

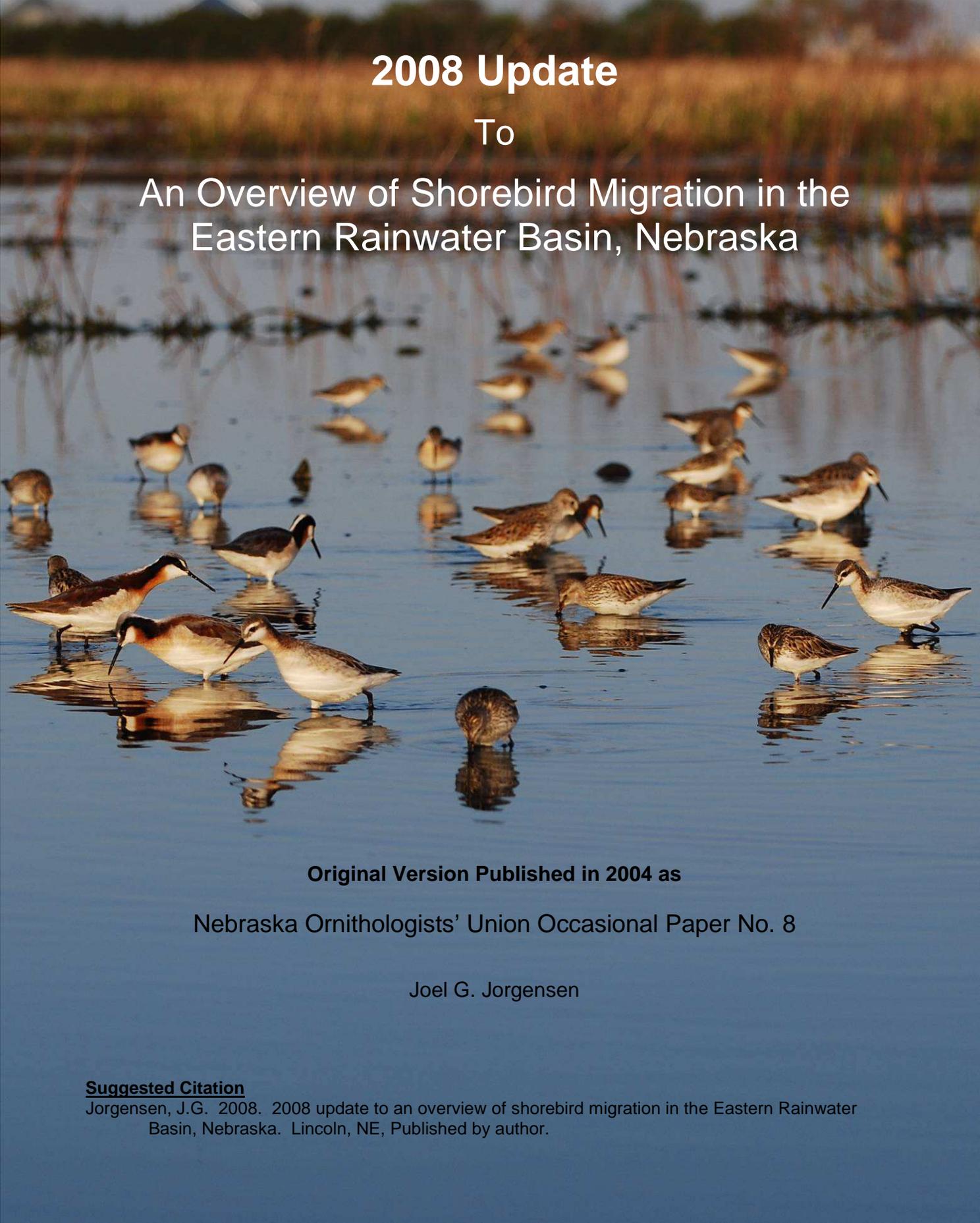
2008 Update to

An Overview of Shorebird Migration

in the Eastern Rainwater Basin, Nebraska



Joel G. Jorgensen



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To
An Overview of Shorebird Migration in the
Eastern Rainwater Basin, Nebraska

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INTRODUCTION

In February 2004, I first published a summary of shorebird records and observations for the Eastern Rainwater Basin (eRWB; Jorgensen 2004). The Eastern Rainwater Basin is a relatively flat landscape with numerous playa wetlands in south-central Nebraska (Figure 1). This update adds additional data and information collected from February 2004 to December 2008. This update primarily focuses on new records for rare species, high counts, extreme dates, and breeding records. Supporting and historical information that appeared in the original version is not presented here. Site location information is also presented in the original version.

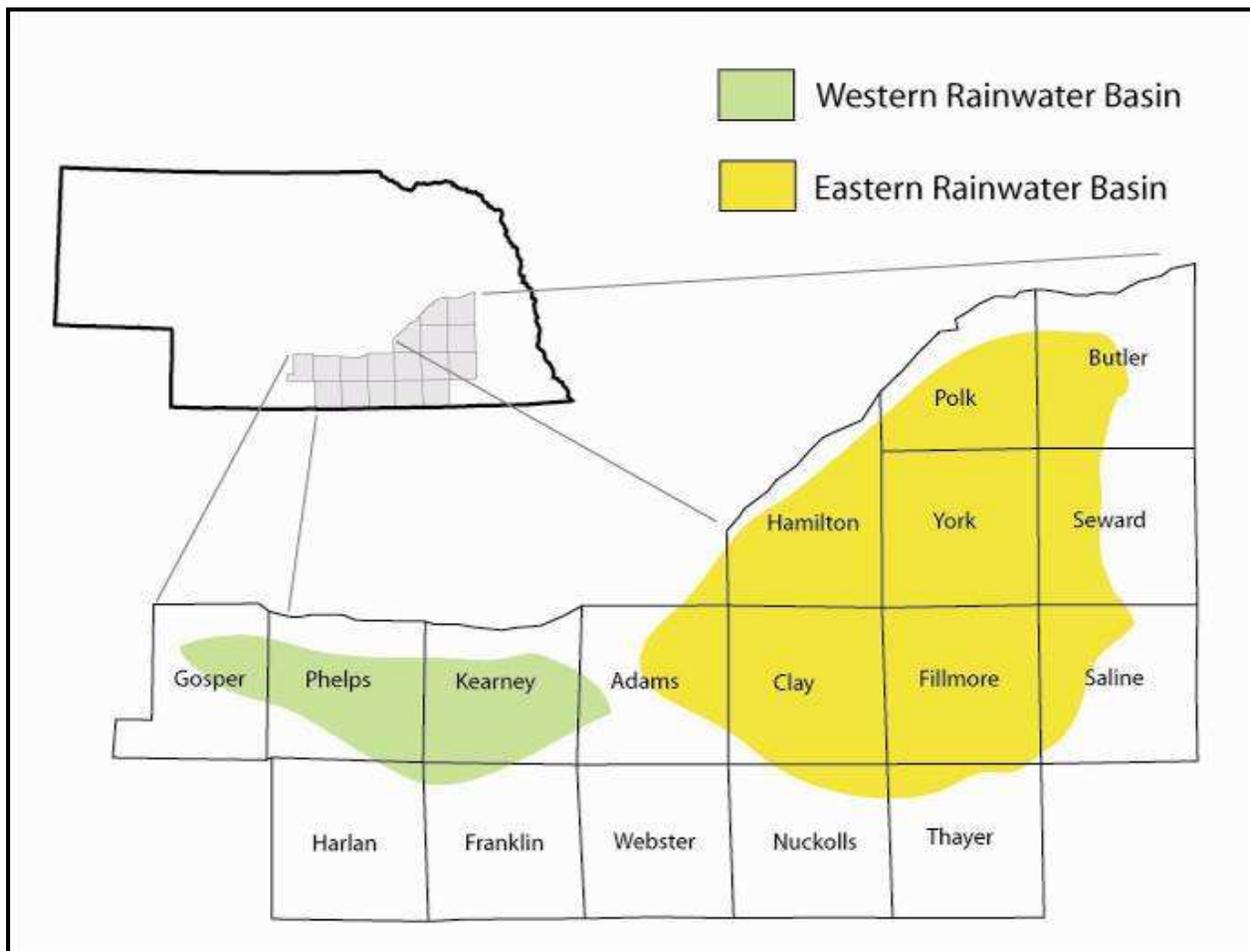


Figure 1. Location and extent of the Eastern and Western Rainwater Basin.

EXPLANATION OF SPECIES ACCOUNTS

The species accounts synthesize data from available sources including personal observations and records, occurrence reports in the *Nebraska Bird Review*, Swenk (1925), and Sharpe et al. (2001). Nomenclature follows the most recent American Ornithologists' Union Checklist (AOU 1999) and supplements (AOU 2007). Additional information on methods can be found in Jorgensen (2004)

DISTRIBUTION: A brief description of general distribution of the species is outlined. References include Hayman et al. (1986), Paulson (1993), and AOU (1998).

CONSERVATION STATUS: Relevant conservation designations are outlined. References include the United States Shorebird Conservation Plan (USSCP; Brown et al. 2001), the Central Plains/Playa Lakes Regional Shorebird Conservation Plan (CPRSCP; Fellows et al. 2001), and the state wildlife action plan known as the Nebraska Natural Legacy Plan (Schneider et al. 2005).

ERWB STATUS: Status and abundance is outlined. Terms follow Sharpe et al. (2001).

Status Descriptors include:

- Regular: Occurs at least 8 out of every 10 years.
- Casual: More than one record, but not regular.
- Accidental: One record.

Seasonal abundance qualifiers are used only for regular species and include:

- Abundant: Large numbers, generally flocks, found on almost every field trip without much effort.
- Common: Moderate numbers found on almost every field trip without much effort.
- Fairly Common: Small numbers encountered on almost every field trip but with some effort.
- Uncommon: Not seen on every field trip but several are expected during each season with some effort.
- Rare: Generally one record per season. Such species likely occur in very small numbers but require extreme birding effort to find.

HABITAT: Specific habitats where individual species have been observed in eRWB.

SEASONAL OCCURRENCE: Seasonal abundance is summarized under the respective temporal periods. Seasons are defined below, however, individual species' seasonal movement may extend outside of limits. For instance, White-rumped Sandpiper spring migration extends well into June. Observation during that period are discussed under spring.

SPRING: March through early June

SUMMER: June

FALL: Late June through November

WINTER: December through February

MAXIMUM SINGLE LOCATION COUNTS: List of the highest counts recorded at single sites, such as individual wetlands or an agricultural field.

EXTREME DATES: The three earliest and latest dates on record. Extreme dates that fall well outside migration limits or that are undocumented are mentioned in text.

MAXIMUM ERWB COUNTS: The highest counts recorded for the entire region. This includes counts from multiple sites and often represent total number of individuals seen over the course of a day or weekend.

Abbreviations used in text are listed in Table 1. Person's initials follow sightings credited to individual observer. My observations are generally given no citation. Observer initials are listed in Table 2.

Table 1. Abbreviations used in text

BBA	Breeding Bird Atlas Project 1984-89 (Mollhoff 2001)	NOURC	Nebraska Ornithologists' Union Records Committee
CPRSCP	Central Plains/Playa Lakes Regional Shorebird Conservation Plan	RWB	Rainwater Basin
eRWB	Eastern Rainwater Basin	SL	Sewage Lagoon(s)
HMM	Hastings Municipal Museum	UNSM	University of Nebraska State Museum
MARC	Hruska Meat Animal Research Center, Clay County	USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge	USSCP	United States Shorebird Conservation Plan
NBR	<i>Nebraska Bird Review</i>	WMA	Wildlife Management Area (State)
NGPC	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	WPA	Waterfowl Production Area (Federal)

Table 2. Observer abbreviations used in text

AB	Aaron Brees	LE	Larry Eineman
BP	Babs Padelford	LM	Lee Morris
CG	Carlos Grande	LP	Loren Padelford
JD	Jeff Drahota	LR	Lanny Randolph
JF	Joe Fontaine	RE	Rick Eades
JGJ	Joel G. Jorgensen	RH	Robin Harding
PD	Paul Dunbar	SJD	Stephen J. Dinsmore
MB	Mark Brogie	JSt	Jon Strong
JG	Joe Gubanyi	DS	Dave Stage
JS	John Sullivan	WRS	W. Ross Silcock



American Golden-Plover
York County
17 May 2008

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Black-bellied Plover

Pluvialis squatarola

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in arctic regions of North America and Eurasia and winters along coastal areas from United States, Europe, and Asia south throughout much of the Southern Hemisphere.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Fairly common to occasionally common spring migrant and rare to uncommon fall migrant.

HABITAT: Primarily wetlands, but also agricultural fields.

SPRING: Primarily occurs during May, with peak migration occurring in middle May.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 334 at Harvard WPA 10 May 2000 (SJD, JF)
- 2) 295 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000
- 3) 176 at Wilkins WPA 21 May 2005
- 4) 165 at Griess WPA 21 May 2005
- 5) 92 at Harvard WPA 21 May 2000
- 6) 68 at Theesen Basin 16 May 1996.

Extreme dates: 15 (SJD), 19, 21 Apr <<>> 5, 10, 14 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 334 381 299

FALL: Adult migrants are casual, as there are only 7 records. Recent observations include 2 at Tamora WPA 9 Aug 2008, a single adults at North Lake Basin WMA 29 Aug 2004, in a disked field 2 miles south of Utica 27 August 2006, and another at Seward #5 17 August 2007.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 14 juveniles at Harvard WPA 10 Oct 1999
- 2) 10 juveniles at Kirkpatrick Basin North WMA 27 Sep 1998
- 3) 8 juveniles at Kirkpatrick Basin North WMA 10 Oct 1998

Extreme dates: 9, 11, 11 Aug <<>> 3 (NBR 31:43), 7, 17 Nov (NBR 4:13)



Black-bellied Plovers,
Straightwater WMA,
Seward county, 6 May 2005

American Golden- Plover*Pluvialis dominica*

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in northern Canada and Alaska and winters in central South America. In North America, principal migration route in spring is through interior and in fall off the east coast.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern and a CPRSCP priority species

ERWB STATUS: Common spring and uncommon fall migrant.

HABITAT: Mudflats, agricultural fields, grassland burns, and recently mowed hayfields in fall.

SPRING: In addition to extreme dates below, 5 were at Harvard WPA 19 Mar 2005 and the species was reported 5 Jun 1983 Adams (NBR 51:69).

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 714 in an agricultural field south of Freeman Lake 16 May 2006
- 2) 544 in an agricultural field 4 miles west of Utica 15 May 2006
- 3) 527 in agricultural fields 2 miles west of Tamora 27 April 2007
- 4) 346 in an agricultural field 0.5 miles south of Shypoke WMA 25 April 2007
- 5) 326 in an agricultural field 4 miles west of Tamora 6 May 2007
- 6) 295 in an agricultural field 2 miles west of Tamora 18 May 2007
- 7) 273 at Freeman Lake 17 May 1997
- 8) 232 in a agricultural field 2 miles southeast of Utica 20 May 2007
- 9) 231 at Freeman Lake 21 Apr 2006 (MB)
- 10) 206 at Real WPA 17 May 1997

Extreme dates: 2, 3, 4 Apr <<>> 27, 28, 30 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 800 789 706

SUMMER: Individuals were observed on two occasions in mid-June in 2005, a single was in western York County 17 Jun and 2 birds, one in basic plumage with an injured leg and another in partial alternate plumage, at Waco WPA 24 Jun. In 2008, 3 Golden-Plovers were at Tamora WPA 14 Jun and a singleton was at Hultine WPA 22-28 Jun .

FALL: In addition to the early dates above, an injured adult was at Kissinger Basin WMA 17 Jul-7 Aug 1999 and another adult was at Freeman Lake 16 July 2005. Few adults have been observed in fall, the majority of reports are juveniles during Sep and Oct.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 420 at Tamora WPA/Basin 2 Oct 2008 (JD)
- 2) 336 at Wetland #Y73 5 Oct 2007
- 3) 83 juveniles at Harvard WPA 25 Sep 1999
- 4) 97 in an agricultural field 0.5 west of Tamora WPA 26 Sep 2008 (JG)
- 5) 52 juveniles at Wetland #F85 28 Oct 2001

Extreme dates: 2, 4, 17 Aug <<>> 10, 24 Oct, 18 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 336 116 83

Shorebirds in flight, North Lake Basin, Seward county, 15 May 2008



Snowy Plover

Charadrius alexandrinus

DISTRIBUTION: Occurs locally on most continents. In North America it breeds principally along Pacific and Gulf coasts and in the southern Great Plains and western interior.

CONSERVATION STATUS: Considered highly imperiled by the USSCP and also a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Rare spring and accidental fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetland mudflats.

SPRING: Principally occurs from late April through May. Most observations involved single birds. All records are from 1995 onward and recorded 10 of the past 13 years.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 2 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2003 (SJD, WRS, AB)
- 2) All other observations have been single birds.

Extreme dates: 22, 22, 25 Apr <<>> 21, 28, 30 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 2 2 2

Records:

- 1) 1 at Mallard Haven WPA 22 Apr 2000
- 2) 1 at Massie WPA 22 Apr 2000
- 3) 1 at Wetland #C29 25 April 1998
- 4) 1 at Mallard Haven WPA 27 Apr 1996
- 5) 1 at Harvard WPA 27 Apr 1996
- 6) 1 at Hultine WPA 1 May 2008
- 7) 1 at Real WPA 2-4 May 1997
- 8) 1 at North Harvard Basin 2-4 May 1997
- 9) 1 at Ayr Lake 6 May 1995 (Dinsmore 1996a)
- 10) 1 at Kissinger Basin WMA 6 May 1995 (Dinsmore 1996a)
- 11) 1 at Tamora WPA 6-12 May 2007
- 12) 1 at a sheetwater wetland northwest of Houston, York County, 6-8 May 2007
- 13) 1 at Freeman Lake WPA 8 May 2004
- 14) 1 at Sandpiper WMA 8 May 2004
- 15) 1 at Wetland #C32 9 May 2004
- 16) 1 at Massie WPA 7-13 May 2000
- 17) 1 at Wilkins WPA 8 May 1999 (BP, LP)
- 18) 1 at Hupp WMA 9-10 May 1997
- 19) 1 at Miller's Pond WMA 9-10 May 1997
- 20) 2 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2003 (SJD, WRS, AB)
- 21) 1 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2006 (PD)
- 22) 1 at Sinninger #Y21 17 May 1997
- 23) 1 at Harvard WPA 21 May 2000
- 24) 1 at Mallard Haven 28 May 2000
- 25) 1 at North Harvard Basin 30 May 1999

FALL: There is one record, a single bird at Springer WPA 4 Aug 2007



Snowy Plover,
Springer WPA,
Hamilton County,
4 August 2007

Semipalmated Plover

Charadrius semipalmatus

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in arctic and sub-arctic regions of North America and winters along coasts from southern United States to southern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of low concern.

ERWB STATUS: Fairly common spring and uncommon fall migrant.

HABITAT: Primarily wetland mudflats. Also observed on grassland burns and moist agricultural fields.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 300 at Harvard WPA 9 May 2005 (PD)
- 2) 257 at Harvard WPA 3 May 2005
- 3) 102 at Mallard Haven WPA 30 Apr 2000
- 4) 81 at Mallard Haven WPA 27 Apr 2000
- 5) 77 at North Hultine WPA 3 May 1994

Extreme dates: 11, 11, 13 (JG) Apr <<>> 5, 10 (JG), 11 June

Maximum eRWB counts: 300 257 210

FALL: Markedly less common in fall than in spring and stopovers appear to be brief.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 17 at Wetland #F3 26 Aug 1995
- 2) 7 at Wetland #Y115 30 Aug 2003
- 3) 5 at Kissinger Basin WMA 2 Aug 1999

Extreme dates: 16, 17, 17 Jul <<>> 25, 25 Sep, 10 Oct

Maximum eRWB counts: 18 9 7

Piping Plover

Charadrius melodus

DISTRIBUTION: Restricted to North America. Breeds in the Great Plains and Midwest and also along the Atlantic Coast. Winters primarily along Gulf and southern Atlantic coasts.

CONSERVATION STATUS: Federally and state listed as threatened. Considered highly imperiled by the USSCP and also a CPRSCP priority species. Nebraska Natural Legacy Plan Tier I species.

ERWB STATUS: Rare to uncommon spring migrant, unrecorded in fall.

HABITAT: Mudflats. A single adult was observed with other shorebirds in a dry agricultural fields with soybean residue in southern Fillmore County 3 May 2004.

SPRING: The majority of reports are during late April and early May.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 19 at Harvard WPA 3 May 2005
- 2) 7 at Wetland #C29 22 Apr 2001
- 3) 5 at Pintail WMA 29 Apr 1995 (SJD)
- 4) 4 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2006 (PD)

Extreme dates: 13, 21, 22 Apr <<>> 18, 22, 26 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 19 7 7

Black-bellied Plovers, agricultural field, York County, 13 May 2008



Killdeer*Charadrius vociferus*

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds throughout most of North America and winters from southern United States to northern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Common spring and fall migrant and breeder.

HABITAT: Wetlands, agricultural fields, hayfields, sod farms, pastures, and grassland burns.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 141 at Hupp WMA 14 Mar 2004
- 2) 87 at Hansen WPA 14 Mar 2004
- 3) 29 at Harvard WPA 3 Apr 1997

Extreme dates: 5, 12, 19 Mar << >> summers

Maximum eRWB counts: 442 276 250

SUMMER: Currently the only shorebird that commonly breeds in the region.

FALL: Often congregates at wetlands in summer through fall. Commonly found in harvested soybean fields during late Sep and Oct.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 700 at Sinninger #Y22 6 Aug 2004
- 2) 258 in an agricultural field 0.5 west of Tamora WPA 26 Sep 2008 (JG)
- 3) 241 at Sinninger #Y22 24 Oct 1999
- 4) 231 at Wetland #C20 12 Jul 2003
- 5) 219 in a agricultural field, York County, 29 Aug 2004
- 6) 200 at Harvard WPA 10 Oct 1999

Extreme dates: Summers <<>> 7, 14, 17 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 1,012 556 445



Killdeer eggs and chicks, parking area at the west end of Hansen WPA, Clay County, 19 May 2004

Black-necked Stilt

Himantopus mexicanus

DISTRIBUTION: Occurs locally on most continents, primarily in tropical regions. In North America, breeds in southern and western regions United States.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of low concern.

ERWB STATUS: Rare, but increasing, spring migrant and breeder. No records prior to 1956 and first breeding record was in 2005 (Jorgensen and Dunbar 2005). Accidental fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 6 at Harvard WPA 20 May 2005 (PD)
- 2) 5 at Harvard WPA 22 May 2005 (+WRS)

Extreme dates: 9, 10, 10 May <<>> summer

Maximum eRWB counts:

Records:

- 1) Male at Weis WPA 9 May 1998
- 2) Male at Mallard Haven WPA 10 May 2000
- 3) 1 at Kirkpatrick Basin South WMA, 10-12 May 2006
- 4) 2 at Harvard WPA 11 May 2004
- 5) 12 May 1956 Adams (NBR 24:66)
- 6) Pair at Theesen Basin 14 May 2005
- 7) Female at Hupp WMA 13-15 May 2000
- 8) Male at Wilkins WPA 14 May 2005
- 9) Male at Brauning WPA 19 May 2005
- 10) Female at Kissinger Basin WMA 20 May 1999
- 11) Pair at Wetland #Y128 24 May 2005
- 12) Female at Wetland #F24 27 May 2002
- 13) Pair at Hultine WPA 2-4 June 2008
- 14) Pair at Fairmont Sewage Lagoon 3-5 June 2006 (+PD)
- 15) 1-2 at North Lake Basin WMA 2-10 Jun 1997 (+WRS, BP, LP)
- 16) Pair observed copulating at a small wetland 0.25 east of Utica 14 Jun 2008

SUMMER: Recent breeding records summarized by Jorgensen and Dunbar (2005). Additional breeding records, subsequent to Jorgensen and Dunbar's summary, occurred in 2006 at North Lake Basin and in 2008 at Hultine WPA. Apparently, neither attempt was successful. There are no confirmed successful breeding attempts for the region.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 8 at Trumbull Basin 19 June 2005
- 2) 6 at Spikerush WMA 4 July 2005 (DS)
- 3) 6 at Spikerush WMA 17 July 2005 (MB)

Extreme dates: summer <<>> 7,17 July, 5 Aug

Maximum eRWB counts: 8 6 6

Breeding records:

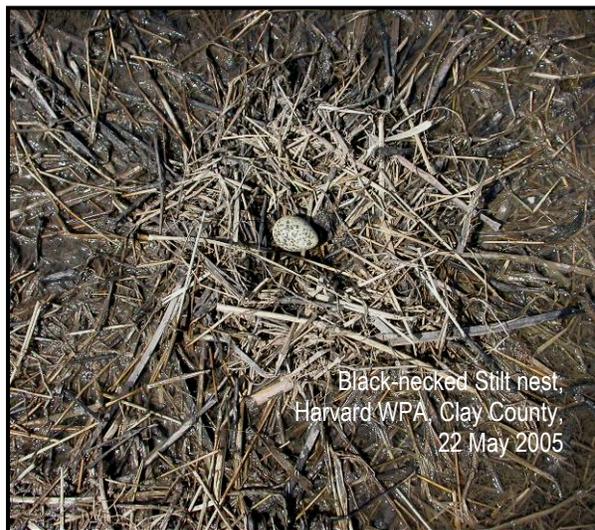
- 1) 2 nests and as many as 7 adults at Harvard WPA late May through late June (+ PD, WRS)
- 2) 1 nest and 4 adults at Spikerush WMA late June 2005
- 3) Pair tending 3 downy chicks at Trumbull Basin 24 June 2005
- 4) Nesting pair at North Lake Basin July 2006.
- 5) 1 nest with 3 eggs at Hultine WPA 22 June 2008.

FALL: First late Aug and Sep observations recorded in 2008.

Maximum eRWB counts:

Records:

- 1) 5-8 at North Lake Basin 27 Jul – 16 Sep 2008



Black-necked Stilt nest,
Harvard WPA, Clay County,
22 May 2005

American Avocet

Recurvirostra americana

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds primarily in the Great Plains and western interior of North America and winters in the southern United States and Mexico.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern and also a CPRSCP priority species

ERWB STATUS: Fairly common spring and uncommon fall migrant; casual breeder and rare summer visitor (Jun).

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 85 at Ayr Lake 27 Apr 1995 (SJD)
- 2) 79 at Harvard WPA 3 May 2005
- 3) 75 at Ayr Lake 24 Apr 1999
- 4) 71 at Wetland #S5 29 Apr 2007
- 5) 70 at Harvard WPA 3 May 1997

Extreme dates: 8 (RE), 11, 11 Apr <<>> 1, 1, 2 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 117 104 99

SUMMER: There are about a 18 Jun reports. Possibly most are non- or failed breeders from other areas, but the species has occasionally nested in the region. Nesting was reported as "confirmed" from the Clay Center and Theesen BBA blocks and "possible" from the Harvard and Mallard Haven blocks (Mollhoff 2001) in the 1980s. Lingle (1994) also noted that nesting occurred at Harvard WPA. The above reports are not accompanied by details. Field notes provided by J. Farrar (personal communication) corroborate nesting at Harvard WPA in 1989. Farrar found three nests containing four eggs each in the southeast portion of the wetland on 6 Jun 1989. One nest contained only eggshell fragments 8 Jun and was apparently depredated. C. McCartney reported that eggs had hatched successfully after visiting Harvard WPA 25 Jun 1989, but no other details were provided (Labeledz 1989). P. Dunbar found 2 pairs at Harvard WPA, one with an apparent nest without eggs on 30 May 2005. Also in 2005, the author found 2 birds at Trumbull Basin 5 Jun. P. Dunbar found 2 pairs, each with nests with 4 eggs, at Hultine WPA 31 May 2008. The 2008 nesting attempts apparently were not successful.

FALL:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 37 at Sinninger #Y22 18 Sep 2001
- 2) 35 at Harvard WPA 20 Aug 1994
- 3) 28 at Harvard WPA 10 Oct 1999

Extreme dates: 30 Jun, 9, 17 Jul <<>> 28 Oct, 7, 7 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 41 35 34



Ruddy Turnstone
Hultine WPA, Clay County,
18 May 2005

Greater Yellowlegs

Tringa melanoleuca

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds primarily in central and southern Canada and winters from southern United States to southern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Fairly common spring and fall migrant and casual winter visitor.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: Additional extreme date, 12 Jun 2005.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 94 at Ayr Lake 3 Apr 1999
- 2) 85 at Ayr Lake 11 Apr 1999
- 3) 62 at Hultine WPA 3 Apr 1997
- 4) 50 at Wilkins WPA 7 Apr 2001

Extreme dates: 7 (PD) 10, 10 (PD) Mar <<>> 23, 26, 27 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 260 152 113

FALL: In addition to the late dates below, 2 were at Hastings Basin 25 Nov 2005 (PD).

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 31 at North Hultine WPA 26 Sep 1999
- 2) 29 at North Hultine WPA 25 Sep 1999
- 3) 29 at Mallard Haven WPA 10 Oct 1999

Extreme dates: 19, 26 Jun, 2 Jul <<>> 7, 9, 14 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 50 41 41

WINTER: Two reports perhaps of the same bird: B. Nelson identified one at Hastings 1 Jan 1962 (NBR 30:54) and another was reported a few days earlier from Adams County 28 Dec 1961 (NBR 30:44).

Lesser Yellowlegs

Tringa flavipes

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds throughout much of Canada and Alaska and winters from southern United States to southern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Common to abundant spring and common fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 470 at Wilkins WPA 27 Apr 2001
- 2) 344 at Freeman Lake 27 Apr 2001
- 3) 211 at Hansen WPA 25 Apr 1997
- 4) 201 at Wetland #Y74 27 Apr 2001
- 5) 189 at Kissinger Basin WMA 25 Apr 1997

Extreme dates: 7(PD), 10, 19 Mar <<>> 30 May, 3, 5 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 1,812 898 812

SUMMER: One injured Lesser Yellowlegs was observed at Hultine WPA 14 Jun 2008.

FALL:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 641 at Harvard WPA 20 Jul 2001 (Silcock 2001; SJD)
- 2) 315 at Harvard WPA 14 Jul 2001
- 3) 193 at Hansen WPA 9 Jul 2000
- 4) 175 at Mallard Haven WPA 17 Sep 1995

Extreme dates: 19, 22, 25 Jun <<>> 24, 25, 29 Oct

Maximum eRWB counts: 641 500 476

Solitary Sandpiper

Tringa solitaria

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds throughout much of Canada and Alaska and winters from southern Mexico to southern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Uncommon spring and fairly common fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands, small pools, road ditches and wooded streams.

SPRING: Often occurs in habitats away from concentrations of shorebirds in spring, such as wooded streams and road ditches.

Maximum single-locale counts: No more than 2 have been recorded at any one locale

Extreme dates: 19, 22, 23 Apr <<>> 10, 13, 14 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 7 3 2

FALL: In addition to the late dates below, a lone individual was found 19 Jun 2005.

Maximum single-locale counts:

1) 38 at Wetland #H17 12 Jul 2003

2) 28 at Harvard WPA 28 Jul 2001

3) 12 at Wetland #F19 12 Jul 2003

Extreme dates: 2, 4, 12 Jul <<>> 29, 30 Aug, 2 Sep

Maximum eRWB counts: 62 58 39



Willet

Catoptrophorus semipalmatus

DISTRIBUTION: Migratory populations of the race *C.s. inornatus* breed in Great Plains and western interior and winter along coastal areas from southern United States to northern South America. Resident populations of the race *C.s. semipalmatus* breed along Gulf and Atlantic Coasts of United States and in the Caribbean.

CONSERVATION: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Fairly common to common spring and rare fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands. On one occasion an individual was observed in an agricultural field.

SPRING: Brooking (Notes) collected a male and female at Harvard WPA 28 May 1916. An early report, 2 Apr 1978 Adams (NBR 36:73), is considered a possible error.

Maximum single-locale counts:

1) 84 at Massie WPA 30 Apr 2000

2) 79 at Harvard WPA 22 Apr 2000

3) 50 at North Lake Basin WMA 23 Apr 1999 (JG)

Extreme dates: 11, 13, 15 Apr <<>> 27, 27, 28 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 153 140 127

SUMMER: Only mid-June report is from Adams County, 3-26 Jun 1937 Adams (NBR 5:60) and 15 Jun 2001 Harvard WPA.

FALL: 21 records, 17 are from 1995 onward. Records are clustered in the period 9-21 Jul and 11-17 Aug, likely representing peak movements of adults and juveniles, respectively.

Maximum single-locale counts:

1) 8 at Sinninger WPA 14 Aug 1995 (Silcock 1995; BP, LP)

2) an adult and 5 juveniles at Ayr Lake 2 Aug 1999

3) 6 adults at Wetland #Y115 27 Jul 2003

Extreme dates: 15, 26 Jun, 9 Jul <<>> 27 Aug, 17, 26 Sep

Spotted Sandpiper

Actitis macularia

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds throughout much of the United States and Canada and winters from southern United States through central South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of low concern.

ERWB STATUS: Fairly common spring and fall migrant and a rare summer visitor.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 7 at Harvard WPA 22 Apr 2000
- 2) 7 at Wetland #C32 14 May 1999
- 3) 6 at Harvard WPA 1 May 1999

Extreme dates: 22, 27, 30 Apr <<>> 28 May, 1, 3 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 25 18 17

SUMMER: While it may be assumed that this species breeds in the eRWB, it does not regularly breed at wetlands and until contradictory evidence emerges it is best considered only a visitor. Neither Brooking (Notes) nor Tout (1902) mentioned breeding. Nesting was considered "confirmed" in the Benedict and Smartweed BBA blocks and "probable" in the McCool Junction block during the late 1980s (Mollhoff 2001). Details are lacking for these reports, however. Some birds found in summer may be late or early migrants or non-breeders.

FALL: Occurs in small numbers, often singly or in pairs at any one wetland.

Extreme dates: >>> 29 Aug, 2, 11 Sep.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper
York County
13 May 2008



Upland Sandpiper

Bartramia longicauda

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds primarily in the Great Plains and Midwest of North America and winters on the Pampas of central and southern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern and a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Uncommon to fairly common spring and fall migrant and summer resident; formerly more common as both a breeder and migrant.

HABITAT: Primarily grasslands, pastures, hayfields and to a lesser extent agricultural fields. Occasionally observed at wetlands bathing and drinking.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 7 at Harvard WPA 22 Apr 2000
- 2) 7 at Wetland #C32 14 May 1999
- 3) 6 at Harvard WPA 1 May 1999

Extreme dates: 18, 22, 24 April << >> summers

Maximum eRWB counts: 17 16 14

SUMMER: Low densities appear to breed throughout the landscape, including in agricultural habitats. An adult and three young were observed along a roadside well away from any grassland tracts 30 Jun 2007.

FALL: Formerly an abundant migrant, now less common. Loose flocks often congregate in recently mowed hayfields in fall.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 118 in an alfalfa field in northern York County 28 Jul 2003 (CG)
- 2) 49 in a hayfield near Theesen WPA 12 Aug 2000.

Extreme dates: 16, 17, 19 Sep (NBR 30:44)

Whimbrel

Numenius phaeopus

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds locally on arctic tundra in North America and Eurasia and winters along tropical coasts throughout the world.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Rare spring migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: There are 18 records, all but three since 1995.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 21 at Theesen Basin 11 May 1935 (NBR 3:95)
- 2) 20 near Grafton 18 May 2005
- 3) 11 at Harvard WPA 15 May 1999
- 4) 10 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000

Extreme dates: 27, 29 Apr, 4 May <<>> 15, 17, 27 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 34 21 11

Records:

- 1) 1 at Ayr Lake 26 Apr 2008 (PD)
- 2) 1 at Griess WPA 27 Apr 1995 (Dinsmore 1996b)
- 3) 29 Apr 1949 Adams
- 4) 1 at Harvard WPA 4 May 1997 (+WRS)
- 5) 1 at Harvard WPA 9 May 2005 (PD)
- 6) 21 at Theesen Basin 11 May 1935 (NBR 3:95)
- 7) 9 at Green Acres basin 11 May 2008
- 8) 1 south of Verona WPA 12 May 2001
- 9) 1 at Massie WPA 13 May 2000
- 10) 1 in York County 13 May 1969 (Morris 1970)
- 11) 1 in Clay County 13 May 2004
- 12) 10 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000
- 13) 11 at Harvard WPA 15 May 1999
- 14) 1 at Straightwater WMA 15 May 2005 (+WRS)
- 15) 1 at Freeman Lake 17 May 1997
- 16) 20 near Grafton 18 May 2005
- 17) 1 at Harvard WPA 27 May 2001
- 18) 2 at Wilkins 24 May 2005

Long-billed Curlew

Numenius americanus

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in western North America, primarily the United States, and winters from the Southern United States through most of Mexico.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern and a CPRSCP priority species. Nebraska Natural Legacy Plan Tier I species.

ERWB STATUS: Casual spring migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: Only 6 records, even though the species breeds as close as 200-300 miles northwest of the eRWB in the Sandhills of north-central Nebraska.

Records:

- 1) 1 at Gadwall WMA 30 Mar 2006
- 2) 1-2 at Moger WPA 3-7 Apr 2006
- 3) 1 at Harvard WPA 6 Apr 2006 (N. Woolery fide PD)
- 4) 7 Apr 1955 Hastings (NBR 22:69)
- 5) 10 Apr 1935 Hastings (Rapp 1952)
- 6) 1 at Sandpiper WMA 27 Apr 2003
- 7) 1 flying over Interstate 80 in York County 7 Apr 2008 (Alan Grenon)



Long-billed Curlew, Sandpiper WMA, Fillmore County, 27 Apr 2003

Hudsonian Godwit

Limosa haemastica

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds locally on arctic tundra in North America and winters in southern South America. In North America, principal migration route in spring is through interior and in fall off the Atlantic coast.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern and a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Fairly common spring migrant, accidental in fall.

HABITAT: Wetlands, occasionally moist agricultural fields and rarely dry agricultural fields.

SPRING: Unusually large numbers were observed in 2005.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 1,033 at Freeman Lake 20 May 2005
- 2) 487 at Spikerush 15 May 2005 (+WRS)
- 3) 159 at Rausher WPA 15 May 2005
- 4) 146 at Harvard WPA 18 Apr 2005 (PD)
- 5) 136 at a sheetwater wetland 1 mile north of Lange WPA 14 May 2005
- 6) 117 at Griess WPA 16 May 2005
- 7) 97 at Wilkins WPA 14 May 2005
- 8) 54 at Sinninger #Y21 16 Apr 1995

Extreme dates: 7 Apr (PD), 11, 14, Apr <<>> 5, 5 (Swenk 1925), 6 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 1,139 1,033 595

FALL: A juvenile at Sinninger #Y22 30 Aug 1998 is the only record.

Marbled Godwit

Limosa fedoa

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds primarily in the northern Great Plains and winters along coastal areas of the southern United States south to Central America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Uncommon spring and casual fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 78 at Harvard WPA 16 Apr 1995
- 2) 37 at Harvard WPA 3 May 2005
- 3) 36 at Harvard WPA 13 Apr 2007 (PD)
- 4) 36 at Sinninger #Y22 16 Apr 1995

Extreme dates: 7, 7, 9 Apr <<>> 18, 19, 22 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 115 37 36

FALL: Fall migration commences as early as late June. Early June record may be non-breeding individuals rather than southbound migrants.

Records:

- 1) 1 at Harvard WPA 5 June 2005 (PD)
- 2) 1 at Freeman Lake 12 June 2005
- 3) 2 adults at North Hultine WPA 25 Jun 2000
- 4) 5 in the eRWB 26 June 2005
- 5) 3 juveniles at North Harvard Basin 11 Aug 1996
- 6) a juvenile at Sinninger #Y22 29 Aug 1997
- 7) 19 Sep 1961 Adams (NBR 30:44)
- 8) 11 Sep 1973 Clay (NBR 42:28)
- 9) 1 at Harvard WPA 13 Sep 2007 (PD)
- 10) 1 juvenile at Tamora WPA 20 Sep 2008
- 11) 24 Oct 1973 Clay (NBR 42:28)

Ruddy Turnstone

Arenaria interpres

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds locally in Arctic tundra regions in North America and Eurasia and winters along northern mid-latitudes and tropical coasts throughout the world.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Rare to uncommon spring migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands. On 7 occasions birds have been observed in dry agricultural fields with soybean stubble.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 44 near Utica 20 May 2007
- 2) 42 at Wilkins 22 May 2005
- 3) 22 at Sinninger #Y22 17 May 1997
- 4) 21 at Wilkins WPA 22 May 2006
- 5) 21 at Freeman Lakes 18 May 2006
- 6) "about 20" in York County 17 May 1984 (LM; NBR 52:56)
- 7) 17 at North Hultine WPA 19 May 2005
- 8) 11 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000

Extreme dates: 3, 6, 7 May <<>> 26, 31 May (WRS, JS), 5 June

Maximum eRWB counts: 80 44 42

Red Knot

Calidris canutus

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds locally in high Arctic regions in North America and Eurasia and winters locally along southern European, North American, and tropical coasts.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Casual spring and accidental fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: Two records:

- 1) 4 at Springer WPA 18 May 2005 (E. Volden)
- 2) 27 at Ayr Lake 20 May 1999 during a rainstorm

FALL: The only record is an adult at Sinninger #Y22 13 Aug 1995.

Sanderling

Calidris alba

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds locally in high Arctic regions in North America and Eurasia and winters along coastal areas throughout much of the world, except more northerly latitudes.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Uncommon spring and casual fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands. On 15 May 2008, a Sanderling was observed foraging in a newly-planted agricultural field that was planted to soybeans the previous growing season.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 81 at Harvard WPA 13 May 2000
- 2) 42 at a wetland in York County 10 May 2004
- 3) 28 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2006 (PD)
- 4) 24 at Harvard WPA 15 May 2000
- 5) 21 at Mallard Haven WPA 30 Apr 2000

Extreme dates: 30, 30 Apr, 1 May <<>> 28, 31 May, 2 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 81 42 28

FALL: Four records:

- 1) A juvenile at Harvard WPA 13 Sep 2007 (PD)
- 2) A juvenile at Sinninger #Y22 22 Sep 2001
- 3) A juvenile at Harvard WPA 10 Oct 1999
- 4) A "small flock" at Hastings 12-13 Oct 1934 (NBR 3:36)

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Calidris pusilla

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds throughout Arctic regions of North America and winters along coastal areas of northern and central South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern and a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Abundant spring and fairly common fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: In addition to the late dates below, a single bird was observed at Waco WPA 26 June 2005.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 3,300 at Harvard WPA 30 April 2005
- 2) 2,300 at Harvard WPA 9 May 2005
- 3) 2,000 at Harvard WPA 2 May 2005
- 4) 1,100 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000
- 5) 1,000 at North Hultine 3 May 1994
- 6) 800 at County Line WPA 21 May 1997

Extreme dates: 11, 13, 13 Apr <<>> 12, 14, 22 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 3,500 3,500 2,300

FALL:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 150 at Wetland #F3 19-26 Aug 1995
- 2) 52 at Sinninger #Y22 29 Aug 1997

Extreme dates: 2, 3, 4 Jul <<>> 14 Sep, 1, 10 Oct

Maximum eRWB counts: 170 150 112

Short-billed Dowitcher, Hultine WPA,
Clay County, 15 May 2008



Western Sandpiper

Calidris mauri

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds primarily in northern Alaska and winters along coasts from southern United States to northern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Rare spring and fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 3 at Massie WPA 30 Apr 2000
- 2) 3 at Harvard WPA 9 May 2005 (PD)
- 3) 2 at Spring WPA 18-20 May 1994 (WRS, R. Rosche)

Extreme dates: 18, 22, 30 Apr <<>> 9, 13, 20 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 8 4 3

Records:

- 1) 1 at Wetland #C132 18 Apr 1998
- 2) 1 at Harvard WPA 22 Apr 2006 (PD)
- 3) 6 at Hultine WPA 27 Apr 2008 (PD)
- 4) 3 at Massie WPA 30 Apr 2000
- 5) 1 at Sinninger #Y22 1 May 1999
- 6) 1 at Wilkins 2 May 2001
- 7) 4 in the region 2 May 1998
- 8) 1 at North Hultine 3 May 1994
- 9) 8 in the region 3-4 May 1997
- 10) 3 at Harvard WPA 9 May 2005 (PD)
- 11) 1 at Mallard Haven WPA 13 May 2000 (SJD, JF)
- 12) 2 at Spring WPA 18-20 May 1994 (WRS, R. Rosche)

FALL: In recent years has proven to be particularly scarce during this season as well as during spring.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 35 at Wetland #F3 19-26 Aug 1995
- 2) 5 at Theesen Basin 25 Jul 1995
- 3) four records of four individuals

Extreme dates: 19, 25 Jul, 1 Aug <<>> 3, 5 Sep, 28 Oct

Maximum eRWB counts: 35 5 4

Records:

- 1) 1 south of Geneva 19 Jul 1997 (+WRS)
- 2) 5 at Theesen Basin 25 Jul 1995
- 3) 3 at Kissinger Basin WMA 1 Aug 1999
- 4) 2 at Wetland #C85 13 Aug 2000
- 5) 4 at Heron WPA 15 Aug 1998
- 6) 4 at Wetland #C76 18 Aug 2007
- 7) 35 at Wetland #F3 19-26 Aug 1995
- 8) 4 at Theesen Basin 22 Aug 1999
- 9) 1 juvenile 0.25 east of Utica 23 Aug 2008
- 10) 1 at Wetland #F19 26 Aug 2000
- 11) 3 at Krause WPA 29 Aug 1999
- 12) 3 at Hansen WPA 29 Aug 1999
- 13) 1 at Hansen WPA 29 Aug 1997
- 14) 4 at Wetland #S5 3 Sep 1999
- 15) 1 juvenile near Verona 5 Sept 2004
- 16) 1 at Hastings Basin 14 Sep 2007 (PD)
- 17) 1 juv. at Hultine WPA 28 Oct 1996 (WRS)

Least Sandpiper

Calidris minutilla

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in taiga regions of North America and winters from southern United States through central South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern and a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Common spring and fairly common fall migrant.

HABITAT: Primarily wetlands, also observed on grassland burns and moist agricultural fields.

SPRING: Widespread, but usually not found in large flocks.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 300 at North Hultine WPA 3 May 1994
- 2) 300 at Harvard WPA 9 May 2005 (PD)
- 3) 200 at Massie WPA 6 May 2000
- 4) 120 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000

Extreme dates: 24 Mar, 1, 1 Apr <<>> 24, 28, 30 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 469 452 400

FALL:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 137 at Sinninger #Y22 29 Aug 1997
- 2) 125 at Wetland #F3 26 Aug 1995
- 3) 95 at Harvard WPA 10 Oct 1999

Extreme dates: 5, 5 (LE), 7 July <<>> 1, 4, 7 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 159 145 133

White-rumped Sandpiper

Calidris fuscicollis

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in Arctic regions of North America and winters in southern South America. In North America, principal migration route in spring is through interior and in fall off the Atlantic coast.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of low concern, but a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Abundant spring migrant, accidental in fall.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: A relatively large number, 60 birds, were tallied on the late date of 18 Jun 2005 and 26 birds were at Hultine WPA 22 Jun 2008. Late spring records likely include birds that "short-stopped".

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 3,600 at Freeman Lake 17 May 1997
- 2) 3,200 at Harvard WPA 5 Jun 2005
- 3) 2,300 at Wetland #Y128 19 May 2005
- 4) 2,150 at Hupp WMA 10 May 2005
- 5) 2,100 at Wetland #Y56 19 May 2005
- 6) 1,900 at Harvard WPA 25 May 2005
- 7) 1,800 at Sinninger #Y22 30 May 1999
- 8) 1,500 at Harvard WPA 30 May 2005 (PD)
- 9) 1,500 at Wetland #Y3 23 May 2005
- 10) 1,400 at Waco WPA/Spikerush WMA 20 May 2005
- 11) 1,350 at Freeman Lake 16 May 1997
- 12) 1,100 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000

Extreme dates: 19 (SJD), 24, 24 Apr <<>> 20, 22, 26, 28 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 7,000 5,544 3,700

FALL: The only documented record is 1 found at Harvard WPA 20 Jul 2001 by S. Dinsmore (Silcock 2001). This individual may have been an early fall migrant or a spring migrant that discontinued its migration. There are other reports, but as Sharpe et al. (2001) pointed out, none are accompanied by details. White-rumped Sandpipers migrate eastward to the Atlantic Coast in fall and are essentially absent from the Great Plains.

Baird's Sandpiper*Calidris bairdii*

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in Arctic regions of North America and winters in southern South America. In North America, principal migration route in both spring and fall is through the Great Plains.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of low concern, but a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Common spring and uncommon fall migrant.

HABITAT: Primarily wetlands, including dry portions in close proximity to water areas. Also frequents agricultural fields and occasionally grassland burns.

SPRING: The earliest arriving calidridine, typically appearing by the end of Mar. In addition to the extreme dates below, a very late migrant that likely discontinued its migration was near Verona 14 Jun 2003.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 6,400 at Harvard WPA 3 May 2005
- 2) 900 at Harvard WPA 9 May 2005
- 3) 900 at Harvard WPA 19 Apr 2006
- 4) 500 at North Lake Basin WMA 23 Apr 2006
- 5) 375 at Harvard WPA 18 Apr 2005
- 6) 620 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000
- 7) 242 at Wetland #C229 24 Apr 1999
- 8) 240 at Kirkpatrick Basin North WMA 18 Apr 1999

Extreme dates: 10, 10 (PD), 12 Mar <<>> 28, 30 May, 6 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 6,400 1,100 900

FALL:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 270 at Sinninger #Y22 6 Aug 2005
- 2) 77 at Theesen Basin 28 Jul 1996
- 3) 10 at Wetland #C229 7 Aug 1999

Extreme dates: 12, 14, 16 Jul <<>> 28 Oct, 7 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 79 30 21

Pectoral Sandpiper*Calidris melanotos*

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in arctic regions of North America and Siberia and winters in central and southern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of low concern, but a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Common spring and fall migrant.

HABITAT: Primarily wetlands, often shallow water areas with scattered, short vegetation. Also observed in agricultural fields, grassland burns, and occasionally recently-mowed hayfields in fall.

SPRING: In addition to the late dates below, 4 were observed 19 Jun 2005 and 18 were observed 14 June 2008.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 375 at Mallard Haven WPA 30 Apr 2000
- 2) 300 at a sheetwater wetland in Butler County 18 May 2005
- 3) 170 at Mallard Haven WPA 27 Apr 2000
- 4) 150 at a sheetwater wetland 1 mile north of Wilkins WPA 25 May 2005
- 5) 150 at a Wetland #Y3 23 May 2005
- 6) 100 at County Line WPA 21 May 1997 (LP.BP)
- 7) 76 at Wilkins WPA 1 May 1999

Extreme dates: 18, 21 (PD), 24 (PD) Mar <<>> 10, 12, 12 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 526 506 480

FALL:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 327 at Wetland #C132 15 Aug 1998
- 2) 300 at Kissinger Basin WMA 20 Aug 1995
- 3) 220 North Hultine WPA 12 Aug 2000

Extreme dates: 24, 26, 26 Jun <<>> 4, 7, 7 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 525 474 448

Dunlin

Calidris alpina

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds locally in Arctic regions of North America and Eurasia and winters along temperate coasts north of the equator.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Uncommon spring and rare casual fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands. In 2008, a Dunlin was observed foraging with Baird's Sandpipers in an agricultural field in Seward County 14 April.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 133 at Renquist WMA 18 May 2007
- 2) 65 at a sheetwater wetland southeast of Utica 18 May 2007
- 3) 36 at Mallard Haven WPA 26 Apr 1997
- 4) 29 at Wetland #F34 20 May 2005
- 5) 26 at Mallard Haven WPA 16 May 1996
- 6) 22 at Freeman Lake 17 May 1997

Extreme dates: 3, 3, 8 Apr <<>> 31 May (JS), 2 (NBR 36:7), 5 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 235 86 70



FALL: Eleven records, all from 1996 onward, are in the period 5 Oct-7 Nov. Since this species generally migrates late in fall compared to other shorebird species, it generally has not been looked for. During other years when favorable habitat was limited, such as 2001 and 2002, it may not occur regularly.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 16 at Wetland #C81 10 Oct 1998
- 2) 8 at Theesen Basin 10 Oct 1998
- 3) 5 at Harvard WPA 7 Nov 1999.

Extreme dates: All records in the period 5 Oct – 7 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 24 5 2

Stilt Sandpiper

Calidris himantopus

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in Arctic regions of North America and winters primarily in central and southern South America. In North America, principal migration route in both spring and fall is through interior including the Great Plains.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern and a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Common to abundant spring and common fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: In addition to the late dates below, 3 birds were at Waco WPA 10 and 24 Jun 2005.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 1,461 at Harvard WPA 13-14 May 2000
- 2) 875 at Hultine WPA 18 May 2008
- 3) 730 at Redhead WMA 18 May 2008
- 4) 620 at Mallard Haven WPA 16 May 1997
- 5) 582 at Harvard WPA 24 May 2005
- 6) 250 at Ayr Lake 17 May 1996

Extreme dates: 18, 22 (PD), 24 Apr <<>> 2, 4, 5 Jun

Maximum eRWB counts: 2,800 2,006 1,119

SUMMER: Singletons were observed at Waco WPA and Hultine WPA, both on 22 Jun 2008.

FALL:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 570 at Sinninger #Y22 11 Aug 2001
- 2) 340 at Sinninger #Y22 6 Aug 2005
- 3) 145 at Sinninger #Y22 16 Aug 2001
- 4) 144 at Sinninger #Y22 11 Sep 1997
- 5) 125 at Wetland #F3 26 Aug 1995
- 6) 115 at Mallard Haven WPA 17 Sep 1995

Extreme dates: 5, 7, 16 Jul <<>> 25, 28, 29 Oct

Maximum eRWB counts: 632 301 188

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Tryngites subruficollis

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in Arctic regions of North America and winters on the Pampas of central and southern South America. In North America, principal migration route in both spring and fall is through the Great Plains.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern and a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Common spring and uncommon to fairly common fall migrant. Stopover ecology recently studied by Jorgensen (2007) and Jorgensen et al. (2007, 2008).

HABITAT: Agricultural fields, hayfields, and wetlands.

SPRING: In addition to the early dates below, 1 was at Moger WPA 13 Apr 2006 (P. Doherty) and 6 were at Harvard WPA 22 Apr 2006 (PD).

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 700 in a field south of Kirkpatrick Basin South WMA 10 May 2006
- 2) 622 in a field in northeastern York County 17 May 2008
- 3) 322 in a field north of Freeman Lake 21 May 2006
- 4) 312 in a field west of Freeman Lake 17 May 2003
- 5) 264 in a field near Utica 15 May 2006
- 6) 259 in a field north of North Lake Basin WMA 10 May 2003
- 7) 255 in a field east of Utica 21 May 2006
- 8) 226 in a field in northern Thayer County 11 May 2007
- 9) 216 in a field west of Sutton 14 May 2005

Extreme dates: 30 Apr, 1, 3 May <<>> 26, 28 May, 5 June

Maximum eRWB counts: 850 757 700 626

SUMMER: Two birds were at Hultine WPA 22 June 2008. L. Eineman reported a single bird at Waco WPA/Spikerush WMA 26 Jun 2005.

FALL:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 317 in a hayfield within MARC 30 Jul 2003 (JD)
- 2) 151 in at hayfield near Goehner 2 Aug 2003
- 3) 72 in a hayfield in northern York Co 29 Jul 2003 (CG)
- 4) 45 in a field 2 miles north of Moger WPA 16 Aug 1998
- 5) 32 in a hayfield near Eckhardt WPA 22 Aug 1998
- 6) 31 at North Lake Basin WMA 11 Aug 1995

Extreme dates: 25 (Swenk 1925), 27, 28, 28 Jul <<>> 20, 27 Sep

Maximum eRWB counts: 317 283 72

Ruff

Philomachus pugnax

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds primarily in northern Eurasia and winters in southern Asia and Africa.

ERWB STATUS: Accidental in spring and fall.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: A male in basic plumage at Eckhardt WPA 26 Mar 2005 is the only record.

FALL: A juvenile male at Kirkpatrick Basin North WMA 27 Sep 1998 is the only record.



Short-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus griseus

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in central Canada and southern Alaska and winters along coasts from the southern United States to northern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Uncommon to fairly common spring and an uncommon fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 97 at Spikerush WMA 12 May 2008
- 2) 35 at Griess 18 May 2005
- 3) 35 at a sheetwater wetland in northern York County 18 May 2006
- 4) 34 at Harvard WPA 14 May 2000
- 5) 32 at Mallard Haven WPA 14 May 2000
- 6) 31 at Mallard Haven WPA 16 May 1997

Extreme dates: 25, 27 (PD), 30 Apr <<>> 24, 26, 30 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 140 95 89

FALL: Adult and juvenile movements separate and well defined. Adults records total 21 are in the period 9-28 July, and 16 (76%) of the 21 are in the period 14-17 Jul. Adult Maximum single-locale counts include 15 at Kissinger Basin WMA 17 Jul 1999, 9 at Wetland #Y26 16 Jul 2000, and 8 at Wetland #Y74 16 Jul 2000. Eighteen days pass from the last record of an adult to the first juvenile record. Juvenile records total 15 are during the period 16 Aug-11 Sep, 11 (73%) records during the last ten days of Aug. Juvenile maximum single-locale counts include 7 at Wetland #F3 19-26 Aug 1995, 4 at Sinninger #Y22 11 Sep 1997, and 3 at Hansen WPA 29 Aug 1999.

Long-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus scolopaceus

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in Arctic regions of western Canada, Alaska, and eastern Siberia and winters in southern United States and throughout much of Mexico.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of low concern, but a CPRSCP priority species.

ERWB STATUS: Abundant spring and common fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: In addition to the late dates listed below, 2 were at Waco WPA 24 Jun 2005.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 1,377 at Hultine WPA 3 May 2008
- 2) 880 at Redhead WMA 4 May 2008
- 3) 770 at Harvard WPA 1 May 2005
- 4) 500 at North Hultine WPA 3 May 1994
- 5) 476 at a sheetwater wetland in Seward County 6 May 2007
- 6) 350 at Massie WPA 27 Apr 2000
- 7) 310 at Moger WPA 2 May 1999

Extreme dates: 10, 10 (PD), 18 Mar <<>> 23, 30 May, 5 June

Maximum eRWB counts: 4,750 3,100 2,306

FALL: Typically migrates later than Short-billed Dowitcher in fall.

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 182 at Fairmont SL 23 Oct 2006
- 2) 168 at Sinninger #Y22 25 Oct 1998
- 3) 162 at Wetland #C81 10 Oct 1998
- 4) 136 at Harvard WPA 10 Oct 1999

Extreme dates: 15, 19, 19 Jul <<>> 7, 7, 18 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 381 303 196

Wilson's Snipe

Gallinago delicata

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds from the northern United States through most of Canada and Alaska and winters from the southern United States south to northern South America.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Fairly common spring and fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING: In addition to the late dates listed below, there is a report from Adams County 27 May 1974 (NBR 42:71).

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 52 at Sinninger #Y21 3 Apr 1999
- 2) 45 at a unidentified wetland 4 Apr 2004
- 3) 38 at Bluewing WMA 4 Apr 1997
- 4) 19 at Wilkins WPA 3 Apr 1997

Extreme dates: 10 (PD), 20, 25 Marr <<>> 2, 7, 7 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 130 87 77

SUMMER: A single bird was observed at Spikerush WMA 6 Jun 2008.

FALL: Additional late dates include 18 Dec 1976 Adams (NBR 35:22) and 16 Dec 1971 Adams (NBR 41:31).

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 200+ at Harvard WPA 6 Nov 2005 (PD)
- 2) 73 at Wetland #C132 13 Sep 1998
- 3) 51 at Wetland #C85 14 Oct 1993 (NGPC, unpublished data)

Extreme dates: 30 Jun, 14 Jul, 1 Aug <<>> 10, 28 Oct, 7 Nov

Maximum eRWB counts: 75 51 20



American Woodcock

Scolopax minor

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in woodlands in the eastern United States and southern Canada and winters in southeastern United States.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Accidental in spring and fall.

HABITAT: Typically a woodland dweller, eRWB observations have been in uncharacteristic habitats.

SPRING: A singleton was "just a few yards from the [Eldon and Ruth] Percival's porch" near Sutton 12 Mar 1975 (NBR 43:51).

FALL: A singleton was flushed by L. Morris in York County while harvesting corn and then approached closely before being flushed again 6 Oct 1988 (NBR 57:28).

Wilson's Phalarope*Phalaropus tricolor*

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds throughout much of central North America and winters in southern South America

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of high concern.

ERWB STATUS: Common to abundant spring and uncommon to fairly common fall migrant, rare summer visitor and casual breeder, formerly more common in summer.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:**Maximum single-locale counts:**

- 1) 1,700 at Harvard WPA 13 & 14 May 2000
- 2) 1,200 at North Lake Basin 13 May 2006
- 3) 1,100 at Kirkpatrick Basin North 11 May 2008
- 4) 1,090 at Harvard WPA 7 May 2000
- 5) 800 at Moger WPA 13 May 2006
- 6) 500 at Harvard WPA 9 May 2005

Extreme dates: 15, 17, 18 Apr <<>> 28, 30, 31 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 5,000 2,600 2,290

SUMMER: Likely a regular breeder formerly. Summer observations are not unusual; but observations suggesting or confirming breeding are limited. In addition to recent breeding records below, nesting was considered "probable" in the Theesen BBA Block and "possible" in the Mallard Haven Block in the 1980s (Mollhoff 2001).

- 1) 4 agitated and defensive males were observed at Harvard WPA 7 & 14 Jul 1996. On 21 Jul 1996, a juvenile with remnant down was observed in the same area.
- 2) WRS observed courtship flying at North Hultine WPA 15 Jun 2001 (Silcock 2001).
- 3) An agitated and defensive male was observed at Mallard Haven WPA 12 Jul 2003.
- 4) PD observed a "nesting" bird 18 Jun 2005 at Harvard WPA
- 5) A pair observed copulating at Sora WMA 9 May 2007
- 6) A pair observed copulating at Wetland #Y77 26 May 2007
- 7) PD observed 5 agitated males and found 2 nests with 4 eggs each at Harvard WPA 29 May 2007
- 8) 2-3 downy young, accompanied by an adult male, were observed at Spikerush WMA on 2 Jun 2007, 2 fresh juveniles were later observed at this wetland 30 Jun 2007

FALL:**Maximum single-locale counts:**

- 1) 46 at Sinninger #Y22 29 Aug 1997
- 2) 20 at Theesen Basin 30 Jul 1999
- 3) 10 at Wetland #Y115 2 Aug 2003

Extreme dates: 5, 9, 16 Jul <<< >>> 11, 18 Sep, 21 Oct (NBR 53:10)

Maximum eRWB counts: 50 27 16



White-rumped Sandpiper
Hutline WPA, Clay County
15 May 2008

Red-necked Phalarope

Phalaropus lobatus

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in arctic regions of North America and Eurasia and winters locally at sea.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Rare spring and casual fall migrant.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING:

Maximum single-locale counts:

- 1) 37 at Moger WPA 12 May 2006
- 2) 15 at Hupp WMA 13 May 2000
- 3) 12 at Mallard Haven WPA 27 May 2001
- 4) 8 at Miller's Pond WPA 17 May 1997
- 5) 6 at Harvard WPA 23 May 1997

Extreme dates: 1, 6, 7 May <<>> 26, 27 30 May

Maximum eRWB counts: 40 39 20

FALL: Five reports, four of which are from 1994 onward.

- 1) 26 Aug 1970 Adams (NBR 34:28)
- 2) juvenile at Wetland #C20 30 Aug 1998
- 3) A juvenile at Theesen Basin 10-17 Sep 1994
- 4) A juvenile at Sinninger #Y22 17 Sep 1994
- 5) 5 juveniles at Harvard WPA 25 Sep 1999

Red Phalarope

Phalaropus fulicarius

DISTRIBUTION: Breeds in arctic regions of North America and Eurasia and winters locally at sea.

CONSERVATION STATUS: A USSCP species of moderate concern.

ERWB STATUS: Accidental in spring and summer.

HABITAT: Wetlands.

SPRING The only record is a molting adult at Wilkins WPA 28 Apr 2001

SUMMER: R. Silcock found a bird in basic-plumage at North Hultine WPA 15 Jun 2001 (Silcock 2001).

Upland Sandpiper
Clay County
10 May 2008



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