

IOWA RBA UPDATE: 8/10/95

On the 10th in the southwest in Fremont County, in the area east of Nebraska City along hiway 2 and old hiway 2, there were six species of herons and egrets, including an immature SNOWY EGRET, an adult LITTLE BLUE HERON, a BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON, and 400 CATTLE EGRETS. Also there were GREAT-TAILED GRACKLES and numerous shorebirds. At the Riverton Area, there were 14 species of shorebirds, with BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERS and SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHERS. In Pottawattamie County, there were at least 3 PIPING PLOVERS and 4 LEAST TERNS, plus GREAT-TAILED GRACKLES and BLUE GROSBEAKS at the Midwest Power Co.'s settling ponds south of Council Bluffs.

In the south-central at the Red Rock Reservoir, among the RING-BILLED GULLS and FORSTER'S TERNS near the swim beach at the north end of the dam, were a FRANKLIN'S GULL, a RUDDY TURNSTONE, and a WILLET.

On the 7th in Lee County, the SNOWY EGRET was seen again at the Heron Bend Conservation Area. In the northeast in Buchanan County, a YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT was at the Otterville Bridge Access southeast of Littleton. For better directions, call Tim Gedler at (319)279-3872.

Jim Fuller (319)338-3561
jfuller@dentistry-po.dentistry.uiowa.edu
IOUFULLER@aol.com

[57] From: IOUFULLER@aol.com at internet 8/6/95 11:15PM (3074 bytes: 61 ln)
To: jfuller at dentistry-po
Subject: IOWA RBA: 8/7/95

----- Message Contents -----
IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 for 8/7/95

BIRDS MENTIONED:

Mississippi Kite
Snowy Egret
SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER
Osprey
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Ruddy Turnstone
Willet
Great Egret
Trumpeter Swan
Broad-winged Hawk
Northern Mockingbird
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Sedge Wren

THE ISLAND VIEW AREA AT LAKE RATIBUN

There is good shorebird habitat many places in the state. A few of the areas that reportedly are good include the Runnells Area, Sandpiper Beach at the Saylorville Reservoir, the island off of campground 4 at Jester Park, Harrier Marsh south of Ogden, the end of the Babcock Access at the Coralville Reservoir, and the sandbar in the Mississippi River off of the Casey-Barrow Access north of Burlington. The week's highlights are MISSISSIPPI KITE in the Des Moines area, and SNOWY EGRET in Lee County. *THE SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER AT THE CORALVILLE RESERVOIR WAS NEVER SEEN AFTER JULY 29TH, DESPITE EXTENSIVE SEARCHING.*

In the central this weekend, the adult MISSISSIPPI KITES were feeding at least one chick in the nest which is near the rear parking lot at the Olivet Baptist Church at 73rd and Del Matro in Clive. The nest is in a hackberry tree about 50 yards southeast of the cottonwood tree where the adults were seen all summer. Please do not leave the church parking lot, as the nest tree is on private property, and the area should not be disturbed anyway. This is the first known successful nesting in the state. To reach this location, get off I-235 at the 8th Street West Des Moines exit, and go north a little over a mile. An early OSPREY was near Brown's Woods on the southwest side of Des Moines on the 4th. Just southeast of Des Moines at the Runnells Wildlife Area, from one to three BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPERS were spotted late last week.

In the southeast in Lee County on the 6th, a SNOWY EGRET was among the GREAT EGRETS at Heron Bend Conservation Area off of hiway 61 three miles north of Montrose. In Des Moines County, a RUDDY TURNSTONE was on the sandbar in the Mississippi River off the Casey-Barrow ACESS about ten miles north of Bulrington on the 6th, and a WILLET was there on the 3rd. In Johnson County, the TRUMPETER SWAN was still on a pond in a housing development two miles south of Cosgrove through the 3rd, and an adult BROAD-WINGED HAWK was at interchange #244 of

I-80 just north of Iowa City on the 3rd.

In the northeast, two adult NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRDS were seen feeding three juveniles in Clinton County. From the town of Goose Lake, go north on county road Z-34 for 0.7 miles, and then east on gravel 137th Street for 0.6 miles and look in a field with cedar trees on the north side of the road.

In the northwest in Sioux County on the 4th, a surprising find of an adult and juvenile YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKERS at Oak Grove County Park, while fields

with SEDGE WRENS were on the north side of the park entrance road, and just outside the park on the south side of the prairie area.

Jim Fuller (319)338-3561
jfuller@dentistry-po.dentistry.uiowa.edu
IOUFULLER@aol.com

