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Spring 1979

Volume 41, No. 1



# *The Passenger Pigeon*

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# The 1978 Wisconsin Christmas Bird Counts

By William L. Hilsenhoff

The 1978 Christmas Bird Counts are history. Early reports from several areas indicated it was a bad year. "Where are all the birds?" was an often repeated question. Many of the counts encountered adverse weather - snow, cold, wind and even blizzards. The Sauk City count had to be postponed twice because of blizzards and was not made until January 6. Pre-count conditions were also not good, with very cold weather having frozen almost all the lakes and many of the streams. When the counts were compiled, however, a different story unfolded (Tables 1 and 2). Many species were found in record numbers. Some counts, notably Milwaukee and Plymouth, had their best counts ever.

There were 75 counts this year (Figure 1) compared to 72 last year. New counts were added at Cedar Grove, Greenwood, Medford and Reedsburg, with counts being resurrected after a year's absence at Antigo, Poynette, Richland Center and Summit Lake. Counts at Augusta, Fond du Lac, Monroe, Racine and Sturgeon Bay were not repeated this year. A dozen counts recorded 50 or more species, led by Milwaukee's total of 75. Madison recorded 67 species, Appleton 66, Newburg 65 and Plymouth 64. Other counts reporting 50 or more species were Waukesha (59), Oconomowoc and Kenosha (58), Lake Geneva (57), Beloit and Hales Corners (56) and LaCrosse (50). Details of the counts are reported in Tables 3 and 4.

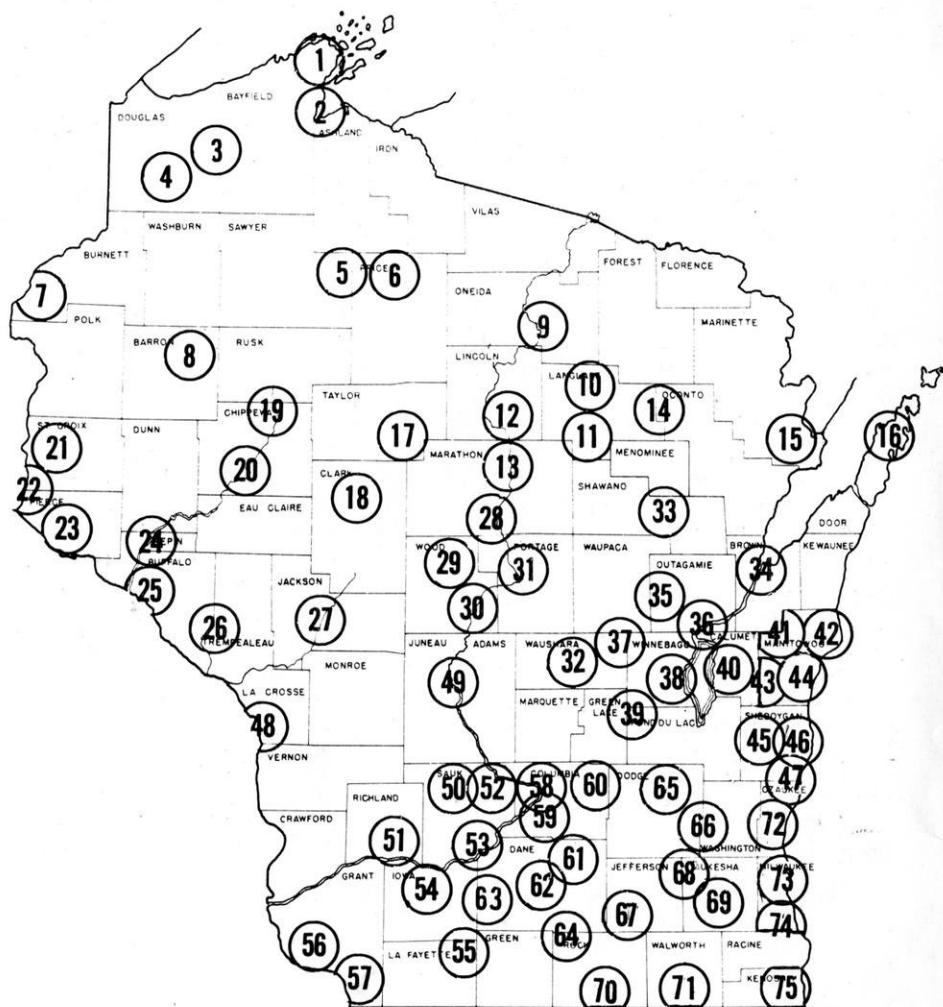
Again there were problems with overlaps. The most serious problem is in Sheboygan County where the Plymouth and the Sheboygan counts again overlapped, and a new count at Cedar Grove also overlapped the Sheboygan count. A new count at Reedsburg overlapped the Baraboo count, the Portage count overlapped the Poynette count, and the center of the Sun Prairie count was moved so that it overlapped the Madison count. The Reedsburg, Portage and Sun Prairie counts were all single party counts, so there was probably no duplication. There has always been a tendency for some counts to shift their center slightly in some years, and this has been the most frequent cause of overlaps.

The 127 species seen statewide (Tables 1 and 2) is only slightly below the average for the last 10 years. There were several rarities - Turkeys, an Oven-bird, a Barrow's Goldeneye, a Great Gray Owl, a Broad-winged Hawk, and two American Bitterns. A summary of the counts follows.

**Loons - Herons** -- Two loons were seen at Milwaukee, but they were too far away for species identification. Pied-billed Grebes were seen on 4 counts, and were the only grebes seen. The sighting of Great Blue Herons on 6 counts is the largest total since 1961, and is especially remarkable in a year when most water was frozen early. The two American Bitterns at Horicon is only the fifth Christmas Count record.

**Waterfowl** -- A Mute Swan at Lake Geneva and two at Woodland Dunes SE represent only the sixth year this species has been seen on Christmas Counts in Wisconsin, all since 1970. Increased breeding of this species near Ashland and perhaps elsewhere suggests it will become more widespread and





**Figure 1.** Locations of 1978 Wisconsin Christmas Bird Counts. Circles enclose areas in which counts were made.

numerous on future Christmas Counts. In general, numbers of most waterfowl were about normal. The Gadwall was seen on 9 counts, the most ever, suggesting that the normally large wintering flock at Madison may be becoming more widespread. Green-winged Teal were seen on 8 counts, four more than in any previous year. The only duck that was significantly down in numbers was the Greater Scaup, which was reported in the lowest numbers in many, many years. A well-documented sighting of a Barrow's Goldeneye at Kenosha is only the second Christmas Count record.

**Hawks** -- It was an excellent year for most hawks, with Sharp-shinned, Red-tailed, and Red-shouldered all reported in record numbers. This is especially encouraging for the latter species, which has seen depressed numbers in recent years. Harrier numbers were slightly below normal. Rough-legged Hawks, while not occurring in anything like the numbers seen in 1974, seemed to be distributed farther north than usual. The Broad-winged Hawk at Newburg (see "By the Wayside") is only the fifth Christmas count record for this species. A Merlin at Wautoma and a Golden Eagle at Durand also deserve special mention.

**Grouse - Snipe** -- The first Christmas Count record for the wild Turkey was recorded at Green Bay where nine were observed, but there were no details as to the origin or location of this flock. Because of the heavy snow cover, it was an excellent year for observing grouse, partridges and pheasants. Ruffed Grouse were seen in record numbers and numbers of Gray Partridges were almost double the previous high. A Virginia Rail at Newburg is the ninth record, and in spite of frozen conditions, several Killdeer and Common Snipe were also seen.

**Gulls - Doves** -- Frozen lakes drive gulls to the open waters of the Great Lakes and numbers of Herring, Ring-billed and Bonaparte's were about normal for a year when most lakes are frozen. The 6 Glaucous Gulls is a new high for the species, and the 4 at Madison represent a very unusual inland report. Numbers of Mourning Doves on Christmas Counts remain high, perhaps in response to increased numbers of bird feeders.

**Owls** -- The Great Gray Owl at Brule was one of the 1978 Christmas Count highlights; it is only the third record for this species. Other species of owls occurred in about normal numbers, except for the Great Horned Owl. From 1965 to 1973 an average of about 50 were recorded each year, but since 1973 a new record total has been reported each year, with 226 recorded this year. This may represent increased listening for owls in pre-dawn hours rather than an increase in numbers of Great Horned Owls. Screech Owl and Barred Owl numbers have also increased over the last five years on Christmas Counts, but at a much lower rate.

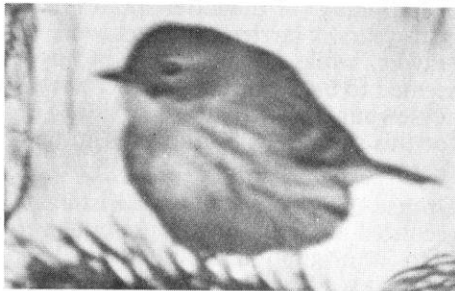
**Kingfishers - Woodpeckers** -- Numbers of Belted Kingfishers remained high, in spite of mostly frozen waters. Woodpeckers were also numerous, with the Downy and Pileated being found in record high numbers. The latter was most abundant in the north and southwest, and entirely absent from the southeast. Red-headed Woodpeckers were scarce, totals being the lowest since 1970. This probably reflects a complete absence of acorns, one of their chief winter foods.

**Jays - Creepers** -- Numbers of Blue Jays and Black-capped Chickadees were down somewhat, especially the former. Ravens were confined to the far north, except for one sighted in Manitowoc County at Woodland Dunes

SW. Numbers of the Tufted Titmouse remained well below their 1966 peak, but their range extended north to Wausau, Chippewa Falls and New Richmond, well north of their population center in southwestern Wisconsin. Red-breasted Nuthatches were again seen in normal numbers after last year's tremendous invasion.

**Wrens - Shrikes** -- Only one Winter Wren was seen, at Plymouth. A Varied Thrush at Ephraim was the most unusual observation among this group of species. It was the best Christmas Count for American Robins and Eastern Bluebirds since 1969, and Cedar Waxwings appeared in record numbers. Northern Shrike numbers surpassed the high of two years ago and were well distributed throughout the state.

**Warblers - Blackbirds** -- An Ovenbird at Waukesha is only the second state Christmas Count sighting. Yellow-rumped Warblers were seen at four locations. Meadowlark and blackbird numbers were down somewhat from totals of the past few years, and Brown-headed Cowbirds were especially scarce with the lowest total in several years.



Yellow-rumped Warbler photographed Dec. 16, 1978 at Baileys Harbor, WI by Roy Lukes.

**Finches** -- In stark contrast with last year, it was a very poor year for most northern finches. Red, and White-winged Crossbills were each seen on only three counts. Common Redpolls were anything but common, with the lowest totals since 1970, and Pine Grosbeaks were mostly confined to the far north in very low numbers. Evening Grosbeaks were also mostly in the north, but in about normal concentrations. However, all finches were not scarce. Pine Siskins were relatively abundant, and American Goldfinch numbers were close to the 1976 high. Purple Finches were a bright spot in many areas, and record numbers were seen.

**Sparrows** -- Highlights were a Vesper Sparrow at Sauk City, 2 White-crowned Sparrows at Kenosha and a Harris' Sparrow at Plymouth. Rufous-sided Towhees on eight counts represents a new high. Tree Sparrows were unusually scarce, with the lowest total since 1970 being seen. This total was only about one-third the record number seen in 1975.

Four additional species were seen within 3 days of a count, but not on the day of the count. These included a Sandhill Crane at Green Bay, a Black-legged Kittiwake at Madison, a Bohemian Waxwing at Kenosha and a Savannah Sparrow at Hales Corners. A Savannah Sparrow was also reported on the Lake Geneva Count, but documentation could not be obtained so it was not counted. Observations of a Cliff Swallow at Mount Horeb and 9 Ruby-crowned Kinglets at Plymouth were also not counted because they lacked documentation. Unfortunately three other very unusual observations at Plymouth could not be included because the documentation was judged inadequate. These were an American Woodcock, a Yellowthroat, and a Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

Next year the Christmas Count period will be December 15 through January 1. Let's hope the weather cooperates and we can have a banner year.

Table 1. Species seen on 13 or more counts.

Species	Bayfield	Ashland	Bruce	Solon Springs	Oxbo	Fifield	Grantsburg	Rice Lake	Rhinelander	Summit Lake	Antiro	Merrill	Mausau	Lakewood	Peshigo	Ephraim
Canada Goose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mallard	5	51	0	2	..	..	..	281	..	..	..	417	320	..	..	154
Am. black Duck	1	46	2	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	25	..	..	25
Com. Goldeneye	28	4	8	29	..	..	3	3	3	..	..	7	5	..	..	178
Com. Merganser	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Red-tailed Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Red-shouldered Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
rough-legged Hawk	..	5	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	1	0	..	5	5
Bald Eagle	*	*	2	1	..	..	2	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
N. Harrier	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Am. Kestrel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Ruffed Grouse	3	5	6	4	8	1	7	1	6	2	4	..	2	..	4	9
King-necked Pheasant	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..
Gray Partridge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Herring Gull	279	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	318	980
Rock Dove	11	127	..	..	..	12	141	239	27	..	8	5	134	..	33	56
Mourning Dove	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	..	..	..	7	95	47	..	42	51
Com. Screech Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Horned Owl	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Barred Owl	1	..	3	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Belted Kingfisher	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Com. Flicker	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fileated Woodpecker	1	2	2	2	2	5	2	3	7	..	2	..	..	..	..	6
Red-bel. Woodpecker	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Red-headed Woodpecker	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hairy Woodpecker	2	5	4	3	12	19	15	15	22	4	7	2	3	2	7	40
Downy Woodpecker	4	0	2	0	12	20	15	19	25	3	10	..	9	1	8	37
Horned Lark	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blue Jay	22	78	31	13	15	30	185	64	34	2	46	17	23	2	17	136
N. Raven	36	36	209	68	34	78	10	12	33	68	3	2	1	9	..	3
Am. Crow	3	50	4	3	10	11	307	186	19	0	133	4	389	40	44	298
black-cap. Chickadee	43	78	41	84	145	221	103	142	285	109	171	14	144	14	47	305
Tufted Titmouse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
White-br. Nuthatch	10	4	9	6	6	16	35	40	35	6	21	2	32	1	14	47
Red-br. Nuthatch	6	2	2	2	..	6	1	1	21	2	8	2	1	..	1	33
Brown Creeper	3	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	11	..	..	..	8	..	..	1
Am. Robin	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	*	..	..	1
Golden-cr. Kinglet	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Cedar Waxwing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	..	..	..	14	33	61	..
N. Shrike	..	5	..	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	5	..	..	1	3	..
European Starling	33	178	..	..	..	28	161	73	13	75	97	38	397	..	186	500
House Sparrow	24	70	9	4	..	90	663	322	1	7	597	14	216	..	241	52
meadowlark spp.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Red-winged Blackbird	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rusty Blackbird	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Common Grackle	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brown-headed Cowbird	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
N. Cardinal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	2	..	7	..	4	44
Evening Grosbeak	98	59	112	62	139	222	313	142	250	149	105	29	86	30	16	459
Purple Finch	..	..	1	..	..	3	..	3	11	8	4	..	49	..	31	17
Com. Redpoll	..	14	..	..	32	..	..	1	53	12	..	..	7	..	..	..
Pine Siskin	..	17	6	12	..	1	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	173
Am. Goldfinch	..	..	7	..	..	139	133	7	..	7	7	39	17	50	299	..
Pine Grosbeak	..	..	0	0	5	4	..	6	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
N. Junco	..	*	..	..	1	2	13	14	3	..	5	..	18	..	19	48
Tree Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	3	..	3	10
White-thr. Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Song Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Snow Bunting	..	128	10	14	15	10	436	189	40	31	60	..	25	..	..	422
TOTAL SPECIES	24	30	27	25	16	25	34	44	29	20	30	17	35	11	27	39
Northwest Wisconsin								Northeast Wisconsin								



Table 1. (continued)

Species	Medford 17	Greenwood 18	Holcombe 19	Chippewa Falls 20	New Richmond 21	Hudson 22	Ellsworth 23	Durand 24	Neison 25	Arcadia 26	Black River Falls 27	Dancy 28	Arpin 29	Wisconsin Rapids 30	Stevens Point 31	Wautoma 32
Canada Goose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	18	..
Mallard	..	..	..	29	53	139	5	5	..	27	..	..	12	25	537	288
Black Duck	..	..	..	..	..	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	10	..
Com. Goldeneye	..	..	..	13	36	6	47	..	..	..	..	2	..	58	43	..
Com. Merganser	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sharp-shinned Hawk	..	..	*	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	*	..	1
Red-tailed Hawk	1	1	2	1	9	2	20	8	..	12	2	2	19	2	8	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Rough-legged Hawk	7	3	2	..	3	2	7	2	..	..	..	7	37	1	7	5
Bald Eagle	..	..	1	1	..	..	24	1	8	2	..	..	..	..	2	*
N. Harrier	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Am. Kestrel	..	..	..	..	10	2	1	..	..	2	1	..	3	..	1	..
Ruffed Grouse	4	1	*	7	11	1	9	5	2	16	9	..	7	4	30	5
Ring-necked Pheasant	..	..	3	..	35	1	11	..	..	1	6	..	1	..	..	1
Gray Partridge	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..
Herring Gull	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rock Dove	75	62	4	246	679	229	156	134	133	191	28	..	45	74	404	56
Mourning Dove	3	2	..	0	101	22	14	3	..	22	24	..	7	19	14	79
Com. Screech Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Horned Owl	2	1	..	1	0	2	15	..	..	3	2	..	2	1	2	2
Barn Owl	1	2	1	..	1	1	4	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	2	..
Belted Kingfisher	..	..	1	..	6	3	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..
Common Flicker	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pileated Woodpecker	1	1	2	2	..	2	10	2	1	1	4	1	2	*	10	1
Red-bell. Woodpecker	2	3	4	4	7	8	38	10	8	2	9	..	..	..	2	21
Red-headed Woodpecker	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	1
Hairy Woodpecker	12	7	17	10	15	10	16	4	..	9	6	2	2	4	19	27
Downy Woodpecker	11	4	23	12	31	11	74	13	13	22	17	4	5	9	35	46
Horned Lark	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..
Blue Jay	45	14	82	198	100	50	98	106	31	164	140	58	15	59	261	360
N. Raven	0	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Am. Crow	473	21	423	597	551	531	175	285	66	184	94	280	33	48	821	196
Black-cap. Chickadee	116	51	155	77	81	86	209	25	29	25	61	30	12	113	243	161
Tufted Titmouse	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
White-br. Nuthatch	9	10	20	21	18	30	71	13	7	17	28	1	7	13	73	76
Red-br. Nuthatch	2	..	2	..	3	3	4	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	..
Brown Creeper	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	17	1
Am. Robin	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..
Golden-cr. Kinglet	..	2	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	15	..
Cedar Waxwing	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
Northern Shrike	4	..	2	1	5	1	3	3	..	6	2	4	5	2	13	3
European Starling	104	5	12	280	435	546	31	421	46	453	19	188	25	15	474	119
House Sparrow	358	310	335	624	1159	840	553	912	347	308	199	85	75	193	680	303
meadowlark spp.	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Red-winged Blackbird	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rusty Blackbird	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Com. Grackle	6	..	8	..	3	..	6	..	..	3	..	3	..	..	..	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
N. Cardinal	2	1	1	11	9	18	84	8	28	86	22	3	4	8	16	64
Evening Grosbeak	202	44	280	64	..	4	15	1	..	139	..	1	84	115	282	..
Purple Finch	2	4	15	..	..	43	16	2	2	..	48	9	..	15	16	87
Com. Redpoll	*	20	1	..	..	2	5	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	15	24
Fine Siskin	..	..	..	..	1	3	16	..	..	..	31	..	..	..	21	..
Am. Goldfinch	17	21	84	306	57	72	134	136	6	10	96	243	1	118	429	233
Fine Grosbeak	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
N. Junco	1	..	3	12	110	133	174	165	15	84	173	6	3	55	220	624
Tree Sparrow	2	..	1	..	62	31	103	13	3	61	13	59	10	9	39	1
White-thr. Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Song Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Snow Bunting	31	..	105	1	123	4	31	..	..	..	23	..	100	*	66	4
TOTAL SPECIES	30	23	30	25	42	45	46	28	18	34	33	21	34	27	47	34

West-central Wisconsin

Central Wisconsin

Table 1. (continued)

Species	Shawano	Green Bay	Shiocton	Appleton	Fremont	Oshkosh	Rush Lake	Stoughton	Woodland Dunes NW	Woodland Dunes NE	Woodland Dunes SW	Woodland Dunes SE	Plymouth	Shelby, Wis.	Cedar Grove
Canada Goose	..	737	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	..	..	..
Mallard	..	2381	..	2672	82	203	..	..	11	4	132	27	125	..	2
Am. Black Duck	..	525	..	265	1	5	..	..	..	19	..	9	12	..	1
Com. Goldeneye	7	2	..	321	..	9	..	..	..	28	3	52	..	23	570
Com. Merganser	1	50	..	98	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	50	..	9	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Red-tailed Hawk	2	5	9	34	2	7	1	6	5	2	2	13	22	14	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
rough-legged Hawk	3	6	..	5	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	*	1	2	..
Bald Eagle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..
N. Harrier	1	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Am. Kestrel	4	3	..	19	3	8	..	7	3	1	3	5	7	7	3
Ruffed Grouse	3	..	7	6	1	..	..	..	1	5	12	5	3	1	..
Ring-necked Pheasant	..	100	2	270	..	77	1	9	..	14	1	17	8	20	4
Gray Partridge	2	22	..	16	..	4	..	65	7	34	28	59	17	79	..
Herring Gull	..	9	..	43	..	..	..	2	..	20	..	352	12	42	27
Rock Dove	101	439	71	1425	142	481	171	362	49	127	212	79	529	518	78
Mourning Dove	51	375	21	811	18	163	..	15	46	149	12	30	152	349	59
Com. Screech Owl	..	..	..	2	..	*	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Horned Owl	..	4	1	6	4	..	..	2	..	..	2	11	6	1	..
Barred Owl	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	3	1	1	..	..
Belted Kingfisher	..	1	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..
Common Flicker	1	..	1	4	5	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	5	4	1
Pileated Woodpecker	6	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..
Red-bell. Woodpecker	2	1	1	4	3	1	..	2	1	1	4	5	8	1	..
Red-headed Woodpecker	3	..	2	1	3	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..
Hairy Woodpecker	22	15	12	21	15	4	..	24	8	12	18	11	19	13	2
Downy Woodpecker	34	26	22	50	27	19	1	37	7	37	41	43	49	30	3
Horned Lark	..	..	12	26	24	2	..	18	..	24	2	10	13	13	7
Blue Jay	179	32	38	130	73	56	5	55	14	72	74	48	99	26	4
N. Raven	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Am. Crow	90	57	74	3024	134	47	42	47	135	158	74	131	303	543	22
Black-cap. Chickadee	191	18	83	78	47	18	..	25	15	62	108	97	120	53	21
Tufted Titmouse	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
White-br. Nuthatch	60	17	30	59	21	19	..	35	2	36	47	35	33	20	1
Red-br. Nuthatch	18	..	1	2	1	3	..	..	2	4	..	..	..	4	2
Brown Creeper	7	..	6	12	1	1	..	6	..	3	5	2	6	..	..
Am. Robin	..	1	..	4	20	..	..	1	1	6	2	..	4	..	..
Golden-cr. Kinglet	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	8	14	..	..
Cedar Waxwing	..	2	..	90	56	1	..	..	..	..	..	13	46	78	..
Northern Shrike	5	3	4	11	2	2	..	1	3	4	2	7	11	1	3
European Starling	294	1553	800	2367	173	777	227	403	69	112	285	360	367	1000	475
House Sparrow	195	2147	325	1541	412	963	51	1024	43	270	640	188	645	1621	173
Meadowlark spp.	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	3	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Red-winged Blackbird	..	22	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rusty Blackbird	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Common Grackle	1	1	1	34	5	2	6	5	..	*	3	..	1	6	..
Brown-headed Cowbird	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	*	1	..	3	..
N. Cardinal	12	27	6	52	8	9	..	15	9	65	38	34	33	42	1
Evening Grosbeak	854	2	10	3	43	..	..	8	..	94	3	6	11	16	..
Purple Finch	62	17	15	74	36	3	..	9	6	20	55	60	64	..	4
Com. Redpoll	1	4	..	1	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Pine Siskin	48	38	..	134	..	..	33	..	213	103	2	5	31	..	6
Am. Goldfinch	336	212	98	219	98	74	15	104	4	107	145	89	138	323	3
Pine Grosbeak	6	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	*	30	5	..
N. Junco	141	105	67	383	74	143	..	69	30	185	167	191	323	245	24
Tree Sparrow	76	40	28	62	17	45	10	30	25	64	11	41	65	78	6
White-thr. Sparrow	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..
Song Sparrow	..	2	..	3	..	*	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	1	..
Snow Bunting	175	..	62	443	..	277	42	21	200	16	47	..	172	132	235
TOTAL SPECIES	39	45	31	66	40	39	16	34	30	46	44	42	64	44	38

East-central Wisconsin

Table 1. (continued)

Species	LaCrosse	Petenwell	Reedsburg	Richland Center	Ratoboo	Sauk City	Glyde	Blanchardville	Beetown	Cornelia	Portage	Poynette	Randolph	Sun Prairie	Madison	Mount Horeb
Canada Goose	15	..	..	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Mallard	501	11	7	28	..	49	..	..	5	..	75	73	8	3	2230	43
Am. Black Duck	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	1	38	..
Com. Goldeneye	..	10	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	339	..
Com. Merganser	..	1	..	..	..	34	..	..	1	..	101	30	..	..	1175	..
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	4	..
Red-tailed Hawk	11	3	2	19	7	16	2	40	27	30	2	6	5	..	51	22
Red-shouldered Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	6	3
Rough-legged Hawk	1	..	1	8	3	3	3	9	9	4	..	..	1	..	..	..
Bald Eagle	2	15	..	3	3	8	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
N. Harrier	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..
Am. Kestrel	4	..	3	36	2	2	..	7	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Ruffed Grouse	9	5	..	11	1	6	27	13	2	3	..	5	..	..	2	4
Ring-necked Pheasant	..	..	..	3	..	12	..	22	1	..	..	20	5	..	67	13
Gray Partridge	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	7	49	27	..	22	13	17	..	36
Herring Gull	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	567	..
Rock Dove	259	32	235	783	10	517	17	145	303	387	31	131	342	240	982	116
Mourning Dove	8	4	31	16	8	34	3	40	25	60	3	45	32	25	555	45
Com. Screech Owl	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	*	1	..	19	2
Great Horned Owl	3	..	..	1	..	2	..	39	4	..	..	3	1	..	26	2
Barred Owl	7	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	1
Belted Kingfisher	3	..	..	3	..	2	2	2	3	3	..	..	..	..	2	..
Com. Flicker	2	..	..	3	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
Pileated Woodpecker	3	..	..	3	1	3	1	..	2	..	..	3	..	..	..	4
Red-bell. Woodpecker	29	1	..	26	3	23	4	21	32	3	2	16	1	..	23	20
Red-headed Woodpecker	23	1	..	2	..	..	1	21	3	7	1	5	4	..	..	8
Hairy Woodpecker	23	1	..	18	2	22	2	10	11	3	1	14	2	..	49	25
Downy Woodpecker	29	5	1	32	9	55	9	26	39	35	4	26	9	..	151	52
Horned Lark	..	..	..	..	..	54	..	38	21	16	..	7	..	5	14	74
Blue Jay	160	24	6	173	29	108	6	70	83	65	12	75	31	4	216	113
N. Raven	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Am. Crow	165	31	36	280	69	344	18	410	122	110	11	44	33	..	877	120
Black-cap. Chickadee	63	9	..	88	5	141	33	73	55	104	6	89	6	..	308	160
Tufted Titmouse	1	1	..	3	..	4	..	4	8	10	..	12	..	..	8	11
White-br. Nuthatch	60	2	..	38	4	42	14	48	28	16	2	25	6	..	125	58
Red-br. Nuthatch	7	..	..	3	2	10	..	1	..	5	..	1	2	..	35	..
Brown Creeper	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	3	..	..	23	1
Am. Robin	10	..	1	..	..	5	..	..	..	2	..	*	1	..	44	..
Golden-cr. Kinglet	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	10	..
N. Shrike	1	..	..	1	3	1	..	1	..	2	..	*	..	..	6	..
European Starling	904	23	230	692	50	248	2	370	493	429	99	165	615	630	3219	199
House Sparrow	1199	70	235	2730	40	971	6	1355	1318	1292	65	597	660	580	2406	1087
meadowlark spp.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	..	..	..	1	..	2
Red-winged Blackbird	1780	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	4	..	1	..	..	137	..
Rusty Blackbird	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1
Com. Grackle	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	11	..	2	1	..	22	..
Brown-headed Cowbird	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	1
N. Cardinal	22	2	..	213	5	127	28	40	99	75	..	15	2	..	220	144
Evening Grosbeak	3	10	..	..	20	21	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	2
Purple Finch	26	..	..	19	10	190	..	8	5	19	..	93	..	..	53	77
Com. Happoll	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Pine Siskin	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	32	..	*	..	..	251	..
Am. Goldfinch	150	240	..	73	9	161	1	36	29	32	13	185	2	..	423	208
Pine Grosbeak	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
N. Junco	156	23	30	256	70	918	83	300	384	415	25	372	27	32	1106	266
Tree Sparrow	147	6	20	139	5	214	2	185	404	226	..	70	15	..	914	60
White-thr. Sparrow	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	19	1
Song Sparrow	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	15	5	4	..	2	..	..	41	2
Snow Bunting	30	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	206	..	..	103	..	..	*	25
TOTAL SPECIES	50	24	16	35	29	43	22	42	40	49	20	45	27	14	67	48

Southwest Wisconsin

South-central Wisconsin

Table 1. (continued)

Species	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL COUNTS	TOTAL INDIVIDUALS
Cooksville	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
Canada Goose	..	148	..	2	12	..	8	2	2	46	11	*	17	1081										
Mallard	42	5	..	132	242	81	606	277	41	5253	39	128	51	17824										
Am. Black Duck	1	1	..	2	85	23	7	17	2	103	..	3	33	1274										
Com. Goldeneye	8	..	..	..	8	4	44	460	217	418	276	834	40	4125										
Com. Merganser	..	..	..	..	126	5	..	86	47	54	..	50	22	1945										
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	..	..	*	1	*	2	1	3	2	..	19	30											
Red-tailed Hawk	2	1	6	2	34	14	23	4	11	10	22	14	61	611										
Red-shouldered Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	16	18										
Rough-legged Hawk	2	..	..	*	2	1	3	2	5	1	1	8	53	216										
Bald Eagle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	21	95											
N. Harrier	..	1	..	..	..	2	2	..	1	..	..	1	16	22										
Am. Kestrel	2	..	4	1	10	4	6	..	15	9	6	13	44	255										
Ruffed Grouse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	51	317										
King-necked Pheasant	9	5	4	7	9	15	47	5	65	18	72	8	41	1002										
Gray Partridge	31	19	122	..	26	13	6	11	30	42	..	..	30	826										
Herring Gull	..	..	..	..	22	6	2	3	231	1450	74	316	23	4784										
Rock Dove	110	78	162	..	4	770	589	80	763	737	179	610	68	16705										
Mourning Dove	61	17	32	140	200	182	146	22	631	553	69	271	61	6030										
Com. Screech Owl	1	..	..	..	..	8	*	..	..	..	11	1	14	53										
Great Horned Owl	2	2	..	3	2	13	3	5	27	2	3	4	47	226										
Barred Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	30	53										
Belted Kingfisher	1	..	..	..	4	8	1	3	1	1	1	*	30	62										
Com. Flicker	*	..	4	..	7	11	1	5	19	2	2	2	28	94										
Pileated Woodpecker	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	107											
Red-bell. Woodpecker	4	..	8	1	3	11	13	2	23	1	1	1	55	434										
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	..	..	1	3	2	..	..	..	1	1	2	30	85										
Hairy Woodpecker	6	1	16	4	12	28	7	6	64	9	16	3	71	883										
Downy Woodpecker	18	16	31	14	35	73	29	16	271	41	18	17	73	1999										
Horned Lark	63	..	18	..	38	7	16	101	24	1	4	107	32	771										
Blue Jay	18	5	30	30	68	98	83	6	163	37	20	34	75	5176										
N. Raven	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	611										
Am. Crow	68	2	26	6	157	219	11853	212	355	915	15000	112	74	42509										
Black-cap. Chickadee	26	36	28	37	87	232	78	87	840	241	70	43	72	7361										
Tufted Titmouse	4	..	..	..	1	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	74										
White-br. Nuthatch	8	6	18	9	30	65	23	19	210	41	12	8	72	2029										
Red-br. Nuthatch	..	..	4	4	2	5	6	..	2	9	2	..	48	252										
Brown Creeper	1	7	1	1	1	5	4	3	6	5	2	1	43	186										
Am. Robin	..	..	..	..	3	21	2	2	23	166	28	10	31	367										
Golden-cr. Kinglet	2	..	..	..	..	5	1	..	..	1	..	..	21	86										
Cedar Waxwing	9	..	..	12	66	72	1	28	60	174	41	18	32	1383										
N. Shrike	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	7	6	3	1	52	171										
European Starling	88	66	48	32	687	486	2490	1500	1350	197527	584	544	71	228014										
House Sparrow	990	130	1030	286	956	732	3497	780	2109	546	299	526	73	46319										
Meadowlark spp.	8	..	..	..	*	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	16	37										
Red-winged Blackbird	..	34	..	*	2	100	8	2	7	1	81	59	21	2253										
Musty Blackbird	..	..	..	26	1	..	..	11	..	5	6	14	13	75										
Com. Grackle	5	..	1	6	3	1	34	6	20	6	4	5	39	231										
Brown-headed Cowbird	2	..	..	..	1	1	6	..	1	7	..	..	14	49										
N. Cardinal	34	..	17	25	28	65	50	15	213	69	27	20	59	2333										
Evening Grosbeak	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	9	3	..	..	48	4633										
Purple Finch	17	..	24	12	133	211	28	11	114	87	2	41	55	1991										
Com. Redpoll	..	..	1	..	5	5	*	..	1	3	2	..	25	242										
Pine Siskin	..	..	..	*	43	68	48	12	51	124	1	5	34	1562										
Am. Goldfinch	34	2	111	5	120	246	128	28	404	229	74	409	67	7945										
Pine Grosbeak	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	13	75										
No. Junco	84	8	154	89	323	1043	1116	154	1139	718	406	480	65	14225										
Tree Sparrow	64	162	52	35	110	660	728	211	692	77	609	275	59	7057										
White-thr. Sparrow	2	..	..	..	1	1	6	..	1	7	..	..	14	49										
Song Sparrow	..	1	..	..	7	16	21	3	13	10	11	7	26	181										
Snow Bunting	65	..	..	..	*	1	*	..	1	..	..	47	43	4246										
TOTAL SPECIES	42	30	28	31	58	59	56	57	65	75	56	58												

Southeast Wisconsin



**TABLE 2: Species seen on less than 13 counts**

Species	Number of Counts	Number of Individuals	Count and number seen
Loon Species.....	1	2	Milwaukee 2
Pied-billed Grebe.....	4	8	Appleton 1, Lake Geneva 3, Oconomowoc 3, Waukesha 1
Great Blue Heron.....	6	6	Mount Horeb 1, Newburg 1, Poynette 1, Waukesha 1.
Am. Bittern.....	1	2	Horicon 2
Mute Swan.....	2	3	Lake Geneva 1, Woodland Dunes SE 2
Snow Goose.....	2	9	Green Bay 2, Plymouth 7
Gadwall.....	9	323	Appleton 1, Hales Corners 11, Hudson 1, Lake Geneva 14, Madison 284, Milwaukee 9, Plymouth 1, Poynette 1, Rice Lake 1
Com. Pintail.....	8	12	Arcadia 1, Green Bay 4, Lake Geneva 1, Milwaukee 1, Plymouth 1, Rice Lake 1, Woodland Dunes SW 2, Woodland Dunes NE 1
Green-winged Teal.....	8	12	Beloit 1, Green Bay 1, Lake Geneva 1, Madison 3, Milwaukee 1, Plymouth 2, Rice Lake 2, Woodland Dunes SW 1
Am. Wigeon.....	2	6	Madison 5, Milwaukee 1
N. Shoveler.....	2	38	(Ashland), Cooksville 1, Madison 37
Wood Duck.....	7	10	Appleton 2, Arcadia 1, Green Bay 2, Milwaukee 1, Newburg 2, Rice Lake 1, Waukesha 1
Red Head.....	4	13	Appleton 3, Horicon 1, Kenosha 2, Lake Geneva 7, (Madison)
Ring-necked Duck.....	7	15	Appleton 3, Fremont 4, Horicon 2, Lake Geneva 3, Milwaukee 1, Oconomowoc 1, Oshkosh 1
Canvasback.....	7	94	Appleton 1, Kenosha 31, Lake Geneva 29, Madison 2, Oconomowoc 8, Sheboygan 23, Stevens Point 1
Greater Scaup.....	8	441	Appleton 3, Cedar Grove 2, Ephraim 36, Hales Corners 10, Kenosha 8, Milwaukee 286, Newburg 66, Sheboygan 30
Lesser Scaup.....	11	74	Appleton 8, Bayfield 1, Beloit 1, Lake Geneva 13, Madison 12, Milwaukee 2, Newburg 1, Oconomowoc 4, Oshkosh 6, Portage 2, Sheboygan 24
Barrow's Goldeneye.....	1	1	Kenosha 1
Bufflehead.....	11	216	Appleton 4, Bayfield 3, Cedar Grove 4, Ephraim 6, Hales Corners 35, Kenosha 14, Lake Geneva 7, Madison 5, Milwaukee 136, Newburg 1, Oconomowoc 1
Oldsquaw.....	8	3854	Cedar Grove 17, Ephraim 30, Hales Corners 505, Kenosha 35, Milwaukee 3148, Newburg 67, Woodland Dunes NE 48, Woodland Dunes SE 4
White-winged Scoter.....	2	9	Kenosha 7, Newburg 2
Ruddy Duck.....	7	20	Cedar Grove 3, Lake Geneva 2, Madison 1, Newburg 4, Oconomowoc 5, Oshkosh 4, Woodland Dunes SE 1
Hooded Merganser.....	8	15	Appleton 6, Horicon 1, Kenosha 1, LaCrosse 1, Madison 3, Merrill 1, Milwaukee 1, Stevens Point 1
Red-br. Merganser.....	11	222	Appleton 1, Ashland 1, Cedar Grove 126, Ephraim 1, Hales Corners 45, Hudson 1, Kenosha 10, Lake Geneva 4, Milwaukee 24, Newburg 5, New Richmond 4
N. Goshawk.....	8	11	Appleton 2, Hales Corners 1, (Hudson), (Kenosha), (Milwaukee), New Richmond 1, Oconomowoc 2, Plymouth 1, Rhinelander 1, Solon Springs 1, Wausau 2

Table 2 (Continued)

Cooper's Hawk.....	10	15	Appleton 1, (Beloit), (Cooksville), Cornelia 1, Fremont 1, (Hudson), (Merrill), Milwaukee 1, Mount Horeb 2, Plymouth 1, (Poynette), Stevens Point 3, Waukesha 3?, Wautoma 1, Woodland Dunes NW 1, (Woodland Dunes SW), (Woodland Dunes SE)
Broad Winged Hawk.....	1	1	Newburg 1
Golden Eagle.....	1	1	Durand 1
Merlin.....	1	1	Wautoma 1
Prairie Chicken.....	3	52	Dancy 23, Grantsburg 7, Stevens Point 22
Sharp-tailed Grouse.....	2	7	Brule 3, Solon Springs 4
Com. Bobwhite.....	9	89	Arcadia 5, Beloit 12, Black River Falls 17, Blanchardville 7, Cooksville 6, LaCrosse 13, Mount Horeb 9, (Poynette), Reedsburg 10, Richland Center 10
Turkey.....	1	9	Green Bay 9
Virginia Rail.....	1	1	Newburg 1
Am. Coot.....	12	395	Appleton 10, Ephraim 1, Green Bay 2, Horicon 2, Lake Geneva 200, Madison 90, Milwaukee 2, Newburg 2, Oconomowoc 81, Oshkosh 1, Waukesha 3, Woodland Dunes SW 1
Killdeer.....	4	7	Cornelia 3, Horicon 1, Kenosha 1, Milwaukee 2
Com. Snipe.....	8	21	Cornelia 1, Ft. Atkinson 4, LaCrosse 5, Madison 4, Plymouth 3, Poynette 1, Richland Center 2, Waukesha 1
Glaucous Gull.....	3	6	Bayfield 1, Madison 4, Milwaukee 1
Ring-billed Gull.....	9	1592	Beloit 2, Cedar Grove 3, Hales Corners 4, Kenosha 16, Lake Geneva 8, Madison 30, Milwaukee 839, Newburg 682, Sheboygan 8
Bonparte's Gull.....	2	4	Kenosha 2, Sheboygan 2
Snowy Owl.....	8	13	Antigo 1, Appleton 1, Ashland 4, Brule 1, Grantsburg 2, (Green Bay), (Hudson), Kenosha 2, Oshkosh 1, Rhinelander 1, (Woodland Dunes NE)
Long-eared Owl.....	8	12	Blanchardville 1, Cornelia 2, Hales Corners 2, LaCrosse 1, Madison 1, Newburg 3, Plymouth 1, Waukesha 1
Short-eared Owl.....	8	10	Cedar Grove 1, Cooksville 1, Cornelia 2, Hales Corners 1, LaCrosse 1, Madison 1, Milwaukee 1, Rice Lake 2
Saw-whet Owl.....	2	2	Plymouth 1, Rice Lake 1
Great Gray Owl.....	1	1	Brule 1
Yellow-b. Sapsucker.....	12	16	Appleton 1, Baraboo 1, Beloit 1, Hales Corners 1, Hartford 1, Kenosha 1, Madison 1, Milwaukee 1, Mount Horeb 3, (Oconomowoc), Plymouth 2, Sauk City 2, Waukesha 1
Gray Jay.....	7	32	Fifield 10, Grantsburg 1, Medford 2, Oxbow 8, Rhinelander 7, Solon Springs 1, Summit Lake 3
Boreal Chickadee.....	1	1	Rice Lake 1
Winter Wren.....	1	1	Plymouth 1
Gray Catbird.....	1	1	Ft. Atkinson 1
Brown Thrasher.....	6	7	Cooksville 1, Madison 2, Milwaukee 1, Newburg 1, Oconomowoc 1, Plymouth 1
Varied Thrush.....	1	1	Ephraim 1
Hermit Thrush.....	2	4	Madison 2, Milwaukee 2
Eastern Bluebird.....	2	10	Cornelia 7, Mount Horeb 3
Yellow-r. Warbler.....	4	4	Ephraim 1, Plymouth 1, Waukesha 1, Wausau 1
Ovenbird.....	1	1	Waukesha 1
Western Meadowlark.....	1	3	Cornelia 3
Brewer's Blackbird.....	3	3	Ashland 1, Hudson 1, (Oshkosh), Wausau 1
Red Crossbill.....	3	6	Rice Lake 3, Stevens Point 2, Shawano 1
White-w. Crossbill.....	3	8	Dancy 3, Hales Corners 2, Waukesha 3

**Table 2 (Continued)**

<b>Ruf.-sided Towhee</b> .....	8	10	Beloit 1, Madison 2, Milwaukee 1, Newburg 1, Oconomowoc 1, Plymouth 2, Sheboygan 1, Woodland Dunes NE 1
<b>Vesper Sparrow</b> .....	1	1	Sauk City 1
<b>Field Sparrow</b> .....	2	2	Blanchardville 1, Newburg 1, (Rice Lake)
<b>Harris' Sparrow</b> .....	1	1	Plymouth 1
<b>White-cr. Sparrow</b> .....	1	2	Kenosha 2
<b>Fox Sparrow</b> .....	5	6	Ashland 1, Beloit 1, Blanchardville 1, Milwaukee 2, Newburg 1
<b>Swamp Sparrow</b> .....	9	19	Beloit 1, Cornelia 1, Kenosha 1, Lake Geneva 1, Madison 6, Milwaukee 2, Plymouth 1, Sauk City 1, Waukesha 5
<b>Lapland Longspur</b> .....	11	252	Appleton 66, Arpin 31, Cedar Grove 5, Ellsworth 20, Hudson 4, Kenosha 108, (Madison), Mount Horeb 1, New Richmond 5, Plymouth 4, Rice Lake 7, Sheboygan 1

Parentheses indicate the species was seen within 3 days of the count day, but not on the day of the count.

**TABLE 3: Count, count number (Fig. 1), center of count area and compiler**

**Antigo** (11); Public Library; Bernard Pickering, Box 147, Rt. 1, Antigo 54409  
**Appleton** (36); unchanged; Daryl Tessen, 2 Pioneer Park Pl., Elgin, IL 60120  
**Arcadia** (26); unchanged; Tom Roskos, Rt. 1, Box 84, Arcadia 54612  
**Arpin** (29); unchanged; Don Follen, Rt. 1, Box 96, Arpin 54410  
**Ashland** (2); Jct. Hwy. 2 & Sanburn Ave.; Dick Verch, Biology Dept., Northland College, Ashland 54806  
**Baraboo** (52); Baraboo courthouse; Ron Sauey, Internation Crane Foundation, City View Rd., Baraboo 53913  
**Bayfield** (1); unchanged; Bernard Klugow, Box 13, Brule 54820  
**Beetown** (56); unchanged; Terrence Ingram, Box 155, Apple River, IL 61001  
**Beloit** (70); unchanged; Thomas Ellis, 1757 Townline Ave., Beloit 53511  
**Black River Falls** (27); unchanged; Mrs. Francis Harmer, Rt. 1, Black River Falls 54615  
**Blanchardville** (55); unchanged; David Willard, 2306 Hollister Ave., Madison 53705  
**Brule** (3); unchanged; Bernard Klugow, Box 13, Brule 54820  
**Cedar Grove** (47); Jct. Hwys G & KW; Don Hanbury, 2938 N. 90th St., Milwaukee 53222  
**Chippewa Falls** (20); unchanged; Charles Kemper, Box 699, Chippewa Falls 54729  
**Clyde** (54); unchanged; Bill Sievert, 8430 W. Capitol Dr., Milwaukee 53222  
**Cooksville** (64); unchanged; John Wilde, Rt. 1, Box 480, Evansville 53536  
**Cornelia** (57); unchanged; Terrence Ingram, Box 155, Apple River, IL 61001  
**Dancy** (28); 3 mi. W of Dancy; Don Helgersen, Rt. 1, Chilli 54420  
**Ellsworth** (23); unchanged; Craig Faanes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, Jamestown, ND 58401  
**Ephraim** (16); unchanged; Charlotte Lukes, Box 152, Baileys Harbor 54202  
**Fifield** (6); unchanged; Thomas Nicholls, 2160 Draper Ave., Roseville, MN 55113  
**Fort Atkinson** (67); Main & Water Streets; Richard Wanie, 208 S. 4th St. W., Fort Atkinson  
**Fremont** (37); unchanged; Daryl Tessen, 2 Pioneer Park Pl., Elgin, IL 60120  
**Grantsburg** (7); unchanged; Clarence Wagman, Box 166, Grantsburg 54840  
**Green Bay** (34); unchanged; Bernard Chartier, 236 Oxford Ave., Green Bay 54303  
**Greenwood** (18); 2 mi. SW of Longwood; Sam Robbins, 512 E. Broadway, Medford 54451

**Table 3 (Continued)**

**Hales Corners** (74); unchanged; John Idzikowski, 3242A S. Illinois Ave., Milwaukee 53207  
**Hartford** (66); probably unchanged; Norma Schmidt, 450 Seventh St., Hartford 53207  
**Holcombe** (19); unchanged; Sam Robbins, 512 E. Broadway, Medford 54451  
**Horicon** (65); unchanged; Bob Drieslein, Horicon National Wildlife Refuge, Rt. 2, Mayville 53963  
**Hudson** (22); unchanged; Manley Olson, 1974 W. Summer St., St. Paul, MN 55113  
**Kenosha** (75); unchanged; Ron Hoffmann, Box 886, Kenosha 53141  
**LaCrosse** (48); unchanged; F. Z. Leshner, 509 Winona St., LaCrosse 54601  
**Lake Geneva** (71); unchanged; Clarence Palmquist, 834 Windsor Rd., Glenview, IL 60025  
**Lakewood** (14); unchanged; John Woodcock, 1440F N. 7th St., Manitowoc 54220  
**Madison** (62); unchanged; William Hilsenhoff, 33 S. Eau Claire Ave., Madison 53075  
**Medford** (17); not given; Sam Robbins, 512 E. Broadway, Medford  
**Merrill** (73); Probably unchanged; Mary Donald, 6918 N. Belmont La., Milwaukee 53217  
**Milwaukee** (73); Probably unchanged; Mary Donald, 6918 N. Belmont La., Milwaukee 53217  
**Mount Horeb** (63); unchanged; Joyce Powers, Rt. 2, 9738 Overland Rd., Mount Horeb 53572  
**Nelson** (25); unchanged; Charles Kemper, Box 699, Chippewa Falls 54729  
**Newburg** (72); unchanged; Charles Mayhew, Riveredge Nature Center, 4438 W. Hawthorne Dr., Newburg 53060  
**New Richmond** (21); unchanged; Peter Tweet, 507 Laurel, Hudson 54016  
**Oconomowoc** (68); unchanged; Edward Peartree, 36516 Lisbon Rd., Oconomowoc 53066  
**Oshkosh** (38); unchanged; Thomas Ziebell, 350 W. 17th Ave., Oshkosh 54901  
**Oxbo** (5); unchanged; Maybelle Hardy, Rt. 1, Box 263, Park Falls 54552  
**Peshtigo** (15); unchanged; Harold Lindberg, 311 Emery Ave., Peshtigo  
**Petenwell** (49); Petenwell Dam; W.D. Brown, 225 W. Lakeside St., Madison 53715  
**Plymouth** (45); Hwy 23 & County Air Rd.; Harold Koopmann, 415 Caroline St., Plymouth 53073  
**Portage** (58); Silver Lake; W. D. Brown, 225 W. Lakeside St., Madison 53715  
**Poynette** (59); Jct. Hwys. 51 & CS; William Smith, Rt. 3, Box 82, Poynette 53955  
**Randolph** (50); Mainstreet at stoplight; W. D. Brown, 225 W. Lakeside St., Madison 53715  
**Rhineland** (9); unchanged; Philip Dewalt, Rt. 3, Box 156, Rhineland 54501  
**Rice lake** (8); Jct. Hwys C & M, 2 mi. E. of Rice Lake; Craig Faanes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, No. Prairie Research Center, Jamestown, ND 58401  
**Richland Center** (51); Jct. Hwys. O & OO S of Richland Center; Robert Hirschy, University of Wisconsin Center - Richland, Richland Center 53581  
**Rush Lake** (39); unchanged; Mary Peterson, 1224 Wisconsin St., Oshkosh 54901  
**Sauk City** (53); unchanged; Kenneth Lange, Devils Lake State Park, Baraboo 53913  
**Shawano** (33); City of Shawano; Larry M. Fenton, 1032 S. Washington St., Shawano 54166  
**Sheboygan** (46); unchanged; June R. Platz, 1106 Whittier Ave., Howards Grove 53801  
**Shiocton** (35); unchanged; Daryl Tessen, 2 Pioneer Park Pl., Elgin IL 60120  
**Solon Springs** (4); unchanged; Bernard Klugow, Box 13, Brule 54820  
**Stevens Point** (31); unchanged; John Simonis, 2508 Algoma St., Stevens Point 54481  
**Stockbridge** (40); unchanged; Richard Daun, Rt. 1, Box 102, Chilton 53014  
**Summit Lake** (10); 4½ mi. E. of Summit Lake Village; Carol Rudy, Box 218, Rt. 2, Chilton 53014



**Table 3 (Continued)**

**Sun Prairie** (61); Jct. Hwys. 19 & N; W.D. Brown, 225 W. Lakeside St., Madison 53715

**Waukesha** (69); unchanged; John Bielefeldt, 1706 Norman Way, Madison 53705

**13 Wausau** (82); unchanged; Emily Bierbrauer, 1611 9th St., Wausau 54401

**Wautoma** (32); unchanged; Delbert Greenman, Rt. 1, Box 263, Redgranite 54970

**Wisconsin Rapids** (30); Jct. Golf Course Rd. & Pepper Ave.; Dar Tiede, 1428 21st Ave. S., Wisconsin Rapids 54494

**Woodland Dunes NE** (42); unchanged; Amy Kienitz, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, Box 763, Manitowoc 54220

**Woodland Dunes NW** (41); unchanged; Amy Kienitz, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, Box 763, Manitowoc 54220

**Woodland Dunes SE** (43); unchanged; Amy Kienitz, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, Box 763, Manitowoc 54220

**Woodland Dunes SW** (44); unchanged; Amy Kienitz, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, Box 763, Manitowoc 54220

# Help Save

# HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE

*Mary and Charlie Nelson*

Table 4. Details of the counts.

Name of Count	Date	a.m. p.m.	Sky	Snow (in)	Wind	Temp. Low High	Feeder	Observers	Parties	Total Party Hours
Antigo	D-17	7:00-4:00	Fog-Fair	6	W 8-15	18 23	3	13	4	28
Appleton	D-16	6:00-5:00	Cloudy	3	SW-NW 0-20	21 36	16	22	12	63
Arcadia	D-26	5:15-6:30	Cl-PCL	4	NW 3-10	3 15	0	6	3	17
Arpin	L-25	7:00-4:30	Cloudy	0	NW 5	0 16	5	3	1	6
Ashland	D-16	8:00-4:30	Fair	5	NNW 0-5	22 34	0	19	6	44
Baraboo	D-30	6:50-3:00	Cloudy	20		5 32	0	5	2	10
Bayfield	D-17	6:00-4:00	PCL-Cl	7	SSE 5-12	20 29	2	5	3	25
Beetown	D-16	7:30-5:30	PCL	1	NNW 0-30	32 32	0	4	2	20
Beloit	D-17	7:15-4:30	Fair	3	SW-NW 5-10	15 34	0	22	11	69
Black River Falls	D-27	7:00-4:00	Fair-PCL	6	Calm	-9 15	18	4	2	7
Blanchardville	D-17	5:30-5:45	Fair	7	W 5-10	17 25	0	4	2	22
Brule	D-16	4:00-6:00	PCL-Fair	6	WSW 1-3	22 34	3	4	2	18
Cedar Grove	L-23	7:05-2:35	Fair-PCL	2	SE 0-18	22 35	0	2	1	7
Chippewa Falls	D-23	7:00-4:00	Cl-Snow	10	SE 0-8	15 30	0	9	4	24
Clyde	D-31	7:30-4:30	Snow	13	N 5-10	10 15	1	5	1	9
Cooksville	J-2	7:00-4:30	Fair	16	WNW 8-12	-22 -8	5	5	3	17
Cornelia	D-17	8:05-5:30	Fair	2	WNW 0-5	-22 37	0	4	3	28
Dancy	D-19	7:00-4:00	Cl-MCL	9	E-?	18 20	0	11	3	24
Durand	D-16	7:30-4:30	PCL		SW 9			6		
Ellsworth	D-31	5:30-4:15	Cloudy	10	W 3-6	-6 0	0	5	4	35
Ephraim	D-16	7:30-4:30	PCL-Cl	2	W 5-10	18 32	45	15	7	35
Fifield	D-23	7:30-4:00	Cloudy	16	E 3-15	16 28	8	5	4	13
Fort Atkinson	L-31	7:30-4:00	Cloudy	10	W 20	10 16	0	9	5	14
Fremont	D-26	6:30-4:30	PCL-Fair	4	W 3-10	-5 10	0	2	1	10
Grantsburg	D-16	8:00-4:00	Cl-Fair	11	NW 5-22	24 33	1	15	7	49
Green Bay	D-30	7:00-4:00	Cloudy	10	NNW 8-16	21 30	3	22	5	29
Greenwood	J-1	6:30-12:30	Cloudy	16	NW 10-15	-3 0	0	1	1	6
Hales Corners	D-17	5:30-4:30	PCL	3	W 5-15	20 25	1	15	10	68
Hartford	D-29	8:00-4:00		11	SW 5-15	26 32	8	7	2	14
Holcombe	D-27	6:50-4:20	PCL	14	W 0-3	-20 9	1	3	2	17
Horicon	L-16	7:30-1:00	PCL-Cl	6	0-15	-27 35	0	10	3	15
Hudson	J-1	5:30-4:30	Fair	14	NW 10-15	-10 -1	10	6	2	17
Kenosha	D-30	6:00-5:00	Cloudy	12	NW 0-4	20 36	3	15	8	54
LaCrosse	D-16	6:00-5:00	Cloudy	3	NW-S 5-15	30 34	1	24	8	55
Lake Geneva	L-30	7:00-4:30	Cloudy	17	N 5-8	18 31	0	12	6	46
Lakewood	D-31	7:15-3:15	Cloudy	14	NE 12-15	8 10	0	1	1	8
Madison	D-16	3:30-4:45	Fair-Snow	4	W 4-20	22 39	1	59	26	198
Medford	D-18	6:15-4:15	PCL-Cl	9	SNE 5-15	12 29	1	8	3	25
Merrill	L-27	7:15-4:30	Fair-PCL	13	SW 1-5	-6 8	0	1	1	9
Milwaukee	D-16	5:15-5:00	Fair-Cl	4	W 5-20	29 36	3	26	16	85
Mount Horeb	D-30	6:30-6:30	Cloudy	7	NE-NW 5-10	10 24	20	28	15	32
Nelson	L-30	7:15-3:15	Fair	11	NW 10-20	-6 6	0	1	1	8
Newburg	D-17	5:00-4:30	Cl-PCL	4	W 3-10	30 30	17	42	22	155
New Richmond	D-16	7:30-4:00	Fair	10	SW 8-10	31 40	1	14	6	43
Oconomowoc	L-17	7:00-4:00	Fair	5	SW 0-10	16 32	0	23	4	31
Oshkosh	D-16	7:00-4:30	Cloudy	5	SW-N 3-11	22 34	8	19	10	74
Oxbo	L-17	8:00-4:00	Fair	12	SW 1	6 32	4	12	5	24
Peshigo	D-16	6:30-4:30	Fair	4	W 0-10	22 34	1	7	4	25
Petenwell	D-17	9:00-5:00	Fair	3	W 5-25	16 34	0	3	1	8
Plymouth	D-17	5:00-3:30	PCL	5	W 10-20	16 32	7	27	14	61
Portage	L-18	12:00-5:00	PCL	4	W 0-20	25 35	0	3	1	5
Poynette	D-23	7:00-5:00	Cloudy	2	SE 5-15	15 31	4	8	3	22
Randolph	D-18	6:30-6:30	PCL-Cl	2	SW 0-5	26 34	0	1	1	12
Reedsburg	D-20	10:00-5:00	Cl-Hain	3	N 0-20	26 34	0	1	1	7
Rhineland	D-30	8:00-4:00	Fair	20	NW 4	8 20	10	11	4	19
Rice Lake	D-23	4:00-5:30	Cl-MCL	17	W 0-5	23 31	3	3	3	20
Richland Center	D-16	7:30-3:30	PCL-Cl	4	W 0-10	26 37	2	21	8	36
Rush Lake	D-28	8:00-3:00	Cloudy	0	NE 15-25	15 24	2	2	1	7
Sauk City	J-6	7:00-4:30	Fair	9	SW-W 5	-15 10	1	12	6	45
Shawano	D-29	8:00-4:30	Cl-Snow	5	NE 8-10	28 35	29	11	9	40
Sheboygan	D-30	8:30-4:30	Cloudy	7	? 0-10	5 20	5	26	7	43
Shiocton	D-22	6:30-4:30	PCL	4	WSW 10-25	18 32	3	3	2	17
Solon Springs	D-18	5:30-5:00	PCL-Cl	7	SE 8-12	2 26	3	6	3	31
Stevens Point	D-16	7:00-4:00	Fair-PCL	6	SW-W ?	25 30	0	25	8	52
Stockbridge	L-17	7:30-4:30	PCL	8	? 7-12	10 20	0	8	7	39
Summit Lake	D-27	7:15-4:00	Fair	12	Calm	-8 10	0	3	1	8
Sun Prairie	D-19	10:00-5:00	Cloudy	3	NE 0-20	25 36	0	1	1	7
Waukesha	D-17	4:45-5:00	PCL	3	SW 5-15	17 33	4	34	12	97
Wausau	D-17	7:00-4:30	Fair	9	SW 10-15	14 24	8	13	6	28
Wautoma	D-30	6:30-5:00	PCL	9	NW 15-20	10 16	12	10	8	25
Wisconsin Rapids	D-23	6:30-4:00		6	E 3-10	20 31	1	11	7	25
Woodland Dunes NE	J-1	7:00-4:15	Cloudy		N 20-25	15 17	27	7	5	22
Woodland Dunes NW	D-30	7:00-2:30	Cloudy	6	SE 5-10	15 20	0	3	2	13
Woodland Dunes SE	D-23	5:30-4:30	Cloudy	12	W-SE 5-15	22 35	3	9	7	33
Woodland Dunes SW	D-16	6:00-3:30	Snow	5	Calm	33 38	18	8	4	19



## The Search for the Kirtland's Warbler in Wisconsin

By Nancy G. Tilghman

The Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*) first came to the attention of the ornithological community in 1851 when a male of this species was collected near Cleveland, Ohio. For a little over half a century, the location of the breeding grounds of this species remained a mystery. Nearly 20 collections or observations of Kirtland's Warblers were made in the United States during this period. Two of these records came from Wisconsin. It was not until 1903 that Norman Wood, a Michigan naturalist, found a Kirtland's Warbler nest in Oscoda County, Michigan; all subsequent nests of this species have been located in a 13-county area of northern Lower Michigan surrounding the site of the first-discovered nest (Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Team, 1976).

Although the Kirtland's Warbler has probably never been very plentiful, 10-year censuses of its population revealed a 60% decline in numbers from almost 1,000 birds in 1951 and 1961 to about 400 birds in 1971 (Mayfield, 1972). This species was included on the federal endangered species list and accorded the full protection and recovery efforts of the state and federal wildlife agencies.

### **The Nesting Habitat of the Kirtland's Warbler**

The Kirtland's Warbler has very specific habitat requirements for its nest site. It nests on the ground and near the edge of one of the grassy openings scattered throughout a stand of young jack pines (*Pinus banksiana*). The stand of fairly pure jack pine must be at least 80 acres in size, and the trees are generally 6 to 18 feet tall. These jack pine stands are located on extremely well-drained soils.

For a number of years, ornithologists familiar with the requirements of the Kirtland's Warbler have felt that suitable nesting habitat has existed in nearby states and provinces. Until 1977, there had been only 3 records of a Kirtland's Warbler found outside the traditional Michigan nesting areas during the breeding season. Harrington (1939) indicated that Kirtland's Warblers were present at Petawawa Camp near Pembroke, Ontario in 1916 and 1939. In 1958, a single male was found on the Bruce Peninsula in Ontario less than 100 miles east of the Michigan nesting areas. There was no evidence that any of these warblers nested (Mayfield, 1960).

During the past 125 years, there have been 9 verified sightings of migrating Kirtland's Warblers in Wisconsin, all of them in late May. Because no Kirtland's Warblers have ever been found nesting in Wisconsin, the 9 warblers were considered to be migrants passing through the state on their way to their nesting grounds in Michigan.

In June 1977, Paul Aird of the University of Toronto found a single male Kirtland's Warbler at Petawawa, Ontario, in the same area where Kirtland's Warblers had been found nearly 40 years previously. Although this male maintained a territory for nearly 5 weeks, no female or young were ever found (Aird and Hibbard, 1978). Encouraged by this discovery of a Kirtland's Warbler maintaining a territory outside the Michigan nesting areas, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted a survey in late May and June 1978 to determine if there were any Kirtland's Warblers present or nesting in Wisconsin.

### **The Selection of Survey Stands**

The first step in the DNR's search for the Kirtland's Warbler in Wisconsin was to identify regions similar to the nesting areas in Michigan. Using information on the distribution of jack pine and extremely sandy soils in the state, I was able to locate 15 counties in which the major nesting habitat requirements were met. Within these counties, I selected 103 jack pine stands to be surveyed for Kirtland's Warblers (Fig. 1). These stands varied in their degree of suitability as Kirtland's Warbler nesting habitat. Some stands which provided only marginal nesting habitat were included in the survey if there was a lack of more suitable nesting habitat in that county. This marginal habitat included stands of jack pine mixed with other tree species or older stands with trees 16 to 20 feet tall.

### **Field Methods**

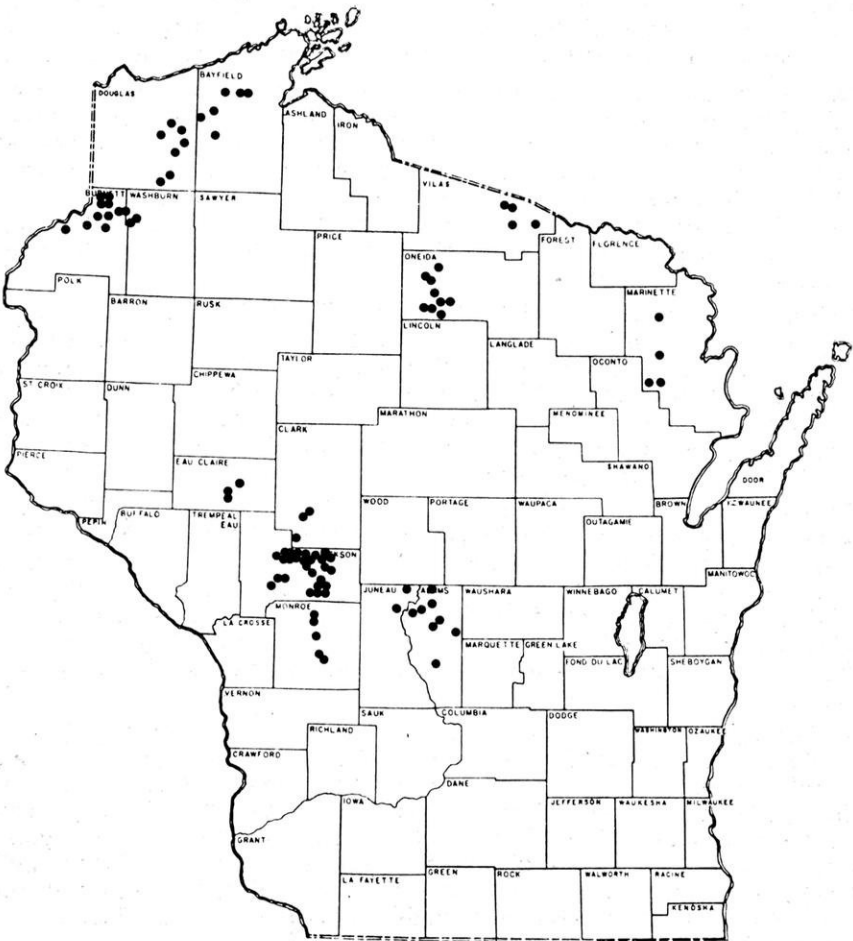
To complete the state-wide survey of suitable jack pine stands, I relied on the help of experienced birders throughout the state. Volunteer help was enlisted from members of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, DNR personnel, and faculty and students from several universities and colleges. A network of 13 volunteer groups was set up through the state with 2-5 volunteers per group. Leaders were selected from those volunteers experienced in identifying bird songs. Several of the group leaders had con-



ducted Breeding Bird Surveys for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in past years.

Each group was assigned from 4 to 9 jack pine stands to survey. These surveys were made from sunrise to 11:00 a.m. (DST) on mornings in late May and June 1978. Surveys were not made on rainy mornings or when winds exceeded 12 m.p.h.

The search for the Kirtland's Warbler involved the placement of listening stations near the center of every 40-acre block of suitable nesting habitat (Fig. 2). At each listening station, volunteer groups played a tape recording of the Kirtland's Warbler territorial song for one-half minute and then listened for a responding song for 2 minutes. This procedure was done twice at each station. If any Kirtland's Warbler songs were heard, surveyors were



**Figure 1:** Location of jack pine stands selected for the 1978 Kirtland's Warbler survey in Wisconsin.

to make a positive visual identification of the bird. If the bird was indeed a Kirtland's Warbler, surveyors then were to flag nearby trees and mark the approximate location of the bird on the cover map of the stand.

### Results and Discussion

Of the 103 stands selected, 99 were surveyed for Kirtland's Warblers; 4 of the 103 stands were found unsuitable as nesting habitat. On 10 June 1978, Randy D. Rodgers (UW-Madison) and I located Kirtland's Warblers in one of the survey stands. Two male warblers had set up territories about one-quarter mile apart in a 90-acre jack pine stand in Jackson County, Wisconsin. These males maintained their territories from the date of discovery until late July when they could no longer be detected by song.

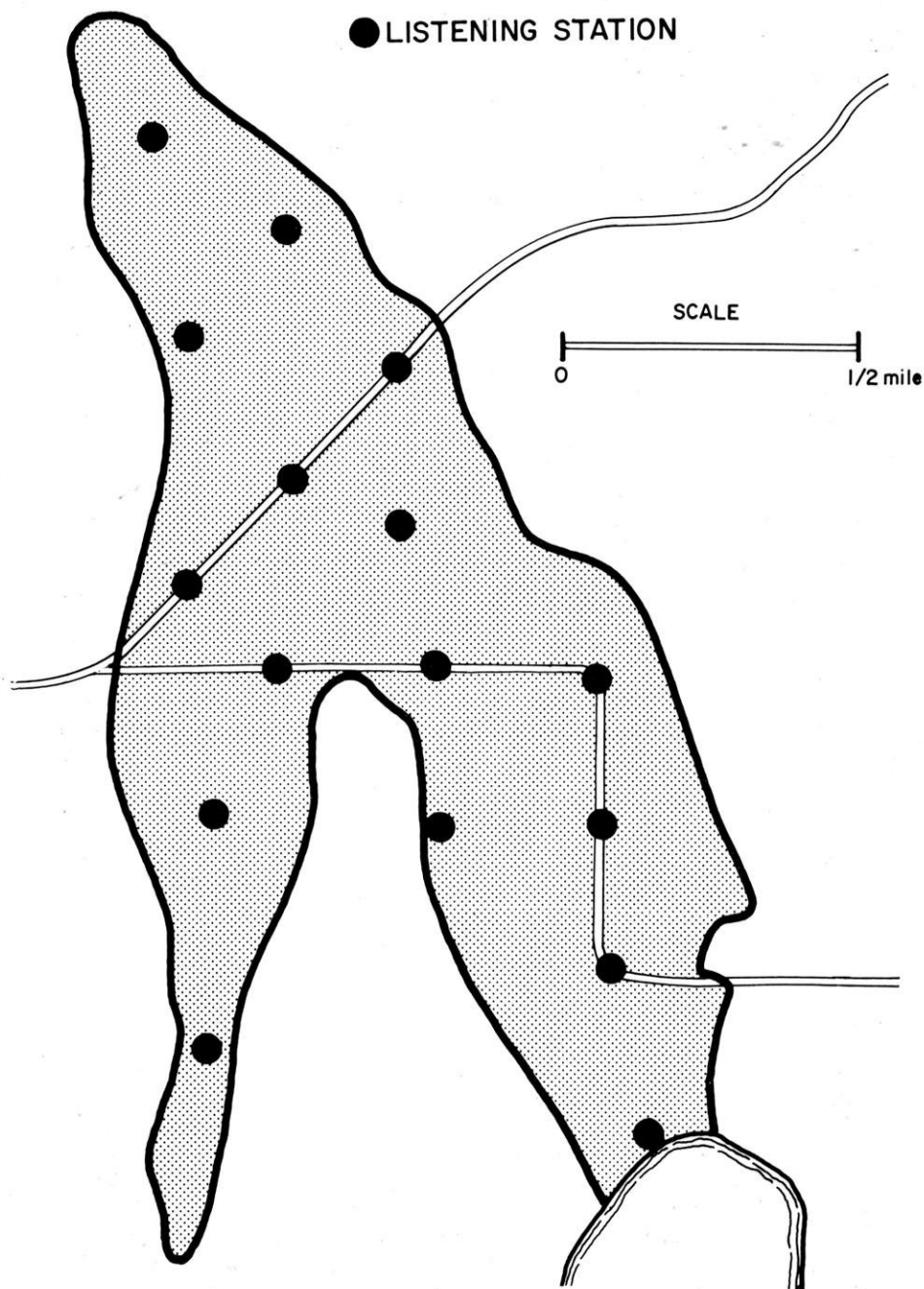
Both males appeared to be unmated. By mid-June, when Michigan Kirtland's Warblers were incubating or caring for their young, the Wisconsin males were singing in the tops of jack pine trees almost constantly. They were never observed carrying food to a would-be mate or young. None of the searches of the grassy openings in the jack pines turned up any nests.

One of the males had an aluminum leg band. Two ornithologists from Michigan, John D. Byelich of the national Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Team, and Dr. Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, helped us capture the banded male warbler on 21 June 1978. Dr. Walkinshaw's banding records from Michigan indicated that this bird was 6 years old and had originally been banded as a nestling in 1972 on the National Guard Camp near Grayling, Michigan. Thus, the Wisconsin territory of this male was about 300 miles from where it was born.

Volunteers from the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge heard a bird answering the tape recording of the Kirtland's Warbler territorial song, while conducting a survey on 9 June 1978 in eastern Juneau County, about 35 miles east of the Jackson County location. They played the tape recording 5 times and heard 5 responses, but they were never able to see the bird. The group returned to the area several times throughout the rest of June, but they never heard the bird again.

During the 1977 and 1978 breeding seasons, 4 male Kirtland's Warblers were found outside their traditional nesting areas in Michigan (Fig. 3). The male found near Petawawa, Ontario, in June 1977, returned to the same area again in 1978. Another male was found in Quebec, about 60 miles east of Petawawa. This male had been banded as a nestling in 1974 near Lovells, Michigan (Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, pers. comm. 1978). The 2 males we found in Wisconsin complete the list of Kirtland's Warblers pioneering new areas.

Active dispersal by an avian species from its historical breeding range may be due to competition for low food supplies, lack of required habitat, population pressure, or seasonal migrations (Welty, 1975). The recent discoveries of Kirtland's Warblers outside their normal nesting range can not be the result of a lack of food or habitat, or an increase in the population. The occurrence of Kirtland's Warblers in Wisconsin, Ontario, and Quebec may instead result from a few warblers which follow a less direct migration route to the nesting grounds, or perhaps from the inability of some individuals to home properly.



**Figure 2:** An example of the placement of listening stations in a jack pine stand to be surveyed for Kirtland's Warblers.

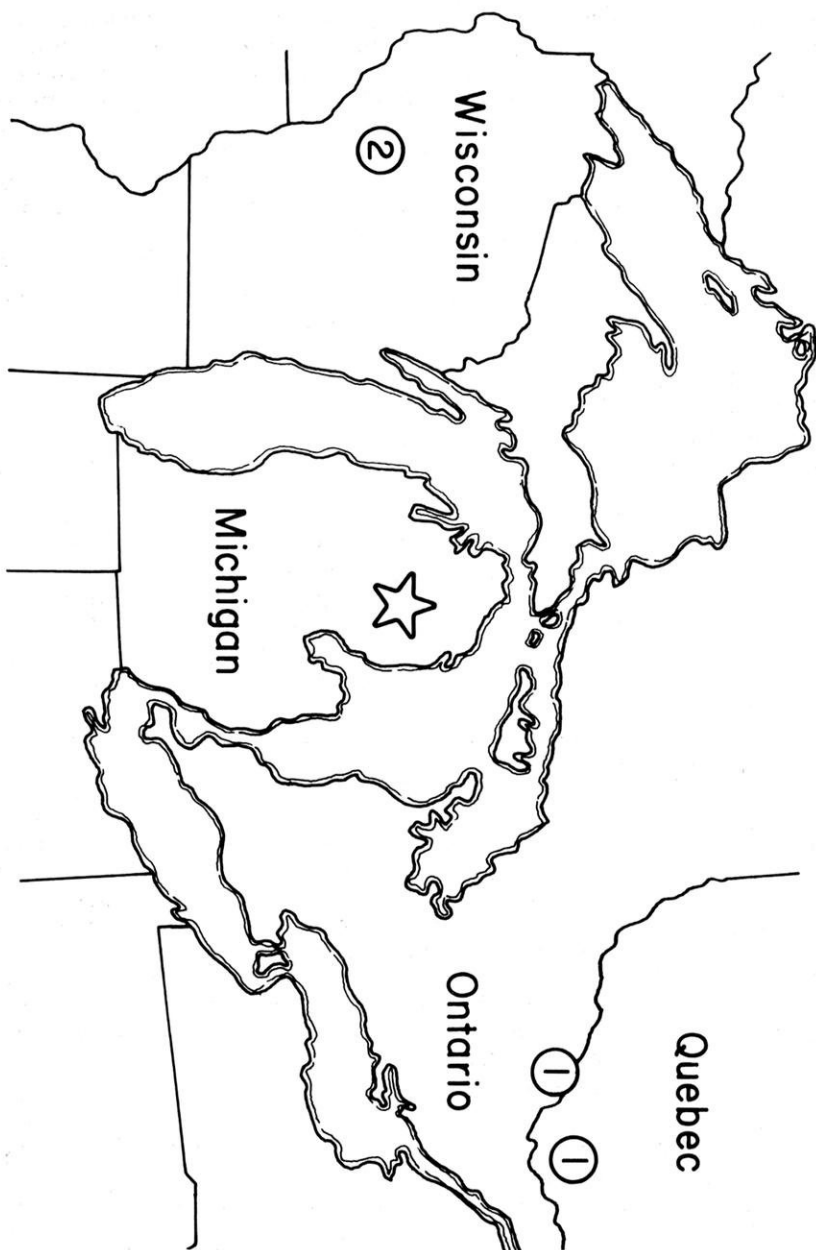
As mentioned previously, the Kirtland's Warbler population has declined 60% since the 1961 census. During the past 7 years, efforts by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Michigan Audubon Society to stop the decline in the Kirtland's Warbler population have increased the amount of suitable Kirtland's Warbler nesting habitat (John D. Byelich, pers. comm.). Since these omnivorous warblers usually forage within their nesting territories, and the amount of suitable nesting habitat has increased, it is unlikely that the food supply is limiting the success of the Kirtland's Warbler population.

The number of spring records of Kirtland's Warblers on their northward migration is insufficient to predict the width of the normal migration route; however, most spring records lie on a fairly direct route from the Bahamas to Michigan. A much smaller number of Kirtland's has been recorded in eastern states and provinces which are beyond the confines of the direct migration route. Van Tyne (1951) felt that the several Kirtland's Warblers recovered in Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Upper Michigan, and Ontario in the late 1800's indicated the breeding range must be extended north and west of the present-day areas in Lower Michigan. These recoveries may also have resulted from a broader migration route to and from the Michigan nesting grounds for first-year birds. If such a migration pattern existed, yearling males searching for an unoccupied nesting territory may have chosen one of the extensive young jack pine stands which existed in these outlying states and provinces during the logging era of the late 1800's. Thus it may be that small pockets of nesting Kirtland's Warblers appeared and disappeared over the years in areas outside the Michigan breeding range.

Not all young birds are able to home precisely. Hickey (1943) reported that nearly two percent of a sample of American Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) banded as nestlings were recovered over 300 miles from their original banding sites. This tendency for a fraction of a population to be located in areas some distance away from their original banding site has also been recorded in Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia*) (Nice, 1937). Thus, the four Kirtland's Warblers discovered in Wisconsin, Ontario and Quebec may represent individuals which returned to a new jack pine area in their first year and have maintained this aberrant migration pattern in subsequent years.

The primary factor limiting the success of these wider-ranging warblers would necessarily be the existence of large blocks of young jack pine. At no time since the logging days of the late 1800's have there been vast areas of suitable Kirtland's Warbler habitat in Wisconsin. The development of an effective fire-control program in Wisconsin in the 1930's and the decrease in the size of normal timber-cutting blocks have limited the size of individual blocks of young jack pines. The small number of suitable nesting sites outside Michigan coupled with the fidelity of most Kirtland's Warblers to the direct migration route have probably lessened the likelihood of finding these warblers nesting in outlying states or provinces.

So how can we explain the recent discoveries of solitary males in Wisconsin, Ontario and Quebec? Why were we able to locate these rare warblers in the past 2 years when ornithologists have searched likely habitat in previous years? And why did we only find unmated males? I believe that an organized survey of all or nearly all suitable nesting habitat in Wisconsin was the



**Figure 3:** The location of the 4 solitary male Kirtland's Warblers which set up territories beyond the normal breeding range in Lower Michigan. Numbers in circles indicate the number of solitary males located at that site. The starred location designates the center of the known nesting areas in Lower Michigan.

key to locating the Kirtland's Warblers this past summer. With only a few warblers venturing into the outlying jack pine areas and only a few suitable nesting sites existing, the chance of locating the birds on one or two surveys of likely habitat a year would be very slim. With a network of birders to conduct surveys throughout the jack pine areas of the state or province, searches in both Wisconsin and Ontario were successful. The field method we used may also have increased our chances of success. With the advent of portable tape players about 15 years ago, the presence of strongly territorial species such as the Kirtland's Warbler is easily detected by playing a tape recording of the territorial song to elicit a response from the resident male.

Yearling male Kirtland's Warblers are generally more wide-ranging in their selection of a territory than are yearling females; females usually nest very close to where they were born (Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, in press). If these differences are indeed true, there may be only a small probability of a female Kirtland's Warbler finding a pioneering male.

In order to attract migrating males to an area outside their normal breeding range, suitable nesting habitat must exist. The discovery of two male Kirtland's Warblers in west-central Wisconsin indicates that we have at least one suitable nesting area (and maybe more) in Wisconsin. Under certain conditions, the Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Plan recommends introducing this species into suitable nesting areas outside of the Michigan nesting grounds. If such a plan is implemented, west-central Wisconsin would be a likely area for introduction. Should the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources become involved in the recovery efforts of this endangered species, it must maintain sufficient acreage of 6- to 18-foot tall jack pine stands.

The creation and maintenance of suitable Kirtland's Warbler nesting habitat can be combined with ongoing jack pine management practices to yield more individuals of this highly endangered species as well as pulpwood. A Kirtland's Warbler management unit would require about 1,500 acres of jack pines on extremely porous soils. Every 8-10 years, another 300-acre block of jack pine would be harvested to provide new Kirtland's Warbler habitat 8-10 years hence. In the early years of such a management program, some jack pines that are not fully mature may have to be harvested in order to bring the cutting block into phase. After these initial losses, however, each block would be allowed to reach maturity (50 years) before it is cut again. In some cases, the natural jack pine regeneration may not be dense enough to provide good warbler nesting habitat, and seeding, planting or prescribed burning may be necessary.

At this writing, the DNR Office of Endangered and Nongame Species intends to continue surveys of jack pine stands in Jackson County again in the spring of 1979. These surveys will serve two purposes: (1) to find out if the 2 males found on this summer's survey return to the same area in May and June 1979, and (2) to determine if there are any more Kirtland's Warblers in the area. A habitat management program is being developed which will necessarily involve both short-term measures to better provide for the 2 males that have already chosen Wisconsin as their summer home, and long-term plans to attract a small population of breeding Kirtland's Warblers to Wisconsin. The establishment of a colony of these warblers outside their limited breeding range in Michigan would give the species a better chance for long-term survival.



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks to Ronald F. Nicotera who suggested the project, and the Wisconsin DNR's Bureau of Wildlife Management and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for funding the project. I am grateful to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service and members of the Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Team for the advice throughout the project. Special thanks to John D. Byelich, Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, David I. Sorenson, Elaine Smith and Jerome Weinrich for their personal help and hospitality. I thank the staff of Wisconsin DNR's Bureau of Forestry including Harry W. Thorne, Harry C. Mills, Gordon L. Landphier and the many district foresters of WDNR and the U.S. Forest Service who helped in locating the stands. The staff at the Black River Falls Area Office of the DNR has been especially helpful and patient.

A complete survey of jack pine areas throughout the state would not have been possible without the cooperation of members of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology and the faculty and students of several colleges and universities. I would specially like to thank Harvey Halvorsen, Richard L. Verch, Doris E. Leppla, James O. Evrard, Lori Evrard, Dale E. Katsma, Donald E. TeRonde, Deborah Bua, Samuel D. Robbins, Paul Lukens, Robbye Johnson, Eric Epstein, Inese Strazdins, Randy D. Rodgers, Robert J. Blohm, Sherry Blohm, John R. Cary, Frederick Z. Leshner, Darrell D. Haugen, Charles Roth, Lois Almon, the DeWalts, Phillip V. Vanderschaegen and James E. Baughman for their help in conducting the surveys. I am also grateful to the several private landowners who gave us permission to conduct the search on their land; Robert Dosen of Nekoosa Papers, Inc. and Terrance F. Michal of Mosinee Paper Corp. were especially helpful.

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State of Wisconsin  
Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7921  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

### To prospective "Tern-Watchers":

The address given in the winter 1978 issue of Passenger Pigeon had the wrong zip code. If you haven't already written me a letter, but were planning on it, please note the corrected address:

Nancy Tilghman  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Bureau of Research  
Box 7921  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

# **A Review of Robbie's 17 Years at the Bird House**

**By Mrs. Henry Koenig**

All summer I had hoped to write about Robbie, who reached his 17th birthday about May first, 1978. But I couldn't find the time, with all the young and injured birds plus the permanent residents that at one time totaled 47. This is far too many for us to handle properly.

Now at this writing in November, Robbie is 17½ years old. For the benefit of first-time readers, I shall say that over the years I've written about him at 3 year intervals, when he was 3, 6, 9, 12 and 15 years old. Because it may be later than we think, I constantly had an uneasy feeling of urgency to hurry and get started with the writing and not wait until 1979 when Robbie would be 18. This sensation continued all summer and fall and was a period of frustration for me. Days, weeks and even months passed and I felt helpless, wishing there were two of me to accomplish something. I finally got started in October, organizing, revising and rewriting it three times. But progress was slow.

It may not seem possible that one little bird could change the entire course of one's life, but that is what Robbie did to us. Excerpts and highlights from past articles in "The Passenger Pigeon" are herewith presented:

## **The First Three Years of Robbie's Life - 1961-1964**

On June 2, 1961, a young Robin about one month old was brought to us with a broken leg. He had been taken home by a little girl when just out of the nest, and while playing with him, another child had broken his leg. Fortunately the break was not near the joint, and my husband, Henry, was able to set it. Two weeks later the splint was removed and the bird could walk but, the foot didn't line up quite right.

We had expected to release Robbie that fall, but wanted him banded first. Dr. Joseph J. Hickey and his wife came in September 1961 to do this. For various reasons, we were advised not to release him then, and by spring it had become evident that he was in no condition to fend for himself. I shall attempt to give an account of his life in captivity.

It was no problem to feed him, for he accepted worms and fluttered his wings like all young birds do, until he was 3 months old. He hunted the earthworms in a pan of ground, and ate them. Later he tired of worms, so we resorted to raw ground round steak, thinking lean meat was best for him, and he continued on it, to this date (fall 1964). Worms from a bait station were kept on hand which he hunted, but did not eat. When the market was out of red grapes and offered only green ones, he noticed the difference in color.

July 27, when Robbie had been with us almost two months, he made his first attempts to sing. In August he had pulled out most of his spotted feathers and only a collar of them remained. His throat became streaked with white and by the end of September he had a white eye ring. The next month his bill began to turn yellow. In October 1961 we took the first tape recording of Robbie's song. In December he sang merrily as soon as he

awakened and often sang until 8:00 p.m. It wasn't a true Robin's song for he hadn't learned it from the adult birds.

In January 1962 we recorded more of his song, for Robbie whistled like a Cardinal. He had learned it from our friend, Gunnar Johansen, Professor of Music at the University, Madison, who during the summer had whistled like a Cardinal to Robbie whenever he and his wife came to visit. In May, Robbie whistled so loudly that my ears hurt.

Whenever we had afternoon guests, such as a group of ladies, Robbie sang at the top of his voice to make himself heard above their chatter.

In June 1962 Henry installed an insect attracting light for Robbie's benefit. We froze the daily catch of bugs and later thawed enough for each feeding. He enjoyed the moths, but refused all hard shelled bugs.

After Robbie came to us our rooms took on a different appearance and our life style changed, too. All blinds and doors were considered perches, so we covered them with pieces of white cloth to catch the droppings. I was always busy wiping the floors. A fiberglass screen was hung in some doorways to keep Robbie out of certain rooms.

Robbie was my constant companion and followed me wherever he could. He pulled the thread when I sewed or mended, he dropped things to the floor, chased his shadow and reflections from bright, objects and was determined to get rubber bands which I feared he would swallow. He loved to fly off with a peg when we played cribbage.

Henry put up a three cornered shelf in our spare bedroom between two doors, where Robbie slept every night thereafter, retiring much earlier than usual, now that he had a definite place to go. Even in winter when he was in bed as long as 16 hours, he never soiled his bed. But starting in April 1964, Robbie for the first time regularly soiled the shelf. Perhaps this was due to the excitement of the season. When Henry took it down, Robbie attacked his hands and head, as if to defend the shelf like he might have a nest. In mid July, when he began to molt, his bed remained spotless as before.

During the summer of 1962, a screened patio was built for Robbie, which was a few steps down from our bedroom. Here he could hunt insects attracted by lights at night. One evening in July, 1963, three young Screech Owls were at the pool in the yard, and while the outside Robins scolded, Robbie verbally joined them in their protest.

A few nights later he was strangely quiet before retiring. He didn't give the loud "eek-eek" bedtime call while flying around. Instead he soundlessly slipped away to bed. The next day he sang hardly a note, and day after day he grew more subdued as he began to molt. How I missed his cheerful song.

We were again happy to hear Robbie sing in January 1964. He sang beautifully, including a slide, as we called it, of intervals down the scale, something he had first done in the summer of 1962, but not in 1963.

At 5:00 o'clock one May morning we again taped his song, which had great variety. A bit of the Robin theme showed through, but it also reminded us of a Wood Thrush and a Cardinal, while the rest was his own composition. When he molted in 1964, I saved and counted whatever feathers I could gather. When the period was over, I had collected a total of 2,709 of Robbie's feathers and kept them in boxes. (At that time I didn't know it was illegal.)

While Robbie sat on the canary cage he gave the call of the female. He had long ago imitated the warble I had attempted to whistle to encourage a new male to sing. In 1964 when I gave the call, Robbie sang it right with me, the same pitch, and we often did it in unison. In May Robbie began to imitate the squeaky faucet in the kitchen. The sound he made was an exact duplicate, and these two sounds were heard as one. He knew when to make the sound, for he watched me reach for the faucet.

I constantly talked to Robbie, and we know that he understood the meaning of such words as: meat, eat, bath, bed, coffee cake, worms, bugs, out. My notes contain many examples of evidence of his word recognition, too numerous to quote here.

In September 1961, Robbie showed indications of color awareness, for he was afraid when I wore a black coat he hadn't seen before. In January 1962 he feared my red dress and Henry's red plaid jacket, which caused him to fly wildly about, spotting walls and woodwork.

Robbie had always been afraid of the vacuum cleaner, and left the room when I got it out. He was also afraid of the opening of the ironing board, but once open, he perched on it.

Only during September 1961 did Robbie show signs of wanting to migrate. He circled the ceiling and sat on the blinds at night, moving his wings as if in flight. During the next three autumns, we noticed nothing of a possible desire to go South.

In 1962 some children brought a young Robin for us to care for. Robbie was jealous of the new-comer, but he wanted to feed the bird, so he loaded his bill with food, but finally ate it himself. Another day he tried to put food into the hole of a spool of thread where the label was gone. Again he ate the food. He also caught the young Robin by the bill and I had to separate them. Later we banded and released the Robin. It's important to do this as soon as possible, so the bird can learn to care for itself.

The agony of accidently injuring a bird is beyond words. Robbie had two accidents--the first in 1962 and the second in 1963. Both times his foot was pinched in a door (which I'm so terribly sorry to say, ruined his feet for life).

In November 1964, Robbie might have had a serious accident if Henry had not heard his cry. While scratching his head, a claw became hooked in the skin around his eye, and he was unable to move. Henry quickly helped to free his foot, and fortunately Robbie was all right.

An evening in July 1964, while I rested on the patio, Robbie contentedly sat on my arm for about 20 minutes, and, of course, I didn't move until he left. He is trusting and unafraid and would be utterly unprepared for the outdoor world. This is the tragedy and penalty of raising a bird and not releasing it as soon as possible during the first summer of its life.

Robbie and his feathered friends have ruled our lives, and especially so since I received a permit to care for injured and orphaned birds. We were tied to the Bird House by this responsibility far more than anyone would imagine.  
To be Continued

The Bird House  
215 Jackson  
Sauk City, WI 53583

# **FIELD**

# **NOTES**



**By Rockne and Kevin Knuth**

## **Spring Season**

**March 1-May 31, 1978**

March began with below normal temperatures (highs in the 20's). By the second week of March temperatures began to moderate some, reaching the 30° to 40° range. This held true for most of the remainder of the month. Precipitation was light.

Drastic temperature changes occurred in late March with record highs in the 70's to 80's.

Early April was cloudy and wet, rain occurring almost daily, but temperatures remained above normal. Mid-April continued to be wet and temperatures fell below normal.

Early May was cold and wet. A decided warming occurred on May 10, when most field note reports indicated a major influx of passerines. High winds on May 11 grounded enormous numbers of migrants, several observers reporting that the trees and bushes were literally "alive" with birds. The remainder of May was generally dry and mild.

The most remarkable sightings of the season were a White Ibis at the Mead Wildlife Area, two Cassin's Kingbirds in Douglas County, and a Western Tanager in LaCrosse County. A Ross' Goose, Parasitic Jaeger, Barn Owl and Black-headed Grosbeak were also reported.

Eared Grebes and Piping Plovers were found in five counties, Laughing Gulls in three, and Loggerhead Shrikes in seven. Winter finches remained well into the spring season, with large numbers of Pine Grosbeaks, Common Redpolls, and Red and White-winged Crossbills being reported. Pine Siskins remained through the end of the period in many localities.

A total of 292 species were reported by 72 observers in 60 counties. The following species were present throughout the period with no special comments necessary: Mallard, Black Duck, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Horned Lark, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Western Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch, American Goldfinch and Song Sparrow.

## SEASONAL SUMMARY

**Common Loon:** Present at the beginning of the period in Oneida County (P. and L. Engberg). Present at the end of the period in Sheboygan, Burnett, Vilas, Ashland, Bayfield, Oneida, Barron Ozaukee and Forest Counties.

**Red-throated Loon:** Reported in Sheboygan County, April 9 (J. Suckbecki); Ozaukee County, April 11-May 9 (M. Donald, T. deBoor, D. Gustafson, N. Cutright, K. Redmond, D. Tessen); Manitowoc County, May 16 (R. Hoffman, T. deBoor); and Douglas County, May 24 (S. Robbins).

**Red-necked Grebe:** Reported in Dane County, April 8-23 (S. Thiessen); Winnebago County, April 15 through the end of the period (T. Ziebell); Manitowoc County, April 16 (R. Hoffman, T. deBoor); Price County, May 21 (M. Hardy); St. Croix County (nest building on Oakridge Lake), May 28 (D. Tessen).

**Horned Grebe:** First noted on March 26 in Milwaukee County (M. Donald). Last reported in Dodge County, May 26 (B. Drieslein).

**Eared Grebe:** Reported in Milwaukee County, April 2 (M. Donald); Columbia County, April 10 (R. Hoffman); Dane County, May 14 (R. Korotev, L. Erickson); Racine County (2 birds), May 21 (D. Tessen); Burnett County, May 26-27 (R. Hoffman, R. Korotev, B. Lobos); and Douglas County, May 28 (R. Korotev, B. Lobos).

**Pied-billed Grebe:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson).

**Double-crested Cormorant:** First reported in Sheboygan County, April 6 (J. Suckbecki). Present at the end of the period in Marathon, Burnett, Brown, Ashland, Bayfield, Dodge and LaCrosse Counties. Additional reports came from Douglas, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Dane, Taylor, Winnebago, Marquette, Green Lake and Trempealeau Counties.

**White Ibis:** One was found in the Mead Wildlife Area on May 31 (J. Joefler, T. Eisele).

**Great Blue Heron:** Present at the beginning of the period in Outagamie County (J. Anderson, L. Pickette, P. Minkebig).

**Green Heron:** First reported in Brown County, April 1 (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary).

**Little Blue Heron:** Reported in Milwaukee County, May 19 (M. Donald); and in Sheboygan County, May 21 (Sheboygan May Count)

**Cattle Egret:** Reported in Dodge County, April 10-May 16 (4 birds) (B. Dreislein) and May 21 (D. and J. Haslen); Brown County, April 25-May 15 (7 birds in 2 locations) (J. Johnson); Dane County, May 20 (Randy Korotev, L. Erickson); and Winnebago County, May 26 (6 birds) (T. Ziebell).

**Great Egret:** First reported in LaCrosse County, March 30 (J. Rosso).

**Snowy Egret:** One was found in Oconto County, May 13 (H. Lindberg).

**Black-crowned Night Heron:** First reported in Dodge County, April 19 (B. Dreislein)

**Yellow-Crowned Night Heron:** Reported in Chippewa County, April 12-May 1 (C. Kemper); Columbia County, May 2-7 (R. Hoffman, D. Tessen); Grant County, May 6 (Southwest Wisconsin May count); Milwaukee County, May 11 (M. Donald); LaCrosse County, May 15 to the end of the period (J. Rosso); and Dodge County, May 25-26 (B. Drieslein).

**Least Bittern:** First reported in Columbia County, May 2 (R. Hoffman). Additional reports came from Marquette, Winnebago, Dodge, LaCrosse and Dane Counties.

**American Bittern:** First reported in Columbia County, March 21 (T. deBoor).

**Mute Swan:** Reported in Bayfield County, April 2 (2 birds) R. Johnson), May 27 (4 birds L. Erickson), May 29 (R. Korotev, B. Lobos), and May 30 (8 adults, one on nest with 4 cygnets D. Tessen); and in Ashland County, April 20 through the end of the period (M. Buttebrodt).

**Whistling Swan:** First reported in Brown County, March 20 (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary). Present at the end of the period in Burnett (J. Evard) and Ashland/Bayfield Counties (R. Verch).

**Canada Goose:** Present at the beginning of the period in Brown County (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary). Present at the end of the period in Sheboygan, Burnett, Jackson, Brown, Ashland, Bayfield, Barron, LaCrosse and Dane Counties.



- Greater White-fronted Goose:** Reported in Columbia County, March 23-April 15 (R. Hoffman, T. deBoor, D. Gustafson, R. Korotev, D. Tessen); Chippewa County, April 14 (C. Kemper, S. Robbins); Dodge County, April 22 (B. Drieslein); Jefferson County, April 22 (Bielefeldt); Ashland/Bayfield Counties, May 16-29 (R. Verch); Bayfield County, May 27-30 (D. Tessen, L. Erickson).
- Ross' Goose:** One was found in Columbia County, March 24-26 (R. Hoffman).
- Gadwall:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (S. Thiessen, L. Erickson). Present at the end of the period in Burnett, Brown, Winnebago and Dodge Counties.
- Common Pintail:** Present at the beginning of the period in Brown County (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary). Present at the end of the period in Marathon, Burnett, Rock, Brown, Winnebago, Barron and Dodge Counties.
- Green-winged Teal:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson). Present at the end of the period in Burnett, Ashland, Bayfield, Barron and Dodge Counties.
- Blue-winged Teal:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson).
- Cinnamon Teal:** Reported in Milwaukee County, May 25 (M. Donald, D. Gustafson).
- American Wigeon:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson). Present at the end of the period in Dane, Ashland, Bayfield and Burnett.
- Northern Shoveler:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson).
- Wood Duck:** Present at the beginning of the period in Ozaukee (M. Donald), Brown (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary), and Dane (L. Erickson) counties.
- Redhead:** Present at the beginning of the period in Brown (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary) and Dane (L. Erickson) Counties.
- Ring-necked Duck:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson). Present at the end of the period in Douglas, Burnett, Winnebago and Barron Counties.
- Canvasback:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson). Present at the end of the period in Burnett County (J. Evrard).
- Greater Scaup:** Present at the beginning of the period in Brown, Ozaukee, Milwaukee and Door Counties. Still present at the end of the period in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright, K. Redmond).
- Lesser Scaup:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson). Present at the end of the period in Winnebago (T. Ziebell), Ashland/Bayfield (R. Verch) and Barron (A. Goff) Counties.
- Common Goldeneye:** Last reported in Douglas County, May 29 (K. and J. Luepke).
- Bufflehead:** Present at the beginning of the period in Ozaukee (N. Cutright, K. Redmond) and Dane (L. Erickson) Counties. Present at the end of the period in Jackson, Iron/Ashland, Ozaukee and Dane Counties.
- Oldsquaw:** Last reported in Ozaukee County on May 2 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond). Additional Reports came from Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Sheboygan and Door Counties. Reported in Burnett County on April 29 (R. Hoffman).
- Harlequin Duck:** An immature male was found in Douglas County on May 30 (D. Tessen).
- White-winged Scoter:** Reported in Ozaukee County, March 7-May 15 (138 counted on May 2) (N. Cutright, K. Redmond). Also reported in Sheboygan County, March 9 (J. Suebecki); Manitowoc County, April 16 (R. Hoffman, T. deBoor); and Ashland/Bayfield County, May 20-27 (R. Verch).
- Surf Scoter:** Reported in Ozaukee County, April 9 (9 birds, D. Tessen); and Douglas County, May 30 (D. Tessen).
- Ruddy Duck:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (L. Erickson).
- Hooded Merganser:** Present at the beginning of the period in Ozaukee (N. Cutright, K. Redmond) and Dane (S. Thiessen) Counties. Present at the end of the period in Marathon, Burnett, Outagamie, Barron, LaCrosse, Ozaukee, Dane and Forest Counties.
- Common Merganser:** Present at the beginning of the period in Columbia, Brown, Dane, Ozaukee and Door Counties. Present at the end of the period in Iron/Ashland, Dane and Door Counties.

- Red-breasted Merganser:** Present at the beginning of the period in Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Dane Counties. Present at the end of the period in Douglas and Door Counties.
- Turkey Vulture:** First noted in Adams County, March 30 (D. Tessen). Reported in 27 additional counties.
- Northern Goshawk:** First reported in Dane County, March 13 (R. Korotev). Present at the end of the period in Douglas County (K. and J. Luepke). Additional reports come from Ozaukee, Brown, Chippewa, Oneida, Forest, Bayfield, Vilas, Winnebago, Outagamie, Eau Claire, Dane and Door Counties.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk:** Present at the beginning of the period in Marquette, Brown, LaCrosse, Ozaukee and Door Counties. Reported in 35 additional Counties.
- Cooper's Hawk:** Present at the beginning of the period in Marquette, Burnett and Brown Counties. Reported in 17 additional counties.
- Red-shouldered Hawk:** Present at the beginning of the period in Outagamie (J. Anderson, L. Pickette, P. Minkebigel) and LaCrosse (J. Rosso) Counties. Reported in 20 additional counties.
- Broad-winged Hawk:** First noted in Barron County, April 5 (A. Goff).
- Swainson's Hawk:** Reported in Chippewa County, April 4 (C. Kemper); St. Croix County, April 11 (S. Robbins); and Juneau County, May 5 (S. Robbins).
- Rough-legged Hawk:** Last reported in Marathon County, May 29 (K. and J. Luepke).
- Golden Eagle:** Reported in Price County, March 5 (K. and J. Luepke); Brown County, March 19 (R. Korotev); and Ozaukee County (N. Cutright, K. Redmond).
- Bald Eagle:** Reported in 24 counties throughout the state except for the northeast and extreme southwest.
- Northern Harrier:** Present at the beginning of the period in Marquette (R. Williamson) and Ozaukee (N. Cutright, K. Redmond).
- Osprey:** First reported in Winnebago County, April 5 (T. Ziebell). Reported in 25 additional counties.
- Peregrine Falcon:** Reported in Burnett County, April 29 (R. Hoffman); Milwaukee County, May 9 (G. Seegert) and May 12 (M. Donald); Dane County, May 11 (R. Korotev); Waukesha County, May 20 (D. Tessen); and Sawyer County, May 26 (E. Epstein).
- Merlin:** First reported in Dane County, March 30 (T. deBoor). Present at the end of the period in Taylor (J. and L. Fadness) and Barron (A. Goff) Counties. Also reported in Columbia, Sheboygan, Rock, Price, Burnett and Bayfield Counties.
- Spruce Grouse:** Reported in Burnett County May 26 (R. Hoffman), and in Douglas County, May 29 (R. Korotev, B. Lobos).
- Ruffed Grouse:** Reported throughout the state as far south as Grant, Rock and Waukesha Counties.
- Greater Prairie Chicken:** Present throughout the period in Portage County (S. Krings), 32 reported there on May 30 (D. Tessen). Also reported in Marathon County, 20 counted on March 27 (K. and J. Luepke); and in Clark County where 2 were present on May 28 (K. and J. Luepke). In Burnett County, 20 were found on April 13 (J. Evrard).
- Sharp-tailed Grouse:** Reported in Burnett (R. Hoffman, J. Evrard, R. Korotev, B. Lobos), Douglas (R. Johnson), Portage (D. Tessen, S. Krings), Jackson (D. Harmer), Oneida (P. Vanderschaegen), Taylor (J. and L. Fadness), and Bayfield (R. Korotev, B. Lobos) Counties.
- Bobwhite:** Reported in LaCrosse (F. Leshner, J. Rosso), Marquette (R. Williamson), Rock (Mrs. Joseph Mahlum, D. Tessen), Columbia (T. deBoor), Vernon (V. Weber), Monroe (E. Epstein) and Dunn (S. Robbins) Counties.
- Ring-necked Pheasant:** Reported as far north as Douglas, Burnett, Barron, Chippewa, Marathon, Brown and Door Counties.
- Gray Partridge:** Reported as far north as Jackson, Portage, Brown and Door Counties.
- Sandhill Crane:** First noted in Winnebago County on March 18 (T. Ziebell). Present at the end of the period in Waukesha, Portage, Marquette, Marathon, Burnett, Jackson, Winnebago, Outagamie, Dodge and Eau Claire Counties.

**King Rail:** Reported in Columbia County, April 24 (R. Hoffman); Jefferson County, April 25 (M. Donald) and May 20 (D. Tessen); and Dane County, May 14 (L. Erickson) and May 15 (J. Rosso).

**Virginia Rail:** First reported in Columbia County, April 17 (R. Hoffman).

**Sora:** First reported in Manitowoc County, April 15 (M. Albrecht).

**Coot:** Present at the beginning of the period in Waukesha County (J. Bielefeldt).

**Semipalmated Plover:** First noted in Ashland/Bayfield County, April 24 (R. Verch). Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield, Brown, Dane and Ozaukee.

**Piping Plover:** Reported in Milwaukee County, May 11, (E. Epstein); Brown County (2 Birds), May 12-16 (J. Johnson); Ozaukee County, May 14 (M. Donald); Ashland/Bayfield County, May 23-31 (R. Verch); and Douglas County, May 26 (R. Hoffman) and May 29 (D. Tessen).

**Killdeer:** First reported in Ozaukee County, March 9 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond).

**Lesser Golden Plover:** First noted in Brown County, May 10 (J. Johnson). Last reported in Chippewa (C. Kemper) and Douglas (S. Robbins) Counties, May 24. Also reported in Ozaukee, Ashland/Bayfield and Racine Counties.

**Black-bellied Plover:** First noted in Columbia County, April 29 (R. Korotev). Last reported on May 31 in Dane County (T. deBoor).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** First reported in Ashland/Bayfield (R. Verch) and Winnebago (T. Ziebell) Counties, May 10. Present at the end of the period in Brown County (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary).

**American Woodcock:** First noted in Columbia (R. Hoffman) and Vernon (F. Leshner) Counties, March 22.

**Common Snipe:** First reported in Marathon (K. and J. Luepke) and Ozaukee (M. Donald) Counties, March 31.

**Whimbrel:** Reported in Ashland/Bayfield County, May 20-23 (R. Verch); Douglas County May 26-29 (R. Hoffman, K. and J. Luepke, R. Korotev, B. Lobos); and Door County, May 31 (12 birds, C. Lukes).

**Upland Sandpiper:** First reported in Columbia (R. Hoffman) and Dane (R. Hoffman) Counties, April 19.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** First noted in Columbia County, April 19 (R. Hoffman).

**Solitary Sandpiper:** First reported in Milwaukee (E. Strehlow) and Dane (R. Korotev) Counties April 22. Present at the end of the period in Brown (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary) and Ashland/Bayfield (R. Verch) Counties.

**Willet:** Reported in Racine County, April 22 (D. Tessen); Dane County, May 7 (D. and J. Haselen); Chippewa County, May 7-11 (8 birds, S. Robbins); Ashland/Bayfield County, May 8-12 (R. Verch); Ozaukee County, May 9 (M. Donald); Marathon County, May 10 (2 birds, K. and J. Luepke); Brown County, May 11 (J. Johnson); Sheboygan County, May 15 (2 birds, J. Suchecki); Winnebago County, May 16 (T. Ziebell); and Milwaukee County, May 19-20 (D. Gustafson, E. Epstein).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** First noted in Columbia County, April 4 (R. Hoffman). Present at the end of the period in Brown County (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** First reported in Ozaukee County, March 19 (M. Donald). Present at the end of the period in Brown County (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary).

**Red Knot:** Reported in Douglas County, May 18-27 (R. Hoffman, R. Johnson, S. Robbins, R. Korotev, B. Lobos, D. Tessen); Dane County, May 19 (T. deBoor); Chippewa County, May 20 (C. Kemper); and Ashland/Bayfield County, May 23 (R. Verch).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** First noted in Dane County, March 24 (T. deBoor). Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield County (R. Verch)

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** First reported in Dane County, April 29 (D. Tessen). Present at the end of the period in Dane County (T. deBoor).

**Least Sandpiper:** First noted in Dane (R. Korotev) and Columbia Counties (R. Korotev), April 29.

**Dunlin:** First reported in Milwaukee County, April 2 (M. Donald).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** First reported in LaCrosse County, May 7 (J. Rosso). Last noted in Brown County, May 22 (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary).

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** First reported in Dane County, April 25 (R. Korotev). Last noted in Ashland/Bayfield County, May 28 (R. Verch).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** Reported in Brown County, May 10 (J. Johnson); Racine County, May 12 (5 birds, D. Tessen); and Ozaukee County, May 14 (M. Donald).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** First noted in Dodge County, April 28 (B. Drieslein).

**Western Sandpiper:** Reported in Ozaukee County, May 12 (M. Donald); Dane County, May 24 (T. deBoor); Chippewa County, May 24 (C. Kemper); St. Croix County, May 24 (S. Robbins); and Douglas County, May 29 (D. Tessen).

**Marbled Godwit:** Reported in Ashland/Bayfield County, April 18 (R. Verch); Columbia County, May 12 (R. Hoffman); and Brown County, May 16-20 (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary).

**Hudsonian Godwit:** Reported in Ashland/Bayfield County, April 14, May 26 (R. Verch); Racine County, (21 birds, D. Tessen); Brown County, May 12-15 (J. Johnson); Dodge County, May 14 (B. Drieslein); and Dane County, May 19 (T. deBoor).

**Sanderling:** First noted in Dane (D. and J. Haselen) and LaCrosse (J. Rosso) Counties, May 7. Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield County (R. Verch).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** First noted in Rock County, April 29 (D. Tessen).

**Northern Phalarope:** Reported in LaCrosse County, May 14-16 (J. Rosso, F. Leshner); Dane County, May 25 (T. deBoor); and Douglas County, May 26-27 (R. Hoffman, R. Korotev).

**Parasitic Jaeger:** Reported in Burnett County, May 28 (D. Tessen)

**Glaucous Gull:** Reported in Milwaukee County, March 20 (M. Donald) and April 1 (E. Epstein); Brown County, April 3-8 (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary); Dane County, April 30 (T. deBoor, L. Erickson); and Bayfield County, April 22 (2 birds) (R. Johnson).

**Iceland Gull:** Reported in Dane County, March 27 (B. Foster); and Milwaukee County, April 2 (M. Donald).

**Laughing Gull:** Reported in Sheboygan County, May 16 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond); Douglas County, May 24 (S. Robbins).

**Franklin's Gull:** Reported LaCrosse County, April 1-12 (20 birds, F. Leshner) and May 4 (J. Rosso); Milwaukee County, April 16 (T. deBoor) and April 18 (D. Gustafson); Ozaukee County, May 15 (M. Donald); Ashland County, May 30 (2 birds, D. Tessen); Douglas County, May 30 (7 birds, D. Tessen).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** First reported in Milwaukee County, March 31 (E. Epstein). Present at the end of the period in LaCrosse (F. Leshner) and Sheboygan (J. Suebecki) Counties.

**Little Gull:** Reported in Milwaukee County, April 24 (E. Epstein)

**Forster's Tern:** First reported in Ozaukee County, April 11 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond).

**Common Tern:** First noted in Ozaukee County, April 15 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond).

**Caspian Tern:** First reported in Ozaukee County, April 9 (R. Korotev).

**Black Tern:** First reported in Columbia County, April 26 (R. Hoffman)

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** First reported in Ozaukee County, May 11 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** First reported in Milwaukee County, May 9 (G. Seeger).

**Barn Owl:** One was found in Milwaukee County, March 2 (D. Hanbury).

**Common Screech Owl:** Recorded in 11 counties.

**Great Horned Owl:** Recorded in 26 counties.

**Snowy Owl:** Last reported in Oneida County, May 8 (P. Vanderschaegen). Additional reports came from Winnebago, Brown, Columbia, Douglas Portage, Burnett, Wood, Ashland/Bayfield, and Door Counties.

**Barred Owl:** Recorded in 25 Counties.

- Long-eared Owl:** Reported in Winnebago, Oneida, Chippewa, Burnett, Milwaukee, Rusk and Marathon Counties.
- Short-eared Owl:** Reported in Taylor, Chippewa, Brown, Green Lake, Portage, Columbia, Washington, Ozaukee, Wood, Clark, Marathon, Dodge and Chippewa Counties.
- Saw-whet Owl:** Reported in Vilas, Oneida, Douglas, Portage, Vernon, Dane and Door Counties.
- Whip-poor-will:** First reported in Chippewa County, April 29 (C. Kemper).
- Common Nighthawk:** First reported April 4, Ashland/Bayfield County (R. Verch). Was found in Winnebago County, April 15 (T. Ziebell).
- Chimney Swift:** First reported in Rock County, April 21 (J. and E. Brakefield).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** Reported in Vernon County, March 21 (V. Weber).
- Common Flicker:** Present at the beginning of the period in Dane County (R. Korotev).
- Pileated Woodpecker:** Except for a report from Ozaukee County (N. Cutright, K. Redmond) all reports were north and west of Door, Brown, Outagamie, Portage, Marquette, Columbia and Dane Counties.
- Red-Bellied Woodpecker:** Reported as far north as Barron, Chippewa, Marathon, Outagamie, Brown and Door Counties.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** First reported in Milwaukee County, March 19 (J. Frank).
- Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker:** Reported in Vilas County, March 10 (P. Vanderschaegen); Price County, May 20-21 (M. Hardy); and Douglas County, May 29 (D. Tessen).
- Western Kingbird:** Reported in Marinette County, May 27 (H. Lindberg).
- Cassin's Kingbird:** Two were found in Douglas County, May 29-30 (D. Tessen).
- Eastern Kingbird:** First noted in Door County, April 17 (C. Lukes).
- Great Crested Flycatcher:** First noted in Door County, April 15 (C. Lukes).
- Eastern Phoebe:** First reported in LaCrosse County, March 25 (J. Rosso).
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** First noted in Milwaukee County, April 7 (E. Strehlow). Present at the end of the period in Rock, Milwaukee, Brown, and LaCrosse Counties. Reported in 12 additional counties.
- Acadian Flycatcher:** First reported in Milwaukee County, May 19 (M. Donald). Reported in Waukesha, Marathon, Monroe, Eau Claire, Sauk, Dane, Douglas and Grant Counties.
- Alder Flycatcher:** First reported in Ashland/Bayfield County, May 15 (R. Verch). Reported in Winnebago, Vilas, Oneida, Chippewa, Dane, Portage, Trempealeau, Waukesha, Douglas, Burnett, Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Price, LaCrosse, Bayfield, Green, Walworth and Door Counties.
- Willow Flycatcher:** First reported in Dodge County, May 10 (B. Drieslein). Reported in Winnebago, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Chippewa, Waukesha, Sheboygan, Burnett, Dunn, Dane, Walworth, Douglas and Green Counties.
- Least Flycatcher:** First noted in Milwaukee (M. Donald) and Door (C. Lukes) Counties, May 5.
- Eastern Peewee:** First reported in Winnebago County, April 15 (T. Ziebell).
- Olive-sided Flycatcher:** First reported in Monroe County, May 6 (E. Epstein).
- Tree Swallow:** First reported in Dane County, March 20 (T. deBoor).
- Bank Swallow:** First reported in Rock County, April 9 (J. and E. Brakefield).
- Rough-winged Swallow:** First reported in Columbia County, April 10 (R. Hoffman).
- Barn Swallow:** First reported in Dane County, March 15 (T. deBoor).
- Cliff Swallow:** First reported in Chippewa County, April 15 (C. Kemper).
- Purple Martin:** First reported in Winnebago (T. Ziebell) and Barron (A. Goff) Counties, April 5.
- Gray Jay:** Reported in Oneida, Iron/Ashland, Rusk, Sawyer, and Price Counties.

- Northern Raven:** Reported north and west of Jackson, Clark, Taylor, Lincoln and Forest Counties; and in Door County.
- Boreal Chickadee:** Reported in Ashland/Bayfield (R. Verch), Price (M. Hardy) and Vilas (P. Vanderschaegen) Counties.
- Tufted Titmouse:** Reported in Dane, Dunn, Grant, Eau Claire, Vernon, Sheboygan, Columbia Chippewa and LaCrosse Counties.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch:** Present at the end of the period in Barron, Price, Ashland/Bayfield, Douglas, Milwaukee, Taylor, Vilas and Door Counties.
- House Wren:** First noted in Marinette (H. Lindberg) and Dodge (B. Drieslein) Counties, April 14.
- Winter Wren:** First noted in Door County, March 30 (T. deBoor). Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield, Douglas, Vilas and Door Counties.
- Carolina Wren:** Reported in Bayfield County, May 27 (L. Erickson).
- Marsh Wren:** First noted in Dane County, May 3 (R. Hoffman).
- Sedge Wren:** First noted in Dane County, May 3 (R. Hoffman).
- Northern Mockingbird:** Reported in Sheboygan County, May 2 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond); Milwaukee County, May 11 (G. Seegert), May 17 (M. Donald); Door County, May 11 (C. Lukes); Douglas County, May 26-27 (R. Hoffman, R. Korotev); and Brown County, May 28 through the end of the period (2 birds) (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary).
- Gray Catbird:** First noted in Door County, March 26 (C. Lukes).
- Brown Thrasher:** First reported in Door County, March 12 (C. Lukes).
- Varied Thrush:** Two were present in Door County from the beginning of the period to March 24 (C. Lukes).
- Wood Thrush:** First reported in Door County, April 4 (C. Lukes).
- Hermit Thrush:** First noted in Milwaukee County, March 5 (M. Donald, D. Tessen). Present at the end of the period in Barron, Ashland/Bayfield, Outagamie and Vilas Counties.
- Swainson's Thrush:** First reported in Rock County, May 2 (J. and E. Brakefield). Present at the end of the period in Outagamie County (J. Anderson, L. Pickette, P. Minkebige).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush:** First reported in Chippewa County, May 1 (C. Kemper). Present at the end of the period in Barron County (A. Goff).
- Veery:** First reported in Ashland/Bayfield County, April 21 (R. Verch).
- Eastern Bluebird:** First reported in Monroe County, March 29 (E. Epstein).
- Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher:** First reported in Dane County, April 22 (L. Erickson). Additional reports came from Monroe, Outagamie, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Columbia, Waukesha, Milwaukee, Chippewa, Brown, Winnebago, Washington, Grant, Sauk, St. Croix, LaCrosse, Dane and Ozaukee Counties.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet:** Present at the end of the period in Iron/Ashland County (M. Butterbrodt).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** First reported in Milwaukee (M. Donald) and Dane (R. Hoffman) Counties, April 1. Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield (R. Verch), Douglas (R. Johnson, K. and J. Luepke), and Milwaukee (E. Strehlow) Counties.
- Water Pipit:** First noted in Chippewa County, April 20 (C. Kemper). Last reported in Ozaukee County, May 24 (M. Donald). Additional reports came from Clark, Columbia, Milwaukee, Vilas, Sheboygan and Brown Counties.
- Bohemian Waxwing:** Present in Ashland/Bayfield County from the beginning of the period to April 26 (R. Verch), and in Marinette County, March 11 (H. Lindberg).
- Northern Shrike:** Last reported in Oneida County, April 24 (P. Vanderschaegen). Additional reports came from Dodge, Price, Ashland/Bayfield, Marathon, Sawyer, Columbia, Waukesha, Douglas, Door, Walworth, and Brown Counties.
- Loggerhead Shrike:** Reported in Columbia County, April 3-8 (R. Hoffman); Milwaukee County, April 9 (T. deBoor); Rock County, April 18 (J. and E. Brakefield); Door County, April 21 (C. Lukes); Ozaukee County, April 25 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond); Sauk County, April 15-May 20 (R. Korotev, D. Tessen); and Sheboygan County, May 16 (J. Suebecki).



**White-eyed Vireo:** Reported in Milwaukee County, May 23 (D. Gustafson); and Buffalo County, May 27 (D. Tessen).

**Bell's Vireo:** Reported in Dane County, May 11 (R. Korotev); May 13 (T. deBoor) and May 14 (R. Hoffman); LaCrosse County, May 16 through the end of the period (J. Rosso, F. Leshner); Green Lake County, May 19 (R. Korotev); Milwaukee County, May 20 (E. Epstein); and Grant County (3 birds), May 27 (D. Tessen).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** First noted in LaCrosse County, April 29 (J. Rosso).

**Solitary Vireo:** First reported in Dane County, April 30 (R. Korotev). Present at the end of the period in Douglas County (R. Johnson).

**Red-eyed Vireo:** First reported in Fond du Lac (R. Knuth) and Brown (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary), May 9.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** First noted in Dodge County, May 10 (B. Drieslein). Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield County (R. Verch).

**Warbling Vireo:** First reported in Vernon County, April 30 (V. Weber).

**Black and White Warbler:** First noted in Door County, April 10 (T. deBoor).

**Prothonotary Warbler:** First noted in Columbia County, May 2 (R. Hoffman). Also reported in Ashland/Bayfield, Fond du Lac, LaCrosse, Buffalo, Door, Brown, Dodge, Grant and Dane Counties.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** Reported in Dane County, May 14 (R. Hoffman) and May 28 (T. deBoor); Sauk County, May 20 (R. Korotev) and May 26 (R. Korotev, B. Lobos); Sheboygan County, May 21 (Sheboygan May Count); and Grant County, May 27 (D. Tessen).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** First reported in Chippewa County, May 8 (S. Robbins).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** First reported in LaCrosse County, May 3 (J. Rosso).

**(Lawrence's Warbler):** Reported in Vilas County, May 14 (R. Green).

**Tennessee Warbler:** First reported in Dane County, May 6 (L. Erickson, D. Tessen). Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield, Door and Taylor Counties.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** First noted in Milwaukee County, April 26 (E. Strehlow). Last noted in Chippewa (C. Kemper) and Douglas (D. Tessen) Counties.

**Nashville Warbler:** First noted in Milwaukee County, April 24 (E. Strehlow).

**Northern Parula Warbler:** First noted in Winnebago County, May 3 (T. Ziebell). Present at the end of the period in Oneida, Douglas, and Vilas Counties.

**Yellow Warbler:** First reported in Milwaukee County, April 21 (E. Strehlow).

**Magnolia Warbler:** First noted in Door County, May 5 (C. Lukes). Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield, Vilas and LaCrosse Counties.

**Cape May Warbler:** First noted in Fond du Lac (R. Knuth) and Ozaukee (N. Cutright, K. Redmond) Counties, May 9. Present at the end of the period in Vilas County (J. Baughman).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** First noted on May 9 in Fond du Lac (R. Knuth), Brown (M. Butterbrodt, M. Wierzicki), and Milwaukee (G. Seegert). Present at the end of the period in Vilas County (J. Baughman). Additional reports came from Door, Ozaukee, Sheboygan, Dane, Portage, Jackson, Forest, Winnebago, Douglas and Waukesha Counties.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** First reported in Milwaukee County, April 1 (M. Donald). Present at the end of the period in Barron, Ashland/Bayfield, Taylor, Vilas and Door Counties.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** First reported in Dane County, May 2 (R. Korotev). Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield, Douglas, Taylor, Vilas and Door Counties.

**Cerulean Warbler:** First noted in Portage County, April 29 (S. Krings). Additional reports came from Dodge, Monroe, Fond du Lac, Dane, Waukesha, LaCrosse, Brown and Grant Counties.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** First noted in Portage County, May 3 (S. Krings). Present at the end of the period in Ashland/Bayfield, Douglas, Vilas and Door Counties.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** First reported in Dane County, May 5 (T. deBoor). Present at the end of the period in Oneida, Ashland/Bayfield, Douglas, Waukesha and Taylor Counties.

- Bay-breasted Warbler:** First reported in Dane County, May 9 (L. Erickson). Last noted in Douglas County May 29 (K. and J. Luepke, D. Tessen).
- Blackpoll Warbler:** First noted in Fond du Lac County, May 9 (R. Knuth). Present at the end of the period in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright, K. Redmond).
- Pine Warbler:** First reported in Columbia County, April 19 (R. Hoffman). Present at the end of the period in Eau Claire, Ashland/Bayfield, Portage, Vilas and Chippewa Counties.
- Prairie Warbler:** Reported in Dane County, May 12 (R. Korotev).
- Palm Warbler:** First noted in Columbia County, April 24 (R. Hoffman). Present at the end of the period in Barron and Ashland/Bayfield Counties.
- Ovenbird:** First reported in Dane County, May 3 (R. Hoffman).
- Northern Waterthrush:** First noted in Dane County, April 29 (T. deBoor).
- Louisiana Waterthrush:** First reported in Waukesha (D. Tessen) and Sauk (R. Korotev) Counties, April 29. Additional reports came from Eau Claire, Sheboygan, Columbia, Dunn, LaCrosse, Dane and Ozaukee Counties.
- Kentucky Warbler:** Reported in Winnebago County, May 11 (T. Ziebell); Sheboygan County, May 19 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond, J. Sucbecki); Brown County, May 20 (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary); Rock County, May 25 (J. and E. Brakefield); and Grant County (4 birds) May 27 (D. Tessen).
- Connecticut Warbler:** First reported in Dane County, May 9 (L. Erickson). Last noted in Ozaukee County, May 30 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond). Additional reports came from Milwaukee, Douglas, Grant, Burnett, Dunn, Sheboygan, Chippewa, Winnebago, Vilas, Price, LaCrosse and Fond du Lac Counties.
- Mourning Warbler:** First noted in Milwaukee (E. Epstein), Brown (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary) and Fond du Lac (R. Knuth) Counties, May 11.
- Common Yellowthroat:** First noted in Chippewa County, May 5 (C. Kemper).
- Yellow-breasted Chat:** Reported in Milwaukee County, May 14-28 (D. Hanbury, M. Donald); Waukesha County, May 14 (C. Weix); Brown County, May 20 (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary); and Sheboygan County, May 20 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond) and May 21 (E. Butzen).
- Hooded Warbler:** Reported in Dane County, May 13 (R. Hoffman); Ozaukee County, May 16 (E. Epstein); Waukesha County, May 20 (D. Tessen, T. deBoor) and May 31 (J. Bielefeldt); and Walworth County, May 21 (D. Tessen).
- Wilson's Warbler:** First noted in Brown County, May 1 (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary). Last reported in Forest County (G. Zimmer).
- Canada Warbler:** First reported in Milwaukee County, May 9 (M. Donald). Present at the end of the period in Vilas, Waukesha and Taylor Counties.
- American Redstart:** First reported on May 2, Columbia County (R. Hoffman).
- Bobolink:** First reported in Ozaukee (D. Gustafson) and Dane (T. deBoor) Counties, April 29.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird:** First reported in Columbia County, April 5 (R. Hoffman).
- Orchard Oriole:** Reported in Door County, May 12-15 (3 birds, C. Lukes); Milwaukee County, May 12 (G. Seegert); Ozaukee County, May 15 (M. Donald) and May 20 (E. Epstein); LaCrosse County, May 18 (F. Leshner, Dane County, May 21 (T. deBoor); Lafayette County, May 27 (D. Tessen); Vernon County, May 30-31 (V. Webster); and Waukesha County, May 31 (J. Bielefeldt).
- Baltimore Oriole:** First reported in Brown (Bro. Columban, E. Cleary) and Door (C. Lukes) Counties, May 3.
- Rusty Blackbird:** Present throughout the period in Dodge County (B. Drieslein).
- Brewer's Blackbird:** First noted in Dane County, March 22 (S. Thiessen).
- Western Tanager:** Reported in LaCrosse County, May 14 (J. Rosso).
- Scarlet Tanager:** First reported in Door County, May 5 (C. Lukes).
- Summer Tanager:** Reported in Dane County, May 11 (S. Thiessen); Sheboygan County, May 23 (H. Koopman); and Waukesha County, May 21 (J. and W. Klug).

- Northern Cardinal:** Reported as far north as Barron, Chippewa, Marathon, Outagamie, Brown and Door Counties.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** First noted in Dane County, April 29 (L. Erickson).
- Black-headed Grosbeak:** A female was found in Ozaukee County, May 14 (M. Donald).
- Indigo Bunting:** First reported in LaCrosse County, April 11 (J. Rosso).
- Dickcissel:** First reported in Waukesha County, May 20 (J. Bielefeldt). Also reported in Green, Rock, Marquette, LaFayette, St. Croix, Grant and LaCrosse Counties.
- Evening Grosbeak:** Present at the end of the period in Iron, Brown, Price and Ashland/Bayfield Counties.
- Pine Grosbeak:** Last reported in Door County, April 23 (C. Lukes). Additional reports came from Forest, Dane, Barron, Milwaukee, Dodge, Chippewa, Brown, Winnebago, Washington, Vilas, Bayfield, Marquette, Waukesha, Columbia, Manitowoc, Marinette, Price, Sawyer, Taylor, Ashland and Clark Counties.
- Hoary Redpoll:** Reported in Ashland/Bayfield County from the beginning of the period to March 11 (R. Verch); Price County, March 1 - April 11 (M. Hardy); Brown County, March 18 (R. Korotev); and Milwaukee County, March 19 (M. Donald).
- Common Redpoll:** Last reported in Forest County, May 5 (G. Zimmer).
- Pine Siskin:** Present at the end of the period in Iron/Ashland, Brown, Winnebago, Ozaukee, Dane, Fond du Lac, Ashland/Bayfield, and Price Counties. It was found nesting in Dane County on April 5 (J. Bielefeldt).
- Red Crossbill:** Present at the end of the period in Chippewa County (C. Kemper). Also reported in Iron/Ashland, Columbia, Portage, Milwaukee, Ashland/Bayfield and Douglas Counties. Fledglings were found in Portage County on May 10 (S. Krings).
- White-winged Crossbill:** Reported in Ozaukee County, Marcy 1 (N. Cutright, K. Redmond); Vilas (J. Baughman) and Sawyer (K. and J. Luepke) Counties. March 3: Portage County, March 7 (S. Krings); Marinette County, March 14 (H. Lindberg); Milwaukee County, March 23 (J. Frank); Dunn County, March 28 (S. Robbins); and Winnebago County, March 31 (T. Ziebell).
- Rufous-sided Towhee:** First noted in Manitowoc County, April 3 (M. Albrecht).
- Savannah Sparrow:** First reported in Milwaukee County, April 4 (E. Epstein).
- Grasshopper Sparrow:** First reported in Vernon County, April 24 (V. Weber).
- LeConte's Sparrow:** Reported in Chippewa County, May 12 (S. Robbins); Ashland/Bayfield County, May 20 to the end of the period (R. Verch); and Burnett County, May 26 (R. Hoffman) and May 28 (D. Tessen).
- Henslow's Sparrow:** First noted in Milwaukee County, April 14 (M. Donald).
- Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** Reported in Bayfield County, May 18 (A. Roy).
- Vesper Sparrow:** First reported in Barron (A. Goff), Columbia (T. deBoor) and Dane (R. Korotev) Counties, April 1.
- Lark Sparrow:** Reported in Columbia County, April 19 (R. Hoffman) and May 21 (T. deBoor); Eau Claire County, April 30-May 30 (S. Robbins); Sauk County, May 7 (D. Tessen) and May 20 (R. Korotev); and Burnett County, May 28 (D. Tessen).
- Northern Junco:** Present at the end of the period in Forest County (G. Zimmer).
- American Tree Sparrow:** Last noted in Outagamie County, May 19 (Appleton May Count).
- Chipping Sparrow:** First noted in Vernon County, April 6 (Dittanbury).
- Field Sparrow:** First reported in Dane County, April 4 (D. deBoor).
- Harris Sparrow:** First reported in Washington County, March 2 (D. and J. Haselen). Last reported May 17, Ashland/Bayfield County (R. Verch). Also reported in Milwaukee, Eau Claire, Monroe, Price, Vernon, LaCrosse and Dane Counties.
- White-crowned Sparrow:** First reported in Washington County, March 6 (D. and J. Haselen, M. Donald). Last noted in Douglas County, May 30 (D. Tessen).
- White-throated Sparrow:** First reported in Milwaukee County, March 5 (M. Donald).
- Fox Sparrow:** First noted in Marinette County, March 1 (H. Lindberg). Last reported in Outagamie County, May 19 (Appleton May Count).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** First reported in Dodge County, April 26 (B. Drieslein). Last noted on May 30 in Ashland County, (D. Tessen).

**Swamp Sparrow:** First noted in Dodge County, March 31 (B. Drieslein).

**Lapland Longspur:** Present at the beginning of the period in Columbia County (R. Hoffman). Last noted in Douglas County, May 29 (D. Tessen).

**Snow Bunting:** Last noted May 9 in Door County (C. Lukes).

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Marjorie Albrecht, J. Anderson, John Bielefeldt, James Baughman, Tom deBoor, John and Edith Brakefield, W. D. Brown, Mary Butterbrodt, E. Butzen, Edwin Cleary, Bro. Columban, Noel Cutright, Mary Donald, Bob Drieslein, Todd Eisele, Paul and Louise Engberg, Eric Epstein, Laura Erickson, Mrs. William Erickson, James Evrard, John and Lois Fadness, Bill Foster, Jim Frank, Alta Goff, Robert Green, Dennis Gustafson, Dorothy Harmer, D. and J. Haselen, Maybelle Hardy, Dan Hanbury, James Hoefler, Randy Hoffman, Robbye Johnson, Charles Kemper, Janet and Wally Klug, Rockne Knuth, Harold Koopman, Randy Korotev, Gordon Kratzat, Steven Krings, Frederick Leshar, Harold Lindberg, Betty Lobos, Charlotte Lukes, Ken and Jan Luepke, Mrs. Joseph Mahlum, P. Minkebig, L. Pickette, Kate Redmond, Sam Robbins, Jerome Rosso, Albert Roy, Clark Schultz, Gregory Seegert, Elmer Strehlow, Joseph Sucbecki, Daryl Tessen, Steve Thiessen, P. Vanderschaegen, Richard Verch, Viratine Weber, Cindy Weix, Melvin Wierzbicki, Richard Williamson, Thomas Ziebell, Gary Zimmer, James Johnson.

## May Day Counts - 1978

May Day Counts were received from 26 localities and involved the efforts of 285 observers. Some confusion exists, at least on the part of the seasonal editor, concerning the area to be covered by the May Day Count. In the past, the area was to be confined to a 15 mile diameter circle, like the Christmas Count. More recently, the area restrictions were expanded to include a single county. This year more liberally designated areas, sometimes involving several counties, have been selected by Count participants.

**APPLETON:** May 13; 25 observers, 19 parties; Daryl Tessen, compiler, 157 species including Goshawk and Hooded Warbler.

**RUSH LAKE:** May 21; 2 observers, 1 party; Betty and Stuart Paterson, compilers. 62 species.

**MARINETTE COUNTY:** May ?; 4 observers, 1 party; Harold Lindberg, compiler, 104 species including Lesser Golden Plover and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.

**NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST:** May 21; 1 observer, 1 party; Gary Zimmer, compiler. 56 species including Evening Grosbeak and Northern Junco.

**WISCONSIN POINT:** May 29; 1 observer, 1 party, Daryl Tessen, compiler. 115 species including Whimbrel, Red Knot, Western Sandpiper and Cassin's Kingbird.

**SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN:** May 6; 12 observers, 2 parties; Terrance Ingram, compiler. 91 species including Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Bobwhite and Tufted Titmouse.

**OCONOMOWOC:** May 14; 18 observers 9 parties; Ed Peartree, compiler. 114 species including Merlin, Tufted Titmouse and Yellow-breasted Chat.

**ASHLAND:** May 20; 16 observers, 6 parties; Richard Verch, compiler. 148 species including Greater White-fronted Goose, White-winged Scotter, Whimbrel and Hudsonian Godwit.

**WOOD COUNTY:** May 13; 2 observers, 1 party; Don and Mary Follen, compilers. 77 species including Greater Prairie Chicken and Franklin's Gull.

**VILAS COUNTY:** May 20; 1 observer, 1 party; Linda Thomas, compiler. 41 species including Bald Eagle and Connecticut Warbler.

**HORICON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE:** May 14; 5 observers, 2 parties; Bob Drieslein, compiler. 128 species including Long-billed Dowitcher and Short-eared Owl.

**LANGLADE COUNTY:** May 28; 14 observers, 2 parties; Lynn Schimmels, compiler. 90 species including LeConte's Sparrow and Henslow's Sparrow.

**HORICON MARSH:** May 20; 10 observers, 1 party; Richard Wanie, compiler. 84 species including Cattle Egret and Prothonotary Warbler.

**BLACK RIVER FALLS:** May 11; 3 observers, 2 parties; Dorothy Harmer, compiler. 48 species including Northern Raven and Evening Grosbeak.

**PORTAGE COUNTY:** May 20; 10 observers, 5 parties; Guy Baldasarre, compiler. 142 species including Greater Prairie Chicken and Saw-whet Owl.

**MILWAUKEE AND OZAUKEE COUNTIES:** May 20; 15 observers, 10 parties; Mary Donald, compiler. 185 species including Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Willet, Bell's Vireo and Hooded Warbler.

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY:** May 20; 20 observers, 10 parties; Tom Ziebell, compiler. 144 species including Red-necked Grebe and Connecticut Warbler.

**WAUKESHA COUNTY:** May 21; 24 observers, 13 parties; Vern Aune, compiler. 140 species including Tufted Titmouse and Summer Tanager.

**WESTERN VERNON COUNTY:** May 21; 2 observers, 1 party; Viratine Weber, compiler. 64 species including Bobwhite and Tufted Titmouse.

**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY:** May 21; 21 observers, 8 parties; June Platz, compiler. 136 species including Little Blue Heron, Mockingbird and Worm-eating Warbler.

**ARCADIA:** May 21; 4 observers, 1 party; Tom Roskos, compiler. 75 species including Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Mourning Warbler.

**FIFIELD-OXBO:** May 21; 14 observers, 7 parties; Maybelle Hardy, compiler. 102 species including Red-necked Grebe, Merlin, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker and Gray Jay.

**LAKELAND AUDUBON:** May 14; 11 observers, 3 parties; Dr. G. M. Culp, compiler. 92 species including Baird's Sandpiper and Northern Junco.

**WAUSAU:** May 14; 23 observers, 8 parties; Mrs. David Bierbrauer, compiler. 125 species including Greater Prairie Chicken and Pine Grosbeak.

**PLYMOUTH:** May 21; 25 observers, 12 parties; Harold Koopman, compiler. 151 species including Tufted Titmouse and Yellow-breasted Chat.

**PORT WING:** May 27; 2 observers, 1 party; Laura Erickson, compiler. 100 species including Mute Swan, Snow Goose, Greater White-fronted Goose and Carolina Wren.

## **FIND THIS BIRD ONLY IN RACINE**



**W.H. PUGH OIL CO.  
Racine, Wisconsin**

# By the

# Wayside...



**Editor's Note:** Because W.S.O. has established a documentation committee for unusual sightings, reports will henceforth not be run in By the Wayside in full documentation form. It is hoped that those who make unusual sightings will fill out and submit the documentation form for consideration by the committee and submit separately, for use in this section, brief description, including identification points of educational interest to the readership (see, for example, the remarks of Randy Hoffman on the Ross' Goose), and/or situational interest (see Daryl Tessen's articles). The documentation committee will report in these pages, from time to time, unusual sightings which have been officially accepted for the record.

## **Fork-tailed Flycatcher in Columbia County**

**Species:** Fork-tailed Flycatcher - *Muscivora tyrannus*

**Number:** One

**Location:** NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 20, T11N, R11E, Town of Otsego, Columbia County, Wisconsin

**Dates and Times:** All 1978 - November 13, 11:30 a.m.; November 15, 2:00-2:05 p.m., 2:20-2:25 p.m.; November 16, 2:55-3:30 p.m.

**Description:** Top and sides of head black. Small yellow stripe in center of crown, visible only when seen from directly in front of or behind the bird. Bill straight and black. Throat, breast, sides, belly, and ventral area white. Nape and back light gray. Wings dark gray with very faint brownish tinge. Tail Black and distinctly forked. The right fork had a long slender black feather which I estimated to be about 11 inches in length. The left fork had what appeared to be the shaft of a long feather that had broken off near the tip of the fork. There appeared to be a narrow white line at the outer edge of the tail towards the base. When the bird was at rest the tail appeared fairly straight but deeply notched. On short flights the main portion of the tail frequently flaired out and had a "swallow-tail" appearance.

**Voice:** Not heard.

**Behavior:** The bird perched in flycatcher fashion at heights of 2 to 8 feet in willow brush and other small trees and bushes in and adjacent to an open marsh area. Although the temperature was about 30° F, the bird made several short "flycatching" sorties. It also went down into the long grasses and sedges a few times where it seemed to be looking for food. It was seen three times perched on tree branches about 35 feet from the ground. When not bush hopping or flycatching, the flight of the bird was level and not very rapid, with the long tail feather conspicuously streaming behind.



**Habitat:** Marsh with clumps of willow. Adjacent to oak-hickory-black cherry forest. Bird was seen in the marsh area and up to 75 yards inside the forest.

**Identification:** The long forked tail, bright white front, and black crown with inconspicuous yellow crown patch make this flycatcher hard to confuse with any other American species. The scissor-tail flycatcher (**Muscivora forficata**) is lighter gray with a pinkish cast and has no black crown. The Eastern Kingbird (**Tyrannus tyrannus**) is darker gray on the back, has a reddish crown patch, and has an unforked tail with a white terminal band.

**Distance:** 20-60 feet. Distance measured by camera range-finder.

**Optical Equipment:** 8 x 40 Fuji binoculars

**Light:** Bright sunlight on November 13 and 15. Overcast on November 16.

**Previous Experience:** In January 1978, I saw several Fork-tailed Flycatchers in the vicinity of Waspam, Nicaragua. I have seen hundreds of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers in the south and southwest.

**Sources:** Identification and notes were made prior to checking descriptions given in **A Field Guide to Mexican Birds** by Peterson and Chalif, **A Guide To the Birds of Panama** by Ridgely, and **A Guide to the Birds of Venezuela** by de Schauensee and Phelps.

**Photography:** Despite poor photographic conditions, several exposures were made using a Canon FTb with a 200mm Canon FD lens plus Vivitar 2X Tele Converter. Film was Kodachrome 64 and settings were f4 at 1/60 second. Ranges were 20 to 35 feet.

**Other Observers:** None

**Remarks:** This species has been infrequently seen and/or collected in several states including Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Kentucky, Mississippi and Michigan. I am unaware of any reports of it in Wisconsin.

Frank Freese  
Madison, Wisconsin

### **Plastic Sheet as House Sparrow Nesting Material**

On 3 June 1976, I saw a male House Sparrow (**Passer domesticus**) attempt to carry a piece of thin plastic sheet into a nest location under the eaves of a barn. At least two unsuccessful attempts were made before the plastic was dropped to the ground. A nearby female attempted to catch a small piece of the plastic which broke loose during the male's efforts. The plastic sheet was roughly shaped as a right triangle with dimensions of 19 cm x 22 cm x 28 cm. The plastic was of a clear type but had been rendered opaque by a coat of dust.

Successful placement of such a large piece of plastic in a nest could pose a threat of suffocation to nestlings.

M.E. Minock  
University of Wisconsin - Fox Valley  
Menasha, WI 54952

**Red-throated Loon** One swimming close to shore off Wisconsin Point, Superior on May 24, 1978, seen with 10x binoculars and 30x scope by Dr. Charles Kemper and Sam Robbins. We had been seeing several Common Loons at distances of 200 to 500 yards. This was closer, 150-200 yards away, with a noticeably slimmer body, much smaller white flecks on the back, white throat and breast and a smaller, slimmer bill tilted slightly upward. No sign of summer plumage.

**Laughing Gull:** Dr. Kemper and I almost didn't bother to examine the gulls perched on the Wisconsin Point breakwater on May 24, 1978. There were 75-100 there, but what hope does one have of identifying anything rare at distances of 300-400 yards, even with the aid of a 30x scope? But look we did, and our hearts beat faster when we zeroed in on one gull that was noticeably smaller than the nearby Ring-bills and Herrings, showed a dark head and dark wings. The wings were too dark for a Bonaparte's or Little Gull. The bird had to be a Franklin's or Laughing. For 15 minutes we took turns looking through the scope, hoping the bird would fly. The bird remained stationary. We tried to get feet and bill color; but the sun was shining from a 90° angle, and at that distance we could not be sure of the color. Finally, the bird lifted its wings and displayed a solid dark gray - almost blackish - mantle. There were no white wing tips, no white streak on the primaries. The only white on the wings was along the trailing edge. We were thankful this was a bird in full breeding plumage. In any other plumage, such an identification would have been impossible at this distance.

Sam Robbins  
Medford, Wis.

### White Ibis

On May 31, 1978, Todd Eisele and I observed what we believed to be a White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) at the Cormorant-Heron Rookery in Mead Wildlife Area. The Rookery is situated in dead trees in the center of a large flowage.

We were on the dike south of the rookery when we noticed a large, white bird approximately 150 yards away in the rookery. The first thing I noticed was the long, curved bill which immediately brought to mind an ibis. Closer inspection revealed a dark lining on the wing tip which contrasted with the white body. The face and bill appeared to be reddish colored. The bird was preening while perched on a limb fifteen to twenty feet above the water. The dark wing tips were clearly seen when the bird flew from its perch to another fifty yards away. Its size approximated that of the Black-Crowned Night Herons which were also present in the rookery.

We observed the bird with a 22x60 spotting scope and 6-12x32 binoculars for twenty minutes (9:00-9:20). The morning sky was clear.

From the drawings and descriptions in *Birds of North America* by Robbins, Bruun and Zim, which we had with us at the time of the sighting, we concluded that it could only be a White Ibis.

James E. Hoefler  
Todd Eisele  
Almond, Wisconsin 54909

### Western Tanager

On the afternoon of May 14, my wife and I were birding on Goose Island. It was windy and overcast. We both were carrying 10x50 binoculars. About 30 feet ahead of us, I noticed a larger bird (larger than the various warblers we had been watching) fly up from the ground into the lower branches of a small tree. I called by wife's attention to it and observed it through my binoculars. It flitted to another branch in the same tree after about a half a minute and then flew off and we lost sight of it. We both observed that it had a yellow belly and rump, a red head, black back and wings and wingbars. The size was about that of an oriole. We concluded it was a male Western Tanager.

We previously had seen a male Western Tanager in the City of LaCrosse in May 1962 and had seen several in Montana in 1972 and 1973.

The bird we observed this time made no sound.

Jerome R. Rosso  
LaCrosse, WI 54601

### Laughing Gull

**Date:** May 16, 1978

**Time:** about 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** County Road LS, halfway between Haven and Cleveland, Wisc., about ¼ mile from Lake Michigan in temporarily flooded field.

**Description:** The bird was sitting alone in an area that also contained Ring-billed and Bonaparte's Gulls. It was noticeably larger than the Bonaparte's Gulls and was in summer plumage.

After about five minutes the gull took off and flew east toward the lake, crossing the road about 150 yards in front of the car. It had a dark gray mantle, distinct black wing tips, and no trace of white between wingtips and mantle as would be seen in a Franklin's Gull. The bill was a dark, reddish color.

All observations were made in good light with 7x35 power binoculars. We are very familiar with Laughing Gulls due to a number of years of birding on the East Coast and in Texas (where we also saw large numbers of Franklin's Gulls).

Noel Cutright  
Kate Redmond  
3352 Knollwood Road  
West Bend, WI 53095

### Ross' Goose

**Species:** Ross' Goose (*Chen rossii*)

**Number:** 1

**Location:** Schoeneberg Marsh, Columbia County. Twice the specimen was seen from Harvey Road at the point where the road makes a 90 degree turn east. Once the specimen was observed from Highway 22 on the far west portion of the marsh.

**Dates Seen:** March 24, 25, and 26, 1978

**Description and Field Observations:** The specimen was a small white goose. The plumage was all white, except as follows: The bill was mostly blackish with some rosy coloring showing through the top of the upper mandible. A blackish line came from the bill to the eye. There was a faint light grayish line from the back of the head down the back of the neck to the shoulders. There were two lines of faint light grayish making a curved line around the upper mantle (one on each side). The primaries were black and the secondaries were light gray. The secondaries would show through while the bird was at rest. The legs were a dirty rosy color.

**Voice:** Never heard voice.

**Behavior:** Only once in the observation period was the specimen seen in proximity of Snow Geese. Mostly it was alone. The only behavior seen was flying, sleeping and feeding. During its stay, the marsh was frozen. This bird fed mostly along the grassy edges where it would pull at the bases of the grasses.

**Habitat:** Schoeneberg Marsh is a shallow fresh water marsh surrounded by grasses and sedges.

**Identification:** The only way to make this difficult identification is to compare this young Ross' Goose with Snow Geese of similar age.

- A. The specimen was approximately nine months old. This accounted for by the color of the secondaries. The juvenile wing feathers of both species are not molted until the birds are about one year old. This occurs during the post nuptial molt. The approximate age of nine months is accounted for by looking at the average hatching dates of late June to July 10 for both species.
- B. The bill, on the one occasion when the specimen was near the Snow Geese, appeared shorter. The bill was mostly blackish with some rosy showing through the top of upper mandible. No grinning patch could be made out. In all young Snow Geese observed, at equal or even greater distances, a grinning patch was seen. Though the bills of the snow geese varied from dusky brown to orange scarlet, a grinning patch was detected.
- C. The head and back plumage of the specimen was white except for the areas of the back of the neck, the upper mantle, and the eye line. In young Snow Geese this area of plumage is basically the same, except the dark areas are more brownish and usually more extensive.
- D. The juvenile flight feathers of the specimen were entirely white except the primaries and the secondaries. The primaries were black and the secondaries were light grayish. The juvenile flight feathers on the Snow Goose are black primaries with the greater covert and the secondaries gray. In the Ross' Goose the scapulars, most of the covert area and the innermost secondaries (tertials) are replaced in early spring, whereas Snow Geese have a darkish cast on the wing covert and the back into summer.
- E. Size. The only time a size comparison was possible was on March 24. On that day the specimen was in close proximity to an adult white phase Snow Goose. Though both species can show much variation in size and overlap is possible, the differences were as follows:

1. Head height while standing at rest appeared to be about 4 inches shorter.
  2. The height of the back was about 1-1/2 inches shorter.
  3. Tip of tail to tip of bill while standing at rest was about 3 inches shorter.
  4. The width of the body was about an inch or so narrower.
- F. Wingspan. The specimen and the Snow Goose took flight together. The wingspan was approximately 8 inches shorter.
- G. Wingbeats. The wingbeats were substantially more rapid. This is a characteristic of Ross' Goose flight.
- H. Flight Course. The specimen flew out of the marsh on a zig-zag back and forth course. The Snow Goose flew in a straight line, although on other occasions the specimen flew a straight course.
- I. Flight feathers in flight, except for the primaries, appeared white. While observing many young Snow Geese in flight, gray areas on the wings were readily noticed.

**Distance:** Closest 400 feet (estimate).

**Optical Equipment:** 7 x 15 x 35 Jason binoculars and a 48x Bushnell spotting scope.

**Light:** On March 24 there were high broken clouds with the sun just peeking through and unlimited visibility. The next two days were not as good with lower and darker clouds. Fortunately, the two species comparison and the finer plumage were obtained on March 24. This was also the day of closest observation.

**Previous Experience with Species:** None with this species. Snow Geese have been observed for many years, but not with as much detail as this year's birds were subjected to.

**Sources:** *Birds of North America* by Robbins, et al.; *A Field Guide to Western Birds* by Peterson; *Audubon Water Bird Guide* by Pough, *Life Histories of North American Waterfowl Part 2* by Bent; *Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America* by Kortright; and *Handbook of North American Birds Vol. 2* by Palmer.

**Photography:** It was not attempted because the distance was great and the light conditions were not good enough.

**Origin of the Species:** The specimen was most likely an easterly wanderer from the Ross' Goose population in the Central Flyway System. Historically, the Ross' Goose has used the central flyway, in small numbers though. In the past twenty years the numbers have increased significantly, enough that perhaps six percent of the Ross' Goose population use the central flyway.

**Remarks:** After the sighting was made many hours of research followed. Through this research, I discovered that a viable and increasing flock of Ross' Geese used the central flyway system. This fact came as a surprise to me. I am sure that a majority of the birders are in the same boat. That is, not realizing so many Ross' Geese are found east of the Rockies. With this, I would like to make a couple of points.

First, the possibility of a Ross' Goose in Wisconsin is much greater than previously assumed. It might pay to give every flock of Snow Geese an extra close look.

The second and most important point is that identification of a Ross' Goose is very difficult. The first point that is noticed is the size difference. This is the least reliable field mark. Snow Geese can range from 25 to 33 inches and Ross' Geese can range from 21 to 26 inches. There is overlap. All small geese should be carefully checked out, but never use size as a sole identification criteria. I would like to suggest that anyone making a Ross's Goose identification in the future adhere to three basics: First, the bird must be reasonably close, 500-800 feet depending on scope power and light conditions. Secondly, the specimen should be in the company of Snow Geese while at rest or feeding for comparison of most field marks and habits. Finally, the specimen should be seen flying with or near Snow Geese. This is the most crucial part for comparison of wing length and wing beats.

Randy Hoffman  
Waunakee, Wis.

### **Broad-winged Hawk on Newburg Christmas Count**

"I am pleased to report on the Broad-winged Hawk that Rog Boerner and I saw on the bird count December 16, 1978. This fellow was first spotted flying through the trees along the lake bluff about one mile north of Port Washington. My first reaction was a Red Shoulder because of the banding on the tail, but I did not get a good shot at him with my glasses. About 15 minutes later, Rog and I were out in an open field "snorking" a bunch of Goldfinch, Juncos and Tree Sparrows bathing in a small stream when this hawk appeared directly overhead at less than 100 feet judging from the nearby trees. He could not have acted better for us. He circled as if he was in a summer thermal. I was using a Bushnell 7x35 and Rog a 9x30 Nikon binocular. The shape was that of a more chunky bird than the Red Shoulder and the black and white bands were equal in size. Especially noted was the heavy black banding, not just the terminal band of the Rough-legged Hawk. We realized this guy probably should not have been there; but by golly, he musta been lost from the flock."

James E. Grootmaat  
Milwaukee, WI

### **Parasitic Jaeger**

After an afternoon of birding Crex Meadows, I returned in the early evening in the hopes of discovering Yellow Rails and Sharp-tailed Sparrows. However, the water level on most of the refuge had proven to be very high, especially in the prime spot. While heading out on the refuge, a severe storm was observed passing around to the east. After birding for almost an hour, during which time nothing unusual was heard or seen, I discovered the storm was returning from the east. The pending heavy rains and low moving clouds indicated a rapid exit from the marsh was necessary. Heading south on the East Refuge Road less than a mile from the pump-house, I noticed a large bird (smaller than a Herring Gull) approaching from the southwest in the light rain, time 7:00 p.m. What caught my attention were the pointed wings, bent at the joint. After quickly stopping the



car, a quick glance with the 10x binoculars revealed a black cap, white throat and belly and dark back. Jumping from the car, I then discovered the bird to have short pointed tail feathers and white on the outer wings, clinching the identification of it as it passed directly overhead and headed towards Reed Lake -- a Parasitic Jaeger!! The bird was observed for about two minutes in a light rain with an intense storm rapidly approaching from the east. This represented only the second jaeger (both Parasitic) I have ever seen. (Burnett Co., May 28).

Daryl Tessen

### **Cassin's Kingbird**

Arriving in the Superior area in a moderately heavy rain, I never-the-less decided to check out Wisconsin Point immediately. The past several days of rain created small pools and ponds on the road out to the peninsula. Stopping at the first blacktopped parking area that was not covered with water, I decided to venture out on the beach. It took ten minutes to walk the short distance as passerines were everywhere. One could not walk without flushing up warblers, vireos, thrushes and especially flycatchers. The beach revealed a fine group of shorebirds, predominated by Ruddy Turnstones, Sanderlings, Dunlins and Semipalmated Sandpipers. The rain continued for about an hour during which time I primarily birded from the car window. (It was unique looking eyeball to eyeball with many passerines instead of "breaking" one's neck looking into the tree tops.) Around 11:00 a.m. I found myself at a large parking spot with a bullet riddled sign indicating picnic tables. Conveniently, the rain had just stopped so I proceeded to cover this portion of the beach. A quick scan of the shorebirds revealed similar species seen at the previous stops. What was unique was a group of 12-15 Eastern Kingbirds sitting along the beach on driftwood and the sand itself. Perched on a large piece of driftwood was a bird that proved interesting even from the distance. It appeared to have a gray head and back, but had the flycatcher shape. Quickly moving into a better viewing position, the bright yellow breast and black tail could be seen. I was surprised to see what I felt was a Western Kingbird. Over a five minute period, I slowly approached the bird. Just before it took flight, I picked up in the same field of view a Lapland Longspur, a unique combination coupled with the shorebirds and fine assortment of passerines. When the kingbird flew, my interest was truly aroused as it was quickly apparent that there were no white outer tail feathers, a key identification point of the Western Kingbird.

For almost the next hour, I followed the bird in its leisurely movement westward along the beach. During this time it frequently would join other Eastern Kingbirds which were amazingly numerous along the beach. These in turn were interspersed with Yellow-bellied and Least Flycatchers, other unidentifiable empidonax flycatchers (lack of song) and Eastern Wood Pewees. Near the end of the hour of observation, the bird landed in another group of Eastern Kingbirds. However, sitting right next to it was another gray-backed, yellow breasted kingbird. Still not believing my eyes, I moved closer and noted the following marks on both birds (they obligingly briefly fought before returning to their perches): slightly larger than the adjacent Easterns, grayish head and back, small upper white throat with a lower gray area, a very yellow breast, black tail with no white outer tail feathers. Both birds had to be Cassin's Kingbirds! After watching these birds together for

an additional few minutes, my attention was drawn to the numerous and active shorebirds around me. Among the previously mentioned species were two Red Knots and one Western Sandpiper. As I walked back to my car, over half the beach away, I kept thinking that what I had been experiencing could not be true. This was as a constant "barrage" of passerines flew up from the grass ahead of me or darted out from the adjacent trees.

The weather during the observation was cloudy, time was 11:00-12:00, approximately, 10x binoculars were used and the distance ranged from ten feet to several hundred feet. May 29, 1978, Wisconsin Point, Superior, Douglas County.

That evening I ran into Don Follen, Sr. and the Luepkes. We searched unsuccessfully for the birds covering the same portion of the Point where I had seen them in the morning. Unfortunately there had been several storms during the p.m. and a heavy fog bank rolled in from the lake during our search.

The following morning, May 30, 1978, I spent two hours briefly recovering sections of the Point before leaving. I decided to recheck the original spot where I found the first Cassin's Kingbird. This was done after being shocked by a male Harlequin Duck and Surf Scoter drifting in out of the fog in company with some other ducks at an early stop. Much to my surprise, one of the birds was at its "usual" spot. This time the Cassin's was sitting on the beach, accompanied with another group of Easterns. All the previously mentioned identifying marks were again seen. It was watched for about five minutes, perched and in flight directly overhead. While returning to my car five Franklin's Gulls flew westward along the Point while eight Red Crossbills flew eastward, continuing an unbelievable combination of unique sightings. The combined nine to ten hours of birding spent on Wisconsin Point on May 29 and 30 truly represented one of the most remarkable birding events I have ever had the pleasure of witnessing.

Daryl Tessen

## **Additions to Extreme Arrival and Departure Dates, Vol. XXXII, No. 3**

1. Page 114. Under Species column, insert **Fork-tailed Flycatcher** under **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**. On Page 115, under exceptional dates column, insert Nov. 13-16, 1978, Frank Freese.

2. Page 86, **Red-throated Loon**, under spring arrival column, insert May 24, 1978, Sam Robbins, Charles Kemper.

3. Page 88, **White Ibis**, insert above **White-faced Ibis** on page 89, under exceptional dates column, insert 1 hypothetical record, May 31, 1978, J. Hoefler and T. Eisele.

4. Page 131, **Western Tanager**, under exceptional dates column, change to 5 other May dates.

5. Page 90, **Ross' Goose**, under spring arrival dates insert March 24, 1978, Noel Cutright.

6. Page 97, **Broad-winged Hawk**, under exceptional dates column, insert Dec. 16, 1978, Noel Cutright.

9. Page 115, **Cassin's Kingbird**, under exceptional dates column, insert 5/29, 78, D. Tessen.

# Letters to the Editor

Dear Dr. Kemper:

Late in May, 1978, at our Oneida County summer cottage, we heard a bird whose song was new to us. The bird was hidden in the tree tops but moved around within the area. Its flute-like song was so distinctive that my wife wrote out the music and then played in back on the organ in unison with the bird. This went on for four or five days while we fruitlessly pursued it through the woods. We were finally rewarded by again hearing the bird and this time spotting it on the top of a dead tree. With binoculars, we noted that it had a dark head with a white eye ring, an orange breast, dark wings and white underparts, and we then both realized that our virtuoso was merely a robin! We named him Robin Merrill. A day or so later, the song began to break up and gradually became the more familiar song of the species. We wonder how many people have heard this special song, which seems to be associated with the mating season and territorial acquisition, or whether that particular robin was endowed with extra musical talent.

Paul R. Engberg  
1620 Boathouse Circle  
Sarasota, Florida 33581

Dear Dr. Kemper:

I am a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point currently involved in a statewide study of the Black-crowned Night Heron. During the spring of 1978 we initiated a two-year study to determine the status and distribution of the Black-crowned Night Heron. The study is being supported by the Dept. of Natural Resources and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

The main objective of the study is to locate active and extinct colony locations and areas frequented by Black Crowns during the nesting season (May 15-Aug. 1). Again this year, I would like to solicit the help of the WSO membership in identifying these areas. Anyone with such information is asked to contact me. I am also seeking volunteers to visit marshes during the summer to determine the presence or absence of Black Crowns. Any area containing large acreages of type 4 wetlands has the potential of harboring a colony.

Anyone interested in participating is asked to contact me at:

Route 1, Box 43  
Almond, WI 54909

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
James E. Hoefler

Dear Dr. Kemper:

Four years ago, Mr. Berg, a farmer at Cascade, Wisconsin raised a flock of turkeys. Some of the turkeys left the farm and took up residence in a woods about a half mile away. Their stay there lasted through the winter and in the spring they trotted out with a few young.

Now the third generation is spending the winter in the woods. They are very wary and cannot be approached without the birds sneaking away. Several snowmobilers have braked to a sudden stop upon encountering these turkeys in the wild.

Our question is this: Can we list these birds on our counts as wild turkeys? They are extremely hardy and always appear in good health. We would not consider an occasional escaped bird, but these birds have established their own independent group.

Can a domesticated breed ever be classified as a wild bird?

In your editor's notes could you please give us your opinion.

John J. Brumer  
Route 2  
Plymouth, WI 53073

*(Editor's Note: There may be disagreement about this. I suggest you list these birds on your count with an asterisk and explanation of their status — e.g., "semi-domestic", or "third generation removed from domestic", or whatever. Anybody with a better idea?)*

Dear Dr. Kemper:

I wish to correct an error in my article, **Response to Drought by a Breeding Population of Common Loons**, that appeared in the Summer 1978 issue of the Passenger Pigeon.

In paragraph three, the second and third sentence should read: "Crex Meadows contains 26,000 acres of which 4,200 acres is open water. Only 13 wetlands containing 1,360 acres of water could be considered suitable Loon habitat." The omission gave one an impression that there are 26,000 acres of Loon habitat on Crex rather than 1,360 acres. Thank you.

James O. Evrard  
Project Manager  
Crex Meadows Headquarters  
Box 337  
Grantsburg, WI 54740

Dear Dr. Kemper:

The following is a report on my sighting of a Peregrine Falcon.

**1. Species:** Peregrine Falcon

**2. Location:** Perrot State Park, Trempealeau, Wisconsin 54661. West of the campground along Trempealeau Bay.

**3. Date seen:** September 8, 1978      **Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**4. Description from Field Observations:** I was checking some bluebird houses behind the campground when I saw a large bird flying at an angle toward me, from about my 2:00 position to my 8:00 position, me being the center of the clock facing 12:00. I was struck by the size of the bird and by the long length of the wings. The bird flew past my position, came toward me and then circled once just in front of me and flew away from me at 12:00. He was at a height of about fifty feet at all times. I was able to see the face markings distinctly and the wing and tail stripes as the bird flew in the circle. The sun was bright and lit up the face and underside of the bird without shadows.

**5. Behavior:** The bird was flying, holding its wings flat on the soar. The pattern of its flight was flap-flap-flap-soar, flap-flap-flap-soar, each sequence taking about 5 seconds. The soars were about twice as long as a flap.

**6. Voice:** Never heard.

**7. Habitat:** I was located in an open field of mostly prairie grass. The bird came from an area of small pines, and left my field of site over mature pines headed along the shore of Trempealeau Bay leading onto the Mississippi River.

**Identification:** I had never seen a Peregrine Falcon before. I knew the bird was not a buteo because of the long wing span and the straight tail. I knew it was not an ac-

cipiter because of the long wings. I knew it was not a Marsh Hawk due to the striped belly and lack of white plumage above the tail. The face pattern and white throat were unmistakable. The field marks were confirmed by referring to Robbins, et. all. **Birds of North America** and Peterson, **Field Guide to the Birds**.

9. Other observers: None.

10. Glass: Bushnell "Banner", 7x50.

Deborah K. Bua, Naturalist  
Perrot State Park  
Trempealeau, Wisconsin 54661

## Book Reviews

**An Eagle to the Sky**, Frances Hamerstrom, The Crossing Press, Trumansburg, N.Y., 1978, 139 pp., \$4.95.

For anyone who missed the 1970 hardcover edition, or who remembers it and yearns to share this remarkable story with a friend, here is a handsome paperbound edition, with a new introduction (by Konrad Lorenz!) and a new chapter on the artificial insemination of Golden Eagles. Dr. Hamerstrom's personal account of her relationships, training and breeding attempts with two captive Golden Eagles will continue to inspire and fascinate readers of all ages.

Linda Safir

**Brown County Birds**, Edited by Elmer W. Strehlow, Thomas C. Erdman, et al., Neville Public Museum, Green Bay, Wisconsin, 1978; available from: N.E. Wisconsin Audubon Society, c/o Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, Sanctuary Road, Green Bay, Wis. 54301, at \$ .50/copy plus \$ .50 postage and handling.

This beautifully done booklet tells you just about everything you could want to know about birding in Brown County (Green Bay). It contains a checklist with migration graphs, a detailed map, seven photographs, and information on birding areas, clubs, books, licensed bird-care people, and even birding ethics!

Linda Safir

### W.S.O. QUESTIONNAIRE

At the 1978 annual meeting at Madison, a questionnaire, prepared by Louise Erickson, was distributed to members. Its purpose was to make the Board of Directors aware of members' views on W.S.O. goals, programs and products, and on the convention itself. A summary of the responses was prepared for the Board, and is available to members upon request from the treasurer. There will be a copy on display at the 1979 convention at Green Bay, and the questionnaire itself will again be made available.

# The May Day and Big Day Counts

Commencing in 1979, the W.S.O. is sponsoring two counts during that best month of all for birding, May. One is the traditional May Day Count and the other is the new Big Day Count. The purpose of both counts is to provide the added fun for the birder of some friendly competition with other state clubs or individual birders. In both instances, it is hoped that these counts will stimulate the birder, if any further stimulation is needed, to get out during May and enjoy the spring migration. Individuals may elect to participate in one or both counts.

With the advent of the new count, a clarification of the "rules" is undoubtedly in order. The following represents the conditions under which each count should be taken.

## W.S.O. MAY DAY COUNT RULES

1. Must be taken between May 1-31.
2. Must be taken within a 24 hour period.
3. Must cover a **set** area, ideally a circle consisting of a predetermined distance (i.e., a diameter of seven, ten or fifteen miles, etc.).
4. The number of parties and observers involved may vary. In addition, count areas may be recovered as often as desired during the count day, unless individuals are being counted.
5. The counting of individuals is optional.
6. Do **not** initiate a May Day Count within an area where one is already being conducted. Rather, join the existing group.
7. There are **no** fees for conducting this count.
8. An official May Day Count report form should be filled out. It is critical that all unusual species--whether late sightings or rare species--be completely documented. Send your completed count form, with all documentation, to the associate editor by June 15.

## W.S.O. BIG DAY COUNT RULES

1. Must be taken between May 1-31.
2. Must be taken within a 24 hour period.
3. Must be taken within the state boundaries but may cover as many parts of Wisconsin as can be worked within the 24 hour time limit.
4. All participants must be within direct conversational contact at all times during the birding and traveling periods. This limits the party number to one and participants to the number that can be "safely and comfortably" contained within a car (1-6 probably).
5. Areas may be recovered during the count day although the greater the number of spots birded, the better the potential is for a substantial list.
6. The counting of individuals is optional.
7. The same areas may be recovered on **different** Big Day Counts.
8. There are **no** fees for conducting this count.
9. An official Big Day Count report form should be filled out. It is critical that all unusual species--whether late sightings or rare species--be completely documented. Send your completed count form, with all documentation, to the associate editor by June 15.

Here is hoping that all of you will become involved in these counts. Plan carefully and good luck.

Daryl Tessen  
Associate Editor.



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