

These are the first records for Denver, judging by published records, and the writer's experience; the Denver List, mentioned above, gave 187 species and subspecies. The present additions swell the list to 199.

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#### THE LONG-BILLED MARSH WRENS OF NEBRASKA

Long-billed Marsh Wrens (*Telmatodytes palustris* subsp.) occur very commonly in suitable localities over practically the whole of Nebraska, at least as migrants. At Lincoln they arrive in early to middle April (April 6, 1913; April 14, 1917), become numerous during latter April and early May, and pass on by the middle of May (May 12, 1918; May 13, 1917). Early in September they again appear (Sept. 2, 1919; Sept. 8, 1908), become numerous later in that month, and then mostly pass on, a few lingering until late October (Oct. 23, 1909). This status is typical for this species over the greater part of southern Nebraska, except that in very favorable localities a pair may now and then remain to nest (cf. Tout, *Proc. N. O. U.*, ii, p. 45). In the marshy tracts along the Missouri River these birds nest more commonly, and have been found occasionally nesting near Omaha in June and July (*vide* Samuel Aughey, I. S. Trostler, L. Skow, etc.). About many of the lakes of the Sand-hill Region of Nebraska they now nest abundantly (cf. J. S. Hunter, *Proc. N. O. U.*, ii, p. 83), and formerly did so much farther to the eastward, even to Holt County.

When Ridgway described *T. p. iliacus*, the Prairie Marsh Wren, in 1903, largely restricting the typical Long-billed Marsh Wren, *T. p. palustris*, to the region east of the Alleghenies, our Nebraska Long-billed Marsh Wrens were, of course, all referred in 1904 to the newly differentiated form (*Prelim. Rev. Birds Nebraska*, p. 110).

But as specimens of migrating Long-billed Marsh Wrens were collected at Lincoln from time to time, it became evident that two distinct forms were passing through this locality each spring and fall. The less common of these two forms, apparently present for only a comparatively short period in April and September (April 20-24; Sept. 12-28), has the sides of the back, rump and upper tail coverts ochraceous tawny or russet, with the sides and flanks cinnamon buff, and obviously represents *T. p. iliacus* Ridgway. But the more common form has the sides of the back, rump and upper tail coverts darker and less reddish, about cinnamon brown, and the sides and flanks deep wood brown, thus agreeing in coloration with *T. p. palustris* (Wilson). This form is known to arrive in latter April and lingers into May, then reappears in early September and remains until late October or early November (April 29-May 6; Sept. 8-Oct. 23, or Nov. 2).

However, since Ridgway in 1904 gave the range of *T. p. palustris*

as "chiefly east of the Allegheny Mountains, west to western New York and Pennsylvania," and that of *T. p. iliacus* as from western Indiana westward over the prairies and plains, which distribution was practically confirmed by the A. O. U. Committee in 1910, it seemed highly unlikely that our common form of this species could be *palustris*, yet obviously they were different from *iliacus*. To answer this question a small series of specimens of each form was sent to Dr. Oberholser for opinion, and he has returned all of the lighter birds marked "*iliacus*" and the darker ones marked "*palustris*," meaning, no doubt, that under the currently recognized subspecies the Nebraska birds should be thus referred. This will make *T. p. palustris* an addition to the list of the birds of the state.

It must be noted, however, that Nebraska "*palustris*" have on the average a slightly longer wing and tail and a distinctly shorter culmen than typical *palustris* as defined by Ridgway, and also that Nebraska "*iliacus*" have a shorter culmen than the measurements of *iliacus* given by Ridgway, though in other measurements they are practically the same. Thus the supposed slight differences in size between the two forms practically disappear so far as Nebraska specimens are concerned, as the following table will show:

					Depth of		
" <i>palustris</i> "		Length	Wing	Tail	Cul.	Bill	Tar.
Lincoln, Nebr., May 6, 1919	♂ Ad. 125	53.0	45.0	13.0	3.1	19.5	
Lincoln, Nebr., Sept. 23, 1919	♂ Ad. 122	53.0	42.0	13.5	3.5	20.0	
Lincoln, Nebr., Apr. 29, 1916	♂ Ad. 119	52.5	45.5	14.2	3.4	19.0	
Lincoln, Nebr., May 5, 1917	♂ Ad. 126	52.0	43.0	13.4	3.0	20.0	
Nebr. City, Nebr., Nov. 2, 1901	♂ Ad. 120	51.0	39.0	12.0	3.0	18.5	
Lincoln, Nebr., Sept. 8, 1908	♂ Ad. 122	50.0	41.0	12.0	3.0	18.5	
Average of 6 ♂♂:		122	51.9	42.6	13.0	3.1	19.0
" <i>iliacus</i> "		Length	Wing	Tail	Cul.	Bill	Tar.
Havelock, Nebr., Apr. 20, 1901	♂ Ad. 127	54.0	47.0	13.1	3.0	19.0	
Lincoln, Nebr., Sept. 28, 1901	♂ Ad. 127	52.5	46.5	13.0	3.0	18.5	
Lincoln, Nebr., Apr. 24, 1903	♂ Ad. 120	52.5	43.8	13.0	3.3	18.5	
Lincoln, Nebr., Sept. 12, 1902	♂ Ad. 117	51.5	42.0	13.0	3.2	18.0	
Lincoln, Nebr., Sept. 12, 1902	♂ Ad. 117	51.5	42.0	13.0	3.2	18.0	
Average of 5 ♂♂:		122	52.5	44.3	13.0	3.1	18.5
Measurements of adult ♂♂ given by Ridgway:							
<i>T. p. palustris</i>							
	Length	Wing	Tail	Culmen			
	103-117.5 (110)	48-54 (50.6)	38.5-46.5 (41.4)	14-15.5 (14.7)			
<i>T. p. iliacus</i>							
	110-127.5 (116.1)	49.5-56 (52.3)	40.5-46.5 (43.6)	13-15.5 (14.4)			
Measurements of adult Nebraska ♂♂:							
Nebraska " <i>palustris</i> "							
	119-126 (122)	50-53 (51.9)	39-45.5 (42.6)	12-14.2 (13.0)			
Nebraska " <i>iliacus</i> "							
	117-127 (122)	51.5-54 (52.5)	42-47 (44.3)	13-13.1 (13.0)			

It is not known which form is the local breeder, as unfortunately no specimens of breeding birds are at hand to determine this point. Very likely some future reviser of the Long-billed Marsh Wrens may work out more accurately the breeding ranges of the several subspecies, and may possibly separate our Nebraska "*palustris*" from the *palustris* defined by Ridgway.

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#### THE SUBSPECIES OF NEBRASKA SAVANNAH SPARROWS

Nebraska ornithologists have recognized since 1896 that two subspecies of the Savannah Sparrow migrated through the state, but there has been much confusion as to the distribution of the two subspecies, due largely to faulty identifications.

In 1904 the data at hand was interpreted to indicate that *P. s. savanna* was an abundant migrant over eastern Nebraska, west to about the 99th meridian, arriving in late March or early April, mostly passing northward to breed, but occasionally to be seen in the state during the summer and possibly breeding, and again migrating through eastern Nebraska in October; while *P. s. alaudinus* was regarded as migrating over the entire state and possibly breeding westwardly, its dates being about the same as those of *P. s. savanna* (*Prelim. Rev. Birds Nebraska*, pp. 85-86).

In 1910, however, Dr. Joseph Grinnell divided the former subspecies *alaudinus*, restricting that name to the birds breeding in "the vast interior of northwestern North America, from Bering Sea and Kotzebue Sound to the Mackenzie region," while the birds breeding in the Great Basin he named *P. s. nevadensis* (*Univ. Cal. Pubs. Zoölogy*, v. pp. 311-318). This subspecies was accepted by the A. O. U. Committee in 1912. In 1915 Dr. L. B. Bishop showed that the birds breeding in North Dakota and wintering in Texas were also *nevadensis* (*Condor*, xvii, pp. 186-187). This led to the suspicion, which was confirmed by a study of specimens, that probably the birds we had been calling *alaudinus* were really *nevadensis*.

To make the point certain, a series of skins was sent to Dr. H. C. Oberholser for naming. In this series were sixteen skins from southeastern Nebraska, mostly from the vicinity of Lincoln, and of these Dr. Oberholser returned two marked *savanna* and fourteen marked *nevadensis*. In our entire series of twenty-nine specimens from eastern Nebraska, five are *savanna* and twenty-four *nevadensis*. This proportion may be regarded as representing fairly accurately the relative abundance of these two subspecies during migrations along the 97th meridian in Nebraska. The dates on the specimens of *nevadensis* are March 22, April 5, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24 and 28, May 1, September 10 and 14, October 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 19 and November 2, there being two with dates October 10, 16 and 19 and three with the date October 14. The five specimens of