

IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 Update for 6/19/98 @ 9 PM

Birds Mentioned:

Eurasian Tree Sparrow

Western Kingbird

Upland Sandpiper

Ring-necked Duck

Lesser Scaup

Northern Shoveler

Caspian Tern

To skip the recording and leave a message, just press the star at any time. On the 19th in the southeast in Johnson County, a EURASIAN TREE SPARROW was seen once again around the south entrance to the Iowa City water treatment plant and youth soccer fields, this time around a nest box on the chain link fence just east of the entrance.

On the 18th in the northeast, a WESTERN KINGBIRD was found on a breeding bird survey route in Delaware County. From highway 13 and Main Street in Manchester, go east 2.4 miles on East Main Street, and then north on 200th Avenue about 2 miles to where there is a red house on the right side of the road. The bird was hanging around a mulberry tree just south of that house. In addition, 4 UPLAND SANDPIPERS were found within a mile either direction from the Delaware-Linn County line along county road X-20 north of Prairieburg.

On the 17th in the southeast in Johnson County, birds seen at the S & G Quarry along Sand Road just south of Iowa City included RING-NECKED DUCK, LESSER SCAUP, NORTHERN SHOVELER, and CASPIAN TERN.

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IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 for 6/15/98

Birds Mentioned:

LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE

Canada Goose

Prairie Warbler

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

King Rail

Little Blue Heron

Common Loon

Northern Shoveler

Ring-necked Duck

Lesser Scaup

Hooded Merganser

Western Kingbird

Hooded Warbler

Olive-sided Flycatcher

Henslow's Sparrow

Bald Eagle

Northern Pintail

Common Merganser

American White Pelican

Greater White-fronted Goose

Upland Sandpiper

Black-bellied Plover

American Golden Plover

Wilson's Phalarope

Red-necked Phalarope

Ruddy Turnstone

Hudsonian Godwit

Least Bittern

Redhead

Willow Flycatcher

Bell's Vireo

To skip the recording and leave a message, just press the star at any time. The highlight birds this week include LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE and PRAIRIE WARBLER in the southeast, SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER and KING RAIL in the central, LITTLE BLUE HERON in the south-central, and RED-NECKED PHALAROPE in the northwest.

In the southeast in Johnson County, an adult LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, discovered by James Huntington at Lake MacBride on the 10th, was seen early and late in the day on the 11th, but not after that. There is only one accepted North American record for this species at Attu Island, Alaska in 1994, which seemingly would preclude a vagrancy pattern and suggest an escape. However, this is an interesting bird to see, and with the crazy spring we have had, it may be a vagrant. It certainly acts like a wild bird. Look for the yellow eye ring. To reach this location, take county road F-28 north from North Liberty, first crossing the Coralville Reservoir, and later the south arm of Lake MacBride, after which you

take the right fork of a Y, and another quick right, and follow the signs to the boat ramp, where the bird was loosely associating with CANADA GEESE. The male PRAIRIE WARBLER continues to sing at Lake MacBride through the 12th, on the hillside south of the sailboat storage enclosure. A COMMON LOON in alternate plumage was also seen on the south arm of Lake MacBride on the 13th. Also in Johnson County, waterfowl seen on the 12th and 13th at the S & G Quarry, which is along Sand Road just south of Iowa City include NORTHERN SHOVELER, RING-NECKED DUCK, LESSER SCAUP, HOODED MERGANSER, and COMMON LOON.

In the central in Boone County, we have had a second hand report of a SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER seen on the 13th in the southwest corner of the Iowa Aroretum, which is north of the 4H camp about two and a half miles southwest of Luther. In Polk County, a KING RAIL has been seen at Arrington Marsh for about a week now. It can be heard calling and seen at the north end of the southernmost part of the marsh near a pulloff along the road. The WESTERN KINGBIRDS have once again taken up housekeeping on the state capital grounds in Des Moines.

In the south-central in Warren County, the two male HOODED WARBLERS were still singing at Lake Ahquabi State Park on the 11th. One was being heard about 100-150 yards south of the intersection of the Lake Trail and the trail from Camp Wesley Woods, and the other was even farther south. An OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER was seen there also on the 11th, and a small colony of HENSLOW'S SPARROWS has been found on private land in the county. For more information on the sparrows, call Jim Sinclair at (515)961-4616. In Appanoose County, the Rathbun Lake bird club found a record 106 species on their count on the 13th, which included LITTLE BLUE HERON, OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER, HENSLOW'S SPARROW, nesting BALD EAGLE, NORTHERN PINTAIL, COMMON and HOODED MERGANSERS, AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN, GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, and seven UPLAND SANDPIPERS.

In the northwest in Kossuth County, late shorebirds at Maynard Reece Waterfowl Production Area, included BLACK-BELLIED and AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVERS, WILSON'S and RED-NECKED PHALAROPES, RUDDY TURNSTONE, and HUDSONIAN GODWIT.

In the northeast in Winneshiek County, LEAST BITTERN, NORTHERN SHOVELER, REDHEAD, HOODED MERGANSER, OLIVE-SIDED and WILLOW FLYCATCHERS, and BELL'S VIREO were seen at Cardinal Marsh on the 10th.

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