

County region. During 1931 and 1932 a group of us aided Dr. Jesselyn
Van Dyke in his search for nests of warbler birds in Crawford County and
west in the Mack Lake region. Dr. Van Dyke's death in January 1937 many of

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER

Lawrence H. Walkinshaw

During late May 1931, Dr. R.E. Olsen, A.D. Tinker and I went to
Lovells, Crawford County, Michigan for the first time, primarily to
study Kirtland's Warbler (Dendroica Kirtlandii). My mission was to
become acquainted with the bird, to see if it was possible to locate
a nest; and possibly to get some photographs of this very rare bird.

On 30 May I found some 17 singing males; on 31 May a female building
a nest; and later during the summer Richard Olsen and I managed to get
some black and white HITE photographs of the birds feeding young at a second
nest we found on 16 June.

During 1932, I was married so my wife and I visited the Kirtland's
Warbler region again late in May and then found two new colonies, one
just west of Red Oak, Oscoda County; a second one and one-half miles
NE of Lovells in the same region of the present day Muskrat Lake colony.
During the latter part of June I found a nest here and secured some
photographs of a very tame female bird which I also captured and
banded, apparently the first one ever banded.

During 1933 I saw two more Kirtland's Warbler nests and Al Dowding
and I searched for the species across the upper peninsula of Michigan
and through the jack pines in the Spooner, Wisconsin region. We found
no birds in these regions. During 1938 I found three nests 2½ miles
west of Lake Margrethe near Highway 72 where there were many small
jack pines. I had located this colony during mid May, 1937 when I saw
my earliest for the year Male Kirtland's Warbler, on 13 May.

Subsequently I studied the bird in many regions in Crawford, Oscoda,
Montmorency, Presque Isle, Kalkaska and Iosco counties. When the first
count of singing males was made during the summer of 1951, I worked in
Iosco and all the western counties but found birds only in the Iosco

