

13 Ridge Road
Atlantic, Iowa 50022
July 28, 1982

Thomas Kent
211 Richards St.
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

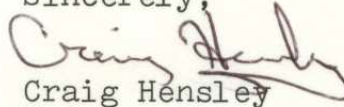
Dear Tom,

Enclosed please find my belated field reports for the last three(3) seasons and three(3) documentation forms for birds that I felt were important enough to document.

You may find that some of the birds on the report sheets are common residents of Iowa, however the dates are significant. Unfortunately, I was not able to do as much birding as I would have liked during the past year. Therefore, my observations may seem very limited. This will change as I am now doing more birdwatching.

If after reviewing the field reports and documentation forms, you have suggestions for making them better and/or easier to work with, please contact me as I will heed constructive criticism. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Craig Hensley

P.S. The Cass County Ornithological Society took its first field trip July 24. A beautiful day, but hot enough to keep many of the birds out of sight. We should become a strong group in the future.

Season: Fall Year: 1981

Name and address (print or type) R. Craig Hensley

Other observers (name, city):

13 Ridge Road

None

Atlantic, Iowa 50022

Use first few lines to give weather and habitat conditions. Use line(s) below species data to give additional details, if needed. Mail to: T. H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City IA 52240 by 1 Mar, 1 Jun, 1 Aug, or 1 Dec.

use initials of obsv. on species line

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
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Weather Conditions were fairly normal, though a little dry during part of the period.

✓ Eared Grebe	3	Nov. 6	Lake Anita State Park - Morning
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✓ White-winged Scoter	4	Nov. 6	Lake Anita State Park - Morning
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Marsh Hawk	1	Oct. 22	Flying over field 2 miles west of the county-owned Nodaway Wildlife Area, Cass County, Iowa
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✓ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4	Sep. 14	Pellett Wildlife Refuge, Cass Co.
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Black & White Warbler	1	Sep. 14	Pellett Wildlife Refuge, Cass Co.
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These were the only species of birds that I encountered during this period that I felt should be submitted as uncommon or found in limited numbers for Cass County. In future reports I will report only those birds that I do not encounter except once or twice during a season. Since I am new to this in Iowa, please feel free to let me know if some of my species records are not necessary for reporting. Thank You.

R. Craig Hensley

Season: Winter Year: 1981

Name and address R. Craig Hensley

Other observers (name, city):

(print or type) 13 Ridge Road

None

Atlantic, Iowa 50022

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SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
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Weather was typical Iowa winter			weather, snow and cold.
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Bald Eagle	1	Dec 30	On farm in southeast corner of Cass Co.-
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Was first one and only one that I saw or heard about all winter in this county.			
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Red-headed Woodpecker	3	Jan 5	Sunnyside Park, Atlantic - unusual for
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this time of year.			
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Common Redpoll	1	Feb 15	Turkey Creek Wildlife Area, Cass Co. -
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A surprise as I did not know that this species came this far south.			
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These were the only unusual sightings that I had during this season.

Thank you. 

Season: Spring Year: 1982Name and R. Craig Hensley

address

Other observers (name, city):

(print 13 Ridge Road

or type)

NoneAtlantic, Iowa 50022

Use first few lines to give weather and habitat conditions. Use line(s) below species data to give additional details, if needed. Mail to:

T. H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City IA 52240
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SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
A wet spring with an extended winter; temperatures on the cold side.			
Common Egret	1	Mar 27	Lake Anita State Park, Cass Co.
Red-tailed Hawk & Nests	2	Mar 27	Lake Anita State Park, Cass Co. - Nest was located in the crotch of a half-dead oak tree some 45-50 feet off the ground.
Red-tailed Hawk & Nest	1	Apr 10	Hitchcock Recreation Area, Cass Co. - Nest was found in dead tree overlooking the Nishnabotna River about 50 feet above ground (the nest did fledge one hawk in July)
Kestrel (Sparrow Hawk)	1	Mar 22	Cold Springs Park, Cass Co. - 1st of year
Solitary Sandpiper	1	May 7	Hitchcock Recreation Area, Cass Co. - seen searching for food along the Nishnabotna River
Greater Yellowlegs	1	Apr 4	Flooded field across road from Pellett Wildlife Refuge (county-owned), Cass County - seen for several days
Eastern Belted Kingfisher	1	Mar 22	Cold Springs Park, Cass Co. - 1st of year
Eastern Kingbird	2	May 7	Hitchcock Rec. Area, Cass Co. - 1st of year
Eastern Bluebird	2	Mar 27	Lake Anita State Park - first pair seen
" "	2	Apr 10	Hitchcock Rec. Area - second pair seen
Golden-crowned Kinglets	3	Apr 9	Pellet Wildlife Refuge, Cass Co. - first of these seen by myself in Cass County
Loggerhead Shrike	1	Apr 10	Hitchcock Rec. Area - 1st seen during this period, suitable nesting habitat for this species
Black & White Warbler	1	May 15	Pellet Wildlife Refuge
Blackpoll Warbler	1	May 15	Pellet Wildlife Refuge - 1st seen in Cass County by myself.

Season: Spring Year: 1982

Name and address (print or type) R. Craig Hensley

Other observers (name, city):
None

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SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
✓ Hooded Warbler	2	May 15	Pellett Wildlife Refuge, Cass Co. - 1st seen in Cass County by myself, was a male and female.
Bobolink	1	May 7	Hitchcock Rec. Area - 1st seen this year
Baltimore Oriole	1	May 7	Hitchcock Rec. Area - 1st seen this year
Brown-headed Cowbird	2	Apr 10	Hitchcock Rec. Area - 1st seen this year
Field Sparrow	1	Apr 10	Hitchcock Rec. Area - 1st seen this year
Harris's Sparrow	1	May 7	Hitchcock Rec. Area - 1st seen since winter when they were common

As you might note, some of these birds are common to Iowa. However, I included birds that had fairly early arrival dates when compared to the "Iowa Bird Study" guide. In fact, a few of the birds were seen earlier than the dates in the guide. Since these are the first reported observations for Cass County, as far as I know, I felt it necessary to include these species in my report. Finally, it appears that there are several Shrikes and Bluebirds in Cass County that may well nest here, I hope. Thank you.

R. Craig Hensley