

Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union

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Common Raven
27 Jun 1970
not given, IA
Myra Willis
IBL 42:70

Record Number: 93-FV
Classification: NA

REFERENCE

Field Report: IBL 42:70: "Three Ravens were seen on 27 June 1970 on a breeding-bird survey (MW)."

VOTE: 5 NA

NA, No details. Very unlikely based on date. /thk

Sandpiper at Cardinal March on 28 May was very late, and another on 29 June at Walden Pond was unusually early (DK). A Least Sandpiper was seen on 7 July (DK).

Terns. A Common Tern was seen at Harper's Ferry on 11 and 12 July (DK). Least Terns again nested at DeSoto Bend (DMo). Four Caspian Terns were seen on 2 September (NH), 2 on 2 July at Red Rock (GB) and one at Davenport on 8 September (PP).

Cuckoos, Nighthawks, Woodpeckers. Cuckoos were neither seen nor heard (DH), scarce at Pleasantville (GB), and seemed few in the Des Moines area, but were thought up (PP,RZ). A migration of 150 Nighthawks was noted 9 September (RH). Flickers were numerous (EG). Red-bellied seemed down at Des Moines, but Red-headed appeared very numerous in all sections. Dead elms providing nesting sites may be an explanation.

Flycatchers, Swallows. There were more E. Kingbirds with fewer Western (EG), but the latter were thought numerous (RZ). There were more Acadian Flycatchers than last year (DK). One was heard singing 9 July and later at Pictured Rocks (LS). A few Tree Swallows nested in Red Rocks Refuge, while there were 300 nests of the Cliff Swallow in several locations in the area (GB).

Corvids, Nuthatches, Wrens. A Black-billed Magpie was observed at Indianola on 15 August (AJ). Three Ravens were seen on 27 June, 1970 on a breeding-bird survey (MW). Two Red-breasted Nuthatches were banded on 6 September (DeL). Carolina Wrens have been appearing in Iowa City (FK) and in Des Moines.

Mimics, Thrushes. One nesting record for the Mockingbird near Booneville (GA), with 4 nests and 2 other pairs seen (GB), and 1 netted with 5 pairs of more nesting near Wildcat Den (PP). Robins were many (PK), and abundant at Des Moines. This was not a good year for Bluebirds; definitely smaller numbers (NH), scarce (GB), and only 22, or 40 percent of last year's numbers, banded due to predation by raccoons (PP).

Gnatcatchers, Kinglets, Pipits, Shrikes. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were down (DK), and one nest found at Ledges (MEW). Ruby-crowned Kinglets made surprisingly early appearances: 24 and 25 June and 24 July (JB,RZ), and one on 23 July and 2 the following day at Iowa City (NH). The only Water Pipit reported was one on 28 August (LS). Only 3 pairs of Loggerhead Shrikes nested where there were 7 nests 8-10 years ago (GB) and few seen in Polk Co.

Vireos, Warblers. Bell's were found nesting (NH), but only 1 record on 19 August in Des Moines (HP) where it was formerly a common nester. A Philadelphia was noted on 2 September near Shenandoah by John Dunn (fide PP) and on 3 September (NH). Some comments on the warblers: a small movement on 27 August, and a good migration on 2 September (DB); waves on 2, 3, 10, and 14 September at Davenport (PP); good banding from 23 August to 7 September (DeL). Jim Rod reported on the kill at the Alleman TV tower on 7 September at the Vinton meeting. Yellow Warblers were up, but Ceruleans down (DK). A westerly Cape May was seen 2 September near Shenandoah by John Dunn (fide PP). A Yellow-throated Warbler was seen and heard at Ledges on 21 June (MB,MEW), and one was seen north of Burlington at the end of July (JF). There was no shortage of Ovenbirds (MH), 2 were in the yard in mid-September (MB), and a nest, later destroyed by a mower, was found along side a main drive in Ledges (MB,MEW). Kentucky was thought down (DK). A pair of Yellow-breasted Chats was southwest of Knoxville (GB), and 3 pairs were located at Red Rock Refuge (WC). A Hooded Warbler was seen early in May at Sioux Center (Mr. and Mrs. J. Van Dyk, fide DH).

Icterids, Tanagers, Finches. Bobolinks nested on 1 farm (GB), 4 territorial males seen in June and July (DG). Orchard Orioles nested (NH) and were heard