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INTRODUCTION

This summer most of Nebraska was very dry, with “Exceptional Drought” everywhere but the extreme southeast, according to the United States Department of Agriculture’s Drought Monitor (http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu). Although no really striking effects were noted, several bits of evidence attested to the difficult conditions. Wetlands dried up in most cases in the Rainwater Basin, reflected by a lack of Great Egrets, Cattle Egrets, and Black-necked Stilts, and there were no stilt nests reported. However, Yellow-crowned Night-Herons surprisingly staged an incursion, perhaps continuing to disperse northward from their customary haunts in the almost equally dry Kansas and Oklahoma. Cliff Swallow colonies may have been a casualty of dried up wetlands also; flocking began about a month earlier than usual. A significant incursion of Red Crossbills and early arrival of Red-breasted Nuthatches indicated problems in their usual pinewoods habitats in the Pine Ridge and Rocky Mountains (recordings from Kansas (Jon King, pers. comm.) suggested that most if not all of the crossbills were Type 2 Ponderosa Pine specialists). Red Crossbills moved eastward to cover the state in July, the first such summer incursion in about 20 years.

Other significant observations involved nesting of 3 raptor species: both Broad-winged Hawk and Mississippi Kite nested in North Platte, and Ospreys again attempted to nest in the Panhandle but continue to be thwarted by severe weather. Black-billed Cuckoo is becoming rare; only one was reported. On the other hand, Chuck-will’s-widow is doing well, expanding northwestward and increasing in numbers, and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are being reported more often westward; photos are supporting the identification of these westerly birds.

It was a quiet summer for summer resident passerines; no significant trends or phenomena were noted, except for the pinewoods residents mentioned above. Similarly, rarities were almost non-existent; Black-bellied Whistling-Duck and an easterly Broad-tailed Hummingbird were about it.

ABBREVIATIONS

ad: adult
ADF: Arbor Day Farm, Nebraska City
BBS: Breeding Bird Survey
BOL: Branched Oak L, Lancaster Co
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Cem: Cemetery
Co(s): County(ies)
fem: female
FF: Fontenelle Forest, Sarpy Co
ICSP: Indian Cave State Park, Richardson/Nemaha Cos
imm: immature
juv: juvenile
L: Lake
LM: L McConaughy, Keith Co
LO: L Ogallala (includes contiguous Keystone L), Keith Co
m. ob.: many observers
NC: Nature Center
NM: National Monument
NWR: National Wildlife Refuge
PRSP: Platte River SP, Cass Co
PSP: Ponca SP, Dixon Co
Res: Reservoir
RWB: Rainwater Basin, including parts of Phelps, Hamilton, York, Clay, Fillmore, and Thayer Cos
SCP: Spring Creek Prairie, Lancaster Co
SHP: State Historical Park
SL: Sewage Lagoon(s)
SP: State Park
WMA: (State) Wildlife Management Area
WP: Wilderness Park, Lincoln
WPA: (Federal) Waterfowl Production Area

GAZETTEER

Jack Sinn: Memorial WMA, Lancaster and Saunders Cos
Pine Ridge: escarpment in Sioux, Dawes, and Sheridan Cos
Sandhills: large area of sand-based prairie in north-central Nebraska
Wildcat Hills: escarpment in Scotts Bluff, Banner, and Morrill Cos

OBSERVERS

AB: Ann Brogie, Creighton
AD: Ann Duey, Scottsbluff
AK: Alice Kenitz, Gering
AP: Andrew Pierson, Scottsbluff
Ary: Al Reyer, Bellevue
AS: Audrey Sterkel, Sidney
B&KG: Bob & Kathi Gerten, Burwell
BF: Bill F. Huser, South Sioux City
CNK: Clem N. Klaphake, Bellevue
CWH: C.W. Huntley, Ogallala
D&JP: Don & Jan Paseka, Ames
DH: Dave Heidt, Norfolk
DL: Dan Leger, Lincoln
DSt: Dave Stage, Elkhorn
GW: Gabe Wilson, Ogallala
HA: Henry Armknecht, Osborne, KS
HKH: Helen K. Hughson, Mitchell
JC: John Carlini, Lincoln
JG: Joe Gubanyi, Seward
JGJ: Joel G. Jorgensen, Lincoln
JLC: Jill Liske-Clark, Grand Island
JLL: Jeanine L. Lackey, Doniphan
JM: John Murphy, Kearney
JO: Jim Ochsner, Ogallala
JR: Justin Rink, Omaha
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KG: Keith Geluso, Kearney
KP: Kevin Poague, Lincoln
KS: Kent Skaggs, Kearney
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LS: Larry Snyder, Kimball
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MS: Mindy Spatz, McCook
MSS: Mary Sue Shoemaker, North Platte
NF: Nancy Fish, Superior
NR: Neal Ratzlaff, Omaha
RH: Robin Harding, Minden
RM: Robert Manning, Omaha
RS: Rick Schmid, Omaha
RSt: Ruth Stearns, Lincoln
SM: Steve Morris, Grand Island
SQ: Susan Quinn, Nebraska City
SS: Shari Schwartz, Lincoln
TCG: T.C. Gannon, Lincoln
TEL: Thomas E. Labedz, Lincoln
TJW: T.J. Walker, Brady
VC: Virginia Clark, North Platte
WF: William Flack, Kearney
SPECIES ACCOUNTS

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck:** Two appeared at a remote southeast Cherry Co pond 1 Jun, but then disappeared; one reappeared there 4-9 Jun (MSS). This is Nebraska's 14th record, all but 3 since 2000.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** A seemingly healthy straggler was at Kenesaw SL 16 Jun (LR, RH); reports are few mid-May to late Sep.

**Snow Goose:** The usual stragglers were reported, all singles; one injured bird spent Jul at Jack Sinn (LE, RM). Others were in Nemaha Co 11 Jun (LF, SQ) and Hall Co 10 May, the latter also injured (LR, RH).

**Ross's Goose:** Rare in mid-summer, an injured bird was in Hall Co 10 Jun (LR, RH), only the 3rd mid-summer record.

**Cackling Goose:** Yet another summer straggling goose in Hall Co was a Cackler 10 Jun (LR, RH); this is only the 6th mid-summer record.

**Canada Goose:** Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.

**Trumpeter Swan:** The nest site near Ravenna was occupied again this year; 4 young were in the nest 4 Jun (LR, RH).

**Wood Duck:** Jack Sinn is a favored post-fledging gathering place; 194 Wood Ducks of all ages were there 15 Jul, including 33 "fuzzies" (LE).

**Gadwall:** Reports were routine for this fairly common Sandhills breeder, rare elsewhere in summer.

**American Wigeon:** This species is rare away from the western Sandhills in summer, but a pair was in Hayes Co 19 Jun (TJW) and a male was in Clay Co 14 Jul (JGJ).

**Mallard:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Blue-winged Teal:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Cinnamon Teal:** Reports were routine for this uncommon western summer resident.

**Northern Shoveler:** Males generally leave the nesting site to molt nearby in late Jun and Jul; a flock of 29 in an Interstate 80 pond near North Platte contained 9 molting males and 20 females and juveniles (TJW).

**Northern Pintail:** A fem with a brood was at Kissinger WMA, Clay Co, 30 Jun (JGJ); the species is uncommon as a breeder in the RWB.

**Green-winged Teal:** One in Clay Co 30 Jun (JGJ) may have been an early molt migrant. Breeding is rare away from the western Sandhills.

**Canvasback:** Reports were routine for this uncommon Sandhills summer resident.

**Redhead:** One at LO 10 Jul (JGJ) was likely an early arrival from nearby breeding areas in the western Sandhills.

**Bufflehead:** A surprise was one in Dawes Co 20 Jul (RM); most of the 21 reports for mid-Jun through mid-Aug are from the west.

**Hooded Merganser:** One at McKelvie National Forest, Cherry Co, 18 Jul (RM) was westerly.
Common Merganser: LO regularly hosts a few molt migrants in late summer; 3 were there 27 Jul (TJW). Two females near Norden Bridge, Keya Paha and Brown Cos, 19 Jun (CNK) were at a location where breeding occurred in 2007.

Ruddy Duck: A male was at BOL 21 Jul (LE), likely an early migrant, although this species is an occasional breeder south and east of the Sandhills.

Northern Bobwhite: This species occurs throughout the North Platte Valley; one was in Scotts Bluff Co 19 Jun (AD). Near the northern edge of the species range were birds in Brown and Keya Paha Cos 19 Jun (CNK) and Holt Co 7 Jul (DSt).

Gray Partridge: Two ads and 6 young in Holt Co 7 Jul were the observer’s first there for several years (DSt); most recent reports of this species are from Cedar, Knox, and Antelope Cos.

Ring-necked Pheasant: “Good numbers” were reported in Sherman Co 3 Jun (CNK).

Sharp-tailed Grouse: One in Holt Co 7 Jul (DSt) was easterly; there are occasional reports as far east as Dixon Co.

Greater Prairie-Chicken: Populations exist in small areas of Sandhills-like grassland just south of the Platte River in central Nebraska from Hall Co southwest to Phelps Co. Three were seen 5 miles east of Denman and 2 miles south of the Platte River 22 Jul (LR, RH).

Wild Turkey: Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.

Common Loon: At least 1-2 birds, usually imm non-breeders, frequent the LM area most summers; 1-2 were there 10-29 Jul (JGJ, TJW).

Pied-billed Grebe: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

Red-necked Grebe: Nebraska’s first Jul record for this species was of an alternate-plumaged bird at LM 10 Jul (JGJ), intriguing in that a similar bird, likely the same individual, was there 22 May (see Spring Report).

Eared Grebe: Reports were routine for this common Sandhills summer resident.

Western Grebe: Reports were routine for this fairly common western Sandhills summer resident.

Clark’s Grebe: Reports were routine for this uncommon western Sandhills summer resident.

Double-crested Cormorant: Mid-summer sightings in the southeast are rare; 2 were in Lancaster Co 14 Jul (LE).

American White Pelican: Reports were routine for this abundant migrant and uncommon summer visitor.

American Bittern: This species may breed anywhere in the state given suitable conditions, although rarely away from the Sandhills; one in Clay Co 30 Jun (JGJ) may have been optimistic, given the hot, dry summer.

Least Bittern: None were reported; this is an uncommon summer resident given suitable conditions, mostly in the southeast.

Great Blue Heron: Best tally reported was the 85 at Jack Sinn 22 Jul (CNK).
Great Egret: Numbers were not great, with only about 30 reported in all, likely due to a lack of water; best counts were 13-14 in Clay Co 30 Jun-14 Jul (JGJ, LR, RH).

Snowy Egret: The only report was of 2 in Clay Co 30 Jun-14 Jul (JGJ, LR, RH).

Little Blue Heron: This species is a rare late summer visitor; the only report was of one “most likely” this species in Clay Co 25 Jul (SM).

Cattle Egret: Like Great Egret, numbers were low due to lack of suitable water conditions, even for this semi-upland species; the only reports were of one near Wood River 20 Jun (JLC) and 5 in Dodge Co 3 Jul (D&JP).

Green Heron: The 8 at Jack Sinn 21 Jul (JGJ) was an excellent count, tying the high for late summer.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Reports were routine for this uncommon Sandhills breeder.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: This species staged a mini-invasion in late Jul, with even a few northerly sightings. It favored Jack Sinn in late Jul; 1-4 were there 16 Jul (2 juvs, JGJ) through 29 Jul (3 juvs, RM). One ad was present 18-24 Jul (LE, RSt, JGJ, CNK, DL). Northerly sightings included an imm in Antelope Co 23-26 Jul, a county first for the veteran observers (MB, AB), and an ad and 2 juvs in South Sioux City 27 Jul-1 Aug (BFH). Continuing the invasion reports was an imm in Dodge Co 25 Jul (D&JP). Apparently these northerly sightings were of birds undergoing their normal late summer dispersal but overflying usually-suitable areas in the RWB which were dry this year.

White-faced Ibis: Up to 5 in Clay Co 30 Jun-1 Jul (JGJ, LR, RH) were unusual in mid-summer, although numbers had built to 28 by 14 Jul (JGJ); there are few reports away from breeding areas in mid-late Jun.

Turkey Vulture: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Osprey: The pair nesting on a platform erected by the company near Riverside Park, Scottsbluff, had 2 young in the nest 19 Jun, but a severe hail storm appeared to have ended the attempt. One of the ads looked “beat-up” later the same day, and only one ad was there 8 Jul (KD). The platform near Keystone was occupied 19 Jun (fide GW). So far, severe weather at both sites appears to have precluded successful fledging of young during the last 2-3 years.

Mississippi Kite: At least 2 birds had been present in North Platte since around 10 May (TJW); 5 ads were overhead 30 Jun and a nest was found the same day, with an incubating ad present 1 Jul (TJW). Three birds were at the nest 24 Jul (RM). At McCook 3 birds were present all summer through at least 28 Jul although no nest was found (MS photo; fide JGJ). These are the 6th and 7th sites where nesting has apparently occurred in the state, all but Ogallala since 2003. The other sites are Ogallala 1991-2012, Red Cloud 2004-2006 (young fledged), Benkelman 2010-2011 (no nest found but birds present “a few years”), Imperial 2011 (nesting pair), and Scottsbluff 2011 (copulation, but no nest found).
Bald Eagle: A measure of the increasing presence of this species in summer was the count of 26 birds in about 30 miles along the Platte River between Columbus and North Bend 27 Jun (JGJ).

Northern Harrier: None were reported for this rare, locally uncommon, statewide summer resident.

Cooper's Hawk: Reports were routine for this uncommon but increasing statewide summer resident.

Red-shouldered Hawk: None were reported; this species maintains only a tenuous hold in its minimal Nebraska breeding range.

Broad-winged Hawk: The nesting Broad-winged Hawks in North Platte, first noted in 2008, returned after an absence of reports in 2011; a pair was at the nest site 18 Jun this summer (TJW, photo NBR Vol. 80 No. 1, p. 22), but on 15 Jul two young fell out of the nest. One died and the other was taken to a rehabilitator (TJW). The species is regularly reported in the lower Missouri River Valley each summer, where breeding apparently occurs, but only in single-digit numbers; one was at Brownville 9 Jun (JR) and an ad was over Omaha 10 Jul (JR).

Swainson's Hawk: This species is rare in southeast Nebraska, including the RWB, in summer; 2 singles, possibly migrants, were in Kearney Co 3 Jun (LR, RH), a banded bird (band unreadable) was photographed near Lincoln 7 Jul (WF), and another was over Lincoln 19 Jul (LE).

Red-tailed Hawk: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Ferruginous Hawk: Reports were routine for this uncommon Panhandle summer resident.

Golden Eagle: Reports were routine for this uncommon Panhandle summer resident.

Virginia Rail: Reports were routine for this fairly common summer resident, most numerous in the Sandhills.

Sora: Fall migrants arrive in late Jul; at least one was reported at Jack Sinn 21-22 Jul (LE, DL, CNK).

American Coot: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Sandhill Crane: Apparently the pair at Kiowa WMA, Scotts Bluff Co, lost their 2012 chick; no young birds were seen with the ads 8 Jul (KD). A surprise was one in Dakota Co 25-28 Jul (fide BFH); in recent years such sightings indicate breeding attempts, but habitat in the area did not appear suitable for nesting (BFH).

Black-bellied Plover: None were reported; earliest fall migrants arrive at the end of Jul.

American Golden-Plover: Reports of ads in Jul are rare, as most fall migrants in the interior are juvs. Singles, both molting, were in Stanton and Madison Cos 26 Jul (MB). There are no records of Pacific Golden-Plover for Nebraska, and so a report of an alternate-plumaged golden-plover accompanying 3 Mountain Plovers in Kimball Co on the unusual date of 11 Jun (LS) was intriguing, but un-photographed (fide JGJ). This is only the 8th Jun record of a golden-plover for Nebraska.
Semipalmated Plover: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide fall migrant.

Piping Plover: Reports were routine for this uncommon localized summer resident.

Killdeer: The 565 at Jack Sinn 15 Jul (LE) was 4th-best fall count on record for this early fall migrant; top 3 are 700-1000.

Mountain Plover: Reports were routine for this uncommon southern Panhandle summer resident.

Black-necked Stilt: Reports were few, as might be expected with poor water conditions. Two were on nests at Bittern's Call WMA, Dawson Co, 2 Jun (CNK), and 2 in Clay Co 30 Jun did not appear to be nesting (JGJ).

American Avocet: Good numbers of fall migrants were reported eastward beginning 14 Jul, with best count 19 in Lancaster Co 21 Jul (JGJ, LE) and a total of around 40 in all (JGJ, LE, RSt, CNK, RM, MB). Rare in late Jun-early Jul in the east, one was at Whitehead Marsh, Lincoln, 23 Jun (JS, SS) and 5 were in Clay Co 1 Jul (LR, RH).

Spotted Sandpiper: Reports were routine for this uncommon statewide summer resident.

Solitary Sandpiper: First migrants arrive as early as late Jun; 2 were in Clay Co 1 Jul (LR, RH). Best count was an impressive 35 in Antelope Co 25 Jul (MB); high counts are 38-62.

Greater Yellowlegs: Fall migrants arrive in late Jun; 8 were counted along the Platte River between Columbus and North Bend 27 Jun (JGJ). Earliest arrivals of fall migrants are 9, 10, 10 Jun.

Willet: This species also is an early fall migrant, although rare eastward, and so one along the Platte River between Columbus and North Bend 27 Jun (JGJ) was unexpected and rather early. Earliest fall dates for migrants are 23, 24, 26 Jun.

Lesser Yellowlegs: This species generally arrives a bit later in fall than Greater Yellowlegs, with earliest dates 16, 17, 19 Jun. Thus, one at Wellfleet WMA, Lincoln Co., 19 Jun (TJW) was rather early. As many as 44 had arrived in Clay Co by 14 Jul (JGJ).

Upland Sandpiper: Migration is underway by late Jul; 87 were in a single mowed hayfield in Madison Co 25 Jul, and the total for the day in Madison and nearby counties was 123 (MB). High fall counts are 178-247. A nest with 4 eggs was found in Dodge Co 24 Jun (D&JP), a little late for this species.

Long-billed Curlew: Numbers were thought to be “way up” in the Sandhills (CNK); 14 were in Lincoln Co 4 Jun (MSS). Ads with a small chick were in Sherman Co 3 Jun (CNK). Only the 2nd fall record for the east were the 2 birds along the Platte River between Columbus and North Bend 27 Jun (JGJ), likely failed breeders.

Marbled Godwit: This species is a rare fall migrant, essentially restricted to the west. The only report was of one in Dawes Co 19 Jul (RM).

Sanderling: Two in Sheridan Co 5 Jun (CNK) were rather late spring migrants.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Last in spring was an injured bird on the Saunders-Douglas line 7 Jun (JGJ), and first for fall were 13 in Clay Co 14 Jul (JGJ); these are typical dates for each season.
Western Sandpiper: None were reported; this fairly common fall migrant usually arrives in mid-Jul.

Least Sandpiper: One along the Platte River between Columbus and North Bend 27 Jun (JGJ) was rather early; earliest fall dates are 18, 19, 19 Jun.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Reports were routine for this abundant late-migrating spring migrant.

Baird’s Sandpiper: Rather late was one in Sheridan Co 5 Jun (CNK), while rather early were 3 in Clay Co 14 Jul (JGJ).

Pectoral Sandpiper: Best count was 371 at Jack Sinn 15 Jul (LE); high fall counts are 800-1200.

Stilt Sandpiper: Reports were routine for this abundant statewide fall migrant.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Tying the earliest on record for fall was one in Nance Co 17 Jul (JLL).

Short-billed Dowitcher: Two at Jack Sinn 12 Jul (LE) were rather early. Ads arrive first, followed usually some time later, beginning in mid-Aug, by juvs. There have been no previous documented records of juvs in Jul, but 2 “very bright juvs” were in Antelope Co 23 Jul, and one of these, or a different juv, was there 26 Jul (MB).

Long-billed Dowitcher: Reports were routine for this abundant statewide fall migrant.

Wilson’s Snipe: Breeding has occurred at Jack Sinn on occasion; 1-2 were there through the Jun-Jul period (LE), although no evidence of breeding was reported.

American Woodcock: The only report was of one flushed at Dead Timber WMA, Dodge Co, a known summering location, 27 Jul (RS).

Wilson’s Phalarope: Breeding occurs on occasion in the RWB; a territorial fem was in Clay Co 12 Jun (LB). One at Jack Sinn 31 Jul (LE) was likely a migrant.

Franklin’s Gull: Reports were routine for this abundant statewide early fall migrant.

Ring-billed Gull: Only the 3rd record of a Jul ad in the RWB was the one in Clay Co 14 Jul (JGJ). Most summer birds are non-breeding imms.

California Gull: The only report was of an ad at LM 27 Jul (TJW), where numbers begin to build after mid-Jul.

Herring Gull: Two birds at LM 27 Jul (TJW) were rather early; this is an uncommon summer visitor, with numbers building from late Jul.

Least Tern: Reports were routine for this localized central-eastern summer resident.

Caspian Tern: The only report of this uncommon late spring and early fall migrant was of one rather early at BOL 13 Jul (LE).

Black Tern: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide late spring and early fall migrant.

Common Tern: None were reported; spring migration often lasts well into Jun.

Forster’s Tern: Reports were routine for this localized summer resident and fairly common fall migrant.

Rock Pigeon: Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.

Eurasian Collared-Dove: Fall flocking resulted in the sudden appearance of 46 birds in a Scotts Bluff Co yard 21 Jul, where only 4-6 had summered (AD).
White-winged Dove: The birds reported in Kearney in spring continued, with up to 3 present through 25 Jul (CNK, WF; fide RH).

Mourning Dove: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Reports were routine for this statewide summer resident, common eastward, uncommon westward.

Black-billed Cuckoo: This species is at a low ebb; following a single report in the spring, none were reported Jun-Jul.

Barn Owl: The only report was of one near Jeffrey L, Lincoln Co, 1 Jul (TJW). This is an uncommon summer resident in southwest Nebraska.

Eastern Screech-Owl: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide resident.

Great Horned Owl: Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.

Burrowing Owl: One on a BBS Survey route in Loup Co 19 Jun was only the 2nd on the route in 20 years (NR). The small easterly population near Hultine WPA, Clay Co, continues to thrive, with 5 fledglings accompanying 2 ads there 16 Jul (TCG). Good numbers were near Walgren L, Sheridan Co, where 17 were counted 18 Jul (RM), and near Scottsbluff, where 8 were seen 25 Jun (KD).

Barred Owl: Reports were routine for this fairly common eastern resident.

Long-eared Owl: None were reported; this is a rare but regular breeder statewide.

Short-eared Owl: None were reported; this is a rare but regular breeder statewide.

Common Nighthawk: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Common Poorwill: This species summers eastward along the Niobrara River Valley to Knox Co; singles were in Brown and Keya Paha Cos 19 Jun (CNK).

Chuck-will's-widow: The several reports were from the current range of this species, which has expanded in recent years. Westerly were an impressive 12 tallied on a survey route north of Fairbury 9 Jul, where 8 were counted in 2011 (JG), and northerly were 2 in Cedar Co 27 Jun (MB). A nest with one chick was photographed at ICSP 6 Jun (MB), only the 2nd documented nest for the state.

Whip-poor-will: Reports were from most of the same locations as Chuck-will's-widow, with the addition of northerly sites: singles were in Boyd and Keya Paha Cos 19 Jun (CNK) and in Boyd Co 28 Jun, where 1-4 were counted at each of 8 stops along Ponca Creek on Highway 12 (DH).

Chimney Swift: Reports were routine for this common summer resident, least numerous westward.

White-throated Swift: Reports were routine for this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Westerly reports continue to accumulate. A belated nesting record involved a pair with a nest late May-early Jun 2002 at the Valentine Fish Hatchery (TJW). A fem in an Ogallala yard 2 Jun looked "heavy with eggs?" (JO); 2 were in the same yard 24 and 29 Jun (JO, CNK). A pair was in a Burwell yard May through at least mid-Jun (B&KG). A fem was in a Scotts Bluff Co yard 10-14 Jun, but a male seen there 31 May was not seen again (KD). The Seward area hosts summering birds, and the species
has nested along Plum Creek, leading the observer to conclude that nesting occurs there on a regular basis (JG). A nest was found in a Saunders Co yard 8 Jul (fide JM). In recent years fall migrants have been noted in late Jul in areas west of the traditional Missouri River Valley breeding range. A presumed migrant in a Grand Island yard 28 Jul was “much earlier than usual” (SM), and an imm male was in a Doniphan yard the same day (JLL).

**Calliope Hummingbird:** Only 2 of this rare Panhandle fall migrant were reported, both in the observer’s Scotts Bluff Co yard: an imm/fem was there 1 Jul, the earliest date at that location, and a male appeared 29 Jul (KD).

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird:** The DeLara yard in Scotts Bluff Co is the place for western hummers; the yard hosted an ad male rather early 3 Jul, a sub-ad male 8 Jul, and a fem and another sub-ad male 20 Jul (KD). Photos of a fem in Nuckolls Co 26 Jul (NF) indicate the bird was a Broad-tailed, most notably by its long tail extending beyond the primary tips and its large size relative to a male Ruby-throated in the same photos (KD, WRS); there are about 10 fall records for the eastern half of the state.

**Rufous Hummingbird:** The 6 birds reported, all ad males, were in the western Panhandle beginning 3 Jul (KD, AS); the 3 Jul date is earliest on record by a day.

**Belted Kingfisher:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

**Lewis’s Woodpecker:** The small population in the Sowbelly Canyon and Pants Butte area of Sioux Co continues for the 3rd summer; a total of 7 were found in the area 31 Jul (TJW).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** Reports were routine for this common eastern resident, rare in the Panhandle.

**Downy Woodpecker:** Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide resident.

**Northern Flicker:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** Reports were from FF and ICSP as expected; both locations host at least two pairs (WRS, JR, L&BP).

**American Kestrel:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

**Prairie Falcon:** Reports were routine for this uncommon Panhandle summer resident.

**Peregrine Falcon:** One in Lincoln Co 29 Jul (TJW) was rather early. Fall migration timing generally coincides with that of shorebirds.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Record early for fall by one day was one at ADF 31 Jul (LF, SQ). Another in Nemaha Co 11 Jun (LF, SQ) was rather late for a spring migrant; latest dates are 14, 14, 16 Jun.

**Western Wood-Pewee:** At the eastern edge of the range along the Niobrara River Valley, singing birds were noted in Keya Paha and Brown Cos 19 Jun at
locations where Eastern Wood-Pewees were also present (CNK). Numbers are low this far east but there have been scattered summer reports east of Cherry Co in recent years.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** Reports were routine for this common eastern summer resident.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** This species continues to increase in numbers in the southeast; 10 were counted at ICSP 9 Jun (JR), and 2 were at FF 2 Jun (JR). The lone bird that returned to WP in May was heard through at least 14 Jul (JGJ, TEL, TJW, LE).

**Alder Flycatcher:** None were reported; last migrants usually pass through during the first week of Jun.

**Willow Flycatcher:** Scattered reports were received from around the state (TJW, CNK), including 6 in Lancaster Co 16 Jun (KP).

**Least Flycatcher:** Two at FF 2 Jun (JR) were tardy; migrants have been reported through 8 Jun at a KS banding station. This species may breed in extreme northern Nebraska, thus intriguing was an ad in Scotts Bluff Co 20 Jun (AD), although this may have been a late migrant also.

**Cordilleran Flycatcher:** One at Chadron Creek WMA, Dawes Co, 30 Jul (TJW) was at the eastern edge of the Pine Ridge summer range. No others were reported.

**Eastern Phoebe:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident, uncommon westward.

**Say's Phoebe:** One on a BBS route in Rock Co 19 Jun was a first for the observer on that route (NR) and a rare easterly record; the eastward extent of regular (essentially yearly) summering is poorly-documented.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident, uncommon in the west.

**Cassin's Kingbird:** Reports were routine for this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

**Western Kingbird:** The last chick observed fledged in Lancaster Co was 19 Jul (LE), rather late.

**Eastern Kingbird:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** Sightings from 2 locations near Kearney were received; a male was near Lowell 3 Jun (LR, RH) with a fem nearby 10 Jun (D&JP). A male was near the Buckle store in Kearney 16-18 Jul (LB, LR, RH), likely the same individual present at the Buckle store in Apr (LR, RH).

**Loggerhead Shrike:** Heightened concern for this species resulted in 29 reports (total of 72 birds), but these reports shed little light on the status of the species; BBS routes in the Sandhills and west had “normal” numbers (CNK, AP), but some long drives yielded single birds only (WM, D&JP, NR). No discernible pattern could be seen relative to location in the state, however.

**Bell's Vireo:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** Reports were routine for this fairly common eastern summer resident.
Plumbeous Vireo: Reports were routine for this uncommon Panhandle summer resident.
Warbling Vireo: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.
Red-eyed Vireo: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.
Pinyon Jay: None were reported; this species is a secretive, low-density breeder in the Panhandle.
Blue Jay: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.
Black-billed Magpie: Reports were routine for this uncommon western and central resident, rare in the northeast.
American Crow: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.
Horned Lark: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.
Purple Martin: A colony in an Ogallala yard had 48 birds 28 Jul (fide CWH); this species only started breeding at this westerly location in 2004 and is not known to breed currently in the Panhandle.
Tree Swallow: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.
Violet-green Swallow: Two at Chadron Creek WMA, Dawes Co, 29 Jul (TJW) were at the east edge of the Pine Ridge breeding range.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: Fall flocking was evident with the 85 at Jack Sinn 15 Jul (LE); this species does not usually nest in colonies.
Bank Swallow: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.
Cliff Swallow: Fall flocking becomes noticeable by late Jul, and so “hundreds” in Clay Co 1 Jul (LR, RH) and 565 at Jack Sinn 12 Jul (LE) were unexpectedly early, suggesting failure of breeding colonies due to dry conditions.
Barn Swallow: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.
Black-capped Chickadee: This species re-appeared in a few western locations after long absences: since 2003 near North Platte (TJW), 2004 north of North Platte (VC), and “for a few years” in Scotts Bluff Co (AD). Recovery from population lows assumed to have resulted from West Nile Virus is proceeding, but numbers have not yet returned to prior levels.
Tufted Titmouse: Reports were routine for this common eastern resident.
Red-breasted Nuthatch: Ads were feeding young at Gordon Cem 5 Jun (CNK) and in Keya Paha Co 19 Jun (CNK), both areas where breeding has occurred previously, although confirmed breeding records in the Pine Ridge and Niobrara River Valley are few. Fall movement began early, with one as early as 9 Jul in Lincoln Co cedars (TJW) where summering is unknown, one at a feeder in Kearney 25 Jul (JM fide LR, RH), and one about a month early in a Scotts Bluff Co yard 26 Jul (AD). These are only the 4th-6th Jul records away from breeding areas.
White-breasted Nuthatch: Breeding began about a week early in the Pine Ridge (WM), apparently because of the mild winter and early spring; one nest had young almost fully-feathered by 12 Jun and likely to fledge in 3-5 days (WM).
Pygmy Nuthatch: As with White-breasted Nuthatches in the Pine Ridge, this species also nested early, with fledged young following ads by 12 Jun (WM).
**Brown Creeper**: Single singing males were heard at Chadron Creek WMA, Dawes Co, and in Sowbelly Canyon, Sioux Co, 29 Jul (TJW). This species breeds in the Pine Ridge, although confirmed reports are few.

**Rock Wren**: Two were in the Lincoln Co cedar canyons 15 Jul (TJW), where they reach the eastern extent of their summer range in the Platte River Valley.

**House Wren**: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Sedge Wren**: One singing “in good habitat” in Platte Co 24 Jun (TJW) was unusual; most Sedge Wrens move through in spring and return, often to nest, mid-Jul.

**Marsh Wren**: This is a rare breeder in the southern half of the state; many “summer” reports from that area are for late Jun and Jul, and might be of birds returning from farther north and attempting to breed, as does Sedge Wren. The RWB hosted birds at Moger WPA, Clay Co, 30 Jun (JGJ) and at 4 locations in Clay Co 14 Jul (JGJ); one was at Jack Sinn 15 Jul (LE).

**Carolina Wren**: Outliers this summer were one in Kearney 28 Jun (KG) and another in Dodge Co 24-25 Jul (D&JP). Just as happened last year, one arrived in a Bellevue yard 28 Jun and started nesting (ARy).

**Bewick's Wren**: A pale-plumaged bird, possibly from the southwest, was in Snell Canyon, Lincoln Co, 10-15 Jul (TJW, WF); there are fewer than 10 such summer non-breeding reports.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: This species now occurs in most of the state except for the Sandhills. Northwesterly were 2 west of Crawford 29 Jul (TJW).

**Eastern Bluebird**: An impressive 90 had fledged at nest boxes at ADF by 31 Jul (LF, SQ). A flock of 19 of mixed ages in Johnson Co 13 Jun (LE) was of interest; these might have been early-fledged young with ads, although bluebirds usually produce more than one brood.

**Mountain Bluebird**: Reports were routine for this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

**Townsend's Solitaire**: Whether this species breeds in Nebraska with any regularity is conjectural; there are a large number of Jun reports, but the only tangible evidence for some time was a nest with eggs in Sowbelly Canyon in 1986. Reports of flying juvs in the Pine Ridge in late Jul of 1979 and 1980 are suggestive, but inconclusive as to whether the birds were fledged in Nebraska. A similar record this year was of a flying juv along Pants Butte Road, Sioux Co, 31 Jul (TJW).

**Swainson's Thrush**: None were reported; usually migrants are moving through the west into early Jun.

**Wood Thrush**: Reports were routine for this fairly common eastern summer resident.

**American Robin**: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Gray Catbird**: Numbers of breeding birds are lower westward, especially in the southern Panhandle. Uncommon but increasing in summer in the northern Panhandle, one was at Chadron SP, Dawes Co, 19 Jul (RM).

**Northern Mockingbird**: The 7 in Johnson Co 13 Jun (LE) was a good count. Two in Platte Co 19 Jul were in the same place for the 3rd year running (MB).

**Sage Thrasher**: An interesting find was one a few miles south of Harrison, Sioux Co, 9 Jun (KS), likely a migrant. Although there are several Jun-Jul records
for this species, most in sagebrush areas of northern Sioux Co, there is only one documented nesting report.

**Brown Thrasher:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**European Starling:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Cedar Waxwing:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

**Chestnut-collared Longspur:** Reports were routine for this common western and uncommon northern summer resident.

**McCown's Longspur:** The two reports were from expected locations in Sioux Co 10 Jun (WM) and Scotts Bluff Co 16 Jun (AK, HKH).

**Ovenbird:** One at Chester Island WMA, Lincoln Co, 15 Jul (TJW) continues a series of reports from there of singing males Jun-Jul from 2009 to date (TJW), although breeding has not yet been proven. This eastern county species also breeds regularly in the Niobrara River Valley; reports were from Keya Paha and Brown Cos 19 Jun (CNK).

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** There is a healthy population at PRSP, where 8 were tallied 24 Jun on Stone and Decker Creeks (JC, SS); ads were feeding fledglings at PRSP 19 Jun (JC, SS). The 5 at ICSP 2 Jun (WRS) was a good tally also, and one was at ADF I Jul (LF, SQ). These are all known locations for this uncommon summer resident.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** None were reported; this is an uncommon summer resident in the eastern Niobrara Valley and on the Pine Ridge.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** There were no reports of this uncommon southeastern summer resident.

**Tennessee Warbler:** Last migrant reported was at FF 2 Jun (JR); latest dates are 10, 10, 11 Jun.

**Mourning Warbler:** None were reported; latest dates are 12, 13, 15 Jun.

**Kentucky Warbler:** Reports were of good numbers in the traditional locations at ICSP and PRSP, with one north to FF 10 Jun (L&B) and one at the northern extent of recent years' reports at PSP 9 Jun (BFH, MB). Four territories were located at PRSP 19 Jun (JC, SS, RS) and 8 were counted at ICSP 2 Jun, including a pair of ads carrying food at ICSP (WRS, WM).

**Common Yellowthroat:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**American Redstart:** This species can be abundant in early summer; 35 were at ICSP 2 Jun (WRS). Breeding occurs in the lower Niobrara River Valley; reports were from Brown and Keya Paha Cos 19 Jun (CNK). Summer reports away from the breeding range in the Missouri and Niobrara River Valleys in mid-summer are few; one was in northwest Madison Co 1 Jul (LR, RH).

**Cerulean Warbler:** None were reported for summer, despite several spring reports of singing males in the lower Missouri River Valley.

**Northern Parula:** Numbers were a bit lower than usual, best count only 4, at ICSP 9 Jun (JR). Singles were at WP 14 Jul (LE) and along the Platte River in Douglas Co 7 Jun (JGJ), both a bit westerly.
Yellow Warbler: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: A bird at Bessey Division, Nebraska National Forest, 17 Jul (RM) was unidentified to subspecies (Myrtle or Audubon's). At that date and location it was likely an easterly Audubon's; if so, the report is the 12th late Jun-early Aug summer report away from the breeding range.

Yellow-throated Warbler: The only report for summer was of 2 at FF 2 Jun (JR); the species breeds at that location.

Black-throated Green Warbler: Last one reported for spring was at FF 2 Jun (JR), 4th-latest of only 5 records for Jun.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Good numbers were in the lower Niobrara River Valley in Brown and Keya Paha Cos 19 Jun (CNK); the veteran observer had “never seen so many in one small area” there (CNK). Five were at Red Willow Res, Frontier Co, 2 Jun (TJW).

Spotted Towhee: Reports were routine for this common westerly summer resident.

Eastern Towhee: A fem in Hall Co 10 Jun (LR, RH) was at about the western edge of the summer range in the Platte River Valley.

Cassin’s Sparrow: This localized summer resident occurs mostly in the Panhandle in areas with shrubs such as yucca or sage; one was about 6 miles southwest of Harrison 9 Jun (KS). This was the only report received, somewhat surprisingly following the influx of birds in 2012 that was generally attributed to drought in the US southwest. Perhaps Nebraska's drought this summer presented sub-par nesting conditions.

Chipping Sparrow: Reports were routine for this common, virtually statewide summer resident.

Brewer’s Sparrow: The only report was of one “on the road to Sowbelly Canyon”, Sioux Co, 21 Jul (RM), near the breeding locations north of the Pine Ridge in Sioux Co.

Field Sparrow: Reports were routine for this common statewide (except for the Panhandle) summer resident.

Vesper Sparrow: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Lark Sparrow: One on a Kearney Co BBS route 10 Jun (D&JP) was at the eastern edge of the summer range in southern Nebraska.

Lark Bunting: Reports were routine for this abundant western summer resident.

Savannah Sparrow: A small colony persists southwest of Hay Springs; 3 pairs were in the same place 11 Jun where they bred in 2011 (WM). This species is a rare and localized breeder in northwestern Nebraska.

Grasshopper Sparrow: This species is doing well in Nebraska grasslands; post-fledging groups included 9 together on a fence line in Clay Co 14 Jul (JGJ), and 76 were on fence lines in 25 miles in Lincoln Co 17 Jul (TJW).

Henslow’s Sparrow: The two reports were from SCP, a regular location: 6 were there 16 Jun (KP) and one on 21 Jun (LE).

Song Sparrow: Reports were routine for this fairly common northern and central-eastern summer resident.

Lincoln’s Sparrow: One in Lincoln Co 4 Jun (MSS) is only the 6th Jun report for the state. Most migrants depart by late May.
Swamp Sparrow: Reports were routine for this uncommon central Nebraska summer resident.

Dark-eyed (White-winged) Junco: Reports were routine for this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

Summer Tanager: Reports were from the expected southeastern Nebraska locations (m. ob.); it appears to be establishing in WP, where one was present 8 Jul (JC, SS), and a pair was there in 2011 (JC, SS).

Scarlet Tanager: Ads were feeding young at PSP 12 Jun (RSt); this species breeds in the east and north, west to about Brown Co. One in western Custer Co 17 Jul (TJW) was unexpected; the only similar records are of a nest in Lincoln Co in 1938 and an ad male banded in Keith Co 11 Jun 1992.

Western Tanager: Reports were routine for this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

Northern Cardinal: Reports were routine for this common statewide (except for Panhandle) resident.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: A few phenotypically pure-looking birds occur westerly in May-Jun each year; a male was on Ogallala 1 Jun (JO), but another in Sowbelly Canyon, Sioux Co, 20 Jul (RM) was later than most such records.

Black-headed Grosbeak: Reports were routine for this common western and central summer resident.

Blue Grosbeak: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

Lazuli Bunting: Reports were routine for this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

Indigo Bunting: Reports were routine for this common statewide, uncommon Panhandle, summer resident.

Dickcissel: Numbers were good in the southeast; best count was a record for spring of 122 in Johnson Co 13 Jun (LE). A few were westerly, but perhaps fewer than in recent years; singles were in Scotts Bluff Co 16 Jun (HKH, AK) and 6 were there 8 Jul (KD). One was in Morrill Co 30 Jun (AK). Of interest was the observation that birds present in the cedar canyons of southeastern Lincoln Co had departed by 10 Jul as grasslands dried up, whereas birds around lowland alfalfa fields remained (TJW).

Bobolink: Rare in the Panhandle, one in Scotts Bluff Co 16 Jun was considered "a good bird out here" (AK, HKH); this is especially significant in that the few Panhandle records occur generally in wet years, obviously not the situation this year in the west. Numbers have increased in recent years in the southeast, but perhaps ominous, and likely related to dry conditions, was a group of 18, mostly males in "fading" plumage, as early as 25 Jun in Otoe Co (LF, SQ). Dry conditions may have resulted in failed breeding, although fledglings have been reported by the end of Jun.

Red-winged Blackbird: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Eastern Meadowlark: Reports were routine for this common eastern, uncommon western, summer resident.
Western Meadowlark: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Reports were routine for this common localized statewide summer resident.

Brewer’s Blackbird: Like Bobolink, this species may have been affected by the very dry conditions in the west. Flocks were noted on early dates: “lots were under a pivot” in Morrill Co 30 Jun (AK) and 200 were in a mixed icterid flock in Scotts Bluff Co 8 Jul (KD).

Common Grackles: Reports were routine for this abundant statewide summer resident.

Great-tailed Grackle: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

Brown-headed Cowbird: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Orchard Oriole: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

Bullock’s Oriole: Reports were routine for this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

Baltimore Oriole: Numbers were good in the southeast: 25 were in Johnson Co 13 Jun (LE) and 16 were at ICSP 11 Jun (LF, SQ).

House Finch: Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

Red Crossbill: Most years a few birds are found scattered around the state in late summer and fall, but on occasion incursions can occur that are probably related to poor food supplies within the breeding range. This summer was one of these occasions, with several reports statewide. Recordings made in north-central KS (HA) showed that the birds there were Type 2, the type that occurs in Ponderosa Pine, and it is likely that the Nebraska birds were, too. Reports included a fem and 4 juvs in Dawson Co 1 Jul (TJW), 14 of mixed plumages in a Fairmont yard 8 Jul (JRi), 2 ads and 3 juvs in Kearney 11-25 Jul (JM fide LR, RH), one in Platte Co 19 Jul (MB), 2-4 at a Stanton Co feeder 24-26 Jul (MB), and 2 birds 8 miles north of Minden 30 Jul (LR, RH).

Pine Siskin: Ads feeding young in the Gordon Cem 5 Jun (CNK) were at the eastern edge of their Pine Ridge summer range.

Lesser Goldfinch: In recent years this species has become a regular summer visitor in the west; 2 green-backed males were at Wildcat Hills NC 21 Jul (RM).

American Goldfinch: Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

House Sparrow: Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.
SUMMARY AND COMPARISONS OF THE FONTENELLE FOREST AND BOYER CHUTE MAPS STATIONS IN NEBRASKA

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This report provides results and comparisons of two Monitoring Avian Productivity & Survivorship (MAPS) stations operated in central eastern Nebraska. MAPS is a multi-national research project managed by the Institute for Bird Populations (IBP) in Point Reyes, CA (http://www.birdpop.org/maps.htm). The project is designed to monitor the population trends and breeding success of breeding birds in North America. Each year, more than 500 participants throughout North America collect data (via the process of bird banding) according to strict protocols and then submit their data to IBP for analysis and interpretation. MAPS began in 1989, and similar studies have subsequently begun on wintering grounds in Latin America.

The Fontenelle Forest site (FONT) was operated from 1990-1998, and the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge site (BOCH) ran from 2001-2010. Both sites are located on floodplain land approximately one half-mile from the Missouri River. The stations are approximately 25 miles apart with the BOCH site north in Washington county and the FONT site south in Sarpy county.

FONT is forested mainly with sycamore, white elm and cottonwood trees with a red osier dogwood and red mulberry understory. Ground cover was composed primarily of stinging nettle, bedstraw and forbs. A small stream runs on the western edge of the site and pastureland on the eastern edge. All ten mist nets were located within forested areas.

BOCH is wooded more openly with cottonwood, red mulberry and red osier dogwood with the open areas dominated by brome grass and abundant poison ivy. Adjacent to the banding area to the east is a restored prairie dominated by switchgrass, big bluestem and side-oats gramma. A chute of the Missouri River runs
along the western border. One mist net was located within the prairie area; the other nine were in the wooded edges.

Both sites were subjected to serious flooding that virtually eliminated a banding season; FONT in 1993 and BOCH in 2010. Continuing swampy conditions and a major tree-felling storm eventually closed the MAPS project at the FONT location, while two sequential years of floods closed the BOCH site. A new site was initiated in 2011 on Neale Woods, a property owned by Fontenelle Forest. It has been in operation for two years. The FONT site operated in the early years of the MAPS program, during which major and minor adjustments in the MAPS protocol were implemented, which may have affected the results.

Both sites were basically operated with ten nets (BOCH had only nine nets the first year) for the standard protocol of six hours (beginning at dawn) once each ten-day

Table 1 Summary of effort and results.

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Table 2  Top ten species banded, showing recaptures as a percent of individuals banded.

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<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Oriole</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Jay</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>31</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigo Bunting</td>
<td></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Cardinal</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-headed Woodpecker</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Boyer Chute 2001-2010 | Species                  | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | Total | Recaps | Recap % |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|--------|---------|
| House Wren             |                          | 32   | 32   | 25   | 15   | 19   | 31   | 30   | 15   | 23   | 10    | 232    | 75      | 32%     |
| Orchard Oriole        |                          | 40   | 22   | 21   | 25   | 29   | 23   | 22   | 15   | 3    | 218   | 78     | 36%     |
| American Robin        |                          | 12   | 7    | 24   | 26   | 41   | 18   | 19   | 1    | 8    | 156   | 4      | 3%      |
| Baltimore Oriole      |                          | 26   | 19   | 9    | 6    | 13   | 14   | 5    | 22   | 27   | 4     | 145    | 31      | 21%     |
| Rose-breasted Grosbeak|                          | 14   | 14   | 11   | 11   | 8    | 8    | 9    | 12   | 5    | 101   | 42     | 42%     |
| Gray Catbird          |                          | 15   | 18   | 7    | 7    | 6    | 12   | 3    | 6    | 4    | 1     | 79     | 38      | 48%     |
| Common Yellowthroat   |                          | 4    | 9    | 3    | 14   | 13   | 9    | 10   | 5    | 3    | 1     | 71     | 35      | 49%     |
| Black-capped Chickadee|                          | 7    | 11   | 5    | 6    | 3    | 6    | 4    | 8    | 2    | 56    | 12     | 21%     |
| American Goldfinch    |                          | 7    | 11   | 3    | 2    | 4    | 3    | 4    | 2    | 36   | 5     | 36     | 0%      |         |
| Eastern Bluebird      |                          | 5    | 7    | 5    | 1    | 2    | 3    | 5    | 36   | 0    | 0     |        |         |         |
Table 3  Ages of 10 most frequently captured species.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fontenelle Forest</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>HY</th>
<th>SY</th>
<th>ASY</th>
<th>AHY</th>
<th>UNK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>198</td>
<td>House Wren</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>151</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>American Robin</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Black-capped Chickadee</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>European Starling</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Downy Woodpecker</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>29</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Blue Jay</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Indigo Bunting</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Northern Cardinal</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Red-headed Woodpecker</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boyer Chute</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>HY</th>
<th>SY</th>
<th>ASY</th>
<th>AHY</th>
<th>UNK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>232</td>
<td>House Wren</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>44</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>218</td>
<td>Orchard Oriole</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>156</td>
<td>American Robin</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>145</td>
<td>Baltimore Oriole</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Rose-breasted Grosbeak</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>Gray Catbird</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>Common Yellowthroat</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Black-capped Chickadee</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>American Goldfinch</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Eastern Bluebird</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HY=Hatch year  
SY=Second year  
ASY=After Second year  
AHY=After Hatch year  
UNK=Unknown
period from May 31 to August 8. The FONT site ran with two additional periods (nine total) in 1990 starting May 11, but had dropped to seven periods by May 31, 1997 due to the recognition of the migration timing. Since the study focuses on breeding birds, it is not useful to catch migrants. An annual average of 5.4 birds was banded per ten net hours at BOCH versus 2.5 birds banded per ten net hours at FONT. (Table 1) This resulted in 1,553 total birds banded at BOCH compared to 809 at FONT even though FONT operated 13.8% more hours than BOCH during the study.

The total number of species banded did not vary significantly at the two sites: FONT 45, BOCH 46. FONT’s 198 recaptures consisted of 128 individuals of 23 species representing 24.6% of the total birds banded. BOCH’s 380 recaptures consisted of 226 individuals of 24 species representing 24.1% of the total birds banded. (The reason the “number of individuals” is less than the “number of recaptures” is that several birds were recaptured multiple times.) Of the birds banded, approximately 31 species at FONT and 28 species at BOCH were migratory birds using the area primarily for nesting. In addition to banding, MAPS participants record data on all birds seen, heard or captured (whether banded or not) during the study. In total, 78 species were encountered or observed at FONT and 85 at BOCH.

The unbanded birds are not included in this analysis as the protocol for counting them was misinterpreted in the first year at both sites. However, several species were captured in the nets that were not banded. Species that were not banded included House Sparrows and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at FONT and Mourning Doves, Northern Bobwhites, a single Sedge Wren and one Sharp-shinned Hawk at BOCH.

For all years, the top ten most commonly banded birds (Table 2) included 76% of the total banded at FONT and 72% at BOCH. The most numerous species at both sites was the House Wren, but both sites share only four species on the top ten listings. These were House Wren, American Robin, Black-capped Chickadee and Baltimore Oriole. BOCH had thirteen species that were not banded at FONT and FONT had 11 species that were not banded at BOCH. (Table 5)

The FONT warblers reflect the more forested habitat while the BOCH sparrows and swallows demonstrate the bordering prairie and river chute. The Swainson’s Thrush, Lincoln’s Sparrow, Black-and-white Warbler and Mourning Warbler at FONT were likely migrants banded before the periods were reduced to seven. The remaining birds on the FONT list are nesters. Likewise the annual presence or absence of Grasshopper Sparrow, Dickcissel and the swallows at BOCH were subject to prairie burns and water levels in the chute.
Table 4  Aged migratory species.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fontenelle Forest</th>
<th>Original Date</th>
<th>Original Age/Sex</th>
<th>Other Years</th>
<th>Latest Age</th>
<th>Estimated Age in Yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Robin</td>
<td>6/9/90</td>
<td>AHY-M</td>
<td>91.95</td>
<td>AHY</td>
<td>at least 7 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown-headed Cowbird</td>
<td>6/3/95</td>
<td>HY-U</td>
<td>96.97</td>
<td>AHY-F</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Towhee</td>
<td>6/26/86</td>
<td>by RG</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>AHY</td>
<td>at least 10 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Wood-Pewee</td>
<td>6/3/95</td>
<td>AHY-M</td>
<td>96.98</td>
<td>AHY</td>
<td>at least 4 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great-crested Flycatcher</td>
<td>6/9/90</td>
<td>AHY-M</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>AHY</td>
<td>at least 2 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Wren</td>
<td>6/7/92</td>
<td>AHY-F</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>AHY</td>
<td>at least 7 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigo Bunting</td>
<td>8/20/95</td>
<td>AHY-M</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>at least 4 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-eyed Vireo</td>
<td>5/30/92</td>
<td>AHY-F</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>AHY</td>
<td>at least 3 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-headed Woodpecker</td>
<td>7/1/95</td>
<td>AHY-U</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>AHY</td>
<td>at least 2 yrs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boyer Chute</th>
<th>Original Date</th>
<th>Original Age/Sex</th>
<th>Other Years</th>
<th>Latest Age</th>
<th>Estimated Age in Yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Goldfinch</td>
<td>6/22/01</td>
<td>ASY-F</td>
<td>01.02</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>over 5 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Robin</td>
<td>7/8/01</td>
<td>AHY-M</td>
<td>02,03,06</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>at least 5 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Oriole</td>
<td>6/22/01</td>
<td>ASY-M</td>
<td>01,02,03,05</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>over 7 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown-headed Cowbird</td>
<td>6/7/03</td>
<td>HY-U</td>
<td>03,04,06</td>
<td>ASY-F</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Thrasher</td>
<td>6/5/02</td>
<td>ASY-M</td>
<td>02,06</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>over 4 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Yellowthroat</td>
<td>7/12/02</td>
<td>ASY-M</td>
<td>02,04,05,06</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>over 7 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Yellowthroat</td>
<td>8/3/02</td>
<td>HY-U</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>ASY-M</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Sparrow</td>
<td>7/2/05</td>
<td>SY-M</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great-crested Flycatcher</td>
<td>6/29/02</td>
<td>AHY-U</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>ASY-U</td>
<td>at least 5 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Catbird</td>
<td>6/2/01</td>
<td>AHY-M</td>
<td>03,04,05</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>at least 6 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orchard Oriole</td>
<td>6/12/04</td>
<td>ASY-M</td>
<td>04,06,07,10</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>over 10 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose-breasted Grosbeak</td>
<td>7/27/02</td>
<td>SY-M</td>
<td>03,05,07</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-headed Woodpecker</td>
<td>6/21/03</td>
<td>ATY-F</td>
<td>04,08</td>
<td>ATY</td>
<td>over 7 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warbling Vireo</td>
<td>6/2/01</td>
<td>AHY-M</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>at least 3 yrs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HY=Hatch year  AHY=After Hatch year  ATY=After third Year
SY=Second year  ASY=After Second year
Table 5  All species banded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Fontenelle Total</th>
<th>Boyer Chute Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-billed Cuckoo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-headed Woodpecker</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-bellied Woodpecker</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downy Woodpecker</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hairy Woodpecker</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Flicker</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Wood-Pewee</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-bellied Flycatcher</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alder Flycatcher</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Traill's&quot; Flycatcher</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Willow Flycatcher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Least Flycatcher</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Crested Flycatcher</td>
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<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Kingbird</td>
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<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warbling Vireo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-eyed Vireo</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Jay</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Swallow</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Barn Swallow</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-capped Chickadee</td>
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<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tufted Titmouse</td>
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<td>White-breasted Nuthatch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown Creeper</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Wren</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Bluebird</td>
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<td>36</td>
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<td>Swainson's Thrush</td>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Thrush</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>America Robin</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Catbird</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Thrasher</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Starling</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Waxwing</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovenbird</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prothonotary Warbler</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black &amp; White Warbler</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mourning Warbler</td>
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<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Redstart</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Parula</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Warbler</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-throated Warbler</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Towhee</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Age ratio percentages for the top ten banded birds are shown in Table 3. Owing to the more advanced ageing protocol instituted by IBP over the time span, the FONT birds were aged with more general criteria resulting in higher numbers of After Hatch Years (AHYs) and Unknowns (UNKs) than were recorded at BOCH. Sex ratios for all birds banded are pretty evenly split at FONT: male 32%, female 37%, and unknown 31%. At BOCH females were slightly more common; males 36%, females 42% and unknown 22%. This could be a product of the more in-depth coding analysis. Table 4 presents some of the older birds by station; only migratory species were considered. The two oldest birds, over 10 years, were an Eastern Towhee banded in FONT by Ruth Green in 1986 before the MAPS station was established and an Orchard Oriole quite faithful to its BOCH site beginning in 2004 as an After Second Year (ASY) bird.

The information provided by the MAPS program is proving very useful in developing land management ethics nationwide and very interesting on a local basis for our knowledge of Nebraska breeding birds. Some observations raise questions for further study, such as the apparent larger number in some species of females recaptured within a year compared to males and the also seemingly larger number of males recaptured in subsequent years compared to females. This might indicate the roles of the female's site fidelity and the male's site selection.

These two stations were operated by banders Betty Grenon, Craig Hensley and Rick Schmid. Volunteer assistance over 20 years included the following: Patty Albright, Elliott Bedows, Jim Beebe, Ruth Bentzinger, Sharon Draper, Bob Fuchs, Lois Inskeep, Anna Keenan, Marge Knudsen, Jason Krug, Tad Leeper, Lorinda Langner, Jessica Larson, Don Maas, Sue Mattix, Jay Parsons, Jay Schneider, Michelle Widhalm, and Penny Zahuroses. Thanks also go to Fontenelle Forest and the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge for support and access to their properties.
2011 (23rd) REPORT OF THE NOU RECORDS COMMITTEE

Compiled by Mark A. Brogie
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The functions and methods of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (NOURC) are described in its bylaws (NOURC 2010). The committee's purpose is to provide a procedure for documenting unusual bird sightings and to establish a list of all documented birds for Nebraska. Accidental and casual species for which the NOURC seeks documentation (NOURC Review List) can be found at the NOU website www.NOUbirds.org.

All records mentioned here are available to interested persons at the NOU archives at the University of Nebraska State Museum (UNSM), Lincoln, NE. Interested parties should contact the current NOU Librarian, whose address can be found in the latest issue of The Nebraska Bird Review (NBR).

State List:


Criteria for Accepted Records:

In order for a record to be accepted, a minimum of six votes in favor is required with no more than one dissenting vote (NOURC 2010). Records in the following categories are classified as accepted:
Each account of an accepted record includes a brief statement noting the species, class, date, location, and initials of observer(s).

This report summarizes all records accessioned in 2011, discusses any new additions to the state list, and reports any changes in firmness of data of Nebraska birds. Additionally, the report reflects changes in frequency of occurrence, as determined by the NOU Records Committee, which reviewed records of bird occurrences in Nebraska for 2002-2011. Frequency of occurrence is indicated by the following terms (NOURC 2009a):

- Regular - acceptably reported in 9-10 of the past 10 years.
- Casual - acceptably reported in 4-7 of the past 10 years.
- Accidental - acceptably reported in 0-2 of the past 10 years.
- Extirpated - not acceptably reported in the past 50 years.
- Extinct - no longer found alive anywhere in the world.

The frequency of occurrence for any species that is acceptably reported in 3 or 8 of the last 10 years is discussed by the committee and placed in a category felt most appropriate by the committee. With this report, the following changes are made to the “Official List of the Birds of Nebraska: 2009” (NOURC 2009a).

2011 Additions to State List:

There were no new species added in 2011. The “Official List of the Birds of Nebraska” stands at 455 species.

Changes Involving Nebraska Species Due to Taxonomic Revisions and/or Changes in English or Scientific Names Based on AOU 2011:

The following changes are made in the taxonomic order in the “Official List of the Birds of Nebraska”.

The Fifty-second supplement to the American Ornithologists’ Union Checklist of North American Birds 2011, Auk 128(3): 600-613 has been published. The
following are changes to the “Official List of the Birds of Nebraska” (www.noubirds.org).

1. Common Moorhen (Gallinula chloropus) changes common and scientific name to: Common Gallinule (Gallinula galeata).

2. Snowy Plover (Charadrius alexandrinus) changes scientific name to: (Charadrius nivosus).

3. The following are the changes in scientific names and the new sequence to the Parulidae of Nebraska:

   Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla)
   Worm-eating Warbler (Helmitheros vermivorum)
   Louisiana Waterthrush (Parkesia motacilla)
   Northern Waterthrush (Parkesia noveboracensis)
   Golden-winged Warbler (Vermivora chrysoptera)
   Blue-winged Warbler (Vermivora cyanoptera)
   Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia)
   Prothonotary Warbler (Protonotaria citrea)
   Swainson’s Warbler (Limnothlypis swainsonii)
   Tennessee Warbler (Oreothlypis peregrina)
   Orange-crowned Warbler (Oreothlypis celata)
   Nashville Warbler (Oreothlypis ruficapilla)
   Virginia’s Warbler (Oreothlypis virginiae)
   Connecticut Warbler (Oporornis agilis)
   MacGillivray’s Warbler (Geothlypis tolmiei)
   Mourning Warbler (Geothlypis philadelphia)
   Kentucky Warbler (Geothlypis formosa)
   Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas)
   Hooded Warbler (Setophaga citrina)
   American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla)
   Cape May Warbler (Setophaga tigrina)
   Cerulean Warbler (Setophaga cerulea)
   Northern Parula (Setophaga americana)
   Magnolia Warbler (Setophaga magnolia)
   Bay-breasted Warbler (Setophaga castanea)
   Blackburnian Warbler (Setophaga fusca)
   Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia)
   Chestnut-sided Warbler (Setophaga pensylvanica)
   Blackpoll Warbler (Setophaga striata)
   Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens)
   Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum)
   Pine Warbler (Setophaga pinus)
   Yellow-rumped Warbler (Setophaga coronata)
   Yellow-throated Warbler (Setophaga dominica)
Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*)
Grace's Warbler (*Setophaga graciae*)
Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Setophaga nigrescens*)
Townsend's Warbler (*Setophaga townsendi*)
Hermit Warbler (*Setophaga occidentalis*)
Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*)
Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*)
Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*)
Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*)

Pre-2011 Accepted Records:

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*)
1. A written report (Class III, BH) was received of a single bird in adult winter (definitive basic) plumage on Lake Yankton, Cedar Co., 28 November 2010. Accession # 1405.

Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*)
1. A photograph (Class I-P, SW) was received of a single bird at Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 02 October 2010. Accession # 1396.

2011 Accepted Records:

Brant (*Branta bernicla*)
1. A sub-adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Lake Hastings, Adams Co., 04 March 2011. This bird was of the taxon *B. b. nigricans*, and represents the first NE spring record for this western North American migrant. Accession # 1392.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*)
1. A written description (Class III, MAB) was received of an adult male at LaPlatte Bottoms, Sarpy Co., 15 May 2011. Accession # 1413.

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*)
1. An adult in winter plumage was photographed (Class I-P, RD) on Lewis and Clark Lake in Yankton Co., SD, and continuously observed (MAB) as it moved into Knox Co., NE., 27 March 2011, where it was seen (RD) the following day. Accession # 1393.
2. The above bird was initially discovered and photographed (Class I-P, BH) on Lake Yankton, Cedar Co., before it was observed flying over the north end of Gavins Point Dam and over Lewis and Clark Lake, Knox Co., 25 March 2011. Accession # 1404.
Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)
1. A written description (Class III, MAB) was received of a single bird observed with other ibis on a playa SE of Creighton, Antelope Co., 27 April 2011. Accession # 1407.
2. An adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) in Clay Co., 29 April 2011. Accession # 1409.
3. A single adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) at Kissinger WMA, Clay Co., 04 May 2011. Accession # 1411.
4. A single adult (possibly the above bird) was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Kissinger WMA, Clay Co., 17 May 2011. Accession # 1414.
5. A single adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) at Moger WMA, Clay Co., 12 May 2011. Accession # 1416.

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*)
1. A single bird was observed (Class III, EB) at Whitehead Saline Wetlands in Lincoln, Lancaster Co., 25-26 April 2011. Accession # 1406.
2. A bird “...that stood out from the coots...” was observed (Class III, JT) at the NE corner of Carter Lake, Douglas Co., 22 April 2011. Accession # 1410.
3. A description (Class III, BF) was received of a single bird observed at LaPlatte Bottoms Marsh, Sarpy Co., 18 May 2011. Accession # 1422.

Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*)
1. A written description (Class III, MAB) was received of a juvenile bird observed at Lazy River Acres, Knox Co., 09 September 2011. Accession # 1427.

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*)
1. A breeding plumaged female was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) near the intersection of Roads Q & 2 in York Co., 21 May 2011. Accession # 1418.

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)
1. A first winter bird was photographed (Class I-P, DP) at Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 28 March 2011. Accession # 1394.

Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*)
1. A first-year bird was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) at Lake Ogallala, Keith Co., 27 May 2011. Accession # 1419.

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*)
1. A photograph (Class I-P, PD) was received of a single bird in adult winter (definite basic) plumage on the Alma Sewage Lagoon, Harlan Co., 11 November 2011. Accession # 1435.
2. A second winter (basic II) bird was photographed (Class I-P, LJ via MAB) below Gavins Point Dam, Cedar Co., 05 December 2011. Accession # 1437.
3. The above bird (# 2) was initially found and photographed (Class I-P, DS) below Gavins Point Dam, Cedar Co., 02 December 2011. Accession # 1438.
4. An adult winter bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 09 December 2011. Accession # 1439.

Iceland Gull (Larus glaucoides)
1. A written description (Class III, BF) was received of a first winter bird observed at Lake Ogallala, Keith Co., 17 March 2011. Accession # 1402.

White-eyed Vireo (Vireo griseus)
1. A written description (Class III, JG) was received of an adult bird observed at Hughes Pond, Seward Co., 11 May 2011. Accession # 1412.
2. A westward adult bird was observed (Class III, MAB) at Imperial, Chase Co., 03 October 2010.

Smith's Longspur (Calcarius pictus)
1. A single male bird was observed (Class III, MAB) east of Creighton, Knox Co., 02 April 2011. Accession # 1395.
2. A written description (Class III, CK) was received of a group of 11 birds observed at Wachiska Berg Prairie, south of Talmage, Nemaha Co., 01 November 2011. Accession # 1434.

Cape May Warbler (Setophaga tigrina)
1. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, PD) in Hastings, Adams Co., 17 May 2011. Accession # 1415.
2. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) in Seward, Seward Co., 14 May 2011. Accession # 1417.

Pine Warbler (Setophaga pinus)
1. A written description (Class III, RH) was received of a singing adult male at Gremlin Cove Park, Harlan Co., 17 April 2011. Accession # 1403.

Cassin’s Finch (Carpodacus cassinii)
1. A hatching-year bird was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, CW) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 09 September 2011. Accession # 1429.
2. A second Cassin’s Finch was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, CW) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 16 September 2011. Accession # 1430.

Lesser Goldfinch (Spinus psaltria)
1. Two black-backed males were photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) at Wright’s Gap, Banner Co., 19 August 2011. Accession # 1424.
2. A single black-backed male was photographed (Class I-P, RT) in Cedar Canyon, Scotts Bluff Co., 23 August 2011. Accession # 1425.
3. A black-backed male was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, CW) at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co., 06 September 2011. Accession # 1428.
Evening Grosbeak (Coccothraustes vespertinus)
1. A male bird (with three females) was photographed (Class I-P, TH) at Halsey National Forest, Thomas Co., 11 April 2011. Accession # 1401.

Unaccepted Records:

Records in the following categories are considered unaccepted (NOURC 2010):

IV - probably correct, but not beyond reasonable doubt.
V - a record with insufficient evidence to support the identification claimed.
VI - a probable released or escaped bird or mistaken identification.

Each account of an unaccepted record includes a brief statement noting the species, class, date, location, and reasons for the committee’s non-acceptance of the record.

Unaccepted Records (Received in 2011):

Glossy Ibis (Plegadis falcinellus)
1. A description of a bird observed at Harvard WPA, Clay Co., 17 April was very suggestive of the species, but lacked sufficient details for approval. Class IV. Accession # 1408.

Greater Sage-Grouse (Centrocercus urophasianus)
1. A 1951 written account of "...a large male sage grouse in full display..." by a very qualified (now deceased) observer lacked any additional description and was not approved. This record will be discussed in the future. Class IV. Accession # 1431.

Crested Caracara (Caracara cheriway)
1. A description of a bird observed north of I-80 and Milford Interchange, Seward Co., 20-21 August 2011 was very suggestive of the species, but lacked sufficient details for approval to qualify as the first state record. Class V. Accession # 1426.

Black-backed Woodpecker (Picoides arcticus)
1. A description was received of single “adult, probably female” bird observed at Smith Lake SWMA, Sheridan Co., 25 June 2011. Several reviewers felt that this record was probably correct, but not beyond reasonable doubt, due to the brevity of the sighting and lack of definitive evidence to constitute a first state record. Class IV. Accession # 1420.
Non-Review Records Submitted in 2011  Filed Without Votes:

The following records are those of species not on the NOURC Review List. They have been accessioned due to other circumstances (out-of-range, non-normal date of occurrence, unusual nesting record, etc.) and filed without NOURC votes.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)
1. Photographs (BH) were filed of a stilt nest with eggs, near K Ave. & Hwy 35 in Dakota Co., 03 August, 2011, providing a remarkable extralimital nesting record for the species. Accession # 1423.

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*)
1. A photograph (PD) of a bird at Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 09 December 2011 was filed. Accession # 1440.

Cassin’s Vireo (*Vireo cassini*)
1. One of two birds observed was photographed (JGJ) at the Bushnell Cemetery, Kimball Co., 01 June 2011. This represents the first spring record for this species in Nebraska. Accession # 1432.

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*)
1. Photographs (BD via NR) of one of two eastward birds found near 84th and Pacific Streets in Omaha, Douglas Co., 05 May 2011 were filed. Accession # 1421.

Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*)
1. A written description (JJ) of an “immature or female” in rural Dixon Co., 24 October 2011 was filed. Accession # 1433.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)
1. Photographs (AS) of a male in winter plumage in Omaha, Douglas Co., 19 December 2011 were filed. Accession # 1441.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)
1. Photographs (JT) of a first-winter male at a feeder in Omaha, Douglas Co., 03 December 2011 were filed. Accession # 1436.

Records Submitted in 2011 Still Under Review:

Hooded Crane (*Grus monacha*)
1. Accession numbers 1397, 1398, 1399, & 1400 of this species are still under review. The investigation as to the possibility of this individual being an escaped or released bird continues.
Acknowledgments:

The NOU Records Committee would like to thank the following observers who contributed records included in this report: Mark A. Brogie (MAB), Chuck Cooper (CC), Kathy DeLara (KD), Roger Dietrich (RD), Bill Duffy (BD), Paul Dunbar (PD), Bill Fink (BF), Joe Gubanyi (JG), Tim Hadja (TH), Robin Harding (RH), Bill Huser (BH), Jan Johnson (JJ), Lucas Johnson (LJ), Joel Jorgensen (JGJ), Clem Klaphake (CK), Gary Lingle (GL), Levi Mohler (LM), Greg Neuman (GN), Neal Ratzlaff (NR), Ami Sheffield (AS), Ruthie Stearns (RS), David Swanson (DS), Richard Teller (RT), Jerry Toll (JT), Mark Urwiller (MU), Walter Wehtje (WW), Susan Whitney (SW), and Colin Woolley (CW).

2011 NOU Records Committee Members:

Mark A. Brogie (chair), Paul Dunbar, Joe Gubanyi, Bill Huser, Joel Jorgensen, Loren Padelford, W. Ross Silcock, and T.J. Walker.

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