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NOTES

Bull. Oklahoma Ornithol. Soc. 34:17, 2001
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First nesting records of the Black-bellied Whistling-Duck in southeastern Oklahoma.—Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) were first recorded in Oklahoma in 1983 (Baumgartner and Baumgartner, Oklahoma bird life, Univ. Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1992). In 1999, Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks first nested in Oklahoma, with three records of breeding in Osage, Kingfisher, and Tulsa counties (Kamp and Loyd, *Bull. Oklahoma Ornithol. Soc.* 34:13–17, 2001).

On 23 June 2000, we observed two Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks perched on top of a nest box erected for Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*) on the 1560-ha U. S. Forest Service Red Slough Wetland Reserve Project, 10 km south of Haworth, McCurtain Co., southeastern Oklahoma. On 7 July 2000, Robert A. Bastarache (pers. comm.) inspected a nest box adjacent to the one we observed, and saw a Black-bellied Whistling-Duck exit the box that contained 14 eggs. On 19 July and 1 August 2000, the female was incubating 15 eggs, and on 10 August the nest box held 13 nestlings and two unhatched eggs (Bastarache, pers. comm.). No brood was later seen in the immediate vicinity of the nest box, although on 5 September we observed a family of two adults and 13 flightless young in a previously uncensused area of Red Slough 5 km east of the original nest. There were no natural cavities or nest boxes nearby. However, Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks will at times nest on the ground when suitable cavities are unavailable (Bolen, E. G., The ecology of the Black-bellied Tree Duck in southern Texas, Ph.D. dissertation, Utah State Univ., 1967), and such nesting may have produced some of the 45 flightless young in four family groups (with eight adults) that we observed in the same part of Red Slough on 12 September 2000. On 1 October 2000, we again saw four family groups with six adults and 41 fully feathered immatures. Our final observation of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks at Red Slough in 2000 was of one adult and 16 fully feathered immatures in two family groups on 10 October.—BERLINA A. HECK, 109 Kaye Dr., Broken Bow, OK. 74728 and W. DAVID ARBOUR, 1462 Collin Raye Dr., DeQueen, AR. 71832. Received 25 January 2001, accepted 3 August 2001.