

6/6/81

### Spring Report

Note: Because of extensive out-of-state travel and other commitments my birding in north-west Iowa this spring was severely curtailed. As a result, I am submitting only a very sketchy report.

Weather for period: Temperatures much above average; rainfall much below average.

Geese and ducks: a rather long drawn-out migration. No unusual species or unusual times.

Hawks: No spectacular migration at all.

- ✓ - Observed a Krider's Hawk (subspecies of Red-tailed Hawk) on March 23 in western Sioux Co.
- number of Broad-winged Hawks was sharply down from previous years

Shorebirds: extremely poor migration, no doubt partly caused by the drought which has eliminated many usual shores and banks.

- ✓ Mockingbird: Observed an individual at Oak Grove State Park on May 20. The Mockingbird is very uncommon here (I haven't seen one here in 8 years!)

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Thrushes: the number of migrating Swainson's and Grey-cheeked Thrushes was down sharply. But Wood Thrushes are much more common here than last year.

Warbler migration: rather disappointing, probably because of the early leafing out of trees which made them more difficult to observe, and because of the early spring which helped string out their passage.

Sparrow migration: about normal.

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