

western great lakes region



LOONS TO IBISES

As usual, Michigan had the majority of Red-throated Loon sightings. Birds were recorded in 8 counties, with W.P.B.O. having 351 between Sept. 6–Nov. 11. The migration in Wisconsin was notable, with 15+ birds found along L. Michigan from Door to Milwaukee between Oct. 12–Nov. 8. Minnesota had single birds at 3 different sites between Aug. 30–Oct. 27. All 3 states found **Pacific Loons**. A breeding-plumaged individual flew by W.P.B.O. Oct. 7. At Superior, single birds were found at Wisconsin Pt. Oct. 17 (SP) and in the harbor Oct. 24 (KH et al.). The latter individual strayed to the Duluth side (KR et al.), with another at Mille Lacs L. Nov. 8 (KE et al.). Impressive Com. Loon numbers were recorded in both Minnesota and Michigan. They peaked at Minnesota's L. Winnibigoshish with 1108 Oct. 6 and 1080 Oct. 20 (AH, KS, PS). Peaks in Michigan included 1500 at W.P.B.O., where 4604 were tallied between Aug. 8–Nov. 16. Commons were lingering well into December at several Wisconsin sites.

Early fall migrant Horned Grebes included one July 23 in *Keweenaw*, MI, with two Aug. 24 onward in *Kewaunee*, WI (JR). For the season, W.P.B.O. had 632 between Aug. 16–Nov. 10. An excellent Red-necked Grebe migration was found in Wisconsin and especially Michigan. For example, the W.P.B.O. staff found a few birds during late July, but the main movement was between Aug. 8–Nov. 15 when 15,094 were counted.

Likewise, a good Eared Grebe migration was found in both Michigan and Wisconsin. Michigan's contributions included a peak of 13 Sept. 8 at M.W.S. (AB, KT et al.) and single birds at Ford L. Aug. 30–31 (m.ob.), at the Ithaca Sewage Ponds Sept. 8–15 (AB, KT), and at M.W.S. Nov. 4 (JP, EH). For Wisconsin, two–four birds were on L. Maria Aug. 19–22 onward (DT, JPi), with singles at Manitowoc Sept. 21–22 (CS), in *Door* Nov. 2 (JR), and at Port Washington Nov. 7–22 (TU et al.). A W. Grebe spent Oct. 5 in both Duluth (*vide* KE) and Superior (SP). One was at Port Washington Nov. 5–6 (TU).

American White Pelicans continue to

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This truly was a mixed up fall. August was unusually cool and moist, more like October. September and part of October had very warm, dry conditions, more like July and August. Late October and most of November were cold, considerably below normal, with the dry conditions continuing. However, late November saw a return to above-normal temperatures, a prelude to December.

The unusual weather affected the migration in several ways. Most notable was the exceptional number of record or near record departure dates for many species. For example, 20 warbler species were found in Minnesota during October and even November. Second, the overall migration was quiet, with many common migrants not observed in any numbers—or even totally missed. This was especially true for many raptors, most shorebirds, and various passerines.

The difference between this fall and last year were twofold. First, there was an early,

generally good winter finch flight for various species. Unfortunately, some of them continued southward, leaving only a token representation by December. Second, there was a better assortment of rarities to be found, although too many were one-day sightings. Noteworthy for Michigan were Pacific Loon, Glossy Ibis, Sabine's Gull, Arctic Tern, Rufous Hummingbird, Say's Phoebe, Northern Wheatear, and Lark Bunting. Minnesota's contributions included Pacific Loon, King Eider, Snowy Plover, Curlew Sandpiper, Red Phalarope, Band-tailed Pigeon, Say's Phoebe, and Black-throated Sparrow. Wisconsin added Pacific Loon, King Eider, Swallow-tailed Kite, Purple Sandpiper, Sabine's Gull, and White-winged Dove. (All subject to review by each state's records committee.)

Abbreviations: H.R.N.R. (*Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve, Duluth, MN*); M.W.S. (*Muskegon Wastewater System, MI*); P.M. (*Pt. Mouillee State Game Area, MI*); UP (*Upper Peninsula, MI*); W.P.B.O. (*Whitefish Pt. Bird Observatory, MI*).

increase in the Region, particularly in Wisconsin. Peaks included 200+ at the Green Bay nesting site until early August, 250+ at Horicon N.W.R. during August and September, 250+ at LaCrosse from late August into October, and 500 at the Trempealeau N.W.R. Sept. 6 (JHe). At H.R.N.R., flybys included 34 Sept. 9 and 52 Oct. 15 (FN). In Michigan, three lingered from the summer until Aug. 30 at P.M. (CP, TW et al.). A weakened imm. Am. White Pelican was found in a farmer's field near Baraga during early October. It was rehabilitated and flown to the Seabird Sanctuary at Indian Harbor, FL, for release. Double-crested Cormorants were lingering at several Wisconsin sites (e.g., Menasha, Green Bay), apparently attempting to winter.

A Least Bittern Aug. 24 in Minnesota's *Itasca* provided a county first (AH). Snowy Egrets were reported from 2 states. In Michigan, singles were at the Karn Plant Aug. 19 (JS), in *Clinton* Aug. 22 (R&KB), and at the Erie Marsh Preserve Aug. 27 (TW). In Wisconsin, several birds lingered at the Green Bay nesting site until Sept. 22 (JHa et al.), with singles at Horicon N.W.R. Aug. 22 (SR) and at Milwaukee between Aug. 15–Sept. 2 (MK, DC et al.). An ad. Little Blue Heron was in Minnesota's *Carlton* Aug. 24 for a first county record (AH). One was in Wisconsin's Vernon Marsh Aug. 24 (TWO). The unusually plumaged Tricolored Heron lingered at the Karn Plant, MI, until Aug. 23 (TP, SM). Cattle Egrets were found in all 3 states. Michigan had one–two birds during early August at the Karn Plant and near Estral Beach. For Wisconsin, impressive peaks included almost 100 at the 2 nesting sites, Green Bay and Oshkosh, plus several at Horicon N.W.R. For Minnesota, there were unusually late birds in *Hennepin/Dakota* between Oct. 23–Nov. 8 (JE et al.) and *Rice* Nov. 17 (F&KS). Black-crowned Night-Herons lingered well into December in Milwaukee. The only Yellow-crowned Night-Heron report was of an immature at Milwaukee Aug. 27 (SR, BF). The **Glossy Ibis** found by Binford at the Arnheim Slough Oct. 1–2 (m.ob.) furnished the first UP record. Two White-faced Ibises were at the Haberman W.M.A., MN, Sept. 25 (JH et al.).

SWANS TO CRANES

Tundra Swans peaked at the Upper Mississippi N.W.R. with 16,900 Nov. 4, increasing to 19,480 Nov. 17 (EN). There were still 1000+ in *LaCrosse* at the end of the period (FL). During November, Trumpeter Swans were found at scattered Wisconsin sites, including Stevens Pt. (five, MB), Middleton

(five, ME), and into December at Oconto (three, J&KS). Disturbing news for Wisconsin birders was the record number of Trumpeters shot this fall. A total of seven were killed (5 Wisconsin, 2 Illinois), with all but one being malicious (SMA).

Greater White-fronted Geese in Wisconsin included birds Sept. 16 at Ashland (DVe), Sept. 18 at Crex Meadows W.A. (JHo), two Oct. 1 in *Clark* (CD), Oct. 22–24 at Middleton (SR), Oct. 31 at Superior (SP), and five Nov. 19 in *Columbia* (PA). Michigan had singles Nov. 6 in *Ottawa* (FB) for a first county record, and Nov. 24 near Lansing (KT). The five Ross's Geese at the Beaver Bay lagoons Sept. 11–14 (m.ob.) were the first for *Lake*, and represented a record arrival for Minnesota. Also in Minnesota was one Nov. 4–9 at Helmer Myre S.P. (RC, ABa). In Wisconsin, Robbins et al. had a Ross's Goose at Middleton between Oct. 10–22.

The Nov. 17 survey of the Upper Mississippi N.W.R. (includes primarily Wisconsin, Minnesota, and a limited part of Iowa) yielded 32,880 puddle ducks and 289,530 diver ducks (EN). Due to the abundance of open water at the advent of winter, there were numerous lingering ducks. For example, Wisconsin had at least 24 species. A female N. Shoveler with three young at the L. Linden Sewage Ponds, *Houghton*, during August provided only the second Keeweenaw breeding record (LB) and about the 5th for Michigan. Peak duck concentrations included 12,747 Mallards at the Shiawassee N.W.R. (DP) and 12,000 at M.W.S. Nov. 7 (JP). Northern Shovelers peaked at M.W.S. Oct. 1 with 1500 (DM). The Canvasback concentration at the Upper Mississippi N.W.R. was impressive! On Nov. 4 & 6, 250,000 were tallied, the highest total in 20 years (EN). Of these, 245,000 were in Wisconsin, 4500 in Iowa, and about 500 in Minnesota.

Diehl noted 4000 Greater Scaup in Wisconsin's *Door* Oct. 16. **King Eiders** were found in all 3 states. Unfortunately for Wisconsin, its contribution was shot by a hunter Oct. 27 in *Bayfield* (*fide* DVe). For Minnesota, one was at Kimball Cr., *Cook* (TB, SRO), the 5th for this county in the past 9 years. One was at Rogers City, MI, Nov. 17–18 (WG). Harlequin Ducks graced all 3 states, with six in Michigan, five in Wisconsin, and two in Minnesota. While 18,838 Oldsquaws were tallied between Sept. 26–Nov. 16 at W.P.B.O., with a peak of 5558 Nov. 5, the big news was the inland sightings in both Wisconsin and Minnesota. Both states had small numbers at several sites.

Likewise there was a surprising number of inland sightings for all three scoters from the same 2 states. The Great Lakes movement was average to slightly above. Whitefish Pt. Bird Observatory recorded 79 Blacks, 528 Surfs, and 3202 White-wingeds for the season. The Smiths found 2600 Com. Goldeneyes in *Oconto*, WI, Nov 26 Barrow's Goldeneyes returned to Wisconsin (4th year) and Minnesota (3rd year) The one in Wisconsin alternated between the Schlitz Audubon Center and Virmond Park Nov. 9 onward (TWO et al.), while in Minnesota one was at the Blue L. Lagoons Nov. 15 through the period (*fide* AH) Another male was also seen at Wisconsin's Northport Nov. 16 (DS).

A Bufflehead Aug. 10 on Butternut L., WI, was early (LG). Common Mergansers peaked at 20,000 on L. Pepin, MN, between Nov. 22–25 (KB et al.). At Michigan's Whiting Plant, *Monroe*, 19,000 Red-breasted Mergansers were present Nov. 20 (WP) There were 2 impressive Ruddy Duck concentrations. In Michigan, 9000 were at M.W.S. Oct. 23 (JP) for a probable record count. In Wisconsin 5000–6000 were on L. Maria Oct. 16 (DT).

Overall the autumn raptor flight was poor. A few species, in particular Merlin and Peregrine Falcon, had good flights, but the poor weather conditions contributed to the subpar migration. Unfortunately only the Hawk Ridge (H.R.N.R.) results were received (see table). Requested data from Wisconsin and Michigan hawk stations was never received.

HAWK RIDGE NATURE RESERVE RAPTOR TOTALS		
SPECIES	TOTALS	COMMENTS
Turkey Vulture	1325	
Osprey	517	record high 90 Sept. 17 a daily record
Bald Eagle	2407	
N. Harrier	721	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	22,344	record high 1919 Sept. 17 a daily record
Cooper's Hawk	201	
N. Goshawk	453	
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	
Broad-winged Hawk	49,327	peak flight Sept 17–19
Swainson's Hawk	16	
Red-tailed Hawk	9275	
Rough-legged Hawk	345	
Golden Eagle	103	
Am. Kestrel	2498	
Merlin	460	record high
Peregrine Falcon	111	record high 21 Sept. 29 a daily record

Single Ospreys in *Ingham*, MI, Nov. 7 (BC) and *Ozaukee*, WI, Nov. 10 (BCow) were late. Outstanding, if confirmed by Wisconsin's record committee, was a **Swallow-tailed Kite** in *Green Lake* Aug. 22 (ER). Diligent searching on subsequent days could not relocate it.

A N. Goshawk Aug. 13 at M.W.S. (JPe, GW) was early for s. Michigan. Domagalski and Mueller had a Swainson's Hawk and Golden Eagle in Wisconsin's *Grant* Nov. 8. Minnesota had single Ferruginous Hawks in *Kittson* Aug. 10 (PS) and *Aitkin* Aug. 24 (WN, WS). Rough-legged Hawks arrived late and in below-average numbers Region-wide. Additional Golden Eagle sightings included four each in Wisconsin and Minnesota, with one in Michigan. One of the Wisconsin sightings was a very early adult at Horicon N.W.R. being harassed by a Bald Eagle Sept. 3 (DT). Cowart at the Concordia College hawk station, *Ozaukee*, WI, had 140 Merlins and 65 Peregrine Falcons Sept. 29, the latter a probable record one-day count. A Gyrfalcon was seen at Thorn L., *Jackson*, Nov. 16 (DB) and at Sault Ste. Marie Nov. 28 (CPu), both Michigan. Minnesota had Prairie Falcons in *Wilkin* Sept. 18 (S&DM), *Clay* Oct. 10 (AH), and at the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport Oct. 19–Nov. 28 (m.ob.).

Family groups of Spruce Grouse were observed during the season in n. *Vilas*, WI (BR, JB). A Yellow Rail was flushed by Berner at Wisconsin's Oakridge L., *St. Croix*, Oct. 9. Three Virginia Rails lingered well into December at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum, Madison (PA). A Sora Oct. 4 at W.P.B.O. was late for the UP. The Com. Moorhen Oct. 18 in *Columbia*, WI, was tardy (SR). Sandhill Crane concentrations included 2442 Oct. 20 at the Hachnle Sanctuary, MI (JPe et al.), and 2000 Oct. 30 near Poy Sippi, WI (JHe). Individuals were present in both states at the conclusion of the period.

SHOREBIRDS

The shorebird migration was dismal. Most species were either found in exceptionally low numbers or totally missed. The lack of good habitat and poor weather patterns appeared to be the prime contributing factors. There were only a few exceptions. Both Minnesota and Michigan noted good numbers of Am. Golden-Plovers. There were numerous flocks of 10–50, with a few of 200–250. Minnesota had its 7th record of a **Snowy Plover** when Hertzler watched one at Crookston Aug. 16. Very late Semipalmated Plovers included one Oct. 25 at

Beaver Bay, *Lake* (AH, PS), the 4th latest for Minnesota, and two Nov. 1 at Sterling S.P., MI (PC, JL, KO). The only Piping Plover report was a color-banded juvenile Aug. 15–16 at W.P.B.O. (AB, KO). American Avocets bucked the shorebird pattern with decent numbers in all 3 states. Michigan had seven birds from 3 sites, Minnesota had 15+ birds from 4 sites, and Wisconsin had 16 birds from 5 sites. The largest flock in Wisconsin was 11 at Wausau that Belter discovered Sept. 18. After calling additional local birders to enjoy the avocets, they were treated (!) to the arrival of an imm. Sabine's Gull, followed later by a Merlin that harassed the peeps before resting on the sandbar near the avocets. Talk about a birding bonanza!

Michigan had several late Greater Yellowlegs, the last Nov. 22 at Dearborn (GH). The latest Lesser Yellowlegs was in Superior Nov. 6 (SP). A Solitary Sandpiper at Shiawassee N.W.R., MI, Oct. 16 was late (DP). Wisconsin and Michigan each had four Willets, while Minnesota had one. A Spotted Sandpiper Oct. 19 at Dearborn was late (JC). No Whimbrels were found this fall. Michigan had the only godwit sightings. A Hudsonian was at P.M. Sept. 9 (TW), while three Marbleds were at Bay Port Sept. 2 (TBe).

The Red Knot flight was poor in all 3 states. However, very late was one at the Cedar Grove Hawk Station, *Sheboygan*, WI, Nov. 10 (DBe). A Sanderling Nov. 22 at Sheboygan was late (SD). A few W. Sandpipers were seen in Michigan and Wisconsin. Only Michigan found both the White-rumped and Baird's sandpipers more widespread than normal, although numbers were not that good. Minnesota had very late dates for both species. The White-rumped found Nov. 10 at Beaver Bay, *Lake* (AH, PS), was record late, while single Baird's Nov. 8 in *Lac Qui Parle* (PJ, DN) and Nov. 9 in *Cass* (PS) just missed. Record late for Wisconsin was a Pectoral Sandpiper that lingered at Kewaunee through Dec. 1 (JR).

An early Purple Sandpiper was at Arcadia Oct. 12, with another there Nov. 1 (BA, CF). Also in Michigan was one Nov. 15 at P.M. (DS). Wisconsin had single birds at Sheboygan Nov. 16 (TWO) and Kewaunee Nov. 28 (MP, JHe). A Dunlin in Minnesota's *Lake* Nov. 10 was late (AH, PS). Minnesota had only its 2nd **Curlew Sandpiper** record when Mandel watched one Oct. 9 in *Carver*. The Oct. 21 Stilt Sandpiper, also in *Carver* (RC), was the 2nd latest for Minnesota. The Buff-breasted Sandpiper flight was subpar Regionwide. Each state had

only several (3–8) reporting sites, with most sightings of only a few individuals. Exceptions included a flock of 30 Aug. 3 in *Dakota*, MN (TT), and 13 Aug. 5 in *Racine*, WI (MK).

At Horicon N.W.R., 170+ Long-billed Dowitchers were present Oct. 25 (DT), with a few still there Nov. 9 providing a record late departure (BD). The Red-necked Phalarope flight for Wisconsin was fair (15+ birds, 5 sites), good in Michigan (25+ birds, 3 sites), and outstanding in Minnesota. For the season 240 birds were noted from 15 Minnesota counties, with the last in *Lac Qui Parle* Oct. 17 (WMa). Johnson watched a Red Phalarope on L. Bemidji Oct. 30 for only the 9th Minnesota record and the only Regional report this fall.

JAEGERS TO TERNS

The jaeger migration varied between average to good. A juv. **Pomarine Jaeger** was at W.P.B.O. Nov. 4 (KB). Parasitic Jaegers were at Duluth Sept. 1, 7 & 16 (*vide* KE); at W.P.B.O. Sept. 3, 10 (2), & 15 and Oct. 6 (staff); at Superior's Wisconsin Pt. Oct. 18–19 (SP); and Harrington Beach S.P., WI, Oct. 25 (DT, SR, BF). Unidentified jaegers included 36 in Michigan, of which 34 were at W.P.B.O., and four in Wisconsin (Kewaunee and Superior), while two were at Duluth. The Laughing Gull at Grand Marais Nov. 28–30 was record late for Minnesota (KE, K&MH). Peak Franklin's Gull numbers included 4200 Aug. 16 in *Douglas* (AH) and 3500 Sept. 21 in *Big Stone* (LE), both Minnesota. Additional birds were seen elsewhere in the state, including seven at Duluth Sept. 29 (MH). Michigan had six birds from 4 sites, while Wisconsin had four from 2 sites. The only Little Gulls were recorded in Michigan. Singles were in *Ottawa* Aug. 30 (SMi), at New Buffalo Sept. 23 (KT), at Tawas Point S.P. Oct. 24 (GN), and two at South Haven Nov. 23 (JG). Lake Winnibigoshish, MN, averaged 2500 Bonaparte's Gulls between Oct. 6–20, with a peak of 2600 Oct. 13 (PS et al.).

Thayer's Gulls were well reported from all 3 states. Single Iceland Gulls were at W.P.B.O. and Sault Ste. Marie Oct. 27 (RP). One was at Grand Marais, MN, from Nov. 2 into December (KE et al.). All 3 states had Lesser Black-backed Gulls. Michigan reported eight individuals, including one that returned for the 8th consecutive year to Bay City S.P. In Wisconsin, of the two birds sighted, one returned for the 4th year to the Madison–Middleton area. Minnesota had one in *Hennepin* Oct. 4 (PB). Good numbers of Glaucous and Great Black-backed

gulls were found in Michigan and Wisconsin, especially during November. Minnesota had one–two Great Black-backed at Grand Marais Nov. 10 into December (K&MH et al.). A very early immature Black-legged Kittiwake was at Metrobeach Metropark Aug. 13, while a more conventional one was at New Buffalo Nov. 15, both Michigan. Along Minnesota's n. shore two were recorded. The first was at Grand Marais Nov. 2–17 (KE et al.), and the other was at Two Harbors Nov. 27 (MT, MD). The **Sabine's Gull** found Aug. 26 in Wausau (DB et al.) was record early. One was at W.P.B.O. Aug. 31 (AB, JBY, KB), with another in New Buffalo Sept. 20 (JG, DV). An **Arctic Tern** was seen by Bardon Oct. 27 at W.P.B.O. Late was a Black Tern Oct. 26 at Sterling S.P., MI (SS).

DOVES TO WOODPECKERS

Not one but two **Band-tailed Pigeons** were found at H.R.N.R. The first was photographed Aug. 24 (FN et al.), after which it promptly disappeared. Another flew by Oct. 4 (m.ob.). Equally exciting, if accepted by the records committee, was a **White-winged Dove** that flew by the Concordia College hawk station Sept. 29 (BCow). This would be Wisconsin's first record.

In Michigan, both Black-billed and Yellow-billed cuckoos were seen more frequently than usual, including several late reports. It was the general consensus that Snowy Owls were late and scarce this fall. The exception proved to be one at W.P.B.O. Aug. 17 that possibly might have summered undetected nearby. The only N. Hawk Owl reports came from Minnesota: an early bird Sept. 17 at L. Vermillion, *St. Louis* (AH), with two others also in *St. Louis* during November. Great Gray Owls were found in Michigan (five) and Minnesota (four). Regionally there were few Short-eared Owls sighted. A Boreal Owl was at W.P.B.O. Oct. 11, while one was banded at H.R.N.R. Nov. 5 (DE). Apparently good numbers of N. Saw-whet Owls were banded at several Wisconsin stations, but no final figures were received.

The only good Com. Nighthawk flight was 10,000 Aug. 26 at Duluth (KE, FN). A male **Rufous Hummingbird** commenced coming to a Ludington feeder Oct. 8, continuing into December (LR, ph.). A Red-bellied Woodpecker was at W.P.B.O. Oct. 16. Black-backed Woodpeckers were reported in all 3 states, including three at H.R.N.R. (m.ob.).

FLYCATCHERS TO SHRIKES

Late, especially for n. Minnesota, was an Olive-sided Flycatcher Sept. 28 in *Kittson* (PS). The **Say's Phoebe** at W.P.B.O. Aug. 28 (DM, KT, KM) provided only the 9th Michigan and 2nd W.P.B.O. record. One was at Grand Marais, MN, Sept. 9 (K&MH). An E. Phoebe in Madison, WI, Nov. 23 (PA) was very late. Also very late was a Great Crested Flycatcher in *Cook*, MN, Oct. 25–28 (m.ob.). Ellwanger counted 173 E. Kingbirds in *Big Stone*, MN, Aug. 17. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was at the Duluth airport Oct. 2 (m.ob.), but apparently took an outbound flight as it could not be relocated. At the M.W.S., 10,000 Tree Swallows were present Sept. 24 (JP, EH). There was a good Red-breasted Nuthatch flight, particularly in Michigan and Wisconsin, with birds commencing to appear during mid- to late August.

Michigan had "many" Carolina Wren reports from the s. part of the state. Other noteworthy sightings included one Aug. 9 at W.P.B.O. and three Sept. 7 in downtown Ann Arbor. One was in Rochester, MN, between early September and December (*fide* AH). Three to four Carolina Wrens were in n. Milwaukee during September–October (m.ob.). In Michigan, a House Wren at Belle Isle Nov. 1 (JL, KO) and a Marsh Wren at New Buffalo Nov. 4 (AB) were tardy. Also late in Minnesota were Marsh Wrens in *Ramsey* Nov. 9 and *Hennepin* Nov. 16 (TT). For the 2nd consecutive fall, Minnesota's n. shore had Blue-gray Gnatcatchers. Birds were in Duluth Sept. 18 (FN), Schroeder Sept. 26 (R&RS), and a late individual near the Knife R. Oct. 26 (R&RS). Also late were two Oct. 31 at W.P.B.O.

A **Northern Wheatear** was s. of Rogers City Aug. 29 (WG, ph.). This would represent Michigan's 8th record if accepted by the records committee. Again this fall, Mt. Bluebirds were present in Minnesota. A female was in Duluth Oct. 21 (KE, PS), a male in Ely Nov. 2 (BT), and a male in Duluth Nov. 8 (*fide* KE). Minnesota had seven Townsend's Solitaires: five between Oct. 5–Nov. 21 in Duluth (m.ob.), plus singles Oct. 25 at Grand Marais (AH, PS) and Two Harbors (m.ob.). In Wisconsin, one was found by Wood Nov. 22 at Devil's Lake S.P., a favorite site for this species. Unfortunately the berry crop was poor, so it only lingered for about a week (v.o.). There was a good Hermit Thrush movement in Wisconsin and particularly Michigan. Record late was a Wood Thrush found in downtown Minneapolis Nov. 6–10 (IT et al.). There were only four Varied Thrush sight-

ings for the Region. Three of these occurred in Minnesota and included a record-timing arrival Sept. 16–26 at Mountain L. (*fide* RJ) The others were in *Ramsey* Nov. 15 (RH) and Windom Nov. 19–27 (*fide* AH) The 4th bird was in Neenah Oct. 24 (DK), just 2 days short of Wisconsin's arrival date.

Gray Catbirds lingered well into November in both Wisconsin and Michigan. Northern Mockingbirds were present in Michigan (five birds plus a family group in *Monroe*) and Minnesota (five). A Brown Thrasher Nov. 18 at Harvey was very late for the UP (LT). McWhirter had 220 Am Pipits Oct. 1 at M.W.S. Lukes had 50 Oct. 3 on Washington I., WI. There was a Bohemian Waxwing movement, especially into the n. parts of all 3 states. Generally this commenced during October, with some sites indicating greatly reduced numbers by late November. For example, 1000+ were in Minnesota's *Cook* during late October Michigan apparently had a record—early bird at Copper Harbor Aug. 27 (LB) Northern Shrikes were below average, especially in Wisconsin. The only Loggerhead Shrike reports came from Minnesota, with individuals in 3 counties including nine in *Dakota*.

VIREOS TO FINCHES

In Michigan, single White-eyed Vireos at Warren Dunes S.P. Aug. 31 (JG) and in *Hillsdale* Sept. 21 (JRe) were normal. However, Ashman found an individual in the University of Wisconsin Arboretum (Madison) Nov. 21 that lingered into December for the 2nd latest Wisconsin record. A Bell's Vireo was in *Lac Qui Parle*, MN, Aug 30–Sept. 1 (BL, RG). The Blue-headed Vireo at Pierport, MI, Nov. 1 (BA) was late The Yellow-throated Vireo at H.R.N.R Oct 6 was very late, especially for n. Minnesota (*fide* KE). Also late was a Red-eyed Vireo in Madison, WI, Nov. 4 (PA).

With the mild September and October, there understandably was a substantial number of late warbler sightings. Because of the excessive number only the highlights can be mentioned. Late Tennessee Warblers were noted Nov. 2 in *Cook*, MN (MH), and Nov. 6 in *Oconto*, WI (J&KS, TE). Extremely late was an Orange-crowned Warbler at Lost Pen., MI, Nov. 29 (CP, TW), while Minnesota had its 3rd-latest bird Nov. 15 in *Hennepin* (TT). The Nashville at Duluth Nov. 4 (DKi) was the latest for the n. part of the state. The N. Parula in Madison Nov 3 (PA) was record late for Wisconsin. The Yellow Warbler at Marquette Oct. 20 (LT) was very late, especially for the UP, while the in-

dividual in *Hennepin* Oct. 22 (TT) was record-late for Minnesota.

Other late warbler dates included Magnolias in *Lake*, MN, Oct. 18 (AH) and at Seul Choix Pt., MN, Oct. 30 (LGr); Black-throated Blue at H.R.N.R. Oct. 6; record-late dates for the Black-throated Green at *Hennepin*, MN, Nov. 4 (*vide* SC); a Blackburnian in *Outagamie*, WI, Oct. 24 (JA); a Blackpoll in *Wayne*, MI, Nov. 8 (WP); an Am. Redstart in *Houston*, MN, Nov. 9 (BCo), and the Yellow-breasted Chat at Duluth Oct. 18 (KE et al.). Other non-record dates included an Ovenbird in *Hennepin* Nov. 7–10 (TT), N. Waterthrush in *Hennepin* Oct. 14 (SC), and Wilson's Warbler in *Lake* Oct. 24 (*vide* KE), all Minnesota. Interesting sightings included a Yellow-throated Warbler in *Berrien*, MI, Aug. 31 (JG), still on territory Oct. 1 (KT)!

Kirtland's Warblers at Little L., *Marquette*, MI, Aug. 11 & 15 (LT) were probably the first fall sightings for the UP. One was also at Mack L., *Oscoda*, MI, Aug. 18 (GP). A juv. Kentucky Warbler banded Aug. 17 at Rogers City, MI, was unusually far north (WG). Michigan had an unusual number of Hooded Warbler sightings between August and Sept. 21. In Wisconsin, one was watched by Berner in *Portage* between Aug. 30–Sept. 18.

Minnesota had Summer Tanagers at Good Harbor Bay Oct. 18–23 (m.ob.) and Stoney Pt. Oct. 19–24 (KE et al.). A N. Cardinal was in *Marquette* Aug. 6 (LT). The Blue Grosbeak in *Rock* Oct. 2 (ND) was the 4th-latest Minnesota date. Tardy Indigo Buntings included Oct. 18 in Milwaukee (DG) and Oct. 29 in *Wayne*, MI (JC). Four Spotted Towhees were found in Minnesota between late September–mid-October. The Clay-colored Sparrow in *Becker* Nov. 18 (BB) set a Minnesota departure record. Exciting was the **Black-throated Sparrow** that appeared at Dolphin's feeder in Austin Nov. 8. This was only the 4th record for Minnesota. Late was a Vesper Sparrow Nov. 8 in *Alpena*, MI (WG). A **Lark Bunting** Aug. 17 at Pere Marquette Park in Muskegon, MI, was photographed (SM, JW).

In Minnesota, Le Conte's Sparrows had an excellent migration, as evidenced by sightings from 16 s. counties (RJ). Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows appeared at 2 Wisconsin sites. One to four birds were seen intermittently at Milwaukee between Sept. 6–Oct. 4 (DG, MK, TWo). At Manitowoc one was present Oct. 3–4 (CS). In Minnesota migrants were found at 3 sites, including one Oct. 18 in *Hennepin* (TT), which ties the departure record.

Early were two White-crowned Sparrows Sept. 13 at Tawas Point S.P., MI. Unusually far north was one lingering into December at Manitowoc (CS). There was a good Harris's Sparrow flight in Michigan. The Dark-eyed Junco migration in both Wisconsin and Michigan was outstanding. An early Lapland Longspur was at W.P.B.O. Sept. 4. Also early were eight Snow Buntings at Superior's Wisconsin Pt. Sept. 24 (DT). Good sized flocks were appearing in both Michigan and Wisconsin during November.

The Yellow-headed Blackbird Sept. 1 was a first fall sighting at W.P.B.O. An Orchard Oriole was in *Kent*, MI, Aug. 2 (FA). Smith had a Baltimore Oriole in *Oconto* Nov. 14–23. Add to this several individuals appearing elsewhere in Wisconsin during December and one wonders what was happening with the Baltimore.

Thankfully there was a winter finch movement this fall. It started quite early, which in the case of some species meant most of them kept right on going. These included Evening Grosbeak, Pine Siskin, and Purple Finch. However, several species had excellent flights in all 3 states, including Pine Grosbeak and Com. Redpolls, with a scattering of Hoary Redpolls. The White-winged Crossbill flight was very good in Michigan, but more reduced in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Red Crossbills were found in small numbers except at a few northern sites.

CORRIGENDA

For autumn 1996 the following changes should be made. In Minnesota, delete the Sabine's Gull at Mille Lacs L. Oct. 25. In Michigan delete the following: seven Greater White-fronted Geese Oct. 10 at Hale, King Eider Oct. 10 at W.P.B.O., Curlew Sandpiper Aug. 11 at PM, Pomarine Jaeger Nov. 2 at W.P.B.O., and three Townsend's Solitaires Nov. 20 at W.P.B.O. For Michigan, add single Pomarine Jaegers Aug. 26 at St. Joseph and Nov. 5 at W.P.B.O. (ph.). And last, in Michigan the White-winged Dove at Empire was present Aug. 5–8, instead of Aug. 5–6.

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Place names that are frequently mentioned, but very long, may be abbreviated in a form such as "C.B.B.T." or "W.P.B.O." Such local abbreviations will be explained in a key at the beginning of the particular regional report in which they are used. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *Field Notes* are keyed on page 21.