

## Note

SECOND RECORD OF FULVOUS WHISTLING DUCK FOR NORTH DAKOTA — On 14 July 1979 we were on Stewart's Slough Waterfowl Production Area in Grand Forks County (Sections 23, 24, 25 and 26; T.153N, R.52W.) when a pair of waterfowl with flight profiles atypical of North Dakota birds flushed from the edge of a semipermanent wetland. Additional observations by ourselves and others confirmed that these birds exhibited all of the field marks of Fulvous Whistling Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*). At least four individuals were present in July and observations were made weekly, the last of one bird on 2 September 1979. Photographs and details of the observations have been placed in the files of the North Dakota Ornithological Records Committee. The only other published record for this species in North Dakota is of two males captured in a banding operation at J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuge on 25 September 1975 (Jones, L. A. 1976. Fulvous Tree Duck in North Dakota. *Prairie Nat.* 8: 58).

Fulvous Whistling Ducks are established breeders along the coast of California, Texas and Louisiana and are generally thought to winter in Mexico. F. C. Bellrose (1976. Ducks, geese, and swans of North America. Stackpole Books, Harrisburg, PA.) has reviewed the enigmatic wanderings of this species and especially takes note of the large numbers of birds of unknown origin which began to appear along the Atlantic Coast in the mid-1950s. The species is now known to breed locally from Florida to North Carolina (Peterson, R. T. 1980. *A Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.) and a review of seasonal reports in *American Birds* reveals a number of recent records for spring through fall in many northern states and Canadian provinces across the continent.

According to Bellrose, Fulvous Whistling Ducks probably pair for life and breeding may occur at one year of age. Therefore, the occurrence of Fulvous Whistling Ducks at Stewart's Slough from at least mid-July to early September suggests the possibility of breeding. The birds appeared to be strongly paired during the first few weeks of observations — they were observed swimming as pairs in open water and they also rose, flew, and landed strictly as pairs when flushed from the seasonal and semipermanent wetlands they frequented. On three visits, the last on 29 July, the two pair were separated from each other by more than one kilometer. By mid-August, however, the ducks were generally found as single birds. We were unable to obtain any definite evidence of breeding. — David O. Lambeth and Greg S. Lambeth, 1909 20th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND 58201.