

RECEIVED

MAY 28 1987

TEWAUKON NWR
CAYUGA, ND

1909 20th Avenue S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
May 25, 1987

To: Eastern North Dakota Observers

Well, the end of this season has really slipped up on me. I need your spring season reports by no later than June 7-10, and it would help if some of you could send your report in earlier. As you are aware, this spring was exceptionally dry (at least until about May 20), and also very early. Can anyone comment on how much earlier flowers, trees leaving out, etc., were than average? I will also be looking for comments on how the warm and dry conditions influenced migration.

I would also like to suggest that you consider using a "hi-liter" of some kind to indicate any dates, species, observations, that you consider unusual. It would make my job a bit easier when I try to pick out the observations I want to include in the e. North Dakota report.

Because of the very favorable migration conditions, this is probably an exceptionally good year to look for "overshoots"--those species which are much farther north than usual. We have had a couple in Grand Forks, Bewick's Wren and Cerulean Warbler, and there are probably more waiting to be discovered.

I hope each of you have a good summer, which will include some birding.

Sincerely,

Dave

David Lambeth

Don, I would like to know if Great Egrets are seen consistently in June. I think a nesting record will eventually be obtained in the Teaukon area.

Dave

RECEIVED

St. / Count ✓
Don

1909 20th Avenue S
Grand Forks, ND 58201 JUL 26 1985
July 25, 1985

TEWAUKON NWR
CAYUGA ND

Please Return

Dave Potter, on the 21st we flushed at least 4 Least Bitterns in Parker Bay near the Dike. Thanks for sending your report in early!! We heard 3 Willow Flycatchers singing at Silver Bay Rec. Area. Probably all of your FCs in Summer are Willow, not Alder. We didn't see them this time. How early do they usually show up?

To: Observers, Eastern North Dakota

As you will recall, the nesting season is only two months long, as defined by American Birds, and so it is already time to call in your reports. I would like to receive them by about August 7. As I have said before, I am most interested in records involving nesting or possible nesting, particularly any information you have that adds new knowledge to what is in Stewart's book. There are several species I am particularly interested in such as: Common Loon, Red-necked Grebe, any species that nests in colonies, Dickcissel, Ferruginous Hawk, Baird's Sparrow, Sprague's Pipit, and Lark Bunting. For several of these, I believe the distribution and/or abundance has changed since Stewart wrote his book.

Craig Faanes will be writing the report for the NGP. The last I heard he indicated that he is again working on Kirtland's Warbler in Michigan this summer, and that they were successful in finding several wintering in the Bahamas last winter. As you probably know, that has long been suspected to be the wintering site, but firm, observations were lacking.

A letter received from John Farrand, the Editor of American Birds, indicated that the magazine has survived extinction for the time being. Apparently, it is in severe financial difficulties. The CBC issue will continue to be printed along with four additional issues covering the four seasons. One other issue has been dropped. If you are not now subscribing to American Birds, I certainly urge you to do so. You will find a lot of interesting reading there (besides the Northern Great Plains report), and your support will help save the journal. Subscriptions are \$18.00/year. Mail checks payable to American Birds to: American Birds, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022.

Rumors are that the light-phased form of the Western Grebe, which is mentioned in both of the spring reports being circulated to you separately, will be split off as a full species and called "Clark's Grebe". The field marks are covered in the new National Geographic Guide (I can get you a copy of this guide if you would like one, cost is about \$16 or \$17). Two visiting birders from California, one of whom was Paul Lehman who writes some of the "Changing Seasons" reports for American Birds, pointed out one to me on the Grand Forks lagoons in June. It will be of interest to see how many turn up in North Dakota -- I now know of about 5 or 6 observations.

Reminder: The seasonal report form shows a number of species with an asterik. These are ones which I would generally like documentation forms -- sometimes because the identification is difficult, sometimes because I would like to know about the exact location, habitat, etc.. Any species which is not on the reporting form must definitely be documented. These forms are going to be invaluable in the future if and when someone writes the long overdue, state bird book.

Remember that reports are due Aug. 7. If you are really pressed for time, at least send me the best of the highlights!!!

Dave

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FEB 24 1984

February 20, 1984
1909 20th Avenue S
Grand Forks, ND 58201

TEWAUKON NWR CAYUGA, ND

To: Eastern North Dakota observers,

Dave Potter and his staff will compile the winter report for the eastern half of North Dakota. Please send your report to him by no later than March 7. Sent to:

DAVE POTTER
TEWAUKON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
CAYUGA, ND 58013

As you will recall, I didn't send out a winter reporting form. Please don't use the enclosed migration report form for that purpose. However, to place the species you observed in the correct order, you may refer to the enclosed form. Since most of us observed fewer than 30 species for the season, it shouldn't be difficult to make up our reports.

Keep an eye out for Boreal Chickadees. I don't know of any in the eastern third of N.D., but Gordon Berkey recently told me that 4-6 are coming to feeders in Rugby. A considerable number of Gray-crowned Rosy Finches moved into western N.D. this winter, if the 100+ coming to a feeder in Old Town is any indication. This is a species to expect on a rare occasion in eastern N.D. Most Christmas bird counts turned up 1-4 Goshawks this year. Otherwise, I don't know of much happening.

I noticed today that a considerable number of Horned Larks are already on territory in the Grand Forks area. So can Spring be very far behind?

I have just finished typing the fall report for e. North Dakota and it will be circulated very soon. I apologize for taking so long to get it done.

Happy birding!!

Dave

Dave Lambeth

*Dave, Glad to have you doing the winter report. I would suggest starting fresh with your report rather than using a form. Be sure to indicate where each observation was made along with the initials of the observer(s). The reports can usually be pretty condensed, for example, Donald Kubischta often gives every date he saw even the common things such as woodpeckers and chickadees. When the report is finished, send it to Craig Faanes at Northern Prairie since he is writing the N6V report. I would appreciate receiving a copy. If you run into any problems or have questions, please write or call. Thanks
Dave*

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NOV 29 1983

TEWAUKON NWR
CAYUGA, ND

1909 20th Avenue South
Grand Forks, ND 58201
November 25, 1983

To: Observers in eastern North Dakota

As you undoubtedly know, the Fall season is all but over. I would like to have your reports as soon as possible after December 1, and no later than December 10.

I am not mailing out a reporting form for the Winter season. Not too many species are observed during that season and as long as you arrange your observations in the approximately order of a checklist, it will not be much of a problem. I have run out of reporting forms for the winter season and I will not have time to make up a new one, using the new A.O.U. names, for use this winter.

There are some early indications that this may be a good winter for birds. Redpolls were moving through by the end of October, I have had several reports of Evening Grosbeaks, and Crossbills have been seen in the Minot area. The most exciting news, however, is that Ron Martin and Gordon Berkey have located three Boreal Chickadees in Minot, and found another one on the American side of the Peace Gardens. So keep your eyes and ears open for this species. In a winter that produces Boreal Chickadees, who knows what else might come along.

Robert Arbib is retiring as editor of American Birds and is being replaced by John Farrand. There is a new CBC editor, but I don't recall her name.

More new field guides are just now coming on the market. Robbins and colleagues have updated their guide. Although it includes the latest in name changes, and has also included a number of species not found in the old guide, I am disappointed in the quality of the plates. New plates are particularly bad, and for those which are the same as in the old guide, there is a marked deterioration. National Geographic has a new guide. A very brief opportunity to thumb through it convinced me that it is worth buying. And then there is a new series of Audubon guides which are supposed to be for the advanced birder. That set is going to cost about \$35 or more. Hopefully it will include a lot of the more subtle information which is not included in the Peterson or Robbins Guides.

Best wishes for a good winter season.

Sincerely,

Dave Lambert

Dave,

Would you be willing to compile the winter report again this year? If so, let me know when you sent in your fall report. I would be able to tell observers to send the winter reports to you whenever I send out the spring reporting forms.

NOV 28 '81 REC'D

v. Currie
AK
Deep

1909 20th Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
November 25, 1981

Routine Bird Observations:

To: Eastern North Dakota observers

From: David Lambeth *Dave*

Re: Fall Reports

Please try to forward your fall reports to me by no later than December 7.

I will be writing the NGP report this time, and I may try to give more attention to warblers and sparrows. The migration of these two groups has been neglected in the past, especially in the fall season. So if you have collected data on warblers and sparrows, try to send me a detailed summary. I am particularly interested in first and last dates, and some indication of relative abundance.

I would also like to publish some data on fall concentrations of waterfowl on the various refuges. If you have data that is unusual in any way, send me that (but be sure to tell me why it is unusual). Apart from unusual data, I would also be interested in peak counts of any of the waterfowl because I think it is worthwhile to occasionally get some of that information in print. It is valuable both for the historical record, and also to persons in other parts of the country who are interested in what we have in North Dakota.

Dave, the Owl feathers are being looked at by someone more ~~so~~ of an expert than I. Will let you know when I find out something.

We visited Tewaukon in early August and apparently you were gone. There were a number of Great Egrets around then. Do you have a minimum count for them?

TEWAUKON N W
REFUGE

FEB 25 '81 REC'D

lug

1909 20th Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
February 22, 1981

CF

To: E. ND Observers,

Mail your report to me by March 5.

Because this has been such an unusually warm and dry winter, the summary of species present will be of particular interest. I ask you to take extra care in giving the dates when each species was present and to use the term "wintered" only if the species was recorded in each two week period. Give also your impressions of whether each species was more or less common than in the previous year. My own observations indicate that this was a rather good finch year -- best since '77-'78 -- but the worst year in the last four for species here at the northern limit of their wintering range, for example, Robin and Red-winged Blackbird. Of course, these latter two are always very scarce in winter, compared with other seasons, but one might expect that this winter would have been better than average. What would you give as the reason?

Weatherfolk are predicting the current weather pattern will continue through March. If so, we will have an unusual opportunity to "rewrite the record book" as far as spring arrivals are concerned. Expect those species which normally come back the earliest -- generally those wintering just a few hundred miles to the south -- to be here a few weeks earlier than average. The first migrant Canada Geese, Snow Geese, and Mallards have already arrived. But, as the season progresses and as the species wintering in Central and South America begin to dominate the list of arrival dates, expect that the dates will be earlier than average by a very few days at most. Ironically, they could be even later if frontal systems are unfavorable for migration. Last year when spring came with a rush as temperatures reached 100° in mid-April, most arrival dates were even later than for the very cold and wet spring of 1979.

The easiest way to keep track of arrival dates is to enter them on the Migration Report Form each day. If it turns out to be an exceptionally early spring, I will compile an E. ND list as I have done the past two years.

I am pleased to announce that after a 20+ year absence, since the days of Ann and Robert Gammell, the editorship of the NGP is coming back to North Dakota. The duties will be split between three or more persons with the following and still somewhat tentative schedule for 1981. Winter: Craig Faanes and David Lambeth. Spring: Gordon Berkey. Nesting: Craig Faanes. Fall: David Lambeth. The NGP will continue to include South Dakota and E. Montana. It is not the intent of the new editors to give more coverage to North Dakota -- we have recently dominated some of the seasons anyway presumably because of our increased activity -- but we do hope to provide more thoughtful, better informed, and more accurate coverage. We will need your contributions more than ever, so keep those reports coming!

Dave

Contact either Mary Bergan, 326-10th Ave. S., Fargo, 58103 (237-3226) or Peter Aschbacher, 97 Woodland Dr. Fargo, (237-5923). Mary edits the Chapter Newsletter, but she is in Arizona until mid-March. Peter is the current president of Fargo Aud.

Sincerely,

Dave
David Lambeth

1909 20th Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
September 30, 1980

*Drop
Barb - please set up a
file for this -
I'll ~~write~~ be active
in this.
"Audubon
Bird Observat*

David G. Potter
Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge
Cayuga, ND 58103

TEWAUKON N W
REFUGE OCT - 2 '80 REC'D

Dear David,

I am putting you first on the list for the enclosed nesting season reports. After looking them over, send them on to the next observer, Gary Eslinger.

I need to confess that I had intended to xerox your nesting season report before I sent it back to you in July. That I forgot to do, and by the time I discovered my mistake, it was too late. So only your observation on Loon made it into the ND report even though some of your other reports were very interesting also.

You will notice in the NGP report the interesting list of herons and egrets at Sand Lake NWR in South Dakota. How many of these are showing up at Tewaukon?. You are in the best position in the state to see some of these and that is one of the reasons we hope you will become a regular contributor.

Please feel free to contact me about any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

David Lambeth

David Lambeth