

Paul Martsching
Spring 1983

All Story County, Iowa

Common Loon	one	13 April	Hickory Grove Lake
✓ Horned Grebe	one	5 March	Hendricksons Marsh
✓ Eared Grebe	two	13 April	Hendricksons Marsh
American Bittern	one	24 April	Hendricksons Marsh
	one	11 May	Coopers Marsh
Great Egret	one	4 May	Hendricksons Marsh
✓ Cattle Egret	two	25 May	2½ miles east of Colo
Black Crowned Nightheron	one	24 April	Hendricksons Marsh
	one	30 April	Hendricksons Marsh
	✓ eight	4 May	Hendricksons Marsh
	one	11 May	Hendricksons Marsh
✓ Yellow Crowned Nightheron	one	24 April	Hendricksons Marsh
✓ Tundra Swan	four	5 April	2½ miles east of Colo
Canada Goose	three	24 April	Hendricksons Marsh; one sitting on nest
	two	8 May	Hendricksons Marsh; one sitting on nest
Northern Pintail	pair	25 May	3½ miles northeast of Colo; late
	one	30 May	Larson Marsh; late
Gadwall	six	4 May	2½ miles east of Colo; late
Ring Necked Duck	one	4 May	2½ miles east of Colo; late
Lesser Scaup Duck	one	4 May	2½ miles east of Colo; late
Hooded Merganser	✓ seven	19 March	Hendricksons Marsh; first ones seen
	pair	8 April	Larson Marsh; last ones seen
✓ Common Merganser	110	12 March	Hendricksons Marsh; more than usual
Osprey	one	13, 27, 30 April	Hendricksons Marsh
Northern Harrier	one	20 March	1½ miles north of Hendricksons Marsh; first seen
	✓ five	17 April	Story County; most in one day
	one	24 April	Larson Marsh; last one seen
✓ Sharp Shinned Hawk	one	18 April	Brookside Park
✓ Coopers Hawk	one	10 April	Ames

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- Broad Winged Hawk one 26,27,28 April Brookside Park in Ames
- Red Tailed Hawk one 7 & 8 May Brookside Park in Ames; extremely pale below - nearly pure white; very light above; tail normal rust color above (not pale like in Kriders)
- Rough Legged Hawk one 12 April Coopers Marsh
- Virginia Rail two 4 May Hendricksons Marsh
one 8 May Hendricksons Marsh
- Sora two 30 April Hendricksons Marsh; first seen
✓fifty-eight 8 May Hendricksons Marsh; most in one place; probably more but didn't cover a lot of area on north west end because ground was so soft and water was too deep for my holey boots.
- ✓Common Moorhen - Common Gallinule one 24 April Hendricksons Marsh
- ✓Black Bellied Plover eight 25 May scattered among many dozons of L Golden Plovers around several potholes about 3 miles northeast of Colo
- Lesser Golden Plover
✓sixty 13 April about 3 miles northeast of Colo; first seen
✓250 25 May in large field in section just west of Coopers Marsh.
✓5 30 May in large field in section just west of Coopers Marsh.
- ✓American Avocet twenty-five (exact count)
24 April Hendricksons Marsh
- Lesser Yellowlegs fifty 8 May Larson Marsh; most in one place
- ✓Whimbrel one 4 May in low field just west of Hendricksons Marsh: see documentation.
- ✓Hudsonian Godwit eleven 8 May Larson Marsh; most in one place
- Sanderling
✓two 13 May Larson Marsh
four 18 May Larson Marsh
✓nine 19 May Larson Marsh
✓one 25 May 2½ miles northeast of Colo
- Least Sandpiper five 8 May Larson Marsh.
five 19 May Larson Marsh
- White Rumped Sandpiper
one 18 May 3 miles east of Colo
seven 25 May 2½ miles northeast of Colo

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- ~~Bairds Sandpiper~~ one 25 May 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles northeast of Colo
- Pectoral Sandpiper 125 8 May Larson Marsh
- ~~Stilt Sandpiper~~ thirty-seven
18 May 3 miles east of Colo
- Ring Billed Gull three 24 March Hendricksons Marsh; first seen
one 4 May Hendricksons Marsh; last seen
- Herring Gull two 12 March Hendricksons Marsh; only ones seen
- ~~Black Tern~~ thirty-five 19 May Larson Marsh; most in one place
- Red Headed Woodpecker
two 27 April north of Hendricksons Marsh; finally returned
after having been absent all winter. Within two
weeks numbers appeared normal.
- Yellow Bellied Sapsucker
twelve 13 April Brookside Park; most
- Yellow Bellied Flycatcher
~~one~~ 22 May Brookside Park; first seen
~~six~~ 28 May Brookside Park; two calling
~~four~~ 30 May Brookside Park; two calling
all of above had yellow throat & breast. Have
been surprised at how talkative some have been
this year, as it has been my experience that they
are completely silent. I have never heard the call
more than one time a year previously.
- Tufted Titmouse one 1 March thru 31 May Brookside Park - Ames
- Brown Creeper eighteen 13 April Brookside Park; most in one day
~~one~~ 4 May Brookside Park; last seen
- ~~Winter Wren~~ one - four 15 - 19 April Brookside Park
- Golden Crowned Kinglet
five 3 April Brookside Park; first seen in migration
one 8 May Brookside Park; last seen
~~total~~ 3 April thru 8 May 101.
most in one day: ~~185~~ on 13 April at Brookside Park
- Ruby Crowned Kinglet ~~25~~ 13 April; Brookside Park; first ones seen
3 20 May Brookside Park; last ones seen
~~total~~ 13 April thru 20 May; 379.
peak days: 25 13 April Brookside Park
30 23 April Brookside Park
32 30 April Brookside Park
25 8 May Brookside Park
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
one-two 30 April thru 22 May Brookside Park
Pair was working on nest high up in a tall Hackberry tree
17 May and 21 May. Neither seen nor heard after 22 May.
(Nest appears to have been destroyed; it is so high that
it is a little hard to be sure)

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- Eastern Bluebird for a while many more than usual. ✓ Thirty-seven sightings from 27 February to 4 May.
- Hermit Thrush ✓ twenty-three 15 April Brookside Park; most in one day
twenty 16 April Brookside Park
twenty 17 April Brookside Park
- ✓ Northern Mockingbird one 29 May $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of intersection of interstate 35 & 13th Street (just northeast of Ames)
- ✓ Water Pipit three 8 May Larson Marsh
- Loggerhead Shrike one 13 April 2 miles northeast of Larson Marsh
two 13 April northeast corner of section containing Hendricksons M.
one 16 April $\frac{1}{2}$ mile northeast of intersection I 35 & 13th Street
(just northeast of Ames)
one 20 April Hendricksons Marsh
one 30 April $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles northeast of Colo
one 4 May 3 miles northeast of Colo
- Solitary Vireo ✓ one 28 April Brookside Park; first one seen
- Yellow Throated Vireo
one 6 May Brookside Park in Ames
two 17 May Brookside Park in Ames
- ✓ Philadelphia Vire two 6 May Brookside Park in Ames; first ones seen
one 19 May Brookside Park
one 20 May Brookside Park
one 26 May Brookside Park
- Red Eyed Vireo one 9 May Brookside Park; first seen
32 28 May Brookside Park; most in one day
- Tennessee Warbler way down from last spring: only 161 from 4 May to 30 May (all Brookside Park) Spring 1982 663.
- Orange Crowned Warbler down some from last year: ✓ 133 from 26 April to 18 May (all Brookside Park) ✓ Spring 1982 201.
peak days: 22 6 April
18 9 April
- Nashville Warbler 217 from 5 May to 25 May (all Brookside Park) nearly half came thru April 10, 11, 12, & 13. (35 on April 13)
- Magnolia Warbler 131 from 6 May thru 30 May (all Brookside Park)
peak days: 27 19 May
24 20 May
✓ two 30 May last ones seen
- ✓ Cape May Warbler one 21 May Ames

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Yellow Rumped Warbler way down from last year; 319 from 13 April thru 13 May (all Brookside Park) Spring 1982 976. Completely missed the big days like last year when saw over 100 in an hour some days.
one 18 May Hendricksons Marsh - last one seen

Blackburnian Warbler

nine 18 May Brookside Park; most in one day

~~4~~ Pine Warbler

two 18 May Brookside Park; see ~~documentation~~

~~4~~ Cerulean

one male 7 May Brookside Park

Blak & White Warbler Half of what I saw last year: 55 from 26 April thru 27 May (all Brookside Park)

~~4~~ Prothonotary Warbler one 5 & 7 May Brookside Park

~~4~~ Worm Eating Warbler one 22 May Brookside Park

Ovenbird usual numbers: peak day: 17 on 20 May (all Brookside Park)

~~4~~ Louisiana Waterthrush

one 5 May Brookside Park

~~4~~ Connecticut Warbler one male 20 May Brookside Park

Common Yellowthroat plentiful at Brookside Park this year

most in one day: 19 on 20 May

one 26 April Brookside Park; first one seen. early

Canada Warbler

one 19 May Brookside Park in Ames
one 24 May Brookside Park " "
one 25 May Brookside Park "
one 30 May Brookside Park

American Tree Sparrow

255 17 April central and southeast Story County; most in one day.
~~one~~ 20 April Hendricksons Marsh; last one seen

Vesper Sparrow seem to be here in normal numbers - fairly common.

Savannah Sparrow one 2 April Larson Marsh; early

Le Contes Sparrow

~~4~~two 17 April Larson Marsh
~~1~~one 17 April Hendricksons Marsh
~~1~~one 8 May Larson Marsh

Fox Sparrow

one 16 March Brookside Park; first one seen
eight 19 April Brookside Park; last ones seen
fourteen 16 April Brookside Park; most in one day

Lincolns Sparrow

~~4~~one 26 April Brookside Park; first seen
~~1~~one 25 May Brookside Park;; last seen

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- Swamp Sparrow three 17 April Hendricksons Marsh; first seen
two 30 May Coopers Marsh
- Dark Eyed Junco 270 16 April Brookside Park; most there in one day
~~three~~ 26 April Brookside Park; last ones seen
- Lapland Longspur 50 8 March west of Larson Marsh
300 9 March 2 miles south of Colo
50 20 March 1 mile west of Nevada
500 20 March $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Nevada
25 20 March 2 miles north of Hendricksons Marsh
200 20 March 2 miles northnorthwest of Hendricksons Marsh
75 20 March 3 miles east of Colo (new hi way 30)
50 20 March 2 miles southeast of Nevada
- ~~1~~ Altogether on 20 March 900
50 3 April Larson Marsh
one 16 April Larson Marsh
- ~~1~~ 10,000 plus on 17 April:
1,500 crossing road $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west of Coopers Marsh
5,000 in and around Larson Marsh
3,500 $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles northeast of Colo
plus five other flocks of 25 to 200 birds.
I have never seen so many in Iowa. I have experimented many times with flocks of geese, ducks, sparrows, blackbirds, etc, to make estimates then count a fraction, make a new estimate, & if possible count the whole bunch; of course with the Longspurs milling around & being so many it was impossible to count the whole bunches; but I believe my estimates are somewhat conservative.
I saw no more after April 17.
- ✓ Smiths Longspur eight 17 April just east of Larson Marsh; see documentation
- Rusty Blackbird one male 12 March McFarland Park (northeast of Ames)
still somewhat in winterplumage
2 males & 1 female State Forest Nursery in Ames - still some-
13 March what in winter plumage
fifteen 24 April $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles East of Colo
- Purple Finch ~~4~~27 19 April Brookside Park; most seen in one place
~~4~~20 6 May Brookside Park; last ones seen