

June 2, 1999

Hi Pam,

Enclosed are our
Spring Field Reports
and some photos.

Just wanted to
say "THANK YOU" for
helping Reid and I to
be better "FIELD REPORTERS,"
(I HOPE 😊).

Hope there will
be some information
you can use.

GOOD BIRDING!

Pam

P.S. Clark's Grike
Documentation also
enclosed.

FIELD REPORTS:

March 1 through May 31, 1999

FROM:

Pam and Reid Allen (P & R Allen)
1601 Pleasant Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265

OTHER OBSERVERS:

Eugene Armstrong
Booneville, IAJim Dinsmore
Ames, IA

NOTE: In the "OBSERVERS" column, if there is an * after the name, this designates the person who FIRST made the observation.

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVERS
✓ Common Loon	1	28 Mar.	Dallas Co. - Maffitt Res.	P & R Allen
✓ Horned Grebe	1	4 Apr.	Greene Co. - Dunbar Slough	P & R Allen
✓ Eared Grebe	5	10 Apr.	Union Co. - Green Valley Lake S.P.	P & R Allen
✓	12	22 May	Freemont Co. - Forney Lake	P & R Allen
✓ Western Grebe	3	21 May	Monona Co. - South Blue Lake	P & R Allen
✓ Clark's Grebe	1	21 May	Monona Co. - South Blue Lake	P & R Allen
		Note: Written documentation enclosed. If <u>any</u> photos turn out, we will forward them later.		
✓ Double-crested Cormorant	1	20 Mar.	Jackson Co. - Sabula	P & R Allen
✓ Great Egret	1	26 Mar.	Freemont Co. - Secret Lake	P & R Allen
Green Heron	1	8 May	Polk Co. - Polk City W.L.A.	P & R Allen
✓ White-faced Ibis	1	5 May	Story Co. - Colo Ponds	Hank Zaletel*
		Note: Photo enclosed		
✓ Garganey	1	3 Apr.	Freemont Co.- Forney Lake	P & R Allen
	1	10 Apr.	Freemont Co.- Forney Lake	
		Note: Photos enclosed. Tom: Reid does have a couple of really good photos of the Garganey but we have not had them duplicated. If you would like to have "duplicates" of these photos, just shout!		
✓ Blue-winged Teal	2	20 Mar.	Jackson Co. - Green Island	P & R Allen
✓ Green-winged Teal	3	20 Mar.	Jackson Co. - Green Island	P & R Allen
✓ Red-breasted Merganser	1	20 Mar.	Jackson Co. - Sabula	P & R Allen

Osprey 1 25 Apr. Pottawattami Co. - IPL Ponds P & R Allen

✓ **Mississippi Kite** 1 13 May Lee Co. - Shimek - Croton Unit P & R Allen
 Details: Fast flying gray bird with long pointed wings, projecting wrists, square tail, white on wing on trailing edge from body to "elbow." Drifted out of sight quickly but the bird was not up very high and got a good look at it.

✓ 2 27 May Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM Pam Allen
 Details: I was hanging out laundry and happened to glance up and saw two adult Mississippi Kite's slowly riding a thermal right over our yard and house. I'm probably one of the few people who wear their binoculars while hanging up laundry during migration periods! The long pointed wings and squarish tails and almost uniform gray underparts (tail was darker than underwing pattern) were observed. Only briefly got a glimpse of the partial white trailing edge on the upperwings of the soaring birds. Haven't checked to see if there have been any other sightings at either Fred Crane's home or at the Olivet Baptist Church where these birds nested one year but I think Phil Walsh saw a Mississippi Kite flying over his home about this same date.

✓ **Northern Harrier** 1 20 Mar. Jackson Co. - Green Island P & R Allen

✓ **Swainson's Hawk** 1 10 Apr. Pottawattami Co. - IPL Ponds P & R Allen

✓ **Hawk** 1 10 Apr. Union Co. - Green Valley Lake S.P. P & R Allen

✓ **Common Moorhen** 2 22 May Freemont Co. - Forney Lake P & R Allen
 Note: Heard these birds calling before we located them down near the east end of the lake. They "walked across the water" a little ways and stopped and started feeding and you could easily see their red bills and yellow tips on the bills.

Sandhill Crane 1 20 Mar. Clinton Co. - Gooselake P & R Allen
 Note: Reid first heard this bird "bugling" and I finally found the crane standing on the top of a muskrat house on the south side of the lake.

✓ **American Avocet** 1 22 May Pottawattami Co. - IPL Ponds P & R Allen

✓ **Marbled Godwit** 2 8 May Polk Co. - Errington Marsh P & R Allen
 Note: These two birds flew over us as we were looking for shorebirds. Their uniform buffy brown coloration and rusty underwing linings distinguished them from Hudsonian Godwits. Also they were the same buffy brown coloring on the rump.

✓ **Ruddy Turnstone** 2 8 May Polk Co. - Errington Marsh Reid Allen*

✓ **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** 3 22 May Fremont Co. - Bartlet - 1 mi. south P & R Allen

✓ **Red-necked Phalarope** 1 25 May Polk Co. - Errington Marsh Jim Dinsmore*
 Note: Jim called to tell us he had found this bird at the P & R Allen marsh so we jumped in the car at lunchtime and went up to have a look. Wind was blowing like crazy but this was the "prettiest" Red-necked Phalarope we've seen. If any of Reid's photos turn out, we'll send one to you.

✓ **Bonaparte's Gull** 1 25 May Hamilton Co. - Anderson Lake P & R Allen

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 SPRING FIELD REPORTS
 FROM: Pam and Reid Allen

✓ Caspian Tern	1	8 May	Polk Co. - Saylorville Lake	P & R Allen
✓ Forster's Tern	3	10 Apr.	Pottawattami Co. - IPL Ponds	P & R Allen
Note: Ties 3rd early date. These three terns with their silvery light wings and deeply forked tails were "fishing" in the water. They were just beginning to change into their alternate plumage.				
✓ Common Nighthawk	1	12 May	Story Co. - Just west of Nevada on Hwy. 30	Pam Allen
✓ Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	21 May	Carroll Co. - Swan Lake S.P.	P & R Allen
✓ Alder Flycatcher	1	20 May	Dallas Co. - Brenton Slough	Eugene Armstrong* P & R Allen
Note: Fortunately all this bird did was sit and call over and over again, "Re BEE ah," or however you want to phonetically spell out its call.				
✓ Loggerhead Shrike	1	26 Mar.	Montgomery Co. - Viking Lake S.P.	P & R Allen
✓ Northern Shrike	1	22 Mar.	Madison Co. - 1-1/2 mi. south of Badger Creek Rec. Area	P & R Allen
✓ White-eyed Vireo	1	14 May	Lee Co. - Shimek - Donaldson Unit	P & R Allen
✓ Philadelphia Vireo	1	16 May	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
✓ Tree Swallow	5	21 Mar.	Dubuque Co. - Mud Lake Park	P & R Allen
✓ Winter Wren	1	26 Apr.	Boone Co. - Ledges S.P.	P & R Allen
✓ Veery	1	15 May	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
✓ Swainson's Thrush	1	9 May	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
✓ Hermit Thrush	1	15 Apr.	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
✓ Brown Thrasher	1	21 Apr.	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
✓ Tennessee Warbler	1	2 May	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
Note: On May 14, there were 100's of Tennessee Warblers streaming through the trees in Stephen's Forest in Lucas County. Mixed in with all the Tennessee's were a few Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Philadelphia Vireos. They just kept coming through in waves.				
✓ Magnolia Warbler	1	7 May	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen

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✓	Yellow-throated Warbler	1	26 Apr.	Boone Co. - Ledges S.P.	P & R Allen
✓	Prothonotary Warbler	1	8 May	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
✓	Hooded Warbler	1	8 May	Polk Co. - Brown's Woods	P & R Allen
		1	17 May	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	
<p>Note: There sure have been a lot of reports of Hooded Warblers this spring. The one that was in our yard stayed around all day and in the evening flew and foraged amazingly close to us as we watched. This was the first time we have seen the flashing white inner tail webbing as it flitted around.</p>					
✓	Summer Tanager	1	14 May	Lee Co. - Shimek - Croton Unit	P & R Allen
✓	Chipping Sparrow	1	7 Apr.	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
✓	Field Sparrow	1	26 Apr.	Boone Co. - Ledges S.P.	P & R Allen
✓	Fox Sparrow	1	27 Mar.	Pocahontas Co. - Lizzard Lake	P & R Allen
✓	White-throated Sparrow	1-2	23 thru 26 May	Polk Co. - 1601 Pleasant St., WDM	P & R Allen
✓	Eastern Meadowlark	1	20 Mar.	Clinton Co. - Bulger's Hollow Rd.	P & R Allen
✓	Great-tailed Grackle	3 pr.	26 Apr.	Dallas Co. - Brenton Slough	P & R Allen