

*The* **Loon**

SPRING 2018  
VOLUME 90 — NUMBER 1



Journal of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union

**THE MINNESOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION**  
**Carpenter Nature Center**  
**12805 Saint Croix Trail South**  
**Hastings, MN 55033**

**The Loon**, Minnesota's journal of birds, is published quarterly by the MOU, the statewide bird organization. All members receive this publication and also our digital newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*.

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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 at the Trailhead Lodge at the Carpenter Nature Center on 3 December 2017. In attendance and voting at this meeting were members Detric A. Benz, Robert M. Dunlap, Andrew R. Forbes, Douglas W. Kieser, William C. Maren-go (alternate), Robert P. Russell, Andrew D. Smith, Peder H. Svingen (alternate), and Thomas A. Tustison (chair).

At, or subsequent to, the meeting the following records were voted on and Accepted:

- White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) [Casual], 28 July 2017, La Salle, Watonwan County (record #2017-038, vote 7-0). Photographed. First county record (A).

- Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) [Accidental], 24-26 July 2017, private residence, Hennepin County (record #2017-036, vote 7-0). Photographed. Adult male (B).

- Red Phalarope (*Phalacrocorax fulvicastrus*) [Casual], 28 October 2017, Black Beach, Lake County (record #2017-046, vote 7-0). Photographed (C).

- Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) [Casual], 24-25 November 2017, Hazen P. Mooers Park, Grey Cloud Trail South, Cottage Grove, Washington County (record #2017-048, vote 7-0). Juvenile, photographed (D).

- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) [Casual], 5 August 2017, Lac qui Parle County (record #2017-039, vote 7-0). Juvenile, photographed (E).

- Ferruginous Hawk [Casual], 16 October 2017, Plummer, Red Lake County (record #2017-045, vote 7-0). Juvenile, superbly photographed (F).

- Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) [Accidental], 7 July 2017, Koester Prairie WMA, Lamb Avenue southwest of Dennison, Rice County (record #2017-047, vote 7-0). Photographed (G).

- Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus ru-*

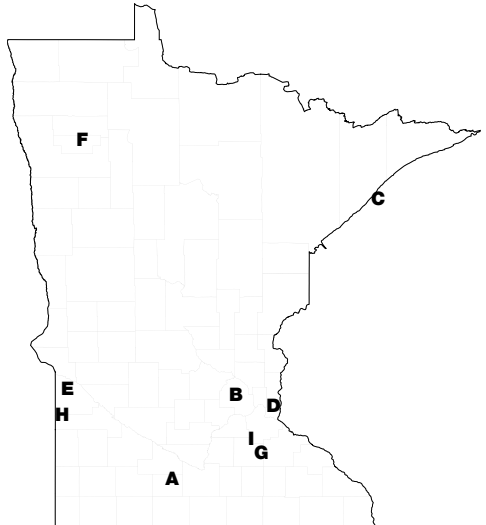


Figure 1. Approximate locations of all Accepted records referenced in the individual species accounts.

- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) [Casual], 12 October 2017, 110th Street just south of 250th Avenue, Yellow Medicine County (record #2017-044, vote 7-0). Presumed first-year male, photographed. First county record (H).

- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) [Casual], 1 July 2017, Lamb Avenue one-quarter mile north of Dennison Boulevard, near Dennison, Rice County (record #2017-037, vote 7-0) (I).

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



**White-winged Dove, 28 July 2017, La Salle, Watonwan County. Photo by Sarah Taylor.**



**Rufous Hummingbird, 26 July 2017, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Liz Harper.**

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 Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) [Accidental], 6 August 2017, Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge, Wildlife Drive, Sherburne County (record #2017-040, vote 0–7). Many members did not believe that other species of juvenile rails were satisfactorily eliminated. Apparently, no white spotting was observed on the wings or back, possibly due to being partially obscured by cattails, though this white spotting normally should have stood out. Usually observers mention a rusty or rufous nape not simply a “brown back” without further elaboration. The observer mentions that field notes and sketches were taken before consulting a field guide (and that they were made within one minute of the observation) but none were included with the documentation. The observer only saw the bird for one minute and apparently his view was often obscured by vegetation. Though seen through a scope, there was no mention of

eye color which most likely should have been seen because the bill was seen.

- Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*) [Casual], 8–10 June 2017, North Ottawa Impoundment, cell A2, Grant County (record #2017-021, vote 0–7). This record was split into two parts based on date: 8 June 2017, and 10 June 2017. First vote was 4–3 for both dates. The recirculated vote was (0–7) for the 8 June date and (1–6) for the 10 June date. Most members thought the 8 June documentation was inadequate to distinguish the observation from a Pectoral Sandpiper. Regarding the 10 June observation, the observer had no experience with the species and the bird was seen from a considerable distance. In spite of seeing it flush multiple times, no mention was made of the Ruff's characteristic white, oval tail pattern.

- Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) [Casual], 14 September 2017, Riverside Cemetery, Moorhead, Clay County (record #2017-043, vote 1–6). There was good effort in the documentation, but there was not enough focus on significant details that might have supported the identification. Overall, the description was too incomplete for acceptance.

- Ferruginous Hawk [Casual], 25 November 2017, private residence, North Minneapolis



**Ferruginous Hawk, 16 October 2017, Plummer, Red Lake County. Photo by Paula Cater.**



**Barn Owl, 7 July 2017, Koester Prairie WMA, Dennison, Rice County. Photo by Barb Bolan.**

lis, Hennepin County (record #2017-049, vote 0–7). The members who commented unanimously thought the bird was probably a Red-tailed Hawk.

- Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*) [Accidental], 16–17 July 2017, Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge auto tour road, Lac qui Parle County (record #2017-035, vote 0–7). There was no adequate written description of the bird that would distinguish it from an Eastern Wood-Pewee. It may have been a Western because it responded to a tape, and while this is relevant evidence, it is not sufficient, in itself, to rule out all other species.

- Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) [Casual], 7 September 2017, State Line Road/100th Street, east of Lake Bella Wildlife Management Area, Nobles County (record #2017-042, vote 2–5). Prebasic molt is complete July – September. As this bird was observed in early September, it should show at least some indication that it was undergoing molt, meaning it wouldn't be overall black. The white wing patch is drawn in entirely the wrong spot, surrounded by whatever color the wing is (we are only told it was “a dark to black overall color”). If a Bobolink, however, it's in exactly the right spot.

The efforts of all those observers who doc-

ument 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: Ann Oslund, Barb Bolan, Paula Cater, Richard Clearman, Kim R. Eckert, Rebecca Engdahl, Ronald A. Erpelding, Jason Frank, Shawn Goodchild, Liz Harper, Ezra Hosch, Heidi Hughes, Mike Majeski, William C. Marengo, David F. Neitzel, Peter Nichols, Dana Sterner and Michael Sack, Kevin D. Smith and Sarah Taylor. 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: 15 records voted on — 9 Accepted, 6 Not Accepted.

**Edina, MN.**

# The 2017 Summer Season

## 1 June to 31 July 2017

Ann E. Kessen<sup>1</sup> and Peder H. Svingen<sup>2</sup>

**S**now Geese were relatively widespread during the season, with records from five counties, ranging from northwest to southeast. At Lake Osakis, Todd County, a mixed Clark's Grebe / Western Grebe pair was found with a single hybrid chick late in the season. Watonwan County enjoyed its first county record for White-winged Dove in late July. Around the same time, an adult male Rufous Hummingbird spent a couple of days in Corcoran, Hennepin County.

The North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant County was the place to be for a number of unexpected species during the season. Beginning in mid-June, many observers were treated to views of two King Rails, which provided the county's second record. A pair of Black-necked Stilts was also present at that time, and continued through the end of the season. They were observed to copulate and engage in behaviors suggesting nesting, but no eggs or young were found.

Furthering the excitement at the impoundment was a Snowy Plover seen there for several days in June. Also present that month was a Little Blue Heron. And a Glossy Ibis in the area provided Grant County's first record for that species.

In June, a Lesser Black-backed Gull was a first county record for Clay County. Surprising was a Barn Owl in early July at Koesler Prairie W.M.A. in Rice County. A Western Wood-Pewee spent much of June and July at Buffalo River S. P. in Clay County. In the same county, visitors to Felton Prairie were treated to views of up to two Say's Phoebes. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were unusually abundant, with reports from four counties, including first county records for Mower and Nicollet.

In July, Bell's Vireo was documented for the first time in Swift County. A Tufted Titmouse was a nice surprise for Pine County observers, providing the county's first record. Birders were pleased to find persistent Yel-

low-breasted Chats in Afton State Park, Washington County, and at 140th Street Marsh, Dakota County.

Great-tailed Grackles appeared in Lincoln County, with three records in June. Once again, a Yellow-throated Warbler spent a few weeks at Whitewater S. P. in June and July. The species is becoming almost routine at this location.

Also returning to previous haunts were the Summer Tanagers found at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Carver County (second consecutive year), and at Afton S. P., Washington County (fourth consecutive year). Another was seen in Northfield, Rice County. Blue Grosbeaks seem to be expanding their breeding range in Minnesota, with confirmed nesting records coming from Hennepin and Scott counties and first records for Anoka, Hennepin, and Washington counties.

*Weather Summary:* Rainfall in June was near average in most areas of the state. July, in contrast, saw much more variability, with the Southeast and South-central regions well above-average, while the North-central and West-central regions were much drier than usual. Lines of severe storms crossed the state on June 11, 12, and 13. Between July 9th and 20th four more severe thunderstorm systems passed through the state, bringing strong winds, tornadoes, and hail. Average temperatures in both June and July were just slightly above historical averages.

*Insufficiently Documented Reports of Regular Species:* White-rumped Sandpiper 7/3 Stearns (exceptional date); Lesser Black-backed Gull 6/19 Roseau (unusual date, potential first county record); Sharp-shinned Hawk on various dates in June and July from Sherburne, Wright, and five East-central counties (rare in summer south; easily confused with the expected Cooper's Hawk); Olive-sided Flycatcher 6/30 Pipestone (exceptional date away from breeding range).

**Maps:** A map is included for each species having at least one confirmed breeding record during 2017 (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:** Thanks to all who submitted summer reports and breeding records. Your data make this report possible. Special thanks to Steve Stucker and the Minnesota DNR for providing Minnesota Biological Sur-

vey (MBS) data. We are also grateful for the data provided by eBird. Thanks also to Jeanie Joppru for providing transcripts of weekly hot line reports, to Paul Budde for compiling early and late dates, to Bob Janssen and Peder Svingen for maintaining a list of county and seasonal occurrence records, and to Dave Cahlander for his work on the online seasonal report. Anthony Hertzell and Dave Cahlander produced the maps used in this report.

<sup>1</sup> **Stacy, Minnesota;**

<sup>2</sup> **Duluth, Minnesota.**

## 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. Dagger “+” preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
10. “ph.” denotes a species documented with a photograph.
11. “v.t.” denotes a species documented by video tape.
12. “a.t.” denotes a species documented by audio tape.
13. 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, 4612 Colfax Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, or via e-mail at seasons@mourn.org.

**Snow Goose** (*Anser caerulescens*) — [2 North, 3 South] Observed 6/1 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) MJB, FGo, 6/2 – 7/30 Polk (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAu, MSp, 6/4 McLeod BHa, 6/14 Mower (Austin) RNS, 6/20 Mower (Dexter W.T.P.) KMS, SSc, 6/20 Winona (between C.R. 37 & Hwy. 14) RMD.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*) — [1 North, 2 South] Reported 6/8 Hennepin ABL, 6/24 – 7/30 Lac qui Parle (bird with injured wing, Salt Lake) LiH, ASu, m.ob., 7/5–7 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd, CRM, BBi, BHe, CRa.

**Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Seen in every county.

**Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [1 North] An apparently wild bird found 6/11, 6/24, 6/25 **Norman** (Twin Valley W.T.P.) KnM, SAu, AxB, DWK, JCC, SBM.

**Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [32 North, 34 South] Observed in all regions, but especially in northern half of state. High count 6/17 Becker (**100**, Tamarac N.W.R.) MBH. First county breeding record 6/29 *Blue Earth* WCM.

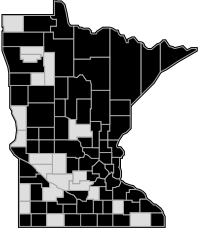
**Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — No reports.

**Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [30 North, 51 South] Reported throughout state. High count 7/19 Lac qui Parle (302, Big Stone N.W.R., E end of Pool 7) WCM.

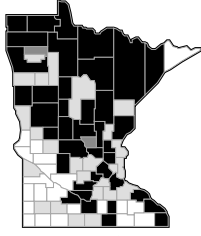
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Spatula discors*) — [31 North, 43 South] Seen throughout state. High count 6/19 Grant (100, North Ottawa Impoundment) LiH, ASu.
- Northern Shoveler** (*Spatula chrypeata*) — [18 North, 18 South] Found in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records 6/28 Cook AXH, 8/4 Freeborn PEJ.
- Gadwall** (*Mareca strepera*) — [18 North, 20 South] Reported in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding record 6/18 Kittson AXH.
- American Wigeon** (*Mareca americana*) — [12 North, 3 South] Seen in scattered locations in all northern and central regions.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 51 South] Reported from every county except Chippewa, Rock. A female with six day-old ducklings found 12/6 Hennepin *fide* AXH is a remarkably late breeding record.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [13 North, 1 South] Observed from all northern regions plus Grant, Otter Tail, Stearns (6/4 TAT).
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [8 North, 3 South] Found in northwestern third of state, plus Murray, Steele.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [20 North, 14 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. High count 6/16 Grant (26, North Ottawa Impoundment) ShG, HeH.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [14 North, 7 South] Seen in western regions plus Freeborn, Isanti, Meeker, Stearns. High count 7/1 Grant (40, Elbow Lake W.T.P.) MiS, DnS.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [17 North, 20 South] Reported from all western and central regions. High counts 7/2 Faribault (193) PEJ, 7/24 Grant (120, North Ottawa Impoundment) ASu et al.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [28 North, 17 South] Reported from every region. High counts 7/29 St. Louis (78, Cook W.T.P.) JWd, 7/2 Marshall (50, Agassiz N.W.R.) StK.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [2 North] Observed 6/4 Norman RAE, 6/8 St. Louis (adult male, Voyageurs N.P.) †RCr, †DnR.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [12 North, 13 South] Seen in all western region, plus Central, South-central, Northeast. High count 6/9 Marshall (32, Agassiz N.W.R.) ebd.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 North] Only report: late spring migrants 6/3 St. Louis (2, Brighton Beach) ebd.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [1 North] Observed 6/17 Lake of the Woods (male at Baudette W.T.P.) MBS.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [1 North] Found 6/2 Cook (6, Paradise Beach) RBj, LMk.
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [10 North, 3 South] Seen in all northern regions plus West-central, Central.
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [17 North] Reported from all northern regions plus Mille Lacs. First county breeding record 6/18 Kittson AXH.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [30 North, 38 South] Observed in all regions. High count 6/16 Grant (23, North Ottawa Impoundment) PCC.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [13 North, 3 South] Found in North-central, Northeast, plus Chisago, Grant, Mille Lacs, Pine, Ramsey, Sherburne. High counts 7/22 Mille Lacs (31, Mille Lacs L.) RBj, 7/31 Beltrami (28, L. Bemidji) DCZ.
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [8 North, 1 South] Seen in North-central, Northeast, plus Brown.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [18 North, 31 South] Seen in all regions. High count 6/19 Grant (80, North Ottawa Impoundment) ShG, HeH.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [7 North, 8 South] Reported from every region except North-central, Northeast.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [20 North, 52 South] Observed in all regions, but least abundant in the north.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [20 North, 8 South] Found in every region except Southwest, South-central. Most abundant in North-central, Northeast.
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falciptennis canadensis*) — [6 North] Observed in Beltrami, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [8 North, 1 South] Reported from Beltrami, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Norman, Polk, St. Louis, plus 6/26



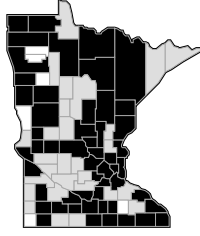
The 2017 Summer Season



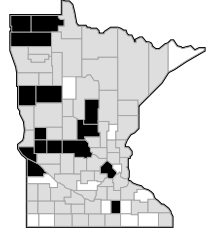
Canada Goose



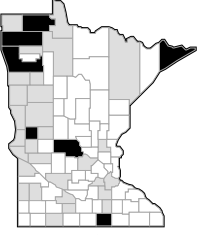
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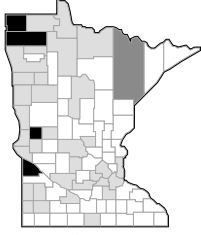
Wood Duck



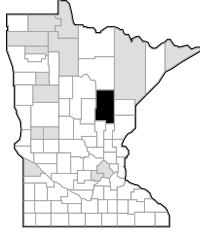
Blue-winged Teal



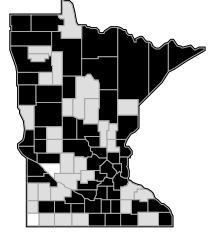
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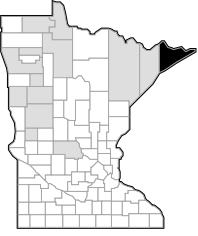
Gadwall



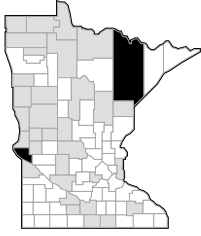
American Wigeon



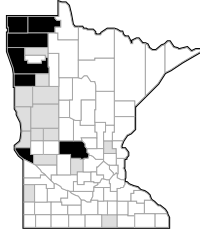
Mallard



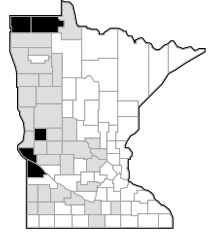
American Black Duck



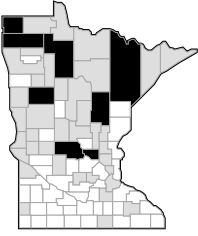
Green-winged Teal



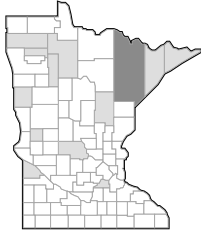
Canvasback



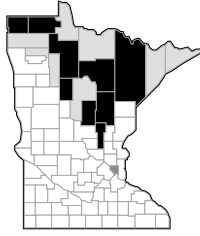
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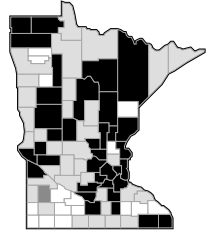
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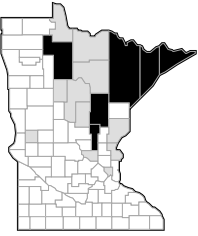
Bufflehead



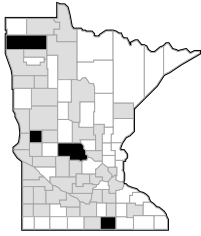
Common Goldeneye



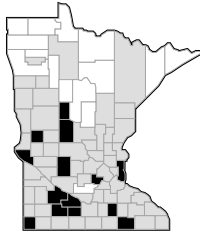
Hooded Merganser



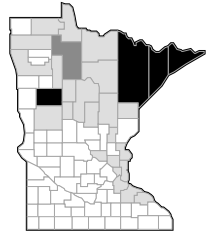
Common Merganser



Ruddy Duck



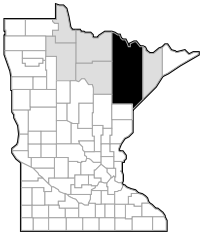
Ring-necked Pheasant



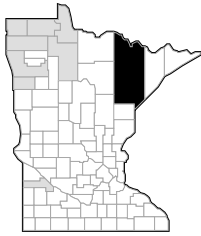
Ruffed Grouse

- Yellow Medicine (near last year's report in Normania Twp.) GWe.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [3 North, 1 South] Reported from Clay, **Grant** (multiple July reports from North Ottawa Impoundment), Polk, 7/29 **Stevens** (Muddy Creek W.M.A.) KnM.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [23 North, 46 South] Observed in all regions.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [28 North, 42 South] Seen in every region. High count 7/21 Lac qui Parle (35, Big Stone N.W.R.) LiH, ASu.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [4 North] Reported 6/18 Roseau (Roseau River W.M.A.) KnM, 6/27 Lake of the Woods MBS, 6/30, 7/26, 7/27 St. Louis (Stoney Point) JLK, StK, 7/15–27 Marshall (2, Warren W.T.P.) HHu.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [16 North, 11 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [8 North, 4 South] Found in Northwest, West-central, plus Brown, Carver, Faribault, Sibley. At least 49 nests at East Grand Forks W.T.P., Polk SAu.
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [8 North, 13 South] Seen in all regions except North-central, Northeast, East-central. High count 6/1 Douglas (200, Lake Osakis) SEM.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [1 North] Only report 7/28 Todd (Lake Osakis) LiH, ASu. One individual was observed, paired with a Western Grebe and accompanied by one dependent, presumably hybrid, young.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Sibley.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [11 North, 44 South] Observed in southwestern two-thirds of state.
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE** (*Zenaida asiatica*) — [1 South] New county record 7/28 **Watsonwan** (La Salle) ph. STa.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [34 North, 53 South] Seen in all counties. First county breeding record: 6/28 Cook AXH.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [15 North, 28 South] Found in every region, including 2 St. Louis locations in Northeast.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [29 North, 23 South] Observed in all regions. High count 6/10 St. Louis (6, Sax-Zim Bog) ASu.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [19 North, 36 South] Observed statewide in small (single digit) numbers.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [9 North, 14 South] Found in all regions except South-central.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [33 North, 52 South] Seen in every county except Clearwater, Jackson. High counts 7/30 Fillmore (**238**, Preston) JPr, 7/28 Hennepin (95, Robbinsdale Middle School) CRa.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [31 North, 47 South] Reported throughout state.
- RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD** (*Selasphorus rufus*) — [1 South] Observed 7/24–26 **Hennepin** (adult male, Corcoran) v.t. HMA, ph. †LiH, ASu.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [4 North] Found in Aitkin, Kittson, Roseau, and 6/15 **Douglas** (Roger M. Holmes W.M.A.) LKo.
- KING RAIL** (*Rallus elegans*) — [1 North] Second county record 6/15+ Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. WPL, well documented and photographed by m.ob.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [16 North, 31 South] Reported from all regions.
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [26 North, 36 South] Found in every region. High count 7/27 Clay (16, Belsly Park) ShG, HeH. First county breeding record 8/18 **Grant** ChH.
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [1 North, 7 South] Seen in Grant, Houston, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Nicollet, Stevens, Wabasha, Washington. First county breeding record 7/18 **Stevens** WPL.
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [15 North, 37 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast.
- Sandhill Crane** (*Antigone canadensis*) — [32 North, 29 South] Reported from all regions. First county breeding records 5/27 **Hubbard** AXH, 6/4 **Koochiching** AXH.
- BLACK-NECKED STILT** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [1 North] Seen 6/15 – 7/31+ Grant (pair, North Ottawa Impoundment) CNn, †PCC, †KRE, ph. m.ob. Copulation

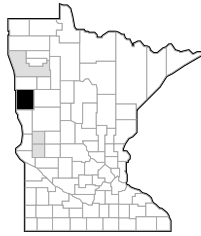
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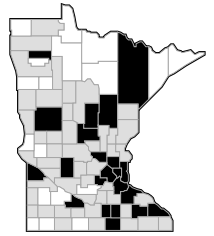
Spruce Grouse



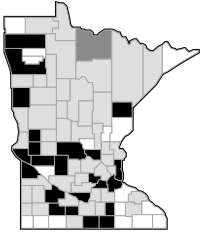
Sharp-tailed Grouse



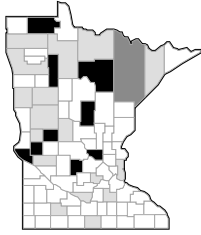
Greater Prairie-Chicken



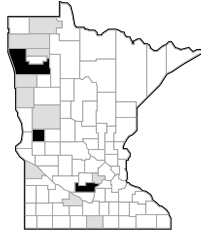
Wild Turkey



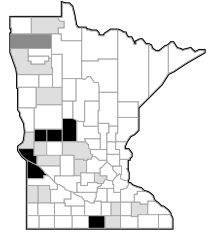
Pied-billed Grebe



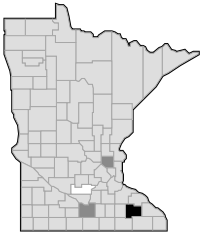
Red-necked Grebe



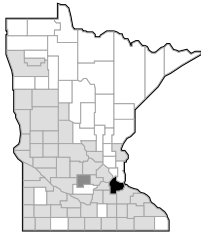
Eared Grebe



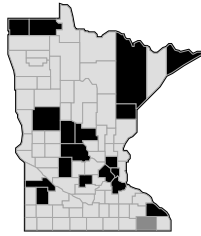
Western Grebe



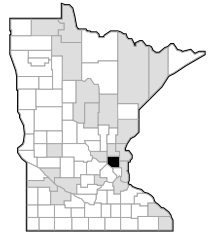
Rock Pigeon



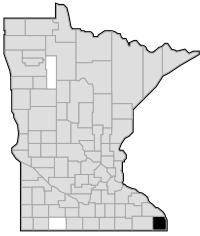
Eurasian Collared-Dove



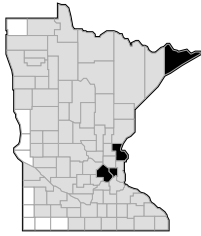
Mourning Dove



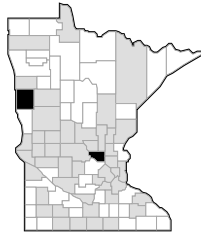
Eastern Whip-poor-will



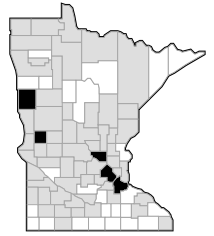
Chimney Swift



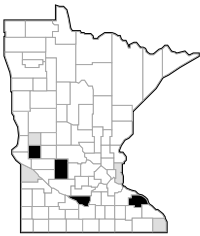
Ruby-throated Hummingbird



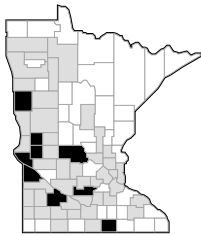
Virginia Rail



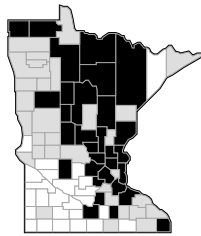
Sora



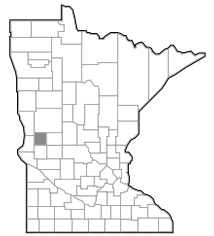
Common Gallinule



American Coot



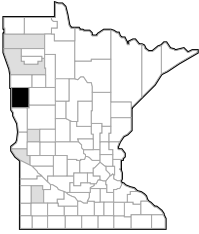
Sandhill Crane



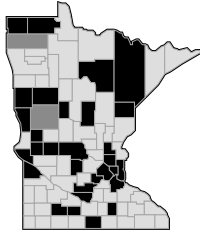
Black-necked Stilt

- was observed and they defended suspected nest area from intrusion by Great Egret and Ring-billed Gulls, but no eggs or young were ever seen.
- American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [4 North, 2 South] Reported from Big Stone. Clay, Grant, Lyon, Marshall, Polk. High count 7/8 Polk (27, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAU represented onset of fall migration.
- Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [2 North, 1 South] Northbound migrants 6/4 Aitkin HCT, DWK, SBM, 6/5 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) AxB, REN, 6/15 Big Stone DLP.
- American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [2 North, 4 South] Northbound migrants in Clay, Grant, Lac qui Parle, Scott, Stevens. Many reports of one or two birds in Grant through 7/1, then 7/7 (2) WPL. Early fall migrant 7/30 Lyon GWe.
- SNOWY PLOVER** (*Charadrius nivosus*) — [1 North] Seen 6/8–9 **Grant** (North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. †GHO, †SAU, †RAE, †REN, m.ob.
- Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [7 North, 10 South] Reported from every region except East-central. Northbound migrants (mostly in Grant) through 6/11 m.ob. Southbound migrants 7/11 Grant (2) JmP, Lyon (3) GWe.
- Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodius*) — [1 North] Observed 6/27 Lake of the Woods (Lake of the Woods) MBS.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties.
- Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [10 North, 18 South] Reported from every region except East-central, Southeast. First county breeding record 8/1 *Grant* PLJ.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [2 North] Seen 6/4 Aitkin (C.R. 15 west of Aitkin) HCT, DWK, SBM, 7/7 St. Louis (Port Terminal, Duluth) Nku, SKu.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [2 North, 2 South] Found in Brown, Clay, Grant, Rice. Late spring migrant 6/8 Grant m.ob. Unclassified mid-summer report 7/2 Brown LiH, ASu, BTS.
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [15 North, 4 South] Observed in Northwest, West-central, plus Lake of the Woods, Lyon, Stearns.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [3 North, 1 South] Reported from Brown, Cass, Grant, St. Louis. Late spring migrant 6/8 Grant m.ob. Early fall migrant 7/23 St. Louis (Park Point, Duluth) †JLK.
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — No reports.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [6 North, 11 South] Observed in all regions except North-central, Northeast, East-central. Late spring migrants 6/11 Grant JWH, 6/14 Clay RBW. One at Lone Tree L. for nearly a month was last seen **6/28** Lyon GWe; this date overlaps with the normal start of fall migration. Southbound migrants 7/2 Kandiyohi JWd, Watonwan LiH, ASu.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [6 North, 4 South] Reported from Benton, Cass, Chisago, Clay, Grant, Lyon, Morrison, St. Louis, Stevens, Traverse. Late spring migrants 6/11 St. Louis (4) ebd, 6/15 Crow Wing GHO, KDS. High count 7/13 St. Louis (130, Park Point) JPR. Additional fall migrants 7/21 Morrison, Lac qui Parle.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [7 North, 5 South] Observed in all regions except North-central, Southeast. Late spring migrants 6/12 Marshall KnM, 6/16 Grant LiH, ASu. Unclassified mid-summer report 7/2–11 Watonwan (1) LiH, ASu, m.ob. Southbound migrants: early north 7/30 Marshall MJM; early south 7/30 Lyon GWe.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [8 North, 12 South] Found in all regions except Northeast, East-central. Northbound migrants: late south 6/10 Rice GHO, RZi; late north 6/11 Grant (2) JCr. Fall migrants 7/5 (2), 7/7 (11) Lyon GWe.
- Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [17 North, 34 South] Found in all regions. Northbound migrants: late south **6/13** Lincoln (2) ebd; late north 6/12 Becker (5), Clay (2) SHG, HeH. Southbound migrants: early north 6/26 Grant (2), 6/28 Kanabec DFe; early south 6/25 Faribault KnM, 6/26 Mower GHO, DAT. High count 7/21 Lyon (235, Lone Tree Lake) GWe.
- White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [7 North, 9 South] Seen in every region except East-central, Southeast. High count 6/10 Grant (210, North Ottawa Impoundment) DAK. Presumed northbound migrants **6/29** Grant (1) JWd, **7/1–2** Bel-

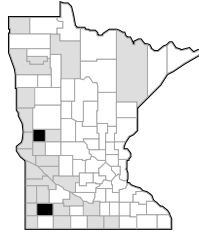
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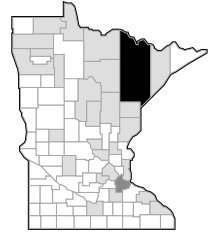
American Avocet



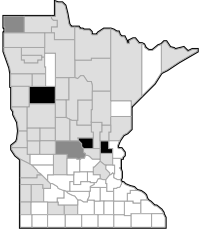
Killdeer



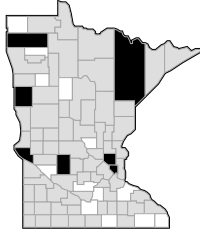
Upland Sandpiper



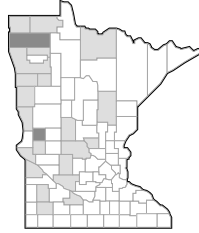
American Woodcock



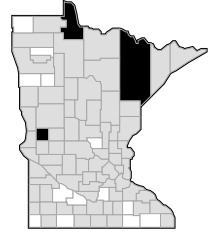
Wilson's Snipe



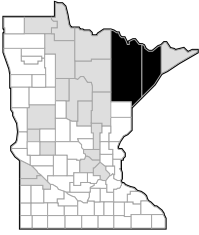
Spotted Sandpiper



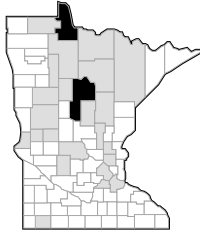
Wilson's Phalarope



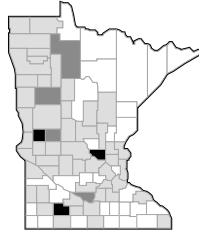
Ring-billed Gull



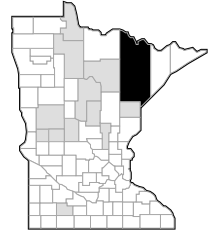
Herring Gull



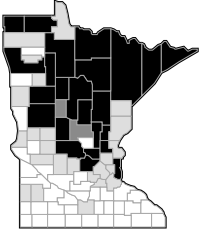
Caspian Tern



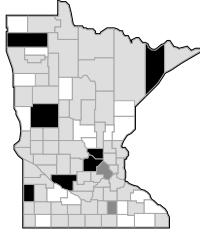
Black Tern



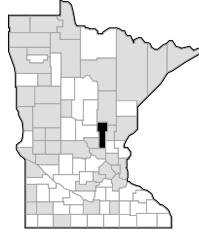
Common Tern



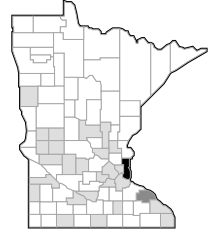
Common Loon



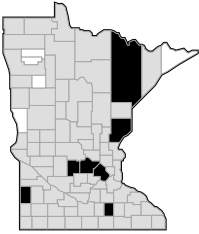
Double-crested Cormorant



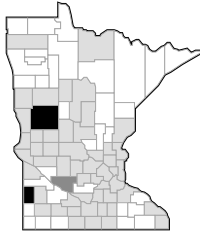
American Bittern



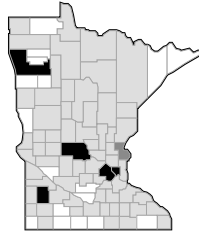
Least Bittern



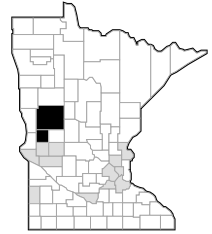
Great Blue Heron



Great Egret



Green Heron



Black-crowned Night-Heron



King Rail, 24 June 2017, North Ottawa Impoundment, Grant County. Photo by Larry Sirvio.

trami (1) ph. BeA. Fall migrant 7/29 St. Louis (Cook W.T.P.) †JWd.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Calidris subruficollis*) — [2 North, 1 South] Reported 7/14 St. Louis (Park Point) StK, JPR, 7/22–28, 7/30 Marshall (1 or 2, Warren W.T.P.) HHu, SAu, JMJ, 7/30 Lyon (2) GWe.

**Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [12 North, 24 South] Found in every region. Northbound migrants: late south 6/11 Big Stone DLP; late north 6/12 Becker (5) ShG, HeH, **6/16** Clay (5) LiH, ASu, Grant (2) m.ob. Unclassified mid-summer reports 6/20 (1), 6/26 Lyon (same bird?) GWe. Southbound migrants: early north 6/29, 7/1 Grant (2) m.ob.; early south 7/4 Stevens (1) DLP, Watonwan (4) GUn.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [12 North, 24 South] Seen in all regions with few data distinguishing migration direction. Northbound migrants: late south 6/26 Lyon (3) GWe; late north 6/26 Becker (1) MBH, 6/27 Grant (1) GuN. Southbound migrants: early north 6/30 (1), 7/1 (3) Grant m.ob., 7/3 Stearns (3) AaL.

**Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [6 North, 11 South] Observed in every region except North-central, East-

central, Southeast. Late spring migrant **6/11** Grant (ID by call) JWH. Southbound migrants: early north 7/1, 7/2 Grant m.ob.; early south 7/2 Kandiyohi (4) JWd, 7/4 Watonwan (1) GUn. High count 7/7 Grant (30, North Ottawa Impoundment) BHe.

**American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [16 North, 11 South] Found in every region except Southwest.

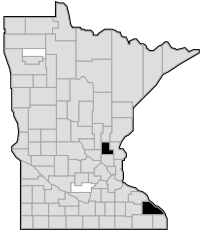
**Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [31 North, 16 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast. First county breeding records 5/26 *Isanti* MHe, 6/18 *Benton* AXH.

**Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [30 North, 44 South] Seen statewide. First county breeding records 7/14 *Big Stone* DLP, 7/23 *Kandiyohi* JWd.

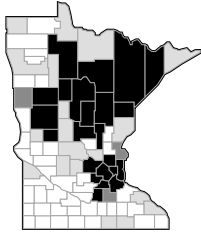
**Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [9 North, 23 South] Reported from every region. Late spring migrant 6/2 Becker ShG, HeH. Unclassified mid-summer report 6/15 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) HHu. Southbound migrants: early north 7/5 Grant CRM; early south 7/1 Carver JCy, Cottonwood BTS. High count 7/20 Carver (12, New Germany) JCy.

**Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [19 North, 28 South] Observed in all regions.

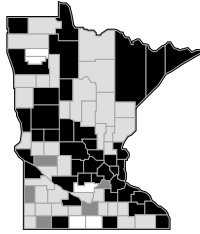
The 2017 Summer Season



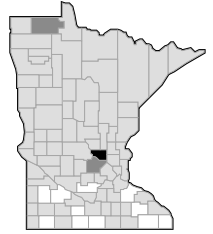
Turkey Vulture



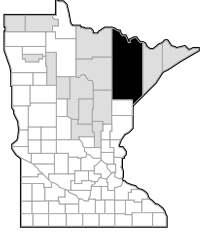
Osprey



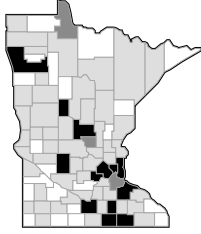
Bald Eagle



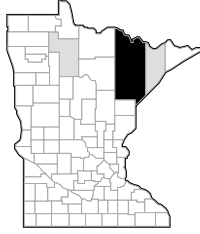
Northern Harrier



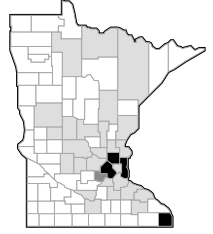
Sharp-shinned Hawk



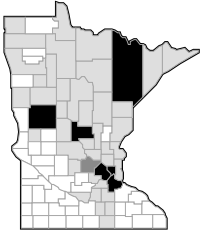
Cooper's Hawk



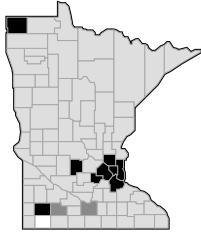
Northern Goshawk



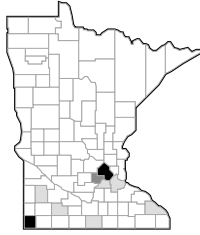
Red-shouldered Hawk



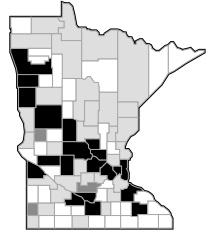
Broad-winged Hawk



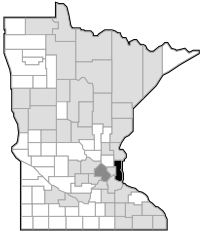
Red-tailed Hawk



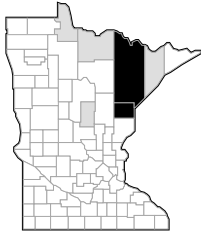
Eastern Screech-Owl



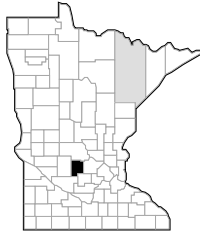
Great Horned Owl



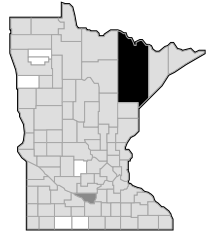
Barred Owl



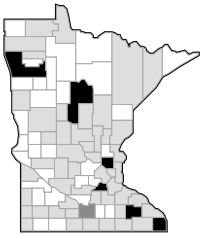
Great Gray Owl



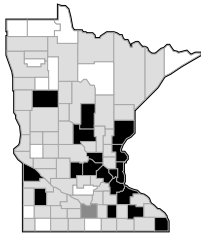
Long-eared Owl



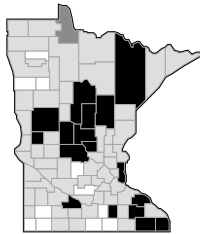
Belted Kingfisher



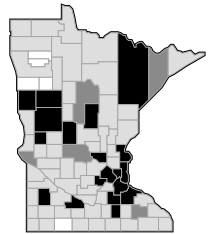
Red-headed Woodpecker



Red-bellied Woodpecker



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

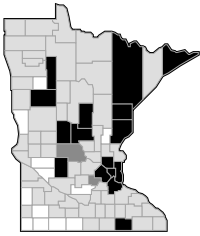


Downy Woodpecker

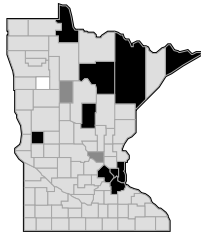
- June data can't be stratified by dates or counts to distinguish direction of migration. Presumed northbound migrants 6/11 Grant m.ob., 6/14 Clay (1) RBW, 6/16 Grant (2) PCC. Presumed southbound migrants 6/18 Becker (2) MBH, 6/20 Lyon (1) GWe, 6/22 Polk (1) SAU. High count 7/30 Lyon (310, Lone Tree L.) GWe.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [3 North, 5 South] Reported from Grant, Lyon, Renville, Roseau, Scott, Stearns, Traverse, and unusual location 6/20 Wabasha (L. Pepin) ph. GBa.
- Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [10 North, 21 South] Seen in all regions except North-central, Northeast. Late spring migrant 6/10 Grant (1) m.ob. Presumed southbound migrant(s) **6/16**, 6/19, 6/20, 6/21 Grant m.ob. High count 7/16 Grant (30) TMn.
- Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [13 North, 11 South] Found in all western and central regions. High count 7/10 Marshall (58, Warren W.T.P.) HHu.
- Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [5 North, 5 South] Reported from Big Stone, Brown, Clay, Grant, Lac qui Parle, Mahnomen, Marshall, Norman, Stearns, Yellow Medicine. Numerous June reports of spring migrants in Grant through 6/24. Southbound migrants: early north 7/11 (5), 7/19 (1) Marshall (Warren W.T.P.) HHu. 7/21–23 Lac qui Parle (2, Salt L.) m.ob. No significant counts.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [8 North, 2 South] Found in Cass, Crow Wing, Douglas, Grant, Hennepin, Lac qui Parle, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis, Traverse. High count 6/4 St. Louis (60, Park Point) represents tail of spring migration.
- Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — No reports.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [18 North, 28 South] Observed in every region except Northeast, Southeast. High count 7/29 Sibley (2,500, Gaylord W.T.P.) RBJ.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [30 North, 44 South] Reported throughout state. High count 6/8 St. Louis (**22,500**, Interstate Island W.M.A.) PHS.
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [15 North, 6 South] Seen in every region except South-central, Southeast.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [2 North] Seen 6/5–12 **Clay** (2nd-cycle? with dull pink legs, gravel quarry) †REn, AxB, †ShG, †HeH, JCC, JBu, RAE, 6/23 Mille Lacs (2nd-cycle, Bayview W.T.P.) †HHD, †CRM. Also see undocumented reports.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [17 North, 8 South] Observed in all regions except South-central, Southeast. First county breeding record 7/3 *Lake of the Woods* MBS.
- Black Tern** (*Cblidonias niger*) — [24 North, 33 South] Reported from all regions except Northeast. High counts 7/6 Grant (130, North Ottawa Impoundment) GHo, KDS, 7/2 Marshall (125, Agassiz N.W.R.) SKO.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [12 North, 1 South] Seen in northern half of state, plus late migrant 6/2 Cottonwood. High count 6/4 St. Louis (90, Park Point) KRE. Unusual report 6/17 Grant †WCM.
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [16 North, 18 South] Found in every region except Southeast.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — No reports.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [31 North, 19 South] Observed in all regions except Southeast.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [25 North, 44 South] Reported statewide. High count 7/2 Le Sueur (750, Sakatah Lake S.P. rookery) LiH, ASU.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [27 North, 46 South] Seen in all regions.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [23 North, 21 South] Found in every region except Southeast. High counts 6/21 Hennepin (8, Elm Creek P.R.), 7/6 Grant (7, North Ottawa Impoundment) GHo, KDS.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [5 North, 23 South] Observed in all southern and central regions plus Clay. First county breeding record 7/6 *Washington* AXH.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [29 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Cook, Mahnomen, Pennington, Red Lake, Wilkin.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [15 North, 39 South] Seen in all regions except North-



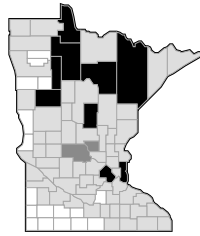
The 2017 Summer Season



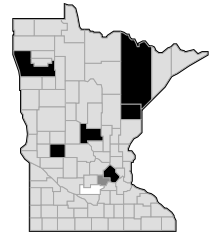
Hairy Woodpecker



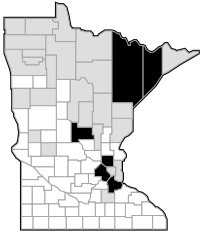
Northern Flicker



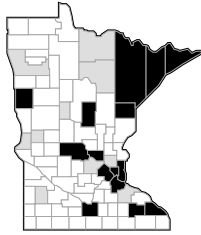
Pileated Woodpecker



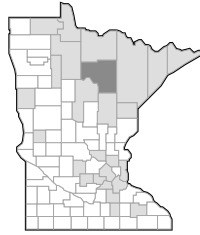
American Kestrel



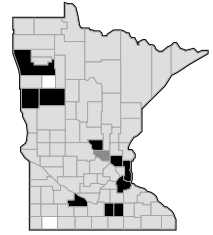
Merlin



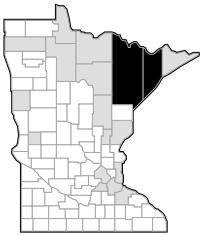
Peregrine Falcon



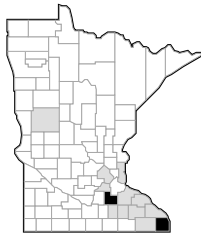
Olive-sided Flycatcher



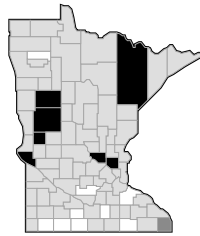
Eastern Wood-Pewee



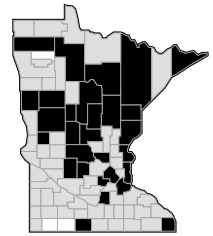
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher



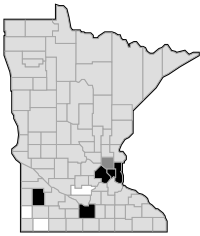
Acadian Flycatcher



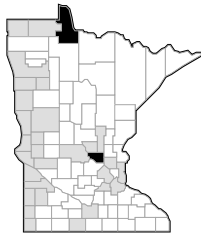
Least Flycatcher



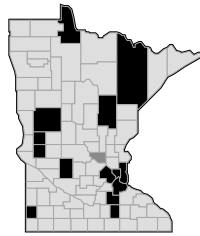
Eastern Phoebe



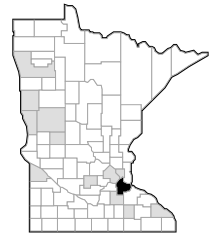
Great Crested Flycatcher



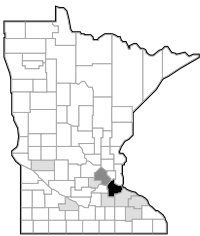
Western Kingbird



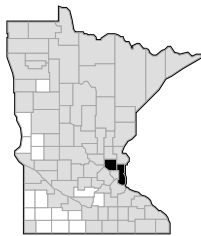
Eastern Kingbird



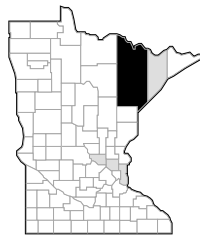
Loggerhead Shrike



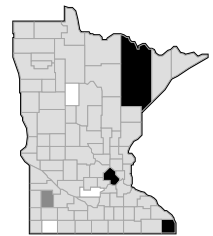
Bell's Vireo



Yellow-throated Vireo



Philadelphia Vireo



Warbling Vireo



**Rufous Hummingbird**, 26 July 2017, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Liz Harper.



**Western Wood-Pewee**, 5 June 2017, Clay County. Photo by Justiin Watts.

east. Unusual location 6/9 Koochiching (Rainy Lake) DnR, RCr.

**Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [1 North, 2 South] Found in Grant, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle (3 in 2 locations).

**Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — [1 North] Observed 6/7–10 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. LiH, KRE, m.ob.

**Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [3 North, 3 South] Seen in Grant, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Nicollet, Otter Tail, Wilkin.

**Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [26 North, 44 South] Observed throughout state.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [2 North, 12 South] Reported from all central regions plus Lincoln, Nicollet.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — No reports.

**GLOSSY IBIS** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) — [1 North] New county record 6/5–19 **Grant** (North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. †SC, ph. †REN, †PRH, m.ob (*The Loon* 90:35).

**White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [1 North] Found 6/16–20 Grant (2 or 3, North Ottawa Impoundment and nearby) RAE, ASu, LiH, DFe, HeH, ShG, LGl.

**Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [33

North, 52 South] Observed in every county except Pennington, Sibley. High count 7/18 Olmsted (50, Rochester) JPr. First county breeding record 8/3 *Isanti* JSa.

**Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [25 North, 20 South] Reported from every region except Southwest. First county breeding record 8/5 *Le Sueur* ebd.

**Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [32 North, 48 South] Found throughout state.

**Northern Harrier** (*Circus hudsonius*) — [34 North, 42 South] Observed statewide. First county breeding record 7/29 *Sherburne* AXH.

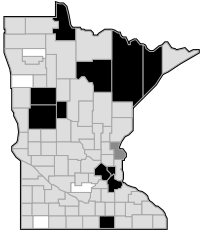
**Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [15 North] Reported from all northern regions plus Mille Lacs, Morrison. Due to the extreme rarity of this species in summer in the southern half of the state, careful documentation of such records is required.

**Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [24 North, 41 South] Observed throughout state. First county breeding records 7/21 *Morrison* KnM, 7/2 *Wadena* DnS.

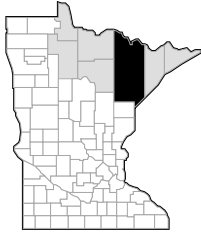
**Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [3 North] Reported from Beltrami, Lake, St. Louis.

**Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [10 North, 21 South] Seen in all regions

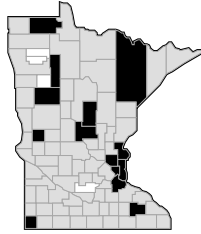
The 2017 Summer Season



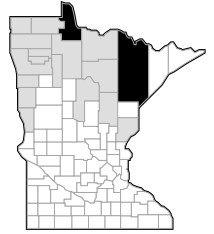
Red-eyed Vireo



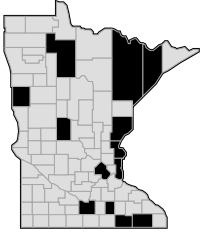
Gray Jay



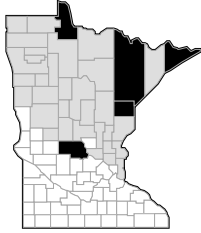
Blue Jay



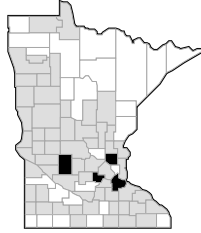
Black-billed Magpie



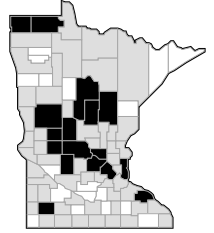
American Crow



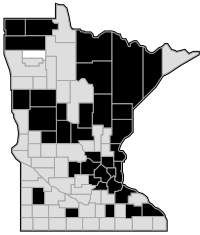
Common Raven



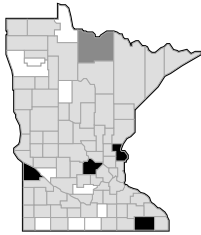
Horned Lark



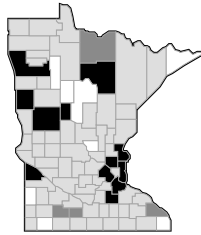
Purple Martin



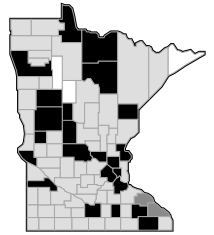
Tree Swallow



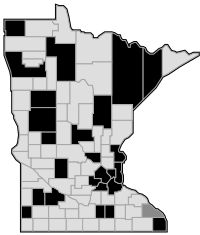
Northern Rough-winged Swallow



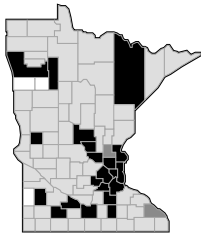
Bank Swallow



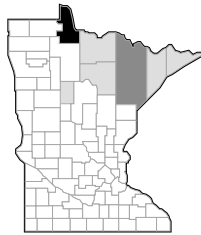
Cliff Swallow



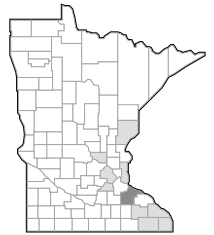
Barn Swallow



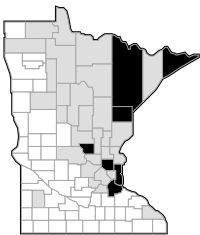
Black-capped Chickadee



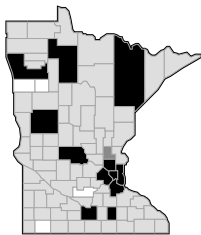
Boreal Chickadee



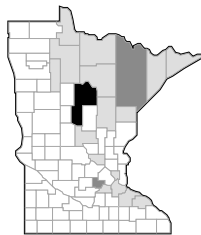
Tufted Titmouse



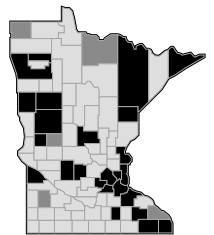
Red-breasted Nuthatch



White-breasted Nuthatch



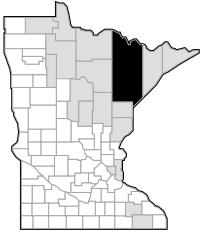
Brown Creeper



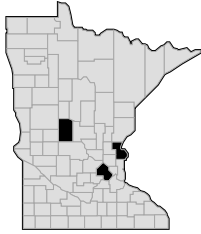
House Wren

- except Northwest, Southwest.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [26 North, 20 South] Found in every region except Southwest, Southeast. First county breeding records 8/4 Morrison KEm, 7/22 Otter Tail WPl.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [7 North, 17 South] Observed in all regions except North-central, Northeast.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county except Nobles.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [1 North] Seen 6/30 Marshall (light morph, very late migrant or summering bird, C.R. 4 & C.R. 39) RAE, HHD, MAJ.
- BARN OWL** (*Tyto alba*) — [1 South] Observed 7/7 Rice (Koester Prairie W.M.A.) ph. †BbB.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [8 South] Found in Cottonwood, Dakota, Faribault, Hennepin, Lyon, Rock, Scott, Winona.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [21 North, 27 South] Reported throughout state. First county breeding records 5/20 Nicollet APi, 6/11 Norman KnM.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [1 North] Observed 6/24 Koochiching (1 immature, 2 adults, one singing) AXH.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [20 North, 23 South] Found in all regions.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [6 North] Reported in Carlton, Crow Wing, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. First county breeding record 7/13 Carlton ASu.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Seen 6/18 Meeker JWH, 7/3 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) KvM, LiH, ASu. First county breeding record 5/22 Meeker MJB.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Seen 6/10 Chippewa (Montevideo) ebd, 7/6 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) BBi.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — No reports.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [2 North] Reported 6/9 St. Louis (2, Sax-Zim Bog) AKO, 6/14 Cook (3 owlets) DLB.
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [31 North, 50 South] Found statewide. High counts 7/7 Fillmore (8 along Root R., Preston to Lanesboro) JDv, 7/29 Sherburne (7, Sherburne N.W.R.) RCl.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [19 North, 37 South] Observed in all regions. High counts 6/10 Anoka (16, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) ebd, 7/7 Anoka (15, Fish Lake Nature Trails) ebd.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [26 North, 48 South] Found statewide. First county breeding records 7/1 Lac qui Parle FAE, 7/1 Meeker RMA.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [31 North, 45 South] Found throughout state.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*) — [30 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Jackson, Mahanomen, Norman, Pennington, Red Lake.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*) — [31 North, 44 South] Seen in every region.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [2 North] Found in Koochiching, St. Louis.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [6 North] Observed in Beltrami, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Mahanomen. High counts 7/8 Murray (13, Big Slough W.P.A.) KnM, 7/24 St. Louis (12, Park Point R.A.) JLK.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [28 North, 42 South] Reported from all regions.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [34 North, 52 South] Seen in all counties except Sibley. High count 7/27 Crow Wing (11, Brainerd) EGa.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [24 North, 7 South] Found primarily in northern half of state, but also in Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Pope, Ramsey, Rice, Washington.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [11 North, 12 South] Observed in all regions. First county breeding record 6/17 Clay NKu.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [14 North, 13 South] Found in every region, but predominantly in the North-central and Northeast. Early south fall migrants 7/27 Carver †HPE, †MyP, 7/30 Steele †PSu.

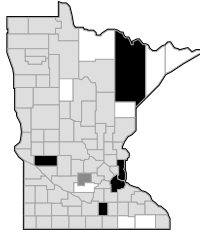
The 2017 Summer Season



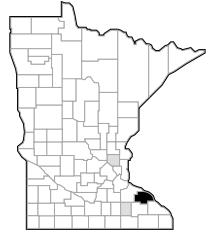
Winter Wren



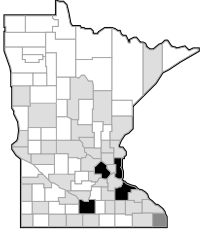
Sedge Wren



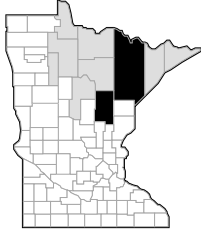
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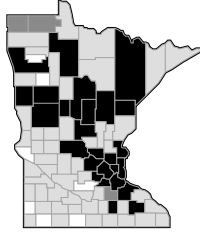
Carolina Wren



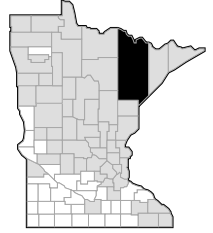
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher



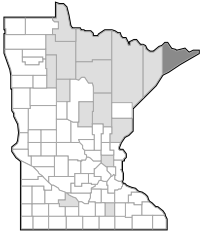
Golden-crowned Kinglet



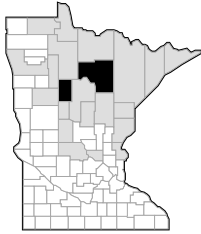
Eastern Bluebird



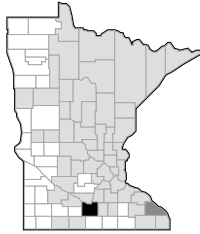
Veery



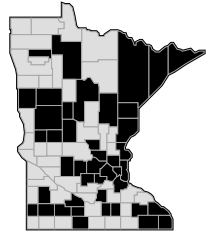
Swainson's Thrush



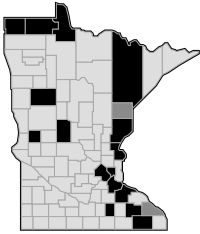
Hermit Thrush



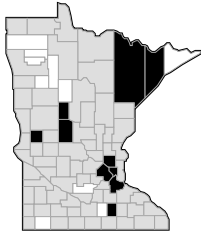
Wood Thrush



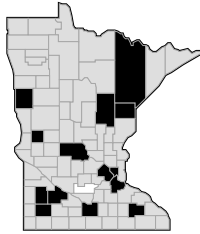
American Robin



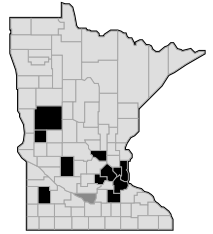
Gray Catbird



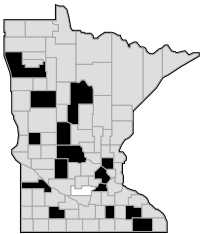
Brown Thrasher



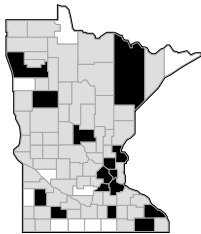
European Starling



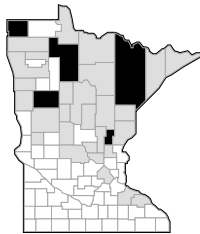
Cedar Waxwing



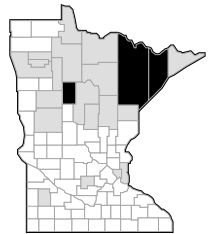
House Sparrow



House Finch



Purple Finch



Pine Siskin



**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 25 June 2017, Dexter, Mower County. Photo by Liz Harper.**

**WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE** (*Contopus sordidulus*) — [1 North, 1 South] Reported 6/3–7/24+ **Clay** (Buffalo River S.P.) v.t. †MO, v.t. †RMD, †AXH, †TAT, †JuW, †PCC, m.ob. This bird was extensively documented with descriptions, photos, and audio recordings (*The Loon* 90:34–35).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported from all counties except Mahanomen, Nobles. High count 6/2 Rice (**26**, along Cannon River between Faribault and Northfield) MJM. First county breeding record 8/18 *Waseca* PSu.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [13 North, 5 South] Observed in all regions except Southwest, South-central. Late spring migrant 6/7 Hennepin (vocalizing) BAF. High count 6/13 Cook (12, Lima Mtn. Rd “triangle”) ebd.

**Acadian Flycatcher** (*Empidonax virescens*) — [1 North, 12 South] Reported from southeastern corner of the state plus Otter Tail (6th consecutive summer at Maplewood S.P.) MO, m.ob.

**Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [27 North, 21 South] Found in every region. Late south migrants (vocalizing, away from known breeding range) 6/4 *Waseca* PSu. High counts 6/3 Aitkin (**30**, Deer Run

W.M.A.) ASu, 6/4 St. Louis (**30**, Gerzin Rd.) ASu.

**Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [13 North, 47 South] Reported from every region except North-central, Northeast.

**Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [33 North, 45 South] Found statewide. First county breeding record 6/20 *Grant* CNn.

**Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [33 North, 51 South] Reported from all counties except Jackson, Nobles, Pennington. First county breeding record 6/25 *Martin* KnM. High count 7/1 Washington (11, Lake Elmo R.P.) ebd.

**Say’s Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 North] Seen 6/24 – 7/16+ Clay (1 or 2, Felton Prairie) KvM, TEg, LiH, ASu, m.ob.

**Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [34 North, 50 South] Found in every county except Nobles, Pipestone, Sibley. First county breeding record 7/2 *Blue Earth* ChH. High count 6/3 Anoka (**16**, Rum River Central R.P.) RCL.

**Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [12 North, 19 South] Seen in all regions except Northeast, Southeast.

**Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. First county breeding record 7/20 *Steele* PSu. High count 7/29 Beltrami (23, Movil Lake) ebd.

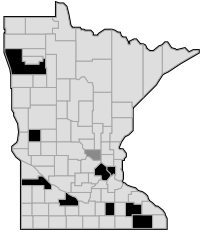
**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) — [4 South] Seen 6/5 Yellow Medicine (Mound Spring S.N.A.) ph. †JF, 6/9 **Nicollet** ph. †JnT, 6/25–7/19 **Mower** (I-90, just east of Dexter) ph. AS, ph. LiH, †PCC, ph. †REn, 7/1 Rice (west of Dennison) †DFN.

**Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [5 North, 8 South] Observed in all regions except North-central, Northeast, Southwest.

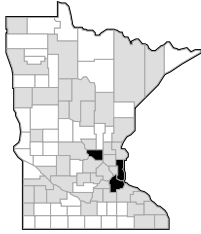
**Bell’s Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [9 South] Found in Brown, Carver, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha and 7/23 **Swift** (near Appleton) †JWH.

**Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [30 North, 41 South] Reported from every region. High count 6/16 Otter Tail (10, Pelican Rapids, Beach Rd.) MO. First county breeding record 8/31 *Washington* PAL.

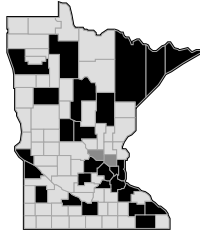
**Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [14 North] Found in North-central, Northeast plus Clay, Roseau, Todd. High count 6/15



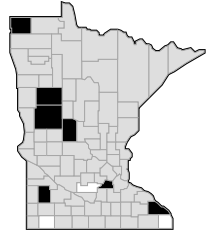
American Goldfinch



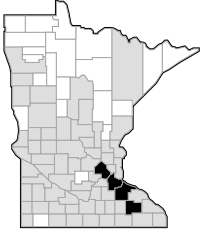
Eastern Towhee



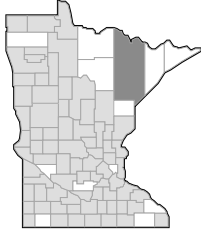
Chipping Sparrow



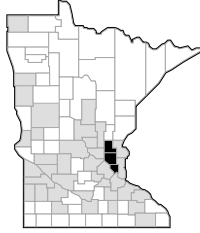
Clay-colored Sparrow



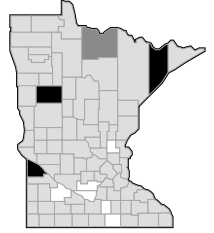
Field Sparrow



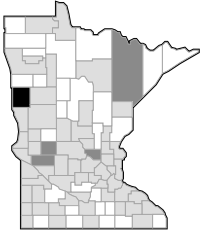
Vesper Sparrow



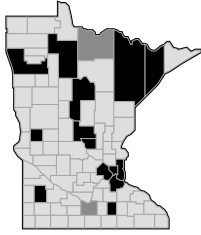
Lark Sparrow



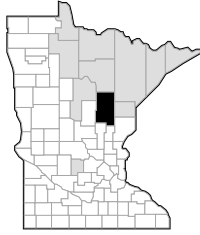
Savannah Sparrow



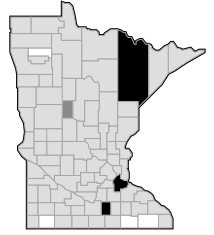
Grasshopper Sparrow



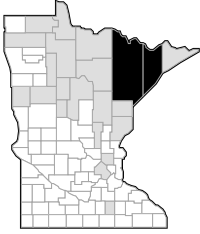
Song Sparrow



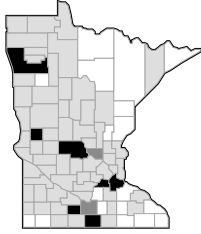
Lincoln's Sparrow



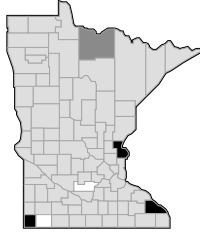
Swamp Sparrow



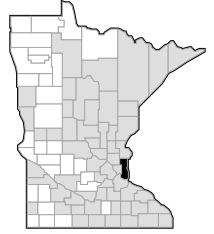
White-throated Sparrow



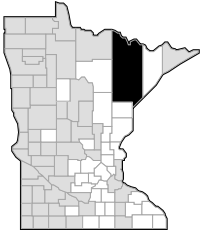
Yellow-headed Blackbird



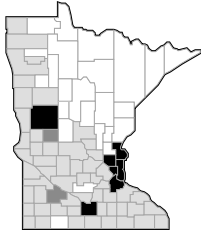
Bobolink



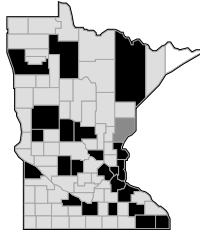
Eastern Meadowlark



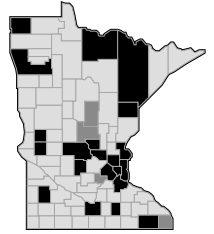
Western Meadowlark



Orchard Oriole



Baltimore Oriole

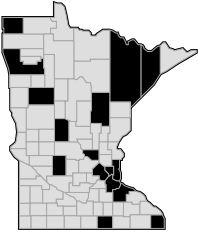


Red-winged Blackbird

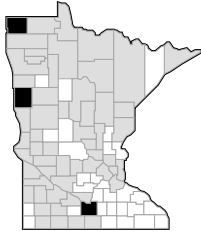
- Lake (7, Perent Lake Rd.) ebd.
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [2 North, 3 South] Found in Cook, St. Louis, plus late migrants 6/1 Washington (Falls Creek S.N.A.) RZi, 6/3 Anoka (2, Rum River Central R. P.) RCL, Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) RCL.
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [33 North, 51 South] Reported from every county except Hubbard, Nobles, Sibley.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported from all counties except Nobles, Norman, Pennington, Sibley. High count 7/13 Aitkin (**62** in 4 miles, Savanna Portage S.P.) PNi, ASu.
- Gray Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [7 North] Seen in Beltrami, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [31 North, 52 South] Found in all counties except Mahnomen, Pennington, Red Lake, Sibley. High count 6/10 St. Louis (96 spring migrants, including flock of 48, Stoney Point) TRd.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [18 North] Observed in all northern regions plus Pine, Wilkin. First county breeding record 6/25 *Lake of the Woods* AXH. High count 7/8 Beltrami (35 in hayfield NE of Bemidji) ebd.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. First county breeding record 6/3 *Blue Earth* ChH.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [31 North, 6 South] Reported from all northern and central regions. First county breeding record 5/6 *Stearns* AaL. High count 6/17 Clearwater (35, near Gonvik) KnM.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [21 North, 41 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [26 North, 43 South] Observed statewide.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported from every county except Pennington. High counts 7/22 Pine (1,500) KrM, 7/1 *Stearns* (350, Paynesville W.T.P.) KnM.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [30 North, 47 South] Seen throughout state.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [30 North, 49 South] Found in all regions of state. High count 7/2 Crow Wing (500, St. Mathias gravel pit) PSP.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [31 North, 53 South] Seen in every county except Clearwater, Cook, Hubbard. High counts 7/8 Grant (500, North Ottawa Impoundment) BBi, 6/18 Lac qui Parle (~400, Big Stone N.W.R.) ebd. First county breeding record 7/14 *Chisago* JSa.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 7/28 Rice (120, Northfield Twp.) GBa. First county breeding record 7/7 *Redwood* WCM.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [32 North, 52 South] Observed in every county except Lincoln, Mahnomen, Norman. High count 6/17 Hennepin (40, Minnehaha Falls) EGB.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [7 North] Found in Cook, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [1 North, 9 South] Found in Fillmore, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Olmsted, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, Winona, and first county record 7/18 *Pine* ScS.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [21 North, 15 South] Observed in every region except West-central, South-central. High count 7/3 St. Louis (15, Sax-Zim Bog) KvM. First county breeding record 7/29 *Benton* JuW.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [32 North, 51 South] Reported in all counties except Mahnomen, Nobles, Norman, Sibley. First county breeding record 6/8 *Blue Earth* BSa.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [12 North, 7 South] Found in North-central, Northeast, Central, East-central, Southeast regions.
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 7/8 Murray (**35**, Lake Shetek S.P.) KnM, ASu, LiH.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [14 North, 4 South] Reported from northeastern third of state plus Fillmore (Mystery Cave S.P.), Olmsted (Whitewater W.M.A.), 6/8, 6/9, 6/24 Ramsey (Roseville, Reser-



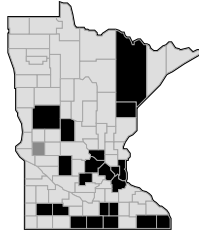
The 2017 Summer Season



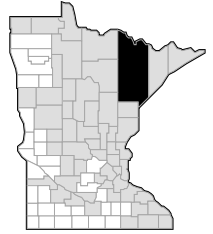
Brown-headed Cowbird



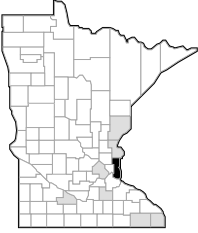
Brewer's Blackbird



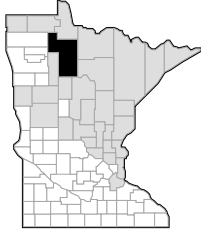
Common Grackle



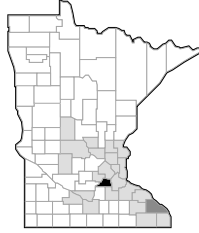
Ovenbird



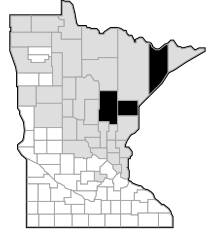
Louisiana Waterthrush



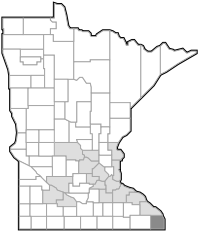
Golden-winged Warbler



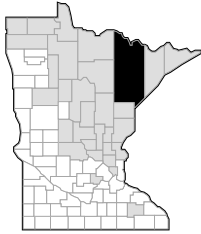
Blue-winged Warbler



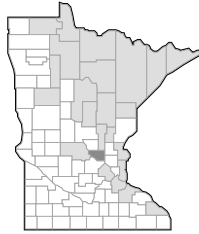
Black-and-white Warbler



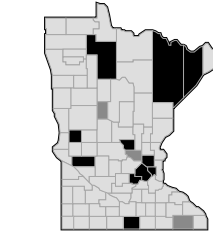
Prothonotary Warbler



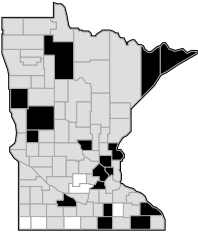
Nashville Warbler



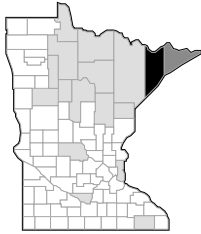
Mourning Warbler



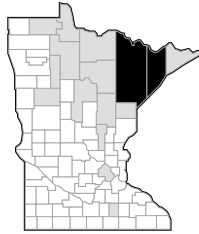
Common Yellowthroat



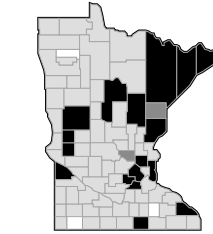
American Redstart



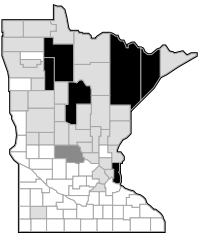
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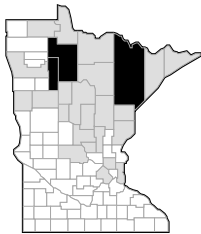
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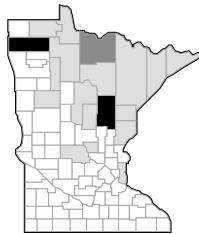
Yellow Warbler



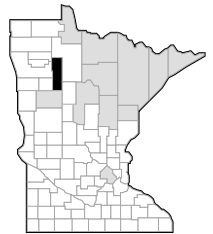
Chestnut-sided Warbler



Pine Warbler

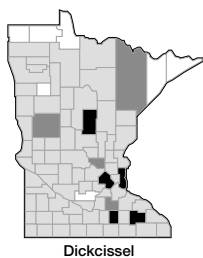
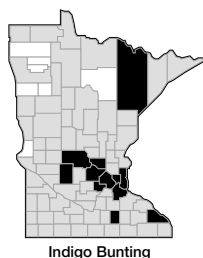
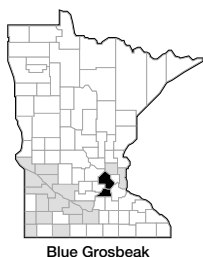
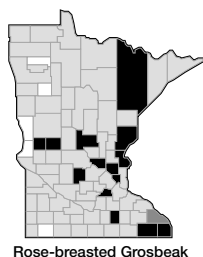
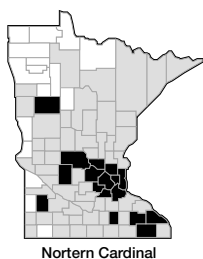
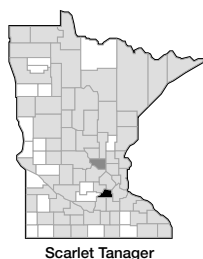


Yellow-rumped Warbler



Canada Warbler

- voir Woods), Washington (Crystal Springs S.N.A.). High count 6/13 Cook (**10**, Lima Mtn. Rd. "triangle") ebd.
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in every county. High counts 6/3 Aitkin (**50**, Deer Run W.M.A.) ASu, 6/19 Roseau (**50**, C.R. 7) KnM. First county breeding record 8/5 *Chisago* DPi.
- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [29 North, 50 South] Found throughout state. High count 7/2 Marshall (30) SKo, 7/8 Grant (30) BBi, Murray (30) KnM. First county breeding record 7/6 *Washington* AXH.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [3 South] Reported 6/9 Anoka ph. ABw, Dodge DBz, 6/9 – 7/14 Wabasha (Zumbro Falls) BAF, SHo, KDS, m.ob.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [8 North, 36 South] Seen in every region.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [10 North] Reported from Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [9 North] Reported from Beltrami, Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High counts 6/13 Cook (**8**, Lima Mtn. Rd.) ebd, 6/16 Lake (**8**, Whyte Rd./Stony River F.R.) TFj.
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [32 North, 48 South] Observed statewide.
- Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*) — No reports.
- Veery** (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [31 North, 24 South] Found in all regions except Southwest. High count 7/13 Aitkin (30, Rice Lake N.W.R.) PNi, ASu.
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catbarus minimus*) — [1 North] Seen **6/5** St. Louis (identified in the hand, Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve) †Ava.
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [12 North, 3 South] Found in North-central, Northeast plus Pine. Late spring migrants 6/1 Anoka, 6/3 Brown, 6/1 Steele. High count 6/9 Lake (**10**, Tettegouche S.P.) DnS, MiS, ASu.
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [19 North, 3 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Chisago, Pine, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd.
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [23 North, 32 South] Found in all regions. High count 7/8 Washington (10, Afton S.P.) TAn. First county breeding record 7/2 *Blue Earth* ChH.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [27 North, 50 South] Found statewide. High count 6/3 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) RCL.
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [1 North, 4 South] Reported 6/2 Scott JEB, 6/15 St. Louis (Sunset Memorial Park) ArL, 6/20 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) ebd, 6/23 Blue Earth (Minneopa S.P.) †ChH, 6/24 Wabasha FGo.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [34 North, 53 South] Seen in all counties. High count 7/15 Kandiyohi (500, Carlson Dairy) JWd, SGA.
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in every county.
- House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High count 7/16 Pipestone (175) AJF.
- Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccythraustes vespertinus*) — [6 North] Seen in Aitkin, Cook, Hubbard, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis.
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [31 North, 46 South] Found statewide.
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [26 North, 7 South] Reported from all northern and central regions, plus Goodhue, Wabasha.
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [8 North, 3 South] Observed in North-central, Northeast plus Carver, Meeker, Pine, Renville. Harbingers of major irruption 7/19 (47), 7/20 (16), 7/26 (26), 7/27 (38) St. Louis (Stoney Point) StK, JLK.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [1 North] Reported 6/17 Lake of the Woods MBS.
- Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [18 North, 4 South] Found in all northern regions plus



Lyon, McLeod, Otter Tail, Ramsey, Washington. Very early high counts 7/19 (288), 7/20 (288), 7/27 (1230), 7/28 (1,445) St. Louis (Stoney Point) StK. First county breeding record 5/18 Hubbard REN.

**American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in every county. First county breeding record 7/14 Yellow Medicine KnM.

**Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] Max. 2 birds observed in Clay (Felton Prairie).

**Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [14 North, 32 South] Reported from all regions. High count 7/19 Sherburne (23, Sherburne N.W.R.) LiH, ASu.

**Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [34 North, 53 South] Found in all counties. High counts 6/3 Le Sueur (40, Sakatah Lake Rd.) ebd, 7/26 St. Louis (38, Stoney

Pt.) JLK.

**Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [34 North, 50 South] Reported from every county except Houston, Nobles, Sibley. First county breeding record 6/17 Winona AXH. High count 6/9 Lyon (25, Sioux Prairie W.M.A.) NMe, RJS.

**Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [15 North, 51 South] Observed in all regions. High count 6/2 Olmsted (25, Rock Dell W.M.A.) MiD.

**Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [28 North, 47 South] Found in every region.

**Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [9 North, 31 South] Observed in all regions except Northeast. First county breeding record 6/29 Ramsey LiH. High count 7/8 Anoka (10, Fish Lake Nature Trails) JEc.

**Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [34 North, 47 South] Found statewide. High count 6/25 Polk (36, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) HHu.

**Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus sавannarum*) — [18 North, 42 South] Reported from all regions. High counts 7/19 Sherburne (30, Sherburne N.W.R.) LiH, ASu, JSu, 6/11 Clay (24, Felton Prairie) CEL, ToL.

**Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) — [5 North, 22 South] Found in every region except North-central, Northeast. High counts 6/4 Scott (12, Murphy-Hanrehan P. R.) SBE, LiH, KvM, 6/6, 7/6 Washington (12, Afton S.P.) ToL, PNi.

**LeConte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [21 North, 2 South] Observed in all northern and central regions. High count 6/18 Kittson (Caribou W.M.A.) KnM.

**Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [6 North] Found in Aitkin, Becker, Beltrami, Grant, Polk, Roseau.

**Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High counts 7/31 Hennepin (50, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) ebd, 7/26 St. Louis (43, Stoney Pt.) JLK.

**Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [10 North, 1 South] Seen in North-central, Northeast plus late migrant 6/1 Meeker PKF. High counts 7/3 St. Louis (8, Sax-Zim Bog) LiH, KvM, ASu, 7/28 Aitkin (8, rice paddies along Little Willow River) LiH, KnM, ASu.

**Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) —

- [33 North, 50 South] Found in all counties except Fillmore, Mower, Nobles, Pennington. High count 7/13 Aitkin (**32**, Rice Lake N.W.R.) PNi. First county breeding record 8/6 *Waseca* PSu.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [19 North, 3 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Anoka, Hennepin, Mille Lacs, Pine, Steele.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [1 North, 1 South] Observed 6/6 St. Louis (Wolf Lake Roadless Area) AKO, 6/8 Washington (Afton S.P.) DVE, GUn, KDS.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [11 North, 4 South] Found in North-central, Northeast plus Benton, Hennepin, Lyon, Steele.
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [2 South] Seen 6/1–7/13 Washington (continuing from spring, Afton S.P.) ph. †KvM, m.ob., 6/2–14 Dakota (140th St. Marsh) †PNI, †DAd, m.ob.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [26 North, 43 South] Seen in all regions. High count 7/24 Grant (**758**, North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd, ASu, JSu. First county breeding record 6/20 Grant ToL.
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [34 North, 51 South] Reported from all counties except Nobles, Sibley. High counts 7/7 Lyon (65, Lone Tree L.) GWe, 6/9, 6/11 Marshall (57, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) HHu.
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [20 North, 37 South] Found in every region. High count 6/17 Hennepin (14, Crow-Hasan P.R.) PNi, DnS.
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [26 North, 29 South] Reported from all regions. High counts 6/1 Pipestone (20, Lake Benton area) TCz, 6/11 Clay (20, Felton Prairie) CEL, ToL. First county breeding record 8/12 St. Louis SGW.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [13 North, 50 South] Observed in every region except North-central, Northeast. High count 7/7 Redwood (10, Minnesota Valley) WCM.
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found in all counties except Cook. High count 6/3 Cottonwood (18, Talcot Lake Campground) VKI.
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 7/24 Becker (420, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) LCI.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in every county. Parasitized species included Mourning Dove (rare non-passerine host; first record of this host in Minnesota), Eastern Phoebe, Red-eyed Vireo, House Finch, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Louisiana Waterthrush, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Indigo Bunting.
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [1 North] Seen 6/25 Otter Tail LS.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [28 North, 30 South] Reported from every region except Southeast.
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [34 North, 53 South] Observed in all counties. High count 6/27 Steele (200, coming into roost at Straight River Marsh) PSu.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [3 South] Found in Cottonwood, Jackson, and 6/3, 6/16, 6/23 **Lincoln** (3 different locations, none had any details) TCz, RCI.
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [25 North, 29 South] Reported from every region. High counts 6/3 Lake (21, Superior Hiking Trail near Two Harbors) AVa, 6/26 Itasca (21, Bowstring Lake) SKo.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [1 North, 7 South] Found in Brown, Chisago, Fillmore, Hennepin, Houston, Pine, Rice, Washington.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [16 North, 4 South] Observed north and east of a line from Clay to Carver.
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [23 North, 7 South] Reported from all regions except Southwest, South-central, Southeast. High counts 6/3 Aitkin (15, Rice Lake N.W.R.) ebd, 6/12 Becker (14, Tamarac N.W.R.) MBH.
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [1 North, 23 South] Found in Central, East-central, South-central, Southeast.

- High count 6/27 Scott (8, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) GMo.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [26 North, 9 South] Observed in all regions except Southwest, South-central, Southeast.
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [17 South] Reported from every region except Northwest, North-central, Northeast, West-central. High count 6/5 Dakota (29, Vermillion River Bottoms between C.R. 68 bridge and public access off Ravenna Trail) RMD.
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [10 North, 6 South] Reported from every region except West-central, Southwest, South-central, Southeast. Late south spring migrant 6/7 Hennepin MHu. Early south fall migrants 7/16 Washington (Cottage Grove) PNi, 7/20 Carver JCy.
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [22 North, 9 South] Found in all regions except West-central, Southwest, South-central. High count 7/3 St. Louis (50, Sax-Zim Bog) LiH, KvM, ASu.
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [8 North] Observed in Beltrami, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis, Wadena. High count 6/6 St. Louis (5, Sax-Zim Bog) JPR.
- Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [16 North, 8 South] Found in every region except West-central, Southwest, South-central.
- Kentucky Warbler** (*Geothlypis formosa*) — No reports.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties. High count 7/5 Sherburne (64, Sherburne N.W.R., Wildlife Dr.) RCl. First county breeding record 8/18 Faribault HSt.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [4 South] Reported from Chisago, Dakota, Scott, Washington. High count 6/21 Scott (5 breeding territories, Murphy-Hanrehan P. R.) BAF.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [34 North, 47 South] Seen statewide. High count 6/23 Otter Tail (68, Maplewood S. P.) ebd. First county breeding records 9/3 Chisago JH, 6/13 Grant CNn.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [5 North] Found in Beltrami, Cook, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis. High count 7/26 St. Louis (14, Stoney Pt.) JLK.
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [9 South] Observed in Anoka, Goodhue, Houston, Nicollet, Rice, Scott, Stearns, Wabasha, Washington.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [13 North, 4 South] Found in all northern regions plus Fillmore, Nicollet, Stearns, Washington.
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [12 North, 2 South] Reported in North-central, Northeast, plus presumed spring migrants 6/1 Hennepin m.ob., 6/15–17 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd, EGY, JuW. High count 6/13 Cook (15, Lima Mtn. Rd. “triangle”) ebd.
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [4 North] Observed in Cook, Itasca, Lake, St. Louis. High count 6/14 St. Louis (4, Milt Stenlund Trail) KDu.
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [14 North, 2 South] Reported from all northern regions plus Mille Lacs. Late spring migrant 6/1 Steele PSu. Early fall migrant 7/24 Hennepin HHD.
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [33 North, 51 South] Found in every county except Dodge, Nobles, Pennington. High count 6/23 Otter Tail (38, Maplewood S.P.) ebd. First county breeding record 7/22 Freeborn PSu.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [30 North, 10 South] Reported from all northern and central regions plus Murray. High count 6/6 Lake (Split Rock S.P.) GaJ.
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [1 North] Late spring migrants 6/1, 6/4 St. Louis LME, ASu.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga caerulescens*) — [3 North] Found in Cook, Lake, St. Louis.
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [7 North] Observed in Aitkin, Beltrami, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis. High count 6/3 St. Louis (8, Sax-Zim Bog) CBn.
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [21 North, 5 South] Found in every region except West-central, Southwest, South-central, Southeast. High count 6/15 Itasca (25, Simpson Creek Trail/Chippewa N.F.) AFO.

First county breeding records 8/19 *Beltrami* SAu, 7/12 *Clearwater* HeH.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [16 North, 3 South] Observed in all northern regions plus Benton, Pine, Stearns, Washington.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** (*Setophaga dominica*) — [1 South] Reported 6/15 – 7/6 Winona (Whitewater S.P.) RAE, ToL, FGo, ASu, LiH, KvM, JmP, SBM, BHe.

**Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [14 North] Found in all northern regions plus Pine. High counts 6/9 Lake (40, Tettegouche S.P.) DnS, MiS, ASu, 6/15 Itasca (40, Simpson Creek Trail/Chippewa N.F.) AFO.

**Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [11 North, 1 South] Observed in all northern regions plus late migrant 6/9 Hennepin WPe. High count 6/13 Cook (10, Lima Mtn. Rd., “The Triangle”) ebd.

**Wilson’s Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [5 North, 2 South] Seen in Beltrami, Koochi-ching, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis plus late migrants 6/1 Benton DOr, Pipestone VKL.

**Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [3 South] Observed 6/1–14 Washington (Afton S.P.) LiH, m.ob., 6/8 Rice (Northfield) DAT,

6/16 – 7/24 Carver (male, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) ebd, ASu, JLI, LH, m.ob.

**Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [25 North, 41 South] Reported throughout state. High count 7/2 Le Sueur (10, Sakatah Lake S.P.) LiH, ASu.

**Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [21 North, 50 South] Found in all regions.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [30 North, 52 South] Found in every county except Mahnomen, Nobles, Pennington, Traverse, Wilkin. First county breeding record 7/27 Grant CNn.

**Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [19 South] Seen in southwest corner of state plus 6/3–12 **Anoka** CF, m.ob., 7/27+ **Hennepin** TAT, m.ob., 7/23–30+ **Washington** BDo, PNi. First county breeding records 7/30 *Hennepin* ChP, 8/27 *Scott* RBJ.

**Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [27 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 7/8 Scott (20, Louisville Swamp) AHy, 7/3 Stearns (Rice area) CsB.

**Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [28 North, 52 South] Found in all regions. High count 6/25 Rock (47, Blue Mounds S.P.) LiH, ASu. First county breeding record 7/30 *Steele* PSu.

### Contributors

AaL	Aaron Ludwig	BeA	Ben E. Anderson	DAT	Dan A. Tallman
ABL	Andrew B. Longtin	BHa	Bernice Hall	DAY	Dale A. Yerger
ABw	Alex Browne	BHe	Bonnie Heinecke	DBF	Deborah Buria-Falkowski
ADS	Andrew D. Smith	BMu	Bruce Munson	DBz	Dedrick Benz
AEB	Al E. Batt	BNn	Brad Nelson II	DCK	David C. Keyes
AFO	Andy Forbes	BRL	Bill R. Litkey	DCZ	David Zumeta
AGe	Angela Gerend	BSa	Brian Sandstrom	Dfe	Deborah Fellows
AHy	Anne Hanley	BTS	Brian T. Smith	DFN	David F. Neitzel
AJF	Alex Franzen	BWF	Ben W. Fritchman	DLB	David L. Brisance
AKO	Alan And Karen Orr	CBn	Christopher Burney	DLP	Douglas L. Pierzina
AMe	Allan Meadows	CEI	Cyndi Elias	DMz	Deborah Muzzy
ANy	Andrew Nyhus	CF	Cole Foster	DnR	Don Roberson
APi	Aaron Pietsch	ChH	Chad Heins	DnS	Dana Sterner
ARh	Adam Roesch	ChP	Chris Pelton	DOK	Don O. Kienholz
ArL	Art Larsen	CIB	Cole Bauer	DOR	Daniel Orr
ASu	Alex Sundvall	CIN	Clinton Nienhaus	DPG	Dan & Pam Guynn
AVa	Abbie Valine	CMB	Conny M. Brunell	DPi	Darcy Pinotti
AxB	Alex Burchard	CNn	Charlene Nelson	DPJ	Douglas P. Johnson
AXH	Anthony X. Hertzler	CRa	Curt Rawn	DVe	Dan Versaw
BAb	Brad Abendroth	CRM	Craig R. Mandel	DWK	Douglas W. Kieser
BAF	Bruce A. Fall	CsB	Chris Barrigar	ebd	eBird
BbB	Barb Bolan	DAB	Dave Bartkey	EEO	Earl E. Orf
BBi	Brian Bieffelt	DAd	David Adair	EGa	Elissa Gallien
BDo	Ben Douglas	DAK	Danny Akers	EGB	Ed & Ginny Blair/Powers-Blair

*The 2017 Summer Season*

EGy	Ethan Gyllenhaal	KrM	Kris Moulton	RPR	Bob Russell
ELC	Erik Collins	KRo	Karl Roe	RSA	Renner S. Anderson
EMH	Beth Hamel	KvB	Kevan Bohan	RTe	Raymond Tervo
FAE	Fred A. Eckhardt	KvM	Kevin Manley	RTP	Ray Potthoff
FGo	Frank Gosiak	LCI	Laurie Clemens	RZI	Roy Zimmerman
FKB	Frank Berdan	LEC	Laura E. Coble	SAu	Sandy Aubol
GaJ	Gae Jarvis	LGI	Lynn Glesne	SBE	Susan Barnes Elliott
GBa	Gene Bauer	LIH	Liz Harper	SBM	Scott B. Meyer
GHo	Gerald Hoekstra	LKo	Logan Korte	SC	Shawn Conrad
GLa	George Lahr	LME	Laura Erickson	ScS	Scott Simmons
GMo	Greg Mochinski	LMk	Larry Myking	SEm	steve Emerson
GrS	Gregg Severson	LMS	Larry Sirvio	SES	Steven E. Schon
GUn	Glen Unruh	LS	Linda Sparling	SGa	Stephen Gardner
GWe	Garrett Wee	MAJ	Mark Junghans	SGW	Steve G. Wilson
HCT	Howard Towle	MBH	Mark B. Hirsch	ShG	Shawn Goodchild
HeH	Heather Hundt	MBS	Minnesota Biological Survey	SHo	Steven C. Houdek
HHD	Herb H. Dingmann	MGo	Malcolm Gold	SKo	Shan Kothari
HHu	Heidi Hughes	MHe	Melissa Hein	SKu	Shawn Kuck
HMa	Heather Mahan	MHn	Michael Henry	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski
HPe	Holly Peterson	MHu	Michael Hurben	SLP	Susan Plankis
HSt	Harald Steensland	MID	Michael Degerstrom	SMC	Scott M. Clark
JAN	Josh Anderson	MiO	Michael Oetken	SSc	Susan Schumacher
JBs	Jean Brislance	MiS	Michael Sack	STa	Sarah Taylor
JBu	Jackie Bussjaeger	MJB	Milton J. Blomberg	StK	Steve Kolbe
JCC	Joel C. Claus	MJM	Michael J. Majeski	SwM	Shawne Mc Kenna
JCr	Joshua Christian	MO	Mark Otnes	TAN	Terry Andrews
JCy	John Cyrus	MPS	Midwest Peregrine Society	TAT	Tom A. Tustison
JDv	Joshua Davis	MSf	Marsha Shuff	TCL	Tim Lamey
JEB	Jerry E. Bonkoski	MSp	Matthew Spoor	TCz	Thomas Czubek
JEc	Joanna Eckles	MTe	Michelle Terrell	Teg	Tod Eggenberger
JeM	Jerome McKenna	MyP	Myron Peterson	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
JF	Jason Frank	NaH	Nancy Henke	TFJ	Tom Forwood Jr
JJS	Jeff J. Stephenson	NBO	Nancy B. Overcott	TMn	Tristan Mann
JlH	Joel Hansen	NKu	Noah Kuck	ToL	Tony Lau
JLK	Jan & Larry Kraemer	NMe	Nolan Meyer	ToM	Todd Mitchell
JMJ	Jeanie M. Joppur	Nsg	Neil Skoog	TRd	Tom Reed
JmP	Jim Peterson	PAI	Pam Albin	VKI	Valerie Klumper
JMs	Janet Majerus	PCC	Philip C. Chu	WAF	Wayne Feder
JnT	John Thoenke	PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher	WCM	William C. Marengo
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JPR	John P. Richardson	PJB	Paul J. Binek	WPI	Wayne Perala
JPr	Jerry Pruet	PKF	Paul & Koni Fank		
JPS	Julian Sellers	PLJ	Paul L. Johnson		
JSa	Joe Sausen	PNi	Peter Nichols		
JSc	John Schladweiler	PRH	Pete Hoeger	C.P.	County Park
JSu	Joey Sundvall	PSP	Pamela S. Perry	C.R.	County Road
JuW	Justin Watts	PSu	Paul Suchanek	F.R.	Forest Road
JWd	Josh Wallestad	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	N.F.	National Forest
JWH	John W. Hockema	RBJ	Robert B. Janssen	N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
JWM	Jan W. Mattson	RBW	Bob Williams	P.R.	Park Reserve
KBR	Keith Raitz	RCl	Richard Clearman	R.A.	Recreation Area
KCR	Kim & Cindy Risen	RCr	Rita Carratello	R.P.	Regional Park
KDS	Kevin D. Smith	REH	Robert E. Holtz	S.N.A.	Scientific and Natural Area
KDu	Kathy Duret	REn	Becca Engdahl	S.P.	State Park
KEm	Kimberly A. Emerson	RJS	Roger Jay Schroeder	Twp.	Township
KeM	Kevin Mortensen	RJW	Robert Watson	W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
KMS	Kenneth M. Schumacher	RMa	Rene Martin	W.P.	Wilderness Park
KnM	Kathleen MacAulay	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap	W.P.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
KRE	Kim R. Eckert	RNS	Richard N. Smaby	W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

**Abbreviations**

C.P.	County Park
C.R.	County Road
F.R.	Forest Road
N.F.	National Forest
N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge
P.R.	Park Reserve
R.A.	Recreation Area
R.P.	Regional Park
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 Protection Area
W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

# Grebes Running on Land

Karen Kraco



**Pied-billed Grebe, 9 April 2018, Minneapolis, Hennepin County. Photo by Karen Kraco.**

**O**n 9 April 2018, as I headed over to Boom Island Park in Minneapolis for my morning walk, I spotted what appeared to be some kind of waterfowl flying very fast in circles around an open area of the park. Eventually it slowed, wobbled, and landed in the snow. It came to rest sitting as if in the water, with its back covered with snow it had plowed up.

I was surprised to see that it was a Pied-billed Grebe, but I was even more surprised at what it did next. It ran, upright, wings out as if for balance, heading down a slight slope in pretty much a straight line toward the river, which wasn't visible from where it had landed. It moved fast.

I held back a little, afraid it was fleeing me. I reached the river just in time to see it slide in, swim in circles for a short while, dive a few times, then surface with something in its bill. Another grebe was nearby.

It turns out that “my” bird wasn't the only

grebe running to water that morning. In response to a post in the *Minnesota Birding* Facebook group, Sarah Hagelin of Brooklyn Park reported that she and her husband had watched a grebe that had landed in a parking lot outside their kitchen window run “about a half of a football field” to a pond, in the same manner as mine had, and around the same time that morning.

I wrote about what I and Hagelin witnessed for the *Minneapolis Star Tribune's* “Outdoors” section. For the piece, I interviewed the executive director of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Roseville, Phil Jenni, who said that during migration, tired grebes sometimes seem to mistake dark pavement for water. Like Common Loons, they cannot take off from land and often need rescuing. He said he had never heard of grebes running on land.

**Minneapolis, MN.**





# The Owl in the Attic

## A Glimpse of the Nashville Warbler

J. W. Preston

[Reprinted from Preston, J.W. 1891. A Glimpse of the Nashville Warbler. *The Ornithologist* 16:89–90]

When one has spent a busy day afield with noisy Loon and screaming Hawk, and is weary with rowing and toiling amid wilderness and brake; where oaks, deep furrowed, lift their gray columns up through tangled aspen and prickly ash; where shadows fall dreamily on fern and mossy log; or where rippling waves lap in and out among rocks and twisted tree roots; the camp on the brook side, nestling under the fir trees, have a charm which none but those having tried it know.

Back from one of those charming wooded lakes in Northern Minnesota I have often pitched my little tent near a cool brook that wound about through a larch swamp, and here have I spent many a day studying the birds which swarm to these sheltering solitudes.

One crisp, bright morning in late May, just at sunrise, I walked out to the centre of the marsh, concealing myself under cover of low drooping boughs of the black fir. Dainty spider webs were thrown about from branches of larch bushes and dwarf junipers, some far up in tall trees and more that bung close to the ground, over orchids and sedges, and when the first slant sunbeams played upon the scene each web seemed a fabric of gems, for the heavy dew of the morning was gently agitated by a light breeze, and each separate drop gleamed forth a changing flame of light, and while the sweet chorus of bird voices rose and fell from tree top and lowly sphagnum I felt the thrill of nature which enters so largely into the joys of the student afield.

In such surroundings the Nashville Warbler (*Helminthophila ruficapilla*) is well at home. The quiet little migrant seen hopping about in weeds and bushes is greatly changed here. The male is an energetic fellow and when not in pursuit of food or an intruder, he may be seen at the top of some dry shrub, twittering merrily. While the female is more retiring in habit she is ever busy with her own affaire.

Their manner of procuring food is interesting. One will fly to the foot of a fir tree or other conifer and begin an upward search, hopping energetically from branch to branch until the very highest point is reached, when the bird drops lightly down to the foot of another tree, much as does the Brown Creeper.

When an insect is discovered the bird secures it by a sudden bound, and should the object be not easily dislodged, *Helminthophila* sustains himself on flapping wings until his purpose is accomplished, which often requires several moments.

Usually nesting begins about May 10th. Fresh eggs might be expected from the 15th to the 30th. Localities chosen for the nests I have found have uniformly been in the side of sphagnum tussocks, and well sunken out of sight from above, so that one must stoop to look into them. When flushed from its nest the female glides away among the weeds and flies to an elevated place where she is joined by the male, when both of them keep hopping from twig to twig uttering a sharp, metallic chip, thus diverting attention from their nest.

For descriptions of nests and eggs I copy

from journal notes. My first set of eggs was found June 15, 1885, too much incubated for preservation. The frail structure, composed of soft stems of a slender juncus, was very neatly placed in a cavity well back in the soft moss and entirely hidden from view. The bird fluttered from the place, discovering to me the nest.

The four eggs were a dull white, faintly rosy-tinged, sprinkled with minute brown points, closer at the larger ends. A second nest was taken May 30, 1886, from a location similar to the last. The outer wall was of soft juncus stems, but this was completely concealed by a heavy lining of deer's hair, so laid that the root ends projected into the nest giving it a pearly appearance. (This material I have found in but few nests.) The measurements were: Inside diameter  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inches, outside diameter  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches; inside depth  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches by  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches outside; thus making a well-rounded, delicate nest, placed deep in soft moss in the side of sphagnum tussock under the much leaning stem of a small juniper hush. The five eggs were very like the last with a clearer background; shells tender and very thin. Incubation begun.

The third set taken May 30, 1887, had a nest of finest juncus, lined with much deer's hair, pressed into the overhanging side of a

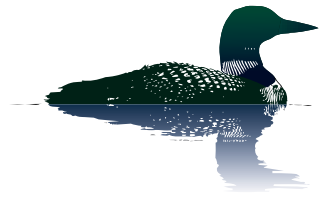
tussock; eggs, five, much incubated and consequently dark clouded, sprinkled with minute brown points.

The fourth set was found June 3, 1887. A pair, of the birds seemed disturbed by my presence, and from the top of a small tree they keep up a continual "chipping," and their actions indicated that a nest was near, so I concealed myself in a fringe of dense undergrowth near by. After some delay they flew to a certain tract of sphagnum and were silent. When I had made a long search the bird flattered from the nest, striking a most pitiable attitude. This bird was taken for purposes of identification, and as I held the trembling little creature in my hand while the murderous report of the gun reverberated through the forest's recesses, it was difficult to dispel a regret that this slight bird life might not have met a happier fate.

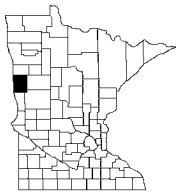
The localities frequented by the Nashville Warbler add a charm to its most pleasing individuality. As memory reverts to those golden days in the "North Woods" that sweet song seems blending with the lay of the Black-throated Green Warbler. The mellow crush of sphagnum, the queenly moccasin flower and modest, wild call seem scarcely less real.

**J. W. Preston, Baxter, Iowa.**

## Notes of Interest



**WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE IN CLAY COUNTY** — The bird was originally found at Buffalo Lake State Park in Clay County by Mark Otnes on the morning of 3 June 2017. I arrived the following day to look for the bird along with Drew Smith around 8:00 A.M. There was a group of birders just leaving the location as we were entering. The group had already observed and video-taped the bird by the time we arrived.



The first thing I noticed upon entering the forest fragment where the bird was located was a very aggressive fight between two Wood-Pewees. There were at least three different pewees constantly moving around this small wooded area.

This was ideal because a direct comparison could be made between the two species of

Wood-Pewees. The Western was initially confirmed by voice giving a harsh, raspy “breer” call diagnostic for the species. I counted over ten times when various calls were made by this bird. Eastern Wood-Pewees were often calling for direct auditory comparison.

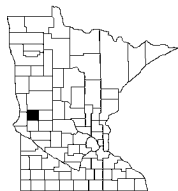
Visually, both species were viewed nearly simultaneously on many occasions.

The lower mandible was orangish basally for roughly two-thirds of the mandible while the distal portion of the mandible was dark or blackish color. On all of the Easterns (identified first by calls), the lower mandible was entirely orange. The entire head of the Western was a “mousy” grayish color reminiscent of a Great Crested Flycatcher. There was little or no eye-ring noticed on the Western. The Western had two grayish wingbars with the upper being quite dull. In comparison, the Easterns all had noticeable whitish wingbars. The throat of the Western was pale grayish whereas the Easterns all had a white throat. The underparts of the Western especially the breast were mostly grayish and noticeably darker than any of the Easterns. The primary-to-tail projection ratio was carefully studied on all of the pewees. All of the Easterns had a shorter primary projection which was always apparent. The Easterns had a shorter (smaller) primary-to-tail projection ratio than the Western. To my eye, the primary projection on the Western was about equal in length to the tail projection. There were subtle differences in posture with the Easterns seemingly more upright especially when vocalizing.

The most diagnostic feature was voice which generally had a raspier quality than the Easterns. While I had seen two photos and listened to two audios as well as online photos and the *Sibley Guide*, this report was written from memory the day following the observation. A brief audio was recorded with the vocalization of the Western at about the four- or five-second mark with numerous Eastern Wood-Pewee vocalizations in the background.

**Thomas A. Tustison, Edina, Minnesota.**

**GLOSSY IBIS IN GRANT COUNTY** — On 6 June 2017, I observed and photographed



a Glossy Ibis at the North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant County. It was first seen with two Cattle Egrets and later was found wading and feeding alone. I quickly glanced at the dark wading bird through my

binoculars and almost immediately I began to take photos with my Sony DSLR and my birding partner, Alex Burchard, with his Canon Powershot. We observed the Ibis feeding with the two Cattle Egrets for a few minutes before they took flight and landed in a nearby pond. At the time, the thought of a Glossy Ibis hadn't crossed my mind since the only ibis I have seen were in the southern United States. We also assumed this Ibis would be the much more frequently reported White-faced Ibis. Both times we viewed the Ibis, we were within the car, but still within 100 feet.

Upon reviewing photos at home later in the evening, we realized the bird did not appear to have the classic white face of the White-faced Ibis... We then decided to do some research and compare similar species. I thought we might be going crazy when it started to sink in that the ibis we observed could actually be the rare Glossy Ibis, but hopefully the photos will help with the official identification. I see no hint of red in the bird's iris in ANY of the many photographs we took that afternoon, and I see a dark face with pale lines above and below the dark eye. Also, the overall appearance and also the legs of this bird appear darker than the legs of the White-faced I have observed before.

**Rebecca Engdahl, Laporte, Minnesota.**



**Glossy Ibis, 5 June 2017, Grant County. Photo by Rebecca Engdahl.**

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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.

*The* **Loon**

SUMMER 2018  
VOLUME 90 – NUMBER 2



Journal of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union

**THE MINNESOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION**  
**Carpenter Nature Center**  
**12805 Saint Croix Trail South**  
**Hastings, MN 55033**

**The Loon**, Minnesota's journal of birds, is published quarterly by the MOU, the statewide bird organization. All members receive this publication and also our digital newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*.

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# Recent Barn Owl Records in Minnesota

Karla A. Bloem<sup>1</sup>, Marjon Savelsberg<sup>2</sup>, and Rose A. Yoakum<sup>3</sup>

The Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) is listed as an Accidental species by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union 2018), as there have been accepted reports in two or fewer of the last ten years. The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology lists it as Casual (Wisconsin Society for Ornithology 2017), with one record in at least every five years. The Iowa Ornithologists' Union classifies it as Regular, occurring in at least eight of the last ten years (Iowa Ornithologists' Union 2018). The state of Minnesota does not classify the Barn Owl as Endangered, Threatened, or a Species of Special Concern (State of Minnesota 2013). The species has no listing status in Wisconsin (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2017), but it is considered Endangered in Iowa (State of Iowa 2010).

Most Midwestern states have seen a severe decline in Barn Owls since 1970, probably due to changes in farming practices which reduced and eliminated grassy habitats where their main prey live (Martí et al. 2005). They are not well adapted for cold weather (Johnson 1974), having exposed legs and only bristle-like feathers on their toes.

Both Iowa (1983–1987) and Wisconsin (1982–1987) attempted reintroduction programs, breeding captive owls and releasing the offspring to the wild (Ehresman et al. 1988, Matteson and Petersen 1988). Numbers of wild Barn Owls did not increase significantly in either state, and so reintroduction efforts were discontinued. Minnesota did not attempt a breeding and release program for the species.

There have been increased sightings of Barn Owls in Wisconsin in recent years with confirmed records from Manitowoc in 2011, Ferryville and Eagle River in 2012, near La Crosse in 2013 and 2015, Portage County in 2014, Kewaunee County and the town of

Reedsburg (Saulk County) in 2017, and the counties of Iowa and Grant in 2018 (Ryan Brady, pers. com.).

Barn Owl observations also have been on the rise in Iowa, with sightings increasing each year from 2014–2017. Sixty-six Barn Owl records from 35 counties were reported in Iowa in 2017, including 38 nests (Iowa Department of Natural Resources 2017). Nests were found in the second-from-northern tier of counties including Chickasaw, Sioux, and Clay.

In Minnesota, Jenny Doty (pers. com.) reported being shown Barn Owls in a barn in an Amish area in Fillmore County about 2006, although she did not know at the time that it was significant. Barb Bolin photographed a Barn Owl in Rice County in 2017, which was accepted by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (*The Loon* 90:3–5).

## Recent Sound Recordings of Barn Owls in Minnesota

As part of our vocal research program on Great Horned Owls (*Bubo virginianus*), we have monitored captive Great Horned Owls by a 24-hour recording setup in Houston County since October 2010. We have seven Vivotek security cameras with Super Circuits super high gain microphones attached to each camera in the breeding and release training facility. The microphones record the sound inside the aviaries as well as outside sounds up to about 500 m away. This audio and video feed can be accessed by the public via the International Owl Center's website, [www.InternationalOwlCenter.org](http://www.InternationalOwlCenter.org). Two of the authors (M.S. and R.Y.) made nearly all-night observational notes most nights from October 2013 through April 2018. Karla Bloem has also possessed a captive-bred Barn Owl for educational purposes through the International Owl Center since May 2016.

Our first recording of a wild Barn Owl screaming occurred on 1 August 2014. Subsequent recordings were made in 2017 on 1 and 8 April; 6 August; 11, 12, 13, 17, and 27 September; and 17 October. Recordings in 2018 (through the end of September) were made 18 March, 21 May, and 1 August. On at least two nights, there may have been more than one Barn Owl. On most occasions, our captive Barn Owl vocally interacted with the wild owl(s) by screaming.

### Identification of Barn Owl Calls

Barn Owl screams can be easily confused with the begging calls of juvenile Great Horned Owls. While Barn Owl subspecies in Europe have screams that range from 1–2 seconds in duration (Robb et al. 2015), the mainland North American Barn Owl (*T. a. pratincola*) screams last for about half a second, very similar to the duration of a juvenile Great Horned Owl begging call. All references to “Barn Owls” herein specifically refer to the North American subspecies. Juvenile Great Horned Owl begging calls have a softer attack and cover a broader frequency range, while Barn Owl screams have an abrupt beginning and end, a much harsher voice quality, and the loudest part of the call is in the 1.7–3.0 kHz range with an upward inflection. Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) begging calls are weaker with more of a whistled voice quality than Great Horned Owl begging calls, and can also sometimes be confused with Barn Owl screams. Figure 1 shows a spectrographic comparison of a wild American Barn Owl scream, a Great Horned Owl begging call, and a Barred Owl begging call. On 1 April 2017, I also recorded the *kleak-kleak* vocalization, which is reportedly given by male Barn Owls in the vicinity of the nest (Marti et al. 2005), although Gerrit Vyn stated that it is given by unpaired males (Robb et al. 2015).

### Further Documentation of Barn Owls in Southern Minnesota

Despite the number of our recent recordings, no one in the area has seen a Barn Owl and a nest has not been located. Barn Owls are highly nocturnal, which reduces the likelihood of encounters (Marti 2005).

Barn Owls typically have short lifespans in the wild. The majority (85%) of owls in a

20-year study in Utah only survived a single breeding season, although one was known to live to eight years of age (Marti 1997). This suggests that the owls we recorded in 2014, 2017, and 2018 were at least two different individuals.

Within an approximate one-mile radius of our recordings there are seven old wooden barns. There are also significant amounts of pasture, hayfields, and prairie adjacent to corn and bean fields and woodlands, which should provide appropriate habitat for Barn Owls.

Installation of nest boxes is the only measure that has been proven to increase the number of successfully nesting Barn Owls in a given area (Marti 2005.) Nest box programs have been successful in Ohio (Ohio Department of Natural Resources 2018), and Illinois’ program, using pole-mounted boxes, has been especially successful (*vide* Iowa Department of Natural Resources 2016). At least 26 of Iowa’s 200+ nest boxes have been used (Iowa Department of Natural Resources 2016). Based on the success of these nest box programs, perhaps more Barn Owls could be documented in Minnesota if nest boxes were erected in suitable habitat in the southern part of the state.

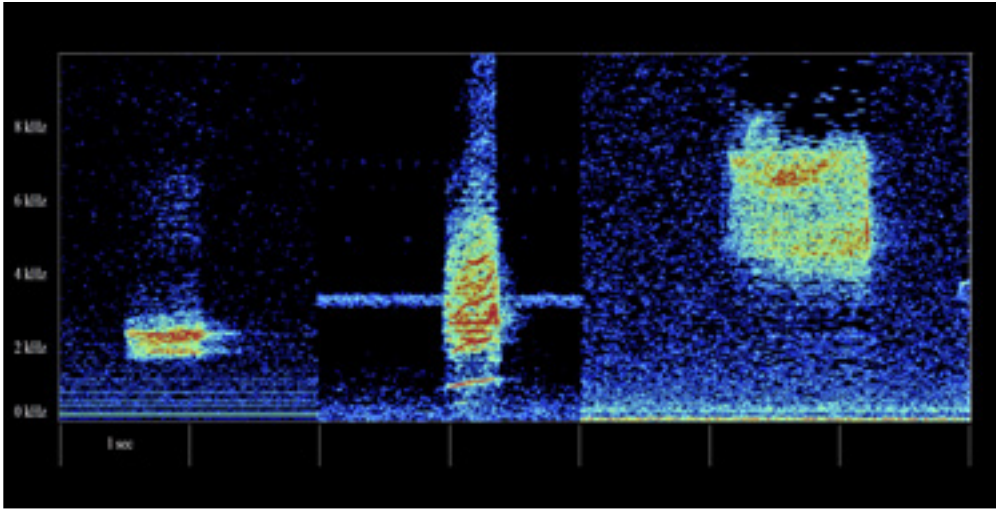
### Acknowledgements

Tex Sordahl reviewed and significantly improved an earlier draft of this manuscript. Xeno-canto.org provides audio resources for comparison, and we used Lance Benner and Ian Cruickshank’s recordings in this paper.

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**Figure 1.** Spectrograms of an “American” Barn Owl (left, recorded 1 August 2018 by Karla A. Bloem), a juvenile Great Horned Owl begging call (middle, recorded 19 September 2016 by Lance Benner, XC335481), and a juvenile Barred Owl begging call (right, recorded 10 June 2011 by Ian Cruickshank, XC156195).

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# The 2017 Fall Season

## 1 August to 30 November 2017

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William C. Marengo<sup>3</sup>, and Brian T. Smith<sup>4</sup>

The season provided four Accidental species for Minnesota as lingering King Rails and a Western Wood-Pewee from summer were augmented by an unidentified *Selasphorus* hummingbird and a Vermilion Flycatcher. A Red Phalarope on Lake Superior made it four consecutive autumns in which this Casual species has been found. The movement of Red Crossbills that first developed in August produced the most widespread documented eruption of this nomadic species in Minnesota.

One Snow Goose summered in Polk County, but another early August individual in Duluth appeared to be an early migrant as none were noted from this region in summer. At Lac qui Parle State Park a huge flock of geese was estimated to have had a remarkable total of 4,000 Cackling Geese. Pipestone had been the only county in Minnesota without a record for Tundra Swan, but that drought ended in mid-November. Five Harlequin Ducks, including a first record for Carver County, was an above-average fall total. Chisago, Scott, and Todd counties joined the three North Shore counties in hosting all three species of scoters this season. Hubbard and Douglas counties had their first Black Scoter, and Kanabec its first Long-tailed Duck. No Barrow's Goldeneyes were detected for the fourth consecutive fall; the status of this species had been considered Casual until the 2014 Checklist, when it was changed to Regular.

First records of Eurasian Collared-Doves for Clearwater and Cook counties leave only five counties to be scoured for first records of this species. A record-early south Yellow Rail in Lyon was also a first for that county, while Freeborn County also picked up its first record of this uncommonly found migrant. The family of King Rails discovered during the summer at the North Ottawa Impoundment

continued there through mid August, as did a pair of Black-necked Stilts.

From 1998 through 2008, one or more Whimbrels had been reported each fall, but then this string dried up and no fall individuals were reported through 2016. Finally, in 2017, one was reported from the Park Point Recreation Area. The Albany W.T.P. in Stearns County is an excellent location to monitor for unusual shorebirds during migration; this season a Red Knot was discovered there in early September. At the end of November, record-late Baird's Sandpiper and Sanderling were found still straggling through the state. For the fourth consecutive fall, a Red Phalarope was discovered, providing the third record for Lake County.

Jaeger reports — all Parasitics — spanned the period from the end of August until early October; all were found along Lake Superior in St. Louis County. In Washington County a first-cycle Black-legged Kittiwake was a nice surprise. Four Sabine's Gulls graced the state. Little Gulls tend to be more common in spring than in fall, but they were recorded every fall from 1997 through 2010 except for one year. Since then, however, they've only been seen in fall 2015, and none were again reported this season. Iceland and Lesser Black-backed Gulls were well-represented, but Great Black-backed Gulls were absent this fall for the first time in over a decade.

Red-throated Loon reports peaked in the latter half of October. A Pacific Loon found at Brighton Beach in Duluth in late August was record-early by two weeks; elsewhere on Lake Superior, this species was widely seen until mid November.

Snowy and Cattle egrets were found in numbers typical for fall, with most reports from the southwestern quarter of the state; the only exception was a Cattle Egret discov-

ered in Grand Marais. White-faced Ibis tallies were higher than is typical and included an exceptional October record in Olmsted.

A juvenile Broad-winged Hawk lingered in Duluth into the winter season to set a new record-late date for the state. Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory set a single-day fall high count record for North America when 322 Rough-legged Hawks were counted on 25 October. With no fall reports since 2010, it was a good season for Ferruginous Hawks, with two Accepted reports and two more still pending before the Records Committee.

An Eastern Screech-Owl in Chisago was a first record for that county. Snowy Owls were found north and south well before recent median arrival dates. Northern Hawk and Great Gray owls were found in modest numbers, while Short-eareds were more widely distributed than in any fall in over a decade. The only Boreal Owls discovered were the three banded at the Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve.

American Three-toed and Black-backed woodpeckers made an impressive south-bound movement along the North Shore from mid October through mid November. Peregrine Falcons were more widely reported than in any other fall season on record. Prairie Falcons were documented in both Stearns and Yellow Medicine counties in late August.

The Western Wood-Pewee discovered in the summer at Buffalo River State Park was last reported on 26 August. An Eastern Wood-Pewee photographed in Two Harbors was record-late for the state on 15 October. Say's Phoebes were observed in two West-central counties, Clay and Lac qui Parle. The sixth state record Vermilion Flycatcher was a first county record for Yellow Medicine and the earliest date for this species; all records of this species have been from the fall season.

A record-late Warbling Vireo was photographed in Lake County. Carolina Wrens made a strong showing as they were seen in eight counties, including an unusual find in Lake and a first record for Becker that remained for over a month to the delight of county listers. One Mountain Bluebird was in Clay County, while up to three were seen in Two Harbors. Approximately 19 Townsend's Solitaires were found in eight counties; most reports came from the North Shore of Lake Superior. The season's only Varied Thrush

was located in Bemidji. For only the second fall season since 1995, no Northern Mockingbirds were reported.

Most winter finches appeared in typical numbers, but Common Redpolls were much more widespread than usual with reports from 60 of 87 counties. Even more impressive was the number of Red Crossbills, which staged their largest documented irruption ever. They were found in 58 counties, including a record high single-day count of 1,269 at Stoney Point along Lake Superior. Interestingly, fall 2012 was another excellent season for both of these species. In contrast with Red Crossbills, White-winged Crossbills were not nearly as irruptive, though their presence in six south counties was the most for this region since 2012.

Smith's Longspurs are regularly found in October in the southwestern part of the state; this season saw additional records from Pennington, Lake, and St. Louis counties. Another record in Renville was a first for that county. Five Spotted Towhees were found, including two in Hennepin and one in Ramsey counties. In nearby Anoka County, a putative hybrid Spotted X Eastern towhee was photographed. Two of the latest Grasshopper Sparrow reports for the season were also among the most northerly, with one each in Lake and St. Louis counties in mid October.

A Yellow-breasted Chat was quite late and far north in Otter Tail County in late September. Great-tailed Grackles were found only in usual locations in the Southwest. A Hooded Warbler at Two Harbors in early October was, like the chat, late and far north of its usual range; this one also established a first record for Lake County. The single-day record-high tally for Palm Warblers was smashed by counters at Stoney Point with 604 on 27 September, only for them to break their own record at the same location with 809 on the following day. Also notable was their near-record total of 10,329 Yellow-rumped Warblers at the same location in late September.

Blue Grosbeaks continue to expand their range in Minnesota. This season saw first county records for Beltrami and Kandiyohi, plus out-of-range breeding in Hennepin and Scott counties.

*Weather:* Statewide average temperatures were several degrees below normal in August,

but above normal in September, due in part to a late heat wave that passed through the state 21–24 September. Temperatures cooled towards the end of October when many in the state had a first taste of winter that lingered well into November, but the monthly statewide average temperatures even in these last two months was above normal.

Precipitation totals in the state bounced back and forth from above normal in August and October to below normal in September and November. Two heavy rain events in mid August were notable, as was a cold front that passed through the state on Labor Day and brought stormy weather. Early October saw two heavy rain events during its first week and a storm 27–28 October that produced persistent wind gusts in excess of 50mph to the Lake Superior shoreline, and dropped up to a foot of snow in some areas. By contrast, November was quite dry.

*Documented Records Still Under Review:* Ferruginous Hawk 8/22 Wilkin (Wolverton Twp.), 10/23 St. Louis (juvenile, light morph; H.R.N.R.).

*Insufficiently Documented Records of Regular Species:* White-rumped Sandpiper 8/8 Carver, 8/8 Chisago, 8/10 Lyon (early dates); Short-billed Dowitcher 9/25 McLeod (late date); Bohemian Waxwing 10/25, 10/29, 11/9,

11/12 (out of range in a non-invasion year).

*Acknowledgments:* We thank Jeanie Joppru and Jim Lind for compiling and providing transcripts of Minnesota's two weekly birding reports. Special thanks to Dave Cahlander for building and maintaining the seasonal reports submission and production web pages 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 December 2017). Bruce Fall has been extremely helpful by providing additional information from eBird data. Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data over the 25-year period 1991 through 2016. 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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## 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. Dagger “†” preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
10. “ph.” denotes a species documented with a photograph.
11. “v.t.” denotes a species documented by video tape.
12. “a.t.” denotes a species documented by audio tape.
13. 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, 4612 Colfax Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, or via e-mail at [seasons@moumn.org](mailto:seasons@moumn.org).

- Snow Goose** (*Anser caerulescens*) — [14 North, 22 South] One summered in Polk (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAu, m.ob. through 8/18. Early north (median 9/6) **8/2**–20 St. Louis (Duluth) DOK, m.ob. High counts 10/27 Lyon (600, flyover, Marshall) GWe, 11/5 Grant (200, North Ottawa) CNn. Late north 11/5 Grant NaH, CNn, Otter Tail (4) JsS, 11/6–7 Lake (7, Two Harbors) ShG, HeH, m.ob., 11/16 St. Louis H.R.B.O. (median 11/15). Late south 11/20 Big Stone DLP, 11/25 Cottonwood BTS, MiO, 11/26 Chippewa GWe (median 12/16).
- Ross's Goose** (*Anser rossii*) — [4 North, 7 South] All north 10/2 Polk (3, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAu, 10/4 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 10/5 St. Louis (Duluth) JPR, DOr, 10/24–27 St. Louis (Park Point/Bayfront Park) ph. PHS, m.ob., 10/8 – 11/11 Clay (max. 2) ShG, HeH, MO. All south 9/19 Pope HHD, Stearns HHD, 9/19–20 Wright (10, Pelican Lake) ToL, m.ob., 10/4 Sibley (Gaylord W.T.P.) RBW, 10/13 – 11/11 Chippewa RBW, DLP. 10/27 Lyon GWe, 11/8–9 Mower KnM, SWm. High counts 10/27 Lyon (**25**) GWe, 9/19–20 Wright (10) ToL, m.ob.
- Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*) — [2 North, 26 South] All north 10/10 Traverse (max. 33) KnM, DOr, 10/18 – 11/5 Grant (max. 30, North Ottawa) WPL, m.ob. One injured bird summered south through 8/5 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) LiH, ASu, m.ob. Early south (median 9/24) 8/12 Watonwan STa, 8/29 Faribault WAF. High counts 10/27 Lyon (**300**, Marshall) GWe, 10/4 Pipestone (255, Pipestone) KnM, 10/22 Jackson (250, Heron Lake W.M.A.) SEm, KEm, MEM.
- Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [19 North, 35 South] Early north (median 9/10) **8/4** Traverse RPR, 9/3 Roseau (3, Greenbush W.T.P.) NWi, CRM, m.ob., 9/5 St. Louis ABL. Early south (median 9/19) 9/6 Ramsey (2, Lake Como) SLo, 10/1 Carver (Cologne W.T.P.) DWK, 10/2 Sherburne (3) PLJ. Descriptions provided in varying detail from 14 counties. High counts 11/12 Lac qui Parle (**4,000**, Lac qui Parle S.P., percentage estimate of a much larger flock) KnM, ASu, LiH. Late north 11/11 Clay (100, Moorhead W.T.P.) KnM, Kanabec (8) TLu, Wilkin KnM 11/12 Lake (4, Two Harbors) JWH, Otter Tail (6) SDi, 11/30 Hubbard (16, North Twin Lake) AxB (median 12/17). See winter report for late south migrants. Observers are asked to document all sightings with notes, photographs, or recordings to improve our understanding of this species in the state.
- Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from all counties in the state and throughout the season. High counts 11/12 Lac qui Parle (10,000, Lac qui Parle S.P.) KnM, 11/11 Clay (8,000, Moorhead W.T.P.) KnM.
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [4 South] Three south reports of probable wild birds: 8/31 Goodhue (1, near Red Wing) ebd, 11/2 Kandiyohi (1) DOr, 11/6–8 Meeker (1, Lake Ripley) PKF, m.ob. One south report of birds of uncertain origin: 10/13 Stearns (2, Lake George) LKO.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [30 North, 46 South] Reported in all regions of the state throughout the season. High counts 10/14 Becker (225, Tamarac N.W.R.) JtH, 11/8 Hennepin (150, Mound Springs Park) BB.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [16 North, 30 South] Early north (median 9/30) 10/8 St. Louis (5) HHD, 10/12–22 Polk (4, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL, SAu, KuE, 10/22 Cass (2, Lake Winnibigoshish) DAY. Early south (median 10/11) 10/20 Houston (4) DSt, Ramsey (2) CMu, 10/22 Winona JJS, 10/24 Lac qui Parle (5) DLP. High count 11/15 Houston (15,000, Brownsville Overlook) ebd. New county record: 11/10 **Pipestone** (Split Rock Lake) HHD. Late north 11/21 Crow Wing (6, Mille Lacs Lake) JLA, Polk SAu, 11/25–27 Beltrami (max. 10) DPJ, 11/30 Morrison (10) SEM (median 11/29).
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [33 North, 52 South] Reported throughout the state and season. High counts 9/10 Wright (200, Pelican Lake wetlands) SBE, LiH. Late north 11/5 Grant NaH, CNn, 11/23 Itasca ABL, 11/25 Hubbard MAW.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Spatula discors*) — [29 North, 49 South] Reported throughout the state and season. High counts 8/27 Wright (530, total from several locations near Pelican Lake) RCl. Late north 10/21 St. Louis (2) JLK, 10/24–28 Grant (max. 6, North Ot-

- tawa Impoundment) WPL, NaH, SDz, 10/29 Wilkin ABL (median 10/29). Late south 11/10 Wright DPG, 11/13–19 Hennepin BAF, PEJ, 11/22 Cottonwood KEm (median 11/13).
- Northern Shoveler** (*Spatula chrypeata*) — [19 North, 50 South] High count 10/10 Pennington (800, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) KCo. Late north 11/4 Todd (max. 6) TLu, NaH, 11/5–8 Grant (max 15, North Ottawa Impoundment) WPL, NaH, CNn (median 11/13). See winter report for late migrants.
- Gadwall** (*Mareca strepera*) — [25 North, 40 South] High count 11/20 Wabasha (360, Mississippi River Lock and Dam 4) WCM. Late north 11/9 Douglas MEM, KEm, SEM, 11/12 Cass DAY, 11/14–15 Beltrami DFE (median 11/19).
- American Wigeon** (*Mareca americana*) — [19 North, 36 South] High counts 10/20 Hennepin (200, Grass Lake) KBg. Late north 11/5 Cook (Grand Marais) KRE, m.ob., Grant NaH, CNn, Mahnomen (20) LiH, m.ob., 11/7 Cook DAB (median 11/25), but also see winter report.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 51 South] Reported throughout the state. High count 11/12 Lac qui Parle (8,000, Big Stone N.W.R., estimated by 100s) LiH, ASu, KnM.
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [14 North, 20 South] Reports from 14 north counties is the highest total in the last six fall seasons. Away from Lake Superior reported north from Aitkin, Crow Wing, Douglas, Grant, Hubbard, Marshall, Pennington, Pine, Polk, Roseau, Traverse. Early south (median 8/16) 8/1 Sherburne (2, Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd, 8/31 Freeborn (Albert Lea) TCz, 9/3 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha Park) BAF. High counts 9/5 Lake (32, total from four lakes) RCl, 11/10 Wabasha (21) PEJ, 11/22 St. Louis (21, Park Point) JLK.
- Mallard X American Black Duck** (*Anas platyrhynchos* X *A. rubripes*) — [1 South] One south report 11/12 Carver Bab.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [19 North, 37 South] High counts 10/20 Houston (100, Brownsville Overlook) DSt, 10/20 Grant (81) MO. Late north 11/4 Lake RSA, DAB, 11/5 Grant NaH, CNn, 11/8 Todd DOr. Please see winter report for late south mi-
- grants and overwintering birds.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [28 North, 43 South] High counts 10/23 Dakota (350) BBr, 10/15 St. Louis (203) MLH, 10/10 Pennington (200, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) KCo. Late north 11/4 Lake RSA, 11/5 Cook SSC, m.ob., 11/6 Itasca SC. Please see winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [20 North, 37 South] High count 11/12 Houston (6,000, Reno Bottoms) ebd. Late north 11/12 Itasca TCL, 11/15 Beltrami DFE, 11/25 St. Louis (Silver Lake) BeA (median 12/6). See winter report for late south migrants and overwintering birds.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [26 North, 44 South] High counts 10/9 Douglas (535, Clifford Lake, counted by 25s) JLK, 10/16 Pope (300, Lake Emily) KnM. Late north 11/23–25 Beltrami (max. 8, Diamond Point Park) ABL, DPJ (median 12/10). Please see winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [28 North, 43 South] High counts 11/12 Houston (4,000, Reno Bottoms) ebd, 11/3 Ramsey (1,400, Crosby Farm R.P.) BBr. Late north 11/20 Mille Lacs (3) PSP, 11/25 St. Louis (Silver Lake) BeA, 11/26 Cass HCT (median 12/4). Please see winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [8 North, 17 South] Early south (median 10/17) 10/7 Big Stone DLP, 10/15 Hennepin GAn, 10/17 Sherburne PLJ, Stearns PCC, 10/18 Kandiyohi (2) RAE. High counts 11/21 Beltrami (30, Diamond Point Park) AxB, 10/7 St. Louis (24, Park Point) ASe. Late north 11/21 Beltrami AxB, 11/25 St. Louis BeA, 11/26 Cass HCT (median 12/9). Please see winter report for late migrants and overwintering birds.
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [20 North, 38 South] High counts 11/7 Washington (500, Lee & Rose Warner N.C.) PSm, 11/6 Kandiyohi (300, Lake Lillian) KnM. Late north 11/20 Mille Lacs (3) PSP, 11/21–27 Beltrami (max.14, Diamond Point Park) AxB, DPJ, 11/26 Cass HCT (median 12/18), but also see winter report.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [3 North, 3 South] All north: 9/15 –

11/7 Cook (1, Grand Marais Harbor) MAM, DaM, m.ob., 10/19 – 11/11 Cass (1, Walker W.T.P.) ph. †REn, m.ob., 10/20 – 11/29 Lake (reported from Tettegouche S.P. and Two Harbors) DSh, m.ob. All south: 11/12 **Carver** (female, Lake Waconia) †RMD, 11/27 Stearns (female, Mississippi River, St. Cloud) ebd, m.ob., 11/28–30 Sherburne (Riverside Park, same bird reported previously on the Stearns County side) MJB, m.ob.

**Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [6 North, 9 South] Early north (median 9/30) 10/1 Lake ASL, 10/2 St. Louis (2) TRd, 10/4 Cook DLB. Three north reports away from Lake Superior: 10/30 Beltrami (1, female/juvenile, Lake Irving) AxB, m.ob., 11/3–8 Todd (3, Lake Osakis) HHD, m.ob., 11/26 (1, Gull Lake) DAY. All south 10/15 – 11/18 Hennepin (max. 6, Lake Harriet; also reported on Bde Maka Ska (Lake Calhoun) and Medicine Lake) CMB, m.ob., 10/15 Washington (4, Big Marine P.R.) BDi, m.ob., 10/25–28 Faribault (female/juvenile, Wells W.T.P.) HHD, RAE, WAF, 11/2 Kandiyohi (1, Lake Lillian) DOr, Lyon (1, female/juvenile, Sham Lake) GWe, 11/3–14 Chisago (max. 4, Chisago Lake) ELC, m.ob., 11/5 Anoka (6, Centerville Lake) IsH, EzH, BAB, REEn, 11/7 Carver (2, Lake Waconia) WCM, RBW, 11/7–20 Scott (1, Spring Lake) ANY, m.ob.

**White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [6 North, 4 South] Early north (median 10/7) 10/6–20 St. Louis (Stoney Point and Brighton Beach) MSb, JhM, 10/21 Cook (4, Taconite Harbor) KnM, ASu, LiH. Three north reports away from Lake Superior 10/28 Cass (Lake Winnibigoshish) RBJ, m.ob., 11/3 Beltrami (Lake Irving) JMj, SAu, ABL, 11/7–8 Todd (Lake Osakis) HHD, m.ob. All south 10/30 – 11/14 Washington (Lake Elmo and Big Marine P.R.) ph. BDo, m.ob., 11/4 Chisago (Chisago Lake) ELC, RMD, m.ob., 11/5–7 Carver (Lake Waconia) WCM, m.ob., 11/19–20 Le Sueur (Lake Volney) RBW, m.ob. High count 11/5 Cook (7, Taconite Harbor) GVa.

**Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — [8 North, 4 South] Early north (median 10/4) 9/28 **Hubbard** (1, Kabekona Lake) †REn, 10/2–17 St. Louis (max. 4, Lake Superior) TRd, m.ob., 10/23 Cook (1, Grand Marais



**Long-tailed Duck, 2 November 2017, McQuade Harbor, St. Louis County. Photo by Gerald Hoekstra.**

Harbor) PLJ. Four other north reports away from Lake Superior: 10/2 Kanabec (2, Knife Lake) HHD, MJB, RAE, 11/7 Todd (max. 3, Lake Osakis) BWF, HHD, 11/8 Otter Tail GMO, 11/10 **Douglas** JPE. All south 10/27 McLeod (4, north of Hutchinson) RPR, 11/11 Scott (2, McMahan Lake) BAB, BHc, 11/12 Carver (4, Lake Waconia) ANY, m.ob., 11/20–21 Chisago (2, Chisago Lake) ELC, RAE. Highest counts only four.

**Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [7 North, 5 South] Early north (median 10/17) 10/6–15 Cook (Grand Marais) JBs, DdJ, 10/21–22 St. Louis ASu, m.ob. Additional north reports 10/28 **Kanabec** (male, Knife Lake) †SPS, 10/28 – 11/2 Cass (max. 2, Lake Winnibigoshish) REEn, m.ob., 11/8 Todd (Lake Osakis) DOr, LKo, 11/19 Mille Lacs (Wigwam Bay) MJB, DOr. All south 10/28 Faribault WAF, 11/7 Scott (Spring Lake) BAB, m.ob., 11/12–13 Washington (max. 2, Big Marine Lake) BDo, m.ob., 11/20 Le Sueur (Volney Lake) RAE, m.ob., 11/24 Houston (1, Pool #8) PEJ.

**Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [26 North, 46 South] One found in July was still present 8/1 Stearns HHD. Early south (median 9/26) 8/10 Steele PSu, 9/17 Olmsted DBz. High count 11/12 Houston (200, Reno Bottoms) ebd.

**Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [28 North, 34 South] Early south (median 10/15) 10/11 Stearns (2) LKo, 10/15 Meeker (5) RAE, 10/18 Kandiyohi (2) RAE, Ramsey (2) ebd. High count 11/24 Hous-

- ton (850, Pool #8) PEJ.
- Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*) — No reports.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [34 North, 47 South] Reported statewide. High counts 11/15 Ramsey (540, Pleasant Lake) WRe, MRe. Also see winter report.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [17 North, 30 South] Early south (median 10/17) 9/3–10 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) ASL, VDo 9/7 (2) EIR, 10/3 Rice TFB. High counts 11/13 Wabasha (8,000, Lake City Marina) BHe, 11/20 Wabasha (6,850, Lake Pepin) WCM.
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [9 North, 21 South] Reports from the Northeast spanned the season. North reports away from Lake Superior in Beltrami, Cass, Douglas, Hubbard, Itasca, Mille Lacs, Wadena. Away from Lake Superior after October: 11/3 Douglas HHD, 11/10 Itasca (8) TCL, Mille Lacs (max. 20) KnM, LiH, 11/6–21 Beltrami (max. 6, Diamond Point Park) REn, ASu, LiH, AxB, 11/30 Hubbard (3, Kabekona Lake) REn, Cass (max. 20, Shingobee Bay) REn. Early south (median 10/29) 10/13 – 11/1 Carver (max. 8) SDz, WCM, Ramsey (2) SDz, 10/29 Dakota (5) ALw. High count 10/20 St. Louis (max. 55, Stoney Point) KJB, StK.
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [17 North, 47 South] High counts 11/6 Kandiyohi (500, Lake Lillian) KnM, 10/7 Rice (345, near Warsaw) BHe. Late north 11/7 Cook (Grand Marais Harbor) DAB, 11/11 Todd RAE, 11/20 St. Louis (Silver Lake) DBF (median 11/12). Late south 11/24 Hennepin (8) KeL, 11/24–25 Houston (max. 10) PEJ, ASu, LiH, 11/26 Blue Earth ChH (median 12/16).
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [3 North, 11 South] All north 9/2–3 Roseau (12) KRE, m.ob., 11/9 Polk (14, season's high count) SAu, 11/25 Kittson ABL. All south 8/5 Faribault DBz, 8/12 Jackson (12) BRB, 8/14 Cottonwood BRB, 8/17 Redwood APi, 8/19 – 9/20 Lincoln (max. 6) KnM, ASu, GWe, 8/29 Lyon TAT, 9/3 Mower JmP, 9/9 Steele PSu, 11/5 Brown (8) BTS, 11/9 Meeker (2) BNn, 11/29 Dakota (5) DVe.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [19 North, 52 South] Reported as far north as Kittson and Roseau in the North-
- west and from St. Louis in the Northeast regions. High counts 11/18 Yellow Medicine (14, Miedd Lake) GWe, 8/4 Todd (13) SEM.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [24 North, 9 South] All south reports: 8/16, 10/8, 11/22 Washington ELi, PAI; 8/20, 9/18 Benton LKo, HHD; 8/26 Dakota IVa; 8/27 – 10/16 Sherburne (max. 2, Blue Hill Trail) JuW, m.ob.; 9/4 – 10/22 Chisago (max. 4, Wild River S.P.) MJB, m.ob.; 9/21 Isanti 9/21 JSa; 9/22 Anoka ebd; 10/1 Wabasha CBv; 11/16, 11/30 Goodhue (max. 5) KCo, GAn. Reported from every north county east of a line from Roseau to Douglas, except Lake of the Woods.
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falcipennis canadensis*) — [6 North] Reported north from Lake of the Woods, Koochiching, Itasca, St. Louis, Lake, Cook. High count only 2 individuals.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [4 North, 1 South] One south report 10/18 Yellow Medicine (1, Mound Spring Prairie S.N.A.) WCM. North reports from Marshall, Polk, Roseau, St. Louis. High count 11/10 St. Louis (8) TPM.
- Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [5 North, 2 South] Found north in Becker, Clay, Grant, Polk, Wilkin, including a high count of 24 on 11/11 in Wilkin at Rothsay W.M.A. KnM, LiH. Two south reports 8/5 Big Stone (8, Ortonville) DnS, MiS, 11/19 Pope (2, Glacial Lakes S.P.) LKo.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [29 North, 46 South] Reported as far north as Roseau, St. Louis, Lake, Cook. High count 8/31 Sherburne (55, Sherburne N.W.R.) JGb.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [34 North, 51 South] High counts 9/16 Becker (110, Tamarac N.W.R.) ToR. Late north 11/10 Douglas JPE, Mille Lacs KnM, 11/11 Todd RAE, 11/12–18 Itasca TCL, (median 12/2). Late south 11/26 Hennepin IWe, RSA, Olmsted ebd, 11/30 Washington BDo (median 12/21).
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [14 North, 25 South] Early south (median 9/6) 8/11 Benton MJB, 8/18 Anoka LiH, 9/15 Steele JMs, DFe, (2) CRM, m.ob. High count 9/23 St. Louis (30, Stoney Point) StK, TRK. Late north 11/11 Lake (2) ClN, m.ob., Todd (2) RAE, 11/12–24 St. Louis



- (max. 3) StK, m.ob., (median 11/24). Late south 11/18–30 Hennepin (2, Bde Maka Ska (Lake Calhoun) CMB, m.ob., (median 12/1). Also see winter report.
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [17 North, 20 South] High count 8/2 Nicollet (22, Swan Lake) BHe. Late north 11/12 St. Louis (2) JWH, StK, 11/12–13 Lake (2) BBd, JBu, JLK, 11/18 Itasca TCL (median 12/8). Late south 11/24–26 Washington IsH, EzH, GJa, 11/25 Ramsey IVa, (median 11/18).
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [6 North, 8 South] High count 8/1 Polk (40, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAU. Late north 9/4 Grant (3) PLJ, Marshall KRE, then only 10/24 Polk (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) DaL (median 10/10). Late south 10/5 Sibley (3) DBz, HHD, 10/10 Lyon GWe, 10/11 Freeborn (3) KEm (median 10/27).
- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [6 North, 9 South] High counts 8/19 Todd (120, Lake Osakis) ToL, 8/19 Grant (100, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToL. Late north 10/17 Todd DWK, 10/18–25 Grant (max. 6, North Ottawa Impoundment) EGa, m.ob. (median 11/7). Late south 10/25 Freeborn HHD, 11/2–3 Rice TFB, 11/7 Wright DWK (median 11/18). One member of an apparent pair of Western Grebes in Todd (Lake Osakis) exhibited characteristics suggesting some Clark's Grebe ancestry (MJB).
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — [1 North] One report: 8/19 Todd (1, Lake Osakis, Battle Point Park, no details) ToL.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [33 North, 53 South] Found statewide. High counts 10/15 Hennepin (300) ADr, 10/22 Ramsey (300, Red Rock Rd.) REn, 11/29 St. Louis (300, Duluth) AxM, ALx.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [17 North, 47 South] Reported from most counties southwest of a line from Marshall to Houston. There were two reports from the Northeast: 10/18 St. Louis (Stoney Point) ph. TRd, 11/3 **Cook** (Grand Marais) CRM, m.ob. One additional first county record 9/14 **Clearwater** KFz. High counts 11/24 Lyon (**89**, Cottonwood) GWe.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 8/5 Lyon (217, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 8/6 Lac qui Parle (170, Mehurin) KeL.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [9 South] No north sightings. High count only 3. Late south 8/29 Faribault WAF, 9/9 Sherburne TSi, 9/11 Scott ebd (median 9/16).
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [5 North, 11 South] Late north 8/26 Kittson KnM, 8/27 Koochiching KnM, 10/1 St. Louis (banded, H.R.N.R.) AxM. Late south 8/28 Brown STa, 9/3 Fillmore ph. ToM, 9/16 Benton HHD (median 9/16).
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [27 North, 48 South] High count 8/20 St. Louis (8,740, Lester River, counted singly and by 10s) StK. Late north 9/29 Todd (2) JLK, 10/6 Morrison (1, Crane Meadows N.W.R.) SEm, 10/10 St. Louis (1) H.R.B.O. (median 9/28). Late south 10/16 Meeker PKF, Mower RJW, 10/18 Rice TFB, Watonwan (1) ebd (median 10/9).
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [4 North, 1 South] All north 8/24 – 9/23 St. Louis (max. 2) AMs, SLF, 8/26 – 9/6 Cook (3) RBJ, ebd, 9/5 Marshall OGo, 9/8 Pine (Saint Croix S.P.) JyS. One south report 8/6 Sherburne HHD.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [24 North, 44 South] High count 8/25 Olmsted (**1,750**, Assisi Heights) SHk. Late north 9/20 and 10/5 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) ALx, 9/27 Todd (5) JLK (median 9/14). Late south 9/28 Blue Earth ChH, 10/5 Washington (2) BDo, 10/8 Hennepin ebd, Rice TFB (median 10/4).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [30 North, 51 South] High counts 9/9 Hennepin (19, T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) IVa, SRG, 9/2 St. Louis (16, H.R.N.R.) ALx. Late north 9/27 Polk SAU, 10/1 Clay PBB, 10/3 Todd SDi (median 9/27). Late south 10/7 Blue Earth ChH, 10/8 Rice TFB, 10/30 Dakota GUn (median 10/14).
- Selasphorus hummingbird** — [1 North] One report: 9/23–24 St. Louis (1, Crane Lake) ph. †DMK.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [1 North, 2 South] One north report 8/26 Aitkin (McGregor Marsh) ebd. Three south reports **9/3–4 Lyon** (Sham Lake) GWe, 9/27 **Freeborn** (Bhagyam W.P.A.) KEm, **10/17 Lyon** (Glynn Prairie S.N.A.) BRB.

**KING RAIL** (*Rallus elegans*) — [1 North] Two adults first reported 6/15 continued to be seen 8/5–19 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) with a juvenile also present 8/12 †KRE, m.ob.

**Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [9 North, 20 South] High count 9/26 Jackson (7, Minnesota W.P.A.) KEm. Late north 9/4 Marshall KRE, m.ob., 9/13 Grant WPI, 9/30 Todd TLu (median 9/11). Late south 9/26 Jackson KEm, 9/29 Hennepin ADS, Renville RBJ, 9/30 Swift DOr (median 10/5).

**Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [22 North, 35 South] High count 9/7 Hennepin (13, Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) RCl. Late north 9/30 Todd (2) TLu, 10/7 Lake (2) JWl, 10/8 Carlton RMD (median 10/3). Late south 10/7 Dakota CDg, Freeborn JWH, 10/8 Hennepin CMB, 10/14 Washington JDS (median 10/14).

**Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [1 North, 4 South] One north report 8/12 Todd (Quistdorff W.M.A.) AaL, m.ob. Four south reports were of family groups continuing from the summer: through 8/5 Houston (2, Shepard's Marsh) MJB, through 8/19 Kandiyohi (7, two adults with five young at Olson Wetland Restoration) KnM, m.ob., through 8/27 Stevens (3 juveniles, Alberta Marsh W.M.A.) DWK, HCT, PEB, through 9/25 Nicollet (max. 5, one adult and four young at Swan Lake) HHD, MiO, m.ob.

**American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [26 North, 50 South] High counts 10/8 Polk (6,000, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAu, 8/31 Big Stone (5,000, Riverside Park) WPe, 9/9 Lac qui Parle (5,000, Salt Lake) LiH, ASu. Observed north and south throughout the season.

**Sandhill Crane** (*Antigone canadensis*) — [32 North, 35 South] Very few reports southwest of a line from Traverse to Faribault. High count 11/8 Sherburne (**11,286**, record high count by the Sherburne N.W.R. Sandhill Crane Census; total was from counts completed at 6 different locations that were targeting birds roosting on pools west of C.R 5) SKa. Late north 11/5 Kana-bec ABL, 11/6 Morrison (41) SEm, 11/10 Douglas JPE (median 11/10). Late south 11/20–21 Olmsted (9, Silver Creek Reservoir) SHk, m.ob., 11/21 Anoka (50, Circle

Pines) ebd (median 11/22).

**BLACK-NECKED STILT** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [1 North] At least one of a pair from summer continued through 8/9 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) NaH.

**American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [1 North, 3 South] One north report 8/10 Polk (East Grand Forks W.T.P.) RAE, HHD. All south reports 8/23 Mower (6) SWm, 9/1–13 Lyon (max. 4, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 10/8 Rice (max. 12, near Warsaw) RAE, m.ob.

**Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [9 North, 13 South] Early north (median 8/9) 8/5 Polk LnT, SAU, 8/5–6 St. Louis (Duluth) PHS, JLK, 8/11 Grant KnM, m.ob. Early south (median 8/7) 8/10 Renville MiO, 8/12 Big Stone KRE, m.ob., 8/19 Lincoln KnM, ASu, Wright RCl. High count 10/10 Grant (20, North Ottawa Impoundment) DOr. Late north 11/5–8 St. Louis (2, Park Point R.A.) MZA, m.ob. (median 10/25). Late south 10/31 – 11/1 Sherburne (C.R. 16) PLJ, 11/12 Yellow Medicine LiH, m.ob. (median 11/5).

**American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [14 North, 29 South] Early north (median 8/16) 8/6 Marshall JMJ, 8/8–10 Hubbard BEN, AxB, 8/10 Marshall HHD, RAE. Early south (median 8/4) 8/10–11 Dakota KvM, DVe, Stevens RBW, 8/13 Nicollet (2) RBW. High counts 10/8 Grant (760, North Ottawa Impoundment, counted by 10s) HCT, 10/22 Cottonwood (79, Red Rock Prairie) MEm, SEm. Late north 10/29 Cook DBz, 10/30 St. Louis (2, H.R.N.R.) ALx, 11/2 Grant (2) WPI (median 10/28). Late south 11/25–28 Brown (max. 4, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) DFe, MiO, BTS (median 11/10).

**Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [18 North, 21 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 8/4 Lyon (16, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. Late north 9/27–28 Carlton KDS, LiH, 10/4 Beltrami DPJ (median 10/1). Late south 9/17 Lyon (2) GWe, Yellow Medicine (3) GWe, 9/23–25 Sibley (2) BHE (median 10/10).

**Piping Plover** (*Charadrius melodus*) — [1 North, 1 South] One north report 8/27 Lake of the Woods (Zippel Bay S.P.) LiH, ASu. One south report 8/20 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) ToL.

**Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [32 North, 51 South] High count 9/13 Yellow Medicine (200, Lyon/Yellow Medicine Conservation Easement) GWe. Late north 10/17 Wilkin (6) KnM, 10/19 Grant (2) CNn, St. Louis JLK, 10/21 Lake GWe, JtH (median 10/25).

**Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [2 North, 7 South] High tally only 2. Late north 8/9 Wilkin HCT, 8/13 Grant (2) PLJ. Late south 8/25 Lac qui Parle JmP, 8/31 Blue Earth WAF, 9/2 Rock RSA.

**Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [1 North] First fall report since 2008: 8/15 St. Louis (Park Point, ball fields) JPR.

**Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [2 South] No north reports. All south 8/17 Lac qui Parle (6, Salt Lake) WCM, Renville (2, C.R. 5 just north of C.R. 11) RBW, RBJ.

**Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [2 North] All north 8/14 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) BeA, 9/14 Crow Wing (2, Perch Lake) JhH. No south reports.

**Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [2 North] See summer report for first southbound migrant. All north 9/4 Marshall KRE, m.ob., 9/15 St. Louis (Park Point, Beach House) JWJ, (Superior Entry) LiH. No south reports.

**Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — [1 South] Only report of this Casual fall migrant: 9/4 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) ph. KyP.

**Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris bimantopus*) — [19 North, 29 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High count 9/13 Lyon (78, exact count, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. Late north 9/5 Grant PLJ, 9/9 Cook JWJ, SLL, 9/29 Grant (4) MO (median 9/20). Late south 9/17 Lyon (65, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, Waseca (3) PSu, Yellow Medicine (6) GWe (median 10/17).

**Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [10 North, 10 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High counts were all from Park Point in mid September, with peak tally 9/15 St. Louis (50, Park Point) JWJ. All north reports after 9/21 were also from Park Point, with latest reports 10/5 St. Louis (2) DOr, 10/8 St. Louis (2) KvM, except for the latest report 10/20 Grant (4) MO (median 10/11). Late south 9/17 Yellow Medicine (8) GWe, 9/18 Benton HHD, followed by one record late **11/26** Dakota (Spring Lake P.R.) †DVK (median 10/21).

**Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [2 North, 10 South] First southbound migrants appeared north and south in July. Subsequent early north 8/10 St. Louis JPR, 9/22 St. Louis AxM, ALx, and early south 8/2 Lac qui Parle LiH, ASu, 8/4 Lyon GWe. High counts 11/5 Olmsted (10, Silver Creek Reservoir) JmP, 10/20 Grant (8, North Ottawa Impoundment) MO. Late north 11/5 Grant (4) CNn, St. Louis (2) ebd, 11/6 Beltrami REn. Late south 11/8 Mower (3) KnM, ASu, Olmsted (3) JmP, 11/13 Lyon GWe (median 11/8).

**Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [19 North, 26 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/4 Lyon (75, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 8/2 Lac qui Parle (50, Salt Lake) LiH, ASu. Late north 9/23 Polk (2) SAu, 10/9 Grant NaH, 10/20 Grant (3) MO (median 10/2). Late south 10/1 Yellow Medicine GWe, 10/13 Redwood KRE, **11/20-25** Brown (juvenile, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) ANy, ph. BTS, MiO (median 11/1).

**Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [31 North, 46 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/5 Carver (420, New Germany area) WCM, 8/4 Lyon (415, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. All north reports after 9/27 from Grant, where last reported 10/20 Grant (14, North Ottawa Impoundment (median 10/13). Late south 10/21 Lac qui Parle (8) DLP, 10/25 Carver WCM, JCy, 10/28 Brown BTS (median 10/26).

**White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [5 North, 4 South] High count 8/27 Stearns (5) ebd. Early north 8/15 Todd (2, Quistorff W.M.A.) SEM, 8/25 Roseau ebd, St. Louis AKO. Early south 8/10 Dakota (2) †KvM, Lyon NME, 8/17 Scott BHe, 8/20 Dakota (2) AJF. Late north 10/29 - 11/4 Lake (Castle Danger W.T.P.) MJB, HHD, RAE, DWK, HCT, 11/2-7 Lake (Beaver Bay Twp., former MN DOT garage pond) KRE, m.ob., DAB. Late south 9/4 Dakota (Jirik Sod Farms) NiR, Houston (Eitzen W.T.P.) RSA. **Note:** undocumented reports of fall migrant White-rumpeds prior to mid-August are not published.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Calidris subruficollis*) — [8 North, 14 South] See summer report for early southbound migrants. High

counts 8/12 Kandiyohi (12) SGA, 8/27 Dakota (11, turf farm east of Hwy 3) KSz. New county records: 8/26 **Le Sueur** (2, Montgomery Twp.) JWH, 8/13 **Wabasha** (Kellogg) DBz. Late north 9/6 St. Louis (4) BeA, 9/13 Grant (3) WPL, 9/21 Douglas (2) ToR (median 9/21). Late south 9/4 Murray (5) JWH, 9/9 Lincoln LiH, 9/22 Yellow Medicine GWe (median 9/21).

**Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [25 North, 43 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/10 Carver (611, New Germany Area) WCM, 9/9 Lincoln (300, Lincoln Wet Spot W.M.A.) LiH, ASu. Late north 10/24 Grant (6) WPL, Polk (5) DaL, 10/27 Pine ANy (median 10/30). Late south 11/3 Olmsted JJS, JmP, 11/5 Sherburne PLJ (median 11/12), but also see winter report.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [24 North, 37 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/6 Carver (150, New Germany area) BHe, 8/4 Lyon (95, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. Late north 9/17 St. Louis (2) NCr, 9/23 Polk SAu, 9/29 Grant MO (median 9/29). Late south 9/25 Sibley (2) BHe, 10/13 Redwood KRE, m.ob., 10/14 Redwood BTS (median 10/15).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [10 North, 12 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. Highest counts all from North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant: 8/3 (57) RPR; away from Grant also notable was 8/2 Lac qui Parle (30, Salt Lake) LiH, ASu. Late north 9/3 Roseau KRE, m.ob., 9/4 Grant (12, North Ottawa Impoundment) PLJ, 9/5 Grant PLJ (median 9/6). Late south 9/4 Meeker RAE, HHD, Yellow Medicine (3) GWe (median 9/12). **Note:** We ask that dowitcher reports to the MOU be annotated as to how Short-billed and Long-billed Dowitchers were identified. If the birds were calling, please include a description of the calls. If identification was made by sight, please describe the plumage (e.g., tail pattern, tertials, flanks, or sides of the breast, as appropriate). Aging your birds (juvenile vs. adult) would also be extremely helpful in the fall season. Any reports of Short-billed Dowitchers prior to 1 May or after 15 September, and any reports of Long-billed

Dowitchers in June or July, without such details will not be published in 2018 and future Seasonal Reports. We urge observers to continue reporting dowitchers of uncertain identity as “dowitchers” using the “*Limnodromus dowitcher*” category.

**Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) — [6 North, 12 South] Early north (median 8/16) 8/5 Grant HHD, 8/10 Marshall HHD, RAE. Early south (median 8/7) 8/10 Carver (New Germany Area; gray-toned bird, sharp juvenile plumage with solid, unmarked tertials) WCM, 9/10 Stearns HHD. High count 10/8 Grant (**132**, North Ottawa Impoundment; counted individually) HCT. Late north 10/20 Grant MO, 10/24 Polk (4) HCT (median 10/16). Late south 10/14 Redwood BTS, 10/31 Sherburne PLJ, (median 10/27).

**American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [13 North, 16 South] High counts 9/30 St. Louis (10, Lost River Rd.) TRK, 8/27 Koochiching (8, Toomey Williams Rd.) KnM, LiH, ASu. Late north 10/25 Clearwater DFN, 10/27 Douglas BEc, 10/28 Otter Tail JsS (median 10/31). Late south 10/30 Washington GAn, 11/4 Rice TFB, 11/12 Benton DOr (median 11/4).

**Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [28 North, 43 South] High counts 10/18 Wilkin (39, C.R. 9) HeH, ShG, 8/11 Grant (36, North Ottawa Impoundment) KnM, LiH, ASu. Late north 11/4 Douglas (2) TLu, Todd TLu, 11/10 St. Louis AMS, RyS, 11/11 Mille Lacs MPI (median 11/10).

**Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [31 North, 48 South] High counts 8/2 Lac qui Parle (24, Salt Lake) LiH, ASu, 8/21 Benton (21, Foley W.T.P.) LiH, ASu. Late north 10/14 St. Louis TRd, StK, 10/19–24 Cass DOr, MJB, DPJ, TCL (median 10/20). Late south 10/10 Washington BDO, 10/11 Stearns DOr, 10/21 Wright JWH, **11/15** Rock (Rose Dell Twp.) †KEm (median 10/13).

**Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [20 North, 36 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/20 Dakota (13, Cannon River Blvd. wetland) AJF, 8/20 Kandiyohi (11) JWH. Late north 9/21 Carlton HHD, RAE, 9/27 St. Louis TRd, 9/28 – 10/3 Crow Wing (3, Brainerd) DMz, PSP (median 10/3). Late

south 10/2 Hennepin ADS, Olmsted LAV, 10/3 Hennepin BeH, 10/4 Winona MJM (median 10/10).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [28 North, 48 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/8 Lyon (275, Lone Tree Lake ) GWe, 8/5 Carver (169, New Germany area) WCM. Late north 10/22 Polk SAu, 10/25 Grant CRa (median 10/23). Late south 11/2 Lyon GWe, 11/3 Olmsted (2) JmP, 11/5 Sherburne PLJ (median 11/3).

**Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [4 South] All south 8/2 Nicollet (3, S.R. 111) BHe, 8/17 Lac qui Parle (3, Salt Lake) WCM, Scott (10, C.R. 13) BHe, 9/13 Lyon (Lone Tree Lake) GWe.

**Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*) — [21 North, 37 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/20 Dakota (47, Cannon River Blvd. wetland) AJF, 8/8 Lyon (26, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe, 8/2 Lac qui Parle (25, Salt Lake) LiH, ASu. Late north 11/3 Beltrami (2, Lake Irving) SAu, 11/5 Grant (2) CNn, NaH, 11/8 Beltrami (2, Diamond Point Park) REn, Grant (3) WPl (median 11/5). Late south 10/28 – 11/8 Olmsted (2) JmP, 11/8–9 Sherburne (2) PLJ, 11/13 Dakota (2) KnM, ASu (median 11/11).

**Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*) — [7 North, 13 South] High counts 9/3 Lac qui Parle (34, Salt Lake) KeL, 8/2 Lac qui Parle (30, Salt Lake) LiH, ASu. Late north 8/18 Cass ebd, Roseau (5) REn, 8/19 Grant WFe, 8/20 St. Louis (Duluth, Waseca Industrial Rd.) JPR, JLK. Late south 9/9 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) LiH, ASu, 9/13 Yellow Medicine GWe, 9/16–17 Lac qui Parle (4, Salt Lake) MyP, HPe (median 9/20).

**Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) — [13 North, 24 South] See summer report for early north and south migrants. High counts 8/13 Polk (65, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAu, 9/7 Lincoln (38, Lake Benton W.T.P.) RBW. Late north 8/26 Hubbard (3) AxB, REn, Marshall (4) KnM, LiH, ASu, Polk (7) SAu, 9/2 Roseau DFe, JMs, KRE (median 9/22). Late south 9/19 Wright ToL, 9/20 Lincoln (5) GWe, 9/27 Lyon GWe (median 10/1).

**RED PHALAROPE** (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) — [1 North] Fourth consecutive fall season



**Black-legged Kittiwake, 25 November 2017, Washington County. Photo by Mike Majeski.**

this species has been reported: 10/28 **Lake** (Black Beach, Silver Bay) KnM, †KRE, †WCM, m.ob.

**Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) — [1 North] All reports were from St. Louis. Early north 8/30, 9/4 (second-cycle) PHS, BeA, 9/9 (juvenile) ph. PHS, 9/10 (adult) PHS. High count 10/2 (3 over Lake Superior, viewed from H.R.N.R.) H.R.B.O. Late north 10/4 (2, one dark juvenile and one un-aged, Stoney Point) TRd, StK, 10/7 (light adults seen at Lester River mouth and Superior Entry; same bird?) MSb, ALx.

**Stercorarius jaeger** — [1 North] Unidentified jaegers were seen in St. Louis 9/17 LiH, 10/3 (Stoney Point) TRd, StK, 10/4 (McQuade Small Craft Harbor) TRd, 10/6 (Stoney Point) TRd, StK.

**BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** (*Rissa tridactyla*) — [1 South] First-cycle seen 11/24–25 Washington (Hazen P. Mooers Park) †KIs, ph. PNi, ph. †MJM, †EzH.

**Sabine's Gull** (*Xema sabini*) — [1 North, 3 South] All north 9/4 **Kanabec** (first-cycle,

Knife Lake) ph. †SPS. All south 10/5–8 Rice (Cannon Lake) †TFB, m.ob., 10/8 Le Sueur (Tetonka Lake) DWK, m.ob., 10/28 Brown (first-cycle, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) ph. BTS, MiO.

**Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — [22 North, 39 South] Early south (median 8/9) 8/12 Hennepin TSI, Scott BAb, BHe, Stearns PCC. High counts 10/28 Cass (900, estimate) RBJ, 9/8 Cass (370, Walker W.T.P.) DAY. Late north 11/19 Cass LiH, ASu, Crow Wing (max. 36, Mille Lacs Lake) PSP, MJB, DOr, 11/20 Crow Wing (5 Mille Lacs Lake) PSP, HHD (median 11/24). Late south 11/23 Carver ANy, 11/25–26 Washington ASu, SKe (median 11/25).

**Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) — No reports.

**Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [25 North, 50 South] High counts 9/29 Carver (6,600, Lake Waconia) WCM, 9/19 Lyon (5,800, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) GWe, 9/6 Cottonwood (5,000, county landfill) ELR. Late north 11/5 Douglas (16, Osakis Stabilization Pond Loop) ToR, 11/7 Douglas (26, Laura Lake) BEc, 11/8 Grant (3) WPl (median 11/1). Late south 11/8 Carver WCM, RBJ, Freeborn DFe, Renville RBJ, Stearns RAE, 11/9 Jackson RAE (median 11/16).

**Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [33 North, 50 South] High counts 11/25 Washington (5,000, Mississippi River, Hastings) ASu, 11/6 Hennepin (4,500, Lake Harriet) BAF.

**Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [20 North, 27 South] Scattered summer south reports increased in late July. High counts 11/21 St. Louis (1,700, mouth of Miller Creek) JLK, 11/12 St. Louis (1,500, St. Louis River) KMi.

**Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [4 North, 5 South] Early north (median 10/6) 10/7 St. Louis (adult, Superior Entry) MSb, 10/13 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TRd, StK, 10/14 St. Louis (first-cycle, Park Point) JPR. Early south (median 10/5) 10/28 Hennepin (2, Wood Lake N.C.) TBu, KBu, 11/10 Hennepin (first-cycle) CMB, 11/12 Hennepin (immature, Lake of the Isles) IVa, (Lake Harriet) GAn, 11/13 Rice TFB. Notable report 11/13 **Clay** (Clay County Gravel Pits) HeH, ShG. High counts 11/5

St. Louis (12, Superior Entry: 3 first-cycle, 2 second-cycle, 1 third-cycle, 6 adults) JOs, ClN, DnS, MiS, 11/12 St. Louis (11, Superior Entry (Minnesota): no first-cycle, 3 second-cycle, 2 third-cycle, 6 adults.) ClN. Only one individual confirmed as *L. g. kumlieni*, 11/17–25 Hennepin (adult) BAF, m.ob., but most reports did not specify between *kumlieni* and *thayeri* subspecies.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [3 North, 4 South] All north 8/3 Clay (Clay County Gravel Pits; same bird as the one present at this location in early June?) HeH, ShG, 8/23 Clay (location?) HHD, 10/22 **Kanabec** (adult and second-cycle) ph. †SPS, 11/3 St. Louis (first-cycle, Superior Entry) †PHS, another first-cycle was found 11/5 St. Louis (Superior Entry) and at least one of these continued through 11/20 m.ob. Early south 10/19 Hennepin (Bush Lake) RCo, 10/23 Wabasha (third-cycle) ph. DBz. At least two adults or near-adults found in Minneapolis beginning 11/5 Hennepin (adult, Lake Harriet) †BAF, CMB, through the end of the season; one also found roosting in Dakota. Additional south reports 11/16–20 Sherburne (Orono Lake) PLJ, m.ob.

**Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [3 North, 3 South] Early north 11/4 Lake (second-cycle, Agate Bay) DAB, HCT, DWK, RDC, 11/5 St. Louis (first-cycle, Superior Entry) JOs, DnS, ClN, MiS, DnS, MWS, (first-cycle, Park Point R.A.) ebd. Early south 11/13 Dakota (adult) KnM, ASu, Hennepin (Bde Maka Ska (Lake Calhoun), probably the same adult) KnM, ASu, 11/15–16+ Hennepin (first-cycle, Lake Harriet) BAF, GrS, 11/18 Hennepin (adult, Lake Harriet) DWK, 11/20 Hennepin (first-cycle, Lake Harriet, different from 11/15 bird) BAF. Other notable reports 11/21 **Beltrami** (first-cycle, Diamond Point Park) REn, AxB, 11/24 **Wright** (School Lake) JuW.

**Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — First fall season with no reports since 2005.

**Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [13 North, 18 South] High counts 9/3 Cass (26, Longville W.T.P.) DAY, 8/22 Dakota (17, Spring Lake P.R.) PNi. Late north 9/12 Cass (2) ebd, St. Louis (max. 5) JLK, ToL,

9/17 Lake ebd, 9/25 Hubbard (2) REn (median 9/26). Late south 9/25 Dakota ADS, (2, Spring Lake P.R.) DVe, Hennepin RCo, Ramsey TAn, 9/29 Brown (2) MiO, RAE, HHD (median 9/29).

**Black Tern** (*Chlidonias niger*) — [11 North, 30 South] High counts 8/2 Brown (100, Sleepy Eye W.T.P.) RBW, 8/11 Grant (60, North Ottawa Impoundment) KnM, LiH, ASu. Late north 9/2 Grant SMC, Marshall HHu, Roseau DFe, JMs, KRE, 9/4 Grant (5, North Ottawa Impoundment) PLJ, Fko (median 9/7). Late south 9/10 Lyon (5) GWe, 9/12 Hennepin (11) ebd, 9/15 Steele JMs, DFe, CRM, Fko (median 9/16).

**Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [6 North, 1 South] High counts 8/27 Lake of the Woods (75, Zippel Bay S.P.) LiH, KnM, ASu, 8/22 Crow Wing (30, Mille Lacs Lake, Garrison) PSP. Late north 9/19 St. Louis (max. 8, Park Point R.A.) TRd, BBa, 9/26 St. Louis (2, Brighton Beach) TRd, 9/28 St. Louis (5, Park Point, Pine Forest S.N.A.) BAF (median 10/8). Only south 9/16 Wright ToL.

**Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [12 North, 20 South] No notable high counts. Late north 10/3 Otter Tail (6) WPL, St. Louis (Park Point) JPR, (2) AxM, ALx, 10/12 St. Louis (Park Point) TRd, 10/13 St. Louis (Superior Entry) JWJL (median 10/13). Late south 9/29 Carver WCM, 10/6–7 Rice (max. 5) LiH, m.ob., 10/8 Le Sueur RBW, DAB, JWH, BHe (median 10/2).

**Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [2 North] Two reports from H.R.N.R. in St. Louis: 9/20 ALx, ABL, 10/14 ALx. Many reports from Stoney Point, also in St. Louis, beginning 10/10 (juvenile) TRd, StK, KJB, peaking on 10/16 (3) StK, TRd, with last reports 11/3–5 St. Louis (Stoney Point) AxB, REn, KRE, m.ob. Also found north 11/2–4 Lake (Agate Bay, Two Harbors) KRE, m.ob.

**Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north with specific location information: **8/20** (record early by two weeks) St. Louis (Brighton Beach) †LiH, ASu, 9/22–23 St. Louis (McQuade Small Craft Harbor to Stoney Point) TRd, m.ob., 10/7 St. Louis (near 5000 London Rd.) ALx, KnM, 10/16 Lake (Split Rock Lighthouse S.P.) DdJ, 10/19–21 Lake (Burlington Bay) ToL, †JWJL, m.ob., 10/25 – 11/5 St. Louis (McQuade Small Craft Harbor to Stoney

Point) STK, KJB, m.ob., 10/28–29 Cook (2, Taconite Harbor; reported by 18 individuals, but details scant) JPR, m.ob. 11/3 Lake (Silver Bay) JLK, 11/13 Lake (Two Harbors) JLK, All south 11/6–8 Carver (Lake Waconia; again, few details) Sch, RBJ, m.ob.

**Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [26 North, 27 South] Highest reported count only 100. Late north 11/20 St. Louis (Park Point) AxM, ALx, 11/27 Cass HHD (median 12/3). Last south 11/25 Ramsey (2) IVa, 11/26 Dakota IVa (median 12/3). Also see winter report for latest north and south reports.

**Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [27 North, 51 South] High counts 10/5 Dakota (2,350, Spring Lake P.R., counted by 5s) BAF. Late north 11/4 Lake DAB, followed by one that lingered in Todd until 11/11 RAE (median 11/22). Late south 11/25 Cottonwood MiO, BTS, Washington BDo, 11/30 Dakota BBr.

**American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [23 North, 48 South] High counts 8/19 Wright (1,100, one group on Pelican Lake) RCL, 9/30 Dakota (950, Black Dog Power Plant) BBr. Late north 11/3 Todd MJB, 11/20 Traverse DLP, 11/27 Cass (Shingobee Bay, appeared to have an injured wing) HHD (median 11/7). See winter report for late south.

**American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [9 North, 15 South] High count only 3, at the North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant. Late north 10/10 Grant DOr, 10/17 Wilkin KnM (median 10/8). Late south 10/9 Lyon (2) GWe, 10/13 Redwood KRE, m.ob. (median 10/16).

**Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [1 North, 10 South] Only north report 8/13 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) GUn. Late south 9/8 Cottonwood (Wolf Lake W.P.A.) KEM, 9/9 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BAF, SHF, 9/10 Lyon (2, Sham Lake) GWe (median 9/2).

**Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [30 North, 53 South] High counts 8/6 Sibley (24, Le Sueur W.T.P.) WCM, 8/7 Big Stone (17, Graceville) DOr. Late north 11/8 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) WPL, Traverse ebd, 11/11 Clay KnM, LiH (median 11/20).

**Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [19 North, 47 South] Widely reported southwest of a line

- from Beltrami to Chisago, though notably absent from all northernmost counties. High counts 8/19 Sibley (100, est. county total) ebd, 8/1 and 9/4 Grant (85, North Ottawa Impoundment) PLJ, 9/4 Grant (85, North Ottawa Impoundment) PLJ. Late north 10/15 Clay CMk, then only at the North Ottawa Impoundment through 10/25 Grant NaH, CRa (median 10/19). Late south 11/3 Washington BRL, 11/6 Sherburne PLJ, 11/12 Carver ebd (median 11/9).
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [3 South] All south 8/24–26 Big Stone (2, Marsh Lake, near Correll Public Access) DLP, 9/27 Lyon (Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 9/28 Brown (Somsen W.M.A.) STa, BTS, MiO.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [3 North, 3 South] All north 8/14–24 Grant (4 to 13, North Ottawa Impoundment) PLJ, m.ob., 8/26 Douglas (1, in field with cattle along 1–94 just east of Evansville exit) DWK, 10/22 Cook (1, Grand Marais RV Park and Campground) PLJ. All south 8/9 Yellow Medicine (9, Fortier Twp.) GWe, 9/3 Big Stone (13, Marsh Lake, near Correll Public Access) DLP, 9/20 Brown (Somsen Slough W.M.A.) JSc, BTS, MiO. High count 8/22 Grant (13, North Ottawa Impoundment) WPL.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [21 North, 39 South] High count 9/17 Chisago (16, Franconia) MTe, followed by several tallies of 8 individuals. Late north 10/5 Douglas BEc, 10/6 Todd JLK (median 10/1). Late south 10/12 Dakota BBr, 10/15 Hennepin (2) MZa (median 10/15).
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [4 North, 12 South] Numbers at North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant peaked at 20 on 10/18 EGa, WPL. Late north 10/25 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) WPL, 10/28 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) WPL (median 9/24). Late south 11/2–8 Hennepin (2 immatures, Veterans Memorial Park) SBM, 11/16–18 Winona (immature, Shives Rd.) DBz, JWH (median 11/4).
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — No reports.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibit*) — [2 North, 5 South] Reports north from North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant: 8/11 LiH, KnM, 8/12 (3) JDv, 9/17 (5) WPL, 10/10 (1) WPL, 10/24–25 (3) WPL, CRa, 11/2 WPL, 11/5 NaH, CNn. Away from Grant only north report 9/7 Traverse (12 among a large ibis flock were identifiable to species; Murphy Ponds) KnM. All south 9/3 Lac qui Parle (7) SMC, 9/4 Yellow Medicine (2, Lyon/Yellow Medicine Conservation Easement) GWe, 9/20 Lyon (7, Coon Creek W.M.A.) GWe, 10/13 Kandiyohi (1 with several *Plegadis* sp., Pennock) DOr, 10/17–22 Olmsted (east of Viola.) JmP, m.ob.
- Plegadis ibis** — [2 North, 2 South] Fall *Plegadis* left unidentified included north reports 8/12 Grant (2) KRE, LS, 9/4 Grant (5) PLJ, 9/17 Traverse (15) DLP and south reports 10/8 Brown (2, Mulligan Twp.) ph. BTS, MiO, 10/12 Watonwan BAB.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [34 North, 53 South] Peak migration at the end of September, when highest counts were tallied: 9/28 Blue Earth (523) BHW, 9/30 Blue Earth (323) BHW, 9/27 Blue Earth (316) BHW, 9/29 St. Louis (303) H.R.B.O. Late north 10/29 Lake KnM, SBE, followed only by H.R.B.O. reports in St. Louis: 10/30 (4), 11/8 (1), 11/18 (1). (median 10/31). Late south 10/22 Fillmore NBO, Hennepin (2) KnM, SKe, Ramsey WRe, MRe, 10/25 Fillmore RTP, 11/5 Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.) SLC (median 10/28).
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [26 North, 38 South] High counts 9/14 St. Louis (35) H.R.B.O., 9/17 St. Louis (19) H.R.B.O. Late north 10/22 Itasca SC and then only from St. Louis, where last reported 10/23 St. Louis (2) H.R.B.O. (median 10/24). Late south 10/28 Houston RSA, 10/31 Washington (Lake Elmo R.P.) BDo, (100th Street Marsh) ELi, 11/1 Stearns JOs, LKo (median 11/4).
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [7 North, 9 South] Early north (median 9/28) 9/27 Crow Wing (Upper Whitefish) JLA, St. Louis (adult, Stoney Point) BAF, 9/28 St. Louis (adult/dark-winged subadult) H.R.B.O. Early south (median 10/20) 10/8 Meeker PKF, 10/12 Benton (immature) DOr, 10/23 Blue Earth (immature) BHW. High counts all from H.R.B.O. in St. Louis: 10/30 (22), 11/9 (17), 11/6 (16).
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus hudsonius*) — [32 North, 50 South] High counts all from H.R.B.O. in St. Louis: 9/17 (36), 9/27 (33),



- 9/23 (31), 10/5 (31), 9/28 (29). See winter report for late migrants and overwintering individuals.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [30 North, 43 South] Early south (median 8/13) 8/10 Renville ABL, Wright PKI, 8/11 Hennepin EGB. High counts 9/24 St. Louis (2,515) H.R.B.O., 9/23 St. Louis (1,753) H.R.B.O., 10/4 St. Louis (1,724) H.R.B.O.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [23 North, 48 South] High counts 10/5 St. Louis (22) H.R.B.O., 10/4 St. Louis (18) H.R.B.O., 9/27 St. Louis (17) H.R.B.O., 9/17 Blue Earth (15) BHW. Late north 10/22 St. Louis (Park Point, Pine Forest S.N.A.) GWe, JtH, (H.R.N.R.) H.R.B.O., 10/23 St. Louis (4) H.R.B.O., 11/3 Morrison MJB (median 12/13).
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [12 North, 3 South] More widely reported north than in any previous fall since at least the mid-90s. All south 9/28 Washington (Cottage Grove) PNi, 10/24 and 10/30 Blue Earth (single immatures) BHW, 11/24 Hennepin (Crow-Hassan P.R.) ph. JuW. High counts 10/24 St. Louis (21) H.R.B.O., 10/28 St. Louis (17) H.R.B.O..
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High counts 11/19 Blue Earth (313) BHW, 11/8 St. Louis (253) H.R.B.O.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [9 North, 21 South] Most reports were from counties immediately on either side of a line from Becker to Wabasha. High count 11/2 Sherburne (4, Sherburne N.W.R., Wildlife Drive) LKt, SKe. All north reports after September: 10/5 Todd JLK, 10/7 Morrison KEm, 11/3 Morrison SEm (median 11/1).
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [26 North, 36 South] High counts 9/17 St. Louis (26,270) H.R.B.O., 9/27 St. Louis (6,128) H.R.B.O.. Late north 10/24 St. Louis (2) H.R.B.O., 10/25 Lake (Beaver Bay W.T.P.) RSA, **11/14–22+** St. Louis (juvenile, Park Point) AMs, ph. PHS, JGz, but also see winter report (median 10/21). Late south 10/9 Blue Earth (4) BHW, 10/11 Blue Earth (5) BHW, 11/5 Chisago JMs (median 10/15).
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [7 North, 16 South] High count 9/26 Blue Earth (3) BHW. Late north 10/1 St. Louis (dark juvenile, H.R.N.R.) AxM, 10/4 St. Louis BMu, (dark juvenile) H.R.B.O., 10/13 Becker ShG, HeH (median 9/28). Late south 10/7 Blue Earth BHW, 10/8 Le Sueur (2) ebd, 10/13 Brown MiO (median 10/9).
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county in the state. High counts 10/24 St. Louis (1,257) H.R.B.O., 10/23 St. Louis (854, including one dark adult Harlan's) H.R.B.O..
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [29 North, 42 South] Early north (median 9/21) 10/4 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 10/8 Cass DPJ, St. Louis H.R.B.O. Early south (median 10/4) 9/1 Anoka REH, 9/25 Lyon (Brauner Lake) ebd, 9/28 Murray (2, Lake Shetek S.P.) JmM. High counts 10/25 St. Louis (**322**, highest fall single-day tally for North America, apart from a record of 700 from the 1890s mentioned in *Bird Lore!*) H.R.B.O.
- FERRUGINOUS HAWK** (*Buteo regalis*) — [3 North, 1 South] All north 10/16 Red Lake (Plummer) ph. PCt (**The Loon** 90:79). All south **8/5** Lac qui Parle (State Line Rd.) ph. †DnS, MWS. Also see *Documented Records still under Review*.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [3 North, 15 South] Scattered reports throughout the season, all south of a line from Clay to **Chisago** (11/24 MJB). Red morphs noted in Dakota and Kandiyohi.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [20 North, 39 South] Found statewide.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [9 North, 19 South] Arrived north and south well prior to recent medians. More reports than usual from the counties immediately south of the Twin Cities. Early north (median 11/4) 10/17 Marshall HHu, 10/26 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) ArL, 11/6 Lake DWK, HCT, JWL, JPR. Early south (median 11/13) 10/25 Ramsey KnP, 11/3 Scott NyL, 11/5 Dakota RPR. High count 11/25 Polk (3) SAS, JMJ.
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia uhula*) — [3 North] All north (median 10/31) 11/12 Beltrami (location?) BSi, 11/19 Beltrami (Big Bog S.R.A.) LiH, ASu, 11/27 St. Louis ABL, 11/29 Lake of the Woods (S.R. 72, just north of the Beltrami County line) AME, MSf, 11/30 St. Louis FGo. No south reports.



**Snowy Owl, 14 November 2017, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by David Brisance.**

**Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [20 North, 28 South] Reported from almost every county east of a line from Clay to Martin counties, but no reports west of this line. High count 9/22 Washington (5, William O'Brien S.P.) GaJ.

**Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [2 North] One early season report 8/31 Beltrami (Shoreline Drive NE) KRE, then only 11/27 St. Louis ABL, 11/27 St. Louis FGo.

**Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [3 North, 6 South] All north 9/25 Kittson LW, 10/8 St. Louis (6, season's high count, Duluth, Bluestone Flats) TRd, 10/17 St. Louis JLK, 10/25 St. Louis (1 daytime migrant) H.R.B.O., (4 banded at night) AxM, ALx, 10/28 Lake (Two Harbors) JPR, 11/2 Lake FGo, 11/27 Hubbard REEn. Early south (median 11/1) 10/11 Wright (near Hasty) MLk, 10/12 Wright MJB, (Suconnix W.M.A.) ToL, 10/14 Washington PNi, BDo, then no more reports until early November.

**Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [9 North, 8 South] More widely reported than in any fall season since 2005 (also 18 counties). Approximately 30 individuals; most of them reported from October. Early south 10/14 Hennepin ABL, 10/25 Pipestone KEm, Washington (2) JHh.

**Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — [1 North] Three individuals were banded at the

H.R.N.R. in St. Louis between 11/5 and 11/19 AXm, ALx.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [3 North, 7 South] Found north in Cook, St. Louis and Hubbard. Early south 10/5 Washington (Carpenter N.C.) MBw, 10/7 Carver (Carver P.R.) ChP, Wabasha (3, Weaver Dunes) JhB.

**Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) — [31 North, 52 South] High counts 8/12 Hennepin (8, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) SDz, 10/5 Sherburne (8, Sherburne N.W.R.) SMC. Two November reports north: 11/10 Douglas JPE, 11/30 Hubbard REN.

**Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [16 North, 41 South] High counts 8/5 Faribault (12, throughout the county) DBz, 9/9, 9/20 Anoka (10, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) MRe, WRe. Late north 9/28 Crow Wing JhH, 9/30 Kanabec KRE, JJS, 10/18 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TRd

**Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [28 North, 52 South] Reported from every region, though scarce in extreme northwest where not reported from Roseau, Marshall, Lake of the Woods, Koochiching. High counts 11/23 Rice (9, Northfield/Dundas trail) RML, 11/2 Hennepin (8, Crow-Hassan P.R.) KnM.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [33 North, 47 South] High count 9/28 St. Louis (238) H.R.B.O. Late north 10/25 Lake JPR, St. Louis (Stoney Point; not migrating) StK, (Park Point, Pine Forest S.N.A.) ebd, 10/28 St. Louis (Stoney Point) WCM, JWL, 11/16 Cass (Evergreen Lodge Resort) ebd (median 10/30). See winter report for late south migrants.

**American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [2 North] Many more reports than usual. Frequently reported from mid-October through the end of the season in St. Louis: migrants observed at Stoney Point beginning 10/10 KJB, TRd, StK, m.ob.; one to two settled in and were observed here through 11/18; migrants were also frequently seen at H.R.N.R., at Everett Woods (10/17 JLK), and various points along the Lake Superior shoreline; one was found in the Sax-Zim Bog 11/9 MSS. All other reports: 11/18 Lake (Two Harbors,

- Lighthouse Point) PSk, JGz, 11/23 Lake (Snowbank Rd.) NLM.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [9 North, 1 South] Found north from Pine and Hubbard northeast to Cook. Significant movement down the North Shore was noted from Stoney Point in St. Louis where census activities tallied high counts 10/9 (**32**) TRd, 10/10 (**29**) TRd, StK, KJB, 10/17 St. Louis (**25**) TRd, StK. One south report 10/15 **Sherburne** (Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail) ph. TBu, KBu.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates pubescens*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported from every county. High counts 10/13 Morrison (**21**, Crane Meadows N.W.R.) SEM, 9/12 Hennepin (18, Westwood Hills N.C.) ASu.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates villosus*) — [34 North, 52 South] Reported from every county except Nicollet. High counts 9/12 Hennepin (**11**, Westwood Hills N.C.) ASu, 10/17 St. Louis (**11**, Stoney Point) TRd, StK.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [34 North, 52 South] High counts 9/28 St. Louis (224) H.R.B.O., 9/18 St. Louis (137) H.R.B.O., 9/28 St. Louis (124, Stoney Point) TRd. North reports after mid-November: 11/24 Otter Tail TAN, 11/27 Mille Lacs RBJ, 11/30 Otter Tail JsS, St. Louis FGo.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [32 North, 45 South] Found statewide, though few reports southwest of a line from Lincoln to Faribault counties. High count 11/11 Cass (**7**, Evergreen Lodge Resort) ebd.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. Few north reports after October. High counts 9/23 St. Louis (158) H.R.B.O., 9/14 St. Louis (126) H.R.B.O., 9/27 St. Louis (113) H.R.B.O..
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [29 North, 37 South] High counts 9/14 St. Louis (37) H.R.B.O., 10/8 St. Louis (21) H.R.B.O. Possible early south migrants 8/24 Renville MiO, Stearns ToL, 8/26 Stearns AaL (median 8/17).
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [16 North, 33 South] Reported from 51 counties, a new high for the fall season. New fall records: 10/14 **Norman** BoA, 10/6 **Todd** JLK. High counts 9/14 St. Louis (13) H.R.B.O., 9/23 St. Louis (12) H.R.B.O., 9/26 Blue Earth (11) BHW.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — [2 South] Two late-August reports south: 8/23 **Stearns** (C.R. 10 and 240th Street NW) ph. †DOr, 8/27 **Yellow Medicine** (Hanley Falls) †PEB.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [22 North, 48 South] High counts 8/2 Carver (8, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/8 Dakota (6, Terrace Oaks Park) EGB. Late north 9/4 Becker HeH, ShG, Mille Lacs TAN, 9/13 Becker HeH, ShG, Itasca SC (median 9/19). Late south 9/21 Steele PSu, 9/23 Lyon GWe, 9/29 Lac qui Parle FAE (median 9/22).
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [6 North, 4 South] High count 8/18 Wilkin (6) RAE. Late north 8/19 Wilkin ASL, 8/20 Clay DLP, Grant CLN, 8/25 Red Lake KnM, ASu (median 9/7). Late south 8/22 Big Stone HHD, Lyon GWe, 9/4 Pipestone DWK. (median 9/4).
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [31 North, 51 South] High count 8/5 Lac qui Parle (22, Big Stone N.W.R., Auto Tour Road) MiS. Late north 9/7 St. Louis ALX, 9/9 Cook JWL, SLL, 9/16 Mille Lacs MJB (median 9/17). Late south 9/24 Ramsey DnS, MiS, 9/30 IVa, 10/4 Cottonwood KnM, ASu (median 9/26).
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [23 North, 40 South] First south migrants found in summer season. High counts 8/23 Lyon (**8**, Southwest Minnesota State University) GWe, JtH, 8/23 Washington (**6**, Carpenter N.C.) ELI, 8/27 Koochiching (**6**, Pine Island Road) KnM, ASu. Late north 9/12 St. Louis KSz, 9/14 St. Louis ALX, 9/16 Otter Tail JsS (median 9/9). Late south 9/17 Olmsted DBz, 9/22 Hennepin EGB, Washington PNi, 9/27 Hennepin PRH (median 9/22).
- WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE** (*Contopus sordidulus*) — [1 North] Fourth fall record continued from summer at Buffalo River S.P., Clay, reported through 8/26 ph. †RMD, a.t., ph. †PEB, m.ob. (**The Loon** 90: 34–35).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [31 North, 52 South] High counts 8/4 Steele (16, Somerset Twp.) PSu, 8/9 Carver (15, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 9/27 Pine VKI, 9/30 Todd JLK, **10/15** Lake (Two Harbors, Lighthouse Point) ph. JWL (median 9/19).

- Late south 9/29 Lyon NMe, 9/30 Ramsey AtK, Sherburne IVa (median 10/3).
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [11 North, 22 South] Reported with adequate details from 1 north and 6 south counties. Early south 8/19 Steele (2) PSu, 8/20 Hennepin CMB, 8/22 Lac qui Parle DLP. Only north report with details 8/9 Cook (Lutsen) ph. DLB. Late south 8/29 Hennepin WCM, 9/2 Steele PSu, 9/3 Waseca PSu.
- Acadian Flycatcher** (*Empidonax virescens*) — [1 South] No reports with identification details.
- Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [10 North, 7 South] Reported with details from 6 north and 4 south counties. Late north 8/12 Polk SAu, 8/19 Marshall DLP (median 8/22). Late south 8/20 Waseca PSu, 9/9 Hennepin MPi (median 8/27).
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [4 North, 19 South] Reported with details from 5 south counties. Late south 8/23 Sherburne PLJ, 8/26 Hennepin ACr (median 8/28).
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [27 North, 34 South] High counts 8/22 Steele (6) PSu, 8/25 Lyon (6, Camden S.P.) JtH, GWe. Late north 9/26 Lake JPR, 9/28 St. Louis BAF, VKl, 9/29 St. Louis (2) StK (median 9/18). Late south 9/27 Hennepin PRH, Sherburne PLJ, 9/28 Sherburne (median 9/25).
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [34 North, 52 South] High counts 9/30 Sherburne (18, Sherburne N.W.R.) IVa. Late north 10/14 Grant CNn, 10/18 Mille Lacs DMz, 10/29 Clay MO (median 10/16). Late south 11/6 Dakota DVe, 11/14 Dakota PNi, **11/9–22** Hennepin (Grass Lake) KBg, JWl, TAT (median 11/1).
- Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 North, 1 South] One north, 8/4–11 Clay (Felton Prairie, continuing from the summer season) CRM, †HCT, HHD, RAE. One south 9/23 Lac qui Parle DLP.
- VERMILION FLYCATCHER** (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) — [1 South] Sixth state record and first county record, a year-old male 10/12 **Yellow Medicine** (Florida Twp., 110th St. south of 250th Ave.) ph. †KRE, KMS, SSc. Unfortunately the bird could not be refound shortly after the initial sighting.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [1 North, 3 South] High counts 8/10 Dakota (6, 180th St. Marsh) SKe, 8/6 Dakota (5, Emery Ave.) KDS. One north report 9/1 Todd TLu (median late 8/21). All south 8/3, 8/6 Dakota KDS, 8/10 Dakota SKe, 8/13 Wabasha (3) DBz, 8/20 Carver SKe, CRA (median 8/29).
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius borealis*) — [24 North, 35 South] Early north (median 10/9) 10/8 St. Louis H.R.B.O., m.ob., (Old Stella Jones Pier) MLH. Early south (median 10/14) 10/15 Sherburne KBu, TBu, 10/17 Fillmore MJM, Hennepin EGB, Washington BDO. High counts 10/16 St. Louis (7, H.R.N.R.) ALx.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [2 South] All south 8/1–9 Hennepin CMB, 8/23 Washington ELi (median late 8/31).
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [22 North, 34 South] High count 8/2 Carver (6, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 9/19 Morrison RBJ, 9/27 Crow Wing EGa, 9/30 Todd JLK (median 9/19). Late south 9/30 Dakota AJF, Meeker RMA, Washington KnM, ASu (median 9/30).
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [19 North, 47 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/20 Dakota AJF, 8/21 Hennepin TAT, 8/22 Big Stone HHD, Murray RAE. High count 9/25 Lyon (6, Southwest Minnesota State University) JtH, GWe. Late north 10/11 Lake TRd, 10/22 St. Louis StK, KJB (median 10/7). Late south 10/19 Houston FKO, 10/22 Hennepin AtK, 10/27 Hennepin CIB (median 10/18).
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [19 North, 37 South] Early south (median 8/15) 8/12 Le Sueur BAb, BHe, 8/16 Faribault WAF, 8/19 Le Sueur JS1. High counts 9/6 St. Louis (6, H.R.N.R.) ALx, 9/9 Meeker (4) RAE. Late north 9/27 St. Louis ALx, Todd JLK, 10/4 Beltrami KCo (median 9/26). Late south 9/30 Scott ANy, Sherburne IVa, 10/5 Hennepin CDg (median 10/3).
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [22 North, 48 South] High count 8/23 Hennepin (8, Westwood Hills N.C.) FFa, ASu. Late north 9/11 Becker HeH, ShG, Beltrami DPJ, Clay HeH, ShG, St. Louis AKO, and then a record-late individual **10/28–29** Lake (Knife River) ph. ANy, m.ob. (median 9/17). Late

- south 9/19 Pope HHD, 9/26 Hennepin (Nine Mile Creek) MCo, SCo, JcM, 9/27 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) SBM (median 9/25).
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [31 North, 52 South] High counts 9/2 Stearns (25, Mississippi River C.P.) PCC, 8/15 St. Louis (22, H.R.N.R.) JLK. Late north 9/27 St. Louis SKE, CRa, ASu, Todd JLK, 9/28 St. Louis TRd (median 10/7). Late south 10/7 Washington GJa, 10/10 Ramsey JZj, 10/13 Carver JcY (median 10/7).
- Canada Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [10 North] No reports outside traditional range. High counts 10/28 Cook (8, Poplar Lake.) KaG, 11/27 St. Louis (8, Sax-Zim Bog) GJa.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 9/12 St. Louis (4,758) H.R.B.O., 9/14 St. Louis (3,858) H.R.B.O.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [19 North] Reported throughout traditional range, plus 11/8 **Crow Wing** JLA. High counts 8/27 Roseau (43, Roseau W.T.P.) KnM, 8/26 Kittson (36, Lake Bronson W.T.P.) KnM, LiH, ASu.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High count 10/25 St. Louis (1,956) H.R.B.O.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [31 North, 8 South] Reported throughout normal range, also 9/11 Wright DPG. High count 10/8 St. Louis (126) H.R.B.O.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [23 North, 46 South] High count 9/30 Chisago (400, North Branch sod farms) JSa. Late north 11/11 Wilkin LiH, 11/12 Becker HeH, ShG.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [21 North, 38 South] High counts 8/19 Washington (500) ECL, 8/22 Lyon (80, Sham Lake) GWe. Late north 9/3 Roseau KRE, m.ob., Mille Lacs TAN, St. Louis ALX, JPR, 9/7 Traverse KnM (median 9/6). Late south 9/10 Lyon GWe, Wright RCL, 9/13 Lyon GWe (median 9/14).
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [24 North, 53 South] High counts 8/25 Stearns (1000, Albany W.T.P.) KnM, LiH, ASu, 9/24 Steele (750) PSu. Late north 9/11 Clay PBB, 9/18 Todd HCT, 9/27 Grant CNn (median 10/1). Late south 10/20 Fillmore MJM, 10/26 Olmsted LAV (median 10/20).
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [12 North, 36 South] Only North-central report: 8/18 **Lake of the Woods** (8, Morris Point) AxB. High counts 9/5 Washington (50) ECL, 8/5 Lac qui Parle (48, Salt Lake) DnS, MWS. Late north 9/2 Otter Tail JsS, Pine RyC, 9/3 Otter Tail BAR (median 9/2). Late south 9/23 Sherburne PLJ, 9/24 Rice NiR, 9/27 Lac qui Parle TAT (median 10/1).
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [13 North, 45 South] High count 8/6 Lac qui Parle (430) KeL. Late north 9/3 Becker MKp, Grant CNn, Roseau KRE, DFe, St. Louis ABL, 9/5 Todd JMs (median 9/7). Late south 9/20 Lincoln GWe, 9/21 Pipestone KnM, 9/23 Olmsted JKL (median 9/18).
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [21 North, 51 South] High count 8/17 St. Louis (2,570, Lester River Mouth) StK. Late north 9/12 St. Louis ALX, 9/20 Grant CNn, and then only 10/15 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TRd, StK, a month after the 9/15 median. Late south 9/19 Blue Earth ChH, 9/24 Jackson JJu, 10/8 Blue Earth RBW (median 9/30).
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [32 North, 53 South] High count 9/3 Grant (200) CNn. Late north 10/4 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 10/10 Traverse KnM, 10/13 Aitkin JWl (median 10/7). Late south 10/13 Mower SWm, 10/15 Jackson JJu (median 10/24).
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide including several notable high counts from Stoney Point, St. Louis: 611 on 10/16 TRd, StK, and 562 on 10/8 TRd.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [3 North] Scarce, only reported from Cook, Lake and St. Louis, with no reports of more than 3 individuals.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [10 South] Reported along the eastern border north to Chisago. High counts 10/7 Wabasha (4, Whitewater W.M.A.) Lsf, 11/5 Dakota (4) AJF.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [29 North, 50 South] Reported from all regions. High counts 9/28 St. Louis (44, Stoney Point) TRd, 10/5 St. Louis (37, Stoney Point) TRd, StK.

**White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*)

— [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 8/24 Rice (24, Cannon River Wilderness Area, West Unit) JiP, 10/25 Beltrami (19, Lake Bemidji S.P.) KCo.

**Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [26 North, 41 South] Early south (median 8/27) 8/5 Washington BDo, SOa, 8/14 Ramsey BAF, Washington ELI, 8/20 Dakota AJF. High counts 10/5 St. Louis (26, Stoney Point) TRd, StK, 9/28 St. Louis (21, Stoney Point) TRd.

**House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [23 North, 52 South] High counts 8/2 Carver (15, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/4 Olmsted (15, Rock Dell W.M.A.) MiD, 9/6 Carver (15, Rapids Lake) JCy. Late north 10/6 Kanabec RSA, 10/8 Clay PBB, Lake JWl (median 10/6). Late south 10/15 Washington JDS, 10/16 Hennepin CMB, BAF, 10/18 Hennepin CMB (median 10/18).

**Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [14 North, 29 South] Early south (median 8/31) 9/1 Olmsted JJS, 9/9 Hennepin IVa, SRG, 9/10 Stearns HHD. High counts 10/8 Carver (8, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy, 10/8 Hennepin (8) CMB. Late north 10/22 in Cook, Lake, and St. Louis (3 locations), then 10/23 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) AVa, ALx, (Park Point) JLK (median 10/23). Late south 11/23 Hennepin IVa, 11/25 Houston SHo, but see winter report (median 12/17).

**Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [27 North, 47 South] High counts 8/12 Grant (15, North Ottawa Impoundment) RCL, 10/5 Dakota (10) TAT, ADS. Late north 10/7 St. Louis JDx, 10/19 Aitkin PEJ, 10/22 St. Louis KJB (median 10/14). Several late south reports after the 10/13 median, all from different locations in Hennepin: 10/17 (Minnesota Valley N.W.R. Headquarters) GrS, 10/30 (Lake Hiawatha Park) BAF, 11/1 (Wood Lake N.C.) SLc.

**Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [19 North, 43 South] High count 9/10 Lyon (38, Sham Lake) GWe. Late north 10/19 Lake JhM, St. Louis ToL, MAI, 10/21 Lake JCa, 10/29 Lake RMD, ph. PHS, m.ob. (median 10/16). Late south 10/26 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) JST, 10/24–29 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) SBM, IVa (median 11/1).

**Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*)

— [2 North, 6 South] Strongest fall showing since 2012. All north 8/27–29 **Lake** (Two Harbors, Paul Van Hoven Park) ph. JWl, m.ob., 10/22 – 11/26 **Becker** (near Fig Lake) HeH, ShG, m.ob. All south reports 8/23 Carver (Rapids Lake) JCy, 9/28 Hennepin (Nine Mile Creek) Jcm, MCo, SCo, 10/13 Olmsted KHo, 10/29 – 11/20 Hennepin (Maple Grove) SvS, 11/4 Dakota SPo, 11/5–19 Hennepin (Ft. Snelling S.P.) BAF, SHF, 11/11 Houston (Wildcat Landing) SHo, 11/18 Rice TFB, 11/20 Hennepin (Sorenson Landing; same as Nine Mile Creek bird?) IvA.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*)

— [5 North, 40 South] High count 8/23 Hennepin (12, Westwood Hills N.C.) FFa, ASu. Late north 8/26 Crow Wing SSc, KMS, Otter Tail JsS, 8/29 Crow Wing MJB (median 9/9). Late south 9/15 Scott BAb, 9/16 Freeborn DFe, Hennepin CMB, JLI, Murray FKO, 9/20 Hennepin SBM (median 9/23).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*)

— [27 North, 49 South] Probable summering birds 8/27 – 9/10 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail) JuW, JLB, SBE, LiH. Early south (median 9/17) 9/17 Ramsey KSi, 9/23 Hennepin JcM. High counts 9/28 St. Louis (104, Stoney Point) TRd, 10/22 St. Louis (60, Park Point, Pine Forest S.N.A.) GWe, JtH. Late north 11/6 Lake JPR, St. Louis NAn, 11/7 Cook ShG, St. Louis StK (median 11/29).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*)

— [32 North, 50 South] Early south (median 8/25) 8/4 Meeker PKF, 8/16 Faribault WAF, 8/26 Hennepin CWB. High counts 10/22 St. Louis (45, Park Point, Pine Forest S.N.A.) GWe, JtH, 10/13 Carver (42, Carver P.R.) JCy. Late north 11/2 Grant CNn, 11/6 St. Louis NAn, 11/11 Lake StK (median 11/2). Late south 11/16 Hennepin Raf, 11/18–19 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) CMu, AAu (median 11/21).

**Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*)

— [34 North, 50 South] High counts 10/9 St. Louis (51) H.R.B.O., 10/13 Dakota (50, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) DAT. Late north 11/5 Otter Tail JsS, 11/17 St. Louis ALx, 11/25 Polk MGa (median 11/28).

**Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*)

— [2 North] All north reports, 10/22 **Clay** PBB, 10/28 – 11/14 Lake, with up to 3

- individuals reported in Two Harbors JWl, ph. GHo, ph. PHS, m.ob.
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [4 North, 4 South] Early north (median 10/11) 9/23 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 9/28 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 10/3 Becker AAz, followed by many north shore reports through the end of the season. All south (median arrival 10/19) 10/4 Pipestone ASu, KnM, 11/13 **Yellow Medicine** GWe, 11/19–30+ Washington (max. 3, Afton S.P.) PAI, m.ob, 11/24 **Brown** BTS, MiO, 11/26 Yellow Medicine GWe. A total of 19 individuals were reported.
- Veery** (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [16 North, 16 South] High count 8/22 St. Louis (7, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 9/11 St. Louis TRd, 9/14 Becker HeH, ShG (median 9/14). Late south 9/14 Hennepin TAT, CWB, 10/10 Ramsey REH (median 9/17).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catbarus minimus*) — [8 North, 4 South] Early north (median 9/3) 8/27 St. Louis (Kenilworth Ave.) ALx, 9/5 St. Louis (Hartley Park) JLK, 9/6 Mille Lacs HHD, St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) ALx. Early south (median 9/2) 9/1 Hennepin CMB, Sherburne MJB, 9/4 Hennepin NiR. Late north 9/28 Koochiching ph. AMe, St. Louis TRd, 9/29 Wadena PJB, 9/30 Kanabec KRE, JJS, LS (median 10/2). Late south 10/1 Hennepin CMB, Ramsey JZj, 10/2 Dakota GHo, 10/10 Ramsey REH (median 10/8).
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [19 North, 26 South] Early south (median 8/13) 8/4 Washington CNC, 8/12, 8/20 Carver (Rapids Lake) JCy. High count 8/31 St. Louis (13, H.R.N.R.) AxM. Late north 10/18 Douglas BEc, 10/19 Wadena MJB, DOr, 10/29 Cook (Lutsen Sea Villas) DBz, ANy, BWF (median 10/18). Late south 10/15 Hennepin JWl, Mower SWm, Washington JDS, 10/16 Sherburne DOr (median 10/18).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [19 North, 35 South] Early south (median 9/15) 9/23 Ramsey MiS, MWS, 9/26 Hennepin JWl, Washington PNi, High counts 10/17 Hennepin (12, Veterans Memorial Park) SBM, 10/4 Hennepin (11) CMB. Late south 10/26 St. Louis JLK, 10/27 Cass SC, 10/28 Roseau (3) BoA (median 10/28). Late south 11/5 Hennepin MPi, 11/23 Scott IVa, but see winter report (median 12/23).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [4 North, 10 South] High counts 8/1 Washington (3, Afton S.P.) PNi, 8/2 Dakota (3, Hampton Woods W.M.A.) DwS, KDS. Late north 8/28 St. Louis LSh, 9/24 Clay DPW (median 9/10). Late south 9/7 Steele PSu, 9/8 Anoka DPG, 10/1 Hennepin CMB (median 9/30).
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 10/5 St. Louis (9,217, Stoney Point) TRd, StK, 10/9 St. Louis (6,412, Stoney Point) TRd.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [1 North] Only individual was a male visiting a feeder near Cameron Park in Bemidji: 11/10–19 Beltrami ph. DPJ, AxB, REN, ASu, LiH.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [32 North, 53 South] High counts 8/8 Hennepin (20, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ALD, 9/7 Scott (19, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BAF. Late north 10/28–29 Cook ANY, m.ob., 10/29 Lake SC, 11/2 St. Louis JLK, 11/10 Lake PgR (median 10/30). Late south 11/14 Hennepin DTr, 11/19 Ramsey AVa, 11/22 Washington (Afton S.P.) PNi, BDo, GJa (median 11/4).
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [20 North, 34 South] High counts 8/5, 8/13 Grant (4) CNn, 8/20 Chisago (4) MTE, 9/17 Hennepin (4) TSI. Late north 10/3 Grant CNn, 11/7–15 Cook (Tofte Ranger District) PgR (median 10/30). Late south 10/3 Hennepin TAT, 10/8 Benton LKo, MKO, 11/21–25 Anoka PJM (median 12/30).
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — Only the second fall season since 1995 with no reports.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [33 North, 53 South] Reported statewide. High counts 9/19 Lyon (2,000, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) GWe, 8/25 Stearns (1,500, Albany W.T.P.) KnM.
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [11 North] Early north (median 9/29) 10/1 St. Louis (1, H.R.N.R.) AxM, 10/5 Cook (18) RSS, 10/8 St. Louis (4, Stoney Point) StK, TRd, TRK, JWl. High count 11/2 Lake (220, Two Harbors, Lakeview Park) CRM, m.ob.
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [33 North, 52 South] Present north and south throughout the season. High counts 9/11 St. Louis (1,509) H.R.B.O., 9/12 St.

Louis (1,145, H.R.N.R., Summit Ledges) TRd, 9/18 St. Louis (980, Stoney Point) StK, 9/7 St. Louis (965) H.R.B.O.

**House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) — [29 North, 52 South] Unreported from numerous north counties. High count 8/23 Ramsey (102, UM St. Paul Campus) EGB.

**American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [24 North, 40 South] Early north (median 9/6) 9/2 Crow Wing NSg, PSP, 9/3 Cass DAY, 9/4 Hubbard AxB. Early south (median 9/13) 9/7 Nobles GHo, Redwood RBW, 9/8 Hennepin CMB. High counts 9/27 St. Louis (266, Stoney Point) TRd, 9/28 St. Louis (219, Stoney Point) TRd, 9/28 St. Louis (142) H.R.B.O. Late north 11/8 St. Louis (Park Point) ShG, HeH, (Stoney Point) StK, TRK, 11/10 Lake SFo (median 11/4). Late south 11/13, 11/18 Lyon (Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe, 11/20 Brown ANy (median 11/10).

**Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [8 North] Reported throughout the season in the Northeast, North-central and one Northwest county with a majority of reports coming in October and November. High counts 11/10 St. Louis (38, Sax-Zim Bog) AMs, RyS, 11/27 St. Louis (18, Sax-Zim Bog) GJa, 11/29 St. Louis (18, Sax-Zim Bog) JhH.

**Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [18 North] Reported from the northern third of the state beginning the last week of October. Early north (median 10/19) 10/24 Cook JaJ, St. Louis ALx, JLK, AVa, 10/25 Cook JaJ, Itasca SC, Lake, St. Louis H.R.B.O. Unusual report 11/10 **Douglas** JPE. High counts 11/18 St. Louis (127) H.R.B.O., 11/8 St. Louis (124, Stoney Point) StK, TRK.

**House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [24 North, 52 South] Reported statewide, though with few reports along the northern tier of counties.

**Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [30 North, 40 South] Reported north throughout the season. Notable high counts all from H.R.B.O. in St. Louis: 312 on 10/5, 288 on 10/9, and 270 on 10/4. Presumed early south arrivals 8/29 Meeker PKF, 8/29 Olmsted (2) ebd, 9/3 Carver JCY.

**Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [27 North, 33 South] Well represented this season with early north (median 10/16)



**Red Crossbill, 10 November 2017, Lutsen, Cook County. Photo by David Brisance.**

10/17 St. Louis TRd, StK, 10/18 St. Louis TRd, 10/20 St. Louis StK, KJB. High counts from H.R.N.R. (St. Louis, H.R.B.O.): 2,475 on 10/31, 2,197 on 10/30, 1,873 on 10/28, 1,797 on 11/1, and 1,810 on 10/31 (Stoney Point) StK. Numerous reports south beginning (median 10/30) 10/12 Stearns LKO, 10/14 Sherburne MJB, LKO, 10/23 Redwood HCT, DWK, 10/25 Anoka DBz, Ramsey RMD. Noteworthy were many reports from the Southwest region.

**Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemannii*) — [5 North] Early north (median 11/4) 10/28 St. Louis ALx, 10/29 Cook (Grand Marais) m.ob., 10/30 St. Louis JLK, 11/2 Cook FGO, Lake (Knife River) m.ob., Roseau BSi. Reports continued throughout the season mainly from the North Shore of Lake Superior.

**Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [25 North, 33 South] Minnesota was no exception to this species' continent-wide dispersal throughout the summer and into the fall season. For the entire season there were only 11 days where this species was not recorded in the state. Reports came from all regions except the Southeast. High counts 10/22 St. Louis (max. **1,269**, Stoney



Point) KJB, StK, JuW, 10/25 St. Louis (max. **560**, Stoney Point) StK, KJB, 10/25 St. Louis (255) H.R.B.O. New county record 8/17 **Yellow Medicine** (3, Hanley Falls west cemetery) WCM. Crossbill Type 2 ("Ponderosa Pine Crossbill", found continent-wide), Type 3 ("Western Hemlock Crossbill", found principally in the Pacific Northwest but frequently irruptive to the Great Lakes), and Type 4 ("Douglas-fir Crossbill", also found in the Pacific Northwest and rarely irruptive east of the Intermontane West) were well-represented, both north and south.

**White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [9 North, 6 South] With the exception of one out-of-season report on 8/5 St. Louis (Toivola) CIN, north reports began 10/1 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) AxM, 10/13 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TrD, StK, 10/14 St. Louis (2) H.R.B.O., and then continued through the end of the season. South reports began 10/26 Hennepin (Crow-Hassan P.R.) KnM, 11/1 Ramsey DnS, MiS, 11/5 Kandiyohi JWd and continued sporadically through November.

**Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [34 North, 46 South] Reported north, continuously, throughout the season. Early south 8/1 Meeker PKF, 8/6 Hennepin ebd, 8/7 Washington ebd, 8/12 Washington DFN, then reports begin in earnest mid-August. High counts all from St. Louis, Stoney Point: 10/5 (1,448) TRd, StK, 10/22 (1,073) KJB, 10/18 (983) TRd, 10/10 (937) StK, TRd.

**American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [34 North, 53 South] Reported statewide throughout the season. High counts 9/23 St. Louis (317, Stoney Point) TRd, 9/27 St. Louis (311, Stoney Point) TRd, 9/28 St. Louis (284, Stoney Point) TRd.

**Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [21 North, 27 South] Early north (median 9/14) 9/5 Lake JWl, 9/9 Cook ebd, 9/26 Lake AxM, ALx, St. Louis AxM, ALx. Early south (median 9/24) 9/30 Swift DOR, 10/2 Benton HHD, 10/5 Dakota TAT, BAF. High counts 11/24 Yellow Medicine (800) GWe, 11/1 Becker (600, Hamden Slough N.W.R.) HeH, ShG, 10/28 Le Sueur (500) GHo.

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

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

[4 North, 5 South] All north 9/28–30 **Lake** (Two Harbors, Paul Van Hoven Park) ph. JWl, m.ob., 10/3–11 St. Louis (Duluth, Old Stella Jones Pier) ALx, m.ob., 10/6 Pennington (32, season's high count, Thief River Falls W.T.P.) KCo, 10/17 Wilkin (Rothsay W.M.A.) KnM. All south 10/7 Lyon (3, Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe, 10/13 Cottonwood (Red Rock Prairie) ASu, KnM, 10/18 Yellow Medicine (6, Mound Spring Prairie S.N.A.) BRB, 10/21–24 Redwood (max. 30, Lambertson W.M.A.) BTS, m.ob., 10/25 Lyon (2) NMe, **11/20 Renville** (26, Kingman Twp.) RBj.

**Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [24 North, 27 South] Early north (median 10/9) 10/9 Lake BEc, 10/10 Cass JLA, 10/14 Cook AdJ. Early south (median 10/17) 10/14 Ramsey RMD, 10/24 Ramsey EzH, IsH, Sherburne ebd. High counts 11/18 Polk (1,400, East Grand Forks) SAu, 11/23 Polk (1,200, Keystone Twp.) SAu.

**Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [4 South] Five individuals reported south: 10/5–8 Hennepin (Plymouth) ph. †PRH, m.ob., 10/11 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P.) KnM, ASu, 10/13 Cottonwood KnM, ASu, Hennepin (Lake Harriet Rose Garden) TAT, m.ob., 11/18–27 Ramsey (Lauderdale) ph. JuW, m.ob.

**Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [6 North, 24 South] High counts 8/4 Sherburne (**22**, Sherburne N.W.R.) JJB, 8/1 Washington (11, Afton S.P.) PNi. Late north 10/4 Clay ShG, HeH, 10/7 Todd JJK, 10/8 Carlton RMD (median 10/7). Late south 10/13 Blue Earth HHD, 10/15 Anoka LKo, MKo, 10/26 Ramsey IsH, EzH (median 11/2).

**Spotted Towhee X Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus* X *P. erythrophthalmus*) — [1 South] One report 10/19 Anoka ph. RLR.

**American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizelloides arborea*) — [28 North, 44 South] Early north (median 9/25) 9/26 Lake JPR, 9/28 St. Louis ebd, 10/2 Crow Wing JLA. Early south (median 9/30) 9/18 Stearns (Beaver Island Trail) ebd, 9/20 Stearns (2, Rockville C.P.) LKo, 9/26 Stearns (St. John's Abbey Arboretum) LKo, MKo. High counts 10/24 Cook (**410**) KRE, 10/27 Lake (266, Knife River) KJB, 10/29 St. Louis (160, Park Point, Pine Forest S.N.A.) JfH.

**Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [34 North, 52 South] High counts 9/25 Hennepin (50) TAT, 10/2 Hennepin (43) TAT, 9/5 Pipestone (40) VKL. Late north 11/6 Polk SAu, 11/7 Hubbard AxB, 11/17 Itasca SC (median 11/8). Late south 11/20 Hennepin IVa, Rice TFB, 11/25 Dakota AFo, 11/30 Blue Earth ChH (median 11/15).

**Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [25 North, 34 South] High counts 8/20 St. Louis (16) JLK, 9/4 Yellow Medicine (14) GWe. Late north 10/19 St. Louis JLK, 10/22 St. Louis GWe, JtH, **11/10** St. Louis SLF (median 10/19). Late south 10/19 Stearns LKo, 10/22 Hennepin GAn, then **11/16-30+** Hennepin (downtown Minneapolis) ARh (median 10/18).

**Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [9 North, 43 South] High counts 8/6 Sherburne (16, Sherburne N.W.R.) RCL, 8/12 Goodhue (16, Frontenac S.P.) DTr, JEd, 8/8 Hennepin (15, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ALD. Late north 10/5 Todd JLK, 10/9 Douglas JLK, 10/14 Otter Tail JsS (median 10/19). Out-of-range north reports 8/8 Aitkin ebd, 8/12 Cass DoH, 9/29 Beltrami DPJ. Late south 10/26 Dakota IVa, Hennepin IVa, 10/28 Anoka IVa, Ramsey IVa (median 10/22).

**Vesper Sparrow** (*Pooecetes gramineus*) — [25 North, 41 South] High counts 10/2 Otter Tail (18) JsS, 10/12 Dakota (11) ADS, 8/11 Goodhue (8) GHo. Late north 10/20 Mille Lacs MJB, 10/25 Grant CRa, 11/6 Lake DAB (median 10/19). Late south 10/22 Carver JCy, Hennepin JTo, 10/31 Stearns LKo (median 10/26).

**Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [3 North, 15 South] Except for a few reports, this species was found in its normal range along major river valleys and the western tier of counties. High counts 8/6 Le Sueur (**13**) WCM, 8/22 Washington (4, Afton S.P.) ERH. All north 8/5 Polk (Tympanuchus Prairie) SAu, 8/8 Clay RMD, 8/10 Marshall HHD, RAE, 8/30 Polk (East Grand Forks) SAu. Late south 9/21 and 9/28 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R.) JGb (median 9/9). Noteworthy out-of-range reports 8/12 Cottonwood BTS, 8/10 Nobles TCu, 8/21 Kandiyohi HHD, MJB.

**Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [30 North, 48 South] High

counts 9/29 Grant (**400**, North Ottawa Impoundment) MO, 9/30 Kandiyohi (70) SBM, 9/24 Clay (60) CMK, 10/4 Cottonwood (60, Rock Ridge Prairie S.N.A.) KnM. Late north 11/2 Cook ABi, St. Louis m.ob., 11/4 St. Louis AFo, 11/5 Mahnomen KnM (median 11/3). Late south 11/8 Rice NiR, 11/12 Dakota DFN, Yellow Medicine KnM, 11/13 Lyon GWe (median 11/6).

**Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus savannarum*) — [6 North, 17 South] High counts 8/4 Sherburne (8, Sherburne N.W.R.) JJB, 8/4 Washington (5, Carpenter N.C.) ELi. Only a few north reports highlighted by unusual records 10/9 **Cook** CLN, 8/26 **Kittson** (Lake Bronson W.T.P.) KnM, 10/19 **Lake** (Two Harbors) JhM, JWJ, 9/8 **Marshall** (Agassiz N.W.R.) ebd. Late south 9/23 Kandiyohi MJB, 9/24 Washington EGB, 10/13 McLeod BHa (median 9/29).

**Henslow's Sparrow** (*Centronyx henslowii*) — [9 South] All reports 8/1 Washington (Afton S.P.) PNi, 8/5 Carver (Rapids Lake) JCy, **Faribault** DBz, 8/5-8 Hennepin (Crow-Hassan P.R.) HPe, MyP, ALD, 8/11 Carver ANy, 8/12 Brown (Wood Lake W.M.A.) BTS, Cottonwood (Red Rock Prairie) BTS, 8/13 Wabasha DBz, 8/19 **Stearns** (St. John's Abbey Arboretum) AUM, 8/22 **Renville** RBj.

**LeConte's Sparrow** (*Ammospiza leconteii*) — [14 North, 34 South] Early south (median 9/14) 9/3 Sherburne JJB, ABm, 9/15 Steele CRM, m.ob., 9/23 Kandiyohi JWd, m.ob. High counts 9/24 Clay (13) CMK, m.ob., 9/30 Nicollet (10) MiO, 10/8 Fillmore (10) JWH. Late north 10/10 Grant WPL, 10/17 Lake JWJ, 10/19 St. Louis ArL (median 10/9). Late south 10/18 Dakota WPo, 10/19 Sibley HCT, 10/20 Hennepin JST (median 10/19).

**Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammospiza nelsoni*) — [2 North, 11 South] All north 10/5 St. Louis (McQuade Small Craft Harbor) ALx, MSb, KnM, **10/13** Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) CNn. Early south (median 9/20) 9/16 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) JcM, 9/23 Olmsted (East Landfill Reservoir) JmP. High counts 9/27 Olmsted (4) JmP, 9/28 Carver (3, Tiger Lake W.M.A.) WCM. Late south 10/7 Cottonwood BTS, Freeborn JWH, Lyon GWe, Olmsted JmP, 10/8 **Fillmore** JWH, 10/16

- Stearns MJB (median 10/9).
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [26 North, 39 South] Early north (median 9/19) 9/19 Polk SAu, 9/23 Lake NCr, 9/24 St. Louis KRE. Early south (median 9/18) 9/24 Stevens DLP, 9/26 Carver JCy, Stearns AUm. High counts 10/5 St. Louis (29, Stoney Point) TRd, StK, 11/2 Hennepin (24) CMB. Late north 11/21 Beltrami DPJ, Polk SAu, 11/24 Clay MO, St. Louis ASu, LiH (median 12/19). Also see winter report.
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [33 North, 52 South] High counts 8/12 Grant (53, North Ottawa Impoundment) RCL, 8/5 Wright (45, Pelican Lake) RCL, 8/2 Carver (32, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/5 St. Louis (27, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 11/14 Itasca TCL, Polk SAu, 11/28 Clay ebd (median 12/18). Also see winter summary for more reports both north and south
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [29 North, 42 South] Early south (median 8/31) 8/29 Hennepin CWB, Meeker PKF, 8/31 Goodhue ebd. High counts 9/29 Hennepin (17, Bass Lake Preserve) SKS, 10/17 Scott (15, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp) ELR. Late north 10/25 Lake JPR, 11/5 Cook DAB, 11/11 St. Louis KSz (median 10/24). Late south 11/3 Hennepin JMn, 11/6 Kandiyohi KnM, LiH, ASu, 11/8 Ramsey LiH (median 11/4).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [32 North, 46 South] High counts 9/29 Hennepin (20) SKS, 8/22 Lyon (16) GWe. Late north 11/6 St. Louis ShG, HeH, 11/12–23 St. Louis BBd, JBu, StK, (median 11/1).
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [33 North, 49 South] Early south (median 8/27) 8/27 Stearns PCC, 9/1 Hennepin JCr, 9/4 Blue Earth ChH, Hennepin CWB, Ramsey DFN. High counts 9/28 St. Louis (512, Stoney Point) TRd, StK, 9/28 St. Louis (171, Brighton Beach) ebd, 9/25 Polk (150) SAu. Numerous reports for both south and north regions continued well into the winter season.
- Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [26 North, 35 South] Early north (median 9/16) 9/13 Polk SAu, 9/16 Clay MO, 9/21 St. Louis ALx. Early south (median 9/22) 9/23 Lyon GWe, 9/26 Stearns AUm, 9/27 Lyon GWe. High counts 10/14 Otter Tail (35) JsS, 10/11 Rock (15) KnM. See winter report for overwintering individuals.
- White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [25 North, 38 South] Early north (median 9/10) 9/6 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) KSz, 9/7–8 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) ALx, 9/8 Pine JyS, Polk SAu. Early south (median 9/16) 9/8 Hennepin TAT, 9/13 Hennepin JWl, Stearns JOs. High counts 10/2 Hennepin (20) CDg, 9/28 Lake (16, Two Harbors) JWl, 10/9 Cook (16) JaJ. Late north 11/4 Lake GLa, CRM, 11/5 Cook KRE, m.ob. (median 12/17). Late south 11/18 Rice NiR, 11/29 Washington ERH (median 12/19). See winter report for overwintering individuals north and south.
- Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [34 North, 52 South] First south reports (median 9/11) were unusually early, beginning 8/15 Hennepin CRA, 9/5 Stearns LKo, 9/9 Sherburne GUn. Multiple high counts reported from Stoney Point in St. Louis: 10/5 (1,871) TRd, StK, 10/13 (1,424) TRd, StK, 10/9 (578) TRd; also 10/19 St. Louis (359) H.R.B.O.
- Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [1 North] Only report **9/26 Otter Tail** SPM.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [14 North, 33 South] High counts all from North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant: 8/20 (1,500) CLN, 8/11 (500) LiH, KnM, 8/12 (500) JDv. Late north 9/26 Cook JaJ, Lake ALx, AxM, JPR, 10/5 Todd JLK, 10/9 Morrison DPG (median 9/26). Late south 10/11 Murray GWe, 11/21 Lac qui Parle DLP (median 11/2).
- Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [10 North, 21 South] High counts 8/4 Lyon (55, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 9/2 Grant (25) SMC, 9/4 Yellow Medicine (25, Lyon/Yellow Medicine Conservation Easement) GWe, 8/19 Stearns (24, Albany W.T.P.) AUm. Late north 9/22 Kanabec ASu, LiH, then only reports of migrants down the North Shore (Two Harbors, Stoney Point, and H.R.N.R.) from 9/23 through 10/5 St. Louis TRd, StK (median 9/27). Late south 9/28 Carver WCM, 9/29 Brown HHD, 10/1 Freeborn JWH, 10/6 Olmsted JHB (median 10/2).
- Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [8 North, 21 South] High counts 8/4 Morrison (18) KEm, 9/24 Ramsey (12) DnS, MiS, 10/5 Olmsted (12) JHB. Late north 11/2 Morrison SEm, 11/4 Lake DnS, MiS,

- 11/5 Lake SOa (median 10/21). Late south 10/25 Washington BDo, Wright RBd, 10/28 Carver JCy, Sherburne PLJ, 10/29 Sherburne m.ob. (median 10/26).
- Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [18 North, 23 South] High counts 10/10 Lyon (29, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 10/10 Grant (12, North Ottawa Impoundment) DOr, 10/8 Polk (11, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAu. Late north 11/5 Cook KRE, m.ob., Lake TPM, 11/11 Cook CLN, JMr, 11/12 Becker HeH, ShG (median 11/5). Late south 10/25 Lyon NMe, 10/28 Carver JCy, 11/15 Pipestone KEm (median 11/4).
- Sturnella meadowlark** — [3 North, 9 South] Numerous reports of silent *Sturnella* individuals wisely left unidentified including these from the Northeast: 10/10 St. Louis KRE, 10/22 Lake KRE, 10/23–29 Cook KRE, 10/29 Lake RMD, 11/4 Lake DAB, 11/22 Cook DLB, JBs.
- Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [3 North, 22 South] High counts 8/17 Polk (9, Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary) HHu, 8/5 Nicollet (6) MiO. All north 8/1–25 (Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary) Polk HHu, 8/18 Wilkin DFe, JMs, 8/19 Grant CNn, 8/25 Polk (Agassiz Dunes S.N.A.) KnM, ASu, LiH. Late south 8/22 Kandiyohi JoS, 8/27 Pope BLc, 8/30 Meeker PKF (median 8/24).
- Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [25 North, 45 South] High counts 8/16 Lyon (14) GWe, 8/27 Morrison (13) KEm, 8/26 Brown (12) MiO. Late north 11/3 Kittson LW, 11/8 Douglas BEc (median 9/20). Late south 9/17 Faribault DWK, 9/22 Wright PKL, 10/13 Wright JJS, JPr (median 9/22).
- Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [32 North, 52 South] Seen throughout the state and into the winter both north and south. Notable high counts 9/25 Lyon (6,000) NMe, 10/31 Lyon (4,500, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) NMe, 9/4 Yellow Medicine (4,300, Lyon/Yellow Medicine Conservation Easement) GWe, 11/3 Carver (4,200, Carver P.R.) JCy.
- Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [18 North, 39 South] High counts 8/20 Grant (300, North Ottawa Impoundment) CLN, 10/11 Rock (150) KnM. Late north 10/3 Crow Wing DMz 10/8 Clay ShG, HeH, 10/24 Otter Tail ALu (median 10/18). Late south 11/18 Lyon GWe, 11/19 Faribault WAF, 11/22 Lyon GWe (median 12/25).
- Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [26 North, 34 South] Early north (median 9/14) 9/4 Roseau NWi, 9/15 St. Louis LME, 9/17 St. Louis JDx. Early south (median 9/24) 9/23 Sherburne SDz, 9/28 Isanti DPG then many reports beginning 9/29. Highest tallies by H.R.B.O. in St. Louis: 10/5 (1,280), 10/19 (651), 9/28 (479). Late north 11/19 Beltrami (2) ASu, LiH, 11/20 Hubbard MAW, 11/28 St. Louis TRd (median 11/28). Late south 11/18 Lyon GWe, 11/19 Le Sueur DWK, 11/26 Faribault WAF, but also see winter report.
- Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [19 North, 29 South] High counts 10/14 Kandiyohi (300) RAE, 11/5 Carver (250, Carver P.R.) JCy, 10/8 Clay (140) HeH, ShG. Late north 10/27 Douglas CNn, **11/25** Clay (Cromwell Twp.) †PBB (median 11/4). Late south 11/7 Cottonwood LHL, Faribault KEm, 11/8 Carver JCy, 11/12 Lac qui Parle KnM (median 11/13).
- Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [31 North, 52 South] Found statewide. High counts 9/23 Rock (8,000, Blue Mounds S.P.) KnM, 10/13 Cottonwood (3,000, Cottonwood Wet Spot W.M.A.) KnM, 10/29 Becker (3,000) HeH, ShG. All north reports after first week of November: 11/10 Lake SFO, 11/11 Kanabec TLu, AaL, 11/26 Cook JaJ.
- Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [2 South] All reports: 9/7 Jackson (4 or 5, S.R. 86) GHo, KDS, 9/23 Jackson (1, S.R. 86) KnM, ASu, 9/28 Lyon (1, C.R. 91) GWe.
- Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [22 North, 37 South] High counts 8/22 Steele (6) PSu, 9/3 Carver (6) JCy. Late north 9/24 Clay DPW, 9/28 Polk SAu, St. Louis TRd, JWL, 10/6 St. Louis IVa (median 9/29). Late south 10/9 Chisago MTe, 10/11–18 Hennepin IVa, DWK, 11/20 Hennepin (Sunset Memorial Cemetery) TBo (median 10/18).
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [1 South] Only reports 8/4 Washington FGo, 8/5 Washington (Crystal Spring S.N.A.) SOa, 8/12 Washington (Otisville) MBw.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [20 North, 27 South] High counts 9/4 Hennepin (8) FFa, 8/22 Carver (7, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy, 8/30 Hennepin (7) CMB. Late north 10/5

- St. Louis TRd, StK, 10/8 St. Louis H.R.B.O. (median 9/28). Late south 10/2 Hennepin (Government Center) JCC, (Bass Ponds) SDz, 10/3 Hennepin TAT, 10/4 Hennepin (T.S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) CWB, CMB (median 10/4).
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [21 North, 32 South] High counts 8/14 Mille Lacs (11) ebd, 8/21 Mille Lacs (8, Mille Lacs Kathio S.P.) KSz. Late north 9/28 St. Louis H.R.B.O., 10/1 St. Louis H.R.B.O. (median 9/13). Late south 9/26 Carver JCy, Stearns MKo, 9/29 Hennepin CMB (median 9/25).
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [1 North, 13 South] High counts 9/1 Sherburne (4) MJB, 9/3 Sherburne (4, Sherburne N.W.R.) AtK. Only north report 8/27 Pine SBE. Late south 9/9 Fillmore ToM, Wright RAE, MJB, 9/25 Washington BDo (median 9/14).
- Golden-winged Warbler** × **Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera* × *V. cyanoptera*) — [3 South] Brewster's-type hybrids were reported south: 8/18–19 Ramsey (Sucker Lake) LiH, ASu, MiS, DnS, 8/27 Stearns PCC, 9/19 Dakota (Lilydale R.P.) JDv.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [31 North, 50 South] High counts 9/3 St. Louis (17, Hartley Park) JLK, 8/28 Washington (10, Carpenter N.C.) TMn. Late north 10/5 St. Louis TRd, StK, 10/7 Clay PBB, 10/22 St. Louis ebd (median 10/1). Late south 10/2 Benton HHD, Hennepin (Minnehaha Falls) EGB, (Coldwater Spring) BAF, Lac qui Parle DLP, Ramsey JZj, 10/3 Hennepin (Lake Harriet) CWB, Lyon GWe (median 10/6).
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [4 South] All reports 8/5 Carver (Rapids Lake) JCy, Houston MJB, 8/6 Anoka (Springbrook N.C.) KMa, 8/10 Redwood MiO.
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [28 North, 41 South] High counts 9/12 St. Louis (79) H.R.B.O., 9/1 Scott (60) RiC, 9/11 St. Louis (58) H.R.B.O. Late north 10/9 Kanabec KnM, St. Louis (Stoney Point) TRd, 10/14 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TRd, StK (median 10/16). Late south 10/17 Carver DPG, 10/18 Hennepin IVa, 10/25 Hennepin CMB, TAT (median 10/19).
- Orange-crowned Warbler** (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [25 North, 45 South] Early north (median 9/1) 9/1 Mille Lacs MJB, DOr, 9/3 St. Louis AxM, JLK, 9/4 Mille Lacs RMD. Early south (median 8/31) 8/27 Carver CRM, Sherburne JuW, 9/2 Cottonwood BTS, Olmsted MiD. High counts 9/25 Lyon (32, Southwest Minnesota State University) GWe, JtH, 10/3 Lyon (18) GWe, 10/5 Hennepin (16) CMB. Late north 10/21 Lake JCa, St. Louis JLK, 10/22 Wadena JWH, 10/29 Lake GWe (median 10/24). Late south 10/31 Dakota PRH, Hennepin CMB, 11/2 Hennepin CMB (median 10/31).
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) — [28 North, 48 South] High counts 9/25 Lyon (35, Southwest Minnesota State University) JtH, GWe, 10/5 St. Louis (33, Stoney Point) TRd, StK. Late north 10/22 Wadena JWH, 10/23 Lake BMu, 11/4 Todd TLu (median 10/21). Late south 10/22 Hennepin (2 locations) CMB, m.ob., Olmsted ebd, 10/24 Hennepin TAT, 10/26 Hennepin (Westwood Hills N.C.) CRM (median 10/26).
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [4 North, 7 South] All south 8/23 **Murray** (Lake Shetek S.P.) RAE, 8/28 Washington (Carpenter N.C.) TMn, 8/29 Ramsey (Chatham Open Space) LiH, 9/2 Brown BAB, 9/3 Washington (Lake Elmo R.P.) MDa, 9/4 Carver (Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy, 9/4–6 Hennepin (T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) ebd, CWB, 9/6 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) IMc, 9/7 Hennepin (Coldwater Spring) TAT, Stearns (Beaver Island Trail) LKo, 9/8 Washington (Brown's Creek Nature Preserve) JEc, 9/11 Benton (Englund Ecotone S.N.A.) MJB, 9/26 Stearns (St. John's Arboreteum) HHD (median 9/18). Late north 9/12 St. Louis TRd, 9/14 St. Louis JLK (median 9/17).
- Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [13 North, 16 South] Late north 9/23 Itasca TCL, 9/24 Clay DPW, 9/30 Todd JLK (median 9/14). Late south 9/21 Olmsted MiD, 9/26 Hennepin GrS, 10/4 Ramsey ELi (median 9/27).
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [33 North, 51 South] High counts 8/2 Carver (25, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/26 Marshall (25, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM. Late north 10/6 St. Louis (Duluth) ArL, (McQuade Small

- Craft Harbor) JPR, 10/8 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TRd (median 10/12). Late south 10/21 Dakota ebd, 10/22 Hennepin KBg, **11/26** Hennepin ASu, LiH (median 10/21).
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [1 North, 3 South] Exceptional north report 10/7 **Lake** (female located near Agate Bay) †JWL, †KRE. All south 8/29 Washington (Oakdale N.R.) JDS, 9/4 Scott RiC, Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail) AUm.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [31 North, 51 South] High counts 9/3 Lake (67) SLL, JWl, 9/3 St. Louis (64) JLK. Late north 10/7 St. Louis IVa, 10/8 Lake SLL, JWl, St. Louis H.R.B.O. (median 10/9). Late south 10/7 Hennepin CMB, Wabasha Lsf, 10/8 Benton LKo, 10/13 Washington PAL (median 10/8).
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [11 North, 12 South] Early south (median 8/22) 8/18–19 Carver JCy, 8/23 Anoka HCT, 8/26 Sherburne ebd, 8/28 Ramsey PRH. High counts all from Stoney Point, St. Louis: 8/13 (18) StK, 8/15 (12) StK, 8/12 (10) JcM. Last north reports all from Stoney Point in St. Louis where 12 individuals censused 10/5–17 TRd, StK, KJB (median 10/5). Late south 9/18 Scott BAb, 9/26 Hennepin SBM, 9/27 Rice NiR (median 9/29).
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — No reports.
- Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*) — [14 North, 29 South] Early south (median 8/19) 8/23 Hennepin FFa, 8/24 Brown MiO, 8/25 Stearns LKo, Steele PSu. Late north 9/26 St. Louis (Duluth, Bluestone Flats) TRd, 9/27 St. Louis (2, Stoney Point) TRd, (H.R.N.R.) ALx (median 9/27). Late south 9/27 Steele PSu, 9/28 Washington PNi, 9/30 Stearns MJB (median 10/3).
- Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) — [23 North, 41 South] Early south (median 8/16) 8/18 Hennepin TAT, 8/19 Washington PNi, 8/20 Hennepin FFa, MKr. High counts 9/28 St. Louis (11, Stoney Point) TRd, 9/1 Dakota (9, Miesville Ravine P.R.) DVe. Late north 10/1 Lake JWl, 10/4 St. Louis StK, TRd, 10/5 Cook JaJ (median 10/3). Late south 10/7 Washington GJa, 10/13 Hennepin DWK (median 10/6).
- Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*) — [16 North, 27 South] Early south (median 8/21) 8/18 Hennepin SBM, 8/19 Steele PSu, 8/21 Lyon NMe. High count 9/29 Stearns (5, St. Cloud State University) LKo. Late north 9/30 Beltrami DPJ, St. Louis TRd, 10/4 St. Louis TRd, StK (median 9/27). Late south 10/1 Rice DAT, 10/2–7 Meeker BNn, 10/7 Rice NiR (median 10/2).
- Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) — [19 North, 42 South] Early south (median 8/10) 8/11 Carver WCM, 8/15 Carver JCy, 8/17 Rice TFB. High counts 8/12 St. Louis (8, Stoney Point) JcM, 8/15 St. Louis (8, Stoney Point) StK. Late north 9/17 Polk SAu, 9/18 Cook GHt, 9/23 Cook GrS (median 9/22). Late south 9/26 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R. Headquarters) GrS, Steele PSu, 9/27 Hennepin CMB (median 9/25).
- Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [27 North, 46 South] High counts 8/19 Dakota (13, Spring Lake P.R.) DVe, 8/22 Carver (10, Carver P.R.) JCy, 8/5 Scott (10, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Louisville Swamp) JuW, 8/14 Otter Tail (10) PBk, 8/21 Kittson (10) KOv, 8/26 Marshall (10, Agassiz N.W.R.) KnM. Late north 9/16 Mille Lacs MJB, St. Louis TLu, 9/20 St. Louis KEJ, 9/27 St. Louis TRd (median 9/26). Late south 9/30 Rice TFB, Sherburne IVa, 10/4 Goodhue BHe (median 9/27).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) — [28 North, 42 South] High counts 8/20 Carver (14, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy, 9/12 St. Louis (12) H.R.B.O., 8/22 St. Louis (11, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 9/28 St. Louis TRd, 9/30 Itasca PLe (median 9/28). Late south 9/28 Scott GLa, 9/29 Hennepin SKS, 9/30 Rice TFB (median 10/3).
- Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [16 North, 23 South] Early north (median 8/22) 8/15 Cook DLB, 8/21 Cook KRE, St. Louis JPR. Early south (median 8/22) 8/23 Scott ANy, 8/24 Washington PAL, 8/25 Sherburne PLJ. High counts 9/16 St. Louis (8, Park Point R.A.) ebd, 9/28 St. Louis (6, Stoney Point) TRd. Late north 9/28 Crow Wing JLK, St. Louis H.R.B.O., TRd, 9/30 Crow Wing ABi (median 10/1). Late south 9/28 Anoka ebd, Washington ELI, 9/29 Nicolle HHD, 9/30 Ramsey DnS, MiS (median 9/30).
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga*

- caerulescens*) — [4 North, 4 South] All north 8/23 Cook (female, Lutsen) ph. DLB, 9/1 **Morrison** (female, Lake Shamineau) RPR, 9/7 Cook (Sawbill Lake) RMa, **Itasca** (Dunning Lake) EEO, 10/23 Lake (female, Cove Point Lodge) NAn. All south 9/2 Anoka ELC, 9/10 Rice TFB, 9/12 Scott (male) ph. DCK, 9/14 Rice DAT, 10/13 Hennepin (male, Mississippi Gorge R.P.) AAr, 10/31 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) DAT.
- Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [29 North, 36 South] Early south (median 8/28) 8/28 Benton HHD, 8/30 Sherburne PLJ, 8/31 Goodhue ebd, Hennepin EGB. High counts 9/28 St. Louis (**809**, Stoney Point) TRd, 9/27 St. Louis (**604**, Stoney Point) TRd, 9/25 St. Louis (**239**, Stoney Point) TRK, 9/28 St. Louis (221) H.R.B.O. Late north 10/21 Lake JWl, 10/22 St. Louis StK, JuW, 10/23 St. Louis NAn (median 10/25). Late south 10/18 Hennepin (Bass Ponds and Longfellow Gardens) BAF, 10/22 Hennepin (Coldwater Springs) ASu, KnM, Rice NiR (median 10/22).
- Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [18 North, 15 South] Following the usual pattern, the majority of reports are northeast of a line from Roseau to Rice counties. Late north 9/21 Carlton HHD, RAE, 9/22 Kanabec RAE, 9/23 Itasca TCL, 9/24 Morrison SEm (median 9/30). High counts 8/19 Beltrami (8, Big Bog S.R.A.) SAu, 8/20, 8/22 Cook (6) ebd. Late south 9/28 Washington ELI, 9/30 Sherburne (Sherburne N.W.R., Blue Hill Trail) IVA, 10/3 Sherburne (St. Cloud) JOs (median 9/25). Unusual south report 8/23 **Brown** (Flandrau S.P.) STa.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [33 North, 51 South] Early south (median 8/21) 8/16 Faribault WAF, 8/21 Lyon NMe, 8/22 Carver LFr. High counts 9/28 St. Louis (**10,329**, Stoney Point) TRd, 9/28 St. Louis (**4,347**) H.R.B.O. Late north 11/7 St. Louis ShG, HeH, 11/11 Cook ClN, JMr, Lake BBd, JBu, StK (median 11/14). Late south 11/23–28 Dakota (Lake Byllesby R.P.) m.ob., but see winter report for continued sightings from this location and others.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [11 North, 26 South] Early south (median 8/20) 8/21 Washington PNi, 8/22 Steele PSu, 8/23 Washington DnS, MiS, 8/24 Dakota HSt. High count 9/2 Crow Wing (7, Mille Lacs Lake) EGa. Late north 10/5 St. Louis TRd, StK, 10/8 St. Louis TRd (median 9/29). Late south 10/12 Watonwan BAb, GHo, 10/13 Hennepin (female/immature) TAT, 10/21 Hennepin (adult male) HCT (median 10/9).
- Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [19 North, 39 South] Early south (median 8/13) 8/14 Dakota HSt, 8/15 Hennepin ACr, 8/17 Rice TFB. High counts 8/21 Carver (6, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JcM, 8/23 Carver (6, Rapids Lake) JCy, 8/22 Steele (5) PSu. Late north 9/13 St. Louis TLu, 9/16 Cook DnS, MiS, 9/17 St. Louis TRd (median 9/16). Late south 9/24 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) NiR, 9/26 Hennepin SBM, WFe, 9/29 Rice (Northfield, Taylor Court) DAT (median 9/21).
- Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [22 North, 41 South] Early south (median 8/15) 8/18 Lyon NMe, 8/19 Steele PSu, 8/21 Hennepin HCT, Lyon (5) NMe. High counts 8/22 St. Louis (10, Hartley Park) JLK, 8/22 Lyon (6) NMe. Late north 9/20 Lake JWl, 9/22 Clay MO, 9/25 St. Louis TRd, TRK (median 9/21). Late south 9/30 Chisago JSa, 10/2 Chisago JHh, 10/5–6 Scott BHe (median 9/28).
- Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [1 North, 3 South] All north 11/21 St. Louis (West Duluth) CBl, TBl, m.ob. All south 8/4 Washington (Afton S.P.) TMn, 8/22 Washington (Lake Elmo R.P.) PNi, BDo, 8/30 Meeker PKF, 11/5–21 Anoka (Andover) ph. JPH.
- Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [14 North, 32 South] High counts 8/12 Crow Wing (4) JLA, 8/11 Carver (3, Carver P.R.) WCM. Late north 9/21 St. Louis ALx, 9/24 Crow Wing PSP, EGa, 9/30 Hubbard MaH (median 9/24). Late south 10/3 Hennepin DSt, 10/5 Blue Earth WCM, 10/26 Rice TFB (median 10/2).
- Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [25 North, 49 South] Reported from most of the state with fewer reports from the western and north-central tier of counties. High counts 9/27 Hennepin (16, Nine Mile Creek) JcM, SCo, MCo, 8/5 Carver (15, Rapids Lake) JCy, 11/22 Washington (15,



**Blue Grosbeak, 1 November 2017, Hines, Beltrami County. Photo by Becca Engdahl.**

Afton S.P.) GJa, 11/30 Washington (15) PNi.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [29 North, 47 South] High counts 8/13 St. Louis (27, Stoney Point) JLK, 8/21 St. Louis (17, Hartley Park) JLK. Late north 9/26 Lake JPR, 9/28 Crow Wing JhH, Pennington JMJ, KCo, St. Louis TRd (median 10/5). Late south 10/8 Wright MLk, 10/14 Hennepin GAn, 10/28 Olmsted KNK (median 10/17).

**Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [1 North, 13 South] Documentation and reports of this species' expansion within the state continued this season, highlighted by two new county records: **10/29 - 11/3 Beltrami** (record-late female at a feeder) ph. †KVH, ph. †REn, m.ob., 8/19 **Kandiyohi** (private gravel pit) ph. †JWH, JWd, m.ob. High counts 9/23 Rock (**5**) KnM, 8/27 Hennepin (4, Flying Cloud Airport fields) TAT. Late south 9/23 Rock KnM, 9/23–25 **Washington** ph. GHo, ebd, GUn (median 8/24). Other noteworthy counties where reported: **Lac qui Parle,**

**Le Sueur,** and **Nicollet.**

**Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [15 North, 43 South] High counts 8/25 Hennepin (**24**, Coldwater Spring) EGB, 8/8 Hennepin (15, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ALD, 8/12 Goodhue (15, Frontenac S.P.) JEd, DTr. Late north 9/21 St. Louis TRd, TRK, 9/24 Crow Wing EGa (median 9/24). Late south 10/7 Ramsey AHn, 10/10 Olmsted LAV, 10/17 Rice TFB (median 10/9).

**Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [4 North, 27 South] High counts 8/3 Grant (10, North Ottawa Impoundment) RPR, 8/7 Rice (8) RMI, 8/13 Lincoln (8, Lake Benton) VKI, 8/1 Washington (7) JBu. All north reports 8/1–7 Todd ALu, 8/1–20 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) m.ob., 8/8 St. Louis (H.R.N.R.) StK, 8/11 Traverse ASu, LiH, KnM, DFe, 8/19 St. Louis (Stoney Point) StK, 9/25 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TRK, 9/28 St. Louis (Stoney Point) TRd (median 8/20). Late south 8/24 Washington ebd, 8/27 Hennepin TAT, Waseca BHe (median 8/31).



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BEc	Ben Eckhoff	EIR	Elizabeth Rasmussen	JMs	Janet Majerus
BeH	Ben Harste	ERH	Ronald and Eileen Hodge	JOs	Jason Osowsky
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CBv	Carolyn Buvala	GUn	Glen Unruh	JWH	John W. Hockema
CDg	Carl Despiegelaelere	GvA	Greg Vassilopoulos	JWJ	Jeffrey Wells
ChH	Chad Heins	GWe	Garrett Wee	JWL	James W. Lind
ChP	Chris Pelton	HCT	Howard Towle	JyS	Jay Sturner
CIB	Cole Bauer	HeH	Heather Hundt	JZJ	John Zakej
CIN	Clinton Nienhaus	HHd	Herb H. Dingmann	KaG	Katie Greene
CMB	Conny M. Brunell	HHu	Heidi Hughes	KBg	Kathrynne Baumtrog
CMk	Chris Merkord	HPe	Holly Peterson	KBu	Kathy Burns

The 2017 Fall Season

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KEJ	Kathy Morales and Eric Julson	NMe	Nolan Meyer	SLC	Steve L. Carlson
KeL	Ken Larson	NSg	Neil Skoog	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski
KEm	Kimberly A. Emerson	NWi	Neil Wingert	SLL	Sharon L. Lind
KFz	Kelby Fultz	NyL	Nancy Lee	SLo	Scott Loss
KHo	Karen Howden	OGo	Otto Gockman	SMC	Scott M. Clark
KIs	Karl Isely	PAI	Pam Albin	SOa	Steve Oakley
KJB	Karl J. Bardon	PBB	Patrick B. Beauzay	SPo	Sophie Porath
KMa	Kyle Maust	PBK	Peter Binstock	SPS	Steve Stucker
KMi	Ken Miender	PCC	Philip C. Chu	SRG	Stephen R. Greenfield
KMS	Kenneth M. Schumacher	PEB	Paul E. Budde	SSC	Siah St. Clair
KNK	Kristoffer Nelson-Kilger	PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher	SSc	Susan Schumacher
KnM	Kathleen MacAulay	PgR	Peg Robertsen	StA	Sarah Taylor
KnP	Kenneth Petersen	PHS	Peder H. Svingen	StK	Steve Kolbe
KOV	Karl Overman	PJB	Paul J. Binek	SvS	Steve Steele
KRE	Kim R. Eckert	PJM	Pete Makousky	SWrm	Steve Williams
KSi	Kathy Sidles	PKF	Paul and Koni Fank	TAN	Terry Andrews
KSz	Kieran Schwartz	PKI	Pete Klinkhammer	TAT	Tom A. Tustison
KuE	Kurt Ellwanger	PLe	Peter Leschak	TBI	Tom Bloom
KVH	Katie V. Haws	PLJ	Paul L. Johnson	TBo	Travis Bonovsky
KvM	Kevin Manley	PNI	Peter Nichols	TBU	Thomas Burns
KyP	Kyle Peterson	PRH	Pete Hoeger	TCL	Tim Lamey
LAV	Lance A. Vrieze	PSk	Paul Schilke	TCu	Therese Cummiskey
LFr	Linda Fritschel	PSm	Paul Smithson	TCz	Thomas Czubek
LHI	Luke Hollander	PSP	Pamela S. Perry	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
LiH	Liz Harper	PSu	Paul Suchanek	TLu	Tim Lundahl
LKo	Logan Korte	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	TmN	Tristan Mann
LKt	Lisa Keitel	RaJ	Rachel Jorgenson	ToL	Tony Lau
LME	Laura Erickson	RBd	Robert Badger	ToM	Todd Mitchell
LnT	Leon Thoreson	RBJ	Robert B. Janssen	ToR	Tom Ries
LSf	Laura Seifert	RBW	Bob Williams	TPM	Thomas Malone
LSH	Lynne Schoenborn	RCI	Richard Clearman	TRd	Tom Reed
MaH	Marshall Howe	RCo	Ronald Cordes	TRK	Ted Keyel
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MBw	Missy Bowen	RIc	Richie Cutts	WAF	Wayne Feder
MCo	Mary Cormier	RJW	Robert Watson	WCM	William C. Marengo
MDa	Matthew Daw	RLR	Ronald L. Refsnider	WFe	Wilmer Fernandez
MEr	Marilyn Emerson	RMa	Rene Martin	WPe	Wendy Pepin
MGa	Matthew Gasner	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap	WPI	Wayne
MiD	Michael Degerstrom	RMI	Ross Mueller	WPo	Walt Popp
MiO	Michael Oetken	RPR	Robert Russell	WRe	Warren Regelmann
MiS	Michael Sack	RSA	Renner S. Anderson		
MJB	Milton J. Blomberg	RSs	Richard Sayles		
MJM	Michael J. Majeski	RTP	Ray Potthoff		
MKo	Meghan Koenig	RyC	Ryan Candee		
MKp	Mikaela Kropp	RyS	Ryan Steiner		
MKr	Marcy Keckler	SAS	Shelley A. Steva		
MLH	Michael Hendrickson	Sau	Sandy Aubol		
MLk	Mike Lehrke	SBE	Susan Barnes Elliott		
MPI	Matt Pierce	SBM	Scott B. Meyer		
MRe	Marco Restani	SCh	Steve Chesney		
MSb	Matthew Sabatine	SCo	Sharon Cormier-Aagaard		
MSf	Marsha Shuff	SDI	Scott Dirks		
MSS	Mark Sparky Stensaas	SDz	Steve Dietz		
MTe	Michelle Terrell	SEm	Steve Emerson		
MWS	Michael W. Sack	SFo	Sharon Forsyth		
MyP	Myron Peterson	SGa	Stephen Gardner		
MZA	Mathew Zappa	SHF	Susan H. Fall		
NaH	Nancy Henke	SHG	Shawn Goodchild		
NAn	Natalie Anderson	SHk	Sandy Hokanson		
NBO	Nancy B. Overcott	SHo	Steven C. Houdek		
NCr	Nathan Cross	SKa	Steve Karel		

**Abbreviations**

C.P.	County Park
C.R.	County Road
H.R.B.O.	Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory
H.R.N.R.	Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve
N.C.	Nature Center
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 Protection Area
W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

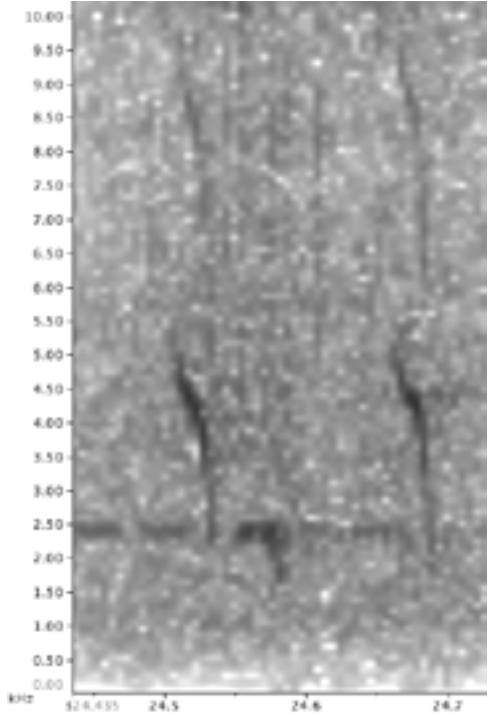
# First Confirmed Minnesota Record of “Appalachian” Red Crossbill

Sparky Stensaas

Red Crossbills have been under scrutiny by ornithologists for more than a decade. Specifically, researchers are wondering if we actually have ten species of Red Crossbills in North America. Studies of flight calls have hinted that crossbills may only respond to others of their own “type,” which would isolate them reproductively from crossbills of different “types.” Bill shapes in Red Crossbills also vary widely, each presumably adapted to extracting seeds from a specific type of conifer cone (pines, spruces, Douglas-firs, tamaracks, hemlocks). Research continues, but we birders probably need to start making an audio recorder part of our regular birding kit.

On 9 February 2018, I was searching for Red Crossbills in southern Carlton and Pine counties. Red Crossbill reports had been numerous in the pine-forested areas of Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota throughout the summer, fall, and early winter of 2017. Two areas closest to my home with large tracts of red and white pines are the Nemadji State Forest of northern Pine County and the Nickerson Bog which straddles the Pine County–Carlton County line. My goal was to shoot video of Red Crossbills courting and possibly winter-nesting for an upcoming movie about boreal birds. I found my first flock of Red Crossbills mobbing a Barred Owl which was sunning in the open on this cold clear day. I made many recordings of these crossbills that day and later had the spectrograms identified to one of ten Red Crossbill “types” by Matt Young of Cornell. I emailed him my digital audio files and uploaded several others to Cornell’s eBird database. Most of those I recorded that day were “Ponderosa Pine” Red Crossbills (Type 2), but also mixed in with a flock at the Nickerson Bog were the distinctive “Appalachian” Red Crossbill (Type 1). According to Matt, these were a first state record and recorded as a “first site record” in the eBird database.

Throughout the winter and early spring, I recorded dozens of flight calls of Red Cross-



**Figure 1. Spectrogram from Type 1 “Appalachian” Red Crossbills at the Nickerson Bog, Pine County, 9 February 2018.**

bill flocks across northeast Minnesota. The following five types were documented: from the Ely area of St. Louis County to the Superior National Forest in Lake County: Types 2 (“Ponderosa Pine” Red Crossbill), 4 (“Douglas Fir” Red Crossbill), and 10 (“Sitka Spruce” Red Crossbill); in the Sax-Zim Bog: Type 2; in the Nickerson Bog of Carlton–Pine County: Types 1, 2, and 3 (“Western Hemlock” Red Crossbill); in the Nemadji State Forest of Pine County: Types 2 and 4; and in the Cloquet Forest and *Skogstjarna* — my home in Carlton County — Types 4 and 10.

— Wrenshall MN.

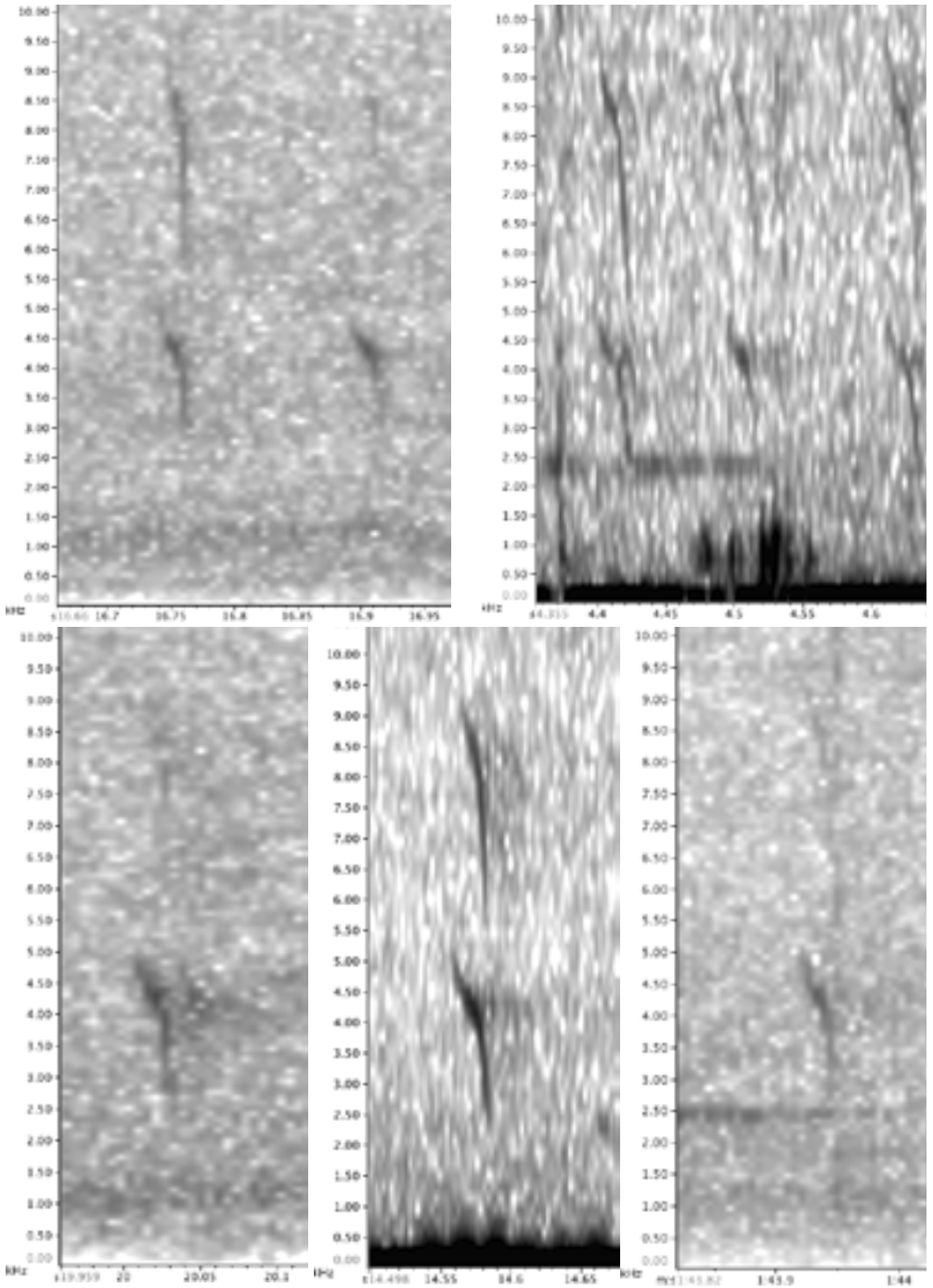


Figure 2. Spectrograms from Type 1 "Appalachian" Red Crossbills at the Nickerson Bog, Pine County, 9 February 2018.



# The Owl in the Attic

The following is a reprint of Cooke, Wells W. 1881. The Least Bittern in northwestern Minnesota. *Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club* 6:186.

## The Least Bittern in Northwestern Minnesota

It is said in Dr. Coues's "Birds of the Northwest" that the Least Bittern (*Ardetta exilis*) "does not appear to be anywhere abundant." In this vicinity is a small lake or pond, covering thirty or forty acres, whose very reedy shores furnished last summer nesting room for eighteen or twenty pairs of these birds. The other ponds near here, some dozen in number, each had their complement. So that I think I am fairly entitled to regard it as abundant. The nests were all placed on floating bogs a few feet from open water, and the eggs average larger than the measurements given in the above-mentioned work, specimens 1.30 inches by 1.00 inch being not uncommon.

The habits of this bird have been compared to those of the Rails, but to my mind it more frequently calls up the Marsh Wren. As it laboriously fixes itself on the stem of a long reed, one foot above the other, in the position taken with such airy lightness by the Wren, one is reminded of the lapdog and the donkey. It climbs awkwardly and with much effort, foot over foot, up two neighboring reeds, until at a convenient height, it stands with legs wide apart, or, after a squawk or two, launches into the air. My first acquaintance with the bird was at Ripon, Wisc, where it was rare and shy. Here, on the contrary, it is quite tame. It arrived this year May 10, making the eighty-sixth on my list of spring arrivals.

— Wells W. Cooke, White Earth, Minnesota.

The following is a reprint of Peters, Albert S. 1918. First Minnesota Yellow Rail eggs. *The Oölogist* 35:28.

## First Minnesota Yellow Rail Eggs

On June 10, 1917, I collected the first authentic set of Yellow Rail eggs that has ever been reported from Minnesota.

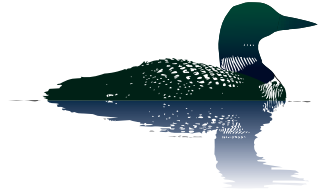
Previously I had sent a record of the presence of the Yellow Rail in this locality, to the U.S. Biological Survey and had some correspondence with Dr. Thos. Roberts of the University of Minnesota in regard to this report, but not until last season was I able to definitely locate the nest of this rather 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 by .80. 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 Oölogist* to warrant its publication.

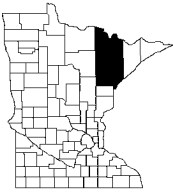
— Albert S. Peters, Lake Wilson, Minnesota.

# Notes of Interest



## AMERICAN THREE-TOED WOODPECKERS

— On 3 February 2018, Marshall Helmberger



was exploring a remote area a quarter-mile south of the southeast corner of the Lost Lake Peatland Scientific and Natural Area in St. Louis County when he came upon an American Three-toed Woodpecker

and two Black-backed Woodpeckers. That afternoon Jodi Summit, Mary Shedd, and I revisited the site with Marshall and were surprised to find at least three American Three-toed Woodpeckers and two Black-backed Woodpeckers. Between this date and 10 April, our last visit to the site, at least 30 people visited or were escorted to the site over multiple occasions and, as far as we know, all saw one or more American Three-toed Woodpeckers, and often similar numbers of Black-backed Woodpeckers.

This begs the question of what's special about this particular nine-acre area of low-land conifer and brush. Concentrations of either species are typically found following a rapid, stand-killing fire or bark-beetle event in spruce, tamarack or pine types, providing the bark beetle bonanza needed to attract these kinds of numbers. There were many dead and dying black spruce and tamarack in evidence at this site, but by their appearance this was no rapid-onset event. Some trees appeared to have died and been stripped of their bark several years ago, others were more recently killed and fed on, and still more were stressed but not yet dead. The culprit was a slowly-rising adjacent beaver pond. This "slow-motion" event apparently has provided a perpetually-renewing supply of dying trees over a period of several years, allowing bark beetle populations to build to a sufficient level over an extended period of time to sustain the observed population of birds, instead of the boom-bust associated with, say, fire-killed stands. **Steve Wilson, Tower Minnesota.**



**American Three-toed Woodpecker, 2 March 2018, Lost Lake, St. Louis County. Photo by Connor Maloney.**



**Ferruginous Hawk, 16 October 2017, Plummer, Red Lake County. Photo by Paula Cater.**

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*Photo by Peder H. Svingen*.....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.

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.



*The* **Loon**

**FALL 2018**  
**VOLUME 90 – NUMBER 3**



**Journal of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union**

**THE MINNESOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION**  
**Carpenter Nature Center**  
**12805 Saint Croix Trail South**  
**Hastings, MN 55033**

**The Loon**, Minnesota's journal of birds, is published quarterly by the MOU, the statewide bird organization. All members receive this publication and also our digital newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*.

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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 at the Trailhouse Lodge at the Carpenter Nature Center on 19 August 2018. In attendance and voting at this meeting were MOURC members Dedrick A. Benz, Andrew R. Forbes, Anthony X. Hertzler, Douglas W. Kieser, William C. Marengo (alternate), John P. Richardson (alternate), Robert P. Russell, Andrew D. Smith, Steven P. Stucker (alternate) and Thomas A. Tustison (chair).

The following records were voted on and Accepted:

- Eurasian Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*) [Casual], 15 April 2018, Otter Tail River, Fergus Falls, Otter Tail County (record #2018-004, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed. First county record.

- Eurasian Wigeon 27-28 April 2018, Kolklin's Pond, Beltrami County (record #2018-006, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

- Eurasian Wigeon 28 April 2018, just east of the intersection of County Roads 9 and 4, Waseca County (record #2018-007, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed. First county record.

- Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*) [Accidental], 7-18 January 2018, Colvill Park, Red Wing, Goodhue County (record #2018-001, vote 10-0; origin vote 3-7; physical evidence vote 10-0). Adult male, photographed. First state and county record. Moved between Colvill Park where first located to other points along the Mississippi River as far south as Greene Point. A seven-member majority thought origin was uncertain meaning there is reasonable uncertainty as to the bird's origin and wildness, or uncertainty as to its natural occurrence or arrival in the state. A three-member minority thought the bird was wild. Consequently, the status of the species will be A<sub>0</sub> in the 2019 Checklist. As an aside, the Wisconsin Ornithological Society (WSO) Records Committee reviewed the same bird which also had been

seen in Wisconsin waters. Three documented reports were evaluated by that Committee and the record was Accepted. The issue of provenance was not regarded as a concern and all members were satisfied that the bird was wild. WSO Chairman Quentin Yoerger (pers. comm.) stated that the Committee concluded the record fit within the expected timeframe for European waterfowl to most likely show up in eastern North America (see *The Loon* 90:126-128).

- White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) [Casual], 4 July 2018, Ramsey, Anoka County (record #2018-030, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- *Selasphorus* hummingbird [Accidental], 23-24 September 2017, Crane Lake, St. Louis County (record #2017-050, vote 7-0). Photographed. The Committee considered Rufous Hummingbird, but unanimously agreed to accept it at the genus level only.

- Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) [Accidental], 6-30 June 1979, Mound, Hennepin County (record #1979-001, vote 9-1). First state record (*The Loon* 51:142). The Committee voted to review all previously published Black Rail observations in the state that had never been formally voted on. Many of these records preceded the formation of MOURC in 1974. There are still a few, pre-MOURC Black Rail observations undergoing further research and those will be reviewed after the work is completed. There are no Accepted records supported by physical evidence. Therefore, the species will be considered as an A<sub>3</sub> regarding its status in the 2019 Checklist. Also see Unaccepted Records elsewhere in this article.

- Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) [Casual], 21 May 2018, CHS Wetlands, Lyon County (record #2018-021, vote 7-0).

- Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*) [Casual], 25 April 2018, Big Stone County (record #2018-025, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

- Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)



**Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*), 14 January 2018, Red Wing, Goodhue County. Photo by Becca Engdahl.**



**Selasphorus hummingbird 23 September 2017, Crane Lake, St. Louis County. Photo by Dee Kuder.**

[Accidental], 8–9 May 2018, Lone Tree Lake, Lyon County (record #2018-013, vote 7–0). Adult, photographed. First county record and fourth state record.

- Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) [Casual], 14 May 2017, Murray/Lyon County Line Road, Murray County (record #2017-008, vote 7–0). Photographed. After two lengthy debates, photographic analysis, and consultation with outside experts the record was accepted. Third spring record since 2010.

- Western Sandpiper, 1 May 2018, Lake Byllesby, northwest corner of the reservoir, Dakota County (record #2018-011, vote 6–1).

- Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) [Accidental], 1 October 1988, Acacia Park Cemetery, Dakota County (as record #1988-001, vote 6–1). Adult, male. This is the first of a series of *Fregata* sp. records to be reviewed. Originally, this record was unanimously accepted as a *Fregata* sp., then with a majority vote as a Magnificent Frigatebird (*The Loon* 61:11, 62:12). Subsequently, the record was reconsidered and reclassified as *Fregata* sp. (it was then cited as record #2006-099; vote: Not Accepted as Magnificent Frigatebird 3–7, Accepted as *Fregata* sp. 10–0). (*The Loon* 79:55). The arguments for this reclassification were based upon the occurrence of a single sighting of a seriously injured parasitized Great Frigatebird (*F. minor*) in Oklahoma on 11 November 1975 (*Bulletin of the*

*Oklahoma Ornithological Society* June 1977) and upon two inland sightings of Lesser Frigatebirds (*F. ariel*) in Wyoming (11 July 2003) and Michigan (11 September 2005). After discussion at two MOURC meetings on 3 December 2017 and 19 August 2018, the Committee decided to again reconsider the record due to new information in the literature not previously available when the record was re-examined in 2006. Finally, after its second reconsideration, the record was Accepted. Reasons for acceptance were focused on the original, contemporaneous field notes; the study of the path of Hurricane Gilbert and its unprecedented plethora of fallout of frigatebirds (none was identified as Great Frigatebirds) records in the Midwest; and the new illustrations of frigatebirds in the literature. All ages and sexes of Lesser Frigatebird should have shown white in the plumage which the field notes of this record specifically state was absent.

- Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) [Accidental], 11–16 April 2018, undisclosed private property, Faribault County (record #2018-003, vote 7–0).

- Barn Owl, 18 March – 1 August 2018, five miles northwest of Houston in Perkins Valley, Houston County (record #2018-022, vote 7–0). Audio recorded on 18 March, 21 May, and 1 August, 2018. All 2018 recordings are presumed to be the same bird(s). Wild Barn Owls have been previously audio-recorded at this location several times before in



**Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*), 29 May 2018, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photo by Peder H. Svigen.**



**Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*), 17 May 2018, Whitewater State Park, Winona County. Photo by Michael Henry.**

2014, and spring through fall in 2017. It is possible that the 2017 recordings were the same bird(s). However, despite continuous audio monitoring in 2015 and 2016, no Barn Owls were recorded. Based on an average life expectancy of one to two years for this species, it is highly unlikely that the 2014 bird was the same recorded in 2018.

- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) [Casual], 31 May 2018, 570th Avenue, Blue Earth County (record #2018-026, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed. First county record.

- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 5 June 2018, Douglas Road, Carlton County (record #2018-027, vote 7-0).

- White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) [Casual], 7 May 2018, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum, Rice County (record #2018-014, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- White-eyed Vireo 23-24 May 2018, Carver Park Reserve / Grimm Road Picnic and Recreation Area, Carver County (record #2018-019, vote 7-0). Audio recorded.

- Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) [Accidental], 29 May 2018, Minnesota Point, Nature Trail southeast of Sky Harbor Airport, St. Louis County (record #2018-023, vote 7-0). Photographed. First county record. Thirteenth state and sixth spring record.

- Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*) [Casual], 3-4 May 2018, Minnesota Avenue and 37th Street, Park Point Duluth, St.

Louis County (record #2018-009, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Eurasian Tree Sparrow 8 May - 21 August 2018, First Street and Fourth Avenue East, St. Louis County (record #2018-010, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Eurasian Tree Sparrow, 9 May 2018, private residence, Maple Grove, Hennepin County (record #2018-015, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Cassin's Finch (*Haemorhous cassinii*) [Accidental], 8-9 April 2018, private residence, Edina, Hennepin County (record #2018-002, vote 7-0). Second state and first spring record. Female/immature, photographed. Last previous record was in fall 1987.

- Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) [Casual], 13 May 2018, White Oak Lake Access, Itasca County (record #2018-017, vote 6-1). Presumed adult. First county record.

- Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*) [Casual], 1-2 May 2018, Riverfront Regional Park, Anoka County (record #2018-008, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Yellow-throated Warbler, 8-17 May 2018, Whitewater State Park office feeders, Winona County (record #2018-018, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Yellow-throated Warbler, 5-8 June 2018, Crystal Springs Scientific and Natural Area, Washington County (record #2018-028, vote



**Cassin's Finch (*Haemorhous cassinii*), 8 April 2018, Edina, Hennepin County. Photo by Mathew Zappa.**

7-0). Adult, photographed.

- Yellow-throated Warbler, 26-27 June 2018, Hillside Road, Houston County (record #2018-029, vote 7-0). Adult, photographed and audio recorded.

- Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) [Casual], 6 May 2018, private residence, Hennepin County (record #2018-012, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

- Lazuli Bunting, 14-20 May 2018, private residence, Embarrass, St. Louis County (record #2018-024, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

- Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) [Casual], 26 April - 2 May 2018, Somerset Township, Steele County (record #2018-005, vote 7-0). Presumed first-spring male, photographed and audio-recorded singing. First county record.

- Painted Bunting 9-10 May 2018, Olmsted County (record #2018-016, vote 7-0). Adult male, photographed.

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 Minnesota Ornithologists' Union (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 Ac-

cepted 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 Rail [Accidental], 25 May 1934 (*The Loon* 37:52), Little Rock Lake, Benton County (record #1934-001, vote 1-9). The observer seemingly mentioned this observation in his notes as a mere curiosity. It's also unfortunate that the two printed transcriptions of his notes are different enough to cast doubt on which, if either, of the versions is accurate. The observer, admittedly uncertain of the sighting at the time, maintained personal county checklists but didn't include this sighting.

- Black Rail [Accidental], 1 May 1951, Fox Lake, Rice County (record #1951-001, vote 2-8). The date originally reported as 1 March 1951 appears to be a typo (this would be astoundingly early for this species to be present in the state) and presumably the date was meant to be 1 May 1951. A feather, allegedly retrieved from a shot bird, is missing and not verifiable as a Black Rail. There is no actual specimen and there is no information about the bird from the person who shot it. The feather in question cannot be located for further inspection or DNA analysis. All we have are statements from others, and not Dr. Warner who examined the feather, that the feather was determined to be consistent in appearance with Black Rail. Janssen (*Birds in Minnesota*, 1987, pp 114) summarizes this with the statement that the feather "compared favorably with existing specimens." There is no actual description of the feather itself that might have aided the discussion of this record. To the best of our knowledge, there is nothing written by Dr. Warner whereby he categorically states that the feather was from a Black Rail.

- Black Rail [Accidental], 14 August 1968, Martin Lake, Anoka County (record #1968-001, vote 4-6). Given the closeness to the bird (10 to 13 feet) and the canoe moving closer one would think this would have been a very brief encounter. Despite the experience with Sora and Virginia rails, there is no evidence that either observer had ever seen a Black Rail. No optics were mentioned. There is little description at all other than (*The Loon* 41:101) "We were certain that this was a Black Rail in adult plumage, as we were able to see the

white spots on its back". Other than the conclusory remark that this was a Black Rail and reference to the spots, there are virtually no other details regarding size, plumage, or soft parts. Details should have been obvious at this range as the bird was in clear view for a «sufficiently long» observation. This hardly meets minimal standards for a description of such a rare sighting.

- Black Rail [Accidental], 12 May 1971, Frontenac, Goodhue County (record #1971-001, vote 3–7). (*The Loon* 43:52) "I saw a tiny bird dart between the green tufts of grass no more than 3 feet in front of me. I told Karen that what I saw was not black but black-and-brown with white spots." There is no indication of where these colors were located on the bird. Neither observer had experience with the bird. What was seen was conceivably not even a rail. The details are lacking in specificity. It is not even clear whether optics were used to see the bird as it darted. The power of suggestion may be at play when the field guides were used for verification.

- Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*) [Accidental], 12 May 2018, Wheeler Lake, Kandiyohi County (record #2018-031, vote 3–4). The report was submitted more than two months after the date of observation. While the observer indicated that the notes were taken within ten minutes of the observation, these were not included in the documentation. Not knowing what details were taken from the notes and what was taken from the numerous sources listed clouded a thorough evaluation of the documentation. There are two observers credited on the report without any specific indication as to what was seen and by whom. A separate report from each observer, done without collaboration, would have eliminated this issue. Second and (even more so) third photos in the PDF seem to show dark spotting on the rear flanks, which would effectively eliminate Pectoral Sandpiper, but because the photos are so badly degraded, it cannot be confidently determined that this is not noise in the digital data. The rest of the plumage in the photos is inconclusive and there is not enough distinction written about this bird's plumage compared to the range of plumages in Pectoral Sandpiper. Better photos unfortunately were not obtainable.

- Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficata*)

[Accidental], 11 May 2018, Arden Hills, Ramsey County (record #2018-020, vote 2–5). Possibly a correct identification, but the observers simply did not use the right terminology when describing it. They write "black primaries and white secondaries" which is incorrect for this species. The secondaries are also black. It is the under wing coverts and axillaries that are white (plus the head and belly, which are not mentioned).

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: Ben E. Anderson, Dave Barkley, Karla A. Bloem, Jim Brown, Paul E. Budde, Philip C. Chu, John Cyrus, Carl De-Spiegelaere, Robert M. Dunlap, Kim R. Eckert, Kimberly Emerson, Becca Engdahl, Wayne Feder, Laurence N. Gillette, Karol Gresser, Liz Harper, Michael Henry, Anthony X. Hertz, Nestor M. Hiemenz, Pete Hoeger, Ezra Horsch, Isaac Hosch, Paul E. Jantscher, Jerry Kaufman, Jan and Larry Kraemer, Dee Kuder, Tim Lamey, Val R Landwehr, Karen E. McGee, Nolan Meyer, Fran Nobel, Wayne Perala, Jim Peterson, Douglas L. Pierzina, Nick Rosen, Boone Sherman, Jeff J. Stephenson, Paul Suchanek, Alex Sundvall, Peder H. Svingen, Thomas A. Tustison, Nancy Verba, Josh Wallesstad, Randy S. Frederickson and Josh Wallesstad, Garrett Wee, John Zakelj, Mathew Zappa, Roy Zimmerman and Dr. Dwain W. Warner (feather examiner). 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:* 39 records voted on — 33 Accepted, 6 Not Accepted.

**Edina, MN 55436.**

# Documentation of Warren Nelson's Aitkin County Breeding Season Owl Observations 1973–2014

Michael R. North<sup>1</sup> and Lorrene Maroney<sup>2</sup>

The bogs and forests and fields of northern Aitkin County support a rich diversity of breeding owls, including the boreal specialties Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) and Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*), and the state-threatened Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*). Warren Nelson of Aitkin collected numerous records of breeding season owl observations (nests, broods, pairs, and individuals) and wintering owl observations. During the Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas project, only in northern Aitkin County in the vicinity of County Road 18 and Pietz Road, the Sax-Zim Bog, and the Sprague Creek Peatlands of the Lost River State Forest in Roseau County were both Great Gray and Northern Hawk owls found nesting together (Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas 2018), although they have been known to occur together in other areas such as Koochiching County (A. Hertzell, personal communication).

Minnesota's state and county forests, especially those on School Trust lands, are experiencing increased pressure for harvest. Some harvest can enhance owl habitat, while harvest of particular stands or too much localized harvest of certain cover types can be detrimental to individual owl's habitat. For widespread generalist species such as Great Horned Owls (*Bubo virginianus*), this is not an issue. Identification of habitat features and timber stands used by low-density species in restricted habitats, such as Northern Hawk Owls and Great Gray Owls, is essential to be able to intentionally maintain nesting cover, foraging cover and habitat for a plentiful prey base for rare owl species. To date, timber management deploying conservative cord targets and implementing Minnesota Forest Resource Council best management practices guidelines have unintentionally maintained owl habitat.

We interviewed Warren Nelson in the summer of 2014 to record and map his invaluable



**Great Gray Owl nest and family, June 2014, Aitkin County Road 18, Aitkin County. Photo by Warren Nelson.**

breeding season observations prior to his death in December 2014, and converted them into a Geographic Information System shapefile. Winter records were not obtained.

## Results

A total of 78 breeding season records was obtained from Warren that could be mapped (Figures 1, 2, and 3), including 36 Great Gray Owls, 5 Northern Hawk Owls, 6 Long-eared Owls (*A. otus*), 11 Short-eared Owls, 6 Northern Saw-whet Owls (*Aegolius acadicus*), 8 Great Horned Owls, and 6 Barred Owls (*Strix varia*; Table 1). Warren also noted that several Barred Owls had been heard on a woodcock survey route between Esquagamah and Moulton Lakes from 2002–2013, but these records could not be mapped. Mapped data is assumed to be accurate within 1/8 of a mile.

Owl records were clearly clustered around County Road 18 and Pietz Road (Figure 1). The full dataset is mapped in Arc Geographic



Documentation of Warren Nelson's Aitkin County Breeding Season Owl Observations

Species	Type	Easting	Northing	Year	Comments
Great Horned Owl	Brood	464550	5185910	1979	
Great Horned Owl	Brood	459600	5167990	1980	
Great Horned Owl	Brood	459600	5167990	1981	
Great Horned Owl	Individual	462910	5181150	2006	
Great Horned Owl	Nest	471320	5156860	1977	in heron nest
Great Horned Owl	Nest	471320	5156860	1978	in heron nest
Great Horned Owl	Nest	447520	5162800	1987	2 young
Great Horned Owl	Nest	447520	5162800	1991	2 young
Northern Hawk Owl	Individual	448490	5168530	1980	
Northern Hawk Owl	Individual	471710	5182350	1992	
Northern Hawk Owl	Nest	462760	5185500	2014	nest failed
Northern Hawk Owl	Nest, Pair	453390	5186170	2010	nesting assumed, pair regularly carrying food to same locale
Northern Hawk Owl	Pair	462760	5185500	2010	pair observed regularly throughout summer
Barred Owl	Brood	444540	5142610	1988	2 young
Barred Owl	Brood	461610	5198860	1996	begging young
Barred Owl	Individual	459940	5165310	1989	
Barred Owl	Individual	450480	5173670	1994	
Barred Owl	Nest	468170	5117480	1981	3 young
Barred Owl	Nest	475140	5154330	2007	2 young
Great Gray Owl	Brood	461370	5186040	1989	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	459960	5186140	1983	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	1986	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	457790	5199270	1986	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	462900	5199090	1988	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	462900	5199090	1992	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	492820	5205800	1992	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	462900	5199090	1994	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	1998	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2000	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	462900	5199090	2000	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2001	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2002	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2003	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2004	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2005	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2006	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2007	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2008	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2009	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2010	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2011	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2012	
Great Gray Owl	Individual	458010	5186190	2013	
Great Gray Owl	Nest	458900	5186140	1987	2 young
Great Gray Owl	Nest	459860	5189420	1987	2 young
Great Gray Owl	Nest	459870	5186530	1988	
Great Gray Owl	Nest	468220	5191310	1993	2 young
Great Gray Owl	Nest	468220	5191310	1994	fledged 2 young
Great Gray Owl	Nest	454350	5186190	2014	fledged 2 young
Great Gray Owl	Pair	457770	5186340	1973	3 birds total
Great Gray Owl	Pair	457770	5186340	1976	2 birds total
Great Gray Owl	Pair	457770	5186340	1978	2 birds total
Great Gray Owl	Pair	468020	5190920	1979	3 birds total
Great Gray Owl	Pair	457770	5186340	1983	4 birds total
Great Gray Owl	Pair	459800	5186230	1993	
Long-eared Owl	Nest	457920	5165280	1979	4 young
Long-eared Owl	Nest	459560	5167240	1983	2 young
Long-eared Owl	Nest	457830	5185850	1993	4 young
Long-eared Owl	Nest	457830	5185850	1994	4 young
Long-eared Owl	Nest	456490	5186220	1999	5 young
Long-eared Owl	Nest	445960	5158170	2000	5 young
Short-eared Owl	Brood	462260	5186050	1991	1 of 3 families totalling 14 young, feeding on frogs crossing road
Short-eared Owl	Brood	463170	5186080	1991	1 of 3 families totalling 14 young
Short-eared Owl	Brood	463170	5185310	1991	1 of 3 families totalling 14 young
Short-eared Owl	Individual	478000	5161600	1978	
Short-eared Owl	Individual	450980	5155510	1980	
Short-eared Owl	Individual	478000	5161600	1980	
Short-eared Owl	Individual	450980	5155510	1991	
Short-eared Owl	Individual	455090	5186220	1996	
Short-eared Owl	Individual	459860	5188240	1996	
Short-eared Owl	Individual	463210	5185700	1996	
Short-eared Owl	Pair	447700	5161690	1982	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Nest	439070	5141810	1979	nest box
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Nest	444370	5145000	1996	Wood Duck nest box
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Nest	434560	5149910	1997	Crow Wing County, 4 young in Wood Duck nest box
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Nest	434560	5149910	1998	Crow Wing County, in same Wood Duck box
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Nest	441940	5151790	1999	in Wood Duck box
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Nest	441120	5151700	2006	in wood duck nest box, used for several years fide owners

**Table 1. Breeding season owl records by Warren Nelson, 1973–2014. Easting and northing Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) coordinates are in NAD83 15N UTM units.**

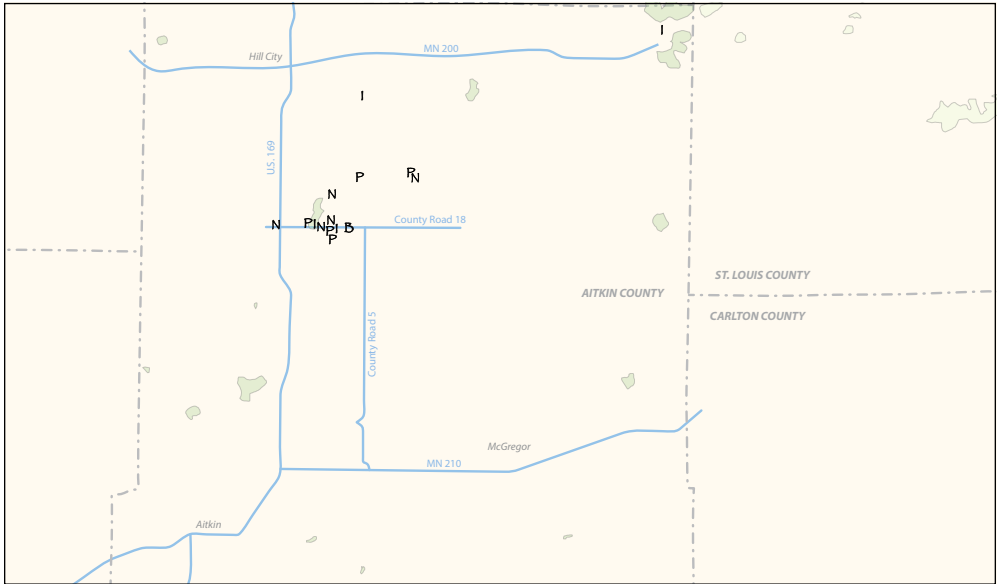


Figure 1. Locations of northern Aitkin County breeding season Great Gray Owl observations made by Warren Nelson, 1973–2014, including adjacent sections of Crow Wing County. Pale green polygons are raised bog habitat features. Codes: nest (N), brood (B), pair (P), individual (I).

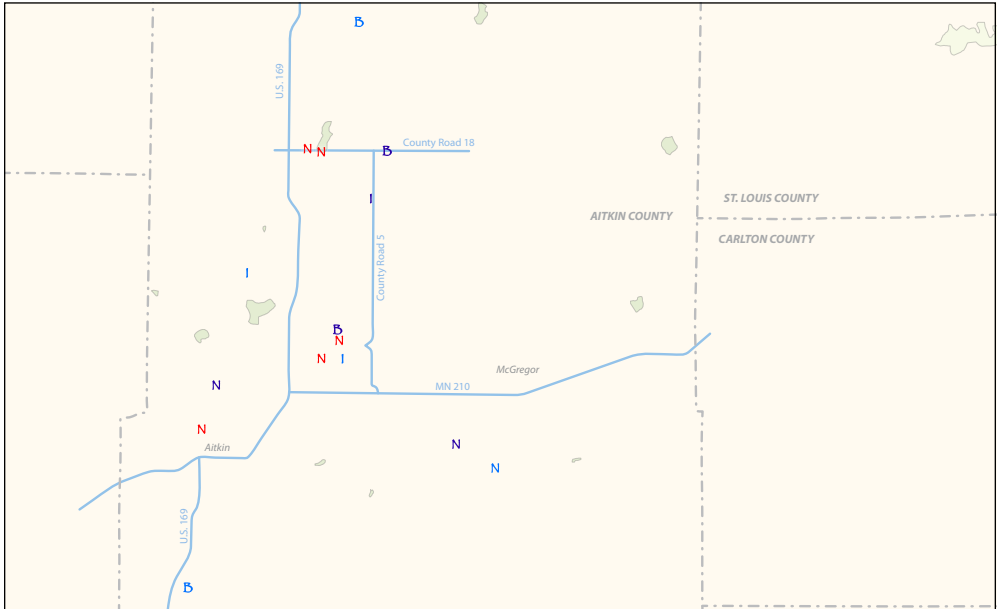
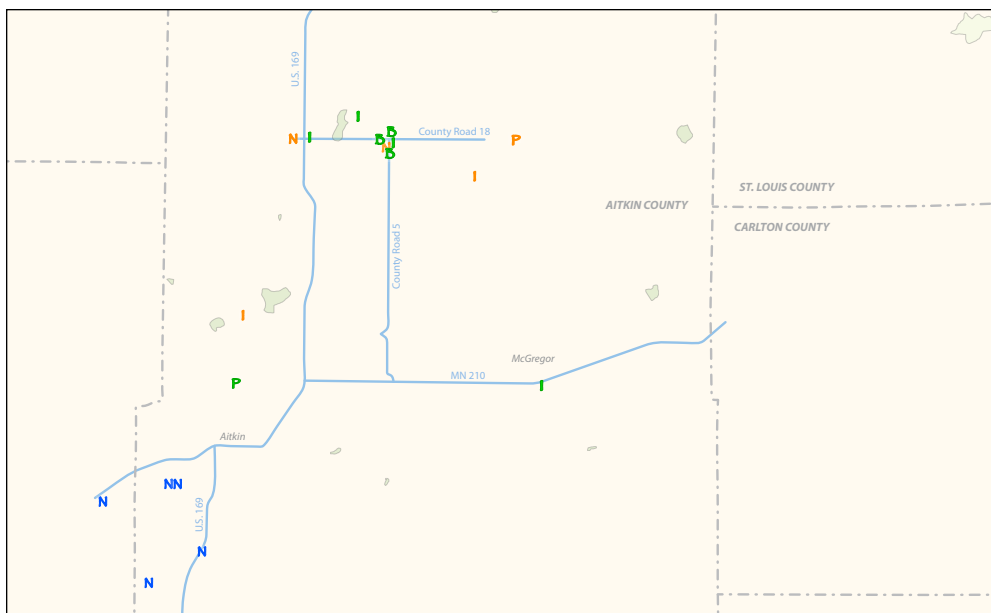


Figure 2. Locations of northern Aitkin County breeding season Long-eared Owl (red), Barred Owl (cyan), and Great Horned Owl (violet) observations made by Warren Nelson, 1973–2014, including adjacent sections of Crow Wing County. There is one record of a Barred Owl nest from southern Aitkin County not shown on the map. Pale green polygons are raised bog habitat features. Codes: nest (N), brood (B), pair (P), individual (I).



**Figure 3. Locations of northern Aitkin County breeding season Northern Hawk Owl (orange), Short-eared Owl (green), and Northern Saw-whet Owl (blue) observations made by Warren Nelson, 1973–2014, including adjacent sections of Crow Wing County. Pale green polygons are raised bog habitat features. Codes: nest (N), brood (B), pair (P), individual (I).**

Information System (ArcGIS; available as a shapefile from DNR's MN Geospatial Commons at <https://gisdata.mn.gov/dataset/env-owl-breeding-obs-aitkin>. Individual points on the map may represent several different sightings. For example, 16 years of individual Great Gray Owl sightings and four years of presumed pair sightings in a raised black spruce bog (indicated by a pale yellow polygon in Figures 1, 2, and 3) are represented by a single "I" and "P", respectively. A pair of Long-eared Owls also nested in this raised bog two consecutive years. Because raised bogs are a rare peatland habitat type, and because of their apparent high value to Great Gray Owls, raised bogs were digitized and included in the ArcGIS shapefile layer for both Aitkin County and southwestern St. Louis County, including southern parts of the Sax-Zim Bog. Raised bog data were obtained from Eng 1979 and MNDNR 1981, 1982.

#### Acknowledgments

We would not have been able to make the GIS shapefile available to the public or other

DNR agency users without the assistance of Katherine Rossman, of MNIT. Funding for the project was provided by Audubon Minnesota.

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<sup>2</sup> Lorrene Maroney, Brainerd Lakes Area Audubon Society, Brainerd, MN.

# The 2017–2018 Winter Season

## 1 December 2017 to 28 February 2018

Bruce A. Fall<sup>1</sup> and Howard C. Towle<sup>2</sup>

This winter season was notable for a first state record Tufted Duck on the Mississippi River near Red Wing in Goodhue County (*The Loon* 90:126–128). This adult male was seen by many during its 12-day stay in January. No other Accidental or Casual species was reported, but there were two first winter-season records: a juvenile Broad-winged Hawk on Park Point in Duluth (continuing from November) and an adult light-morph Swainson's Hawk in McLeod County. First county records were established for three species: Boreal Owl in Otter Tail, Northern Saw-whet Owl in Yellow Medicine, and Hoary Redpoll in both Renville and Wabasha.

In contrast to last winter's warm February, which resulted in an early influx of geese, ducks, cranes, and some other species, this February saw below-average temperatures and there was no widespread pattern of early waterfowl migration in the south. Two of the three scoter species were reported — a Surf in Wabasha and White-winged in Cass and Lake counties. Only one Barrow's Goldeneye was reported — a female in Otter Tail.

Eurasian Collared-Doves continue to expand their range in the state. This species was reported from a season-record 52 counties. A Sandhill Crane was found on 1 January at Lake Bylesby (Dakota); and a report of another near this location on 21 February suggests a single bird may have overwintered. Unusual was the absence of Killdeer in the state until the first migrants in late February. A Washington County *Calidris* sandpiper in December provided the first winter record in over 40 years, but identity to species could not be determined. Two very early Franklin's Gulls photographed in Martin County provided only the second February record for the state. Lesser Black-backed Gull reports were from Duluth and the Twin Cities (as many as three different adults), all from early to mid December. Compared to recent winters, Great Black-backed Gull reports from Duluth were sparse.

After four consecutive winters with few or no Boreal Owl records, this winter there were many, especially in Lake and St. Louis counties but also from seven others including unexpected visitors to Ramsey and Otter Tail. It was an invasion year for Snowy Owls, with reports from 62 counties statewide. In contrast, Northern Hawk Owls were found in only four north counties, well below average; one was found dead along a Chisago roadside.

Red-headed Woodpeckers were found in eight counties, rebounding somewhat from last winter's low of four counties. The Cedar Creek Bog CBC recorded 83 individuals after finding just one on the 2016 count. American Three-toed Woodpeckers continued to be scarce outside of St. Louis County.

For the second consecutive winter, no Gyrfalcons were found during the season. Other falcons had strong showings, especially Peregrine Falcons, which were reported from the highest number of counties on record. Common Ravens were also observed in a record number of counties for the Winter Season, continuing a trend of more southerly sightings for this species.

It was another good year for Townsend's Solitaires, being reported from a season high 23 widely scattered counties. A single mockingbird spent a couple of weeks in December in Duluth for the season's only sighting.

Many winter finches had strong showings during the season. Of particular note, Hoary Redpolls were found in an unprecedented number of counties, including 22 counties in the South. Renville and Wabasha recorded their first Hoary Redpolls. The unprecedented irruption of Red Crossbills that occurred in the Fall Season continued throughout the winter, although with somewhat less intensity. Pine Grosbeaks were also found in the largest numbers since a major irruption in 2012.

Three reports of Spotted Towhees, including an overwintering bird in Ramsey, represented the highest total since the winter of

2000, while a single Eastern Towhee braved conditions into January in Winona. Chipping Sparrow reports continue to increase with four documented birds. A lone Clay-colored Sparrow joined a flock of White-throated and Song sparrows in downtown Minneapolis through December 5th, the first winter report in over ten years. This downtown flock was joined by a Lincoln's Sparrow a week later, one of two reports of this species seldom seen in Winter.

*Weather summary:* December temperatures averaged almost 5°F above normal through the 24th, but then fell precipitously to -7°, or 20° below normal. Extremes for the month ranged from 64° in Rochester on 4 December to -45° at Embarrass on 31 December, an unusually high difference of 109°. January began with temperatures well below normal, but three different thaws, one on 7–11 January, another on 18–22 January, and one on 26–27 January, brought average temperatures to near normal. In February, statewide temperatures averaged near 10°, or 6.6° below normal.

Precipitation totals were below normal in December and January, and above normal in February (well above normal in the Northeast). The first winter storm moved through on 4 December. A heavy snowstorm affected the southern half of the state on 22 January, and another moved through the central and southern parts of the state on 22–23 February.

*Insufficiently documented reports:* Mallard 1/6 Dakota (20,000, Lake Byllesby) (highest winter total ever reported, but with no methodology described to provide credence); American White Pelican 1/18 Yellow Medicine (rare in midwinter); Mountain Bluebird 12/24–1/1 Rice (rare winter visitor); Chipping Sparrow 12/29 Lac qui Parle (late date).

*Acknowledgements:* We thank Jeanie Joppu and Jim Lind for compiling and providing transcripts of Minnesota's two weekly birding reports. 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. 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 2018). Steve Weston, serving as Minnesota CBC coordinator, compiled vast amounts of data from 81 counts. Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data from 1992 through 2016. Our appreciation goes out to all our contributors, especially those who respond to our requests for details and who submit observations online.

<sup>1</sup> Minneapolis, MN; <sup>2</sup> Golden Valley, 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. Dagger “+” preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
10. “ph.” denotes a species documented with a photograph.
11. “v.t.” denotes a species documented by video tape.
12. “a.t.” denotes a species documented by audio tape.
13. 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, 4612 Colfax Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, or via e-mail at [seasons@moumn.org](mailto:seasons@moumn.org).

**Snow Goose** (*Anser caerulescens*) — [3 North, 8 South] Two north reports (Morrison, Clay) and five south reports through mid December, all of 1–2 birds. One January report 1/1 Lac qui Parle GWe. Unlike the previous winter, there was little evidence of early spring migration, with only one north (2/26 Pine KrM) and three south reports (beginning 2/23 Wright ebd), all of 1–3 birds.

**Ross's Goose** (*Anser rossii*) — [1 North, 3 South] Three December reports: 12/1 Lac qui Parle (3) DLP, 12/16 Fairmont CBC, Fergus Falls CBC. Only one report after December: 2/27 Rice TFB.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*) — [1 North, 8 South] One north report: 12/16 Clay PBB. Four south reports (all singles) through mid December (Faribault, Kandiyohi, Pipestone, Wabasha), then none until 2/27 with four reports including high count Rice (22) TFB.

**Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [3 North, 23 South] Reported from four north counties through mid December, all of 9 or fewer individuals. Only one other north report: 1/23 Otter Tail ToR. Numerous December south reports from 19 counties, with high count 12/10 (30) Chippewa GWe, JtH. January to mid February reports from five south counties (1–4 individuals). Early spring migrants 2/27 (up to 16) from Jackson, Nobles, Rice. CBC high counts 12/17 Kensington (250), 12/16 Fairmont (106), Willmar (55).

**Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [17 North, 49 South] Reported from ten north counties after the CBC period. Season north high counts 12/16 Clay (7,500) PBB, 1/20 Clay (3,500) SAu. Widespread south throughout the season, with reports from all but four counties. Season high count south 12/8 Washington (8,000, Grey Cloud Island Gravel Pit) GJa. CBC high counts 12/19 Morris (50,951), 12/16 Fergus Falls (30,000), 12/17 Kensington (24,245); these three totals were much greater than the highest CBC count from any of the past five years.

**Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [3 South] Reported from three south counties: 12/23–1/9 Scott (up to 4 adults, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., 1/5–20 Wabasha (adult, Reads Landing) ASu, LiH, m.ob., and multiple reports

of an adult in Goodhue (Lock and Dam 3) 1/10 AJF, 2/18 KvM, 2/27 JZj.

**Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [14 North, 34 South] Reported from 48 counties statewide, 12 fewer than last winter's record 60. Reported from 12 north and 26 south counties after December. Season high count north 2/1 Otter Tail (230) JsS, JSw. High count south 1/7 Wright (1,000, Monticello) ToL, REEn. Away from Monticello, high count 2/28 Wabasha (282) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/31 Northern Wright County (960), Battle Lake (746), 1/1 Pillager (357).

**Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [1 North, 8 South] Two north reports: 12/1 Beltrami DPJ, 12/16 Morrison (4) SEM. December south reports of small numbers from 6 counties; no reports of lingering large flocks, unlike last winter. Up to 3 birds overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. There were also early January reports of 1–2 birds from Wabasha, Winona, Wright. Presumed early migrants 2/28 Wabasha (12) PEJ.

**Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [3 North, 11 South] All north: male overwintered Douglas (Alexandria) m.ob., 12/16 Clay (2) PBB, Fergus Falls CBC. South December reports from nine counties. Singles overwintered Scott (Shakopee) m.ob., Ramsey (Sarita wetland) m.ob.; also reported from five other south counties after December. High count 12/7 Hennepin (44, Long Meadow Lake) PEJ. CBC high count 12/17 Cedar Creek Bog (7).

**Blue-winged Teal** (*Spatula discors*) — [1 South] Male, associating with captive (wing-clipped) waterfowl on farm pond in Isanti, reported 12/17 JSa, ph. JRk, DGn and 1/4 LiH, ASu. Although observers noted that this bird was free-flying, it was reported by the pond owner as having been wounded (shot) by a neighbor on an unspecified date in the autumn (*vide* JSa).

**Northern Shoveler** (*Spatula chrypeata*) — [8 South] Reported through mid December from eight south counties, with high count 12/3 Wabasha (34) PEJ. Overwintered (up to 10) Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. No other reports after mid December.

**Gadwall** (*Mareca strepera*) — [2 North, 18 South] All north reports: 12/12 Douglas (10) ToR, 1/19 St. Louis JLK, 1/28 St. Louis CLN.

- December reports from 13 south counties. Large numbers overwintered Scott (up to 148, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. and Winona (up to 31, Whitewater W.M.A.) m.ob. Smaller numbers reported midwinter from Goodhue, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington. Presumed early migrants reported starting in late February from several additional south counties. Season high count 12/3 Wabasha (850, Pool #5) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/16 Excelsior (209), St. Paul (North) (13).
- American Wigeon** (*Mareca americana*) — [12 South] December reports from 11 south counties, with high counts 12/3 Wabasha (215) PEJ, Hennepin (27) KBg. Two early January reports: 1/1 Scott RiC, 1/6 Goodhue LiH, ASu.
- Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [18 North, 46 South] High counts north 2/7 St. Louis (1,800, Duluth) JLK, 12/16 Clay (1,500, American Crystal Sugar Lagoons) PBB. South high counts 1/19 Scott (4,000, Shakopee Mill Pond) PEJ, 1/6 Dakota (3,200, Lake Byllesby R.P.) TSk. Overwintered widely, with post-December reports from 15 north and 34 south counties. CBC high counts 12/17 Kensington (8,059), 12/16 Minneapolis (North) (3,363), St. Paul (North) (2,770).
- American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [4 North, 17 South] Multiple individuals overwintered St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob., with peak post-December count 1/10 (14) AVa. Other north reports after December (singles) from Itasca, Otter Tail. South high count 12/23 Wabasha (28) PEJ. Post-December south reports from 13 counties. CBC high counts 12/16 Duluth (37), Minneapolis (North) (6).
- Mallard X American Black Duck** (*Anas platyrhynchos* X *A. rubripes*) — [2 North, 3 South] Most reports of this hybrid were from St. Louis (Duluth) from throughout the season of 1–4 birds m.ob. Other reports (singles) from Hennepin, Otter Tail, Ramsey, Scott.
- Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [2 North, 14 South] All north: 12/15 Otter Tail JsS, 12/16 Clay (3) PBB, 1/20 Otter Tail ASu, LiH. Scattered December reports from seven south counties, with high count 12/3 Wabasha (265, Pool #5) PEJ. Midwinter reports from eight south counties. Presumed early migrants starting late February from five south counties.
- Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [2 North, 11 South] All north: 12/3 Douglas ToR, 12/16 Clay PBB. December reports from seven south counties, with high count 12/6 Hennepin (45) PEJ. Midwinter reports from Hennepin (up to 3), Isanti, Scott m.ob. Presumed early migrants 2/27 Waseca ANy, 2/28 Wabasha PEJ.
- Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [1 North, 10 South] One north: male overwintered St. Louis (Silver Lake, Virginia) SLF, BeA. December reports from eight south counties, with high count 12/3 Wabasha (550) PEJ. Male overwintered Goodhue (Red Wing) m.ob. Early migrants reported 2/27–28 from Nobles, Wabasha, Winona.
- Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [1 North, 15 South] All north: 12/3, 12/12 Douglas ToR, 2/27 Douglas BEc. December reports from eight south counties (all 7 or fewer). Overwintered Goodhue (up to 3, Red Wing) m.ob.; also 1/27 Chippewa (Lac Qui Parle Lake) DLP. Early migrants starting late February from seven south counties, with high count 2/27 Jackson (45) PEJ.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [3 North, 18 South] All north reports: 12/3 Cass (3) DAY, 12/16 Clay (2) PBB, 12/3 (17), 12/12 (5), 12/13 Douglas ToR. December reports from 15 south counties, with high counts 12/3 Wabasha (1,100) PEJ, 12/1 Ramsey (100) JGl. Multiple individuals (up to 35) overwintered Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. Other midwinter reports (singles) from Goodhue, Ramsey, Wabasha, Washington. A few late-February reports of 1–5 birds from four counties of presumed early migrants.
- Tufted Duck** (*Aythya fuligula*) — [1 South] First state record (**The Loon** 90:126–128). Adult male discovered 1/7 Goodhue (Colville Park, Red Wing) ph. JZj. Continued at that location through 1/8, then moved downstream 5 miles near Frontenac S.P. (1/8–10); relocated at Colville Park 1/12 and last reported there 1/18. Reported by 86 different observers during its 12-day stay.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [2 North, 8 South] Two north reports: 12/2 Cass (Leech Lake) DAY, 1/20–24 St. Louis (Virginia, Silver Lake) BeA. December reports from five south counties, all of 1–3 birds except 12/3

(52) and 12/23 (22) Wabasha PEJ. Overwintered Goodhue (through 1/20; up to 9, Red Wing to Frontenac S.P.) m.ob., Scott (through 1/21, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Wabasha (up to 7, Lake City, Reads Landing) m.ob.

**Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [5 North, 19 South] December reports (1–5 birds) from five north counties; last north report 1/1 St. Louis (Virginia, Silver Lake) SLF. Reported from 17 south counties in December, with high counts 12/3 (500), 12/23 (103) Wabasha PEJ, 12/1 Carver (39, Lake Waconia) WCM. Overwintered Goodhue (up to 5, Red Wing to Frontenac S.P.) m.ob., Scott (up to 8, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Wabasha (up to 5, Lake City, Reads Landing) m.ob. Early spring migrants reported from four south counties starting late February, with high count 2/28 Wabasha (180) PEJ.

**Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) — [2 North, 3 South] All reports: 12/1–1/1 Sherburne and Stearns (female, continuing from 11/27, St. Cloud) ph. JuW, m.ob., 12/3–2/17 Lake (2, Two Harbors) ebd, m.ob., 12/4 St. Louis (McQuade Small Craft Harbor) JPR, 12/17–18 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) ebd, MwT, 12/23 Washington (female, Pt. Douglas Park) †IVa.

**Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 South] One report: 12/23 Wabasha (immature male, Lake City) PEJ.

**White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [2 North] All reports: 12/3–4 Cass (Gull Lake) BJq, DAY, RAE, HHD, 12/3–1/7 (1–2, Lake, Two Harbors) ebd, m.ob.

**Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [4 North, 6 South] Numerous reports from all three Lake Superior counties, with high counts by county: 1/29 Cook (330, Grand Marais) FJN, 2/8 Lake (28, Two Harbors) REN, 2/27 St. Louis (19) JWL. One north report away from Lake Superior: 12/2 Cass (3, Leech Lake) DAY. South reports: 12/3 Kandiyohi (Green Lake, Spicer) JoS, m.ob., 12/7–11 Hennepin (Bde Maka Ska, Lake Harriet) IWe, m.ob., 12/14–1/1 Sherburne and Stearns (Mississippi River, St. Cloud) HHD, m.ob., 12/15–24 Dakota and Washington (Pt. Douglas area) m.ob.

**Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [5 North, 11 South] December reports (all 1–3 birds) from four north counties. North reports

(all singles) after December from Lake, Otter Tail, St. Louis. December reports from ten south counties, with high counts 12/3 Wabasha (150) PEJ, 12/1 Carver (32, Lake Waconia) WCM. Overwintered Scott (1–2, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob. Other midwinter reports (singles) from Goodhue, Hennepin. Reports of early spring migrants 2/28 from Goodhue, Wabasha. CBC high count 12/16 Excelsior (6).

**Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [13 North, 29 South] High count north 2/7 Otter Tail (600, Fergus Falls, Riverside Waterfowl Sanctuary) JsS. Duluth (St. Louis) high count 12/15 (58) JLK is the lowest in at least the past ten winters. South high counts 1/13–14 Wabasha (2,000) ebd, 12/3 Wabasha (1,150) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/23 Red Wing (1,382), 12/16 St. Cloud-Collegeville (195).

**Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 North] All reports: 1/17 Otter Tail (female, Orwell W.M.A.) ph. WPI, 2/1 Otter Tail (presumably the same female, Fergus Falls, Riverside Waterfowl Sanctuary) JsS, JSw.

**Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [6 North, 18 South] December reports from six north counties, with high count 12/12 (25) Douglas ToR. Overwintered Otter Tail (up to 3), and singles in Douglas, St. Louis (Virginia, Silver Lake). December reports from 15 south counties, with high count 12/5 Ramsey (400, Pleasant Lake) MRe, WRe. Multiple individuals overwintered Scott (up to 45, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Hennepin (up to 20, Bass Ponds) m.ob. Other midwinter reports (1–3 individuals) from Chippewa, Dakota, Goodhue, Washington. CBC high counts 12/16 Bloomington (16), Excelsior (10).

**Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser** (*Bucephala clangula* X *Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [1 South] One report of this hybrid: 12/3 Goodhue (adult male, Lake Pepin) †PEJ.

**Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [12 North, 26 South] Reported from 38 counties statewide, 18 fewer than last winter's record 56. December reports from 11 north counties, with high counts 12/5 Cass (52) REN, 12/12 Douglas (45, Lake Carlos) ToR. Reports after December from 11 north



counties, with the highest totals (up to 40) in St. Louis. Widespread overwintering south, with reports after December from 18 counties. Season high counts 12/3 Goodhue (8,000, Lake Pepin), 12/23 Wabasha (7,500, Camp Lacupolis) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/23 Red Wing (2,101), 12/16 St. Paul (North) (124).

**Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [5 North, 8 South] Peak counts for each of the three Lake Superior counties include 1/20 St. Louis (65, Duluth) ebd, 1/28 Lake (41, Two Harbors) ebd, 1/29 Cook (6, Grand Marais) FJN. North reports away from Lake Superior: 12/4 Hubbard (24, Kabekona Lake), 12/5 Cass (4, Leech Lake) REn. December reports from six south counties, with high count 12/3 Gooshue (12) PEJ. Midwinter reports (1–5 individuals) from Anoka, Dakota, Goodhue, Isanti, Wabasha.

**Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [2 South] Reported from only two counties, the fewest since winter 2008: 12/8 Hennepin (3, Lake Harriet) IVa, 12/10 Washington (Grey Cloud Island) PNi, BDo.

**Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [7 North, 8 South] All north reports from six Northwest counties, with high counts 12/30 Clay (17) HeH, ShG, 2/22 Polk (10) REn, AxB. High counts south 12/31 Goodhue (7) JWH, 2/17 Dodge (7) ebd. CBC high counts 12/16 Crookston (41), 12/15 Agassiz N.W.R. (12).

**Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [17 North, 51 South] Reported from about the same number of counties statewide as the past five winters, from as far northwest as Clay and Becker. Unusual record 2/24 **Lake** (Knife River) †VSr. North high counts 2/24 Todd (23) AaL, 2/17 Morrison (22) SEm, 1/1 Otter Tail (20) WPl. Reported from all but two south counties, with high counts 1/1 Cottonwood (38) LHL, 2/10, 2/17 Steele (35) NFT, 2/27 Lac qui Parle (31) RAE; these are lower than the high counts from most recent winters. CBC high counts 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom (62), 12/18 Bluestem Prairie/Bufalo River SP (59), 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (47).

**Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [24 North, 6 South] Reported from the same number of north counties as last year, with

high counts 2/10 St. Louis (23, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 12/9 Roseau (15) AaL, LKo. Few south reports (all 1–2 individuals), from Benton, Chisago, Houston, Sherburne, Washington, Winona. CBC high counts 12/16 St. Louis (30), 12/30 Fredenberg (21).

**Spruce Grouse** (*Falcipennis canadensis*) — [5 North] As usual, most reports were from Lake, but also reported from Cook, Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis. High count 1/18 Lake (14, state highway 1 south of Isabella) DvK.

**Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [13 North, 1 South] North reports from 13 counties, the same as last year; these are the most in the past ten winters. High counts 2/10 Aitkin (26, near Palisade) KCR, 1/9 Marshall (20) JHs. One south report: 2/24 Lac qui Parle (7) DLP.

**Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus cupido*) — [6 North] Most reports from Clay and Polk; others from Becker, Mahnomen, Otter Tail, Wilkin. High count 12/18 Clay (117) KCo. CBC high counts 12/18 Bluestem Prairie/Bufalo River S.P. (153), 12/16 Crookston (67).

**Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [24 North, 43 South] Reported from 67 counties statewide, the second highest total for the winter season (behind 70 counties in 2013, 2016), from as far northwest as Marshall, Beltrami, Roseau, and northeast to **Lake** (Two Harbors). Statewide high counts were from north counties: 1/3 Todd (**141**), 12/13 Morrison (132) SEm. South high counts 2/12 Washington (100) PSm, 2/14 Renville (93) BHe. CBC high counts 12/20 Sherburne N.W.R. (288), 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (251), 12/31 Battle Lake (233).

**Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [2 South] Two reports: 12/1–24 Washington (Grey Cloud Island) KIs, m.ob., 1/13 Goodhue (Red Wing) †CAs.

**Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [1 South] One report: 12/1–7 Hennepin (2, continuing from 11/29, Bde Maka Ska) m.o b.

**Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [2 North] All north 12/17 Two Harbors CBC, St. Louis (Lakewood Pumping Station) ASu, LiH.

**Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [32 North, 53 South] Reported statewide from all but

- two north counties, similar to the pattern in the previous five winters. High counts 12/23 Ramsey (500, Fish Hatchery Lake) JZj, 12/18 St. Louis (489, Duluth, Port Terminal) JLK. CBC high counts 12/16 St. Paul (North) (1,568), Duluth (1,160), 12/17 Virginia (684).
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [11 North, 41 South] Reported 52 counties statewide, the most ever for this season, ahead of 2015 (50), 2016 (44), and 2012 (41). Reported from as far northwest as Marshall, but no reports east of a line from Chisago to Marshall. North high counts 6 or fewer. South high counts 12/15 Yellow Medicine (82, Wood Lake and Hadley Falls) KRE, 1/9 Brown (58, Hanska) BTS. CBC high counts 12/15 Cottonwood (139), 12/16 Jackson County (61), Mankato (39).
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [16 North, 39 South] North reports after December from 11 counties, with midwinter high counts 2/6 (22, St. Louis, Amity Creek) RHg, 2/17 Morrison (13) SEm, KEm. Widespread south throughout the season, with high counts 1/24 Houston (78, Houston) SHo, 12/27 Meeker (56, at one location) RAE, 12/28 Hennepin (46) Pab. CBC high counts 12/16 Rochester (150), 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (113), 12/16 La-Crosse-LaCrescent (105).
- American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [5 North, 12 South] December reports from five north counties: 12/3 Cass (12) DAY, 12/12 Douglas (14) ToR, 12/16 Clay PBB, Fergus Falls CBC, 12/1–17 St. Louis (Virginia, Silver Lake) SLF. December reports from 11 south counties, with high counts 12/4 (52, Carver, Lake Waconia) WCM, 12/10–16 Washington (50, Grey Cloud Island) m.ob., 12/7–8 Hennepin (40, Lake Harriet) SKE, IvA. Overwintered Scott (up to 12, Blue Lake W.T.P.) m.ob., Goodhue (Red Wing) m.ob. CBC high counts 12/16 Excelsior (14), Bloomington (2).
- Sandhill Crane** (*Antigone canadensis*) — [5 South] No December reports. One January report 1/1 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) ADS; possibly overwintered, with another report from Acacia Park Cemetery 2/21 EzH, IsH. Late February reports of presumed early migrants (1–5 birds) starting 2/27 from Dakota, Houston (seven locations), Rice, Wabasha, Wright.
- Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [7 South] No December records, and no reports of overwintering birds. All reports were from late February (starting 2/25) of presumed early migrants from seven counties in the southeastern quarter of the state: Dakota, Houston, Olmsted, Scott, Waseca, Washington, Winona. High count 2/28 Houston (5) SHo.
- Calidris sp.** [1 South] — 12/9–10, Washington Co. (Grey Cloud Island gravel pit) ASu, LiH, m.ob. Distant, dark, low-resolution photos show a *Calidris* sandpiper but description and photos are inconclusive for species identification; both Pectoral Sandpiper and Dunlin were proposed as possibilities, with the latter probably better supported. This would be only the second winter-season record in at least 40 years for either species.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [7 South] December reports from Dakota, Hennepin, Rice. Reports after December: 1/2 Winona ANy, DBz, 1/7 Chisago (up to 3) m.ob., Hennepin CMB, 1/17 Dakota (2, Etter Bottoms) KDS, DVe, 2/14 Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.), 2/18 Scott (Shakopee Mill Pond) ebd, 2/28 Winona MJM. Overwintered Olmsted (1–2, near Dover) m.ob., then 2/28 Olmsted (7, near Dover, additional early migrants?) LAV.
- Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) — No reports. This species was reported in seven of the previous ten winters.
- Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) — [1 South] Presumed early migrants **2/26** Martin (2, Hwy. 15 south of Fairmont) ph. DAK. This is only the second February record; the first was an overwintering bird in the Twin Cities in winter 2009.
- Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*) — [3 North, 18 South] Small numbers (7 or fewer) reported in December from Cass, Lake, St. Louis. Reported from 16 south counties in December, with high count 12/5 Hennepin (500, Bde Maka Ska) SKE. December reports after 12/10 were all of fewer than ten individuals. Only one January south report: 1/10 Goodhue (Lock and Dam 3) AJF. No other reports until presumed early migrants starting 2/27 from five south counties, with high count 2/28 Wabasha (10) PEJ. CBC high count 12/16

- Bloomington (54).
- Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*) — [4 North, 18 South] One north report away from Lake Superior: 12/2 Cass DAY. December north high count 12/17 St. Louis (365, Duluth) JLK. Overwintered along Lake Superior, with post-December high counts by county: 1/29 Cook (108, Grand Marais) FJN, m.ob., 2/24 Lake (790) JWJ, 1/1 St. Louis (130, Duluth) JLK. Peak midwinter numbers in Duluth were the lowest since winter 2013, and much lower than in the previous three winters. Reported from 16 south counties in December, with season high count 12/8 Hennepin (900, Lake Harriet) BAF, IVa. Numbers decreased rapidly after early December, and none were reported from January to mid February. Presumed early migrants 2/28 Wabasha (35), Winona (25) PEJ. CBC high counts 12/16 Duluth (911), 12/17 Two Harbors (39), 12/16 Grand Marais (27).
- Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*) — [2 North, 2 South] Reported in small numbers (1–2) throughout the season in Lake, and through December to 1/1 in St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob., with high count 12/10 (4) JLK. South reports of small numbers (1–3) in Hennepin through 12/10, and Washington (singles) through 12/17 m.ob. No other south reports. All reports statewide are presumed to be the Thayer's subspecies (although most were identified only as Iceland Gull); there were no reports of Kumlien's.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) — [1 North, 3 South] One north report: 12/3 St. Louis (first-cycle, Duluth, Canal Park) †KSz. South reports (all singles) from 12/2–11 Hennepin (Lake Harriet, Bde Maka Ska) m.ob., of at least two different adults. Also reported 12/3 Dakota (adult, Spring Lake P.R.) and Washington †REN.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [2 North, 3 South] Reported in small numbers (1–3) throughout the season St. Louis (Duluth) m.ob. and Lake (Two Harbors area) m.ob. All south: 12/7–10 Hennepin (2 first-cycle, Lake Harriet, Bde Maka Ska) BAF, CMB, m.ob., 12/10–26 Washington and Dakota (first-cycle, Pt. Douglas area) BDO, m.ob. CBC high count 12/16 Duluth (6).
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] The fewest reports since winter 2007: six dates (all singles) from 12/10–2/24 St. Louis (Duluth) JLK, JPR, ebd.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [1 North, 3 South] Two north reports: 12/2 Cass (Leech Lake, Walker Bay) DAY, 12/5 Cass (Leech Lake, Shingobee Bay) REN. Three south reports: 12/1 Carver (Lake Waconia) WCM, Wright (Cedar Lake) BHe, 12/2 Washington (Big Marine P.R.) BDo.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [1 South] One report: 12/3–6 Goodhue (2, Mississippi River Lock and Dam 3) KDS.
- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [7 South] Early December reports from Hennepin, Sibley. Later reports include 12/16 Fairmont CBC, LaCrosse-LaCrescent CBC (2), 12/18 Granite Falls CBC (4), 12/23 Red Wing CBC. High count 12/5 Hennepin (10) JST.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [2 North, 7 South] All north reports: 12/16 Fergus Falls CBC, 12/17 Kensington CBC, 1/1 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) WPL. Reported from only seven south counties, the fewest in the past five years. December reports from five south counties (all 1–2 birds). January to mid February reports from Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Winona; all singles except 1/14 Rice (4) TFB. The few late February reports appeared to be known overwintering birds.
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [5 North, 14 South] December north reports from Crow Wing, Marshall, Polk, St. Louis, all singles except 12/10 Polk (2) SAu, JCJ. Reports after December from Cass, Kanabec, Polk, all singles except 1/7 Polk (2) SAu, 2/24 Polk (2) *vide* JMJ. Reported from 14 south counties, the most in at least the past ten winters. Many south reports from the traditional wintering areas in Houston, Wabasha, Winona. Multiple reports also from Goodhue, Fillmore. Other south reports from Benton, Dakota, Meeker, Mower, Ramsey, Redwood, Renville, Sherburne, Sibley. High counts 2/6 Renville (4) ANy, 2/25 Winona (4) ASu, LiH,
- Northern Harrier** (*Circus hudsonius*) — [8 North, 32 South] Reported from 40 counties statewide, the second highest winter since 1999 (last winter's 61 was the highest). December north reports from seven coun-

ties. North reports after December include: 1/7 Otter Tail MKu, 1/20 Otter Tail JsS, 1/27 Crow Wing JnP, 1/30 Todd TLu, 2/6 Grant BPa. South reports from 21 counties in December, and 20 after December (all singles). CBC high count 12/17 Austin (2).

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [11 North, 37 South] Reported from 48 counties statewide, about average for recent winters. Reported (all singles) from eight north counties after December, including an adult present all winter in Polk SAu, and many reports from St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) m.ob. Numerous south reports from 37 counties, including 30 after December. CBC high counts 12/16 Rochester (7), Henderson (5).

**Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [9 North, 36 South] Reported (all singles) from nine north counties (Clay, Douglas, Itasca, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Polk, St. Louis), the most in at least the past ten years. Reported from five north counties after December, including two reports with descriptive details: 1/16 St. Louis (Duluth) †JDX, 2/26 St. Louis (Duluth) †TRd. Widely reported south from a record 36 counties, including 27 counties after December. CBC high counts 12/16 Owatonna (9), Bloomington (4), Rochester (4), St. Paul (North) (4).

**Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [13 North, 7 South] Reported from 13 north counties, the most since winter 2012 (15). By far the most north reports were from St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog). South reports included about 9 individuals from 7 counties; those with documentation include 12/2 Dakota ALw, 12/16–2/18 Hennepin m.ob., 2/22 Yellow Medicine GWe. CBC high counts 12/17 Virginia (2), 12/18 Sax-Zim (2), 1/1 Philbrook (2).

**Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [32 North, 53 South] Reported from 85 counties (all but two north), down slightly from last year's record 87. North high counts 12/14 Morrison (95) SEm, 12/7 St. Louis (52, migrants; Duluth, Hawk Ridge N.R.) TRd. Unlike last winter, there was no pattern of influx of late February spring migrants north. South high counts 1/3 Goodhue (165, Red Wing, Colvill Park) GHo, 12/24 Isanti (142, pig farm north of St. Francis) RCl. CBC high counts 12/23 Red Wing (246), 12/16

Bloomington (98), Winona (79), Mankato (78).

**Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [3 North, 16 South] All north: 12/17 Morrison FGo, HHD, 1/3 Morrison †FGo, 1/24 Kanabec DFe, 2/14 Mille Lacs MLk, 2/26–27 Morrison SEm. Reported from 16 south counties after December (all singles). CBC high counts 12/17 Cedar Creek Bog (3), 12/16 Wild River (2).

**Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [1 North] First winter record for the state: **12/2** St. Louis (Duluth, Park Point) †JGz, ph. PHS; juvenile, continuing from November (11/14–22), when it was photographed by several observers.

**Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [1 South] First winter record for the state: **12/3** McLeod (light morph adult, Bergen twp.) ph. BDe, ph. †GAN.

**Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [18 North, 50 South] Reported statewide, including all but three south counties. North reports after December from 12 counties, all of 1–5 individuals. Season high count north 12/17 Morrison (9) SEm. North CBC high counts 12/17 Little Falls (19), 1/1 Long Prairie (18). South high counts 2/10 Sherburne (23) JCC, 1/20 Isanti (15) EzH, Goodhue (14) AJF, KDS. CBC high counts 12/16 Rochester (64), Bloomington (63), Excelsior (44), 12/23 Red Wing (40). Harlan's subspecies (*B. j. harlani*) reported 12/17–2/28 Hennepin (Edina) ph. GAn, m.ob.

**Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [29 North, 51 South] Reported from a season record 80 counties statewide (all but five north and two south), two more than last winter's record 78. North high counts 12/2 Polk (17) SAS fide JMJ, 12/12 St. Louis (9) PHo. High counts south 2/13 Le Sueur (15, Kasota Prairie) CH, 12/14 Lac qui Parle (11) JSc. CBC high counts 12/18 Granite Falls (27), 12/14 Lac qui Parle (23), 12/20 Sherburne NWR (16). Of those individuals for which color morphs were described, 16 were dark and 12 light (north), and 39 dark and 44 light (south), for an overall total of 55 dark and 56 light.

**Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [3 North, 17 South] All north: 12/16 Fargo-Moorhead CBC, 12/31 Battle Lake CBC, 1/23 Todd TLu. Reported from 17 south



**First winter record Broad-winged Hawk, 14 November 2015, Duluth, St. Louis County. Seen through 2 December. Photo Peder H. Svingen.**



**First winter record Swainson's Hawk, 3 December 2017, Bergen Township, McLeod County. Photo Gavin Anderson.**

counties, well above the average for the past ten winters (12). High count 1/4 Lyon (3) GWe.

**Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [24 North, 43 South] Reported statewide from 67 counties, one fewer than last winter and well above the average for the previous ten years (51). North reports were all of 1–2 individuals and south reports of 1–3. Earliest reports of adult on nest: 2/7 Ramsey IsH, 2/8 Hennepin JAB. CBC high counts 12/16 St. Paul (North) (17), Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (6), 12/17 Austin (6), 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (6).

**Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [24 North, 38 South] Invasion year; widespread both north and south throughout the season. Reported from 62 counties statewide, over twice the season average for the past ten winters (29) and the second highest total in that period, somewhat behind the major invasion of winter 2013 (66). North high count 2/10 Polk (6) MJJ. South high count 12/16 Hennepin (4, MSP International Airport) DnS, MiS, MwT. CBC high counts 12/16 Bloomington (4), Duluth (4).

**Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [4 North, 1 South] Reported from four north counties (Beltrami, Lake, Roseau, St. Louis), well below the average for the previous ten winters (8). Most were singles but up to three reported St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog).

One south report of a presumed road-killed specimen discovered 1/5 Chisago (Hwy 8 roadside) NSc, ph. MTe.

**Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [23 North, 39 South] Reported from 62 counties statewide, the highest winter season total in at least the past ten years (average is 38). All north reports were of 1–2 birds; south reports of 1–3. New winter season county records include 1/1 Mahnomens SC, 12/31 Pennington GAn, 2/23 Red Lake *fide* MJJ, 2/17 Watonwan HHD, 12/18 Yellow Medicine WCM. CBC high counts 12/16 Excelsior (17), 12/17 Austin (11), 12/16 Bloomington (4).

**Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [12 North] Reported from 12 contiguous counties northeast of a line from Roseau to Cass to Carlton. By far most reports were from St. Louis (primarily Sax-Zim Bog); next highest from Lake. High counts 12/24 St. Louis (7, Sax-Zim Bog) KDS, 2/18 St. Louis (6, Knife River Road) GrS. In counties other than St. Louis, high counts were 3 or fewer. CBC high count 12/18 Sax-Zim (5).

**Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [1 North, 13 South] One north report: 12/18 Clay KCo. South reports from 13 counties, but none from the southern two tiers of counties except Blue Earth. High counts 1/7 Washington (3) m.ob., 2/27 Blue Earth (3) ChH. CBC high count 12/15 Cottonwood (2).

**Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [5 North, 17 South] Reported from 23 counties statewide, the second highest total in the past ten years (average for that period is nine). North reports after December include 1/9, 1/30–2/1 Otter Tail WPI, JsS, JSw, 1/20 Grant LiH ASu. Widespread south reports from 17 counties, including 11 after December. New winter county records include 12/10 Blue Earth ChH, 1/15 Faribault WAF, 12/24 Meeker LKo. High counts 12/14 Steele (4) JiP, GHo, 1/5 Steele (4) ASu, LiH. CBC high count 12/18 Bluestem Prairie/ Buffalo River SP (2).

**Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — [8 North, 1 South] In contrast to the paucity of reports in the previous four winters (five individuals total, and none in 2014 and 2015), there were many reports throughout this season, especially from St. Louis (most from various locations in the Duluth area and Sax-Zim Bog) and Lake (various locations near Lake Superior). Also reported from Aitkin, Cook (two locations), Crow Wing (two locations), Itasca, Roseau, and a new county record 2/10 **Otter Tail** †JsS. One south record: 1/5–8 **Ramsey** (Vadnais Lake) EzH, IsH, m.ob.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [6 North, 17 South] Reported from six north counties, including single locations in Cook, Koochiching, Marshall, Polk, and multiple locations in Lake and St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog and various Duluth locations). Reported from a season record 17 south counties, including a new county record 1/20 **Yellow Medicine** (Swedes Forest S.N.A.) GWe. High count 2/28 Wabasha (4) JmP. CBC high counts 12/16 Mankato (2), Minneapolis (North) (2), 12/27 Northern Meeker County (2).

**Belted Kingfisher** (*Megasceryle alcyon*) — [6 North, 27 South] Scattered reports from all regions, although less frequently in north, throughout season in similar number of counties as past two years. Unusual reports: 12/10 Yellow Medicine GWe, JtH, 12/16 Le Sueur ChH, 12/18 Bluestem Prairie/ Buffalo River S.P. CBC, 12/18 Itasca S.P. CBC. CBC high counts 12/16 Bloomington (11), 12/16 Excelsior (7), 12/17 Austin (7).

**Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [1 North, 8 South] Observed

in eight counties in Southeast and East-central regions, twice as many counties as last year's low of four. Unusual north report 2/21 Kanabec HHD. High count 2/22 Houston (17, Reno Bottoms) SHo, 2/27 Anoka (10, Fish Lake Nature Trails) IWe. CBC high count 12/17 Cedar Creek Bog (83).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [26 North, 50 South] Found in all regions with the number of reporting counties tying the winter record of 76 counties in 2012 and 2016. Notable winter record 1/1 Baudette CBC. High counts 12/30 Dakota (13) ADS, 12/20 Carver (11) JCy, 1/1 Todd (11) ALu. CBC high counts 12/16 Excelsior (74), 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (65), 12/16 Faribault (58).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [7 South] No north reports. Reported from average number of south counties 12/2–1/1; no reports after 1/1 Houston ebd. Unusual reports: 12/16 Willmar CBC, 12/26 Fillmore (Pilot Mound Twp.) SHo, 12/29 Wright (Monticello) ph. ABn.

**American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [3 North] For fourth consecutive year reported from only 3 counties with majority of reports from St. Louis, especially Sax-Zim Bog. All reports outside of St. Louis Co: 1/15 Koochiching SC, 1/19 Koochiching FGo, 1/27 Lake FJN, JPR, m.ob. High count 2/10 St. Louis (4) JSf.

**Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [12 North] Reported from all counties north and east of a line from Pine to Roseau, plus Clearwater and Hubbard. Observed in same number of north counties as previous year and equal to 10-year average. Largest number of reports from Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis. Multiple reports of 4 individuals from Sax-Zim Bog throughout season. CBC high counts 12/18 Sax-Zim (7), 12/23 Ely (4), 12/31 Isabella (4), 12/31 Beltrami (4).

**Downy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates pubescens*) — [30 North, 51 South] Observed in all but six counties, all in western third of the state. High counts 1/1 Benton (19) ebd, 12/16 Ramsey (18) KSi, 12/30 Washington (16) RMa. CBC high counts 12/16 Faribault (161), 12/16 St. Paul (North) (156), 12/16 Bloomington (150).

**Hairy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates villosus*) —

- [31 North, 49 South] Reported from all but seven counties, the highest number of winter reporting counties on record. Unusual winter record 2/18 Traverse DLP. High counts 12/16 Ramsey (14) KSi, 2/26 St. Louis (11) FJN. CBC high counts 12/16 St. Paul (North) (73), 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (70), 12/16 Duluth (69).
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [12 North, 38 South] Reported from highest number of counties in past ten years. Notable reports: 12/7 Itasca (Trout Lake Twp.) JNm, 12/7 Rock RAE, 1/23 Red Lake ph. RLt. High counts 12/15 Dakota (5) STa, 12/17 Anoka (5) JRk, 12/17 Isanti (5) JSa, DGn. CBC high counts 12/17 Cedar Creek Bog (14), 12/14 Lac qui Parle (13).
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [31 North, 44 South] Observed in all regions, but less frequently in Southwest; reported from the highest number of counties in past ten years. Unusual winter record 1/10 Traverse DLP. High count 12/17 Anoka (7) JRk, JSa, DGn. CBC high counts 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (45), 12/16 Duluth (27), 12/19 Detroit Lakes (27).
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [7 North, 47 South] For third winter in a row reported from over 50 counties, well above 10-year average of 43. No reports from the North-central and only one from the Northeast region: 1/19 St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) ebd. Unusual winter observation 1/7 Pennington JMJ. CBC high counts 12/16 Winona (13), 12/14 Lac qui Parle (7), 12/16 LaCrosse-LaCrescent (7).
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [13 North, 21 South] Reported widely from 34 counties in all regions of state in the same number of counties as past year and well above 10-year average of 23. Notable records: 12/1 Yellow Medicine GWe, 1/6 Traverse BPa, 2/13 Murray ANy. Prairie subspecies (*richardsonii*) reported from Kensington CBC on 12/17. No individual or CBC observations of more than two birds.
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [1 North, 12 South] Highest number of reporting counties in past ten years, all from South except regular overwintering birds reported from St. Louis. Notable reports: 12/2 Stearns (Beaver Island Trail) JuW, 12/16 Mankato CBC, 12/23 Goodhue (Red Wing) †LEC, 1/2 Chisago (Interstate S.P.) ClB, 1/19 Yellow Medicine (Posen) †GWe. CBC high counts 12/16 St. Paul (North) (4), 12/16 Duluth (3).
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius borealis*) — [28 North, 48 South] Reported statewide from 76 counties, although less frequently along western tier of counties. This number is the highest number of reporting counties in over 25 years. High count 2/17 St. Louis (13, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd. CBC high counts 12/16 Grand Marais (11), 12/18 Sax-Zim (11), 12/16 Duluth (9).
- Canada Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [14 North] Reported from fourteen contiguous counties in North-central and Northwest regions, the same number of reporting counties as the previous winter. Unusual record 1/20 Wadena FGo. High counts 2/2 St. Louis (18, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 2/26 St. Louis (14, Sax-Zim Bog) FJN, 2/27 Lake (13, Superior N.F.) FJN.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [32 North, 52 South] Reported statewide throughout the season from all but three western counties. High counts 12/17 Morrison (96) MEm, KEm, 12/20 Sherburne (78) MJB, DOr. CBC high counts 12/20 Sherburne N.W.R. (620), 12/17 Cedar Creek Bog (470).
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [18 North] Reported from 19 north counties, similar to the number of reporting counties from previous five years. High counts 1/18, 1/24 St. Louis (6, Sax-Zim Bog) CRM, m.ob. CBC high counts 12/15 Agassiz N.W.R. (33), 1/1 Baudette (26).
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [31 North, 53 South] Reported from 84 of 87 counties. High counts 2/2 Hennepin (2,000, Powderhorn Park) IVa, 2/17 Hennepin (1,732) ASD, 2/2 Olmsted (1,410, Rochester) LAV. CBC high counts 12/16 Rochester (2,960), 12/16 St. Paul (North) (1,879) CBC, 12/16 Bloomington (1,277).
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [31 North, 11 South] Reported from 42 counties in state including 11 south counties, both record high numbers, continuing a trend of range expansion south by this species. Notable south reports include: 2/14 Hennepin (Hamel) ABL, 2/15 Meeker (Lake Betsy area) MJB, 1/25 Wright (Otsego) ToL. High counts 12/14 Itasca (120) TCL, 12/2 St.

Louis (82) TRd. CBC high counts 12/23 Ely (221), 12/16 Grand Marais (183), 1/1 Baquette (131).

**Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [18 North, 50 South] Reported from 68 counties, somewhat less than the prior winter's record count of 78 counties, but still well above the 10-year average of 62 counties. Fewest reports from North-central and Northeast Regions. High counts 2/9 Faribault (1,000) WAF, 2/6 Cottonwood (523) LHL. CBC high counts 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom (939), 12/31 Wabasha (176), 1/1 Albert Lea (174).

**Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [31 North, 51 South] Found in all but five counties along western border of state. High counts 12/26 Pine (165) DGn, AmS, 12/27 Washington (119) JuW. CBC high counts 12/16 Duluth (1,934), 12/16 Excelsior (1,044), 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (875).

**Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [4 North] Reported from four counties in Northeast and North-central regions, slightly below 10-year average of five counties, with majority of reports from St. Louis and Lake. All additional reports 12/15 Itasca SC, 1/13 Cook ebd. High counts 2/14 Lake (11) BBA, TRd, 1/28 Lake (9) FJN. CBC high count 12/18 Sax-Zim (8).

**Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [11 South] Reported from eleven south counties near Mississippi and St. Croix rivers, somewhat less than last year's record high of 13 counties. Unusual report 12/8 Chisago ebd. High counts 1/20 Goodhue (9) AJF, KDS, 12/23 Winona (7) ebd. CBC high counts 12/23 Red Wing (25), 12/16 LaCrosse-LaCrescent (11), 12/16 Rochester (11).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [28 North, 50 South] Reported statewide throughout season from highest number of counties in past ten years. Unusual winter records: 12/24 Lincoln ABL, 2/9 Wilkin RAE. High counts 2/14 Lake (24, Stoney River F.R.) TRd, BBA, 1/28 Lake (20) ebd. CBC high counts 12/16 Grand Marais (166), 12/23 Ely (83), 12/16 Duluth (76).

**White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [31 North, 52 South] Reported statewide from all but four western counties. High counts 12/16 Chisago (33) ebd,

12/16 Ramsey (31) KSi, 12/16 Brown (25) JSc, 12/23 Winona (25) ebd. CBC high counts 12/16 Excelsior (288), 12/16 St. Paul (North) (173), 12/16 Faribault (169).

**Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [18 North, 43 South] Reported in all regions of state, from more counties than in the past ten winters. Notable record 2/9 Traverse RAE. High counts 12/17 McLeod (8, Buffalo Creek Park) KdB, 2/27 Hennepin (8) ASu, 12/18 Yellow Medicine (7, Upper Sioux Agency S.P.) WCM. CBC high counts 12/16 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (18), 12/18 Granite Falls (18), 12/16 Bloomington (16).

**Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [3 South] All reports south of single individuals: 12/23 Goodhue Iva, 12/16–1/27 Rice TFB (likely overwintering), and in Houston (Reno S.F.) 2/18, SHo, 2/25 ASu, LiH.

**Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [3 North, 4 South] Reported in seven counties, the highest number of reporting counties since 2012 when found in an unprecedented 18 counties. All north reports 12/15–26 **Becker** (Cormorant) †HeH, ShG, 12/15–18 St. Louis (Duluth) PT, m.ob., 12/17–20 **Carlton** (Moose Lake) CH, †JWH, m.ob. South reports from Hennepin (4 locations!), Mower, Olmsted, Rice.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [7 North, 17 South] Widely scattered reports throughout season from 24 counties, well above 10-year average of 18. Unusual winter records: 12/10 Dodge JWH, 12/18 Granite Falls CBC, 2/9 Traverse RAE. High counts 12/1 Lyon (6, Southwest Minnesota State University) GWe, 12/13 Rice (4) TFB, 1/10 Rice (4) DAB. CBC high counts 12/17 Marshall (61), 12/18 Granite Falls (9).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [1 South] First report since 2014 of a late lingering bird for this species that is observed in about one half of Minnesota winters: 12/1 Carver (Carver P.R.) WCM.

**Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [22 South] Observed in 21 south counties, the same number of counties as last year and slightly above 10-year average of 18 counties. Notable winter records: 12/7 Big Stone DLP, 12/10 Yellow Medicine JtH, 12/16 Dodge BAB, 2/28 Redwood (2) BRB. High counts 12/20 Carver (21) JCy, 1/20 Goodhue (10) AJF. CBC high counts 12/31 Wabasha (14),



- 1/1 Whitewater River (8), 12/16 LaCrosse-LaCrescent (7).
- Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*) — [1 South] See Insufficiently Documented Reports.
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [5 North, 17 South] Reports scattered in all regions of state in winter-season high of 22 counties; previous high was prior winter when 16 county reported observations. Rare winter records: 12/10–16 Beltrami ph. DPJ, 12/11 Stearns DOr, 12/14 Lac qui Parle CBC, 12/18 Granite Falls CBC, 1/1 Winona ANy, 1/6 Wabasha (Carley S.P.) BDo, 1/9 Blue Earth †ChH, 1/15–2/11 Scott ASu, m.ob., 1/18 Redwood BTS, 1/20 Yellow Medicine (Swedes Forest S.N.A) GWe, 2/11–17 **Watowan** (2 locations) ph. ANy, DBz, m.ob. High count 12/16 Dakota (3, Lake Byllesby Regional Park) BDo.
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catbarus guttatus*) — [1 North, 4 South] Fewest reports since 2012 when also observed in five counties. January observations from Dakota, Hennepin and Washington. All reports of single individuals. Notable reports: 12/18 Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River S.P. CBC, 12/23 Goodhue DAB, 12/25 Washington TBu.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [15 North, 36 South] Observed in 51 counties, well below previous two years when reported from 70 counties and below 10-year average of 57. High counts 2/28 Houston (250) SHo, 2/28 Washington (55) BDo, 12/30 Dakota (40) TSk, CBC high counts 12/16 St. Paul (North) (92), 12/16 Bloomington (81), 12/14 Lac qui Parle (20).
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — [3 North, 4 South] Total of seven reporting counties, just below 10-year average of eight. All reports: 12/17–23 Pine SBE, m.ob., 12/18–24 Clay PBB, 12/26–1/5 Hubbard MAW, 2/3–13 Sherburne ph. PGU, m.ob., 2/3 Ramsey LiH, 2/6 Washington ebd, 2/14 Hennepin ph. LWz.
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [1 North, 2 South] Most reports in at least ten years and seventh consecutive year with at least one report in the season. All reports of single birds observed in December: 12/8 Rice TFB, 12/9–31 and 2/21 Hennepin ph. DEL, RBj, 12/16 Fergus Falls CBC.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [1 North, 2 South] Three individuals lingered through much of season: 12/16 Grand Marais CBC, 1/21, 1/24 Cook (same bird?, Grand Marais) ph. JuM, 12/23–1/5 Winona (Whitewater S.P. feeders) JmP, ph. JPr, m.ob., 1/3–2/7 Hennepin (Minneapolis) ph. GrS, m.ob.
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [1 North] One report of this species that is observed in roughly every other winter: 12/10–23 St. Louis (Duluth) BMu, m.ob.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [30 North, 53 South] Reported statewide from all but four western counties. High counts 12/18 St. Louis (1,500) JLK, 2/27 Wright (1,500) ToL. CBC high counts 12/17 Austin (1,339), 12/16 Faribault (1,237), 12/16 Duluth (1,215).
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [12 North, 6 South] Reported from 18 counties, close to 10-year average of 21. Most south reports since 2012. All south: 12/13–14 Dakota (Lake Byllesby Park) GBU, m.ob., 12/14 Lac qui Parle CBC, 12/16 Wild River CBC, 12/16–29 Washington GJa, m.ob., 12/27–1/6 Dakota (Eagan) ph. KvM, m.ob., 12/28 Sherburne PLJ, 1/1 Chippewa (Lac Qui Parle W.M.A.) GWe. High count 2/18 St. Louis (600, Two Harbors) PAL. CBC high counts 12/16 Duluth (292), 12/30 Roseau (96).
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [18 North, 38 South] Reported statewide from all regions in fairly typical numbers. High counts 1/1 Chippewa (400) GWe, 12/14 Chippewa (300) JtH, ToL, GWe, 1/4 Dakota (250) SeP. CBC high counts 12/14 Lac qui Parle (977), 12/16 Willmar (348), 12/16 Excelsior (158).
- House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) — [32 North, 53 South] Reported statewide and throughout season from all but three counties. High counts 1/26 Hennepin (350, University of Minnesota East Bank) AJF, 1/9 Hennepin (200, Cancer Survivors Park) ARh, 12/9 Ramsey (150) ASu. CBC high counts 12/30 Hastings-Etter (930), 12/16 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (662), 12/16 St. Paul (North) (595).
- Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) — [5 North, 2 South] Reported from five northern counties bordering Canada with multiple reports throughout season

from Sax-Zim Bog in St. Louis. Unusual north report: 2/11–12 Kittson ebd. Also observed in two southern counties: 2/24 Benton (Englund Ecotone S.N.A.) LKo, MKo, 2/28 Chippewa (Lac qui Parle State Park Wildlife Offices) RAE. According to Asst. Wildlife Manager, the latter bird was present at feeders since November.

**Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [27 North, 8 South] Reported from most counties since invasion year of 2012 and well above 10-year average of 19 counties. Reports from eight south counties equals total from 2012. Unusual reports: 12/15 Ramsey EzH, 12/16 Carver (Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCC, JLI, m.ob. High counts 2/24 Morrison (37) MJB, DOr, 1/14 Cook (35) JaJ, 1/27 St. Louis (35) LH. CBC high counts 12/17 Virginia (252), 12/16 Duluth (227), 12/16 Grand Marais (172), 12/23 Ely (172).

**House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [15 North, 50 South] Number of reporting counties reached a new record high of 65, one more than last year's winter season, albeit only a single report from the North-central Region. High counts 2/11 Hennepin (40) ADr, 1/1 Lyon (38) GWe, 12/23 Winona (35) JmP. CBC high counts 12/16 Rochester (369), 12/16 Owatonna (241), 12/16 Faribault (239).

**Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [13 North, 39 South] Fifty-two reporting counties was down from last year's record of 63, but close to 10-year average of 51. No reports from North-central Region. High counts 1/1 Winona (38) JmP, 12/14 Chippewa (30) GWe, JtH, ToL, 1/20 Otter Tail (24) ASu. CBC high counts 12/14 Lac qui Parle (54), 1/1 Whitewater River (53), 12/20 Sherburne N.W.R. (33).

**Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [33 North, 50 South] Major invasion year with observations from all but four counties. Highest number of reporting counties in past ten years and well above 10-year average of 52 counties. High counts 1/20 St. Louis (500, Meadowlands) MCA, 1/19 Washington (400) PAL. CBC high counts 12/31 Battle Lake (1,596), 12/18 Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River S.P. (736), 12/30 Alexandria (722).

**Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [25 North, 22 South] Most significant inva-

sion year since 2012, when observed in 45 counties, and highest number of south reporting counties on record. In comparison, only six reporting counties in 2016. Two new county records: 1/25 **Renville** (2, C.R. 16 & 870th Ave.) RBJ, 1/1 **Wabasha** (Lake City Marina) †DAB, ANy. Numerous unusual reports including 12/30 Alexandria CBC, 1/7 Meeker PKF, 1/9 Steele (Rice Lake S.P.) RBW, 1/21 Kandiyohi JWd, 1/29 Cottonwood LHL, 2/4 Stevens (Flax Lake) DLP, 2/9 Big Stone (Ortonville) RAE, HHD. High counts 1/2 St. Louis (5, Sax-Zim Bog) ASu, 1/12 Marshall (5) JHs, 1/20 Otter Tail (5) ASu, 2/16 St. Louis (5, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd. CBC high counts 12/30 Cook Area (5), 12/29 Carlton-Cloquet (3).

**Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [17 North, 15 South] Reported from the highest number of counties in past 20 years, including a remarkable 15 south counties. Unusual reports: 12/7 Pipestone (Pipestone N.M.) RAE, 12/10 Kandiyohi (Willmar) JoS, 12/15 Cottonwood CBC, 12/18 Bluestem Prairie/ Buffalo River S.P. CBC, 12/19 Morris CBC, 12/23 Carver (Carver P.R.) DWK, 2/11 Chippewa (Montevideo) RAE. High counts 1/25 Carlton/Pine (37) RAE, 1/1 Lake (30) ebd. CBC high counts 12/29 Carlton-Cloquet (30), 12/17 Virginia (29), 12/27 Aurora (27).

**White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*) — [10 North, 13 South] Reported from 23 counties, one more than the prior winter, near the 10-year average for this species. Number of south reports highest since 2012. Only reports south of the Minnesota River were 1/5 Lincoln (Ivanhoe) HHD and 1/5, 1/9, 2/13 Lyon (all near Balaton) HHD, GWe. High counts 2/22 St. Louis (30, Sax-Zim Bog) FJN, 12/25 Kandiyohi (20) JWd, 2/27 Lake (19, Superior N.F.) FJN.

**Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [17 North, 38 South] Reported statewide from the most counties since 2012. Unusual record: 12/24 Lincoln ABL. High counts 2/17 St. Louis (65) ebd, 2/8 Wabasha (27) ebd, 1/2 St. Louis (25) RiC. CBC high counts 12/16 Faribault (68), 12/16 Grand Marais (50), 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (47).

**American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [17 North, 49 South] Reported statewide from number of counties similar to past years. Fewest reports from Northwest and North-

central regions. High counts 1/6 Wabasha (65) ebd, 2/19 Olmsted (52) ebd, 1/2 Dakota (50) CDg. CBC high counts 12/30 St. Paul (Northeast Suburban) (263), 12/16 St. Paul (North) (240), 12/16 Bloomington (216).

**Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [7 North, 46 South] Reported from slightly fewer counties than last winter's record of 56, but still well above the 10-year average of 45. No reports from North-central or Northeast regions. Unusual report: 2/26 Chisago JSa (likely an early returning migrant). High counts 12/21 Winona (300) SHo, 12/9 Steele (150) JmP, 12/21 Olmsted (125) SHo. CBC high counts 12/30 Hastings-Etter (387), 12/27 Northern Meeker (273), 12/17 Kensington (163).

**Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [31 North, 44 South] Reported across the state throughout the season from 75 counties. High counts 2/24 Pennington (500) SAU, 12/10 Polk (300) SAU, 2/1 Otter Tail (285) JSw. CBC high counts 12/14 Glacial Ridge (368), 12/15 Agassiz N.W.R. (185), 12/30 Pelican Rapids (74).

**Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [2 South] All reports: 2/14 Lac qui Parle CBC (Watson, Chippewa Co.) PME, 12/14 Lac qui Parle CBC, 12/16 St. Paul (North) CBC, 1/6–2/17 Ramsey (present from November at private feeder in Lauderdale, same bird as CBC), †ALw, JeT, ph. LiH, m.ob.

**Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [1 South] One report of this species that is observed in about half of the winter seasons: 12/23–1/5 Winona (Whitewater W.M.A. Headquarters) JPr, JmP, m.ob.

**American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizelloides arborae*) — [15 North, 51 South] Reported from somewhat fewer than last winter's record 72 counties, but still well above 10-year average of 59. No reports from Northwest and very few reports from North-central or Northeast regions. High counts 1/2 Dakota (150) CDg, 12/26 Otter Tail (100) JSs, 1/1 Freeborn (82) SHo. CBC high counts 1/1 Albert Lea (364), 12/27 Northern Meeker (255), 12/17 Austin (145).

**Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [3 South] Reported for fifth consecutive winter including several rare January records. All reports with documentation: 12/17 Dakota ph. AJF, 12/17–27 Hennepin ph. ABL, 1/6



**White-throated Sparrow, 5 December 2017, Koochiching County. Photo by Marsha Shuff.**

Hennepin (Nine Mile Creek) ASu, LiH, late December – 2/9 Anoka (injured, overwintered) ph. JPo. See also Insufficiently Documented Reports.

**Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [1 South] First winter report since 2006: 12/1–5 Hennepin (Minneapolis) ph. ARh, ph. GrS, m.ob.

**Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [6 South] Far fewer reports than last year, when seen in 17 counties. All records were south or southeast of Hennepin, including unusual reports: 12/9 Freeborn BAB, 12/9 Steele NFT, 12/22 Wabasha SHo. Overwintering birds reported from Hennepin (Wood Lake N.C.), Dakota (Lake Byllesby R.P.). High count 12/3 Dakota (5) ebd.

**Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [5 North, 18 South] Widely scattered reports from all regions of the state except Northwest and West-central. A number of unusual winter reports including: 12/16 Dodge BAB, 12/16 Cass DAY, 12/17 Little Falls CBC, 1/11 Itasca SsH. No reports of more than two birds. CBC high counts 12/17 Marshall (7), 12/16 Bloomington (4).

**Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [1 North, 2 South] Reported for second year in a row after an absence of eight years. All reports: **12/8–9** St. Louis (Sax-Zim Bog) MMx, m.ob., 12/11–28 Hennepin (Minneapolis) ph. ARh, 12/16 St. Paul (North) CBC.

**Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) —

[6 South] Found in six scattered south counties, typical of most winters. Unusual reports: 12/12 Washington BDo, 12/16 Dodge BAB, 12/16 Mankato CBC, 2/25 Houston ASu. All reports of one or two individuals.

**White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [10 North, 17 South] Widely scattered reports from all regions of the state throughout the season. Unusual reports: 12/16 Jackson County CBC, 12/27 Meeker DFe, 1/3 Todd HHD. High count 12/22 Hennepin (**35**, Minneapolis) ARh. CBC high counts 12/16 Faribault (7), 12/16 Owatonna (4).

**Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [3 North, 7 South] Reported from ten counties, similar to 10-year average, with majority of reports from western portion of state, as expected. Likely overwintering birds were observed in Polk SAU and Steele ph. NFT. Notable reports: 12/10 Anoka ph. RLR, 12/16 Dodge BAB. All reports were of single individuals.

**White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [1 North, 3 South] Reported from an identical number of counties as last year and somewhat below 10-year average of six counties. All reports: 12/4 Sibley ph. DWK, 12/5–11 Stearns HHD, 12/5–2/25 Winona ph. GSm, m.ob., 12/17 Lake ASu, LiH.

**Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [29 North, 52 South] Reported from all but six counties, well above the 10-year average of 71 counties. High counts 1/2 Wabasha (135) KDS, 2/18 Lyon (124) RJS, 1/1 Freeborn (118) SHo. CBC high counts 12/20 Sherburne N.W.R. (422), 1/1 Whitewater River (407), 1/1 Albert Lea (406). The “Oregon” subspecies was reported from Dakota, Hennepin, Morrison, Sherburne, Stearns, Winona, and from seven CBCs: 12/14 Lac qui Parle, 12/16 Fargo-Moorhead, 12/16 Wild River, 12/17 Marshall, 12/31 Wabasha, 1/1 Mountain Lake-Windom.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — No reports for this species that has been observed in seven of the last ten winters.

**Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [1 North, 2 South] Reported from the same number of counties as last year, a winter-season high. All reports: 12/30, 1/27 Red Lake ph. PCT, 2/18 Lyon RJS, 2/27 Blue

Earth ChH. The latter reports likely represent early migrants.

**Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [11 North, 41 South] Continuing a trend of increasing winter sightings, reported from 52 counties, well above the 10-year average of 36, but somewhat less than last winter's record of 60 counties. Unusual winter records: 12/30 Fillmore JWH, 12/18 Itasca S.P. CBC, 2/18 Traverse DLP. High counts 12/18 Yellow Medicine (700, Swedes Forest S.N.A.) GWe, 12/14 Lac qui Parle (425) JSc. CBC high counts 12/14 Lac qui Parle (1,003), 12/16 Winona (256), 12/16 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (226).

**Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [8 South] Reported from eight counties in southern third of state, the same as the 10-year average. Unusual reports: 12/1 Faribault WAF, 12/18 Yellow Medicine GWe, 2/10 Renville GWe, 2/28 Martin ebd. All reports of three or fewer individuals.

**Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [3 North, 18 South] Reported from 21 counties, the second highest total of reporting counties following last winter's record of 28. Unusual reports: 12/16 Nicollet MWT, 12/18 Granite Falls CBC, 12/27 Meeker MJB. High counts 1/24 Blue Earth (33) WCM, 12/18 Clay (25) CMk, 1/20 Yellow Medicine (18) GWe. CBC high counts 12/18 Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River S.P. (26), 12/16 New Ulm (20).

**Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [6 North, 26 South] Reported from all regions of the state in typical numbers. Unusual north report: 12/9 Roseau LKo. High counts: 12/3 Lyon (32) GWe, 1/20 Yellow Medicine (26) GWe. CBC high counts 12/16 Jackson (306), 12/16 Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson) (62).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [4 South] Reported from four south counties, similar to most winters. All reports: 12/3–2/21 Dakota (Lake Byllesby R.P., as many as **16** individuals reported) PNi, BDo, JWu, m.ob., 12/3 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha) ClB, 12/16–1/13 Hennepin (Lake Nokomis) PAL, TAT, 12/15 Olmsted (Oronoco) LAV, 12/17–1/18 Washington (Grey Cloud Island) PNi, m.ob.

**Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [20 North, 48 South] Reported from all

regions of the state in numbers somewhat greater than 10-year average of 62 counties. High counts 12/30 Dakota (33) KDS, 1/25 Olmsted (30) LH. CBC high counts 12/16 Excelsior (213), 12/16 Faribault (164), 12/16

Rochester (150).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — No reports of this species that is observed in about one-half of Minnesota winter seasons.

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DWK	Douglas W. Kieser	JzJ	John Zakelj	RBJ	Robert B. Janssen		
ebd	eBird	KAB	Karia A. Bloem	RBW	Bob Williams		
EEO	Earl E. Orf	KBg	Kathrynne Baumtrog	RCI	Richard Clearman		

**Abbreviations**

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.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.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

# The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

**Steve Weston**

Mild conditions for the first week of the count with a large numbers of Canada Geese and Mallards resulted in one of the highest number of birds ever counted on the state CBCs. Forty-nine of 80 species with over 20 individuals counted last year, increased this year, a stark contrast to last year's count, when cold weather resulted in decrease in three quarters of those most common species. With 137 species the count compared well to the 140 of two years ago, and far above last year's 126. There were no new species for the count and few rarities. A Lincoln's Sparrow on the St. Paul (North) count, was the 3rd reported on a Minnesota count. Many of the winter-arriving species showed high numbers indicative of irruption years including Snowy Owl, Northern Shrike, redpolls, Pine Grosbeak, and Red Crossbill. In addition, Rough-legged Hawk and many woodpecker numbers were strong. In contrast, it was a poor year for gulls, American Robin, House Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, and American Goldfinch. Overall, it was a very satisfactory count year.

Eighty-one of 82 circles collected and reported data, a new high number. Only the Hendricks count was not run due to issues not related to local conditions. The Pelican Rapids count was conducted as an introductory test run and the results were not reported to the National Audubon Society.

The total number of participants (about 1,900) bounced back from last year's cold and poorly attended count season to almost 4% above the participation of two years ago. Feeder-watcher numbers (about 500) were lower than last year, as participants were more comfortable to be out birding away from their warm windows. Average participation returned to the level of two years ago: almost 24 per count. Eleven counts had more than 40 participants, down from last year's 14. Henderson had the most total participants at 114.

As in the last two years, St. Paul (North) had the most surveyors in the field with 69, while Owatonna had 85 feeder-watchers. Those were considerably higher than the average number of field surveyors (17.5) and feeder-watchers (6.1) for all the counts.

Two thirds of all counts were conducted during the first five days of the count season. In sharp contrast to last year, when adverse weather during the first weekend disrupted the count, the first five days of this year were relatively mild with benign weather with average low temperature of 22° and a high of 30°. Eighteen of the 19 counts with highs above freezing were in this period. Three counts in the southwest had highs in the forties, all on the second or third day of the period. The last 15 days of the count period, when one third of the counts were conducted, had an average low of -15° and an average high of -1°. The seven counts with temperatures -25° and below were all in this second period. The lowest temperature -35° and deepest snow (14 inches) were both at Eagle's Nest Lakes in Northern St. Louis County. While 63 of the counts had snow on the ground, only 11 had six or more inches. Twenty-seven participants tied on their skis and snowshoes at the Isabella count when the temperature bottomed-out at -31°, tying the record for the coldest day in the history of that count. There are few roads in this count circle and the trails were covered with 8 inches of snow, among the deepest on any count. Still, this is one of the most popular although severest counts in the state.

The total count of birds (397,682) was twice last year's total and the fourth highest count after 2011, 2002, and 2006. The high number of birds is the result of large flocks of lingering Canada Geese, primarily in the western counties. In the last two counts, six species accounted for half the total, but for this year, Canada Geese and Mallards alone accounted for 54% of the total. The top six



**Lincoln's Sparrow, 16 December 2017, St. Paul North CBC. Photo by Adam Roesch.**



**Townsend's Solitaire, 1 January 2018, Whitewater River CBC. Photo by Andrew Nyhus.**

species accounted for almost three-quarters of the total. The species count (137) was much better than last year's (126), but not as good as two year's ago (140). Of the sightings that were reviewed, 14 were not accepted, mostly because of inadequate or missing documentation. Only two of the non-accepted sightings were of a species not found elsewhere in the state. A reported American Woodcock was almost definitely a Wilson's Snipe, and was finally categorized as "shorebird sp." A report of silent meadowlark was accepted as meadowlark sp. Four sparrows, three swans, two accipiters, and one finch were contested and changed to a genus category. A Muscovy Duck was not accepted as it was of obvious domestic origin.

The fourth highest number ever of Canada Geese (almost 185,000) and above-average Mallards (31,729) accounted for over 95% of the total waterfowl. Cackling Goose (443) set a record, and Trumpeter Swans (3,924) were the second highest on record. Common Goldeneye were more plentiful than Common Merganser, which though quite unusual, probably reflected local conditions rather than any trend. Most other species which are usually found in small numbers were scarce. Tundra Swan, Greater Scaup, Ruddy Duck, and Pied-billed Grebe were not confirmed on any count. Only Gadwall was above-average in numbers. Unusual finds included a Harlequin Duck and a count week Long-tailed

Duck at St. Cloud, and a Hooded Merganser on the Fargo/Moorehead count. A first count record of a Cackling Goose on the Granite Falls count was probably more an artifact of this being only the second year of that count. Of the water-dependent species (cormorants, pelicans, herons, and kingfishers) only three were reported — American White Pelican, Great Blue Heron, and Belted Kingfisher. Only the kingfisher was found in above-average numbers. This was only the sixth time in 25 years that cormorants were missed.

Most upland game birds were found in above-average numbers, but below peaks of the last year or two. Wild Turkey and Ring-necked Pheasant totals were below-average, while Sharp-tailed Grouse peaked at a record level due to large numbers in the northwestern counties. Diurnal raptors were above average because of high numbers of the three most common raptors. Rough-legged Hawks were found in record numbers (300), Bald Eagles (1,513) had their second highest number, and Red-tailed Hawks (878) their third highest. The other six species representing less than 5% of the total numbers were all at about average numbers. Bald Eagles were concentrated along the southern Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers. The other hawks were widely dispersed. All owl species were found at above-average numbers, although only two were remarkably high. Though this was not an irruptive year, 32 Snowy Owls was by far

the highest number reported in any year's counts in the state. The 95 Barred Owls was the second highest total. With the exception of the 17 Barred Owls on the Excelsior count, owl sightings were well distributed.

Falcon numbers were good in comparison to the last decade. Kestrel numbers were the highest in the last 11 years. The 14 Merlins was the third highest with a first ever report of the "Prairie" race. Peregrine numbers edged up to a modest record of 12.

Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were twice as numerous as last year, but all gull numbers were quite low. Over 92% of the Herring Gulls were found on the Duluth count and almost all the rest were along Lake Superior. Over 92% of the Ring-billed Gulls were found on the Bloomington count. The handful of the other four species of gulls were all found along Lake Superior.

Rock Pigeons and Mourning Doves were at about average numbers for the last ten years. Eurasian Collared-Doves continue to strongly expand in numbers and territory. All nine species of woodpeckers were well represented this year. A well documented "Red-shafted" Flicker was reported on the Morris count. The common woodpeckers (Red-bellied, Downy, and Hairy) were close to the record or near records of two years ago. Pileated had an all time high of 737. Red-headed Woodpeckers hit a record of 84 birds, all but one from the Cedar Creek Bog colony. This was after last year's 50-year low of one bird.

Winter field birds were well represented. Horned Lark numbers came almost entirely from the southern counts. Lapland Longspurs were more common in the grasslands of the southern and western counts. Snow Buntings, while in similar numbers, were widespread.

Corvid numbers were strong, although their numbers have not yet rebounded to the peaks in the 1990s as indicated by totals compared to the number of participants. American Crows and Blue Jays were found in almost every count. Black-billed Magpies are expanding their range, but not nearly as much as Common Ravens. Canada Jays showed no clear trend and totals were somewhat below-average. Northern Shrike numbers were among the highest ever. While they are being found on more counts across the state, numbers are too low to determine any trends. Chicka-

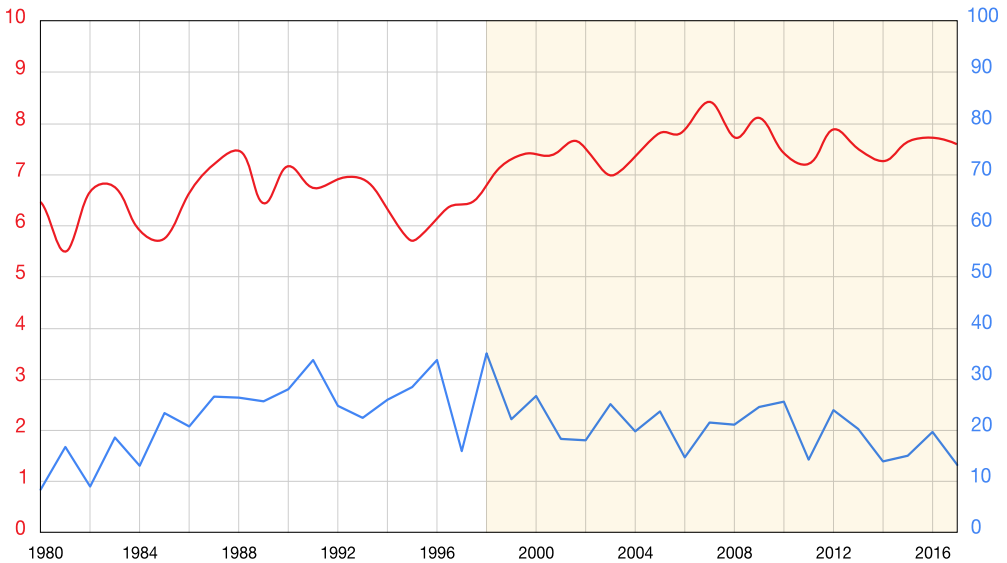
dees, nuthatches, and creepers for the most part continue to show strong stable numbers, although Red-breasted Nuthatches are more variable from year to year. Tufted Titmouses have increased in both numbers and range over the last ten years, but are not near to overcoming the range contraction of about 50 years ago. More (84) Golden-crowned Kinglets were reported than in almost 20 years. They were found in ten counts. Three Carolina Wrens (plus two more count week birds) were found. The most unusual was one in Duluth. One Winter Wren was found in Red Wing. A Yellow-rumped Warbler was found on each of the Rochester and Bloomington counts.

American Robin numbers (410) crashed to levels not seen in over 20 years. No flocks of over 100 birds were found anywhere in the state. Almost 50% of the Robins were in five central Metro counts. The seven other species of thrushes, thrashers, and mimics were found in small numbers. The most abundant were the 51 Eastern Bluebirds found in ten southern counts. Most unexpected was the mockingbird found in Duluth, the first found in 14 years.

Bohemian Waxwing numbers were down, and Cedar Waxwing numbers, more than four times greater, were up. Almost 80% of the Bohemians were found in the arrowhead area of northeastern Minnesota. Cedar Waxwings were found in almost half the counts throughout the state. European Starlings and House Sparrows, among the most abundant and widespread species in the state, both declined for the second year in a row. House Sparrow numbers were the lowest seen in over 50 years when count circles and counter numbers were significantly lower. Both species have been trending down for the last 20 years.

Dark-eyed Junco numbers decreased, while American Tree Sparrows increased. The two species, which account for over 99% of the 11 species of sparrows reported (8 last year), were for the second year below the ten year average. Junco numbers were the lowest in 12 years. A Lincoln's Sparrow was found for only the third time on a count. The two Spotted Towhees represent the fourth time in 20 years that species was found. The other seven species (Eastern Towhee, and Fox, Song, Swamp, White-throated, White-crowned, and Harris's





**Figure 1. Red line: Number of Northern Cardinals counted per number of Minnesota CBC participants. Blue line: Percent of total count circles reporting a Northern Cardinal that year. Pale yellow highlighted area represents most recent 20 years.**

sparrows) were, for the most part, lower than average numbers.

Red-winged Blackbirds were found in 27 counts in the highest numbers (2,092) in 17 years. Almost half the birds were from the Lac qui Parle count. Common Grackles (401), similarly widespread, were the highest in more than 40 years. Three-quarters of the Grackles were found in Jackson County. Only one Brown-headed Cowbird was found, compared to 177 two years ago. The 93 Rusty Blackbirds was one of the highest counts in recent years. Two silent meadowlarks found on opposite sides of the state were probably one of each of the two species found in the state.

Northern Cardinals continued for the fifth year in a row of reduced numbers. While the cardinal population has been trending downward for approximately the last 20 years, during that same period, the percentage of counts reporting cardinals has risen (see Figure 1). We have not noticed this population decline in anecdotal reports and have no hypothesis to explain this phenomenon.

“Southern finches” (American Goldfinch and House Finch) were mixed after three years of suppressed totals. Goldfinch numbers

were the lowest in 20 years, whereas House Finch numbers bounced back to levels before this period. Both finches were found in almost all southern counts, but were missed in many northern counts. “Northern finch” populations, which are the most variable of any group in the state, showed mixed results. Common Redpolls (13,309) along with their rare cousins, Hoary Redpolls (40) were at irruptive levels. Common Redpolls were the seventh most common bird on the count and their numbers exceeded all but an irruption five years ago. They were found on more than 90% of the counts, missing a few counties in the south. Most other finches in this group, including Evening Grosbeak, Purple Finch, White-winged Crossbill, and Pine Siskin had low numbers. Pine Grosbeaks (2,025) and Red Crossbills (249) bucked this trend and had very strong showings, indicative of peak population years. Pine Grosbeaks (except for a couple of wanderers that made it down to the Metro Area), Evening Grosbeaks, and White-winged Crossbills only showed up in the northern counts, whereas the others showed up in small numbers all around the state.

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The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	ABLEA	AFTON	AGASZ	ALEX	AUROR	AUSTN	BATLK	BAUDT	BEMID	BLOOM	BLTRM	BRSP	CEDRC	COOK
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ross's Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada Goose	239	818 / 3405	—	374	—	4047	17	—	4	845	—	cw(1)	345	—
Trumpeter Swan	cw(1)	43 / 413	—	261	—	—	746	—	26	68	—	—	9	—
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	7	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mallard	198	8 / 451	—	676	—	567	20	—	10	169	—	—	cw(1)	—
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lesser Scaup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	1	0 / 10	—	3	—	—	32	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Hooded Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—
Common Merganser	—	10 / 85	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	11	21 / 23	—	13	—	4	19	—	—	2	—	59	22	—
Ruffed Grouse	—	—	—	cw(1)	5	—	—	9	3	—	6	—	—	14
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	1	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	177	—	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	153	—	—
Wild Turkey	4	64 / 129	205	43	—	63	233	—	23	111	—	76	139	—
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	284	15 / 84	75	68	129	317	159	60	102	427	—	327	88	130
Eurasian Collared-Dove	2	—	—	2	—	4	7	—	—	—	—	36	—	—
Mourning Dove	11	12 / 51	—	5	1	2	2	1	—	18	—	3	95	—
American Coot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	54	—	—	—	—
Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Harrier	—	1 / 2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
Cooper's Hawk	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Northern Goshawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	1	1	—	—
Bald Eagle	6	8 / 11	5	6	10	14	6	10	18	98	—	3	15	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Red-tailed Hawk	12	16 / 23	—	3	—	25	—	—	—	63	—	—	12	—
Rough-legged Hawk	—	—	5	3	1	4	1	—	4	3	—	4	1	—
buteo sp.	—	0 / 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Horned Owl	—	0 / 1	2	cw(1)	—	6	5	—	1	4	—	4	5	—
Snowy Owl	—	—	1	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barred Owl	2	—	—	4	—	11	—	—	1	4	1	—	4	1
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Short-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Boreal Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	11	—	1	—	—
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	83	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	18	30 / 52	—	35	—	36	22	1	2	51	—	2	39	—
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

**Table 1. CBC totals for Albert Lea, Afton, Agassiz N.W.R., Alexandria, Aurora, Austin, Battle Lake, Baudette, Bemidji, Bloomington, Beltrami Island, Bluestem Prairie/Buffalo River SP, Cedar Creek Bog, and Cook Area.**

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	ABLEA	AFTON	AGASZ	ALEX	AUROR	AUSTN	BATLK	BAUDT	BEMID	BLOOM	BLTRM	BRSP	CEDRC	COOK
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1
Downy Woodpecker	52	55 / 84	1	87	10	56	60	7	15	150	2	31	69	18
Hairy Woodpecker	15	10 / 25	3	27	7	23	21	10	11	41	7	18	33	29
Northern Flicker	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	1	14	—
Red-shafted Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pileated Woodpecker	1	7 / 15	2	16	4	5	20	1	7	6	2	6	19	1
woodpecker sp.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Kestrel	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merlin	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Merlin (Prairie)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
falcon sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	1	2 / 3	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada Jay	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	8	—	—	10	—	—	10
Blue Jay	95	83 / 192	10	36	40	106	53	26	89	195	1	87	470	95
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	33	—	8	—	—	26	8	—	—	7	—	—
American Crow	210	111 / 218	23	96	34	525	111	160	72	1277	—	137	287	57
Common Raven	—	—	21	1	80	—	3	131	36	—	14	6	14	91
corvus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horned Lark	174	—	—	19	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-capped Chickadee	138	241 / 508	35	500	481	237	405	327	385	607	40	129	556	322
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tufted Titmouse	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	6	2	4	31	2	8	3	41	2	2	12	12	46
White-breasted Nuthatch	29	42 / 62	3	128	5	73	107	9	42	159	—	42	107	21
Brown Creeper	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	1	16	—	1	—	—
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Townsend's Solitaire	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Hermit Thrush	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
American Robin	—	13 / 15	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	81	—	9	14	—
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	140	26 / 34	26	52	12	1339	26	5	121	221	—	616	115	51
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cedar Waxwing	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	83	—	—	20	30	—
House Sparrow	201	30 / 37	—	72	45	415	231	9	70	303	—	207	40	20
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	31	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pine Grosbeak	—	—	5	—	126	—	—	54	82	—	10	—	—	—
House Finch	34	18 / 67	—	13	—	62	4	—	—	54	—	16	7	—
Purple Finch	—	2 / 10	—	1	—	2	20	—	—	—	—	3	10	3
Common Redpoll	—	2 / 5	30	722	175	—	1596	104	152	25	—	736	180	131
Hoary Redpoll	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	5
Red Crossbill	5	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Pine Siskin	—	0 / 2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
American Goldfinch	24	11 / 38	—	94	—	64	51	—	2	216	—	7	91	—
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	25	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—
Snow Bunting	—	8	185	9	—	—	48	54	—	—	—	1	—	—
Spotted Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Tree Sparrow	364	28 / 99	—	33	—	145	61	—	—	27	—	7	27	—
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Lincoln's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Harris's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	406	98 / 154	1	95	—	243	62	—	1	89	—	26	110	—
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	—	—
Common Grackle	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	38	44 / 109	—	22	—	73	13	—	1	144	—	1	50	—
Total Count	37	36 / 39	25	40	26	40	39	27	33	56	15	48	40	27
Individual Count	2752	1888 / 6436	875	3531	1265	8599	4181	1077	1335	5695	109	2854	3171	1194

Table 1, continued.

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	COTTN	CRCLC	CROOK	CROSB	DLAKE	DULUT	ELY	ENLA	EXCEL	FARIB	FERGS	FREDN	FRGMH	FRMNT
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Ross's Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cackling Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	9 / 10	106
Canada Goose	29	—	—	—	3	6	—	—	3138	7601	30000	—	10	8870
Trumpeter Swan	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	323	—	143	—	—	—
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	cw(1)	—	2	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	209	—	—	—	—	cw(1)
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mallard	—	—	—	—	255	1243	—	—	1465	599	1205	—	2000 / 2013	885
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	37	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64	—	—	—	2	—
Lesser Scaup	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	11	—	cw(1)	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	1	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	1	—	—	—	—	107	150	—	167	—	150	36	4	—
Hooded Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	4	1	1	—
Common Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	3	7	6	—	—	—
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	—	—	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 63	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	18	1	—	—	10	—	—	—	7	20	5	—	0 / 2	17
Ruffed Grouse	—	5	—	—	—	30	10	7	—	—	—	21	—	—
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	67	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wild Turkey	2	9	18	8	55	—	—	—	108	56	—	6	49 / 90	—
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	310	142	118	176	114	1160	102	1	198	398	411	9	152 / 552	33
Eurasian Collared-Dove	139	—	16	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	6 / 56	13
Mourning Dove	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	52	72	6	—	0 / 1	6
American Coot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	1	cw(1)	—	1	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	911	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Harrier	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—
Cooper's Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	0 / 1	—
Northern Goshawk	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)
Bald Eagle	7	11	—	7	12	27	7	3	33	25	15	6	10 / 28	4
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Red-tailed Hawk	9	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	44	28	1	—	1 / 2	12
Rough-legged Hawk	1	2	1	4	2	5	1	—	5	6	8	—	0 / 1	cw(1)
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 / 2	—
Great Horned Owl	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	4	4	4 / 11	3
Snowy Owl	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	3 / 4	cw(1)
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barred Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	2	—	—	1 / 3	1
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-eared Owl	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Short-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boreal Owl	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Belted Kingfisher	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	2	—	—	—
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	21	3	1	8	27	9	—	—	74	58	13	—	10 / 20	20
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	—
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**Table 2. CBC totals for Cottonwood, Carlton-Cloquet, Crookston, Crosby, Detroit Lakes, Duluth, Ely, Eagle's Nest Lakes, Excelsior, Faribault, Fergus Falls, Fredenberg, Fargo-Moorhead, and Fairmont.**

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	COTTN	CRCLC	CROOK	CROSB	DLAKE	DULUT	ELY	ENLA	EXCEL	FARIB	FERGS	FREDN	FRGMH	FRMNT
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	1	—	—	—	3	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	37	32	10	18	57	98	35	19	148	161	41	41	54 / 126	32
Hairy Woodpecker	33	29	14	11	33	69	39	16	68	63	18	26	29 / 80	13
Northern Flicker	4	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	6	9	3	—	1 / 8	4
Red-shafted Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pileated Woodpecker	2	11	3	16	27	27	11	6	22	15	6	12	8 / 12	—
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Kestrel	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	1	—	1 / 5	1
Merlin	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1 / 8	—
Merlin (Prairie)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
falcon sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	2	1	—	—	3	9	1	—	2	2	4	3	4 / 6	cw(1)
Canada Jay	—	—	—	—	—	—	43	14	—	—	—	5	—	—
Blue Jay	63	104	32	92	101	39	46	63	269	207	55	41	32 / 77	80
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	9	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Crow	32	162	33	61	67	885	21	9	439	540	87	52	131 / 451	180
Common Raven	—	68	4	37	2	130	221	70	—	—	—	64	—	—
corvus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horned Lark	45	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 / 26	—
Black-capped Chickadee	50	575	57	257	348	1934	483	491	1044	509	319	535	244 / 459	94
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Tufted Titmouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	58	3	13	2	76	83	55	2	4	4	43	5 / 12	3
White-breasted Nuthatch	56	26	29	34	152	64	16	19	288	169	57	12	87 / 189	39
Brown Creeper	11	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	15	15	—	—	3 / 7	3
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	0 / 1	—
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 3	—
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	0 / 1	—
American Robin	—	—	1	—	7	12	—	—	9	16	1	—	4 / 67	—
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	665	112	306	26	107	1215	8	22	314	1237	245	15	233	59
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	—	—	—	292	30	40	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	—
Cedar Waxwing	23	2	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	158	24	26	—	0 / 132	—
House Sparrow	321	8	372	81	94	40	—	—	196	374	282	10	173 / 951	189
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	15	28	18	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pine Grosbeak	—	52	—	16	17	227	172	83	1	—	—	52	0 / 6	—
House Finch	74	1	26	—	49	17	—	—	211	239	12	—	41 / 148	46
Purple Finch	22	—	10	—	21	—	—	—	1	21	9	1	0 / 2	4
Common Redpoll	144	337	131	159	703	308	86	56	cw(1)	5	335	178	260 / 759	1
Hoary Redpoll	—	3	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	0 / 1	—
Red Crossbill	5	30	—	9	—	9	7	5	—	—	—	15	—	—
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Pine Siskin	—	—	8	3	3	—	2	6	—	68	—	—	1 / 69	6
American Goldfinch	2	10	12	13	40	17	—	2	192	163	14	2	7	56
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	3/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	130	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 2	—
Snow Bunting	27	14	—	—	15	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	16 / 76	—
Spotted Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Tree Sparrow	74	1	—	—	14	—	—	—	74	53	15	—	0 / 6	56
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Lincoln's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	7	2	—	0 / 5	—
Harris's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	62	3	16	8	50	23	2	—	167	229	107	—	64 / 243	59
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12/31	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	115	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	55	1	8	—	0 / 1	31
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—
Common Grackle	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	3	1	1	2 / 4	—
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	10	2	—	8	14	10	—	—	213	164	12	1	3 / 29	39
Total Count	45	32	29	24	38	60	32	24	53	50	52	30	48 / 69	37
Individual Count	2567	1825	1419	1066	2439	9127	1618	1008	9870	13192	33670	1196	3681 / 7104	10969

Table 2, continued.

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	GFEGF	GLACR	GRFAL	GRMAR	GRRAP	HASTE	HENDR	HIBBG	HUTCH	ISBEL	ITSCA	JACK	KENS	LAMBR
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ross's Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	250	—
Canada Goose	2500	—	267	2	85	1532 / 1889	385	—	2977	—	—	2320	24245	45
Trumpeter Swan	—	—	—	—	53	11 / 153	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mallard	21	—	92	cw(1)	123	434 / 446	1	—	1202	—	—	55	8059	—
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	0 / 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lesser Scaup	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	—	—	—	16	52	1 / 213	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hooded Merganser	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Common Merganser	—	—	—	—	1	10 / 31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	7 / 33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	0 / 25	—	8	—	—	1	6	—	29	—	—	12	17	40
Ruffed Grouse	—	—	—	17	4	—	—	13	—	7	10	—	—	—
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	0 / 53	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	0 / 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wild Turkey	—	22	9	—	—	37	40	1	15	—	2	3	6	36
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	150 / 2000	54	122	50	106	113	144	67	506	—	3	175	293	79
Eurasian Collared-Dove	0 / 21	—	17	—	—	35	—	—	10	—	—	61	11	25
Mourning Dove	—	—	—	—	7	43 / 54	56	5	18	—	—	—	—	—
American Coot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Herring Gull	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Harrier	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	—	—	—	—	2	5	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
Cooper's Hawk	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Northern Goshawk	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bald Eagle	2 / 6	4	31	11	20	41 / 54	20	6	26	—	9	4	8	5
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-tailed Hawk	0 / 2	—	13	cw(1)	—	31 / 32	17	—	26	—	—	13	—	24
Rough-legged Hawk	—	7	27	1	5	6	—	—	1	—	14	4	3	3
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Great Horned Owl	1 / 4	cw(1)	—	—	—	1	2	—	6	—	—	cw(1)	1	5
Snowy Owl	1 / 5	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	1
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barred Owl	0 / 1	—	1	cw(1)	2	—	2	1	4	—	—	cw(1)	2	—
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Short-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boreal Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	0 / 1	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1 / 3	3	12	2	13	38 / 43	34	1	20	—	3	11	9	17
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**Table 3. CBC totals for Grand Forks-East Grand Forks, Glacial Ridge, Granite Falls, Grand Marais, Grand Rapids, Hastings-Etter, Henderson, Hibbing, Northwest McLeod (Hutchinson), Isabella, Itasca State Park, Jackson County, Kensington, and Lamberton.**

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	GFEGF	GLACR	GRFAL	GRMAR	GRRAP	HASTE	HENDR	HIBBG	HUTCH	ISBEL	ITSCA	JACK	KENS	LAMBR
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	—	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	4 / 34	16	52	45	15	76 / 83	103	28	85	22	16	16	30	23
Hairy Woodpecker	3 / 17	15	19	17	23	19 / 21	55	16	26	8	13	9	11	17
Northern Flicker	1 / 5	2	5	1	—	—	9	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
Red-shafted Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pileated Woodpecker	0 / 4	12	12	9	13	8	4	6	11	1	9	2	7	1
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
American Kestrel	0 / 1	—	2	—	—	2	2	—	4	—	—	4	5	5
Merlin	0 / 1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merlin (Prairie)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
falcon sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	1 / 3	2	2	11	1	2	—	1	2	—	1	1	6	3
Canada Jay	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	2	—	23	7	—	—	—
Blue Jay	13 / 29	55	46	106	103	158 / 161	133	36	159	75	137	42	62	82
Black-billed Magpie	0 / 3	10	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
American Crow	82 / 257	11	444	34	97	250 / 270	130	59	136	1	48	33	145	43
Common Raven	0 / 1	6	—	183	62	—	—	95	—	61	57	—	2	—
corvus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Horned Lark	0 / 1	—	2	—	—	14	—	—	2	—	—	—	11	141
Black-capped Chickadee	25 / 220	134	96	573	508	314 / 343	222	700	263	120	217	37	109	38
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Tufted Titmouse	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3 / 10	—	1	166	72	7	4	37	7	33	49	1	2	cw(1)
White-breasted Nuthatch	8 / 61	31	77	7	78	58 / 59	98	24	68	1	37	27	33	42
Brown Creeper	0 / 1	—	18	3	1	2	2	—	18	—	1	—	—	3
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Robin	8 / 28	5	1	—	2	12 / 24	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	100 / 364	174	135	38	55	595 / 603	269	117	114	—	30	391	206	117
Bohemian Waxwing	0 / 8	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cedar Waxwing	49 / 55	—	96	18	—	12 / 48	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Sparrow	47 / 399	41	183	5	19	930 / 939	305	1	662	—	—	344	126	131
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	44	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Grosbeak	0 / 2	51	—	172	44	—	—	105	—	61	28	—	—	—
House Finch	31 / 150	4	15	—	2	161 / 165	77	—	205	—	—	13	39	1
Purple Finch	0 / 12	4	18	—	—	2	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Redpoll	174 / 574	330	41	271	164	6	5	264	64	39	147	—	458	4
Hoary Redpoll	2 / 3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	22	cw(1)	—	—	7
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Siskin	0 / 28	6	—	50	—	—	—	7	—	—	15	—	12	—
American Goldfinch	0 / 1	cw(1)	2	—	—	53 / 54	135	—	26	—	2	26	2	19
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	0 / 4	1	92	—	—	387	—	—	—	—	—	—	163	70
Snow Bunting	0 / 100	368	13	—	—	50	15	59	—	—	—	5	11	16
Spotted Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Tree Sparrow	—	—	3	—	—	67	42	—	80	—	—	16	31	128
Fox Sparrow	0 / 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	—	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lincoln's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	0 / 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Harris's Sparrow	1 / 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	42 / 235	14	17	18	—	290 / 300	228	—	241	—	—	13	18	81
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	0 / 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	12/31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	—	—	14	—	—	—	31	—	226	—	1	43	16	6
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Common Grackle	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	62	—	—	306	—	1
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	4 / 5	—	9	2	4	119 / 134	74	—	43	—	—	12	1	8
Total Count	8 / 52	32	50	39	33	48	38	27	38	18	28	32	41	39
Individual Count	3282 / 7309	1428	2045	1934	1740	5940 / 6871	2707	1697	7347	482	871	4001	34416	1276

Table 3, continued.

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	LCRLC	LFALL	LNGPR	LQPRL	MARSH	MEEK	MNGW	MNKTO	MORIS	MPLSN	MTLKW	NELS	NEWUL	NWRCO
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Ross's Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Canada Goose	12 / 52	302	—	17000	102	—	12	1306	50951	332	—	—	87	241
Trumpeter Swan	0 / 6	23	1	—	—	12	—	—	—	16	—	95	—	960
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mallard	0 / 401	61	25	600	2	150	44	1032	235	3363	—	1	—	681
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	0 / 23	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	0 / 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lesser Scaup	0 / 4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	0 / 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	0 / 27	5	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	153	—	100	—	46
Hooded Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Merganser	0 / 4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	8
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	0 / 1	—	9	25	9	44	10	4	7	3	62	0 / 1	2	36
Ruffed Grouse	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	—	—
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wild Turkey	94 / 118	37	103	28	9	22	34	4	5	63	—	2 / 60	—	63
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	393 / 2606	335	190	332	117	108	670	232	228	304	47	41 / 437	111	221
Eurasian Collared-Dove	—	4	—	28	29	10	4	39	26	—	31	—	8	1
Mourning Dove	105 / 405	14	6	7	—	79	—	1	—	6	1	10 / 33	—	68
American Coot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Herring Gull	0 / 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	2 / 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 7	—	—
Northern Harrier	0 / 1	1	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0 / 4	—	cw(1)	1	1	1	2	2	—	—	—	0 / 1	cw(1)	—
Cooper's Hawk	2 / 10	—	—	1	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Goshawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Bald Eagle	40 / 141	18	5	23	1	11	12	78	2	21	7	35 / 96	6	16
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 2	—	—
Red-tailed Hawk	23 / 52	19	18	12	7	31	24	35	—	25	9	2 / 49	8	17
Rough-legged Hawk	2 / 4	14	2	23	6	10	4	9	1	—	3	0 / 8	—	2
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	0 / 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Great Horned Owl	0 / 9	1	—	5	2	2	2	3	4	5	1	—	1	—
Snowy Owl	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barred Owl	0 / 10	2	1	2	—	4	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Short-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boreal Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	0 / 5	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	2
Red-headed Woodpecker	0 / 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	27 / 125	14	17	10	7	33	10	21	2	36	1	11 / 49	22	35
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**Table 4. CBC totals for LaCrosse-LaCrescent, Little Falls, Long Prairie, Lac qui Parle, Marshall, Northern Meeker County, MN-Greenwald, Mankato, Morris, Minneapolis (North), Mountain Lake-Windom, Nelson, New Ulm, and Northern Wright County.**



The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	LCRLC	LFALL	LNGPR	LQPR	MARSH	MEEK	MNGW	MNKTO	MORIS	MPLSN	MTLKW	NELS	NEWL	NWRCO
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	35 / 226	39	31	38	16	53	14	39	17	77	15	31 / 86	40	83
Hairy Woodpecker	19 / 92	12	15	21	17	16	6	23	16	26	6	11 / 18	21	22
Northern Flicker	0 / 1	2	—	13	—	1	—	cw(1)	—	1	—	—	—	—
Red-shafted Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pileated Woodpecker	5 / 29	11	17	7	1	9	4	5	2	13	—	3 / 14	6	15
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Kestrel	7 / 17	—	—	7	2	—	6	3	1	—	1	—	5	—
Merlin	0 / 1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Merlin (Prairie)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
falcon sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	2 / 3	5	4	4	1	4	2	1	2	7	1	0 / 1	—	1
Canada Jay	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blue Jay	93 / 386	127	95	99	44	107	76	77	43	215	71	52 / 223	38	120
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Crow	97 / 440	250	122	62	33	220	130	244	39	410	35	41 / 596	50	162
Common Raven	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
corvus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horned Lark	0 / 6	—	—	4	—	9	—	—	52	—	939	20 / 66	—	—
Black-capped Chickadee	153 / 901	231	188	77	40	240	86	202	58	477	16	102 / 313	117	382
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tufted Titmouse	11 / 68	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 / 8	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	0 / 12	7	4	6	6	3	—	3	1	6	—	—	9	4
White-breasted Nuthatch	50 / 281	42	31	50	24	54	20	44	23	98	10	18 / 45	66	70
Brown Creeper	0 / 33	—	—	5	11	1	—	3	—	3	—	—	2	3
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	0 / 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	0 / 1	—	—	4	61	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Bluebird	7 / 12	—	—	5	—	—	—	6	—	1	—	0 / 6	—	—
Townsend's Solitaire	0 / 1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Robin	6 / 22	5	6	20	1	2	—	9	—	2	—	—	—	—
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	373 / 1066	318	170	206	1032	168	242	428	102	384	91	41 / 465	314	413
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cedar Waxwing	12 / 161	3	—	977	—	7	—	129	63	13	—	—	—	9
House Sparrow	291 / 2778	94	142	233	143	248	382	190	194	209	411	172 / 442	166	229
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
House Finch	21 / 289	4	1	—	5	32	10	130	36	123	1	17 / 47	63	96
Purple Finch	0 / 26	5	1	54	—	28	—	1	—	—	1	1 / 18	12	—
Common Redpoll	0 / 5	513	376	71	82	143	260	17	42	111	30	0 / 61	—	78
Hoary Redpoll	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Siskin	2 / 46	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	0 / 14	—	5
American Goldfinch	68 / 325	26	11	10	11	89	10	19	8	161	41	29 / 200	23	51
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12/31	—	—	—	—	—
<i>acanthis/spinus</i> sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	—	—	—	—	44	273	—	120	25	—	21	—	50	—
Snow Bunting	—	—	21	—	33	73	42	50	24	—	15	8 / 38	—	55
Spotted Towhee	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Tree Sparrow	41 / 167	105	29	126	65	255	6	62	15	31	78	8 / 208	12	91
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	3	1	—	—	7	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lincoln's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	0 / 1	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Harris's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	135 / 489	49	75	50	113	111	60	123	69	128	149	55 / 1234	72	124
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	12/31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	0 / 70	—	—	1003	50	37	—	5	1	—	15	0 / 3	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	2	—	5	—	—	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	20	—
Common Grackle	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	—
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	41 / 352	10	13	20	10	27	6	76	—	95	6	16 / 87	39	75
Total Count	37 / 68	43	34	50	42	46	32	50	37	46	33	29 / 40	32	38
Individual Count	2181 / 12349	2717	1736	21294	2164	2738	2193	4794	52305	6948	2119	926 / 5135	1374	4487

Table 4, continued.

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	OWATN	PELRP	PHILB	PILGR	PINEC	RCHST	RLNWR	ROSEU	RWING3	SCCLG	SHNWR	SPNES	SPNOR	SXZIM
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ross's Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cackling Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada Goose	3872	6	—	3	—	9884	—	—	111	2173	100	216	1197	—
Trumpeter Swan	4	71	—	357	—	—	—	—	17	31	276	8	84	—
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wood Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mallard	466	3	—	12	—	767	—	—	163	449	1	497	2770	—
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Northern Pintail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—
Lesser Scaup	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Harlequin Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Long-tailed Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—
Bufflehead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1382	195	—	24	22	—
Hooded Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Merganser	—	—	—	15	—	8	—	—	2101 / 6401	15	1	24	124	—
Red-breasted Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Partridge	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Pheasant	19	2	5	—	1	7	—	—	1	5	19	47	—	—
Ruffed Grouse	—	—	1	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	2	2	—	8
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	—	—	—	—	—	18
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wild Turkey	91	33	72	106	40	38	22	—	198	42	288	251	43	4
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-necked Grebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rock Pigeon	336	7	117	129	63	668	46	23	40 / 42	160	109	172	1568	102
Eurasian Collared-Dove	35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
Mourning Dove	46	—	3	—	—	150	—	150	29	6	16	113	29	2
American Coot	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Herring Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Harrier	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	—
Cooper's Hawk	9	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	—
Northern Goshawk	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	2
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Bald Eagle	7	4	3	7	15	23	5	—	246 / 263	8	39	26	43	13
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	cw(1)	—	—
Red-tailed Hawk	14	—	4	4	—	64	—	—	40 / 42	6	12	22	38	—
Rough-legged Hawk	5	—	5	1	4	14	—	2	5	3	16	1	1	10
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Horned Owl	1	—	—	1	1	5	—	—	—	3	1	6	17	—
Snowy Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Northern Hawk Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Barred Owl	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—
Great Gray Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	cw(1)	—	—	—	—	5
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Short-eared Owl	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boreal Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	cw(1)	1	—
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	23	9	9	10	4	47	—	—	45 / 46	20	28	65	56	—
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

**Table 5. CBC totals for Owatonna, Pelican Rapids, Philbrook, Pillager, Pine County, Rochester, Rice Lake NWR, Roseau, Red Wing, St. Cloud-Collegeville, Sherburne NWR, St. Paul (Northeast Suburban), St. Paul (North), and Sax-Zim Bog.**

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	OWATN	PELRP	PHILB	PILGR	PINEC	RCHST	RLNWR	ROSEU	RWING3	SCCLG	SHNWR	SPNES	SPNOR	SXZIM
Black-backed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Downy Woodpecker	105	13	18	21	13	123	9	4	69 / 70	26	55	143	156	8
Hairy Woodpecker	40	12	8	11	12	39	6	2	15	11	23	70	73	14
Northern Flicker	3	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	5	—	2	6	6	—
Red-shafted Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pileated Woodpecker	11	3	9	15	5	13	4	1	22	12	18	45	6	7
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Kestrel	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
Merlin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merlin (Prairie)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	—
falcon sp.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shrike	—	—	3	2	3	3	—	—	2	4	6	2	3	11
Canada Jay	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
Blue Jay	126	13	93	168	120	239	79	6	116 / 127	74	620	206	264	22
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	9
American Crow	275	10	132	78	157	2960	85	6	259 / 305	127	334	444	1879	58
Common Raven	—	—	5	13	49	—	22	54	—	—	7	—	1	98
corvus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horned Lark	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Black-capped Chickadee	308	112	166	263	379	476	187	46	302 / 305	205	256	875	743	405
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Tufted Titmouse	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	25 / 29	—	—	1	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	7	11	6	17	13	2	4	—	3	11	20	13	4	29
White-breasted Nuthatch	99	47	31	53	10	151	9	8	89 / 90	53	66	166	173	8
Brown Creeper	3	1	—	1	—	4	—	—	1	—	1	1	9	1
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden-crowned Kinglet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
American Robin	—	1	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	10	7	92	—
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	245	1	18	27	76	726	23	—	629 / 679	129	10	210	692	66
Bohemian Waxwing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cedar Waxwing	3	—	—	—	—	28	—	—	0 / 24	27	22	5	19	—
House Sparrow	370	161	28	13	11	466	8	3	494 / 496	28	18	cw(1)	595	60
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pine Grosbeak	—	—	—	17	38	—	31	12	—	—	—	—	—	52
House Finch	241	1	—	—	—	369	—	—	64 / 72	5	30	52	158	—
Purple Finch	3	3	—	—	—	13	—	13	10	—	33	27	—	2
Common Redpoll	1	215	305	287	47	1	110	4	24 / 132	242	154	137	29	350
Hoary Redpoll	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	2
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
White-winged Crossbill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	—
Pine Siskin	9	2	—	1	—	45	—	—	17	—	—	47	8	8
American Goldfinch	119	24	41	1	—	103	—	—	53 / 55	21	101	263	240	2
finch sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lapland Longspur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Snow Bunting	—	74	—	30	—	—	—	5	—	—	40	—	—	6
Spotted Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Eastern Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Tree Sparrow	86	18	13	—	—	74	—	—	47	37	41	135	18	—
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Lincoln's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-throated Sparrow	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Harris's Sparrow	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dark-eyed Junco	169	28	39	5	cw(1)	274	—	—	244 / 272	32	422	197	145	—
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-winged Blackbird	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	—	—	—
Common Grackle	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Cardinal	95	—	5	4	—	150	—	—	69 / 70	17	35	142	136	—
Total Count	48	31	30	35	22	49	17	21	49 / 50	37	43	46	54	37
Individual Count	7368	896	1145	1677	1062	17985	652	349	6969 / 11580	4182	3259	4680	11494	1436

Table 5, continued.

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	THRBR	TMNWR	UPPG	VRGN	WABAS	WALKR	WIEL	WILDR	WILMR	WINON	WWATR	TOTALS
Snow Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Ross's Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Greater White-fronted Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Cackling Goose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55	—	—	443
Canada Goose	—	—	12	—	36	—	0 / 140	205	6017	5	24	184910
Trumpeter Swan	—	8	148	—	29	—	46	16	—	—	19	3924
swan sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	—	31
Wood Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Blue-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Northern Shoveler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Gadwall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	237
American Wigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Mallard	10	1	71	99	108	—	60	22	466	269	14	31729
American Black Duck X Mallard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
American Black Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	50
Northern Pintail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Green-winged Teal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Canvasback	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Redhead	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ring-necked Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	75
Lesser Scaup	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	22
Harlequin Duck	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Long-tailed Duck	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Bufflehead	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Common Goldeneye	27	—	—	16	—	—	400 / 475	13	3	—	—	3114
Hooded Merganser	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41
Common Merganser	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	2371
Red-breasted Merganser	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50
Gray Partridge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	67
Ring-necked Pheasant	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 6	24	15	—	—	698
Ruffed Grouse	4	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	194
Spruce Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Sharp-tailed Grouse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	363
Greater Prairie-Chicken	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	220
Wild Turkey	—	38	—	—	26	5	0 / 76	120	1	—	—	3325
grouse sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Red-necked Grebe	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rock Pigeon	132	—	12	684	106	—	0 / 268	274	245	387	97	16173
Eurasian Collared-Dove	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	632
Mourning Dove	1	—	—	—	13	—	0 / 4	57	—	62	20	1278
American Coot	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	21
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56
Herring Gull	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	982
Iceland Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Iceland Gull (Thayer's)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Glaucous Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Great Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
American White Pelican	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Great Blue Heron	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	8
Golden Eagle	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	5
Northern Harrier	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Sharp-shinned Hawk	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	48
Cooper's Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	—	1	—	—	48
Northern Goshawk	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
accipiter sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Bald Eagle	12	6	1	10	29	5	30 / 63	23	27	79	22	1513
Red-shouldered Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	10
Red-tailed Hawk	—	—	—	—	14	—	0 / 37	12	23	19	20	878
Rough-legged Hawk	—	—	—	—	5	1	0 / 1	4	11	3	1	300
buteo sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
hawk sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Eastern Screech-Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Great Horned Owl	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	134
Snowy Owl	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Northern Hawk Owl	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Barred Owl	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	94
Great Gray Owl	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Long-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Short-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
asio sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Boreal Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
owl sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Belted Kingfisher	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	4	2	59
Red-headed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	84
Red-bellied Woodpecker	—	11	6	—	20	5	1 / 28	31	21	15	14	1330
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
American Three-toed Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

**Table 6. CBC totals for Two Harbors, Tamarac NWR, Uppgaard WMA, Virginia, Wabasha, Walker, Goodhue County / Ellsworth WI, Wild River, Willmar, Winona, and Whitewater River plus CBC composite totals.**

The 2017–2018 Minnesota Christmas Bird Count

	THRBR	TMNWR	UPPG	VIRGN	WABAS	WALKR	WIEL	WILDR	WILMR	WINON	WWATR	TOTALS
Black-backed Woodpecker	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33
Downy Woodpecker	38	32	11	6	48	15	0 / 22	95	65	32	37	3597
Hairy Woodpecker	22	25	4	17	8	12	0 / 8	29	25	17	9	1702
Northern Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	—	—	123
Red-shafted Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pileated Woodpecker	12	17	10	3	6	16	1 / 2	20	17	5	3	737
woodpecker sp.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
American Kestrel	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	1	87
Merlin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	14
Merlin (Prairie)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Peregrine Falcon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
falcon sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Northern Shrike	7	—	—	3	2	3	—	3	8	1	1	201
Canada Jay	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	158
Blue Jay	34	96	50	26	76	71	1 / 98	179	99	82	74	8008
Black-billed Magpie	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	141
American Crow	94	13	34	46	93	15	3 / 308	353	166	184	238	17250
Common Raven	38	12	6	84	—	28	—	7	—	—	—	1884
corvus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Horned Lark	—	—	—	—	176	—	0 / 95	—	—	—	100	1733
Black-capped Chickadee	709	244	127	414	214	234	3 / 138	407	240	116	108	24607
Boreal Chickadee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Tufted Titmouse	—	—	—	—	1	—	0 / 1	1	—	5	3	64
Red-breasted Nuthatch	56	3	12	28	—	24	—	4	4	—	1	1230
White-breasted Nuthatch	10	45	15	7	46	34	0 / 20	108	81	36	23	4372
Brown Creeper	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	180
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Carolina Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	84
Eastern Bluebird	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	3	—	8	51
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	7
Hermit Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
American Robin	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	18	3	1	410
Varied Thrush	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gray Catbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Brown Thrasher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Northern Mockingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
European Starling	30	4	10	170	5	4	0 / 119	423	484	290	135	18344
Bohemian Waxwing	20	—	—	14	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	542
Cedar Waxwing	1	—	15	—	—	—	0 / 3	42	348	6	32	2328
House Sparrow	—	24	—	38	259	12	0 / 114	116	80	227	49	12741
Evening Grosbeak	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	166
Pine Grosbeak	30	69	32	252	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	2025
House Finch	1	—	—	—	46	—	0 / 13	13	104	31	21	3147
Purple Finch	—	1	—	1	5	—	—	2	27	12	53	483
Common Redpoll	89	409	15	172	4	139	0 / 261	15	314	—	—	13309
Hoary Redpoll	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40
Red Crossbill	—	—	—	29	—	5	—	—	11	—	—	249
White-winged Crossbill	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	64
Pine Siskin	—	—	1	1	42	—	—	16	25	18	—	455
American Goldfinch	—	16	2	2	35	—	0 / 51	188	37	78	54	3292
finch sp.	12/31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64
acanthis/spinus sp.	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	16
Lapland Longspur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1515
Snow Bunting	—	—	—	—	17	—	0 / 221	36	61	—	6	1510
Spotted Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Eastern Towhee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
American Tree Sparrow	—	1	—	—	45	—	30 / 208	90	81	34	81	3101
Fox Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Song Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	32
Lincoln's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 / 1	1	—	—	2	27
Harris's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
White-crowned Sparrow	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dark-eyed Junco	2	13	4	—	248	1	2 / 310	210	80	130	407	6848
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	8
sparrow sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
meadowlark sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Red-winged Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	24	256	—	2092
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Rusty Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	93
Common Grackle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	401
blackbird sp.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	129
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Northern Cardinal	—	—	7	—	44	2	0 / 60	71	38	44	31	2462
Total Count	40	27	24	37	35	23	12 / 34	46	53	38	42	5
Individual Count	1484	1102	606	2153	1823	637	587 / 3268	3253	9375	2472	1721	397682

Table 6, continued.

# Minnesota's First Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

John Zakelj and Becca Engdahl

On Sunday, 7 January 2018, John Zakelj was walking along the Mississippi River in Colvill Park at Red Wing, Goodhue County, photographing anything and everything of interest. One of those pictures was of a bird that had never been found in the wild in the state of Minnesota. This bird would ultimately be accepted by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Record Committee (MOURC) as the first report of a wild Tufted Duck in Minnesota (Tustison, 2018). When Zakelj took the pictures, he had thought he was looking at a scaup or Ring-necked Duck. It was not until he reviewed them at home later that he noticed the bird's tuft (Figure 1). He immediately posted his photo on the Minnesota Birding Facebook page and asked for help with identification. Within minutes, the bird was identified and word began to spread throughout the birding community.

## Description

The Tufted Duck is a common diving duck of the Old World which infrequently wanders to the coastal regions of North America, reaching the northeast from Europe and Iceland, and Alaska and the Pacific Coast from Asia. The following is a summary description of the Minnesota bird compiled from Engdahl and documentation submitted to MOURC: Found associating with a wide array of waterfowl, including Common Goldeneye, Redhead, Canvasback, Lesser Scaup, and Common Merganser. A small, compact duck, slightly smaller than nearby Lesser Scaup. Structure was similar to Ring-necked Duck, but without a peaked head. This bird sported a distinct plume or tuft of dark feathers projecting from the crown down the center of the back of the head to the approximate midpoint of the hind neck. Completely dark head, absent of any pale markings. In certain lighting conditions, the head occasionally showed a faint and very subtle violet and/or greenish sheen. Breast, mantle, scapulars, tail, and undertail coverts all similar in color to the head, but less iridescent. On the dorsal side of the wing, the

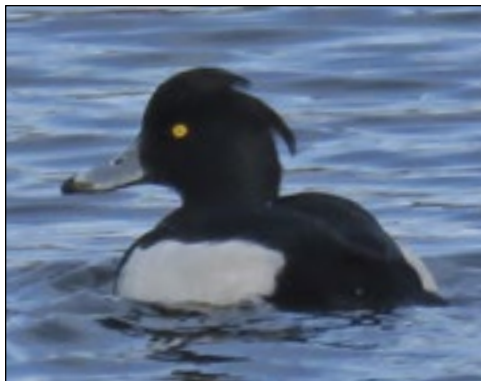
coverts were dark. Inner primaries were white, but outer primaries were gray. Flanks from the mantle to the waterline were very pale gray to clean white. Belly white. Under wing remiges mostly light gray, white axillaries. Long but narrow white upper secondary bar, with these feathers tipped in black. No fraying or feather wear was visible in the field or in photos. Eye was bright golden yellow. Bill was medium steel gray with a substantial, wide, dark nail bordered by very pale gray which continued partially along the tomia. Nares set near the base of the bill. Feet were a dark and speckled greenish-gray. Observed on multiple occasions swimming, diving, preening, sleeping, and in flight. Occasionally pulled tail upright recalling posture of Ruddy Duck.

## Origin

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requires that captive migratory waterfowl have a marking that identifies them as not wild (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2018). Although it is possible that the Tufted Duck described in this article came from a collector who was not complying with the law, the absence of markings makes it difficult to reach a conclusive determination regarding its origin.

In reports filed with MOURC, a number of observers noted in their documentation the lack of any markings which would indicate that this bird had been in captivity, and images obtained by Anthony Hertzell show intact halluces (Figure 2). There was no evidence of hybridization.

Figure 3 shows all North American eBird records from January 2000 – December 2017. Most of the reports are from the Atlantic coast, the Pacific coast, and the area around Lake Ontario (especially Toronto). The low number of inland reports, including the Minnesota bird, makes it difficult to draw conclusions regarding vagrancy patterns, other than to say that most are probably wild birds moving into the continental interior from the coasts. From locations close to Minnesota, a search of eBird observations



**Figure 1. Tufted Duck, 7 January 2018, Red Wing, Goodhue County. Photo by John Zakelj.**



**Figure 2. Preening Tufted Duck showing both halluces intact. Photos by Anthony X. Hertzell.**

(eBird, 2018) as well as state record committees reveals scattered records of single birds from Thunder Bay, Ontario (October 1995, Dobos 1996; September–October 1997, Dobos, 1997; January 1998, Dobos 1999), Illinois (February and December 1973, March 1974 and March 2004, Bohlen 2004), Michigan (October 1973, Michigan Birds Records Committee, 2019; February 1995 and April 1995, Reinoehl 1997; and April 2006, Putnam 2008), Nebraska (December of 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003, Dinsmore, 2000 and Brogie, 2005), Arkansas (November 2001, February 2006, November 2006, and March 2007; Arkansas Bird Records Committee, 2019) and Ohio (March 1980, Bartlett 1980; and April 2014, Gardner 2014).

Since this same bird was observed on the Wisconsin side of the river, Quentin Yoerger, the chair of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology's Records Committee, was asked to summarize the Committee's treatment of this record. The Committee received three reports of the Tufted Duck. There was no special discussion regarding this bird's provenance and no member raised any concerns. The Committee concluded that the Tufted Duck fit within the expected timeframe of when European waterfowl are most likely to show up in eastern North America. Furthermore, this species appears to be occurring with greater regularity in recent years (Yoerger pers. comm. *vide* Anthony Hertzell).

MOURC archives include two unaccepted Minnesota observations — February 1976 and March 2000 (Eckert, 2000). Those records were deemed unacceptable because it was determined those birds were — or probably were

— of captive origin.

After extensive evaluation and discussion, MOURC accepted the bird as correctly identified but qualified the record as an A<sub>o</sub> — Accidental, origin uncertain (Tustison, 2018).

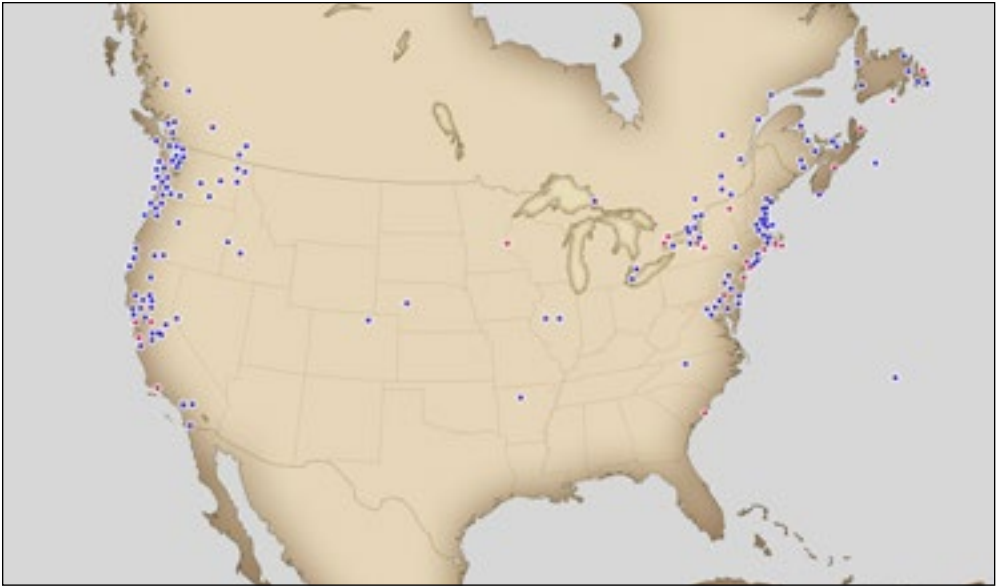
### Summary

Birders traveled from far and wide to catch a glimpse of the Tufted Duck. It spent much of its time moving up and down the river, sometimes to remote locations inaccessible to birders. Engdahl spent nearly eleven hours searching for it before finally locating it back at Colvill Park on 14 January. Upwards of fifty birders had been looking the day before, but after the effort turned up nothing, it seemed as if it had left the area. Shortly after sunrise, Becca was scanning through the waterfowl on fog-laden Colvill Bay when she caught her first glimpse of the Tufted Duck. She immediately spread the word and within thirty minutes she went from standing alone in the cold to standing in a crowd of enthusiastic birders. Eventually, the bird took flight and landed on the river close to shore where everyone was treated to spectacular views of Minnesota's first state record. The last reports to the MOU were from 18 January.

Thanks to Ezra Hosch, who was a big help in gathering data and editing an earlier draft of this paper, and to Anthony X. Hertzell for producing the map and for his assistance with research and editing.

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**Figure 3. All North American Tufted Duck records 2000–2017 (blue), and all Tufted Duck records during the 2017–2018 winter season (red), (data from eBird, 2018).**

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- Saint Paul, MN; Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN.**





# The Owl in the Attic

## List of Birds Observed by Harry C. Oberholser at Swan Lake, Minnesota, July 25–27, 1917

Harry C. Oberholser

[Reprinted from Oberholser, Harry C. 1918. List of birds observed by Harry C. Oberholser at Swan Lake, Minnesota, July 25–27, 1917. 1918, *Fins, Feathers and Fur* 13:3–4]

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)  
Blue-winged Teal (*Querquedula discors*)  
Redhead (*Marila americana*)  
Lesser Scaup Duck (*Marila affinis*)  
Ruddy Duck (*Erismatura jamaicensis*)  
Sora Rail (*Porzana carolina*)  
Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus cachinnans*)  
American Coot (*Fulica americana americana*)

### Other Water-Birds

Holboell Grebe (*Colymbus holboellii*)  
American Eared Grebe (*Colymbus nigricollis californicus*)  
Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*)  
Loon (*Gavia immer*)  
Franklin Gull (*Larus franklinii*)  
Forster Tern (*Sterna forsteri*)  
Black Tern (*Chilidonias niger surinamensis*)  
Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)  
Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias herodias*)  
Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax naevisu*)  
Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*)  
Killdeer (*Oxyechus vociferus vociferus*)

### Land Birds

Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*)  
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus americanus*)  
Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*)  
Flicker (*Colaptes auratus auratus*)  
Nighthawk (*Chordeiles virginianus virginianus*)  
Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)  
Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus tyrannus*)  
Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*)  
Wood Pewee (*Myiobanes virens*)  
Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*)  
Prairie Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*)

Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*)  
American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchus brachyrhynchus*)  
Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)  
Cowbird (*Molothrus ater ater*)  
Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)  
Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus arcetogus*)  
Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*)  
Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)  
Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*)  
American Goldfinch (*Astragalinus tristis tristis*)  
English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus hostilis*)  
Vesper Sparrow (*Spizella passerina passerina*)  
Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina passerina*) [sic]  
Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*)  
Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga erythromelas*)  
Purple Martin (*Progne subis subis*)  
Barn Swallow (*Hirundo erythrogastris*)  
Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*)  
Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*)  
Migrant Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus migrans*)  
Red-eyed Vireo (*Virtosylva olivacea*)  
Warbling Vireo (*Virtosylva gilva gilva*)  
Yellow-throated Vireo (*Lanivireo flavifrons*)  
Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica aestiva aestiva*)  
Maryland Yellow-throat (*Geothlypis trichas brachidactyla*)  
Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum rufum*)  
Long-billed Marsh Wren (*Telmatodytes palustrisilicacus*)  
Black-capped Chickadee (*Penthestes atricapillus atricapillus*)  
House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon parkmanii*)  
White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis cookei*)  
Willow Thrush (*Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola*)  
American Robin (*Planesticus migratorius migratorius*).



# BOOK REVIEWS

**HBW AND BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL ILLUSTRATED CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD**, Volume 2: Passerines. J. del Hoyo and N. J. Collar. 2016. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. 1,013 pp. ~\$255 (€225). This volume is available from Lynx Edicions ([www.lynxeds.com](http://www.lynxeds.com)), with free shipping worldwide.

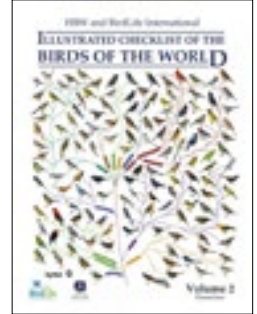
This is the second and final volume summarizing and updating the massive, 16-volume *Handbook of the Birds of the World* (HBW; 1992–2013). Like the first checklist volume (2014), this is an amazing book. It covers the most diverse order of birds, Passeriformes, recognizing 138 families, 1,358 genera, and 6,649 species (57 of which are extinct). It is a whopping 1,013 pages long, with 446 plates and 6,649 distribution maps. Its color plates contain 12,629 illustrations, of which 642 are new and 1,208 improved from the longer HBW series. It is deeply tied to the published literature, with 2,809 references. Overall, it is an impressive work, both in size and scope.

One of the biggest novel contributions of this volume, like the last, is in the first global application of the method of Tobias et al. (2010; c.f. Winker 2010a) to infer species limits. That method has received strong criticism (e.g., Remsen 2015, 2016). The editors spend some effort in the Introduction to respond to these criticisms. Application of this method in this volume has caused them to make 638 splits (including recognition of 11 new species) and 54 lumpings for a total increase of 584 species. In the longer HBW work, 6,008 passerines species were recognized. Here, there are 6,592. This represents an increase of 8.8% in the Passeriformes. Across the two volumes, the increase is ~11%. They consider that over half of this is the result of the work of others in the published literature, but the rest is done here for the first time.

Beneath these changes roils a huge contro-

versy in ornithology. That controversy is one that has been present since the mid-19th century, and it is over “What is a species?” During the decades of the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the early 20<sup>th</sup>, subspecific variation was often treated as species-level variation: many minor variants were described as full species. With the adoption of the biological species concept (BSC), many former species were lumped together as subspecies under a single species epithet. The effort that set the pace for this globally was the widely adopted work of Peters et al. (1937–1987). Although it is widely recognized that the lumping of species during the “Peters era” was excessive, avian taxonomists and systematists have generally been making relatively data-rich revisions one group at a time and publishing the results in the peer-reviewed literature. These new Checklist volumes are the first since Peters et al. (1937–1987) to adopt a wider general revision that includes substantial changes made on the authors’ authority. To their credit, unlike Peters et al. they provide a summary of the information they used to make the changes that they do.

In one important respect these changes are not (yet) transparent, however. Although the results of their character scorings are given in the text in cases where changes have been made, the raw data have apparently not been archived online (not that I could find, anyway). So we don’t know the details about the basis for many of these splits, just the bold outlines. Specimens used, localities they represent, sample sizes, measurements,



scores, etc. will all be necessary to begin to test the many new hypotheses about species limits that this work presents. The authors recognize that their system is imperfect, and they tout transparency, so the next steps forward must include online publication of datasets. This is currently the norm in scientific publication (e.g., Dryad, GenBank, NCBI-SRA, and other online data archives), and it is the basis for building increasingly robust datasets to address these important questions in biodiversity. I do anticipate that this will come to pass.

To many, all of this is “inside baseball”—close details of little interest to all but the most avid aficionados. But I think what goes on under the hood needs to be as transparent as possible for two reasons: 1) Readers get a better understanding of the difficulties we face in determining species limits; and 2) readers understand one reason why we’re seeing so many changes in the numbers of species recognized and why these sorts of changes will be ongoing. Another reason is the use of genetics tools, which this work’s novel changes mostly exclude. That’s a big deal, because genetics tools are helping a lot in resolving complex biodiversity issues (e.g., discovering cryptic species), but genetic data are only spottily available, making universal application impossible so far. It is also important to remember that controversies over species limits in birds are a constant in our field, and readers should know I am not a neutral player in this area; I am involved as a practitioner, a petitioner, and a judge (e.g., Winker 2010b, Winker 2016, Chesser et al. 2018).

I do not, however, wish to dwell too much on the controversies surrounding a portion of this work. Users should know they exist, and that this book is far from the final word on avian species limits. More details on these controversies can be found in articles by Remsen (2015, 2016), Collar et al. (2016), and Burfield et al. (2017). But this hotly contested aspect of the HBW & BirdLife Checklist volumes should not detract from the wonderful, accurate presentation of well over 90% of accepted avian diversity.

The body of this book progresses by family and genus, with short text accounts on the left and illustrations and small maps on the right. The taxonomy and arrangements

have been completely updated from the longer *Handbook* volumes. (I think we’ve gone overboard in splitting passerines at the family level, but they are relying on other authorities for this.) Species accounts and illustrations are numbered, with each family progressing from 1 to  $x$ . If they differ, both sexes are portrayed, and if there is pronounced geographic variation subspecies are also illustrated. This is a wonderful way to have the world’s avian diversity at your fingertips, and I find I can spend hours absorbed in studying both familiar and unfamiliar groups. The illustrations are mostly excellent.

Text accounts give the Latin name, then English, French, German, and Spanish common names, a coded conservation status, where longer treatments can be found in the larger *Handbook* volumes, taxonomic notes, and distribution. Subspecies are given when they occur, with brief accounts of their distributions. In complex cases with multiple subspecies groups, these lists are color coded and an English name for each group is provided. These latter are cases in which further work might reveal full biological species.

There is an Appendix of extinct species, and 53 of the 57 included are illustrated. They have also been integrated into their appropriate place in the main body of the work. It is striking how most of these species occupied small islands. The Bibliography includes 2,740 citations, and the Index is very well done. There is just one, with Latin and English terms arranged alphabetically and color coded: black for extant taxa, red for “alternative/unaccepted/invalid names for extant taxa,” and blue for extinct taxa. It alone is 68 pages long. I love a good index, and this one is especially invaluable given an unfamiliar sequence of families and so many small new ones.

This is not the end of HBW. They outline an ambitious plan of continued activity, including annual online updates on HBW Alive. It is not just the volumes and their contents that are being served on HBW Alive; one can find sound and video recordings there as well. The authors of this volume also recognize that other scientific advances are needed: integration of genetic data and re-examination of the Tobias et al. (2010) criteria chief among them. Burfield et al. (2017:4) envision

a “crowd-sourced, evidence-based avian taxonomy.” As noted above, this needs to include a robust online data archiving framework. But that is looking to the future. In the present, this volume and the one preceding it are excellent books, and I would recommend them to every serious student of birds.

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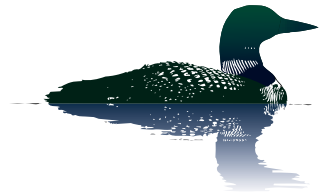
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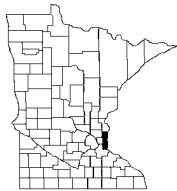
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**Kevin Winker, University of Alaska Museum, Fairbanks, AK 99775.**

# Notes of Interest



**EURASIAN WIGEON IN WASHINGTON COUNTY** — On 28 April 2018, while birding Waseca County, our group of Alex Burchard, Becca Engdahl, Isaac Hosch, and I discovered a first county record male Eurasian Wigeon in a flooded agricultural field along 128th Street just south of the town of Waseca. The bird was in a mixed flock of waterfowl that included American Wigeon and Green-winged Teal. I had no previous experience with this species, but identification was straightforward. The bird was observed from an estimated distance of 500 feet, with the sun being high in the sky with little cloud cover. I noted the characteristics of a peach colored head and buffy forehead, light blue bill with black tip, rufous breast, pale gray flanks, black undertail coverts, black primaries and tertials, as well as gray on the outer edges of the tertials and gray scapulars.



A similar species that might cause confusion is the American Wigeon. This species has a

white crown stripe, grayish face with an obvious green crescent extending from the eye to the nape, and brown flanks. These two wigeon species are known to hybridize, but their offspring would be expected to exhibit some American Wigeon characteristics, all of which were absent in this bird.

At the time I did not know that Isaac had already photographed the bird, so as I scrutinized it for any signs of hybridization, I was careful to discern that there was no green showing on the head or a crescent of any color on the face, as well as the flanks of the bird being completely gray. The bird was similar to the nearby American Wigeons in both size and structure. The flock of waterfowl flushed after we observed it for a short period of time and disappeared over a ridge and onto private property.

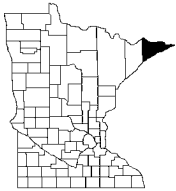
The Eurasian Wigeon is a Casual species in Minnesota, with the most recent accepted record from 16–23 April 2017, north of Aitkin, Aitkin County (Tustison 2017). There were two additional records in Minnesota of Eurasian Wigeon during 2018, with one bird found in Otter Tail County on 15 April 2018 and another in Beltrami County from 27–28 April 2018 (Tustison 2018).

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**Ezra M. Hosch, Mahtomedi, MN.**

**SUMMER Tanager IN GRAND MARAIS** — On the morning of Sunday, 28 October



2018, as I was observing a mixed flock of American Robins (*Turdus migratorius*), Bohemian Waxwings (*Bombycilla garrulus*), Cedar Waxwings (*B. cedrorum*), and Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) that

were all feeding on mountain-ash berries in the Grand Marais RV Park and Campground, I noticed a Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) perched low in a nearby spruce. After signaling to a couple nearby birders that I had found a notable bird, I alerted the rest of the group with whom I was birding that weekend. Over the next couple of hours the bird was seen and photographed by many observers as it fed on mountain-ash berries and crabapples in the general vicinity which is famous for having hosted many other rarities over the years. The bird was seen by other observers through at least Tuesday, 30 October.

The bird's overall plumage appeared to be a fairly uniform orange-red color, with more yellowish — but not strongly contrasting — on the belly, nape, and around the base of the bill. The eyes were dark with buffy eye-rings. The sharp and fairly hefty bill was a light, fleshy color, and the legs were gray. The relative uniformity of the orange-red color throughout the plumage suggested to me an adult female, but several sources caution that first-year males can look very similar to adult females. To verify my suspicion, I wrote Peter Pyle asking if he could sex and age the bird from the photo (included with this note). He replied that the bird was indeed an adult female, at least 1.5 years old and likely older, identified "by the red primary coverts and generally uniform quality to the upperwing feathers." In addition, he mentioned

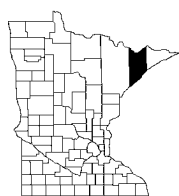


**Summer Tanager, 28 October 2018, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photo by Jerry Pruett.**

that young males have more contrasting, blotchy areas of red on yellow/green as they begin to molt and have mostly greenish remiges (Peter Pyle, pers. comm.)

This represents the fifth fall record of Summer Tanager for Cook County and may be one of the few fall records of an adult on the North Shore. Of the four previous records in the MOU database, two are from the latter half of October and two are from the latter half of September, but only one includes details on plumage (a female-type bird near Croftville on 30 October 2005). The database also holds an additional 14 fall records — 7 each from Lake and St. Louis counties, and of these, nine were of birds discovered in the latter half of October. A tenth in Lake, though discovered on 14 October, lingered into the second half of the month. The remaining four involved two birds found in the first half of November, another found in the latter half of November, and a bird found in the first half of August. Eight of these same 14 records include details on plumage: three females of unknown age, three female-type birds of unknown age, one sub-adult male, and one juvenile of unknown sex. Photos of three of the birds noted as females or female-type birds are available via either the MOU website or eBird, and they all show birds with uniformly greenish-yellow plumage and slight hints of rust color (especially on the uppertail), suggesting younger females. **Robert M. Dunlap, St. Paul, MN.**

### **EURASIAN TREE SPARROW IN LAKE COUNTY** — While driving through downtown Two



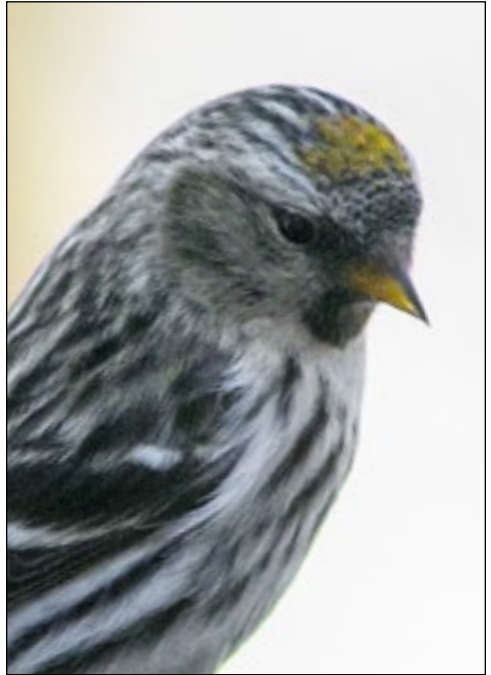
Harbors on 21 November 2016, I noticed a pale-looking bird soaking up the late afternoon sun on the edge of a row of thick cedar trees. After stopping the car, I was disappointed to find it was only a female House Sparrow. I decided to “pish” and about a dozen more sparrows popped out to the edge of the trees. One of the birds near the top of the trees had a very rounded head with a chocolate brown cap and a black spot on the side of the face. I knew this was a Eurasian Tree Sparrow, so I took a few marginal quality photos with my cell phone through my binoculars.

I then drove home and got my regular camera and returned to the row of cedars. Unfortunately, the birds were gone so I decided to drive around the surrounding neighborhood and listen for House Sparrows. The first place I checked was a feeder that is usually pretty active about two blocks away. I got out of my car, scanned the trees above the feeders, and there was the bird! This time I was able to get much clearer photos that showed the white cheek with an obvious black spot, the rounded head with a brown cap, and a small black chin patch.

The bird was relocated in subsequent days by many other birders at several locations around downtown Two Harbors. It was usually seen between 4<sup>th</sup> and South Avenues and between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, and it was nearly always in the company of House Sparrows. The most reliable spots were the feeders down the block from the public library, the cedars in front of the post office, and a cracked corn ground feeder behind the local pizzeria at South Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Over the next five months, this ground feeder became the easiest place to find the bird; although, it often required a lot of waiting before the bird would appear. The last sighting I know of was from 5 May 2017.

This is the first Lake County record, the third for northeast Minnesota, and the 15<sup>th</sup> for the state. The first northeast Minnesota record was found by Jim and Carol Tveekrum at Schroeder, Cook County on 16 April 2005, and the second was by Allen and Anne Brier at Virginia, St. Louis County on 15 April 2007.

There have been many Eurasian Tree Sparrow sightings around the western Great Lakes in recent years. For example, Whitefish Point on the eastern side of Lake Superior had spring records every year between 2013 and 2016, including a high count of five on 30 May 2016. Single birds have been seen during May at Copper Harbor in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in 2013, 2014, and 2016, and singles were seen on the shore of Lake Superior in Bayfield County Wisconsin in April 2014 and May 2016. One was seen in May 2015 at Peninsula Point on Lake Michigan and two were seen there in May 2016. Algoma County, Ontario on the northeastern shore of Lake Superior just had their first record on 4 November 2017. **Jim Lind, Two Harbors, MN.**



Variations in colors of Common Redpoll adornments: magenta, red, orange, and yellow. All Ramsey County, February 2018. Photos by Anthony X. Hertzell.

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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.



# *The* Loon

WINTER 2018  
VOLUME 90 – NUMBER 4



Journal of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union

**THE MINNESOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION**  
**Carpenter Nature Center**  
**12805 Saint Croix Trail South**  
**Hastings, MN 55033**

**The Loon**, Minnesota's journal of birds, is published quarterly by the MOU, the statewide bird organization. All members receive this publication and also our digital newsletter, *Minnesota Birding*.

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# Minnesota's First Sighting of a Roseate Spoonbill

Cindy Thury Smith

**W**hy do we bird and report what we see every day? Because sustained sightings give us the best statistical information and it sets us up for success when the occasional rarity flies through. That was the situation when the first Roseate Spoonbill was seen in Minnesota on 26 August 2018.

It was a nice Sunday morning and my husband Kevin and I decided to do a short bit of birding down by the Mississippi River in Hastings before it got too hot. We pulled into the parking lot at Jaycee Park about 10:15 in the morning. Kevin pulled his scope out of the back and went over to the river's edge to set it up. I was still in the car when he came running back to tell me to come quick; he'd seen a Roseate Spoonbill! It was across the river in Washington County, on a sandbar. I quickly scrambled out of the car and looked in the scope. There it was, in a group of Great Egrets. I noticed it was very still. Over the next 20 minutes, as Kevin called local birders to come quick (and bring a camera!) the bird didn't move much. It was clearly resting.

Roseate Spoonbills are one of my favorite birds. The first time I saw one in Louisiana I fell in love. They are like Blue Jays: when they spread their wings and fly you can see dozens of shades of color in their wings. With its

coloration and distinctively shaped bill, there was no doubt as to its identity.

Then suddenly it took off, flying across the river over us into Dakota County. The first of the local birders was just pulling into the lot but he missed it. We watched as it flew toward the lock and dam. Kevin decided to stay in the parking lot to wait for other birders he'd called to show up while I went over to Lake Rebecca with other birders that had just arrived to see if it had flown there. No luck. For the next hour or so, various birders checked out likely places it might have flown to, but there were no further sightings.

Luckily for Minnesota birders, Jim Pifher and Jean Ranweiler were birding at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington at the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge a bit past noon and they alerted the birding public via MOUnet. The Spoonbill was in clear view and dozens were able to document its arrival in Minnesota. It stayed past 6:00 P.M. that evening but the next day it was gone and no further sightings were reported.

To see such a rare bird is a thrill and a bit of luck. It encourages one to keep on, documenting our state's bird life.

— **Hastings, MN.**

## A Roseate Spoonbill

Jean Ranweiler and Jim Pifher

**W**e were in the neighborhood of the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge in the early afternoon of August 26th. Since it was Sunday and the road work crews were not working, we decided to walk down

through the construction equipment and see what progress was being made. We weren't really equipped for birding, but always carry a couple of pairs of binoculars in the car, so we grabbed them and headed down the hill.



**Roseate Spoonbill and Great Egret, 26 August 2018, Old Cedar Avenue Bridge, Bloomington, Hennepin County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.**

There was still quite a bit of work to do — mostly on the road. We got to the bottom of the hill and headed for the boardwalk where we had seen a lot of egrets from the top of the hill. We are always kind of competitive with each other as to sighting birds first and Jim, being taller, could see over the marsh grasses and said, “there’s a Roseate Spoonbill.” I still couldn’t see anything out on the water and said, “yeah, right.”

Finally, when we got toward the deck of the boardwalk, I also could see the bird. I couldn’t believe it! I went through the rare bird checklist in my head — we are always pretty careful to not report anything until we’re pretty sure we know what we’ve got.

Have you seen this species before? — yes, in Texas and more closely in Florida. What similar species might it resemble? Flamingo? Ibis? An egret that had gotten into something making it pink? A lawn ornament planted out in the marsh? We knew of at least one case of someone being fooled by a lawn ornament.

Clearly it was moving, was much smaller than the nearby Great Egrets, and most definitely had a “spoon” bill. It went through our minds and was pointed out by many others later — how hard is it to identify a big pink bird?

The next question on the mental checklist was “is it an escapee?” No sign of banding, no sign of clipped wings. Based on past reading about Wood Stork habits, a juvenile bird is more likely to wander this time of year, so the age of the bird made it more reasonable also.

So, now sure of what we were looking at, Jim grabbed his phone to spread the word. In the excitement, we struggled to remember how to post to MOU. I yelled “Text Todd (Krehmeyer) — he’s on Minnesota Birding Facebook!” which Jim did and he also figured out how to post to MOU. By the time Todd posted to Facebook, somebody had received the alert on the MOU and had also posted there.

To add to our confusion, Jim also saw an alert on his phone that a Roseate Spoonbill was seen in Hastings. It wasn’t until later when we got the timelines straight that we figured the bird seen there by Kevin and Cindy Smith must have flown the 20 miles to Old Cedar Avenue Bridge where it was contentedly preening in the sun along with many Great Egrets.

I refused to let Jim go to the front of the boardwalk for fear he would frighten the bird before someone got there. We hadn’t brought a camera and were fearful the bird would fly before we had more witnesses and hopefully someone with a good camera. It took a good 40 minutes before the first person showed up, I kept asking Jim, “where are they?” The first person to arrive marched straight to the front of the deck and set up his scope. Neither egrets nor spoonbill got spooked and more and more people arrived and the deck filled up and still the birds didn’t fly. There was much talking and laughing and smiling and birders greeting birders. Best party I think we ever have thrown.

**— Golden Valley, MN.**

# Roseate Spoonbill in Bloomington

Philip C. Chu

Between 10:15 and 10:35 A.M. on 26 August 2018, Kevin and Cindy Smith watched a Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) — the first report of that species for Minnesota — on a sandbar in the Mississippi River on the Washington County side of the city of Hastings (Smith 2018).

At about 12:45 P.M. on the same day Jim Pifher and Jean Ranweiler found a Roseate Spoonbill in Bloomington, Hennepin County, in the Minnesota River marshes at the Long Meadow Lake Unit of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (Ranweiler and Pifher 2018). Bloomington is 20 miles to the west-northwest of Hastings, or 33 miles away if one follows the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers as they wind north and then back south across the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

The Bloomington spoonbill remained in place for over seven hours, with many observers getting to see it, until about 8:05 P.M. when it took off and flew out of sight to the northeast, never to be seen again.

Appearance of the Bloomington spoonbill was as follows. The bird's bill was grayish, grading to pinkish gray on the "spoon"; the bare skin on its head — limited to the forehead, lores, and foreface — was light gray with a faint greenish tinge; its irises were orangey; and its legs were reddish pink, dulled by a dusky wash on the back side of the tibiotarsi and by blackening at the ankle (tibiotarsal/tarsometatarsal) joints. The bird's plumage was whitish on the head, neck, and uppermost back, grading to pale pink on the breast, middle back, and anterior scapulars, then to a more intense pink on the posterior upperbody, posterior underbody, and tail. The wings were pink, too, both above and below, except for a little hard-to-see blackish near the tips of the outer three or so primaries; there was no red on any wing feathers.

The above features indicated the Bloomington spoonbill to be young, but how young was unclear, so an opinion was solicited from Peter Pyle, author of the 2008 banders' reference

*Identification Guide to North American Birds, Part II, Anatidae to Alcidae*. Pyle — viewing photos that depicted the bird both standing and with its wings open — responded (pers. comm.), "Looks like a good first-fall bird to me (so 4–5 months old, or HY [hatch year])." He continued:

"The only thing against HY is the rather strong pink to the plumage — many are whiter. But the fully white-feathered head, uniform flight feathers, pointed outer primaries with broad brown margins, and lack of molt at this time of year all indicate HY as opposed to SY [(second year] 16–17 months old)."

For long periods the Bloomington spoonbill was mostly inactive — appearing to sleep, with its sleep being interrupted by occasional brief episodes of preening — but it also engaged in at least two prolonged bouts of foraging. During these it waded about with its bill tip in the water, sweeping the bill from side to side with short strokes; occasionally it even appeared to try to catch flying insects, twisting its head up, down, and around and snapping its big spoon-shaped bill at things in the air that were too small to see.

The Hastings and Bloomington spoonbills were treated as separate records by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (MOURC), with the two being accepted as Minnesota's first and second, respectively (A. X. Hertz, pers. comm.).

Roseate Spoonbills routinely disperse after breeding (Dumas 2000), and in this regard 2018 was an exceptional year. According to eBird (2019), in 2018 spoonbills were found not only in their normal breeding areas in Texas, Louisiana, and Florida but also in Arizona, Oklahoma and — more impressively — in every state east of a line from Minnesota in the north to Arkansas in the south, save for New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Kentucky, Michigan, and Wisconsin; there was also a single Canadian spoonbill, in Quebec. The Quebec record was a provincial first (Swick 2018), and records from



**Roseate Spoonbill, 26 August 2018, Old Cedar Avenue Bridge, Bloomington, Hennepin County. Photo by Anthony X. Hertzell.**

Maine (Peacock 2018), Connecticut (Mantlik 2018), West Virginia (Daniels 2018), and, of course, Minnesota were state firsts. North of South Carolina, Georgia, and the Gulf Coast states, every spoonbill that could be aged from photographs submitted to eBird (2019) was immature.

#### **Acknowledgements**

I'm grateful to Anthony Hertzell for providing a pre-publication version of Smith (2018), and for relaying information about as-yet-unpublished MOURC actions on the Minnesota spoonbill records; as well, Ezra Hosch generously allowed me to quote from his personal communication with Peter Pyle.

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# An Individual Meadowlark Giving the Primary Calls of Both Species

Robert M. Dunlap

Beginning in late July 2018 I made several visits, mostly in the mornings, each week to the St. Paul Downtown Airport. The airport footprint is just under one square mile in area, with mowed grass composing the majority of it. At least in recent years, this location has been known to host both Eastern Meadowlarks (*Sturnella magna*) and Western Meadowlarks (*S. neglecta*) during the breeding season, with Easterns almost always outnumbering Westerns on any of my previous visits. There is a publicly accessible elevated observation area located at the terminus of Bayfield Street in the northeast corner of the airport that allows observers ample views of the majority of the area, and it is here where both species can be found fairly reliably from about late March through mid-September.

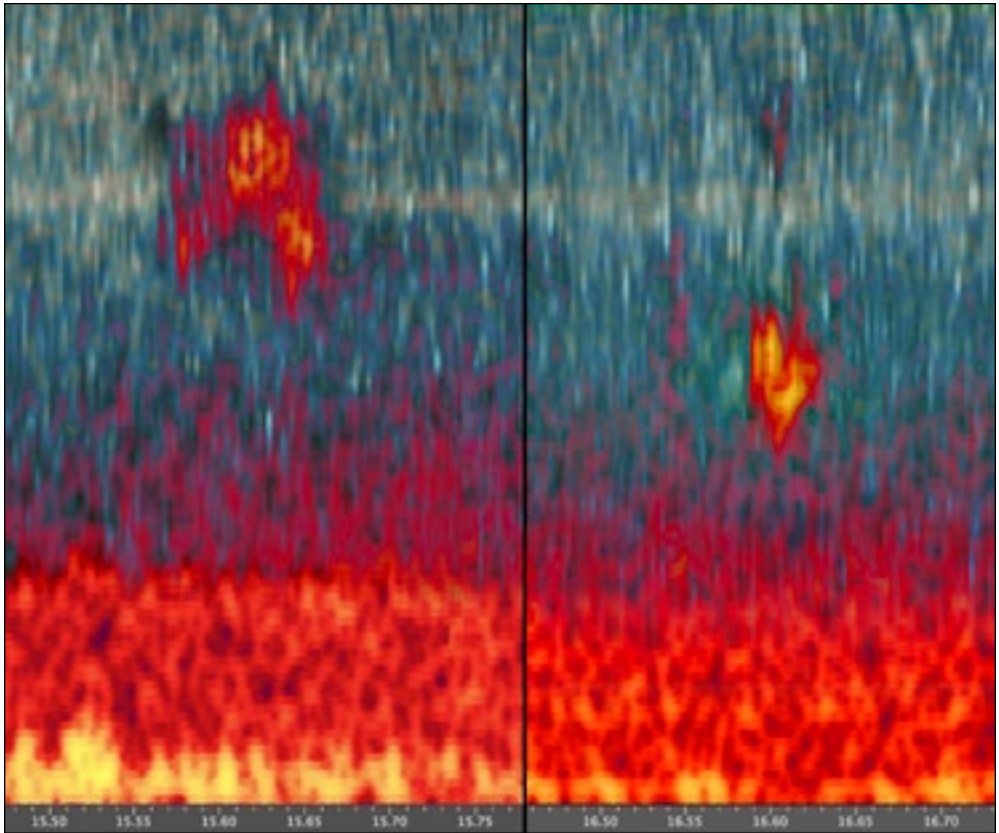
On the morning of 15 August, three meadowlarks were perched on the fenceline just south of and in close proximity to the observation area. The leftmost bird and the rightmost bird were consistently giving “chuck” calls typical of Western Meadowlarks, and the bird in the center was silent. The leftmost bird was the most vocal, and I began making a digital video recording of this meadowlark with my camera. To my surprise, about 15 seconds into the recording this bird made a “zeert” call typical of Eastern Meadowlark (Figure 1; original video can be viewed at <https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S47858597>). I finished my recording a few seconds later and continued to observe the trio. While continuing to give “chuck” calls frequently, after about ten of these calls the leftmost bird would make another “zeert” call.

The leftmost bird appeared to be an adult (Figure 2). Its plumage included fairly pale and worn (typical for adult meadowlarks in August) but well-marked sandy-brown upperparts, a longish gray bill with a culmen that decurved about three-fourths of the way to the tip, bold black “V” on a bright yellow

breast with the yellow extending from the throat (including yellow in the malar) down the belly and stopping at the white vent, yellow lores of similar vibrance, dark brown eye lines and similarly colored stripes on either side of the pale central crown stripe, and pale grayish-white rear supercilium and auriculars. The tertials were a similar sandy-brown color with fairly thick black crossbars alternating such that the pale areas between them were only slightly wider than the dark bars. The legs were pale pink and the eyes were dark.

The rightmost bird and the bird in the center looked to be juveniles, with shorter, straighter bills that were fleshy in color, less boldly defined upperparts, plainer faces, buffy washes throughout the underparts, and somewhat fainter black and less well defined “V”s on duller yellow breasts. All three birds eventually flushed from the fenceline and flew down to the grass near the pavement inside the fence, and as they flushed I heard one of the birds give the distinctive dry and sharp rattle of an Eastern Meadowlark. Unfortunately, it was unclear to me which individual gave the rattle call. Also apparent in flight was the amount of white present in all three of the birds’ tails; the three outermost rectrices on each side appeared fully white.

All three birds continued to associate with each other for the remainder of my observation (about 20 minutes) that morning, and throughout that time the adult continued to infrequently give “zeert” calls among more frequent “chuck” calls. The same three birds were again present and perched along the fenceline the following morning, and again the adult was heard and seen giving the primary calls of both species. Two additional meadowlarks were in the vicinity and briefly associated with the trio, one remaining silent and the other giving only the “zeert” call of an Eastern Meadowlark.



**Figure 1. Composite spectrogram image showing primary “zeert” call of Eastern Meadowlark on left and primary “chuck” call of Western Meadowlark on right, both given by the same bird recorded on 15 August 2018.**

It is difficult to assess the plumages of the juvenile birds in terms of species identification with perhaps the exception of the amount of white in the tails suggesting Eastern Meadowlark. The adult, however, showed a plumage largely consistent and well within the variation shown by a breeding-plumaged Western Meadowlark. Whereas the tertial pattern observed on the adult is probably also within expected variation of Western Meadowlark, the appearance of three fully white outermost rectrices tends to be a trait shown more by Eastern Meadowlark in my experience.

I continued to observe three meadowlarks associating with each other through at least August 23 that likely represented this same trio, although all views were distant after August 16. The last meadowlark I observed at the

airport was present on September 26; despite additional visits to the airport after this date in September and October I did not observe any meadowlarks. Meadowlark numbers peaked on September 18 when I counted 13 individuals; unfortunately looks at these birds were also distant and I did not detect any vocalizations. Meadowlark observations in Minnesota generally increase in late September through early to mid-October (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union 2018), likely reflecting southbound migrants in addition to lingering breeders. While it is possible that the group observed on September 18 comprised at least some migrants, it should be noted that on the day prior a total of seven meadowlarks were present in close proximity to the observation area, one an adult Eastern based on vocalizations and



an additional six birds (including at least four young) that were silent but similarly plumaged, suggesting local breeders.

### Meadowlark Hybridization

The presence of characteristics of both species in at least one of these individuals (confirmed by vocalizations and also possibly by plumage) leads one to consider the possibility of hybridization. Hybridization between the meadowlark species has been observed very infrequently in the wild and most often in places where they occur in sympatry; apparently the vocalizations of each species represent an effective isolating mechanism that favors pure pairings in that females recognize males of their own species but male meadowlarks will respond territorially to either species (Lanyon 1957, Szijj 1966, Rohwer 1972). However, the probability for mixed pairings likely increases in dynamic populations in which one or the other species is more numerous in a given year (Davis and Lanyon 2012).

Hybridization has sometimes been suspected in meadowlarks based on seemingly intermediate plumage characteristics, but given the variation in plumages of either species this would be virtually impossible to prove. Furthermore, the consistency of plumage features between the extremes of each species and across the species' ranges, including subspecific variation, continues to be debated and begs further research (Logan Kahle and Peter Pyle, pers. comm.), rendering futile any discussion on the identification of hybrids based on plumage. Known hybrids (based on observations of the parents) have been described as intermediate in such characteristics as the amount of white in the tail, the darkness of the eye lines and lateral crown stripes, darkness of upperparts, tertial pattern, and the amount of yellow in the malar in addition to various structural measurements (Lanyon 1966, Rohwer 1972). Lanyon (1966) correctly cautions that such features are of little use in assessing hybridization in the wild when the identification of parents is unknown.

In Minnesota, Western Meadowlarks can be found in open habitats largely associated with dry grasslands and short, treeless vegetation throughout the southern half and western third of the state in addition to more isolated areas of similar habitat in the northern half. Airports



**Figure 2. Adult meadowlark that gave primary calls of both species. Presumed Western based on plumage but both Eastern "zeert" and Western "chuck" calls given by this individual are problematic for identification to species. 16 August 2018. St. Paul, Ramsey County. Photo by Robert M. Dunlap.**

that offer extensive acreage of short grass, like the St. Paul Downtown Airport, also appear to offer favorable habitat for Western Meadowlarks in Minnesota. Eastern Meadowlarks, which even a few decades ago appeared to have been more restricted to the eastern third of the state (Roberts 1932, Minnesota Ornithologists' Union 2018), can now be found, at least in small numbers, as far west as the border with North and South Dakota. Eastern Meadowlarks seem to inhabit open areas with more trees in Minnesota and perhaps wetter grasslands in contrast to the drier, mostly treeless habitats of Western Meadowlarks. Nonetheless, there are many locations in the state where both species can be found in close proximity to each other and even co-occurring, and there is some suggestion that Eastern Meadowlarks may be replacing or displacing Western Meadowlarks as woody growth invades formerly treeless grassland expanses.

Studies of foraging distances during the breeding season of Yellow-headed (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) and Brewer's (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) blackbirds suggest typical distances traveled by individuals of

only a couple miles, with ten miles cited as a probable extreme (Williams 1952, Willson 1966, Horn 1968). Nearby breeding concentrations of Eastern Meadowlarks occur as close as just under three miles away from the St. Paul Downtown Airport, a distance suggesting the population is not significantly isolated from others of its species in the Twin Cities metro area. The nearest breeding population of Western Meadowlarks, however, is close to 16 miles south of the airport, which suggests individuals of this species may be more isolated from others of their kind at this location. Nonetheless, in an area where both species occur in sympatry with some level of relative isolation from other populations of their own species, the potential for hybridization seems greater here than at other locations in which only one species is present.

Two known hybrid pairings in which adults were identified by sight and sound, one in Quebec and the other in New York, involved a male Western paired with a female Eastern (Lanyon 1966). Both pairings resulted in at least one male offspring. Interestingly, the Quebec offspring exhibited the primary “chuck” call of a Western whereas the New York offspring developed the primary “zeert” in addition to the typical rattle call of an Eastern.

In captivity, Lanyon (1979) experimentally induced hybridization, including among 25 individuals detailed in a 1979 study that produced 44 clutches of 158 eggs. This study found that although the first generation of hybrids was fertile (not differing significantly from the offspring of pure pairings), a pairing between two hybrid offspring resulted in only 10% of eggs being fertile and complete infertility in the eggs of the surviving second-generation hybrid (Lanyon 1979). Unfortunately, this study assessed neither the plumage displayed nor vocalizations given by the hybrid offspring.

### **Vocal Variation in Meadowlarks**

On three previous occasions in Minnesota, all in 2013, I observed meadowlarks singing atypical songs. On the morning of 19 May 2013, I was among a group of observers that found a meadowlark near Woodstock Wildlife Management Area in Pipestone County that sang the typical whistled song of an Eastern for the first few minutes of observation then

gradually switched its song to a bubbly variant closer to that of a Western. A couple weeks later on the morning of June 1 near Buffalo Lake in northeastern Murray County, I heard a meadowlark singing a typical Eastern song off in the distance and played an Eastern song recording in an attempt to lure it closer. Upon doing so, the bird responded by flying in and changing its song to that of a Western as it perched in closer proximity. And then on June 18 of that year, I came across a meadowlark singing a typical Eastern song from the middle of a soybean field in central Lincoln County. As I recorded the bird singing, it abruptly changed its song to that of a typical Western; Lanyon (1957) described such birds as exhibiting “bivalent repertory”. Whereas the habitat in the earlier two observations was wetter grassland with some scattered trees, and therefore possibly conducive to attracting an Eastern Meadowlark (there were several Westerns in both locations), this final observation was particularly perplexing in that it occurred in a highly dry, vastly treeless agricultural area comprising several square miles, quite typical of where Western Meadowlarks are found in the state but not Easterns.

While meadowlarks that sing odd, intermediate-sounding, or bivalent songs may be rare (Lanyon 1957, Cody 1969, Rohwer 1972, Ordal 1974), they may simply represent individuals that have learned the songs of both species in areas where they both occur during the breeding season rather than potential hybrids. Songs in oscine passerines are largely plastic and the result of learned behaviors from their parents and sometimes their neighbors during the critical learning period (Lanyon 1966, Davis and Lanyon 2008). Due to this plasticity, studies that describe the songs of hybrid offspring of known parentage are likely of little use in assessing songs of birds with unknown parentage, although Lanyon (1966) noted the possibility of a larger repertoire and range of song frequency in hybrids relative to their parents.

Both the “chuck” call of Western Meadowlark and the “zeert” call of Eastern Meadowlark are the primary calls of the respective species. They are given when perched, and most often associated with alarm or contact (Davis and Lanyon 2008, Jaster et al. 2012). Unlike the songs of oscine passerines, calls are largely assumed to be innate, reflecting genetic makeup

(Marler 2004, Davis and Lanyon 2008). In studies of other songbirds, however, there is increasing evidence that some calls may be learned, challenging this prevailing assumption (Marler 2004).

Experiments in which juvenile meadowlarks were isolated from their own species during the critical learning period from a few weeks after hatching through their first winter did not develop meadowlark songs but instead imitated the songs of other species and retained those songs throughout life (Lanyon 1966, Davis and Lanyon 2008); such occurrences have also been documented in the wild (Bailey and Niedrach 1965, Davis and Lanyon 2008). In contrast, in an experiment in which Western Meadowlarks were isolated from their species at hatching, they nonetheless were able to develop the primary “chuck” call. A few odd cases exist of Western Meadowlarks giving the primary calls of Eastern Meadowlarks in the wild (Lanyon 1957, Szijj 1963), but the identifications of the Westerns in these cases appear to have been based on morphology and song, which I find potentially problematic given what is known about plumage variation and song learning. Szijj (1963) was apparently able to experimentally induce hand-raised young meadowlarks of either species to give the calls of both species.

Finally, whereas the songs, primary calls, and rattles of both meadowlark species are frequently used in identification and often considered diagnostic, additional vocalizations are less so and probably not of much use when attempting to separate the two species. These include a high-pitched, rising “weee” call often given in flight and various whistles (Lanyon 1957, Davis and Lanyon 2008, Jaster et al. 2012).

### Conclusions

With a dearth of studies suggesting that hybridization between Eastern and Western Meadowlark results in an intermediate song or the songs of both species given by a single individual, it seems perfectly reasonable to assume that an atypical meadowlark song is the result of being raised in a sympatric area rather than hybridization. What is more difficult to identify is the reason for an individual meadowlark, as in at least one of the individuals at the St. Paul Downtown Airport, to give

the primary calls of both species, vocalizations that are thought to be largely, if not entirely, innate. To date, I am unaware of any literature or other sources that describe an individual meadowlark in the wild giving the primary calls of both species.

Particularly confounding is that known hybrid offspring only gave the calls of one species but not both (Lanyon 1966). Thus there are two hypotheses that make sense to me, the first being that a bird that gives the calls of both species is indeed a hybrid and the second being that it is possible, as some authors have suggested, for the primary calls of meadowlarks to be learned. The implications for either hypothesis being true will unfortunately render the field identification of any individual meadowlark even more difficult than it already is.

### Acknowledgments

Thanks to Dr. Jesse Ellis who reviewed a draft of this article. Anthony Hertzler assisted in creating the spectrogram in Figure 1.

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## The 2018 Spring Season 1 March to 31 May 2018

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William C. Marengo<sup>4</sup>, and Brian T. Smith<sup>5</sup>**

This was an excellent season for shorebirds. Black-necked Stilts were discovered in seven counties and produced first records for four of them. Three Casual *Calidris* sandpipers — Ruff, Curlew, and Western — were found. At least two Barn Owls along the southern edge of the state hint that perhaps this Accidental species could become more common in future years. And probably the best bird of the season was the state's second Cassin's Finch, an unexpected surprise in the Twin Cities.

Snow and Cackling geese, along with Tundra Swans, arrived in the state at the end of the winter season, while the first Ross's and Greater White-fronted geese were reported 2 March. Four Cinnamon Teal were the most in one season since four were spotted during Spring 2002. Eurasian Wigeon provided first

records for Otter Tail and Waseca counties, and a third individual was spotted in Beltrami. The only Harlequin Duck was seen in Two Harbors for a week in early March. Surf and Black scoters were only detected in St. Louis County, with all reports coming in May. White-winged Scoters, however, began showing up in late March in several counties near the Twin Cities. They were also reported from Lake Superior in Duluth, Two Harbors, and Grand Marais, and from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The only Barrow's Goldeneye found was a female seen in late March in Fergus Falls.

Yellow-billed Cuckoos were well-represented with sightings from 35 counties, the most ever for a spring season; only in Summer 2007 were they more widespread. Yellow Rails provided first records for Redwood and Yellow Medicine counties; they were also detected on

migration in Rice and Wilkin counties.

Reports of Black-necked Stilts from seven counties represented 14 individuals. This Casual species has now been recorded in 15 spring seasons since 2000. A Ruddy Turnstone was a first record for Koochiching County. Twelve Red Knots at Park Point in Duluth was the highest tally for this species since 2002. An adult male Ruff photographed in Big Stone was the first since 2015, while a Curlew Sandpiper in Lyon County was the fourth state record of this species. Though Buff-breasted Sandpipers are Regular on an annual basis, most of them are found during their southbound migration. During the spring they are only Casual, so one in Lyon County at the very end of the season was a nice surprise. A Western Sandpiper made a brief stop at Lake Byllesby in early May, but only stayed a day. Washington County saw its first Red-necked Phalarope this season.

The season's lone jaeger, a light-morph Parasitic, was spotted in Duluth over the St. Louis River. An impressive 2,600 Bonaparte's Gulls were tallied in mid-May at Park Point. Little Gulls were reported sporadically over a two-week period in mid-May, also in Duluth. Mid-April saw a Lesser Black-backed Gull at the North Ottawa Impoundment, a first record for Grant County. Watonwan also had a new county record when its first Common Tern was reported in Madelia.

It was a good season for Red-throated Loons, with high counts of 29 on 7 May and 22 on 28 May. All reports were from Duluth, except for two sightings from Stoney Point. The state's only Pacific Loon was spotted from Park Point, also on 7 May.

Snowy Egrets showed well, with reports from a dozen counties mostly in the Central and West-central regions. A flock of 14 near Ortonville was a record high spring count for the state. The only Little Blue Heron to be found was an immature in Rock County. Cattle Egrets, seen in 18 counties, were more widespread than in any season since spring 2006.

Golden Eagles drifted north through the state later than in most spring migrations. There were late May reports of this species from the West Skyline Hawk Count and a record late bird in Becker County. A Mississippi Kite spotted at the West Skyline Hawk Count was only the fifth spring report of this species since 2000. Rough-legged Hawks were found

in every county except Koochiching, which means we simply need more observers in Koochiching County.

A security monitoring system recorded one or more Barn Owls visiting a calling, captive Barn Owl in Houston County in March and May, while another one was identified by more traditional means (eyesight) in Faribault County in April. As winter 2017–2018 had been an invasion year for Snowy Owls, it was anticipated that they would linger in good numbers during the spring season. Still, having Snowys in the state as late as 27 May in St. Louis and 31 May+ in Stearns counties was a pleasant surprise. In contrast, the prior winter's eruption of Boreal Owls ended early, as there were only three reports of this species, all from St. Louis County in March.

Both of the state's *Picoides* woodpeckers showed up within their traditional ranges, except that an American Three-toed Woodpecker also provided the first record for Roseau County since 2011. A Prairie Falcon was seen in Lyon County in late March. At the very end of the season a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher provided a first record for Blue Earth County. A Say's Phoebe discovered near Ortonville marked the 11th consecutive spring this formerly Casual species has been found in the state.

Two different White-eyed Vireos were well-documented in Rice and Carver counties. This season's southward range expansion by Common Ravens was noted by first records for Grant and Pope counties. Carolina Wrens were reported from six counties, as far north as Hennepin and as far west as Blue Earth; this was the highest tally ever for the spring season.

The only Mountain Bluebird was a beautiful adult male in Houston, a first record for that county. Townsend's Solitaires were found in twice as many counties as usual for spring, though that was still one fewer than the 11 counties where they were seen in spring 2017. For the first spring since 2014 there were no reports of Varied Thrush.

A Sage Thrasher discovered in Duluth in late May was the first for St. Louis County and a first for the state since 2009. Northern Mockingbirds were seen in ten counties, about an average number for spring. Their sighting in each of the three North Shore counties — Cook, Lake and St. Louis — was not unique as

it has happened before, most recently in spring 2004. Eurasian Tree Sparrows were found in Minnesota for the sixth consecutive spring; this season's two visitors were discovered in Maple Grove and in Duluth.

A few winter finches that initiated southward incursions during the winter persisted into the spring, including an Evening Grosbeak in Chippewa and Pine Grosbeak in Chisago County. The second state record Cassin's Finch was carefully picked out from among a group of House Finches in Edina. It had been an excellent winter for both species of redpolls and so it was not unexpected that spring records of these species would be fairly abundant. Both Red and White-winged crossbills were found in above average numbers for the spring season.

The only reports of Chestnut-sided Longspurs were from Felton Prairie; disappointingly, all were of a lone individual. It may not be too many years before this species is extirpated as a breeding species from the state. There were several reports of Smith's Longspurs, all from Lyon County.

An overwintering Spotted Towhee was seen through early April in Ramsey County, while migrants were spotted in Steele and Polk counties. Field Sparrows continued their northward expansion and were found in several extreme north counties, including a first record for Lake of the Woods. Henslow's Sparrows showed very well, with reports from 30 counties — the most ever in the spring season. The state's 15th record of Golden-crowned Sparrow was a first for Itasca County.

Three Yellow-breasted Chats, including a first record for Wright County, were the most reports in spring since four were found in 2007. An early Eastern Meadowlark was identified in Scott County by its call, while the number of reports from the Southwest continued to rise. An Orchard Oriole was a first record for Lake of the Woods County, while a record spring high count was tallied in Rock County. Only the second Great-tailed Grackle for the northern half of the state was also a first record for Grant County; Grant's neighbor, Douglas, is the only other north county with a record of this slowly expanding species, which has been reported annually in the state since 1998.

Worm-eating Warblers found in Hennepin and Rock counties marked the fourth consecutive spring this Casual species has been

recorded. A Louisiana Waterthrush in Wright County and a Blue-winged Warbler in St. Louis County were both unexpected, even if neither were first county records.

Nashville Warblers were first found in the state on the last day of April, which is five days later than the recent median south arrival for this species. Notably, however, on this date they were found in 11 different counties, at a minimum of 23 different locations! Making the story even more interesting, this date was a Monday, not a weekend. The weather of the prior two days had been quite pleasant in the Twin Cities (sunny, highs in the 50s and 60s), but strong southerly winds began in the afternoon of the 29th and continued throughout the 30th, apparently bringing in this wave of warblers.

A Kentucky Warbler was also first found on 30 April, in Rice County, where it lingered for a week; another provided a first record for Brown County at the end of the season. Hooded Warblers were more widely reported (11 counties) than in any other season. Cerulean Warblers were found in 1 north and 15 south counties. Tallies of this species have been remarkably stable over the past ten years. One can hope that these numbers reflect a somewhat stable population of these beautiful — and threatened — warblers in our state. Another Casual species, the Yellow-throated Warbler, was in Anoka County for two days in early May, while a second bird returned to the Whitewater State Park Visitor Center for the sixth consecutive season.

A total of 24 Summer Tanagers was the highest count for this species in the state since 2011; all were southwest of a line from Polk to Chisago to Houston counties, except for one in Duluth. Three Western Tanagers, in Beltrami, Carver and Washington counties, was about half the usual spring tally of this Rare Regular species in the state. Two adult male Lazuli Buntings were beautiful surprises at residences in Bloomington and Embarrass, while an immature and an adult male Painted Bunting graced homes in Steele and Olmsted counties, respectively.

*Weather:* A warm beginning to March with some temperatures in the mid 50s came to a cold conclusion as below-average temperatures descended on the state. This persistent cold spell continued into the first three weeks of

April, but then warm air returned during the last week of April and produced the warmest May on record for Duluth, the second-warmest for the Twin Cities, and the fourth warmest for the state. In fact, several locations in the state experienced a 100°+ (F) Memorial Day.

Major storms dropped significant amounts of snow in a large area of the state 4–6 March and 23–24 March. A thunder blizzard moved through the southern half of the state in several waves in mid April; by the time it had passed the storm had dropped more than a foot of snow over 20% of the state, with some areas receiving over two feet. (This storm had a significant impact on the earliest migrants that had already returned to the state.) Precipitation levels in May were near normal in most of the state, with the extreme Southeast and South-central only receiving above average amounts.

*Documented reports still under review:* Dark-eyed Junco (Pink-sided) 4/20 Lyon (Cottonwood) ph. †GWe.

*Insufficiently documented records of Regular species:* Short-billed Dowitcher 4/30 Le Sueur (early; see *The Loon* 89:160–161); Eastern Wood-Pewee 4/24 Meeker (very early); Swainson's Thrush 4/16 Hennepin, 4/20 Morrison (early; see *The Loon* 67:44–45); Bohemian Waxwing 5/3 Goodhue (out of range and late);

Savannah Sparrow 3/4 Cottonwood (early); Blue-winged Warbler 5/24 Koochiching (out of range); Black-and-white Warbler 4/20 Morrison (very early).

*Acknowledgements:* We thank Jeanie Jopru and Jim Lind for compiling and providing transcripts of Minnesota's two weekly birding reports. 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 data provided for the creation of this report by eBird (<http://www.ebird.org>, accessed June 2018). Medians of recent arrivals and departures are based on published and unpublished seasonal report data from the 25-year period 1993 through 2017. 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.

<sup>1</sup> **Minneapolis, MN;**

<sup>2</sup> **Mahtomedi, MN;**

<sup>3</sup> **Minneapolis, MN;**

<sup>4</sup> **Chaska, MN;**

<sup>5</sup> **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**] 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. Dagger “†” preceding observer's initials denotes documentation was submitted.
10. “ph.” denotes a species documented with a photograph.
11. “v.t.” denotes a species documented by video tape.
12. “a.t.” denotes a species documented by audio tape.
13. 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, 4612 Colfax Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, or via e-mail at [seasons@moumn.org](mailto:seasons@moumn.org).

- Snow Goose** (*Anser caerulescens*) — [48 South, 17 North] See winter report for earliest migrants south (median 3/5), followed by 3/2 Scott JEB and reports in 12 additional counties on 3/3. Early north (median 3/20) 3/20–27 St. Louis (max. 15) JLK, m.ob. High count 3/28 Grant (20,000, North Otawa Impoundment) EGa. Late south 5/27 Wright DWK, m.ob., 5/30–31 Big Stone (2) DLP, 5/31 Lac qui Parle StK (median 6/4). Late north 5/25 Red Lake GLa, m.ob., 5/26 Kittson (17) WCM, m.ob., 5/29 Marshall HHu (median 5/30).
- Ross's Goose** (*Anser rossii*) — [30 South, 6 North] Early south (median 3/11) 3/2 Scott JEB, 3/3 Brown (4) BTS, Freeborn (5) BDo, Olmsted (3) SHo, m.ob., Pipestone (13) VKI, Rice (3) DAB, Watonwan (2) BTS. All north 4/6 Beltrami REN, 4/19 Traverse (44) DLP, 4/22 Morrison (5) SEm, 5/16 Marshall ANy, DBz, 5/21 Red Lake JWH, RBJ, REN, 5/23–25 Roseau JPr, JJS, CAs. High counts 5/4 Freeborn (155) PEJ, 4/29 Lyon (72, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. Late south 5/14 Big Stone (4) DLP, 5/15–22 Lyon (max. 2) NMe, RJS (median 5/14).
- Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*) — [48 South, 10 North] Early south (median 2/28) 3/2 Blue Earth CHH, Cottonwood (2) LHL, Freeborn (20) ASu, Scott JEB, Steele (35) LiH, ASu. Early north (median 3/21) 3/25–28 Traverse DLP, ANy, 3/28 Douglas BEc, Grant (max. 200) WPI, EGa. High count 3/16 Jackson (11,000) PEJ. Late south 5/28–31 Watonwan KEm, m.ob., 5/30 Big Stone DLP, 5/31 Le Sueur RBW. Late north 5/15 Red Lake DBz, ANy, 5/16 Polk ANy, 5/17 Grant (26) ebd (median 5/16).
- Cackling Goose** (*Branta hutchinsii*) — [46 South, 11 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 3/17) 3/18–22 Otter Tail (2) WPI, JsS, 3/23 Morrison (8) ebd, 3/27 Traverse ANy. Descriptions provided in varying detail from 19 counties. High count 3/16 Jackson (1,007) PEJ, 3/17 Chippewa (600, Lac qui Parle S.P.) KnM, ASu, LiH, Nobles (600, Okabena Lake) KnM, ASu. Late south 5/16 Anoka (2) LBI, Cottonwood LHL, 5/19 Nobles (3) ebd, Rice (2, Lyman Lakes) ebd (median 5/13). Late north 4/30–5/2 Beltrami (5) DPJ, 5/21 Crow Wing JPr, 5/22 Clay TCL (median 5/21).
- Canada Goose** (*Branta canadensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties.
- Mute Swan** (*Cygnus olor*) — [6 South, 1 North] One north report 4/23–5/29 St. Louis (Duluth) FJN, JPR, JLK. All south (also see winter report) 3/3–5/5 Goodhue (max. 2, Lock and Dam #3) MwT, m.ob., 3/25–4/29 Hennepin (Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) MwT, m.ob., 3/27–4/17 Scott (Blue Lake W.T.P.) BAB, m.ob., 4/28 Winona (Whitewater W.M.A.) IWe, KHg, 3/4–5/31 Wright (near St. Michael) ToL, m.ob., 3/22 Yellow Medicine (Lyon/Yellow Medicine Conservation Easement) GWe.
- Trumpeter Swan** (*Cygnus buccinator*) — [51 South, 33 North] Found statewide, including 4/11 **Rock** KEm. There were several high counts of 200+ birds reported in March, but none explicitly identified why the swans were this species.
- Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) — [47 South, 30 North] Early south (but also see winter report for early spring migrants) 3/4 Chippewa (3) DLP, 3/6 Houston (50) SHO, 3/7 Washington JLe. Early north (median 3/18) 3/17 St. Louis (Duluth) RCL, 3/18 Otter Tail (2) WPI, 3/27 Traverse ANy. High count 4/7 Dakota (1800, Lake Byllesby, counted by fives) SHF, BAF. Late south 5/5 Hennepin (4) ebd, 5/5–6 Wright (max. 14) ebd, 5/10 Anoka ebd, Meeker (15) BNn (median 5/4). Late north 5/26–28 Koochi-ching JMJ, 5/27 Cook (8) ANy, BWF, 5/28 Lake of the Woods ABL (median 5/28).
- Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering individuals and early south migrants. Early north migrants beginning 3/23 Morrison (8, 2 locations) ebd, then 3/25 Traverse DLP, 3/26 Otter Tail (2) WPI. High counts 4/8 Hennepin (170, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Old Cedar Ave. Bridge) BBR, 4/5 Dakota (150, Spring Lake P.R.) BAF.
- Blue-winged Teal** (*Spatula discors*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. Early south (median 3/12) 3/17 Chippewa BDo, m.ob., Hennepin ebd, 3/21 Washington (2) GaJ. Early north (median 3/29) 3/28 Douglas BEc, 3/30 Crow Wing (2) JhH, LnH. High count 4/30 Olmsted (150, Olmsted County East Landfill) JPr.



**Cinnamon Teal** (*Spatula cyanoptera*) — [4 South, 2 North] All reports: 4/21 Dakota/Goodhue (drake, Lake Byllesby) ph. JuW, m.ob., 4/29 **Waseca** (drake) ph. †JWZ, 5/13–30 Big Stone (drake, near Ortonville) RJU, ph. GWe, ph. DLP, m.ob., 5/27–30 Marshall/Polk (drake, Agassiz Valley Impoundment) ph. HoC, ph. HHu, m.ob.

**Northern Shoveler** (*Spatula chrypeata*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported in 86 counties. See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/25) 3/19 Traverse DLP, 3/27 Otter Tail WPL, 3/28 Douglas BEC, EGa. High count 4/22 Goodhue (1,000, Lake Byllesby) EzH, m.ob.

**Gadwall** (*Mareca strepera*) — [53 South, 32 North] Reported statewide. See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/16) 3/4 Douglas (4) BEC, Otter Tail (3, Fergus Falls) WPL, 3/5 Beltrami DPJ, REN. High count 3/17 Chippewa (300, Lac qui Parle S.P.) KnM, ASu, LiH.

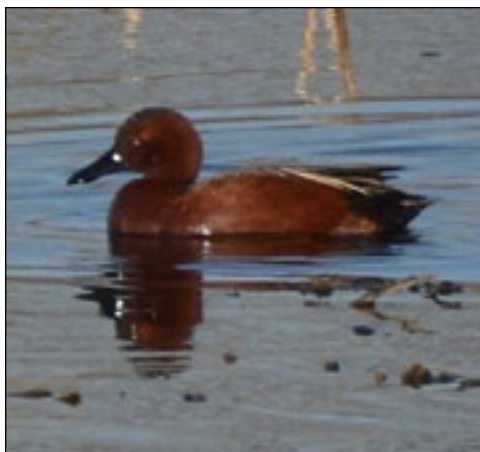
**EURASIAN WIGEON** (*Mareca penelope*) — [1 South, 2 North] All reports: 4/15 **Otter Tail** (drake on Otter Tail River, Fergus Falls) ph. †WPL, 4/27–28 Beltrami (drake, Sunnyside Pond, five miles ESE of Bemidji) ph. †REN, m.ob., 4/28 **Waseca** (drake near Waseca) ph. †IsH, †EzH, ph. †PRH, †REN, m.ob.

**American Wigeon** (*Mareca americana*) — [52 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/1) 3/3 Le Sueur RBW, BHe, 3/3–4 Nobles JWH, KEm, m.ob., 3/3–5 Scott (2) DGu, m.ob., 3/4 Renville KEm, 3/5 Rice TFB. Early north (median 3/26) 3/29 Douglas RBJ, RBW, 4/12–13 St. Louis (2) JLK, m.ob. High count 4/11 Lyon (65, Lone Tree Lake) GWe.

**Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. High counts 4/15 Lyon (5,400, along the Redwood River and surrounding fields) GWe, 4/7 Dakota (5,000, in Vermillion, conservative estimate) BAF, SHF.

**American Black Duck** (*Anas rubripes*) — [21 South, 8 North] High count 4/3 St. Louis (23, Park Point) JLK. Late south 5/7 Meeker (2) PKF, 5/9 Freeborn ebd, 5/10 Hennepin (2) ebd, Lyon KRE (median 5/21).

**Mallard X American Black Duck** (*Anas*



**Cinnamon Teal, 29 April 2018, Waseca County. Photo by Julie Winter Zempel.**

*platyrhynchos* X *A. rubripes*) — [1 South, 1 North] Two reports: 3/15 Hennepin CMB, 5/28 Pennington BAB.

**Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) — [49 South, 24 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north (median 3/16) 3/4 Otter Tail WPL, 3/5–6 St. Louis BEA, JLK, JPR, 3/25 Traverse DLP. High count 4/23 St. Louis (336, Enger Tower) JPR, FJN.

**Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*) — [53 South, 32 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/25) 3/25 Clay PBB, 3/28 Traverse DLP, 4/2 Otter Tail (2) WPL. High counts 4/30 Yellow Medicine (85, Cottonwood) GWe, 4/10 Dakota (80, Lake Byllesby) KDS.

**Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*) — [52 South, 26 North] See winter report for early south migrants and an overwintering north individual. Early north (median 3/28) 3/27 St. Louis (3 on Silver Lake where 1 overwintered) NPo, 4/11–12 Douglas (max. 4) ToR, RAE, Grant (max. 20) RAE, CRM, m.ob. High count 3/25 Wabasha (1,200) SHo.

**Redhead** (*Aythya americana*) — [51 South, 32 North] See winter report for early spring migrants. Continuing south from winter were 3/2 Goodhue (3, Red Wing) SHF, BAF. Early north (median 3/20) 3/4–18 Otter Tail (3) WPL, 3/19 Traverse DLP, 3/23 Douglas (max. 36) KyP, BEC. High count 3/27 Washington (500, Hazen P. Mooers Park) EzH,

- JHh, PNI.
- Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported from 86 counties. See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/16) 3/8–22 Douglas BEC, 3/18 Otter Tail (6) WPI, 3/19 Traverse DLP. High count 3/27 Washington (2,000, Hazen P. Mooers Park) EzH, JHh.
- Greater Scaup** (*Aythya marila*) — [46 South, 26 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/30) 3/25 Crow Wing LnH, JhH, PSP, 4/1 St. Louis BEA, 4/5 Otter Tail (2) JTa. High counts 4/23 Lake (100, Gooseberry Falls S.P.) DED, 5/7 St. Louis (100, Leif Erikson Park) JDx, CIN. Late south 5/15 Stearns (3) ebd, 5/17 Sibley HCT, m.ob., 5/17–21 Rice (Dennison W.T.P.) GHo (median 5/18). Late north 5/26 Beltrami RAE, 5/28 St. Louis (3) JLK, 5/30 Douglas (5) ASu (median 6/2).
- Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*) — [53 South, 33 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/13) 3/4 Otter Tail (6) WPI, 3/13 Douglas (3) AaL, 3/17 St. Louis ebd. High count 4/29 St. Louis (2,200, Park Point) NWN.
- Ring-necked Duck X Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya collaris* X *A. affinis*) — [1 South, 1 North] Two reports: 4/10 Goodhue (male, Lake Pepin) †PEJ, 5/15 Mille Lacs (male, Lake Onamia)†PEJ.
- Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus bistrionicus*) — [1 North] Only reported 3/3–10 Lake (Two Harbors, Agate Bay) SBE, ASu, LiH, DEL.
- Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) — [1 North] All reports 5/1–19 St. Louis (max. 2, Park Point) BEA, m.ob.
- White-winged Scoter** (*Melanitta fusca*) — [5 South, 3 North] All south 3/24 Anoka (Mississippi River) DEL, 3/24 Anoka/Hennepin (Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) DEL, 3/24–25 Sherburne/Wright (male, Babcock Park) ph. ToL, m.ob., 4/22 Dakota (female, Lake Byllesby) EzH, m.ob. All north 3/11–4/11 Lake (Two Harbors) DWK, m.ob., 4/15–5/24 St. Louis PHS, m.ob., 5/8 Cook (6, Grand Marais) DOR. 5/28 Lake (Kawasa-chong Lake) MGi. High count 5/14 St. Louis (20, Park Point, total of three groups) CIN.
- Black Scoter** (*Melanitta americana*) — [1 North] All reports 5/13–28 St. Louis (max. 2, Duluth) JPR, GJa, JLK.
- Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*) — [1 South, 3 North] One south report 3/15 Anoka BLC. All north reports 3/3–5/22 St. Louis (max. 80 on 3/16, Duluth, EEO), 3/3–5/26 Lake (max. 55 on 3/30 Two Harbors JCa), 3/11–5/28 Cook (max. 174 on 4/29 Grand Marais LGr).
- Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/22) 3/5–19 Beltrami DPJ, REN, 3/18 Otter Tail WPI. High count 4/21 Goodhue (600, Lake Byllesby) AJF. Late south 5/26 Anoka (2) ebd, 5/27 Rock (2) KEm, Stearns MtS (median 5/31).
- Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*) — [52 South, 31 North] High counts 3/10 Wabasha (2,800) PEJ, 4/17 Stearns (1,800, estimated by 10s, River Bluffs R.P.) MJB. Late south 5/12–13 Anoka ebd, 5/18–20 Wright ToL (median 5/12).
- Bufflehead X Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala albeola* X *B. clangula*) — [1 South] One report 3/25 Goodhue (drake, Sturgeon Lake) †PEJ.
- Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*) — [1 North] One north report 3/27 Otter Tail (female, Riverside Park, Fergus Falls) ph. WPI.
- Common Goldeneye X Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula* X *B. islandica*) — [1 South] One south report 3/25 Goodhue (drake, Sturgeon Lake) †PEJ.
- Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [53 South, 33 North] See winter report for overwintering and early south migrants. Early north (median 3/11) 3/4 Otter Tail (2) WPI, 3/14 Crow Wing (2) DMz, 3/17 St. Louis (max. 3) FJN, RCL, JLK. High count 3/27 Washington (200, Hazen P. Mooers Park) EzH, JHh.
- Common Goldeneye X Hooded Merganser** (*Bucephala clangula* X *Lophodytes cucullatus*) — [2 South] Two south reports 4/16 Hennepin GBU, 4/24 Blue Earth CHH.
- Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*) — [53 South, 26 North] High count 3/28 Goodhue (362, Lake Byllesby) DnS, MWS. Late south 5/20 Anoka ebd, Faribault BAB,

- 5/30 Sherburne ebd (median 5/21).
- Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*) — [48 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/4) 3/3 Wabasha ebd, 3/4 Chippewa DWK, 3/10–12 Hennepin (Lake Rebecca P.R.) ebd, JBs. Overwintered widely Lake Superior; probable first north migrants (median 3/31) 3/29 Douglas BEC, 3/31 Itasca (8) TCL. High counts 4/30 St. Louis (127, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR. Late south 5/15 Washington ebd, 5/19 Sherburne (2) ebd, 5/25 Hennepin (2) ebd (median 5/24).
- Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) — [52 South, 21 North] Early south (median 3/8) 3/4 Nobles BAB, 3/10 Blue Earth JWg, Wabasha PEJ, 3/11 Lac qui Parle HHD, RAE. Early north (median 3/29) 4/8 Morrison BWF, 4/12 Grant RAE, m.ob., 4/14 Otter Tail NaH. High count 4/23 Goodhue (900, Lake Byllesby) PEJ.
- Gray Partridge** (*Perdix perdix*) — [15 South, 4 North] Most reports south of the Minnesota river or in the western third of the state. High counts 3/2 Rice (10) TFB, 3/23 Marshall (6) JHs.
- Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*) — [53 South, 22 North] Reported south of a line from Beltrami to Pine, plus St. Louis. High count 4/12 Lyon (38, Lone Tree Lake) GWe.
- Ruffed Grouse** (*Bonasa umbellus*) — [12 South, 29 North] Found throughout normal range, essentially northeast of a line from Polk to Fillmore. Spring drumming counts were down 29% in 2018 (MN DNR).
- Spruce Grouse** (*Falciennis canadensis*) — [3 North] All reports: 3/2–17 Lake (max.7) ASu, m.ob., 4/25–5/14 St. Louis BHo, LSh, 5/18 Itasca SC.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) — [2 South, 13 North] Two south reports: 3/26–4/28 Lac Qui Parle (max. 5, Big Stone N.W.R.) DLP, m.ob., 4/1–5/28 Yellow Medicine (max. 7, Mound Spring Prairie S.N.A.) WCM, KeL, ASu, LiH, m.ob. High counts 4/1 Polk (50, Euclid) ebd, 3/10 Polk (48, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) MSS. Additional north reports from Aitkin, **Grant** (3/24, 12 individuals at the North Ottawa Impoundment, ph. WPl), Kittson, Koochiching, Lake, 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, Polk, Red Lake, Wilkin, including high counts 4/21 Clay (50, Bluestem Prairie S.N.A.) ebd, 4/8 Wilkin (45, Rothsay W.M.A.) JOs.
- Sharp-tailed Grouse** × **Greater Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus phasianellus* × *T. cupido*) — [1 North] One north report 5/7 Wilkin ph. SKS.
- Wild Turkey** (*Meleagris gallopavo*) — [51 South, 30 North] Reported as far north as Kittson, Koochiching, St. Louis. High count 3/27 Nicollet (82) JWg.
- Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. Early south (median 3/7) 3/1–20 Hennepin DWK, m.ob., 3/19 Scott RCo. Early north (median 3/24) 3/21 Otter Tail WPl, 3/22 Itasca SC, 3/25 Crow Wing JnP. High count 4/21 Hennepin (89, Mississippi River Lock and Dam #1) DSh.
- Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*) — [44 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/24) 3/18 Sherburne PLJ, 3/26 Kandiyohi RAE, 3/28 Anoka/Hennepin (Coon Rapids Dam) DEL, Winona DBz. Early north (median 4/5) 4/16–21 St. Louis JLK, 4/21 Morrison (8) SEm, FGo, Otter Tail (3) WYr, and from six additional counties on 4/22. High count 5/2 St. Louis (1,642, counted from 3 locations along Park Point and St Louis Bay) JLK. Late south 5/17–29 Hennepin CMB, m.ob. (median 5/23). Late north 5/27–29 Pennington Gla, LS, m.ob. (median 6/8).
- Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) — [37 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/2) 4/8–10 Washington (Point Douglas Park) ebd, DWK, 4/10 Goodhue PEJ, 4/10–11 Hennepin (max. 5) DEL, WFe. Early north (median 4/7) 4/12–13 St. Louis JPR, BEA, JLK, 4/15–16 Otter Tail DFe. High count 5/13 St. Louis (219, Park Point) NWN.
- Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*) — [25 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/10–12 Hennepin (max. 6, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) DWK, m.ob., 4/12 Scott MSw. Early north (median 4/20) 4/12 Grant RAE, m.ob., 4/15 Clay PBB, 4/21 Morrison FGo. High counts 5/6 Lac qui Parle (25, Salt Lake) ASu, LiH, 5/20 Polk (22, East Grand Forks W.T.P.) SAu.

- Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) — [29 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/24 Blue Earth ChH, m.ob., Rice TFB, 4/25 Faribault (Wells W.T.P.) 4/25–26 Anoka MAJ, RMD, m.ob., and from Brown, Carver, Hennepin on 4/26. Early north (median 4/20) 4/24 Polk SAu, 4/25 Otter Tail JsS, 4/27 Grant (2) MO. High count 5/22 Grant (40, North Ottawa Impoundment) ASu.
- Clark's Grebe** (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) — No reports.
- Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High count 3/1 Ramsey (800, Fish Hatchery Lake) LiH.
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) — [51 South, 17 North] Found in most counties southwest of a line from Roseau to Chisago. High counts 4/16 Stevens (11) AaL, 3/31 Lyon (10) GWe.
- Mourning Dove** (*Zenaida macroura*) — [53 South, 33 North] Found statewide. High counts 4/1 Chisago (23) JSa, 5/3 Crow Wing (22) JLA, 5/21 Nobles (22, Lake Bella) DAK,
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*) — [29 South, 6 North] Early south (median 5/15) 5/8–15 Ramsey DSh, LiH. 5/13 Washington DSh. All north 5/22 Grant ASu, LiH, 5/24 Morrison SEm, 5/25 Red Lake CRM, m.ob., 5/27 Douglas JPE, 5/28 Becker WPl, 5/31 Itasca RyS. High counts 5/26 Steele (4, Somerset Twp.) PSu, 5/27 Rock (4, Blue Mounds S.P.) LiH.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) — [24 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/7 Washington JLe, 5/9 Meeker PKF, 5/10 Anoka RCl. Early north (median 5/16) 5/17 Douglas RAE, 5/18 Becker PBk, Clearwater DMz, m.ob., and from Clay, Crow Wing, Kanabec, Otter Tail on 5/20. High counts 5/26 Cass (5, Deep Portage Learning Center) JSt.
- Common Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles minor*) — [43 South, 26 North] Early south (median 5/3) 4/24 Anoka DPG, 4/28–5/1 Hennepin CRM, JmM, 5/2 Dakota DEv, Olmsted JPr. Early north (median 5/11) 5/10–11 Morrison (max. 2) KEm, SEm, Otter Tail (2) JsS, 5/14 Aitkin PEJ. High counts 5/22 Anoka (50, Old Game Farm Rd.) ebd, 5/16 Hennepin (35, Normandale Lake Park) DGu.
- Eastern Whip-poor-will** (*Antrostomus vociferus*) — [14 South, 10 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/30 Kandiyohi DOr, JoS, 4/30–5/2 Washington (3) LMS, m.ob., 5/2 Hennepin ebd, Wright ToL. Early north 5/2–8 Crow Wing PSP, m.ob., 5/9 St. Louis (2) SLF. High count 5/4 Washington (5, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) ASu, LiH.
- Chimney Swift** (*Chaetura pelagica*) — [51 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/22–23 Hennepin KvB, RTu, 4/26 Rice JhB, 4/27 Washington BDo. Early north (median 5/2) 4/25 Otter Tail (2) ebd, 5/1 Carlton ebd, St. Louis (8, W.S.H.C.) FJN, m.ob., 5/3 Crow Wing (2) JhH. High count 5/22 Dakota (1,000, Rosemount Middle School) MWT.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Archilochus colubris*) — [48 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/25 Stearns FGo, 5/1 Dakota ebd, 5/1 Goodhue PEJ, Mower RJW, Olmsted JPr, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/5) 5/5 Becker ebd, Todd SDi, 5/6 Clay KaS, Grant PPe, 5/6 Morrison SEm, Otter Tail WPl. High count 5/29 Lake (20, Wolf Ridge E.L.C.) ebd.
- Yellow Rail** (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) — [3 South, 3 North] All south 4/26 Rice TFB, 5/2 **Redwood** (flushed during a prescribed burn) BRB, 5/28 **Yellow Medicine** (Fortier Twp.) ASu. All north 5/7 Wilken (Rothsay) SKS, 5/24–28 Aitkin (high count 3, McGregor Marsh) ASu, KiH, JmP, 5/25 Roseau (Roseau River W.M.A.) CAS.
- Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*) — [44 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/14) 4/22 Hennepin ASa, EzH, IsH, Washington ebd, Wright ToL. Early north (median 5/1) 5/2 St. Louis JLK, 5/3–5 Crow Wing (2) EGa, ABi, 5/5 Morrison SEm, Traverse CRM, m.ob. High count 5/6 Dakota (5, 140th St. Marsh) MWT.
- Sora** (*Porzana carolina*) — [50 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/7 Scott BBr, 4/22 Blue Earth ASu, LiH, Fillmore JWH, KEm, SHo, Jackson ASu, LiH. Early north (median 4/23) 4/29 Crow Wing ebd, 5/1 Crow Wing (different location) EGa, 5/1 Wadena RAE, 5/2 Douglas GLa, CRM, Morrison FGo. High count 5/6 Dakota (16, 140th St. Marsh, heard and seen) MWT.
- Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) — [7 South] All south 4/30–5/6 Cottonwood (C.R. 16, Mountain Lake) JuJ, m.ob., 5/5–

12 Wabasha (2, Whitewater W.M.A.) JWH, m.ob., 5/6 Hennepin (Bass Ponds) KRo, 5/8 Wright (Albion W.M.A.) HHD, ToL, 5/12–21 Chippewa KRE, m.ob., 5/13–15 Freeborn (Arrowhead Point C.P.) RAE, HHD, 5/22 Cottonwood (Bat Lake) DAk, 5/26–28 Sherburne (Big Bluestem Pool) JCC, RCL.

**American Coot** (*Fulica americana*) — [53 South, 31 North] Overwintered in Goodhue and Scott. Early south migrants (median 3/1) 3/1 Hennepin DWK, 3/3 Nobles BAB, 3/4 Chippewa DWK. Early north (median 3/23) **3/4** Douglas (Goose Park) BEc, Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) WPI, 3/25 Clay (Lake Fifteen) PBB, Traverse DLP. High counts 4/28 Lac qui Parle (3,000, Big Stone N.W.R.) MwT, 4/26 Dakota (2,000, Big Rivers Overlook) BBr.

**Sandhill Crane** (*Antigone canadensis*) — [48 South, 34 North] First south migrants appeared in February in 5 counties. Early north (median 3/17) **3/3** Morrison (2, Pondrosa) SEm, 3/4 Wadena FGo, MJB, 3/5 Douglas (5) BEc. High counts 4/25 Becker (153, Fig Lake) ShG, HeH, 3/19 Olmsted (120, Silver Creek Reservoir) JoP.

**BLACK-NECKED STILT** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) — [6 South, 1 North] One north report 5/4–12 Grant (1, North Ottawa Impoundment) BMu, ph. †WPI, m.ob. All south reports 5/4–5 **Olmsted** (max. 4, South Landfill Reservoir) ph. LHv, m.ob., 5/5 **Swift** (5, Murdock W.T.P.) †HCT, 5/18 **Nicollet** (2, 701st St./C.R. 21) †RBW, RAE, MiO, 5/18 **Watowan** (320th St., Madelia) ph. †DFe, 5/18 Lyon ph. NMe, ph. GWe, 5/27 Wright (Pelican Lake) ph. ToL, m.ob.

**American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) — [18 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/15) 4/11–13 Lyon NMe, RJS, 4/20 Big Stone (max. 3) DOr, m.ob. Early north (median 4/29) 4/18 Clay TCL, 4/19 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) WPI, REEn. High counts 5/1 Lyon (**72**, 160th St., near Balaton) ph. GWe. First county record 4/23 **Beltrami** DPJ, ph. REEn.

**Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*) — [13 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/30–5/4 Yellow Medicine (Cottonwood) GWe, 5/3–4 Cottonwood (max.3) RAE, HHD, LHL, 5/4 Lyon (Lone Tree Lake) GWe. Early north (median 5/16) 5/8–16 St.

Louis (2, Park Point) NWn, JLK, KCo, 5/14 Norman (2) DBz, ANY, 5/16 Becker NaH, Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) RJS. High counts 5/22 Grant (12, North Ottawa Impoundment) WPI, ASu, 5/21 St. Louis (11, Park Point) JPR. Late south 5/28 Steele JCC, m.ob., 5/30 Yellow Medicine GWe (median 6/7). Late north 5/29 St. Louis GJa, 5/30 Traverse (2) ASu (median 6/5). See summer report for latest migrants statewide.

**American Golden-Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*) — [28 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/5) 4/7 Rock ASu, LiH, 4/22 Cottonwood ASu, LiH, Dakota (4) KDS. Early north (median 5/5) 4/28–5/16 Grant (max. 5, North Ottawa Impoundment) ToR, RJS, m.ob., 5/19 St. Louis NWn. JWz. High counts 5/1 Redwood (280, north of Sanborn.) WCM, 5/18 Big Stone (86, west of Graceville) HCT. Late south 5/28–31 Redwood DWK, RBW, 5/28 Steele JWH, m.ob., Wright MJB, m.ob., 5/29 Dodge RBW (median 6/8). Late north 5/27–28 St. Louis (max.2) JPR, JWd, 5/31 Marshall (3) ebd.

**Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) — [37 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/22–24 Dakota/Goodhue (max. 2) m.ob., 4/25 Kandiyohi RBW, and in Brown, Fillmore, Lac qui Parle on 4/28. Early north (median 5/8) 4/28 Becker NRa, 4/29 Grant (2) ASu, LiH, 4/30 Crow Wing HHD. High count 5/10 Lyon (48, Lone Tree Lake) PCC. See summer report for late migrants statewide.

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

**Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from all 87 counties. Early migrants in 7 south counties in the last week of February (median 3/1). Early north (median 3/15) 3/22 Douglas BEc, 3/23 Todd TLU, 3/23–24 Morrison KnM, m.ob., 3/24 Cass DoH. High counts 4/17 Nicollet (100) ChH, 3/28 Redwood (38) NMe.

**Upland Sandpiper** (*Bartramia longicauda*) — [18 South, 9 North] Early south (median 4/26) 5/2 Yellow Medicine (6) WCM, 5/3 Big Stone DLP, Cottonwood (2) RAE. Early north (median 5/3) 5/5 Clay BCo, Traverse CRM, m.ob., 5/6 Grant CRM, m.ob., Polk SAS, St. Louis ebd. High count 5/20 Clay (9, Felton Prairie) LiH. Notable report:

- 5/28 **Steele** DAB, KEm.
- Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*) — [4 North] No south reports. Reported north in St. Louis from 5/13 (3) FJN through 5/31 DyL, but also see summer report. Also found north 5/19 Lake (6, Two Harbors) JCa, 5/22 Grant (11, North Ottawa Impoundment) DBz, ANy, m.ob., 5/26 Red Lake (4, gravel pit in extreme southwest corner of county) *fide* JMJ, m.ob. High count 5/20 St. Louis (28, Park Point R.A.) HHD, RAE.
- Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) — [18 South, 7 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/12 Rock HHD, 4/20–22 Big Stone DOr, m.ob., 4/22 Nicollet BAB. Early north (median 5/13) 4/21–22 Grant WPL, REn, 5/14 Clay DBz, ANy, Norman DBz, ANy. High counts 5/3 Big Stone (8, Hwy 75 & C.R. 4) CRM, 5/10 Lyon (7, Lone Tree Lake.) PCC, 5/19 Big Stone (6, C.R. 28) PEB. Late south 5/22 Stevens RAE, ASu, 5/25 Lyon (2) GWe, 5/29 Kandiyohi (2) JwD (median 5/31). Late north 5/21–25 Red Lake (near Plummer) REn, m.ob., 5/25 Roseau CAs, 5/28 Grant JmP (median 5/31).
- Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*) — [18 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/12) 4/20 Big Stone (6) DOr, ASu, LiH, Jackson KEm, Lac qui Parle DLP. Early north (median 4/12) 4/19 Grant (14) REn, 4/20 Polk REn, Wilkin BAn. High counts 5/28 Clay (24, Felton Prairie) ebd, 5/16 Wright (18) ToL.
- Ruddy Turnstone** (*Arenaria interpres*) — [16 South, 15 North] Exceptional season for this species. Early south (median 5/11) 5/4 Faribault PEJ, 5/5–7 Lyon (southwest of Marshall) NMe, m.ob. 5/9–15 Lyon (Lone Tree Lake) RJS, m.ob. Early north (median 5/14) 5/12 St. Louis JfD, ClN, 5/14 St. Louis JDx, KCo. High counts 5/21 **Nobles** (31, Worthington; one of the highest counts away from Lake Superior) DAK, 5/25 Crow Wing (18, Garrison) RPR. Notable record 5/18–27 **Koochiching** (rice paddies, Shooks Twp.) DBz, ANy, m.ob. Late south 5/29 Washington PNi, 5/30 Stearns HHD, PCC (median 6/1). Late north 5/31 Hubbard REn, Marshall ebd (median 6/4). Also see summer report for late migrants north and south.
- Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) — [2 North] All north 5/18 St. Louis (12, Park Point R.A.) STK, 5/21 St. Louis (1, Park Point, Dune Bridge) JPR, 5/26–27 Cook (Naniboujou Lodge) ph. †DFN, ANy, BWF, 5/30 St. Louis (location?) FGo, BAB, 5/31 St. Louis (1, mouth of Miller Creek) ArL, m.ob., (2, Minnesota Point) ebd. Also see summer report.
- RUFF** (*Calidris pugnax*) — [1 South] An adult male was the first record in three years 4/25 Big Stone (Artichoke Twp.) ph. †DLP.
- Stilt Sandpiper** (*Calidris himantopus*) — [26 South, 8 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Carver ANy, 5/1–5 Kandiyohi SGA, m.ob., 5/2–3 Meeker MJB, BNn. Early north (median 5/14) 5/12 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) WPL, 5/14 Todd (3) JLK, 5/17 Grant (2, North Ottawa Impoundment) WCM. High counts 5/21 Nobles (11, Worthington) DAK, 5/22 Otter Tail (11, C.R. 15 and 150th St.) ANy, 5/19 Kanabec (10, Grass Lake Twp.) SPS. Late south 5/30 Lyon GWe, 5/31 Blue Earth (3) RAE, RBW; also see summer report (median 6/4). Late north 5/26–28 Koochiching EzH, JMJ, m.ob., 5/28 Grant JmP, 5/30 Traverse ASu (median 6/1).
- CURLEW SANDPIPER** (*Calidris ferruginea*) — [1 South] An adult male in alternate plumage was the fourth state record 5/8–9 **Lyon** (Lone Tree Lake) ph. †GWe, ph. †NMe, †RMD, †EzH, ph. IsH, †Ren.
- Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) — [15 South, 10 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/5 Wabasha REn, m.ob., 5/5–9 Lyon (max. 24) VKI, m.ob., 5/6 Watonwan (20, Madelia) ASu, LiH. Early north (median 5/11) 5/5–14 Grant GJa, KRE, m.ob., 5/14 Morrison FGo, St. Louis KCo, JDx, Todd JLK. High count 5/19 St. Louis (48, Park Point R.A.) JuW. See summer report for late migrants both north and south.
- Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) — [38 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/16) 4/22 Watonwan ANy, DBz, 4/23 Dakota PEJ, 4/24 Dodge RBW, BAb. Early north (median 5/10) 4/19–29 Grant (max. 15, North Ottawa Impoundment) REn, m.ob. High counts 5/18 Wright (196, Pelican Lake) RCL, 5/21 Lyon (approx. 150, Marshall) GWe. See summer report for late migrants statewide.
- Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*) — [24 South, 11 North] Early south (median 4/5) 3/29 Yellow Medicine (13) GWe, 4/12 Rock HHD, 4/21 Dakota AJF. Early north (median 4/27) 4/20 Grant RAE. First north reports



Red Knot, 26 May 2018, Cook County. Photo by David F. Neitzel.

away from Grant: 4/30 Todd (4) TLu, 5/1 Morrison FGo. High count 5/7 Lyon (140, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. Late south 5/30 Big Stone ASu, Dakota JPr, Lyon GWe, Yellow Medicine GWe (median 6/3). Late north 5/26–28 Koochiching (2, near Northome) EzH, IsH, DOr, MJB, 5/28 Grant JmP, 5/30 Traverse ASu (median 6/2). Also see summer report for late migrants north and south.

**Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*) — [48 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/21 Scott BHe, 4/22 Lyon (2) GWe, 4/23 Kandiyohi (2) RAE. Early north (median 5/4) began with numerous reports from Grant starting 4/20 LiH, ASu; other north reports starting 4/29 Douglas JPE, 5/2 Morrison FGo. High count 5/10 Lyon (735, Lone Tree Lake.) PCC. See summer report for late migrants statewide.

**White-rumped Sandpiper** (*Calidris fuscicollis*) — [34 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/25 Renville RBj, ASu, LiH, 5/1

Dakota PEJ, 5/2 Redwood HHD. Early north (median 5/14) 5/1 Morrison FGo, 5/4–5 Grant BMu, GJa, 5/9 Crow Wing JLK. High count 5/30 Lyon (122, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. See summer report for late migrants statewide.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (*Calidris subruficollis*) — [1 South] Single bird observed 5/30 Lyon (Lone Tree Lake) ph. GWe.

**Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) — [48 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/1) 3/24 Yellow Medicine GWe, 3/30 Ramsey ASu, LiH, 4/11 Houston ASu. Earliest north reports (median 4/14) were from North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant 4/20 ASu, LiH; subsequent north reports 4/23 Crow Wing (6) JhH, LnH, 4/24 Pine KrM. High count 5/7 Lyon (265, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. See summer report for late south migrants. Late north 5/27 Koochiching (2) EzH, REn, m.ob., Marshall NWi, 5/28 Polk SAu, 5/30 Traverse (2) ASu (median 6/6), but also see summer report.

- Semipalmated Sandpiper** (*Calidris pusilla*) — [41 South, 22 North] Early south (median 4/16) 4/11 Big Stone DLP, 4/21 Scott (7) BHe, 4/24 Dakota BAB. Early north (median 5/4) reports from North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant starting 4/20 ASu, LiH, m.ob.; first report away from this location 5/5 Traverse KRE, CRM, m.ob. High counts 5/24 Stearns (111, total from Getchell Lake and Albany W.T.P.) PCC, 5/9 Lyon (100, Lone Tree Lake) ISH, EzH. See summer report for late migrants north and south.
- WESTERN SANDPIPER** (*Calidris mauri*) — [1 South] A single bird was discovered 5/1 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) †PEJ.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus griseus*) — [26 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/29) 5/1 Meeker TNe, 5/2 Faribault WAF. Early north (median 5/12) reports starting 5/1 Morrison (2) DO, FGo, 5/4 Grant BMu. High count 5/8 Lyon (45, Lone Tree Lake) NMe. Late south 5/28 Redwood DWK, Sibley DWK, Wright MJB, EzH, m.ob. (median 5/31). Late north 5/26–27 Koochiching (2) EzH, MJB, m.ob., 5/28 Grant (2) JmP (median 5/27). **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*) — [25 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/22 Lyon (2, southwest of Cottonwood) GWe, 4/24 Lyon (2, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) RJS, 4/30 Lyon (24, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, Waseca RAE. Early north (median 5/6) 4/30 Wadena ANy, 5/1–5 Morrison (max. 4) FGo, m.ob., 5/2 Todd TLu. High counts 5/1 Carver (68, total from two locations along S.R. 25) ANy, JWZ, 5/3 Cottonwood (55, Talcot Lake State W.M.A.) LHL. Late south 5/16 McLeod BHA, 5/19 Kandiyohi (2) JWD, 5/22 Stevens RAE (median 5/19). Late north 5/14–15 Morrison FGo, 5/17 Grant (3) ebd, m.ob.
- American Woodcock** (*Scolopax minor*) — [42 South, 24 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/19 Rice TFB, 3/23 Hennepin JmN, Houston (2) KnM, ASu, LiH. Early north (median 3/26) 3/23 Becker ebd, 3/26 Cass BEc, 3/31 Morrison KEm. High counts 5/5 St. Louis (13, Birch Lake Road) NLM, 5/3 Washington (10, William O'Brien S.P.) BDO, 5/13 Anoka (10, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) ELC, RMD.
- Wilson's Snipe** (*Gallinago delicata*) — [51 South, 33 North] Probably overwintering were individuals 3/3–5 Hennepin ASu, LiH, m.ob., 3/4 Scott KvM, CAs. Early south migrants (median 3/22) 3/23 Olmsted (7) LiH, KnM, ASu. Early north (median 3/31) 4/21 Morrison SEm, St. Louis (2) ebd, 4/22 Clay TCL. High count 4/11 Houston (53, Reno Twp.) ASu.
- Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularius*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/22 Yellow Medicine GWe, 4/23 Dakota JLA, Meeker ebd, Mower SWm. Early north (median 4/29) 4/30 Crow Wing HHD, Morrison ANy. High counts 5/25 St. Louis (24, Park Point R.A.) JLK, 5/12 Wright (21, Pelican Lake) RCL.
- Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*) — [48 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/18) 4/22 Dakota LEC, SOa, Houston KEm, SHo, JWH, 4/23 Brown ARW, Scott BHe. Early north (median 4/29) 4/23 St. Louis StK. First north reports away from St. Louis 4/30 Morrison FGo, 5/1 Carlton (2) ebd, Douglas ToR. High counts 5/6 Dakota (10, Rosemount) MwT, 5/9 St. Louis (10, Western Waterfront Trail) JfD. Late south 5/22 Goodhue DAT, Stevens ASu, 5/29 Stearns REn (median 6/1). Late north 5/30 Traverse (3) ASu, 5/31 Crow Wing ebd (median 6/2), but also see summer report for later north migrants.
- Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/29) 3/22 Lac qui Parle DO, 4/4–11 Houston SHo, m.ob., 4/11 Lyon (4) GWe, NMe, Winona ASu. Earliest north reports (median 4/6) were from Grant 4/19–24 (North Ottawa Impoundment, max. 20) REn, m.ob.; subsequent north reports 4/21 Hubbard REn, 4/22 Mille Lacs ABL. High count 5/7 Lyon (415, Lone Tree Lake) GWe. Late south 5/30 Lyon GWe, Yellow Medicine (2) GWe (median 6/8). Also see summer report for another late south and many late north migrants.
- Willet** (*Tringa semipalmata*) — [29 South, 13 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/22 Cottonwood ASu, LiH, Lyon NMe, 4/24 Big Stone DLP. Early north (median 4/30) **4/20–22** Grant ASu, LiH, m.ob., 4/24 Otter Tail NaH, 4/30 St. Louis (3) CLN, m.ob.



High counts 5/1 Blue Earth (**104**, total from two separate flocks) ChH. Late south 5/23 Ramsey DnS, 5/25 Lyon (2) GWe, 5/28 Stearns PCC (median 5/28). Late north 5/25 Grant MO, Red Lake CRM, m.ob., Roseau CAs (median 6/1).

**Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*)

— [51 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/24) 3/23–26 (C.R. 21) Houston KnM, m.ob. 4/6–7 Houston (max. 9, Reno Twp.) ASu, LiH, m.ob., 4/10 Cottonwood LHL, Lyon GWe, Scott (2) RiC. Early north (median 4/7) 4/12–21 Grant (max. 32) RAE, m.ob. 4/21 Crow Wing (2) LnH, Hubbard (2) REn, St. Louis (3) StK, Wadena (3) PJB. High count 5/6 Watonwan (70, Madelia) ASu, LiH. Late south 5/28 Lac qui Parle (2) DLP, Rock GWe, ASu, Stearns PCC (median 6/3). Late north 5/28 Grant ebd, Pennington NaH, GLa, Polk GLa, 5/30 Traverse (5) ASu (median 6/2).

**Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*)

— [37 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/22–25 Lyon (max. 2) GWe, m.ob., 4/23 Lac qui Parle DLP, 4/25 Big Stone DLP. Early north (median 4/29) 4/20 Polk REn, 4/29 Clay (2) ToL, 5/1 Cass REn, Morrison (3) DOr, Polk SAu, Todd (2) RAE. High counts 5/2 Lac qui Parle (71, Pegg Lake/Yellow Bank S.N.A.) WCM, 5/6 Lac qui Parle (60, Salt Lake) ASu, LiH.

**Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*)

— [14 South, 12 North] Early south (median 5/12) 5/5 Stearns (3) SEm, 5/6 Lac qui Parle ASu, LiH, 5/9 Lyon MJB, m.ob. Early north (median 5/17) 5/14 Otter Tail *fide* JMJ, 5/16 Grant (max. 12) RJS, WPl, Kittson DBz, ANy. High counts 5/28 Lyon (42, Russell) GWe, 5/14 Lac qui Parle (25, Salt Lake) JH. Notable record 5/24–25 **Washington** (Pioneer Drive Reservoir) SPS, m.ob. Late south 5/31 Lac qui Parle StK, but also see summer report (median 6/3). Late north 5/27 Marshall WCM, m.ob., Pennington (max. 19) KRE, m.ob., 5/29 Pennington LS, 5/30 Traverse (2) ASu (median 6/2).

**Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)

— [1 North] A light-morph adult was seen 5/23–25 St. Louis (mouth of Miller Creek) JLK, m.ob.

**Bonaparte's Gull** (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*)

— [52 South, 29 North] Early south

(median 4/1) 4/9–10 Dakota DVE, MiT, 4/11 Faribault (3) BAY, Lyon NMe, GWe, Rice (3) DAB. Early north (median 4/12) 4/20–22 Grant (max. 14) LiH, ASu, m.ob., 4/21 Morrison FGo, 4/22 Clay TCL, Kanabec ABL. High counts 5/16 St. Louis (2,600, counted by 10s, Park Point R.A.) KRE, JLK, 5/7 St. Louis (2,005, Park Point R.A.) JLK. Late south 5/18 Washington (3) ebd, 5/19–22 Pope (max. 3) VKI, m.ob., 5/20 Hennepin ebd (median 6/1). Late north 5/29 Pennington LS, St. Louis (13) JLK, 5/30 Traverse ASu, 5/31 Crow Wing (4) JnP (median 6/14). Also see summer report for more late migrants statewide.

**Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*)

— [1 North] All reports were of adults from Duluth in St. Louis County: 5/4 (Park Point R.A.) TRd, 5/7 (Leif Erikson Park) CLN, JDx, 5/12 (2, Park Point R.A.) LiH, CLN, ASu, 5/13 (W.S.H.C.) JPR, m.ob., 5/16 (Western Waterfront Trail) JLK.

**Franklin's Gull** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*)

— [33 South, 22 North] Early south (median 3/25) 3/24 Ramsey (2) BBR, 3/28 Hennepin JBs, 3/29 Rice TFB. Early north (median 4/9) 3/28 Grant EGa, 4/18 Clay TCL, 4/21 Grant (10) EGa, 4/22 Otter Tail GO, Polk (17, East Grand Forks) SAu, (2, Brandt-Angus Impoundment) JCJ. High counts 5/26 Lyon (108, Sham Lake) GWe, 5/19 Polk (94, Tilden Twp.) ebd.

**Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*)

— [53 South, 33 North] See winter report for early south migrants. Early north migrants (median 3/9) 3/2 Lake (2) JIB, ABm, 3/3 St. Louis ASu, LiH, 3/4 Lake (14) ASu, LiH, St. Louis (2) BEA. High count 4/10 Dakota (10,000, Spring Lake) DnS, m.ob.

**Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*)

— [42 South, 26 North] Overwintered north; early south migrants appeared in February. High counts all from the Knife River Marina in Lake County: 5/1 (590) SLL, JWL, 3/10 (580) JLK.

**Iceland Gull** (*Larus glaucooides*)

— [1 South, 1 North] All south 4/11 Winona ASu. Overwintered in St. Louis and Lake. High counts 3/27 St. Louis (2, adult and third-cycle at W.S.H.C.) CLN, JDx. Latest north 4/21 St. Louis (adult, W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN. No explicit reports to the subspecies level.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*)

— [4 South, 2 North] All south 3/27–31 Wi-

- nona (presumed third-cycle, Lake Winona) ph. DBz, ph. JPr, m.ob., 4/11 Rice (King Mill Dam) DAB, m.ob., 4/12–15 Winona (third-cycle, Lake Winona) EzH, ph. IsH, m.ob., 4/13–15 Winona (first-cycle, Lake Winona) ph. DBz, 4/29 Isanti (adult, C.R. 8) ANy, 5/4–5 Stearns (third-cycle, Millwood Twp.) MJB, †PCC, m.ob. All north 4/17 **Grant** (North Ottawa Impoundment) HHD, RAE, 5/12 St. Louis (Interstate Island W.M.A.) ASu, LiH, 5/19 St. Louis (adult, Superior Entry) NWn, 5/27–28 St. Louis (adult, Duluth) CIN, JPR.
- Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*) — [2 South, 1 North] Overwintered north along the North Shore, with high count 3/27 St. Louis (5, W.S.H.C.) FJN, m.ob. Late north 4/21 St. Louis (2, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, 4/23 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN, 5/16 St. Louis (imm., W.S.H.C.) FJN (median 4/27). All south 3/3 Dakota (Lake Rebecca P.R.) DVe, 4/15 Ramsey (flying over Chatham Open Space) LiH.
- Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) — [1 North] All reports were of singles in Duluth, St. Louis County, beginning 3/3 (mouth of Lester River) ASu, LiH, except for 3/21–22 (2 adults, Duluth Port Terminal) KnM, ASu, FJN. Late north 4/10 (adult, W.S.H.C.) FJN, and then over a month later an adult was found 5/27 (W.S.H.C.) ph. EBr.
- Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) — [29 South, 21 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/23–26 Hennepin (max. 4) WFe, m.ob., 4/26 Dakota MwT, Ramsey (3) DnS, MWS. Early north (median 5/1) 4/24 St. Louis BMu, StK, 4/29 Hubbard REn, Morrison ANy. High counts 5/17 Scott (90, Prior Lake) BHe, 5/5 Cass (81, Longville W.T.P.) ebd.
- Black Tern** (*Chlidonias niger*) — [40 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/30) 5/1 Blue Earth CHH, Scott (3) RiC, 5/2 Lac qui Parle WCM, Olmsted JWH, m.ob. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Grant (3) GUn, 5/11 Otter Tail (2) WPI, Polk (3) SAu. High counts 5/13 Lac qui Parle (**1**, **100**, Big Stone N.W.R.) KRE, 5/14 Lyon (350, Sham Lake) StK, 5/21 Yellow Medicine (116, Miedd Lake) GWe.
- Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) — [23 South, 19 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/28–5/1 Hennepin (max. 12) ADi, m.ob., 5/2 Olmsted (max. 6) JmP, JoP. Early north (median 5/2) 5/4 St. Louis TRd, 5/5 Otter Tail RTo. High counts 5/22 St. Louis (580, Superior Entry) KRE, 5/19 St. Louis (300, Park Point R.A.) StK. Notable record 5/9 **Watowan** (3, Madelia) ANy. Late south 5/28 Olmsted (4) MiD, Scott BHe, Sibley (5) RBW, m.ob., 5/30 Sherburne (2) ebd (median 6/1).
- Forster's Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*) — [47 South, 25 North] Early south (median 4/10) 4/18 Hennepin JMn, 4/20 Benton HHD, BEA, Lac qui Parle (4) DOr, (5) ASu, LiH, Lyon GWe, Stearns HHD. Early north (median 4/19) 4/20–23 Grant RAE, m.ob., 4/23 Beltrami DPJ, m.ob. High counts 5/8 Redwood (34, Westline W.M.A.) WCM, 5/7 Carver (29, Lake Waconia) WCM.
- Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) — [1 North] All reports were from St. Louis County where first found (median 5/8) 4/17 (Stoney Point) JWL, 4/29–5/2 (2, Park Point Nature Trail) NWn, 5/2 St. Louis (1, Park Point) JLK. High counts 5/7 (29, Park Point, Beach House) JPR, JDx, CIN, 5/22 (22, Park Point R.A.) JLK. Last reports 5/26 (2) RBW, KSz, 5/27 (3) JWd, 5/28 (22) JLK (median 6/12). Reports continued into the summer season.
- Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) — [1 North] Only report 5/7 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) JDx, JLK, CIN, JPR.
- Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*) — [49 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/18 Wabasha LiH, KnM, ASu, 3/20 Anoka ebd, Hennepin DEL. Early north (median 3/28) 4/4, 4/11 St. Louis (Canal Park) ebd, m.ob., 4/12 St. Louis (Brighton Beach) JPR, 4/13 Becker ShG, HeH, Pine (2) KrM. High counts 4/22 Washington (**298**, Afton Marina) DnS, m.ob., 4/23 Washington (200, Wolf Marina) JEc.
- Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/14) 3/9–10 (max. 2) Ramsey BAF, 3/16 Kandiyohi RAE, 3/17 Dakota (3) ebd, Goodhue KDS, Pope AaL, Stearns (2) AaL. Early north (median 3/30) 3/26–4/12 Otter Tail (max. 70) WPI, m.ob., 4/12 Grant (max. 14) CRM, m.ob., St. Louis (max. 10) JLK, m.ob. High counts 5/26 Meeker (870, Pigeon Lake) PLJ, 4/23 Washington (600, Wolf Marina) JEc.

- American White Pelican** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) — [53 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/16) 3/13 Hennepin (7) GVa, 3/14 Freeborn RBW, 3/17 Big Stone DLP, Swift (4) KnM, ASu, LiH, Wabasha (24) CBv. Early north (median 4/4) 4/11–12 Douglas (100) CRM, m.ob., 4/12 Clay (28) NKu, Grant RAE, (10) CRM, Morrison (35) NMe, Polk (2) NKu. High counts 4/6 Houston (1,200, Lawrence Lake) SHo, 4/30 Pope (1,000, Brooten) DOr.
- American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) — [44 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/10 Rice TFB, 4/12 Hennepin ebd, Ramsey ebd. Early north (median 4/17) 4/25 Aitkin EGa, 4/28 Pine JCC, 4/30 Lake of the Woods ebd. High count 5/13 Anoka (14, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) RMD, ELC.
- Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*) — [15 South, 9 North] Early south (median 5/11) **5/5** Olmsted (Kalmar Reservoir) ASu, LiH, Wabasha (4, season high count, Whitewater W.M.A.) ASu, LiH, 5/6 Jackson DAK, m.ob. All north 5/11–13 Otter Tail JsS, 5/12–13 Clearwater (Itasca S.P.) ebd, 5/16 Polk ebd, 5/22–28 Grant (max. 2, North Ottawa Impoundment) LiH, 5/26 Beltrami RAE, HHD, 5/28 Cook (Grand Portage W.T.P.) ANY, BWF, Marshall NWi, JCI, 5/30 Traverse ASu, 5/31 Cass HHD.
- Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) — [53 South, 31 North] Reported from all counties except Lake of the Woods, Norman, and Wilkin. Overwintered south in several counties. Early north (median 3/18) 3/20 Clearwater CoC, 3/22 Crow Wing (2) DMz, 3/23 Morrison ebd. High counts 5/9 Washington (90, Stillwater) JLe, 4/19 Hennepin (70, Marshall Terrace Park) GrS.
- Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) — [49 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/22) **3/10** Blue Earth JWg, 3/23–24 Hennepin MwT, m.ob., 3/25 Anoka ebd. Early north (median 4/1) 3/27 Crow Wing JhH, m.ob., 4/11–12 Otter Tail (max. 16) JsS, 4/12 Clay HeH, ShG, Douglas CRM, m.ob., Grant (max. 12) CRM, m.ob. High count 5/5–7 Otter Tail (150, Grotto Lake) ebd.
- Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) — [10 South, 2 North] All south 4/28–29 Lac qui Parle (Louisburg) BrT, m.ob., 5/1 Big Stone (3, Otrey Twp.) DLP, Hennepin (2, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) DGu, Watonwan, (Fieldon Twp.) ph. BTS, 5/3–23 Big Stone (south of Ortonville; max. **14**, season high count, on 5/9–10 FGo, DLP) CRM, m.ob., 5/8 Meeker (2, Grove City) JWd, m.ob., Redwood (2, Westline W.M.A.) WCM, 5/10–11 Lac qui Parle (Dawson) PRH, m.ob., 5/19 Nicollet (C.R. 21) RBW, m.ob., 5/25 Lyon (Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 5/26 Big Stone (Hillman North W.P.A.) ASu, DLP, 5/28 Stearns (Albany W.T.P.) PCC, m.ob., 5/30 Pope (Blue Mounds W.P.A.) ASu. All north 4/22 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) WPL, m.ob., 4/25 Otter Tail (2) LYg, 5/25 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) MO.
- Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) — [1 South] Only reports: 5/26–29 Rock (immature, Luverne) ph. LKt, ph. †KEM.
- Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) — [15 South, 3 North] All south 5/1 Lyon (375th St.) GWe, Redwood (2) BRB, 5/2 Lac qui Parle (U.S. 212 and 231st Ave.) WCM, Steele (Owatonna) PSu, m.ob., 5/3 Chippewa (Gneiss Outcrop S.N.A.) RZi, 5/3–4 Rice (max. 4, Faribault) DAB, m.ob., 5/5–6 Dakota (140th St. Marsh) GHo, m.ob., Jackson (Christiania W.P.A.) DAK, m.ob., Olmsted (Rochester) JmP, m.ob., 5/6 Lac qui Parle (Salt Lake) ASu, LiH, 5/6–8 Freeborn (C.R. 10) ANY, m.ob., 5/7 Brown (Milford Twp.) MiO, 5/9 Washington (165th St.) BRL, m.ob., 5/10 Yellow Medicine (Granite Falls) GWe, 5/11–12 Lac qui Parle (3, Rosen) KRE, m.ob., 5/12 Lyon (2, Cottonwood) GWe, m.ob., 5/18–19 Big Stone (C.R. 7) DLP, m.ob., 5/19 Nicollet (C.R. 23) ChH, APi, 5/26 Big Stone (12, season high, Hillman North W.P.A.) ASu. All north 5/4 Otter Tail (Grotto Lake) PSP, 5/9 Wilkin (Campbell) SDi, 5/25 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) MO.
- Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) — [47 South, 24 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/22 Goodhue DnS, MWS, Hennepin ebd, 4/23 Chisago HHD, RAE. Early north (median 5/2) 4/30 Pine KrM, 5/2 Morrison FGo, 5/3 Carlton FKB, Crow Wing (max. 2) PSP, EGa. High counts 5/16 Hennepin (7) CMB, 5/19 Washington (6, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) GJa.
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) — [26 South, 6 North] Early south (median 4/1) 4/17 Big Stone DLP, 4/17–22 Hennepin (max. 4) CMB, m.ob.,

- 4/22 Nicollet BAB. Earliest north reports (median 4/17) all from Fergus Falls in Otter Tail County starting **3/28** WPL. High counts 5/9 Otter Tail (12, Grotto Lake) JSS, 4/30 Hennepin (10, Veterans Memorial Park) SBM.
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nyctanassa violacea*) — No reports.
- White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [9 South, 3 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/20 Big Stone (11) DOR, 4/22–25 Lac qui Parle (max. 11) ebd, DLP, RAE, 4/28 Jackson JJu, Lac qui Parle (2, Bellingham) JST, KeL, KSz. Late south 5/21 Lyon (2) NMe, GWe, Watonwan (max. 9) BTS, m.ob., 5/23 Jackson †KEm. All north 4/26 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) *fide* JMJ, 4/29 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) ASu, LiH, 5/3 Clay (Ulen Twp.) HeH, ShG. High count 5/9 Big Stone (19) FGo.
- Plegadis ibis** (*Plegadis chibi*) — [3 South] Three records: 5/5 Stearns †PCC, 5/6 Yellow Medicine TAT, 5/16 Faribault WAF.
- Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/7) 3/3 Fillmore SPS, Mower SPS, 3/4 Freeborn DBz. Early north (median 3/24) 3/26 Pine KrM, 3/27 St. Louis FJN. Peak movement north in late April, as documented by high counts 4/23 St. Louis (**343**, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, 4/20 St. Louis (300, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, 4/21 St. Louis (272, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR.
- Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) — [42 South, 29 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/25–4/2 Winona ebd, DBz, 4/3 Anoka DFe, 4/4 Stearns MtS. Early north (median 4/1) 4/13 Douglas CRM, SBE, Morrison (2) SEm, Pine KrM. High counts 5/2 St. Louis (38, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, 4/30 St. Louis (37, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR.
- Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — [21 South, 6 North] South reports in March and early April from 19 counties; last reports 4/19 Kandiyohi (2) SGa, 4/24 Meeker PKF, 5/13 Winona ABL (median 4/20). Frequent north reports throughout March with peak northbound movement in mid March and last reports 5/14 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, **5/22** St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) FJN, **5/26** Becker ABL (median 5/4). Numerous tallies of multiple birds including a record high northbound count 3/16 St. Louis (**25**, 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 3/10) 3/1 Pine KrM, 3/3 Becker ebd, 3/9 Clay MO, Otter Tail *fide* JMJ. High count 4/24 Polk (18, total from Rydell N.W.R., Glacial Ridge N.W.R., Red Lake Falls, and Lost Forty S.N.A.) REN.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*) — [44 South, 24 North] Reported south and north from the beginning of the season. High counts 5/2 St. Louis (353, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, 5/3 St. Louis (317, W.S.H.C.) FJN.
- Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*) — [53 South, 27 North] Early north (median 3/13) 3/3 Otter Tail JSs, 3/4 Morrison MJB, Todd FGo. High counts 4/20 Swift (7, Appleton) DOR, 4/19 St. Louis (5, W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN.
- Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — [3 South, 10 North] All south 3/1–4/1 Hennepin (Brooklyn Park) RCo, m.ob., 3/11–4/19 Hennepin (Bloomington) DEL, 4/5 Blue Earth (Bethany Hawkwatch) BHW, 5/1 Meeker PKF. Unusual north report 3/9 **Clay** (Elkton Twp.) MO; also found north in Roseau, Clearwater, Beltrami, Itasca, Aitkin, Morrison, Pine, St. Louis, Lake.
- Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county. High counts 4/11 St. Louis (375, W.S.H.C.) FJN, 4/19 St. Louis (306, W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) — [1 North] Only report: 5/26 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) †FJN.
- Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) — [32 South, 12 North] Most reports from the Southeast, East-central, and Central regions. Probable earliest north migrants appeared in February. Notable records 3/23 **Yellow Medicine** (Miedd Lake) GWe, 4/2 **Brown** (Eden Twp.) BTS, 4/11 **Pipestone**(Pipestone N.M.) KDS.
- Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*) — [44 South, 28 North] Early south (median 4/7) 4/11 Carver ebd, Faribault WAF, 4/12 Blue Earth BHW. Early north (median 4/11) 4/21 Crow Wing LnH, 4/22 Polk SAU, 4/23 Hubbard (3) REN, Pine KrM, St. Louis (61) JPR, FJN. Peak north movement in the first week of May, as documented by high counts at the W.S.H.C. in St. Louis County: 5/3 (**4,169**) FJN; 5/2 (3,253) FJN, JPR; 5/1

- (2,433) FJN, JPR; 5/5 (2,248) FJN.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*) — [25 South, 5 North] Early south (median 4/3) 4/10 Renville RJS, 4/16 Blue Earth (3) BHW, 4/23 Rock DBz, ANy. Early north (median 4/19) 4/20 Grant FGo, SEm, 4/21 St. Louis (2) JPR, FJN, 4/23 St. Louis FJN, JPR. High counts 4/16 Blue Earth (3) BHW, 5/2 Clay (3, near Felton) TCL.
- Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in all 87 counties. High counts 4/11 St. Louis (440, W.S.H.C.) FJN, 4/20 St. Louis (337, W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN, 4/23 St. Louis (337, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR.
- Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*) — [53 South, 33 North] High counts 4/7 Polk (123, Glacial Ridge N.W.R.) JCJ, SAu, 4/23 St. Louis (62, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR. Late south 5/7 Pipestone MKo, LKo, 5/12 Sherburne JGb, 5/14 Lac qui Parle JH (median 5/9). Late north 5/25 St. Louis (2) FJN, 5/26 Kittson KRE, m.ob., 5/27 Cook ebd (median 5/25).
- BARN OWL** (*Tyto alba*) — [2 South] Documented 3/18+ **Houston** (Perkins Valley) a.t. †KAB and 4/11–16 **Faribault** †WAF.
- Eastern Screech-Owl** (*Megascops asio*) — [16 South] No north reports. Scattered reports all south of a line from Lac qui Parle to Washington. Two individuals noted as gray morphs, four as red morphs.
- Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*) — [48 South, 22 North] Reported throughout the season and state. Adults on nests or with newly fledged young in 2 north and 11 south counties.
- Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*) — [15 South, 15 North] High count 3/15–22 Hennepin (4, Cargo Road) ebd, DWK. Late south 4/25–26 Kandiyohi JWd, 5/18 Sherburne RCz, 5/29–31 Stearns PCC, m.ob. (median 4/4). Late north 4/20 Polk LnT, 5/10–12 Red Lake *fide* JMJ, 5/27 St. Louis (Port Terminal) MFu (median 4/20).
- Northern Hawk Owl** (*Surnia ulula*) — [3 North] Reported north in St. Louis from Sax-Zim Bog through 3/21 m.ob. Additional north reports 3/8 Itasca SC, 3/9 Clearwater TCL.
- Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*) — [39 South, 23 North] Found in almost every county north-east of a line from Faribault to Marshall, and also 3/3 **Nobles** BAB, 5/10 Jackson (Kilen Woods S.P.) BDo.
- Great Gray Owl** (*Strix nebulosa*) — [8 North] Found in Lake of the Woods, Hubbard, Cass, Itasca, Aitkin, Koochiching, St. Louis, Lake.
- Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) — [9 South, 6 North] Late south 4/12 Hennepin BAF, m.ob., 4/17 Ramsey VBC, 4/22 Yellow Medicine GWe. Also found south in Blue Earth, Carver, Dakota, Goodhue, Sibley, Wright. All north 3/11 St. Louis (Sax Zim Bog) CLN, 3/26 Cass BEc, 4/6 Crow Wing JLA, 4/13 Todd TLu, 4/22 St. Louis (Duluth) FJN, 4/30 Otter Tail ANy, 5/25 Roseau CAs.
- Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) — [13 South, 9 North] Found south in Brown, Hennepin, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Le Sueur, Nicollet, Pipestone, Pope, Rice, Steele, Swift, Wright, Yellow Medicine; only report after April was 5/6 Lac qui Parle ASu, LiH. All north 4/4 Lake JPR, 4/12 Aitkin SC, 4/17 Grant (North Ottawa Impoundment) RAE, 4/19–20 Wilkin BAn, 4/21 Grant NaH, 4/23 St. Louis (Park Point R.A.) StK, 4/26 Pennington *fide* JMJ, 4/27 Becker (Hamden Slough N.W.R.) NRa, 4/28 Clay ebd, 5/17 Becker (Hellicksen Prairie W.P.A.) Sch, 5/25 Roseau CAs, 5/31 St. Louis (Duluth) PHS.
- Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) — [1 North] Irruption from the winter season lasted into the spring with all reports from St. Louis: 3/4 (Sax Zim Bog) ph. JDB, ACr, 3/11 (Chester Creek) JGz, 3/17 (Sax-Zim Bog) LNL.
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*) — [14 South, 7 North] Regularly reported south early in the season, with last reports 4/21 Hennepin JBu, BBd, 4/21–22 Benton HHD, m.ob. North reports from Morrison, Crow Wing, Kanabec, Itasca, St. Louis, Lake, Cook.
- Belted Kingfisher** (*Megasceryle alcyon*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early north (median 3/24) 3/25–29 Morrison MJB, m.ob., 3/28 St. Louis ebd, 3/30 Crow Wing PSP. High count 4/23 St. Louis (6, W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN.
- Red-headed Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) — [45 South, 22 North] Earliest south reports (median 4/12) had been overwintering: 3/1 Houston (4) SHO, 3/1–3 Anoka LKt, ASL, DNS, though 3/6 Meeker BNn is more difficult to classify. Early north (median 4/25) 4/4 Cass (east of Pillsbury)

- BEc, 4/17 Pine KrM, 4/26 Morrison SEM. High count 5/21 Anoka (11, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve) ebd.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes carolinus*) — [51 South, 27 North] Found statewide, though fewest reports from the Northwest. High counts 3/14 Ramsey (12, Crosby Farm R.P.) ebd, 5/10 Carver (12, Rapids Lake Education & Visitor Center) DgM.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/25 Faribault WAF, 4/1 Carver WCM, Hennepin (2) ClB. Early north (median 4/2) 4/12 Grant CRM, m.ob., 4/14 Douglas BEc, 4/15 Cook JaJ, Lake SL, JWL. High count 4/25 Beltrami (18, Lake Bemidji S.P.) KCo.
- American Three-toed Woodpecker** (*Picoides dorsalis*) — [3 North] All reports included (max. 3) birds from winter still feeding in St. Louis at the Warren Nelson Memorial Bog) through 4/23; also 3/19 St. Louis (Morse Twp., north of Mitchell Lake) MPi, 3/25 Roseau *fide* JMj, 5/5 St. Louis (5, Owens Twp.) DMK, JuG, (3, Field Twp.) JuG, 5/27 Koochiching RAE, HHD.
- Black-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides arcticus*) — [8 North] Reported from Clearwater, Hubbard, Cass, Itasca, Koochiching, Aitkin, St. Louis, Lake. Many reports of up to three individuals.
- Downy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates pubescens*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported from every county but Roseau. High count 4/26 Ramsey (20, St. Paul) ebd.
- Hairy Woodpecker** (*Dryobates villosus*) — [52 South, 33 North] Found statewide. High count 4/23 Hennepin (10, Lake Harriet) CWB.
- Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early north (median 3/26) 4/19 Otter Tail REEn, 4/21 Grant REN, Todd (7) TLu. High count 4/26 St. Louis (586, Park Point R.A.) StK.
- Pileated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus pileatus*) — [47 South, 32 North] Reported statewide. High count 5/15 Douglas (6, Lake Carlos S.P.) MLk.
- American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early north (median 3/8) 3/8 Mille Lacs HHD, 3/9 Morrison JnP, Otter Tail JsS, 3/11 Morrison FGo, Otter Tail JsS. High counts 4/24 Polk (8) REEn, 4/29 St. Louis (8, W.S.H.C.) FJN.
- Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*) — [40 South, 27 North] Early north (median 3/13) 3/6 Polk SAu, 3/8 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) FJN. High counts 4/20 St. Louis (15, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, 4/21 St. Louis (7, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, 4/29 St. Louis (7, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR. Probable late south migrants 5/13 Cottonwood JSc, BTS, MiO, 5/20 Faribault WAF (median 5/18).
- Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) — [37 South, 17 North] Overwintered south, and Duluth in the north. Early south migrants (median 3/12) 3/2 Winona HHD, RAE, 3/3 Goodhue PEJ, 3/4 Nicollet ChH. Early north away from Duluth (median 3/23) 3/5 Itasca MKo, LKo, 3/25 Crow Wing PSP, 3/29 Lake JLK. High counts 3/27 St. Louis (5, W.S.H.C.) FJN, 5/14, 5/16 Sherburne (5) PLJ.
- Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — [1 South] Only report 3/23 Lyon †GWe.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) — [50 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/30) 4/24 Meeker PKF, 4/28 Olmsted SHk, 4/29 Fillmore DSh. Early north (median 5/7) 5/8–9 Pine SBE, 5/11 Clearwater HHD, RAE. High count 5/10 Carver (12, Rapids Lake Education & Visitor Center) DgM.
- Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*) — [13 South, 11 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/7 Benton HHD, Lyon GWe, 5/8 Benton FGo, Lincoln GWe, 5/9 Yellow Medicine ASu, LiH. All north 5/8 Clay KaS, 5/11 Crow Wing JLA, Traverse DFN, 5/16 Becker JCJ, SAU, 5/17 Roseau DBz, ANy. High count 5/25 Lake of the Woods (11) AXH.
- Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/26) 5/1 Faribault KEEn, Hennepin ebd, 5/2 Blue Earth STa, Dakota GHo, Houston DBz, Olmsted MiD, Scott RiC, Washington ebd. Early north (median 5/7) 5/8 Clay CMk, Hubbard REEn, Itasca SC, Otter Tail JsS, St. Louis JuG, ClN, JLK. High counts 5/9 Otter Tail (18, Grotto Lake) JsS, 5/10 Carver (18, Rapids Lake Education & Visitor Center) DgM.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) — [1 South] Only report, a new

- county record: 5/31 **Blue Earth** (570th Ave. north of 280th St.)TPu, †DAB, m.ob.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) — [36 South, 25 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/5 Hennepin ebd, 5/8 Washington GaJ, and then also in Carver, Freeborn, Pipestone, Rice, Sherburne on 5/9. Early north (median 5/13) 5/10 Clay CMk, 5/12 Otter Tail WPl, 5/13 Morrison BDo. See summer report for late south migrants (median 6/11).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) — [50 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/1 Meeker PKF, 5/6 Cottonwood ASu, LiH, Ramsey MK, Wright ebd. Early north (median 5/12) 5/11 Clay ebd, 5/12 Hubbard ebd, 5/13 Clay (different location from 5/12) ebd, 5/16 Beltrami SBE, Grant CNn. High counts 5/22 Anoka (12, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) JH.
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) — [29 South, 18 North] Reported with identification notes from 10 south and 2 north counties. Early south (median 5/13) 5/8 Steele PSu, 5/9 Ramsey TAn, 5/10 Hennepin CMB, MZa. Early north (median 5/21) 5/17 Pine KrM, 5/20 St. Louis BHo. High counts 5/19 Steele (4, Somerset Twp.) PSu, 5/20 St. Louis (4) BHo. Late south 5/26 Sherburne JCC, 5/26–27 Steele PSu, but see summer report (median 6/6). **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*) — [13 South] Reported with identification notes from 4 south counties. Rare reports 5/19 **Stearns** (Stumpf Lake) RPR, 5/29 **Anoka** (Rice Creek Chain of Lakes R.P.) RMD. Early south (median 5/16) 5/14 Rice TFB, 5/16 Rice NiR, 5/19 Stearns RPR. High count 5/16 Rice (5, Cannon River Wilderness Area) NiR.
- Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) — [37 South, 28 North] Reported with identification details from 15 south and 6 north counties. Early south (median 5/16) 5/9 Scott RiC, 5/11 Carver JCy, 5/16 Rice NiR, Washington GJa. Early north (median 5/21) 5/18 Pine JCC, 5/22 Grant ANy, DBz, 5/24 Lake DFN. High count 5/26 Steele (7) PSu.
- Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) — [36 South, 7 North] Reported with details from 18 south counties, but none in the north. Early south (median 5/10) 5/8 Washington DFN, 5/9 Lyon NMe, Rice JiP, Washington DFN, 5/10 Dakota SWe, Ramsey DTr. High counts 5/21 Sherburne (4, Sherburne N.W.R.) ebd, 5/27 Waseca (Blowers C.P.) PSu.
- Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) — [53 South, 32 North] Reported with details from 20 south and 6 north counties. Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Hennepin CMB, Steele PSu, 5/2 Rice JCa. Early north (median 5/9) 5/1 Crow Wing EGa, Grant ANy, Lake JWL, 5/4 Clay MO. High count 5/11 Carver (36) JCy.
- Empidonax flycatcher** (*Empidonax atriceps*) — [28 South, 8 North] The earliest *Empidonax* found this season was left unidentified: 4/29 Swift (Marsh Lake Dam) BBr, ebd.
- Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) — [51 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/21) 3/31 Dakota CMB, Hennepin ebd, Le Sueur DWK, Rice TFB, Washington GJa. Early north (median 3/30) 4/13 Morrison SEm, 4/17 Todd TLU, 4/21 Crow Wing JLA, Morrison FGo, Otter Tail NaH, St. Louis LAT. High counts 4/29 Fillmore (14, Choice W.M.A.) DSh, 5/11 Lyon (11, Independence Park, Marshall) IVa.
- Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) — [1 South] One report 5/21 Big Stone (Ortonville Ravine) ph. DLP.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) — [13 South, 7 North] Early south (median 3/24) 4/10 McLeod RJS, 4/11 Kandiyohi TLU, 4/17 Sibley MGi. Early north (median 4/13) 4/19 Grant REN, 4/23 St. Louis StK, 4/25 Otter Tail ebd, 5/12 Todd AaL; rare north report 5/18 **Lake** (Two Harbors) REN. No counts of more than two individuals.
- Northern Shrike** (*Lanius borealis*) — [37 South, 23 North] High count 3/4 St. Louis (6, Sax-Zim Bog) REN. Late south 4/18 Hennepin TAT, JcM, Stearns PCC, 4/19 Washington BDo (median 4/9). Late north 4/19 Douglas JsS, ToR, Polk SAu, St. Louis JLK, 4/20 Otter Tail JsS, Polk REN, 4/23 Lake ebd (median 4/19).

- WHITE-EYED VIREO** (*Vireo griseus*) — [2 South] All south 5/7 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum, Upper Arboretum) ph. †NiR, 5/23–24 Carver (Carver P.R., Grimm Farm) †JCy, †EzH, a.t. †IsH, m.ob.
- Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) — [6 South] Reports from Dakota, Hennepin, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha and Washington. Early south (median 5/15) 5/16 Dakota LiH, Olmsted LAV, Rice TFB, 5/18 Olmsted JmP, Wabasha DBz.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) — [49 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/2 Houston DBz, Jackson KEm, Washington DSh, 5/3 Hennepin CMB, BKA, SBM. Early north (median 5/9) 5/7 Pine KrM, 5/8 Itasca SC, Pine SBE, 5/9 Kanabec AyC, St. Louis JPR. High counts 5/13 Goodhue (10, Frontenac S.P.) ASu, LiH, 5/20 Clay (9, Buffalo River S.P.) LSI.
- Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) — [41 South, 26 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/29 Dakota STo, Rice JiP, Wright RCl, and also in Carver, Hennepin, Olmsted, Ramsey LiH on 4/30. Early north (median 5/4) 5/1 Itasca SC, Pine KrM, 5/2 Cass BEc, Clay ShG, HeH. High counts 5/8 Rice (8, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum, Upper Arboretum) JhB, 5/9 Carver (7, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. Late south 5/27 Carver LAl, 5/30 Goodhue GJM, Washington ebd (median 6/2).
- Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) — [37 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/7) 5/6 RockVKI, 5/7 Rice ShG, HeH, Stevens JfI, and also in Dakota, Hennepin, Olmsted, Washington on 5/8. Early north (median 5/14) 5/16 Becker NaH, Polk ebd, 5/17 Douglas RAE, St. Louis ArL. High counts 5/18 Yellow Medicine (11, Miedd Lake) GWe.
- Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) — [51 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/26 Waseca JSP, 4/30 Hennepin ebd, 5/1 Hennepin CMB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/1 Crow Wing FGo, 5/7 Traverse HCT, 5/11 Todd JLK. High counts 5/8 Hennepin (18, Westwood Hills N.C.) ASu, 5/20 Clay (15, Felton Prairie) ASu.
- Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 5/6) 5/2 Rice JBu, 5/3 Mower SWm, 5/4 Wright RCl. Early north (median 5/10) 5/3 Lake (Silver Bay) JJB, 5/9 Douglas BEc, 5/11 Itasca SC, Morrison FGo. High count 5/27 Koochiching (30, county-wide) IsH, EzH, REN.
- Canada Jay** (*Perisoreus canadensis*) — [9 North] All reports from traditional range northeast of a line from Roseau to Aitkin. High counts 3/3 St. Louis (11, Sax-Zim Bog) JOs, 3/4 Lake (11, Tomahawk Road) ASu, LiH, 5/27 Koochiching (11, county total) REN, EzH, IsH.
- Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts all from Park Point, St. Louis County: 5/8 (3,578) JLK, 5/7 (2,088) JDx, CLN, JPR, 5/5 (1,937) StK.
- Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*) — [16 North] All reports from traditional range. High count 5/1 Beltrami (7) REN.
- American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts 3/18 Hennepin (800) IVa, 4/1 Isanti (400) RCl, 5/21 Hennepin (322) SKe.
- Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*) — [11 South, 32 North] Reported throughout traditional range. Several out-of-range reports as this species continues to expand south, including new county records 5/22 **Grant** (Niemackl Lake Park) ASu, 5/18 **Pope** (Gjerdingen W.P.A.) ASu, a new spring record 3/18 Ramsey (Vadnais Lake) EzH, IsH, and multiple records from Hennepin (Lake Rebecca P.R.; east of Crow-Hassan P.R.) and Wright (Buffalo; Montisippi C.P.). High counts 3/16 St. Louis (23, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JLK, 3/14 St. Louis (22, W.S.H.C.) FJN.
- Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) — [53 South, 29 North] First Northeast arrival in late April. High counts 3/24 Lyon (350, Lone Tree Lake) GWe, 4/26 Lac qui Parle (200) KeL.
- Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) — [45 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/6) 4/11 Wright (Ellison Park) LiH, 4/13 Freeborn AEB, 4/20 Dakota KDS. Early north (median 4/13) 4/22 Morrison DLP, 4/22–24 Pine KrM, 4/23 Morrison SEm, 4/24 Grant NaH, Mille Lacs JLA. High count 5/23 Wright (180, Otsego) ToL.
- Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 3/19) 3/22 Pipestone VKI, 3/23 Hennepin CMB, IVa, DGu, 3/24 Dakota IVa. Early north (median 4/2) 4/12 Grant CRM, m.ob., 4/13



- Becker HeH, ShG, Morrison NMe, 4/14 Otter Tail NaH. High count 4/28 Stearns (700, Beaver Island Trail) MKo, LKo.
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) — [50 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/11 Wright LiH, 4/13 Hennepin ASu, LiH, Washington KIs. Early north (median 4/21) 4/27 Grant ABL, 4/28 Grant ToR, Morrison TLu, AaL, Pine SBE. High count 5/17 Hennepin (60, Westwood Hills N.C.) BBr.
- Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) — [49 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/16 Ramsey CHi, 4/22 Hennepin BrD, 4/23 Anoka MCA, Mower SWm, Rice NiR. Early north (median 4/30) 4/29 Grant ASu, LiH, 5/1 Otter Tail ANy, St. Louis BMu, JPR, FJN. High count 5/17 Rice (75, River Bend N.C.) GHo.
- Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) — [52 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/12 Isanti KrM, 4/21 Sherburne LKo, 4/22 Jackson ASu, LiH. Early north (median 4/25) 4/26 Otter Tail ABL, 4/29 Grant ASu, LiH, Itasca SC, Otter Tail MO. High count 5/27 Marshall (400) NWi.
- Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/8) 4/11 Houston ASu, 4/12 Anoka DGu, Hennepin DWK, CSL, BeH. Early north (median 4/17) 4/22 Clay TCL, Douglas HHD, Mille Lacs ABL, and also in Beltrami, Morrison, Pine, St. Louis on 4/23. High count 5/14 Washington (125, Marsh Creek Park) ERH.
- Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts 4/12 Hennepin (73, 5.25 mile traveling count) ebd, 4/11 Dakota (60, 8.1 mile traveling count) MLk, 4/22 Dakota (55, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) NiR.
- Boreal Chickadee** (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — [4 North] Reported from Cook, Lake, Koochi-ching, and St. Louis. High count 4/13 Lake (4, Kawishiwi River/Tomahawk bridge) NLM.
- Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) — [12 South] Reported from normal southeast range north to Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington. Out of range reports 4/22 Brown (Flandrau S.P.) BDo, 5/23 Pope (Moen W.P.A.) ASu. High count 3/23 Houston KnM, ASu, LiH.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) — [43 South, 27 North] High counts 3/2 Lake (25, C.R. 2 south from C.R. 1 to C.R. 15., a 20-mile traveling count) ebd, 3/17 Benton (18, Bend in the River R.P.) DOR, 4/25 Beltrami (17, Lake Bemidji S.P.) KCo. Probable late south migrants 5/21 Carver WCM, 5/31 Dakota BAF.
- White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High count 5/7 Douglas (30, Lake Carlos S.P.) MLk.
- Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) — [49 South, 23 North] High counts 4/26 St. Louis (25, Park Point R.A.) StK, 4/18 Hennepin (12, Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Bass Ponds) ASu, LiH. Late south 5/19 Hennepin (2, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ASu, 5/26 Ramsey (2, Crosby Farm R.P.) RMD (median 5/19).
- House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/17) 4/18 Hennepin ASu, LiH, 4/22 Rice NiR, Yellow Medicine GWe. Early north (median 4/30) 4/30 Morrison FGo, 5/1 Carlton HGe, Clay CMk, Crow Wing PSP, Douglas ToR, St. Louis JLK. High counts 5/12 Rice (28, Cannon River Wilderness Area, West Unit) JiP, 5/22 Steele (28, Somerset Twp.) PSu, 5/10 Rice (25, Carleton College Arboretum, Lower Arboretum) NiR.
- Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) — [30 South, 15 North] Likely overwintering birds 3/5 Hennepin IVa, 3/10 Houston SHo, 3/19 Rice TFB. Early south (median 3/24) 3/25 Washington GJa, 3/28 Carver JCy, Wright IsH. Early north (median 4/9) 4/15 Todd TLu, 4/24 Lake JLB, ABm, 4/25 Beltrami KCo, Cook ebd, St. Louis KSz. High count 5/16 St. Louis (6, Sax-Zim Bog, Welcome Center Bog) JPR. Late south 5/13 Cottonwood BTS, Hennepin (Bass Ponds) GUn, 5/16 Hennepin (Normandale Lake) DGu (median 5/15)
- Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) — [50 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/30 Carver (Minnesota Valley N.W.R., Rapids Lake) JCy, 5/1 Carver (Minnesota Landscape Arboretum) JCy, Lyon GWe, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/1) 4/30 Clay CMk, 5/1 Morrison SEM, 5/4 Pine KrM, St. Louis NLM. Record-high count 5/30 Lincoln (104, Dead Coon W.P.A) GWe.

- Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) — [51 South, 27 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/22 Olmsted BLA, 4/23 Hennepin TAT, 4/24 Dakota PNI, EzH. Early north (median 5/4) 5/5 Grant GUn, Traverse CRM, m.ob., 5/6 Clay BCo, Grant DFe. High count 5/12 Dakota (40, 180th St. Marsh) SWe.
- Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) — [6 South] Reported from six counties, a new high for the spring season. Rare spring reports: 4/7 **Blue Earth** (Rasmussen Woods Park) KRo, 5/2 Wabasha (Dhome) JHn, 5/31 Rice TFB. Also reported from Dakota, Hennepin, and Houston.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila caerulea*) — [48 South, 13 North] Two reports farther north than usual: 5/29 **Clearwater** (Itasca S.P.) AJF, 5/27 **Koochiching** (Warner Trail F.R.) MJB, FGo. Early south (median 4/21) 4/28 Ramsey AGu, Stearns MKo, LKo, Yellow Medicine GWe, also in Goodhue, Hennepin, Washington by 4/30. Early north (median 5/5) 5/5 Morrison MJB, m.ob., 5/8–10 Douglas BEc, ToR, 5/10 Clay HHD, RAE. High counts 5/12 Kandiyohi (25, Sibley S.P.) DOr, 5/6 Scott (24, Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) ebd.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) — [46 South, 21 North] Early south (median 3/22) 3/2 Houston DJa, 3/9 Benton LKo, 3/16 Hennepin ebd. Early north migrants (median 3/27) 3/28 Otter Tail WPL, 4/10 St. Louis JLK, 4/14 Crow Wing JhH, LnH, Otter Tail NaH. High counts 4/11 Carver (29, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 4/1 Olmsted (25, Izaak Walton Wetlands) MiD. Late south 5/9 Hennepin WFe, 5/14 Dakota DTr, 5/18 Olmsted LAV (median 5/8).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) — [53 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/26) 3/31 Rice TFB, 4/2 Scott BHe, 4/7 Wabasha JHn. Early north (median 4/4) 3/27 Douglas JPE, 3/28 Otter Tail WPL, 4/17 Grant HHD. High count 4/29 Rice (65, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) GHo. Late south 5/21 Scott RiC, 5/22 Kandiyohi ebd, and 5/24 Hennepin ASu (median 5/27).
- Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) — [52 South, 33 North] Present south as the season commenced. Early north (median 3/15) 3/17 Otter Tail MO, Polk LNI, 3/18 Morrison DLP, 3/19 Morrison HHD. High counts 4/9 Carver (20) ebd, 3/29 Freeborn (16) GHo, KDS.
- Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*) — [1 South] Only report was a new county record, an adult male 3/10 **Houston** (Yucatan Twp.) DBz.
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — [6 South, 4 North] All south 3/2 Blue Earth (Red-Jacket Valley Park) ChH, 3/3–23 Houston (max. 2, Yucatan Twp.) HHD, RAE, KnM, ASu, LiH, 3/3 Watonwan (Ewy Lake W.M.A.) JWH, 3/4 Renville (C.R. 15) JWH, KEm, 3/15 Watonwan (Eagle's Nest C.P.) RAE, 3/30 Dakota (Randolph Twp.) SEm, 4/5 Dakota (Nininger Twp.) PPe, followed by 5/26 Rock (Blue Mounds S.P., record-late by three weeks) ph. DiM (median 3/30). All north 3/6 Lake (Two Harbors) ebd, 3/9 St. Louis (Lakeside/Lester Park neighborhood, Duluth) EBr, LME, 3/22 St. Louis (W.S.H.C.) FJN, 3/24 Morrison (Rice Area Sportsmen's Club W.M.A.) KnM, LiH, 4/1 St. Louis (Central Hillside neighborhood, Duluth) FJN, 4/16 Cook (Grand Marais) ebd (median 4/14).
- Veery** (*Catbarus fuscescens*) — [40 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/2 Anoka LBi, Olmsted JHD, Scott RiC, 5/3 Goodhue FKB, Hennepin ebd, Rice FGo. Early north (median 5/7) 5/6 Beltrami DPJ, Pine LEV, 5/7 St. Louis JfD, JDx. High count 5/21 Anoka (17, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) DGu.
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catbarus minimus*) — [48 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/3) 4/23 Lac qui Parle FAE, 4/30 Dakota ADS, Hennepin ASu, Olmsted JmP, Rice NiR. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Cass JS1, 5/6 Clay LSI, 5/7 Pine KrM. High count 5/17 Anoka (9, Lake George R.P.) RCl. Late south 5/23 Hennepin GrS, Martin (Cedar Lake C.P.) DAK, 5/27 Martin (East Chain Cemetery) LiH, 5/28 Pope ebd (median 5/27). Late north 5/28 Cook TLu, AaL, 5/29 St. Louis JAM (median 5/28).
- Swainson's Thrush** (*Catbarus ustulatus*) — [52 South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/25 Hennepin ebd, 4/26 Ramsey JDv, 4/28 Ramsey (different location) BNW, Scott RiC, Washington JDS. Early north (median 5/2) 4/26 Clay ABL, 4/30 Clay CMK, Morrison ANy. High counts 5/20 Rock (44, Blue Mounds S.P.) DAK, 5/11 Rock (40, Blue Mounds S.P.) BDo. Late south 5/30 Ramsey LiH, 5/31 Anoka ebd, but also see

- summer report (median 6/2).
- Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) — [50 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/30 Faribault WAF, 3/31 Hennepin CAs, Lac qui Parle KeL, Olmsted MiD, Rice TFB, Washington GJa. Early north (median 4/4) 4/13 Morrison SEm, 4/16 Crow Wing DMz, Douglas BEc, 4/17 Cass PSP, Grant HHD. High count 4/23 Hennepin (30, Lake Harriet) CWB. Late south 5/20 Hennepin PPe, 5/21 Sherburne ebd (median 5/21).
- Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) — [44 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Hennepin ebd, 5/2 Anoka LiH, Hennepin GrS, RMu, Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/8) 5/3 St. Louis ebd, 5/5 Kanabec SPS, Otter Tail ebd, 5/8 Pine KrM. High counts 5/14 Washington (8, Afton S.P.) ebd, 5/16 Dakota (8, Hampton Woods W.M.A.) AJF. Out of range records: 5/9 **Pipestone** (Pipestone N.M.) ANy, 5/25 **Red Lake** (Red Lake Falls) KRE, m.ob.
- American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts 4/23 St. Louis (**2,191**, W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN, 4/26 St. Louis (1,301, W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) — No reports
- Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/25) 4/22 Goodhue EzH, REen, 4/28 Scott RiC, 4/29 Anoka ebd, Hennepin GRE. Early north (median 5/4) 5/1 Crow Wing FGo, Pine KrM, 5/3 Becker ebd, Crow Wing EGA. High counts 5/13 Houston (25, Beaver Creek Valley S.P.) DSq, 5/16 Washington (25, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) GJa.
- Brown Thrasher** (*Toxostoma rufum*) — [52 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/9) 4/12 Brown MiO, 4/16 Hennepin ebd, 4/19 Dakota KDS. Early north (median 4/23) 4/20 Polk LnT, 4/24, 4/25 Crow Wing DMz, 4/27 Morrison FGo. High count 5/2 Washington (**21**, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) LiH.
- SAGE THRASHER** (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) — [1 North] New county record and first record since 2009: 5/29 **St. Louis**, discovered by CLN near Sky Harbor Airport, Duluth, ph. †PHS, †EzH, ph. †KRE, ph. †REN, m.ob.
- Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottos*) — [5 South, 5 North] All south re-
- ports (median 4/23) 5/1–16 Washington (Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) GJa, m.ob., 5/10 Freeborn (Hayward W.T.P.) PEB, 5/17–31+ Anoka (2, Fridley) CF, ph. RMD, m.ob., 5/21–22 Stevens (Perkins Lake) ANy, DBz, ASu, 5/28 Yellow Medicine (Mound Spring Prairie S.N.A.) GJa, ASu. All north (median 5/3) 5/8 St. Louis (Meadowlands) JuG, CLN, 5/11 Cook (Sugarloaf Point S.N.A.) ebd, 5/13 Aitkin (Rice Lake N.W.R.) LGr, 5/20 Clay LiH, 5/22 St. Louis (Park Point) JPR, 5/26 Cook (Hollow Rock Resort) WPe, Lake (C.R. 2 and C.R. 15) ANy, BWF, 5/28 Cook (Naniboujou Lodge) ANy.
- European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported statewide. High counts 3/22 Dakota (1,000) CDg, 4/5 Dakota (1,000) CDg, 4/10 Clay (1,000) ShG.
- Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*) — [7 North] Scattered reports from the north. High count 4/2 St. Louis (75) JfD. Late north 4/12 Polk (15) HHu, 4/20 Roseau (30) BSi, St. Louis (15) DBF, 4/21 St. Louis (30) JfD (median 4/19).
- Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) — [50 South, 30 North] Early north 3/23, 3/27 Polk SAu, 3/29 Morrison FGo, 4/14 Crow Wing (15) JhH, LnH. High counts 3/27 Scott (150) BHe, 3/11 Houston (130) ASu, LiH.
- House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) — [53 South, 30 North] Reported from all regions. High counts 3/2, 3/5 Hennepin (100, Minneapolis) GrS.
- EURASIAN TREE SPARROW** (*Passer montanus*) — [1 South, 1 North] One south report 5/9 **Hennepin** at a feeder in Maple Grove ph. †Nve represents the second county record. Two north reports, possibly of the same individual, 5/3–4 **St. Louis** (Park Point, 37th Street) ph. †BEA, JLK, JPR, 5/8–31+ **St. Louis** (Essentia Health campus and vicinity) JWL, †KRE, ph. a.t. †PHS, m.ob.; these were the second and third records for St. Louis County.
- American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) — [30 South, 10 North] Early south (median 3/29) 3/29 Olmsted LAV, 4/5 Washington JHh, EzH, IsH, 4/12 Rock HHD. Early north (median 4/24) 4/30 Morrison ANy, 5/4 St. Louis TRd, JLK, 5/6 Grant m.ob., St. Louis ebd. High counts 5/8 St. Louis (82, Park Point) NWn, 5/12 Washington (50, Afton

- S.P.) m.ob. Late south 5/21 Cottonwood DAK, Rice TFB, 5/23 Watonwan, 5/21–25 Washington IsH, GUn (median 5/20). Late north 5/22 Lake JWl, St. Louis CLN, JLK, 5/24 Cook TLu, AaL, 5/28 St. Louis JLK (median 5/25).
- Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertina*) — [1 South, 4 North] One from winter continued in Chippewa (Lac Qui Parle S.P.) through 3/10 JCC. Otherwise, reported from North-central and Northeast regions throughout the season as normal. High count 3/5 St. Louis (75, Sax-Zim Bog) NMT.
- Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) — [1 South, 13 North] One south report 3/14 **Chisago** (Harris) ELC. Only out-of-range north report 3/4 **Todd** (northeastern part of county) FGo, MJB; otherwise reported throughout the north, departing by late March with the exception of 4/7 Cook TBU (median 3/31).
- House Finch** (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) — [53 South, 29 North] Reported statewide.
- Purple Finch** (*Haemorhous purpureus*) — [44 South, 30 North] Reported from all regions. As is typical, there were fewer reports from the South-central, Southwest and West-central regions. Late south 5/24 Isanti ebd, 5/26 Anoka DPG, 5/28 Stearns STW (median 5/20).
- CASSIN'S FINCH** (*Haemorhous cassinii*) — [1 South] Second state record appeared in Edina 4/8–9 **Hennepin** ph. †MZA, †EzH, †IsH, m.ob.
- Common Redpoll** (*Acanthis flammea*) — [47 South, 30 North] Reported in all regions. Notable high counts 3/19 Morrison (400) SEm, 3/31 Clay (350) PBB, 4/5 Crow Wing (300) PSP. This species lingered well past its typical departure date. Late south 4/25 Anoka LBi, Chisago ebd, Lyon RJS, Stearns HHd, 4/28 Chisago JSa, 4/29 Hennepin ebd, 5/7 Sherburne ebd (median 4/7). Late north 5/9 Lake JWl, 5/12 Cass KdB, 5/17 Cook ebd, **5/21–29** Todd (Long Prairie) SDi (median 5/2).
- Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemanni*) — [18 South, 21 North] Reported from a record number of counties for spring. Noteworthy south reports 3/2 **Lac Qui Parle** MJB, 3/5–21 **Cottonwood** (Amo Twp.) LHI, 3/9 **Lyon** (Marshall) RJS, 3/21 **Brown** (New Ulm Cemetery) MIO, 4/7 **Rock** (Schoe-
- man Park) ph. LiH, 4/12 **Lyon** (Cottonwood W.T.P.) GWe. As with Common Redpoll, this species remained well beyond typical late departure dates. Record late south **4/15** Dakota ADS, Hennepin DEL, Scott BAb, **4/17** Ramsey AXH (median 3/18). Late north 4/18 Becker HeH, ShG, 4/20 Morrison FGo, Polk SAu (median 4/6).
- Red Crossbill** (*Loxia curvirostra*) — [12 South, 14 North] Reported throughout the season south from mainly West-central and East-central counties. Reported from North-central and Northeast regions throughout the season. See summer report for continuing individuals. High counts 3/4 Lake (25) LiH, ASu, 5/14 Washington (21) JLe, 5/30 St. Louis (21, Sax-Zim Bog) ALO.
- White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucop-tera*) — [6 South, 2 North] High counts 3/18 Watonwan (8, Mt. Hope Cemetery) DWK, 4/11 Kandiyohi (7, Willmar) TLu, 3/14 St. Louis (6, Warren Nelson Memorial Bog) MyH, DnB. All south 3/6 Ramsey LiH, 3/7–27 Stearns (Calvary Cemetery) LKo, IVa, 3/9–13 Benton (Englund Ecotone S.N.A.) LKo, 3/17 Sibley (Indian Lake W.M.A.) BAb, JWZ, 3/18 Watonwan (Mt. Hope Cemetery) DWK, BTS, 3/17–5/10 Kandiyohi (Minnwest Campus) JWd, m.ob., 3/30 Ramsey AHn (median 3/20). Only reported north from Lake and St. Louis with late date 4/23 St. Louis StK.
- Pine Siskin** (*Spinus pinus*) — [44 South, 31 North] Found in all regions mostly north-east from a line from Faribault to Big Stone counties. High counts 5/19 St. Louis (**235**, Stoney Point) StK, 5/1 St. Louis (135, W.S.H.C.) JPR, FJN. Late south 5/28 Rock GWe, ASu, 5/30 Olmsted LAV, 5/31 Rice TFB (median 5/22).
- American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported from every county.
- Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus*) — [43 South, 9 North] Present south from the winter season in many counties but only a few north. Presumed early migrants north (median 2/29) 3/23 Douglas BEC, 3/25 Clay PBB, 3/28 Grant EGa. High counts 3/20 Blue Earth (1,000) ChH, 3/27 Goodhue (700, Lake Byllesby) JiP, GHo. Late south 5/7 Sherburne REh, 5/9 Yellow Medicine REh, 5/13 Chisago JJS, JPR

- (median 5/7). Late north 5/19 St. Louis JuG, 5/20 Cook BMu, PAI, JZj, St. Louis StK (median 5/20).
- Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Calcarius ornatus*) — [1 North] Reflecting this species' demise in the state, these were the only reports for the season, all from the Felton Prairie area in Clay County, all of a single individual: 5/19 PBk, NKu, SKu, 5/20 LiH, ASu, 5/26 MO, 5/31 ASu.
- Smith's Longspur** (*Calcarius pictus*) — [2 South] All reports 4/22 Yellow Medicine (6, Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/7 Yellow Medicine (Lyon/Yellow Medicine Conservation Easement) GWe, 5/10–12 Yellow Medicine (Echo W.T.P.) ph. GWe, m.ob.
- Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) — [24 South, 18 North] High counts 3/2 Polk (225, East Grand Forks) JcJ, SAu, 3/10 Dodge (100) EzH, IsH. Late south 4/3 Meeker BNn, 4/16 Chisago JSa, Dodge ANy, DBz (median 4/9). Late north 4/29 St. Louis NWn, 5/2 Lake EFC, RyS, St. Louis NWn (median 5/5).
- Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*) — [2 South, 1 North] One from winter continued south through 4/3 in **Ramsey** (Lauderdale) ph. LiH, ASu. One more south report 5/2–4 **Steele** (Somerset Twp.) ph. PSu. Only north report 5/8–10 **Polk** (East Grand Forks) ph. SAu, m.ob.
- Eastern Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) — [36 South, 15 North] Early south (median 4/13) 4/17 Dakota (Inver Grove Heights) ebd, 4/22 Dakota (Lake Byllesby) EzH, REN, IsH, Houston JWH, KEm, Rice NiR. Early north (median 5/4) 4/29 Douglas JPE, 5/2 Pine KrM, 5/3 St. Louis BeA. High counts 5/13 Winona (**20**, Great River Bluffs S.P.) DSt, 5/16 Washington (**20**, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) GJa, 5/5 Houston (17) ASu, LiH.
- American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizelloides arborea*) — [53 South, 25 North] High counts 4/6 Fillmore (69) ASu, LiH, 3/8 Scott (50) BHe, 3/23 Cottonwood (45) LHL, 4/26 St. Louis (42) JLK. Numerous reports throughout the season into the first week of May both south and north. Late south 5/6 Sherburne ebd, 5/8 Le Sueur ACh, 5/10 Goodhue FKB (median 5/5). Late north 5/6 Lake DEv, 5/8 Kanabec ebd, 5/11–12 Cook ebd (median 5/15).
- Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/23) 3/23 Olmsted KnM, ASu, LiH, 3/25 Winona ebd, 3/29 Hennepin RaF, IVa, 3/30 Stearns MtS. Early north (median 4/10) 4/8 Kittson ebd, 4/18 St. Louis ebd, 4/19 Otter Tail REN, 4/21 Otter Tail NaH, Todd TLU. High counts 5/10 Clay (180, Gooseberry Park) ebd, 5/6 Rock (60, Blue Mounds S.P.) VKL.
- Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/28 Benton DOr, Dakota/Rice MrB, GHo, JiP, 4/29 Carver JCy, Faribault WAF, Pipestone KEm, JWH then numerous reports beginning the 30th. Early north (median 4/27) 4/29 Douglas JPE, 4/30 Clay CMk, Crow Wing HHD, Morrison ANy then numerous reports beginning 5/2. High counts 5/30 Lincoln (41, Dead Coon W.P.A.) GWe, 5/10 Clay (40, Kurtz Twp.) CMk, 5/12 Carver (40, Carver P.R.) DGu.
- Field Sparrow** (*Spizella pusilla*) — [49 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/2) 4/5 Dakota MwT, 4/6 Fillmore ASu, LiH, 4/7 Wabasha JHn, 4/8 Washington ebd, 4/12 Mower SWm, then no reports until 4/21. Early north (median 4/17) 4/25 Otter Tail ebd, 4/27 Todd TLU, 4/28 Otter Tail (different location) JsS. Extreme north reports 5/21 **Red Lake** (Oklee) REN, 5/23 **Beltrami** JJS, JPr, 5/24 **Lake of the Woods** (southwest of Norris Camp) JPr, 5/27 **Koochiching** FGo, 5/28 **Lake** (northeast of Illgen) ABm. High counts 5/3 Washington (**30**, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) DGu, 5/19 Hennepin (24, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ASu, 5/6 Washington (22, Afton S.P.) DTr, JED.
- Vesper Sparrow** (*Poocetes gramineus*) — [52 South, 27 North] Early south (median 3/27) 4/1 Jackson ASu, LiH, 4/5–6 Nicollet HHD, RAE, 4/10 Dakota DWK then numerous reports beginning 4/12. Early north (median 4/12) 4/20 Grant FGo, SEm, 4/23 Pine KrM, Polk EFC, RyS. High counts 4/22 Watonwan (18, south of Madelia) ASu, LiH, 5/5 Watonwan (16, Sulem Lake) DAK.
- Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus*) — [34 South, 18 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/12 Chippewa SC, 4/23 Ramsey AGU, Steele PSu, 4/28 Brown MiO, Lac qui Parle KeL. Early north (median 5/2) 5/2 Polk ebd, 5/3 Clay TCL, 5/5 Clay (different location) PBB, Grant GUn, Traverse GLa, CRM, AaL. Two out-of-range reports 5/8 **St.**

- Louis** (Bayfront Park) KSz, 5/10 **Lake** (near Isabella) NLM. High counts 5/19 Washington (7, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) LAi.
- Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) — [51 South, 32 North] Early south (median 3/31) 3/31 Washington GJa, 4/1 Jackson ASu, LiH, 4/5 Ramsey JZj, 4/7 Houston SHo, RAE. Early north (median 4/14) 4/20–22 Grant m.ob., Traverse HHD, 4/23 Cass REN, Crow Wing PSP, Polk SAU. High counts 5/12 Grant (50, North Ottawa Impoundment) WPI, 5/16 Stearns (40, Albany W.T.P.) MtS, 5/27 St. Louis (40, Hoyt Lakes) NLM.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** (*Ammodramus saviannarum*) — [41 South, 16 North] Early south (median 4/23) 4/22 Hennepin ebd, 4/24 Dakota BHe, 4/27 Meeker GLr, 4/28 Lac qui Parle. Early north (median 5/3) 5/7 Morrison FGo, 5/10 Morrison KEm, SEm, Pine LEV, 5/13 Kanabec MWS. High counts 5/27 Sherburne (20, Sherburne N.W.R.) MSb, 5/19 Hennepin (16, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ASu.
- Henslow's Sparrow** (*Centronyx henslowii*) — [27 South, 3 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/21 Rice NiR, 4/23 Rice TFB, 4/30 Carver JCy, 5/1 Washington GJa. All north 5/19–20 Kanabec SPS, 5/30 Traverse ASu, 5/31 Clay ASu. High counts 5/19 Hennepin (18, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ASu, 5/26 Washington (12, Afton S.P.) BDo.
- LeConte's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus leconteii*) — [19 South, 23 North] Early south (median 4/21) 4/15 Lyon GWe, 4/23 Stearns MtS, 4/30 Carver MSc, Hennepin ebd. Early north (median 5/1) 4/28 Polk JCJ, SAU, 5/2 Otter Tail JsS, St. Louis JPR, FJN, 5/5 Clay BCo, Grant BMu, GUn, Traverse m.ob. High counts 5/6 St. Louis (9, Sax-Zim Bog) ebd, 5/19 Hennepin (6, Crow-Hassan P.R.) ASu, 5/25 Pine (6) ASu, LiH. Late south 5/26 Big Stone ASu, Hennepin IVa, 5/28 Anoka BDA, 5/30 Stearns LiH.
- Nelson's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) — [4 South, 2 North] All south 5/7 **Yellow Medicine** (Miedd Lake) GWe, 5/10 **Yellow Medicine** (Stony Run Twp.) GWe, 5/16 Dakota (Cliff Fen, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) LiH, **Stevens** (Struck W.P.A.) ASu, 5/19–26 Hennepin (Crow-Hassan P.R.) ASu, IVa. All north 5/25 Roseau (Roseau River W.M.A.) CAs, 5/27 Marshall (Agassiz N.W.R.) KRE, m.ob., (Middle River) SAU.
- Fox Sparrow** (*Passerella iliaca*) — [51 South, 25 North] Presumed first migrants south (median 3/13) 3/3 Mower SWm, Rice DAB, 3/4 Carver JCy, Rice DAB, Winona JmP, JPr, 3/5 Lyon NMe. Early north (median 3/28) 3/29 Douglas BEc, 4/8 Otter Tail TJa, 4/14 Douglas BEc. High counts 4/6 Fillmore (80) ASu, LiH, 4/23 St. Louis (40, Sax-Zim Bog) ClN. Late south 5/8 Dakota DEv, 5/9 Goodhue DAs, 5/13 Chisago JSa (median 5/4). Late north 5/6 Carlton AVa, Itasca EEO, Lake DEv, Todd TLu, 5/9 St. Louis ebd, 5/16 Marshall JHs (median 5/13).
- Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*) — [53 South, 34 North] Reported throughout the state. Abundant winter reports make determining arrival of south migrants difficult. Early north (median 3/23) 4/7 Otter Tail JsS, 4/8 Otter Tail (2, different location) JOs, 4/10 St. Louis ebd, 4/15 Todd TLu. High count 4/24 St. Louis (52) JLK.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolni*) — [50 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/11) 4/6 Washington CNC, 4/12 Winona JmP, 4/15 Fillmore DOK, Le Sueur DOR. Early north (median 4/21) 4/21 Todd, 4/23 Morrison TLu, 4/29 Douglas JPE, Grant PPe, Hubbard REN. High counts 5/11 Rock (36, Blue Mounds S.P.) BDo, 5/6 Cottonwood (20, Expandere W.M.A.) BRB, 5/1 Hennepin (17) TAT, 5/5 Cottonwood (17, Mountain C.P.) DAK. Late south 5/24 Hennepin ASu, 5/25 Winona AJF, 5/28 Sherburne RCl (median 5/26).
- Swamp Sparrow** (*Melospiza georgiana*) — [53 South, 34 North] Early south (median 3/24) 3/8 Dakota (Miesville Ravine P.R.) KDS, 3/10 Cottonwood KEm, Rice DAB, 3/14 Ramsey REH. Early north (median 4/14) 4/21 Morrison FGo, Todd TLu, 4/23 Crow Wing LnH, JhH, Douglas LGI, Pine KrM. High counts 5/2 Olmsted (25, Eastside W.M.A.) JmP, 5/6 Olmsted (25, Cascade Meadow Wetlands) BLA, 5/2 Washington (20, Grey Cloud Dunes S.N.A.) LiH, 5/5 Washington (20, William O'Brien S.P.) JCC, 5/22 Pine (20, Chengwatana S.F.) KrM.
- White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) — [50 South, 34 North] Overwintered north and widely south. Possible early south migrants (median 3/18) 3/1 Wright ebd, 3/3 Ramsey REH. Presumed early

north arrivals (median 4/12) 4/21 Morrison FGo, 4/22 Aitkin ebd, St. Louis ebd then multiple reports beginning 4/23. High counts 5/1 Cass (200, Fritz Loven Park) ABi, with reports of 100 from Hennepin (2 locations), Douglas, and St. Louis. Late south 5/24 Dakota BBr, Hennepin ASu, 5/26 Hennepin ebd, Washington ebd (median 5/27).

**Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*) — [45 South, 30 North] Likely overwintering birds reported in Jackson 3/4 BAB, 3/5 Freeborn AEB, Cottonwood LHL. Presumed early south arrivals (median 4/4) 4/3 Kandiyohi BbS, Lac qui Parle FAE, 4/8 Watonwan ANy, DBz, 4/11 Hennepin SKS. Presumed early north arrivals (median 4/27) 4/16 Otter Tail DFe, 4/30 Polk HHu, Marshall JHs, then numerous reports beginning 5/1. High count 5/10 Clay (40, Kurtz Twp.) CMk, m.ob. Late south 5/21 Pipestone VKI, 5/23 Hennepin ebd, 5/27 Goodhue AXH (median 5/23). Late north 5/20 Clay PBB, LiH, Polk SAu, 5/23 Cook TLu, AaL, 5/28 Clay ebd (median 5/23).

**White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) — [46 South, 30 North] Presumed early south (4/22) arrivals 4/6 Fillmore ASu, LiH, 4/20 Dakota AJF, 4/21 Hennepin BBd, JBu. Early north (median 4/26) 4/23 St. Louis ebd, 4/24 Crow Wing JnP, 4/27 Cook ebd. High counts 5/11 Pine (25) LEv, 5/2 Cass (20) JhH, 5/4 Hennepin (20, Bass Ponds, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) ebd. Late south 5/22 Sherburne JWl, 5/23 Hennepin TAT, Washington BDo (median 5/21). Late north 5/27 Beltrami ebd, Cook JWl, Koochiching FGo, 5/29 Lake ebd, St. Louis JLK (median 5/27).

**White-crowned Sparrow (Gambel's)** (*Zonotrichia l. gambelii*) — [2 South, 1 North] Three reports of the western subspecies 5/9 Renville LiH, 5/10 Ramsey LiH, and 5/12 Cook LiH.

**GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW** (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) — [1 North] Minnesota's 15th record (11 of which have occurred in the past 10 years) 5/13 **Itasca** (White Oak Lake Access) †TCL.

**Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) — [53 South, 32 North] Seen statewide. High counts 4/26 Polk (500, Red River S.R.A.) SAu, 3/31 Yellow Medicine (450, Sioux

Agency Twp.) GWe, 4/23 St. Louis (320, Park Point R.A.) StK. Late south 5/14 Goodhue DFe, Olmsted ebd, 5/15 Nicollet ebd, 5/19 Winona ebd, 5/20 Meeker PKF (median 5/24).

**Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)** (*Junco b. oregonus*) — [10 South] Reported from March through April with late reports 4/19 Ramsey LiH, 4/22 Blue Earth LiH, Nicollet LiH, 4/27 Steele LiH.

**Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*) — [3 South] Three reports: 5/11–18 **Wright** (Buffalo) ebd, ph. MyM, 5/13–30+ Washington (Afton S.P.) ph. GHo, m.ob., 5/28 Mower (Honey Tree Farm) ph. SWm.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) — [52 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/27) 3/22 Lyon GWe, 4/1 Freeborn ebd, Jackson ASu, LiH, 4/3 Cottonwood LHL. Early north (median 4/9) 4/19 Grant REN, Otter Tail REN then many observations beginning 4/20. High counts 5/27 Lac qui Parle (200, Big Stone N.W.R.) StK, 4/23 Grant (120, North Ottawa Impoundment) ebd.

**Bobolink** (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) — [48 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/3) 4/28 Yellow Medicine GWe, 5/2 Houston DBz, 5/4 Olmsted BAB, MiD, then many reports beginning 5/5. Early north (median 5/6) 4/28 Grant ToR, 5/5 Kanabec SPS, 5/6 Otter Tail JLA, Wilkin SKS. High counts 5/12 Rice (**110**, Prairie Creek W.M.A.) JiP, GHo, 5/30 Lincoln (53, Dead Coon W.P.A.) GWe.

**Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) — [47 South, 15 North] Early south (median 3/16) **3/4** Scott (Marsh W.M.A., calling "zeet") CAS, **3/7** Dakota (180th St. Marsh) LiH, 3/9 Steele NFT, 3/10 Faribault KvM, Rice DAB. Similar to spring 2017, many reports came from the Southwest region where this species is typically uncommon. Early north (median 3/23) 4/7 Morrison SEm, 4/21 St. Louis StK, 4/22 Aitkin DMz. High counts 4/10 Olmsted (13, Rochester) JPr, 5/6 Washington (11, Afton S.P.) DTr, JEd.

**Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*) — [49 South, 23 North] Early south (median 3/13) 3/2 Jackson KEm, 3/3 Yellow Medicine BAB, 3/4 Chippewa DWK, Lac qui Parle DLP. Early north (median 3/17) 3/18 Grant WPl, 3/23 Clay ShG, HeH,

Douglas BEc, 3/25 Wilkin ACr. High counts 4/19 Pipestone (45, Pipestone Indian State W.M.A.) VKL, 4/4 Lyon (33, Vallery Twp.) GWe, 4/18 Lyon (31, Green Valley W.M.A.) GWe, 5/20 Clay (30, Felton Prairie) LiH.

**Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) — [49 South, 14 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/2 Olmsted JHD, 5/3 Dakota GUn, 5/5 Winona ebd, 5/6 Rice TFB. Early north (median 5/13) 5/11 Grant PPe, 5/13 Grant (different location) CNn, 5/14 Douglas BEc, Otter Tail GMO. New county record 5/24 **Lake of the Woods** (Norris-Roosevelt Rd. SW) JJS, JPr. High counts 5/20 Rock (21, Blue Mounds S.P.) DAK, 5/29 Yellow Medicine (14, Mound Spring Prairie S.N.A.) GWe, 5/20 Clay (10, Felton Prairie) LiH.

**Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/28) 4/30 Freeborn AEB, Goodhue ebd, Hennepin ebd, Stearns ebd, then many reports beginning 5/1. Early north (median 5/4) 5/1 Beltrami REn, St. Louis FJN, m.ob., 5/2 Morrison SEm, 5/4 Douglas BEc, ToR, Otter Tail JsS. High counts 5/8 Hennepin (24, Westwood Hills N.C.) ASu, 5/12 Wright (23, Pelican Lake) RCL, 5/13 Goodhue (22, Frontenac S.P.) ASu, LiH, 5/14 Carver (22, Carver P.R.) DgM.

**Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported from all but one county. Overwintered both north and south. Presumed first north migrants (median 3/14) 3/3 Douglas BEc, 3/13 Douglas AaL, 3/17 Traverse DLP, 3/18 Otter Tail WPL, Pine KrM, Todd DLP. High counts 4/1 Jackson (10,000) LiH, 4/12 Yellow Medicine (8,100, Big Rock W.M.A.) GWe.

**Brown-headed Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in all counties. See winter report for overwintering south birds. Presumed first migrants south (median 3/12) 3/3 Olmsted SHo, 3/7 Chisago MTe, 3/9 Winona DBz, 3/11 Houston LiH, ASu. Early north (median 4/4) 3/29 Douglas RBJ, RBW, 4/15 Todd TLu, 4/19 Douglas JsS, Otter Tail REn, Polk ebd. High counts 5/5 Watonwan (280, Sulem Lake) DAK, 5/1 Washington (150, 100th Street Marsh) KIs, 5/1 Lake (105, Two Harbors) JWL.

**Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*) — [48 South, 16 North] Earliest south migrants ar-

rived in February (median 3/5) followed by 3/1 Hennepin ISH, EzH, 3/3 Wabasha ebd, 3/4 Freeborn DBz. Early north (median 3/22) 3/23 Becker HeH, ShG, 4/21 Morrison FGo, Polk HHu, 4/22 Clay TCL, PBB, Morrison DLP. High counts 4/16 Houston (300, Reno Ponds) SHo, 4/26 St. Louis (300, Park Point R.A.) StK, 4/12 Houston (250, Crooked Creek Twp.) EzH, ISH. Late south 5/3 Wright ToL, 5/4 Ramsey ebd, 5/5 Redwood MiO (median 5/4). Late north 5/5 Beltrami FGo, Clay PBB, Morrison FGo, HHD, St. Louis NLM, 5/15 Morrison FGo, 5/27 Cook ANY (median 5/9).

**Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) — [41 South, 31 North] Early south (median 3/19) 3/18 Jackson KEm, 3/25 Rice KnM, ASu, LiH, 3/29 Cottonwood ebd, 3/30 Carver JCy. Early north (median 4/4) 3/28 Douglas BEc, 4/3 Pine KrM, 4/12 Todd TLu, 4/22 Douglas LGL, Marshall JHs. High counts 4/12 Houston (200, Crooked Creek Twp.) ISH, EzH, 4/27 Wilkin (90, Tanberg Twp.) MO.

**Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*) — [53 South, 33 North] Reported in all counties except Roseau. See winter report for overwintering birds and potential early south migrants. Early north (median 3/11) 3/3 Lake ABL, 3/23 Becker ShG, HeH, 3/24 Morrison KnM, LiH, 3/26 Pine KrM, 3/27 Morrison SEm. High counts 4/13 Lyon (1,400, Black Rush Lake W.P.A.) RJS, 4/26 St. Louis (1,000, Park Point R.A.) StK.

**Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) — [3 South, 1 North] All south (median 4/8) 4/22 Cottonwood LiH, ASu, 5/2–14 **Olmsted** (East Landfill Reservoir) DMA, ph. †JPr, ph. GHo, m.ob., 5/13 Cottonwood JSc, MiO, BTS, 5/28 Lyon GWe. Only north report 4/20–22 **Grant** (North Ottawa Impoundment) ph. LiH, ASu, m.ob.

**Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) — [49 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/27) 4/30 Carver WCM, Meeker JAn, Olmsted JmP, Ramsey LiH, BNW, Rice TFB, then many reports beginning 5/1. Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 Clay CMk, 5/2 Cass BEc, JhH, 5/3 Itasca SC, Pine KrM. High counts 5/20 St. Louis (50, Superior Hiking Trail) AAR, 5/15 St. Louis (25, Sax-Zim Bog) CLN, 5/14 Pine (22, Banning S.P.) BDO.

**WORM-EATING WARBLER** (*Helmintheros*



- vermivorum*) — [2 South] Two reports: 5/4 Hennepin (Wood Rill S.N.A.) ph. SuH, 5/13 **Rock** (Blue Mounds S.P.) †VKL.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** (*Parkesia motacilla*) — [12 South] Reported from its usual range from East-central and Southeast counties. Early south (median 4/17) 4/16 Dakota (Miesville Ravine P.R.) KDS, 4/21 Hennepin (Ninemile Creek) ph. MZA, 4/26 Winona JmP, JPr, 4/28 Washington ebd. Reported outside usual range 5/11 **Wright** (Monticello Twp.) Ish, EzH, CbH.
- Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) — [48 South, 31 North] Early south (median 4/24) 4/28 Houston DSt, 4/29 Murray KEm, JWH, Stearns PCC then numerous reports beginning 4/30. Early north (median 5/3) 4/30 Pine KrM, 5/1 Crow Wing JLA, Wadena RAE, 5/2 Cass JhH, Crow Wing PSP, St. Louis JLK, Todd TLu. High counts 5/13 Goodhue (19, Frontenac S.P.) ASu, LiH, 5/9 Carver (16, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 5/6 Hennepin (14, T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) BAF, CMB, SHF. Late south 5/25 Hennepin SBM, 5/31 Anoka TSI, SKo (median 5/29).
- Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) — [37 South, 27 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/2 Carver JCy, 5/3 Dakota CJE, Hennepin ebd, 5/5 Winona BDo, then numerous reports beginning 5/6. Early north (median 5/10) 5/7 Cass (2) JhH, 5/8 Cass (different location) BEC, 5/9 Morrison FGo, Pine KrM, St. Louis JPR, ArL. High counts 5/26 Aitkin (14, Rice Lake N.W.R.) ebd, 5/18 Clearwater (12, Itasca S.P.) PBk, NKu, 5/22 Wadena (12) REn. Presumed late south migrants away from breeding areas (median 5/28) 5/26 Scott ebd, 5/28 Olmsted BLA, Wright RCl (median 5/28).
- Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) — [27 South, 2 North] Early south (median 5/2) 5/2 Olmsted JHD, 5/4 Washington BDo, 5/5 Anoka MGi, Carver JCy, Le Sueur BHe, Olmsted MPe, Scott BAB, MAK, Winona BDo. An interesting out-of-range report for the fourth consecutive year 5/21 **Kandiyohi** (Sibley S.P.) ANY, DBz. All north 5/13 Pine JJS, JPr, 5/20 Pine (Banning S.P.) JBu, 5/21 Pine KrM, 5/26 **St. Louis** (H.R.N.R.) EBr, JPR. High count 5/13 Carver (14, Carver P.R.) JCy.
- Golden-winged Warbler** X **Blue-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera* X *V. cyanoptera*) — [1 South, 1 North] All reports of this hybrid pertained to the “Brewster’s” form: 5/10 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) BrT, TSK, 5/26 Pine KrM.
- Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) — [52 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/22) 4/26 Stearns LKo, 4/28 Lac qui Parle, 4/29 Brown ebd, Watonwan JIJ, then numerous reports beginning 4/30. Early north (median 5/1) 4/23 Beltrami DPJ, 4/25 St. Louis JLK, 4/30 Aitkin HHD, Beltrami DPJ, Pine KrM. High counts 5/9 Washington (20, Riverside Park) GJa, MWS.
- Prothonotary Warbler** (*Protonotaria citrea*) — [17 South] Early south (median 5/4) 4/30 Hennepin ebd, Rice JiP, Washington LMS. Unusual reports away from normal range: 5/1–2 Olmsted (County 9 Marsh) JmP, MiD, JPr, 5/3 Freeborn AEB, 5/9 Olmsted (Izaak Walton Wetlands) JoP, LAV, Freeborn HCT, 5/11 Benton (Bend in the River R.P.) JOs, 5/31 Redwood (Honner Twsp.) BTS. High counts 5/14 Carver (6, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 5/14 Goodhue (6, Vermillion Bottoms) GJM, 5/24 Washington (5) AXH.
- Tennessee Warbler** (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) — [52 South, 29 North] Early south (median 4/29) 4/27 Hennepin CMB, 4/30 Carver JCy, Ramsey ebd, Rice GHo. Early north (median 5/7) 5/3 Roseau BSi, 5/6 Becker NaH, 5/7 Cass JhH. High counts 5/9 Carver (60, Rapids Lake, Minnesota River Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 5/22 Hennepin (40, Wood Lake N.C.) BeH, 5/12 Freeborn (35, Myre-Big Island S.P.) SBM. Late south 5/28 Ramsey DnS, 5/30 Stearns LiH (median 6/7) but see summer report for latest migrants.
- Orange-crowned Warbler** (*Oreothlypis celata*) — [51 South, 30 North] Early south (median 4/19) 4/21 Wright ebd, 4/22 Hennepin ebd, Rice NiR, Winona DSt. Early north (median 4/24) 4/20 Becker HeH, ShG, 4/23 Beltrami DPJ, 4/28 Clay NRa, then multiple reports beginning 4/30. High counts 5/2 Rice (18, Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) NiR, 5/10 Clay (18, River Oaks Park) CMk. Numerous reports late south on 5/21 then 5/23 Martin DAK (median 5/25). Late north 5/27 Koochiching m.ob., 5/28 Becker ebd, Cook TLu, AaL (median 5/28).
- Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*)

- [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 4/25) reports began *en masse* on 4/30 from Brown, Carver, Dakota (2 locations), Faribault, Goodhue, Hennepin (5 locs.), Olmsted (2 locs.), Ramsey (4 locs.), Rice, Sherburne, Washington (4 locs.)! Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 Douglas ToR, St. Louis FJN, JPR, Todd ALu, 5/2 Otter Tail WPL, St. Louis JfD. High counts 5/9 Carver (35, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 5/15 St. Louis (30, Sax-Zim Bog) CLN, 5/18 St. Louis (30, Twig) ArL, 5/12 Chisago (25, Carlos Avery W.M.A.) ELC, RMD. Late south 5/28 Washington MWS, 5/29 Hennepin BAF (median 6/1).
- Connecticut Warbler** (*Oporornis agilis*) — [16 South, 8 North] Early south (median 5/11) 5/7 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) SBM, SBE, 5/10 Chisago JSa, Hennepin (2, Staring Lake Park) ebd, Meeker PKF, Washington CDe, Tar. Early north 5/18 Clay DvM, CMk, 5/19 Cass BEc, Todd TLu. High counts 5/25 Roseau (4, Beltrami Island S.F.) CAs, 5/10 Chisago (3, Wild River S.P.) JSa, 5/19 Cass (3, near Walker) BEc. Late south 5/23 Carver JCy, Faribault BAY, 5/24 Hennepin RBW, ASu (median 5/30).
- Mourning Warbler** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) — [37 South, 22 North] Early south (median 5/8) 5/8 Dakota DEv, Hennepin CTh, Lac qui Parle ANy, Olmsted MiD, Ramsey DSh, Steele PSu, Washington GJa. Early north (median 5/14) 5/16 Clay CMk, Pine ebd, 5/17 Otter Tail WPL. High counts 5/26, 5/27 St. Louis (8, H.R.N.R.) EBr, JLK, 5/28 St. Louis (6, Cook, MN) JuG. Late south 5/28 Kandiyohi DWK, 5/30 Sherburne DgM (median 6/8). See summer report for latest south migrants.
- Kentucky Warbler** (*Geothlypis formosa*) — [2 South] All south 4/30–5/6 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) ph. GHo, ph. ASu, ph. JPr, m.ob., 5/31+ **Brown** (Milford Twp.) a.t. †BTS, m.ob.
- Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) — [53 South, 33 North] Early south (median 5/1) 4/27–29 Rice NiR, 4/30 Hennepin ebd, Isanti ebd, Olmsted KHO, Ramsey TAN, Washington BDo, then numerous reports beginning 5/1. Early north (median 5/7) 5/2 Cass JhH, Crow Wing JLA, 5/5 Cass DoH, Morrison MJB, HHD. High counts 5/30 Lincoln (67, Dead Coon W.P.A.) GWe, 5/28 Sherburne (53, Sherburne N.W.R.) RCl, 5/12 Hennepin (35, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCa.
- Hooded Warbler** (*Setophaga citrina*) — [11 South] Nearly double the number of counties where this species is typically recorded in the spring, starting with (median 5/8) 5/6 Sherburne (Blue Hill Trail, Sherburne N.W.R.) FGo, JhH, SOa, m.ob., 5/8 Scott (Murphy-Hanrehan P.R.) DCZ, 5/9 Hennepin (Powderhorn Park) IVa. Other noteworthy reports: 5/13 **Goodhue** (Frontenac S.P.) ASu, LiH, 5/16 **Goodhue** (Hok-Si-La Park) ebd, 5/17 **Steele** (Rice Lake S.P.) RBW, 5/20 **Waseca** (Maplewood Park) PSu, 5/22 **Steele** (Somerset Twp.) PSu, 5/30–31 **Watsonwan** (Eagles Nest C.P.) HCT, m.ob.
- American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) — [52 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Dakota GVA, 5/2 Faribault WAF, Goodhue ChS, Houston DBz, Stearns LKO. Early north (median 5/7) 5/6 Pine KrM, 5/7 St. Louis BHo, then numerous reports beginning 5/8. High counts 5/11 Hennepin (100, Lake Harriet) CWB, 5/10 Hennepin (60, Veterans Memorial Park) DGu, 5/19 St. Louis (55, Stoney Point) StK, 5/9 Ramsey (50, Crosby Farm R.P.) BBr, 5/11 Hennepin (50, Fort Snelling S.P.) ebd.
- Cape May Warbler** (*Setophaga tigrina*) — [35 South, 29 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/6 Freeborn ANy, DAB, Hennepin CWB, BeH, 5/7 Carver JCy, Dakota DVe, Meeker BNn, Olmsted MiD, Ramsey KSi. Early north (median 5/8) 5/8 St. Louis JuG, CLN, 5/9 Crow Wing JLK, Polk JCJ, SAu, 5/10 Kanabec ebd, Morrison KEm, SEm, Otter Tail JsS, Pine LEv, St. Louis ebd. High counts 5/19 St. Louis (38, Stoney Point) StK, 5/12 St. Louis (10) ebd. Late south 5/22 Freeborn ebd, Stearns MtS, 5/24 Hennepin ASu (median 5/24).
- Cerulean Warbler** (*Setophaga cerulea*) — [15 South, 1 North] Reported from a similar number of counties as in past years. Early south (median 5/6) 5/2 Goodhue ChS, 5/5 Houston BDo, ASu, LiH, 5/6 Nicollet ASu, LiH, 5/7 Olmsted LAV. Only north report a nicely described female 5/21 Otter Tail TFu. High counts 5/9 Houston (5, Eagle's Bluff) TFo, 5/16 Nicollet (4, Seven Mile Creek C.P.) STA.

**Northern Parula** (*Setophaga americana*)

— [37 South, 21 North] Early south (median 5/1) 5/1 Washington ERH, 5/2 Faribault WAF, Houston DBz, 5/3 Rice SHo, PNi, HIB. Early north (median 5/6) 5/7 St. Louis ebd, 5/8 Itasca SC, SBE, 5/9 Pine KrM. Notable record 5/10 **Norman** HHD, RAE. High counts 5/13 Goodhue (15, Frontenac S.P.) ASu, LiH, 5/17 Cook (13, Judge C.R. Magney S.P.) BDo. Late south 5/24 Hennepin ASu, 5/27 Wright ToL, 5/30 Stearns LiH (median 5/27).

**Magnolia Warbler** (*Setophaga magnolia*) —

[48 South, 30 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/1 Washington JDS, 5/2 Stearns MKo, LKo, 5/4 Hennepin CDg, Ramsey CMu. Early north (median 5/8) 5/7 Traverse HCT, 5/8 Pine SBE, and also from Cass, Douglas, Morrison, St. Louis on 5/9. High counts 5/10 Hennepin (26, Veterans Memorial Park) DGu, 5/19 St. Louis (23, Stoney Point) StK, 5/9 Washington (20, Riverside Park) DnS, GJa. Late south 5/24 Hennepin JmM, GrS, ASu, 5/25 Winona AJF, 5/27 Hennepin ebd (median 6/2).

**Bay-breasted Warbler** (*Setophaga castanea*)

— [29 South, 20 North] Early south (median 5/8) 5/5 Sherburne PLJ, 5/8 Anoka ebd, Dakota ADS, Goodhue PEJ, Hennepin LSe, Steele PSu, then numerous reports beginning 5/9. Early north (median 5/12) 5/8 Pine KrM, 5/9 Pine (2, different location) SBE, 5/11 Morrison FGo. High counts 5/19 Cook (6, Kadunce River Trail) JZj, 5/19 St. Louis (5, Stoney Point) StK. Late south ended with numerous reports through 5/22 and then finally 5/24 Hennepin ASu (median 5/26).

**Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*)

— [43 South, 27 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Stearns LKo, MKo, Wright RBd, 5/2 Dakota ADS, 5/3 Hennepin EGB. Early north (median 5/7) 5/4 Douglas ToR, 5/5 Lake NLM, 5/10 Itasca EEO. High counts 5/19 Otter Tail (8, Fergus Falls) WPL, 5/25 Lake (8, Superior Hiking Trail) ebd, 5/26 St. Louis (7) BHo. Late south numerous reports through 5/22 and finally ending with 5/24 Hennepin ASu, 5/25 Meeker BNn (median 6/2).

**Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) — [53

South, 34 North] Early south (median 4/26) 4/24 Dakota STo, 4/27 Hennepin ebd,

CWB, 4/28 Hennepin ebd, 4/29 Ramsey AVa, followed by numerous reports from 4/30. Early north (median 5/4) 4/23 Beltrami DPJ, 4/29 Todd TLu, 5/1 Grant PPe, Morrison SEm, Otter Tail WPL. High counts 5/9 Carver (**80**, Rapids Lake, Minnesota River Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 5/9 Hennepin (**75**, Normandale Lake Park) AFO, 5/11 Hennepin (**75**, Lake Harriet) CWB.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Setophaga pen-*

*sylvanica*) — [47 South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/2 Chisago DPi, 5/3 Hennepin ebd, 5/5 Sherburne ebd. Early north (median 5/7) 5/8 Pine KrM, SBE, 5/9 Crow Wing JhH, JLK, 5/10 Pine LEV, 5/11 Crow Wing LoM, Morrison FGo. High counts 5/27 St. Louis (24, H.R.N.R.) JLK, 5/9 Washington (20, Riverside Park) GJa, DnS.

**Blackpoll Warbler** (*Setophaga striata*) — [51

South, 32 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/1 Hennepin RBW, Lac qui Parle FAE, 5/2 Hennepin RBW, ebd, Rice LMS, NiR. Early north (median 5/8) 5/5 Clay CMk, Traverse m.ob., 5/7 Cass JhH. High counts 5/18 Cass (40, Ten Mile Lake) DoH, 5/19 Hennepin (30, T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary) SRG, 5/19 Stearns (28, St John's Abbey Arboretum) ebd, 5/9 Carver (21, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy. Late south 5/26 Kandiyohi JoS, Rice TFB, Wright ToL, 5/27 Sherburne MSb (median 5/31). Late north 5/30 Becker WPL, 5/31 Lake JDS (median 6/3). Also see summer report for latest migrants statewide.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Setophaga*

*caerulescens*) — [5 South, 6 North] All south 5/5 Hennepin (Mt. Normandale Lake Park) ebd, 5/9 Dakota (Fort Snelling S.P.) IVa, Hennepin (Purgatory Creek) ebd, 5/10 Hennepin (Staring Lake Park) ebd, 5/11 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) NiR, 5/12 Hennepin (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) NRA, 5/13 Chisago (Interstate S.P.) ebd, 5/16 Dakota (Spring Lake P.R.) LiH, 5/19 Hennepin (Crow-Hassan P.R.) ASu, 5/20 Scott (Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) EGB. Early north (median 5/17) 5/14 Cook (Oberg Mountain) JBs, 5/15 Cook ebd, 5/17 **Clearwater** (Itasca S.P.) ToR, St. Louis (Hartley Park) JLK, 5/18 Carlton (Jay Cooke S.P.) BDo, JPR, 5/19 Pine TJo. High counts 5/20 Lake (4) NLM, 5/25 Cook (4, Oberg Mountain) DFN.

**Palm Warbler** (*Setophaga palmarum*) — [50 South, 33 North] Early south (median 4/20) 4/22 Hennepin (Coon Rapids Dam R.P.) WFe, 4/23 Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha) IVa, BeH, WPe, ClB, Wabasha CBv, 4/25 Anoka IWe, Dakota WPo. Early north (median 4/25) 4/23 Beltrami DPJ, 4/25 St. Louis JLK, 4/28 Clay CMk. High counts 5/10 Washington (100, Lake Elmo R.P.) ebd, 5/7 Goodhue (81, Frontenac S.P.) KMa, 5/10 Hennepin (70) TAT. Late south 5/22 Goodhue DAT, Hennepin IVa, Sherburne ebd (median 5/23).

**Pine Warbler** (*Setophaga pinus*) — [22 South, 22 North] Repeating last year's pattern, there were more reports than usual from the Southeast region for this uncommon migrant. Early south (median 4/19) 4/25 Hennepin (Uptown area of Minneapolis) NHa, 4/28 Washington ebd, 4/29 Carver JCy, RHe, Fillmore DSh, Hennepin (Lake Hiawatha) ebd, Wright ToL. Early north (median 4/21) 4/23 St. Louis JDX, 4/25 Cass JhH, 4/27 Crow Wing GVa. High counts 5/18 Clearwater (8, Itasca S.P.) NKu, PBk, 5/17 Crow Wing (6) SDi. Out-of-range reports 5/1–17 **Brown** (Flandrau S.P.) MiO, STa, 5/1–2 **Le Sueur** (Ney N.C.) JS1, BHe, 5/6 **Grant** CRM, m.ob., 5/9 **Stevens** (Morris) JFL.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) — [53 South, 34 North] Found in every county. Numerous overwintering reports make determining the earliest migrants difficult. Presumed first migrants south (median 3/30) 3/25 Houston DBz, 3/27 Hennepin DCZ, 3/30 Nicollet ebd. Early north (median 4/2) 3/30 Beltrami DPJ, 4/7 Pine LEv, 4/14 Crow Wing JhH, LnH, Otter Tail NaH. High counts 4/26 St. Louis (612, W.S.H.C.) FJN, JPR, 5/12 Goodhue (400, Frontenac S.P.) BBr, 5/6 Steele (300, Rice Lake S.P.) ebd. Late south 5/26 Hennepin JWl, Ramsey CHi, 5/27 Sherburne ebd (median 5/30), but also see summer report.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** (*Setophaga dominica*) — [2 South] All reports 5/1–2 **Anoka** (Riverfront R.P.) ph. ABw, ph. ASu, 5/8–17 Winona (Whitewater S.P. Visitors Center for the sixth consecutive season) †JmP, †MHn.

**Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Setophaga virens*) — [30 South, 21 North] Few reports

in the western third of the state. Early south (median 4/30) 5/1 Hennepin ebd, 5/2 Carver NaH, Hennepin CMB, ASD, BAF, Rice DAB, LEC, JBu. Early north (median 5/4) 5/2 Douglas ToR, 5/6 St. Louis ebd, MTh, 5/8 Lake ABm, Otter Tail JsS. High counts 5/10 Ramsey (15, Crosby Farm R.P.) ebd, 5/19 Cook (14, near Tofte) PAL, 5/17 Cook (13, Judge C.R. Magney S.P.) BDo. Late south 5/22 Faribault BAy, Stearns HHD, Washington JDS, 5/23 Ramsey ebd, 5/25 Winona AJF (median 5/29).

**Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) — [36 South, 24 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/8 Chisago ebd, 5/9 Carver JCy, WCM, Dakota ADS, AJF, Hennepin ebd, Mower SWm, with many more reports beginning 5/10. Early north (median 5/14) 5/10 Douglas ToR, 5/11 Morrison FGo, 5/14 Carlton BDo, then many reports beginning 5/17. High counts 5/19 Sherburne (9, George Friedrich Park) JOs, 5/19 Stearns (8, St John's Abbey Arboretum) ebd, 5/20 Sherburne (7, Sherburne N.W.R.) RCL. Late south 5/26 Chisago ebd, 5/29 Hennepin MZA (median 6/1), but also see summer report.

**Wilson's Warbler** (*Cardellina pusilla*) — [46 South, 28 North] Early south (median 5/4) 5/1 Chisago ebd, 5/2 Hennepin TAT, CMB, Stearns MKo. Early north (median 5/10) 5/7 Traverse HCT, 5/9 Crow Wing JLK, JhH, Douglas ToR, St. Louis JfD. High counts 5/12 Carver (27, Carver P.R.) DGu, 5/19 St. Louis (16, Stoney Point) StK. Numerous south reports through 5/22 then only 5/23 Carver JCy, Hennepin CWB, Martin DAK, 5/25 Sherburne JOs (median 5/30). Many late north reports through 5/27 then only 5/28 St. Louis BEA (median 6/8), but also see summer report.

**Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) — [16 South, 4 North] Twenty south and four north individuals, for the highest spring total since 2011. Early south (median 5/3) 4/29 Brown (Lake Hanska C.P.) ph. STa, 5/2, 5/20 Faribault WAF, 5/3 Rice (Carleton College Cowling Arboretum) LEC, FGo, 5/7 Hennepin (Veterans Memorial Park) WPe, Houston (Spring Grove) ph. ToM, 5/7–10 Kandiyohi ph. JWd, 5/8–13 Wright (Buffalo) ph. MrS, ph. ToL, m.ob., 5/9 Hennepin (Purgatory Creek Wetlands) ph. HIK, Washington (Oakdale Nature Preserve) ph. EBy.

Other south reports were from Carver, Cottonwood (2 locations), Dakota, Fillmore, Hennepin (a third location), Le Sueur, Lyon, Nicollet, and Olmsted. All north 5/8–10 Becker ph. DFr, 5/8–11 **Polk** (East Grand Forks) ph. SAu, JCJ, JMJ, 5/10–11 Otter Tail (Fergus Falls) ph. WPL, JsS, 5/13 St. Louis (Congdon Park neighborhood) ph. JPR, LME.

**Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) — [47 South, 31 North] Early south (median 5/5) 5/2 Stearns FGo, 5/5 Hennepin MPi, Rice DAT. Early north (median 5/10) 5/7 Pine KrM, 5/8 St. Louis JLK, 5/10 Douglas ebd, Kanabec ebd. High counts 5/17 Dakota (7, Spring Lake P.R.) DVe, 5/20 Hennepin (7) TAT, 5/21 Goodhue (7, Frontenac S.P.) ebd.

**Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*) — [2 South, 1 North] All reports 5/5 Beltrami (near North Twin Lake) ph. SMe, 5/10 Washington (Denmark Twp.) ph. CBU and 5/12 Carver (Chanhassen) ph. BTh.

**Northern Cardinal** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) — [52 South, 24 North] Reported in all regions with fewest observations from the Northwest.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) — [52 South, 32 North] Reported from eight south counties west to Blue Earth and north to Isanti on 4/30 (median 4/28). Numerous reports continued on subsequent days. Early north (median 5/3) 5/1 Crow Wing ebd, 5/2 St. Louis ebd, 5/4 Crow Wing DMz, JnP, PSP. High counts 5/19 Carver (25, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 5/13 Dakota (22, Miesville Ravine P.R.) MWT.

**Blue Grosbeak** (*Passerina caerulea*) — [6 South] All south 5/19 **Washington** (Lake Elmo R.P.) †KIs, 5/27–31+ **Hennepin** (Flying Cloud Fields) TAT, CMB, 5/27–29 Rock (2, Blue Mounds S.P.) LiH, JmP, 5/30 **Kandiyo**hi (Genessee Twp.) ph. JWD, Lincoln ph. GWe, 5/31 **Blue Earth** (Lime Twp.) LiH, m.ob.

**LAZULI BUNTING** (*Passerina amoena*) — [1 South, 1 North] Two reports 5/6 **Hennepin** (adult male, Bloomington) ph. †CDg and 5/14–20 **St. Louis** (adult male, Embarrass) ph. †HMh, ph. †REN.

**Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) — [50 South, 23 North] Early south (median 5/3) 5/1 Blue Earth ChH, 5/2 Chisago JsA, 5/3



**Painted Bunting, 10 May 2018, Rochester, Olmsted County.** Photo by Jeff J. Stephenson.

Winona ebd. Early north (median 5/9) 5/11 Pine KrM, 5/13 Morrison KEm, 5/14 Cass DoH, Crow Wing JnP. High counts 5/21 Hennepin (14, Coldwater Spring) EGB, 5/17 Ramsey (12, Hidden Falls Park) EGB, 5/19 Carver (12, Rapids Lake, Minnesota Valley N.W.R.) JCy, 5/19 Ramsey (12, Como Park) CyA.

**PAINTED BUNTING** (*Passerina ciris*) — [2 South] A single immature male 4/26–5/2 **Steele** (Somerset Twp.) ph. †PSu, ph. †PRH, †DAB, ph. IsH, †EzH, m.ob. and a single adult male 5/9–10 **Olmsted** (Rochester) ph. †KEM, ph. †JJS, m.ob.

**Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) — [35 South, 8 North] Early south (median 5/9) 5/6 Dakota DnS, MWS, Waseca DAB, ANY, 5/7 Cottonwood DAK, 5/8 Blue Earth STa. As usual, most of the south reports came late in the month beginning 5/24. All north 5/11 Wilkin ebd, 5/14 Grant CNn, 5/25 Pine KrM, 5/28 Otter Tail JsS, 5/29 Kanabec ANY, 5/30 Traverse ASu, 5/31 **Cass** HHD, Clay CMk, ASu. High counts 5/28 Olmsted (**25**, Rock Dell W.M.A.) BLA, 5/29 Yellow Medicine (**17**, Mound Spring Prairie) GWe, 5/28 Steele (15) JCC, 5/29 Rock (15) JmP.

Contributors

AaL	Aaron Ludwig	Chi	Charles Hibbard	GJa	Gregory Jahner III
AAr	Adam Arvidson	ChS	Charlotte Smith	GJM	Gabe Miller
ABi	Anne Bier	CJE	Claudia J Egelhoff	GLA	George Lahr
ABL	Andrew B. Longtin	CIB	Cole Bauer	GLr	Greg Larson
ABm	Andy Beim	CIN	Clinton Nienhaus	GMO	Gary & Marion Otnes
ABw	Alex Browne	CMB	Conny M. Brunell	GO	Gary Otnes
ACH	Anne Cheney	CMk	Chris Merkord	GRe	Gerl Reinardy
ACr	Alex Cruz Jr	CMN	Connie M. Norheim	GRS	Gregg Severson
ADB	Andrew D. Bicek	CMU	Craig Mullenbach	GUn	Glen Unruh
ADi	Asa Diebolt	CNC	Carpenter Nature Center	Gva	Greg Vassilopoulos
AdJ	Adam Johnson	CnN	Charlene Nelson	GWe	Garrett Wee
ADS	Andrew D. Smith	CoC	Connie Cox	HCT	Howard Towle
AEB	Al E. Batt	CRM	Craig R. Mandel	HeH	Heather Hundt
Afo	Andy Forbes	CSI	Chantel Schlegel	HGe	Heather Gerth
AGe	Angela Gerend	CTh	Carol Thomas	HHd	Herb H. Dingmann
AGU	Arjun Guneratne	CWB	Carol & William Beste	HHu	Heidi Hughes
AHn	Adam Herman	CWe	Charlotte Wenger	HiK	Hiroki Kaido
AJF	Alex Franzen	CyA	Cindy Angerhofer	HIB	Holly Bern
ALo	Allen Loken	DAB	Dave Bartkey	HMH	Heather Mahoney
ALU	Adam Ludwig	DAC	David A. Cahlander	HoC	Hollie Cheney
AMe	Allan Meadows	DAK	Danny Akers	ISh	Isaac Hosch
AnK	Andrew Krenz	DAs	David Astin	Iva	Ise Varghese
ANy	Andrew Nyhus	DaS	Darcy Sime	IWe	Ian Westray
API	Aaron Pietsch	DAT	Dan A. Tallman	JaJ	Jane Johnson
ArL	Art Larsen	DAY	Dale A. Yerger	JAM	Jo Ann Morse
ARW	Alexander R. Watson	DbE	Debbie Einarson	JAN	Josh Anderson
ASa	Anand Sankarraj	DBF	Deborah Buria-Falkowski	JBs	Jean Brinslane
ASD	Amy Simso Dean	DBZ	Dedrick Benz	JBU	Jackie Busjaeger
ASi	Alan Selin	DCK	David C. Keyes	JCa	Jason Caddy
ASM	Steven Midthune	DCZ	David Zumeta	JCC	Joel C. Claus
ASu	Alex Sundvall	DEd	Dudley Edmondson	JcJ	Judy Johnson
AVa	Abbie Valine	DEI	Dave Elwood	JcM	Jacob Marsan
AXH	Anthony X. Hertzell	DEv	Devin Everaert	JcY	John Cyrus
AyC	Anthony Chulla	DfE	Deborah Fellows	JDB	Judd Brink
AyK	Amy Kolan	DFN	David F. Neitzel	JDS	Jill D. Sadler
BAb	Brad Abendroth	DfR	David Friedl	JdV	Joshua Davis
BAF	Bruce A. Fall	DgM	Douglas Mayo	JdX	Jessica Dexter
BAn	Bart Anderson	DGu	Daniel Guerin	JEB	Jerry E. Bonkoski
BAy	Brent Ankeny	DiM	Diane Morton	JEC	Joanna Eckles
BBd	Bill Buckingham	DJa	Dan Jackson	JEd	Jeff Eddy
BBR	Beth Brueggen	DLP	Douglas L. Pierzina	JeM	Jerome McKenna
BbS	Bob Spomer	DMA	Diane M. Anderson	JfD	Jeff Davis
BCo	Brian Collins	DMK	Dee Kuder	JfI	Judy Flicker
BDA	Bruce Anderson	DMz	Deb Muzzy	JGb	John Gburzynski
BDC	Britt Dalbec	DnB	Dan Belter	JGz	Jessica Gorzo
BDO	Ben Douglas	DnS	Dana Sterner	JhB	Johanna Beam
BEA	Ben E. Anderson	DoH	Don Hoppe	JHD	Joel Dunnette
BEc	Ben Eckhoff	DOK	Don O. Kienholz	JhH	Josh Hanske
BeH	Ben Harste	DOR	Dan Orr	JHn	Jason Heinen
BGr	Barb Grosberg	DPG	Dan & Pam Guynn	JHs	John Hess
BHa	Bernice Hall	DPi	Darcy Pinotti	JiP	Jim Palmer
BHe	Bonnie Heinecke	DPJ	Douglas P. Johnson	JJS	Jeff J. Stephenson
BHo	Bill Hohengarten	DSH	Douglas Shaw	JJu	Joe Jungers
BHW	Bethany Hawkwatch	DSq	David Squillace	JLA	John Lawrey
BKa	Bill Kass	DSt	Delores Steinlicht	JIB	Jill Beim
BLa	Brendan Lanpher	DTr	Dale Trexel	JLe	John Leaf
BLc	Bob Larocca	DVe	Dan Versaw	JLk	Jan & Larry Kraemer
BMu	Bruce Munson	DvM	David Mehlman	JMJ	Jeanie M. Joppru
BNn	Brad Nelson II	DWK	Douglas W. Kieser	JmM	Jamie McBride
BNW	Ben Wilson	DyL	Dylan Lueth	JmN	Joshua Momahon
BRB	Brad R. Bolduan	EBr	Erik Bruhnke	JmP	Jim Peterson
BRd	Bridget Doyle	EBy	Earl Bye	JmS	Janet Majerus
BRL	Bill R. Litkey	EEO	Earl E. Orf	JnP	Jon Parker
BRt	Bryan Tucker	EFC	Eliana Fierro-CalderÃn	JoP	JoAnna Pruett
BSi	Beth Siverhus	EGa	Eliisa Gallien	JOS	Jason Osowski
BTh	Bill Thompson	EGB	Ed & Ginny Blair/Powers-Blair	JoS	Joel Schmidt
BTS	Brian T. Smith	ELC	Erik Collins	JPE	John P. Ellis
BWF	Ben W. Fritchman	EPY	Ethan Perry	JPo	Jeremy Powers
BxB	Bix Baker	ERH	Ernaid & Eileen Hodge	JPR	John P. Richardson
CAM	Craig A. Menze	EzH	Ezra Hosch	JPr	Jerry Pruett
CAs	Caleb Ashling	FAE	Fred A. Eckhardt	JsA	Joe Sausen
CbH	Caleb Hosch	FGo	Frank Gosiak	JSc	John Schladweiler
CBu	Cheryl Burgmeier	FJN	Frank J. Nicoletti	JSP	Jen Sobiech-Pariseau
CBv	Carolyn Buvaia	FKB	Frank Berdan	JsS	Jason Swelstad
CDe	Cristina Desobirino	GaJ	Gae Jarvis	JSt	Josh Sweet
CDg	Carl Despiegelaere	GBU	Greg Burnes	JST	Joel Schwartz
ChH	Chad Heins	GHO	Gerald Hoekstra	JTa	Joshua Taylor

*The 2018 Spring Season*

JuG	Juliann Grahn	MPS	Midwest Peregrine Society	SGW	Steve G. Wilson
JuJ	Julie Johnston	MrB	Martin Bern	SHF	Susan H. Fall
JuW	Justin Watts	Mrs	Mark Schumacher	SHG	Shawn Goodchild
JVI	Jenni & Sam Ives	MSb	Matthew Sabatine	SHK	Sandy Hokanson
JWd	Josh Wallestad	MSc	Matt Schultz	SHo	Steven C. Houdek
JWg	John Wagner	Msf	Marsha Shuff	SKe	Sue Keator
JWH	John W. Hockema	MSS	Mark Sparky Stensaas	SKo	Shan Kothari
JWI	Jeffrey Wells	MSw	Michael Sweet	SKS	Sharon Koval Stiteler
JWL	James W. Lind	MTe	Michelle Terrell	SKu	Shawn Kuck
JWM	Jan W. Mattson	MTh	Molly Thompson	SLF	Steve L. Falkowski
JWz	Jenna Walton	MtS	Matthew Scott	SLl	Sharon L. Lind
JWZ	Julie Zempel	MWS	Michael W. Sack	SMe	Steve Mortensen
JZJ	John Zakelj	MwT	Matthew Thompson	SOa	Steve Oakley
KAB	Karla A. Bloem	MyH	Myles Hurlburt	SPS	Steve Stucker
KaS	Kara Susag	MyM	Mandy McCallum	SRG	Stephen R. Greenfield
KCo	Keith Corliss	MzA	Mathew Zappa	SSc	Susan Schumacher
KCR	Kim & Cindy Risen	NaH	Nancy Henke	SSE	Scott Seigfreid
KdB	Karen de Boer	NFT	Nels F. Thompson	STa	Sarah Taylor
KDS	Kevin D. Smith	NHa	Nina Hale	STK	Steve Kolbe
KeL	Ken Larson	nIR	Nick Rosen	STo	Stephanie Town
KEM	Karen E. McGee	NKu	Noah Kuck	STW	Sylvia T. Winkelman
Kem	Kimberly A. Emerson	NLM	Norma L. Malinowski	SUH	Susan Hartley
KHg	Kevin Halling	NMe	Nolan Meyer	SvB	Steve Broste
KHo	Karen Howden	NMt	Nathan Martineau	SWe	Steve Weston
KiH	Kim Hansen	NPo	Nate Popkin	SWm	Steve Williams
KIs	Karl Isely	NFRa	Nathan Rathbun	TAN	Terry Andrews
KMa	Kyle Maust	NVe	Nancy Verba	TAN	Tom A. Nelson
KMS	Kenneth M. Schumacher	NWi	Neil Wingert	TAR	Todd Arnold
KnM	Kathleen MacAulay	NWn	Nick Walton	TAT	Tom A. Tustison
KRE	Kim R. Eckert	PAI	Pam Albin	TBo	Travis Bonovsky
KrM	Kris Moulton	PBB	Patrick B. Beauzay	TBU	Thomas Burns
KRo	Karl Roe	PBk	Peter Binstock	TCL	Tim Lamey
KSI	Kathy Sidles	PCC	Philip C. Chu	TFB	Tom F. Boevers
KSz	Kieran Schwartz	PEB	Paul E. Budde	Tfo	Tim Fox
KvB	Kevan Bohan	PEJ	Paul E. Jantscher	TFu	Terry Fuller
KvM	Kevin Manley	PHS	Peder H. Svingen	TJa	Teresa Jaskiewicz
KyP	Kyle Peterson	PJB	Paul J. Binek	TJo	Tim Johnson
LAI	Lee Aide	PKF	Paul & Koni Fank	TLU	Tim Lundahl
LAl	Lee Allen	PLJ	Paul L. Johnson	TNe	Theresa Nelson
LAt	Linda Atella	PMM	Peter Mattson	ToL	Tony Lau
LAV	Lance A. Vrieze	PNI	Peter Nichols	ToM	Todd Mitchell
LBI	Lynn Birr	PPe	Patrick Peters	ToR	Tom Ries
LEC	Laura E. Coble	PRH	Pete Hoeger	TPu	Tim Pulis
LEv	Laurie Evans	PSP	Pamela S. Perry	TPW	Terry Wiens
LGI	Lynn Glesne	PSu	Paul Suchanek	TRd	Tom Reed
LGr	Lissa Grover	RAE	Ronald A. Erpelding	TSI	Tyler S. Imfeld
LHl	Luke Hollander	RaF	Ray Fini	TSK	Tim Stuck
LHv	Linnæe Halvorsen	RbD	Robert Badger	VBC	Vai B. Cunningham
LiH	Liz Harper	RBJ	Robert B. Janssen	VKI	Valerie Klumper
Lko	Logan Korte	RBW	Bob Williams	WAF	Wayne Feder
LkT	Lisa Keitel	RCl	Richard Clearman	WCM	William C. Marengo
LME	Laura Erickson	RCo	Ronald Cordes	WFe	Wilmer Fernandez
LMS	Larry Sirvio	RCz	Randall Czaia	WPe	Wendy Pepin
LnH	Lynn Hanske	REH	Robert E. Holtz	WPI	Wayne Perala
LNI	Lisa Nelson	REn	Becca Engdahl	WPo	Wait Popp
LnT	Leon Thoreson	RHe	Bob Heise	WyR	Wayne Runningen
LoM	Lorrene Maroney	RiC	Richie Cutts		
LS	Linda Sparling	RJS	Roger Jay Schroeder		
LSe	Laura Segala	RJu	Rachel Justice		
LSh	Lynne Schoenborn	RJW	Robert Watson		
LSI	Linda Slagter	RMD	Robert M. Dunlap		
LYg	Linda Young	RMu	Ronald Murphy		
MaH	Marshall Howe	RPR	Rob Russell		
MAJ	Mark Junghans	RSA	Renner S. Anderson		
MAK	Michael A. Koutnik	RTo	Randy Toppen		
MCA	Mark C. Alt	RTP	Ray Potthoff		
MFu	Matthew Furst	RTu	Reed Turner		
MGi	Michael Gilbertson	RyS	Ryan Steiner		
MHe	Melissa Hein	RZi	Roy Zimmerman		
MHn	Michael Henry	SAS	Shelley A. Steva		
MiD	Michael Degerstrom	SAu	Sandy Aubol		
MiO	Michael Oetken	SBE	Susan Barnes Elliott		
MIT	Michael Thompson	SBM	Scott B. Meyer		
MJB	Milton J. Blomberg	SBN	Steven Brown		
MJM	Michael J. Majeski	SC	Shawn Conrad		
MKo	Meghan Koenig	SCh	Steve Chesney		
MLk	Mike Lehrke	SDI	Scott Dirks		
MO	Mark Otnes	SEm	Steve Emerson		
MPe	Minard Petersen	SES	Steven E. Schon		
MPI	Matt Pierce	SGa	Stephen Gardner		

**Abbreviations**

C.P.	County Park
C.R.	County Road
E.L.C.	Environmental Learning Center
F.R.	Forest Road
H.R.N.R.	Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve
N.C.	Nature Center
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.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
W.P.	Wilderness Park
W.P.A.	Waterfowl Protection Area
W.S.H.C.	West Skyline Hawk Count
W.T.P.	Wastewater Treatment Ponds

# The M.O.U. 300 Club

Anthony X. Hertzler and David A. Cahlander

## The Roberts Club

**Birders who have seen a minimum of 85% of the state's 444 bird species (378)**

412 Kim R. Eckert	Don O. Kienholz	Richard Wachtler	383 Craig R. Mandel
Anthony X. Hertzler	391 Jo Bianich	388 Gloria Wachtler	Susan Schumacher
409 Robert B. Janssen	Jeff J. Stephenson	387 Bill George	382 Herb H. Dingmann
408 Peder H. Svingen	Tom A. Tustison	386 Don A. Bolduc	John P. Ellis
406 Bill R. Litkey	390 Dedrick Benz	Hap Huber	Steve Millard
401 Paul M. Egeland	Jerry E. Bonkoski	Howard Towle	381 Douglas P. Johnson
Barbara Martin	David A. Cahlander	384 Robert M. Dunlap	380 Karol Gresser
Dennis D. Martin	Richard Ruhme	Ronald L. Huber	Charles Krulas
399 Robert L. Ekblad	389 Ronald A. Erpelding	Warren E. Nelson	379 Mark S. Citsay
398 Ray Glassel	Kim W. Risen	Jerry Pruet	378 William C. Marengo
393 John W. Hockema	Andrew D. Smith	David P. Sovereign	

## The 300 Club

**Birders who have seen a minimum of 300 species in Minnesota**

377 Randy S. Frederickson	355 Pete Hoeger	334 Joel Schmidt	316 Ben A. Wieland
377 Linda Sparling	354 Brad Abendroth	333 Cindy Risen	315 Deanne Endrizzi
376 Philip C. Chu	354 Roy Zimmerman	333 Robert E. Holtz	314 Bill Brown
376 Connie Osbeck	353 Erik Collins	332 Becca Engdahl	314 Clay Christensen
375 Bob Williams	352 Dave Baden	332 Richard L. Miller	314 Alyssa L. DeRubeis
374 Conny M. Brunell	352 Terry P. Brashear	331 Alex Burchard	314 Michael Steffes
373 Ben W. Fritchman	352 William R Bronn	331 Chad Heins	314 Justin Watts
373 Rick Hoyme	352 Peter Neubeck	331 Robert H. O'Connor	313 Ben Douglas
373 Mark Junghans	352 John Richardson	330 Alice Hennessey	313 Tom A. Nelson
373 Bill Stjern	350 Betsy Beneke	330 Janet Majerus	313 James F. Ryan
372 Al A. Bolduc	349 James W. Lind	330 Nathan Schirmacher	313 Steven E. Schon
372 Jim Egge	349 Nancy A. Jackson	329 Elizabeth Bell	313 Shelley A. Steva
372 Oscar L. Johnson	349 Blaine Seeliger	329 Tom Bell	313 Dan T. Thimgan
371 Terry Savaloja	349 Brian T. Smith	329 Ezra Hosch	312 Nelvina E. De Kam
370 Dick Rengstorf	348 Liz Harper	329 David Johnson	312 Diana Doyle
370 Kenneth M. Schumacher	348 Douglas Mayo	329 Jeanie M. Joppru	312 Bob Heise
369 Elizabeth Campbell	348 Andrew Nyhus	328 Peter Nichols	311 Kathi Berdan
369 J. S. Fitcher	347 Tony Lau	325 Gary Simonson	311 Tom F. Boevers
369 Leslie Marcus	346 Kevin D. Smith	325 Dale A. Yerger	311 Chris Fagyal
368 Joel C. Claus	345 Craig A. Menze	324 Bruce Munson	311 Pamela S. Perry
368 Forest V. Strnad	345 Jim Peterson	323 Karl Roe	310 Steve Emerson
367 Milton J. Blomberg	344 George Lahr	323 Linda B. Felker	310 K. Scott Foster
366 Diane M. Anderson	344 Warren Woessner	322 Lars Benson	310 Fred Z. Leshner
365 David R. Benson	343 Chet A. Meyers	322 Frank Berdan	311 Connie M. Norheim
365 Mike L. Hendrickson	343 Alex Sundvall	322 Kathy A. Heidel	310 Theodore Voelker
365 David W. Thurston	341 Warren Wegener	321 Dick Hartman	309 Clara Dahle
364 Bruce Baer	340 Dan Orr	320 Renner S. Anderson	309 Michael J. Majeski
364 James L. Otto	339 Shawn Conrad	320 Steven Midthune	309 Mark Otnes
364 Dick Sandve	339 Larry Sirvio	319 Jonas Benson	309 Sandy M. Thimgan
364 Jim Williams	339 Josh Wallestad	319 Roger J. Schroeder	307 Anthony M. Smith
363 Jim R. Eikenberry	338 Bonnie J. Mulligan	318 Clinton Nienhaus	306 Lance A. Vrieze
363 Frank Gosiak	337 Paul L. Johnson	317 Jason Caddy	305 Burnett Hojnacki
362 Jerry Gresser	337 Ken LaFond	317 Andy Forbes	305 Michael W. Sack
361 Dave Bartkey	337 Judith Sparrow	317 Alex Franzen	305 Dana Sterner
360 Kenneth Oulman	337 Raymond Tervo	317 Dee Kuder	304 Thomas Malone
360 Bill Pieper	336 Mark C. Alt	317 Alexander R. Watson	302 Molly Malecek
359 Mike Mulligan	335 Deborah Fellows	317 Garrett Wee	302 Keith T. Pulles
359 Steve J. Roman	335 Colin R. Gjerovold	316 Joel Dunnette	300 Angela Gerend
357 Marjorie Cahlander	335 Gerald Hoekstra	316 Kimberly A. Emerson	300 Michael Oetken
356 Janet C. Green	335 Earl E. Orf	316 Stephen Gardner	300 Don Starkweather
356 Sparky Stensaas	334 Al Schirmacher	316 Fr Tom Margevicius	





# The Owl in the Attic

## Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citria*)

C. B. Johnson

[Reprinted from Johnson, C. B. 1898. Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citria*).  
*The Oölogist* 15:53–53]

This handsome little Warbler first came under my observation in 1888, while out looking for Downy Woodpeckers' eggs. I was out in the, bottom lands of the Mississippi River working my way along the edge of the pond, among the willows and birch, when out flew what I at first thought was a Yellow Warbler, but on getting a better view, saw it was a new bird to me. Did not find any nests that year but in 1889 found a set of six handsome eggs on June 15th, in an old Downy Woodpecker's hole, placed in a rotten stub. The nest was a mass of moss, some of which still had the roots and dirt adhering, filling the cavity almost to the top, lined with a few strips of the inner bark of grapevines, some hair-like roots, and feathers.

Since then I have taken many nests and eggs, ranging from three to seven in each nest. Some heavily marked with large spots and blotches, others thinly and evenly marked with small spots and specks, of a reddish or brownish color, with lilac shell markings underneath.

Some years the bulk of the nests were found in stubs standing at the edge of or in the water, other years from ten to one hundred feet back from it, and in thick woods.

They were the most numerous in the marshy bottom land at the head of Lake Pepin, where there were many stubs, dead trees and stumps standing in and at the edge of the water. This year I went down there

with Willis F. Hill of Lake City, Minn., and we only found one set of four and another nest containing one egg. The action of the ice in spring and heavy winds having torn and blown down nearly all of the suitable nesting places, causing them to seek nesting sites somewhere else.

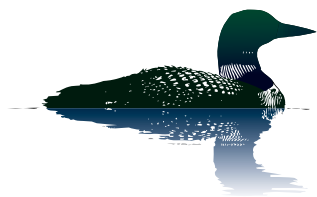
The height of the nesting season was from May 30th to about June 15th, in some years, and others from about June 5th to about the 25th.

The height ranged from one foot above water (one nest) and two feet to thirteen feet, averaging from four to six feet up. One dead tree contained a Prothonotary Warbler's nest six feet up, and two feet higher a Tree Swallow, and about six feet higher a Downy Woodpecker's. All containing young. Nearly every nest found was in an old and sometimes broken out Downy Woodpecker's hole. Very frequently we could tear away the rotten wood all around the nest and take it out whole. The oldest and rottenest holes seem to be preferred.

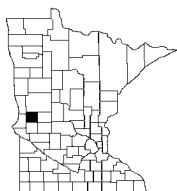
In all the books and papers that I have, none mention this Warbler as a summer resident, except G. G. Cantwell's list of the birds of Minnesota. It certainly should be classed as fairly common in "suitable localities along the Mississippi River in southern Minnesota.

**Red Wing, Minn.**

# Notes of Interest



**KING RAIL IN GRANT COUNTY** — On 16 June 2018, I observed a King Rail at the North Ottawa Impoundment in Grant County. The bird first had been reported on 15 June and two birds were seen by many people from 24 June through 19 August.



At least one juvenile “about 2/3 or 3/4 grown” was reported here on 12 August (Kim Eckert, MOU archives).

**Size** In bulk of body, the King Rail approached the size of an American Coot — in my notes I wrote, “80 to 100% as large?” (Although I could easily see that the bird was big — it was just standing there, 10–15 yards away, for about half of the observation period — I had a hard time making a precise comparison with the nearby coots: dozens of coots were in the area, but none were in the same field of view, and most were swimming so that only part of the body was visible.)

**Shape** Shape was similar to that of a Virginia Rail: the bill was long — longer than the head, though I didn’t try to estimate how much longer; the neck, when extended, was relatively long; the legs were relatively long; and the tail was short and often cocked.

**Bare Parts** Regarding the bill, the culmen was black, whereas the rest of the bill was reddish orange. In fact, the reddish orange was not uniform: a closer look revealed it to be yellow-orange in some areas and orange-red in others, with the mix of yellow-orange and orange-red combining to give the overall reddish orange appearance.

The irises were medium brown — considerably paler than the pupils — and the legs were flesh-colored.

**Plumage** The forehead and crown were

brownish black. The face — including the superciliary area (above the eye), transocular area (through the eye), and cheek (below the eye) — were mainly grayish buff; however, note the following qualifications.

(1) There was a narrow, grayish white, partial eye-ring that surrounded the posterior two-thirds or so of the eye.

(2) The lores, as well as the anterior postocular area — the portion of the postocular area just behind the eye — were blackish.

(3) The supraloral area was paler than the rest, i.e., it was paler than the grayish buff of most of the rest of the face.

The grayish buff of the face faded into the white of the chin and throat.

The hindneck was medium brown, whereas the foreneck, neck-sides, and breast were pale rufous. As such the latter three areas were much warmer and redder-tinged than the hindneck.

The flanks were boldly barred gray-black and white, with the blackish bars being broader than the white ones; the vent region was barred blackish and white; the medial under tail-coverts were barred blackish and buff; and the lateral under tail-coverts were white with a few blackish spots. (I could see the vent region and under tail-coverts because the bird cocked its tail on several occasions while walking away from me.)

The back and scapular feathers were patterned as follows. Each had a broad central black streak; bordering the black on either side was medium brown; and, bordering the medium brown on either side, each feather’s edges were pale grayish.

The tertials were like the back and scapular feathers, but with edges that were pale buff rather than pale grayish. I neglected to evaluate the appearance of the rump and upper tail-coverts — but in general those areas did not contrast with the brownish and streaked rest of the upperbody. I tried, but failed, to determine the exact pattern on the individual rectrices,

and can say only that they were blackish with a little intermixed medium brown.

The upper secondary-coverts were rufous, and were better seen than might be expected because, while the bird stood in the long grass, it repeatedly held its wings out from its body, as if stretching; conversely, even though the wings were repeatedly held out from the body, I could never get a clear view of the secondaries and primaries, so I don't know what they looked like.

**Behavior** For about half of the observation

period — mostly at the beginning, but a little at the end, too — the King Rail was standing in long grass. While standing it repeatedly held the wings out from the body, as if stretching.

In between the periods of standing, the rail walked deliberately along the shoreline, staying just inside or just outside the edge of the vegetation. When it was walking I presumed it to be looking for food, but I never saw it catch (or even try to catch) anything.

**Phil C. Chu, Collegette, MN.**

## Corrections to *The Loon*

**Paul Budde and Anthony X. Hartzel**

### Volume 88

**Pages 187, 191, and 196:** Change the name of the article from “Supernumerary Remiges on Both Wings of a Red-tailed Hawk and Northern Saw-whet Owl” to “Supernumerary Remiges on Both Sides of a Red-tailed Hawk and Northern Saw-whet Owl.”

### Volume 89

**Page 92:** Replace “Sandhill Cranes started moving back into the state after mid February,

with reports from a record-setting 18 counties, including two north; the previous February high was four” with “A Sandhill Crane reported on 1 January in Dakota County provided one of the few January records for the state.”

### Volume 90

**Page 132:** In the first Note of Interest, in the title, change the county from Washington to Waseca.

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**Compiled by Anthony X. Hartzel and David A. Cahlander**

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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.