

ON THE 24<sup>TH</sup> IN THE SE. IN LEE COUNTY, A WORM  
EATING WARBLER WAS AT THE CROTON UNIT OF  
SHINEK STATE FOREST, JUST IN FROM THE PARKING  
LOT UP THE FIRST Ravine TO THE RIGHT. IN DE  
MOINES COUNTY, A LEAST TERN WAS AT CAREY  
BARROW PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MISSISSIPPI  
RIVER, 10 MILES NORTH OF BURLINGTON  
TO SKIN

ON THE 27<sup>TH</sup> IN THE CENTRAL AT LEGER'S STATE  
PARK IN BOONE COUNTY, BIRDS SEEN IN THE AREA  
OF THE LOWER LEVEL NEAR THE BRIDGE INCLUDED 2  
MISSISSIPPI KITES, 2 BROAD WINGED HAWKS, 3  
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLERS, AND A BELLS VIREO

Author: IOUFULLER@aol.com at internet  
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Subject: IOWA RBA: 6/23/97

----- Message Contents -----

X-PH: V4.1@moon.uiowa.edu

IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 for 6/23/97

Birds Mentioned:

COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL  
Laughing Gull  
Whimbrel  
Marbled Godwit  
Mississippi Kite  
Prairie Warbler  
Snowy Plover  
American Golden Plover  
Great-tailed Grackle  
Northern Bobwhite  
Cerulean Warbler  
Piping Plover  
Least Tern  
Yellow-throated Warbler  
Broad-winged Hawk  
Least Bittern  
White-throated Sparrow  
Swainson's Hawk

The best birds this week are COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL, LAUGHING GULL, WHIMBREL, and MARBLED GODWIT in the northwest, MISSISSIPPI KITE in the central, and PRAIRIE WARBLER in the southeast.

In the northwest in Sac County, there has been a procession of interesting birds at the dredge spoil pond across the road from the southeast corner of Black Hawk Lake. The SNOWY PLOVER of last weekend was last seen there on the 15th, and was replaced by a LAUGHING GULL, which stayed through the 19th, and on the 21st, an AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER in alternate plumage was found there. In Dickinson County, two COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULLS, an adult and a first year bird have been seen last week at two locations about a mile and a half apart. On the 17th, they were at the Kettelson Wildlife Production Area, which is found by taking hiway 276 north from hiway 9 in Spirit Lake, and where it skirts the west side of Big Spirit Lake, turn west on 125th Street, and look in the pond immediately on the south side. The adult as well as three MARBLED GODWITS were seen on the 21st on a wetland which is on a curve on the north side of an east-west gravel road that parallels hiway 9 about a mile to its north. It is named 140th Street on its west end and 145th Street on its east end. From the west, take 140th Street east off hiway 86 for 2.8 miles, and from the east take 145th Street west for a mile. In Clay County, a WHIMBREL was seen at Dan Green Slough on the 16th, and a GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE was there on the 21st. A NORTHERN BOBWHITE was particularly far northwest in the state at Wanata State Park near Peterson on the 21st. Also far northwest of its normal range was a CERULEAN WARBLER in Cherokee County, which was singing in pine trees at the far campground at the Martin Access Area, which is 4-5 miles east of Larrabee, on the 22nd. In Woodbury County, 14 PIPING PLOVER, and 14 LEAST TERNS were at the Port Neal generating station south of Sioux City on the 16th.

In the central, MISSISSIPPI KITES have been regularly reported from three locations: in the Des Moines area at Clive and over Greenwood Park, in Dallas County at the Voas Nature Area west of Minburn, and in Boone County at the Ledges State Park, where the last sighting was on the lower level on the 21st. Also at Ledges, YELLOW-THROATED WARBLERS have been seen by the bridge

in the lower ledges, as well as farther up the canyon, while a BROAD-WINGED HAWK was in the lower portion of the canyon on the 21st. In Madison County, Eugene and Eloise Armstrong who live south of Booneville, have a LEAST BITTERN on their farm pond. You can call the Armstrongs at (515)996-2726. In West Des Moines, Pam and Reid Allen reported a most unusual summer visitor in their yard on the 20th, a WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.

In the southeast, PRAIRIE WARBLERS were still being seen in Johnson County last week. Two were singing at MacBride State Park on the hillside south of the sailboat storage enclosure. In Des Moines County, two WILLETS in alternate plumage were at the Casey-Barrow Access to the Mississippi River ten miles north of Burlington on the 22nd. In Van Buren County, HENSLOW'S SPARROWS were seen in their usual nesting field south and west of Lacey-Keosauqua State Park on the 20th. This field is found by exiting the park on the south road, and at the 4-way stop, turn right and continue one and a half miles to where there is a small parking lot on the right, and the field is across the road from this parking lot. A NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD was a mile and a half west and three-quarters of a mile south from that parking lot on the 20th, and in the park itself a SUMMER TANAGER was at the picnic area which is just up the hill to the west of the entrance to Ely Ford.

In the northeast in Cerro Gordo County, a SWAINSON'S HAWK was spotted on the 16th north of Mason City, near the intersection of county road B-20 and hiway 18, just north of Lime Creek Nature Center. In Black Hawk County, a SWAINSON'S HAWK was seen from the Canfield Area boat ramp at Geroege Wyth State Park on the 22nd.

Jim Fuller (319)338-3561  
james-fuller@uiowa.edu  
ioufuller@aol.com

1987-88 (213) 238-3281  
The Office of the  
Secretary of the

State of California

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