

Saraborn, IA
12/7/98

Dear Tom:-

Some details of the species you highlighted are:-

✓ Red-necked Grebe:-

Seen on Sept. 20th + 25th, one individual with Horned Grebes. Long neck, reddish with white throat. Larger than Horned. Dark crown, no other head markings.
on ponds at Saraborn

✓ Eared Grebe:-

Seen on Oct 9th Two individuals, winter plumage, white spot behind eye. Small size. on ponds at Saraborn

✓ Cattle Egret

Seen on Oct 30th one individual seen. on edge of pond. traces of color on crown. yellow bill, small size.

✓ Northern Goshawk

Seen on Sept. 11th
one seen on snag near Saraborn. Large size
Gray under parts & white stripe from eye
backward. Accipiter profile when it flew away.

Merlin.

Two seen on Sept. 7th perched on wires.
near Sanborn. ~~Two~~ No facial pattern, size,
a little larger than a kestrel. Generally gray
above, lighter below. Falcon profile when
flying. No sounds. Sanborn, IA
O'Brien Co.

Gray Partridge.

Common game bird here. I see
more of these than pheasants. Rusty tail
when flying. I listen for them, they can
be heard 1/4 mile. Their whistle is
distinctive.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

one seen on Sept. 11th at the pond here.
in Sanborn. Distance 15 feet, good light
Buff underparts, some eye ring, small size.
at first I thought it was an ~~Wetland~~ s.
but a way too small. Twisting flight when
flushed. No voice.

Whip Poor Will

one seen with nighthawks. No spots on
underwings, but has white in tail. Aug 27th
evening flight. Not common here.
Sanborn No voice

Western Kingbird

Seen on farm near Sanborn on
Sept. 2nd. Uncommon here, but there
are always a few. I look for the
Kingbird profile with white outer-lail
feathers.

✓ Winter wren

Seen on 9/26. one individual, after
the house wrens have gone, small size
& creeping on ground.

Prothonotary Warbler

✓ one seen on 9/11. Not common here, but
a yellow head & plain gray wings
identify it. No voice. Probably migrating.

✓ Snow Bunting.

Four seen on Nov. 6th. In good light
on the pebbles of the shore at the lake.
Strange, but no others around. Usually
seen with Harned Larks.

All observations
at Sanborn, (O'Brien Co.)

Bob