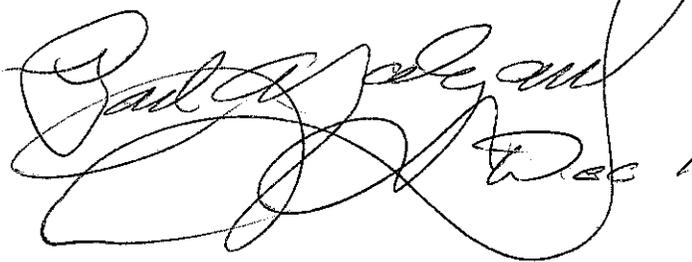


The Economics of Ecotourism in the Scenic Niobrara River Valley

Paul A. Johnsgard

Between 1970, when 802 people launched canoes on the Niobrara River near Valentine, and 1997, when 31,748 people did so, recreational use of the river expanded nearly 40-fold. By 1993 the National Park Services estimated that annual recreational use in the Scenic River corridor area was then 30,000 visitor-days of river-based activities, plus 5,000 non-river visitor-days. An estimated \$918,800 revenue was being directly generated annually from local tourism sales, which translates into nearly \$5 million if indirect five-fold economic multiplier effects are assumed. In 2002 over 72,000 visitors were recorded at Smith Falls State Park, and in 2004 the Ft Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge had 95,000 visitors with an estimated local economic benefits of nearly \$4 million. In 2004 33,400 people floated the river, and another 21,000 tourists visited the area, totaling over 54,000 visitors. Cherry County lodging tax collections doubled from about \$30,000 annually in 1993 to \$60,000 annually in 2003. In 2001, 96 percent of the Niobrara Valley visitors were from outside the local area.

In 2001, bird-watchers and general wildlife-watchers nationally spent an average of \$103.22 per day on their sport. Bird-watching, primarily a high-income leisure activity of well-educated persons, increased nationally 155% between 1982 and 1992, whereas fishing and hunting activities both declined. Since then, bird-watching has continued to increase nationally as a comparable rate, with 46 million US birders as of 2001. Bird-watchers now spend an estimated \$23 million per year in Nebraska, and the Niobrara River Valley is recognized one of the state's best birding areas. (information from P. A. Johnsgard, *The Niobrara River: A River Running through Time*, U. of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, NE, 2007, and *Natural-Resource Amenities and Nebraska's Economy: Current Connections, Challenges and Possibilities*. ECONorthwest, Eugene, OR, 2006, and *Birding in the United States, A Demographic and Economic Analysis*, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 2002).


Dec 17, 2007

12-20-07	kol
EXHIBIT	
11	
CASE#	Valentine

To: The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

From: Tim Knott, representing the Wachiska Audubon Society - Lincoln and Southeastern Nebraska

Date: December 16, 2007

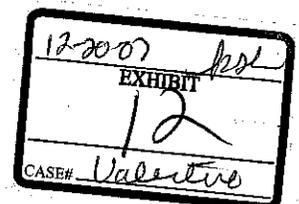
Subject: Comments concerning the proposal by the NDNR to designate the central portion of the Niobrara River a fully appropriated river.

The Wachiska Audubon Society is a chapter of the National Audubon Society with headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska. We are a non profit conservation organization with approximately 1,000 members from throughout Southeastern Nebraska. Many of our members have been concerned about the fate of the Niobrara River for 35 years or more. Most have enjoyed hiking, camping, birdwatching and canoeing on the river and want the river to remain the natural treasure that it is today.

We strongly support the designation of central part of the Niobrara as a fully appropriated river because this process requires the creation of an integrated management plan. An integrated management plan could recognize for the first time the legitimate benefits that flowing rivers provide for the people of Nebraska including public recreation, wildlife and wildlife habitat, educational opportunities and scientific resources. These public benefits are real and must be considered when decisions involving surface water diversions and ground water development are being made.

We are not able to comment on the technical issues regarding the amount of flows remaining in the river or comment on the effect that future surface and groundwater withdrawals will have on river flows. We can relay the concerns of our members. They believe that what appears to be a water rush, like a gold rush, is beginning to happen in the valley. If such a phenomenon continues it will severely deplete flows in the river in the next few years and irrevocably change the wildlife carrying capacity of the valley as well as impact the natural scenery and impact the river's recreation benefits.

Our main concerns are with the changes that may occur in the great diversity of wildlife that now depends on adequate flows in the river. We have seen the effect of low flows in the Platte and Republican watersheds when these rivers were deprived of flows. The Niobrara is a natural refuge for migrating birds such as Sandhill Cranes, Whooping Cranes, Ospreys and Bald Eagles. The Niobrara Valley provides nesting areas for Least Terns, Piping Plovers and Long Billed Curlews, many of these are listed as Tier 1 species or At-risk Species in the Nebraska Natural Legacy Project - Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy for Nebraska, developed by Nebraska Game and Parks.



Adequate stream flows are needed for whooping cranes and sandhill cranes. These birds rely on the Platte River primarily to provide a critical staging area in the spring and a migration rest stop during fall migration. The Niobrara River between Cherry County and Brown County serves as an alternate stopping point on the migration route of these birds. It has similar shallow underwater sandbars that the birds prefer for roosting at night. If the river becomes too shallow predators will be able to reach the birds at night and the populations of both birds will suffer.

Adequate stream flows are needed to maintain nesting habitat for the interior least tern and the piping plover. Both birds are recognized nationally as endangered species and are on Nebraska's endangered species list as well. The birds rely on high, dry sand bars surrounded by water as nesting sites. The two species use the Niobrara River east of Brown County primarily. If the flows of the Niobrara begin to decline markedly in the summer these sandbar nesting sites are no longer protected with a water moat and soon become accessible for hungry skunks, raccoons and opossums.

Adequate stream flows are needed for the bald eagle, no longer on the federal endangered species list but still on the state endangered species list. Bald eagles rely on fish as their food supply but also forage in wetlands for a variety of bits of food for their young. Both of these food sources could be affected by declining flows in the Niobrara.

Adequate flows are needed to maintain the small wet lands and marshy areas next to the river. These areas of bushes, sedges and other wetland plants provide important migration habitat and provide nesting habitat for the yellow breasted chat, bells vireo, and a variety of warblers. These small birds could be harmed if low flows dry up their small wetlands.

The Nebraska Natural Legacy Project lists other animal and plant species and 22 terrestrial communities or mini ecosystems and 3 aquatic communities as Tier 1, At-risk communities found in the Niobrara Valley. A summary of the Tier 1 At-risk species and eco communities from The Nebraska Game and Parks computer data base for the Niobrara Valley is enclosed.

The Niobrara valley is a natural treasure that we believe should not be developed but allowed to remain, as it is now, a mixture of wildlife habitat lands and active, working ranches. This combination will insure that the valley will retain the valuable natural qualities so valued by our members and, we believe, a majority of Nebraskans. We support a fully appropriated status and an integrated management plan for the Niobrara River as a way to reach this goal.



Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

2200 N. 33rd St. / P.O. Box 30370 / Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

Phone: 402-471-0641/ Fax: 402-471-5528 / www.OutdoorNebraska.org

December 11, 2007

Tim Knott
4310 Waterbury Lane
Lincoln, NE 68516

Dear Tim,

Enclosed are the data you requested for the Niobrara River. Each set of data pertains to at-risk species recorded in the Natural Heritage database as being geographically associated with the stretch of the Niobrara River from the Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri. As we discussed yesterday, one table of information shows records from within one mile of this section of the river, while another table includes all records from the watershed of this section of the river. I've included summary tables (similar to what I printed for you yesterday but with some additional information) as well as the individual records. Fields in the latter are defined in the attached sheet called 'Selected Heritage Data Field Definitions.'

As you know the Natural Heritage Database is by no means a complete inventory of the species that are recorded in it. Thus, the data should be interpreted with caution and an "absence of evidence is not evidence of absence" philosophy followed.

Please let me know if you have questions about any of the information or data provided, or if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Rachel Simpson
Data Manager
Nebraska Natural Heritage Program
Rachel.Simpson@ngpc.ne.gov
402-471-5427

SELECTED HERITAGE DATA FIELD DEFINITIONS GIS DATA

Note that in Heritage terminology an "element" refers to an element of conservation interest. An element can be a subspecies, species, ecological community or ecological system.

- Eo_id, Eoid: Element occurrence identification. Unique number identifying each element occurrence record. Can be use when requesting additional information about a particular record.
- Obs_date: Date the element was last observed at the site.
- Sname: State scientific name of species element or state name of ecological community element.
- Scomname: State common name of an element.
- El_type: Element type. Broad taxonomic group (e.g. bird, fish, plant, insect, etc.)



Count of SCOMNAME	
SCOMNAME	Total
American Burying Beetle	78
Bald Eagle	12
Bell's Vireo	9
Blacknose Shiner	17
Blowout Penstemon	15
Blue Sucker	2
Burrowing Owl	26
Ferruginous Hawk	31
Finescale Dace	55
Hall's Bulrush	17
Interior Least Tern	62
Iowa Moonwort	1
Iowa Skipper	1
Long-billed Curlew	51
Northern Redbelly Dace	70
Ottoo Skipper	2
Pallid Sturgeon	3
Pearl Dace	68
Piping Plover	64
Plains Topminnow	60
Regal Fritillary	1
River Otter	1
Short-eared Owl	2
Small White Lady's-slipper	3
Swift Fox	4
Trumpeter Swan	28
Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	19
Whooping Crane	11
Wolf Spikerush	11
Grand Total	724

Produced
 Dec 7, 2007
 from Nebraska
 natural heritage
 database

Count of SCOMNAME	
SCOMNAME	Total
American Burying Beetle	1
Bald Eagle	6
Bell's Vireo	4
Blacknose Shiner	3
Blowout Penstemon	1
Ferruginous Hawk	5
Finescale Dace	2
Interior Least Tern	57
Iowa Moonwort	1
Iowa Skipper	1
Long-billed Curlew	10
Northern Redbelly Dace	3
Ottoo Skipper	2
Pallid Sturgeon	1
Pearl Dace	2
Piping Plover	59
Plains Topminnow	8
Regal Fritillary	1
River Otter	1
Small White Lady's-slipper	1
Whooping Crane	6
Wolf Spikerush	1
Grand Total	176

Natural Heritage records

At-risk species within 1 mile of the Niobrara River from Box Butte Dam
to the confluence with the Missouri River

Nebraska Natural Heritage Program

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

December 12, 2007

Common Name	# of Records	Federal Status	State Status	Natural Legacy Status
American Burying Beetle	1	Endangered	Endangered	Tier 1
Bald Eagle	6		Threatened	Tier 1
Bell's Vireo	4			Tier 1
Blacknose Shiner	3		Endangered	Tier 1
Blowout Penstemon	1	Endangered	Endangered	Tier 1
Ferruginous Hawk	5			Tier 1
Finescale Dace	2		Threatened	Tier 1
Interior Least Tern	57	Endangered	Endangered	Tier 1
Iowa Moonwort	1			Tier 1
Iowa Skipper	1			Tier 1
Long-billed Curlew	10			Tier 1
Northern Redbelly Dace	3		Threatened	Tier 1
Ottoa Skipper	2			Tier 1
Pallid Sturgeon	1	Endangered	Endangered	Tier 1
Pearl Dace	2			Tier 1
Piping Plover	59	Threatened	Threatened	Tier 1
Plains Topminnow	8			Tier 1
Regal Fritillary	1			Tier 1
River Otter	1		Threatened	Tier 1
Small White Lady's-slipper	1		Threatened	Tier 1
Whooping Crane	6	Endangered	Endangered	Tier 1
Wolf Spikerush	1			Tier 1
Grand Total	176			

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within one mile of the Niobrara River
 from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 1 OF 4]

EO_ID	SNAME	SCOMNAME	OBS_DATE	EL_TYPE
41	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1990	Bird
6815	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1981-05	Bird
105	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
6539	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1989-SP	Bird
1581	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1994-05-14	Bird
10018	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2006-06-13	Bird
10019	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2006-06-13	Bird
1071	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
4366	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-06-05	Bird
6592	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-18	Bird
1757	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
6030	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-07-25	Bird
2660	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
3074	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1991-06-18	Bird
4630	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1991-06-19	Bird
2142	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-18	Bird
4288	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
6281	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
3989	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
4196	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-18	Bird
9439	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
9474	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
9476	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
9491	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
9493	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-07	Bird
1279	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
9490	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
7511	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
1037	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
6209	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-07-25	Bird
424	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
305	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-07-24	Bird
5510	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
3713	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
7284	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1988-06-14	Bird
4002	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1984-06-19	Bird
2496	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
6973	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
5901	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1988-06-16	Bird
198	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
5104	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
2318	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
3819	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1982-07-13	Bird
2630	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
5105	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1988-06-14	Bird
4396	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
1351	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1978-06-29	Bird
7025	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1983-06-16	Bird
5919	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1991-06-19	Bird
1287	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1991-06-18	Bird

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within one mile of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 2 OF 4]

3827	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	1985-07-24	Bird
3802	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	1988-06-16	Bird
1060	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	1984-06-21	Bird
7510	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
5721	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
9442	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
9453	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
9461	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
9479	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	2001-06-07	Bird
9488	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	2001-06-29	Bird
9489	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	2001-06-05	Bird
9492	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	2001-06-07	Bird
9498	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
6979	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	1984-06	Bird
7018	<i>Grus americana</i>	Whooping Crane	1996-04-16	Bird
6419	<i>Grus americana</i>	Whooping Crane	1993-10-07	Bird
3372	<i>Grus americana</i>	Whooping Crane	1993-04-17	Bird
3221	<i>Grus americana</i>	Whooping Crane	1991-10-21	Bird
7607	<i>Grus americana</i>	Whooping Crane	1991-04-24	Bird
4667	<i>Grus americana</i>	Whooping Crane	1974-11-06	Bird
102	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	1984-WI	Bird
3219	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	2006-06-30	Bird
8960	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	2006-SU	Bird
8970	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	2005-05-18	Bird
9803	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	2005-06-02	Bird
8974	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	2005	Bird
9116	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9117	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9118	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9119	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
8896	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
2034	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1982-05-05	Bird
6090	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1982-06-02	Bird
6707	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1990-06-01	Bird
5875	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1982-05-25	Bird
5478	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1990-07-12	Bird
4753	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
6481	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-18	Bird
327	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1987-07-15	Bird
1162	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-18	Bird
7634	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
4302	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-06-05	Bird
7195	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1979-07-27	Bird
5864	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-07-25	Bird
6543	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1987-06-10	Bird
3645	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
1624	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
5879	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
6931	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-18	Bird
9323	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
9369	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within one mile of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 3 OF 4]

9373	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
9389	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-07	Bird
5352	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
1250	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
4482	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1982-07-13	Bird
6482	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
1505	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-18	Bird
25	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
2608	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-18	Bird
4754	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
4322	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-19	Bird
1293	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-19	Bird
326	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-18	Bird
5293	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
3555	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1988-06-16	Bird
5082	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1983-06-16	Bird
2001	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1984-06-19	Bird
3556	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1984-06-21	Bird
5626	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1988-06-16	Bird
2002	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1984-06-19	Bird
6483	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
4655	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
3585	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-19	Bird
6092	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
3181	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
5022	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-07-24	Bird
7355	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-19	Bird
1388	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-06-06	Bird
5050	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1978-06-29	Bird
1623	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
1499	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-07-24	Bird
6095	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
5866	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
2394	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
2100	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
9327	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
9354	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
9376	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-07	Bird
9386	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-29	Bird
9387	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
9388	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-07	Bird
9393	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
2698	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Bell's Vireo	1985-06-08	Bird
4449	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Bell's Vireo	1985-06-09	Bird
960	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Bell's Vireo	1990-08-10	Bird
5379	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Bell's Vireo	1990-07	Bird
2823	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>	Plains Topminnow	1987-07-23	Fish
10285	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>	Plains Topminnow	2006-08-25	Fish
8844	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>	Plains Topminnow	2004-07-27	Fish
2768	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>	Plains Topminnow	1973-08-23	Fish
6982	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>	Plains Topminnow	1950-06-06	Fish

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within one mile of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 4 OF 4]

7275	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>	Plains Topminnow	1973-	Fish
7618	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>	Plains Topminnow	1974-06-17	Fish
184	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>	Plains Topminnow	1983-04-23	Fish
10714	<i>Margariscus margarita</i>	Pearl Dace	1994-08-22	Fish
10679	<i>Margariscus margarita</i>	Pearl Dace	1993-07-22	Fish
10322	<i>Notropis heterolepis</i>	Blacknose Shiner	1893-06-28	Fish
2425	<i>Notropis heterolepis</i>	Blacknose Shiner	1983-07-20	Fish
7332	<i>Notropis heterolepis</i>	Blacknose Shiner	1893-	Fish
3905	<i>Phoxinus eos</i>	Northern Redbelly Dace	1987-06-24	Fish
3851	<i>Phoxinus eos</i>	Northern Redbelly Dace	1973-	Fish
6241	<i>Phoxinus eos</i>	Northern Redbelly Dace	1893-	Fish
10482	<i>Phoxinus neogaeus</i>	Finescale Dace	1989-07-19	Fish
10484	<i>Phoxinus neogaeus</i>	Finescale Dace	1995-08-08	Fish
3235	<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>	Pallid Sturgeon	2000-10-12	Fish
8772	<i>Atrytone arogos iowa</i>	Iowa Skipper	1987-06-20	Insect
6560	<i>Hesperia ottoe</i>	Ottoe Skipper	1995-07-09	Insect
8771	<i>Hesperia ottoe</i>	Ottoe Skipper	1986-06-21	Insect
10089	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2005-06-28	Insect
4649	<i>Speyeria idalia</i>	Regal Fritillary	1995-07-09	Insect
10625	<i>Lutra canadensis</i>	River Otter		Mammal
3330	<i>Botrychium campestre</i>	Iowa Moonwort	1986-06-02	Plant
5852	<i>Cypripedium candidum</i>	Small White Lady's-slipper	1998-06-12	Plant
1559	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	1941-08-25	Plant
7193	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1988-08-28	Plant

Natural Heritage records

At-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River from Box Butte Dam
to the confluence with the Missouri River

Nebraska Natural Heritage Program

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

December 12, 2007

Common Name	# of Records	Federal Status	State Status	Natural Legacy Status
American Burying Beetle	78	Endangered	Endangered	Tier I
Bald Eagle	12		Threatened	Tier I
Bell's Vireo	9			Tier I
Blacknose Shiner	17		Endangered	Tier I
Blowout Penstemon	15	Endangered	Endangered	Tier I
Blue Sucker	2			Tier I
Burrowing Owl	26			Tier I
Ferruginous Hawk	31			Tier I
Finescale Dace	55		Threatened	Tier I
Hall's Bulrush	17			Tier I
Interior Least Tern	62	Endangered	Endangered	Tier I
Iowa Moonwort	1			Tier I
Iowa Skipper	1			Tier I
Long-billed Curlew	51			Tier I
Northern Redbelly Dace	70		Threatened	Tier I
Ottoo Skipper	2			Tier I
Pallid Sturgeon	3	Endangered	Endangered	Tier I
Pearl Dace	68			Tier I
Piping Plover	64	Threatened	Threatened	Tier I
Plains Topminnow	60			Tier I
Regal Fritillary	1			Tier I
River Otter	1		Threatened	Tier I
Short-eared Owl	2			Tier I
Small White Lady's-slippe	3		Threatened	Tier I
Swift Fox	4		Endangered	Tier I
Trumpeter Swan	28			Tier I
Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	19	Threatened	Threatened	Tier I
Whooping Crane	11	Endangered	Endangered	Tier I
Wolf Spikerush	11			Tier I
Grand Total	724			

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
 from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 1 OF 14]

EO_ID	SNAME	SCOMNAME	OBS_DATE	EL_TYPE
6266	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2004	Bird
102	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	1984-WI	Bird
3219	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2006-06-30	Bird
3488	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	1999	Bird
8956	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2004-06-02	Bird
8960	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2006-SU	Bird
8970	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2005-05-18	Bird
9803	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2005-06-02	Bird
8974	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2005	Bird
10028	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2006-06	Bird
10039	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2006	Bird
10048	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	2006-08-21	Bird
4449	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1985-06-09	Bird
7045	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1988-05-26	Bird
5379	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1990-07	Bird
960	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1990-08-10	Bird
2817	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1982-06-09	Bird
2698	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1985-06-08	Bird
930	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1983-06-04	Bird
3564	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1984-07-15	Bird
5252	Vireo bellii	Bell's Vireo	1990-06-15	Bird
7992	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2003-06-27	Bird
8062	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl		Bird
8063	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl		Bird
8040	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl		Bird
7952	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
8086	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2003-06-26	Bird
8087	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
8104	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2003-06-23	Bird
8106	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
8107	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
8122	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
8125	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2003-07-07	Bird
8127	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2003-07-18	Bird
8684	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2004-07-11	Bird
8820	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2004-05-13	Bird
8787	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2004-06-10	Bird
8788	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2004-06-22	Bird
9809	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
9810	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
7945	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
7953	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2003-05-15	Bird
7954	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
7991	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2003-06-23	Bird
8039	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
8045	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
8049	Athene cucularia	Burrowing Owl	2005-06	Bird
4766	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1981-06-29	Bird
1579	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
904	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1987-05-19	Bird
3620	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1993-05-14	Bird

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
 from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 2 OF 14]

3566	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1984-07-04	Bird
2676	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1994-04-02	Bird
5017	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
5429	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1978-SP	Bird
5071	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1989	Bird
5430	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1989-06-27	Bird
5916	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
6550	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1987-05-19	Bird
6765	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
6526	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
105	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
6539	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1989-SP	Bird
41	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1990	Bird
3193	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
7507	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1990	Bird
1299	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
1300	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-05-09	Bird
2208	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1988-04-30	Bird
3879	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1984-06-05	Bird
6815	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1981-05	Bird
1581	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1994-05-14	Bird
1196	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1989-SP	Bird
5402	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	1984-07-18	Bird
8980	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	2005-SU	Bird
8981	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	2004-05-20	Bird
9001	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	2005-06-27	Bird
9003	Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	2004	Bird
1250	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
4753	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
4482	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1982-07-13	Bird
6482	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
1505	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-18	Bird
25	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
2608	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-18	Bird
4754	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
6481	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-18	Bird
4322	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-19	Bird
1293	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-19	Bird
326	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-18	Bird
5293	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
3555	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1988-06-16	Bird
327	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1987-07-15	Bird
5082	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1983-06-16	Bird
2001	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1984-06-19	Bird
3556	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1984-06-21	Bird
1162	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-18	Bird
5626	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1988-06-16	Bird
5493	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1987-SP	Bird
2002	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1984-06-19	Bird
7127	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1990	Bird
6483	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
5734	Sterna antillarum athalassos	Interior Least Tern	1983-07-11	Bird

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 4 OF 14]

8896	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8878	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8879	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8880	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8881	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8882	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8883	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8884	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8885	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
8886	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew		Bird
9100	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-05-07	Bird
9101	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-16	Bird
9102	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-16	Bird
9103	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-16	Bird
9104	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-05-07	Bird
9105	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-05-07	Bird
9106	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-16	Bird
9107	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-16	Bird
9108	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-05-07	Bird
9109	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-05-07	Bird
9114	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9115	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9116	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9117	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9118	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9119	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9124	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-23	Bird
9125	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-05-13	Bird
9143	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-16	Bird
9144	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-16	Bird
9145	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-05-07	Bird
9146	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-05-07	Bird
9149	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9150	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-21	Bird
9155	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2004-04-23	Bird
10220	Numenius americanus	Long-billed Curlew	2005-06-08	Bird
1071	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
7511	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
4366	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-06-05	Bird
1146	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1990	Bird
1037	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
6592	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-18	Bird
1757	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
6209	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-07-25	Bird
424	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
305	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-07-24	Bird
5510	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
5072	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1987-SP	Bird
6030	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-07-25	Bird
2660	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
3713	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
6979	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1984-06	Bird

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 3 OF 14]

4655	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
7634	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
4302	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-06-05	Bird
7195	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1979-07-27	Bird
3585	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-19	Bird
6092	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
5864	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-07-25	Bird
3181	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
5022	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-07-24	Bird
6543	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1987-06-10	Bird
7355	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1991-06-19	Bird
1388	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-06-06	Bird
5050	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1978-06-29	Bird
7535	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1987-SP	Bird
4174	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1990	Bird
3645	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
1623	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
1499	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1985-07-24	Bird
6095	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
5866	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
1624	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
5879	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
2394	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-20	Bird
6931	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-18	Bird
2100	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	1996-06-19	Bird
9323	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
9327	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
9354	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-06	Bird
9369	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
9373	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
9376	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-07	Bird
9386	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-29	Bird
9387	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
9388	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-07	Bird
9389	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-07	Bird
9393	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
5352	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	Interior Least Tern	2001-06-08	Bird
7207	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1982-06-04	Bird
2034	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1982-05-05	Bird
4036	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1990-07-06	Bird
4362	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1991-05-22	Bird
4391	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1975-05-08	Bird
6090	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1982-06-02	Bird
6707	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1990-06-01	Bird
269	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1991-05-22	Bird
5875	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1982-05-25	Bird
3080	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1990-06-30	Bird
5478	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1990-07-12	Bird
2324	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1973-06-12	Bird
2767	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1991-05-22	Bird
5183	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	1973-06-12	Bird
8870	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew		Bird

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 5 OF 14]

7284	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1988-06-14	Bird
4002	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1984-06-19	Bird
3074	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1991-06-18	Bird
2496	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
6973	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
5901	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1988-06-16	Bird
198	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
5104	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
2318	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
3819	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1982-07-13	Bird
2630	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
4687	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1990	Bird
4630	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1991-06-19	Bird
2631	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1989-SP	Bird
2142	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-18	Bird
5105	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1988-06-14	Bird
4396	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
1351	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1978-06-29	Bird
4288	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
6281	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
7025	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1983-06-16	Bird
4404	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1983-07-11	Bird
5919	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1991-06-19	Bird
1287	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1991-06-18	Bird
3827	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1985-07-24	Bird
3802	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1988-06-16	Bird
1060	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1984-06-21	Bird
3989	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
7510	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-20	Bird
5721	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-19	Bird
4196	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	1996-06-18	Bird
9439	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
9442	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
9453	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
9461	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-06	Bird
9474	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
9476	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
9479	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-07	Bird
9488	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-29	Bird
9489	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-05	Bird
9491	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
9492	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-07	Bird
9493	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-07	Bird
9498	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
10018	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2006-06-13	Bird
10019	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2006-06-13	Bird
1279	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
9490	Charadrius melodus	Piping Plover	2001-06-08	Bird
8693	Asio flammeus	Short-eared Owl	2004-07-01	Bird
8694	Asio flammeus	Short-eared Owl	2004-05-06	Bird
5757	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1988-04-20	Bird
3229	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1985-04-10	Bird

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 6 OF 14]

466	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1972-	Bird
1922	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1988-04-20	Bird
4924	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1986-04-10	Bird
7506	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1973-	Bird
1617	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1986-07-29	Bird
4831	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1973-	Bird
1528	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1985-04-10	Bird
4081	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1988-04-20	Bird
2518	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1988-04-05	Bird
3152	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1988-04-20	Bird
6446	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1986-07-29	Bird
314	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1986-06-19	Bird
3056	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1986-04-01	Bird
4720	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1986-04-02	Bird
1220	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1988-04-20	Bird
6970	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1988-04-20	Bird
7235	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1972-	Bird
1540	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1988-04-20	Bird
51	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1991-06-28	Bird
5525	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	1991-06-28	Bird
8734	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	2004-05-19	Bird
8735	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	2004-05-20	Bird
8736	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan	2004-05-20	Bird
8764	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan		Bird
8765	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan		Bird
8766	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan		Bird
6419	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1993-10-07	Bird
3372	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1993-04-17	Bird
3475	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1989-05-01	Bird
1161	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1998-03-30	Bird
3221	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1991-10-21	Bird
7607	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1991-04-24	Bird
7436	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1985-10-31	Bird
262	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1978-10-23	Bird
7028	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1977-11-07	Bird
4667	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1974-11-06	Bird
7018	Grus americana	Whooping Crane	1996-04-16	Bird
5666	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1939-08-08	Fish
7332	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1893-	Fish
7333	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1893-	Fish
7398	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1893-	Fish
2173	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1893-	Fish
9	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1987-06-23	Fish
1092	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1990-08-05	Fish
2425	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1983-07-20	Fish
2212	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1989-07-17	Fish
10317	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1990-07-27	Fish
10319	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1990-07-27	Fish
10320	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1964-07-09	Fish
10321	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1990-08-06	Fish
10322	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1893-06-28	Fish
10323	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1995-07-09	Fish

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
 from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 8 OF 14]

10474	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1974-05-14	Fish
10475	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1987-06-23	Fish
10476	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1989-06-19	Fish
10477	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1994-07-23	Fish
10482	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1989-07-19	Fish
10483	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1991-07-20	Fish
10484	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-08-08	Fish
4188	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1939-08-08	Fish
1723	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1987-07-21	Fish
3434	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1993-05-23	Fish
6241	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1893-	Fish
3026	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1991-06-06	Fish
6716	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1993-05-22	Fish
1032	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1992-04-11	Fish
6820	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-05	Fish
3567	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1974-04-10	Fish
4991	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1974-05-14	Fish
6819	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1987-06-18	Fish
7261	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1987-06-23	Fish
6319	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1973-	Fish
1326	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-02	Fish
834	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-05	Fish
5044	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-05	Fish
4108	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1992-05-02	Fish
4503	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1991-05-19	Fish
1439	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1993-05-23	Fish
3905	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1987-06-24	Fish
16	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1991-08-13	Fish
4067	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1991-07-20	Fish
4152	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1973-	Fish
2635	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1973-07-04	Fish
3851	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1973-	Fish
3650	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1973-	Fish
1459	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1973	Fish
10486	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1980-01-01	Fish
10487	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1983-05-10	Fish
10488	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1983-05-10	Fish
10489	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1985-05-14	Fish
10490	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1986-07-07	Fish
10491	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-01	Fish
10492	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-02	Fish
10493	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-08-16	Fish
10494	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1963-08-21	Fish
10495	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1963-08-21	Fish
10496	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1963-08-21	Fish
10497	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1963-08-21	Fish
10498	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1985-06-25	Fish
10501	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1987-07-07	Fish
10502	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1989-05-24	Fish
10506	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1989-07-18	Fish
10513	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-03	Fish
10514	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-03	Fish

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 7 OF 14]

10324	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1995-07-14	Fish
10325	Notropis heterolepis	Blacknose Shiner	1995-08-10	Fish
10367	Cycleptus elongatus	Blue Sucker	2003-07-20	Fish
10399	Cycleptus elongatus	Blue Sucker	1999-07-01	Fish
4234	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1939-08-08	Fish
6330	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1993-05-23	Fish
5511	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1987-07-23	Fish
10464	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-09-05	Fish
10465	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-09-06	Fish
10442	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1990-08-03	Fish
10466	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-09-13	Fish
10443	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1990-08-06	Fish
4345	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1987-07-21	Fish
373	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1982-09-01	Fish
3308	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1991-06-19	Fish
2168	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1987-07-23	Fish
2169	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1992-04-18	Fish
1100	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1973-	Fish
2699	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1984-05-14	Fish
5498	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1989-06	Fish
1426	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1987-07-21	Fish
1224	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1983-05-10	Fish
7174	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1979-04-22	Fish
8826	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	2004-07-27	Fish
8827	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	2004-08-03	Fish
10455	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-06-09	Fish
10432	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1987-05-13	Fish
10456	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-07-19	Fish
10433	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1990-08-06	Fish
10457	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-08-08	Fish
10458	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-08-09	Fish
10459	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-08-15	Fish
10436	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1989-05-24	Fish
10460	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-08-16	Fish
10437	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1989-05-31	Fish
10440	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1990-07-27	Fish
10446	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-10-07	Fish
10423	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1974-03-30	Fish
10447	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1991-05-19	Fish
10424	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1985-05-14	Fish
10448	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1991-08-12	Fish
10425	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1994-07-12	Fish
10427	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-08-16	Fish
10451	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1993-07-22	Fish
10428	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-09-14	Fish
10429	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-09-14	Fish
10453	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1993-08-10	Fish
10430	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-10-30	Fish
10454	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1994-07-13	Fish
10431	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1963-08-21	Fish
10478	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1995-07-14	Fish
10473	Phoxinus neogaeus	Finescale Dace	1964-07-09	Fish

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 10 OF 14]

928	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1973-	Fish
2893	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1987-07-23	Fish
6644	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1973-	Fish
3389	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1988-08-16	Fish
2203	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1973-	Fish
1841	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1978-	Fish
10647	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1986-07-07	Fish
10648	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1989-04-29	Fish
10649	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-09-14	Fish
10650	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1990-08-02	Fish
10651	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1990-08-02	Fish
10652	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1994-07-12	Fish
10653	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-06-21	Fish
10654	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-08-16	Fish
10655	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-09-14	Fish
10656	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-09-14	Fish
10657	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-09-14	Fish
10658	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-10-30	Fish
10659	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1963-08-21	Fish
10660	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1963-08-21	Fish
10662	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1989-05-23	Fish
10663	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1987-07-07	Fish
10664	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1987-07-07	Fish
10665	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1987-07-07	Fish
10666	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1989-05-31	Fish
10686	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-07-19	Fish
10683	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1993-08-10	Fish
10684	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1994-07-13	Fish
10708	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-06-15	Fish
10709	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-07-14	Fish
10711	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1993-07-23	Fish
10712	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1994-08-16	Fish
10713	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1990-08-06	Fish
10714	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1994-08-22	Fish
10692	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-09-05	Fish
10693	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-09-06	Fish
10694	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-09-13	Fish
10698	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-10-07	Fish
10702	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1964-07-09	Fish
10703	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1973-10-23	Fish
10704	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1973-10-23	Fish
10705	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1973-10-24	Fish
10706	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1973-10-24	Fish
10707	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1977-05-17	Fish
1172	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1977-05-18	Fish
645	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1953-10-07	Fish
624	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973-	Fish
184	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1983-04-23	Fish
1036	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1991-06-06	Fish
142	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1982-09-01	Fish
3834	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1991-06-19	Fish
3347	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-07-23	Fish

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 9 OF 14]

10499	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1987-07-07	Fish
10500	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1987-07-07	Fish
10515	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-03	Fish
10518	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1991-08-12	Fish
10519	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1991-08-12	Fish
10520	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1992-07-30	Fish
10522	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1993-08-10	Fish
10551	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1994-07-13	Fish
10575	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1964-07-09	Fish
10576	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1974-05-14	Fish
10553	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-07-19	Fish
10577	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1974-05-14	Fish
10554	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-08-08	Fish
10578	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1980-01-01	Fish
10555	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-08-09	Fish
10579	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-01	Fish
10556	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-08-15	Fish
10580	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-01	Fish
10557	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-08-16	Fish
10581	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-03	Fish
10582	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1990-08-05	Fish
10583	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-07-14	Fish
10584	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-07-14	Fish
10561	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-09-13	Fish
10565	Phoxinus eos	Northern Redbelly Dace	1995-10-07	Fish
1877	Scaphirhynchus albus	Pallid Sturgeon	1990-08-13	Fish
3235	Scaphirhynchus albus	Pallid Sturgeon	2000-10-12	Fish
1772	Scaphirhynchus albus	Pallid Sturgeon	1976-06-21	Fish
6289	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1993-05-23	Fish
7637	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1991-06-06	Fish
10670	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1989-07-18	Fish
10671	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1995-06-09	Fish
10672	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1990-07-27	Fish
10673	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1990-07-27	Fish
10661	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1987-05-13	Fish
10677	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1990-08-06	Fish
10679	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1993-07-22	Fish
6800	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1993-05-22	Fish
1187	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1992-04-18	Fish
1988	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1985-07	Fish
3484	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1990-08-01	Fish
5518	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1984-05-14	Fish
5079	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1990-08-05	Fish
3979	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1992-05-02	Fish
6606	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1993-05-23	Fish
3159	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1993-05-23	Fish
4086	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1992-05-03	Fish
8837	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	2004-08-03	Fish
1989	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1987-06-23	Fish
4407	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1989-06-19	Fish
6356	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1994-06-21	Fish
5559	Margariscus margarita	Pearl Dace	1963-08-21	Fish

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 11 OF 14]

6845	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1992-04-18	Fish
5369	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1983-08-30	Fish
1628	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1990-08-05	Fish
2789	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1990-08-05	Fish
5710	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-06-23	Fish
285	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1992-05-02	Fish
6397	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1991-05-19	Fish
8844	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	2004-07-27	Fish
8843	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	2004-07-27	Fish
8845	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	2004-07-28	Fish
8846	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	2004-08-03	Fish
5238	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-06-04	Fish
3232	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-06-17	Fish
5886	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1993-05-23	Fish
3378	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1977-07-15	Fish
1743	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-07-23	Fish
2567	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-06-23	Fish
5637	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1963-08-21	Fish
4275	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973	Fish
86	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1983-08-30	Fish
640	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-06-09	Fish
283	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1984-06-13	Fish
837	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1991-07-16	Fish
1846	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973-	Fish
2855	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1990-08-05	Fish
2823	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-07-23	Fish
2768	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973-08-23	Fish
3918	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973-	Fish
3601	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1974-	Fish
4574	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1991-08-13	Fish
4760	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1994-06-22	Fish
4836	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-06-24	Fish
4837	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-06-24	Fish
4981	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1939-08-04	Fish
6005	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1974-	Fish
6168	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1988-08-17	Fish
6647	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1992-05-03	Fish
6718	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1977-07-14	Fish
6982	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1950-06-06	Fish
6963	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1987-06-18	Fish
7090	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973	Fish
7588	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1990-08-05	Fish
7618	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1974-06-17	Fish
7554	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1939-06-27	Fish
7527	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1991-08-13	Fish
5453	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1988-08-16	Fish
2525	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973-	Fish
6771	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973	Fish
7043	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973-	Fish
6998	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1977-07-15	Fish
7275	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	1973-	Fish
10285	Fundulus sciadicus	Plains Topminnow	2006-08-25	Fish

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
 from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 12 OF 14]

982	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
5801	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
4087	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1992-06-07	Insect
6369	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
5665	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-03	Insect
3043	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
1923	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2001-JUNE-AUGUST	Insect
2661	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2001-07-03	Insect
4654	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-07	Insect
1897	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
3732	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-04	Insect
3530	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
4951	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1992-07-13	Insect
2588	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-04	Insect
4239	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2001-07-05	Insect
3131	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2001-07-20	Insect
3797	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-04	Insect
6215	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1992-04-29	Insect
756	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-07	Insect
5373	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1994-07-20	Insect
1719	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1992-06-07	Insect
1720	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1992-07-10	Insect
2707	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
7237	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
758	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
4839	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-07-26	Insect
3137	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1992-07-13	Insect
4840	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-07-22	Insect
3538	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2001-07-03	Insect
5168	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
4016	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
367	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-07-26	Insect
271	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-03	Insect
5800	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-08-08	Insect
671	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2001-JUNE-AUGUST	Insect
1657	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	1998-07-22	Insect
7671	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2002-08-06	Insect
7672	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2002-07-19	Insect
7676	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2002-08-11	Insect
7679	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2002-08-11	Insect
9168	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2004-08-17	Insect
9169	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2004-08-18	Insect
8620	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2003-08-17	Insect
8621	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2003-08-16	Insect
8622	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2003-08-17	Insect
89	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2001-08-09	Insect
10066	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2005-07-31	Insect
10067	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2005-07-31	Insect
10068	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2005-07-31	Insect
10070	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2005-07-31	Insect
10071	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2005-07-31	Insect
10072	Nicrophorus americanus	American Burying Beetle	2005-07-31	Insect

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 13 OF 14]

10074	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2005-07-31	Insect
10087	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2005-06-28	Insect
10088	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2005-06-28	Insect
10089	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2005-06-28	Insect
10099	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-06-24	Insect
10100	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-06-25	Insect
10101	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10102	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-06-21	Insect
10103	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10104	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-06-25	Insect
10105	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-06-21	Insect
10106	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-06-24	Insect
10107	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10108	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-09	Insect
10109	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10110	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-09	Insect
10111	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10112	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-09	Insect
10113	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10114	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10115	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10116	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-08	Insect
10117	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10118	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2006-08-10	Insect
10125	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2005-06	Insect
7429	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	American Burying Beetle	2000-09-15	Insect
8772	<i>Atrytone arogos iowa</i>	Iowa Skipper	1987-06-20	Insect
6560	<i>Hesperia ottoe</i>	Ottoe Skipper	1995-07-09	Insect
8771	<i>Hesperia ottoe</i>	Ottoe Skipper	1986-06-21	Insect
4649	<i>Speyeria idalia</i>	Regal Fritillary	1995-07-09	Insect
10625	<i>Lutra canadensis</i>	River Otter		Mammal
5040	<i>Vulpes velox</i>	Swift Fox	2001-03-22	Mammal
2605	<i>Vulpes velox</i>	Swift Fox	1972-06-30	Mammal
769	<i>Vulpes velox</i>	Swift Fox	1988-07-11	Mammal
10130	<i>Vulpes velox</i>	Swift Fox	2006-07-17	Mammal
3635	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1999-10-13	Plant
6336	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1998-06-07	Plant
5736	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1998-06-22	Plant
3920	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1991-09-12	Plant
2884	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1998-06-23	Plant
6953	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1983-07-03	Plant
7193	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1988-08-28	Plant
3716	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1998-07-12	Plant
3803	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1996	Plant
6182	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	1997-07-22	Plant
8342	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	2001	Plant
8340	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	2001	Plant
8341	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	2001	Plant
8366	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	2001	Plant
8364	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Blowout Penstemon	2001	Plant
4923	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
7505	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant

Natural Heritage Records for at-risk species within the watershed of the Niobrara River
 from Box Butte Dam to the confluence with the Missouri River [PAGE 14 OF 14]

2084	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
3662	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	2000-07-15	Plant
574	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
2857	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
3847	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
3322	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	2000-08-02	Plant
4823	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
407	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
2974	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
5201	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
2665	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	1999-07-27	Plant
5488	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	2000-08-02	Plant
2450	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	2000-07-16	Plant
4561	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	2000-07-15	Plant
1916	<i>Scirpus hallii</i>	Hall's Bulrush	2000-07-15	Plant
3330	<i>Botrychium campestre</i>	Iowa Moonwort	1986-06-02	Plant
6416	<i>Cypripedium candidum</i>	Small White Lady's-slipper	1893-06-15	Plant
2541	<i>Cypripedium candidum</i>	Small White Lady's-slipper	1904-05-20	Plant
5852	<i>Cypripedium candidum</i>	Small White Lady's-slipper	1998-06-12	Plant
6200	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	2000-09-15	Plant
1971	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1993-07-15	Plant
1252	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1999-07-11	Plant
1434	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1993-07-14	Plant
6559	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1998-07-04	Plant
1042	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1996-07-08	Plant
5592	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1996-07-09	Plant
4566	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1985-07-05	Plant
6279	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1993-07-15	Plant
5125	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1912-07-06	Plant
3523	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1993-07-14	Plant
4093	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1992-07-09	Plant
3695	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1989-07-12	Plant
7145	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1928-07-23	Plant
5851	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1892-07-19	Plant
67	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1991	Plant
2638	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1993-07-14	Plant
1501	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	1912-07-13	Plant
10202	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	2006-06-22	Plant
1559	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	1941-08-25	Plant
10171	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-09	Plant
10172	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-12	Plant
10175	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-23	Plant
10176	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-25	Plant
10177	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-27	Plant
10192	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-11	Plant
10193	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-09	Plant
10194	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-08-01	Plant
10195	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-24	Plant
10246	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>	Wolf Spikerush	2006-06-06	Plant

BREEDING STATUS OF SELECTED BIRD SPECIES IN THE NIOBRARA VALLEY PRESERVE AREA, NEBRASKA

by Michael J. Mossman and Mark A. Brogie

INTRODUCTION

The Niobrara Valley Preserve is located in north-central Nebraska and includes a variety of relatively undisturbed grassland, woodland, and wetland habitats. The diversity of habitats, in conjunction with the area's central geographic location near the 100th meridian, results in a diverse avifauna with many species and subspecies occurring at or near the western, eastern, southern, or northern edge of their breeding ranges. Several pairs of sibling species and subspecies are found here within their narrow band of sympatry. The breeding list of the Preserve and environs includes at least 105 species (Brogie and Mossman 1983), several of which are rare or declining in Nebraska or nationwide.

This paper describes the evidence of breeding for those species and subspecies considered significant on the basis of their rarity, critical population status, or marginal geographic occurrence. A few other species are discussed that are conspicuous in their absence or scarcity.

Unless otherwise indicated, information on statewide and regional distribution and abundance is from Johnsgard (1979a, 1979b, 1980). The designations of statewide endangered, threatened, or special concern status are from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (1977) and Ross Lock (Neb. Game and Parks Comm., pers. comm. 1982). Additional information on national and regional status is indicated by reference to the *American Birds* Blue List for 1982 (Tate and Tate 1982).

STUDY AREA AND METHODS

The study area includes the 22,000 ha Niobrara Valley Preserve, owned by The Nature Conservancy, and an additional 20,000 ha of adjacent, privately owned land. The area extends 50 km along the Niobrara River in Cherry, Brown, and Keya Paha counties. Study area boundaries are described in Brogie and Mossman (1983). The river valley contains exposed sandbars, floodplain forest dominated by cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) and green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), scattered oxbow marshes with species such as cattail (*Typha latifolia*), bulrush (*Scirpus actus*), and sandbar willow (*Salix discolor*), and eastern deciduous forest dominated by bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*), basswood (*Tilia americana*), green ash, and ironwood (*Ostrya virginiana*). White birch (*Betula papyrifera*) occurs in several springbranch canyons and north-facing slopes. Grazed sandhill prairie covers the flat to hilly uplands south of the river. The Crookston Table lies north of the river and supports grazed mixed grass prairie and cropland. Uplands on both sides of the river are dissected by canyons containing ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) - bur oak woodland and eastern deciduous forest.

We surveyed for birds almost daily by foot, truck, and canoe during the period 4 April-10 July 1982, and less frequently during the remainder of the summer. Records were also collected from other Preserve personnel and local residents. A complete summary of breeding records for all species is maintained at the Preserve headquarters.

Common names of birds follow the recent supplement to the AOU checklist (American Ornithologists' Union 1982).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Eastern species

Positive evidence of breeding was secured for the Wood Duck, Bobwhite, Eastern Phoebe, White-breasted Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, Red-eyed Vireo, and Scarlet Tanager. Other eastern species that were present during the breeding season and which almost certainly nested are the Green-backed Heron, Whip-poor-will, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Eastern Wood Pewee, Wood Thrush, Black-and-white Warbler, Ovenbird, American Redstart, and Northern Cardinal.

Green-backed Herons were seen as far west as Little Cedar Creek, Cherry County. The westernmost **Wood Duck** brood was in T33N R23W Sec. 31, Brown County. Three **Whip-poor-wills** were heard singing during the summer at different sites: on 14 June in Plum Creek Canyon (Brown County); on 13 July in Turkey Creek Canyon (Keya Paha County); the westernmost, on 3 and 4 June in T34N R25W Sec. 28 (Cherry County) — these are considerably

farther west than previous summer records, except for observations made around the turn of the century in Cherry and Brown Counties (Brunner 1896, Bates 1900). **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** occurred at 6 sites, as far west as T33N R25W Sec. 12, Cherry County. Adults were seen repeatedly at 2 sites; at one of these we watched a female enter a tree cavity while an adult male called from the same tree. This species evidently occurred here rarely a half century ago (Youngworth 1955).

Singing male **Eastern Wood-Pewees** were recorded at many sites all along the river and in several canyons, and on 4 June a bird was carrying nest material along McGill Creek, Keya Paha County. The **Eastern Phoebe** nested in most abandoned buildings and wooden bridges in the river valley and canyons. **White-breasted Nuthatches** occurred along the entire stretch of the river valley. In Cherry County we saw adults feeding nestlings in tree cavities on 2 occasions: on 10 May in a bur oak in T33N R25W Sec. 11, and on 4 June in a cottonwood in T34N R25W Sec. 29.

The **Eastern Bluebird** is on the Blue List and Nebraska's special concern list. We recorded over 30 territorial males in oak savanna habitat along the river in Brown and Keya Paha counties, and saw one active nest, a family group, and various examples of nesting behavior. We found single singing **Wood Thrushes** at 3 localities in hardwoods along the river, all in T33N R23W Sec. 32 and 33, Brown County. Singing was heard frequently from 14 May into August. Short (1966) found Wood Thrushes in this vicinity in 1964, and Youngworth (1955) reported them previously.

The following 4 species of the eastern deciduous forest were fairly common along the entire stretch of the valley and in some canyons. Youngworth (1955) found all 4 species here during previous summers. **Red-eyed Vireos** were building a nest on 12 June in T33N R23W Sec. 26, Keya Paha County, and a pair of adults were feeding 2 fledglings in T33N R23W Sec. 33, Brown County, on 21 August. **Black-and-white Warblers** obviously nested here, although positive evidence is lacking. We saw 2 birds, evidently a pair, scold and chase a Robin on 13 May, and saw another presumed pair making repeated visits to one spot on the litter-covered ground on 23 May. Breeding records are also lacking for the **Ovenbird**, although on 3 and 23 June in Cherry County we encountered agitated birds that behaved as though a nest or young were nearby; on the latter date, one bird carried food in its bill. Short (1961) found Ovenbird nests in the study area in 1955, and several nests were found previously by Youngworth (1955). A **Scarlet Tanager** nest containing 4 nestlings was found by Ed M. Brogie on 22 June, in a 12 m bur oak at a height of 9 m, in T33N R24W Sec. 18 NE, Brown County. This species was also recorded in the study area by Short (1961).

The **Northern Cardinal** occurred uncommonly in riparian areas and we encountered territorial individuals and pairs on several occasions.

The absence of several eastern species was noteworthy. **Barred Owls** were not recorded even though we spent many nights in the field and played taped calls in river bottom woods. This was an uncommon resident in our area at one time (Youngworth 1955). **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** and **Purple Martins** were apparently absent, although Hummingbirds have been seen in previous years by local residents, and Martins evidently nest in nearby Ainsworth (Short 1965) and occurred previously along the river (Youngworth 1955). Although we are familiar with vocalizations of the **Yellow-throated Vireo**, we found none in the study area. Short (1965) recorded 3 singing males and a female here in late May and June of 1964, and it may be that breeding populations are unstable this far west. We found no **Northern Parulas** nor **Cerulean Warblers**, and consider those collected along the Niobrara by Short (1965) to be summer wanderers. The **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** occurred only in migration. **Eastern Meadowlarks** were absent, probably owing to the scarcity of lowland prairies and meadows.

Western species and subspecies

Thirty years ago Youngworth (1955) noted that our vicinity was "fast becoming the eastern limit for many prairie forms which formerly blanketed eastern Nebraska and much of Iowa and Minnesota," including the **Long-billed Curlew**. This species is on the Blue List and it evidently no longer breeds east of the sandhills. We could account for only 2 breeding pairs on the study area, both in relatively flat sandhill prairie: Deborah Paulson found an adult on a nest with 2 eggs on 5 May in T32N R23W Sec. 11, Brown County, and it was also observed on subsequent dates; the second pair was very defensive on 2 June, diving at us and exhibiting distraction behavior, in Cherry County.

Common Poor wills were heard singing throughout the study area, as far east as Plum Creek Canyon in Brown County. On 3 July we flushed an adult from a nest containing 2 young. The nest was at the base of a clump of little bluestem (*Andropogon scoparius*) and 0.3 m tall sumac (*Rhus glabra*) in rolling sandhill prairie, in T32N R23W Sec. 7, Brown County.

The **Northern Flicker** was represented by both yellow- and red-shafted forms, the latter being outnumbered by a ratio of approximately 20:1. We found 4 nests of the yellow-shafted form and one nest attended by a red-shafted adult. Hybridization evidently occurs, for we saw birds of intermediate shaft color.

We located 10 active **Black-billed Magpie** nests in the sandhills — 9 in Brown and 1 in Cherry County. Three nests were in chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*), 2 in hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), 2 in red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), 2 in green ash, and 1 in ponderosa pine, at heights of 2.1-7 m.

Prior to the present study, only one Nebraska breeding record had been secured for the **Red-breasted Nuthatch** (Johnsgard 1980). Short (1965) found 2 pairs of Red-breasted Nuthatches within the study area in June 1964, and assumed they probably nested here. Youngworth (1955) failed to note them here previously. We found this to be a common breeding species on the study area, in ponderosa pine woods. We saw an adult (accompanied by a second bird, presumably its mate) excavating a cavity in a dead pine stump on 15 June in Brown County. On 12 June we watched for 15 minutes as an adult fed 2 fledglings in oak-pine woodland in Turkey Creek Canyon, T33N R23W Sec. 26 SW, Keya Paha County. The fledglings displayed yellowish gape flanges; they were silent and stationary, perched in a bur oak. The adult foraged within 10 m of the young birds, bringing food to them every 1-5 minutes. On 15 June an adult fed a fledgling in a pine in Moore Creek Canyon, T32N R22W Sec. 22, Brown County. The young bird was actively creeping on the trunk and limbs, and its bill had yellowish edges. On 22 June, 2 fledglings were food-begging and being fed by adults, in T33N R23W Sec. 16 SW, Keya Paha County.

The **Black-headed Grosbeak** was common on the study area along the entire river valley and in most canyons. Females were building nests on 28 May near East Middle Creek, Keya Paha County, on 4 June in T34N R25W Sec. 29, Cherry County, and on 12 June in Turkey Creek Canyon, Keya Paha County. On 17 June a female was on a nest in a green ash in Quinn Canyon, Brown County. We found no evidence of hybridization with the Rose-breasted Grosbeak, which evidently did not nest here. In contrast, the Rose-breasted Grosbeak nested here commonly 30-50 years ago, whereas the Black-headed Grosbeak occurred only rarely (Youngworth 1955).

Lazuli Buntings certainly nested in the study area, and they were found at scattered sites as far east as Quinn and Hurlbut Canyons in Brown County. We do not know if any individuals bred with the congeneric Indigo Bunting, which outnumbered the Lazuli by a factor of approximately 40:1.

Hybridization of the 2 **Northern Oriole** subspecies also appears to occur, although we recognized only one bird that displayed obvious hybrid characters: an adult male with a half-black head and wide wing patch, attending a nest near East Middle Creek in Keya Paha County. All other Northern Orioles seen closely were of the Baltimore form. Youngworth (1955) made similar observations 30-50 years ago.

Several western species did not nest here, although they might be expected. We were surprised to find only one **Ferruginous Hawk**, apparently a vagrant, on 5 June. This species is on the Nebraska special concern list. We saw **Golden Eagles** on 14 April and 6 May; these were evidently wandering individuals, and one was an immature. A **Prairie Falcon** was seen on several occasions during summer 1981 (Ben Brown, pers. comm. 1982), and again several times in summer 1982. All sightings were near Plum Creek Canyon and the Niobrara River, Brown County. We scanned almost all cliffs in this area and found no evidence of nesting. No **Western Wood Pewees** were observed. Two **Say's Phoebes** and one **Rock Wren** were found near abandoned buildings in April and May but none stayed to nest. Youngworth (1955) found both species apparently nesting in our area previously.

Northern species

Six species of northern distribution apparently nested here, and one species that might be expected — the **Song Sparrow** — occurred commonly during migration but was not found during the breeding season although seemingly suitable habitat was available.

The **Common Snipe** is considered a "very rare or highly local breeder" in Nebraska (Johnsgard 1979a), and Wood (Nebr. Bird Rev. 38:17. 1970) recorded an adult with young

several kilometers southeast of the study area in Rock County. Although wetland habitat was not extensive on the study area, this species probably nested in some small marshes along the Niobrara. The most likely site is in T33N R25W Sec. 12 NE, Cherry County, where a bird was winnowing¹ on 4 and 5 June. In T33N R23W Sec. 33, birds were heard winnowing and up to 6 were seen at one time, from 12-23 April. We found no Snipe at the latter site on several subsequent visits, including an afternoon spent dragging the marsh with a rope to flush birds. Three were flushed in T32N R22W Sec. 8 on 27 April. One winnowed over Sunnybrook Swamp, T33N R24W Sec. 18, on 13 May. Another bird was seen just south of the study area, flying over Hwy. 20, 1.5 km east of Johnstown, Brown County, on 25 June.

The **Least Flycatcher** is considered a very rare breeder in Nebraska. Two pairs were previously found during the breeding season in the study area in Brown County (Short 1965), and Youngworth (1955) considered that "apparently a few remain to breed" along this section of the Niobrara. We found 9 singing males in 7 sites between 20 May and 5 June in Keya Paha and Brown Counties. It probably nested in at least some of these sites but further observations are needed.

Tree Swallows probably nested at a few sites in wetlands along the river valley and Plum Creek. On 4 May, 4 were inspecting cavities 3-5 m up in a dead snag over standing water, in a marsh along the river in Cherry County. On 13 May we saw 2 at Sunnybrook Swamp in Brown County, and we saw 1 here again on 5 June. On 10 July 1 was recorded in an open marshy site with dead standing trees along Plum Creek. Short (1961) noted Tree Swallows along the river near Valentine in June 1955.

The **Brown Creeper** evidently breeds in the Pine Ridge area and rarely along the Missouri River, where Aughey (in Bent 1948:50) found several nests in the 1800's. The only recent records are from Sarpy County, where a nest was found beneath a slab of hardwood bark in 1975 (Cortelyou 1975), and nests were found in 1977 (Bennett 1978). Only one pair of Creepers was recorded in our study area. We found these birds on 9 July in T32N R22W Sec. 10 NW, Brown County, on the Niobrara floodplain among American elm (*Ulmus americana*), cottonwood, red cedar, green ash, and ponderosa pine. Many of the elms, cottonwoods and pines were dead, with the bark peeling. On this day we saw an adult carry food to a rotten, 15 m tall ponderosa pine while a male sang nearby. The nest was found beneath a slab of peeling bark at a height of 6 m. It contained 2 nestlings.

Although singing **Clay-colored Sparrows** were common in the sandhills during 3-14 May, we found only 2 during the breeding season, both in Brown County sandhills. One was singing on 25 May in a strip of planted red cedar and ponderosa pine 2-4 m tall, and the other was in shrubby sandhills prairie on 1 June. Youngworth (1955) considered this a rare breeder in the area.

Swamp Sparrows were found singing in 2 willow-choked marshes along the Niobrara, and they almost certainly nested at both sites. Five birds were seen and heard singing in T33N R23W Sec. 32 on 1 June and later dates. Five were singing in T33N R23W Sec. 2 on 25 July.

Southern species

Johnsgard (1979a) mentions that the **Northern Mockingbird** breeds occasionally as far north as Thomas and Greeley Counties in the sandhills. This species evidently nested on the study area and we found it in 5 sandhills sites in T32N, R23-24 W, Brown County. A territorial pair was seen at one site on 24 May and again on 14 June. We found another territorial pair on 27 May, and recorded 3 singing males in a third area on 3 July.

Significant non-peripheral species

Although the **Great Blue Heron** nests in many locations in Nebraska, it is included on the special concern lists of Nebraska and American Birds, largely because rookeries are sensitive to human disturbance. Most nests in the Great Plains are in riparian sites, lakes, or reservoirs. We have records of 3 nesting areas, all in uplands.

Great Blue Herons are uncommon along this stretch of the Niobrara during the breeding season, although according to local residents they were more abundant 10 years ago before canoeing became popular here. They nested previously at 2 sites in the sandhills of Brown County, although both sites were inactive in 1982 and no old nest structures were found. One site was active until at least ca. 1976 and consisted of several nests in a group of ponderosa pines near the Cherry County line in T33N R24W, probably in Sec. 18, 1-4 km south of the river (Alfred Conner, pers. comm. 1982). The other site was evidently a single nest in a pine, active for many

1. See footnote, NBR 51:46

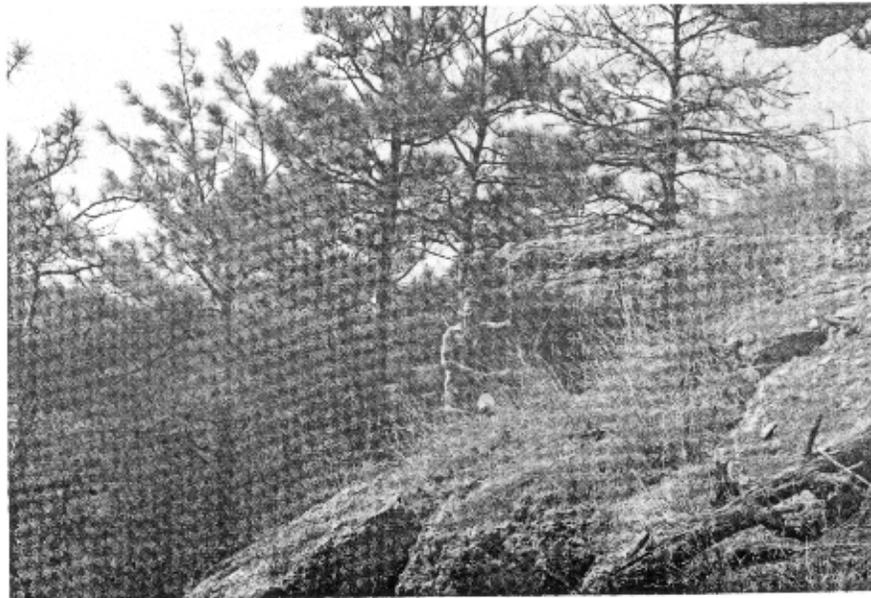
years, ca. 2 km south of the river in T32N R23W Sec. 4 (Nilo Kuhre, pers. comm. to Ben Brown 1982).

We suspected nesting by a pair in Fairfield Creek Canyon. One or 2 Herons were often seen in the canyon or near its mouth and one was seen flying up the canyon with something, evidently nesting material, in its bill. We found Great Blue Herons in substantial numbers at the fish hatchery ponds in T34N R26W Sec. 21-22; 12 were counted here on 2 June.

At least some of the Great Blue Herons seen on the eastern section of the study area came from the rookery located 20 km north of the river in T34N R22W Sec. 10 NENE, Keya Paha County. Birds were seen flying to and from the direction of the rookery on several occasions. This rookery occurs in a 8 ha. grove of mature cottonwoods surrounded by hay, pasture, and corn, and it has been active for at least 5 years (Mrs. Ben Weston, pers. comm. 1982). On 21 July we counted 56 active nests in a total of 25 trees near the center of this grove, and some young birds were able to fly a short distance.

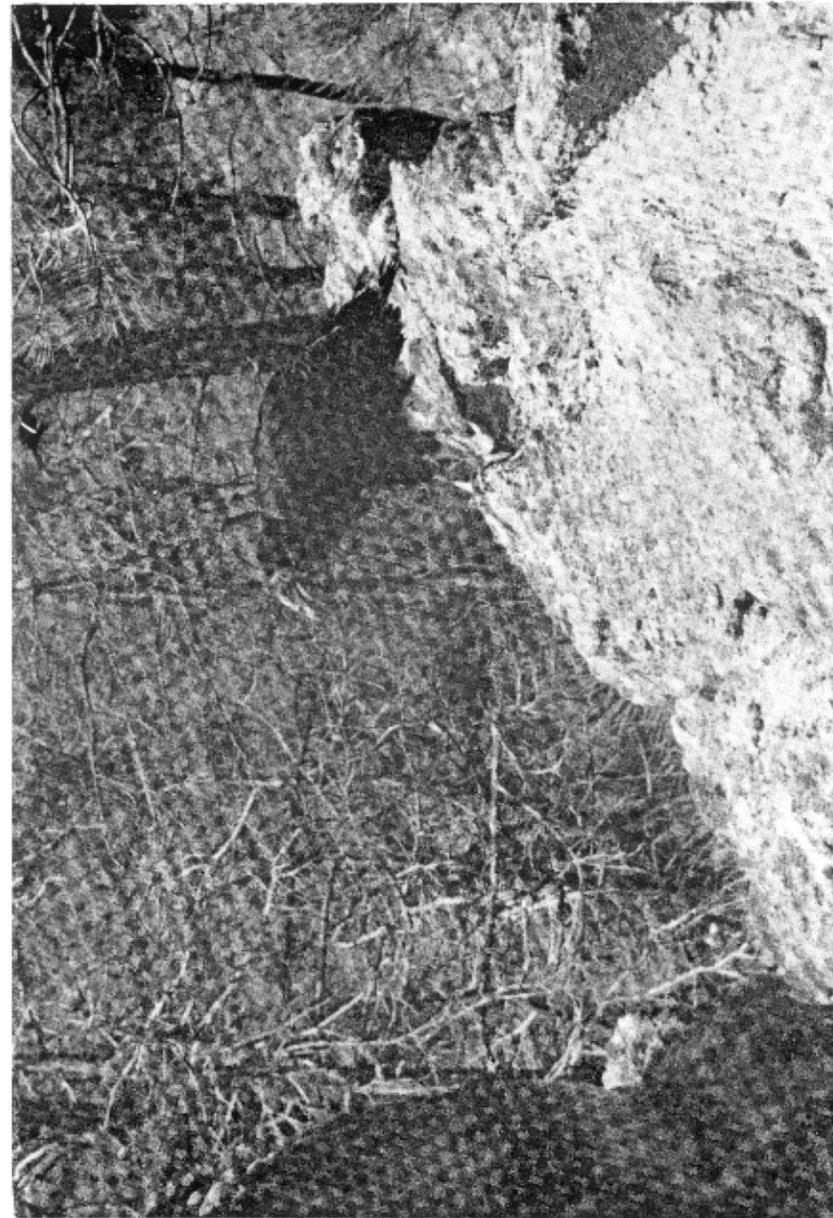
The **Turkey Vulture** evidently breeds locally throughout most of the state, although few nests or roosts have been recorded. Only 2 nests have been reported since 1904 (Lionberger 1944, Hatch and Garrels 1971). It was considered a breeder in Cherry County near the turn of the century (Brunner 1896) and Youngworth (1955) considered it a regular summer resident along this stretch of the Niobrara, but nesting was not documented.

This is a common spring and summer resident on the Preserve, and up to 15 birds were found on various occasion, roosting or sunning in trees on the north-facing slope and adjacent floodplain of the river. Two nests were recorded in past years in the study area, and 3 new nests were located in 1982. All but the Brown site were on the upper edges of steep, south-facing bluffs at the edge of the Crookston Table, in ponderosa pine woodland with other species such as red cedar, yucca (*Yucca glauca*), poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), and aromatic sumac (*Rhus aromatica*).



"Egelhoff" Turkey Vulture nest site, April 1982.

EDELHOFF SITE. One nestling was found ca. 1960 by Richard Egelhoff (pers. comm. 1982) in a cave atop a bluff between Middle and East Middle Creeks, T33N R23W Sec. 20, center of S½, Keya Paha County. The cave is ca. 6.5 m deep, 3 m wide, and 1 m high at its mouth, narrowing to ca. 1 × 0.3 m at the back. We checked this site several times between 12 April and 12 August 1982 and found no evidence of attempted nesting. The floor of the cave was covered with porcupine



Turkey Vulture nesting about to fledge. "Vulture Point" nest site, 12 August 1982.

(*Erethizon dorsatum*) scats, as it was when the nestling was discovered previously.

BROWN SITE. In the summer of 1981, Ben Brown (pers. comm. 1982) flushed an adult Turkey Vulture from a thicket of red cedar and chokecherry in sandhills pasture ca. 6 km southwest of the Preserve headquarters, in T32N R23W, Brown County. He found 2 nestlings on the ground beneath shrubs. This site was not visited in 1982.

VULTURE POINT SITE. We found 2 eggs here on 18 May and again on 28 May, in a chamber 1 × 1 × 3 m long, formed beneath 2 large tumbled boulders that had fallen from an adjacent 6 m tall cliff. On 13 June an adult was scared from the nest; the nest contained 2 downy nestlings which stood unsteadily and were less than a week old. On 12 August a nestling was removed from the nest, photographed, and released. After standing for a minute on a rock, it flew off. The second bird ran from a small opening at the back of the nest chamber and also flew. It appeared that this was the first extended flight for both birds. Two other immatures flew about the area also. The nest is located in T33N R23W Sec. 17 SE, Keya Paha County.

SPARKS SITE. This nest contained one nestling when discovered by David Kizirian on 26 June 1982. The nest cavity is ca 0.3 m high and 1 m in diameter, probably dug or enlarged by a mammal, at the base of a rockshelter-like cliff, 3 m tall. On 17 August the nestling was extricated from the cavity but did not fly when released. It was fully feathered and its downy cap was nearly gone — it probably fledged during the following week. The site is in a large canyon south of the village of Sparks, in T34N R25W Sec. 28 NW, Cherry County.

EAST MIDDLE CREEK SITE. This nest is in a small canyon that empties into East Middle Creek, in T33N R23W Sec. 21 SW, Keya Paha County. It is 2.9 km from the Vulture Point site. It contained one nestling when discovered by Kizirian on the afternoon of 20 August. The bird fledged before we visited the site the following evening, at which time we saw an immature flying



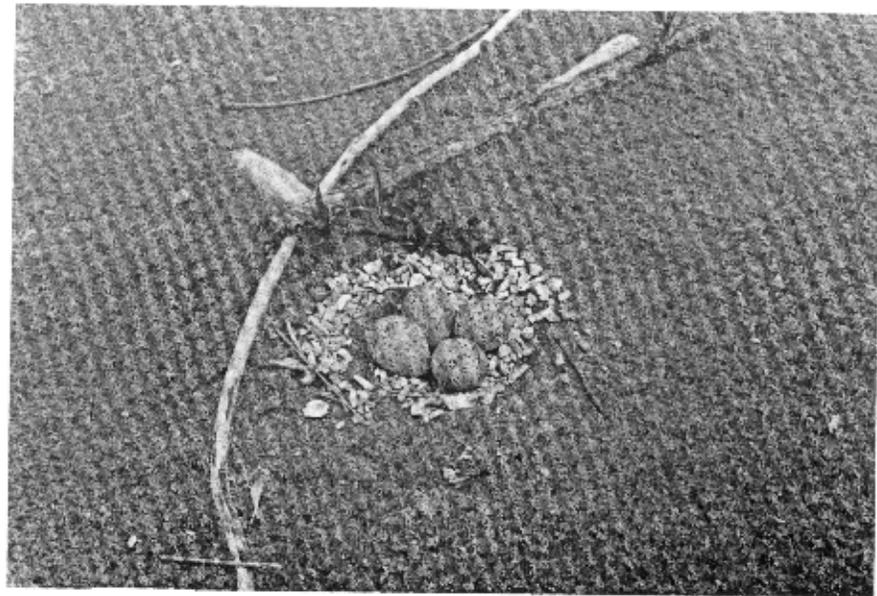
Sharp-shinned
Hawk on nest, 22
June 1982.
Photograph by Matt
Bradley, courtesy
National
Geographic Society.

over the area. The nest cavity was evidently expanded by mammal digging; it is located under a fallen boulder near the base of a 4 m tall cliff, and is 4 m from a known rattlesnake den. It consists of 2 contiguous chambers, each 3-6 dm high and 6-10 dm in diameter.

The **Sharp-shinned Hawk** has been on the Blue List since 1972, and the only state nesting records are from many years ago in Sioux County (Bruner et al. 1904, Johnsgard 1979a). According to Youngworth (1955), this species was a "resident in small numbers" in the study area 30-50 years ago. We saw Sharpshins frequently in April and May, including an apparent pair on 12 May and a male carrying food at another site in late May. At a third site (T32N R24W, Brown County) we found an active nest in a 10 m red cedar at a height of 5.5 m, in a strip of woods consisting mostly of bur oak, red cedar, and green ash. Both the male and female "kakked" at us on 16 May, at which time the nest was empty. The female was incubating 4 eggs on 6 June, and was on the nest on 22 June. On 2 August a bird was seen flying from the nest. On 25 August the nest was empty except for the remains of songbird prey, and it appeared that nestlings had fledged. Both parents were in immature plumage.

The **Cooper's Hawk** is on the special concern lists of Nebraska and *American Birds*. It is evidently a rare summer resident in Nebraska with no recent nesting records. This species was seen at 7 localities on the study area from 12 May to 30 July, and it probably nests here. Adults were heard kakked defensively at 2 of these sites, and an adult female was carrying food at a third site. Youngworth (1955) found resident Cooper's Hawks in the study area previously.

The **Piping Plover** is a Blue List species with special concern status in Nebraska, where it is a rare and local breeder. This species nested on our study area in 1982, in a mixed colony with Least Terns, on a sandbar 3 km east of Meadville (see site description in Least Tern account). On 14 July we found 4 nests with clutch sizes of 1, 3, 4, and 4; no chicks were seen. We searched the site thoroughly on 22 July and found 16 chicks and an active nest with 4 eggs; the site had been recently disturbed by cattle. Piping Plovers were seen nowhere else along the river.



Piping Plover nest near Meadville, 14 July 1982.

The **Interior Least Tern** is threatened in Nebraska and is included on the Blue List. Several colonies are known from Nebraska and in recent years 4-10 colonies have been found annually along the Niobrara River, almost all of these being downstream from our study area (Gregory Wingfield, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, unpubl. data 1975-1981). On 29 July 1979, the Game and Parks Commission (*op. cit.*, unpubl. data 1979 and in litt. 1982) recorded 7 Least Terns on a sandbar at the mouth of Chimney Creek, within the study area. The survey was

conducted by air and thus no positive evidence of nesting was found. No birds were found at this site during the surveys of 1975, 1978, 1980, 1981, nor 1982.

A colony was discovered at a second site in 1982 by the Game and Parks Commission, 3 km east of Meadville in T32N R21W Sec. 18 E½, at the eastern edge of the study area. Nests were placed on a broad low sandbar ca. 6 ha. in size, bordered on the north by a channel ca 1m deep and 20-50 m wide, and on the south by braided channels 0.2-0.5 m deep and 5-15 m wide. The sandbar was mostly bare, with scattered, stunted *Elocharis*, *Scirpus*, *Salix*, and grasses. We visited the site on 14 July and counted 5 active nests with 1, 2, 2, 2, and 3 eggs respectively, and at least one old nest. A maximum of 24 adults was seen. On 24 July a more thorough search of the entire sandbar revealed 4 well-feathered chicks unable to fly, one nest with 3 eggs, and one immature flying with a maximum of 14 adults. The site had been trampled by cattle which had evidently approached from the south since our previous visit. This may have caused failure of some Tern and Plover nests. Tracks of raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) and coyote (*Canis latrans*) were also found.



Least Tern nest near Meadville, 14 July 1982.

The **Long-eared Owl** is an uncommon to rare resident in Nebraska. We found this species at 3 sites, all in mixed red cedar and hardwoods. On 12 May a nest was discovered at one of these sites in a dense patch of red cedars beside a stream in T33N R25W Sec. 11, center of E½, Cherry County. The nest was in a 13 m tall red cedar at a height of 9m, and contained 4 eggs. One adult was incubating and the other was perched 40 m away in the same patch of cedars. On 23 June no Owls were found at the site, and the matted nest contained pellets, whitewash, and a dead Grasshopper Sparrow, suggesting that young had fledged.

A few species that have evidently suffered population declines in recent years in the United States were absent or occurred in surprisingly low numbers on our study area, even though suitable breeding habitat apparently occurred. The **Northern Harrier** and **Swainson's Hawk** are Blue List species that were surprisingly rare in our area. Youngworth considered them both "regular summer residents" in our area. We saw only one Harrier during the breeding season (2 June). We saw Swainson's Hawks at only 2 sites, both in the sandhills near wooded canyons. At one of these sites — a recently disced field — adults and young were seen on several occasions and an adult was seen carrying food. The **Short-eared Owl** is on the Blue List and the state special concern list, and was not recorded during our study; a nest was found and photographed on the study area in the late 1960's (Loring Kuhre, pers. comm. 1982). The **Bank Swallow** is

considered of special concern by *American Birds* and was also absent, although it was a regular summer resident along the Niobrara 30-50 years ago (Youngworth 1955).

Several other Blue-listed species were relatively common breeders on the study area, including the **Upland Sandpiper**, **Loggerhead Shrike**, **Dickcissel**, and **Grasshopper Sparrow**. Common species that are on the American Birds special concern list include the **Sharp-tailed Grouse**, **Eastern Screech-Owl**, **Burrowing Owl**, and **Common Nighthawk**.

SUMMARY

We conducted a thorough inventory of breeding birds on a 42,000 ha area along the Niobrara River valley in north-central Nebraska, and documented the abundance and breeding status of many species that are at or near the margins of their breeding range. The data presented here help interpret the results of less intensive surveys of larger areas within the Great Plains (e.g., Short 1961, 1965), and helps define species breeding ranges, many of which are not well understood in Nebraska (e.g., Johnsgard 1979a). Nesting is documented or suggested for 16 eastern, 6 western, 6 northern, and one southern species. Fourteen other "geographically marginal" species which might have been expected were absent from the study area during the nesting season. At least 2 species, Ruby-throated Hummingbird and Yellow-throated Vireo, are present some years and absent in others, suggesting that the range limits of some species may fluctuate in this region.

This study also documented nesting for 6 species that are not near the limits of their breeding range but which are considered rare or declining in Nebraska, or for which very few state breeding records exist. Although several species known to be suffering population declines elsewhere were common nesters on the study area, other of these species were absent or surprisingly rare in apparently suitable habitat on the study area.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We extend our sincere thanks to the local observers and Preserve personnel acknowledged in Brogie and Mossman (1983).

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— **Niobrara Valley Preserve, Rt. 1, Johnstown NE 69214. Present address: (MM) Bureau of Endangered Resources, Department of Natural Resources, Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707; (MB) 1120 Main, Wayne, NE 68787.**

SOME BIRDS OF ANDERSON BRIDGE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA IN CHERRY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Scattered throughout the state there are many wildlife areas owned and managed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Although these public lands are purchased for game management, they provide important habitat for nongame species as well.

Anderson Bridge WMA is located in northcentral Cherry County 5.5 miles south, 2 miles east and 5 miles south of Kilgore. It can be reached by a county road from the north or by sand pathways from the west or through the Nebraska National Forest from the south. This land tract covers 137 acres and includes one mile of river frontage.

Anderson Bridge has several different types of wildlife habitat typical of the Niobrara Valley. This includes a very limited amount of riverine sandbar, riparian woodland on the terrace adjacent to the river, wetlands associated with a small natural lake, ponderosa pine forest on the valley upslope and ridge, and sandhill prairie on a small portion of the upland included on the wildlife area. Just to the south of Anderson Bridge is the vast expanse of the Sandhills with its rolling, grass covered dunes.

During 1982, four visits were made to this area. They were on 5-7 May, 6-7 July, 19 August, and 29 September. During these visits a variety of nongame birds were noted during hikes around the state land plus a few other species that were seen in the immediate vicinity. The bird list has letters included with each species that refers to its status. Codes follow those listed in *American Birds* 36(1):14 with one exception: the check mark has been replaced by the letter S. The definitions of codes listed are:

- O-species observed in area
- S-species observed in suitable habitat during the breeding season
- X-singing male present in suitable habitat during the breeding season
- P-pair observed in suitable habitat during the breeding season
- T-permanent territory
- N-visiting probable nest site
- A-agitated behavior or anxiety calls from adult
- FL-fledged young
- AY-adult attending young
- NE-nest with eggs

Non-passerine birds.

Great Blue Heron, N; Wood Duck, P; Mallard, O; Blue-winged Teal, O; Turkey Vulture, P; Osprey, O; Northern Harrier, S; Sharp-shinned Hawk, AY (an adult was seen carrying food); Swainson's Hawk, S; Red-tailed Hawk, S; American Kestrel, P; Prairie Falcon, O; Ring-necked Pheasant, P; Wild Turkey, P; Northern Bobwhite, X; Sora, X; Killdeer, P; Upland Sandpiper, P; Mourning Dove, P; Black-billed Cuckoo, X; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, X; Eastern Screech Owl, X; Great Horned Owl, X; Burrowing Owl, S; Common Nighthawk, P; Belted Kingfisher, X.

Passerine birds.
 Red-headed Woodpecker, X; Downy Woodpecker, X; Northern Flicker, X; Say's Phoebe, O; Western Kingbird, X; Eastern Kingbird, A; Horned Lark, X; Northern Rough-winged Swallow, X; Barn Swallow, X; Blue Jay, P; American Crow, P; Black-capped Chickadee, X; Red-breasted Nuthatch, O; White-breasted Nuthatch, X; House Wren, ON; Wood Thrush, FL; American Robin, P; Brown Thrasher, X; Loggerhead Shrike, S; Common Yellowthroat, A; Northern

Cardinal, P; Rufous-sided Towhee, X; Chipping Sparrow, AY; Field Sparrow, O; Vesper Sparrow, S; Lark Sparrow, NE; Lark Bunting, P; Savannah Sparrow, O; Grasshopper Sparrow, X; Lincoln's Sparrow, O; Dark-eyed Junco, O; Red-winged Blackbird, NE; Western Meadowlark, A; Common Grackle, P; Brown-headed Cowbird, P; Northern Oriole, P; American Goldfinch, P.

The sixty-three species that were observed at the Anderson Bridge locality help illustrate the variety of nongame birds that can be found on public wildlife lands.

—Jim Ducey, 910 North 49th Street, Omaha, NE 68132

ADDITIONS TO 1982 OCCURRENCE REPORTS

Information on sightings at the North Platte NWR in 1982 provide some additions to the species reported in the Scotts Bluff column, and some expansion of the dates, for both spring and fall reports, and some additions to the state list for the fall report. The North Platte NWR information has been included in the Scotts Bluff column for the last few years. Sherry McCoy was the reporter, and Kevin Brenner, Dan Walsworth, Jim McCole and Mike McCoy were the additional observers.

Spring 1982. The additional species reported were: Common Loon, Ap 16; American White Pelican, Ap 10-My 5; Ruddy Duck, Ap 10-Je 16; Greater Yellowlegs, Ap 16; Spotted Sandpiper, My 5-My 15; Willet, Ap 16; Tree Swallow, Ap 10; White-breasted Nuthatch, Mr 5; Eastern Meadowlark, Ap 10. The expanded dates are shown as Mo x — for an earlier date, — Mo x for a later date, and Mo x — Mo x when both are changed: Horned Grebe, Ap 10-Je 3; Eared Grebe, Ap 10-Je 30; Western Grebe Ap 10-Je 30; Double-crested Cormorant, Ap 10; Black-crowned Night Heron, My 5-Je 16; Canada Goose, W; Wood Duck -Je 30; Green-winged Teal, -Ap 22; Blue-winged Teal, Ap 10; Northern Shoveler, -Je 3; Gadwall, Mr 5-Ap 22; American Wigeon, -My 5; Canvasback, Mr 5-Ap 22; Redhead, Mr 5-Je 3; Common Goldeneye, -Mr 20; Bufflehead, Mr 5; American Coot, Ap 10-Je 30; Long-billed Curlew, My 1-Je 3; Marbled Godwit, Ap 16; Baird's Sandpiper, My 1; Long-billed Dowitcher, Ap 16; Franklin's Gull, Ap 16-S; Herring Gull, -Ap 22; Mourning Dove, Mr 20; Western Kingbird, Ap 16; American Tree Sparrow, -My 5; Clay-colored Sparrow, My 1; Dark-eyed Junco, -My 30. The total number of species reported for Scotts Bluff is increased to 153.

Fall 1982. The following species are added to the state list: Artic Loon, Sp 18; Eared Grebe, Au 5-Ot 14; Trumpeter Swan, Ot 30; Barrow's Goldeneye, No 5-No 26. Species added to the Scotts Bluff list are: Common Loon, Ot 14; Horned Grebe, Sp 18-Ot 30; American White Pelican, Sp 2-Sp 18; Snow Goose No 1-No 23; Green-winged Teal, Ot 1-No 10; Northern Pintail, Ot 1-No 10; Canvasback, No 10; Common Goldeneye, No 26-W; Hooded Merganser, Ot 30; Common Merganser, Sp 18-Dm 30; Red-breasted Merganser, Ot 14; Ruddy Duck, Sp 18-Ot 14; American Coot, Sp 4-Ot 14; Herring Gull, Ot 14-Dm 15. The expanded dates (shown as described above under Spring) are: Pied-billed Grebe, Au 5-No 10; Western Grebe, Au 5-No 10; Double-crested Cormorant -Ot 14; Wood Duck, -No 10; Northern Shoveler, Sp 2-Ot 30; Gadwall -No 10; American Wigeon, Sp 2; Redhead, Sp 2-No 10; Ring-necked Duck, Sp 18; Lesser Scaup, -Ot 30; Bald Eagle, No 10; Sandhill Crane, Ot 10-No 10; Northern Shrike, Ot 14; Loggerhead Shrike, -Sp 18; American Tree Sparrow, Ot 5.

These changes increase the species total for the state to 274, and the Scottsbluff total to 142.

NOTES

SANDHILL CRANE TRIP. About 30 or so went out to the blind on the Mormon Island Crane Meadows before dawn on 2 April. But not enough before dawn to allow the last of the party to see the Sandhill Cranes before they took off from their roost in the river. But all could see in the sky the huge flocks that took off from other sections of the river. Some went back to the blind before the Cranes came in to roost that night and got to see them settle in for the night. Many other birds were seen from the blind and in trips over the surrounding country, but there was no effort to compile a list of what was seen.

BIRD BANDING RETURNS. On 28 February 1981 I banded 225 Purple Finches at the home of Melba Wigg, in western Sarpy Co. One of these birds, number 950/50269, was recovered on 20 April 1981 in Yorktown, Saskatchewan, Canada. In May of 1982 (15 months later) number 950/50271 was recovered in Rosewater, Minnesota. I banded an American Goldfinch, number 1580/25459, in my yard on 13 December 1981. On 3 July, 1982, this bird was recovered in Oak River, Manitoba, Canada.

—Ruth Green, 506 W. 31st Avenue, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005

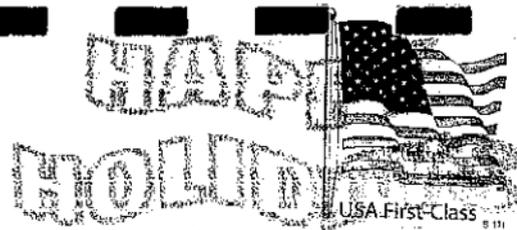
THE NIOBRARA



Friends of the Niobrara
9200 W. Fletcher Ave.
Malcolm, NE 68402

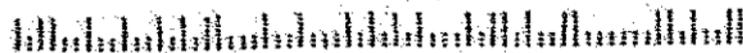
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Ann Bleed, Director
Dept. of Natural Resources
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68508

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THE NIOBRARA



Keep it Scenic

Friends of the Niobrara, Inc.

Friends of the Niobrara, Inc.
9200 West Fletcher Avenue
Malcolm, NE 68402

December 4, 2007

Ms. Ann Bleed
Director, Dept. of Natural Resources
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Director Bleed:

Friends of the Niobrara is a citizens' organization that is interested in the natural beauty and environmental integrity of the Niobrara River and river valley. Our organization is a successor to Save The Niobrara River Association and as such, we have been involved in land and water issues on the Niobrara for the past 30+ years.

We thank you and the Department of Natural Resources for declaring part of the Niobrara basin as fully appropriated. We urge you to make that determination permanent.

The Niobrara is the most beautiful of all Nebraska rivers; its waters do not belong to any individual or organization, but to all of us. The Congress of the United States has seen fit by way of the Niobrara's inclusion into the National Scenic Rivers category, to give it national recognition and significance. With its flows intact, it will continue to be the lifeblood of north central Nebraska. It has been aptly called the "Jewel of the North."

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your consideration. We would welcome the chance to participate in any integrated management efforts.

Sincerely,

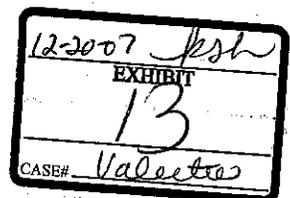
Mel Thornton
Mel Thornton, President

RONT

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DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES



O-Jen S.
RONT

Schramm Association for a Viable Environment (SAVE)

A non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the natural environment surrounding Schramm State Park to benefit wildlife, landowners, and the citizens who visit the area.

19506 S. Hwy 31 Gretna, NE 68028 * 402-332-3894

November 25, 2007

Ann S. Bleed, Director
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE

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DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Dear Ann,

We are concerned about the decision you will soon make about the annual hydrologic status of the lower Platte River basin. Our nonprofit organization, Schramm Association for a Viable Environment (SAVE), is a grassroots group that formed in response to unsustainable urban sprawl into the Platte River valley in southern Sarpy County.

For three years our county officials have openly favored developers and the political pressure behind them. The most notable project is the proposed Pflug Road I-80 interchange (essentially where the Holy Family Shrine sits). A number of our decision makers stand to significantly benefit from this interchange. Further, we have been extremely disappointed with the Papio Missouri River NRD; it was very difficult to get them to even support our efforts to enforce stormwater management plans.

We are aware of the political pressure you face in making this decision. In fact, some of the individuals who stand to benefit from the Pflug Rd. interchange are backing the phony coalition that is forming to discredit the Nebraska Game & Parks Biological Opinion. These developers will be behind this challenge because large scale commercial/industrial development in the Platte River floodplain will require large withdrawals from the aquifer.

Enclosed are copies of "fact sheets" that the coalition is disseminating. They are only half true. The coalition attorneys' state: "until a new in stream flow right is obtained, the Basin cannot be declared fully appropriated unless one of the factors established by the Legislature is triggered." First, Federal ESA trumps state law and secondly, we can see nothing in the State ESA that says habitat, in this case water, for endangered species should not be protected.

The peer reviewed Biological Opinion is the most recent and comprehensive data available at this time. It was supported and taxpayer-funded by the same organizations that are now trying to discredit the results. Additionally, the coalition has not identified other scientific studies to dispute the BiOp. Therefore, what other conclusion can be drawn other than that the Basin IS already more than fully appropriated.

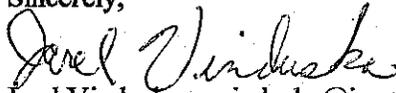
It would be a shame to see the lower Platte degraded to the same extent that the middle Platte has become. We encourage you to focus on the research, keep the periods of low flow in mind, and resist the political pressure sure to come from the coalition.

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We understand that you have made a preliminary decision that the basin is not fully appropriated. We hope that you will reconsider this when making your final determination, especially in light of the recently completed Game & Parks biological opinion of the status of the endangered species, whose survival depends on the viability of the river ecosystem.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this in greater detail. Feel free to contact SAVE Chairman Jarel Vinduska (332-3894) at your convenience. We are also looking forward to the opportunity to participate in the public hearings that you plan to hold, please notify us about these meetings when more information is available.

Sincerely,



Jarel Vinduska, mvinduska@juno.com

Kimberly Stuhr, Kimberlystuhr13@yahoo.com

Connie Anderson, Clanderson2253@aol.com

John Knapp, jknapp@agristar.com

Enclosures:

- Fact Sheet Lower Platte River Biological Opinion (draft)
- Fact Sheet 2007 Preliminary Determination that the Lower Platte River Basin is Not Fully Appropriated

FACT SHEET¹

DRAFT LOWER PLATTE RIVER BIOLOGICAL OPINION

Purpose: The Draft Biological Opinion, dated 9/26/2007 ("Draft BiOp"), was prepared by the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission ("G&P") to analyze whether the issuance of additional surface water appropriations in the Lower Platte River Basin below Columbus ("Basin"), Nebraska, is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the pallid sturgeon, interior least tern, and piping plover (collectively, "Protected Species"), species protected under the Nebraska Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-801 to -811 ("Nebraska ESA").

Conclusion: G&P concludes the issuance of any additional surface water appropriations in the Basin will impair "essential habitat" of the Protected Species, and therefore will likely cause jeopardy to the Protected Species. The Draft BiOp lacks any scientific analysis to support the assumption that impacts to "essential habitat" will necessarily cause jeopardy.

Effect on Appropriations: It is G&P's position that, because of the conclusions in the Draft BiOp, the Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") cannot issue new surface water appropriations in the Basin without violating the Nebraska ESA. As a practical matter, DNR should consult with G&P on a case-by-case basis to determine whether a specific application for a new appropriation is still likely to cause jeopardy after considering any proposed mitigation measures.

Effect on Ground Water: Natural Resource Districts ("NRD") are exempt from the Nebraska ESA's consultation requirement. As such, the only avenue for G&P to regulate ground water for Protected Species is through the integrated management plan ("IMP") process. That is the end result G&P is striving for through the Draft BiOp. The avenue G&P should pursue to provide flows for Protected Species is to file for a new instream flow right. Instead, G&P is seeking to obtain the flows it believes are necessary for the Protected Species through the IMP process.²

Effect on Economic Growth: G&P concludes in the Draft BiOp that the Platte River's current hydrograph must be maintained. This creates significant difficulties for future growth because, for example, irrigation water (used two months out of the year) could not be transferred (or used to offset) municipal or industrial uses (used 12 months out of the year) because the transfer would alter the current hydrograph.

¹ This Fact Sheet was prepared on behalf of the Lower Platte Basin Coalition for the benefit of its members.

² There are significant technical and procedural issues with the Draft BiOp, but discussion of those issues is outside the scope of this Fact Sheet.

FACT SHEET¹

2007 Preliminary Determination that the Lower Platte River Basin is Not Fully Appropriated

2007 Preliminary Determination: On October 17, 2007, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") issued her preliminary decision, based upon the available information, that the Lower Platte River Basin ("Basin") is not fully appropriated. The preliminary determination included a notice that public hearings will be held on or before January 14, 2008, to receive additional information and comments from the public, and a final decision will be made on or before February 14, 2008.

Factors Considered in the Annual Review: The Legislature limited the factors to be considered by the Director in performing the annual evaluation on the hydrologic status of the Basin. Under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-713(3), the following factors can be considered by the Director: (a) sufficiency of streamflows to sustain existing appropriations over the long term; (b) sufficiency of streamflows to sustain ground water use dependent on recharge from streamflows; or (c) sufficiency of streamflows to maintain compliance with interstate compacts, other formal state contracts, or applicable state or federal laws.

Hydrologic Status of the Basin: The Director's preliminary determination concludes (based on the factors above) that the streamflows in the Basin are sufficient to sustain existing appropriations and ground water use dependent on recharge from streamflows over the long term. Nebraska Game & Parks Commission ("G&P") staff are pressuring the Director to declare the Basin fully appropriated based on the streamflow needs of certain species protected under the Nebraska Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act, §§ 37-801 to -811 ("Nebraska ESA"). If the Director does consider such impacts, the streamflow needs projected by G&P will likely require that the Basin be declared fully appropriated.

Consideration of Impacts to Fish and Wildlife: The Legislature specifically excluded consideration of environmental impacts, including impacts to fish and wildlife, from the annual decision on the hydrologic status of a basin, although the Director is authorized to include such information in the report "for informational purposes only." Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-713(1)(c). Absent an appropriation (i.e., an instream flow right), the streamflow needs of species protected under the Nebraska ESA are not relevant to the decision on a basin's hydrologic status and should not be considered except "for informational purposes only." Until a new instream flow right is obtained, the Basin cannot be declared fully appropriated unless one of the factors established by the Legislature is triggered.²

¹ This Fact Sheet was prepared on behalf of the Lower Platte Basin Coalition for the benefit of its members.

² It should be noted that G&P has an instream flow right in the Lower Platte River for fish and wildlife. The needs of the species, therefore, have been considered at least with regarding to the existing instream flow right. That right, however, is not sufficient to protect the species in the eyes of G&P.