

## FIELD REPORTS

WINTER 1981 - 1982

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### WEATHER AND HABITAT CONDITIONS

While early December was generally mild, a vigorous outbreak of Arctic-like weather from 15-20 December caused temperatures throughout the state to average almost 2 degrees below normal. Elements averaging near normal during December included precipitation, cloudiness, wind speeds, and percents of sunshine and snowfall.

January deserves special attention for it was one of Iowa's most wintry months since 1936. Cold, cloudy, windy, and snowy, the month averaged more than 11 degrees subnormal temperature, and wind movement exceeded the normal by some 20 percent. The 18 inches snowfall average was just two inches short of the all-time record of 20 inches set in 1979. Strong winds were frequent, often exceeding 30 miles per hour and on 20 days exceeded 20 miles per hour. As the result, blowing snow was reported on at least one third of the days in the month, and highways and sideroads were frequently closed or dangerous to travel. Most localities reported that snow cover was deepest toward the end of the month and ranged from 15-20 inches in the south to 40 or more inches in the north, with 61.5 inches recorded at Dorchester. Snow depths at the end of the month varied from five inches in southern Iowa to near 20 inches in the north central area.

Temperatures during January were the lowest in memory--especially in the first two weeks of the month. A reading of -37 degrees at Anamosa on 10 January has been exceeded only three times in the last 70 years. The wind-chill factor on 9-10 January reached

-60 to -90 degrees F.--the worst in memory. The bitter cold moderated during the last two weeks of the month to more normal readings. The January liquid equivalent precipitation averaged 1.83 inches which, coupled with December snowfalls and the lack of substantial melting, indicated a large quantity of frozen water covering Iowa.

The month of February saw a gradual return to more agreeable weather patterns. Precipitation was slight and temperatures rose to levels which permitted a gradual thawing condition, thus in general avoiding flash floods, too rapid run-off, etc. While there were a few nights of low temperatures, the generally higher daytime readings and the lack of winds provided a pleasant month to Iowa which had suffered through one of the coldest, snowiest, windiest winters on record.

#### GENERAL TRENDS

The cold winter was noted for its lack of overwintering migrants. However, Horned Larks, Lapland Longspurs, and Snow Buntings were present in large numbers throughout the period. There was a moderate invasion of Common Redpolls which seemed to accentuate in mid-January. Both Red- and White-winged Crossbills were frequently found. The fall invasion of Northern Goshawk was confirmed by many winter sightings. The distinct warming trend in the last half of February was accompanied by a influx of waterfowl in SW Iowa and Eastern Bluebirds and Red-winged Blackbirds were on the move in late February. An American Woodcock on 22 Feb was distinctly early.

#### UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

The Hawk Owl wintering at Waterloo had to be the most exciting event of the season. A Hoary Redpoll at Eldora was also observed

by many. There was an invasion of Prairie Falcons into Western Iowa. The two immature Black-legged Kittiwakes fit with known vagrancy patterns of this species but were quite unusual for Iowa. Iowa's fourth Black-headed Grosbeak stayed only two days at LeClaire. Other less rare species sighted include Mute Swan, Ross' Goose, White-wing Scoter, Varied Thrush, and Bohemian Waxwing. Two winter records of Water Pipit were most unusual. Other rare winter sightings included Whistling Swan, arctic Great Horned Owl, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Northern Oriole. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was reported from August.

#### LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

Common Loon: 1 was late at Saylorville Res. on 12 Dec (JSb).

→ Eared Grebe: 1 was quite late at Saylorville Res. on 5, 16 Dec (JSb, JR).

Pied-billed Grebe: 1 on 4 Dec at L. Manawa (TB, BP) and 2 on 5 Dec at Saylorville Res. (JR, JSb).

→ American White Pelican: 1 at Bay's Branch on 23 Dec (RC) is very unusual (see CBC).

Double-crested Cormorant: Singles lingering into Dec were seen at L. Manawa on <sup>4</sup>Dec (TB, BP), Dubuque on 6 Dec (FM, RMy, RHa), Story Co. on 6 Dec (JR, JSb), Saylorville Res. on 13 Dec (JSb), and Coralville Res. on 19 Dec (TK).

Great Blue Heron: 1 was at Saylorville Res. on 5 Dec (JR, JSb) and another at Rathbun Res. on 29 Dec (BHeu).

Mute Swan: 1 was documented at LeClaire, Scott Co., on 21 Feb (+RHo, CB, TK), possibly the same bird that was reported in Dec (fide PP). Another was reported from the Cedar Rapids Sewage Pond on 30 Jan (Rich Patterson fide DN).

→ Whistling Swan: An immature was reported at Red Rock Res. on 19 Jan (RT), a most unusual winter record.

Canada Goose: 4,000 were heading down the Mississippi R. e. of Davenport on 3 Jan<sup>(LBfide PP)</sup> and 300 were flying through the snow in Iowa City on 4 Jan<sup>(TStan)</sup>. Wintering birds were noted at Rock Valley in Sioux Co. (JV), Waterloo (RMy), Cedar Rapids (CB), and Des Moines (JR). The first migrants were noted in SW Iowa on 21 Feb (BWi).

Greater White-fronted Goose: 1 wintered at Rock Valley in NW Iowa (JV).

Snow Goose: Migration began in SW Iowa on 19-21 Feb (IG, BWa, BWi) and reached 150,000 on 26 Feb (RP).

Ross' Goose: 1 was at Riverton A. on 19 Dec (+RSi, BWi) and three were near there on 26 Feb (+RP).

Wood Duck: Singles wintered at Rock Valley (JV) and Waterloo (RMy).

American Wigeon: 1 wintered at Waterloo (RMy, FM).

Gadwall: 4-6 wintered at Waterloo (RMy, FM), 4 were at IPL Settling Ponds s. of Council Bluffs on 28 Feb (TB, BP, LP).

Green-winged Teal: 1 was late at Waterloo on 20 Dec (RMy).

Mallard: Wintering flocks were reported from Rock Valley, Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, and Saylorville Res.

American Black Duck: 10 wintered at Waterloo (RMy, FM).

Common Pintail: 12 were at Forney L. by 28 Feb (TB, BP, LP).

Blue-winged Teal: 2 were late at L. Macbride on 6 Dec (JPS).

Canvasback: 2 were at LeClaire, Scott Co., on 21 Feb (TK, CB, RHo).

Greater Scaup: A female was identified by head shape and wing stripe at LeClaire, Scott Co., on 14 Dec (TK).

Lesser Scaup: 6 were at IPL Settling Ponds on 28 Feb (TB, BP, LP).

Oldsquaw: A female remained at Red Rock Res. until 4, 13 Dec (RT, GB).

White-winged Scoter: A female was reported from Red Rock Res. on 4 Dec (RT, GB). *undocumented but probably OK*

Common Goldeneye: First migrants appeared at Waterloo on 20 Feb (RMy).

#### VULTURES THROUGH TURKEY

Bald Eagle: 298 were found on a 13 Jan survey from s. of Burlington to Lock 14 in Scott Co., the highest number ever recorded (PP). Midwinter records away from the eastern and western borders of the state were 6 Feb at Waterloo (RMy, FM, RC), 7 Feb in Polk Co. (DMos), 9 Jan at Ledges SP (DB, TB).

*definite invasion year*  
Northern Goshawk: In addition to those reported for the CBC, there were the following documented sightings: 12 Dec at Volga River RA (+RMy, <sup>RHa</sup> RH), 15 Feb at Big Creek L., Polk Co. (+PM, +HZ), and 25 Feb at Ledges SP (+DN).

Cooper's Hawk: An adult and immature were well described from Winneshiek Co. on 28 Feb (RB, CB, MB). Others were reported from L. Macbride on 12 Dec (JPS, TStau) and Lucas Co. on 18 Jan (Willie Suchy fide JD).

Red-tailed Hawk: Krider's Hawks were noted at Shenandoah on 12 Feb (BWa) and Oak Grove SP, Sioux Co., on 28 Dec (JV).

Red-shouldered Hawk: Reports were from Amana on 31 Jan (CB, JPS) and Sweet M. on 19, 29 Dec (RMy, PP).

Rough-legged Hawk: Only 14 were reported and several contributors commented on their scarcity in NW Iowa (DBi, JV).

Golden Eagle: Details were given for an immature at Lock 14, Scott Co., on 12 Jan (Elton Fawks fide PP). *OK*

Prairie Falcon: 5 sightings were documented with the black axillaries seen in all cases: 19 Dec e. of Sioux City (+ see CBC), 20 Dec at DeSoto NWR (+BWi, see CBC), 27 Jan in Emmet Co. (+Mr. & Mrs. Robert Moats), 6 Feb s. of Sioux Center (+JV), and 20 Feb in Story Co. (+ Kevin Martin). Another was reported from Sioux Co. (Ken Hollinger fide JV).

Ring-necked Pheasant: Flocks of 100 were noted in Hardin Co. (BPr et al).

Gray Partridge: Reports were from Guthrie (RMy, FM, RHo), Hardin (BPr, PH, GS), Howard (RB, CB), and Wright (RC) Cos.

Wild Turkey: Reports were from Peterson, Clay Co (DBi), Boone Co. (JR), Amana (CB), and W. Johnson Co. (JPS).

#### CRANES THROUGH TERNS

American Coot: 1 lingered at Saylorville Res. until 14 Dec (JD).

Killdeer: An early migrant was near Cone M. on 21 Feb (RHo, CB, TK).

→ American Woodcock: 1 at Centerville in the Heusinkvelds' yard on 22 Feb is a record early date.

Common Snipe: 1 was at Sioux Center on 25 Dec (JV).

Herring Gull: Most were driven south by the cold winter. Only 30 were seen in Scott Co. on 21 Feb (TK, CB, RHo).

Thayer's Gull: Several reported in Nov and Dec are being reviewed by the Records Committee. Results later.

Ring-billed Gull: Large late fall concentrations were noted: 2,000 on 6 Dec (JD) and 600-700 on 14 Dec at Saylorville Res. (JD), and 1,000 at Red Rock Res. on 4 Dec (RT).

→ Bonaparte's Gull: 4 at Red Rock Res. on 4 Dec (RT) and 20 at Saylorville Res. on 16 Dec (JSb) were unusually late.

++ Black-legged Kittiwake: Immatures are occasional fall vagrants in the Midwest. Two were well documented this season: 6-7 Dec at Dubuque (+RMy, +FM, +TK) and 10-17 Dec at Saylorville Res. (+JSb).

Probably  
by winter  
in flux  
ever  
in to  
Iowa

PIGEONS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Mourning Dove: 1 was noted in Emmet Co. on 1 Jan (DHe) and 13 in Cherokee Co. on 23 Feb (MB).

Common Screech Owl: A red phase bird was noted in Cherokee on 9 Feb (DBi).

Great Horned Owl: Details were given for one of the arctic race in Sioux Co. on 29 Dec (JV).

Snowy Owl: Th<sup>ese</sup>~~ese~~ reports were received: 24,27 Dec in Howard Co. (Ron Munkel fide JD), 29 Dec at Durant (PP, m. ob.), ~~and~~ 8 Feb w. of Newton (+MM), and 27 Feb n. of Mason City (CN).

Hawk Owl: The most exciting bird of this cold winter set up territory at the junction of highways 63 and 218 in Waterloo from 25 Dec to 25 Feb (+RMy, +FM, +m. ob.).

Long-eared Owl: 6 at DeSoto NWR on 19 Jan (Dave Menke, TB); 1 at Big Creek SP on 27 Feb (JR).

Short-eared Owl: 1 at Dysart on 30 <sup>Dec</sup>~~Dec~~ (CB); 1 in N. Palo Alto Co. on 8 Feb (DHe); 1 at Oak Grove P., Sioux Co., on 13 Feb (JV); 1 at Eldora on 14 Feb (PH, GS fide BPr).

Saw-whet Owl: 1-3 at Ledges SP from 13 Dec-21 Feb (m. ob.); 1 at George Wyeth SP from 25 Dec to 30 Jan (FM); 1 at Davenport on 15 Jan (PP, <sup>BB</sup>~~Brian Blevins~~).

Belted Kingfisher: 1 was on the Floyd R. in Sioux City on 8 Jan (DBi) and 1 at Saylorville Res. on 7 Feb (JR, JSb).

Common Flicker: Red-shafted Flickers were noted in NE Mills Co. on 6,13 Feb (BWi) and in Story Co. on 21 Feb <sup>(George and Gordon Brown, Steve Dinsmore)</sup>~~(BWi, GDB, SA)~~ fide JD).

Pileated Woodpecker: 1 was at the Saylorville Dam on 12 Dec (JSb).

Red-headed Woodpecker: More than usual were noted in NE Mills Co. where the acorn crop was good (BWi) and at Oak Grove P. in Sioux Co. (JV)

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Singles were noted in Jan at Davenport (PP), Council Bluffs (CSch), Ames (JR), and Shenandoah (MBV).

not many  
First state record.  
Photos enclosed.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH STARLING

*del*  
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: A well-documented late report was received of one in Marshall Co. on 29 Aug (+Philip Grobenbauer).

*many birds from Council Bluffs in Jan.*  
Horned Lark: Large numbers overwintered and were seen along snowy roads in Jan. On 9 Jan 1,000 were reported from Adair to Black Hawk Cos. (TB, DB). The peaks between NE Mills Co. and Council Bluffs (35 mi.) were 250 on 2 Dec and 220 on 6 Jan with great fluctuation from day to day (BWi).

American Crow: Does Iowa State University attract Crows? One observer noted 500-750 wintering in Ames (HZ) and another reported 1400 at the University on 17 Feb (JD).

Tufted Titmouse: The population at the Wilson farm in NE Mills Co. dropped to zero this winter. Two each were reported from Ledges SP on 30 Jan (JR) and Dallas Co. on 28 Feb (RC).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Small numbers were reported from many areas throughout the state.

American Robin: A few wintering flocks and scattered individuals were reported: 133 s. of Cherokee on 13 Feb (DBi), 100 at Hamburg on 6 Jan (IG), and 20 at Council Bluffs on 13 Jan (CSch).

*→ about 1/yr.*  
Varied Thrush: One near Maysville, Scott Co., had been present for about two weeks (+PP, et al). I heard rumors of another, but received no specific report or documentation.

Eastern Bluebird: 1-4 were noted in the last week of Feb at Hamburg (IG), Boone Co. (JR, Jim Kienzler fide JD), NE Mills Co. (BWi), and Dallas Co. (RC). At least 50 were seen at Sweet M. on 28 Feb (RMy, FM). These reports suggest a distinct migration associated with the warming trend during the last two weeks of Feb.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: The only report was from Ames on 13 Feb (JR).



Water Pipit: A fifth Dec record for the state was from Saylorville Res. on 12,13 Dec (JSb) and one at Pocahontas on 27 Feb (+WJ) is either the first winter record or earliest spring record for the state.

Bohemian Waxwing: Details were given for one in Ames on 1 Feb (JSb). One on the Sioux City CBC was apparently the only record for 1981.

Cedar Waxwing: 350 were seen s. of Cherokee on 13 Feb (DBi).

Northern Shrike: The most southerly record was from Polk Co. (+JR). Others, generally with good details, were from the following counties: Winneshiek (RB, CB), Fayette (RMy), Bremer (RMy, FM, TK), Black Hawk (RMy, CB), Butler (RMy), Cherokee (MB), and Sioux (JV).

Loggerhead Shrike: 1 wintered at Pleasantville, Marion Co. (RT) and one was at Shenandoah on 12,13 Feb (BWa).

#### VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler: There was an undocumented report from Des Moines on 22 Feb (CL fide RL). *not documented, probably OK*

#### MEADOWLARKS THROUGH BUNTINGS

Meadowlark sp.: Few were noted: 2 at Cherokee on 13 Feb (DBi) and 1 in Guthrie Co. on 27 Feb (RC). An Eastern Meadowlark was singing at Centerville on 28 Feb (BH, MH).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: 1 was well-described at a feeder in Ottumwa on 3 Jan (+Hayden Evans fide Nelson Haskins).

Red-winged Blackbird: Migrating flocks were noted at Jewell, Hamilton Co. (JD) and Cherokee (MB) on 23 Feb and Waterloo on 28 Feb (RMy).

Northern Oriole: Documentation and photographs were submitted of a female Bullock's Oriole at Cedar Falls on 20 Dec (+RMy) and a male Baltimore Oriole was described at a feeder in Pleasant Valley, Scott Co., on 30 Dec (PP).

Rusty Blackbird: Migrants were noted on 26 Feb in NE Mills Co. (BW<sub>i</sub>) and on 28 Feb at Sweet M. (FM, RMy).

Black-headed Grosbeak: A subadult male showed up at the feeder of Don <sup>at Le Claire, Scott Co.,</sup> and Jean Moeller on 13 Dec (+PP, MLP) and was seen the next afternoon (Cal and Bernie Knight fide TK) for the fourth state record.

Evening Grosbeak: Few were reported this winter. Firsthand reports were 1 at Waterloo on 30 Jan (RMy, FM) and 1-2 wintering in N. Polk Co. (DMos).

Purple Finch: Reports suggest normal wintering numbers.

Hoary Redpoll: 1 at the feeder of Nancy Slife near Eldora was seen by many and well-documented (+NS, +RHo, +HZ) and photographed (John Hoogerheide). Another was documented from Pocahontas (+WJ). These records will be reviewed by the Records Committee. *only one observer*

Common Redpoll: This was a moderate invasion year with most contributors reporting some and many noted an influx beginning in mid-Jan. The highest number was 300 at Decorah on 1 Jan (JSb).

Pine Siskin: Most observers reported some.

Red Crossbill: Flocks of 3-8 were widely reported throughout the period from <sup>Iowa City</sup> ~~Johnson Co.~~, Waterloo, Dubuque, and Cherokee.

White-winged Crossbill: There were more reports than for Red Crossbills, a reverse of the usual occurrences: 10 at Davenport on 1 Dec (PP), 18 on 12-17 Dec at West Union (JSb), 20 on 9 Dec at Waterloo (RMy), 1 on 17 Dec at Iowa City (RHo), 2 on 28 Dec at Rock Valley (JV), 10 at Clear L. on 10 Jan (Bill Ohde fide JD), 1 at Ames on 6 Feb (JR).

Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 of the western race spent the winter at Cherokee (DBi).

Vesper Sparrow: 1 was triply documented in NE Mills Co. on 23 Dec, 5,7 Jan (+BW<sub>i</sub>).

4th state record.

not much doubt, pure white rump, seen by many competent observers.

invasion

more than usual

last year's comment about little documentation w/ set her. she is a careful observer.

Field Sparrow: 1 was at a Burlington feeder in Jan (JF).

Harris' Sparrow: Wintering birds were noted from Eldora (BPr), Ames (PM), N. Polk Co. (DMos), Pleasantville (RT), Sioux Co. (JV), and Shenandoah (MBV, BWa).

White-crowned Sparrow: 8 wintered at Shenandoah (BWA) and 1 was at Cone M. on 27 Feb (JPS, JKS).

White-throated Sparrow: 1-3 winter at an Iowa City feeder (TK); Davenport birds left on 24 Dec (PP). Singles were seen in Iowa City on 24 Dec (JPS) and Waterloo on 30 Jan (FM, RMy).

Fox Sparrow: 8 were in Davenport on 24 Dec (PP) and 1 at Ames on 7 Feb (TB, BP).

Lapland Longspur: Many overwintered in Sioux Co. (JV) and a few at Waterloo (RMy). Other reports were 25-30 at Coralville on 5 Jan (TStau), 2 at Durant on 7 Jan (PP), 10 at Pocahontas on 23 Jan (RC), and 5 in Story Co. on 24 Jan (HZ).

Snow Bunting: Many were reported throughout the period. The largest flocks were 400-500 n. of Stout, Grundy Co., on 30 Dec (RMy), 400 near Denver, Bremer Co., on 19 Dec (RMy), and 200 near Ledges SP on 9 Jan (TB, DB).

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Russell Baldner, Calmar; Carl Bendorf, Iowa City; Dick Bierman, Cherokee; Gladys Black, Pleasantville; Tanya Bray, Omaha, NE; Marion Brewer, Cherokee; Raymond Cummins, Pocahontas; James Dinsmore, Ames; Jane Fuller, Burlington; Ione Getscher, Hamburg; Nelson Haskins, Ottumwa; Dennis Henrickson, Estherville; Bill Heusinkveld, Centerville; Marjorie Heusinkveld, Centerville; Rick Hollis, Iowa City; Wallace Jardine, Pocahontas; Thomas Kent, Iowa City; Rene Laubach, Des Moines; Paul Martsching, Ames; Francis L. Moore, Waterloo; Dean Mosman, Elkhart; Mary Musgrave, Des Moines;

more than usual.

*Curt Nelson, Mason City;*

Robert K. Myers, Waterloo; <sup>A</sup>David A. Newhouse, Boone; Muriel Orrick, Cedar Falls; Peter Petersen, Davenport; Ruth Phipps, Shenandoah; Beth Proescholdt, Liscomb; John Robinson, Ames; James P. Sandrock, Iowa City; Joe Schaufenbuel, St. Lucas; Conrad F. Schlemmer, Council Bluffs; Nancy Slife, Eldora; Thomas Staudt, Iowa City; Robert Thornburg, Pleasantville; John Van Dyk, Sioux Center; Mary Beth Vaughn, Shenandoah; Betty Walters, Shenandoah; Barbara Wilson, Hastings; Hank Zaletel, Ames.

OTHER OBSERVERS*Brian Blevins(PP); Lewis Blevins(PP);*

Cathryn Balder (RB); Margret Balder (RB)<sub>A</sub>; Don Bray (TB); Barbara Cunningham (MBV, BWa); Phillis Harris (BPr); Russell Hays (RMy); ✓  
 Christyna Laubach (RL); ~~Francis Moore (RMy)~~; Babs Padelford (TB); ✓  
 Loren Padelford (TB); ~~Don Priebe (RP)~~; Mark Proescholdt (BPr);  
 Johanna K. Sandrock (JPS); Garnita Seward (BPr); Ramona Sommerlot  
 (BPr); Marie Spears (RP); Linda Zaletel (JR).

COMMENTS

The response to my request for help with the weather was gratifying. Most contributors gave weather information and Jim Sandrock not only offered to write the weather section, but did. In the following two paragraphs he summarizes the weather for 1981 and acknowledges the source of the information. In the future, contributors should continue to mention noteworthy weather events and, especially, habitat conditions. Personal field observations are a valuable source of information which, when incorporated with data from official records, will insure a more valid, comprehensive report of these important factors.

The year 1981 was the warmest calendar year in Iowa since 1954, primarily because the first four months of the year averaged 5.2 degrees warmer than normal. The warm, windy, dry days during early 1981 resulted in many dust storms, particularly in western and central Iowa where rainfall had been short since December 1979. The warm first four months closed out the 1980-81 snowfall season in which a total of only 15.2 inches fell--less than half the normal 32.5. Only two seasons in 89 years recorded less snowfall. The last eight months of 1981 reversed the 13-month long warm pattern to average nearly one-half degree subnormal. June 1981 reversed an 18-month dry pattern which was particularly intense over western and central Iowa. Also noteworthy in 1981 were the record hail on 23 June and the record rains, primarily over south central Iowa, on the night of 3-4 July.

Weather information for IBL is now being furnished by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and by the State Climatologist's Office. Data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) --National Weather Service-- of the U.S. Department of Commerce are included in this information. Special thanks are due Mrs. Jane W. Weideman for her gracious assistance. In this and subsequent weather information included in the Field Reports, departures from normal are based on the mean for 1941-1970.

Not only was the weather favorable in 1981, but the birds responded by being seen in record numbers. According to my calculations 299 species were authenticated in Iowa in 1981, up from 287 in 1980 (IBL 51:34) and 291 in 1979 (IBL 50:28).

Of the 275 species on the current Field Checklist only the Barn Owl and Sharp-tailed Sparrow were not definitely substantiated. There was at least one rumor of a Barn Owl and a Sharp-tailed Sparrow was reported but not considered unequivocal by the Records Committee. There were 13 Casual (some soon to be reclassified as Regular) species recorded: Red-necked Grebe, Ross' Goose, White-winged Scoter, Sandhill Crane, Glaucous Gull, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Say's Phoebe, Varied Thrush, Townsend's Solitaire, Yellow-throated Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Pine Grosbeak, and Lark Bunting. There were also 13 Accidental species found: Arctic Loon, White-faced Ibis, Prairie Falcon, Black Rail, Thayer's Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Hawk Owl, Burrowing Owl, Curve-billed Thrasher, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Hoary Redpoll, and Smith's Longspur. Whimbrel, currently on the Field Checklist, should be added to the list of Accidentals. Please let me know if I have missed any. The future should tell the degree to which the good birding this year was due to more extensive birding or to increased vagrancy of the birds.

I am most grateful to Donna Sandrock for her professional job in typing the field reports.