

DeCoster
628 Reno Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52240
25 May 1977
from: Rich DeCoster

Report for American Birds and Iowa Bird Life for the period
1 March 1977 to 25 May 1977.

for: Dr. N. S. Halmi

Horned Grebe: one on 3/27 at Sandy Beach, CoR.

D-c. Cormorant: none seen

Black-crowned Night Heron:
one adult 4/24 at Cone Marsh: again on 5/1 with the ^{Newtons} ~~Hwlons~~.

American Bittern: 2 at Cone Marsh on 4/24.

White-winged Scoter:

1 male on CoR just above Coralville Dam on 3/23 after being notified of its presence by N. Halmi. Seen again on 3/27.

4 seen on Iowa River near Hancher Auditorium, Iowa City, on 3/26 after notification by C. Bendorf.

Turkey Vulture:

Much more common than last spring when I saw none.

Hickory Hill (hereafter HH): 2 on 23 April, 1 on 21 May.

Cone Marsh: 3 on 10 April

CoR: 1 on 17 April; 1 on 8 May; 1 on 21 May.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1, HH, 10 March; 1, HH, 15 April;
1, 16 March, s. of North Liberty

Cooper's Hawk: none seen

Broad-winged Hawk:

1, 628 Reno, 4/16

2, 628 Reno, 4/18

1, HH, 4/23.

Rough-legged Hawk: 1 at Sandy Beach, CoR, 27 March.

N. Harrier: seen regularly at Sand Point, CoR.
Also 2 in HH on 4 May

Am. Kestrel: only one seen, At Cone Marsh on 19 March.

Virginia Rail: 2 responded to tape at Cone Marsh on 24 April.
They came to within six feet of tape player. Antiphonal singing visually observed as well as heard.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 15-20 on Swan Lake, 21 May.

Hairy Woodpecker: 17 seen in HH during period compared with
approximately 100 Downy Woodpeckers. Ratio probably a bit
high as its easier to pay attention to Hairy.

Eastern Phoebe: Seen only in HH; 2 on 1 April; 1 on 8 April.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Several seen and heard in HH on 4 and 5 May.

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Carolina Wren: none seen

Eastern Bluebird:

- 2, south of Hills, Ia. 19 March.
- 1, Oakland Cemetery, 3/24/77.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: ONLY ONE SEEN, HH, a male, 4/8/77

Northern Shrike: 1 at Cone Marsh, 19 March.

White-eyed Vireo: Various numbers seen or heard in HH as follows:

- 1, 4 May
- 1, 5 May
- 3, 6 May, 2 singing birds, plus one non-singing bird in same bush as a singing one.
- 1, 7 May
- 3, 8 May, different birds heard singing at same time.
- 1, 11 May
- 1, 12 May; 1, 19 May

Bell's Vireo: Seen or heard in only 2 HH locations so far as compared with 4 locations last year.

Philadelphia Vireo:

- 1, HH 11 May; 2, HH 12 May

Blue-winged Warbler:

- 1, HH 7 May
- 1 at least, Cou Falls, 8 May
- 1, McBride Field Campus, 21 May

Yellow Warbler: Abundant in HH in May. Not seen elsewhere.

Prarie Warbler: one Singing bird seen at McBride Field Campus on 21 May with Mike Newlon.

Connecticut Warbler: one heard McBride Campus, 21 May

Yellow-breasted Chat:

- 1 seen in gully south of N. parking lot in HH on 5 May.
- The one in the north gully was seen on 21 and 24 May.

Pine Siskin: none seen

Purple Finch: Few seen, all in HH, 1 on 23 March, 1 on 28 April, and 2 on 29 April.

Rufous-sided towhee: Much more common in HH than last year.

- "Spotted" towhee female at my feeder off and on through 23 March.
- Also seen in HH on 27 March.
- First migrating birds, 3, in HH on 1 April. Common in twos and threes thereafter.

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LeConte's Sparrow:

Several seen at Cone Marsh on bird club trip 19 March.
Easier to see the next day after a light snowfall when
the birds were perching on taller weeds. At least 10 birds
of this species ~~was~~ ^{were} seen on a walk the length of the field.

Harris' Sparrow:

1 at Cone Marsh on 19 March
1 in Oakland Cemetery, Iowa City, on 5 May. In breeding plumage.

Lapland Longspur:

2 at Sand Point, CoR, on 17 April.

Richard DeCoster
628 Reno Street
Iowa City, Iowa
28 May 1977