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Wildlife Research Station
R. R. #1 Boone, IA 50036
23 July 1981

Tom Kent, Field Reports Editor
211 Richards Street
Iowa City, IA 52240

Dear Tom:

No unusual sightings have been reported to me this summer. At least 17 turkey vultures are still at Ledges State Park.

My general impression is that this is an extraordinary year for wrens (both House and Berwick's), common yellowthroats, and (to a lesser extent) gray catbirds. Perhaps I just wasn't listening before, but they seem to be everywhere!

Those heavy rains in southern Iowa blitzed pheasant, quail and turkey production, even drowning whitetail fawns. Other ground nesters undoubtedly took a hit there, as well. Waterfowl use of our northern marshes seems to be up, signifying a southward return of breeders unable to nest in the dry prairie provinces--check with Jim Hansen on that, and its possible effect on fall flights of migrant waterbirds.

Have a good summer. I hope to see you at Moline and perhaps the Priorities meeting in September.

Sincerely,

David A. Newhouse
Nongame Wildlife Research Biologist

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