

ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> IN THE SOUTHWEST IN DES MOINES COUNTY,  
THERE WAS A REPORT OF A WESTERN Tanager AT  
STARR'S CAVE PRESERVE AT BURINGTON. IN JOHNSON  
COUNTY 23 WANDER SPECIES WERE FOUND AT LAKE  
MACBRIDE STATE PARK. WE ALSO HAD TWO AFTER  
THE FACT REPORTS OF <sup>UNUSUAL</sup> GROSBEAKS AT FEEDERS ON  
THE 10<sup>TH</sup>. A MALE BLUE GROSBEAK WAS AT  
BARBARA HENDERSON'S FEEDER IN WELLMAN IN WASHINGTON  
COUNTY, AND IN CLARKE COUNTY, A BLACK HEADED  
GROSBEAK WAS AT AN O SCHOOLA FEEDER AND 4 MORE  
BLUE GROSBEAKS WERE AT A FEEDER TEN MILES SOUTH  
OF O SCHOOLA. IN THE CENTRAL, IN TAMA COUNTY, A  
MALE SURF SCOTER WAS ON THE UNION GROVE  
WILDLIFE AREA LAKE, WHICH IS SOUTHWEST OF  
THE STATE PARK, AND WAS BEST VIEWED FROM THE  
GRAVEL ROAD TO THE EAST. IN WEBSTER COUNTY, A  
WESTERN KINGBIRD WAS NEAR THE HIGHWAY 175 BRIDGE OVER  
THE DES MOINES RIVER WEST OF STRATFORD. IN THE  
NORTH CENTRAL, ALL REPORTS FROM CARROLL COUNTY  
~~AT~~ A FEMALE SURF SCOTER ON CLEAR LAKE, AMERICAN  
AVOCETS AT M<sup>S</sup> INTOSH WILDLIFE AREA NORTH OF CLEAR LAKE,  
YELLOW AND BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERON AT MALLARD  
MARSH, AND 2 ROSS GEESE AND A PELICANE  
FALCON AT THE UNION HILLS AREA SOUTHWEST OF ZUBEN (County)

(3) IN NEWS FROM THE 6<sup>TH</sup>, THE NEOTROPIC CORMORANT IN DECATUR COUNTY WAS SEARCHED FOR EXTENSIVELY WITHOUT SUCCESS ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup>. IN THE SOUTHEAST IN JOHNSON COUNTY, THE PRAIRIE WARBLER HAS RETURNED AND IS SINGING AT LAKE MALBRIDE STATE PARK ON THE HILLSIDE SOUTH OF THE SAILBOAT STORAGE ENCLOSURE. IN THE NORTHWEST IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY, AN ADULT MUTE SWAN HAS BEEN SIGHTED ON MYRE SLOUGH WEST OF FOREST CITY.

~~IN THE~~ IN WOODBURY COUNTY, ALL REPORTS FROM THE 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup>, A WHITE-FACED IBIS AT BROWER LAKE, WESTERN GLEBE AT SNYDER'S BEAD, AND PINK PLOVER AND COMMON TEAL AT POET NEAL GENERATING STATION.

(2) ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> IN THE SOUTHEAST IN JOHNSON COUNTY, ~~TWO PRAIRIE WARBLERS WERE SEEN AT LAKE MALBRIDE,~~ ~~AND~~ A RUDDY TURNSTONE WAS AT THE SANDY BEACH AREA OF THE CORAUVILLE RESERVOIR.

(1) ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup>,<sup>10<sup>TH</sup></sup> THE WARBLERS CAME BACK, AS 23 SPECIES WERE SEEN IN JOHNSON COUNTY AT THE CORAUVILLE RESERVOIR AND LAKE MALBRIDE ON ~~THE~~ <sup>BOTH DAYS.</sup> ~~IT ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup>.~~ THE BEST BIRDS WERE PINE, CAPE MAY, CERULEAN, GOLDEN-WINGED, PRAIRIE, AND YELLOW-THROATED, AND THE YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON WAS STILL AT THE HAWKEYE WILDLIFE AREA.

IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 for 5/6/96

BIRDS MENTIONED:

NEOPTROPIC CORMORANT  
Double-crested Cormorant  
White-faced Ibis  
Little Blue Heron  
Cinnamon Teal  
Red-necked Grebe  
Snowy Egret  
Bewick's Wren  
Piping Plover  
Red-necked Phalarope  
American Bittern  
Virginia Rail  
Cattle Egret  
Common Tern  
Peregrine Falcon  
Yellow-crowned Night Heron  
Yellow-throated Warbler  
Black Tern  
Wilson's Phalarope  
Ross' Goose  
Willet  
Marbled Godwit  
Hudsonian Godwit  
Dunlin  
Rough-legged Hawk  
Golden Eagle  
Clay-colored Sparrow  
Chipping Sparrow  
Kentucky Warbler  
Blue-winged Warbler  
Sandhill Crane  
Snow Goose  
Greater White-fronted Goose

The best bird this week is a NEOTROPIC CORMORANT in Decatur County. Other highlights are WHITE-FACED IBIS, LITTLE BLUE HERON, and CINNAMON TEAL in central Iowa, RED-NECKED GREBE and SNOWY EGRET in the northeast, BEWICK'S WREN and PIPING PLOVER in the southeast, and SNOWY EGRET and RED-NECKED PHALAROPE in the northwest part of the state.

In the south-central, in Decatur County, Steve Dinsmore discovered a NEOTROPIC CORMORANT at the Little River Recreation Area northwest of Leon on the 4th. It was with DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS, and was last seen flying south from the north end of the area, ~~There were no reports about the bird, either way, on the 5th.~~ This is a potential first record for the state.

In the central in Greene County, twenty WHITE-FACED IBIS were at the north end

of Snake Creek Marsh north of Rippey on the 5th. In Tama County, an immature LITTLE BLUE HERON was seen along the south side of county road E-66, 0.3 miles west of Chelsea, and at Otter Creek Marsh, an AMERICAN BITTERN and three VIRGINIA RAILS were at the east end of the north dike on the 3rd. In Guthrie County, a CINNAMON TEAL was on the outflow from Lakin Slough, which is just east of the town of Yale on the south side of county road F-25, on the 3rd. At Long's Pond, there were two CATTLE EGRETS and a COMMON TERN on the 5th. In Polk County at the Saylorville Reservoir, a PEREGRINE FALCON was at the beach of the Sandpiper Recreation Area, and a COMMON TERN was off Jester Park on the 3rd. A YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON stopped over briefly at 17th and Center in West Des Moines on the 5th. In Hardin County, a YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER was near the cabins and spillway at Lower Pine Lake, and two BLACK TERNS were over the lake on the 3rd. In Boone County, an AMERICAN BITTERN and 32 WILSON'S PHALAROPES were at Harrier Marsh on the 4th.

In northeast Iowa in Black Hawk County, a RED-NECKED GREBE was on the east side of the lake at George Wyth State Park on the 5th. At Beaver Valley Meadow, which is at the junction of county roads C-67 and T-75, there were nine WILLETS and a ROSS' GOOSE on the 1st. In Winneshiek County, two SNOWY EGRETS were at Cardinal Marsh at least through the 1st. In Butler County, sightings at Big Marsh on the 1st included MARBLED and HUDSONIAN GODWITS, WILLETS, DUNLIN, two PEREGRINE FALCONS, and a late ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK.

In the southeast in Lee County on the 2nd, the BEWICK'S WREN at the junkyard was heard briefly, but never seen. However, another WREN was found at a second location a couple of miles away. Here are the directions: From the stop sign in the village of Argyle, go west for two miles to a Y, where you take the right fork which is Belfast Road. The junkyard is found after 0.3 miles, and look for the WREN on the east side of the road. A GOLDEN EAGLE was a flyover at that location on the 2nd. To find the other location, continue on Belfast Road to 150th, where you turn right and go to the second house on the left, with the name "Farrell" on the mailbox. From the road look at the outbuildings to the west of the house. In Johnson County at the Hawkeye Wildlife Area, there were still a large number of shorebirds at the Sand Point area on the 4th, and they included HUDSONIAN GODWIT. There were also two PEREGRINE FALCONS in the area, and a PIPING PLOVER was on a mud flat a half mile east of Sand Point. A YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON was still at the back of a small pond along the east side of Greencastle Avenue, about a quarter mile north of the Swan Lake Road, and a CLAY-COLORED SPARROW was with CHIPPING SPARROWS in the first parking lot along James Avenue north of the Swan Lake Road on the 4th. In Des Moines County, two YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERONS were seen south of Burlington where Sullivan Slough Road ends in Mississippi River flood waters, on the 2nd. In Van Buren County, nine warbler species, including KENTUCKY, BLUE-WINGED, and YELLOW-THROATED were at Lacey-Keosauqua State Park on the 5th.

In the northwest in Kossuth County, two SNOWY EGRETS were south of county road B-14, in the south part of Union Slough NWR, on the 1st. In the northwest in Palo Alto County, a RED-NECKED PHALAROPE was at Burns Prairie on the 5th. In Clay County, three SANDHILL CRANES were on the Little Sioux River west of Gillett Grove, and a ROSS' GOOSE was with SNOW and GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GEESE,

at Dan Greene Slough on the 4th.

The national spring bird count day is Saturday, May 11th. If you would like to participate and don't know who your county coordinator is, call Pete Petersen at (319)355-7051.

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

*IN THE SOUTHWEST IN FREMONT COUNTY, AMERICAN AVOULET AND PEREGRINE FALCON WERE SEEN AT SECRET LAKE, AND WESTERN AND WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPERS AND WILLETS WERE AT THE RIVERTON AREA.*

5/6/96