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Spring 1997

Because I now go birding almost solely on weekends this will, of course, sometimes affect my early and late dates. I may also sometimes miss peak days.

On 12 May about 7:45 am CDST I saw a lone Crow fly from the roof of the I.S.U. recreation center and chase a Turkey Vulture for more than a quarter mile. Several times the Crow "attacked" from behind and above the Vulture, which ponderously tried to swing-off to one side each time. I was too far away to see if actual contact was made. No apparent reason for the Crow to be chasing the Vulture. I think the Crows get a lot more of the road kill in Ames than the Vultures do, because they are more adept at grabbing bites and pieces between passing cars.

✓ PEREGRINE FALCON 11 May Brookside Park, Ames; Soaring in tight circles into a strong North wind; several times could see dark cap & sideburns well with binoculars as it turned.

CUCKOO: As of 31 May have neither heard nor seen either species yet.

✓ COMMON NIGHTHAWK: first of season: 17 May one in Ames

✓ RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD: first: 31 May a female at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER: 24 May one at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER: first: 18 May one at Brookside Park, Ames
last?: 31 May two at Brookside Park, Ames

Empidonax species: 11 on 31 May at Brookside Park, Ames; a lot for so late (does NOT include the 2 Yellow-Bellies); a silent lot

BROWN CREEPER: I haven't seen or heard one yet this year

✓ RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET: last: 17 May one at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: first: 18 May one at Brookside Park, Ames
last: two on 25 May at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH: very few seen this Spring:
first: 13 May one in Ames
last: 18 May one at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ SWAINSON'S THRUSH: first & most: 11 May six at Brookside Park, Ames
last: 31 May one at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ GRAY CATBIRD: first: 10 May two at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ SOLITARY VIREO: first: 11 May two at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ YELLOW-THROATED VIREO: 17 & 18 May one at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ WARBLING VIREO: none seen or heard till 13 May one in Ames

✓ PHILADELPHIA VIREO: last: 31 May one at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ RED-EYED VIREO: most: 31 May fifteen at Brookside Park, Ames;
a lot for so late

TENNESSEE WARBLER: ✓ first: 11 May one male at Brookside Park, Ames
last?: 31 May nine at Brookside Park, Ames
(four males & five females)

✓ ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: first: 4 May three at Brookside Park, Ames
most: 11 May seven at Brookside Park, Ames
last: 18 May five at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ NASHVILLE WARBLER: first: 10 May four at Brookside Park, Ames
most: 17 May nineteen at Brookside Park
last: 29 May one at I.S.U. campus, Ames

✓ NORTHERN PARULA: 17 May one male at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ YELLOW WARBLER: first: 10 May one at Brookside Park, Ames
most: 17 May eleven at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER: first: 17 May one at Brookside Park, Ames
most: 25 May three at Brookside Park, Ames
last?: 31 May two at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ MAGNOLIA WARBLER: first: 17 May three at Brookside Park, Ames
last: 29 May two at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER: most: 2 May forty in less than five minutes in
two trees somewhat isolated from others at I.S.U. campus
last: 17 May three; one male Ames and two females at
Brookside Park, Ames

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER:
✓ 11 May one male at Brookside Park, Ames
✓ 17 May one male & one female at Brookside Park, Ames

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER:
✓ 17 May three males at Brookside Park, Ames
18 May one female at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ PALM WARBLER: 4 May four at Brookside Park, Ames

✓ BLACKPOLL: first: 10 May two males at Brookside Park, Ames
last: 24 May one male & one female at Brookside Park, Ames

BLACK & WHITE WARBLER:
✓ first: 4 May one male Brookside Park, Ames
✓ last: 24 May one female Brookside Park, Ames

AMERICAN REDSTART:
✓ first: 17 May two females at Brookside Park, Ames
most: 25 May five at Brookside Park, Ames (one "old"
male, two first year males, and two females)

last?: 31 May two females at Brookside Park, Ames

OVENBIRD: first: 4 May one at Brookside Park, Ames
last?: 31 May one at Brookside Park, Ames

MOURNING WARBLER:

first: 18 May two males at Brookside Park, Ames
last: 29 May one male at Brookside Park, Ames

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT: came late

first: 18 May two males at Brookside Park; none seen
or heard there on 17th

WILSON'S WARBLER:

first: 17 May two at Brookside Park, Ames
last?: 31 May one female at Brookside Park, Ames

CANADA WARBLER: first: 24 May one female at Brookside Park, Ames
last?: 31 May two, one male & one female at Brookside Pk

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK: first: 11 May a female at Brookside Park, Ames

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: 17 May two in flock of twenty Chipping Sparrows
at Brookside Park; eating dandelion seeds

FOX SPARROW: 19 April one at McFarland Park N.E. of Ames

SWAMP SPARROW: 27 April one at Brookside Park, Ames

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: 4 May one at McFarland Park NE of Ames
17 May one at Brookside Park, Ames and one at
McFarland Park NE of Ames

HARRIS SPARROW: 17 May one at McFarland Park NE of Ames

DARK-EYED JUNCO: last: 19 April one at McFarland Park NE of Ames