

May 30, 1981

6/3/81

BRAY

Dear Tom,

A few notes on the various aspects of migration this spring--

WATERFOWL Ducks and Geese began arriving mid-February. Normal or slightly above-normal numbers with the following exceptions:

Horned Grebe--none

Western Grebe--none

Red-br Merganser--I heard a few second-hand reports of 1-2 birds at Lake Manawa. I saw none.

HAWK S Virtually non-existent. Number of Bald Eagles at Lake Manawa higher than in recent years (Of course, so were the numbers of ducks, gulls, etc)

SHOREBIRDS Really the highlight of this spring has been the widespread shorebird migration. I know I have sent a lot of dates for rather common shorebirds, but even that does not give an idea of the literally hundreds of peeps at Manawa and Keg Lake this spring. There were also many reports of Avocets, but they moved in and out rather quickly. (I missed them) In my report I have underlined those numbers which are higher than usual.

WARBLERS AND SPARROWS Numbers low, and not too exciting!

GULLS Of course, you know about the Thayer's! Also had a Black-legged Kittiwake near Lincoln, Ne. Good numbers of all the expected gulls.

Marbled Godwit Flushed; saw cinnamon wing lining; no black on tail buffy-colored body

Common Tern Dark primaries; very dark red bill

SHORT billed Dowitcher Breast buffy-orange; undertail coverts white or partially white; no concentration of spots on neck or upper breast.

White-faced Ibis All birds in adult plumage; 2 or 3 had the white face markings. I have never heard of so many ibis in this area before!

Golden Plover The 50 at L-29 were in all stages of plumage; from pure winter to lovely breeding plumage.

Sincerely,

Janya Bray

9708 Grover

Omaha NE 68124

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (2)

April 26, 1981

4:00 p.m. - 4:10 p.m.

I-29 Lake at Forney's Exit; Fremont County

Description; Underparts completely warm buffy color
Upperparts dark brown with feathers outlined
in buff giving "scaled" look
Legs bright yellow; very noticeable
Head round; eye large with ring; cheeks buffy
Bill dark; medium length

Habitat; Small pond with mud bar

Behavior; Two buff-breasted standing together in larger company
of Golden Plovers, peeps, and Am. Avocets.

Familiarity; All observers have seen this bird each spring for
the past several years in the vicinity of York, Ne.
Almost always in the company of Golden Plovers.

Distance; Approx 250 feet

Equipment; Bushnell Scope 25x
Bausch and Lomb Scope 20-60x

Books Consulted; none

Tanya Bray
Sandy Kovanda
Jim Kovanda

CONTRIBUTOR: Tanya BrayOTHER OBSERVERS: B.J. Rose
Loren & Babs PadelfordSEASON: SpringJim & Sandy Kovanda, Marge Graf
Stephanie Jamison, Janet GreerYEAR: 1981WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page Sylvia Sallquist

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Common Loon	2	4/17	Lake Manawa SJ,SS
White Pelican	12	4/22	Lake Manawa SK,TB,BP
" "	150	4/26	Riverton WMA m.obs
Double-cr Cormorant	1	5/20	Lake Manawa (late) BP, TB
Little Blue Heron	1 ad.	4/22	Lake Manawa BP,SK, TB
Cattle Egret	<u>1</u>	5/9	IPL Settling Pond JG, MG, TB
GREat Egret	1	4/4	Lake Manawa SJ
" "	1	4/46	Riverton WMA m. obs
" "	1	5/1	Lake Manawa SJ
Black-cr Night Heron	2	5/20	Lake Manawa SK, BP, TB
White-faced Ibis	<u>14</u>	5/13	Lake Manawa B.J.Rose & m. obs
" " "	3	5/19	Lake Manawa BJR
Snow Goose	15,000	3/15	Willow Slough m. obs
" "	5,000	4/2	Willow Slough BP, TB
White-fr Goose	10	3/15	Willow Slough m. obs
" "	75	4/2	Willow Slough BP TB
" "	3	5/9	settling pond-one bird injured JG,MG TB
Black Duck	2	3/15	Folsom Lake M. obs
Greater Scaup	5m2f	3/5	Settling Pond BP, TB
" "	3/15	2	Lake Manawa m. obs
" "	4/2	1	Settling Pond TB, BP
Com. Merganser	1000	3/5	Lake Manawa BP, TB
Broad-winged Hawk	1	4/26	Waubonsie State Park TB
" " "	2	4/26	Riverton WMA m. obs
Swainson's Hawk	1	4/20	Lake Manawa SJ

Very early, warm, dry spring. Trees in leaf 2-3 weeks ahead of normal

CONTRIBUTOR: Tanya Bray

OTHER OBSERVERS: _____

SEASON: SpringYEAR: 1981

WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Bald Eagle	3 4 in	3/5	Lake Manawa SK, TB, BP
" "	1 a	3/15	Lake Manawa m.obs
" "	1 a	3/18	Lake Manawa m. obs
Virginia Rail	1	5/9	Pony Creek Area, Mills County L & BP
Semi. Plover	2	4/26	Riverton WMA m. obs
" "	<u>30</u>	4/29	Keg Lake (I-29 & Pacific Jctn) BP, TB
" "	2	5/3	Keg Lake B & LP
" "	12	5/5	Keg Lake B & LP
" "	6	5/9	Lake Manawa JG, MG, TB
" "	12	5/13	Lake Manawa TB, BP, BJR
" "	2	5/20	Lake Manawa SK, BP, TB
Am. Golden Plover	8	3/29	Willow Slough B & LP
" " "	1	4/2	Willow Slough BP, TB
" " "	<u>50</u>	4/26	I-29 Lake, Forney Exit J & SK, TB
Ruddy Turnstone	1	5/14	Lake Manawa SS
" "	<u>15</u>	5/23	Lake Manawa L & BP, Ruth Green
Am. Woodcock	1	5/9	Lake Manawa TB, JG, MG
Com. Snipe	12	3/29	Willow Slough B & LP
" "	<u>75</u>	4/2	Willow Slough BP, TB
" "	6	4/22	Lake Manawa BP, SK, TB
" "	1	5/24	Herb's Marsh, Council Bluffs, ^(late) B & LP
Solitary Sandpiper	1	4/22	Lake Manawa SK, TB, BP
" "	2	5/9	Lake Manawa JG, TB, MG
Greater Yellowlegs	2	4/2	Willow Slough BP, TB
" "	1	4/22	Lake Manawa SK, TB, BP

CONTRIBUTOR: Tanya Bray

OTHER OBSERVERS: _____

SEASON: SpringYEAR: 1981

WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Greater Yellowlegs	2	4/26	Riverton WMA m. obs
" "	1	4/29	Lake Manawa TB, BP
Lesser Yellowlegs	10	3/29	Willow Slough B & LP
Often thereafter til	1	5/24	Lake Manawa B & LP, TB
Willet	4/29	<u>11</u>	Keg Lake BP, TB
Pectoral Sandpiper	1	3/15	Keg Lake m. obs
" "	25	3/29	Keg Lake B & LP
Also 5/5--5/24 at Lake Manawa			
White-rumped Sandp	20	5/13	Lake Manawa BP, TB, BJR
" " "	12	5/20	Lake Manawa BP, SK, TB
" " "	<u>30</u>	5/24	Lake Manawa B & LP TB
Baird's Sandpiper	2	4/2	Willow Slough BP, TB
" "	5	5/3	Keg Lake B & LP
" "	6	5/9--5/24	Lake Manawa TB, BP, JG, MG, SK
Least Sandpiper	1	4/26	Riverton WMA m. obs
" "	2	4/29	Keg Lake BP TB
" "	3	5/9	Lake Manawa JG, MG, TB
" "	1	5/24	Lake Manawa TB
Dunlin	1	4/2	Willow Slough BP, TB
"	1	5/13	Lake Manawa TB, BP, BJR
"	3	5/20	Lake Manawa L & BP
Semi. Sandpiper	10	4/29	Keg Lake BP, TB
" "	25	5/1	Keg Lake L & BP
Also several at Lake Manawa 5/9--5/24			
Western Sandpiper	1	4/26	Riverton WMA m. obs

CONTRIBUTOR: Tanya Bray

OTHER OBSERVERS: _____

SEASON: spring

YEAR: 1981

WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Sanderling	1	5/20	Lake Manawa BP, BJR, TB
"	<u>L2</u>	5/23	Lake Manawa B & LP
Long-billed Dowitcher	5	4/29	Keg Lake BP, TB
Short-bl Dowitcher	2	5/5	Lake Manawa BP, SK, TB
" " "	10	5/9	Lake Manawa TB, JG, MG
" " "	<u>12</u>	5/13	Lake Manawa BJR, TB, BP
Hudsonian Godwit	1	5/9	I-29 Lake, Mills County B & LP
" "	10	4/17	Lake Manawa SJ
Marbled Godwit	1	4/29	Keg Lake BP, TB
Stilt Sandpiper	1	4/29	Keg Lake BP, TB
" "	5	5/3	Keg Lake B & LP
" "	1	5/20	Lake Manawa B & LP
" "	25	5/23	Lake Manawa B & LP
" "	<u>25</u>	5/24	Lake Manawa B & LP, TB
Buff-br Sandpiper	2	4/26	I-29 Lake, Forney Exit TB, S & JK
Am. Avocet	<u>16</u>	4/26	I-29 Lake, Forney Exit, m. obs
" "	2	5/2	Lake Manawa B & LP, SJ
Wilson's Phalarope	2	4/29	Lake Manawa BP, TB
Also at Lake Manawa	5/9	5/24	
Herring Gull	12	3/5	Lake Manawa BP, TB
" "	<u>25</u>	3/18	Lake Manawa m. obs
Also at L. Manawa several dates			including one late bird on 5/20
THAYER'S GULL	3	3/17	Lake Manawa B.J. Rose
" "	2	3/18	Lake Manawa <u>Many</u> observers
Ring-billed Gull	<u>200</u>	3/5	Lake Manawa BP, TB

" " " 200 3/18 h. Manawa - m. obs.

Several other dates to 5/20 - L. manawa 2 birds.

CONTRIBUTOR: Tanya Bray

OTHER OBSERVERS: _____

SEASON: SpringYEAR: 1981

WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Franklin's Gull	1	3/18	Lake Manawa m. obs
" "	200	4/29	Settling Pond BP TB
" "	<u>200</u>	5/23-24	Lake Manawa B & LP, TB
Bonoparte's Gull	1	4/16	Lake Manawa SJ
" "	10	4/22	Lake Manawa BP, SK, TB
Forster's Tern	8	4/26	Riverton WMA m. obs
" "	1	4/29	Keg Lake BP, TB
Common Tern	1	5/20	Lake Manawa BP, SK, TB, BJR
Caspian Tern	<u>16</u>	5/12	Lake Manawa BJR
" "	1	5/13	Lake Manawa BP, SK, TB
Black Tern	1	4/29	Lake Manawa BP, TB
numbers building to 100 plus on 5/24 Lake Manawa			
Yellow-bl Cuckoo	1	5/9	Mills County JG, MG, TB
Black-bl Cuckoo	1	5/9	Mills County (both a little early)
Chuck-wills-widow	3	5/9	Mills County JG, MG, TB
Whip-poor-will	6	5/9	Mills County JG, MG, TB
Bell's Vireo	1	5/9	Mills County JG, MB, TB
Prothonotary Warbler	1	5/21	Lake Manawa SJ, SS
Golden-winged Warbler	2	5/9	Mills County L & BP
Palm Warbler	2	5/9	Mills County MG, JG, TB
Wilson's Warbler	1	5/20	Lake Manawa SJ
Dickcissel	4	5/9	Mills and Potta. Counties, JG, MG, TB
Savannah Sparrow	3	4/26	Riverton WMA m. obs
Vesper Sparrow	1	4/2	Willow Slough BP, TB
Grasshopper Sparrow	1	5/9	Mills County MG, JG, TB