

Russell

Field Reports-Fall 1990

- ✓ Pacific Loon-*1 on 23 Oct at Little Wall L.
- ✓ Common Loon-2 on 15 Sep(+ASF), 1 on 27 Sep at Saylorville were unusually early for there; 297 on 4 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Horned Grebe-1 on 2 Oct, 36 on 28 Oct, 1 on 25 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Eared Grebe-1 on 22 Sep at Runnell's W.A.(+JSi); 2 on 11 Oct, 4 on 25 Oct, 1 on 28 Oct, 4 on 11 Nov(+BE) at Saylorville
- ✓ Western Grebe-1 on 18 Oct, 5 on 28 Oct, 2 on 10-11 Nov at Saylorville; 1 on 28 Oct, 1 on 3 Nov at Big Creek
- ✓ Am. White Pelican-1650 on 9 Sep at Red Rock Res.; 4400 on 11 Sep, 200 on 4 Oct, 74 on 20 Oct, 2 through 30 Nov at Saylorville; at least 40 were killed in powerline collisions along the Des Moines R. north of Saylorville Res.(see D. M. Register article on 14 Oct); 3 on 20 Nov at Riverton W.A.
- ✓ Double-crested Cormorant-2600 on 20 Oct, 22 on 30 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ American Bittern-6 on 7 Oct at Big Wall L.; 1 on 7 Nov at Teig's M.
- ✓ Least Bittern-1 on 6 Oct at Big Wall L.
- ✓ Great Blue Heron-114 on 6 Sep, 3 on 28 Nov at Saylorville; 490 on 9 Sep at Red Rock Res.
- ✓ Great Egret-308 on 9 Sep at Runnell's W.A.; 2 on 18 Oct at Saylorville
- ✓ Black-crowned Night-Heron-9 on 23 Sep, 2 on 18 Oct at Saylorville; 1 on 23 Oct at Big Wall L.
- ✓ Tbis sp.-1 imm. on 6-11 Sep w. of Huxley(+JJD,+m.ob.)
- ✓ Tundra Swan-60 on 20 Oct at Harper's Ferry(John Klingman fide SJD); 1 ad. and 1 imm. on 25 Nov at Little Wall L.(+JJD)
- ✓ Gr. White-fronted Goose-16 on 11 Oct, 32 on 20 Oct at Saylorville; 5 on 21 Nov at Bays Branch
- ✓ Snow Goose-210,000 on 14 Nov at DeSoto NWR(Erv Klaas fide SJD); 130,000 on 18 Nov at Riverton W.A.
- ✓ Ross' Goose-3 on 13 Nov, 7 on 15 Nov, 3 on 21 Nov at Bays Branch; 29 on 20 Nov at Riverton W.A.
- ✓ Canada Goose-1 pure albino bird on 2-13 Nov at Bays Branch
- ✓ Am. Black Duck-6 on 15 Nov at Bays Branch; 9 on 24 Nov at Saylorville; an all dark duck with a white chest, slender neck, and wing speculum like a N. Pintail was thought to be an Am. Black Duck(or dark Mallard) X Northern Pintail hybrid
- ✓ Mallard-15,000 on 17-21 Nov at Forney L.; 13,000 on 28 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Blue-winged Teal-1 male on 22-30 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Greater Scaup-2 fem. on 13 Nov at Big Creek(+WO)(by large size, head shape); 3 fem. on 24 Nov at Saylorville(+BE)(by white wing stripe); 1 fem. on 25, 29 Nov at Little Wall L.(+JJD)(by large size, head shape, auricular patch); 1 male on 29 Nov at Hallett's Quarry(by head stripe, wing stripe)

- ✓✓ Lesser Scaup-two distinct peaks at Saylorville were 4000 on 24 Oct and 4500 on 3-4 Nov
- ✓ Oldsquaw-1 female on 17 Nov at IPL Ponds
- ✓✓ Black Scoter-2 fem. or imm. on 21 Oct, 1 fem. or imm. on 28 Oct at Saylorville
- ✓✓ Surf Scoter-1 fem. or imm. on 17 Oct(+JSi,+BB), 5 fem. or imm. on 4 Nov, 1 fem. or imm. on 10 Nov at Saylorville; 3 fem. or imm. on ~~23~~-25 Oct at Little Wall L.(1 collected)
- ✓ White-winged Scoter-9 fem. or imm. on 23 Oct at Little Wall L.(2 collected), with 2 lingering through 30 Nov
- ✓ Common Goldeneye-1 on 10 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Bufflehead-2 males on 23 Sep, 267 on 24 Nov(+BE) at Saylorville
- ✓ Hooded Merganser-216 on 24 Nov at Saylorville(+BE)
- ✓ Common Merganser-3 on 28 Oct at Saylorville
- ✓ Red-breasted Merganser-280 on 11 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Ruddy Duck-28 on 22 Nov at Saylorville were late for such a large number; 2 on 28 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Turkey Vulture-1 on 21 Oct at Saylorville; 1 picked up injured on 22 Nov at Pella(Beth Brown fide SJD)
- Osprey-6 on ~~28~~ Sep in Polk Co.(+ASF); 4 on 9 Oct, 1 on 3-4 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Bald Eagle-1 imm. on 6 Sep, 2 ad. and 3 imm. on 28 Nov at Saylorville
- ✓ Sharp-shinned Hawk-29 on 30 Sep w. of Luther(+ASF)
- ✓ Cooper's Hawk-16 on 30 Sep w. of Luther(+ASF)
- ✓ Northern Goshawk-1 imm. on ~~30~~ Sep w. of Luther(+ASF); 1 imm. on 17 Oct n. of Polk City-(both were large, crow-sized accipiters, conspicuous white tufts on sides of rump, tail long, rounded at tip, and containing numerous wavy tail bands)
- Red-shouldered Hawk-1 ad. on ~~28~~ Sep w. of Luther(+ASF); 1 ad. on ~~26~~ Oct at the same site s. of Polk City
- ✓ Swainson's Hawk-1 ad. on ~~22~~ Sep at Runnell's W.A.(+JSi); 1 ad. on ~~25~~ Sep at Ames
- ✓ Red-tailed Hawk-49 were migrating on 30 Sep w. of Luther(+ASF); 1
- ✓ "Harlan's" Hawk on 27-28 Nov s. of Polk City(like an all dark Red-tail, but tail barred)
- Merlin-1 fem. or imm. on ~~9~~ Sep w. of Luther; ✓ male on 23 Sep at Saylorville; 1 fem. or imm. on ~~7~~ Oct at Ames; 1 fem. or imm. on ~~20~~ Oct at Saylorville; 1 male on ~~27~~ Nov n. of Saylorville
- Peregrine Falcon-1 ad. on ~~46~~ Sep at Saylorville(+PA,+RA); 1 imm. on ~~18~~ Sep at Saylorville; 1 imm. on ~~28~~ Sep w. of Luther(+ASF)
- ✓✓ Prairie Flacon-1 on ~~18~~ Nov at Forney L.; 1 on 21 Nov 4 mi. SW of Thurman (both birds were clearly large falcons-dark axillars were obvious on both birds-one bird seen at a distance of 40-50 ft.)
- ✓ Sora-6 on 6 Oct, 1 on 23 Oct at Big Wall L.
- American Coot-900 on ~~6~~ Oct at Big Wall L.; ~~2300~~ on 16 Oct at Saylorville; 5 on ~~29~~ Nov at Little Wall L.

Sandhill Crane-1 imm. on 23 Oct at Big Wall L.; 1 ad. on 16 Nov at Lake Panorama

✓ Black-bellied Plover-1 on 4 Nov at Big Creek

Lesser Golden-Plover-700 on 7 Oct at Big Wall L.; 1 on 4 Nov at Saylorville

✓ Semipalmated Plover-1 on 3 Nov at Saylorville(+BE,+m.ob.)

✓ American Avocet-9 on 24 Oct at Saylorville

✓ Greater Yellowlegs-19 on 3 Nov, 3 on 27 Nov (large yellowlegs, heavy, upturned bill, louder, harsher call note) at Saylorville

✓ Lesser Yellowlegs-2 on 3 Nov at Saylorville(+BE)(with above Greater-smaller size, shorter, more needle-like bill)

✓ Spotted Sandpiper-1 on 11 Oct at Saylorville

✓ Sanderling-14 on 16 Sep, 4 on 6 Nov at Saylorville

✓ Red Knot-*2 juv. on 3-11 Sep w. of Huxley(+JJD,+m.ob.)

✓ Semipalmated Sandpiper-1 on 24 Oct at Saylorville

Western Sandpiper-2 juv. on 2 Sep in n. Polk Co.(by bill shape, heavy triangular markings on breast); 3 ad. on 3 Sep at Saylorville(rusty scapulars, call note, bill shape); 1 ad. on 6, 14 Sep w. of Huxley(rusty scapulars, bill shape)

✓ Least Sandpiper-1 on 3 Nov at Saylorville(+BE)

✓ Baird's Sandpiper-1 on 13 Nov at Saylorville (small peep, very elongated appearance, scaly looking upperparts due to lighter feather edgings, bill dark, short, and slender, legs black, some light buff wash on breast)

Pectoral Sandpiper-1 on 11 Nov at Saylorville; 6 on 21 Nov at Riverton W.A.

✓ Buff-breasted Sandpiper-17 on 14 Sep, 33 in 3 flocks on 15 Sep(+ASF), 24 on 16 Sep, 1 on 27 Sep, *1 juv. on 15, 18 Oct at Saylorville

✓ Dunlin-1 on 28 Sep, 1 on 24 Nov(+BE) at Saylorville

✓ Stilt Sandpiper-115 on 9 Sep, 160 on 22 Sep(+JSi) at Runnell's W.A.

✓ Short-billed Dowitcher-3 juv. through 18 Sep w. of Huxley; 6 juv. on 22 Sep at Runnell's W.A.(+JSi)(all identified by tu-tu-tu call note)

Long-billed Dowitcher-41 on 29 Sep at Saylorville (barred flanks, solid dark russet underparts on some of them-some gave kek call note); 5 juv. on 2, 16 Nov at Lake Panorama (flushed on both dates to hear kek call note)

✓ Wilson's Phalarope-11 on 6 Sep w. of Huxley(+JJD)

✓ Red-necked Phalarope-4 on 6, 8 Sep w. of Huxley(+JJD)

phalarope sp.-1 on 9 Oct at Saylorville was either a Red or a Red-necked

✓ Parasitic Jaeger-*1 juv. on 3 Sep at Saylorville(+S. Rolfes)

Franklin's Gull-14, 100 on 29 Sep, 6000 on 16 Oct, 1100 on 31 Oct, 6 on 25 Nov at Saylorville

✓ Bonaparte's Gull-1 ad. on 9 Sep at Red Rock Res.; 325 on 31 Oct, 610 on 11 Nov, 1130 on 43 Nov, 340 on 28 Nov at Saylorville

Ring-billed Gull-267 on 2 Sep, 1060 on 11 Oct, 4900 on 24 Nov, and an estimated 10,000+ on 28-30 Nov at Saylorville

✓ California Gull-*1 ad. on 8 Sep, 14-23 Sep, 11-18 Oct at Saylorville(+JJD)

Herring Gull-1 juv. on 9 Oct, only 33 on 28 Nov(very few for so late in the fall) at Saylorville

✓ Black-legged Kittiwake-1 1st-w on 10-22 Nov, 2 1st-w on 28 Nov at Saylorville

✓ Caspian Tern-83 on 20 Sep, 1 ad. through 28 Oct at Saylorville

Common Tern-1 ad. on 2 Sep, 3 ad. on 3 Sep, 5 ad. on 8 Sep, 3 ad. on 11 Sep, 5 ad. and 1 juv. on 28 Sep(+ASF), 4 ad. on 29 Sep, 5 ad. on 30 Sep, 1 ad. on 2 Oct, 1 ad. on 4 Oct at Saylorville

✓ Forster's Tern-48 on 8 Sep, 1 on 24 Oct at Saylorville

✓ Long-eared Owl-1 on 3 Nov at Big Creek

Short-eared Owl-3 on 7 Nov at Teig's M., Story Co.; 19 in late Nov in a field near Weldon(Gladys Black fide SJD)

✓ N. Saw-whet Owl-1 on 24 Nov at Big Creek

✓ Eastern Phoebe-4 on 27 Sep at Saylorville

✓ Great-crested Flycatcher-1 on 23 Sep at Saylorville

✓ Tree Swallow-2000 on 27 Sep at Big Creek S.P.

✓ Winter Wren-1 on 6 Oct at Big Wall L.

✓ Marsh Wren-4 on 23 Oct at Big Wall L.

American Pipit-15 on 22 Sep at Runnell's W.A.(+JSi); 60 on 3 Nov, 1 on 25 Nov at Saylorville

✓ Orange-crowned Warbler-1 on 26 Oct at Bays Branch

✓ Yellow-rumped Warbler-1 on 2 Nov at Bays Branch

✓ Scarlet Tanager-1 on 27 Sep at Saylorville

Lapland Longspur-1 on 4 Oct at Saylorville; 150 on 23 Oct at Big Wall L.

✓ Yellow-headed Blackbird-1 male on 7 Oct at Big Wall L.

✓ Rusty Blackbird-110 on 23 Oct at Big Wall L.

✓ Great-tailed Grackle-1 male entering a roost with common grackles on 25 Sep at Ames(very large grackle, about twice as large as Common Grackles it was with, very long tail); 1 male and 3 females on 49 Nov at Forney L.

✓ Purple Finch-2 on 16 Sep at Saylorville

✓ Red Crossbill-11 on 16 Nov at Lake Panorama

✓ White-winged Crossbill-1 in late Oct at a feeder in Ames(Erv Klaas fide SJD)

✓ Evening Grosbeak-1 on 11 Nov near Guthrie Center(Jon Judson fide SJD)

Other Observers

Pam and Reid Allen(PA,RA)

Beth Brown(BB)

James J. Dinsmore(JJD)

Bery Engebretsen(BE)

Andrew S. Fix(ASF)

Robert K. Myers(RKM)

Wolfgang Oesterreich(WO)
Jim Sinclair(JSi)

Comment

In general, it was an average fall in central Iowa. Waterfowl and shorebirds were present in good numbers, but warblers seemed scarce. Most striking, however, was the lateness of the fall migration this year. For example, there were only two hundred Common Mergansers at Saylorville on 25 Nov, a date when there are normally 5000+ present. Likewise, Herring Gulls were scarce, even in late November when they are usually abundant. Also, some of the waterfowl were much later than normal for their peaks; Hooded Mergansers peaked on 24 Nov, about 2-3 weeks later than normal. The same is true for Bufflehead, which also peaked on 24 Nov.

As happens every fall, there were a few species which were present in larger than normal numbers. This fall, these species included Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, Red-breasted Merganser, Bonaparte's Gull

11-30-90

Carl -

Enclosed are my Fall 1990 Field Reports.
Get ahold of me if you have any questions.

My father said you wanted some
documentations from the Spring 1998 Field Reports.
Which ones? Or do you need all of them,
including those which weren't reviewed by the
Records Committee? Let me know.

Steve