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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

about 13 m in front of us. Immediately noticeable, without optics, was its bright yellow eyes, dark coloration, small size, and small, slender bill. I quickly raised my binoculars and confirmed my first impression that it was indeed a Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*). The bird remained at this location for the next 3 weeks allowing many birders to see and photograph it. During this time, it socialized with a family group of 5 Pied-billed Grebes (*Podilymbus podiceps*). It was seen on several occasions cooperating with the Pied-billed Grebes to herd and corral minnows to feed on. Occasionally, it was found alone or with 1 of the juvenile Pied-billed Grebes. On a couple of occasions, it was heard calling. The bird was last seen at Red Slough on 29 September 2004. This sighting was subsequently accepted by the Oklahoma Bird Records Committee as Oklahoma's first record of Least Grebe (Oklahoma Bird Records Committee, 2004. Date guide to the occurrences of birds in Oklahoma. Fourth Edition. Oklahoma Ornithological Society, Tulsa, Oklahoma).

In Texas, Least Grebes are expanding their range slowly northward, nesting regularly at San Antonio and have also nested in the Austin area. They also are expanding their range up the Gulf Coast on coastal prairies to the Louisiana border with many nesting records. Recent extralimital records include 1 at Burnet, Burnet County, Texas, 2 January 1998; 1 in Washington County, Texas, 14 June — 8 July 2000; and a nesting pair in Freestone County, Texas, 1 June 2004 (M. Lockwood, pers. comm.). This last site is about 256 km from Red Slough. Louisiana has 1 old record from Baton Rouge of a bird collected on 14 December 1947 (V. Remsen, pers. comm.).

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