

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

of Science and Technology

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Dr Halmi;

Attached are some bird records for very late May through July that may be of interest for the field notes section of I.B.L. The initials used for the various records are

JD - James Dinsmore

JB James Bednarz

TN - Tom Nigus

MR - Mark Ryan

} All good students and good on I.D.'s of birds

Hope that they are of some use for your section.

Sincerely,  
Jim Dinsmore

Grebes, cormorants, geese, ducks

Lesser Grebe - one at W. Okoboji 9 July - report from R. Storer. (man)

Pied-billed Grebe - nesting commonly in Ruthven-Spirit Lake area although nest success appeared low because of low water

Wh. Pelican 2 at HOTTES LAKE 10 July, 6 at Trumbull LAKE 23-25 July - MR

Double-crested Cormorant - 8 over Dan Green Slough on 2 June JD, TN

White-fronted Goose - one seen well with flock of Canada Geese,  
30 May, Dan Green Slough - JD

The following all were common nesters in Ruthven-Spirit Lake area with broods of all seen:

Canada Goose

Wood Duck

Mallard

Ruddy Duck

Blue-winged Teal

Redhead

Other Ducks seen

Pintail - seen regularly in small numbers on lakes near Ruthven until at least 10 June JD, TN, MR

Gadwall - 1-4 birds seen regularly on mud lake north of Ruthven until at least 23 June, may well have nested JD, TN, MR

American Wigeon - 2 ♂ Dan Green Slough and 1 ♂ Mud Lake, Clay Co.  
10 June JD JD

## Ducks

Shoveler - 1-7 birds regularly until 11 June on Dan Green Slough  
and Mud Lake, Clay Co. JD, TN, MR

Green-winged Teal - 1-4 birds seen regularly through 9 July on various  
lakes near Ruthven JD, TN, MR, JB 2 MOATING BIRDS  
ECK LAKE 23 July

Lesser Scaup - 1-3 birds seen regularly on Mud Lake, Clay Co.  
from 10 to 23 June JD, TN, MR

~~CANADIAN BIRDS - OR DO YOU THINK DOUG HARRIS' NOTE IS  
SUFFICIENT?~~

2 immature (yrlg.) Red-breasted Merganser - 10 June  
Dewey's Pasture, <sup>Clay</sup> Pecos Atto Co. MR

Hooded Merganser - 1 in eclipse plumage 20 July, Marble  
Lake, Dickson Co. MR



# Hawks, Herons

Osprey - 1 seen well north of Inham Lake, Emmet Co on 2 June - TN

Broad-winged Hawk - 3 seen at hedges State Park, Boone Co., 2 July - JD  
may have bred there

Red-tailed Hawk - one "Kriders" form seen at Virgin Lake, Palo Alto Co,  
8 July JD + JB

Great Egret - 1 on 3 June and 3 on 23 June - West Swan Lake, Emmet  
Co - JD, TN, MR  
1 on Inham Lake 16 June TN  
4 at Virgin Lake 23-25 July MR

Cattle Egret - 1 at Dan Green Slough, <sup>Emmet Co</sup> 30 May JD } may well be  
1 at Dewey's Pasture, Clay Co 2 June JD, TN } same bird  
1 4 mi west of LaGrand, Marshall Co 10 June Dave Van Waus  
(Dave is former student of mine and saw an egret in same field earlier this year)

Black-crowned Night Heron - very common this summer in marshes in Ruthven - Spirit Lake  
area, birds seen on nearly every marsh but only found nesting on Hottes  
Lake, Dickinson Co where colony of over 100 pair found - JD, TN, MR, JB

Great Blue Heron - small numbers all over Ruthven - Spirit Lake area, seemed more common  
than was in 1976 - JD

American and Least Bittern - seen in small numbers in marshes in Ruthven - Spirit Lake  
area, no nests found but they certainly nest there - <sup>Spirit</sup> Lake

Green Heron - seen rarely in Ruthven area, nest at Dewey's Pasture MR

## Shorebirds, Gulls + Terns

Black Tern - nesting commonly in most marshes in Ruthven-Spirit Lake area  
low water led to many desertions

Forster's Tern - seen in small numbers in much of Ruthven-Spirit Lake area but only nesting colonies were on Rush Lake, Palo Alto Co, ca 20 birds and Hottes Lake, Dickinson Co - ca. 60 birds

Franklin's Gull - seen commonly in small numbers throughout Jun and July

largest numbers -

27	on 11 June	Virgin Lake, Palo Alto Co	
20	on 23 June	north side of Spirit Lake	- JD, TN, MR
20	on 23 June	Rush Lake, Osceola Co	- JD, TN, MR
40	on 18-25 July	Hottes Lake, Dickinson Co.	- MK

Ring-billed Gull -

1	on 16 June	High Lake, Emmet Co	JD, TN
37	on 23 June	Silver Lake, Dickinson Co	JD, TN, MR
10	on 11 July	High Lake, Emmet Co	TN

Semipalmated Plover - 3 on 10 June Dan Green Slough, Clay Co

Upland Sandpiper - 1 or 2 birds calling, 24, 29 and 30 June 4 miles south of McCallisburg, Story Co - 1 or 2 seen on 29th by Lynn Brabant

Spotted Sandpiper - 2 birds - Dan Green Slough 16 June, single birds seen at 3 other places in late June and early July - certainly not common



## Shorebirds

Short-billed Dowitcher - 2 on 8 July Virgin Lake, Palo Alto Co JD, JB  
1 on 23 July 2 on 24 July Dan Green Slough, CLAY Co. MR  
4 on 23 July 2 Elk Lake, CLAY Co(?) MR

Lesser Yellowlegs - 8 on 25 June and 50 on 8 July - Virgin Lake, Palo Alto Co  
Large numbers at Hottes Lake, Dickinson Co, Dan Greene, CLAY Co.,  
ELK LAKE, CLAY Co. 15-25 July MR

Greater Yellowlegs 10 on 23 June Rush Lake, Osceola Co JD, TN, MR  
2 on 7 July Hottes Lake, Dickinson Co JD, JB, MR  
5 on 8 July Virgin Lake, Palo Alto Co JD, JB  
Large numbers (75-100) HOTTES LAKE, Dickinson Co. 15-25 July MR

Pectoral Sandpiper - 20 on 8 July Virgin Lake JD, JB

Dunlin 15 on 2 June Dan Green Slough, Clay Co. JD, TN  
6 on 5 June " " " " " MR, TN

Semipalmated Sandpiper ca 500 on 2 June Dan Green Slough JD, TN

Wilson's Phalarope 2 ♀ 1 ♂ 30 May; 3 ♀, 2 June; 2 ♀ - 16 June  
all on Dan Green Slough, Clay Co JD, TN, MR  
not seen later although looked for 6 in winter plumage ELK LAKE, CLAY  
Co. 23 July MR

Northern Phalarope - seen well - 12 on 2 June, Dan Green Slough  
JD, TN

Woodcock - 1-2 seen regularly in June at Smith's Slough, Clay Co  
MR JD, TN, MR

Rails other non passerines

Common Gallinule - 1 at Smith Slough, Clay Co. 24<sup>-25</sup> June - TN, MR

American Coot - nested in good numbers in marshes in Ruthven-Spirit Lake area

Virginia Rail - seen in small numbers in marshes in Ruthven-Spirit Lake area  
chicks observed <sup>regularly</sup> in late June - July HOTTES & MARBLE LAKES  
Dickinson Co. IA

Sora - not seen or heard throughout June in marshes in Ruthven-Spirit Lake area  
1 at HOTTES LAKE, through July MR  
Dickinson Co.

Sora chicks reported by MARTHA Whitson  
in mid-July at HOTTES (MR)

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - other than one bird seen in migration in May, I  
haven't seen a hummingbird all summer, either in Ames or NW Iowa JD

Belted Kingfisher - a single bird on 8 July at Trumbull Lake, Clay Co the only  
one seen this summer - JD



## Song Birds

Willow Flycatcher - very common throughout June near lakes and marshes around  
Rothven, Palo Alto Co - JD

2 pair along abandoned railroad 1/4 mi E of Zearing, Story Co - Lynn Brabant

Caroline Wren - 1 seen at Ledges State Park @ June JD

Eastern Bluebird } I have not seen either one all summer JD  
Loggerhead Shrike }

Yellow Warbler - common nester in woods around Trumbull Lake, Clay Co, several  
nests found - JD

Vesper Sparrow - since some feel this species is in trouble, it is very common  
along roadsides in Clay and Palo Alto Co - JD

Harris Sparrow - an adult bird, in perfect breeding plumage with all field marks,  
ie black cap and chin, pink bill, size, etc seen repeatedly on road at  
Smith Slough, Clay Co 9-15 June JD, TN, MR

Mourning Warbler - one ♂ singing in ISU campus, Story Co 28 May - Lynn Brabant