

Season: Spring Year: '85

DOUGLAS C. HARR

Other observers (name, city):

Name and address (print or type)

Wildlife Management Biologist
Big Sioux Wildlife Management Unit
301 1/2 1st Ave.
ROCK RAPIDS, IOWA 51246

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
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Notes: weather mild, but very windy, throughout entire season. NW Iowa experienced a couple of periods of heavy rains in April and May, causing heavy local flooding. Leaf-out a good 2-3 weeks early, causing problems in warbler watching, but habitat is generally in very good shape this season

Species: ✓ Gr. White Fronted Goose	48	3/18	S. Side Silver Lake, Dickinson Co.
✓ Snow (# Blue) Goose	3,000	3/18	" " " " " " -- a large concentration for this area.
✓ Merlin	1	4/30	S. of Larchwood, Lyon Co. -- did not realize need to document when sighted, so no notes enclosed.
Insert → ✓ Turkey Vulture	1	4/19	Osceola Co., near Harris. } sightings becoming more common in last 2-3 years
turkey Vulture	1	5/22	Kettleston Hogsback WMA, near Spirit Lake, Dickinson Co. }
✓ Lesser Golden Plover	825	5/7	Spring Run W.M.A., near Spirit Lake (largest count, but seen through entire month of May-- huge migration)
✓ Willet	1	4/25	Wolter's prairie (C.E.B. are), Osceola County.
✓ Buff-Breasted Sandpiper	20	4/24	Flooded pasture near Ockeyedan, Osceola Co. A first Iowa sighting for me -- mixed w/ flock of Pectorals
✓ Stilt Sandpiper	5	5/11	S. Side of Silver Lake, Dickinson Co.
✓ Sh-Billed Dowitchers	18	5/11	S. Side of Silver Lake, Dickinson Co. -- no prominent barring on flanks; multiple-note calls heard.
✓ Sedge Wren	~14	5/21	Ventura Marsh, Cerro Gordo Co. -- large # in small area-- seemed that territories compressed for so many.
E. Bluebird	2	3/19	SW. Lyon Co. } First sightings of season; common after this date, and sev. nesting in early April-early May
E. Bluebird	2	3/19	NW. Sioux Co. }
✓ Cedar Waxwing	~200	5/3	Big Sioux River W.M.A., 6 mi. NW Inwood, Lyon Co. Largest concentration I've ever seen here!
✓ Golden-winged Warbler	1	5/22	Kettleston Hogsback W.M.A., near Spirit Lake, Dickinson County.
✓ Canada Warbler	1	5/22	These are both somewhat uncommon in NW Iowa (esp. Canada Warbler)
✓ Lark Sparrow	1 - 5/3 1 - 5/17		both near Granite, NW Lyon Co., along Big Sioux River. (ghost town)
✓ Lincoln's Sparrow	4	5/3	between Larchwood & Inwood, various sites. Must have been migration peak.
→ (Harlan's) Red-tailed Hawk	1	5/1	N. of Superior, Dickinson Co. Very Dark Phase

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Other observers (name, city):

Nina Harr (NH), Linda Hinshaw (LH), Bill Fribley (BF), Ted

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Eischeid (TE), LaVonne Foote (LF)
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✓ Cattle Egret (TE)	1	5/13	Kettleston Hogback W.M.A., near Spirit Lake
✓ Eurasian Wigeon (LF)	5	4/1-2	6 mi. W. of Spirit Lake (documentation should have already been provided)
✓ Bald Eagle (BF)	1	3/6	6 mi. SW. of Rock Valley, Sioux Co.
✓ Prairie Falcon (LF)	1	3/1	NE corner Osceola Co., near state line.
✓ Common Moorhen (TE)	1	5/27	Hales Slough W.M.A., E. side Big Spirit Lake, Dickinson Co.
✓ Lark Bunting (NH)	1	5/16	1 mi. N. of Inwood, perched on fence line along Iowa Hwy #182 -- Diagnostic characteristics -- black sparrow w/ white wing patches

Late additions:

(Dave Kuehl = DK
Ron Spengler = RS)

✓ Barn Owl (DK)	1	4/1	near Melvin, Osceola Co.
? Mountain Bluebird (DK & RS)	1	4/5	2 mi. SW. Ocheyedan, Osceola Co.