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Pied-billed Grebe consumed by Blue Catfish at Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge, Oklahoma.—We report the first observation of an adult Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) consumed by a blue catfish (*Ictalurus furcatus*). On 11 November 2004, 20:00 CST, a blue catfish was caught by Bill J. Nabors of Madill, Oklahoma in the Cumberland Pool of Lake Texoma within the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge. Mr. Nabors was fishing with spinning tackle, 12-pound test line, and whole shad (*Dorosoma* sp.) for

bait. Following capture of the blue catfish, the angler notified Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation personnel, who brought certified scales to the site and determined the fish to weigh 44.45 kg (138.4 cm length, 100.3 cm girth), making it the new state record; the previous state record was 39.46 kg.

Upon completion of weighing and measuring, the fish was transported alive to the Durant State Fish Hatchery and placed in a holding tank set up for this particular fish. During the morning of 12 November 2004, the fish regurgitated what appeared to be a duck. No one witnessed the regurgitation, but no other fish was in the tank. The bird was partially digested but relatively intact; features such as the bill, feet, and general feather coloration were sufficient to allow identification of the species. The remains of the bird were collected by TMP and returned to Southeastern Oklahoma State University where it was identified as an adult Pied-billed Grebe by DRW. Pied-billed Grebes are listed as common in autumn and occasional in winter at Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge (J. Reasor, pers. comm.). Whether the bird was consumed alive by the catfish or scavenged after it was dead could not be determined.

Predation or consumption of adult Pied-billed Grebes by fish has not been documented prior to this observation (Muller and Storer 1999). Fish have been documented as predators of grebe chicks; northern pike (Esox lucius) are known predators of young Eared Grebes (Podiceps nigricollis; Cullen et al. 1999), Horned Grebes (Podiceps auritus; Stedman 2000), and Red-necked Grebes (Podiceps grisegena; Stout and Nuechterlein 1999). Largemouth bass (Micropterus salmoides) predation on Eared Grebe and Red-necked Grebe chicks also has been documented (Cullen et al. 1999, Stout and Nuechterlein 1999).

While northern lakes provide clear waters that enable sight feeding, southern reservoirs tend to be relatively turbid, making sight feeding difficult for many species, especially benthic species such as catfishes. Blue catfish have been described as opportunistic omnivores (Graham 1999); their diet typically includes aquatic insects, crayfish, fingernail clams, mussels, and fish (Brown and Dendy 1961, Minckley 1962, Perry 1969). In large southern reservoirs such as Lake Texoma, the bulk of the diet of blue catfish is shad (Perry 1969). Pflieger (1997) noted that blue catfish feed on or near the bottom, and in midwater to a lesser extent. Further, it requires a relatively large catfish to consume a bird the size of a grebe. Given these factors, it is not likely that waterfowl make up much of the diet of blue catfish.

Known avian predators of adult Pied-billed Grebes include eagles, falcons, and gulls (Muller and Storer 1999). Other predators of adult Pied-billed Grebes include water moccasin (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*; Leavitt 1957) and American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*; Delany 1986). To the best of the authors' knowledge and a survey of the literature, this is the first documented consumption of an adult Pied-billed Grebe by a blue catfish.

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Least Grebe at Red Slough, McCurtain County. — On the afternoon of 8 September 2004, Susan Hooks, Clay Vanhorn, Jason Nolde, and I were touring Red Slough Wildlife Management Area in extreme southeastern McCurtain County, Oklahoma. While standing on the levee of unit #48 looking at shorebirds and waterfowl, a grebe emerged from under the water