

---

January 1979

## Papers of the Symposium on the Eastern Population of the Greater Sandhill Crane

Florida Field Naturalist

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/ffn>

---

### Recommended Citation

Florida Field Naturalist (1979) "Papers of the Symposium on the Eastern Population of the Greater Sandhill Crane," *Florida Field Naturalist*. Vol. 7 : Iss. 2 , Article 19.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/ffn/vol7/iss2/19>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in Florida Field Naturalist by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@usf.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@usf.edu).

Three appendices enhance the value of this publication. The first lists scientific names of non-avian organisms, the second lists Grady County voucher specimens, museum catalog numbers, and date of collection and the third includes results of Christmas Bird Counts conducted by Stoddard at Sherwood Plantation for 29 consecutive years (1937-1965).

This is a publication you will want to keep close at hand to dip into whenever you have the chance. Open it anywhere and start reading; you will quickly find something of interest. Ornithologists in the southeast are indebted to the editors and to Tall Timbers for publishing the work.—FRED E. LOHRER.

**Papers of the symposium on the eastern population of the Greater Sandhill Crane.**—Robert D. Feldt, compiler. 1977 (1978). Indianapolis, Indiana, Indiana Chapter of the Wildlife Society. 123 pp. \$5.00 c/o Duane L. Shroufe, Division of Fish & Wildlife, 607 State Office Bldg., Indianapolis, IN 46204.—The eastern population of the Greater Sandhill Crane, *Crus canadensis tabida*, breeds in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ontario and Manitoba, and so far as is known all or most of these birds winter in Florida and southern Georgia. Greater Sandhills reached a low ebb in 1944 when Walkinshaw (1949, The Sandhill Crane. Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Cranbrook Inst. Sci. Bull. 29) estimated that the total population in the Lake states was less than 260 birds. Today the Lake states population is more than 15× that number.

This recent increase has been matched by a renewed interest in the study of this migratory population, as the 18 papers in this symposium (held 24-26 October 1977) indicate. Half of the papers are concerned with the status of Greater Sandhills in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Indiana and Florida. Other subjects include migration, ecology, parasites and diseases, growth and development, behavior, management and future outlook. Unfortunately, little information exists on Eastern Greater Sandhills in Canada where about 70% of the population summers. Hopefully, future conferences on Eastern Greater Sandhills will include information about Canadian populations.

Of special interest to Floridians is Stephen A. Nesbitt's article on the current status and future of the birds in Florida. The current wintering population of Greater Sandhills in Florida is estimated at probably between 12,000 and 15,000, and cranes color-marked in Florida have been reported summering in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Manitoba. Nesbitt suggests that if wintering cranes continue to increase their reliance on agricultural areas corn depredation problems may increase.

Lawrence H. Walkinshaw addresses an important problem, namely what should naturalists eventually do with their unpublished data? Deposit them in a regional institution where they will be protected and still be accessible is his solution.

For those interested in cranes this is an important publication. Much can be learned about these birds, and the papers in this symposium point the way. Florida birders can make an important contribution to our knowledge of Greater Sandhill Cranes in Florida by noting areas of winter concentrations and by being alert for color-marked birds. Finally, share your records with Stephen A. Nesbitt.—FRED E. LOHRER.

**Florida frog calls.**—Richard A. Bradley, producer. 1978. Gainesville, Florida State Museum Associates, Inc. one phonograph disc. \$4.50, (Fla. residents include sales tax.).—A good birder can identify many species of birds by their vocalizations alone, even down to the barely audible "tsuck" of the winter-time Brown Thrasher. Once tuned in to natural sounds, the field naturalist may wish to master identification of frog calls.

This record is "a guide to the commonly heard frogs and toads" of Florida. Although 20 species are included, some important omissions exist that will force the Florida field naturalist to consult other sources. Some species missing from the record, the endangered Pine Barrens treefrog (*Hyla andersoni*) and the river frog (*Rana heckscheri*) of north Florida and the exotic Cuban treefrog (*Osteopilus (Hyla) septentrionalis*) of south Florida, are perhaps hardly more local in Florida