

2450 N. Jefferson
Ottumwa, Ia. 5250
Dec. 2, 1977

Dear Mr. Halmi,

First of all I'll apologize for not sending in reports from the Ottumwa area. I wrote Gladys Black about the Evening Grosbeaks last week and she fired a letter right back and said to report to Iowa Bird Life sightings on birds from this area. I realize this is late and some of information is out of date but I'll send it to you anyway.

March 5, 1977

Pileated woodpecker - Iowa City along Iowa River, found a dead pileated woodpecker underneath a cable in the woods. It's head was eaten away but the rest was well preserved. It is frozen in a freezer in ~~the~~ Evans Jr. High in Ottumwa. I did contact Iowa State Fish & Wildlife Dept. to see if they wanted it but received no response. Gary Wymore, Tom & Betty Johnson of Ottumwa discovered it.

April 12, 1977

Nelson Hastings of Ottumwa saw a yellow-crowned night heron in a tree in Greater Ottumwa Park. It sat on a limb, 30 feet in the tree for the greater part of the day - at least from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Charles Ayres and Tom Johnson also saw it.

Nelson Hastings saw a Magnolia Warbler in Greater Ottumwa Park on April 9~~th~~ and again on April ~~11~~ 11.

Nelson Hastings and Tom Johnson saw a yellow warbler on Turkey Island June 20.

Nelson Hastings saw 4 yellow warblers at the Morrell ponds in Ottumwa May 24.

Week of June 21 - June 28

Tom Johnson saw 8 loggerhead shrikes south of Ottumwa on various county roads.

June 21 - Tom Johnson - upland plover on fence post - saw county road south of Ottumwa

pg. 2

Tom Johnson

July 6 - male scarlet tanager - Rock Bluff Park - west of

July 7 - ^{Ottumwa} called the male scarlet tanager with tape recording. Rock Bluff
I landed 4 feet from recorder on ground.

July 9 - called 2 male scarlet tanagers with recording. Rock Bluff
One had 1st year orange plumage.

called both tanagers many times until July 27
when I finished ~~with~~ work for the Youth Conservation
corps at Rock Bluff. Saw the female and 3 young
tanagers in ~~the~~ an Oak (white) tree on July 14.
The nest is still in the tree - approximately 30 feet
up from the base and 15 feet out from trunk.

Aug 30

Nelson Hastings (Ottumwa) saw a Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher
at Boy Scout Camp at Lake Wapello.

Many times through Sept. & Oct an Osprey was
seen ~~at~~ above ~~the~~ lagoons in Ottumwa by Nelson Hastings,
Tom Johnson, and Charles Ayres & others.

Nov. 11 Approx. 30 Evening Grosbeats at feeder -
Tom & Betty Johnson - Ottumwa, Wapello County

Nov. 25, 26 3 Evening Grosbeats (2 male, 1 female) at feeder
at Morris Anderson farm - Fort Dodge, Webster County,
Morris and Erle Anderson, Tom & Betty Johnson observed.

Nov. 30 - Belted Kingfisher - over lagoons (frozen) in
Ottumwa - Tom Johnson sighted.

Dr. Glenn Blome
sighted a flock of
white-winged Crossbills
in mid-Nov. in Ottumwa.
That is all the information
I have.

Sincerely,
Tom Johnson
Tom Johnson