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## EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE NEST IN SOUTHEASTERN SASKATCHEWAN

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On the morning of 21 June 2008, I carefully identified a female Eastern Wood-Pewee building a nest at a former provincial picnic site in the Souris Valley along Highway #9. It was hovering to pick dry tops of brome grass (*Bromus* sp.) and then returned to integrate this material into the rim of the nearly completed nest. The nest was 'saddled' on the larger branch of a large Green Ash (*Fraxinus pensylvanica*) within a mature grove of Box Elder (*Acer negundo*) and American Elm (*Ulmus americanus*) with an open understory. The male called sporadically nearby.

These were two of five Eastern Wood-Pewees recorded that day along the route from Roche Percee to Hwy #9. I saw another pair interact at the former Roche Percee Provincial Recreation Site and a single bird calling 5.5 km to the east at Longney's Crossing.

This species is a resident in smaller numbers in the riparian areas along

the Souris River including the specific area of this nest. Other general areas where I and others have observed this species include Moose Mountain Provincial Park, the eastern Qu'Appelle Valley, Good Spirit Provincial Park and Duck Mountain Provincial Park. There have also been scattered reports from several other locations.

Alan R. Smith describes the Eastern Wood-Pewee as 'a rare but regular summer resident in mature deciduous forests' mainly in the Southeastern area.<sup>2</sup> Although it has long been accepted as a possible/probable breeding species, this is apparently the first nest record of a species that was first observed in Saskatchewan by Ernest Thompson Seton at Runnymede on 14 June 1884.<sup>1</sup>

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②  
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R's Geese interrupted  $\bar{c}$  SNOWS, & "evanescent" - you see them definitely & (1-3 ps) & then loose them among the SNOWS again, espec. when they head down to feed. Juv. muchly whiter than SNOWS overall, & "run" abt. feeding, as if chasing running insects (maybe they were). Adults more 'static'



Ross' Geese adults smaller & "baby" headed. (than SNOWS)

Juveniles are quite white overall & soft gray patches on crown (like Canada Goshawk) neck, 'yoke', scapulas.

Paul Genapley ©

Snow geese Juv.



Snow geese

Aug 03/02



Paul Geoffrey ©

Wind-created  
"Antennae Nutteran"



fur still wet  
& spikey

Mink carrying dead  
Mallard

2-3 wk old 48  
Tiger & 2 Sambar

Just like a Tiger & jumped up among rocks.

X neck of pool & jumped with rock.

swam to gauge jump (20")

partly under overhang

disappeared (hidden from view)



3  
Oct 16/02



ad. Blues + Snows  
frequently stand to atten  
& you think there's an alarm  
but gradually it dawns that  
they are maintaining their  
personal/family 'zones'  
& you see quick confrontations &  
submissions, sometimes scrambles  
but only for 4 feet  
or so, out of 'zone'

Blue Geese

Juvs. overall  
brownish gray.  
Head + neck - sooty - looked like had been

When a big fast truck came by,  
geese would walk hurriedly away  
from rd. (maybe 50 yds off)

2-4 ygs.  
more or less loosely follow ads.  
feeding, & leave watchout  
to them.

struck in  
spot

Paul Grogan ©

Juvs. leggy look



Juv. dk legs      ad. pink legs.

The whole flock feeds  
gradually walking forward & wards  
into wheat stubble, some fly into  
it.