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A MAGAZINE OF WISCONSIN BIRD STUDY



The Passenger Pigeon

Summer 1967

VOLUME 29 NUMBER 2



**HAWK OWL
NEST**

PHOTO BY
MARTHA LOUNG

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The Birds of Douglas County, Wisconsin

by

RICHARD F. BERNARD

Although much has been written on Wisconsin birds, there is still a need for more critical studies of the birds in the northern counties of the state. This need stems from the fact that much of the ornithological information available on Wisconsin birds is based on work done in the central and southern portions of the state. As a result, there are gaps in our knowledge of nesting species, seasonal distribution, and relative abundance of bird in the northern counties of Wisconsin.

H. H. T. Jackson's "Summer Birds of Northwestern Wisconsin", published as a series of seven articles in the Passenger Pigeon from 1941 to 1943, is one of the few papers available which deals directly with the birds of northwestern Wisconsin. The latter, however, includes a broad area of study and deals only with observations made during July and August of 1919. Since then, few reports have been available on the birds of Douglas County until recent years. During the past five years there has been much field observation of birds in the county, and it is the purpose of this paper to present a more current and a more complete report on the birds of Douglas County.

The data on the 265 species listed here have been taken primarily from my own field notes which cover the period from 1962 to 1967. Other observers whose field notes were made available to me are acknowledged with gratitude: Bernard Klugow, Marvin Granlund, Samuel Robbins, Dave Snarski, Richard Staupe, and Phil Vanderschaegen. I also wish to express my gratitude to the many students and friends who provided me with occasional information on birds or turned in dead birds for examination. A grant from the Board of Regents of State Colleges and a WSO Steenbock Scholarship to Dave Snarski enabled us to travel to the Universities of Wisconsin and Minnesota and to the Milwaukee Public Museum in order to examine specimens taken in Douglas County. Help from both the granting institutions and staffs from the respective schools and museum are gratefully acknowledged. Finally, special thanks are due to Dave Snarski for his help in the initial researching for this report.

Description of Study Area

Douglas County forms the northwestern corner of the state of Wisconsin. It is bordered on the north by Lake Superior and the St. Louis River; on the east by Bayfield County; on the south by Washburn and Burnett Counties; and on the west by Minnesota.

A total area of 1337 square miles makes Douglas County one of the largest counties in the state. The county has 122 inland lakes with a total area of 11,934 acres. Originally, forests covered about 86 per cent of the county land area but more recent figures show that 72 per cent of the land is forested, about 13 per cent is in wooded swampland, and 6 per cent is open marsh (Wis. Dept. of Agriculture, 1962).

In addition to its shoreline habitat, the county may be characterized as having three broad vegetational zones correlated with three major soil types which provide a variety of bird habitats. The northern one-third of the county consists of a reddish clay loam, the remains of an old glacial lake plain. This portion of the county was originally covered by boreal forest and is still generally listed as a spruce-fir forest zone in most vegetational maps of Wisconsin. The spruce-fir forest zone consists mainly of white spruce (*Picea glauca*), balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*), white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*), black spruce (*Picea mariana*), and tamarack (*Larix laricina*). Inland, the dominant soil type is a greyish loam. The major vegetation of this area has been designated as a conifer-hardwood forest dominated by maple (*Acer rubrum*, *A. saccharum*), birch (*Betula papyrifera*), pine (*Pinus strobus*, *P. resinosa*, *P. banksiana*), and aspen (*Populus tremuloides*). Cutting across the greyish loams in a northeast-southwest direction in the southeastern part of the county is a broad band of sands originally called the sand barrens. The barrens remain today and are dominated by jackpine (*Pinus banksiana*) and scrub oak (*Quercus* sp.). This area lacks the wet lands which are common on the reddish clay loams and grayish loams (Curtis, 1959).

Attempts to develop parts of the county for agriculture, although mostly unsuccessful, have brought about changes in the natural vegetation. Likewise, lumbering has resulted in modifications of the area. Hence, much of the boreal forest is now gone and scattered areas in the county consist of abandoned farmlands overgrown with weeds and alder thickets.

Special Features

From the standpoint of the ornithologist, several features of Douglas County are of interest. For one, Wisconsin Point, which, along with Minnesota Point, forms the remains of the longest fresh water bay-head bar in the world, deserves comment. This wooded point juts out into the western end of Lake Superior and forms a natural thoroughfare for migrating birds. The Point also affords protection to the bay behind it and to congregations of migrating waterfowl and shorebirds. Secondly, the Boise Brule River, located in the northeast portion of the county, flows into Lake Superior and occupies part of the same valley as the St. Croix River which flows to the Mississippi. This valley was once the outlet of glacial Lake Duluth. A comparatively short expanse of higher ground now separates these opposite flowing streams. The valley along the Brule contains, to a large degree, a boreal type forest. Hence, trips along the Brule provide an observer with the opportunity to study a variety of birds including many species of warblers as well as such boreal forms as the Black-backed Woodpecker and crossbills.

A third area of interest is the St. Louis River which forms part of the northern boundary of the county. The river's bays, backwater

sloughs and wooded banks provide a wide variety of habitat types for waterfowl, shorebirds and many passerines.

Lastly, about five miles southwest of Solon Springs the Wisconsin Conservation Department maintains an area for the management of the Sharp-tailed Grouse. Tracts of this relatively undisturbed area are subjected to periodic burning as a management tool. As a result, not only Sharp-tails but many other birds associated with forest clearings and burnt over fields live in the area. Close to the Solon Springs grouse tract is the St. Croix Flowage which attracts many water birds.

Remarks and Descriptions of Symbols

The 265 species included in this report have been documented either by a specimen, a recent sight record or by a published record in the **Passenger Pigeon**. The names of birds and their order are those currently being used in the fifth edition (1957) of the American Ornithologists' Union "Check List of North American Birds." No listing of subspecies has been attempted.

A separate "hypothetical list" of 13 additional species is included at the end of the paper along with remarks supporting the possibility of their occurrence in Douglas County.

Not all species included in the main text are supported by specimens. Nevertheless, any species recorded by an experienced observer has been included. For the most part, all records have been documented by a specimen taken in the state but not necessarily in this county. For the sake of accuracy some sight records were omitted when they lacked sufficient substantiation.

The symbols used herein to describe the status of birds are those described in "Wisconsin Birds—a Checklist with Migration Charts" by Barger, Lound and Robbins (1960) since most Wisconsin bird students are acquainted with this system. However, in view of the lack of definite information on most bird populations some categories denoting density were omitted. Therefore, only the words rare, common and uncommon are used to denote relative abundance. The word "rare" applies to species which were observed nine or less times per year; "common" is used for species which occur regularly in fairly large numbers; and "uncommon" is used to denote those which occur regularly (10 to 20 reports) but in small numbers. In addition, the term accidental is used to denote species which are far out of their normal range and are unlikely to re-occur in the county. Species known to have bred in the county are preceded by an asterisk (*) and those supported by a specimen are preceded by a plus sign (+). Supporting specimens are on deposit at Wisconsin State University-Superior, unless otherwise stated in the text. Breeding status is based on the finding of a nest or of adult birds with young. In many cases the presence of birds in summer is strong evidence that the species nests here, but unfortunately positive evidence is not always available. Hence, several species (particularly warblers) are not listed as breeding although there is little reason to doubt that they do.

References to single observations of birds from the field note section of the **Passenger Pigeon** and **Audubon Field Notes** are cited directly in the text. Whereas, papers dealing primarily with birds in Douglas County

or general references are listed in both the text as well as in the literature cited section at the end of the paper.

Family Gaviidae. Loons

- *Common Loon. **Gavia immer** (Brunnich). Regular transient and summer resident. Loons are comparatively common in the county during migration and some breed on many of the more isolated small lakes.
- Red-throated Loon. **Gavia stellata** (Pontoppidan). Rare transient and summer visitant. Noted mainly at Wisconsin Point, Superior. Recorded in summer on Lake Superior on July 13 (adult with young) and August 9, 1955, by members of the Wisconsin Audubon Camp Staff (Pass. Pigeon, 18, 1956:177)

Family Podicipedidae. Grebes

- Red-necked Grebe. **Podiceps grisegena** (Boddaert). Regular transient, generally rare, but occasionally common at Lake Superior.
- Horned Grebe. **Podiceps auritus** (Linnaeus). Common transient, particularly in spring. Summer sight records exist, but there is no evidence of breeding.
- Eared Grebe. **Podiceps caspicus** (Hablizl). Very rare. The only report is that of two birds of this species which were seen at Wisconsin Point at Superior on May 4 and May 7, 1967, by the author. However, other area records include two spring specimens from near Iron River, Bayfield County, which were received by Kumlien and Hollister (**Birds of Wisconsin**, 1951:2); another was noted at Duluth during April 1966 (**Aud. Field Notes** 20, 1965:511).
- Western Grebe. **Aechmophorus occidentalis** (Lawrence). Only one record: a single bird observed at Wisconsin Point at Superior under especially favorable circumstances on May 1, 1965, by Jim Stephenson (Pass. Pigeon, 28, 1966:24).
- *Pied-billed Grebe. **Podilymbus podiceps** (Linnaeus). Regular transient and uncommon summer resident.

Family Pelecanidae. Pelicans

- White Pelican. **Pelecanus erythrorhynchos** Gmelin. Rare transient in spring and fall. Recorded only at Superior.

Family Phalacrocoracidae. Cormorants

- Double-crested Cormorant. **Phalacrocorax auritus** (Lesson). Transient, uncommon in spring, rare in fall. No known breeding record for the county.

Family Ardeidae. Herons

- *Great Blue Heron. **Ardea herodias** Linnaeus. Summer resident. Usually seen individually, or in small groups. Scattered reports of single nests have been received but no large colony has been recorded in the county.
- *Green Heron. **Butorides virescens** (Linnaeus). Rare summer resident. This species appears to be extending its range north as few were noted in the county until recent years. In August of 1965, young were noted along the Brule River for the first time but no nest was found.

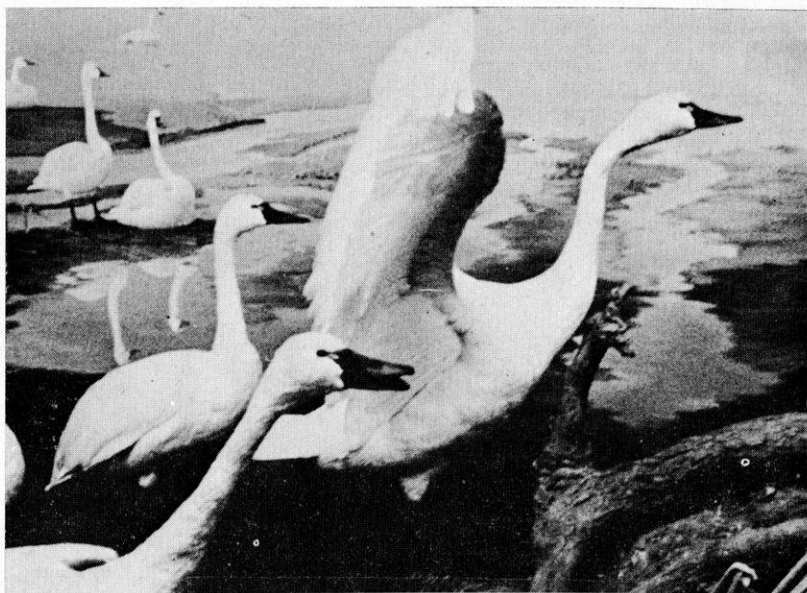
Common Egret. *Casmerodius albus* (Linnaeus). Very rare. The first county record for the species was established when a single individual was noted at Superior from May 19 to May 26, 1966.

Least Bittern. *Ixobrychus exilis* (Gmelin). Rare summer resident. Noted only at Superior during May and June. No nesting records or specimens are known for the county.

*American Bittern. *Botaurus lentiginosus* (Rackett). Common summer resident. Found throughout the county in small numbers where appropriate habitat exists.

Family Anatidae. Swans, Geese and Ducks

Whistling Swan. *Olor columbianus* (Ord). Regular transient. Common in spring, uncommon in fall. At times, spring flocks numbering from 600 to 1000 individuals have been observed.



WHISTLING SWAN

Canada Goose. *Branta canadensis* (Linnaeus). Regular transient. Noted more frequently in fall than in spring.

Snow Goose. *Chen hyperborea* (Pallas). Regular transient. More numerous in autumn than in spring.

Blue Goose. *Chen caerulescens* (Linnaeus). Regular transient, rare in spring.

*Mallard. *Anas platyrhynchos* Linnaeus. Common migrant and summer resident. Most common breeding duck. A few occasionally winter when open water is available.

*Black Duck. *Anas rubripes* Brewster. Common migrant, uncommon summer resident. Occasionally winters when there is open water.

Gadwall. *Anas strepera* Linnaeus. Transient, generally rare. Noted mainly in spring, rare in fall.

Pintail. *Anas acuta* Linnaeus. Regular transient. Common in spring, uncommon in fall. A few summer records exist but no breeding records have been established.

Green-winged Teal. *Anas carolinensis* Gmelin. Regular transient and rare summer resident. No breeding records known although individuals are noted each summer.

*Blue-winged Teal. *Anas discors* Linnaeus. Common migrant and summer resident. Nests regularly.

American Widgeon. *Mareca americana* (Gmelin). Common transient. Several summer records of the species but with no evidence of nesting.

Shoveler. *Spatula clypeata* (Linnaeus). Common transient. More common in spring than in fall.



WOOD DUCK

*Wood Duck. *Aix sponsa* (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident.

Redhead. *Aythya americana* (Eyton). Regular transient, largely confined to larger bodies of water.

*Ring-necked Duck. *Aythya collaris* (Donovan). Regular transient. Uncommon in summer.

Canvasback. *Aythya valisineria* (Wilson). Transient. Noted more frequently in spring than in autumn. Occasionally common in bays near Lake Superior.

Greater Scaup. *Aythya marila* (Linnaeus). Regular transient. Common in spring on larger bodies of water. Noted less frequently in autumn.

Lesser Scaup. *Aythya affinis* (Eyton). Common transient. Several records of summer occurrence of pairs, but without proof of breeding.

Common Goldeneye. *Bucephala clangula* (Linnaeus). Common transient, winters regularly when there is open water. Uncommon in summer; many sight records exist, but without proof of breeding.

Bufflehead. *Bucephala albeola* (Linnaeus). Common transient. Stragglers remain into late December on open water.

Oldsquaw. *Clangula hyemalis* (Linnaeus). The few actual records for Douglas County include: an injured bird found at Superior on April 28, 1950, by Mrs. Mabelle Gates. The bird died two days later (*Pass. Pigeon* 12, 1950:138); one seen by Bernard Klugow at the mouth of the Brule River on April 1, 1963; and one observed by Beatrice Norman on February 20, 1967, near Brule (pers. comm.). However, the species has also been noted several times at Ashland, in Bayfield County, and at Minnesota Point.

White-winged Scoter. *Melanitta deglandi* (Bonaparte). Rare transient. Noted only in spring at Wisconsin Point. However, several fall sight records exist for Minnesota Point.

Surf Scoter. *Melanitta perspicillata* (Linnaeus). Rare transient, but status little known. The only two positive records include a bird shot from a flock of seven on October 17, 1964, by William Frier-mood. The head was preserved and is in the Superior State University collection (*Pass. Pigeon*, 27, 1965:123); and two were seen at Wisconsin Point on May 26, 1967, by the author as well as by several other observers. There are also several reports of this species from Minnesota Point.

Common Scoter. *Oidemia nigra* (Linnaeus). Rare transient. Recorded only once at Wisconsin Point on June 9, 1967, by Marvin Granlund and the author. However, the species is noted almost yearly at Minnesota Point during October and November and one was seen there on May 19-20, 1962 (Duluth Bird Club Notes); one was shot in Bayfield County on November 8, 1963, by a hunter and picked up by Bernard Klugow (*Pass. Pigeon*, 26, 1964:98).

Ruddy Duck. *Oxyura jamaicensis* (Gmelin). Rare transient. One summer sight record for the county by Samuel Robbins on August 27, 1958 (*Pass. Pigeon*, 20, 1958:164).

*Hooded Merganser. *Lophodytes cucullatus* (Linnaeus). Regular migrant. Common in spring, uncommon in fall. Summer resident in limited numbers and known to breed locally.

*Common Merganser. *Mergus merganser* Linnaeus. Common migrant. Uncommon summer resident. Winters where there is open water.

*Red-breasted Merganser. *Mergus serrator* Linnaeus. Common migrant. Uncommon summer resident along Lake Superior. Uncommon winter resident when there is open water. Two summer specimens (imm. male; and a young female) from Douglas County are in the Milwaukee Public Museum Collection.

Family Cathartidae. American Vultures

Turkey Vulture. *Cathartes aura* (Linnaeus). Uncommon transient and rare summer resident. No positive evidence of nesting.

Family Accipitridae. Hawks

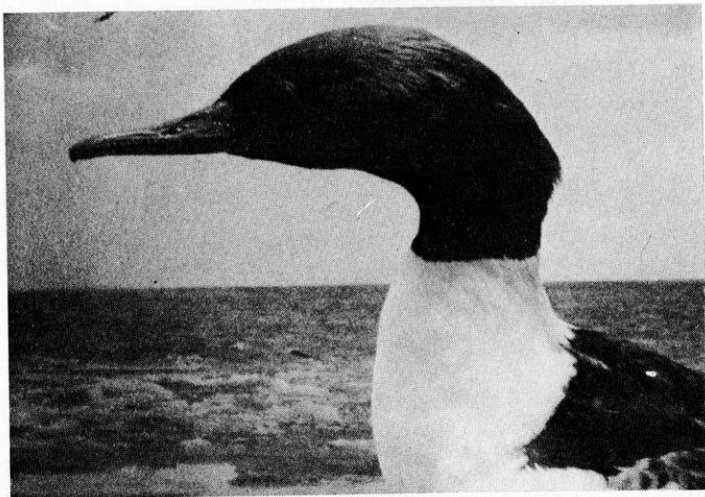
Goshawk. *Accipiter gentilis* (Linnaeus). Actual status poorly known. Trapping operations on Madeline Island in Ashland County, indicate that this may be a much more common species than is supposed in this area. Noted mainly in winter but several summer observations have been made. Indirect evidence of nesting in the county. Spring observations in recent years indicate that this species may pass through in large numbers. Peaks were noted on April 11, 1964

(40 in one hour); March 22, 1965 (44 during the afternoon); April 22, 1966 (no count); and April 8, 1967 (1800 hawks, mostly Goshawks).

Sharp-shinned Hawk. **Accipiter striatus** Vieillot. Common transient and uncommon summer resident. No definite nesting records for the county.

Cooper's Hawk. **Accipiter cooperii** (Bonaparte). Regular transient and uncommon summer resident. Noted more frequently in spring than in autumn.

*Red-tailed Hawk. **Buteo jamaicensis** (Gmelin). Common migrant, uncommon summer resident. Nests locally.



COMMON MERGANSER

Red-shouldered Hawk. **Buteo lineatus** (Gmelin). Rare transient. No summer records have been established.

*Broad-winged Hawk. **Buteo platypterus** (Vieillot). Common transient. Uncommon summer resident. Breeds in favorable habitat throughout the county.

Rough-legged Hawk. **Buteo lagopus** (Pontoppidan). Transient, occasionally common in migration. Noted more commonly in fall than in spring with stragglers remaining into December.

Golden Eagle. **Aquila chrysaetos** (Linnaeus). Rare transient and winter visitant. An adult female taken on December 17, 1936, at Solon Springs is on deposit in the Milwaukee Public Museum (Schorger, A. W., *Pass. Pigeon*, 7, 1945:50). One reported by F. H. King from Douglas County on October 11, 1955 (*Pass. Pigeon*, 18, 1956:36).

*Bald Eagle. **Haliaeetus leucocephalus** (Linnaeus). Regular transient. Uncommon summer resident, breeding locally. Rare winter resident where there is open water.

*Marsh Hawk. **Circus cyaneus** (Linnaeus). Regular migrant and summer resident. Nests locally. A few late fall records and a winter record for the species have been established.

- *Osprey. **Pandion haliaetus** (Linnaeus). Uncommon transient and summer resident. Nests in a few isolated locations.

Family Falconidae. Falcons

- Peregrine Falcon. **Falco peregrinus** Tunstall. Rare transient noted only in spring in Douglas County. Latest positive record for the area is that of a specimen taken at LaPointe, Madeline Island, Ashland County, between August 24 to 26, 1966. One reported by observers from the Wisconsin Audubon Camp on August 11 and 13, 1955, at Wisconsin Point (**Pass. Pigeon**, 17, 1955:149).
- Pigeon Hawk. **Falco columbarius** Linnaeus. Uncommon transient. A few summer records exist, but there is no proof of breeding.
- *Sparrow Hawk. **Falco sparverius** Linnaeus. Regular transient and common summer resident. Nests regularly in favorable locations.

Family Tetraonidae. Grouse

- Spruce Grouse. **Canachites canadensis** (Linnaeus). Formerly a permanent resident. Apparently last reported from the town of Dairyland in 1928 or 1929 (see Scott, W. E., **Pass. Pigeon**, 5, 1943:61-72).
- *Ruffed Grouse. **Bonasa umbellus** (Linnaeus). Permanent resident. Irregular in numbers.
- Greater Prairie Chicken. **Tympanuchus cupido** (Linnaeus). Formerly a permanent resident. Present at least until 1941 (Grange, 1948).
- *Sharp-tailed Grouse. **Pedioecetes phasianellus** (Linnaeus). Permanent resident. Generally uncommon but apparently increasing in numbers.

Family Phasianidae. Quails, Pheasants

- Bobwhite. **Colinus virginianus** (Linnaeus). Very rare. A flock of 30 reported present on November 6, 1951, by W. C. Newcomb (**Pass. Pigeon**, 13, 1951:78). No other records exist.
- *Ring-necked Pheasant. **Phasianus colchicus** Linnaeus. Introduced permanent resident in the Superior area only. Rarely noted in the county outside of Superior.

Family Rallidae. Rails, Coots

- *Virginia Rail. **Rallus limicola** Vieillot. Uncommon summer resident. Nests locally.
- *Sora. **Porzana carolina** (Linnaeus). Regular migrant. Common summer resident. Breeds locally.
- *Yellow Rail. **Coturnicops noveboracensis** (Gmelin). Status uncertain. The only record for the county is that of an immature bird picked up three miles south of Superior on August 6, 1965, and kept in a cage until it died on November 23, 1965. The bird is now in the collection at Wisconsin State University-Superior. Breeding presumed on the basis that the young bird was still unable to fly when found.
- American Coot. **Fulica americana** Gmelin. Common migrant. No summer records or breeding noted.

Family Charadriidae. Plovers and Turnstones

- Semipalmated Plover. **Charadrius semipalmatus** Bonaparte. Regular transient, mainly along Lake Superior.

*Piping Plover. *Charadrius melodus* Ord. Rare but regular migrant along the shore of Lake Superior. A few nesting reports have been submitted. (See **Pass. Pigeon**, 19, 1957:178 and **Pass. Pigeon**, 26, 1964-65).

Snowy Plover. *Charadrius alexandrinus* Linnaeus. Accidental. Only one record: a single bird observed along the shore of Lake Superior near the mouth of the Brule River on June 4, 1967, by Marvin Grandlund and the author. The bird was seen under especially favorable circumstances and all field marks were noted.

*Killdeer. *Charadrius vociferus* Linnaeus. Common migrant and summer resident. Many nesting records.

American Golden Plover. *Pluvialis dominica* (Müller). Regular transient along the shore of Lake Superior. Noted mostly in autumn. Generally uncommon but sometimes occurring in numbers locally.

Black-bellied Plover. *Squatarola squatarola* (Linnaeus). Regular transient, mainly along the shore of Lake Superior. More numerous in autumn.

Ruddy Turnstone. *Arenaria interpres* (Linnaeus). Irregular transient, largely confined to the Lake Superior shore. Generally uncommon, but sometimes common in spring at Wisconsin Point.

Family Scolopacidae. Woodcock, Snipe, and Sandpipers

*American Woodcock. *Philohela minor* (Gmelin). Common migrant and summer resident. Nests throughout the county in favorable habitat.

*Common Snipe. *Capella gallinago* (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident.

Whimbrel. *Numenius phaeopus* (Linnaeus). Rare transient along the shore of Lake Superior. Noted only in spring.

*Upland Plover. *Bartramia longicauda* (Bechstein). Uncommon and local summer resident. Breeds in a few scattered locations in the county. One collected near Solon Springs on August 9, 1919, is in the University of Wisconsin collection.

*Spotted Sandpiper. *Actitis macularia* (Linnaeus). Common migrant and summer resident. Nests throughout the county and along the Lake Superior shore.

Solitary Sandpiper. *Tringa solitaria* Wilson. Regular but uncommon transient. More common in fall. Migrants appear early in July. Three specimens from Douglas County, collected in July of 1909, are in the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Willet. *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus* (Gmelin). Rare transient. All Records are for May and June along the shore of Lake Superior.

Greater Yellowlegs. *Totanus melanoleucus* (Gmelin). Common transient. Rare non-breeding straggler in summer.

Lesser Yellowlegs. *Totanus flavipes* (Gmelin). Common transient. Rare non-breeding straggler in summer.

Knot. *Calidris canutus* (Linnaeus). Uncommon transient. Noted only along the shore of Lake Superior.

Pectoral Sandpiper. *Erolia melanotos* (Vieillot). Common transient, apparently more numerous in fall than in spring.

White-rumped Sandpiper. *Erolia fuscicollis* (Vieillot). Uncommon but

- regular transient, apparently more numerous in spring than in fall.
- Baird's Sandpiper. **Erolia bairdii** (Coues). Common transient. More numerous in fall than in spring.
- Least Sandpiper. **Erolia minutilla** (Vieillot). Rare transient. Noted more frequently in spring than in fall.
- Dunlin. **Erolia alpina** (Linnaeus). Common transient. Rare non-breeding straggler in summer.
- Dowitcher. **Limnodromus** sp. Uncommon but regular transient. The lack of available specimens for the county makes it impossible to determine the species involved. However, the Short-billed Dowitcher (**L. griseus**) is generally believed to be the more common in Wisconsin.
- Stilt Sandpiper. **Micropalama himantopus** (Bonaparte). Transient, uncommon in fall, rare in spring.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper. **Ereunetes pusillus** (Linnaeus). Common transient, at times numerous along the Lake Superior shore.
- Western Sandpiper. **Ereunetes mauri** Cabanis. Apparently a rare fall transient, but status poorly known owing to confusion with other small sandpipers. Reported only twice in fall since 1962. No specimens on record. Five reported at Superior on August 9, 1955, by members of the Wisconsin Audubon Camp Staff (**Pass. Pigeon**, 18, 1956:181).
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper. **Tryngites subruficollis** (Vieillot). Rare fall transient. Reported only twice since 1962. However, there are several other reports for Minnesota Point in the fall. Hence, the species may have been overlooked.
- Marbled Godwit. **Limosa fedoa** (Linnaeus). Rare transient. Noted only in spring along the shore of Lake Superior.
- Hudsonian Godwit: **Limosa haemastica** (Linnaeus). Rare transient. Noted only in spring along the shore of Lake Superior.
- Sanderling. **Crocethia alba** (Pallas). Generally a common transient, found chiefly near Lake Superior.

Family Phalaropodidae. Phalaropes

- Wilson's Phalarope. **Steganopus tricolor** Vieillot. Rare visitant. Noted only in spring near Lake Superior.
- Northern Phalarope. **Lobipes lobatus** (Linnaeus). Rare transient. Recorded only in autumn near Lake Superior.

Family Stercorariidae. Jaegers

- Parasitic Jaeger. **Stercorarius parasiticus** (Linnaeus). Status poorly known. Recorded in late August and September along the shore of Lake Superior.

Family Laridae. Gulls and Terns

- Glaucous Gull. **Larus hyperboreus** Gunnerus. Rare winter visitant. Recent observations of this species near Lake Superior in winter and spring indicate that it may be of regular occurrence in this area. One collected at Wisconsin Point on February 14, 1965, is now in the Wisconsin State University-Superior collection (see **Pass. Pigeon**, 27, 1965:71-72).
- Iceland Gull. **Larus glaucoides** Meyer. Very rare. The only report from

the county is that of a bird of this species observed from April 11 to April 15, 1966, at Wisconsin Point. There is no known specimen or definite photograph for this species from Wisconsin.

Herring Gull. **Larus argentatus** Pontoppidan. Common resident. Noted mainly along the shore of Lake Superior, uncommon inland. Winters when there is open water, often in large numbers, particularly near dumps located along the shore.

*Ring-billed Gull. **Larus delawarensis** Ord. Common transient. Uncommon summer resident. Irregular inland. One report of nesting on Barker's Island at Superior during the summer of 1957 by members of the Duluth Bird Club (see **Pass. Pigeon**, 19, 1957:179).

Franklin's Gull. **Larus pipixcan** Wagler. Apparently a rare fall visitant, not reported in spring. Records include: one noted at Superior on August 9, 1956, by members of the Wisconsin Audubon Camp Staff (**Pass. Pigeon**, 18, 1956:181); one observed at Wisconsin Point on August 27-28, 1958, by Samuel Robbins (**Pass. Pigeon**, 20, 1958:164-165); and another noted on August 28, 1964, at Wisconsin Point by Samuel Robbins (**Pass. Pigeon**, 27, 1965:125).

Bonaparte's Gull. **Larus philadelphia** Ord. Common transient and local summer visitant along Lake Superior. Uncommon transient inland.

Forster's Tern. **Sterna forsteri** Nuttall. Status poorly known but apparently a regular transient. Noted more frequently in spring than in fall.

*Common Tern. **Sterna hirundo** Linnaeus. Common migrant and local summer resident near Lake Superior.

Caspian Tern. **Hydroprogne caspia** (Pallas). Uncommon but regular migrant along Lake Superior. Rare inland. Summer visitant near Lake Superior.

*Black Tern. **Chlidonias niger** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident along Lake Superior. Uncommon inland. Nesting reports from several areas in the county, particularly along the lake.

Family Columbidae. Pigeons and Doves

*Rock Dove. **Columba livia** Gmelin. Common resident, particularly at Superior.

*Mourning Dove. **Zenaidura macroura** (Linnaeus). Irregular summer resident. At times locally common.

Family Cuculidae. Cuckoos

Yellow-billed Cuckoo. **Coccyzus americanus** (Linnaeus). The only record of this species for Douglas County is that of a specimen from Wascott dated June 26, 1941, on deposit in the Milwaukee Public Museum.

*Black-billed Cuckoo. **Coccyzus erythrophthalmus** (Wilson). Uncommon summer resident. Locally common in the southeastern portion of the county.

Family Strigidae. Owls

*Great Horned Owl. **Bubo virginianus** (Gmelin). Common permanent resident throughout the county.

Snowy Owl. **Nyctea scandiaca** (Linnaeus). Irregular winter visitant largely along the Lake Superior shore. Rarely reported from the

southern portion of the county. Stragglers occasionally remain into mid-April.

*Hawk-Owl. *Surnia ulula* (Linnaeus). Status poorly known but apparently a rare fall and winter visitant. Breeding records were established when two pairs were found nesting in the spring of 1963 (see **Pass. Pigeon**, 25, 1963:47-50), during a year noted for the invasion numbers of Hawk-Owls in the northern states.

*Barred Owl. *Strix varia* Barton. Uncommon permanent resident. Noted most frequently in the eastern portion of the county.

Great Gray Owl. *Strix nebulosa* Forster. Status poorly known. Recorded only twice in recent years: one bird found dead on November 1, 1965, by George Gillette near Brule; one observed on March 14, 1966, in Superior by the author as well as by several other observers (see **Pass. Pigeon**, 28, 1966:19-20). Several unverified reports also exist.

*Long-eared Owl. *Asio otus* (Linnaeus). Status poorly known. Apparently a rare migrant and summer resident. Only one positive breeding record for the species has been established.

*Short-eared Owl. *Asio flammeus* (Pontoppidan). Status poorly known. Recorded mainly in fall but one pair found breeding during the summer of 1963.

Boreal Owl. *Aegolius funereus* (Linnaeus). Status poorly known. Apparently a rare winter visitant. One was found dead on March 11, 1967, by Rudolph Johnson at Amnicon Lake in Douglas County. The latter is now in the Wisconsin State University-Superior collection. Another bird, believed to be of this species, was noted in late March, 1966, at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County, by Richard Staupe during the same period when about 14 were noted in northeastern Minnesota from January 16, 1966, to April 6, 1966 (**Aud. Field Notes**, 20, 1966:427). Two winter records also exist for Washburn County and one was trapped at LaPointe, Madeline Island, Ashland County, on January 17, 1966.



SAW-WHET OWL



BRULE RIVER

BY M. GRANLUND



BRULE RIVER

Saw-whet Owl. **Aegolius acadicus** (Gmelin). Status poorly known. Apparently an uncommon transient and possible summer resident.

Family Caprimulgidae. Goatsuckers

- *Whip-poor-will. **Caprimulgus vociferus** Wilson. Locally common summer resident.
- *Common Nighthawk. **Chordeiles minor** (Forster). Common summer resident, particularly numerous in migration during August. Seven specimens from Douglas County are in the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Family Apodidae. Swifts

- *Chimney Swift. **Chaetura pelagica** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident. Two Douglas County specimens are in the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Family Trochilidae. Hummingbirds

- *Ruby-throated Hummingbird. **Archilochus colubris** (Linnaeus). Uncommon summer resident.

Family Alcedinidae. Kingfisher

- *Belted Kingfisher. **Megascops alcyon** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident. A few stragglers occasionally seen in winter. Four specimens from Douglas County are in the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Family Picidae. Woodpeckers

- *Yellow-shafted Flicker. **Colaptes auratus** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident. At times numerous during migration.
- *Pileated Woodpecker. **Dryocopus pileatus** (Linnaeus). Uncommon permanent resident. One specimen from Douglas County is in the Milwaukee Public Museum.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker. **Centurus carolinus** (Linnaeus). Very rare. The few reports of this species include: one seen at Amnicon Lake by G. C. Kuyava during the summer of 1957 (**Pass. Pigeon**, 19, 1957:173-174); one observed by Bernard Klugow on May 11, 1963 (pers. comm.); one reported present December 11-21, 1966, at Lake Nebagamon by Beatrice Norman (pers. comm.).
- *Red-headed Woodpecker. **Melanerpes erythrocephalus** (Linnaeus). Uncommon summer resident.
- *Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. **Sphyrapicus varius** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.
- *Hairy Woodpecker. **Dendrocopos villosus** (Linnaeus). Common permanent resident.
- *Downy Woodpecker. **Dendrocopos pubescens** (Linnaeus). Common permanent resident.
- *Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker. **Picooides arcticus** (Swainson). Rare permanent resident. Nests locally (**Pass. Pigeon**, 26, 1964:176). Two specimens: one taken in July, one in December are in the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Family Tyrannidae. Tyrant Flycatchers

- *Eastern Kingbird. **Tyrannus tyrannus** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.

- Western Kingbird. *Tyrannus verticalis* Say. Very rare. Recorded only once following a storm on May 5, 1964, at Superior.
- Great Crested Flycatcher. *Myiarchus crinitus* (Linnaeus). Common summer resident. Apparently a nesting species but no actual nest located.
- *Eastern Phoebe. *Sayornis phoebe* (Latham). Uncommon summer resident.
- *Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. *Empidonax flaviventris* (Baird and Baird). Uncommon summer resident. One found nesting (4 eggs) on July 12, 1941, near Wascott by Pelzer, Dettman and Diedrich of the Milwaukee Public Museum Staff (Museum Field Notes).
- *Traill's Flycatcher. *Empidonax traillii* (Audubon). Common summer resident.
- *Least Flycatcher. *Empidonax minimus* (Baird and Baird). Common summer resident. A specimen from Douglas County taken on July 31, 1919, is in the University of Wisconsin Collection.
- *Eastern Wood Pewee. *Contopus virens* (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher. *Nuttallornis borealis* (Swainson). Locally uncommon summer resident. No actual nest found but considerable evidence of nesting exists.

Family Alaudidae. Larks

- Horned Lark. *Eremophila alpestris* (Linnaeus). Common migrant, noted on June 27, 1962 and July 17, 1966, in Douglas County by Samuel Robbins (pers. comm.) but actual summer status uncertain.

Family Hirundinidae. Swallows

- *Tree Swallow. *Iridoprocne bicolor* (Vieillot). Common summer resident.
- *Bank Swallow. *Riparia riparia* (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.
- *Rough-winged Swallow. *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* (Vieillot). Uncommon summer resident.



OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER

- *Barn Swallow. **Hirundo rustica** Linnaeus. Common summer resident.
- *Cliff Swallow. **Petrochelidon pyrrhonota** (Vieillot). Common summer resident.
- *Purple Martin. **Progne subis** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.

Family Corvidae. Jays and Crows

- Gray Jay. **Perisoreus canadensis** (Linnaeus). Uncommon transient and summer visitant. Has apparently increased in numbers during recent years.
- *Blue Jay. **Cyanocitta cristata** (Linnaeus). Common permanent resident, at times uncommon in winter.
- Common Raven. **Corvus corax** Linnaeus. Permanent resident: Uncommon in summer, common in winter. No actual evidence of breeding.
- *Common Crow. **Corvus brachyrhynchos** Brehm. Common summer resident. Occasionally a few individuals remain in winter.

Family Paridae. Chickadees and Titmice

- *Black-capped Chickadee. **Parus atricapillus** Linnaeus. Common permanent resident.
- Boreal Chickadee. **Parus hudsonicus** Forster. Status poorly known. Recorded mainly at Brule during winter (Pass. Pigeon, 24, 1962:99). Also several unpublished winter reports from the same area.
- Tufted Titmouse. **Parus bicolor** Linnaeus. Reports include: one seen at Brule December 24, 1963, by Bernard Klugow (Pass. Pigeon, 25, 1963:124), one at Superior on April 9 and April 11, 1964 (Pass. Pigeon, 27, 1965:38); one at Superior June 8, 1964 (Pass. Pigeon, 27, 1965:85).

Family Sittidae. Nuthatches

- White-breasted Nuthatch. **Sitta carolinensis** Latham. Common permanent resident.
- *Red-breasted Nuthatch. **Sitta canadensis** Linnaeus. Common transient, particularly in fall. Irregular winter resident. Uncommon summer resident.

Family Certhiidae. Creepers

- Brown Creeper. **Certhia familiaris** Linnaeus. Common transient. Uncommon summer resident. Stragglers still present at Brule in December.

Family Troglodytidae. Wrens

- *House Wren. **Troglodytes aedon** Vieillot. Common summer resident. A specimen in the University of Wisconsin Collection was collected August 1, 1919, at Solon Springs.
- Winter Wren. **Troglodytes troglodytes** (Linnaeus). Uncommon summer resident. Locally common.
- Carolina Wren. **Thryothorus ludovicianus** (Latham). Very rare. Only report is that of a bird observed by Samuel Robbins on August 1, 1955, near Superior (see Pass. Pigeon, 18, 1956:71).
- Long-billed Marsh Wren. **Telmatodytes palustris** (Wilson). Uncommon and local summer resident.

- *Short-billed Marsh Wren. **Cistothorus platensis** (Latham). Common summer resident.

Family Mimidae. Mockingbirds and Thrashers

Mockingbird. **Mimus polyglottos** (Linnaeus). Very rare. One reported at Superior on Nov. 19, 1962, by Elizabeth Fisher (see **Pass. Pigeon**, 25, 1963:84); another noted on May 15, 1965, by Mark Baillie (**Pass. Pigeon**, 28, 1966:35); and one was seen by the author at Superior on May 26, 1967. The species has also been noted at Duluth and one was collected on Sept. 9, 1919, at Outer Island in Ashland County by H. H. Sheldon (**Pass. Pigeon**, 4, 1943:93).

*Catbird. **Dumetella carolinensis** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.

*Brown Thrasher. **Toxostoma rufum** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident. Occasional stragglers observed at feeding stations as late as December.

Family Turdidae. Thrushes

*Robin. **Turdus migratorius** Linnaeus. Common migrant and summer resident. Rare and irregular in winter.

Wood Thrush. **Hylocichla mustelina** (Gmelin). Uncommon and local summer resident.

Hermit Thrush. **Hylocichla guttata** (Pallas). Common migrant. Uncommon and local summer resident.

Swainson's Thrush. **Hylocichla ustulata** (Nuttall). Common migrant. Uncommon summer resident.

Gray-cheeked Thrush. **Hylocichla minima** (Lafresnaye). Uncommon transient, apparently less numerous in spring than in fall.

*Veery. **Hylocichla fuscescens** (Stephens). Common transient and summer resident.

*Eastern Bluebird. **Sialia sialis** (Linnaeus). Uncommon summer resident. Occasionally common locally.

Mountain Bluebird. **Sialia currucoides** (Bechstein). Very rare. Reported from Superior and Lake Nebagamon on March 8, 1955, (**Pass. Pigeon**, 17, 1955:130). One noted at Superior from December 16-19, 1954, at the home of Mrs. Frank Hayes; two seen at the home of Mrs. W. J. Bohn for several days about the same time; and four during the same period at the home of Mrs. Henry Flemming. Another indefinite record from Lake Nebagamon reported during the same period (**Pass. Pigeon**, 17, 1955:59). There is no known specimen or definite photograph of this species from Wisconsin.

Family Sylviidae. Kinglets

Golden-crowned Kinglet. **Regulus satrapa** Lichtenstein. Regular transient. Uncommon summer resident, irregular but usually rare in winter.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet. **Regulus calendula** (Linnaeus). Common transient. Rare summer resident.

Family Motacillidae. Pipits

Water Pipit. **Anthus spinoletta** (Linnaeus). Rare transient. Noted only in the fall.

Family Bombycillidae. Waxwings

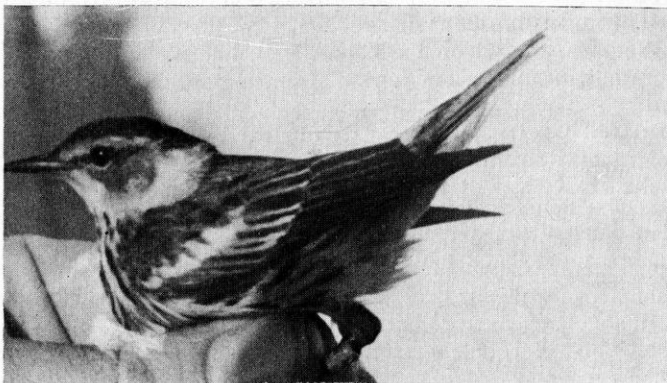
Bohemian Waxwing. **Bombycilla garrula** (Linnaeus). Irregular winter visitant.

*Cedar Waxwing. **Bombycilla cedrorum** Vieillot. Common transient and summer resident. Irregular but usually rare in winter.

Family Laniidae. Shrikes

Northern Shrike. **Lanius excubitor** Linnaeus. Winter visitant, usually uncommon but regular.

*Loggerhead Shrike. **Lanius ludovicianus** Linnaeus. Status poorly known. Apparently rare. Noted mainly in spring. Jackson reported that several were present south of Solon Springs on August 4, 1919, where two families of fully grown young were located (Pass. Pigeon, 4, 1943:94). Two specimens were collected and one is now in the University of Wisconsin collection.



CAPE MAY WARBLER

Family Sturnidae. Starlings

*Starling. **Sturnus vulgaris** Linnaeus. Common permanent resident.

Family Vireonidae. Vireos

*Yellow-throated Vireo. **Vireo flavifrons** Vieillot. Uncommon to rare summer resident. Not noted prior to 1963 in the county. First nesting record established during spring of 1964 (see Pass. Pigeon, 26, 1964:175-176). Apparently extending its range north.

*Solitary Vireo. **Vireo solitarius** (Wilson). Uncommon transient and summer resident.

*Red-eyed Vireo. **Vireo olivaceus** (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident.

Philadelphia Vireo. **Vireo philadelphicus** (Cassin). Status poorly known. Apparently an uncommon transient.

*Warbling Vireo. **Vireo gilvus** (Vieillot). Regular but generally uncommon summer resident.

Family Parulidae. Wood Warblers

Black-and-White Warbler. **Mniotilta varia** (Linnaeus). Common transient; uncommon summer resident.

- Golden-winged Warbler. *Vermivora chrysoptera* (Linnaeus). Uncommon to rare local summer resident.
- Tennessee Warbler. *Vermivora peregrina* (Wilson). Common transient. Several summer sight records but no proof of breeding.
- Orange-crowned Warbler. *Vermivora celata* (Say). Uncommon transient.
- *Nashville Warbler. *Vermivora ruficapilla* (Wilson). Common transient and summer resident.
- Parula Warbler. *Parula americana* (Linnaeus). Uncommon transient and summer resident. Locally common in summer.
- *Yellow Warbler. *Dendroica petechia* (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.
- Magnolia Warbler. *Dendroica magnolia* (Wilson). Common transient. Uncommon to rare summer resident.
- Cape May Warbler. *Dendroica tigrina* (Gmelin). Regular transient, at times common.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler. *Dendroica caerulescens* (Gmelin). Rare transient and summer resident.
- *Myrtle Warbler. *Dendroica coronata* (Linnaeus). Common transient. Uncommon summer resident. Young noted but no nest actually found.
- *Black-throated Green Warbler. *Dendroica virens* (Gmelin). Common transient and summer resident. One specimen from Solon Springs is in the University of Wisconsin Collection.
- Blackburnian Warbler. *Dendroica fusca* (Muller). Common transient. Locally common in summer.
- *Chestnut-sided Warbler. *Dendroica pensylvanica* (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident. One specimen from Douglas County is in the University of Wisconsin Collection.
- Bay-breasted Warbler. *Dendroica castanea* (Wilson). Uncommon transient. Rare and local in summer.
- Blackpoll Warbler. *Dendroica striata* (Forster). Common transient, particularly in the fall.
- Pine Warbler. *Dendroica pinus* (Wilson). Common transient and summer resident.
- Palm Warbler. *Dendroica palmarum* (Gmelin). Common transient. One heard singing on June 27, 1966, by Samuel Robbins (pers. comm.).
- *Ovenbird. *Seiurus aurocapillus* (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident.
- Northern Waterthrush. *Seiurus noveboracensis* (Gmelin). Uncommon or generally overlooked transient and summer resident.
- *Connecticut Warbler. *Oporornis agilis* (Wilson). Status poorly known. Apparently a rare and local summer resident. Adult and 4 young collected in the town of Wascott on July 7, 1941 (see Gromme, O.J., *Pass. Pigeon*, 3, 1941:71). Four noted on July 2, 1963, by Robbins and Klugow (*Pass. Pigeon*, 26, 1964:67). Also reported on August 27, 1958, by Samuel Robbins (*Pass. Pigeon*, 21, 1959:89). One was seen and heard singing near Gordon on July 6, 1956, by members of the Wisconsin Audubon Camp Staff (*Pass. Pigeon*, 18, 1956:183); and four were heard singing on June 27, 1966, by Samuel Robbins (pers. comm.).

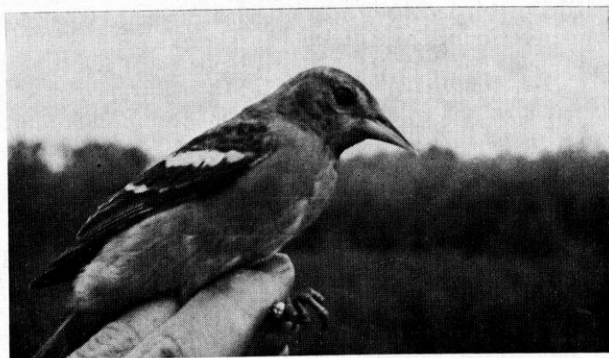
- *Mourning Warbler. **Oporornis philadelphia** (Wilson). Common transient and locally common summer resident.
- *Yellowthroat. **Geothlypis trichas** (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident.
- Wilson's Warbler. **Wilsonia pusilla** (Wilson). Uncommon transient. Uncommon and generally local summer resident.
- Canada Warbler. **Wilsonia canadensis** (Linnaeus). Uncommon transient.
- *American Redstart. **Setophaga ruticilla** (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident.

Family Ploceidae. Weaver Finches

- *House Sparrow. **Passer domesticus** (Linnaeus). Common permanent resident.

Family Icteridae. Meadowlarks, Blackbirds and Orioles

- *Bobolink. **Dolichonyx oryzivorus** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.
- Eastern Meadowlark. **Sturnella magna** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident. Occasionally stragglers remain in the area until November.



BALTIMORE ORIOLE

Some late reports may refer to the Western Meadowlark.

- Western Meadowlark. **Sturnella neglecta** Audubon. Common summer resident. Late fall reports of meadowlarks may apply to this species.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird. **Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus** (Bonaparte). Irregular summer visitant. Generally rare.
- *Red-winged Blackbird. **Agelaius phoeniceus** (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident.
- Orchard Oriole. **Icterus spurius** (Linnaeus). Very rare. Two records include: A male observed at Gordon on July 6, 1956, by members of the Wisconsin Audubon Camp Staff (**Pass. Pigeon**, 18, 1956:184); one noted at Superior in May of 1966 by Dave Snarski (pers. comm.).
- *Baltimore Oriole. **Icterus galbula** (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.
- Rusty Blackbird. **Euphagus carolinus** (Muller). Uncommon transient. Noted mainly in the fall.
- Brewer's Blackbird. **Euphagus cyanocephalus** (Wagler). Common summer resident. Stragglers still present in October.
- *Common Grackle. **Quiscalus quiscula** (Linnaeus). Common summer



resident. Stragglers present into November. One seen December 22, 1966, in Superior by the author.

*Brown-headed Cowbird. *Molothrus ater* (Boddaert). Common transient and summer resident.

Family Thraupidae. Tanagers

Scarlet Tanager. *Piranga olivacea* (Gmelin). Common summer resident. Three specimens in the Milwaukee Public Museum were collected in Douglas County.

Family Fringillidae. Grosbeaks, Finches, Sparrows and Buntings

Cardinal. *Richmondia cardinalis* (Linnaeus). Rare visitant. Apparently spreading northward. No positive evidence of breeding. First reported in Douglas County in 1938 (see Young, H., et. al., *Pass. Pigeon*, 3, 1941:4). Since then the species has been noted at Brule, Solon Springs, and Superior on several occasions.

*Rose-breasted Grosbeak. *Phoebastria ludovicianus* (Linnaeus). Common summer resident.

*Indigo Bunting. *Passerina cyanea* (Linnaeus). Locally common summer resident.

Lazuli Bunting. *Passerina amoena* (Say). Accidental. Only one record: A single male was observed at Brule on May 19, 1967, by Mark Baillie. The bird remained at a feeder until May 21, 1967, and was seen by many observers including the author. There is no known specimen or definite photograph for this species from Wisconsin.

Dickcissel. *Spiza americana* (Gmelin). Irregular and local summer visitant.

*Evening Grosbeak. *Hesperiphona vespertina* (Cooper). Common winter visitant. Uncommon local summer resident. Apparently first bred in 1964 (*Pass. Pigeon*, 27, 1965:67) although the species has been noted in summer prior to that year. Nest and young found again in 1965 and 1966.

*Purple Finch. *Carpodacus purpureus* (Gmelin). Common transient and summer resident. Irregular winter resident. Young birds noted but no actual nest located.

- Pine Grosbeak. **Pinicola enucleator** (Linnaeus). Irregular winter resident. Noted in summer on August 28, 1964.
- Hoary Redpoll. **Acanthis hornemanni** (Holboell). Only one record: a single bird seen near Brule by Bernard Klugow on March 19, 1963 (pers. comm.). Two others were noted in Ashland County on March 5, 1963, by Janet Koslowski (**Pass. Pigeon**, 25, 1963:177). The several reports of this species from northeastern Minnesota point to the possibility that it has been overlooked in this area.
- Common Redpoll. **Acanthis flammea** (Linnaeus). Irregular transient and winter resident, at times numerous.
- Pine Siskin. **Spinus pinus** (Wilson). Irregular transient and winter resident. Rare summer resident.
- *American Goldfinch. **Spinus tristis** (Linnaeus). Common transient and summer resident. Irregular but usually uncommon in winter. Three Douglas County specimens are in the Milwaukee Public Museum.
- Red Crossbill. **Loxia curvirostra** Linnaeus. Irregular permanent resident. Usually most numerous in fall and winter.
- White-winged Crossbill. **Loxia leucoptera** Gmelin. Irregular at all seasons. Usually rare.
- *Rufous-sided Towhee. **Pipilo erythrophthalmus** (Linnaeus). Common but local summer resident.
- Lark Bunting. **Calamospiza melanocorys** Stejneger. Very rare. Recorded at Foxboro by Bernard Klugow on May 11, 1961 (pers. comm.). Field Notes by T. G. McCarthy, on deposit in the Biology Department at Superior, lists two reports of the species from Superior: three to four on May 4, 1932; one on May 4, 1933, but there is no other substantiating information with the reports. Other area records include one seen in Duluth for the first time on May 25, 1966 (**Aud. Field Notes**, 20, 1966:513); and a male seen at Ashland on June 13, 1966, by C. Snyder (**Aud. Field Notes**, 20, 1966:573). There is no known specimen or definite photograph for this species.
- *Savannah Sparrow. **Passerculus sandwichensis** (Gmelin). Common transient and summer resident.
- Grasshopper Sparrow. **Ammodramus savannarum** (Gmelin). Status poorly known. Apparently a rare and local summer resident.
- LeConte's Sparrow. **Passerherbulus caudacutus** (Latham). Very rare. Only two county records: one seen and photographed on May 13, 1967, at Sand Lake in southeastern Douglas County; another was noted at Superior on May 18, 1967. In addition, the species has been recorded at Crex Meadows, Burnett County, on several occasions since 1961. Other reports include one on Madeline Island, Ashland County, on June 14, 1958 (**Pass. Pigeon**, 20, 1958:160); one seen on Minnesota Point on May 4 and May 11, 1961, by J. C. Green (Duluth Bird Club Notes); and one was found dead and another observed at Minnesota Point on May 15, 1962, by J. C. Green (Duluth Bird Club Notes).
- *Vesper Sparrow. **Poocetes gramineus** (Gmelin). Common transient and summer resident.
- Slate-colored Junco. **Junco hyemalis** (Linnaeus). Common transient. Rare summer resident.

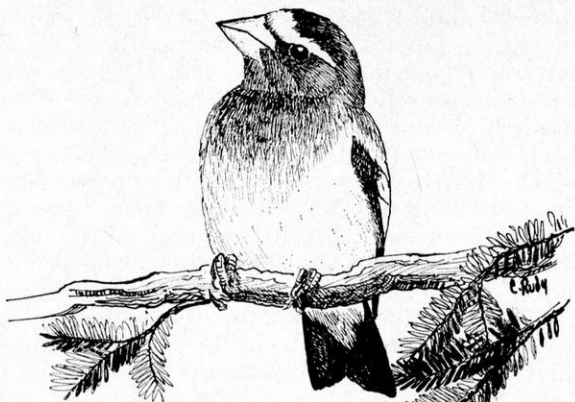
- Oregon Junco. *Junco oreganus* (Townsend). Status poorly known. Apparently a rare transient.
- Tree-Sparrow. *Spizella arborea* (Wilson). Common transient.
- *Chipping Sparrow. *Spizella passerina* (Bechstein). Common transient and summer resident. Four specimens from Douglas County are in the Milwaukee Public Museum.
- *Clay-colored Sparrow. *Spizella pallida* (Swainson). Common summer resident. Two specimens from Solon Springs are in the University of Wisconsin collection.
- Field Sparrow. *Spizella pusilla* (Wilson). Rare and local summer-visitant and possible resident.
- Harris' Sparrow. *Zonotrichia querula* (Nuttall). Regular but uncommon transient.
- White-crowned Sparrow. *Zonotrichia leucophrys* (Forster). Common transient.
- *White-throated Sparrow. *Zonotrichia albicollis* (Gmelin). Common transient and summer resident.
- Fox Sparrow. *Passerella iliaca* (Merrem). Regular transient, common in some years.
- Lincoln's Sparrow. *Melospiza lincolni* (Audubon). Status poorly known. Apparently an uncommon but regular transient. Reported more often in the fall.
- *Swamp Sparrow. *Melospiza georgiana* (Latham). Common transient and summer resident.
- *Song Sparrow. *Melospiza melodia* (Wilson). Common transient and summer resident. Two specimens in the Milwaukee Public Museum are from Douglas County.
- Lapland Longspur. *Calcarius lapponicus* (Linnaeus). Uncommon transient, sometimes common in fall.
- Snow Bunting. *Plectrophenax nivalis* (Linnaeus). Winter visitant, at times common.

Hypothetical List

The following are included on the basis of reports of their occurrence in neighboring counties or in the Duluth area. Although the evidence is not conclusive by any means, it does point to the possibility that the species could occasionally be found in the county and should be looked for.

- Black-crowned Night Heron. *Nycticorax nycticorax* (Linnaeus). H. H. Sheldon noted this species at Orienta, Bayfield County, June 8-13, 1919, where he often heard and saw a pair flying along the shore of Lake Superior (*Pass. Pigeon*, 3, 1941:89). The latter is only a few miles from Douglas County. Bernard Klugow also informs me that the species has been recorded along the Brule River in prior years (pers. comm.).
- White-fronted Goose. *Anser albifrons* (Scopoli). Two reported by N. Stone at Crex Meadows, Burnett County, on June 2, 1961 (*Pass. Pigeon*, 24, 1962:23); two at Crex Meadows May 22, 1961 (*Pass. Pigeon*, 23, 1961:151); two on September 16 and one on November 10, 1964 by N. Stone at Crex Meadows (*Pass. Pigeon*, 27, 1965:123).
- Harlequin Duck. *Histrionicus histrionicus* (Linnaeus). A male of this species was seen on Lake Superior near the Duluth Aerial Bridge

- on December 30 and 31, 1961, by J. C. Green and many others (Duluth Bird Club); Janet C. Green also reported the species near French River on November 3, 1962, and Richard Ochenschlager noted three females or Juveniles at the same place on November 23, 1962 (Duluth Bird Club); on October 16, 1964, one was reported at Duluth by J. C. Green (**Aud. Field Notes**, 19, 1965:39); one reported at the French River in St. Louis County from November 28 through December 19, 1965, by J. C. Green (**Aud. Field Notes**, 20, 1966:46); and one from November 28, 1965, to January 18, 1966, at Duluth by J. C. Green and others (**Aud. Field Notes**, 20, 1966:426).
- Swainson's Hawk. **Buteo swainsoni** Bonaparte. One noted in Burnett County on April 3, 1965, by N. Stone (**Pass. Pigeon**, 28, 1966:28); a few have also been reported from the Hawk Lookout at Duluth.
- Sandhill Crane. **Grus canadensis** (Linnaeus). This species occurs regularly at Crex Meadows in Burnett County and three were noted in Bayfield County on November 27, 1963, by Janet Kozlowski (**Pass. Pigeon**, 26, 1964:98). One was reported at Duluth on October 3, 1965, by Donald Higgins (Duluth Bird Club).
- Common Gallinule. **Gallinula chloropus** (Linnaeus). Kumlien and Hollister (**Birds of Wisconsin**, 1951:32) considered that this species extended to Lake Superior. More recently one was observed on May 10-11, 1965, at Duluth by Mr. and Mrs. Karl F. Schulze.
- Red Phalarope. **Phalaropus fulicarius** (Linnaeus). Kumlien and Hollister (**Birds of Wisconsin**, 1951-32) state that the species occurred on Lake Superior and make references to an observation of birds on Lake Superior which they believed to be of this species.
- Long-tailed Jaeger. **Stercorarius longicaudus** Vieillot. Three seen on Minnesota Point by Douglas Campbell on September 16, 1961 (Duluth Bird Club).
- Great Black-backed Gull. **Larus marinus** (Linnaeus). One observed at Ashland on January 31, 1964, by Bernard Klugow (**Pass. Pigeon**, 26, 1964:143).
- Screech Owl: **Otus asio** (Linnaeus). One reported from Washburn County by Beatrice Bailey during the winter of 1963-1964 (**Pass. Pigeon**, 26, 1964:150).
- Northern Three-toed Woodpecker. **Picoides tridactylus** (Linnaeus). Few actual records of this species exist, but the sighting of this species in the northern counties of the state as well as a few observations in northeastern Minnesota make it seem possible that this rare bird should occasionally occur in Douglas County.
- Black-billed Magpie. **Pica pica** (Linnaeus). Kumlien and Hollister (**Birds of Wisconsin**, 1951:71) state that one was taken near Ashland in 1880. A specimen of this species, in the bird collection at Superior, is said to have been taken at Solon Springs in the 1930's. Unfortunately, however, no label is attached to the specimen. One life long resident of Solon Springs also told me that he has seen the magpie in that area in former years, but no documented record exists.
- Sharp-tailed Sparrow. **Ammospiza caudacuta** (Gmelin). A bird presumed to be of this species was noted at Minnesota Point on April 18, 1961, by P. B. Hofslund (Duluth Bird Club Notes).



Addendum—Miss Alice Nelson picked up a Screech Owl (*Otus asio*) near South Superior on November 1, 1967. The bird collided with her car, but recovered and was turned in live on November 3. This is the first known record for the Screech Owl in Douglas County.

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KEY: P Permanent Resident
S Summer Resident
W Winter Resident
T Transient Visitant
R Rare (1-9 records)
Uncommon

C Common
* Recorded Breeder

A Accidental
I Irregular

..... Date of
 — Uncommon Dates Observations
 + Specimens Collected

Dates of Observations

SPRING

SUMMER

FALL

WINTER

[illegible]

SPECIES	STATUS	SPRING			SUMMER			FALL			WINTER		
		MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Bufflehead	CT	-	—	—	—				—	—	—		
Oldsquaw	RW		—	—									—
White-winged Scoter	RT		—	—	—				—				
+ Surf Scoter	RT			—					—				
Common Scoter	RT				—								
Ruddy Duck	RT		—				—						
++Hooded Merganser	CT:US		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
* Common Merganser	CT:UW&S	—									—	—	—
++Red-breasted Merganser	CT:US	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turkey Vulture	UT:RS	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
+ Goshawk	UW:RS		—	—	—	—	—	—					
+ Sharp-shinned Hawk	CT:US		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Cooper's Hawk	CT:US		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
++Red-tailed Hawk	CT:US	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
+ Red-shouldered Hawk	RT		—	—					—				
++Broad-winged Hawk	CT:US		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Rough-legged Hawk	CT:RW	—	—				—	—	—	—	—		
+ Golden Eagle	RT&W								—		—		
*Bald Eagle	US:RW	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
++Marsh Hawk	CS:AW	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—
*Osprey	UT & S		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Peregrine Falcon	RT			—			—						
Pigeon Hawk	UT:RS		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
++Sparrow Hawk	CT & S	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				—
++Ruffed Grouse	IP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
++Sharp-tailed Grouse	UP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bobwhite	R									—			
++Ring-necked Pheasant	CP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Virginia Rail	US			—	—	—	—						
++Sora Rail	CS			—	—	—	—	—	—				
++Yellow Rail	RS?						—						
+ American Coot	CT		—	—	—			—	—	—			
Semipalmated Plover	CT		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				

SPRING

SUMMER

FALL

WINTER

SPECIES	STATUS	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
*Piping Plover	RT:RS			—	—	—	—	—					
Snowy Plover	A			—									
*Kildeer	CS	—	—										
Golden Plover	UT			—	—			—	—				
Black-bellied Plover	CT			—	—	—		—	—	—			
Ruddy Turnstone	UT			—	—			—					
+*Woodcock	CS		—	—	—			—					
+*Common Snipe	CS		—	—	—			—					
Whimbrel	RT			—	—								
+*Upland Plover	US		—	—	—			—					
*Spotted Sandpiper	CS		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
+ Solitary Sandpiper	UT			—	—	—		—	—				
Willet	RT			—	—								
Greater Yellowlegs	CT:RS		—	—	—	—		—	—				
Lesser Yellowlegs	CT:RS		—	—	—	—		—	—				
Knot	UT:RS			—	—		—	—					
Pectoral Sandpiper	CT		—	—	—			—	—				
White-rumped Sandpiper	UT			—	—			—	—				
Baird's Sandpiper	CT			—	—			—	—				
Least Sandpiper	RT			—	—			—					
+ Dunlin	CT		—	—	—	—		—	—	—			
Dowitcher	UT			—	—			—	—				
Stilt Sandpiper	RT			—	—			—	—				
Semipalmated Sandpiper	CT			—	—	—		—	—				
Western Sandpiper	RT						—	—					
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	RT							—					
Marbled Godwit	RT			—	—								
Hudsonian Godwit	RT			—	—								
Sanderling	CT			—	—			—	—				
Wilson's Phalarope	RT			—	—								
Northern Phalarope	RT							—	—				
Parasitic Jaeger	RT							—	—				
+ Glaucous Gull	RW	—	—	—							—	—	—

SPRING

SUMMER

FALL

WINTER

SPECIES	STATUS	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Iceland Gull	RW		—										
+ Herring Gull	CS:UW												
+*Ring-billed Gull	CT:US		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Franklin's Gull	RT						—	—					
+ Bonaparte's Gull	CT		—	—	—		—	—	—				
Forster's Tern	UT			—	—		—	—					
*Common Tern	CS			—	—	—	—	—	—				
Caspian Tern	UT & S			—	—	—	—	—	—				
*Black Tern	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
+*Rock Dove	CP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Mourning Dove	IS		—	—	—	—	—	—					
+ Yellow-billed Cuckoo	R				—	—	—	—					
+*Black-billed Cuckoo	US			—	—	—	—	—					
+*Great Horned Owl	CP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
+ Snowy Owl	IW	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
+*Hawk Owl	RW?	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—			
*Barred Owl	UP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
+ Great Gray Owl	R	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—			
*Long-eared Owl	RS:RP?	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
*Short-eared Owl	RS		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
+ Boreal Owl	RW	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
+ Saw-whet Owl	UT:RS?		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
+*Whip-poor-will	CS		—	—	—	—	—	—					
+*Common Nighthawk	CT & S		—	—	—	—	—	—					
+*Chimney Swift	CS		—	—	—	—	—	—					
+*Ruby-throated Humming Bird	US			—	—	—	—	—					
+*Belted Kingfisher	CS:RW		—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—	
+*Yellow-shafted Flicker	CT & S		—	—	—	—	—	—					
+*Pileated Woodpecker	UP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	R			—	—	—	—	—			—		
*Red-headed Woodpecker	US		—	—	—	—	—	—					
*Yellow-bell.Sapsucker	CS		—	—	—	—	—	—					
+*Hairy Woodpecker	CP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

SPECIES	STATUS	SPRING			SUMMER			FALL			WINTER		
		MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
*Downy Woodpecker	CP												
+*Black-backed Woodpecker	RP												
+*Eastern Kingbird	CS												
Western Kingbird	R												
Crested Flycatcher	CS												
+*Eastern Phoebe	US												
*Yellow-bell. Flycatcher	US												
+*Traill's Flycatcher	CS												
+*Least Flycatcher	CS												
+*Wood Pewee	CS												
Olive-sided Flycatcher	US												
Horned Lark	CT												
+*Tree Swallow	CS												
*Bank Swallow	US												
*Rough-winged Swallow	US												
*Barn Swallow	CS												
*Cliff Swallow	CS												
+*Purple Martin	CS												
+ Gray Jay	I												
+*Blue Jay	CP												
Raven	US:Cw												
*Crow	CS:RW												
*Black-capped Chickadee	CP												
Boreal Chickadee	RW												
Tufted Titmouse	R												
+ White-breasted Nuthatch	CP												
+*Red-breasted Nuthatch	CT:IW&S												
+ Brown Creeper	CT:US												
+*House Wren	CS												
Winter Wren	CS												
Carolina Wren	R												
*Long-b. Marsh Wren	US												
*Short-b. Marsh Wren	CS												

SPRING

SUMMER

FALL

WINTER

SPECIES	STATUS	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Mocking Bird	R			—						—			
+*Catbird	CS			—				—					
+*Brown Thrasher	CS:AW			—				—			—		
+*Robin	CS:RW			—				—		—	—	—	—
Wood Thrush	US			—			—	—					
+ Hermit Thrush	CT:US		—						—				
+ Swainson's Thrush	CT:US			—				—					
Gray-cheeked Thrush	UT			—			—	—					
+*Veery	CT&S			—			—	—					
Mountain Bluebird	R	—									—		
*Eastern Bluebird	US		—	—					—				
+Golden-Crowned Kinglet	US:RW	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
+ Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	CT:RS		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Amer. Water Pipit	RT							—	—				
Bohemian Waxwing	IW	—	—								—	—	—
+*Cedar Waxwing	CS:IW	—	—	—						—	—	—	—
+ Northern Shrike	IW	—	—					—	—	—			
+*Loggerhead Shrike	RS		—	—			—						
+*Starling	CP												
*Yellow-thr. Vireo	RS			—	—		—						
+*Solitary Vireo	US:UT			—	—		—		—				
+*Red-eyed Vireo	CS			—	—		—						
Philadelphia Vireo	UT			—	—			—					
*Warbling Vireo	US			—	—		—						
+ Black & White Warbler	CT:US			—	—		—						
+ Golden-winged Warbler	US			—	—		—						
Tennessee Warbler	CT:RS			—	—	—	—	—					
Orange-crowned Warbler	UT			—				—	—				
+*Nashville Warbler	CT&S			—	—		—	—		—			
Parula Warbler	US			—	—		—						
*Yellow Warbler	CS			—	—		—						
Magnolia Warbler	CT:RS			—	—		—						
Cape May Warbler	CT			—			—						

SPECIES	STATUS	SPRING			SUMMER			FALL			WINTER		
		MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	RT&S			—	—		—	—					
+*Myrtle Warbler	CT:RS		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
+*Black-thr. Green Warbler	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
Blackburnian Warbler	CT:US			—	—	—	—	—					
+*Chestnut-sided Warbler	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
Bay-breasted Warbler	UT:RS			—	—		—	—	—				
Blackpoll Warbler	CT			—	—		—	—					
Pine Warbler	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
+ Palm Warbler	CT		—	—	—		—	—	—				
+*Ovenbird	CT&S			—	—	—	—	—					
+ Northern Waterthrush	US			—	—	—	—	—					
+*Connecticut Warbler	RT&S			—	—	—	—	—					
*Mourning Warbler	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
+*Yellowthroat	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
Wilson's Warbler	UT			—	—		—	—					
+ Canada Warbler	UT&S			—	—	—	—	—					
+*American Redstart	CT&S			—	—	—	—	—					
+*House Sparrow	CP			—	—	—	—	—					
+*Bobolink	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
Eastern Meadowlark	CS		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Western Meadowlark	CS		—	—	—	—	—	—					
Yellow-headed Blackbird	RS			—	—	—	—	—					
+*Red-winged Blackbird	CS:RW		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—
Orchard Oriole	R			—	—	—	—	—					
*Baltimore Oriole	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
Rusty Blackbird	UT	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Brewer's Blackbird	CS		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
+*Common Grackle	CS:RW		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Brown-headed Cowbird	CT&S		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
+ Scarlet Tanager	CS			—	—	—	—	—					
+ Cardinal	R	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
+*Rose-br. Grosbeak	CS		—	—	—	—	—	—					
+*Indigo Bunting	CS			—	—	—	—	—					

SPECIES	STATUS	SPRING			SUMMER			FALL			WINTER		
		MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Lazuli Bunting	A			—									
Dickcissel	IS			—	—								
+*Evening Grosbeak	CWUS												
+*Purple Finch	CS:IW												
+ Pine Grosbeak	IW	—					—		—				
Hoary Redpoll	RW	—											
+ Common Redpoll	IT:IW		—						—				
Pine Siskin	IW:RS												
+*Goldfinch	CS:UW												
+ Red Crossbill	IP												
+ White-winged Crossbill	IP												
*Rufous-sided Towhee	CS			—	—								
Lark Bunting	R			—									
*Savannah Sparrow	CS		—	—	—				—				
Grasshopper Sparrow	RS					—							
LeConte's Sparrow	RT			—									
*Vesper Sparrow	CS		—	—	—	—		—					
+ Slate-colored Junco	CT:RS	—	—	—	—	—					—	—	
Oregon Junco	RT		—	—					—				
+ Tree Sparrow	CT:RW		—	—					—			—	—
*Chipping Sparrow	CT&S		—	—	—	—		—					
+*Clay-colored Sparrow	CS			—	—	—		—					
Field Sparrow	RS		—	—		—		—					
+ Harris' Sparrow	UT			—				—	—				
White-crowned Sparrow				—				—	—				
+*White-thr. Sparrow	CT&S		—	—	—	—		—					
+ Fox Sparrow	CT	—	—	—				—	—				
+ Lincoln's Sparrow	UT			—				—	—				
+*Swamp Sparrow	CT&S		—	—	—	—		—					
+*Song Sparrow	CS	—	—	—	—	—		—					
Lapland Longspur	UT	—	—	—				—	—				
+ Snow Bunting	CT:IW	—	—	—					—				



FIELD NOTES

BY THE WAYSIDE

Ringed Turtle Dove in Horicon: A Ringed Turtle Dove was observed carefully on June 6 in the city of Horicon by Harold Mathiak. He describes the bird as follows: uniform buff-colored back, head, neck, breast and wing coverts; belly grayish-white; primaries with some darker gray. Tail short, only about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches longer than folded wing—not pointed. Feet pink. Eyes dark orange with black or dark pupils. About the size of Mourning Dove or slightly smaller. The bird appeared very light colored in flight. Sam Robbins notes that the identification was confirmed by his brother, Chandler, in November and that another bird was seen in Jefferson county this past winter. Harold A. Mathiak, 209 South Finch Street, Horicon, Wisconsin.

Bell's Vireo Nesting in Beloit: After having observed two pairs of Bell's Vireos for several days previously a nest was discovered on June 11, 1967. Following are the field marks noted: light loreal spot, interrupted narrow light eye-ring, dark eye, two light wing-bars, pale yellowish-washed sides, grayish upper parts, olive-green rump and stout slightly hooked bill. The voice was a scolding call of three rapid notes. Low, husky, unmusical song given at short intervals. Sounds like "Cheedle, cheedle, chee?" ending in a rising inflection and "cheedle, cheedle, chew" with a downward inflection and given more frequently. At times three cheedles were used instead of the customary two. The bird is a consistent day-long performer. Both nests were located in honeysuckle bushes just under two feet off the ground. One nest contained four eggs and the second was in the process of construction. The eggs in the first nest all hatched on June 20. Thomas R. Ellis, 1751 Townline Avenue, Beloit, Wisconsin.

Lark Bunting at Ashland: "On June 13, 1966, at about 0800 hours as we were leaving Ashland, Wisconsin, going east on Highway #2, we saw a male Lark Bunting in full breeding plumage. It was feeding along the edge of the road with four Brown-headed Cowbirds, four House Sparrows and one Song Sparrow. The bird was on Front Street East (Highway #2) and 15th Avenue East, about a half block east of the railroad tracks. The Lark Bunting fed near and drank from small puddles of water at the edge of the road for several minutes before flying away. We are very familiar with the Lark Bunting as it is our state bird in Colorado and we see hundreds of them each year." Charles H. Snyder, 161 Del Mar Circle, Aurora, Colorado. [Editor's Note: This is the second consecutive year in which there has been a sighting of the Lark Bunting. Don Follen reported finding one in Wood county in 1965.]



The Summer Season

By NANCY and HAL ROBERTS

Summer Season

June 1-August 15, 1966

Contrasts were the rule in the summer of 1966. After a cold spring, July was hot and dry in much of the state. August again was cool with adequate rainfall. Alfred Bradford makes this comment about the season: "Spring was cold and backward and the first ten days in June were pleasant but not too warm. Both spring and summer were very dry. The last week of the summer season in August was cool with considerable rain. It seemed to me that bird song lasted longer than usual. Most song birds were still singing the end of the second week in July. However, they quickly tapered off after that." He also states that the nesting of birds in the Appleton area was very successful and adds the interesting note that Redwings have invaded an area near the downtown district of Appleton.

Commenting on the season, Irma Chipman says of the Wautoma area: "Spring was late in coming. Birds built their nests before much foliage was out and many nests which I observed (I had 79 under observation) were unsuccessful. I feel this was due to lack of cover. Nests were easily spotted and easily found by predators.

Sam Robbins says that the drought was more severe in the eastern part of the state than in the west where showers occurred with barely enough frequency to preclude real drought. As an example of the effect of weather upon summer populations, he says that reports in the drier area indicate that Dickcissels and Bobolinks were scarce after an earlier than usual cutting of hay. However, in the more western part of the state where spring was unusually late and hay was not cut until late June and early July, the number of young Bobolinks to be seen in late July and August was larger than usual. Sam also says that winds of tornadic intensity struck wide areas of the region in mid-July, and undoubtedly caused considerable destruction among nests of tree-nesting species. The amazing thing is that some nests survive such storms: two reports indicate Baltimore Oriole nests replete with noisy young but a few feet from trees that were felled by severe storms the previous day.

The highlights of the summer season follow:

Common Loon: One in Wood county in June may have been a wandering post-nuptial male (Don Follen).

Red-throated Loon: Two observed along Lake Superior, Bayfield county, on August 16 (Sam Robbins).

White Pelican: 18 in a flock were seen on the Mississippi River at LaCrosse on June 24 and reported in the **LaCrosse Tribune** of July 3, 1966.

Double-crested Cormorant: Only one report, from Burnett county July 17 (Robbins).

Common Egret: Reported in Horicon Marsh by several observers; 20 seen there on June 15 (Bielefeldt). Only late summer visitant was July 26 in St. Croix county (David Ray).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: Reported in LaCrosse county June 15 by Fred Leshner who comments that they are perhaps more scarce than last year. One to four in Pierce county across the river from Red Wing on July 3 to 10 (Mrs. Mary Muehlhausen). Nested in Ozaukee county where three adults and one young were seen August 7 (Mary Donald).

Least Bittern: June 20 in St. Croix county (Robbins), July 4 in LaCrosse (Leshner), 20 in Horicon, July 4 (Carl Knuth).

Whistling Swan: One seen daily in July in Oconto county (C. H. Richter).

Canada Goose: 32 broods were observed in Crex Meadows, Burnett county (N. R. Stone). One in Waukegan county from July 16 to the end of the period (Irma Chipman) and four in St. Croix county July 1 (Robbins).

Gadwall: In Douglas county June 3 (Richard F. Bernard), Bayfield and St. Croix counties in July (Robbins), Brown county on June 9 (Ed Cleary and Ed Paulson), in Horicon Marsh on July 4 (Rockne Knuth, Richter) and in Dane county (William Hilsenhoff).

Pintail: Lingered in Waukesha until June 9 (Bielefeldt), 12 in Fond du Lac county on August 15 (Carl Knuth).

Redhead: Present in Columbia county to June 7 (Mark Tomlinson) and in St. Croix county to June 12 (Robbins). Several reported nesting in El Dorado marsh, Fond du Lac county (R. Knuth).

Ring-necked Duck: 70 broods in Crex Meadows (Stone).

Canvasback: Lingered in Polk county until June 7 and 9 (Robbins). A female observed in Fond du Lac county on July 14 (R. Knuth).

Common Goldeneye: Noted in Bayfield county July 17 (Robbins).

Bufflehead: Seen in Superior June 3 (Bernard), a very late spring date.

Ruddy Duck: Two broods in St. Croix county (Robbins), in Fond du Lac county July 31 (R. Knuth), Columbia county (Tomlinson, Hilsenhoff) and in Dane county June 12 to August 6 (Tom Ashman).

Hooded Merganser: A brood of five downy young in Pierce county on June 13 (Robbins) is south of the usual summer range in the state.

Turkey Vulture: Reported as far north as Douglas and Sawyer counties (Robbins) and Bayfield county (Bernard).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Late June and July reports from Douglas county (Bernard, Robbins), Ashland (Robbins) and Langlade (Tom Soulen) counties.

Bald Eagle: Three nests in Douglas county (Bernard Klugow). Also noted in Douglas county (Bernard, Robbins), Bayfield county (Bernard), Vilas county (Robbins, Alfred S. Bradford), Price county (Alice Vincent, Hilsenhoff) and Oconto county (Richter).

Spruce Grouse: Sam Robbins flushed a female in Sawyer county on July 19. It was as close as six feet, displaying rufous fringe on tail as it flew away.

Sandhill Crane: Three in Burnett county July 17 (Robbins) where a pair and one young were observed in Crex Meadows (Stone). Also in Jackson and Monroe counties July 2 (Robbins). Two in Rock county on June 12 (Mrs. John Brakefield) are late for that far south.

King Rail: Four young birds observed in La Crosse on July 20 (Leshner). Observed in Horicon Marsh also on July 20 (C. Knuth) and June 16 in Waukesha (Tom Soulen).

Piping Plover: One June 3 at Superior (Bernard) and in Milwaukee on August 16 (Donald).

Black-bellied Plover: An early fall migrant in Manitowoc on August 12 (John Kraupa). A concentration of 350 lingered in Racine until June 4 (Bill Weber, Bob Fiehweg).

Ruddy Turnstone: About 135 with the Black-bellied Plovers in Racine until June 4 (Bill Weber and Bob Fiehweg).

Common Snipe: Southernmost mid-summer observation on July 15 in Marquette county (Hilsenhoff).

Solitary Sandpiper: Early fall migrants in Bayfield county June 29 (Bernard), Juneau county July 2 (Robbins), and St. Croix county on July 8 (Robbins).

Willet: One June 3 in Douglas county (Bernard).

Greater Yellowlegs: Earliest fall migrant was July 7 in Fond du Lac county (R. Knuth).

Lesser Yellowlegs: July 8 was earliest for fall birds, St. Croix county (Robbins).

Knot: One at Superior on June 6 (Bernard) and at Milwaukee on August 15 (Donald).

Pectoral Sandpiper: A July 4 observation in Fond du Lac county is early for fall migrants (R. Knuth).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Present until June 10 in Winnebago county (Daryl Tessen).

Baird's Sandpiper: Noted until June 3 in Douglas county (Bernard), in Fond du Lac county on June 10 (R. Knuth) and in Milwaukee county August 6 (Donald).

Least Sandpiper: First fall migrants in Dodge county July 10 (Ashman).

Dunlin: Last spring birds in Fond du Lac county until June 10 (R. Knuth).

Dowitcher: First fall visitors in Fond du Lac county on July 8 (R. Knuth).

Stilt Sandpiper: Noted in St. Croix county on August 12 (Robbins).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Spring migrants lingered until June 10 in Fond du Lac county (R. Knuth) and Winnebago county (Tessen). First fall birds in Fond du Lac county July 3 (R. Knuth).

Western Sandpiper: Two in St. Croix county on June 2 (Robbins).

Ruff-breasted Sandpiper: Two in Milwaukee county on August 24 were observed by Mary Donald, Ed Prins and others.

Wilson's Phalarope: At least a dozen in Winnebago county on June 10 (Tessen), one in Dodge county June 15 (Bielefeldt), and in St. Croix county on July 4 (Robbins).

Northern Phalarope: Found in Milwaukee county on August 14 (fide Donald).

Ring-billed Gull: Again this year found at a distance from Lake Michigan: In Douglas county June 3 to July 25 (Bernard) and in Pierce and Pepin counties June 13 (Robbins).

Bonaparte's Gull: One report, from Brown county (Cleary and Paulson).

Forster's Tern: One in Dodge county June 15 (Bielefeldt) where it was also found on July 10 (Ashman). Four in El Dorado marsh, Fond du Lac county July 28 (R. Knuth) and also noted in Brown county (Cleary and Paulson).

Common Tern: Two in Pepin county June 13 (Robbins) are out of usual lakeshore range as is the observation in Rock county (Brakefield) and Marquette county June 4 (Bielefeldt).

Caspian Tern: Found in Brown county August 18 (Cleary and Paulson) and in Milwaukee August 20 (Donald). These are the only reports of this species.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Found in Menominee county June 19 (Soulen), north of usual range.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Sam Robbins reports these scarce in St. Croix county and suspects that numbers of both cuckoos were down in the state.

Barred Owl: An adult and four young were observed on the Ripon College campus (R. Knuth). Two young in Price county June 23 (Hilsenhoff), "numerous" in Wau-shara county (Chipman).

Long-eared Owl: A nest in Waukesha county (Charles Nelson) where the bird was also found by Bielefeldt.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Several observers noted fewer than usual. Margaret Morse found none in Viroqua.

Red-headed Woodpecker: An increase in numbers noted in Wau-shara county (Chipman) which she attributes possibly to the fact that it is an area of large oaks, many of which are hollow and are being attacked by oak wilt. She has found as many as 12 road killed birds in a mile stretch of highway.

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: Found in June in Douglas county where it has been for the past three years (Klugow).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Adult and young seen in Vernon county on August 14 (Viratine Weber).

Western Kingbird: Observed through July 17 at two locations near Hudson where nests were found in 1965 (Robbins). This is the sixth consecutive year for them here.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Found in Douglas, Vilas, Sawyer, Polk and St. Croix counties (Robbins, Howard Young). Also in Chippewa county June 2 (Dr. Charles Kemper), and three on June 18 in northeastern Langlade county (Soulen).

Acadian Flycatcher: Two in Jefferson county on June 13 (Soulen), one in Fond du Lac county (Bielefeldt) and five singing in Sauk county (Kenneth Lange).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Several reports in northernmost counties and as far south as Menominee county on June 19 (Soulen).

Boreal Chickadee: Found in six locations in Iron county in late August (David Snarski), also two in Sawyer county July 23 (Robbins), Price county June 23 (Hilsenhoff), one or two adults apparently feeding three young birds in Oneida county August 9 and one in Langlade county June 18 (Soulen).

Tufted Titmouse: Southern counties and Polk and St. Croix counties (Robbins).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: In the north and one in Juneau county July 2 (Robbins).

Brown Creeper: Expected observations in the north and an unusual record in Columbia county (Tomlinson).

Winter Wren: Found in Douglas, Bayfield, Oneida, Sawyer and Iron counties in the north (Bernard, Robbins, Snarski). Tom Soulen found four in Langlade county on June 18 and five in Menominee county on June 19.

Bewick's Wren: One singing in Dodge county in June (Charles Gilmore).

Carolina Wren: An observation in Walworth county June 29 (Louise Erickson).

Mockingbird: A pair and three young birds were banded in Portage county in July (Charles Sindelar).

Bluebird: Good nesting success reported in Waushara and Vernon counties (Chipman, Morse).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Found in Pierce county June 13, St. Croix county June 10 and Adams county July 13 (Robbins). A pair summered in Vernon county (Weber).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: One singing in Bayfield county July 17 (Robbins) is unusual.

Bell's Vireo: Five singing males found in Trempealeau county on July 9 (Robbins) and one in Lafayette county July 12 (Robbins and N. R. Barger). A nest containing three eggs, one of which was a cowbird egg was observed in La Crosse, June 30 (Leshner). On July 8 the eggs were found destroyed.

Prothonotary Warbler: Two reports from the Mississippi River area; one in Pierce county June 13 (Robbins, Muelhausen) and La Crosse county June 28 (Leshner).

Golden-winged Warbler: Northern counties and Dane (Ashman) and Waukesha counties (Bielefeldt).

Tennessee Warbler: Fall birds returned to St. Croix county on August 2 (Robbins).

Nashville Warbler: One singing in mid-June north of Endeavor, Marquette county is quite far south (Zimmerman).

Parula Warbler: Five in Langlade county on June 18 (Soulen).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: One observation in Oneida county on June 25 (Robbins).

Cerulean Warbler: Several in Fond du Lac county (Bielefeldt), in Sauk county from June 4 on (Lange) and present in Waukesha (Bielefeldt). A record of one singing in Menominee county on June 19 is north of the usual range (Soulen).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Noted in Dane county June 1 to July 17 (Ashman).

Bay-breasted Warbler: A late spring migrant in Forest county June 4 (Leshner). A fall migrant in Bayfield county August 15 (Robbins).

Palm Warbler: One in Douglas county June 27 (Robbins), and one in Oneida reported by Soulen where he has found them for three summers and assumes they are nesting.

Northern Waterthrush: One lingered in Dane county until June 1 (Ashman). Three were found in Douglas county on June 27 (Robbins) and four in Menominee county June 19, one in Langlade county June 19 and 22 (Soulen).

Connecticut Warbler: One in Chippewa county June 4 (Kemper) may have been a late spring migrant. Probable summer residents were the four singing birds in Douglas county on June 27 (Robbins) and one in Langlade county on June 20 (Soulen).

Mourning Warbler: The one or two reported in Golden Lake Woods, Jefferson county, on June 13 are unusually far south (Soulen).

Hooded Warbler: Located in Dane county June 4 (Hilsenhoff). This is the only report of this species.

Orchard Oriole: Observed in Trempealeau county July 9 (Robbins) and in La Crosse on July 6 (Leshner).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Noted in Wood county on June 4 (Follen). He had not previously seen any in the county for at least five years.

Common Grackle: A partial albino in Wauwatosa on July 20 (James Janke).

Evening Grosbeak: A number of summer reports from the north: Douglas and Bayfield counties (Bernard, Robbins), Menominee county June 19 (Soulen) and six in Forest county on July 17 (Richter). Six were seen in Cable all summer where the flock

increased in late summer (Rev. Joseph Jenkins). Present all summer in Iron county (Snarski) and observed feeding young in Douglas county in June (Klugow).

Pine Siskin: Sam Robbins located two in Douglas county June 27 and one in Polk county on June 9.

Red Crossbill: There were a surprising number of reports of this bird which has been classed a rare summer resident in the north. Found in Bayfield county July 28 and 30 (Bernard); two in Douglas county June 27, one in Bayfield county July 19 and 20 and 15 in Sawyer county on July 22 (Robbins). One was killed flying against a picture window at Cable (Dr. and Mrs. Sylla Adams).

White-winged Crossbill: One in Oneida county June 25 (Robbins).

Grasshopper Sparrow: In Sawyer county July 22 (Robbins), Price county June 22 (Hilsenhoff) and Langlade county June 18 (Soulen). All are unusually far north.

Le Conte's Sparrow: Found by two observers in four locations; in Burnett county July 17 and St. Croix county June 10 (Robbins) and Oconto county June 19, Marinette county June 17 (Richter).

Lark Sparrow: The only report came from Dane county where it was observed from June 25 to July 24 (Ashman).

Lark Bunting: See *By the Wayside*.

Slate-colored Junco: In addition to being found in the northern counties as expected it was found in Chippewa Falls June 10 (Kemper) and in Green county (Don Woodman).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Two reports are outside the usual northern range; one in Waupaca county June 20 (Mrs. Russell Rill) and one in Horicon Marsh June 11 (David and Marion Stocking).

Lincoln's Sparrow: At least three in Three Lakes spruce bog, Oneida county, on July 9 (Soulen).



An Indian Passenger Pigeon Trap

A. W. SCHORGER

Except for the use of upright nets, set in flyways, I am unaware of any other type of mechanical contrivance used by the Indians for taking pigeons. The following description by H. M. Mould (1918. *Recollections of Indian days*. Wis. Hist. Soc. M.S. 15p.) is of a trap used by the Winnebago Indians along the Baraboo River, Sauk County, Wisconsin:

"She had made the only pigeon trap I ever saw among the Indians. It was made of willow filled with rushes and heavy grass*. It was about 12 feet long and 7 feet wide and 7 or 8 inches deep. On the ground it looked like a big pan. . . . It was set on an angle of about 30 degrees and was dropped by pulling a string. They baited with corn, wheat, wild rice or acorns. When I saw the trap it had about 50 pigeons in it. I did not see the trap sprung. They had caught them several days before. I saw Sam and his mother get some of them out, which was done by putting a blanket over one end and along one side. Sam crawled under the blanket, at the corner, got under the trap and handed the pigeons to his mother one at a time. She pinched their heads off and put them in her basket. We took them to the tent, cleaned and cooked them. It was then from Sam's mother I learned how to cook birds in clay. They were covered entirely with clay and with a sharp stick she made several holes in the clay so it would not crack and let the fire get into the heat. They were dry but good eating.

*Used to fasten the willow sticks and form a mesh.

Supple Marsh . . .

An Open Letter

People's Forum
Commonwealth Reporter
Fond du Lac, Wis.
To the Editor,

For about four or five years now, the controversy over Supple Marsh has gone on and on. Conservationists in the area want to see the area developed as a natural history park. The Fond du Lac County Conservation Alliance (FCCA), which has led the fight, contends that the marsh in its natural state would constitute recreational, educational and economical wealth for the City of Fond du Lac and the surrounding area.

The City, on the other hand, has wandered from one position to another. For a while, the City proposed total development. Upon being challenged, it backed down, claiming it was not trying to destroy the marsh. Yet, it continued to dump rubbish, garbage and other "fill".

Improper and inadequate fencing was allowing rubbish to blow into Lake Winnebago, so the FCCA demanded and got a higher fence erected to prevent this.

Soon the City exceeded the area it had been allowed to fill. Only then did they ask for an extension. Not only that, but it was conducting a sloppy, unsupervised "landfill" operation.

In May, 1965, a public hearing took place in which the City asked for an extension to fill in along the rocky bulkhead line established many years before. Conservationists opposed the extension because of the pollution and littering caused by the dump to the air and water. They also opposed the creation of a solid fill bulkhead and the manner in which the City was conducting its landfill operation.

After the hearing the Public Service Commission ruled that the City could continue filling and designated the final boundaries up to which they could fill. They (the P.S.C.) ruled also, that deleterious material could not be used unless it was burned. Later, at a special hearing, the P.S.C. backed down and reversed its decision granting the City the right to use deleterious (noxious or harmful) fill, if hard fill were used bordering the marsh and lake.

The stage was set. The City was faced with its final boundaries as far as its landfill operations were concerned. But was it? The P.S.C. had backed down before. In other instances the City had merely filled up to the boundaries (in some cases beyond) and requested an extension.

Oddly enough, the City now claimed that it didn't understand why the conservationists were fighting them. It claimed that they too wanted to conserve a major portion of the marsh. Landfill operations, however, continued at an increased rate. Dumping and burning went on with no apparent supervision.

The Common Council appropriated funds to erect a teepee burner, which would slow the rate of fill. The City failed to act. Now, as the fill

nears the boundaries, set by the Public Service Commission, it appears as if the City has yet to find an alternate dump site. Also, the dumping has extended beyond the present fence which again is allowing rubbish to be blown into the lake.

Recently the City has begun legal proceedings moving toward eventual purchase of the marsh. Once the marshland is in the public domain, the F.C.C.A. is hopeful that its plan will be used in development. However, new and numerous little rumors, are 'flitting' about concerning future development of Supple Marsh. The City has not been able to decide on a definite plan for the marsh. The Fond du Lac County Conservation Alliance has; and it's a good one.

Rumors are being "fed" to the public that the F.C.C.A. has changed its mind and will accept more "development". This is not true! The only development that the F.C.C.A. has accepted is that marshland that has already fallen victim to the City's landfill operation. This area once offered habitat to thousands of spawning fish and hundreds of nesting marsh birds.

It can be salvaged, however. Already the weedy plants and Big-Tooth Aspen offer protection and habitat to many rabbits, pheasants and song birds. Proper development of these filled areas could create picnic areas and good wildlife habitat.

The present landfill operation is taking place in an area that was once a huge mud flat. This area once attracted thousands of shorebirds, waterbirds and waterfowl. This too, has now been lost forever.

But there is still about 240 acres left. These acres host a great variety of wildlife. Crappies, bullheads and pike spawn there in good numbers, as do smaller numbers of largemouth bass, sunfish and bluegills. Mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon and even deer utilize the marsh.

A few years ago I became curious to know how many species of birds actually depend on the marsh for food, nesting and refuge. I compiled a list which by the end of 1966 had reached 122 species. A copy of the list is enclosed.

There is still enough marsh left to create a tremendous Natural History Park. The F.C.C.A. feels this deeply and sincerely and, with enough support, will win the fight.

Fond du Lac has been experiencing a sudden boom in prosperity and an attitude of "go-forwardness". Destruction of the fabulous resource known as Supple Marsh would be a tragic mistake and a long step backwards.

Sincerely,

Carl C. Knuth

Member Supple Marsh Committee

Fond du Lac County

Conservation Alliance

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Since the receipt of this letter there have been some new developments. The Fond du Lac Common Council has voted to appropriate funds (to be matched by Federal Funds) to purchase Supple Marsh.

Furthermore the city officials are looking favorably at the Alliance's proposal that the area be developed as a Natural History Park.

Much credit must go to Carl Knuth and the Fond du Lac Conservation Alliance for their energy, initiative and perseverance. As yet the project is not completed. It needs all the help, support, and promotion it can get from all of us.

Species of Birds Seen in Supple Marsh

1. Horned Grebe
2. Pied-billed Grebe
3. Great Blue Heron
4. Green Heron
5. Common Egret
6. Black-Crowned Night Heron
7. Least Bittern
8. American Bittern
9. Whistling Swan
10. Canada Goose
11. Blue Goose
12. Mallard
13. Black Duck
14. Gadwall
15. Pintail
16. Green-winged Teal
17. Blue-winged Teal
18. American Widgeon
19. Shoveler
20. Wood Duck
21. Redhead
22. Ring-necked Duck
23. Canvasback
24. Greater Scaup
25. Lesser Scaup
26. Goldeneye
27. Bufflehead
28. Ruddy Duck
29. Hooded Merganser
30. Common Merganser
31. Red-Breasted Merganser
32. Red-tailed Hawk
33. Rough-legged Hawk
34. Marsh Hawk
35. Sparrow Hawk
36. Ring-necked Pheasant
37. King Rail
38. Virginia Rail
39. Sora
40. Common Gallinule
41. American Coot
42. Semi-palmated Plover
43. Killdeer
44. Ruddy Turnstone
45. Common Snipe
46. Spotted Sandpiper
47. Solitary Sandpiper
48. Greater Yellowlegs
49. Lesser Yellowlegs
50. Pectoral Sandpiper
51. Baird's Sandpiper
52. Least Sandpiper
53. Long-billed Dowitcher
54. Semi-palmated Sandpiper
55. American Avocet
56. Northern Phalarope
57. Herring Gull
58. Ring-billed Gull
59. Bonaparte's Gull
60. Forster's Tern
61. Common Tern
62. Caspian Tern
63. Black Tern
64. Mourning Dove
65. Nighthawk
66. Chimney Swift
67. Ruby-throated Hummingbird
68. Belted Kingfisher
69. Flicker
70. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
71. Downy Woodpecker
72. Eastern Kingbird
73. Alder Flycatcher
74. Tree Swallow
75. Bank Swallow
76. Rough-winged Swallow
77. Barn Swallow
78. Cliff Swallow
79. Purple Martin
80. Blue Jay
81. Crow
82. Black-capped Chickadee
83. White-breasted Nuthatch
84. Long-billed Marsh Wren
85. Mockingbird
86. Catbird
87. Brown Thrasher
88. Robin
89. Golden-crowned Kinglet
90. Ruby-crowned Kinglet
91. Cedar Waxwing
92. Starling
93. Red-eyed Vireo
94. Yellow Warbler
96. Magnolia Warbler
97. Myrtle Warbler
98. Black Throated Green Warbler
99. Palm Warbler
100. Yellowthroat
101. American Redstart
102. House Sparrow
103. Eastern Meadowlark
104. Yellow headed Blackbird
105. Red-winged Blackbird
106. Baltimore Oriole
107. Rusty Blackbird
108. Brewer's Blackbird
109. Common Grackle
110. Cowbird
111. Indigo Bunting
112. Goldfinch
113. Towhee
114. Savannah Sparrow
115. Vesper Sparrow
116. Slate-colored Junco
117. Tree Sparrow
118. Chipping Sparrow
119. White-throated Sparrow
120. Fox Sparrow
121. Swamp Sparrow
122. Song Sparrow

Carl C. Knuth

The Tufted Titmouse

AN ANALYSIS OF CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

HOWARD YOUNG

Wisconsin State University

La Crosse, Wisconsin

This study was supported with funds provided by the Institutional Studies Committee, Wis. State Univ., La Crosse.

The Tufted Titmouse (*Parus bicolor*) is a bird of southern distribution, occurring only in small numbers in Wisconsin. Cory (1909) listed it as abundant in southern Illinois, but rare in the north, with a single Wisconsin record. The first record for the state was 1900 (Kumlien and Hollister 1951), and it was not found with any regularity prior to 1920. Cahn (1913) does not list it for Waukesha County. The 1900 date corresponds with an invasion of the Cardinal, *Richmondia cardinalis*, which has been previously reported (Young, Deusing and Stollberg 1941), and the 1920 date with an apparent surge in Cardinal expansion (*idem*).

Wisconsin Christmas Census records of the last 26 years (1939-1964) as published in the Passenger Pigeon, give some information about the distribution and relative abundance of the titmouse in the state.

Of 551 reports* only 166 (30%) have recorded one or more individuals. In 11,584 man-hours of observation, 908 (.08 per man-hour) birds have been reported. Twenty-six counties (36%) have never recorded titmouse on a Christmas census. Since this species is generally considered a "prize" on a census list, the above figures are probably affected by the fact that special efforts will be made to find it on a census date if it has been recently seen in the area. If this is so, further verification of low population levels is found. Only 97 reports have indicated the presence of more than one individual. This represents 58% of reports with titmouse, and 18% of all reports.

The greatest number of titmice noted in any one report in Wisconsin is 52 (Dane County, 1958). This involved 216 man-hours, which gives .24 birds per man-hour. However, in 1954, 15 titmice were seen on a four hour census in LaFayette County (2.75 per man-hour).

Based on areas reporting at least ten times, Chippewa County shows the greatest frequency of occurrence (92%), but the birds are found only in small numbers (.19 per man-hour). Again based on 10 or more reports, Rock County shows the greatest density (.37 per man-hour), and the birds are seen very regularly (frequency = .86).

Figure 1 shows winter distribution of the titmouse in Wisconsin as indicated by the Christmas Census reports. The two lines running across the map enclose the "tension zone" (Curtis 1959). Northern hardwoods lie mostly to the north of this zone, southern hardwoods are primarily south of it. Titmouse reports obviously are concentrated south of the tension zone.

*A report represents one or more censuses from a given locality in a given year. When censuses were combined into yearly reports, those which did not list hours afield were not used in computing birds seen per man-hour.

Of the 265 reports from this southern region, 46% have found titmice present. A total of 820 birds have been reported from here during 5639 man-hours of observation, a rate of .15 birds per man-hour.

Of the 124 reports from within the boundaries of the tension zone, 35 (28%) have listed titmice. Here 73 birds have been seen during 2835 man-hours of observation (.03 per man-hour).

Finally, north of the zone, with 3110 man-hours of observation during 162 reports, the titmouse has been found on only 10 censuses (6%), and these totaled only 15 birds (.005 per man-hour).

The titmouse has spread slowly since its original invasion of the state, and there is some evidence that it is gradually increasing in numbers. Since 1946 it has been reported at least once in Wisconsin during the census period. In 1957 it was noted on 48% of the reports, but only at a rate of .07 birds per man-hour. On a state-wide basis the greatest number seen per man-hour was .15 in 1958 (44% of the reports listed titmice).

Figure 2 presents two-point moving averages on the number of titmice seen per man-hour, and on the per cent of reports with titmice. Note that the higher averages of recent years started in 1953 and 1954.

Taking Figure 1 also into consideration, the best summary statement would be that the titmouse is an invader from the south, which has been established in the state at least since 1900. It appears to be slowly increasing in numbers south of the tension zone, but has spread northward of this only in very small numbers.

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*Discourage the use of
All harmful insecticides.*

Mary and Charlie Nelson

Figure 1 – Density of Tufted Titmice in Wisconsin as indicated by Christmas Census Reports

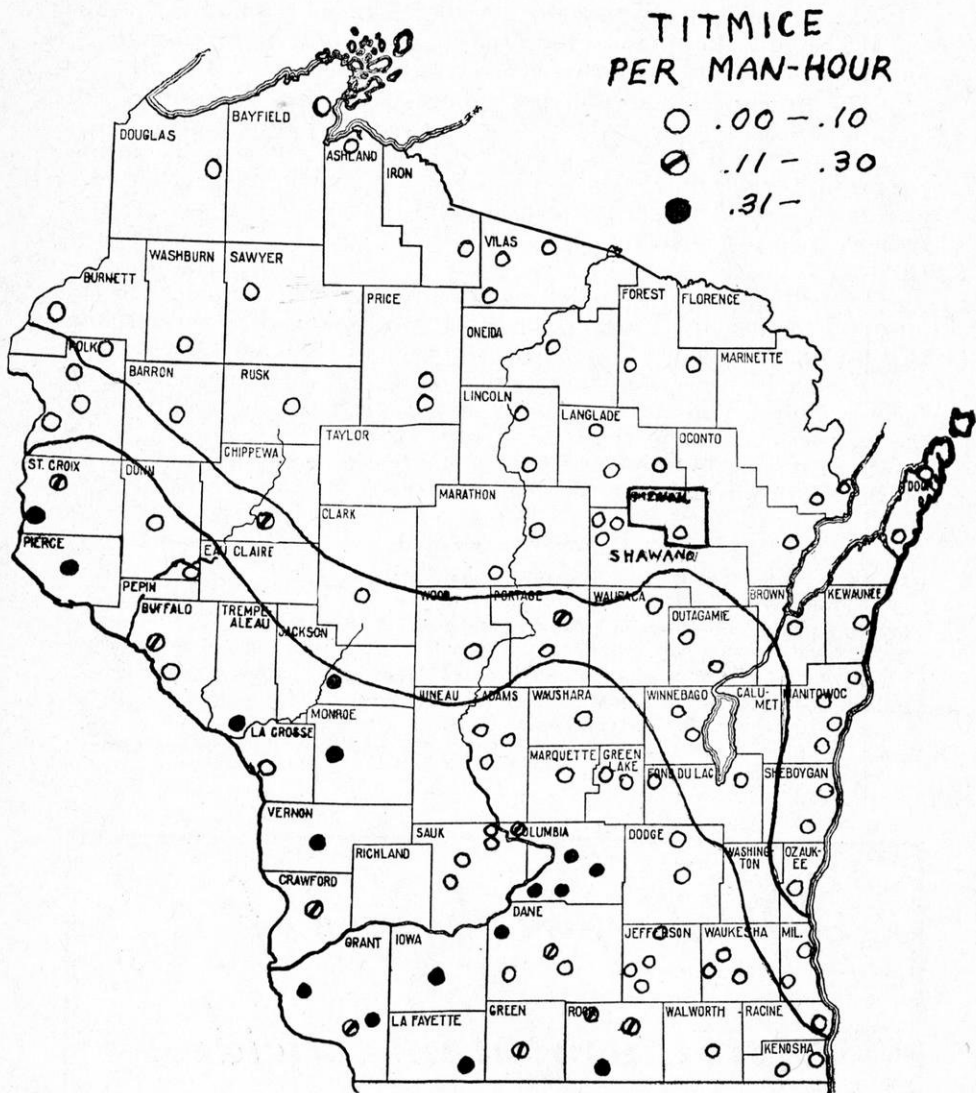
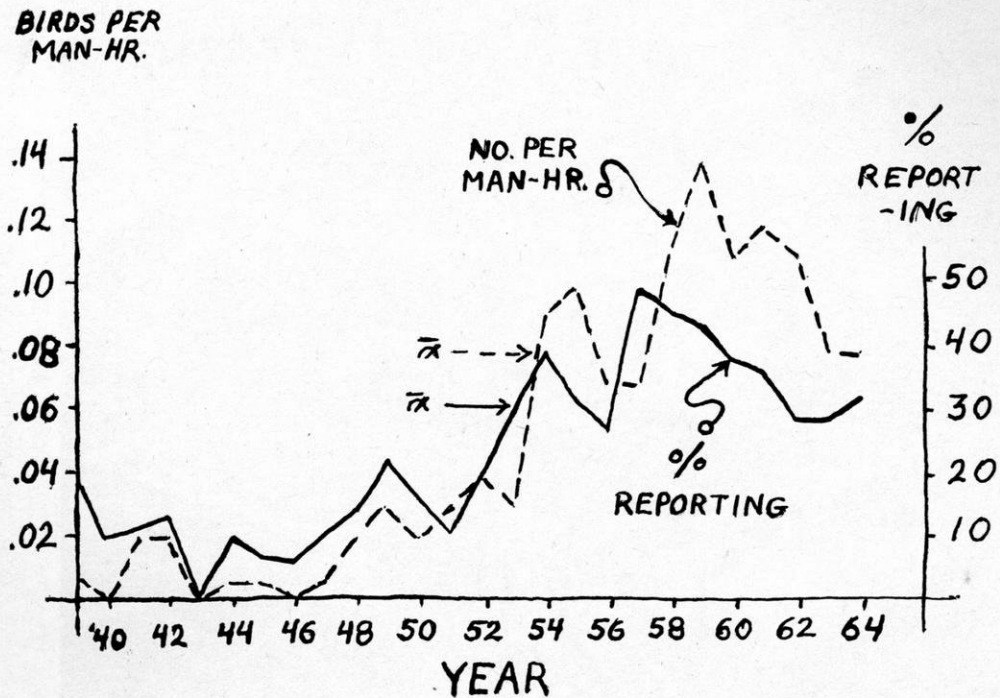


Figure 2 — Frequency of titmice reports, and number seen per man-hour (2-point moving average).





WOODCOCK ON NEST

LOCATION: WASHINGTON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

DATE: SPRING, 1966

PHOTOGRAPHER: DON DANIELSON, MILWAUKEE

New Editor of The Passenger Pigeon

Once again the reins of editor of **The Passenger Pigeon** have into new hands. At the 1967 annual meeting Dr. Charles A. Kemper, Chippewa Falls, was elected as the sixth editor of the Society. He replaces Nils P. Dahlstrand, Rhinelander, who has served as editor since 1962.

Dr. Kemper has been active in Society affairs for the past 15 years. He has held a number of offices, and is one of the most astute bird observers in the state. His work on bird mortalities at the Eau Claire TV tower has been nationally recognized.

For seven years he served as the fall field notes editor. He was in charge of arranging for the successful 1963 convention at Chippewa Falls, the first one ever held in the northwestern part of the state. During 1966-67 he served as president of the Inland Bird Branding Association.

Dr. Kemper comes as a capable ornithologist to guide the course of **The Passenger Pigeon**. —Nils P. Dahlstrand.



New Editor's Note:

It is nice to read the above kind words even if they are exaggerated and slightly inaccurate. It's something like reading your own obituary notice without having to die first. Not everyone has such a privilege.

In the transition of editors and in the moving of our printer to a new office there has occurred an unfortunate falling behind in our schedule. However, we are working hard to get back on the track. Many people are contributing their efforts and we expect to be caught up before too long. There is always a need for manuscripts and drawings. Unfortunately color slides or negatives are not acceptable. Please send positives. Reprints of articles will be furnished at the author's expense if requested.

Our past editor, Nils Dahlstrand, has worked hard and long in the tradition of the several outstanding editors before him. We'll try to do as well.—C. A. Kemper.



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