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1988 FALL FIELD DAY

Some innovations greeted the 60 registrants at the 1989 Field Day, 6 - October, at the 4-H camp at Halsey National Forest: there was a canoe float dow the Middle Loup River and a lesson on bird calls Saturday morning, in additio to the usual self-guided birding trips and demonstration of bird banding. Blow ups of the field card were posted, so that sightings could be posted currently and locations of special sightings could be written on a chalkboard. Saturda morning was overcast and chilly (otherwise the weather was sunny and mild), bu 7 did make the float trip down to about Halsey. The bird call lesson, and follow-up test on bird calls Saturday night, were so popular that the director voted to buy a copy of the tape (Birding by Ear, Peterson Field Guides) for us at future meetings. There were slide shows both Friday and Saturday nights. Wayne Mollhoff brought a specimen of a Pacific Loon, which he happened to hea about and was able to borrow to bring to the meeting. This is the only know Nebraska specimen, and while documentation is not exact, it probably was take in or near Boone Co. in the 1930s. Martha Desmond was unexpectedly called o for information on her research on Burrowing Owls. NOU T-shirts and sweat shirts were offered for sale of the first time, and most sizes and styles sol out. David and Lois Stage took a group photograph.

The time and site for future meetings is usually announced at the meeting, but this was not done because the information was not definite. Since the meeting the sites and times have been firmed up; they are Falls City, 18-20 Ma 1990 for the Spring Meeting, and 4-H Camp, Halsey, 7-9 September for the Fall Meeting.

The record of species recorded was divided into five parts: F for records on the Forest or immediately adjacent; T for Thomas Co., off the Forest; C for Cherry Co., l for Blaine Co., and r for Brown Co. The total count was 106 (plus the possibility that the Dowithcer sp. was a Short-bill), 6 in all counts, 55 in just one count; F 71, 33 exclusive; T 17, none exclusive; C C 51 (plus the possibility of a Short-billed Dowitcher), 11 exclusive; l 28, 4 exclusive, and r 30, 7 exclusive.

Common Loon	----r	Sharp-tail. Grouse	FTClr	Red-b. Nuthatch	F----
Pied-billed Grebe	--C-r	Wild Turkey	---l-	White-br. Nuthatch	F----
Eared Grebe	--C--	Nor. Bobwhite	F----	Brown Creeper	F----
Western Grebe	----r	American Coot	----r	Rock Wren	---l-
Am. White Pelican	--C-r	Sandhill Crane	F-C-r	House Wren	F----
D-c Cormorant	F---r	Killdeer	F-C-r	Marsh Wren	---l-
Great Blue Heron	----r	Gr. Yellowlegs	--C-r	Golden-c. Kinglet	F----
G. Wh-front Goose	F----	Lesser Yellowlegs	--C-r	Ruby-c. Kinglet	F--l-
Canada Goose	--C--	Solitary Sandpiper	----r	Eastern Bluebird	FT-l-
Wood Duck	--C--	Least Sandpiper	----r	Townsend's Solit.	F----
Green-winged Teal	--C--	Dowitcher sp.	--C--	American Robin	F-Cl-
Mallard	F-C-r	Long-b. Dowitcher	--C--	Gray Catbird	F----
N. Pintail	--C--	Common Snipe	----r	Brown Thrasher	F----
Blue-winged Teal	----r	Wilson's Phalarope	--C--	American Pipit	--C-r
Northern Shoveler	--C-r	Ring-billed Gull	--C-r	Cedar Waxwing	F----
Gadwall	F-C--	Mourning Dove	F-C--	E. Starling	FTCl-
American Wigeon	--C-r	E. Screech-Owl	F----	Orange-c. Warbler	F--l-
Ring-necked Duck	--C--	Gr. Horned Owl	F----	Nashville Warbler	F----
Lesser Scaup	--C--	Belted Kingfisher	F----	Yellow-r. Warbler	F----
Bufflehead	--C-r	Red-head. Woodpeck.	F--l-	Bl-thr. Gr. Warb.	F----
Ruddy Duck	--C--	Yellow-b. Sapsucker	F----	N. Cardinal	F----
Turkey Vulture	F-C--	Downy Woodpecker	F----	Rufous-s. Towhee	FTC--
Osprey	F----	Hairy Woodpecker	F-C--	Am. Tree Sparrow	FT-l-
Northern Harrier	F-Clr	Northern Flicker	FTCl-	Chipping Sparrow	F----
Sharp-shinned Hawk	F----	Horned Lark	FTClr	Clay-colored Sp.	F----
Swainson's Hawk	FTCl-	Tree Swallow	F----	Field Sparrow	F-C--
Red-tailed Hawk	FTC-r	Barn Swallow	F----	Vesper Sparrow	F--l-
American Kestrel	FTClr	Blue Jay	F----	Savannah Sparrow	--Cl-
Peregrine Falcon	F----	Black-billed Magpie	F----	Fox Sparrow	F----
Ring-neck. Pheasant	FTClr	American Crow	FTClr	Song Sparrow	FT-l-
Gr. Prairie-Chicken	F--l-	B-c. Chickadee	F-C--	Lincoln's Sparrow	F-C--

Swamp Sparrow	---l-	Red-w. Blackbird	FTClr	Common Grackle	FT-l-
White-thr. Sp.	F----	Eastern Meadowlark	--C-r	Pine Siskin	F----
White-cr. Sparrow	F-C--	Western Meadowlark	FTCl-	American Goldfinch	F-Cl-
Harris' Sparrow	F-Cl-	Yellow-h. Blackbird	--C--	House Sparrow	F----
Dark-eyed Junco	F-C--	Brewer's Blackbird	-T-l-		

Ruth Green found a newly dead mink on the river bank Friday morning, and its listing prompted the listing of prairie dog, plains pocket gopher, opossum, muskrat, Ord's kangaroo rat, white-tail and mule deer, coyote, and eastern cottontail seen by others on their trips. One party specified Red-shafted Flicker as seen on the Forest, and one party that went into Brown Co. Sunday morning saw several isolated flocks of Sandhill Cranes, but at one time had about ten in view at once.