

✓ WILSON

Rt 1 Box 41

Hastings, Ia 51540

30 Nov 1983

Dear Mr. Kent

It was good to see you at the meeting this fall. I wasn't out much this fall, but saw one or two interesting things.

Snowy Owl report seems early. It was a beautiful bird! I don't think it weighed 2 pounds.

Weather's been weird. Started out dry + warm, then we did get rain, but it stayed mild, well into October.

Starting late in October, weather seemed like the Oregon coast ~~constantly~~ constantly gray + drizzly. ~~Some~~ Never dried out, + some people couldn't get on with harvest for 3 weeks. Indeed, a few few people have soybeans standing in the field even now. Sunday (Nov. 27) we got freezing rain (+ some snow). It's still here, + must be stressing the birds, with $\frac{1}{4}$ " of ice on things.

- Barb Wilson

Barbara L Wilson
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Iowa
Fall, 1983

Scaled Grebe Pied-billed Grebe	1	Oct 31	Willow Slough
Pied-billed Grebe	23	Sept 3	"
"	99	Sept 6	"
"	62	Sept 11	"
"	40	Sept 15	"
"	75	Sept 17	"
"	86	Sept 26	"
"	133	Oct 2	"
"	68	Oct 5	"
"	76	Oct 9	"
"	59	Oct 15	"
"	41	Oct 17	"
"	58	Oct 24	"
"	58	Nov 2	"
"	5	Nov 14	"
White Pelican	33	Sept 17	"
"	80	Oct 5	"
"	7	Oct 24	"
Double-crested Cormorant	180	Oct. 2	"
Black-crowned Night Heron	17	Sept. 6	"
White-winged Scaup	1	Oct 23	Coralville Reservoir
See Documentation			
Marsh Hawk	11	Oct 9 - Nov 25	NE Mills County
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	Sept. 23	farm, NE Mills County
Cougar Hawk	1	Oct 7	"
"	2	Oct 29	"

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Farm = John Wilson farm,
NE Mills County, Iowa

Couper's Hawk	1	Nov. 2	Willow Slough	
Accipiter sp	1	Oct 5	Farm, NE Mills Co.	
N. Goshawk	1	Nov 26	"	
See Documentation				
Hawk migration - lots of Red-tails + Kestrels around. Omaha birders saw as heavy a hawk migration in the Missouri Valley as they have ever seen				
Rough-legged Hawk	1	Oct 31	Farm, NE Mills Co.	last seen
Sabine's Gull	1	Nov. 13	Saylorville Reservoir	
See documentation				
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	Oct 12	Farm, NE Mills Co.	last I saw
C. Nighthawk	15	Aug. 27	"	migrating east, as usual
"	1	Oct 2	"	last I saw (also going east)
Red-headed Woodpecker - wintering on the farm this year, + present in large numbers in Fontenelle Forest. This year there's a fairly good acorn crop, both Red Oaks + Bur Oaks. Adults + young staying				
Red-bellied Woodpecker - a ♂ is taking chunky dog food from my yard + storing it in a woods almost 1/4 mile away.				
E. Wood Pewee	1	Sept 26	Farm, NE Mills Co.	last I see
Olive-sided Flycatcher	5	Aug 24 - Sept 3	"	
E. Kingbird		Sept 14	Mills Co.	last I see
Cliff Swallow		Sept 17	Willow Slough	"
Barn Swallow	2	Oct 22	Coralville Reservoir	" <small>seen with Tim Scandrick</small>
Blue Jay	28	Sept. 26	Farm, NE Mills Co.	
# seen in 2 hours in morning; most birds going south	}	225	Oct 1	" highest count I've ever seen.
		55	Oct 5	"

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Golden-crowned Kinglet - numbers comparable to last year,
maybe even a ~~bit~~ bit better - unlike the previous years.

Brown thrasher	1	Sept 23	farm, NE Mills Co.	last I see away from feeder
	1	Nov 19	"	at bird feeder
	1	each day	Nov. 25-30	"

Black-throated Green Warbler	1	Sept 25	"	
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Dickcissel		Aug. 24	"	last I see
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Rufous-sided Towhee	1	Spotted race - Oct 17	"	
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Tree Sparrow		Oct 17	"	first I see
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White-throated Sparrow		Oct 5 - Nov. 7	"	
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Junco Harris Sparrow		Oct 12	"	first I see - late?
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~~Harris Sparrow~~ One coming to my feeder is in ~~breeding~~ breeding plumage,
with gray cheeks + extensive black on face

Junco		Oct 12	farm, NE Mills Co.	first I see - late?
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Rusty Blackbird		Oct 26 - Nov 20	"	
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Brewer's Blackbird	2	Oct 29	"	
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♂, w/ light eye, round head, medium length tail. ♀ brown w/ dark eye.

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(out of order)

Chimney Swift		Oct 11	Red Oak	Last I see
Carolina Wren	1	Oct 23	N. of Dowan City	Documentation available
→ Marsh Wren	1	Oct 23	near Coralville Reservoir	

Small, active, brown bird. Thin bill. Light eye line. Stripes on back ^{in limited area by nape.} Foraging in a hedgerow. Jim Fuller + I saw it.

Reported by Eric Nyren

Gray Partridge 2 Aug 26 E. Nyren farm, NE Mills Co.
The pair seen this spring disappeared, but showed up again in August

Reported by Harold Seipold

Snowy Owl 1 Nov. 15 H. Seipold farm, NE Mills Co.
" 1 Nov 18 "

On Nov. 18 Harold Seipold's dog found this bird on the ground. Harold walked over to where the dog was barking at it, and picked ~~it~~ ^{the owl} up + brought it to me. I took it to the Raptor Recovery Team. ^(comaker) It was alive Nov. 19, but in precarious condition, suffering from starvation, dehydration, bird lice, and tape worms.