

FIELD REPORT—IOWA, SUMMER 2003
Jay Gilliam, 1004 Meadow Drive, Norwalk, IA 50211

Species	No.	Date	Location
Eared Grebe * Adult male, breeding plumage	1	01-June	Diehl wetlands, Warren Co.
Least Bittern	2	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
Great Blue Heron below Saylorville Dam, Polk Co.	82	25-July	Shetler RA backwaters and along the Des Moines River
Little Blue Heron * Immature; very small, about half the size of nearby Great Blue Herons; greenish-yellow legs; all-white feathers except for dark dips on primaries; pinkish-gray bill with dark tip; pale iris * See photos.	1	22-25-July	Shetler RA backwaters below Saylorville Dam, Polk Co.
Green Heron * 8 immatures total; 9 birds in one tree	12	27-July	Banner wetlands, Warren Co.
Trumpeter Swan * All three had red neck collars.	3	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
Cinnamon Teal * Male in breeding plumage; deep cinnamon-colored body, neck, and head; red eyes; dark bill; light streaks on back; blue in wing feathers * See photos.	1	01-June	Diehl wetlands, Warren Co.
Redhead * Adult male; swimming around with L. Scaup and Gadwall	1	01-June	Diehl wetlands, Warren Co.
Lesser Scaup * Male.	1	01-June	Diehl wetlands, Warren Co.
Osprey * Adult diving and catching fish.	1	22-July	Shetler RA backwaters below Saylorville Dam, Polk Co.
Osprey * Juvenile flew over.	1	25-July	Shetler RA backwaters below Saylorville Dam, Polk Co.
Mississippi Kite * Adults carrying nesting material into sycamore tree.	2	06-July	SW 14th & Kenyon, Des Moines, Polk Co.
Northern Bobwhite * I've been seeing adults all summer. This sighting was 4 adults and 14 juveniles (2 families).	18	27-July	Private grassland along 25 th Ave., Warren Co.
Sora * Only heard them—did not observe them.	3	14-June	Private wetlands at 25 th Ave. & Fillmore St., Warren Co.

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Greater Yellowlegs	14	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
Lesser Yellowlegs	3	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
Spotted Sandpiper	2	03-June	County wetlands along 25 th Ave., Warren Co.
			* Flushed female off of nest with 4 eggs; see photo.
Upland Sandpiper	2	09-June	Along W Ave. south of Homestead, Iowa Co.
Least Sandpiper	6	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
Pectoral Sandpiper	2	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
Short-billed Dowitcher	1	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
			* Heard its alarm call (tu-tu-tu series); long, dark, straight bill; reddish breast; feeding dowitcher-style in belly-deep water; light eyebrow; larger and chunkier than nearby Least & Pectorals.
Caspian Tern	16	10-June	Oak Grove Beach, Saylorville Lake, Polk Co.
			* Mix of immatures and mature birds.
Forster's Tern	1	10-June	Oak Grove Beach, Saylorville Lake, Polk Co.
			* Juvenile; dark eye patch; dark shoulder bar; dark-colored bill.
Black Tern	19	10-June	Shetler RA backwaters below Saylorville Dam, Polk Co.
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	10-June	In willow clump at Lakeview RA, Saylorville Lake, Polk Co.
			* All-dark bill; red eyering.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	6	14-June to 31-July	Along 25 th Ave., Warren Co.
			* Three nesting pairs.
Acadian Flycatcher	2	07-June	Mossy Glen area, Clayton Co.
			* Heard (pee-tsup) first then seen.
Willow Flycatcher	2	14-June to 31-July	In willow clump along 25 th Ave., Warren Co.
			* Nesting pair; same nesting location as last year. Male frequently singing (fitz-bew).
Western Kingbird	2	28-June	At State Capitol, Des Moines, Polk Co.
			* Female incubating eggs; male nearby. See photos.
Loggerhead Shrike	2	06-June	Along 180 th St. south of Homestead, Iowa Co.
			* Both were adults. See photo.

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Horned Lark * Heard them before observing them.	3	03-June	In a field along 25 th Ave., Warren Co.
Sedge Wren * All appeared to be singing males; see photo.	9	19-July	Neal Smith NWR, Jasper Co.
Sedge Wren * All were singing males.	5	27-July	Near Banner wetlands, Warren Co.
Marsh Wren * Heard and seen; larger and darker than House Wren; whitish eyestripe.	1	14-June	Private wetlands at 25 th Ave. & Fillmore St., Warren Co.
Northern Parula	2	13-July	Lake Ahquabi, Warren Co.
Yellow Warbler * Appeared to be an adult male; was in a willow thicket so may have had a nest nearby.	1	19-July	Along grassland trail at Neal Smith NWR, Jasper Co.
Cerulean Warbler * Observed two of them but heard at least four of them.	2-4	07-June	Pike's Peak SP, Clayton Co.
Prothonotary Warbler * Adult male singing.	1	07-June	Island Rd. in Guttenburg, Clayton Co.
Yellow-breasted Chat * Adult male singing; see photo.	1	06-June	Alpine Ave. & Grabin Rd., Johnson Co.
Scarlet Tanager * Seen adult female and heard nearby male singing.	2	07-June	Private timber along Turkey River, Clayton Co.
Eastern Towhee	2	06-June	Squaw Creek Park, Linn Co.
Blue Grosbeak * Adult male and female; see photos.	2	06-June	Squaw Creek Park, Linn Co.
Yellow-headed Blackbird	17	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
Great-tailed Grackle	5	05-July	Dunbar Slough, Greene Co.
Orchard Oriole * Adult male.	1	04-June	Cottonwood RA, Saylorville Lake, Polk Co.
Orchard Oriole * First spring male; yellow bird with black bib.	1	07-June	Along Sebald Rd., Clayton Co.