

ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDSIBL - Iowa Bird Life
NBR - Nebraska Bird
ReviewSources of Information

1. Four breeding bird survey routes were set up similarly to those of the Fish and Wildlife Service to cover the entire range of habitats in the township. Also included were the western edge of the Riverton Game Management Area, and a portion of extreme southern Benton Township. Observers were: Red Route, Ross Silcock; Blue and Green Routes, Dean Roosa; Black Route, Jon Stravers.
2. Singing male counts were made at Riverton and within Waubesa State Park, and ^{while} pertinent information from these is included here, ~~although~~ these counts will be summarised elsewhere by Roosa.
3. A special check of a seven-mile stretch of the Main Drainage Ditch was made for Bell's Vireo. Several other species of interest were found here also, and information is included herein, although Roosa will also summarise this data elsewhere.
4. Mrs Ione Getscher, who lives near Hamburg in Washington Twp., contributed notes on birds seen during the Foray Period, as well as some information on previous sightings in the area.
5. Information ~~gleaned~~ from the literature is also included to give a more complete picture of the breeding birds of the area.

Terms of Abundance

These are used loosely but in a comparative manner as indicated by the data. Numbers given in parentheses refer to the breeding bird survey routes and are given in this order: Red, Green, Blue, Black, i.e. from east to west, and may be considered to pass from upland farmland through wooded loess bluff areas to Missouri River bottomland. The first number, referring to the Red Route, also included data from the western edge (mostly wooded) of Riverton G.M.A.

An asterisk beside a species name indicates that while that species was not recorded during the Foray, it is possible that it breeds in the area.

Annotated List

Double-crested Cormorant (0,0,0,0). Two were seen at Riverton June 6, one an adult, and the other an immature, presumably a one-year bird. These birds were with Great Blue Herons ^{perched} in a stand of dead cottonwoods, but as yet no evidence of breeding ~~is available~~ ^{is available} for either species. A single bird was reported at Riverton August 15, 1976 by Braley (IBL 46:82), and a number were seen at Forney Lake June 13-19, 1974, reported by Phipps (IBL 44: 71), these being considered "unusual since there was no breeding colony." Forney Lake is about 15 miles from Riverton, well within the feeding range for this species. Cormorants are common spring migrants through the Riverton area, up to 150 being recorded at one time (AB 30: 847).

Great Blue Heron (0,0,0,0). Several were seen at Riverton (see above), five being seen with the cormorants. Breeding is presumptive in the area as large numbers are seen at Riverton each summer, but has not yet been proven. There seems to be no shortage of suitable habitat.

Green Heron (2,0,0,0). Fairly common summer resident.

Least Bittern (0,0,0,0). Several were heard at dusk in cattails at Riverton June 6. Apparently common ~~if~~ suitable habitat is available.

~~Sparrow~~ (0,0,0,0).

Mallard (0,0,0,2). Probably breeds in small numbers, such as at Riverton, along drainage ditches and on farm ponds.

Blue-winged Teal (0,1,0,0). Also probably breeds in small numbers at Riverton and on farm ponds.

* Shoveler (1,0,0,0). A female seen flying towards Riverton by Silcock was probably a non-breeding straggler, although southwest Iowa is near the southeast edge of the breeding range. Easterla considers it a casual summer visitor in Missouri.

Wood Duck (1,0,0,0). Common breeding bird in wooded riparian areas.

Turkey Vulture (0,0,0,0). Fairly common summer resident, but breeding is presumptive only. There is a roost east of Waubonsie S.P. near the Nishnabotna River, probably the source of the 17 birds seen over the Park by Roosa on June 4.

Red-tailed Hawk (0,0,1,0). Fairly common summer resident, presumably breeding.

American Kestrel (0,0,0,0). Fairly common summer resident, breeding in small numbers.

Bobwhite (52,13,9,15). ~~Common~~ ^{Very common,} especially in upland areas.

Ring-necked Pheasant (34,26,22,5). ~~Common~~ ^{Very common} throughout, except in wooded areas.

* Wild Turkey Not seen during Foray Period, but reported in area of loess bluffs several times since liberation northeast of the Park. Some sightings may be of birds moving north from Missouri (see NBR 45: 6).

* American Coot Not found at Riverton, but a pair was seen on a small pond at Pinky's Glen in northern Fremont Co. June 3, ~~and~~ and a young bird was seen there July 7 (Silcock). Two were also seen at Taylor Lake in north Fremont Co. June 20. Probably breeds in small numbers at Riverton also.

Killdeer (3,3,0,2). Fairly common breeding bird.

Spotted Sandpiper (0,0,0,0). Two were seen by Roosa June 3 at Riverton in suitable breeding habitat. Would be expected to breed in the area.

Rock Dove (1,3,7,0). Fairly common breeding bird.

Mourning Dove (68,29,33,14). ~~Very common~~ ^{Very common} breeding bird.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (4,5,0,1). Common breeding bird.

Black-billed Cuckoo (1,5,2,0). Common breeding bird.

* Screech Owl Not reported during Foray. May be becoming scarce in area due to abundance of Great Horned Owls (see IBL 47: 19).

Great Horned Owl (7,1,0,1) Common breeding bird, probably more correctly considered abundant for a large raptor.

~~* Barred Owl Not reported during Foray, but is fairly common~~

Barred Owl (0,0,0,0). Two were flushed along the Main Drainage Ditch during a search for Bell's Vireo June 6. Fairly common breeding bird in the area, such as at Riverton and along the Nishnabotna River.

* Short-eared Owl Not reported during the Foray, but Getscher reported one June 22, 1974. ~~While~~ Brown considered it a rare Permanent Resident in Iowa. ^{and} It is listed as a rare in summer at Squaw Creek N.W.R. with no breeding evidence. Non-breeders possibly may summer south of the usual breeding range.

* Chuck-will's-widow Special effort was made to locate this species, but none were heard. It apparently is regular in extreme southeastern Nebraska (Indian Cave S.P. - see NBR 35: 50 and 37: 59), and has been reported in Mills Co., Iowa (NBR 40: 85).

Whip-poor-will (0,0,0,1). Fairly common breeder in wooded areas along loess bluffs.

Common Nighthawk (0,0,0,0). Reported by Getscher. Hamburg is the only large residential area in Washington Twp. where it would be expected.

Chimney Swift (1,0,0,0). Common breeder in residential areas, and also in certain house chimneys in rural areas.

* Ruby-throated Hummingbird (0,0,0,0). Not reported during Foray, and is a hard bird to find at any given time. Probably an uncommon breeding bird. Getscher reported that it nested near her home for two years.

Belted Kingfisher (0,0,0,0). Also rather unpredictable, but Stravers saw one along one of the drainage ditches. Probably an uncommon breeding bird.

Common Flicker (1,6,1,1). Fairly common breeding bird. All resident birds ^{are} appear to be 'Yellow-shafted', ~~but none introgressants have been recorded in winter showing Red-shafted characteristics.~~

Red-bellied Woodpecker (5,0,0,0). Common in more extensive woods. One was seen entering a nest hole ~~with young inside~~ at Waubonsie S.P. by Roosa et al., June 7. _{within which young could be heard}

Red-headed Woodpecker (19,11,6,3). Very common in wooded areas, especially in somewhat more open areas than the Red-bellied Woodpecker.

Hairy Woodpecker (0,1,0,0). Fairly common in deeper woods.

Downy Woodpecker (1,1,0,1). Common in open woods and scrub areas. Generally absent from deeper woods where the Hairy is present.

Eastern Kingbird (4,14,4,4). Very common breeding bird.

* Western Kingbird Despite careful search, not found in Washington Twp. during Foray. However, Getscher has recorded it near her home in past years, and Silcock found 4 in a 15-mile section of roads in Benton Twp., just to the north and west of Washington Twp. on July 7. It is generally found on ~~the~~ lines near homesteads in rural areas, and Washington Twp. does not have many such homesteads compared with Benton Twp.

Great Crested Flycatcher (8,10,0,0). Common in extensive wooded areas.

Eastern Phoebe (0,0,0,0). Present in small numbers, but fairly common. One was heard singing in the Picnic Area at Waubonsie S.P. near an apparently destroyed nest, and another was heard along a drainage ditch near a small bridge.

* Say's Phoebe While this species is ordinarily considered to be restricted to northwest Iowa (Brown), Getscher reported ~~one~~ one May 16, 1972 (IBL 42: 39), ^{probably a migrant} ~~While this report probably referred to a migrant, breeding could be possible in southwest Iowa, especially as the last few years have been very dry.~~ It apparently bred regularly ^{from} at least 1960 for about 10 years (IBL 39:74), but ~~was absent~~ ^{not} in 1973 (IBL 43:75). During the same period it ^{appeared} nested in Lancaster Co., Nebraska in 1966 (NBR 35:11), and near West Point, Nebraska in 1970 (NBR 38:91). These records for the 1960s may indicate an eastern extension of the breeding range during the 1950's, ~~also~~ a dry decade, with ~~breed~~ subsequent contraction in the 1960's. Whether its range will again expand into western Iowa in the late 1970s is yet to be seen. At present it breeds regularly as far east as Adams Co. in Nebraska (see NBR).

* Acadian Flycatcher This bird was not found during Foray, and presumably was absent as its distinctive call is hard to miss. However Silcock et al found it to be common at Waubonsie S.P. June 21, suggesting that it is a late arrival in this area. It is also possible that when the population is high, birds unable to find territories in more southerly areas move further north, resulting in late arrivals in more northerly parts of the breeding range, and probably less successful breeding. In the last 10 years at Fontenelle Forest it has been reported as a summer resident ~~4~~ 5 years (1969,70,72,73,74) a spring and fall migrant 4 years, and unreported in 1968. Thus it appears to be somewhat irregular in the region. ^{appear} A nest was found in Waubonsie S.P. by DeLong

Willow Flycatcher (0,3,1,0). Common in suitable habitat.

* Alder Flycatcher (0,0,0,0). Several were singing along the Main Drainage Ditch June 4 and 6, but could not be found July 7. Presumably these birds were ~~late~~ migrants.

Eastern Pewee (3,2,0,0). Common in extensive woods.

* Olive-sided Flycatcher (0,0,0,0). One was seen ^{by Silcock & Roosa} June 3 near the Missouri River in extreme southwest Washington Twp., presumably a ~~late~~ migrant. Brown gives June 12 as the late spring date for this species in Iowa.

Horned Lark (0,1,3,0). Fairly common breeder. Usually seen along roadsides.
Tree Swallow (0,0,0,0). This species was found to be common at Riverton, where an active nest hole was found June 5 by Ruth Phipps, Marie Spears, and Betty Walters. On June 6 three other occupied nest holes were found by Silcock, Stravers and Boles, using a canoe. Some 15-20 adults were seen in the area. Brown notes that "published nesting records range from Des Moines northward" and considers it an uncommon breeding bird in Iowa. Thus this appears to be the furthest south published nesting in Iowa, although Rapp et al state that the Tree Swallow is an "uncommon to rare breeder in the Missouri River Valley Region" in Nebraska, and occurrence reports in NBR list it as a Summer Resident in Douglas-Sarpy Counties. At De Soto Bend N.W.R. it is listed as an uncommon breeder, and at Squaw Creek N.W.R. it is considered a common Summer Resident and breeder. Furthermore, Johnson lists it as a Summer Resident in extreme northeast Kansas (Doniphan Co.). Hence it appears that this species' breeding range in the Midwest extends southeastward in the Missouri River Valley to extreme northeast Kansas.

Bank Swallow (0,0,0,7). A colony was found in a sandpit in southern Benton Twp., one mile west of Washington Twp. by Stravers. There appeared to be about 45 nest holes, many of them active. It was also reported by Getscher, and probably breeds in suitable banks on the loess bluffs.

Rough-winged Swallow (0,7,1,0). Fairly common breeding bird usually in small groups.

Barn Swallow (19,22,8,5). ~~Very common~~ ^{Abundant} breeding bird.

Cliff Swallow (0,0,1,0). What was once a large colony of about 75 nests was found on the supports of an I-29 overpass near Payne Junction in Washington Twp. However only about 5-10 nests were occupied by ~~Cliff~~ Swallows, many of the others being used by House Sparrows and many unoccupied.

Purple Martin (0,0,0,0). Reported by Getscher. Usually present where houses are provided.

Blue Jay (13,18,4,4). Common breeding bird, mostly found in wooded areas in summer.

Common Crow (5,1,0,0). Fairly common, ^{and presumably breeds,} but not always easy to locate in summer.

Black-capped Chickadee (0,2,0,5). Fairly common breeding bird. Probably not as ubiquitous in this part of the state as it is in the eastern part.

* Carolina Chickadee Care was taken to listen for the four-noted song of this species, but without success. It has been ~~found~~ in Fontenelle Forest (IBL 49:49,88; 46:54; NBR: 37:52; 38:63; 42:57) and apparently banded in Iowa: the 1974 Bird Banding Summary in IBL lists 3 Carolina Chickadees, but these were banded by Diggs "at home" i.e. in Missouri. However the 1975 summary lists 6 but no further details nor even the name of the bander(s) are given. The nearest accepted breeding area for this species is central Missouri and extreme southeast Kansas, although the possibility of intergrades, or even strays, does exist. There are two accidental records of this species for Iowa, in Buchanan and Lee Counties (ACU 5th).

Tufted Titmouse (4,9,0,2). Common in extensively wooded areas, but scarce elsewhere.

White-breasted Nuthatch (0,0,0,1). Fairly common in wooded areas.

House Wren (15,24,3,6). Abundant in woods, common elsewhere. This is the most common bird ~~in woods~~ at Waubonsie S.P., even in the deep woods.

* Carolina Wren (0,0,0,0). Reported only by Getscher. Numbers may have been reduced in the cold winter, although it is ~~not~~ generally rather uncommon in this area. It is considered a summer resident in Douglas-Sarpy Cps., as reported in NBR.

* Short-billed Marsh Wren (0,0,0,0). Several were heard singing by Silcock June 5 in a weedy area at Riverton which is usually covered with standing water.

* Mockingbird None were found in Hamburg despite a search June 5. Getscher reported it as nesting one year in her yard. It is an irregular visitor to this area at any season, ~~and is also~~ considered occasional in summer at both Squaw Creek N.W.R. & Fontenelle Forest. The Mockingbird is more common in southeast of Iowa, around Lamoni (see CBC data published in IBL).

* Do you know who banded 6 of these in 1975?

Gray Catbird (3,8,2,9). Common breeding bird.
Brown Thrasher (4,5,5,5). Common breeding Bird.
American Robin (38,13,13,11). Abundant breeding bird. Has adapted to a wide variety of habitats, excepting deep woods and wet areas.
Wood Thrush (0,4,0,0). Found ^{almost exclusively} in deep woods at Waubonsie S.P.. but was also heard in riparian woods along the Missouri River by Roosa, Peck and Silcock.

* Eastern Bluebird, ~~(0,0,0,0)~~. Not reported during Foray. At best it may be considered an uncommon breeder in this area.
 * Blue-gray Gnatcatcher A special search was made at Waubonsie S.P. for this species, but none were found. A later check on June 21 also was unsuccessful. In 1971 Brown considered it an uncommon breeding bird in Iowa, but that it was extending its range northward. Since this time however, it may have decreased in numbers in this area. The most recent checklist for Squaw Creek N.W.R. ^(M/S) lists it as uncommon, whereas the previous list (1966) ^{considers} it as common. It is also listed as uncommon at Fontenelle Forest, although NBR does not give any summer records ~~for~~ for the last 10 years, except for a breeding record in Lancaster Co. (NBR 43:23). In Gage County, Fiala states that it "has, or probably has, nested here, but not regularly." (NBR 38:64), and cites a breeding record at Barneston (NBR 38:57). The published reports for Iowa in the same period are similarly scarce. Indeed there are only two: in 1974 Phipps (IBL 44:74) stated that "none were seen", but in 1975 the same observer considered them "numerous" in Waubonsie S.P. on July 11. ⁽¹⁰⁻⁴⁵⁻⁹⁴⁾ Thus it appears that, this species is ~~rather~~ irregular as a breeding bird in this area.

* Cedar Waxwing Two sightings of this species were reported: it was seen by Getscher, and 4 were seen by Silcock along the Main Drainage Ditch just north of Hamburg. These were probably migrants, as this species is a late breeder. However mulberries are abundant in the area, and it has bred at Squaw Creek N.W.R.

* Loggerhead Shrike Not reported during Foray, but breeds in small numbers in Fremont County. Silcock saw one in extreme northwest Washington Twp. June July 7.

Starling (3,6,5,6). Common breeding bird, in pleasantly low numbers compared with the hordes of migrants and wintering birds.

* White-eyed Vireo Not found during Foray, ~~however~~ ^{although} it may breed occasionally. One was banded by Phipps May 8, 1972 (IBL 42:39), and it is listed as an occasional migrant and summer resident at Fontenelle Forest. Squaw Creek N.W.R. also lists it as rare in summer, but no breeding has been recorded there.

* Bell's Vireo (0,0,2,2). Common breeding bird in suitable habitat. Most are found along drainage ditches on the Missouri River bottoms, but a few occur in upland riparian situations.

Yellow-throated Vireo (0,0,0,0). Uncommon breeding bird. A singing male was found at Waubonsie S.P. by Roosa, near the Ranger's house.

* Solitary Vireo This species is included in this list on the basis of a report of one by Getscher on June 24, 1974. Presumably this would be a late migrant, or possibly a sick bird, as Brown considers June 14 to be an "exceptionally late" date. ^{rather} To the north, the nearest breeding birds of this species are in ~~Minnesota~~ Minnesota (Green and Janssen).

Red-eyed Vireo (0,0,0,0). Fairly common ~~at~~ at Waubonsie S.P. ~~but~~ rare elsewhere.

Warbling Vireo (4,0,0,0). Fairly common in stands of large trees, ~~especially~~ ^{especially} cottonwoods.

* Black-and-white Warbler (0,0,0,0). Two were seen June 3 and 4 at Waubonsie S.P. by John and David Boles, and a singing male was seen by Roosa, Silcock, and Peck June 7 in the same area of the Park. No breeding evidence was obtained. However DeLong reported an adult feeding young at the Park (Phipps-pers. comm.). These are the only records since Youngworth reported a singing male on July 13, 1953 (Brown). These observations suggest that this warbler is a rare breeding bird at Waubonsie S.P.

(cont'd p6)

Furthermore, it is listed as breeding at De Soto Bend N.W.R. where it is considered uncommon. Rapp et al state that it is a local and uncommon summer resident in eastern Nebraska, but there are no recent breeding records published in NBR. It is a local summer resident in eastern Kansas also (Johnson), but Easterla lists it as a summer resident in Missouri only in the south where it is uncommon. All these areas are within the breeding range outlined in the AOU 5th, but it appears to breed only in certain localised tracts of woodland, ~~apparently including Waubonsie S.P., at least on occasion.~~

*Prothonotary Warbler Not reported during Foray. This species probably breeds at Riverton or along the Nishnabotna River, but time did not allow a specific search to be made. It is present each summer at Fontenelle Forest (NBR), and it has bred at Squaw Creek N.W.R., but it is considered rare there.

*Worm-eating Warbler (0,0,0,0). A singing male was ~~heard~~^{heard} and seen by Silcock and Roosa at Waubonsie S.P. June 7. It did not appear to be territorial however. Brown notes that it once nested in the southern part of Iowa, but considers it to be but a rare migrant at present. However Easterla lists it as a rare summer resident in northern Missouri, ~~which suggests~~^{which suggests} that this warbler may breed occasionally in suitable habitat in extreme southern Iowa. The moist ravines at Waubonsie S.P. would appear to satisfy its requirements.

*Blue-winged Warbler Not reported during Foray. Getscher recorded it nesting at Hamburg in 1962. While this area is ~~presently considered outside~~^{close to the western edge} of the breeding range. ~~Getscher~~^{Getscher} gives the western edge of the range as "north-west Arkansas, west-central Iowa (Warrensburg), eastern Iowa (Lacey, Grinnell, Winthrop, McGregor),...". Anderson cites Trostler that this species is a scarce summer resident in Pottawattamie Co., and Johnson describes it as a possible summer resident in eastern Kansas. Thus it may nest irregularly in this area, ~~in years when its population is large, or when conditions are ideal.~~

Yellow Warbler (12,4,1,1). Common breeder where willows ~~present~~^{occur}.

*Cerulean Warbler As in the case of the Blue-winged Warbler, the breeding range of this species ~~presently~~^{is} near its western edge in this area. Bent gives the western limits as "west to southeast Kansas, eastern Nebraska (Omaha; Pilgrim Hill, Dakota Co.), western Iowa (Sioux City)....". While breeding has not been proved, several records exist of singing males in Waubonsie S.P. (Phipps, Getscher, et al), although it is by no means present each year. Youngworth found several June 9, 1946 (IBL 16:65). It appears to breed more commonly in eastern Iowa. Despite careful search, none could be located in Waubonsie S.P. this year. Published seasonal reports in NBR indicate that it was fairly regular until 1973, when it was "harder to find than usual", and in 1974 none were reported. However it was present in 1975 through June 24, but absent again in 1976. Thus it appears to have become irregular in the last five years or so.

Ovenbird (0,0,0,0). Uncommon breeder at Waubonsie S.P. Two or three singing males were heard.

*Louisiana Waterthrush (0,1,0,0). There appears to be a small breeding population established at the north end of Waubonsie S.P. along a small stream in a deep wooded ravine. There ~~were~~^{are} two and possibly three pairs found during Foray, one of which was seen to feed a young bird (Silcock-June 5). Silcock also found a singing male in the same area June 5, 1976. Brown considers this species an uncommon breeding bird in ~~eastern~~ Iowa, but no summer records west of Boone Co. are given. However there are summer records from Fontenelle Forest published in NBR: ~~since~~^{since} in the last ten years it was considered a summer resident in 1967 ~~and~~ 1968, and ~~was~~ 1969, but in ~~all~~^{the} other years it was recorded only as a migrant.

(cont'd p 7)

As with some other warbler species, ~~it~~ ^{it} is near the western edge of its breeding range in southwest Iowa as given by Bent: "West to eastern Kansas (Manhattan, Topeka, Neosho River), eastern Nebrasks (London, Fontenelle Forest), central western and central northern Iowa (Pottawattamie Co., Emmetsburg),...". Hence it may be expected to be an irregular summer resident ~~here~~ ^{in this area}.

* Kentucky Warbler (0,0,0,0). This is another warbler species near the western edge of its range here. Bent gives the western breeding limits as "eastern Kansas, southeast Nebraska (Lincoln and Omaha),.....eastern Iowa (Grinnell and Waukon Junction)." Rapp et al consider it a "Rare to locally common summer resident in southeast Nebraska, especially in the Missouri River Valley, with the northern limits seeming to be Fontenelle Forest, Sarpy Co." It is not listed at De Soto Bend N.W.R. Brown cites breeding recorded at Waubonsie S.P. A singing male was found June 6 at Waubonsie S.P. by Silcock, Roosa and Stravers, but could not be located next day, suggesting that it may not have been breeding.

Yellowthroat (5,19,9,4). Very common in suitable habitat.

* Yellow-breasted Chat Not recorded during Foray, but Getscher provided the following records of its occurrence in Washington Twp.: it nested near Hamburg 1945 and 1946; ~~also~~ ^{it was seen} in May of 1960 and 1961; and one was seen near Waubonsie S.P. in June, 1961. There do not seem to be any records in Washington Twp. since these. It is considered an uncommon summer resident at Fontenelle Forest, but is a common breeder at Squaw Creek N.W.R. It has bred throughout Iowa, the limiting factor appearing to be suitable habitat. The latter ~~includes~~ ^{includes} tangled undergrowth and small trees, a type of habitat which in recent years has diminished greatly due to increased land clearing.

* American Redstart This is somewhat of a mystery bird in Washington Twp. and Fremont Co. Despite being considered an "Abundant breeding bird" in Iowa by Brown, a "common summer resident" at Fontenelle Forest, and an "abundant" bird at De Soto Bend N.W.R. ~~which~~ ^{and also} breeds there, it has not been found breeding in Fremont Co. to the writer's knowledge. Although it has been found breeding at Squaw Creek N.W.R., it is listed as uncommon, thus lending some credibility to its status as a ~~non-breeding~~ ^{non-breeding} bird in ~~xxxxxxx~~ Fremont Co. There appears to be enough suitable habitat, and it is a common to abundant migrant through the area. It was not recorded during Foray.

I don't understand this species!

House Sparrow (17,54,32,5). Abundant breeding bird near human activities.

* Bobolink Not reported during Foray, but is present in summer near Shenandoah. It probably breeds there, as well as in other areas where habitat is suitable, such being rather scarce in this area.

Eastern Meadowlark (5,14,0,2). Rather common summer resident, perhaps more so this year than in 1976. It is found in pastures, either upland or bottomland, but avoids extensively row-cropped areas and roadsides near same, where its place is taken by the Western Meadowlark.

Western Meadowlark (43,9,18,6). Abundant breeding bird, present year round.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (0,0,0,0). Common at Riverton during Foray: almost certainly breeding. Was not present at Taylor Lake in northern Fremont Co., where it was present in summer 1976. Apparently dependent on water levels for breeding, as Taylor Lake was almost dry this year.

(6/29/76, 31)

* Red-winged Blackbird Abundant breeder throughout except in woods.

Orchard Oriole (2,7,7,6). Com on breeding bird, especially in riparian areas on Missouri River bottomland.

Northern Oriole (10,9,3,5). Common breeding bird.

Common Grackle (14,20,13,5). Common breeding bird.

Brown-headed Cowbird (13,19,17,0). Common breeding bird.

* Scarlet Tanager (0,3,0,0). Fairly common breeding bird at Waubonsie S.P., where several singing males were heard. Not found elsewhere.

* Summer Tanager (0,0,0,0). Uncommon breeding bird at Waubonsie S.P. Two or three singing males were located. Not found elsewhere. This is possibly the only place in Iowa where the ~~two~~ ^{eastern} tanagers breed together.

Cardinal (30,22,3,5). Common breeding bird, especially in upland wooded areas.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (20,37,0,1). Common breeding bird, becoming abundant in more extensive woods.

* Blue Grosbeak (1,0,9,0). Fairly common breeding bird on the Missouri River bottoms, but rare in upland areas.

Indigo Bunting (7,11,2,3). Common breeding bird.

Dickcissel (39,79,64,34). Abundant breeding bird.

American Goldfinch (7,11,2,11). Common breeding bird.

Rufous-sided Towhee (1,6,0,1). Fairly common breeding bird. Usually found in open areas near extensive woods, but mostly in small numbers.

Grasshopper Sparrow (14,1,0,2). Common breeding bird in upland pastures and alfalfa fields, less common on ~~the~~ ^{the} bottomland.

* Vesper Sparrow (2,1,1,0). This species can only be considered uncommon as a breeding bird in Washington Twp. and Fremont Co., even though Brown states that it is a common breeding bird in Iowa. At Squaw Creek N.W.R. it is only occasional in summer as a breeding bird, and Easterla lists it as a casual summer resident in northwest Missouri. It is listed as an uncommon summer resident and breeder at De Soto Bend N.W.R., but is listed only as a migrant at Fontenelle Forest and nearby rural areas (including parts of Mills and Pottawattamie Cos., Iowa). Apparently Fremont Co. is near the ^{66th} western edge of its breeding range (at least that of the eastern subspecies), as Rapp et al state that ~~it~~ is a rare breeder in the eastern quarter of Nebraska, and Johnson does not ~~list it as a~~ list it as a breeder in eastern Kansas.

* Lark Sparrow (0,0,0,0). Uncommon breeding ~~bird~~ but can usually be found in sandy or drier areas on the Missouri River bottoms or in the loess bluffs. It is listed as an uncommon breeding bird at both De Soto Bend N.W.R. and Squaw Creek N.W.R.

Chipping Sparrow (0,0,0,1). Reported by Getscher. Generally distributed, but local and probably best considered an uncommon breeding bird. However it is listed as uncommon at ~~De Soto Bend~~ ^{De Soto Bend} N.W.R. and at Fontenelle Forest, and is unlisted at De Soto Bend N.W.R. As in the case of the Vesper Sparrow, it seems to be less common in southwest Iowa than in the rest of the state. Johnson considers it a locally common breeder in eastern Kansas and Rapp et al list it as a locally common breeder throughout Nebraska. It seems to prefer areas of lawn near trees and shrubs, such as parks, cemeteries, and gardens.

Field Sparrow (8,2,4,4). Common breeding bird, especially noticeable in areas of prairie on the loess bluffs.

* Song Sparrow (5,1,0,2). Common breeding bird in riparian habitats such as at Riverton, along drainage ditches, and alongside the Missouri River.