

Dear Jim,

Thanks for the note. I am pursuing various channels to get aerial photos here. I was interested in your papers and the use of a device to measure area from photographs--a digital planimeter or something. I would be interested in learning how to use it. Perhaps you can show me when I am working on the Saw-whet Owls this winter.

The other aspect of the papers that interested me was that species numbers increased with wetland area to a point, then it leveled off. For what I am seeing in the terns, I would predict that the leveling off would not occur if you just plotted area of emergent vegetation vs. species numbers. If you haven't tried this, it would be something to reconsider and not difficult to pull out of your data already.

Thanks also for the Sandhill Crane. I will probably be driving back from Lakeside on a Sunday, but will let you know if it is a weekday. Otherwise, I can get it this winter if you have enough space to hold it.

As far as interesting birds, on 19 June there was a single White Pelican on Rush Lake, Palo Alto County near Ayrshire. It was in breeding plumage with the plate developed on the upper bill. It was just swimming around alone.

Seems like less Black-crowned Night Herons on Jemerson Slough. However, good population at Dan Green Slough. Despite canoeing through the cattails, no bitterns or rails (besides coots).

Hope to see you when you are up here.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Neil', written in a cursive style.