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NEWHOUSE

Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
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An EQUAL OPPORTUNITY Agency

Wildlife Research Station  
R. R. #1 Boone, IA 50036  
27 May 1981

Thomas H. Kent  
Field Reports Editor  
211 Richards Street  
Iowa City, IA 52240

Dear Tom:

This has been a strange spring. March seemed warmer than May, and I've had zero good mist-netting days. As the report shows, some species arrived here earlier than Bob Moorman suggests, and some weren't evident until later. Our mockingbird was still here last week, but hasn't led us to any nest yet.

I tried to spread the word on that roadrunner, to get confirmation. The reporter came here from Arizona, I believe; he is so sure of his identification that he sexed it. A hen pheasant may be more likely, but then I've never seen a roadrunner.

It never occurred to me to document the yellow-throated warbler when I was with Dinsmore's class. We separated it from the yellow-rumps, and even heard it sing. Not until I began to compile these reports did I notice that it was unusual. Oh well, the NEXT one goes on my life list.

We will be holding that Nongame Priority setting meeting on 11 September. I'll work with Pete on getting the word out, soliciting input from the I.O.U.

I'm glad we finally got to meet and talk. Thanks again for this vehicle of interaction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave".

David A. Newhouse  
Nongame Wildlife Research Biologist

sm  
cc: 1  
encl.

CONTRIBUTOR: Dave NewhouseOTHER OBSERVERS: as citedSEASON: SpringYEAR: 1981

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

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Great Egret	5	14Apr.	Green Island WMA, Jackson Co. - by Bob Barratt
✓ Cinnamon teal	1	5-6Apr.	Saylorville Lake, Polk Co. -by Scott Rolfes (letter <sup>enc1</sup> )
E Hooded merganser	2	7Mar.	Hendrickson Marsh, Story Co. (with Ames Audubon)
✓ E Turkey vulture	6+	24Mar.	Ledges S.P., Boone Co. (Jim Kienzler also saw)
✓ Osprey	1	4Mar.	Upper Iowa River, Allamakee Co. - by Bob Barratt
✓ Sandhill crane	1	1May	Immature; in wheat field at Dudgeon Lake WMA, Benton Co. - by Dave Van Waus
? Road runner	1	3May	female reported at Rt. 101-150 jct near Urbana, Linn Co., by Martin Gerard to Don Pfeiffer
L Chimney swift	3	27Apr	West Ames, Story Co.
L Ruby-throated hummingbird	1	22May	Ledges S.P., Boone Co.
L Eastern kingbird	1	20May	E of Ledges S.P., Boone Co.
E Barn swallow	3	10Apr.	Mi 170; I-35; Franklin Co.
E Eastern bluebird	1	2Mar.	Ken Hoff, Rt. 6, Box 131, Ottumwa (Wapello Co) IA
E Yellow-rumped warbler	15?	7Apr.	Brookside Park, Ames, Story Co.; w/AEcl 340 class
✓ ? Yellow-throated warbler	2	21Apr.	Brookside Park, Ames; w/AEcl 340 class (Dave?) (sorry, no documentation, though watched for 10+ min at 10-20 m)
✓ E Ovenbird	1	27Apr	Ledges S.P., Boone Co.
L Western meadowlark	2	20Mar.	Ledges S.P., Boone Co.
E Red-winged blackbird	6	2Mar.	E of Ledges S.P., and Ames Borrow Ponds, Boone Co.
✓ Pine siskin	25	7Apr.	} Ledges S.P., Boone Co., and Brookside Park, Ames, Story Co. - present at least this long
Northern junco	4	7Apr.	
L Chipping sparrow	4	9Apr.	Ledges S.P., Boone Co.
L White-throated sparrow	2	1May	Ledges S.P., Boone Co.

E = earlier than usual    L - later than usual    ? = I wouldn't believe me, either.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

SAYLORVILLE LAKE  
PARK MANAGER  
POST OFFICE BOX 38  
JOHNSTON, IOWA 50131

April 8, 1981

Mr. Dave Newhouse  
Wildlife Research Station  
Ledges Road  
Boone, IA 50036

Dear Dave:

On the afternoon of April 5, I was exercising my dog in the area of a campground construction located on the west side of Saylorville Lake. A small farm pond exists in the center of the construction area. A cinnamon teal (drake) was observed in the company of several blue-winged teal (both sexes present). Realizing this was not a common sighting, I returned the next day, April 6, with Ranger Mike Martin at approximately 7:50 a.m., and we once again observed the cinnamon teal (drake) with the blue-winged teal. We took 26 photographs of the birds and due to the changing light condition and shyness of the birds, do not know the quality of the pictures taken. The sighting of April 26 leads me to believe that a hen cinnamon teal may be present within the group. Knowing the difficulty in distinguishing hen blue wings from cinnamon teal, we will send a slide (when developed) to see if you can identify a hen cinnamon teal within the group.

The original sighting took place on April 5 at approximately 2:30 p.m. In an effort to validate the sighting we (Scott Rolfes and Mike Martin) returned at 7:50 a.m. on April 6 and took photographs.

The pond is located on tract #258, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , see 14 of Jefferson Township, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land, Saylorville Lake, Polk County, Iowa.

For additional information, feel free to call at 964-5460.

Sincerely yours,

  
Scott Rolfes, Park Ranger

cdf