

Newhouse

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An EQUAL OPPORTUNITY Agency

Wildlife Research Station
R. R. #1 Boone, IA 50036
27 May 1980

5/29/80

Thomas Kent, Field Reports Editor
211 Richards Street
Iowa City, IA 52240

Dear Tom:

Here are the reports of first arrivals I know of among spring migrants. Many reports have been relayed to me by other Conservation Commission personnel, and I am certain such participation can only increase if their contributions are acknowledged.

The spring was early as predicted, but migration developed slowly. The borrow ponds west of Ames opened up 17 March, as did the center portion of Bay's Branch. Lost Lake was a week later to open, followed by Little Wall Lake a week later still. Waterfowl movements have been sporadic, perhaps because of the dry spell and/or unusually warm weather. Shovelers and mallards are still reappearing at the borrow ponds.

I have not duplicated any of the observations made at the Spirit Lake meeting. Until I can confirm and document a report of burrowing owls in Kossuth County, I'd rather not say anything publicly about it.

Thank you for the opportunity and mechanism to provide this input into knowledge of Iowa's birds.

Sincerely,

David A. Newhouse
Wildlife Research Biologist

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cc: 1

enclosures

CONTRIBUTOR: Dave NewhouseOTHER OBSERVERS: Conservation CommissionSEASON: Spring arrivalspersonnelYEAR: 1980

WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Pied-billed grebe	1	20 Mar	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30
American white pelican	many	22 Apr	Saylorville Reservoir - <u>fide</u> Craig Lauritsen
Great blue heron	3	1 May	Upper Iowa River (Allamakee/Winneshiek Co. line)
Green heron	1 pr	21 May	1 km W of Water Works Dam, Boone- <u>fide</u> Paul Bartelt
Great egret	2 2	18 Apr 22 Apr	Upper Saylorville, at Hwy 17 Bridge 1 km W of Water Works Dam, Boone- <u>fide</u> Paul Bartelt
Black-crowned night heron	>6 pr	22 May	NW of Beeds Lake, Franklin Co.- <u>fide</u> Carl Priebe
Greater white-fronted goose	many	20 Mar	Saylorville Reservoir- <u>fide</u> Craig Lauritsen
Snow goose	5000?	18 Mar	Bay's Branch, Guthrie Co.
Canada goose	12 1000?	17 Mar 18 Mar	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30 Bay's Branch
Wood duck	4	5 Apr	Koszta Access, Iowa River, Tama Co.
American wigeon	1 pr	20 Mar	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
Green-winged teal	1 pr	5 Apr	Koszta Access
Mallard	100's	18 Mar	Bay's Branch
Common pintail	20	18 Mar	Bay's Branch
Blue-winged teal	1 pr	25 Mar	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30
Northern shoveler	4 pr	25 Mar	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30
Canvasback	1 pr	4 Apr	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30
Redhead	100's	18 Mar	Bay's Branch
Ring-necked duck	100's	18 Mar	Bay's Branch
Lesser scaup	6	20 Mar	Des Moines River along Ledges St. Park, Boone Co.
Bufflehead	20	18 Mar	Bay's Branch
Common goldeneye	12	18 Mar	Bay's Branch
Hooded merganser	1	4 Apr	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30
Turkey vulture	3	21 Mar	Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
Osprey	1	2 May	Upper Iowa River (Allamakee/Winneshiek Co. Line)

CONTRIBUTOR: Dave Newhouse, cont.OTHER OBSERVERS: Conservation CommissionSEASON: Spring arrivalspersonnelYEAR: 1980

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Northern harrier	1	18 Mar	Guthrie Co., W of Yale
Sharp-shinned hawk	1	28 Apr	near WGBH, 2 km S of Boone-fide Paul Bartelt
Red-tailed hawk	1	5 Apr	near Marengo, Iowa Co.
Broad-winged hawk	1 pr	2 May	Ledges State Park-fide Paul Bartelt
<u>Swainson's hawk</u>	2	22 Apr	Ledges State Park-fide Paul Bartelt
American kestrel	4	18 Mar	F25(Guthrie Co) and US 169 (Boone Co)
American coot	4	17 Mar	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30
Killdeer	2	26 Mar	Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
Lesser golden plover	50	10 May	US 18, E of Cylinder
Greater yellowlegs	2	12 May	Lost Lake, Ledges S.P. (One bird one-legged)
Common snipe	1	11 Apr	Lost Lake, Ledges S.P.
Mourning dove	4	4 Apr	Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
<u>Saw-whet owl</u>	2	22 Mar	Ledges State Park-fide Jim Dinsmore, Hank Zaleta
Whip-poor-will	many	30 Apr	Upper Iowa River(Allamakee/Winneshiek Co. line)
Chimney swift	10	7 May	West Ames, Story Co.
Belted kingfisher	1	5 Apr	Koszta Access, Iowa River, Tama Co.
Pileated woodpecker	1	1 May	Upper Iowa River(Allamakee/Winneshiek Co. line)
Eastern phoebe	1	15 Apr	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park(with Steve Dinsmore)
Tree swallow	12	8 Apr	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30
Rough-winged swallow	6	1 May	Turkey River S of Cresco, Howard Co.
Barn swallow	4	3 May	Upper Iowa River(Allamakee/Winneshiek Co. line)
House wren	4	<5May	Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
<u>Northern mockingbird</u>	1 1	10 Apr 12 Apr	Goose Lake, Greene Co. } fide Glenn Jones Rinard, Calhoun Co.
Gray catbird	1	19 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park
Brown thrasher	3	1 May	Turkey River S of Cresco, Howard Co.

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American robin	25	14 Mar	Ledges State Park, Boone Co. (new, not winter, flocks)
Eastern bluebird	2	3 Apr	Ledges State Park, Boone Co. (nesting here)
Golden-crowned kinglet	2	11 Apr	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park
Ruby-crowned kinglet	2 6	4 Apr 11 Apr	Ledges State Park - fide Bruce Ehresman Lost Lake, Ledges State Park
<u>White-eyed vireo</u>	1	19 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park (banded)
Blue-winged warbler	1	12 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park (banded 19 May)
Yellow warbler	2	12 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park
<u>Brewster's warbler</u>	1	19 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park
Yellow-rumped warbler	40	2 May	Turkey River, S of Cresco, Howard Co.
Palm warbler	20	3 May	Turkey River, S. of Cresco, Howard Co.
Ovenbird	2	12 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park
Common yellowthroat	1	12 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park (banded)
Bobolink	3	10 May	US169 N of Ft. Dodge
Meadowlark spp.	3	17 Mar	E of Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
Red-winged blackbird	30	17 Mar	Borrow Ponds W of Ames @ Hwy 30
Northern oriole	1	12 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park
Common grackle	30	17 Mar	Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
Rose-breasted grosbeak	2	12 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park (banded)
Indigo bunting	>1 pr.	19 May	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park (banded)
Rufous-sided towhee	3	1 May	Upper Iowa River (Allamakee/Winneshiek Co. line)
Chipping sparrow	12	22 Apr	Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
Field sparrow	5	14 Apr	Ledges State Park, Boone Co.
White-throated sparrow	3	3 May	Turkey River, S of Cresco, Howard Co.
Fox sparrow	2	11 Apr	Lost Lake, Ledges State Park
Song sparrow	1	3 May	Turkey River, S. of Cresco, Howard Co.
<u>Sandhill crane</u>	1	16 Apr	near Ledges State Park, Boone Co.