

✓ MYERS

Season: Fall Year: '85

Name and address (print or type) Robert K. Myers  
1236 Sylvia Ave.  
Waterloo, Iowa 50701

Other observers (name, city):  
Francis Moore  
Russ Hays

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
✓ Little Blue Heron	2	Aug. 5	Sweet Marsh (Bremer Co.) (imm. birds)
✓ Little Blue Heron	2	Aug. 6	Nashua with Francis Moore (imm. birds)
✓ Ibis sp.	2	Sept. 27	Otter Creek Marsh - with Francis Moore
✓ Tundra Swan	21	Nov. 21	Lak + Dam 9
✓ Tundra Swan	1	Nov. 28	Wyth Lake in Wyth St. Park
✓ Greater Scaup	4	Nov. 21	Lock + Dam 9
✓ Oldsquaw	1	Nov. 26	Wyth Lake in Wyth St. Park
✓ Osprey	1	Aug. 6	Nashua - Francis Moore - early?
✓ Northern Goshawk	1	Nov. 11	Sweet Marsh
✓ Red-shouldered Hawk	1	Aug. 5	Sweet Marsh
✓ Golden Eagle	1	Nov. 21	west of New Albin, Iowa
✓ Common <sup> Moorhen</sup> Gallinule	1	Oct. 4	Greenbelt Lake, (Waterloo) - m.o.b.
✓ Greater Yellowlegs	5	Oct. 29	Volga River Rec. Area - fairly late
✓ Sanderling	1	Aug. 19	Wagner Ponds (Black Hawk Co.)
✓ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	1	Aug. 20	Wagner Ponds (Black Hawk Co.)
✓ Sabine's Gull	1	Nov. 12	Saylorville Dam
✓ Saw-whet Owl	1	Nov. 9	Hartman Nature Center
✓ Alder Flycatcher	1	Aug. 5	Sweet Marsh - early migrant?
✓ Bewick's Wren	1	Aug. 10	Injun Country Park in Waterloo
Carolina Wren	1	Oct. 24	Jim Fuller's home south of North Liberty
✓ Northern Shrike	1	Nov. 21	Volga River Rec. Area
✓ Bell's Vireo	1	Aug. 5	Sweet Marsh - always unusual for us <sup>This far north</sup>
Snow Bunting	2	Oct. 29	Volga River Rec. Area
✓ Evening Grosbeak	2	Nov. 11	Waterloo

## Notes of Identification - Fall 1983

Ibis sp. (*Plegadis* sp.) - Both birds were heron-like long-legged waders about the size of a little Blue Heron but with fairly long decurved bills. Neck and legs were held outstretched in flight. Both appear dark - one was brownish (imm.) and one sort of greenish-purple with a reddish cast. In flight, the backs of both birds showed a greenish tint in the sun. While it is very difficult to separate the two species in fall I believe these birds, at least the adult, were glossy ibis. There was no hint of any reddish facial skin - it was dark (same as bill). There was no trace of any white facial outlining. White-face sometimes retains a short whitish line from eye to bill. The eye appeared dark (brownish), not red. However, in light of the difficulty of the identification, Ibis sp. is probably the best way to leave it. Ed Werner, Wildlife Tech. at Otter Creek, studied these birds for a long time at close range with his scope and he also felt they were Glossy Ibis.

## Buff-breasted Sandpiper -

These are the notes I made on this bird

1. Sandpiper slightly smaller than pectoral with thin neck and small rounded head.
2. Brown above and buffy below down to legs - then off white <sup>(lighter)</sup> under tail
3. Very fine streaking ~~on~~ on sides of neck just above wing
4. Very tapered <sup>short</sup> bill - (2) - thin pt.
5. Striped (streaked) back + up over crown
6. Bird fed on dryer green ~~and~~ mud.
7. Yellow orange legs

## Bewick's Wren

I found this bird on Aug. 10 as I was looking for early warblers. I observed the wren twice at distances of 15' to 20'. The bird was obviously a wren and had a very whitish breast + throat and a definite white eye line above eye. Back and wings were approx. color of house wren. The bird had a fairly long tail which it kept slightly cocked up and although it never spread the tail I could see several white spots at the edge of the feathers. The bird never sang and it could not be relocated at any other time.

## Notes of Identification - Fall 1983

Alder Flycatcher - Alder flycatchers are usually found at Sweet Marsh during late spring migration. This bird was found singing on Aug. 5 - an early returning migrant? I am very familiar with the fee-bee'-o song.

## Northern Shrike -

The basic marks that I saw on this bird that told me it wasn't a Loggerhead were:

1. The gray color was very pale
2. Bird had very large hooked beak.
3. Fine horizontal streaks could be seen on bird's breast in good light
4. The bird flew in characteristic Northern fashion ~~and~~ as it flew ~~at~~ directly from one fence line to another not swooping down almost to the ground as Loggerheads do.

I many times do not get to see the hozy markings on the Northern's breast and I don't think you can always count on these marks. If you see enough Loggerheads the larger size of the Northern is usually easily

noticed as is the larger bill.

I personally think the lighter grey head and back of the Northern is a good mark as is the ~~the~~ very reduced mask between the eyes in the Northern. The Northern's eye seems to make a bump in the top of its mask while in the Loggerhead it is incorporated in the mask.