

Roberts - Spirit Lake & Iowa City

Halbsell's Grebe

One record at Orleans Iowa Sept 9, 1928

Horned Grebe: One in Jackson County, Minn.

~~Caught~~ just across line 4-28-29

Eared Grebe - 1 at Des Moines 4-26-31
1 at Swan Lake, Johnson Co May 2~~2~~ 17, 32
stayed about 2 weeks

9 or 18 at Lily Lake near Amara - May 8, 32

Western Grebe One at Swan Lake Dickinson County
8-8-26

Pied Billed Grebe - no nest but probably bred in
Dickinson County.

White Pelican 4-16-29 - over 100 at Little
Spirit Lake, Dickinson County.

Black Crowned night Heron - Mrs. ^{A.C.} Bringle of
Superior said they bred near there at
Swan Lake, Dickinson County.

Am. Bittern - In Dickinson Co during breeding
season - no nest

Tame Duck - One reported to me. See Wilson Bulletin

Black Duck - One shot by Waugh at Spirit
Lake - seen by us. One at Long Pond.

gadwall - Saw a pair at Little Wall Lake,
near Jewell.

Blue-winged Teal - Breeds in Dickinson Co. + in
slough about 10 mi. east of West Liberty on U.S. No. 6.

Either a scoter or an Oldsquaw was shot at
S. L., fall 1929, + recorded in the Bulletin. (specimen)
(mounted)

N. Red Shouldered Hawk seen ~~some~~ during breeding
season - also fall + winter records

Am. Rough Legged Hawk - 1 at Ia. Cy. Jan. 3, '32
Iowa of Ames, 12-29-'29.

Prairie Chickens boomed near Sioux Valley,
close to Minn. line in Dickinson Co. ^{which we thought to be}
Little Brown Creeper - flocks of about 50 seen
on 4-24 just across the Minn. line. Some ornithologists doubt if they
can be differentiated in the field.

King Rail

Upland Plover - a few every summer at S. L.

Western Sandpiper - There were some
sandpipers at S. L. which we thought were
red enough to be W. S. but didn't
record them as we weren't sure.

Hudsonian godwit - Kubichek collected
a specimen at Swan Lake near Ia. Cy.

(all shore bird records marked "I.C." are
from Swan Lake.)

Forster's or Common Terns were fairly
common at S. L. but only a few times,
under very favorable conditions, did we
think we could distinguish between them,
(See Roberts - p. 5-60, V. 1) and have seen both.

Western Burrowing Owl - 2 colonies near Hartley
Short eared Owl - 1 record just across line
in Minn.

Whip-poor-will - Probably breeds at I.C. - Had
records all summer.

Red-bellied Woodpecker - Breeds at I.C.

Hairy Woodpecker - No nests found

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- Arkansas Kingbird - No I.C. record
Least Flycatcher - A few seen all
summer, probably breeds.
Tree Swallows - Found a nest east of
West Liberty.
Cliff Swallows - 1 colony at Amant
another a few miles from there.
Magpies - several in winters of 1914 + 1921
Tufted Titmouse - Probably breeds at I.C.
House Wren - We examined a good many caught
in our traps at S. L. & all had the tail
markings said to be typical of the Western.
Prairie Marsh Wren - Abundant in
sloughs about S. L. 10 yrs. ago. Found
many nests then. No nesting records
for about 8 yrs.
Short Billed N. W. may breed at S. L.
Wood Thrush - Probably breeds at I.C.
Blue Birds are much more common at
I.C. than at S. L.
Cedar Waxwings - While we saw a few in
the summer, we had no evidence of their
breeding.
Prothonotary Warbler - An unmated male
built a nest in a chicken yard across the
alley from our home, he stayed at 1 or 2 weeks.
Ovenbird - No evidence of nesting.
American Redstart - No record of breeding in
lakes region but often seen here in summer.

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Eastern Meadow Lark - We did not know this birds song when we were at S. L. so we may have missed it. Cardinals had been reported to us at S. L. by observers we could not fully rely upon. It may be there now.

Indigo Bunting - Commonly breeds at I. C.

Towhees much more common at I. C. than at S. L.

Lark Bunting - Saw large numbers at Gitchie Manitow St. Park, 6-5-'27.

Clay colored sparrow breeds at Estherville. Gambel's Sparrows often came to our traps.

Song Sparrows heard all summer at I. C. but no nests found.

Blackburnian Warbler - Doesn't breed clear to West border of Minnesota so may be as rare at Spirit Lake as ~~the~~ ~~our~~ records would indicate. Anderson also says not from Western Iowa.

Bennet says Rare at Iowa City.

Questionnaire For a New Birds of Iowa

During the past several months I have been assembling information for a revised list of the Birds of Iowa. This list will incorporate the recent changes in nomenclature as given in the new A. O. U. Check-List (1931). The status and distribution of all species occurring in the state at the present time will be given, and rather full details of the occurrence of rare or accidental species.

A species (or subspecies) to be included in the state list must be represented by a specimen, unless the bird is one which is unmistakable and the conditions under which the observation was made appears satisfactory.

The enclosed list is one generously supplied by the Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, and while it was planned primarily for recording migration and nesting dates for that state, it will serve equally well, with the additional sheet, as a possible list of birds that have been found in Iowa. Probably a number of them will not prove entitled to a place in the list. However, all of those not starred are represented by an Iowa-taken specimen and recently examined by me. The ones indicated by a star * are not as yet proven to belong on the list by the actual taking of a specimen. Do you know of any such specimens? Several marked with an x are rare or represented by a single specimen. Additional information of specimens of these would be appreciated.

I would like to have you indicate on this Check-list what you believe to be the status of each of the species at the present time. It is necessary to clarify our terms somewhat in stating abundance of different species of birds. We would likely refer to the English Sparrow as abundant, whereas the Robin would be classed as very common. Other degrees of abundance might be: common, fairly common, rare, irregular, accidental. A distinction should be made between permanent residents, migrants, summer residents, summer visitors, winter residents, winter visitors, stragglers.

Will you state which of the species you positively know to breed in your locality. Please add notes of specimens or of observations of unusual species, on a separate page and attach.

This revised list, which will be about a hundred pages, is to be issued through the Natural History Series of the University of Iowa during 1933.

I will appreciate your help in this work, and the return of the list to me at 306 East Jefferson, Iowa City, Iowa, as reasonably soon as you are able to check it over.

Sincerely yours,

Philip A. den Hart.



Name of Species	First seen	Common	Last seen	First nest	Name of Species	First seen	Common	Last seen	First nest
[White Gyrfalcon.]					Semipalmated Sandpiper. Common migrant				
[Black Gyrfalcon.]					x [Western Sandpiper.]				
x [Prairie Falcon.]					x [Buff-breasted Sandpiper.]				
Duck Hawk. Long Pond 3-30-30					x Marbled Godwit. One record I.R.				
Eastern Pigeon Hawk. 9-1-22 Spirit Lake					Hudsonian Godwit. Two at I.C. Koshkoshet				
Eastern Sparrow Hawk. Few breed I.R. + I.C.					Sanderling. Rare migrant I.C.				
Canada Spruce Grouse.					x *Avocet.				
Ruffed Grouse, "Partridge" (two races):					*Black-necked Stilt.				
Eastern Ruffed Grouse. Said to breed near					Wilson's Phalarope. Uncommon migrant I.R.				
Canada Ruffed Grouse. Iowa City.					Northern Phalarope. Rare migrant				
[Willow Ptarmigan.]					x [Parasitic Jaeger.]				
Greater Prairie Chicken. few every winter I. Lake					x [Long-tailed Jaeger.]				
x Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse.					* [Glaucous Gull.]				
European Partridge, Hungarian Partridge (introduced). Breeds Spirit Lake					* [Iceland Gull.]				
Eastern Bob-white, Quail. Rare - Breeds I.R. + I.C.					Herring Gull. Fairly common migrant I.R.				
Ring-necked Pheasant (introduced). Breeds I.R. Common					Ring-billed Gull. " " "				
* Eastern Turkey, Wild Turkey (?)					Franklin's Gull. Common " "				
[Whooping Crane.]					Bonaparte's Gull.				
Sandhill Crane (two races):					Forster's Tern. note				
[Little Brown Crane.] note					Common Tern. note				
Sandhill Crane.					Caspian Tern.				
King Rail. Breeds - Rare -					Black Tern. Common - Breeds -				
Virginia Rail. Breeds fairly common					[Dovekie, Little Auk.]				
Sora. " " "					[Ancient Murrelet.]				
Yellow Rail.					Western Mourning Dove.				
Florida Gallinule. Rare					* Passenger Pigeon.				
American Coot, Mud Hen. Common migrant					Yellow-billed Cuckoo. } Fairly common Breeds				
x [Piping Plover.] Few breed					Black-billed Cuckoo. }				
* [Western Snowy Plover.]					[Groove-billed Ani.]				
Semipalmated Plover. Fairly common migrant					Barn Owl. Rare Breeds -				
Killdeer. Common - Breeds					Screech Owl (two races):				
American Golden Plover. Rare migrant					Eastern Screech Owl. Fairly common Breeds				
Black-bellied Plover. " " "					? Aikin's Screech Owl.				
Ruddy Turnstone. Irregular "					Great Horned Owl (three races): Rare				
American Woodcock.					x Arctic Horned Owl.				
Wilson's Snipe. Fairly common migrant					Great Horned Owl.				
* Long-billed Curlew.					Montana Horned Owl.				
* Hudsonian Curlew.					Snowy Owl. 1 dead specimen on fence				
* Eskimo Curlew.					* American Hawk Owl. colonies				
Upland Plover, Bartramian Sandpiper. Rare Breeds I.R.					* Western Burrowing Owl. 2 in Dickinson County Breeds				
Spotted Sandpiper. Fairly common - Breeds					Barred Owl (two races):				
Eastern Solitary Sandpiper. Regular migrant					Northern Barred Owl. Breeds I.C.				
Western Willet. Rare migrant					-Minnesota Barred Owl.				
Greater Yellow-legs. Somewhat rare migrant					* Great Gray Owl.				
Lesser Yellow-legs. Common migrant					Long-eared Owl. Breeds I.R. Rare				
* [American Knot.]					Short-eared Owl. Desert Area (note)				
Pectoral Sandpiper. Common migrant					* Richardson's Owl.				
White-rumped Sandpiper. Uncommon migrant					Saw-whet Owl.				
Baird's Sandpiper. Rare at I.C. - migrant					Eastern Whip-poor-will. Rare Spirit Lake more common I.C.				
Least Sandpiper. Common migrant					Nighthawk (three races) Common Breeds				
Red-backed Sandpiper. Rare migrant I.C.					Eastern Nighthawk.				
Long-billed Dowitcher. Rare migrant					* Howell's Nighthawk.				
x Stilt Sandpiper. Rare migrant I.C.					x Sennett's Nighthawk.				

Additional Species Reported For Iowa

- x Pacific Loon
- x Brown Pelican
- * Anhinga
- * Man-o'-war-bird
- * Little Blue Heron
- * Yellow-crowned Night Heron - *One straggler*
- * Wood Ibis
- * Eastern Glossy Ibis
- * Brant
- * Common Black Duck - *note*
- * Harlequin Duck
- x American Eider
- x King Eider
- x Mississippi Kite
- * Harris's Hawk
- x Richardson's Pigeon Hawk
- * Mexican Goshawk
- * Black Rail
- * Purple Gallinule
- * Red Phalarope
- * Laughing Gull
- x Sabine's Gull
- Least Tern - *Youngworth says it breeds at Iowa City.*
- x Brunnich's Murre
- * Louisiana Paroquet
- * Nuttall's Poor-will - *Iowa City.*
- * Lewis's Woodpecker
- * Say's Phoebe
- x Acadian Flycatcher
- x Carolina Chickadee
- x Russet-backed Thrush
- x White-eyed Vireo - *one Record - Positive.*
- x Worm-eating Warbler - *one Record Iowa City. Positive.*
- * Sycamore Warbler - *one Record Iowa City. Positive.*
- * Northern Prairie Warbler
- x Northern Water-Thrush
- x Kentucky Warbler
- * Hooded Warbler
- * Gray-crowned Rosy Finch
- x Arctic Towhee
- * Bachman's Sparrow
- * Montana or Shufeldt's Junco

*One Record of Blue
grosbeak - stayed 15
minutes.*

x = Rare, represented by at least one specimen.
* = No Iowa specimen.

Name of Species	First seen	Common	Last seen	First nest	Name of Species	First seen	Common	Last seen	First nest
Chestnut-sided Warbler. <i>Fairly Common Migrant</i>					x Canadian Pine Grosbeak.				
Bay-breasted Warbler.					Alaska Pine Grosbeak.				
Black-poll Warbler. <i>Common Migrant</i>					[Hepburn's Rosy Finch.]				
x Northern Pine Warbler.					* Hoary Redpoll.				
[Kirtland's Warbler.]					Redpoll (three races): <i>Fairly Common Winter</i>				
Western Palm Warbler. <i>Common Migrant</i>					Common Redpoll.				
Oven-bird. <i>Fairly Common Migrant</i>					* [Holboell's Redpoll.]				
Grinnell's Water-Thrush. } <i>Fairly Common Migrant</i>					* [Greater Redpoll.]				
Louisiana Water-Thrush. }					Northern Pine Siskin. <i>Rare Uncommon Migrant</i>				
Connecticut Warbler.					Eastern Goldfinch, Wild "Canary." <i>Common Breeds</i>				
Mourning Warbler. <i>One Record Migrant</i>					Red Crossbill.				
Northern Yellow-throat. <i>Common Breeds</i>					x White-winged Crossbill.				
[Yellow-breasted Chat.] <i>No S. L. Record.</i>					Red-eyed Towhee, Chewink. <i>Uncommon Breeds S. L.</i>				
Wilson's Warbler. <i>Fairly Common Migrant</i>					* Lark Bunting. <i>Agout</i>				
Canada Warbler. <i>One Record Migrant</i>					Savannah Sparrow (two races): <i>Uncommon Migrant</i>				
American Redstart. <i>Common Migrant</i>					Eastern Savannah Sparrow. <i>also few in Summer</i>				
English Sparrow (introduced). <i>Q. S.</i>					? Western Savannah Sparrow.				
Bobolink. <i>Fairly Common Breeds</i>					Western Grasshopper Sparrow. <i>Fairly Common Breeds</i>				
Eastern Meadowlark. <i>None at S. L.</i>					* Baird's Sparrow.				
Western Meadowlark. <i>Common Breeds</i>					Leconte's Sparrow.				
Yellow-headed Blackbird. <i>Fairly Common Breeds</i>					x Western Henslow's Sparrow.				
Red-winged Blackbird (two races): <i>Common Breeds</i>					x Nelson's Sparrow.				
Giant Red-wing.					Eastern Vesper Sparrow. <i>Common Breeds</i>				
[Thick-billed Red-wing.]					Eastern Lark Sparrow. <i>Uncommon Breeds</i>				
Orchard Oriole. <i>Uncommon Breeds</i>					Slate-colored Junco. <i>Common Winter</i>				
Baltimore Oriole. <i>Common Breeds</i>					Eastern Tree Sparrow. "				
Rusty Blackbird. <i>Common Migrant</i>					Eastern Chipping Sparrow. " <i>Breeds</i>				
* Brewer's Blackbird. <i>7 Iowa City records</i>					Clay-colored Sparrow. <i>Fairly Common Migrant</i>				
Bronzed Grackle. <i>Common Breeds</i>					Eastern Field Sparrow. <i>Common Breeds</i>				
Cowbird (two races): <i>Common Breeds</i>					Harris's Sparrow. <i>Common Migrant</i>				
Eastern Cowbird.					White-crowned Sparrow (two races) <i>Common Migrant</i>				
Nevada Cowbird.					White-crowned Sparrow.				
[Western Tanager.]					Gambel's Sparrow. <i>Common Migrant</i>				
Scarlet Tanager. <i>Rare at S. L. - Probably Breeds</i>					White-throated Sparrow. <i>Common Migrant</i>				
x [Summer Tanager.]					Eastern Fox Sparrow. " "				
Eastern Cardinal. <i>No S. L. Record</i>					Lincoln's Sparrow. " "				
Rose-breasted Grosbeak. <i>Common Breeds.</i>					Swamp Sparrow. " "				
Indigo Bunting. <i>Uncommon at S. L. Breeds.</i>					Song Sparrow (two races): <i>Common Breeds</i>				
* [Lazuli Bunting.]					Dakota Song Sparrow.				
[Painted Bunting.]					Eastern Song Sparrow.				
Dickcissel. <i>Common Breeds</i>					* McCown's Longspur.				
Eastern Evening Grosbeak.					Lapland Longspur. <i>Large flocks occasionally in winter</i>				
Eastern Purple Finch. <i>Rare Migrant</i>					x [Smith's Longspur.] <i>One large flock at Merrill.</i>				
[Common House Finch.]					Chestnut-collared Longspur.				
Pine Grosbeak (two races):					Eastern Snow Bunting. <i>Uncommon Winter</i>				

Please state below the general weather conditions prevailing during the season for which the report is made and any other pertinent observations.

Records are for Spirit Lake unless otherwise stated. Will give dates on any if you want them tho I do not have "first and last" dates compiled and do not have all records here.

seen, which common, the fall or winter and last seen in the spring. Use separate sheets for reporting.

Name of Species	First seen	Common	Last seen	First nest	Name of Species	First seen	Common	Last seen	First nest
Loon, Great Northern Diver (two races):					Shoveler, Spoon-bill.	Common	Migrant.		
x Common Loon.	Irregular				Wood Duck.	None			
Lesser Loon.					Redhead.	Uncommon	migrant		
x [Red-throated Loon.]					Ring-necked Duck, "Blue-bill," "Black Duck."	Common	migrant		
x Holboell's Grebe, Red-necked Grebe.	One record				Canvas-back.	Uncommon	migrant		
Horned Grebe.					*[Greater Scaup Duck, Big Blue-bill.]				
Eared Grebe.	Irregular migrant				Lesser Scaup Duck, Little Blue-bill	Common	migrant		
* Western Grebe, Swan-necked Grebe.	one record				American Golden-eye, Whistler.	No S. L. record			
Pied-billed Grebe, Hell-diver.	fairly common				*[Barrow's Golden-eye.]				
White Pelican.	rare				Buffle-head, Butter-ball.	Rare	migrant		
Double-crested Cormorant, Black "Loon."	irregular				Old-squaw.	very rare	migrant		
Great Blue Heron, Blue "Crane."	Fairly common	migrant			White-winged Scoter.				
[American Egret.]	1 a day a year				Surf Scoter.				
* [Snowy Egret.]					* American Scoter.				
Eastern Green Heron.	Same as great Blue				Ruddy Duck.	irregular	migrant		
Black-crowned Night Heron.	note				Hooded Merganser, Little Saw-bill.				
American Bittern.	Fairly common				American Merganser, Big Saw-bill.				
Eastern Least Bittern.	Rare				Red-breasted Merganser.				
x [White-faced Glossy Ibis.]					Turkey Vulture.	None at Spirit Lake, Irregular at H.			
Whistling Swan.					x [Swallow-tailed Kite.]				
x *Trumpeter Swan.					Eastern Goshawk.				
Canada Goose, Honker (three races):	Fairly common				Sharp-shinned Hawk.	Common	migrant		
Common Canada Goose.	migrant.				Cooper's Hawk.	"			
x [Lesser Canada Goose.]	Not sure				Red-tailed Hawk, (four forms):	Uncommon at			
[Hutchins's Goose.]	which tho.				Eastern Red-tailed Hawk.	Spirit Lake -			
White-fronted Goose, Speckle-belly.	rare				Krider's Hawk.	No woods.			
Lesser Snow Goose, White Brant.	Fewer than Canada				[Western Red-tailed Hawk.]	Breeds at S. C.			
Blue Goose, Blue Wavy.	no record				[Harlan's Hawk.]				
* [Fulvous Tree-Duck.]	One possible record.				Northern Red-shouldered Hawk.	No record S. L. -			
Common Mallard.	Common migrant				Broad-winged Hawk.	No record			
Red-legged Black Duck, "Dusky Mallard."	note				Swainson's Hawk.	No record			
Gadwall, Gray Duck.	Note				American Rough-legged Hawk.	See city + note.			
* [European Widgeon.]					x [Ferruginous-Rough-leg.]	(not by me, but we saw it.)			
Baldpate, Widgeon.	Few but regular				Golden Eagle.	One shot Summer 1923			
American Pintail.	Common migrant				Southern Bald Eagle.				
Green-winged Teal.	Fairly common migrant				Marsh Hawk.	Fairly common - breeds at S. L.			
Blue-winged Teal.	Breeds Dickinson's + note				Osprey, Fish Hawk.	Rare migrant S. L.			
* [Cinnamon Teal.]					Gyr Falcon (two races):				

Additional Notes.