IOU FIELD REPORTS FORM · Date filed: May 30, 1995

Season: Spring Year: 1995

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Other Observers:

General Notes: Extremely wet spring in NW corner of Iowa, with nearly 15 inches of rain in March-May. Wetland conditions excellent for waterbirds, but shorebird migrations appeared poor once again. Huge warbler migrations in mid-May throughout region.

Species	No.	Date	Location--comments--other observers
✓ Black-crowned Night Heron	1	5/8/95	Perched at peak of European Larch tree in town of Larchwood, several miles from nearest habitat (Lyon County)
✓ Osprey	1	5/11/95	Waterman Prairie WMA, SE corner of O'Brien County.
✓ Cooper's Hawk	1	4/25/95	Near Rock Rapids, Lyon County. Adult female.
✓ Northern Harrier	2	5/23/95	SW of Christopherson Slough WMA, Dockinson Co., Perhaps a nesting pair?
✓ Gray Partridge	*	Mar-May	Pairs of birds appear to be more numerous than in last few years.
✓ L. Golden Plover	*	4/24-5/12	Several very small flocks (5-15 birds ea) seen in Dickinson & Osceola Co's, but numbers below normal.
"Peeps"			Almost none noted on migration, in spite of what appeared to be prime habitat conditions.
✓ Black Terns	50+	5/23/95	Numerous at Christopherson Slough, in NE Dickinson County.
✓ Western Kingbird	1	5/10/95	At Kettleson Hogsback WMA, Dickinson Co. Seen in about 1 of 3 years here; seemed early this year.
✓ Ovenbird	*	5/10-5/18	Very large numbers of ovenbirds noted in Lyon, Dickinson & O'Brien Co's, even in yards around town. Largest numbers I recall seeing on migration.
✓ Blue Grobeak	1	5/25/95	Male near Melvin, Osceola Co. Though habitat is minimal, these birds appear to continue increasing in NW Iowa.