

EASTERN SCREECH-OWL NEAR YORKTON

This Eastern Screech-Owl was photographed on section 3-T26-R2-W2nd in December 1985. (About 11 mi. e Yorkton, Saskatchewan)

It is sitting on an evergreen sunning itself. It shows up fairly regularly in this farmyard and spends the whole day sitting in the sun and out of the wind apparently sleeping

I waved my arms, clapped my hands, jumped up and down and yelled but it never once opened its eyes for a picture

The day this picture was taken the thermometer was in the low 20's [°F] and I imagine you all know how cold fingers can get while operating a camera. I froze three finger tips which peeled until mid-January, but I did get a bunch of pretty good slides. This photograph was taken with Ektachrome 64 film and a 500 mm Tamron mirror lens

To the best of my knowledge this is the most northerly record of a Screech-Owl in Saskatchewan. — *Warren Hjertaas*, 510 Circlebrooke Drive, Yorkton, Saskatchewan. S3N 2Y3



Eastern Screech-Owl Warren Hjertaas

EDITOR'S NOTE: The color photograph shows the owl is a red phase Eastern Screech-Owl. The red phase does not occur in the Western Screech-Owl, although some are brownish. The Western Screech-Owl also usually has a dark bill whereas that of the Eastern is usually pale. The bird in the photograph has a pale yellowish bill. In the late 70s a screech-owl was recorded at McBride Lake, Saskatchewan, which is about 100 mi. n Yorkton.

INFORMATION WANTED — WHOOPING CRANE SIGHTINGS

The Canadian Wildlife Service is establishing a reporting and monitoring program to document Whooping Crane stopovers in the prairies during spring and fall migration. This information will help the C.W.S. to identify, describe and protect critical habitat.

Anyone who suspects that they have seen a Whooping Crane is asked to call the **Whooping Crane Hot Line** at (306) 975-5595 (a 24-hour answering service).

For more information, please contact: **Brian W. Johns, Canadian Wildlife Service, 115 Perimeter Road, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. S7N 0X4**