

FIELD REPORT -- IOWA, FALL 1999
 Mike Dooley, 1811 B Ave. NE, Apt. 2, Cedar Rapids 52402-5464

Species	No.	Date	Location	Remark
✓ Pied-billed Grebe	77	8 Oct.	South of Iowa City	High count
✓ Horned Grebe	2	8 Oct.	South of Iowa City	First
Horned Grebe	2-4	8-29 Oct.	South of Iowa City	
Western Grebe, <i>breed.</i>	1	12 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
(Very long-necked grebe with sharply black-and-white neck, black cap with rear crest (cap included eye), and white cheek; long dagger-like bill was yellow-green; no molting seen at lores; bright sun, close range with scope).				
✓ American White Pelican	4400	16 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	High count
✓ Double-crest. Cormorant	1300	16 Oct.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	High count
✓ American Bittern	1	16 Oct.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
(Flushed at close range in tall dense wetland grass, short remove from main water; two or three short weak croaking notes on flushing; on landing, contrast of dark outer wings with light brown uppers was well seen).				
✓ Great Blue Heron	269	6 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	High count
✓ Great Egret	286	5 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	High count
✓ Snowy Egret	1-2	12-28 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
(Half-sized white heron, black bill, yellow lores, dark yellow feet, mostly black legs with some dark yellow, no dark primary tips, active feeding behavior; medium range with scope).				
✓ Blk.-crown. Night-Heron	1	16 Sept.	Swan Lake, Johnson Co.	
(Immature: mostly yellow bill with top of upper mandible black, also black tip; heavier, broader spots on uppers than Yellow-crowned, especially tips of secondaries; a close, sustained, well-lit profile view of flight revealed shorter leg span as per Black-crowned, tarsus not visible).				
Blk.-crown. Night-Heron	1	15 Oct.	Swan Lake, Johnson Co.	Last
(Same immature?: now mostly dark bill with some yellow-green in lower mandible, black tip still separable on close inspection; legs dull yellow-green; heavier, broader spots on uppers than Yellow-crowned; a later silhouette view of flight under low light conditions was nevertheless convincing of shorter leg span as per Black-crowned, tarsus not visible).				
✓ Snow Goose, <i>white</i>	1	15 Sept.- 28 Oct.	South of Iowa City	First
✓ Mute Swan	1	26 Oct.	Diamond Lake, Poweshiek Co.	
(Solid white swan; dark pink bill sharply contrasted with black base, black knob).				
✓ Gadwall	11	22 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	First

Species	No.	Date	Location	Remark
✓ American Black Duck (Very dark brown and unmarked overall, except for lighter head and neck; no white at tail; clean yellow-green bill with no orange, no mottling; readily distinguished from adjacent female Mallards; close range with scope, cloudy late morning).	1	11 Oct.	South of Iowa City	First
✓ Blue-winged Teal	400	6 Sept.	South of Iowa City	High count
✓ Northern Shoveler	1	12 Sept.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	First
✓ Green-winged Teal	1	5 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	First
✓ Canvasback	1	4 Oct.	South of Iowa City	First
✓ Redhead	1	18 Oct.	South of Iowa City	First
✓ Ring-necked Duck	2	29 Sept.	South of Iowa City	First
✓ Common Goldeneye (Unmistakable male with roundish white facial spot and more white to uppers as per Common; also flew for short distance, revealed goldeneye's bold black-and-white topside pattern; close range with scope, good light).	1	22 Oct.	South of Iowa City	First
✓ Ruddy Duck	2	3 Oct.	South of Iowa City	First
✓ Merlin, <i>male</i> (Perched, open country; about Kestrel-sized; blue-slate uppers and crown, faint thin mustache mark, thin whitish eyebrow, bold dark vertical streaking on white breast, bold tail bands showed when preening; long look, close range with scope).	1	18 Oct.	Near Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	
✓ Merlin, <i>female</i> (Perched, open country; smaller than buteo; brown-gray uppers and crown, thin mustache mark, thin whitish eyebrow, mask-like dark eyeline at certain angles, heavy dark vertical streaking on buff breast, alternate thick dark and thin white tail bands when preening; long look, medium-close range, 10x binoculars, good light).	1	11 Nov.	Near Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	
✓ Peregrine Falcon (Characteristic dark rounded mustache patch when briefly perched; dramatic wheeling, diving pursuit of shorebirds).	1	4 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Semipalmated Plover	1	27 Oct.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	Last
✓ American Avocet	2-3	4-16 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Greater Yellowlegs (Bill longer than head, slightly upturned; descending 4-5 note call).	1	14 Nov.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	Last
✓ Solitary Sandpiper	3	28 Sept.	Palo Marsh, Linn Co.	Last
✓ Willet	1	2 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Sanderling	3	1 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Sanderling	1	2 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Sanderling	5	19 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	

Species	No.	Date	Location	Remark
✓ Sanderling	7	3 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
				(Three (3) seen at fairly distant range: lighter about head and back than winter Semipalmated, dark shoulder spot seen, stouter look than peep, ran along beach more constantly than Semipalmated).
✓ Sanderling	1	8 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Sanderling	1	15 Sept.	South of Iowa City	
				(Seen at fairly distant range: lighter about head and back than winter Semi-palmated, stouter look than peep, size right compared to adjacent Killdeer, ran along beach more constantly than Semipalmated).
✓ Baird's Sandpiper	6	4 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	First
				(General "peep"-type sandpiper in short-grass field; proportionately shorter-legged than adjacent Pectorals, primary tips extended appreciably past tip of tail on feeding bird, scaly appearance to uppers, no spots along flanks, once or twice able to discern black legs (as well as greenish of Pectorals); excellent light, medium to close range with scope).
✓ Stilt Sandpiper	52	4 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	High count
✓ Stilt Sandpiper	1	4 Oct.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	Last
✓ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	6	4 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	First since 31 July
✓ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	17	6 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	4	12 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	2	1 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	9	4 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Upland Sandpiper	1	1 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
				(Unusual location, barren peninsular sandflat on wetland, thus: upright posture, long-necked, one-third larger than Killdeer; generally rufous-brown head and uppers; buff-cream breast and belly, strongly spotted flanks and sides; dark yellow-green straight bill, tapering but not sharp, approx. length of head, slightest droop at tip; large black eye; long dark yellow-green legs; upright running posture, abrupt starts and stops; after short flights, held wings open momentarily, revealed barred underwings; very extended look, very close range with scope).
✓ Long-billed Dowitcher	2	14 Nov.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	Last
				(Larger, stouter than adjacent snipe; breast unmarked, medium gray wash; <i>keek</i> alarm note on flushing--singles and repetitions; very close range, excellent light, scope).
✓ Red-necked Phalarope	1	28 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
				(Winter: strongly black cap (including forward), black eyepatch extending behind eye; needle-like, not stout bill; gray back showed two white streaks; very close range with scope).
✓ Caspian Tern	1	2 Aug.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	First
✓ Caspian Tern	1	30 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	Last
✓ Black Tern	50	3 Sept.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	High count and last
✓ Common Nighthawk	200	25 Aug.	Cedar Rapids, Linn Co.	High count
✓ Pileated Woodpecker	2	10 Aug.	Lake MacBride SP North, Johnson Co.	
✓ Pileated Woodpecker	2	15 Aug.	Hanging Rock Ridge WA, Johnson Co.	
✓ Pileated Woodpecker	1	6 Sept	Cedar Bluffs Rec. Area, Muscatine Co.	

Species	No.	Date	Location	Remark
✓ Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	17 Aug.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	
✓ Northern Shrike (Mask tapering off at lores, bill with exaggerated hook, white rump; very close range, good light, long looks, scope).	1	14 Nov.	Pleasant Creek Lake, Linn Co.	
✓ Tree Swallow	1	24 Oct.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	Last
✓ Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	28 Sept.	Palo Marsh, Linn Co.	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	12 Oct.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	13 Oct.	Cedar Rapids, Linn Co.	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	18 Oct.- 30 Nov.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.*	
*At feeder.				
✓ Marsh Wren, (<i>possible</i>) (Wren with prominent light eyebrow, bolder than House Wren's, but not white; rufous uppers from midpoint through tail, but no white streaks noticed on upper back; chip note matched low <i>tsuk</i> described in field guides, lower, duller than nearby chipping Song Sparrow, almost all single notes, not doubled, not rapid; tall grass field adjacent to small pond, no emergent or marsh-type vegetation; eliminate Winter Wren due to chip note and length of tail; elim. Bewick's, House, and Sedge Wren due to chip note; elim. House due to rufous uppers and bold eyebrow; elim. Carolina and Bewick's due to habitat?; short glimpses, no sustained look).	1	21 Oct.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	Last
✓ Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	28 Sept.	Palo Marsh, Linn Co.	First
✓ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	20 Nov.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	Last
✓ Eastern Bluebird	14	24 Oct.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	High count
✓ American Pipit	10	21 Oct.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	
✓ Golden-winged Warbler	1	6 Sept.	Cedar Bluffs Rec. Area, Muscatine Co.	
✓ Yellow-rumped Warbler	53	28 Sept.	Goose Pond, Linn Co.	High count
✓ Black-and-white Warbler	2	17 Aug.	Hanging Rock Ridge WA, Johnson Co.	First
✓ Black-and-white Warbler	1	11 Oct.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	Last
✓ Kentucky Warbler	1	22 Aug.	Cairo Woods WA, Louisa Co.	Last
✓ American Tree Sparrow	1	24 Oct.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	First
✓ Nels. Sharp-tailed Sparrow (Richly ochre facial marks including thick eyebrow; finely streaked buff-ochre breast abruptly contrasting with white belly; distinguished from LeConte's by dark crown with no white stripe, white scapular streaks glimpsed briefly when bird finally flew; thick emergent marsh grass habitat immediately alongside main water).	1	16 Oct.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ White-crowned Sparrow	2	7 Oct.	Solon, Johnson Co.	First
✓ Snow Bunting	1	25 Oct.	South of Iowa City	
✓ Snow Bunting	7	20 Nov.	Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co.	
✓ Rusty Blackbird	2	15 Oct.	Swan Lake, Johnson Co.	First

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Remark</u>
✓ Purple Finch	2	7 Oct.	Solon, Johnson Co.	
✓ Purple Finch	1-5	11 Oct.- 5 Nov.	Hawkeye WA, Johnson Co.	
Purple Finch	1	20 Oct.	U of Iowa campus, Iowa City	