

IOU FIELD REPORTS FORM

Date filed: July 30, 1999

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Season: Summer

Year: 1999

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Other Observers: None

General Notes: Just a few birds to report this quarter—didn't have nearly enough time to spend birding, and some species I saw also are being reported by others. Weather in NW Iowa was normal in June, with somewhat above-normal rainfall but no flooding or apparent problems for ground nesters. Conditions good for waterfowl and other aquatic species. Late July extremely hot and humid and might expected to exact some mortality on wildlife. Shorebirds seen migrating back into area as early as July 9 (see below).

<u>Species</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Notes</u>
American Bittern	2	6/28	Pair startled from cattails on west side of Trumbull Lake, Clay Co., during DNR goose-banding operations.
Turkey Vulture	18	7/9	18 seen perched on large hay bales at Kettleon Hogsback WMA, Dickinson Co., is largest number ever observed at one site here.
Cooper's Hawk	1	7/13	Ad. female observed at N. end of Kettleon Hogsback WMA, Dickinson Co. This is about 4 th consecutive year for Coops at KH during summer.
Merlin	1	7/9	A probable new summer record for Iowa was seen 1/2 mi. N of Cayler Prairie, Dickinson County. Documentation is attached.
Semi-palmated Sandpiper	9	7/9	First group of shorebirds noted in Dickinson Co. on return migration.
Forster's Tern	many		Birds appeared to be doing very well in Dickinson County. observed on numerous wetlands throughout the reporting period.
Sedge Wren	many		Species appears to be abundant throughout NW Iowa this summer.
Dickcissel	many		Largest number I recall observing in 27 years in NW Iowa. On 22 mile bike ride June 10 counted minimum of 2 singing males/mi. Abundant throughout NW counties and entire season.
Lark Sparrow	1		Observed catching insects at roadside, Waterman Prairie WMA, O'Brien Co.
Bobolink	many		As with Sedge Wren & Dickcissel, this grassland species appears to be especially abundant throughout region this summer.

REPORTED BY OTHERS

Burrowing Owl	1	June	Reported by competent Local birder Dolly Zaangger, 2 mi. SE of Larchwood, Lyon Co., near same location where she & I observed bird in 1998. While I have not yet re-located the individual, Dolly has observed it on about 3 dates in early June.
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