

Tom,

This was a fun and exciting spring. Though my total species count is down from previous years - due more to work schedule than anything else - I was able to find some good birds, especially in late May. My nemesis bird, the American Avocet turned into my 300 Iowa Life bird!

I see that I have several early and late dates. These include Osprey, American Avocet, Palm and Wilson's Warbler. The way the spring turned out I am not to surprised about the late dates. I expect more late dates will be set once the summer reports come in.

The Osprey was at the Blackhawk Wildlife Area in Sac County on March 14. The bird flew directly overhead at an estimated 30 - 40 feet. The distinguishing characteristics were the white above and below the eye with a brown streak through the eye, whitish body and brown wings. I have seen this bird many times before in migration and feel confident that this was an Osprey.

The Avocet was also at the Blackhawk Wildlife Area in Sac County on May 30 This large shorebird had a distinctly straight bill (slightly upcurved at the end of the bill), in comparison to the one I observed a week earlier. The bird was in full sun light and was beautiful. The head and neck were a rich cinnamon color, while the wings were black with the bold white stripe through the middle. The rest of the body was white.

The Palm Warbler was at Moorehead Park and in the company of other early warblers, i.e., Yellow Rumped and Orange Crowned. The bird had a distinctly yellowish plumage with a rich brown crown, yellow eyebrow, streaked chest, yellowish rump, the bird also bobbed its tail while it was perched.

The Wilson's Warblers were in Lake View near the Stubbs nature trail. The birds were all males with a greenish back, yellowish body and a distinctive black cap.

I hope these details are enough to confirm the identification of these species. I hope to see you around. Keep up the great job on the field reports. I really enjoy the format and appreciate all the time and effort you put into it.

Sincerely,

Pete

PETER ERNZEN
407 COURT
IDA GROVE IA 51445
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- ✓ 1. COMMON LOON, the first two were at Blackhawk Lake in Sac Co. on March 28.
- ✓ 2. HORNED GREBE, the first and most were 5 at Blue Lake in Monona County on April 18.
- ✓ 3. EARED GREBE, the first two were at Blackhawk Lake in Sac Co. on April 13.
- ✓ 4. GREATER WHITE FRONTED GOOSE, two were still at South Twin Lake in Calhoun County on May 25.
- ✓ 5. ROSS' GOOSE, the most were 9 at South Twin Lake in Calhoun County on April 20.
- ✓ 6. CINNAMON TEAL, a male was at South Twin Lake in Calhoun County on May 4.
- ✓ 7. OSPREY, one was at the Blackhawk Wildlife Area in Sac County on March 14.
- ✓ 8. NORTHERN GOSHAWK, an adult was in rural Ida County on March 13.
- ✓ 9. PEREGRINE FALCON, one was observed hunting at Moorehead Park on May 8.
- ✓ 10. AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER, one was north of Lake View on March 30.
- ✓ 11. SEMIPALMATED PLOVER, one was at Blue Lake on April 19.
- ✓ 12. AMERICAN AVOCET, a female with a bad leg was at the spoil pond on the east side of Blackhawk Lake on May 23, a male was at Blackhawk Wildlife Area in Sac County on May 30.
- ✓ 13. LESSER YELLOWLEGS, the first one was north of Lake View on March 30.
- ✓ 14. WILLET, the first and most were 10 at Tomahawk Marsh in Sac County on April 26.
- ✓ 15. HUDSONIAN GODWIT, four were at Blue Lake in Monona County on May 18.
- ✓ 16. MARBLED GODWIT, one was at the Lyton sewage lagoon in Calhoun County on May 25.

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- ✓ 17. WHITE RUMPED SANDPIPER, the first two were east of Storm Lake on May 12.
- ✓ 18. SANDERLING, the first one was in Woodbury County on May 19.
- ✓ 19. DUNLIN, the first one was at Blue Lake in Monona County on April 19.
- ✓ 20. WILSON'S PHALAROPE, the first five were east of Storm Lake on May 12.
- ✓ 21. RED NECKED PHALAROPE, one was at the Blackhawk Wildlife Area in Sac County on May 23.
- ✓ 22. FRANKLIN'S GULL, the first three were at Blackhawk Lake in Sac County on March 28.
- ✓ 23. BONAPARTE'S GULL, the first one was at Blackhawk Lake in Sac County on March 28.
- ? 24. FORSTER'S TERN, the first one was Blackhawk Lake on April
- ✓ 25. WESTERN KINGBIRD, one was in rural Sac County on May 10.
- ✓ 26. VEERY, one was at Moorehead Park on May 9.
- ✓ 27. HERMIT THRUSH, one was out of place at Tomahawk Marsh on April 26.
- ✓ 28. WHITE EYED VIREO, one was at Moorehead Park on May 28.
- ✓ 29. PHILADELPHIA VIREO, three were at Moorehead Park on May 26.
- ✓ 30. BLUE WINGED WARBLER, one was at Moorehead Park on May 19.
- ✓ 31. GOLDEN WINGED WARBLER, one was at Blue Lake in Monona County on May 18.
- ✓ 32. ORANGE CROWNED WARBLER, two were at Moorehead Park on May 20.
- ✓ 33. NASHVILLE WARBLER, the last two were in Lake View on May 30.
- ✓ 34. NORTHERN PARULA, the first two were at Moorehead Park on May 19.

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- ✓ 35. CHESTNUT SIDED WARBLER, the last and peak were 13 at Moorehead Park on May 31.
 - ✓ 36. MAGNOLIA WARBLER, the last four were at Moorehead Park on May 31.
 - ✓ 37. YELLOW RUMPED WARBLER, the last one was at Moorehead Park on May 20.
 - ✓ 38. BLACK THROATED GREEN WARBLER, one was in Lake View on May 30.
 - ✓ 39. BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER, the peak was 10 at Moorehead Park on May 28, three were still there on May 31.
 - ✓ 40. PALM WARBLER, the last one was at Moorehead Park on May 20.
 - ✓ 41. BAY BREASTED WARBLER, a male was at South Twin Lake in Calhoun County on May 25, another male was in my yard in Ida Grove on May 27.
 - ✓ 42. BLACKPOLL, the last two were at Moorehead Park in Ida County on May 31.
 - ✓ 43. BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER, the first one was at Moorehead Park on May 3, while the last one was there on May 31.
 - ✓ 44. CERULEAN WARBLER, one was seen and heard at Moorehead Park on May 28.
 - ✓ 45. LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH, one was at Moorehead Park in the same location as years past on May 19.
 - ✓ 46. CONNECTICUT WARBLER, two were at Moorehead Park on May 27.
 - ✓ 47. MOURNING WARBLER, the last two were at Moorehead Park on May 31.
 - ✓ 48. WILSON'S WARBLER, the last three were in Lake View on May 30.
 - ✓ 49. CANADA WARBLER, two were at Moorehead Park in Ida County on May 31.
 50. CLAY COLORED SPARROW, the first two were on May 5.
 - ✓ 51. FIELD SPARROW, the first one was in Monona County on March
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29.

✓ 52. WHITE CROWNED SPARROW, the most were 3 at a feeder at Moorehead Park on May 10.

✓ 53. HARRIS SPARROW, the most were 11 at a feeder at Moorehead Park on May 10.

✓ 54. SMITH'S LONGSPUR, one was east of Tomahawk Marsh on March 28.

✓ 55. GREAT TAILED GRACKLE, the first two were at South Twin Lake in Calhoun County on March 28, the most was 50 plus birds at Blue Lake in Monona County on March 29.

✓ 56. RED CROSSBILL, two were at a feeder in Ida Grove on April 13, the most observed at one time was fourteen on May 7, while the last one observed was on May 10.