

Red Rock Fall Migration 1976 - 1/2 Black
fall marked by severe drought. All patches in
Refuge dry except the Runnells ponds
and a few old gravel pits.

White Pelican - 4 on Lake Red Rock July 20 to Sept 13

OC Cormorants 8 by mid Sept, peaking at 30
on Oct 1 observed by Jon + Jay Stravers + 1/2 B

Great Blue Herons Peaked at 200 in Aug + Sept
lingering thru Oct. (In 1975 peaked at 300+)

Great Egret - scarce - only 5 seen in Sept
and 1 on Oct 1

Black-crowned Night Herons 5 seen by Jon Stravers
+ 1/2 B on Aug 31 at Runnells ponds, west end
of the 26,000 A. Red Rock Refuge.

Yellow-crowned Night Herons - 6 seen on Aug 30
at Runnells. 1/2 B

American Bittern - 4 on Aug. 31 at Runnells
seen by Jon Stravers + 1/2 B

Canada Geese - Very few in Refuge this fall.
Peaked at only 200 + 200 still in Refuge.
First flock on Sept 26.

White-fronted Geese - 11 east of Mile Long Bridge on
Lake in Oct. (Refuge manager Carl Priebe)

Snow Geese - count way down, about 200
for short time.

Ducks all species on 20th checklist seen in
Refuge (except Cinnamon Teal + Old Squaw) but
in greatly reduced numbers.

Canvasbacks - only 4 seen in Refuge area

Mallards - 20 to 25,000 Mallards thru Nov.
(LCC airplane count, Carl Priebe) 1975 count 40,000.

2) Yerkey Vultures - 100+ over Elk Rock Bluff, south side of Lake Red Rock and 41 over Red Rock Bluff, south side of Refuge on Sept 19. Observed by Paul + Mary Felsing + G.B.

Broad-winged Hawks - 100+ over Paul + Mary Felsing's home, south end Red Rock dam, between 5+6 pm Sept 15. Also 65 reported by a farmer over Bluff in Refuge. (Telephone call from Dr. Pershing B. Hafslund, Duluth Sept 14 reporting hundreds passed thru the Duluth funnel that day.)

Bald Eagle - 1a + 1 im on Sept 26. Thereafter 2 to 4 im. with 2 new in Lake area.

Marsh Hawks - 3 seen during late Sept + Oct and 1 on Nov 13. Fewer than 10 years ago!

Osprey - only 1 seen in Runnels area by wildlife Biologist Carl Priebe on Sept 27, observed it catch an 8 inch catfish.

Peregrines - None!. Up to 3 years ago we had 2 to 5 in Refuge each fall.

Shorebirds Very good migration. Numerous on mid flats east of Mele Long Bridge, upper end of Lake from July 20 on thru Oct. with Black-bellied Plovers + Sawatchers to mid Nov.

Western Sandpipers - 2 on Aug 28 observed by Dr. John Bowles, Central College, Pella from canoe

American Avocets - 10 by Bowles Aug 28. 14 seen by Joe + Jay Stravers + G. Bowles Oct 1.

Ring-billed Gulls - 1000+ on tail waters below dam Nov 13, observed by Herb + Edie Dorow + G.B.

3) Franklin's Gulls 1000 to 5000 last 3 weeks
Sept into Oct. 5000 Oct 1-3, (I checked with
Helen Pearley who birded the West Maines area 50
years and she said some years, Franklin's
appeared by the thousands during fall migration
but not every year. The same has been true
since Red Rock filled in Mar. 1969)

Bonapartes Gulls - 2 + 3 with Franklin's
earlier 7 on tail waters with the 1000 Ring-
bills on Nov 13. Seen by H+ED, + B. Late
date for their fall migration.

Caspian Terns - 20 in Sept. (2 seen early July 20)

Black Terns - only flock seen week of July 20

Cuckoos - no BB seen, only 1 Y. B.

Long-eared Owl - 1 in Pine grove, No. side Lake
on Nov 7. One with leg injury, caught in
steel trap brought to me Nov. 9. Veterinarian
had to amputate leg.

Common Nighthawk - Small flocks seen
Labor Day weekend

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds - small wave
at local syrup feeders in Aug. and another
week of Sept 20. Not as numerous as fall of 75

Flickers - Large flocks seen in Elk Rock Park
during Sept as I led Outdoor Days for schools.

Swallows - Thousands over the shallows + mud
flats thru Sept - 4 + 5 species.

1000 + Tree Swallows on Oct 16 seen by
Jon Stravers + H+ED. - Lake Red Rock

Red-breasted Nuthatches 0 at Red Rock.
Woody B will probably report 4 at Luene
Walters feeders in West Maines.
(over)

4) Winter Wren : at my residence Oct 9 also 2 seen
along a ditch 4 miles south of town that week.

Bluebirds Several flocks seen. Count up!
Conservation Officer Rick McGeough reported seeing
many flocks in Marion + Warren Counties.

Water Pipit - 1 below the Dam on Nov 13
seen by H. + EP + SB. late fall date.

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