

Summer Field Reports-2002
James J. Dinsmore

Weather

June temperatures averaged 72.9 degrees or 2.7 degrees above normal while precipitation totaled 3.56 inches or 0.86 inches below normal. This was the 35th driest and 16th warmest June in 130 years of records. It was also Iowa's warmest June in 11 years and driest since 1992. The low temperature was 43 at Mason City on the 5th and Elkader on the 16th. The highest temperature was 99 at Sioux Center on the 29th. In general, temperatures were above normal for most of the last half of June. precipitation was relatively normal for the first half of the month but then excessively dry after that. The state average was only 0.71 inches of precipitation over the last 17 days of June, well below average. The most extreme weather event was heavy rain that fell in east-central Iowa on 3-4 June, leading to severe flooding. Cascade in Dubuque County had 10.58 inches of rain during the month.

July temperatures averaged 76.9 degrees or 2.4 degrees above normal while precipitation totaled 4.26 inches, slightly above normal. This ranks as the 18th warmest and 45th wettest July in 130 years of records. The month began hot with above normal temperatures for the first nine days. Glenwood reported the state's first official 100 degree day on the 9th. Temperatures were cooler from the 10th through the 16th with a low of 48 at Mason City on the 12th. After that it was hot with most of the rest of the month warmer than normal. The hottest days were the 20th and 21st when several counties, mainly in southwestern Iowa, reached 100 degrees. Glenwood was the hot spot with a 104 degree maximum on the 21st. The very dry weather that began in mid June continued through early July. Thunderstorms on the 9th-11th, 21st-22nd, and 26th-29th provided moisture over much of the state. The very dry southwestern corner of the state received several inches of rain near the end of the month. Monthly rainfall totals varied from only 1.11 inches at Sibley to 9.16 inches at Lowden.

Habitat conditions

Habitat conditions were fairly normal for a summer. The lack of precipitation dried up many wetlands by early or mid July, so habitat for migrating shorebirds tended to be concentrated into a few places with more reliable water supplies. Some of the provisions in the new Farm Bill should provide more habitat for birds in Iowa through programs such as Wetland Reserve, increased acreage in CRP, and buffer strip initiatives. In general, it is too early to see the impact of some of those programs,

CA has been true for at least 15 years. The Federal Farm Bill has a major impact on land use on most of Iowa

It was interesting to speculate on the reason there were so many Redheads and Ruddy Ducks present in Iowa this summer. Many of these seemed to be non breeders that were just hanging around. Drought conditions have returned to parts of the prairies so it is tempting to speculate that some of these birds did not find suitable nesting habitat further north and ended up summering but not breeding in Iowa. Another phenomena noted this summer that may be weather related was the presence of unusual numbers of northbound shorebirds well into June. In particular, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, and White-rumped Sandpiper seemed to hang around later than usual this year but it is not apparent to me what may have caused that.

Unusual species

The big highlights of the summer were the presence of two Accidental Species, Ruff and White-winged Dove. The Ruff made a brief appearance and only a few got to see it but the dove was around for most of July so a number of people were able to view it. It was joined by Eurasian Collared-Dove, providing an opportunity for Iowa birders to find four columbids on one farmstead. Other good finds were Snowy Egret, White-faced Ibis, Ross's Goose, Mississippi Kite, "Lawrence's" Warbler, Prairie Warbler, and a towhee that had some Spotted Towhee characteristics. A Fulvous Whistling-Duck caused a flurry of interest until it was discovered to have color band indicating a captive origin.

Among nesting species, there were few significant finds. Nesting Western Grebes at Eagle Lake were the first since 1992. No one made any mention of nests of either Piping Plover or Least Tern at either of their

the year but this should be of primary importance in the future years

two Iowa nesting sites. At Eagle Lake, Black Terns and perhaps Forster's Terns were nesting but nests or young were not noted. With the apparent disappearance of those species from much of northern Iowa, the discovery of a good nesting colony of either would be welcome news. Other items in the good news area include the discovery of five Northern Harrier nests in Iowa County, numerous reports of Wilson's Phalaropes that appeared to be nesting, Short-eared Owls at Kellerton BCA, some indication of nesting by Black-and-white Warblers, and the continued widespread occurrence of Henslow's Sparrows. The harriers were in restored grasslands along the Iowa River and provide evidence that that species will colonize such areas if the habitat is suitable. Other grassland species that seemed to be fairly abundant this year were Dickcissel and Bobolink. On the other hand, Grasshopper Sparrow and Loggerhead Shrike numbers seemed to be down as they have in recent years. Among species that have been regularly reported during summer in recent years, I received no reports of King Rail or Barn Owl.

As I write this report in early August, birds have been in the news in Iowa in another, less desirable way. West Nile virus has reached Iowa and now has been reported in about half of the counties. In most cases, it has been detected by testing the carcass of either an American Crow or Blue Jay, two species known to carry the virus and to succumb to it. Mosquitos provide a mechanism to transmit the disease to humans or other animals. Although the actual risk to humans is slight, I suspect that we will hear more about the disease and the role that birds play in its spread in the future.

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AB	Aaron Brees	Corydon
DeC	Dennis Carter	Decorah
CCa	Chris Caster	Coralville
RIC	Bob Cecil	Des Moines
PCh	Paul Charland	Des Moines
JCI	Jane Clark	Clive
RLC	Ray L. Cummins	Centerville
JJD	James J. Dinsmore	Ames
MCD	Michael C. Dooley	Cedar Rapids
CE	Chris Edwards	North Liberty
BEh	Bruce Ehresman	Ames
BE	Bery Engebretsen	Clive
CJF	Carolyn J. Fischer	Mason City
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Note: Pinchey Bottoms area at Red Rock Res. in Marion Co. is referred to as Red Rock W.A.

Common Loon: All: 1 basic near Lanesboro in Carroll Co. on 5 Jun (MPr), 1 near Hitchcock N.A. in Pottawattamie Co. on 15 Jun (MO), and 3 on Spirit L. on 26 Jul (ETh).

Pied-billed Grebe: Evidence of nesting was noted in Dickinson, Jackson, Kossuth, Polk, and Story counties (MPr, LAS, BPr, MCK, BE, HZ).

Red-necked Grebe: All: 1 alt. at Jemmerson Sl. and 1 basic at Grover's L. in Dickinson Co. on 8 Jun (LAS), 5 at Grover's L. on 29 Jun (LAS), and 2 ad. at Eagle L. in Hancock Co. on 6 and 23 Jul (PHe, MPr, RGo). Prior to 1998, there had been only 3 summer reports of this species in about 20 years.

Western Grebe: Two adults at Eagle L. in Hancock Co. on 6 Jul (PHe, MPr) and 2 adults with a downy young there on 23 Jul is the first report of nesting in Iowa since 1992. A single bird made a brief appearance at Hallett's Quarry near Ames on 29 Jun (JJD, WO, HZ).

American White Pelican: Summering birds were noted in several areas; the largest groups were 200+ at Mud L. in Clay/Palo Alto counties (LAS) and 150+ at Zirbel Sl. in Cerro Gordo Co. (RGo, JJD). By mid July the flock at Union Sl. NWR had increased from about 40 to 300-350, indicating an influx of migrants (MCK).

Double-crested Cormorant: The only report of nesting was 31 nests counted at Coralville Res. on 27 Jun (MCD). Singles at Green Is. W.A. in Jackson Co. on 12 Jul (MPr, BPr) and at Marble L. in Dickinson Co. on 17 Jul (MPr), and 20 that summered in Appanoose Co. (RLC) were the only other reports, fewer than usual.

American Bittern: All: Singles at Hanlontown Sl. in Worth Co. on 9 Jun (RGo) and Zirbel Sl. on 14 Jul (RGo), and 2 at Harrier M. on 29 Jul (DT).

Least Bittern: From 1 to 7 were found in Bremer, Hancock, Jackson, Jones, Keokuk, and Tama counties (MCD, PHe, MPr, BPr, CE).

Great Blue Heron: The largest post-breeding concentration was 97 at Union Sl. NWR on 17 Jul (MCK). No one mentioned nesting colonies.

Great Egret: The largest concentration was 25 at Runnells W.A. in Marion Co. on 24 Jul (AB). A few were found at other wetlands statewide.

Snowy Egret: The only report was 2 at Runnells W.A. on 24, 25, 28 Jul (AB, MPr).

Little Blue Heron: An adult near Cumming in Warren Co. on 3 Jun (JGi) was the only report.

Cattle Egret: One at 12 Mile L. in Emmet Co. on 29 Jun (LAS) was the only report.

Green Heron: Up to 6 were found at wetlands throughout the state.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 1 or 2 were found in Cerro Gordo, Kossuth, Louisa, O'Brien, and Woodbury counties (RGo, MCK, JGi, DK, BFH). No one mentioned any indication of nesting.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: All: 2 adults along the Chariton R. in Lucas Co. on 3 Jul (AB), 2 adults at Saylorville Res. on 4 Jul (DT), and 1 at Rathbun W.A. in Wayne Co. on 15, 19 Jul (AB).

Ibis species: An dark ibis at Russ W.A. in Winnebago Co. on 6 Jun could not be identified to species (Robert Schwartz fide JJD).

White-faced Ibis: All: 1 on a private wetland near Ames from 2-6 Jun (Mike Meetz, JJD-details, MPr, BPr, HZ) *is one of the few summer reports at this time*

Turkey Vulture: The most mentioned were 32 at Palisades-Kepler S.P. in Linn Co. on 12 Jun (MCD) and 30 at Saylorville Res. on 28 Jul (BE). This species is much more abundant in Iowa now than a few years ago.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck: 1 found near Cumming in Warren Co. from 1-10 Jun (JGi) had a red leg band. The issue of escapees confounds our understanding of the distribution of some species such as whistling-ducks which are ~~increasing~~ *expanding* their ranges.

Greater White-fronted Goose: A white-front x Canada Goose hybrid was reported at Little Swan L. in Dickinson Co. on 8 Jun (LAS).

Snow Goose: From 1 to 4 were found in Dickinson, Fremont, Marion, O'Brien, Palo Alto, Polk and Pottawattamie counties (LAS, MPr, BPr, AB, DK, JGi), about typical for summer.

Ross's Goose: 1 at Union Sl. NWR from 19 Jun-15 Jul (MCK) was only the third summer report in 15 years.

Gadwall: All: Pairs at Blue Wing M. in Cerro Gordo Co. (JJD), Eagle L. in Kossuth Co. (MCK) and Union Sl. NWR (MCK), 3 at Dunbar SL. in Greene Co. on 29 Jul (DT), and a female with 5 yg. at Hogsback WPA in Dickinson Co. (LAS). All were in parts of Iowa where this species is expected.

American Black Duck: 1 at Diehl Pond in Warren Co. on 28 Jul (JSi) was the only report.

Northern Shoveler: Besides broods at Colo Ponds in Story Co. (HZ) and Welch Lake WPA in Dickinson Co. (LAS), pairs were seen at Union Sl. NWR and Eagle L. in Kossuth Co., both on 23 Jun (MCK).

Northern Pintail: A pair at Union Sl. NWR on 19 Jun (MCK) was the only report.

Green-winged Teal: A male at Cardinal M. on 13 Jun (DK) was the only report.

Canvasback: All: A pair at Grovers L. and a female at Lake Park Sl. in Dickinson Co., both on 8 Jun (LAS).

Redhead: Groups of up to 10 were found in Carroll, Cerro Gordo, Grundy, Hancock, Kossuth, Story, Warren, and Winneshiek counties (MPr, PHe, JJD, MCK, HZ, JSi, DeC), a much broader distribution than is found in most summers. Some of these birds summered at sites where they normally do not nest but no indication of breeding was reported.

Ring-necked Duck: All: A pair at Spring Run W.A. in Dickinson Co. on 8 Jun (LAS), and singles at Rush L. in Osceola Co. on 9 Jul (LAS) and Colo Ponds in Story Co. throughout the summer (HZ).

Hooded Merganser: Broods were found in Appanoose Co. (RLC) and at Union Sl. NWR (MCK, KN).

Ruddy Duck: The only mention of breeding was at Eagle L. in Kossuth Co. where broods were seen (MCK). Far more Ruddy Ducks were seen this summer than in most years with as many as 30 at Union Sl. NWR (KN) and 20 at Colo Ponds (HZ). Up to 17 were found in Appanoose, Boone, Bremer, Butler, Grundy, Hancock, Jones, Marion, Polk, Story, and Winneshiek counties (RLC, JJD, MCD, PHe, AB, JGi, WO, DeC).

Osprey: The Osprey introduction program continued with the following releases: Saylorville-5, Hartman Reserve Nature Center in Black Hawk Co.-4, and Coralville Res.-2 (PS). In addition, a pair built a nest in Spirit Lake (ETh) and another pair attempted to nest at Coralville Res. (PS); both were unsuccessful.

Mississippi Kite: All reports were from late July; up to 2 in Des Moines on 21 Jul (PHA, RIA, PW), 2 in Urbandale on 22 Jul (MPr, BPr), and 1 at another Des Moines site on 27 Jul (PW).

Bald Eagle: The count of eagle nests in Iowa now is about 140 with nests reported from at least 58⁵⁹ counties (BEh). *32 New counts added this year were Chisholm, Clay, Mount Jan (BEh)*

Northern Harrier: Five nests were found in restored grasslands southeast of Belle Plaine in Iowa Co. (TJB), and a pair was seen exhibiting nesting displays at Kellerton Bird Conservation Area in Ringgold Co. on 5 Jun (Mel Moe fide BEh). Besides 3 harriers at Hayden Prairie in Howard Co. in July (PHe), singles found in Appanoose, Boone, Howard, Johnson, Kossuth, Ringgold, Warren, and Winneshiek counties in June are suggestive of nesting as well (RLC, DT, JJD, JLF, CE, MCK, MPr, BPr, JSi, DeC).

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Cooper's Hawk: Active nests were found at Kettleon Hogsback W.A. in Dickinson Co. (LAS, ETh) and Chariton R. Greenbelt in Lucas Co. (AB). Additional birds were found in Cerro Gordo (2 sites), Lee, Linn, Madison, Polk, Tama, and Warren counties (RGo, MCD, CE, EIA, EuA, DT, MPr, JGi), suggesting nests there as well.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 at Yellow River F. on 4 Jul (CE) was the only report.

Broad-winged Hawk: Immatures at Waubonsie S.P. in Fremont Co. on 23 Jul (BKP, LJP), Des Moines on 28 Jul (PCh), and Urbandale on 28 Jul (BE) all seemed to indicate local breeding. In addition, 1 or 2 birds were found in Boone, Calhoun, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Linn, Lucas, Polk, and Woodbury counties (DT, MPr, DAK, MCD, FL, AB, BFH).

Swainson's Hawk: All: Singles at Smith W.A. in Kossuth Co. on 2 Jun (MCK), near Mason City on 21 Jun, 16 Jul (RGo, PHe), and at Hudson in Black Hawk Co. on 2 Jul (TSt).

Peregrine Falcon: 1 at Milo in Warren Co. on 22 Jul (AB) was the only report away from the various release sites.

Gray Partridge: Up to 4 were reported in Benton, Black Hawk, Cerro Gordo, Greene, Marshall, and Palo Alto counties (TSt, RGo, DT, MPr, BPr, LAS). Several observers noted that this species seemed to be scarce this year.

Northern Bobwhite: Besides the expected birds in southern Iowa, 5 were near Urbana in Benton Co. on 6 Jun, 1 was at the Hoover Nat. Trail in Johnson Co. on 7 Jun (CE), 1 was at the Bearbrower Sand Prairie in Buchanan Co. on 23 Jun (CE), and 1 was in NE Madison Co. in July (EIA, EuA), suggesting a partial recovery for this species.

Virginia Rail: Broods were found at Lost Island M. in Palo Alto Co. on 7 Jul (LAS), Virgin L. in Palo Alto Co. on 7 Jul (LAS), and Colo Ponds on 14 Jul (HZ). Other reports were from northern Iowa.

Sora: All reports were from northern Iowa: Cerro Gordo, Kossuth, and Winneshiek counties (RGo, MCK, DeC).

Common Moorhen: At least 7 young were among 13 found at Green Is. W.A. on 12 Jul (MPr, BPr). This is the most reliable place in Iowa for this species.

American Coot: Nesting was noted at Colo Ponds (HZ), Eagle L. in Kossuth Co. (MCK), Spring Run W.A. in Dickinson Co. (LAS), and Dunbar Sl. (DT). Other reports were from Appanoose, Jackson, Polk, and Winneshiek counties (RLC, MPr, BPr, BE, DeC).

Sandhill Crane: Broods were noted in Allamakee (JJD) and Buchanan (PPa) counties. From 1-5 were found in Bremer, Butler, Greene, Tama, and Worth counties (TSt, EIA, EuA, MPr, CJF, RGo).

As a result of the release program, and perhaps to six nest were set and five (Cerro Gordo, Des Moines, Lucas, Meriden)
were successful this summer.

American Golden-Plover: All: 1 basic at Red Rock W.A. in Marion Co. on 7 Jul (AB), 1 alt. at Saylorville Res. on 15 Jul (AB), 1 at Union Sl. NWR on 15 Jul (MCK), and 1 alt. at Harrier M. on 28, 29 Jul (AJ, DT).

Semipalmated Plover: Northbound birds: The last were 2 at Cardinal M. on 6 Jun (DeC) and the most were 15 in Cerro Gordo Co. on 3 Jun (PHe). The only report of southbound birds was 5 at Saylorville Res. on 22 Jul (AB).

Piping Plover: The only report was 2 at Port Neal near Sioux City on 9 Jun (BFH).

Killdeer: Most: 71 at Saylorville Res. on 21 Jul (JJD).

Greater Yellowlegs: The first southbound report was 2 at Chichaqua W.A. in Polk Co. on 4 Jul (DT). Most: 6 at Saylorville Res. on 15 Jul (AB).

Lesser Yellowlegs: The last northbound birds were 2 in Cerro Gordo Co. on 11 Jun (PHe); 1 at Cardinal M. on 20 Jun (DeC) may have been summering. The first southbound birds were 21 at Zirbel Sl. in Cerro Gordo Co. on 1 Jul (PHe). The most were 50 at Union Sl. NWR on 21 Jul (MCK).

Solitary Sandpiper: First: 1 at Union Sl. NWR on 4 Jul (MCK). Most: 7 at Red Rock W.A. on 24 Jul (AB).

Willet: All: 2 near Thompson in Winnebago Co. on 28 Jun (GLV) and 2 at Saylorville Res. on 22 Jul (AB).

Spotted Sandpiper: Broods were noted at Colo Ponds in Story Co. on 18 Jun (HZ) and near Cumming in Warren Co. on 17 Jul (JGi).

Upland Sandpiper: Most: 10 in Appanoose Co. on 3 Jun (RLC). One or two were noted in Boone, Cerro Gordo, Cherokee, Clay, Emmet, Fremont, Greene, Hancock, Jefferson, Johnson, Lucas, Madison, O'Brien, Wayne, and Winneshiek counties (JJD, DK, LAS, BKP, LJP, DT, KN, THK, AB, EIA, EuA, DeC).

Ruddy Turnstone: All: 2 MidAmerican Energy Ponds on 10 Jul (BKP, LJP)[record early] and 1 at Union Sl. NWR on 21 Jul (MCK)[third earliest].

Sanderling: The last northbound were 2 at McIntosh W.A. on 3 Jun (PHe). The first southbound was 1 near Bartlett in Fremont Co. on 23 Jul (BKP, LJP). The most was 4 at Saylorville Res. on 28 Jul (BE).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Three at Union Sl. NWR on 19 Jun (MCK) and 1 near Maquoketa in Jackson Co. on 23 Jun (JLF) were probably northbound whereas 1 at Union Sl. NWR on 26 Jun (MCK) was probably headed south. The most reported were 99 at Saylorville Res. on 22 Jul (AB) and 100 at Union Sl. NWR on 21 Jul (MCK). There were numerous reports from early June.

Least Sandpiper: The last northbound birds were 2 at Union Sl. NWR on 2 Jun (MCK). The first southbound was 1 at Union Sl. NWR on 4 Jul (MCK) and the most was 149 at Saylorville Res. on 22 Jul (AB).

White-rumped Sandpiper: The last northbound birds were 5 near Thompson in Winnebago Co. and 2 at Crystal L. W.A. in Hancock Co., both on 17 Jun (RGo). The most was 42 at Stoney L. in Dickinson Co. on 8 Jun (LAS).

Baird's Sandpiper: All: 7 at Pin Oak M. in Lucas Co. on 22 Jul (AB) and 2 at Union Sl. NWR on 23 Jul (MCK).

Pectoral Sandpiper: The last northbound birds were 2 near Thompson on 17 Jun (RGo) and 1 at Union Sl. NWR on 19 Jun (MCK). The first southbound birds was 1 at Union Sl. NWR on 30 Jun (MCK). The most were 593 at Saylorville Res. on 22 Jul (AB) and 362 at Red Rock W.A. on 24 Jul (AB). There were numerous reports from early June.

Dunlin: All: 1 at Eagle L. in Kossuth Co. and 4 at Zirbel Sl., both on 2 Jun (MCK, PH) and 3 at Holland M. in Grundy Co. on 5 Jun (JJD).

Stilt Sandpiper: The first southbound was 1 at Elk L. WPA in Clay Co. on 7 Jul (LAS) and the most was 34 at Saylorville Res. on 22 Jul (AB).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: All: 1 near Hills in Johnson Co. on 28 Jul (BSc) and 3 near Mason City on 30 Jul (CJF, RGo, PHe).

Ruff: 1 made a brief appearance at Red Rock W.A. on 28 Jul (JSi*, MCD*, MPr*). [Ruff's call]

Short-billed Dowitcher: First: 1 at Chichaqua W.A. on 4 Jul (DT). Most: 4 at Saylorville Res. on 15 Jul (AB).

American Woodcock: All: 1 at Liscomb in Marshall Co. on 3 Jun (MPr, Br), 1 on the Chariton R. Greenbelt in Lucas Co. on 6 Jul (AB), and 1 at Dunbar Sl. on 30 Jul (EIA, EuA).

Wilson's Phalarope: There were more summer reports of this species than in any of the previous 18 years. Two males and a female near Buckeye in Hardin Co. on 5 Jun (JJD), a male and female at Holland M. in Grundy Co. on 5 Jun (JJD), a female at Welch L. WPA in Dickinson Co. on 8 Jun (LAS), as many as 7 at McIntosh W.A. from 3 to 11 Jun (PHe, RGo), and 2 near Thompson in Winnebago Co. on 17, 28 Jun (RGo, GLV) are all suggestive of nesting birds. The most reported were 25 at Red Rock W.A. on 28 Jul (JSi). [25]

Franklin's Gull: Northbound birds dwindled from 26 at McIntosh W.A. on 2 Jun to 1 on 4 Jun (PHe). The only southbound birds reported were 6 at Marble L. in Dickinson Co. on 17 Jul (MPr) and 275 there on 20 Jul (LAS).

Ring-billed Gull: At McIntosh W.A., 26 on 3 Jun dwindled to a single bird on 18 Jun (PHe). A few summered at Saylorville Res. where 2 were found on 16 Jun (BE). By late July, migrants were appearing with 101 at Red Rock W.A. on 24 Jul (AB).

Herring Gull: All: single 2nd year birds at McIntosh W.A. on 3 Jun (RGo) and at Marble L. on 14 Jul (LAS), and an adult bird at Red Rock Res. on 10 Jul (AB).

Caspian Tern: The last northbound bird was 1 at Saylorville Res. on 17 Jun (BE) and the most was 17 at Silver L. in Worth Co. on 5 Jun (RGo). One at Red Rock W.A. on 7 Jul (AB) and 2 at Saylorville Res. on 21 Jul (JJD) were the only southbound birds reported.

Forster's Tern: Up to 10 were found at Eagle L. in Hancock Co. on 6 Jul, suggesting nesting although no nests were found (PHe). One near Iowa Falls on 7 Jul (JJD) was the first southbound migrant, and 12 at Saylorville Res. on 22 Jul (AB) and 12 at Silver L. in Worth Co. on 31 Jul (RGo) were the most.

Least Tern: up to 5 were at the usual MidAmerican Energy site in Council Bluffs on 13 Jun and 10 Jul (MPr, BPr, BKP, LJP). One at Union Sl. NWR on 19 Jun (MCK) was a local first.

Black Tern: The last spring migrants were 3 at Cardinal M. on 6 Jun (DeC). The only indication of nesting was about 100, some of them carrying food, at Eagle L. in Hancock Co. on 6 Jul (PHe). The first fall migrants were 6 at Saylorville Res. on 10 Jul (JJD).

Eurasian Collared-Dove: Besides 2 at the usual Grinnell site on 3 Jun (MPr), 2 were in Ogden on 3 Jul (PHA, RIA), 3 were in Allerton in Wayne Co. on 8 Jul (AB), 1 was at the Spirit L. fish hatchery from 19 Jun-Jul (ETh), and 1 accompanied the White-winged Dove s. of Clear L. from 2-29 Jul (PHe-details, RGo-details).

White-winged Dove: One found s. of Clear L. on 2 Jul was present through 29 Jul (PHe*, MPr*, RGo-details, CJF).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Singles were reported in Appanoose, Black Hawk, Cerro Gordo, Dallas, Johnson, Kossuth, Lucas, Madison, O'Brien, Polk, Story, and Warren counties (RLC, KN, TSt, RGo, JJD, CE, MCK, AB, EIA, EuA, LAS, DT, WO, JGi).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: This species continues to be much more common than Black-billed Cuckoo. I received reports from about 27 counties.

Barn Owl: A nest at Otter Creek M. in Tama Co. in 2001 produced 2 young (Tom Smith fide JJD). I received no reports of this species this year.

Eastern Screech-Owl: As last year, a nest in Liscomb in Marshall Co. had 3 gray and 2 red-plumaged young (MPr, Bpr).

Short-eared Owl: One at Kellerton Bird Conservation Area in Ringgold Co. on 5 Jun (Mel Moe fide BEh) is suggestive of breeding.

Chuck-will's-widow: Besides the usual bird calling near Waubonsie S.P. in Fremont Co. (MPr, BPr), 1 was heard calling along the Des Moines R. near Luther on 18 May (Jim Pease, Jason O'Brien fide JJD) but could not be located later.

Whip-poor-will: 3 calling at Waterman Creek A. in O'Brien Co. on 16 Jul (LAS) were at the edge of their Iowa range.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Although few mentioned this species, it seems to be holding its own in Iowa. The most was 8 at Pikes Peak S.P. in Clayton Co. on 12 Jul (MPr, BPr).

Belted Kingfisher: 20+ found along the Upper Iowa R. on 24 Jun (FL) indicates a healthy population in that area.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Goranson noted that she saw few this summer.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: All: 1 at Little Sioux Access in Clay Co. on 3 Jun (LAS), 2 along the Upper Iowa R. in Winneshiek Co. on 24 Jun (FL), 1 at Coon Creek W.A. in Winneshiek Co. on 29 Jun (DeC), 2 at Yellow River F. on 4 Jul (CE), 1 at Wanata S.P. in Clay Co. on 4 Jul (LAS), and 1 near Guttenberg in Clayton Co. on 16 Jul (DAk). All were in the northern two rows of Iowa counties.

Pileated Woodpecker: Up to 3 were found in Jones, Kossuth, Lee, Polk, Wayne, and Winneshiek counties (CE, MCK, MPr, RIC, AB, FL), all within the known range of this species in Iowa.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: The last migrants were singles at Grammer Grove P. in Marshall Co. on 6 Jun (MPr), Mill Creek S.P. in O'Brien Co. on 7 Jun (DK), and Mathers Woods, Cerro Gordo Co. on 7 Jun (RGo).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Last: 1 at Algona on 6 Jun (MCK).

Most: 4 at Algona on 3 Jun (MCK).

Acadian Flycatcher: From 1 to 4 were found in Allamakee, Appanoose, Fayette, Jackson, Jones, Lee, Louisa, Van Buren, Warren, and Washington counties (CE, JJD, RLC, JLF, MCD, MPr, BPr). The most reported was 6 at Brinton Timber in Washington Co. on 23 Jun (MCD). One at Little Sioux Access in Clay Co. on 3 Jun (LAS) was the furthest out of the species' usual Iowa range.

Alder Flycatcher: Last: 1 at Hoover Nat. Trail in Johnson Co. on 7 Jun (CE) and 6 at Algona on 6 Jun (MCK). Most: 12 at Algona on 3 Jun (MCK).

Willow Flycatcher: Up to 6 were found in Allamakee, Appanoose, Black Hawk, Bremer, Butler, Polk, Pottawattamie, Tama, Warren (nest), Wayne (brood), Winneshiek, and Woodbury counties (JJD, RLC, TSt, KN, BE, DT, BKP, LJP, MPr, JGi, AB, FL, DeC, BFH).

Least Flycatcher: Last: 2 at Algona on 3 Jun (MCK). Singles at different sites in the Yellow River F. on 6 Jun and 4 Jul (JJD, CE) may have been nesting while 1 at Otter Creek M. on 24 Jun (MPr) defies definition.

Eastern Phoebe: A nest with young in O'Brien Co. on 17 Jul (DK) was near the edge of this species' Iowa range.

Western Kingbird: Up to 7 were reported in Dickinson, Polk, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury counties (LAS, BE, BKP, LJP, MPr, BPr, LJP, GLV), all at sites where it is expected. One near Odgen in Boone Co. in late June (J. Bahrenfus fide JJD) was unexpected.

Loggerhead Shrike: Up to 4 were found in Black Hawk (3 sites), Cerro Gordo (2 sites), Fremont, Hamilton, Kossuth, Louisa (nest), Madison (nest), Marshall, Plymouth, and Wayne counties (TSt, RGo, PHe, MPr, BPr, HZ, DK, BSc, EIA, EuA, AB), about typical of recent summers. Several observers noted this species was hard to find.

White-eyed Vireo: 1 or 2 were found in Appanoose, Black Hawk, Johnson, and Winneshiek counties (RLC, TSt, CE, JLF, DK), the most reported in summer since 1995.

Bell's Vireo: The most was 22 along the Cedar Valley Bike Path in Black Hawk Co. (TSt). Up to 6 were found in Appanoose, Black Hawk, Bremer, Fremont, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Louisa, Madison, Muscatine, Polk, Story, Van Buren, Warren, Wayne, and Woodbury counties (RLC, KN, TSt, BKP, LJP, MPr, BPr, JLF, MCD, CE, EIA, EuA, BE, JJD, DT, JGi, AB, BFH), about typical for this species.

Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 or 2 were found in Allamakee, Appanoose, Benton, Clayton, Carroll, Cherokee, Des Moines, Hardin, Kossuth, Lee, Lucas, Marshall, Polk, Tama, Warren, Wayne, Winneshiek, and Woodbury counties (MPr, RLC, MCK, BE, DeC, GLV). Philadelphia Vireo: 1 at the Little Sioux R. Access in Clay Co. on 3 Jun (LAS-details)[second latest] was the only report.

American Crow: 315 were counted entering at roost in Ames on 21 Jul (JJD).

Purple Martin: The largest colony reported, in Winnebago Co., had 120 nests (PHe). Colonies were reported from about 17 counties, and undoubtedly martins nest in all 99 counties. A statewide survey of the colonies of this species would make a good project for some enterprising birder.

Cliff Swallow: Several large colonies were reported including one with 800 birds at Saylorville Res. (BE,DT).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: All: singles at Mason City on 6 Jun (CJF), Yellow River F. on 15 Jul (DK), and in Des Moines on 26 Jul (BMi) is the most summer reports since 1985. Will this fall bring an invasion of species? (JJD)

Brown Creeper: All: 2 at Grammar Grove P. in Marshall Co. on 6 Jun (MPr).

Carolina Wren: 1 or 2 were found in Carroll, Des Moines, Greene, Jackson, Lee, Lucas, Polk, Story, Van Buren, and Warren counties (MPr, JJD, AB, JCl, RIC, JSi).

Bewick's Wren: Only Dooley reported this species at the usual site near Argyle in Lee Co. on 15 Jun.

Sedge Wren: Up to 8 were reported from Bremer, Buchanan, Clayton, Iowa, Polk, (DT) Story, and Winneshiek counties (MCD, CE, DAK, KN, HZ, DeC).

Marsh Wren: 1 at Muskrat Sl. in Jones Co. on 8 Jun (CE) and 7 at Goose L. in Clinton Co. on 24 Jul (PVN) were near the edge of the main range of this species in Iowa.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Gnatcatchers were again present at Smith W.A. in Kossuth Co. near the edge of their Iowa range (MCK).

Veery: All: 1 at Algona on 1 Jun (MCK), 1 at Ledges S.P. on 16 Jun (PHA, RIA), and up to 4 at Stephens S.F. in Lucas Co. in Jul (AB).

Swainson's Thrush: 1 at Brush Creek Canyon in Fayette Co. on 5 Jun (JJD-details)[second latest] was the only report.

Wood Thrush: 10 males at Banner Pits in Warren Co. (JSi) was the most reported. From 1 to 4 were found in Allamakee, Black Hawk, Carroll, Cerro Gordo, Cherokee, Clay, Fremont, Jackson, Johnson, Lee, Louisa, Kossuth, Madison, Marshall, Polk, Van Buren, Warren, Wayne, and Winneshiek counties (CE, TSt, MPr, RGo, LAS, BPr, MCD,

MCK, DT, BE, JSi, AB, DeC) indicating almost a statewide distribution. Engebretsen noted an adult feeding 2 young cowbirds at Saylorville Res. on 16 Jun.

Northern Mockingbird: Besides singles in Appanoose, Iowa, Lucas, and Wayne counties (MPr, MCD, JSi, AB) where this species is expected, singles were found near Bjorkboda M. in Hamilton Co. on 29 Jun (Lloyd Crim) and near Nevada from 1-4 Jul (Larry Dau fide JJD). The only indication of nesting was two pairs, one with a fledgling in NE Madison Co. in late July (ElA, EuA).

Cedar Waxwing: Waxwings seemed to be unusually abundant this summer (MCK, DT, JJD).

Blue-winged Warbler: Up to 3 were found in Allamakee, Johnson, Lee, Lucas, and Winneshiek counties (JJD, MCD, MPr, AB, DeC). One at Yellow River F. on 15 Jun was a "Lawrence's" hybrid form (DK).

Tennessee Warbler: All: 1 at Algona from 1-4 Jun (MCK).

Northern Parula: Up to 4 were found in Black Hawk, Boone, Des Moines, Hardin, Johnson, Lee, Polk, Van Buren, Warren, Washington, and Wayne counties (MPr, BPr, JJD, MCD, CE, BE, AB), all at sites where the species is expected..

Chestnut-sided Warbler: 1 at Algona on 2, 5 Jun (MCK), 1 at Grammer Grove P. in Hardin Co. on 6, 8, 17 Jun (MPr), and 1 at Mathers Woods in Floyd Co. on 7 Jun (RGo) were probably late migrants. Two males and a female at Coon Creek W.A. in Winneshiek Co. on 14 Jun (DK) and 1 at Highlandville in Winneshiek Co. on 4 Jul (DeC) were likely nesting birds.

Magnolia Warbler: All: a male at Algona on 2, 3 Jun (MCK).

Black-throated Green Warbler: All: a female at Algona on 4 Jun (MCK).

Blackburnian Warbler: All: at male at Algona from 2 to 5 Jun (MCK) and a female there on 4 Jun (MCK).

Yellow-throated Warbler: 1 or 2 were found in Des Moines, Johnson, Lee, Polk, and Van Buren counties (MPr, CE, MCD, PHe, BE), all known sites for the species.

Prairie Warbler: A male at Kent P. in Johnson Co. on 23 Jun (CC-details) was the only report and the first summer report since 1998.

Cerulean Warbler: 1 or 2 were found Appanoose, Boone, Fremont, Johnson, Lee, and Warren counties (RLC, PHA, RIA, MPr, BPr, TSt, MCD, PHe) where this species is expected. None were at Wanata S.P. where it has been regular in recent years (LAS).

Black-and-white Warbler: A newly fledged young at L. Ahquabi S.P. in Warren Co. on 4 Jul (JSi) suggests it came from a nearby nest while an adult was found at Woodland Mounds S. Preserve in Warren Co. on 12 Jun (MPr). The nesting status of this species in Iowa is still an enigma although it apparently nests at least occasionally.

Prothonotary Warbler: From 1 to 5 were found in Allamakee, Appanoose, Boone, Clayton, Des Moines, Johnson, Linn, Lucas, Warren, and Wayne counties (MPr, BPr, JJD, RLC, DAK, MCD, CE, AB, PHA, RIA).

Worm-eating Warbler: All reports were from the Croton or Donnellson units of Shimek S.F. in Lee Co. (CE, MCD, PHe, MPr, BPr) where this species is regular.

Ovenbird: Most: 18 in Stephens S.F. in Lucas Co. on 3 Jul (AB). From 1 to 8 were found in Fremont, Kossuth, Lee, Marshall, Polk, Van Buren, Warren, Winneshiek, Woodbury, and Worth counties

they were common, even occurring in suburban office parks. Two nests were found in Poweshiek Co. (CV, RV).

Henslow's Sparrow: Most: 14 at Medicine Creek W.A. in Wayne Co. on 8 Jul (AB). Elsewhere, from 1 to 8 were found in Appanoose, Davis, Iowa, Lee, Polk, Ringgold, Van Buren, and Wayne counties, about typical of recent years (RLC, MPr, MCD, KN, RIC, CE, BE, DT, AB). This species has been either more abundant or much easier to locate in the last 5 years.

Swamp Sparrow: Up to 2 were found at Muskrat Sl. in Jones Co. (MCD, CE) near the edge of this species range in Iowa.

Blue Grosbeak: Up to 4 were found in Dickinson, Fremont, O'Brien, and Osceola counties (LAS, EIA, EuA, BKP, LJP, MPr, BPr, DK), all within the known range of this species.

Dickcissel: Several observers noted that this species was quite common this summer (BE, DT). Nests were noted in Poweshiek Co. (CV, RV).

Bobolink: Several people noted that, like Dickcissels, Bobolinks were fairly easy to find this year (PHe, JJD) while Thompson thought numbers were down.

Eastern Meadowlark: 1 along the Floyd R. in Woodbury Co. on 7 Jun (BFH) was out of its usual range.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Most reports were from known colonies. At least 10 were at a restored wetland near Glidden in Carroll Co. (Mpr). mpr

Great-tailed Grackle: From 1 to 3 were found in Clay, Clinton, Hancock, Polk, Pottawattamie, Story, Tama, and Warren counties (LAS, PVN, PHe, DT, MPr, BKP, LJP, WO, HZ, AB). A bird reported last summer as at Teal Basin was actually at Blue Wing M. in Cerro Gordo Co.

Brown-headed Cowbird: See Wood Thrush and Ovenbird.

Orchard Oriole: From 1 to 3 were found in Allamakee, Black Hawk, Boone, Davis, Fremont, Iowa, Johnson, Lee, Linn, Louisa, Polk, Warren, and Winneshiek counties (MPr, KN, TSt, JJD, BPr, MCD, CE, DT, JGi, DeC).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow: All reports were from Des Moines or Louisa counties where this species is entrenched (MCD, PHe, PL, MPr). Lowther found a pair near Burlington with a third clutch in early July.