

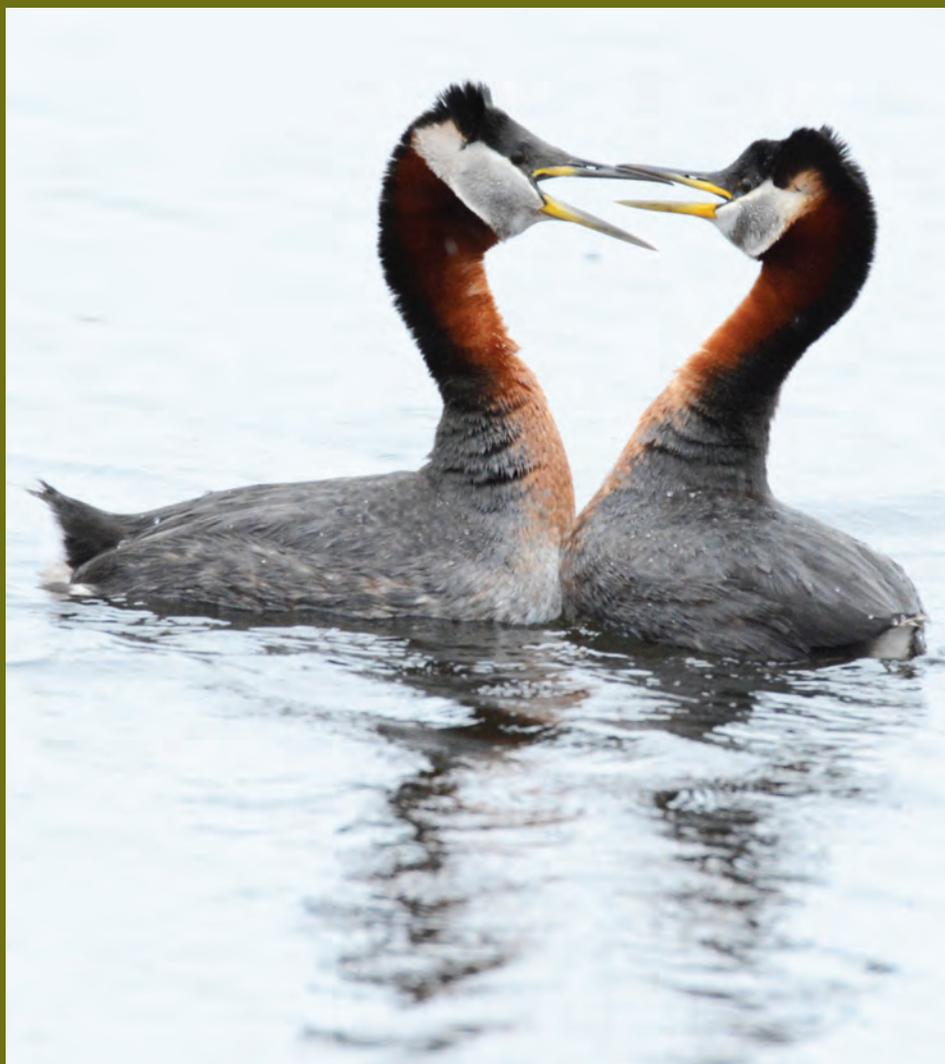
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The  
*Passenger*  
PIGEON

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*Passenger*  
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**EDITORS**

Charles A. Heikkinen and  
Delia O. Unson  
608. 206. 0324 • 608. 235. 8914  
[passengerpigeon@wsobirds.org](mailto:passengerpigeon@wsobirds.org)

**PEER REVIEW EDITOR**

Vacant

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**

Amy Staffen  
608. 238. 0450  
[astaffen@tds.net](mailto:astaffen@tds.net)

**ASSISTANT EDITOR (Art)**

Todd Leech  
414. 324. 3328  
[leechtodd@yahoo.com](mailto:leechtodd@yahoo.com)

**FIELD NOTE COMPILER (Spring)**

Sunil Gopalan  
8901 Blackhawk Rd.  
Middleton, WI 53562  
608. 824. 9286  
[sgopalan@umich.edu](mailto:sgopalan@umich.edu)

**FIELD NOTE COMPILER (Summer)**

Darwin Tiede  
2809 Schaefer Circle  
Appleton, WI 54915  
920. 997. 9418  
[crepuscular@new.rr.com](mailto:crepuscular@new.rr.com)

**FIELD NOTE COMPILER (Autumn)**

Robert C. Domagalski  
P.O. Box 396  
St. Nazianz, WI 54232  
920. 881. 4002  
[rcd2@new.rr.com](mailto:rcd2@new.rr.com)

**FIELD NOTE COMPILER (Winter)**

Ted Keyel  
825 Pilgrim Tr.  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590  
715. 326. 0899  
[erkeyel@gmail.com](mailto:erkeyel@gmail.com)

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Send all manuscripts and related correspondence to the Editors. Information for "Seasonal Field Notes" should be sent to the Field Note Compiler for that season (see left column). Art work and questions about the art should be sent to the Assistant Editor for art (see left column). Manuscripts that deal with Wisconsin birds, ornithological topics of interest to WSO members, and WSO activities are considered for publication. For detailed submission guidelines, please refer to "Guidelines for Authors and Artists," found near the back of this and following issues.

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*Front Cover: Michael Huebschen has graciously shared a glimpse of the courtship of Red-necked Grebes in this photo taken in late April at Crex Meadows in Burnett County.*

# CONTENTS

SPRING 2018

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Volume 80, Number 1

President's Statement: Distracted by a Bird <i>Michael John Jaeger</i>	1
From the Editors' Desk: Bird Photography <i>Chuck Heikkinen and Delia Unson</i>	3
Documenting Birds <i>Ted Keyel</i>	5
50 Years Ago in <i>The Passenger Pigeon</i> <i>Nancy Nabak</i>	11
The Spring Season: 2017 <i>Sunil Gopalan</i>	13
WSO Records Committee Report: Spring 2017 <i>Quentin Yoerger</i>	79
"By the Wayside"—Spring 2017	85
About the Artists	89
Guidelines for Authors and Artists	93
Notes and Announcements	97

## **Distracted by a Bird**

**I**t occurred to me I could pretend the Cox Nature Center at Honey Creek was my WSO President's office. A perfect spot in my eyes for catching up on my extensive reading backlog, as there is no WIFI or cellphone coverage to distract me.

In early November this year I gave it a try. I packed a reading bag to its limit with papers and books. There were conservation position papers, studies on bird population trends, research reports, and a couple of books. The day was mild, light winds, lots of sun, an all-around great fall day. While most of the leaves had fallen, some dirty gold needles still clung to the tamaracks along Alder Drive, and scattered chestnut-hued oak leaves could be seen on the far hillsides.

I brought along a comfortable camp chair, set out my coffee and listened to a scattering of crows, chickadees, and goldfinches that were joining me. Regrettably I discovered my cell provider's signal was pretty good out there that day, so I turned off the ringer to preserve the illusion of being away from it all.

Most of the reading material was pretty technical, typical of what I read. I did, however, take a university English class this fall on environmental literature. This included a wide assortment of non-fiction, fiction, and poetry. Some of this was familiar to me, some pretty new. I've never read much poetry, I don't have a good handle yet on "how" to read it, but have enjoyed exploring that facet of literature.

Included in my bag is a recent book of poetry. It came in the mail this fall with a note that said ". . . thought you might enjoy it given there are a number of poems about birds in it." John Bates is the author. I've enjoyed reading his earlier works, wonderful essays about northern Wisconsin.

I have to admit I made a tactical mistake in terms of getting any "useful" WSO reading done. I started with John's poetry book. As I mentioned earlier, I'm still a novice when it comes to reading poetry, so I paged through the book, randomly sampling poems here and there. The first few were pleasant to read. Then I came across one I read again, and again, and again.

### **WINTER WREN SINGS\***

When the winter wren sings  
the notes make a riot in the leaves  
as if the wind rose from every direction  
and blew and blew  
for seven seconds  
then stopped,  
reminding us

---

\*John Bates. 2017. *Cold to the Bone*. Manitowish River Press. Poem used with permission.

why we fell in love  
with the world.

When the winter wren sings  
he invites us to join  
his whirling dervish dance  
a dizzying and heartbursting dance  
a time when shafts of light sweeten the air,  
the air that we breathe  
when we finally remember to breathe.

When the winter wren sings  
children stop chasing  
and cock their heads  
listening to his ecstasy  
that takes them as far as their imaginations can go,  
a voice that makes them fall  
onto the wild ground  
to lay among the cushions of mosses  
and to laugh  
in the dirt.

I quickly realized that I too wanted “. . . to lay among the cushions of mosses/and to laugh/in the dirt.” And I was close to such a spot. The reading bag was repacked, returned to the car, and exchanged for my binocs.

Up the valley trail I went, headed for a tangle of hemlocks near the first creek crossing. The typical assortment of nuthatches, downies, crows and jays said hello.

It was late enough in the fall to see many valley features I usually miss in summer. Things hidden by both the physical obstruction of the leaves, and by the virtual obstruction from my attention almost entirely focused on bird song. These disappear in fall and my visual perception expands. I notice the sandstone faces west of the trail, the evergreens that top them off, the subtle topographic features of the shrub wetland along the creek, and the wonderful views of the ridgeline recently purchased for our preserve.

My destination was the first stream crossing. There a steep exposed slope overlooks the stream, large hemlocks shade from above, and the trunks of their fallen comrades make walking the slope even more difficult. The downed wood is green with mosses and bright ferns cover the ground, even though it's well into November. A “wreny” spot if I've ever seen one. I sit on a downed log, enjoying the tangle and the color and the quiet, waiting for a wren.

No wren ever showed itself. But I wasn't disappointed. A nice walk, a nice sit, and a much needed reminder of why I spend time worrying about the future of our birds.

—Michael John Jaeger, President

## Bird Photography

Cameras, including those now available on mobile phones, have developed such that excellent optics are now relatively affordable, no longer being out of the fiscal reach of the amateur photographer. This is true to the point where many birders are taking bird photos, using long-range lenses or digiscoping. Moreover, the number of birders making high quality bird images has increased remarkably, as can be seen on the pages of social media, personal blogs, eBird, and *The Passenger Pigeon*.

Speaking strictly from our own experience, we value camera use for several different reasons. First of all is the esthetic challenge of creating a beautiful image. Second, the photographs help to recreate the events of a given outing—it's almost like doing the birding outing all over again, much like viewing photographs of a family event. Third, we learn more about birds' details from working on and reviewing the photos. Finally, it helps us document what we have seen, especially unusual species.

The last has become increasingly important to review committees, likely due largely to the fact that photographs have become more available. The importance of doing this sort of documentation together with a detailed written description, along with the hows and whys, is the subject of this issue's main article by Ted Keyel. We recommend this article as both excellent and informative.

One more thing needs to be mentioned: bird photography ethics. We all know of stories of birders wanting to get good photographs who get too close to a bird, or throw out mice so that the photographer can shoot the raptor as it snatches up a mouse. In the rush of excitement of getting a good photo of a rare species, it's easy to forget how the desired bird might regard us, and how our behavior might impair the bird's well-being. Above all, photographers (any birders, really) need to put a bird's welfare first, most critically in breeding season. Use common sense, and always keep in mind how your actions will affect the birds. For more specific, please consult the WSO Code of Ethics that can be found on the following Internet link: <https://wsobirds.org/about-wso/code-of-ethics>. The code works as well for photography as it does for the general birder.

—Charles A. Heikkinen and Delia O. Unson



Photographed by Beverly Engstrom, an adult Bald Eagle rises from the water after a fishing attempt in Oneida County in mid-May.

# Documenting Birds

*Ted Keyel*

*erkeyel@gmail.com*

**M**ost states (countries) have rare bird committees, a group of experienced birders who vote on whether they think a particular record is valid given the documentation provided. This committee exists as peer-reviewers for these sightings in an attempt to give unusual events (such as an out-of-place bird) some measure of scientific credibility. Beyond the coolness factor of finding out which species show up in a given location at a certain time, rare bird records can provide useful information into bird life history information such as behavior and migration. There is much that can go into documenting these observations and the documentation process can be challenging and frustrating. This article is intended to increase awareness for useful ways to document birds, both written and/or photographic documentation. All of the examples in this article are common occurrences and none of the examples is intended to single out a specific person.

With the digital age everywhere and so pervasive, it has become easier than ever to find out about different birds at almost any location. Rarities are now readily viewed by chasers from all over, many of whom have cameras to document the experience. However, it seems that this ease (cost and convenience) and expansion of photography have led

to a decline in written documentation skills. Why bother actually observing traits of a bird when you have a photo that shows everything? Why take your valuable time to write a description of the bird when your photo is diagnostic? On the other side of the spectrum, why review a written description when you can just look at a picture and see if the person saw the bird they said they did? Why waste your time with written documentation when reviewers and committees only look at photographs? These questions are intentionally written to elicit an emotional response, but hopefully that emphasizes the points of the questions. The goal of this article is to encourage you to think a little more critically about documenting birds, be it for personal enjoyment or for submission to a records committee.

First and foremost, it's important to document what you are actually seeing (or hearing) of the bird. I cannot emphasize this enough. This sounds really obvious, but it is amazing how often this is ignored. Many descriptions are well-intended, but of little to no use to a reviewer trying to validate the record. This is likely a combination between ignorance and impetuosity. That said, there are plenty of other reasons not to put effort in (e.g., you are a prolific eBirder and do not want to continually document the same thing over and



Figure 1. American Avocet is a pretty distinctive bird, but it is more important to describe the bird itself than other factors not associated with its identification.

over). Other descriptions focus on details that can be useful, but should not be the primary information used for documentation. Weather conditions, lighting, and what you were doing can be useful, but if those descriptions are longer than the description of the bird itself, there is likely insufficient information provided.

To emphasize this, here is a quick game. Identify the species in each instance given the documentation provided:

A: I saw the bird well.

B: It was sitting in good light.

C: It looked exactly like the drawing on p. 246 of *The Bird Watcher's America*.

D: George is a good birder and he told me this is what it is.

E: Large shorebird; fairly long, thin, up-curved, black bill; reddish head and neck; white eye-ring; back and wings were mostly black, though there was a large white stripe through the wings very evident even when perched; very long, bluish legs that made the bird look like it was on stilts since the body was so high above the ground. Bird spent most of its time probing through the sand/mud along the water.

Which of those could you identify from just the description provided? Description A could be anything. B might not even really be a bird, but at least it



Figure 2. This Red-necked Phalarope shot past me and I was barely fast enough to take this one picture.

was in good light. C you have to have that particular book, and if you had that book, you would see an illustration of an American Avocet, but it still says

very little to the identification of the bird that was actually seen. D, even if George is a good of a birder this provides no description of the bird itself



Figure 3. Just looking at this Tropical Kingbird picture is not sufficient to separate it from the very similar Couch's Kingbird. I made the identification after hearing the vocalization.

(let alone bringing up questions about George's skills). E fairly readily and repeatedly gets you to the identification of American Avocet (Please see American Avocet photo) and provides information on the bird itself.

Depending on the sighting, both in terms of species and rarity, the amount of detail needed in the written documentation can vary substantially. For most places, documenting an Avocet as "large shorebird, long legs, thin, up-curved bill, black-and-white body" will be enough. However, it is easy to get into the mindset of "If I need to document an American Avocet, why should I need to say more than that I got a good look at it? I am a reasonably experienced birder and I have seen quite a lot of Avocets. On top of that, it is a very distinctive bird," but how is someone else supposed to know this information about you? On top of that, how often has the reviewer/records committee been told that someone saw species A and the description/photo showed it to be something completely different? Please note that this is not intended to be an admonishment of the inexperienced, but misidentifications are common, especially for reviewers/committee members. That said, making mistakes is not a bad thing! Everyone makes mistakes and they can be one of the best learning tools. It reminds me of the saying "the only difference between the novice and expert is the number of mistakes they have made."

Another frequent documentation problem is copying descriptions word-for-word from field guides. Field guides can be a Catch-22. They point out some very useful identification marks, many of which are the clues the records committee are looking for to accept the documentation. However, just copying

all the field marks pointed out in a given guide verbatim is not helpful and there is no specification whatsoever for your particular bird. It can be really easy to convince yourself that you saw field marks that are shown in a field guide but that were not actually there or that you were unable to see. Did you really get a good enough look to see the orbital ring on that gull as it flew over you, let alone accurately tell if it was red or yellow? If you see a bird that you are not sure what it is or want to look up some identification tips, of course look in the field guide, but try to take some notes on the bird first to reduce any bias. Remember, most field guides try to show the most average individuals they can, but birds vary. In some species, they vary substantially and your field guide will not be perfect for every individual you see. Sometimes you get to a point where you know what field marks to look for and convince yourself you are seeing them because you want the bird to be a particularly species. For example, I was recently watching a large flock of Common Redpolls, and I wanted to see a Hoary Redpoll. I always want to see Hoary Redpolls when I see Commons, and I know many of the main field marks to look for. It can be easy to convince yourself that you are seeing field marks you know to look for when they are not actually there and similarly, some marks and colors look very different depending on the light and distance involved. I saw a redpoll that was quite a bit lighter than the others, seemed a little larger, head and bill shape looked reasonable, and I thought that the undertail coverts were white. When I looked back at the pictures that evening, the bird looked very different. There was fine streaking all through the undertail coverts and the

structure and bill shape looked fairly long and pointed. Perhaps if I had taken the time to study the bird a little longer and write some field notes, I would not have made the mistake of telling the other birder with me that I was fairly certain the bird was a Hoary Redpoll.

Photography is an incredible tool for birders to use with many advantages. Photos can be extremely useful and helpful for identification, both for the observer and reviewer. With the advent of digital photography, it is really easy to have access to some form of camera and many of these cameras are pretty remarkable. Digital photography is also substantially easier to share with others, be it through Facebook, Instagram, Flickr, eBird, texting, and so many other fast and convenient options. Photos also provide a fantastic study medium and there is much to be learned about birds through carefully looking at photos. Sometimes photos enable someone to make an identification that they may not have been able to make from a quick glimpse (Please see Red-necked Phalarope photo). Further, photos are a fun way to share what you have been seeing with others. As with everything, digital photography also comes with a suite of problems and it is important to be aware of the limitations associated with photos. There are ways to lie with photographs, but please don't do that. Photos can be deceiving even if you do not intend them to be. Is the exposure correct? Are some colors off because of this or possibly because the white balance is off? Are other features missing because the picture is over or underexposed? What is the angle of the bird relative to the camera? Are features being foreshortened or lengthened because of this

strange angle? What is the distance of the birds in the picture to each other and is that influencing the relative size comparison? It is important to be mindful of these aspects when looking at any photos. Some species look so similar to other species that photos alone are not sufficient for identification regardless of the quality of the photo (Please see Tropical Kingbird photo). On the other hand, many photos are diagnostic even if they are not very good (Please see Black Vulture photos). Additional problems can arise from a single photo which when presented as the sole documentation may be suggestive for an identification but not sufficient. It is important to provide photos that show key identification features preferably from different angles and in different lighting.

Ideally, documentation would contain both gorgeous/useful photos and a detailed written description. Documenting birds can be a challenge and, like most challenges, it becomes easier with practice and repetition. Everyone learns in slightly different ways, but I have always found that I remember something far better if I write it down. This really helps you focus on the moment and what you are actually seeing. The more detailed the notes, the more you learn about the bird. Experts become so by studying the birds very intently and carefully. Have you noticed that many expert birders are incredible artists? By drawing/sketching birds, it also makes you pay attention to key features, such as shape, size, plumage and relative placement of body parts. How long/thick is the bill? Do the primaries extend beyond the tail? What is the patterning on the upperparts? The list goes on and on and on. Speaking of lists, the following are some suggestions



Figures 4 and 5. While these Black Vulture pictures are bad, they are diagnostic for identification.

for notes to include when documenting a bird.

Tips for documenting birds:

- Try to create stand-alone documentation (if someone did not know which species you were documenting, would they be able to figure it out from the documentation?)
- Describe size (note: this is the *bird's* size, not some inanimate object the bird was sitting on), shape, structure, plumage, and behavioral characteristics. It's okay to try to make some of these comparisons relative to the bird itself. If you were not sure if the wings were long or short, were they longer

than the length of the bird? Were they wide? What about the tail? Bill? Etc.

- If you did not see a trait, be up front about it. You are not going to see every ID characteristic every time and that is okay.
- If there are similar species, explain why it is not those species
- Include why is the sighting is uncommon (e.g., early, late, high count, extralimital, etc.)

Finally, please realize that those reviewing your records are volunteers trying to do their best and that even if your write-up/picture does not convince them to accept the bird, it does not mean you did not see it.

## 50 Years Ago, in The Passenger Pigeon

by Nancy Nabak

*Excerpts from Spring 1967, Volume 30, Number 1*

The cover of this Passenger Pigeon sports a photo of a Mourning Dove with a hatchling snuggled in front of it in a nest, taken by John Lee.

In Memoriam: “Dr. Harry Steenbock, humanitarian and longtime professor of biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin, died on December 25, 1967 at Madison. He was born in the Town of Charlestown, Calumet county, Wisconsin in August 1886 and attended schools at New Holstein and Chilton. He obtained his B.S. degree in at the University of Wisconsin in 1908 and the Ph.D. in 1916. He also studied at Yale and the University of Berlin. . . . Dr. Steenbock’s contributions to knowledge in the nutritional fields are many, but perhaps most generally known in his discovery of the process of incorporating vitamin D in foods. A patent was granted to him based on his method of “trapping the sun.”

. . . His public service ideals led him to assist many organizations and groups with generous contributions when he found the members themselves actively working toward desired goals. When the WSO was preparing for its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1964, he gave the Society \$1,000 to assist in the celebration program. Subsequently he helped materially in their Honey Creek Natural Area project in the Baraboo Hills.

. . . There are many living memorials to Dr. Harry Steenbock, in the person of researchers who were inspired by him and a healthier populace due to his nutritional discoveries.”

### **Burrowing Owl Recorded in Portage Co.**

“On May 19, 1967 as I was returning from a morning of watching Prairie Chickens I decided to check at Kingfisher nest I had under observation. I was at town 22 north, range 8 east, section 33 N.E./S.E. when I noticed something standing on a mound by a Badger burrow in an open pasture.

. . . Imagine my surprise when instead of a ground squirrel I found a Burrowing Owl staring back at me. I watched it for a while to make sure I wasn’t dreaming and then scoped the surrounding area for others. Now I was ready to break the news to my skeptical public.

At 2:00 in the afternoon I went back with Fran Hamerstrom to the area to get another person’s identification. By this time a rather gusty wind had come up and the owl was not on the burrow. It was quickly found, however, sitting in the shelter of a clump of grass. Fran got a scope on it and verified my find.

We both agreed it was a Burrowing Owl. It was about 9 inches tall, with long and rather bare legs, upright stance, and yellow iris. We both had the past experience of Burrowing Owls in the West.”—Frank B. Renn, Plainfield WI



A perched Vilas County Black-and-white Warbler scans the area in this image by David Franzen in late May.

# *The Spring Season: 2017*

*Sunil Gopalan*

*sgopalan@umich.edu*

**F**ollowing a warm January/February and low snowfall totals during the preceding winter, spring in Wisconsin was relatively warm and wet. Snow accumulation during spring was below normal at both Madison and LaCrosse, but above normal near the lakeshore in Milwaukee. In terms of overall precipitation, Madison reported 2 inches above normal numbers, and 3.5 inches above normal was reported in Milwaukee. Much of the precipitation in the southern part of the state was in March and April. A little to the north, La Crosse had the sixth wettest spring on record including a very wet May. Average temperatures across the state were just a little above normal. The ice cover in mid-February on the Great Lakes was a little above that in 2016, with Lake Superior at 5.7% versus 4.6% and Lake Michigan at 14.4% versus 11.9%.

With these conditions, we had seven record or near record early arrivals this spring. Similar to 2016, almost every expected waterfowl species was present in the state at the beginning of the season, likely due to the abundance of open water. All of the other typical early migrants like Sandhill Crane, Killdeer and Turkey Vulture were also present.

A total of 317 species were reported in the state this spring. This compares to 311 in 2016 and 330 in 2015. This year we did not have any reports for the

following non-domestic non-review species that were found in 2016: Gray Partridge, Hoary Redpoll, and Black-backed Woodpecker. We did have reports for Pine Grosbeak, Red Knot, and Worm-eating Warbler, which were missed last year.

Almost all of the data described in this report comes from eBird. I anticipate that soon I will be able to eliminate the following section altogether (where I show the growth in adoption of eBird as the reporting tool of choice).

With the steady growth of reports made to eBird from Wisconsin over the last several years, its adoption as the primary tool to record birding observations seems to be steady and strong. The graph below shows the steady growth in volume of data and observers.

For those still unfamiliar with it, eBird is a program released by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in 2002 that aims to provide an easy and accessible means to document checklists online. By providing this data to eBird, you contribute to a database of bird abundance and distribution that is heavily utilized by educators, researchers, conservation biologists and more to study these populations. It also allows for a remarkable amount of flexibility in generating reports such as this one when



Kristie Pinnow captured this beautiful image of a Bohemian Waxwing found in Vilas County in early March.



The wonderful detail decorating the back of this Ruffed Grouse stands out as imaged by Beverly Engstrom in mid-April in Oneida County.



Adam Sinkula found this Kewaunee County Wilson's Snipe skulking in rushes in mid-April.

compared to the traditional paper forms.

I continue to encourage eBird observers to maximize data utility by submitting *complete* checklists—we value knowing what you *didn't* observe as much as what you did observe. This means reporting *everything* you see including common species. By doing so, and checking the 'complete checklist' box in your reports, you enhance our ability to understand species distributions.

I also continue to encourage you to submit correct or estimated counts with all species observations. A number, even as an estimate, is much better than an unknown number (denoted by an X in eBird).

As you can see below, the number of checklists marked incomplete and observations with unknown counts have continued to trend downwards over the last year. Note that the incomplete checklist data has excluded incidental observations and corrects a mathematical error from last year's report.

A final note about eBird data is the distribution of data submissions by county. The heavily birded southern counties of Dane and Milwaukee continue to dominate the data in terms of number of checklists submitted, with 6,555 and 3,542 respectively in Spring 2017. This is compared to 25 checklists from Menominee County, the lowest number for a given county. In terms of growth in the number of checklists since 2016, the leaders are Waushara, Vernon, and Crawford Counties—these all showed more than 100% growth. The figure below shows the distribution of checklist counts by county over the season. It's worth noting that the number of observers in the leading county

(Dane) is 460 compared to 36 in the leading county by growth (Waushara).

The leaders in checklists submitted during Spring 2017 were Jim Frank (726), Peder Svingen (693), and Robin Maercklein (600). By number of species reported across the state, the leaders were Rick Anderson (262), Kay Kavanaugh (260), Thomas Wood (260), and Mark Korducki (251). Countability was not factored into these numbers.

In terms of number of species reported, Dane County led with 249. At the other end of the spectrum, Menominee County had only 101 species reported (which is however still an improvement over 75 reported last year). Buffalo and Sawyer counties tied for second lowest with 123 reported species.

The species reported from all 72 counties were Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Wild Turkey, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Sandhill Crane, Mourning Dove, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Gray Catbird, European Starling, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, and Common Grackle.

The species reported from the least number of counties (just one each) besides several of the review species and introduced exotics were Townsend's Solitaire and Kirtland's Warbler.

Compared to the 37 species reported from all 72 counties in spring of 2017, 31 species were reported in spring 2016, 33 were reported in spring 2015/2014, and 17 in spring 2013 and spring 2012.

The following review (or new to the state list) species were accepted:

Brant, Eurasian Wigeon, Pacific Loon, Glossy Ibis, Mississippi Kite, Yellow Rail (Kewaunee), King Rail, Ruff, Little Gull, White-winged Dove, Lewis's Woodpecker, Prairie Falcon, Western Kingbird, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Smith's Longspur, Lark Bunting, Western Tanager, Blue Grosbeak, and Painted Bunting

In addition to these review species, the following record early arrivals were reported: Cattle Egret (Jennifer Ambrose on March 28) and Yellow Warbler (Robert Schneider on April 15).

The year 2017 was the third year of the five-year Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II. The atlas is a comprehensive field survey that documents the distribution and abundance of breeding birds. The previous atlas (WBBA I) was conducted between the years of 1995 and 2000, and was an unprecedented field effort that documented 237 species of which 235 were classified as at least "probable" breeders in the state. The results of that effort continue to be used to guide conservation and management efforts in Wisconsin.

The current one (WBBA II) will run through 2019 and relies to a large extent on volunteers across the state reporting the latest information on breeding birds in Wisconsin so that an updated and current picture can be formed. The ability to compare the results with those from WBBA I will additionally allow us insights into how

populations are changing and appropriately prioritize conservation efforts.

In Spring 2017, one state first confirmation was found—King Rail (Dodge). In total—38 county first confirmed breeding records were found. These included records for Hooded Merganser (Iowa), Great Egret (Calumet, Kenosha), Turkey Vulture (Columbia, Florence), Osprey (Racine), King Rail (Dodge), Virginia Rail (Polk), Sora (Crawford), Whooping Crane (Dodge), American Woodcock (Polk), Wilson's Snipe (Dane, St. Croix), Ring-billed Gull (Dodge, Ozaukee), Caspian Tern (Ozaukee, Winnebago), Red-bellied Woodpecker (Oneida), Peregrine Falcon (Door), Alder Flycatcher (Dane), Common Raven (Sauk, St. Croix, Wood), Purple Martin (Vernon), Tufted Titmouse (Dodge, Waushara), Brown Creeper (Jefferson), Hermit Thrush (Dodge), Louisiana Waterthrush (Kenosha), Black-and-white Warbler (Milwaukee), Cerulean Warbler (Jackson), Black-throated Blue Warbler (Oconto), Yellow-rumped Warbler (Brown), LeConte's Sparrow (Jackson), Orchard Oriole (Outagamie), Purple Finch (Outagamie), Red Crossbill (Fond du Lac), and Pine Siskin (Florence). Reference the species accounts for details.

## SPECIES ACCOUNTS

This is a comprehensive account of all species and hybrids reported this season.

Symbols and abbreviations used:

\* = Review or record early/late species that require submission of documentation to and approval from the WSO Records Committee before acceptance

\*\* = Review species with no documentation submitted to the WSO



The distinctive, pearly pattern on the chest on this adult Northern Shrike shows clearly in this photo taken by Eric Preston in Iowa County in mid-March.



Michael Huebschen witnessed this male Sharp-tailed Grouse displaying for a female in late April at Namekagon Barrens State Wildlife Area in Burnett County.



This Orange-crowned Warbler, imaged by Kristie Pinnow, peeks around buds in Vilas County in mid-May.



An Oneida County Indigo Bunting, photographed by Beverly Engstrom, sits on a flowering bush in late May.

Records Committee – hence subject to the review process in the future.

BOP = Beginning Of Period (March 1st)

EOP = End Of Period (May 31st)

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

SP = State Park

WGLBBO = Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory

**Snow Goose**—Reported in 45 counties across the state this season. This compares to 34 counties in 2016 and 31 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 14 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 18, 2017 in Ashland County (Nick Anich), and in Marinette County (Lindsey Bender). High count of 1730 observed in Columbia County at Goose Pond (Mark & Sue Martin) on March 27, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Kenosha County at Richard Bong SRA—observation tower (John Dixon). Last observed in the season on May 30, 2017 in Kewaunee County (Pam Schwedler).

**Ross's Goose**—Reported in 30 counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than 15 counties in 2016 and eight counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in six of the southeastern counties. High count of 105 observed in Columbia County at Goose Pond (Cynthia Bridge) on March 31, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on March 28, 2017 in Kenosha County (Jim Frank). Last observed in the season on May 23, 2017 in Dane County at Shovelers Sink (Jim Schwarz).

**Snow × Ross's Goose (hybrid)**—One individual was observed in Marathon County (Lori Widmann) on April 13, 2017.

**Greater White-fronted Goose**—Reported in 46 counties across the state this season. This compares to 45 counties in 2016 and 30 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of

counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 21 counties across the state. High count of 1000 observed in Dane County at Island Lake WPA (David Johnson) on March 18, 2017, and in Jefferson County at Hope Lake (Aaron Stutz) on March 12, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 02, 2017 in Kenosha County at Richard Bong SRA (Jennifer Wenzel, and David Willard). Last observed in the season on May 26, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Veterans Park in Milwaukee (Marilyn Bontly).

**Brant\***—One individual was photographed with a flock of Canada and Cackling Geese at Goose Pond (Arlene Koziol) in Columbia County this season on March 30, 2017. It stayed for an extended period and was enjoyed by many observers. It was last reported on April 16, 2017.

The record was accepted by the WSORC.

**Cackling Goose**—Reported in 41 counties across the state this season. This compares to 36 counties in 2016 and 35 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 12 counties across the state. High count of 323 observed in Dane County (Kyle Lindemer) on March 15, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 05, 2017 in Green County (Jeff Aufmann). Last observed in the season on May 02, 2017 in Dane County at Odana Marsh (Chuck Heikkinen).

**Canada Goose**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season.

The species was present at BOP in 58 counties across the state. High count of 4000 observed in Columbia County at Goose Pond (Aaron Holschbach) on March 31, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Taylor, and Eau Claire.

Breeding was confirmed across the state except for Trempealeau County by the end of the season.

**Mute Swan**—Reported in 24 counties across the state this season. This compares to 26 counties in 2016 and 22 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Bayfield County at Long Bridge/Head of the bay, Ashland (Ryan Brady), and in Door County (Melody

Walsh). High count of 10 observed in Washington County (Tom Schaefer) on May 21, 2017, and (Andrea Szymczak) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 10 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Ashland, and Washington by the end of the season.

**Trumpeter Swan**—Reported in 65 counties across the state this season. This compares to 64 counties in 2016 and 56 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 22 counties across the state. High count of 101 observed in Burnett County at Crex Meadows SWA (Patrick Peters) on May 09, 2017, and (Scott Clark) on May 09, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 25 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 17 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Tundra Swan**—Reported in 60 counties across the state this season. This compares to 53 counties in 2016 and 60 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 14 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 18, 2017 in Douglas County (Peder Svingen). High count of 1087 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on March 22, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 09, 2017 in Grant County at Potosi Landing (Andrew Meiborg), and in Kenosha County (Kristin Brunk, and Maia Persche). Last observed in the season on May 30, 2017 in Kewaunee County (Adam Sinkula).

**Wood Duck**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 12 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 22, 2017 in Bayfield County at Short Bridge, Ashland (Alex Lehner). High count of 75 observed by multiple observers this season. The species was present at EOP in 63 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 39 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Blue-winged Teal**—Reported in 68 counties across the state this season. This compares to 67 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 05, 2017 in Green County (Zoe Yoerger, and Quentin Yoerger). First observed in the northernmost counties on March 27, 2017 in Bayfield County at Long Bridge/Head of the bay, Ashland (Alex Lehner). High count of 200 observed in Jefferson County (Robert Volencic) on April 15, 2017, and in Manitowoc County at Collins Marsh SWA (Julie Woodcock) on April 19, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 36 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Chippewa, Dane, Dodge, Oconto, and Wood across the state by the end of the season.

**Cinnamon Teal\*\***—One individual observed on April 28, 2017 in Jefferson County at Hwy. 106 flooded fields, Fort Atkinson (Aaron Stutz). It was last observed on May 03, 2017.

**Blue-winged × Cinnamon Teal (hybrid)**—One individual reported in the counties of Dane, and Sheboygan this season.

**Northern Shoveler**—Reported in 68 counties across the state this season. This compares to 64 counties in 2016 and 60 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 26 of the southern counties. High count of 1068 observed in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Cari Sprague) on April 06, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 10 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Outagamie County by the end of the season.

**Gadwall**—Reported in 61 counties across the state this season. This compares to 58 counties in 2016 and 56 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 26 counties across the state. High count of 400 observed in Columbia County at Lake Wisconsin—Causeway (Bob Kavanagh and Kay Kavanagh) on March 23, 2017. The species was present at EOP in nine counties across the state.



David Franzen caught this brilliant, male Purple Finch looking over its shoulder in early April in Vilas County.



This Sharp-shinned Hawk was photographed by Bob Larson at Heckrodt Preserve in Winnebago County in mid-April.



This male Ruffed Grouse displays on a drumming log in Vilas County, as imaged by David Franzen in late May.



This flock of American Avocets gathered for Rita Flores Wiskowski at Samuel Myers Park in Racine County in late April.

Breeding was confirmed in Dodge County by the end of the season.

***Eurasian Wigeon*\***—Three individuals were reported this season. In Brown County at Sumaico (Tom Prestby) on April 4, 2017, in Outagamie county at DW Bergstrom III Memorial Waterfowl Complex (Dan Abel) on April 11, 2017 and in Bayfield county at Chequamegon Bay (Tim Oksiuta) on April 14, 2017.

All records were accepted by the WSORC.

***American Wigeon***—Reported in 59 counties across the state this season. This compares to 58 counties in 2016 and 55 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 23 of the southern counties. High count of 175 observed in Columbia County at Schoeneberg Marsh (Kim Kreitinger) on April 07, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 18, 2017 in Grant County at Blue River Sand Barrens SNA (Richard Ouren). Last observed in the season on May 31, 2017 in Marathon County at George W. Mead SWA—Rangeline Rd (Myles Hurlburt).

***Mallard***—Reported across the state except for Menominee County this season. This compares to all 72 counties in 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 50 counties across the state. High count of 3000 observed in La Crosse County at Halfway Creek Marsh (Dan Jackson) on March 06, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 66 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 39 counties across the state by the end of the season.

***American Black Duck***—Reported in 46 counties across the state this season. This compares to 47 counties in 2016 and 49 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 23 counties across the state. High count of 25 observed in Brown County at Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary (Tom Zenner) on April 01, 2017. Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Vilas County (Guy David).

Breeding was confirmed in Ashland County by the end of the season.

***Mallard × American Black Duck (hybrid)***—Reported in 10 counties across the state this season. This compares to 13 counties in 2016 and 10 counties in 2015.

***Northern Pintail***—Reported in 53 counties across the state this season. This compares to 49

counties in 2016 and 47 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 21 of the southern counties. High count of 450 observed in Jefferson County (Cynthia Bridge) on March 21, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 16, 2017 in Racine County at Samuel Myers Park (Drew Goldberg). Last observed in the season on May 31, 2017 in Burnett County (Judy Haseleu), and in Rusk County (Tony Del Valle).

***Green-winged Teal***—Reported in 67 counties across the state this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 63 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 23 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 03, 2017 in Vilas County (Sarah Besadny). High count of 284 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on March 24, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 07, 2017 in Racine County at Nicholson Wildlife Refuge (Jennifer Wenzel). The species was present at EOP in 12 counties across the state.

***Canvasback***—Reported in 48 counties across the state this season. This compares to 52 counties in 2016 and 44 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 17 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 26, 2017 in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point (Larry & Jan Kraemer), and at Wisconsin Point—Allouez Bay (Peder Svingen). High count of 3000 observed in La Crosse County (Dan Jackson) on March 23, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 21, 2017 in Rock County at Big Hill Park (Joshua Cullum). Last observed in the season on May 28, 2017 in Dodge County (Steve Oakley).

***Redhead***—Reported in 56 counties across the state this season. This compares to 58 counties in 2016 and 53 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 20 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 22, 2017 in Bayfield County at Long Bridge/Head of the bay, Ashland

(Alex Lehner). High count of 1000 observed in Waukesha County at Pewaukee Lake Area (Tim Hahn) on March 20, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 22, 2017 in Kenosha County at Kenosha Lakefront (Tom Lally). The species was present at EOP in eight counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dodge, and Fond du Lac by the end of the season.

**Ring-necked Duck**—Reported across the state except for Menominee County this season. This compares to 68 counties in 2016 and 69 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 27 counties across the state. High count of 800 observed in Jefferson County at Hope Lake (Aaron Stutz) on March 17, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 11 counties across the state.

**Greater Scaup**—Reported in 37 counties across the state this season. This compares to 39 counties in 2016 and 32 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in nine of the southeastern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 20, 2017 in Douglas County at Interstate Island WMA (WI) (Ben Anderson). High count of 11,000 observed in Brown County at Cat Island Causeway (restricted access) (Tom Prestby) on March 11, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 08, 2017 in Racine County at Racine Lakefront (Dan Jackson). The species was present at EOP in the counties of Bayfield, Brown, and Manitowoc.

**Lesser Scaup**—Reported in 65 counties across the state this season. This compares to 62 counties in 2016 and 58 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 23 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 20, 2017 in Douglas County at Interstate Island WMA (WI) (Ben Anderson). High count of 10000 observed in Vernon County at Upper Mississippi River NWR—Pool 8 (Dan Jackson) on April 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP in the counties of Brown, Burnett, Dane, Douglas, and Manitowoc.

**Ring-necked Duck × Lesser Scaup (hybrid)**—One individual observed in Winnebago

County (Stuart Malcolm) on April 13 and 14, 2017.

**Harlequin Duck**—Reported in eight counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than one county in 2016. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Winnebago County (Stuart Malcolm), and in Sheboygan County at Sheboygan Lakefront (general) (Barry Baumann). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 24, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of two observed by multiple observers this season. Last observed on May 07, 2017 in Racine County at Samuel Myers Park (Drew Goldberg, and Eric Howe).

**Surf Scoter**—Reported in seven of the southeastern counties this season. This compares to five counties in 2016 and six counties in 2015.

First observed on March 09, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan). High count of five observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on April 19, 2017, and in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Lakefront (Charles Sontag) on May 09, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 10, 2017 in Racine County (Marge Martin). Last observed in the season on May 24, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Bradford Beach/North Point (Tom Reed).

**White-winged Scoter**—Reported in 10 of the eastern counties this season. This compares to nine counties in 2016 and 10 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 01, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan). High count of 22 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on March 06, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 13, 2017 in Kenosha County (Janet Lyons). Last observed in the season on May 20, 2017 in Green Lake County at Lake Maria County Park (Quentin Yoerger).

**Black Scoter**—Reported in six of the eastern counties this season. This is significantly higher than three counties in 2016 and three counties in 2015.



Kenneth Younger captured this portrait of a Green Heron at the UW-Madison Arboretum in early May.



A small group of Sandhill Cranes, imaged by Michael Huebschen, stands in Navarino State Wildlife Area in Shawano County in late March.

First observed on March 03, 2017 in Dane County (Steve Thiessen). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 27, 2017 in Vilas County at Powell Marsh SWA (Dennis Gustafson). High count of eight observed in Milwaukee County at Bradford Beach/North Point (Mike Wanger) on April 13, 2017, and at Lake Park—Linnwood Water Treatment Plant to Bradford Beach (Jym Mooney) on April 13, 2017. Last observed on May 27, 2017 in Vilas County at Powell Marsh SWA. (Dennis Gustafson).

**Long-tailed Duck**—Reported in nine counties across the state this season. This compares to 13 counties in 2016 and 11 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 01, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 02, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of 3500 observed in Kewaunee County at Red River County Park (Tom Prestby) on May 04, 2017. The species was present at EOP in Manitowoc County.

**Bufflehead**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 68 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 21 counties across the state. High count of 150 observed in Shawano County (Ryne Rutherford) on April 21, 2017, in Jefferson County at Hope Lake (Aaron Stutz) on March 22, 2017, and in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Zach Lilla) on April 10, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Green County (Marta Magellan), and in Racine County at Wind Point Lighthouse and Shoop Park (Drew Goldberg). Last observed in the season on May 31, 2017 in Bayfield County at Long Bridge/Head of the bay, Ashland (Richard Ouren), and in Columbia County at Schoeneberg Marsh (Paul Schilke).

**Common Goldeneye**—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 62 counties in 2016 and 59 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 36 counties across the state. High count of 13000 observed in Brown County at Cat Island Causeway (restricted access) (Tom Prestby) on March 05, 2017, and

(Tom Prestby) on March 11, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 11, 2017 in Racine County (Carol Brandt Howard). Last observed in the season on May 31, 2017 in Bayfield County at Long Bridge/Head of the bay, Ashland (Richard Ouren).

**Barrow's Goldeneye\*\***—One individual (adult male) reported in Sheboygan County this season at North Point (Dan Belter) on March 14, 2017. It was last observed on March 19, 2017. This report was not submitted to the WSORC.

**Hooded Merganser**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 69 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 29 counties across the state. High count of 250 observed in Marathon County at D.C. Everest Park (Dan Belter) on March 22, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 38 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 28 counties across the state by the end of the season. The confirmation in Iowa County is the first in either atlas.

**Common Merganser**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Buffalo, Jackson, and Richland this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 67 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 30 counties across the state. High count of 700 observed in Calumet County (Ross Mueller) on March 09, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 07, 2017 in Lafayette County at Yellowstone Lake SP (Ashley Isaacson, Sarah Wells, and Bird Person). The species was present at EOP in the counties of Bayfield, Door, and Vilas.

**Red-breasted Merganser**—Reported in 50 counties across the state this season. This compares to 52 counties in 2016 and 43 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 12 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 24, 2017 in Marinette County at Red Arrow Park (Joan Campbell). High count of 2161 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on March 20, 2017. The species was present at EOP in seven counties adjoining the Great Lakes.

**Ruddy Duck**—Reported in 56 counties across the state this season. This compares to 48 counties in 2016 and 41 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in six of the southeastern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 15, 2017 in Marinette County (E Griffis). High count of 1800 observed in Brown County (Tom Prestby) on April 15, 2017, and (Willson Gaul) on April 15, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 12 counties across the state.

**Northern Bobwhite**—Reported in seven counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than three counties in 2016 and four counties in 2015.

First observed on March 05, 2017 in Portage County (Rick Anderson). High count of four observed in Portage County (Rick Anderson) on March 05, 2017. Last observed on May 29, 2017 in Wood County (Thomas Sell, and Patricia Kuzma Sell).

**Ring-necked Pheasant**—Reported in 56 counties across the state this season. This compares to 55 counties in 2016 and 60 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 13 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 11, 2017 in Marinette County (Lindsey Bender). High count of 30 observed in Pierce County (Ba Kal) on March 16, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 29 counties across the state.

**Ruffed Grouse**—Reported in 50 counties across the state this season. This compares to 57 counties in 2016 and 53 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 10 counties across the state. High count of nine observed in Rusk County (Max Malmquist) on April 08, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 31 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Iron, Jackson, and Oneida by the end of the season.

**Spruce Grouse**—Reported in four of the northern counties of Florence, Forest, Iron, and Oneida this season. This compares to four counties in 2016 and four counties in 2015.

First observed on April 05, 2017 in Forest

County at Sheltered Valley/Pine River Rd./FR 2182 (Jack Swelstad). High count of one observed by multiple observers this season. Last observed on May 03, 2017 in Iron County (Ryan Brady).

**Sharp-tailed Grouse**—Reported in four of the northwestern counties of Bayfield, Burnett, Price, and Taylor this season. This compares to the same number of counties in 2016 and 2015.

First observed on March 11, 2017 in Burnett County at Crex Meadows SWA (Kris Moulton). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Bayfield County (Washburn Ranger District CNNF). High count of 28 observed in Burnett County (Brian Collins) on April 09, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Bayfield County (Washburn Ranger District CNNF).

Breeding was confirmed in Bayfield County by the end of the season.

**Greater Prairie-Chicken**—Reported in four of the central counties of Adams, Marathon, Portage, and Wood this season. This compares to the same number of counties in 2016 and 2015.

First observed on March 01, 2017 in Portage County (Rick Anderson). High count of 21 observed in Portage County (Rick Anderson) on March 13, 2017. Last observed on May 27, 2017 in Portage County at Buena Vista Grasslands/Marsh (Nick Seeger).

**Wild Turkey**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season.

The species was present at BOP in 35 counties across the state. High count of 200 observed in Marathon County (Dan Belter) on March 04, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 57 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 17 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Red-throated Loon**—Reported in eight counties adjoining the Great Lakes this season. This compares to nine counties in 2016 and eight counties in 2015.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 26, 2017 in Bayfield County at Sioux/Onion R. Mouth at Bayview Beach (Erik Bruhnke, Ryan Brady, and Nick Anich). High count of 38 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach



Greg Hottman secured this portrait of a red-phase Eastern Screech Owl in Dane County in late March.



A male Bobolink appears poised for action in this photo taken by Eric Preston in mid-May in Iowa County.



A wet Great Horned Owl, found by Rita Flores Wiskowski, peers from the crotch of a tree in Milwaukee County in late March.

SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on May 04, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 04, 2017 in Racine County at Wind Point Lighthouse and Shoop Park (Helen Pugh). Last observed in the season on May 26, 2017 in Bayfield County at Sioux/Onion R. Mouth at Bayview Beach (Erik Bruhnke, Ryan Brady, and Nick Anich).

***Pacific Loon\****—One individual was reported on April 2, 2017 from Lake Waubesa in Dane County (Don Stone). The report was accepted by the WSORC.

***Common Loon***—Reported in 62 counties across the state this season. This compares to 64 counties in 2016 and 63 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan). First observed in the northernmost counties on March 30, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of 124 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on May 01, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Racine County at Samuel Myers Park (stan rosenstiel), and at Pugh Marina (stan rosenstiel). The species was present at EOP in 21 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in nine counties across the state by the end of the season.

***Pied-billed Grebe***—Reported across the state except for Menominee County this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 70 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in eight of the southeastern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 22, 2017 in Marinette County at Red Arrow Park (Marcia Hurst). High count of 60 observed in Dane County at Lake Farm County Park (Jim Schwarz) on April 06, 2017, in Jefferson County at Korth Park (Aaron Stutz) on April 20, 2017, and in La Crosse County at Myrick Marsh (Emily Weiser) on April 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 31 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in four of the eastern counties of Dodge, Rock, Shawano, and Vilas by the end of the season.

***Horned Grebe***—Reported in 57 counties across the state this season. This compares to 45 counties in 2016 and 48 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Waukesha County at Idle Isle Park (Andrea Szymczak), and in Ozaukee County at Stonecroft Pond (Jim Frank). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 05, 2017 in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point (Larry & Jan Kraemer). High count of 800 observed in Marathon County at Radtke Park (Dan Belter) on April 20, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 07, 2017 in Racine County at Wind Point Lighthouse and Shoop Park (Jennifer Wenzel). Last observed in the season on May 18, 2017 in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point (Larry & Jan Kraemer).

***Red-necked Grebe***—Reported in 11 counties across the state this season. This compares to 10 counties in 2016 and 15 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 09, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Mike Wanger, and Calvin Brennan). High count of 11 observed in Ozaukee County (Jim Frank) on April 20, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Burnett County (Judy Haseleu), and in Columbia County at Schoeneberg Marsh (Paul Schilke).

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Columbia, and Winnebago by the end of the season.

***Eared Grebe***—Reported in eight of the eastern counties this season. This is significantly higher than five counties in 2016 and two counties in 2015.

First observed on March 27, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Milwaukee Art Museum (Jym Mooney), in Kewaunee County at Kewaunee Harbor (Tom Zenner), and in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP (Jim Frank). High count of three observed in Waupaca County (Don Nussbaum) on April 17, 2017. Last observed on May 14, 2017 in Oneida County (Walter Piper).

***Western Grebe***—Reported in the counties of Burnett, Dane, and Kewaunee this season. This compares to three counties in 2016. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 07, 2017 in Kewaunee County at Kewaunee Harbor (Tom Zenner). High count of two observed by multiple observers this season. Last observed on May 29, 2017 in Dane County at Fish Lake (Mary Hampton).

**Double-crested Cormorant**—Reported in 58 counties across the state this season. This compares to 54 counties in 2016 and 60 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 16, 2017 in Manitowoc County (Two Rivers Stopover Project). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 02, 2017 in Bayfield County at Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (Tim Oksiuta). High count of 3500 observed in Winnebago County (Jeff Baughman) on April 25, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 25 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in seven counties across the state by the end of the season.

**American White Pelican**—Reported in 51 counties across the state this season. This compares to 48 counties in 2016 and 45 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 05, 2017 by multiple observers this season. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 13, 2017 in Marinette County at Red Arrow Park (Marcia Hurst). High count of 3000 observed in Brown County (Tom Prestby) on May 10, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 25 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in four of the southeastern counties of Brown, Dane, Dodge, and Winnebago by the end of the season.

**American Bittern**—Reported in 57 counties across the state this season. This compares to 49 counties in 2016 and 48 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 01, 2017 in Door County (Dan Collins), and in Winnebago County (Mark Messer). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 08, 2017 in Bayfield County at Sioux/Onion R. Mouth at Bayview Beach (Elizabeth Lexau). High count of 75 observed in Winnebago County at Rush Lake (David Aronson) on April 22, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 27 counties across the state.

**Least Bittern**—Reported in 13 counties across the state this season. This compares to 15 counties in 2016 and 16 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 06, 2017 in Manitowoc County (Sumner Matteson, and Nancy Nabak). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Marinette County at Lake Noquebay SWA and Sedge Meadow SNA (Jay Watson). High count of two observed in Outagamie

County (Karen Straub) on May 14, 2017, and in Burnett County (Judy Haseleu) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 14 counties across the state.

**Great Blue Heron**—Reported across the state except for Pepin County this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 12 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 22, 2017 in Marinette County at Red Arrow Park (Marcia Hurst). High count of 120 observed in Marathon County at D.C. Everest Park (Dan Belter) on April 11, 2017, and (Dan Belter) on April 12, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 59 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 22 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Great Egret**—Reported in 45 counties across the state this season. This compares to 40 counties in 2016 and 45 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 28, 2017 by multiple observers this season. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 04, 2017 in Marinette County at Red Arrow Park (Marcia Hurst). High count of 75 observed in Walworth County at Natureland Park (Daniel Schneider) on May 14, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 24 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in seven counties across the state by the end of the season. Of these, the confirmations in the counties of Calumet, and Kenosha are the first in either atlas.

**Snowy Egret**—Reported in four of the southeastern counties of Dane, Dodge, Jefferson, and Outagamie this season. This is significantly higher than one county in 2016.

First observed on May 12, 2017 in Dane County at County V Ponds (Sunil Gopalan, Kyle Lindemer, Aaron Holschbach, and Darrell Schiffman). High count of one observed by multiple observers this season. Last observed on May 23, 2017 in Outagamie County (Jeff Brinkman).

**Little Blue Heron\*\***—Up to three individuals were reported from La Crosse County this season. First observed on April 29, 2017 (Brian Baker). Last observed on May 01, 2017 (Dan Jackson, and Gwyneth Calvetti).



Kenneth Younger found this late May Least Bittern almost in full view in the marsh at Edna Taylor Park in Dane County in late May.



Jym Mooney discovered this collection of walking geese, including Canada, Snow, and Ross's Goose, in early March in Milwaukee County.



This uncommon Smith's Longspur was spotted in a field in Dane County by Greg Hottman in late April.



This Broad-winged Hawk, denizen of the north woods, was photographed by Stephen Fisher in Oneida County in late April.

**Cattle Egret**—Reported in nine of the southern counties this season. This is significantly higher than four counties in 2016 and three counties in 2015.

First observed on March 28, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Jackson Park (Susan Kulinski, Jennifer Ambrose, and Lorri Howski). High count of 15 observed in Winnebago County (Jeff Baughman) on May 24, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 15, 2017 in Grant County (Craig Kruse). Last observed in the season on May 30, 2017 in Jefferson County (Cynthia Bridge).

Breeding was confirmed in Winnebago County by the end of the season.

**Green Heron**—Reported in 61 counties across the state this season. This compares to 61 counties in 2016 and 64 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 09, 2017 in Racine County at Trout Ponds Conservancy (Eric Howe). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 21, 2017 in Forest County (Nancy Richmond). High count of 11 observed in Jefferson County at Rose Lake SNA (Philip Kress) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 44 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dodge, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Manitowoc, and Polk by the end of the season.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron**—Reported in 23 counties across the state this season. This compares to 23 counties in 2016 and 19 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 09, 2017 in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Jeff Baughman), and in Fond du Lac County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Jeff Baughman). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 19, 2017 in Marinette County (Marcia Hurst). High count of 16 observed in Fond du Lac County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Kenny Younger) on April 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 11 of the eastern counties.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dodge, Fond du Lac, and Winnebago by the end of the season.

**Glossy Ibis**\*—Single individual first observed on May 06, 2017 in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Dodge Co.) (Rick Todd). Last observed on May 30, 2017 (John Longhenry) at the same location.

The record was accepted by the WSORC.

**White-faced Ibis**—Reported in four of the southeastern counties of Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, and Green Lake this season. This compares to three counties in 2016.

First observed on April 16, 2017 in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Shawn Miller, Brian Schneider, Kenny Younger, and Mary Hampton). High count of three observed by multiple observers in Dodge County at Horicon NWR across several dates. Last observed on May 11, 2017 by multiple observers at the same location.

**Turkey Vulture**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 13 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 26, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of 85 observed in Door County at Washington Island—general (Melody Walsh) on April 16, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 63 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Calumet, Columbia, Florence, Marathon, and Sauk by the end of the season. Of these, the confirmations in the counties of Columbia, and Florence are the first in either atlas.

**Osprey**—Reported in 66 counties across the state this season. This compares to 67 counties in 2016 and 64 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 25, 2017 in Dane County at Wingra Park (Peter Overholt). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 09, 2017 in Bayfield County (Haley Appleman). High count of seven observed in Manitowoc County at Collins Marsh SWA (Robert Domagalski) on May 15, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 39 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 38 counties across the state by the end of the season. The confirmation in Racine County is the first in either atlas.

**Golden Eagle**—Reported in 12 counties across the state this season. This compares to 20 counties in 2016 and 16 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 01, 2017 in Rusk County (Victoria Sokolowski). High count of three observed in Rusk County (Victoria Sokolowski) on March 11, 2017. Last observed on April 16, 2017 in Door County at Washington Is-

land—general (Melody Walsh), and in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady).

**Mississippi Kite\***—The first report came from Rock County and was observed May 14, 2017 through past EOP (Craig and Quentin Yoerger). This was near a location where breeding was confirmed in 2016.

A flyover report came from Brown County on May 28, 2017 (Tom Prestby).

Both reports were accepted by the WSORC.

**Northern Harrier**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Menominee, Pepin, and Richland this season. This compares to 69 counties in 2016 and 66 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 24 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 19, 2017 in Douglas County (Peder Svungen), and at Roy Johnson Mitigation Wetlands (Nan & Scott Wisherd). High count of seven observed in Door County at Washington Island—general (Paul Noeldner) on May 07, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 31 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in six of the southeastern counties by the end of the season.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 55 counties in 2016 and 59 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 20 counties across the state. High count of 23 observed in Ashland County at Apostle Islands NL—Long Island (Mike DeWitt) on April 22, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Marquette County (Daryl Christensen), and in Brown County (Jay Watson).

Breeding was confirmed in Ashland County by the end of the season.

**Cooper's Hawk**—Reported in 66 counties across the state this season. This compares to 68 counties in 2016 and 67 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 24 counties across the state. High count of 14 observed in Sheboygan County at Kohler-Andrae SP (Rebecca Sher) on April 15, 2017, and (Seth

Cutright) on April 15, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 28 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 10 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Northern Goshawk**—Reported in nine counties across the state this season. This compares to 18 counties in 2016 and 10 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 22, 2017 in Forest County (Matthew Learned). Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Price County (Sue Kartman).

**Bald Eagle**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to the same number of counties in 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 51 counties across the state. High count of 300 observed in Crawford County at Gremore Lake (Jan Collins) on March 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 54 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 57 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Red-shouldered Hawk**—Reported in 50 counties across the state this season. This compares to 47 counties in 2016 and 48 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in seven counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 25, 2017 in Forest County (Mary Maertz). High count of four observed in Door County (Melody Walsh) on March 31, 2017, in Waupaca County (Don Nussbaum) on April 04, 2017, and in Washington County (Scott Diehl) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 14 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in eight counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Broad-winged Hawk**—Reported in 67 counties across the state this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 65 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 09, 2017 in Grant County at UW-Platteville Memorial Park (Alex Harman). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 14, 2017 in Bayfield County at Bayfield (town) (Ben Baldwin). High count of 2000 observed in Door County (Melody Walsh)



Jim Stewart took this classic image of a Great Blue Heron grasping a catfish at Stricker's Pond, in Dane County in early April,



On May Day, Jennifer Ambrose captured this photo of an American Avocet with a Willet at McKinley Beach in Milwaukee.



This Nashville Warbler allowed Adam Sinkula to make a portrait at Bay Beach Sanctuary in Brown County in mid-May.

on May 18, 2017, (Donna Benson) on May 18, 2017, and (Melody Walsh) on May 27, 2017.

The species was present at EOP in 31 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Ashland, Iron, and Washburn by the end of the season.

**Red-tailed Hawk**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 45 counties across the state. High count of 28 observed in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin) on April 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 54 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 31 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Rough-legged Hawk**—Reported in 52 counties across the state this season. This compares to 45 counties in 2016 and 52 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 25 counties across the state. High count of 14 observed in Douglas County at Roy Johnson Mitigation Wetlands (Nan & Scott Wisherd) on March 19, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 09, 2017 in Green County (Patrick McGowan). Last observed on May 29, 2017 in Bayfield County at County E & H farm fields area (Richard Ouren).

**Yellow Rail\***—Reported in the counties of Burnett, Kewaunee, and Oconto this season. This compares to six counties in 2016 and four counties in 2015.

The reports from Oconto County came between May 07, 2017 (Jack Swelstad) and May 26, 2017 (Tom Prestby, Don DeWitt, and Katrina DeWitt). These reports were not submitted to the WSORC.

The report from Kewaunee County was made on May 14, 2017 (Adam Sinkula) and was accepted by the WSORC.

Reports from Crex Meadows (Burnett County) do not require WSORC acceptance.

**King Rail\***—Reported in the counties of Dodge, Grant and St. Croix this season.

First individual was reported on May 5, 2017 in St. Croix County (Scott Andrews).

An individual was reported heard only on May

13, 2017 in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Auto Tour and Trails (Eric Matrejek, John Kivikoski, and Jack & Holly Bartholmai). An individual was also observed visually on May 21, 2017 in Dodge County again at the Horicon Auto Tour (Andy Cassini, Paul Schilke). It was later determined that a pair of individuals was present at the location. The pair remained at this location for a while past EOP. Daryl Christensen confirmed a breeding pair on May 23 when he observed nest building behavior. This is the first breeding confirmation for the species in the state in either atlas.

An additional individual was also reported on May 25, 2017 in Grant County (Kelly J. McKay).

All reports were accepted by the WSORC.

**Virginia Rail**—Reported in 54 counties across the state this season. This compares to 45 counties in 2016 and 43 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 08, 2017 in Outagamie County at Mack SWA (Michael O'Connell), and in Fond du Lac County (Dave & Kerry Schloff). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 22, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of eight observed in Brown County at Resort Rd. Ponds (Brown Co.) (Tom Prestby) on April 19, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 22 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dunn, and Polk by the end of the season. The confirmation in Polk County is the first in either atlas.

**Sora**—Reported in 67 counties across the state this season. This compares to 62 counties in 2016 and 63 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 06, 2017 in Winnebago County (Don DeWitt). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 11, 2017 in Ashland County at Wakefield Rd. (Ashland Co.) (Northland College Field Ornithology, and Paula Anich). High count of 15 observed in Waukesha County at Vernon Marsh—Inner & Outer DU Dikes/Figure 8 (Spence Stehno) on April 22, 2017, and at Vernon Marsh (general) (Spence Stehno) on May 13, 2017, in Rusk County at Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Nature Trails (Victoria Sokolowski) on April 28, 2017, and in Brown County (Don DeWitt) on May 07, 2017. The

species was present at EOP in 40 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Crawford, and Dane by the end of the season. The confirmation in Crawford County is the first in either atlas.

**Common Gallinule**—Reported in 13 of the southern counties this season. This compares to nine counties in 2016 and 12 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 22, 2017 in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Ken Milender), and in Columbia County at Schoeneberg Marsh (Jim Schwarz). High count of five observed in Brown County at Sensiba SWA (Paul Schilke) on May 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 11 of the southeastern counties.

Breeding was confirmed in Dodge County by the end of the season.

**American Coot**—Reported in 60 counties across the state this season. This compares to 61 counties in 2016 and 54 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 15 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 27, 2017 in Bayfield County at Long Bridge/Head of the bay, Ashland (Alex Lehner). High count of 3000 observed in Dane County at Lake Farm County Park (Jim Schwarz) on April 06, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 19 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in six counties across the state by the end of the season. Of these, the confirmations in the counties of Columbia, Dane, and Outagamie are the first in either atlas.

**Sandhill Crane**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 38 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 18, 2017 in Marinette County (Lindsey Bender). High count of 1000 observed in Jefferson County at Adam Birding Conservancy (Ari Rice) on March 19, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 66 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 53 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Whooping Crane**—Reported in nine counties across the state this season. This compares to eight counties in 2016 and five counties in 2015.

First observed on March 05, 2017 in Jefferson County (Karen Etter Hale). High count of nine observed in Juneau County at Necedah NWR (Oliver Burrus) on April 24, 2017, and (Ben Burrus) on April 24, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on March 26, 2017 in Grant County at Potosi Landing (Grant Co.) (Tony Moline). Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Juneau County (John Meredig), and in Dodge County (John Longhenry).

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dodge, and Juneau by the end of the season. The confirmation in Dodge County is the first in either atlas.

**Black-necked Stilt**—Reported in 10 of the southeastern counties this season. This compares to 13 counties in 2016 and seven counties in 2015.

First observed on April 09, 2017 in Columbia County at Harvey Rd. Ponds (Columbia Co.) (Andy McGivern). High count of 21 observed in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Carl Schwartz) on May 11, 2017, (Marilyn Bontly) on May 11, 2017, (Tom Uttech) on May 11, 2017, and (Mike Wanger) on May 11, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 16, 2017 in Kenosha County (Tim Hansen, Jennifer Wenzel, Paul Kinzer, and John Dixon). The species was present at EOP in the counties of Dodge, and Fond du Lac.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dodge, and Fond du Lac by the end of the season.

**American Avocet**—Reported in 10 counties across the state this season. This compares to 10 counties in 2016 and nine counties in 2015.

First observed on April 20, 2017 in Sheboygan County at Sheboygan Lakefront (general) (Barry Baumann), in Milwaukee County at McKinley Beach (Jim Frank), and in Dane County at County V & C Ponds (Cynthia Bridge, and Aaron Holschbach). High count of 40 observed in Sheboygan County at Sheboygan Lakefront (general) (Barry Baumann) on April 20, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 29, 2017 by multiple observers this season. Last observed on May 31, 2017 by multiple observers this season.

**Black-bellied Plover**—Reported in 30 counties across the state this season. This compares to



David Lund garnered this portrait of an adult male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in Bayfield County in mid-May.



David Franzen captured this photograph of an adult male Pileated Woodpecker at a nest hole in Vilas County in late May.



This cautious-looking Cape May Warbler appeared in front of Jennifer Ambrose at Wilson Park in Milwaukee County in mid-May.



A Short-billed Dowitcher, photographed by David Lund, stands placidly on planking in Bayfield County in mid-May.

22 counties in 2016 and 19 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 28, 2017 by multiple observers this season. First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 20 observed in Kewaunee County (Pam Schwedler) on May 18, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Winnebago County (Stuart Malcolm).

**American Golden-Plover**—Reported in 15 counties across the state this season. This compares to 13 counties in 2016 and 13 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 28, 2017 in Dane County at County V & C Ponds (Kyle Lindemer). High count of 16 observed in Dodge County at Jersey Rd. and Hwy A (Aaron Holschbach) on April 22, 2017. Last observed on May 28, 2017 in Chippewa County (Anne Geraghty).

**Semipalmated Plover**—Reported in 36 counties across the state this season. This compares to 36 counties in 2016 and 35 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 21, 2017 in Columbia County at Harvey-Wangness Wetland (Jim Schwarz). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Vilas County (NLDC Birders, Ann Swift, and Guy David) at Powell Marsh SWA—Vilas Co. (Ken Milender). High count of 40 observed in Jefferson County at Burnt Village County Park (Cynthia Bridge) on May 19, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 16 counties across the state.

**Piping Plover**—Reported in the counties of Brown, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Racine adjoining Lake Michigan this season. This compares to six counties in 2016 and three counties in 2015.

First observed on April 16, 2017 in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Lakefront (Charles Sonntag).

On Cat Island in Brown County where they were confirmed as breeders in the past, they arrived first on April 18, 2017 (Tom Prestby). Courtship was observed at the end of April and the first nest was documented on May 18, 2017 and the final nest on May 31, 2017. A total of 13 individuals were observed at this location during the season.

**Killdeer**—Reported across the state except for Menominee County this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 70 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 25 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 27, 2017 in Marinette County (Marcia Hurst, and E Griffis), and in Bayfield County at Long Bridge/Head of the bay, Ashland (Alex Lehner). High count of 63 observed in Marathon County at Rangeline Flowage (Dan Belter) on May 11, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 61 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 40 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Upland Sandpiper**—Reported in 18 counties across the state this season. This compares to 19 counties in 2016 and 17 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 14, 2017 in Dane County at Thousand's Rock Prairie (Kay Kavanagh), and in Iowa County at Mounds View Grassland—Schurch-Thomson Prairie (Richard Henderson, and John Kivikoski). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 08, 2017 in Bayfield County (Wayne Seeger). High count of six observed in Dane County at Thomson Memorial Prairie (Mike Bailey) on April 15, 2017, and in Iowa County at Mounds View Grassland—Schurch-Thomson Prairie (Richard Henderson) on April 21, 2017, and (Eric Preston) on April 25, 2017. The species was present at EOP in six counties across the state.

**Whimbrel**—Reported in 11 counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than six counties in 2016 and six counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 11, 2017 in Kewaunee County (Pam Schwedler). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 16, 2017 in Bayfield County at Thompson's West End Park (Kathy Morales and Eric Julson). High count of 54 observed by multiple observers this season. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 14, 2017 in Racine County at Samuel Myers Park (Helen Pugh, and Jennifer Wenzel). Last observed on May 29, 2017 by multiple observers this season.

**Hudsonian Godwit**—Reported in nine counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than five counties in 2016.

First observed on April 27, 2017 in Fond du Lac County (Dave&Kerry Schloff). High count of three observed by multiple observers this season. Last observed on May 26, 2017 in Fond du Lac County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Mark Almodovar).

**Marbled Godwit**—Reported in 11 counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than seven counties in 2016. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 27, 2017 in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Impoundment (Jay Watson, Joel Trick, and Patti Trick), and at Manitowoc Lakefront (Charles Sontag). High count of nine observed in Marathon County at George W. Mead SWA—Rangeline Rd (Myles Hurlburt) on May 16, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 01, 2017 in Grant County (Pamela Jennings). Last observed on May 29, 2017 by multiple observers this season.

**Ruddy Turnstone**—Reported in 25 counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than 16 counties in 2016. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 29, 2017 in Pepin County (Janine Polk). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 17, 2017 in Ashland County at Maslowski Beach (Kathy Morales Eric Julson, and Nick Anich). High count of 40 observed in Pepin County (Janine Polk) on May 16, 2017. The species was present at EOP in four of the eastern counties of Brown, Fond du Lac, Manitowoc, and Marinette.

**Red Knot**—Reported in the counties of Brown, Dodge, and Jefferson this season.

First observed on May 19, 2017 in Jefferson County at Hwy N and M Ponds (Daniel Schneider). High count of two observed by multiple observers this season in both Dodge and Brown counties. Last observed on May 28, 2017 in Brown County at Cat Island Causeway (restricted access) (Tom Prestby).

**Ruff\***—One individual reported in Manitowoc County this season was first observed on April 24, 2017 at Collins Marsh SWA (Robert Do-

magalski). The same individual was last observed on April 27, 2017 (Paul Regnier).

The report was accepted by the WSORC.

**Stilt Sandpiper**—Reported in 14 counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than three counties in 2016. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 29, 2017 in Dane County (Cynthia Bridge). Last observed on May 30, 2017 by multiple observers this season.

**Sanderling**—Reported in 15 counties across the state this season. This compares to 11 counties in 2016 and 12 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 27, 2017 in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Impoundment (Joel Trick). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 15, 2017 in Bayfield County at Port Wing Harbor (Ryan Brady, and Nick Anich). High count of 18 observed in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point (Larry & Jan Kraemer) on May 18, 2017. The species was present at EOP in seven counties adjoining the Great Lakes.

**Dunlin**—Reported in 36 counties across the state this season. This compares to 33 counties in 2016 and 37 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 28, 2017 in Dane County at County V & C Ponds (Kyle Lindemer). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 15, 2017 in Ashland County at Maslowski Beach (John Toren). High count of 320 observed in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Dave Brassler) on May 26, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 14 counties across the state.

**Baird's Sandpiper**—Reported in 13 counties across the state this season. This compares to nine counties in 2016 and 11 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 03, 2017 in Brown County (Tom Prestby). High count of seven observed in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Auto Tour and Trails (Carl Schroeder) on May 29, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Marathon County at George W. Mead SWA—Rangeline Rd (Myles Hurlburt), in Fond du Lac County (Stuart Malcolm), in Chippewa County (Pamela Hoyland), and in Winnebago County (Stuart Malcolm).

**Least Sandpiper**—Reported in 39 counties across the state this season. This compares to 44 counties in 2016 and 43 counties in 2015.



As depicted by Greg Hottman, an Upland Sandpiper raises its wings at the Schurch-Thomson Prairie in Iowa County in early May.



In early May, Jim Stewart caught this Double-crested Cormorant in the middle of catching a small catfish at the Dodge County portion of Horicon National Wildlife Refuge.



Vicki Sokolowski in late April found this fluffed-out adult male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in Rusk County in late April.

First observed on April 16, 2017 in Waukesha County at McMahon Rd wetland (Tim Hahn). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 09, 2017 in Ashland County at Maslowski Beach (Tim Oksiuta). High count of 75 observed in Brown County at Cat Island Causeway (restricted access) (Joel Trick) on May 27, 2017, and (Patti Trick) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in seven of the eastern counties.

**White-rumped Sandpiper**—Reported in 27 counties across the state this season. This compares to 19 counties in 2016 and 19 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 04, 2017 in La Crosse County (Dan Jackson). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 15, 2017 in Vilas County (Tom Rooney). High count of 75 observed in Brown County at Cat Island Causeway (restricted access) (Tom Prestby) on May 28, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 13 counties across the state.

**Pectoral Sandpiper**—Reported in 38 counties across the state this season. This compares to 37 counties in 2016 and 33 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 24, 2017 in Kenosha County at Des Plaines River at Hwy. N (John Dixon), and in Milwaukee County (Jym Mooney). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 25, 2017 in Ashland County (Ryan Brady). High count of 158 observed in Dane County (Steve Thiessen) on April 25, 2017. The species was present at EOP in the counties of Dodge, Dunn, Fond du Lac, Marathon, and Ozaukee across the state.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**—Reported in 34 counties across the state this season. This compares to 33 counties in 2016 and 32 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 27, 2017 in La Crosse County (Dan Jackson). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 19, 2017 in Ashland County at Maslowski Beach (Todd Ward, and Northeast Wisconsin Bird Club). High count of 450 observed in Brown County at Cat Island Causeway (restricted access) (Tom Prestby) on May 28, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 22 counties across the state.

**Short-billed Dowitcher**—Reported in 28 counties across the state this season. This compares to 24 counties in 2016 and 30 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 28, 2017 in Ozaukee County (Calvin Brennan). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 18, 2017 by multiple observers this season. High count of 47 observed in Manitowoc County (Robert Domagalski) on May 14, 2017. Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Darrell Schiffman).

**Long-billed Dowitcher**—Reported in 15 counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than nine counties in 2016 and six counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 18, 2017 in Chippewa County at Woodfords' Ponds (Pamela Hoyland, and Janet Swartz-Myrman). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 18, 2017 in Bayfield County at County E & H farm fields area (Nick Anich). High count of 26 observed in Jefferson County at Hwy. 106 flooded fields, Fort Atkinson (Kay Kavanagh) on April 29, 2017. Last observed on May 18, 2017 in Bayfield County at County E & H farm fields area (Nick Anich).

**American Woodcock**—Reported across the state except for Lafayette County this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 69 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in nine of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 22, 2017 in Bayfield County (David Bratley, and Nick Anich). High count of 32 observed in Columbia County (Sara Kehrl) on May 03, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 29 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 25 counties across the state by the end of the season. The confirmation in Polk County is the first in either atlas.

**Wilson's Snipe**—Reported in 66 counties across the state this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 64 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Kenosha County (Tim Hansen). First observed in the

northernmost counties on April 03, 2017 in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of 116 observed in Kenosha County at Des Plaines River at Hwy. N (John Dixon) on April 14, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 07, 2017 in Green County (Aaron Haycraft, and Quentin Yoerger), and in Lafayette County (John Dadisman). The species was present at EOP in 12 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dane, Eau Claire, and St. Croix by the end of the season. Of these, the confirmations in the counties of Dane, and St. Croix are the first in either atlas.

**Wilson's Phalarope**—Reported in 28 counties across the state this season. This compares to 20 counties in 2016 and 23 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 28, 2017 by multiple observers this season. First observed in the northernmost counties on May 18, 2017 in Bayfield County (Elaine Vokoun). High count of five observed in Chippewa County (Pamela Hoyland) on May 17, 2017, and in Pepin County (Janine Polk) on May 04, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 01, 2017 in Grant County (Pamela Jennings). The species was present at EOP in six counties across the state.

**Red-necked Phalarope**—Reported in seven counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than two counties in 2016. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 11, 2017 in Jefferson County (Spence Stehno). High count of four observed by multiple observers this season. The species was present at EOP in the counties of Dodge, Fond du Lac, and St. Croix.

**Spotted Sandpiper**—Reported in 66 counties across the state this season. This compares to 65 counties in 2016 and 67 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 03, 2017 in Milwaukee County at South Metro Pier in Oak Creek (Mike Wanger). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 29, 2017 in Iron County at Saxon Harbor (Brett Bockhop, and Kim Krawczyk). High count of 40 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on May 16, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 38 counties across the state.

**Solitary Sandpiper**—Reported in 52 counties across the state this season. This compares to 57 counties in 2016 and 54 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 13, 2017 in Grant County at Studnika Road (Richard Ouren). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 04, 2017 in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of 16 observed in Marathon County at George W. Mead SWA (Mary Backus) on May 10, 2017. Last observed on May 26, 2017 in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Hwy. 49 (Myles Hurlburt), and at Horicon NWR—Auto Tour and Trails (Myles Hurlburt, and Jeff Baughman), and in Burnett County (Roman Buck).

**Greater Yellowlegs**—Reported in 58 counties across the state this season. This compares to 58 counties in 2016 and 52 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 09, 2017 in Dodge County (Anne Moretti). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 08, 2017 in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point—Gull Bluff (Ryan Steiner, John P Richardson, and Steve Kolbe). High count of 70 observed in Outagamie County at Mack SWA (Stuart Malcolm) on April 21, 2017. Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Marathon County at George W. Mead SWA—Rangeline Rd (Myles Hurlburt), and in Door County (Eric Howe, and Kristin Wegner).

**Willet**—Reported in 22 counties across the state this season. This compares to 21 counties in 2016 and 14 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 25, 2017 in Kenosha County (Doreen Silvers). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 02, 2017 in Ashland County at Maslowski Beach (Tim Oksiuta). High count of 123 observed in Sheboygan County at North Side Municipal Beach/Deland Park (Dave & Kerry Sehloff) on May 02, 2017. Last observed on May 29, 2017 by multiple observers this season.

**Lesser Yellowlegs**—Reported in 53 counties across the state this season. This compares to 57 counties in 2016 and 49 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 24, 2017 in Dodge County (Jack & Holly Bartholmai), and in Ozaukee County (Thomas Wood). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 19, 2017 in Forest County (Kay Kavanagh, and Bob Kavanagh), and in Vilas County at Powell Marsh

SWA (Neil Kent). High count of 500 observed in Outagamie County at Mack SWA (Adam Sinkula) on May 12, 2017. Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Dodge County at Co. Hwy. A and Hwy 151 pond (Jim Frank), and in Marathon County at George W. Mead SWA—Rangeline Rd (Myles Hurlburt).

**Bonaparte's Gull**—Reported in 43 counties across the state this season. This compares to 49 counties in 2016 and 48 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 25, 2017 in Green Lake County at Lake Maria County Park (Jon Roti Roti, Wendy Schultz, and Thomas Schultz). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 07, 2017 in Ashland County at Maslowski Beach (Nick Anich). High count of 7755 observed in Door County (Kristin Wegner) on April 29, 2017, and (Eric Howe) on April 29, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 11, 2017 in Racine County at Samuel Myers Park (Drew Goldberg). The species was present at EOP in six counties across the state.

**Little Gull\***—Reported in the counties of Door, and Manitowoc this season. This compares to four counties in 2016 and seven counties in 2015.

First observed on April 29, 2017 in Door County (Melody Walsh, Eric Howe, and Kristin Wegner). High count of two observed in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Lakefront (Charles Sontag) on May 16, 2017, and on May 30, 2017, and at Manitowoc Impoundment (Thomas Wood) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in Manitowoc County.

Only the report from Door County was submitted to and accepted by the WSORC.

**Laughing Gull\***—Single individuals reported in the counties of Ozaukee, and Sheboygan this season. This compares to five counties in 2016 and three counties in 2015.

One individual was observed on May 21, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Port Washington—Marina/Harbor (Joan Sommer). It was last observed on May 23, 2017 (Kay Kavanagh, and Bob Kavanagh). A second individual was observed on May 23, 2017 in Sheboygan County at North Point Park (Kay Kavanagh, and Bob Kavanagh).

WSORC review is only required for records away from Lake Michigan.

**Franklin's Gull**—Reported in 12 counties across the state this season. This compares to eight counties in 2016 and eight counties in 2015.

First observed on April 03, 2017 in Dane County at Ashton K Pond (Cynthia Bridge). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 31, 2017 in Bayfield County at Whittlesey Creek NWR (Ryan Brady). High count of 16 observed in La Crosse County (Emily Weiser) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in the counties of Bayfield, Manitowoc, and Sheboygan.

**Ring-billed Gull**—Reported in 65 counties across the state this season. This compares to 67 counties in 2016 and 63 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 28 counties across the state. High count of 10000 observed in Fond du Lac County at Lakeside Park (Jeff Baughman) on April 04, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 24 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in eight counties across the state by the end of the season. Of these, the confirmations in the counties of Dodge, and Ozaukee are the first in either atlas.

**Herring Gull**—Reported in 51 counties across the state this season. This compares to 53 counties in 2016 and 54 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 27 counties across the state. High count of 6400 observed in Winnebago County (Stuart Malcolm) on March 09, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 19 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in six of the eastern counties by the end of the season.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**—Reported in 15 counties across the state this season. This compares to 15 counties in 2016 and 15 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Veterans Park (Milwaukee) (Jym Mooney). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 18, 2017 in Ashland County at Maslowski Beach (Tim Oksiuta, Nick Anich, and Ryan Brady). High count of 11 observed in Sheboygan County at Sheboygan Lakefront (general) (Seth Cutright) on May 24, 2017, and (Rebecca Sher) on May 24, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 26, 2017 in Kenosha County at Kenosha Harbor Mouth (John Dixon). The species was present at EOP in the counties of Kewaunee, Manitowoc, and Sheboygan.

**Glaucous Gull**—Reported in 11 counties across the state this season. This compares to 17 counties in 2016 and 17 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in eight counties across the state. High count of 21 observed in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point—Allouez Bay (Peder Svingen) on April 02, 2017, (Todd Whitesel) on April 02, 2017, and (Robbye Johnson) on April 02, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on March 06, 2017 in Kenosha County at Des Plaines River at Hwy. N (Drew Goldberg). Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Lakefront (Charles Sontag).

**Great Black-backed Gull**—Reported in 12 counties across the state this season. This compares to 14 counties in 2016 and 15 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in seven counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 19, 2017 in Douglas County at Interstate Island WMA (WI) (Peder Svingen). High count of 18 observed in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Lakefront (Charles Sontag) on March 03, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 07, 2017 in Racine County at Samuel Myers Park (Drew Goldberg, and Eric Howe). Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Lakefront (Charles Sontag).

**Herring × Great Black-backed Gull (hybrid)**—One individual observed in Winnebago County (Stuart Malcolm) on March 09, 2017.

**Caspian Tern**—Reported in 29 counties across the state this season. This compares to 35 counties in 2016 and 38 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 06, 2017 in Manitowoc County at Manitowoc Lakefront (Charles Sontag). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 18, 2017 in Ashland County at Maslowski Beach (Nick Anich, and Ryan Brady). High count of 520 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on May 10, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 10 counties adjoining the Great Lakes.

Breeding was confirmed in four of the eastern counties of Brown, Door, Ozaukee, and Winnebago by the end of the season. Of these, the confirmations in the counties of Ozaukee, and Winnebago are the first in either atlas.

**Black Tern**—Reported in 31 counties across the state this season. This compares to 30 counties in 2016 and 44 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 04, 2017 in Dodge County at Horicon Marsh SWA—International Education Center (April Laufenberg), and at Horicon NWR—General (Tom Mertins), and in Burnett County at Crex Meadows SWA (David Adair). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 25, 2017 in Vilas County at Northern Highland-American Legion SF—Allequash Lake Marsh (Vickie Becker, and John and Mary Bates and Burns). High count of 120 observed in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Ledge and Point Rds (Kyle Schumacher) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 26 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Columbia, and Marquette by the end of the season.

**Common Tern**—Reported in 19 counties across the state this season. This compares to 23 counties in 2016 and 21 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 22, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve (Joan Sommer, and Dani Baumann). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 03, 2017 in Ashland County at Bayview Park, Ashland (Northland College Field Ornithology, and Paula Anich). High count of 3087 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on May 12, 2017. The species was present at EOP in eight counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Winnebago County by the end of the season.

**Forster's Tern**—Reported in 41 counties across the state this season. This compares to 42 counties in 2016 and 42 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 09, 2017 in Brown County at Sensiba SWA (Tom Prestby), and in La Crosse County (Emily Weiser). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 18, 2017 in Bayfield County at Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (Elaine Vokoun). High count of 75 observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on May 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 12 of the southeastern counties.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Fond du Lac, and Marquette by the end of the season.

**Eurasian Collared Dove**—Reported in 22 counties across the state this season. This com-

compares to 19 counties in 2016 and 16 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 04, 2017 in Brown County (Nick Seeger), and in Columbia County at Firemen's Park, Arlington (Spence Stehno). High count of six observed in Crawford County (Jan Collins) on May 07, 2017. Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Lafayette County (John Dadisman).

Breeding was confirmed in Crawford County by the end of the season.

**White-winged Dove\***—Single individual observed on May 17, 2017 in Racine County (Eric Howe, and Kristin Wegner).

This report was accepted by the WSORC.

**Mourning Dove**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same as the count in 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 58 counties across the state. High count of 120 observed in Dane County at Goose Lake Area (Jim Schwarz) on April 11, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Marquette, and Taylor.

Breeding was confirmed in 37 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**—Reported in 34 counties across the state this season. This compares to 45 counties in 2016 and 39 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 03, 2017 in La Crosse County (Jules Teskie). High count of three observed in La Crosse County at Coulee Experimental State Forest (Emily Weiser) on May 27, 2017, in Milwaukee County at Whitnall Park (Andrea Szymczak) on May 17, 2017, and in Rock County at Cook Arboretum (Aaron Haycraft) on May 29, 2017, and (Quentin Yoerger) on May 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 30 counties across the state.

**Black-billed Cuckoo**—Reported in 53 counties across the state this season. This compares to 60 counties in 2016 and 54 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 06, 2017 in Iowa County at Tower Hill SP (Kelly Rueckheim). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Forest County (Mary Maertz). High count of four observed in Outagamie County

(Tom Prestby) on May 28, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 42 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Marathon, Outagamie, and Shawano by the end of the season.

**Eastern Screech-Owl**—Reported in 31 counties across the state this season. This compares to 31 counties in 2016 and 30 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in six of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 15, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of eight observed in Crawford County (Dennis Kirschbaum) on April 16, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 10 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in five of the southeastern counties of Dane, Dodge, Jefferson, Manitowoc, and Milwaukee by the end of the season.

**Great Horned Owl**—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 59 counties in 2016 and 62 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 18 of the southern counties. High count of five observed in Dane County (Greg Hottman) on May 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 28 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 32 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Snowy Owl**—Reported in nine counties across the state this season. This compares to 21 counties in 2016 and 33 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in the counties of Chippewa, Douglas, Dunn, Green Lake, and Shawano across the state. High count of three observed in Sheboygan County (Jason Miller) on March 10, 2017. Last observed on April 20, 2017 in Chippewa County (Scott Emerson).

**Barred Owl**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Calumet, Kenosha, and Pepin this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 62 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 18 counties across the state. High count of eight observed in Ashland County (Carol Becker) on April 04,

2017. The species was present at EOP in 42 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 12 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Long-eared Owl**—Reported in seven counties across the state this season. This compares to 10 counties in 2016 and five counties in 2015.

First observed on March 05, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Cedarburg Bog (Jim Frank). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 04, 2017 in Bayfield County (Rick Burkman). Last observed on May 24, 2017 in Jackson County (Randy Hoffman).

**Short-eared Owl**—Reported in 12 counties across the state this season. This compares to 12 counties in 2016 and 14 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 03, 2017 in Waukesha County at Paradise Valley SWA—Bark River Unit (Spence Stehno). High count of four observed in Portage County (Myles Hurlburt) on March 14, 2017 at Buena Vista Grasslands/Marsh (Dan Belter) on March 13, 2017, and in Kenosha County at Richard Bong SRA (Paul Schilke) on March 11, 2017, and (Maxwell Kotelnicki) on March 31, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 12, 2017 in Kenosha County at Richard Bong SRA (Frank Sharkozy, John Dixon, and Jennifer Wenzel). Last observed on May 30, 2017 in Portage County at Buena Vista Grasslands/Marsh (Joey Sundvall).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl**—Reported in 19 counties across the state this season. This compares to 21 counties in 2016 and 14 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 15, 2017 in Bayfield County (Brian McCaffery, and Cisco 1). First observed in the northernmost counties on March 15, 2017 in Bayfield County (Brian McCaffery, and Cisco 1). High count of three observed in Douglas County (Randy Hoffman) on May 19, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on March 26, 2017 in Walworth County (Scott Weberpal). Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Price County (Jim Krakowski).

Breeding was confirmed in Ashland County by the end of the season.

**Common Nighthawk**—Reported in 61 counties across the state this season. This compares to 61 counties in 2016 and 58 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of coun-

ties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 23, 2017 in Vernon County (Chris Kirkpatrick). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 25, 2017 in Vilas County (Vickie Becker). High count of 52 observed in Adams County (Tom Reed) on May 31, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 35 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Dane County by the end of the season.

**Chuck-will's-widow\*\***—Reported in the counties of Jefferson, and Walworth this season. The same counties reported the species in 2016 and 2015 as well.

First observed on May 14, 2017 in Jefferson County at Kettle Moraine SF—Young Rd. (Spence Stehno). Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Jefferson County at Kettle Moraine SF—Young Rd. (Anne Moretti, Mary Korkor).

This species was not reported to the WSORC this season.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will**—Reported in 50 counties across the state this season. This compares to 47 counties in 2016 and 42 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 15, 2017 in La Crosse County at Coulee Experimental State Forest (Gwyneth Calvetti), and in Outagamie County (Dan Abel). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 21, 2017 in Marinette County (Dale Leitzke). High count of seven observed in Crawford County (Dennis Kirschbaum) on May 24, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 28 counties across the state.

**Chimney Swift**—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 08, 2017 in Dane County at Tiedeman's Pond (Tim Fenske). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 09, 2017 in Marinette County (Marcia Hurst). High count of 500 observed in Vernon County (Roger Hanson) on May 09, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 55 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Adams, Fond du Lac, Ozaukee, and Polk across the state by the end of the season.

***Ruby-throated Hummingbird***—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 18, 2017 in Milwaukee County (Adam Yellen). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Marinette County (Thomas Johnston, and Joan Campbell), and in Vilas County (Sarah Besadny). High count of 26 observed in Clark County (Judy Lund) on May 30, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 62 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Clark, Dane, Dunn, Milwaukee, and Polk across the state by the end of the season.

***Belted Kingfisher***—Reported across the state except for Pepin County this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 11 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 01, 2017 in Iron County (Tim Oksiuta). High count of six observed in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on April 19, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 53 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 14 counties across the state by the end of the season.

***Lewis's Woodpecker*\***—One individual reported at a feeder on private property in Bayfield County this season. First observed on May 15, 2017 (Ryan Brady, Laura Erickson, Tim Oksiuta, and Nick Anich). Last observed on May 20, 2017.

This report was accepted by the WSORC.

***Red-headed Woodpecker***—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 62 counties in 2016 and 60 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 18, 2017 in Burnett County (Paul MacKean). High count of seven observed in Juneau County at Necedah NWR (Oliver Burrus) on May 28, 2017, and (Ben Burrus) on May 28, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 28 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in six of the southern counties by the end of the season.

***Red-bellied Woodpecker***—Reported across the state except for Douglas County this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 69 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 54 counties across the state. High count of 12 observed in La Crosse County at Van Loon SWA—general (Nick Cooley) on May 14, 2017, and in Dane County at Pheasant Branch Conservancy (general) (Charles Henrikson) on April 13, 2017, and (Kerry Beheler) on May 06, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 65 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 24 counties across the state by the end of the season. The confirmation in Oneida County is the first in either atlas.

***Yellow-bellied Sapsucker***—Reported across the state except for Marquette County this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 04, 2017 in Dane County (Steve Brezinski, and Mary Murrell). First observed in the northernmost counties on March 28, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 30 observed in La Crosse County at Goose Island (Scott Puchalski) on April 23, 2017, and (Scott Puchalski) on April 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 41 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in seven counties across the state by the end of the season.

***Downy Woodpecker***—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 58 counties across the state. High count of 21 observed in Milwaukee County at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center (Schlitz Audubon Record) on April 26, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 65 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 20 counties across the state by the end of the season.

***Hairy Woodpecker***—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 54 counties across the state. High count of 10 observed in La

Crosse County at Goose Island (Scott Puchalski) on April 01, 2017, in Dane County (robin van vught) on May 13, 2017, in Waupaca County (Robert Welch) on April 08, 2017, and in Vernon County (Amy Klusmeier) on May 09, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 63 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 22 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Northern Flicker**—Reported across the state except for Pepin County this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 11 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 31, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 341 observed in Iron County at Saxon Harbor (Tim Oksiuta) on April 09, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Taylor, Pepin, and Eau Claire.

Breeding was confirmed in 17 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Pileated Woodpecker**—Reported across the state except for Kenosha County this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 70 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 37 counties across the state. High count of seven observed in Dane County (Kerry Beheler) on May 06, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 53 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in nine counties across the state by the end of the season.

**American Kestrel**—Reported in 68 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 67 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 32 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 18, 2017 in Bayfield County at County E & H farm fields area (Wayne Seeger). High count of 13 observed in Sheboygan County at Kohler-Andrae SP (Rebecca Sher, Seth Cutright) on April 15, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 38 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 15 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Merlin**—Reported in 56 counties across the state this season. This compares to 51 counties in

2016 and 47 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 03, 2017 in Kenosha County (Drew Goldberg). First observed in the northernmost counties on March 17, 2017 in Douglas County (Otto Gockman). High count of three observed in Bayfield County (Kathy Morales Eric Julson) on May 19, 2017, and in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP—WGLBBO waterbird count site (Calvin Brennan) on March 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in seven counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Ashland County by the end of the season.

**Peregrine Falcon**—Reported in 37 counties across the state this season. This compares to 42 counties in 2016 and 36 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in the counties of Brown, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Pepin, and Trempealeau across the state. High count of five observed in Door County (Eric Howe) on May 30, 2017. The species was present at EOP in nine counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Ashland, Brown, Door, and Milwaukee adjoining the Great Lakes by the end of the season. The confirmation in Door County is the first in either atlas.

**Prairie Falcon\***—Reported in Kenosha County this season. First observed on March 27, 2017 at Richard Bong SRA (Jennifer Ambrose). Last observed on March 29, 2017 (Kay Kavanagh, William McClellan, and Annette McClellan).

This report was accepted by the WSORC.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**—Reported in 51 counties across the state this season. This compares to 37 counties in 2016 and 51 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 09, 2017 in Trempealeau County at Trempealeau NWR (Maureen Blackford), in Burnett County (Samuel Anderson), and in La Crosse County (Jules Teskie). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 15, 2017 in Ashland County (Nick Anich). High count of three observed in Bayfield County at Birch Grove Campground (Ryan Brady) on May 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 21 counties across the state.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**—Reported across the state except for Forest County this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 69 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 03, 2017 in Green County (Kate Dike, and Fred Dike). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 19, 2017 in Florence County (Jeff Brinkman). High count of 27 observed in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (David La Puma, John Bloomfield, Janice Brose, Barbara Kelley) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 67 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Columbia, Crawford, Door, and Sauk across the state by the end of the season.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**—Reported in 38 counties across the state this season. This compares to 32 counties in 2016 and 32 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 10, 2017 in Lincoln County (David Edlund). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 15, 2017 in Bayfield County at Bark Point (John Toren). High count of six observed in Douglas County at County P Swamp (Thomas Wood) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 15 counties across the state.

**Acadian Flycatcher**—Reported in 22 counties across the state this season. This compares to 24 counties in 2016 and 21 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 06, 2017 in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (Peter Fissel). High count of 12 observed in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (Marilyn Bontly) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 21 counties across the state.

**Alder Flycatcher**—Reported in 62 counties across the state this season. This compares to 54 counties in 2016 and 58 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 12, 2017 in Fond du Lac County at Kettle Moraine SF—Mauthe Lake Rec. Area (Marie Adams). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 18, 2017 in Bayfield County at Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (Sam Krah). High count of 16 observed in Burnett County (Larry Persico) on May 27, 2017. The

species was present at EOP in 51 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Dane County by the end of the season. The confirmation in Dane County is the first in either atlas.

**Willow Flycatcher**—Reported in 48 counties across the state this season. This compares to 41 counties in 2016 and 45 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 10, 2017 in Dane County at Pheasant Branch Conservancy (general) (Heather Kauffman and Heather Maxwell), and at Walking Iron County Park (Mike Bailey). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 17, 2017 in Marinette County at Red Arrow Park (Marcia Hurst). High count of 15 observed in Jefferson County at Lake Mills SWA—Zeloski Marsh (Joshua Cullum) on May 31, 2017, and in Kenosha County at Chiwaukee Prairie SNA (Tom Lally) on May 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 46 counties across the state.

**Least Flycatcher**—Reported across the state except for Barron County this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 21, 2017 in La Crosse County at Coulee Experimental State Forest (Gwyneth Calvetti). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Forest County (Jon Sund, and Lydia Sund). High count of 40 observed in Marathon County at George W. Mead SWA (general) (Dan Belter) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 53 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in six counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Eastern Phoebe**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as 2016 and 2015.

First observed on March 06, 2017 in Sauk County (Jennie Lanzendorf). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 02, 2017 in Forest County (Drew Goldberg), and in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of 16 observed in La Crosse County at Coulee Experimental State Forest (Jules Teskie) on April 08, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 63 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Great Crested Flycatcher**—Reported across the state except for Lincoln County this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 14, 2017 in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point (Larry & Jan Kraemer). High count of 15 observed in Waukesha County at Nashotah Park (Jacob Collison) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 12 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Western Kingbird\***—Reported in the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, and Door this season. The report from Door County came on May 25, 2017 from Washington Island (Dale Bird, and Melody Walsh). Multiple reports came from Ashland County with the first being two birds reported on May 26, 2017 (Nick Anich). Another single bird was reported on May 29, 2017 (Dick Verch). When relocated, two birds were reported at the same location (Nick Anich) later that day. A report from Bayfield County came on May 31 (Ryan Brady).

Only the report from Door County was submitted to and accepted by the WSORC.

**Eastern Kingbird**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 15, 2017 in Waupaca County (Ken Milender). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Marinette County at Peshtigo Harbor SWA—Peshtigo Pt./Pond Rd. (Lynette Thonne, and Joan Campbell), in Forest County (Mary Maertz), and in Iron County at Little Turtle Flowage (NLDC Birders). High count of 20 observed by multiple observers this season. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Forest, Taylor, and Pepin.

Breeding was confirmed in 19 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher\***—An individual was reported from Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Bess Wong) on May 16, 2017.

This report was accepted by the WSORC.

**Loggerhead Shrike**—Reported in the counties of Brown, Dunn, and Iowa this season. This

compares to four counties in 2016 and nine counties in 2015.

First observed on April 14, 2017 in Iowa County at Iowa County Grasslands (John Kivikoski), in Dunn County (Nina Koch, and Pam Campbell), and in Brown County (Nick Seeger). High count of two observed in Iowa County (Aaron Haycraft) on May 27, 2017 at Iowa County Grasslands, and (John Kivikoski) on April 25, 2017. This was also the last observation of the season.

Breeding was confirmed in Iowa County by the end of the season.

**Northern Shrike**—Reported in 38 counties across the state this season. This compares to 40 counties in 2016 and 39 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 17 counties across the state. High count of three observed in Portage County (Maureen Brocken) on March 19, 2017, and (Gerry Janz) on March 19, 2017, and in Burnett County at Crex Meadows SWA (Alan Selin) on March 31, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 01, 2017 by multiple observers this season. Last observed on April 10, 2017 in Douglas County at Loon's Foot Landing (Heather Bradford).

**White-eyed Vireo**—Reported in six counties across the state this season. This compares to seven counties in 2016 and nine counties in 2015.

First observed on April 17, 2017 by multiple observers at Grant Park in Milwaukee County. Last observed on May 27, 2017 in Fond du Lac County (anonymous).

**Bell's Vireo**—Reported in nine counties across the state this season. This compares to 13 counties in 2016 and seven counties in 2015.

First observed on May 14, 2017 in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (Dan Jackson, Gwyneth Calvetti, and Scott Puchalski). High count of three observed in La Crosse County (Dan Jackson) on May 19, 2017. The species was present at EOP in six counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Iowa County by the end of the season.

**Yellow-throated Vireo**—Reported in 68 counties across the state this season. This compares to 68 counties in 2016 and 70 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 28, 2017 in Waukesha County at Retzer Nature Center (Spence Stehno, Cheryl Richter), in Jefferson County at Kettle

Moraine SF—Carlin Trail Rd. Area (Andrea Szymczak), and in Milwaukee County at Jackson Park (Barbara Potthast). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Forest County (Mary Maertz), and in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 10 observed in Juneau County (John Meredig) on May 30, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 54 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dane, Dunn, Marathon, Polk, and Walworth across the state by the end of the season.

**Blue-headed Vireo**—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 60 counties in 2016 and 58 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 15, 2017 in Waukesha County at Kettle Moraine SF—Scuppernong Ski and Hiking Trail (Andrea Szymczak). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 03, 2017 in Vilas County (Sarah Besadny), and in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of eight observed in Iron County (Colleen Matula) on May 31, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 19 counties across the state.

**Philadelphia Vireo**—Reported in 45 counties across the state this season. This compares to 32 counties in 2016 and 34 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 06, 2017 in Dane County at Indian Lake (Dane Co.) (Mary Hampton). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 15, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of six observed in Calumet County at High Cliff SP (Tony Nowak) on May 16, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Dane County at UW Madison Arboretum—Grady Tract (Charles Henrikson), and in Milwaukee County at Sheridan Park (Jennifer Ambrose).

**Warbling Vireo**—Reported in 67 counties across the state this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 24, 2017 in Dane County at UW Lakeshore Nature Preserve—Willow Creek Woods/Willow Beach (Kenny Younger). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Ashland County at Hot Pond (Xcel Energy), Ashland (Ryan Brady).

High count of 24 observed in Dodge County at Horicon NWR—Auto Tour and Trails (Mark Korducki) on May 12, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 62 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in five of the eastern counties of Dane, Dodge, Marathon, Milwaukee, and Waukesha by the end of the season.

**Red-eyed Vireo**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 04, 2017 in Iowa County (John Kivikoski), and in Waushara County (Rick Anderson). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 11, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 66 observed in Juneau County (John Meredig) on May 30, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in seven counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Gray Jay**—Reported in five of the northern counties of Florence, Forest, Iron, Oneida, and Vilas this season. This compares to five counties in 2016 and six counties in 2015.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Iron County (Brett Bockhop). High count of four observed in Florence County (Rebecca Zarling) on March 25, 2017, and in Vilas County at Northern Highland-American Legion SF (Debra & Randall Augustinak) on May 25, 2017. Last observed on May 28, 2017 in Vilas County (Sarah Besadny).

Breeding was confirmed in Vilas County by the end of the season.

**Blue Jay**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 58 counties across the state. High count of 1150 observed in Bayfield County at Bark Point (Ryan Brady) on May 10, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 41 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**American Crow**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 66 counties across the state. High count of 310 observed in Milwaukee County at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center (Marilyn Bontly) on March 06, 2017. The

species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Marquette, and Taylor.

Breeding was confirmed in 49 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Common Raven**—Reported in 46 counties across the state this season. This compares to 47 counties in 2016 and 46 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 18 counties across the state. High count of 15 observed in Marinette County (Jay Watson) on April 17, 2017, and in Iron County (Colleen Matula) on May 31, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 30 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 15 counties across the state by the end of the season. Of these, the confirmations in the counties of Sauk, St. Croix, and Wood are the first in either atlas.

**Horned Lark**—Reported in 59 counties across the state this season. This compares to 56 counties in 2016 and 56 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 40 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 100 observed in Portage County at Buena Vista Grasslands/Marsh (Dan Belter) on March 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 28 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in five of the southern counties of Columbia, Dodge, Jackson, Outagamie, and Washington by the end of the season.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow**—Reported in 66 counties across the state this season. This compares to 64 counties in 2016 and 66 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 02, 2017 in Dane County at Pheasant Branch Conservancy (general) (Mike McDowell). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 02, 2017 in Marinette County at Red Arrow Park (Joan Campbell). High count of 100 observed in Sauk County at Lower Wisconsin SR—Bakken's Pond Unit (John Kivikoski) on April 29, 2017, and in Sheboygan County at Sheboygan Lakefront (general) (Tom Prestby) on April 30, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 52 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 27 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Purple Martin**—Reported in 45 counties across the state this season. This compares to 50 counties in 2016 and 45 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 05, 2017 by multiple observers at Stricker's Pond in Dane County. First observed in the northernmost counties on May 25, 2017 in Marinette County (Howard Lorenz). High count of 60 observed in Calumet County at High Cliff SP—Butterfly Pond Trail (Todd Ward) on May 15, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 31 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 19 counties across the state by the end of the season. The confirmation in Vernon County is the first in either atlas.

**Tree Swallow**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as 2016 and 2015.

First observed on March 18, 2017 in Lafayette County at Yellowstone SWA (Rebecca Gilman). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 02, 2017 in Bayfield County at Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (Tim Oksiuta), in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh), and in Forest County (Mary Maertz). High count of 1000 observed in Jefferson County (Robert Volenc, Jeanne Scherer) on April 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Taylor, Crawford, and Lafayette.

Breeding was confirmed in 54 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Bank Swallow**—Reported in 61 counties across the state this season. This compares to 58 counties in 2016 and 59 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 11, 2017 in Dane County at Fish Lake (Aaron Holschbach). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 04, 2017 in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of 300 observed in Milwaukee County (Karen Johnson) on May 23, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 36 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 20 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Barn Swallow**—Reported across the state except for Douglas County this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 01, 2017 in Columbia County at Goose Pond (Ken Milender). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 13, 2017 in Marinette County (Marcia Hurst). High

count of 300 observed in Dane County (Don Stone) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 67 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 48 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Cliff Swallow**—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 60 counties in 2016 and 61 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 09, 2017 in Milwaukee County at South Metro Pier (Oak Creek) (Mike Wanger), and in Calumet County at High Cliff SP—Butterfly Pond Trail (Rick Anderson). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh), and in Forest County (Mary Maertz). High count of 250 observed in Brown County at UW-Green Bay Arboretum (Jayson Giese) on May 25, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 55 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 41 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Black-capped Chickadee**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 65 counties across the state. High count of 78 observed in Vilas County at Conserve School (restricted access) (Nathan Martineau) on March 11, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 48 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Boreal Chickadee**—Reported in the counties of Forest, and Vilas this season. This compares to three counties in 2016 and two counties in 2015.

First observed on March 10, 2017 in Vilas County at Conserve School (restricted access) (Nathan Martineau). Last observed on May 24, 2017 in Forest County at Giant Pine Rd. (Thomas Wood), and in Vilas County (Vickie Becker).

**Tufted Titmouse**—Reported in 53 counties across the state this season. This compares to 44 counties in 2016 and 43 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 26 counties

across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on May 31, 2017 in Marinette County (Kelly Rueckheim). High count of 15 observed in Dane County (Savannah Bartel) on March 20, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 30 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in eight counties across the state by the end of the season. Of these, the confirmations in the counties of Dodge, and Waushara are the first in either atlas.

**Great Tit**—Reported in the counties of Ozaukee, and Sheboygan this season.

First observed on March 04, 2017 in Sheboygan County at Sheboygan Indian Mound Park (Dave&Kerry Schloff) (Ken Severn). High count of five observed in Sheboygan County at Sheboygan Indian Mound Park (Barry Baumann) on May 15, 2017. Last observed on May 27, 2017 in Sheboygan County at Sheboygan Indian Mound Park (Raymie Miller), and in Ozaukee County (Mary Kloeping, and Michael Kloeping).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**—Reported in 68 counties across the state this season. This compares to 68 counties in 2016 and 64 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 33 counties across the state. High count of 23 observed in Oconto County (Tom Schaefer, Andrea Szymczak) on April 29, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 17, 2017 in Racine County (Kristin Wegner, and Eric Howe). The species was present at EOP in 42 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in nine counties across the state by the end of the season.

**White-breasted Nuthatch**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 61 counties across the state. High count of 23 observed in Manitowoc County (Julie Woodcock) on April 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 66 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 33 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Brown Creeper**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Pepin, and Buffalo this season. This compares to 67 counties in 2016 and 66 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 15 counties across the state. High count of 21 observed in Milwaukee County at Estabrook Park (Jonathan Abresch) on April 08, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 15 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Bayfield, Jefferson, Vilas, and Waushara by the end of the season. The confirmation in Jefferson County is the first in either atlas.

**House Wren**—Reported across the state except for Sawyer County this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 08, 2017 in Dane County at Elver Park (Sam Krerowicz). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 22, 2017 in Marinette County (Joan Campbell). High count of 40 observed in Marathon County at George W. Mead SWA (Dan Belter) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 65 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 35 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Winter Wren**—Reported in 61 counties across the state this season. This compares to 53 counties in 2016 and 54 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 10, 2017 in Dane County at UW-Madison Arboretum (Shawn Miller, Todd Draper, and Charles Henrikson). First observed in the northernmost counties on March 31, 2017 in Bayfield County (Susan Mackreth). High count of seven observed in Milwaukee County at Doctors Park in Fox Point (Jim Frank) on April 03, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 24 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Door, and Kewaunee by the end of the season.

**Sedge Wren**—Reported in 63 counties across the state this season. This compares to 57 counties in 2016 and 56 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 18, 2017 in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Jason Daley, and Mark Millard). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 03, 2017 in Bay-

field County (Brian McCaffery). High count of 36 observed in Burnett County (Larry Persico) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 59 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dane, and Racine by the end of the season.

**Marsh Wren**—Reported in 49 counties across the state this season. This compares to 44 counties in 2016 and 51 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 14, 2017 in Racine County at Samuel Myers Park (Jennifer Wenzel). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 40 observed in Manitowoc County at Collins Marsh SWA (Robert Domagalski) on May 15, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 35 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dane, Dodge, and Rock by the end of the season.

**Carolina Wren**—Reported in 16 counties across the state this season. This compares to 17 counties in 2016 and 12 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 04, 2017 in Dane County (Aaron Balogh). High count of three observed in Trempealeau County at Trempealeau NWR (Rishi Palit) on May 01, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Door County (Melody Walsh).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**—Reported in 59 counties across the state this season. This compares to 61 counties in 2016 and 59 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 09, 2017 in Eau Claire County (Trevor Ostendorf), and in Ozaukee County at Donges Bay Gorge (OWLTL) (Marilyn Bontly, Norma Zehner, and Barbara Kellermann). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 25, 2017 in Marinette County (Marcia Hurst). High count of 40 observed in Milwaukee County at Lake Park (Jacob Collison) on May 11, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 44 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 21 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**—Reported across the state except for Pepin County this season. This compares to 67 counties in 2016 and 62 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 03, 2017 in Winnebago County (Mark Benson). High count of

100 observed in Milwaukee County at Wehr Nature Center (Colleen Resendiz) on March 24, 2017, and in Sheboygan County (Barry Baumann) on April 03, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 23, 2017 in Racine County at Honey Creek SWA—Cherry Lake Sedge Meadow SNA (Paul Kinzer). The species was present at EOP in 12 counties across the state.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Menominee, and Pepin this season. This compares to 69 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 24, 2017 in Dane County at Pheasant Branch Conservancy (Cliff Anderson), in Grant County at UW-Platteville Memorial Park (Alex Harman), and in Milwaukee County at Kohl Park (East of 76th St) (Milwaukee County Parks Natural Areas Staff). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 09, 2017 by multiple observers this season. High count of 85 observed in Milwaukee County at Menomonee River Parkway—N. Swan Blvd. to W. Capitol Dr. (Jacob Collison) on April 16, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Iron County (Colleen Matula), and in Bayfield County (Barbara Moldenhauer).

**Eastern Bluebird**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 17 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 01, 2017 in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of 22 observed in Dane County (Kerry Beheler) on May 06, 2017, and in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP (Jennifer Hoffman, Geoffrey A. Williamson) on May 14, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 61 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 51 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Townsend's Solitaire**—One individual reported in St. Croix County this season. First observed on April 01, 2017 at Willow River SP—Trout Brook Trail (Larry Persico).

**Veery**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Crawford, Richland, and Lafayette this season. This compares to 66 coun-

ties in 2016 and 67 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 24, 2017 in Polk County (Allen Hanson). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Forest County (Mary Maertz). High count of 15 observed in Juneau County (John Meredith) on May 30, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 56 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Forest, Jackson, and Langlade by the end of the season.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush**—Reported in 39 counties across the state this season. This compares to 41 counties in 2016 and 39 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 25, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Sheridan Park (Milwaukee County Parks Natural Areas Staff). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 10 observed in Brown County at Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary (Mark Korducki, Tom Prestby, Quentin Yoerger) on May 21, 2017. Last observed on May 29, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Mangan Woods (Jeremy Meyer), and in Grant County (Ernesto Reyes).

**Swainson's Thrush**—Reported in 58 counties across the state this season. This compares to 57 counties in 2016 and 59 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 29, 2017 in Dane County at Pheasant Branch Conservancy (Kyle Lindemer, and Mike McDowell). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Marinette County (Marcia Hurst). High count of 26 observed in Manitowoc County at Point Creek Park (Robert Domagalski) on May 17, 2017. The species was present at EOP in the counties of Bayfield, Door, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Outagamie across the state.

**Hermit Thrush**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Pepin, Buffalo, and Lafayette this season. This compares to 67 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 03, 2017 in Dane County at UW-Madison Arboretum (Charles Henrikson). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 02, 2017 in Bayfield County (Alex Lehner). High count of 70 observed in Sawyer County (Ryan Brady) on April 28, 2017.

The species was present at EOP in 23 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dodge, and Jackson by the end of the season. The confirmation in Dodge County is the first in either atlas.

**Wood Thrush**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Iron, Washburn, and Buffalo this season. This compares to 64 counties in 2016 and 66 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 26, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Bender Park (Michelle Abel). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Forest County (Mary Maertz). High count of 13 observed in La Crosse County at Coulee Experimental State Forest (Scott Puchalski) on May 28, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 51 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Brown, and Milwaukee by the end of the season.

**American Robin**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 40 counties across the state. High count of 8450 observed in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point—Gull Bluff (Steve Kolbe, Ryan Steiner, and John P Richardson) on April 08, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for Taylor County.

Breeding was confirmed in 68 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Gray Catbird**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 12, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Grobschmidt Park (Michelle Abel). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 09, 2017 in Iron County (Kyle Lee). High count of 27 observed in Jefferson County at Waterloo SWA—Springer Rd. area (Aaron Stutz) on May 28, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Taylor, and Pepin.

Breeding was confirmed in 25 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Brown Thrasher**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Langlade, and Iron this season. This is the same as the count in 2016 and 2015.

First observed on March 19, 2017 in Dane County (Aaron Greene). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 15, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 24 observed in Burnett County at Namekagon Barrens SWA—North Unit (Ken Milender) on April 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 58 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 16 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Northern Mockingbird**—Reported in 19 counties across the state this season. This compares to 20 counties in 2016 and 18 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 23, 2017 in Racine County at Wind Point (Lighthouse and Shoop Park) (Helen Pugh). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 09, 2017 in Vilas County (Mike Peczynski). High count of two observed in Burnett County at Crex Meadows SWA (Pam Campbell) on May 28, 2017, (Thomas Wood) on May 29, 2017, and (W. Douglas Robinson) on May 19, 2017. The species was present at EOP in seven counties across the state.

**European Starling**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same count as in 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 53 counties across the state. High count of 750 observed in Milwaukee County at Franklin Landfill (Terry Pavletic) on March 02, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Marquette, and Taylor.

Breeding was confirmed in 58 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**American Pipit**—Reported in 30 counties across the state this season. This compares to 26 counties in 2016 and 20 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 05, 2017 in Dane County at Shovelers Sink (Mike McDowell). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 04, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 30 observed in Green Lake County at Lake Maria Road Pond (Thomas Schultz) on March 21, 2017. Last observed on May 28, 2017 in Dane County at Fish Lake (Eddie Hicks).

**Bohemian Waxwing**—Reported in 11 of the northern counties this season. This compares

to eight counties in 2016 and two counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Lincoln County (David Edlund). High count of 1270 observed in Ashland County (Ryan Brady) on April 03, 2017. Last observed on April 27, 2017 in Lincoln County (Ken Milender).

**Cedar Waxwing**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Sawyer, and Pepin this season. This compares to 69 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 19 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 05, 2017 in Forest County at Sheltered Valley/Pine River Rd./FR 2182 (Jack Swelstad). High count of 100 observed in Dane County at Fish Camp Park, Lake Kegonsa (Kris Perlberg) on May 19, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 67 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Kenosha, and Polk by the end of the season.

**Lapland Longspur**—Reported in 30 counties across the state this season. This compares to 33 counties in 2016 and 38 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 14 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 30, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of 2000 observed in Sauk County (Paul Schilke) on April 25, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 26, 2017 in Rock County (Joshua Cullum). Last observed on May 22, 2017 in Winnebago County (Todd Ward, and Stuart Malcolm).

**Smith's Longspur\***—Reported in Dane County this season. First observed on April 26, 2017 (Steve Thiessen). High count of seven observed (Kris Perlberg) on April 26, 2017. Last observed on May 01, 2017 (Kristy Larson).

This report was accepted by the WSORC.

**Snow Bunting**—Reported in 26 counties across the state this season. This compares to 26 counties in 2016 and 29 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 20 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 18, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of 300 ob-

served in Iowa County (John Kivikoski) on March 03, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on March 14, 2017 in Racine County (Drew Goldberg). Last observed on May 19, 2017 in Ashland County at Ashland Oredock Base (Nick Anich).

**Ovenbird**—Reported across the state except for Lafayette County this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 26, 2017 in Jefferson County (Daniel Schneider), and in Vernon County (Dan Jackson). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 07, 2017 in Vilas County (Guy David). High count of 48 observed in Menominee County (Tom Prestby) on May 25, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 62 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Bayfield, Jackson, Sauk, and Vilas across the state by the end of the season.

**Worm-eating Warbler**—Reported in the counties of Calumet, and Ozaukee this season.

First observed on April 30, 2017 in Calumet County (Kay Kavanagh, Matthew King, Stuart Malcolm, and Michael Gray). Last observed on May 16, 2017 in Ozaukee County (Jim Frank).

**Louisiana Waterthrush**—Reported in 20 counties across the state this season. This compares to 17 counties in 2016 and 16 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 06, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Lake Park (Mike Wanger). High count of six observed in Sauk County at Baxter's Hollow SNA (Aaron Balogh, and Kim O'Keefe) on May 07, 2017. The species was present at EOP in the counties of Dane, Dunn, Grant, Sauk, and Vernon across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in four of the southern counties of Iowa, Kenosha, Sauk, and Waukesha by the end of the season. The confirmation in Kenosha County is the first in either atlas.

**Northern Waterthrush**—Reported in 65 counties across the state this season. This compares to 64 counties in 2016 and 67 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 16, 2017 in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Ashley Hannah). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 03, 2017 in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of 13 observed in La Crosse County at Myrick Marsh (La Crosse)

(Emily Weiser) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 23 counties across the state.

**Golden-winged Warbler**—Reported in 60 counties across the state this season. This compares to 65 counties in 2016 and 61 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 01, 2017 in La Crosse County (Kim Larson). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 11, 2017 in Bayfield County (Rick Burkman). High count of 12 observed in Marathon County (Jim Peck) on May 13, 2017, and in Burnett County (Larry Persico) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 29 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Jackson County by the end of the season.

**Blue-winged Warbler**—Reported in 58 counties across the state this season. This compares to 60 counties in 2016 and 57 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 21, 2017 in La Crosse County at Coulee Experimental State Forest (Gwyneth Calveti). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 19, 2017 in Marinette County (Lindsey Bender). High count of 30 observed in La Crosse County at Coulee Experimental State Forest (Scott Puchalski) on May 07, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 41 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in La Crosse County by the end of the season.

**Brewster's Warbler (hybrid)**—Reported in the counties of Bayfield, Brown, Juneau, and Outagamie across the state this season. This is significantly higher than one county in 2016 and two counties in 2015.

**Black-and-white Warbler**—Reported in 68 counties across the state this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 15, 2017 by multiple observers at Pheasant Branch Conservancy in Dane County. First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 by multiple observers. High count of 14 observed in Bayfield County at Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (Sam Krah) on May 18, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 38 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Milwaukee County by the end of the season. The confirmation in Milwaukee County is the first in either atlas.

**Prothonotary Warbler**—Reported in 20 counties across the state this season. This compares to 24 counties in 2016 and 28 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 23, 2017 in Dane County at Middleton Hills Neighborhood Park South (Janis Cooper). High count of 11 observed in Rock County at Avon Bottoms (Andy Paulios) on May 25, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 11 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in six of the southern counties by the end of the season.

**Tennessee Warbler**—Reported in 62 counties across the state this season. This compares to 60 counties in 2016 and 64 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 28, 2017 in Milwaukee County at We Energies Grassland (St. Francis) (Jennifer Ambrose). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 18, 2017 in Marinette County at Peshtigo Harbor SWA—Peshtigo Pt./Pond Rd. (Joan Campbell). High count of 28 observed in St. Croix County at Willow River SP—Trout Brook Trail (Larry Persico) on May 19, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Winnebago County (Mark Benson), and in Rusk County (Tony Del Valle).

**Orange-crowned Warbler**—Reported in 48 counties across the state this season. This compares to 47 counties in 2016 and 46 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 16, 2017 in multiple southern counties by multiple observers this season. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 29, 2017 in Ashland County at Prentice Park (Paula Anich, and Nick Anich). High count of nine observed in Milwaukee County at Warnimont County Park (Jeremy Meyer) on May 10, 2017. Last observed on May 27, 2017 in Bayfield County at Bayfield Fish Hatchery/Pikes Creek (Alex Lehner).

**Nashville Warbler**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Pepin, Crawford, and Lafayette this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and in 2015.

First observed on April 20, 2017 in Jefferson County (Daniel Schneider). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 09, 2017 in Marinette County (Claire Kluskens), and in Forest County (Jon Sund, and Lydia Sund). High count of 30 observed in Monroe County at Fort McCoy (Casey Weissburg) on May 10, 2017. The

species was present at EOP in 37 counties across the state.

**Connecticut Warbler**—Reported in 25 counties across the state this season. This is significantly higher than 15 counties in 2016 and in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 10, 2017 in Iowa County (John Kivikoski). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 21, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of two observed in Sauk County at Baxter's Hollow SNA (Mary Hampton) on May 21, 2017. Last observed on May 28, 2017 in Dane County at Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park—South Unit (Jon Peacock), and in Winnebago County (Mark Benson).

**Mourning Warbler**—Reported in 59 counties across the state this season. This compares to 52 counties in 2016 and in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on May 08, 2017 in Grant County (Mike Hedemark). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 17, 2017 in Bayfield County (Nick Anich). High count of eight observed in Iron County (Colleen Matula) on May 31, 2017, and in Vilas County (Casey Weissburg) on May 25, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 39 counties across the state.

**Kentucky Warbler**—Reported in six of the southern counties this season. This is significantly higher than three counties in 2016.

First observed on May 10, 2017 in Grant County at Wyalusing SP—Long Valley Rd. (Kay Kavanagh). High count of three observed by multiple observers in Grant County at Wyalusing SP on several dates. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Sauk County at Baxter's Hollow SNA (Chuck Heikkinen), and in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (Emily Hockman).

**Common Yellowthroat**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same count as in 2016 and 2015.

First observed on April 16, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Oak Creek PKWY #15 (Milwaukee County Parks Natural Areas Staff). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 11, 2017 in Ashland County at Wakefield Rd. (Northland College Field Ornithology, and Paula Anich). High count of 65 observed in Burnett County

(Larry Persico) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Menominee, and Taylor.

Breeding was confirmed in 10 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Hooded Warbler**—Reported in 19 of the southern counties this season. This compares to 20 counties in 2016 and 15 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 26, 2017 in Waukesha County (Andrea Szymczak). High count of five observed in Waukesha County (Tim Hahn, and Ed Hahn) on May 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 16 of the southern counties.

**American Redstart**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same count as in 2016 and 2015.

First observed on May 01, 2017 in Dunn County at Dunnville SWA (Trevor Ostendorf), and in Sauk County (Owen Holte). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Ashland County (Carol Becker). High count of 50 observed in La Crosse County (Scott Puchalski) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 14 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Kirtland's Warbler**—Reported in Adams County this season. This compares to one county in 2016 and three counties in 2015.

First observed on May 18, 2017 (Nina Koch). High count of three observed (David Edlund, and Guy Williams) on May 19, 2017, and (Tom Reed) on May 25, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 (Thomas Wood).

**Cape May Warbler**—Reported in 52 counties across the state this season. This compares to 51 counties in 2016 and 49 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 26, 2017 in La Crosse County (Emily Weiser). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 07, 2017 in Vilas County (Nina Koch). High count of 15 observed in Brown County at Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary (Tom Prestby) on May 12, 2017. Last observed on May 29, 2017 in Vilas County (Dennis Gustafson).

**Cerulean Warbler**—Reported in 21 counties across the state this season. This compares to 27 counties in 2016 and 20 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 03, 2017 in Washburn County at Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary (anonymous). High count of 20 observed in Grant

County at Wyalusing SP (Gwyneth Calvetti) on May 13, 2017, and on May 14, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 14 of the southern counties.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Grant, and Jackson by the end of the season. The confirmation in Jackson County is the first in either atlas.

**Northern Parula**—Reported in 55 counties across the state this season. This compares to 53 counties in 2016 and 54 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 14, 2017 in Brown County at Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary (Nick Seeger). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 06, 2017 in Marinette County (Claire Kluskens). High count of 30 observed in Milwaukee County at Sheridan Park (Jeremy Meyer) on May 14, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 14 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Bayfield County by the end of the season.

**Magnolia Warbler**—Reported in 63 counties across the state this season. This compares to 56 counties in 2016 and 60 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 04, 2017 in Iowa County (John Kivikoski). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 12, 2017 in Marinette County (Joan Campbell). High count of 25 observed in Door County at Peninsula SP (Quentin Yoerger, Tom Prestby, and Mark Korducki) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 12 counties across the state.

**Bay-breasted Warbler**—Reported in 42 counties across the state this season. This compares to 43 counties in 2016 and 40 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 08, 2017 in Rock County (Joel Thiele). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Marinette County at Lake Noquebay SWA and Sedge Meadow SNA (Jay Watson). High count of 20 observed in Door County at Peninsula SP (Jeff Zuhke) on May 20, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady).

**Blackburnian Warbler**—Reported in 62 counties across the state this season. This compares to 64 counties in 2016 and 60 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 26, 2017 in Brown County at Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary (Nick Seeger, and Tom Prestby). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Bay-

field County at Bark Point (Ryan Brady). High count of 12 observed in Iron County (Colleen Matula) on May 31, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 17 counties across the state.

**Yellow Warbler**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 19, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve (Thomas Wood). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 09, 2017 by multiple observers this season. High count of 70 observed in Jefferson County at Glacial Drumlin State Trail—Lake Mills west to Zeloski Marsh (Cynthia Bridge, and Aaron Stutz) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for the counties of Menominee, and Taylor.

Breeding was confirmed in 23 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Marquette, Richland, and Lafayette this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 69 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 02, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Lake Park (Michelle Abel). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Marinette County (Claire Kluskens). High count of 30 observed in Vilas County (Casey Weissburg) on May 22, 2017, (Casey Weissburg) on May 23, 2017, and (Casey Weissburg) on May 25, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 47 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in four of the northern counties of Clark, Marathon, Polk, and Washburn by the end of the season.

**Blackpoll Warbler**—Reported in 53 counties across the state this season. This compares to 52 counties in 2016 and 52 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 03, 2017 in Racine County at Wind Point (Lighthouse and Shoop Park) (Eric Howe). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Marinette County at Lake Noquebay SWA and Sedge Meadow SNA (Jay Watson). High count of 20 observed in Ozaukee County at Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve (Marilyn Bontly, Joan Sommer, and Bill Grossmeyer) on May 16, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 by multiple observers this season.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**—Reported in 34 counties across the state this season. This com-

compares to 37 counties in 2016 and 34 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 04, 2017 in Douglas County (Heriberto Verdugo Munguía). High count of seven observed in Oconto County (Andrea Szymczak) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 10 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Oconto County by the end of the season. The confirmation in Oconto County is the first in either atlas.

**Palm Warbler**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Menominee, Rusk, and Taylor this season. This compares to 68 counties in 2016 and 66 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 10, 2017 in Dane County at Kettle Pond Conservation Park (Glen Chism), and in Rock County (Jim Hughes). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 15, 2017 in Forest County (Mary Maertz). High count of 275 observed in Brown County at Point au Sauble (Tom Prestby) on May 10, 2017. The species was present at EOP in seven of the northern counties.

**Pine Warbler**—Reported in 63 counties across the state this season. This compares to 64 counties in 2016 and in 2015.

First observed on April 05, 2017 in Dane County (Sunil Gopalan). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 18, 2017 in Ashland County (Janice Sharp). High count of 15 observed in Jackson County (Jim Otto) on May 31, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 37 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dunn, Jackson, and Vilas by the end of the season.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 70 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 01, 2017 in Sauk County at August Derleth Park (Aaron Holschbach). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 02, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of 500 observed in La Crosse County (Scott Puchalski, and Dan Jackson) on April 30, 2017, and in Trempealeau County at Trempealeau NWR (Scott Puchalski) on April 29, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 24 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Brown, and Chippewa by the end of the season.

The confirmation in Brown County is the first in either atlas.

**Yellow-throated Warbler**—Reported in the counties of Crawford, Dane, and Grant this season. This compares to three counties in 2016 and four counties in 2015.

First observed on April 22, 2017 in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (Tom Schaefer, and Andrea Szymczak). High count of three observed in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (Gwyneth Calvetti) on May 14, 2017 (Emily Hockman) and on May 25, 2017 (Emily Hockman). Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (Emily Hockman).

**Prairie Warbler**—A single individual was observed on May 09, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Lake Park (Patrick Horn, and Dennis Gustafson). This compares to two counties in 2016 and four counties in 2015.

**Black-throated Green Warbler**—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 63 counties in 2016 and 56 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 23, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Forest Beach Migratory Preserve (OWLT) (Calvin Brennan), and in Waukesha County (Tom Schaefer, and Andrea Szymczak). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 06, 2017 in Vilas County (Sarah Besadny), and in Bayfield County at Cornucopia (Ben Baldwin). High count of 28 observed in Door County at Washington Island (Melody Walsh) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 25 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Shawano County by the end of the season.

**Canada Warbler**—Reported in 51 counties across the state this season. This compares to 45 counties in 2016 and 54 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 09, 2017 in Trempealeau County at Trempealeau NWR (Maureen Blackford). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Marinette County at Lake Noyebay SWA and Sedge Meadow SNA (Jay Watson). High count of 10 observed in Ozaukee County at Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve (Marilyn Bontly, Zoe Finney, and Joan Sommer) on May 22, 2017, and in Racine County at Colonial Park (Jennifer Wenzel) on May 24, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 20 counties across the state.

**Wilson's Warbler**—Reported in 60 counties across the state this season. This compares to 52 counties in 2016 and 56 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 28, 2017 in Dane County at Pheasant Branch Conservancy (Paul Senner). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Marinette County at Lake Noquebay SWA and Sedge Meadow SNA (Jay Watson). High count of 16 observed in Bayfield County at Bayfield Fish Hatchery/Pikes Creek (Ryan Brady) on May 24, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 12 counties across the state.

**Grasshopper Sparrow**—Reported in 37 counties across the state this season. This compares to 33 counties in 2016 and 34 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 14, 2017 in Iowa County at Mounds View Grassland—Schurch-Thomson Prairie (John Kivikoski). High count of 25 observed by multiple observers this season. The species was present at EOP in 27 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Monroe County by the end of the season.

**Henslow's Sparrow**—Reported in 27 counties across the state this season. This compares to 30 counties in 2016 and 25 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 15, 2017 in Waukesha County (Andrea Szymczak). High count of nine observed in Waukesha County (Mariette Nowak) on May 04, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 27 counties across the state.

**LeConte's Sparrow**—Reported in seven counties across the state this season. This compares to 10 counties in 2016 and 12 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 24, 2017 by multiple observers in Milwaukee County at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center. First observed in the northernmost counties on May 25, 2017 in Bayfield County (Nick Anich). High count of four observed in Jackson County (Randy Hoffman) on May 25, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Burnett County (James Hoefler).

Breeding was confirmed in Jackson County by the end of the season. The confirmation in Jackson County is the first in either atlas.

**Nelson's Sparrow**—Reported in the counties of Burnett, and Milwaukee this season. This

compares to two counties in 2016 and two counties in 2015.

First observed on April 25, 2017 in Burnett County (Matthew Berg). High count of three observed in Burnett County at Crex Meadows SWA (Patrick Peters, and Scott Clark) on May 09, 2017. This was also the last observation of the season.

**American Tree Sparrow**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Menominee, Pepin, and Buffalo this season. This compares to 69 counties in 2016 and 68 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 48 counties across the state. High count of 82 observed in Kenosha County (Susan Kulinski) on March 27, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 07, 2017 in Racine County at Cliffside Park (Drew Goldberg). Last observed on May 11, 2017 by multiple observers at Hawthorne and KK pond in Ozaukee County

**Chipping Sparrow**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as in 2016 and 2015.

First observed on March 01, 2017 in Marathon County (Dan Belter). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 04, 2017 in Marinette County (Joan Campbell). High count of 100 observed in La Crosse County at Oak Grove Cemetery (Scott Puchalski) on April 17, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 27 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Clay-colored Sparrow**—Reported in 60 counties across the state this season. This compares to 63 counties in 2016 and 60 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 16, 2017 in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Ashley Hannah). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 28, 2017 in Marinette County (Joan Campbell). High count of 25 observed by multiple observers this season. The species was present at EOP in 45 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Ozaukee County by the end of the season.

**Field Sparrow**—Reported in 62 counties across the state this season. This is the same number as in 2016 and 2015.

First observed on March 24, 2017 in Ozaukee County at Harrington Beach SP (Thomas Wood). First observed in the northernmost counties on

April 24, 2017 in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of 20 observed in Waukesha County (Anne Moretti) on May 15, 2017, and in Iowa County at Mounds View Grassland—Schurch-Thomson Prairie (Steve Brezinski) on April 16, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 51 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 11 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Lark Sparrow**—Reported in 27 counties across the state this season. This compares to 21 counties in 2016 and 24 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 16, 2017 in Walworth County at Kettle Moraine SF—Young Rd. (Andrea Szymczak), in Waukesha County (Andrea Szymczak), in Sauk County at Spring Green Preserve—East (Alex Harman), and in Columbia County at Schoeneberg Marsh (Jon Peacock). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 14 observed in Sauk County at Spring Green Preserve—East (Mary Hampton) on May 07, 2017. The species was present at EOP in eight counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Monroe County by the end of the season.

**Lark Bunting\***—Reported in the counties of Bayfield, Vernon, and Vilas this season. This is significantly higher than one county in 2016.

One report was made on May 19, 2017 at Powell Marsh in Vilas County (Guy David)—this report was not submitted to the WSORC.

The other reports include ones made on May 22, 2017 in Bayfield County (Wayne Seeger) and on May 23, 2017 in Vernon County (Paul Hayes). These reports were accepted by the WSORC.

**Fox Sparrow**—Reported in 64 counties across the state this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 61 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 13 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 30, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 50 observed in Door County (Barry Baumann) on April 02, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 21, 2017 in Kenosha County at Richard Bong SRA (Jenn Silva). Last observed on May 11, 2017 in Columbia County at Schoeneberg Marsh (Richard Beilfuss).

**Dark-eyed Junco**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Pepin, and Buffalo this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 70 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 52 counties across the state. High count of 300 observed in Marathon County (Sarah Sabatke) on April 15, 2017, and in Oneida County (Ken Milender) on April 11, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 05, 2017 in Grant County at Rountree Branch Recreational Trail—Dog Park (Shannon Drexler). Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Rusk County (Tony Del Valle).

**White-crowned Sparrow**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Menominee, Douglas, and Clark this season. This compares to 69 counties in 2016 and 64 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in four of the southern counties of Iowa, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Racine. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 25, 2017 in Marinette County (Joan Campbell). High count of 170 observed in Door County at Washington Island (Melody Walsh) on May 13, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Marinette County (Joan Campbell).

**Harris's Sparrow**—Reported in 10 counties across the state this season. This compares to 15 counties in 2016 and eight counties in 2015.

First observed on April 28, 2017 in Chippewa County (Pamela Hoyland). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 11, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of two observed in Dunn County (A & R Cowjak) on May 12, 2017, and in St. Croix County at Carpenter Nature Center Wisconsin Campus (Steve Weston, Kevin Smith, and Joanna Eckles) on May 13, 2017. Last observed on May 17, 2017 in Burnett County (Tyler Peterson).

**White-throated Sparrow**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 70 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 11 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 08, 2017 in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point—Gull Bluff (Ryan Steiner, and Steve Kolbe). High count of 100 observed on May 2, 2017 in La Crosse County (Dan

Jackson), and at Coulee Experimental State Forest (Jon Thometz). The species was present at EOP in 23 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Vilas County by the end of the season.

**Vesper Sparrow**—Reported in 59 counties across the state this season. This compares to 60 counties in 2016 and 54 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 29, 2017 in Dunn County (Pamela Hoyland). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 15, 2017 in Bayfield County (Washburn Ranger District CNNF). High count of eight observed in Burnett County (Brian Collins) on May 14, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 32 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dunn, Jackson, and Monroe by the end of the season.

**Savannah Sparrow**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Menominee, Buffalo, and Crawford this season. This compares to 67 counties in 2016 and 66 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 24, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Milwaukee Lake Express Ferry Terminal (Lorri Howski). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 14, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of 50 observed in Marathon County (Jim Peck) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 57 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Clark, Portage, and Vernon by the end of the season.

**Song Sparrow**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same count as in 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 16 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 20, 2017 in Marinette County at Red Arrow Park (Marcia Hurst). High count of 80 observed in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Jim Schwarz) on April 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for Taylor County.

Breeding was confirmed in 34 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Lincoln's Sparrow**—Reported in 51 counties across the state this season. This compares to 47 counties in 2016 and 49 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 15, 2017 in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Ashley Hannah). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 04, 2017 in Douglas County (Heriberto Verdugo Munguía). High count of five observed by multiple observers this season. The species was present at EOP in the counties of Ashland, Marathon, Milwaukee, Outagamie, and Vilas across the state.

**Swamp Sparrow**—Reported across the state except for Pepin County this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 69 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Dane County at UW Madison Arboretum—Spring Trail Pond (Mike Bailey). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 08, 2017 in Douglas County at Wisconsin Point—Gull Bluff (Steve Kolbe, John P Richardson, and Ryan Steiner). High count of 75 observed in Dane County at Nine Springs Natural Area (Shawn Miller) on April 18, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 53 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in nine counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Spotted Towhee\*\***—One individual observed on April 26, 2017 in Monroe County (Lennie and Maria Lichter). Last observed on April 27, 2017. This report was not submitted to the WSORC.

**Eastern Towhee**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 68 counties in 2016 and 67 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 18, 2017 in Dane County (Jesse Swift). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 30, 2017 in Vilas County (Elizabeth Stone). High count of 30 observed in Trempealeau County at Trempealeau NWR (Scott Puchalski) on April 29, 2017, and in Vernon County at Duck Egg County Forest (Scott Puchalski) on May 07, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 57 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in seven counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Spotted × Eastern Towhee (hybrid)**—One individual observed in Milwaukee County at Warnimont County Park (Thomas Wood) on April 26, 2017.

**Yellow-breasted Chat**—Reported in the counties of Dane, Grant, Milwaukee, Vilas, and Waukesha across the state this season. This compares to seven counties in 2016 and six counties in 2015.

First observed on May 13, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Bender Park (Jeremy Meyer) (Mark Korducki). The species was present at EOP in four of the southern counties of Columbia, Dane, Grant, and Lafayette.

**Summer Tanager**—Reported in 12 counties across the state this season. This compares to nine counties in 2016 and nine counties in 2015.

First observed on April 30, 2017 in Green County (Aaron Haycraft). Last observed on May 25, 2017 in Milwaukee County at Lake Park (Ryne Rutherford).

**Scarlet Tanager**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 69 counties in 2016 and 66 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 29, 2017 in Grant County at Rountree Branch Recreational Trail—Katie's Garden (Alex Harman, and Andrew Meiborg). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 14, 2017 in Ashland County (Nick Anich), and in Bayfield County (Washburn Ranger District CANN). High count of 12 observed in Door County at Peninsula SP (Quentin Yoerger, Tom Prestby, and Mark Korducki) on May 21, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 53 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Grant, Marathon, Milwaukee, and Waupaca across the state by the end of the season.

**Western Tanager\***—Reported in the counties of Eau Claire, Marathon, Monroe, and Iowa this season. This compares to two counties in 2016 and in 2015.

First individual was observed on April 28, 2017 in Eau Claire County (Toni Dewitz). Second report came on May 2, 2017 in Monroe County (Marty Arndt). Third report came on May 13, 2017 in Marathon County (Sarah Sabatke).

The last report came on May 24, 2017 in Iowa County (Michael Balfanz).

All reports were accepted by the WSORC.

**Northern Cardinal**—Reported across the state except for the counties of Vilas, and Sawyer this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and 71 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 55 counties across the state. High count of 34 observed in Milwaukee County at Veterans Park in Milwaukee (Jacob Collison) on April 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 62 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 29 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This compares to 71 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 24, 2017 in Milwaukee County (Barbara Kellermann). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 04, 2017 in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh). High count of 24 observed in Grant County at Wyalusing SP (John Bloomfield, Janice Brose, Barbara Kelley and David La Puma) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 23 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Blue Grosbeak\***—One individual was reported on May 2, 2017 at Warnimont County Park in Milwaukee County (Thomas Wood).

A second individual was reported on May 18, 2017 at Picnic Point in Dane County (Donald Stone).

Both reports were accepted by the WSORC.

**Indigo Bunting**—Reported across the state except for Buffalo County this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 72 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 15, 2017 in Waupaca County (Abby Frucht). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 11, 2017 in Marinette County (Joan Campbell). High count of 24 observed in Jefferson County at Waterloo SWA—Springer Rd. area (Aaron Stutz) on May 28, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 65 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in five of the southern counties of Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Grant, and Waupaca by the end of the season.

**Painted Bunting\***—One individual observed on May 23, 2017 in Vernon County (Paul Hayes).

This report was accepted by the WSORC.

**Dickcissel**—Reported in 19 counties across the state this season. This compares to 22 counties in 2016 and 18 counties in 2015.

First observed on May 11, 2017 in Rock County at Avon Bottoms—Nelson Rd. (Andy Paulios). High count of 12 observed in Rock County at Avon Bottoms (Karen Johnson) on May 27, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 34 counties across the state.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird**—Reported in 32 counties across the state this season. This compares to 26 counties in 2016 and 31 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 08, 2017 in Brown County at Sensiba SWA (Darwin Tiede). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 10, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 35 observed in Outagamie County at Mack SWA (Patti Trick) on May 16, 2017, and (Joel Trick) on May 16, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 16 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Chippewa, Dunn, Jefferson, and Winnebago across the state by the end of the season.

**Bobolink**—Reported in 65 counties across the state this season. This compares to 60 counties in 2016 and 62 counties in 2015. This also represents the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on April 14, 2017 in Iowa County at Mounds View Grassland—Schurch-Thomson Prairie (John Kivikoski). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 09, 2017 in Bayfield County (Bob Rice). High count of 75 observed by multiple observers this season. The species was present at EOP in 56 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Dane, Shawano, Vernon, and Winnebago across the state by the end of the season.

**Western Meadowlark**—Reported in 19 counties across the state this season. This compares to 20 counties in 2016 and 24 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 19, 2017 in Adams County at Leola Marsh SWA (Rick Anderson),

and in Portage County (Steve Thiessen, and Nolan Pope). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 14, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady). High count of 18 observed by multiple observers this season. The species was present at EOP in 10 counties across the state.

**Eastern Meadowlark**—Reported in 66 counties across the state this season. This compares to 65 counties in 2016 and 62 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Dane County at Hook Lake SWA (Ted Judy), and in Jefferson County (Ed Hahn). First observed in the northernmost counties on March 29, 2017 in Bayfield County (Bob Rice). High count of 35 observed in Kenosha County at Richard Bong SRA—Nature Center & Trail (Jeremy Meyer) on April 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 53 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 11 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Orchard Oriole**—Reported in 53 counties across the state this season. This compares to 54 counties in 2016 and 53 counties in 2015.

First observed on April 25, 2017 in Dane County (K K), and in Dodge County (Jack & Holly Bartholmai). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 18, 2017 in Marinette County (Joan Campbell). High count of nine observed in Dane County at Indian Lake (Aaron Holschbach) on May 13, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 40 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in seven counties across the state by the end of the season. The confirmation in Outagamie County is the first in either atlas.

**Baltimore Oriole**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same count as in 2016 and 2015.

First observed on April 22, 2017 in Trempealeau County (Neil Kent). First observed in the northernmost counties on May 09, 2017 in Marinette County (Dale Leitzke, Lynette Thonne, Marcia Hurst, and Joan Campbell). High count of 40 observed in La Crosse County (Gwyneth Calvetti) on May 10, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 67 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 37 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Red-winged Blackbird**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same count as in 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 46 counties across the state. High count of 1250 observed in Fond du Lac County (Jeff Baughman) on April 08, 2017. The species was present at EOP across the state except for Taylor County.

Breeding was confirmed in 54 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Brown-headed Cowbird**—Reported across the state except for Iron County this season. This compares to 72 counties in 2016 and in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 15 of the southern counties. First observed in the northernmost counties on April 07, 2017 in Marinette County at Peshtigo Harbor SWA—Peshtigo Pt./Pond Rd. (Marcia Hurst). High count of 400 observed in Sheboygan County (Seth Cutright) on April 02, 2017, and (Rebecca Sher) on April 02, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 67 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in seven counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Rusty Blackbird**—Reported in 51 counties across the state this season. This compares to 56 counties in 2016 and 57 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 14 counties across the state. First observed in the northernmost counties on March 28, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 350 observed in Marathon County (Dan Belter) on April 05, 2017. Last observed on May 23, 2017 in Grant County at Wyalusing SP—Canoe Trail (Emily Hockman), and at Wyalusing SP (Allison Salas).

**Brewer's Blackbird**—Reported in 43 counties across the state this season. This compares to 43 counties in 2016 and 42 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 06, 2017 in Dane County at Goose Lake Area (Jim Schwarz). First observed in the northernmost counties on April 15, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin). High count of 150 observed in Waupaca County (Don Nussbaum) on April 15, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 16 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in Shawano County by the end of the season.

**Common Grackle**—Reported in all 72 counties across the state this season. This is the same count as in 2016 and in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 32 counties across the state. High count of 2000 observed in Dane County at Babcock County Park (Jeffrey Herbert) on March 03, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 68 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 60 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Evening Grosbeak**—Reported in eight of the northern counties this season. This compares to 12 counties in 2016 and 11 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in the counties of Bayfield, and Florence. High count of 105 observed in Florence County (Kay Kavanagh, and Bob Kavanagh) on March 03, 2017. The species was present at EOP in the counties of Florence, Forest, and Vilas.

**Pine Grosbeak**—Reported in the counties of Bayfield, and Vilas this season.

First observed on March 02, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady), and in Vilas County at 54521 Eagle River (Mike Peczynski). High count of three observed in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady) on March 02, 2017, and in Vilas County at Conserve School (restricted access) (Nathan Martineau) on March 10, 2017. Last observed on March 11, 2017 in Bayfield County (Ryan Brady).

**House Finch**—Reported in 67 counties across the state this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 65 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 36 counties across the state. High count of 50 observed in Walworth County (Aydon Klikeman) on March 18, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 49 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 27 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Purple Finch**—Reported in 68 counties across the state this season. This compares to 67 counties in 2016 and 67 counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

The species was present at BOP in 24 counties across the state. High count of 65 observed in Bayfield County (Ben Baldwin) on April 09, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on May 13, 2017 in Racine County (Eric Howe). The species was present at EOP in 19 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in the counties of Outagamie, and Price by the end of the season.

The confirmation in Outagamie County is the first in either atlas.

**Common Redpoll**—Reported in 13 of the northern counties this season. This compares to 57 counties in 2016 and 45 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in eight counties across the state. High count of 31 observed in Ashland County (Keith Merkel) on March 05, 2017. Last observed on May 05, 2017 in Door County (Sue Peterson).

**Red Crossbill**—Reported in 14 counties across the state this season. This compares to 14 counties in 2016 and 12 counties in 2015.

First observed on March 04, 2017 in Forest County at Sheltered Valley/Pine River Rd./FR 2182 (Bob Kavanagh and Kay Kavanagh). High count of 36 observed in Juneau County at Necedah NWR (Kevin Manley) on April 02, 2017. Last observed on May 31, 2017 in Dunn County (Janine Polk).

Breeding was confirmed in Fond du Lac County by the end of the season. The confirmation in Fond du Lac County is the first in either atlas.

**White-winged Crossbill**—Reported in five of the northern counties of Bayfield, Forest, Oconto, Oneida, and Vilas this season. This compares to four counties in 2016 and two counties in 2015.

First observed on March 04, 2017 by multiple observers this season. High count of 35 observed in Forest County at Sheltered Valley/Pine River Rd./FR 2182 (Kay Kavanagh and Bob Kavanagh) on March 04, 2017. Last observed on April 17, 2017 in Forest County at Sheltered Valley/Pine River Rd./FR 2182 (Drew Goldberg).

**European Goldfinch**—Reported in five of the southeastern counties of Dane, Kenosha, Outagamie, Ozaukee, and Racine this season. This compares to five counties in 2016 and two counties in 2015. This also ties the highest number of counties this species has been reported from in the last ten years.

First observed on March 05, 2017 in Kenosha County (Colleen Wilkinson). High count of 12 observed in Kenosha County at “Bird Nest” Feeders (Tom Lally) on March 06, 2017. Last observed on May 27, 2017 in Racine County (Susan Torosian).

**Pine Siskin**—Reported in 41 counties across the state this season. This compares to 66 counties in 2016 and 69 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 14 counties across the state. High count of 131 observed in Vilas County at Conserve School (restricted access) (Nathan Martineau) on March 11, 2017. Last observed in the southernmost counties on April 29, 2017 in Grant County (Richard Ouren). The species was present at EOP in 10 of the northern counties.

Breeding was confirmed in four of the north-eastern counties of Door, Florence, Forest, and Oconto by the end of the season. The confirmation in Florence County is the first in either atlas.

**American Goldfinch**—Reported across the state except for Menominee County this season. This is the same count as in 2016 and 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 52 counties across the state. High count of 200 observed in Door County (Melody Walsh) on March 01, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 67 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in nine counties across the state by the end of the season.

**House Sparrow**—Reported in 68 counties across the state this season. This compares to 70 counties in 2016 and 69 counties in 2015.

The species was present at BOP in 45 counties across the state. High count of 100 observed in Grant County (Jesse Ellis) on March 05, 2017, and in Dane County (Kerry Beheler) on April 30, 2017. The species was present at EOP in 57 counties across the state.

Breeding was confirmed in 46 counties across the state by the end of the season.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow\*\***—One individual observed on March 04, 2017 in Polk County (Allen Hanson). This report was not submitted to the WSORC.

#### CITED CONTRIBUTORS:

Cisco 1, Dan Abel, Michelle Abel, Jonathan Abresch, David Adair, Marie Adams, Mark Almodovar, Jennifer Ambrose, Ben Anderson, Cliff Anderson, Rick Anderson, Samuel Anderson, Nick Anich, Paula Anich, Haley Appleman, David Aronson, Jeff Aufmann, Debra &

Randall Augustinak, Mary Backus, Mike Bailey, Brian Baker, Timothy Baker, Ben Baldwin, Michael Balfanz, Aaron Balogh, Savannah Bartel, Jack & Holly Bartholmai, Jeff Baughman, Barry Baumann, Dani Baumann, Carol Becker, Vickie Becker, Kerry Beheler, Richard Beilfuss, Dan Belter, Lindsey Bender, Donna Benson, Mark Benson, Matthew Berg, Sarah Besadny, Dale Bird, NLDC Birders, Maureen Blackford, John Bloomfield, Brett Bockhop, Marilyn Bontly, Heather Bradford, Ryan Brady, Dave Brasser, David Bratley, Calvin Brennan, Steve Brezinski, Cynthia Bridge, Jeff Brinkman, Maureen Brocken, Janice Brose, Erik Bruhnke, Kristin Brunk, Roman Buck, Rick Burkman, John and Mary Bates and Burns, Ben Burrus, Oliver Burrus, Gwyneth Calvetti, Joan Campbell, Pam Campbell, Kelly Carlson, Andy Cassini, Glen Chism, Daryl Christensen, Scott Clark, Aydon Clickeman, Northeast Wisconsin Bird Club, Washburn Ranger District CNNEF, Brian Collins, Dan Collins, Jan Collins, Jacob Collison, Nick Cooley, Janis Cooper, A & R Cowjak, Joshua Cullum, Seth Cutright, John Dadisman, Jason Daley, Guy David, Don DeWitt, Katrina DeWitt, Mike DeWitt, Toni Dewitz, Scott Diehl, Fred Dike, Kate Dike, John Dixon, Robert Domagalski, Todd Draper, Shannon Drexler, Joanna Eckles, David Edlund, Jesse Ellis, Scott Emerson, Laura Erickson, Tim Fenske, Zoe Finney, Peter Fissel, Jim Frank, Abby Frucht, Willson Gaul, Anne Geraghty, Jayson Giese, Rebecca Gilman, Otto Gockman, Drew Goldberg, Sunil Gopalan, Michael Gray, Aaron Greene, E Griffis, Bill Grossmeyer, Dennis Gustafson, Ed Hahn, Tim Hahn, Karen Etter Hale, Mary Hampton, Ashley Hannah, Tim Hansen, Allen Hanson, Roger Hanson, Alex Harman, Judy

Haseleu, Aaron Haycraft, Paul Hayes, Mike Hedemark, Chuck Heikkinen, Richard Henderson, Charles Henrikson, Jeffrey Herbert, Eddie Hicks, Emily Hockman, James Hoefler, Jennifer Hoffman, Randy Hoffman, Aaron Holschbach, Owen Holte, Patrick Horn, Greg Hottman, Carol Brandt Howard, Eric Howe, Lorri Howski, Pamela Hoyland, Jim Hughes, Myles Hurlburt, Marcia Hurst, Ashley Isaacson, Dan Jackson, Gerry Janz, Pamela Jennings, David Johnson, Karen Johnson, Robbye Johnson, Thomas Johnston, Ted Judy, Kathy Morales Eric Julson, Ba Kal, Sue Kartman, Heather Kauffman, Bob Kavanagh, Kay Kavanagh, Sara Kehrl, Barbara Kellermann, Barbara Kelley, Neil Kent, Matthew King, Paul Kinzer, Chris Kirkpatrick, Dennis Kirschbaum, John Kivikoski, K K, Mary Kloepping, Michael Kloepping, Claire Kluskens, Amy Klusmeier, Nina Koch, Steve Kolbe, Mark Korducki, Mary Korkor, Maxwell Kotelnicki, Larry & Jan Kraemer, Sam Krah, Jim Krakowski, Kim Krawczyk, Kim Kreitinger, Sam Krerowicz, Philip Kress, Craig Kruse, Susan Kulinski, Tom Lally, Jennie Lanzendorf, Kim Larson, Kristy Larson, April Laufenberg, Matthew Learned, Kyle Lee, Alex Lehner, Dale Leitzke, Elizabeth Lexau, Lennie and Maria Lichter, Zach Lilla, Kyle Lindemer, John Longhenry, Howard Lorenz, Judy Lund, Janet Lyons, Paul MacKean, Susan Mackreth, Mary Maertz, Marta Magellan, Stuart Malcolm, Max Malmquist, Kevin Manley, Nathan Martineau, Marge Martin, Mark & Sue Martin, Eric Matrejek, Sumner Matteson, Colleen Matula, Heather Maxwell, Brian McCaffery, Annette McClellan, William McClellan, Mike McDowell, Andy McGivern, Patrick McGowan,

Kelly J. McKay, Andrew Meiborg, John Meredig, Keith Merkel, Tom Mertins, Mark Messer, Jeremy Meyer, Ken Milender, Mark Millard, Jason Miller, Raymie Miller, Shawn Miller, Barbara Moldenhauer, Tony Moline, Jym Mooney, Anne Moretti, Kris Moulton, Ross Mueller, Heriberto Verdugo Munguía, Mary Murrell, Nancy Nabak, Paul Noeldner, Mariette Nowak, Tony Nowak, Don Nussbaum, Steve Oakley, Michael O'Connell, Kim O'Keefe, Tim Oksiuta, Northland College Field Ornithology, Trevor Ostendorf, Jim Otto, Richard Ouren, Peter Overholt, Patrick Palines, Rishi Palit, Andy Paulios, Terry Pavletic, Jon Peacock, Jim Peck, Mike Peczynski, Kris Perlberg, Maia Persche, Larry Persico, Bird Person, Sue Peterson, Tyler Peterson, Patrick Peters, Walter Piper, Janine Polk, Nolan Pope, Barbara Potthast, Tom Prestby, Eric Preston, Two Rivers Stopover Project, Scott Puchalski, Helen Pugh, David La Puma, Schlitz Audubon Record, Tom Reed, Paul Regnier, Colleen Resendiz, Ernesto Reyes, Ari Rice, Bob Rice, John P. Richardson, Nancy Richmond, Cheryl Richter, W. Douglas Robinson, Tom Rooney, Stan Rosenstiel, Jon Roti Roti, Kelly Rueckheim, Ryne Rutherford, Sarah Sabatke, Allison Salas, Tom Schaefer, Jeanne Scherer, Darrell Schiffman, Paul Schilke, Brian Schneider, Daniel Schneider, David Schrab, Carl Schroeder, Thomas Schultz, Wendy Schultz, Kyle Schumacher, Carl

Schwartz, Jim Schwarz, Pam Schwedler, Nick Seeger, Wayne Seeger, Dave & Kerry Sehloff, Alan Selin, Patricia Kuzma Sell, Thomas Sell, Paul Senner, Ken Severn, Frank Sharkozy, Janice Sharp, Rebecca Sher, Jenn Silva, Doreen Silvers, Adam Sinkula, Kevin Smith, Victoria Sokolowski, Joan Sommer, Charles Sontag, Cari Sprague, Milwaukee County Parks Natural Areas Staff, Spence Stehno, Ryan Steiner, Don Stone, Elizabeth Stone, Karen Straub, Aaron Stutz, Jon Sund, Lydia Sund, Joey Sundvall, Peder Svingen, Janet Swartz-Myrman, Jack Swelstad, Ann Swift, Jesse Swift, Andrea Szymczak, Rick Terrien, Jules Teskie, Joel Thiele, Steve Thiessen, Jon Thometz, Lynette Thonne, Darwin Tiede, John Toren, Susan Torosian, Joel Trick, Patti Trick, Tom Uttech, Tony Del Valle, Elaine Vokoun, Robert Volenec, Robin van Vught, Melody Walsh, Mike Wanger, Todd Ward, Jay Watson, Scott Weberpal, Kristin Wegner, Emily Weiser, Casey Weissburg, Robert Welch, Sarah Wells, Jennifer Wenzel, Steve Weston, Todd Whitesel, Lori Widmann, Colleen Wilkinson, David Willard, Guy Williams, Geoffrey A. Williamson, Nan & Scott Wisherd, Bess Wong, Julie Woodcock, Thomas Wood, Adam Yellen, Craig Yoerger, Quentin Yoerger, Zoe Yoerger, Kenny Younger, Rebecca Zarling, Norma Zehner, Tom Zenner, Jeff Zuhlke



Jim Stewart captured the arrow-like flight of a Tundra Swan in this photo taken at Goose Pond in Columbia County in late March.

# WSO Records Committee Report: Spring 2017

*Quentin Yoerger*

*6831 N. Francis Dr  
Evansville, Wisconsin 53536  
608.449.5261  
harrierqman@gmail.com*

**T**he WSO Records Committee reviewed 80 records of 42 species for the Spring 2017 season, accepting 65 of them (81%). Highlights of the Spring season were the long staying Brant at Goose Pond, King Rail in three locations, the fifth State record of Lewis's Woodpecker, and the Mississippi Kite returning to its nesting location from 2016.

The Kites did not nest in the same location they used in 2016.

## ACCEPTED RECORDS

Table 1 provides a list of records accepted by the WSO Records Committee during the Spring 2017 season. Information on each record, such as species, location, observer(s), and date(s), is accompanied by the tally of votes made by the five-person committee. Records with one or fewer dissenting votes are accepted into the state records.

## RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

In the header for each record, voting tallies are shown in parentheses. Votes to accept are listed first. Two or more dissenting votes from the five-person

committee results in a Record Not Accepted.

### **American Redstart—**

Shawano County, 13 April 2017 (0-5).

The report is of a two very brief views of a "Small warbler, appeared grayish green, two bright yellow field marks, one was on the breast flank by the edge of the scapular & coverts, the other near the tail coverts. I had spotted a yellow-rumped warbler earlier in this mixed feeding flock so the little time I had to note specific features, I noted that it did not have a yellow rump."

The description provided is not detailed enough to identify the bird to species. The description does not discuss anything that would support the identification as a warbler. Reports should include remarks about size, shape, plumage, color pattern, color, and other unique features.

### **Barrow's Goldeneye—**

Price County, 5 April 2017 (1-4).

The report is of a group of ducks observed on a lake. "The Barrow's stood out from the others because of the more extensive black on the wings, bold wing

Table 1. Records accepted by the WSO Records Committee.

American Golden-Plover	3/28	Kyle Lindemer	County Why V & C pond	Dane	Early
Blue Grosbeak	5/2	Thomas Wood	Warmont County Park	Milwaukee	
Blue Grosbeak	5/18	Donald Stone	Picnic Point, Bill's woods	Dane	
Brant	4/1	Daryl Tessen	Goose Pond	Columbia	
Brant	4/1	Thomas Schulz	Goose Pond	Columbia	
Brant	4/1	Thomas Wood	Goose Pond	Columbia	
Brant	4/10	Dennis Gustafson	Goose Pond	Columbia	
Cattle Egret	3/28	Jennifer Ambrose	Jackson Park	Milwaukee	Early
Dunlin	3/28	Kyle Lindemer	County Hwy V & C pond	Dane	Early
Eared Grebe	3/27	Jym Mooney	Milwaukee Harbor behind the Art Museum	Milwaukee	Early
Eurasian Wigeon	4/4	Daryl Tessen	Sumaico	Brown	
Eurasian Wigeon	4/12	Thomas Wood	DW Bergstrom III Memorial Waterfowl Complex	Outagamie	
Eurasian Wigeon	4/14	Tim Okstuta	Head of Chequamegon Bay	Bayfield	
Eurasian Wigeon	4/3	Tom Prestby	Sumaico	Brown	Photo
Glossy Ibis	5/7	Daryl Tessen	Horicon National Wildlife Refuge south of STH49	Dodge	Photo
Glossy Ibis	5/7	Thomas Wood	Horicon National Wildlife Refuge south of STH49	Dodge	
Greater Yellowlegs	3/9	Anne Moretti	Morningside Rd on the north side	Dodge	Early
King Rail	5/5	Scott Andrews	Bieniemen Farms Townhomes	St Croix	Photo
King Rail	5/21	Cassini and Schilke	Horicon Autotour	Dodge	Photo
King Rail	5/23	Daryl Christensen	Horicon Autotour	Dodge	Photo
King Rail	5/25	Kelly J. McKay	Highway 35	Dodge	
King Rail	5/27	Drew Goldberg	Horicon Autotour	Grant	
King Rail	5/27	Rick Terrien	Horicon Autotour	Dodge	Photo
Lark Bunting	5/22	Wayne Seeger	Back Yard Feeders	Dodge	Photo
Lark Bunting	5/23	Paul Hayes	Hwy 82 and CTH A	Bayfield	Photo
Lewis's Woodpecker	5/15	Nicholas Anich	9155 E. White Birch Road Port Wing	Vernon	Photo
Little Gull	4/29	Eric Howe	Washington Island (east side of island)	Bayfield	Photo
Long-billed Dowitcher	4/15	Steve Thiessen	Hy 138 south of Stoughton	Door	Photo
Mississippi Kite	5/28	Tom Prestby	Home Depot Shawano Ave & Hwy 41	Dane	
Mississippi Kite	5/14 thru 8/7	Craig and Quentin Yoerger	Janesville area	Brown	
Pacific Loon	4/2	Donald Stone	Lake Waubesa near Lake Farm County park	Rock	Photo
Painted Bunting	5/23	Paul Hayes	Yuba CE	Dane	Photo
Piping Plover	5/1	Jym Mooney	Bradford Beach Milwaukee	Milwaukee	Photo
Piping Plover	5/6	Kurt Miller	Seagull Bar Marinette	USA	Photo
Prairie Falcon	3/27	Jennifer Ambrose	Richard Bong State Rec Area	Kenosha	Photo

Prairie Falcon	3/28	Mark Korducki	Bong Recreation Area	Kenosha	
Ruff	4/24	Bob Domagalski	Collins Marsh	Manitowoc	
Ruff	4/25	Thomas Wood	Collins Marsh	Manitowoc	
Ruff	4/25	Daryl Tessen	Collins Marsh	Manitowoc	Photo
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	5/16	Bess Wong	Waupun area	Dodge	
Smith's Longspur	4/26	Dale Bonk	Stoughton-1500-1536 Progress Way	Dane	
Smith's Longspur	4/26	Steve Thiessen	fallow field by Progress Way	Dane	
Smith's Longspur	4/28	Steve Thiessen	Stoughton	Dane	
Smith's Longspur	4/28	Thomas Wood	fallow field in the business park north of Walmart	Dane	
Smith's Longspur	4/28	Daryl Tessen	Stoughton north dead end of Progress Way	Dane	
Smith's Longspur	5/1	Kristy Larson	Stoughton Progressive Lane	Dane	Photo
Western Kingbird	5/25	Melody Walsh	Potato Dock on Washington Island	Dane	Photo
Western Kingbird	5/25	Dale Bird	Potato Dock on Washington Island	Door	Photo
Western Tanager	4/28	Toni Dewitz	1931 Spring St Fall Creek	Eau Claire	Photo
Western Tanager	5/1	Anne Geraghty	east of Eau Claire	Eau Claire	Photo
Western Tanager	5/2	Marty Arndt	Old Parker Farm	Monroe	Photo
Western Tanager	5/13	Sarah Sabatke	Ice Age Trail - Plover River	Marathon	Photo
Western Tanager	5/24	Michael Balfanz	Back yard of my home	Iowa	Photo
White-eyed Vireo	4/17	Jennifer Ambrose	Grant Park Will-o-way	Milwaukee	Early
White-eyed Vireo	4/17	Jeremy Meyer	Grant Park - Wil-o-way	Milwaukee	Early
White-eyed Vireo	4/17	Jym Mooney	Grant Park Will-o-way	Milwaukee	Early
White-eyed Vireo	4/17	Karen Johnson	Wil-O-Way Grant County Park	Milwaukee	Early
White-eyed Vireo	4/17	Rita Flores Wiskowski	Grant Park (Wil-O-Way)	Milwaukee	Early
White-eyed Vireo	4/18	Lorri Howski	Grant Park—Wil-O-Way	Milwaukee	Early
White-eyed Vireo	4/18	Robert John McCaw	Grant Park—Wil-O-Way	Milwaukee	Early
White-eyed Vireo	4/18	Susan Kulinski	Will O Way (Grant Park)	Milwaukee	Early
White-eyed Vireo	4/18	Thomas Wood	Grant Park Wil-O-Way	Milwaukee	Early
White-winged Dove	5/17	Kristin Wegner	Racine WI	Racine	Photo
Yellow Rail	5/14	Adam Sinkula	Kewaunee Marsh - off old Railroad tracks	Kewaunee	
Yellow Warbler	4/15	Robert Schneider	Mondovi. Birch tree in front yard	Buffalo	Early

bars and the crescent between his eye and bill. The squared head profile with a flatter top gave the Barrow's a slightly smaller profile than the Common Goldeneye's also present."

The committee feels this report does not adequately eliminate immature male Common Goldeneye. Head shape is not a reliable field mark to distinguish the two species. Immature Commons can have extensive black on the wings. Barrow's also have a distinct black shoulder stripe that was not mentioned in this report.

**Bay-breasted Warbler—**

Shawano County, 13 April 2017 (0-5).

The report is of a bird with "Blotched Chestnut colored flanks, breast to belly, light breast and belly otherwise, wing bars, dark eyeline, matching rufous/chestnut cap, the back feathers of that crown appeared to stand up facing to the rear a bit. Position more upright than horizontal. Breast light colored other than flank markings. Head appeared somewhat flat. It did not have the dark mask of a breeding adult male, but appeared to be a female." Also noted "Eliminated Chestnut-sided Warbler as they do not have a yellow crown or black eye-line."

This report would be the earliest on record for this species. A female would also very likely be there this early. There is no discussion of size or shape that would make this bird a warbler. Not comment about a yellow crown and black eye-line sounds like it could have been a Golden-crowned Kinglet.

**Boreal Owl—**

Price County, 5 April 2017 (0-5).

The report simply indicates "audible only" but provides no actual description of the call heard.

A description of the sound heard is needed. Boreal Owl call is similar to the call of a Wilson's Snipe. The report could compare and contrast the two.

**Broad-winged Hawk—**

Dane County, 1 April 2017 (0-5).

The report is of a bird kettling very high. They noted "the bold, white band just above the end of the tail was visible. No other field marks visible given light and height. Tail was spread." And that the "Ratio of body width & wing width to length of body including tail was too close to be an accipiter—did not have the long, skinny look & both tail and wings were too short. Clearly smaller than a bigger buteo like RTHA." The observer also indicated that "the only other birds with a tail band that could have qualified are RSHA (too small) and a Coop or a Sharpie, but this bird's tail & wings were way too short and the band was VERY bold."

The committee feels that the report does not rule out the possibility of the bird being a Red-shouldered Hawk, a very similar species much more likely to be seen on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Some field marks that were not noted are the "window crescents" at the base of the primaries seen on Red-shouldered Hawks in flight or light under wings with a dark border seen on Broad-winged Hawks in flight.

**Broad-winged Hawk—**

Dane County, 1 April 2017 (0-5).

The report of a bird observed "not very high overhead". "Overall very light underside except for darker wing feather tips/edges, banded tail was clear in the bright sunshine." "This bird was somewhat smaller and lacking the dark leading wing edge of the Red-tails that are regulars here. Obviously it did

not red-tail feathers. It also lacked the distinctive dark underwing patches of a Rough-legged Hawk. Wrong shape to be a Cooper's Hawk (also often seen here). It was shaped like a Buteo, with wide wings as opposed to a scimitar shape."

Again the committee feels this report does not rule out Red-shouldered Hawk. The observer did compare this bird to other hawk species, but not Red-shouldered Hawk.

#### **Cape May Warbler—**

Dane County, 10 April 2017 (1-4).

The report describes the bird as "Olive color and streaky breast rusty head patch." "It was the vocals that stood out to me." "A repeated pattern of 4 to 5 crisp zeats".

The committee found this to be an interesting report, but very brief. No description of size or shape provided that would indicate the bird in question was a warbler. This report would be 13 days earlier than the current earliest record for this species. The committee would need a more detailed description to accept.

#### **Clark's Nutcracker—**

Burnett County, 30 May 2017 (0-5).

The report of a bird that was "Tan with darker wings. White spots on wings easily seen in flight. Tail darker with white on either side. Beak is dark conical and long." During the observation the bird was "Foraging on ground with frequent flights to trees."

The report fails to mention the size and shape of the bird, other than the beak. Clark's Nutcrackers would usually be seen as a gray bird, not tan. The report does not provide enough detail to eliminate other species such as Northern Shrike or Northern Mockingbird.

#### **Eastern Kingbird—**

Milwaukee County, 2 April 2017 (3-2).

The report is of a "Dark medium bird with white belly and white breast had a white tipped tail."

The bird was also noted to be "too large for a phoebe and too dark for other flycatchers".

A very brief report of a bird that would be the second earliest on record. The committee would like to see more detail included in the report. There is nothing describing the bird that would support the identification as a flycatcher other than it was compared to other flycatchers.

#### **House Wren—**

Milwaukee County, 29 March 2017 (0-5).

The report is of a bird heard only and identification was "mainly relying on the sound, which was a rapid chattering that continued for a while." "I can't recall another yard bird that would match the sound of this little chatterbox."

The only description provided in this report is "rapid chattering". Many species could be considered to make a noise that fits this description. While the committee feels that this report is probably accurate given the "yard bird" habitat, a more detail description of the call is needed for the committee to accept this record.

#### **Mountain Bluebird—**

Ozaukee County, 15 May 2017 (0-5).

The report submitted had a description of "Solid Pale (color of Robin's egg) Bright Blue Male Mountain Blue Bird".

All reports should include remarks about size, shape, plumage, color pattern, color, and other unique features.

This report lacked most of these details. There is not enough detail provided for the committee to accept this record.

**Red Phalarope—**

Fond du lac County, 2 May 2017 (0-5).

The report is of a “Medium-sized shorebird with pearl-gray back (unlike RNPH), dark primaries and secondaries as viewed from above, with white wing stripe along most of the length of the wing, dark nape and patch surrounding and behind eye within overall white face, dark central rectrices, dark terminal ends of rectrices, short bill; bird seen in flight directly offshore, flying westward at the south end of Lake Winnebago. Heavy winds from due north, bird flew just above water’s surface.” “No streaks on upper back as in Red-necked Phalarope”

The bird is described as being in complete basic, non-breeding plumage. A May record would very likely show at least some molt. The upper wing of the bird is described but are not a useful for identification as the underwing. Wisconsin has no accepted records of this species from the Spring season. These reasons made the committee question the report enough to not accept it.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird—**

Dane County, 9 April 2017 (0-5).

The report is of a bird that “caught my eye as it lit on the branch of an apple tree and proceeded to hover”. The bird was then seen flying away and described as “Small, slender, long curved beak with the trademark ability to hover and dart up and down.”

The report lacks the detail necessary to identify a hummingbird down to a specific species. This report appears to assume that any hummingbird seen in

Wisconsin would be a Ruby-throated. This report would be record early by three days.

**Spotted Towhee—**

LaCrosse County, 27 April 2017 (0-5).

The report is of a bird seen on a porch railing. No description of the bird was given. The observer indicated that the identification was made referencing on-line information real time.

A detailed description or photograph is required for any report to be accepted. For a species such as a Spotted Towhee a detail comparison with the very similar Eastern Towhee would also be needed to separate the two species.

**White-eyed Vireo—**

Shawano County, 13 April 2017 (0-5).

The report indicated the observer had a “Great view of this bird, but short view, perched in horizontal position, visible white eye ring, head & breast light gray blending down to a light yellow belly, two distinct white wing bars. The eye ring was noticeable but not thick lined. No white or yellow was seen in the lores but the last thing I noted was the eye ring before it lit out.” “Unlike the Bell’s Vireo this bird had strong, prominent double wingbars. That was the first field mark I noticed. Unlike the Blue-Headed Vireo, the subject did not have the thick spectacle eye rings or whitish throat.”

The observer indicates the bird had a white eye ring, but does not mention a white iris. White-eyed Vireos have a yellow lore and a white throat. Both of these field marks were indicated as not seen on the bird being reported. The committee cannot accept a report with these inconsistencies.

## By the Wayside—Spring 2017

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*Written documentation of seasonal highlights include:  
Brant, Pacific Loon, Mississippi Kite, Ruff, Little Gull,  
Prairie Falcon, Smith's Longspur, Blue Grosbeak*

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### BRANT

**April 1, 2017 – Columbia County**

Description: Small, fairly dark goose with pale flanks, which graded from brownish at the front to dusky whitish at the rear—with slight darker color at the middle of the various feathers. The rear end (behind the flank feathers) was bright white. The back was also medium brownish. The head and neck were almost all black, with just a small pale/whitish wedge on each side of the neck. The black neck extended well down onto the chest, and included the entire front of the breast—farther down than a Canada or Cackling Goose. The bill was quite tiny for a goose, and somewhat slender.

Similar Species: Canada and Cackling Goose, which both have bright white cheek patches—unlike this bird. They also have black necks that extend only down to the base of the neck, and not down onto the chest.

—Thomas Schultz, Green Lake, WI

### PACIFIC LOON

**April 2, 2017 – Dane County**

Description: Rounded back of head and neck; back half of neck puffy and

dark (looked almost reddish brown in the sunlight), straight line of sharp contrast between dark back of neck and bold white front of neck. Not a ragged line like a common loon.

This was a smaller bird, and had smaller bill than the nearby common loons. The bill was light greyish, but darker on top.

Body uniform dark above. I could see white near underside of bird but only when the bird leaned to one side allowing me to view the belly. There was no white around eye, and the border between light and dark was beneath the eye.

The bird was across the lake near lake farm county park; I drove over there but couldn't find it from shore.

Similar Species: When I first saw the bird I thought it might be a red throated loon. Indeed, this would be a close second in terms of an ID In some views the bill seemed slightly upturned like red throated. Also, I could detect no chin strap, which Sibley says is in most Pacific loons. But my loon had no speckling on back, not as much white on face as a red-throated. It had no white on the side as an arctic loon. This bird was smaller, with a smaller bill than the nearby common loons; it also

lacked the horizontal dark streaks (ragged border) found on the necks of common loons. Bold white neck looked mostly like juvenile pacific or nonbreeding adult red throated loon in Sibley 2nd Edition.

—Donald Stone, Middleton, WI

### MISSISSIPPI KITE

May 28, 2017 – Brown County

Description: I heard Barn Swallow alarm call notes while buying flowers outside at Home Depot so I looked up, expecting to see a Cooper's Hawk or Merlin. When I looked up, I noticed a bird with a completely different wing shape than either of those: The wings were long and rounded/curved on the leading edge and straight on the trailing edge. They were pointed at the end more so than an accipiter would be but not as much as a falcon. They were quite a bit longer than Merlin's wingspan should be too. The overall size of the bird was larger than a Sharpshinned or Merlin should be but smaller than a Cooper's or Peregrine should be by a little bit. It lacked the flap-flap- glide pattern of an accipiter or steady powered flight of a falcon. This bird glided during most of the observation and when it flapped, the wingbeats were slower than an accipiter or falcon. I was not able to note tail shape or do not remember it since I focused on other things during this quick observation. The other thing to catch my eye besides wingshape and flight style were color. I did not see any barring on the underside, instead I saw gray that contrasted pretty sharply with a lighter chest and head. When the divebombing swallows made it flap, I saw this same contrasting light color in the

secondaries on the upper-side of the wings.

The area near the eye looked darker but since I was viewing with my naked eye, this is all I can say about the specific facial markings. The observation was frustratingly short as I never saw it once it cleared the roof of the building but I believe these field marks add up to an adult Mississippi Kite.

Similar Species: See above.

—Tom Prestby, Green Bay, WI

### RUFF

April 24, 2017 – Manitowoc County

Description: While scoping a wet grassy field looking through about 50 Lesser Yellowlegs, I suddenly came across a shorebird actively feeding that was significantly larger and more plump than the yellowlegs. A shorebird that was larger and fuller bodied than a yellowlegs was immediately attention getting. I focused by spotting scope on this bird, which was about 100 yards distant. The bill was slightly longer than the width of the head and had a slight down curve near the tip. It was noticeably thicker than the bill of the yellowlegs. The bill was a rather bright orange color with the distal tip black. The legs were a bright orange yellow. The top of the head, front of face, and the hind neck were a light brown. The remainder of the face was white, with this white extending down into the upper breast. Below the white upper breast, the lower chest was marked by blotches of black. The lower belly and the undertail coverts were pure white. The back had scallops of shades of brown. After feeding actively for about 2 minutes, the bird went to sleep. For the next 15 minutes or so the bird stayed in this sleeping condition with its back

faced to me. From this poor angle, I could still see the bright yellow orange legs and the folded wings had a barred appearance of black and a reddish brown. I then left the area to inform other birders.

Similar Species: I am not able to think of a shorebird that would match what I saw with this bird.

—Bob Domagalski, St. Nazianz, WI

### LITTLE GULL

**APRIL 29, 2017 – DOOR COUNTY**

Description: I initially saw via scope just northeast of Hog Island. At this time, the gull was briefly seen in flight before it had landed in the water. Darkish underwings were noted. At the distance of 0.70 mile, the gull appeared slightly smaller than the nearby BOGUs. While Kristin was viewing, the gull took flight with BOGUs and flew northward; she followed this dark underwinged gull for approximately 0.7 mile where upon it landed on the water. From our location the gull was approximately 0.5 miles east of our position. No discernible eyering as compared with BOGUs seen from this distance. The black hood extended farther down on nape than BOGUs. White and shorter primary tip extension as compared to dark and slightly longer primaries of BOGUs. Bill shorter than BOGUs.

Similar Species: BOGUs underwings are not dark as in this adult LIGU. The extent of the dark hood on BOGU does not extend as far down the nape as we observed with the LIGU. The BOGUs were slightly but noticeably larger than the LIGU. The BOGU has darker and longer primaries as compared to the whitish/shorter primaries of the LIGU.

BOGUs bills are more pronounced than a LIGU.

—Eric Howe, Racine, WI

### PRAIRIE FALCON

**March 28, 2017 – Kenosha County**

Description: On my second trip of the day to the area I was able to find the Prairie Falcon discovered the day before. It flew right past a kestrel and was about twice the size of the smaller falcon. Pointed falcon wings and rapid direct flight. The tail was fairly long and narrow. It was sandy brown above and light below. It banked once and showed the diagnostic dark axillaries.

Similar Species: A raptor with pointed wings eliminates the buteos and accipiters. Lacked white rump of harrier and more rapid flight. Good size reference as it passed a kestrel and was twice the size which eliminates kestrel and merlin. Lighter brown than a merlin or young peregrine would be. Tail not heavily banded as in merlin. Diagnostic dark axillaries. Not as large, dark or broad winged as a gyrfalcon would be.

—Mark Korducki, New Berlin, WI

### SMITH'S LONGSPUR

**April 26, 2017 – Dane County**

Description: The longspurs flushed about 10 feet in front of me. Although I was looking for longspurs, I wasn't ready. I got my binoculars up in time to see them flying away, and I had a plowed field for a back ground. I could immediately see the wide even white outer tail feathers and some flashes of the lesser wing coverts. All birds tails seemed the same, only could see the white coverts on a couple. The birds cir-

pled far and fairly close, I wasn't moving, and hoping for them to land. Which they did about 30 yards up. I couldn't see them and left them for others to see. While they were circling I locked in on a male. At times I could see the 3 white points. The white eye brow, white wing coverts and the white in the tail. I could see the black auriculars, but the white center spot was faint and hard to see compared to the bright white eye brow. The underparts were orange, and did go up behind the head. The general size and shape (not using longspur) was similar to a house sparrow. I only saw them in flight.

Similar Species: Lapland Longspurs were eliminated right away when I saw the white outer feathers being white all the way top to bottom. Then it was getting the other points.

—Steve Thiessen, Stoughton, WI

### BLUE GROSBEAK

May 02, 2017 – Milwaukee County

Description: This bird flew to the top of a hedgerow and perched for about 20 seconds. At first I thought that this brown and blue finch-like bird was going to be my first sighting of Indigo Bunting for the year, but when I raised the binoculars and saw the massive, conical silver bill, I knew it was not the bunting.

The head was a mottled blue and brown, and the underparts were almost entirely chestnut brown, the exception being the undertail coverts which were white. The black wings had broad, rufous-brown edging on the median and greater coverts, which formed 2 distinct wing bars.

Similar Species: Indigo Bunting has a smaller, less silvery bill. It can have some faint wingbars in some plumages, but never the distinct rufous-brown wingbars that stood out on this bird.

—Thomas Wood,  
Menomonee Falls, WI



Jim Stewart imaged this swimming pair of Hooded Mergansers at Middleton Hill Natural Area in Dane County in late March.

## About the Artists

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**Jennifer Ambrose** is an avid birder and the editor of Wisconsin Metro Audubon Society's newsletter *The Trumpeter*. She enjoys photographing birds, especially when they are caught in mating or territorial displays or taking baths. When she's not birding, she teaches composition and communication classes at Milwaukee area colleges.

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**Beverly Engstrom** is a retired elementary school teacher who lives on the Wisconsin River in Oneida County on property that is protected through a conservation easement with Northwoods Land Trust. She enjoys many outdoor activities, especially nature photography.

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**Stephen Fisher** is a serious amateur photographer, enjoying both landscape and wildlife photography. He is a retired high school English teacher who worked as an environmental/wildlife educator and Education Director for the Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI) for seven years following his retirement from teaching in Wausau. He now serves as a volunteer at REGI, rescuing and/or transporting sick and injured birds. He and his wife, Evelyn, have always enjoyed and respected the natural world, and he has a special appreciation for birds, particularly raptors. He also enjoys traveling, reading, hiking, snowshoeing, observing wild-

life, spending time at his cabin in northern Vilas County, walking his dogs in the wonderful Wisconsin outdoors, and lifelong learning.

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**David Franzen** and his wife, June, have lived in Phelps, Wisconsin since 1969. He worked for 34 years in the woods of northern Wisconsin, retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 2001 and from a private forestry consulting business in 2004. After retirement, he took up bird photography with most of his work being shot within 100 yards of his house. His primary interest is in photographing bird behavior. He does not use blinds, but quietly waits in a chair for a bird to strike an interesting pose within close range. During 34 years of forestry work, he captured with the mind, many images that far surpass what he has captured with the camera. The most beautiful nature scene he ever viewed was encountered while trout fishing a small stream surrounded by maple forest that had sparse understory prior to spring leaf emergence. On that misty morning, a huge timber wolf glided over a hill across the stream and came toward him to stream's edge. When a wolf moves slowly, it kind of glides effortlessly, and this big guy was more like a spirit than a real animal. A real magical moment. David does occasional slide programs for local groups.

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**Greg Hottman** is an amateur wildlife photographer from Oregon, Wisconsin. Greg started out taking pictures of birds, mostly warblers to help with identification. As a youngster in the 60's he can remember seeing flashes of red going through the yard in his hometown of Cross Plains and running inside to the Encyclopedia Britannica to see what bird that might have been. He inherited that "those cows ain't gonna milk themselves" gene so he gets up early, gets most of his work done by 6am which frees him up for the rest of the day. Greg's favorite birds to photograph are owls. The neighborhood foxes are fun too.

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**Michael J. Huebschen** is the current Art Editor for *The Passenger Pigeon* and has been an amateur wildlife photographer for over 45 years. He is retired from UW-Oshkosh and lives in Oshkosh, Wisconsin with his wife, Cynthia. They enjoy travel, wildlife observations, hiking, canoeing and fishing.

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**Bob Larson** who lives in Kaukauna, is an advanced amateur photographer who concentrates his photography in the Fox Valley area. All nature centers and Haunts areas are fair game. Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, Brown, and Waushara Counties get the most attention. He switched to digital just before it became affordable and has been learning ever since."

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**David Lund** is an amateur photographer who lives near Eau Claire. Following his retirement as a Mathematics

Professor at UW-Eau Claire in 2000, he and his wife, Judy, now include birding and photography as part of all their travels. Although many of his pictures are taken in Wisconsin, wintering in the southern US has provided many additional opportunities birding photography experiences. He has recently begun making presentations on birds and birding.

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**Jym Mooney** has been an enthusiastic birder for almost 30 years. In 2012 he took up photography, initially as a means to document unusual sightings. He is grateful for the advice and suggestions of the many wildlife photographers he has had the pleasure to meet and talk with as he has birded across Milwaukee County and Wisconsin; in particular Jim Edlhuber, Brian Hansen, Paul Sparks, Jeremy Meyer, Rita Flores Wiskowski, Jennifer Ambrose, and Dave Freriks.

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**Kristie L Pinnow** is a native of northern Wisconsin and has always loved nature. She has enjoyed backyard birding since childhood, and over the years has added photography to that interest. She has recently discovered the beauty of warblers, and it has become a desire to photograph as many local species as she can. Along with birding and photography, she enjoys hiking, kayaking, and baking.

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**Eric Preston** is an amateur nature photographer who travels the Midwest, and beyond, to photograph the natural world. He especially likes looking for and photographing birds and butterflies in the native grasslands of southern Wis-

consin. His photographs have appeared in numerous books and magazines, including *Birder's World* and *Gulls of the Americas*. He has been interested in birds and nature for most of his life. He currently lives in Madison, Wisconsin with his wife, Kim, and son, Anders.

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**Adam Sinkula** is an avid birder from Green Bay who grew up on a small family farm in Kewaunee. This allowed for time to explore the woods and river nearby where he fell in love with nature. He then attended UW-Stevens Point and got his degree in Wildlife and minor in Biology. He first picked up birding after college and quickly became addicted. He is currently the Kewaunee County Coordinator for the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II as well as co-chairman (with Nancy Nabak) of the Big Bay Birdathon. He also takes pride in finding local birds in Kewaunee and Brown Counties.

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**Victoria Sokolowski** reports that her biggest love is photographing wildlife, especially birds and insects, which she finds fascinating and challenging. She tries to give the viewer insight into the personality of the animal she is photographing, and she loves interactions between animals. Her goal is to bring enjoyment and knowledge to those who don't have the privilege of living as close to wildlife as she does. She also owns a veterinary clinic so she works with clients and their pets all day. She considers herself very lucky to be able to live her dream vocation in such a wonderful area like Wisconsin.

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**Jim Stewart** is the son of an upstate New York salt miner and an elementary school teacher. He arrived in Wisconsin 36 years ago and fell in love with the state's natural areas. For all of those many years he has felt, along with Jean Henri Fabre and Wisconsin's Aldo Leopold, that beauty and perception "grow at home as well as abroad." Now, with the luxury (and shortness) of time that comes with age he is able to play, camera in hand, in the natural areas that dot Dane and surrounding counties—jewels that provide sustenance to diverse wildlife. His interest is to use his photography as a means to better see by asking, over and over, two questions posed by Rachel Carson in her remarkable book *The Sense of Wonder* (1956/1998): "For most of us, knowledge of our world comes largely through sight, yet we look about with such unseeing eyes that we are partially blind. One way to open your eyes to the unnoticed beauty is to ask yourself. What if I had never seen this before? What if I knew I would never see it again?"

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**Rita Flores Wiskowski** is a birder/photographer from South Milwaukee. Interested in birds and nature from a young age, she became a serious birder in 2008, inspired by a family of Great Horned Owls nesting in her neighborhood. Shortly after, she discovered the wonderful network of birders in Wisconsin who are willing to share knowledge, sightings, and adventures, and she was hooked. These days, when she is not working her day job as a fundraising professional, she can be found birding, with a pair of binoculars in one hand, and her camera attached to a monopod in the other. Besides birding

and photography, her passions include environmental advocacy and education. She serves on the boards of Lakeshore State Park, Friends of the Mill Pond & Oak Creek Watercourse, and Wisconsin Metro Audubon Society.

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**Kenny Younger** is a software engineer from Madison, WI. He began birding in

the spring of 2016 and has enjoyed diving deep into the incredible world of birds. Photography led him to birding, but you'll find him looking more through his binoculars than the viewfinder these days—still, his camera is always hanging on his hip. You'll usually find him in the UW-Madison Arboretum or anywhere that a rare bird shows up in Dane County.

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Kristie Pinnow depicts the fresh plumage of an European Starling in Vilas County in mid-December (The Editors apologize to Ms. Pinnow for inadvertently leaving this photo out of the winter issue!).

# Guidelines for Authors and Artists

## AUTHORS

*The Passenger Pigeon*, issued quarterly by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (WSO), publishes articles on Wisconsin birds, on ornithological topics of interest to WSO members, and on WSO activities and business. Anyone with a serious interest in Wisconsin birdlife—whether a professional ornithologist or an amateur birder—is encouraged to submit articles and observations to this journal. The Editors are happy to discuss ideas for articles with potential authors.

Readers are encouraged to submit articles to be considered for publication in *The Passenger Pigeon*. It should be noted that all research articles will be submitted for peer review. Articles not presenting research will go through the traditional editorial process. The editors will do as much as possible to see that work is published, including offering suggestions for improvement when pertinent.

General articles should be sent via email to [PassengerPigeon@WSOBirds.org](mailto:PassengerPigeon@WSOBirds.org) and research-based articles should be sent directly to the Peer Review Editor, Matt Hayes at [research@wsobirds.org](mailto:research@wsobirds.org). If necessary, articles may be sent by surface mail to: Passenger Pigeon, 5018 Odana Rd, Madison, WI 53711.

Following are specific guidelines for submission:

- Articles and art for each issue should be submitted by the following dates in order to be considered: spring—

December 1; summer—March 1; fall—April 15; winter—August 1.

- The text must be in Word format (.doc or .docx), either Word for Windows or Word for Mac.
- The manuscript should be double-spaced throughout (including figure and table captions) and use 12-point Times New Roman or Calibri font style.
- The text must be on pages separate from figures and tables.
- On the title page, provide the article title, name, address, telephone number, and email address of all authors of the article.
- Include the acknowledgments, literature cited, and a brief biographical sketch of each author at the end of the manuscript.
- Research articles should generally follow standard scientific format, with separate sections for abstract, 5–7 key words, introduction, methods, results, discussion, conclusions, and bibliography. Deviations from this format (e.g., combined results and discussion section) will be considered on an individual manuscript basis. Key words should be different from key terms present in the title.
- Please use metric measures (for example: millimeters, kilograms, microliters).
- The spelling of common and scientific bird names should follow the

most recent edition of the Checklist of North American Birds (see <http://checklist.aou.org>), published by the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), or the most recent updates to the checklist. Please include Genus and species (*italicized*) following the first time that the common name of a species is introduced in text.

- When appropriate, lists of species in tables or text should follow the most current AOU taxonomic sequence.
- Use capital letters for the full common names of birds (e.g., American Robin, Red-headed Woodpecker). Avoid use of four letter abbreviations often used to shorten the species name. For example, do not use RBWO for Red-bellied Woodpecker.

#### **Guidelines for submitting figures and tables:**

- Each figure and each table must be on a separate page.
- Captions for all figures should be sent as a separate text file, not embedded with the figure.
- Figures and table should be submitted in a way suitable for black-and-white reproduction.
- Tables are encouraged to be submitted as Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. All tables for each manuscript may be included in the same Microsoft Excel Book with separate sheets comprising each table. Alternatively, tables can be created as 'typists' tables' in Microsoft Word. This involves creating a tabular version of your table in Microsoft Word without using the actual "Table" function in that program. Instead, use tabs to separate

your columns and a carriage return to separate rows—do not add spaces to make columns line up.

#### **Guidelines for citing literature in text:**

Citations should be listed chronologically in parentheses:

- No comma between author(s) and date: (McGhee 1995)
- Use "and" between two authors: (Li and Aschenbrenner 2007)
- If more than two authors, use "et al.:" (Moreau et al. 2015)
- Personal communication or reference to unpublished data: Cite the person's initials and surname, institutional affiliation, followed by "pers. comm." or "unpub. data." Example: (E. Ramirez, University of Wisconsin-Madison, unpub. data).
- Works by the same author(s) in the same year are arranged alphabetically by article title and differentiated by letter (1998a, 1998b).

#### **Guidelines for formatting references in bibliography section**

References at end of document should be listed alphabetically by last name of first author, then in increasing chronological order. Follow the models below for citing books, book chapters, journal articles, etc.

#### **Sample References:**

Reller, A.W. 1972. Aspects of behavioral ecology of Red-headed and Red-bellied woodpeckers. *American Midland Naturalist* 88(2): 270–290.

Bajema, R.A. and S.L. Lima. 2001. Landscape-level Analyses of Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*)

Abundance in Reclaimed Coal Mine Grasslands. *The American Midland Naturalist* 145(2): 288–298.

Curtis, J.T. 1959. *Vegetation of Wisconsin: An Ordination of Plant Communities*. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press.

Gregg, L. 2006. Gray Jay. Pages 296–297 in N.J. Cutright, B.R. Harriman, and R.W. Howe (Eds.), *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Wisconsin*. Waukesha: Wisconsin Society for Ornithology.

Estades, C.F. 1997. Habitat fragmentation, pine plantation forestry and the conservation of forest bird communities in central Chile. Master of Science Thesis, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Kilvington, M., J. Rosier, R. Wilkinson and C. Freeman. 1998. Urban restoration: Social opportunities and constraints. Paper presented to the Symposium on Restoring the Health and Wealth of Ecosystems, Christchurch, New Zealand, September 28–30.

National Audubon Society. 2014. Christmas Bird Count Historical Results. [www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/hr/index.html](http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/hr/index.html) [accessed September 1, 2013].

Strickland, D. and H. Ouellet. 2011. Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*). In A. Poole (Ed.), *The Birds of North America Online*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell Lab of Ornithology. <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/040> [accessed December 31, 2015].

#### ARTISTS

All photos must be submitted as jpeg digital images in e-mail attachments to Michael Huebschen, the Assistant Edi-

tor for Art, at [mhuebschen4@gmail.com](mailto:mhuebschen4@gmail.com). They will be stored in secure digital files until recommended for a given quarterly issue of *The Passenger Pigeon*.

Although we would prefer to print all images chosen for *The Passenger Pigeon* in color, many will be printed in black & white due to the prohibitive cost of printing everything in color. One image per issue will be selected as a color cover photo. Every effort will be made to use the best photos submitted by as many contributors as possible. Final selections will be made by the editors.

#### Following are the criteria for submitted work:

1. Jpeg digital images of photos, drawings, paintings, sculptures, wood carvings, quilts or other artistic works featuring birds seen or photographed in Wisconsin should be sent as email attachments and should be in as large a size as possible, with resolution of at least 300 d.p.i. (1.2 megabytes for black-and-white and 1.5 megabytes for color). Lower resolution simply does not print well and pixel-dense images make the best candidates for printing since they often need to be cropped. All photos of birds submitted must have been taken in Wisconsin.
2. Please note: since the seasonal reports are for the year previous to the current issue, any photographs for a given issue should also be from the same period. For example, photographs for the Winter, 2015 issue should have been taken on or between December 1, 2014 and February 28, 2015; photographs for Spring, 2016 should have been taken on or between March 1, 2015 and May 31, 2015; and so on.

3. All images submitted must be material not previously published in *The Passenger Pigeon*.
4. All images must include the bird species name and name of the artist. Date and location are also necessary in the case of photographs. Images of works other than photographs should have a title if one has been selected.
5. The most useful images are those in “portrait” format, rather than “landscape” format. A cropped photo 4” horizontal by 5” vertical is ideal for consideration for a cover photo. The “fill page” images are also best done in portrait format and might run as large as 4.75” × 7”. The editors may do some additional cropping of images for publication.
6. Since no images will be returned, the submission must be high-resolution copy of the original. In most cases contributors will have cropped the images for the best effect. Cropping the images too tightly should be avoided since the editors may choose to do more cropping. All unused or unusable digital images will be destroyed after a certain time period.
7. It is the policy of Wisconsin Society for Ornithology not to offer monetary compensation to contributing artists for use of their images in *The Passenger Pigeon*. The Society is grateful for those who have contributed limited use of their images for publication in *The Passenger Pigeon* in the past and to those who will do so in the future.
8. When images have been selected and approved for each quarterly issue, a short biography from each contributing artist will be requested. It is tradition to publish those in the “About the Artists” pages of each issue. As a result, the Editors request that contributors include a short biographical statement along with their artwork.



Michael Huebschen discovered this family of Trumpeter Swans at Crex Meadows State Wildlife Area in Burnett County in late May.

# ***Federal Duck Stamps = Big Win for Conservation***



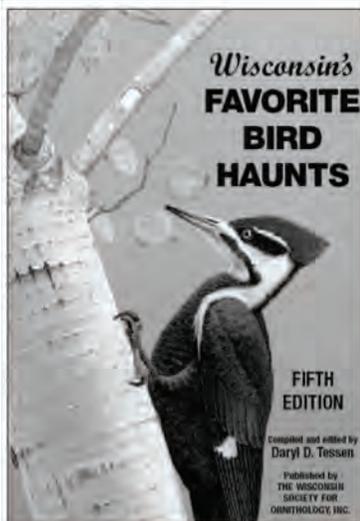
Officially the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, the federal Duck Stamp provides revenue to help acquire and protect wetlands within the National Wildlife Refuge System. Sales have raised more than \$800 million since the program began in 1934, and they have helped acquire and protect more than six million acres of irreplaceable bird-friendly habitat.

Wisconsin refuges funded in part by sales of Duck Stamps include:

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- Necedah National Wildlife Refuge
- Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge
- Wisconsin Waterfowl Production Areas

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For a form that includes price and ordering information, visit the Conservation section of the WSO website, [www.wsobirds.org](http://www.wsobirds.org).



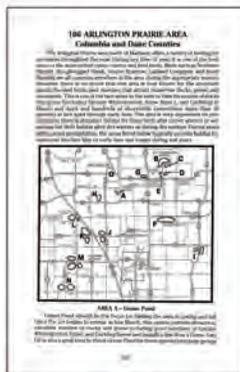
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145 articles cover some 1,100 areas and include detailed maps.

Designed for durability and functionality, this book is printed on heavy coated paper and has a spiral binding so it lies flat when open. 6" by 9", 556 pages. ISBN: 978-0-9774986-3-5.

Published by The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc., with proceeds used for projects supported by the organization.

Visit the WSO website, [www.wsobirds.org](http://www.wsobirds.org), for an order form that includes price and ordering information, or contact the Bookstore Manager (see contact information on Inside Back Cover).



## *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Wisconsin*

- Features almost 1,400 photographs, distribution maps, and figures – **all in color!**
- Based on studies done by more than 1,600 field observers between 1995 and 2000.
- Edited by Noel J. Cutright, Bettie R. Harriman, and Robert W. Howe.

The largest natural history survey ever conducted in Wisconsin has resulted in this comprehensive guide to birds that breed in the state.

Hardcover, large format (9" x 11.25"), 624 pages. Copyright 2006. ISBN: 978-0-9774986-0-4.

Published by The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc., with proceeds used for projects supported by the organization.

The two-page species accounts – 214 of them in all – provide a host of information on the state's breeding species, including their range, habitat preference, breeding biology, conservation concerns, and population trends.

An additional 23 less-common species also are covered. Also included are chapters on Atlas methodology, results, history, habitats, and conservation.



Visit the WSO website, [www.wsobirds.org](http://www.wsobirds.org), for an order form that includes price and ordering information, or contact the Bookstore Manager (see contact information on Inside Back Cover).



A Killdeer stands reflected at Dane County's Sticker's Pond during late May, as photographed by Jim Stewart.

## THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY

The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology is an educational and scientific non-profit organization founded in 1939 “to encourage the study of Wisconsin birds.” The Society achieves this goal through programs in research, education, conservation and publication.

### OFFICERS (2017–2018)

**President** Michael John Jaeger, [president@wsobirds.org](mailto:president@wsobirds.org), 608-335-2546  
**Vice President** Myles Hurlburt, [vicepresident@wsobirds.org](mailto:vicepresident@wsobirds.org), 715-574-1003  
**Secretary** Jennifer Wenzel, [secretary@wsobirds.org](mailto:secretary@wsobirds.org), 262-488-8077  
**Treasurer** Dani Baumann, [treasurer@wsobirds.org](mailto:treasurer@wsobirds.org), 262-617-1268

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS (2017–2018)

**Annual Convention** Christine Zimmerman, [convention@wsobirds.org](mailto:convention@wsobirds.org)  
**Awards** Wendy Schultz, [awards@wsobirds.org](mailto:awards@wsobirds.org)  
**Badger Birder** Carl Schwartz, [badgerbirder@wsobirds.org](mailto:badgerbirder@wsobirds.org)  
**Bookstore** Darwin Tiede, 920-997-9418, [bookstore@wsobirds.org](mailto:bookstore@wsobirds.org)  
**Communications** Kristin Bowers, [communications@wsobirds.org](mailto:communications@wsobirds.org)  
**Conservation** Michael John Jaeger, Acting Chair, [president@wsobirds.org](mailto:president@wsobirds.org)  
**Development** Mary Korkor, [development@wsobirds.org](mailto:development@wsobirds.org)  
**Education** Jim Knickelbine, [education@wsobirds.org](mailto:education@wsobirds.org);  
Ed Hahn, [youtheducation@wsobirds.org](mailto:youtheducation@wsobirds.org)  
**Field Trips** Thomas R. Schultz, 920-960-1796 and Jeffrey L. Baughman,  
920-960-4732; [fieldtrips@wsobirds.org](mailto:fieldtrips@wsobirds.org)  
**Historian** Nancy J. Nabak, [historian@wsobirds.org](mailto:historian@wsobirds.org)  
**Honey Creek** Levi Wood, [honeycreek@wsobirds.org](mailto:honeycreek@wsobirds.org)  
**Membership** Kim Kreitinger, [membership@wsobirds.org](mailto:membership@wsobirds.org)  
**Passenger Pigeon Editors** Charles A. Heikkinen and Delia O. Unson,  
[passengerpigeon@wsobirds.org](mailto:passengerpigeon@wsobirds.org), 608-206-0324 (Chuck); 608-235-8914  
(Delia)  
**Records** Quentin Yoerger, [records@wsobirds.org](mailto:records@wsobirds.org)  
**Research** Vacant  
**Scholarships and Grants** Aaron Greene; [grants@wsobirds.org](mailto:grants@wsobirds.org)