

Ferruginous Hawk). Herriot's Ferruginous Hawk hovering over a nest is just anatomically impossible. Most of the drawings could have been much reduced. This would have provided space to remedy the annoying separation of species account lead from the body of the text — this happens 14 times. Although only a minor distraction when the text follows on the page opposite, in 10 instances the species name sits alone at the bottom of a page, with the text appearing overleaf. This curious fault should have been caught by the layout people. Despite the usual intensive search for typos, I found only three, none of significance (one, p. 271, two, p. 306); someone worked hard! The author was able to incorporate the latest name changes, not an easy task in these days of nomenclatural shifting. I noted one small slip in this connection — in the discussion of hybrid flickers (p. 44) the names used don't jibe with the names given in the species accounts. And I take it that the omission of the title "Pigeons" for the aptly descriptive poem on p. 181 is another small slip.

This book provides information on geology, topography, ecology, history, conservation, land use, etc. — it is much more than a bird book. The 19 maps will aid anyone seeking access to the Elbow country; Roy's numerous polite reminders to respect landowner's right should benefit all concerned. With its many fine features, *Birds of the Elbow* sets a fine example, whether as a regional report, a provincial or state bird book. It fills a large gap in the ornithology of the Northern Great Plains. It's a lot of book for the money. Well done, Frank!

- Reviewed by *Robert W. Nero*, 546 Coventry Road, Winnipeg, MB. R3R 1B6

MY LITTLE BOOK OF BURROWING OWLS

HOPE IRVIN MARSTON, illustrated by Maria Magdalena Brown. 1995. Published by NorthWood Press, Inc. \$8.00 (Available at *Blue Jay Bookshop*)

Ms. Marston's book brings the reader through the arrival of a Burrowing Owl pair settling on the prairies for the summer. The story follows the owls as they prepare their summer nest, and raise a family on the prairie grassland. The reader is taken into the lives of the owls, and is given a description of some of the dangers the young owls face as they grow up.

Bright, eye-catching illustrations by Maria Magdalena Brown accompany Ms. Marston's simple story. Despite minor inaccuracies (i.e. the Burrowing Owls are depicted with feathered legs when, in actuality, their legs are bare), the book captures the engaging mannerisms of the endangered owls. The prairie grasses and flowers in the landscape are drawn with beautiful detail. The simple story, and colourful illustrations should appeal to any child more eager to look than listen!

- Reviewed by *Neeru Verma*

THE WHOOPING CRANE

JEROME J. PRATT. 1996. Rose Printing Co., Inc. Tallahassee, Florida, U.S.A. 171 pp. \$17.95. (Available from *Castle Rock Publishing, 1712 Pine Woods Road, Prescott, Arizona, USA 86301*)

The back cover of this soft-cover book proclaims that aviculturists, biologists, zookeepers and government officials were responsible for the success in the recovery efforts for the Whooping Crane. The