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NOTES

WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS. Two White-winged Scoters were taken in November 1979 at some pond in Sarpy Co. and taken to the Plattsmouth Refuge for identification.

— Ruth C. Green, 506 West 31st Avenue, Bellevue, 68005

AMERICAN WOODCOCK. Three American Woodcocks (*Philohela minor*) were taken as game along the Platte River on 11 October 1979. They were collected about 8:30 AM approximately 2 miles south and 2 miles west of Kearney, in Kearney Co. A specimen was examined by Dr. John C.W. Bliese, of Kearney State College, who encouraged the sending in of this report.

The writer has hunted these birds in the same general location for the past several years, and has sight records of them on 10 October 1976, 14 October 1977, and also on 16 October 1978, when two were shot.

According to the *Revised Check-list of Nebraska Birds*, by Wm. F. Rapp et al, the American Woodcock has heretofore been through of as a Missouri River valley bird.

Mr. Jim Hurt, Bio-enforcement Specialist, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, who has an office at Kearney State College, has never seen these birds in this area, nor has he heard of any other hunter ever taking them here.

— Steven J. Ninegar, 3715 14th Avenue, Kearney, 68847

Roland Hoffmann, of the Game and Parks Commission's Information and Educational Division, flushed a Woodcock several times in lowland habitat along the Platte River, 3 miles south and 2 miles west of Maxwell, in the last week of October 1976. Bob Philips, the Commission realtor here, feels certain that he flushed Woodcock on two occasions this fall while hunting on the Platte River bottoms about 6 miles east of North Platte. The first sighting was in

mid-October and the second occurred 8 December 1979. Bob's description, along with noting a whistling sound, seems to give a great deal of reliability to his observations.

The Lincoln County Tout Bird Club records book lists a sighting 25 October 1971 in precisely the same location as the one reported by Hoffmann.

— *Georae Nason, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, RR 4, Box 36, North Platte, 69101*

SAW-WHET OWL. About 8 August 1979 my brother, Dr. Joseph Bellinghiere, who was visiting from San Diego, saw a Saw-whet Owl on the stop sign near my home at 3001 Hanscom Boulevard. This was about 8:30 PM, and he had the bird under observation for about half an hour, at times from as close as about 15 feet. Unfortunately, he couldn't locate me in time for me to see the bird. It was not bothered by the cars, which stopped about 3 feet away from the sign, nor by my brother's moving around to look at it from different angles. The light of the street light made it easy to see the bird, and to see that it was watching my brother as he moved around.

— *Steve Bellinghiere, 3001 Hanscom Boulevard, Omaha 68105*

BIRD CENSUS SYMPOSIUM. The symposium on "Estimating Populations of Terrestrial Birds" will be held 20-24 October 1980 at Asilomar, near Monterey, California. The invited papers, given by authors from the United States, Canada, Europe, New Zealand, and Australia, will cover a wide range of subjects. The principal topics will be the problems, methods, and analyses of bird censusing. There will be a variety of field trips during and after the Symposium to explore methods of censusing and habitats of coastal and interior California. The Asilomar conference grounds are located in a State Park on Monterey Bay and provides an attractive and stimulating setting. For further information write the Symposium organizers: Dr. C. John Ralph and Dr. J. Mitchell Scott, Bird Census Symposium, P.O. Box 43, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii 96718.