

Dinsmore

Dear Dr. Italmi,

I had hoped to talk to you at I.O.U. meeting before sending all this. In any case I teach ornithology at I.S.U. and have our students keep a phenology chart of birds they see. With so many eyes in the field, it gives a fairly good record of when things arrive. I have tried to summarize all these records plus some others that students have seen away from ~~B~~ Ames and send them on to you in hopes that they may be useful for the field reports section of I.B.L. Since many people are involved, except where ^{the} name of the observer is given, I think that just indicating it came off ISU records ~~at~~ would indicate where information came from. I hope that some of the records are useful for you. Certainly the best bird was the Yellow-Throated Warbler back when I saw it last year in Hedges State Park.

Sincerely,

Jim Dinsmore

Loons

~~None reported~~ 2 at Big Creek Park, Polk Co. 24 May
only one reported

Grebes

Pied-billed 11 March Ledger State Park earliest, few others reported in our area
only species reported in Central Iowa

Horned Grebe - 1 on 3 April at Ingham Lake - Emmet Co. by
Tom Nigus

Cormorants, pelicans

White Pelican 10 on Big Well Lake, ^{Wright} ~~Wright~~ Co. 17 April
23 April - 20 on Ingham Lake, Emmet Co. by Tom Nigus

Geese

Canada - big flocks moving over Ames - week of 8-12 March.

late flocks on 9 April + 25 April, Boone Co, ~~Wright~~

Snow - earliest 12 March, most through in next week

latest - 11 April going up Des Moines River, Boone Co.

White-fronted - fair numbers on Anderson Lake, Hamilton Co 12-18 March

Ducks

Dabblers

all species seen in fair numbers. first showed up week of 12-18 March but many seemed to go through very fast for instance Pintails seemed to be around only from ~~13-18~~ 13-18 March and then only in small numbers. Never had much build up in numbers of any species although fair numbers of Northern Shovelers around until at least 17 April

Divers pretty much ditto on above - no real big numbers or concentration although Common Mergansers were fairly numerous on Little Wall Lake, Hamilton Co week of 12-18 March; very few Bufflehead and only one Common Goldeneye (15 March) reported

one pair of Hooded Mergansers in mouth of Paint Creek, Allegheny Co - were they nesters ?? also saw a few others in migration

Others

Wood Duck - earliest 9 March, Story Co
very common in Allegheny Co on 16-17 April

Ruddy Duck - 1st seen 16 March Little Wall Lake

Hérons - see over too

Great Blue Heron 2 April Des Moines River in Boone Co is earliest

American Bittern 11 April one near Ingham Lake, Emmet Co - Tom Nigus

Black-crowned Night Heron 15 April 2 near Ingham Lake, Emmet Co - Tom Nigus

Green Heron 24 April Story Co - earliest

Great Egret 2 in Allamakee Co, 16 April J Dinsmore + J. Bednarz

Hawks

Marsh Hawk - earliest 4 March Big Creek N of Des Moines

fair numbers in March latest 16 April

Turkey Vulture 13 March - Ledges State Park earliest

Coopers Hawk - one 9 April Ledges State Park migrant

one 16 April Yellow River State Forest - possible nester

Sharp-shinned Hawk one 5 May Ames - migrating

Red-shouldered Hawk 1 at Burr Oak Lake, Emmet Co - Tom Nigus + Mark Ryan

Several birds located in Allamakee Co, 16-17 April

J Dinsmore + J. Bednarz

Broad-winged Hawk - about 10 migrating 16 April Allamakee Co - J Dinsmore + J. Bednarz

22 moving up Skunk River, 5 May - North of Ames

Cattle Egret

8 May - 1 One mile N. Forest City, Winnebago Co. - R. Seyler

7+8 May 2 2 miles N. Mason City, Cerro Gordo Co. - F. Heinz

29 April 1 4 mi east Le Grand, Tama Co. D. VanWass

Blair County High School 17 April 5 near Jackson Lake Forest Co. - Tom Hays

Green Haven 5 May 15
Duff Field 5 in Allamakee Co. 16 April 1
Tribune + Tribune

Heinz

Tucked Vulture 1-3 March - Yellow River
Yellow River 16 April
Big Creek N of Des Moines

Cooper Brook 1 April
on 16 April Yellow River 16 April

2 April
April

1 of 8 on Out Lake Forest Co. - Tom Hays

16-17 April

Tribune + Tribune

Blair County High School 17 April 5 near Jackson Lake Forest Co. - Tom Hays

55 miles N of Le Grand 2 April

Hawks

Rough-legged Hawk - latest 16 April - Allamakee Co - J. Dinamon + J. Belnarc
few seen earlier ~~many~~

Osprey - 2 in Allamakee Co 16 April J. Dinamon + J. Belnarc
1 5 mi S Boone, Boone Co 8 May

Rails

American Coot earliest - 2 on Little Wall Lake, Hamilton Co 12 March
fair numbers after that but no big buildup

Virginia Rail - callins by Trumbull Lake, Clay Co 14 May

Plovers

Killdeer - earliest - 18 March - ~~Little Wall Lake, Hamilton Co~~
N. Ames, Story Co

Golden Plover ca 100 15 May - Dan Green Slough, Clay Co. J. Dinamon
none reported to me in central Iowa

Black-bellied Plover 1 on Lake Harmon, Winnebago Co 16 May
J. Dinamon

Ruddy Turnstone 2 on Ingham Lake, Emmet Co, 15 May Tom Nigus

Sandpipers

in general little habitat and few reported

Am. Woodcock - 16 March - Boone Co was earliest

Common Snipe - few reports - one Sweet's Marsh, Bremer Co on 15 April
but certainly had been around earlier
also 4 April near Ames

Solitary Sandpiper 28 March - Anderson Lake, Hamilton Co is earliest

Spotted Sandpiper 16 April Allamakee Co - earliest

Greater Yellowlegs 2 west of Ames on 31 March is earliest

~~Lesser Yellowlegs~~ Lesser Yellowlegs - few reports - little habitat available

Dunlin - ca 20 on Dam Grove Slough, Clay Co 15 May J. Dinsman

Hudsonian Godwit - 2 on Anderson Lake, Hamilton Co 14 May J. Dinsman

4 on Ingham Lake, Emmet Co 15 May T. Nigus + J. Dinsman

Wilson's Phalarope 1 on Anderson Lake, Hamilton Co 14 May J. Dinsman

2 near Ingham Lake, Emmet Co 15 May T. Nigus + J. Dinsman

Pectoral Sandpiper 8 on 19 March at Virgin Lake, Palo Alto Co. in Ryan +
fairly common all spring T. Nigus

Gulls

Herring - earliest - 13 March Little Well Lake, Hamilton Co
few reported after that

Ring-billed - earliest - 13 March, Little Well Lake, Hamilton Co
hundreds ~~are~~ between Rithum + Spirit Lake ~~March~~ 1 April

Franklin's - several hundred near Spirit Lake - 1 April

Terns

Black + Forster - both present on Trumbull Lake, Clay Co. by ~~13~~⁶ May

Cuckoos

Black-billed 16 May - Ledger State Park earliest
Several reports after that

Yellow-billed 16 May Elk Creek Marsh - Worth Co
only report I have

Catsuckes

Nighthawk 8 May - Ames - is earliest - common after that

Whip-poor-will 15 April - Ledger State Park is earliest

Swift Chimney Swift 25 April Ames - is earliest

Hummingbird - Ruby-throated 15 May Ingham Lake, Emmet Co - only report I have

Kingfisher

Belted Kingfisher 12 March, Little Well Lake Hamilton Co is earliest
four members of reports

Woodpecker

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 5 April - Arno only report I have

Flycatcher

E Kingbird 9 May - Arno - earliest

Great Crested 4 May - Arno - earliest - common after that

E Phoebe 9 April - 3 pairs on territory in Ledges State Park
~~20 May~~ 20 May adults feeding young at ledges

Least 2 May - Arno numerous

E. Wood Pewee 3 May Arno - earliest - very numerous by 20 May

Olive-sided 4 May - Arno

Swallows

Tree 16 April Allamakee Co - earliest

Bank no local reports

Rough-winged 16 April Allamakee Co - earliest

Cliff Colony on Elk Creek Marsh, 16 May - only report I have

Barn 2 May Arno

Purple Martin 1 April - Clay Co earliest

Wrens

L. Billed Marsh common by 14 May Trumbull Lake, Clay Co

S Billed Marsh 29 April Boone Co - earliest

Caroline 16 April - north of Ames ? only two local records
20 May - Ledger State Park

House 21 April Ames - earliest - fair numbers right after that

Mimic

Catbird 26 April Ames - earliest

Brown Thrasher 15 April Ames - earliest

Thrasher

Wood 10 April Ames - earliest - fair numbers after that

Hermit 3 April Ames is earliest, fair numbers after that

Gray-checked 11 May - Ames earliest report - a few after that

Swainson's 2 May Ames - earliest

Veery 6 April - Ames earliest - fair numbers after that by end of month

Bluebird 12 March Ames is earliest - several right at that time

B. Gray Gnatcatcher nest ~~is~~ found - Ledges State Park 20 May

R.c. Kinglet early 20 March, common throughout April

G.c. Kinglet 1 on 1 April at Ames

Loggerhead Shrike 1 near Ames 13 March, another near Ames 13 March
only one reported

Vireos Warbling 29 April Ames - earliest - common by mid May

Red-eyed 3 May Ames - earliest

Solitary 11 May - Ames - earliest

Yellow-throated 13 May Ames - only report

Warblers -

Black + white 29 April Ames - earliest - few after that

Blue-winged 16 + 20 May (heard at Ledges - prob on Territory)

Golden-winged - heard on 9 May - Ames - only report

Tennessee 2 May - Ames earliest - fairly common after that

Orange-crowned 15 April Ames - earliest fairly common after that

Nashville 29 April - Ames earliest - not as common as usual

Parula 18 April - Ames + 5 May Ames - only reports

Yellow 5 May - Ames - earliest - common around Trumbull Lake on 16 May

Magnolia 11 May Ames - earliest and one of few reports

Yellow-rumped 11 April - Ames earliest, common ~~most~~ rest of month

Chestnut-sided 11 May Ames - earliest - fair numbers after that

Bay-breasted 9 May - Ames - earliest, ~~several~~ several after that

Blackpoll 2 May Ames - earliest

~~Black~~ Black-throated green - 20 May Ledges State Park - only report I have

Palm 19 April Ames - earliest

Overbird 2 May Ames - earliest

N. Waterthrush only a few reports

La Waterthrush 17 May - Ledges State Park - only record

Yellowthroat numerous by 13 May

Y. breasted Chat see daily 9 - 13 May at McFarland Park north of Ames

Wilson 29 April Ames - earliest

Canada 4 May - Ames - only report

Redstart 11 May earliest - only a few after that, seemed much less common than usual

Yellow-throated Warbler seen well on 17 + 20 May Ledges State Park - same place I saw
14 in 1976 J. Dinsmore

In general it seemed to be a poor year for warblers. Did not see much in way of big waves and many species seemed less common than usual.

Blackbird

Bobolink 29 April Ames is earliest, fair numbers after that

Yellow-headed 7 April Anderson Lake Hamilton Co is earliest

Robt 1 April - large flocks on Trumbull Lake, Clay Co

Brewer 1st Little Well Lake ^{Hamilton Co} 13 March

Orchard Oriole 14 May - N of Ames is earliest, another seen S of Rhodes, Marshall Co on 25 May

Northern Oriole one seen 31 March, N of Ames by good birders, next record is 3 May

Cowbird 10 March Ames is earliest

~~For~~ Tanager - Scarlet 13 May N of Ames is earliest

Finches

R. breasted Grosbeak 2 May Ames - is earliest. common by 10th

Indigo Bunting 9 May Ames - earliest record

Dickcissel 15 May in Emmet Co. is earliest record

Purple Finch 5 April Arns

R. sided Towhee 16 April Arns - is earliest

Savannah 17 April N. of Arns is earliest

Grasshopper 19 April N.W. of Gilbert, Story Co. is earliest

Vesper 9 April Arns is earliest, good numbers by 15th

Chipping 24 March Big Creek - Polk Co is earliest, fair numbers by mid April

Field 3 April Arns is earliest

Harris ⁵ May Arns is earliest - only a few reported, much less common than in 1976

White-throated 21 March Arns is earliest, good numbers by end of April

White-crowned 5 May - Arns - one of few records

Fox 12 March Anderson Lake, Hamilton Co is earliest, fair numbers right after that

~~Warbler~~

Song Singing by 9 March - Story Co