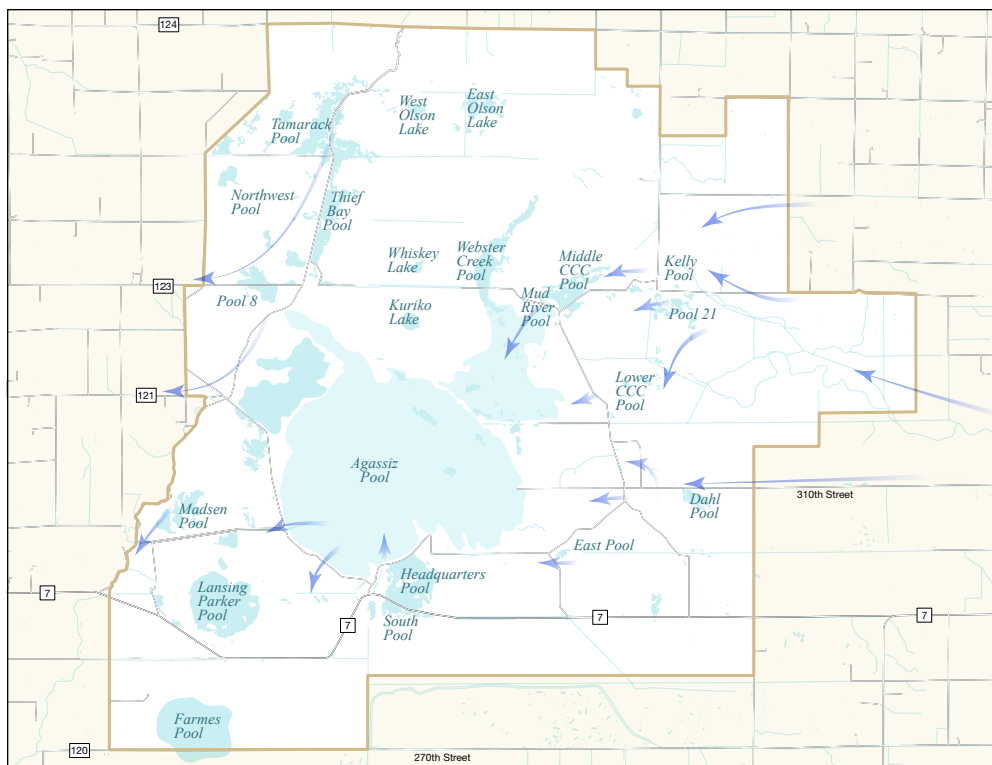


Figure 1. Map of Agassiz N.W.R. showing locations of pools and refuge roads. Arrows depict typical water flow through the refuge. The Auto Tour Route north and east of headquarters is the only driveable refuge road between pools on the west and east sides. Shorebird surveys covered both sides of the refuge plus Marshall County Road 7 and Farnes Pool to the south, and lasted between 5 and 12 hours, depending on number of birds and availability of habitat.

structure at Thief Lake Wildlife Management Area. However, most of the water entering Agassiz comes in from the east via the Mud River. This “river” was straightened in the early 1900s by Ditch 11 to improve drainage for agriculture, and 455 miles of ditch channels were included. Personnel at Agassiz have no control over how much water is received into the refuge from this system. A diversion ditch branches off the Mud River at the head of Judicial Ditch 11 about 1.5 miles east of the refuge and both of these ditches supply water to the largest pool in the refuge, Agassiz Pool. A weir on the Diversion Ditch allows some of the flow to be diverted to the Pool 21 and CCC Pool complex. Since there are minimal changes in elevation throughout the refuge, a complicated water management program had to be established to best utilize water for water-

fowl production and waterfowl migration, and for mitigation of flooding of agricultural land. Water leaves Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge via the Thief River, which flows into the Red Lake River, and thence into the Red River of the North at Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Historically, Agassiz has been managed primarily for production of waterfowl and their protection during migration, with secondary advantages for a large variety of other species that utilize water and marsh habitat. Over the years, many changes in the situation at Agassiz have occurred. Additional drainage through ditching upstream and an inability to increase outflow from the refuge complicated efforts to manage water levels for waterfowl and strained the capability to control water levels within the refuge. More internal controls were needed to better distribute the water. In 1987, a compre-

hensive revised water and marsh management plan (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1987) was devised to assist future water level management.

The 1987 plan advocated periodic draw-downs of pools to provide habitat for nesting species and improve food sources for migrating waterfowl. It has been shown that “younger” marshes provide better food sources and cover for waterfowl than older ones, so the plan allows the larger, deeper pools to be drawn down every ten years. Smaller pools are drawn down every five to six years. Purposes of the drawdowns include setting back habitat succession, stimulating germination of new vegetation for waterfowl use, and controlling undesired vegetation where it has overgrown an area. The plan also allows burning to be done to clear cattail growth which can choke the pools.

A series of control structures has been installed between the various pools, allowing refuge personnel to change water levels in specific pools by moving water from one pool to another. This is particularly useful when large rain events occur in the watershed and cause increased inflow. Rainfall of less than two inches can usually be distributed throughout the refuge, preventing any one pool from rising to the point where nests are flooded out. The map (Figure 1) shows how the pools are connected via control structures, and helps explain why certain pools are drawn down together. Internal control structures can be utilized to run water either way depending on needs at the time. This interconnection of the pools allows several pools to be in various stages of drawdown throughout the process — from shallow water to mudflats, then dry mud, and eventually, completely dry. In terms of shorebird management, this process insures that a large variety of shorebirds can find suitable habitat somewhere on the refuge during migration. Since there are a large number of pools at Agassiz, there is shorebird habitat almost every year.

Some deeper pools are partially drawn down every five years to stimulate submergent vegetation, with complete drawdown every ten years. In the past, drawdowns were either in the spring or the fall; recently, however, an attempt has been made to start the drawdown early in the spring and allow pools to remain low throughout the summer. This has had several effects: it allows a slower drawdown, induces

Year	Surveys	First Date	Last Date	Peak	Totals	Species
2001	8	23 May	13 Aug	15 Jul	7,317	21
2002	3	21 Aug	15 Sep	24 Aug	1,380	17
2003	26	18 May	2 Nov	27 Jul	33,230	29
2004	7	13 Jun	28 Aug	2 Aug	2,424	15
2005	1	09 May		N/A	18	5
2006	21	22 May	24 Oct	11 Aug	16,588	27
2007	14	05 May	14 Oct	11 Aug	19,606	27
2008	6	22 May	31 Aug	2 Aug	8,376	24
2009	6	28 May	21 Aug	14 Aug	4,285	24
2010	1	23 May		N/A	2,640	24

Table 1. Number of shorebird surveys/year, first and last survey dates, date of peak count, annual totals, and species/year.

AMAV	American Avocet (<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>)
AMGP	American Golden-Plover (<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>)
AMWO	American Woodcock (<i>Scolopax minor</i>)
BASA	Baird's Sandpiper (<i>Calidris bairdii</i>)
BBPL	Black-bellied Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)
BBSA	Buff-breasted Sandpiper (<i>Calidris subruficollis</i>)
BNST	Black-necked Stilt (<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>)
DUNL	Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>)
GRYE	Greater Yellowlegs (<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>)
HUGO	Hudsonian Godwit (<i>Limosa haemastica</i>)
KILL	Killdeer (<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>)
LBDO	Long-billed Dowitcher (<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>)
LESA	Least Sandpiper (<i>Calidris minutilla</i>)
LEYE	Lesser Yellowlegs (<i>Tringa flavipes</i>)
MAGO	Marbled Godwit (<i>Limosa fedoa</i>)
PESA	Pectoral Sandpiper (<i>Calidris melanotos</i>)
PIPL	Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)
REKN	Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)
RNPH	Red-necked Phalarope (<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>)
RUFF	Ruff (<i>Calidris pugnax</i>)
RUTU	Ruddy Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>)
SAND	Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>)
SBDO	Short-billed Dowitcher (<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>)
SEPL	Semipalmated Plover (<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>)
SESA	Semipalmated Sandpiper (<i>Calidris pusilla</i>)
SNPL	Snowy Plover (<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>)
SOSA	Solitary Sandpiper (<i>Tringa solitaria</i>)
SPSA	Spotted Sandpiper (<i>Actitis macularius</i>)
STSA	Stilt Sandpiper (<i>Calidris himantopus</i>)
UPSA	Upland Sandpiper (<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>)
WESA	Western Sandpiper (<i>Calidris mauri</i>)
WHIM	Whimbrel (<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>)
WILL	Willet (<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>)
WIPH	Wilson's Phalarope (<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>)
WISN	Wilson's Snipe (<i>Gallinago delicata</i>)
WRSA	White-rumped Sandpiper (<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>)

Table 2. Alphabetized list of four-letter alpha codes for bird species (Pyle and DeSante 2021), common names and scientific names of shorebirds in Table 3.

Date	18 May	23 May	27 May	31 May	21 Jun	29 Jun	6 Jul	12 Jul	19 Jul	24 Jul	27 Jul	30 Jul	2 Aug
AMAV	-	2	-	2	3	1	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
BBPL	6	40	43	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	4
AMGP	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
KILL	16	66	X	12	66	84	81	81	49	138	124	135	82
SEPL	1	233	3	-	-	-	3	3	11	30	43	47	28
HUGO	240	33	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	1
MAGO	2	13	50	30	67	56	5	41	33	23	18	22	17
RUTU	-	-	6	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
REKN	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
STSA	-	1	6	-	-	-	8	39	93	207	424	652	110
SAND	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
DUNL	75	95	609	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BASA	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	2	4	10	6	7	7
LESA	9	337	17	-	-	20	570	120	168	83	257	310	178
WRSA	100	113	223	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BBSA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
PESA	5	-	6	-	-	-	16	102	90	58	116	254	94
SESA	-	94	352	4	-	-	39	42	37	10	101	88	141
peeps	-	142	-	-	-	-	48	21	31	-	73	-	45
SBDO	-	2	-	-	-	1	73	87	113	58	86	54	61
LBDO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
dow sp	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	1	12	-	3
AMWO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
WISN	X	X	X	X	X	4	3	5	8	29	18	31	86
SPSA	X	6	X	3	13	4	12	3	9	12	21	18	22
SOSA	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	24	5	12	14
LEYE	656	5	3	-	2	69	1028	1054	1363	921	1677	1272	1307
WILL	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRYE	1	2	-	-	5	17	48	73	59	45	101	121	118
WIPH	6	4	4	3	-	8	6	11	64	24	31	23	21
RNPH	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	5
shorebird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

Table 3 (Part 1). Shorebird species counts arranged by date, 18 May – 2 August 2003. An “X” denotes the presence of summer residents that were not counted on the day of the survey.

a greater variety of vegetation to germinate for later use by waterfowl, attracts more migrating shorebirds, and even results in some nesting of shorebirds. In most years, habitat is marginal for nesting shorebirds, except in areas where pools are in drawdown. Almost all shorebird nesting records at the refuge are from drought years or major drawdown years, with the exception of Killdeer, which nest every year at Agassiz. It should be noted here that shorebird nesting records at the refuge are incomplete or poorly documented in the refuge files, except for the early 1980s.

Jim Mattsson, who was the refuge biologist at Agassiz during the 1980s, recalled a drawdown of the 10,000 acre Agassiz Pool in 1980. Thousands of shorebirds were attracted to the basin, which at that time had almost no emergent vegetation. Quoting Jim, “I remember flocks of over 100 Hudsonian Godwits and countless masses of small shorebirds spread across this entire basin. I’ve since not seen

anything like that anywhere in the Midwest.” Two Piping Plover nests, two additional Piping Plover broods, and seven American Avocet nests were found between 1980 and 1981. Jim estimated that up to one hundred pairs of Wilson’s Phalaropes nested at Agassiz Pool in 1981.

In 2003, very dry conditions in much of northwestern Minnesota made the scheduled drawdowns more effective and created low water levels in other pools as well. The resultant mudflats attracted thousands of shorebirds from May through October, and some nesting occurred. An American Avocet pair nested at Thief Bay Pool and fledged one chick. And on the 29th of June, the authors saw a male Wilson’s Phalarope attending three dependent young on Middle CCC Pool.

Water levels at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge continue to be managed primarily for waterfowl use, but thinking is changing in that regard. More planning is underway to accommodate shorebird and other marsh bird

Date	9 Aug	17 Aug	24 Aug	31 Aug	6 Sep	14 Sep	21 Sep	27 Sep	4 Oct	11 Oct	20 Oct	24 Oct	2 Nov
AMAV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-
BBPL	3	1	1	2	2	2	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
AMGP	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
KILL	119	153	51	41	106	20	1	4	2	6	2	-	-
SEPL	23	46	37	53	16	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
HUGO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MAGO	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RUTU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REKN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
STSA	186	375	85	408	697	162	16	8	12	10	-	-	-
SAND	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DUNL	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
BASA	3	33	27	43	103	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
LESA	234	228	61	56	43	9	2	-	3	3	1	2	-
WRSA	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
BBSA	-	-	4	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PESA	317	202	19	70	52	7	76	38	278	92	153	53	-
SESA	235	316	434	257	691	152	12	-	2	10	-	-	-
peeps	64	88	12	33	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
SBDO	57	28	9	8	7	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
LBDO	14	-	3	7	37	108	90	-	304	312	82	-	-
dow sp	10	1	2	1	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
AMWO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WISN	118	11	5	7	30	11	51	15	16	21	1	1	1
SPSA	14	3	1	2	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOSA	10	8	10	5	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
LEYE	967	747	418	297	306	130	143	9	45	40	16	6	-
WILL	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRYE	108	170	90	102	138	69	35	34	64	60	45	27	1
WIPH	34	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RNPH	2	9	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
shorebird sp.	1	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

Table 3 (Part 2). Shorebird species counts arranged by date, 9 August – 2 November 2003.

use, including extending the drawdown period throughout the summer. It will be interesting to observe how this affects the status and abundance of shorebirds on this great refuge in future years.

Shorebird Surveys at Agassiz N.W.R.

Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge is ideally situated along the Mississippi Flyway within the transition from boreal forest to tallgrass prairie, and has become increasingly important as a stopover site for migrating shorebirds. The refuge has been designated a globally Important Bird Area (IBA) and its water management plan now includes foraging and resting areas for shorebirds. Two natural lakes and 26 impoundments are located within the refuge. The former lie within the relatively inaccessible Wilderness Area of black spruce-tamarack bog, but the latter can be accessed by vehicle or by walking along the dikes themselves.

As noted in the previous section, water levels in the impoundments can be raised or

lowered through a series of control structures to provide optimal habitat for selected species at specific times of year. Though best-known for its waterfowl production and protection, the diversity of habitat at Agassiz has attracted no fewer than 300 bird species (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2008). Whooping Crane and Black-necked Stilt were among several recent additions to the refuge checklist; both were documented by the authors during shorebird surveys.

We have conducted shorebird counts at Agassiz since the late 1980s, but dedicated surveys did not begin until 2001. Inspired in part by Karl Bardon's pioneering surveys in Big Stone County (Bardon 2002), we decided to gather as much data as possible to determine whether arrival and departure dates, as well as peak shorebird migration, differed significantly between northern Minnesota (primarily at Agassiz N.W.R., with some surveys at Glacial Ridge N.W.R. and Hamden Slough N.W.R.), and southern Minnesota (Big Stone N.W.R. and nearby

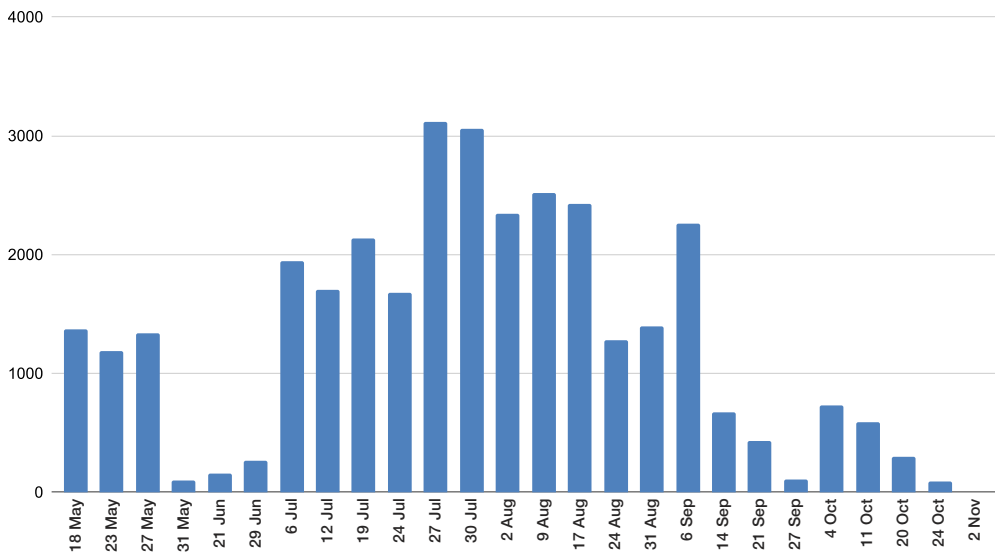


Figure 2. Total shorebirds for each survey at Agassiz N.W.R. in 2003, arranged chronologically by date.

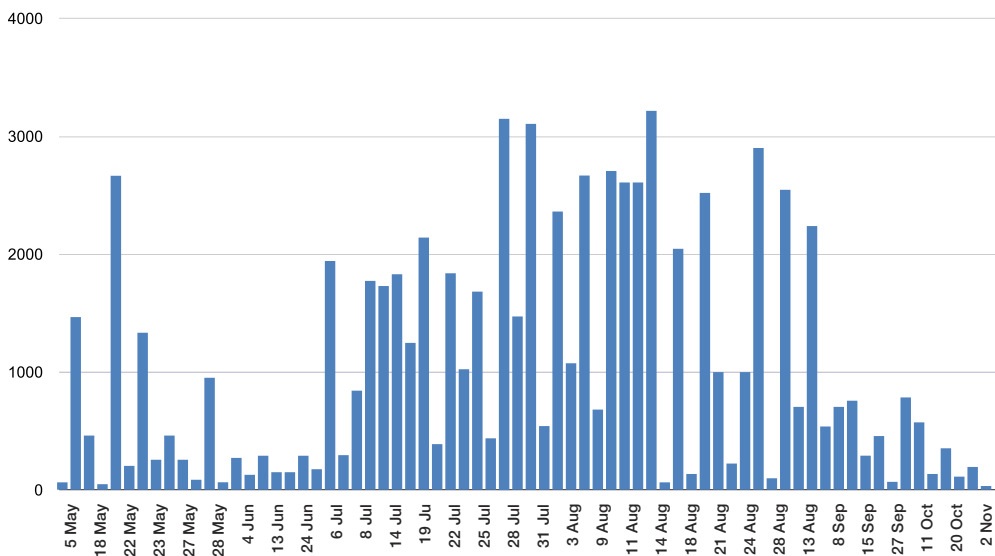


Figure 3. Non-linear depiction of total shorebirds for all surveys at Agassiz N.W.R. from May 2001 through May 2010, arranged year-on-year by day.

prairie pothole habitat in Big Stone, Lac qui Parle, and Yellow Medicine counties). Herein, we report survey results for Agassiz.

We continued these surveys until May 2010, when weekend access to the closed portion of

the refuge was constrained by changes in management policy. Both of us had full time jobs and the distance to Agassiz (in Svingen's case, 265 miles from home) made further surveys impractical. The most intensive and consistent

surveys at the refuge were conducted in 2003, when all known shorebird habitat was checked on no fewer than 26 dates between early May and early November.

Methods

We covered all areas with known shorebird habitat during each survey. A typical survey required driving 50–60 miles on refuge roads to check all suitable habitat. One of us (usually Joppru) stayed in contact with refuge staff on a regular basis for updates on road conditions, road closures due to construction or maintenance, and habitat changes since the previous survey. Survey times varied but generally started by about 0830 and ended between 1400 and 1600 Central Standard Time. Duration of each survey varied according to the number of pools holding birds and the number of birds counted. We usually surveyed the east side of the refuge in the morning and the west side in the afternoon when light conditions were most favorable.

Shorebirds were identified by using high quality spotting scopes and counted by using mechanical clickers. Incremental counts were verbalized by Svingen and recorded by Joppru on survey sheets designed for this project using 4-letter codes (Pyle and DeSante 2021) (Table 2). Totals for each pool were reviewed and verified before moving on to the next pool. Some pools at Agassiz are so large that multiple stops were necessary. Birds were counted individually whenever possible. Larger flocks were counted by groups of five or ten with special care to minimize double-counting of birds if they flew to a different part of the pool. Flights to a different pool were exceptionally rare during our surveys.

We usually relied on refuge staff to alert us when habitat was suitable and/or when shorebirds were present; if recent information was not available, Joppru drove up to the refuge before the weekend to gather information and assess the habitat. Surveys were rarely postponed or cut short due to severe weather, but we did have to cancel one survey due to prescribed burns on the refuge that we were not aware of beforehand.

In order to complement our understanding of shorebird migration and as part of our volunteer work at the refuge, we combed through visitors logs, hand-written notes, technical re-

ports, and other files at the refuge, as well as published records in *The Loon* and *North American Birds* (and its predecessors, *American Birds* and *Audubon Field Notes*). These along with our survey data form the basis of the annotated checklist following this section.

Results

A total of 93 shorebird surveys was completed between May 2001 and May 2010 at Agassiz N.W.R. (Table 1). We documented a grand total of 95,864 shorebirds at the refuge over this span of ten years. The number of surveys ranged from just one in 2005 and 2010, to a high of 26 in 2003. Water levels remained relatively high in 2005 with very limited habitat for shorebirds. Annual totals ranged from just 18 individuals in 2005 to a high of 33,230 in 2003 (Figure 2). A cumulative total of 31 shorebird species was found; though not discovered during a shorebird survey, Joppru also saw and documented Agassiz's 2nd Snowy Plover in May 2009 (Svingen 2009).

Table 1 also shows dates for the first and last surveys each year except for 2005 and 2010, each of which only had one survey. The earliest first survey was 5 May 2007. In most years, the first survey occurred in the second half of May. None was done in April, when species that migrate relatively early, such as Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, and Long-billed Dowitcher, might have been more prevalent. Dates for the last survey each year were generally determined by suitability of habitat for shorebirds, though also by other factors. We planned to continue surveys through the end of October or until freeze-up (whichever came first), but were able to conduct surveys into October in just three of the ten years. Limitations on our capability to conduct surveys in April and October not only affected totals for some migrant species, but also skewed the earliest and latest dates for some species.

In the years that adequate shorebird habitat was available at the refuge, the number of surveys directly correlated with total number of shorebirds for obvious reasons, but a relationship between number of completed surveys and species diversity was unclear. The highest diversity of 29 species occurred in 2003 as expected, but nearly as many species were found in 2006 and 2007 despite fewer surveys (21 and 14, respectively). Furthermore, a total of 24 spe-

cies was found in 2008 and 2009 during just six surveys, and 24 species were found on the first (and only) survey completed in 2010, suggesting that the availability of suitable habitat for shorebirds outweighed observer effort.

Excluding shorebird species that nest or have nested on the refuge, the frequency of species detection was highest for two *Tringa* sp. and Least Sandpiper, followed by the dowitchers, Stilt Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, and Pectoral Sandpiper. Consistency of these species presence on the refuge during migration is best appreciated from the 2003 survey data (Table 3). Lesser Yellowlegs and Greater Yellowlegs were each found on 24 of 26 surveys in 2003 (92.3%); Least Sandpiper was found on 22 of 26 (84.6%); Pectoral Sandpiper was detected on 21 of 26 (80.8%); one or both dowitcher species was present on 20 of 26 (76.9%); and Semipalmated Sandpiper and Stilt Sandpiper were found on 19 of 26 (73.1%).

Earliest and latest dates for shorebirds based on our 10-year survey data are not representative of their true presence on the refuge, since there were no surveys in April and limited surveys in October. More accurate data on arrival and departure dates for each species are included in the Annotated Checklist at the end of this article, which also lists peak northbound (NB) and southbound (SB) migration dates.

For most migrant shorebird species, their occurrence on the refuge is shown as a range of dates based on composite data for all ten years. For a few species, such as American Avocet, American Golden-Plover, and Red Knot, limited data led to assignment of a single date instead of a range of dates. NB peaks should be interpreted with caution, due to lack of surveys in April and few surveys during the first two weeks of May.

Apart from the incredible transoceanic flights of certain shorebirds (e.g., Bristle-thighed Curlew, Bar-tailed Godwit), SB shorebird migration tends to be more protracted (Nilsson *et al.* 2013), a trend that is supported by data in Table 3 and the Annotated Checklist. Adult shorebirds depart nesting and staging areas earlier than juveniles, resulting in a bimodal SB pattern of peak migration. Adult SB peaks for some of the more common shorebirds include 29 July – 11 August for Semipalmated Plover, 27 July – 9 August for Stilt Sandpiper, 28 July – 11 August for Baird's Sandpiper, 6–21 July for

Least Sandpiper, and 9–31 August for Pectoral Sandpiper. Semipalmated Sandpiper data does not stratify as well, but does suggest a peak of 3–17 August for adults.

For some species, survey data were insufficient to detect a second fall peak, e.g., *Pluvialis* plovers and White-rumped Sandpiper. For a few species, e.g., yellowlegs and dowitchers, aging was difficult due to the observation distances at most of the refuge pools and the rather subtle plumage criteria for distinguishing adults from juveniles. Species that breed relatively close to Minnesota, such as Lesser Yellowlegs (~100 miles), Greater Yellowlegs (~200 miles), and Solitary Sandpiper (has nested in the state) logically show less time separation of adult and juvenile peaks.

Discussion

Our surveys between 2001 and 2010 (Figure 3) synthesized with data from other sources highlight the importance of Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge as a resting and refueling site for shorebirds migrating through western Minnesota. Variability of shorebird use from year to year appears to be primarily habitat-driven, although we made no attempt to analyze weather patterns, water levels, precipitation, water quality, or availability of food favored by shorebirds at the refuge. Management practices that affect suitability of habitat were not incorporated into these analyses, yet they obviously have a profound effect. Drawdowns of pools for whatever reason (dike repair, replacing water control structures, road construction, prescribed burns of marshes to curtail cattail growth, invasive species management, etc.) can enhance but can also degrade shorebird habitat, and timing is critical. Ideally, the refuge management plan each year would include habitat for shorebirds with several pools drawn down on a rotating basis.

Bardon (2002) looked at summer migration dates from the perspective of distance from Minnesota to nearest breeding grounds for selected shorebird species and pointed out the impact of elliptical migration patterns (northbound through the mid-continent, southbound through NE North America then non-stop to the Caribbean and South America), but otherwise did not fully consider their differences in migration strategy. Although the transoceanic southbound migration of most White-rumped

Sandpiper and Hudsonian Godwit populations explains their relative scarcity in Minnesota in fall, they still have to travel long distances from their wintering grounds in South America to reach Minnesota and eventually their Arctic breeding grounds in the spring.

A paper by Anderson *et al.* (2019) showed that adult shorebirds facing longer migration distances (>9,000 km; Pectoral Sandpiper and White-rumped Sandpiper) spent more time to refuel and had a lower probability of additional stopover in North America; they also flew faster and more efficiently than species migrating intermediate (5,000–7,500 km; Semipalmated Sandpiper and Lesser Yellowlegs) or shorter distances (~5,000 km; Least Sandpiper and Semipalmated Plover). Their findings were less clear for juveniles; the authors also found that all six shorebird species they studied departed with favorable winds regardless of age or classification by distance (Anderson *et al.* 2019).

Research into migration strategies including distance between stopover sites, length of time at stopover sites, departure winds, and physiological condition (e.g., body fat content) has advanced our understanding of shorebird migration in some parts of North America, but few comparable studies have been conducted in Minnesota. Some authors whimsically refer to “hop, skip, and a jump” when describing migration strategies (Piersma 1987, Warnock 2010). Short lengths of stay at stopover sites (e.g., a few days) followed by a relatively short flight (hop, skip) to the next stop do not require high fuel loads. In contrast, birds getting ready for longer “jump” flights stop over longer to build up fat reserves. Apart from distance to wintering grounds or breeding grounds, almost nothing is known about shorebird use of stopover sites in Minnesota. How many days are spent resting and refueling at Agassiz in spring vs. fall? Is this different for juveniles? Do shorebirds hop and skip through western Minnesota, or do they stay long enough to fill up and jump? Capture for banding and telemetry can answer some of these questions, but this research is time-consuming and expensive.

Although much attention (and rightly so) has focused on Piping Plover and Red Knot in North America, migrant shorebird populations have declined worldwide (Koleček *et al.* 2021). Species that we take for granted in Minnesota are at risk due to climate change, habitat loss,

human disturbance, and pollution (Andres *et al.* 2012, Gailbraith *et al.* 2014, Wauchope *et al.* 2017, Kwon *et al.* 2019).

One take-away from our surveys at Agassiz is the unpredictability of shorebird use from one year to the next, and in some years, one week to the next! Availability of shorebird habitat is dependent on water levels, which are affected by winter snow cover, spring run-off, evaporation rates, and precipitation during the summer and early fall. Water levels can be managed at Agassiz to some degree, but there are many stopover sites in western Minnesota that are entirely determined by rainfall and evaporation. Unpredictability of interior stopover sites compared to coastal sites in North America has been discussed by Skagen (1997, 2006), Skagen and Knopf (1994), Robinson and Warnock (1997), and others.

Our results show that management decisions for shorebirds cannot be based on just one or two years of data, given the extreme variability from one year to the next. Ten consecutive years of shorebird surveys may not be sufficient, even if conducted at regular intervals from the beginning of April through the end of October. We recommend that future shorebird surveys at Agassiz follow established protocols (Bart *et al.* 2005).

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Annotated Checklist of Shorebirds at Agassiz N.W.R.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*). One record at Agassiz of a female found during our shorebird survey on 23 May 2010 (*The Loon* 82:105, 83:47). Minnesota's 1st state record was <50 miles away at Roseau River W.M.A., 23–25 April 1989 (*The Loon* 61:97) and stilts have nested just across the state line at Grand Forks, North Dakota.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*). Occasional spring migrant and summer resident. More than 40 records at Agassiz through 2023, including nesting or attempted nesting in 1980 (infertile egg), 1985 (7 nests with eggs), 1990 (2 nests), 1991 (6 nests), and 2003 (1 young fledged).

Earliest dates 22 April 1985 (J. Mattsson *et al.*), 26 April 2002 (K. Odefey), 27 April 1990 (Rainy River Community College group). Noteworthy northbound counts of 19 on 10 May 1968, and up to 24 in Spring 1985 (refuge staff).

Rare in fall. Latest date and refuge high count 11 October 2003 (36 at Lansing Parker Pool, P. Svengen, J. Joppru, S. Steva).

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*). Uncommon migrant. Spring migration period May–June. Earliest dates 29 April 1991 (refuge staff), 12 May 2021 (W. Britton, J. Morelli), 13 May 1980 (J. Mattsson), 13 May 2001 (refuge staff). Late spring migrants 16 June 2000 (refuge files), 18 June 1987 (*The Loon* 60:21), 24 June 2006 (one in full alternate plumage at Pool 8, P. Svengen). One in alternate plumage at Northwest Pool 6 July 2003 (P. Svengen *et al.*) was probably a very late spring migrant, but may have been summering (see Bardon 2002).

Fall migration period late July through mid-November. Earliest fall dates 26 July 1998 (*The Loon* 71:21), 30 July–9 August 2003 (4, K. Bardon *et al.*), 3 August 2007 (one at Tamarack Pool, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 8 August 1998 (P. Svengen), 9 August 2008 (total of 5 at 3 different pools, P. Svengen, J. Joppru). Latest dates 23 October 1999 (J. Joppru), 24 October 2006 (13, P. Svengen), 25 October 1996 (S. Steva), 31 October 1984 (refuge staff), 3 November 1989 (refuge files). High counts at Agassiz 100+ on 26 September 1990 (Mud River Pool, refuge staff), 43 on 27 May 2003 (K. Bardon).

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*). Uncommon migrant. Spring migration in northern Minnesota primarily late April through May, but occasionally continues into June. Earliest dates at Agassiz 28 April 1981 (J. Mattsson), 4 May 1988 (J. Mattsson), 5 May 1980 (refuge staff). Late spring migrants 15 June 1973 (refuge staff), 25 June 1997 (P. Svengen), 26 June 1984 (J. Mattsson); the latter two records may represent non-breeding birds attempting to over-summer.

Fall migration period early August (rarely late July, Bardon 2002) through early November. Earliest fall migrants 22, 28 July 2006 (adult still mostly in alternate plumage at South Pool, P. Svengen *et al.*), 29 July 2007 (one at Tamarack Pool, P. Svengen), 31 July 2009 (one at Northwest Pool, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 6 August 2017 (J. Joppru), 18 August 2007 (P. Svengen), 20 August 1952 (L. Mangus). Latest dates mid-October 1952 (J. Carlsen), 24 October 2003 (4, P. Svengen *et al.*), 24 October 2006 (3, P. Svengen), 2 November 1978 (S. Vasse), 5 November 2007 (G. Knutson). No significant high counts at Agassiz.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*). Common summer resident. Nests on refuge. Earliest arrivals 21 March 1972 (refuge staff), 21 March 1976 (S. Vasse), 21 March 1985 (refuge staff), 21 March 1991 (refuge staff), 23 March 1987 (J. Mattsson), 24 March 1981 (refuge staff), 24 March 2021 (eBird).

Latest dates 17 October 1974 (refuge staff), 19 October 2016 (J. Joppru), 20 October 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 22 October 1970 (refuge staff), 22 October 1990 (B. Kinkade). High counts at Agassiz 325 on 15 July 2006 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 153 on 17 August 2003 (P. Svengen *et al.*), 138 on 24 July 2003 (K. Bardon).

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*). Uncommon to occasionally common migrant. Spring migration period late April through mid-June. Earliest arrivals 6 May 2000 (M. Anderson), 7 May 1985 (J. Mattsson), 7 May 2000 (J. Joppru), 8 May 1987 (J. Mattsson), 8 May 1988 (refuge staff). Late spring migrants 8 June 1998 (G. Tischer), 10 June 1998 (B. Beneke), 10 June 2021 (S. Lewis, E. Lewis), 12–13 June 2009 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru). One

at Agassiz 28 June 2005 (B. Fritchman) could not be directionally classified. Northbound high counts 233 on 23 May 2003 (191 of these at Farnes Pool, P. Svengen), 155 on 17 May 1998 (A. Hertzal, P. Svengen), 135 at Agassiz Pool, 23 May 2010 (P. Svengen *et al.*); the count of 233 was record-high for Minnesota at the time.

Fall migrants normally arrive in July; peak migration in August. Earliest fall dates 6 July 2003 (P. Svengen *et al.*), 7–8 July 2001 (P. Svengen), 8 July 2006 (2, P. Svengen, J. Joppru). Latest dates 18 September 1970 (refuge staff), 23 September 1990 (S. Steva), 24 September 2006 (8, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 4 October 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 14 October 2007 (5 at Headquarters Pool, P. Svengen, J. Joppru). Southbound high counts 135 on 29 July 2007 (108 of these at Tamarack Pool, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 100 on 3 September 1996 (S. Steva), 99 on 11 August 2007 (P. Chu, J. Joppru), 99 on 11 August 2008 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru).

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*). Very rare migrant and summer resident. Prairie population threatened; Great Lakes population federally endangered and nearly extirpated as a breeding species in Minnesota. Including data gleaned from Agassiz's "Annual Narrative Reports" (ANR), there are at least five refuge records: 8 June 1966 (D. Olsen, *The Loon* 38:120); Fall 1974 (no date, ANR 1974); 2 confirmed nests plus 2 broods ~1.25 miles farther away in Summer 1980 (ANR 1980, *The Loon* 53:136); suspected nesting attempt by a pair at Agassiz Pool, Summer 1981 (ANR 1981); and unpublished records of spring migrants 8 May 1981 (J. Mattsson, same as summer?) and 8 May 1989 (refuge staff).

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus*). Accidental. Providing the 6th Minnesota record was an adult at Agassiz N.W.R., 15 May 1987 (J. Mattsson, *The Loon* 59:155). Another was found at Lansing Parker Pool, 30 May 2009 (B. Williams, D. Williams, J. Joppru, *The Loon* 81:115, 81:117).

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*). Occasional summer resident. Few nesting records at Agassiz. Spring migration period mid-April through late May; rarely detected in migration at the refuge. Earliest arrivals 26 April 1991 (refuge staff), 29 April 1978 (S. Steva), 3 May 2017 (J. Schmitz), 6 May 1980 (refuge staff), 6 May 1981 (refuge staff). Possible fall migrant 26 July 1990 (refuge staff).

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*). Rare spring migrant in western Minnesota. Recorded at Agassiz 18 May 1969 (7 birds, L. Paynter), 31 May 1976 (one, K. Eckert, R. Janssen), 19–20 May 2001 (max. 13, C. Mandel, R. Erpelding), and 26 May 2021 (flock of 34 at Headquarters Pool, †V. Landwehr, K. O'Connor) with 3 still present the following day (D. Benz, A. Nyhus). Spring records away from the North Shore of Lake Superior are rare but remarkably consistent in their timing. An undocumented second-hand report at Agassiz 3 May 1980 (*The Loon* 52:158) is unsatisfactory; this would be an exceptionally early date for northwestern Minnesota.

[Eskimo Curlew] (*Numenius borealis*). Extirpated in Minnesota; probably extinct. Sight records only in Minnesota; last recorded 9 June 1886 at Heron Lake, Jackson County. No definite records at Agassiz, but formerly an abundant spring migrant in western Minnesota (*The Loon* 71:66–75).

[Long-billed Curlew] (*Numenius americanus*). No records at Agassiz and no definite records in Marshall County. Formerly a common spring migrant and nesting species on the western prairies in the 19th Century, "preferring in the northwest the sandy ridges or old beaches that border the Red River Valley on the east" (Roberts 1932).

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*). Uncommon spring and very rare fall migrant. Spring migration period late April through mid-June. Earliest dates 22 April 1983 (S. Steva, at refuge?), 23 April 1991 (refuge staff), 3 May 1986 (many observers), 5 May 1981 (J. Mattsson), 5 May 1990 (G. Tisher). Late spring migrants 31 May 1983 (J. Mattsson), 1 June 2006 (injured leg, P. Svengen), 13 June 1998 (A. Breer), 18 June 1986 (J. Mattsson). Northbound high counts 300 on 12 May 1988 (Madsen Pool, J. Mattsson), 240 on 18 May 2003 (Thief Bay Pool, *The Loon* 75:201), 150 on 15 May 1984 (Mud River Pool, refuge staff), 140 on 26 May 2002 (A. Hertzal, P. Svengen), 130 on 16 May 1976 (S. Vasse).

Two fall records during shorebird surveys: 27 July through 2

August 2003 (max. 3 at Thief Bay Pool, P. Svingen *et al.*), 24 August 2007 (total of 10, P. Svingen). Non-survey records at the refuge: one or 2 birds 24–31 August 2008 (P. Svingen, m.ob.) and 3 on 4–5 September 2016 (C. Mandel, K. Eckert *et al.*).

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*). Uncommon summer resident. Nests at refuge. Spring migration period mid-April through mid-May. Earliest arrivals 5 April 1988 (*The Loon* 60:159), 12 April 2011 (M. Anderson), 14 April 1982 (*The Loon* 54:228), 14 April 1989 (J. Mattsson), 15 April 2003 (K. Odefey). High counts at Agassiz 67 (57 of these at Thief Bay Pool), 21 June 2003 (P. Chu, P. Svingen); 50 at Agassiz Pool, 31 May 2000 (G. Huschle, S. Lewis, J. Mattsson, J. Vorland); and a flock of 40 on 12 August 1978 (refuge staff).

Normally departs the state by early August; latest dates at Agassiz 21 August 2009 (one at Farnes Pool, P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 24 August 2008 (12 at Tamarack Pool, P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 31 August – 1 September 2008 (max. 2, P. Svingen, m.ob.), 9 September 1978 (refuge staff). An undocumented report from an unspecified location in Marshall County, 12 October 1984 (*The Loon* 57:93) was more likely a first-fall Hudsonian Godwit.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*). Uncommon to occasional migrant. Spring migration period early May through mid-June. Earliest arrivals 11 May 1991 (S. Steva), 12 May 2003 (R. Russell), 16 May 1998 (6, P. Svingen), 16 May 1984 (S. Steva), 17 May 1979 (refuge staff). Late spring migrants 3 June 2004 (G. Huschle), 5 & 8 June 1998 (different locations, refuge staff), 6 June 2002 (refuge staff), 8 June 1966 (D. Olsen), 13 June 2009 (Ditch 11, P. Svingen). Northbound high counts of up to 7 birds 27–31 May 2003 (K. Bardon *et al.*), 6 on 16 May 1998 (P. Svingen), 6 on 21 May 2007 (P. Svingen).

Fall migration period late July through late September. Earliest fall dates 20–24 July 2003 (P. Svingen *et al.*), 30 July 1968 (refuge staff). Latest dates 22 August 1998 (J. Joppru, S. Steva), 1 September 2007 (K. Eckert *et al.*), 27 September 1985 (refuge staff).

Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*). Occasional spring and very rare fall migrant; approximately 11 refuge records. Earliest date and high count at Agassiz 15 May 1986 (5 birds, refuge staff); also found 16 May 1998 (2, A. Hertzfel, P. Svingen), 21 May 2002 (4, T. Kent). Late spring migrants 27 May 1986 (refuge staff), 27 May 2003, K. Bardon, K. Odefey, 31 May 1994 (S. Steva).

Only fall migrants: undated July reports in 1947 and 1971, plus single juveniles 30 August 2003 (K. Eckert *et al.*) and 1 September 2007 (K. Eckert, C. Mandel).

Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*). Casual migrant. Only accepted record at Agassiz: one Reeve 10 May 1985 (*The Loon* 57:119).

[Sharp-tailed Sandpiper] (*Calidris acuminata*). No records at Agassiz, but should be looked for amongst mixed shorebird flocks in late fall.

Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*). Uncommon spring and locally common fall migrant. Spring migration period late April through late May, rarely into early June. Earliest arrivals 29 April 1985 (J. Mattsson), 3 May 1981 (K. Eckert), 3 May 1988 (refuge staff), 6 May 1981 (J. Mattsson). Late spring migrants 28 May 1988 (refuge staff), 30 May 2009 (J. Joppru, B. & D. Williams), 30 May 2021 (J. Joppru), 1 June 2006 (P. Svingen), 17 June 2003 (S. Steva, B. Bruins).

Fall migration period early July through mid-October. Earliest fall migrants 30 June 2006 (one, P. Svingen), 4 July 1976 (S. Vasse), 6 July 2003 (P. Svingen *et al.*), 7 July 2001 (20, P. Svingen), 7 July 2007 (4, P. Svingen). Latest dates at refuge 24 September 2006 (30, P. Svingen), 4 October (12) and 11 October (10) 2003 (P. Svingen, J. Joppru). Southbound high counts 697 on 5 September 2003 (P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 652 on 30 July 2003 (K. Bardon), 345 on 24 August 2007 (P. Svingen), 333 on 31 August 2008 (P. Svingen).

[Curlew Sandpiper] (*Calidris ferruginea*). No records at Agassiz, but a distinct possibility during migration. Nearby Grand Forks, North Dakota, has records of an adult in early July and a juvenile in October.

[Red-necked Stint] (*Calidris ruticollis*). No Minnesota or North Dakota records. Casual migrant elsewhere in the mid-continent.

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*). Uncommon migrant. Spring migration period early May through mid-June. Earliest arrivals 9 May 2003 (K. Odefey), 9 May 2009 (G. Tischer), 15 May 1986 (J. Mattsson), 16 May 1998 (P. Svingen), 17 May 1981 (S. Steva). Late spring

migrants 28 May 2006 (P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 28 May 2008 (P. Svingen), 30 May 2021 (T. Weaver, B. Weaver), 1 June 2006 (P. Svingen, S. Steva), 3 June 2001 (P. Svingen), 14 June 1977 (K. Eckert, location?).

Records of this species between 24 June and 12 July are difficult to classify (Bardon 2002). Earliest fall migrants 12 July 1998 (P. Svingen), 20 July 2003 (J. Joppru), 21 July 2001 (P. Svingen), 22 July 2006 (P. Svingen), 27 July 2003 (P. Svingen, S. Steva). Latest dates 5 October 1979 (S. Steva), 15 October 1970 (refuge staff), 25 October 1996 (S. Steva). All counts at Agassiz single digits.

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*). Uncommon migrant, more numerous in spring. Spring migration period mid-April through mid-June. Earliest arrivals 18 April 2015 (B. Siverhus), 3 May 1988 (refuge staff), 3 May 2003 (A. Evers), 5 May 1981 (J. Mattsson), 7 May 1976 (M. Schuller), 7 May 1980 (J. Mattsson). Late spring migrants 10 June 1954 (J. Carlsen, S. Harris), 12 June 2009 (3, P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 12 June 2017 (injured, K. MacAulay), 14 June 1991 (refuge staff), 28 June 2005 (one, B. Fritchman). Northbound high counts at Agassiz 1,055 on 23 May 2010 (P. Svingen *et al.*), 609 on 27 May 2003 (K. Bardon).

Fall migrants unexpected before late August; peak migration in October (Bardon 2002). Earliest fall migrants 30 July 2017 (J. Joppru, possibly the 12 June injured bird), 11 August 1978 (S. Steva), 12 August 1996 (Farnes Pool, refuge files), 20 August 2002 (S. Steva), 31 August 2008 (2, P. Svingen *et al.*). Elsewhere in Minnesota, stragglers found into November; latest dates at refuge 12 October 1974 (refuge staff), 14 October 2007 (21, P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 20 October 2003 (P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 24 October 1974 (refuge staff), 28 October 2022 (6, K. Emerson, J. Watson *et al.*). No significant counts during fall migration.

Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdi*). Uncommon migrant. Spring migration period early April through early June (rare in June, Bardon 2002). Earliest known arrivals at Agassiz 28 April 1981 (J. Mattson), 3 May 2012 (G. Knutsen); early spring migrants elsewhere in Marshall County include 4 April 1981 at Thief Lake W.M.A. (S. Steva) and 13 April 1992 (S. Stucker). Late spring migrants 8 June 1966 (D. Olsen), 10 June 1998 (B. Beneke), 12–13 June 2009 (max. 2, P. Svingen, J. Joppru).

Fall migration period early July through late October. Earliest fall migrants 4 July 1963 (R. Huber), 6 July 2003 (1, P. Svingen *et al.*), 12 July 1998 (3, P. Svingen), 12 July 2003 (2, P. Svingen *et al.*). Latest dates 4 & 11 October 2003 (P. Svingen *et al.*), 14 October 2007 (one at Webster Creek Pool, P. Svingen). High counts 103 at Thief Bay Pool, 6 September 2003 (P. Svingen *et al.*); 91 refuge-wide, 11 August 2006 (P. Svingen, J. Joppru); and 91 (69 of these at Tamarack Pool) 31 August 2007 (P. Svingen).

[Little Stint] (*Calidris minuta*). No Minnesota records. Accidental in the interior of North America. An adult was at the Minot, North Dakota wastewater treatment ponds, 4–5 July 2003.

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*). Common migrant. Spring migration mid-April through late May, rarely past early June. Earliest arrivals 2 May 2002 (refuge staff), 3 May 1988 (refuge staff), 3 May 2003 (A. Evers), 5 May 2007 (P. Svingen), 5 May 1980, 1981, 1987 (all refuge staff). Late spring migrants 3 June 2002 (Lower CCC Pool, refuge staff), 4 June 2006 (one, P. Svingen), 10 June 2021 (8, S. Lewis, E. Lewis), 11 June 2001 (4 at Headquarters Pool, G. Matthews). Northbound high counts 483 on 21 May 2007 (T. Lenz, P. Svingen, C. Wood), 337 on 23 May 2003 (P. Svingen), 300 on 12 May 2021 (W. Britton, J. Morelli).

Early fall migrants 24 June 2006 (one at Pool 8, P. Svingen), 25 June 2023 (15, N. Meserve, J. Miller), 28 June 2005 (7, B. Fritchman), 29 June 2003 (20, P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 30 June 2006 (15, P. Svingen). Latest departure dates 14 October 2007 (P. Svingen), 15 October 1970 (refuge staff), 20 and 24 October 2003 (P. Svingen, J. Joppru), 24 October 2006 (4, P. Svingen). Southbound high counts 1,132 on 11 August 2007 (P. Chu, J. Joppru), 809 on 14 July 2001 (P. Svingen), 646 on 24 August 2008 (P. Svingen), 570 on 6 July 2003 (P. Svingen *et al.*).

White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*). Uncommon to locally common spring migrant; occasional to rare fall migrant beginning late July. Spring migration period late April through late June; individuals in early July probably still northbound though some may be summering (Bardon 2002). Earliest arrivals at Agassiz 29

April 1966 (D. Olsen), 8 May 2003 (K. Odefey), 10 May 1984 (J. Mattsson), 10 May 1985 (J. Mattsson), 11 May 1991 (S. Steva). Late spring migrants 19 June 1991 (30 at Mud River Pool, refuge staff), 21 June 2021 (one, M. Kimberly), 24 June 2006 (4, P. Svengen), 28 June 2005 (one, B. Fritchman), 30 June 2006 (2, P. Svengen), 1 July 1980 (erroneously reported as "Early migrants", *The Loon* 53:137). Northbound high counts 400 on 23 May 2010 (P. Svengen *et al.*), 223 on 27 May 2003 (K. Bardon), 184 on 1 June 2006 (P. Svengen), 130 on 28 May 2006 (P. Svengen), 113 on 23 May 2003 (P. Svengen).

First fall migrants 21 July 2001 (2, †P. Svengen), 25 July 1991 (one, P. Svengen), 17 August 2003 (one, †P. Svengen), 24 August 2007 (one, †P. Svengen), 24 August 2008 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru). Latest dates 7 September 1977 (S. Vasse), 21 September 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 4 October 1990 (refuge staff).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Calidris subruficollis*). Very rare spring and uncommon fall migrant. One at Middle CCC Pool, 15 May 2007 (†P. Svengen) was the only northbound bird found during surveys. Only other definite spring record for the refuge at was Agassiz Pool, 25 June 1980 (*The Loon* 53:137). Elsewhere in Marshall County, one was at Holt 18 May 1965 (D. Olsen); unfortunately, a 23 May 1996 report lacked specific location data (*The Loon* 68:200).

Early fall migrants 24 July 2003 (one at Thief Bay Pool, K. Bardon), 25 July 1984 (Mud River Pool, S. Steva), 29 July 2007 (one at Tamarack Pool, P. Svengen, J. Joppru). Latest dates at Agassiz 1 September 2007 (2, Kim Eckert *et al.*), 6 September 2003 (3, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 8 September 2007 (8, P. Svengen), 6–11 September 2003 (one, P. Svengen, m.obs.). High count 8 at South Pool, 8 September 2007 (P. Svengen).

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*). Common migrant. Spring migration period late March through early June; individuals in mid-June difficult to classify and may be over-summering (Bardon 2002). Earliest refuge dates 21 April 1983 (J. Mattsson), 22 April 1976 (S. Vasse), 22 April 1985 (J. Mattsson), 26 April 1984 (J. Mattsson); reported elsewhere in Marshall County as early as 4 April 1981 (Thief Lake W.M.A., S. Steva). Late spring migrants 2 June 1976 (S. Vasse), 4 June 2021 (2, A. Horowitz), 4 June 2006 (one, P. Svengen), 9 June 2021 (one, K. Hamblett), 12 June 2009 (3, P. Svengen, J. Joppru).

Fall migration period late June through mid-November. Earliest fall migrants 24 June 2006 (one at Pool 8, P. Svengen), 2 July 1976 (S. Vasse), 6 July 1977 (S. Vasse), 6 July 2003 (16, P. Svengen *et al.*). Latest dates 28 October 2022 (14, K. Emerson, J. Watson *et al.*), 2 November 1975 (S. Vasse), 6 November 1978 (S. Vasse), 22 November 1978 (refuge staff). Southbound high counts 317 on 9 August 2003 (P. Svengen, S. Steva), 311 on 24 August 2007 (P. Svengen), 278 on 4 October 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 262 on 4 August 2006 (P. Svengen).

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*). Common migrant. Spring migration period early May through at least mid-June. Earliest refuge arrivals 28 April 1981 (J. Mattsson), 3 May 1981 (F. Swendsen, D. Swendsen), 3 May 2003 (A. Evers), 3 May 2012 (G. Knutsen), 6 May 1980 (J. Mattsson). Late spring migrants 13 June 2009 (9, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 14 June 1977 (K. Eckert, location?), 15 June 2015 (3, A. Hertzell, location?), 24 June 2006 (3, P. Svengen), 25 June 2023 (one, N. Meserve, J. Miller). Northbound high counts 476 on 1 June 2006 (P. Svengen, S. Steva), 352 on 27 May 2003 (K. Bardon).

Southbound migrants expected by 5 July but overlap possible (Bardon 2002). Earliest fall migrants 30 June 2006 (one, P. Svengen), 2 July 1976 (S. Vasse), 6 July 2003 (39, P. Svengen *et al.*), 7–8 July 2001 (one, P. Chu, P. Svengen), 8 July 2006 (4, P. Svengen). Latest dates 24 September 2006 (one, P. Svengen), 27 September 1974 (refuge staff), 4 October 2003 (P. Svengen), 8–11 October 2003 (C. Mandel, P. Svengen *et al.*), 14 October 2007 (one, P. Svengen). Southbound high counts 916 (830 of these at Tamarack Pool), 31 August 2007 (P. Svengen); 884 (655 of these at Tamarack Pool), 24 August 2008 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru); 691 on 6 September 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 626 on 11 August 2006 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru).

Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*). Accidental. Only documented record at Agassiz: two adults 21 May 1991 (K. Bardon, *The Loon* 63:196–197). Earlier reports lacked documentation and most (if not all) were misidentified Semipalmated Sandpipers.

Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*). Uncommon

migrant. Arrives later in spring and earlier in fall than Long-billed Dowitcher. Spring migration period early May through early June, but see Bardon (2002). Earliest dates 29 April 1985 (J. Mattsson), 7 May 1980 (J. Mattsson), 7 May 2000 (J. Joppru), 8 May 1981 (J. Mattsson), 8 May 1988 (refuge staff). Late spring migrants 23 May 2003 (P. Svengen), 23 May 2010 (one, P. Svengen *et al.*), 24 May 2002 (2, E. Orf), 25 May 2007 (12, P. Svengen), 25 May 2008 (one, P. Svengen), 27 May 2007 (12, P. Svengen), 7 June 1998 (K. Bardon). Northbound high counts 200 at Madsen Pool, 12 May 1988 (J. Mattsson), 66 on 21 May 2007 (T. Lenz, P. Svengen, C. Wood); also note 250 dowitcher sp. at Thief Bay Pool, 18 May 2003 (R. Janssen *et al.*).

Fall migration period early July (rarely, late June) through early September. Early fall migrants 24 June 2006 (one in full alternate plumage at Pool 8, P. Svengen), 29 June 2000 (8, D. Johnson), 29 June 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 30 June 1998 (E. Livingston, S. Livingston), 4 July 1963 (R. Huber), 30 June migrants 4 September 2004 (calling juvenile, K. Eckert), 5 September 2016 (2 calling, K. Eckert *et al.*), 7 September 1997 (2, P. Svengen), 8 September 2006 (juvenile identified by tertial pattern, P. Svengen), 14 September 2003 (2 calling, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 21 September 2003 (one, †P. Svengen, J. Joppru). Undocumented reports 24 September 1978 (*The Loon* 51:88), 28 September 1969 (50+) and 24 October 1969 (6) (*The Loon* 42:23) were probably all Long-billed. Southbound high counts 113 on 19 July 2003 (P. Chu, J. Joppru, P. Svengen), 81 at Parker Pool, 8 July 2001 (P. Chu, P. Svengen), 60 at Farnes Pool, 12 July 1998 (P. Svengen).

Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*). Uncommon migrant. Normally arrives earlier in spring and later in fall than Short-billed Dowitcher. Spring migration period mid-April through mid-May, but identification vexed with few records documented. Earliest dates 18 April 2015 (B. Siverhus), 20 April 1990 (refuge staff), 30 April 2007 (calling, J. Hughes, T. Nelson), 3 May 1988 (refuge staff), 3 May 2003 (A. Evers), 3 May 2015 (C. Carrico). Multiple mid-May records; undocumented late spring migrants 19 May 2012 (J. Veltman), 20 May 2012 (D. Martin, B. Martin), 20 May 1997 (15, C. Mandel), 20 May 2012 (D. Martin, B. Martin, E. Nunez), 27 May 1988 (K. Eckert). All northbound counts at Agassiz <6.

Fall migrants exceptional in Minnesota before late July (Bardon 2002). Earliest documented fall migrants at Agassiz 25 July 1991 (12 identified by call, P. Svengen), 28 July 2001 (†P. Svengen); all other July reports lack details. Latest dates 12 October 1990 (40, R. Janssen), 15 October 2009 (25, M. Anderson), 20 October 2003 (82, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 24 October 1974 (refuge staff). Six Short-billed Dowitchers reported 24 October 1969 (*The Loon* 42:23) were probably all Long-billed. Southbound high counts 312 on 11 October 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 304 on 4 October 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), the former record-high for Minnesota.

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*). Uncommon summer resident. Nesting well-documented at Agassiz N.W.R., e.g., two nests found in onion grass area, 13 May 1996 (refuge staff). Normally arrives late March or early April; a previously unpublished report from the Wilderness Area 4 March 1981 (J. Kotok) was more than two weeks earlier than any other Marshall County record. Additional arrival dates 28 March 1978 (S. Vasse), 29 March 1988 (refuge staff), 30 March 2005 (refuge staff), 31 March 1976 (S. Vasse), 1 April 2010 (courtship flights, M. Anderson). High count 10 near refuge headquarters on 17 April 2003 (M. Anderson).

Fall migration poorly understood; most birds have probably left by late October. Latest dates at Agassiz 24 October 2006 (M. Anderson, P. Svengen), 5 November 2009 (M. Anderson), 7 November 1982 (J. Mattsson), 15 November 2008 (G. Tischer).

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*). Summer resident and common migrant. Nests at refuge. Earliest arrivals 22 March 2010 (G. Tischer), 29 March 1988 (refuge staff), 2 April 1981 (J. Mattsson), 5 April 2006 (J. Braastad), 7 April 1973 (refuge staff), 7 April 1993 (G. Huschle).

High counts at Agassiz probably include a mix of local breeders and migrants. High counts 137 on 22 July 2006 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 136 (125 of these at Northwest Pool) on 31 July 2009 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 118 on 9 August 2003 (P. Svengen, S. Steva), 112 on 9 August 2008 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 110 on 29 August 1973 (refuge staff). There is only one higher count for this species in Minnesota. Latest dates 2 November 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru),

4 November 1979 (S. Steva), 5 November 1970 (refuge staff), 5 November 2009 (M. Anderson), 5 November 1970 (refuge staff), 11 November 1990 (G. Tischer).

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*). Common summer resident. Nests on refuge. Spring migration period mid-April through late May. Earliest arrivals 28 April 1976 (S. Vasse), 2 May 1981 (J. Mattsson), 2 May 2010 (J. Joppru), 3 May 1988 (refuge staff), 3 May 2003 (A. Evers), 3 May 2016 (J. Schmit).

Fall migration period early August through late September. Latest dates 6 September 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 8 September 2006 (6, P. Svengen), 8 September 2007 (one, P. Svengen), 14 September 2003 (P. Svengen *et al.*), 19 September 2010 (J. Joppru). High counts at Agassiz 18–22 on three consecutive surveys between 27 July and 2 August 2003 (P. Svengen *et al.*), 19 on 24 August 2007 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru).

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*). Uncommon migrant. Spring migration period mid-April through late May and occasionally into early June. Earliest arrivals 30 April 1985 (J. Mattsson), 3 May 2015 (C. Carrico), 4 May 1988 (refuge staff), 5 May 1987 (J. Mattsson), 6 May 2000 (J. Joppru). Late spring migrants 20 May 1997 (B. Eichhorst), 26 May 1998 (refuge files), 27 May 2018 (m.ob., location?), 28 May 2008 (one, P. Svengen). Northbound high count 7 on 13 May 2021 (L. Baumgardt). Three birds at Tamarack Pool 21 June 1991 (refuge staff) were intriguing, but could have been wandering; this species' breeding range lies along the Minnesota-Canada border, and there are nesting records in Aitkin and Cook counties (Bardon 2002).

Earliest fall migrants 25 June 2023 (3, N. Meserve, J. Miller), 29 June 2022 (one, H. Hughes), 30 June 2006 (one, P. Svengen), 4 July 1963 (R. Huber), 6 July 2003 (P. Svengen *et al.*), 7 July 2013 (J. Ryan), 7–8 July 2001 (one, P. Svengen). Latest dates 18 September 1970 (refuge staff), 19 September 2010 (J. Joppru), 23 September 1979 (S. Steva), 27 September 1974 (refuge staff), 28 September 1975 (S. Vasse). Southbound high counts 27 on 29 July 2007 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 24 on 24 July 2003 (K. Bardon), 21 on 9 August 2008 (P. Svengen), 17 on 4 August 2006 (P. Svengen).

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*). Common migrant. Spring migration period mid-April through mid-June. Earliest arrivals 4 April 1953 (one, refuge staff), 8 April 1988 (G. Tischer, wrong date in *The Loon* 60:158), 14 April 1981 (J. Mattsson), 14 April 1954, 16 April 1971 (refuge staff), 16 April 1989 (refuge staff), 17 April 1992 (refuge staff). Late spring migrants 1 June 2006 (4, P. Svengen), 2 June 2003 (one, J. Joppru), 4 June 2021 (one, A. Horowitz), 9 June 2021 (same bird?, L. Richardson), 10 June 1998 (B. Beneke *et al.*). Northbound high counts 1500 estimated at Pool 8 on 8 May 2006 (S. Braastad), 656 on 18 May 2003 (J. Bonkoski, R. Janssen, J. Joppru), 300 on 12 May 2021 (W. Britton, J. Morelli), 186 on 15 May 2007 (P. Svengen), 100+ on 9 May 1998 (G. Tischer).

Shorebird surveys in Big Stone County classified Lesser Yellowlegs as southbound beginning 17 June (Bardon 2002). Earliest fall migrants at Agassiz 21 June 2003 (2, P. Chu, P. Svengen), 22 June 2003 (2 at Madsen Pool, S. Lor), 22 June 2023 (4, P. Jantscher), 24 June 1992 (*The Loon* 65:21, location?), 24 June 2006 (80, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 24–25 June 2021 (eBird, S. Kolbe, H. Toutonghi). Latest dates 23 October 1995 (S. Steva), 23 October 1999 (6, J. Joppru), 24 October 2003 (P. Svengen *et al.*), 24 October 2006 (55, P. Svengen), 24 October 2007 (one, P. Svengen), 25 October 1978 (refuge staff), 27 October 2007 (R. Williams). Southbound high counts headlined by totals ≥921 on eight consecutive shorebird surveys between 6 July and 9 August 2003, including 1,677 on 27 July 2003 (P. Svengen, S. Steva). Additional high counts at Agassiz 1,676 on 3 August 2007 (1,432 of these at Tamarack Pool, P. Svengen, J. Joppru); 1,131 on 9 August 2008 (P. Svengen); 1,128 on 15 July 2001 (all at Parker Pool, P. Svengen).

Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*). Uncommon to occasional migrant, especially scarce in fall. Formerly nested in Minnesota but no such records since 1932. Spring migration period late April through mid-June. Earliest arrivals at Agassiz 29 April 1973, 30 April 1991, 1 May 1995, 1 May 2021 (J. Joppru), 2 May 1985, 2 May 2006 (all refuge staff unless otherwise noted). Probable late spring migrants 7 June 1998 (K. Bardon, location?), 11 June 2001 (G. Matthews), 12 June 2008 (F. Gosiak). Late June records at Agassiz, e.g., 21 June 2003 (P. Svengen, P. Chu), 28 June 1971 (M. Carr), 29 June 1975

(S. Vasse) probably represent non-breeding birds. Northbound high count 30–40 on 20 May 2012 (Detroit Lakes Birding Festival); all other refuge counts single digits.

Bardon (2002) analyzed Minnesota summer records since 1960 and calculated an average late spring date of 7 June and an average early fall date of 23 July. Probable early fall migrants at Agassiz 12 July 1980 (refuge staff), 14 July 1987 (K. Bardon). Also of interest was a juvenile at South Pool 18 August 2007 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru). Late fall migrants 31 August – 1 September 2007 (P. Svengen *et al.*), 31 August – 1 September 2008 (K. Eckert *et al.*), 21 September 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 26 September 1969 (E. Stanley).

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*). Uncommon to occasionally common migrant. Earliest arrivals 28 March 1973 (refuge staff), 31 March 1967 (refuge staff), 3 April 2009 (J. Joppru), 5 April 2017 (J. Joppru), 10 April 1977 (S. Vasse). Late spring migrants 26 May 1966 (D. Olsen), 30 May 2009 (J. Joppru, B. Williams, D. Williams), 31 May 1994 (S. Steva), 4 June 2021 (one, A. Horowitz), 8 June 2018 (J. Joppru), 12 June 2008 (F. Gosiak). Northbound high count 150 on 30 April 1953 (refuge staff). Spring counts during shorebird surveys were dramatically lower, e.g., max. of 8 on 22 May 2008 (P. Svengen), which probably reflects the relative lack of surveys in April.

Shorebird surveys in Big Stone County classified Greater Yellowlegs as southbound beginning 17 June (Bardon 2002). Earliest fall migrants at Agassiz 17 June 2003 (S. Steva), 21 June 2003 (5, P. Svengen, P. Chu), 22 June 2021 (2, G. Mart), 22 June 2023 (3, P. Jantscher), 24 June 1986 (A. Bolduc), 24 June 2006 (4, P. Svengen), 25 June 2013 (one, K. & H. Ostermiller), 25 June 2021 (S. Kolbe, H. Toutonghi), 25 June 2023 (10, N. Meserve, J. Miller). Latest dates 4 November 1979 (S. Steva), 5 November 1965 (D. Olson), 5 November 1970 (refuge staff), 7 November 1974 (refuge staff), 8 November 1975 (S. Vasse). A southbound high count of 200 was estimated at Agassiz 5 September 1998 (S. Steva, J. Joppru). Systematic shorebird surveys tallied 180 on 18 August 2007 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 170 on 17 August 2003 (P. Svengen, J. Lind, J. Joppru), 130 on 15 July 2006 (P. Svengen, J. Joppru), and 129 on 15 September 2002 (P. Svengen, wrong date in *The Loon* 75:87).

Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*). Summer resident and nesting species at Agassiz. Earliest dates 24 April 2000 (many at various locations, G. Tischer), 24 April 2005 (J. Joppru), 27 April 2007 (*vide* J. Joppru), 29 April 1985 (J. Mattsson), 2 May 1977, 1981, 1984 (all refuge staff). Northbound high count 12 May 2021 (200, W. Britton, J. Morelli). First nesting evidence 1978 (young seen). About 100 nests were estimated Summer 1981 (refuge staff).

Occasionally common during fall migration. Latest dates 24 September 1970, 24 September 1975, 26 September 1969 (all refuge staff). Southbound high counts 200 on 24 September 1970 (refuge staff), 200 on 6 August 1979 (G. Otnes, location?), 156 on 9 August 2008 (P. Svengen).

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*). Rare spring and uncommon fall migrant. Spring migration period early May through late June. Earliest dates 2 May 1981 (22 at Madsen Pool, J. Mattsson), 11 May 1980 (2 at Parker Pool, J. Mattsson), 13 May 1987 (refuge staff). Late spring migrants 29 May 1976 (S. Vasse), 31 May 1985 (J. Mattsson), 31 May 2009 (J. Joppru), 16 June 1986 (J. Mattsson); also reported in Marshall County (location?) 28 June 1992 (*The Loon* 65:22). Northbound high count 40 on 15 May 1990 (Tamarack and Northwest pools, J. Kotok).

Fall migration period late July through early September, rare in October. Earliest fall migrants 8 July 2006 (one, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 24 July 2003 (one, K. Bardon), 29 July 2007 (5 adults, 4 juveniles, P. Svengen, J. Joppru), 30 July 2003 (3 juveniles, K. Bardon), 2 August 2003 (5, P. Svengen *et al.*). Latest dates 17 September 1984 (refuge files), 21 September 1997 (one, P. Svengen), 8 October 1970 (refuge staff), 9 October 2018 (one, L. Harper, K. MacAulay). Southbound high counts 57 at Headquarters Pool, 27 August 2013 (J. & L. Kraemer), 31 on 24 August 2007 (P. Svengen), 25 at Madsen Pool, 26 August 1988 (J. Mattsson).

[Red Phalarope] (*Phalaropus fulicarius*). Casual in Minnesota. No records at Agassiz, but predicted to occur based on records at Grand Forks, North Dakota, and Beltrami, Polk, and Roseau counties in Minnesota.

Duluth, MN; Thief River Falls, MN.

The 2022 Fall Season

1 August through 30 November 2022

Paul E. Budde¹, Ezra M. Hosch², Doug W. Kieser³, and Brian T. Smith⁴

Among the 317 species found in this remarkable season were two new and one continuing first state record (Brown Booby, Phainopepla, and a continuing pair of Abert's Towhees), five additional Accidentals (Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Limpkin, Tricolored Heron, Swallow-tailed Kite, and Fork-tailed Flycatcher), and an impressive 21 individuals representing 12 Casual species.

A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck in mid-October was a first record for Washington County, while a King Eider on Lake Superior in mid-November was the third record for Lake County. All three scoters were well-represented away from Lake Superior; Surfs, in particular, were reported more widely south than in any other season. Wild Turkeys have been expanding northward over the last few decades. They were first reported in St. Louis County in 2006. This season, 63 in Sax-Zim Bog produced the highest statewide tally for the season. The second highest, interestingly, was from Lake-wood Cemetery in the middle of Minneapolis. Western Grebe high counts are generally from Lake Osakis or the extreme western edge of the state, so 350 at Minnesota Lake in Faribault County was surprising.

A Rufous Hummingbird discovered in summer continued at Forest Lake, while another *Selasphorus* was spotted and photographed in Anoka County. Migrant Yellow Rails provided second county records for Dakota and Olmsted; all four records in these counties have been from October. The state's second Limpkin was revealed in a post found on social media of a bird in Olmsted County in early August. The Sherburne N.W.R. official crane census shattered the state's previous high count (14,578) when over 29,000 cranes were tallied in early November.

Soon to be Regular (but still Casual) Black-necked Stilts were seen in Big Stone and Steele counties. Another species expected to soon



Tricolored Heron, 10 August 2022, Watonwan WPA, Blue Earth County. Photo by Brandon Lentz.

change status to Regular is Red Knot; one provided a first record for Sibley County. At the same location in Sibley, High Island Lake, a Western Sandpiper had been discovered earlier in the season. In late September, three different wastewater treatment lagoons in Stearns County hosted 1–3 Sabine's Gulls, including one adult; another Sabine's was a first record for Scott County. Hubbard County produced its first Iceland Gull when one was discovered on Kabekona Lake. Ten Lesser Black-backed Gulls was the most ever for a fall season, while the absence of any Great Black-backed Gulls continues the downward trend of reports of this species in the state. A Red-throated Loon in the St. Croix River was a first record for Washington County, while Pacific Loons were only found on Lake Superior.

Brown Booby has been expanding its range along both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts over

the last two decades, and vagrants occasionally wander northward into the interior of the continent. Still, it was quite a surprise when the first one for Minnesota was found along the Mississippi River in Winona in early August (*The Loon* 94:160–164). Twin Cities birders have come to expect to see a Neotropical Cormorant in Richfield in the summer and fall. One this season didn't disappoint them, while another was surprising as it was a first record for Meeker County. The first Tricolored Heron in the fall in over 30 years was a first record for Blue Earth County. The north had more Cattle Egret reports (3) than did the south (1); one of those north reports was a first record for Koochiching County. The only Yellow-crowned Night-Heron seen was an adult photographed in Freeborn County. White-faced Ibis reports were the best for fall ever and included a surprising visitor to Bloomington.

Counters at Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory found Swallow-tailed and Mississippi kites this season, both in late August. Two Barn Owls were documented via nocturnal audio recordings in Houston and Olmsted counties. Snowy Owls first appeared in the state in the latter half of November in three northern counties and at MSP Airport. There were few reports of Great Gray Owls away from Sax-Zim Bog, and no reports of Northern Hawk or Boreal owls. The state's fourth Fork-tailed Flycatcher was discovered at Stony Point, St. Louis County, in mid-September. The only Say's Phoebe of the season was in Big Stone N.W.R. in mid-August.

If you wanted to find a White-eyed Vireo in the fall season, where would you look? Your best bet would be to try Cook County. One in Grand Marais this season makes it the only county with three fall records. Another one was found this season in Washington County on the same day.

An exciting first record for the state was a Phainopepla discovered in late October along Lake Superior in Duluth (*The Loon* 94:171–173). This bird, normally of the southwestern U.S. and Mexico, was seen over four days and delighted many. Approximately 16 Townsend's Solitaires were discovered in the state, beginning in late September. The only Varied Thrushes were seen in Cook and Aitkin at the very end of the season. Eurasian Tree Sparrows, another species with Casual status that is likely to change with the next Checklist, were

observed in Polk and Meeker counties; another was a first record for Goodhue County.

An Evening Grosbeak provided a first record for McLeod County, while others were found south in Washington, Wabasha, and Houston counties — all in November. After two good fall seasons of redpolls, this fall was below-average in numbers of Commons while Hoary Redpolls never arrived. First county records of Smith's Longspurs were found in Olmsted and Waseca, and one in Clay was the first for that county since 1998. Two other individuals were record early, one north and one south.

New high fall counts of Grasshopper and Clay-colored sparrows were tallied in Clay and Polk counties, respectively. A Harris's Sparrow photographed in Duluth was the first August record of this species since 2000, and only the third ever. The two first-state-record Abert's Towhees — first found in Grand Rapids in June — lingered through late November (*The Loon* 94:174–178). A Spotted Towhee discovered at the end of the season was a first record for Faribault County. Yellow-throated Warblers were documented in Houston, Washington, and Cass counties. A female Painted Bunting in mid-November provided a first record for Polk County (*The Loon* 95:50); it was only the fifth fall record and one of very few individuals found that was not in adult male plumage.

Weather: For most of the season, average state temperatures by month were 1° to 2° (F) above normal. The season's high was 101° on 2 August in Marshall, Lyon County, though 99° in Lamberton on 20 September was also notable. By the end of September, most of the state had experienced its first hard frost. November began with unseasonable warm weather as daily records were set at several locations across the state on the 2nd with readings in the 70s, but by the 18th and 19th some northern locations recorded below zero temperatures. The season's coldest reading was 7° in Goodridge, Pennington County, on the 30th.

Precipitation in August statewide was slightly above average, fueled mostly by a series of storms across central and southern parts of the state early in the month and a line of strong thunderstorms and tornadoes that passed through the Twin Cities on the 27th. September was quite dry in most of the state, though rainfall in Grand Portage, Cook County, was almost two inches above normal. October was quite

dry as the statewide average precipitation total was only 25% or normal. The first widespread measurable snowfall occurred on the 14th when snows accumulated from the Twin Cities north to the Arrowhead region. November was wetter than normal, though not all areas of the state shared in the precipitation. A series of thunderstorms from the 8th to 12th dropped twice the normal monthly total of precipitation in the forms of rain and snow to a swath from central Minnesota to Duluth. Another southwest to northeast storm on the 29th brought 4–8" of snow to the Mankato area, and as much as 32" to one station in Lake County.

Documented reports still under review: *Selasphorus* hummingbird 8/14 Anoka; Red Knot 8/29 St. Louis.

Acknowledgements: Special thanks to Dave Cahlander for building and maintaining the *Seasonal Reports* submission and production web pages (<http://moumn.org/moureports/season.php>) through which most of this data is collected and organized. We are also grateful for the additional data provided for the creation of this report by eBird (<http://www.ebird.org>, accessed January 2023). Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data from the 25-year period 1997 through 2021. Weather data is from the Minnesota DNR's HydroClim Minnesota newsletter (<https://www.dnr.state>.



Harris's Sparrow, 10 August 2022, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Michael Rentz.

mn.us/hydroclim/index.html). Finally and most importantly, our appreciation goes out to all those who contribute their sightings data to the MOU. We are especially grateful to those who respond to our requests for details and who submit observations online.

¹Washington, DC; ²Mahtomedi, MN; ³Minneapolis, MN; ⁴Sleepy Eye, MN.

KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species listed in brackets [**Smew**] indicates a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species' name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties with reports.
4. Dates listed in bold (**10/9**) indicate an occurrence either earlier, later, or within the three earliest or latest dates on file.
5. Counties listed in bold (**Aitkin**) indicate an unusual occurrence for that county.
6. Counties listed in bold and with an underline (**Becker**) indicate a first county record.
7. Counties listed in italics (*Crow Wing*) indicate a first county breeding record.
8. Totals in bold (**150**) indicate a total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
9. Totals in bold-italic (***55***) indicate a CBC total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
10. Dagger "+" preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
11. "ph." denotes a species documented with a photograph.
12. "v.t." denotes a species documented by video.
13. "a.t." denotes a species documented by audio.
14. High counts that are multiples of 100 are assumed or known to be estimates unless otherwise noted.

The *Seasonal Report* is a compilation of seasonal bird sightings from throughout Minnesota. We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To become a contributor, contact the Editor of the Seasonal Report, Paul E. Budde, seasons@moumn.org.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) — [1 South] One report of this Accidental species: 10/10 **Washington** (found with a flock of Mallards in a wetland near Lake Elmo) ph. †JVA.

Snow Goose (*Anser caerulescens*) — [24 North, 32 South] Early north (median 9/7) 9/2 Roseau KRE, CRM, m.ob., 9/3 Beltrami ebd. Early south migrants (median 9/13) 9/24 McLeod (3) BHa, Rock PRH, 9/25 Kandiyohi JwD. High counts 11/11 Pipestone (250, Pipestone W.T.P.) VKI, 10/28 Pennington (220, Rocksbury Twp) KEm. Late north 11/11 Clay (Moorhead) DPW, (Cromwell Twp.) PBB, St. Louis (2) JLK, Wilkin (5) TkL, 11/22 Clay (Hawley) TkL (median 11/18). Late south 11/30 Dakota (2) TaP, ebd, but also see winter report (median 12/16).

Ross's Goose (*Anser rossii*) — [5 North, 13 South] Early north (median 9/21) 9/23 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) SeM, ebd, 9/23–24 Lake (Two Harbors) JWL, ebd, 9/24 Marshall (6) HHu. Early south (median 10/10) 9/27–30 Benton (5, Foley W.T.P.) HHD, MJB, PLJ, JGW, 10/6 Sibley JWZ, JGW. High count 11/11 Pipestone (22, Pipestone W.T.P.) VKI. Late north 11/6 Lake (Two Harbors) KRE, VRL, KOC, 11/8 St. Louis JLK (median 10/26). Late south 11/25 Hennepin MwT, AnB, ebd, 11/26–27 Sherburne (Big Lake) RSk, ebd, 11/28 Murray RJS (median 12/3).

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) — [7 North, 22 South] Early north (median 10/5) 8/4–21 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment; one, perhaps injured, was at this location much of the summer, but was joined by another on 8/4) DBi, KHg, ToM, MHn, LsW, 9/21 Beltrami (2) EHi, 10/20 Grant (65) PEJ. Early south (median 9/22) 8/26 Lyon (1) RJS, 9/24–26 Stearns (max. 8, Albany W.T.P.) HHD, DRL, m.ob., 9/29 Redwood WCM. High count 10/25 Cottonwood (150, Wolf Lake W.P.A.) KEm. Late north 10/31 Cass ebd, Clay (21, Felton Prairie) TCL, 11/11 Clay (100, Barnesville) TkL, (2, Cromwell Twp.) PBB, (24, Moorhead) DPW, Grant (30) CNn (median 11/2). Late south 11/13 Lyon (14) GWe, Carver (30) ebd, 11/16 Dakota (3) CRe (median 12/8).

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [20 North, 35 South] Early north (median 9/10)

8/6 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK, 9/3–4 Roseau (max. 2) CRM, m.ob. Early south (median 9/18) 9/22–23 Washington (2) ebd, 9/24 Ramsey (Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary) MWS. High counts 10/7–8 Marshall (200, Warren W.T.P.) HHu, 10/28 Pennington (150, 150th St. NE) JGW. Late north 11/14 Beltrami (4) ebd, 11/17 St. Louis (1) ebd, 11/29 Otter Tail (2) TFu (median 12/17). See winter report for late south migrants.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties in the state and throughout the season. High counts 11/13 Sherburne (3,000, Big Lake) BAb, 11/21 Washington (3,000, Grey Cloud Island) PNi.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) — [4 South] All south reports of probable wild birds: 8/1 – 11/28 Hennepin (max. 2, seen primarily at Old Cedar Ave. Bridge; continuing from summer season) BAB, m.ob., 8/22 – 11/6 Dakota (3, Lock and Dam #2 and Lake Rebecca Park) KDS, ebd, 11/7–20 Washington (max. 3, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A. and Hazen P. Mooers Park) KDS, ebd, 11/22 Wabasha (Lake City) MNb.

Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [34 North, 50 South] Reported in all regions and throughout the season. High counts (none with ID details) 11/26 Sherburne (285, near Big Lake) RSk, 11/24 Hubbard (225, Park Rapids) ebd, 11/6 Houston (200, Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) ebd, 11/13 Hennepin (200, Minnesota Valley N.W.R. and Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) IaH, ebd, 11/21 Hennepin (200, Medicine Lake) BLz.

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [22 North, 34 South] Early north (median 10/1) 9/25 St. Louis (2) ebd, 10/2 Todd (3) ebd, 10/6 Polk (8) HHu. Early south (median 10/11) 10/5 Meeker (6) ebd, 10/10 Freeborn (2) ebd, 10/12 Hennepin (2) ebd. High count 11/18 Houston (6,000, Brownsville Overlook) ebd. Late north 11/19 Hubbard (5) ebd, Pine ebd, Wadena (18) ebd, 11/24 Cass (22) AxB, 11/24–25 Beltrami (max. 35) AxB, ebd (median 11/29). See winter report for late south.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported throughout the state and season. High count 8/19 Big Stone (320, Karl Slough, counted by fives) SSP.

- Blue-winged Teal** (*Spatula discors*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported throughout the state and season. High count 8/20 Sibley (1,565, High Island Lake, counted by fives) EzH, IsH. Late north 11/13–16 Beltrami (max. 3, Lake Irving) AxB, 11/14 Pine KrM (median 10/30). Late south 11/16, 11/20 Hennepin JuW, DAH, 11/30 Dakota KDS (median 11/13).
- Northern Shoveler** (*Spatula chrypeata*) — [25 North, 47 South] High counts 11/7 Meeker (300, Lake Ripley) DPG, 9/3 Polk (250, Crookston W.T.P.) GHo. Late north 11/13 Carlton (2) LiH, 11/16 Beltrami ebd, 11/17 Crow Wing MJB. See winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Gadwall** (*Mareca strepera*) — [27 North, 43 South] High count 11/9 Houston (800, Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) ebd, 10/29 Dakota (500, Upper Gun Club Lake) BBr. Late north 11/17 Beltrami AxB, 11/18–19 Becker NaH (median 12/4). See winter report for late south and overwintering birds.
- American Wigeon** (*Mareca americana*) — [26 North, 40 South] High count 11/11 Houston (750, Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) ebd. Late north 11/13–19 Beltrami (max. 3, Lake Irving) AxB, ebd, 11/14 Becker NaH (median 11/20), but also see winter report.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported throughout the state. High counts 11/13 Lyon (2,650, Cottonwood Lake) GWe, 10/4 Aitkin (1,428, Rice Lake N.W.R. Fall Waterfowl Count) CyC.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [11 North, 17 South] Reported north away from Lake Superior in Beltrami, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Itasca, Koochiching, Marshall, Pine, Roseau. Early south (median 8/15) 8/1 Ramsey (5) ebd, 8/7 Hennepin (3) ebd, 8/17 Freeborn ebd, Scott ebd, Sherburne ebd. High counts 10/17 St. Louis (18, H.R.N.R.) JsC, 10/21 Houston (16, Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) ebd.
- Mallard X American Black Duck** (*Anas platyrhynchos* X *A. rubripes*) — [2 North, 4 South] Reported north from Cook and St. Louis, and south from Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Wabasha. Details provided for 10/21–29 Cook COg, m.ob., and 11/7 Wabasha (Pool 5) PEJ.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [25 North, 44 South] High counts 10/25, 11/5 Hennepin (200, Minnesota Valley N.W.R. and Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 11/6 Houston (200, Brownsville Overlook) BDo, LiH. See winter report for more late north and south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [32 North, 50 South] High counts 11/4 Stearns (414, Albany W.T.P.) PCC, 10/21 Yellow Medicine (375, Miedd Lake) GWe. Late north 11/16 Beltrami (2) AxB, 11/17–19 St. Louis (1, Stone Lake) KTP (median 11/18). See winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [18 North, 36 South] High count 11/25 Houston (500, Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) EzH, IsH. Late north 11/22–25 Beltrami AxB, ebd, 11/23 Otter Tail (5) Tfu (median 12/4). See winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [28 North, 42 South] High count 11/5 Kandiyohi (210, Lake Lillian) ebd. Late north 11/27–30 Beltrami (max. 7, Bemidji) AxB, ebd (median 12/12). See winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [29 North, 42 South] High counts 10/11 Aitkin (4,835, Rice Lake N.W.R. Fall Waterfowl Count) CyC, 10/25 Ramsey (2,800, Vadnais Lake, counted by tens) EzH, LiH. Late north 11/28 Douglas ebd, 11/29–30 Beltrami (max. 5, Bemidji) AxB, ebd (median 12/6). See winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [10 North, 19 South] Earliest north reports all from Duluth, beginning 9/13 KDx, CIN, First north reports away from Duluth 10/5 Cook (2) JPr, Otter Tail (4) ebd (median 9/25). Early south (median 10/17) 10/12–22 Ramsey (max. 3, Bald Eagle and Vadnais Lakes) MWS, LiH, 10/19 Big Stone DLP, 10/22 Pope ebd. High counts 11/16 Beltrami (50, Lake Irving) AxB, 10/10 St. Louis (36, Park Point) JLK. Late north 11/25–29 Beltrami (2, Bemidji) AxB, ebd, 11/27 St. Louis (2, Superior Entry) LiH, TWe (median 12/16). See winter report for latest migrants and overwintering birds.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [21 North, 40 South] High counts 11/4 Lyon (200, Cot-



Surf Scoter, 6 November 2022, Lakeville, Dakota County. Photo by Anna Battaglia.

tonwood Lake) RJS, 11/16 Beltrami (200, Lake Irving) AxB. Late north 11/27 Cass ebd, St. Louis (Superior Entry) LiH, TWe, 11/29–30 Beltrami (max. 41, Lake Bemidji) AxB, DvH, (median 12/18). See winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.

KING EIDER (*Somateria spectabilis*) — [1 North] Third county record of this Casual species: 11/16–18 Lake (immature male, Two Harbors) ph. AwG, ph. †HTo, ph. †TPu, m.ob.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [2 North] All north: 8/1 – 11/11 Cook (max. 2, female type, Grand Marais; at least one likely continuing from summer) JBn, ph. PEJ, ebd, m.ob., 10/28 Lake (female type, Silver Bay) LiH.

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [6 North, 13 South] Early north (median 9/30) 9/25 – 10/3 St. Louis (max. 10, Duluth) TWe, HTo, BLz, KRE, JHe, ebd. Three north records away from Lake Superior: 10/23 Hubbard (3, Garfield Lake) ANy, DBz, 10/31 Otter Tail (2, Lake Crystal) ebd, 11/1 Cass ANy, DBz. Late north 11/1 Cass ANy, DBz, Cook (Taconite Harbor) KDS, GHo, 11/4 Cook (Grand Marais) ebd, St. Louis MLH. All south 10/7 Rice (2) ebd, 10/12–26 Ramsey (max. 3, Bald Eagle Lake) ELC, MWS, ebd, m.ob., 10/13 – 11/13 Hennepin (5 birds at three locations) ClB, m.ob., 10/15 Faribault (2, Wells W.T.P.) ph. PEJ, 10/20–21 Lac qui Parle (max. 7, Salt Lake) WCM, 10/20–23 Meeker (2, Lake Ripley) BNn, ph. PKF, 10/27 – 11/2 Carver (Lake

Waconia) WCM, TWe, 10/27 – 11/20 Washington (8 birds at three locations) HCT, BDo, 10/28 – 11/13 Dakota (max. 2, Lake Marion) LrV, CJa, m.ob., 11/5–14 Olmsted (2, Silver Creek Reservoir) JPr, ebd, m.ob., 11/9–15 Goodhue (2, Lake Pepin) ph. PEJ, 11/13 Meeker (Clear Lake C.P.) MJB, 11/16–18 Wabasha (max. 5, Pool 5) PEJ, 11/22 Stearns (Grand Lake) PCC (median 11/24). High count 10/3 St. Louis (10, Lake Superior) HTo, ebd.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta deglandi*) — [3 North, 8 South] Early north (median 10/6) 10/13 St. Louis (Stony Point) ebd, 10/16 St. Louis (Superior Entry) GWE. Also found in Cook (10/20 - 11/13) and Lake (10/26 - 11/24). No north reports away from Lake Superior. All south 10/15 Benton HHD, 10/20 Lac qui Parle (3, Salt Lake) WCM, 10/26 – 11/1 Hennepin (Medicine Lake) TWe, m.ob., 10/29 Washington (Lakeside Memorial Park) BDo, 11/4–5 Olmsted (2, East Landfill Kalmar Reservoir) JPr, m.ob., 11/17 Le Sueur (Lake Sakatah) LHi, 11/18–27 Wabasha (Pool 5 and Lake Pepin) PEJ, 11/21 Goodhue (Lake Pepin) PEJ, 11/24 Washington (Point Douglas Park) DnS (median 12/5). High count 10/30 Cook (10, Grand Marais & Taconite Harbor) PEJ. Also see winter report for late migrants north and south.

Black Scoter (*Melanitta americana*) — [3 North, 9 South] Early north (median 10/5) 10/8–20 St. Louis (Park Point) JWl, JLK, ebd. Reported in St. Louis through 11/24, and in Cook 10/23 – 11/13. One north report away from Lake Superior: 10/28 – 11/3 Mille Lacs (max. 2, near Onamia) MtS, AaL, CLu, m.ob. All south 10/15 Hennepin (Baker P.R.) KOC, 10/19 Carver (Lake Waconia) TWe, 10/24 Rice TFB, 10/24–28 Olmsted (Silver Creek Reservoir) LAV, †JPr, m.ob., 10/27 Dakota (Orchard Lake) TaP, m.ob., 10/27 – 11/14 Dakota/Rice (max. 5, Lake Marion) TaP, m.ob., 11/5–9 Olmsted (max. 4, Cascade Lake) ToM, LAV, JWH, 11/9–23 Hennepin (max. 2, Medicine Lake) TWe, m.ob., 11/10 Ramsey (2, Sucker Lake) LiH, 11/10–12 Wright (max. 13, season high count, Lake Pulaski) ToL, TWE, JHe, ebd, 11/12–17 Waseca (Clear Lake) BAB, DWK, LHi, 11/16–18 Wabasha (Pool 5) PEJ, 11/24–27 Ramsey (Bald Eagle Lake) ClB,

m.ob. (median 11/28).

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [6 North, 5 South] Early north (median 10/16) 10/22–28 Cook (max. 3, Grand Marias and Good Harbor Bay) KRE, CRM, m.ob., 10/28 St. Louis ebd. Additional north reports away from Lake Superior 11/13 Carlton (3, Moose Lake W.T.P.) LiH, 11/11–30 Beltrami (max. 3, Bemidji) AxB, ph. DvH, ebd. All south 11/12 Rice (Mazaska Lake) MZa, AvB, 11/13 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) DnS, 11/16–21 Meeker (Lake Ripley and Lake Manuella) MJB, PKF, DWK, ANy, DBz, 11/18–27 Wabasha (max. 2, juveniles, Lake Pepin) PEJ, 11/22–27 Hennepin (adult male, Medicine Lake) MJB, m.ob.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [28 North, 41 South] Early south (median 9/17) 8/19 Stevens (Fish Lake) SSP, 9/12 Stevens (2, Crystal Lake) ebd, 10/1 Lyon (1, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe. High count 10/26–27 Cass (350, Walker W.T.P.) BEC, ebd. See winter report for late migrants north and south and overwintering birds.

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [26 North, 33 South] Early south (median 10/15) 10/13 Ramsey LiH, 10/15 Washington ebd, 10/17 Olmsted (2) JmP. High counts 11/18 Goodhue (550, Lake Pepin) PEJ, 11/13 Hennepin (440, Medicine Lake) RCL.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) — No reports.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [32 North, 47 South] Reported statewide. High count 11/26 Ramsey (770, Vadnais Lake) BBr.

Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser (*Bucephala clangula* X *Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [1 South] One documented report 11/27 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) ph. TPu, MwT, AnB.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) — [22 North, 26 South] Early south (median 10/20) 8/1–19 Sherburne (Sherburne National N.W.R.) ebd. First reports away from Sherburne 10/18 Carver (5) ebd, 10/19 Le Sueur (5) DOr, Ramsey LiH. High count 11/23–28 Wabasha (2,000, Lake City) MwT, TaP, ebd.

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) — [11 North, 22 South] Reports from the Northeast spanned the season. Late north



Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser hybrid, 27 November 2022, Vadnais Lake, Ramsey County. Photo by Tate Putman.

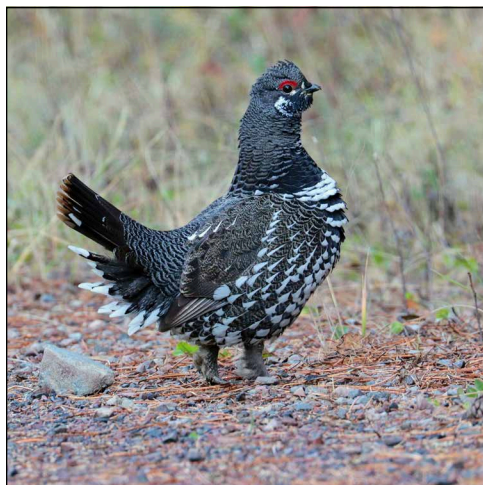
away from Lake Superior: 11/17 Crow Wing (10) MJB, 11/21 Otter Tail TFu, 11/29–30 Beltrami DvH, AxB. Early south (median 10/27) 10/13–18 Carver TWe, ebd, 10/15 Sherburne ebd. High count 11/17 Benton (85, Little Rock C.P.) MJB.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [18 North, 42 South] High counts 10/31 Wright (235, Pelican Lake) RCL, 10/6 Hennepin (200, Plymouth) ebd, 10/30 Scott (200, Cedar Lake) BxP. Late north (median 11/16) 11/5 Mille Lacs (30) LMc, ebd, 11/11 Clay ebd, Wilkin ebd, 11/23 Hubbard (4) AxB, ebd. See winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds (median 12/19).

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [30 North, 50 South] Reported statewide. High counts 10/15 St. Louis (63, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 11/17 Hennepin (58, Lakewood Cemetery) BAF.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [27 North, 15 South] Reported north from every county but Clay, Grant, Mahnomen Pennington, Red Lake, Traverse, Wilkin. Reported south from Sherburne, Stearns, the East-central (Anoka, Isanti, Chisago, Washington) and the Southeast (Dakota, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Olmsted, Scott, Wabasha, Winona). High count 10/15 St. Louis (16, Taconite Trail west to Twin Lakes) MPi.

Spruce Grouse (*Canachites canadensis*) — [5 North] Reported north from Cook, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High count 11/5 Cook (8, Superior



Spruce Grouse, 30 October 2022, Tofte, Cook County. Photo by Matt Scott.

N.F.) ebd.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [11 North] North reports from Aitkin, Itasca, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau, St. Louis. High count 10/18 Polk (37, Angus Oslo 4 Flood Control Project) HHu.

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [3 North] Found north in Clay (including a high count on 10/20 of 50 at Bluestem Prairie S.N.A. TkL), Norman, Polk.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [9 North, 12 South] The highest number of fall reports statewide in the last 10 years. Reported north from the Northwest (Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Polk, Red Lake, Norman, Clay) and West-central (Traverse, Wilkin). Found south in Blue Earth, Brown, Dodge, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Martin, Mower, Murray, Pipestone, Renville, Steele, Watonwan. High counts 9/23 Renville (18, near the Renville/Kandiyohi line) PKF, 11/24 Polk (17, near Tabor) HHu.

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [18 North, 53 South] Reported as far north as Mahnomen in the Northwest and Meadowlands, St. Louis County in the Northeast. High count 11/5 Yellow Medicine (75, Wood Lake Twp.) BrR.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [33 North, 51 South] High counts 9/4 Ro-

seau (90, Roseau River W.M.A.) BAB, 9/28 Douglas (40, Lake Osakis) MJB, 10/19–22 Carver (40, Lake Waconia) LSw, TWe. Late north 11/24 Beltrami AxB, Clay (2) ebd, 11/25 Itasca ebd (median 12/4). For late south migrants see winter report.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [14 North, 31 South] Early south (median 9/3) 8/21 Chisago ANy, 9/3 Rock (2, Hills W.T.P.) PRH, 9/9 Big Stone DLP. High count 11/6 Wabasha (32, Pioneer Club) BDo, LiH. Late north 11/16 Beltrami (5) AxB, 11/26 St. Louis ebd (median 11/24). Late south 11/28 Hennepin MZA, Wabasha BLz (median 12/1) Also see winter report for latest migrants north and south.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [24 North, 13 South] High count 8/7 St. Louis (11, Bear Head Lake S.P.) ebd. Late north 11/20 St. Louis NGi, 11/23 Hubbard AxB, ebd, 11/27 Lake (Two Harbors) TWE (median 11/30). Late south 11/13 Hennepin (Medicine Lake) RCL, ebd, (Lake Nokomis) AwG, BAF, Olmsted LAV, 11/22 Washington DnS, PNi, BDo, ebd (median 11/19).

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [11 North, 12 South] High counts 8/12 Polk (14, Brandt-Angus Impoundment) HHu, 9/3 Pennington (14, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) GHo, KDS. Late north 9/13 Becker (2) ebd, Norman (2) TCL, 9/14 Pennington HHu, 9/15–17 Marshall (Warren W.T.P.) HHu (median 10/15). Late south 10/6 Brown (2) WCM, 10/9 Lac qui Parle (2) ebd, 11/6 Olmsted JPr, MiD, JWH (median 10/24).

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [8 North, 13 South] High count 8/17 Faribault (350, Minnesota Lake) PEJ. Late north 11/15–20 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK, ebd, 11/26 Otter Tail WyR (median 11/7). Late south 11/13 Hennepin ebd, 11/18 Wabasha PEJ, 11/19 Watonwan ARW (median 11/16).

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — No fall reports since 2017.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found statewide. High counts 9/28 Ramsey (1,100, railroad yard near Little Pigs Eye Lake) BBr, 10/19 Hennepin (500, Riverside Towers) GrS.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [20 North, 49 South] Reported south from every county except Anoka,

Chisago, Isanti, Washington. In the north, generally reported southwest of a line from Roseau to Wadena to Kanabec. No reports from the Northeast. High counts 11/27 Dakota (72, Miesville) KDS, 11/14 Brown (59, Comfrey) BTS.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High counts 8/20 Lyon (400, estimated by 10s, Russell) GWe, 8/7 Stearns (170, near Augusta) MJB.

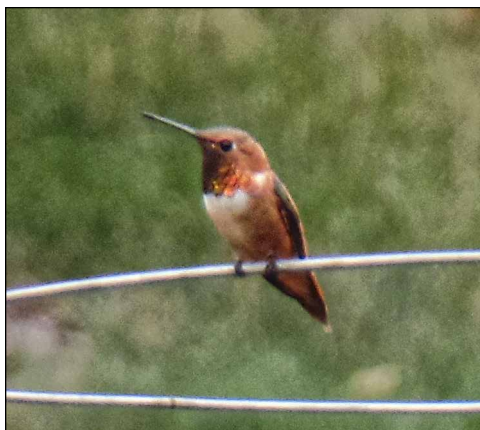
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [4 North, 21 South] All north 8/13 Polk (near Foster) ebd, 8/14 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R.) ebd, 9/25 Lake (Silver Bay) JLB, 10/7 Otter Tail (Glendalough S.P.) RBW. No high counts greater than 2. Late south 9/17 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 9/22 Wabasha (Lake City) ebd, 9/30 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) HHD (median 9/18).

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [12 North, 17 South] No high count greater than 2. Late north 9/18 Lake (Flood Bay State Wayside) JWJ, St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) JLK, ebd, 9/25 Lake (Two Harbors) JWJ, 10/6 St. Louis (Moose Valley) ASU, ebd (median 9/19). Late south 9/17 Isanti GWe, 9/22 Lyon RJS, 9/27 Ramsey ebd (median 9/16).

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) — [28 North, 50 South] High counts 8/18 St. Louis (4,200, Lester River Mouth) JGr, 8/23 Lake (3,345, Two Harbors, Lakeview Cemetery) JWJ, SLL. Late north 10/4 Clay (8) ebd, 10/5 Wilkin (2) ebd, 10/11 St. Louis JsC, ebd (median 10/1). Late south 10/9 Olmsted ebd, 10/11 Faribault (3) BAY, 10/21 Cottonwood KEm (median 10/9).

Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [7 North, 6 South] High count 8/25 Crow Wing (5, Brainerd, Barrows C.P.) CRM, m.ob. Late north 9/8 Cook (2, Sea Gull Lake) BDG, 9/10 Lake (2, Fall Lake Twp.) ebd, 9/12 St. Louis SLF (median 9/11). Late south 9/8 Anoka (Bunker Hills R.P.) ebd, 9/9 Sherburne (Sand Dunes S.E.) ebd, MKp, 9/18 Anoka (2, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) MZa (median 9/9).

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [20 North, 49 South] High count 8/30 Washington (1,200, Mahtomedi High School)



Rufous Hummingbird, 29 August 2022, Forest Lake, Washington County. Photo by Denise Appleton.

JEc. Late north 9/10–13 St. Louis (max. 2, several locations) NGi, CIN, JDx, ebd (median 9/14). Late south 9/20 Rice ebd, Scott ebd, Steele (2) ebd, 9/21 Nobles JCC, 10/12 Goodhue PEJ (median 10/5).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) — [31 North, 50 South] Reported throughout the state. High counts 8/12 Wabasha (17, Lake City) ebd, 8/29 St. Louis (16, Brighton Beach) HTo, StK, ebd. Late north 9/29 Cass EHI, 10/1 Cook ebd, 10/14 Itasca ebd (median 9/27). Late south 10/7 Mower RNS, 10/8 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey ebd (median 10/14).

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus rufus*) — [1 South] One first seen in summer continued through 8/29 in Washington (adult male visiting feeders at a residence in Forest Lake) ph. †SDA.

Selasphorus hummingbird (*Selasphorus* sp.) — [1 South] One Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird report from Anoka 8/14 is still under consideration by the records committee.

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) — [16 North, 20 South] High count 9/16 Anoka (4, Carlos Avery Pool 9) ETw, MFl. Late north 10/4 Otter Tail WPL, 10/7 Pine ebd, 10/9 Douglas JEL (median 9/16). Late south 10/20 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) DWK, 10/23 Hennepin (Lake Camelot) ebd, 10/27 – 11/3 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ABL, LSw, ebd (median 10/13).



American Avocet, 8 October 2022, Vadnais Lake, Ramsey County. Photo by Dana Sterner.

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) — [25 North, 42 South] High counts 9/1 Wadena (30, Yaeger Lake W.M.A.) EHi, 9/20 Hennepin (26, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge, some visible and others heard) JuW. Late north 10/19 Lake KOC, 10/22 Pine ebd, 11/1 St. Louis ASu, ebd (median 10/5). Late south 11/5 Olmsted JPr, JKu, JmP, LHi, 11/5–17 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) GrS, TAT, DWK, ebd (median 10/16).

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) — [1 North, 4 South] One north 8/9 Grant (1, Mud Lake W.M.A.) ebd. All south 8/1–12 Carver (1, near Maher) TWe, m.ob., 8/6–31 Wabasha (max. 3, Whitewater W.M.A.) BAB, LHi, KRE, m.ob., 8/11 – 9/22 Sibley (max. 4, Sand Lake) BTS, MiO, m.ob., 9/10 Freeborn (2, Arrowhead C.P.) JWH, JGW.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [30 North, 48 South] Reported statewide throughout the season. High counts 10/19 Hennepin (7,400, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BBr, 10/17 Meeker (6,200, Lake Washington, counted by 100s) RMa.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [2 South] Two south reports 10/20 **Dakota** (Eagan, found stuck in a vestibule of a department store and released) *fide* ph. LSc, 10/24 **Olmsted** (Silver Creek Reservoir) †JWH, †JPr, LAV, JmP.

LIMPKIN (*Aramus guarauna*) — [1 South] The second state record of this accidental species: 8/6–8 **Olmsted** (Lake George, Rochester) *fide* ph. †KEM.

Sandhill Crane (*Antigone canadensis*) — [32 North, 39 South] Reported throughout

the state with only scattered reports from the Southwest. High counts 11/8 Sherburne (29,256, Sherburne N.W.R., official refuge crane census) CyC. Late north 11/17 Crow Wing (3) PSP, 11/19 Wadena PJB, 11/21 Marshall (near Warren) HHu (median 11/14). Late south 11/25 Sherburne (38, near Santiago) PLJ, 11/27 Chisago (2, Wild River S.P.) ebd (median 11/29).

BLACK-NECKED STILT (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [2 South] Two south reports of this casual species: 8/3–14 Big Stone (max. 4, C.R. 61 and C.R. 28, continuing from summer) ph. †DLP, ph. †CRM, m.ob., 8/6 Steele (2, Armstrong Wetland Restoration) †DWK.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [4 North, 14 South] All north 8/2 – 9/3 Grant (max. 8, North Ottawa Impoundment and also near Wendell) PLJ, MMk, ebd, m.ob., 9/10 Marshall (2, Agassiz Valley) HHu, 8/7 – 9/11 Otter Tail (max. 5, Orwell W.M.A.) ebd, 9/10 Polk (3) ebd. High counts 9/10 Sibley (11, High Island Lake) RBW, 8/3–4 Grant (8, North Ottawa Impoundment) PLJ, DBi, 9/10 Brown (8, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, JSc, RBW. Fourteen south reporting counties is the highest number ever for the fall season. Early south 8/2–12 Big Stone (max. 3) DLP, 8/10 Redwood (2, Lake Redwood Dredge Area) RJS (median 8/3). Late south 10/9 Rice (1, near Montgomery) RBW, ebd, 10/21 Lyon (4, near Balaton) GWe, 10/25 Brown (3, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS.

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [9 North, 16 South] Early north (median 8/7) 8/5–6 Grant KTe, ebd, 8/10 Marshall HHu. First south migrant (median 8/6) appeared 7/28–29 Sibley at end of summer season, then 8/3 Sherburne ebd, 8/6 Big Stone DLP. High count 9/10 St. Louis (10, Park Point) ebd. Late north 10/13–14 St. Louis JLK, BLz, ebd, 10/26 Grant (3) CNn (median 10/25). Late south 10/23 Lyon GWe, 10/31 Wright RCL, 11/4 Olmsted JPr, JmP (median 11/5).

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [15 North, 34 South] Early north (median 8/16) 8/5–10 Grant (max. 2, North Ottawa Impoundment) CRM, ebd, 8/17 Marshall ph. HHu. One early south (median 8/2) report 7/20 Cottonwood RAE

late in the summer season then 8/7 Benton (6) EHi, ANy, TWe, 8/15 Dakota SDz. High counts 10/19 Wilkin (90, Breckenridge W.T.P.) PEJ, 10/2 Pipestone (55, Edgerton W.T.P.) ebd. Late north 10/23 Wilkin (12) ebd, 10/20 Grant (10) PEJ, 11/1 Marshall HHu (median 10/29). Late south 11/7–8 Brown BTS, 11/12 Lyon (3) GWe (median 11/8).

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 8/17 Redwood (300, near Milroy) RJS, 10/23 Sibley (234, High Island Lake) JCa. Late north 10/31 Grant ebd, 11/3 Mille Lacs CRM, m.ob., St. Louis ClN, ebd, 11/5 Cass ebd (median 10/25). Late south 11/21 Hennepin TWe, ebd, Wabsaha (Lake Pepin) MNb, 11/22 Ramsey LiH, 11/27 Wabasha (Millville) ebd, (Whitewater W.M.A.) CBv (median 12/25).

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [17 North, 32 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/10 Sibley (37, High Island Lake) GWe, 8/6 Big Stone (16) DLP. Late north 9/16 Aitkin ebd, 9/18 St. Louis EHi, ebd, 9/20 Cook (2) ebd (median 10/4). Late south 9/24 Olmsted LAV, ToM, ebd, Sibley (2) EzH, 9/26 Big Stone ANy, 10/9 Rice (east of Farwell) RBW, 10/10 Rice ANy (median 10/11).

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) — No reports.

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [5 North, 11 South] High count 8/2 Grant (4, North Ottawa Impoundment) PLJ. Late north 8/14 Grant (2) LSw, Traverse (2) BAR, 8/16 Kittson BCS (median 8/14). Late south 8/27 Pipestone LVD, 8/29 Brown BTS, 8/30 Ramsey AnA (median 8/24).

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) — No reports.

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) — [1 North, 2 South] Only north report: 9/11 Douglas (3, Lake Osakis) ebd. All south 8/8 Blue Earth (Medo Twp.) ebd, 8/20 Sibley (12, High Island Lake) TWe, 8/22 Sibley (2, High Island Lake) ebd, 9/11 Sibley (High Island Lake) JWH, JGW, WCM.

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) — [3 North, 3 South] All north 8/2 Clay (Felton Prairie) ebd, 8/6 Marshall (Agassiz Valley) HHu, 8/19 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment)

ebd. All south 8/1, 8/7 Lac qui Parle DLP, 9/14–17 Hennepin (Purgatory Creek Wetlands) AOp, m.ob., 9/24 Sibley (High Island Lake) EzH.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) — [4 North, 2 South] All north 8/2 Otter Tail (Orwell W.M.A.) BAR, 8/20–22 St. Louis (max. 2, Park Point R.A.) IDv, StK, m.ob., 9/5 Cook (Paradise Beach) EHi, 9/12 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd. All south 8/31 Goodhue (Frontenac S.P.) SDz, 9/8 Sibley (High Island Lake) RBW.

RED KNOT (*Calidris canutus*) — [1 North, 1 South] One north report 8/29–31 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) is pending consideration by the records committee. One south report 9/27 **Sibley** (High Island Lake) †WCM.

Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*) — [15 North, 35 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/20 Sibley (400, High Island Lake) EzH, IsH. Late north 9/4 Marshall (14) GHo, KDS, Roseau CRM, m.ob., 9/12 Grant ANy, 10/2 Polk (8) SAu (median 9/22). Late south 10/11 Dakota ebd, 10/20 Lac qui Parle (4) WCM, 10/21 Lyon (two locations) GWe (median 10/19).

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) — [8 North, 13 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 9/10 St. Louis (32, Park Point R.A.) ebd. Late north 10/3 Crow Wing ANy, DBz, 10/3–4 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) NGi, m.ob., 10/11 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) ebd (median 10/11). Late south 9/25 Wright (2, Pelican Lake) RCL, 9/27–28 Sibley WCM, RBW, 9/30 Wright (3, Pelican Lake) RCL (median 10/21).

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) — [6 North, 10 South] Early north (median 9/2) 8/10–19 Grant (2) BAR, m.ob., 9/2 Lake ebd, 9/11 Otter Tail (4) BAR. Early south (median 8/21) 9/17 Wright RCL, 10/1 Lyon (2) GWe, Olmsted JmP. High counts 10/28 Olmsted (11, Silver Creek Reservoir) LAV, 11/5 Big Stone (11) DLP. Late north 10/6 Clay TkL, 10/28 Marshall (6) AxB, m.ob., St. Louis PEJ (median 10/31). Late south 11/4 Big Stone (8, C.R. 10) DLP, Brown (2) BTS, Olmsted (max. 7, two locations) JPr, m.ob., 11/5–9 Big Stone (max. 11) DLP (median 11/8).

Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*) — [13 North, 28 South] See summer report for ear-

- ly north and south migrants. High count 8/17 Redwood (20, C.R. 8, Westline Twp.) RJS. Late north 9/17 Marshall (4) HHu, 9/19–21 St. Louis ebd, 9/22 Lake HCT (median 10/9). Late south 11/6 McLeod DWK, Olmsted ebd, 11/7 Brown BTS, 11/11 Stearns MtS (median 11/1).
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [25 North, 48 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/21 Sibley (500, High Island Lake) KEm, 8/1 Sherburne (300, Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd, 8/14 Sibley (300, High Island W.P.A.) KEm. Late north 9/22 St. Louis KEJ, 9/23–24 Marshall (max. 2) HHu, 10/13–21 Aitkin (max. 8) LBa (median 10/14). Late south 10/25 Big Stone DLP, Olmsted (5, Silver Creek Reservoir) JPr, JmP, 10/29 Olmsted (5, East Landfill Kalmar Reservoir) ToM, 10/27 – 11/3 Brown BTS, ARW (median 10/26).
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [5 North, 4 South] Early south 9/2 Renville (Bird Island) JWH, KEm. All north 8/25 Traverse DLP, 9/1 Cook (3, Grand Marais Harbor) ebd, Marshall (Warren W.T.P.) HHu, 9/14 Clay (2, Comstock W.T.P.) DnM, 10/29 Grant (14, season high count, North Ottawa Impoundment) PLJ. Late south 9/10 Stearns (4) PLJ, 10/8 Carver (2) JCy, 10/25 Brown BTS (median 10/8). **Note:** undocumented reports of fall migrants prior to September are not published.
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Calidris subruficollis*) — [7 North, 17 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/4 Dakota (12, Waterford Twp.) MwT. Late north 9/6 Wadena ANy, 9/15 Aitkin (2) LBa, 9/18 St. Louis (4) ebd (median 9/21). Late south 9/28 Sibley RBW, Stearns HDD, 10/21–25 Brown BTS, m.ob. (median 9/22).
- Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [22 North, 47 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/20 Sibley (1,145, High Island Lake) EzH, IsH. Late north 10/23 Hubbard ANy, 10/23–25 Becker (max. 8) NaH, 10/28 Marshall (max. 14) AxB, m.ob. (median 10/30). Late south 11/7 Olmsted (3) LAV, Rice RBW, 11/10 Wright ToL, 11/7–12 Brown BTS (median 11/11).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [17 North, 39 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/20 Sibley (300, High Island Lake) EzH, IsH. Late north 9/8 St. Louis (2) ebd, 9/12 Marshall (2) HHu, 9/13 Traverse ANy (median 9/29). Late south 10/6 Lincoln (7) CRM, KBg, 10/16, 10/23 Pipestone (Edgerton W.T.P.) LVD (median 10/17).
- WESTERN SANDPIPER** (*Calidris mauri*) — [1 South] The state's first fall record since 2007 was found 9/11 **Sibley** (High Island Lake) ph. †JGW, JWH.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [10 North, 22 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/19 Grant (47, North Ottawa Impoundment) SSP, 8/9 Otter Tail (40, Orwell W.M.A.) ebd. Late north 9/4 Beltrami (2) DvH, Pennington GHo, KDS, 9/4–5 Marshall HHu, 9/11 Otter Tail BAR (median 9/5). Late south 9/8 Hennepin VRL, 9/8–11 Sibley RBW, m.ob., 10/5 Faribault (no details) WAF (median 9/12).
- Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [6 North, 25 South] Early north (median 8/18) 8/22 Otter Tail BAR, 9/2 Lake of the Woods JJS, m.ob., 9/12 Grant (8) ANy. Early south (none with details) 8/3 Dakota ebd, 8/7 Lac qui Parle ebd, 8/8 Blue Earth ebd. High counts 10/21 Lyon (126, 170th St., Lyons Twp.) GWe, 10/1 Lyon (77, 170th St., Lyons Twp.) GWe. Late north 10/12 Polk (6) HHu, 10/19 Lake KRE, m.ob., 10/26 Grant (2) CNn (median 10/19). Late south 10/31 Carver (3) ebd, 11/1–4 Big Stone (max. 5) DLP, 10/31 – 11/6 Olmsted LAV, m.ob. (median 10/27).
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [16 North, 15 South] High count 10/17 Carlton (6, Silver Brook Twp.) ebd. Late north 10/29 Itasca SC, 11/1 St. Louis ebd, 11/4 Cass ebd (median 11/1). Late south 11/8 Fillmore (2) ebd, Ramsey (University of Minnesota) AnA, 11/12 Ramsey (Little Pigs Eye Lake) JZj (median 11/5).
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [30 North, 51 South] High count 10/20 Lac qui Parle (54, Plover Prairie) WCM. Late north 11/10 Beltrami AxB, 11/17 Pine KrM, 11/24 St. Louis JLK (median 11/15).
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [30 North, 52 South] High count 8/19 Grant

(28, North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd. Late north 9/30 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) ebd, 10/3 Lake JWL, 10/10 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) JLK (median 10/20). Late south 10/13 Chisago (3) GaJ, 10/17 Stearns MtS, **11/7** Big Stone (Big Stone Lake) DLP (median 10/16).

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) — [28 North, 46 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/26 Houston (13, Eitzen W.T.P.) EHi. Late north 9/24 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) ebd, 9/25 St. Louis (Ralph Rd., Cook) ebd, 9/27 Mille Lacs HHD (median 10/4). Late south 10/8 Hennepin ebd, 10/10 Swift DLP, 10/19 Pipestone ebd (median 10/11).

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) — [28 North, 50 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/20 Sibley (1,250, High Island Lake) EzH, IsH, 8/10 Sibley (810, High Island Lake) GWe. Late north 10/22 Marshall (2) HHu, 10/22–25 Clay (max. 6) ebd, 10/30 Polk HHu (median 10/24). Late south 11/5 Dakota (2, Lake Byllesby) KDS, 11/7 Dakota (140th St. Marsh) AnB, m.ob., Sherburne HHD (median 11/4).

Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [3 North, 7 South] All north 8/4 Otter Tail (2, Prairie Wetlands Learning Center) BAR, 8/13–14 Grant (max. 2, North Ottawa Impoundment) KHg, m.ob., 8/14 Traverse BAR, 8/18 Traverse (4, Wheaton W.T.P.) ebd, 8/28 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd. All south 8/1–2 Hennepin (Riverview Rd.) PRH, m.ob., 8/3 Le Sueur (Lake Pepin) DOr, 8/6 Big Stone (2) DLP, Brown (2, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) BTS, MiO, Carver (4, Tacoma Ave.) ABL, 8/14 Big Stone (Toqua Twp.) BAR, 8/26 Meeker (Litchfield Twp.) PKF, 9/11 Sibley (High Island Lake) JGW.

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [30 North, 49 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/13 Grant (50, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToM, m.ob. Late north 11/8 Cass (Mud Lake) ebd, 11/9 Cass (2, Lake Winnibigoshish) AxB, 11/11 Clay PBB (median 11/6). Late south 11/12 Hennepin (2) DnS, PNi, 11/13 Olmsted KHg, ebd, 11/16 Scott ebd (median 11/13).

Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [7 North, 16 South] High count 8/18 Tra-



Parasitic Jaeger, 17 September 2022, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Joshua Watson.

verse (88, Wheaton W.T.P.) ebd. Late north 9/1 Douglas (8) CNn, 9/3 Grant (6) ebd, 10/2 Kanabec ph. SPS (median 9/4). Late south 9/19 Hennepin ebd, 9/23 Nobles EHi, 10/5 Faribault WAF (median 9/21).

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [10 North, 22 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts 8/12 Pennington (92, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) BoA, 8/9 Marshall (45, Warren W.T.P.) HHu. Late north 9/16 Aitkin LBa, 9/16–20 Marshall (max. 6) HHu, 9/24 Lake of the Woods ebd (median 9/26). Late south 9/22 Sibley (3) MkC, 10/1 Lyon (4) GWe, 10/8 Le Sueur (3) ebd (median 10/8).

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — [1 North] All reports were from St. Louis. Early north (median 9/6) 9/10 (adult-light morph, Superior Entry) EzH, 9/14 (intermediate juvenile, Park Point R.A.) SeM, 9/17 St. Louis (max. 2, season high count, one juvenile described as “possible dark-morph” and a light-morph adult, Superior Entry) ELC, JGW. Late north 9/20 St. Louis (Superior Entry) PHS, 9/25 St. Louis (adult dark-morph, Superior Entry) CLN, m.ob., **11/6** St. Louis (third-cycle or adult light-morph, Park Point R.A.) CLN (median 10/3).

Stercorarius jaeger (*Stercorarius* sp.) — [1 North] Only report of an unidentified jaeger was from 10/5 Lake (Knife River Marina, immature) SHF, BAF.

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) — [1 North, 3 South] All north 9/16 St. Louis (first-cycle, Park Point R.A.) †PHS. All south 9/22

- Scott** (first-cycle, Spring Lake) †BAB, m.ob., 9/24–25 Stearns (first-cycle, Freeport W.T.P.) HHD, m.ob., 9/25 Stearns (adult, Albany W.T.P.) †PCC, m.ob., Stearns (3, first-cycles, Paynesville W.T.P.) †PCC, m.ob., 10/5 Sibley (first-cycle, High Island Lake) JCa, DWK.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [27 North, 38 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 9/24 Cass (350, Walker W.T.P.) TCL. Late north 11/16 Beltrami (max. 3) AxB, DvH, Cass (8) ebd, 11/17–22 Crow Wing (max. 20, multiple locations) MJB, DMz (median 11/25). Late south 11/23 Hennepin (Medicine Lake) ebd, 11/23–26 Washington (max. 89) EzH, m.ob., 11/26 Hennepin (Surfside Park) TWe (median 11/28).
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — No reports.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [20 North, 46 South] High counts 9/13 Lac qui Parle (5,000, Big Stone N.W.R.) ebd, 9/30 Wright (5,000, Pelican Lake) RCl. Late north 11/3 Douglas (6) ebd, 11/8 St. Louis ClN, KDx, 11/9 Grant (600) CNn (median 11/3). Late south 11/13 Brown BTS, Hennepin JKu, 11/16 Meeker BLz (median 11/18).
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [32 North, 50 South] Found statewide through the end of the season. High counts 8/5 St. Louis (5,000, Interstate Island W.M.A.) PHS, 10/6 Dakota (4,666, Spring Lake P.R.) BBr.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [24 North, 27 South] Observed north throughout the season. Scattered reports south in late July, becoming more frequent in mid-August. High count 9/15 St. Louis (1,500, Port Terminal) PHS.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [4 North, 5 South] Early north (median 10/6) 9/26 St. Louis (adult *thayeri*, Garfield Ave.) KDx, ClN, 10/16 St. Louis (adult *thayeri*, Superior Entry) GWe, 10/19–25 **Hubbard** (first-cycle *thayeri*, Kabekona Lake) AxB, REH, m.ob. All south 10/16 Dakota (2, *thayeri*, SET-Empire mulch site) AnB, TPu, MwT, 11/13 Dakota (3, *thayeri*, SET-Empire mulch site) AnB, 11/16 Ramsey (adult *thayeri*, Lake Owasso) LiH, 11/18 Hennepin (*thayeri*, Lake Harriet) DWK, SKe, 11/21–22 Ramsey (adult *thayeri*, Lake Johanna) LiH, 11/24 Hennepin (*thayeri*, Lake Harriet) MZA, ebd, 11/27 Wabasha (adult *kumlieni*, Lake Pepin) PEJ, 11/30 Goodhue (first-cycle *thayeri*, Lake Pepin) PEJ, Wabasha (Lake Pepin) BLz. High count 11/13 St. Louis (8, Superior Entry: 5 adults, 2 first-cycle, and 1 second-cycle, all *thayeri*) ClN, m.ob. Additional reports of *L.g. kumlieni*: 11/8 St. Louis (Lakewood Pumping Station) SeM, 11/18–27 Lake (first-cycle, Two Harbors) TPu, m.ob., 11/20 St. Louis (Superior Entry) LiH.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [5 North, 5 South] All north 8/27 – 9/2 Crow Wing (third-cycle, Mille Lacs Lake) MAJ, KEm (ph), m.ob., 10/4 **Todd** (first-cycle, Cedar Lake) ANy (ph), m.ob., 10/13 Clay (second-cycle, Hawley Twp.) †TkL, Kanabec (adult, Knife Lake) CRM, m.ob., 10/28 Lake (first-cycle, Silver Bay Marina) †LiH. All south 9/24 – 10/27 Sherburne (adult, Elk River Landfill) PLJ, 10/21 Sherburne (first-cycle, Elk River Landfill) BLz, 10/25 Blue Earth (first-cycle, Red Jacket Valley Park) BHW, 11/5 Dakota (first-cycle, Casperson Park) ArM, m.ob., Watonwan (Wood Lake W.M.A.) AaL, CLu, 11/30 Goodhue (adult, Lake Pepin.) PEJ.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [2 North] All north 10/28 Cook (Sugarloaf Point S.N.A.) LiH, 10/29 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) LiH, 11/28 St. Louis (Canal Park) SeM.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — No reports.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [10 North, 18 South] High count 8/21 Wright (19, Pelican Lake) RCl. Late north 9/10 Otter Tail (2) BAr, 9/18 St. Louis (2, Superior Entry) EHl, (Interstate Island W.M.A.) ebd, 9/19 Cass (2) ebd (median 9/26). Late south 9/18 Winona ebd, 9/30 Goodhue ebd, Scott (4, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp) ebd, 10/1 Scott (Prior Lake) ebd (median 9/29).
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonias niger*) — [14 North, 31 South] High counts 8/19 Grant (171, North Ottawa Impoundment) SSP, 8/1 Sherburne (150, Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd. Late north 8/30 Marshall (2, Warren W.T.P.) HHu, 9/1–3 Marshall (3, Agassiz N.W.R.) HHu, m.ob., 9/13 Aitkin (2) LBa (median 9/7). Late south 9/17 Hennepin (Elm Creek P.R.) CJa, (Purgatory Creek Wetlands) ArM,

Wright RCL, 9/19 Pipestone (24) ebd (median 9/16).

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) — [8 North, 3 South] High counts 9/3 Cass (116, Leech Lake) ebd, 9/20 St. Louis (106, H.R.N.R.) SeM, m.ob. Late north 9/28 Mille Lacs PEJ, 10/14 St. Louis (5) BLz, 10/23 Cass ANY (median 10/9). All south 9/17 Cottonwood (Talcot Lake W.M.A.) ebd, 9/25 Jackson (Spirit Lake) ebd, 10/11 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd.

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) — [13 North, 22 South] High count 10/9 Pope (53, Lake Minnewaska) DWK. Late north 9/18 St. Louis (Hunters Park) ebd, 9/25 St. Louis (Superior Entry) EHi, m.ob., 10/21 Otter Tail (4) PEJ (median 10/13). Late south 10/21 Pope (4) AaL, 10/24 Kandiyohi RLF (median 10/7).

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North, 1 South] All south 11/22 **Washington** (Afton Marina) †BDO, m.ob. All north 10/6 St. Louis (2, H.R.N.R.) JsC, 11/10 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) JLK.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) — [2 North] All north 9/18 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) MLH, 9/23 St. Louis (off Canal Park) ebd, 9/25 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) EHi, TWE, BLz, 10/4 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) JLK, 10/28 Lake (Bayside Park) LiH, 11/2 Lake (2, Shovel Point) ebd, 11/23 St. Louis (12th St. public access) JLK, JsC.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) — [29 North, 28 South] High count missed staging activity on Mille Lacs Lake: 8/20 Douglas (108, Lake Ida) ebd. Late north 11/24 Cook PEJ, St. Louis JsC, 11/27 Lake TWE (median 12/3). Late south 11/26 Hennepin (three locations) MZa, m.ob., Ramsey (4) BAR, 11/30 Hennepin (Hopkins) ABL (median 12/2).

BROWN BOOBY (*Sula leucogaster*) — [1 South] First state record first found 8/13–15 **Winona** (Yeomans Pond) KeW, ph. †AXH, †EzH, ph. †PHS, †PCC, ph. †RZi, ph. †DWK; subsequently rediscovered in Winona at Prairie Island on 9/6 (ph. MyB) and 10/5 (AXH). See **The Loon** 94:160–164 for a detailed account of this occurrence.

Double-crested Cormorant (*Nannopterum auritum*) — [29 North, 49 South] High counts 9/5 Dakota (1,250, Augusta Lake) KvM, 10/2 Dakota (1,100, Resurrection Cemetery) BAF. Late north 11/5 Beltrami



Brown Booby, 14 August 2022, Winona, Winona County. Photo by Arthur Mercado.

(The Narrows, Ponemah) AxB, 11/12 St. Louis ebd, 11/12–16 Beltrami (max. 2, Lake Irving) AxB, m.ob. (median 11/17). See winter report for late south migrants.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT (*Nannopterum brasilianum*) — [2 South] All south 8/1 – 9/3 Hennepin (continuing adult from the summer season, Richfield Lake Park & Wood Lake N.C.) BAF, ph. †CMB, ph. †PEB, m.ob., 9/4–7 **Meeker** ph. †AXH.

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [26 North, 45 South] High counts 8/6 Grant (630, North Ottawa Impoundment) KTe, 9/20 Ramsey (627, Red Rock Rd.) BBr. Late north 10/30 Pine (max. 3) TWE, m.ob., 11/1 Douglas NaH, 11/18 Lake TPu, m.ob. (median 11/9). See winter report for late south.

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [15 North, 12 South] Highest counts only two. Late north 9/10 Aitkin DoH, m.ob., 9/10–18 Itasca ebd, 10/14 Otter Tail (2, Hai-by W.P.A.) TkL (median 10/11). Late south 10/2 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ebd, Yellow Medicine GWe, 10/8 Steele PSu, 11/21 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) KOC, m.ob. (median 10/17).

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [5 North, 11 South] All north 8/1 St. Louis (Mud Lake) JLK, 8/17 Becker (Middle Cormorant Lake) ebd, 8/19 Crow Wing (Upper Cullen Lake) ebd, 8/24 Otter Tail (2, Fish Lake) JMy, 9/4 Becker (Fox Lake) ebd, 9/5 Polk (Brandt-

- Angus Impoundment) HHu. Several high counts of three individuals. Late south 9/10 Freeborn (3) JWH, m.ob., Ramsey ebd, 9/13 Sherburne HHD (median 9/7).
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [33 North, 52 South] High count 8/2 Hennepin (60, Purgatory Creek Wetlands) ebd. Late north 11/12 Norman TCL, 11/22 St. Louis JLK, 11/23 Otter Tail ebd (median 12/1).
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [16 North, 49 South] High count 8/20 Sibley (210, High Island Lake) EzH, IsH. Late north 10/11 Otter Tail ebd, 10/11–15 Clay TKL, 10/20 Grant PEJ (median 10/20). Late south 11/8 Scott BHe, 11/10 Hennepin ebd, 11/13 Olmsted PAL, m.ob. (median 11/10).
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [1 North] Only report: 8/19–20 Polk (Sullivan Twp.) JMJ, SAU, HHu.
- TRICOLORED HERON** (*Egretta tricolor*) — [1 South] The first fall record since 1990 was an adult discovered 8/9–10 **Blue Earth** (Watonwan W.P.A.) BSa, †EzH, ph. †KEm, ph. †CRM, ph. †BLZ, ph. RZi.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north 8/1 Otter Tail (Grotto Lake) ebd, 10/30 Cook (2, Grand Marais Harbor) KEm, m.ob., 10/31 **Koochiching** (C.R. 15, Northome) ANy, DBz. Only south report 8/9 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) DOr, m.ob.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [28 North, 45 South] High counts 8/14 Washington (42, Egg Lake) BDo, 8/20 Ramsey (22, Snail Lake R.P.) DnS. Late north 10/2 Kanabec SPS, 10/8 Clay ebd, 10/9 Douglas JEL (median 10/2). Late south 10/27 Carver WCM, 10/28 – 11/2 Hennepin ebd, 11/4 Sherburne ebd (median 10/17).
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [5 North, 10 South] High count 8/19 Grant (7, North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd. Late north 8/28 Grant ebd, 9/13 Otter Tail BAr, 10/5 Clay TKL (median 9/29). Late south 10/17 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) DWK, 10/23 Ramsey LiH, 11/25 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ebd (median 11/6).
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — [1 South] Only report 8/17 Freeborn (Fountain Lake) ph. AEB.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [4 North, 5 South] All north 8/14 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) LSw, 9/3 Grant (3, North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd, 9/4 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) ANy, 9/12 Grant (3) ANy, 9/13–14 Clay (max. 4, Barnesville Twp.) TkL, m.ob. All south 8/13 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 9/2–3 Lac qui Parle (max. 26, Big Stone N.W.R.) BnS, ASL, 9/28 Swift (Marsh Lake) DLP, 9/30 Swift (Appleton Twp.) ASL, 10/1 Lyon (North Mahlke Marsh) GWe. **Note:** In the fall season, please provide identification details for any ibis.
- Plegadis ibis** (*Plegadis* sp.) — [3 North, 7 South] All north 9/2 Traverse (C.R. 2) DLP, 9/11 Marshall (Warren W.T.P.) HHu, 9/13 Traverse (9) ANy, 10/26 Grant (Lien Twp.) CNn. All south 8/2 Big Stone (7, Artichoke W.P.A.) DLP, 8/3 Big Stone (4, C.R. 61) DLP, 8/12 Big Stone (2, David H. Steen W.M.A.) DLP, 9/2 Big Stone (Otrej Twp.) WCM, (5, Artichoke W.P.A.) WCM, (2, David H. Steen W.M.A.) WCM, 9/8 Lac qui Parle (2, Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP, 9/10 Swift (Marsh Lake) DLP, 9/13 Big Stone (6) ANy, 9/15 Big Stone (David H. Steen W.M.A.) DLP, 9/25 Swift (2, Marsh Lake) DLP, 9/26 Stevens (3, Moore W.P.A.) ANy, DBz, 9/27 Nobles (6, Swessinger W.M.A.) ANy, 9/30 Big Stone (3, Artichoke W.P.A.) DLP, 10/11 Big Stone (34, U.S. 12) DLP, 10/16 McLeod (Kings Lake) BDc, m.ob., 10/26 Grant (Spink Swamp) CNn, 11/1 Waseca (St. Mary Twp.) KEm.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [34 North, 53 South] High counts 10/4 Blue Earth (319) BHW, 10/6 Blue Earth (262) BHW. Late north 10/30 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) FJN, ebd, (2, Rice's Point) ebd, 11/5 St. Louis (Meadowlands) IaG (median 11/1). Late south 10/29 Dakota (max. 5, two locations) KDS, DVe, 10/30 Sherburne (15) RCL, 11/5 Waseca (2) KEm (median 10/31).
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [26 North, 38 South] High counts 9/10 St. Louis (14) H.R.B.O., 9/2 St. Louis (12) H.R.B.O., 9/10 Lake (12, U.S. 61) JWL. Late north 10/8 Otter Tail (two locations) BAr, 10/9 Wadena PJB, 10/14 St. Louis SeM (median 10/23). Late south 11/6 Olmsted JDy, Stearns MJB, 11/9 Hennepin (2) ebd, 11/13 Rice GHo (median 11/4).
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** (*Elanoides forficatus*) — [1 North] One report of this Accidental species: 8/20 **St. Louis** (adult,

- H.R.N.R.) SeM, ph. †FJN, m.ob.
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [6 North, 12 South] Early north (median 9/27) 9/26, 10/5, 10/6 St. Louis (max. 2, three immatures, one unaged) H.R.B.O. Early south (median 10/12) 10/17 Winona (Whitewater S.P.) ebd, 10/21 Blue Earth (adult) BHW, 10/24 Winona (2, Hart Twp.) ToM. High counts 10/30 St. Louis (20) H.R.B.O., 11/18 St. Louis (11) H.R.B.O.
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus hudsonius*) — [34 North, 52 South] High counts both from H.R.B.O. in St. Louis: 9/13 (60), 10/16 (31). Late north reports all from St. Louis: 11/23 (Park Point R.A.) JLK, 11/28 (Rice Lake Rd.) StK, HTo, 11/30 (H.R.N.R. Banding Station) FJN. See winter report for late south migrants.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [30 North, 47 South] Early south (median 8/13) 8/9 Ramsey LiH, APi, 8/12 Sherburne ebd, 8/13 Hennepin HCT. High counts 9/19 St. Louis (1,065) H.R.B.O., 9/25 St. Louis (771) H.R.B.O.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [26 North, 49 South] High counts 9/21 Blue Earth (12) BHW, 9/22 Lake (10, Superior Hiking Trail, Crystal Bay Twp.) ebd. Late north 11/19 Todd SDi, 11/20 Clay (Oakport Prairie) ebd, 11/21–22 Clay (Barnesville) ebd (median 12/15), but also see winter report.
- American Goshawk** (*Accipiter atricapillus*) — [11 North, 5 South] North reports from Aitkin, Cass, Carlton, Clay, Cook, Koochi-ching, Lake, Marshall, Roseau, St. Louis, Wadena. All south 10/18 – 11/27 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) EzH, m.ob., 10/23 Blue Earth BHW, Hennepin (Bryant Lake R.P.) ebd, 11/5 Yellow Medicine (Omro Twp.) NMe, 11/25 Stearns (Collegeville) REL, 11/30 Hennepin (Plymouth) KOC. High counts 10/17 St. Louis (7) H.R.B.O., 10/18 St. Louis (7) H.R.B.O.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High counts 11/21 Blue Earth (533) BHW, 11/5 Isanti (293, pig farm in Stanford Twp.) RCL.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) — [1 North] One north report 8/22 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) ph. †JsC, m.ob.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [12 North, 24 South] High counts 8/22 Washington (4, Big Marine Lake) ebd, 9/5 Washington (4, Oakdale Nature Preserve) ebd. Late north 10/9 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 10/17 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 10/9 St. Louis H.R.B.O. (median 10/31).
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [31 North, 41 South] High counts 9/22 St. Louis (12,020) H.R.B.O., 9/21 St. Louis (9,108) H.R.B.O. Late north 10/18 Aitkin KCR, 10/22 Cook LWD, 11/7 St. Louis JsC, m.ob. (median 10/21). Late south 10/9 Hennepin DAH, Ramsey LiH, Scott BHe, Washington EzH, 10/15 Stearns MSk (median 10/16).
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [4 North, 16 South] Late north 9/13 St. Louis (max. 2, three locations but possibly the same birds) StK, SeM, CLN, m.ob., 9/20 St. Louis (Forest Hill) JLK, 10/4 Polk ebd (median 9/29). Late south 10/1 Nobles KEm, 10/2 Olmsted ebd, 10/4 Blue Earth (4, season high count) BHW (median 10/9).
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High counts 10/17 St. Louis (518) H.R.B.O., 10/18 St. Louis (391) H.R.B.O. Four Harlan's reported between 11/9 and 11/18; nine Krider's reported between 8/12 and 11/1, many of which were without details.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [25 North, 33 South] Early north (median 9/24) 10/3 Lake ABM, 10/4 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 10/7 St. Louis H.R.B.O. Early south (median 10/4) 10/4 Carver ebd, 10/6 Washington ebd, 10/8 Hennepin ebd. High count 11/6 St. Louis (23) H.R.B.O.
- BARN OWL** (*Tyto alba*) — [2 South] Documented 8/4 Houston (Money Creek Twp.) a.t. †KAB, 9/18 Olmsted (Oxbow Park, recorded during a nocturnal flight count) a.t. †fide KAB.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [4 North, 23 South] All north 9/4 Otter Tail (Eagle Lake Twp.) JsS, ebd, 9/19–20 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) FJN, ebd, 9/26 Clay (Kurtz Twp.) ebd, 10/8 Douglas (Alexandria) ebd, 10/21 Clay (2, M.B. Johnson Park) ebd, 10/29 St. Louis (McQuade Small Craft Harbor, red morph) JWJ, m.ob. South reports from every region. One individual noted as gray morph, one as red morph.

- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [22 North, 42 South] Found statewide.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north 11/18 Roseau (C.R. 16) BCS, 11/20 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 11/24 Polk (C.R. 18, Keystone Twp.) SAU. Only south report 11/20 Hennepin (MSP International Airport) SKS.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — No reports.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [25 North, 34 South] Observed east of a line from Kittson to Clay to Martin counties, plus 10/29 Big Stone ebd. Several high counts of four individuals.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [2 North] Most reports from St. Louis, beginning 9/24 and continuing throughout the season. Additional reports: 8/7 Lake of the Woods ebd, 11/12 Itasca ebd, 11/13 Aitkin BLz. (This is considered a Sensitive Species in eBird and records are not public. This summary includes eBird records although they are not in the M.O.U. database.)
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [5 North, 9 South] All north 9/26 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) IDv, m.ob., 10/15 Grant (Big Island Rd.) ebd, 10/7 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 10/18 Polk (2, Red River S.R.A.) SAU, m.ob., 11/12 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) JLK, 11/14 Clay (Norwegian Cemetery) TkL, 11/19 Polk (East Grand Forks) TJJ, 11/20 Lake (Two Harbors) LiH, 11/30 Clay (Kurtz Twp.) DnM, plus reports from H.R.B.O. banding station in St. Louis (FJN, m.ob.): 9/27, 9/30, 10/29, 10/30, 11/7 (3, season high count). Early south (median 10/30) **9/3** Anoka (Linwood Lake, possibly a breeder) EzH, 10/13 Wright ToL, 10/26 Dakota CRE; also reported from Blue Earth, Hennepin, Lyon, Pipestone, Rice, Washington.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [8 North, 7 South] Reported north from Aitkin, Beltrami, Clay, Cook, Kittson, Morrison, St. Louis, Wilkin as late as 11/28 Kittson HHu. Early south (median 10/12) 11/9 Renville MJB, 11/19 Scott ebd, 11/20 Stearns MJB. High count 10/29 St. Louis (3, H.R.N.R.) ebd.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [7 North, 9 South] Found north in Clay, Cook, Crow Wing, Lake, Mille Lacs, Roseau, St. Louis. Early south 10/13 Hennepin MaS, 10/14–15 Carver (max. 2) ebd, JSt, 10/19 Wabasha JPr, JmP. High count 9/27 St. Louis (9, H.R.N.R.) ebd.
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [34 North, 51 South] High counts 8/2 Rice (**8**, Northfield) GHo, 8/13 Marshall (7, Agassiz N.W.R.) HHu, 8/26 Sherburne (7, Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd. Several north reports into December.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [28 North, 49 South] High counts 11/21 Houston (12, Reno Bottoms) SHo, 8/21 Anoka (11, Fish Lake Nature Trails) ebd. Late north 11/23–24 Cass ebd, 11/23 Otter Tail ebd, 11/25 Polk SAU.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [27 North, 53 South] Reported from every region, though scarce in extreme northwest where not reported from seven counties. High count 10/21 Ramsey (**14**, Fort Snelling S.P.) HSm.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [33 North, 47 South] High counts 9/17 Becker (15, Tamarac N.W.R.) TkL, 10/5 St. Louis (9, H.R.N.R.) SeM. Late north 10/13 Lake JWL, St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) ebd, (Central Hillside neighborhood) NGi, 10/16 St. Louis (max. 2, Park Point R.A.) JsC, m.ob., 11/1 Otter Tail ebd (median 11/16). See winter reports for late south migrants.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [4 North] All reports: 10/1 St. Louis (Johnson Rd.) JuG, 10/30 Cook (Pincushion Dr.) ANy, m.ob., 11/25 St. Louis (2, Johnson Rd.) JuG, 11/26 Koochiching (C.R. 13) JMn, Lake (C.R. 2) ebd.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [7 North] Reported from Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis. No counts of more than three individuals.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates pubescens*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High count 10/8 Hennepin (**19**, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JCa.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates villosus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High count 8/26 Anoka (**12**, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) JCa.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found throughout the state, but frequency of north reports decreased after mid-November. High counts 9/6 St. Louis (50, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 9/25 Aitkin (38, Rice Lake N.W.R.) ebd.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [32 North, 47 South] Found statewide, though few reports southwest of a line from Pipestone to Martin. High count 8/15 St. Louis (6, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported statewide. High count 9/11 St. Louis (153) H.R.B.O.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [31 North, 43 South] High counts all from H.R.B.O. in St. Louis: 10/16 (10), 9/25 (9), 10/4 (9), 10/12 (9). Possible early south migrants (median 8/17) 8/5 Chippewa ebd, 8/10 Benton KBg, 8/10 Winona ToM.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) — [20 North, 37 South] High count 9/20 St. Louis (8) H.R.B.O. Late north migrants 10/22 Lake IsH, EzH, 10/26 Aitkin JLK, Marshall BCS (median 11/12).

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) — No reports.

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [26 North, 46 South] High counts 8/7 Carver (10, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/7 Hennepin (8, Rogers) ebd. Late north 9/19 Carlton ebd, 9/21 Otter Tail (Erhard) ebd, 9/24 Grant CNn, Otter Tail (Glendalough S.P.) BEc, 9/25 CNn (median 9/20). Late south 9/24 Dakota (Lebanon Hills R.P.) AnB, MwT, 9/28 Dakota (Lakeville) TPu, 10/3 Olmsted JmP (median 9/23).

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [8 North, 7 South] No counts of more than 2 birds. Late north 8/22 Traverse ebd, 8/25 Marshall HHu, 8/31 Polk (Agassiz Valley) HHu, 9/2 Clay ebd, Polk (Crookston) GHo, KDS (median 9/7). Late south 8/19 Big Stone SSP, 8/20 Lyon GWe, 9/2 Stearns NSg (median 9/6).

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [33 North, 51 South] High counts 8/8 Washington (27, Lake Elmo R.P.) KIs, JZj, 8/20 St. Louis (22, Park Point R.A.) StK, IDv. Late north 9/18 Carlton ebd, Grant CNn, Wadena PJB, 9/19 Crow Wing ebd, 9/26 Todd JLK (median 9/18). Late south 9/29–30 Hennepin ebd, 9/30 Carver ebd, 10/4



Belted Kingfisher, 14 October 2022, Fort Snelling, Hennepin County. Photo by Matthew Thompson.

Goodhue ebd (median 9/26).

FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Tyrannus savana*) — [1 North] Fourth state record, first since 2009: 9/17 St. Louis (Stony Point) ASe, ph. †PHS, ph. †JGW, m.ob.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) — [20 North, 42 South] Early south (median 8/2) 8/1 Sherburne ebd, 8/2 Goodhue SDz, 8/4 Scott LSw. High counts 8/16 St. Louis (5, Hartley Park) JLK, 8/18 St. Louis (5, H.R.N.R.) JsC. Late north 9/13 Mille Lacs MJB, 9/16 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 9/18 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) SeM (median 9/12). Late south 9/22 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 9/25 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) LSw, 10/1 Hennepin TAT (median 9/24).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) — [33 North, 50 South] High counts 8/26 Anoka (29, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) JCa, 8/24 Scott (23, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd, 8/31 Carver (18, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 9/20 Clearwater ebd, Koochiching EHi, 9/21 Otter Tail ebd, St. Louis KEJ, 9/29 Todd JLK (median 9/21). Late south 10/2 Hennepin ebd, Le Sueur ebd, Wabasha MNb, Washington ebd, 10/5 Steele PSu (median 10/3).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [14 North, 29 South] Reported with identification details from 5 north and 16 south counties. Early south (median 8/17) 8/10 Hennepin ebd, 8/14 Steele PSu, Waseca PSu, 8/18 Ramsey ebd. High counts 8/26, 8/28 Anoka (4, Rice Creek Chain of



Bell's Vireo, 13 August 2022, Kellogg, Wabasha County. Photo by Trey Weaver.

Lakes P.R.) GWe. Late north 9/9 Lake JWL, 9/11 St. Louis ebd (median 8/31). Late south 9/17 Hennepin (Minneapolis) ebd, 9/21 Hennepin (Bloomington) ebd, 9/27 Dakota TPu (median 9/15). **Note:** During spring and fall migration, undocumented records of silent Empidonax flycatchers are not included in this report. Observers are encouraged to include identification details in their reports.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax vireescens*) — [5 South] Reported with identification notes from Anoka, Fillmore, Rice, Scott, Washington. Late south 8/10 Rice HCT, 8/17–28 Anoka (Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) ebd, JGW, EzH (median 8/17).

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [19 North, 13 South] Reported with details from 6 north and 8 south counties. High counts 8/29 St. Louis (**16**, Brighton Beach) IDv, KJB, HTo, StK. Late north 8/20 Otter Tail SSP, 8/29 St. Louis IDv, KJB, HTo, StK, 9/12 Grant ANy (median 8/24). Late south 9/5 Carver MJB, 9/10 Blue Earth ChH, 9/18 Ramsey BAB (median 8/31).

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) — [4 North, 22 South] Reported with identification notes from 1 north and 11 south counties. No counts of more than two individuals. Only north report 9/2 Kanabec EHi, well after the 8/18 median. Late south 9/17 Dakota SWe, 10/1 Lyon GWe, **10/2** Fillmore ANy (median 8/26).

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) —

[31 North, 44 South] Reported with identification details from 10 north and 18 south counties. High counts 8/20 St. Louis (20, Park Point) JGr, 9/10 Hennepin (13, T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary). Late north 9/21 St. Louis HTo, IDv, SeM, 9/22 Cook ebd, followed by a record late (north) individual 10/30 Lake ph. ebd (median 9/18). Late south 9/25 Sherburne RSK, 10/2 Hennepin CLB, 10/6 Freeborn ebd (median 9/25).

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [33 North, 53 South] High counts 9/2 Mille Lacs (13, Mille Lacs W.M.A.) EHi, 9/2 Isanti (12, Dalbo W.M.A.) EHi, 9/5 Sherburne (12, Sherburne N.W.R.) SMC. Birds lingered well past the median date both north and south. Late north 10/28 Clay ebd, 10/29 Aitkin DoH, Cook PEJ (median 10/17). Late south 11/3 Ramsey LiH, 11/11 Washington DFN, 11/16 Washington (Cottage Grove Ravine R.P.) JZj (median 11/2).

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 South] Only report, 8/13 **Lac qui Parle** (Big Stone N.W.R. Auto Tour Road) MHn, KHg, ToM.

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Third county record 10/29–30 Cook (Grand Marais RV Park and Campground) AaL, CLu, †EzH, †NMe, ph. †KEM, m.ob. Another one seen south: 10/29 Washington †DuW.

Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) — [4 South] All south 8/5–28 Washington (Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) AOp, DuW, ebd, 8/9 **Goodhue** (Frontenac S.P.) SDz, 8/12–20 Wabasha (max. 3, Weaver Dunes S.N.A.) EHi, TWe, ebd, 9/11 **Ramsey** (Rice Creek North Trail) MaS (median 8/31).

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [27 North, 45 South] High counts 9/3 Anoka (9, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) DnS, ASu, 9/3 Carver (8, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 9/19 Morrison SEM, 9/20 Crow Wing PSP, Otter Tail ebd, 10/5 St. Louis KRE, m.ob. (median 9/20). Late south 10/3 Hennepin SKe, 10/4 Washington JDS, 10/9 Ramsey LiH (median 10/3).

Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) — [30 North, 47 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/17 Anoka ebd, 8/20 Rice ebd, 8/21 Olmsted JPr, Ramsey LiH, Sibley MiO. High counts 9/22 St. Louis (7, Brighton Beach) SeM, HTo, ASu, IDv, 9/10 Carver (6, Carver P.R.) JCy, 9/12 St. Louis (6, Hartley Park)

JLK. Late north 10/14 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) FJN, (Enger Park) ebd, 10/19 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) JsC, ebd, 10/28–29 Lake (Silver Bay) CLB, LiH, JWL, SLL all well after the 10/11 median. Late south 10/16 Olmsted MiD, 10/17 Ramsey ebd, 10/21 Hennepin ebd (median 10/19).

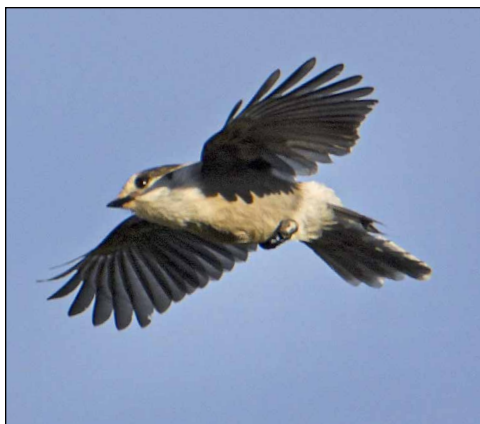
Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [29 North, 45 South] Early south (median 8/15) 8/18 Meeker PKF, 8/21 Blue Earth BTS, MiO, Chisago LS, Ramsey DnS, Sibley BTS. High count 9/5 Anoka (12, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) ASu. Late north 9/25 Lake JIB, 9/26 Cook JaJ, 10/5 St. Louis ebd (median 9/27). Late south 10/4 Washington JIS, 10/5 Anoka GWe, Hennepin (Crystal) ebd, 10/7 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) DvN (median 10/4).

Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) — [26 North, 49 South] High counts 9/1 Hennepin (12) CMB, 8/20 Otter Tail (11, Orwell W.M.A.) SSP, 8/22 Hennepin (11, Wood Lake N.C.) FFa. Late north 9/12 Grant ANY, 9/14 Cook JPr, 9/16 Pennington MJJ, 9/17 Beltrami AAz (median 9/18). Late south 9/23 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) DvN, Washington ebd, 9/25 Goodhue JtM, Hennepin (Mississippi Gateway R.P.) DEL, 9/26 Hennepin (Baker P.R.) ebd (median 9/27).

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [33 North, 53 South] High counts 9/5 Anoka (34, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) ASu, 8/29 Koochiching (30, Voyageurs N.P.) ebd. Late north 10/8–10 St. Louis JDx, ClN, **10/30** Cook (Grand Marais) EzH, TWe, NMe, WCM, MWS (median 10/10). Late south 10/5 Dakota ebd, Scott BHe, 10/6 Hennepin KOC, Rice LSc, 10/10 Ramsey ebd (median 10/8).

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [2 North, 4 South] High count 8/6 Polk (3, Agassiz Valley) HHu. Late north 8/11 St. Louis FJN, 8/13–17 Polk (Agassiz Valley) LSw, HHu (median 8/22). Late south 8/19 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) HHD, MJB, MtS, DRL, NSg, 8/28 Fillmore LHL, 9/5 Dakota ebd (median 8/29).

Northern Shrike (*Lanius borealis*) — [28 North, 37 South] Early north (median 10/9) 10/7–8 Polk (Angus Oslo 4 Flood Control) HHu, 10/7–9 Cook (northeast of Croftville) LWD, 10/10 Lake RHG, St. Louis NPo. Early



Canada Jay, 28 September 2022, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Larry Waddell.

south (median 10/14) 10/12 Hennepin ABL, 10/13 Meeker PKF, Ramsey LiH, Scott RBW, 10/14 Sherburne RCL. High counts 10/15 Sherburne (3, Sherburne N.W.R.) IsH, EzH, 11/23 St. Louis (3, Sax-Zim Bog) PEJ, 11/24 St. Louis (3, H.R.N.R.) ebd.

Canada Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [11 North] Reported throughout traditional range. High counts 9/7 St. Louis (9, Kjolstad Lake) ebd, 8/8 St. Louis (8, Fenske Lake Campground) ebd, 11/1 St. Louis (8, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd.

Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 9/20 St. Louis (6,883) H.R.B.O., 9/20 St. Louis (6,647) H.R.B.O.

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica hudsonia*) — [26 North] Reported from 26 counties, a new high. Notable fall records: 10/30 **Cook** (Lakeview Dairy) AxB, 10/9 **Douglas** (Miltona Twp.) JEl. High counts 9/4 Roseau (70) KRE, 8/20 Roseau (60, C.R. 142) BCS.

American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 10/31 St. Louis (735, H.R.N.R.) JsC, 9/20 Clearwater (500, S.R. 1 along West Red Lake) EHi, 10/30 Olmsted (500, Apache Mall) ebd.

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) — [32 North, 14 South] Southward range expansion continues. Reported throughout usual range, plus Wilkin, Pope, Scott, Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota, Goodhue. High count 10/30 St. Louis (125, H.R.N.R.) SeM.

Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High count 10/26 St. Louis (125, Stony Point) SeM.

Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [4 North] Only reported from Cook, Lake, Lake of the Woods, and St. Louis. High counts 8/18 Lake (5, Lake Polly) BSa, 10/26 St. Louis (5, Stony Point) StK, SNe, SeM, HTo.

Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [14 South] Reported from throughout usual southeast range north to 11/13 **Anoka** (Circle Pines) ebd, Chisago. High counts 10/11 Goodhue (6, Stanton Twp.) LSc, 8/11 Goodhue (4) PEJ, 8/18 Goodhue (4, Red Wing) PEJ, 8/22 Fillmore (4, Eagle Bluff E.L.C.) ToM, 9/18 Winona (4, Holzinger Lodge trails) ebd.

Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [25 North, 49 South] High counts 11/16 Brown (300, flyovers near Hanska) ARW, 10/10 St. Louis (97, Park Point R.A.) JLK.

Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) — [17 North, 42 South] High counts 8/25 Lac qui Parle (200, Salt Lake) KeL, 8/7 Becker (80, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) ebd. Late north 8/28 Clay PBB, Grant ebd, Lake of the Woods ANy, Marshall HHu, TJJ, 9/1 Grant CNn, Lake of the Woods CRM, m.ob. (median 9/7). Late south 9/22 Murray CRM, m.ob., 9/23 Cottonwood (Mountain Lake W.T.P.) CRM, m.ob., Dakota KDS, 9/24 Cottonwood (Swan Lake W.P.A.) EHi (median 9/23).

Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [28 North, 52 South] High counts 9/10 Lyon (4,300, Cottonwood Lake) GWe, 9/23 Waseca (700, Moonan W.M.A.) LHI. Late north 10/1 St. Louis SeM, 10/2 Kanabec SPS, 10/8 Aitkin ebd (median 10/2). Late south 10/20 Pipestone LVD, 10/21 Stearns ebd, 10/22 Hennepin ebd (median 10/21).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [12 North, 41 South] High counts 8/14 Brown (50, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) KHg, ToM, MHn, 8/15 Cottonwood (43, Bat Lake/Delft W.M.A.) ebd. Late north 9/1 Grant CNn, 9/2 Traverse DLP, 9/3 Otter Tail ebd (median 9/3). Late south 9/26 Scott BxP, 9/29 Hennepin ebd, 10/2 Yellow Medicine GWe (median 10/1).

Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) — [24 North,

45 South] High count 8/26 Washington (2,000, Water's Edge Community Center, Hugo) ELC. Late north 9/5 Morrison ebd, 9/6 Otter Tail JSw, St. Louis ebd, Todd ANy, 9/8 Todd (2, Browerville W.T.P.) SDi, 9/13 Norman TCL (median 9/7). Late south 9/11 Washington BDo, 9/12 Houston ASu, Rice ebd, Stearns ebd, 9/14 Olmsted LAV (median 9/15).

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) — [34 North, 53 South] High counts 9/10 Lyon (800, Cottonwood Lake) GWe, 8/13 Dakota (335, Jirik Sod Farms) JCa. Late north 9/28 Douglas MJB, 10/9 Becker ebd, 10/13 Cook JZj (median 10/9). Late south 10/11 Scott (Marsh W.M.A.) DWK, 10/12 McLeod HCT, Olmsted LAV, 10/13 Scott (Marsh W.M.A.) JBu, (Johnson Slough) ebd (median 10/24).

Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [26 North, 51 South] High counts 8/17 Lake (435, Two Harbors) JWl, 8/1 Sherburne (200, St. Francis waterway control structure) ebd. Late north 9/19 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) SeM, JsC, 9/20 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) IDv, HTo, SeM, StK, followed by a very late report **10/28** St. Louis (Park Point) PEJ (median 9/18). Late south 9/27 Pipestone VKI, Sibley BLz, 10/5 Faribault WAF (median 9/30).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Corthylio calendula*) — [32 North, 53 South] Early south (median 8/25) 8/21 Carver JCy, Ramsey BLz, 8/21–23 Meeker PKF. High counts 10/7 Anoka (56, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) GWe, 9/22 St. Louis (40, Brighton Beach) ASu, SeM, IDv, HTo, 9/28 Carver (39, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy. Late north 11/1 Cook KDS, GHo, Lake JWl, St. Louis (Moose Mountain S.N.A.) ebd, 11/4 St. Louis (McQuade Small Craft Harbor) LMc, JLK, 11/5 Cass ebd (median 11/4). Late south 11/15 Dakota KDS, 11/18 Hennepin BAF, 11/21 Wabasha MNb (median 11/22).

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [31 North, 51 South] Early south (median 9/17) 9/16 Wabasha MNb, 9/18 Goodhue ebd, 9/20 Dakota ebd, High counts 10/7 Anoka (128, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) GWe, 9/22 St. Louis (57, Brighton Beach) HTo, IDv, ASu, SeM. Late north 11/25 Pine ebd, 11/27 Douglas BAB, JWH, 11/28 Beltrami ebd, but see winter report (median 12/10).

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*)

— [10 North] Scattered reports across the north. Early north (median 9/28) 10/20 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) JsC, 10/21 St. Louis (Cook) JuG, 10/22 Cook ebd, 10/24 Lake ABm, St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) SeM. High counts 11/27 Cook (129, Grand Marais Harbor) LWd, 11/19, 11/22 St. Louis (100, Sax-Zim Bog) KTP, ebd.

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*)

— [34 North, 53 South] Reports from all counties. High counts 8/29 St. Louis (1,860, Brighton Beach) HTo, IDv, KJB, StK 9/10 St. Louis (1,623, H.R.N.R.) JsC.

PHAINOPEPLA (*Phainopepla nitens*) — [1

North] First state record, spotted the morning of 10/29 just northeast of the McQuade Safe Harbor by MWS and Molly Misfeldt. Seen 10/29 – 11/1 **St. Louis** (McQuade Safe Harbor) ph. †AXH, ph. RZi, ph. †HCT, ph. †KRE, ph. †KEm, ph. †NMe, †EzH, ph. †DnS, ph. †TPu, ph. †ToL, ph. BAB, ph. GHo, m.ob (*The Loon* 94:171–173).

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*)

— [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Traverse. High counts 9/10 St. Louis (63, Brighton Beach) HTo, StK, IDv, 10/1 Cass (50, Schoolcraft S.P.) ebd.

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*)

— [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 9/2 Ramsey (30, Sucker Lake) ebd, 9/3 Anoka (22, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) DnS, ASu.

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) — [29

North, 46 South] Early south migrants (median 8/27) **8/3** Brown (BTS), 8/15 Wright ebd, 8/23 Yellow Medicine BTS, 8/25 Carver JCy. High counts 9/22 St. Louis (13, Brighton Beach) HTo, ASu, SeM, IDv, 10/4 Hennepin (13, Powderhorn Park) LrV.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliotila caerulea*)

— [8 North, 43 South] High counts 8/20 Carver (8, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/28 Anoka (8, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) EzH. Late north 9/4 Becker ANy, Otter Tail NaH, AnB, 9/10 Douglas ebd, 9/12 Grant ANy (median 9/8). Late south 9/23 Faribault LHL, Waseca LHL, ebd, 9/24 Dodge ebd, 10/12 Big Stone DLP (median 9/24).

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*)

— [1 North, 4 South] Only north report: 11/8–28 **Aitkin** (feeders north of Tama-



Fledgling House Wren, 17 August, Miesville Ravine Park Reserve, Dakota County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

rack) KCR, CLR, MAJ. Rare south reports 8/7 **Dakota** (Skyview Rd.) CRM, 8/9 – 10/19 **Wabasha** (West Albany Twp.) MNB. Also reported from Hennepin and Houston.

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [30

North, 53 South] High counts 8/21 Ramsey (20, Crosby Farm R.P.) ebd, 8/22 Hennepin (14, T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) JCa, 8/23 Ramsey (14, Snail Lake R.P.) LiH. Late north 10/8 Pine ebd, St. Louis (Grassy Point) NGi, 10/8–10 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) JWL, NGi, JLK, 10/15–17 Polk (Red River S.R.A.) ebd, TJJ (median 10/6). Late south 10/16–17 Ramsey AnA, ebd, 10/17 Hennepin DSH, 10/21 Goodhue MJM (median 10/17).

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [19

North, 33 South] Early south (median 8/31) 8/23 Sherburne ETw, MFl, 9/3 Washington BDo, 9/10 Hennepin CMB, Ramsey DnS. High counts 10/6 St. Louis (12, Hartley Park) JLK, 10/7 Ramsey (8, Maplewood N.C.) DnS. Late north 10/30 Kanabec SPS, 10/30–31 St. Louis (Stony Point) LSw, SeM, StK, 11/14 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) MLH (median 10/24). See winter report for late south migrants (median 12/17).

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus stellaris*) — [22

North, 44 South] High counts 8/2 Goodhue (24, Frontenac S.P., Rattlesnake Bluff) SDz, 8/6 Goodhue (16, Frontenac S.P., Prairie Trial) SDz. Late north 10/5 Clay (Moorhead) DPW, 10/6 St. Louis (Hartley Park) JLK,

- 10/9 Clay (Blanket Flower Prairie S.N.A.) ebd, Douglas JEL, St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) NGi (median 10/13). Late south 10/10 Ramsey LiH, Rice TFB, 10/12 Hennepin ebd, 10/21–22 Lyon (Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe (median 10/15).
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [25 North, 43 South] High counts 10/2 Yellow Medicine (20, Spellman Lake) GWe, 8/19 Grant (17, North Ottawa Impoundment) SSP. Late north 10/8 St. Louis JWL, 10/21 Clay ebd, 10/26 Lake ASu (median 10/16). Late south 10/28 Olmsted ebd, 10/29 Hennepin (East Medicine Lake Park) LSw, 10/30 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Long Meadow Lake Trail) ebd (median 11/2).
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] High count 8/9 Anoka (27, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) GWe. Late north 10/30 Cook NMe, m.ob., 11/4 Lake KOC, KRE, m.ob., 11/23 Pennington HHu (median 11/1). Late south 11/21 Anoka GWe, 11/25 Hennepin DPJ, 11/26 Ramsey LiH (median 11/21).
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [21 North, 33 South] High counts 8/11 St. Louis (6, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 9/10 Grant (5, Delaware Twp.) CNn. Late north 9/25 St. Louis TCL, LME, 10/5 Clay ebd, 10/3–13 Todd (Little Sauk Twp.) ebd (median 11/20). Late south 10/28 Scott BHE, 10/30 Stearns (north of St. Stephen) ebd, then one much later report 11/27 Stearns (Collegetown) REL (median 1/1).
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [1 North] Only report: 8/9 **Otter Tail** (Dead Lake W.M.A.) MRN.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High count 10/16 Dakota (2,000, SET-Empire) AnB, TPu, MWT.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [31 North, 40 South] High counts 10/11 Washington (70, Afton S.P.) ebd, 10/11 Washington (55, Belwin Conservancy) SOa. Late north 11/1 Otter Tail TFu, 11/3 Hubbard AxB, Pine ebd, 11/5 Crow Wing ebd (median 11/30).
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [6 North, 4 South] Early north (median 10/10) 10/5 St. Louis (Stony Point) KRE, m.ob., 10/6 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) JsC, 10/14 St. Louis (Angora) JuG. North reports away from the North Shore: 10/24–25 Cass ph. DoH, JC, ebd, 11/10 Clearwater (Bagley) ebd, 11/12 Norman (Gary Pines) TCL. All south (median arrival 10/18) 9/25 Le Sueur BAb, KEm, JWH, 11/6 **Houston** (Reno Bottoms) BDo, LiH, 11/20–26 **Renville** (2, Sacred Heart) ARW, BTS, m.ob., 11/23 Washington GWe.
- Veery** (*Catharus fuscescens*) — [22 North, 18 South] High counts 8/8 St. Louis (9, Hartley Park) JLK, 8/18 St. Louis (9, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK. Late north 9/10 Lake (Kawishiwi River Campsite) LWd, (Flood Bay State Wayside) JWl, ebd, 9/12, 9/18 Itasca (Williams Narrows Resort) ebd, **10/22** Lake (Two Harbors) JWl (median 9/14). Late south 9/11 Hennepin ebd, 9/13 Washington JVA, 9/27 Meeker PKF (median 9/17).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catharus minimus*) — [6 North, 14 South] Early north (median 9/2) 8/16 St. Louis (Park Point) PHS, 8/25 Crow Wing JPr, JJS, St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) FJN, 8/30 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) StK, HTo, SNe, IDv. Early south (median 9/1) 8/28 Isanti MJB, 8/30 Kandiyohi ebd, 8/31 Anoka ASu. High count 9/7 St. Louis (3, Stony Point) NGi. Late north 9/25 St. Louis (Park Point Nature Trail) ebd, 10/5 St. Louis (Hartley N.C.) ebd, 10/20 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK (median 10/4). Late south 10/3 Ramsey ebd, 10/3–6 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) HPe, ebd, 10/12 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ebd (median 10/8).
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catharus ustulatus*) — [26 North, 37 South] Early south (median 8/14) 8/3 Anoka TAn, 8/7 Carver JCy, 8/13 Hennepin TAT, RuS. High counts 9/10 St. Louis (74, Brighton Beach) IDv, StK, HTo. Late north 10/17 Polk ebd, followed by 2 reports well after the 10/18 median: 10/31 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, **11/11** St. Louis (Enger Park) ph. NoH. Late south 10/21 Goodhue JtM, 10/23 Hennepin ebd, 11/12–13 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) IsH, EzH, ECL, ebd (median 10/18).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) — [27 North, 28 South] Earliest south reports from Sherburne where apparently oversummered. Early south migrants (median 9/14) 9/7 Wabasha ebd, 9/10 Chisago DWK, 9/11 Hennepin ebd, DPJ, Ramsey JKU, Scott

BHe. High counts 10/9 Hennepin (16, T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) ebd, 10/13 St. Louis (12, Park Point Nature Trail) JLK, 10/15 Brown (11) BTS. Late north 11/17 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) MLH, 11/19 Cook JGW, St. Louis (Stony Point) StK, HTo, SeM (median 11/2). Late south 11/30 Ramsey LiH, Wabasha ebd, but see winter report (median 12/22).

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [7 North, 19 South] Notable fall records: 9/11 **Sibley** WCM, 9/24 **Rock** (Blue Mounds S.P.) PRH. High count 9/10 Hennepin (3, Wood Lake N.C.) ebd. Late north 8/23 Mille Lacs HHD, 8/31 **Douglas** (Lake Carlos S.P.) ToR, 9/1 Mille Lacs (Mille Lacs Kathio S.P.) JWZ (median 9/14). Late south 10/2 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) VRL, 10/5 Dakota ebd, Hennepin (Eden Prairie) HPe, MyP, (Crow-Hassan P.R.) WCM, Washington PNi (median 10/1).

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 10/5 St. Louis (3,658, H.R.N.R.) SeM, 10/5 St. Louis (3,000, Central Hillside, Duluth) NGi, 10/6 St. Louis (1,264, H.R.N.R.) JsC.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [2 North] All north (median 11/12) 11/24 Cook (Grand Marais Harbor) ph. LWd, 11/29–30+ Aitkin (Jacobson) ebd.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 9/5 Wabasha (**200**, Oakwood) ebd, 11/12 Lyon (175) GWe.

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW (*Passer montanus*) — [1 North, 2 South] All north 11/24 Polk (East Grand Forks) ph. †SAu. All south 8/29 – 11/26 Meeker (continuing birds in Dassel area yard) †AXH, m.ob.; new county record 10/13 **Goodhue** (Minneola Twp.) ph. †JLF.

House Sparrow × **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus* × *P. montanus*) — [1 North] One report: 10/6–13 St. Louis (Central Hillside, Duluth) ph. NGi.

American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*) — [22 North, 49 South] Early north (median 9/5) 9/1 St. Louis (Park Point) LSw, 9/11 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) SeM, 9/12 Grant/Wilkin EHi. Early south (median 9/8) 9/10 Swift AaL CLu, 9/11 Dakota DVe, 9/12 Olmsted LAV, JmP, 9/14 Rice ebd. High counts 9/22 St. Louis (301, Brighton Beach) HTo, IDv,

SeM, ASu, 9/27 St. Louis (243, Arnold Rd., Duluth) KDx, CLN. Late north 11/5 Cook (10, Grand Marais Harbor) ebd, 11/13 Cook (2, Grand Marais Harbor) LWd, 11/17 St. Louis SeM (median 11/9). Late south 11/21 Renville ANy, 11/22 Washington BLz, 11/23 Hennepin ebd (median 11/13),

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [13 North, 4 South] All south 11/9 Washington CBU, 11/10 Wabasha (female, West Albany Twp.) MNb, 11/13 **McLeod** (adult male, Lester Prairie) *fide* EzH, 11/30 Houston (female, La Crescent) ebd. High counts 11/12 Cook (125, Barker Lake Road Area) LWd, 11/22 St. Louis (75, Sax-Zim Bog) KTP, ebd.

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [10 North] Early north (median 10/19) 10/18 St. Louis (Duluth) ebd, 10/24 St. Louis (Bear Head Lake S.P.) ebd, 10/27 Cook (5) LWd, 10/30 also in Aitkin, Lake, Roseau. High counts 10/30 Cook (122, Pincushion Mountain Trail System) AxB, 11/17 St. Louis (69, H.R.N.R.) JsC.

House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [29 North, 52 South] Found statewide. High counts 9/3 Scott (100, Blue Lake) BLz, 9/27 Douglas (54, Buckskin Road) BEc, 10/30 Washington (50, Oakdale Nature Preserve) JDS.

Purple Finch (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [31 North, 43 South] Fewest reports from Southwest. High counts 10/4 St. Louis (526, H.R.N.R.) JsC, 10/30 St. Louis (494, H.R.N.R.) SeM, 10/7 St. Louis (420, H.R.N.R.) SeM, 10/26 St. Louis (416, Stony Point) SeM.

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) — [14 North, 7 South] Early north (median 10/17) 10/20 St. Louis (Park Point) ebd, 10/29 Lake (5) TWe, St. Louis (Park Point) NGi, (McQuade Small Craft Harbor) AnB, TPu, MwT, ebd. Early south (median 11/1) 10/25 Meeker PKF, 11/1–2 Wabasha (2) MNb, 11/2 Scott (2) BHe. High counts 11/27 St. Louis (85, Stony Point) StK, SeM, 11/26 St. Louis (62, H.R.N.R.) JsC, 11/27 St. Louis (59, H.R.N.R.) JsC.

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — No reports.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [13 North, 6 South] Found in most North-central and all Northeast counties. Addition-

al north reports 8/2 Kittson EHI, 9/17–18 Becker (Tamarac N.W.R.) TkL, ebd, 10/30 Kanabec SPS, 11/6 Becker (Smoky Hills S.F.) ebd. All south 8/1 Washington (2, Otisville) JoF, 8/31 – 9/8 Anoka (Victor Hill Cemetery) JGW, m.ob., 10/31 – 11/1 Olmsted (Oxbow Park) LHL, KEm, 11/13 Isanti (2, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) MZa, Ramsey (max. 4, Vadnais Lake) ebd, DnS, MWS 11/21 Anoka (2, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) MZa, 11/25 Ramsey (2, Sucker Lake) DnS, LrV, 11/26 Lyon (Southwest Minnesota State University) RJS. High counts 11/24 St. Louis (172, Stony Point) StK, SNe, 11/11 St. Louis (52, Stony Point) SeM, 11/27 St. Louis (42, Stony Point) SeM, StK.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [5 North, 5 South] Reported north throughout the season from St. Louis and Cook. All other north reports 8/26–27 Lake (Lake One) ebd, 10/15 Lake (Two Harbors) GWe, 10/22 Itasca ebd, 11/19 Roseau BCS, 11/27 Itasca SC. All south 10/19 Dakota (2) CRe, 10/23 Lyon (2) GWe, 11/3 Meeker (8) PKF, 11/18 Wright RCL, 11/26 Hennepin ebd. High counts 11/24 St. Louis (60, Stony Point) StK, SNe, 11/13 Cook (24, Grand Marais Harbor) LWd.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [24 North, 18 South] Few reports from West-central region and none from the Southwest. High counts all from St. Louis: 11/19 (280, Stony Point) SeM, HTo, StK, 10/30 (134, H.R.N.R.) SeM, 11/17 (122, Stony Point) SeM, 11/11 (90, H.R.N.R.) JsC.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county. High counts all from Stony Point in St. Louis: 11/11 (531) SeM, 10/26 (232) SeM, 11/24 (225) SNe, StK, 10/26 (205) HTo, StK.

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [26 North, 45 South] Seen statewide. Early north (median 9/14) 8/31 Cook ebd, 9/10 St. Louis MLH. Early south (median 9/24) 9/21 Dodge (9) LHL, 9/22 Carver (3) WCM, 9/23 Freeborn (3) JGW. High counts 10/23 Lyon (1,500, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe, 10/31 Clay (700, Moland Twp.) TCL, 11/4 Lyon (700, Lone Tree Lake) RJS.

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) — No fall reports since 2010.

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) — [2

North, 7 South] All north (median arrival 9/30) **8/30** St. Louis (Park Point R.A., near airport) CLN, KDx, 10/9 St. Louis (Park Point R.A., near airport) JLK, 10/20 Clay (10) TkL. All south **9/11–13 Waseca** (Janesville W.T.P.) JGW, JWH, m.ob., 9/17 **Carver** (Carver P.R., Grimm Rd) JCy, 9/29 **Olmsted** (C.R. 9 and C.R. 102) LAV, m.ob., 10/19 Lac qui Parle DLP, 10/20–27 Cottonwood (max. 20, highest tally) JWZ, KEm, ebd, APi, 10/21 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) WCM, Murray GWe, 10/22 Lyon (10, Sham Lake) GWe, 10/23 Lyon (Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe.

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [28 North, 36 South] Widespread across the state, except for the southernmost counties. Early north (median 10/9) 10/10 Cook (2, Grand Marais) ebd, St. Louis JLK, 10/13 Cook (Ober Mountain) ebd, 10/15 Lake of the Woods (5) BCS. Early south (median 10/18) 10/19 Benton (5) MJB, Carver (7) TWe, Hennepin JBh, Sherburne (2) ebd, 10/20 also in Lac qui Parle, Stearns, Swift. High counts 11/3 Stearns (415, Spring Hill C.P.) AaL, 11/16 Kittson (400, south of Hallock) HHu, 11/24 Polk (400, Farley Twp.) SAU.

Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus sавannarum*) — [6 North, 17 South] High counts 8/3 Clay (**35**, Felton Prairie) ebd, 8/6 Clay (7, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) ebd, 8/7 Washington (6, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) DuW. Late north 9/27 **St. Louis** (Park Point R.A.) CLN, KDx, JfD, Todd (2) JLK, 10/6 St. Louis SeM, NGi, ASu, JWJ, 10/14 Cook (Sugarloaf Point S.N.A.) JZj, **10/30** Cook (Lutsen Resort) BWF, m.ob., (Grand Marais Campground) MwT, m.ob. Late south 9/25 Blue Earth ebd, 9/30 Anoka MZa, 10/15 Rock ebd (median 9/30).

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [7 North, 16 South] Most north reports ever for fall season. High count 8/13 Dakota (6, 140th St. Marsh) ebd. Late north 8/14 Clay PBB, 8/16 Otter Tail (Glendalough S.P.) BAr, 9/5 Lake (Two Harbors) JWJ, KDx, CLN, 9/9 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) DFe, Wilkin DFe. Late south 9/9 Washington DuW, 9/10 Hennepin (Minneapolis) ebd, Pope ebd, 9/11 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) ebd (median 9/20).

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every coun-

ty. High counts 9/27 Clay (50, Viking Ship Park) ebd, 9/9 Scott (48, Prior Lake) ebd, 9/17 Polk (43, East Grand Forks) SAu. Late north 10/30 Cook m.ob., Norman (2) SAu, 11/5–7 Todd SDi, 11/24 Otter Tail ebd (median 11/11). Late south 11/18–19 Ramsey DnS, PNi, 11/19 Hennepin ebd, 11/20 Wirona (3) ebd (median 11/22).

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) — [29 North, 43 South] High counts 9/3 Polk (34, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) GHo, KDS, 8/3 Clay (30, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) ebd, 9/2 Otter Tail (25, Eagle Lake Twp.) JSw, JsS. Late north 10/20 Douglas (2) BEc, 10/22 St. Louis (2) ebd, 10/30 Otter Tail ebd, 10/30–31 Cook WCM, m.ob. (median 10/19). Late south 10/18 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey ebd, 10/20 Yellow Medicine GWe, 10/29 Washington GWe, 11/3 Scott TWe (median 10/18).

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) — [10 North, 45 South] All reports south of a line from Clay County to Duluth. High counts 8/7 Carver (21, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy, 8/6 Goodhue (14, Frontenac S.P.) SDz. Late north 9/17 Clay ebd, 9/26–27 Todd JLK, 10/5 Grant CNn (median 10/19). Late south 10/30 Dakota DuW, ebd, 10/30–31 Wabasha MNb, 11/9 Washington JHe (median 10/27).

Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) — [28 North, 46 South] Early north (median 9/19) 9/18 Itasca ebd, 9/20 Polk TJJ, 9/22 Kanabec (2) JGW, St. Louis (Hermantown) JLK, (8, Park Point) ebd. Early south (median 9/20) 9/13 Hennepin (Edina) ebd, 9/17 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) ebd, 9/22 Washington JDS, JHe. High counts 10/24 Hennepin (34) TAT, 10/12 Wright (30, Annandale) ebd, 10/23 Carver (25, Rapids Lake Education & Visitor Center) TWe. Late north 11/18 St. Louis ebd, 11/20–24 Cass JC, 11/24 Morrison CLu, AaL, TLu (median 12/16).

American Tree Sparrow (*Spizelloides arborea*) — [32 North, 49 South] Reported from all but six counties. Early north (median 9/25) 9/17 Itasca ebd, 9/18 Todd (2) SDi, 9/19 St. Louis ebd. Early south (median 9/29) 9/24 Meeker PKF, 9/26 Pipestone IVD, 9/27 Sherburne (2) ebd. High counts 11/8 Lyon (200, Runholt Slough) RJS, 11/22 Clay (150, Noreen W.P.A.) TkL, 11/21 Stearns (147, Brockway Twp.) Mhj.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported from every county except Traverse and Swift. Early south (median 9/9) 9/10 Hennepin ebd, 9/13 Wabasha MNb, 9/17 Lac qui Parle FAE, 9/18 Ramsey BBr. High count 10/7 St. Louis (300, Meadowlands) IaG, 10/7 St. Louis (182, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 10/13 Kanabec (156, Mora) CRM, m.ob. *Oreganus* group recorded in 3 north and 11 south counties between 10/6 and 11/30; all were singles except 10/21 Murray (2) GWe.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [27 North, 48 South] Early north (median 9/9) 9/7 Cook LSw, 9/9 Lake ebd, St. Louis (2) ebd. Early south (median 9/16) 9/10 Renville ebd, 9/11 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey DnS. High counts 10/9 St. Louis (30, Park Point R.A.) NGi, 10/11 Carver (23, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) ebd. Late north 11/4 Lake ebd, 11/6 Cook (Lutsen Resort) KRE, VRL, KOC, 11/7 Cook (2, Grand Marais Harbor) LWd (median 12/17). Late south 11/25 Yellow Medicine (3) ebd, 11/27 Lyon RJS, 11/29 Dakota KDS (median 12/20). Subspecies *gambelli* reported between 9/12 and 11/25, from St. Louis and Lake north, and from Yellow Medicine, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Dakota south; highest tally was 7 on 9/27 in St. Louis CLn.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [30 North, 48 South] Found in every region, though fewest reports from Southeast. Early north (median 9/16) 8/10 St. Louis (Lakeside/Lester Park, Duluth; apparently also present sporadically in the summer) ph. MRz, 9/9–11 Polk SAu, 9/11 Lake JWL, SLL. Early south (median 9/22) 9/19 Anoka ebd, 9/24 Big Stone DLP, Brown EHi, Hennepin ebd, Lac qui Parle (3) DLP, Lyon (7) NMe, Ramsey ECL, ebd, Rock (6) PRH. High counts 10/16 Rock (80, Blue Mounds S.P.) BAB, 10/21 Pipestone (64, Split Rock Creek S.P.) VKl, 10/16 Rock (40, Schone-man Park) BAB, 9/27 Marshall (35, Agassiz N.W.R.) EHi.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [33 North, 53 South] Seen in every county except Traverse. Oversummered in Sherburne; elsewhere, first south reports (median 8/26) 8/13 Ramsey ChP, ebd, 8/19 Dakota ebd, 8/26 Hennepin (3) ebd. High counts 10/6 Lake (310, southwest of Two

- Harbors) JWl, 10/15 Hennepin (228, Theodore Wirth Park) JCa, 10/8 Hennepin (204, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JCa.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [21 North, 42 South] Found in all regions, though few reports in Northeast and North-central. High counts 9/8 Crow Wing (12, St. Mathias Twp.) EHi, 9/10 Stearns (10, Munson Twp.) DRL, 9/10 Stearns (10, Dutch Ave. N) DRL, ebd. Late north 10/8 Otter Tail BAR, 10/13 Clay (2) TkL, 10/26 Todd SDi (median 10/21). Late south 10/24 Wabasha (Lake City) MNb, 10/24–26 Meeker PKF, 10/31 Wabasha (Lake City) MNb (median 10/27).
- LeConte's Sparrow** (*Ammospiza leconteii*) — [11 North, 39 South] Reported from every region. Early south (median 9/13) 8/31 Ramsey ebd, 9/22 Hennepin JCa, 9/24 Olmsted LAV, JPr, JmP, ebd. High counts 10/15 Rock (8, Schoneman Park) ebd, 9/27 Nobles (6) ANy. Late north 10/5 Clay (3, Moorhead) DPW, Polk HHu, 10/10 Clay (2, Moorhead) DPW, 10/16 St. Louis ebd (median 10/13). Late south 10/22 Carver JCy, Lyon (2) GWe, Washington ebd, 10/23 Anoka DFN, 10/30 Blue Earth ChH (median 10/20).
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammospiza nelsoni*) — [4 North, 14 South] Found in every region except North-central and Northeast. Early south (median 9/18) 9/19 Olmsted LAV, JWH, 9/21 Hennepin BLz, 9/23 Martin EHi. High counts 9/24 Houston (3, Upper Mississippi N.W.R.) KEm, JWH, Olmsted (3, South Landfill Reservoir) ebd. All north 9/18 Otter Tail (Orwell W.M.A.) BAR, 9/21 Polk (Angus Oslo 4 Flood Control Project) HHu, 9/27 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) EHi, 10/9 Mille Lacs (2, Onamia) BbS. Late south 10/12 Ramsey LiH, APi, 10/15 Rock ebd, **10/29** Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) KSz, **10/30** Olmsted (Silver Creek Reservoir) MiD (median 10/9).
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Centronyx henslowii*) — [1 North, 8 South] All north 8/2–3 **Clay** (2, Felton Prairie) ebd. High counts 8/11 Cottonwood (7, Des Moines River W.P.A.) KEm, 8/7 Scott (4, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BPR. Late south 8/13–14 Wabasha (2, Weaver Dunes) TWe, SDz, JtM, 8/14 Wabasha (McCarthy Lake) SDz, JtM, 8/26 Olmsted LAV, 8/28 Hennepin ebd (median 8/24).
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [33 North, 52 South] Unreported only from Koochiching and Redwood. High counts 10/20 Yellow Medicine (55, Echo W.T.P.) GWe, 10/5 Sibley (51, Helen Twp.) JCa, 9/24 Cottonwood (40, Rock Ridge Prairie S.N.A.) EHi. Late north 10/31 Clay TCL, 10/31 – 11/2 St. Louis (Central Hillside, Duluth) NGi, 11/1 Lake (2) AxB, 11/4 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) JLK (median 11/5). Late south 11/12 Lyon GWe, 11/13 Dakota (180th St. Marsh) ebd, Hennepin DEL, 11/20 Olmsted (2) LAV, 11/25 Dakota (3, Great Western Industrial Park) KDS (median 11/8).
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High counts 8/11 St. Louis (47, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 10/9 Dakota (42, Castle Rock Twp.) JCa, 8/17 St. Louis (36, Park Point R.A.) JLK. Late north 11/7 Lake MLH, 11/13–14 Todd SDi, 11/18 Polk (2) TJJ, 11/24 Cass ebd (median 12/18).
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [27 North, 52 South] Early south (median 8/29) 8/27 Ramsey (Sucker Lake) DnS, MWS, Sherburne (2) RCL, 8/30 Dakota ebd, Ramsey (Poplar Lake) APi. High counts 10/4 Lac qui Parle (22, Big Stone N.W.R., Auto Tour Road) DLP, 9/26 Clay (20, Moorhead) DPW, 10/1 Yellow Medicine (19, Wood Lake Twp.) BrR. Late north 10/26 Todd SDi, 10/26–28 Clay (Moorhead) DPW, 11/13–16 Polk (Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary) HHu (median 10/27). Late south 11/4 Scott (2) BHe, 11/5 Stevens DLP, 11/6–22 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) TAT, m.ob. (median 11/8).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [29 North, 53 South] Unreported only from Pennington, Red Lake, Norman, Mahnomon, Traverse. High counts 10/8 Hennepin (54, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JCa, 10/5 Sibley (37, High Island Lake) JCa, 10/1 Yellow Medicine (34, Wood Lake Twp.) BrR. Late north 10/31 Clay DPW, 11/1 Cook KDS, GHo, 11/3 Otter Tail ebd, St. Louis SeM (median 11/1).
- ABERT'S TOWHEE** (*Melozona aberti*) — [1 North] A pair of birds discovered in June and which were the first for the state remained until 11/19 Itasca (Grand Rapids) JWl (**The Loon** 94:174–178).

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [2 North, 3 South] Scattered reports across the state. All north 10/4 Otter Tail RBW, 11/20–21 **Lake** (Two Harbors) MLH, JWL, LiH, JGW. All south 10/6 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) PRH, 11/13–30+ Meeker (Collinwood Twp.) ph. PKF, m.ob., 11/30+ **Faribault** (Dunbar Twp.) ph. *vide* CH (median 10/15). Also see winter report.

Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [10 North, 33 South] Found in every region except the West-Central. High counts 8/11 Wabasha (13, Snake Creek ATV Trail) ebd, 8/4 Sherburne (10, Sherburne N.W.R.) JGb. Late north 9/18 Polk TJJ, 9/19 Cass ebd, 9/24 Pine SHF, BAF (median 10/7). Late south 11/4 Wabasha MNb, 11/9 Dakota (2) DVe, 11/18 Kandiyohi ebd (median 11/10).

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [14 North, 33 South] High counts 9/3 Lyon (425, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe, 8/19 Grant (170, North Ottawa Impoundment) SSP, 8/11 Blue Earth (124, Medo Twp.) WCM. Late north 9/8 Becker NaH, 9/9 Morrison (2) EHi, 9/29 Aitkin LBa (median 10/8). Late south 11/5 Lyon (Lucas Twp.) ebd, 11/10 Lyon (Lyons Twp.) RJS, 11/17–18 Dakota (Marshan Twp.) KDS, CTS (median 11/10).

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [20 North, 35 South] High counts 8/14 Cottonwood (100, Rock Ridge Prairie S.N.A.) BRB, 8/23 Carver (50, Tacoma Ave. Area Fields) MaS, 9/3 Red Lake (35, Marcoux Prairie) GHo, KDS. Late north 9/26 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) ebd, ASu, HTo, IDv, 10/4, 10/5 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) JsC, SeM, 10/21 Pine (4) FKB (median 9/29). Late south 10/9 Meeker KEm, JWH, Sibley (2) GWe, 10/9–12 Olmsted LAV, m.ob., 10/23 Lyon GWe (median 10/5).

Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) — [7 North, 25 South] High counts 10/1 Rice (12, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) AvB, 9/24 Olmsted (10, Kalmar Reservoir) ebd, 10/5 Hennepin (9, Crow-Hassan P.R.) WCM. All north reports after August: 9/22 Kanabec (2, Kanabec Twp.) JGW, 10/2 Crow Wing JLK, 10/9 Pine KPJ, 10/11 Kanabec (South Fork Twp.) BLz. Late south 11/6 Olmsted (2) ebd, 11/13 Ramsey ebd, Steele (3) PAL, ebd, 11/25 Dakota KDS (median



LeConte's Sparrow, 3 October 2022, Yellow Medicine County. Photo by Brandon Reishus.

10/29).

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [24 North, 26 South] Seen mostly in the western half of the state and along the North Shore; fewest reports from East-central and Southeast. High counts 8/26 Polk (21, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) ebd, 9/24 Cottonwood (15, Rock Ridge Prairie S.N.A.) EHi. Late north 11/22 Clay (4) TkL, 11/24 Morrison KEM, SEM, 11/25 Becker NaH (median 11/7). Late south 11/21 Meeker ANy, 11/21–22 Rock (3) KEm, 11/24–25 Dakota KDS (median 11/16).

Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) — [4 North, 20 South] High counts 8/3 Fillmore (12, Schueler W.M.A.) ToM, 8/5 Grant (10, Delaware Twp.) CNn. Late north 8/7 **Becker** (Hamden Slough N.W.R.) ebd, Polk (3, Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary) ebd, 8/10 Polk SAu, 8/27 St. Louis KDx, HBr, CIN, 8/28–30 Grant CNn (median 8/21). Late south 9/10 Anoka ebd, Dakota ebd, 9/10–18 Steele (Somerset Twp.) PSu (median 8/25).

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) — [29 North, 45 South] High counts 9/2 Morrison (20, Riverview Drive, Little Falls) ebd, 8/27, 9/2 Renville (16, Birch Cooley Twp.) LoH. Late north 9/13 Becker ebd, Cass JBU, 9/18 St. Louis (2) JLK (median 9/19). Late south 9/21 Hennepin ebd, 10/13–27 Rice JHL, 11/8 Washington MTe (median 10/11).

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [34 North, 52 South] Found in every county except Redwood. High counts

10/22 Pope (5,000, Lair Lake) ebd, 10/22 Lyon (2,400, Green Valley W.M.A.) GWe, 8/24 Dakota (2,000, 140th St. Marsh) ebd, 10/12 Stearns (2,000, Wakefield Twp.) DRL, ebd.

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) — [19 North, 46 South] High count 9/22 Murray (300, Belfast Twp.) CRM, m.ob. Late north 9/29 Aitkin LBa, Itasca (2) ebd, 10/8 Polk (2) HHu, 10/12 Clay (20) TkL, 11/5 Otter Tail ebd (median 10/18). See winter report for late south migrants.

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [29 North, 43 South] Early north (median 9/12) 9/8 St. Louis (63, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 9/10 Lake (3, Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness) ebd, St. Louis (2, Brighton Beach) IsH, HTo, StK, IDv, EzH, 9/11 Lake (Two Harbors) JWJ, 9/13 Lake of the Woods ebd. Early south (median 9/21) 9/14 Anoka ASC, 9/20 Dakota ebd, JHL, Sherburne HHD, 9/21 Olmsted (3) LAV. High counts 11/7 Meeker (1,800, Lake Ripley, north side) DPG, 10/26 St. Louis (1,220, Stony Point) SeM, 9/26 St. Louis (1,077, Brighton Beach) HTo, IDv, ASu, ebd. See winter report for overwintering birds north and south.

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [18 North, 37 South] High counts 10/14 Otter Tail (800, Julsrud W.P.A.) TkL, 10/31 Clay (400, Tansem Twp.) TkL, 11/6 Wright (240, Pelican Lake) RCL. Late north 11/5 Wadena (10) JBu, 11/12–13 Clay (Cromwell Twp.) PBB, 11/14 Clay (2, Clay County W.P.A.) TkL, 11/15 Polk HHu (median 11/6). Late south 11/9 Stevens DLP, 11/10 Lyon (3) RJS, 11/16 Wright (2) RBd (median 11/15).

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found in every county but Red Lake. High counts 10/8 Becker (6,000, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) ebd, 11/5 Stearns (1,500, Lynden Twp.) ebd, 10/14 Otter Tail (1,200, Julsrud W.P.A.) TkL, 10/18 Grant (1,200, Delaware Twp.) CNn, 11/1 Otter Tail (1,200, Everts Twp.) Tfu.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — First fall season with no reports since 2003 when this species was considered casual.

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [29 North, 44 South] High counts 9/10 Hennepin (17

CLB, 9/10 Hennepin (16, Wood Lake N.C.) ebd, 9/3 Anoka (14, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) DnS, ASu. Late north 10/1 Kanabec BAb, 10/5 Lake KRE, m.ob., **10/18** Carlton (Jay Cooke S.P.) ebd (median 10/1). Late south 10/20 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) ebd, 10/25 Hennepin (Pamela Park) JCa, 11/4 Hennepin (downtown Minneapolis) NMT (median 10/21).

Louisiana Waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*) — First fall season with no reports since 2008.

Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [27 North, 36 South] Found in all regions. High counts 8/30 St. Louis (12, Brighton Beach) IDv, KJB, HTo, StK, SNe, 9/10 Ramsey (9, Tony Schmidt Park) LiH. Late north 9/26 Todd JLK, 9/28 Becker ebd, 9/30 Lake ebd, 10/5 Cass ebd (median 9/28). Late south 10/9 Hennepin (three locations) ebd, Ramsey ebd, 10/10 Hennepin (a fourth location) ebd, 10/20 Chisago ebd (median 10/5).

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [24 North, 32 South] Reported from most counties east of a line from Marshall to Martin. High counts 8/26 Anoka (12, Linwood Lake) JCa, 9/10 Hennepin (12, Lake Hiawatha and Wood Lake N.C.) CLB. Late north 9/19 Carlton ebd, Morrison DLP, St. Louis SeM, IDv, HTo (median 9/14). Late south 9/20 Goodhue JtM, 9/21 Ramsey DnS, 9/27 Hennepin VRL, 10/3 Benton HHD (median 9/25).

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [1 North, 22 South] Most reports from the East-central region. All north 8/9, 8/19 **Pine** (Pine City Twp.) SBE, CRM, m.ob. High count 8/7 Carver (4, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy. Late south 9/12 Goodhue KDS, Houston ASu, 9/14 Dakota KDS, 9/24 Anoka RSK (median 9/18).

Golden-winged Warbler X Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera* X *V. cyanoptera*) — [4 South] Two "Lawrence's" 8/7 Carver (Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy, 8/27 Le Sueur (Sakatah Cemetery) BAb, and two "Brewster's" 8/28 Anoka (Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) GWe, 9/10 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) — [32 North, 52 South] Found in every county except Norman, Wilkin, Cotton-

wood. High counts 8/24 Anoka (33, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) GWe, 8/31 St. Louis (33, Brighton Beach) SNe, HTo, KJB, SeM, StK. Late north 10/3 Grant CNn, 10/4 Pine JSa, 10/6 Lake JLB (median 10/4). Late south 10/4 Dakota KDS, Goodhue PEJ, Hennepin CMB, 10/5 Ramsey JZj, ebd, 10/8 Olmsted ebd (median 10/6).

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [11 South] Ties prior fall as the best fall season ever for this species. Reported from most counties along Mississippi River between Sherburne and Houston, but also Renville, Brown, Nicollet, and Carver along the Minnesota River. Highest tally only two. Late south 8/22 Dakota DWK, Nicollet BTS, MiO, Renville ebd, 8/26 Houston (2) EHi, 8/29 Hennepin (2) ebd (median 9/2).

Tennessee Warbler (*Leiothlypis peregrina*) — [31 North, 50 South] Seen statewide. High counts 9/19 St. Louis (110, Brighton Beach) SeM, IDv, HTo, 9/10 Hennepin (69, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JCa. Late north 10/16 Lake JWJ, 10/18 St. Louis NGi, 10/30 Cook ebd, MWS, TWe (median 10/16). Late south 10/30 Hennepin (2, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ABL, 11/1 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha Park) BAF, SHF, 11/7 Dakota DFN (median 10/21).

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Leiothlypis celata*) — [27 North, 50 South] Early north (median 9/2) 9/3 Polk (Agassiz Valley) HHu, 9/4 Marshall (2) ANy, Polk (Red River S.R.A.) AaL, CLu, Todd SDi. Early south (median 9/1) 9/1 Meeker PKF, 9/2 McLeod BHa, Murray SLH, Ramsey (2) ebd. High counts 10/1 Hennepin (36, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JCa, 10/8 Hennepin (31, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JCa, 9/23 Carver (22, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy. Late north 10/19 Clay TkL, 10/28 Lake CRM, 10/29 Cook (Solbakken Resort) NMe, 10/30 Cook (Grand Marais) TWe (median 10/28). Late south 11/9 Ramsey (University of Minnesota, St. Paul Campus) AnA, Renville MJB, 11/10 Ramsey (Sarita Wetland) ebd (median 11/1). **Note:** Insufficiently documented August reports are excluded.

Nashville Warbler (*Leiothlypis ruficapilla*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found in every county except Kittson. High counts 8/22 St. Louis (120, Brighton Beach) StK, IDv, 9/22 St.

Louis (116, Brighton Beach) ASu, SeM, IDv, HTo. Late north 10/30 Cook (Grand Marais) ASu, Lake EzH, AwG, IsH, 11/1 Cook (Lutsen Sea Villas) KDS (median 10/24). Late south 10/24 Hennepin (Lake Harriet) CWB, 10/26, 10/30 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ebd, ABL (median 10/26).

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) — [7 North, 13 South] All reports from the eastern half of the state. Early south (median 8/25) 8/20 Carver (Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) DWK, 8/22 Benton ANy, Carver (Fox Woods Preserve) WCM, 8/24 Meeker PKF. Highest tallies only two. Late north 9/19 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) IDv, SeM, HTo, 10/3 Kanabec DPG, 10/15 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) JLK (median 9/17). Late south 9/10 Dakota AnB, MwT, ebd, Ramsey LiH, Wabasha MNb, 9/18 Hennepin JHV, 9/22 Anoka DPG (median 9/21).

Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [14 North, 30 South] Found in every region. High counts of four from four north locations within breeding range: Cook, St. Louis (3 different sites). High tallies of migrants: 8/20 Lyon (4, Camden S.P.) GWe, 9/3 Hennepin (4, Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden) ebd. Late north 9/10 Lake JWJ, St. Louis (Brighton Beach) StK, HTo, SeM, IDv, (H.R.B.O.) FJN, 9/12 St. Louis (Hartley Park) JLK, 9/15 Todd SDi (median 9/15). Late south 9/30 Wabasha MNb, 10/1 Goodhue ebd, 10/7 Washington GBu (median 9/28).

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [34 North, 52 South] Found in every county except Jackson. High counts 8/26 Anoka (31, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) JCa, 9/5 Anoka (31, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) ASu, 8/14 Carver (27, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy. Late north 10/16 St. Louis JLK, 10/20 Cass ebd, 10/23 Cook ToL (median 10/13). Late south 10/23 Lyon GWe, 11/9 Renville MJB, 11/22 Hennepin TAT (median 10/25).

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) — [2 South] Reported at Murphy-Hanrehan P.R. in Scott County 8/1 – 9/3, with a high count of 3 on 8/7 GWe. Only other report 9/5 Washington (Afton S.P.) MaS.

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [32 North, 48 South] Reported widely,

though few reports from Southwest. High count 8/31 St. Louis (254, Brighton Beach) StK, SeM, HTo, KJB, IDv, SNe. Late north 10/3 Aitkin LBa, Itasca (2) ebd, 10/4 Clearwater (4) ebd, Pennington MJJ, 10/5 St. Louis RZi (median 10/11). Late south 10/10 Dakota TPu, 10/14 Ramsey MWS, 10/18 Hennepin JuW (median 10/9).

Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [18 North, 25 South] Few reports from the West-central, and none from the Southwest region. Early south (median 8/22) 8/17–19 Goodhue (Red Wing) ebd, 8/19 Anoka (Coon Rapids) ebd, 8/20 Anoka (Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) ebd, Carver JCy. High count 9/10 St. Louis (8, Brighton Beach) HTo, IDv, StK, HTo, SeM. Late north 10/4 Lake ebd, 10/6 St. Louis (Stony Point) ASu, NGi, SeM, (2, Hartley Park) JLK, 10/7 St. Louis (downtown Duluth) JWJ, 10/9 St. Louis (Bagley N.C.) ebd (median 10/5). Late south 9/24 Dodge JGW, 9/25 Hennepin (North Minneapolis) ebd, 9/26 Carver JCy, 10/5 Hennepin (Lyndale neighborhood, Minneapolis) SOa (median 9/30).

Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [5 South] All south 8/1 Nicollet RBW, 8/11 Houston (Reno, Hillside Rd.) JGW, Wabasha (Watopa Twp.) ebd, 8/15 Winona (White-water S.P.) LHI, 8/20 Nicollet (2, Seven Mile Creek C.P.) BAb, 9/2 Ramsey (Lake Como) †LiH.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) — [25 North, 39 South] Early south (median 8/16) 8/14 Anoka CF, 8/15 Ramsey DnS, 8/18 Chisago ELC. High counts 9/5 Anoka (28, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) ASu, 9/10 St. Louis (11, Brighton Beach) SeM. Late north 10/9 Lake (Two Harbors) JWJ, 10/29 Lake (Iona's Beach S.N.A.) ClB, LiH, 10/30 St. Louis NGi (median 10/3). Late south 10/7 Anoka GWe, 10/12 Hennepin ebd, 11/8 Scott BAb, BlZ, DWK (median 10/3).

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [32 North, 45 South] Early south (median 8/16) 8/14 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey (Arden Hills) LiH, 8/15 Ramsey (2, Snail Lake R.P.) MWS, 8/16 Ramsey (Lauderdale) ebd. High count 9/10 St. Louis (70, Brighton Beach) StK, HTo, IDv. Late north 10/2 Itasca ebd, 10/3 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 10/4 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) ebd, 10/5 St.

Louis (Lakeside/Lester Park, Duluth) BEA (median 10/3). Late south 10/7 Carver NWi, Wabasha MNb, 10/8 Chisago ELC, Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) DnS, 10/15 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) LiH (median 10/7).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*) — [31 North, 46 South] Reported from the highest number counties ever for fall. Early south (median 8/19) 8/17 Ramsey BAR, 8/19 Anoka (Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) DFe, 8/20 Anoka (Linwood Lake) CF, Carver JCy, Hennepin SBM, ebd, Meeker DWK. High counts 9/5 Anoka (12, Linwood Lake) JGW, 9/5 Anoka (11, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve) GWe, ASu. Late north 9/27 St. Louis NGi, 9/29 Morrison DLP, DLP, 10/30 Cook WCM (median 9/28). Late south 10/5 Brown SLH, Olmsted LHI, Sherburne (2) PLJ, 10/14 Hennepin DWK (median 10/5),

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) — [23 North, 40 South] Early south (median 8/8) 8/1 Hennepin PRH, 8/11 Carver ebd, Houston JGW, Olmsted LAV. High counts 8/21, 8/27 Carver (7, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy, 8/28 Anoka (7, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) GWe, 8/30 St. Louis (7, Brighton Beach) SNe, KJB, StK, IDv, HTo. Late north 9/25 Lake (Knife River Marina) JWJ, Pine (5) ebd, 10/2 Lake (Scenic Dr.) SLL, JWJ (median 9/23). Late south 9/24 Dakota KDS, Dodge JGW, Ramsey TAn, ebd (median 9/25).

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) — [32 North, 48 South] Seen statewide. High counts 8/15 St. Louis (26, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 8/20 Otter Tail (17, Orwell WMA) SSP. Late north 9/20 Polk SAu, 9/21 Cook ebd, 9/22 St. Louis (Lakewood Twp.) JfD, 9/30 St. Louis (near Lester Park) ebd (median 9/27). Late south 9/26 Hennepin (2, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 9/27 Hennepin (Crystal) ebd, 9/30 Scott BDG, Wabasha MNb (median 9/28).

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [28 North, 45 South] Found statewide, though absent from 8 of the 13 westernmost counties. High counts 9/19 St. Louis (36, Brighton Beach) IDv, SeM, HTo, 9/3 Anoka (30, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) DnS, ASu. Late north 9/25 St. Louis BPR, 9/26 Lake (2) KeL, 9/28 Todd JLK (median 10/1). Late south 10/3 Anoka ebd, Yellow Medicine MiO, 10/8 Hennepin HCT

(median 10/3).

Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*) — [17 North, 28 South] Early north (median 8/22) 8/16 St. Louis ebd, (2) JsC, 8/17 Grant CNn, 8/19 Cook (8) ebd. Early south (median 8/22) 8/19 Meeker PKF, 8/20 Lyon GWe, 8/21 Carver (2) JCy, Meeker PKF, Sibley BTS, MiO. High count 9/10 St. Louis (18, Brighton Beach) HTo, StK, SeM, IDv. Late north 9/26 Cook ebd, St. Louis (2) IDv, ASu, HTo, ebd, 9/28 Lake JWJ, 9/29 Morrison DLP (median 10/4). Late south 10/2 Dakota DFN, Sherburne PLJ, 10/8 Anoka CF (median 10/1).

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [4 North, 15 South] Early south (median 8/28) 8/22 Steele PSu, 8/23 Anoka CF, 8/26 Ramsey EzH, IsH, DnS. High count 9/3 Anoka (5, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) EzH. Late north 8/26 Cook (3) ebd, 9/8 Crow Wing ebd, 9/18 Polk ebd. Late south 10/8 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) LSc, Ramsey ebd, 10/11 Hennepin (Mississippi Gateway R.P.) ebd, 10/23 Hennepin (Bloomington) ebd, 11/5 Hennepin (Edina) TAT (median 10/12).

Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [27 North, 48 South] The most south reporting counties ever for the fall season. Early south (median 8/28) 8/16 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) ebd, 8/20 Hennepin CMB, 8/21 Anoka DFN, DPG, Carver JCy, Meeker PKF. High counts 10/5 St. Louis (250, Central Hillside neighborhood, Duluth) NGi, 9/19 St. Louis (236, Brighton Beach) IDv, SeM, HTo. Late north 10/26 St. Louis (5, Stony Point) SeM, 10/29 St. Louis (McQuade Small Craft Harbor) ASu, 10/30 Cook NMe, NSg (median 10/26). Late south 10/25 Ramsey AnA, 10/30 Anoka GWe, 11/19 Dakota KDS (median 10/24).

Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*) — [21 North, 17 South] Most reports north of a line from Otter Tail to Houston, though also found in Grant, Lyon, Brown, Nicollet, Freeborn. High count 9/3 Anoka (5, Linwood Lake) KEm, JWH, JGW. Late north 9/28 Itasca SC, 9/29 Wadena AAZ, 9/27 – 10/3 Crow Wing (Crow Wing Twp.) PSP (median 9/30). Late south 9/24 Brown (2) ebd, Stearns ebd, 10/2 Nicollet BAb, 10/4 Hennepin ebd, 11/21 Washington DGW (median 10/2).

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga cor-*

onata) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county except Jackson. Early south (median 8/20) 8/8 Sherburne HHD, 8/14 Chisago RBW, Ramsey LiH. High counts 10/5 St. Louis (12,134, census over 4.3 hours from Central Hillside neighborhood of Duluth) NGi, 10/5 St. Louis (3,217, H.R.N.R.) SeM, 9/26 St. Louis (1,774, H.R.N.R.) SeM. Late north 11/6 Lake SLL, 11/8 St. Louis (Virginia) ebd, 11/14 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) MLH (median 11/14). See winter report for late south migrants.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Setophaga dominica*) — [1 North, 2 South] All reports: 8/11 Houston (Reno, Hillside Rd.) †JGW, 8/22 Washington (Afton S.P.) LyH, 11/9 Cass (Lake Winnibigoshish, Tamarack Point) ph. AxB.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*) — [21 North, 36 South] Most reports from the eastern two-thirds of the state. Early south (median 8/19) 8/9 Anoka (Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) GWe, 8/20–21 Carver JCy, 8/21 Blue Earth BTS, MiO, Hennepin (2) ebd, Lyon GWe, NMe, Ramsey LiH. High counts 9/4 Anoka (12, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) FFA, 9/10 Scott (9, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd. Late north 9/27 St. Louis HTo, 9/28 Cook (Grand Marais) LWd, 10/1 Kanabec BAb, 10/5 Cook (Grand Marais) LWd (median 9/29). Late south 10/6 Meeker PKF, 10/7 Dakota CRE, 10/13 Ramsey ebd, 10/20 Hennepin ebd (median 10/9).

Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [23 North, 42 South] Early south (median 8/13) 8/11 Houston JGW, 8/13 Ramsey (2) LiH, ebd, Sherburne HHD, PLJ, 8/14 also in Anoka, Brown, Kandiyohi, Ramsey, Steele (2). High counts 8/27 Carver (12, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy, 9/3 Anoka (12, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) DnS. Late north 9/17 Morrison (7) SEM, 9/19 St. Louis HTo, SeM, IDv, 9/20 Aitkin LBA, St. Louis ClN, KDx, ClN (median 9/17). Late south 9/24 Brown (2) ebd, Steele PSu, 9/28 Hennepin ebd, 10/1 Olmsted BLA (median 9/24).

Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [26 North, 49 South] Reported statewide. Early south (median 8/15) 8/15 Stearns ebd, 8/16 Anoka GWe, Rice GHo, Sherburne ebd. High counts 8/24 Anoka (17, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) GWe, 8/28 Rock (9,

Big John's W.M.A.) ebd. Late north 9/18 St. Louis (H.R.B.O.) FJN, Todd SDi, 9/19–22 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) SeM, IDv, HTo, m.ob., 9/22 Lake ebd (median 9/22). Late south 9/26 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) ebd, (Mother Lake) JHv, 9/28 Ramsey ebd, BBr, 10/2 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, Lyon GWe (median 9/30).

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) — [4 North, 4 South] The most fall reports (11 individuals) since 2010. All north 10/13–19 Lake (Two Harbors) JWl, KRE, ebd, 10/30 Cook (immature male, Grand Marais) AnB, TPu, m.ob., 11/9 Clay (Barnesville) TkL, 11/9–13 Pennington (female, Thief River Falls) ebd, HHu, 11/18 Cook (female, Grand Marais) JGW. All south included up to three first found in summer lingering until 8/26 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) LMo, ebd; also 8/6, 8/17 Meeker PKF, 8/20 Brown (Eden Rd.) BTS, 11/13 Dakota (female, Ravenna Twp.) TPu, MwT, AnB.

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) — [27 North, 38 South] Found in all regions. High count 8/30 Blue Earth (5, Minneopa S.P.) ebd. Late north 9/24 Otter Tail BEc, St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) SEm, JsC, ebd, 9/26 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) ebd, 10/29–30 Cook REn, RLF, m.ob. (median 9/25). Late south 9/28 Scott ebd, Winona (3) ebd, 10/1 Carver KBg, ebd, Pope BKn, 10/5 Stearns HHD (median 10/4).

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [26 North, 53 South] Absent from only from Wilkin, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, and five Northwest counties. High count 9/24 Hennepin (29, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JCa.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [31 North, 45 South] Found in every region, though fewest reports from the Southwest. Late north 9/29 Itasca ebd, 9/29 – 10/2 Otter Tail ebd, 10/9 Todd JBU, 11/4–11 Beltrami (Knutson Dam) AxB, REn (median 10/6). Late south 10/9 Ramsey ebd, 10/10–12 Scott BHe, 10/12 Hennepin (Eden Prairie) ebd, 10/14 Meeker PKF, 11/3 Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission) TPu (median 10/31).

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) — [8 South] All reports from the Southwest, or from McLeod (Spruce Ridge Waste Management Facility), Hennepin (Flying Cloud Ath-



Blue Grosbeak, 15 August 2022, Eden Prairie, Hennepin County. Photo by Jim Coleman.

letic Fields) or Dakota (140th St. Marsh). Juveniles reported from the last two locations. Late south 9/5 Cottonwood JnH, 9/5–16 Dakota MaS, ebd, 9/23 Nobles EHi (median 8/26).

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) — [25 North, 47 South] Reported from every region. High count 8/21 Carver (17, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd.) JCy. Late north 9/25 Morrison (3) JLK, St. Louis (Leif Erickson Park) ebd, 9/25–30 Todd (max. 3) JLK, 9/26 Clay DPW, 10/5 St. Louis (Stony Point) KRE, m.ob., (median 9/29). Late south 10/5 Steele PSu, Washington PNi, 10/8 Carver TWe, Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) LSc, (Coldwater Spring) BLz, ebd (median 10/11).

PAINTED BUNTING (*Passerina ciris*) — [1 North] Only the fifth fall record and one of the very few females to be found in the state: 11/11 **Polk** (Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary) ph. †HHu.

Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) — [9 North, 38 South] Found in every region except the North-central. High counts 8/11 Rice (16, Prairie Creek W.M.A.) GHO, 8/9 Anoka (9, Blaine Wetland Sanctuary) ebd. Late north 9/30 Todd JLK, 10/2 St. Louis FJN, **10/29** Lake (Two Harbors) KCR, IsH, EzH, ph. †KEm, m.ob. (median 8/20). Late south 9/19 Ramsey GWe, 9/22 Olmsted LHL, LHL, 9/26 Lincoln ANY, 10/1 Pipestone KEm, JWH (median 9/7).

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DEI	Dave Elwood	JSS	Jason Swelstad	PAI	Pam Albin	N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
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DGW	Richard Wachtler	JtM	Janet Malotky	PEB	Paul E. Budde	R.P.	Regional Park
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DPG	Dan and Pam Guynn	JWZ	Julie Zempel	PRH	Pete Hoeger	W.P.	Wilderness Park
DPJ	Douglas P. Johnson	JZj	John Zakelj	PSP	Pam S. Perry	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Production Area
DPW	Dennis P. Wiesenborn	KAB	Karla A. Bloem	PSU	Paul Suchanek	W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

Abbreviations

C.P.	County Park
C.R.	County Road
E.L.C.	Environmental Learning Center
H.R.B.O.	Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory
H.R.N.R.	Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve
N.C.	Nature Center
N.F.	National Forest
N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
P.R.	Park Reserve
R.A.	Recreation Area
R.P.	Regional Park
S.F.	State Forest
S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
S.P.	State Park
S.R.	State Road
Twp.	Township
W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
W.P.	Wilderness Park
W.P.A.	Waterfowl Production Area
W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

Minnesota's First Swainson's Warbler

Jeremy Cushman

On 29 April 2023, I discovered a Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) at Arden Park in Edina, Hennepin County. The warbler remained in the park until 2 May 2023, after which it was not seen again. As a first state record, the bird attracted much interest and was ultimately reported in 241 checklists on eBird. Given its cooperative nature, the accessible location, and lack of foliage on the trees, 152 of those checklists included photographs of the bird. The sighting of the bird also attracted the attention of the general public and was covered in the *Star Tribune* (Williams 2023) and the *Dakota County Tribune* (Wig 2023).

First Occurrence

I first noticed the bird on the morning of Saturday, 29 April 2023, around 9:00 A.M., while walking in Arden Park. It was foraging in the leaves on the damp ground at the edge of the woods, just a few meters from Minnehaha Creek. It was a fairly typical but slightly chilly April morning, about 45° F outside and humid after a moderate overnight wind from the north. I had been in the park every day for the week prior and had not noticed the bird until that morning.

While the second person to see the bird may have been my 4-month-old son, the second person to identify it was Natalie Heer. After we had both identified the bird as a Swainson's Warbler, I shared the sighting online through eBird (Cushman 2023) and Facebook. Given that the location was so close to Minneapolis and the fact that it was a weekend morning, dozens of people were on site and watching the bird by 11 A.M.

Identification and Behavior

The identification of the bird was established almost immediately. It was foraging on the ground in the leaf litter just a few meters from the boardwalk on which I was standing. The overall plain brown coloration and rufous crown stood out first in the field, along with



Swainson's Warbler, 29 April 2023, Edina, Hennepin County. Photo by Jeremy Cushman.

the dark eye-line. When it raised its head, it revealed its large, long, sharp bill.

The most likely potential confusion in the field might have been with Northern or Louisiana waterthrush, but the Swainson's Warbler had a completely unstreaked underside and did not do any tail bobbing. Worm-eating Warblers have black-and-buffy head stripes, much unlike the rufous crown of the Swainson's Warbler, and Ovenbirds have a white eye ring and prominent spots on their breast, contrasting with the eye-line and unstreaked breast of this bird. The bird's plumage was superficially similar to a Carolina Wren, but the behavior, straight bill, and body shape did not resemble that of a wren.

In their normal range, Swainson's Warblers are typically quite secretive, often identified by voice as they forage in dense vegetation in the forest understory (Anich et al. 2020). For whatever reason, the particular warbler that appeared in Minnesota seemed content to forage in a relatively exposed area and was not particularly fearful of the many observers nearby.

Almost all of the reports of the bird were within approximately 50 m of its original location. While most observers reported it on the ground foraging in the leaf litter, it did retreat occasionally into the woods and was photo-



Swainson's Warbler, 29 April 2023, Edina, Hennepin County. Photo by Heidi Hermes.

graphed perched in some trees. It was generally silent and I did not personally observe it vocalizing, but there is one unconfirmed report and recording of the bird vocalizing after being flushed by a dog (Strong 2023).

Location

Arden Park is a suburban park in Edina, Hennepin County, Minnesota. Beginning in 2018, the City of Edina and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District undertook an extensive restoration project in Arden Park (Read 2018). A dam was removed and new storm-water features were added to improve the water quality, and the creek now flows into wetlands and a floodplain. This created the damp, muddy leaf litter that the Swainson's Warbler took advantage of. The restoration also included extensive buckthorn removal and native plantings throughout the park.

Range and Vagrancy

Swainson's Warblers breed in the southeastern United States, extending north into southern Missouri and into Kentucky and West Virginia (Anich et al. 2020). True to its generic name, *Limnothlypis*, from the Greek "λίμνη" (límnē) meaning "marshy lake" (Liddell 1996), it is often observed in swamps and river floodplains, consistent with the habitat it frequented in its time in Minnesota. In the spring and fall, it migrates to and from the Caribbean and Yucatán Peninsula. Records show Swainson's Warblers arriving in its northernmost breeding grounds as late as the end of April (Meanley 1971). This would be consistent with the warbler overshooting its breeding grounds and arriving in Minnesota on 29 April.

The breeding range of Swainson's Warblers is not known to be expanding, so northerly reports are likely the result of vagrancy and not a general range expansion (Anich et al. 2020). Even so, reports from north of the bird's breeding range are not uncommon. A Swainson's Warbler was reported on eBird and photographed in Suffolk County, New York, on 25 April 2023 (Rodriguez 2023), and in Barnstable County, Massachusetts, on 12 May 2023 (WBWS Banding Team 2023). A year earlier, 2022 brought reports of the bird from Lorain, Lucas, and Hocking counties in Ohio (Caldwell 2022) and accepted records of the bird from Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 6 May

(Massachusetts Avian Records Committee 2023).

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Edina MN.



The Owl in the Attic

The Birds of Minnesota Point

Olga Lakela

Reprinted from Lakela, Olga. 1937. The birds of Minnesota Point.
Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science 5(8):40-42.

Minnesota Point is a sandbar over seven miles long, varying in width from less than two hundred yards to nearly one-fourth of a mile. It lies south of Duluth and is opposed by Wisconsin Point three miles long. It separates Lake Superior from Superior Bay which connects with St. Louis River Bay. The channel between the two Points, the Superior entry, is the natural outlet of St. Louis River; the Duluth entrance channel is artificial. About three miles of the north end of the Point is settled. The remaining area is owned by Duluth Park Department, except the extreme south end bordering Superior canal which belongs to the United States Government. About one mile of the area beyond the present settlement is being converted into pleasure grounds under the constructive measures of the New Deal Program. This leaves about two miles of the Point relatively undisturbed, despite the summer dwellings scattered among the pines.

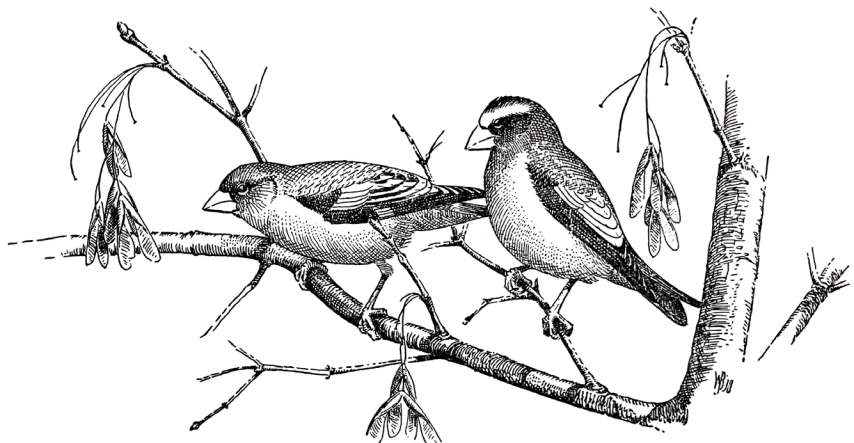
Minnesota Point lies along the airlines of many a migrating flock. The miles of inviting shoreline attract the weary travelers. There they alight in numbers to feed and rest. The birds come and go by waves during their journeys north and south. A remarkable variety of natural features may be found in so limited an area. Within the narrow confines of the opposing shores many kinds of bird habitats exist. They include the lake and the bay, the beach and the bay flats some with shallow ponds and dense growths of vegetation; bogs and sedge meadows, dunes and sand trails, thickets and forest. Therefore, many birds find it congenial to spend summer and winter on Minnesota Point, in addition to transients that find it a convenient stopping place.

Among the most conspicuous spring mi-

grants of 1936 were the shorebirds. During the third week in May they began to arrive in numbers. At that time the lake beach was overrun with insects. Species of Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Hemiptera and Diptera littered the shoreline almost in an unbroken strip along the entire length of the Point. One tried to find answers to the questions, "Where did they come from?" and "How?" Perhaps they were crippled in storms and washed ashore. Seemingly in this squirming mass the increasing flocks of shorebirds fed. The following species were identified: Sanderlings, Ruddy Turnstones, Semipalmated, Black-bellied and Piping Plovers, Red-backed, Spotted and Baird's Sandpipers. Undoubtedly the list of species was much greater; it requires expert knowledge to identify sandpipers in the field. On Oatka Beach, on the bay front, Golden Plovers were seen on the seventeenth of May. About the twentieth of May the shorebird migration reached its height, when the beach seemed fairly alive with moving birds. By the last of the month they were gone. Four Ruddy Turnstones were last seen on the rocks of north breakwater on the sixth of June.

Three species of shorebirds remained to nest. Spotted Sandpiper sought nesting sites under tufts of *Ammophila* and *Elymus* on the upper beach and sand dunes. Killdeer and Piping Plover nested in open sand on the bay flats. The nesting record of the latter is of interest because the bird is a rare summer resident in the state. One nest of four eggs was found on the third of July.

Flocks of water birds were seen during migration in the bay and the lake. It was possible to identify a small number, only: Common Loon, Lesser Scaup, Mallard, American Golden-



eye and Holboell's Grebe.

About four miles out on a narrow, wave-washed sandbar a colony of gulls added a notable feature to the summer bird population. The flocks were seen there daily feeding on the foam-flecked beach. Among Herring Gulls which are permanent residents were identified Ring-billed and Bonaparte's Gulls. Common and Black Terns were usually seen with the gulls.

While Sora Rails and Wilson's Snipes hide in sedge meadows and under the shore vegetation of the bay flats, the larger birds frequent the tall trees of the pine ridge. Crows nest there commonly. Marsh Hawks and Sparrow Hawks have been seen during migration. Great Horned Owl is a winter resident; Snowy Owl was seen once in late November. According to the residents of the Point the "White Owl" lived there the entire winter. The owls apparently live on the rabbits which are numerous in underbrush of the wooded section. Whether or not, they killed a Goshawk and Ruffed Grouse whose remains were found, is a matter of speculation.

Bluejays have been observed only during migration. On the tenth of May these birds took possession of the Point. The woods and thickets seemed blue because of their unusually large numbers. The birds remained there about a week in gradually decreasing numbers. They seemed to be eating the fruits of various shrubs including *Corylus* and *Juniperus*. Several birds appeared weak and sick and were easily caught with bare hands from trees, but not without protests of loud screeching. The stomachs of the three birds found dead contained poison

ivy fruits.

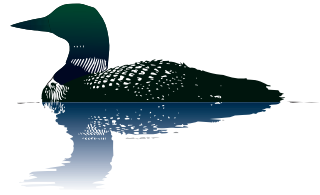
In the protective shelter of the trees, Downy Woodpecker and Red-breasted Nuthatch live throughout the year. Black-capped Chickadee did not appear during the last winter, but was seen in the spring of 1936. Flocks of Pine Siskins cling to pine cones in search of seeds. Redpolls likewise frequent the pines and the thickets of *Alnus* and *Betula* but are more often found in the open areas feeding on seeds of sandbinders, and common weeds such as *Oenothera biennis*, *Cycloloma atriplicifolium* and many others. In similar places large flocks of Snow Buntings were seen in November. Bohemian Waxwings and Evening Grosbeaks have been observed from time to time, feeding on small fruits such as those of *Sorbus*, species of *Prunus* and *Amelanchier*.

The sheltering forest and the borders of thickets are also sought by those birds which are seen there during summer. They include Ruby-throated Humming Bird, Catbird, Veery, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Chipping and Song Sparrows, Kingbirds, Least Flycatcher, Robin, Purple Martin, Flicker and others. A pair of Mourning Doves was seen twice, but there was no evidence that these birds nested there. A pair of European Starlings was found feeding young in a hollow of a tree on the Fourth of July.

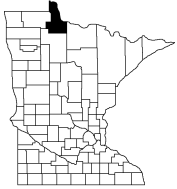
Of the transient sparrows Slate-colored Junco, Tree, Harris and White-throated Sparrows have been common. Most of the warblers on record were observed during fall migration.

Duluth State Teachers College.

Notes of Interest



MINNESOTA'S SIXTH CONFIRMED SOLITARY SANDPIPER BREEDING RECORD —



Solitary Sandpipers (*Tringa solitaria*) are rare breeders in Minnesota. The first confirmed breeding record was in Aitkin County in 1973, followed by three confirmed observations in Cook County from 1982–1987 in

the vicinity of Lima Mountain Road (Table 1). A fifth confirmed breeding record consisted of an adult with one downy chick discovered by Karl Bardon along the Rapid River Forest Road (FR) on the border between the Red Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and the Beltrami Island State Forest in 2012 (Steve Stucker, Minnesota Biological Survey [MBS], pers. comm.).

On 13 July 2022, I found an agitated adult Solitary Sandpiper (Figure 1) with at least three fledged young along the Rapid River Forest Road, within the same vicinity as the observation from 2012. The young were observed to take flight from the bottom of a muddy road ditch on the north side the Rapid River Forest Road, 3.2 miles east of Oaks Corner, at Konigson's Corner on the boundary between Red Lake WMA and Beltrami Island State Forest in Lake of the Woods County. The fledglings took off individually, not as a group, and flew in different directions. The adult flew from one side of the road to the other, scolding me from perches on dead trees. At first, this appeared to be the eighth confirmed breeding record for Minnesota (Table 1), but in discussing the possibility of publishing a note with Anthony Hertzell, the strength of four of the previous observations considered as “confirmed” came into doubt, so a discussion of previous records is included below.

Following the first two confirmed records above, there were three follow-up records of breeding at the Lima Mountain Road site in 1983, 1984, and 1987, but without any details beyond “2 displaying adults” in 1984 (Green and Janssen 1984, Hendrickson and Eckert 1985, Wilson and Shedd 1988). The original submitted brood cards for those records were accessed by Anthony Hertzell (pers. comm.) and provided additional details that allowed the 1983 and 1987 records to be confirmed. The 1984 record should be viewed as evidence of probable nesting at best. All



Figure 1. Agitated adult Solitary Sandpiper, Rapid River Forest Road, Red Lake WMA, 13 July 2022. Photo by Michael R. North.

Date	County	Breeding Evidence	Habitat	Source	Reconsidered Status
11 July 1973	Aitkin	Pair, 1 chick	River shoreline	Savoloja 1973	Confirmed
30 June 1982	Cook	Pair, 1 chick	Drained beaver pond	Hoffman and Hoffman 1982	Confirmed
26–30 June 1983	Cook	Pair, young heard	Same as above?	Green and Janssen 1984	Confirmed
25 June 1984	Cook	Displaying adults	Grassy area	Hendrickson and Eckert 1985	Probable
1987	Cook	One adult, 1 chick	Drained beaver pond	Wilson and Shedd 1988	Confirmed
22 June 2012	LotW	One adult, 1 chick	Roadside ditch	North et al. 2013; MBS	Confirmed
30 June 2013	St. Louis	One adult, 1 poss. juv.	Marshy beaver pond	MN BBA	Possible

Table 1. Reported “confirmed” breeding records of Solitary Sandpiper in Minnesota prior to 2022. Following further review, some should be considered “possible” or “probable” rather than confirmed.

Date	County	Breeding Evidence	Habitat	Source
2 June 2012	Lake	Agitated bird(s)	Not given	E. Zlonis, BBA
19 June 2012	Koochiching	Agitated bird(s)	Grassy pools/ pond with dead trees	E. Hall, BBA
21 June 2012	Koochiching	Agitated bird(s)	Muddy area in a clearcut forest	B. Sample, BBA
25 June 2012	Koochiching	Agitated bird(s)	Not given	NRRI, BBA
30 June 2015	Beltrami	Agitated adult	Shallow ditch in shrub bog	Steve Stucker, pers. comm.

Table 2. Records of probable Solitary Sandpiper breeding from Minnesota BBA and MCBS.

of the brood cards were typed, but the 1983 had a handwritten addendum indicating that young were “heard in grass.”

The next records were two broods discovered during the Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA) period — the MBS record in 2012, and another in 2013. The latter record consisted of “two (or more) Solitary Sandpipers in marshy beaver pond. Not previously seen in this location, so might be early migrants, or could have been more secretive during nesting. One bird appeared to be juvenile and was begging, but not receiving food from other.” Details on BBA records were provided by Lee Pfannmuller. Begging is not a behavior exhibited by precocial shorebird species, and the bird was not definitively identified as a juvenile. Therefore, this record also should be viewed as “possible.” This leaves five confirmed records of breeding in Minnesota prior to 2022 (Table 1).

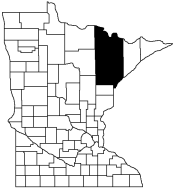
There are four additional records of probable breeding from the BBA and one from MBS work (Table 2). Three of these are from Koochiching County around Big Falls, and one is from Red Lake WMA. It is beyond my scope to assess “possible” breeding records, but the BBA had three records, two from the Big Falls area and one from the Red Lake WMA.

Solitary Sandpipers lay eggs in the used nests of other species, including American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*), and Canada Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*; Moskoff 1995). To date, all of the confirmed breeding records in Minnesota have been broods. Paulson (1993) noted that breeding Solitary Sandpipers commonly perch in trees, while migrants do not. I noted this behavior, as did Hoffman and Hoffman (1982). One of the BBA “possible” records from the Big Falls area also detailed a bird calling from a spruce tree. Interestingly, the early breeding behavior of Solitary Sandpipers has been documented, but little to nothing is known about the fledgling and immature stage (Moskoff 1995). A common feature of the brood habitat appears to be exposed, muddy wetland or ditch bottoms, or grassy or shrubby wetlands or ditches.

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Michael R. North, Brainerd, MN.

HERMIT WARBLER IN DULUTH — On 6 May 2023 while birding the entrance road to the

Park Point Recreation Area in Duluth, I flushed a warbler that showed three white outer tail feathers on each side of its tail in flight. It had been foraging low in the shrubs and brush along the water's edge on the harbor side of the Point. It flew across the road where it landed about a foot off the ground in

a cluster of saplings and shrubs. I was able to view the bird for 20–25 seconds before a vehicle whizzed by at high speed and flushed the warbler into private property that was posted “No trespassing.” I waited and waited for the bird to return to no avail; after about 10 minutes, I began to search nearby areas and gave up after an additional 30 minutes. Low on fuel (fossil and caloric), I left the Point to gas up, buy sandwiches, and pick up Sue Barton. We returned to the Recreation Area and searched the area for almost two more hours to no avail. There was evidently significant turnover and “reverse migration” during the day, since we found two more warbler species that were not present earlier in the day, and watched groups of passerines move SE in the presence of strong ENE winds, intermittent showers, and cold temperatures (38° F) with wind chill readings in the mid-20s.

I lived in California and Arizona for a total of eight years, and subsequently returned to both states dozens of times for birding trips. I immediately recognized this bird as a Hermit Warbler (*Setophaga occidentalis*) and completed a sketch and field notes without consultation of any field guides or online sources. It never vocalized and did not interact with other avian species. Its bill size and shape were typical for a warbler. Its irides were dark, as were its legs and feet. The most striking aspect of its plumage was the completely unmarked yellow of its crown and face, which made its dark eye stand out even more distinctly. Its lower hind-nape was black, and its entire throat was black except for a few whitish feathers; the latter suggests adult female though it's possible that this was an adult male still undergoing molt. Its back and scapulars were gray with dark streaking, which highlighted two, distinct, white wingbars. Although I didn't get a good look at its rump, the folded tail was dark gray with strikingly white outer three rectrices as noted above. With respect to the underparts, its throat was mostly black as noted above. Its breast, belly, and flanks were whitish with no streaking and its under-tail coverts were white.

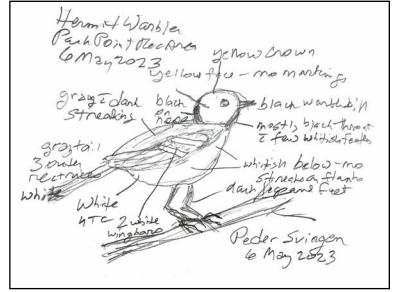
Hybridization between Townsend's and Hermit warblers (*S. townsendi* X *S. occidentalis*) is well known in the Pacific Northwest (Morrison and Hardy 1983, Rohwer and Wood 1998) and hybrids have been documented as vagrants. Rohwer and Wood (1998) pointed out that most hybrids have yellow faces and can be mistakenly identified as Hermit Warblers. Hybrids would likely show intermediate characteristics such as an olive crown, cheek markings, yellowish underparts, and/or flank streaking. None of these hybrid characteristics was present on the Duluth bird.

Remarkably, in light of the fact that there are only two previous Minnesota records (specimen from Isanti County, 3 May 1931, and sight record from Lac qui Parle County, 14 May 1983) another Hermit Warbler was reported three days after the Duluth record in Roseville, Ramsey County.

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Peder H. Svingen, Duluth MN.



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Photo by Matt Scott *Front Cover*

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Purpose of the M.O.U.

The purpose of the MOU is the promotion of a broad program of conservation and natural history study, primarily in the field of ornithology.

To achieve this objective, the Union urges and promotes interest in field studies and observation of birds by individual members and affiliated bird clubs. We publish a quarterly journal, *The Loon*, and a newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*; we conduct



field trips; we encourage and sponsor the preservation of natural areas; and we hold seminars where research reports, unusual observations, and conservation discussions are presented.

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MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY AUDUBON CHAPTER

Proceedings of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee

Thomas A. Tustison, Chairman

The most recent meeting of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC) was conducted via electronic media on 18 November 2023. In attendance and voting at this meeting were MOURC members Kimberly A. Emerson (alternate), Rebecca R. Engdahl, Anthony X. Hertzler, Ann E. Kessen, Andrew D. Smith, Steven P. Stucker, Howard C. Towle (alternate), William C. Marengo, Joshua G. Watson (alternate), and Thomas A. Tustison (chair).

The following records were voted on at, or subsequent to, the meeting and were Accepted (Note: in general, dates given for each record represent the first and last dates of observation; some records may not have been documented on each intervening date):

- Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) [Accidental], 10 October 2022, pond near highway 36 and Stillwater Boulevard interchange, Lake Elmo, Washington County (record #2022-087, original vote 6-1, a proposal to reconsider this record was rejected by an 8-2 vote).

- Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) [Accidental], 30 October – 15 November 2023, private residence, Eureka Township, Dakota County (record #2023-106, vote 7-0). Immature male, photographed and video recorded. Sixth state and second county record.

- Rock Ptarmigan (*Lagopus muta*) [Accidental], 19 April 2022, City of Wabasha, Wabasha County (record # 2022-011, vote 7-0), First county and second state record. A consensus vote was taken on whether to consider origin (6-4 to not consider a formal vote on origin). The origin vote is in keeping with the precedent of the first state record which considered the bird wild. The first state record was recorded in Grand Marais in 1996 (*The Loon* 68:165). Apparently, these two records represent the only known vagrants in the "Lower 48" states.

- Limpkin (*Aramus guaranauna*) [Accidental], 9 September 2023, along 70th Avenue South

just north of Turtle Lake, Clay County (record #2023-097, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record. Since it was first recorded in the state on 30 May 2021 (*The Loon* 93:112), there has been a total of nine records through the end of 2023.

- Limpkin, 25 September 2023, north side of 700th Street near Iowa's Trickle Slough Wildlife Management Area, Jackson County (record #2023-102, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- Limpkin, 24 October 2023, south of Lake Pokegama near the Snake River about 0.9 miles south of Pokegama Lake Road, Pine County (record #2023-117, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record

- Limpkin, 29 October 2023, 48.2749, -92.9337, about 0.2 miles east of the intersection of Sheep Ranch Road and Forest Road 608, St. Louis County (record #2023-112, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- Limpkin, 3-20 November 2023, in a wooded swamp near Moose Lake, Carlton County (record #2023-113, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) [Casual], 23 May 2018, in flooded field along the south side of county highway 28 east of 785th Avenue, Big Stone County (record #2023-103, vote 7-0). A single adult.

- Black-necked Stilt, 13 May 2023, west ponds, near Reno, Houston County (record #2023-119, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

- Black-necked Stilt, 4 June 2023, south of Litchfield on 180th Street about one mile west of county road 22, Meeker County (record #2023-069, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- Black-necked Stilt, 4 June 2023, Gaylord Water Treatment Plant, Sibley County (record #2023-089, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Black-necked Stilt, 8 June – 11 July 2023, Blue Earth County (record #2023-071, vote 7-0).



Limpkin, 25 September 2023, Middletown Township, Jackson County. Photo by Mark Brown. Record #2023-102.



Ruff, 22 August 2023, Louriston Township, Chippewa County. Photo by Kimberly A. Emerson. Record #2023-096.

Two adults were accepted and photographed. Nesting was observed during this time period. Then on 2 August 2023 at the same location, three adults and three near-adults were reported, but these birds were not separately documented and no photographs were submitted to the Committee.

- Black-necked Stilt, 15 June 2023, south basin of the IC&E Waterfowl Production Area near Alden, Freeborn County (record #2023-073, vote 7-0). One adult, photographed. Two birds were reported, but only one accepted.

- Black-necked Stilt, 28 June 2023, Cottonwood Wastewater Treatment Plant, Lyon County (record #2023-083, vote 7-0). A single adult.

- Black-necked Stilt, 1 July 2023, Ellendale Wastewater Treatment Plant, Steele County (record #2023-090, vote 7-0). Adult.

- Black-necked Stilt, 23 May 2018, in flooded field along the south side of county highway 28 east of 785th Avenue, Big Stone County (record #2023-103, vote 7-0). Adult.

- Black-necked Stilt, 14 July 2023, on the west side of East Pool, Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge, Lac qui Parle County (record #2023-118, vote 7-0). Adult.

- Black-necked Stilt, 23 April 2023, west ponds, near Reno, Houston County (record #2023-119, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed. First county record.

- Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*) [Casual] 22-25 August 2023, Louriston Township, county road 277

at county road 40, Chippewa County (record #2023-096, vote 7-0). Juvenile, photographed. First county record.

- Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) [Casual], 23 September 2023, Purgatory Creek Park, Hennepin County (record #2023-101, vote 7-0). Molted adult, photographed.

- Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) [Accidental], 26 August 2023, southwest Lake Winnibigoshish near Elvin R. Heller Memorial Harbor, Cass County (record #2023-098, vote 7-0). Apparent adult or near adult, photographed. First county record.

- Ancient Murrelet (*Syntliboramphus antiquus*) [Accidental], 9 November 2023, Mississippi River backwaters a few miles north of New Albin, Iowa, Houston County (record #2023-107, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- Ancient Murrelet, 18 November 2023, 31st Street just south of Vermillion Road, Hastings, Dakota County (record #2023-110, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record. Found in the street within the city limits of Hastings, where it was rescued then transported to a rehabilitation center where it subsequently died. Tenth state record.

- Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) [Casual], 14 June 2023, Lake Winnibigoshish, Cass County (record #2023-094, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Black-legged Kittiwake, 5-7 November



Ancient Murrelet, 18 November 2023, at the Wildlife Rehab Center, Ramsey County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertz. Record #2023-110.



Black-legged Kittiwake, 19 November 2023, Taconite Harbor, Cook County. Photo by Alex Sundvall. Record #2023-109.

2023, Palmers, St. Louis County (record #2023-122, vote 7-0). First cycle, photographed.

- Black-legged Kittiwake, 19-22 November 2023, Taconite Harbor, Cook County (record #2023-109, vote 7-0). Two first-cycle birds, photographed.

- California Gull (*Larus californicus*) [Casual], 25 September 2023, Garrison Walleye Wayside, Crow Wing County (record #2023-100, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) [Accidental], 21-25 September 2023, various locations along the St. Croix River from Stillwater to Point Douglas, Washington County (record #2023-085, original vote 8-2, recirculated vote 0-10). Accepted as *Thalasseus* sp. (vote 9-1), but also see below for Not Accepted records.

- Neotropic Cormorant (*Nannopterum brasilianum*) [Accidental], 10-12 August 2023, Richfield Lake, Hennepin County (record #2023-132, vote 7-0). Juvenile, photographed. This is the fifth consecutive year that the species has been observed at this location. At least four different individuals have been documented at this location: one adult in 2019; two adults in 2020; an adult and a subadult in 2021; one adult in 2022, and this juvenile in 2023.

- Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) [Accidental], 6 August 2023, Seasons Park, Washington County (record #2023-092, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. Second county record; prior county record was 29 April 1966

(*The Loon* 38:86).

- Common Black Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) [Accidental], 18 September 1976, along Power Dam Road Northeast seven miles east of Bemidji, Beltrami County (record #1976-001, vote 10-0 to accept the identification). Female specimen, photographed. It had been hit by a vehicle along the roadside (see the article by Hertz in an upcoming issue of *The Loon*). The injured bird was then ultimately transported to a rehabilitation center, where it died on 20 September 1976. The specimen was then added to the checklist of Minnesota birds by MOURC (then MORC) in 1978 as a hypothetical record (*The Loon* 50:31-34). In 1980, MOURC eliminated the status of hypothetical records and the specimen was reclassified to the modern equivalent of an Accidental subscript "o" species (*The Loon* 52:150-152). The "o" subscript indicates that there is uncertainty as to the bird's wildness or origin or its natural occurrence and arrival in the state. In February of 1988, the Director of the James Ford Bell Museum re-examined the specimen and concluded that the bird was likely an escaped bird. Consequently, at the direction of the Chairperson of MOURC (and without a vote) the bird was removed from the state checklist in 1988 (*The Loon* 60:13-16). In 2024, MOURC reconsidered the origin of the record and, by a vote of 6-4, restored the specimen record to its former status as an Accidental subscript "o"

species.

- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) [Accidental], 11 October 2019, county road 59 about 0.5 miles south of county road 20, Rock County (record #2019-072, vote 6–1). Indeterminate age and sex, photographed.

- Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) [Casual], 20 March 2023, near Climax, Polk County (record #2023-133, vote 7–0). Specimen, photographed. Specimen now resides at the International Owl Center.

- Barn Owl, 16 May 2023, Money Creek Township, Houston County (record #2023-129, vote 6–1). Audio recorded.

- Barn Owl, 19 September 2023, near the intersection of University Avenue Northwest and Quincy Drive Northeast, Isanti County (record #2023-126, vote 6–1). Audio recorded. First county record.

- Barn Owl, 25 September – 11 October 2023, Money Creek Township, Houston County (record #2023-130, vote 6–1). Audio recorded.

- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) [Casual], 20–21 October 2023, Grey Cloud Dunes Scientific and Natural Area, Washington County (record #2023-105, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed.

- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 19–27 October 2023, West Knife River Road, St. Louis County (record #2023-104, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed.

- Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) [Casual], 6 October 2023, Pine Point Regional Park, Washington County (record #2023-116, vote 7–0). Adult, video recorded. First county record.

- Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) [Accidental], 13–16 November 2023, Battle Creek Regional Park, Ramsey County (record #2023-108, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed and video recorded. First county record.

- Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*) [Casual], 11 April – 15 May 2023, Park Point, St. Louis County (record #2023-123, vote 7–0). Three adults, photographed and video recorded.

- Eurasian Tree Sparrow, 29 July – 19 August 2023, about 0.6 miles east of Sumner Center Methodist Church on county road 102, Fillmore County (record #2023-091, vote 7–0). Three adults, photographed.

- Eurasian Tree Sparrow, 20–21 November 2023, Cottage Grove, Washington County

(record #2023-124, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed.

- Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*) [Accidental], 5 October 2023, private residence, Duluth, St. Louis County (record #2023-136, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. First county and fifth state record.

- MacGillivray's Warbler (*Geothlypis tolmiei*) [Accidental], 9 September 2010, near Dundas, Rice County (record #2010-052, vote 7–0). Banded and photographed. Banding data included wing-minus-tail measurements within acceptable range by an experienced bander.

- Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) [Casual], 18–19 September 2023, Otter Tail County (record #2023-099, vote 6–1). First-year male, photographed. First county record.

The following records were voted on and were Not Accepted. (Please note that a record which is Not Accepted only means that the documentation was not complete or convincing enough to include the sighting in The Loon, the journal of the MOU, or in the MOU's archives of confirmed bird records. Such a vote does not necessarily mean the observer misidentified the bird or did not see it. Summaries of the reasons why a record was Not Accepted are included here. These are in no way intended to be critical of the observer. The only purpose is to highlight the difficulties an observer may encounter while identifying or documenting these and similar species.)

- Royal Tern, 21–25 September 2023, various locations along the St. Croix River from Stillwater to Point Douglas, Washington County (record #2023-085, original vote 8–2, recirculated vote 0–10). The bird was originally seen just north of Stillwater on the St. Croix River and subsequently reported as far as 23 miles down river to Point Douglas near Prescott, Wisconsin. All observations were while the bird was in flight at varying distances. These sporadic observations cover a time span of five days. The original observer, to his credit, should be complimented for capturing photographs as well as an audio recording of the vocalizations. An analysis was conducted on the audio recording comparing the vocalizations to both Royal Tern and Elegant Tern (*T. elegans*). The results showed that there is a similarity in the particular vocalizations making these two spe-



***Thalasseus*, sp., 21 September 2023, Stillwater, Washington County. Photo by Garrett Wee. Record #2023-085.**



***Vireo*, sp., 16 May 2023, Lino Lakes, Ramsey County. Photo by Marie Chappell. Record #2023-088.**

cies indistinguishable. Photographs were not diagnostic. The written descriptions among several birders had considerable variation regarding some features of the bird. Given the time span and distance of these reports, one might question whether they even represented the same bird. Overall, the Committee after much discussion unanimously concluded that the identification could not be assigned to a specific species of *Thalasseus* tern, but was accepted as *Thalasseus* sp.

- Royal Tern, 25 September 2023, Spring Lake, Dakota County (record #2023-086, vote 0–10). The observer does not state whether it was perched or in-flight for the mere 30 second observation from 220 yards distant. Most members felt that the description of the bird was well short of expectations for a first state record.

- Neotropic Cormorant (*Nannopterum brasilianum*) [Accidental], 23 April 2023, Silver Creek Reservoir, Olmsted County (record #2023-131, vote 0–7). Most members felt that the very distant photos were inadequate to be of much value regarding the identification. The observer seemed uncertain about the identification given the long distance from the bird.

- Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) [Casual], 22 August 2022, Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory, St. Louis County (record #2023-120, vote 0–7). Although the bird was photographed, the distance was more than three

miles and basically all that could be noted was a silhouette. All the Committee had to evaluate was a comment about the 'jizz' of the bird in flight.

- Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) [Casual], 26 June 2023, Sax-Zim Bog, on Sax Road just east of Cranberry Lane, St. Louis County (record #2023-095, vote 0–7). The observer saw the bird along the side of the road while driving in the dark about a half hour before sunrise. A Short-eared Owl, which is significantly more likely, could also appear long-legged in alert posture while standing on a flat surface such as a roadside. Moreover, the ten second observation was made without optics from a moving vehicle.

- Plumbeous Vireo (*Vireo Plumbeus*), 16 May 2023, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve, Lino Lakes, Anoka County (record #2023-088, vote 0–10). Both observers appear to have done their very best to document this record and notify other birders in an attempt to get better photos and other critical information. The bottom line is that the photos, standing alone, are not sufficient to meet the high bar for a first state record. There is no audio recording to supplement the photos. Prior MOURC discussions regarding the identification of this species have concluded that it is extremely difficult to make a judgment in the absence of an audio recording.

- Clay-colored Thrush (*Turdus grayi*), 18

May 2023, private residence, Prior Lake, Scott County, (record # 2023-087, vote 0–10). Not only is the bar very high for acceptance of a first state record, but the extreme vagrancy of the purported species adds an even higher level of caution required to evaluate the observation. Several members expressed that the totality of the circumstances surrounding the observation, and exclusive of the audio recordings themselves, casts doubt on the observation. The audio recordings, containing what clearly appear to be Clay-colored Thrush vocalizations, were the subject of extreme scrutiny. An audio recording analysis by a Committee member with expertise in the field, as well as a second analysis by Cornell University's eBird group both concluded that there was no detection in the recordings of other bird vocalizations that would necessarily preclude the recording as having been made in Minnesota. That said, the Committee has no reliable independent corroborating evidence, such as meta data, that the recordings were in fact made within the state of Minnesota. The lack of such corroborating evidence gave pause to members who would require such evidence prior to acceptance of the extreme record.

- MacGillivray's Warbler, 17 May 2019, Schulze Lake area, Lebanon Hills Regional Park, Dakota County (record #2019-071, vote 0–7). One of the photos shows quite prominent eye arcs. However, eye arcs alone are not considered diagnostic. In other photos, eye arcs are noticeably less prominent. The bird did not vocalize. There are other aspects of the bird that suggest more strongly that it is a male Mourning Warbler such as the longer undertail coverts, the absence of black across the anterior forehead, and moderate gray rather than black in front of the eye. In addition, this location is known to have summering Mourning Warblers that potentially breed here.

- MacGillivray's Warbler, 9 September 2023, St. Thomas Lake Wildlife Management Area, Le Sueur County (record #2023-127, vote 0–7). The observer apparently is relying almost exclusively on eye arcs which is an indicator of MacGillivray's, but not diagnostic.

- Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) [Casual], 12 May 2023, private residence, Faribault, Rice County (record #2023-093, vote 3–4). Most members felt that the photos suggested hybridization.

- Lazuli Bunting, 17 May 2023, Little Falls Township, Morrison County (record #2023-053, original vote 4–3, recirculated vote 0–7). The bird showed evidence of hybridization such as the blue of the throat bleeding into the upper breast, weak wing bars, and deep blue coloration.

The efforts of all those observers who document unusual species are greatly appreciated, whether or not the records are Accepted. Though photographs are always welcome, observers are strongly encouraged to submit written documentation based on contemporaneous field notes for all records. The Committee acknowledges with thanks those who provided written descriptions for the records listed in this article: Nate Adams, Anna Arnebeck, Karl J. Bardon, Cole Bauer, Lon Baumgardt, Patrick B. Beauzay, Karla A. Bloem, Mark Brown, Nicholas Bruesewitz, Paul E. Budde, Alex Burchard, Kathy Carroll, Philip C. Chu, Jess Cosentino, Cathrine Currie, James Eklund, Kimberly A. Emerson, Steve Emerson, Bruce A. Fall, Tina Gandy, Tom Gilde, Richard Gotz, Les Gunderson, Liz Harper, Anthony X. Hertz, Rachel Hillesheim, John W. Hockema, Gerald Hoekstra, Luke Hollander, Ezra Hosch, Issac Hosch Steven C. Houdek, Paul E. Jantscher, Erik I. Johnson, Ted Keyel, Douglas W. Kieser, Jocelyn Kuo, Edward Larrabee, James W. Lind, Kevin Manley, Sean McLaughlin, Nolan Meyer, Dan Orr, Douglas L. Pierzina, Aaron Pietsch, Jerry Pruett, Tate Putman, Connie Rose, Kevin D. Smith, Dalton Spencer, Alex Sundvall, Peder H. Svingen, Dan Tallman, Elizabeth R. Tiller, Chad Unruh, Katy Victor, Joshua G. Watson, Thomas Weber, Garrett Wee, Bob Williams, James Wisnoski, John Zakelj, and Roy Zimmerman. Many observers documented records of rare Regular species which were not voted on by the Committee; though not cited here, their efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Committee welcomes questions or comments from MOU members regarding any record in particular or our procedures in general. More information including our bylaws and current checklist can be found at <<http://moumn.org/mourc>>. Summary: 56 records voted on — 45 Accepted, 11 Not Accepted.

Edina, Minnesota.

Unusual Display of a House Wren

Anthony X. Hertzell

In the spring of 2023, I discovered a House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) bringing nesting material to a nest box in Ramsey County. On 10 May, after the wren had visited the box several times, a male House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) arrived and began “inspecting” the box. The House Wren quickly came in, agitated and chattering. He began moving quickly from perch to perch, babbling, “wing-flicking,” and even jumping to the ground (not flying, see Figure 1), always just a few feet from the sparrow. On several occasions, the wren rapidly thrust its wings outward and slightly upward while lowering its head — rather like leaning forward — for just a fraction of a second (Figure 3) before returning to a more typical posture and looking around as it continued its verbal barrage. This was unlike the “wing waving” described by Clemmons and Lambrechts (1992) in the Black-capped Chickadee. It would then immediately move to another nearby branch and begin this performance again. Often, the act was immediately preceded by the wren first turning to face the House Sparrow.

These acts were performed on woody deciduous branches, in a low-growing arborvitae, on the ground among the leaf litter, and once while atop the bird box. All the attention seemed to be directed specifically at the House Sparrow and not at me, as I was quite a distance away and the activity only began with the sparrow’s arrival and ended with its departure. When the sparrow finally withdrew from the scene, the wren also soon departed. Although I did not know the contents of the nest box at the time of this event, a pair of House Wrens eventually raised a family in the box during that spring.

Though Figure 3 implies a freeze-posture or slow-moving wing display (as with White-breasted Nuthatch), this was never the case with the House Wren. The entire performance was a series of rapid-fire wing flicks, bobs, dances, and (rarely) tail-fanning all done very quickly with much chattering and bounding

about (Figure 2). My Nikon D7200 takes photos at seven frames/second and as I had it set to this “burst” mode, the entire 16 frame sequence in Figure 2 covers less than three seconds (i.e. images 1–7 span one second).

House Sparrows also nest in cavities and thus the intruding male was likely a threat to usurp the wren’s nest box. In addition, House Sparrows are known to enter cavities occupied by other species and destroy eggs or kill nestlings. The behavior of the House Wren that I observed has not been described previously in response to either a competitor for a nest site or a potential predator (Johnson, 2020). When confronting a rival conspecific male that potentially could usurp the nest site, male House Wrens typically crouch, droop and quiver their wings, fan but depress their tail, and sing at a high rate (Barnett et al. 2014).

The behavior of the wren, especially the previously undescribed rapid wing flicking, could be interpreted as a type of distraction display. Skutch (1954) credits Nice (1943) with coining the term, writing “by far the best term



Figure 1. House Wren jumping to the ground, 10 May 2023, Ramsey County.

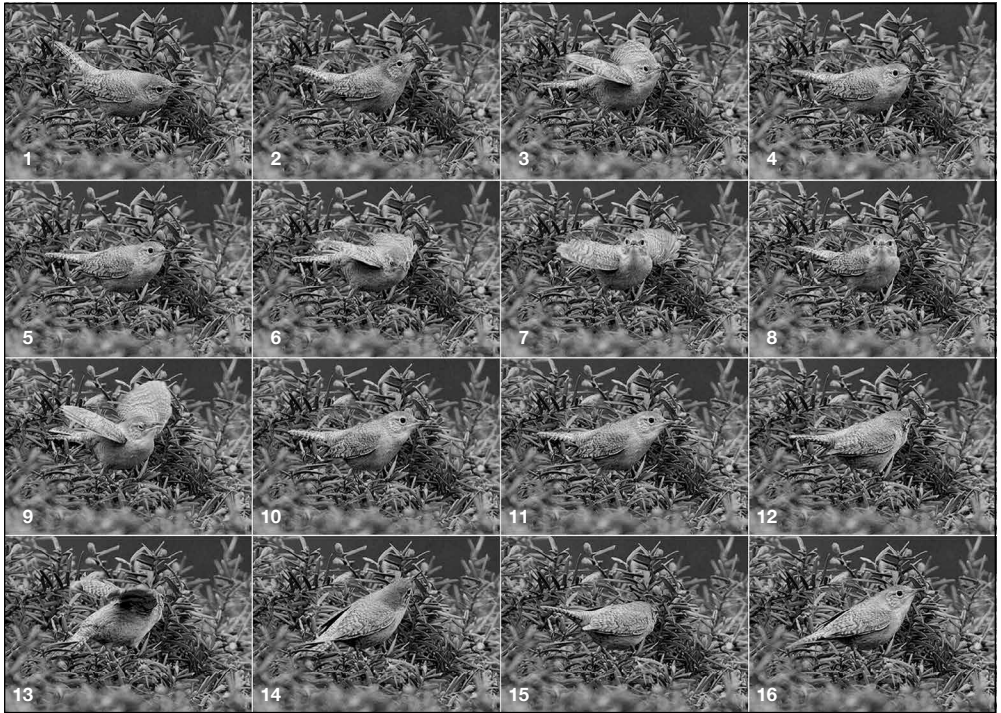


Figure 2. Sixteen-frame sequence of a displaying House Wren showing the “wing flicking” behavior. Total duration from images 1–16 is 2.3 seconds. 10 May 2023, Ramsey County.

for the phenomenon as a whole is ‘distraction display’ (Nice 1943), for such behaviour serves to distract the attention of a potential enemy from the nest or young of the parent.” Armstrong (1954) describes it as “...those activities which serve to deflect a potential predator from a bird’s nest or young,” and includes two “ritualized” forms, “injury-feigning or injury-simulation, in which a bird appears to be suffering from some disability, and types of eccentric or unusual gait or posturing.” Though vague, the “posturing” form seems to reflect the House Wren’s actions.

Humphreys and Ruxton (2020) refine Skutch’s definition, writing such displays are “conspicuous behaviours functioning to distract a predator’s attention away from the displayer’s nest or young, thereby reducing the chance of offspring being discovered and predated.” Cornell’s (2023) definition echoes this, “displays in which a bird ... feigns injury or in some other way creates a highly noticeable fuss or disturbance, in order to shift a potential predator’s attention away from the bird’s nest or young.”

The wren’s behavior does not seem to be an example of deimatic behavior (or “startle display”) as detailed by Drinkwater et al. (2022). That term is used to describe a prey animal’s response to a potential predator. This was not the case here as the House Sparrow would probably not be seen as a predator and appeared indifferent to the wren’s presence. The wren’s behavior indicates it was doing its best to be conspicuous and draw attention to itself and away from the nest box.

Other North American species of wren are known to give distraction displays, but they are rarely observed. The Carolina Wren display was first described in 1947 when Nice and Thomas (1948) wrote “whereupon the male flew near with slow wing movements — a mild form of ‘distraction display;’ which seems not to have been previously recorded for the Troglodytidae.” Winter Wrens have been noted as giving distraction displays, but the specifics were not described (e.g. Harriman et al., 2006; Taylor, 2018). A Bewick’s Wren was observed defending young by “approaching the intruder



Figure 3. House Wren display, 10 May 2023, Ramsey County.

slowly” with “tail spread, wings quivering over the back, while he made a series of snapping sounds,” though the display lasted “only a second or two” (Williams, 1942).

I’ve witnessed distraction displays from Sandhill Cranes, Mourning Doves, nuthatches, a variety of shorebirds, both Minnesota nightjars, and several species of sparrow, and a few other species. And though these displays may have had a similar purpose to the act I witnessed, they were rather dissimilar in actual performance.

Based on these observations and the general definitions, this particular House Wren’s performance does appear to meet the criteria of a distraction display.

Acknowledgments

L. Scott Johnson was of great help and willingly engaged in lengthy discussions while offering many useful perspectives and opinions. Bruce A. Fall and Ann E. Kessen provided thoughtful reviews, as did two additional anonymous reviewers.

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Mounds View, MN.

The 2022 Winter Season

1 December 2022 through 28 February 2023

Bruce A. Fall¹, Howard C. Towle², and Paul E. Budde³



Harlequin Duck, 21 January 2023, Interstate State Park, Chisago County. Photo by Kyle Nelson.

Rare species reported this winter season included two Accidentals (Band-tailed Pigeon, Yellow-billed Loon), and two Casuals (Black-legged Kittiwake, Eurasian Tree Sparrow). Five species provided first county records, including Harlequin Duck (Chisago), Band-tailed Pigeon (Winona), Yellow-billed Loon (Hennepin), Carolina Wren (Sibley), and Townsend's Solitaire (Steele), and there was one new winter record for the state (LeConte's Sparrow).

Similar to the previous five winters, there was little evidence of widespread early returning waterfowl into the southern part of the state in late February. Other than Canada, the only goose species reported after December was a Greater White-fronted on the last day of February. Also at the end of February there were scattered south reports of small numbers of likely early migrants of some duck species, but nothing extensive or substantial. The last mild February with an extensive influx of early migrant ducks and geese was in 2017. Mute Swans were reported from five counties, with a total of up to seven individuals, which is

typical for recent winters. Winter season totals over the previous decade have ranged from 0–7 individuals, with an average of 4.5. Trumpeter Swans were reported from 63 counties, a new record for the season, although the high count of 420 (Sherburne County) was much lower than last winter's high count (1,700, Otter Tail County). The statewide Trumpeter Swan total on CBCs was an impressive 5,904 (on 50 of 88 count circles).

Blue Lake W.T.P. and nearby Mill Pond in Shakopee, Scott County, again hosted a good variety of ducks, including 17 species after December. This total included a female Blue-winged Teal in mid February, the first for the state for that month in 36 years. Blue Lake W.T.P. also provided state midwinter high counts for three duck species (Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Ring-necked Duck). The count of 59 American Black Ducks in early December in Wabasha County set a new winter record. A female Harlequin Duck was discovered in the St. Croix River, Chisago County, in mid January, and continued there into early March. It was reported by over 140 people during its six-week

stay. This was the first record in the south half of the state in five years. The only scoter species reported was White-winged, with three of the four records (all singles) away from Lake Superior. Long-tailed Ducks were found in ten counties, including seven away from Lake Superior. The total of 3,839 Common Goldeneyes carefully counted (from video) in late December in Wabasha County (Mississippi River) was the second highest for the winter season and the most in winter in nearly 20 years.

Wild Turkeys continue to thrive in the state. They were reported from 77 counties, the second highest total for the season. The CBC total count for Minnesota was 6,176 (reported on 72 of 88 count circles). In comparison, twenty years ago the 2002 CBC state total was 893 (on 28 of 64 count circles). A Band-tailed Pigeon was photographed perched on conduit on a house in Winona in February, but was not identified until later. This was the 12th record for the state, and the first in nearly 12 years. Eurasian Collared-Doves were found in 63 counties, tying the record number from the previous two winters, although there were no reports from the Northeast region and only two from the North-central. The CBC total for Minnesota, reported on 35 of 88 count circles, was 732. This compares with the total ten years ago (2012) of 278, on 25 of 73 count circles.

A first-cycle Black-legged Kittiwake photographed on Lake Pepin in mid December was the first winter record of this species in nearly seven years, and the first record away from Lake Superior in over five years. Two Great Black-backed Gulls in Duluth throughout the season were the only reports of this species. Numbers have been low in Duluth (1–3 individuals) for the previous six winters as well. In winters 2010 to 2012, at least 8–10 individuals were present but numbers have declined since. A first-cycle Lesser Black-backed Gull was in Duluth through early January, marking the 18th consecutive winter that this species has been recorded in the state. Away from Lake Superior, no gulls of any species were reported after 17 January except one early-migrant Herring Gull in late February in Wabasha County. A Yellow-billed Loon was discovered at Bde Maka Ska in Minneapolis in early December. It was seen by over 80 birders during its short, one-day stay (although some reports suggest it may have been present the previous day). This was the

seventh record for Minnesota and the first since 2005; it was also the first record for the south half of the state. Snowy Owls were scarce this winter and were reported from only 14 counties, the fewest in 12 years, and none were found on any CBC. There were no Boreal Owl reports for the first winter since 2015.

For the second year in a row, there were no reports of Gyrfalcon this season. This Casual species is most commonly encountered in winter, but has been spotted in only three of the past ten winters. Prairie Falcons were also not found for the fourth year in a row. By contrast, Merlins were observed in 46 counties, nearly equaling last winter's season high of 47, and throughout the season in both the north and south.

Several species normally found in winter, albeit in small numbers, were undetected this season. There were no reports of Ruby-crowned Kinglet for the first time since 2015. Similarly, no Gray Catbird observations were recorded for the first time since 2010. Northern Mockingbirds, which are found in about half of winters, were absent for the second year in a row. However, for the fourth year in a row there were sightings of Eurasian Tree Sparrow from multiple counties. Clearly, this species is showing up in Minnesota far more commonly than in the past. Towhees also had a good season with five Spotted and six Eastern towhees being reported, equaling or exceeding previous season records.

Among the winter finches, reports of both redpoll species were down after the strong showing of the 2021–22 winter when Common Redpolls were found in all 87 counties and Hoary Redpolls in 60. This winter Common Redpoll was only reported from 39 counties and Hoary from four counties, all bordering Canada. Similarly, White-winged Crossbill and Pine Siskin numbers were low this past winter. White-winged Crossbills were reported from only nine counties and Pine Siskins from 32, both the lowest totals since 2013. Other winter finches, including Pine and Evening grosbeaks, and Bohemian Waxwings were found in typical levels.

A most unexpected find was the first winter report of a LeConte's Sparrow, seen and photographed at the Bass Ponds on 17 December. This sighting is more than five weeks later than the previous late date of 10 November (Scott County, 1985). Other late lingering birds

included a Pine Warbler found in St. Louis County on 31 December and a Summer Tanager photographed at a feeder in Mower County on 1 January.

Weather summary: After several years of above average winter temperatures, December's average temperature was about four degrees (F) below normal, the coldest since 2013. January began with above average temperatures, but colder weather prevailed at the end of the month. Still, the month ended 4.8° above normal. February temperatures were near the long-term average. Each month's lows were in the -30s: -36° at Norris Camp on 7 December, -37° at Celina (St. Louis County) on 29–30 January, and -39° at Kabetogama on 3–4 February.

It was a wet December. The first major storm passed through southern Minnesota on the 9th. Another storm with strong winds, rain, and snow knocked down many trees and caused power outages from the 13th – 17th. A third storm on the 21st – 22nd brought snow statewide, with the highest totals in the Central and East-central regions. The new year brought another large storm on 2–5 January. Most of the snow was south of a line from Madison to Duluth; totals of 15–18" were reported from the Twin Cities and near St. Cloud. Extreme southern Minnesota saw another storm with 6–7" of snow on the 18th – 19th. February saw three more major storms. Moderate to heavy rain fell

over much of the state on the 14th, after which temperatures dropped sharply. Another storm on the 21st – 23rd brought 12–20" of snow to the central and southern parts of the state. The season ended as one final storm out of the Dakotas on the 28th brought over one foot of snow to Clay County.

Acknowledgements: Thanks to Dave Cahlander for building and maintaining the seasonal reports submission and production web pages (<http://moumn.org/moureports/season.php>) through which most of this data is collected and organized. In addition to the data collected through this MOU website, we are grateful for the data provided for the creation of this report by eBird (<http://www.ebird.org>, accessed March 2023). Steve Weston, serving as Minnesota CBC coordinator, compiled vast amounts of data from 88 counts. Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data from 1997 through 2021. Weather data is from the Minnesota DNR's HydroClim Minnesota newsletter (<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/hydroclim/index.html>). Our appreciation goes out to all our contributors, especially those who respond to our requests for details and who submit observations online.

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³ Washington, DC.

KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species listed in brackets [**Smew**] indicates a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species' name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties with reports.
4. Dates listed in bold (**10/9**) indicate an occurrence either earlier, later, or within the three earliest or latest dates on file.
5. Counties listed in bold (**Aitkin**) indicate an unusual occurrence for that county.
6. Counties listed in bold and with an underline (**Becker**) indicate a first county record.
7. Counties listed in italics (*Crow Wing*) indicate a first county breeding record.
8. Totals in bold (**150**) indicate a total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
9. Totals in bold-italic (***55***) indicate a CBC total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
10. Dagger "+" preceding observer's initials denotes written documentation was submitted.
11. "ph." denotes a species documented with a photograph.
12. "v.t." denotes a species documented by video.
13. "a.t." denotes a species documented by audio.
14. High counts that are multiples of 100 are assumed or known to be estimates unless otherwise noted.

The *Seasonal Report* is a compilation of seasonal bird sightings from throughout Minnesota. We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To become a contributor, contact the Editor of the Seasonal Report, Paul E. Budde, seasons@moumn.org.

- Snow Goose** (*Anser caerulescens*) — [7 South] December reports from seven south counties, all but two singles. CBC high count 12/17 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (5); these are unrestrained feral birds. Latest migrant 12/17 Rochester CBC.
- Ross's Goose** (*Anser rossii*) — [1 South] One report 12/3 Chippewa DLP.
- Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*) — [1 South] One report, 2/28 Cottonwood PEJ (early migrant).
- Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [1 North, 10 South] One north report 12/17 Clay (6, Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB. December reports from ten south counties, with high count 12/5 Olmsted (10, Cascade Lake Park) LAV. No reports after December. CBC high count 12/15 Lac qui Parle (18).
- Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [18 North, 44 South] Season high counts north 12/17 Clay (2,500, Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB, 12/2 Douglas (800, Lake Carlos) BEc. Reported from 11 north counties after December; all reports were of ten or fewer individuals. South season high count 12/5 Dakota (3,000, Spring Lake P.R.) CJE. South high count after December 1/1 Ramsey (1,000, Red Rock Road) TiW, 1/28 Wright (600) ebd. CBC high counts 12/17 Rochester (3,684), West Hennepin (3,120), Fargo/Moorhead (2,505), 12/15 Lac qui Parle (2,500).
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [5 South] Reported from five south counties: 12/3 Hennepin ABL, 12/8–11 Washington (3, Grey Cloud Island gravel pit; continuing from November at nearby location) m.ob., 12/19–21 **Blue Earth** and **Nicollet** (Sibley Park) m.ob., 2/14–21 Goodhue (1–2) PEJ.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [22 North, 41 South] Reported from a season-record 63 counties statewide (previous high 61, winter 2020), including 1/21 **Dodge** (2, North Park) LiH, 12/28 **Stevens** (19, Morris CBC), 2/20 **Wilkin** (2, near Rothsay) ebd. Overwintered widely; after December reported from 20 north and 34 south counties. North season high counts 12/2 Douglas (375, Lake Carlos) BEc, 12/30, 2/4 Otter Tail (200) ebd, 2/20 Hubbard (200) ebd. South season high counts 12/4 Sherburne (420, Big Lake) PLJ, 12/20 Goodhue (350, Lock and Dam 3) KDS. CBC high counts 12/30 Battle Lake (1,203), 12/17 West Hennepin (848), 1/2 Northern Wright County (386).
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [15 South] Reported from 15 south counties in December, including 12/18 **Mower** (Austin CBC); high counts 12/1 Wabasha (125) PEJ, 12/17 Houston (47, La Crescent) ebd. Reports after December: 1/15 – 2/13 Wabasha (2–3, near Minneiska) PEJ, 2/26 Ramsey (Red Rock Road) LiH. CBC high counts 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (48), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (35), 12/17 Bloomington (32).
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [2 North, 13 South] North reports from two counties: 12/10 Clay (Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) PBB, 12/17 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls CBC), 12/31 Otter Tail (Pelican Rapids CBC). December south reports from 11 counties, with high count 12/2 Hennepin (6, Bass Ponds) KOC, VRL. South reports after December from six counties, all of 1–2 birds except up to 5 Stearns MJB. Unusual winter record 2/20 **Fillmore** (2, Rushford Village) ToM. CBC high counts 12/17 St. Paul (North) (2), St. Cloud / Colledgeville (2).
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Spatula discors*) — [1 South] Reported 12/17 Owatonna CBC. The first February record since 1987 was a well-documented female 2/12, 2/27 Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) †PCC, †KDS.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Spatula clypeata*) — [4 South] Reported from four south counties, with high counts 12/1 Martin (40, Fairmont) PEJ, 12/2 Hennepin (23, Lake Harriet) JWl. All reports after mid December were from Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., where up to 13 overwintered. CBC high count 12/17 Excelsior (9).
- Gadwall** (*Mareca strepera*) — [16 South] Reported from 14 south counties in December, with high count 12/17 Scott (55, Blue Lake W.T.P.) RSA. After December, reported from ten south counties. Highest midwinter count 2/12 Scott (67, Blue Lake W.T.P.) PCC. High midwinter counts elsewhere included 1/1 Wabasha (29, Whitewater W.M.A.) SHk, 2/10 Winona (22, Whitewater W.M.A.) LHL. CBC high counts 12/17 Excelsior (86), 1/3 Wabasha (64), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (12).
- American Wigeon** (*Mareca americana*) — [1 North, 5 South] One north report: 12/3 **Traverse** (Reservation Dam W.M.A.) AaL, CLu. Reported from four south counties in December, with high count 12/7 Wabasha (55) PEJ.

- Only reports after December were presumed early migrants in late February, beginning 2/25 Scott (up to 4, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [20 North, 39 South] Overwintered widely, with reports after December from 17 north and 32 south counties. Season high count north 12/3 St. Louis (1,500, Duluth Port Terminal) PHS. Away from Duluth, north high count 12/17 Clay (350, Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB. South season high counts 1/15 Scott (3,500, Shakopee Mill Pond; rough estimate) JBn, 12/11 Ramsey (1,950, Red Rock Road) BBr. CBC high counts 12/17 St. Paul (North) (5,077), Minneapolis (North) (3,611), Excelsior (1,733).
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [5 North, 13 South] All north reports from St. Louis (Duluth) except 12/17 Clay (Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB, 12/18–19 Morrison MJB, SEM, KEm, 12/27 Crow Wing ebd, 1/12 – 2/26 Cass (Pine River) JC, m.ob. North high count 2/6 St. Louis (30, Duluth, W.L.S.S.D.) FJN, m.ob. South high count 12/5 Wabasha (59, Lake City to Minneiska) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (20), Excelsior (5).
- Mallard X American Black Duck** (*Anas platyrhynchos* X *A. rubripes*) — [1 North, 9 South] Most reports of this hybrid were from St. Louis (1–3, Duluth) m.ob. and Scott (1–2, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. Also reported from Goodhue, Hennepin, Ramsey, Renville, Stearns, Wabasha, Winona, Wright. Statewide high count 12/5 Wabasha (8) PEJ.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [4 North, 14 South] All north reports: 12/11 Douglas (Alexandria) BWF, 12/25 Becker (Lake Melissa) NaH, 1/8 – 2/13 Cass (Pine River) m.ob., 12/17 St. Louis (Duluth) NGi, 1/18 – 2/13 St. Louis (1–3, Duluth, W.L.S.S.D.) FJN, m.ob. December south reports from 13 counties, with high count 12/1 Wabasha (65) PEJ; other December counts were 5 or fewer. After December, reported from 10 south counties. CBC high count 12/31 Hastings/Etter (4).
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [11 South] December reports from 10 south counties, with high counts 12/2 Dakota (12, Ritter Farm Park) TPu, 12/11 Washington (10, Grey Cloud Island gravel pit) DnS. Reported after December from six south counties, all of 1–2 individuals.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [1 North, 13 South] One north report: 12/17 Clay (Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB. Reported from 12 south counties in December, with high counts 12/4, 12/7 Wabasha (200) PEJ, 12/7 Winona (70, Minneiska) TPu, MwT, AnB. Reported from four counties after December (Big Stone, Goodhue, Wabasha, Washington), all of 5 or fewer individuals until 2/26 Wabasha (53, probable new migrants) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/31 Hastings/Etter (4), 12/17 Fargo/Moorhead (2).
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [3 North, 15 South] Reported from three north counties: 12/1–17 Beltrami (up to 5, Lake Bemidji) AxB, DvH, m.ob., 12/17 Clay (14, Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB, overwintered 12/11 – 2/17 Lake (3, Two Harbors) BEA, m.ob. South reports in December from 13 counties with high count 12/4 Wabasha (30) PEJ. After December, reported from eight south counties, all of 4 or fewer individuals until probable early migrants 2/26 Wabasha (17) PEJ, 2/28 Cottonwood (6 to 8) PEJ, KEm. CBC high counts 12/17 Fargo/Moorhead (14), 12/18 Two Harbors (3).
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [2 North, 16 South] North reports from two counties: 12/17 Clay (5, Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB, 12/1 – 1/17 Beltrami (up to 3, Lake Bemidji/Lake Irving) AxB, DvH, m.ob. December south reports from 14 counties, with high counts 12/4 Wabasha (200) PEJ, 12/10 Washington (150, Grey Cloud Island gravel pit) MaS. Reported after December from nine counties. As in previous years, overwintered in large numbers Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.), with high count 1/9 (60) ebd. Midwinter high counts Washington (Afton) included 1/2 (20) and 1/21 (10) EzH, IsH. Elsewhere, midwinter counts were 5 or fewer. CBC high counts 12/17 Excelsior (82), Rochester (7).
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [1 North, 9 South] One north report: 12/30 St. Louis (5, Duluth, W.L.S.S.D.) ebd. Reported in December in nine south counties, with high count 12/7 Wabasha (7) PEJ. Reported after December from four counties, with high count 1/24 Wabasha (10) PEJ. Overwintered Scott (1–2, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [4 North, 18 South] Reported from four north counties: 12/1–17 Beltrami (1–2, Lake Bemidji/Lake Irving) AxB, DvH, m.ob., 12/2 Douglas BEC, 12/4 Otter Tail (2, Little Pine Lake) ebd, 12/17

Clay (4, Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB. Reported from 15 south counties in December, with high counts 12/7 Wabasha (50) PEJ, 12/2 12/2 Wright (20, Cedar Lake) MJB. After December, reported from 10 counties. Overwintered Scott (up to 14, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Wabasha (up to 15) m.ob., and through 1/28 Washington (up to 5, Point Douglas Park) m.ob. CBC high counts 1/2 Nelson (10), 12/31 Hastings/Etter (9).

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [1 South] One report: 1/20 – 2/20 **Chisago** (female, Taylor's Falls) JHu, m.ob. See also spring report. No reports from the North Shore of Lake Superior for the first winter since 2007.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta deglandi*) — [2 North, 2 South] All reports: 12/1–2 Hennepin (Bde Maka Ska) MZA, m.ob., 12/1–9 Wabasha PEJ, 12/1–17 Beltrami (Lake Bemidji/Lake Irving) AxB, DvH, m.ob., 12/8 – 1/2 St. Louis (Duluth, Canal Park) MLH, m.ob.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [5 North, 5 South] Most north reports were from Cook, with high count 2/5 (43, Lutsen) NSg, ebd, 1/7 (26, Good Harbor Bay) BLz. Only one record from Lake and four from St. Louis, all of 8 or fewer birds. Other north reports include 12/1 Beltrami (Lake Bemidji, continuing from November) AxB, 12/18 **Itasca** (Grand Rapids CBC). South reports from five counties: 12/1 Wright (Cedar Lake) HHD, 12/1 Hennepin (Medicine Lake, continuing from November) ebd, 12/2–7, 2/5 Goodhue PEJ, EBy, 12/2 – 1/6 Wabasha (up to 5, Lake Pepin) PEJ, 12/21 Winona (Lock and Dam 5) PEJ.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) — [6 North, 10 South] December north reports from six counties, with high count 12/14 St. Louis (8, Duluth) ebd. North reports after December from Cook, Lake, St. Louis, all of 5 or fewer individuals. December reports from 10 south counties, with high count 12/2 Wabasha (25) PEJ. Reported after December from seven south counties, all 1–2 individuals except up to 4 Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. CBC high counts 12/17 Excelsior (7), Minneapolis (North) (3).

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) — [18 North, 29 South] North high counts 12/2 Douglas (500, Lake Carlos) BEc, 2/4 St. Lou-



Northern Pintail, 31 December 2022, Dakota County. Photo by Matthew Hoberg.

is (354, Duluth, Canal Park) ebd. Elsewhere north counts were under 60. Unusual winter records: 12/3 **Traverse** (2) AaL, 2/18 **Clearwater** ebd. South high counts were from Wabasha (Lake Pepin, Pool 5): 12/28 (**3,839**; counted from video), 12/4 (**3,500**) PEJ. Away from Wabasha, high counts were 900 or fewer. CBC high counts 12/18 Minneapolis West (619), 12/31 Hastings/Etter (528).

Bufflehead X Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala albeola* X *B. clangula*) — [1 South] A female or immature male of this hybrid was reported 12/17 Wabasha †PEJ.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 South] One report: 12/21 Wabasha (adult male, Mississippi River) †PEJ. This species has been reported in seven of the past ten winters.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [9 North, 19 South] Reported from eight north counties in December, all of 7 or fewer individuals. Only one north report after the CBC period: 2/18 Clearwater (2, Lower Red Lake dam) ebd. Reported from 17 south counties in December, with high counts 12/2 Ramsey (64, Vadnais Lake) JKu, 12/2 Hennepin (44,

Lake Harriet) JW1. South reports after December from 10 counties, with high count 2/6 Hennepin (27, Bass Ponds) VRL. CBC high counts 12/17 Excelsior (26), Bloomington (22), Ortonville (8).

Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser

(*Bucephala clangula* X *Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [3 South] Three reports of this hybrid: 12/24 – 1/9 Wabasha (adult male) ph. †PEJ, 1/21 Washington (male, Afton Marina) EzH, ph. IsH, 2/14 Goodhue (adult male) ph. †PEJ.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) —

[10 North, 30 South] No reports Northwest. December reports from eight north counties with high count 12/2 Douglas (750, Lake Carlos) BEC. Elsewhere, north high count 12/1 Cass (150, Walker Bay) JC. After December reported from seven counties, with counts of 6 or fewer except St. Louis (Duluth) counts were as high as 30. South high counts were from Lake Pepin: 12/4 Wabasha (7,500) KEM, 12/2 Goodhue (5,500) PEJ, and after December, 1/21, 1/28 Wabasha (2,500) JtM, SDz. High count away from Lake Pepin 1/1 Washington (600, Hastings) LBi. CBC high counts 1/2 Nelson (1,000), 1/1 Afton (317), 12/31 Hastings/Etter (304), 12/15 Red Wing (185).

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) —

[3 North, 9 South] North reports only from Lake Superior, with high counts by county: 1/12 Cook (9) JGW, 1/23 Lake (40) ebd, 1/23 St. Louis (150, Duluth, Canal Park) ebd. December reports south were from six counties, all of 1–2 individuals except up to 7 Wabasha PEJ. Reported from seven south counties after December (including 2/18 **Nicollet** (Minnesota River, Mankato) APi, LiH), all of 4 or fewer individuals. CBC high counts 12/18 Two Harbors (31), 12/17 Duluth (6), 1/1 Afton (6).

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [1 North, 11 South] One north report: 12/17 Clay (Moorhead W.T.P.) PBB. December south reports from 11 counties, including 12/1 Sherburne (Big Lake) PLJ; high count 12/8 Wabasha (18) PEJ. The only reports after December were from Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., where one overwintered.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [29 North, 48 South] Reported from 77 counties, the second highest total for the season and three fewer than last winter's record. Found in all but five north counties, and reported in four



Gray Partridge, 1 January 2023, Warren, Marshall County. Photo by Heidi Hughes.

of the seven counties bordering Canada (Roseau, St. Louis, Lake, and 1/17 **Koochiching** SHo). North high count 12/2 St. Louis (113, Sax-Zim Bog) KWR, JCh. Elsewhere, north high counts were fewer than 50. South high counts 12/5 Sherburne (124, near Elk River) PLJ, 1/2 Nicollet (116, Swan Lake W.M.A., Northstar Unit) APi. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (401), Hastings/Etter (275), 12/18 Cedar Creek Bog (234).

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [25 North, 8 South] Reported from 25 north counties, above the ten-year average (22). North high count 2/16 St. Louis (14, Sax-Zim Bog) FJN, m.ob., 1/30 St. Louis (13, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd. Relatively few reports from eight south counties; all were of 1–2 individuals except 1/28 Chisago (4, Amador Twp.) MTE, 2/5 Houston (5, Looney Valley) ebd. CBC high counts 12/31 Fredenberg (34), 1/3 Ely (12), 12/31 Cook Area (10), 1/1 Isabella (10).

Spruce Grouse (*Canachites canadensis*) — [8 North] Recorded from all counties bordering Canada except Kittson. High counts 2/26 Lake (10, Fernberg Road) ebd, 2/11 Cook (8, Perent Lake Road) JGW, 2/25 St. Louis (8, Beatty Road, near Cook) ebd. CBC high counts 1/3 Ely (**12**), 12/31 Cook Area (2).

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [13 North] North reports only. High counts include 12/28 Polk (43, Agassiz Valley) HHu, 1/2 Roseau (40, Ross Twp.) DVH. Many reports from St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog)

where counts were 8 or fewer. CBC high counts 1/5 Newfolden (143), 1/2 Roseau (112), 1/4 Glacial Ridge (47), Baudette (29).

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [5 North] Most reports from Clay and Polk; also reported from Becker, Marshall, Wilkin. High counts were from Clay, with highest 12/19 (83, near Buffalo River S.P.) CMk. Elsewhere, high count 12/27 Becker (38, Audubon) TCL. CBC high counts 12/19 Bluestem Prairie / Buffalo River SP (**234**), 1/4 Glacial Ridge (33), 12/28 Detroit Lakes (12).

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [11 North, 25 South] Reported from 36 counties, by far the most in at least the past 20 years and over twice as many as the ten-year average (15). All north reports were from nine Northwest counties, plus Douglas and Otter Tail. North high count 2/19 Polk (40, southwest of Warren) HHu, ebd. Most south reports were from Dodge. South high counts 2/5 Watonwan (25, two flocks) ChH, 1/23 Dodge (24, two flocks) RBW, 1/28 Blue Earth (24, Lincoln W.P.A.) ebd, 12/29 Redwood (21, Delhi Twp.) ASu. CBC high counts 12/24 Redwood Falls (26), 1/4 Glacial Ridge (22), 1/2 Mountain Lake / Windom (18), 1/5 Newfolden (17).

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [21 North, 53 South] Reported from all 53 south counties and as far northwest as Polk and northeast to southern St. Louis. No reports from counties bordering Canada except St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog). North high counts 2/24 Becker (52, Pednor State W.M.A.) NaH, ebd, 1/9 Traverse (50, Dumont area) ebd. South high counts 1/8 Swift (125) ANy, 1/1 Yellow Medicine (115, Timm Lake) GWe, 2/18 Nobles (112, Lismore/Leota area) ebd. CBC high counts 12/19 Bluestem Prairie / Buffalo River SP (451), 12/26 Northern Meeker County (373), 12/28 Morris (300), 12/24 Redwood Falls (254), 1/2 Mountain Lake / Windom (206).

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [1 North, 8 South] Only north reports were from about 12/18 (Grand Rapids CBC, count week) and 2/5 Itasca (Grand Rapids) ebd; presumably, both were the same individual. December south reports from seven counties (including 12/4 **Wright** ToL), with high count 12/4 Hennepin (**7**, Bde Maka Ska) ASo. Elsewhere, December reports were of 1–2



Band-tailed Pigeon, 6 February 2023, Winona, Winona County. Photo by Anne Conway.

individuals. After December, reported from three south counties. Overwintered Goodhue (Colville Park) m.ob., and through 1/24 Wabasha (Lake City) PEJ. One reported 2/25 Lac qui Parle DLP.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [1 North, 2 South] All reports: 12/1–4 Hennepin (Lake Harriet, Bde Maka Ska) m.ob., 12/2 Goodhue (Lake Pepin) SDz, JtM, 12/13 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) MLH, JLK.

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [1 South] First winter record since 2017: 12/4–6 Wright (Lake Pulaski) ToL, JWZ, PLJ.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all 87 counties. North high counts 12/21 St. Louis (481, near Virginia) SLF, 12/3 Clay (200, Baker) TkL. South high counts 12/20 Ramsey (**532**, Pig's Eye R.P.) KSi, 12/17 Ramsey (478, Lower Landing Park) LiH. CBC high counts 12/17 St. Paul (North) (1,876), Duluth (1,025), 12/21 Virginia (628).

BAND-TAILED PIGEON (*Patagioenas fasciata*) — [1 South] First report since 2011: 2/6 **Winona** (residential home in Winona) ph. ACy.



Wilson's Snipe, 1 January 2023, Schueler WMA, Rushford Village, Fillmore County. Photo by Todd Mitchell.



Yellow-billed Loon, 3 December 2022, Lake Bde Maka Ska, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Douglas W. Kieser.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [17 North, 46 South] Reported from 63 counties, tying the season-record total from the past two winters. Reported from as far northwest as Marshall and as far northeast as Chisago. No reports from Northeast region or North-central (except Hubbard and 2/27 **Wadena** (town of Wadena) ebd). High counts north: 12/2 Becker (24, Callaway) NaH, 12/20 Todd (19, Long Prairie) SDi, 2/5 Norman (17, Halstad) TCL. Reported from 46 south counties, including 12/16 – 2/14 **Washington** (Neal Ave. S., up to 6) JHe, m.ob and 1/4 **Anoka** (Wargo Nature Preserve) ebd. South high counts 12/31 Dakota (63) ADS, 12/2 Brown (59, Comfrey) BTS. CBC high counts 12/31 Hastings/Etter (**134**), 12/16 Cottonwood (78), 12/17 Jackson County (50).

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) — [16 North, 44 South] Season high count north 12/21 Pine (30, near Pine City) NSn. Reported from 13 north counties after December, from as far north as Lake of the Woods, with high count 1/25 St. Louis (27, Western Waterfront Trail, Duluth) JLK. South high counts were from Wabasha (Lake City) MNb, with peak 12/9 (71). Other high counts include

2/13 Olmsted (48, Pine Island) ebd. CBC high counts 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (149), Rochester (148), Faribault (121).

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [3 North, 13 South] North reports: 12/1 Cass JC, 12/1–17 Beltrami (6 on 12/2, single after 12/5; Lake Bemidji/Lake Irving) AxB, DvH, m.ob., 12/2 Douglas (31, Lake Carlos) BEc. December reports from 13 south counties, with high counts 12/10 Washington (30, Grey Cloud Island gravel pit) MaS, 12/6 Wright (24, Lake Pulaski) PLJ. Overwintered Scott (up to 10, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. No other south records after 1/1. CBC high counts 12/17 Excelsior (14), Rochester (3).

Sandhill Crane (*Antigone canadensis*) — [4 South] Two late fall migrants: 12/5–6 Hennepin ABL, 12/12 Meeker / McLeod (4). PKF. Early migrants 2/26 Houston (2, Lawrence Lake) ebd, 2/28 Houston (2 at Lawrence Lake, 3 just south of La Crescent) SHo. This species was reported in nine of the previous ten winters.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) — No reports for the first winter in the past 13 years.

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) — [1 North, 10 South] One north report: 1/2 Todd (2,

Little Sauk) BEn, RLF. Reported from eight south counties in December, with high count 12/31 Dakota (5) ADS. Overwintered Dakota (up to 4, Etter Bottoms) KDS, m.ob., Fillmore (up to 3, Schueler W.M.A., Rushford Village) ToM, m.ob., Hennepin (Bassett's Creek playground) ebd, Olmsted (up to 3, Dover) LAV, m.ob. Other reports after December: 1/1, 1/22 Winona (Beaver) JJS, JPr, JmP, DBz, 1/23–24 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) AxB, ebd, 2/13 Houston (2, Root River W.M.A. west unit) SHo. CBC high counts 12/31 Hastings/Etter (5), 12/18 Cedar Creek Bog (2).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (*Rissa tridactyla*) — [1 South] One report: 12/16 Wabasha (first-cycle, Lake Pepin near Camp Lacupolis) ph. †PEJ. This is the first winter-season report since 2015.

Bonaparte's Gull (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — No reports. This species was reported in six of the previous ten winters.

Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — No reports. Reported in three of the previous ten winters.

Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) — [4 North, 14 South] Reported from four north counties in December, with high count in Lake Superior counties 12/14 St. Louis (4, Duluth) ClN. North reports away from Lake Superior include: 12/1–2 Beltrami (Lake Bemidji) AxB, DvH, ebd, 12/2 Douglas (7, Lake Carlos) BEc. Reported from 14 south counties in December, with high counts 12/4 Dakota (120, SET-Empire) AnB, MwT, Wabasha (100, Lake City Marina) KEm. After mid December, all south counts were 1–3. There were only two reports after December: 1/4 Washington (3, Afton Marina) DJB, 1/17 Wabasha SC. CBC high counts 12/17 Winona (19), 12/15 Red Wing (13), 12/17 Bloomington (4).

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) — [4 North, 10 South] North reports from the three Lake Superior counties plus 12/2 Douglas (3, Lake Carlos) BEc. Overwintered along the North Shore, with high counts by county: 1/22 Cook (215, Grand Marais) JJB, 12/29 Lake (100, Two Harbors) DHs, 12/4 St. Louis (585, Duluth, W.L.S.S.D.) JLK. Reported from ten south counties in December, with high counts 12/4 Wabasha (75, Lake City) KEm, 12/11 Washington (75, Point Douglas Park) PNi, 12/4 Dakota (70, near Coates) AnB, MwT. Only

two south reports after December: 1/17 Dakota (Hastings) RBW, 2/26 Wabasha (early migrant) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (516), Grand Marais (126), 12/18 Two Harbors (96), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (2).

Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) — [3 North, 4 South] North reports from the three Lake Superior counties. Reported throughout the season St. Louis (Duluth), with high counts 12/14 (6, Chester Creek neighborhood; 4 adults, 2 first-cycle) ClN, 12/16 (5, Canal Park) ebd. After December, Duluth counts were 4 or fewer. Singles reported 12/11, 12/18 Lake (first-cycle, Two Harbors) m.ob. Two January reports from Cook (Grand Marais) of singles, plus 2/27 (4) ebd. South reports from four counties in December, including 12/2 Goodhue (first-cycle, Lake Pepin) PEJ, 12/5–6 Wabasha (Lake City) BLZ, PEJ, 12/6 Hennepin (first-cycle, Lake Harriet) JCa, 12/11 Washington (first-cycle, Point Douglas Park) m.ob., 12/15 Hennepin (adult, Lake Harriet) JCa, 12/16 Wabasha (Lake Pepin) PEJ, 12/19 Washington KDS. CBC high count 12/17 Duluth (5). Most birds statewide were identified as or presumed to be the Thayer's subspecies (*L. g. thayeri*). Kumlien's subspecies (*L. g. kumlieni*) were reported throughout the season in Duluth, with 1–2 individuals in December and January and at least 2 adults and a first-cycle in February m.ob. Also reported 12/18–19 Lake (first-cycle, Two Harbors) m.ob. One south Kumlien's report: 12/19 Washington (adult, Point Douglas Park) KDS.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) — [1 North] One report: 12/5 – 1/7 St. Louis (first-cycle, Duluth) †SeM, m.ob. This species has been reported in the state in 18 consecutive winters.

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [1 North, 3 South] Reported throughout the season St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob., with high count of 5 on multiple dates in January and February (W.L.S.S.D.). Three south reports (all immatures): 12/2 Sherburne (Elk River landfill) PLJ, 12/3 Kandiyohi (Spicer) RAE, SGA, RSF, 12/6 Wabasha (2, Lake Pepin) PEJ.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] Adult and first-cycle reported throughout the season St. Louis (Duluth, various locations) m.ob. Apparently only 2 birds for the season.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) — [1 North, 2 South] One north report: 12/4 Itasca (Grand Rapids) ebd. South reports include 12/1–2 Hennepin (Bde Maka Ska) VRL, DAb, JWl, ebd, 12/2 Wabasha (Lake Pepin) PEJ.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON (*Gavia adamsii*) — [1 South] Seventh state record and the first since 2005: 12/3 **Hennepin** (Bde Maka Ska) SLC, DHs, ph. †DWK, ph. †TPu, ph. †IsH, ph. TGi, †PRH, †NMe, m.ob. Reported to MOU or eBird by more than 80 different observers on this single day. This loon may have been present on 12/2, but descriptive and photographic details were inconclusive.

Double-crested Cormorant (*Nannopterum auritum*) — [1 South] One record: 12/3–6 Olmsted (Cascade Lake S.P.) LAV, m.ob. Also reported 12/17 Rochester CBC.

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [4 South] Reported 12/4–7 Goodhue (2–3, Lock and Dam 3) SHO, KEM, JWH, EBy. Overwintered (12/30 – 2/12) Goodhue (2, Colville Park) m.ob. Also reported 12/30 Freeborn (2) AEB, 1/24 Freeborn (2, Albert Lea) KBg. Reported on two CBCs: 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (2), 12/30 Albert Lea (2).

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) — [3 North, 12 South] Three north reports: 12/3 **Traverse** (2, White Rock Dam) AaL, CLu, 12/6 St. Louis (Duluth, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 1/11 **Grant** (Mustinka River dam; also present earlier on unspecified dates) WPL. Reported from ten south counties in December, all of 1–2 individuals, and from six south counties in January, all singles: Dakota, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, Scott, Washington. The only February reports were from Olmsted (overwintered Silver Lake Dam) LAV, KEM, ABL. CBC high count 12/17 Rochester (3).

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [2 South] Two reports: 12/1–4 Rice TFB, ebd, 12/2–8 Hennepin (juvenile continuing from November, Bass Ponds) m.ob. This species was reported in four of the previous ten winters.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [3 North, 15 South] All north reports: 12/7 St. Louis (Duluth) JLa, 12/17 St. Louis (2, Duluth CBC area) CLN, JDx, 12/17 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) MZa, ebd, 1/3 Clay TCL, 2/6 Clay TkL; also reported 1/1 Pillager CBC. South reports from

15 counties, the most in at least the past 20 winters, including 2/10 **Big Stone** DLP. Numerous reports from the traditional wintering areas in Fillmore, Winona, but only a few from Houston, Wabasha. Counts were 1–2 except 12/12 Fillmore (3) ToM. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (2), 12/20 Sherburne NWR (2).

Northern Harrier (*Circus budsonius*) — [1 North, 22 South] Statewide, reported from 23 counties, half the number of the prior winter. All reports were of singles. One north report: 12/3 Grant AaL, CLu. After December, reported from 13 south counties. CBC high counts 12/15 Red Wing (4), 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (2).

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) — [18 North, 40 South] Reported from 58 counties statewide (including 12/3 **Traverse** (Wheaton) CLu), well above the ten-year average (51) but short of last winter's season-record 66. All reports were of singles except a few south reports of 2. Reported from 13 north and 31 south counties after December. CBC high counts 12/17 West Hennepin (6), Mankato (5), Willmar (5), Faribault (4), Henderson (4), 12/19 Lakeville/Farmington (4).

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [5 North, 39 South] Reported from 44 counties statewide, above the ten-year average (40) but fewer than the past two winters. Four north reports after December: 1/18 St. Louis (Duluth) CLN, 1/19 Todd ebd, 2/19 **Grant** (Elbow Lake Twp.) ebd, 2/23 Pine KPJ. Widely reported south from 39 counties, and from 32 counties after December (including 2/25 **Watsonwan** (Madelia) KEM), nearly all singles except for a few reports of two. CBC high counts 12/17 New Ulm (6), Excelsior (4), Rochester (4), St. Paul (North) (4), Bloomington (3).

American Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*) — [13 North, 9 South] Reported north from 13 counties. Most reports by far were from St. Louis (primarily Sax-Zim Bog). Nearly all reports were of singles. South reports (all singles) from nine counties; no reports from Southwest region and only three from South-central, including 12/17 **Le Sueur** (Kasota Twp.) ChH, and one from Southeast. CBC high counts 12/19 Bluestem Prairie / Buffalo River SP (4), 12/17 Duluth (3), 12/31 Fredenberg (2).

- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Red Lake (found in all 87 in three of the past ten years). North high counts 12/4 St. Louis (22, Duluth, W.L.S.S.D.) JLK, 1/8 Morrison (20) ebd. South high counts 12/9 Isanti (**383**, central Stanford Twp.; counted individually) RCL, 12/7 Blue Earth (66) BHW, 1/30 Dakota (51, Lock and Dam 2) KDS, 1/15 Wabasha (50, Reads Landing) ebd. CBC high counts 12/17 Bloomington (84), West Hennepin (70), St. Paul (North) (62), La Crosse / La Crescent (61).
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [1 North, 16 South] One north report: 12/19 Cass (adult, Moccasin Lake) ph. DEN. Nearly all south reports were from Twin Cities counties and Southeast region (including 1/21 **Dodge** (Claremont Twp.) LiH). All reports were of singles. CBC high count 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (2).
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [16 North, 53 South] Absent Northwest except for a few reports from Polk, Clay. Reported after December from 14 north counties, all of 1–2 individuals. Reported from all south counties, with high counts 1/21 Winona (8, Pleasant Hill Twp.) ebd, 2/24 Freeborn (7, Albert Lea) ebd, 12/30 Hennepin (6, MSP Airport) CJa. CBC high counts 12/17 Rochester (46), St. Paul (North) (29), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (24), 12/17 Mankato (23), Bloomington (23). Harlan's subspecies (*B. j. harlani*) reported from Hennepin, Olmsted, Redwood; Krider's subspecies (*B. j. kriderii*) reported from Blue Earth, Hennepin, Meeker; Northern subspecies (*B. j. abieticola*) reported from Dakota, Hennepin, Lake, McLeod, Redwood, St. Louis.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [24 North, 46 South] Reported from 70 counties, 15 fewer than last winter's record total. North high counts 12/18 Morrison (7, Little Falls CBC, SE sector) SEM, 12/10 Crow Wing (6, St. Mathias rice paddies) NSg, PSP, 12/2 St. Louis (5, Sax-Zim Bog) KWR. After December, reported from nine north counties, all of 1–3 individuals. All south counts were of 1–3 individuals. CBC high counts 12/18 Little Falls (15), 12/17 Rochester (10), Mankato (7), St. Cloud / Collegeville (6), 12/26 Northern Meeker County (6).
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [1 North, 18 South] One north report: 12/17 St. Louis, Duluth CBC (date approximate; count week). South reports from 18 counties, somewhat above the ten-year average (15). High count 12/9 Hennepin (3, East Mississippi River Flats, Minneapolis) TPu, ebd. Statewide, 3 red and 4 gray morphs were identified. CBC high count 12/18 Austin (2).
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [13 North, 40 South] Reported from 53 counties statewide, below the ten-year average (59). The only reports from Northwest and North-central regions were from Polk, Clay, Itasca, Aitkin. All north reports were of 1–2 individuals. South high counts 12/31 Washington (**5**) RMa, 1/9 Washington (4) ECL. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (8), 12/18 Austin (4).
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [8 North, 6 South] Reported from only 14 counties statewide, the lowest total since 2010 and 31 fewer than last winter; the ten-year average is 39. Many reports throughout the season from St. Louis, nearly all from Duluth International Airport (1–2 individuals). North high counts 2/20 Kittson (4, Kennedy/Donaldson area) ANy, DBz, 1/21 Polk (3, Sherack) SAU, JcJ. Reported from only six south counties: Benton, Dodge, Nicollet, Nobles, Stearns, Washington. South high count 2/25 Dodge (3, Ripley Twp.) KEm, JWH. All other south counties reported just singles. None were reported on any CBCs.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [2 North] Reported from only two counties: Lake, St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog). (This is considered a Sensitive Species in eBird and records are not public. This summary includes eBird records although they are not in the M.O.U. database.)
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [20 North, 33 South] Reported from 53 counties statewide, but the only reports from Northwest, West-central, and Southwest regions were from Becker, Clay, Otter Tail, Redwood. All north reports were of 1–2 individuals. South high counts 1/20 Carver (3) NWi, 1/26 Hennepin (3) BHW. CBC high counts 12/17 Excelsior (9), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (7), 12/17 West Hennepin (7), 12/18 Austin (6).
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [8 North] Reported from eight north counties: Beltrami, Carlton, Cook, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of

the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis. By far most reports were from St. Louis (up to 4, Sax-Zim Bog). Up to 3 reported Roseau; counts elsewhere were of 1–2 individuals. CBC high counts 1/1 Sax-Zim (3), 1/2 Roseau (2). (This is considered a Sensitive Species in eBird and records are not public. This summary includes eBird records although they are not in the M.O.U. database.)

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) — [1 North, 12 South] North report only from Clay. South reports from twelve counties: Anoka, Blue Earth, Dakota, Dodge, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Lyon, Meeker, Olmsted, Ramsey, Rice, Yellow Medicine. High counts were from Hennepin (4 at two locations). All reports away from Hennepin were of singles. CBC high count 12/17 Ortonville (2). (This is considered a Sensitive Species in eBird and records are not public. This summary includes eBird records although they are not in the M.O.U. database.)

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — [12 South] South reports from 12 counties. High count 12/3 Steele (4, Armstrong Wetland Restoration) JWL; other reports away from this location were singles. CBC high counts 12/17 Owatonna (3), Ortonville (2).

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) — [1 North] No reports for the first winter since 2015. This species was reported in seven of the previous ten winters.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [7 North, 11 South] Reported from seven north counties: Beltrami, Carlton, Clay, Cook, Hubbard, Lake, St. Louis (multiple locations). High count 2/27 Hubbard (3, Kabekona Lake) REn, RLF; all other north reports were of singles. South reports (all singles) from 11 counties, including 2/11 Le Sueur CZi. CBC high count 12/17 St. Paul (North) (2).

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [4 North, 29 South] Reported from 33 counties throughout the season, identical to ten-year average, predominantly from counties along Mississippi and Minnesota river corridors. All north reports after December: 1/2 Todd REn, RLF, 2/5 St. Louis SLF. Notable south record: 12/18 Yellow Medicine (Upper Sioux Agency S.P.) GWe. CBC high counts 12/17 St. Paul (North) (6), 1/1 Whitewater State Park (5), 12/17 Winona (4).

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes eryth-*

rocephalus) — [6 North, 14 South] Observed in 20 counties, a season-high record, although no reports west of Todd or north of Cass (ten-year average 11). Reports from many counties throughout January and February. Notable records: 12/4–30 Wright (Granite Lake) RBd, 12/11 Carver (Hancock Twp.) ebd, 12/18 Nicollet (Judson Bottom Rd.) APi, LiH, 12/27 Pine (Askov) KPJ, TJo, 1/1 Faribault (Barber Twp.) BAY, 1/2 Rice Lake N.W.R. CBC. High count 12/31 Houston (14, Reno Bottoms) SHo.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [27 North, 50 South] Reported from 77 counties, including all counties east of a line from Beltrami to Jackson (ten-year average 76). High count 12/15 Hennepin (11, Fort Snelling S.P.) ebd. CBC high counts 12/17 Bloomington (111), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (95), 12/17 Faribault (65).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [1 North, 10 South] Reported from 11 counties, well below last year's season-high of 17 (ten-year average nine). Only north report: 12/1 – 2/25 Otter Tail (Perham) ph. ebd. Notable south reports: 12/9, 12/17 Anoka (Circle Pines) ebd, 12/12 Le Sueur (St. Peter) BxP, 12/18 Granite Falls CBC, 2/18 Nicollet (Judson Bottom Rd.) APi, LiH. South reports after December from Dakota, Hennepin, Nicollet, Ramsey and Washington counties. No reports of more than two individuals.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [5 North] Reported from five counties along the Canadian border from Lake of the Woods to Cook, with vast majority of sightings from St. Louis (ten-year average three). No reports of more than two individuals.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Found in six North-central and Northeast counties with appropriate boreal habitat, similar to ten-year average of seven. High counts 12/11, 2/3 Lake (5, C.R. 2 near Stony Lake) StK, HTo, SeM, ebd. CBC high counts 1/1 Isabella (18), 1/3 Beltrami Island (9).

Downy Woodpecker (*Dryobates pubescens*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Chippewa and Red Lake. High counts 2/17 Anoka (20, Springbrook N.C.) ebd, 12/18 St. Louis (16, Sax-Zim Bog)



American Three-toed Woodpecker, 1 January 2023, Cook, St. Louis County. Photo by Trey Weaver.



Merlin, 18 February 2023, Creekside Park, Rushford Village, Fillmore County. Photo by Todd Mitchell.

ebd, 12/20 Martin (15) BTS, 1/31 Olmsted (15, Pine Island) ebd. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (229), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (212), 12/17 Bloomington (183).

Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Pope and Wilkin. High counts 12/2 St. Louis (14, Sax-Zim Bog) KWR, 12/19 St. Louis (14, Sax-Zim Bog) FJN, 12/31 Hennepin (14, Nine Mile Creek) ebd. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (92), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (84), 1/3 Ely (81).

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) — [13 North, 45 South] Reported from 58 counties throughout the season, establishing a new season-high (ten-year average 46). Notable records: 1/2 Roseau (Jadis Twp.) DvH, 2/10 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) PRH. One report of Red-shafted subspecies (*C. a. canescens*): 12/26 Hennepin (Bloomington feeder) ph. †DWN. Two reports of Red-shafted X Yellow-shafted intergrade: 1/23 St. Louis ebd, 1/26 Dakota ebd. High counts 12/17 Hennepin (8, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) GrN, 12/12 Stearns (7, Mississippi River C.P.) MhJ, 1/29 Renville (7, Sacred Heart) GWe. CBC high counts 12/24 Redwood Falls (28), 12/17 Bloomington

(22), 12/17 Faribault (18).

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [32 North, 43 South] Reported from 75 counties, similar to ten-year average of 72, with few reports from Southwest, as expected. High counts 1/1 Cass (8, 45-mile survey for Pillager CBC) DMz, 12/9 St. Louis (5, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 2/6 Fillmore (5, Forestville S.P.) ToM. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (48), 12/28 Detroit Lakes (37), 12/17 Duluth (32).

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) — [7 North, 43 South] Observed in 50 counties, below last winter's season-high of 59 counties (ten-year average 51). North reports 12/19 in Clay and Kanabec, then only 1/14 Pine KrM, 2/4 Clay ebd. New winter record 12/3 Grant (Herman) AaL, CLU. High count 1/29 Houston (3) ebd. CBC high counts 1/1 White-water State Park (9), 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (6).

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — [12 North, 34 South] Reported from 46 counties with at least one observation from every region. This total is almost the same as last year's season-high 47 counties and well above the ten-year average of 32. Unusual north reports 1/4 Lake of the Woods MJM, 1/15 Morrison BWF, 2/18

- Pennington (Thief River Falls) ebd. No reports of more than two birds.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [1 North, 11 South] Similar distribution as previous ten years including overwintering birds in St. Louis and ten counties along or near the Mississippi River corridor from Stearns to Houston, plus an unusual winter report 12/17 New Ulm CBC. All reports of one or two birds except 12/4 St. Louis (3, Duluth) JLK.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — No reports for fourth consecutive winter.
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius borealis*) — [32 North, 44 South] Observed in 76 counties including all north counties except Clearwater and Pennington (ten-year average 72). High counts 2/25 St. Louis (7, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 12/12 Aitkin (6) DFN, PEJ. CBC high counts 1/1 Sax-Zim (9), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (8), 12/17 Duluth (7).
- Canada Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [10 North] Found in 10 contiguous counties with boreal habitat (ten-year average 11). High count 1/23 St. Louis (20, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd. CBC high counts 1/3 Ely (41), 1/1 Sax-Zim (27), 12/31 Cook Area (20).
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all 87 counties. High counts 12/18 Morrison (91, Little Falls CBC, SE sector) SEm, 12/18 Morrison (57, Little Falls CBC, NE sector) DMz, 1/20 Carlton (50, multiple feeders in Wrenshall) ebd. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (302), 12/31 Hastings/Etter (267), 12/17 Faribault (262), 1/2 Long Prairie (262).
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [21 North] Found in 21 north counties, similar to the number of reporting counties from previous five years (ten-year average 19). Southernmost reports from Todd: 12/1 (Moran Twp.) TLu, 1/2 (Eagle Valley Twp.) DOr. High count 2/12 St. Louis (13) m.ob. CBC high counts 1/5 Newfolden (49), 1/4 Baudette (40), 1/2 Roseau (35).
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all 87 counties. High counts 1/19 Hennepin (1,500, Minneapolis) MMt, MWS, 2/7 St. Louis (1,000, Duluth) ebd. CBC high counts 12/17 Rochester (1,769), 12/17 Duluth (1,305), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (1,146).
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [31 North, 14 South] Reported from 45 counties, including all counties north of a line from Wilkin to Goodhue except Mahanomen (ten-year average 41). All high counts from Sax-Zim Bog including 1/1 St. Louis (70) ebd. CBC high counts 1/3 Ely (298), 12/17 Duluth (150), 12/31 Cook Area (124).
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all 87 counties. High count 12/19 St. Louis (116, Sax-Zim Bog) FJN. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (1,794), 12/31 Fredenberg (1,372), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (1,303).
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [9 North] Reported from all four Northeast counties plus Roseau, Koochiching, Itasca, Aitkin and Pine counties (ten-year average six). High count 2/11 St. Louis (7) ebd. CBC high count 1/1 Sax-Zim (8).
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [11 South] Reported from eleven south counties near Mississippi and St. Croix rivers as far north as Chisago, identical to the ten-year average. High counts 12/28 Houston (7, Reno) ebd, 2/20 Goodhue (6, Pine Island Twp.) ebd. CBC high counts 12/17 Rochester (15), 12/15 Red Wing (12), 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (10).
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [25 North, 53 South] Reports from 78 counties equaled last year's season-high, including from all south counties (ten-year average 69). Early season high counts 12/15 Lyon (610, total from several flocks) GWe, 12/9 Rock (300, Hardwick) TkL. Late season high count 2/26 Dodge (400, many flocks of up to 50 birds) NHa. CBC high counts 12/20 Fairmont (711), 12/30 Lambertson (632), 12/28 Morris (458).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Corthylio calendula*) — No winter season reports for the first time since 2015.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [5 North, 10 South] Reported from 15 widely scattered counties, the lowest number of reporting counties since 2013 when reported from only four counties (ten-year average 21). Notable records 12/3 Traverse (Lake View Cemetery) AaL, CLu, 1/4 Koochiching (south of Lindford) LHL. CBC high counts 12/24 Redwood Falls (5), 12/18 Granite Falls (3).
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [21 North, 2 South] Reported from 21 north

counties plus Isanti and Chisago counties in south (ten-year average 22). All south reports: 12/29 Chisago (Ivywood Trail) ELC, 1/14 Isanti (Spectacle Lake) LHL. High counts 12/17 St. Louis (1,100, Duluth) CIN, JDx, 1/15 St. Louis (500, Homestead Rd.) DnS, PNi. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (1,147), 1/2 Roseau (622), 12/18 Two Harbors (423).

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [28 North, 41 South] Found in a season-high 69 counties in all regions of the state, exceeding last year's season-high of 65 (ten-year average 54). High counts 12/8 Carver (300, Carver R.P.) BLz, 12/29 Redwood (284, Cedar Rock S.N.A.) ASu. CBC high counts 12/24 Redwood Falls (502), 12/17 Excelsior (474), 12/17 Bemidji (440).

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) — [31 North, 44 South] Reported statewide from 55 counties, although less frequently from prairie region, as expected (ten-year average 64). High counts 12/11 Washington (14, Pine Point R.P.) GWe, 2/9 St. Louis (11, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd. CBC high counts 1/3 Ely (207), 12/17 Duluth (99), 12/31 Fredenberg (84).

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county except Pope. High counts 12/31 Washington (25, tally from multiple feeders) RMa, 12/20 Martin (22) BTS, 1/16 Beltrami (19, Lake Bemidji S.P.) ebd. CBC high counts 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (359), 12/28 Detroit Lakes (194), 12/17 Excelsior (189).

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) — [22 North, 40 South] Found in 62 counties in all regions of the state, somewhat below the season-high of 70 counties reported in 2020 and 2021 (ten-year average 60). Unusual report: 1/2 Roseau CBC. High counts 12/29 Redwood (9, Cedar Rock S.N.A.) ASu, 1/26 Dakota (9, Spring Lake P.R.) MWT. CBC high counts 12/24 Redwood Falls (21), 12/31 Hastings/Etter (19), 12/17 Bloomington (15).

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [3 South] Found in the lowest number of reporting counties since winter 2016 when also seen in three counties (ten-year average 8). First county record 12/15 **Sibley** (Henderson) ph. *vide* ChH. All other south reports: 12/20 – 2/26 Winona (Scharmer Heights) ebd, 2/1 Ramsey (Battle Creek Place) ebd.

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [5 South]



Eastern Bluebird, 10 December 2022, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Linda Schwegman.

Reported from Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey and Rice in December, all likely late migrants. Only report after December and first winter record for the county was a likely overwintering individual 2/18 Nicollet (Judson Bottom Rd.) Api, LiH.

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) — No observations following two consecutive winters with one or two reports.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [1 South] No winter season reports for first time since 2010.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [2 North] Only two reports, both north: 12/17 Grand Marais CBC, 1/1 Hibbing CBC (ten-year average 6).

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) — For second straight year, no reports of this species that has been observed in four of the past ten winter seasons.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all 87 counties. High counts 12/30 Clay (2,000, Nugget Dump) TPu, 12/10 Dakota (2,000, SET-Empire) AnB, 12/14 Scott (1,500) TPu. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (1,309), 12/18 Little Falls (1,153) CBC, 12/15 Red Wing (1,044).

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [2 North, 24

South] Reported from 26 counties, close to ten-year average of 24. All north 12/12 Todd (3, Long Prairie) SDi, 12/17 Fargo/Moorhead CBC. Many January and February reports from several south counties. High counts 2/5 Dakota (22, Miesville Ravine P.R) MwT, 12/8 Scott (15, Minnesota Valley S.R.A., Lawrence Unit) BHe, 2/6 Goodhue (14, Miesville Ravine P.R.) KDS. CBC high counts 12/31 Hastings/Etter (15), 1/2 Zitkadan Wanyakapi (15), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (12).

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [4 North, 12 South] Reported from 12 widely scattered south counties plus Itasca, St. Louis, Lake, and Cook in the northeastern portion of the state (ten-year average 14). First county record 1/21 – 2/10 **Steele** (near Rice Lake S.P.) RiR, m.ob. High count 12/29 Redwood (3, Cedar Rock S.N.A.) ASu. CBC high count 12/24 Redwood Falls (4).

Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) — [2 North, 8 South] Reported from ten counties, including two in north, identical to ten-year average. Both north reports represent new county winter records: 12/9 Koochiching (Big Falls) AxB, 12/17 Carlton (Twin Lakes Twp.) AVa. New south winter record 12/16 Lyon (Lines W.M.A.) GWe. Midwinter reports from Dakota, Hennepin, Scott and Washington counties.

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) — [30 North, 48 South] Reported from 78 counties representing a new-season high, exceeding 71 counties in 2020 (ten-year average 63). High counts 2/22 Houston (1,000, along one mile stretch of C.R. 21) ebd, 12/29 Redwood (558, Cedar Rock S.N.A.) ASu, 1/24 Hennepin (546, Bass Ponds) DSh. CBC high counts 12/17 Mankato (1,274), 12/24 Redwood Falls (728), 12/17 Bloomington (701).

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [4 North, 3 South] Widely scattered reports from seven counties in eastern half of the state (ten-year average nine). All north 12/1 Cass (Walker) ebd, 12/1–3 Aitkin (female, Jacobson) ph. BLz, 12/3 Cook (Grand Marais) LWd, 12/18 Lake (male, Two Harbors) SLL, JWl. All south 12/31 – 1/2 Dakota (male, Ritter Farm Park) ebd, ph. KCl, m.ob., 1/1 Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) SHk, ebd, 1/28 Chisago (female, Almelund) MTe, 1/31 Dakota (Hastings) ebd.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties

except Clearwater and Watonwan. High counts 12/17 Douglas (504, Hoffman) ToR, 12/17 Hennepin (266, Seward, Minneapolis) BBr, ThW, 12/17 Jackson (250, Lakefield) KDS, GHo. CBC high counts 12/17 St. Paul (North) (1,358), 12/31 Hastings/Etter (1,335), 12/17 Jackson County (1,271).

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW (*Passer montanus*) — [3 South] Three reports of this species that has been observed in five consecutive winters, but only once in ten preceding years. All reports: 12/3 – 2/4 Goodhue JfF, ph. †KEm, m.ob., 12/31 Dakota †KDS, 1/1 – 2/18 Meeker (Dassel Twp.) PRH, m.ob.

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [15 North] Reported from 15 north counties, including all counties northeast of a line from Roseau to Pine, plus Becker (ten-year average 10). All high counts from Sax-Zim Bog including 1/16 St. Louis (220, McDavitt Rd.) ebd. CBC high counts 1/1 Sax-Zim (181), 12/31 Cook Area (180), 12/29 Aurora (175).

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [21 North] Reported from all counties north of a line from Pine to Polk except Kittson, Red Lake and Pennington, identical to ten-year average. No south reports. High counts 1/3 Roseau (150, Lost River S.F.) LHL, 12/19 Lake (100, Isabella) DHs, 12/31 St. Louis (88, Fredenberg CBC, section 2) FJN. CBC high counts 12/29 Aurora (311), 12/18 Two Harbors (269), 1/1 Hibbing (243).

House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [24 North, 48 South] Reported from all regions of the state in 72 counties (ten-year average 64). Unusual winter record: 2/19 Mahanomen (Waubun) ANy. High counts 12/17 Lyon (75, Marshall) GWe, 2/3 Stevens (72, Morris) ebd, 12/18 Morrison (63, Little Falls CBC, NE section) DMz. CBC high counts 12/17 Rochester (337), 12/17 Owatonna (292), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (263).

Purple Finch (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [30 North, 45 South] Seen in all regions of the state from a season-high 75 counties (ten-year average 58). High counts 1/4 St. Louis (45, Meadowlands Twp.) IaG, 2/20 Carlton (45, Moose Lake) LiH, 12/31 Lyon (40, Green Valley W.M.A.) GWe. CBC high counts 12/18 Cedar Creek Bog (50), 12/28 Detroit Lakes (41), 12/19 Hendricks (40).

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) — [23 North, 16 South] Following last year's inva-

sion when reported from all 87 counties, only observed in 39 counties this year with no reports from Southwest and only from Rice in South-central (ten-year average 58). High counts 12/11 Lake (430, Stony River F.R.) StK, HTo, SeM, 1/26 Koochiching (300, C.R. 30) ASu, 12/17 St. Louis (252, H.R.N.R.) StK, SNe. CBC high counts 12/17 Duluth (496), 12/20 Itasca State Park (417), 1/1 Isabella (354).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemannii*) — [4 North] Reported only from four north counties, the lowest number since 2017 when there were no reports (ten-year average 24). Multiple reports from St. Louis County beginning 1/3 Ely CBC, then from Cook, Sax-Zim Bog, and Ely, with last report 2/26 (two locations in Sax-Zim Bog) LSw, TSk, BrT. All other reports: 1/3 Lake (Spruce Rd.) JWl, 1/31 Koochiching (U.S. 71, southwest of Margie) AxB, ebd, 2/19 Lake of the Woods (Williams) ebd. No reports of more than two individuals.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [10 North, 4 South] Reported from 14 counties, below ten-year average of 18. Scattered south reports, all from East-central region: 12/4 Anoka (12, Mississippi West R.P.) CF, 12/5 – 2/26 Ramsey (Sucker and Vadnais lakes) DnS, m.ob., 12/17 Ramsey (St. Paul) LiH, Chisago (near Wild River S.P.) MTe, 1/2 Chisago (2, Sunrise Twp.) ELC, 1/8 Anoka (Bunker Hills Golf Club) ebd, 1/14 Isanti (7, west of Isanti) LHi, 2/20 Chisago (Harris) LiH. High counts 2/4 St. Louis (27, Hegman Lake) ebd, 1/3 Lake of the Woods (26) JMj, 1/26 Lake (15, Isabella) ebd. CBC high counts 1/3 Beltrami Island (26), 12/31 Fredenberg (9).

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [8 North, 1 South] Reported from nine counties, the lowest total since 2013 and well below the ten-year average (25). Only south reports 12/5, 12/19 Meeker (max. 6, Dassel) PKF. High counts 2/18 Cook (80, Grand Marais) ebd, m.ob., 1/2 Roseau (60) JMj. CBC high counts 1/2 Roseau (50), 12/17 Grand Marais (39), 1/4 Baudette (28).

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [15 North, 17 South] Observed in 32 counties, the lowest total since 2013 and well below the ten-year average of 52. High counts 12/31 Cook (359, counted from photograph, Gunflint Trail) ebd, 2/5 St. Louis (250, Ely) ebd, 1/15 Koochiching (90, C.R. 13) RLF, REN. CBC high

counts 12/19 Bluestem Prairie / Buffalo River SP (84), 12/21 Tamarac NWR (32), 12/18 Grand Rapids (30).

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [32 North, 48 South] Reported statewide throughout the season from 80 counties (ten-year average 71). High counts 1/1 St. Louis (120, French Twp.) ebd, 1/17 St. Louis (100, Meadowlands Twp.) IaG, 1/28 Clay (100, Cromwell Twp.) PBB. CBC high counts 12/17 St. Paul (North) (462), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (431), 1/3 Ely (411).

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [6 North, 32 South] Observed in 38 counties, the lowest total since 2014, with no reports from the North-central or Northeast (ten-year average 51). High counts 12/9 Rock (100, Mound Twp.) TkL, 12/8 Houston (75, Caledonia Twp.) ASu, ebd, 12/19 Winona (50, Fremont Twp.) ToM. CBC high counts 12/17 New Ulm (310), 12/20 Fairmont (33), 12/15 Lac qui Parle (25).

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Clearwater. High counts 2/10 Freeborn (1,000, Hayward Twp.) ebd, 1/1 Yellow Medicine (900, Tyson Lake) GWe, 12/30 Polk (500, Euclid Twp.) TPu. CBC high counts 12/17 Jackson County (1,413), 12/17 Kensington (1,301), 12/16 Cottonwood (962).

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) — [1 North, 3 South] Four December observations with descriptions or photos. Only north: 12/15, **12/20** Itasca (Grand Rapids) SC. All south: 12/11 Ramsey (St. Paul) ebd, 12/15 Goodhue (Belvidere Twp.) †KDS, GHo, 12/16–17 Hennepin (Eden Prairie) ChP, ebd.

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) — [3 South] Three south reports, the sixth consecutive winter with observations. All sightings: 12/4 Scott (Jordan) ph. BAB, 12/17 Olmsted (Oronoco) JWH, LAV, †LHL, 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent CBC.

Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) — [3 North, 9 South] Reported from 12 widely scattered counties with no reports from Northeast or North-central (ten-year average 14). All north: 12/15 Otter Tail TFu, 12/17 Fargo/Moorhead CBC, 12/18 Morrison (Pike Hills Dairy) MJB. January south observations through 1/28 Hennepin (Minneapolis) ebd, through 1/31 Ramsey (2–4, Roseville) SPS, and 1/8–13 Steele (Owatonna) DAB. CBC high count

- 12/20 Fairmont (5).
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizelloides arborea*) — [23 North, 52 South] Observed in 75 counties, including all south counties except Pope (ten-year average 66). New winter record: 1/2 Roseau (Jadis Twp.) DvH. High counts 12/20 Martin (100, Pierce Lake W.P.A.) KEm, 1/2 Scott (96, Mystic Lake Casino Hotel) ebd. CBC high counts 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (413), 12/17 Rochester (340), 12/17 Faribault (221).
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported from all counties except Clearwater, Lake of the Woods, Pope, and Watonwan. High counts 12/31 Dakota (145) ADS, 1/19 Fillmore (80, Rushford) ToM, 12/30 Wabasha (72, West Albany Twp.) MNb. CBC high counts 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (1,319), 12/17 Rochester (906), 12/17 Winona (819). *Oreganus* group reported from 6 north and 19 south counties, spanning the season.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [3 North, 10 South] Observed in 13 counties, equaling last winter's season-high total (ten-year average 7). Three north reports: 12/15 Polk (Crookston) ebd, 12/16 Pennington JMJ, 12/17 Fergus Falls CBC, 2/18 Nicollet (city of Nicollet) APi, LiH. Birds reported in February from Dakota, Fillmore, Hennepin, Meeker, Nicollet, and Olmsted. No reports of more than two birds.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [3 North, 21 South] Reported from a season-high 24 counties, surpassing previous high of 21 seen in 2021 (ten-year average 13). All north reports: 12/6 Clay (Moorhead) ebd, 12/17 Fergus Falls CBC, 12/18, 12/26, 1/7 Lake (Two Harbors) JWJ, SLL. Overwintered in Brown, Fillmore, Mower, Olmsted, and present at least through mid February in Kandiyohi and Nicollet counties. High count 12/25 Lyon (6, Marshall) RJJS. CBC high counts 12/20 Fairmont (10), 12/17 Marshall (7).
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [9 North, 26 South] Reported from 35 counties in all regions of the state except West-central (ten-year average 32). New season record 12/9 Lincoln (Royal Twp.) TkL. High count 1/24 Dakota (4, Lakeville) ebd. CBC high counts 12/17 Mankato (7), 12/17 Bloomington (6), 12/17 Rochester (5).
- LeConte's Sparrow** (*Ammospiza leconteii*) — [1 South] First winter record for state: 12/17 Hennepin (Hogback Marsh, Bass Ponds) ph. ELS.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [1 South] Observed for the fifth consecutive winter: 1/2–4 Carver (Carver P.R.) ANy, ph. TWe, ph. JWZ.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [31 South] South county reports only exceeded by winter 2018 (32), yet no north reports for the first winter since 2008. High counts 12/21 Olmsted (5, St. Charles) ebd, 1/7 Washington (4, Stillwater) GWe. CBC high counts 12/20 Fairmont (10), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (7), 12/17 Bloomington (5).
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [1 South] Observed for fifth time in the past ten years and a first winter county record: 12/11 Dakota (140th St. Marsh) RBW.
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [11 South] Found in ten counties along the Mississippi River watershed as far north as Washington, and 12/20 Fairmont CBC (ten-year average seven). After 1/1 only reported from multiple locations in Hennepin, where apparently overwintered.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [1 North, 4 South] Reports from five counties nearly equaled the previous season-high of six from 2020, marking the seventh consecutive winter with at least one record for this species. New winter records from four counties were all feeder visitors: 12/1 – 2/28+ Meeker (Dassel) ph. PKF, m.ob., 12/9 – 1/11 Becker (Detroit Lakes, seen intermittently) NaH, 1/1 Faribault (Minnesota Lake) ChH, ph. †KEm, 1/23–28 Brown (New Elm) MTW, m.ob.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [2 North, 3 South] Reports from five counties equals highest winter total (2010). All north 1/2 Todd (Long Prairie) REn, RLF, SDi, ebd, 1/6 Cook (Tofte Twp.) ph. ThS. All south 12/1 – 2/16 Dakota (Lakeville, continuing from November) ebd, m.ob., 2/15 Chippewa WGe, 2/25 Kandiyohi (Sibley S.P.) ebd.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [1 South] First report since 2019 for this species seen during about one-half of winter seasons: 12/15 Lyon (2, Green Valley W.M.A.) GWe.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — No reports with sufficient details. **Note:** Meadowlarks observed in winter season should

include information detailing how identification was established, especially descriptions of any vocalizations. Without details, winter meadowlarks are best left at the genus level.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [1 North, 6 South] All reports with sufficient details: north 12/10 Polk HHu; south 12/2 Murray KEm, 12/11 Winona ToM, 12/14 Steele BLz, 1/11 – 2/28 Benton HHD, m.ob., 1/15 Lyon GWe, 1/21 – 2/14 Washington PNi, DnS.

Sturnella meadowlark (*Sturnella* sp.) — [2 North, 6 South] Nine reports of silent meadowlarks.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) — [1 South] Reported for sixth time in the past ten years: 12/7 Olmsted (Rochester, first-year male) ebd.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [10 North, 37 South] Reported from 47 counties in all regions of the state except North-central (ten-year average 44). Only Northeast reports were 1/3 Carlton-Cloquet CBC, Ely CBC (3). High counts 12/15 Lyon (750, Green Valley W.M.A.) GWe, 12/12 Kandiyohi (150) JWd, 12/16 Mower (150) SWm. CBC high counts 12/20 Fairmont (141), 1/2, Mountain Lake / Windom (131), 12/30 Lamberton (40).

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) — [7 South] Observed in seven south counties, similar to ten-year average of nine. Only reports after December: 1/1 – 2/26 Dakota (Hampton feedlot) m.ob. High count 12/30 Dakota (17) CRe. CBC high counts 12/31 Hastings/Etter (24), 12/17 Mankato (14).

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [1 North, 8 South] Only north report 12/13 Clay (Humboldt Twp.) ebd. Only report after early January: 2/17 Wabasha (West Albany Twp.) MNb (possible early migrant?). High count 12/15 Lyon (25, Green Valley W.M.A.) GWe; all other tallies were of three or fewer birds. CBC high counts 12/20 Fairmont (5), 12/17 Marshall (4).

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [1 South] Only report of this species that has been seen during five of the past ten winters: 12/18 Austin CBC (4).

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [14 North, 28 South] Reported from 42 counties in all regions of the state (ten-year average 34). High counts 2/23 Hennepin (30, Minneapolis) ebd, 12/15 Lyon (15, Green Valley



Fox Sparrow, 31 January 2023, Roseville, Ramsey County. Photo by Steve Stucker.

W.M.A.) GWe. CBC high counts 12/17 Mankato (60), 12/17 Winona (26), 12/17 La Crosse / La Crescent (25).

Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*) — [1 North] One record-late north report of this species that has been seen in three out of the past ten winter seasons: **12/31** St. Louis (Island Lake feeder; bird reportedly present all month) ph. FJN.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) — [1 North, 7 South] Found in eight counties, mostly near Mississippi and St. Croix river watersheds. New winter record and only north report: 12/5 Norman (Gary Pines Rest Area) HeH, ShG. Only reports after December: 2/4, 2/10 Wabasha PNi, DnS, 2/6–7 Goodhue (Miesville Ravine P.R.) KDS, 2/25 Fillmore (3, Root River Trail, Lanesboro to Whalen) ebd. No reports of more than three individuals.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) — [2 South] Eighth and ninth winter records, and the first season with more than one report: 12/2 Anoka MAJ, **1/1** Mower (Lansing Twp., record late) ph. PMM.

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [25 North, 50 South] Reported from all regions of the state. High counts 12/17 Hennepin (50, Hyland Lake P.R.) MKp, ebd 12/31 Dakota (31) ADS. CBC high counts 12/17 Faribault (290), 12/31 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (252), 12/17 St. Paul (North) (243).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — No reports of this species seen in six out of the last ten winters.

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The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

Steve Weston

Despite horrible weather, the 123rd Audubon Christmas Bird Count (2022–2023 season) for Minnesota gathered a record number of participants, who went out and found birds to count. The total number of birds (287,258) was down 9% from the previous year and 132 species was down from 135. While both numbers were above the ten-year average, that probably reflects the growth in the number of counts. Unusual reports included a first Minnesota winter record of a LeConte's Sparrow photographed on the Bloomington count. There were 15 first county winter records (vs 11 last year). The steadily increasing populations of Trumpeter Swans, Wild Turkeys, and Eurasian Collared-Doves all set new records, as did Ring-necked Pheasants, Sharp-shinned Hawks, Horned Larks, Merlins, Downy and Black-backed woodpeckers, Northern Flickers, and House Finches. In all, it was a mostly good year for upland game birds, woodpeckers, feeder birds, and sparrows, and a poor year for waterfowl and owls.

Data in this summary is only for Minnesota and does not include participation and birds from outside the state in border counts. Eighty-eight of ninety counts reported data, a new record. Two counts were canceled because of bad weather, with one of the counts snowed out twice. Three new counts were established: Ortonville, West Hennepin County, and Minneapolis West.

Weather for the 123rd count in Minnesota could be characterized in one word: horrible. The 2022/2023 winter in Minnesota was one of the snowiest on record. December started out as “beautiful” for the southern two-thirds of the state until the storms hit on the first days of the count. Ten out of 42 counts in the first four days of the count were postponed or canceled. One that was postponed was canceled when the second date's forecast was just as bad. When Paul Egeland went out on December 16th, he described it as “probably the worst weather I



LeConte's Sparrow, Bloomington CBC, 17 December 2022. Photo by Elizabeth Steiner.

have had on this count [in 57 years] with ice and blowing snow and high winds.” And, on the count the day before, the weather “was close to the worst we have had.” This is the only count period that I have seen in recent years where every count had snow on the ground and the lakes were frozen or mostly frozen. Only 13 counts had temperatures above freezing and the high temperature reported for all counts was one that hit 40 degrees. The deep snow hindered travel by foot, and the poor weather cut the number of participants and the number of hours in the field.

Despite the weather, the total of 2,132 participants set a new high. This total included 552 feeder watchers, a decrease from the last two years. The average participation per count was 24.2 people, slightly off from last year's 24.7. Eleven counts reported more than 60 participants, compared to only six last year. St. Paul North reported over 100 participants. While nine counts reported that all surveying was by car, the rest had people on foot, and on nine counts people were also out on snowshoes, skis, snowmobiles, and/or bicycles.

There were 164 reports which required additional review, compared to 143 and 180 in the previous two years. Sixteen sightings were

not accepted because of inadequate or no documentation and one report because the bird was a probable domestic escapee. Three other sightings were withdrawn as either obvious misidentifications or data-entry errors. One report of swan sp. was upgraded to Trumpeter Swans. Several reports of unexpectedly high counts were all confirmed.

Similar to the last two years, twenty-nine species of waterfowl were reported. With the exception of Trumpeter Swan and Common Goldeneye, waterfowl species that usually are abundant were far less so this year. The 25,675 Canada Geese — our most abundant count bird — were 38% below the ten-year average, while the 20,815 Mallards were only 8% below the ten-year average. For the second straight year, Trumpeter Swans hit a new record high (5,904), which was over 25% above last year's record. Usually our third most common species, the Common Merganser had the lowest numbers in five years (2,112). This total is probably misleading as thousands more were just outside the circle on the Mississippi River on the Red Wing count. Interestingly, other diving ducks tended to be found in slightly above average numbers, while dabbling ducks were about average to significantly below average. This was probably indicative of shallow waters being frozen, but significantly more open deep water.

It was a good year for upland game birds. Six of the seven species were above the ten-year average, with only Ruffed Grouse having an off year. For the second consecutive year, Wild Turkeys (at 6,176 counted) in a row hit a record that was almost 50% above the ten-year average. Ring-necked Pheasants, the second most common count bird in this group, also hit a record with 4,146, almost 275% above the ten-year average. Turkeys were — like last year — found on 84% of the counts, while pheasants were found on 65% of the counts. Other upland game bird numbers were high, and Gray Partridge were the highest in 17 years, although still a shadow of the numbers from 35 to 50 years ago when there were far fewer counters.

The number of Bald Eagles (1,645) was the lowest in five years, but still above the ten-year average. Red-tailed Hawks (503), the second most common hawk, hit the lowest level in fifteen years, while Rough-legged Hawks (122), the next most common, hit the lowest level in nine years. Sharp-shinned Hawk numbers

(77) were at a record high, while Cooper's Hawk numbers (54) were just below last year's record high. Golden Eagles, Northern Harriers, and American Goshawks were all close to the ten-year average, while Red-shouldered Hawks were about half that average. The 24 Merlins was a record, while the count of 53 American Kestrels was well below expected.

It was an off year for owls. Great Horned and Eastern Screech-Owls were both reported at half the ten-year average, while Barred Owls were above that average. For the first time in almost 60 years, there were more Barred Owls reported than Great Horned Owls. Only 23 individuals were reported for all the other five species of owls seen. Only one count week Snowy Owl and no Northern Hawk or Boreal owls were reported in the state. A Long-eared Owl found on the Ortonville count represented a first winter record for that county.

Herring Gulls were exactly at the ten-year average and represented 94% of the five species of gulls reported on the count. A sixth species was reported on count week. All the gulls were found on eight counts on Lake Superior and along the Mississippi River. Eurasian Collared-Doves (732) were reported at record levels for the third year in a row. Rock Pigeons (17,102) were found on all but three of the counts, and were 10% above the ten-year average. Mourning Doves (1,598) were 14% above the ten-year average.

This was the third consecutive good year for woodpeckers. Of the five common species, Downy Woodpeckers (4,702) and Northern Flickers (308) hit record numbers, while the other three (Hairy, Red-bellied, and Pileated) had their second highest counts. Downys and Hairys were found on every count, while Pileated were found on all but eight counts in the southwest of the state. The four other woodpecker species totaled only 45 birds. With a bad acorn crop, the few Red-headed Woodpeckers were at only one-tenth their average. Black-backed Woodpeckers hit record numbers, which still was only 37 for the state.

For a second year in a row, it was a peak year for Horned Larks, which set a new record level at 5,706. Snow Buntings had their fourth highest numbers, but it was a down year for Lapland Longspurs, having less than half their average. Horned Larks were mostly in the southwest. Snow Buntings were widely

reported, but more abundant in the western two-thirds of the state. Seventy percent of the Lapland Longspurs were reported on the New Ulm count.

The three common corvid species (American Crow, Blue Jay, and Common Raven) were reported with above ten-year average numbers, although they are still below the pre-West Nile numbers per participant. Black-billed Magpies were also above average, while Canada Jay numbers were again low. Both crows and Blue Jays were found on all counts, while Common Ravens were found on half the counts. The high Blue Jay numbers run counter to the theory that their count can be positively correlated to the quality of the acorn crop, which was down this year in many areas.

Northern Shrikes had a peak year and were found on three-quarters of the state's counts. Black-capped Chickadees and both species of nuthatches were found at higher than the ten-year average numbers, while Brown Creepers were at about average. The chickadees were found on all counts and White-breasted Nuthatches were found on all but one count. Tufted Titmouse numbers reveal an increase in range. For the last ten years they have been reported on average on 13% of the state counts, whereas for the decade 20 years ago they were reported on 8%, and 30 years ago on less than 5% of the state counts.

Thrush numbers were strong, with American Robins at their third highest and Eastern Bluebird at their second highest peak. Hermit Thrushes were first winter county records, reported on both Lyon County counts. Both waxwing numbers were up this year with Cedar Waxwings at their third highest peak and Bohemian Waxwings at their fifth highest peak. Bohemians were concentrated in the northeast and Cedar Waxwings were spread through much of the rest of the state. Both were reported on the Duluth CBC and on two neighboring counts. European Starling numbers were below average. House Sparrow numbers were high for the last two decades, but considerably below numbers in the 1990s. For the sixth count in the last decade, a Eurasian Tree Sparrow was reported.

While Dark-eyed Junco numbers dropped over 32% from last year's record, they were still the fourth highest count ever. American Tree Sparrows numbers peaked at the highest in the last ten years. The juncos and tree sparrows

represented more than 99% of the 13 species of sparrows reported. The less common sparrows included first winter county records of Chipping Sparrows on two Goodhue County counts, a Fox Sparrow on the Little Falls count, Spotted Towhees on the Detroit Lakes, Northern Meeker, and Fargo / Moorhead counts, an Eastern Towhee on three other counts, and Minnesota's first winter record of a LeConte's Sparrow on the Bloomington count.

Despite increases over the last year to the highest numbers in five years, Red-winged Blackbirds and Brown-headed Cowbirds were still below the ten-year averages. Common Grackles increased over 700% from last year. The other seven species of blackbirds reported included small numbers of Yellow-headed Blackbirds, meadowlarks, Brewer's Blackbirds, and Rusty Blackbirds. Northern Cardinal numbers were just below the record high of two years ago. Only one warbler was reported — a Pine Warbler on the Fredenberg count.

Eight of Minnesota's ten expected species of finches have characteristic irruptive bursts into the state in winter. Some years they are here in great numbers and some years they are nearly entirely absent. The two non-irruptive species: House Finch (4,853) had record numbers and American Goldfinch had their second highest count. Purple Finches and Evening and Pine grosbeaks were reported in above average numbers. The other five species experienced off years and did not come south into Minnesota.

A complete table of the results of the 123rd Christmas Bird Count in Minnesota (includes data from outside of Minnesota from border counts) is available at: https://moumn.org/CBC/coordinator_yearend_table.php?year=2022&main

For Minnesota data only, which was used in this summary: https://moumn.org/CBC/coordinator_yearend_table.php?year=2022&main&mn

A table showing what sightings were reviewed, what documentation was received, eBird postings, and whether reports were accepted is available for download at: <http://moumn.org/CBC/documents/MN%20CBC%20123%20Birds%20for%20Review.htm>

Images of birds submitted for documentation (and not on eBird) are available at: http://moumn.org/CBC/recent.php?count_year=123.

Eagan, MN.

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Afton	Albert Lea	Alexandria	Aurora	Austin	Battle Lake	Baudette	Bemidji	Bloomington	Beltrami Island	Bluestem Prairie/ Buffalo River SP	Cedar Creek Bog	Cook Area	Cottonwood	Carlton-Cloquet
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	165/683	-	13	-	1177	3	-	1	900	-	-	2	-	434	-
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	159/301	7	252	-	-	1203	-	17	140	-	-	20	-	20	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	0/1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	207/680	86	390	-	118	3	-	54	1264	-	1	4	-	4	-
American Black Duck	0/2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	214/314	-	3	-	-	13	-	19	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	317/1310	-	1	-	-	3	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	3	-
Red-breasted Merganser	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	69/120	196	164	15	119	153	-	22	33	-	126	234	8	-	65
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	2	3	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	1	10	-	4
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	2	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	13	-	-	29	-	-	-	7	-	1	-	-
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	234	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	24/48	36	132	-	50	14	-	-	-	-	451	38	-	105	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	268/314	263	300	164	183	125	38	114	349	-	131	64	248	103	299
Eurasian Collared-Dove	3	(1)	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	78	-	-
Mourning Dove	8/35	1	5	-	20	1	2	-	3	-	-	85	-	2	15
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	0/1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
Cooper's Hawk	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	1	-
American Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Bald Eagle	17/23	6	9	3	26	15	4	35	84	-	15	42	12	2	7
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	8/13	18	3	-	13	1	-	-	23	-	1	7	-	1	-
Rough-legged Hawk	3	1	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	-	1	-
buteo sp.	0/1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-
Great Horned Owl	1	-	(1)	-	4	(1)	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	1	(1)
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	1	-	1	-	6	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	-	1
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	1/2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	1	1	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	42/52	29	46	-	28	28	-	7	111	-	7	24	2	7	17

Table 1. Minnesota CBC totals. Two numbers separated by a slash are totals for Minnesota only, followed by totals for the entire circle. Numbers in parentheses indicate count-week observations.

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Afton	Albert Lea	Alexandria	Aurora	Austin	Battle Lake	Baudette	Bemidji	Bloomington	Beltrami Island	Bluestem Prairie/ Buffalo River SP	Cedar Creek Bog	Cook Area	Cottonwood	Carlton-Cloquet
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	4	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	87/110	48	85	5	72	55	11	20	183	2	33	84	24	13	35
Hairy Woodpecker	39/47	15	26	22	19	17	11	21	65	7	25	27	31	9	43
Northern Flicker	4/5	1	1	-	1	4	-	-	22	-	3	9	-	1	-
Pileated Woodpecker	18/23	1	20	4	2	20	4	16	15	2	6	17	5	-	23
woodpecker sp.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
American Kestrel	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Merlin	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	2/3	-	6	2	1	3	-	4	5	-	4	2	1	(1)	3
Canada Jay	-	-	-	9	-	-	2	-	-	19	-	-	20	-	-
Blue Jay	133/179	194	176	92	107	231	101	256	120	9	155	113	234	17	177
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	4	-	-	40	26	-	-	4	-	4	-	-
American Crow	313/456	201	170	95	352	179	71	259	421	1	75	159	61	35	146
Common Raven	-	-	1	61	-	1	98	65	-	15	7	6	124	-	93
Black-capped Chickadee	280/357	176	580	361	104	383	305	470	538	62	95	405	393	22	496
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	5/7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	-	6	12	-	50	39	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	282	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	154	-	-	85	113	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	38/82	-	(1)	1	-	12	-	440	34	-	55	39	-	32	25
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	12/15	3	17	17	4	14	14	55	5	15	5	19	41	4	46
White-breasted Nuthatch	110/119	59	152	12	51	105	17	63	165	1	28	77	27	1	44
Brown Creeper	1	1	1	-	3	2	-	-	15	-	-	1	-	4	-
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	122/194	157	274	97	331	219	24	224	182	-	674	10	81	96	72
Eastern Bluebird	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	2	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
American Robin	113/163	8	34	-	3	8	-	12	701	-	11	11	-	4	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	110/215	479	446	51	502	263	22	29	672	-	492	37	54	296	2
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	bird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	175	-	-	114	4	-	-	-	-	180	-	13
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	311	-	-	145	19	-	67	-	-	153	-	172
House Finch	54/83	70	70	-	-	24	1	-	129	-	30	59	-	23	-
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	20/28	2	26	1	2	40	-	18	-	-	13	50	-	13	(1)
Common Redpoll	-	-	38	117	-	3	81	78	-	169	1	1	129	-	8
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	14	84	-	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	77/112	37	83	81	63	59	10	198	330	1	55	293	328	-	83
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	16	-
Snow Bunting	-	-	104	-	584	105	76	127	-	-	651	-	-	962	(1)
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	76/83	156	64	-	169	21	1	5	93	-	101	30	-	16	-
Dark-eyed Junco	308/496	134	79	-	276	81	-	23	410	-	98	103	-	37	1
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco (cismontanus)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LeConte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
meadowlark sp.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	5	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	30	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	1	14	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	97/140	68	57	-	86	17	-	-	234	-	1	68	-	6	11

Total Count (132/135 species seen)	44/47	39	39	27	46	42	29	40	50	17	45	43	29	40	29
Individual Count	3544/6843	2490	3844	1871	4583	3478	1338	2843	7351	422	3750	2154	2181	2687	1906

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Crosby	Detroit Lakes	Duluth	Ellsworth, WI	Ely	Excelsior	Fairbault	Fergus Falls	Fredenberg	Fargo–Moorhead	Fairmont	Grand Forks East Grand Forks	Glacial Ridge	Greenwald	Granite Falls
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	-	4	6	12 / 102	-	1112	1506	184	-	2505 / 2647	180	125	-	(1)	158
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	-	16	-	84 / 86	-	312	8	54	-	1 / 8	17	-	-	22	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	-	340	1171	20 / 57	-	1733	488	52	-	357 / 364	2	3 / 5	-	37	56
American Black Duck	-	-	20	-	-	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	82	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	-	62	300	3	104	-	71	61	11 / 12	-	3	-	-	9
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	3	26	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	1	1
Common Merganser	-	-	1	0 / 1	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	19	57	2	0 / 44	-	75	74	47	7	168 / 256	17	-	120	-	57
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	1	7	-	12	-	-	34	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 12	47	-	-
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 / 161	-	0 / 141	22	2	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	10	-	0 / 19	-	1	21	9	-	0 / 1	166	0 / 14	-	77	67
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	21	137	1025	0 / 240	186	102	138	254	47	43 / 394	101	26 / 365	188	208	115
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	9	-	-	-	-	14	43	-	2 / 26	26	0 / 2	-	21	9
Mourning Dove	2	-	13	0 / 21	5	77	121	2	-	-	3	-	-	3	22
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	516	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	1	(1)	0 / 2	-	1	4	2	-	0 / 2	-	-	-	-	2
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	4	2	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
American Goshawk	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	8	7	44	10 / 42	4	42	36	11	14	13 / 35	13	1 / 5	4	11	21
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	(1)	0 / 6	-	12	15	-	-	0 / 1	6	0 / 2	-	5	3
Rough-legged Hawk	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	0 / 1	2	0 / 4	-	2	-
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	-	-	(1)	-	-	2	-	-	2	0 / 1	2	0 / 3	-	1	1
Snowy Owl	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	-	(1)	1	-	-	9	1	-	2	1	1	-	-	1	-
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	0 / 2	-	1	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	14	38	29	0 / 13	1	61	65	19	-	8 / 18	32	-	3	16	21

Table 1, continued.

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Crosby	Detroit Lakes	Duluth	Elsworth, WI	Ely	Excelsior	Fairbault	Fergus Falls	Fredenberg	Fargo–Moorhead	Fairmont	Grand Forks East Grand Forks	Glacial Ridge	Greenwald	Granite Falls	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	30	62	85	0 / 27	52	151	151	27	101	41 / 91	80	4 / 29	4	22	44	
Hairy Woodpecker	17	41	75	1 / 6	81	52	56	20	71	32 / 59	19	4 / 24	7	9	26	
Northern Flicker	-	7	3	-	-	-	18	-	-	3 / 13	3	0 / 1	1	-	17	
Pileated Woodpecker	11	37	32	1 / 2	22	20	7	9	22	2 / 5	1	0 / 2	6	7	6	
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	0 / 2	-	-	-	2	-	-
Merlin	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	1 / 3	1	0 / 1	-	1	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	-	2	7	-	1	3	1	3	5	3 / 11	-	0 / 2	1	6	-	-
Canada Jay	-	-	-	-	41	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	208	197	89	1 / 106	183	121	262	80	121	38 / 90	105	7 / 27	37	62	57	-
Black-billed Magpie	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	30	-	-	-
American Crow	44	118	1305	3 / 268	38	272	529	86	74	42 / 347	156	32 / 374	50	87	278	-
Common Raven	15	13	150	-	298	1	-	-	86	0 / 1	-	0 / 1	8	-	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	505	460	1794	0 / 60	783	757	331	235	1372	125 / 295	169	27 / 82	66	68	102	-
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	-	1	-	0 / 18	-	-	49	17	-	5 / 12	711	0 / 6	-	177	147	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	0 / 3	-	-	-	-	3	-
Bohemian Waxwing	10	-	1147	-	60	-	-	-	342	-	-	0 / 3	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	79	17	140	-	-	474	36	13	33	14 / 155	91	6 / 13	-	49	33	-
waxwing sp.	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	44	20	99	-	207	8	10	3	84	0 / 3	4	3 / 12	-	5	3	-
White-breasted Nuthatch	81	194	87	0 / 18	27	189	96	42	92	54 / 120	67	4 / 22	18	31	48	-
Brown Creeper	2	1	-	-	(1)	11	5	1	-	3 / 5	7	(1)	-	1	8	-
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	123	178	1309	0 / 120	109	142	309	215	32	47 / 982	360	42 / 102	27	409	322	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	5 / 9	-	-	-	-	3	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	14	3	117	-	1	160	106	3	2	13 / 87	2	0 / 16	-	2	23	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	93	335	87	0 / 121	27	184	306	304	40	230 / 1055	809	82 / 150	-	345	304	-
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
bird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	137	-	110	-	-	-	163	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	2	89	-	227	-	-	-	236	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Finch	6	46	55	0 / 14	-	191	253	98	-	129 / 306	123	52 / 145	-	33	37	-
finch sp.	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	10	41	2	0 / 2	-	24	33	20	4	8 / 21	13	0 / 12	6	1	26	-
Common Redpoll	36	14	496	-	216	-	13	-	162	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	2	3	2	-	-	2	3	-	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	67	58	394	0 / 28	411	246	185	28	177	85 / 203	77	27 / 72	-	13	21	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	0 / 2	33	0 / 2	-	3	10	-
Snow Bunting	-	53	10	0 / 1	-	-	74	65	1	14 / 92	342	0 / 172	426	46	136	-
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	1
American Tree Sparrow	6	6	1	0 / 67	-	173	221	2	-	0 / 13	215	-	-	6	169	-
Dark-eyed Junco	11	51	33	0 / 395	8	261	429	68	1	55 / 341	185	69 / 174	8	59	156	-
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco (cismontanus)	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	0 / 4	10	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	(1)	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	0 / 26	1	0 / 1	-	-	-	-
LeConte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	10	-	-	1	2	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	-	0 / 150	3	-	2	1	-	2	141	-	-	-	-	-
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	0 / 7	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	-
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	26	19	8	0 / 55	-	220	290	28	1	8 / 28	80	8 / 25	-	10	58	-
Total Count (132/135 species seen)	29	42	52	9 / 33	32	55	51	42	42	45 / 63	47	19 / 42	24	41	45	-
Individual Count	1507	2620	10675	432 / 2393	3137	7560	6295	2123	3420	4117 / 8368	4397	525 / 2156	1116	1864	2587	-

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Grand Marais	Grand Rapids	Hastings-Etter	Henderson	Hibbing	Hendricks	NW McLeod (Hutchinson)	Isabella	Itasca State Park	Jackson County	Kensington	Lakeville- Farmington	Lamberton	LaCrosse- LaCrescent	Little Falls
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 4	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	-	6	1053	267	-	-	406	-	-	(1)	-	(1)	-	317 / 2902	3
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	-	14	339	60	-	-	60	-	-	9	23	-	-	4 / 15	6
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48 / 391	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 7	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 2	-
Mallard	6	2	513 / 555	3	-	-	533	-	-	-	-	16	-	0 / 1272	207
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	1
Northern Pintail	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 3	-
Canvasback	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 28	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 24	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 162	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 4	-
Long-tailed Duck	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 45	-
Common Goldeneye	17	29	528 / 726	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 170	-
Hooded Merganser	-	4	0 / 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 6	-
Common Merganser	-	-	304 / 422	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28 / 382	1
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	-	-	275	190	28	1 / 7	136	-	15	10	15	134	25	64 / 276	105
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	3	2	-	-	6	-	-	10	4	-	-	-	-	1	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 8	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	29	44	-	145 / 472	97	-	-	125	114	18	140	-	23
Pied-billed Grebe	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	25	155	515 / 521	384	157	97 / 119	209	-	38	166	169	432	114	300 / 2026	123
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	134	9	-	16 / 47	24	-	-	50	18	24	16	16	18
Mourning Dove	-	2	62	78	5	0 / 1	8	-	-	5	-	22	1	149 / 712	7
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 5	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 4	-
Herring Gull	126	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 / 7	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 2	-
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 / 6	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	4	1	2 / 11	1
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	2	(1)	2 / 10	-
American Goshawk	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	4	22	47 / 48	22	2	1 / 8	18	-	13	9	6	14	2	61 / 216	14
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	15	5	-	0 / 1	8	-	-	9	1	20	3	12 / 38	5
Rough-legged Hawk	-	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	3 / 4	15
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 5	-
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 8	-
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	(1)	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1 / 3	-
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 / 7	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 2	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	26	64	54	-	2 / 4	23	1	3	15	14	44	6	20 / 129	17

Table 1, continued.

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Grand Marais	Grand Rapids	Hastings-Etter	Henderson	Hibbing	Hendricks	NW McLeod (Hutchinson)	Isabella	Itasca State Park	Jackson County	Kensington	Lakeville- Farmington	Lamberton	LaCrosse - LaCrescent	Little Falls
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 4	-
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	65	21	114	129	19	18 / 27	52	55	28	34	32	114	11	43 / 243	46
Hairy Woodpecker	14	21	36 / 37	56	15	8 / 10	17	27	20	17	12	32	1	17 / 79	14
Northern Flicker	-	-	5	9	-	(1)	8	-	-	1	2	16	-	0 / 2	1
Pileated Woodpecker	6	17	12	12	9	-	6	2	13	-	2	12	-	1 / 14	4
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	6 / 11	-
Merlin	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-
Northern Shrike	2	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	4	4	-	1	2
Canada Jay	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	56	108	267	153	70	29 / 53	101	103	170	74	79	194	35	118 / 390	227
Black-billed Magpie	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Crow	64	111	351 / 354	88	56	4 / 12	132	5	33	20	95	528	25	50 / 399	176
Common Raven	93	104	-	-	61	-	-	84	38	-	-	-	-	-	7
Black-capped Chickadee	375	387	342	164	566	11 / 17	130	251	307	54	123	340	25	130 / 727	182
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	10 / 80	-
Horned Lark	-	-	5	18	-	53 / 89	287	-	-	333	122	2	632	34	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	251	34	-	-	75	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	-	-	125	31	-	0 / 10	97	-	-	-	12	86	15	11	-
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	56	45	8	10	24	1	2	76	74	5	3	10	-	0 / 8	25
White-breasted Nuthatch	6	40	91 / 92	70	10	15 / 24	47	-	27	26	53	74	19	43 / 236	56
Brown Creeper	(1)	2	19	2	-	-	11	1	2	-	-	-	-	0 / 13	2
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 3	-
Brown Thrasher	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	-	202	645	276	333	10 / 12	99	-	9	424	175	106	47	173 / 1071	1153
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	15	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	10	-	5 / 11	-
Townsend's Solitaire	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	1	5	419	244	-	0 / 28	40	-	-	-	-	60	-	97 / 512	4
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	30	69	1335 / 1343	506	9	218 / 786	677	-	39	1271	1016	216	348	297 / 3954	389
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
bird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	127	34	-	-	75	-	-	6	59	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	64	91	-	-	243	-	-	85	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Finch	-	-	126	105	-	91 / 102	81	-	-	62	17	168	47	46 / 233	88
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	-	1	11	38	-	40 / 41	33	3	23	-	-	2	-	6 / 18	13
Common Redpoll	-	230	-	-	41	-	24	354	417	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	25	30	-	-	15	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	24	265	181	134	15	20 / 39	48	205	118	27	22	96	17	95 / 335	76
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	4	-	-	-	4	-
Snow Bunting	-	-	50	32	2	18 / 47	409	-	4	1413	1301	20	125	0 / 13	125
Chipping Sparrow	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
American Tree Sparrow	2	-	127	74	-	4	101	-	-	99	98	146	-	413 / 1295	33
Dark-eyed Junco	1	7	729	437	3	20 / 47	194	-	4	105	33	254	25	1319 / 3169	174
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	1
Dark-eyed Junco (cismontanus)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 / 5	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2 / 19	1
LeConte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	0 / 14	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 3	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	0 / 1	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	33	-	-	40	0 / 4	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	(1)	25	-
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	1	1	189	134	2	(1)	60	-	-	45	17	130	6	124 / 646	22
Total Count (132/135 species seen)	33	37	53 / 54	41	28	22 / 28	45	21	27	35	30	39	28	45 / 80	40
Individual Count	1498	2097	9152 / 9532	3859	1845	822 / 2017	4200	1339	1471	4466	3580	3359	1729	4086 / 22482	3368

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Long Prairie	Lac qui Parle	Marshall	Northern Meeker County	Mille Lacs South	Mankato	Morris	Minneapolis (North)	Mountain Lake-Windom	Minneapolis West	Nelson	New Ulm	Newfolden	Northern Wright County	Ortonville
Snow Goose	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	-	2500	178	-	-	70	-	517	-	702	1 / 2	39	-	12	840
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	6	7	3	3	-	157	19	129	-	2	87 / 106	14	-	386	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	35	25	2	4	-	19	-	3611	-	548	300 / 350	-	-	350	6
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	1	3	-	-	-	1	-	55	-	619	100 / 1500	-	-	-	10
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Common Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	67	1	61	-	1	1000 / 1568	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	124	-	-	181	24	124	33	86	9	60	0 / 22	6	84	168	-
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 11	-	-	-	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	143	-	-
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	14	17	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	197	48	37	373	16	23	300	1	206	-	0 / 3	30	-	71	26
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	237	48	43	136	27	149	216	11	332	17	45 / 419	318	86	277	45
Eurasian Collared-Dove	13	-	32	14	-	4	20	-	20	-	-	34	1	-	-
Mourning Dove	5	-	-	27	-	10	-	64	3	6	56 / 148	18	-	18	-
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 3	-	-	-	-
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	1	2	-	-	5	1	-	-	1	0 / 1	2	-	-	-
Cooper's Hawk	-	1	(1)	-	-	2	1	-	(1)	1	0 / 2	6	-	1	-
American Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	22	2	6	9	4	58	6	53	6	20	45 / 109	14	13	18	14
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	4	-	1	18	-	23	1	21	6	5	0 / 15	6	-	7	-
Rough-legged Hawk	1	-	1	6	-	7	-	3	1	-	0 / 4	-	1	-	2
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	-	-	-	2	1	(1)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	1	-	1	-	-	3	-	1	-	2	0 / 1	-	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	38	-	12	41	4	34	7	22	6	38	8 / 41	15	-	25	6

Table 1, continued.

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Long Prairie	Lac qui Parle	Marshall	Northern Meeker County	Millie Lacs South	Mankato	Morris	Minneapolis (North)	Mountain Lake-Windom	Minneapolis West	Nelson	New Ulm	Newfolden	Northern Wright County	Ortonville
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	46	3	24	59	16	84	14	78	30	100	47 / 90	59	3	69	12
Hairy Woodpecker	25	3	22	25	4	21	9	21	8	45	15 / 27	16	1	16	2
Northern Flicker	1	1	3	8	-	9	2	2	-	4	3 / 4	6	-	1	-
Pileated Woodpecker	18	-	3	13	8	4	1	5	-	4	5 / 16	5	2	10	4
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	1	(1)	-	-	0 / 4	-	-	1	-
Merlin	1	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	6	1	-	2	1	2	1	1	-	4	0 / 1	1	2	1	-
Canada Jay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	262	15	34	160	55	133	53	35	67	16	23 / 205	51	10	134	8
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	-	-
American Crow	220	4	25	152	27	248	37	484	92	499	50 / 1064	86	48	201	12
Common Raven	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	221	21	74	219	80	196	50	240	28	377	50 / 191	129	42	239	18
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 / 12	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	-	304	188	112	-	145	458	4	176	-	0 / 13	439	-	3	6
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	44	36	12	186	-	265	100	41	16	46	6 / 22	10	-	92	-
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	15	1	7	7	10	1	3	-	1	-	0 / 1	7	-	13	-
White-breasted Nuthatch	73	3	32	80	15	48	14	60	23	91	22 / 59	38	9	56	14
Brown Creeper	-	3	2	1	-	3	-	1	-	7	0 / 1	7	-	3	6
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	108	88	782	97	142	385	142	154	246	302	26 / 271	150	5	446	28
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	3	-	-	8	-	-	-	9	0 / 2	-	-	9	-
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	22	21	-	110	9	1274	1	78	14	209	30 / 46	700	3	66	-
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	286	122	469	458	30	710	675	150	835	217	300 / 621	350	4	504	22
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
bird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	-
House Finch	10	5	104	35	17	183	28	62	28	54	15 / 33	68	-	76	16
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	10	7	9	31	17	1	8	(1)	12	-	2 / 21	3	-	10	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	27	88	57	92	36	21	8	107	8	103	45 / 128	31	63	33	14
Lapland Longspur	-	25	1	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	310	2	-	-
Snow Bunting	35	213	289	111	-	134	424	-	122	-	-	185	434	2	26
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	-	17	24	161	1	163	10	37	21	5	8 / 80	25	-	56	92
Dark-eyed Junco	209	38	64	191	5	330	53	139	53	130	65 / 984	168	18	178	22
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco (cismontanus)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	2	-	1	0 / 1	-	-	-	-
LeConte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	0 / 3	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Red-winged Blackbird	(1)	12	6	1	-	11	1	-	131	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	35	2	16	46	3	175	7	69	9	119	26 / 115	27	-	56	2

Total Count (132/135 species seen)	39	35	39	40	25	52	37	42	32	38	29 / 48	38	26	37	28
Individual Count	2370	3687	2578	3177	556	5400	2708	6416	2530	4369	2395 / 8332	3389	1109	3611	1265

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Owatonna	Pelican Rapids	Philbrook	Pillager	Pine County	Pipestone	Rochester	Rice Lake NWR	Roseau	Redwood Falls	Red Wing	Sax-Zim	St. Cloud- Collegeville	Sherburne NWR	St. Paul (NE Suburban)
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	290	6	-	-	-	-	3684	-	-	-	13	-	1444	11	111
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	-	163	-	244	-	-	7	-	-	-	70	-	118	5	35
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
swan sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	-	1	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Blue-winged Teal	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	442	2	-	28	-	-	935	-	-	-	195	-	820	-	97
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Canvasback	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	230	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	-	-	-	6	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	185	-	14	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	125	61	145	172	131	34	145	35	-	181	55	14	127	48	401
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	2	7	-	-	1	1	-	-	7	-	-	-
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	112	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Partridge	-	(1)	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	35	11	43	1	1	196	11	-	-	254	-	-	2	12	100
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	101	194	123	26	152	203	319	47	118	108	314	32	240	70	577
Eurasian Collared-Dove	20	3	-	-	-	26	2	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-
Mourning Dove	7	-	2	1	-	-	148	-	-	-	29	-	22	24	86
American Coot	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	(1)
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	3
Cooper's Hawk	1	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
American Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	10	5	6	9	-	6	58	-	2	19	44	19	24	17	29
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Red-tailed Hawk	12	-	4	1	-	10	46	-	-	10	4	-	4	5	24
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	3	-	-	1	10	-	-	3	1	1	6	4	3
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	1	3	8
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	-	2	1	-	1	-	(1)	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	7
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	45	24	4	14	6	-	54	1	6	16	27	-	27	9	95

Table 1, continued.

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	Owatonna	Pelican Rapids	Philbrook	Pillager	Pine County	Pipestone	Rochester	Rice Lake NWR	Roseau	Redwood Falls	Red Wing	Sax-Zim	St. Cloud- Collegeville	Sherburne NWR	St. Paul (NE Suburban)
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Downy Woodpecker	93	42	15	39	15	14	159	3	5	36	46	27	59	28	229
Hairy Woodpecker	30	26	8	14	12	4	38	5	4	20	18	42	18	17	92
Northern Flicker	14	-	1	-	-	3	4	-	3	28	2	-	4	1	9
Pileated Woodpecker	13	13	8	17	10	-	10	4	4	6	2	4	11	5	48
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Northern Shrike	-	2	3	2	-	1	1	-	3	2	3	9	5	2	8
Canada Jay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	135	224	100	207	108	53	249	62	32	89	46	85	153	78	302
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	10	-	-	-
American Crow	324	88	63	110	91	71	1769	20	56	142	105	75	233	130	826
Common Raven	-	7	8	18	38	-	-	32	34	-	-	89	2	3	1
Black-capped Chickadee	172	310	50	208	195	10	348	29	127	126	96	518	219	114	1303
Boreal Chickadee	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	9
Horned Lark	162	-	4	-	-	342	4	-	-	132	166	-	-	8	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	-	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	622	-	-	3	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	-	-	-	13	1	7	298	-	-	502	111	-	-	-	258
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	8	9	2	20	8	4	7	5	4	2	7	16	9	2	65
White-breasted Nuthatch	69	84	10	65	16	16	107	5	26	65	45	15	90	18	359
Brown Creeper	1	1	-	1	1	-	6	-	1	21	-	1	6	1	1
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	217	158	98	72	47	290	765	52	14	100	1044	45	286	159	665
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	10	10	-	-	-	12
Townsend's Solitaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	4	2	-	1	13	3	85	-	3	728	138	-	31	32	155
Varied Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	270	33	13	10	-	485	660	60	67	99	456	1	113	-	201
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
bird sp.	1	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	181	-	-	-
Pine Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	69	-	-	28	189	-	-	138	-	-	-
House Finch	292	-	-	-	-	26	337	-	-	30	94	-	98	43	158
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	-	-	-	1	(1)	-	9	18	-	29	1	5	4	4	33
Common Redpoll	-	1	10	-	-	-	-	10	5	-	-	243	16	-	-
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	21	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
American Goldfinch	123	21	28	82	1	12	235	-	28	55	78	37	25	24	431
Lapland Longspur	12	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	378	106	12	25	10	37	180	11	369	679	83	1	10	50	-
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	109	1	2	9	-	3	340	-	1	59	72	-	8	46	84
Dark-eyed Junco	324	5	98	21	5	34	906	2	-	124	259	1	134	99	518
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco (cismontanus)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
LeConte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
meadowlark sp.	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	16	1	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	3
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	106	4	8	3	-	5	238	3	-	53	51	-	40	7	252

Total Count (132/135 species seen)	40	33	29	36	25	33	58	23	29	46	46	36	42	36	44
Individual Count	3986	1612	872	1447	975	1916	12254	435	1923	3795	4144	1684	4430	1088	7608

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	St. Paul (North)	Two Harbors	Tamarac NWR	Uppgaard WMA	Virginia	Wabasha	Walker	West Hennepin	Wild River	Willmar	Winona	Whitewater State Park	Zikadenj Wanyakapi	TOTAL
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 / 11
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Canada Goose	1080	1	-	-	-	2	-	3120	41	64	410 / 590	-	-	25675 / 29191
Cackling/Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Trumpeter Swan	126	-	1	6	-	121	-	848	74	171	0 / 3	255	-	5904 / 6088
Tundra Swan	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-	-	130 / 473
swan sp.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114
Wood Duck	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	8 / 9
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Gadwall	12	-	-	-	-	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	166 / 173
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 3
Mallard	5077	17	2	8	(1)	97	-	40	-	14	78 / 148	9	384	20815 / 22768
American Black Duck	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	31 / 34
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	4 / 5
Green-winged Teal	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32 / 35
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 / 36
Redhead	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Ring-necked Duck	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	101 / 125
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26 / 188
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 / 6
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Bufflehead	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15 / 60
Common Goldeneye	25	8	-	-	-	52	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	2562 / 4431
Hooded Merganser	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	72 / 81
Common Merganser	2	(1)	-	-	-	103	1	-	-	-	0 / 58	-	-	2112 / 4204
Red-breasted Merganser	-	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
Ruddy Duck	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Wild Turkey	169	-	38	41	35	74	29	30	134	18	73	15	102	6176 / 6599
grouse sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Ruffed Grouse	-	7	1	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	146 / 157
Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Sharp-tailed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	352 / 364
Greater Prairie-Chicken	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	279
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	145 / 449
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	28	26	128	-	6	19	4146 / 4534
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Rock Pigeon	1876	116	-	8	628	191	37	564	70	51	386 / 480	333	107	17102 / 20300
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	1	-	(1)	-	732 / 789
Mourning Dove	57	8	-	-	6	56	-	22	66	19	18 / 27	45	46	1598 / 2311
American Coot	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	24
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	10 / 15
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19 / 38	-	-	39 / 62
Herring Gull	2	96	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	742 / 748
Iceland Gull	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
American White Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5
Great Blue Heron	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9 / 10
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	1	-	8 / 14
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	9 / 13
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	1	5	-	1	-	77 / 91
Cooper's Hawk	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	54 / 65
American Goshawk	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
accipiter sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Bald Eagle	62	17	2	3	13	36	10	70	31	18	44 / 72	20	30	1645 / 1964
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1	-	-	4 / 5
Red-tailed Hawk	29	2	-	-	-	10	-	8	11	7	14 / 19	10	6	503 / 564
Rough-legged Hawk	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	2	4	3	2 / 7	3	3	122 / 137
buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 / 6
hawk sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 / 11
Great Horned Owl	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	49 / 62
Snowy Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Barred Owl	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	-	-	-	2	70 / 72
Great Gray Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Long-eared Owl	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	7 / 9
Northern Saw-whet Owl	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 / 5
owl sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Belted Kingfisher	6	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	2	4 / 5	5	-	55 / 64
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 / 6
Red-bellied Woodpecker	52	1	26	6	-	17	14	28	47	29	17 / 23	12	22	1800 / 1983

Table 1, concluded.

The 2022–2023 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	St. Paul (North)	Two Harbors	Tamarac NWR	Uppgaard WMA	Virginia	Wabasha	Walker	West Hennepin	Wild River	Willmar	Winona	Whitewater State Park	Ziktaojen Wanyakapi	TOTAL
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 / 6
American Three-toed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Black-backed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Downy Woodpecker	212	86	44	17	5	30	29	62	138	89	35 / 57	69	40	4702 / 5101
Hairy Woodpecker	84	54	33	5	11	9	15	20	31	32	13 / 18	10	19	2112 / 2254
Northern Flicker	16	-	(1)	-	-	2	-	10	2	14	2	3	3	308 / 323
Pileated Woodpecker	20	12	27	6	3	8	14	6	18	13	3 / 5	2	4	805 / 842
woodpecker sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	1	1	2 / 3	9	2	53 / 65
Merlin	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24 / 28
Peregrine Falcon	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 / 7
Northern Shrike	1	6	1	-	3	1	3	-	5	1	1	2	3	173 / 185
Canada Jay	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	147
Blue Jay	93	123	112	70	68	107	87	154	164	96	79 / 129	93	138	9830 / 10581
Black-billed Magpie	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	223
American Crow	1146	109	33	38	37	283	28	464	242	164	208 / 412	310	388	17128 / 19761
Common Raven	-	63	23	9	121	-	33	-	7	-	-	-	-	1939 / 1941
Black-capped Chickadee	696	893	220	104	328	128	145	372	401	239	57 / 87	45	172	24460 / 25596
Boreal Chickadee	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Tufted Titmouse	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	4 / 6	-	-	76 / 157
Horned Lark	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	2	-	32	-	-	2	5706 / 5786
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 / 15
Bohemian Waxwing	-	423	-	-	152	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3505 / 3508
Cedar Waxwing	69	242	-	-	-	10	66	110	100	225	-	-	297	5201 / 5419
waxwing sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Red-breasted Nuthatch	8	58	16	14	8	5	40	4	24	5	1	1	1	1518 / 1542
White-breasted Nuthatch	168	22	51	15	5	37	28	86	108	80	31 / 48	29	47	4794 / 5162
Brown Creeper	5	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	10	2	5	1 / 2	1	2	207 / 224
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 3
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
European Starling	905	148	1	-	170	182	15	894	181	59	739 / 840	202	281	20729 / 23162
Eastern Bluebird	10	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	-	-	5	9	15	173 / 185
Townsend's Solitaire	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
American Robin	615	9	-	-	1	221	-	50	51	41	67 / 77	101	436	7545 / 8154
Varied Thrush	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
House Sparrow	1358	46	5	5	25	358	10	106	253	259	1090 / 1576	165	349	24650 / 30809
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
bird sp.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
Evening Grosbeak	-	40	15	-	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1502
Pine Grosbeak	-	269	1	-	219	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2858
House Finch	263	-	3	-	4	19	8	82	94	150	75 / 205	16	46	4853 / 5512
finch sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	16
Purple Finch	4	5	3	-	3	4	(1)	6	26	17	6 / 7	-	2	833 / 901
Common Redpoll	2	97	125	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	3161
Hoary Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	41
White-winged Crossbill	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	142
Pine Siskin	3	-	32	-	14	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	291 / 292
American Goldfinch	462	11	226	144	59	78	130	52	247	138	30 / 100	52	10	8382 / 9020
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	443 / 447
Snow Bunting	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	50	16	7	50 / 210	-	39	11376 / 11829
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 / 3
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 / 2
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
American Tree Sparrow	149	2	-	-	-	114	1	180	83	59	209 / 722	199	214	5192 / 6746
Dark-eyed Junco	487	16	18	-	-	306	21	95	235	248	819 / 1049	237	182	13106 / 17106
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 / 9
Dark-eyed Junco (cismontanus)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 / 10
sparrow sp.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Harris's Sparrow	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	26 / 30
White-throated Sparrow	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0 / 1	1	-	-	47 / 93
LeConte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Song Sparrow	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	51 / 68
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 / 6
Spotted Towhee	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 / 3
Eastern Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 / 3
Yellow-headed Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 / 1
meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Red-winged Blackbird	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0 / 240	-	-	35	529 / 923
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39 / 40
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Common Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	26	11	-	170 / 178
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Northern Cardinal	243	4	-	2	-	65	7	104	163	86	78 / 110	8	76	4330 / 5108

Total Count (132/135 species seen)	61	45	29	19	27	45	26	39	43	47	40 / 46	39	40	-
Individual Count	15705	3057	1064	502	1956	2826	775	7709	3122	2604	4700 / 7488	2039	3782	287258 / 327096

Summary of Occurrence and Behavioral Observations of Minnesota's Fifth Vagrant Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*)

Elizabeth Rogers Tiller, Ph.D.

Most vagrant Anna's Hummingbirds (*Calypte anna*) occur singly, often do not stay long, or are not in a location where an experienced observer is present for the duration of the stay. The fifth state record for Anna's Hummingbird, a vagrant immature male (hatch year), was present from 30 October to 15 November 2023 (17 days) at nectar feeders in a rural senescent flower garden and yard and the surrounding woods in Eureka Township, Dakota County. Its reliable visibility provided a unique opportunity for recording and assembling behavioral observations. In addition to feeding at nectar feeders punctuated by perching and preening in the shelter of the dead garden plants, this young male spent considerable time and energy in territorial displays comprising singing, flight and perching displays, and brief agonistic interactions with passerines using the garden. The bird was extensively photographed by the author and by many of its 300+ viewing public. Given the low probability that a vagrant hummingbird should land in the yard of an experienced ornithologist, this account may represent a significant contribution to the literature of observational studies of vagrant hummingbirds.

Introduction

Anna's Hummingbird is well known for its range expansions in the last 50–80 years including many records of seasonal movements within its breeding range. In addition, the species has long been known for its incidental vagrancy outside of its breeding range. North American hummingbirds, as a group, exhibit considerable vagrancy spread among diverse species (Lees and Gilroy, 2021). Although extensive studies of the metabolic function and breeding behavior exist for this species (e.g. Stiles, 1973, 1982), there are few behavioral observations recorded for vagrant Anna's Hummingbirds found beyond their known breed-

ing range. This paper summarizes behavioral observations of this hummingbird.

Initial Appearance at Dakota County, Eureka Township Location

At the time of the vagrant's appearance, I lived at the location of the occurrence and maintained a flower garden of native species and non-native garden annuals used extensively by Ruby-throated Hummingbirds during the flowering season. The senescing plants were left standing for the fall and winter for use by feeder birds and were in this condition when the vagrant appeared. In addition, at the time of arrival two nectar feeders were still active, having been left out for Downy Woodpeckers who were regular visitors. Having this vagrant occur literally in my front yard, combined with his extended 17-day stay, gave me numerous chances to observe his activity patterns and behaviors. In addition, my educational background (a four-year behavioral study of Savannah Sparrows) predisposed me to make behavioral observations of this bird. I observed the hummingbird daily over the 17 days, particularly noting how his behavioral patterns changed with weather and daylight and how he appeared to be using available food and shelter resources. It is likely that the bird's increasing familiarity with his new surroundings also influenced and modified his behavior patterns throughout his stay.

I first observed the hummingbird perched on a frozen nectar feeder outside my picture window on 30 October at 6:51 A.M. It was at first light, before full sunrise, and he appeared only as a silhouette to my eyes. The temperature that morning measured on my deck was 20°F (-6.67°C). Given that hummingbirds typically migrate and move in the daytime when food sources are most accessible, I surmise that he had arrived the late afternoon before and perhaps sheltered in my flower garden

that included senesced annuals (tithonia, zinnias, cosmos, and marigolds) and a patch of native plants, with the goldenrods and purple coneflowers still showing considerable green foliage. He may have even visited the feeder the evening before while it was still liquid nectar before the hard freeze the night of 29 October and when there were lingering blossoms of tithonia, cosmos, and marigold in the garden. I immediately took a series of pictures of the perched silhouetted bird that morning.

I then mixed up fresh nectar using the standard 1:4 parts sugar to water formula, filled feeders, and deployed several on the deck rail. The hummingbird immediately started feeding and continued for over an hour while I proceeded to take numerous photos in a variety of poses until I saw that I had captured the definitive field marks of an immature male Anna's Hummingbird: a partially colored magenta head and throat. I entered the observation with documenting photos in eBird and continued to take photographs. I was then contacted by Bruce Fall on behalf of eBird and instructed how to obtain Minnesota Ornithologists' Union confirmation of the sighting.

Once the record was confirmed by MOU and eBird, birders began making their requests to view the bird. On 31 October, I opened the yard for viewing at noon. The bird was present at this location for 17 days from the morning of 30 October through the morning of 15 November. The first two days of visiting recorded over 40 birders each day. During the 17 days an estimated 322 people visited the site and, except for 8 people visiting after he left on 15 November, almost all were successful in viewing and/or photographing the bird. The hummingbird even appeared to become familiar with my appearance. Three times he flew up from the garden when I came up on the deck, buzzed my magenta hat and proceeded to feed at a deck feeder in my presence.

I took the feeders indoors at night to avoid freezing and deployed them every morning at least a half hour before first light. I hung one feeder on a shepherd's hook in the garden to locate a food source within the garden. This also facilitated easy viewing by observers. For the first chilly and windy days this was the favored feeder that he used with high frequency (10 to 15-minute intervals punctuated by perching). This feeder placement may



Anna's Hummingbird, 3 November 2023.

have also encouraged perching in the garden plants with the sturdy, open branches of a red sunflower being a favorite. (Red sunflower (*Tithonia rotundifolia*) is an annual, non-native in Minnesota with peak flowering in August that does not re-seed in this climate. It is very attractive to hummingbirds, many butterflies, and other pollinators.)

Previous Confirmed Occurrences of Anna's Hummingbird in Minnesota

The 2023 occurrence in Dakota County was the fifth record for Minnesota and it was the fourth longest stay. Previous reported confirmed occurrences are listed in Table 1.

Behavioral Patterns Timing of First Morning Appearance and Last Evening Appearance

Each morning at first light the hummingbird appeared to "pop up" from the garden to make his first appearance of the day at the garden feeder. The way he popped up from the garden, combined with sometimes seeing him dive down into the garden after his last feeding in the evening, made me fairly sure that he was roosting in the garden every night and taking advantage of the thermal cover that was

Date	Duration	Location	Age/Gender	Citation
11 Nov – 1 Dec 1991	21 days	Grand Marais, Cook Co.	Adult female	Hoffman and Hoffman 1991; Eckert, 1992
7 Oct – 2 Nov 1993	27 days	Wyoming Twp., Chisago Co.	Immature male	Hjort and Hjort 1994; Janssen, 1994
1 Dec – 26 Dec 2001	26 days	Minneapolis, Hennepin Co.	Adult male	Eckert, 2002
29 Oct – 31 Oct 2006	3 days	Eagan, Dakota Co.	Female/immature	Svingen, 2007

Table 1. Confirmed occurrences of vagrant Anna's Hummingbirds in Minnesota.

sometimes noticeable as heat wave distortion in a photo's background.

Each morning I watched from the darkened house for his first appearance at the feeder. When I confirmed his ongoing presence, I notified interested observers via a daily entry as an eBird hotspot checklist and as a thread on Discord rare bird alert. When I later compared the time of my first daily sightings with documented sunrise times from Weather Underground (www.weatherunderground.com), I found that his initial daily appearances occurred approximately 15 to 30 minutes before sunrise with some variation most likely due to cloud cover. This was at the same time, and with the amount of first light, that also triggered initial songbird action at the seed feeders. Throughout his stay, the hummingbird was very predictable in occurrence at the feeders and also engaged in other behaviors such as perching, foraging for insects (gnats), singing, and preening. This regular activity pattern suggests that he was able to maintain a healthy balance of energy expenditure and intake in spite of cold windy weather at the beginning. It was harder to collect accurate data on last evening's appearances but I did record four documented times and they confirmed my general impression that he ceased activity after a final nectar feeding about 20 to 30 minutes before documented time of sunset.

Uses of Nectar Feeders and Garden

During the first few days, under cold, windy conditions, the hummingbird frequented the garden feeder and used the tithonia for perching, from the very top (about 6 feet or 1.8 meters), to mid-level (3 feet or 1 meter), to within a foot (0.3 meters) of the ground. Using the warm garden this way likely provided an advantage of lower metabolic stress as well as access to small insects also sheltering in the garden. On the cold days, he frequented the

feeder every 10 to 20 minutes, creating many opportunities for viewing and photos. During warm days, feeder use decreased in frequency as the hummingbird began to spend more time making forays foraging for insects in the garden and surrounding trees and adjacent woods. It continued, however, to regularly forage at the feeders. During the 17 days, temperatures during daylight hours ranged from 20°F (-6.67°C) to a high of 66°F (18.89°C).

In addition to the garden feeder, four other feeders were placed on the deck or were hung on or over the deck. Over the 17 days, the hummingbird visited all the feeders, sometimes altering his favorite for the day. When I put out a heated feeder the day before he left, he quickly came to it, perched, and drank nectar. Continually searching out new nectar sources certainly comports with the basic foraging strategies of hummingbirds who are dependent on flowers, an ephemeral and varying food resource.

Perching

Perching is an important component of a hummingbird's energy management strategy. A detailed time-activity study of a wild male Anna's Hummingbird showed that a bird was perched for 82% of his daily activity time (Pearson, 1954). As mentioned, this particular Anna's Hummingbird favored the sturdy open branches of the tithonia for perching in the annual garden with the openness of the perch (unless preening) seemingly an important factor. He often, to the delight of observers, perched on top of the tithonia, but also used horizontal branches one foot to three feet off the ground. One of his favored perches in the native plant patch was simply a slender stalk of grass broken and bent over at ninety degrees about a foot off the ground. While feeding, he also would often perch on the rim of the nectar feeders.

Flying

This Anna's Hummingbird made frequent short flights to the nectar feeders and sometimes hovered by feeders. With no live flowers, he did not hover much in the garden, although occasionally he moved through the matrix of dead stems using a very slow flight. Recent work has shown that Anna's can move sideways through tight openings using bilaterally asymmetric wing motions (Badger et al., 2023) and this is likely what we were observing when we saw a very slow rather bumblebee-like flight within the garden matrix. The hummingbird would also frequently fly very rapidly using a wing-tucked or stiff back-swept wing "bullet" posture that sometimes could be captured on camera. This flight strategy, called a ballistic trajectory by researchers, employs tucked, non-flapping wings and is used for negotiating even narrower openings. According to research, it is used more frequently as a bird becomes familiar with particular pathways (Badger et al., 2023). I often saw this bullet flight in and around the garden. It was difficult to keep the hummingbird in view when he began leaving the garden entirely for foraging. Only occasionally could observers keep him in their sights and spot his temporary new perch in trees on the edge of the yard.

Use of Native Plant Shelter Patch

On 3 November (Day 5), I first found the hummingbird retreating to a small patch of native plants dominated by goldenrod species on the east slope of the garden. These native plants were densely packed together and many were still green and photosynthesizing. The hummingbird had several favorite perches in this patch and was often found using this area early in the morning or during windy, wet or cold weather. He was not seen on his perches in this patch of vegetation after the last appearance of the day, but was observed diving down into this part of the garden after a final feeding. If he did use this patch, he must have been roosting deep down in the vegetation where he was not readily visible. No vigorous attempt to locate his night roost was made for fear of stressing him at that vulnerable time of day.

Foraging for Insects

On 4 November (Day 6), the hummingbird began making forays into the trees around the



Anna's Hummingbird, 4 November 2023.

yard and eventually out of sight into the adjacent woods. These forays were at first limited in time away from the feeder and likely also in geographic scope but as the days progressed, and especially as the temperatures warmed, he spent more and more time most likely foraging for insects in the surrounding trees. During those forays he also likely spent considerable time perched in the trees.

On 6 November (Day 8), he was gone from the yard for over two hours, marking a shift toward longer absences away from the feeders during the warmer weather. Meanwhile, while perched in the garden he was constantly alert, moving his head, and frequently making sorties after small insects and also often singing. Many times the observers could see small flying insects in the interstices of the garden plants or even higher in the air column.

Evening Sunset Display

On 4 November (Day 6), I first observed an evening sunset display by the hummingbird. He perched on the top of the tithonia with wings held spread at right angles to his body with breast facing the setting sun. This position enabled him to maximize his ability to

catch the last light a half hour before sunset. He also would make short vertical flights above the perch and change positions and postures while remaining essentially at the same perch. He engaged in static horizontal hovers above a perch with postures that displayed his two-toned tail feathers. This type of static hover has been described as "floating" (Clark and Russell, 2020). Sun-oriented display tactics have been documented for this species (Hamilton, 1965) and this may have been the main objective of these displays that caught the final rays of a setting sun. During these evening sunset displays he would also perch on the top of garden plants with still, spread wings at various angles (horizontal, forty-five degree) facing the setting sun with head and gorget illuminated. He also would perform vertical hops over a fixed perch. In addition, he would also make short (1 to 2 feet) horizontal flights at the level of the perch often with gorget facing and catching the sunlight. He would occasionally dive downward. He did similar varied evening sunset displays on several occasions always in the low-angle evening light on the top of the tallest garden plants, always near his time of final feeding and roosting for the night. I did not find any other accounts that describe such an evening sunset display. It had components that are recounted in courtship displays but in this setting must be either "practice" by an immature male, or actually territorial in nature. Stiles (1973) alludes to this possibility of territorial practice by young males.

Agonistic Displays

Fairly frequently the hummingbird would engage in very brief agonistic displays (displays designed to threaten adversaries and reduce the possibility of conflict) triggered by other birds (chickadee, Purple Finch, goldfinch, House Finch, Downy Woodpecker) coming close to his perch or feeder. The hummingbird would respond with various postural poses such as flipping alternate wings up and out, spreading his tail and wings, ruffling his back feathers, and flashing the color on his crown and throat by raising the iridescent feathers. He would also hover near the interloper with his two-toned tail feathers spread and prominent. These postures were very brief and hard to interpret by themselves but a sequence of photographs often showed the nearby presence of the per-

ceived intruder followed by the hummingbird's responses. Only twice did we observe actual chases of a chickadee by the hummingbird.

Preening

On 5 November (Day 7), during another mild day in terms of temperature and wind, the hummingbird spent extensive time preening while perched low in the tithonia and cosmos. He preened all body parts using his bill to access his back, rump, tail, front, side, and wings. He also used his foot to preen his head and side. He would finish one preening bout, visit a feeder, perch on the tithonia up high for a while, then select a low perch again and recommence preening. That day he was engaged in the fourth and last preening bout about an hour before he usually stopped activity for the night. I observed him preening several other days, always perched low in good cover. In one photographed preening bout, he appeared to clean his open bill with his foot.

Singing

The hummingbird sang fairly often throughout his entire stay. Sometimes he sang from high in a small spruce tree beside the driveway. Most times he sang from the tithonia perch and also from a perch in the native plant patch. I was able to capture a short video one day of his singing. According to the account in Cornell's *Birds of the World*: "Male Anna's Hummingbirds control and produce song using an enlarged higher vocal center that develops in response to testosterone (androgens)" (Clark and Russell, 2020). It has been found that Anna's Hummingbirds have a song learned through imitation of adults (Baptista and Schuchmann, 1990). Furthermore, the young males have a song that is distinctly different from adult males (Ortiz-Crespo, 1972). This vagrant most likely was singing a version of the immature male song that he learned before departing from where he was reared. As with the evening sunset display, there were no rivals or potential mates to provoke the song activity. Research has shown that immature Anna's Hummingbird males produce most of the song heard outside the breeding season even when adults are present (Ortiz-Crespo, 1972).

Territorial Behavior

Taken together — the singing, the agonistic

responses and chasing, and the evening displays — all add up to the establishment of a feeding territory by this vagrant, encompassing the garden, the deck and feeders and at least the trees around the open yard. Feeding territories are known to be held by adult and immature males during the non-breeding season (Clark and Russell, 2020) attempting to defend food resources necessary for daily maintenance (Stiles, 1973). In the case of this vagrant, all the nectar food sources were located within the garden and on the adjacent deck. In the beginning of his stay, the hummingbird highly favored the garden feeder, but gradually expanded his resource base to include three other feeders on the deck about 30 feet from the garden. This could be considered part of a territorial strategy to defend several food sources. For a non-breeding solitary bird all this territorial behavior is particularly surprising given the extra energy needed (particularly flying) and the energy challenges of a cold climate. Anna's are documented to regulate energy stores by manipulating and balancing energy gains and expenditures (Beuchat et al., 1979). Territorial behaviors add to that challenge, especially in cold weather. Stiles (1973) reported that juvenile Anna's showed territorial behavior beginning at a very young age and continuing as immatures became more independent. An intriguing aspect of this individual's territorial behavior was its persistence in the absence of any hummingbird rivals.

Departure

On 15 November, the most notable aspects of the day were the warm temperatures (40°F or 4.4°C) and dead calm in the morning with winds for the general area documented at 0 mph. The hummingbird first appeared at the usual time about a half hour before sunrise at the garden feeder. At around 7:30 A.M. I went outside and checked his favorite perches in the native garden patch from the yard. He was perched on top of his highest favored perch. As I raised my camera for a photo, he flew to the deck and took a brief sip of nectar at the new heated feeder that he had visited the previously evening. After that brief feeding, he flew high over the trees at the edge of the yard and then even higher out of sight, to the east. With that flight, we observers later surmised, this vagrant Anna's Hummingbird had moved on.

Fourteen observers watched for the remainder of that day. In addition, I also watched for most of the day and continued to watch until dark. We were thus all sure that the Anna's had departed the yard. After his departure I kept the heated feeder out for twelve days, but he did not return.

Questions

The brief stay by this vagrant Anna's Hummingbird to Minnesota leaves us with many more questions than answers:

- Where did this individual originate? Candidate areas with breeding populations are Arizona, California, and the Pacific Northwest. The exponential expansion of the Pacific Northwest population in the last 50+ years may argue for that area as a source for this immature male (Battey, 2019). In addition, molecular studies of the Pacific Northwest population have revealed a high genetic diversity (Adams et al., 2023), which speculatively could translate to a higher probability of producing individuals prone to long-range movements and/or better able to survive cold climates. Recent records have now documented wintering Anna's in Idaho (Pollock et al., 2021) and even breeding there (Robinson et al., 2021).

- Was he "blown off course" or is he just an immature male driven by a natural dispersal tendency? This is a species noted for the expansion of its range beginning in the 1940s when its year-round distribution was limited to southern California ranging from Baja to Sacramento. Nevertheless, the species was known to frequently occur in Arizona even before there was breeding evidence with records as early as 1915 (Van Rossem, 1945). Review of unpublished field notes revealed records for this species in Oregon as early as 1944 (Contreras, 1999). The species was documented northward as far as British Columbia as early as the 1970s (Zimmerman, 1973). Anna's Hummingbirds were found to be more likely to colonize areas with higher housing density and more likely to visit feeders (Grieg et al., 2017), indicating that human modifications of the environment may play a large role in the species' range expansion. Vagrants are well documented in this species with records even more likely to be captured today via eBird. These vagrant occurrences sometimes occur in waves. The year 2011, for example, recorded 99 incidences of

Anna's in eastern and southern states as well as 9 in Colorado and 16 in Canada (Brinkley, 2011). Is it only a matter of time until the first breeding population is established somewhere east of the continental divide?

• Why did he stop at this particular location? There are no dramatic landmarks such as a major river, wetland, or profound topographical changes in this location. Even the forest near the house extends further southward a couple of miles. In short, the location is unremarkable from a human point of view. Two potentially attractive features present in the yard were: (1) two filled hummingbird feeders and (2) the densely vegetated senescing garden patch (40 ft. x 30 ft.) in the midst of a lightly tended lawn covered with oak leaves from the trees surrounding the yard. If this bird were hatched near feeders, he might very well be attracted to the nectar feeder food source. The garden cover may mimic natural vegetation or perhaps simply looks like the suburban gardens near which this bird was fledged. More speculatively, maybe Anna's Hummingbirds have some ability to detect the warm thermal signature of such a vegetative patch. Studies of Anna's argue for the importance of suburban landscapes (temperatures, food resources) in the range expansion of this and other range-expanding species (Grieg et al., 2017; Davis et al., 2014). Anna's Hummingbirds clearly have strategies that enable them to live in colder climates. Strategies employed by this bird include extensive insect and nectar-feeder foraging and the ability to identify and use suitable habitat and thermal refuges, such as my garden, within a larger landscape. The activity of other birds at the feeding station may also have provided an initial attraction to this site if the hummingbird arrived in late afternoon the previous day when the seed feeding stations were very active.

• Where did he go? The hummingbird had been feeding on nectar and insects for 17 days and appeared to maintain sufficient energy for displays and song. He left on the calmest day of the period, predicted to become the warmest. There are numerous records of this species on Christmas Bird Counts for Arizona and Texas (Batey, 2019; Zimmerman, 1973) and even records from Mexico (Valdes-Perezgasga, 2017). These are presumed to be post-breeding movements (Clark and Russell, 2020). Even though the species is not known for long

distance latitudinal migrations (Clark and Russell, 2020), perhaps he did head south. We simply don't know what an immature vagrant's strategy might be in the face of a Midwest winter but this is a species with documented post-breeding dispersals. Intriguingly, the final trajectory of this individual was high and eastward where the first major geographic feature he would encounter would be the Mississippi River roughly 50 miles east, a pathway south that likely would have some natural nectar sources in the lowlands.

Summary of Human Visitors

Using data from eBird and MOU for the first three days of public visitation, my sign-in register for the remaining days, and some private messages from other visitors, I tallied about 322 unique visits. Total visits counting repeats was about 343. The largest day tally was 43 people for each of the first two days. The youngest birder at 17 months actually saw the hummer! The oldest observer would have to self-reveal but suffice it to say that one intrepid person came twice with a walker and saw the bird each time. I had one bicycle birder coming from Minneapolis to add Anna's to his bike list. The earliest visitor arrived before the hummingbird got up in the morning. I waited until I saw the hummingbird get up for the day and then walked out to the road to invite him into the yard. The farthest away visitor was from Grand Forks, ND. Other long distancers were from Grand Marais, Long Prairie, Crosby, and Dubuque IA.

Acknowledgments

Thank you, Bruce Fall, for helping me get the digital paperwork done to confirm this finding and for tallying visitor numbers for the first three days. Thank you, Tate Putnam, for doing your best to ease me into the visitor phenomenon and getting me on Discord for updating the bird's status. And, to all of you who came to share this beautiful bird and so lovingly respected him — quite simply, thank you all for your cooperative and enthusiastic participation in the fifth record of Anna's Hummingbird in Minnesota. You are, each one, like a precious vagrant hummingbird.

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Eureka Township MN.



The Owl in the Attic

The Willow Ptarmigan in Northern Minnesota

Thomas S. Roberts

Reprinted from Roberts, Thomas S. 1936. The Willow Ptarmigan in Northern Minnesota. *The Journal of Minnesota Ornithology* 1:42-45.

Until the winter of 1933-1934 very little definite information and only one specimen of the Willow Ptarmigan (*Lagopus lagopus albus*) had been obtained from Minnesota territory. The one specimen was a bird shot by Mr. Charles Springsteel on April 20, 1914, on his farm on Springsteel Island in Lake of the Woods not far from Warroad in Minnesota. This bird was mounted by Mr. P. O. Fryklund of Roseau for Mr. Stephen Withey of Crookston by whom it was presented November 12, 1917, to the Natural History Museum of the University of Minnesota, where the specimen now is.

All other records have been in the nature of hearsay. Mr. Herbert Armstrong of Iron Mountain, Michigan, in a letter to the late Mr. O. B. Warren, April 9, 1898, wrote as follows: "I regret that I am unable to give you any positive information regarding the Ptarmigan in Minnesota. I was anxious to secure a specimen for Mr. Brewster but never came across one. I talked with many of the Indian traders and with the Indians themselves. They all say they are rare, although some years ago quite a number were killed. Peter Link-lighter, who used to keep a trading post at Kettle Falls, told me the Indians killed and brought in 15 or 20 that winter and that at other times, now and then, an odd one would be brought in. I spent three years in Northern Minnesota and during that time (and for two years previous) I did not hear of one being killed. Yet there is no doubt in my mind that they do at times get that far south."

A letter from Mr. Warren, then at Hibbing, dated June 18, 1900, says: "The most interesting thing was quite an authentic record of the Ptarmigan. Mr. Strong, a landholder just east of Copeland's Lake, northern Lake County,

Minnesota, shot two Ptarmigans on Sec. 30-62-10, a few years ago. From his description I am quite certain this is an authentic record. A land-looker by the name of Mussel claims to have known of Indians killing a few."

The other data in our files are still more unsubstantial but it is fair to assume that from time to time Ptarmigans were taken or seen on Minnesota soil by hunters and trappers and that at intervals a southward winter movement occurred in fair numbers. It is now possible to record in detail such an invasion during the winter of 1933-1934. The areas invaded, so far as is known, were the Lake of the Woods region and farther east the Vermilion-Burntside Lake region. Former was chiefly in Roseau and Lake of the Woods counties and the latter in northern St. Louis County. The records for Lake of the Woods and Roseau counties were supplied by Mr. P. O. Fryklund of Roseau, to whom the writer is indebted for the privilege of making this report, and those for St. Louis County by the Minnesota Game and Fish Department wardens through the kindness of Mr. T. Surber. Apparently a total of about 200 birds were seen by the various observers and of these five were taken and preserved. Three are in the museum of the University of Minnesota and two in the collection of Mr. Fryklund. It seems altogether probable that the southward movement extended over a greater area in Minnesota than is here indicated but no other reports were received.

The winter was cold and there was much snow. The temperature at Roseau on January 3 was 43 degrees below zero and at Warroad 49 below.

The period over which the Ptarmigans were seen was from about the first of December to

April 25. The most southern locality was Tower, about latitude 47° 50”.

The occasion being an unusual one it will be of interest to put on record the exact data received. The records from the Lake of the Woods-Roseau region are as follows:

Dec. 7, 1933. Iver Hanson and Jonas Mellstrom of Salol, Roseau County, saw two Ptarmigans about six miles north of Salol. The two birds were in the ditch along the roadside and showed no fear of the men or horses. Karl Karlson of Salol reports seeing the same birds for days in succession.

Dec. 31, 1933. Jesse Burress of Salol picked up a dead Willow Ptarmigan on the northeast corner of Sec. 20, T. 163 N., R. 38 W. Now in the University museum.

Jan. 21, 1934. George Rodegaard of Fox, Roseau County, saw three Ptarmigans on the Brovold Farm, Sec. 33, Town of Dieter. The birds were unafraid and Mr. Rodegaard nearly succeeded in catching one alive but had to resort to the gun to secure the specimen which he brought to Mr. Fryklund for identification. This specimen now in the University museum.

The first part of February, 1934, Herbert Mellstrom of Salol saw three Ptarmigans near State Highway No. 11, four miles east of Salol.

On one of the first days of February, 1934, Nels White of Fox saw one Ptarmigan one half-mile west of Fox on Highway No. 11.

February 2, 1934, four Ptarmigans were seen by John Mattson, highway maintenance man, when at work on Highway No. 11, west of Swift, Roseau County, and about the same time A. M. Landby of Town 162, R. 36, saw one on his farm on the south shore of Lake of the Woods.

February 15, 1934. Mrs. Fay Young of Penasse in the Northwest Angle, Lake of the Woods County, saw a number of Ptarmigans near their home on Sec. 26, T. 168 N., R. 34 W. and two days later Fay Young, her husband, saw the birds in the same place.

February 18, 1934. McKeever, in charge of Fernstrom's Resort on Flag Island, Lake of the Woods, saw about 20 Ptarmigans on the island.

On or about February 20, 1934, Arnold Nordengen of Town of Dieter found a Ptarmigan caught in a small weasel trap and brought it to Mr. Fryklund for identification. There were two of the birds and the one at liberty was still in the vicinity two weeks later.



February 21, 1934. Hans A. Aanerud of the Town of Barto, Roseau County, saw three Ptarmigans on Sec. 15, same Township. He was very close to the birds and made several unsuccessful attempts to strike one with his ski pole.

February 25, 1934. George Cole and Richard Nelson of Warroad, Roseau County, saw five Ptarmigans near the Park at Warroad and the next day the same birds were seen feeding in a slop or refuse pile near the Great Northern Section House in Warroad.

February 25, 1934. John Sherman of the Town of Stafford, Roseau County, saw about 12 Ptarmigans on his father's farm. Seeing them at a distance he at first took them to be tame Pigeons. One of the birds was shot and is now in the collection of Mr. Fryklund.

February 27, 1934. Oliver Selrog saw about 40 Ptarmigans at his father's fishery on Sandy Beach, Lake of the Woods.

March 1, 1934. John Kulas of the Town of Barto shot a Ptarmigan in Town of Blooming Valley. Specimen now in University museum.

April 5, 1934. Game Warden Conrad Olson reported that on a visit to the Northwest Angle, Lake of the Woods County, the Engdall brothers, residing on Sec. 27, T. 168 N., R. 34 W., told

him they had seen a flock of approximately 100 Ptarmigans on their place April 5.

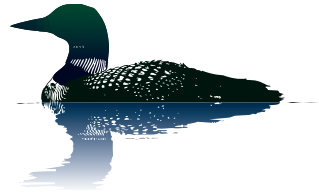
April 28, 1934. From Mr. Fryklund comes the following interesting note: "Ivey Hanson of Salol, Roseau County, called at my office and informed me that on April 25 he had seen two Ptarmigans in changing plumage near Salol. One was nearly all brown and the other had considerable white in the tail.

From farther east along the Canadian border comes the following information kindly furnished by Mr. T. Surber of the Minnesota Game and Fish Department. A letter written by Mr. W. A. Hanson, District Chief Warden March 19, 1934, contains this paragraph: "Replying to your letter of Mar 15, Ptarmigans have been seen between Tower and Ely, northern St. Louis County, a number of times. They were first seen near Eagle's Nest Lakes in Town 62, Range 14, about two weeks ago and were reported to Warden Carlson at Ely who investigated but

was unable to locate the birds. I think there were three in the flock. Some days later one was again seen by Ranger Erickson at Tower as he was driving along the road. Warden Johnson of Tower also informed me that he saw four or five in Town 62, Range 15, last week." Others were seen at various times during the winter by persons driving along the roads in the Tower-Ely region. Professor V. W. Jackson of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, kindly sent Minnesota records duplicating some of those given above and stated that many Willow Ptarmigans were seen that winter in Manitoba east of Winnipeg. The winter of 1934-1935 there were no reports of this bird in Minnesota. Judging from past history such an invasion as that of 1933-1934 may not occur again for many years.

Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.

Notes of Interest



SAGE THRASHER; FIRST RECORD FOR RAMSEY COUNTY — At 9:00 A.M. on 13 November 2023, I was birding along the eastern edge of Battle Creek Regional Park adjacent to the 77-acre grassland which is managed by Ramsey County Corrections. Four years ago, when the county proposed to develop this grassland, a group of us began an effort to preserve it, and since then, I'd been birding this location every week. This time, I noticed an unusual bird moving down low in the brush along the trail. At first, I considered Swainson's Thrush, but the yellow eyes didn't fit. Then I considered Brown Thrasher, but the bird's overall color and size were wrong. I then consulted Sibley's *eGuide* (2017) and noted that Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montianus*) was the best match, but it was supposed to be 1,000 miles southwest. I had never seen one.

This bird appeared to be smaller than a Brown Thrasher, though none were nearby for direct comparison. It was grayish-brown above and very pale buff below, but much buffier on the flanks. It had a rounded head with long dark bill (though perhaps relatively short for a thrasher), yellow-orange eye, and buffy cheek below the eye. There was one dark malar stripe. Its undersides were almost entirely marked with dark, grayish-brown, elongated spots. The wings were slightly darker brown, edged pale, and had a weak white wing bar. The legs and feet were dark gray.

I sent a photo to my good friend Dana Sterner and asked if it was really a Sage Thrasher. She immediately replied "yes!" and spread the word. Within 30 minutes, a number of birders showed





Sage Thrasher, 13 November 2023, Battle Creek Regional Park, St. Paul, Ramsey County. Photo by John Zakelj.

up, but by then the bird was gone. People continued searching for it until Pam Albin re-discovered it that afternoon. It continued appearing off and on for the next three days, mostly feeding on buckthorn berries, and was last reported on 16 November. The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union (MOU) database has 175 reports of this bird from more than 125 different people — possibly more than all other Sage Thrasher reports combined.

The Sage Thrasher is found mostly in shrub-dominated valleys and plains of the western United States, but is known to wander during migration (Reynolds et. al, 2020). According to the MOU database, this is the first record for Ramsey County and the 16th for Minnesota. Before this, the most recent sightings were Sherburne County on 13 May 2022 (Tustison, 2023), and St. Louis County on 5 June 2019 (Tustison, 2020).

The future of the 77-acre Battle Creek Grassland is on hold while a number of birding and environmental groups continue to work with Ramsey County to develop a plan for its preservation. I'm sure this Sage Thrasher would not have shown up at this location if the grassland had been developed.

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John Zakelj, St. Paul, MN.

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Purpose of the M.O.U.

The purpose of the MOU is the promotion of a broad program of conservation and natural history study, primarily in the field of ornithology.

To achieve this objective, the Union urges and promotes interest in field studies and observation of birds by individual members and affiliated bird clubs. We publish a quarterly journal, ***The Loon***, and a newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*; we conduct



field trips; we encourage and sponsor the preservation of natural areas; and we hold seminars where research reports, unusual observations, and conservation discussions are presented.

We are supported by dues from members, affiliated clubs, and special gifts. Any or all aspects of the MOU program could be expanded significantly with gifts, memorials, or bequests willed to the organization.

Suggestions to Authors

The Loon is a peer-reviewed journal on the birds of Minnesota published quarterly by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. The Editor welcomes submissions of articles, Notes of Interest, color slides, and unaltered photographs. All submissions should be typed, double-spaced, and single-sided. Notes of Interest should be less than two full pages. Photographs should be no smaller than 5"x7". Whenever possible, please include a digital copy of your submission in any standard format on CD, DVD, flash drive, or via e-mail. Digital documents may be e-mailed to the Editor of ***The Loon*** — see inside front cover for contact information. Club information and other announcements of general interest should be sent to the Editor of our newsletter *Minnesota Birding* — see inside front cover for contact information. Bird sighting reports for each season should be sent to the Editor of "The Seasonal Report" — see "Key to The Seasonal Report" for contact information.



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The Loon

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Obituary

Arthur (Mike) William Mulligan

6 November 1931 – 13 October 2023

Mark S. Citsay

Mike's circle of life was enriched by his lifelong commitment to family and friends and was rewarding in many ways. Whether it involved his family of seven, the local neighborhood, a professional relocation to Calgary with a young family, being engaged in his children's activities, or embracing birding, he led with a smile and shared his passions with others.

Mike began birding by pointing out birds to his children during camping trips in the mid-1970s. He and sister-in-law, Bonnie Mulligan, attended a field class in 1980, "Birds of Spring," offered by the Science Museum of Minnesota and led by Dale Chelberg and Chase Davies. In 1981, Mike and Bonnie found "a guy in Duluth," Kim Eckert, who led birding groups. Mike's pursuit of new friends, new birds, and new locations led to discovering the beauty and richness of Minnesota and our birding community, as well as his first out-of-state trip with the Bell Museum to South Carolina in 1983. Personally planned trips followed, with local guides hired in Arizona in 1985, California in 1987, multiple North Carolina pelagic trips beginning in 1991, Alaska in 1992, and Nevada in 2000 for the Himalayan Snowcock.

Especially fond of Central America — the people, birds and frugal meals of black beans and rice, Mike visited this region over 40 times. While his wife, Jo, taught at an international school in this region during the 1990s, something resonated within him and drew him back. He once shared his global perspective by saying if an individual focuses on a specific region or regions, that person will be rewarded with a more in-depth understanding of the culture and ecology, and an enriched life.

Metrics are difficult to avoid in birding, whether it is the number of regular visitors at a home feeder, the pounds of seed used, or county, state, and global life list totals. For



birders, life lists are perhaps easier to quantify and communicate than the commitment and appreciation gained for family, friends, and cultures over time and along the way. In addition to North and Central America, Mike visited South America, Africa, and Australia. His world total was 3600 and North America total 1621, including Costa Rica 800+ and Minnesota 359.

Mike was an active birder and bird lister. From feeding birds at his then Chanhassen home to joining a Carver County Big Day team or compiling Audubon Christmas Bird Counts, he was passionate about Minnesota birds. In 1990, he was elected President of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. This period was marked by the continued recovery of the Peregrine Falcon and Bald Eagle and the digitization of the MOU's 40+ years of records (*The Loon* 62:4–12). He strengthened our birding



Mike Mulligan in northern Alberta, 2 March 2013. Photo by Gerald Romanchuk.

community through supporting and/or joining these activities.

Upon retirement in the late 1990s, Mike and Jo returned to Calgary to be close to family. There he made a lasting and valuable contribution to birding in Alberta. He was a *North American Birds* contributor for the Prairie Provinces, co-creator of the listservice “Alberta Birds” with Phil Cram, a volunteer at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, and a bander with the Calgary Bird Banding Society. He was a member of Nature Calgary and contributor to the Bird Study Group. Mike participated enthusiastically in many bird counts and similar activities in the Calgary region and beyond. His knowledge, kind nature, energy, and stamina made Mike a wonderful birding companion and mentor.

Mike was the senior member of a four-man team which undertook a Canadian Big Year in 2012. Naming the quest *Fur and Feathers 500*, the objective was to see 500 bird and mammal species during the year. Upon completing 14 trips outside Alberta by year-end, the team had achieved their goal by seeing and identifying

431 species of birds and 76 mammals — a total of 507 “fur and feathers.” Rare birds and mammals ranked among the year’s highlights, and the rarest birds (from a Canadian perspective) were Citrine Wagtail, Hepatic Tanager, Rustic Bunting, Brambling, Brown Pelican, Acorn Woodpecker, and Costa’s Hummingbird. The star mammal of the year was a Polar Bear in Nunavut. Mike turned 81 during that momentous year and was truly an inspiration to the rest of the team.

Mike spoke softly, listened intently, and made an impact both locally and globally by leading with his smile and passions. Beginning in Iowa and Minnesota, relocating to Calgary and traveling to five continents, he made the world a better place through his friendships and shared passions.

I thank Kim Eckert, Bonnie Mulligan, Phil Cram, Connie Osbeck, Jean Mulligan, and Jim Williams, all of whom made important contributions to this tribute.

Lake Elmo MN.

Changing Status of the Black-necked Stilt in Minnesota

Philip C. Chu

On 23 April 1989, Thomas Provost observed a Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) in the Roseau River Wildlife Management Area, Roseau County (Provost, 1989); the stilt was also seen on 24 and 25 April (Wood, 1989). At the time, Provost was unaware that stilts had never been seen in Minnesota before, nor could he have known that this first state record would, decades later, remain the only one for the state's northernmost tier of counties.

Coincidentally, Minnesota's second Black-necked Stilt record was also in 1989, on 12–17 June in Stevens County (Buer and Buer, 1989; Winkelman, 1989); after that, however, the third occurrence was not until 1992 (Krych, 1992), and the fourth was not until 2000 (Kenne, 2000).

Since then, Black-necked Stilt observations have increased dramatically. For the ten years from 2001 through 2010, there were 13 stilt records, for an average of 1.3 per year. For the five years from 2011 through 2015, there were ten records — equivalent to two yearly. For the next five years, from 2016 through 2020, there were 29 records, i.e., 5.8 annually. And in 2021 and 2022, there were 20 and 16 records respectively (18 per year); the latter two numbers include a pair of records, one each from 2021 and 2022 and both documented by identifiable photographs, that have yet to be reviewed by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC). Thus, through the end of 2022, the total number of records, including those not yet reviewed by the MOURC, was 92. See Figure 1, and note that the last year with no stilt records was 2011.

Black-necked Stilts have been recorded in Minnesota in every month from April through October. The earliest stilt was found on 10 April — initial dates are given because some records span multiple dates — whereas the latest was found on 16 October. However, the vast majority — about 85% — were initially reported



Black-necked Stilt, 8 May 2022, Armstrong Wetland Restoration, Steele County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

some time between mid-April and mid-June, with a pronounced peak (57 of 92 records, or about 62% of the total) in May. Initial dates of the 92 records are summarized in Figure 2.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, given the increasing frequency with which stilts have occurred in Minnesota, and given that the species mainly appears in the spring, observers have documented several instances in which arriving individuals stayed and attempted to breed. In fact, attempted nesting was predicted early on by Svingen (2005), though the first breeding record was not until almost a decade later, in 2014. This effort, in Grant County, failed when the nest and its four eggs were flooded (Hertzell, 2015). A second attempt was reported in Jackson County in 2016 (Kessen and Svingen, 2017); four young were involved (Budde et al., 2017), with notes that observers submitted via the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union website indicating the young to be almost fully grown and able to fly. However,

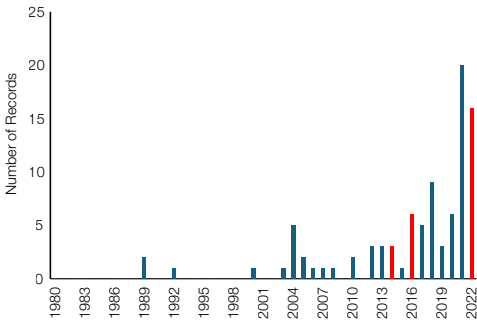


Figure 1. Year-by-year totals for Black-necked Stilt records in Minnesota. Records through 2022 were compiled from seasonal surveys and MOURC proceedings in *The Loon*; note that one record each from 2021 and 2022 have yet to undergo MOURC review. Red bars indicate years in which breeding was said to have been attempted, but see the text for a caveat about breeding in 2016.

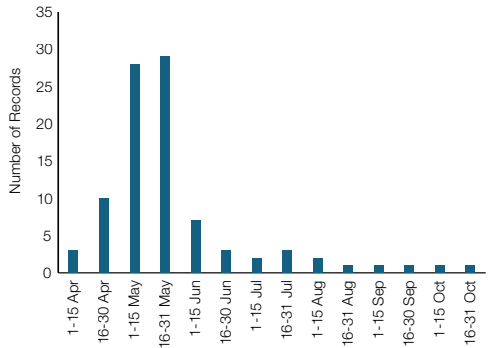


Figure 2. Month-by-month timing of Minnesota Black-necked Stilt records through 2022. Each bar represents the number of records whose initial date falls within the indicated half-month period; initial dates are used for each record because some records span multiple days.

stilt chicks only 75% of adult mass are capable of prolonged flight (Reed et al., 1999), meaning that the Jackson County young could have flown into Minnesota after hatching in adjacent Iowa. Finally, another breeding attempt, the most recent through 2022, involved a 2022 pair in Big Stone County that produced two young (Kessen and Svingen, 2023).

In geographic terms, through 2022, the greatest number of stilt records was from the west-central region as defined by Green and Janssen (1975), though the southwest, south-central, and central regions each had many records as well (Figure 3). Consistent with this, the state’s 2014 and 2022 nesting records are from the west-central region, and the possible breeding record in 2016 is from the southwest region. In contrast, by the end of 2022 stilts had not yet occurred in the north-central and northeast regions.

Black-necked Stilts are occurring with dramatically increased frequency not only in Minnesota but also in Wisconsin and Michigan, the states that — together with Minnesota — have long been treated as the Western Great Lakes Region in the periodical *North American Birds* and its predecessors (*American Birds*, *Field Notes*, and *Audubon Field Notes*). For Wisconsin (Figure 4), after first and second records in 1847 (Kumlien and Hollister, 1903) and 1951 (Strelitzer, 1952) respectively, and after the pe-

riod from 1986 through 2003 when records accumulated at a modest rate of less than one per year, the number of occurrences began going up sharply. Stilts first bred in Wisconsin (Soulen, 1999), and by 2015 they were breeding in the state every year. For Michigan (Figure 5), the first record was in 1980 (Belyea, 1980) and the number of records did not exceed one per year until 2014, at which point a pronounced increase in the number of occurrences began (Adam Byrne, pers. comm.). As in Minnesota, there have been just a few breeding records, with the first Michigan nest dating back to 2003 (Byrne, 2004).

In fact, stilts have been expanding northward across much of North America (though it is certainly plausible our birds could have come from the Dakotas). Over 20 years ago Gratto-Trevor (2002) reviewed stilt expansion into western Canada, and much more recent statements about this expansion have been provided for British Columbia (Fraser, 2023) and the prairie provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba (Koes and Fox, 2023). Meanwhile, to the east of the Western Great Lakes region, in southeastern Ontario — where, through 2021, 28 of the province’s 30 stilt records had occurred — fully half of the stilt records are from the decade from 2012 to 2021 (Ontario Bird Records Committee, 2022).

An initial explanation for the stilt’s northward range expansion was drought. Drought further south in the American West was sug-

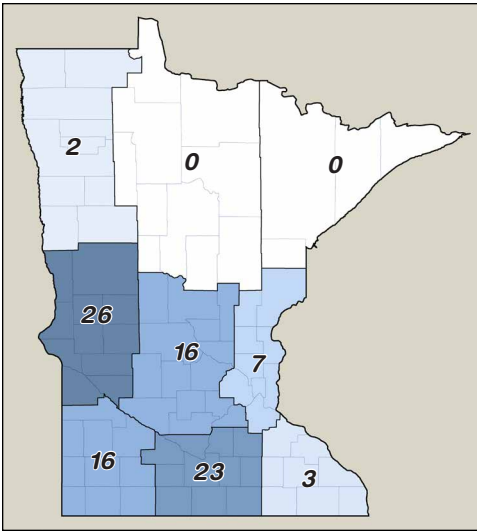


Figure 3. Locations for Minnesota Black-necked Stilt records through 2022. The regions shown are those of Green and Janssen (1975); the darker the color of a region, the more records it has. The number of records shown is 93, whereas the actual number through 2022 was 92; the discrepancy exists because one record involved a stilt that occurred in two regions, on both sides of the line between Carver County (central region) and Hennepin County (east-central region).

gested as the cause of 1977 breeding records in Alberta (Dekker et al., 1979) and Washington (Rohwer et al., 1979), with Rohwer et al. (1979) explaining that stilt breeding was “very likely” to have “resulted from a combination of drought affecting their normal breeding range and the stable conditions north of that range.” However, Gratto-Trevor (2002) questioned the generality of this explanation, noting that before 1977, dry conditions in the Great Basin had not resulted in stilts invading regions further north, and that, after 1977 stilts continued to breed in some of the invaded areas even though the Great Basin drought had eased.

A more general, and more recent, explanation offered for stilt range expansion is climate change (e.g., Fraser 2023). Though there are no studies of the effects of climate change on Black-necked Stilts specifically, there are many studies describing how climate change is associated with bird ranges shifting towards the poles (e.g., Hitch and Leberg, 2007; Devictor

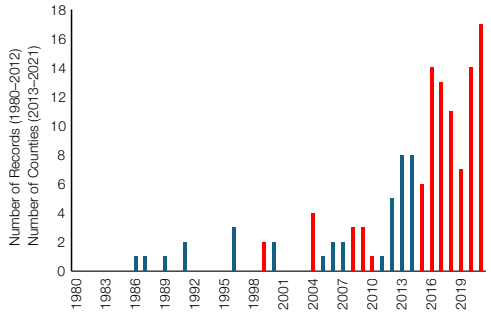


Figure 4. Year-by-year totals for Black-necked Stilt records in Wisconsin, 1980–2021; single records from 1847 and 1951 are not shown. Red bars indicate years in which breeding was attempted. Records before mid-2009 were taken from a compilation by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (2022). Records from mid-2009 through summer 2021 were tabulated from seasonal surveys in *The Passenger Pigeon*; that journal ceased publication after the summer 2021 survey appeared in print, so records for the rest of 2021 were taken from the fall 2021 seasonal survey in *North American Birds* (Marengo, 2022). Note that, from 2013 on, there were enough stilts occurring in Wisconsin that surveys in *The Passenger Pigeon* began listing not individual stilt records, but the number of counties in which stilts had occurred; thus annual totals from 2013 on represent not number of records but number of counties.

et al., 2008; Brommer et al., 2012; Gillings et al., 2014; Amano et al., 2020). Note, however, that the methods of some poleward-shift studies have been criticized (Taheri et al., 2016) and that contrary evidence exists (Currie and Venne, 2016).

Regardless of the ultimate cause for Black-necked Stilt expansion, whether in Minnesota specifically or North America generally, the species is well-known for its tendency to use human-made wetlands for nesting (e.g., Davis et al., 2010; Robinson et al., 2020), and there are suggestions that this tendency helps stilts to colonize new areas (Kaufman, 1996), or at least to persist in areas where natural wetlands are being lost (e.g., Shuford et al., 2004; Robinson et al., 2020).

Acknowledgments

I’m grateful to Adam M. Byrne for providing

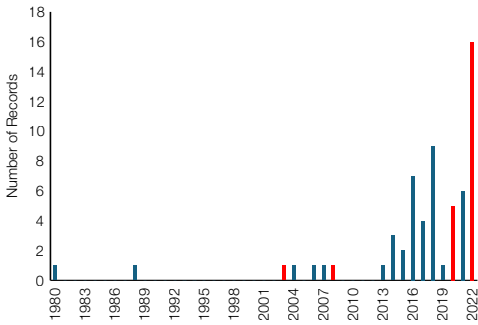


Figure 5. Year-by-year totals for Black-necked Stilt records in Michigan. Records through 2022 were taken from an unpublished compendium by the Michigan Bird Records Committee (Adam M. Byrne, pers. comm.). Red bars indicate years in which breeding was attempted.

an unpublished compilation of records acted on by the Michigan Bird Records Committee; as well, I'm indebted to the authors of seasonal surveys in *The Passenger Pigeon* and *The Loon*, and to a succession of MOURC chairpersons for their articles about the committee's actions. Because the present work mentions few individual records, it cites few seasonal surveys and no actions articles. Nonetheless, the surveys and articles collectively house a wealth of information pertaining to status and distribution — the *sine qua non* for a paper like this one.

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The 2023 Spring Season 1 March through 31 May 2023

Paul E. Budde¹, Ezra M. Hosch², Doug W. Kieser³,
and Brian T. Smith⁴

This was one of the best spring birding seasons ever in Minnesota as 338 species were found. These included 307 out of the 313 Regular species, 22 out of 41 Casuals, and 9 Accidentals — including the state's first

Swainson's Warbler. Totals for recent spring seasons have been 329 in 2022, 324 in 2021, and 318 in 2020. How exceptional this season was, or whether it is simply continuing a rising trend, remains to be seen.

Two Eurasian Wigeons were found in April, the first record for Rice County and the second for Anoka. The state's fourth Tufted Duck was seen at Park Point in mid May. The first Chuckwill's-widow since 1984 was recorded calling in Rochester for one night only. A Limpkin discovered on the last day of the season in Watonwan County was the third record of this species in as many years.

Thirteen records of Black-necked Stilt was actually only the second highest spring total of this species which is soon to become Regular on the state checklist. Two of those records were firsts for Mille Lacs and Houston counties. In all, this species has now been found in 41 of Minnesota's 87 counties. Red Knots were found in McLeod and St. Louis counties, both in late May. A Ruff at the Albany sewage ponds in Stearns County was the second not only for the county but also for this specific location as the first one was here in 1983.

An adult Ross's Gull was discovered amongst a small flock of Bonaparte's Gulls at Duluth's Superior Entry on the last day of the season. In late April an immature California Gull was spotted near Felton Prairie. The state's first spring Arctic Tern since 2009 was found at the Park Point Recreation Area in late May. At the end of April and in early May four Glossy Ibis visited four Southwest Region counties. This was the fourth consecutive spring with reports of this species; the state's first confirmed record was in 1991.

Minnesota's tenth Black Vulture and seventh spring record was found in Fillmore County. A Mississippi Kite was a first record for Wilkin County. Barn Owls were reported from three locations in Houston County where they have been reported annually since 2017, while a specimen was discovered at the other end of the state in Polk County in March. Burrowing Owls provided first records for Brown and Faribault counties.

In the last few days of the season, Scissor-tailed Flycatchers found in Washington and Cass counties were second records for both. White-eyed Vireos were the first record for Lincoln and the second record for Rock County in mid May. A Rock Wren in Grant County was only the second spring record since 2006. A Curve-billed Thrasher in Big Stone County was only the sixth state record of this species, and the first spring visitor since 2000. Another

vagrant in Clay County was an adult male Mountain Bluebird photographed in late April.

This season produced the most reports of Eurasian Tree Sparrow ever in the state, including first records for Pennington, Wabasha, and Wilkin counties. Minnesota's ninth Brambling visited a feeder in Pine County for a few days in late April. This was the fifth record of this Asian visitor since the turn of the century. Notable wandering winter finches were an Evening Grosbeak in Stearns County and Red Crossbills in Blue Earth and Meeker counties. Both White-winged Crossbills and Hoary Redpolls were scarce as they were only seen in heavily birded St. Louis County. A Smith's Longspur was an unexpected first-time visitor to Kanabec County. Another brief visitor was an adult male Lark Bunting seen in Duluth.

This season was outstanding for wandering warblers. A Worm-eating Warbler was at the Bass Ponds in Bloomington. The state's first Swainson's Warbler was discovered in a small park in Edina, Hennepin County. This individual was remarkably cooperative as several hundred birders were able to see it and many fine photographs were obtained during its four-day stay. Three Kentucky Warblers were discovered in Hennepin County over a one-week period. Yellow-throated Warblers continued their movement into the state as birds were found in Houston, Dakota, and Ramsey counties. Also seen (and heard) for the first time in Ramsey County was a Prairie Warbler. And finally, in early May, Hermit Warblers were documented in both St. Louis and Ramsey counties, the first for each and only the third and fourth individuals ever found in the state.

A male Lazuli Bunting seen in Ramsey County marked the fifth spring out of the last ten when this species has been found in the state. A male Painted Bunting in Blue Earth made it eight of the past ten spring seasons for this species.

Weather: March was colder than normal as the statewide average temperature was six degrees (F) below normal. At the end of the month, Ada experienced the coldest temperature of the season, -22°. In mid-April, a very warm air mass brought temperatures into the low 90's in the southern third of the state. Still, with a cold beginning and end to the month, the statewide average temperature for April was almost three degrees below normal. In May,

things warmed up. Statewide, it averaged 4.5° above normal.

In addition to being cold, March was a stormy month. A storm on the 1st crossed the state from Fargo to Duluth. A second storm on 5–6 March brought heavy snow from the Southwest to the East-central regions. On the 11–12 March, a fast-moving “Alberta Clipper” dropped over a foot of snow from Crookston to Duluth. A fourth event crossed the state on 16–17 March, from Luverne to Duluth. April began with a large storm bringing rain, sleet and heavy snow to southern and central Minnesota. Another large storm with strong winds and every form of precipitation passed through most of the state 14–17 April. The state saw few storms in May, but one large rain event from 10–15 May produced significant rainfall in the southernmost counties. Parts of Brown County, in particular, received between six and nine inches.

Insufficiently documented records of Regular species: Greater Prairie-Chicken 5/11 Big Stone (description didn’t exclude more expected species); Solitary Sandpiper 5/30 Meeker (12) (high tally for a late date); Great Black-backed Gull 3/18 Dakota (with a Lesser Black-backed Gull at the same location, more details required); American Goshawk 3/7 Rice, 3/23 Le Sueur (no details), 4/3 Brown, 4/13, 4/25 Hennepin

(limited details), 4/29 Lac qui Parle (conflicting descriptions); Yellow-throated Vireo 5/9 Dakota (15) (high count for early date).

Acknowledgements

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¹ Washington, DC; ² Mahtomedi, MN; ³ Minneapolis, MN; ⁴ Sleepy Eye, MN

KEY TO THE SEASONAL REPORT

1. Upper case (**LEAST TERN**) indicates a Casual or Accidental species in the state.
2. Species listed in brackets [**Smew**] indicates a reasonable doubt as to its origin or wildness.
3. Bracketed text following a species’ name [2 North, 3 South] indicates the total number of north and south counties with reports.
4. Dates listed in bold (**10/9**) indicate an occurrence either earlier, later, or within the three earliest or latest dates on file.
5. Counties listed in bold (**Aitkin**) indicate an unusual occurrence for that county.
6. Counties listed in bold and with an underline (**Becker**) indicate a first county record.
7. Counties listed in italics (*Crow Wing*) indicate a first county breeding record.
8. Totals in bold (**150**) indicate a total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
9. Totals in bold-italic (***55***) indicate a CBC total within or exceeding the top three high counts for that species.
10. Dagger “†” preceding observer’s initials denotes written documentation was submitted.
11. “ph.” denotes a species documented with a photograph.
12. “v.t.” denotes a species documented by video.
13. “a.t.” denotes a species documented by audio.
14. High counts that are multiples of 100 are assumed or known to be estimates unless otherwise noted.

The *Seasonal Report* is a compilation of seasonal bird sightings from throughout Minnesota. We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To become a contributor, contact the Editor of the Seasonal Report, Paul E. Budde, seasons@moumn.org.

- Snow Goose** (*Anser caerulescens*) — [50 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/6) 3/3 Nobles (5) BTS, 3/4 McLeod BHa, 3/5 Lac qui Parle BA_b, Rice TFB, ebd. Early north (median 3/19) 3/26 Otter Tail (3) ebd, 4/2 Crow Wing ebd, 4/3 Mille Lacs (13) ebd, St. Louis (7) ebd. High counts 4/10 Lac qui Parle (75,000, Arena Twp.; estimate from video and photos) DIS, 4/10 Chippewa (25,000, Lac qui Parle S.P.) ASu, DLS. Late south 5/20 Rock TWe, 5/22 Faribault RBW, 5/27 Jackson (8) ebd (median 6/9). Late north 5/19 Cook ebd, 5/19–20 Pennington IsH, EzH, MrC, 5/26 Marshall (5) ANy (median 5/31).
- Ross's Goose** (*Anser rossii*) — [38 South, 9 North] Early south (median 3/8) 3/8 Wabasha (2) PEJ, 3/14 Freeborn ASu, Nobles PEJ, DFN. Early north (median 3/25) 3/26 Morrison BWF, MJB, 4/10 Traverse DLP, 4/11 Clay ANy, DBz, Douglas (3) JEL. High count 4/10 Lac qui Parle (250, Arena Twp.) ASu, DLS. Late south 4/30 Lac qui Parle ebd, 5/6–12 Lyon (3, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) RJS (median 5/15). Late north 4/17 Clay (3) CMk, Traverse (7) ebd, Wilkin (10) ebd (median 5/22).
- Snow Goose X Ross's Goose** (*Anser caerulescens* X *A. rossii*) — [1 South] One south report 4/7 Cottonwood MJB.
- Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*) — [52 South, 15 North] Early south (median 2/28) included one reported in late February, then 3/3 Nobles (600, Okabena Lake) BTS, 3/4 Jackson (280) ebd. Early north (median 3/20) 3/15 Traverse (max. 28) DLP, ebd, 3/28 Otter Tail VDo, 4/2 Grant (12) CNn. High counts 4/9 Yellow Medicine (20,000, Normania Twp.; estimated by 500s) DIS, 4/8 Lyon (11,000, near Marshall) NMe, DIS. Late south 5/21 Hennepin ABL, m.ob., 5/24 Lyon NMe, 5/30 Waseca RBW (median 5/31). Late north 5/11 Traverse DLP, ebd, 5/25 Aitkin PEJ, 5/26 Clearwater ebd (median 5/18).
- Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [48 South, 15 North] Early south (median 2/26) 3/3 Cottonwood (4) KEm, Jackson ph. BTS, Nobles (5) BTS, 3/3–4 Steele (2) DAB, followed by reports from 3/4 Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Scott. Early north (median 3/18) 3/21 Douglas JPE, 3/27 Cass ebd, 3/30 Clay ebd. High counts 4/2 Lyon (235, multiple flocks, Cottonwood) GWe, 4/14 Clay (170, flyovers in two flocks, Blue Eagle Park) StK, SNe, 4/14 Stevens (90, near Morris) ebd. Late south 4/28–29 Hennepin (2) ebd, Lac qui Parle (max. 4) TiW, KeL, 5/10 Wright (Pelican Lake) RCL (median 5/15). Late north 5/12 Otter Tail (2, Maplewood S.P.) WyR, 5/16 Carlton (3, near Wrenshall) ebd, 5/20 Aitkin ebd (median 5/20).
- Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties.
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [4 South] All reports of probable wild birds: 3/12–15 Goodhue (max. 2, Mississippi River Lock & Dam 3) JtM, SDz, PEJ, ebd, 3/19 – 5/28 Washington (max. 4, several locations) PN_i, DnS, LiH, m.ob., 3/23 Hennepin (Lake Rebecca P.R.) ebd, 5/21–29 Dakota (max. 2, several locations) TPu, MwT, ALw, KDS, DwS, PCC, ebd.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported for the third consecutive year from all 87 counties. There were several high counts of 200+ birds reported in March, but none explicitly identified why the swans were this species and not migrating Tundras.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [50 South, 30 North] One report in late February, then early south (median 3/6) 3/2–3 Scott (max. 4) BDG, ebd, 3/5 Goodhue (3) PEJ, Houston (8) DJa, ebd, Steele (5) DAB. On 4/14, two separate Bewick's Swans (*C. c. bewickii*) were photographed by KJB in Lac qui Parle (Augusta Twp.) showing extensive yellow at the base of the bill. Early north (median 3/17) 3/23 Otter Tail (11) ebd, 3/25 Traverse (max. 14) KEm, JWH, Wilkin (4) ebd, 3/27 Carlton (30) ebd. High counts 3/30 Wabasha (3,900, Weaver Bottoms) PEJ, 4/7 Sibley (3,000, day total) BTS, MiO. Late south 5/8–11 Hennepin ebd, 5/8–13 Carver ebd, 5/12 Dakota ebd (median 5/7). Late north 5/26 Clearwater (2) ebd, 5/27 Pennington ANy, 5/28 Polk HHu (median 5/28).
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/19) 3/25 Pine (4) ebd, 3/26 Morrison (3) MJB, 3/28 Pine (4) SBE. High counts 4/11 Douglas (200, near Nelson) JEL, 4/6 Dakota (150, Spring Lake P.R.) MwT, AnB, ebd.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Spatula discors*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 coun-

ties. First reported in Scott late February, then early south (median 3/11) 3/6–9 Stearns HHD. Early north (median 3/29) 4/7 Clay ebd, 4/7–9 Cass (max. 10) JnP, ABi, ebd, 4/9 Crow Wing (max. 5) EGa, ebd, followed by additional reports from Itasca, Morrison, Pennington, Todd. High count 4/24 Steele (500, Armstrong Wetland Restoration) LiH, ebd.

Cinnamon Teal (*Spatula cyanoptera*) — [6 South, 2 North] Two north reports 4/16–23 St. Louis (male, near Duluth) ph. MFu, FJN, JLK, ebd, 4/29 – 5/2 Clay (male, Bridgeview Park, Moorhead) DPW, m.ob. Six south reports 4/20–22 Lac qui Parle (Big Stone N.W.R.) DOr, 4/28 – 5/2 McLeod (male, near Hutchinson) ebd, m.ob., 4/29 Cottonwood (male, Talcot Lake Dam) DHr, 4/30 – 5/1 Kandiyohi (male, near Willmar) JoS, m.ob., 5/1 Murray (male, Lake Sarah Twp.) ph. †KEM, 5/5 Redwood (male, Duncan Ave.) SLH.

Blue-winged Teal X Cinnamon Teal (*Spatula discors X S. cyanoptera*) — [2 South] 4/12–25 Washington (Hazen P. Mooers Park) PNi, DnS, †BDO, v.t. JHe, m.ob., 4/25 Hennepin (Three Ponds Park) ebd.

Northern Shoveler (*Spatula chrypeata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported in all 87 counties. As many as 13 birds overwintered in Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.). Early south migrants (median 3/3) 3/5 Big Stone DLP, 3/10 Le Sueur (3) ebd, 3/11 Goodhue PEJ. Early north (median 3/24) 3/31 Beltrami (2) ebd, 4/2 Cass (2) MJB, Grant (5) ebd, 4/4 Morrison (19) DLP. High counts 4/8 Jackson (790, Robertson Park) EzH, 4/13 Clay (500, Barnesville) TkL, 4/15 Clay (500, Spring Prairie Preserve) PBB.

Gadwall (*Mareca strepera*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering birds and early south migrants (median 2/24) in February. Early north (median 3/16) 3/5–25 Traverse (max. 20) DLP, KEM, JWH, 3/25 Beltrami ebd. High count 4/2 Houston (900, La Crescent) TPu, IsH, EzH.

EURASIAN WIGEON (*Mareca penelope*) — [2 South] All documented reports: 4/10 Anoka (drake, George Watch-Peltier Channel) †CF, 4/18 – 5/1 **Rice** (drake, flooded field along Kent Ave. in Wheatland Twp.) ph. †DWK, †TPu, †EzH, †NMe, †CRM, †LiH, m.ob.

American Wigeon (*Mareca americana*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. First



Eurasian Wigeon, 19 April 2023, Wheatland Township, Rice County. Photo by Heidi Hermes.

reported in late February in Scott, then early south (median 3/1) 3/3 Goodhue (5) PEJ, 3/8 Ramsey (4) ebd, 3/9 Houston (max. 10) SHO. Early north (median 3/26) 4/3 Clay (2) ebd, 4/5 Cook (Grand Marais) ebd, 4/6 Otter Tail (Rush Lake) ebd, St. Louis (2) JLK. High count 4/2 Houston (800, La Crescent, counted by 10's) TPu, IsH, EzH.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. High count 4/11 Clay (2,500, flooded field near Barnesville) TkL.

Northern Shoveler X Mallard (*Spatula chrypeata X Anas platyrhynchos*) — [1 South] One south report 5/1 Ramsey (female, Tamarack N.C.) ph. LiH, APi.

Gadwall X Mallard (*Mareca strepera X Anas platyrhynchos*) — [1 South] One south report 4/8 Houston (male, Reno Bottoms, Dike Road) MZa.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) — [25 South, 16 North] High count 4/6 Houston (12, near La Crescent) ebd. Late south 5/12–19 Dakota (2) ebd, 5/14 Hennepin ebd (median 5/21).

Mallard X American Black Duck (*Anas platyrhynchos X A. rubripes*) — [7 South, 3 North] Apparent hybrids described 3/3 Ramsey GWe, 3/7 Goodhue PEJ, 5/27 Polk ebd. Additional reports north from Cook, St. Louis and south from Dakota, Hennepin, Steele, Washington.

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) — [53 South, 31 North] See winter report for overwintering birds and early south migrants (median 2/27).



Cinnamon Teal X Green-winged Teal, 28 April 2023, St. Cloud, Stearns County. Photo by Matthew Vollbrecht.



Tufted Duck, 12 May 2023, Duluth Harbor, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svingen.

As many as three overwintered in St. Louis (Duluth, W.L.S.S.D.) m.ob. Early north migrants (median 3/15) 3/24 Traverse DLP, 4/12 Kanabec RAE. High count 3/21 Freeborn (600) PEJ, 4/2 Lyon (455, Cottonwood) GWe.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering birds and possible earliest migrants. Early south (median 3/5) 3/1 Cottonwood KEm, 3/3 Nobles (2) BTS, Scott ABL. Early north (median 3/25) 4/4 Morrison (Mill Park) DLP, ebd, 4/7 Cass (2) PSP, 4/9 Itasca SC, Morrison (three locations, total of 57 individuals) KEM, SEm, JEm. High counts 4/23 Clay (410, McDonald W.P.A.) CMk, 4/7 Dakota (400, Lake Byllesby) PNi, DnS, Steele (400, Armstrong Wetland Restoration) LiH. Of note is a report 4/21 Hennepin (drake, Mother Lake) of an apparent Eurasian Green-winged Teal X American Green-winged Teal, ph. †MZA.

Cinnamon Teal X Green-winged Teal (*Spatula cyanoptera* X *Anas crecca*) — [1 South] One south report 4/28 Stearns (male, near St. Cloud) ph. MCV.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) — [53 South, 29 North] First migrants reported mid-February (median 2/28), followed by 3/2–5 Goodhue (max. 2) PEJ, ebd, Wabasha (max. 325, Lock and Dam 4) PEJ, GWe, 3/4–5 Big Stone DLP, 3/5 Scott MwT, AnB, ebd. Early north (median 3/27) 3/24 Traverse (2) ebd, 4/9 Morrison (max. 11) KEM, SEm, JEm, TLu, 4/9–10 St. Louis (max. 4) JLK, ebd, 4/10 Cass

(5) AxB. High count 4/2 Wabasha (7,000, Weaver Bottoms, counted by 100s to nearest 1,000th) TPu, EzH, IsH.

Redhead (*Aythya americana*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported in all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering and early spring migrants. Early north (median 3/21) 3/5–15 Traverse (max. 12) DLP, ebd, 3/8 Lake SC. High count 4/6 Goodhue (700, Lake Pepin, estimated) KJB.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering and early spring migrants. Early north (median 3/16) 3/15–24 Traverse (max. 33, Reservation Dam) DLP, ebd, 3/19 Becker NaH. High counts 4/6 Goodhue (**14,000**, Lake Pepin, estimated proportion amongst a raft of 24,000 ducks) KJB.

Redhead X Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya americana* X *A. collaris*) — [1 South] One south record 4/9 Hennepin (male, Fort Snelling S.P.) ph. ArM, TPu, AdP.

TUFTED DUCK (*Aythya fuligula*) — [1 North] Fourth state record 5/12 St. Louis (male, Park Point R.A. Sailing Club) NGi, ph. †PHS, SCB.

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) — [50 South, 31 North] Up to 2 birds overwintered in Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.). Early south away from Scott (median 3/3) 3/2 Wabasha PEJ, 3/3 Goodhue PEJ, 3/4 Anoka ebd. Early north (median 3/27) 3/18 Douglas (2) AUm, 3/31 Lake (2, Two Harbors) JWJ, SLL, 4/3 St. Louis (Park Point) JLK. High count 5/8 St. Louis

- (1,250, Park Point) PHS.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. Overwintered in Scott, Wabasha. Early south (median 2/24) 3/2 Cottonwood KEm, 3/2–4 Goodhue (max. 12) PEJ, ebd, 3/3 Nicollet (4) ebd. Early north (median 3/13) 3/15–24 Traverse (max. 27, Reservation Dam) DLP, ebd. High counts 4/2 Winona (4,000, Prairie Island) TPu, EzH, IsH; 4/12 Houston (4,000, Reno) ASu; 4/14 Lac qui Parle (4,000, near Marietta) KJB.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [1 South, 2 North] One south report 3/4
- Chisago** (female continuing from January, Interstate S.P.) PNi, DnS. Two north reports 5/10 St. Louis (female, Park Point R.A.) SeM, 5/17–25 Cook (female, Grand Portage W.T.P.) PEJ, WCM, ebd.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 South, 2 North] All south 5/4–8 Hennepin (female, Bde Maka Ska) ABL, m.ob. All north 4/22 – 5/19 St. Louis (max. 8, Park Point) HTo, m. ob., 5/18 Cook (Grand Marais) ebd.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta deglandi*) — [1 South, 4 North] One south report 4/23 – 5/20 **Pipestone** (male, Edgerton W.T.P. and Pipestone W.T.P.) ph. †TPu, NoK, †PRH, ph. DiH, m.ob. All north 4/14 – 5/20 St. Louis (multiple reports, mostly from Park Point) NGi, ebd, m.ob., 5/8 Itasca SC, 5/13 Lake (Beaver Bay W.T.P.) ABm, JLB, ebd, 5/18–27 Cook HTo, PEJ, ebd. High count 5/8 St. Louis (34, Park Point R.A.) NGi, SeM.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — [1 North] All reports 4/24 – 5/12 St. Louis (max. 2, Park Point) JKL, APi, FJN, ebd.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [2 South, 3 North] All south reports 3/2–24 Goodhue (Mississippi River and Sturgeon Lake) PEJ, ETw, MFl, 4/6–7 Anoka (Coon Rapids Dam) DFe, ebd. All north reports were along Lake Superior: 3/4 – 5/26 Cook, with high count 3/4 (42, Grand Marais) HTo; 3/4 – 5/28 Lake, with high counts 5/18, 5/20 (14, Two Harbors) JWl; 5/6–23 St. Louis, with high count 5/23 (4, Scenic Highway 61) JLK, SCB, PHS, ebd.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering birds. Early south (median 3/5) included one February report of new migrant, then 3/2 Goodhue PEJ, 3/8 Dakota ebd. Early north away from Lake Superior (median 3/23) 4/2 Otter Tail (4) ebd, 4/3 Pine SBE, 4/6 Beltrami (2) ebd. High count 5/8 St. Louis (305, Park Point, counted by 5s) SCB, PHS. Late south 5/23–28 Ramsey (max. 2) DPi, ebd, 5/28–29 Olmsted ebd (median 5/31).
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [52 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 4/6 Goodhue (1,000, Lake Pepin, estimated) KJB. Late south 5/29 Sherburne (2, Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd, 5/31 Big Stone DLP, 5/31 Olmsted (Rochester) LAV (median 5/13), but also see summer report.
- Bufflehead X Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala albeola* X *B. clangula*) — [1 South] One report 3/18 Wright (male, Monticello Bridge Park) †MJB.
- Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*) — No spring reports since 2018.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/9) 3/15 Morrison (3) ebd, Traverse (4) DLP, ebd, 3/20 Clearwater (4) ebd, 3/24 St. Louis ebd. High count 3/19 Hennepin (213, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., actual count.) CRM, m.ob.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [53 South, 31 North] Reported statewide. High counts 4/2 Wabasha (750, Pioneer Club, counted by tens.) TPu, IsH, EzH. Late south 5/26 Chisago (2) ebd, Houston LPk, Ramsey JKU, Sherburne (4) ebd, Washington (William O'Brien S.P.) BDo, LiH, but also see summer report (median 5/27).
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [53 South, 26 North] See winter report for overwintering birds. Early south (median 3/5) 3/5 Goodhue PEJ, GWe, 3/8 Winona (2) PEJ, 3/12 Hennepin (2) ebd. Early north (median 3/31) reports from counties away from Lake Superior 4/9 Itasca SC, Morrison (2) KEm, SEm, JEm, 4/10 Otter Tail ebd, 4/11 Cass (5) ebd, Crow Wing (4) ebd. High count 5/8 St. Louis (200, Park Point) ebd.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [52 South, 28 North] One overwintered in Scott. Early south migrants (median 3/6) 3/5 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) DSh, 3/10–11 Steele (Lake Kohlmeier) DAB, ebd. Early north (median 3/30) 4/7–9 Beltrami AiS,



White-winged Dove, 11 May 2023, Little Canada, Ramsey County. Photo by Michael W. Sack.

DvH, ebd, 4/9 Cass (10), Crow Wing (2), Douglas (2), Itasca, Morrison (20), Otter Tail (8), St. Louis (6). High count 4/23 Freeborn (660, Albert Lea Lake) PEJ.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [52 South, 33 North] Reported from every county except Stevens (south) and Lake of the Woods (north). High counts 4/8 Olmsted (76) RMA, 4/8 Otter Tail (60) JSS.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [16 South, 29 North] Found throughout normal range, essentially northeast of a line from Norman to Stearns to Fillmore. According to MN DNR, spring drumming counts were up in 2023.

Spruce Grouse (*Canachites canadensis*) — [4 North] Reported throughout the season from Cook, Lake, St. Louis. Also reported 5/22–28 Koochiching (max. 2) AMe, ebd. High count 3/9 Lake (10) KMA.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [1 South, 14 North] One south report 4/11 – 5/8 Yellow Medicine (max. 9, Mound Spring Prairie S.N.A.) KRE, JSc, BTS, MiO, ebd. High counts 3/25 Polk (42, agricultural field near Euclid) HHu, 3/20 Beltrami (35, two flocks near Fourtown) DvH. Additional north reports from Aitkin, Becker, Clay, Kitt-

son, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Roseau, St. Louis, Wilkin.

Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [7 North] All reports were from counties in the Northwest and West-central regions: Becker, Clay, Mahnomen, Norman, Otter Tail, Polk, Wilkin. High count 4/23 Clay (41, Spring Prairie Preserve) PBB.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) — [20 South, 7 North] Highest number of reports in the last 20 years. All reports were from the southern third, West-central, or Northwest regions of the state. High counts 4/9 Marshall (17, Agassiz Valley) HHu, 4/2 Polk (16, Agassiz Valley) HHu.

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [53 South, 20 North] Reported south of a line from Norman to Carlton. High counts 4/9 Otter Tail (50, near Fergus Falls) WPL, 3/23 Swift (46, Marsh Lake Dam) DLP.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [53 South, 32 North] Reported in every county except Kittson, Roseau. See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 3/23) 4/2 Cass (2) MJB, Crow Wing MJB, Grant ebd, Itasca ebd, Otter Tail ebd. High counts 4/19 Clearwater (200, Red Lake River, estimate) DvH, 4/22 Hennepin (120, Lake Harriet) ebd.

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) — [48 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/21) 3/12 Rice ebd, 3/25 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) IsH, EzH, 3/27 Dakota (Spring Lake P.R.) ClB. Early north (median 4/6) 4/9 Cass ebd, St. Louis (max. 8, Park Point R.A.) JLK, NGI, (Duluth, Congdon Blvd.) ebd. High count 5/10 St. Louis (1,995, Park Point, counted by fives) PHS. Late south 5/17 Lac qui Parle BWF, 5/20 Hennepin (Baker P.R.) ebd, 5/28 Hennepin (2, Champlin) ebd (median 5/24). Late north 5/26 Cook (4) ebd, 5/27 St. Louis JLK, 5/31 Marshall (2) HHu, but also see summer report (median 6/6).

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [39 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/9 Dakota KDS, Hennepin (Fort Snelling S.P., Snelling Lake) BAF, m.ob., (Mississippi River Lock and Dam 1) ClB. Early north (median 4/7) 4/9 St. Louis NGI, 4/10 Cass ABi. High count 4/23 St. Louis (2,154, Park Point R.A., counted by fives) SeM; 4/25 Lake (1,270, Two Harbors) JWV.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [24 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/8 Ol-

- JLa. Early north (median 4/19) 4/12 Douglas (4, Lake Carlos S.P.) BEc, (Lake Osakis) ebd, 4/15 St. Louis JLK, EBr. High counts 5/17 Pennington (10, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) SHo, 4/29 Lac qui Parle (7, Salt Lake) ebd, 5/9 Marshall (7, Agassiz Valley) HHu.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [22 South, 12 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/13 Dakota/Goodhue (Lake Byllesby) RBW, m.ob., 4/15 Blue Earth ChH, ebd, Lincoln DLS. Early north (median 4/20) 4/21–22 Otter Tail JSc, ebd, 4/27 Douglas JPE, Polk TJJ. High count 5/23 Faribault (101, Minnesota Lake) DnS, PNi.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [1 North] One north 5/27 Douglas (Lake Osakis) †WPL.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 4/3 Ramsey (300, Lower Afton Rd., St. Paul) JHe, 4/8 Ramsey (300, University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus) AnA.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [53 South, 20 North] Found all counties south of a line from Kittson to Chisago, except Red Lake. Noteworthy reports 3/14 – 5/20 Pine (five different locations) KrM, TJo, ebd, 4/24 – 5/21 Hubbard TPu, AaL, ebd, 5/6 Clearwater TPu, AaL. High count 3/13 Dakota (45, U.S. 61 and C.R. 91) KCL.
- White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*) — [1 South] One south record 5/11–14 Ramsey (private residence, Little Canada) ph. MWS, ph. †NMe, ph. †KEm, m.ob.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/3 Hennepin (30, Golden Valley) ebd, 3/13 Olmsted (30, Stewartville) ebd, 4/30 Isanti (30, Cambridge) ebd.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [27 South, 5 North] Early south (median 5/13) 5/11 Olmsted (Quarry Hill N.C.) ebd, 5/12 Scott MJM, 5/13 Dakota (Pine Bend Bluffs S.N.A.) KDS, Houston (Reno S.F.) SHo. All north 5/23 Douglas (Lake Carlos S.P.) ARW, 5/26–30 Aitkin (Rice Lake N.W.R.) JDS, CLR, KEi, ebd, 5/27 Itasca (Chippewa N.F.) ebd, 5/28–29 Otter Tail (Maplewood S.P.) ebd, 5/29 Otter Tail (Rush Lake Twp.) ebd. High counts 5/27 Olmsted (4, Whitewater W.M.A.) MiD, 5/23 Fillmore (3, Forestville/Mystery Cave S.P.) JBJ.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [32 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/9 Dakota ebd, 5/11 Houston (2) ebd, WCM, 5/12 Carver JWZ, Fillmore JTo. Early north (median 5/16) 5/16 Otter Tail ebd, 5/17 Grant ANy, ebd, 5/18 Becker DMz, ebd, Wadena PJB. High count 5/28 Aitkin (5, Rice Lake N.W.R.) LBA.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [43 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1–8 Hennepin (three locations) DdS, BeH, ebd, 5/7 Rice TFB, 5/8 Scott ebd. Early north (median 5/12) 5/10 Cass (Ponto Lake Twp.) ebd, 5/11 Pine (Pine City) ebd, 5/12 Becker ShG, HeH, Cass (3, Deep Portage Learning Center) ebd, Mille Lacs GrN, ebd, Pine (Pokegama Twp.) ebd. High counts 5/22 Aitkin (60, Big Sandy Lake) SHo, 5/17 Pine (40, Pine City Twp.) KrM.
- CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW** (*Antrostomus carolinensis*) — [1 South] The sixth state record and the first since 1984: 5/30 **Olmsted** (Rochester) a.t. SFG.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [20 South, 14 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/26 Houston SHo, 4/27 Hennepin (Richardson N.C.) AOp, 4/28 Hennepin (Minneapolis) ebd. Early north (median 5/6) 5/4 Crow Wing (Crow Wing S.P.) ebd, 5/7 Todd ALu, 5/8 Crow Wing (Maple Grove Twp.) ebd, Hubbard AiS, St. Louis NGi, ebd. High count 5/29 Roseau (12, estimate along C.R. 7) ebd.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [49 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/14 Stevens DLP, 4/24 Washington ebd, 4/27 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey ebd. Early north (median 5/1) 5/5 Douglas VKL, 5/7 Becker (2) NaH, 5/7 Clay CMk. High count 5/12 Hennepin (500, The Blake School chimney roost, estimated) JsW.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [49 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/30) 5/1 Fillmore ToM, Houston KRz, Olmsted JJS. Early north (median 5/4) 5/7 Crow Wing ebd, 5/8 Becker NaH, ebd, Douglas JPE, BEc, Morrison TLu, Pine ebd, Todd BWF, SDi. High counts 5/14 Lyon (13, Southwest Minnesota State University) GWe, 5/13 Morrison (10, Fort Ripley) ebd, 5/19 Dodge (10, Tollefson Woods) KEm.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [37 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/14) 4/12 Martin ebd, 4/13 Hennepin ebd, 4/15 Ramsey (3,



Limpkin, 31 May 2023, Fieldon Township, Watonwan County. Photo by Rachel Ann Hillesheim.

Tony Schmidt Park) LiH. Early north (median 4/29) 4/26 Clay (Bjornson W.M.A.) ebd, 4/28 Clay (2, Magnusson W.M.A.) ebd, 5/5 Aitkin ebd, Douglas JPE. High counts 4/24 Steele (8, Armstrong Wetland Restoration) LiH, 4/27 Hennepin (6, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) DPn, 5/28 Chisago (6, Mud Lake) JGW.

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) — [49 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/6 Wabasha ebd, 4/11 Hennepin ebd, 4/12 Ramsey LiH. Early north (median 4/23) 4/24 St. Louis ebd, 4/27 Clay TkL, 4/29 Douglas JPE. High count 5/7 Hennepin (14, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ebd.

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) — [6 South] All south 5/6–7 Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) DAB, KEm, JWH, JCa, 5/8 Freeborn ANy, DBz, 5/15–26 Wabasha (max. 3, near Altura and Whitewater W.M.A.) LHL, NRI, m.ob., 5/23–31 Mower (Austin) ph. RNS, 5/24 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) SLH, 5/26–31 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) ebd, m.ob.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) — [53 South, 32 North] Reported from every coun-

ty except Carlton, Roseau. Overwintered in Scott. Early south (median 3/1) 3/2 Wabasha PEJ, Winona PEJ, 3/14 Jackson PEJ, DFN, 3/14 Olmsted NoK. Early north (median 3/19) 4/2 Crow Wing LAP, Grant (30) ebd, Otter Tail (4) ebd, 4/3 Pine (4) SBE. High count 4/8 Goodhue (5,000, Lake Byllesby) BBr, ThW.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [2 South, 3 North] All south 5/16–26 Anoka (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) DFe, RMS, m.ob., 5/27 Chisago (east of Stacy) ELC. All north 5/14–31 Aitkin (max. 20, also the season high count, McGregor Marsh) KEi, LBa, JMn, CLR, BxP, ebd, 5/19–25 Lake of the Woods (max. 14) JGW, JWH, KEm, AxB, TPu, ebd, 5/19–29 Roseau (max. 13) MrC, IsH, EzH, AFo, ebd.

LIMPKIN (*Aramus guarauna*) — [1 South] Third state record: 5/31 **Watonwan** (330th St., Lewisville) ph. †RHh. Reports continued into the summer.

Sandhill Crane (*Antigone canadensis*) — [49 South, 32 North] First reported in late February in Houston. Subsequent early south reports (median 3/4) 3/2 Hennepin ABL, ebd,

Rice ebd, Stearns KrM. Early north (median 3/16) 3/10 Morrison JnP, Otter Tail JsS, 3/15 Mille Lacs HHD, 3/23 Pine (2) ebd. High count 3/24 Wabasha (261, C.R. 84 near Kellogg) MNb.

BLACK-NECKED STILT (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [11 South, 1 North] Thirteen statewide reports is the second highest spring total. One north 5/8 **Mille Lacs** (2, 115th Ave.) †HHD. All south 4/23 – 5/8 Freeborn (max. 2, Geneva Lake) ph. †DBz, ph. †KEm, JWH, ANy, 4/23 **Houston** (Hokah Twp.) ph. †DBz, ph. †SHo, 4/27–29 Wright (C.R. 37 near Maple Lake) RBd, ph. †TPu, ph. †DwK, ebd, m.ob., 5/7 Swift (near Lac qui Parle Lake) ph. †WOs, 5/7–13 Wabasha (Greenfield Twp., including a record high count of **10** on 5/7 †DwK) JCa, ph. †KEm, DBz, JWH, 5/8 Carver (2, Tacoma Ave. Area) ph. WCM, ph. †TWe, m.ob., 5/8–29 Watonwan (max. 2, Fieldon Twp.) †DBz, ANy, ChH, AnK, JCC, KEm, 5/11 Washington (Hudson Ave. near Lake Elmo) ph. †BDo, †EzH, m.ob., 5/13 Houston (ponds southwest of Reno) ph. †SHo, 5/15 Nobles (Bloom Twp.) ph. †KEm, 5/16 Nicollet (2, Twp. Rd. 182, Granby Twp.) ph. †MiO, BTS, 5/21–31 Brown (max. 3, Moulton Twp.) ph. †BTS, ph. †MiO, m.ob. Most of these sightings were also supported by many other observers with brief descriptive notes or images placed on eBird.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [25 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/12–13 Pipestone (max. 8, Pipestone W.T.P.) VVD, LVD, VKL, DIS, 4/13 Rock (2, Quarry Ponds) WCM, 4/20 Olmsted JPr, LAV, NoK, JmP, PWP. All north 4/11 Beltrami (2) KCo, 5/7–28 Grant (max. 6, North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd, 5/11 St. Louis JLK, 5/15 Polk HHu, 5/20 Otter Tail (2) WPl, Traverse ANy. High counts 4/23 Faribault (**45**, flooded field near Brush Creek) WAF.

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [18 South, 10 North] Early south (median 4/29) 5/4 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) SSc, TPu, CMB, MwT, AnB, TSk, ebd, Goodhue (5, Lake Byllesby) RMS, SDz, ebd, Wright (2) PLJ. Early north (median 5/15) 5/9–16 St. Louis (almost daily reports, all from Park Point) NGi, SeM, m.ob.; away from St. Louis first seen 5/16 Polk (3) SHo, 5/18 Itasca (2) ebd, Otter Tail (6) ebd. High count 5/27 Marshall (21, Agassiz N.W.R.) ebd. Late south 5/29 McLeod (2) LAB, PAL (median 6/7). Late north

5/29 Aitkin JnP, 5/31 St. Louis (max. 3, Park Point) PHS, ebd (median 6/6). See summer report for latest northbound migrants.

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [27 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/7 Dakota (2, Lake Byllesby) BAF, SHF, KCL, RBW, 4/8 Dakota (180th Street Marsh) YNa, m.ob., 4/10 Dakota (south of Farmington) DGd, TmG, 4/11 Brown (max. 12) BTS, MiO, ARW. Early north 5/12 Crow Wing ebd, 5/14 Kanabec (2) RBW, 5/17 Traverse (13) TWe, ANy, DBz. High count 5/4 Watonwan (150, 320th St.) SLH. Late south 5/28 McLeod JWZ, 5/29 Carver JWZ (median 6/8). Late north 5/28 Aitkin JnP, 5/30 St. Louis PHS, (median 6/3). Also see summer report for latest northbound migrants.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. Early south (median 2/28) 3/1–5 Houston SHo, DJa, ebd, 3/4 Winona MZA, ebd, 3/5 Fillmore ToM, Goodhue GWe, Olmsted ebd, Scott ebd. Early north (median 3/15) 3/26 Morrison HHD, 3/29 Itasca ebd, 4/1 Pine NSn. High count 4/6 Dakota (168, 190th St.) KCL.

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [45 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/15 Dakota (2) YNa, 4/18 Goodhue PEJ, Olmsted MiD, m.ob., 4/23 Nicollet ebd. Early north (median 5/7) 4/27 Clay TkL, Crow Wing ebd, 4/29 Wilkin (2) TkL, 5/6 Pine KrM. High counts 5/25 Aitkin (125, in flooded fields and rice paddies) PEJ, 5/13 Dakota (80, Lake Byllesby) PEJ. See summer report for late migrants statewide.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 North] 5/19–26 Lake of the Woods (up to 2, Morris Point) TPu, AiS, AxB, JGW, KEm, JWH, ebd.

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [15 South, 9 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/26 Rock KEm, 4/28 Pipestone (2, Osborne Twp.) ebd, 5/4 Lincoln (2) DIS, Pipestone (Edgerton W.T.P) LVD, Renville LoH, Yellow Medicine BTS, m.ob. Early north (median 5/3) 5/5–6 Clay (2, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) TkL, ebd, 5/6 Otter Tail JsS, 5/8 Clay (River Oaks Park) TkL, 5/9 Wilkin (3) LSl. High count 5/12 Clay (5, Felton Prairie) ebd.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [2 South, 4 North] All south 4/27 **Yellow Medicine** (240th Ave., Tyro Twp.) GWe, DIS, 5/26 **Washington** (Big Marine P.R.) BDo, LiH,

- EZH. Reported north in St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) from 5/16 HTo, peaking 5/21 (44) JLK, through 5/25 JLK, m.ob., but also see summer report. Also found north 5/23 Lake (6, Knife River Marina) MLH, 5/25 **Crow Wing** (Garrison) ph. PEJ, 5/30 Cook (12, Hibbard Rock) JGW.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa baemastica*) — [28 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/15 Chisago MTe, 4/18 Cottonwood (7) KEm, Lincoln DIS, Rice (3) RBW, m.ob. Early north (median 5/12) 4/19–20 Pine (Fairfield Ave., Rock Creek) KrM, m.ob., 4/23 Pine (Lily Rd., Pine City) KrM, 4/24 Pine (Falcon Ave., Rock Creek) SBE, 4/27 Morrison SEM, 5/4 Clearwater AxB. High counts 5/18 Otter Tail (29, three locations) RAE, 4/29 Yellow Medicine (27, 185th Ave., Sandnes Twp.) GWe. Late south 5/29–30 McLeod PAL, m.ob., 5/29 Watonwan ChH, AnK, 5/30 Big Stone DLP (median 6/1). Late north 5/25 Aitkin PEJ, 5/25–27 Pennington JWH, m.ob., 5/27 Roseau JWH, m.ob. (median 5/31), but also see summer report for additional late migrants statewide.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [27 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/14 Lac qui Parle (2) KJB, 4/18–19 Stearns (max. 2) HHd, m.ob., 4/21 Blue Earth KEm, Freeborn (12) KEm. Early north (median 4/13) 4/18 Otter Tail ebd, 4/20–21 St. Louis (2, Park Point) MLH, m.ob., 4/22 Clay JSc. High counts 5/17 St. Louis (30, Park Point R.A.) NGi, 5/26 Roseau (18, Roseau W.T.P.) JGW.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [13 South, 11 North] Early south (median 5/11) 5/7 Wabasha DBz, JCa, 5/10 Dakota/Goodhue (max. 10) KCl, m.ob., Pipestone ANy. Early north (median 5/14) 5/12 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) ClN, m.ob., 5/15 Aitkin (3) KCR, Mille Lacs (2) ANy, DBz. High count 5/23 St. Louis (32, Park Point R.A.) ClN, JDx, ebd. Late south 5/24 Pipestone LVD, 5/25–26 Stearns (max. 2) PCC, m.ob., 5/26 Lyon NMe, DIS (median 6/1). Late north 5/31 Lake (2) ebd, St. Louis (max. 19, Park Point R.A.) PHS, m.ob. (median 6/3), but also see summer report.
- RED KNOT** (*Calidris canutus*) — [1 South, 1 North] Only south report 5/25–27 McLeod (130th St., Glencoe) ph. †DwK, ph. †SvB, ph. †TPu, ph. †EzH, m.ob. Only north report 5/20–24 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) SeM, NGi, ph. †PHS, ph. †AXH, m.ob.
- RUFF** (*Calidris pugnax*) — [1 South] An adult female was documented 5/12–13 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) †PCC, ph. CRM, m.ob.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [19 South, 6 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/13 Blue Earth (Butternut Valley Twp.) †ARW, 4/24 Rice LiH, 4/29 Lac qui Parle GrN. Early north (median 5/14) 5/18 Clay TWe, 5/20 Douglas BAB, 5/23 Marshall HHu. Late north 5/27 Polk (3) JWH, m.ob., Roseau JGW, 5/28 Kittson ANy, DBz (median 6/1). Late south 5/24 Lyon (5, season high count, Borsion's Slough) NMe, 5/24–28 McLeod SLH, m.ob., 5/27 Le Sueur BAB, BxP (median 6/4), but also see summer report.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [16 South, 12 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/4–6 Goodhue JtM, m.ob., 5/6 Dakota EzH, 5/8 Wright MJB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/8–16 St. Louis (max. 8) NGi, m.ob., 5/16 Marshall HHu. High count 5/24 St. Louis (71, Park Point R.A.) SeM. Late south 5/28 Stearns ebd, 5/29 Benton DOr, 5/31 Kandiyohi (2) ebd (median 6/6). Late north 5/27 Pennington ANy, 5/27–31 St. Louis (31, Park Point R.A.) HTo, m.ob. (median 6/9), but also see summer report.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [48 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/15) 4/9 Benton HHd, Dakota MwT, AnB, Goodhue (2) MwT, AnB. Early north (median 5/3) 4/13 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) NGi, 4/16 St. Louis (Stony Point) JWl, m.ob., 4/19 Pine KrM. High counts 5/15 Wabasha (127, C.R. 24) LHL, 5/25 Aitkin (110) PEJ. See summer report for late migrants statewide.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [34 South, 9 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/2 Brown ebd, 4/3 Nobles (4) BLz, 4/7 Dakota MwT. Early north (median 4/23) 4/14 Otter Tail CRM, m.ob., 5/1 Grant (2) ANy, DBz, 5/2 Marshall (2) ebd, HHu. High count 5/5 Wright (18, Illsley Ave. NW, Maple Lake) ToL. Late south 5/29 Anoka ETw, MFL, McLeod (2) DWK, m.ob., Watonwan ChH, ebd, 5/30 Meeker (10) PKF, ebd, Steele PSu (median 6/7). Late north 5/27 Marshall (3) JWH, m.ob., Polk JWH, m.ob., 5/28 St. Louis (2) JLK, 5/29 Aitkin SC (median 6/4), but see summer report for additional late migrants statewide.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [51 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/11–12 Brown (max. 2) BTS, MiO, 4/13 Blue

Earth (9) ARW, 4/14 Dakota PEJ. Early north (median 5/3) 4/28 Crow Wing ebd, 5/5–6 Marshall (max. 16) HHu, 5/7 Cook JGW. High counts 5/19 Marshall (110, Agassiz N.W.R.) EzH, IsH, MrC, 5/13 Dakota (100, Lake Byllesby) EzH, MrC. See summer report for late migrants statewide.

White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [31 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/23 Meeker PKF, 4/28 Faribault CRM, m.ob., Martin DAH. Early north (median 5/13) 5/8 Grant (14) CNn, 5/12–14 Marshall HHu, 5/14 Traverse DFN. High count 5/30 Lac qui Parle (27, 121st. Ave., Walter Twp.) KeL. See summer report for late migrants statewide.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Calidris subruficollis*) — No spring reports since 2018.

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) — [53 South, 22 North] Early south (median 3/29) 4/2 Watonwan KEm, JWH, 4/3–8 Dakota (max. 3) CJE, m.ob., 4/8 Carver (6) TWe, m.ob., Faribault (4) PEJ, Hennepin (4) ABL, m.ob. Early north (median 4/14) 4/10 Cass AxB, 4/14 Otter Tail CRM, m.ob., 4/15 Becker KEm, m.ob., Douglas (6) LGl, Kanabec SPS. High counts 4/18 Rice (300, Wheatland Twp.) ebd, 5/4 Wright (240, Albion Twp.) PLJ. See summer report for late migrants statewide.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*) — [43 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/10 Carver (4) ebd, Lyon NMe, 4/12 Pipestone LVD, VVD. Early north (median 5/4) 5/5 Clay (2, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) TkL, 5/8 Clay (Sabin W.T.P.) CMk, 5/9 Pine (3) ebd. High counts 5/26 McLeod (90, 130th St., Glencoe) EzH, m.ob., 5/31 Stearns (78, Albany W.T.P.) PCC. See summer report for late migrants north and south.

Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [33 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/29) 5/1 Wright PLJ, 5/4 Goodhue (7) SSc, m.ob, Lyon (45) RJS. Early north (median 5/11) 5/8 St. Louis (2, Gnesen Twp.) JLK, m.ob., 5/10 Aitkin SC, Kanabec KrM, St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) CLN, m.ob. High count 5/15 Lake (58, Castle Danger W.T.P.) JWl. Late south 5/22 Olmsted LAV, Waseca RBW, 5/24 McLeod BHe, 5/25 Fillmore RBW (median 5/31). Late north 5/27 Marshall HHu, m.ob., 5/30 Polk HHu, 5/31 St. Louis ebd (median 5/28), but also see summer report. **Note:** Reports of Short-billed Dowitchers prior to 1

May without details are not published in these Seasonal Reports. (See **The Loon** 89:160–161.)

Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [38 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/15 Yellow Medicine (2, Normania Twp.) GWe, (Sandnes Twp.) GWe, 4/18 Brown SLH, Cottonwood (3) KEm. Early north (median 5/5) 4/29 Wilkin (2) TkL, 5/7 Cook (Grand Portage W.T.P.) JGW, (Lutsen W.T.P.) JGW. High counts 5/4 Lyon (20, C.R. 11, Amiret Twp.) RJS, 5/4 Watonwan (20, 320th St.) SLH. Late south 5/11 Dakota (7) KDS, 5/13 Rice TFB, 5/17 Lincoln DIs (median 5/19). Late north 5/13 Clay (4) TkL, 5/16 Kanabec RAE, Marshall (7) HHu (median 5/18).

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) — [39 South, 28 North] Early south (median 3/12) 3/15 Dakota MJM, Hennepin (2, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) JMn, 3/16 Hennepin (Edina) TAT, (Bloomington) ebd. Early north (median 3/26) 3/27 Morrison TLu, 4/2 Clay ebd, 4/3 Pine (3) ebd. High count 4/14 Dakota (14, Lebanon Hills R.P.) TPu, m.ob.

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) — [51 South, 34 North] Overwintering individuals were reported from several locations, including 3/1–2 Hennepin ebd, 3/1–5 Olmsted (max. 2) LAV, 3/9 Washington (3) TAr. First apparent south migrant (median 3/23) 3/25 Ramsey LiH. Early north (median 3/31) 4/8 Polk HHu, 4/9 Cass ebd, 4/10 Morrison KEm, SEm. High counts 4/11 Anoka (**103**, C.R. 54, Lino Lakes) DnS, 4/8 Hennepin (57, Mother Lake) ABL.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/15 Washington PNi, m.ob., 4/17 Blue Earth (2) ARW, 4/18 Hennepin DSh, Olmsted ebd, Rock KEm. Early north (median 4/28) 4/18 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 4/22 Douglas ebd, 4/30 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK. High count 5/10 Goodhue (30, Lake Byllesby) KCl, m.ob.

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) — [47 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/22 Rice (two locations) LSw, Sibley BHe, 4/23 Dakota ebd, Faribault WAF, Houston ebd. Early north (median 4/29) 4/15 St. Louis (Vermilion Lake Twp.) BLz, 4/22 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 4/28 Itasca ebd. High counts 5/7 Hennepin (15, Crow-

- Hassan P.R.) ebd, 5/8 Lac qui Parle (15, Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP. Late south 5/28 Houston LGL, ebd, Watonwan ebd, 5/29 Sherburne ebd (median 6/1). Late north 5/22–23 St. Louis ebd, 5/23 Lake DFN, 5/26 Carlton ebd (median 6/3), but also see summer report.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/28) 4/7 Dakota (max. 5) AnB, m.ob., Faribault WAF, Freeborn AEB. Early north (median 4/4) 4/11 Clay (3) TkL, 4/12 Cass (2) ebd, Pine (6) KrM. High count 5/7 Wabasha (700, Greenfield Twp.) JCa. Late south 5/31 Hennepin ebd, Stearns PCC (median 6/8). Late north 5/31 Marshall HHu, Polk HHu (median 6/7). Also see summer report for many additional late migrants statewide.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [32 South, 8 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/18 Dakota BxP, 4/21 Cottonwood (2) KEm, Hennepin DEL. Early north (median 4/29) 4/29 – 5/1 Wilkin TkL, ANy, 5/4 St. Louis StK, 5/8 Crow Wing DMz. New county record: 5/12 **Koochiching** (S.R. 11) DvH. High counts 5/6 Hennepin (63, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JMn, 5/6 Wabasha (58) DBz. Late south 5/18 Big Stone DLP, 5/21 Murray (2) ebd, 5/31 Rice ebd (median 5/29). Late north 5/18 Otter Tail (2) ebd, St. Louis NGi, 5/25 Pennington LHL, 5/21–27 Marshall HHu (median 6/1), but also see summer report.
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/23) 3/28 Hennepin DWK, 3/30 Olmsted JPr, 4/2 Blue Earth KEm, JWH. Early north (median 4/3) 4/9 Cass (Wabedo Twp.) ABi, Crow Wing EGa, 4/10 Cass (2, Federal Dam) AxB, ebd, Morrison KEm, SEm. High count 5/2 St. Louis (128, W Pioneer Rd., Duluth) BMu. Late south 5/27 McLeod MJB, ebd, 5/28–31 Goodhue DFN, m.ob., Stearns HHD, m.ob. (median 6/6). Late north 5/29 Clay ebd, 5/29–30 Aitkin (max. 3) SC, LBa, St. Louis PHS (median 6/2). Also see summer report for additional late migrants statewide.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [39 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/21–23 Freeborn KEm, PEJ, 4/24 Faribault WAF, Pipestone ebd. Early north (median 4/27) 5/2–5 Marshall (max. 5) HHu, ebd, 5/5 Clay (2) TkL, 5/6 Pine (2) KrM. High count 5/12 Pipestone (210, Pipestone W.T.P.) DIS.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [12 South, 6 North] Early south (median 5/11) 5/12–13 Pipestone (max. 3, Pipestone W.T.P.) DIS, m.ob., 5/13 McLeod DWK, 5/17 Benton HHD, Pipestone (Edgerton W.T.P.) KEm, ebd. Early north (median 5/17) 5/18–19 Marshall (max. 5) HHu, Morrison (max. 4) MJB, m.ob., 5/19 Lake of the Woods (2) AxB, m.ob. High count 5/26 Marshall (10, Warren W.T.P.) ebd. Late south 5/27 Stearns (3) PCC, m.ob., 5/28 Brown ARW, m.ob., 5/30 Le Sueur (2) BxP (median 6/3), but also see summer report. Late north 5/27 Roseau (3) KEm, JWH, 5/27–5/30 Marshall (max. 2) HHu, m.ob. (median 6/2).
- Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — No spring reports for first time since 2015.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [49 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/1) 4/3 Winona (2) ToM, 4/6 Anoka (10) ebd, 4/7 Faribault WAF, Freeborn AEB, Goodhue EAa. Early north (median 4/12) 4/11–15 St. Louis SeM, NGi, m.ob., 4/13–15 Todd (max. 3) BWF, m.ob., 4/15 Kanabec SPS, Pine (3) DPi. High count 5/10 St. Louis (4,622, Park Point R.A.) PHS. Late south 5/16 Hennepin (6) JhM, 5/19 Wright (4) RCL, 5/21 McLeod (2) KHg (median 6/1). Late north 5/26 Carlton BLz, Pine (3) ebd, 5/26–31 St. Louis (max. 24, Park Point R.A.) PHS, HTo, m.ob. (median 6/12).
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — [1 North] Only report 5/9 St. Louis (adult, Park Point R.A.) KDx, ClN, JDx, m.ob.
- ROSS'S GULL** (*Rhodostethia rosea*) — [1 North] Fifth state record: 5/31 **St. Louis** (adult, Superior Entry) ph. †PHS.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [48 South, 16 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/17 Hennepin ebd, m.ob., 3/23 Olmsted ebd, 4/1 Nobles KEm, JWH. Early north (median 4/9) 4/11 Clay ANy, 4/12 Marshall/Polk (Agassiz Valley) HHu, Todd ANy. High count 4/24 Lyon (200, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) RJS.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 2/28) 3/1 Dakota (4) JZj, 3/2 Goodhue PEJ. Early north migrants (median 3/8) found in St. Louis beginning 3/3 ebd; first report away from the North Shore 3/24 Traverse (3) DLP. High count 5/13 St. Louis (20,000, Interstate Island W.M.A.) PHS, SCB.

- CALIFORNIA GULL** (*Larus californicus*) — [1 North] Only report: 4/24 Clay (apparent second-cycle, Riverton Twp.) ph. †TCL.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [41 South, 25 North] Early south (median 3/1) 3/3–4 Winona (max. 3) ebd, 3/4 Dakota (2) SSp, ebd, Goodhue PEJ. High count 3/29 Dakota (500, Spring Lake P.R.) BLz.
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [4 South, 3 North] All south 3/7 Dakota (*L. g. thayeri*, Spring Lake P.R.) KCL, 3/24 Dakota (Hastings) ALw, 3/30 Dakota (second-cycle, Spring Lake) MJB, (*thayeri*, C.R. 46) MwT, AnB, 4/6–7 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 4/7 Washington (*thayeri*, immature, Point Douglas Park) BDo, 4/30–5/1 Stearns (*L. g. kumlieni*, first-cycle, Farming Twp.) †PCC, m.ob. Overwintered north along Lake Superior, with reports continuing until 5/10 St. Louis (*kumlieni*, Park Point R.A.) JWJ. High counts 3/1 St. Louis (3, two noted as immature, W.L.S.S.D.) FJN, ebd, 3/3 St. Louis (3, two adults and one second-cycle, at least two reported as *kumlieni*, W.L.S.S.D.) ebd. Additional reports of *kumlieni*: 3/11 St. Louis (W.L.S.S.D.) SeM, 3/26 Lake (adult, Agate Bay) JWJ, 5/9 Lake (immature, Two Harbors) JWJ.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [14 South, 2 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/18–30 Dakota (max. 2, season high count, Spring Lake P.R., Pine Bend W.T.P.) MwT, m.ob., 3/18–21 Washington (Spring Lake, one of the Dakota County birds) m.ob., 4/1 Scott (Louisville Twp.) AFo. All north 3/3 St. Louis (second-cycle, W.L.S.S.D.) ebd, 4/29 Kanabec (second-cycle, Brunswick Twp.) SPS, St. Louis (adult, W. Skyline Pkwy.) FJN, m.ob. Late south 4/30 Stearns (first-cycle, Farming Twp.) PCC, m.ob., 5/6 Goodhue (adult, Lake Byllesby) KCL, 5/20 Waseca RAE (median 4/22). First county record: 4/22 **Waseca** (adult, Lake Elysian) ABa.
- Glaucois Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [5 South, 2 North] All south 3/19 Ramsey (Upper Landing Park) LiH, 3/30 Kandiyohi (Foot Lake) RAE, m.ob., 3/31 – 4/1 Blue Earth (third-cycle, Loon Lake) ebd, BHW, 4/3 Dakota (2, first- and third-cycles, 140th St. Marsh) KCL, m.ob., 4/8 Hennepin (adult or third-cycle, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF. High counts 3/3, 3/18 St. Louis (4, W.L.S.S.D.) FJN, AFo, m.ob. Late north 4/22 Clay (second-cycle, Clay County Landfill) PBB, m.ob., St. Louis (second-cycle, Park Point, Southworth Marsh) CLN, KDx, JDx, 5/1–2, 5/9 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) SeM, m.ob. (median 5/2).
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] All reports were of singles in Duluth, St. Louis County, beginning 3/3 (W.L.S.S.D.) FJN, m.ob., (Canal Park) LiH, with final report 4/9 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) ebd.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [27 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/21–29 Hennepin ebd, 4/28 Ramsey (2) LiH, JZj, 4/29 Scott PNi, DnS, Wright (2) RCL. Early north (median 4/29) 4/29 Kanabec SPS, 5/6 Hubbard TPu, AaL, 5/7 Cass (11) ebd, Crow Wing DMz, St. Louis (2) IWe. High count 5/10 Wright (98, Pelican Lake) RCL. See summer report for late south migrants.
- Black Tern** (*Cblidionias niger*) — [45 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/22 Winona ToM, 5/1 Sherburne (12) ebd, 5/4 Renville (2) ebd. Early north (median 5/9) 5/7 Crow Wing (12) ebd, 5/9 Otter Tail WPI, 5/11 Traverse DLP. High count 5/19 Becker (360, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) ebd.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [24 South, 18 North] Early south (very few with any details) 4/27 Houston ebd, Wright RBd, 5/1 Hennepin ebd. Early north (median 5/4) 5/3–7 St. Louis (max. 2) MLH, m.ob., 5/5–7 Crow Wing (max. 3) ebd, 5/7 Douglas (3) ebd. High count 5/23 St. Louis (684, Superior Entry) PHS. Late south 5/21 Hennepin (5) ebd, McLeod (15) KHg, Olmsted/Wabasha (15, Lake Zumbro) SHo, 5/24 Meeker (2, Wolf Lake) BHe, 5/26 Meeker (3, Youngstrom Lake) PKF (median 6/2).
- ARCTIC TERN** (*Sterna paradisaea*) — [1 North] First spring report since 2009: 5/25 St. Louis (adult, Park Point R.A.) †PHS.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [43 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/10 Dakota PEJ, 4/11 Olmsted ebd, 4/12 Freeborn (2) RAE, Goodhue (3) KCL, m.ob., Steele RBW, Swift (3) BAB. Early north (median 4/18) 4/12 Douglas BEc, 4/20 Clay TkL, 4/27 Polk HHu. High count 5/4 Goodhue (40, Lake Byllesby) MwT, AnB.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [7 South, 2 North] Exceptional season for this species. All south 4/12 Olmsted (Cascade Lake Park) ebd, 4/18–27 **Ramsey** (Long Lake R.P.) JMi, m.ob., 4/24 – 5/4 Dakota/Goodhue (max. 3, Lake Byllesby) ANy, m.ob., 4/24–25 Hennepin

- (Weaver Lake and Rice Lake) ebd, 4/29 – 5/16 Isanti (max. 3, one adult in alternate plumage and two individuals in basic plumage seen separately, South Stanchfield Lake) ELC, m.ob., 5/6 Hennepin (2, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) SLC, m.ob., 5/13–17 **Wright** (Swartout Lake) ANy, DBz, m.ob. Early north (median 5/1) 4/21–23 St. Louis (max. 2, Park Point R.A.) ebd, FJN, HTo, SeM, JLK. High count 5/3 St. Louis (115, Park Point R.A.) NGi, StK, HTo. Late north 5/27–28 St. Louis (5, Park Point R.A.) HTo, SeM, 5/30 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) ebd (median 6/12). Only north report away from St. Louis was found 5/18 Cook (Grand Marais) HTo.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 South] Only report 5/22–31 Hennepin (basic plumage, Lake Nokomis) ph. PRH, m.ob., continued into the summer season.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [50 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/23) 3/23 Dakota ebd, 3/24 Washington PNi, m.ob., 3/26 Wabasha MNb. Early north (median 3/28) 4/9 Morrison KEm, m.ob., St. Louis NGi, 4/10 Carlton ebd, Itasca ebd. High counts 4/27 Beltrami (350, Ponemah Narrows, Lower Red Lake) DvH, 4/29 Kanabec (305) SPS.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Nannopterum auritum*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/14) 3/8 Dakota (2) BBr, 3/16 Washington BLz, Winona ebd. Early north (median 3/27) 4/7–9 Morrison (2) DLP, m.ob., 4/9 Becker HeH, ShG, Pine ebd, St. Louis (max. 12, two locations) SeM, m.ob. High count 5/8 Wright (924, Pelican Lake) RCL.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/15) 3/5–6 Goodhue (max. 2) ebd, 3/8 Winona (52) PEJ. Early north (median 4/4) 4/7–8 Morrison (max. 23) TLu, m.ob., 4/8 Cass (8) ebd, Clay (64) PBB, Douglas (20) ebd. High count 4/29 Big Stone (1,500, Marsh Lake) DGD, m.ob.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [29 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/7 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 4/10–12 Anoka (max. 2) BKa, m.ob., 4/15 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ebd. Early north (median 4/17) 4/11 Cook JGW, 4/19 Itasca ebd, 4/23 Lake ebd. High count 5/27 St. Louis (8, Voyageurs National Park) ebd.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [10 South, 6 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/10 Wabasha (Kellogg W.T.P.) MNb, 5/15 Wabasha (3, season high count, Whitewater W.M.A.) LHL, Washington KIs. All north 5/12 St. Louis (Mud Lake) JLK, 5/16 Kanabec (Rum River S.F.) RBW, 5/21–28 Hubbard (C.R. 109) BWF, m.ob., 5/22 Cass (Lake Winnibigoshish) JWH, m.ob., Douglas JPE, Itasca LHL.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/6) 3/7 Goodhue (3, Red Wing) EBy, 3/11 Goodhue (Colvill Park) JtM, SDz, 3/12 Hennepin ebd, Rice ebd, Stearns MJB. Early north (median 3/20) 3/24 Douglas BEc, 3/25 Pine (2) ebd, 3/26 Crow Wing BCS, Morrison TLu. High count 4/14 Hennepin (287, Marshall Terrace Park, Minneapolis) ebd.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [52 South, 26 North] Early south (median 3/20) 3/15 Stearns AaL, 3/26 Washington ebd, 3/27 Dakota ebd. Early north (median 4/3) 4/7 Clay (2) PBB, 4/8 Cass JCu, Douglas JPE. High count 5/14 Renville (60, Preston Lake) CBt.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [14 South, 2 North] Reported from the highest number of counties since 2006. Early south (median 4/22) 4/15 Washington (Woodbury Dr.) BDO, (Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) DuW, 4/23 McLeod (Silver Lake) m.ob., Watonwan (2, Case Lake) ARW, m.ob., Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) ebd. All north 4/12 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) SeM, NGi, 5/5 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) HHu. High count 5/5 Redwood (3, Lake Redwood) RJS. See summer report for late south migrants.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — No reports.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [11 South, 1 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/14 Swift (Appleton Twp.) JGW, m.ob., 4/19 Faribault WAF, 4/21 Rice (Wheatland Twp.) ebd. Only north report 4/28 Crow Wing (C.R. 44) ebd, m.ob. Late south 5/14 Big Stone (5, season high count, Odessa Twp.) ebd, 5/15 Cottonwood (2, Southbrook Twp.) KEm, m.ob., 5/29 Cottonwood (3, Lawcon Park) ebd.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [47 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/14 Hennepin (Hidden Ponds Park) ebd, 4/17 Hennepin (Lake Cornelia) ebd CMB, 4/19 Faribault WAF, Freeborn AEB. Early north (median 5/2) 4/28 Grant CNn, 5/4 Crow Wing ebd, 5/5 Douglas VKL. High counts 5/28

Ramsey (8, Maplewood N.C.) JZj, 5/29 Washington (8, Eagle Point Lake) ebd.

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [25 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/2) 4/6 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 4/12 Hennepin (2, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) AnA, 4/15 Hennepin (2, Marshall Terrace Park) ebd, TPu; no south reports away from Hennepin until 4/22 Olmsted (max. 4) LAV, m.ob. Early north (median 4/18) 4/11 Cook ebd, m.ob., 4/14–23 Beltrami m.ob., 4/23 Clay ebd. High count 4/25 Hennepin (12) CMB.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — No reports.

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*) — [4 South] All south 4/23 **Pipestone** (2, Woodstock W.M.A.) ph. †VKI, ph. †DiH, 4/29 Lyon/Yellow Medicine (290th St., Burton Twp.) ph. †GWe, 5/1 **Murray** (Lake Sarah Twp.) ph. †KEm.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chibi*) — [27 South, 4 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/14 Lac qui Parle (15, Hantho Twp.) DLP, (5, Garfield Twp.) KJB, Yellow Medicine (5, Miller-Richter W.M.A.) WCM. All north 4/13 Clay (8, Barnesville Twp.) CRM, m.ob., 4/24 Grant (7, North Ottawa Impoundment) PPe, 5/6 Polk (4, Brandt-Angus flood control project) HHu, 5/19 Wilkin (Western Prairie S.N.A.) ANy, DBz. High count 4/29 Lac qui Parle (66, Augusta Twp.) DIS. Late south 5/15 Blue Earth (C.R. 168) ChH, 5/20 Lyon (Vallers Twp.) RJS, 5/28 Brown (Bashaw Twp.) SLH.

Plegadis ibis (*Plegadis* sp.) — [8 South] All south 4/14 Lac qui Parle (20, C.R. 40) ebd, 4/19 Hennepin (Bass Lake Rd., Maple Grove) KBg, 4/23 Pipestone (7, Woodstock W.M.A.) DiH, 4/24 Brown (4, Albin Twp.) BTS, Steele (Armstrong Wetland Restoration) LiH, Wright (17th St. NE, Saint Michael) JCr, 4/26 Big Stone (3, Ortonville Twp.) DLP, 4/29 Lac qui Parle (54, Plover Prairie) WCM, (12, Bolland Slough) KCl, ebd, Yellow Medicine (21, Burton Twp.) KCl, ebd, 5/9 Big Stone (3, Ortonville Twp.) DLP.

BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*) — [1 South] One report of this Casual species: 5/22 Fillmore (Forestville S.P.) ph. †ToM.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/7) 3/4 Washington MJM, 3/7 Blue Earth BHW, Hennepin NMe, Olmsted (2) JPr, ebd, Winona ebd. Ear-



Black Vulture, 22 May 2023, Forestville State Park, Fillmore County. Photo by Todd Mitchell.

ly north (median 3/23) 3/18 St. Louis ebd, 3/22 Pine KrM, 3/23 Crow Wing (2) BCS. High counts 4/12 St. Louis (433, W.S.H.C.) SeM, 4/10 St. Louis (393, W.S.H.C.) SeM.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [39 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/27 Anoka (2) ebd, 3/28 Hennepin ebd, 3/29 Dakota ebd, Ramsey ebd. Early north (median 4/2) 4/8 Crow Wing DMz, Pine ebd, 4/9 Morrison (2) NaH, Otter Tail ebd. High count 4/27 St. Louis (24, W.S.H.C.) SeM.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [18 South, 8 North] South reports in March and April from 18 counties, last reports 4/22 Pipestone ebd, Swift DLP, 4/24 Redwood HCT (median 4/21). Frequent north reports throughout March and April with peak northbound movement in mid March and last reports 4/29 Carlton PHS, 5/4 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) SeM, 5/9 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) SeM (median 5/6). High counts 3/20 St. Louis (22, W.S.H.C.) SeM, 3/23 St. Louis (18, W.S.H.C.) FJN.

Northern Harrier (*Circus hudsonius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. Overwintered south in multiple locations. Early north (median 3/8) 3/15 Morrison ebd, 3/24 Traverse (Reservation Dam W.M.A.) DLP,

- 3/25 Traverse (Tara Twp.) KEm, JWH. High counts 4/2 Houston (17, Reno) ASu, 4/27 St. Louis (12, W.S.H.C.) SeM.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [49 South, 27 North] Reported south and north from the beginning of the season. High counts 5/8 St. Louis (373, W.S.H.C.) SeM, 4/27 St. Louis (219, W.S.H.C.) SeM. Late south 5/26 Hennepin (Pond Dakota Mission Park) ABL, DPJ, 5/29 Dakota ebd, 5/31 Hennepin (Lake Rebecca P.R.) ebd (median 5/30), but also see summer report.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [53 South, 28 North] See winter report for earliest north (median 3/9), followed by 3/6 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) SeM, 3/7 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) SeM. High count 4/2 Houston (18, Reno) ASu.
- American Goshawk** (*Accipiter atricapillus*) — [1 South, 9 North] All south 4/17, 4/25 Hennepin (Rush Creek Regional Trail) ebd, DEL. North reports from Roseau, Cass, Itasca, Koochiching, Crow Wing, Pine, St. Louis, Lake, Cook.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 4/3 St. Louis (318, W.S.H.C.) SeM, 3/24 St. Louis (271, W.S.H.C.) FJN.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) — [1 South, 1 North] Two sight records: 5/17 **Wilkin** (Riverside Cemetery) †TWe, 5/18 **Chippewa** (Shakopee Lake) †Dwk, †HCT.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [35 South, 14 North] Early north (median 3/12) 3/15 Morrison (Blanchard Dam) ebd, 3/23 Morrison (Little Falls) TLu, 3/24 Mille Lacs AOp. High counts 3/15 Houston (7, Reno) ASu, 4/2 Houston (5, Reno) ASu.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [46 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/6) 4/2 Le Sueur CZi, Waseca CZi, 4/8 Hennepin ebd. Early north (median 4/12) 4/10 Crow Wing ebd, Grant CNn, 4/13 Cass (2) ebd. High counts 5/9 St. Louis (1,593, W.S.H.C.) SeM, 5/8 St. Louis (1,320, W.S.H.C.) SeM.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [25 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/6) 3/7 Le Sueur CZi, 4/6 Dakota CRE, 4/9 Pipestone (2) LVD. All north 4/13–15 Clay (max. 2, several locations) TkL, m.ob., 4/14 Wilkin CMk, ebd, 4/15 Grant SC. High counts 4/10 Lac qui Parle (15, Salt Lake) DIS, ASu, 4/15 Steele (3, Owatonna) DAB. New county record: 4/24
- Itasca** (Cohasset) HTO.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [53 South, 33 North] Found in every county except Cook. High counts 4/7 St. Louis (616, W.S.H.C.) SeM, 4/11 St. Louis (262, W.S.H.C.) SeM. *B. j. barlani* reported with documentation until early April from Dakota, Hennepin, Houston, McLeod, Sibley, Steele, with two additional undocumented reports. "Kriider's" race reported from fourteen counties, with many supported by documentation.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [50 South, 30 North] High counts 4/24 St. Louis (75, W.S.H.C.) SeM, 4/14 St. Louis (49, W.S.H.C.) SeM. Late south 4/29 Carver ebd, Hennepin ebd, Meeker PKF, 5/11–12 Yellow Medicine ANy (median 5/10). Late north 5/11 St. Louis (4, W.S.H.C.) SeM, NGi, 5/14 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) SeM, 5/15 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) SeM (median 5/27).
- BARN OWL** (*Tyto alba*) — [1 South, 1 North] One north report: 3/20 Polk (specimen found near Climax) ph. †KAB. All south 4/7, 4/18 Houston (Money Creek Twp.) a.t. †KAB, 5/5 Houston (specimen, La Crescent) ph. †KAB, 5/16 Houston (Money Creek Twp.) a.t. †KAB.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [18 South, 1 North] Only north report: 5/3 Pine (Pine City) NSn. High counts 3/4 Houston (6, county night survey) DJa, 3/3 Houston (3, Cut Across Rd.) ebd. Five individuals noted as gray morphs, three as red morphs.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [42 South, 22 North] Reported throughout the season and state. Adults on nests or with newly fledged young in 3 north and 19 south counties.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [1 South, 7 North] High count 4/1 Polk (5, Sherack) TJJ. Only south report: 3/5–19 Benton (Sauk Rapids) DRL, m.ob. Late north 4/8 Marshall HHu, Otter Tail ebd, 4/8, 4/16 Polk (C.R. 18, Keystone Twp.) JCJ, SAU (median 4/20).
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [3 North] Reported north in St. Louis from Sax-Zim Bog through 3/15 m.ob. Additional north reports 4/8 Koochiching ebd, 4/9 Lake ebd. (This is considered a Sensitive Species in eBird and their records are not public. This summary includes eBird records although they are not in the M.O.U. database.)
- BURROWING OWL** (*Athene cunicularia*) — [2 South] All south 4/23 **Brown** (Bowser East-

ment) ph. †BTS, ARW, RAE, JSc (**The Loon** 95:235), 4/24–30 **Faribault** (Delavan Twp., discovered by an anonymous Reddit user) ph. †WAF, ph. †KEm, ph. †ChH, BAY, JWH.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) — [39 South, 23 North] Found in almost every county east of a line from Jackson to Polk. High count 3/4 Houston (5, Houston) Dja. Unusual report: 5/25 Norman (Wild Rice Twp.) ANy, DBz.

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) — [2 North] Found in Aitkin, and as late as 5/24 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) DFe, KCl. (This is considered a Sensitive Species in eBird and their records are not public.)

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) — [5 South, 3 North] High count 3/11 Hennepin (5) ebd. Widespread south reports through mid-April, with last reports 4/22 Sibley DWK, JSP, Hennepin ebd. All north reports 3/21 Clay ebd, 3/26 Polk ebd, 4/10 St. Louis CLN. (This is considered a Sensitive Species in eBird and their records are not public. This summary includes eBird records although they are not in the M.O.U. database.)

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) — [14 South, 8 North] Found south in 14 counties; last reports 4/25 Sherburne PLJ, HHD, 4/27 Waseca LHL, 4/29 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) GrN, m.ob., (Big Stone N.W.R.) KOC. Found north in Aitkin, Clay, Clearwater, Cook, Otter Tail, Polk, St. Louis, Todd. High count 4/18 Otter Tail (3, Hensch W.P.A.) ebd.

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) — [1 North] Only north report 4/14 Lake (Tomahawk Road) BLz.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [7 South, 11 North] Regularly reported south early in the season, with last reports 4/10 Hennepin ebd, 4/12 Ramsey LiH, 4/21 Dakota AOp. North reports from Roseau, Otter Tail, Douglas, Beltrami, Lake of the Woods, Koochiching, Itasca, Carlton, St. Louis, Lake, Cook.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early north (median 3/23) 4/1 Beltrami AxB, 4/2 Pine ebd, 4/7 Morrison TLu. High counts 4/8 Hennepin (6, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 4/18 St. Louis (6, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [51 South, 30 North] Early south reports (median 4/12) likely pertain to overwintering individuals 3/2 Wright RbD, 3/4



Burrowing Owl, 23 April 2023, Mulligan Township, Brown County. Photo by Brian T. Smith.

Fillmore ebd, 3/7 Winona ebd. Likely migrants 3/23 Olmsted ebd, 4/5 Pope ebd. Early north (median 4/19) 3/1 Crow Wing (Garrison Twp.) ebd, 4/8 Crow Wing (Brainerd) ebd, 4/11 Cass ebd. High counts 5/12, 5/16 Rice (9, Nerstrand Big Woods S.P.) ebd.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [53 South, 32 North] Found in every county except Norman, Kittson. High count 4/25 Winona (15, Prairie Island Park) ebd.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/3–10 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park) ebd, 3/8 Wabasha MNb, 3/11 Hennepin (Lakewood Cemetery) GrS. Early north (median 4/2) 3/16–31 Otter Tail (overwintered) LGU, 4/8 Clay PBB, Douglas (4) ebd, Grant (max. 2, two locations) PPe, Pine KrM. High count 4/15 St. Louis (16, Boulder Trail) JLK.

American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picooides dorsalis*) — [3 North] All reports: 3/2 Cook (Grand Marais) FJN, m.ob., 3/3 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) LiH, 3/21 St. Louis (one at Plum Creek Rd., two at Carpenter Rd.) JuG, 3/26 St. Louis (Willow Valley Twp.) JuG, 5/27–29 Koochiching (max. 2, Toomey Williams Rd.) KCR, m.ob.

- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Reported from Lake of the Woods, Itasca, Koochiching, St. Louis, Lake, Cook. High count 5/16 Lake (7, Lake C.R. 2, Sand River) JWJ, SLL.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates pubescens*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/7 Hennepin (22, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 4/25 Hennepin (20, Wood Lake N.C.) ebd.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates villosus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Found statewide. High count 5/31 Hennepin (14, Lake Camelot) CDg.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Overwintering birds north 3/2–14 Grant CNn, 3/10–13 Otter Tail LGU. Possible early north migrants 3/15 Traverse DLP, 3/18 Clay DnM. High count 4/12 St. Louis (534, Park Point R.A.) NGi.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [49 South, 34 North] Reported statewide, but fewest reports from the Southwest region. High count 4/24 Beltrami (7, Lake Bemidji S.P.) ebd.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early north (median 3/8) 3/10 Douglas ebd, 3/15 Grant PPe, 3/21 Becker NaH. High counts 4/8 Wright (14, Pelican Lake) RCL, 4/12 St. Louis (14, W.S.H.C.) SeM.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [51 South, 29 North] Probable early north migrants (median 3/12) 3/7 Pine KrM, 3/17 Itasca ebd, 3/21 Douglas JPE. High counts 4/10 St. Louis (5, W.S.H.C.) ebd, 4/17 Morrison (5, Little Falls) ebd, 4/26 St. Louis (5, W.S.H.C.) SeM. Late south migrants 5/17 Wabasha ebd, 5/20 Rice ebd, 5/26 Meeker BNn (median 5/18).
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [31 South, 18 North] Early south arrivals (median 3/13) 3/1–2 Hennepin JhM, BAF, 3/2–3 Goodhue PEJ, 3/3 Dakota KCL, Washington CNC. Early north arrivals (median 3/22) 3/9 Cook JGW, 3/30 Clay TKL, 4/2 Lake ABm, JJB. High counts 4/10 Lake (4, Finland area) ebd, 5/6 Ramsey (4, Cathedral Hill) ebd.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — [1 North] One report, a new spring record 4/11 Grant (Pine Ridge Park) †DBg.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [52 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/30) 5/3 Goodhue ebd, 5/4 Ramsey ebd, Sherburne ebd, 5/6 also in Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Le Sueur, Wabasha, Washington. Early north (median 5/7) 5/7 Clay PBB, 5/10 Cass JBU, Morrison SEM, Otter Tail TFu, Pine LEv. High counts 5/15 Carver (14, Carver P.R.) JCy, 5/20 Freeborn (13, Myre Big Island S.P.) ebd, 5/28 Scott (13, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [12 South, 13 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/10 Pipestone (Troy Twp.) ANy, DBz, 5/11 Swift ANy, 5/12 Big Stone DLP, Pipestone (Woodstock W.M.A.) DIS. Early north (median 5/12) 5/7 Clay ebd, 5/9 Marshall HHu, 5/11 Otter Tail WPL. High counts 5/19 Lake of the Woods (9, Rocky Point Road) TPu, AxB.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/26 Wabasha ebd, 4/29 Dakota MKe, McLeod MwT, AnB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/6 Pine (Chengwatana Twp.) ebd, 5/7 Beltrami ebd, Cass ebd, Pine (Pine City Twp.) KrM. High counts 5/18 Pipestone (20, Pipestone W.T.P.) VKI, 5/23 Lyon (20, Camden S.P.) NMe, 5/24 Sherburne (19, Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) — [1 South, 1 North] One north report 5/30 Cass (May Twp., second county record) ph. †CGy. One south report 5/28–29 Washington (Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A., also a second county record) GrN, ph. †DwK, ph. †TPu, †EzH, †PCC, ph. †APi, ph. TGi, ph. ToM, m.ob.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [35 South, 26 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/7 Wabasha JCa, 5/8 Dakota PNI, 5/10 Carver ebd, Hennepin TSK. Early north (median 5/13) 5/12 Polk TJJ, 5/13 Morrison (Crane Meadows N.W.R.) ebd, 5/14 Morrison (Haven Dr.) SEM, Otter Tail ebd, Pine KrM. High counts 5/29 Koochiching (6, Toomey Williams Road) ebd, 5/16 Hennepin (4, T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) ebd. See summer report for late south migrants (median 6/13).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [51 South, 34 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/6 Dakota ebd, Hennepin BaS, Olmsted ebd, Washington ebd. Early north (median 5/12) 5/7 Todd ebd, 5/10 Douglas ebd, Otter Tail TFu. High counts 5/28 Scott (15, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd, 5/26 Scott (12, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BxP.
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [34 South, 24 North] Reported with

- identification details from 14 south and 3 north counties. Early south (median 5/13) 5/13 Carver ebd, Hennepin ACr, 5/15 Cottonwood DWK, HCT, 5/16 Hennepin CMB, PRH. Early north (median 5/20) 5/21 St. Louis ebd, 5/23 St. Louis DFN, 5/24 St. Louis DFe. High counts 5/19 Olmsted (3, Rochester) JDy, 5/25 Anoka (3, Circle Pines) SRo, 5/30 Steele (3, Somerset Twp.) PSu. Late south 5/30 Hennepin BAF, MZa, Martin RBW, Steele PSu, 5/31 Steele PSu, but see summer report. **Note:** During spring and fall migration, undocumented records of silent *Empidonax* flycatchers are not included in this report. Observers are encouraged to include identification details in their reports.
- Acadian Flycatcher** (*Empidonax virescens*) — [15 South] Reported with details from 9 south counties. Early south (median 5/15) 5/12 Rice (Canon River Wilderness Park) JBJ, ebd, 5/15 Rice TFB, 5/15 Anoka LiH. New county record: 5/28 **Watowan** (Wood Lake W.M.A.) DIS. Rare spring records 5/19 **Lyon** (county fairgrounds) RJS, 5/29 **Steele** (Somerset Twp.) PSu. High count 5/27 Houston (3, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) KRE.
- Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [37 South, 31 North] Reported with identification notes from 18 south and 9 north counties. Early south (median 5/16) 5/12 Washington BDo, LiH, 5/13 Dakota DEv, 5/15 Ramsey RMD, YNa. Early north (median 5/21) 5/11 St. Louis (Orr) JuG, 5/12 St. Louis (Grassy Point, Duluth) JLK, 5/16 Lake of the Woods ebd. High count 5/29 Koochiching (12, Toomey Williams Road) ebd.
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [38 South, 11 North] Reported with identification notes from 13 south and 4 north counties. Early south (median 5/11) 5/11 Hennepin ACr, Ramsey LiH, 5/12 Washington BDo, LiH, 5/15 Sherburne PLJ. Early north (median 5/27) 5/29 Polk ANy, DBz, **Red Lake** (Gervais Twp.) ANy, DBz, 5/30 Traverse ANy, DBz, 5/31 Becker NaH. High counts 5/24 Hennepin (9, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) CMB, 5/26 Dakota (7, Cliff Fen) CMB.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [52 South, 34 North] Reports with details from 28 south and 10 north counties. Early south (median 5/1) 5/5 Carver (Carver P.R.) JCy, Hennepin (several locations) ClB, CMB, DWK, VRL, 5/6 Anoka ebd, Carver (Chaska) NWi, Hennepin CMB, Ramsey LHi. Early north 5/5 Clay LSL, 5/8 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) PHS, 5/12 St. Louis (near McDavitt Park) ebd, 5/13 Koochiching ebd. High counts 5/15 St. Louis (34, Bass Lake Trails) Sfy, 5/18 Lac qui Parle (18, Lac qui Parle S.P.) HCT.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Early south (median 3/21) 3/25 Houston ebd, Washington TAr, CDe, 3/26 Ramsey LiH, 3/30 Goodhue SDz. Early north (median 3/30) 4/2 Cass MJB, 4/7 Morrison DLP, TLu, 4/8 Douglas JPE, Grant CNn, Otter Tail TFu, JsS. High counts 4/8 Hennepin (**20**, Oberlin Park) ebd, 4/28 Clay (12, Gooseberry Park) ebd.
- Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) — [4 South, 1 North] All south (median 5/2) **4/12–13 Washington** (record early, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) BDo, m.ob., **4/14 Swift** (Appleton Twp.) ph. †KEm, JWH, JGW, 4/22 **Rock** (one mile east of Hills W.T.P.) †PRH, KEm, 5/19, 5/26 Big Stone (Odessa Gravel Pits) BLz, TWe, DIS, NMe. One north (median 5/8) record was the earliest ever north **4/16–17 St. Louis** (Stony Point) JWl, SLL, m.ob.
- WHITE-EYED VIREO** (*Vireo griseus*) — [2 South] Two south reports (median arrival 5/10) including a new county record 5/15 **Lincoln** (Limestone Twp.) ph. †DIS, and a second county record 5/18–20 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) ebd, ph. †TWe, BLz.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [11 South] Early south (median 5/15) 5/12 Washington (Cottage Grove) JZj, ebd, 5/13 Olmsted ebd, 5/15 Washington (Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) DuW. Rare spring records 5/31 **Anoka** (Carlos Avery W.M.A.) SRo, m.ob., 5/16 **Lyon** (Garvin Park) RJS. High counts 5/21, 5/26 Dakota (4, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Cliff Fen) DWK, CMB, 5/21 Houston (4, Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood S.F.) ToM, 5/27 Houston (4, Walker Rd. south of C.R. 21) KRE, CRM, m.ob.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [49 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/5 Dakota ebd, Ramsey (Silverwood Park) BTr, Scott SML, 5/6 Hennepin CMB, SSc, (Lake Hiawatha Park) ClB, Olmsted ebd, Ramsey (Arden Hills) LiH. Early north (median 5/9) 5/9 Crow Wing ebd, 5/9–10 Aitkin ebd, 5/10 Pine KrM, 5/11 also in Cass, Douglas, Itasca, Mille Lacs, Norman, Roseau. Unusual record 5/29 **Cook** (Barker Lake area) LWd. High

- counts 5/20 Otter Tail (10, Maplewood S.P.) TkL, 5/23 Aitkin (10, Rice Lake N.W.R.) BxP, 5/28 Scott (10, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [46 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/27 Ramsey ebd, 4/28 Rice TFB, 4/29 Anoka IsH, EzH, Hennepin ACr, ebd. Early north (median 5/1) 5/1 Becker ebd, 5/4–5 Aitkin ebd, 5/5 Clay DPW, LSI. High counts 5/10 Carver (10, Carver P.R.) JCy, 5/22 St. Louis (10, Embarrass Campground Trail) ebd, 5/11 St. Louis (9, Cloquet Line) JEL. Late south 5/30 Blue Earth ebd, 5/31 Hennepin ebd, but see summer report (median 6/1).
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [40 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/5 Ramsey BTr, 5/7 Faribault ebd, Pipestone LVD, 5/8 Dakota MwT, Stevens JFl. Early north (median 5/14) 5/12 Becker HeH, ShG, 5/13 Crow Wing JLa, Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) WPl, 5/14 Otter Tail (Maplewood S.P.) LSI. High count 5/27 Lake (5, South Arm Knife Lake) ebd. Late south 5/31 Scott MwT, TSk, Wabasha MNb, Washington ebd, but see summer report (median 6/1).
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [51 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park) LrV, 5/2 Hennepin (2, East Bde Maka Ska Parkway) ebd, 5/3 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C. and Brooklyn Center) ebd. Early north (median 5/8) 5/8 St. Louis BHw, 5/9 Crow Wing ebd, 5/10 Douglas BWF, Itasca ebd, Pine SBE. High counts 5/16 Hennepin (20, Wood Lake N.C.) ebd, 5/20 Hennepin (18, Wood Lake N.C.) ebd.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [51 South, 33 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/2 Ramsey ebd, 5/5 Carver JCy, Hennepin ebd, Mower SWm. Early north (median 5/10) 5/9 Crow Wing ebd, 5/10 Aitkin ebd, Carlton ebd, Otter Tail TFu. High counts 5/28 Crow Wing (48, Crow Wing S.P.) ebd, 5/20 Wright (35, Stanley Eddy Park South) ToL.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [15 South, 5 North] Early south (median 3/26) 4/2 Wabasha PEJ, 4/10 Lyon RJS, Redwood SLH, 4/27 Meeker ebd, Sherburne ebd. Early north (median 4/21) 4/11 St. Louis (Chester Creek, Duluth) †CLN, KDx, JDX, 4/28 Becker ebd, Clay (Moorhead) CMk, 4/30 Clay (Blue-stem Prairie S.N.A.) ebd Otter Tail ebd. High count 5/19 Wright (3, Pelican Lake) RCL.
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius borealis*) — [35 South, 22 North] High counts 3/11 St. Louis (3, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 3/15, 3/20, 3/21 St. Louis (3, Sax-Zim Bog) AVa, ebd. Late south 4/9 Scott BHE, 4/10 Lyon RJS, NMe, 4/12 Anoka ebd (median 4/10). Late north 4/15 Lake ebd, St. Louis (West Knife River Rd.) JWL, 4/17 Koochiching ebd, 4/18 St. Louis (Grassy Point, Duluth) JLK (median 4/20).
- Canada Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [7 North] Reported from the northernmost tier of counties from Roseau east to Cook, plus Itasca. Numerous high counts of 8 from Sax-Zim Bog, St. Louis.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Observed statewide. High counts 5/9 St. Louis (4,350, Park Point) NGi, SeM, 5/16 St. Louis (3,670, Park Point) HTō.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [21 North] Reported throughout usual north range plus 4/19–21 **Carlton** (Automba Twp.) RAE, CRM. High counts 3/10 St. Louis (9, Sax-Zim Bog) AVa, HTō, 4/2 Itasca (8, C.R. 71) DvH.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 3/10 Olmsted (750, Oakwood Cemetery, Rochester) LHL.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [20 South, 32 North] Reported throughout usual range and expanding southward as evidenced by 3/15 **Carver/Scott** (Minnesota Valley S.R.A.) BAb, 3/24 **Swift** (Swift Falls C.P.) MJB, 3/26 **Swift/Kandiyohi** (Hayes Twp.) ANy, 3/31 **Pope** (near Sedan) CRM, 4/7 **McLeod** (Bergen Twp.) BDc, 5/24 **Kandiyohi** (Colfax Twp.) KEm. 5/26 **Wabasha** (West Albany Twp.) MNb. High counts 3/30 St. Louis (46, W.S.H.C.) SeM, 3/1 Lake (20, Hwy 61) ebd.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 3/24 Dakota (56, Spring Lake P.R.) ebd.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [5 North] Reported from Lake of the Woods east to Cook. High count 5/2 Lake of the Woods (6, Rapid River Rd.) ebd.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [17 South] Reported from normal range north to Anoka, Chisago. Extralimital reports 5/11, 5/28 Brown (Flandrau S.P.) ebd, 5/15 **Faribault** (Walters) ebd. High counts 5/27 Houston (7; 4 along Hillside Rd., 3 at Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) KRE, 4/9 Houston (6, Day Creek)

ebd.

Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties, a first for the spring season. High counts 3/4 Dodge (400, Westfield Twp.) ebd, 3/28 Meeker (392, near Litchfield) ebd, 3/14 Rock (382, Beaver Creek Twp.) ASu.

Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) — [46 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/16) 4/12 Houston ASu, 4/21 Washington DuW, 4/22 Dakota ebd. Early north (median 4/29) 5/3 Morrison ebd, 5/5 Douglas JPE, 5/6 Todd TPu, AaL. High counts 5/7 Hennepin (200, Richard T. Anderson Conservation Area) MyP, HPe, 5/19 Lac qui Parle (200, Big Stone N.W.R. Auto Tour) BLz, TWe.

Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/19) 3/23 Washington ELi, 3/28 Dakota HHD, Houston SHo, Sherburne PLJ, 3/30 Scott ABL. Early north (median 4/2) 4/8 Pine NSn, 4/9 Cass ABi, Crow Wing ebd, Itasca ebd, Morrison ebd, Otter Tail ebd. High counts 4/20 Ramsey (800, St. Paul Downtown Airport) ebd, 4/20 Stearns (700, St. Cloud) MJB.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [52 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/9 Dakota (Spring Lake P.R.) ALw, 4/10 Houston SDz, Ramsey LiH, 4/11 Dakota (180th St. Marsh) ebd. Early north (median 4/22) 4/27 Clay TkL, 4/28 Crow Wing LAP, 4/30 Becker ebd. High counts 4/16 Houston (100, Blue Lake) ebd, 5/7 Freeborn (50, Myre-Big Island S.P.) ebd, 5/7 Lac qui Parle (50, Marsh Lake Dam) ebd.

Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) — [51 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/5) 4/11 Goodhue PEJ, Hennepin GWe, 4/12 Kandiyohi ebd, 4/13 Meeker PKF, Washington KCL, Wright ToL. Early north (median 4/12) 4/11 St. Louis CLn, KDx, 4/12 Todd BWF, 4/14 Pine KrM. High counts 5/22 Wright (120, Otsego) ToL.

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/6) 4/6 Cottonwood KEm, 4/8 Hennepin VRL, ABL, 4/8–9 Dakota ebd, NoK, 4/9 Ramsey ebd. Early north (median 4/17) 4/14 Morrison HHD, 4/18 Itasca ebd, Wadena PJB. High count 5/13 Pipestone (175, Pipestone W.T.P.) RJS.

Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/16) 4/20 Olmsted (4) JPr, 4/22 Goodhue (5) SWe,

m.ob., Hennepin (2) ABL. Early north (median 4/24) 4/27 Crow Wing BCS, 4/28 Clay DPW, 5/4 Pine KrM. High counts 5/12 Lac qui Parle (400, C.R. 15) ebd, 5/16 Norman (250, C.R. 40) SHO, 5/17 Red Lake (250, C.R. 12) SHO.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Corthylio calendula*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/24 Wabasha MNB, 3/25 Hennepin BNn, Scott BHE, 3/26 Meeker PKF. Early north (median 4/3) 4/2 Clay (Woodlawn Park) ebd, 4/6 Itasca ebd, 4/8 Clay (Gooseberry Park) ebd, Grant CNn, Morrison TLU. High counts 5/2 Hennepin (83, Minnehaha Park just east of Penn Ave.) JCa, 4/30 Ramsey (65, Crosby Farm R.P.) AxB, 4/29 Carver (58, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy. Late south 5/23 McLeod ebd, 5/24 Hennepin SHF, BAF, 5/28 Sherburne ebd (median 5/27).

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) — [47 South, 30 North] Early south (median 3/21) 3/15 Wright ebd, 3/21 Dakota (Spring Lake P.R.) NoK, 3/26 Dakota (Hastings) ALw. Early north (median 3/26) 4/2 St. Louis SeM, 4/2–6 Itasca ebd, 4/8 Clay ebd, Grant PPe. High counts 4/15 Cook (40, Cascade River Wayside) CrB, 4/9 Lyon (28, Southwest Minnesota State University) DLS. Late south 5/8–9 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) LAi, PRH, DnS, 5/9 Hennepin (Champlin) BKe, (Mississippi Gorge R.P.) JHv, 5/10 Carver JCy (median 5/12).

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [1 South, 15 North] Only south report 3/23 Ramsey LiH (median 3/6). High counts 4/11 St. Louis (961, Virginia) DBF, 4/23 St. Louis (820, East Central Entrance, Duluth) JLK. Late north 5/4 St. Louis (Virginia) DBF, 5/5 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) SeM, (Duluth Heights) JLK (median 4/20).

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [48 South, 34 North] Present north and south as the period commenced. High counts 3/29 St. Louis (170, Brighton Beach) SeM, 5/24 Hennepin (165, Powderhorn Park) LrV. Only unreported from Rock, Redwood, Jackson, Martin, Waseca.

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) — [45 South, 28 North] Reports from all regions, though fewest reports from the western third of the state. High counts 3/15 Hubbard (10, Itasca S.P. Visitor Center) ebd, 4/10 St. Louis (9, near Markham) BHw.



Rock Wren, 13 April 2023, Logan Township, Grant County. Photo by Paula Perdoni.

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts 5/9 Olmsted (17, Quarry Hill N.C.) ebd, 3/3 Ramsey (14, Battle Creek Park-East) JZj.

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) — [50 South, 29 North] High counts 4/8 Carver (10, Fox Woods Preserve) ebd, 4/16 St. Louis (10, Park Point Nature Trail) NGi, 5/6 St. Louis (9, Park Point R.A.) SeM. Late south 5/25 Carver ebd, 5/26 Anoka ebd, Washington BDo, LiH (median 5/16).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [50 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/22 Fillmore ELS, Hennepin MKp, 4/23 Scott CSL. Early north (median 5/4) 4/15 **Cook** (Grand Marais Campground) ebd, 5/5 Pine KrM, 5/7 Kanabec KrM. Additional out of range north reports include 5/10 **Itasca** (Williams Narrows Resort) ebd, 5/20 **Lake** (Two Harbors) SLL, JWJ, 5/23 **Norman** (Faith State W.M.A.) HeH, 5/24 **Mahnomen** (Island Lake) LHL. High counts 5/16 Anoka (20, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) EzH, MrC, 5/4 Houston (13, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ebd.

ROCK WREN (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) — [1 North] First spring report since 2015: 4/13 **Grant**

(Logan Twp.) ph. PPe.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [5 South] All south 3/16, 4/4 Anoka (Coon Rapids) RLR, 4/11 Houston (Crooked Creek Twp.) ASu, 4/23 Winona (Scharmer Heights) ebd, 4/24–29 Carver (Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, TWe, 5/6–7 Goodhue (Frontenac) SDz, JtM, ebd, KCl, 5/9 Winona ThN.

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/8 Dakota ebd, 4/15 Fillmore ToM, Hennepin ebd, Houston ebd, Olmsted SFG. Early north (median 4/30) 4/27 – 5/3 Pine ebd, 5/1 Cass ebd, 5/3 St. Louis ebd. High counts 5/17 Pipestone (23, Split Rock Creek S.P.) HCT, 5/15 Houston (22, Norwegian Ridge Birding & Nature Trail) ebd.

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [32 South, 21 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/14 Hennepin CoM, 3/24 Anoka ebd, 4/2 Dakota ADS. Early north (median 4/6) 4/8 Clay ebd, Grant CNn, PPe, 4/9 Itasca ebd. High counts 5/19 Lake (17, Superior N.F.) HTo, 5/15 St. Louis (14, Bass Lake Trails) ebd. Late south 5/16 Goodhue NRi, Hennepin ebd, 5/16–19 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) MHO, ECL, ebd (median 5/17).

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus stellaris*) — [46 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/26 Olmsted ebd, 4/27 Ramsey JKu, Sherburne JOs, 4/28 Hennepin ebd, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/1) 5/4 Pine (Pine City Twp.) KrM, 5/5 Itasca SC, Pine (Pine City W.T.P.) KrM, St. Louis (Cook) JuG, 5/6 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) CLN, KDx. High counts 5/28 Aitkin (35, McGregor Marsh) ebd, 5/9 Anoka (27, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) RCL.

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [51 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/20 Dakota (180th St. Marsh) KBg, 4/23 Dakota (140th St. Marsh) ebd, Hennepin ebd, 4/24 Le Sueur LiH, Olmsted NoK, Washington BDo. Early north (median 5/5) 5/5 Aitkin ebd, 5/7 Cass ebd, Clay RMD, PBB, 5/8 Crow Wing ebd, 5/10 also in Beltrami, Marshall, Otter Tail, Polk. High counts 5/28 Anoka (20, Carlos Avery W.M.A., Pool 4) JH, 5/28 Lyon (18, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) DIS.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/25 Dakota SSp, 4/26 Hennepin LrV, Ramsey (Sucker Lake) ebd, 4/27 Benton DOr, Ramsey (Long Lake R.P.) JCu. Early north (median



Curve-billed Thrasher, 19 April 2023, Appleton, Big Stone County. Photo by Curt Vacek.

5/2) 5/3 St. Louis PHS, SCB, 5/6 Otter Tail JsS, St. Louis JLK, 5/8 also in Douglas, Grant, Itasca, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Todd. High counts 5/20 St. Louis (31, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 5/15 Houston (30, Norwegian Ridge Birding & Nature Trail) ebd.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) — [1 South] Sixth state and first county record, 4/19–22 **Big Stone** (Appleton) ph. †CVk, ph. †DOr, ph. †KEM. First spring record since 2000.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/7) 4/8 Rice (Faribault) ebd, Sibley BHe, Wright RCl, 4/9 Fillmore ToM, Goodhue ebd, Hennepin KSz, WPe, MaS, Nicollet RHh, Rice (Northfield) AvB, Washington ebd. Early north (median 4/20) 4/9 Pine (Pine City) †ebd, 4/10 Crow Wing PSP, 4/13 Douglas RAE. High count 5/11 Sherburne (7, Sherburne N.W.R., Wildlife Drive) RCl.

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [4 South, 2 North] All south (median 4/23) 4/25 Hennepin (Hopkins Central Park) NMe, m.ob., 5/8 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd, 5/9 Dakota SSp, 5/20–21 Ramsey (Arden Hills Army Training Site) CMu, m.ob. All north

(median 5/5) 5/9–10 St. Louis (East Hillside, Duluth) NGi, m.ob., 5/23 Beltrami (Shoreline Drive) LHL, JGW, JWH, 5/26 St. Louis (Norton Park, Duluth) ebd.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 3/30 Dakota (2,000, SET-Empire) MwT, AnB, 3/23 Rice (1,000, Rice County Sanitary Landfill) AvB.

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) — [51 South, 32 North] Overwintered south. Early north (median 3/16) 3/26 Mille Lacs HHD, 3/27 Itasca ebd, 4/6 Morrison ebd. High count 5/31 Goodhue (28, Frontenac S.P., Prairie Trail) JtM.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia currucoides*) — [1 North] One report of an adult male 4/28 Clay (Elkton Twp.) ph. †TkL, ph. †TCL, CMk.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [4 South, 1 North] All south 3/14 Hennepin MZa, 3/20 Wabasha MZa, ebd, 4/10 Sherburne HHD, 4/22 Carver ebd (median 3/30). All north 3/4 St. Louis PNI, DnS (median 4/15).

Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) — [42 South, 34 North] Early south (median 5/2) 4/29 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha) BAF, 5/6 Freeborn ebd, Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) JCa, EMf, m.ob., Lyon DLS, Olmsted SHk, Stearns PCC, Swift ebd, Watonwan RHh. Early north (median 5/7) 4/27 Douglas ebd, 5/7 Crow Wing ebd, St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) HTo, BMu, StK, 5/8 St. Louis (Harley N.C.) JfD, (Park Point R.A.) NGi, HTo, SeM. High counts 5/30 St. Louis (22, H.R.N.R.) JLK, 5/22 Becker (20, Tamarac N.W.R.) CMN, 5/26 Aitkin (20, Rice Lake N.W.R.) BLz.

Gray-checked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) — [44 South, 21 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/5 Dakota MwT, Hennepin JHv, Lyon RJS, Olmsted LAV, Wright ebd, 5/6 also in Anoka, Faribault, Rice, Winona. Early north (median 5/7) 5/8 Becker HeH, ShG, Cass Tlu, Douglas BEc, Grant CNn, Mille Lacs HHD, Otter Tail ebd. High counts 5/16 Clay (12, nocturnal flight calls, Moorhead) CMk, 5/11 Ramsey (8, nocturnal flight calls, St. Paul) ebd. Late south 5/24 Hennepin (Medina) GWe, McLeod LMc, 5/26 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) ebd (median 5/27). Late north 5/28 Cass ebd, Cook DRL (median 5/28).

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/27)

- 4/26 Hennepin TAT, 4/27 Hennepin (Minnehaha Park) JCa, 4/28 Ramsey JdV. Early north (median 5/2) 4/27 Pine ebd, 5/4 Clay ebd, Morrison SEm, Polk SAU, St. Louis ebd. High counts 5/16 Lyon (50, Camden S.P.) JhB, 5/12 Hennepin (32, Waite Park, Minneapolis) ebd. Late south 5/31 Anoka ebd, Hennepin ebd, Olmsted EzH (median 6/2), but see summer report.
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) — [44 South, 30 North] Possible overwintering birds 3/5 Scott KEm, JWH, Washington ebd. Early south migrants (median 3/28) 3/17 Ramsey ebd, 3/21 Wabasha MNb. Early north (median 4/4) 4/5 St. Louis BHw, 4/8 Cass ebd, Pine KrM, Polk HHu. High counts 4/17 Ramsey (18, St. Paul) ebd, 4/23 St. Louis (17, Western Waterfront Trail) FJN. Late south 5/27 Benton ebd, 5/28–29 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R., Wildlife Drive) ebd (median 5/22).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [43 South, 27 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/27 – 5/3 Hennepin (Eden Prairie) HPe, MyP, 5/2 Ramsey ebd, 5/3 Dakota SSp, Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) LiH, Scott ebd. Early north (median 5/8) 5/4 Pine (Pokegama Twp.) ebd, 5/7 Morrison SEm, Pine (Pine City Twp.) KrM, 5/8 Douglas BWF. New county record: 5/17 **Traverse** (Traverse C.P.) ANy, DBz, TWe. High counts 5/14 Pine (10, St. Croix Trail) SBE, 5/16 Chisago (10, Wild River Trail) ebd, 5/10 Rice (9, Cannon River Wilderness Park) ebd.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. Incredible reverse migration in St. Louis on 4/21 with record-high county of **24,000** reported from the Lakewood Pumping Station by KJB. Other 4/21 Duluth counts of this phenomenon included **7,067** (near Lilliput Park) NGi, **3,780** (Essentia Health campus) JWL.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [1 South] One south report: 3/4 **Dakota** (Hastings) ebd.
- House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported from all counties except Cook. High counts 4/23 Ramsey (150, University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus) AnA, 4/22 Hennepin (100, East River Flats Park) LAt.
- EURASIAN TREE SPARROW** (*Passer montanus*) — [4 South, 4 North] The most reports for any season, beginning 3/3–19 Meeker (Dassel Twp.) MJB, †PCC, 3/13 – 4/1 Goodhue (Minneola Twp.) JIF, LHL, 3/30 **Wabasha** (3) ph. PEJ, 4/9 Lake (Fall Lake Twp.) SKL, 4/11 – 5/15 St. Louis (3, Park Point) BEA, SeM, NGi, m.ob., 4/13 **Wilkin** (north of Breckenridge) ph. CRM, m.ob., 4/17–23 Wabasha (Lake City) ph. MNb, 4/27 Olmsted (2) ph. JPr, 4/29 **Pennington** (Thief River Falls) ph. DKy, 4/30 St. Louis (Ely) ph. JKz.
- House Sparrow X Eurasian Tree Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus* X *P. montanus*) — [1 North] One report 4/13–16 Wilkin (Breckenridge; visiting feeder with a presumably pure Eurasian Tree Sparrow) BAB, ph. KEm, †JGW.
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [34 South, 19 North] Early south (median 3/29) 3/18–22 Dakota (Black Dog Lake outflow) CF, ebd, 3/24 Dakota (Vermillion Twp.) ebd, 3/25 Ramsey LiH. Early north (median 4/23) 4/13 Clay ebd, 4/24 Douglas JPE, 5/1 Grant ANy. Unusual spring records 5/16 **Beltrami** (15, Beltrami) AxB, 5/26 **Carlton** (Moose Lake W.T.P.) BLz. High count 5/7 Carver (70, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake) TWe. Late south 5/21 Pope BAB, **5/25** McLeod (Jade Ave.) DWK, **5/28** Watonwan (Wilson Lake, ties record late south date) AnK (median 5/21). Late north 5/25 Marshall HHu, 5/26 Carlton BLz, Cook AaL, Roseau KEm, JWH, St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 5/29 St. Louis (North Shore Dr., Duluth) ebd (median 5/24).
- BRAMBLING** (*Fringilla montifringilla*) — [1 North] The ninth state record was seen 4/23–25 **Pine** (residential feeder west of Findlayson) ph. CDH.
- Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [1 South, 12 North] Found in most counties north and east of Becker, plus 5/6 **Stearns** (Sauk River) ph. DRL. High counts 4/30 St. Louis (155, Lakewood Twp.) FJN, 3/11 St. Louis (127, total seen throughout Sax-Zim Bog) MWS.
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [11 North] Found throughout the Northeast and North-central, plus Roseau and Marshall in the Northwest. High counts 3/5 St. Louis (27, Sax-Zim Bog, Arkola Rd. feeders) ebd, 3/3 St. Louis (25, Meadowlands Twp.) IaG. Late north 4/10 Itasca ebd, 4/13, 4/21 St. Louis (Cook) †JuG (median 3/31).
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [53 South, 31 North] Reported statewide. High



Brambling, 23 April 2023, Finlayson, Pine County. Photo by Charles Dennis Huber.

counts 4/20 Ramsey (40, St. Paul) ebd, 4/16 Lyon (36, Cottonwood) GWe.

Purple Finch (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [40 South, 34 North] Found statewide, with fewest reports from the southwest quarter. High counts 4/15, 4/22 St. Louis (60, Meadowlands Twp.) IaG, 4/16 Fillmore (60, Rushford) ToM. Late south 5/21 Stevens (2) BAb, Wabasha MNb, 5/24 Sherburne (3) ebd (median 5/22).

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*) — [6 South, 17 North] Well-reported from the Northeast and North-central, but away from those regions there were few sightings. All high counts from Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis: 3/21 (135) ebd, 3/11 (121) MWS, 3/6 (120) ebd. All south reports after March: 4/10 Ramsey ebd, Washington (2) ebd, 4/14 Hennepin (5) ebd, 4/30 Isanti (15) ebd. Late north 5/2 Clay (3) ebd, 5/6 Itasca ebd, 5/19 Pine ebd (median 5/4).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [1 North] Only six reports, all but one from Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis where last found 3/14 ebd. High count only two. Away from the Bog, seen 3/8 St. Louis (Cook) ebd.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [6 South, 10 North] Most reports northeast of a line from Roseau to Washington. Also found 3/13

Meeker (7) PKF, 4/1 Blue Earth (Mankato) ChH. High counts 4/15 Chisago (15, Taylors Falls) JHu, 5/7 Beltrami (15, Bemidji) AxB. Late south 5/14 Washington (3) BPR, 5/22 Benton HHD (median 5/12).

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [1 North] Only found in St. Louis: 3/2 (11, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 3/3 (2, Sax-Zim Bog) LiH, 3/8 (6, near Cook) ebd, 3/18 (30, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd.

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) — [21 South, 20 North] Found in the fewest number of counties since 2017. Seen in every region, though only Southwest report was 5/11 Cottonwood ebd.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 5/16 St. Louis (485, Park Point R.A., Minnesota Point migration census site) SeM, HTo, 5/15 St. Louis (103, Park Point R.A., Minnesota Point migration census site) StK, HTo, NGI, SNe.

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [51 South, 15 North] Reported from almost every county southwest of a line from Marshall to Chisago. Few reports from North-central and only from St. Louis in the Northeast region. Early north (median 3/8)



Lark Bunting, 21 May 2023, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Lon Baumgardt.

3/2 Polk (3) HHu, 3/4 Clay (2) ebd. High counts 4/15 Lac qui Parle (**52,000**, Salt Lake) KJB, 4/10 Lac qui Parle (**35,000**, Arena Twp.) DIS, 4/11 Pope (7,500) ANy. Late south 5/11 Dakota DvN, 5/16 Pope ANy (median 5/8). Late north 5/16 St. Louis SeM, HTo, NGi (median 5/20).

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) — No reports.

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) — [9 South, 1 North] All south reports were west of Blue Earth and south of the Minnesota River. Early south 4/18 Lincoln (4) DIS, Rock (33) KEm, 4/24 Brown BTS, Lincoln (2) DIS. Late south 5/4 Lac qui Parle JSc, BTS, MiO, Yellow Medicine JSc, BTS, MiO, 5/5 Faribault BDo, BDo, LiH, 5/8 Lincoln (35, season high count, Limestone Twp.) DIS. Only north report 4/15 **Kanabec** SPS.

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [44 South, 28 North] Found widely in every region. High counts 3/4 Dodge (650, Westfield Twp.) ebd, 4/3 Dakota (400, Emery Ave S. of C.R. 42) AnB. Late south 4/17 Lincoln DIS, Ramsey ebd, 4/30 Lincoln DIS (median 4/11). Late north 5/7 Cook JGW, St. Louis ebd, 5/8 Polk ebd (median 5/3).

Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus sava-*

narum) — [38 South, 13 North] Few reports from North-central and none from Northeast. Early south (median 4/22) 4/20–24 Dakota (2, 140th St. Marsh) MwT, m.ob., 4/24 Rice LiH, 4/26 Rock KEm. Early north (median 5/3) 4/30 Clay (Glyndon) ebd, 5/3–5 Clay (Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) ebd, TkL, 5/8 Mille Lacs HHD. High counts 5/12 Clay (22, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) ebd, 5/15 Rock (20, Touch the Sky Prairie N.W.R.) KEm, 5/10 Lincoln (18, Limestone Twp.) DIS.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [43 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/10 Dakota DFN, 4/14 Goodhue SDz, JtM, Lyon DIS. Early north (median 5/2) 4/18 Grant ebd, 4/25 Mille Lacs HHD, 4/28 Clay ebd. High counts 5/8 Anoka (12, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) ebd, 5/5 Faribault (11, Rice Lake W.M.A.) BDo, LiH.

LARK BUNTING (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) — [1 North] One report 5/21 St. Louis (Duluth) DAG, ph. †PHS, ph. †LBA, m.ob.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Early south (median 3/22) 3/23 Dakota ebd, 3/25 Ramsey (Red Rock Rd.) LiH, 3/26 Ramsey (Indian Mounds Park) MWS, Scott BHe. Early north (median 4/7) 4/9 Carlton (3) ebd,

Cass ebd, Clay PBB, Cook JaJ, Crow Wing ebd, Grant CNn, PPe, Morrison KEm, SEM, JEm, Pine (2) LEv. High counts 5/11 St. Louis (96, Stony Point) StK, NGi, 5/7 Hennepin (60, Hopkins) ebd, 5/8 St. Louis (60, Park Point R.A.) HTo.

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Early south (median 4/20) 4/15 Lyon GWe, 4/25 Dakota JHv, Faribault WAF. Early north (median 4/25) 4/27 Crow Wing (2) PSP, 4/28 Grant (2) PPe, CNn, Otter Tail JsS. High counts 5/12 Clay (60, Oakport Prairie) TkL, 5/21 Polk (51, Tilden Twp.) IsH, EzH, MrC, 5/19 Lac qui Parle (45, Big Stone N.W.R., Auto Tour Road) BLz, TWe.

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) — [50 South, 16 North] Found in almost every county south of a line from Clay to Pine; also reported 4/28 Itasca (along Lake Winnibigoshish) ebd, 5/11 Pennington (Thief River Falls) ebd, 5/19, 5/21 Polk (Angus Olson 4 Flood Control Project) HHu. Early south (median 4/1) 4/3 Goodhue SDz, 4/5 Dakota KDS, 4/6 Hennepin (4) ebd. Early north (median 4/16) 4/9–10 Grant (4) PPe, 4/12 Morrison TLu, 4/14 Todd TLu. High counts 4/24 Dakota (30, Spring Lake P.R.) ebd, 5/10 Carver (30, Carver P.R.) JCy.

Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) — [49 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/10) 3/4 Washington ebd, 3/5 Blue Earth KRo, 3/7 Blue Earth BSa. Early north (median 3/28) 3/16 Cass JCu, 4/1 Koochiching DvH, 4/3 Polk HHu. High count 4/21 St. Louis (4,418, Lakewood Pumping Station) KJB. Late south 5/8 Le Sueur CZi, 5/12 Meeker PKF, 5/13 Sherburne (2) ebd (median 5/6). Late north 5/13 St. Louis (6, Meadowlands Twp.) IaG, 5/19 Becker ebd, 5/23 St. Louis (Minnesota Point) MwT, AnB (median 5/16).

American Tree Sparrow (*Spizelloides arborea*) — [53 South, 31 North] High counts 4/21 St. Louis (122, Central Hillside, Duluth) NGi, 4/18 Lake (108, Scenic Drive, Knife River to Two Harbors) KJB, 5/8 St. Louis (80, Park Point R.A.) HTo. Late south 5/7 Ramsey YNa, Sherburne ebd, 5/8 Hennepin ebd, Stearns (St. Joseph) ebd, 5/10 Stearns (2, St. Cloud) ebd (median 5/7). Late north 5/13 Beltrami DvH, Crow Wing BCS, St. Louis (three locations) JLK, BHw, ebd, 5/18 St. Louis (Hermantown) ebd (median 5/12).

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) — [53 South,

34 North] High counts 4/18 Lake (2,740, Scenic Drive, Knife River to Two Harbors) KJB, 4/21 St. Louis (1,800, Lakewood Pumping Station) KJB, 4/8 Wright (500, Granite Lake) RBd. Late south 5/19 Ramsey LSw, Stearns ebd, 5/20 Isanti ebd, 5/23 Meeker PKF (median 5/24). Oregon group individuals last reported south 4/24 Lac qui Parle KeL, 4/27 Yellow Medicine DLS, GWe, and north 4/25 Grant CNn, 5/8 St. Louis KDx, JDx, CLN, with high count 3/25 Lyon (5, Camden S.P.) GWe.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [48 South, 29 North] Early south away from know overwintering areas (median 4/20) 4/15 Carver JCy, Goodhue ebd. Early north (median 4/26) 4/16 Cass JCu, DoH, St. Louis (Mud Lake) BEA, 4/22 St. Louis (Duluth Lakewalk) PHS. High counts 5/7 Clay (40, Buffalo River S.P.) ebd, 5/2 Lyon (23, Garvin Park) VKI, 5/7 Hennepin (22, Powderhorn Park) ebd. Late south 5/22 Ramsey ebd, 5/24 Sherburne ebd, 5/27 Hennepin ebd, 5/29 Hennepin CSI (median 5/22). Late north 5/26 Cook JBs, 5/27 Lake ebd, 5/29 St. Louis ebd, 5/30 St. Louis (2) ebd (median 5/27). Gambell's subspecies reported south 4/1 Dakota KCL, 4/28 Fillmore ToM, and north 5/10 Grant CNn.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [45 South, 26 North] Found in every region. Many overwintered south; first probable migrants 4/9 Ramsey LiH, 4/15 Kandiyohi ebd. Early south (median 4/1) 3/1 Fillmore (2) ToM, Olmsted LAV, JDy, 3/3 Lac qui Parle DLP. First north reports in Clay (immature 3/24, 4/9, Humboldt Twp. ebd) were likely of an undetected overwintering individual. Early north migrants (median 4/28) 4/21–28 Grant CNn, 5/1 Wilkin DBz, ANy. High counts 5/10 Swift (37, Appleton) DLP, 5/6 Chippewa (30, Numo W.M.A. and Byholtz W.M.A.) ebd, 5/9 Lincoln (26, Lake Hendricks) DLS. Late south 5/20 Big Stone (2) DLP, Hennepin ebd, Lac qui Parle (2) FAE, 5/21 Stevens ebd, 5/23 Hennepin ebd (median 5/24). Late north 5/21 Becker ebd, Clay TKL, Polk (6, Agassiz Audubon) HHu, 5/21–22 Polk (East Grand Forks) SAU, 5/22 St. Louis ebd, JDx (median 5/25).

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [51 South, 34 North] Overwintered widely south. Early north (median 4/13) 4/9 Beltrami AxB, Grant PPe, St. Louis NGi, 4/10 Cass JCu. High counts 5/8 St. Louis (600, Park

- Point R.A.) PHS, 4/28 Hennepin (372, Medicine Lake) RCl, 5/8 St. Louis (355, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK. Late south 5/27 Anoka ebd, Hennepin ebd, 5/29 Sherburne ebd, 5/30 Chisago MBw (median 5/28).
- Dark-eyed Junco X White-throated Sparrow** (*Junco hyemalis* X *Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [1 South] One report 4/28 Hennepin (Elm Creek P.R.) †MkC.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [53 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/28) 4/5 Wabasha MNb, 4/6 Washington (2) ebd, 4/7 Cottonwood MJB, Dakota DFN, Freeborn AEB, 4/8 in eleven additional counties. Early north (median 4/12) 4/9 Morrison (3) KEm, SEm, JEm, 4/10 Otter Tail TFu, 4/11 Becker (5) NaH, Grant CNn, (2) ebd, Polk HHu. High counts 4/22 Wilkin (20, C.R. 52) TkL, 4/17, 4/20 Lincoln (15, Limestone Twp.) DIS.
- LeConte's Sparrow** (*Ammospiza leconteii*) — [17 South, 14 North] Few reports from the West-central and Southwest regions. Early south (median 4/20) 4/10 Hennepin ebd, m.ob., 4/12 Ramsey APi, LiH, 4/14 Dakota PEJ, Washington AOp, ebd. Early north (median 4/30) 4/26 Clay (Oakport Wetland) TkL, 4/30 Clay (2, Elkton Twp.) ebd, 5/5 Clay (2, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) TkL. High counts 5/25 Lake of the Woods (8, Winter Road Lake Peatland S.N.A.) JGW, LHL, KEm, 4/24 Ramsey (3, Tamarack N.C.) TAN, 4/27 Hennepin (3, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) HPe, MyP. Late south 5/15 Meeker BWF, 5/29 Stearns HHD, 5/30 Stearns PCC.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammospiza nelsoni*) — [2 South, 3 North] All south 5/5 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 5/20 Rock (Touch the Sky Prairie N.W.R.) LDW. All north 5/19 Lake of the Woods (Winter Road Lake Peatland S.N.A.) TPu, AiS, TPu, AxB, 5/22 Roseau (2, Roseau River W.M.A.) AFo, 5/26 Aitkin (Mallard Lake) PEJ, 5/29 Roseau (2, near Badger and Lancaster) ebd.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Centronyx henslowii*) — [18 South, 2 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/27 Hennepin (French Lake) ebd, Sherburne JOs, 4/29 Hennepin (2, Crow-Hassan P.R.) JBs, Washington BDo, 5/1 Goodhue SDz. All north 5/19 Wilkin (2) ANy, DBz, 5/31 Douglas BWF, LGl. High counts 5/12 Goodhue (14, Rattlesnake Bluff, Frontenac S.P.) SDz, 5/22 Scott (8, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community) ebd.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/30) 3/25 Rice ebd, 4/8 Dakota (2) DdH, Steele PEJ, 4/9 also in Big Stone, Lac qui Parle, Olmsted. Early north (median 4/14) 4/9 Morrison KEm, SEm, JEm, 4/11 Clay (2) TkL, St. Louis (Park Point, 38th St.) NGi, 4/12 St. Louis (Minnesota Point) NGi, Todd ANy, DBz, ebd. High counts 5/9 Aitkin (40, rice paddies along Little Willow River) CLR, KWR, 5/21 Hubbard (38, C.R. 109 wetland) JGW.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Overwintered widely south, but not north. Early north (median 3/25) 4/7 Beltrami ebd, Grant (Delaware Twp.) CNn, 4/8 Douglas JPE, Grant (5, Herman) PPe, Otter Tail JsS, 4/9 in ten additional counties. High counts 4/12 Lac qui Parle (**123**, Big Stone N.W.R., Auto Tour Road) DLP, 4/11 Grant (82, Niemackl Lake Park) ebd, 4/17 St. Louis (63, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [51 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/11) 3/24 Faribault CRM, m.ob., 4/2 Lyon GWe, 4/6 Faribault BAY. Early north (median 4/21) 4/12 Douglas ToR, 4/14 Clay StK, SNe, Grant CNn. High counts 5/5 Clay (**40**, River Oaks Park) LSl, 5/12 Clay (22, Oakport Prairie) TkL, 5/6 Winona (15, Prairie Island, entrance to McNally Landing Road) ebd. Late south 5/21 Blue Earth, Brown, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Lyon, Ramsey, Washington, and then 5/22 Hennepin ebd, 5/25 Dakota ebd (median 5/26).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Early south (median 3/20) 3/19 Olmsted ebd, Steele DAB, 3/20 Wabasha MNb, 3/24 Dakota (2) KEm, Scott BHe. Early north (median 4/14) 4/9 Douglas ebd, 4/9–10 Crow Wing (2) BCS, 4/10 Cass ebd, JCu. High counts 5/3 Hennepin (48, Westwood Hills N.C.) ebd, 4/29 Hennepin (34, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 5/8 St. Louis (31, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [6 South] One from winter continued through 5/1 in Meeker ph. PKF. All other reports: 3/5 Houston (three miles east of Houston) ph. *vide* KAB, 4/15 **Blue Earth** †ChH, 5/1 **Fillmore** (Forestville S.P.) ph. †ToM, JWH, 5/6 Lyon (Camden S.P.) DIS, 5/8 Jackson (Kilen Woods S.P.) ph. KEm.

- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [40 South, 21 North] One continued from winter: 3/4 Kandiyohi KEm, JWH. Early south migrants (median 4/11) 4/1–7 Dakota ebd, 4/7 Wabasha MNb, 4/8 Houston (two locations) BCo, MZa, Ramsey PAL. Early north (median 5/1) **4/16** Cass (Ten Mile Lake) JCu, 4/25 Pine (2, Pine City Twp.) SBE, 4/28 Pine (Pokegama Twp.) ebd, 5/3 Cass (Deep Portage Learning Center) ebd, Pine (3, Snake River Campground) SBE. High counts 5/6 Houston (**24**, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) ebd, 5/9 Houston (21, Vinegar Ridge S.R.A.) WCM, 5/11 Sherburne (17, Sherburne N.W.R., Wildlife Drive) RCL.
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — No reports.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [52 South, 31 North] Found in all counties except Koochiching, Carlton, Kanabec, Fillmore. Early south (median 3/25) 3/23 Chippewa DLP, 3/25 Watonwan KRo, 3/30 Olmsted JmP. Early north (median 4/9) 4/3–9 Clay (7, Humboldt Twp.) ebd, 4/8 Clay (Cromwell Twp.) PBB, 4/9 Crow Wing PSP, Marshall (2) HHu, Otter Tail (20) WPL, Polk TJJ. High count 4/27 Lyon (275, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) DIS.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/4 Lyon (35) DIS, 5/5 Carver JCy, Murray TAT, 5/6 Blue Earth (2) RHh, Faribault WAF. Early north (median 5/6) 5/7 Clay RMD, Pine ebd, 5/9 Aitkin (4) KWR, (4) CLR, Grant CNn, Wilkin (4) ebd, LSl. High counts 5/16 Clay (60, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) ebd, 5/15 Rock (50, Touch the Sky Prairie N.W.R.) KEm, 5/21 Polk (46, Tilden Twp.) MrC, EzH, IsH.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [47 South, 20 North] Early south (median 3/15) 3/4 Benton HHD, 3/10 Olmsted (Silver Creek Reservoir) JmP, 3/11 Olmsted (2, Dover) MiD, 3/12 Winona (7) ToM. Early north (median 3/26) 3/10 St. Louis SeM, 3/19 Carlton MLH, 3/25 Todd ebd. High counts 5/24 Washington (11, Afton S.P.) DnS, 5/25 Rice (11, St. Olaf College Natural Lands) ebd.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [46 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/12) 3/3–7 Benton HHD, DOr, 3/4–7 Washington RNe, m.ob., 3/7 McLeod BHa. Early north (median 3/17) 3/7 Marshall ebd, 3/15 Traverse DLP, 3/19 Pennington ebd. High counts 3/25 Lyon (39, Green Valley W.M.A.) GWe, 3/29 Jackson (30, Christiania W.P.A.) DaH.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [51 South, 19 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/5 Fillmore ToM, Freeborn AEB, Hennepin ebd, Wabasha MNb, Washington (2) ebd, 5/6 also in Houston, Meeker, Olmsted. Early north (median 5/12) 5/9–10 Clay (Humboldt Twp.) ebd, 5/10–11 Becker NaH, 5/11 Todd BWF, 5/12 Clay (2, Cromwell Twp.) PBB, (Moorhead) DPW, Grant CNn, Polk SAu. High counts 5/14 Dakota (7, Mendota Heights) ebd, 5/15 Hennepin (6, Crow-Hassan P.R.) MyP, HPe, 5/18 Pipestone (6, Pipestone W.T.P.) VKL, 5/20 Rock (6, Blue Mounds S.P.) TWe, BLz.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Early south (median 4/28) 4/23 Wabasha MNb, 4/27–28 Isanti ebd, 4/28 Carver JSt, Ramsey LiH, ebd. Early north (median 5/4) 5/5 Clay ebd, 5/5–6 Pine (Pokegama Twp.) ebd, 5/6 Crow Wing ebd, Douglas ebd, Otter Tail JsS, Pine (Pine City) ebd, Todd ebd. High counts 5/14 Redwood (34, Alexander Ramsey C.P.) DIS, 5/11 Hennepin (26, Cedar Lake) ebd, 5/13 Hennepin (26, T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) JCa, ebd.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. Overwintered widely south. Early north (median 3/9) 3/11 Grant PPe, Pine (2) NSn, 3/12 Crow Wing PSP. High counts 3/15 Houston (7,317, Reno Skywatch) ASu, 4/2 Lyon (2,250, Cottonwood) GWe, 4/22 Wilkin (2,000, Barnesville) TkL.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [53 South, 34 North] Overwintered in Dakota. Early south migrants (median 3/9) 3/3 Wabasha MNb, 3/5 Winona GWe, 3/16 Ramsey CMu. Early north (median 4/2) 4/9 Clay (4), Crow Wing (2) PSP, Douglas JsS, Otter Tail (3) JsS, Pine (50) KrM. High counts 4/23 Jackson (300, Minneota Twp.) TPu, NoK, 4/27 Lyon (300, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) DIS, 4/22 Hennepin (260, Mother Lake overlook) BAF.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [51 South, 26 North] Early south (median 3/4) 3/5 Fillmore (2) ToM, Wabasha (7) GWe, 3/13 Houston (15) SHo. Early north (median 3/23) 4/2 Clay (Humboldt Twp.) ebd, 4/7–9 Clay (Cromwell Twp.) PBB, 4/9 Crow Wing JnP,



Worm-eating Warbler, 2 May 2023, Bloomington, Hennepin County. Photo by Tate Putman.

Douglas (2) ebd, Morrison (20) KEm, SEm, JEm, Pine KrM. High counts 4/21 St. Louis (598, Lakewood Pumping Station) KJB, 4/21 St. Louis (350, W.S.H.C.) SeM. Late south 5/6 Hennepin DvN, ebd, 5/9 Lac qui Parle DLP (median 5/5). Late north 5/13 Koochiching (2) ebd, 5/17 Clearwater ebd (median 5/16).

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [47 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/18) 3/20 Wabasha MNb, 3/25 Sibley JPr, JJS, 3/26 Ramsey ebd, 3/28 Olmsted (10) ebd. Early north (median 4/2) 4/6 Carlton ebd, 4/9 Douglas (7) JsS, Otter Tail (30) JsS, Pine (5) KrM. High counts 4/16 Marshall/Polk (200, Agassiz Valley) SAu, JCJ, 4/20 Clay (200, Barnesville) TkL, 5/6 Clearwater (150, Leonard) TPu.

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported in all counties. Early south away from overwintering areas 3/2 Fillmore ebd, Hennepin (Edina) TAT, 3/3 Goodhue PEJ. Early north (median 3/10) 3/1 Douglas ebd, 3/4–7 St. Louis DED, 3/9 Cook ebd, 3/15 Hubbard ebd, 3/17 St. Louis BEA. High counts 4/11 Dakota (5,000, Mud Creek W.M.A.) ebd, 4/9 Nicollet (2,500, Traverse Twp.) APi, 4/8 Waseca (1,500, Blooming Grove Twp.) DnS.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [4 South] All south 3/25 – 5/6 Lyon (3, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) GWe, 4/8, 5/3 Jackson (2, S.R. 86) EzH, KEm, 5/14 Cottonwood (Delton Twp.) ebd, Murray (7, Lake Shetek S.P.) ebd, (6, Dovray W.P.A.) ebd.

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [50 South, 33 North] Found in all but four counties. Early south (median 4/27) 4/29 Rice ebd, 5/1 Hennepin ebd, Olmsted JJS. Early north (median 5/3) 5/5 Clay LSL, 5/7 Cass ebd, Crow Wing ebd, Morrison (2) SEm, Pine (2) KrM, St. Louis JLK, NGi. High counts 5/20 Itasca (42, Chippewa N.F., Trout Lake Trail) BCS, 5/20 St. Louis (40) ebd, 5/28 Lake (36, Superior Hiking Trail from C.R. 301 to Castle Danger trailheads) NGi, ebd.

WORM-EATING WARBLER (*Helminthos vermivorum*) — [1 South] One well-documented report: 5/1–3 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) †TSk, †EZh, ph. IsH, ph. DnS, †NMe, ph. †TWe, ph. †KEm, †PCC.

Louisiana Waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [11 South, 1 North] South reports confined to the southeast quarter. Early south (median 4/16) 4/9 Winona (2) ToM, 4/12–13 Houston ASu, 4/14 Olmsted (2) JPr, JmP. One north

report 5/9 **St. Louis** (Western Waterfront Trail) †JLK. High count 5/16 Goodhue (5, Frontenac S.P., Sand Point) ebd.

Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [50 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/24 Hennepin (Bde Maka Ska) ebd, Houston ToM, 4/25 Hennepin (Big Willow Park) ebd, 4/28 Hennepin (four additional locations) ACr, VRL, ebd, MZA, Ramsey LiH. Early north (median 5/1) 5/5 Douglas VKI, Pine (3) ebd, 5/5–6 Clay (three locations) LSL, DPW, ebd, 5/7 also in Cass, Crow Wing, Douglas, St. Louis. High counts 5/6 Winona (25, Prairie Island, entrance to McNally Landing Road) ebd, 5/19 Lake (24, Superior N.F.) HTo, 5/7 Anoka (21, Rice Creek Chain of Lakes P.R.) DnS, GWe. Late south 5/30 Blue Earth ebd, 5/31 Scott ebd, but also see summer report (median 5/31).

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [43 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/4) 4/23 Dakota DdH, 5/5 Hennepin (Crystal) GWe, 5/6 Goodhue PEJ, Hennepin (two additional locations) PRH, EMf, ebd, Lyon DIS, Scott RDE, Stearns HHD. Early north (median 5/8) 5/8 Pine KrM, 5/9 Aitkin (3) KWR, CLR, Cass ebd, Crow Wing JnP, BCS, Hubbard ebd. High counts 5/29 Crow Wing (24, Old Ramsey Rd.) GWe, 5/14 Aitkin (10, Balsam Twp.) KWR, CLR, 5/26 Aitkin (10, Rice Lake N.W.R.) BLZ. Presumed late south migrants away from breeding areas (median 5/28) 5/30 Blue Earth (2) ebd, 5/31 Washington DFN (but also see summer report).

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [30 South, 3 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/1 Hennepin (2, Mother Lake) ebd, 5/1–2 Hennepin (southwest Minneapolis) ebd, 5/4 Hennepin (downtown Minneapolis) ebd, 5/5 Fillmore ebd, Hennepin CMB, (Boom Island Park) ebd, Wabasha RBW, ebd. All north 5/16 Pine (Ogema Twp.) KrM, 5/19, 5/28 Pine (max. 3, U.S. 70 at the St. Croix River) ebd, LSw, 5/20 Todd (Birchdale Twp.) TLu, 5/23–28 Aitkin (Rice Lake N.W.R.) BxP, m.ob., 5/28 Pine (St. Croix S.P.) MwT. High counts 5/12 Carver (21, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, 5/13 Fillmore (12, Forestville/Mystery Cave S.P.) JBJ.

Golden-winged Warbler X Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera* X *V. cyanoptera*) — [9 South] Nine individuals reported. Eight

described as “Brewster’s” or backcrosses, and one as “Lawrence’s” 5/13 Olmsted (Chester Woods) ph. JPr, m.ob. All were found south and east of Wright, except for 5/11, 5/17 Brown (Flandrau S.P.) MiO, SLH.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) — [51 South, 34 North] Reported in every county except Martin, Sibley. Early south (median 4/22) 4/20 Hennepin ebd, 4/23 Dakota MwT, Ramsey ebd, Washington ebd. Early north (median 4/30) 5/3 Wilkin ebd, 5/4 St. Louis JLK, 5/5 Clay LSL, DnM, Crow Wing PSP, Douglas VKI, ebd, Grant CNn, Pine KrM, ebd. High counts 5/20 Itasca (32, Chippewa N.F., Trout Lake Trail) BCS, 5/29 Crow Wing (18, Timothy Twp.) GWe, 5/8 Cass (16, Deep Portage Learning Center) ebd.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [24 South] Reported from a record number of south counties Early south (median 5/4) 4/23–24 Ramsey (Holman Field) MWS, m.ob., 5/5 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey (Snail Lake R.P.) ebd, 5/6 Dakota ebd, Goodhue ebd, Stearns HHD. High count 5/21 Goodhue (9, Hok-Si-La Park) ebd.

SWAINSON’S WARBLER (*Limnethlypis swainsonii*) — [1 South] The first state record was remarkably cooperative over a four-day period: 4/29 – 5/2 **Hennepin** (Arden Park, Edina) ph. †JrC, †EzH, ph. †TPu, ph. †TGi, ph. RZi, ph. †AXH, †NMe, †PCC, ph. †KCl, ph. LSi, ph. †KEm, ph. GHo, ph. TBu. This record was cited on over 300 eBird checklists; many included additional photos.

Tennessee Warbler (*Leiothlypis peregrina*) — [52 South, 34 North] Found in every county but Martin. Early south (median 4/28) 4/28 Mower (3) SWm, 4/29 Goodhue ebd, 5/1 Chippewa ebd, Hennepin CMB. Early north (median 5/7) 4/30 Morrison SEm, 5/4 Grant CNn, 5/6 Crow Wing ebd, Todd AaL. High counts 5/13 Yellow Medicine (125, Spellman Lake) DIS, 5/12 Yellow Medicine (95, Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/20 Carver (94, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy. Late south 5/31 Stearns NSg, but also see summer report (median 6/7).

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Leiothlypis celata*) — [51 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/13 Meeker PKF, 4/14 Washington JDS, 4/15 Anoka ebd, Hennepin MZA. Early north (median 4/23) 4/16 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) SeM, 4/25 Polk (3) HHu, 4/27 Clay

(2, Oakport Prairie) TkL, (2, River Oaks Park) TCL, Crow Wing (3) ebd, St. Louis (Park Point) NGi, SeM. High counts 5/7 Cass (19, Deep Portage Learning Center) ebd, 5/5 Carver (16, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, 4/29 Hennepin (15, Hagemeister Pond Preserve Park) ACr. Late south 5/26 Sherburne ebd, 5/26–7 Ramsey ebd (median 5/25). Late north 5/26–27 Todd SDi, 5/27 Cook ebd, 5/30 Marshall (2) MJk (median 5/28).

Nashville Warbler (*Leiothlypis ruficapilla*) — [51 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/24–25 Dakota ALw, 4/25 Hennepin ebd, 4/26 Mower SWm. Early north (median 5/2) 5/5 Clay TkL, Crow Wing BCS, Grant CNn, Itasca (2) BDG, Pine IWe. High counts 5/12 Stearns (63, Rockville C.P.) ebd, 5/9 Hennepin (45, Minnehaha Creek east of Penn Ave. S.) JCa, 5/12 Carver (44, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy. Late south 5/31 Washington ebd, but also see summer report (median 6/2).

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) — [15 South, 10 North] Early south (median 5/10) 5/11 Hennepin (Champlin) ebd, 5/12 Hennepin (Minnehaha Falls) JPS, VBC, ebd, Scott BrT, 5/13 Cottonwood JuJ, Dakota DEv, Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) MyP, HPe. Early north (median 5/17) 5/14 Otter Tail LSL, 5/18 Otter Tail CRM, m.ob., 5/19 Clearwater ebd, Cook ebd, 5/21 Clay DPW, Lake ebd, **Norman** (Gary Pines) EzH, MrC, IsH. High count 5/27 Koochiching (5, Toomey Williams Road) KWR, ebd. Late south 5/28 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey DnS, MWS, but also see summer report (median 5/30).

Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [32 South, 23 North] Early south (median 5/8) 5/7 Faribault ebd, Washington ebd, 5/8–9 Anoka RaJ, 5/9 Hennepin DGu, ebd. Early north (median 5/14) 5/10 Douglas BEc, Koochiching ebd, 5/13 Grant CNn, 5/14 Aitkin CLR, KWR. High counts 5/30 St. Louis (10, H.R.N.R.) JLK, 5/20 Cook (7, Jasper Lake) HTo, 5/30 St. Louis (6, Admiral Road from Zim Road to Kolu Road) MLH. See summer report for late south migrants (median 6/10).

KENTUCKY WARBLER (*Geothlypis formosa*) — [1 South] Three reports of this Casual species in mid-May: 5/8–10 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) SLC, a.t. †DwK, †ADS, ph. †TWe, ph. CHg, †NMe, ph. MKZ, 5/13–14 Hennepin (Edina) ph. †MZA, 5/15 Hennepin (T.S. Rob-

erts Bird Sanctuary) †JBr.

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Early south (median 4/30) 4/26 Wabasha MNb, 4/28 Ramsey LiH, 4/29 Le Sueur CZi, 5/1 Hennepin ebd. Early north (median 5/6) 5/4 Pine ebd, 5/6 Becker ebd, 5/7 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) SeM, 5/8 Itasca ebd, St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK. High counts 5/27 St. Louis (45, Sax-Zim Bog) BLz, ebd, 5/20 Carver (40, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy.

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) — [7 South, 1 North] All south (median 5/8) 5/7–31 Scott/Dakota (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd, m.ob., 5/8–29 Washington (William O'Brien S.P.) BDo, m.ob., 5/12 Olmsted MiD, m.ob., 5/13 Stearns (Sauk River R.P.) NSg, 5/17–18 Washington (Afton S.P.) ebd, BDo. One north report 5/11 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) NGi, SeM, JPR, ebd. High count 5/23 Scott (5, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd.

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/3 Hennepin (Eden Prairie) ebd, 5/5 Fillmore (2) ToM, Freeborn BDo, LiH, Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) MwT, (2) ebd, WPe, GWe, TWe, Ramsey ebd, Scott ebd, Wabasha RBW, Winona ebd. Early north (median 5/6) 5/6 Becker (Tamarac Lake) ebd, 5/9 Aitkin CLR, KWR, Becker (2, South Tamarac Lake) ebd, Cass ebd, Otter Tail WPI, Pine KrM, St. Louis ebd. High counts 5/13 Dakota (100, Miesville Ravine P.R., one mile hike) KTP, 5/20 Carver (63, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, 5/15 Wabasha (56, Carley S.P.) ebd.

Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [38 South, 24 North] Found in almost every county east of a line from Lake of the Woods to Faribault, and in only half the counties west of this line. Early south (median 5/5) 5/5 Hennepin (Minneapolis) WPe, 5/6 Goodhue ebd, Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, Rice AvB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/6 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK, 5/8 St. Louis (Hartley N.C.) JfD, 5/9 Lake JWl, Pine KrM, ebd. High count 5/12 Benton (6, Benton Beach Park) CRM, m.ob. Late south 5/21 Chisago MTe, Dakota ALw, Goodhue MZA, ebd, Stevens BAb, 5/22 Jackson KEm (median 5/25).

Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [14

South] Reported mostly from the Minnesota, Mississippi, and St. Croix river valleys, from Houston to Brown, Wright and Washington, respectively. Early south (median 5/5) 5/7 Nicollet (Seven Mile Creek C.P.) BAb, RHh, 5/10 Brown (Milford Twp.) BTS, MiO, 5/10 Scott ebd, 5/11 Houston WCM. High counts 5/20 Wright (4, Stanley Eddy Park South) ToL, 5/27 Houston (4, Hillside Rd.) KRE.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) — [39 South, 23 North] While reports came from all regions, most reports were from the eastern two-thirds of the state. Early south (median 5/1) 4/28 Dakota DSh, 4/30 Nicollet RHh, 5/2 Hennepin ebd, Houston ebd. Early north (median 5/5) 5/8 Mille Lacs HHD, 5/8–9 Cass ebd, 5/9 Pine (two locations) KrM. High counts 5/10 Hennepin (12, Wood Lake N.C.) ebd, 5/15 St. Louis (11, Bass Lake Trails) ebd, 5/13 Lake (10, Encampment) SBE. Late south 5/30 Dakota CUu, 5/31 Hennepin ebd, but also see summer report (median 5/29).

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [51 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/1 Olmsted JJS, 5/4 Ramsey ebd, 5/5 Wabasha RBW, Washington DJB. Early north (median 5/7) 5/5 Crow Wing (Bay Lake) JLa, 5/8 St. Louis PHS, 5/9 Aitkin (2) KWR, CLR, Becker BEs, Cass ebd, Crow Wing (Brainerd) ebd, Pine KrM. High counts 5/20 Carver (30, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, 5/15 Steele (28, Rice Lake S.P.) DAB. Late south 5/31 Anoka PRH, ToL, Scott ebd, Sherburne ebd; also see summer report (median 6/2).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*) — [39 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/7 Hennepin (Medina) JDB, 5/8 Hennepin (2, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) ebd, 5/9 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) KCL. Early north (median 5/12) 5/12 Cass ebd, Itasca ebd, BSi, Kanabec RBW, Otter Tail WYR. High counts 5/15 Wabasha (7, Carley S.P.) ebd, 5/16 Carver (5, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, 5/20 Scott (5, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) DIS, GWe, 5/25 Pine (5, River Wood Trail) ebd. Late south 5/28 Winona ebd, 5/29 Sherburne ebd, 5/30 Blue Earth ebd (median 5/27).

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) — [39 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/5 Anoka ebd, Carver (Chaska) NWi, 5/6 also in Carver (3, Lake Hazeltine), Goodhue, Hennepin (eight locations!), Nicollet, Olm-

sted, Wabasha. Early north (median 5/7) 5/7 Pine (Sturgeon Lake) ebd, 5/7–9 Cass ebd, 5/9 Pine (two locations, Pine City Twp.) KrM. High counts 5/26 St. Louis (12, Bear Head Lake S.P.) ebd, 5/28 Lake (12, Superior Hiking Trail from C.R. 301 to Castle Danger trailheads) NGo, ebd. See summer report for late south migrants (median 6/1).

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Early south (median 4/24) 4/15 Hennepin CRM, m.ob., 4/23 Wabasha MNb, 4/25 Dakota SSp. Early north (median 5/3) 5/3 Morrison (22) ebd, Polk HHu, 5/4 Beltrami AxB, 5/5 Aitkin ebd. High counts 5/13 Yellow Medicine (65, Spellman Lake) DIS, 5/11 Lyon (55, Garvin Park) DIS, 5/26 Hennepin (50, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) ebd, 5/20 St. Louis (46, Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [50 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/4 Anoka (Coon Rapids) ebd, 5/5 Anoka (Circle Pines) ebd, Hennepin JhM, 5/6 Dakota BBr, Nicollet APi, Wabasha DAB, KEm, JWH. Early north (median 5/7) 5/7 St. Louis JLK, 5/8 Mille Lacs HHD, 5/9 Aitkin (2) KWR, CLR. High counts 5/29 Crow Wing (47, Timothy Twp.) GWe, 5/21 Aitkin (30, Rice Lake N.W.R. Headquarters) ebd, 5/28 Lake (25, Superior Hiking Trail from C.R. 301 to Castle Danger trailheads) NGi, ebd, 5/30 St. Louis (24, H.R.N.R.) JLK.

Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*) — [51 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/4) 4/29 Olmsted ToM, KHg, 5/5 Carver WCM, Freeborn BDO, LiH, Hennepin TPu, m.ob. Early north (median 5/8) 5/7 Clay (Cromwell Twp.) PBB, St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) SeM, 5/9 Cass ebd, Clay (3, Blue Eagle Park) TkL, Polk TJJ, St. Louis (Duluth, Brighton Beach) ebd. High counts 5/18 Lac qui Parle (28, Lac qui Parle S.P.) HCT, 5/20 Carver (18, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, 5/18 Rock (15, Blue Mounds S.P.) ebd, 5/20 Steele (15, Rice Lake S.P.) DAB. Late south 5/28 Hennepin ebd, Stearns ebd, 5/29 Goodhue (2) ebd, 5/30 Hennepin DSh, ebd, Washington JDS (median 6/1). See summer report for latest north migrants (median 6/4).

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caeruleascens*) — [6 South, 7 North] All south 5/15 Carver (Carver P.R.) ebd, 5/16 Anoka LiH, 5/18 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey LiH, 5/18–23

- Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) AnB, ECl, JKu, ebd, 5/20 Scott (Prior Lake) BDG, 5/23 Carver (Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) ebd, 5/28 Dakota AOp. Early north (median 5/15) 5/15 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) NGi, StK, SeM, SNe, HTo, 5/17 Lake (F.R. 166) PgR, 5/19 Itasca ebd, Lake (2, Ester Lake) HTo, St. Louis (Stony Point) SeM. Unusual spring record 5/21 **Hubbard** (Pickernel Lake) ebd. High count 5/20 St. Louis (3, Whiteface Reservoir) BHw,
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [51 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/10 Hennepin VRL, 4/12 Ramsey (Maplewood) ebd, 4/16 Dakota DVe, Ramsey (Minnesota State Fairgrounds) ELS. Early north (median 4/23) 4/13–23 Wadena PJB, 4/28 Otter Tail (2, Eagle Lake Twp.) JsS, 4/29 Beltrami ebd, Otter Tail (Lake Blanche) TFu. High counts 5/5 Goodhue (300, feeding in 14-acre recently burned prairie, Minneola Twp.) MGe, 5/6 Ramsey (80, Silverwood Park) ebd, 5/7 Carver (62, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy. Late south 5/25 Goodhue ebd, Sherburne JGb, 5/27 Hennepin JCa, ebd (median 5/24).
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [27 South, 23 North] Almost all reports were east of a line from Freeborn to Otter Tail to Roseau. Early south (median 4/17) 4/15–16 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) DnS, (Maplewood) MaJ, 4/17 Chisago DPi, Fillmore ToM. Early north (median 4/22) 4/14 Cass (Deep Portage Learning Center) ebd, 4/15–16 Cass (Ten Mile Lake) JCu, 4/16 Itasca ebd, 4/17 Crow Wing LAP. High counts 5/7 Cass (**10**, Deep Portage Learning Center) ebd, 5/12 Cass (**8**, Lake Winnibigoshish, Tamarack Point) AxB, 5/22 Becker (**8**, Tamarac N.W.R.) CMN.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/13 Goodhue KCl, 3/23 Fillmore ToM, 3/26 Renville GWe. Early north (median 4/1) 4/1 Morrison ebd, 4/2 Lake ABm, JIB, St. Louis BMu. High counts 4/15 St. Louis (362, Holiday View) EBr, 5/5 Goodhue (300, feeding in 14-acre recently burned prairie, Minneola Twp.) MGe, 5/5 Clay (250, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A., Williams Unit) TkL. Late south 5/29 Anoka ebd, Hennepin DSh, Scott ebd, Sherburne ebd, 5/30 Wabasha (2) MNb (median 5/31). One “Audubon’s” subspecies seen 5/16–18 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) CWB, JhM, ph. ASu, JSu, ph. MZa, ebd.
- YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** (*Setophaga dominica*) — [3 South] All reports: 4/22 – 5/17 Dakota (Pine Bend S.N.A.) †DuW, ph. †MwT, ph. NMe, m.ob., 4/24, 5/21–27 Houston (max. 2 on 5/21, Reno, Hillside Dr.) ph. †ToM, 5/15–31+ Ramsey (Sucker Lake) ph. a.t. †YNa, a.t. †TWe, a.t. EzH.
- PRAIRIE WARBLER** (*Setophaga discolor*) — [1 South] Seventh spring record over last 20 years: 5/17–19 **Ramsey** (Silverwood Park) ph. †JrM, †EzH, ph. †NMe, ph. †API, ph. †TPu, m.ob.
- HERMIT WARBLER** (*Setophaga occidentalis*) — [1 South, 1 North] Remarkably, two reports of this species, whose only prior Minnesota records are also both from May, in 1931 and 1983: 5/6 **St. Louis** (Park Point R.A.) †PHS, 5/9 **Ramsey** (Roseville) †CEb.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [47 South, 23 North] Found in every region, with fewest reports from the extreme west. Early south (median 4/30) 4/30 Olmsted ebd, 5/1 Hennepin ebd, 5/4 Brown, Dakota, Lyon, Olmsted, Ramsey. Early north (median 5/4) 5/5 Pine ebd, 5/6 Beltrami TPU, AaL, Cass ebd, Clearwater TPU, AaL, Crow Wing ebd. High counts 5/28 Lake (**32**, Superior Hiking Trail from C.R. 301 to Castle Danger trailheads) NGi, ebd, 5/20 St. Louis (23) ebd, 5/28 Cook (22, Grand Portage S.P.) ebd. Late south 5/25 Hennepin ebd, Rice TFB, Scott (3) BLz, 5/26 Olmsted ebd (median 5/29).
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [36 South, 23 North] Reported statewide, though with only two reports from the Southwest. Early south (median 5/7) 5/8 Dakota SSp, 5/9 Anoka ebd, Blue Earth RBW, KCl, PAI, ebd. Early north (median 5/13) 5/11–12 St. Louis JEL, 5/12 Aitkin ebd, 5/13 Cass ebd. High counts 5/28 Lake (12, Superior Hiking Trail from C.R. 301 to Castle Danger trailheads) NGi, ebd, 5/27 Carlton (8, Superior Hiking Trail from Jay Cooke S.P. visitor center to Grand Portage trailhead) NGi, ebd. Late south 5/29 Rice MwT, 5/30 Blue Earth ebd, but also see summer report (median 6/1).
- Wilson’s Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [46 South, 28 North] Found statewide. Early south (median 5/4) 4/29 Sherburne HHD, 5/4–5 Meeker PKF, 5/5 Ramsey ebd, 5/6 also in

- Hennepin, Olmsted, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Wabasha. Early north (median 5/9) 5/8 Mille Lacs HHD, 5/9 Clay (4) ebd, Otter Tail WPI, 5/10 Crow Wing BCS. High counts 5/20 Carver (20, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, 5/7 Hennepin (8, Westwood Hills N.C.) ebd. Late south 5/27 Blue Earth ebd, 5/28 Winona ebd, 5/31 Anoka PRH (median 5/30). See summer report for late north migrants (median 6/15).
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [13 South, 3 North] Approximately 16 south and six north individuals. Early south (median 5/3) 4/28 – 5/4 Dakota (Dodge N.C.) ebd, LiH, JHe, MwT, 4/28–29 Freeborn AEB, RBW, 4/29 Dakota (Spring Lake P.R.) ALW, 5/3 Houston DBz. All north 5/11 Cass DEn, St. Louis (Chester Creek, Duluth) CLN, KDx, JDx, 5/14 Lake SLL, JWl, 5/16 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) HTO, ebd, 5/17 St. Louis (Western Waterfront Trail) ph. PHS, JfD, JLK, 5/18 St. Louis (Becks Rd., Duluth) GIS. Late south 5/22 Meeker PKF, 5/24 Washington PNi, DnS, 5/23–31+ Scott ebd, m.ob. (median 5/31).
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [46 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/3 Dakota SSp, 5/5 Anoka ebd, 5/6 Ramsey ASL, Sherburne ebd. Early north (median 5/10) 5/8 Itasca ebd, 5/9 Cass (Pillager) JBU, 5/11 Cass (Deep Portage Learning Center) ebd, Crow Wing BCS, ebd, PSP, Hubbard ebd, Morrison SEm, ebd, Pine SBE. High count 5/17 Carver (10, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy; also tallies of 8 from Goodhue, Chisago, Scott, Wright.
- Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*) — [3 South] All reports: 5/6 **Le Sueur** (Tyrone Twp.) ph. JKR, *fide* ChH, 5/18 Meeker (Collingwood Twp.) ph. PKF, 5/22 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) †CWB.
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [53 South, 28 North] Not reported from only four Northwest counties, Grant and Traverse. High counts 5/13 Carver (**38**, Chaska) ebd, 5/5 Ramsey (30, North Oaks) ebd, 5/7 Olmsted (26, Chester Woods) ebd, 4/26 Hennepin (24, Minnehaha Creek east of Penn Ave S.) JCa.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [52 South, 34 North] Reported from every county except Martin. Early south (median 4/28) 4/23 Wabasha MNb, 4/25 Winona ebd, 4/27 Olmsted ebd, 4/28 also in Anoka, Carver, Houston, Ramsey, Wright. Early north (median 5/2) 5/5 Douglas ebd, Morrison SEm, ebd, 5/6 also in Cass, Crow Wing, Douglas, Otter Tail, Pine, Polk, Todd. High counts 5/23 Fillmore (30, Forestville / Mystery Cave S.P.) JBJ, 5/9 Houston (27, Vinegar Ridge S.R.A.) WCM.
- Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [5 South, 1 North] All south (median 5/19) 5/12–31 Hennepin (Flying Cloud Athletic Fields) ebd, m.ob., 5/15–20 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) LDW, TWe, BLz, 5/20 Pipestone (Pipestone N.M.) BLz, TWe, 5/28 Pipestone (Prairie Co-teau S.N.A.) ebd, 5/28–30 Cottonwood (SE Mountain Lake) JnH, 5/29–31 Carver (Dahlgren Rd. gravel pit) WCM, JGW, MwT. The only north report provided a second record for Cook County: 5/20 **Cook** (Grand Marais) CrB. Highest tallies were of only two individuals.
- LAZULI BUNTING** (*Passerina amoena*) — [2 South, 1 North] One well-documented individual 5/11 Ramsey (Sucker Lake) ph. †DnS. Two other birds seen in Rice and Morrison counties either showed signs of being a hybrid or were not documented well enough to eliminate that possibility.
- Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [51 South, 27 North] Reported from most counties of every region. Early south (median 5/1) 5/2 Hennepin DAs, Wabasha MNb, 5/5 Dakota ebd, Steele DAB, Washington ebd. Early north (median 5/9) 5/8 Douglas JPE, Pine ebd, 5/10 Cass DoH, ebd, Crow Wing PSP, BCS, ebd, Morrison SEm, St. Louis JLK. High counts 5/17 Olmsted (**19**, Quarry Hill N.C.) ebd, 5/17 Carver (12, Carver P.R., Grimm Rd. Picnic Area) JCy, 5/22 Fillmore (12, Root River Trail, Lanesboro to Peterson) ebd.
- PAINTED BUNTING** (*Passerina ciris*) — [1 South] One report of an adult male: 5/7–9 Blue Earth (Mankato, Red Jacket Trail) KRo, ph. †ChH, ph. †TWe, ph. †APi, m.ob.
- Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [40 South, 4 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/9 Watonwan ANy, DBz, 5/9–10 Lincoln DIS, 5/11 Rock ebd, 5/12 Pipestone DIS. All north 5/28 Pine MwT, 5/29 Norman (2) ANy, DBz, 5/30 Traverse (3) ANy, 5/31 Wilkin ebd. High counts 5/31 Hennepin (13, Strehler Road) TWe, 5/29 Rock (10, Touch the Sky Prairie N.W.R.) JmP, 5/31 Scott (10) CMB.

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BrT	Bryan Tucker	DvH	David Harrington	JmP	Jim Peterson
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BSi	Beth Siverhus	DWK	Douglas W. Kieser	JnH	Jon Harder
BTr	Brent Tracy	DwS	Dwight Smith	JnP	Jon Parker
BTS	Brian T. Smith	EAA	Erin Aadalén	JOs	Jason Osowski
BWF	Ben Fritchman	ebd	eBird	JoS	Joel Schmidt
BxP	Beatrix Pond	EBr	Erik Bruhnke	JPE	John P. Ellis
CBt	Carla Bates	EBY	Earl Bye	JPR	John P. Richardson
CDe	Cristina Desobriano	ECl	Elizabeth Closmore	JPr	Jerry Pruett
CDg	Carl Despiegelaere	Ega	Elissa Gallien	JPS	Julian Sellers
CDH	Charles Dennis Huber	ELC	Erik Collins	JrC	Jeremy Cushman
Ceb	Carl Ebeling	ELI	Eric Lind	JrM	Jennifer Miller
CGy	Cory Gregory	EIS	Elizabeth Steiner	JSc	John Schladweiler
CHg	Carl Hoang	EMf	Edward McFadden	JSP	Jennifer Sobiech-Pariseau
ChH	Chad Heins	ETw	Eric Twito	JsS	Jason Swelstad
CJE	Claudia J. Egelhoff	EzH	Ezra Hosch	JSt	Josh Sweet
CIB	Cole Bauer	FAE	Fred A. Eckhardt	JSu	Joey Sundvall
CIN	Clinton Nienhaus	FAN	Frank Nicoletti	Jsw	Jess Wolf

The 2023 Spring Season

JtM	Janet Malotky	MkZ	Michael Kurtz	SLH	Sharon Holzer
JTo	John Toren	MLH	Michael Hendrickson	SLL	Sharon Lind
JuG	Juliann Grahn	MLk	Mike Lehrke	SLP	Sue Plankis
JuJ	Julie Johnston	MNB	Mark Noble	SMI	Steph Macphail
JWH	John W. Hockema	Mrc	Marie Chappell	SNE	Stephen Nelson
JWL	James W. Lind	MTe	Michelle Terrell	SPS	Steve Stucker
JWZ	Julie Zempel	MWS	Michael W. Sack	SRo	Stephen Rossiter
JZJ	John Zakej	MwT	Matthew Thompson	SSc	Susan Schumacher
KAB	Karla A. Bloem	MWT	Mark Tacke	SSp	Seth Spencer
KBg	A. Kathrynne Baumtrog	MyP	Myron Peterson	STK	Steve Kolbe
KCI	Kathy Carroll	MZa	Mathew Zappa	SvB	Steve Broste
KCo	Keith Corliss	NaH	Nancy Henke	SWe	Steve Weston
KCR	Kim and Cindy Risen	NGI	Neil Gilbert	SWm	Steve Williams
KDS	Kevin D. Smith	NMe	Nolan Meyer	TAn	Terry Andrews
KDx	Kristina Dexter	NoK	Nolan Kerr	TAR	Todd Arnold
KEI	Kris Eichers	NRi	Nancy Richmond	TAT	Tom A. Tustison
KeL	Ken Larson	NSg	Neil Skoog	TBU	Thomas Burns
KEM	Karen E. McGee	NSn	Nik Snyder	TCL	Tim Lamey
KEm	Kimberly A. Emerson	NWi	Neil Wingert	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
KHg	Kevin Halling	PAI	Pam Albin	TFu	Terry Fuller
KIs	Karl Isely	PBB	Patrick B. Beauzay	TGI	Tom Gilde
KJB	Karl J. Bardon	PCC	Philip C. Chu	ThW	Theresa Walls
KMa	Kyle Maust	PEB	Paul E. Budde	TIW	Tim Walker
KMS	Kenneth M. Schumacher	PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher	TJJ	Terry and Joanne Johnson
KOC	Kevin O'Connor	PeM	Peter Mundale	TJo	Tim Johnson
KRE	Kim R. Eckert	PgR	Peg Robertsen	TKL	Tucker Lutter
KrM	Kris Moulton	PHS	Peder H. Svingen	TLu	Tim Ludwig
KRo	Karl Roe	PJB	Paul J. Binek	TmG	Tim Grundler
KRz	Kathryn Rozovics	PKF	Paul and Koni Fank	ToL	Tony Lau
KSz	Kieran Schwartz	PLJ	Paul L. Johnson	ToM	Todd Mitchell
KTP	Kyle Te Poel	PNI	Peter Nichols	ToR	Tom Ries
KWR	Kim W. Risen	PPe	Paula Perdoni	TPu	Tate Putman
LAB	Loren Albin	PRH	Pete Hoeger	TPW	Terry Wiens
LAI	Lee Aide	PSP	Pam S. Perry	TSK	Tim Stuck
LAP	LeAnn Plinske	PSu	Paul Suchanek	TWe	Trey Weaver
LAt	Linda Atella	PWP	Paul W. Pedersen	VBC	Val B. Cunningham
LAV	Lance A. Vrieze	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	VDo	Vicky Douglas
LBa	Lon Baumgardt	RaJ	Rachel Jorgenson	VKI	Valerie Klumper
LDW	Laurie Dewispelaere	RbD	Robert Badger	VRL	Val R. Landwehr
LeV	Laurie Evans	RBW	Bob Williams	VVD	Vayla Van Dyke
LGI	Lynn Glesne	RCI	Richard Clearman	WAF	Wayne Feder
LGu	Les Gunderson	RDE	Roger D. Everhart	WCM	William C. Marengo
LHI	Lainie Hiller	RHh	Rachel Hillesheim	WOs	Wayne Ostlie
LHI	Luke Hollander	RJS	Roger Jay Schroeder	WPe	Wendy Pepin
LIH	Liz Harper	RJW	Robert Watson	WPI	Wayne Perala
LMc	Linda McGouirk	RLR	Ronald L. Refsnider	WyR	Wayne Runningen
LMS	Larry Sirvio	RMa	Robin Maercklein	YNa	Yasushi Nakagawa
LoH	Lori Herturth	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap		
LPk	Laurie Polesak	RMS	Rose Shea		
LrV	Liren Varghese	RNe	Randal Newton		
LSi	Leenardia Simpson	RNS	Richard N. Smaby		
LSI	Linda Slagter	RSA	Renner S. Anderson	C.P.	County Park
LSw	Linda Schwegman	RZI	Roy Zimmerman	C.R.	County Road
LVD	Lois Van Dyke	SAU	Sandy Aubol	F.R.	Forest Road
LWd	Larry Waddell	SBE	Susan Barnes Elliott	H.R.N.R.	Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve
MAJ	Mark Junghans	SC	Shawn Conrad	N.C.	Nature Center
MaJ	Matthew Jensen	SCB	Susan Barton	N.F.	National Forest
MaS	Matthew Schaut	SDI	Scott Dirks	N.M.	National Monument
MBu	Matthew Buell	SDz	Steve Dietz	N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
MBw	Missy Bowen	SeM	Sean McLaughlin	P.R.	Park Reserve
MCV	Matthew C. Vollbrecht	SEm	Steve Emerson	R.A.	Recreation Area
MFI	Martha Fleck	SeM	Sean McLaughlin	R.P.	Regional Park
MFu	Michael Furtman	SES	Steven E. Schon	S.F.	State Forest
MGe	Melissa Gerken	SFG	Scott Gruwell	S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
MHe	Melissa Hein	SGW	Steve G. Wilson	S.P.	State Park
MHo	Marvin Hoekstra	SHF	Susan H. Fall	S.R.	State Road
MID	Michael Degerstrom	SHg	Shawn Goodchild	Twp.	Township
MIO	Michael Oetken	SHk	Sandy Hokanson	W.L.S.S.D.	Western Lake Superior Sanitary District
MJB	Milton J. Blomberg	SHo	Steven C. Houdek	W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
MJk	Michael Janke	SJT	Steven Thyme	W.P.	Wilderness Park
MJM	Michael J. Majeski	SJj	Sam Jolly	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Production Area
MkC	Mark Chichester	SKI	Sue Klous	W.S.H.C.	West Skyline Hawk Count
MKe	Meagan Keefe	SLC	Steve L. Carlson	W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds
MKp	Mikaela Kropp	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski		

Abbreviations

C.P.	County Park
C.R.	County Road
F.R.	Forest Road
H.R.N.R.	Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve
N.C.	Nature Center
N.F.	National Forest
N.M.	National Monument
N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
P.R.	Park Reserve
R.A.	Recreation Area
R.P.	Regional Park
S.F.	State Forest
S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
S.P.	State Park
S.R.	State Road
Twp.	Township
W.L.S.S.D.	Western Lake Superior Sanitary District
W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
W.P.	Wilderness Park
W.P.A.	Waterfowl Production Area
W.S.H.C.	West Skyline Hawk Count
W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

The 1976 Beltrami County Common Black Hawk Record

A Case for Reinstatement of the Species to the State List

Anthony X. Hertzell

On 18 September 1976, a female Common Black Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) was “picking at some gravel” along Power Dam Road NE, seven miles east of Bemidji in Beltrami County (section 1 of township 146N, range 32W), when it was hit by a passing pickup truck (Elwell et al., 1978). The driver of the vehicle, Claude “Bud” Roberts, recovered the gravely injured hawk and brought it to Dr. John Mathisen, a wildlife biologist for the Chippewa National Forest in Cass Lake specializing in raptors (Kimball, 1977). Not having the tools necessary to address the bird’s exigent condition, Mathisen brought it to Dr. Adela “Laddie” S. Elwell, a professor of biology at Bemidji State University who also operated a wildlife rehabilitation clinic (Diane Morris pers. comm., 2023). Elwell splinted one of the bird’s wings and “restored electrolyte balance” (Kimball, 1977), then began the effort to have it flown to the Veterinary College (which included The Raptor Center) on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota (Elwell et al., 1978). But before arrangements could be finalized, the bird died at 12:30 A.M. on 20 September (Kimball, 1977).

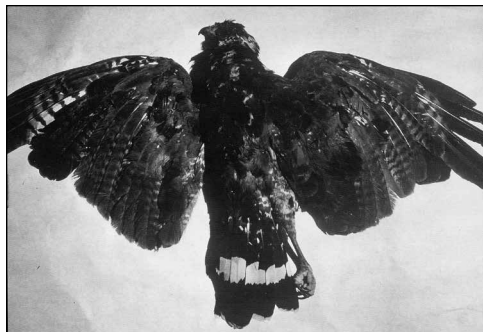
The specimen was donated to the Bemidji State University avian collection where curator Diane Morris photographed it, then prepared it as a display mount and assigned it the accession number of BSC3867 for the vertebrate collection (Elwell et al., 1978). While it was being prepared, a thorough examination was performed to assess and document its condition, age, and sex, and to look for any indications of previous captivity. The bird was found to be “in a normal nutritional state” and “partway through a molt” with “excessively worn and frayed secondaries and breast feathers.” It weighed approximately 700 grams, was



The Common Black Hawk specimen as it appears today. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.

519 mm long, and had a wingspan of 1,159 mm (Elwell et al., 1978). The mount was eventually placed in a display case at the university with several other raptor mounts (Morris pers. comm., 2023).

Specific to the possibility of the bird previously having been in captivity, Elwell et al. (1978) noted “fret marks are visible in [the] secondaries, coverts, and tail feathers. There is no



The original two 1976 Morris photos taken prior to mounting the specimen (published in Elwell, 1978). Retrieved from the M.O.U. Archives and digitized 12 April 2023.

obvious wear at the tips of the tail or primary feathers and no traces of jesses (leather thongs frequently placed on the legs of raptors by falconers) can be seen. The condition of the bill and talons appear comparable to those of wild birds in our collection.” To these authors, the hawk appeared to be a legitimately wild bird. Still, they shipped it to the Veterinary College for a second authoritative opinion. There it was examined by Dr. Patrick Redig (co-founder and Director of The Raptor Center) and Mark Fuller, both of whom were “unable to find any clear signs that the bird had been in captivity,” commenting that “fret marks are signs of dietary or other stress and can be found in both wild and captive birds” (Elwell et al., 1978).

After reviewing all the presented data, Morris’ assessment, the documentation from Elwell et al., and the specimen itself, the Minnesota Ornithological Records Committee (MORC — now MOURC) accepted the record and the species was added to the official state list of birds with an H_b designation, meaning “Hypothetical with a question regarding origin” (MOU, 1978). In 1980, MORC eliminated the category of “Hypothetical” as a status category for species on the state list (Eckert, 1980) and by the following year, the Common Black Hawk had been reclassified as an A_c species, “Accidental with a question regarding origin” (MOU, 1983).

About a dozen years later, in February 1988, Dr. Harrison Tordoff, Director of the James Ford Bell Museum from 1970 to 1983, examined the mount and subsequently concluded that it was likely an escaped bird (Tordoff *in* MOU, 1988). He noted that “the bird was in heavy post-juvenile molt” and that it was, to a

degree, asymmetrical, being more advanced on the left wing than the right, though involving an equal number of new feathers. Also, the central pair of tail feathers had “lost almost all of the terminal white bar which is about 5 mm wide on the rest of the tail feathers,” and remarked, “I think this is the strongest indication of possible captivity in this specimen.” He then summarized his examination with “the Bemidji Common Black Hawk shows one feature that seems to me best explained by captivity — the heavy wear that has almost eliminated the terminal white bar on the central rectrices, feathers that were only a few weeks old when it died” (Tordoff *in* MOU, 1988).

David L. Evans, Chief Raptor Bander at Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve and Bird Observatory in Duluth from 1972–2010, did not examine the specimen but evaluated Tordoff’s assessment and disagreed with his conclusion, saying, in part, “the wearing of the white terminal tail band is perceived as the evidence of captivity. I do not agree. White, un-pigmented feathers, or portions thereof, are much more prone to wearing than pigmented feathers and thus are the first to show evidence of wear. I feel that the central rectrices (the only ones showing wear) were likely the first to be molted and are probably closer to 3 months old, if not more, and as the longest rectrices would be subject to the greatest wear. Although the degree of wear seems greater than normal, I don’t think it is out of line with what I have observed in wild caught birds” (Evans *in* MOU, 1988). He summarized with “I don’t feel the evidence is strong enough to merit removing this bird from the state list on the basis of pos-

sibly originating as a captive bird.”

Tordoff had the final comment at the time with “Dave is right that every plumage abnormality produced by captivity can probably sooner or later be seen on a wild bird. But as Pat Redig said and Dave knows, the vast majority of wild birds, even if molting and worn, look feather perfect or close to it. In the Bemidji Black Hawk, we have a bird that is tattered and torn worse than any wild hawk I’ve ever seen, handled, or examined in a collection. My sample of hawks handled is way smaller than Dave’s, but still substantial. And I can’t forget that Common Black Hawks and other Mexican species were routinely advertised for sale in *Cage Bird Magazine* and similar publications through the 1970s” (Tordoff in MOU, 1988).

The result of these conversations culminated in MORC deleting the species from the state list (Eckert, 1988), though through the MOU archives (1988), we can see that this was an arbitrary move made by the Chair (Robert Janssen). No formal vote by the full Committee was ever taken, nor was anything recorded or published beyond the fact of the deletion.

When Diane Morris left Bemidji State, incoming curator Dr. Elizabeth Rave soon decided the mount had little instructional value since it had not been prepared as a study skin and the available space in the department was limited (Morris pers. comm., 2023). It was eventually resolved to transfer the mount permanently to the Bell Museum collection at the University of Minnesota and this was done on 1 May 2013 (Rave, pers. comm., 2023). In April 2023, the specimen was assigned the accession number #BTC006 and added to a teaching / taxidermy collection (Auerbach pers. comm., 2023). Eventually it will be given a full MNH catalog number, but this has yet to occur (Reddy pers. comm., 2023).

Cited Indications of Captive Origin

Fret Marks and Fault-bars: Tessen (1977) stated that while the hawk “showed no obvious signs of captivity, careful examination of the skin at the Raptor Rehabilitation Center (Univ. of Minn.) showed fret marks on most of its feathers. Whether this stress was due to captivity or nutritional stress from coming such a great distance is uncertain at this time.” Tordoff (1988) later expanded on this with “fret marks (also called hunger-bars) occur in both wild

and captive birds and are ordinarily a result of stress, often inadequate nutrition, at the time a feather is growing.” He does cite a source for this, but it seems he is relying on Riddle (1908). Riddle deduced that in wild birds, “fault-bars” resulted from malnutrition, writing “fault-bars can be readily produced experimentally by reduced feeding,” but also “fault-bars occur normally in all bird groups, in all plumages, in all feather tracts, and in all individual feathers.” So one can cause them to occur in a lab, but they can occur anyway. It appears that the given cause for them occurring in wild birds is no more than a supposition deduced from experimentation on captive birds. This is not unreasonable, but it also means fret marks are not necessarily a sign of previous captivity.

Tordoff (1988) further wrote that “although these marks do occur in wild birds, they are more frequent and severe in birds reared in captivity, particularly when the diet is inadequate,” but again cites no source for this. King and Murphy (1984) write that Riddle’s conclusion “now seems tenuous,” adding “the weight of evidence strongly favors the shock of handling as the cause of fault bars in captive birds, and presumably some similar shock (such as flight from a predator) causes them in free-living birds. Many episodes of handling did not result in fault-bar formation in the captives, however, which suggests that the underlying mechanism has a variable threshold and may be multifactorial.” They then conclude “we offer the outright speculation that fault bars are a mild form of the response to shock that produces “fright molt.” They define “fright molt” as “the essentially instantaneous shedding of feathers by birds that are thought to be frightened or subjected to stress.” As an aside and possibly unrelated note, Murphy and King (1991) concluded that there is no correlation between the occurrence of induced “hunger-bars” and feather growth.

Tordoff wrote “the juvenile outer four primaries on the left wing have conspicuous fret marks about 20 mm from the tip, but, oddly, the right outer primaries lack fret marks.” It is possible that the asymmetrical fret marks on the Common Black Hawk may indicate it had experienced some kind of trauma at some point which caused certain feathers on the left wing to be stressed or lost, resulting in fret marks developing on that wing only.

There is no way to determine if these stresses might have occurred in the wild or in captivity. The marks are therefore unhelpful in assessing origin and so would be inconsequential.

Feather Wear: Common Black Hawks primarily feed on small vertebrates found in or near standing water such as crabs, crayfish, fish, frogs, turtle hatchlings, and crustaceans. They also take snakes, lizards, young birds, and small mammals (Schnell, 2020). “Strictly a perch hunter,” black hawks forage by perching for extended periods of time on near-water branches of standing trees (Wheeler, 2003), then capture their prey items “by swooping down from the sky and grabbing them” (Mohn, 2012). They then return to the perch to remove undesirable parts such as fins or feathers (Bent, 1937; Cornell, 2019). When their usual food sources are scarce, they supplement their diet with insects, grasshoppers, caterpillars, and more infrequently, carrion (Schnell, 2020). Palmer (1988) reiterates known examples of this more unusual feeding strategy and suggests a primary cause in young, out-of-range Common Black Hawks may be a lack of hunting skills. An immature black hawk in unfamiliar Minnesota might naturally resort to subsisting on those small, secondary, terrestrial food sources, which likely is what this bird was doing on the side of the road when it was killed. The bird did produce a pellet while in Elwell’s care (Elwell et al., 1978), but if it was analyzed for content, this regrettably was not recorded (Morris pers. comm., 2023).

Prolonged, increased terrestrial feeding will naturally result in increased feather contact with the ground, specifically the rectrices, and this additional tail feather contact will then produce an increase in abrasive wear (Terres, 1981). This would be most evident in those feathers that are the longest. In the case of the Beltrami County bird, that would be the central two (RR1 and LR1). Based on his examination, Tordoff (1988) deduced that those two were the oldest rectrices, writing “some of the outer tail feathers on both sides are only partly grown.” That they were the longest is clearly shown by recent photos of the specimen. Tordoff also noted that unusual feather wear was evident only on those two central rectrices and that he saw “heavy wear of the terminal band of the two central tail feathers.”

Burt and Jann (1999) found that increased

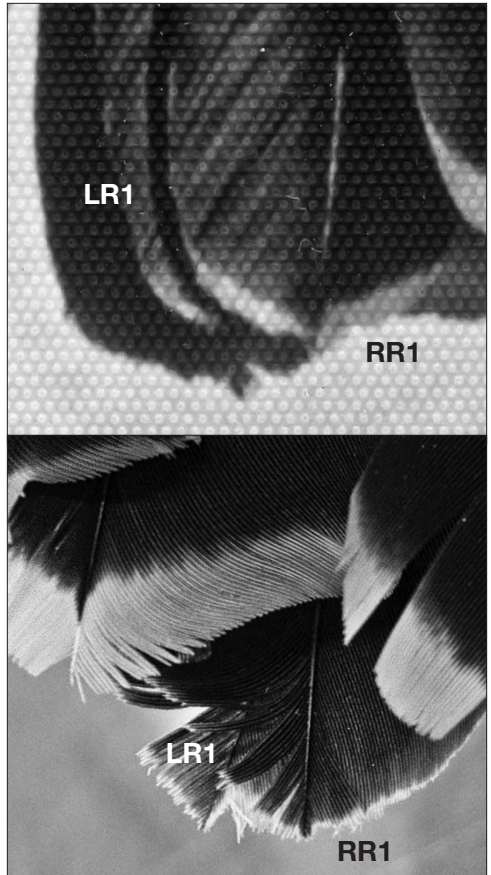


Figure 1. Ventral view of the Common Black Hawk’s two central tail feather tips. LR1 = Left Rectrix 1, RR1 = Right Rectrix 1. Top: September 1976 (stippling is texturizing on the original print), bottom: December 2022.

ground contact also increased the presence of feather-degrading bacilli, and Kent and Burt (2016) showed that increased wear of the central tail feathers was “correlated strongly with the presence of feather-degrading bacilli.” They added that “feather wear should peak in late summer when tail feathers are oldest.” The Common Black Hawk record is from mid September.

These sources suggest that unusual wearing of the central two rectrices is not necessarily — or even probably — an indication of captivity in this particular specimen. As Dave Evans put it, “the wearing of the white terminal tail band is perceived as the evidence of captivity. I do

not agree” (Evans *in* MOU, 1988). It appears that unusual feather wear in the tail, even — or perhaps especially — when limited to the central pair, might not be unusual in an out-of-range wild bird forced by circumstance to feed on the ground with increased frequency. Interestingly, the Minnesota Falconers Association (MFA) stated that, with regard to previous captivity, “wearing of the rectrices is certainly not definitive” (MFA pers. comm., 2023).

Interestingly, in 1976, as she was preparing the mount, Elwell kept a detailed written record of her findings and specifically noted “there is no obvious wear at the tips of the tail” (Elwell et al., 1978). The specimen was then sent to The Raptor Center for examination and, among other things, to look for signs of captivity. There, neither Pat Redig nor Mark Fuller noted anything unusual about the rectrices (Elwell et al., 1978). But in 1988, Tordoff (*in* MOU, 1988) finds “heavy wear that has almost eliminated the terminal white bar on the central rectrices.” So in addition to the previously discussed natural causes, we might consider the possibility that some feather wear occurred during those twelve intervening years.

As noted previously, the mount was initially housed in a display case at Bemidji State University. At some point, it was removed and hung on a wall in the ornithology lab, and eventually was transferred to a specimen cabinet before finally being sent permanently to the Bell Museum (Morris pers. comm., 2023). It is quite plausible, then, that not all of the feather wear was original to the specimen and Tordoff simply assumed it was. It is probable that only some wear occurred prior to the bird being killed, but it wasn’t enough to be considered unusual by those who first examined it. Comparing contemporaneous photos (Figure 1) with current photos strongly suggests that additional wearing occurred during the specimen’s time at Bemidji State and well before Tordoff handled it. The obvious contradiction between Elwell’s 1976 description of the bird with Tordoff’s in 1988 is otherwise difficult to explain.

Other Indications of Captivity

“Vane disruption” (also called “barb disruption”) is mentioned by Tordoff (1988) as “an indication that the bird might well have been confined, but not proof.” He suggests that the

abnormal wear on the two central tail feathers was the result of vane disruption. I could find nothing in the literature discussing this affliction as an indication of captivity in raptors, and though Tordoff’s explanation is not unreasonable, he also notes that in this specimen, “there has been substantial barb disruption, but this is not restricted to the feather tips and is consistent again with the overall heavy wear on the juvenal feathers” and the “outer primaries are old and heavily worn at the tips, but their wear is consistent with the very heavily worn secondaries and greater coverts (which do not show cage wear).” Vane disruption away from the rectrices appears not to be unusual in this specimen. And it should be noted that “cage wear” refers to abnormal feather wear, feather breakage, and vane disruption (usually on the wings and tail) but is generally in reference to caged passerines in the wild bird trade as well as domestic poultry. Almost without exception, raptors are not kept in cages (MFA pers. comm., 2023).

Unusual feather loss is another characteristic of captivity, and some of its causes include inappropriate housing, infections, diseases, and behavioral disorders (Rubinstein and Lightfoot, 2012). Tordoff wrote that “we have a bird that is tattered and torn worse than any wild hawk I’ve ever seen, handled, or examined in a collection” (Tordoff *in* MOU, 1988). A complete annual molt of both adult and immature Common Black Hawks usually takes place in September — an adult female taken in late October, for example, was “still acquiring new feathers” (Dickey and Van Rossem, 1938). A lost and molting immature in late September may account for this hawk’s “tattered and torn” appearance. And, according to Morris (pers. comm., 2023) “any bird that is molting is very difficult to prepare without loss of feathers. Feathers about to fall out, do. Feathers coming in will also fall out.” So the preparation process itself may help explain this bird’s ragged appearance when Tordoff viewed it twelve years after it was prepared.

Discussion

When Tordoff concluded that the Common Black Hawk “probably had been captive and did not get to Minnesota under its own power,” to what resources did he refer when making that determination? He cites no papers in his

three-page write-up to MORC, so how did he know what markings indicated prior captivity and why? After some rather extensive searches, I was unable to find any authoritative sources which thoroughly explain in detail how to examine a bird specimen (of any species) for signs of previous captivity. While good papers have been published on certain specific, narrowly-focused topics such as unusual feather wear, there seems to be no publication instructing a researcher or taxonomist in broader terms what to look for on a bird and what comparisons should be made with known wild examples to arrive at a plausible conclusion as to its probable origin. Regarding this, Dr. Lori Arent, Assistant Director at The Raptor Center (TRC), wrote, “I am not aware of any scientific publication or if it is even possible to say for certain that a raptor was held in captivity” (Arent pers. comm., 2022). Patrick Redig attributes any such conclusion simply to “a lot of personal experience” (Redig pers. comm., 2022). Dr. Kevin Winker, Curator of Birds at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Associate Editor of *The Auk* (2004–2009), and former A.O.S. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature member, and his colleague Dr. Jack J. Withrow, Collection Manager at the same university, wrote “we don’t know of a guide like this” (Winker pers. comm., 2022). Dr. Robert M. Zink, former Breckenridge Chair of Ornithology at the University of Minnesota and Curator of Birds at the Bell Museum and currently Curator of Zoology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, replied to an email asking if such sources existed, that he knew of none (Zink pers. comm., 2022). Peter Pyle knew of no sources he could recommend, writing “I’ll add my voice to the chorus that has not seen ‘signs of captivity’ discussed in detail anywhere” (Pyle pers. comm., 2023). I also contacted wildlife rehabilitation clinics, animal hospitals, “companion bird” groups, bird banders, avicultural societies, falconers, university libraries, and many other organizations, all to no avail.

The Common Black Hawk specimen was examined by several qualified individuals — some while it was still alive. Of those persons, as far as I have been able to determine, only Tordoff reasoned that the bird was likely a previously captive bird. He based this conclusion on the specimen’s excessively worn central tail

feathers and, to a lesser degree, the presence of fret marks. Yet these markings can also be explained by natural causes and in fact, may even be expected for a vagrant bird of this kind so far from its natural environment.

Note that Common Black Hawks simply are not used in falconry (MFA pers. comm., 2023). One primary reason stems from the species’ diet. Falconry is a sport that uses trained raptors to hunt and chase down wild game, and a species which naturally takes crabs and fish would make for a very poor hunting bird. Of course, this does not fully address the point raised by Tordoff (1988) that black hawks “and other Mexican species” were advertised for sale in trade magazines, but it reduces the probability that the Bemidji bird originated from a licensed falconer. I suspect that Tordoff was referring to commercial advertisements saying little more than the black hawk was a species that could be targeted for capture and sale, but it seems unlikely it was readily available as part of any larger, captive inventory in Mexico. I did attempt to find a contemporaneous bird trade magazine which advertised this specific species (e.g., *The American Federation of Aviculture’s Watchbird*), but found none. Íñigo-Elías (1986A) recorded 15 species of native raptors for sale in Mexico City, but Common Black Hawk was not among them. Elsewhere, he provides a catalog of traded raptors in the table U.S. importations of dead and live raptors from Mexico for personal and commercial purposes 1980–1982 (in Íñigo-Elías, 1986B), and again, Common Black Hawk was not listed. Barnes and Hemley (1986) listed “raptor species most commonly traded as live specimens 1980–1983” and this did not include the black hawk. MFA (pers. comm., 2023) theorizes that the only reason for having a Common Black Hawk in captivity would be as part of a private collection or an exhibit in a zoo, in which case leg bands, jesses, or evidence of either should have been present. And according to the Minnesota Falconers Association, “falconry gear in the 1970s would have been pretty primitive and likely would have still been on the bird” (MFA pers. comm., 2023). So while Common Black Hawks may have been advertised as available for capture and purchase, it seems a fairly remote possibility that any falconers, breeders, or zoos in the U.S. would have much interest in acquiring one.

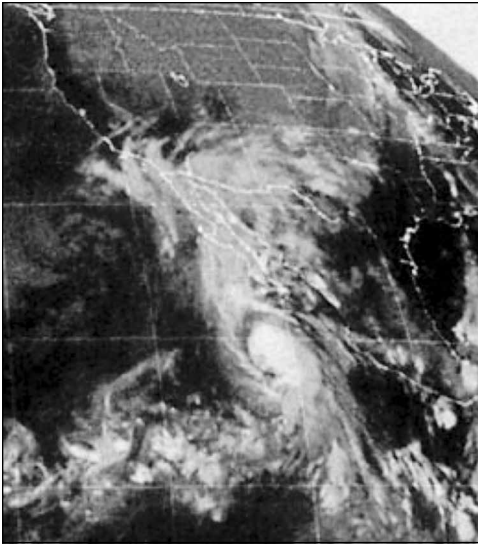


Figure 2. Hurricane Kathleen, September 1976. From Gunther 1977.

Hurricane Kathleen

Rather than prior captivity, Hurricane Kathleen seems a plausible explanation for the bird's unexpected presence in Minnesota. The entire Common Black Hawk population north of Mexico is migratory (A.O.U., 1983; Schnell, 2020), and while this species does not have an extensive history of vagrancy, the number of extralimital observations is not zero. According to eBird — which does not have many historical records prior to its launch in 2002 — there are at least 15 reports from Colorado, one as far north as Denver and one from eastern Colorado not far from Kansas. There are also three records from Oklahoma, including one from north of Oklahoma City. And there are several records from Florida (eBird, 2023). And according to Schnell (2020), a black hawk banded in Arizona was recovered 600 miles to the south in Durango, Mexico, so the species is certainly capable of moving great distances.

Preceding the 1978 Elwell (et al.) article in *The Loon* by more than a year, the first published mention of the Minnesota black hawk record was in the 22 November 1976 edition of the *Bemidji Pioneer*. That brief article noted speculation among persons at Bemidji State as well as the National Audubon Society that the bird “could have followed the wind currents of a severe wind storm that swept across

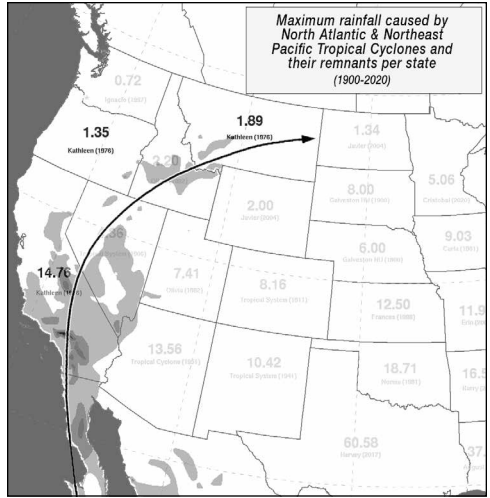


Figure 3. Primary impact zone, path, and record rainfall totals (highlighted) of Hurricane Kathleen, September 1976. Adapted from Roth 2022A and Roth 2022B.

Mexico and north toward Colorado, where it connected with a strong frontal movement that blew toward Minnesota” (Crawford, 1976). That system was the remnants of Hurricane Kathleen (Figure 2) which impacted the southwestern United States 7–11 September 1976 (Miller et al., 2010). This was a major, northward-tracking, Pacific tropical storm originating off the coast of southwest Mexico. After passing over Baja California on 9 September, it continued north through California and Arizona on the 10th before dissipating on the 11th over the Great Basin (Elliott, 1976; Miller et al., 2010). Hurricane Kathleen is one of only six tropical systems in the Pacific known to have brought hurricane-force winds to the western continental United States (Chenoweth and Landsea, 2004) and it produced the highest rainfall ever measured in three different states — California, Oregon, and Montana (Roth, 2022B) (Figure 3). It was also responsible for the greatest amount of property damage caused by a tropical storm in California history (Morris, 2000).

Hurricane Kathleen was surmised to have carried a first state record White Ibis to Wyoming on 12–13 September (Kingery, 1977; Downing, 1983), and “an extraordinary” nine White Ibis to New Mexico which were photographed there on September 17th, documenting a third state record (Witzeman et al., 1977).

Other unusual birds which appeared in the west and Midwest after that weather event included:

- Dozens of Least Storm-Petrels in Nevada, 11–14 September, whose presence was directly attributed to Hurricane Kathleen (Kingery, 1977)
- A Purple Gallinule in Sabino Canyon, Arizona 11–17 September, which was “only the second acceptable Arizona record in the last quarter century” (Witzeman et al., 1977)
- British Columbia’s 13th Ash-throated Flycatcher (originally identified as a Wied’s Crested Flycatcher, Crowell and Nehls, 1977) near Vancouver on 22 September (Toochin and Fenneman, 2014)
- The “northernmost recorded occurrence” of Blue-footed Booby, New Hogan Reservoir in California, 15 September, and which “can best be attributed” to Hurricane Kathleen (Elliott, 1976)
- A Red-billed Tropicbird in Morongo Valley, California — more than 70 miles from the coast — on 11 September, which was the first inland record for the state (McCaskie, 1977)
- Saskatchewan’s second provincial record of White-faced Ibis on 13 October (Serr, 1977)
- An Anna’s Hummingbird in Calgary 28 September, which was the “first known record for Alberta” (Serr, 1977)

I should note that a short piece in the *Minneapolis Tribune* suggested the hawk “could have been blown north by a hurricane that swept north from Mexico Sept. 5, but this seems unlikely” (Kimball, 1977). Based on the given date, Kimball appears to be referencing Hurricane Frances, 27 August – 7 September which tracked along the east coast of the United States from Florida to Virginia (Lawrence, 1977). This is not as plausible a candidate as is Hurricane Kathleen when attempting to explain the presence of a black hawk in Minnesota since this weather system kept well to the east and fell apart in the Atlantic.

The black hawk record has been mentioned in several other publications, including DeSante and Pyle (1986) who rejected it without comment, Palmer (1988) who accepted it without comment, and Daniels et al. (1989) who summarized the record without judgment. Schnell (1979) mused “probably its presence here was not caused by natural agents” without elaborat-

ing further. Wheeler (2003) says “origin of this bird is questionable” but justifies this only by briefly reiterating Tordoff’s comment regarding the sale of “Mexican raptors.” Ferguson-Lees and Christie (2001) say “in USA, stragglers north to Nevada and California and, perhaps from Cuba, to south Florida; more rarely, vagrants north to Minnesota.” And Schnell (2020) includes the Minnesota bird in a short list of extralimital records with the broader comment “origin of individuals documented or sighted outside current breeding areas often not fully explainable.”

Final Comment

This paper is not intended to cast doubt on Tordoff’s qualifications or to impugn his reputation as a serious ornithologist of the highest caliber. Nor is it to persuade the reader that the 1976 Beltrami County Common Black Hawk only could have been a wild vagrant. Rather, the aim is to provide an alternate explanation for the cause of the bird’s physical condition, as well as explore those circumstances surrounding its arrival in Minnesota, while still satisfying our definition of an Accidental species of uncertain origin or wildness.

There is a dearth of available references on the topic of evaluating a bird for signs of captivity. In the few tangential papers which have been published, I find most offer no more than equivocal evidence. Some analyses use indications derived from one group or birds (e.g., finches) to inappropriately assert a conclusion about another (hawks). Furthermore, arguing that these markings are strongly indicative of a bird’s captive origin is not persuasive when the markings are few, are not diagnostic, and can occur naturally in unambiguously wild birds. The argument is further weakened in cases where a species is only rarely held in captivity. The Beltrami County Common Black Hawk record appears to be one of those cases.

In 2023, MOURC reconsidered the status of Common Black Hawk and unanimously voted to restore the species to the state list with its original A₀ status (Tustison, 2023).

Acknowledgments

Sushma Reddy gave me access to the Common Black Hawk specimen at the Bell Museum, and Anya Auerbach supplied information on its entry into the museum’s catalog. Diane

Morris contributed much historical information and context. Renner Anderson sent me important and relevant archive materials. John Mathisen shared several important points of historical information. The Minnesota Falconers Association offered much additional applicable perspective. Elizabeth Rave was helpful in gathering some of the specimen's history at Bemidji State. And Nigel Hewston of The Avicultural Society (London) offered considerable commentary and perspective. I would also like to acknowledge the following persons who engaged in productive conversations or helped with additional research: Phil Chu, William D'Anna, Kim Eckert, Laddie Elwell, Suzanne Elwell, Bruce Fall, Peter Gent, Paul Hertz, Thomas B. Hertz, Nigel Hewston, Jean Iron, John Myers, Frank Nicoletti, Peter Pyle, Nicole Richardson, Gary Rosenberg, Peder H. Svingen, Rebecca Toov, Jennifer Vieth, Tami Vogel, Gloria Warner, Kevin Winker, and Robert M. Zink.

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Mounds View, MN.

The 2023 M.O.U. 300 Club

Anthony X. Hertzelt and David A. Cahlander

The Roberts Club

MOU Members who have seen 85% of the state's 454 bird species as of 31 December 2023

426 Anthony X. Hertzelt	404 Tom A. Tustison	395 Douglas W. Kieser	390 Randy S. Frederickson
422 Kim R. Eckert	403 Dedrick Benz	394 Kenneth M. Schumacher	390 Richard Ruhme
421 Peder H. Svingen	403 Jeff J. Stephenson	393 Philip C. Chu	390 Richard Wachtler
414 Robert B. Janssen	402 Susan Schumacher	393 Robert M. Dunlap	389 Bill George
413 Bill R. Litkey	400 Robert L. Ekblad	392 Craig R. Mandel	389 Ronald L. Huber
412 Barbara Martin	400 John P. Ellis	392 William C. Marengo	389 Linda Sparling
412 Dennis D. Martin	400 Ronald A. Erpelding	392 Bob Williams	388 Joel C. Claus
407 Kim W. Risen	399 Howard Towle	391 Jo and Steve Blanich	388 Gloria Wachtler
406 John W. Hockema	398 Herb H. Dingmann	391 Mark S. Citsay	387 David A. Cahlander
405 Paul M. Egeland	398 Ray Glassel	391 Connie Seibeck	386 Milton J. Blomberg
405 Don O. Kienholz	398 Jerry Pruettt	391 David P. Sovereign	386 Don A. Bolduc
405 Andrew D. Smith	395 Mark Junghans	390 Jerry E. Bonkoski	386 Hap Huber

The 300 Club

MOU Members who have seen a minimum of 300 species in Minnesota as of 31 December 2023

385 Ben Fritchman	367 Becca Engdahl	354 Joel Schmidt	336 Aaron Pietsch
385 Douglas P. Johnson	366 Diane M. Anderson	353 Robert L. Freeman	335 Ben Douglas
384 Warren E. Nelson	366 Andrew Nyhus	352 Dave Baden	335 Colin R. Gjervold
383 Brad Abendroth	366 Jim Peterson	352 Lon Baumgardt	334 Steve Emerson
383 Erik Collins	366 Garrett Wee	352 Terry P. Brashear	334 Edward Hicks
382 Steve Millard	365 Mike L. Hendrickson	352 Douglas Mayo	334 Al Schirmacher
382 Alex Sundvall	365 Michael W. Sack	352 Peter Neubeck	333 Frank Berdan
381 Roy Zimmerman	365 Dana Sterner	350 Betsy Beneke	333 Robert E. Holtz
380 Jim Egge	365 David W. Thurston	349 Nancy A. Jackson	332 Richard Gotz
380 Karol Gresser	364 Bruce B. Baer	349 Blaine Seeliger	332 Richard L. Miller
380 Pete Hoeger	364 Bruce Baer	349 Trey Weaver	331 Robert H. O'Connor
380 Ezra Hosch	364 William R. Bronn	348 Chad Heins	331 Lance A. Vrieze
380 Charles Krulas	364 James L. Otto	348 Gerald Hoekstra	330 Alice Hennessey
379 Liz Harper	364 Dick Sandve	348 Joey Sundvall	330 Brandon Lentz
378 Bill Stjern	364 Jim Williams	347 Julie Zempel	330 Tate Putman
377 Isaac Hosch	363 Jim R. Eikenberry	345 Craig A. Menze	330 Nathan Schirmacher
376 David R. Benson	362 Kimberly A. Emerson	345 Warren Woessner	329 Tom & Elizabeth Bell
374 Conny M. Brunell	362 Jerry Gresser	344 Justin Watts	329 Kathy Carroll
373 Paul E. Budde	361 Kevin D. Smith	343 Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus	329 David Johnson
373 Rick Hoyme	361 Matthew Thompson	343 Frank Fabbro	329 Jeanie M. Joppur
373 Cindy Risen	360 Kenneth Oulman	343 Chet A. Meyers	328 Matthew Schaut
372 Al A. Bolduc	360 Bill Pieper	342 Luke Hollander	327 Paul E. Jantscher
372 Oscar L. Johnson	359 Alex Burchard	341 Paul L. Johnson	326 Dan Ahlman
371 Dave Bartkey	359 Shawn Conrad	341 Janet Majerus	326 Andy Forbes
371 Terry Savaloja	359 Mike Mulligan	341 Warren Wegener	325 Jason Caddy
370 Tony Lau	359 Steve J. Roman	340 Nolan Meyer	325 Nancy Henke
370 Dick Rengstorf	358 James W. Lind	339 Josh Wallestad	325 Gary Simonson
369 Elizabeth Campbell	358 Peter Nichols	339 Alexander R. Watson	325 Dale A. Yerger
369 J. S. Fatcher	357 Marjorie Cahlander	338 Bonnie J. Mulligan	324 Alyssa L. DeRubeis
369 Leslie Marcus	357 Deborah Fellows	337 Ken LaFond	324 Alex Franzen
369 Larry Sirvio	357 Thomas Benjamin Hertzelt	337 Val R. Landwehr	324 Judy Johnson
369 Brian T. Smith	356 Janet C. Green	337 Judith Sparrow	324 Bruce Munson
368 Frank Gosiak	356 Dan Orr	337 Raymond Tervo	324 Liren Varghese
368 John Richardson	356 Mark Sparky Stensaas	336 Mark C. Alt	323 Kathi Berdan
368 Forest V. Strnad	354 George Lahr	336 Earl E. Orf	323 Linda B. Felker

323 Michael Oetken	317 Linda McGouirk	312 Nelvina E. De Kam	305 Jim Hughes
323 Karl Roe	316 Joel Dunnette	312 Diana Doyle	305 Heather Hundt
322 Anna Battaglia	316 Stephen Gardner	312 Angela Gerend	305 Todd Mitchell
322 Lars Benson	316 Michael J. Majeski	311 Chris Fagyal	304 Shawn Goodchild
322 Steve Broste	316 Yasushi Nakagawa	311 Pam S. Perry	304 Michael Henry
322 Kathy A. Heidel	316 Ben A. Wieland	310 K. Scott Foster	304 Cooper Ludwig
321 Dick Hartman	315 Bill Brown	310 Fred Z. Leshner	304 Thomas Malone
321 Jocelyn Kuo	315 Steve Oakley	310 Connie M. Norheim	303 Bill Kass
320 Renner S. Anderson	315 Mark Otnes	310 Theodore Voelker	303 Tim Lamey
320 Jason Hedlund	315 Steven E. Schon	309 Clara Dahle	303 Isabel Martinez
320 Steven Midthune	314 Clay Christensen	309 Lynn Glesne	303 Sonia Martinez
320 Sue Plankis	314 Melissa Hein	309 Sandy M. Thimgan	303 Paul W. Pedersen
319 Jonas Benson	314 Aaron Ludwig	308 A. Kathrynne Baumtrog	303 Matthew Scott
319 Deanne Endrizzi	314 Michael Steffes	308 Robert Ellenbecker	302 Molly Malecek
319 Fr. Tom Margevicius	313 Tom F. Boevers	308 Kevin O'Connor	302 Wendy Pepin
319 Roger J. Schroeder	313 Bob Heise	307 Ben E. Anderson	302 Keith T. Pulles
319 Gregg Severson	313 Demelza Larson	307 Jeffrey Saffle	302 Jen Vieth
319 Rose M. Shea	313 Tom A. Nelson	307 Anthony M. Smith	301 Mathew Zappa
318 Cole Bauer	313 James F. Ryan	306 Sandy Aubol	300 Todd Murawski
318 Nolan Kerr	313 Shelley A. Steva	306 John Schladweiler	300 Darcy Pinotti
317 Dee Kuder	313 Dan T. Thimgan	305 Burnett Hojnacki	300 Don Starkweather



The Owl in the Attic

First Minnesota Yellow Rail Eggs

A. S. Peters

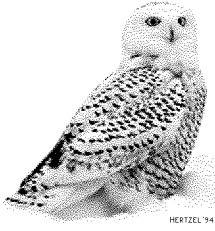
Reprinted from Peters, A. S. 1918. First Minnesota Yellow Rail eggs. *The Oologist* 35:28.

On June 10, 1917, I collected the first authentic set of yellow rail that has ever been reported from Minnesota. Previously I had sent a record of the presence of the yellow rail in this locality, to the U. S. Biological Survey and had some correspondence with Dr. Thos. Roberts of the University of Minnesota, in regard to this report but not until last season was I able to definitely locate the nest of this rather elusive member of the rail family.

The nest was found in a swamp just west of this village and was rather loosely constructed affair of marsh grass placed in a tuft of grass with some attempt at concealment and in about 8 inches of water. The nest was only a few inches above the surface of the water and

was somewhat damp although the bird was flushed from the nest and the eggs appeared warm and dry. The measurements do not vary one hundredth of an inch in the entire clutch of 8 and are 1.10 (27.94 mm) by .80 (20.32 mm). They are yellowish buff with most of the spots arranged in the form of a wreath around the larger end although one of them has the wreath around the small end. I have the word of Dr. Roberts that this is the first report of the breeding of this bird within the limits of our state and trust that this report will be of sufficient interest to readers of *The Oologist* to warrant its publication.

A. S. Peters, Lake Wilson, Minn.



BOOK REVIEW

The *Breeding Birds of Minnesota: history, ecology, and conservation*, Lee A. Pfannmuller, Gerald J. Niemi, and Janet C. Green with forward by Francesca J. Cuthbert. University of Minnesota Press, 2024. *Reviewed by Sue Leaf.*

Birders, here it is: over two decades in the making, *The Breeding Birds of Minnesota* sees the light of day.

The effort to produce an atlas of the breeding birds of the state began around the turn of the last century as ornithologists, attuned to the precarious existence of birds, saw a need to assess, organize, and deliver up-to-date information on Minnesota's birds. One way to do this is through compilation of an atlas. Minnesota was late to the game of producing such a work. By the year 2000, it was the only state in the Mississippi flyway and one of only seven states in the U.S. to not have an atlas.

The only prior comprehensive account of Minnesota's birds was the two-volume *The Birds of Minnesota* by Thomas S. Roberts, published in 1932 and revised in 1936. Roberts' book, a monumental work never to be equaled, was both exhaustive in its collection of natural history data and charming in its accounts of bird life in early Minnesota. But it is no longer useful in the face of twenty-first century existential threats to birds, such as climate change, habitat loss, and pesticides.

The Breeding Birds of Minnesota was a cooperative project involving a coalition of organizations including funding by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund — this is money generated by the state lottery, funding that was recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). Additional support came from Audubon Minnesota, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union, the Natural Resources Research Institute of the University of Minnesota-Duluth, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The first feature one sees upon introduction to the atlas are the eight stunning color photos of avifauna on front and back. They are a tip-off that this atlas is more than a compendium of facts. This endeavor aims for beauty.

The second noticeable feature is its heft: eight solid pounds. It is a weighty tome. No one will take this book into the field. I can't even sit and read holding it on my lap.

Breeding Birds begins with a review of the historical observations that have preceded it, from the Native American stories of a close affinity between native peoples and the region's birdlife, through the observations of the nineteenth century explorers, to T. S. Roberts. It notes the work of Evadene Burris Swanson, a researcher who is often overlooked, and the faithful diligence of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union in keeping records, compiling information, and providing *The Loon*, a format to publish new observations. It frequently refers to more recent attempts to understand the distribution and abundance of Minnesota birds, especially the publications of Bob Janssen, Jan Green, and Anthony Hertzell.

The atlas then describes how it came into being, how data were collected, and who participated: professionals, trained surveyors, and nearly 700 volunteers with high skill levels, all collecting data in a systematic way over a period of five summers, from fall 2013 to fall 2017. This generated a tremendous amount of information that was compiled and analyzed; and published online immediately after at the website (<http://mnbirdatlas.org>) that went live November 2017.

Following this is a brief discussion of avian biogeography, and then the heart of the book, what the three authors call "Species Accounts," synopses of the 250 species of birds known to breed in Minnesota. Every account has the same format. The accounts begin with comments on the natural history of the bird, its breeding distribution within the state, the breeding habitat,

the population abundance, and conservation measures that should be employed to assure the bird's future in the state. The last paragraph discusses how a warming climate will affect the species.

Every species has a gorgeous color photo, a photo of the preferred breeding habitat, and two maps, one depicting where the species was actually seen in data collection, and one showing suitable habitat that the species could theoretically inhabit.

This is the same format followed by the online atlas, but the text is not always identical to the book. I'm assuming that the on-line version is a living document that will be changed as new information becomes available over time. *Breeding Birds*, the book, is, poignantly, a snapshot in time: these are the birds as we saw them, that have already changed in the short time since data were collected.

The atlas reads as if the ghost of Roberts were peering over the writers' shoulders, assessing the information as it is written down. Roberts, a university ornithologist, is frequently referred to and quoted. Thus, concerning a bird that Roberts knew little of from first-hand experience — the Merlin — the writers observe that the species has been calculated to have increased in numbers by over 200 percent from 1970–2014, adding “Roberts... would be surprised at the Merlin's current distribution.”

Again, after describing the “spectacular comeback” of the Bald Eagle, the writers comment that “[Roberts] would be astonished with...the status of the Bald Eagle today.” Indeed, Dr. Roberts would probably be delighted and even perhaps relieved, having rued his teenage actions that ruined a nesting season of an eagle pair on Lake Minnetonka.

The Species Account of the Bald Eagle illustrates the ways in which the Atlas extends its reach far beyond Roberts' 1932 book. The last few paragraphs of the entry are devoted to the many ways eagles are threatened by human activity in our society. Not DDT, which is old news, but new chemicals, heavy metals, lead poisoning through the ingestion of lead bullets embedded in deer carcasses, and oil spills, shooting or intentionally poisoning. Eagles collide with automobiles, electrical poles, and power lines, all of which are expected to become more numerous in the near future.

I really appreciated this look into the future,

which also assesses how each of Minnesota's breeding birds might respond to our rapidly changing climate. Each species account considers three scenarios: a 1.5°C. degree warming, which is underway; a 2.0°C. degree warming, which could happen as soon as 2050; and a 3°C. degree warming, which could occur by 2080. It is very powerful to read through the 250 Species Accounts and reflect on how many species will not survive in a warmer Minnesota. New threats loom on the horizon, too, and the atlas anticipates some of them. This compendium of some of the foreseen endangerments is a valuable, if sobering, resource.

Also concerning the Species Accounts: although the photographs of each species are beautiful, photos of female ducks would have been helpful. I found the small photographs of each species' breeding habitat useful, when the text didn't quite capture the landscape: a picture is worth a thousand words. I also found useful the maps of the breeding distribution of each species, as recorded on the *Breeding Bird Atlas*, although the size of the maps is so small, I had to get out a hand lens to scrutinize data — for example, to see the distribution of certain birds in my home county, Chisago.

Early in my perusal of the atlas, it was brought to my attention that the Species Accounts contain factual errors. Indeed, I discovered one: of the Rock Pigeon it was noted that early accounts of Minnesota birds make no mention of the bird, and actually, T. S. Roberts does. In his bird journal that he kept as a teen, on 2 May 1878, the historic day in Minneapolis when the “Washburn A” mill exploded, he observed that the “tame pigeons which lived about the mills [flew] hither and thither through the thick black smoke.”

Of course, all efforts should strive for accuracy. But *The Breeding Birds of Minnesota* has 684 pages crammed with facts. It would be a superhuman feat to have such a tome error-free. Now in the light of day, let the eagle eyes of discerning readers have at it.

The atlas' frequent reference to Dr. Philo Hatch's 1892 report on the state's birds — written for the state's Natural History Survey — is the one feature that ruffled my feathers. That report was notorious for its inaccuracy from its inception. Hatch's superior of the Survey, Henry Nachtrieb, immediately recognized its errors. Roberts, who knew Hatch, was scathing in his

assessment of Hatch as a source: Hatch kept no systematic records, confused data, and “was credulous in the extreme.” Surely with space at a premium, another historical source could have been found.

The atlas is penned with a certain wit that pops up unexpectedly. Thus, the Belted Kingfisher is “having a bad-hair day” (who hasn’t thought that?) and “the call of the Red-tailed Hawk is a distinctive two- to three-second call... which is often duplicated in inappropriate habitats in movies or on television” (again, who hasn’t thought that?). I do not have the giant Greater Prairie-Chicken of Rothsay on my life list, but compilers of kitsch will be pleased that it made the atlas.

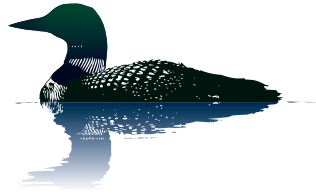
Last, in addition to the small species photos, the atlas is illustrated with large color shots from some of Minnesota’s best photographers. They are distributed lavishly throughout the book, as if the designers could not get enough of a good thing. I have already bought a print

of Michael Furtman’s female Common Merganser with chicks and it is hanging in my study.

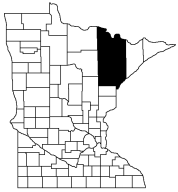
The three authors divided up the species accounts; I didn’t know which section each one wrote. I couldn’t discern much of a difference in style, although I found the duck accounts to be written with particular warmth and affection. Part of the charm of Roberts’ *The Birds of Minnesota* is the voice of the narrator, an older, authoritative birdwatcher with a keen memory and an appreciation of the past. *The Breeding Birds of Minnesota* lacks this central narrator, but the sense of reading voices of appreciative authority is very keen. Lee Pfannmuller, Jerry Niemi, and Jan Green are about the same age Roberts was when he put pen to paper. This atlas is the culmination of three lifetimes of endeavor in understanding and safeguarding Minnesota avifauna. Thank you for a job well done!

Center City, MN.

Notes of Interest



SWALLOW-TAILED KITES IN DULUTH — In both 2021 and 2022, we recorded an observa-



tion of Swallow-tailed Kite in St. Louis County. The first was seen by Frank Nicoletti on 13 August 2021 in good light with Swarovski 10x42 binoculars for about four minutes on Jean Duluth Road near Riley Road. The

bird was about 200 feet high with a graceful flight as it seemingly played in the wind. This would represent a first county record if accepted by the MOU Records Committee (currently under review).

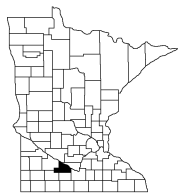
The second sighting occurred on 20 August 2022 at Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory. It was initially seen by Sean McLaughlin as it passed the main lookout. He contacted Frank at the banding station, who was able to also observe



Swallow-tailed Kite, 20 August 2022, Hawk Ridge, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Sean McLaughlin.

the kite and then spread the word to other observers who then tracked it along the shore and the ridge of Duluth. **Sean McLaughlin and Frank Nicoletti, Duluth, MN.**

BURROWING OWL IN BROWN COUNTY — I was birding along 330th Avenue in Mulligan



Township on the morning of 2 May 2023 watching a group of shorebirds when Jeff Windschitl (a local farmer) stopped by. He told me that farther up the road (north) he'd been seeing a bird for five or six days

which he was unable to identify. It was always near the shoulder on the east side of the road. He also said that when he would drive by, it would fly off into a field but always return to the same spot. He said though it was brown in color, it wasn't like any of the usual birds he sees around. I told him that I'd go up there and try to determine what bird it was. I headed north on 330th Avenue and noticed a shape sticking out of the short grass. When I put my binoculars on it, I immediately recognized it as a Burrowing Owl. It was a small owl with a round head and no ear tufts. It was pale brown mottled with white spots on the head, neck, and back. The breast was barred brown and white. It also had white "eyebrows," a white throat, and striking yellow eyes with black pupils. Several times a pickup passed by and it flew off a short distance into the field but returned a short time later. **Brian T. Smith, Sleepy Eye, MN.**



Burrowing Owl, 2 May 2023, Mulligan Township, Brown County. Photo by Brian T. Smith.

Corrections to *The Loon*

**Paul E. Budde, Bruce A. Fall,
Peder H. Svingen, and Anthony X. Hertzell**

The following corrections should be made to the listed issues of *The Loon*. Note that some of these (and possibly others) already may have been applied to our digital version of these issues.

Volume 86. Page 133. **Red-throated Loon**. Change "first" to "second", based on a winter report from 22 February 1942 (*The Flicker* 14:30).

Volume 93: Page 192. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**. Add date 5/13 to the Todd County record.

Volume 94: Page 15. Delete the sentence "Observers in Minneopa State Park, Blue Earth County, enjoyed seeing a Mississippi Kite at the end of June."

Volume 94: Page 28. **Mississippi Kite**. Remove record from Blue Earth County.

Volume 94: Page 124. Change the last sentence of the first paragraph discussing winter **Virginia Rail** to read "The February reports were the first in 27 years."

Volume 94: Page 132. **Virginia Rail**. Replace the last sentence with "This is only the fourth February record for the state (the others were in 1959, 1976, and 1995)."

Volume 94: Page 141. **Pine Grosbeak**. Change location of 2/3–4 record to Chisago County.

Volume 95. Page 4. **California Gull**. Change the age for record #2023-014 to second-cycle.

Volume 95. Page 5. **Glossy Ibis**. Date for record #2023-019 should be only 29 April 2023.

Index to *The Loon*, Volume 95

Compiled by Anthony X. Hertz and David A. Cahlander

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The purpose of the MOU is the promotion of a broad program of conservation and natural history study, primarily in the field of ornithology.

To achieve this objective, the Union urges and promotes interest in field studies and observation of birds by individual members and affiliated bird clubs. We publish a quarterly journal, *The Loon*, and a newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*; we conduct



field trips; we encourage and sponsor the preservation of natural areas; and we hold seminars where research reports, unusual observations, and conservation discussions are presented.

We are supported by dues from members, affiliated clubs, and special gifts. Any or all aspects of the MOU program could be expanded significantly with gifts, memorials, or bequests willed to the organization.

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The Loon is a peer-reviewed journal on the birds of Minnesota published quarterly by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union. The Editor welcomes submissions of articles, Notes of Interest, color slides, and unaltered photographs. All submissions should be typed, double-spaced, and single-sided. Notes of Interest should be less than two full pages. Photographs should be no smaller than 5"x7". Whenever possible, please include a digital copy of your submission in any standard format on CD, DVD, flash drive, or via e-mail. Digital documents may be e-mailed to the Editor of *The Loon* — see inside front cover for contact information. Club information and other announcements of general interest should be sent to the Editor of our newsletter *Minnesota Birding* — see inside front cover for contact information. Bird sighting reports for each season should be sent to the Editor of "The Seasonal Report" — see "Key to The Seasonal Report" for contact information.



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