

24 June 1997

entire

Dear Jim,

I hope you have a good week up here. There has been a Cerulean Warbler calling on campus since 2 June, when I got here. Also, there are many American Redstarts in the area, but all are immatures. Never-the-less, they sing an acceptable song.

Today, someone reported a Lark Bunting at the Kettlehole. They are not a birder, but they had seen the birds in Colorado. I have not had a chance to check it out, and I can't be positive that it wasn't a Bobolink.

Dickcissels are either late or in short supply. I have seen 4 in the last 3 weeks. They have just become vocal in the last few days.

There are Black-crowned night heron nests (at least 4) on Grover's Lake. We also found 3 Forester's Tern nests there and counted about 125 birds. There were about 50 Black Terns there also on 6 June. We also saw 4 Black Terns in Spring Run area on the 20th.

15 on 4
6 June

There has been at least 100 Ring-billed gulls around the Hogsback, and on the 20th there were at least 2 Franklin's gulls still there. Lee Schoenwe saw a Herring Gull there also.

There are at least 2 Swamp Sparrow territories at Silver Lake Fen. For the first year, Field Sparrows are here at Lakeside, and the Cardinal territory has moved from lower campus to the upper area. Bobolinks are in better numbers, and we found 2 Upland Sandpiper nests on Cayler. I did see two Northern Harriers (male and female) separately on two mornings near Cayler.

If you go north of Cayler to the north side of Highway 9, there are mudflats that usually contain shorebirds in the first week of July. The lab has a scope and tripod.

The White Pelicans seem to be hanging out on the north end of Big Spirit Lake, but that is not certain. Gadwall are hanging around this year and I had a pair of Shoveler on 2 June.

Have not heard any Sedge Wrens which is unusual.

That's about it. Have fun.

Your friend,

4 June
L. B. Fitter at Jemerson Slough