

FIELD REPORTS--FALL 1995

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WEATHER

August was unusually hot, 5.9 degrees above normal. The average rainfall was unequally distributed, being wetter than normal in the north and dryer in the south.

September was 2.1 degrees cooler than normal. Rainfall was slightly below normal, but again above normal in the north and much below normal in the south. There was mild cold front on the 1st and a much stronger one on the 8th. A strong cold front on the 20th to 22nd brought freezing temperature to 90% of the state.

October was slightly cooler and dryer than normal, with cooler temperatures over the last 10 days and snow on the 30th.

November was very cold, 6.8 degrees below normal. Precipitation was normal with most of it as rain on the 1st and snow on the 10th and 27th.

GENERAL TRENDS

The fall season was remarkable for the number of regular and rare species seen, and many of these were found in unusual numbers.

A few early migrant warblers were noted from 15th to 20th of August, but the first major influx was with a mild front on September 1st. A second front on the 8th produced more warblers for the Fall I.O.U meeting. The warbler migration was less prolonged than usual with only a few scattered late migrants.

Shorebird habitat was not extensive, but good numbers and variety of shorebirds were found at some locations such as Saylorville and Coralville reservoirs.

The largest influx of waterfowl occurred on November 2nd and 3rd (SJD). Late October and November were good for loons, grebes, and rare ducks.

There was a massive invasion of Red-breasted Nuthatches beginning in August. Scattered Common Redpolls and Evening Grosbeaks late in the period suggest that this is an invasion year.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

Accidental species reported were Clark's Grebe, White Ibis, Eurasian Wigeon, *Mississippi Kite, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Ruff, Jaeger species, *Laughing Gull, Mew Gull, *California Gull, *Sabine's Gull, Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird, Black-billed Magpie, and Bullock's Oriole. Those marked with "*" will become casual with the next edition of the Official Checklist of Iowa Birds. The White Ibis will be the first for the state if accepted by the Records Committee. Bullock's Oriole will be added to the state list based on a split of Northern Oriole into Baltimore and Bullock's. Rufous-sided Towhee will be split into Eastern and Spotted towhees. There are many records of Spotted Towhees in Iowa but only a few of Bullock's Oriole.

Casual species reported include Red-throated Loon, Pacific Loon, Ibis species, Whimbrel, Red Knot, **Thayer's Gull, **Lesser Black-backed Gull, **Black-legged Kittiwake, Pine Grosbeak, and **Eurasian Tree Sparrow. Those marked with "***" will become regular.

Other rare birds of note include Mute Swan, Prairie Falcon, Yellow Rail, Hudsonian Godwit, Marbled Godwit, White-rumped Sandpiper, Least Tern, Snowy Owl, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Varied Thrush, Cerulean Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, Henslow's Sparrow, Common Redpoll, and Evening Grosbeak. The Hudsonian Godwit and Louisiana Waterthrush were not accepted for lack of details. Both are unusual in fall and can be confused with similar species.

SPECIES DATA (* = documented)

Red-throated Loon: All: 1 first-basic at Saylorville Res. on 29 Oct (*SJD)[2nd earliest], 1 basic at Pleasant Creek L. on 11 Nov (*THK), and 1 basic at Saylorville Res. on 16, 17 Nov (*SJD).

Pacific Loon: All: 1 at Twelve Mile L. in Union Co. on 26 Oct (*THK, *JLF), 1 at Little Wall L. on 28 Oct (*MPr), 1 at Rathbun Res. on 29 Oct (*RLC), 1 at Pleasant Creek L. on 31 Oct (*THK), and 1 at L. Icaria in Adams Co. on 21 Nov (*SJD)[3rd latest].

Common Loon: First: 4 at Spirit L. on 1 Aug (ETh). Last: 1 at Hallett's Quarry in Story Co. on 14 Nov (HZ). High counts: 45 on 7 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD) and 28 at Coralville Res. on 1 Nov (THK). Other early singles were at Trumbull L. on 12 Aug (LAS), Spirit L. on 30 Aug (SJD), West Des Moines on 9 Sep (PJW), and Little Wall L. on 20, 26 Sep (THK, SJD).

Pied-billed Grebe: High counts: 364 at Saylorville Res. on 14 Sep (SJD), 208 at Little Wall L. on 26 Sep (SJD), and 120 at Grover's L. on 30 Sep (LAS).

Horned Grebe: First: 1 at Terra L. from 13 Aug to 21 Oct was in intermediate plumage when first seen but gradually molted to winter plumage (*BE)[record earliest]. Last: 2 on 19 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD). High counts: 13 at Rathbun Res. on 26 Oct (JLF, THK) and 12 on 30 Oct at Little Wall L. (SJD). The only September report was of 5 at L. Manawa on the 24th (BKP/LJP), but there were October reports from 10 locations and November reports from 4 locations.

Eared Grebe: First: 18 Aug at Grover's L. (LAS). Last: 22 Nov at Twelve Mile L. (SJD). High count: 3 on 4 Nov at Spirit L. (LAS). There were reports from 11 locations. The only one from eastern Iowa was at Pleasant Creek L. on 16 Oct (DLD).

Western Grebe: First: 4 at Spirit L. and 1 at Elm L. in Wright Co. on 30 Aug (SJD). Last: 21 Nov at L. Icaria (SJD). High count: 6 on 21 Oct at Spirit L. (JJD, SJD). There were reports from 13 locations, which is more than usual.

Clark's Grebe: 1 on 12, 13 Nov at Pleasant Creek L. (*CE, *THK, *JLF) was seen by many.

American White Pelican: High count: 10,000 on 16 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD, JJD). Pelicans are widespread in Iowa throughout the fall period with increasing numbers found in eastern Iowa, where they were once uncommon. The high count for eastern Iowa was 700 on 1 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK). At Saylorville Res., 164 lingered on 4 Nov (SJD). Singles, several described as injured, were noted at 7 locations in November.

Double-crested Cormorant: High count: 6,100 on 1 Oct at Saylorville Res. (BE).

American Bittern: All: 27 Oct at Big Wall L. (SJD).

Least Bittern: All: 7 on 2 Aug at Forney L. (Carl Priebe fide Ross Silcock fide JJD) and 1 on 26 Sep at Big Wall L. (SJD).

Great Blue Heron: High count: 115 on 13 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK).

Great Egret: Last: 18 Nov at Saylorville Res. (HZ). High count: 165 on 3 Sep at Runnells A. (SJD).

Snowy Egret: All: 1 imm. on 2, 10 Aug at Waubonsie W.A. (BKP/LJP, JLF), 1 ad. on 7 Aug at Waubonsie W.A. (SJD), 1 on 6 Aug at Heron Bend in Lee Co. (CE), 1 on 29 Aug at Midwest Power Ponds (BKP/LJP), and at Union Slough N.W.R. 2 from 13 to 17 Sep (MCK) and 1 imm. on 19 Sep (THK-photo), 20 Sep (JJD), and 27 Sep (MCK)[3rd latest].

Little Blue Heron: All: 1 ad. on 10 Aug at Waubonsie W.A. (JLF).

Cattle Egret: Last: 3 on 21 Oct at Sandhill L. in Woodbury Co. (BFH). High count: 400 on 10 Aug at Waubonsie W.A. (JLF). The only other locations were also from the western edge of the state, with 4 on 24 Sep in Monona Co. (PE) and 2 on 2 Oct at Port Neal in Woodbury Co. (BFH).

Green Heron: Last: 17 Sep near Palo in Linn Co. (DLD).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Last: 1 imm. on 12 Nov at Spirit L. (*LAS)[record latest except for 2 winter records] and 1 imm. on 11 Nov at Saylorville Res. (BE, DT)[ties 2nd latest]. From 1 to 3 were reported from 4 other locations.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: All: 2 imm. on 7, 21 Aug at Waubonsie W.A. (SJD, BKP/LJP), 1 imm. on 12, 22 Aug at Saylorville Res./Big Creek L. (DT, MPr), and 1 imm. on 8, 9 Sep at Green Island W.A. (HZ, JJD, SJD).

Ibis species: All: 2 on 8 Sep at Waubonsie W.A. (BKP/LJP), 1 on 27 Sep at Bays Branch W.A. (SJD), 1 on 21 Oct at Sandhill L. in Woodbury Co. (BFH)[3rd latest], and 1 ad. and 1 imm. on 25 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD-details)[record latest].

White Ibis: Iowa's first and overdue record of this species was a very cooperative immature bird found on 5 Sep at Coralville Res. by James Huntington and seen by many until 16 Sep (*CE, *JLF, *THK-photos, *SJD-photo, *PCP).

Tundra Swan: First: 3 ad. on 29 Oct at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK). Last: on 26 Nov, 7 at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK) and 800 in Allamakee Co. (CE). The latter is also the high count. Birds at other locations were 4 on 2 Nov at Rush L. in Osceola Co. (Craig Van Otterloo fide DCH), 1 imm. on 3 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD), and 1 ad. on 17 Nov at Bays Branch W.A. (SJD).

Trumpeter Swan: All: 1 ad. on 4 Aug near Cosgrove in Johnson Co. remained from the summer period (THK); 3 on 4 Nov at Spirit L. had green neck bands (LAS); 2 ad. that wintered at Black Hawk L. last winter returned with an imm. in tow on 11 Nov (PE, THK-photos); 9 presumably introduced birds with various tags were in the "pen" at Bays Branch W.A. on 15 Nov (THK); and 2 ad. on 26 Nov at Dale Moffitt Res. in Polk Co. had orange patagial tags (SJD).

Mute Swan: All: 1 ad. on 29 Oct, 1 Nov at a gravel pit in NW Marshall Co. (MPr).

Greater White-fronted Goose: First: 10 Sep at Big Sand Mound Preserve (PCP). High count: 200 on 25 Oct at Saylorville Res. (JLF, THK).

Snow Goose: First: 3 Sep at Little Swan L. in Dickinson Co. (LAS). High count: 100,000 on 4 Nov at De Soto N.W.R. (BKP/LJP).

Ross's Goose: First: 30 Oct at Swan L. in Carroll Co. (DS). High count: 8 on 25 Nov at De Soto N.W.R. (SJD).

Canada Goose: No one reported this abundant species that is widespread across Iowa and remains to winter.

Green-winged Teal: First: 22 Aug at Heron Bend (SJD).

American Black Duck: First: 24 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD). High count: 35 on 24 Nov at Pool 9 in Allamakee Co. (THK). From 2 to 4 were reported from 4 other locations.

Northern Pintail: High count: 15,000 on 13 Oct at Coralville Res. (SJD).

Blue-winged Teal: Last: an injured female at Ottumwa on 28 Nov (SJD). High count: 900 on 13 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Northern Shoveler: High count: 200 on 2 Nov at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP).

Gadwall: First: 24 Aug at Trumbull L. (THK). High counts: 1,040 on 29 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD) and 1,000 on 29 Oct at Rathbun Res. (RLC).

Eurasian Wigeon: A male on 27 Oct at De Soto N.W.R. (*TJH) is only the second fall record; the other was from 1933.

American Wigeon: High count: 660 on 13 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Canvasback: High count: 15,000 on 15 Nov at Montrose in Lee Co. (SJD). A pair with 2 young was at West Hottes L. in Dickinson Co. on 18 Aug (LAS). A flightless pair at Montrose on 22 Aug could have summered (SJD).

Redhead: High count: 150 on 4 Nov at Rathbun Res. (RLC).

Greater Scaup: First: 1 female on 30 Oct at Little Wall L. (SJD-details). From 1 to 3 were reported from 7 other locations across the state.

Lesser Scaup: High count: 7,600 on 2 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Oldsquaw: First: 28 Oct at Rice L. in Winnebago Co. (CJF). There were reports from 6 other locations.

Black Scoter: All: 1 at Pine L. in Hardin Co. from 24 Oct to 3 Nov (MPr)[3rd earliest], 1 on 24 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD)[3rd earliest], 1 on 31 Oct at Cedar L. (THK), and 2 on 19 Nov at Pleasant Creek L. (CE).

Surf Scoter: All: 4 on 6 Oct and 1 on 7 Oct at Spirit L. (*ETH, SJD), 1-2 from 15 Oct to 5 Nov at Pleasant Creek L. (CE, m.ob.), 1 on 18 Oct at Sun Valley L. in Ringgold Co. (SJD), 1 on 30 Oct at Hallett's Quarry (JJD, SJD), 1 on 11 Nov at Rathbun Res. (RLC), and 1 on 16 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

White-winged Scoter: All: 1 female/imm. on 28 Oct at Twelve Mile L. (SJD), up to 4 males from 2 to 12 Nov at Pleasant Creek L. (THK, m.ob.), 1 female/imm. (or more?) from 4 to 18 Nov on or near Spirit L. (LAS, ETH, SJD), and a pair from 16 to 24 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD, m.ob.).

Common Goldeneye: First: on 4 Nov, 8 at De Soto N.W.R. (BKP/LJP) and 2 at Saylorville Res. (SJD). High count: 2,000 on 24 Nov at Pool 9 in Allamakee Co. (THK).

Bufflehead: High count: 140 on 24 Nov at West Okoboji (RTh).

Hooded Merganser: High count: 62 on 22 Oct at Saylorville Res. (DT).

Common Merganser: First: 8 on 4 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD). High count: 4,000 on 27 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Red-breasted Merganser: First: 23 Oct at Hallett's Quarry (SJD). High count: 109 on 8 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Ruddy Duck: High count: 500 on 21 Oct at Pool 13 in Clinton Co. (PCP).

Turkey Vulture: High count: 47 on 24 Sep at Stone P. (BFH).

Osprey: First: 1 Aug at Saylorville Res. (DT). Last: 4 Nov in Appanoose Co. (RLC). At hawk-watches, 17 were seen at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr) and 7 (unusually low count) were at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP). By contrast, the roving Steve Dinsmore saw 49 during the fall. There were 7 August reports.

Mississippi Kite: A downy young was still in the nest at Clive on 14 Aug (JLF), and an adult and a juvenile were seen up to 10 Sep (JRC). The last bird was seen on 13 Sep (PJW)[3rd latest].

Bald Eagle: High count: 90 on 24 Nov in Allamakee Co. (THK). Scattered adults and immatures were seen from August through October and larger numbers appeared in November. The percentage of young birds was high as exemplified by the 26 immatures and 8 adults at Saylorville Res. on 16 Nov (SJD).

Northern Harrier: High counts: 11 on 2 Oct at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP) and 27 on 14 Oct at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: First: 30 Aug in Osceola Co. (SJD). High counts: 134 on 1 Oct at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr) and 36 on 2 Oct at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP). Other high counts at Grammer Grove W.A. were 104 on 28 Sep and 109 on 17 Oct (BPr).

Cooper's Hawk: High count: 12 on 13 Oct at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr).

Northern Goshawk: First: 24 Sep at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP). There were 5 other sightings, all of immatures.

Red-shouldered Hawk: All: 23 Sep at Effigy Mounds N.M. (DeC), 15 Oct at Algona (MCK), and 28 Nov at Mason City (CJF).

Broad-winged Hawk: First: 1 ad. on 3 Aug n. of Iowa City (JLF). Last: 21 Oct at Grammer Grove W.A. (*BPr)[2nd latest]. High counts: on 20 Sep, 178 at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP) and 81 at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr). Another late bird was at Coralville Res. on 13 Oct (SJD)[3rd latest].

Swainson's Hawk: First: 13 Sep at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP). Last: 3 Oct in Marshall Co. (SJD). High count: 97 on 2 Oct and a record 245 for the season at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP). The only other report was 1 on 27 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Red-tailed Hawk: High counts: 139 on 20 Oct at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP) and 90 on 14 Oct at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr). Harlan's Hawks were reported in Dickinson Co. on 29 Oct (LAS), in Cass Co. on 14 Nov (PJW), and in Hardin Co. on 17 Nov (MPr). An albino was in Johnson Co. on 21 Nov (THK).

Rough-legged Hawk: First: 12 Oct in Jasper Co. (JLF).

Golden Eagle: All: 1 imm. on 19 Oct at Waterman Creek in O'Brien Co. (Michelle Olson fide LAS), 2 on 16 Nov and 4 on 19 Nov along county road A26 in Allamakee Co. (JLF, DeC), and 1 ad. on 28 Nov in Cherokee Co. (DK).

Merlin: First: 30 Aug at Spirit L. (SJD-details)[ties 2nd earliest]. Last: 22 Nov at Ida Grove (PE). There were 15 reports from September and 8 from October for this increasingly common species.

Peregrine Falcon: First: 19 Aug at Heron Bend in Lee Co. (CE). Last: 26 Nov in Clay Co. (LAS). There were 15 reports from September and 6 from October – a pattern very similar to Merlin.

Prairie Falcon: All: 7 Nov at Bays Branch W.A. (SJD-details).

Gray Partridge: Reports were from O'Brien, Sac, Calhoun, Cerro Gordo, Guthrie, and Story counties.

Ring-necked Pheasant: An albino on 19 Nov was in Cherokee Co. (DBi).

Ruffed Grouse: All: 2 on 16 Sep at Stephen's F. in Lucas Co. (SJD) and 3 on 16 Nov at Effigy Mounds in Allamakee Co. (JLF).

Northern Bobwhite: 1 was on a porch in Clive on 29 Oct (JRC).

Yellow Rail: All: 2 on 28 Sep at Snake Creek M. (THK) and 1 on 14 Oct at L. Macbride (JLF).

Virginia Rail: All: 23 Sep at Otter Creek M. (CE) and 27 Sep at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK).

Sora: Last: on 27 Sep, 6 at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK) and 1 at Snake Creek M. (THK).

Common Moorhen: All: ad. and yg. on 2 Aug at Forney L. (Carl Priebe fide Ross Silcock fide JJD), 1 on 30 Aug at Union Slough N.W.R. (SJD), 5 on 9 Sep at Green Island W.A. (SJD, m.ob.), and 3 on 9 Sep at Goose L. in Clinton Co. (SJD, m.ob.).

American Coot: High counts: 8,200 on 19 Oct at Saylorville Res. (BE) and 14,000 on 30 Oct at Little Wall L. (SJD).

Sandhill Crane: All: 2 ad. and 2 imm. on 4 Sep at Sweet M. (DeC), 2 ad. and 1 imm. on 8 Sep at Muskrat Sl. (SJD, JJD, HZ), 2 on 9 Sep at Green Island W.A. (SJD, JJD, HZ), 2 on 24 Sep at Sabula in Jackson Co. (PCP), 2 on 3 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD), 1 on 30 Oct at Amana L. (CE), and 50 on 4 Nov in NW Sioux Co. (Marty Ebe fide SJD).

Black-bellied Plover: First: 1 Aug at Coralville Res. (CE-details)[ties record earliest]. Last: 4 Nov at Big Creek L. (MPr, SJD). High count: 12 on 30 Sep at Saylorville Res. (BE). Small numbers were reported from 10 locations in August and September.

American Golden-Plover: First: 15 Aug at Coralville Res. (THK). Last: a bird with an injured wing at Swan L. in Johnson Co. from 21 to 27 Nov (THK-photos)[record latest]. High count: 30 on 13 Oct at Coralville Res. (SJD). Small numbers were reported from 8 locations.

Semipalmated Plover: Last: 24 Oct at Coralville Res. (THK). High count: 15 on 4 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK).

Piping Plover: All: 1 imm. on 5 Aug at Port Neal (BFH); 2 on 9 Aug (BKP/LJP), 3 on 10 Aug (JLF), and 1 on 8 Sep (BKP/LJP) at Midwest Power Ponds; 1-2 on 13 to 19 Aug at Rathbun Res. (TNJ, m.ob.); 1 on 16 Aug at Coralville Res. (CE, THK); and 1 on 30 Aug at Meinking M. (SJD).

Killdeer: High count: 131 on 20 Aug in Hardin Co. (HZ).

American Avocet: Last: 7 on 30 Oct at Heron Bend in Lee Co. (JLF). High count: 38 on 13 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD). Reports from 6 locations were more than usual for fall.

Greater Yellowlegs: Last: 17 Nov at Paullina in O'Brien Co. (DK).

Lesser Yellowlegs: Last: 4 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Solitary Sandpiper: A bird found at L. Macbride on 8 Oct (JH) remained to 13 Oct (THK-photo)[ties record latest].

Willet: Last: 1 Oct at Bjorkboda M. in Hamilton Co. (MJ-details)[3rd latest]. Other singles were at the four reservoirs and Blue L., and 2 were at Runnells A. (m.ob.).

Spotted Sandpiper: Last: 3 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Upland Sandpiper: Birds were at the Seven Cities Sod Farm in Scott Co. from 22 Aug to 9 Sep with a high count of 16 on 31 Aug (PCP). The only other report was of 2 on 26 Aug at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Whimbrel: All: 1 juv. on 27 Aug at Saylorville Res. (*SJD, *JSi) and 1 on 1 Oct at Bjorkboda M. in Hamilton Co. (*MJ)[record latest]. These are only the 4th and 5th fall records for Iowa.

Hudsonian Godwit: The one report was undocumented. Fall records of this species require confirming details, because most migrate to the East Coast.

Marbled Godwit: All: 25 to 29 Sep at Coralville Res. (CE-details, THK-details)[2nd latest].

Ruddy Turnstone: First: 3 on 1 Aug at Rathbun Res. (RLC). Last: 2 from 5 to 13 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK). Other reports of 1-2 birds in August were from Port Neal (BFH), Saylorville Res. (m.ob.), Red Rock Res. (JLF), and Midwest Power Ponds (BKP/LJP).

Red Knot: All: 1 juv. on 13, 14 Aug at Rathbun Res. (TNJ, *JLF, *THK-photos), 1 basic on 1 Sep at Saylorville Res. (*SJD), and 1 juv. on 29 Sep, 1 Oct at Saylorville Res. (*SJD, *CE)[2nd latest]. A report of a bird in alternate plumage was received from 22 Jul at Rathbun Res. (*TNJ)[record earliest].

Sanderling: Last: 6 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD). High count: 56 on 16 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD). There were many reports from five locations from early August to early November.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Last: 2 on 12 Oct at Coralville Res. (JLF).

Western Sandpiper: First: 2 on 2 Aug at Zirbel Sl. (CJF). Last: 5 on 29 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK). There were 9 other reports of singles from 4 locations.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 1 was identified on 11, 12 Sep at Coralville Res. (*THK).

Baird's Sandpiper: Last: 5 on 4 Nov at Saylorville Res. (MPr, SJD). High count: 20 on 31 Aug at Coralville Res. (CE).

Pectoral Sandpiper: Last: 8 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD). High count: 1,000 on 27 Aug at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper: A report is referred to the Records Committee.

Dunlin: First: 13 on 9 Sep at Coralville Res. (CE). Last: 1 on 22 Nov at Twelve Mile L. (SJD). High count: 23 on 22 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Stilt Sandpiper: Last: 3 on 22 Oct at Colyn A. in Lucas Co. (RLC). High count: 48 on 16 Sep at Colyn A. (SJD).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Last: 12 Sep in Hardin Co. (MPr). High count: 40 on 27 Aug at Saylorville Res. (SJD). There were August reports from 10 locations and September reports from 5 locations from all areas of the state, a good showing for this species.

Ruff: A female in alternate plumage was found at Coralville Res. from 21 to 26 Aug (*THK-photo, *CE, *JLF)[record earliest of 3 fall records].

Short-billed Dowitcher: Last: 2 juv. on 21 Sep at Saylorville Res. (THK)[ties 2nd latest]. This species, which is usually common in August and early September, was only reported from 4 locations with up to 3 birds; however, this may be due to under-reporting.

Long-billed Dowitcher: First: 2 juv. on 21 Sep at Saylorville Res. (THK). Last: 1 juv. on 3 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD). High count: 29 on 9 Oct at Goodwater M. (TNJ).

Common Snipe: High count: 50 on 14 Sep at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK).

Wilson's Phalarope: All: 1 on 2 Aug at Fort Atkinson in Winneshiek Co. (DeC), 3 on 24 Aug at Red Rock Res. (THK), and 1 on 26 Aug at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Red-necked Phalarope: All: 1-2 at Saylorville Res. on 24, 26 Aug and 2, 14 Sep (SJD, BE); up to 3 at Coralville Res. from 25 Aug to 18 Sep (m.ob.); 7 on 30 Aug at Spirit L. (SJD); and 4 on 12 Sep at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP).

Red Phalarope: All: 1 first-basic on 19 Sep at Saylorville Res. (*SJD)[2nd earliest] and 1 basic from 22 to 26 Oct at Saylorville Res. (*SJD, *THK, *JLF)[ties 2nd latest].

Jaeger species: A small, immature bird was seen briefly on 24 Sep at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP).

Laughing Gull: All: 1 second-summer on 13 Aug at Saylorville Res. (*DT), 1 ad.-basic from 3 to 6 Sep (*SJD-photo, *JSi, *THK, JLF), 1 first-basic on 30 Sep at Pleasant Valley in Scott Co. (*PCP)[3rd latest], and 1 ad.-basic on 19, 20 Oct at Saylorville Res. (*SJD)[2nd latest].

Franklin's Gull: High count: 40,000 on 7 Oct at Spirit L. (SJD). Other counts of 1,000 to 15,000 birds were noted from 30 Aug to 21 Oct at 7 locations in central and western Iowa. Smaller numbers were seen in eastern Iowa, the most interesting of which were 75 in a parking lot in Davenport on 26 Oct (PCP). A late bird at Saylorville was nearly in alternate plumage on 18 Nov (THK) and fully alternate on 24, 30 Nov (SJD, JJD).

Bonaparte's Gull: First: 2 on 19 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD). Last: 5 on 30 Nov at Rathbun Res. (TNJ). High count: 419 on 3 Nov at Big Creek L. (SJD).

Mew Gull: Two reports are referred to the Records Committee.

Ring-billed Gull: The influx of this abundant species started early with 598 at Saylorville Res. by 24 Aug and 2,500 by 24 Oct (SJD).

California Gull: 1 in first-basic plumage was at Runnells A. on 3 Sep (*SJD-photo, *JSi) and below the dam at Red Rock Res. on 5, 6 Sep (*THK, *JLF).

Herring Gull: First: 4 imm. on 7 Aug at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Thayer's Gull: First-winter birds were reported on 4 Nov at Coralville Res. (JLF)[3rd earliest] and 24 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD). The status of this species will change to regular, and I will no longer require documentation of first-year birds even though the identification can be difficult. Older birds, which are less common and more difficult to identify, should be documented. One such bird was reported without details.

Iceland Gull: A first-winter bird was at Saylorville Res. on 17, 18, and 30 Nov (*SJD-photo, *THK-photo, *JLF)[record earliest].

Lesser Black-backed Gull: A report will be referred to the Records Committee.

Glaucous Gull: All, first-year: 12 to 19 Nov at Black Hawk L. (PE, THK-photo, BFH)[2nd earliest], 14, 15 Nov at West Okoboji (*ETh)[3rd earliest], 16 to 30 Nov at Saylorville Res. (SJD, JJD, BE, DT), and 30 Nov at Red Rock Res. (JLF).

Black-legged Kittiwake: All: 1 first-summer/second-winter from 24 to 28 Sep at L. Manawa (*BKP/LJP-photo, *THK-photo, *JLF-photo)[record earliest], 1 first-winter on 19 Nov at Saylorville Res. (*SJD, *JJD), and 1 first-winter on 30 Nov at Red Rock Res. (JLF). The bird at Lake Manawa is the oldest bird of this species in Iowa and also very early.

Sabine's Gull: All, juveniles: 1 on 6, 7 Sep at Terra L. in Polk Co. (*DT, *PJW, *SJD, *THK)[2nd earliest], 1-2 from 14 Sep to 8 Oct at Saylorville Res. (*SJD, *THK, *CD, m.ob.)[3rd earliest], 1-2 from 2 Sep to 14 Oct at Black Hawk L. (*PE, *JLF), and 1 on 22 Oct at Pool 13 in Clinton Co. (*PCP). This is a record number of birds for Iowa.

Caspian Tern: Last: 3 on 1 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD, CE). High count: 134 on 13 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD). This species left early this year.

Common Tern: First: 2 on 14 Aug at Rathbun Res. (JLF, THK-details). Last: 2 ad. on 7 Oct at Storm L. (SJD-details)[3rd latest]. High count: 13 ad. on 8 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Forster's Tern: Last: 26 Oct at Red Rock Res. (JLF, THK). High count: 57 on 30 Aug at Spirit L. (SJD).

Least Tern: At Midwest Power Ponds in Pottawattamie Co., there were 2 ad. and 2 yg. on 2 Aug, 2 ad. and 3 yg. on 29 Aug, and 2 birds of 5 Sep (BKP/LJP). At Port Neal in Woodbury Co., there were 24 birds (15 ad., 2 first-summer, 4 fledglings, and 3 downy yg.) on 5 Aug (BFH). Elsewhere, migrants included 2 on 14 Aug at Rathbun Res. (JLF, THK) and 1 imm. on 30 Aug at Big Wall L. (SJD).

Black Tern: Last: 2 Sep at Midwest Power Ponds (BKP/LJP). High count: 250 on 22 Aug at Montrose (SJD). This species was common across Iowa from mid to late August.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Last: 4 on 8 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Last: 25 Sep at Otter Creek M. (MPr) and Coralville Res. (THK).

Snowy Owl: All: 13 Nov at Spirit L. (Sean Peterson fide ETh).

Long-eared Owl: First: 25 Oct in Guthrie Co. (Jon Judson fide SJD). Other reports were from Big Creek S.P. (MPr), Crawford Creek R.A. in Ida Co. (PE), and Backbone S.P. (DLD).

Short-eared Owl: First: 2 Oct in Wapello Co. (TNJ). Other reports were from Appanoose, Cherokee, and Story counties.

Common Nighthawk: Last: 20 on 12 Oct at Saylorville Res. (DT). High counts: 70 on 2 Sep at Algona (MCK) and hundreds on 6 Sep at Johnston (DT).

Whip-poor-will: All: 1 singing on 8 Sep along Wapsipinicon R. in Clinton Co. (SJD), 1 singing on 10 Sep near Booneville in Dallas Co. (DT), and 1 on 16 Sep at Five Ridge Prairie in Plymouth Co. (BFH).

Chimney Swift: High counts: 400 on 12 Sep at Cedar Rapids (DLD) and 500 on 28 Sep at Ames (HZ).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Late birds include 1 on 7 Oct at Cherokee (DBi) and an immature male at a Cedar Rapids feeder on 16 Nov (*JLF, *THK-photos).

Selasphorus species: A Rufous-type hummingbird was at a feeder in Cedar Rapids from at least 4 to 25 Nov (*JLF, *THK-photo, *CE, *PCP). It was captured on 25 Nov and placed in a greenhouse at Kirkwood Community College (Rob Bradley-photos).

Red-headed Woodpecker: On 13 Sep, 43 were migrating past Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP). In contrast to last year, the acorn crop was poor and most of the red-heads left the state.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Summer birds that likely nested included an ad. on 22 Jun and an ad. and juv. on 4 Aug at Oak Grove P. in Sioux Co. (JV), 5 including juveniles on 5 Aug at Effigy Mounds N.M. in Allamakee Co. (DeC), 3 on 7 Aug near Bellevue in Jackson Co. (PCP), and 2 imm. on 25 Aug in Dubuque Co. (PE).

Northern Flicker: Migrants were noted in north-central Iowa on 19, 20 Sep (THK).

Pileated Woodpecker: 1 was at A. A. Call S.P. in Kossuth Co. on 18 Nov (SJD).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: First: on 19 Aug at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr), Appanoose Co. (RLC), and Coralville Res. (THK). Last: 30 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: Last: 1 singing on 17 Sep in Linn Co. (DLD). High count: 50 on 9 Sep at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (RLC).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: First: 20 Aug at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). Last: 22 Sep at Hickory Hill P. (THK). There were 7 other reports.

Alder Flycatcher: 1 on 31 Aug in Boone Co. was identified by its sharp "peep" note (DT)[2nd latest]. There is very little information on the fall migration of Alder Flycatcher in Iowa and surrounding states. If the call note is reliable for identification, perhaps Iowa birders with "good ears" can add further information on the fall occurrence of this species.

Willow Flycatcher: 1 was singing on 24 Aug at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Eastern Phoebe: Last: 30 Oct at Swan L. in Carroll Co. (DS).

Great Crested Flycatcher: Last: 13 Sep at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP).

Western Kingbird: All: 1 on 7 Aug in Mills Co. (BKP/LJP), 3 on 7 Aug in Fremont Co. (SJD), and 1 on 24 Aug in Palo Alto Co. (THK).

Eastern Kingbird: Last: 13 Sep at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP). High count: 66 on 19 Aug in Appanoose Co. (RLC).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: All: 31 Jul in NW Linn Co. (*DLD), 16 Oct in NW Dickinson Co. (*RRB, *ETh)[ties 2nd latest].

Purple Martin: At L. Manawa, 500 were present on 11 Aug and 50 on 23 Aug (BKP/LJP).

Tree Swallow: Last: 21 Oct at Eagle Point P. in Clinton (PCP). High count: 500 on 25 Sep at Coralville Res. (CE). Tree Swallow numbers were thought to be low across the state (THK). An albino was at Saylorville Res. on 21 Sep (JLF).

Cliff Swallow: Last: 1 crouched on the edge of the road on 11 Oct at Red Rock Res. (THK)[3rd latest].

Barn Swallow: Last: 3 Nov at Pleasant Creek L. (JLF, THK). High count: 2,000 on 19 Sep in north-central Iowa (THK). Barn Swallows blanked the lakes in Iowa in mid-September and greatly outnumbered Tree Swallows (THK). Several were noted in late October at various locations.

Blue Jay: At Hitchcock N.A., 4,061 were migrating from 20 Sep to 4 Oct (BKP/LJP). On 30 Sep, 95 were migrating in Dickinson Co. (ETh). An albino was at Lake City on 22 Aug (DS).

Black-billed Magpie: 1-2 were seen in western Plymouth Co. on 9, 19 Nov (BFH).

American Crow: Numbers at the Ames roost increased from 1,040 on 3 Sep to 3,500 on 22 Oct (JJD).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: First: 20 Aug near Ames (Jim Pease fide JJD). High count: 23 on 10 Sep at State Forest Nursery in Ames (SJD). The massive invasion was characterized by many reports from late August to mid-September. Although many of these birds probably passed through Iowa, this species remained common through the end of the period.

Brown Creeper: First: 21 Sep at Diamond L. (MPr) and Mason City (CJF).

Carolina Wren: One at West Okoboji on 18 Aug (LAS) was unusually far north. Other reports were from Polk, Story, Johnson, Mills, and Van Buren counties.

House Wren: Last: 8 Oct at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr).

Winter Wren: First: 21 Sep at Diamond L. (MPr) and Decorah (DeC).

Sedge Wren: Last: 4 on 8 Oct at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK). High count: 24 on 4 Aug at Oak Grove P. (JV).

Marsh Wren: Last: 22 Oct at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: First: 2 on 23 Sep at Trumbull L. (LAS).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: First: 9 Sep at Moorehead P. (PE).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Last: 22 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK).

Eastern Bluebird: Migrating flocks were noted on 21 Oct at Saylorville Res. (DT).

Mountain Bluebird: One was found on 12 Apr east of Sutherland in O'Brien Co. (*DK)[record latest].

Veery: 1-4 were noted at 4 locations from 1 to 9 Sep.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: All: 8 Sep at Saylorville Res. and 17 Sep at Ames (SJD).

Swainson's Thrush: First: 1 on 4 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK). Last: 6 on 22 Sep at Hickory Hill P. (THK). High count: 12 heard at night on 7 Sep at Ames (SJD). There were two reports from October without details. My rule of thumb is that October and April thrushes are Hermits until proven otherwise.

Hermit Thrush: Last: 29 Oct at L. Ahquabi (JSi). Relatively late birds in northern Iowa were at Spirit L. on 4 Nov (LAS) and Kossuth Co. on 12 Nov (MCK). One was reported in September. My corollary rule is that September and May thrushes are not Hermits until proven otherwise. This does not mean that they cannot occur, but rather that our data on early and late dates is of no value if the records are not well substantiated for these difficult-to-identify species.

American Robin: High count: 350 at Lake City on 20 Oct (DS).

Varied Thrush: A female was at Cedar Rapids on 3 Nov (JLF).

Gray Catbird: Last: 30 Oct at Cedar Rapids (DLD). Another was at Saylorville Res. on 14 Oct (JRC).

Northern Mockingbird: All: 1 at Goose L. in Clinton Co. on 9 Sep (SJD, JJD), 8 at Big Sand Mound Preserve on 10 Sep (PCP).

Brown Thrasher: Last: a fresh road-kill on 26 Nov in Wayne Co. (SJD). Another was in Union Co. on 22 Nov (SJD).

American Pipit: First: 17 Sep at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK) and Saylorville Res. (SJD). Last: 10 on 25 Oct at Saylorville Res. (THK). High count: 200 on 18 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Northern Shrike: First: 21 Oct at Trumbull L. (LAS). There were 20 reports from 15 counties, with only 2 south of Interstate 80 in Louisa and Appanoose counties.

Loggerhead Shrike: 1 in Clay Co. on 19 Nov (LAS) was unusually far north.

White-eyed Vireo: All: 1 was calling at E. B. Lyons N.P. in Dubuque Co. on 25 Aug (PE).

Bell's Vireo: All: 4 Aug at Oak Grove P. (JV), 23 Aug at Council Bluffs (BKP/LJP), and 10 Sep at Rathbun Res. (RLC).

Solitary Vireo: First: 30 Aug at Pilot Knob S.P. (SJD). Last: 8 Oct in Johnson Co. (DLD). High count: 7 on 12 Sep at Moorehead P. (PE).

Warbling Vireo: Last: 27 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (*MPr)[record latest].

Philadelphia Vireo: First: 24 Aug in Delaware Co. (JLF). Last: 27 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). There were 12 reports of 1-3 birds.

Red-eyed Vireo: Last: 27 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). High count: 33 on 8 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Blue-winged Warbler: Last: 16 Sep at Stephen's F. in Lucas Co. (SJD, JJD)[ties 3rd latest]. There were 4 August and 2 September reports.

Golden-winged Warbler: First: 27 Aug at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). Last: 25 Sep at Luckenbill Woods in Des Moines Co. (SJD). High count: 5 on 1, 8 Sep at Hickory Hill P. (THK).

Tennessee Warbler: First: 20 Aug at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). Last: 15 Oct at Croton U. (RLC). High count: 10 on 9 Sep at Clinton (SJD) and Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (RLC).

Orange-crowned Warbler: First: 10 Sep at Big Sand Mounds Preserve (PCP). Last: 5 Nov at Cedar L. (CE). High count: 6 on 27 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr).

Nashville Warbler: First: 21 Aug at Grammer Grove W.A. (Russ Widner fide MPr). Last: 13 Nov at Lock and Dam 9 in Allamakee Co. (DK-details)[record latest]. High count: 10 on 31 Aug at Spirit L. (SJD).

Northern Parula: First: 3 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). Last: 23 Sep at Lake View (PE). A total of 7 birds were reported from 5 locations.

Yellow Warbler: Last: 13 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK). There were 2 other reports.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: First: 20 Aug at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr) and Hickory Hill P. (THK). Last: 27 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). High count: 25 on 2 Sep at Hickory Hill P. (CE).

Magnolia Warbler: First: 31 Aug at Diamond L. (MPr). Last: 15 Oct at Croton U. (RLC). High count: 13 on 12 Sep at Moorehead P. (PE).

Cape May Warbler: First: 21 Aug at L. Meyer in Winneshiek Co. (DeC). Last: 18 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK). There were 18 birds reported from 9 locations.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: First: 1 Sep at Hickory Hill P. (JLF). Last: 11 Sep at Lake View and Moorehead P. (PE). Males and females were observed at Hickory Hill P. from 1 to 10 Sep and seen by many observers. Other records were from Algona on 7 Sep (MCK), Saylorville Res. on 8, 9 Sep (SJD, DT), Coralville Res. on 8 Sep (JLF), Wildcat Den S.P. on 8 Sep (PCP), and A. A. Call S.P. on 10 Sep (MCK).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: First: 8 Sep at Algona (MCK). Last: 26 Nov at L. Ahquabi (JSi). High count: 120 on 15 Oct at Croton U. (RLC).

Black-throated Green Warbler: First: 23 Aug at Cardinal M. (DeC). Last: 27 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr).

Blackburnian Warbler: First: 15 Aug at Moorehead P. (PE). Last: 22 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK). High count: 12 on 9 Sep at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (RLC).

Yellow-throated Warbler: One at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 9 Sep (RLC) is one of few fall records.

Palm Warbler: First: 14 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD) and Coralville Res. (JLF).

Bay-breasted Warbler: First: 20 Aug at Moorehead P. (PE). Last: 23 Sep at Lake View (PE). High count: 40 on 10 Sep at A. A. Call S.P. (MCK).

Blackpoll Warbler: The only report was 1 on 16 Sep at Stephen's F. in Lucas Co. (SJD).

Cerulean Warbler: On 27 Aug, 3 males were singing at Dolliver S.P. in Webster Co. (MCK, LAS). This is another species that is rarely recorded in fall.

Black-and-white Warbler: First: 15 Aug at Moorehead P. (PE). Last: 4 Nov at Clear L. (Vergil Eness fide CJF-details)[record latest]. High count: 12 on 12 Sep at Moorehead P. (PE).

American Redstart: Last: 1 Oct at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). High count: 35 on 2 Sep at Hickory Hill P. (CE).

Worm-eating Warbler: 1 on 20 Aug at Croton U. (RLC) is one of few fall records.

Louisiana Waterthrush: There were 2 September reports without details.

Kentucky Warbler: All: 2 on 20 Aug at Croton U. (RLC) and 1 on 31 Aug at Walnut Woods in Polk Co. (DT).

Connecticut Warbler: All, with details: 31 Aug at Walnut Woods (DT), 1 Sep at Hickory Hill P. (THK), and 9 Sep at L. Meyer (DeC).

Mourning Warbler: First: 21 Aug at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). Last: 9 Sep at Clinton (SJD).

Common Yellowthroat: Last: 2 Oct at Otter Creek M. (MPr).

Wilson's Warbler: First: 20 Aug at Moorehead P. (PE). Last: 27 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr).

Canada Warbler: First: 20 Aug at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr), Hickory Hill P. (THK), and Croton U. (RLC). Last: 8 Oct at Moorehead P. (*PE)[record latest]. At White Pine Hollow in Dubuque Co., 2 birds on 10 Aug were probably summer residents (Molly Havlik fide JJD).

Scarlet Tanager: Last: 22 Sep at Hickory Hill P. (THK).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Last: 2 Oct in Clive at a feeder (JRC).

Blue Grosbeak: All: 7 Aug in Mills (BKP/LJP) and Fremont (SJD) counties, 9, 11 Aug in Pottawattamie Co. (BKP/LJP), and 2 Sep in Fremont Co. (BKP/LJP).

Indigo Bunting: Last: 29 Sep at Coralville Res. (THK).

Dickcissel: Last: 7 Oct in Dickinson Co. (SJD).

Spotted Towhee: All: 13 Oct at Marshalltown (Betty Savage fide MPr) and Moorehead P. (PE), and 22 Oct at Trumbull L. (LAS). The American Ornithologists' Union has split Rufous-side Towhee into Eastern and Spotted towhees, so they should be reported separately from now on.

American Tree Sparrow: First: 19 Oct at Mason City (CJF).

Chipping Sparrow: Last: 5 Nov at Moorehead P. (PE) and Cedar Rapids (JLF).

Clay-colored Sparrow: All: 21 Sep at Rathbun Res. (SJD).

Vesper Sparrow: Last: 11 Nov in northeastern Linn Co. (THK-details).

Lark Sparrow: Last: 23 Aug at Big Creek L. (SJD).

Savannah Sparrow: Last: 22 Oct in Marshall Co. (MPr).

Henslow's Sparrow: 1 was still singing at L. Sugema in Van Buren Co. on 22 Aug (SJD).

Le Conte's Sparrow: All: 1-3 on 21, 23 Sep at Snake Creek M. (JLF, THK, CE), 1 on 7 Oct at Barringer Sl. (LAS), and 10 on 8 Oct at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: All: 6 on 21 Sep at Snake Creek M. (JLF, THK) and 1 on 27 Sep at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK).

Fox Sparrow: First: 18 Sep at Cardinal M. (*DeC)[record earliest].

Lincoln's Sparrow: First: 2 Sep at Saylorville Res. (*BE)[2nd earliest]. Four others were noted between 9 and 18 Sep.

White-throated Sparrow: First: 9 Sep at Moorehead P. (PE).

White-crowned Sparrow: First: 27 Sep at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK).

Harris's Sparrow: First: 27 Sep at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK).

Dark-eyed Junco: First: 17 Sep at Rathbun Res. (RLC).

Lapland Longspur: First: 14 Oct at Saylorville Res. (SJD). High count: 1,000 on 12 Nov at Cone M. (THK). Only a few flocks were noted.

Snow Bunting: First: 11 Nov in Linn Co. (THK). There were 3 other reports.

Bobolink: All: 34 on 23 Aug at Cardinal M. (DeC), 50 at Ventura M. on 23 Aug (CJF), 50 on 24 Aug in Palo Alto Co. (THK), and 3 on 25 Aug at Union Slough N.W.R. (THK).

Eastern Meadowlark: Last: 2 on 15 Oct at Croton U. (RLC).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Last: 2 on 9 Sep at Green Island W.A. (SJD).

Rusty Blackbird: First: 6 on 11 Oct at Cardinal M. (DeC).

Brewer's Blackbird: All: 5 on 21 Oct at Brower's L. in Woodbury Co. (BFH).

Great-tailed Grackle: All: up to 7 at Midwest Power Ponds on 7, 11 Aug and 4 Sep (BKP/LJP); 7 on 25 Aug at Spring Run in Dickinson Co. (THK); 1 on 30 Aug at Big Wall L. (SJD); and 8 on 19 Sep at Dan Green Sl. in Clay Co. (THK).

Baltimore Oriole: High counts: 20 on 20 Aug at Runnells A. (JSi) and 40 on 7 Sep at Saylorville Res. (SJD). The American Ornithologists' Union has split Northern Oriole into Baltimore and Bullock's orioles, so they should be reported under the new names.

Bullock's Oriole: 1 male on 3 Sep at Red Rock Res. (*SJD) is one of few Iowa records of this "new" species. All of the records will be reviewed by the Records Committee.

Pine Grosbeak: A reported will be referred to the Records Committee.

Purple Finch: First: 6 Sep at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). Small numbers were noted throughout the period.

House Finch: This common species was not reported.

White-winged Crossbill: All: 7 on 27 Nov at West Des Moines (SJD).

Common Redpoll: First: 29 Oct at Saylorville Res. (DT). High count: 25 on 23 Nov in Algona (MCK). Other reports from Allamakee, Clayton, Cerro Gordo, and Dickinson counties suggest the beginning of a mild invasion.

Pine Siskin: First: 3 Oct at Hitchcock N.A. (BKP/LJP). Most did not arrive until late October, but numbers were much up from last year's low.

Evening Grosbeak: First: 8 Nov at Mason City (CJF). Other reports were 1 on 18 Nov at Cedar Rapids (DLD) and 8 on 25 Nov at Liscomb (MPr). Many more were reported to the Birdline, but did not stay put for birders to see them.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow: The only reports were from Tama Road north of Burlington.

COMMENT

The database comprised 34 reports and 84 documentations (of 28 species). I made 1,582 entries into a computer database. Compared to last fall, there were fewer reports, the same number of documentations, and more entries.

For rarities, including some regular species that are rare for the dates given and easy to confuse with another species, only those records with documentation are cited. I requested verification on 10 reports of more easily identified species that were seen at unusual dates. I received useful additional information on each of these sightings, which will be placed on file. The date was incorrect for two of the reports, which suggests that other dates in Field Reports may be incorrect. It would be helpful if contributors specifically review their reports for dates that seem out of line before they send them in. Also, if you spot an incorrect date in the Field Reports, report it to the author so that a correction can be published.

All reports were received on time, which is greatly appreciated. The quality of the reports is excellent, and some provided an unbelievable amount of data on fall birds in Iowa.

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