

MACALESTER COLLEGE

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55105

■ DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Ordway Bulletin No. 43

Subject: "The BLUE LIST" at ORDWAY - An Update.

In January, 1972 (Ordway Bulletin No. 1) we listed the names of those bird species at Ordway which are included on "The Blue List" published by the National Audubon Society. This is a sort of "early warning" list of species which are declining in numbers, either throughout their range or in some parts thereof.

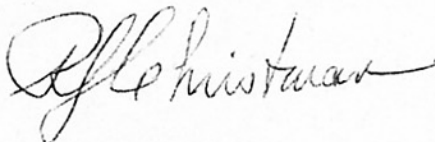
It is a happy development to compare the 1976 list with that of 1972 and to observe that two delightful songbirds (the Eastern Bluebird and the House Wren) along with one wading-bird (Great Blue Heron) have been removed from the list, indicating a good improvement in their populations. We have observed a considerable increase in both the song species here at Ordway, particularly in numbers of juvenile birds.

The balance of the list remains, viz. Black-crowned Night Heron and Red-headed Woodpecker; an addition is the Yellow Warbler, which is less evident in its nesting activities here and indeed in other portions of its range. The Common Nighthawk, too, is on the list although apparently in no great danger in most of its range; however, its appearances at Ordway are noticeably on the decline the past two seasons.

Repeating the current list for Ordway:

Black-crowned Night Heron  
Red-headed Woodpecker  
Yellow Warbler  
Common Nighthawk.

These are the birds we will be paying special attention to in the next few years. Perhaps Ordway's populations will reflect differences from the declines observed elsewhere.



R J CHRISTMAN,  
Naturalist,  
Katharine Ordway Natural  
History Study Area.

August 2, 1976