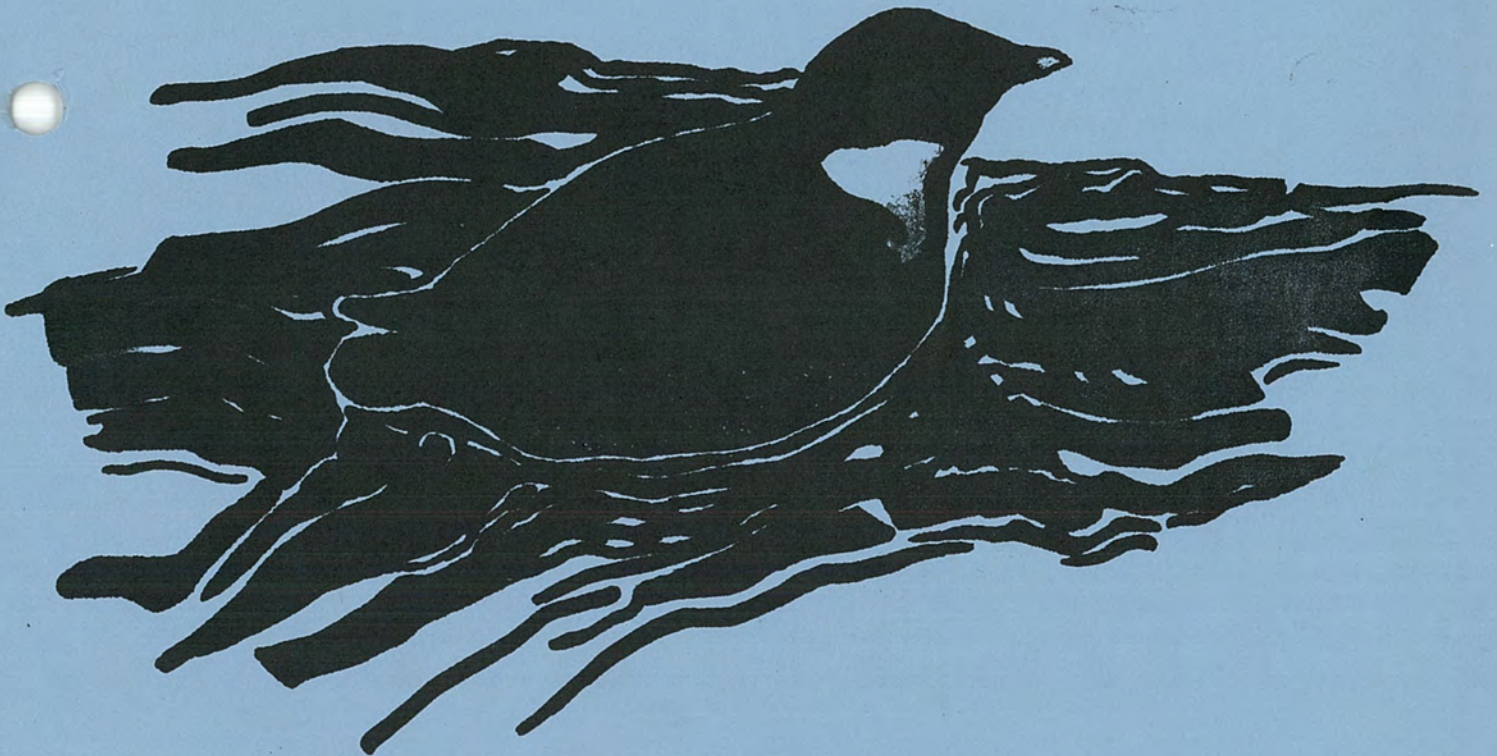


CALGARY
BIRDS
1982



THE BIRDS OF THE CALGARY AREA

1982

COMPILERS

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Doug Collister | Red-throated Loon to Sandhill Crane. |
| John Steeves | Black-bellied Plover to Ancient Murrelet. |
| Doug Collister | Rock Dove to Northern Saw-whet Owl. |
| Dave Elphinstone | Common Nighthawk to Barn Swallow. |
| Stuart Johnston | Gray Jay to European Starling. |
| Andrew Slater | Solitary Vireo to Western Tanager. |
| John Thompson | Rose-breasted Grosbeak to Snow Bunting. |
| Andrew Slater | Bobolink to Northern Oriole. |
| John Thompson | Rosy Finch to Evening Grosbeak. |
| Andrew Slater | House Sparrow |

COVER

Jamey Podlubny

TYPING

Kate Jones

Published By
The Calgary Field Naturalists' Society
February, 1984



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FACING PAGE

TOP: Garganey - Photographed by M. J. Lewis near Strathmore on June 13, 1982.

BOTTOM: House Finch - photographed by D. Matthews in his backyard in Lakeview district on December 26, 1982.

CONTRIBUTORS

Sincere thanks are extended to the following individuals for their valuable contributions of observations and comments that have helped produce this publication.

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OBJECTIVE

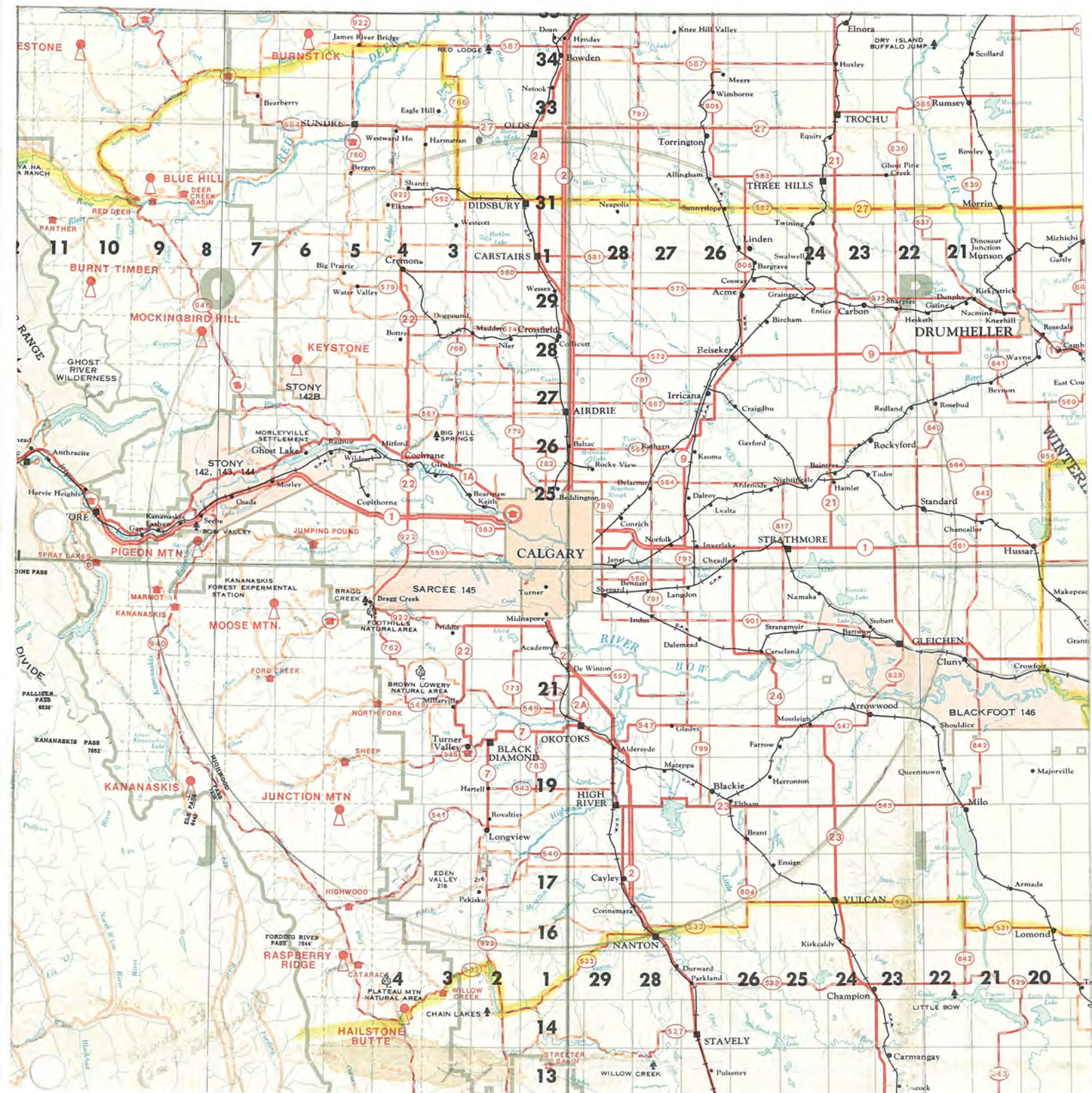
The 1982 annual report on birds of the Calgary area is intended as a report on observations of local interest. Each species is dealt with in some detail and, for the Calgary area birder, each species account should be of great interest. Many years have passed since any similar project has been undertaken. It is important that amateur ornithologists have an outlet to publish their findings.

A report of this kind serves another important function in synthesizing the year's field data sheets and forms. Most workers would agree that the information as herein presented is significantly more available and easier to use than raw data. As stated by Sadler and Myres (1976) "With the appearance of the Victoria Natural History Society's Annual Bird Report for Southern Vancouver Island 1970 (1971 and 1972) and the Vancouver Natural History Society's Vancouver Birds in 1971 we have witnessed the initiation of annual, printed booklets on the birds of a region of Western Canada, on a hopefully continuing basis. Alberta should be able to produce similar reports, as suggested later." "A secondary reason for this publication is to provide a model for future annual or biennial reports on the birds of Alberta that will place on permanent record data additional to that recorded here for 1961-70."

It is also hoped that this publication serves to encourage both ornithological observation in the Calgary area and the submission of those observations to the appropriate clearing house.

STUDY AREA

The area from which observations were considered is a circle with 80 kilometre (50 mile) radius from Calgary and is illustrated by the map overleaf. This map is a portion of the 1977 Alberta Forest Service Base Map. The scale is 1 cm = 10 kilometres (1" = 16 miles). For the most part observations were limited to this area. However, records of great interest which we considered to have little likelihood of publication elsewhere but were outside the area have been included.



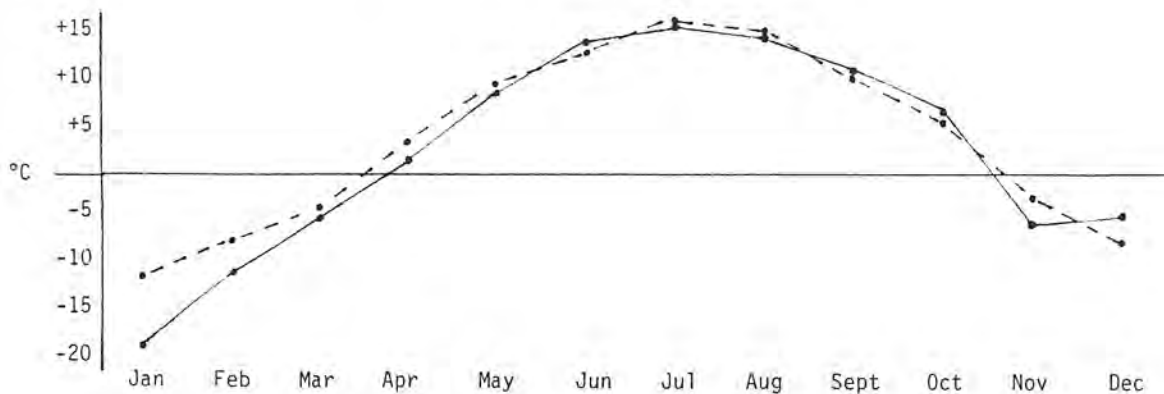
OBSERVATIONS

The majority of the records considered are in the files of the Calgary Field Naturalists' Society (CFNS) at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. Other records reported to the compilers verbally and considered valid have also been included.

As discussed elsewhere in this report, many rare, vagrant and accidental species require descriptive notes to increase the credibility of the record. Unfortunately, few records in this report are so supported. Most records that are supported by appropriate descriptive notes are specified in the Species Accounts section. Some descriptions were filed with the CFNS, some with B. Gollop in Saskatoon (American Birds regional compiler) and some with the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) in Ottawa.

WEATHER

Detailed data on the weather for 1982 is available from Environment Canada in its publication Annual Meteorological Summary 1982 Calgary, Alberta. Plotted below, as a solid line, is the mean monthly temperature by month. The normal mean monthly temperature by month is plotted as a dashed line



Below is a listing of all days receiving greater than 1.0 mm.
of rain or 1 cm. of snow.

Rainfall (mm.)

May 6-6.2; 12-3.2; 15-10.4; 16-2.4; 18-5.4; 26-15.2; 27-13;
June 3-4.0; 4-2.8; 5-7.6; 6-7.8; 7-1.6; 15-1.4; 16-4.8; 22-7.6;
23-6.4; 24-1.0; 27-6.2; 28-9.6; 29-7.2; 30-17.8;
July 2-20.7; 3-5.8; 4-15.4; 6-1.8; 7-12.2; 20-8.4; 24-2.6; 25-5.2;
Aug. 14-2.4; 23-2.6; 25-2.2; 26-4.2; 27-5.0; 30-6.4;
Sep. 4-12.2; 10-10.0; 15-1.2; 26-24.8; 27-1.4; 28-2.8; 29-2.4;

Snowfall (cm.)

Jan. 1-2.8; 4-1.4; 9-1.2; 10-2.2; 11-2.6; 12-3.8; 14-1.8; 15-1.2;
20-1.2; 22-1.2; 23-2.8; 27-2.6;
Feb. 1-2.8; 2-3.8; 11-2.0; 21-1.2; 23-2.4;
Mar. 1-5.6; 3-1.8; 4-1.2; 5-1.4; 6-3.2; 7-1.0; 9-2.2; 11-2.6;
16-2.0; 17-3.2; 23-4.2; 31-6.2;
Apr. 3-3.0; 4-1.0; 5-2.4; 6-4.8; 18-1.4; 24-1.2;
May 3-4.8; 7-19.2; 8-1.8;
Sep. 28-5.2; 29-2.0;
Oct. 17-1.2; 18-2.6;
Nov. 11-2.4; 18-4.2; 20-1.6;
Dec. 13-5.6; 21-2.6;

Species Accounts Nomenclature

Each species account contains the following:

1. Common and scientific name according to the Thirty-Fourth Supplement to the American Ornithologists Union Check-List of North American Birds (supplement to the Auk) Vol. 99, No. 3, July 1982.
2. May Species Count (May 28 and 29), Calgary Christmas Bird Count (Dec. 19) and Wildlife Reserve of Western Canada Christmas Bird Count (Jan. 1, 1983). For example, 160,0,6 reads 160 on the M.S.C., 0 on the Calgary C.B.C. and 6 on the W.R.W.C. C.B.C. Where a species did not occur on any of these counts the information is omitted.
3. Occurrence category as below and with reference to Lang et al (1976).
 - a) Seasonal
 - . Resident - permanent
 - . Visitor - summer (breeder)
- winter (non-breeder)
 - . Migrant - spring and fall
- spring (northward)
- fall (southward)
 - b) Abundance
 - . Abundant - an observer would see the species in large numbers on any day during the appropriate season and in proper habitat.
 - . Common - an observer would see the species in small numbers during the appropriate season and in proper habitat.
 - . Uncommon - an observer might miss the species during the appropriate season and in proper habitat.
 - . Rare - the species is only recorded by a few observers during the appropriate season.
 - . Vagrant - the species is outside its normal range and is not recorded every year.
 - . Accidental - the species is not expected to occur again.

Most species could be assigned more than one occurrence category. For the most part one category was chosen as the most appropriate.

4. Discussion of the year's records. This section is quite variable due to the variety of compilers and species. In general, individual records are specified as follows:

Apr. 29 Inglewood (2) DE

which reads: "On April 29, at Inglewood, two were recorded by D. Elphinstone.

In the shorebird discussion, the compiler frequently expresses the data in five day averages, with 1 = day 1-5; 2 = day 6-10; 3 = day 11-15; 4 = day 16-20; 5 = day 21-25; and 6 = 26-30/31. When no counts were made "a" is used. When counts were made but the

species was absent "0" is used. The shorebird compiler also uses the term "passage migrant" which in this report is synonymous with migrant.

In some species, data is presented as a chart showing number of records or number of birds per month. Species compiled by D. Elphinstone are tabulated as number of records by month. Species compiled by D. Collister are tabulated as number of birds by month.

Unusual Records

Most unusual records have been dealt with in the individual species accounts. Where noted, details are available to the interested worker in the Calgary Field Naturalists' Society files. Five detailed descriptions are included in the appendix as examples.

Species requiring descriptions, or at the very least, acknowledgement of their unusual status fall into the following categories.

- . any species not dealt with in this report.
- . any rare, vagrant or accidental species.
- . any bird substantially out of season
 - refer to Sadler and Myres (1976).

SPECIES ACCOUNTSRed-throated Loon*Gavia stellata*

Vagrant

Two fall records of winter plumaged individuals.

Oct. 16 Glenmore Reservoir (2) ML, AW, IH.
 Nov. 6 Glenmore Reservoir (1) AW, DC.

Arctic Loon*Gavia arctica*

Vagrant

A bird in breeding plumage was reported from the Bow River in Fish Creek Provincial Park on Apr. 29 KJ.

Common Loon*Gavia immer*

4,0,0

Rare summer visitor
Common migrant

The first spring record was at Carseland (1) DE, HP, CW on Apr. 19. The main spring passage began in mid-April and peaked in early May. There were five records July-September, probably non-breeding birds. The fall migration was most pronounced in the third week of October.

Apr. 22 Bowmont Flats (1) JJP.
 May 1 Inglewood/Namaka (6) DE.
 May 15 Lost Lake (2) Afa, SJ, RS.
 May 30 Glenmore Reservoir (1) RFC.
 June 15 Winchell Lake (1) WM, BM, SJ.
 June 20 headwaters of Bighill Creek (1) SJ et al.
 July 9 Irricana (1) JS, MS.
 Aug. 2 Kananaskis Provincial Park (3) ES, JB.
 Aug. 25 Kananaskis Provincial Park (5) ML.
 Sep. 5 Lost Lake (2) RWS, SA.
 Oct. 17 Glenmore Reservoir (6) DC.
 Oct. 20 Glenmore Reservoir (3) JS, MS.
 Nov. 12 Ghost Lake (2) JJP, SJ.

Pied-billed Grebe*Podilymbus podiceps* 14,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring record was at Cochrane Lake (2) SJ on Apr. 23. Small numbers were present throughout the summer and fall. A nest with 8 eggs was found on the WRWC slough SJ June 9 with hatching noted on June 24. Most birds had left by the first week of October. The latest sighting was at Carburn on Dec. 5 (1) ACS.

July 25 Irricana (10) JS, MS.
 Nov. 7 Carburn (1) ACS.

Horned Grebe*Podiceps auritus*

31,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring record was at Cochrane Lake (7) SJ on Apr. 23 and at two locales on Apr. 24; Carburn (1) OD, and Prince's Island (1) DC. Fall migrants lingered until early November.

Nov. 5 Ghost Lake (6) SJ.
 Nov. 12 Ghost Lake (2) JJP et al.

Red-necked Grebe*Podiceps grisegena* 19,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

The first spring record was at Cochrane Lake (5) SJ on Apr. 23. The latest fall records were at Glenmore Reservoir (8) RFC on Oct. 10 and at Frederick Lake (4) SJ on Oct. 13.

Apr. 24 Inglewood/Irricana (11) DE et al.
 May 22 Irricana (15) JS, MS.
 Aug. 12 Kangienos Lake (Pair with 1/3 grown young) SJ.

Eared Grebe*Podiceps nigricollis* 214,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

The first spring record was Apr. 22 at Irricana (7) DE et al. Large numbers were present by early May. Most birds had left by mid-Oct.

May 1 Irricana (50) JS, RWS.
 May 24 Irricana (300) JS, MS.
 Oct. 23 Namaka (6) ACS.
 Nov. 11 Glenmore Reservoir (2) ACS.
 Nov. 12 Ghost Lake (1) JJP, SJ.

Western Grebe*Aechmophorus occidentalis* 6,0,0Common migrant
Uncommon summer visitor

Earliest records were in the first week of May with peak numbers at the end of May. The fall migration did not evidence a distinct peak.

May 1 Inglewood/Namaka (2) DE.
 May 2 Shepard (7) JS, GB.
 May 29 Strathmore (100) JS, DC.
 Oct. 16 Namaka (30) JS.
 Nov. 12 Ghost Lake (2) JJP, SJ.

American White Pelican*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*

Rare summer visitor

All available records are listed below.

July 31 Namaka Lake (32) JS, RWS.
 Aug. 1 Namaka Lake (75) AW et al.
 Aug. 8 Namaka Lake (35) JS.
 Aug. 14 Namaka Lake (3) JS, MS.
 Aug. 28 Namaka Lake (25) JS.
 Sep. 6 Namaka Lake (34) JS, MS
 Sep. 25 Namaka Lake (5) JS.

Double-crested Cormorant*Phalacrocorax auritus* 11,0,0Uncommon summer
visitor

The first spring record was Apr. 24 at Irricana (10+) DE et al. A high count was at Irricana (30) JS, MS on June 6. Cormorants were seen at Irricana throughout the summer. Most birds had left by mid-September. A late immature at Eagle Lake JS on Oct. 11 was probably gunshot.

July 9 Irricana (12) JS.
 July 17 Irricana (15) JS, MS.
 Aug. 15 Irricana (35) JS, RB.
 Sep. 9 Carburn (5) OD.
 Sep. 20 MacGregor Lake (3) DE, EG.

American Bittern*Botaurus lentiginosus* 2,0,0Uncommon summer
visitor

All available records are listed below.

May 2 East of Calgary (1) RWS et al.
 May 23 Irricana (1) JS.
 May 28 West of Priddis Slough (1) ACS.
 May 29 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
 May 31 W.R.W.C. (2) SJ, AFa.
 June 4 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
 June 20 Irricana (1) JS.
 June 23 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
 July 3 Irricana (1) JS, MS.
 July 9 Irricana (2) JS.
 July 14 Irricana/Strathmore (1) JS.
 July 15 Irricana (1) JS, RB.
 Aug. 2 Irricana (1) JS, RS.
 Aug. 15 Irricana (2) JS, RB.
 Aug. 22 Irricana (1) JS, MS.
 Aug. 28 Irricana (1) JS.
 Sep. 25 Namaka (1) JS.

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias* 13,5,0 Common summer visitor
Rare winter visitor

The first spring record was March 28 at Carseland (1) DS et al. A maximum count was at the Fish Creek P.P. heronry (40) ES on May 15-17. The species lingered well into November and winter records occurred.

Jan. 10 Camp Gardner (1) IS.
Apr. 6 Fish Creek east (1) KJ
Dec. 5 Carburn (1) ACS.
Dec. 22 Carburn (1) OD.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* 1,0,0 Uncommon summer visitor

The first spring records were April 18 and 19 at Irricana (1) RB and Carseland (1) PFS respectively. Maximum numbers occurred on May 22 at Irricana (12) JS and June 20 at Irricana (15) JS. The latest record was at Namaka Lake on Sep. 6 (7) JS.

July 3 Irricana (7) JS.
Aug. 7 Irricana (10) JS.

Tundra Swan *Cygnus columbianus* 3,0,0 Abundant migrant

Spring records lasted from March 27 at Fish Creek P.P. West (4) RWS to May 29 at Irricana (3) JS, DC with peak numbers on Apr. 25 at Irricana (2000+) DE. One bird lingered over the summer in the area. Fall passage lasted from Oct. 9 at Namaka Lake (35) JS to Nov. 13 at Eagle Lake (4) JS with maximum numbers on Oct. 30 at Eagle Lake (1000) JS, ACS.

June 6 Irricana (1) JS.
July 12 Shepard (1) JS.
Sep. 18 Namaka Lake (1) JS, DE, EG.

Trumpeter Swan *Cygnus buccinator* 1,0,0 Rare resident
Rare migrant

All available records are listed below. Of interest was a collared bird observed Apr. 22 at Big Springs Creek. Further inquiry revealed that the bird had been collared as a juvenile in 1978, 60 miles east of Grande Prairie.

Apr. 22 B.S.C. (4) PFS, JT.
May 1 Irricana (2) RWS, JS, BB.
May 2 Irricana (5) DC, BC.
May 30 Wildcat Hills (1) JT.
Nov. 7 Carburn (1) ACS.

possible breeding pair at Kangienos Lake through the summer (Mrs. Ruel Dawson comm. to SJ).

Greater White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons* Rare migrant

One record at Lac Des Arcs (1) JT on Sep. 12, and Namaka Lake (4) JS, MS, RB on Sep. 18.

Snow Goose *Chen caerulescens* Uncommon migrant

All available records are listed below.

Mar. 17 Irricana (1) JS.
May 8 Irricana (40+) DE.
May 16 Shepard (1) CFNS.
Sep. 18 Namaka Lake (10+) DE, EG.
Oct. 9 Eagle Lake (7) VM, RR.
Oct. 10 Namaka Lake (8) JT et al.
Oct. 17 Chestermere Lake (1) RWS, BW.
Nov. 9 Bragg Creek (13) AW.
Nov. 13 Glenmore Lake (21) AW.

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------|--|
| <u>Canada Goose</u> | <i>Branta canadensis</i> | 325,7,0 | Common summer visitor Uncommon winter visitor Abundant migrant |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------|--|

The spring passage was first noted in late Mar. and peak numbers recorded were on Mar. 28 east of Calgary (600) RWS, BW and Apr. 11, Irricana (1000) AW, ET. Goslings were noted on May 22, Cominco MR. Fall numbers peaked on Oct. 23, Glenmore (1100) ACS and Oct. 31, Namaka/Eagle Lakes (600) ACS. On Nov. 6 at the W.R.W.C. (495) birds in 9 flocks were observed moving south. Small numbers were present throughout the winter.

| | | |
|------|----|--------------------|
| Jan. | 16 | Inglewood (1) ACS. |
| Feb. | 21 | Queensland (5) DS. |
| Mar. | 10 | Carburn (6) OD. |
| Dec. | 5 | Carburn (48) ACS. |

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| <u>Wood Duck</u> | <i>Aix sponsa</i> | Rare migrant |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------|

All available records are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|----------------------------------|
| Apr. | 24 | Horse Creek Meadows (1 fem.) SJ. |
| May | 9 | De Winton (1 Male) WS. |

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------|--|
| <u>Green-winged Teal</u> | <i>Anas crecca</i> | 20,1,0 | Common summer visitor Rare winter visitor |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------|--|

The spring passage was first noted in late Apr., peaking on Apr. 25, Shepard (100) JS: May 2, Shepard (100) JS: May 2, Irricana (60) ACS. Peak fall counts were Aug. 15, Irricana (100) JS: Sep. 12 Namaka Lake (100) JS: Sep. 18 Namaka Lake (100) JS. A few birds were present throughout the winter. A nest containing ten eggs was found at the W.R.W.C. on June 18 SJ.

| | | |
|------|----|---------------------|
| Jan. | 25 | Carburn (1) OD. |
| Feb. | 20 | Cominco (2) RW. |
| Mar. | 30 | Inglewood (1) ES. |
| Oct. | 23 | Eagle Lake (12) JS. |
| Dec. | 5 | Carburn (1) ACS. |
| Dec. | 18 | Queensland (3) DS. |

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <u>Mallard</u> | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | 292,10308,7 | Abundant resident |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------|

A Mallard-Black Duck cross was reported on Apr. 22 Inglewood (1) DE. As evidenced by the Calgary CBC data large numbers of Mallard winter in Calgary on open water associated with the Bow River.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------|--|
| <u>Northern Pintail</u> | <i>Anas acuta</i> | 197,2,0 | Common summer visitor Rare winter visitor Abundant migrant |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------|--|

The spring passage, as evidenced by the available records, was unimpressive. It seemed to begin at the end of Mar. with peak counts on Mar. 28, east of Calgary (600) RWS, BW: Apr. 11, Bow River in Calgary (500) ACS; May 1, Irricana (500) ACS. Peak fall counts were Sep. 25, Namaka (500) JS; Oct. 23, Namaka (500) JS. Records occurred throughout the winter.

| | | |
|------|----|----------------------|
| Jan. | 13 | Carburn (1 male) OD. |
| Feb. | 5 | Carburn (2 male) OD. |
| Feb. | 17 | Carburn (4 male) OD. |
| Nov. | 17 | Inglewood (1) DE. |
| Dec. | 26 | Inglewood (1) ACS. |

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------|
| <u>Garganey</u> | <i>Anas querquedula</i> | Accidental |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------|

A male Garganey was found near Strathmore on June 12 by Moray J. Lewis. The bird was seen again by MJL on June 13 and 15. The bird was photographed on June 13. A check with the Calgary Zoo revealed no missing Garganey. Although there are several collectors of exotic wildfowl in the Calgary area, contact was not made with any of them. If this sighting was a "wild" bird, it is thought to be the second Alberta record. A detailed description is included in the Appendix.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* 359,0,0 Common summer visitor
The first spring record was Apr. 22, W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. Numbers peaked on May 23, Shepard (200) JS. Most birds were gone by the middle of Sep.

Sep. 12 Namaka Lake (100) JS.
Sep. 19 Eagle Lake (20) ACS.
Sep. 30 Inglewood (3) DE.
Oct. 2 W.R.W.C. (2) SJ.

Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera* 10,0,0 Uncommon summer visitor
The first spring record was Apr. 24, Shepard (2) JT. There was no striking peak in numbers. A Blue-winged Teal-Cinnamon Teal cross was reported from Namaka Lake DE on May 8. A bird with Cinnamon Teal body plumage and Blue-winged Teal head pattern was seen at Priddis Slough DC, JJP on May 11. The latest record was Aug. 15 Irricana (1) JS.

May 8 Irricana (10) DE.
May 16 Shepard (10) JS, MS.
May 21 Priddis (7) ACS.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata* 265,0,0 Common summer visitor
The first spring record was Apr. 9, Carseland (1) ACS. Numbers quickly built up to (100) at Calgary JS on Apr. 24 and (100) at Irricana on Apr. 24, JS, RWS, BB. Ducks Unlimited reported broods near Strathmore on June 18. Most birds were gone by late Sep.

Sep. 25 Namaka (100) JS.
Oct. 2 W.R.W.C. (4) SJ.
Oct. 10 Chestermere (2) JT et al.

Gadwall *Anas strepera* 51,5,0 Uncommon summer visitor
Rare winter visitor
The first spring records were Apr. 17, Dalemead (2) RWS, LKF. Peak counts were May 1, Namaka (40+) DE; May 21, Priddis (60) ACS; May 22, Irricana (50) JS. Ducks Unlimited reported broods near Strathmore on June 18. Most birds were gone by early Oct. Records occurred throughout the winter.

Jan. 16 Carburn (1) PF, JT. Oct. 31 Namaka/Eagle Lake (10) ACS.
Jan. 25 Carburn (2) OD. Nov. 8 Carburn (1) OD.
Oct. 9 Eagle Lake (20+) VM, RR. Nov. 21 Carseland (1) DC, JJP.

Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope* Vagrant
A male in breeding plumage was reported from Carseland on Apr. 18 and 25 JT.

American Wigeon *Anas americana* 54,5,0 Abundant summer visitor
Rare winter visitor
Spring passage appeared to begin on Mar. 27, Irricana (3) JS. No distinct peak occurred. Most birds left by early Nov. Fall flocking peaked on Oct. 30 Namaka (1000) JS. Records occurred throughout the winter.

Jan. 11 Carburn (1) OD.
Mar. 15 Inglewood (1) DE.
Nov. 6 Namaka (50) JS.
Nov. 23 Prince's Island (1 female) DC.
Dec. 5 Carburn (4) ACS.

Canvasback *Aythya valisineria* 80,0,0 Common summer visitor
The first spring records were Mar. 14, Kananaskis (1 male) DC, BC; Apr. 9, Carseland (4) ACS. Numbers built to (100) on May 1 at Irricana, JS, RWS, BB. The last fall record was on Oct. 31 Ghost Lake (pr.) SJ.

May 24 Irricana (100) JS.
 July 9 Irricana (100) JS.
 July 15 Irricana (100) JS.
 Aug. 2 Irricana (100) JS.
 Sep. 12 Namaka (100) JS.
 Oct. 10 Namaka (120+) JT et al.

Redhead *Aythya americana* 36,0,0 Common summer visitor
 Rare winter visitor

The first spring record was Apr. 23, Cochrane Lake (3) SJ. A peak count occurred on May 1, Irricana (100) JS, RWS, BB. Most birds had left by the second week of Oct. The only winter record was Jan. 16, Carburn (1) JT, PF.

Oct. 10 Namaka (30) JT et al.
 Nov. 12 Ghost Lake (1 male) JJP, SJ.

Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris* 51,0,0 Common Summer visitor

The first spring record was Apr. 10, Bowmont Flats (2) JJP. Peak counts were May 1, Irricana (25) JS, RWS, BB; May 6, W.R.W.C. (40) SJ. A female on 8 eggs was found at the W.R.W.C. by SJ on June 30. The peak fall count was at Irricana (50) JS on Aug. 2. Birds lingered past the end of Oct.

Aug. 2 Irricana (50) JS.
 Oct. 23 Glenmore (2) ACS.
 Nov. 5 Ghost Lake (5) SJ.

Greater Scaup *Aythya marila* Vagrant

All available records are listed below. The birds observed by SJ are well described with documentation on file with CFNS and B. Gollop (American Birds regional compiler).

May 1 Irricana (1) JS, BB, RWS.
 May 2 Shepard (4) JS.
 May 9 Chestermere (1) JS.
 June 9 Irricana (1) JS.
 Oct. 28 Ghost (1 female) SJ.
 Oct. 31 Ghost (4) SJ.
 Nov. 5 Ghost (3) SJ.

Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* 64,0,0 Common summer visitor

The first spring records were Apr. 3, Carburn (1) KJ; Apr. 9, Carseland (15) ACS. Numbers increased to a peak on May 1, Irricana (200) ACS. Good numbers were present in the fall until early Nov. The last record was Nov. 21, Carseland (2 m, 1 f.) DC, JJP.

Nov. 9 Ghost (190) SJ.
 Nov. 19 Ghost (m. being harassed by Bald Eagle) SJ.

Harlequin Duck *Histrionicus histrionicus* 0,2,0 Rare resident

All available records are listed below. The Sep. 6 record, although out of the area is of interest.

Sep. 6 Upper Kananaskis R. (1f. with 6 young) AS, SM.
 Nov. 18 Carburn (1 fem.) OD.
 Nov. 21 Carburn (1) ACS.

Oldsquaw *Clangula hyemalis* Rare migrant

All available records are listed below.

Sep. 11 Namaka (1) JS, MS.
 Oct. 28 Ghost (2m. 7 fem.) SJ.

Surf Scoter*Melanitta perspicillata*

Rare migrant

All available records are listed below.

Oct. 28 Ghost (21 "mostly females or imm.") SJ.
 Oct. 31 Ghost (1 fem.) SJ.
 Nov. 5 Ghost (2 fem.) SJ.

White-winged Scoter*Melanitta fusca*

14,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

The first spring records were May 8, Irricana (9+) DE; May 7, W.R.W.C. (pr.) SJ. Small numbers were seen through the summer. Fall birds lingered into the first weeks of November.

May 16 Glenmore (1) RFC.
 Sep. 25 Namaka (30) JS.
 Oct. 23 Glenmore (7) ACS.
 Nov. 12 Ghost (6) JJP, SJ.

Common Goldeneye*Bucephala clangula*

1,646,0

Abundant winter visitor
Uncommon summer visitor

As noted in the Calgary CBC above, good numbers of these birds winter in Calgary on open water associated with the Bow River. Most had left the Calgary area by the end of May. Birds re-appeared in the area about the middle of Oct.

Jan. 16 Carburn (300) JT, PF.
 Apr. 11 Weaselhead (18) DC.
 May 22 Cominco (2 fem.) MR.
 June 11 Fish Creek P.P. (1) ES.
 Oct. 10 Namaka (6) JT et al.
 Nov. 6 Namaka (200) JS.
 Nov. 29 Carburn (150+) OD.

Barrow's Goldeneye*Bucephala islandica*

0,3,0

Uncommon resident

Small numbers were noted throughout the year.

Jan. 16 Carburn (2) JT, PF.
 Feb. 14 Carburn (9) JT.
 Apr. 24 Irricana (10+) DE.
 May 30 B.V.P.P. (6) DE.
 June 20 Irricana (6 m.) JS.
 Aug. 12 near Kangienos Lake (4) SJ.
 Oct. 19 Glenmore (3) RB.
 Nov. 14 Carburn (2m. 1 f.) SA, BW.
 Dec. 26 Riverbend (7) ACS.

Bufflehead*Bucephala albeola*

31,0,0

Rare winter visitor
Common migrant
Uncommon summer visitor

The first spring record was on Apr. 9, Inglewood (5) AW, ET. Numbers built to a peak on May 1, Irricana (40) ACS. Good numbers were seen throughout the summer. Peak fall passage occurred in the last half of Oct. with the latest records Nov. 19, Glenmore (80+) RB; Nov. 19, Ghost Reservoir (1fem.) JJP, SJ.

Apr. 11 Edworthy (6) TK.
 June 20 Irricana (35) JS.
 July 14 Strathmore/Irricana (75) JS.
 Aug. 15 Irricana (25) JS.
 Sep. 12 Namaka (100) JS.
 Oct. 16 Namaka (500) JS.
 Oct. 23 Namaka (300) JS.
 Oct. 30 Namaka (200) JS.

Hooded Merganser*Lophodytes cucullatus* 0,1,0

Uncommon migrant

All available records are listed below.

Mar. 16 Carburn (1 fem.) JT, OD.
 Mar. 30 Carburn (1 fem.) JT, OD.
 Apr. 13 Inglewood (1) DE.
 Apr. 25 Inglewood (4) DE.
 May 6, 8, 9, 10, 16, 24, 27 (1-2) AW, ACS, DE, JR.
 Aug. 21 Inglewood (2) JR.
 Sep. 13 Inglewood (2) DE.
 Sep. 30 Inglewood (1 m) DE.
 Oct. 8 Frederick Lake (1 M) SJ.
 Oct. 9 Frederick Lake (7 m, 6 f) SJ.
 Oct. 23 Salter Lake (2 f) SJ, RA.
 Oct. 28 Ghost (9) SJ.
 Oct. 30 Namaka Lake (1 f) JS.
 Oct. 31 Ghost (2 f) SJ.

Common Merganser*Mergus merganser* 30,46,0

Common resident

Birds were seen throughout the year in the area. An interesting buildup was noted on Oct. 23, Glenmore (105) ACS.

Jan. 16 Carburn (30) JT, PF.
 Feb. 14 Carseland (25) JT.
 Apr. 25 Glenmore (25) DC.
 May 1 Glenmore (40) ES, JB.
 Nov. 12 Ghost (23) SJ, JJP.
 Dec. 5 Carburn (18) ACS.

Red-breasted Merganser*Mergus serrator* 6,0,0Uncommon spring migrant
Rare fall migrant

The first spring records were Apr. 17, Carseland (9) DE and Dalemead (1) RWS, LR. Peak counts were on Apr. 24, Irricana (30) JS; May 1, Irricana (40) JS, BB, RWS. The last spring record was May 29 Irricana (6) DC, JS. Only one fall record on Oct. 31, Ghost Lake (1 f) SJ.

Apr. 22 Lowery (6m, 2 f) JJP.
 Apr. 28 Inglewood (8+) DE.

Ruddy Duck*Oxyura jamaicensis* 230,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring record was Apr. 18, Big Springs Creek (1) PFS. Peak counts were May 1, Irricana (200) ACS; May 8, Irricana (200+) DE; May 24, Irricana (300) JS. A female with 5 newly hatched young was noted at the W.R.W.C. SJ on Aug. 4. The fall passage was protracted with the last record Nov. 2, Ovan's Slough (2m) SJ.

Apr. 25 Irricana (6) DE.
 Sep. 19 Eagle Lake (80) ACS.
 Oct. 23 Namaka (200) JS.
 Oct. 30 Namaka (25) JS.

Osprey*Pandion haliaetus*

Rare summer visitor

All available records are listed below:

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Apr. 18 | B.V.P.P. (1) AW, PFS, IS. | July 25 | Lowery (1) RB. |
| Apr. 26 | Bowmont Flats (1) JJP. | Aug. 16 | Ghost (1) SJ, AF. |
| May 2 | Lowery (1) RB. | Aug. 18 | B.V.P.P. (4) DE, JR, OD. |
| May 4 | Barrier L. (1) JB. | Aug. 28 | Glenmore (1) RFC. |
| May 8 | Inglewood (1) DE et al. | Aug. 29 | Glenmore (1) RFC. |
| May 29 | Glenmore (1) RFC. | Aug. 29 | Inglewood (1) ACS. |
| May 29 | B.V.P.P. (2) KJ et al. | Sep. 1 | Bowmont Flats (1) JJP. |
| May 30 | B.V.P.P. (4) DE et al. | Sep. 6 | Beaverdam Flats (1) RB. |
| June 11 | Carburn (1) OD. | Sep. 8 | Seebe (1) AW. |
| | | Sep. 11 | Bowmont Flats (1) JJP. |

Bald Eagle*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

0,6,2

Common migrant

Uncommon winter visitor

The first spring record was Mar. 27, Fish Creek W. (7) JJP, RA. Peak count was on Apr. 9, Wildcat Hills (20 ad., 4 imm.) JJP, DC, BC. The fall passage was underway by mid-Oct. with peaks on Nov. 13, Namaka (6 ad., 3 imm.) JS; Nov. 15, Winchell L. (4 ad., 8 imm.) JB; Nov. 19, Ghost (10 ad., 8 imm.) SJ, JJP. Birds were present through the winter.

Jan. 11 Carburn (2 ad., 7 imm.) OD.
 Feb. 14 Carburn (11) JT.
 Mar. 3 Carburn (14) OD.
 Mar. 28 Cochrane to foothills (12 ad.) JS.
 Nov. 21 Carseland (1 ad., 2 imm.) DC, JJP.
 Nov. 22 Carburn (10) OD.
 Dec. 20 Carburn (6) OD.

Northern Harrier*Circus cyaneus*

18,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

Rare winter visitor.

The first spring records were Mar. 27, Irricana (3 m) JS and Mar. 27, Fish Creek W. (1) JJP, SW. Peak spring counts were May 1, Irricana (16) JS and May 1, Namaka (10) DE. Few sightings were made after the middle of Oct. The latest was Oct. 25, Weaselhead (1 m) BW.

Mar. 1 Cochrane (1 found dead) TC.
 July 24 Shepard (2 ad. with 4 fledged young) JS.
 Sep. 25 Namaka (8) JS.

Sharp-shinned Hawk*Accipiter striatus*

1,0,0

Uncommon migrant

Rare resident

The first spring record was a bird found dead between DeWinton and Calgary AW on Apr. 11. Twelve spring records were made with the latest on May 29, Water Valley (1) RWS, LR. The first fall bird was Aug. 22, Lowery (1) RB. Twelve fall sightings were made with only two after Sep. 27. The latest was Oct. 17 Glenmore (1 ad.) ACS. There were two winter records.

Jan. 14 Carburn (1) OD.
 Apr. 23 W.R.W.C. (1 pursuing Common Redpoll) SJ.
 Dec. 24 Lakeview (1 partial albino) DM, DC.

Cooper's Hawk*Accipiter cooperii*

Uncommon migrant

Rare resident

The first spring record was Mar. 28 Big Springs Creek (1) PFS. There were ten spring records (March-May) with seven of those in the first two weeks of May. A bird was seen at Irricana in the same locale on May 9, June 12, July 3, 17 and Aug. 22. A male in display flight was seen at W.R.W.C. SJ on May 14. The latest record was Oct. 1, S.W. Calgary (1) AF.

July 17 Edworthy (1 fem.) RB.
 Aug. 4 W.R.W.C. (1 carrying prey) SJ.

Northern Goshawk*Accipiter gentilis*

0,5,3

Uncommon migrant

Rare resident

The data tabulated below may suggest spring migration during Apr./May and a fall migration-dispersion in Oct.

| | | |
|--------|--------|---------|
| Jan. 0 | May 4 | Sep. 0 |
| Feb. 2 | June 0 | Oct. 10 |
| Mar. 3 | July 0 | Nov. 6 |
| Apr. 4 | Aug. 0 | Dec. 2 |

Mar. 27 Fish Creek W. (2 ad. in courtship flight) RA, JJP.
 Apr. 9 Wildcat Hills (2 migrating adults) DC, BC, JJP.

Broad-winged Hawk*Buteo platypterus*

Rare migrant

All available records are listed below.

May 15 Inglewood (1) BW.
 Aug. 21 Nose Hill (1) JJP.
 Sep. 11 Lowery (1) RB.
 Sep. 14 W.R.W.C. (imm.) SJ.
 Sep. 18 Calgary/Namaka (1) DE, EG.

Swainson's Hawk*Buteo swainsoni*

42,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring migrants were reported Apr. 21, Inglewood (1) DE and Apr. 23, Priddis/Millarville (1) RWS, SA. Numbers built to May 1, Irricana (17) JS, RWS, BB. Most fall birds were gone by mid-Sep. with the latest record Sep. 20, W.R.W.C. (1 ad.) SJ.

Aug. 28 Namaka (50) JS.
 Aug. 29 Irricana (50) JS.
 Sep. 18 Cochrane (8) AF.

Red-tailed Hawk*Buteo jamaicensis*

88,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring records were Mar. 27, Fish Creek W. (3) RWS, JJP, RA. Peak counts were Apr. 9 Wildcat Hills (21 incl. 3 Harlan's and 3 dark phase) JJP, BC, DC; Apr. 9 Big Springs Creek (21) PFS; Apr. 18, Cochrane to Sibbald Flats (25) JS. Most fall birds were gone by the end of Sep. with the latest being Oct. 24, to Lac des Arcs (1) JS.

Ferruginous Hawk*Buteo regalis*

2,0,0

Rare summer visitor

The first spring record was Mar. 27, Fish Creek W. (1) JJP, RA. Breeding occurred west of Calgary and perhaps in the Irricana area. The last record was Aug. 22, Lowery (1) RB.

Apr. 1 Bearspaw (2) JJP.
 Apr. 25 Shepard (1 dark phase) JS.
 May 2 Hesketh (2) DJS et al.
 June 5 Irricana (1) RWS, SA.
 July 3 Irricana (1) JS.

Rough-legged Hawk*Buteo lagopus*

1,0,4

Uncommon migrant
Rare winter visitor

The first spring record was difficult to identify due to the presence of wintering birds. Peak counts are listed below. The fall passage, according to available records, was unimpressive with only one high count on Oct. 8, Pook L. (15) SJ.

Jan. 16 Calgary Airport (8) JS.
 Apr. 9 Wildcat Hills (6 incl. 1 dark phase) JJP, DC, BC.
 Apr. 17 Calgary/Irricana/Shepard (30) JS.
 Apr. 18 Cochrane/Bottrel (5) JJP et al.
 May 16 Indus (1) DC.
 May 20 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
 Aug. 28/29 Calgary/Dinosaur P.P. (2) DE, EG.
 Oct. 16 N. end Grand Valley Road (11) JJP, A.Fa, LG.
 Nov. 11 Lowery (1) PT, JT.
 Dec. 17 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
 Dec. 24 Grand Valley Road (1 dark phase) SJ.

Golden Eagle*Aquila chrysaetos*Uncommon migrant
Rare resident

All available records are listed below.

Jan. 11 Indus/Dalemead (1) RWS.
 Mar. 12 Ghost (1) JJP, SW.
 Apr. 9 Wildcat Hills (3 ad., 1 imm.) JJP, DC, BC.

Apr. 18 Sibbald Flats (1) JS.
 May 10 Lower Grand Valley Road (1 ad.) Afa.
 Aug. 16 Ghost (1 subadult) Afa., SJ.
 Oct. 8 Pook Lake (1 ad) SJ.
 Oct. 11 Morley (1) JJP, LG.
 Oct. 23 Salter L. (1 imm.) RA, SJ.
 Oct. 24 Bottrel (1 juv.) RWS, SA, RB.
 Oct. 31 Nose Hill (1) JJP.
 Nov. 22 W.R.W.C. (1 subadult) SJ.
 Nov. 24 W.R.W.C. (1 subadult) SJ.
 Dec. 2 W.R.W.C. (1 subadult) SJ.
 Dec. 4 Cochrane (1 imm.) RWS, BW, SA.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* 13,0,0 Uncommon summer visitor

The first spring records were Mar. 28, Carseland (1) DJS, et al and Mar. 29, Inglewood (2) DE.
 Most fall birds were gone by Sep. There was one winter record on Feb. 23, N.W.Calgary (1) JM.

Apr. 17 Inglewood/Carseland (6) DE et al.
 Apr. 25 Inglewood/Irricana (7) DE et al.
 Apr. 29 Inglewood (6+) DE.
 Oct. 16 Queensland (1) DJS.
 Oct. 31 Water Valley (1) DC.

Merlin *Falco columbarius* 0,3,0 Uncommon resident

Pairs were observed to successfully fledge 4 young each in Riley Park JT and at 14th Avenue and 6th St., S.W. Calgary AM.

Jan. 16 Shepard (1) JS.
 Feb. 7 Haysboro (1 pursuing small bird) ACS.
 Apr. 21 Lakeview (1 fem. after Evening Grosbeak) DC, BC.
 May 18 Inglewood (1) KJ.
 June 7 Lowery (2) RB.
 July 25 Lowery (2) RB.
 Aug. 16 Lowery (1) RB.
 Sep. 18 Namaka (1) JS.
 Oct. 18 Riley (1) JT.
 Nov. 18 Carburn (1) OD.
 Dec. 11 Haysboro (1) ACS.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Rare migrant
 Rare winter visitor

The only available record is below.

Jan. 24 Fish Creek W. (1) RWS.

Gyr Falcon *Falco rusticolus* 0,1,0

Rare migrant
 Rare winter visitor

All available records are listed below:

Jan. 3 Water Valley (1 gr.) JS.
 Jan. 3 Black Diamond (1 gr.) JC.
 Jan. 4 Black Diamond (1 gr.) JC.
 Jan. 13 Inglewood (1 dark) DE.
 Feb. 14 Black Diamond (1 gr.) JC.
 Feb. 28 Calgary Airport (1 gr.) JS.
 Mar. 29 Big Springs Creek (1 gr.) PFS.
 Oct. 27 Cochrane (1) DE.
 Nov. 4 Inglewood (1) DE.
 Nov. 17 Inglewood (1) DE.

Prairie Falcon *Falco mexicanus* 1,4,0 Uncommon summer visitor
Rare winter visitor

The available records are summarized below (excluding CBC data).

| | | |
|--------|--------|--------|
| Jan. 3 | May 4 | Sep. 4 |
| Feb. 1 | June 2 | Oct. 4 |
| Mar. 1 | July 0 | Nov. 0 |
| Apr. 5 | Aug. 4 | Dec. 1 |

Most observations were of individual birds. Multiple records are listed below,

Apr. 9 Wildcat Hills (2) JJP, DC, BC.
Apr. 19 Calgary/Sheep River (4) AW, JB.
June 10 Strathmore (2) GB.

Gray Partridge *Perdix perdix* 10,42,0 Uncommon resident

Birds were seen in all months.

Jan. 10 Carburn (6) ACS.
Feb. 17 Riley (6) JT.
Mar. 13 Queensland (2) DS.
Apr. 17 Nose Hill (4) DC et al.
May 23 Shepard (4) JS.
June 27 Horse Creek Road (2) SJ.
July 3 Irricana (6) JS.
Aug. 8 Namaka (6) JS.
Sep. 18 Cochrane L. (15) JJP, DC.
Oct. 15 Lowery (15) DC.
Nov. 27 Milo (38) AW.

Ring-necked Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus* 10,24,0 Uncommon resident

A few records of some interest are listed below.

Jan. 31 Irricana (4) JS.
Mar. 28 East of Calgary (20) RWS, BW.
July 25 Irricana (15) JS.
Aug. 29 Irricana (10 young) JS.

Spruce Grouse *Dendragapus canadensis* Rare resident

Only one record on Oct. 24, Lost Lake (3) RWS, SA, RB.

Blue Grouse *Dendragapus obscurus* 0,0,1 Rare resident

Other than the W.R.W.C. CBC record above, only one record and it is outside the area.

Aug. 18 Johnston Canyon (5) DE, OD, JR.

White-tailed Ptarmigan *Lagopus leucurus* Vagrant

Only one available record, outside the area, on

Aug. 2 Burstall Pass (2) ES, JB.

Ruffed Grouse *Bonasa umbellus* 11,3,7 Uncommon resident

A few observations of some interest are listed below.

Aug. 8 Bottrel (4) RWS, SA.
Oct. 23 Weaselhead (2) RWS.
Nov. 11 Frederick Lake (1 drumming) SJ.
Nov. 12 Frederick Lake (1 drumming) SJ.

Sharp-tailed Grouse*Tympanuchus phasianellus* 4,10,9

Uncommon resident

All records are listed below.

Feb. 21 W.R.W.C. (3) AFa.
 Mar. 10 W.R.W.C. (7) SJ, JJP, SW.
 Apr. 9 Big Hill Springs (1 road kill) JJP, DC, BC.
 Apr. 17 N. or Calgary (13 on lek) DC et al.
 Apr. 23 W.R.W.C. (4) SJ.
 May 5 W.R.W.C. (2) MSm.
 May 6 W.R.W.C. (1 dead, mostly eaten) AFa.
 May 9 W.R.W.C. (4) AFa.
 May 26 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
 Oct. 26 W.R.W.C. (2) SJ.
 Nov. 12 Ghost (1) SJ, JJP.

Virginia Rail*Rallus limicola*

1,0,0

Vagrant

The only record is the individual referred to in the May Species Count above.

May 30 Big Springs Creek (1) PFS.

Sora*Porzana carolina*

25,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring records were May 8, Didsbury (1) DS and May 8, Namaka (1) DE. Peak counts were May 21, Priddis (5) ACS, June 5, Water Valley (6) JS; June 12, Priddis (5) DC. Five nests were found at W.R.W.C. SJ in June. One had 12 eggs and another 13 eggs on June 17. The eggs in these two nests were hatching on June 30. Another nest had 14 eggs on July 1. Most birds had left by the end of Aug. with the latest being Oct. 2, W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.

Aug. 15 Irricana (3) JS.
 Aug. 29 Irricana (1) JS.
 Sep. 25 Namaka (1) JS.

American Coot*Fulica americana*

159,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

The first spring record was Apr. 10, Fish Creek E. (1) KJ, AJ. Peak counts were May 2, Irricana (200) ACS and May 24, Irricana (300) JS. Most birds had left by late Oct. with the latest record on Nov. 7, Ghost (1) DC.

Oct. 10 Chestermere (100+) JT et al.
 Oct. 23 Namaka (20) JS.

Sandhill Crane*Grus canadensis*

2,0,0

Uncommon migrant

All available records are listed below.

Apr. 24 Irricana (6) PFS.
 Apr. 24 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
 May 17, 18 & 19 W.R.W.C. (1) AFa, SJ, MSm.
 May 30 Lost Lake (2 heard calling nearby) RA, LG, SJ, LO, JP.
 June 5 Winchell L. (2) SJ et al. Local residents, Mr. & Mrs. B. King claim cranes were present through the end of Aug.
 Sep. 20 MacGregor L (26) DE, EG.
 Oct. 2 Rockyford (125) SM.
 Oct. 16 Eagle Lake (55) JS.

Black-bellied Plover*Pluvialis squatarola* 550,0,0

Abundant passage-migrant

First reported May 14 (1) and May 15 (100). The northward migration peak was on May 29 with (550) being counted in loose flocks. Southward migration started July 25 with (1) and on Aug. 1 (20) were sighted. During Aug. and early Sep. up to (5) birds could be counted on shorebird surveys. From Sep. 11 to the beginning of Oct. the numbers increased to (20) and on Oct. 9 (50) birds were at Namaka Lake and (10) were sighted there on Oct. 17.

Lesser Golden-Plover*Pluvialis dominica* 1,0,0Common to Uncommon
passage-migrant

Recorded May 15-29 with (3) birds on ploughed fields in the Irricana area. Most southward moving birds were from the Namaka Lake area and the dates were July 31 (1), Sep. 29 (2) and Oct. 9 (10). A record early bird for the southward migration was reported by RWS and MS on July 28.

Semipalmated Plover*Charadrius semipalmatus*

Common passage-migrant

Northward migration was recorded from May 1 until June 6 with a total of (70) birds recorded. The peak was May 9 with (29) counted and for the rest of the month only (18) birds were counted during nine surveys. The southward migration was from July 14 to Sep. 6 with (86) birds being counted. There were two peaks, July 24 with (15) adult birds and Aug. 29 with (18) which were mostly immature.

Killdeer*Charadrius vociferus* 51,1,0Abundant summer
visitor

Reported from Apr. 3 to Dec. 26. This bird is very conspicuous during May when the northern nesters pass through our area. By June our nesting birds become less visible but by the end of July good sized flocks can be seen on pasture lands. One field north of Strathmore had over (100) birds on Aug. 28. Numbers of over (50) were seen during each Sep. trip to the prairie east of Calgary. The Oct. and Nov. figures are:

| | | | |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| Oct. | 1 (0) | Nov. | 1 (0) |
| | 2 (0) | | 2 (0) |
| | 3 (6) | | 3 (2) |
| | 4 (0) | | |
| | 5 (0) | | |
| | 6 (0) | | |

American Avocet*Recurvirostra americana* 214,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

Records from Apr. 24 to Oct. 11. The latter date, Eagle Lake JBS is a late record. Most normally leave by the end of Aug. and the first week of Sep. with a few staying until the end of the month. The main arrival was at the beginning of May and during May, counts of up to (100) were made. In June, count numbers dropped to around (25) per trip as the more northern nesters left. In early July, the numbers rose to over (200). By Aug. the maximum count was (30) and during Sep. the maximum count per trip was (15) with some days having no counts.

Greater Yellowlegs*Tringa melanoleuca* 2,0,0Abundant to common
passage-migrant

Reported every month from Apr. to Oct. The first reports were on Apr. 18 with a total of (4) birds from various localities RWS, BW, SA, JS. The last report was of (3) birds at Namaka Lake on Oct. 30. The following are the five day averages.

| | | | | | | |
|------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Apr. | | | | 4 (4), | 5 (3), | |
| May | 1 (3), | 2 (2), | | | | |
| June | 1 (1), | | | 4 (5), | | |
| July | 1 (3), | | 3 (10), | 4 (4), | 5 (7), | 6 (2), |
| Aug. | 1 (3), | 2 (6) | 3 (3), | 4 (a), | 5 (17), | 6 (12) |
| Sep. | 1 (4), | 2 (6) | 3 (1), | 4 (0), | 5 (4), | 6 (0) |
| Oct. | 1 (0), | 2 (2) | 3 (0), | 4 (0), | 5 (0), | 6 (3) |

Lesser Yellowlegs*Tringa flavipes* 9,0,0Abundant passage-migrant
Rare Summer visitor

Reported every month from Apr. to Oct. The earliest record was Apr. 21 and the latest date was Oct. 11. The peak of the northward migration was during the first week of May. The maximum counted during one day was (1200) on July 15. A pair was observed scolding persistently at the W.R.W.C. slough on June 9. Another adult was also present. No nest was found. Five adults were again scolding at the W.R.W.C. on June 23. The lack of activity between the 9th and 23rd suggests nesting some distance away SJ. The following are the five day averages.

| | | | | | | |
|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Apr. | | | | | 5 (8), | 6 (a), |
| May | 1 (85), | 2 (125), | 3 (4), | 4 (3), | 5 (2), | |
| June | 1 (a), | 2 (25), | 3 (20), | 4 (25), | 5 (a), | 6 (a), |
| July | 1 (6), | 2 (30), | 3 (600), | 4 (150), | 5 (100), | 6 (100), |
| Aug. | 1 (125), | 2 (125), | 3 (70), | 4 (a), | 5 (100), | 6 (110), |
| Sep. | 1 (200), | 2 (30), | 3 (50), | 4 (100), | 5 (75), | 6 (a), |
| Oct. | 1 (0), | 2 (0), | 3 (9), | | | |

Solitary Sandpiper*Tringa solitaria*

2,0,0

Common passage-migrant
Uncommon summer visitor

Spring records were from May 1 to May 14 and the total number of birds reported was only (17). Return birds were seen on the prairie east of Calgary from July 12 to Sep. 21. During July the counts averaged about (5) per day. In Aug., the average was closer to (10) birds and by Sep. the counts per day were of one or two birds only. Most of the Sep. birds were along the Bow River in Calgary.

Willet*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*
30,0,0Abundant summer
visitor

Present from Apr. 24 until Sep. 12. The northward migration peaked from May 1-May 29 when numbers of up to (25) were counted on selected prairie slough counts. The largest southward count over the same routes was (30) on Aug. 1. From the end of Aug. until Sep. 12, when a single was spotted at Namaka Lake, no records were received.

Spotted Sandpiper*Actitis macularia* 48,0,0

Common summer visitor

This shorebird was frequently reported throughout the area from Apr. 24 to Sep. 18. Reports from the prairie sloughs were fewer in number than from main rivers.

Upland Sandpiper*Bartramia longicauda* 6,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

Presence recorded from May 16 to Aug. 21. From the Shepard area, southeast to the Dalemead area, eight pairs were located JS. After July 15 these birds were not detected. Two separate birds were seen on Aug. 21 near Eagle and Namaka Lakes JS.

May 13 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
June 24 South of W.R.W.C. (1 heard whistling) SJ.
June 27 Ovan's Slough (1 heard whistling) SJ.

Long-billed Curlew*Numenius americanus* 4,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

This very large shorebird is fairly easy to see east of the city during Apr. before rapid crop growth has started in the fields. Birds reported from our area were under (25). An adult with a young bird was observed on Aug. 2 on an active pasture near Irricana.

Hudsonian Godwit*Limosa haemastica* 1,0,0

Rare passage-migrant

Only one reported on the northward migration and it was a male in nuptial plumage at an Irricana slough May 30, JS, DC, MS. On the southward migration at least (15) were seen near Shepard on July 14. Most of these were males going to winter plumage but there was at least one female. This single flock was by far the largest reported record for our area.

Marbled Godwit*Limosa fedoa* 79,0,0

Common summer visitor

This common breeding shorebird was found from Apr. 24 to Sep. 18. The average of fifteen counts during May was (60) but by June and until the end of Aug. the counts were around (10). By Sep. only a few birds could be found.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* Rare passage-migrant
A bird of this species was seen at Namaka Lake from July 31 to Aug. 28 JS.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* Rare passage-migrant
Recorded July 25 at Irricana (1) JS, MS and on Aug. 14 Namaka Lake (1) DC, RB, MS, JS. There were no spring records. The July record was a very early return and the Aug. record slightly earlier than previous years.

Sanderling *Calidris alba* 4,0,0 Common passage-migrant
Only nine birds were reported during the northward passage. May 29, Strathmore (4) and June 6, Irricana (5). Returning birds were detected July 15 with (2) at Namaka Lake and July 25, Irricana (3). At Namaka Lake the counts were Aug. 1 (15), 8 (3), 14 (3), 21 (11), 28 (4), Sep. 6 (16), 11 (5), 18 (25) and 25 (15).

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* 150,0,0 Abundant passage-migrant
Recorded on northward migration from May 1 to June 6 and on southward migration from July 11 to Oct. 10. The Oct. 10 bird at Namaka Lake JBS, RWS was slightly later than normal. The five day averages follow.

| | | | | | | |
|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| May | 1 (110), | 2 (210), | 3 (400), | 4 (300), | 5 (590), | 6 (15), |
| June | 1 (0), | 2 (3), | | | | |
| July | | | 3 (10), | 4 (75), | 5 (22), | 6 (60), |
| Aug. | 1 (75), | 2 (42), | 3 (80), | 4 (a), | 5 (40), | 6 (25), |
| Sep. | 1 (30), | 2 (3), | 3 (1), | 4 (2), | 5 (1), | 6 (a), |
| Oct. | 1 (0), | 2 (1), | 3 (0), | | | |

Western Sandpiper *Calidris mauri* Rare passage-migrant
Six birds were reported and the dates are as follows: May 2, Shepard (1); June 3, Cochrane L. (1) SJ, LO: July 24, Shepard (2) JBS, MS, AS: July 24, Namaka Lake (2).

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* Abundant passage-migrant

The northward passage lasted from May 1 to May 14. The return passage was from July 11 to Sep. 25. The five day averages were as follows:

| | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| May | 1 (10), | 2 (26), | 3 (50), | 4 (25), | 5 (7), | 6 (a), |
| June | 1 (0), | | | | | |
| July | 1 (0), | 2 (0), | 3 (15), | 4 (8), | 5 (12), | 6 (18), |
| Aug. | 1 (17), | 2 (42), | 3 (43), | 4 (a), | 5 (26), | 6 (6), |
| Sep. | 1 (3), | 2 (2), | 3 (3), | 4 (0), | 5 (2), | 6 (0), |

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis* 3,0,0 Rare passage-migrant
There are four records on the following dates. May 8, Shepard (2) JBS, MS; May 29, Chestermere (1) JS, MS, DC, and Irricana (1) JS; July 28, Shepard (1) JBS, MS, AS.

Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii* 5,0,0 Common passage-migrant

Northward migration was from Apr. 24-May 29 and the southward passage was from July 11 to Sep. 25. The five day averages by month are:

| | | | | | | |
|------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Apr. | | | | | 5 (1) | |
| May | 1 (27), | 2 (135), | 3 (50), | 4 (15), | 5 (7), | 6 (3), |
| July | 1 (0), | 2 (0), | 3 (14), | 4 (2), | 5 (19), | 6 (17), |
| Aug. | 1 (10), | 2 (6), | 3 (68), | 4 (a), | 5 (40), | 6 (11), |
| Sep. | 1 (32), | 2 (4), | 3 (37), | 4 (2), | 5 (2), | 6 (0), |

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* 33,0,0 Common passage-migrant
Northward migration was reported from May 1-May 29.

May 1 (8), 2 (33), 3 (75), 4 (2), 5 (62), 6 (5),
Southward migration was from July 24 to Oct. 17.

| | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| July | | | | | 5 (4), | 6 (6), |
| Aug. | 1 (11), | 2 (5), | 3 (18), | 4 (a), | 5 (5), | 6 (12), |
| Sep. | 1 (1), | 2 (0), | 3 (67), | 4 (7), | 5 (75), | 6 (0), |
| Oct. | 1 (0), | 2 (19), | 3 (4), | 4 (15), | 5 (0), | |

Dunlin *Calidris alpina* Rare passage-migrant
Two in full breeding plumage were at Cochrane Lake on May 7, SJ: two were reported at Irricana on May 9, JS, MS and one was near Shepard on August 24, OD.

Stilt Sandpiper *Calidris himantopus* 16,0,0 Common passage-migrant
Northward migration was reported from May 15-May 29 and the southward migration lasted from July 11 to Sep. 25. The following are the monthly five day averages.

| | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| May | 1 (0), | 2 (0), | 3 (25), | 4 (150), | 5 (14), | 6 (16), |
| July | 1 (0), | 2 (0), | 3 (7), | 4 (1), | 5 (8), | 6 (35), |
| Aug. | 1 (5), | 2 (2), | 3 (4), | 4 (a), | 5 (23), | 6 (92), |
| Sep. | 1 (75), | 2 (10), | 3 (45), | 4 (5), | 5 (1), | 6 (0), |

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis* Rare passage-migrant
Four birds were in a pasture near the Langdon Turf Farm along with a flock of Black-bellied Plovers on May 23, JBS, SH.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* Vagrant
There were two records this year. July 24 twelve kilometres east of Calgary (2) JS, MS, RB, AS, OD: July 31 and Aug. 1 at Namaka Lake (1) JS, MS, RWS, and RB. Details of these records have been filed with the National Museum of Natural History in Ottawa and the American Birds regional compiler.

Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus* 1,0,0 Uncommon passage-migrant

Only (25) birds were reported. The northward migration was reported from May 9-29 with (11) birds. The southward passage was from July 11 to Sep. 18 with a total of 14 birds reported.

Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolapaceus* 4,0,0 Common passage-migrant
Northward migration was from May 1-29. The maximum on any one day was (300) on May 9. Southward migration was from July 9 to Oct. 23. Some of the highest counts were (400) on July 24 and (91) on Aug. 28. The following are the five day averages.

| | | | | | | |
|------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| May | 1 (4), | 2 (160), | 3 (150), | 4 (300), | 5 (65), | 6 (4), |
| July | 1 (0), | 2 (9), | 3 (65), | 4 (80), | 5 (200), | 6 (110), |
| Aug. | 1 (60), | 2 (12), | 3 (80), | 4 (0), | 5 (50), | 6 (45), |
| Sep. | 1 (41), | 2 (50), | 3 (110), | 4 (100), | 5 (400), | 6 (0), |
| Oct. | 1 (a), | 2 (4), | 3 (35), | 4 (30), | 5 (11), | 6 (0), |

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------|--|
| <u>Common Snipe</u> | <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> | 25,2,0 | Common summer visitor Rare winter visitor |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------|--|

The earliest bird recorded was on Apr. 25. Birds were commonly noted throughout the summer in suitable habitat. There were no large concentrations reported. A nest with four eggs was found on the Swanson Hills cutline SJ on May 24, Hatched eggshells were in that nest on June 12. Another nest was found with four eggs on June 11 at the W.R.W.C., SJ.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| <u>Wilson's Phalarope</u> | <i>Phalaropus tricolor</i> | 156,0,0 | Abundant Summer Visitor |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------|

This species was reported from May 1 to Sep. 6. The peak count for the spring movement was (200) on May 15. A large group of over (1000) birds was at Irricana slough on Aug. 1 and could possibly have been a local gathering of birds that were moving through from the north. By Aug. 29 most of them had moved southward and there was only one other sighting on Sep. 6 of (2) young birds.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| <u>Red-necked Phalarope</u> | <i>Phalaropus lobatus</i> | 75,0,0 | Abundant passage-migrant |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------|--------------------------|

Northward migration was reported from May 23-29 with (104) birds recorded. Southward passage was from July 24-Sep. 18. During July only (6) birds were counted but during Aug. counts averaging about (50) birds were recorded on almost all trips. The maximum Aug. count was (200) birds on the 29th. On Sep. 12 over (1000) were sighted on an Irricana slough.

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| <u>Red Phalarope</u> | <i>Phalaropus fulicaria</i> | Vagrant |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------|

There were two reports of Red Phalaropes. One was at Cochrane Lake on Oct. 26, SJ and the other was at Namaka Lake on Oct. 30, JS. Details for the Oct. 26 sighting are presented in the Appendix of this report while details for the Oct. 30 sighting have been filed with the National Museum of Natural History in Ottawa and the American Birds regional compiler.

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| <u>Parasitic Jaeger</u> | <i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i> | Vagrant |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|

Two were reported on Sep. 12 at Lac des Arcs JT. A light phase was seen at Eagle Lake on Sep. 19 ACS.

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| <u>Long-tailed Jaeger</u> | <i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i> | Vagrant |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|

A single adult bird was sighted at Namaka Lake on Sep. 5, JS, MS. Documentation has been filed with the National Museum of Natural History in Ottawa and the American Birds regional compiler.

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| <u>Franklin's Gull</u> | <i>Larus pipixcan</i> | 573,0,0 | Abundant summer visitor |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------|

First records of this bird were on Apr. 4. Numbers increased to hundreds by the end of Apr. and the first week of May. This species was easy to see on most counts and by Sep. 6 large flocks could be counted at Namaka and Eagle Lakes. The last birds were reported on Sep. 25 at Calgary.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Bonaparte's Gull</u> | <i>Larus philadelphia</i> | 40,0,0 | Abundant to common passage-migrant |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|

Bonaparte's Gulls were recorded from Apr. 21 to Nov. 6. By the second week of Sep. adults were gathering at Eagle Lake, and Sep. 18-25, adults in excess of (200) were counted. In Oct. the largest count at Eagle Lake was (150) on the 16th. The last count was (25), again at Eagle Lake, on Nov. 6.

- Mew Gull *Larus canus* Vagrant
Three adults were observed, during a blizzard, at Cochrane Lake SJ on May 7.
- Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis* 851,0,0 Abundant summer visitor
This species is a common gull seen around the city from mid-Mar. until the first real cold snap in Nov. or early Dec.
- California Gull *Larus californicus* 728,0,0 Abundant summer visitor
Small numbers were observed from Mar. 16 (3) JT to Oct. 10. Most of the adult birds moved out by the first week of Aug. Most observed after that were birds of the year and there were few counts over ten. Near one nesting site ten road kills of young were found.
- Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* 1,0,0 Common to uncommon
passage-migrant
In the spring this species was counted from Mar. 27 to May 30. Over (300) birds were counted and the peak seemed to be in the middle of Apr. We had few birds reported during the fall, the first on Aug. 27. At Lac des Arcs (32) adults were sitting with a few Ring-billed Gulls on Oct. 10. Two were reported from Glenmore Reservoir and one from Ghost Lake on Nov. 14 and 19 respectively.
- Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus* Vagrant
This large, almost pure white, gull was at the Carseland Dam on Apr. 17, PFS, DE, KJ and Apr. 18, JT.
- Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* Vagrant
One adult was observed at Bruce Lake JS, MS, BW, on June 6. Details including a photograph were filed with the National Museum of Natural History in Ottawa and the American Birds regional compiler. An abridged version is presented in the Appendix of this report.
- Sabine's Gull *Xema sabini* Vagrant
An adult of this species was seen at Namaka Lake on Sep. 11, OD, LG and Sep. 12, JS, DC, RB. Details have been filed with the National Museum of Natural History and the American Birds regional compiler.
- Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia* Vagrant
One adult bird was seen on the Bow River at Calgary on Sep. 27, RB, DC, RWS, JJP.
- Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* 47,0,0 Common summer visitor
The first spring records were (6) birds noted at an Irricana slough on May 9 and the species was seen at suitable sloughs and lakes throughout the summer. Two fledged young were noted at Namaka Lake on Aug. 8. The highest counts were toward the end of May with (40) at Irricana and Namaka. No fall concentration of over (10) was noted.
- Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* Accidental
One adult was photographed at Namaka Lake on Sep. 11, JS, MS, LG, OD and Sep. 17, DE, EG. Details including photographs were filed with the National Museum of Natural History and the American Birds regional compiler.

Forster's Tern*Sterna forsteri*

Common summer visitor

This species was noted at Namaka Lake from early May until late Sep. From Aug. 1 to Sep. 25 adults and young could be observed sitting and flying. The maximum counted was (20) adult and (10) young on Aug. 14. The last sighting was of (4) on Sep. 25.

Black Tern*Chlidonias niger*

292,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

Recorded from May 16 to Sep. 25. The maximum spring counts were in the last week of May and for the southward migration around Aug. 15. Less than (10) remained at Namaka Lake during Sep. and a very late bird was there on Sep. 25.

Ancient Murrelet*Synthliboramphus antiquus*

Accidental

On Oct. 17 at Glenmore Reservoir a small alcid was sighted by RR and identified as an *antiquus* by VM. This bird was also seen by NG, JG, DC, JS, DE, OD, JRR, AW. Details, including photographs, were filed with the National Museum of Natural History in Ottawa and the American Birds regional compiler.

Rock Dove*Columba livia*

38,696,61

Abundant resident

No comment.

Mourning Dove*Zenaida macroura*

9,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring record was May 9 Irricana (3) JS. Most fall birds were gone by the end of Aug.

| | | |
|------|----|-------------------------|
| May | 22 | Irricana (6) JS. |
| Sep. | 5 | Fish Creek W. (1) ACS. |
| Sep. | 6 | Beaverdam Flats (4) RB. |

Black-billed Cuckoo*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*

Rare summer visitor

All records are listed below. The July 14 and 17 observations were thought to be the same bird.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| July | 1 | Nose Hill (1) JJP, RA. |
| July | 14 | Irricana (1 heard) RB, JS. |
| July | 17 | Irricana (1 called in with tape) OD, JR. |
| Aug. | 2 | Irricana (1) JS, MS, RB. |

Great Horned Owl*Bubo virginianus*

11,3,4

Uncommon resident

Several records which may be of interest are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|-------------------------------------|
| Jan. | 17 | Weaselhead (2 including 1 dead) DC. |
| Mar. | 13 | Big Springs Creek (1 on nest) PFS. |
| Mar. | 21 | Cochrane (1 dead) DC. |
| Mar. | 27 | W.R.W.C. (4 calling) PFS, AW. |
| June | 5 | Fish Creek West (5) ACS. |

Snowy Owl*Nyctea scandiaca*

0,1,1

Uncommon winter visitor

Up to twelve birds were counted east of Calgary on outings. The latest record was Apr. 19 in north Calgary (1 dead) MF. The first fall record was Nov. 6, Irricana (2) JS.

| | | |
|------|----|---------------------|
| Feb. | 7 | Shepard (5) JS. |
| Mar. | 2 | Irricana (12) JS. |
| Mar. | 20 | Chestermere (6) JS. |
| Apr. | 4 | Irricana (5) JS. |
| Nov. | 13 | Namaka (5) JS. |

Northern Hawk-Owl*Surnia ulula*

0,0,2

Rare winter visitor

All records with the exception of the CBC data above are listed below.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|----------------------|------|----|---------------------------------------|
| Jan. | 11 | Millarville (1) OP. | Apr. | 11 | Cochrane (1) PFS. |
| Feb. | 4 | Bragg Creek (1) DEs. | Apr. | 16 | Caroline (1 dead) MR. |
| Mar. | 8 | Millarville (1) OP. | Dec. | 9 | South of Rocky Mountain House (1) AW. |
| Mar. | 14 | Brown-Lowery (1) JT. | | | |

Northern Pygmy Owl*Glaucidium gnoma*

0,0,1

Rare resident

All records with the exception of the CBC data above, are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|---|
| July | 11 | Priddis (2 adults with 2 young) AW, GS, KJ. |
| July | 18 | Priddis (2 adults with 2 young) AW, C & MW. |
| Oct. | 11 | Darnell Ridge (1) SJ, JJP, LG. |
| Nov. | 6 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Dec. | 23 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |

Burrowing Owl*Athene cunicularia*

1,0,0

Rare summer visitor

All records are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| May | 16 | Shepard (3) CFNS. |
| May | 24 | Irricana (5) JS. |
| May | 29 | Shepard (1) DC, JS. |
| July | 18 | Shepard (8 adults, 4 young) JS, MS, RWS. |
| July | 28 | Eagle Lake (2 adults, 3 young) JS. |
| Aug. | 2 | Shepard (1) RWS, SA. |
| Sep. | 25 | Eagle Lake (3) JS. |

Barred Owl*Strix varia*

0,0,1

Rare resident

All records with the exception of the CBC data above, are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| Feb. | 13 | Fish Creek west (1) RWS. |
| Feb. | 16 | Fish Creek west (1) JT. |
| July | 25 | Fish Creek west (2 adults with 2 young) ACS. |
| Oct. | 6 | Darnell Ridge (1) SJ, JJP. |
| Oct. | 11 | Darnell Ridge (1 heard calling) JJP, LG. |
| Oct. | 16 | N.W. Calgary (1) IH. |
| Nov. | 8 | Bragg Creek (1) AW. |

Great Gray Owl*Strix nebulosa*

0,0,3

Rare resident

All records with the exception of the CBC data above, are listed below.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|--------------------------|------|----|--|
| Jan. | 8 | Priddis (1) ACS. | Mar. | 31 | Turner Valley (1) OP. |
| Jan. | 9 | Fish Creek (1) DE. | June | 4 | Turner Valley (1) RA. |
| Jan. | 24 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | July | 8 | Millarville (1) BD. |
| Jan. | 27 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | July | 18 | Priddis (3 adult, 5 young) AW, C & MW. |
| Feb. | 10 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | Sep. | 16 | Nanton (1) EL. |
| Feb. | 12 | W.R.W.C. (2) SJ. | Sep. | 19 | Millarville (2) CD. |
| Feb. | 13 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | Nov. | 8 | Water Valley (1 dead) JB. |
| Feb. | 14 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | Nov. | 14 | Sundre (1 dead by electrocution) CV. |
| Feb. | 14 | Millarville (1 dead) JF. | Dec. | 24 | Lost Lake (1) SJ. |
| Feb. | 14 | Bragg Creek (1) M & DS. | Dec. | 26 | Lost Lake (1) SA, RWS, BW. |

Long-eared Owl*Asio otus*

Rare summer visitor

All records are listed below.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|---|------|----|---|
| Mar. | 4 | Fish Creek west (1) PC. | May | 13 | Cochrane Lake (4) DC, JJP. |
| Apr. | 18 | Canmore (1 dead) DM. | May | 24 | Priddis (1) LK. |
| Apr. | 20 | S.W. Calgary (1 injured & released) AW. | June | 10 | S.W. Calgary (1 dead) DB. |
| Apr. | 21 | Fish Creek W (1 calling) ACS | June | 8 | W.R.W.C. (2pr. on nests with 4 eggs each) SJ. |
| May | 9 | Priddis (pr. on nest) DC, BC, JJP. | June | 12 | Priddis (1, nest empty) DC, |
| May | 11 | Priddis (pr. on nest) DC, BC, JJP. | Oct. | 15 | Balzac (1 dead) JB. |

Short-eared Owl*Asio flammeus*

3,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor
Rare winter visitor

The winter of 1981-2 found wintering birds in the area. The winter of 1982-3 found none. There were no records after Aug. 2, Shepard (1) SA, RWS and Aug. 2, Irricana (1) JS.

Jan. 3 MacDonald Lake (7) CO.
Jan. 16 Shepard (8) JS, MSP.
Feb. 11 W.R.W.C. (3) SJ, AFA.
Apr. 21 Shepard (8) JS.

May 11 Priddis (2 fighting)
DC, JJP.
May 16 Indus (3) DC.
July 15 Namaka (3) JS.
Aug. 1 Namaka (2) JS.

Boreal Owl*Aegolius funeris*

Rare resident

Only two records.

Feb. 22 Huxley (1 dead) DR.
Mar. 27 Lost Lake (1 calling) PFS, AW.

Northern Saw-whet Owl*Aegolius acadicus*

Uncommon resident

All records are listed below.

end of Jan. in barn near Westward Ho (1) KG.
Feb. 12 Bearspaw (1) DE.
Mar. 27 W.R.W.C. (1 calling) PFS, AW.
Apr. 15 Fish Creek P.P. (1 calling) JJP et al.
Apr. 18 Weaselhead (1 calling) DC et al.
Apr. 21 Fish Creek West (1 calling) ACS.
Oct. 6 Darnell Ridge (1) SJ.
Oct. 12 Darnell Ridge (1) SJ.

Common Nighthawk*Chordeiles minor*

Uncommon summer visitor

Only eight records of this bird. There were no records of breeding.

June 6 Inglewood (1) JR.
June 12 Swanson Hills (1) LE, SJ.
June 15 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ.
Aug. 14 Inglewood (1) DE.

Aug. 16 Douglas Fir Trail (1) RB.
Aug. 20 Calgary (1) AW.
Aug. 22 Inglewood (1) HWP.
Aug. 28 Drumheller (1) DE, EG.

Black Swift*Cypseloides niger*

Vagrant

Four records were turned in and all were located in Johnston's Canyon (Banff National Park) slightly out of the 50 mile radius of the Calgary area. All showed nesting evidence.

July 6 Johnston's Canyon (2 - 1 on nest and 1 flying) JS.
July 16 Johnston's Canyon (2 on nests) DE, EG.
Aug. 8 Johnston's Canyon (1 on nest) DE, OD, JRR.
Aug. 8 Johnston's Canyon (1 on nest) ML.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird*Archilochus colubris*

Rare summer visitor

This species was seen at the W.R.W.C. on Aug. 7 (1 fem.) SJ attracted to blooming delphinium and scarlet salvia. SJ found a nest at the north end of Horse Creek Road with 2 eggs on June 25. The nest was approximately thirty-five feet above ground on a dead aspen branch. Re-checked on July 9, a female was observed feeding two young.

Calliope Hummingbird*Stellula calliope*

Rare summer visitor

Four males were seen at Bow Valley P.P. on May 30, DE. This was the only record.

Rufous Hummingbird*Selaphorus rufus*

Uncommon summer visitor

Only four records. This species nested in the area.

| | | |
|------|----|------------------------------------|
| May | 30 | Bow Valley P.P. (1 f. on nest) DE. |
| June | 11 | Bow Valley P.P. (1) AM. |
| June | 12 | Bow Valley (3m. 1 f. on nest) DE. |
| Aug. | 16 | W.R.W.C. (1 f/imm.) SJ. |

Belted Kingfisher*Ceryle alcyon*

5,5,0

Uncommon summer visitor
Rare winter visitor

This bird was reported in every month except Feb. and Mar. High numbers were reported in May, Aug. and Sep. There were no records of breeding. Sightings by month are listed below.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|----|
| Jan. | 1 | May | 20 | Sep. | 17 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 4 | Oct. | 6 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 3 | Nov. | 5 |
| Apr. | 2 | Aug. | 18 | Dec. | 1 |

The first sighting was (1m.) on Jan. 31 in Calgary JT, PF and the last sighting was on the Calgary CBC (5).

Lewis' Woodpecker*Melanerpes lewis*

Vagrant

All available records are listed below.

| | | |
|-----|----|------------------------------|
| May | 7 | Lowery Gardens (1 adult) RB. |
| May | 20 | Riley Park (1 adult) JT. |

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*Sphyrapicus varius*

7,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

All available records are listed below.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|--|------|----|--------------------------|
| May | 8 | W.R.W.C. (1 m.) SJ. | July | 24 | Glenmore (1) RC. |
| May | 9 | W.R.W.C. (2 drumming) SJ. | July | 31 | Glenmore (1) RC. |
| May | 15 | Glenmore (4) RC. | Aug. | 19 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| May | 22 | Glenmore (1) RC. | Aug. | 23 | W.R.W.C. (2 juv.) SJ. |
| May | 29 | Water Valley (3) RS, NG, SA. | Aug. | 27 | W.R.W.C. (1 juv.) SJ. |
| May | 30 | Lowery Gardens (1) RB. | Aug. | 29 | W.R.W.C. (2) SJ. |
| July | 1 | Near Millarville/Turner Valley (3) RS, MH, SA. | Sep. | 5 | Glenmore (2) RC. |
| July | 10 | Glenmore (1) RC. | Sep. | 5 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS. |
| July | 24 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) AS. | Sep. | 19 | New Sepepta (1) RS, EML. |
| | | | Sep. | 25 | Inglewood (1) DE, AW. |

Downy Woodpecker*Picoides pubescens*

3,18,20

Common resident

This woodpecker was reported in every month and was a documented breeder in 1982. The highest reported months were Aug., Sep., Oct. and Nov. Records by month are listed below.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|------|----|------|----|
| Jan. | 6 | May | 9 | Sep. | 15 |
| Feb. | 8 | June | 2 | Oct. | 29 |
| Mar. | 3 | July | 4 | Nov. | 15 |
| Apr. | 10 | Aug. | 17 | Dec. | 5 |

Hairy Woodpecker*Picoides villosus*

4,3,19

Uncommon resident

This species was reported in every month but in fewer numbers than the Downy. There were no records of breeding.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|------|----|
| Jan. | 2 | May | 2 | Sep. | 13 |
| Feb. | 7 | June | 2 | Oct. | 7 |
| Mar. | 4 | July | 1 | Nov. | 4 |
| Apr. | 7 | Aug. | 6 | Dec. | 4 |

Three-toed Woodpecker*Picoides tridactylus* 0,1,5

Uncommon resident

Fourteen records of this species were submitted. There were no records of breeding.

| | | |
|------|----|-------------------------------|
| Feb. | 14 | Weaselhead (1 m.) DC, JJP. |
| Feb. | 19 | Banff (1) JS, MS. |
| Feb. | 20 | Bow Valley P.P. (1 m.) DE, EG |
| May | 10 | Bow Valley P.P. (1) AM. |
| June | 18 | Winchell Lake (1 f.) SJ. |
| July | 6 | Johnston's Canyon (1) JS, MS. |
| Aug. | 25 | Kananaskis (1) ML. |
| Sep. | 19 | Lake Minewanka (1) JS, RB. |
| Oct. | 11 | Lake Minewanka (1 m.) RS, DS. |
| Oct. | 16 | Swanson Hills (1 f.) JJP, LG. |
| Nov. | 6 | W.R.W.C. (2) SJ. |
| Nov. | 11 | Millarville (1 m.) JT, PT. |
| Nov. | 25 | Bottrel (2) SJ. |
| Nov. | 28 | Twin Bridges (2) ACS. |

Black-backed Woodpecker*Picoides arcticus* 0,0,1

Rare resident

Apart from one sighting at the W.R.W.C. on the CBC, there were only two records.

| | | |
|------|----|------------------------------|
| Feb. | 13 | Fish Creek P.P. (1 male) RS. |
| Feb. | 13 | Calgary (1) JS. |

Northern Flicker*Colaptes auratus* 9,3,2Common summer visitor
Rare winter visitor

This bird was reported in every month with the highest numbers in May, Aug. and Sep.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|------|----|------|----|
| Jan. | 3 | May | 43 | Sep. | 31 |
| Feb. | 4 | June | 10 | Oct. | 3 |
| Mar. | 4 | July | 13 | Nov. | 4 |
| Apr. | 21 | Aug. | 32 | Dec. | 2 |

First report was Jan 6 (1) at Weaselhead, AW. The last sightings were the Calgary and W.R.W.C. CBCs.

Pileated Woodpecker*Dryocopus pileatus* 3,0,7

Uncommon resident

Twentyfour records were submitted but no nesting reported.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|----------------------------|------|----|------------------------------------|
| Feb. | 20 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) AW. | July | 4 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Feb. | 20 | Fish Creek P.P. (2) RW. | July | 8 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Feb. | 21 | Fish Creek P.P. (1 f.) DC. | Aug. | 15 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Mar. | 27 | Fish Creek P.P. (2) RWS | Oct. | 2 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Apr. | 10 | Alliance (2) RS, SA, BW. | Oct. | 8 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) RS. |
| Apr. | 24 | Glenmore (1) ACS. | Oct. | 8 | Pook Lake (2 m.) SJ. |
| Apr. | 30 | Fish Creek P.P. (2) ACS. | Oct. | 11 | Pook Lake (1) JJP, LG, SJ. |
| May | 15 | Lost Lake (1) SJ, AFa. | Oct. | 26 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| May | 29 | Swanson Hills (1) SJ. | Nov. | 6 | N. end of Wildcat Hills (1 f.) SJ. |
| May | 30 | Winchell Lake (1) JJP, RA. | Nov. | 11 | W.R.W.C. (1 f.) SJ. |
| June | 24 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | Nov. | 25 | Bottrel (1) SJ. |
| June | 26 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | Nov. | 27 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |

Olive-sided Flycatcher*Contopus borealis* 7,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

The Olive-sided Flycatcher was recorded from May through to Aug. with Aug. having the highest counts. There were no records of breeding.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 7 | Sep. | 0 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 3 | Oct. | 0 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 2 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 0 | Aug. | 13 | Dec. | 0 |

This Flycatcher was first recorded on May 10 (1) at Bow Valley AM and was last sighted at Inglewood (1) ACS on Aug. 19.

Western Wood Pewee*Contopus sordidulus* 44,0,0

Common summer visitor

This bird showed up regularly between May and Sep. There was evidence of breeding at Inglewood DE. A nest with 4 eggs plus a cowbird egg was found on the N. end of Horse Creek Road SJ on June 25; the cowbird egg was removed. On July 9 the young were being fed and brooded. The first recorded sighting was at Inglewood (2) AW on May 15 and the last sighting was at Beaverdam Flats (2) RB on Sep. 6.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 18 | Sep. | 2 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 10 | Oct. | 0 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 12 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 0 | Aug. | 28 | Dec. | 0 |

Alder Flycatcher*Empidonax alnorum* 3,0,0

Common summer visitor

Twelve records were submitted. Two nests were found at the W.R.W.C.; one with three eggs on July 1; another with two eggs and one cowbird egg on July 3.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|----------------------------|------|----|--------------------------------------|
| June | 8 | W.R.W.C. (6) SJ. | Aug. | 1 | W.R.W.C. (1 calling) SJ. |
| June | 12 | Weaselhead (3) DC. | Aug. | 14 | W.R.W.C. (1 calling) SJ. |
| June | 12 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS. | Aug. | 16 | W.R.W.C. (1 calling) SJ. |
| June | 12 | Bow Valley (1 calling) DE. | Aug. | 25 | W.R.W.C. (2 calling; one a juv.) SJ. |
| July | 12 | Inglewood (1 calling) JR. | Aug. | 29 | Lowery Gardens (1) ML. |

Willow Flycatcher*Empidonax traillii*

Rare summer visitor

There are five reported sightings but no records of nesting.

| | | |
|------|----|----------------------------|
| June | 12 | Bow Valley (1 calling) DE. |
| Aug. | 2 | Irricana (1) JS, MS, RB. |
| Aug. | 7 | Irricana (1) JS, MS. |
| Aug. | 13 | Irricana (1) JBS. |
| Aug. | 21 | Irricana (1) JBS. |

Least Flycatcher*Empidonax minimus* 113,0,0

Common summer visitor

The Least Flycatcher was reported from May to Oct. There were nesting reports from Bow Valley P.P. and Inglewood DE, and the W.R.W.C. SJ. Two nests were found at the N. end of Horse Creek Rd. SJ; one with two eggs on June 25 and three eggs on July 9; another with four just hatched nestlings on July 9.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 19 | Sep. | 3 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 15 | Oct. | 1 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 14 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 0 | Aug. | 18 | Dec. | 0 |

The first reported sighting was one on May 2 and Lowery Gardens RB. The last sighting was at Edworthy on Oct. 3 JRB.

Dusky Flycatcher*Empidonax oberholseri* 6,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

Six available records.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| May | 24 | Swanson Hills (2 - one singing) SJ. |
| May | 30 | Swanson Hills (3 singing) SJ, JJP et al. |
| May | 30 | Winchell Lake (3 - two singing) SJ, JJP et al. |
| June | 18 | Winchell Lake (1 calling) SJ. |
| July | 16 | Bow Valley P.P. (2 calling) DE. |
| Aug. | 21 | Bow Valley P.P. (1) ML. |

Western Flycatcher*Empidonax difficilis*

Rare summer visitor

One record of an old nest found on Sep. 3, along the Bow River, 5 km. east of Ghost Reservoir dam in appropriate habitat. A good description was written up on this nest and comparison drawn with the nearby nest of an Eastern Phoebe SJ.

Eastern Phoebe *Sayornis phoebe* 7,0,0 Uncommon summer visitor

All available records are listed below.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|--|------|----|---|
| Apr. | 24 | Inglewood (1) DE. | June | 18 | Carburn Park (1) OD. |
| Apr. | 27 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | June | 18 | Winchell Lake (1 in vicinity of nest) SJ, JJP et al. |
| May | 6 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | June | 25 | N. end of Horse Creek Rd. (1 in vicinity of nest with 2 half-grown young) SJ. |
| May | 8 | Bottrel (1) SJ. | July | 10 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS. |
| May | 8 | Didsbury (1) DJS. | Aug. | 19 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| May | 9 | Water Valley (1) DE, EG. | Aug. | 22 | Inglewood (1) DE. |
| May | 29 | Water Valley (4) RS, LR. | Aug. | 24 | W.R.W.C. (2-1 adult feeding 1 juv) SJ. |
| May | 30 | Cominco Natural Area (1) MR. | Aug. | 27 | W.R.W.C. (2 juv, 1 ad.) SJ. |
| May | 30 | Winchell Lake (pr. at nest) SJ, JJP et al. | Aug. | 29 | W.R.W.C. (1 ad. 4 juv.) SJ. |
| June | 5 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS. | Aug. | 30 | W.R.W.C. (1 ad. 1 juv.) SJ. |
| June | 12 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS. | | | |
| June | 15 | Carburn Park (1) OD. | | | |

Say's Phoebe *Sayornis saya* Uncommon migrant
Rare summer visitor

All available records are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|-------------------------|
| May | 2 | Bowmont Park (3) RS. |
| May | 9 | Irricana (1) JS, MS. |
| May | 9 | Chestermere (1) JS, MS. |
| May | 22 | Irricana (1) JS. |
| Aug. | 15 | Drumheller (1) RS, SA. |
| Aug. | 27 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Aug. | 31 | Bottrel (2) SJ. |

Great Crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus crinitus* Vagrant

Only one record submitted and this was out of our area. One adult was seen at Pine Lake ACS on July 18. Details are on file with the C.F.N.S.

Western Kingbird *Tyrannus verticalis* 4,0,0 Uncommon summer visitor

The Western Kingbird was reported every month between and including May and Aug. Breeding records were absent.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 7 | Sep. | 0 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 3 | Oct. | 0 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 8 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 0 | Aug. | 12 | Dec. | 0 |

First reported sighting was at Hesketh (4) DS, CH, CN on May 2 and the last record was at Irricana (30) JS, MS on Aug. 29.

Eastern Kingbird *Tyrannus tyrannus* 12,0,0 Common summer visitor

This bird was recorded from May to Sep. The highest counts were in July and Aug.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 15 | Sep. | 4 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 8 | Oct. | 0 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 19 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 0 | Aug. | 41 | Dec. | 0 |

The first sighting was of one at Bowmont Park RS on May 2 and the last record was at Carburn Park (3) RS, NG on Sep. 27. There were also two recorded nesting observations SJ and DE.

Horned Lark*Eremophila alpestris*Abundant migrant
Common summer visitor
Rare winter visitor

Horned Larks were seen in the area every month except Dec. The highest counts were in Apr. and there were no records of breeding.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|------|---|------|---|
| Jan. | 2 | May | 7 | Sep. | 1 |
| Feb. | 3 | June | 2 | Oct. | 6 |
| Mar. | 9 | July | 2 | Nov. | 1 |
| Apr. | 14 | Aug. | 4 | Dec. | 0 |

The first record was at Calgary (7) JS, MS on Jan. 9 and the last record on Nov. 27 at Milo (37) AW, NG.

Purple Martin*Progne subis*

Rare summer visitor

There was one sighting of Purple Martins at Didsbury (2) JS, MS, RB on May 24.

Tree Swallow*Tachycineta bicolor* 308,0,0

Common summer visitor

The Tree Swallow was seen from mid-Apr. to Aug. in the Calgary area. It was a confirmed breeder DE.

| | | | | | |
|------|----|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 52 | Sep. | 0 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 12 | Oct. | 0 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 8 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 11 | Aug. | 3 | Dec. | 0 |

The first record was at Carseland (4) DE on Apr. 17. At Namaka Lake (25) JS on Aug. 21 the last Tree Swallows were seen for the year.

Violet-green Swallow*Tachycineta thalassina*

Rare summer visitor

This bird was recorded on three occasions in the Calgary area and no nesting records were noted.

| | | |
|------|----|-------------------------|
| May | 16 | Priddis (1) C.F.N.S. |
| June | 11 | Bow Valley P.P. (2) AM. |
| July | 6 | Canmore (2) JS, RC. |

Northern Rough-winged Swallow*Stelgidopteryx serripennis* 75,0,0

Common summer visitor

This species was seen from Apr. to Aug. There were no reports of breeding.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 20 | Sep. | 0 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 9 | Oct. | 0 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 5 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 2 | Aug. | 5 | Dec. | 0 |

The first record for the year was at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (2) MB on Apr. 29. The last record was at Drumheller (8) RS, SA on Aug. 22.

Bank Swallow*Riparia riparia*

596,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

This swallow was seen from May to Aug. Nesting was reported.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 11 | Sep. | 0 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 6 | Oct. | 0 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 12 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 0 | Aug. | 10 | Dec. | 0 |

The first record of the year was at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (300+) AW on May 24. The last record was at Irricana (10) JS on Aug. 29.

Cliff Swallow *Hirundo pyrrhonota* 328,0,0 Abundant summer visitor

Cliff Swallows were seen from May to Aug. Nesting evidence was supplied by SJ.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|---|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 10 | Sep. | 0 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 7 | Oct. | 0 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 12 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 0 | Aug. | 8 | Dec. | 0 |

The first record was at W.R.W.C. (1) SJ on May 14 and the last record was at Namaka (15) JS on Aug. 28.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* 192,0,0 Common summer resident

Commonly reported from late Apr. to Oct.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|------|----|------|----|
| Jan. | 0 | May | 22 | Sep. | 11 |
| Feb. | 0 | June | 14 | Oct. | 1 |
| Mar. | 0 | July | 14 | Nov. | 0 |
| Apr. | 1 | Aug. | 23 | Dec. | 0 |

The first record was on Apr. 28 at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary DE and the last record at Strathmore JS on Oct. 11.

Gray Jay *Perisoreus canadensis* 15,2,83 Common resident

A pair with (4) adult-sized, though still begging, juveniles were seen in the Swanson Hills SJ on May 24. All (15) seen on the May Species Count were found in the W.R.W.C.-Water Valley area. Two on Dec. 19 along the Elbow River near the south-west edge of the count circle were the first ever for the Calgary CBC, PFS; (83) on the W.R.W.C. CBC, almost three times the 1981-2 count total of (30), represents the highest total in 9 years of the CBC, the previous high being (75) on the 1980-1 count.

Blue Jay *Cyanocitta cristata* 1,2,4 Uncommon resident

Recorded every month but Apr. Most records were from Calgary at Fish Creek P.P. as listed below:

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|----|--------------|------|-----|----------|------|----|----------|
| Feb. | 13 | (1) JT, PF. | Mar. | 29 | (2) DC. | Aug. | 14 | (3) RWS. |
| Feb. | 16 | (1) RW. | May | 3-5 | (1) ES. | Aug. | 21 | (1) RWS. |
| Mar. | 7 | (1) DC. | June | 17 | (2) JJP. | Sep. | 5 | (2) ACS. |
| Mar. | 27 | (4) JJP, RA. | June | 20 | (1) ACS. | Nov. | 28 | (1) BW. |
| | | | July | 14 | (2) ACS. | Dec. | 18 | (7) DJS. |

Elsewhere in Calgary:

| | | |
|------|----|----------------------|
| June | 2 | Weaselhead (3) JJP. |
| Sep. | 22 | Riley Park (2) JT. |
| Oct. | 2 | Queens Park (1) JJP. |
| Oct. | 10 | Weaselhead (1) RWS. |

Other records were:

| | | |
|------|----|---|
| Feb. | 21 | Madden (3) JJP. |
| May | 10 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| May | 30 | Confluence of Stony Creek and Little Red Deer River, n.e. of Water Valley (1) SA, NG. |
| June | 17 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Sep. | 13 | W.R.W.C. (3) SJ. |
| Sep. | 17 | W.R.W.C. (2) SJ. |
| Sep. | 18 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Sep. | 18 | Strathmore (7) JS (who reports seeing migrants on the prairie every year.) |
| Sep. | 23 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Sep. | 30 | W.R.W.C. (2) SJ. |
| Oct. | 24 | Langdon (1) JT. |

The (4) on the W.R.W.C. CBC are equal to the lowest totals in nine years of the count. (W.R.W.C. CBC totals, 1974-82: 4, 4, 5, 13, 21, 17, 16, 9, 4. Only 13 and 19 observers on the first two counts and over 30 on the last six.)

Clark's Nutcracker*Nucifraga columbiana* 0,0,1Uncommon to rare
resident.

The only report was (1) for the W.R.W.C. CBC from the Little Red Deer River, 7.7 km s.w. of Water Valley D & LB, MR, a count first. There have been a number of records of this species within the last several years from the south ends of Beaupre Hill and the nearby Wildcat Hills, including a bird carrying nesting material JJP, and, more recently (1) JJP, SJ on Apr. 17, 1980. There appear to be no additional reports from these sites in 1982. Listed as a fairly common resident in "Birds of the Kananaskis Forest Experiment Station and surrounding area: an annotated checklist" by Powell, Sadler and Powell (June, 1975). Just outside our area was a report from Bergen (1) F. Haug on Sep. 17.

Black-billed Magpie*Pica pica*

176,580,240 Abundant resident

The largest flock reported was on Oct. 31 at the Spy Hill landfill site (160) JJP. There were totals of (100) on several fall dates from mid-Aug. to mid-Oct. at Irricana and in the Namaka-Eagle Lakes area J & MS et al. Nest building was observed on Apr. 22 when one was seen carrying mud to a nest at the W.R.W.C. The largest W.R.W.C. flock was (50) SJ, AFa on Sep. 3.

American Crow*Corvus brachyrhynchos* 150,31,0Abundant summer visitor
Uncommon winter visitor

Recorded during every month in Calgary. Mid-late winter high counts:

Jan. 13 Inglewood (20) DE.
Feb. 1 Brisebois Drive n.w. (55) JJP.
Mar. 28 Carseland (10) DJS.

At W.R.W.C., where nestbuilding was underway during the last half of Apr., a late flock of (65) assembled in treetops on May 8 during the blizzard of May 7-8 that left 18 cm. of snow. Fall high counts:

Aug. 2 Irricana (200) J & MS.
Aug. 15 Irricana (300) J & MS.
Aug. 28 Namaka-Eagle Lakes area (500) J & MS.
Aug. 29 Irricana (100) J & MS.
Sep. 5 en route from Calgary to Lac des Arcs (400) J & MS.
Sep. 19 Namaka-Eagle Lakes area (200) J & MS.

In the W.R.W.C. vicinity, present through mid-Sep., the largest flocks being reported on Aug. 29 (60) and Sep. 2 (100) with the last three records on Sep. 13 (10), 17 (55) and 22 (1 heard). In Calgary, only four reports of (3) birds in the last three months of the year (CBC excluded), after the (70) on Oct. 10 in the Inglewood vicinity VM, RR.

Common Raven*Corvus corax*

12,36,80 Common resident

Recorded during every month, but in the summer, from Calgary, from Fish Creek P.P. only where (2-3) were noted in May, June and July ES, ACS. High counts:

Feb. 13 Fish Creek P.P. (10) RW.
Mar. 28 Sibbald Flats (15) J & MS.
Nov. 2 W.R.W.C. (15) SJ.
Dec. 28 Carburn Park (45) ACS.

A pair along the Bow River near Bearspaw JJP had taken over a nest occupied by Ferruginous Hawks in 1981; the raven may have already been incubating on Apr. 1.

Black-capped Chickadee*Parus atricapillus* 31,229,367

Common resident

Records for every month. A pair in poplars at Cochrane Lake on Apr. 23, heard singing (if on territory) were in an area with limited suitable nesting habitat. Two high totals in the W.R.W.C. vicinity were; (25) on Nov. 6 at the north end of the Wildcat Hills and (20) on Nov. 25 along Dogpound Creek, Bottrel to Horse Creek Road bridge SJ. The Calgary CBC total is only slightly higher than last year's count (219) but the W.R.W.C. CBC total is almost twice the 1981-2 count (193).

Mountain Chickadee *Parus gambeli* 1,1,13 Uncommon resident

In our area, a foothills bird that prefers pines. This species was perhaps infrequently reported because little time was spent in its haunts. The occasional bird is found in Calgary some winters. The only reports are as follows:

Feb. 20 Water Valley (1) JS, PSm.
 Mar. 20 Bow Valley P.P. (3) DE.
 Apr. 9 Beaupre Hill (1) JJP.
 May 24 Ireland Hill (1) SJ.
 May 29 Ireland Hill (2) SJ.
 Oct. 8 Frederick Lake (2) SJ.
 Nov. 6 North end of Wildcat Hills (5) SJ.
 Dec. 7 Sheep River-Dyson Creek (1) AW.

The (13) on the W.R.W.C. CBC is the highest total in nine years of the count. The previous high was (9) on the 1979 CBC.

Boreal Chickadee *Parus hudsonicus* 10,19,170 Common resident

In winter, this species can be found in Calgary's coniferous habitats and in summer too, at least in Fish Creek P.P. where (1-2) ACS were reported between June 20 and July 4. At W.R.W.C., where they have nested in the recent past, a pair was observed digging a nest cavity on May 3 but their efforts had been abandoned before a later check of the site. A family group did turn up in the summer however and an adult was still feeding an adult-sized juvenile at the end of Aug. About (15) were counted on a walk from Frederick Lake to Pook Lake, south-east of Morley on Oct. 8. The W.R.W.C. CBC total of (170) is the highest in nine years of the count; the previous high of (135) on the 1979 count was the highest count for Canada that year.

Red-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis* 5,0,8 Common to uncommon resident

Recorded every month. Winter reports came from Bowmont Flats (1) JJP on Jan. 26 and Glendale (1) TK from Mar. 21-Apr.10. There were reports for three dates in May (not including the May Species Count). Summer reports were from Bulveya Road north-west (1) JJP on June 12; Weaselhead (1) DC on June 12; Fish Creek P.P. (2) ACS on June 20 and Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS on July 4, 10 and 25. At Lowery Gardens-Edworthy Park (4) RB on July 17 and (2) on July 31. Most Calgary reports however were concentrated in Aug. (1-3/observer on six dates) and Sep. (10 reports, 1-2/observer on seven dates). At W.R.W.C., about the same as fall 1981, there were records for 2-3 dates in the latter half of Aug., six dates in Sep. and (1) SJ on Oct. 2. In the Swanson Hills, further north-west in the W.R.W.C. vicinity, (1-2) CL were seen regularly at a feeder through the 1981-2 winter and on Oct. 16 in the same area (1) JJP. There were a few additional records in the foothills through year's end.

White-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta carolinensis* 0,4,6 Uncommon to rare resident

Records for every month in Calgary: At Riley Park (1) JT in Jan., Feb., Mar. and Oct.; Inglewood (1-3) DE, AW in Jan., Mar. and Apr.; Inglewood (1) RWS, ACS in Oct. and Dec.; Scarboro (1) DD from Feb. 24 to Mar. 5; At Carburn Park (1) OD in Feb., on July 28 and Dec. 1; Fish Creek P.P. in Feb. (1) RS, May 24-June 5 (1-2) ES, ACS, Aug. 6-24 (1-2) ES, RWS, Oct. 8-Nov. 6 (1-2) RWS, KJ, DS: Bowmont Flats (1) JJP Apr. 10 (1); Lowery Gardens-Douglas Fir Trail (1) RB on Sep. 30 and Oct. 17; Twin Bridges in s.w. (1) ACS on Nov. 28 and along the Bow River in s.e. Calgary (1) ACS on Dec. 26. In the W.R.W.C. vicinity there were three records: at the W.R.W.C. (1) on Sep. 17, Ireland Hill cutline (1) on Nov. 6 and Bottrel (1) on Nov. 25.

Brown Creeper*Certhia americana* 0,2,7Uncommon to rare
resident

Other than the CBC, only (1) reported in Calgary, at Riley Park JT on Oct. 29. Most records were during fall migration. In the W.R.W.C. vicinity: at Stony Creek-Little Red Deer River confluence (1) RWS on Feb. 28; at W.R.W.C. (1) SJ on Oct. 19, (2) SJ on Oct. 24 and (1) SJ on Nov. 11; at Lost Lake (1) RB, SA on Oct. 24; north end of Wildcat Hills (2) SJ on Nov. 6 and north-east of Swanson-Dogpound Creek confluence (1) SJ on Dec. 29. Elsewhere, in Frederick Lake area (1-3) SJ on Oct. 8-9; Bragg Creek-Moose Mountain (2) DC Oct. 16. It may nest in the foothills and in the north-west part of our area, but there were no spring or summer reports. The W.R.W.C. CBC total (7) is the second highest in nine years of the count (10 on the 1979 count is the highest). The usual count is (0-3).

Rock Wren*Salpinctes obsoletus*

Rare summer visitor

Apparently favoured habitats are infrequently visited and only occasionally stumbled upon, thus there are only three reports:

- May 4 Riley Park (1) JT.
- May 19 Abandoned quarry along Bow River west of Bearspaw, where one was first found in 1981 (1) JJP.
- July 1 Nose Hill (1) JJP.

House Wren*Thoglodites aedon* 39,0,0

Common summer visitor

Reported first in Calgary on May 15-16 weekend at Glenmore Reservoir (1) RC, and Inglewood (2) AW. Along the Bow River west of Bearspaw (5) JJP on May 19; Fish Creek P.P. (2) ES and Cominco (10) MR on May 22. First report from W.R.W.C. (2) SJ on May 23. Irricana (4) RB, SH, JS May 24. Widespread during the last week of May and through the summer, including a high count from Irricana to Strathmore (30) JS on July 14. In June, Calgary reports came only from Fish Creek P.P. and Glenmore Reservoir (maximum of 6 per day) AS, RC. July produced one Calgary report, from Carburn Park (20) OD on 28th. At W.R.W.C. there was a family group of (4) SJ on Aug. 13 including three adult sized, yellow gaped juveniles but none were seen there after the end of Aug. The last report from Irricana was (3) J & MS on Aug. 29 and Namaka-Eagle Lakes area (2) J & MS Sep. 13. No Aug. reports from Calgary, but during Sep., twelve reports of (1-3) per day with the last at Riley Park (1) JT on Sep 30.

Marsh Wren*Cistothorus palustris* 2,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

First reported at Irricana (1) DE on May 8 from whence most reports originated: five additional records (1-2 per day) in May, (3) on June 12, and (2) from Aug. 2-15, J & MS, RB. Elsewhere: at Priddis Slough on June 12 (3) DC and July 10 (1+) RWS; Shepard (1) AW Aug. 1; Midway Lake near Neapolis (1) AW, PFS. Namaka-Eagle-Stobart Lakes (1-2) on Aug. 14, Sep. 6 & 18 J & MS, RB, DE. Last report was at Westover Lake (2) SJ on Oct. 6. In July of 1980, (3) singing males in bulrushes and a tatty adult, with food in its bill, near an adult-sized juvenile (fresh plumage) were noted at nearby Frederick Lake. Along with Norman Lake, these are the only foothills locations from which this species has been reported thus far. There are records from the mountains in Banff and Jasper National Parks.

American Dipper*Cinclus mexicanus* 0,0,4

Uncommon resident

Nests in the mountains and foothills, wandering along rivers and creeks as far east as Calgary in the winter, somewhat increased in numbers in the area then. Only (1) reported in Calgary; at Carburn Park OD on Jan. 25-26. The few subsequent records were from further west.

- Apr. 18 Bow Valley P.P. (2) PFS, AW.
- July 10 Sheep River-Dyson Creek (3) RWS.
- Nov. 12 Spencer Creek above Highway 1A (1) SJ.
- Nov. 25 Dogpound Creek at Bottrel (2) SJ.
- Dec. 20 Kananaskis River tributaries, Ribbon Creek-Barrier Lake (2) M & PFS, SJ.
- Dec. 25 Ghost Reservoir Dam (1) SJ.
- Dec. 30 Little Red Deer River downstream from Grease Creek (3) SJ.

Bottrel and the Little Red Deer River have between them, produced 2-4 Dippers for all but one of the nine W.R.W.C. CBCs.

Golden-crowned Kinglet *Regulus satrapa* 0,4,124 Uncommon resident

Overlooked during the first quarter and during the summer, if any were present, as there were no reports then. Eight records from Apr. 20-May 4 with (1-4) birds on seven dates, and again from Sep. 23 to Nov. 2 with (1-6) on six dates in Calgary at Lowery Gardens, Fish Creek P.P., Glenmore Reservoir, Riley, Edworthy and Carburn Parks, plus the (4) at Bowness Park, on the CBC. Spring movement at W.R.W.C. coincided with Calgary with (1-2) on four dates between Apr. 25 and May 13. Many more fall and early winter records from early Oct. to the end of Dec. (Nine dates in Oct., four in Nov. and seven in Dec.). Most of these were from within the W.R.W.C. CBC circle, but also from Millarville-Priddis; Brown Lowery Natural Area (27) JT Nov. 11; Bragg-Creek-Cochrane (18) RWS, BW on Dec. 5; Frederick-Pook Lakes; above Kananaskis River at Wasootch Creek; and near Seebe. The (124) total for the W.R.W.C. CBC is extraordinary, almost doubling the previous high of (68) on the 1979 count, the usual being (0-8).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet *Regulus calendula* 56,0,0 Uncommon summer resident
Common migrant

Widespread and frequent reports during spring migration from Apr. 22 through the end of May, with (1-4) per observer daily in Apr. and a high count at Lowery Gardens-Edworthy Park (15) RB on May 2. Fall records covered late Aug. through early Oct. with a high count at Inglewood (10+) DE on Sep. 13 and the last stragglers were seen at Riley Park (2) JT on Oct. 20. There were several summer reports, all suggestive of nesting: Glenmore Reservoir (1) RC, ACS June 12-13; Fish Creek P.P. June 5, 13 and 20 (1-3) ACS and July 4 and 25 (2) ACS. At W.R.W.C. SJ a male sang through June and on to July 8. Near Millarville (1) RWS on July 1 and 13.

Mountain Bluebird *Sialia currucoides* 64,0,0 Common summer visitor

First record was Mar. 28 when (6) males were seen together at Sibbald Flats J & MS and the last record was a flock of (9) at Pook Lake SJ on Oct. 8. There were many reports in April, several with totals of (10) or more. The largest counts were from Highway 1A at Grand Valley Road (24) Afa on Apr. 7; along the Bow River, Calgary to Bearspaw (15) JJP Apr. 1; in the Turner Valley area (14) AW Apr. 19. Only three reports came from within the city: Apr 1 Bowness (2) JJP; Apr. 7 Bowmont Flats (5 m.) JJP; Riley Park Sep. 22 (4) JT. The largest fall flocks were from Bottrel (20) SJ on Aug. 31 and along the Forestry Trunk Rd. S. of jct. with Richards Road (20) JJP, LG, SJ on Sep. 23.

Townsend's Solitaire *Myadestes townsendi* 0,2,0 Uncommon to rare resident

No late winter reports, but a plethora in spring: Sheep River (1) AW Apr. 19; Bowmont Flats (1) JJP Apr. 28; Irricana-Bruce Lake (1) ACS May 1; Deer Ridge in s.e. Calgary (1) KJ, Edworthy Park (1) RB and (4) JJP, all on May 2; W.R.W.C. (1) SJ May 7-8; W.R.W.C. (1) J & MS May 9. In W.R.W.C. vicinity, none were picked up for this year's May Species count but (1) was found at Ireland Hill LE, SJ, a probable breeding site, on May 24 and June 12. Rather late breeding was documented on Aug. 6 when RB found (1) at a nest with three eggs along the Highwood River, about 11 km. west of Longview. Fall records from three more places in Calgary; Inglewood (1) AW Sep. 12; Queensland in s.e. Calgary (1) DS Oct. 16 and Riley Park (1) JT from Oct. 26 to Nov. 16 with (2) on Nov. 10. In recent years found on the Calgary CBC in 1978 and during count week in 1981; the (2) on this year's CBC were found along Crescent Road at 7a Street (1) JJP, JM et al and along the Elbow River in Elbow Park (1) IH et al.

Veery *Catharus fuscescens* Uncommon summer visitor

No Veery was reported for the May Count although (2) were located in Calgary on May 30 at Cominco (1) MR, and Glenmore Park (1) RC. These were the earliest reports this spring. Found in Calgary during summer at Fish Creek P.P. from June 5 to July 25, with a maximum of (3) on June 17 and July 10 ACS, and at Glenmore Park from June 12 to July 24 with a maximum of (5) on June 13, RC, ACS, DC. The only fall report also came from Glenmore Park (1) RC on Aug. 28-29. There were no reports from outside the city.

Gray-cheeked Thrush*Catharus minimus*

3,0,0,

Rare migrant

Only reported on spring migration with (3) on May 30 in the W.R.W.C. vicinity-singles near Water Valley RWS, at Lost Lake and at Winchell Lake JJP & SJ. Perhaps coincidentally, the latter two were both found on boggy ground under dense willow brush between the edge of the lake/marsh and adjoining woods. They were very difficult to get a decent look at. In such favoured habitat it seems likely that the species is, for the most part, overlooked.

Swainson's Thrush*Catharus ustulatus*

17,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring migrants were reported from Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (2) DS on May 16; Carburn Park (1) OD on May 18 and W.R.W.C. (1) SJ on May 20, with all other reports during the last five days of the month. Peak count was at Fish Creek P.P. (6) on May 28-29. Calgary summer reports: Westmount (1) JS on June 6; Lowery Gardens (2) RB on June 7; Weaselhead (1) DC on June 12 and Fish Creek P.P. (1) RWS on July 25. Away from the city, a window-kill at W.R.W.C. (1) SJ on June 7 and reports from Ireland Hill (1) SJ, June 12 and July 11; Stony Creek near Winchell Lake (1) SJ on June 18; Horse Creek Rd. at Dogpound Creek bridge (1) SJ on July 9; Sheep River west of Turner Valley (1) RWS on July 10; and Brown Lowery Natural Area (1) RWS on July 13. Only two fall reports, both in Calgary: Douglas Fir Trail (1) RB Aug. 16; and Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS Sep. 5.

Hermit Thrush*Catharus guttatus*

4,0,0

Common summer visitor

There are very few reports from Calgary, but in the foothills, at least in the W.R.W.C. vicinity from whence came the May Count (4), this species is hard to miss in May, June and July when its song can be heard daily in almost any sizable woodland, even aspen groves with only the odd conifer. Spring records for Calgary were from Carburn Park (1) OD on May 6 and Fish Creek P.P. (1) ES on May 6-7. Fall records were from Riley Park (2) JT on Sep. 30 and (1) JT on Oct. 1 and Lowery Gardens (1) RB on Oct. 3. Records from Apr. 25 through Sep. 21 at W.R.W.C., where SJ watched one during the May 7 blizzard (10 cm. of snow) moving from one clump of sedges to the next on the slushy surface of a slough 100+m. from the nearest wood associating with a Water Pipit, a few Savannah Sparrows, a pair of Lesser Yellowlegs and several duck. As usual, there were only a couple of W.R.W.C. fall records.

American Robin*Turdus migratorius*

120,wk,0

Abundant summer visitor

Attempted to overwinter widely in southern Alberta, 1981-2, e.g. on the CBCs-Banff (3), Calgary (7), Red Deer (1), Snakes Head (1) (near Sundre), and during count week at Lethbridge and Edmonton. Five late winter reports from Calgary-at Riley Park (2) JT on Jan. 13 and Carburn Park (1) JT on Jan. 16, Westmount (1) JS on Jan. 16, Weaselhead (1) DC on Jan. 31, and Wildwood (1) AF on Feb. 21. Also Priddis (1) BD Feb. 10. The first spring migrants appeared in Mar. at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (2) DE on Mar. 23, Lowery Gardens (1) RB on 25th; Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS on 26th; and W.R.W.C. (2) Afa on 29th. By Apr. 1 JJP had counted (17) along the Bow River between Calgary and Bearspaw, but the highest counts for the season were from Fish Creek P.P. (25) ES on Apr. 26, (40) ES on May 3-5 and (65) ES on May 6-7. Migrants were still bottled up during a blizzard at W.R.W.C. (25) SJ on May 8.

The largest number of fall migrants were noted in Calgary during Aug. with (150) ES on 24 at Fish Creek P.P.; during Sep., with (60) AF on 27 at Wildwood in north-west Calgary; (100) DE at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on 30. Smaller flocks were noted in October with (40) RB on 3 in Lowery Gardens; (50) OD on 18 at Carburn Park; (25+) RC, RB on 10 and 19 at Glenmore Park. The last records were at Bowmont Flats (1) JJP on Nov. 4 and Riley Park (1) JT on Nov. 16. West of the city, no flocks larger than (12-15) were reported, but there were several singles in Nov., the last at Ghost Village on 12, and below Ghost Reservoir dam on 19 JJP, SJ. Feather remains of (1) killed on Dogpound Creek were found in fresh snow on Nov. 25 south-west of Bottrel SJ. One was found in Dec. during the Calgary CBC's count week.

Varied Thrush*Ixorius naevius*

0,1,0

Rare migrant

Rare winter visitor

Listed as a fairly common summer resident at the Kananaskis Forest Experiment Station (Powell, Sadler & Powell, June 1975) at the west edge of our area, where breeding is probable though unproven. Further east, where rare, overshot migrants are reported most years, this year, one spring record, at W.R.W.C. during a blizzard, on May 8 (2) SJ, and one fall record, at Lowery Gardens-Douglas Fir Trail, on Oct. 17 (2) RB. The bird found at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on the Calgary CBC was first noted there on Dec. 1, DE, OD.

Gray Catbird*Dumetella carolinensis*

Uncommon summer visitor

Most reports were from Calgary during summer and early fall; at Glenmore Reservoir (1) ACS, RC on June 13 & 26, July 24; Lowery Gardens-Edworthy Park, July 17 (1) and Aug. 13 (2) RB, Aug. 15 (5), 22 & 29 (10+) ML; Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS July 25; and Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE, ACS Aug. 14 & 29. There were two very late reports in the Weaselhead (1) BW on Oct. 18, and at Riley Park (1) JT Oct. 29. The latter bird may have been present since Oct. 26. This species is usually gone by the end of Sep. The only reports away from the city were along Dogpound Creek, 3 km. north-west of Dogpound on June 11, and at Winchell Lake on June 15, both singing, LE, WM, BM, SJ. Another record, in the Taylor-Rosebud area (1) RWS June 13 is just outside our area.

Brown Thrasher*Toxostoma rufigum*

6,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

All of the few reports were after mid-May. In the city: at Edworthy Park, May 17 (1) JJP, and May 30 (5 singing) AF; at Glenmore Park (1) RC on May 22. In the north-east part of our area, along Kneehills Creek, west of Carbon (1) RWS, NG, SA on May 30. On June 14 in the Taylor-Rosebud area (1) RWS just beyond the north-east perimeter of our area. There were no reports from west of the city.

Water Pipit*Anthus spinoletta*

8,0,0

Abundant migrant

Uncommon summer visitor

About (125) on Apr. 22 at W.R.W.C. SJ with (25) Lapland Longspurs, was the first report. Subsequent large spring counts were from Shepard Slough (200+) JT on Apr. 24 and (100) AS on May 2; Strathmore, DE (200) on May 8 and Irricana J & MS (500 & 350) on May 8 & 9. None were reported after May 9 until May 29-30 near Big Springs Creek (3) PFS and MacDonald Lake (5) CO on the May Species Count. No reports from the far western part of our area this summer, where listed as a fairly common summer resident in Powell, Sadler & Powell's Annotated Checklist For The Kananaskis Forest Experiment Station. After two early fall reports, at Irricana (2) GB on Aug 1, and near Water Valley (1) KJ on Aug. 31, none until Sep. 11-12 weekend. High fall counts all came from Namaka-Eagle-Stobart Lakes J & MS, VM, RR, JT et al (100 - 200) on Sep. 11 & 12; (1000) on Sep. 18; (2000) on Sep. 25; (50-100) on Oct. 9-10. Last of the season, also from the Namaka-Eagle Lakes area, were (3) J & MS, RB on Oct. 23.

Sprague's Pipit*Anthus spragueii*

17,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

First spring record was (2) SJ, AFA on Apr. 26 (one singing) at Caldbeck Ridge just south-east of the W.R.W.C. Four more singing birds, including singles, on May 2-3 were located in other areas adjacent to W.R.W.C. SJ by May 9. Subsequent prairie reports from east of the city were from Chestermere Lake (5) ACS on May 15; Shepard (2) AW on May 16 and Irricana-Strathmore JS with a maximum of (5) on July 14. Other records were from Bowmont Flats (1) JJP on May 1 & 15; Cochrane Lake (1) DC, JJP on May 13; Bearspaw (5) JJP on May 19; Bow Valley P.P. (1) DE on May 30; Grand Valley and nearby Forestry Trunk Road (2-3) JT on May 30 and June 3; Water Valley (1) JS, DC on June 5; Nose Hill (4) JJP on June 13; Nose Hill (1-2) JJP on July 1-3; Fish Creek P.P. (1) ACS on July 4 and Bearspaw (3) JJP on July 11. Faanes (Am. Birds 36:991) called special attention to this species in the Northern Great Plains of the U.S. where it has been "suggested that breeding pipits go through two periods of active singing each year, primarily May to early June, and mid-July to late August." In our area, there were reports of from (1-5) birds on at least one date for each week up to July 15 (4 at Irricana); only one report after mid-July at Irricana (1) J & MS, RB Aug. 2.

Bohemian Waxwing*Bombycilla garrulus*

0,1192,21

Abundant to common
winter visitor

Found in Calgary during the first 3.8 and the last 2.1 months of the year. High counts per month: North Haven, Jan. 5-12 (150-200) JM; Riley Park, where a Merlin was reported feeding on waxwings (remains found) on Feb. 7 (51) and May 17-19 (25-105) JT; North Haven, Mar. 9-12 (200) JM; Scarboro, Mar. 15 (100) DD; Lowery Gardens, Mar. 25 & Apr. 9 (30) RB. Last seen in the city at Riley Park on Apr. 20 (5) JT and at Glenmore Reservoir on Apr. 24 (1+) RC. Reappeared at Riley Park on Oct. 28 (2), 29 (30) and Nov. 2 (2) JT, but no further reports in Calgary until the last few days of the month, when numbers showed up at Fish Creek P.P. (40) and Glenmore Reservoir (250-300) on Nov. 28, BW, AW, RB, RWS. Flocks were noted in Dec. along Elbow Drive south-west on the 11 (100) and 29 (300) DC, and at Fish Creek P.P. on 23 (160) DJS. The Calgary CBC total was similar to last year's (1720), neither close to the high count on the 1976 CBC (10,359).

Bohemian Waxwing (ctd.)

There were a few scattered reports away from the city: (50) or fewer for the most part, from Irricana, Carseland, Arrowwood and Mossleigh, Bragg Creek, W.R.W.C., Beaupre Hill; Bearspaw area (90) JJP on Apr. 1; enroute from Calgary - Banff (200) J & MS, PSM on Feb. 19; Ghost Reservoir (125) JJP, SJ on Nov. 19; all within the same range of dates as the city reports. Much later than all other spring reports, and a first for the Yamnuska May Species Count, were (11) D & MM et al on May 29 in the west part of our area. At W.R.W.C. SJ single spring stragglers were seen on Apr. 29 and May 8 and another stray was heard only, calling in flight overhead, on July 3; the fall movement was a little better, though briefer, than 1982 with six records (flocks of 23-35 on three of these dates) from Oct. 24 through to Nov. 10. Waxwings have twice been found, in minute numbers compared to Calgary, on previous W.R.W.C. CBCs and once during count week.

Cedar Waxwing*Bombycilla cedrorum*Common summer visitor
Rare winter visitor

The first spring birds turned up in Calgary's north-west at Bulyea Road (6) JJP on June 1 and in Bowness (25) JJP on June 7; at W.R.W.C. (5, 1) LE, SJ on June 8 & 9; and along Dogpound Creek, north-west of Dogpound (8) LE, SJ where 2 were seen passing food back and forth on June 11. First reported at Fish Creek P.P. ES on June 11. There were two reports at both Fish Creek P.P. and Glenmore Park over the June 12-13 weekend, and by June 14-19 there were a dozen at the former site, ES. The largest reported numbers built up at Lowery Gardens-Edworthy Park, RB, DC, ML from July 25-Aug. 15 (25-50) and Aug. 16-22 (100+) but had plummeted by Aug. 23 (40) and Aug. 29-Sep. 11 (20-15) RB. Elsewhere in Calgary, numbers at Carburn Park, the Weaselhead, Inglewood Bird Sanctuary and Beaverdam Flats never exceeded the peak at Fish Creek P.P. (40) ES on Aug. 29. Only one report after Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE Sep. 13: Weaselhead (8) BW on Oct. 25. Besides W.R.W.C. vicinity records, there were several other reports of small numbers from outlying areas: Irricana, Namaka-Eagle lakes, Millarville, Beaupre and Bow Valley P.P.; (38) were counted on the Horseshoe Canyon CBC on Dec. 18.

Northern Shrike*Lanius excubitor*

0,1,wk

Uncommon winter visitor

Reports of (1-4) on six dates for a total of (9-10) shrikes in Jan. including (4) on Jan. 3 for 1981-82 W.R.W.C. CBC; (1-3) on eight dates for a total of at least (7) in Feb.; (1-2) on six dates for a total of (7) in Mar. (1-8) on seven dates for a total of (17) in Apr. including (8) on the 9th in the Cochrane to Horse Creek-Grand Valley-Westbrook vicinity B & DC, JJP, (3) on the 24th, and the last spring record on Apr. 25 at Dogpound Creek, south of Lost Lake SJ. First fall shrikes turned up at W.R.W.C. on Oct. 2 and in Calgary and at Westover Lake on Oct. 6 SJ, JJP. All told, there were reports of (1-2) on eight dates, (11) birds total in Oct.; singles on four dates (3) birds total, in November; and five dates (3) birds total in December, including (1) on the Calgary CBC. In the city there were records from most of the places checked on a regular basis-Carburn Park, Fish Creek P.P., Glenmore Park, Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, the Weaselhead and Bowmont Flats-and there were records in all directions from the city in outlying areas. Shrikes were apparently less in evidence during the winter of 1982-83 than during the previous winter, when (3) and (4) were found on the Calgary and W.R.W.C. CBCs respectively. Few immatures were reported, though this probably reflects more on observer acumen than on immature shrike scarcity; if everyone made an effort to note, when possible, the age of shrikes they see, the resulting ratio of immatures to adults would give some indication of breeding success or failures over the years.

Loggerhead Shrike*Lanius ludovicianus*

Uncommon summer visitor

Very few reports, all in May, all singles. First noted near Strathmore DJS on May 2; then (3) on the mid-May weekend, on 15th at Chestermere Lake ACS and Irricana KJ, PFS, and on the 16th at Shepard J & MS; the final report for the year was also from Irricana (1) SJ, JS on May 22. No reports from west of Calgary. An extralimital bird was reported, however, for spring 1980, from the foothills (near Robinson Creek, 2.2 km. north of its confluence with the Ghost River) on May 2 about 17 km. north of Morley SJ, MSm.

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* 245,393,0 Abundant resident

No large counts for late winter. Fifteen hundred was the greatest host of starlings reported in spring 1982, from Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on Mar. 25 DE; many additional counts of 100+ (max 600) were reported from late Mar. through early June in the city and from Irricana south to Shepard. Areas west to north-west of Calgary supported large numbers too; Cochrane-W.R.W.C. (85) JJP, B & DC on Apr. 9; Sibbald Flats (300) J & MS Apr. 18; W.R.W.C. (100-200) SJ Apr. 20-22 and Bow Valley P.P. 100) KJ May 29.

Post-breeding high counts, boosted by large numbers of juveniles, peaked in the Namaka-Eagle Lakes area (1000) RB, JS on July 15; Irricana (2000) July 25 and Calgary-Lac des Arcs (1000) J & MS Sep. 5. Other reports from late summer through early Oct. were of 500 or fewer birds; counts for the rest of the fall and early winter were all less than 100, except for the Calgary CBC.

Solitary Vireo *Vireo solitarius* 5,0,0 Uncommon summer visitor

All spring records, other than the May Species Count, are listed below. Ones and twos were observed at Lowery Gardens on six dates from Aug. 13-29 and (2) were at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary DE on Sep. 13.

| | | | | | |
|-----|----|-----------------------|-----|----|----------------------|
| May | 15 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. | May | 26 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| May | 15 | Lost Lake (1) SJ. | May | 30 | Water Valley (1) JS. |
| May | 24 | Swanson Hills (1) SJ. | | | |

Warbling Vireo *Vireo gilvus* 27,0,0 Common summer visitor

First observed on May 4 at Carburn Park (1) OD and on May 10 at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (2) DE. Three singing males were located in Glenmore Park south and (3) in Fish Creek P.P. west during June ACS, RFC. There was no increase in numbers during the fall migration although the species became somewhat more widespread in the city during late Aug. The last records were at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (5) AW on Aug 28, at Lowery Gardens (1) RB on Aug. 29 and in Fish Creek P.P. west (1) ACS on Sep. 5.

Philadelphia Vireo *Vireo philadelphicus* 1,0,0 Uncommon migrant

Spring records are as follows:

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| May | 22 | Glenmore Park south (1) RFC. |
| May | 29 | Glenmore Park south (1) RFC. |
| May | 29 | Big Springs Creek (1) PFS. |
| June | 12 | Fish Creek P.P. (1) ES. |
| June | 15 | N.E. of Winchell Lake (1 singing male) SJ, BM, WM. |
| June | 25 | N.E. of Winchell Lake (2 singing males) SJ. |

Fall migrants were seen on seven dates from Aug. 12 to Sep. 5 with maximum numbers being (5) at Lowery Gardens RB on Aug. 22 & 23.

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* 1,0,0 Uncommon summer visitor

The first observation came from Glenmore Park south (1) RFC on May 29 followed by Lowery Gardens (1) RB on May 30 and on the same date at Water Valley (1) NG, SEA. During June, (4) singing males were located in Fish Creek P.P. west and (3) in Glenmore Park south ACS, RFC. A nest with two "pinny" young vireos and one unhatched Brown-headed Cowbird egg was found forty feet up in an aspen forked twig on July 9 at the north end of Horsecreek Rd. SJ. The main fall migration was from Aug. 14 to Sep. 5, with the highest count being (5) at Lowery Gardens MJL, RB on Aug. 22-23. The last bird seen was at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE on Sep. 13.

Tennessee Warbler*Vermivora peregrina* 44,0,0

Common summer visitor

First observed in Glenmore Park south on May 9 (1) RFC. On May 30 JS observed (20) at Water Valley, clearly a movement since only (1) was observed at the same location on June 5. On July 4 Fish Creek P.P. west ACS (5) males were singing where none had been heard on June 20. The main fall migration was from Aug. 15 to Sep. 5 with several observations of 10 or more. Highest numbers were in Lowery Gardens (50+) RB, MJL on Aug. 22. The last birds seen were at Riley Park JT on Sep 30 (1) and Oct. 1 (2).

Orange-crowned Warbler*Vermivora celata* 7,0,0Uncommon summer visitor
Common fall migrant

Early records were at Lowery Gardens (1) RB on Apr. 28 and Riley Park (1) JT on Apr. 29, while three to five were seen at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on several dates in May. A late migrant was at the Weaselhead DC on June 12. Fall movement was first observed on Aug. 22 and good numbers were recorded from Late Aug. throughout Sep. (30+) RB were at Lowery Gardens on Sep. 11 and (50+) RB along the Bow River from 14th Street to Princes Island on Sep. 27 RB. The last birds were at Riley Park (1) JT on Oct. 1 and Lowery Gardens (4) RB on Oct. 3.

Nashville Warbler*Vermivora ruficapilla* 2,0,0

Vagrant

All five records of this bird are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| May | 10 | Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE. |
| May | 24 | |
| | to | |
| June | 5 | W.R.W.C. (1 singing male) SJ, DC, JS, JJP. |
| May | 29 | Big Springs Creek (1) PFS. |
| Aug. | 12 | Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE. |
| Oct. | 6 | North-west Calgary (1) JS. |

A detailed description regarding the May 24-June 5 record was filed with the C.F.N.S.

Yellow Warbler*Dendroica petechia* 65,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

The first observations were at Edworthy (1) RB on May 2 and at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on May 15 (4) AW and May 16 (1) DJS. Widely recorded throughout late May, June and July. The last date for Fish Creek P.P. JW was Aug. 18 but heavy movements were noted at Lowery Gardens RB, MJL with (50) on Aug. 16, (20+) on Aug. 22 and (30) on Aug. 23. The last birds were at Glenmore Park south (1) RFC on Aug. 28, Lowery Gardens (1) MJL on Aug. 29 and Glenmore Park south (1) RFC on Sep. 18.

Chestnut-sided Warbler*Dendroica pensylvanica*

Vagrant

A spring male was seen at Lowery Gardens RB on June 13.

Magnolia Warbler*Dendroica magnolia*

Rare migrant

A singing male was observed in Brentwood JJP on June 30 and a single bird was in north-west Calgary JM on Aug. 4. Observations of the main fall migration commenced on Aug. 22, with several sightings, after which ones and twos were reported on seven dates to Sep. 22. A straggler was at the W.R.W.C. SJ on Oct. 2; a detailed description was filed with the C.F.N.S.

Cape May Warbler*Dendroica tigrina*

Rare summer visitor

On July 18 four adults and two young were observed near Priddis AW, C & MW. This species has no previous published breeding records within 100 miles of the Calgary area although Salt and Salt (1976) records previous singing males. There were four fall observations.

| | | |
|------|----|----------------------------|
| Aug. | 15 | Lowery Gardens (1) MJL. |
| Aug. | 22 | Lowery Gardens (1) MJL. |
| Sep. | 13 | Inglewood (1) DE. |
| Sep. | 13 | North-west Calgary (1) JM. |

Yellow-rumped Warbler*Dendroica coronata* 36,0,0Common summer visitor
Abundant migrant

In spring, as usual, this warbler far out-numbered all others on migration. Singles were seen at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary DE on Apr. 22, 24, 27 and 29. Numbers then built up to a peak of (60+) AW on May 8 & 9 and (25+) DJS on May 16. Smaller numbers continued throughout May while singing males of both the Myrtle and Audubon's sub-species were observed in Fish Creek P.P. west and Glenmore Park south throughout June ACS, RFC. After commencing on Aug. 15, the fall passage peaked from Sep. 5 with (50) RB at Lowery Gardens and (20) ACS in Fish Creek P.P. west to Sep. 23, during which period counts of around (50) were made in Glenmore Park south RFC, Inglewood AW and Carburn Park OD. Migration continued well into October with (15) DJS along the Bow River near Queensland on Oct. 2 and (10) JS in north-west Calgary on Oct. 4. The last sightings were in north-west Calgary on Oct. 6 (4), Oct. 7 (4) and Oct. 11 (1) JS.

Townsend's Warbler*Dendroica townsendi* 2,0,0Rare spring migrant
Uncommon fall migrant

Other than the May Species Count, the only records were singles seen at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary DE on Aug. 22 and at Lowery Gardens RB on Aug. 29.

Black-throated Green Warbler*Dendroica virens*

Rare migrant

There were three fall records, as follows:

| | | |
|------|----|----------------------------------|
| Aug. | 23 | Lowery Gardens (1) RB. |
| Aug. | 28 | Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE. |
| Sep. | 13 | Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE. |

Blackburnian Warbler*Dendroica fusca*

Vagrant

A female was reported from Lowery Gardens RB on Aug. 22.

Pine Warbler*Dendroica pinus*

Vagrant

At Hillhurst in north-east Calgary, a single was reported on Sep. 1 JS. Documentation was filed with the National Museum of Natural History in Ottawa and the American Birds Regional Compiler.

Palm Warbler*Dendroica palmarum*

Uncommon fall migrant

Nine reports were filed of up to three birds from Aug. 28 to Oct. 8, totalling (15) individuals. The last record was at Frederick Lake (1) SJ on Oct. 8.

Bay-breasted Warbler*Dendroica castanea*

Rare migrant

There were two fall records: Lowery Gardens (1) RB on Aug. 23; north-west Calgary (1) JM on Oct. 4.

Blackpoll Warbler*Dendroica striata* 6,0,0Uncommon spring migrant
Common fall migrant

All available records are listed below.

| | | | | | |
|-----|----|-------------------|-----|----|--|
| May | 19 | W.R.W.C. (1m) SJ. | May | 27 | Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) AW. |
| May | 19 | Bearspaw (1) JJP. | May | 27 | W.R.W.C. (1 f) SJ. |
| May | 20 | W.R.W.C. (1m) SJ. | May | 29 | Irricana (1) JS. |
| May | 22 | Irricana (2) JS. | May | 29 | W.R.W.C. (2m, 2f) SJ. |
| May | 23 | W.R.W.C. (1f) SJ. | May | 30 | Winchell Lake (1 m) RA, JP, LO, LG SJ. |

Fall migration was first noted on Aug. 22 when two were at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary DE and three at Lowery Gardens MJL. Ones and twos continued to be reported until Sep. 22 totalling fifteen individuals throughout the fall.

Black and White Warbler*Mniotilta varia*

Rare migrant

All available records are listed below.

May 26 Riley Park (1) JT.
 Sep. 18 Glenmore Park south (1) RFC.

American Redstart*Setophaga ruticilla* 2,0,0Uncommon spring migrant
Common fall migrant

There were two spring records other than the May Species Count, one in Bowmont Flats on May 21 JJP and one in Lowery Gardens on June 7 RB. Between Aug. 21 and Sep. 13, fall migration was observed on thirteen days, with the total number of birds reported being about (32). The highest numbers observed at one time were (10) and (3) at Lowery Gardens RB on Aug. 23 and 29 and at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (4) DE on Aug. 28.

Ovenbird*Seiurus aurocapillus* 8,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

All available records with the exception of the May Species Count are listed below.

May 22 W.R.W.C. (1 singing) SJ.
 May 30 Water Valley (2) JS.
 June 8 north of W.R.W.C. (1 singing) SJ.
 June 12 Swanson Hills (1 singing) LE, SJ.
 June 12 Fish Creek P.P. (1 singing) ACS.
 June 18 Stony Creek at Winchell Lake (1 singing) SJ.
 June 20 s.w. corner of W.R.W.C. (5 singing) RA, BM, WM, SJ.
 June 25 n. end of Horse Creek Rd. (2 singing) SJ.
 July 9 n. end of Horse Creek Rd. (2 singing) SJ.
 Aug. 23 Lowery Gardens (1) RB.
 Sep. 27 Brentwood (1 found dead) JJP.

Northern Waterthrush*Seiurus noveboracensis* 5,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

Reported from Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) AW on May 15, Lost Lake (1 singing) SJ, JJP et al, Water Valley (2) JS on May 30, and Dogpound Creek at Horse Creek Rd. bridge (pr. with male singing) SJ on July 9. Fall observations were on nine dates from Aug. 8-29 totalling nineteen birds.

Connecticut Warbler*Oporornis agilis* 2,0,0

Rare migrant

Singing males were located at Water Valley (1) JS on May 30, at W.R.W.C. (4) SJ on June 8, n. end of Horse Creek Rd. (1) SJ on June 25 and July 9 and at Priddis (2) AW on July 11. These records are most interesting as the published breeding range of this species only extends as far south as Sundre. Five singles were seen on four dates from Aug. 22. to Sep. 13 with a straggler in north-west Calgary JM on Oct. 1.

Mourning Warbler*Oporornis philadelphia*

Rare migrant

A singing male was in Bowness Park JJP on June 7 and a fall bird was at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary JR on Aug. 23.

McGillivray's Warbler*Oporornis tolmiei* 1,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

Although this species can normally be found on territory in the mountains and high foothills in the Calgary area, the only record before Aug. was (1) at Bragg Creek AMac on June 4. Fall migration was observed on eight dates from Aug. 22-Oct. 1, the total number of individuals being fifteen. About half of these could not be identified as between Mourning and MacGillivray's but have been included under this species.

Common Yellowthroat*Geothlypis trichas* 8,0,0

Common summer visitor

Considering the normally widespread distribution of this species in the Calgary area in summer, observations reported were remarkably few. A single at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary AW on May 15 and (1) at Bowness Park JJP on May 22 were the only records with the exception of the May Species Count before June. A trickle of reports came in of singing males in widely diverse localities in June and July. A nest with four eggs and a cowbird egg was found at the W.R.W.C. SJ on June 24. In fall, there were only four records as follows:

Aug. 15 Irricana (1) JS.
 Aug. 28 Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE.
 Aug. 31 W.R.W.C. (3) SJ.
 Sep. 13 Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (2) DE.

Wilson's Warbler*Wilsonia pusilla* 4,0,0Uncommon spring migrant
Common fall migrant

There were six spring records, listed below.

May 8 Glenmore Park south (3) RFC.
 May 8 Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (2) DE.
 May 9 Bowmont Flats (1) JJP.
 May 10 Inglewood (2) DE.
 May 21 W.R.W.C. (1 singing) SJ.
 May 30 Water Valley (1) RWS, NG, SEA.

Fall migration was first noted on Aug. 13 with one bird in Hillhurst JS, one at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary DE on Aug. 14 and (10+) MJL at Lowery Gardens on Aug. 15. Peak observations were on Aug. 22 with (25) AW at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary and (15+) MJL at Lowery Gardens; Aug. 29 with (50) RB at Lowery Gardens; Reports of up to three birds were numerous through to Oct. 4. A late straggler was seen in Riley Park JT on Oct. 25.

Canada Warbler*Wilsonia canadensis*

Rare fall migrant

Independent sightings of probably the same bird were made in Lowery Gardens DC, MJL on Aug. 15.

Western Tanager*Piranga ludoviciana* 6,0,0

Uncommon summer resident

The first reports were of (1) JT at Riley Park on May 4, (1) ACS at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on May 6 and (4) AW at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on May 8. Thereafter small numbers were reported from several localities through to June 7. Singing males were in Fish Creek P.P. west ACS on July 4 and July 25. Fall numbers reported were considerably lower than in spring, with up to three birds present at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary DE, AW from Aug. 20-28 and a single at Lowery Gardens DC on Aug. 15.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak*Pheucticus ludovicianus* 9,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

Very few birds reported. The (9) on the May Species Count was a good total and (3) ACS singing in Fish Creek P.P. June 20 suggest possible breeding. A female was observed feeding a stub-tailed fledgling at n. end of Horse Creek Rd. SJ on July 9. The only other reports were of (1) DE at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary Aug. 14 and 22 and (2) DE at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on Aug. 23 and 24.

Black-headed Grosbeak*Pheucticus melanocephalus*

Vagrant

Only (2) records. One female was sighted in Riley Park JT on Aug. 18 and (1) JS near Irricana on Aug. 29.

Lazuli Bunting*Passerina amoena*

Rare summer visitor

The only record was of (9) JJP, DC counted on June 27 between Trap Creek and Highwood Junction, west of Longview during the Highwood Breeding Bird Survey.

Dickcissel*Spiza americana*

Accidental

A single male was reported in American Birds Volume 36 No. 5. Seen at Cremona on May 26 by N. Olsen fide R. Butot.

Rufous-sided Towhee*Pipilo erythrophthalmus* 1,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

The only reports occurred in May. Three were sighted at Edworthy Park JJP on May 17; West of Bearspaw Reservoir (5) JJP on May 19; Edworthy Park (1) AF on May 30.

American Tree Sparrow*Spizella arborea*Common migrant
Rare winter visitor

Flocks as large as (15) birds were reported wintering in Carburn Park, Calgary from Jan. through to Apr. 12, after which the spring migration seemed quiet-the last bird being reported near Irricana (1) JS on May 22. The fall migration showed much larger numbers and was noted to occur from Sep. 23 through to late Nov. Thirty-three were counted on Oct. 2 in the W.R.W.C. vicinity SJ. The third week of Oct. seemed to be the peak with (87) birds being reported. The last report was Carburn Park (2) ACS on Dec. 5.

Chipping Sparrow*Spizella passerina* 193,0,0

Common summer visitor

Reported from Apr. 20 to Oct. 3. The height of the spring migration occurred during the last two weeks of May with a high count at Glenmore Reservoir (60) RFC May 22. The fall migration peaked in the last week of Aug. with very few birds being reported after mid-Sep.

Clay-colored Sparrow*Spizella pallida* 269,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

Reported from May 14 to Sep. 23. This common visitor arrived without any heavy concentrations and was reported throughout the area. The fall migration, on the other hand, resulted in large numbers during the last two weeks of Aug. with over (100) MJL at Lowery Gardens on Aug. 15.

Brewer's Sparrow*Spizella breweri*

Vagrant

Only one record of this species, which breeds on the prairies of southern Alberta and in the higher regions of the Rocky Mountains. One in north-west Calgary JS on Sep. 22.

Vesper Sparrow*Poocetes gramineus* 84,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

This common sparrow was seen from May 1 to Sep. 19. By the third week of May they were reported in good numbers especially on the prairies east of Calgary. On Sep. 12 (50) were reported at Namaka JS, but few were seen after that week.

Savannah Sparrow*Passerculus sandwichensis* 109,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

First reported on Apr. 22. The spring migration was predictable with good numbers arriving by the second week of May. A large movement was reported with over (100) JS reported near Shepard on May 8. Most birds had gone by the first week of Oct. but there was a remarkably late sighting of a single bird at the Ghost Reservoir JJP, SJ on Nov. 12.

Baird's Sparrow*Ammodramus bairdii* 1,0,0Uncommon-rare summer
visitor

There are reports from May 8-Sep. 6. Only five observers offered 16 sightings. Nose Hill had (1-2 singing) JJP on July 1 and (4 singing) JJP on July 3. The heaviest concentrations came from east of Calgary with good numbers in July: Irricana-Strathmore (10) JS on July 14; Namaka (6) JS on July 15. Six singing males were also reported on Aug. 1 at Chestermere AW.

Grasshopper Sparrow*Ammodramus savannarum* 1,0,0

Vagrant

Apart from the one sighting on the May Species Count, only one other bird was reported. This was near Irricana (1) JS on May 15. This sparrow of the short-grass plains is at the northern edge of its breeding range and is rarely reported in the Calgary area.

LeConte's Sparrow*Ammodramus leconteii* 26,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring record was one singing at the W.R.W.C. SJ on May 13. A maximum of (5) were counted at the W.R.W.C. SJ on May 16 (four were singing). Three were seen at Priddis Slough CFNS on May 16. Low numbers were seen throughout the summer and no birds were reported after Aug. 28 except for a remarkably late sighting near the W.R.W.C. (2) SJ on Oct. 2.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow*Ammodramus caudacutus*

Rare migrant

This rare transient over the Calgary area was reported on four occasions. Two lone birds were reported singing on June 12, (1) near Irricana JS and (1) near Langdon AW; (1) WH was near Calgary on July 18; a further singing bird was near Chestermere AW on Aug. 1.

Song Sparrow*Melospiza melodia* 10,0,0

Common summer visitor

Reported from Apr. 22 at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE to Nov. 2 s.e. of Bottrel (1-a late straggler) SJ. The spring arrival was reported in reasonable numbers, but there were relatively few reports of the fall migration-only eight birds in Sep. and none in Oct.

Lincoln's Sparrow*Melospiza lincolni* 25,0,0

Common summer visitor

The spring arrival was first noted on Apr. 29 at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) DE, after which 52 birds were reported in May. During June and July this species was heard or seen daily at the W.R.W.C. where perhaps 10+ pairs hold territories every year. The fall migration peaked during the last weekend of Aug. 29-31 with (30) birds recorded. The last sighting was on Oct. 8 at Lowery Gardens (1) JJP.

Swamp Sparrow*Melospiza georgiana*

Rare migrant

There were five reports in our area of this seldom-reported species: May 7-9 at W.R.W.C. (1) SJ; Oct. 1 at W.R.W.C. (1) SJ; Oct. 2 near W.R.W.C. (2) SJ; Oct. 28 at Morley (1) SJ; a late, well documented sighting on Nov. 19 at Ghost Reservoir dam (1) SJ & JJP.

White-throated Sparrow*Zonotrichia albicollis* 13,2,0

Uncommon summer visitor
Common fall migrant
Rare winter visitor

Two wintering birds were reported regularly from Jan. through to Mar. in north-west Calgary JWT & JMcC. The first spring record was at the W.R.W.C. (1) SJ on May 10 with regular reports through June and July. Numbers began to peak in the last week of Sep. on fall migration with the last reports on Oct. 16 except for unusual sightings of (2) on the Calgary CBC (these birds subsequently wintered) and (1) ACS in Haysboro on Dec. 28.

White-crowned Sparrow*Zonotrichia leucophrys* 14,0,0

Common summer visitor

The first spring record was at W.R.W.C. (3) SJ on Apr. 25 with a large passage between May 4 and 13. There were isolated reports in June and July. The fall passage reported fewer birds but seemed to be heaviest in mid-Sep. No birds were recorded after Oct. 2 when (4) SJ were seen at Ovan's Slough and along nearby Horse Creek.

Harris' Sparrow*Zonotrichia querula*Rare spring migrant
Uncommon fall migrant

All records are from the fall migration. There were sixteen reports from Sep. 16-Nov. 1 and a late record at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary DE from Nov. 17-19.

Dark-eyed Junco*Junco hyemalis*

15,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor
Common migrant
Rare winter visitor

Wintering birds were reported Jan. through Mar. in north-west Calgary JWT, with a singing male on Mar. 12. By the third week of Apr. a good passage was reported (flocks of 10 or more). Most June and July records came from areas north or west of Calgary. A nest with four eggs was found on the Swanson Hills cutline SJ on May 29. Four 3-4 day old young were present when the nest was re-visited on June 12. The fall migration was lengthy and steady with good numbers being reported into the first week of Nov. A lingering group of (4) JWT was seen in Riley Park until Dec. 16.

Lapland Longspur*Calcarius lapponicus*

Common migrant

Reported from Apr. 17 at Nose Hill (4) JJP et al to Nov. 6, when a single straggler was seen and heard at the W.R.W.C. SJ. Flocks on spring migration were relatively small i.e. May 1 Irricana (300) ACS, Apr. 25 Irricana (300) DE. Mid-Sep. however, provided a high report of (1000) JS between Calgary and Namaka on Sep. 19 and (2000) JS at Namaka on Sep. 25.

Chestnut-collared Longspur*Calcarius ornatus*

15,0,0

Uncommon summer visitor

All of the 17 reports of this bird came from areas to the east of Calgary. There were (11) in May, (2) in June, (3) in July and a single fall report on Sep. 19. The high count was at Irricana (50) JS on May 24.

Snow Bunting*Plectrophenax nivalis* 0,0,120

Common winter visitor

Large flocks were reported in the first three months of the year, with most birds being recorded east of the city. The high count was Jan. 31 in north-west Calgary (5000) JS. By mid-Apr. most birds had left with the last report on Apr. 24 at Irricana (2) KJ. A single bird was seen on Sep. 19 at Lake Minnewanka JS but the main return was not until early Nov. with (1000) JS estimated on Nov. 6 near Chestermere.

Bobolink*Dolichonyx oryzivorus* 1,0,0

Rare summer visitor

All available records are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|-------------------------------|
| May | 24 | Airdrie (1m) JS. |
| June | 20 | W.R.W.C. (5m, 1f) SJ, WM, BM. |
| June | 24 | W.R.W.C. (2m, 1f) SJ. |
| July | 1 | W.R.W.C. (1m) SJ. |
| July | 6 | W.R.W.C. (1m) SJ. |
| July | 10 | W.R.W.C. (3m) SJ. |
| July | 20 | W.R.W.C. (1m) SJ. |

Red-winged Blackbird*Agelaius phoeniceus* 329,0,0

Abundant summer visitor

The first records were at Strathmore (10)DE and Irricana (12) JS on Apr. 24., and one in Carburn Park on Apr. 26 OD. By May 1 over (100) were counted by various observers in the Keoma, Kathryn, Irricana area, and numbers continued high and observations widespread though the summer. Large fall flocks of over (300) were reported from the Cheadle, Eagle Lake, Namaka area on Sep. 19 ACS and Oct. 9 JS, with flocks of (50) RWS, JS being reported from this area until Oct. 23.

Western Meadowlark *Sturnella neglecta* 51,0,0 Common summer visitor

The first report was at Irricana (2) JS on Mar. 27 followed by singles at Carseland ES, JB on Apr. 4 and at Strathmore RWS and Eagle Lake ACS on Apr. 9. Numbers remained low through Apr. but built up quickly at the beginning of May when (25+) RWS, JS, BB were counted in the Kathryn, Keoma, Irricana area on May 1. Numbers remained steady through to late Sep. as (25) JS were reported in the Namaka area on Sep. 25. Oct. reports were from Namaka (5) JS on 9th and (7) JS on 23rd, Eagle Lake (3) JS on 11th and Nose Hill (1) JJP on 14th.

Yellow-headed Blackbird *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* 211,0,0 Abundant summer visitor

First reports were at Irricana (3) DE on Apr. 22 and on Apr. 24 at Strathmore (3) DE, Calgary (2) JS and Irricana (1) JS. Numbers quickly built up and counts of over (50) were made east of Calgary on May 1. At Priddis Slough (100) ACS were present on May 21 and numbers remained constant until Sep. 11 when a flock of (200) JS was seen at Namaka. Departure from the area followed swiftly, with (20+) DC, JS, RB being at Strathmore on Sep. 12. On Sep. 18 there were only (2) JS at Namaka and this was the last record.

Rusty Blackbird *Euphagus carolinus* 0,0,4 Uncommon migrant
Rare winter visitor

A single was present at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on Apr. 14 and (3) DE were seen at the same location on Apr. 17. Two birds were reported from Irricana JS on Aug. 15 but the main fall migration was from Oct. 2-24, during which period seventeen birds were observed on eight dates. Two stragglers were at Twin Bridges with some Brewer's Blackbirds on Nov. 28 and (1) ACS was at Carburn Park on Dec. 5. There were (4) birds seen on the W.R.W.C. CBC on Jan. 1 1983, so it is probable that they had lingered in that area through late December.

Brewer's Blackbird *Euphagus cyanocephalus* 111,0,0 Abundant summer visitor

Early singles were reported from Morley on Apr. 10 and Inglewood Bird Sanctuary on Apr. 18 ACS. By the first few days of May numbers had built up to (50+) in the areas east of Calgary. Fall flocks had formed by late Aug. and on Aug. 29 a count of (400) JS was at Irricana and (1000) JS were at Namaka on Sep. 6. Numbers at Namaka declined to (200) JS on Oct. 11 and (100) JS on Oct. 23. Also on Oct. 23 (8) RWS were seen at Glenmore Park. Feeding on aquatic plants in an open seep in woodland at Twin Bridges, (6) ACS were observed on Nov. 28.

Common Grackle *Quiscalus quiscula* 2,0,0 Uncommon summer visitor

Ten+ were at Strathmore on Apr. 24 DE and up to (6) birds were seen in the Keoma, Irricana area throughout May. A single was at Lowery Gardens on June 7 RB. There were only two fall records of Common Grackles: Calgary (1) JS on Aug. 2 and Lowery Gardens (1) RB on Aug. 23.

Brown-headed Cowbird *Molothrus ater* 85,0,0 Common summer visitor

The first spring record was May 3 at W.R.W.C. (1 m) SJ. Reported numbers continued to be small but widespread throughout the spring and summer except for (100) JS at Irricana on May 24. A young cowbird was being fed by Chipping Sparrows in Fish Creek P.P. on July 4 JW. All available fall records are listed below.

Aug. 7 W.R.W.C. (2 juv.) SJ.
Aug. 12 Kangienos Lake (1-2 juv) SJ.
Aug. 15 Namaka Lake (3) JS.
Sep. 12 Strathmore (1) DC, JS, RB.

Northern Oriole *Icterus galbula* 27,0,0 Common summer visitor

This species was observed in ones and twos on May 22 at Glenmore Park south, Inglewood Bird Sanctuary and Irricana RFC, ACS, JS although JW observed them in Fish Creek P.P. from mid-May. Reports were widespread from wooded areas throughout the summer with most birds departing in late Aug. The last records were of (2) AW at Inglewood on Aug. 28 and a single in Fish Creek P.P. west on Sep. 5 ACS.

Rosy Finch*Leucosticte arctoa*Uncommon summer visitor
Rare winter visitor

Only seven records of this migrant were reported. These are listed below.

| | | |
|------|----|------------------------------|
| Apr. | 4 | Cochrane-Exshaw (30) DC. |
| Apr. | 9 | Beaupre Hill (430+) DC, JJP. |
| Apr. | 19 | Sheep River (1) ANW. |
| Aug. | 2 | Kananaskis (1) ES. |
| Sep. | 8 | Longview (25) O.Pall. |
| Oct. | 31 | Grand Valley (4) DC. |

and a report of two wintering birds at a feeder in Midnapore by R. Preston from mid-Dec. through to Mar. 1983.

Pine Grosbeak*Pinicola enucleator* 0,6,21

Uncommon winter visitor

This species was seen in small flocks around the area during Jan. and Feb. with the largest flock of (23) being reported on the 1981 W.R.W.C. CBC on Jan. 3. No birds were reported after Feb. 27 at Edworthy Park (5) AF. In contrast, numbers seemed to be down in the fall with only 7 sightings from Nov. 3 to Dec. 23.

Purple Finch*Carpodacus purpureus* 3,0,0

Uncommon migrant

Fourteen birds were recorded on eight dates between May 4 and May 30. A male in breeding plumage accompanied by a female/immature was noted at the n. end of Horse Creek Rd. on July 9 SJ. Nine birds were seen on six dates in Aug., (2) were seen in Sep. and (1) SJ was reported from the W.R.W.C. on Oct. 14.

Cassin's Finch*Carpodacus cassinii*

Vagrant

As a bird of the mountain woodlands, this finch is rarely recorded in this area. One was reported in American Birds Vol. 36, No. 5 on May 3 at Barrier Lake R. Zammuto.

House Finch*Carpodacus mexicanus* 0,1,0

Vagrant

One female bird was reported frequenting a feeder in Calgary at the home of Rudi Butot from Dec. 9 1981 to May 9 1982. with a second female being seen Apr. 19-24 at the home of J. McCullough. (American Birds, Vol. 36 No. 5.) Another bird was reported by D. Matthews Dec. 4 at a feeder in south-west Calgary. Although outside the area it is worth noting that a further bird was reported from Canmore at a hummingbird feeder on May 18 GLH (American Birds Vol. 36 No. 5).

Red Crossbill*Loxia curvirostra* 0,0,4

Uncommon resident

Reports are few for this species, and all reports except for the CBCs above are listed below:

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| Jan. | 3 | W.R.W.C. Christmas Bird Count (3) PFS. |
| July | 8 | W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. |
| Aug. | 21 | W.R.W.C. (2) SJ. |
| Sep. | 5 | Bragg Creek (2) JB. |
| Oct. | 8 | Pook Lake (8) SJ. |
| Oct. | 26 | W.R.W.C. (5) SJ. |
| Nov. | 17 | Sheep River (10) AW. |

White-winged Crossbill*Loxia leucoptera* 0,1,64

Uncommon resident

During the first half of the year there were six reports: Mar. 20 at Bow Valley P.P. (2) DE; May 3 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ; June 21 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ; June 26 at Glenmore Reservoir (4) RFC; July 1 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ; July 9 W.R.W.C. (1) SJ. The latter half of the year, however, produced nineteen reports with a high of (40) SJ birds on Oct. 28 at W.R.W.C. The (64) birds in the W.R.W.C. CBC compare to the previous year's count of zero.

Common Redpoll*Carduelis flammea* 0,0,74

Common winter visitor

The winter and early spring witnessed a virtual explosion of this "winter visitor". Reports of good sized flocks were made throughout the period over most of the area. Flocks of 100-400 birds were common with a high count on Feb. 7 Shepard-Chestermere (1000) ACS. The last birds, reported to be in fine breeding plumage, were seen Apr. 25, although there were undocumented reports of May birds. In contrast, the fall of 1982 was notable for the absence of redpolls. Only fourteen reports were received, mostly from the W.R.W.C.-Ghost Reservoir area with a high count of (16) on Nov. 19. The count of (74) on the W.R.W.C. CBC was well down from the (537) of the previous winter, and the Calgary CBC found none compared to the 243 of the previous year.

Hoary Redpoll*Carduelis hornemanni*

Uncommon winter visitor

With the heavy influx of Common Redpolls in the winter of 1981-82 it was possible to find the much rarer Hoary Redpoll in most good sized flocks. At least twenty reports were forthcoming from Jan. 2 to Apr. 8 with as many as (6) ACS at Chestermere on Feb. 7. In the fall, however, reports were completely absent.

Pine Siskin*Carduelis pinus* 30,0,0Rare winter visitor
Common summer visitor

There were three records of wintering birds: - Jan. 3 W.R.W.C. 1981 CBC (3) JS; Feb. 6 Carburn Park (1+) ANW. Feb. 7 east of Calgary (6) ACS. The spring migration appears to have begun Apr. 30 at Riley Park (10) JWT. Flocks of up to (50) were reported through May and June. In the fall, birds continued to be seen in small numbers with the last record on Nov. 2 at Brentwood (2) JJP.

American Goldfinch*Carduelis tristis* 6,0,0

Common summer visitor

First arrivals were reported on May 15 at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (1) ANW. There were three additional reports in May. Only five reports in June, nine in July and twentythree in Aug.- mainly small flocks of up to a maximum of 10. Eleven records were filed in Sep. with a lingering bird found on Oct. 2. The final record of the year was a late bird heard overhead on Oct. 26 at W.R.W.C. SJ.

Evening Grosbeak*Coccothraustes vespertinus* 0,121,0 Common winter visitor

Good numbers were reported in the early part of the year with high counts occurring in Apr., i.e. Apr. 15 at Bowmont Flats (50) JJP. Late spring - early summer records are listed below. The return in the fall was heralded by (4) SJ at the W.R.W.C. on Aug. 18 but substantial numbers were not reported until early Oct. Numbers seemed to be lower than the winter of 1981-82 but the (121) birds on the Calgary CBC indicate a reasonable population. A band was found on a leg in Merlin food remains in Riley Park JT. Subsequent investigation indicated the bird was a year old Evening Grosbeak banded near Millet, Alberta on July 2, 1979.

| | | |
|------|----|---|
| June | 10 | Calgary (1) JJP. |
| June | 13 | W.R.W.C. (1 flying WSW calling) SJ. |
| June | 14 | W.R.W.C. (1 flying SW calling) SJ. |
| June | 25 | N. end of Horse Creek Rd. (1 f) SJ. |
| July | 8 | W.R.W.C. (2 inc. 1 m. flying N calling) SJ. |

House Sparrow*Passer domesticus* 82,521,147

Abundant resident

Resident populations were reported throughout the year in the city, from outlying communities and on farms all over the area.

RARE BIRD DESCRIPTIONS

1. Garganey *Anas querquedula*

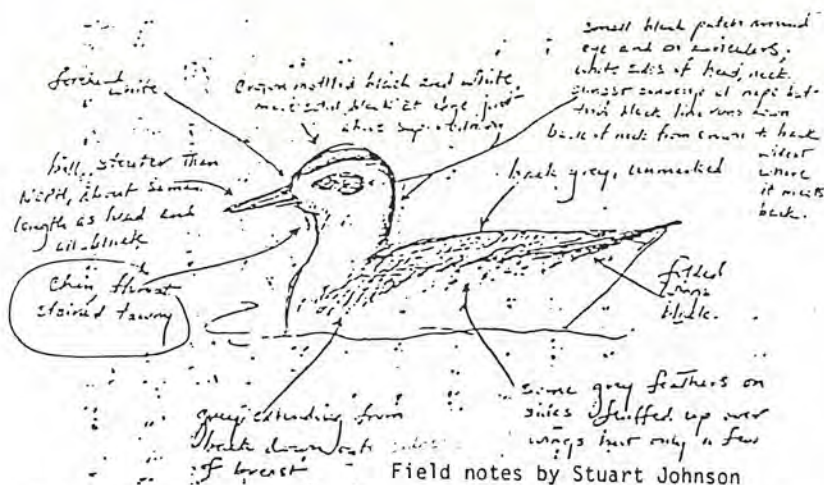
Observed on June 12, 13 and 15, 1982. One adult male on irrigation pond near Strathmore observed for a total of 165 minutes by Moray J. Lewis. 7 x35 binoculars and 20 - 40x Zeiss Binocular Telescope were used to study the bird at a distance of 10 - 200 m. On June 12 and 13 the weather was clear and lighting was excellent. June 15 was overcast and lighting was fair to good. The bird was photographed on June 13. Although Blue-winged Teal, Green-winged Teal and Cinnamon Teal were all present, the Garganey was distinctive enough that no confusion arose. This was the observer's first experience with a *querquedula*. Field guides were consulted after the initial observation to confirm the identification.

Description - Smaller than male Blue-winged Teal. Head with brown crown and cheeks. Prominent white stripe extends from just in front of eye over the eye back towards the nape then extending downwards along the side of neck. Breast brown mottled with black. Back dark gray. Flanks white with fine vertical black striping. Barring lightest immediately to the rear of the breast. Rump, tail and undertail coverts mottled gray-brown. Wing coverts very pale blue-gray. Speculum metallic green bordered with white. Long ornamental scapulars black with white central vane curved down over the flanks when the bird was at rest. Bill dark gray proportionately shorter than Blue-winged Teal. Iris dark brown. Feet, legs and underparts not clearly seen.

Behaviour - For most of the time under observation the bird fed from the water surface in manner similar to Blue-winged or Cinnamon Teal. It was not observed to tip up while feeding. On June 13 the bird joined a party of courting Blue-winged Teal (1 female, up to 8 males) and behaviour typical of Garganey courtship was observed. The bird would draw its head back until it laid along the back and bring the head quickly forward and downward at the same time producing a crackling growl. This display was seen about six times. The Garganey accompanied the female Blue-winged Teal and her apparent mate for about one hour. The growl was the vocalization heard that I could attribute to the Garganey.

2. Red Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicaria*

One on October 26, 1982 along the north shore of Cochrane Lake. It looked much like a Red-necked Phalarope at first, but the bill was too stout, proportionately more like a Sanderling's and the back all pale grey without marking, unlike the Red-necked's "snipe-streaked" back. The underparts were white but the sides showed some grey streaks in the feathers that were fluffed up over the wing - very few grey-streaked feathers though. The head was also white, with a black patch around the eye and on auriculars behind eye, and with black and white mottled crown patch, solid black only at edge of crown patch, just above white eyebrow line, and also more solid at rear of crown. From this point, a narrow black line ran down the back of the neck meeting the grey of the back. This black line was so narrow at the nape that the white almost met there from the sides of the head and neck. The forehead was white. Grey of the back extended down on the sides of breast. Line down back of neck was widest where it met back and looked tinged with brown in certain light and at certain angles. Wings folded looked black too. Chin and throat looked stained with tawny. The bill was solid black. No trace of yellow was seen, even at the base. On careful examination, it looked like the grey of some back feathers might be edged with white. The bird's legs and extended wings were not seen.



Red Phalarope (continued)

This bird swam quite close to shore, within 40-50 ft. of where I lay prone on the ground (using 22x Bushnell 'scope) and it rested in water at the shore for a while but did not emerge on the narrow beach. Lighting was good, skies overcast but light still bright coming from one side (S.W.; I was looking at bird from N.W.)

Behaviour - It fed in typical phalarope fashion, spinning round in a circle, creating a slight whirlpool and picking foodstuff from the water as it spun. The bird was watched for at least 15 minutes until it moved out to 50 m. off shore when a woman passed by with a dog. The wing stripe was not observed as the bird was not seen flying.

3. Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

"Notes concerning a sighting of a Kittiwake at a lake near Calgary, Alberta"

Notes on the sighting of the third Alberta record of a Kittiwake were filed by J. Steeves with the CFNS, NMNH and AB. The original contained sections:- Date written, Species, Date seen Observers, Locality, Equipment Used, Conditions, Habitat, Comments of other observers, Comparison species, Description, Possible confusion species, Experience with species, Habits, Discussion Status inland, Sketches from photographs and a colour slide.

The sections above are mentioned to give observers an idea of the type of information desired in a report, but for space concerns only the section up to and including "Possible confusion species" are presented.

- (i) Date Written: 7 June from notes of 6 June 1982.
- (ii) Species: Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) Number of birds - one
- (iii) Date Seen: 6 June at approximately 0830 - 0900 hours and again at approximately 1000 - 1015 hours MDT
- (iv) Observers: Marion and John Steeves (Writer) at both times. Bill Wilson and a friend of his at the last time.
- (v) Locality: Bruce Lake, a lake about 30 km. north-east of Calgary, Alberta. (Map 113 25 51 13) Nearest village is Keoma (Highway 566).
- (vi) Equipment Used: x10 binocular, x 20 monocular mounted on car-window with a window mount and a 35mm camera (Vivitar) equipped with 300mm lens (Takumar) loaded with 400 ASA Ektachrome (daylight) slide film.
- (vii) Conditions: The day was cloudy bright with occasional light rain. The temperature was about 1C and the wind was from the NE at about 10km/hr. The hidden sun was behind us giving us front-lighted birds.
- (viii) Habitat: Bruce Lake is about 3.5 km by 1.5 km. Water is supplied by an irrigation system that runs through the area from a canal starting at the Bow River. It is one of the largest lakes in the immediate area. It attracts large numbers of nesting gull, duck, grebe etc. Farm land surrounds the lake.
- (ix) Comments of other observers: MS on reviewing the field marks came to the conclusion that it was a Kittiwake. Bill Wilson was told that we had seen a Kittiwake and he and his companion viewed the gull and came to the same conclusion.
- (x) Comparison Species:
When we came to the lake we saw a group of birds. In the water were about fifteen Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) which were diving and swimming in typical cormorant fashion. Above them in a hovering attitude were about twenty Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*), three or four Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) and the bird under discussion. The birds constantly followed the cormorants to various areas at the north part of the lake. The comparison is of some importance because we were able on this first sighting to see that the bird in question had a smaller wing span than the Ring-billed Gulls and had a yellow unmarked bill.

Black-legged Kittiwake (continued)

(xi) DESCRIPTION:

A. From Field Notes

A white-headed gull of a size smaller than the common ring-billed gull. The bill, the first attention-getting field mark of something different was a light yellow (greenish-lemon MS). Its shape was different than the ring-bill being shorter and with the upper mandible steeply curved. The bill was of a uniform color without any other markings. The eye was dark. The white head was quite rounded but fairly large in comparison with the rest of the bird so that one did not get the impression of a 'gentle appearing gull' (e.g. Mew - *L. canus*) but rather a 'bull-headed gull'. The legs which could clearly be seen hanging while the bird was hovering were black-appearing. Behind the eye was a dark area like one seen on a winter Bonaparte's Gull (*L. philadelphia*) but were much fainter. The wing tips were a solid black, had no 'white mirrors' and were not nearly as extensive black as *delawarensis*. These wing tips are often described as 'dipped-in-ink' but in this bird gave a slight crescent shape which was probably caused by a subterminal black spot on one of the primaries. When the bird was sitting on the water this separate black spot could clearly be seen within the white of the primaries. The base of the primaries was white or very pale grey and this color gave way to a pale grey on the secondaries like the grey on *delawarensis*. The same color of grey was found on the back. When this bird was sitting the black tipped primaries could be seen then the white area and then a grey area (while on *delawarensis* there was more extensive black and then immediately the grey of the wings, back etc.). The trailing edge of the wings was white. In shape, the wings were long, for the body size and of medium width. The remainder of the plumage was white. Most species of birds have their own unique shape; gulls are no exception but how they differ often becomes impossible to describe adequately. The shape becomes recognizable because of outline, marks and experience.

B. From Photographs (brief comments only)

One mark that was not noted at the sighting was the slightly notched tail when it was folded.

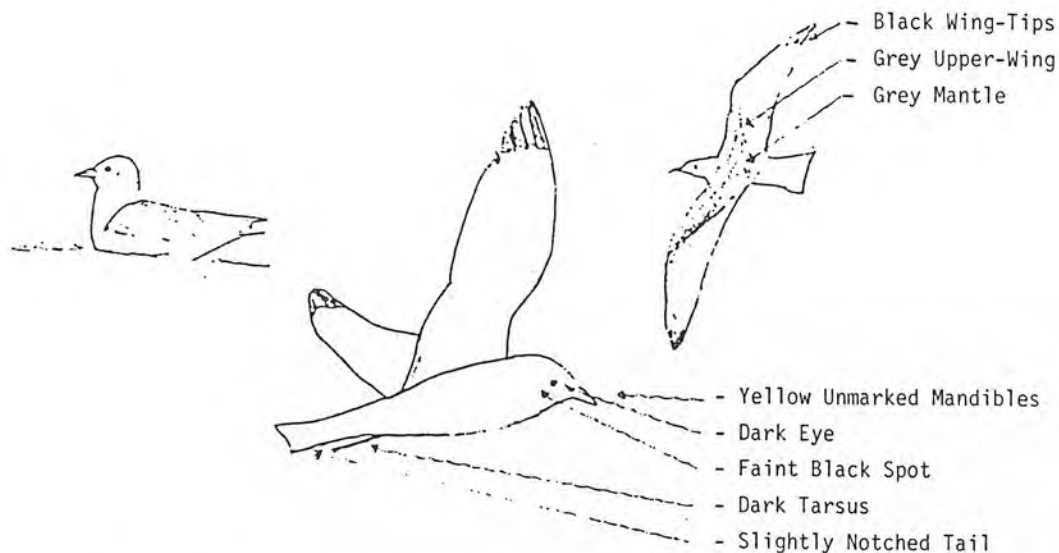
A second mark which is fairly obvious in the photographs is the white color at the base of the primaries and which is not noted in most of the popular field guides.

(xii) Confusion Species

- A. In Alberta, in June, an adult Kittiwake can resemble an adult Ring-billed or a California Gull (*L. californicus*). This is because most of us think that every white-headed gull would be one of these two species. The gull flocks for the most part are not scrutinized carefully.
- B. Once a bird has been detected as different from the above we come to the most likely confusion bird - The MEW GULL. As adults both have relatively short yellow unmarked bill, black wing-tips, grey back, grey wings, dark eyes and the rest of the body white. The Mew Gull was finally eliminated because:-
 1. The grey on the back and wings appeared too light for a Mew Gull (but see P.J. Grant under discussion section later) and the grey gave way to white at the base of the primaries. In the mew, the uniform darker grey runs to the more extensively black-tipped and 'mirrored primaries'.
 2. The head was too massive. In the mew the head is small so that leads to a 'gentle' appearing gull.
 3. There was a dark area in the auricular area and this would not be expected in a mew.
 4. The bird had black legs while the mew gull has greenish legs.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE AT BRUCE LAKE, ALBERTA

6 JUNE 1982



Sketches from photographs showing some field marks.

4. Ancient Murrelet *Synthliboramphus antiquus*

Observed on Glenmore Lake, Calgary between Oct. 17 and 20. This bird was seen on Oct. 20 close to shore at the Canoe Club floats. The bird was in winter plumage having a black head, chin and back of neck. The black extended about 1/4 to 1/3 the way out on both the upper and lower mandibles. The distal 2/3 or 3/4 of the mandibles were pale, looking yellowish in bright sunlight at a distance, but at close range ca. 50 ft., maybe 30 - 40 ft. in the 'scope looked pinkish white or pale flesh-white, and this colour extended the length of gape to the base of bill. Underparts were noted to be white from the throat to the undertail coverts, but white on the sides where the sides meet the wings is not "cleanly" cut, contrasting with grey of back and wings, and has smudged diagonal lines on the sides, indistinct. White on the throat extends up side of neck to just below auricular patch. This white/black line is clean, with distinct contrast. The underside of the wings was white with dark at the leading and trailing edges. This was noted when the murrelet stood up in the water to flap its wings.

Reservoir to look for the murrelet: 6:15 am then, to wing. Indistinct
murrelet * right out from the Canoe Club floats: Black head, chin
 and back of neck, black
 extending ca. 1/4 to 1/3
 the way out on bill's
 upper & lower mandibles



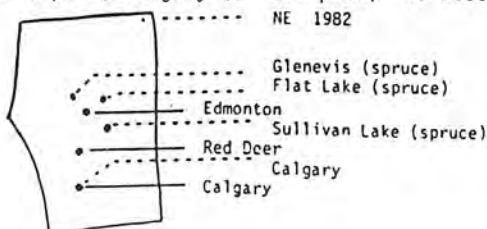
Flight feathers were noted to be dark, blackish where they just showed at wing-tips (folded wings) above vent.

Behaviour - While people were about, the murrelet spent most of its time near the far shore. When it dived, its wings could be seen flapping underwater as the water was so clear. Moments before diving, it's tail would be thrust upward, chest sunk underwater, then suddenly it would tip up with wings half open and swim sea turtle-like (wings flapping like flippers) at a steep angle. This bird was observed for a minimum of 60 minutes and three photographs at a distance of 30 ft. or so were secured. Other observers present were J.J. Podlubny, Stuart Alexander and Peter Sherrington.

5. Pine Warbler *Dendroica pinus*

NOTES CONCERNING A WARBLER HAVING THE FIELD
MARKS OF A PINE WARBLER AT CALGARY, ALBERTA.

- (i) Date Written: 1 September 1982
 - (ii) Species: Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) Number of birds - one
 - (iii) Date Seen: 1 September 1982
 - (iv) Location: 1720 Bowness Road NW Calgary, Alberta. The bird was found in the backyard. It has among other trees Lodgepole Pine, Choke Cherry, Lilac and Apple. Two bird water baths are kept running during the fall migration.
 - (v) Conditions: Sunny and frontlighted. The distance to the bird was about 8 meters. The temperature was about 22 C and the wind was from the NW at about 12 km/hr.
 - (vi) Equipment Used: X10 binocular
 - (vii) Comparison Species: Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*)
 - (viii) DESCRIPTION: The bird was seen three times over a 45 minute period and the following field marks were noted. My first thought was a fall Blackpoll Warbler (*D. striata*) but then I noted the dark legs and light feet which would be different from most of the Blackpoll that pass through the yard. At first I noticed only a hint of white at the tail corners but later when the bird preened after bathing I clearly saw a patch of white on the upper tail corners. I was not able to see any streaks on the back even though I had several good looks. The undertail coverts were immaculate white. Other field marks noted were: - two prominent white wing bars; chin, throat, belly-a very pale yellow; flanks the same yellow but with some dusky marks; the yellow of the belly blended into the white of the rest of the abdomen; a faint brownish eyestripe; a fairly dark brown color on the crown, hindneck, back and white undertail spots.
 - (ix) Habits: Moved much less quickly than the comparison species. Seemed to stay for the most part in the Choke Cherry tree but due to heavy foliage it was difficult to see. No tail wagging was observed. Came several times to water from lawn water sprinkler that was sprinkling the cherry tree.
 - (x) Confusion Species: The fall warblers that have come to the yard resembling the bird have been Blackpoll. All have had light legs and none have an upper tail with white corner areas. The Bay-breasted Warbler (*D. castanea*) usually has some evidence of the mature facial pattern and also the species is heavily streaked on the back and has very buff undertail coverts.
- A confusion still exists as regards the light feet of the bird with a sharp demarcation to dark leg as my references do not mention this combination of field marks.
- (xi) Experience with Species: I have seen the species many times in eastern Canada and the United States. Most views were of spring birds which were singing in White Pine and therefore caused little confusion.
 - (xii) Status in Alberta:
 - A. Alberta Vireos and Wood Warblers - W. Ray Salt
Publication No. 3 Prov. Mus. and Archives of Alberta (1973)
1924 June 5, Sullivan Lake (1 ad. coll) Prov. Rowen
1928 June ?, Flat Lake (several pairs) Randall & Oberholser
1956 Aug. 28, 29 & Sept. 8, Glenevis (fall migrants) G. Pegg
 - B. 1982 Month? Date? Extreme NE Prov. (Singing birds) T. Thormin
1982 Sep. 1, Calgary (1 fall plum) J. Steeves.



(xiii)

Comments:

A bird easily overlooked in spring and fall. In spring when on territory this bird can be detected by those with some warbler experience but it must be remembered that bird watchers are few in number in this province and when the total area is considered it must be obvious that only a very, very small fraction of the possible habitat of this species is checked. In the fall the problem becomes even more difficult as this species can be one of the most difficult to identify even by those who have had considerable experience.

J.B.Steeves.

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