

forgot everything else and spent his time decorating the trunks with gold and jewels”.

Professor Edgar T. Wherry assisted in editing the translation, and when he opines on the dust cover that the book “is a must for the library of every tree enthusiast”, this reviewer is inclined to agree.

J. S. ROWE

Department of Forestry and Rural Development
Ottawa, Ontario

Whooping Crane Population Dynamics on the Nesting Grounds, Wood Buffalo National Park, Northwest Territories, Canada.

By N. S. NOVAKOWSKI. Canadian Wildlife Service Report Series, No. 1. Queen's Printer, Ottawa. 1966. 16 photographs, 5 tables, 2 maps, 20 pp. \$.50.

The first of this series of the Canadian Wildlife Service publications, on the whooping crane (*Grus americana*), is a fitting subject and Nick Novakowski, who has flown for 10 of the 12 summers regularly over the nesting grounds, is the logical author and he has done an excellent job.

The known breeding distribution today is along the Sass (where this study was made) and the Klewi rivers, Wood Buffalo National Park, Canada. By Ekman dredge samples made from the helicopter, in the feeding potholes, it was found that the pH of favorite ponds was 7.6-8.3, unused ponds, 7.2-7.3 and food items available, naiads of dragon-fly, larvae of caddis-fly, chironomid and may-fly, and the amphipod *Hyaella aztica* and others, probably used less often, several snails, the wheel snail and pill clam.

From temperature and precipitation records he concluded that during drier summers the whooping crane had better survival of chicks. Thirty-two of 40 hatched, survived until fall departure from 72 eggs (44.4%) but during the 12

year study, 36 adults and 9 young have been lost. However, the original 24 birds of 1954 has advanced to 38 in September 1966. The breeding adult population is nearly the same in 1966 as in 1954. But there were years when pairs disappeared, new ones reappearing later years, and one year, 1962, he found no indication of nesting at all. Four nests were found in 1955 and five in 1964 and 1965. Yet 29 other chicks were raised in some unknown region indicating an almost equal breeding population, a total of ten to 12 breeding pairs in all. Forty-six actual nests or parents with downy chicks were observed. All were built in shallow water, of and amongst rushes (*Scirpus validus*), contained two eggs, and placed back away from spruces.

Because of the high loss of birds, when parents leave them the first spring, and later, Novakowski considers the prognosis of the species as poor. I feel he is right but an increase from 24 to 38 birds in 12 years, could in another 25 years, with favourable conditions and breeding solitudes available, produce a substantial population. Both other white cranes by protection have increased considerably during recent years.

We thank the Canadian Wildlife Service for their fine work on this species and for bringing out this worth-while attractive publication.

L. H. WALKINSHAW

819 North Avenue
Battle Creek
Michigan 49017

North American Birds Eggs

By CHESTER A. REED. Revised edition 1965. General Publishing Co., Don Mills, Toronto. 51 plates, 566 photos of eggs. xii + 372 pp. Paperbound \$3.45.

This book was first published in 1904 and has long been out of print. It has now been reprinted, with considerable revision, by Dover Publications. For each



Walkinshaw, Lawrence H. 1967. "Whooping Crane Population Dynamics on the Nesting Grounds, Wood Buffalo National Park, Northwest Territories, Canada, by N. S. Novakowski [Review]." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 81(3), 213–213. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.342778>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/90098>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.342778>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/342778>

Holding Institution

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

Sponsored by

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.