

CONTRIBUTOR: RENE LAUBACH, DM

OTHER OBSERVERS: _____

SEASON: SPRING

CHRISTYNA M. LAUBACH, MARK

YEAR: '83

DIXON

WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
→ Snow Goose	24	3/13	GUTHRIE CO.; SHEEDER PRAIRIE. (ALSO CML) I LIST THIS NOT KNOWING HOW COMMON IT IS THERE.
TURKEY VULTURE	2	4/16	POLK CO.; DES MOINES. (ALSO CML) THESE WERE THE FIRST ONES FOR THE YEAR I SAW.
✓ BALD EAGLE	10	4/13	POLK CO.; SAYLORVILLE RESERVOIR, TAIL WATERS AREA (9 WERE IMMATURES)
✓ SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	1	3/13	GUTHRIE CO.; SHEEDER PRAIRIE.
AMERICAN KESTREL	3	3/13	DALLAS CO.
" "	1	3/17	POLK CO.
" "	2	4/1	POLK CO.
" "	3	4/3	"
✓ KILLDEER	3	3/2	" THESE WERE THE FIRST THAT I SAW THIS SPRING.
✓ HUDSONIAN GODWIT	4	5/24	POLK CO.; ANKENY PONDS (NE OF ANKENY) (ALSO MARK DIXON)
✓ SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER	4	5/23	SAME LOCALITY AS ABOVE. (SEE ATTACHED DESCRIPTION)
✓ DUNLIN	10	5/24	Ankeny Ponds. (ALSO MARK DIXON)
✓ CHIMNEY SWIFT	1	4/24	POLK CO.; DES MOINES (THIS WAS THE FIRST OF YEAR FOR ME)
→ BROWN CREEPER	1	4/3	POLK CO.; SAYLORVILLE RES.
AMERICAN ROBIN	several	3/1	POLK CO.; DES MOINES. FIRST MALES SINGING TERRITORIAL SONG. (ALSO CML)
TREE SWALLOW	10	3/11	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
✓ E. BLUE BIRD	2	5/15	POLK CO.; BIG CREEK STATE PK.
✓ BLUE GRAY GNATCATCHER	8	5/1, 8	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
✓ GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER	1	5/19	POLK CO.; DES MOINES. (1ST I'VE EVER SEEN AT THIS LOCATION IN 6 1/2 YRS.)
N. PARULA	1	5/20	SAME LOCALITY AS ABOVE, SAME DISTINCTION.
✓ BL. THROATED GREENWARB.	1	5/11	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
"	1	5/6	"
"	1	5/19	"
"	4	5/20	"
→ RED-BREASTED MERGANSER	6	4/3	POLK CO.; SAYLORVILLE RESERVOIR

CONTRIBUTOR: RENÉ LAUBACH, DM OTHER OBSERVERS: ANN BURNS,
SEASON: SPRING CHRISTYNA M. LAUBACH (CML)
YEAR: 183

WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER	2	5/19	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
"	1	5/20	"
"	1	5/24	"
"	2	5/21	POLK CO.; BIG CREEK STATE PARK
BAY-BREASTED WARBLER	1	5/22	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
✓ KENTUCKY WARBLER	1	5/6	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
✓ Canada Warbler	4	5/19	"
W. Meadowlark	6	3/13	DALLAS CO. (THESE WERE 1ST I SAW THIS YEAR) (ALSO CML)
REDWING	(100) FLOCK	3/1	POLK CO.; DES MOINES (THESE WERE FIRST I SAW THIS YEAR)
✓ ORCHARD ORIOLE	4	5/5	POLK CO.; BIG CREEK STATE PARK
"	1	5/21	"
SCARLET TANAGER	1	5/16	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
"	1	5/22	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
PURPLE FINCH	2	4/1	" ALSO (FIDE ANN BURNS)
✓ "	15	4/3	POLK CO.; SAYLORVILLE RESERVOIR
✓ CLAY-COLORED SPARROW	1	5/15	POLK CO.; BIG CREEK STATE PARK (LATE FOR THIS SPECIES?)
→ WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW	1	"	SAME LOCALITY. (LATE FOR THIS SPECIES?)
SWAMP SPARROW	1	5/1	POLK CO.; DES MOINES
"	1	5/8	" (BANDED) (CML ALSO)
→ HARRIS SPARROW	1	5/26 5/8	POLK CO.; DES MOINES (CML ONLY) THIS VERY LATE DATE MATCHES THE LATEST DATE GIVEN BY BROWN (1971).

DESCRIPTION OF SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHERS
Seen May 23, 1983 at Ankeny Ponds, NE.
of Ankeny, Polk Co., Iowa.

Birds were obviously Dowitchers, based upon leg length, size and bill length. To distinguish them from long-billed dowitchers; neck, breast, upper belly tan (golden) rather than rusty; no barring on flanks or belly, although spotting on flanks & breast. Lower belly whitish rather than rust colored. Bill 2x the length of head (or slightly less) roughly rather than somewhat longer as in other species.

I had no doubt as to the identity of these birds.

P.S.

I regret to report that I'll be leaving IOWA to take a museum position in MASSACHUSETTS. Hence this is my last contribution to Field Reports. I will greatly miss not being able to take part in I.O.U. projects and activities in the future. I have enjoyed my association with I.O.U. members immensely. Thankyou for such excellent work as Field Reports editor.

Sincerely,
René Laubach

5/31/83

Dear Tom:

Here's a postscript (brief as it is)
to my spring report which I mailed
to you recently. René