

From root Tue Aug 1 12:04:59 2000
Return-Path: <Doug.Harr@dnr.state.ia.us>
Received: from pop-5.iastate.edu (pop-5.iastate.edu [129.186.1.65])
by pop-1.iastate.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id MAA24512
for <oldcoot@pop-1.iastate.edu>; Tue, 1 Aug 2000 12:04:58 -0500
Received: from idnr4.dnr.state.ia.us (idnr4.dnr.state.ia.us [165.206.25.2])
by pop-5.iastate.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id MAA04992
for <oldcoot@iastate.edu>; Tue, 1 Aug 2000 12:04:58 -0500
Received: from DesMoines-Message_Server by idnr4.dnr.state.ia.us
with Novell_GroupWise; Tue, 01 Aug 2000 10:59:29 -0500
Message-Id: <e986ad91.055@idnr4.dnr.state.ia.us>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise Internet Agent 5.5.3.1
Date: Tue, 01 Aug 2000 08:48:56 -0500
From: "Doug Harr" <Doug.Harr@dnr.state.ia.us>
To: <oldcoot@iastate.edu>
Subject: Re: field reports
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Disposition: inline
X-UIDL: 235d4048a9cefaf639c282cf40a5d7eb

Doug Harr

JIM:

When I reported the Spotted Towhee, I didn't realize it might be a first =
summer record--guess I should have paid a lot more attention! I caught a =
very brief glimpse of it after hearing it sing while I was doing a plant =
survey at Hidden Bridge County Wildlife Area. It was admittedly a short =
glimpse as the bird took off, but it appeared to have white-tips on the =
scapulars, so I am relatively comfortable in calling it the western =
species. The song seemed somewhat less musical and shorter than the =
Eastern's, although I can't say that I've ever had opportunity to compare =
them and have not heard them sing in the west. It was a slightly =
"clipped" sound that attracted my attention that day. Spotted Towhees =
are seen in spring migrations over here on the Big Sioux--we see them =
feeding on the ground under our feeders at Larchwood, but they are usually =
silent in our yard at that time. While leading a bird hike for campers at =
Newton Hills State Park south of Canton, SD, back in June we heard but did =
not observe 2 or 3 towhees that sounded to me like Easterns. Towhees are =
relatively common nesters in Big Sioux River woodlands (less than common, =
but more than occasional). Several years ago I found a nest on some DNR =
land near Inwood, but it was before the species was split and I never =
recorded the variety at that time (I flushed the female but never took =
any note of plumage). I suspect the Spotted might be more common up here =
than realized, but it needs some investigation. Don't know if all this =
information gives my report more or less credibility! Use your judgement =
on whether or not you wish to include this one.

DOUG

>>> James J Dinsmore <oldcoot@iastate.edu> 07/31/00 07:56AM >>>

Doug

Many thanks for your field reports. You had some good stuff and I
appreciated getting it. The most interesting was the Spotted
Towhee. This is a first summer record for Iowa. Did you see the bird or
just hear it. Any details you can add on the song (describe it, have
heard it before in the West, etc?). I have no doubt on your id but would
like to have any other details that might be available now.=20

Summer is rapidly coming to a close. Have been doing work on the
symposium as well as trying to get one of Fairbairn's manuscripts
revised and back to the editors. The first paper has made it that
far. Good to see you at the Audubon meeting last month. Assume our paths

From root Tue Aug 8 22:40:41 2000
Return-Path: <dharr@netins.net>
Received: from pop-2.iastate.edu (pop-2.iastate.edu [129.186.1.62])
by pop-1.iastate.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id WAA16463
for <oldcoot@pop-1.iastate.edu>; Tue, 8 Aug 2000 22:40:41 -0500
Received: from smtp-out.netins.net (ins20.netins.net [167.142.225.20])
by pop-2.iastate.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id WAA15903
for <oldcoot@iastate.edu>; Tue, 8 Aug 2000 22:40:41 -0500
Received: from dharr.netins.net (desm-18-021.dialup.netins.net [167.142.19.21])
by smtp-out.netins.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id WAA23722
for <oldcoot@iastate.edu>; Tue, 8 Aug 2000 22:40:40 -0500 (CDT)
Message-ID: <009901c001b3\$d1d8e440\$15138ea7@dharr.netins.net>
From: "Doug Harr" <dharr@netins.net>
To: "Dr. James J. Dinsmore" <oldcoot@iastate.edu>
Subject: Late Osprey Nest at Cayler Prairie
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 2000 22:42:18 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.2106.4
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.2106.4
X-UIDL: 09961190f38e74973b6a51lea647af50

JIM:

Some possibly exciting news from the Lakes Region. Maury Muhm, on my staff, was mowing a prairie seeding today on the Cayler Prairie addition (east of Little Sioux R.) and observed an Osprey carrying a stick to the top of a microwave relay tower. The tower is located at the power substation inholding on the east side of Cayler. He noted what appeared to be a nest behind one of the relay dishes and got some binoculars to later observe a pair on what appears to be a nest! The rest of us went down to the tower this afternoon and saw an osprey carrying a fish to the nest, although it was reluctant to land while we were nearby. It disappeared over a ridge towards the river, and I hiked over to observe two osprey on the power poles down by the river.

I haven't been back to the office to check any texts on nesting chronology for Osprey, but if I recall they may nest a little later than some other raptors--but this late??? We could observe no young, but an adult carrying fish to a nest looks suspicious. We're going to contact the power company to see if they might let us (or one of their employees) climb the ladder on this 100'+ tower to see if anything might be in the nest. Any suggestions, etc? If these birds might have young, I believe it might qualify as the first WILD osprey pair as documented Iowa nesters. I'm not posting this on the list until we have more details and some indication of interest by IES Utilities.

You may know that we've had multiple observations of Osprey fishing on West Okoboji and Marble Lakes this summer, so maybe these things all are related.

DOUG

From root Tue Aug 1 14:33:24 2000
Return-Path: <Doug.Harr@dnr.state.ia.us>
Received: from pop-4.iastate.edu (pop-4.iastate.edu [129.186.1.64])
by pop-1.iastate.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTTP id OAA20384
for <oldcoot@pop-1.iastate.edu>; Tue, 1 Aug 2000 14:33:24 -0500
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by pop-4.iastate.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id OAA17938
for <oldcoot@iastate.edu>; Tue, 1 Aug 2000 14:33:24 -0500
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with Novell_GroupWise; Tue, 01 Aug 2000 14:35:51 -0500
Message-Id: <s986e047.099@idnr4.dnr.state.ia.us>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise Internet Agent 5.5.3.1
Date: Tue, 01 Aug 2000 14:23:25 -0500
From: "Doug Harr" <Doug.Harr@dnr.state.ia.us>
To: <oldcoot@iastate.edu>
Subject: Lyon Co.--"Burrowing Owl Capital"
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Disposition: inline
X-UIDL: 95a410f45d824abe72f2b0957aae675c

JIM:

If you can still take a late addition to for the IOU field notes, I just =
confirmed a reported Burrowing Owl (1 adult) east of Rock Rapids. The =
report came last week from a farmer to the Co. Cons. Bd., who passed it on =
to me yesterday. I just returned from observing it for 10 minutes with =
binocs and spotting scope (forgot my camera this morning). Could not find =
the den where it was reported, but found the owl perched on a =BD section =
fence post about 10 yards east into field from road ditch. I intend to =
put it on the birdline tonight and to contact Gene Armstrong, who I =
understand is doing another "Big Year" for Iowa and doesn't yet have a =
Burrowing Owl. If anyone else is interested, you can tell them it's =BD =
mile north on Jay Avenue from Iowa Highway 9, six miles east of Rock =
Rapids. The only suitable perch posts anywhere around are in the =BD =
section fenceline on the east side of road.

DOUG=20

From root Tue Aug 1 16:00:43 2000
Return-Path: <owner-ia-bird@LIST.AUDUBON.ORG>
Received: from pop-2.iastate.edu (pop-2.iastate.edu [129.186.1.62])
by pop-1.iastate.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTMP id QAA05801;
Tue, 1 Aug 2000 16:00:43 -0500
Received: from cypher.sohonet.com ([208.215.131.30])
by pop-2.iastate.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTMP id QAA31857;
Tue, 1 Aug 2000 16:00:39 -0500
Received: from cypher ([208.215.131.31]) by cypher.sohonet.com
(Post.Office MTA v3.5.3 release 223 ID# 0-66743U1500L200S0V35)
with ESMTMP id com; Tue, 1 Aug 2000 17:08:03 -0400
Received: from LIST.AUDUBON.ORG by LIST.AUDUBON.ORG (LISTSERV-TCP/IP release
1.8d) with spool id 433458 for IA-BIRD@LIST.AUDUBON.ORG; Tue, 1 Aug
2000 17:06:33 -0400
Received: from 208.215.131.4 by LIST.AUDUBON.ORG (SMTPL release 1.0d) with TCP;
Tue, 1 Aug 2000 17:06:33 -0400
Received: from smtp-out.netins.net ([167.142.225.22]) by cypher.sohonet.com
(Post.Office MTA v3.5.3 release 223 ID# 0-66743U1500L200S0V35) with
ESMTMP id com for <IA-BIRD@LIST.AUDUBON.ORG>; Tue, 1 Aug 2000 17:06:32
-0400
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by smtp-out.netins.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id PAA03965 for
<IA-BIRD@LIST.AUDUBON.ORG>; Tue, 1 Aug 2000 15:59:03 -0500 (CDT)
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Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.2106.4
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.2106.4
Message-ID: <003f01bffbfbf8f7473c0\$21148ea7@dharr.netins.net>
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 2000 16:00:43 -0500
Reply-To: Bird discussion list for Iowa <IA-BIRD@LIST.AUDUBON.ORG>
Sender: Bird discussion list for Iowa <IA-BIRD@LIST.AUDUBON.ORG>
From: Doug Harr <dharr@NETINS.NET>
Subject: Burrowing Owl in Lyon County
To: IA-BIRD@LIST.AUDUBON.ORG
X-UIDL: 5468e404bd8c54c9683ba10b24c5eef0

This afternoon I verified a public report of a possible BURROWING OWL near Rock Rapids. I observed an adult owl perched on a half-section line fence. If anyone is interested it will probably remain in the area for a while, as the report said it had been seen periodically here for some time and is believed to have a den nearby. To locate, take Iowa Hwy. 9 about 6 miles west of Rock Rapids. Turn north on Jay Avenue (a gravelled road) and travel 1/2 mile north. I observed the owl about 10 yards in from the ditch on the fenceline east of the road. We've had Burrowing Owls for the past 2 years just east of Larchwood, but those birds apparently did not return this year. Could this be one of the same?

DOUG HARR