Dear Tom,

Sorry about the confusion. Three Sandhill Cranes were seen at DeSoto Bend NWR on Nov 22 by Andy Saunders and a busload of people from Fontenelle Forest. In case you've noticed, that is also the day that our Audubon group was there, but unfortunately we were there earlier in the day and did not see the cranes. Dave Menke checked and found them gone the next Morning. This seems to be the general pattern with cranes seen this far east; they do not linger.

The Cass and Mills I was referring to are counties, not sities. The sightings were at Cold Springs State Park in Cass County and at Barb Wilson's in Mills County.

Your Curve-bl Thrasher is great! We were temporarily excited by a Gambel's Quail coming to a feeder in Omaha, but it turns out he's probably an excapee from a game farm near here. Still, it was fun to see him, and we all have our eyes peeled for southwestern birds now!

I found the article on Speciation of Dowithers in Iowa very interesting and informative. Can't wait for Spring.

Sincerely,

Janya Bray