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Send all manuscripts and related correspondence to the Editors. Information for "Seasonal Field Notes" should be sent to the Bird Reports Coordinator (see inside back cover). Art work and questions about the art should be sent to the Assistant Editor for art (see left column). Manuscripts that deal with Wisconsin birds, ornithological topics of interest to WSO members, and WSO activities are considered for publication. For detailed submission guidelines, please refer to "Guidelines for Authors and Artists," found near the back of this and following issues.

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Front Cover: Jeff Galligan took this issue's evocative cover image of an alert, late September Nelson's Sparrow at Lake Barney in Dane County.

WSO's Buena Vista Properties and Prairie Chicken Management

Many WSO members know our Honey Creek Preserve in the Baraboo Hills very well. I expect, however, some of you are not aware of WSO's other property in central Wisconsin.

The state Buena Vista Wildlife Area located in southwestern Portage County, totals approximately 13,843 acres. Of this, 9,633 acres are owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The remaining acreage is managed by the DNR through long-term lease agreements. The leased lands consist of 4,150 acres owned by the Dane County Conservation League and 60 acres owned by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology.

Buena Vista is an Important Bird Area (IBA) due to the presence of the largest population of Greater Prairie-Chickens in the state, as well as other rare species. The federally-endangered Karner blue butterfly, federally-threatened gray wolf, state-endangered regal fritillary butterfly, and state-threatened Henslow's Sparrow and wood turtle are found in the area. Other species include the Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Grasshopper Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Northern Harrier, Short-Eared Owl, Upland Sandpiper, and Blandings turtle.

In 1958, Madison native and longtime high school teacher Paul Olson led an effort to acquire prairie chicken lands in central Wisconsin. This area was the home base for Fred and Fran Hamerstrom, whose studies of prairie chickens were the impetus for this pioneering project to acquire and restore habitat for prairie chickens. Ultimately, over 13,000 acres of land were acquired under the leadership of Paul Olson and the Dane County Conservation League. The project was the earliest wildlife success story to emerge from the private sector in Wisconsin and received national recognition.

The WSO purchased two parcels, one 20 acres, the other 40 acres, as part of Paul Olsen's bigger effort. The Summer 1959 issue of *The Passenger Pigeon* had an excellent overview of WSO's efforts by Daniel Q. Thompson, titled "Our Investment in the Prairie Chicken . . ." (Vol. XXI, pg. 51-57). I'd like to repeat his closing words:

"These purchases are a unique opportunity to participate in a pioneer venture in wildlife conservation. The prairie grouse program in Wisconsin has been an outstanding example of imaginative research coupled with bold planning. It remains for us to match these early accomplishments with forthright action in executing the restoration plan. We have had to be content with erecting a monument to the Passenger Pigeon—let us lose no time in creating a living memorial to the magnificent wildlife heritage embodied in the Prairie Chicken."

DNR currently manages WSO's two parcels under a 99-year lease, signed in 1962. The overall DNR management goal is to protect and enhance large, open grassland habitat with different vegetation heights and densities to meet seasonal habitat needs of numerous grassland-dependent wildlife species. A variety of methods are used, including prescribed burns, grazing, share-cropping, mowing, seeding, and invasive species control.

In addition to the Buena Vista area, populations of prairie chickens are present in three other DNR Wildlife Management Areas in central Wisconsin, Leola, Paul Olsen, and Mead. The largest populations are in the Buena Vista and Paul Olsen areas.

Each year since 1950 there has been a count of displaying males that is used to estimate the number of birds in the overall Wisconsin population. Since 2000, numbers have declined from about 750 to 240 males. This decline has occurred despite releasing 110 females from Minnesota into the Buena Vista area during 2006-2009. Although this translocation temporarily stabilized the loss of genetic variation in the population, the numbers of birds have declined, suggesting that the decline is not due to inbreeding.

The translocation was part of the previous 10-year management plan (2004-2014) for prairie-chickens by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The plan also called for acquiring an additional 15,000 acres to connect the four DNR wildlife management areas that have prairie-chickens (Leola, Buena Vista, Paul Olsen, and Mead), but a lack of funds and increasing land prices have hampered that effort, with only 3,440 new acres purchased outright during this period. Additional lands, however, were protected under federal and state easement programs. In the meantime, the amount of habitat for prairie-chickens has declined overall due to land use changes.

The next management plan is being developed as I write this column. DNR's tentative timeline is to complete a full draft of the plan in spring 2017, offer a final public review in summer 2017, and seek approval of the plan by the Natural Resources Board in fall 2017. The overall management plan also addresses populations on three other DNR wildlife areas, Mead, Paul J. Olsen, and Leola. WSO is closely following these plans.

Dr. Peter Dunn, UW-Milwaukee professor and member of the WSO Conservation Committee, has a long-term research program on the conservation genetics of Wisconsin prairie chickens and is following the master plan revision on behalf of WSO.

In late February 2017, the DNR hosted a meeting in Wisconsin Rapids to get public input on issues related to the new plan. WSO attended this meeting and followed up with written comments. The majority of public comments supported continued management for prairie-chickens on all four management areas. There was also strong support for expanding available grassland by working more with private and other public land managers in the region. It was clear, however, that additional land purchases were not being considered by DNR. It is still too early to tell what might be proposed in the next draft of the management plan, but we will continue to monitor its progress and promote more habitat for prairie-chickens and other species that need extensive grassland habitats.

Let's not forget about WSO's Buena Vista properties. We were in at the start of an innovative and pioneering landscape-scale conservation project. To honor our earlier investment, and out of respect to the legacy of Wisconsin's prairie grouse, we will continue to participate in this awesome conservation effort.

Michael John Jaeger, President



Jim Stewart found this Red-tailed Hawk soaring in Dane County's Pope Farm Conservancy in late September.



Beverly Engstrom created this pen-and-ink-like image of a Northern Flicker in late August in Oneida County.

Thoughts on Banding Chickadees in Wisconsin

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There is probably no more recognized bird in Wisconsin than the Black-capped Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus*). Found almost everywhere year-round and always bright and busy, these tiny bundles of energy bring smiles to all, whether experienced birder or five-year-old just learning about birds. And banded Wisconsin chickadees have been much studied already, starting with Aldo Leopold's chickadee #65290 banded in 1937 (Leopold 1949). Fran and Frederick Hamerstrom followed with their own marked chickadee study (Hamerstrom 1942). In the 1960s and continuing for several decades Charles Weise with Millicent Ficken and others studied chickadees at the U.W. Milwaukee Field Station in southeast Wisconsin (numerous studies). Margaret Brittingham and Stanley Temple (1988) continued with their study of 418 banded chickadees in southern Wisconsin. This is not an exhaustive list. I certainly have missed some Wisconsin chickadee studies and Smith (1991) references numerous chickadee studies in the U.S. and Canada.

As a bird bander, I have always caught chickadees as part of catching

songbirds, whether targeting them or not. They readily enter bird traps baited with seeds or suet and are easily captured in mist nets. However, getting them out of nets can be quite the experience as they show no fear in their attacks to your fingers in their attempt to escape. Occasionally chickadees use nest boxes, although capturing them in nest boxes for banding takes a certain amount of skill and luck.

I began banding songbirds in 1982 (thanks to Dick Thiel for taking me on as one of his sub-permittees). Several years later I had my own master banding permit. Since 1982, I have lived in four Wisconsin locations, and along with my family home near Three Lakes, these are the main areas of my chickadee banding. The length of time I resided at each location, however, has greatly influenced the number of birds banded there and the opportunities for recaptures. I have also banded at various bird festivals and other educational events in northern Wisconsin. One summer a colleague and I operated a MAPS banding station near Mercer. Regarding time of year, I have done little banding from August through November.

METHODS USED

From a scientific stance, much of my songbird banding doesn't fit strict scientific analysis due to the randomness of much of the banding's timing and effort/length of each banding session. As stated, many of the chickadee captures were made incidental to other banding activity. The most important variable in my annual banding totals is the number of days and hours banding during those days each year. Some years I banded on only a few days. In 2012, the first full year of my retirement, my New Year's resolution was to band every day of the year, at least until I banded a minimum of one bird each day. That lasted about four months minus several days when temperatures were too cold to band and essentially all the birds I could catch at my house were wearing bands! Eventually I realized the futility of such an effort but still went on to band on over 130 days in 2012.

I used mist nets and some wire mesh traps during the summer to capture songbirds. In the winter, I used Potter (one & four cell) traps, McCamey chickadee traps, funnel ground traps, cylindrical thistle feeder traps and small bownets. Often at my house the traps were wired "open" and used as feeders to get birds used to going into the traps. This can greatly increase success there versus other places I banded without pre-placing traps.

I feed black sunflower seeds year-round, suet in the winter and thistle when finches are present. I use some mixed bird seed in spring and fall when sparrows and other seed eaters are present. My three to six feeders are on pulley systems to prevent bear damage except one which is a bear-proof platform. My yard is full of wildlife

plants, providing abundant cover and food. I live in one of the most heavily forested counties, Iron County, which provides unlimited and mostly continuous chickadee habitat. The question becomes how much habitat does it take to raise 150 chickadees and how far will they move seasonably to an artificial food source?

NUMBERS

From 1982 through 2016 I have banded 2888 Black-capped Chickadees in Wisconsin. The largest sample of chickadees (1387) was captured from 1995 through 2016 at my current home two miles west of Mercer. The days on which I banded chickadees there in a year ranged from two in 1998 to 43 in 2012 with a mean of 14 days. At Mercer, 87% of new captures occurred December through April. Of the 1387 chickadees banded at my Mercer home, I re-trapped these birds 2716 times (not counting multiple times in same day) over 21 years. The only other location with a long enough banding period to re-trap chickadees that were long-lived (> 5 years) is Clearwater Lake near Three Lakes where 499 were banded from 1982 through 2016. There I averaged 4.9 days of banding annually over 35 years. The banding sessions were shorter than those at my Mercer home. In recent years, little bird feeding and less banding occurred at Clearwater Lake reducing the opportunity for re-traps.

How many chickadees may visit your feeders in a year, or even in a day? Due to the low probability (less than 0.1%) of banded birds the size of chickadees being found by someone else, data on the movements of chickadees is limited but I had one seasonal movement of 50

miles. The seasonal change in the local chickadee populations seen through banding certainly implies movements in winter. And at fall bird migration count locations Black-capped Chickadees are tallied in migration. So, how many Black-capped Chickadees do you think you are feeding? Using the calendar year, I captured and banded 100 new chickadees in two different years at my Mercer home. One of those years I also recaptured 31 chickadees banded in previous years. The other year the recaptures totaled 33 different chickadees. So, in 2011 and 2013, I handled 131 and 133 different chickadees, respectively at the same location! Other years the number of recaptures was greater and in 2012 and 2016 I handled 161 (99 new) and 151 (83 new) different chickadees, respectively. And there had to be some birds I did not capture each year.

Single day captures have been impressive too. On 30 December 2005 I banded 30 chickadees and had seven recaptures for 37 different birds. The next day I banded another eight chickadees which were probably present on the 30th for total of 45 different chickadees at my home in Mercer. On 23 and 24 January 2010 I again captured 45 different chickadees. The highest two-day total was 55 individual chickadees on 16 and 17 January 2000 when more of the chickadees were recaptures than newly banded birds. In 1996, a one day banding visit to some friends' house near Long Lake in Iron County resulted in capturing 45 chickadees. I have always told people to double their estimate of the number of chickadees made from watching their feeders and their guess would still be low!

AGE OF CHICKADEES

The oldest Black-capped Chickadee (#2350-42239) I have captured was at least 11 years and four months old on 8 October 2015. I handled #42239 nine times during six different years. When caught the first time I estimated #42239 to be a second-year bird, but in April it can be difficult to age adult chickadees. The longevity record for a banded Black-capped Chickadee is 11 years and six months (5 May 2001 to 9 December 2011) from a Minnesota bird aged "after second year" when first caught (Lutmerding and Love 2016). The second oldest chickadee in the Banding Lab's data is 11 years and two months (22 July 1970 to 28 August 1980 in Massachusetts) which would make my chickadee the second oldest. Another of my chickadees (#2350-42476) was at least ten years and four months old when last trapped on 8 August 2015. It was captured in seven different years. The third ten-year survivor (#2350-42301) was last seen on 11 May 2015. The above birds were banded at Mercer, while a nine year ten-month-old chickadee (#1620-67545) was initially banded 26 November 1982 at Clearwater Lake.

Now, for the rest of the story. I thought I remembered reading years ago about a 12-year-old Black-capped Chickadee, so I googled and sure enough I found an article from 1975 about a 12 year five-month-old chickadee (0250-62121) (Kennard 1975). With emails to and from the USGS Banding Lab (after I had written the previous paragraph) I started a search that showed their longevity data included #62121, but not out to 12 years old, so they could not verify its age. They also are working on verifying an

11 year seven-month-old chickadee record from 1936 that appears accurate. My oldest chickadee may soon rank as third oldest. Maybe I will catch it again?

Long-lived chickadees typically were trapped numerous times/years between initial banding and their last recapture event. Three chickadees, #2160-00325 (10 January 2002 to 30 March 2008), #2280-88406 (25 February 2007 to 19 April 2014) and #2540-07916 (17 January 2011 to 26 March 2014), were each captured 14 times at my house. Chickadees are not afraid to re-enter bird traps to get a free meal.

Using data from 1033 chickadees banded at Mercer from 1995 through 2011 to allow for at least five years of recapture opportunity, a picture of longevity develops. In the next few years the higher end of this age data will likely increase. Forty-five percent of chickadees were never handled after their first (banding date) capture. 563 (55%) were recaptured at least once. Of these, 220 (21%) were recaptured only in the year they were banded. 164 (16%) were recaptured during the year following date of banding. 60 (6%) were alive the third year. 40 (4%) re-trapped in year four. 32 (3%) re-trapped in year five. 17 (2%) were still alive in year six and 30 (3%) alive in year seven and beyond. The data from Clearwater Lake reflected either lower survival or more likely the much lower banding effort as only 34% of chickadees banded there were re-trapped later. Forty-seven (9%) were re-trapped the same year as banding, 53 (10%) birds the year after banding, 30 (6%) two years, 25 (5%) three years, six (1%) four years, three (0.6%) five years, two (0.4%) six years and five (1%) seven through 10 years after banding. Birds I

identified as hatching- or second-year (younger) chickadees at first capture had fewer re-traps than birds classed as older (after hatching year and after second year) chickadees. Winter-trapped (first capture) chickadees were more likely to be seen again than summer or early fall banded birds, again implying that older birds (when first caught) are already "survivors". Younger birds may also be more likely to disperse into available, unoccupied habitat.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Many bluebirds and tree swallows are banded as nestlings found in bird houses. Chickadees use bird houses too, but infrequently enough to be considered rare. They can fledge in 16 days and the banding window (nestlings not too small and not old enough to fledge prematurely) is only two or three days. The adults are also quite agile and escape capture from nest boxes often. Thus, my sample of banded nestlings is only 18 chickadees. The interesting thing is I have only recaptured one (5%) of these nestlings after leaving the nest box. The one known survivor was trapped four times over 31 months after banding. Survival is much lower for fledglings and their dispersal from their natal area is unknown. Smith (1967) reported only nine (9%) of 96 banded nestlings joined the local winter chickadee flock she was studying.

I did not band enough chickadees during their breeding season, when they can be sexed, to get a large enough sample to determine from recaptures if there might be a difference in survival between males and females. The number of chickadees at the feeders is considerably lower during breeding season than in late fall through

early spring when lower food resources also makes them easier to catch. Chickadees are somewhat territorial during breeding, thus reducing the local population although there was always more than a single pair around the house in summer. Of the long-lived individuals that I could sex, often during a recapture event, they were of either sex (small sample size).

Black-capped Chickadees are tough and fearless. They are the only songbird at my feeders that does not vanish when a shrike appears. I have never seen a shrike successfully catch a chickadee, although it does happen (Smith 1991). They are certainly the busybodies of the bird world. It amazes me that the researchers mentioned at the start of this paper could follow individual birds accurately enough to complete their projects! I probably have never sat in a tree stand on my five acres without seeing chickadees feeding through the woods. And I always look to see if I can tell if one is banded!

I hope you have enjoyed this snap-

shot of Black-capped Chickadees in northern Wisconsin. It took a pile of data sheets and hours of flipping through them to glean the data presented here. If there only were home computers back in 1982 and the foresight to put all banding data into computer files at home over the years...

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Scott Weberpal photographed this Mississippi Hawk flying overhead in Rock County in late August.

50 Years Ago, by Nancy Nabak

Excerpts from Fall 1967, Volume 29, Number 3

The cover of this issue has a painting of an “Unusual Goose” by Rockne Knuth. Inside, there is a write up regarding this particular goose:

“On March 25, 1966, while watching swans at Supple’s marsh, I noticed a small goose associating with the swans. At first I thought it to be a blue goose, but then I noticed that the dark coloration extended up the neck and a dark strip ran up the back of the head to the crown, rendering only the face and throat white. It was about 5:45 p.m. and I waited impatiently for my brother, Carl C. Knuth, hoping the bird would remain until he arrived. At 5:15 pm., my brother was there and we both walked out into the marsh for a better look. We studied he bird’s every detail and remained puzzled as to its identity. At 5:45 p.m. we moved even closer, but the swans saw us and flew, and the goose flew with them.”

Rockne continues to describe his continued observations for six days, still unable to identify it. He notes that it was definitely a goose, the size of a Blue goose, which it also closely resembled. He created a painting of the mystery bird and Rev. Sam Robbins took it to the American Ornithologists Union at Duluth, MN. He showed it to more than 20 national and international authorities including Alexander Whetmore of the Smithsonian Institute, Roger Tory Peterson and Chandler Robbins. There were many varied opinions from hybrid mixes to plumage transitory phases, but no one could definitively say. Knuth believed, “It may have been a Blue Goose in transition from immature to adult plumage, or possibly even an aberrant form of adult plumage.”



This immature Bald Eagle posed for Stephen Fisher in Oneida County in mid-October.

The Fall Season: 2016

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For the third consecutive year world-wide average temperatures set a record high. The month of July was the warmest month since record keeping began in 1880. All 48 continuous states had temperatures well above historic averages. The further north one went in the United States, the greater the increase in temperatures above average. In Wisconsin the fall temperatures were well above normal with the western half of the state experiencing temperatures for November nearly 10 degrees above average. A part of this increased warmth were record high nighttime lows. Record breaking high nighttime average lows were set for the year for each of the 48 states. Many parts of the state did not experience freezing until late November. The first touch of snow fell on the night of 18–19 November, which was then followed by mild weather into December. The fall season ended with days of rain and mild temperatures. The first statewide snow fell on 4 December. Along with the warmth, there was ample precipitation. A morning storm on 11 August caused extensive road damage in west-central Wisconsin. That morning the community of Nelson in Buffalo County received 6.30 inches of rain while Mondovi in the same county received 5.97. West-central Wisconsin was struck by even heavier

rain and extensive damage in the period 20–22 September. As the National Weather Service mentioned “Days of storms lead to widespread flooding through much of western Wisconsin. Damage to infrastructure, farm crops, homes, and businesses was widespread.” Daryl Tessen summed the season by writing “The 4 months of this fall were all very warm and humid! There were only brief cool spurts, always followed by surprising warmth and humidity. Record highs were recorded on quite a few days during the season.” This phenomena of ever increasing temperatures and more frequent shocks of weather extremes is something that will continue for the remainder of all of our lives. It will be an interesting time in which to monitor the activities of birds. Will short distance migrants become permanent residents? Will marginal breeding species, such as the Mississippi Kite and the Blue Grosbeak, become regular nesting species? Will northern species, such as the Gray Jay and Boreal Chickadee, eventually disappear from the state? The state records suggest that these changes are already taking place.

There were ebird reports from all 72 counties. There were 10 counties with 200 or more species for the fall season, which compares to 9 in 2014 and 2015.



Figure 1. Map of Wisconsin Counties.

Those 10, in order of how many species were found, were Ozaukee (233), Milwaukee (225), Dane (222), Brown (216), Manitowoc (216), Douglas (203), Waukesha (203), Dodge (202), Racine (202), and Sheboygan (201). The only county reporting fewer than 50 species was Rusk (46). Due to atlas work done in July and early August, Menominee County, which usually shows fewer than 50 species, reported 85. This fall the WSO has received detailed reports from the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County. These reports, along with those

from the Eagle Valley Nature Preserve in Grant County and the Forest Beach Migratory Bird Preserve in Ozaukee County, has given the fall report a better understanding of raptor migration. Thanks Rachel Holzman and Spencer Parkinson for sharing. And thank you Calvin Brennen and the Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory for your daily reports of waterfowl migration from Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County.

There were 312 species found for the fall season. This compares to 308 in 2015 and 318 in 2014. Significant

species not reported were Black-backed Woodpecker, Townsend's Solitaire, and Varied Thrush. Significant finds were King Eider, Common Eider, Anna's Hummingbird, Purple Gallinule, Little Gull, Little Blue Heron, White-faced Ibis, Swallow-tailed Kite, Mississippi Kite, Swainson's Hawk, Northern Hawk-Owl, Prairie Falcon, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Black-billed Magpie, Painted Redstart, Western Tanager, and Blue Grosbeak.

Readers might notice that the arrangement of species in this report is quite different from the past. That is because the species are aligned by the updated taxonomic order shown in the 54th supplement of the Seventh Edition of the Check-list of North American Birds, provided by the Classification Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union. More updates are expected in the future. As they occur, it is intended that the fall season will incorporate those changes.

REPORTS

(1 August to 30 November 2016)

Species marked with “*” need documentation that is sent to the records committee.

Greater White-fronted Goose—Unlike the Fall of 2015 when there were but five reports from five counties with the high count being five, this fall had numerous reports from 16 counties with a high of 200 on 1 November at Goose Pond in Columbia County. Previous to this year the only fall count better than 100 was 125 on October 12, 2008 in Iowa County (John Romano). This fall, besides the 200 in Columbia County, 150 were found on 17 October in Dunn County (Koch) and 180 on 16 October in Racine County (Howe). There were two September arrival dates, those being 14 September in Waukesha County (Edlhuber) and 27 September in Ozaukee

County (Brennan). Individuals were then found into the winter season.

Snow Goose—The first fall arrival was 13 September in the counties of Bayfield (Brady) and Kewaunee (Sinkula) followed on 14 September in Sheboygan County (Parkinson). Snow Geese then remained into the winter season. The high count was 60 on 5 November at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Gustafson).

Ross's Goose—Reported from seven counties, which compares to three in 2015, 11 in 2014, and 10 in 2013. The only September arrival was 30 September in Marinette County (Watson) followed by 6 October in Calumet County (Benson and Tiede). The Ross's then continued to be found into the winter season. The high count was five on 13 November at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Lamoreaux and Lefever) followed by four over the period 6–13 October in Calumet County (many observers). The total of five matches the fall season record high set in 1992, 2000, and 2011.

Cackling Goose—The first sighting was 26–31 August at Jackson Harbor in Door County (Howe and Wegner). This was followed by 12 September at Indian Lake in Dane County (Pecquex) and 13 September at Everest Park in Marathon County (Hurlburt). The Cackling then continued into the winter season. The 26 August date is record early. The record had been 28 August 2010 in Clark County (Risch). The high count was 80 on 24 September at Stricker's Pond in Dane County (Bailey) followed by 50 on 9 October at another pond in Dane County (McGivern).

Canada Goose—In the period 24 October through 30 November there were numerous counts of 2000+ Canada Geese at the Horicon March of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties. The high count was 5,000 on 23 October (Cooper). Outside of the Horicon March the high count was 2000 on various dates in the counties of Dane, Calumet, and Columbia.

Mute Swan—Reported from 16 counties which is similar to the number of counties in recent years. Although a nesting species, the first fall find was not until 24 August in Bayfield County (Brady). The high count was seven over the period 11–22 November in Door County (Benson, Walsh, and Wegner) and seven on 22

November at Tichigan SWA in Racine County (Donna and Nancy Mateski). The count of seven is comparatively low. The season record high is 60 set on 14 November 2010 in Door County (Josh Engel).

Trumpeter Swan—Early season finds came from 13 counties, which is record high and a possible indication that this re-introduced species is expanding its range. The high count was 125 on 29 October at the Necedah NWR in Juneau County (Paynter) followed by 80 on 27 November in St. Croix County (Annabelle and David George). The total of 125 is record high for the fall season. The record had been 111 on 22 November in Polk County (Maercklein).

Tundra Swan—The first arrival date was 6 October in Clark County (Lund) followed by 11 October in the counties of Columbia and Waushara. Tundra Swans then remained in strong numbers into the winter season. The high count was 700 on 29 November in Vernon County (Reiter-Marolf) followed by 150 on 19 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Ross Mueller and Malcolm).

Wood Duck—As is customary Wood Ducks were found throughout the period, with a number of finds extending into the winter season. The only counts of 100+ were 175 on 25 September in Waushara County (Rick Anderson), 150 on 13 August at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Hughes), and 142 on 30 August at the same location (Haycraft).

Gadwall—Early season reports came from the counties of Columbia, Dodge, and Kewaunee. The high count was 400 on 28 November in Vernon County (Klein) followed by 250 on 13 November in Dane County (Daw) and 166 on 20 October in Grant County (McKay).

American Wigeon—After two years of the Breeding Bird Atlas Project, there has yet to be confirmed breeding for this species. The first fall report was on 9 August from the Paradise Valley SWA in Waukesha County (Wanger) followed by 21 August at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Milender). Wigeons then continued to be found into the winter season. The high count was 200 on 28 September at Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) and 200 on 7 October at the Poygan SWA in Winnebago County (Burke

and Mackenzie) followed by 165 on 23 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Daw).

American Black Duck—Early season reports came from the counties of Ashland, Dodge, Door, Fond du Lac, Marinette, Milwaukee, Oneida, Racine, and Sheboygan. The high count was 50 on 7 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Burnette-Hill). Outside of the Horicon Marsh, the high counts were 20 on 27 November in Brown County (Gaul) and 18 on 8 November in Manitowoc County (Sontag).

Mallard—The high count was 2,000 on 23 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Cooper) followed by 1,800 on 15 November at Goose Pond in Columbia County (A. Holschbach).

Blue-winged Teal—The last fall date was 26 November at Yahara Park in Dane County (Skaar). The nearest departure date to this was 7 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 1,457 on 7 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). Nearest to this were 300 on 26 September in Rock County (John and Patty Werth) and 255 on 5 September in Manitowoc County (Domagalski). The total of 1,457 is the highest since 1,500 on 28 October 2006 in Grant County (Kirschbaum).

Northern Shoveler—Early season finds of this nesting species came from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties plus a sighting on 5 August at North Point in the City of Sheboygan (Brasser). Despite this lack of early season finds, this Shoveler has been confirmed for breeding by the Atlas Project in seven counties. The high count was 250 on 25 November at the Horicon Marsh of Fond du Lac County (Finney) and 250 on 26–27 November at Nine Springs in Dane County (Evanson and Skaar).

Northern Pintail—The only early season report of this uncommon nester came on 2 August from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Roti Roti). All other August finds also came from the Horicon Marsh. There has yet to be confirmed breeding for this species in the current Atlas Project. In the period 6–16 October there were a number of counts of 200+ Pintails from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County with the high being 800 on 9 October (Rohde). Outside of the Hori-

con Marsh the only count better than 100 was 125 on 28 November in Vernon County (Klein).

Green-winged Teal—Green-winged Teal were found throughout the period and into the winter season. There were numerous counts of 100+ from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County with the high of 300 found on 16 October (Gray) and 23 October (Daw). Outside of Horicon Marsh there were but two counts better than 100. Those two were 200 on 10 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Bonk) and 105 at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan).

Canvasback—There was a report of a single bird on 26 July of the summer season from Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). The only August reports were of a single bird on 11 and 21 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). There were then no September finds with the first October report coming on 1 October from the Necedah NWR in Juneau County (Ben and Oliver Burrus). The only counts better than 1,000 were 3,000 on 9 November at Lynxville in Crawford County (Jan Collins) and 6,000 on 29 October in Vernon County (Reiter-Marolf).

Redhead—Early season finds came from the counties of Brown, Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, and Manitowoc. Over the first two years of the Breeding Bird Atlas Project the Redhead has been confirmed for nesting in seven counties. The high count was 500 on 18 September at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Petherick), 500 on 10 October at the Kewaunee Harbor in Kewaunee County (Zenner), and 500 on 24 November at the same location (Zenner).

Ring-necked Duck—Early season finds came from the counties of Burnet (Java), Polk (Maercklein), and Washburn (M. Berg). The high count was 1,000 on 5 November at Shelp Lake in Forest County (K. Kavanagh) followed by 200 on 22 October in Buffalo County (Stratton) and 200 on 30 October at Shelp Lake in Forest County (the Sehloffs).

Greater Scaup—Off and on during the month of August 1 or 2 Greater Scaup were seen at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). Other than this the one other August find was of one bird on 30 August at Kewaunee Harbor in Kewaunee County (Zenner). The first find of Greater Scaup in double digits was 22–23 September during Jaeger Fest at Wisconsin Point in

Douglas County (Evanson and Schultz). The only count of 1,000+ was 1,100 on 7 November at Point au Sauble in Brown County (Prestby).

Lesser Scaup—The only August reports were of single birds at various locations in Brown County. The first count of double digits was 14 on 14 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 2,000 on 29 October in Vernon County (Reiter-Marolf) followed by 607 on 7 November in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and 500 on 5 November in Crawford County (Jan Collins).

King Eider*—A female King Eider was found 21 November off Bradford Beach in Milwaukee County with numerous reports, including photos, continuing into the first week of December (Lubahn and Wanger). This is the eleventh fall season record and the first since 27–30 November 2011 in Milwaukee County.

Common Eider*—One bird was documented (including photos) on 4 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (William Grossmeyer). This is the eighth state record and the fourth fall record. It is also record early for the fall season. The former record was 10 November 1968 in Burnett County (James R. March).

Harlequin Duck—There were seven reports. Those seven were 27 August on Washington Island in Door County (Howe and Wegner), 3–14 October at Peninsula SP in Door County (first by Sue Peterson), 9 October at the Kewaunee Harbor in Kewaunee County (Belter and Sinkula), 25 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan), 9 November two flyby birds at Harrington Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan), 9 November at Virmond Park Ozaukee County (Thiessen), and 27 November at Eichelman Park in Kenosha County (many birders). The 27 August find at Washington Island is but the fourth August arrival date for the Harlequin. The seven sightings are record high. The high had been five in 2010.

Surf Scoter—The first fall find was 20 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Tessen) followed by numerous reports from Jaeger Fest birders on 24–25 September. The one other September report was 28–30 September from Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). Inland counties reporting Surf Scoters were Dane, Dunn, Jefferson, Oneida, Sawyer,



A late August Great Egret is memorialized by Beverly Engstrom after just having caught prey in Forest County.



A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker works its way up a tree, as seen by Stephen Fisher in Marathon County in late September.

and Waukesha. The high count was 20 on 10 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) followed by 18 on 14 October at Harrington Beach (Brennan) and 18 on 22 November in Milwaukee County (Rita Flores Wiskowski).

White-winged Scoter—September reports were 20–23 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (first by R. Johnson, John Richardson, Svingen, and Tessen) and 27 September at Washington Island in Door County (Ed Merz). Inland counties reporting this scoter were Dunn, Eau Claire, Green, Oneida, and Shawano. All counts of 20 or better came from Calvin Brennan at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County. The high was 43 on 27 October followed by 33 on 15 November. The best count outside Harrington Beach was 19 on 31 October in Milwaukee County (Wanger).

Black Scoter—The sole September report was of a single bird on 22 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Jan and Larry Kraemer and Tessen). The next sighting did not come until 11 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) followed by 15 October in the counties of Ashland (Oksiuta) and Milwaukee (Mooney). Inland counties with this bird were Columbia, Grant, Waukesha, and Winnebago. The high count was 78 on 3 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Frank) followed by 60 on 30 October at the same location (Frank) and 60 on 3 November at Wind Point in Racine County (Goldberg).

Long-tailed Duck—After having been found until 31 July at the City of Manitowoc Lakefront (Sontag), the first fall season find was of a single bird on 17 October at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) followed on 19 October by sightings of single birds at Sensiba SWA in Brown County (Seeger and Watson) and Harrington Beach in Ozaukee (Brennan). The only count of 100+ was 187 on 27 October at Harrington Beach (Brennan).

Bufflehead—There were three reports for the month of August. Those three were one bird on 14 August at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Tim Hahn and Tessen), two birds on 18 August at Lake Maria in Green Lake County (David and Krakowski), and one bird on 22 August at Grob Schmidt Park in Milwaukee County (Able). These were followed by two reports in September, those

being one bird on 2 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and two birds on 8 September at Plum Lake in Vilas County (C. Andrews and David). Buffleheads in August and September are unusual. More customary arrivals began over the period 5–9 October with sightings in the counties of Manitowoc, Ozaukee, and Washington. The high count was 500 on 23 November at Lynxville in Crawford County (Reiter-Marolf) followed by 400 on University Bay in Dane County (Trevés) and 250 on 30 November at Menasha in Winnebago County (Tiede).

Common Goldeneye—There was a report of one to two birds on 27–28 August from Washington Island in Door County (Howe and Wegner) and reports of eight and 16 birds on 22 and 24 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Hoyland and Oksiuta). These were followed by finds on 1 October in the counties of Oneida and Shawano. As with the fall before, and likely due to the mild fall, few Goldeneye were found on the Great Lakes before the winter season. All high counts were from inland locations. The high was 200 on 23 November at Lynxville in Crawford County (Reiter-Marolf) followed by 160 on 24 November at Lac LaBelle in Waukesha County (Szymczak) and 150 on 20 November at Rock Lake in Jefferson County (Stutz).

Hooded Merganser—This nesting species was found throughout the fall season and into the winter season. The high count was 58 on 25 October at Crex Meadows in Burnett County (Kelly Schaeffer and H. Thompson) and 58 on 20 November at Sturgeon Bay in Door County (Wanger) followed by 51 on 9 October at Big Muskellunge Lake in Vilas County (Brasser).

Common Merganser—Reported early in the season from the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Vilas, and Washburn. For the Breeding Bird Atlas Project all four of these counties have the Common Merganser as a nesting species. The high count was 140 on 19 November at Point au Sauble in Brown County (Brinkman) followed by 64 on 16 October at Peninsula SP in Door County (Regnier) and 55 at the same location on 29 September (Sue Peterson).

Red-breasted Merganser—There were August reports of one or two birds in the following counties: 3 August at Long Lake in Washburn County (M. Berg), 2–31 August at North Point in

Sheboygan County (first and last by Brasser), and 27–28 August at Washington Island in Door County (Howe and Wegner). These were followed by finds on 1–2 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and 7 September at McKinley Beach in Milwaukee County (Wanger). In the period 21 October and into the winter season there were daily reports of 1,000+ Red-breasted Merganser along the counties bordering Lake Michigan. In the period 1–17 November at Harrington Beach, Calvin Brennen had better than 9,250 Red-breasted on nine different days. His high counts were 14,530 on 11 November and 15,838 on 1 November. Outside of Harrington Beach and Calvin Brennen, the highs were 5,000 on 25 November in Manitowoc County (Rice) and 7,000 on 14 November in Sheboygan County (Frank). The only fall count greater than 15,838 is 16,667 on Nov. 2, 2015 at Harrington Beach (Brennen).

Ruddy Duck—This nesting species was reported in early August from the counties of Brown, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Dunn, Fond du Lac, Monroe, and Outagamie. This species then remained into the winter season. As with last year, the largest concentration of Ruddy Ducks was on Lake Koshkonong in Jefferson County. The high counts from this lake were 2,500 on 27 November (Cullum) and 5,000 on 3 November (Stutz). Outside of Lake Koshkonong, the highs were 470 on 2 October in Dane County (Trevés) and 800 on 4 November in Brown County (Schilke).

Northern Bobwhite—There were reports from the counties of Columbia, Door, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Monroe, and Ozaukee. Likely all of these reports are of released birds. The high count was 15–16 on Washington Island in Door County.

Gray Partridge—There were no summer season sightings of this species. For the sixth consecutive fall there were no fall season reports. After two years of the Breeding Bird Atlas Project the only confirmed nesting has been in Iowa County.

Ring-necked Pheasant—The only double digit counts were 12 on 29 October in Jefferson County (Stutz), 19 on 23 November in Kenosha County (Goldberg), and 25 on 12 November in Jefferson County (Stutz).

Ruffed Grouse—Reported from 36 counties,

which compares to 39 in 2015 and 31 in 2014. The high count was 12 on 29 September in Douglas County (Sirvio) followed by nine on 8 October in Sawyer County (Sole).

Spruce Grouse—There were eight reports from Forest County and one from Vilas. The only report with more than one individual was of three on 26 November in Forest County (Malcolm).

Sharp-tailed Grouse—There was a report of one bird on 22 September from the Namekagon Barrens SWA in Burnett County (Jay Watson) and a report of one bird on 1 October from the Douglas County SWA in Douglas County (Ed and Tim Hahn).

Greater Prairie-Chicken—The only reports were from the Buena Vista Grasslands of Portage County. The high count was 19 on 3 November (Rick Anderson) followed by 15 on 22 September (Dave Chase).

Wild Turkey—The high count was 50 on 25 November in Iowa County (Kivikoski) followed by 49 on 23 November in Ozaukee County (Vokoun), 48 on 17 August in Oconto County (Swelstad), and 48 on 16 November in Dane County (Henrikson).

Pied-billed Grebe—This grebe was found throughout the fall season and well into the winter season. The high count was 100 on 19 October at Lake Shawano in Shawano County (Malcolm and Ward) followed by 94 on Lake Monona in Dane County (Henrikson) and 94 on 7 November at the same location (Andrew Williams).

Horned Grebe—August arrivals were 26 August at Fischer Creek in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) and 27 August at Washington Island in Door County (Howe and Wegner). Horned Grebes were then found into the winter season. Counts of 100+ were 110 on 27 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and 108 on 19 October at the same location. Outside of Harrington Beach the high was 40 at Ashland in Ashland County (Anich).

Red-necked Grebe—Reported from 14 counties, which compares to 11 in 2015 and 15 in 2014. The only August finds were from several locations in Burnett County. To date, Burnett County is one of three counties with confirmed nesting of Red-necked Grebes in the current



This mid-October White-breasted Nuthatch, photographed by Beverly Engstrom, is stunning against the fall foliage of Oneida County.



Adam Sinkula depicts a Red Knot blending into the background in this image taken in Brown County in early September.



Beverly Engstrom found this Black-capped Chickadee in the open in late October in Oneida County.

Breeding Bird Atlas Project, the other two being Columbia and Winnebago. The last dates were 14 November at Herbster in Bayfield County (Lamoreaux), 17 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan), and 27 November at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (Joan Campbell).

Eared Grebe—There were five sightings, all of single birds. Those five were 19 September in Door County (Lukes), 12–19 October at the Sensiba SWA in Brown County (first by Sonneland and Swelstad), 16 October at the Adams Conservancy in Jefferson County (Bridge), 14 November at Bradford Beach in Milwaukee County (Wanger), and 14–18 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (first by Brennan).

Western Grebe—There were five sightings, all of single birds. Those five were 2 October at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (many birders), 9 October at the Kewaunee Harbor in Kewaunee County (Belter and Sinkula), 19 October and into the winter season at Lakeshore Park and the Petroleum Piers in Milwaukee County (many birders), 28 October at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Bryon Stone and Svingen), and 6 November in Ozaukee County (Tessen).

Rock Pigeon—The high count was 300 on 27 November in Waukesha County (Stehno) followed by 200 on 29 September in Buffalo County (McCamy) and 175 on 9 November 24 in Ozaukee County (Frank).

Eurasian Collared-Dove—Reported from 14 counties, which compares to 16 in 2015 and seven in 2014. The high count was 31 on 4 October at Cobb in Iowa County (Kivikoski) followed by 25 on 27 September in Grant County (Kivikoski), 22 on 27 October at Cobb in Iowa County (Kivikoski), and 18 on 27 November at Elk Mound in Dunn County (Geraghty). The counts of 25 and 31 are record high for the fall season. The former high was 23 on 26 November 2015 in Green County (Yoerger).

Mourning Dove—The high count was 248 on 21 August at the Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 200 on 24 August at the Aga Sod Farm in Outagamie County (Gray) and 160 on 16 August at Collins Marsh (Domagalski).

Monk Parakeet—Although not yet a valid

species in Wisconsin, there was one such parakeet document on 8 November in Racine County (Drew Goldberg). The WSO would appreciate that birders report Monk Parakeets in the future.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Reported from 23 counties, which compares to 20 in 2015 and 21 in 2014. October departure dates were 11 October in La Crosse County (Wiegel) and 16 October in Dane County (Shawn Miller). The high count was four on 6 August in Buffalo County (Patterson) and four on 7 August in Green County (Yoerger).

Black-billed Cuckoo—Reported from 22 counties, which compares to 27 in 2015 and 21 in 2014. The last September date was 28 September at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Holzman and Parkinson) followed by 8 October at the Maywood Environmental Area in Sheboygan County (Cutright and Sher). All counts were of one or two birds.

Common Nighthawk—Early season reports came from the counties of Door, Douglas, Florence, Juneau, Marinette, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Rock, Sauk, and Sheboygan. The only October departure date was of a single bird on 2 October at Mayville in Dodge County (Herzmann). The high count was 7,450 on 24 August in the yard of Pamela Hoyland of Dunn County. The day before, 23 August, Pamela counted 945 over her yard. Other than Pamela's yard, the high count was 815 on 20 August at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station at Cedar Grove in Sheboygan County (Parkinson) and 500 on 30 August from the yard of Adam Sinkula in Brown County. The total of 7,450 is the highest since 17,448 on 24 August 1993 in Kenosha County (Ronald Hoffmann).

Eastern Whip-poor-will—Reported from 12 counties, which compares to 11 in both 2015 and 2014. September departure dates were 8 September in Waukesha County (Marvelli), 5 to 18 September in Florence County (K. Kavanagh), and 29 September at the Mazomanie SWA in Dane County (Pecquex). The high count was three from a number of dates in Florence County (Kavanagh).

Chimney Swift—The last dates were 17 October at Havenwoods SF in Milwaukee County (Bontly and Zehner) and 18 October at Mangan Woods in Milwaukee County (Natural Areas

Staff). The high count was 1,800 on 28 August at the Cherokee School in Dane County (Dike) followed by 1,500 on 31 August at Madison in Dane County (Schwab) and 1,200 on 11 September at Lake Geneva in Walworth County (Nowak).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird—The last October date was 24 October in Brown County (Sonneland) followed by 1 November in Dane County (Younger) and 8 November in Dane County (Bridge). These were followed by a banding report on 20 November in St. Francis, Milwaukee County (Bridge). In the period 13 August through 10 September Judy Lund had double digit hummers at her feeders in Clark County. The high count was 60 on 20 August followed by 50 on 23 August. Outside of the Lund feeders, the high was 16 on 27 August at Boulder Junction in Vilas County (C. Andrews). The total of 60 matches the fall high set in both 2013 and 2015 by Lund.

Anna's Hummingbird*—A juvenile male visited a feeder in Wauwatosa, Milwaukee County starting in mid-October (M. O'Connor). The last report date was 21 November. The bird was banded by Cynthia Bridge and Mickey O'Connor. This is the third consecutive fall with this hummingbird. Previous to these three years there had been but four state records.

Rufous Hummingbird*—There were three reports. The first was 27 August in Appleton, Outagamie County (Tessen) followed by 27 September through 11 November at the Jim Johnson feeder in Howard, Brown County. A great many birders were able to see this bird. The third find was 1–29 November at a feeder in Dane County. This bird was banded by Cynthia Bridge.

King Rail*—The only reports were of single birds on 14 August (Tessen) and 2 September (Bridge) at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County. To date this species has yet to be confirmed for nesting in the current Breeding Bird Atlas Project.

Virginia Rail—There were three reports from the months of October and November, each of them being of single birds. Those three were 4 October at Kohler-Andre SP in Sheboygan County (Andy and Janet Raddatz), 16 October from the Mullet Marsh in Fond du Lac County (W. Mueller), and 13 November from the Paradise Valley SWA in Waukesha County (Dabey and

Stehno). The high count was eight on 14 August from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Rick Anderson, Gray, and Maertz) followed by six on 7 August from the same location (Goldberg).

Sora—The last dates were 22 October at the Paradise Valley SWA in Waukesha County (Stehno) and 29 October at Harvey's Marsh in Dane County (Cullum). The high count was 12 on 25 September at Fair Meadows in Rock County (John and Patty Werth) followed by eight on 7 September at Badger Lake in Polk County (Maercklein) and seven on 2 September at the Mack SWA in Outagamie County (Petters).

Purple Gallinule*—A Purple Gallinule was found over the period 13–23 October in Juneau County (first by Jay Watson). This was the twentieth state record and the fourth fall record. It was one of few instances in which this gallinule has remained in one location for a length of time, thus affording many birders their first view of this species in the state. The departure date of 23 October was record late. The previous record had been 21 October 2009 in Milwaukee County (Scott Diehl).

Common Gallinule—Reported from 11 counties, which compares to 10 in 2015 and seven in 2014. The large majority of reports came from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties. The last dates were 22 October at the Paradise Valley SWA in Waukesha County (Stehno), 24–25 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen and Wood), and 29 October from the same location (Wood). The high count was 15 on 7 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Grossmeyer) followed by 13 on 4 August at the same location (Perlberg). Outside of Horicon Marsh the high was 10 on 8 August at Vernon Marsh in Waukesha County (Wanger).

American Coot—Found throughout the period and into the winter season. The high count was 6,000 on 14 October in Shawano County (Gray) followed by numerous counts of 5,000 over the period 15 October through 3 November from Rock Lake in Jefferson County (Stutz) and 5,000 on 24–31 October from Eagle Point in Grant County (Moline).

Sandhill Crane—Due to the mild fall, large numbers of Sandhill Cranes remained into the winter season. Up to the last day in November 3,000 cranes were estimated at the Horicon



Vicki Sokolowski caught this vagrant Purple Gallinule colorfully mirrored in the full sunlight of mid-October Juneau County.



Jeff Galligan captured this vagrant Least Grebe fishing at the Leopold Center in Dane County in early November.



A mid-November Ruffed Grouse stops in a pose for Vicki Sokolowski in Rusk County.

Marsh of Dodge County (Dike). The only count better than 3,000 was 3,300 on 28 October at Crex Meadows in Burnett County (Wheeler).

Whooping Crane—Reported from seven counties, which compares to nine in 2015 and 11 in 2014. The last October date was of four birds on 30 October at the Necedah NWR in Juneau County (W. Mueller). This was followed by but one find in November, that being of one bird on 30 November at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Dike). The high count was four on several dates at the Necedah NWR.

Black-necked Stilt—Summer season reports of Black-necked Stilts at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties continued into the fall. The last dates were 4 September in Dodge County (Collison and Schumacher) and 5 September in Fond du Lac County (Schilke) with a high count of 24 on 7 August in Fond du Lac County (Christensen and Sharp). Well beyond the Horicon Marsh birds was one individual documented in Monroe County over the period 31 October–5 November (first and last by Paul Hayes). The total of 24 individuals is record high for the fall season. The old high had been 20 on 16 August 2015 at Horicon Marsh in Fond du Lac County (Tessen). The departure date of 31 October through 5 November is record late by over three weeks. Previous to this there had been only six records beyond August with but one find coming in October. That find was 10–11 October 1991 in Milwaukee County (Brian Boldt).

American Avocet—Reported from the counties of Brown, Douglas, Ozaukee, and Sheboygan, which compares to five counties in 2015 and seven in 2014. This bird was reported on 13 July in Douglas County (Nicoletti) and 22 July in Manitowoc County (Sontag). The only sighting in August was of one bird on 5 August at North Point in the City of Sheboygan (Brasser). The next find did not come until 9 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). Previous to this year there had been seven records of Avocets in the month of November. This year there were an additional three records. Those three were 2 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan), 3 November at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Wood), and 11–14 November from the Town of Lima in Sheboygan County (first by Brasser). The only count better than one or two was four on 9 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby).

Black-bellied Plover—The first fall migrant was found on 26 July in Brown County (Swelstad). The first fall season find was 3 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) followed by 5 August in the counties of Marinette (Watson) and Sheboygan (Brasser). The last dates were 7 November at Veterans Park in Milwaukee County (Wanger) followed by 21 November at Maslowski Beach in Ashland County (Anich). The high count was 54 on 24 September in Douglas County (Tessen) followed by counts of 20 or more on 7–9 October from Cat Island in Brown County with the high being 24 (Prestby).

American Golden-Plover—The first fall find was 2 August in Winnebago County (Tessen) followed by 9 August at Port Washington in Ozaukee County (Renick) and 21 August in the counties of Outagamie (Gray and Grossmeyer) and Racine (many birders). The last dates were 24 October in the City of Ashland in Ashland County (Lehner) and 25 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen). The high count was 18 on 7 October in Winnebago County (Burke and Mackenzie) followed by 15 on 14 September in Marathon County (Belter). The high of 18 is the lowest since 20 in 1971 and follows the record high of 1,000 set in 2015.

Semipalmated Plover—The first fall migrants arrived in late June of the summer season. The last dates were 17 October along the Manitowoc City Lakefront (Sontag) and 17–20 October at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). All counts of 20 or more came from the Horicon Marsh with the high of 22 coming on 10 August (Ward).

Piping Plover—Reported from the counties of Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Racine with all reports being of single birds. The first fall dates were 1 August at the South Metro Pier in Milwaukee County (Goldberg, Gustafson, and Wood) followed by 5 August at Two Rivers in Manitowoc County (Trick). The last date was 26 August from the Wind Lake Sod Farms in Racine County (Lubahn).

Killdeer—The last fall date was 29 November at Nine Springs in Dane County (B. Schneider) followed by sightings into the winter season. The high count was 500 on 21 August in Clark County (Belter) followed by 159 on 26 August in Racine County (Wanger) and 150 on 14 September in Marathon County (Belter).

Upland Sandpiper—There were two fall reports. Those two were of two birds on 4 August in Iowa County (Kivikoski) and of a single bird on 18 August at the Buena Vista Grasslands in Portage County (R. Anderson).

Whimbrel—The only fall migrant reports were of one or two birds in the period 2–22 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby).

Hudsonian Godwit—In contrast to last fall when there was but one sighting and that of a single bird, there were reports this fall from the counties of Brown, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Ozaukee, and Sheboygan. The first dates were 13 August at the Fish Lake SWA in Burnett County (Caswell) and 14 August from the Horicon Marsh of both Dodge and Fond du Lac counties (Fields and Younger). The next find did not come until 4–5 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) followed by 27 September at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank). The last dates were 11–20 November in Sheboygan County (Brasser and B. Baumann). The high count was 54 on 14 August at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Younger) followed by 36 on 13 August at the Fish Lake SWA in Burnett County (Caswell). Beyond these dates all reports were of single birds. Previous to this year there were but three state records for the month of November. With reports this fall for the period of 4–11 November from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (first by Malcolm and last by Daw) plus the reports for 11–20 November in Sheboygan County, these three have been increased to five. The reports from 11–20 November are record late. The previous record date had been 13 November 1998 in Trempealeau County (Lisa McCurdy). The only count higher than 36 or 54 in the fall records is 70 on 6 August 2006 in Dodge County (Yoerger). The only other historic total nearing 36 or 54 was 25 on 17 August 2009 in Columbia County (Mooney).

Marbled Godwit—The only fall sighting was of a single bird in the period 6–10 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby).

Ruddy Turnstone—Reported from eight counties, all of which were associated with a Great Lake. The first fall migrant was found on 24 July in Milwaukee County (Wanger) followed by 3 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). The last September dates were 18 September at the Manitowoc City Lakefront (Sontag) followed

by 26 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). Beyond September there were finds on 29 October at Veterans Park in Milwaukee County (Wanger) and 29 November at the McKinley Marina in Milwaukee County (Barry and Carol Moerke). The high count was eight on 24 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). The 29 November report is record late for the fall season. The only record at a later date is 13 Dec. 1998 to 1 Jan. 1999 in Sheboygan County (Domagalski and Wood).

Red Knot—There were three reports. Those three were 21–24 August at Cat Island in Brown County with three birds (Prestby), 2–8 September at Cat Island with one bird (Prestby), and 7 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County with one bird (Brennan).

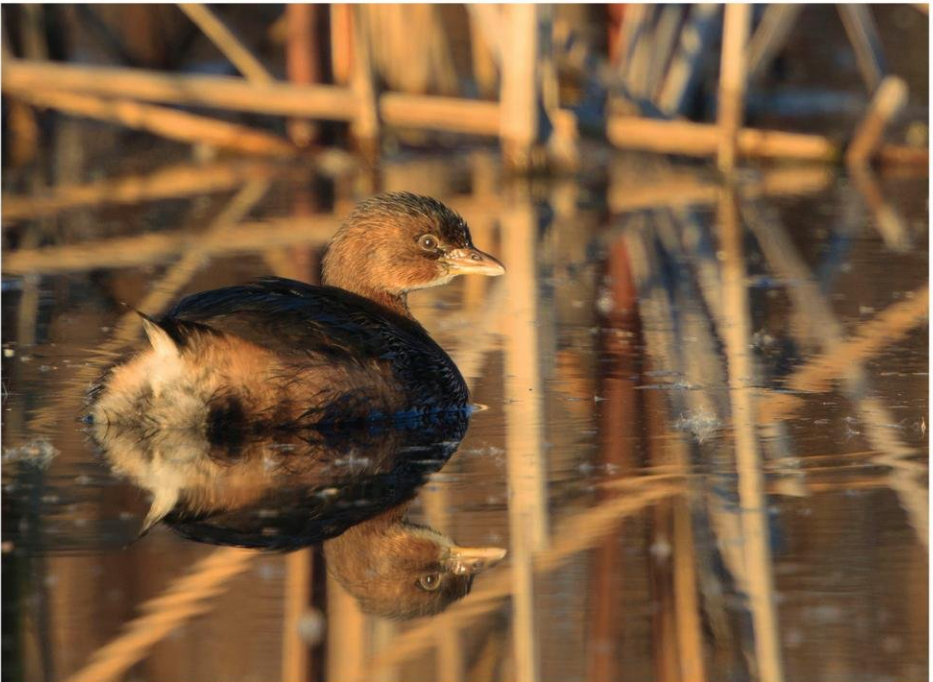
Stilt Sandpiper—Fall migrants began arriving in July of the summer season. The last September date was 20 September in the counties of Calumet (Sonneland) and Marathon (Backus, Barker, and Belter). Beyond these were finds on 2, 8, and 13 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen and Wood). The high count was 140 on 6 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen) followed by 70 on 7 August at the Horicon Marsh of Fond du Lac County (Christensen and Sharp) and 65 on 20 August from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Hurlburt and Tessen).

Sanderling—The last October dates were 29 October at Veterans Park in Milwaukee County (Wanger) and 31 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (W. Mueller). Beyond these was a find on 2 November at Kewaunee Harbor in Kewaunee County (Sinkula). The high count was 35 on 25 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) and 35 on 3 September at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (Huf, Hunter, and Mooney).

Dunlin—Being one of the last shorebirds to migrate into Wisconsin in the fall, the first find was not until 21 September at the Manitowoc City Lakefront (Sontag) followed by 22 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). The last fall date was 17 November at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Frank) and 17 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). There were then sightings in December. The high count was 130 on 17 October at Cat Is-



A late September Chestnut-sided Warbler shows its full basic plumage in this photograph by Eric Preston in Iowa County.



A Pied-billed Grebe, spotted by Jim Stewart, sits quietly in this restful early November scene at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County.



Jim Stewart found this Northern Parula in late September peering down from a perch at Pope Farm Conservancy in Dane County.



A Tufted Titmouse seems to be choosing what to eat first in this image by David Franzen, taken in mid-November in Vilas County.

land (Prestby) followed by 100 on 7 October at Harrington Beach (Brennan).

Baird's Sandpiper—The last September dates were 22 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) and 28 September at the Manitowoc City Lakefront (Sontag). These were followed by finds on 3 October at the Crex Meadows SWA in Burnett County (Clark) and 17 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen). The only total higher than four was eight on 24 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Watson).

Least Sandpiper—Fall migrants began arriving in late June of the summer season. The last dates were 23–24 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Cooper, Daw, and Petherick). The last date outside of Horicon Marsh was 10 October at Nine Springs in Dane County (Hampton). The high count was 200 on 13 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Hughes) followed by 100 on 20 August at the same location (Henry and Suzy Deese). Outside of Horicon Marsh the high was 35 on 23 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby).

White-rumped Sandpiper—The first fall date was 7 August at the Horicon Marsh of Fond du Lac County (Christensen and Sharp) followed by 11 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). The last October date was 17 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen) followed by a sighting on 5 November at North Point in Sheboygan County (Daw, Haycraft, Scherer, and Stutz). All counts were of one or two birds.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper—Reported from 11 counties, which compares to 11 in 2015 and five in 2014. There were no July arrival reports. The first find was 3 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) followed by 5 August at the Anderson Sod Farm in Winnebago County (Malcolm and Tessen). The last date was 12 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby and Watson) and 12 September at Seagull Bar SNA in Marinette County (Lorenz). The high count was 17 on 26 August at the Wind Lake Sod Farms in Racine County (Lubahn) followed by 11 on 28 August at the same location (K. Johnson). Outside of Wind Lake, the high was four on 25 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby).

Pectoral Sandpiper—The bulk of fall mi-

grants arrived in July of the summer season. The last date was 25 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen). Outside of Horicon Marsh, the last date was 20 October at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby and Watson). The high count was 61 on 23 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Wood) followed by 40 on 13 August at the same location (Hughes). Outside of Horicon Marsh the high was 30 on 24 August in Outagamie County (Gray).

Semipalmated Sandpiper—The first fall migrants began arriving in late June of the summer season. The last dates were 19 October at the Manitowoc City Impoundment (the Fields) and 25 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen). The high count was 110 on 20 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Hurlburt) followed by 100 on 13 August at the same place (Hughes) and 95 on 7 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby).

Short-billed Dowitcher—The bulk of fall migrants arrived in July of the summer season. The last dates were 9 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) and 17–19 September at the City of Manitowoc Lakefront (Sontag) followed by 2 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen). The high count was 70 on 14 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Schultz and Tessen) followed by 55 on 1 September at the same location (Tessen). Outside of Horicon Marsh the high was 16 on 3 September at the Hanover Sod Farm in Rock County (Weberpal).

Long-billed Dowitcher—Reported from the counties of Brown, Clark, Dodge, Fond du Lac, and Manitowoc with the vast majority of sightings coming from the Horicon Marsh. The first fall migrants were spotted at Horicon Marsh on 19 July (Petherick) and 30 July (Treves). The first fall season find was 1 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Hampton) followed by 13 August at the same location (Hughes). The last dates were 7 and 11 November at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Daw and Wood). The high counts from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County were 116–200 over the period 12–25 October (Schilke and Tessen) with the high of 200 coming on 17 October (Tessen). The total number of individuals reported statewide (outside of Horicon Marsh) was five birds.

Wilson's Snipe—This snipe was found

throughout the fall and into the winter season. The high count was 40 on 21 August in Clark County (Belter) followed by 30 on 25 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Tessen) and 20 on 6 November in Ozaukee County (Tessen).

American Woodcock—The last dates were 19 November in St. Croix County (Rolek) and 24 November in Marinette County (Joan Campbell). The only double digit counts were 10 on 22 September at the Namekagon Barrens SWA in Burnett County (Watson) and 15 on 13 October in Douglas County (Paulios).

Spotted Sandpiper—The last dates were 27 October in Brown County (Malcolm), 27 October in Washington County (Schaefer), and 29 October in Manitowoc County (Sontag). Nearly every double digit count came from Cat Island in Brown County with the high being 80 on 10 September (Schultz). Outside of Cat Island, the high was 12 on 1 August (Hoffmaster) and 7 August (Grossmeyer) at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County. The total of 80 is record high for the fall season. The former high had been 70 on 17 August 2014 at Cat Island (Prestby).

Solitary Sandpiper—The bulk of fall migrants arrived in July of the summer season. October departure dates were 3 October in Burnette County (Clark), 4 October in Rock County (Shawn Miller), 7 October in Marathon County (Hurlburt), and 16 October at the Horicon Marsh in Fond du Lac County (Frank). The high counts were eight on 11 September in Waukesha County (Tim Hahn) and nine on 14 August at Vernon Marsh in Waukesha County (Wood). The total of nine is the lowest high since seven in 1995.

Greater Yellowlegs—The last dates were 8 November in the counties of Kewaunee (Zenner) and Milwaukee (Wanger) and 11 November at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Daw). Most high counts came from the Horicon Marsh with the highest total being 50 on 20 August in Dodge County (the Deeses). Outside of Horicon Marsh the high count was 25 on 19 August at the Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County (Stutz).

Willet—The only report was of a single bird on 5 September at the Manitowoc City Lakefront (Sontag).

Lesser Yellowlegs—All November departure reports came from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County. The last dates were 7 November (Paynter) and 12 November (Ward). All of the higher counts came from the Horicon Marsh with the highest being 400 on 13 August (Hughes) and 300 on 19 August (Ebert). Outside of the Horicon Marsh the high was 30 on 10 August in Brown County (Benson).

Wilson's Phalarope—Other than one report from Dane County (Gabriel), one from Dunn County (Polk), and one from Outagamie County (Gray), the remaining 70 reports came from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties. The only early season reports for this nesting species came from the Horicon Marsh. After two years of the Breeding Bird Atlas Project, the only confirmed nesting record has come from the Killsnake SWA in Calumet County. The only September departure report was on 18 September at Nine Springs in Dane County (Gabriel). The only count better than 10 was 13 on 5 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Wood).

Red-necked Phalarope—Other than a find on 29 August at the Patrick Marsh in Dane County (Paulios), all August arrivals were at the Horicon Marsh starting with 6 August in Dodge County (Tessen). The only October departure report was 7–9 October in Pierce County (first by Hill). The only count of better than two birds was of four on 21 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Fissel, Pope, and Thiessen).

Parasitic Jaeger*—For the second consecutive year there were no accepted reports of Pomarine or Long-tailed Jaegers. Reports of Parasitic Jaegers came from the counties of Chippewa (Polk), Douglas (many observers), Manitowoc (Sontag), and Ozaukee (Brennan). Nearly all sightings came from Wisconsin Point in Douglas County over the period 10 September (R. Johnson, the Kraemers, and Svingen) through 8 October (R. Johnson, Oksiuta, and Svingen). The first find in the state was 7 September at Lake Wisconsin in Chippewa County (Polk). The high count was eight on 18 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Tessen).

Sabine's Gull*—Unusual about this year's reports was the number of inland sightings. These inland finds were 7–8 September at Lake Wausau in Marathon County (first by Backus, Bel-



A Lincoln's Sparrow is unusually out in the open in Vilas County in this mid-August shot by David Franzen.



An immature, early August male Rose-breasted Grosbeak looks over its shoulder in Vilas County, perhaps to get a better view of the photographer, David Franzen.



David Franzen caught this late November Pileated Woodpecker peering into a possible nest-hole in Vilas County.

ter, and Hurlburt), 17 September at Lake Altoona in Eau Claire County (Geraghty and Polk), 18–25 September at Lake Wissota in Chippewa County (first by Gray and Polk), 1–2 October at Tomahawk in Oneida County (first by Prestby and Sonneland), 1–4 October at Lake Koshkonong in Jefferson and Rock counties (Boone and Stutz), 3 October at Lake Wissota in Chippewa County (Bridge, Ed and Tim Hahn, and Polk), and 16 October over several lakes in Polk County (Maercklein). These seven inland records compare to nine previous records over 75+ years. As is customary, this gull was found at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County over the period 17–25 September (many observers). The high count was 12 on 20 September at Wisconsin Point (R. Johnson, J. Richardson, Svingen, and Tessen).

Bonaparte's Gull—Found throughout the fall season and into December. Although this gull is found over the summer season in Wisconsin, there have been no nesting records during the two Breeding Bird Atlas Projects. Counts of 1,000+ were 1,100 on 20 October at Point au Sauble in Brown County (Prestby) and 1,200 on 24 October at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby).

Little Gull*—Single birds were seen 13 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and 3 November at the same location (Brennan).

Franklin's Gull—Reported from 11 counties, which compares to 18 in 2015 and seven in 2014. The only report for the month of August was of one bird over the period 2–10 August at the Manitowoc City Lakefront (Sontag). The first report beyond August was of one bird over 5–7 September at Lake Altoona in Eau Claire County (Polk). The last date was 19 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 30 on 30 September in St. Croix County (Nichols). Nearest to this was nine on 20 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (R. Johnson, J. Richardson, and Svingen).

Ring-billed Gull—There were counts of 1,000+ from 12 counties, which compares to nine in 2015. The high count was 15,000 on 5 October at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Svingen). Outside of Wisconsin Point, the high was 5,000 on 1 September in Green Lake County (Schultz) and 5,000 on various dates from 4 October

through 26 November at Korth Park in Jefferson County (Stutz). The total of 15,000 is second only to 50,000 on 8 November 2015 in Green Lake County (Schultz).

Herring Gull—The high count was 2,250 on 5 November at Virmond Park in Ozaukee County (Daw, Scherer, and Stutz) followed by 1,500 on 2 November at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Hendrickson) and 1,500 on 10 November at the Franklin Landfill in Milwaukee County (Wanger).

Thayer's Gull—Reported from nine counties, which compares to nine in 2015 and 10 in 2014. The only September find was 28 September in Ozaukee County (Wanger). The next sightings were 12 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and 16 October at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Svingen). The high count was 11 on 13 November at Wisconsin Point (Lamoreaux, Lefever, and Nienhaus).

Iceland Gull—Reported from the counties of Bayfield, Douglas, Outagamie, and Ozaukee. The first date was 2 November at Cornucopia in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady) followed by 4 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was two on 13 November at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Nienhaus) and two on 17 November at Harrington Beach (Brennan).

Lesser Black-backed Gull—Reported from 14 counties, which compares to 12 in 2015 and 15 in 2014. The first fall find was 5–6 September at Lake Altoona in Eau Claire County (Polk) and 5–7 September at Samuel Myers Park in Racine County (Goldberg, Howe, and Wegner) followed by 8–9 September at Lake Wissota in Chippewa County (Polk). The high count was three at the Kenosha Harbor in Kenosha County (Cullum) and three on 26 November at the Johnson Creek Landfill in Jefferson County (Pope, Thiessen, and Stutz).

Glaucous Gull—Reported from 10 counties, which compares to seven in 2015 and 11 in 2014. The first fall date was 29 September at the Manitowoc City Lakefront (Sontag). This gull was then not reported again until 3 November at the Kewaunee Harbor in Kewaunee County (Sinkula) and 11 November at Harrington Beach SP in

Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was three from a number of locations.

Great Black-backed Gull—Reported from 12 counties, which compares to nine in 2015 and 11 in 2014. Early season reports came from the counties of Manitowoc and Sheboygan. The high count was three from a number of locations.

Caspian Tern—The last dates were 13 October at Sunset Beach in Brown County (Wood) and 17–19 October at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby). All of the higher counts came from Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) with the highest being 125 on 7 August. Outside of Cat Island, the high was 74 on 1 August at the Manitowoc City Lakefront (Sontag).

Black Tern—Reported from 15 counties, which compares to 16 in 2015 and 21 in 2014. Most reports were from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties. The last dates were 13 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and 21 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Lind and Tessen). The high count was 100 on 5 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Younger) followed by 45 on 13 August at the George Mead SWA in Marathon County (Belter).

Common Tern—The only counties reporting this tern and not related to a Great Lake were Marathon (Backus, Belter, and Hurlburt) and Monroe (Epstein). The last dates were 8 October at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (R. Johnson and Svingen) and 17 and 19 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 125 on 8 September at Harrington Beach (Brennan) followed by 63 on 7 September at the same location (Brennan). Outside of Harrington Beach the high was 50 on a number of dates from Cat Island in Brown County (many observers).

Forster's Tern—Reported from 22 counties, which compares to 23 in both 2015 and 2014. The last dates were 15 October near Bender Park in Milwaukee County (Karl Hayes), 17 October at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby), and 18 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 30 on 23 August at Cat Island (Prestby) followed by 25 at the same location on 21 August (Prestby) and 16 on 9 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan).

Red-throated Loon—Reported from the Great Lakes counties of Bayfield, Brown, Douglas, Kenosha, Marinette, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Sheboygan. The one inland find was on 2 November at Lake Waubesa in Dane County (Thiessen). The only September finds were on 17 and 22 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County. The next sighting was not until 14 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 15 on 3 November at Harrington Beach (Brennan) followed from the same location by counts of 14 on 19 November and eight on 17 November (Brennan). Outside of Harrington Beach the high count was five on 12 November at North Point in Sheboygan County (Rick Anderson).

Pacific Loon*—Reported 20–23 September in Douglas County (Malcolm and Tessen), 21–22 October two birds at Maslowski Beach in Ashland County (first by Anich, Brady, and Oksiuta), and 2 November at Point au Sable in Brown County (Prestby).

Common Loon—The first reports beyond nesting counties were on 3 and 7 August in different locations in Dane County (Noeldner and Paulios). There were consistent reports of 20+ loons through the month of September on Trout Lake in Vilas County by Elizabeth Stone with a high of 52 on 29 September. Counts of 100+ were 106 on 27 October at Ashland in Ashland County (Anich) and 109 on 7 November at Harrington Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan).

Double-crested Cormorant—As in the recent past the greatest concentration of cormorants in Wisconsin comes from the waters near Cat Island in Brown County. Although not monitored as well as in the past few years and with estimates varying strongly from day to day, estimates reached 60,000 on 4 September and 100,000 on 7 and 10 September (Prestby and Tessen). This is several times over the record shattering high of 38,000 set on 8 September 2015 at Cat Island by Prestby. After two years, the current Breeding Bird Atlas Project has confirmed cormorants nesting in 11 counties. It seems the most significant nesting sites are near Cat Island and at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County. In contrast to the many thousands of cormorants at Cat Island, this fall season's high count of cormorants at Horicon Marsh was 80 on 1 September (Foley). Outside of Cat Island, the high count was 2,919 on 8 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozau-



A soaring Red-tailed Hawk seems to have its plumage fully outstretched in this early November shot taken by Jim Stewart at Pope Farm Conservancy in Dane County.



The rare vagrant Purple Gallinule that was enjoyed by many viewers in late October is sporting its very large foot, as imaged by Michael Huebschen.



An early October Palm Warbler poses majestically for David Franzen in Vilas County.



David Franzen shows the intricate detail of this Vilas County Brown Creeper's feathering in this early October photograph.

kee County (Brennan). This count was likely of birds migrating south from Brown County. As is now the norm, numbers of cormorants remained into the winter season.

American White Pelican—As with the Double-crested Cormorant, the greatest concentration of White Pelicans in Wisconsin comes from the waters near Cat Island in Brown County. The high count at Cat Island was 1,800 on 3 and 7 August (Prestby). The second large nesting area in the state is at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County where the season high was 300 on 13 August (Hughes). Outside of these nesting sites, the high count was 400 on 1 October at the Trempealeau NWR in Trempealeau County (Rick Anderson). Small numbers of pelicans remained into the winter season.

American Bittern—Reported from 24 counties, which compares to 24 in 2015 and 20 in 2014. The majority of reports came from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties. The last dates were 23 October from the Horicon Marsh of both Dodge and Fond du Lac counties (Cooper) and 6 November from the same locations (Gray and Maertz). The high count was four on 7 August from the Powell Marsh SWA in Vilas County (David).

Least Bittern—Reported from 10 counties, which compares to six in 2015 and eight in 2014. The only September find was 4 September at the Cottonville Court Marsh in Waushara County (Rick Anderson). The high count was four on 2 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Swelstad).

Great Blue Heron—The high count was 32 on 6 August in Milwaukee County (Wanger) followed by 30 on 9 August at the Necedah NWR in Juneau County

Great Egret—The last dates were 8 November at De Pere in Brown County (Hagenloch and Keene) and 15–17 November at the Horicon Marsh of Fond du Lac County (McKinley and Tessen). The high count was 167 on 6 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Rutherford) followed by 150 on 28 August at Smith Park in Racine County (Havel), and 120 on 18 August at Smith Park in Racine County (Havel).

Snowy Egret—There were sightings of single birds at various locations in Brown County starting with 21 August at Cat Island (Peczynski and

Prestby) and ending at Pamperin Park in Green Bay on 9 October (many observers).

Little Blue Heron*—One bird was seen 21–25 October at Superior in Douglas County (first by Svingen). This is the first fall season find since August of 2010. It is also record late by nearly two weeks. The record departure date had been 8 October 1994 in Brown County (Ida and Ty Baumann).

Cattle Egret—The only August and September reports came from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties with a high count of 50 on 14 and 28 August (Huebner and Tessen). The only October finds outside of the Horicon Marsh were single birds on 7 October at Everest Park in Marathon County (Backus and Belter) and 21 October in Chippewa County (Geraghty). The last date was 30 November at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Fred Dike) with finds then continuing into the first week of December. The 30 November date matches the state record late departure date of 30 November 1981 in Bayfield County (Scott Hulse). Findings into the month of December would break this record date.

Green Heron—The last dates were 14 October in Manitowoc County (Betsy and Tom Blitz) and 15 October in Kenosha County (Scott Olson). The only count better than 10 and 12 was 25 on 21 August at the Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County (Stutz).

Black-crowned Night-Heron—Reported from 20 counties, which compares to 19 in 2015 and 18 in 2014. Outside of a find on 3 November at Korth Park in Jefferson County (Stutz), all November reports came from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties with the last date being 6 November in Dodge County (Gray). The high count was 30 on 13 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Hughes) followed by 23 on 16 August from a different location in Dodge County (W. Mueller) and 19 on 30 August at the Mack SWA in Outagamie County (Gray).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron*—There were two reports. The first was of one and two birds over the period July to 26 August at the Juneau Lagoon and Veterans Park in Milwaukee County (last by Howski). The second was a single bird on 2 September in Waupaca County (Cindy Lupin).

White-faced Ibis—There was a sighting of one bird on 29–30 August at the Mack SWA in Outagamie County (Michael Gray and Mary Maertz). This is but the sixth fall record for this species.

Turkey Vulture—This vulture was reported from six counties in the month of November with the last dates being 9 November in Monroe County (Eric Gustafson) and 19 November at the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary in Green Bay, Brown County. Despite this rather early end to sightings in November, there were later finds in December. The high count was 100 on 27 August in Jefferson County (Stutz) followed by 95 on 21 September in Rock County (Cullum) and 91 on 20 October at the Eagle Valley Nature Preserve in Grant County (McKay).

Osprey—The last October date was 29 October at Port Washington in Ozaukee County (Frank) followed by a single report in November, that being on 5 November in Dane County (Brezinski and Murrell). The high count was eight on 26 September at the Cedar Grove Station in Sheboygan County and eight on 27 September at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank).

Swallow-tailed Kite*—The Swallow-tailed Kite that had first been reported on 26 July of the summer season continued to be found on 1–2 August along Juddville Road in Door County (Greg Hottman, Kay Kavanagh, and Thomas and Wendy Schultz). On 9 August 2 Swallow-tailed Kites were reported from the Simon Creek Winery in Door County (David Samuels). These would be the fourth and fifth fall records and the fourteenth and fifteenth state records. The last state record dates back to 19 August 2009 in Ozaukee County (Helmut Mueller).

Mississippi Kite*—Reported 29 July through 14 September in Rock County (Boone, Haycraft, and Weberpal). This species was documented as confirmed breeding for the Breeding Bird Atlas Project. It is the first state nesting record. Also documented for 21 September at Wyalusing SP in Grant County (Graham Montgomery).

Northern Harrier—This harrier was found throughout the season. The high count was 24 on 18 November at the Killsnake SWA in Calumet County (Woodcock) followed by 20 on 8 October

at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (D. Baumann).

Sharp-shinned Hawk—Early season reports of this nesting species came from the counties of Door, Douglas, Florence, Pierce, Washburn, and Waushara. Major migration days seen to have occurred on 27 September and 8 October. The high count was 299 and 342 on 8 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Holzman and Parkinson) with 150 counted that same day at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (D. Baumann). Following this was 27 September with 150–152 counted at the Cedar Grove Station (Holzman and Parkinson) and, just south of that along Lake Michigan, 152 counted that day at Concordia College in Ozaukee County (Frank) and 134 at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The one other day with 100+ Sharp-shinned was 17 September with 134 at Cedar Grove. A BIG THANKS to certain people at Cedar Grove for sharing their bird information with the WSO. In past years Cedar Grove was the primary source of information on raptor migration in the state, including the record high count of Sharp-shinned in a single day, which was 2,343 on 15 October 1995 (Daniel Berger).

Cooper's Hawk—The same two days that were good for Sharp-shinned migration were also good for Cooper's Hawk migration. On 27 September 14–15 were counted at the Cedar Grove Station in Sheboygan County (Holzman and Parkinson). On 8 October the high count was 100 at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (D. Baumann), while Cedar Grove had 41–42 (Holzman and Parkinson) and Harrington Beach in Ozaukee County had 27 (Jeff Baughman and T. Schultz). The 100 at Forest Beach is record high for the fall season, the previous high having been 69 on 16 October 2011 at Cedar Grove.

Northern Goshawk—Reported from 12 counties, which compares to nine in 2015 and 10 in 2014. Sightings were found as far south as the counties of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Waukesha. The high count was two on 2 September in Sawyer County (Brewer).

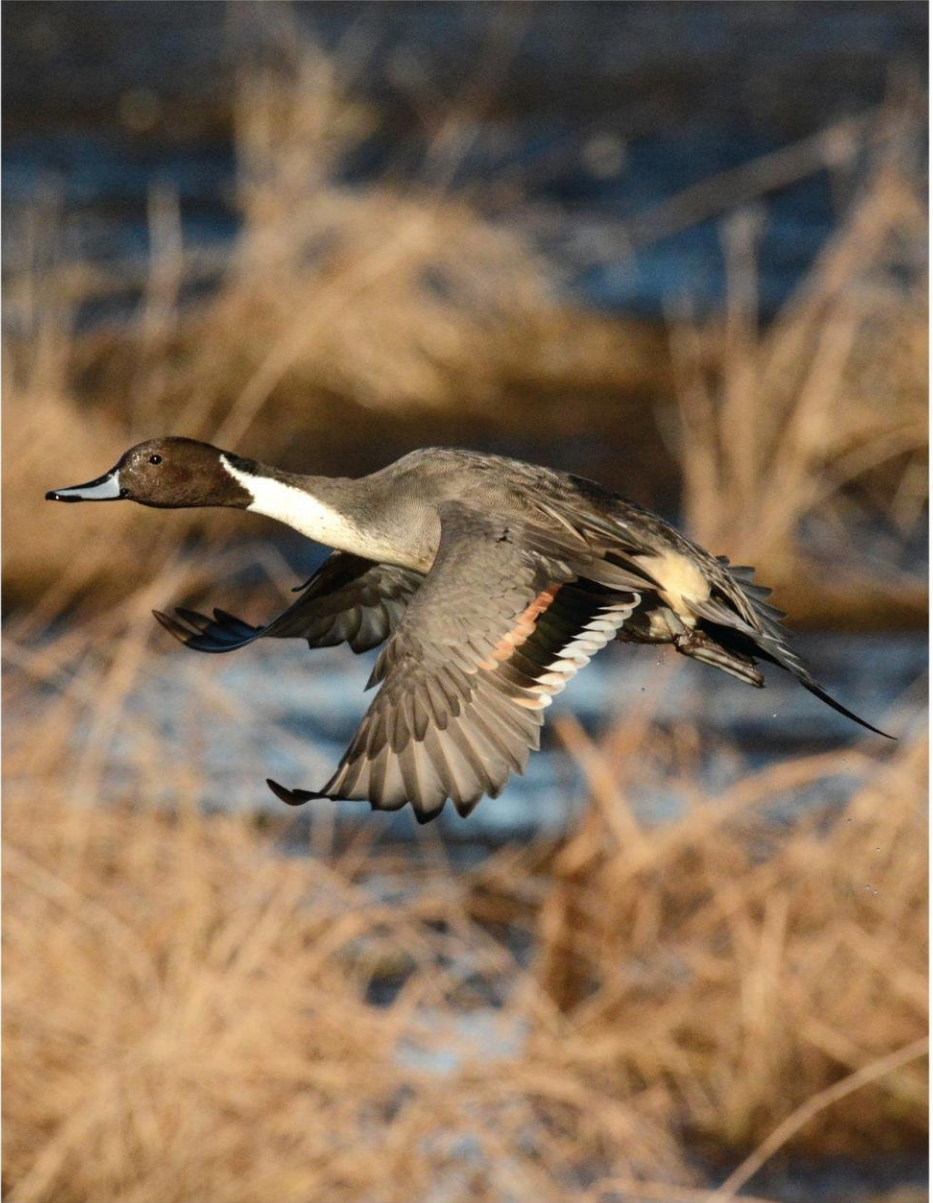
Bald Eagle—With the fall having been mild and with little if any frozen water in the state in early December, there was scant incentive for eagles to concentrate below dams along major rivers. The high count was 81 on 25 November at



David Franzen imaged this Vilas County Swainson's Thrush in early September, about to partake of a berry.



A late-September Blackpoll Warbler calls at Lake Park in Milwaukee County, as photographed by Jennifer Ambrose.



Michael Huebschen captured the take-off of this beautiful male Northern Pintail in mid-November at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County.

Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 71 on 20 October at Eagle Valley (McKay) and 60 on 5 November in Crawford County (Jan Collins).

Red-shouldered Hawk—Reported from 31 counties, which compares to 32 in 2015 and 23 in 2014. All reports were of one or two birds.

Broad-winged Hawk—The last October dates were 16 October at Mineral Point in Iowa County (Kivikoski) followed by 25 October in Milwaukee County (the Natural Areas Staff). Beyond these was a 10 November find in Portage County (Pendergast). The high count was 1,500 on 19 September in Sheboygan County (Cutright and Sher) followed by 467 on 27 September at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and 380 on 22 September in Monroe County (Epstein).

Swainson's Hawk*—One bird was documented on 28 September at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Jim Frank). This is the first fall find of a Swainson's since 26 August 2012 in Monroe County (Craig and Lourie Bartholomew).

Red-tailed Hawk—Unlike recent years, the high counts of Red-tails came from the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County with a high of 74–87 on 8 October (Holzman and Parkinson), 57 on 7 October (Parkinson), and 53 on 18 October (Parkinson). Outside of Cedar Grove, the high was 60 on 20 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

Rough-legged Hawk—The first fall dates were 9 October in Marathon County (Hoft), 16 October in Oconto County (Straub) and 18 October in Marinette County (Watson). The high count was six on 29 November at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Korkor and Stehno) followed by five on 6 November at Crex Meadows SWA in Burnett County (Appleman).

Golden Eagle—Reported from 10 counties, which compares to 13 in 2015 and eight in 2014. The first find was 19 September at Bridget Lake in Polk County (Maercklein) followed by 22 October in Barron County (Cameron) and 23 October in Sawyer County (Gray). All reports were of single birds.

Eastern Screech-Owl—Reported from 28 counties, which compares to 25 in 2015 and 27

in 2014. The most northern of these (from west to east) were from the counties of Dunn, Marathon, Brown, Kewaunee, and Door. The high count was three on 16 August at the Mequon Nature Preserve in Ozaukee County (Jason Nickels).

Great Horned Owl—The high count was four on 29 October at the Paradise Valley SWA in Waukesha County (Dabey and Stehno) and four on 23 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

Snowy Owl—After five consecutive years of widespread Snowy Owl reports, there was a major decrease this fall with but eight reports, with some of those perhaps of the same individuals. There were two reports in August that might have been of owls remaining from the previous winter. Those two were 21 August in Iowa County (Brewer) and 27 August in Grant County (Brewer). The Iowa County bird was first noticed on July 26 and was reported as having been injured by a car. This Snowy was then taken in for rehab on 22 August. The first fall migrant was found on 15 November in Brown County followed by 17 November in Outagamie County. The only count greater than one was two on 15 November in Brown County. The two August finds were but the third and fourth sightings ever in August.

Northern Hawk Owl*—One bird was documented on 17 November in Douglas County (Steve LaValley).

Barred Owl—The high count was four on 11 November in Pepin County (Heit).

Long-eared Owl—There were four reports. Those four were 13 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Parkinson), 22 October at the Linwood Springs Research Station in Portage County with two birds (Zinda), 6 November at Bark Point in Bayfield County (Brady), and 16 November at Havenwoods State Forest in Milwaukee County (Snider).

Short-eared Owl—Reported from 13 counties, which compares to 17 in both 2015 and 2014. Although this is a nesting species with confirmed breeding in Adams and Portage counties, the first fall sighting did not come until 18 October at the Killsnake SWA in Calumet County

(Annie and Paul Mueller). For the remainder of the season, Killsnake was the main location to view this owl. The only location with double digit counts was Killsnake with a high of 15 on 11 and 29 November (John Hauser and Joel and Patti Trick). The total of 15 matches the fall season high of 15 set in 1979 and 2015.

Northern Saw-whet Owl—Reported from 11 counties, which compares to 14 in 2015 and 13 in 2014. August finds came from the counties of Forest (Goldberg), Lincoln (Edlund), and Marinette (Watson). Most reports and all high counts came from banding stations. The high was 29 on 8 October from the Linwood Springs Research Center in Portage County followed by 22 on 19 October from the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County.

Belted Kingfisher—The high count was six from a number of dates and locations.

Red-headed Woodpecker—Reported from 44 counties, which compares to 48 in 2015 and 41 in 2014. There were only three reports during the month of November with just a scattering continuing into December. The only double digit count was 10 on 6 August from the Necedah NWR in Juneau County (J. Campbell).

Red-bellied Woodpecker—The high count was 45 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay) followed by 37 on 5 October in Grant County (McKay). Beyond Grant County, the high was 12 at several locations. The total of 45 is record high for the fall season. The former high was 38 on 24 October 2014 in Grant County by McKay.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—The only double digit total was 10 on 20 September at the home of Ryan Brady in Bayfield County.

Downy Woodpecker—The high count was 21 on 17 October at Madison in Dane County (Bailey) followed by 17 on 25 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

Hairy Woodpecker—The high count was 18 on 25 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 10 on a number of dates at Eagle Valley (McKay).

Black-backed Woodpecker—For the first time since 1999 there were no fall reports of this northern woodpecker.

Northern Flicker—The high count was 50 on 5 September near Clam Lake in Ashland County (Grossmeyer) followed by 30 on 27 September at Lake Monona in Dane County (Palmer) and 28 on 28 September at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

Pileated Woodpecker—The high count was seven on 20 October and seven on 23 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by six on 25 August at Devils Lake SP in Sauk County (Collison).

American Kestrel—The high count was 22 on 31 August in Bayfield County (Lozano) followed by 11 on 27 September at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank).

Merlin—Reported near the start of the season from 13 counties, which is the same number as in 2015. The most southern of these counties (from west to east) were Trempealeau, Eau Claire, Marathon, Wood, Brown, and Manitowoc. From information gathered by hawk watch locations, major migration days took place on 26–27 September and 7 October. The high count was 123 on 7 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Parkinson) followed by 110 on 26 September at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Phil Arnholt), 79 on 7 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan), and 62 on 26 September at Cedar Grove in Sheboygan County (Parkinson).

Peregrine Falcon—Reported from 36 counties, which compares to 28 in 2015 and 33 in 2014. As with other raptors, it seems the main migration dates were 26–27 September and 7 October. The high count was nine on 23 September at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Parkinson) and nine on 7 October again at Cedar Grove (Parkinson) followed by eight on 27 September at the Cedar Grove Station in Sheboygan County (Holzman) and eight on 27 September at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank).

Prairie Falcon*—On 24 September a field trip of Racine birders chanced upon a Prairie Falcon at Samuel Myers Park in Racine County. Among those documenting this bird with both written documentation and with photographs were John Dixon, Rick Fare, Eric Howe, Frank Sharkozy, Jim Veltman, Kristin Wegner, Jennifer Wenzel, and Rita Flores Wiskowski. This is the sev-



David Lund photographed this hunting Parasitic Jaeger at Wisconsin Point in late September.



Jeff Galligan imaged this colorful, "spread-eagled" Nelson's Sparrow at Lake Barney in Dane County in late September.



Scott Weberpal captured this intimate image of an adult Mississippi Kite feeding young in Rock County in mid-August.

enth state record and the fifth fall record. The last state report dates back to 22 April 1998 in Douglas County (Robbye Johnson and Shaun Putz). The last fall season report dates back to 12 October 1996 in Grant County (Jeff Dankert).

Olive-sided Flycatcher—The only early season report from a nesting county was Douglas (Laura and Steve LaValley). The first find of a migrant south of nesting counties was 6 August at the Necedah NWR in Juneau County (Burrus) followed by 9 August in the counties of Rock (Boone) and Waukesha (Mertins). The last September dates were 22 September at the County Grounds Park in Milwaukee County (Collison) and 23–26 September in Grant County (Ouren). These were followed by a find on 8 October in Ozaukee County (Szymczak). The high count was three on 13 August at the Carpenter Nature Center in St. Croix County (Persico) and three on 26 August at Rock Island SP in Door County (Howe and Wegner). The 8 October find is rather late with but four state records on dates later in October.

Eastern Wood-Pewee—There were departure dates through the first five days of October with the last report coming on 5 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay). The high count was 17 on 7 August at Bellville in Green County (Yoerger) and 17 on 3 September at Indian Lake in Dane County (A. Holschbach) followed by 15 on 24 August at Devils Lake SP in Sauk County (Collison).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—There were early season reports from the nesting counties of Ashland and Douglas. A bird found on 6 August at the Necedah NWR in Juneau County was likely an early migrant (Ben and Oliver Burrus). Other migrants were not found until 14–15 August. The last dates were 15 September at the Lion's Den in Ozaukee County (Petherick), 16 September in Grant County (Ouren), and 17 September at Indian Lake in Dane County (A. Holschbach). The high count was four on 21 August at the Brady House in Bayfield County followed by three on 22 August at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Parkinson).

Acadian Flycatcher—Reported from eight counties. Missing were the usual reports from Jefferson and Waukesha counties by Szymczak. The only September date was 5 September in Juneau County (Ben and Oliver Burrus). The high count

was five on 3 August at Big Hill Park in Rock County (Cullum).

Alder Flycatcher—All early season reports came from the northern third of the state. The only September departure dates were 6 September in Oneida County (Dolan) and 12 September in Douglas County (the LaValleys). The high count was four on 1–5 August in Douglas County (Kirk).

Willow Flycatcher—The northern line of counties reporting this more southern flycatcher were (from west to east) Polk, Marathon, Brown, and Manitowoc. September departure dates were 3 September at Muskego in Waukesha County (Gustafson), 4 September at Cherokee Marsh in Dane County (Hampton), 4 September at Indian Lake in Dane County (Treves), and 8 September at Fox Point in Milwaukee County (Petherick). The high count was six on 3 August at Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) and six on 17 August at Vernon Marsh in Waukesha County (Mertins).

Least Flycatcher—The last dates were 25 September at the Bong SRA in Kenosha County (Kotelnicki) and 28 September at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay). The high count was eight on 30 August at the Brady House in Bayfield County followed by six from a number of locations.

Eastern Phoebe—The last dates were 5 November at Spring Green in Sauk County (Carlton) and 8 November in Crawford County (Jan Collins). There were no further finds into the month of December. The high count was 25 on 7 October in Outagamie County (Simmons) followed by 23 on 2 October in Dane County (Bailey) and 12 on 25 August in Dane County (Henrikson).

Great Crested Flycatcher—The last September dates were 22 September at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Henrikson) and 22 September at Mineral Point in Iowa County (Kivikoski). These were followed by finds on 4 October in Winnebago County (Ward) and 16 October in Door County (Lukes). The high count was eight on 7 August at Bellville in Green County (Yoerger) followed by seven on 2 August at Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) and seven on 26 August at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Henrikson).

Western Kingbird*—There were two reports, each of single birds. Those two were 30 August in Bayfield County (Brady) and 30 October in Jefferson County (Kyle Schumacher). There is but one record of a later date than 30 October. That record is 2–5 November 2015 in Milwaukee County (Drew Goldberg and Bill Grossmeyer).

Eastern Kingbird—The last September dates were 22 September at the Lion's Den in Ozaukee County (B. Bauer), 28 September at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Daley), and 28 September at the Lion's Den in Ozaukee County (Bauer). These were followed by a find on 14 October in Marathon County (Hoft). The high count was 31 on 24 August at the Bong SRA in Kenosha County (Goulart) followed by 23 on 7 August at the Buena Vista Grassland in Portage County (R. Anderson) and 20 on 22 August at the Scuppernong Prairie SNA in Waukesha County (Mertins).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*—One bird was documented on 10 September at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (William Mueller).

Loggerhead Shrike—There were no reports. This makes five out of the last seven years without a fall sighting.

Northern Shrike—The first fall find was 17 October at the Little Turtle Flowage in Iron County (Nick and Paula Anich) followed by 20 October in Chippewa County (Sokolowski) and 20 October in Dane County (Thiessen). All counts were of one or two birds.

White-eyed Vireo—The one sighting was of a single bird on 5 August at the Beulah Bog SNA in Walworth County (Patrick Horn).

Bell's Vireo—There were three records. Those three were 3 and 16 August at the Sauk Prairie Recreational Area in Sauk County (A. Holschbach), 6 and 14 August at Monticello in Green County (Yoerger), and 12 October along the Oak Creek Parkway in Milwaukee County (the Natural Areas Staff). The high count was two on 3 August and two on 6 August. The 12 October find was record late by 8 days. The old record had been 4 October 1973 in Kenosha County by Louise Erickson.

Yellow-throated Vireo—The last dates were 9 October in Outagamie County (Ross Mueller)

and 14 October in Kewaunee County (Sinkula). The high count was seven on 7 September in St. Croix County (Goldberg) and seven on 17 September at Indian Lake in Dane County (A. Holschbach). The date of 14 October was the third latest departure date on record. The only departures at a later date were 19 October 2011 in Outagamie County (Ari Rice) and 2–3 November 1991 in Milwaukee County (Bob Domagalski).

Blue-headed Vireo—Found early in the season in the counties of Ashland, Douglas, Florence, Menominee, and Price. The first find of migrants beyond nesting areas were 28 August in Dane County (Donna and Doug Pomeroy) and 30 August in Ozaukee County (Sommer). The last dates were 14 October at Cherokee Marsh in Dane County (Peacock), 14 October at Nine Springs in Dane County (Evanson), and 19 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Wood). The high count was four on 27 September at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Henrikson) and four on 9 October at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell).

Philadelphia Vireo—The first fall dates were 19 August in Outagamie County (Ross Mueller) and 21 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Milender). October departure dates were 3 October at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Petherick), 9 October at Sheridan Park in Milwaukee County (Wood), and 13 October at Scout Lake in Milwaukee County (Szymczak). The high count was 10 on 17 September at Monticello in Green County (McGowan) followed by six on 11 September at Monticello in Green County (McGowan) and six on 24 September at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell).

Warbling Vireo—The last dates were 22 September at Nine Springs in Dane County (Bonk), 22 September at Mineral Point in Iowa County (Kivikoski), 25 September at White River Marsh SWA in Green Lake County (Anderson), and 28 September at Middleton in Dane County (Pecquex). The high count was six from a number of locations.

Red-eyed Vireo—The last dates were 10 October at the Owen Conservation Park in Dane County (Bailey), 17 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan), and 17 October at the Lion's Den in Ozaukee County

(Wood). The high count was 26 on 12 August in Forest County (Maertz) followed by 22 on 4 September at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Henrikson) and 21 on 3 September at Indian Lake in Dane County (A. Holschbach).

Gray Jay—Counties reporting this species were Ashland, Douglas, Forest, and Price. The high count was three on 3 October in Douglas County (Bridge and Ed and Tim Hahn).

Blue Jay—The high count was 6,297 on 5 October at the Eagle Valley Nature Preserve in Grant County (McKay) followed by 4,434 on 28 September at the same location (McKay). In the period 18 September through 10 October the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County had numerous counts of 150+ Blue Jays. The high was 900 on 2 October followed by 250 on 20 September (Parkinson). The counts of 4,434 and 6,297 are record high for the fall season. The previous high had been 3,432 on 29 September 2015 at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Jason Thiele).

Black-billed Magpie*—Documented on 26 October in Douglas County (Steve LaValley). This is the ninth fall record and the first since 14 October 2012 in Ashland County by Jane Anderson.

American Crow—The high count was 345 on 3 November at Eric's Ridge in Monroe County (Epstein) followed by 300 on 13 October at the same location (Epstein) and 230 on 26 October at Bridge Lake in Polk County (Maercklein).

Common Raven—Counties slightly out of normal range for this species were Green Lake (Schultz), Manitowoc (Trick and Watson), and Sheboygan (Collison). Double digit counts were 15 on 8 October at Wausaukee in Marinette County (Reimer), 15 on 28 November at North Pikes Creek Wetlands in Bayfield County (Wendling), and 11 on 21 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Lind).

Horned Lark—This lark was present throughout the period. The high count was 131 on 3 September at the Wind Lake Sod Farms in Racine County (many birders) followed by 70 on 25 October at the Buena Vista Grasslands in Portage County (R. Anderson) and 70 on 19 November near Freedom in Outagamie County (R. Anderson)

Purple Martin—The last dates were 10 September at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (William Mueller), 19 September in the City of Sheboygan (Cutright and Sher), and 27 September at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank). The high count for the month of September was four birds on 8 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count for the fall season was 117 on 20 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Parkinson) followed by 76 on 24 August in Brown County (Nabak).

Tree Swallow—The last dates were 22 October at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell) and 22–29 October at Nine Springs in Dane County (last by Ontano and Younger). The high count was 1,500 on 13 September at Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 1,400 on 9 August in Fond du Lac County (William Mueller), 750 on 5 September at Collins Marsh (Domagalski), and 650 on 13 October at Goose Pond in Columbia County (Mark and Sue Martin).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow—The only October departure date was of a single bird on 7 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The last September dates were 25 September at Greenfield Park in Milwaukee County (Ron Miller) and 26 September at Big Hill Park in Rock County (Boone). The high count was 127 on 26 August at Eagle Point in Grant County (Anderson-Bricker) followed by 50 on 21 August at the Wind Lake Sod Farms in Racine County (Grossmeyer and Sallmann) and 40 at Vernon Marsh in Waukesha County on 8 August (Wanger).

Bank Swallow—The last dates were 6 September at Nine Springs in Dane County (Daley), 7 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan), and 10 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Jeff Baughman, Lupin, and Petherick). Counts of 100+ were 125 on 27 August in Chippewa County (Palzkill) and 200 on 21 August at the Wind Lake Sod Farms in Racine County (Winze).

Cliff Swallow—The last dates were 27 September in Monroe County (Epstein) and 28 September at Lake Barney in Dane County (Evanson). The high count was 200 on 13 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Vogrinc) fol-

lowed by 90 on 6 August in Buffalo County (Betchkal).

Barn Swallow—The last dates were 16 October at Lake Barney in Dane County (Gray and Maertz), 17 October in Dane County (Walsh), and 18 October at Humboldt Park in Milwaukee County (McGaw). The high count was 353 on 8 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) followed by 251 on 13 September at Harrington Beach (Brennan), 200 on 1 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Hoffmaster), and 200 on 4 September at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Collison).

Black-capped Chickadee—There were numerous counts of 50 birds from various dates and locations.

Boreal Chickadee—There were a total of six sightings. Four of these came from Sheltered Valley Road in Forest County, one came from Giant Pine Road in Forest County, and one came from Fallison Lake in Vilas County. All counts were of one or two birds.

Tufted Titmouse—Reported from 44 counties, which compares to 44 in 2015 and 39 in 2014. The high count was 21 on 19 October and 23 November in Grant County (McKay) followed by 11 on 1 September in Sauk County (A. Holschbach).

Great Tit—There were numerous reports of this exotic species from the counties of Ozaukee and Sheboygan. The high count was three on 15 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Schilke).

Red-breasted Nuthatch—The most southern of the early season finds came from the central counties of Adams, Columbia, Green Lake, Juneau, and Marquette and then from counties along Lake Michigan and the Kettle Moraine such as Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Racine, and Waukesha. The high count was 15 from a variety of dates and locations.

White-breasted Nuthatch—The high count was 28 on 19 October and 28 on 25 November in Grant County (McKay).

Brown Creeper—Early season reports came from the counties of Bayfield, Florence, Langlade, Lincoln, and Menominee. The high

count was 68 on 1 October at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Svingen) followed by 40 on 2 October at Wisconsin Point (Geraghty) and 18 on 23 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay). It would seem the period 1–2 October at Wisconsin Point was an historic migration period for creepers. The historic fall season high had been 50 on 22 October 2007 in Milwaukee County (William Mueller) with 40 found in only three other years.

House Wren—The last dates were 22 October in La Crosse County (B. Gray), 24 October in Jackson County (Otto), 29 October in Kewaunee County (Sinkula), and 5 November in Door County (Lukes). The high count was 16 and 17 on 3 and 4 August at Beaver Dam in Dodge County (Bartholmai) followed by 15 on 21 August at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Bontly), and 14 on 5 August in Oconto County (Swelstad).

Winter Wren—Early season reports came from the counties of Door, Langlade, Menominee, Milwaukee, Oconto, Price, and Vilas. Reports continued through the fall season and then into December. The high count was nine on 22 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by seven from a number of locations and dates.

Sedge Wren—Reported from 39 counties, which compares to 37 in 2015 and 31 in 2014. The last dates were 19 October at the Oakwood Golf Course in Milwaukee County (Natural Areas Staff) and 23 October from Pheasant Branch in Dane County (Beachy and McDowell). The high count was 11 and 12 on 7 August at different locations in Trempealeau County (Patterson) followed by 10 on 3 August at Governor Nelson SP in Dane County (Bailey).

Marsh Wren—Reported from 38 counties, which compares to 43 in 2015 and 30 in 2014. The last dates were 15 October in Juneau County (Jeff Baughman), 16 October at Nine Springs in Dane County (Treves), and 16 October in Marquette County (R. Anderson). The high count was 15 on 2 August at Vernon Marsh in Waukesha County (Menck) and 15 on 14 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (R. Anderson) followed by 12 from a number of locations.

Carolina Wren—Reported from 16 counties, which compares to 10 in 2015 and 13 in

2014. The only years with more counties reporting were 2013 with 18 and 2012 with 22. The only count better than two was five on 22–23 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay). This count of five matches the record fall high of five set on 31 October 2007 in Grant County by John Romano.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—October departure dates were 1 October at the Trempealeau NWR in Trempealeau County (R. Anderson) and 2 October at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Mazur). These were followed by two finds in November. Those two were 6 November at the Peshtigo Harbor in Marinette County (Overman) and 25–29 November on Washington Island in Door County (Eric Howe, Melody Walsh, and Kristin Wegner). Previous to this year there were but four records for the month of November. The report for 25–29 November is record late. The former record had been 23 November 2006 in Racine County by Jerry DeBoer. The high count was 30 on 24 August at Devils Lake SP in Sauk County (Collison) followed by 18 on 23 August at the same location (Collison) and 11 on 5 August in Oconto County (Swelstad). The total of 30 is record high for the fall season. The record had been 20 set on 19 August 2000 in Winnebago County by Daryl Tessen.

Golden-crowned Kinglet—Early August finds came from the counties of Forest (Maertz) and Langlade (Lafkas). The high count was 56 on 1 October at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Svingen) followed by 50 on 2 October at the Ken Euers Wetland Preserve in Brown County (Grossmeyer) and 42 on 6 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Stotz).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet—There were no early season finds for this nesting species. After two years of the current Breeding Bird Atlas Project, confirmed breeding has been found at only one location in Douglas County and at one location in Ashland County. The first fall migrant was found 18 August in Pepin County (Teskie) followed by 30 August at Goose Island in La Crosse County (Teskie) and 31 August at Two Rivers in Manitowoc County (Knickelbine and Nabak). The last fall dates were 12 November at the Owen Conservation Park in Dane County (Herb) and 15 November at Three Bridges Park in Milwaukee County. The high count was 38 on 1 October at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Svingen) followed by 25 on 27 September at Lake Monona

in Dane County (Palmer), 23 on 1 October at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Zehner), and 21 on 9 October at the Willow River SP in St. Croix County (Persico).

Eastern Bluebird—The high count was 67 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay) followed by 57 on 20 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) and 40 on 7 October in Monroe Township, Adams County (Burke and Mackenzie).

Townsend's Solitaire—For the first time since 1998 there were no fall reports.

Veery—The last dates were 23 September along Sheridan Drive in Milwaukee County (Ambrose) followed by 28 September at Washington Park in Milwaukee County. The high count was five on 8 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) followed by four on 10 September at the Woodland Dunes SNA in Manitowoc County (Betsy and Tom Blitz).

Gray-cheeked Thrush—The first fall dates were 30 August in Ashland County (Anich), 30 August at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady), and 31 August at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Treves). The last dates were 10 October at the Fish Lake SWA in Burnett County (Persico) and 16 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 16 on 11 September at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan) followed by 11 on 2 October at Beloit in Rock County (Boone).

Swainson's Thrush—The first fall season find was of a single bird on 8 August at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Svingen). It was not until 21 August that the next birds were found in the counties of Bayfield (Brady), Racine (Howe), St. Croix (Persico), and Wood (Merkel). The last dates were 17 October at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Kellermann), 18 October at the Lion's Den in Ozaukee County (Sommer), and 19 October at Washington Park in Milwaukee County (Constantelos). The high count was 1,400 on 8 September in Milwaukee County (William Mueller). This count was likely taken by counting chip notes. Following these 1,400, the high counts were 68 on 11 September at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan), 40 on 1 September in Dunn County (Hoyland), and 37 on 9 September at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Ozaukee County (Parkin-

son). The estimate of 1,400 breaks the previous high of 1,000 set on 17 September 1993 in Portage County (Murray Berner) and on 15 September 2009 in Milwaukee County (W. Mueller).

Hermit Thrush—This nesting species was found near the start of the season in the counties of Douglas, Florence, Jackson, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marinette, Price, Washburn, and Wood. The only August find of a migrant south of its nesting counties was 31 August in Jefferson County (Scherer). This was followed by finds on 9 September at the Cedar Grove Station in Ozaukee County (Parkinson), 10 September at Evergreen Park in Sheboygan County (Dunn), and 11 September at Lim Kiln Park in Waukesha County (Kellermann). The high count was 15 on 9 October at Willow River SP in St. Croix County (Persico) followed by 13 on 16 October at Fox Point in Milwaukee County (Zehner) and 13 on 16 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan).

Wood Thrush—Reported from 22 counties, which compares to 29 in 2015 and 24 in 2014. October departure dates were 4 October in Milwaukee County and 9 October at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (Bailey and Binder). The high count was three on 6 August at Thrive Park in Buffalo County (Shane Patterson).

American Robin—The high count was 3,300 on 19 October at Sauk City in Sauk County (Schilke) followed by 2,232 on 20 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) and 600 on 19 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Ozaukee County (Parkinson).

Varied Thrush—This is but the fourth year since 2000 that the Varied Thrush has not been reported.

Gray Catbird—The last fall dates were 6 November at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (Beachy) and 12 November at the same location (McDowell). There were then finds of this bird in the month of December. The high count was 30 on 25 September at Cadiz Springs SRA in Browntown, Green County (Haycraft and Yoerger) followed by 24 on 7 August at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Bretting) and 19 on 2 August at the Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Brown Thrasher—Reports of this thrasher continued into the winter season. The high count

was five on 22 September at the Sauk Prairie Recreation Area in Sauk County (A. Holschbach) followed by four from a number of locations.

Northern Mockingbird—There were two sightings. Those two were 18 August of two birds at the Buena Vista Grasslands in Portage County (Rick Anderson) and 7 September of one bird in St. Croix County (Justin Goldberg).

European Starling—The high count was 5,880 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay) followed by 2,755 on 25 November in Grant County (McKay).

Bohemian Waxwing—There were five sightings. Those five were one bird on 25 September at the Aldo Leopold Nature Center in Dane County (Lindemer, Shawn Miller, and Treves), 16 birds on 8 November at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Svingen), 25 birds on 9 November at the North Pikes Creek Wetlands in Bayfield County (Wendling), 25 birds on 13 November in Douglas County (Nienhaus), and 40 birds on 26 November in Ashland County (Anich).

Cedar Waxwing—In the period 17–26 August there were daily counts of 300 to 850 waxwings at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Parkinson) with the high of 850 coming on 19 August. Beyond Cedar Grove the high was 395 on 28 September at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

House Sparrow—The high count was 612 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay) followed 200 on 24 November at Collins in Manitowoc County (Annie and Paul Mueller) and 150 on 10 September in Sheboygan County (the Muellers).

American Pipit—The first fall find was 7–8 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) followed by 8 September in Ozaukee County (William Mueller). The last fall date was 28 November in Milwaukee County (Lubahn) followed by pipit finds in December. The high count was 100 on 25 September at Washington Island in Door County (Larson and Walsh) followed by 50 on 11 October in Manitowoc County (Watson) and 30 on 5 October in Milwaukee County (Ambrose).

Pine Grosbeak—There were three reports with all three coming from Bayfield County.

Those three were five birds on 5 November at the Brady House (Brady), one bird on 6 November at Bark Point (Brady), and two birds on 16 November at the Brady House (Brady).

House Finch—This species was not found in 16 counties, most of those in the northern third of the state. The only counts of 100 or more were 100 on 14 October at Marquette Park in Kewaunee County (Sinkula) and 150 on 27 November at the Johnson Creek Landfill in Jefferson County (Stutz).

Purple Finch—This nesting species was found near the start of the season in 12 counties, which compares to 14 in 2015 and 10 in 2014. The first find of migrants south of nesting counties was 27 August in the counties of Dane (A. Holschbach) and Green (McGowan). The high count was 114 on 9 October at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady) followed by 53 on 13 October at the same location (Brady) and 32 on 20 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

Red Crossbill—Reported from 10 counties. The most southern finds were 12 November in Ozaukee County (Jeff Baughman) and 24 November in Manitowoc County (A. Holschbach). The only August finds were 5 August at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady), 21 August at Crystal Lake in Vilas County (Prestby), and 30 August at the Powell Marsh SWA in Vilas County (David). The only September find was 3 September at the George Mead SWA in Marathon County (Ben and Oliver Burrus). The high count was 12 on 5 November at the Brady House in Bayfield County followed by six on 20 November in Burnett County (Boyle) and five on 24 November in Ozaukee County (A. Holschbach).

White-winged Crossbill—Through the first two years of the Breeding Bird Atlas Project there has yet to be a confirmed nesting record for this crossbill. During the first Atlas Project there was confirmed nesting in six counties. Reported from five counties (Ashland, Bayfield, Forest, Marinette, and Ozaukee) with most reports coming from Bayfield. The first fall season finds were 29 October in Ashland County (Merkel) and 30 October in two locations in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady). The high count was 20 on 29 October at Big Bay SP in Ashland County (Merkel) followed by 15 on 28 November in Bayfield County (Rice) and 14 on 26 November in Forest County (Malcolm).

Common Redpoll—Reported from 11 counties, which compares to 28 in 2015. The majority of reports came from Bayfield County with the most southern counties, each with single finds, being Dane (Hicks), Ozaukee (Wood), and Waukesha (Gustafson). The only September sighting was 7 September at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady). The only October sightings were on 27 and 30 October in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady). The only fall arrival dates earlier than 7 September are 26 August 1920 in Vilas County by Clarence J. Jung and 30 August 1981 in Ashland County by Robin Maercklein. The high count was 175 on 14 November at the Port Wing Boreal Forest SNA in Bayfield County (Anich) followed by 85 on 14 November at Bark Point in Bayfield County (Anich) and 60 on 2 November at Bark Point (Anich and Brady).

Hoary Redpoll—The only report was of a single bird on 14 November at the Port Wing Boreal Forest SNA in Bayfield County (Anich).

Pine Siskin—Despite a number of confirmed nesting reports scattered across the state from the Breeding Bird Atlas Project, there were only three finds, each of single birds, in the month of August. Those three were 1 August at the Bark Bay SNA in Bayfield County (Versaw), 2 August in Bayfield County (Isaksson) and 12 August in Taylor County (Mitten). The high count was 42 on 14 November in Bayfield County (Lefever) followed by 38 on 18 November at Shelp Lake in Forest County (A. Holschbach).

American Goldfinch—The high count was 500 on 15 October at Goose Pond in Columbia County (Walsh) followed by 350 on 30 October at the same location (R. Anderson) and 300 on 1 October at Goose Pond (Mark and Sue Martin). Outside of Goose Pond the high count was 300 on 5 September at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (D. Casper) followed by 250 on 24 September at the Lake Petite Prairie Restoration in Walworth County (Smallwood).

European Goldfinch—Due to its breeding success, this introduced bird might become a valid species on the state list. The WSO would appreciate birders reporting this goldfinch. During the fall season this bird was reported from the counties of Kenosha, Ozaukee, and Racine. The high count was seven on 18 September at Smith Park in Racine County (Havel) followed by six on 7 August in Kenosha County (Uphoff).

Evening Grosbeak—Fall reports came from the northern counties of Bayfield, Door, Florence, Forest, Oneida, Marinette, and Vilas. The only August find was of four birds on 5 August at the Kavanagh House in Florence County (Bob and Kay Kavanagh). The only September find was of one bird on 11 September in Oneida County (Watson), which was not succeeded by another report until 2 November at Cornucopia in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady). The high count was 15 on 16 November in Bayfield County (Wendling) followed by seven on 21 November at the Kavanagh House in Florence County.

Lapland Longspur—The first fall date was 22 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County by various participants in Jaegerfest. This was followed by finds on 23 September in Vilas County (Sheldon) and 24 September at Rock Island SP in Door County (Walsh). Counts of 100+ were 300 on 17 November in Ozaukee County (Wanger) and 350 on 29 October in Jefferson County (Stutz).

Snow Bunting—The first fall date was 16–17 October at Cornucopia in Bayfield County (Baldwin) followed by 17 October at Cat Island in Brown County (Prestby) and 20 October at the Oconto Harbor in Oconto County (Hurst). Counts of 100+ were 120 on 30 October in Manitowoc County (Brinkman), 140 on 24 November in Brown County (Prestby), 150 on 13 November in Manitowoc County (Trick), and 400 on 26 November in Green Lake County (Tom and Wendy Schultz).

Ovenbird—The last dates were 3 October at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Bontly), 6 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (Parkinson), and 16 October in Door County (Lukes). The high count was five on 15 August at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Hayes), five on 4 September at Lake Menomin Park in Dunn County (Pam Campbell), and five at the Shorewood Nature Preserve in Milwaukee County (Wood) followed by four from a number of locations.

Louisiana Waterthrush—There was one sighting, which was of one bird on 25 August at the Baxter's Hollow SNA in Sauk County (A. Holschbach).

Northern Waterthrush—Early season reports came from the counties of Door, Florence, Langlade, Manitowoc, Marathon, Oconto, Ozaukee, and Sheboygan. The last dates were 8 October at Muskego in Waukesha County (Gustafson) and 11 October at the Lion's Den in Ozaukee County (Dolan). The high count was six on 30 August at the Lion's Den in Ozaukee County (Sommer) followed by five on 18 September at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Zehner).

Golden-winged Warbler—Early season sightings came from the counties of Bayfield, Langlade, Lincoln, Marinette, Milwaukee, and Washburn. Unusual in this collection of counties was Milwaukee with a find on 9 August at Lake Park by Jym Mooney. This was perhaps an early migrant. The next southern find was 12 August at the same location (Vogrinic) followed by 25–30 August from a number of locations in Dane County. The last dates were 23 September in the counties of Lincoln and Ozaukee and 26 September in Racine County (Howe). The high count was five on 17 September at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell) followed by four from a number of locations.

Blue-winged Warbler—The most northern line of reports (from west to east) were the counties of St. Croix, Dunn, Eau Claire, Marathon, Outagamie, and Manitowoc. The last dates were 18 September at Ryan Park in Waukesha County (Tim Hahn), 19 September at Vernon Marsh in Waukesha County (Mertins), and 22 September at Swift Lake in Walworth County (Nowak). The only count better than two was six on 30 August at Goose Island in La Crosse County (Teskie).

Brewster's Warbler (hybrid)—There were three reports, each of single birds. Those three were 28 August in Marathon County (Belter), 9 September in Bayfield County (Brady), and 2 October in Dane County (Ryan Treves). There were also two reports of Golden-winged/Blue-winged without clarification as to Brewster's or Lawrence's. Previous to this year the only departure date later than 9 September was 21 September 1967 in Manitowoc County by Bernard Brouchoud. The 2 October date is record late.

Lawrence's Warbler (hybrid)—There was one report that being one bird on 23 August in Clark County (Lund).

Black-and-white Warbler—The last dates were 5 October at Lake Menomin Park in Dunn County (P. Campbell), 6 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan and Stotz), and 10 October at Harrington Beach (Brennan). The high count was nine on 15 August at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Paul Hayes) and nine on 25 August at Baxter's Hollow in Sauk County (A. Holschbach) followed by six from a number of locations.

Prothonotary Warbler—There were three reports. Those three were 1 August at Prairie Du Chien in Crawford County (Reiter-Marolf), 3 August at Big Hill Park in Rock County (Cullum), and 18 August at the Mississippi/Chippewa River Delta in Pepin County (Teskie). The find from Rock County was of two birds.

Tennessee Warbler—Through the first two years of the Breeding Bird Atlas Project there has been no confirmed nesting for this possible nesting species. Late July sightings were 28 July in Outagamie County (Ward) and Shawano County (Prestby) and 30 July in Outagamie County (Ross Mueller). The first fall season find was 2 August at Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 5 August in Menominee County (Prestby) and 5 August at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady). The last dates were 18 October at Derks Park in Outagamie County (Leanna Miller), 22 October at Sheridan Park in Milwaukee County (Szymczak), and 28 October at Mounds View Grassland in Iowa County (Preston). All the high counts came from the Brady House in Bayfield County. Those highs were 37 on 20 August, 35 on 18 September, and 31 on 30 August. Beyond the Brady House the high was 25 on 4 September at the Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Orange-crowned Warbler—The first fall date was 1 September in Monroe County (Epstein) followed by 11 September at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady and Oksiuta) and 12 September at Menomonee River Park in Milwaukee County (the Natural Areas Staff). The last dates were 27 October at Riverside Park in Milwaukee County, 27 October at Wind Point in Racine County (Drew Goldberg), and 28–29 October at Appleton in Outagamie County (Ross Mueller). The high count was 23 on 5 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 11 on 28 September at Eagle Valley (McKay). The only fall count higher than 23 is 43 on 30

September 1970 in Dane County by John T. Emlen.

Nashville Warbler—The last dates were 14 October at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Bontly), 14–16 October at the Owen Conservation Park in Dane County (Bailey), 19 October at Washington Park in Milwaukee County (Constantelos), and 2 November at Bark Point in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady). The only double digit counts were 10 on 9 September at Appleton in Outagamie County (Ross Mueller) and 12 on 18 September at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady).

Connecticut Warbler—Reported from eight counties, which compares to 12 in 2015 and seven in 2014. The last dates were 21 September at Maribel in Manitowoc County (Trick), 22 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Jan and Larry Kraemer and Svingen), and 29 September at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Henrikson). The high count was two on 14 September at Peninsula SP in Door County (Harting).

Mourning Warbler—The last dates were 23 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan), 24 September at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (many observers), and 25 September at Havenwoods SF in Milwaukee County (Mooney). The high count was four on 13 August at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady) and four on 6 August in Langlade County (Lafkas).

Kentucky Warbler—There were two sightings both of single birds. Those two were 2 September at Samuel Myers Park in Racine County (Pugh) and 21 September in Grant County (Ouren).

Common Yellowthroat—The last October dates were 18 October at the Owen Conservation Park in Dane County (Bailey), 18 October at the Adam Birding Conservancy in Jefferson County (Bridge), and 19 October at Indian Lake in Dane County (Hampton). These were followed by a find on 2 November at Washburn in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady). The high count was 55 on 3 September at Lake Petite Prairie in Walworth County (Smallwood) followed by 25 on 3 August at Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) and 20 on 15 and 17 September at

the Vernon Marsh in Waukesha County (Mertins).

Hooded Warbler—Reported from seven counties, which compares to six in 2015 and seven in 2014. The most unusual find was of two birds on 30 August at Lake Wissota SP in Chippewa County (McIntosh). The last September dates were 18 and 25 September in the Southern Kettle Moraine SF of Waukesha County (Schaefer and Szymczak). These were followed by a find on 3 October at the same location (Szymczak). The high count was five on 11 September in the Southern Kettle Moraine SF of Waukesha County (Szymczak).

American Redstart—The last October dates were 11 October at Cherokee Marsh in Dane County (Grunzel) and 13 October in Richland County (Duerksen). These were followed by a find on 4 November at Washburn in Bayfield County (Brady). The high count was 27 on 7 September in Polk County (Collins) followed by 23 on 20 August at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady) and 21 on 14 September at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (Lee)

Cape May Warbler—Although this is a nesting species in the northern portion of the state, the first fall find was not until 11 August in Bayfield County (Christenson) followed by 12 August at Washington Island in Door County (Walsh). The first sightings south of nesting counties were 17–19 August in Outagamie County (Ross Mueller) and 17–19 August in Wood County (Merkel). The last dates were 10 October in Milwaukee County (Ambrose), 12 October in Racine County (Howe), and 17 October at the Nicholson Wildlife Refuge in Racine County (Drew Goldberg). The high count was nine on 7 September in Wood County (Merkel) followed by six on 30 August and 7 September at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady).

Cerulean Warbler—There were two reports, each of single birds. The first was 3 August along the Mississippi River in Pierce County (Teskie) while the second was 25 August at the Albany SWA in Green County (Mike and Ryan Ochowski).

Northern Parula—The only early season report of this northern nester came from Florence County (the Kavanaghs). The find of a Parula on 6 August at the Necedah NWR in Juneau County

(Joan Campbell) was likely an early migrant. The next migrants were not found until 22 August in the counties of Green Lake (Schultz), Pierce (Teskie), and Waukesha (Gustafson). The only departure date beyond 6 October was 16 October in Eau Claire County (Lind). The high count was four on 28 August in Bayfield County (Erickson and Lozano) and four on 25 September at Indian Lake in Dane County (A. Holschbach).

Magnolia Warbler—Early season reports of this northern nester came from the counties of Ashland (Sharp) and Douglas (Svingen). The first sightings south of nesting counties were 12 August in Milwaukee County (Vogrinc) and 14 August in Polk County (Maercklein). The last date was 18 October in the counties of Dane (Cooper and Henrikson), Dodge (Wood), and Milwaukee (the Natural Areas Staff). The high count was 12 on 21 September at Bay Beach in Green Bay, Brown County (Sonneland) followed by eight on 18 September at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (Wood) and eight on 24 September at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell).

Bay-breasted Warbler—The first fall find was 11 August at Fox Point in Milwaukee County (Petherick) followed by 18 August at Appleton in Outagamie County (Ross Mueller) and 22 August in Polk County (Collins). The last dates were 6 October at Madison in Dane County (Bailey), 7 October at the Franklin Savanna SNA in Milwaukee County (the Natural Areas Staff), and 9 October at Donald County Park in Dane County (Bonk). The high count was four from a variety of dates and locations.

Blackburnian Warbler—Early season reports of this primarily northern nester came from the counties of Bayfield (Butek), Door (Frank), Florence (the Kavanaghs), Forest (Maertz), Lincoln (Edlund), Marinette (Beard), Menominee (Prestby), Oconto (Swelstad), and Price (Krakowski). Birds found in Trempealeau County on 5 August (Betchkal) and 8 August at Mangan Woods in Milwaukee County (the Natural Areas Staff) were likely early migrants. The next migrants were found on 14 August in Milwaukee County (Michael Gray and Maertz), 17 August in Marathon County (Belter), and 17 August in Green Lake County (Roti Roti). The last dates were 27 September at Lake Kegonsa in Dane County (Perlberg), 27 September at Muskego Park in Waukesha County (Gustafson), Septem-

ber 28 at Olin Park Dane County (Senner), and 28 September at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Wanger). The high count was 11 on 20 August at Willow River SP in St. Croix County (Persico) followed by six on 31 August at the Wisconsin Dells in Columbia County (Pomeroy).

Yellow Warbler—The last dates were 17 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Jessie Barry and Chris Wood), 18 September at Sheltered Valley Road in Forest County (Ward), and 22 September at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (Wanger). The high count was 12 on 4 August at Green Bay in Brown County (Swelstad) followed by 10 on 2 August at Cat Island in Brown County (Swelstad) and 10 on 4 August at Lade Beach in Oconto County (Swelstad).

Chestnut-sided Warbler—The last dates were 11 October at Menomonee Valley Park in Milwaukee County and 13 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was nine on 17 September at Goodland County Park in Dane County (Skaar) followed by eight on 4 August at Taylor Lake in Washburn County (Berg) and eight on 21 August at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell). The total of nine is the lowest since eight in 1998.

Blackpoll Warbler—The first fall date was 23 August in Wood County (Merkel) followed by arrivals on 25 August at a number of locations in Milwaukee County and finds on 26 August in the counties of Bayfield, Dane, Outagamie, and Ozaukee. The last dates were 9 October in Milwaukee County at Wilson Park (the Natural Areas Staff), Sheridan Park (Wood), and Lake Park (Binder and Kieth Bailey) and 10 October at Havenwoods SF in Milwaukee County (Wood). The high count was 32 on 26 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan) followed by 18 on 8 September at Sheridan Park in Milwaukee County (Rita Flores Wiskowski) and 17 on 14 September at Harrington Beach (Brennan).

Black-throated Blue Warbler—There were no early season reports of this northern nester. The first sighting was 20 August in Washburn County (Julson and Morales) and 21 August in Bayfield County (Appleman). The first notice of migrants south of nesting counties was 26–27 August at various locations in Milwaukee County. The last dates were 6 and 10 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan and

Austin Jones). All counts were of one or two birds.

Palm Warbler—The early season finds of this northern nester were 5 and 8 August in Douglas County (Kirk and Svingen). The first sightings of migrants south of nesting counties were 27 August at the Lion's Den in Ozaukee County (Vokoun) and 28 August at Bluegill Bay County Park in Marathon County (Belter and McGivern). November departure dates were 5 November at Madison in Dane County (Senner) and 10 November at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 105 on 19 September at the Superior Municipal Forest in Douglas County (Jessie Barry and Chris Wood) followed by 45 on 21 September at Cat Island in Brown County (Seeger).

Pine Warbler—The last dates were 10 October at Sheridan Park in Milwaukee County (Ambrose), 10 October in Ozaukee County (Dolan), and 12 October at the Black Jack Wilderness Area in Vilas County (Peczynski). The high count was 15 on 21 August at Crystal Lake in Vilas County (Prestby) and 15 on 4 September in Washburn County (Julson and Morales) followed by eight on 21 September at Round Lake Dam in Price County (Cynthia and Jim Krakowski).

Yellow-rumped Warbler—The last fall date was 22–23 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by occasional state finds in December. The high count was 109 on 5 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 85 on 16 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan) and 83 on 18 September at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady).

Yellow-throated Warbler—There were two reports, each of single birds. Those reports were 29–30 August at the home of Ross Mueller in Appleton, Outagamie County and 16–17 November at the home of Janet Swartz-Myrman in Tilden, Chippewa County. There are but four state records later than 16–17 November.

Black-throated Green Warbler—Early season reports for this mostly northern nesting species came from the counties Ashland, Bayfield, Door, Douglas, Florence, Forest, Langlade, Marinette, and Menominee. The first finds of likely migrants were 19 August in Outagamie County (Ross Mueller), 21 August in Burnett

County (Henry and Suzy Deese), and 22 August in Milwaukee County (Zehner). The last dates were 12 October at Scout Lake in Milwaukee County (Szymczak) and 14 October at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Brennan). The high count was 11 on 18 September at the Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 10 on 21 August in Oneida County (Dolan).

Canada Warbler—The only early season finds of this nesting species came from the counties of Bayfield (Butek) and Washburn (Julson and Morales). The first finds beyond nesting counties were 20 August at Indian Lake in Dane County (A. Holschbach) and 21 August at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell). The last dates were 16 September at Mineral Point in Iowa County (Kivikoski), 16 September at the Wehr Nature Center in Milwaukee County (K. Hayes), 17 September in Iowa County (Mack), and 20 September in Door County (Lukes). The high count was three on 21 August at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Zehner) and three on 10 September at Bay Beach in Brown County (Michael Gray).

Wilson's Warbler—The first fall migrants were found 21 August at Willow River SP in St. Croix County (Persico) followed by 22 August in Polk County (Collins) and 25 August at several locations in Milwaukee County. The only October departure dates were 1 October at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Spencer and Zehner) and 1–2 October at Samuel Myers Park and Wind Point in Racine County (Drew Goldberg). The high count was five on 10 September at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Aaron and Jim Holschbach) followed by three from numerous locations.

Painted Redstart*—An adult male was documented, including photographs, on 1 November in Marathon County (Mary Backus and Richard Schultz). Due to this bird having been photographed, it became a new species (number 439) on the state list. Previous to this documentation, the only state record was a hypothetical sighting on 22 April 1965 in Dane County by Robert Sutherland. With this species now having been adequately documented, both records are now valid.

Yellow-breasted Chat—There was a report of one bird on 17 September in Lafayette County (Richard Ouren).

Eastern Towhee—The only November find was of one bird on 8 November at the Owen Conservation Park in Dane County (Bailey and Herb). The high count was 24 on 5 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 12 on 6 August near Wisconsin Rapids in Wood County (Reed) and 12 on 28 September at Eagle Valley (McKay).

American Tree Sparrow—The first fall find was 5 October at the Fish Lake SWA in Burnett County (Ed and Ginny Blair) followed by 7 October at Waldwick in Iowa County (Prochaska). The high count was 114 on 23 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 75 on 27 November at the Paradise Valley SWA in Waukesha County (Tim Hahn).

Chipping Sparrow—The last dates were 7 November at Madison in Dane County (Bailey), 7 November at Nine Springs in Dane County (Brian Schneider), and 8 November at the UW Arboretum in Dane County (Younger). The high count was 50 on 29 August in Bayfield County (Erickson and Lozano) followed by 45 on 16 September in Florence County (K. Kavanagh), 26 on 24 August at Devils Lake SP in Sauk County (Collison), and 26 on 9 September at Korth Park on Rock Lake in Jefferson County (Stutz).

Clay-colored Sparrow—The last dates were 10 October at the Grex Meadows NWR in Burnett County (Persico), 14 October at Cherokee Marsh in Dane County (Peacock), and 18 October at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (Wanger). The high count was 12 on 18 September at Wakanda Park in Dunn County (P. Campbell) and 12 on 22 September at the Sauk Prairie Recreation Area in Sauk County (A. Holschbach) followed by 11 on 15 September in Menominee County (Wilken).

Field Sparrow—The last dates were 28 October in Iowa County (Kivikoski), 28 October at the Lac Lawrann Conservancy in Washington County (Bauer), and 29 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Hoag). Late October is an unusually early last date. This sparrow is often found through the winter season. This year there were no records in December. The high count was 56 on 5 October at Eagle Valley in Grant

County (McKay) followed by 23 on 28 September at Eagle Valley (McKay). The only fall total higher than 56 is 100 on 22 September 1990 in Walworth County by Patricia Parsons.

Vesper Sparrow—The last October date was 22 October at three different locations in Dane County (Herb, Ontano, and Thiessen). These were followed by a find on 2 November at Bark Point in Bayfield County (Brady). There were no further findings in December. The high count was 40 on 22 September at the Namekagon Barrens SWA in Burnett County (Watson) followed by 10 on 2 October in Juneau County (Burrus) and seven at the Crex Meadows SWA in Burnett County (S. Clark). The total of 40 is record high for the fall season. The former high was 32 on 29 September 1978 in Columbia County by Randy Hoffman.

Lark Sparrow—There were three reports for the season. Those three were 5 and 14 August at the Spring Green Preserve in Sauk County (Milender and Yoerger) and 21 August at Samuel Myers Park in Racine County (Goldberg, Howe, Kinzer, Wegner, and Rita Flores Wiskowski). The high count was three on 14 August at Spring Green (Yoerger).

Savannah Sparrow—The last fall dates were 20 November in Dane County (Thiessen) and 30 November in Waukesha County (Marvelli). These were followed by finds into the winter season. The high count was 85 on 10 October in Dane County (Thiessen) followed by 30 on 8 October at Wisconsin Rapids in Portage County (Bailey and Binder).

Grasshopper Sparrow—Reported from eight counties, which compares to six in 2015. The last August sightings were 14–15 August at the Spring Green Preserve in Sauk County (A. Holschbach and Yoerger). This was followed by the find of one bird on 5 September at Mineral Point in Iowa County (Kivikoski). The high count was six on 6 August at the Spring Green Preserve (Howe and Wegner).

Henslow's Sparrow—Reported from 10 counties, which compares to eight in 2015 and nine in 2014. The last August finds were 15 August in Monroe County (Epstein) and 22 August in Crawford County (Coglan). These were followed by the sighting of one bird on 4 October at the Leola Marsh SWA in Adams County (R. An-

derson). The high count was three on 4 August at the Leola Marsh in Adams County (Reed) and three on 22 August in Crawford County (Coglan).

Le Conte's Sparrow—The only August report of this nesting species was 20 August at the Powell Marsh SWA in Vilas County (Buchsbaum). The last dates were 23 October at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (Beachy, McDowell, and Treves) and 25 October at the Evansville SWA in Rock County (Cullum). The high count was two on 23 October at Pheasant Branch.

Nelson's Sparrow—Reported from six counties, which compares to six in 2015 and four in 2014. The first sightings were 17 September at Lake Barney (Thiessen) and 17 September at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (many observers). Nelson's then continued to be found regularly at Lake Barney until 9 October (Thiessen). The last dates were 16–17 October at Calhoun Creek Prairie in Waukesha County (Grossmeyer and Kinzer) and 31 October in Ozaukee County (William Mueller). The high count was six on 23–24 September at Lake Barney in Dane County (Pendergast, Perlberg, and Sallmann) and six on 26 September at Bender Park in Milwaukee County (Wanger).

Fox Sparrow—The first dates were 21 September at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady), 22 September in Chippewa County (Hoyland), and 22 September at Red Arrow Park in Marinette County (Hurst). Sightings of this sparrow then continued into the winter season. The high count was 21 on 16 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan) followed by 18 on 9 October at Willow River SP in St. Croix County (Persico) and 17 on 4 November at the Sauk Prairie Recreation Area in Sauk County (A. Holschbach).

Song Sparrow—This sparrow was found throughout the period and into the winter. The high count was 80 on 4 September at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Collison) and 80 on 4 October at the Lerner Conservation Park in Dane County (Thiessen) followed by 62 on 16 October at Indiana Lake in Dane County (A. Holschbach).

Lincoln's Sparrow—Early season reports of this northern nesting species came only from the counties of Price (Krawowski) and Vilas (David).

The first sighting beyond a nesting county was 29 August at Appleton in Outagamie County (Buchman and Malcolm). The only November dates were 1 November in the counties of Iowa (Kivikoski) and Kewaunee (Zenner) followed by 12 November at the Badertscher Preserve in Waukesha County (Mertins). There were no reports into the winter season. The high count was 28 on 2 October at Three Lakes in St. Croix County (Persico) followed by 15 on 5 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

Swamp Sparrow—This sparrow was found throughout the fall and into the winter. The high count was 33 on 5 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 30 on 4 October at the Lerner Conservation Park in Dane County (Thiessen) and 30 on 5 October at the Adam Birding Conservancy in Jefferson County (Bridge).

White-throated Sparrow—The high count was 144 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay) followed by 125 on 2 October at Three Lakes in St. Croix County (Persico) and 85 on 9 October at Willow River SP in St. Croix County (Persico).

Harris's Sparrow—Reported from 12 counties, which compares to 15 in 2015 and 12 in 2014. The first date was 23 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Carl Schwartz and Tessen) followed by 25 September at the Douglas County SWA (Dave and Kerry Sehloff) and 27 September in Bayfield County (Oksiuta). The only November records were 17 and 22 November at Washington Island in Door County (Walsh) with few state sightings in December. All counts were of one or two birds.

White-crowned Sparrow—The first fall date was 11 September at the Powell Marsh in Vilas County (David) followed by 13 September at Marquette Park in Kewaunee County (Sinkula) and 17 September in the counties of Bayfield (Brady) and Winnebago (Benson). Finds then continued into the winter season. The high count was 80 on 9 October at Washington Island in Door County (Walsh) followed by 56 on 16 October at Indian Lake in Dane County (A. Holschbach).

Dark-eyed Junco—The only early season report came from Douglas County (the LaValleys). The high count was 150 on 23 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 124

on 22 November at Eagle Valley (McKay) and 120 on 19 October at Lake Park in Milwaukee County (Bontly and Wanger).

Scarlet Tanager—There were two October departure dates. Those two were 3 October at Madison in Dane County (Treves) and 6 October at the Monk Public Gardens in Marathon County (Belter). The high count was seven on 7 August in Jackson County (Patterson) followed by six on 6 August in Langlade County (Lafkas) and five on 6 August in Buffalo County (Patterson).

Western Tanager*—One bird was documented on 27 August near Pheasant Branch in Dane County (Doepfers).

Northern Cardinal—The high count was 65 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay) followed by 50 on 1 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Hoffmaster) and 40 on 1 October at High Cliff SP in Calumet County (Fry).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—The last October date was 21 October at Noyes Park in Milwaukee County (the Natural Areas Staff) followed by finds on 3 November at the Milwaukee Community Gardens in Milwaukee County (Able) and 6 November at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Zehner). The high count was 16 on 2 August at Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 15 on 1 August in Douglas County (Kirk) and 14 on 3 September at Willow River SP in St. Croix County (Persico).

Blue Grosbeak*—There were reports from the Spring Green Preserve in Sauk County over the period 10 July through 14 August (first by Henrikson and Wroza and last by Hampton). Although two adults and two immatures were confirmed for breeding on 28 July by John Kivikoski, the high count for the fall season was two on 2 August (Flynn). This was the second confirmed nesting of this species in the state. The first was in 1970 in Richland County by Janice Jensen.

Indigo Bunting—The last dates were 10 October in Dane County (Thiessen) and 19 October at Nelson Dewey SP in Grant County (McKay). The high count was 30 on 27 August in Barron County (Prestby) followed by 27 on 1 August in Door County (Frank) and 22 on 7 August in Jackson County (Patterson).

Dickcissel—Reported from 16 counties,

which compares to 10 in 2015 and 11 in 2014. The last August dates were 21 August at Ridges Sanctuary in Door County (Davidow) and 22 August at the Horicon Marsh of Dodge County (Longhenry). These were followed by the finding of a single bird on 17 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Chris Wood and Jessie Barry). The high count was 20 on 3 August at the Sauk Prairie Recreation Area in Sauk County (A. Holschbach). Nearest to this was five on 19 August in Sauk County across the Wisconsin River from the Wisconsin Dells (Antieau).

Bobolink—October departure dates were 2 October at three different locations in Dane County (McDowell, S. Miller, Nikiforov, and Thiessen) and 7 October in Waukesha County (Marvelli). The high count was 400 on 28 August in Bayfield County (Erickson and Lozano). The nearest totals to this were 25 on 24 September in Jefferson County (Stutz) and 26 on 19 September in Douglas County (Barry and Chris Wood). The total of 400 is record high for the fall season. The previous highs were 220 on 8 August 1999 in Portage County (Murray Berner) and 250 on 2 September 1973 in Dodge County (Tessen).

Red-winged Blackbird—The high count was 20,000 on 16 November in Fond du Lac County (Benson) followed by 11,000 on 16 August in Fond du Lac County (W. Mueller) and 6,454 on 10 October in Grant County (McKay).

Eastern Meadowlark—November departure dates were 6 November at the Owen Conservation Park in Dane County (Bailey) and 13 November at the Buena Vista Grasslands in Portage County (R. Anderson). The high count was 23 on 27 September in Jefferson County (Ed Hahn) followed by 20 on 27 September in Door County (Kristy Larson).

Western Meadowlark—There were three fall reports with all reports being of single birds. Those three were 4 August in Adams County (Reed), 29 October in Calumet County (Brinkman), and 2 November in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady).

Yellow-headed Blackbird—Reported from 14 counties, which compares to nine in 2015 and 12 in 2014. The majority of reports came from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac counties. The only September finds came in the period 2–26 September from Cat Island in Brown

County (Prestby). The high count was 50 on 30 August at the Mack SWA in Outagamie County (M. Gray) followed by 35 on 2 August in Winnebago County (Benson) and 15 on several dates at Cat Island in Brown County.

Rusty Blackbird—The first fall finds were 13 September at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady) and 14 September at the Kinzer House in Racine County (Kinzer). The last fall dates were 13 November at the Nicholson Wildlife Refuge in Racine County (Lally), 14 November 14 near Rosendale in Fond du Lac County (Benson), and 18–21 November at the Badertscher Preserve in Waukesha County (last by Sheridan). These were followed by one or two sightings in December. The high count was 228 on 9 October at the Brady House in Bayfield County (Brady) followed by 120 on 22 October at the Horicon Marsh of Fond du Lac County (Hoffmaster) and 93 on 3 November at Maribel in Manitowoc County (Trick).

Brewer's Blackbird—Early season reports of this nesting species came from the counties of Bayfield, Dodge, Douglas, Portage, and Wood. November departure dates were 1 November near Muskego in Waukesha County (Gustafson) and 2 November at Centuria in Polk County (Allen Hanson). There were then a scattering of finds in December. The high count was 300 on 14 September in the Town of Spencer, Marathon County (Hurlburt) followed by 250 on 27 September in Wood County (Merkel) and 200 on 2 October in Marathon County (Belter).

Common Grackle—The high count was 3,500 on 26 October in Polk County (Maercklein) followed by 3,000 on 7 October at Wayne in Washington County (Burke and Mackenzie) and 2,480 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay).

Brown-headed Cowbird—This species was found throughout the fall season and then into the winter season. The high count was 413 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay) followed by 250 on 16 August in Fond du Lac County (W. Mueller) and 200 on 29 October near Spring Green in Sauk County (Kivikoski).

Orchard Oriole—Reported from 15 counties, which compares to 14 in 2015 and nine in 2014. The number of counties reporting Orchard Orioles was record high for the fall season. The northern limit, from west to east, were the coun-

ties of St. Croix, Trempealeau, Waupaca, Outagamie, Brown, and Manitowoc. The last dates were 30 August in Dodge County (Pritchard) and 31 August at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Brennan and W. Mueller) with no finds extending into September. The high count was five on 12 August at Beaver Dam in Dodge County (Pritchard) followed by four from a number of locations.

Baltimore Oriole—The last September dates were 15 September at Riverside Park in Milwaukee County (D. Casper) and 18 September at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell). These were followed by a find on 5 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay). The high count was 21 on 17 August at the Lund House in Clark County (Lund) followed by 18 on 3 August at the Oksiuta House in Bayfield County (Oksiuta)

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“By the Wayside”—Fall 2016

Some of the species documented with reports this season as rare or uncommon include: King Eider, Swainson’s Hawk, Painted Bunting, Anna’s Hummingbird, and Western Tanager.

(“By the Wayside” is intended to show selected documentation that successfully won acceptance from the WSO Records Committee. They are presented without editing, as submitted by the authors.)

KING EIDER

21 November 2016, Milwaukee County

This diving duck was mostly solid brown and noticeably larger than adjacent Black scoters and a Goldeneye. The smaller head than a Common Eider was brown with a white ring at the eye. The bill was all black, showing a slight dip from crown to bill tip, unlike the Common Eider with a more straight line. Facial feathers did not quite reach the nares, creating a “grin”. The neck was thick. The scaly pattern on the flanks was difficult to see, but did show up at one point. The primary tips were almost black when sitting on the water. A first winter female seems the best match.—Dennis Gustafson, Muskego, Waukesha County

KING EIDER

21 November 2016, Milwaukee County

An overall brown duck was loosely associating with smaller Bufflehead and

Common Goldeneye. The shallow forehead and sloping bill pointed to either a scoter or an eider. This bird was a much paler, warmer brown than any scoter.

The face was mostly pale brown but there was a white eyering. The pale post-ocular line from the eye down the back of the face was not usually visible, but was seen intermittently toward the end of the observation when the light angle had improved. The feathering from the face terminated well before the “nostril”, and there was a distinct upturned gape line. The crown was darker than the face. The dark scapulars were mainly dark brown, almost black, in the center. There were two thin white wing bars which outlined the rather gray secondaries. The primary tips were black.

The flanks lacked the arrowhead shaped markings that I have seen on other female King Eiders, but there were dark markings there, more rounded than arrowhead in shape. The breast was brown with faint dark marks.

When the eider raised its wings, I saw white axillaries and white on the underwing coverts.

The tail was short and did not stick up like the tail of a scoter.

The bill was solid black and the legs were not seen.—Thomas Wood, Menomonee Falls, Waukesha County

HARLEQUIN DUCK

*27 August 2016, Washington Island,
Door County*

While scanning the lake, I noticed a smallish diving duck with a rounded head and stubby bill approximately 4000 feet out southeast from our location (approximately SSW of Hog Island). From this distance, the white ear spot and vertical white neck mark could be seen as well as a white crescent at front of face. White streaking on back. Pointed tail could be seen as it dove. There was a nearby female COGO (which offered a size comparison). The HADU was slightly smaller in size. No other bird in our area has this 'clown like' appearance. There were COGO nearby for comparison.—Eric Howe, Racine

SWAINSON'S HAWK

*28 September 2016, Concordia University,
Ozaukee County*

A large *buteo* rose up at the edge of the bluff at the south side of the mad-made concavity in the upper bluff line - literally just 50 feet away. The initial view was looking down at the bird as it sailed past on slightly dihedral wings. The odd thing was the uniformity of the entire upper surface of the bird - wings, back, and head - all dark brown. No mottling with lighter browns or whites. The tail was a slightly lighter shade of brown with faint, thin, darker brown bands across it and a slightly thicker band suggested at the tip. The head continued the uniform brown pattern—no lighter eyebrow line, even

having the brown wrap around to the throat. The dark eye sort of "lost" against the dark background around it. My wife asked what it was and all I could say was "I don't know", much to her surprise. Even at that distance, I couldn't put together a guess as I clicked through all the obvious options I had already dismissed. Too small for an eagle, no white rump for a Harrier, no mottling of white on the back of a red-tail, Too uniform a back color and too much size for a red-shoulder or broad-wing, too small and not long-winged enough for an osprey and the head wasn't white. At about that point, it turned just enough to the southwest from its southerly trend to show that not only was the throat area brown, but this extended across the upper breast as well with a couple brown streaks down the lateral area of an otherwise white upper breast. Finally something crept in to my memory to get me thinking "What if . . ." as it tilted even more to the west and revealed the underwing pattern—yellowish white underwing coverts and darker grayish primaries and secondaries. (My lifer Wisconsin Swainson's Hawk.)—James Frank, Mequon, Ozaukee County

HUDSONIAN GODWIT

*18 November 2016, County Highway V,
Sheboygan County*

It was actively feeding the whole time. The Godwit had blackish legs, a long two-toned very slightly upturned bill that was orangish on the basal third and dark on the outer two-thirds, distinct whitish supercilium, whitish cheek below the dark eye, gray crown and neck and wings and back, white belly and undertail coverts, black primary tips, white tail with black tip.—David

and Margaret Brasser, City of Sheboygan

SABINE'S GULL

*10 October 2016, Lake Wapogasset,
Polk County*

Found a small gull by itself on Lake Wapogasset (Polk County) while cruising the perimeter looking for birds. As it sat on the water I could see a barred brown back, small black bill, a dark grayish brown smudging on the cheek behind the eye, the nape and sides of neck. I cut the engine and managed to take three pictures before and after it flew off. In flight what really stood out was the large triangular patch of white on the wing stretching from the trailing edge of the wing from the body to the primaries and forward to the wrist. The wing coverts were brown and the primaries mostly black as seen from above. All these key points were pointed out verbally to my wife Irene. The white tail had a terminal black band. After two near passes by the boat it flew off about 150 feet where it dove into the water lightly, followed by several short hops and dipping its head and beak into the water. After that it flew off and joined a small flock of a dozen Bonaparte's Gull.—Robin Maercklein, Amery, Polk County

ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD

*18 November 2016, Wauwatosa,
Milwaukee County*

Hummingbird similar in size to expected Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Bill straight and relatively short. Tail held in line with body in flight. Back, crown, and breast/belly green, breast/belly lighter green. Iridescent pink central throat patch and individual feath-

ers on side and top of head. Small white patch behind eye. Forehead long and sloped. Bird identified by banders earlier in week as a hatch-year male. Ruby-throated Hummingbird holds tail cocked up from line of body in flight; has a broader, more obvious pale collar; has a longer bill; iridescent gorget bright red, not pinkish.—Jym Mooney, City of Milwaukee

ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD

*18 November 2016, Wauwatosa,
Milwaukee County*

Hummingbird with iridescent pink feathers on side of face, top of crown, and on its throat. Didn't have color on the full throat, just a patch. It wasn't a ruby-throated, because the iridescent feathers were a pink, not red/ruby. Also, the pink feather extended to the side of its face and the top of its crown.—Rita Flores Wiskowski, South Milwaukee, Milwaukee County

ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD

*21 November, Wauwatosa,
Milwaukee County*

The face was gray and there was a white semicircle above the black eye. This was more distinct on the bird's right side, but variable on both sides of the face during preening. There were a few iridescent feathers behind and under the eye which flashed red as the bird turned its head in the sunlight. The crown was a brownish gray, but approximately 30% of these feathers appeared red when they were raised or when they were at certain angles as the bird turned its head in the sunlight. These feathers were concentrated at the top of the head, and I saw no red iridescence on the forehead feathers.

The throat was overall gray with mostly gray feathers with brown centers. Due to the linear arrangement of these feathers, the spots lined up and made the throat occasionally appear vertically streaked. At the lower part of the throat, there was a patch of green (the gorget) which flashed red at the proper sunlight angle. Below the gorget was a distinct white horizontal band at the top of the breast.

The flanks and sides of breast were an iridescent green which when unlit appeared brown, and there was a longitudinal white band between the wings and the flanks. The centers of the breast and belly were gray. The undertail coverts were white with large brown patches.

The black wings nearly reached the end of the tail but never projected beyond the tip. The primary tips were evenly spaced for the length of the folded wing.

While at the feeders, the back was well seen and it was an iridescent green. This green extended up into the nape. I never got a look at the spread tail because the hummingbird kept its wings folded while perched on the feeder.

The bill was long, black, and had just a hint of a downturn. The legs were black and there was a silver band on the tarsus of the right leg.—Thomas Wood, Menomonee Falls, Waukesha County

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER

*10 September 2016, Forest Beach
Migratory Preserve, Ozaukee County*

Unmistakable young STFL, long black-and-white tail (shorter than that of an adult), white-ish body, belly, and head, yellow underwings and flanks where salmon-pink color is on adult bird, very pale gray-white head and

nape, dark gray lores, Tyrannus-style strong bill, upper surface of wings darker gray, upper back a much paler shade of gray than wings, but darker than rest of torso & head.—William Mueller, City of Milwaukee

PAINTED BUNTING

1 November 2016, Marathon County

I was photographing Juncos and American Tree Sparrows at a favorite area of mine. Out of nowhere this unusual bird appeared at the woods edge very close to me. I was surprised to see how colorful it was...especially the brilliant orange/red belly and the beautiful white markings on its black wings. I thought the little white crease by its eye was really neat. It would flit around searching for bugs to eat ...go into the woods and come back out to the edge giving me several poses to shoot. I was frantic to say the least because I had no clue as to what it was. It was the exact same size as an American Redstart. After I got several good looks at it I contacted my sister who is a really excellent birder in the state. She gasped! and told me what I had found. I took her to the location and she was also able to see it.—Rick Schultz, Wausau, Marathon County

PAINTED BUNTING

1 November 2016, Marathon County

Small warbler-sized bird, mostly black with striking red lower breast and belly. White patch on black wing and small white arc just below the eyes. There was also some white on the outer tail edges that was quite obvious when the bird flew. Bill and legs were dark colored.—Mary Backus, Ringle, Marathon County

WESTERN TANAGER

27 August 2016, Dane County

An unusually birdy morning—reading the sports section and (on the same level) watching the dripping oak trees and deck feeders. BC chickadees, two titmice, and frequent hummers. Then something larger and different suddenly landed on the railing of the deck near but not on the seed tube feeders. My momentary view registered a reddish face and a lot of yellow — a little like what one sometimes sees in a fall transitioning scarlet tanager (but with yellow rather than green) The instan-

taneous jizz was tanager-like—bill, shape, size, movement style, etc. The raised deck is opposite the lower mid-height of the oak trees plus an arbor vitae. The bird quickly dove into the immediate foliage. Evidently it moved laterally within the screening foliage to emerge less than ten minutes later (exactly 10:40 am) at the upper right “shoulder” of the arbor vitae. Here I had time to note the black wing with two bright bars and again all that bright yellow. Wow, a Western Tanager!—Daniel Doeppers, City of Madison



Jim Stewart captured this intimate portrait of a Trumpeter Swan in early September at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County.



A Great Egret arrives with a flourish as seen in early September by Jim Stewart at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County.

WSO Records Committee Report: Fall 2016

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The WSO Records Committee reviewed 76 records of 33 species for the Fall 2016 season, accepting 66 of them (87%). Highlight of the Fall season was the first state record of Painted Restart in Marathon County. A beautiful addition enjoyed by a few very lucky birders. Another highlight was the unprecedented occurrence of Sabine's Gulls found in 8 different counties.

ACCEPTED RECORDS

Table 1 provides a list of records accepted by the WSO Records Committee during the Fall 2016 season. Information on each record, such as species, location, observer(s), and date(s), is accompanied by the tally of votes made by the five-person committee. Records with one or fewer dissenting votes are accepted into the state records.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

In the header for each record, voting tallies are shown in parentheses. Votes to accept are listed first. Two or more dissenting votes from the five-person

committee results in a Record Not Accepted.

Black-throated Gray Warbler—

Outagamie County, 29 August 2016 (1-4).

The report is a group of warblers in the observer's yard. "Initially I noticed a darkish warbler". "It was black, gray and white and as I thought of all the WI warblers, none fit." "The ??? was black; there was black "line" from the bill below the eye to the neck; the supercilium was a large distinct white; the back was grayish; as the wings with 2 white wing bars; tail gray; white throat; breast whitish with a few gray streaks with a blackish smudge below the whitish cheek." "The only other black, gray, white warbler is a Black + white. This did not have a white stripe on the crown, nor striped back."

Committee members would like to have seen a mention of the lore spot and description of the white on the tail. The report does not include details that would define the bird as a warbler. Report did not fully eliminate the possibility of the bird being a Black and White Warbler.

Table 1. Records accepted by WSO Records Committee.

Species	Date	Observer	Location	County	Notes	Vote
Black-billed Magpie	10/26	Steve LaValley	Hwy 13	Douglas		5 - 0
Black-billed Magpie	2/10/2014	Ben Baldwin		Bayfield		5 - 0
Rufous Hummingbird	8/02-8/10/2015	Joel Trick	Town of Cooperstown	Manitowoc	Photo	5 - 0
Anna's Hummingbird	10/22	Michelene O'Connor	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	Photo	5 - 0
Anna's Hummingbird	11/18	Rita Flores Wiskowski	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	Photo	5 - 0
Anna's Hummingbird	11/18	Jym Mooney	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	Photo	5 - 0
Anna's Hummingbird	11/19	Dan Belter	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	Photo	5 - 0
Anna's Hummingbird	11/20	Dennis Gustafson	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	Photo	5 - 0
Anna's Hummingbird	11/21	Thomas Wood	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee		5 - 0
Anna's Hummingbird	11/20	Darryl Tessen	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee		4 - 1
Black-necked Stilt	11/02	Paul Hayes	WI-27 at County J	Monroe	Late	5 - 0
Black-necked Stilt	11/05	Paul Hayes	WI-27 at County J	Monroe	Late	5 - 0
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	11/27	Kristin Wegner	Washington Island	Door	Late	5 - 0
Bohemian Waxwing	9/25	Kyle Lindemer	Aldo Leopold Nature Center	Dane	Early	5 - 0
Cackling Goose	8/26	Eric Howe	Jackson Harbor - Washington Island	Door	Early	5 - 0
Common Eider	9/04	William Grossmeyer	Wisconsin Point	Douglas		5 - 0
Harlequin Duck	8/27	Eric Howe	Percy Johnson Memorial Park,	Door	Early	5 - 0
		Washington Island				
Hudsonian Godwit	11/04	Stuart Malcolm	WI-49 by pumphouse	Dodge	Late	5 - 0
Hudsonian Godwit	11/05	Thomas Wood	Horicon NWR hwy 49 east of the pumphouse	Dodge	Late	5 - 0
Hudsonian Godwit	11/13	Thomas Wood	Cty V one mile west of WI-32	Sheboygan	Late	5 - 0
Hudsonian Godwit	11/18	David & Margaret Brassler	Cty Tk V .6 mile west of WI-32	Sheboygan	Late	5 - 0
Hudsonian Godwit	11/20	Barry Baumann	Cty V and WI-32	Sheboygan	Late	5 - 0
Jaeger (sp)	9/07	Janine Polk	Lake Wissota north of the dam	Chippewa		4 - 1
Jaeger (sp)	11/27	Thomas Wood	Harrington Beach State Park south picnic area.	Ozaukee		5 - 0
King Eider	11/21	Dennis Gustafson	North Point - Milwaukee	Milwaukee		5 - 0
King Eider	11/21	Jym Mooney	North Point - Milwaukee	Milwaukee	Photo	5 - 0
King Eider	11/21	Darryl Tessen	North Point - Milwaukee	Milwaukee		4 - 1
King Eider	11/21	Mike Wagner	North Point - Milwaukee	Milwaukee	Photo	5 - 0
King Eider	11/21	Thomas Wood	North Point - Milwaukee	Milwaukee		5 - 0
Little Blue Heron	10/21	Peder Svingen	Superior - Hill Ave & Stinson Ave	Douglas	Photo	5 - 0
Little Blue Heron	10/25	Svingen	Superior - Hill Ave & Stinson Ave	Douglas	Photo	5 - 0

Mississippi Kite	9/21	Graham Montgomery	Wyalusing State Park boat ramp	Grant		4 - 1
Pacific Loon	9/23	Stuart Malcolm	Gull Bluff - Wisconsin Point	Douglas		5 - 0
Pacific Loon	10/21	Nicholas Anich	Maslowski Beach	Ashland	Photo	5 - 0
Pacific Loon	11/02	Tom Prestby	Point au Sable	Brown		5 - 0
Painted Redstart	11/01	Rick Schultz	E17960 Badger Road	Marathon	Photo	5 - 0
Painted Redstart	11/01	Mary Backus	E17960 Badger Road	Marathon	Photo	5 - 0
Prairie Falcon	9/24	John Dixon	Myer's Park	Racine	Photo	5 - 0
Prairie Falcon	9/24	Rita Flores Wiskowski	Myer's Park	Racine	Photo	5 - 0
Purple Gallinule	10/13	Dan Belter	43rd St pond	Juneau	Photo	5 - 0
Purple Gallinule	10/13	William Grossmeyer	43rd St pond	Juneau	Photo	5 - 0
Purple Gallinule	10/13	Darryl Tessen	43rd St pond	Juneau		5 - 0
Purple Gallinule	10/14	Thomas Wood	43rd St pond	Juneau		5 - 0
Purple Gallinule	10/16	Luke Hahn	43rd St pond	Juneau	Photo	5 - 0
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	11/20	Cynthia Bridge	St Francis	Milwaukee	Late	5 - 0
Rufous Hummingbird	8/27	Darryl Tessen	3118 N Oneida - Appleton	Outagamie	Photo	5 - 0
Rufous Hummingbird	9/30	Thomas Wood	Danbar Dr - Green Bay	Brown		5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/07	Dan Belter	D.C. Everest County Park	Marathon	Video	5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/08	Myles Hurlbut	Lake Wausau - Near DC Everest Park	Marathon	Photo	5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/08	Thomas Wood	Lake Wausau seen from Ross Avenue and Lillie St.	Marathon		5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/17	Anne Geraghty	Lake Altoona	Eau Claire	Photo	5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/17-10/03	Janine Polk	Lake Altoona and Lake Wissota	Eau Claire & Chippewa	Photo	5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/18	Dan Jackson	Wisconsin Point	Douglas		5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/20	Peder Svingen	Wisconsin Point	Douglas		5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/18	Darryl Tessen	Wisconsin Point	Douglas		5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	9/23	Thomas Wood	Wisconsin Point	Douglas		5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	10/01	Aaron Stutz	Royce Dallman Park	Rock & Jefferson		5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	10/03	Dennis Gustafson	Royce Dallman Park	Rock		5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	10/16	Robin Maercklein	Bear Trap Lake	Polk	Photo	5 - 0
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	9/10	William Mueller	Forest Beach Migratory Preserve	Ozaukee		4 - 1
Swainson's Hawk	9/28	James Frank	Concordia University	Ozaukee		5 - 0
Western Kingbird	8/30	Ryan Brady	Church Corner Rd at Paulson Rd west of Washburn	Bayfield	Photo	5 - 0
Western tanager	8/27	Daniel Doeppers	Backyard near Pheasant Branch conservancy.	Dane		5 - 0
Yellow-Crowned Night Heron	8/01	Ryan Sallmann	Veterans Park Lagoon	Milwaukee	Photo	5 - 0
Yellow Crowned Night-heron	9/02	Cindy Lupin	Rural	Waupaca	Photo	5 - 0
Sabine's Gull	10/1	Tom Prestby	Lake Tomahawk	Oneida	Photo	5 - 0

Blue-throated Hummingbird—

Portage County, 25 August 2016 (0-5).

The report is of a naked eye observation of “a large dull greenish hummingbird sort of glide and turn, showing interest in two heavily flowering potted pink Mandevilla behind and to the left of me.” “The bird then hovered giving a very good view of a gray throat, long (large) straight bill, dull whitish line extending from behind eye to near nape, and a dull grayish belly, a broad all dark tail with hints of white in the tail corner (tail was folded at this time). The most impressive thing was the size of this hummer.” Then “after a brief pause it quickly made a diagonal climb to about sixty feet, leveled off, and It moved in the direction of the wind nearly directly North. It was at this time I noticed the orange/bronze rump patch and the tail opened briefly exposing more amount of white in tail corners.”

The committee believes the observer saw a rare hummingbird, but the description lacked a few details that would positively identify the bird as a Blue-throated Hummingbird. A description of the bill length and the amount of white on the tail would help. A naked eye view of the bird makes it very difficult to pick out the necessary details. Another possibility is the bird was an even more rare Amethyst-throated Hummingbird.

Ferruginous Hawk—

Winnebago County, 27 September 2016 (0-5).

The report was of a “bang on my window” “and the big bird was sitting on my porch”. Described as a “Tan white large bird”. A photo was provided.

The photo showed a picture of an immature Cooper’s Hawk.

Gray Jay—

Portage County, 19 November 2016 (0-5).

The report was of a bird “Initially heard distinct melodic whistling call that was not from the typical birds in the area at this time of year.” “Flight was rapid wingbeat follow by long swooping wingbeat, almost a glide. This was not the steady and rapid wingbeats that a Northern Shrike would make. Bird again made melodic whistling call while in flight”. “The call was also not as shrill as that of the Northern Shrike. Bird was grayish underbelly with darker gray plumage on top, similar to both the Gray Jay and Northern Shrike. However, I initially describe the size to my birding partner as being larger than a blue jay and smaller than a crow, which is considerably larger than a Northern Shrike.”

The report does not describe the actual bird in enough detail to make an identification. The identification is made mostly based upon the call. A call which the observer was not familiar with. The committee would like to have seen more discussion on how Blue Jay was eliminated as a possibility.

Great Gray Owl—

Vilas County, 03 October 2016 (0-5).

The report is of “Very beautiful animal. Flew up and perched on a limb of a tree”. “It remained there for around 3 minutes watching me. It let out a call and flew off.”

The report contains no description of the bird or its call.

Great Gray Owl—

Oconto County, 11 November 2016 (0-5).

The report is of a bird that “Landed in a tree right next to me”. “Grey, the large face. Quite large and big wingspan when it flew away. Big black eyes.”

The description of the eyes as black eliminates the possibility of this bird being a Grey Gray Owl and most other owls. Barred Owls have black eyes.

Magnificent Hummingbird—

Dane County, 24 August 2016 (0-5).

The report of a “Large female Hummingbird with long curved bill (curvature was not dramatic but easily noticeable). Dark streak from base of the bill to the eye (appeared black) and short white streak behind the eye. Throat showed light streaking and breast and belly were light gray in color. The back of the head was a lighter green with the back and tail a darker green. End of the tail was scalloped in white and was easily seen as it hovered. This Hummingbird appeared approximately 30 % larger than the Ruby Throated females coming to the feeder at about the same time.”

“Similar Species: Blue Throated Hummingbird: This species has a shorter bill and longer white streak behind the eye and more pronounced white on the tail and darker breast and belly.”

The committee again found this report to be interesting and potentially a rare hummingbird. The report lacks enough detail for a female hummingbird to clinch the identification to a species.

Purple Gallinule—

Wood County, 02 September 2016 (0-5).

The report of “A bird approached us and landed on a fallen tree. It kept following the same direction we were tak-

ing, hopping along the shoreline and fallen trees, pecking at the ground as it went along. The color was so brilliant and unique that we were determined to figure out what it was when we got home! It was a bright blue with teal-colored wings. It had an elongated bill and legs, while its body was the size of a crow but slimmer in shape, more like a large sandpiper.”

The committee feels the report lacks details in the description of the bird. Some of the details and behavior described match closely with a Green Heron.

Sabine’s Gull—

Douglas County, 21 September 2016 (3-2).

The report of “Juveniles far out towards MN. Distinctive back pattern of triangle of black on primaries, triangle of grayish brown on back and leading edge of upper wing, and triangle of white on inner primaries and secondaries. No black hood on heads - could not see details on tails.”

The report is lacking in details that would separate these birds from other similar species such as Black-legged Kittiwake or Little Gull.

Yellow-throated Vireo—

Milwaukee County, 18 October 2016 (0-5).

The report was very brief “Bright yellow throat and breast. Otherwise, white underneath. No streaking throughout. Yellow spectacles, olive head and mantle.”

No description of the size of the bird. Did not provide enough detail to eliminate similar species such as Pine Warbler. No discussion about the structure of the bird. What made this bird a Vireo?



An alert Oneida County Downy Woodpecker perched is caught in place by Beverly Engstrom in mid-October.

About the Artists

Jennifer Ambrose is an avid birder and the editor of Wisconsin Metro Audubon Society's newsletter *The Trumpeter*. She enjoys photographing birds, especially when they are caught in mating or territorial displays or taking baths. When she's not birding, she teaches composition and communication classes at Milwaukee area colleges.

Beverly Engstrom is a retired elementary school teacher who lives on the Wisconsin River in Oneida County on property that is protected through a conservation easement with Northwoods Land Trust. She enjoys many outdoor activities, especially nature photography.

Stephen Fisher is a serious amateur photographer, enjoying both landscape and wildlife photography. He is a retired high school English teacher who worked as an environmental/wildlife educator and Education Director for the Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI) for seven years following his retirement from teaching in Wausau. He now serves as a volunteer at REGI, rescuing and/or transporting sick and injured birds. He and his wife, Evelyn, have always enjoyed and respected the natural world, and he has a special appreciation for birds, particularly raptors. He also enjoys traveling, reading,

hiking, snowshoeing, observing wildlife, spending time at his cabin in northern Vilas County, walking his dogs in the wonderful Wisconsin outdoors, and lifelong learning.

David Franzen and his wife, June, have lived in Phelps, Wisconsin since 1969. He worked for 34 years in the woods of northern Wisconsin, retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 2001 and from a private forestry consulting business in 2004. After retirement he took up bird photography with most of his work being shot within 100 yards of his house. His primary interest is in photographing bird behavior. He does not use blinds, but quietly waits in a chair for a bird to strike an interesting pose within close range. During 34 years of forestry work, he captured with the mind, many images that far surpass what he has captured with the camera. The most beautiful nature scene he ever viewed was encountered while trout fishing a small stream surrounded by maple forest that had sparse understory prior to spring leaf emergence. On that misty morning, a huge timber wolf glided over a hill across the stream and came toward him to stream's edge. When a wolf moves slowly, it kind of glides effortlessly, and this big guy was more like a spirit than a real animal. A real magical moment. David does occasional slide programs for local groups.

Jeff Galligan is 48 years old and lives in Middleton, Wisconsin. He is a retention program advisor and the coordinator of a mentoring program for students of color at Madison College and recently completed his doctorate in educational leadership. He enjoys wildlife photography (especially birds), reading, cooking, traveling, kayaking, and hiking.

Michael J. Huebschen is the current Art Editor for *The Passenger Pigeon* and has been an amateur wildlife photographer for over 45 years. He is retired from UW-Oshkosh and lives in Oshkosh, Wisconsin with his wife, Cynthia. They enjoy travel, wildlife observations, hiking, canoeing and fishing.

David Lund is an amateur photographer who lives near Eau Claire. Following his retirement as a Mathematics Professor at UW-Eau Claire in 2000, he and his wife, Judy, now include birding and photography as part of all their travels. Although many of his pictures are taken in Wisconsin, wintering in the southern US has provided many additional opportunities birding photography experiences. He has recently begun making presentations on birds and birding.

Eric Preston is an amateur nature photographer who travels the Midwest, and beyond, to photograph the natural world. He especially likes looking for and photographing birds and butterflies in the native grasslands of southern Wisconsin. His photographs have appeared in numerous books and mag-

azines, including *Birder's World* and *Gulls of the Americas*. He has been interested in birds and nature for most of his life. He currently lives in Madison, Wisconsin with his wife, Kim, and son, Anders.

Adam Sinkula is an avid birder from Green Bay who grew up on a small family farm in Kewaunee. This allowed for time to explore the woods and river nearby where he fell in love with nature. He then attended UW-Stevens Point and got his degree in Wildlife and minor in Biology. He first picked up birding after college and quickly became addicted. He is currently the Kewaunee County Coordinator for the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II as well as co-chairman (with Nancy Nabak) of the Big Bay Birdathon. He also takes pride in finding local birds in Kewaunee and Brown Counties.

Victoria Sokolowski reports that her biggest love is photographing wildlife, especially birds and insects, which she finds fascinating and challenging. She tries to give the viewer insight into the personality of the animal she is photographing, and she loves interactions between animals. Her goal is to bring enjoyment and knowledge to those who don't have the privilege of living as close to wildlife as she does. She also owns a veterinary clinic so she works with clients and their pets all day. She considers herself very lucky to be able to live her dream vocation in such a wonderful area like Wisconsin.

Jim Stewart is the son of an upstate New York salt miner and an elementary school teacher. He arrived in Wisconsin 36 years ago and fell in love with the state's natural areas. For all of those many years he has felt, along with Jean Henri Fabre and Wisconsin's Aldo Leopold, that beauty and perception "grow at home as well as abroad." Now, with the luxury (and shortness) of time that comes with age he is able to play, camera in hand, in the natural areas that dot Dane and surrounding counties—jewels that provide sustenance to diverse wildlife. His interest is to use his photography as a means to better see by asking, over and over, two questions posed by Rachel Carson in her remarkable book *The Sense of Wonder* (1956/1998): "For most of us, knowledge of our world comes largely through sight, yet we look about with such unseeing eyes that we are partially blind. One way to open your eyes to the unnoticed beauty is to ask yourself. What if I had

never seen this before? What if I knew I would never see it again?"

Scott Weberpal is an avid photographer and birder currently residing near Whitewater. Scott has always had an affinity for photography as well as wildlife, and as an adult he merged the two into his favorite hobby—wildlife photography. While birds are the most common subject in Scott's viewfinder, he also has a special place for Red Fox, especially during the spring when kits are running around. In his free time during the warm season, you can find Scott either playing softball or spending time at one of the amazing natural areas that Wisconsin has to offer. During the winter, Scott enjoys taking trips to Sax-Zim Bog in search of his favorite boreal species. Scott's biggest draw to the outdoors—every visit brings something unique and different.



In early November, David Franzen found this White-breasted Nuthatch calling in Vilas County.

Guidelines for Authors and Artists

AUTHORS

The Passenger Pigeon, issued quarterly by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (WSO), publishes articles on Wisconsin birds, on ornithological topics of interest to WSO members, and on WSO activities and business. Anyone with a serious interest in Wisconsin birdlife—whether a professional ornithologist or an amateur birder—is encouraged to submit articles and observations to this journal. The Editors are happy to discuss ideas for articles with potential authors.

Readers are encouraged to submit articles to be considered for publication in *The Passenger Pigeon*. It should be noted that all research articles will be submitted for peer review. Articles not presenting research will go through the traditional editorial process. The editors will do as much as possible to see that work is published, including offering suggestions for improvement when pertinent.

General articles should be sent via email to PassengerPigeon@WSOBirds.org and research-based articles should be sent directly to the Peer Review Editor, Matt Hayes at research@wsobirds.org. If necessary, articles may be sent by surface mail to: *Passenger Pigeon*, 5018 Odana Rd, Madison, WI 53711.

Following are specific guidelines for submission:

- The article should have not been previously published in a different journal.
- The text must be in Word format (.doc or .docx), either Word for Windows or Word for Mac.
- The manuscript should be double-spaced throughout (including figure and table captions) and use 12-point Times New Roman or Calibri font style.
- The text must be on pages separate from figures and tables.
- On the title page, provide the article title, name, address, telephone number, and email address of all authors of the article.
- Include the acknowledgments, literature cited, and a brief biographical sketch of each author at the end of the manuscript.
- Research articles should generally follow standard scientific format, with separate sections for abstract, 5–7 key words, introduction, methods, results, discussion, conclusions, and bibliography. Deviations from this format (e.g., combined results and discussion section) will be considered on an individual manuscript basis. Key words should be different from key terms present in the title.
- Please use metric measures (for example: millimeters, kilograms, microliters).
- The spelling of common and scientific bird names should follow the most recent edition of the Checklist of North American Birds (see <http://checklist.aou.org>), published

by the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), or the most recent updates to the checklist. Please include Genus and species (italicized) following the first time that the common name of a species is introduced in text.

- When appropriate, lists of species in tables or text should follow the most current AOU taxonomic sequence.
- Use capital letters for the full common names of birds (e.g., American Robin, Red-headed Woodpecker). Avoid use of four letter abbreviations often used to shorten the species name. For example, do not use RBWO for Red-bellied Woodpecker.

Guidelines for submitting figures and tables:

- Each figure and each table must be on a separate page.
- Captions for all figures should be sent as a separate text file, not embedded with the figure.
- Figures and table should be submitted in a way suitable for black-and-white reproduction.
- Tables are encouraged to be submitted as Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. All tables for each manuscript may be included in the same Microsoft Excel Book with separate sheets comprising each table. Alternatively, tables can be created as 'typists' tables' in Microsoft Word. This involves creating a tabular version of your table in Microsoft Word without using the actual "Table" function in that program. Instead, use tabs to separate your columns and a carriage return to separate rows — do not add spaces to make columns line up.

Guidelines for citing literature in text:

Citations should be listed chronologically in parentheses:

- No comma between author(s) and date: (McGhee 1995)
- Use "and" between two authors: (Li and Aschenbrenner 2007)
- If more than two authors, use "et al.:" (Moreau et al. 2015)
- Personal communication or reference to unpublished data: Cite the person's initials and surname, institutional affiliation, followed by "pers. comm." or "unpub. data." Example: (E. Ramirez, University of Wisconsin-Madison, unpub. data).
- Works by the same author(s) in the same year are arranged alphabetically by article title and differentiated by letter (1998a, 1998b).

Guidelines for formatting references in bibliography section

References at end of document should be listed alphabetically by last name of first author, then in increasing chronological order. Follow the models below for citing books, book chapters, journal articles, etc.

Sample References:

- Reller, A.W. 1972. Aspects of behavioral ecology of Red-headed and Red-bellied woodpeckers. *American Midland Naturalist* 88(2): 270–290.
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- Gregg, L. 2006. Gray Jay. Pages 296–297 in N.J. Cutright, B.R. Harriman, and R.W. Howe (Eds.), Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Wisconsin. Waukesha: Wisconsin Society for Ornithology.
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- National Audubon Society. 2014. Christmas Bird Count Historical Results. www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/hr/index.html [accessed September 1, 2013].
- Strickland, D. and H. Ouellet. 2011. Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*). In A. Poole (Ed.), The Birds of North America Online. Ithaca, NY: Cornell Lab of Ornithology. <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/040> [accessed December 31, 2015].

ARTISTS

All photos must be submitted as jpeg digital images in e-mail attachments to Michael Huebschen, the Assistant Editor for Art, at mhuebschen4@gmail.com. They will be stored in secure digital files until recommended for a given quarterly issue of *The Passenger Pigeon*.

Although we would prefer to print all

images chosen for *The Passenger Pigeon* in color, many will be printed in black & white due to the prohibitive cost of printing everything in color. One image per issue will be selected as a color cover photo. Every effort will be made to use the best photos submitted by as many contributors as possible. Final selections will be made by the Editors.

Following are the criteria for submitted work:

1. Jpeg digital images of photos, drawings, paintings, sculptures, wood carvings, quilts or other artistic works featuring birds seen or photographed in Wisconsin should be sent as email attachments and should be in as large a size as possible, with resolution of at least 300 d.p.i. (1.2 megabytes for black-and-white and 1.5 megabytes for color). Lower resolution simply does not print well and pixel-dense images make the best candidates for printing since they often need to be cropped. All photos of birds submitted must have been taken in Wisconsin.
2. Please note: since the seasonal reports are for the year previous to the current issue, any photographs for a given issue should also be from the same period. For example, photographs for the Winter, 2015 issue should have been taken on or between December 1, 2014 and February 28, 2015; photographs for Spring, 2016 should have been taken on or between March 1, 2015 and May 31, 2015; and so on.
3. All images submitted must be material not previously published in *The Passenger Pigeon*.
4. All images must include the bird

species name and name of the artist. Date and location are also necessary in the case of photographs. Images of works other than photographs should have a title if one has been selected.

5. The most useful images are those in “portrait” format, rather than “landscape” format. A cropped photo 4” horizontal by 5” vertical is ideal for consideration for a cover photo. The “fill page” images are also best done in portrait format and might run as large as 4.75” x 7”. The editors may do some additional cropping of images for publication.

6. Since no images will be returned, the submission must be high-resolution copy of the original. In most cases contributors will have cropped the images for the best effect. Cropping the images too tightly should be avoided since the editors may choose to do more cropping. All unused or unusable digital im-

ages will be destroyed after a certain time period.

7. It is the policy of Wisconsin Society for Ornithology not to offer monetary compensation to contributing artists for use of their images in *The Passenger Pigeon*. The Society is grateful for those who have contributed limited use of their images for publication in *The Passenger Pigeon* in the past and to those who will do so in the future.

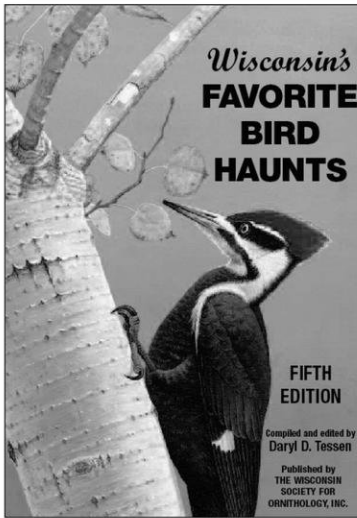
8. When images have been selected and approved for each quarterly issue, a short biography from each contributing artist will be requested. It is tradition to publish those in the “About the Artists” pages of each issue. As a result, the Editors request that contributors include a short biographical statement along with their artwork.



Juvenile White-crowned Sparrows seem to be acting as sentries in this mid-October image taken by Jennifer Ambrose in Milwaukee County.



Michael Huebschen captured the feeling of mid-November in this portrait of Canada Geese at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County.



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- Contributions from birders throughout the state.

104 ARLINGTON PRAIRIE AREA
Columbia and Dane Counties

The Arlington Prairie area north of Madison offers a variety of birding opportunities throughout the year. Finding any size of area, it is one of the best areas in the state for birders seeking country and bird life. Birds such as American Osprey, Ring-billed Gull, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, and Snow Bunting are all common year-round in this area. In the spring, the area is a nesting ground for the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Black-throated Green, the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, and the Red-shouldered Hawk. In the summer, the area is a nesting ground for the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, and the Red-shouldered Hawk. In the fall, the area is a nesting ground for the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, and the Red-shouldered Hawk. In the winter, the area is a nesting ground for the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, and the Red-shouldered Hawk.

AREA A - Clover Field

Clover Field should be the focus for finding the area in spring and fall. Once the field begins to retreat in the March, the entire area is an excellent nesting site for the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, and the Red-shouldered Hawk. In the summer, the area is a nesting ground for the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, and the Red-shouldered Hawk. In the fall, the area is a nesting ground for the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, and the Red-shouldered Hawk. In the winter, the area is a nesting ground for the Red-shouldered Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk, and the Red-shouldered Hawk.

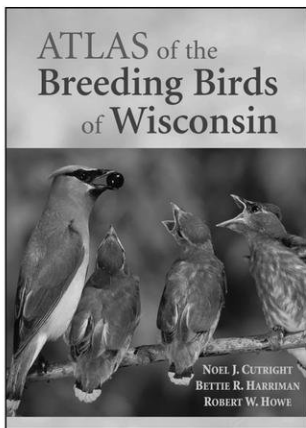
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Visit the WSO website, www.wsobirds.org, for an order form that includes price and ordering information, or contact the Bookstore Manager (see contact information on Inside Back Cover).



Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Wisconsin

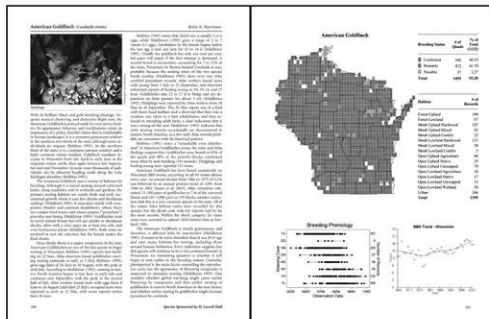
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- Based on studies done by more than 1,600 field observers between 1995 and 2000.
- Edited by Noel J. Cutright, Bettie R. Harriman, and Robert W. Howe.

The largest natural history survey ever conducted in Wisconsin has resulted in this comprehensive guide to birds that breed in the state.

Hardcover, large format (9" x 11.25"), 624 pages. Copyright 2006. ISBN: 978-0-9774986-0-4.

Published by The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc., with proceeds used for projects supported by the organization.

The two-page species accounts – 214 of them in all – provide a host of information on the state's breeding species, including their range, habitat preference, breeding biology, conservation concerns, and population trends. An additional 23 less-common species also are covered. Also included are chapters on Atlas methodology, results, history, habitats, and conservation.



Visit the WSO website, www.wsobirds.org, for an order form that includes price and ordering information, or contact the Bookstore Manager (see contact information on Inside Back Cover).

Federal Duck Stamps = Big Win for Conservation

Canada Geese – image from the 2017-2018 federal Duck Stamp



Officially the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, the federal Duck Stamp provides revenue to help acquire and protect wetlands within the National Wildlife Refuge System. Sales have raised more than \$800 million since the program began in 1934, and they have helped acquire and protect more than six million acres of irreplaceable bird-friendly habitat.

Wisconsin refuges funded in part by sales of Duck Stamps include:

- Horicon National Wildlife Refuge
- Necedah National Wildlife Refuge
- Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge
- Wisconsin Waterfowl Production Areas

For a form that includes price and ordering information, visit the Conservation section of the WSO website, www.wsobirds.org.

THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY

The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology is an educational and scientific non-profit organization founded in 1939 “to encourage the study of Wisconsin birds.” The Society achieves this goal through programs in research, education, conservation and publication.

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