

Season: Spring Year: 1983

Name and address (print or type) James L. Hansen
1024 South 8th Street
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428

Other observers (name, city):
 Arlin Schalekamp, Thornton
 Ron Andrews, Lowell Washburn, Kurt Baker

~~Al Hancock~~ - all Clear Lake
 Fred Heinz - Mason City
 Carl Priebe - Rockwell Jim Wahl - Ventura
 Dean Dalziel - Manchester

Use first few lines to give weather and habitat conditions. Use line(s) below species data to give additional details, if needed. Mail to: T. H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City IA 52240 by 1 Mar, 1 Jun, 1 Aug, or 1 Dec.

use initials of obsv. on species line

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Early part of the spring period was fairly mild, but latter part was very cool. Wetlands in good condition. Bad late snowstorm April 14 with temps. in mid to upper 30's, 7" of snow, and 45 mph NW winds.			
*white pelican	25	April 16	Clear Lake, Cerro Gordo Co. - Jim Wahl
*white pelican	25	May 29	over Ventura Marsh, " " " - Kurt Baker
*wood ducks	2	March 3	Ventura Marsh, Cerro Gordo Co. - AL JLH
Eastern bluebird	6	March 2	near Thornton, Cerro Gordo Co. - Arlin Schalekamp
*whistling swan	4	March 21	over Ventura Marsh, Cerro Gordo Co. - JLH
" "	12	March 25	near Ventura, Cerro Gordo Co. - Ron Andrews
blue-winged teal	1	March 21	Ventura Marsh, " " " - Lowell Washburn
*saw-whet owl	1	March 26	Clear Lake (in a white cedar next to a picture window) - JLH
*golden-crowned Kinglet	10	April 12	Ventura Marsh - Kurt Baker
* (I found about 5 dead golden-crowned Kinglets in Clear Lake after the April 14 snowstorm.)			
*horned grebe	1	April 13	Clear Lake - Kurt Baker, Fred Heinz
*double-crested cormorant	90	April 27	over Ventura Marsh - JLH
common snipe (winnowing)	1	April 28	over McIntosh Wildlife Area near Ventura - JLH
4 LeConte's sparrow	1	April 28	Ventura Marsh Wildlife Area - JLH
*Forster's tern	2	April 20	Ventura Marsh - Fred Heinz
bobolink (first male)	1	May 5	McIntosh Wildlife Area, ^{Cerro Gordo} Co. - JLH
*Western Kingbird	1	May 11	Ventura Marsh - Kurt Baker, Hancock
*cattle egret	1	May 10	Big Wall Lake, Wright County - Carl Priebe, Dean Dalziel
*cattle egret (breeding plumage)	1	May 10	Elm Lake, Wright County " " " "
*least bittern	1	May 26	Ventura Marsh - Fred Heinz, Al Hancock, Kurt Baker

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General: May 7 was about the best birding day I've ever seen. Many species of warblers and other species had just arrived in clear lake area and were low in bushes during drizzle and 20 mph north winds.

HANSEN

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An EQUAL OPPORTUNITY Agency

June 1, 1983

T. H. Kent
211 Richards Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Dear Tom:

Enclosed is a field report form for the spring period just ended for birds seen by myself and other people in this area. All of the observers listed except Sowell Washburn are Iowa Conservation Commission employees.

On the form I tried to put what I thought might be noteworthy species, dates, or numbers. These are just a few of our observations. I thought possibly some I didn't list might be considered noteworthy by someone else, so I copied our whole list and enclosed it. If you have time to glance through it and if you see something else of interest, feel free to use some other observations. If you don't want all the paper taking up space, feel free to pitch it! (you probably don't need to know when salamanders and ticks came out!) This spring period is the only time we make a lot of observations on arrival dates in addition to uncommon species.

If you have any questions, please call (515-357-3517 or 515-357-6084).

Sincerely,
Jim

James L. Hansen
Iowa Conservation Commission
1203 North Shore Drive
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428

Encl.

Date	Observer (s)	Location	Observation
Feb. 7, 1983	L. Washburn	ditch $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. N. of Ventura	1 ♂ G-w. teal, 1 ♀ mallard
2-15-83	Ohde		mammal (esp. skunk) movement at night
2-18-83	Andrews	near St. Charles, Iowa	Kestrel
2-18	Andrews	S edge of Des Moines	100+ snow geese
2-19	Andrews	near Afton Alps, Minn.	Kestrel
"	Ohde, Hancock		heard a Killdeer
"	" "		sharp-shinned hawk
"	comm. fishermen		Canada goose movement
2-23	Andrews	Clear Lake	Canada goose movement
2-25	Hansen & Hancock	Ventura Marsh	2 black ducks, ≈ 38 mallards
2-28	Hancock	" "	Red-wing Blackbirds est. territories
2-27	Hansen	Lime Creek area in M.C. ^{CL}	2 flocks of red-w. blackbirds flying N
2-28	Andrews	Corner of 16 th + Main St	1 Robin
2-28/31	"	Marsh Hawk	Ventura Marsh + Kaster's Cove
2-28	"	Leopard Frog	Ventura Fish Traps
3-1-31	"	Lady Bugs	Sunning Southside Ventura Marsh
3-1-83	Denny Ewers ^{et al.}	C.L. area	several flocks of Canada geese flying N
3-2-83	Schalekamp	3 mi. NW Thornton	6 Bluebirds; 4 ♂, 2 ♀
3-3-83	Hansen	over V.M. parking lot — Ventura Marsh uplands	1 tiger salamander pair of wood ducks
"	Cindy Finley	pond at Camp Gaywood	9 wood ducks
3-4-83	Hansen	V. Marsh	4 song sparrows singing; 1 meadowlark
3-2-83	Hancock	Riverton & Forneys	A few snows & blues

Date	Observer	Location	Observation
3/5/83	Hancock	McIntosh & Ventura	Boo Coo Grackles
3/5/83	Washburn & Van Gundy	Mallard Marsh	4 Tiger Salamander
3-11-83	Hansen - Andrews - Jones	pond in V. Marsh uplands	lesser scaup, ringnecks, c. goldeneye, bufflehead, gadwall, mallard.
3-14-83	Andrews	Ventura Marsh	1 predated spring migration coot.
3-14-83	Jones & Hancock	Ventura Marsh	2 dead muskrats (with, 1 without trap)
3-15-83	Jones	C.L.	SNOW
3-25-83	Zenner	Eagle Lake, ^{Hancock} Co.	Bwt, Gwf, loads of Waterfowl
3-25-83	Andrews	North of McIntosh	12 North Swans
3-25-83	Guy Zenner (Northwood)	" " Ventura	12 Swans
3-23-83	"	Silver Lake	7 Swans
3-25-83	Andrews	North of McIntosh	Great-Blue Heron
3-24-83	Zenner	Emmons, Minnesota	Goshawk
3-24-83	Zenner	Hormon Lake, ^{Winnebago} Co.	Mallards looking for Nest Sites ^{lots of 3 Bwd} Flights
3-18-83	Hansen, Jones	V. Marsh, N side of upland pond	1 woodcock
3-20-83	Hansen	V. Marsh	5 hooded mergansers on Overgaard's (4♂, 1♀) pair of shovellers at E end
3-21-83	Washburn	V. Marsh	1 ♂ b-w. teal
"	Hansen, Coy	V. Marsh (flying N)	4 tundra swans
"	Hansen et al.	Ventura Marsh (in cedar next to picture window)	several flocks of snows & Canadas heading N heard white-fronts; lots of ducks
3-26-83	Hansen	2520 S. Lakeview Drive	saw-whet owl
4-5-83	Heinz	Ventura Marsh	American Bittern
4-7-83	Heinz & Baker	" "	Amer. Woodcock
4-7-83	Heinz & Jones	" "	Wood Ducks
4-3-83	Hansen	Clear Lake north shore, out from pumphouse	5 hooded mergansers (3♂, 2♀)
4-8-83	Hansen	Ventura M. uplands, from 75 yd. W of net site to willow point	≈ 8 red-breasted mergansers 3 or 4 woodcock "peenting" & doing skydance (7:00 P.M.) ≈ 300 yd. E of it
4-8-83	"	McIntosh WA - "willow pond"	chorus frogs singing
4-9-83	Heinz & Baker	Ventura	Tree Sparrows

DATE	OBSERVER(S)	LOCATION	OBSERVATION
Apr. 12 Feb.	BAKER	S. side Ventura Marsh in willow along shoreline	10+ Golden-crowned Kinglet
Apr. 12 Feb.	Baker, Hancock, Heinz	Fish Hatchery, Clear Lake	Pied-bill Grebe
4-7-83	Jones, Heinz	Ventura Marsh	≈ 6 ruddy ducks
4-10-83	Hansen	Ventura Marsh	heard a pied-billed grebe
4-13-83	Jones, Hansen	Clear Lake, behind office	2 common loons
4-13-83	Baker + Heinz	McIntosh + Ventura	Yellow-rumped warblers
4-13-83	Heinz	McIntosh	Numerous - Ruby-crowned Kinglets
4-13-83	Hancock Baker + Heinz	Ventura + McIntosh	Phoebe
4-13-83	Baker, Heinz, Hancock	Station - Clear Lake	Horned Grebe
4-13-83	Heinz, Baker, Hancock	N. shore Drive Clear Lake (south)	Osprey
4-13-83	Heinz	Ventura 1 Pond	12-15 G.W. Teal
4-13-83	Heinz, Hancock, Baker	Ventura	Frog migration across Ventura Grade
4-12-83	Heinz	Ventura	Salamanders on move
4-13-83	Baker, Heinz, Hancock	McIntosh	Black-crowned Night Heron
4-13-83	Hancock	Mason City Fire Station	Massive nightcrawler movement
4-14-83	Baker, Heinz	Ventura	Fox Sparrow
4-15-83	Heinz + Baker	near Clear Lake Lekwa Marsh	Great Egrets (4)
4-15-83	Heinz + Baker	S. of Clear Lake Street Park	Gr. Yellowlegs (8)
4-15-83	Heinz + Baker	Ventura Hts.	Hermit Thrush
4-15-83	" "	" "	Belted Kingfisher
4-16-83	Wahl	W. End Clear Lake	≈ 25 Pelicans
4-18-83	Hancock & Baker	McIntosh	2 Cormorants
4-17-83	Hansen	Ventura M., N end	1 pr. black ducks
4-18-83	Hansen + Baker	over Ventura M.	6 double-crested cormorants
"	" "	Clear L., W end	2 Forster's terns
4-13-83	Heinz	McIntosh	House Wren
4-19-83	Andrews + Hansen	Clear Lake	24 Cormorants seen a few on 4-18-83.
3-29-83	"	Clear Lake	Doves Cooing

4-12-83	Andrews	Clear Lake	Yellow bellied Sapsuckers
4-12-83	"	" "	Brown Creepers
4-19-83	Hancock & Baker	Ventura	Blue bird
4-20-83	Heinz & Baker	McIntosh	7 Deer
4-20-83	Heinz	McIntosh	Field Sparrow (3)
4-20-83	Heinz & Baker	Ventura & McIntosh	Yellow-headed Blackbird
4-20-83	Heinz	Ventura	Swamp Sparrow (many)
4-20-83	Heinz	McIntosh Wildlife Area	Vesper Sparrow (1)
4-21-83	Andrews	McIntosh " "	Tree Swallows
4-21-83	Heinz	Mason City	Brown-headed Cowbirds
4-21-83	Hancock	McIntosh	Yellow-headed ^{Blackbird} Cowbird
4-21-83	Hancock	"	Turkey Vulture
4-21-83	Heinz	Clear Lake	White-crowned Sparrow
4-21-83	Heinz	Ventura Marsh	Common Snipe
4-21-83	Heinz	Ventura "	♀ Red-winged Blackbird
4-21-83	Heinz	Ventura "	♂ Purple Martin (1)
4-20-83	Heinz	Ventura "	Forster's Tern (2)
4-24-83	Heinz	Ventura "	Sora Rail (fall)
4-24-83	Hansen	Ventura "	Mallard Nest (9 eggs)
4-24-83	Heinz	McIntosh	" " (10 eggs)
4-22-83	Hancock		Ticks
4-27-83	Hansen, Andrews, Weinberg	over Ventura Marsh	≈ 90 cormorants (heading NW)
4-28-83	Hansen	McIntosh, at N edge of new burn over hwy. 18, NE edge of McIntosh (planting)	1 common snipe
"	"		snipe winnowing
4-28-83	Jerry Anderson	Rice Lake, Worth co.	First Goose brood
5-2-83	Heinz	McIntosh	Barn Swallow

Date	Observer(s)	Location	Observation
4-28-83	Hansen	Ventura Marsh, field C-2	1 LeConte's sparrow (by neck ring)
5-4-83	Hansen	McIntosh w.A., SW corner	rough-winged swallows
5-5-83	Hansen	N side, V. Marsh area where M-2	pair of redheads flying over marsh
"	"	McIntosh + M-3 meet	1 ♂ bobolink
"	"	over Baptist Camp, ^{- Ventura}	1 chimney swift
5-6-83	Heinz	Ventura	Palm Warbler, Eastern Kingbird Yellow Warbler, Gray Catbird Brown Thrasher, C. Yellowthroat Rufous-sided Towhee
5-6-83	Heinz	Ventura	Solitary Sandpiper
5-6-83	Heinz + Baker	McIntosh	yellowthroat, Nashville warbler
5-7-83	Hansen	1024 S. 8th St. - ^{Clear} C. Lake	Blackburnian warbler (on roof!), Magnolia warbler
5-7-83	"	1008 " " " "	
5-7-83	"	McIntosh State Park, Ventura (about the best birding day I've seen! ; following 2 days of south winds, today had strong (15-25 mph) N winds, drizzle in A.M., sunny by 2 p.m.) Birds were low in bushes.	ruby-throated hummingbird (25), great crested flycatcher (2), house wren (25), brown thrasher (1), catbird (3), Swainson's thrush (1), gray-cheeked thrush (1), ruby-crowned Kinglet (30+), solitary vireo (3), black-and-white warbler (210), yellow-rumped warbler (1), palm warbler (1), northern waterthrush (4), yellowthroat (28), Am. redstart (26), scarlet tanager (1), rose-breasted grosbeak (2), chipping sparrow (21), white-throated sparrow (20) (+ the usual more common critters)
5-8-83	Andrews	Clear Lake, near Jr. High	nighthawks
5-9-83	Heinz	Mason City	Northern Oriole
5-9-83	Hancock	<u>Texas</u>	5 ⁺ Sissortail Flycatchers Boattailed Grackles Loggerhead shrike Mockingbird Yellow billed cuckoo Western Kingbird
5-10-83	Heinz	Ventura Marsh	Black Terns (3)
5-11-83	Hancock & Baker	Ventura "	Western Kingbird
5-10-83	Andrews	Ventura "	Adult Dragon Fly
5-12-83	Heinz & Hancock	At. Station - Clear Lake	spotted sandpiper (1)

Date	Observer (s)	Location	Observation
5-10-83	Priebe, Dalziel	Big Wall L. Elm L.	cattle egret " " - breeding plumage
5-11-83	Hansen	McIntosh WA, E end	heard a warbling vireo
5-11-83	"	Ventura Marsh	coot nest w. 3 eggs
5-12-83	Baker	Ventura Marsh	Indigo Bunting
5-13-83	Hansen	V. Marsh WA	1 ♀ bobolink
5-13-83	Heinz	Pilot Knob	several Wilson's Warblers
5-13-83	Hansen Andrews	McIntosh WA	sedge wrens singing
5-14-83	Hansen	Clear L. - 1024 S. 8th St.	heard a parula warbler
5-17-83	Wahl	Wahl's Woods	1 ^{Ruby throated} Hummingbird
5-14-83	Heinz	Clear Lake	(3) Caspian Tern
5-17-83	Wahl	Railroad right-away behind service building	1 Scarlet Tanager
5-15-83	T. Wahl	2 miles N. Ankeny, I-35 along I-35, C.L. - Ames, esp. in Franklin Co.	1 Loggerhead Shrike
5-17-83	Hansen	Service Building	big migration day for golden plovers
5-19-83	Heinz	Ventura	Great-crested Flycatcher
"	Hancock	Ventura	" " "
5/27/83	Wahl	Wahl Wood	3 Rose breasted Grosbeak
5-23-83	Hansen	Eagle L. (by B. Byerly's cabin)	1 solitary sandpiper
5-26-83	Hansen	≈ 4 mi. SE of Mason City	3 dickcissels singing
5-26-83	Heinz Hancock Baker	Ventura Marsh	Least Bittern
5-26-83	"	" "	Canada Goose Brood (4)
5-31-83	Hancock? Heinz	Herring Gulls	Clear Lake
5-27-83	Hansen - Baker	V. Marsh uplands	2 dickcissels singing
5-31-83	Baker	over Ventura Marsh	≈ 25 pelicans